

TRUST LESS

SHRINKING THE TRUSTED PARTS
OF TRUSTED SYSTEMS

Ilia Lebedev : MIT / [gradient.tech](https://www.gradient.tech)

Featuring contributions from our many wonderful co-authors
and sponsors, inc. Delta Electronics, ADI, DARPA, NSF

“SECURITY” AS RISK MANAGEMENT

A system is “secure” if

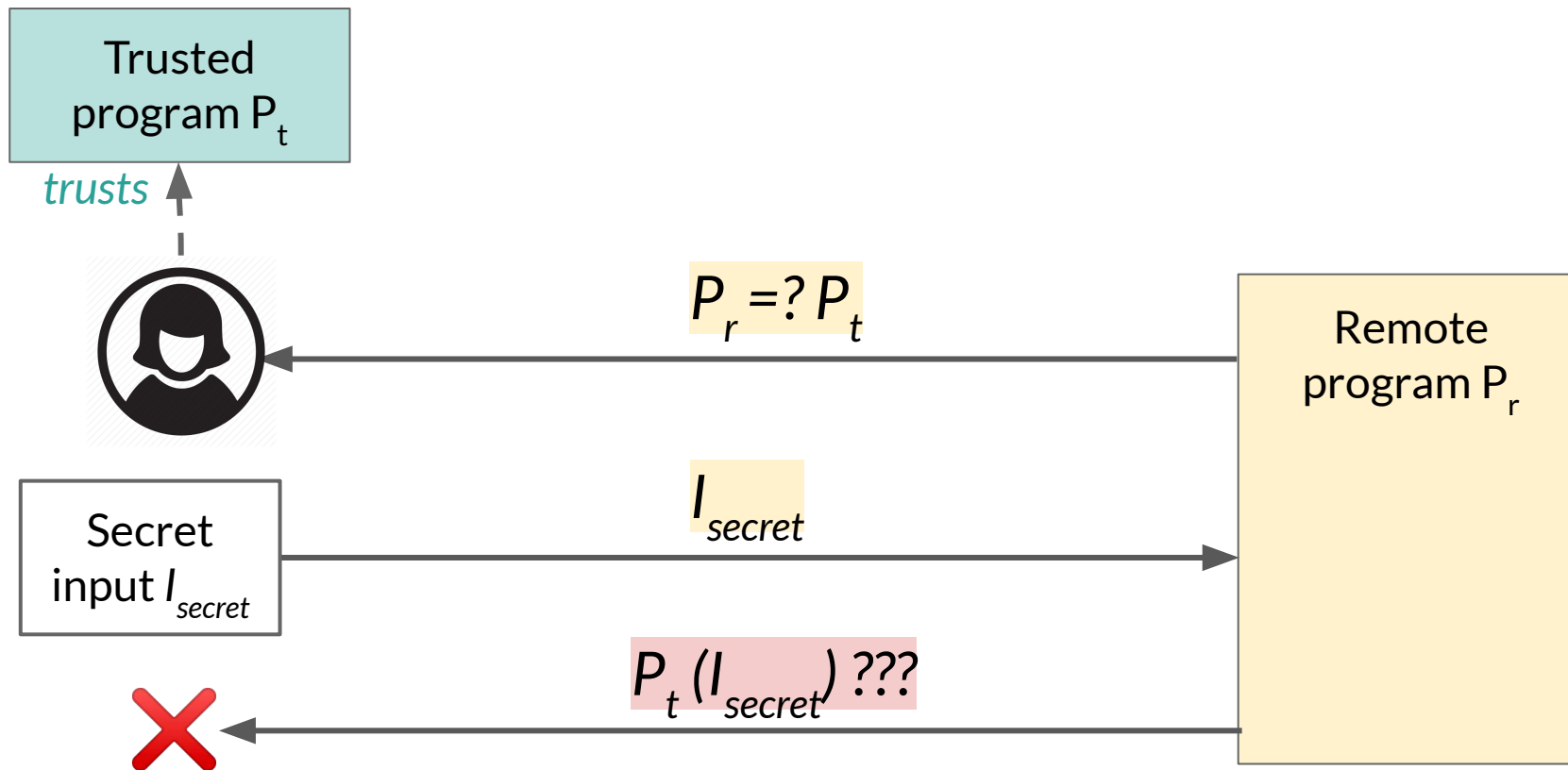
To adversary: $\text{cost}_{\text{of attack}} \gg \text{benefit}_{\text{to adversary}}$

However, this goes both ways:

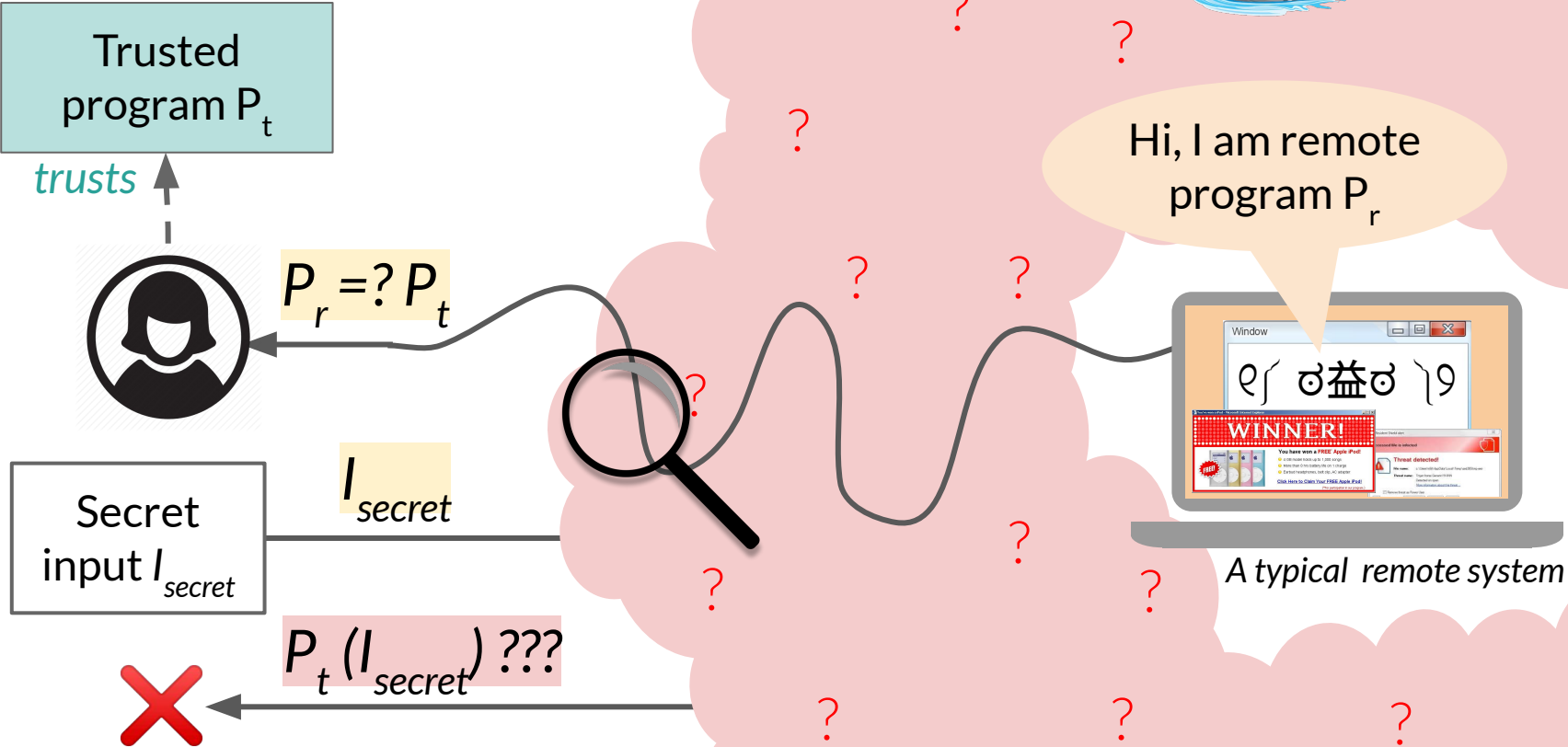
Defenses ought to be worth the effort

Equifax paid $\ll \$1-5$ / user in fines

REMOTE EXECUTION (1/3)

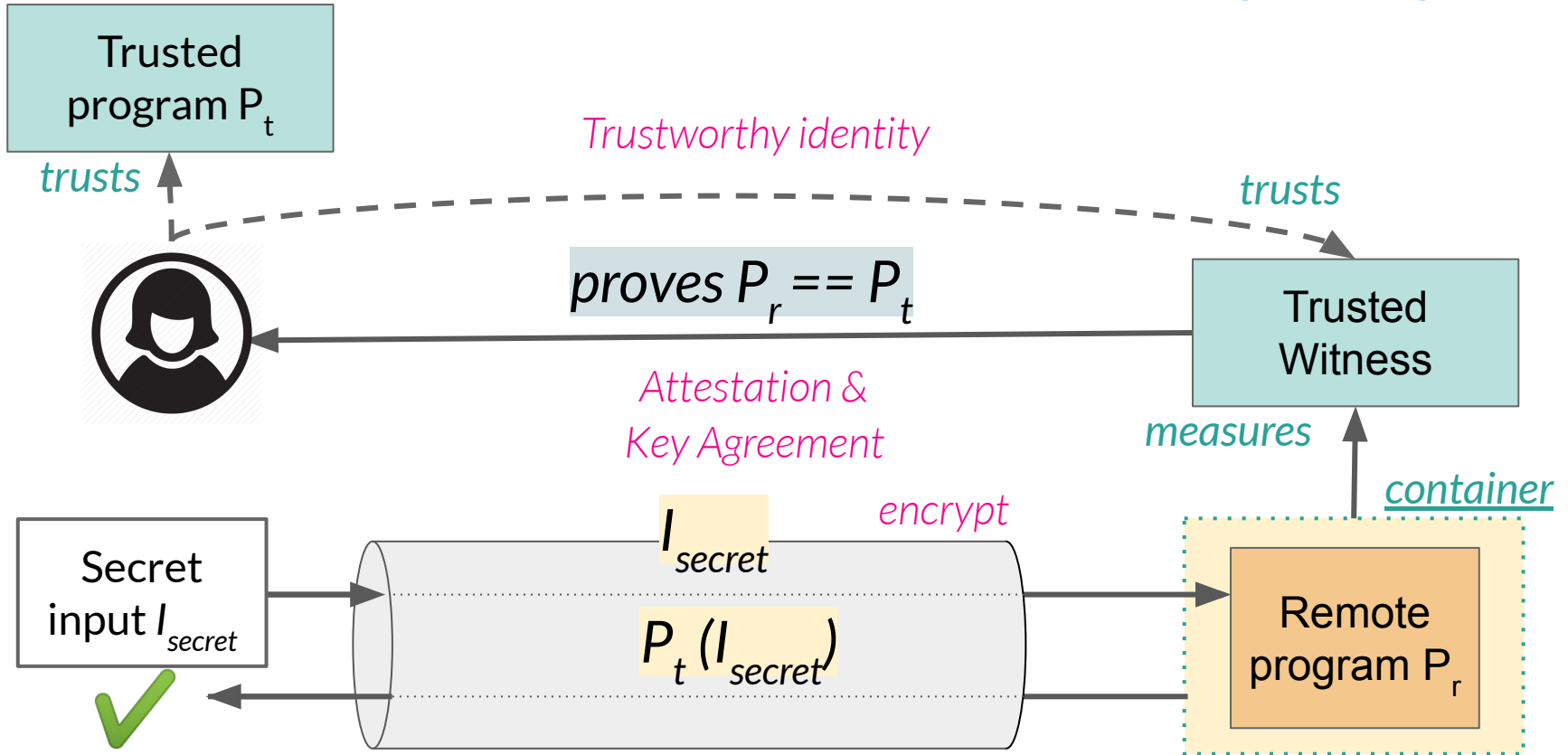


REMOTE EXECUTION (2/3)



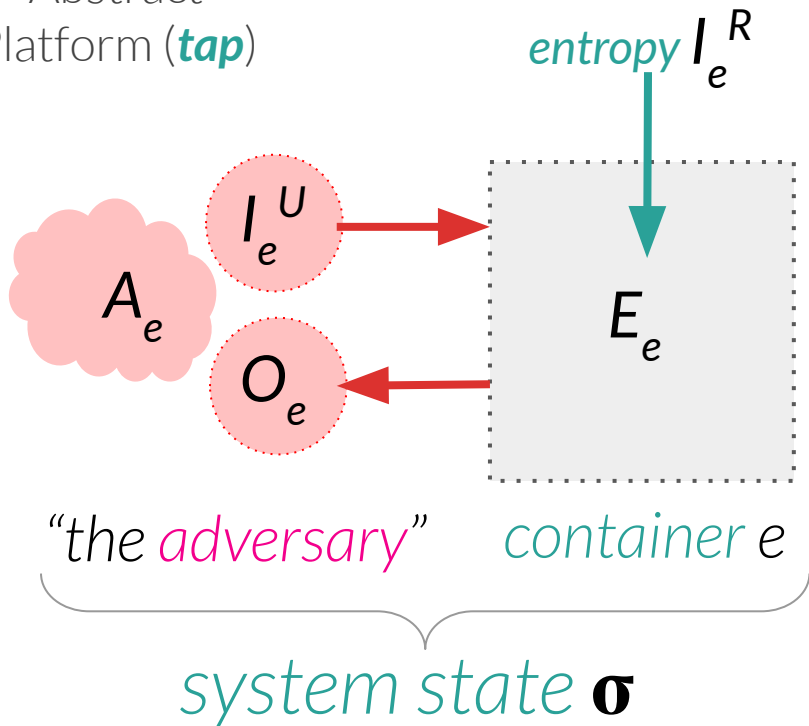
REMOTE EXECUTION (3/3)

“SOFTWARE ATTESTATION”



SECURE REMOTE EXECUTION (SRE)

Abstract
Platform (*tap*)

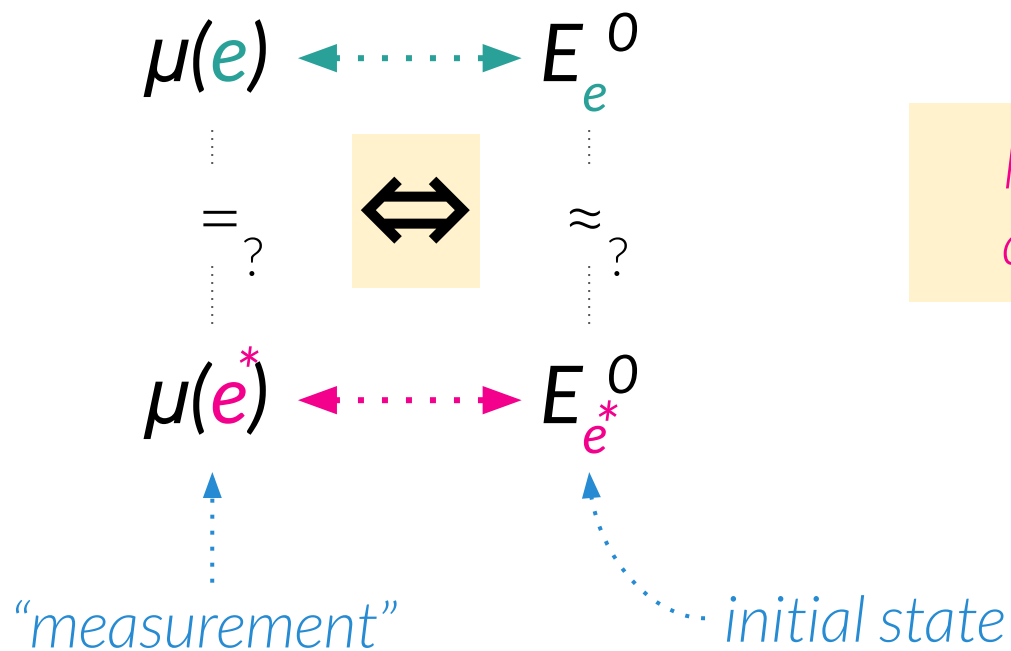


“TRUSTED ABSTRACT
PLATFORM”

Integrity
+
Confidentiality
+
Measurement
} SRE

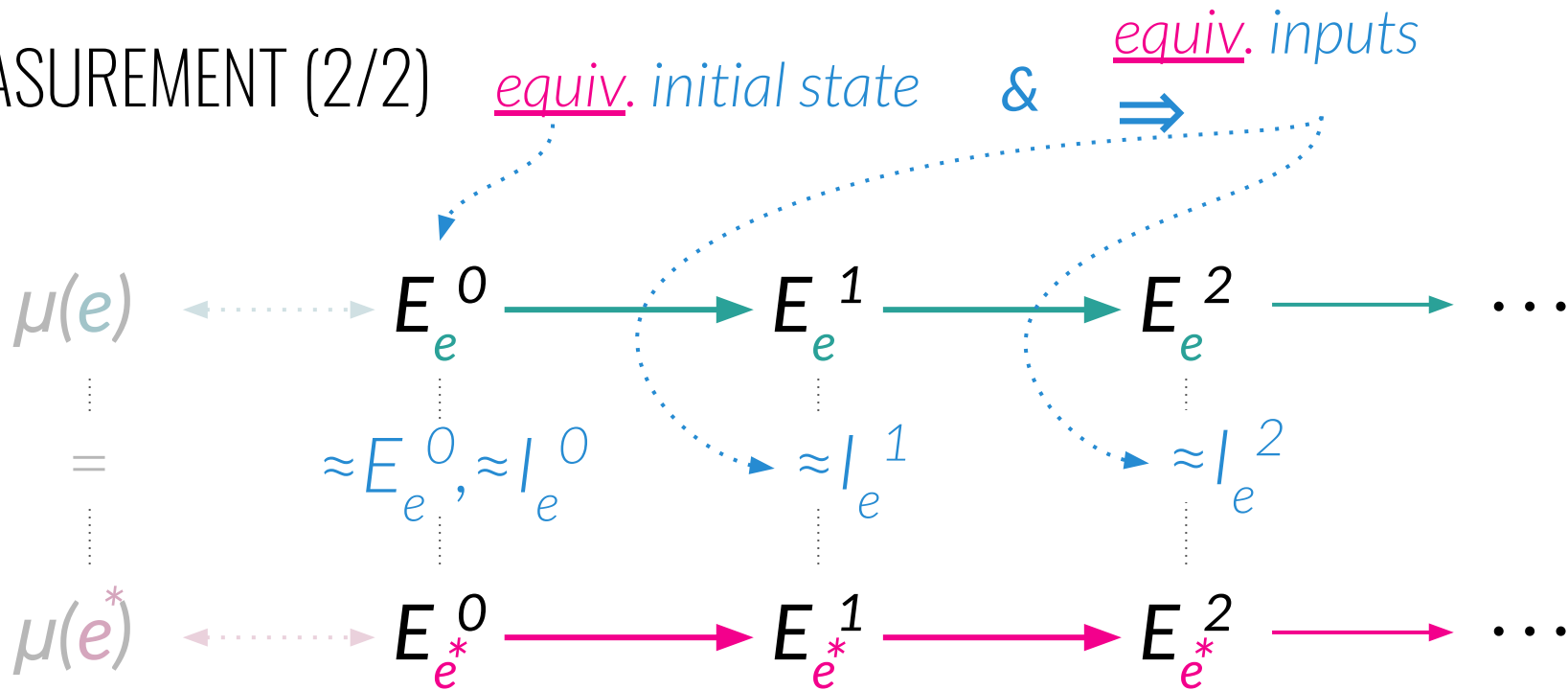
enclave := container with SRE

MEASUREMENT (1/2)



Measurement describes an enclave's initial state

MEASUREMENT (2/2)

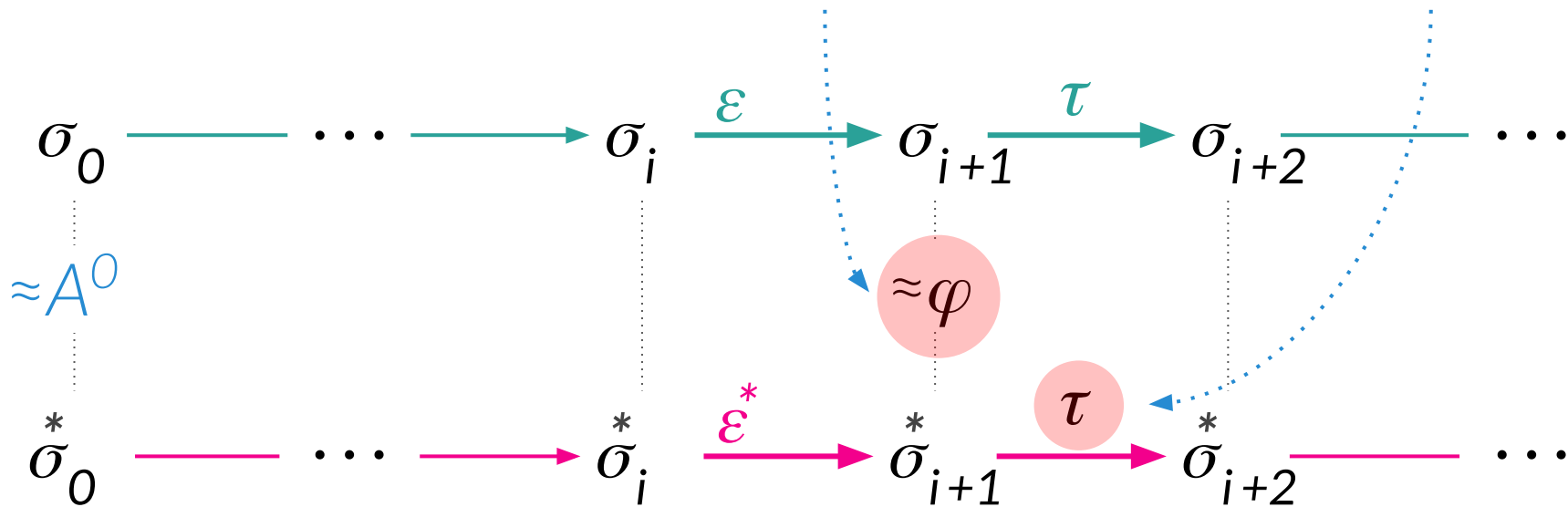


\Rightarrow equiv. states E^x and outputs $O^x \forall x$

CONFIDENTIALITY (1/2)

observation
function φ

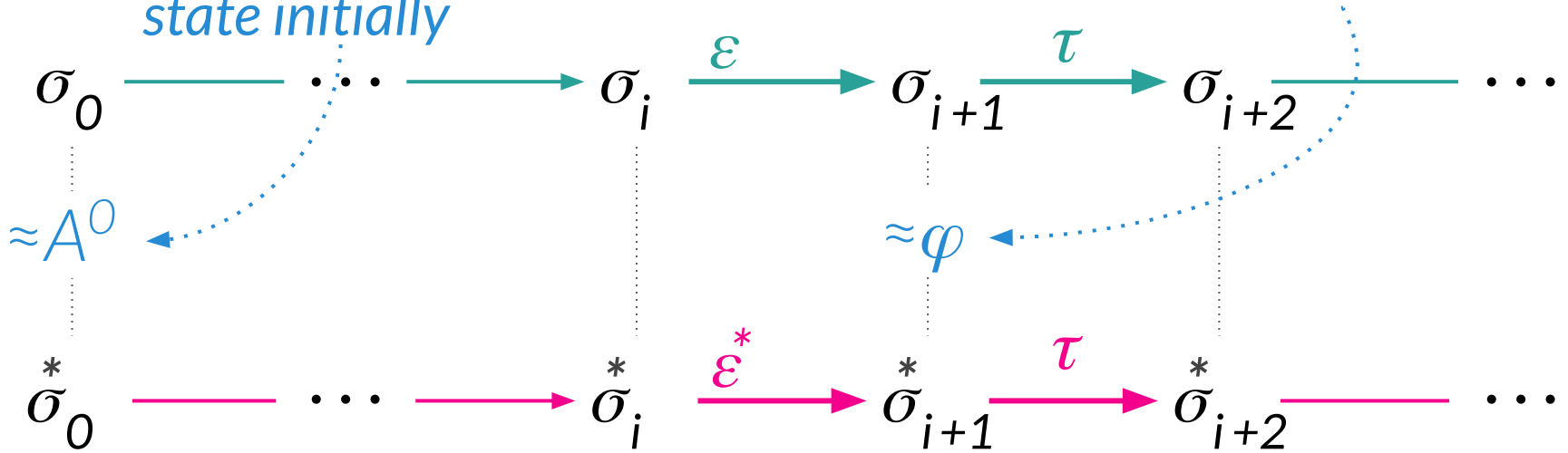
tamper
relation τ



CONFIDENTIALITY (2/2)

equiv. adversary state initially

equiv. adversary observation after every enclave action \Rightarrow



\Rightarrow equiv. states $A^x \forall x$

THREAT MODEL (1/2)

Given (τ, φ) :

Observation function φ

Integrity
+
Confidentiality
+
Measurement

enclave
 \Rightarrow SRE _{(τ, φ)}

A_e, I_e, O_e
at any time

E_0 (initial)

but what else?

Exceptions?
Page tables?
Cache misses?

THREAT MODEL (2/2)

Given (τ, φ) :

Tamper relation τ

Integrity
+
Confidentiality
+
Measurement

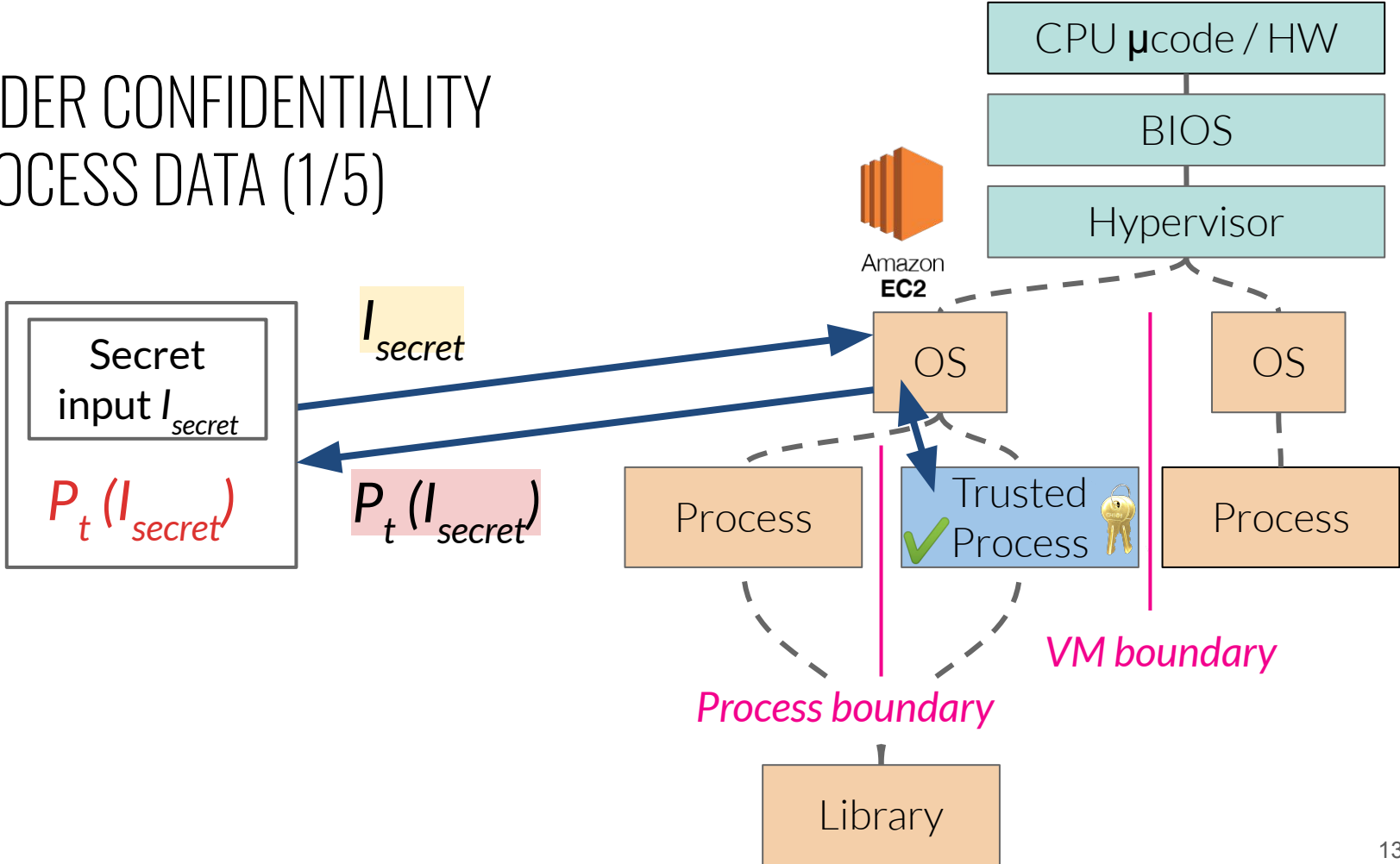
enclave
 \Rightarrow SRE_(τ, φ)

mess with A_e, I_e
Destroy e
create other enclaves

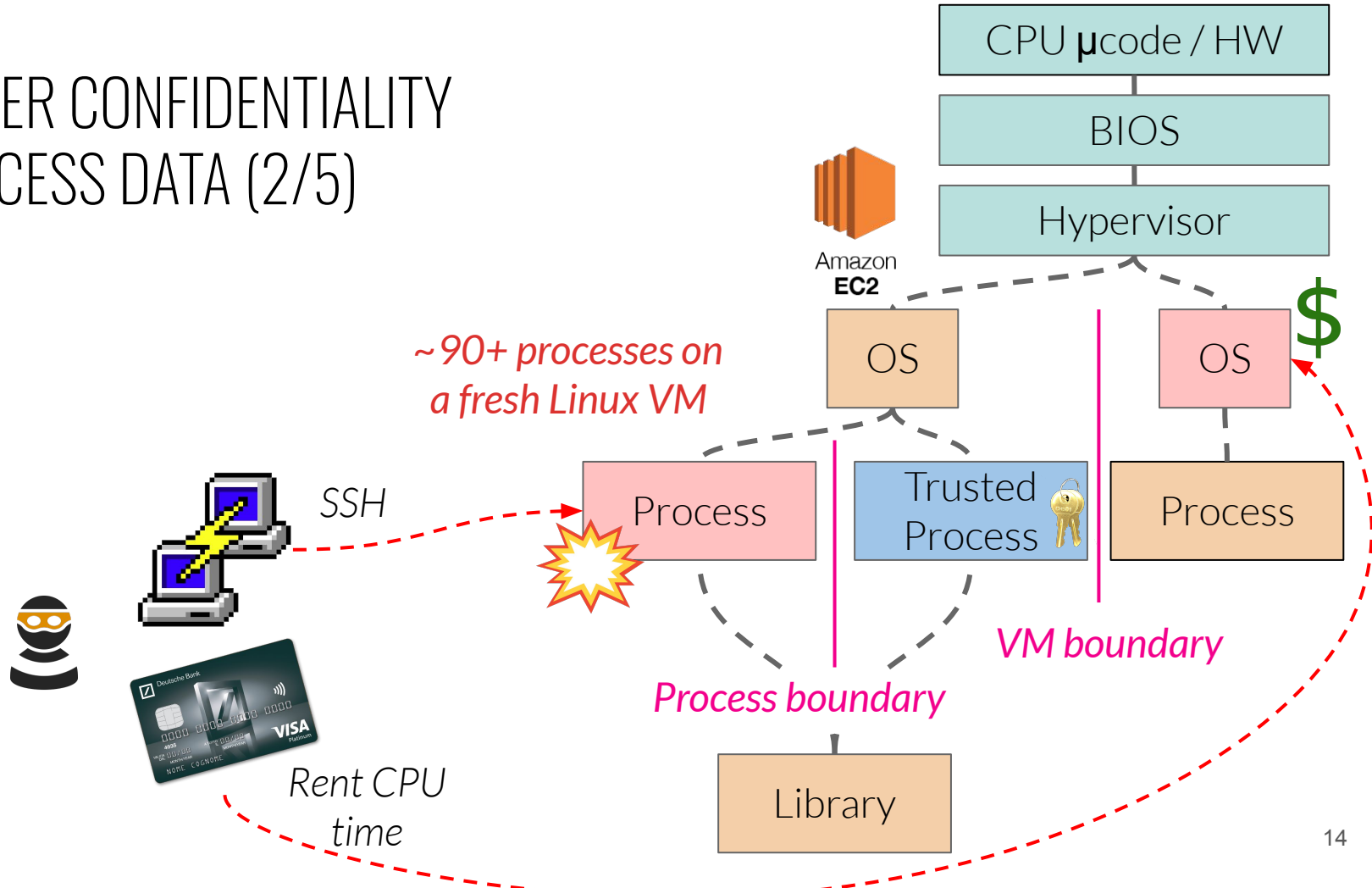


Result of state changes:
Cache hit/miss?
Page fault?
etc.

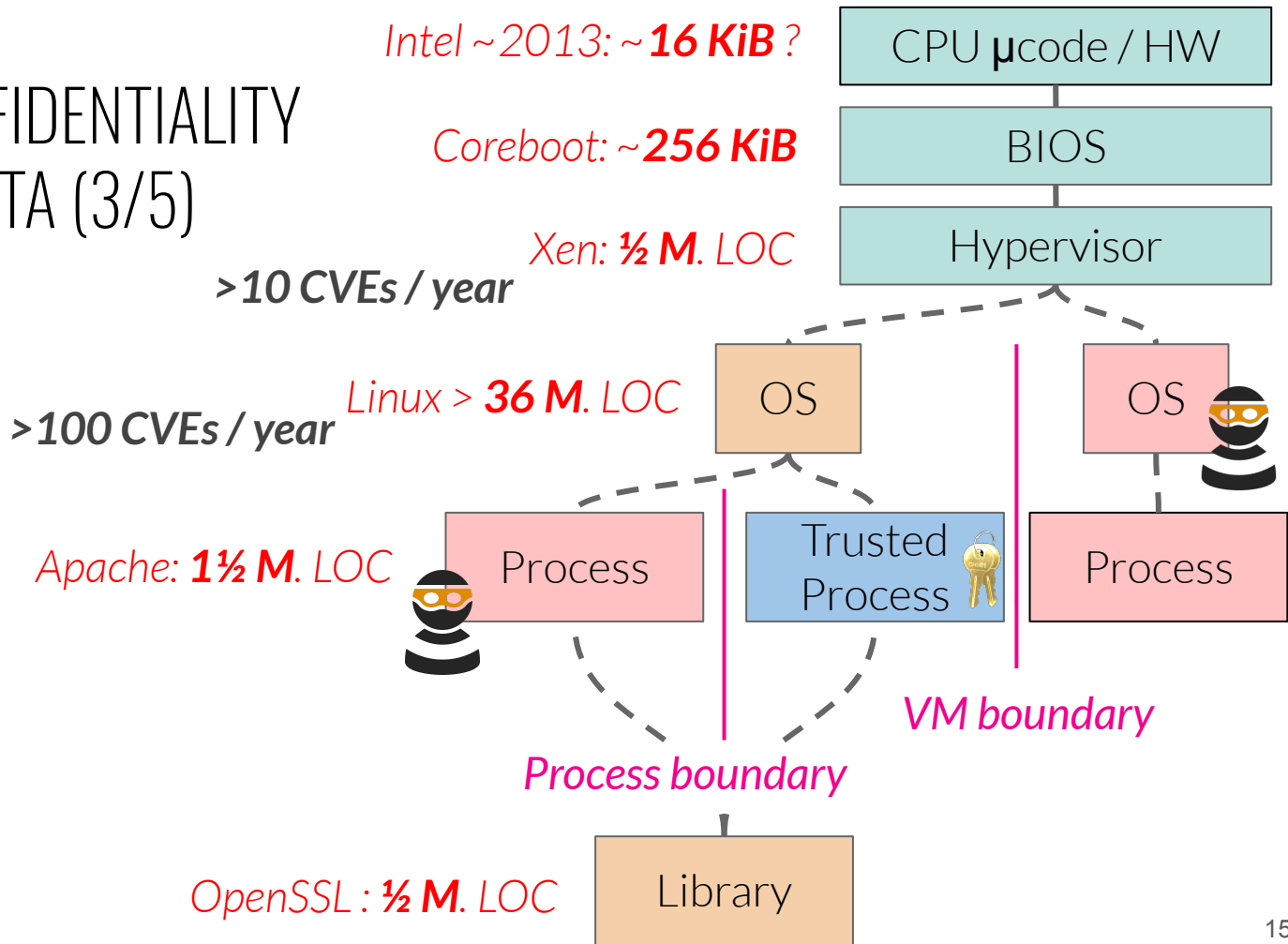
CONSIDER CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCESS DATA (1/5)



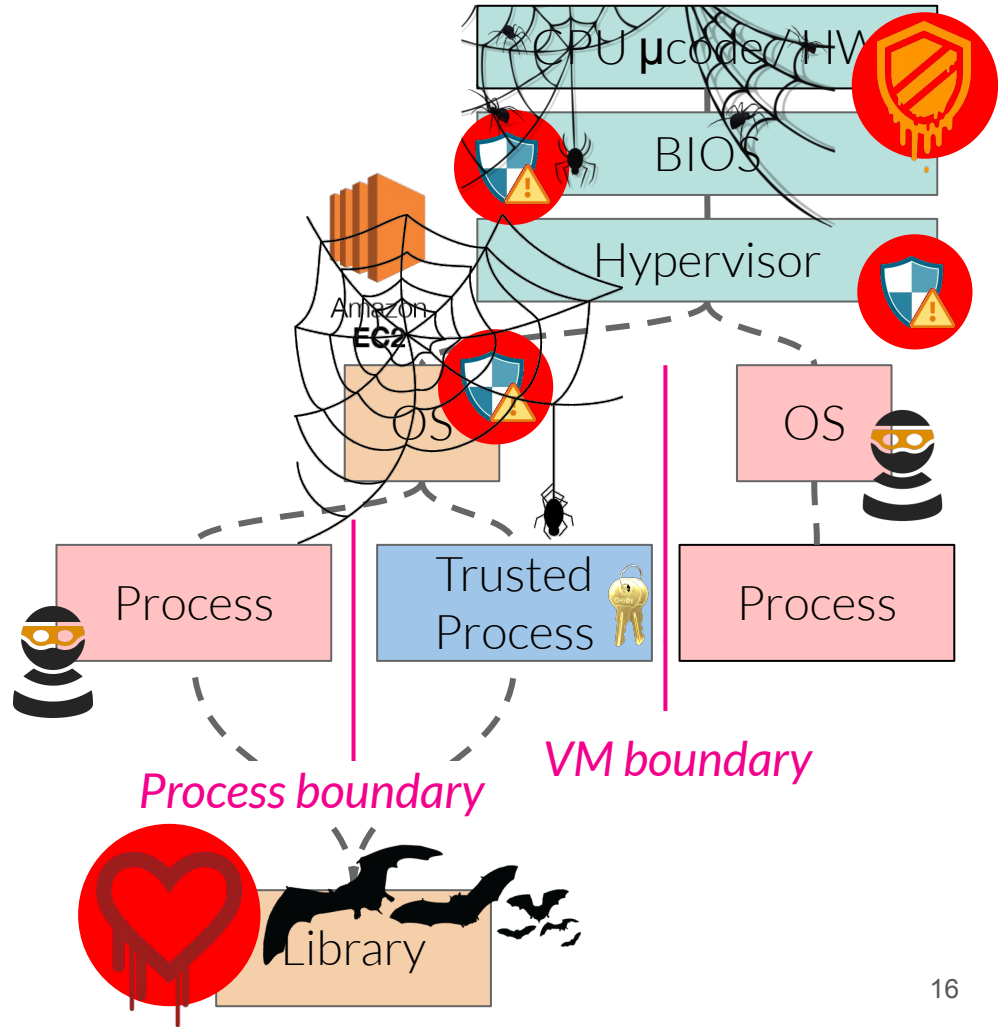
CONSIDER CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCESS DATA (2/5)



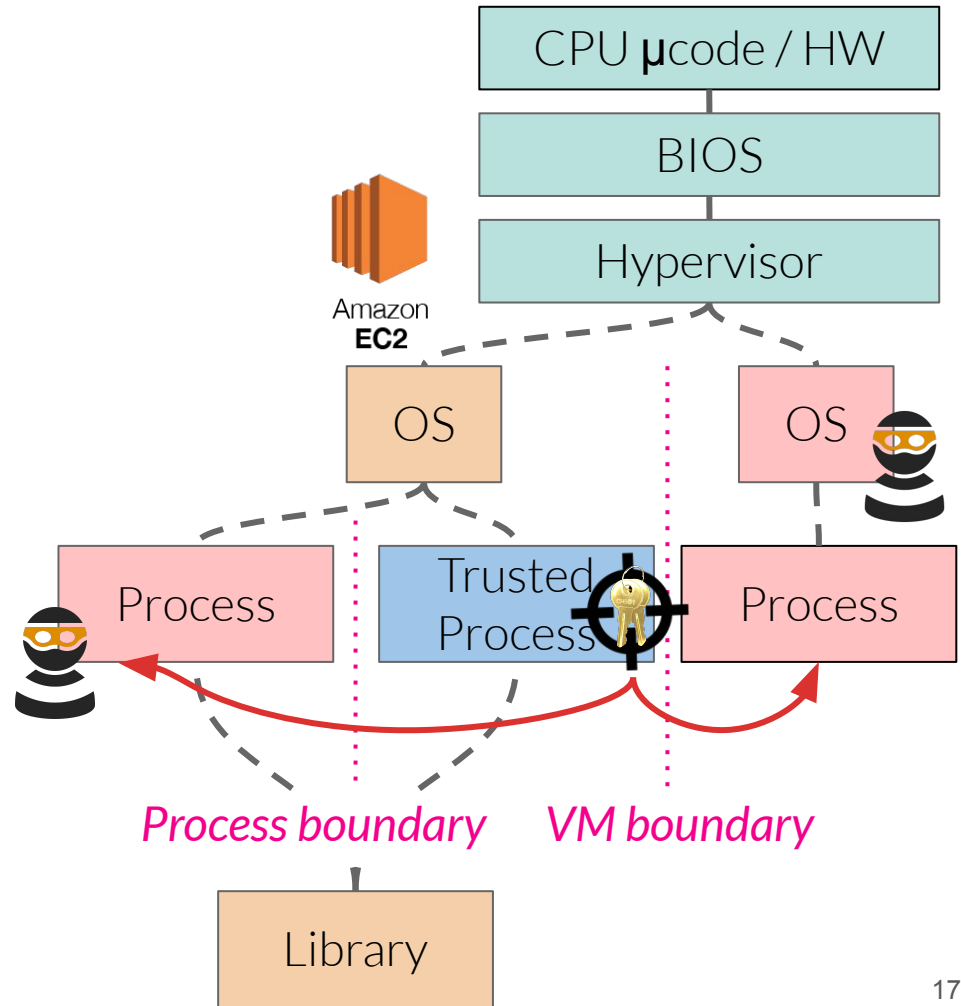
CONSIDER CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCESS DATA (3/5)



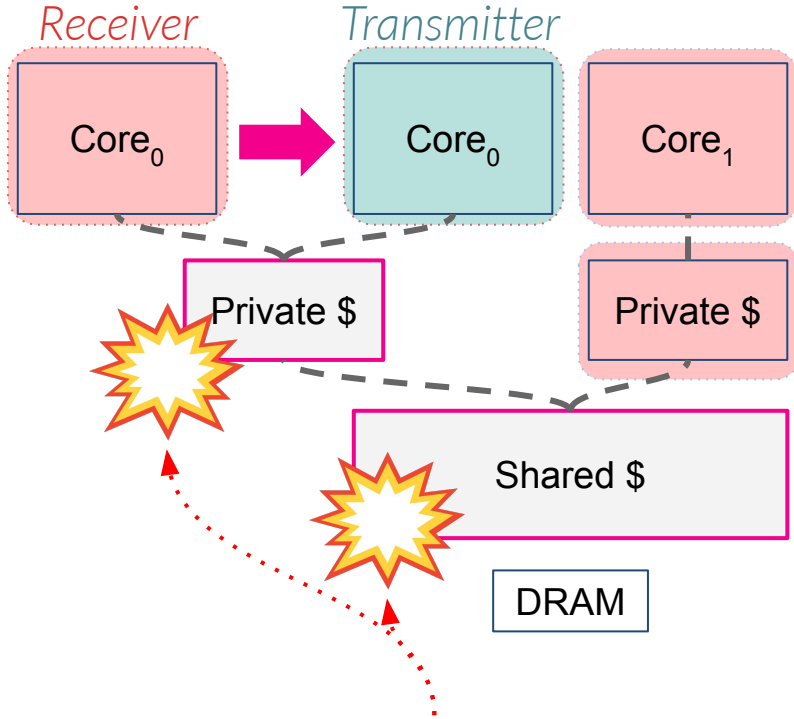
CONSIDER CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCESS DATA (4/5)



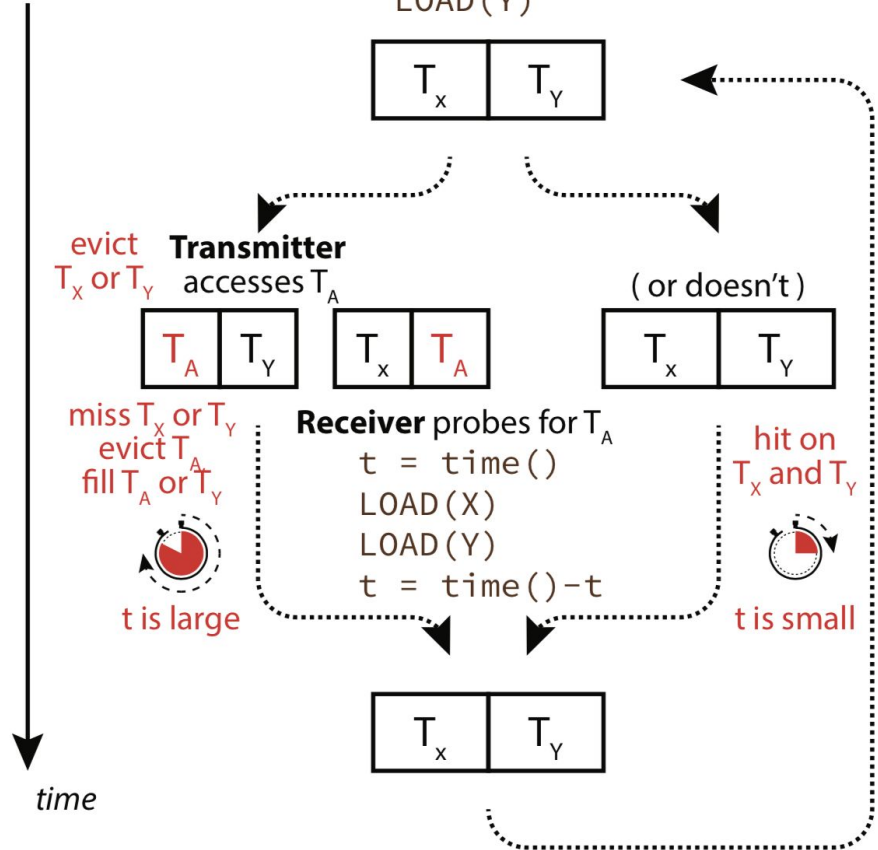
CONSIDER CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCESS DATA (5/5)



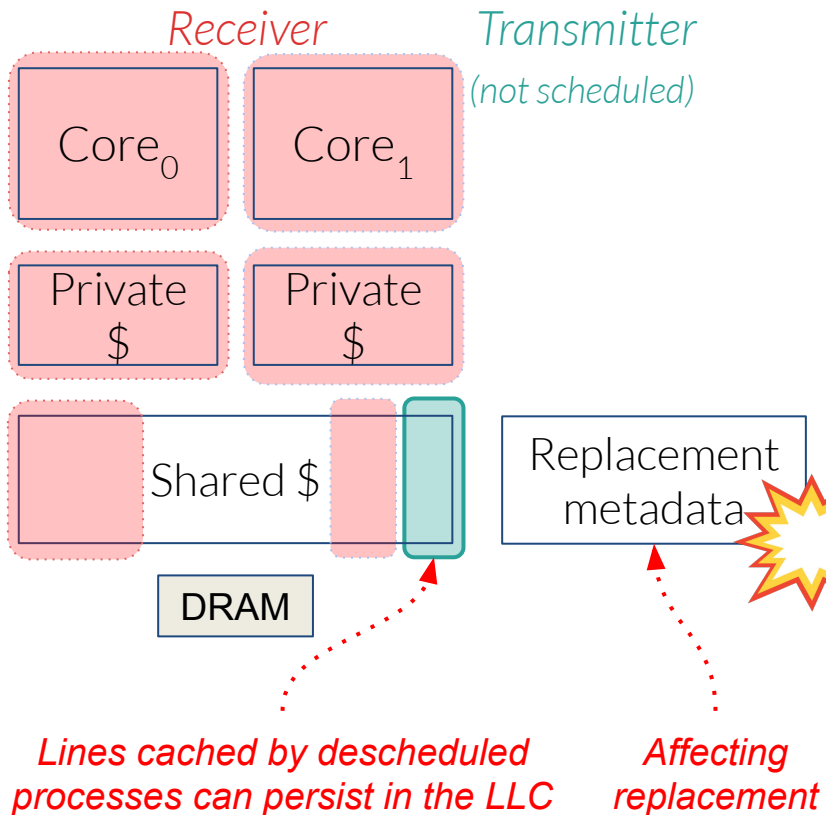
CASE STUDY: CACHES LEAK (1/2)



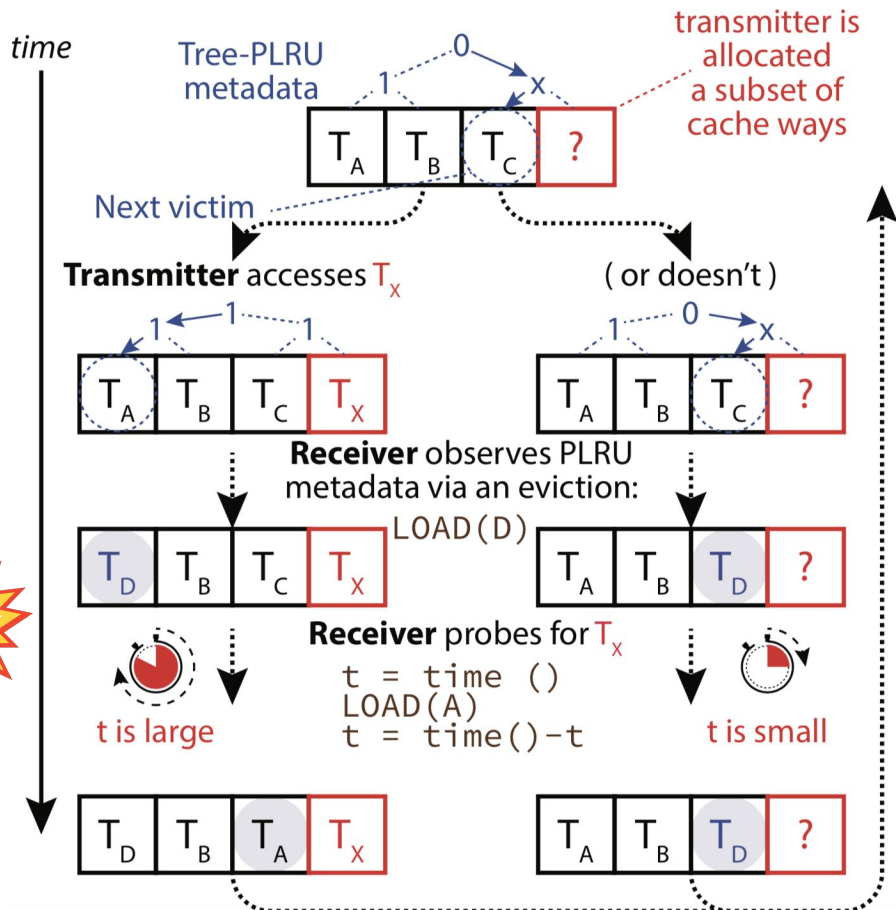
*Processes compete for cache lines;
contention can be observed*



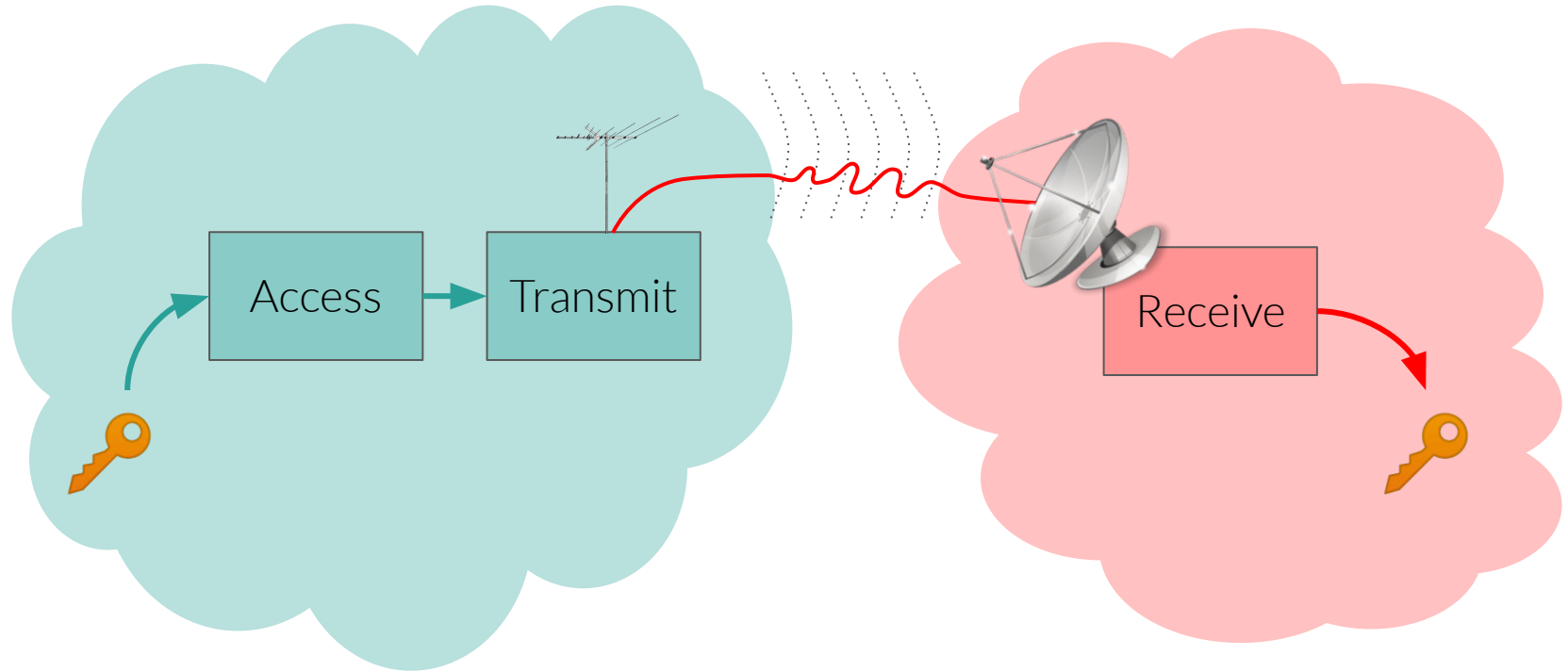
CASE STUDY: CACHES LEAK (2/2)



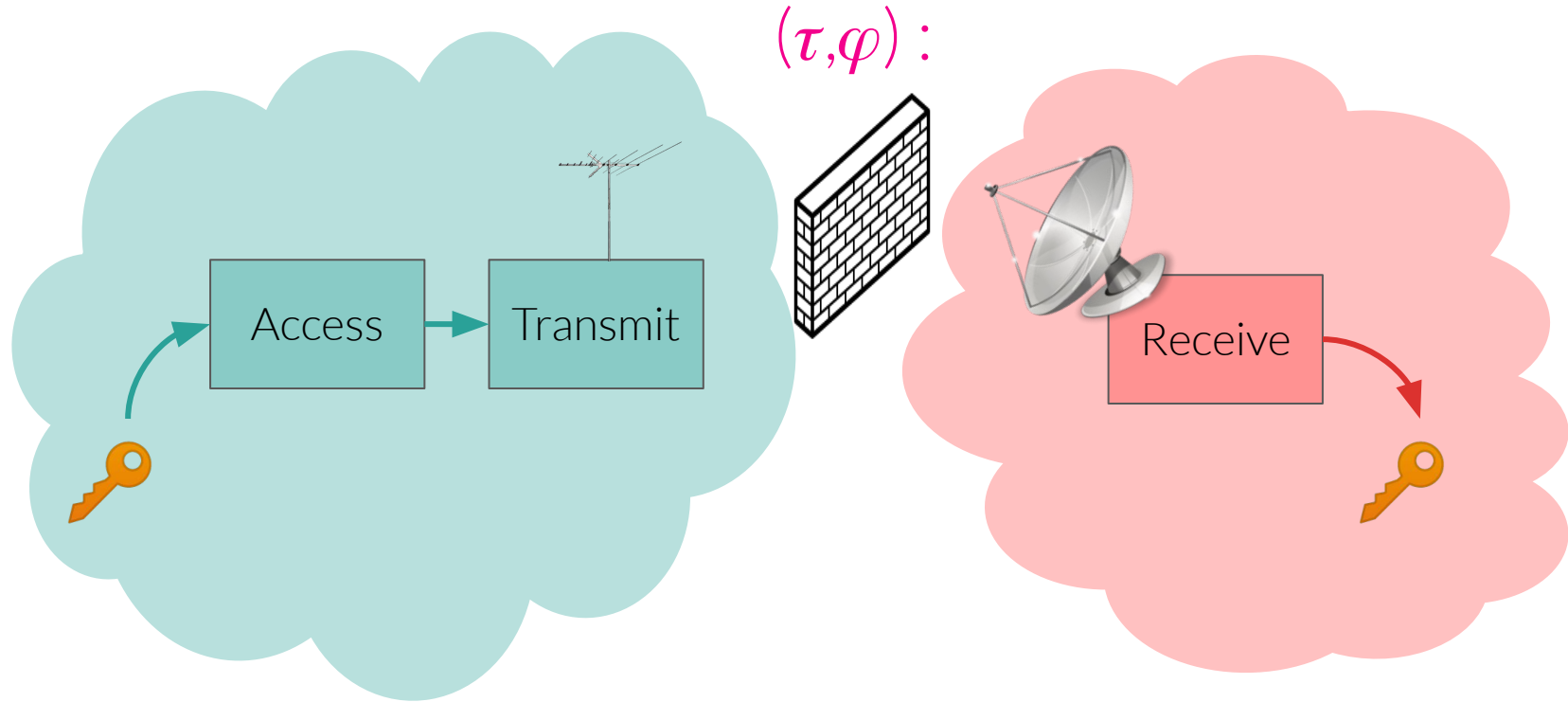
Receiver sets up PLRU metadata: LOAD (A) ; LOAD (B)



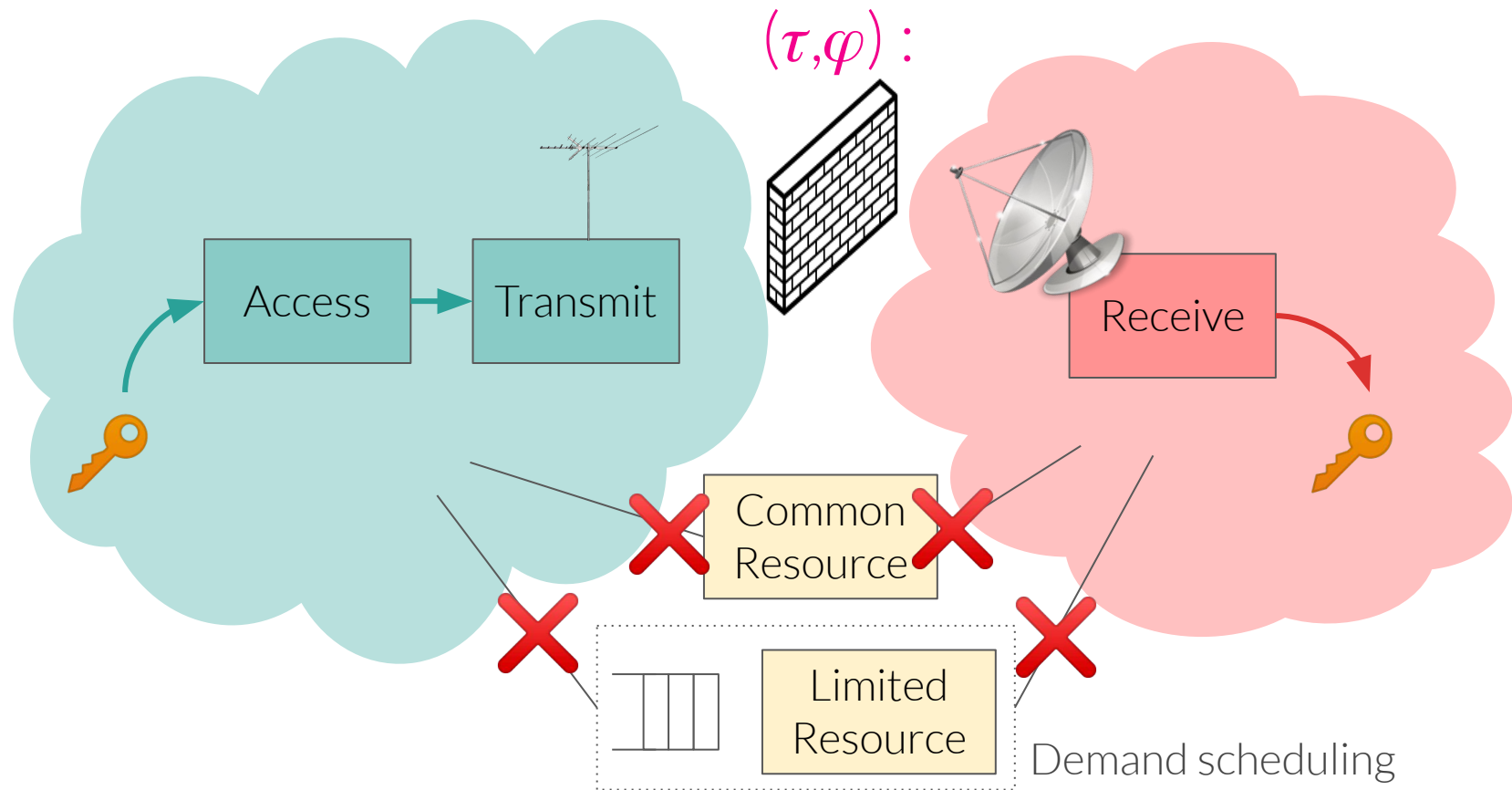
GENERALIZED SCHEMA FOR EXFILTRATION VIA A “SIDE CHANNEL”



A GENERALIZED DEFENSE FOR EXFILTRATION VIA A “SIDE CHANNEL”



ISOLATING MUTUALLY DISTRUSTING SOFTWARE



THREAT MODEL IN A MODERN SYSTEM

Linux > 36 M. LOC
>100 CVEs / year

φ^{OS} : see everything

τ^{OS} : change anything

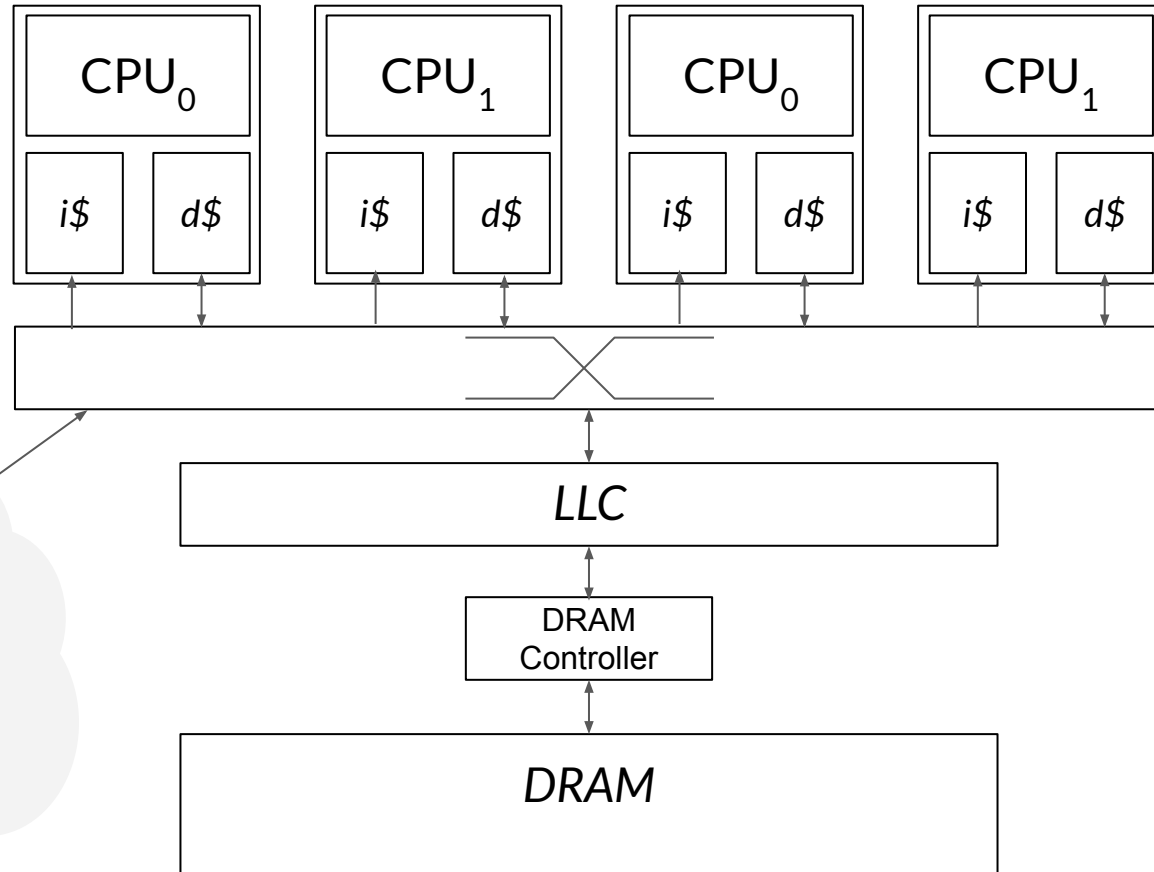
But the OS is trusted not to do this

The OS may be trusted but is it *trustworthy*?

φ^{PROC} : - see own state
- see shared state

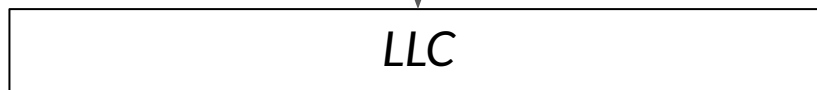
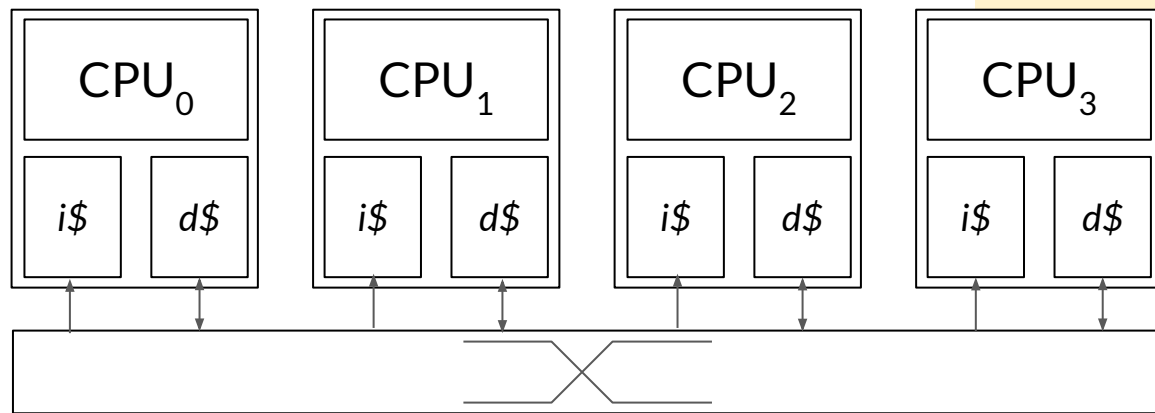
τ^{PROC} : change own state
- Change shared mem
- Syscalls to OS
- Use shared resources

PROTECTION DOMAINS (1/5)

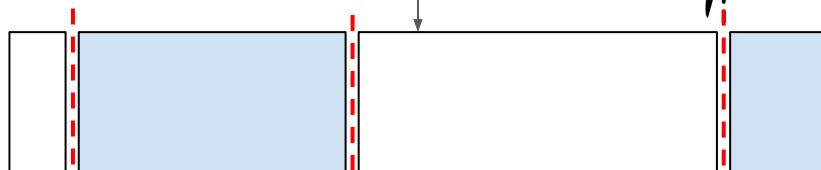


PROTECTION DOMAINS (2/5)

Protection domain :=
isolated set of machine
resources



devices n'
stuff



- Expensive I/O
- No copy-on-write

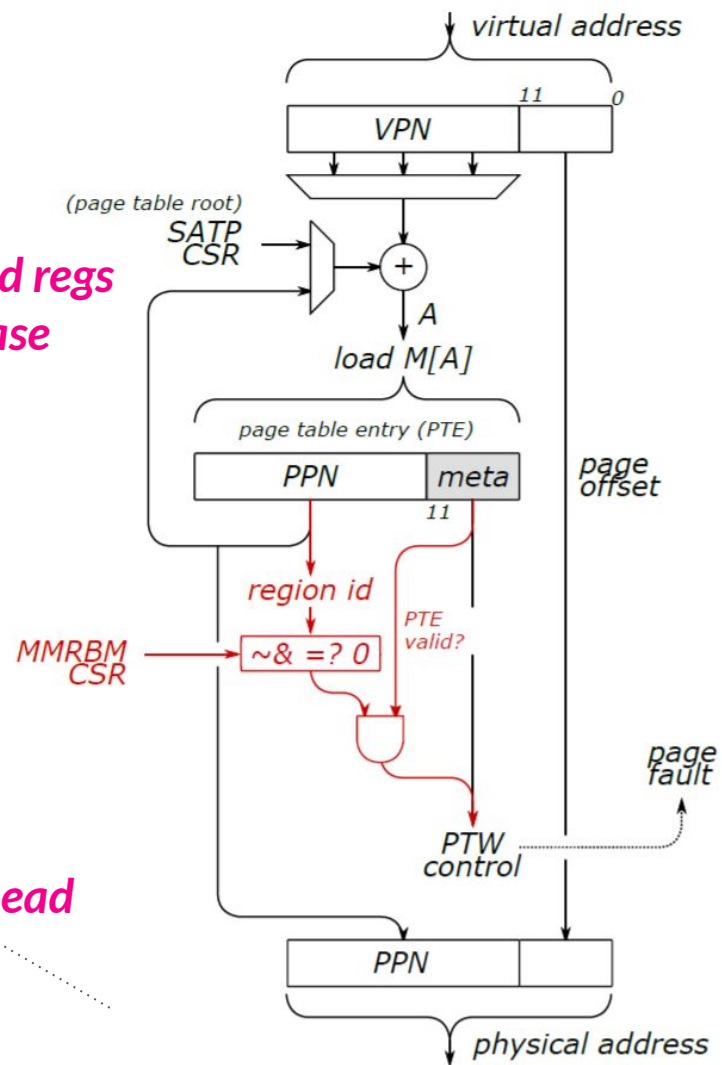
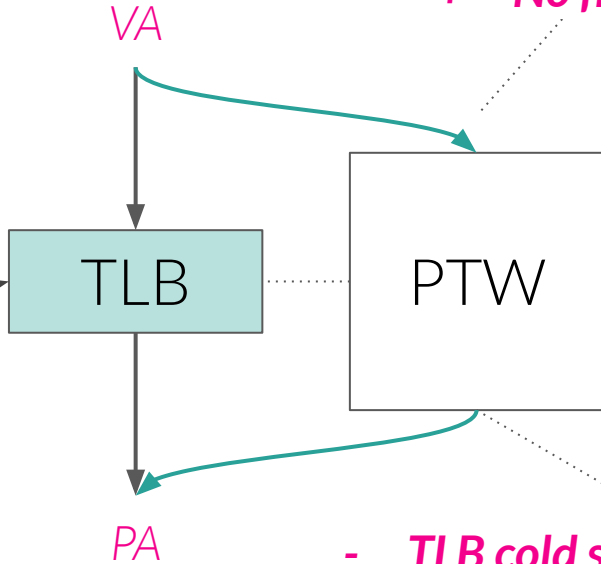
DRAM

ASIDE : TLB INVARIANT

- + A few gates and regs
- + No freq. decrease

- TLB cold start overhead

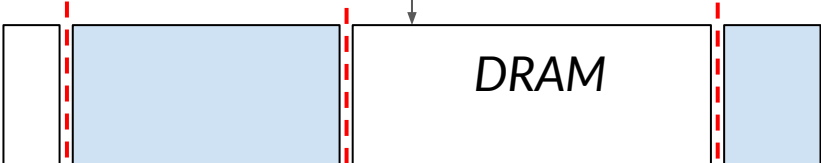
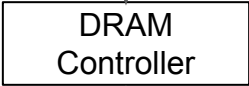
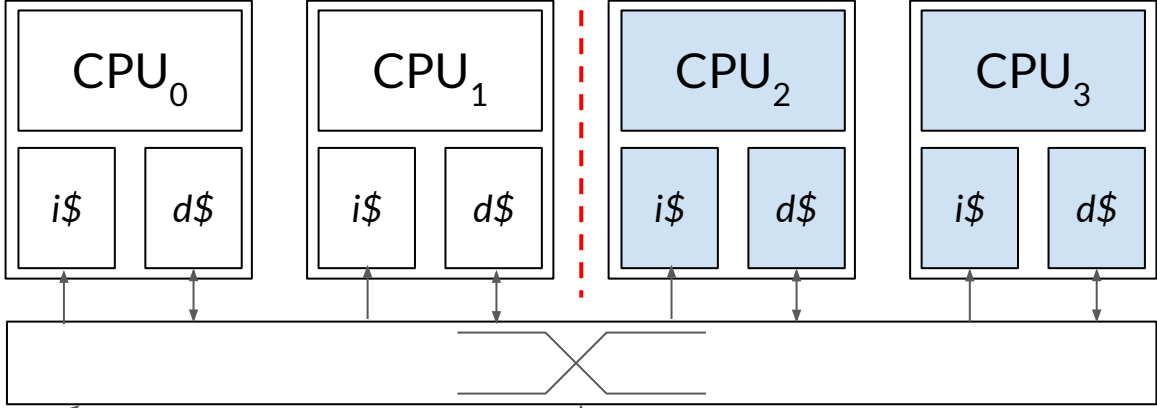
Remove cached translations
when policy changes



PROTECTION DOMAINS (3/5)

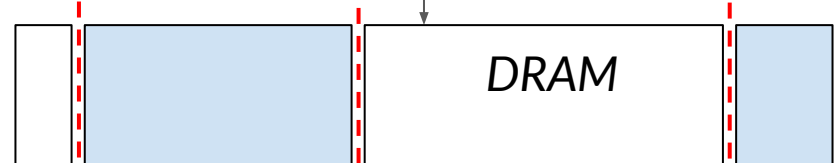
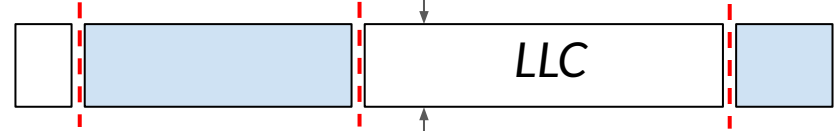
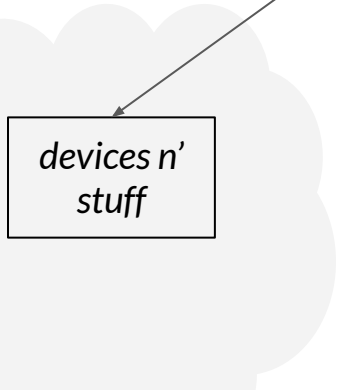
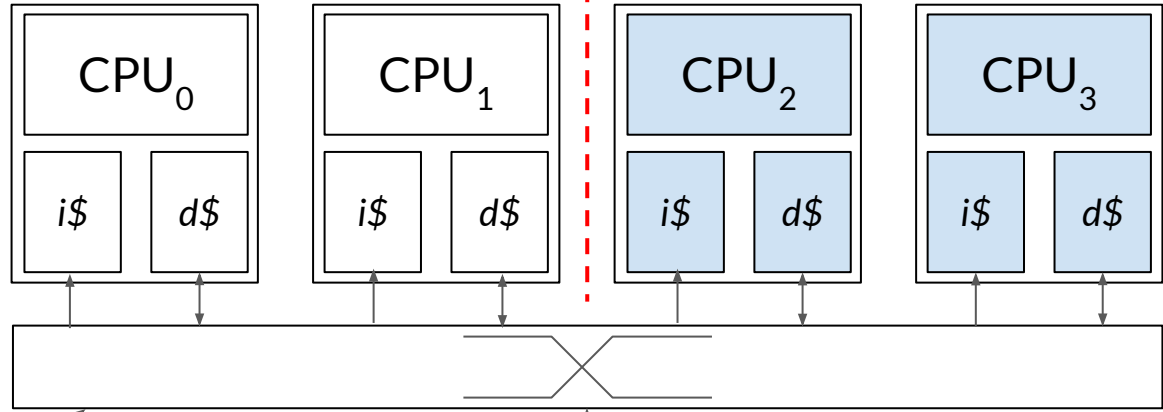


purge when scheduling



devices n' stuff

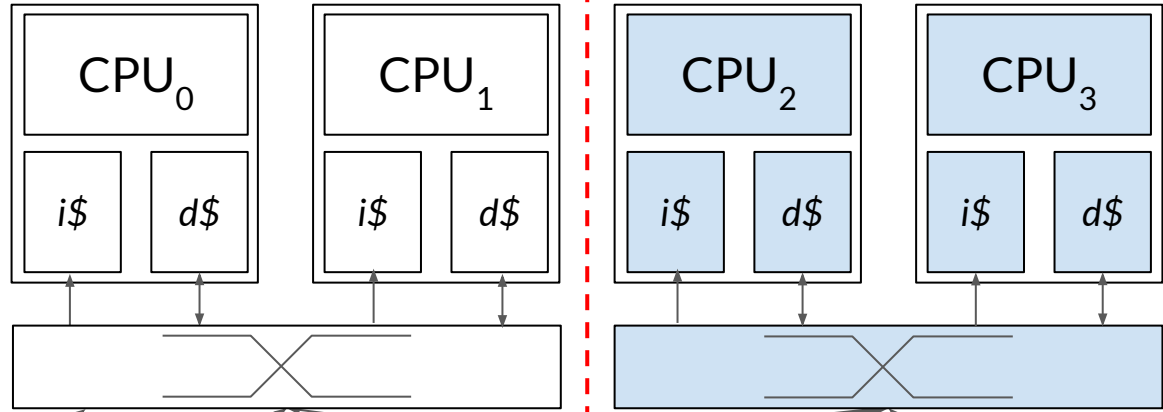
PROTECTION DOMAINS (4/5) ✂



Partition the LLC
- Internal fragmentation

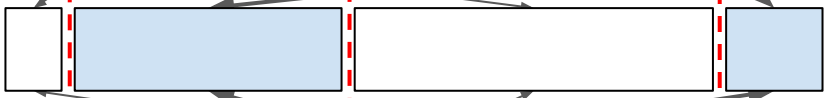
Already often done for QoS

PROTECTION DOMAINS (5/5)



Over-provision
NoC

devices n'
stuff

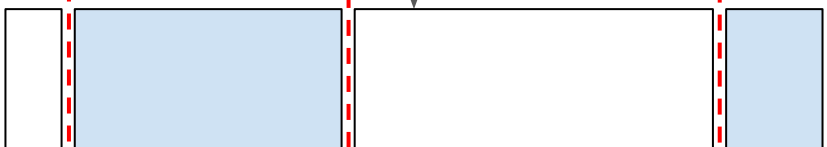


LLC

DRAM
Controller

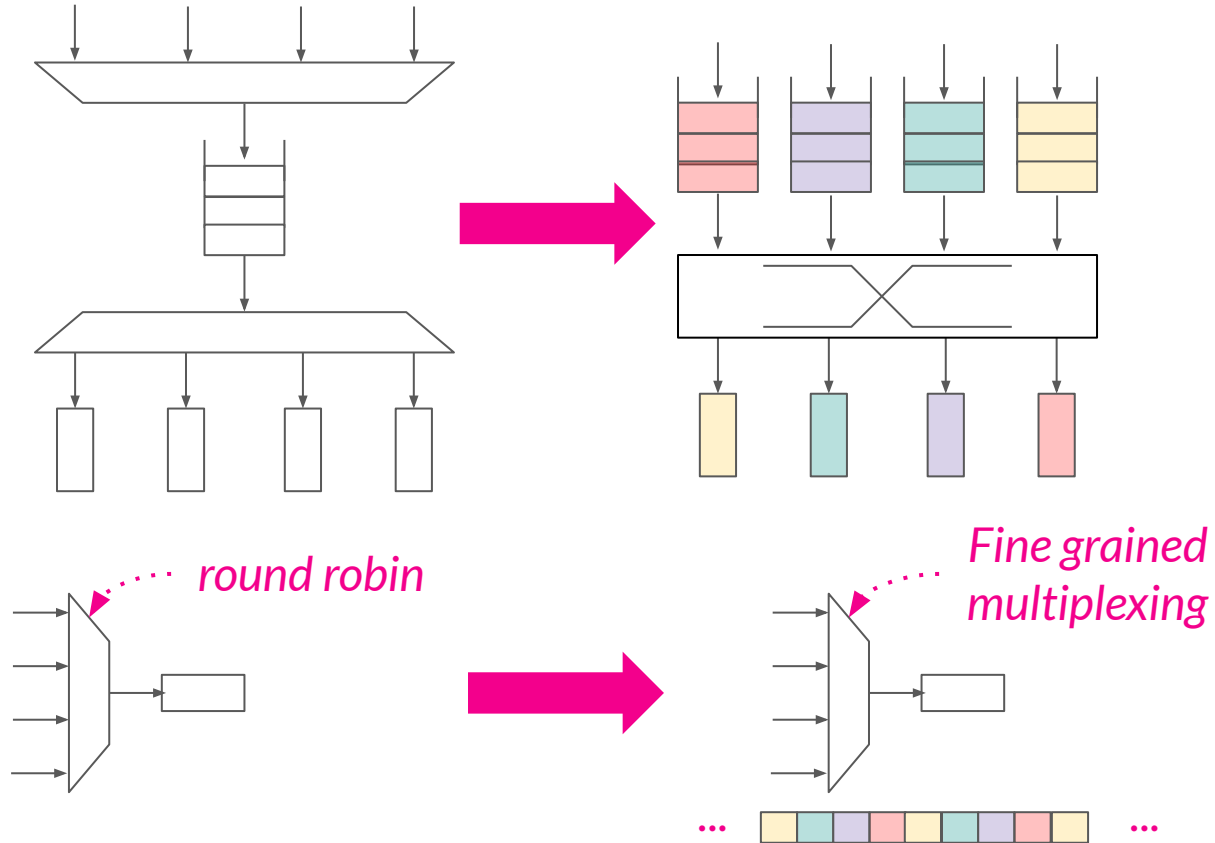


Accesses from different
domain should not interfere



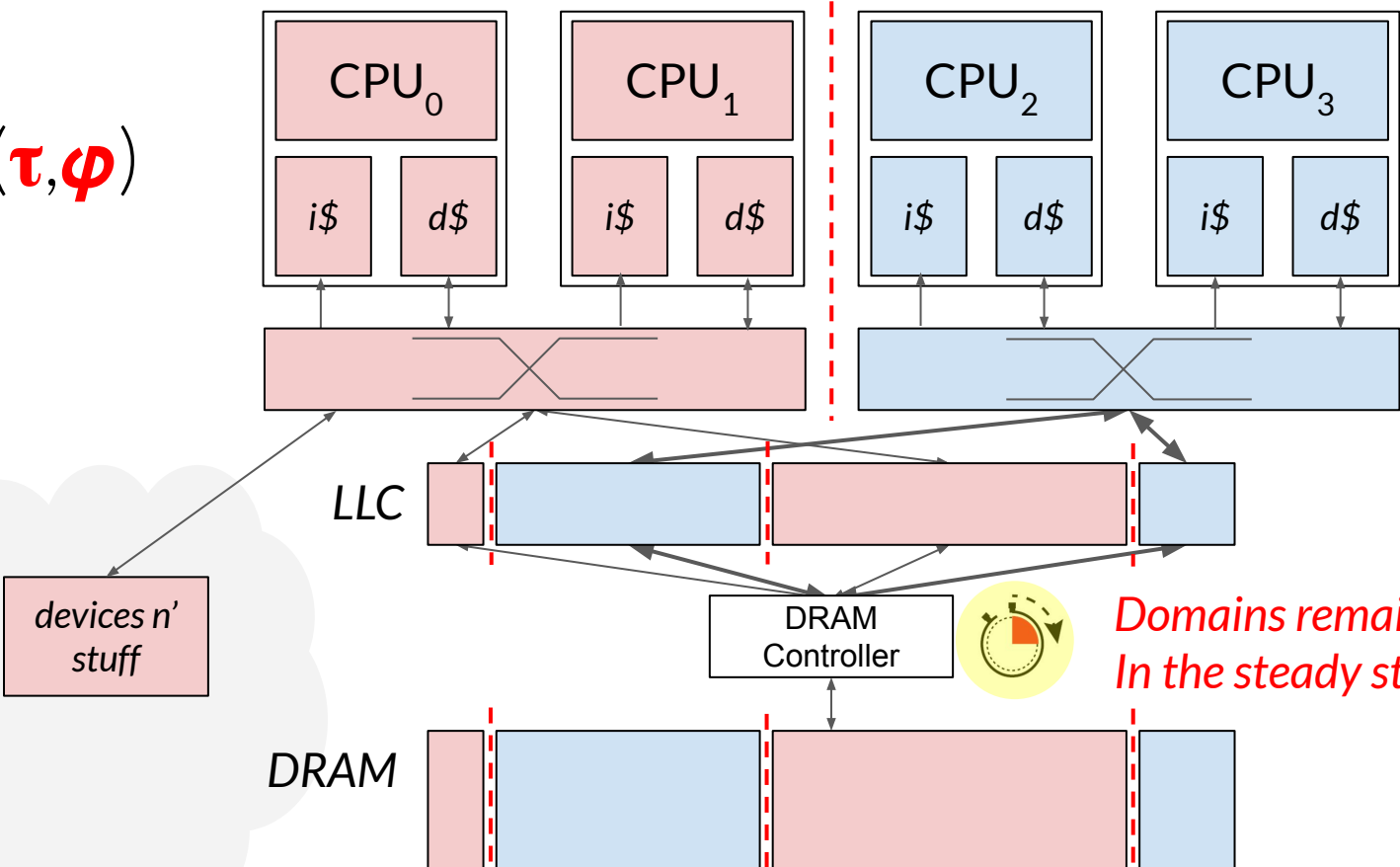
DRAM

ASIDE : PARTITIONING ARBITERS / NETWORKS



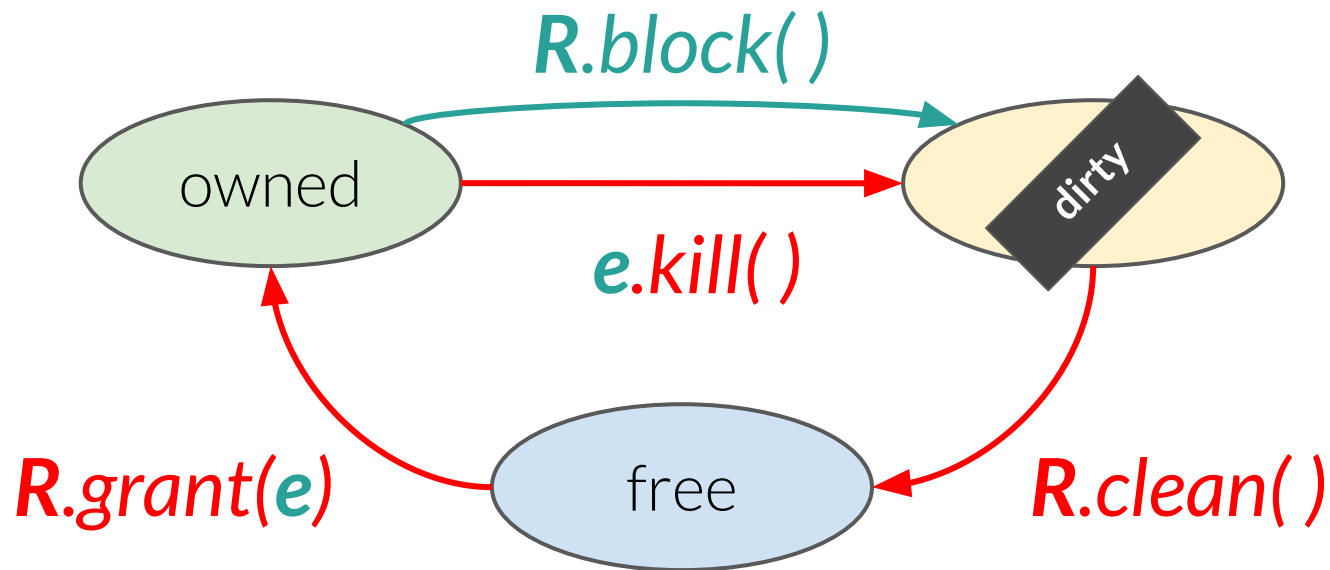
NON-INTERFERENCE BETWEEN PROTECTION DOMAINS

(τ, φ)

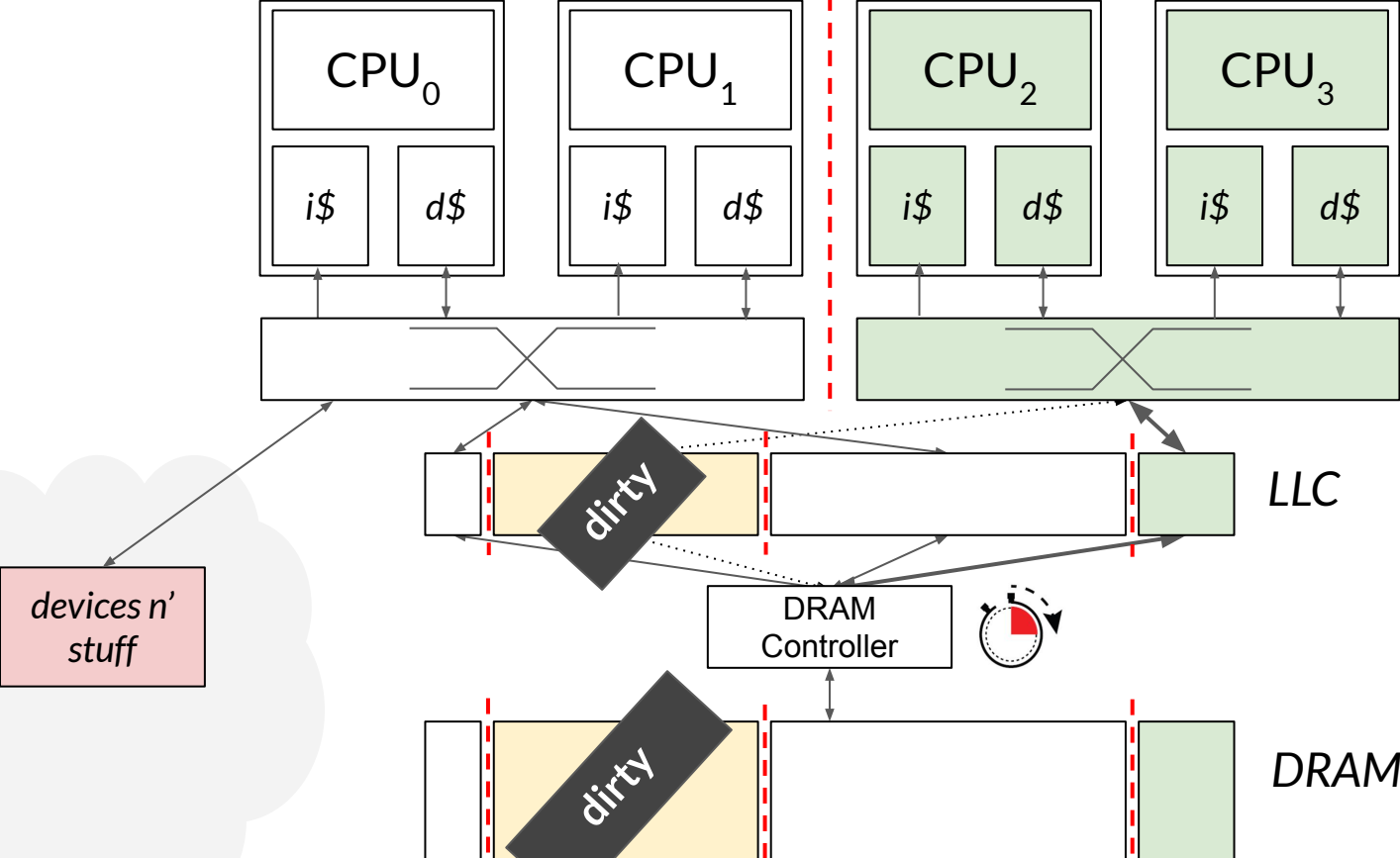


*Domains remain isolated
In the steady state,*

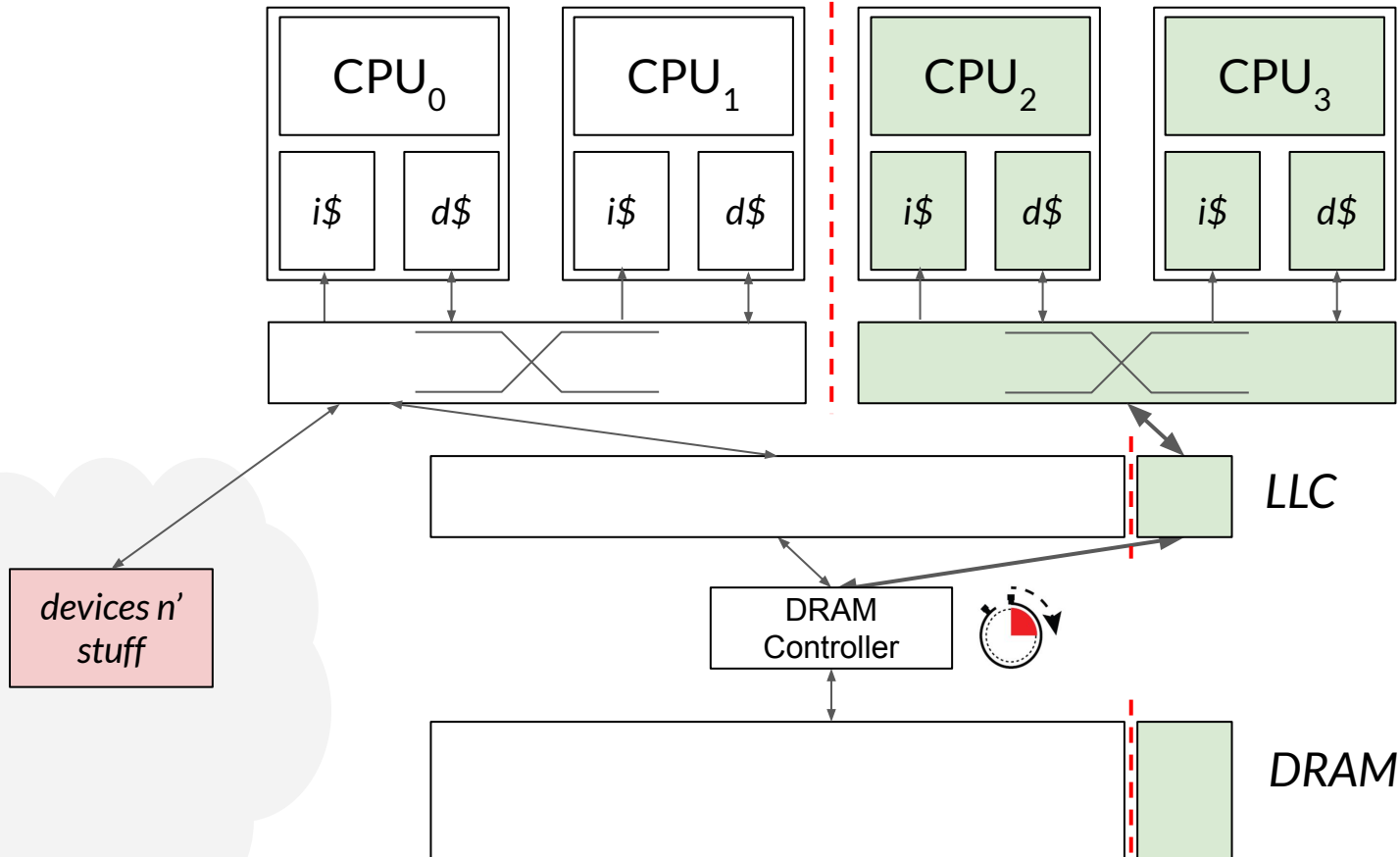
PROTECTION DOMAINS ARE NOT STATIC



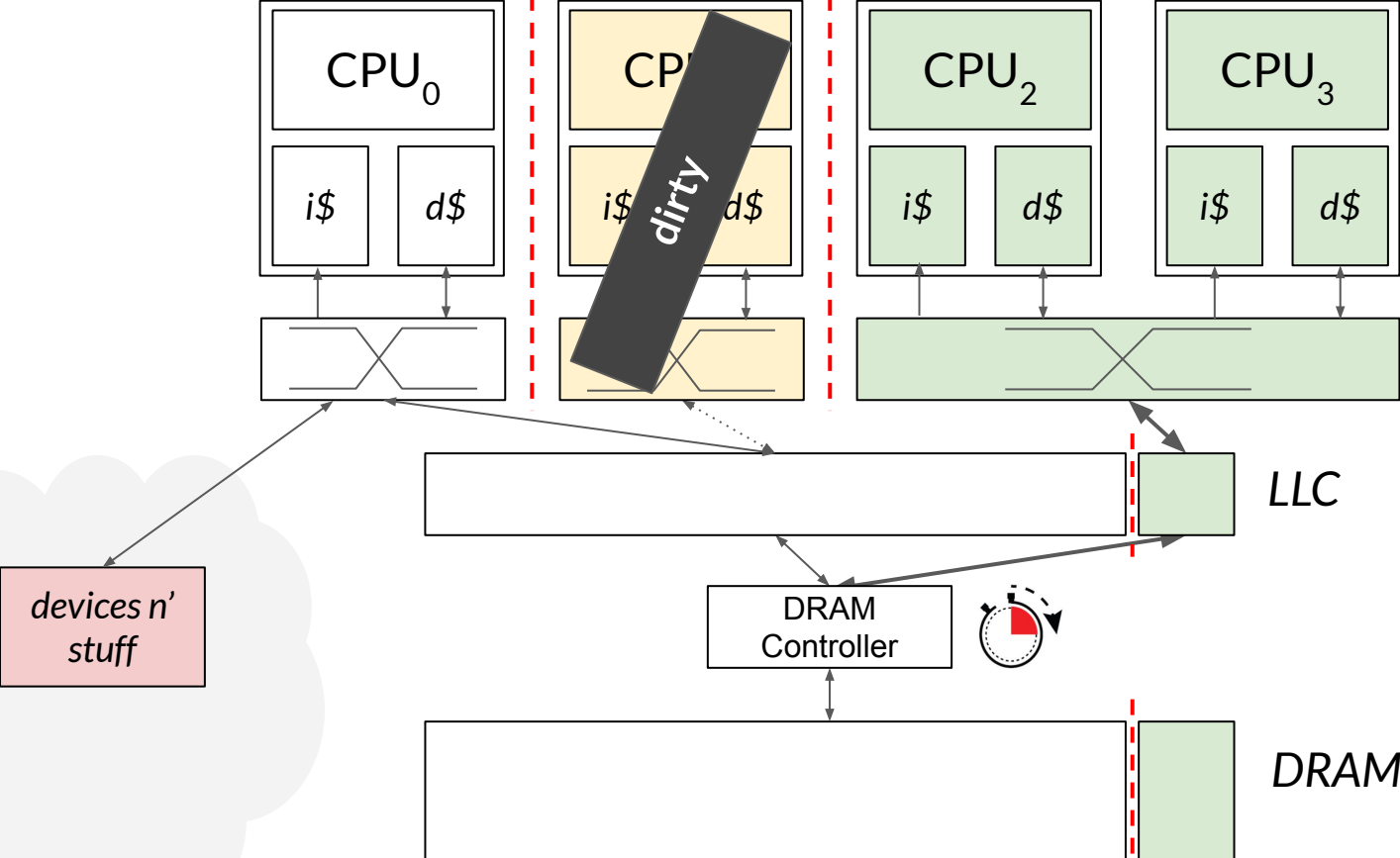
PROTECTION DOMAINS TRANSITIONS (1/4)



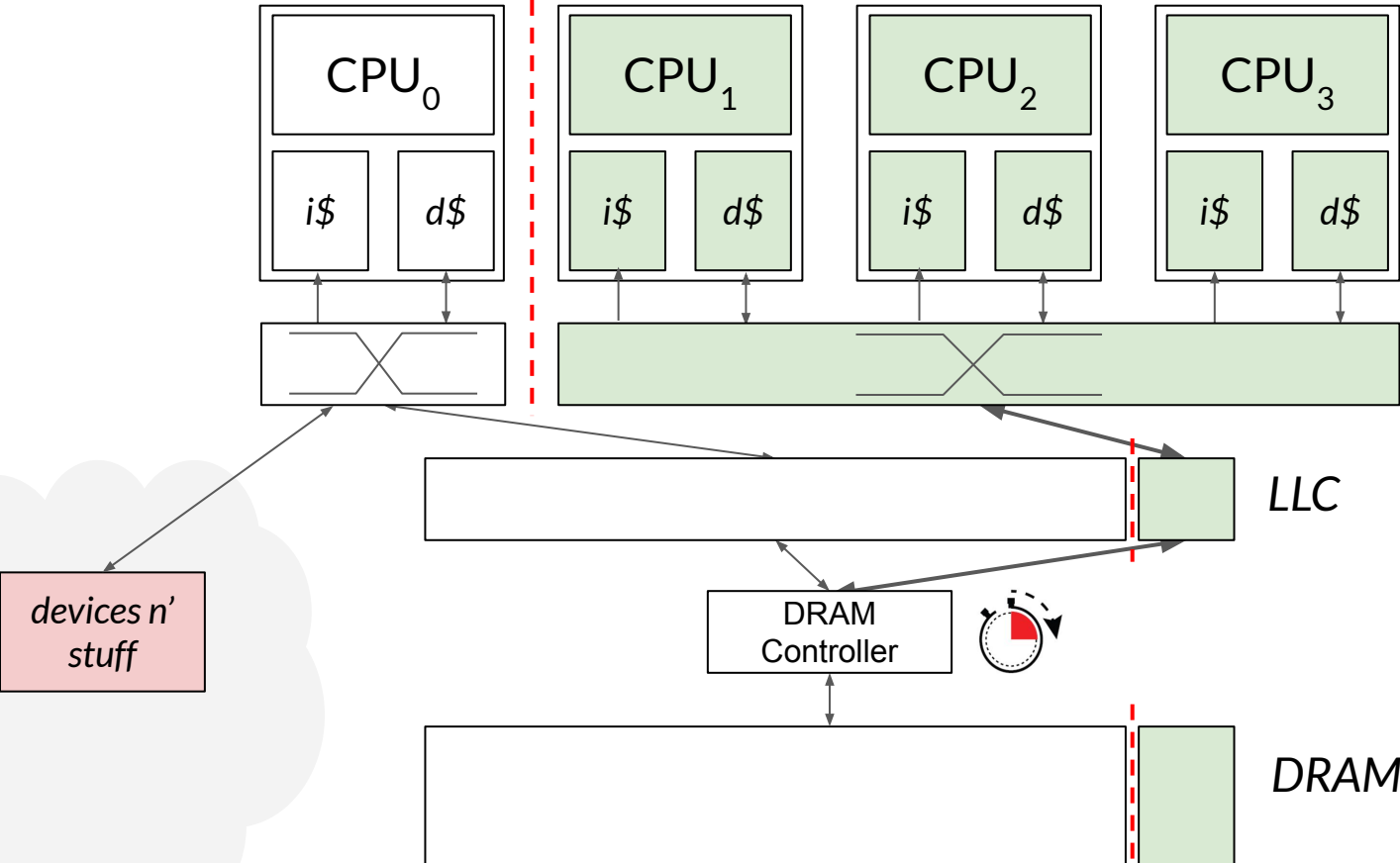
PROTECTION DOMAINS TRANSITIONS (2/4)



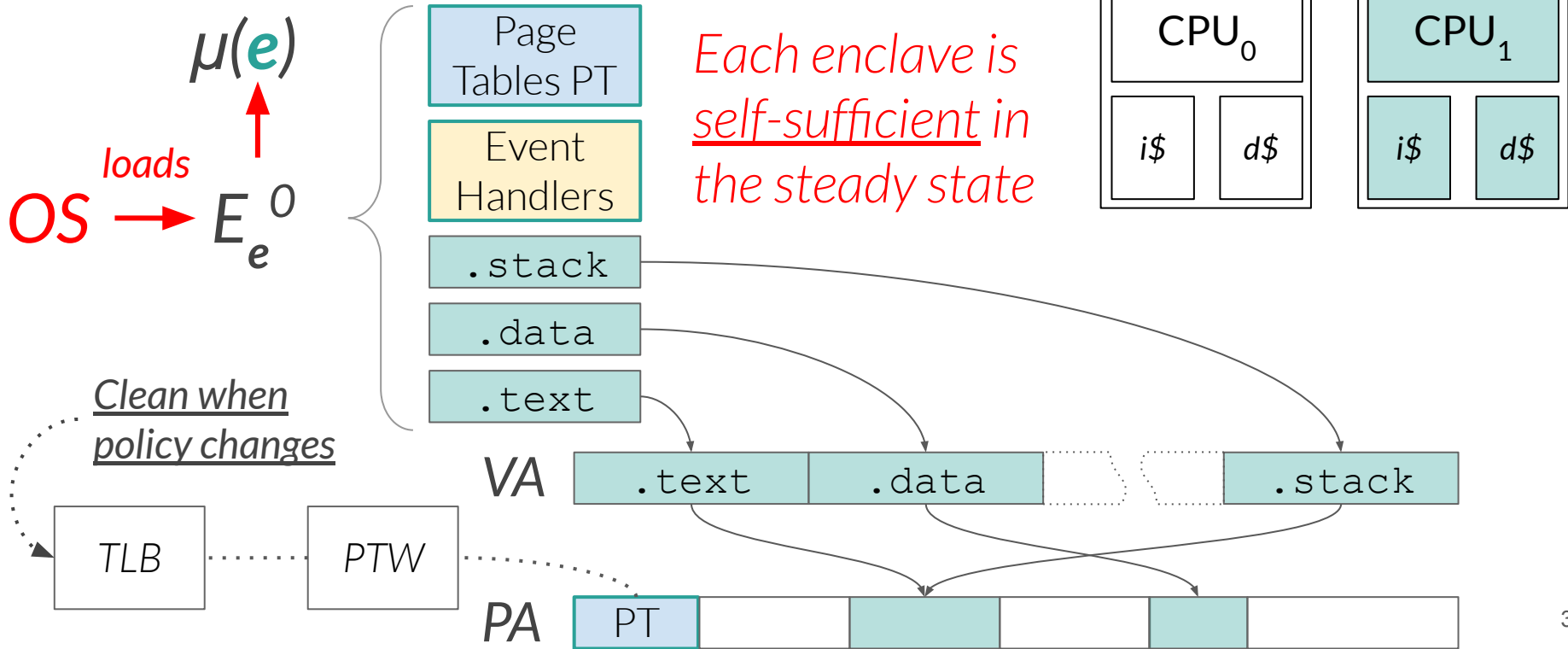
PROTECTION DOMAINS TRANSITIONS (3/4)



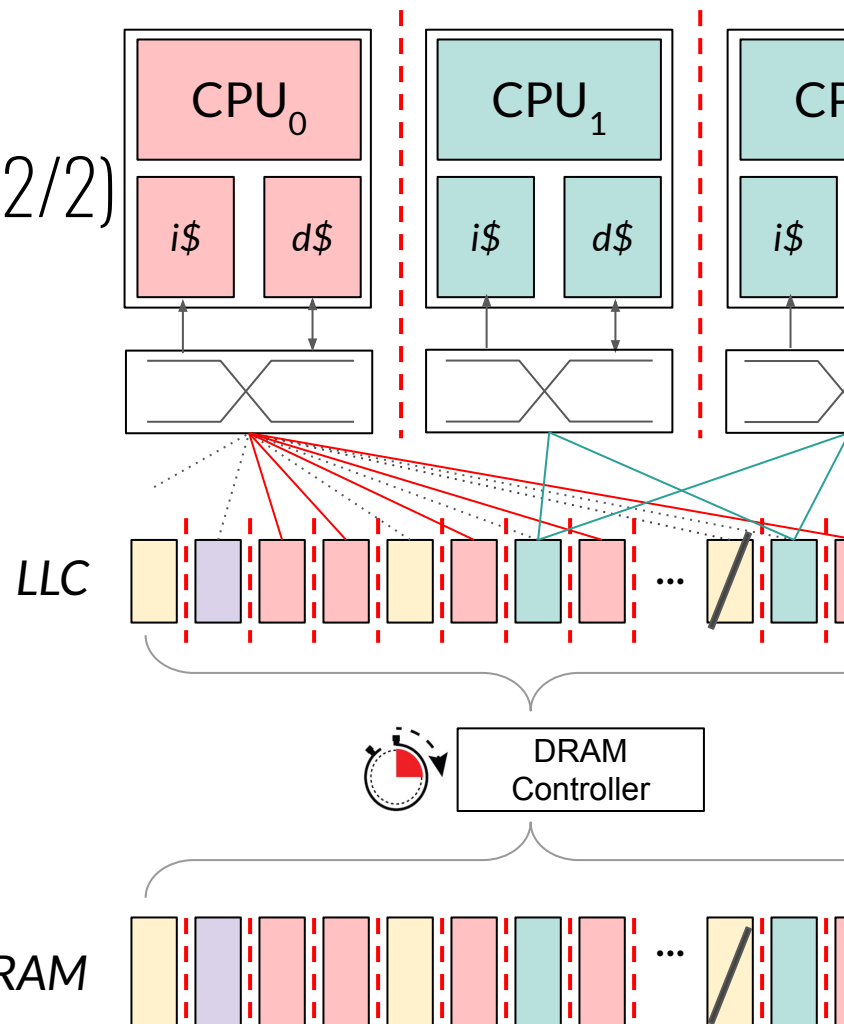
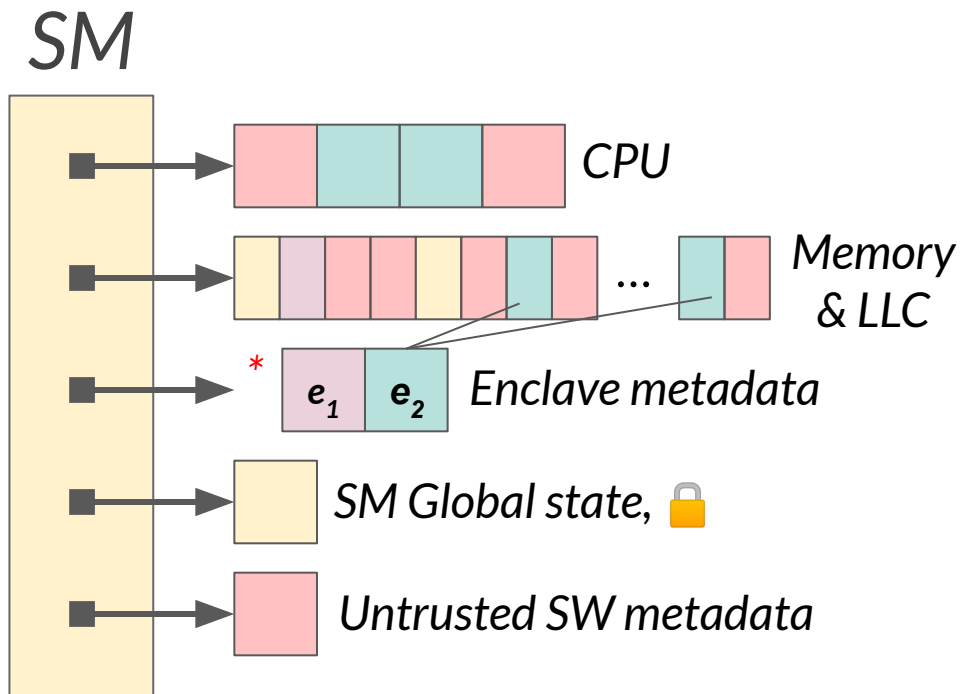
PROTECTION DOMAINS TRANSITIONS (4/4)



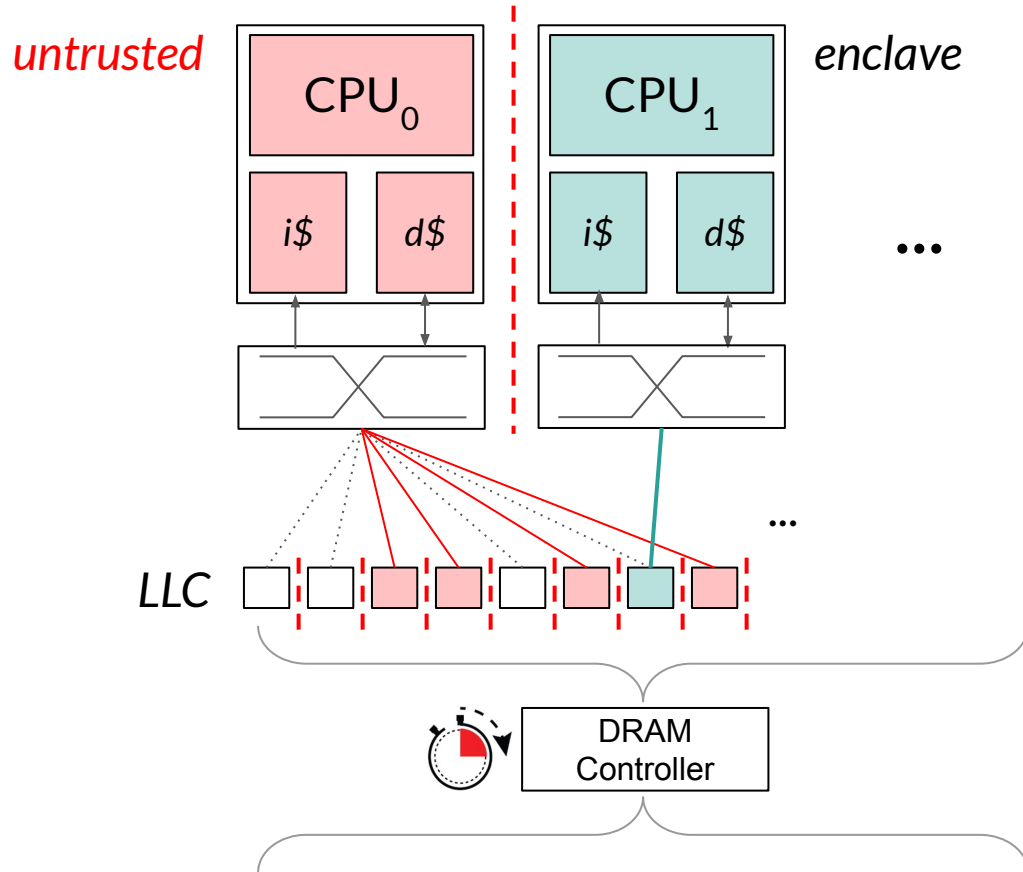
SECURITY MONITOR: MAPPING ENCLAVES \Rightarrow PROTECTION DOMAINS (1/2)



SECURITY MONITOR: MAPPING ENCLAVES \Rightarrow PROTECTION DOMAINS (2/2)

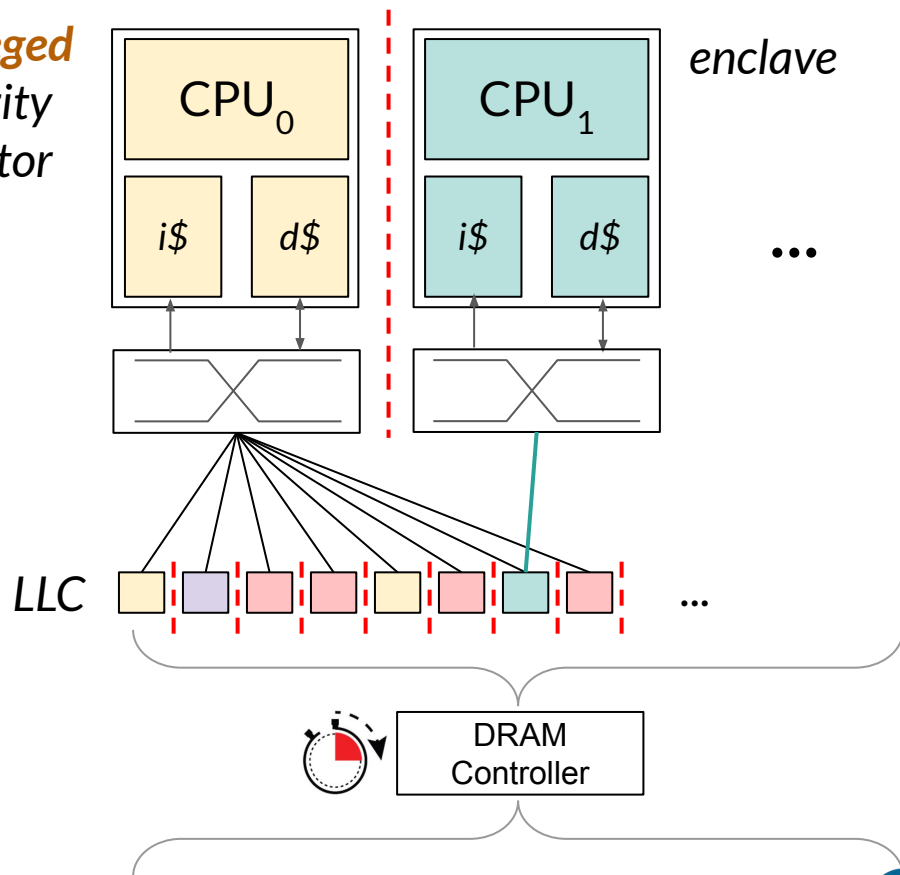


SPECULATIVE EXECUTION + PROTECTION DOMAINS = ? (1/2)



SPECULATIVE EXECUTION + PROTECTION DOMAINS = ? (2/2)

privileged
security
monitor



SPECULATIVE EXECUTION + PROTECTION DOMAINS = ? (3/3)

e/A \Rightarrow *isolated*

- TLB Invariant
- \$ Partitioning
- NoC Partitions
- Exclusive memory

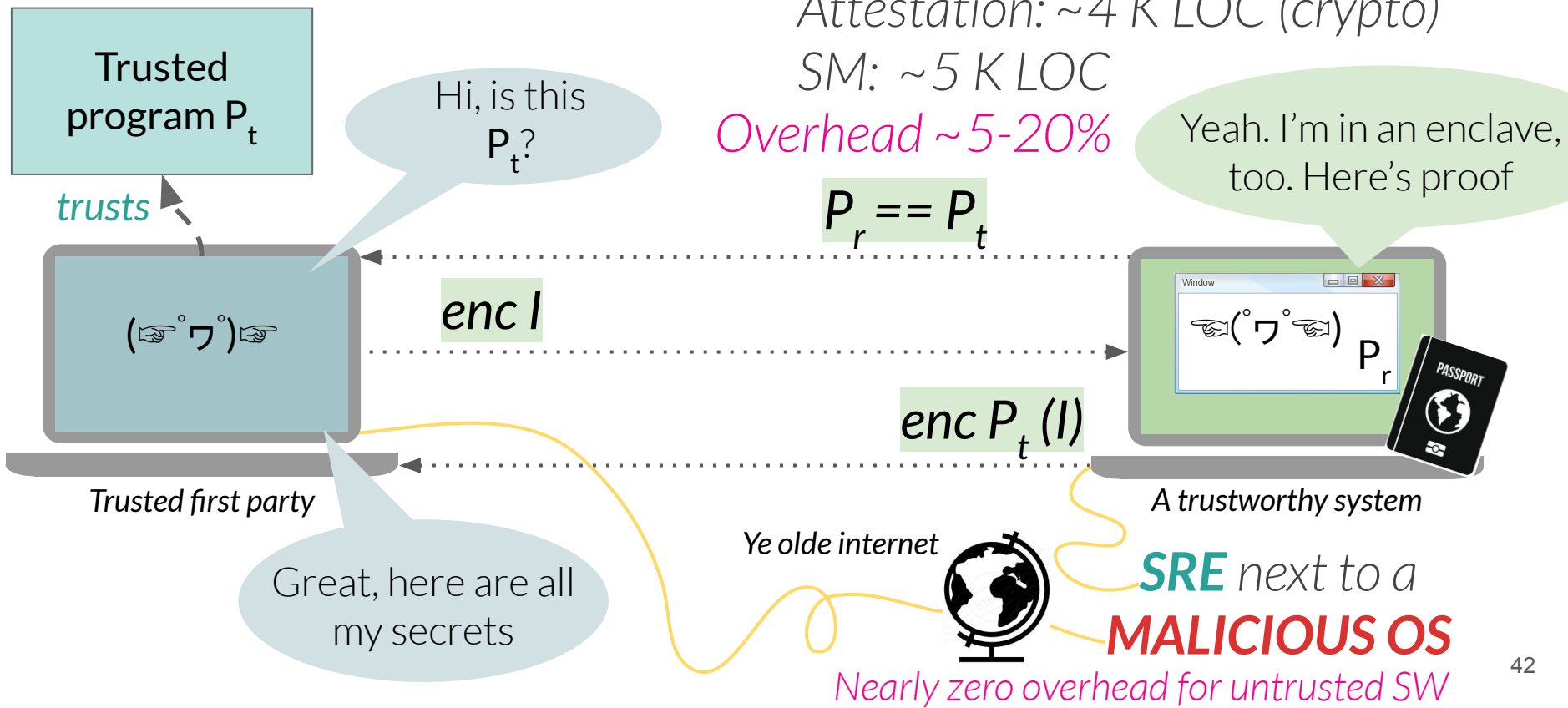
safe to speculate freely

SM \Rightarrow *not isolated*

- Only fetch in SM
- Serialize every load instruction

disable speculation

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER



TRUSTED CODE:

Witness: ~4K LOC (200 + crypto)

Attestation: ~4 K LOC (crypto)

SM: ~5 K LOC

Overhead ~5-20%

$$P_r == P_t$$

$$enc P_t (I)$$

SRE next to a
MALICIOUS OS

Nearly zero overhead for untrusted SW

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



AUTHENTICATED KEY AGREEMENT

Diffie Hellman to establish a private channel with remote enclave
(discrete log crypto, or elliptic curve where $\{g^A, g^B\} \rightarrow G^{AB}$ is hard.)

Remote user

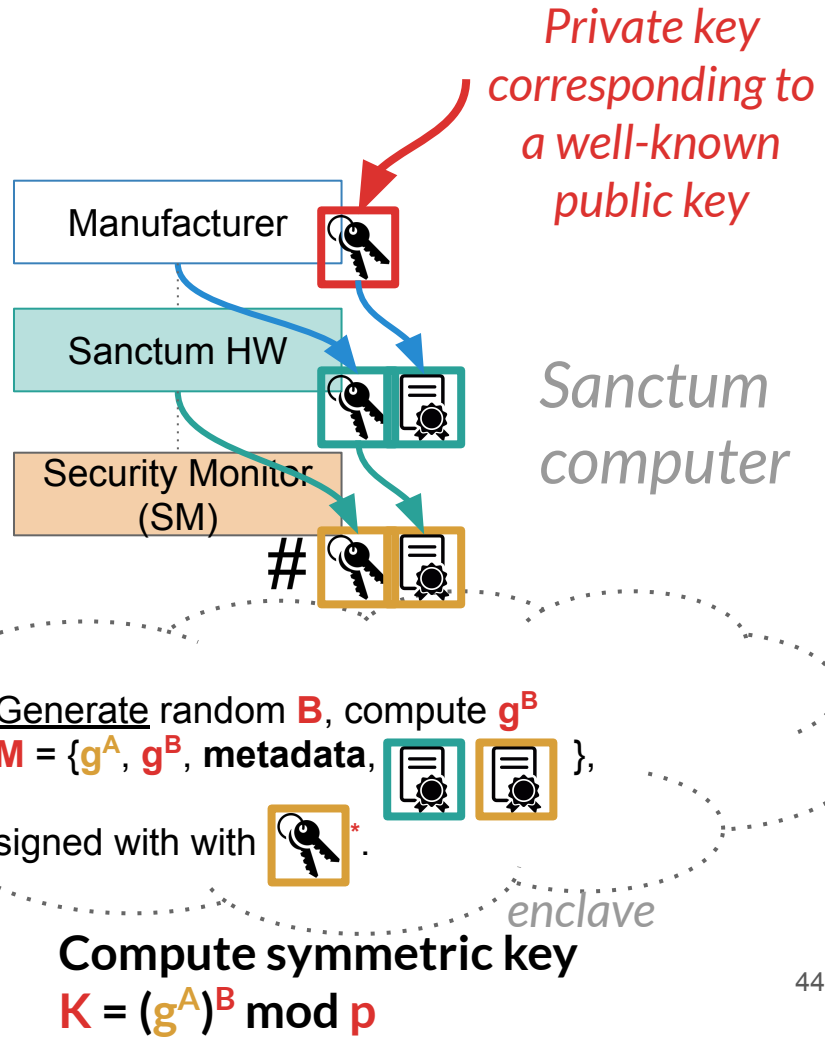
Select primes p, g .
Generate random A
Compute $(g^A \bmod p)$

Send $p, g, (g^A \bmod p)$

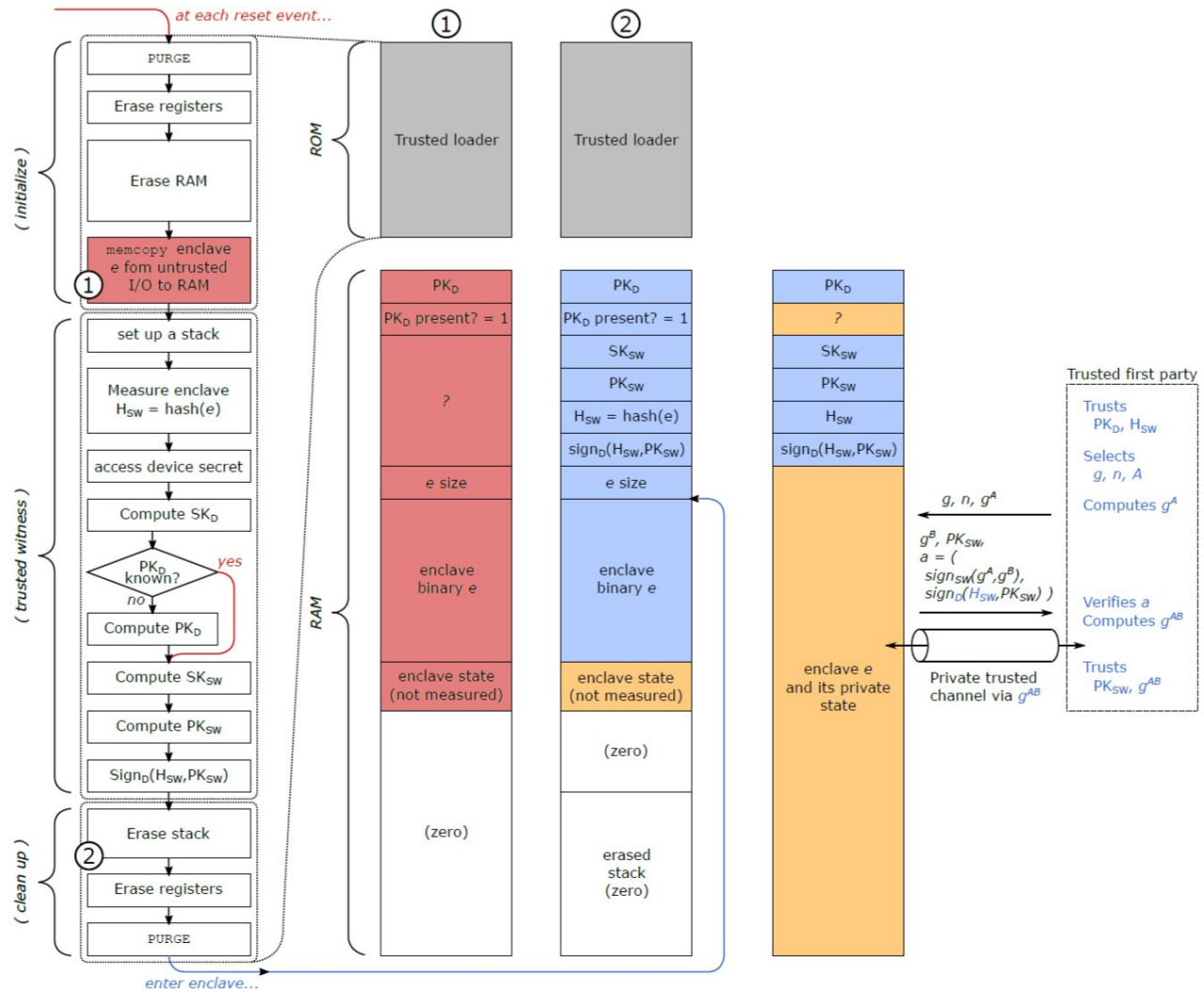
Does remote user trust metadata,   ?

Compute symmetric key
 $K = (g^B)^A \bmod p$

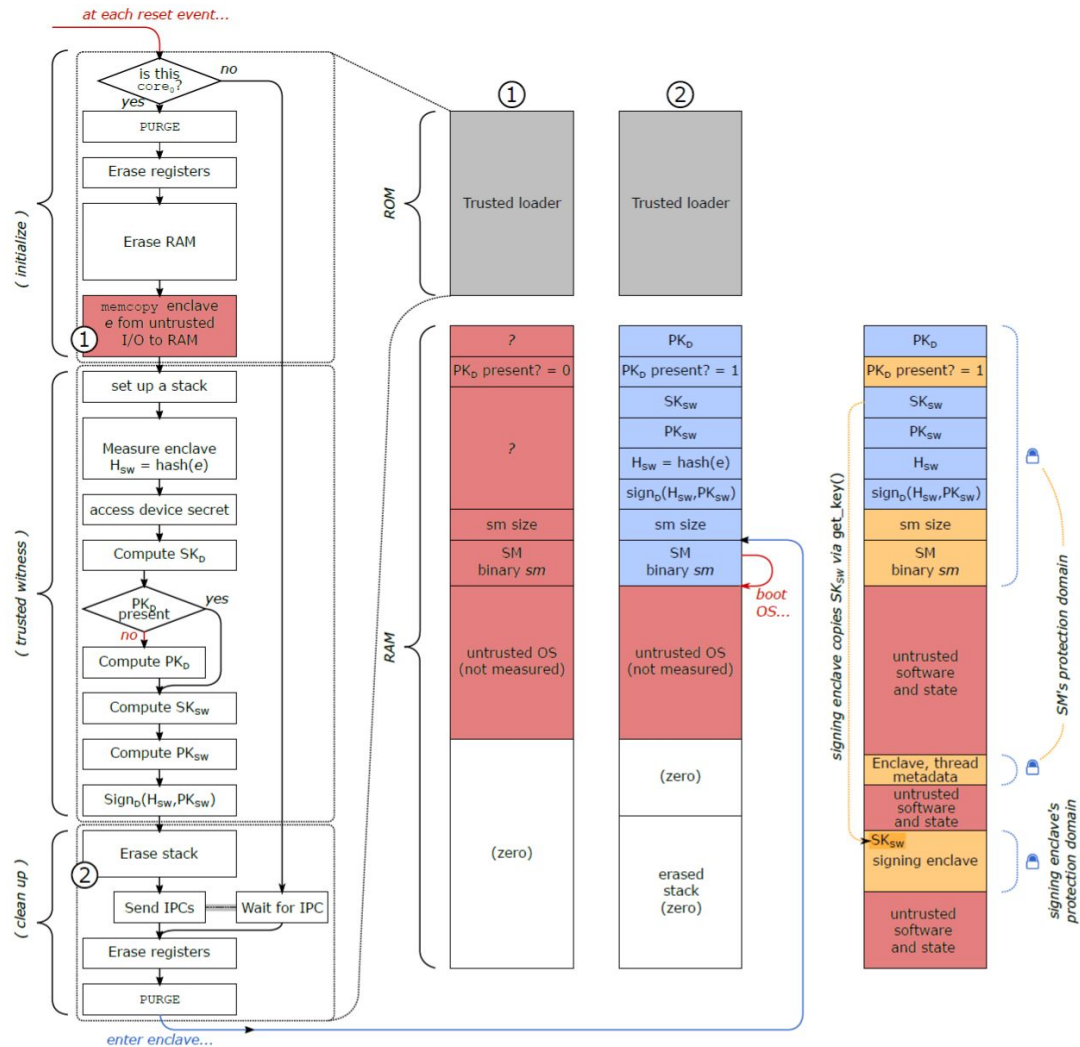
Both parties now share a secret key: K



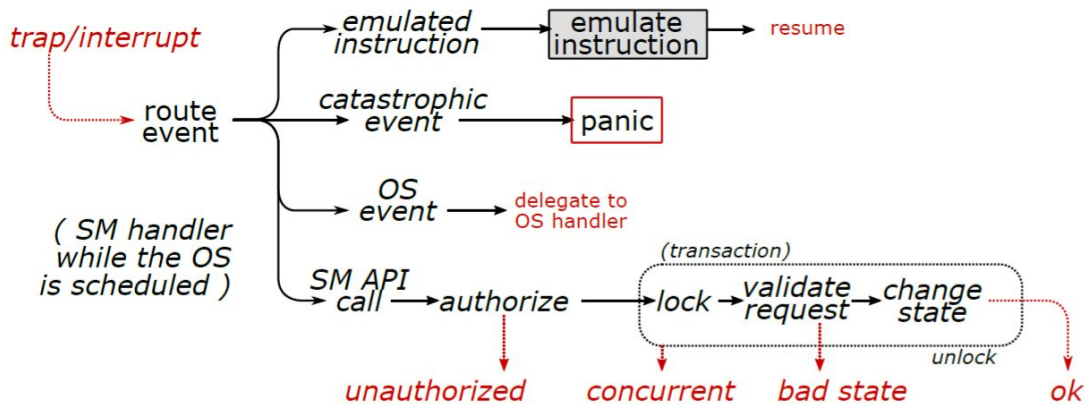
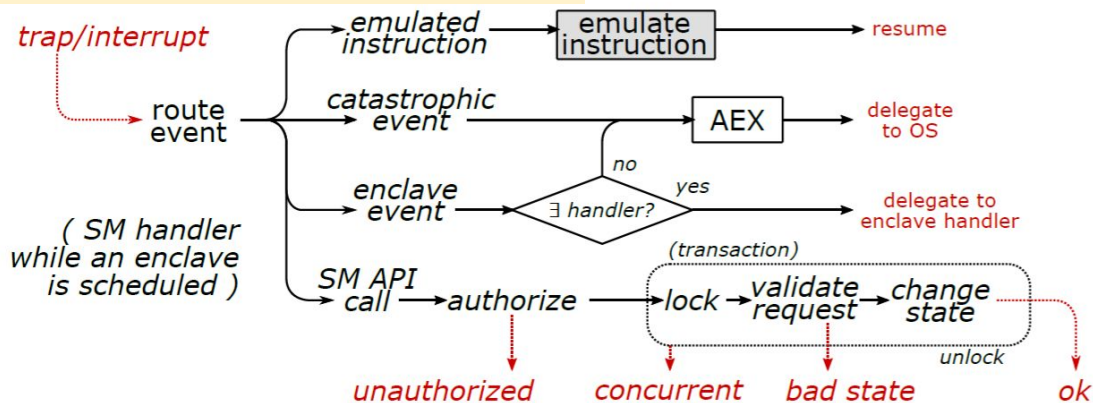
EMBEDDED ENCLAVE



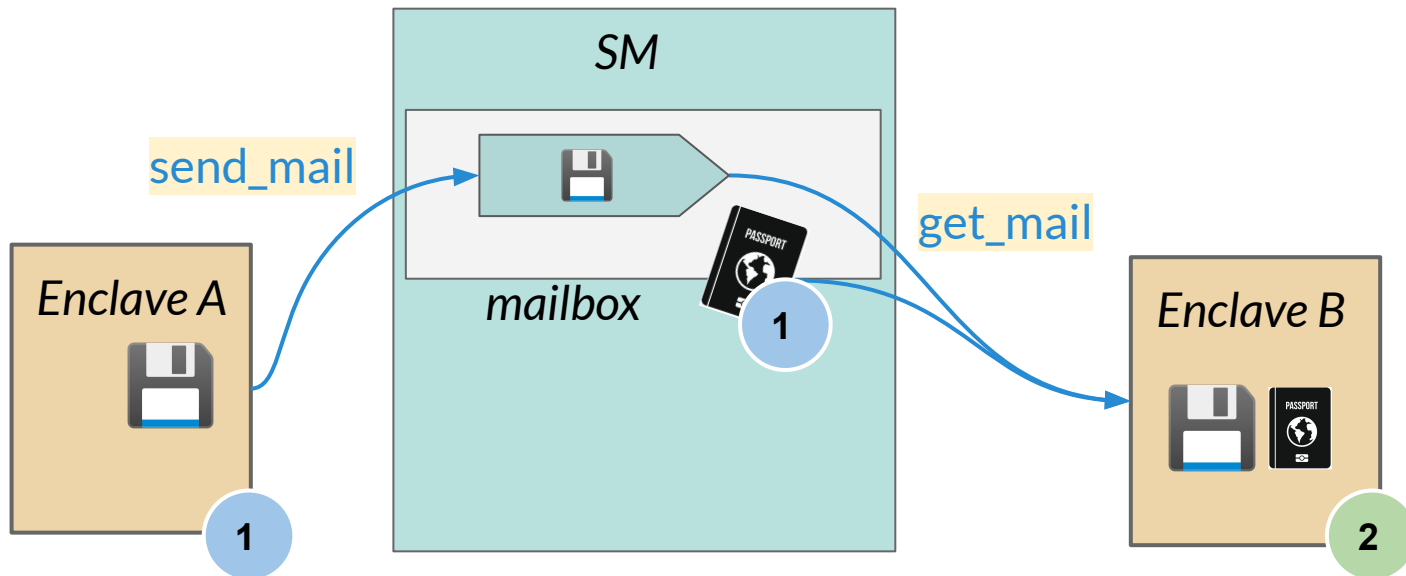
SM LOADED AT BOOT



SECURITY MONITOR COMMANDS

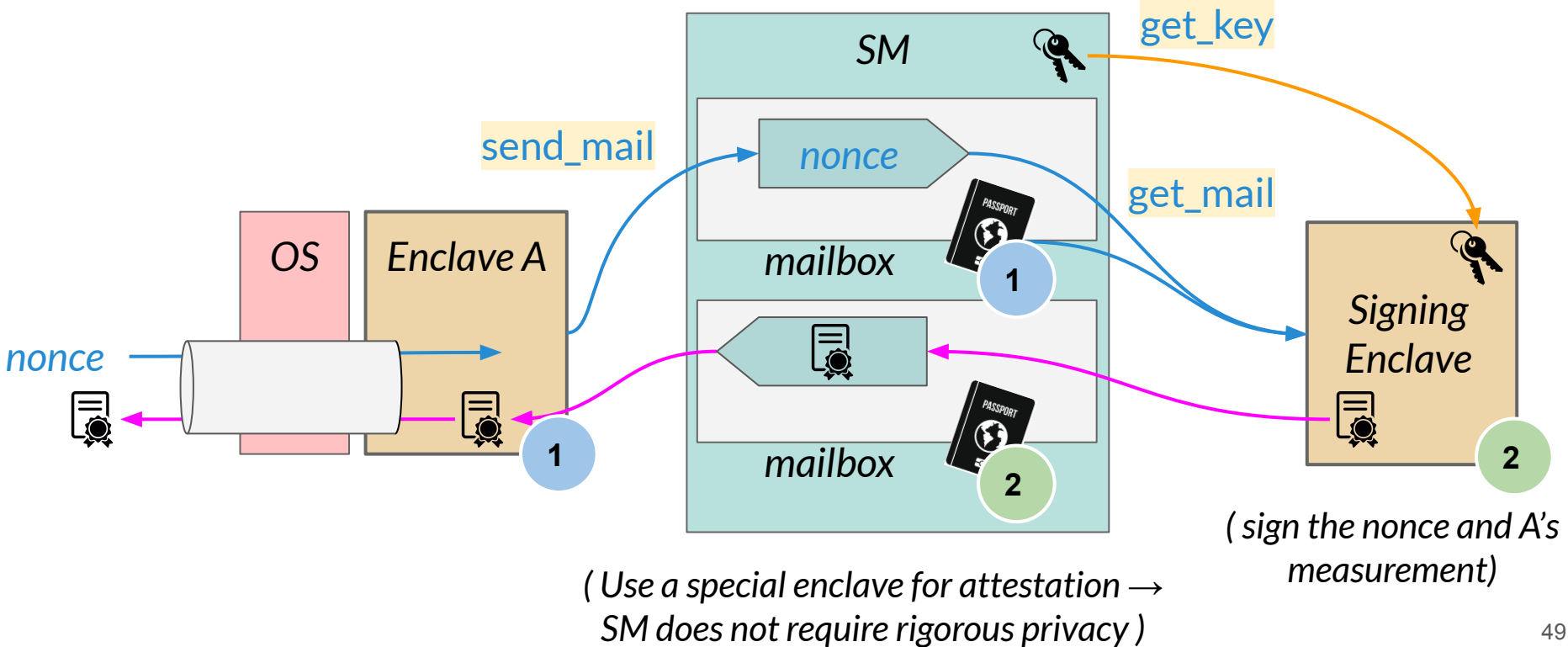


LOCAL ATTESTATION (1/2)

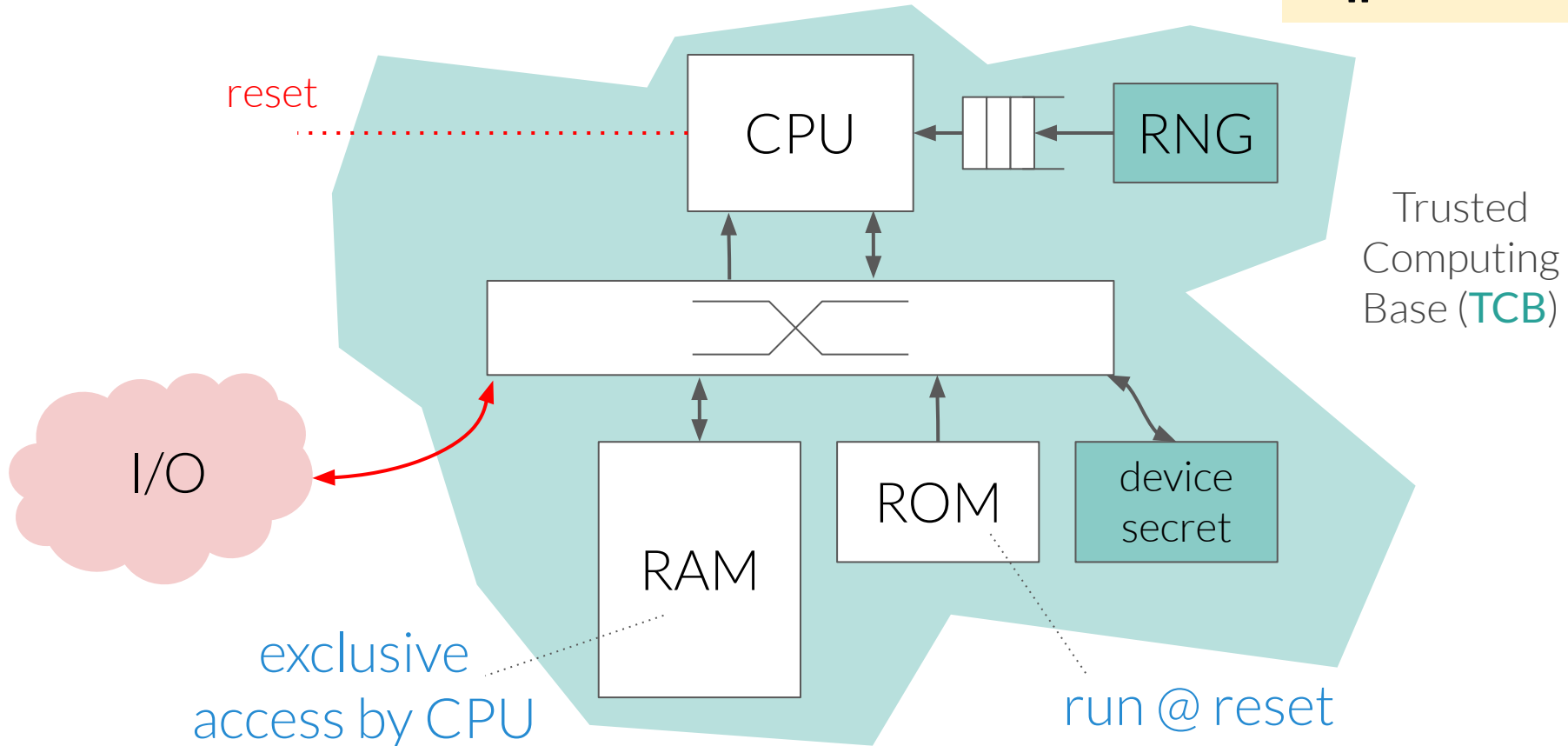


(The SM's **authority** allows for local attestation
without cryptographic signatures)

LOCAL ATTESTATION (2/2)

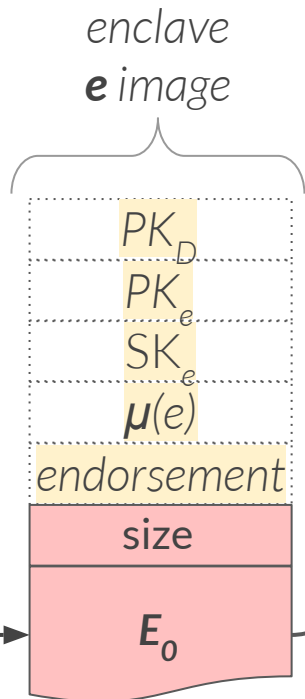
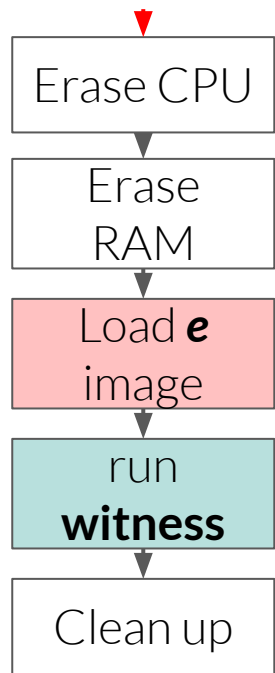


“THE WITNESS” : IMPLEMENTING MEASUREMENT (1/2)



“THE WITNESS” : IMPLEMENTING MEASUREMENT (2/2)

reset



device secret

KDF

SK_D

Compute*

PK

PK_D

KDF

SK_e

Compute

PK

PK_e

Sign (●)

endorsement

hash

$\mu(e)$

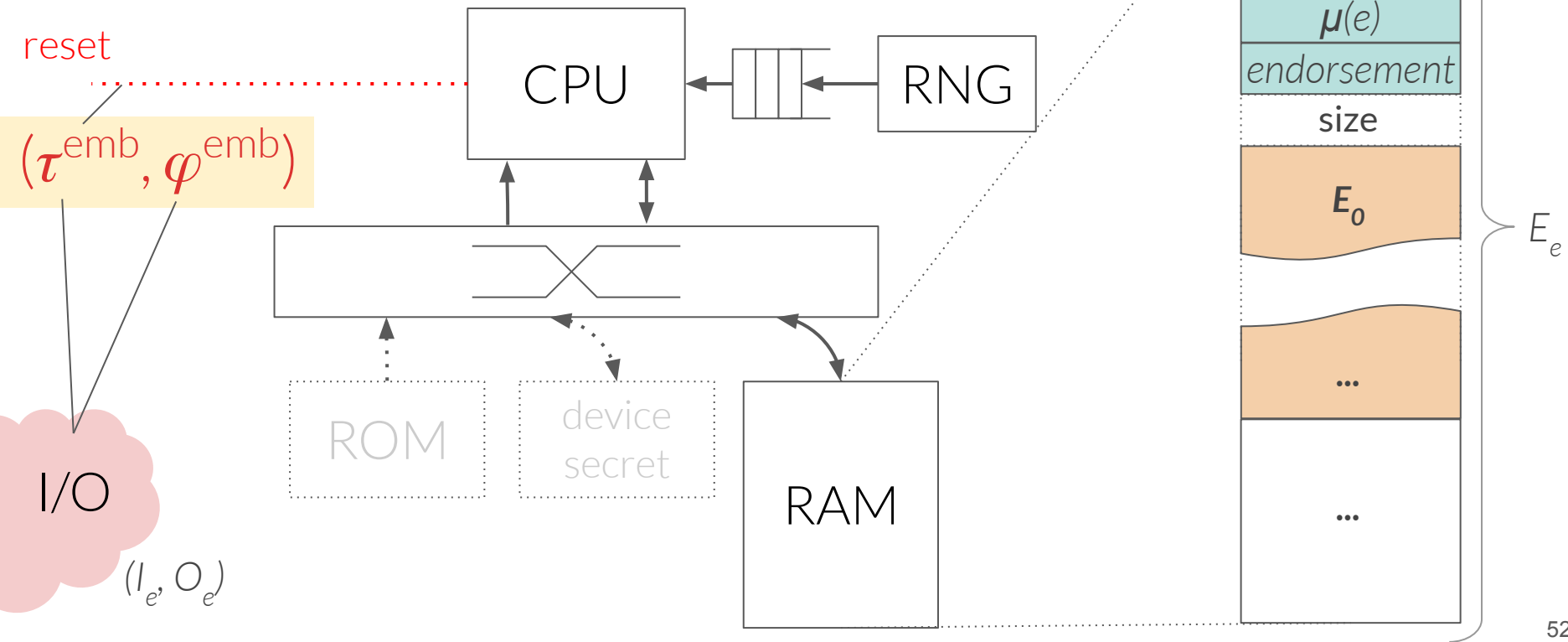
~4000 LOC (200 + crypto)

~1 mS on a prototype + RAM erase

run E_0

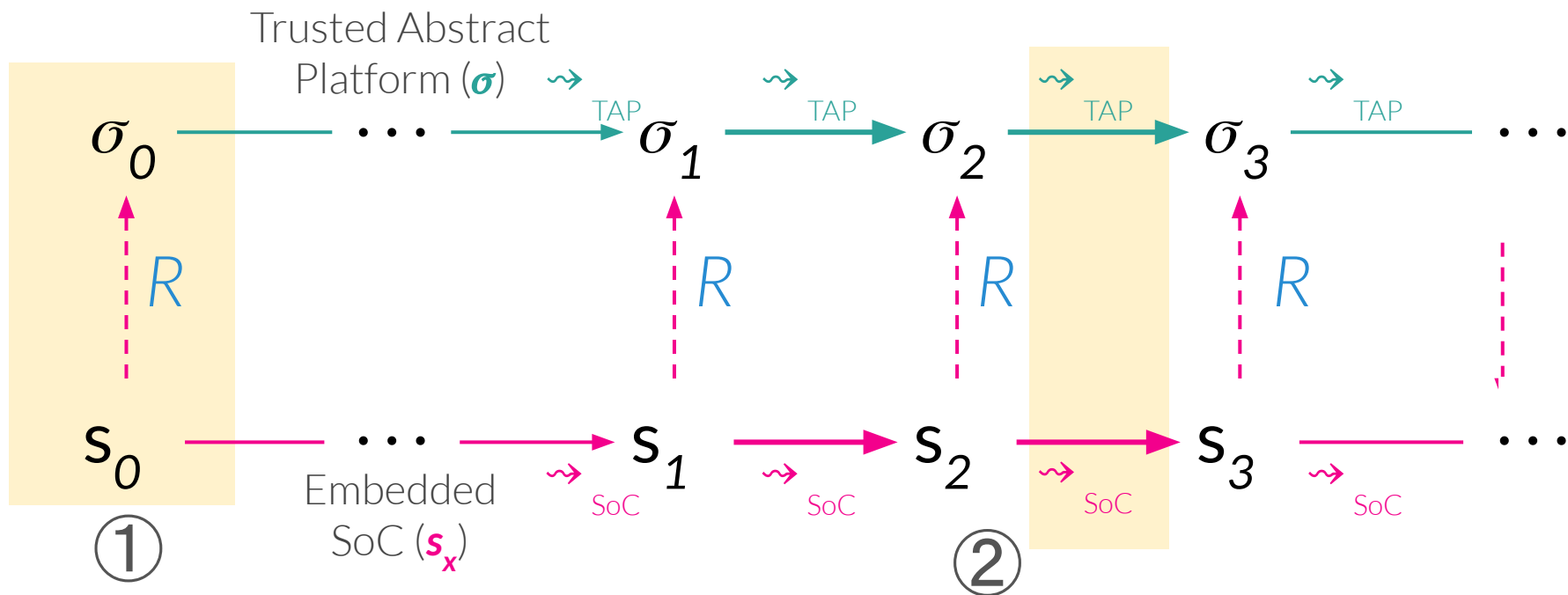


SRE OF AN "EMBEDDED" ENCLAVE (1/2)



SRE OF AN “EMBEDDED” ENCLAVE (2/2)

“REFINEMENT”



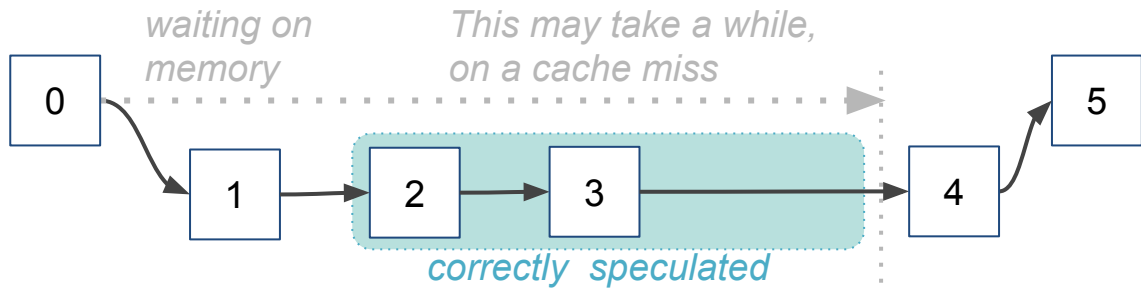
$$s_0 \xrightarrow{R} \sigma_0$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{SoC}} \xrightarrow{R} \{ \xrightarrow{\text{TAP}}, \emptyset \}$$

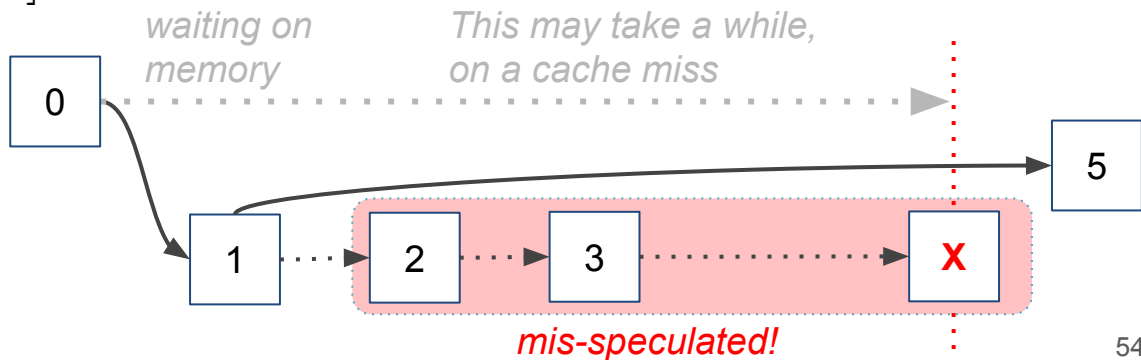
SPECULATION UNDERMINES INTEGRITY (1/4)

consider this (*very*)
hypothetical program:

```
0: a ← memory[ptr*]  
1: if a != 0, goto 5  
2:   secret ← 42  
3:   a ← memory[secret]  
4:   a ← a+1  
5: lfence  
...  
wait .....
```



OR



SPECULATION UNDERMINES INTEGRITY (2/4)



Blatant violation

accessor

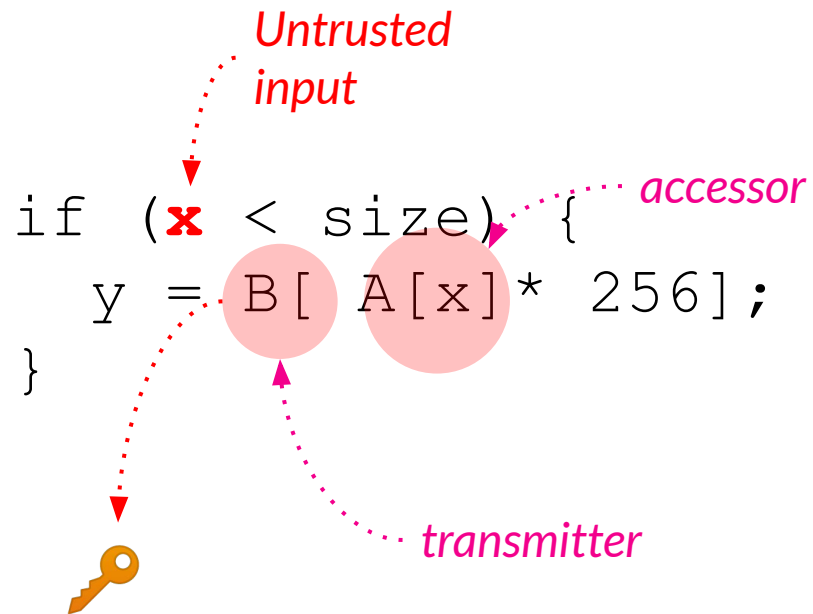
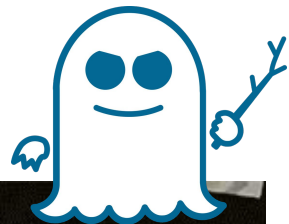
```
byte s = *secret;
byte * sp = 4096*s;
byte T = *sp;
```



transmitter



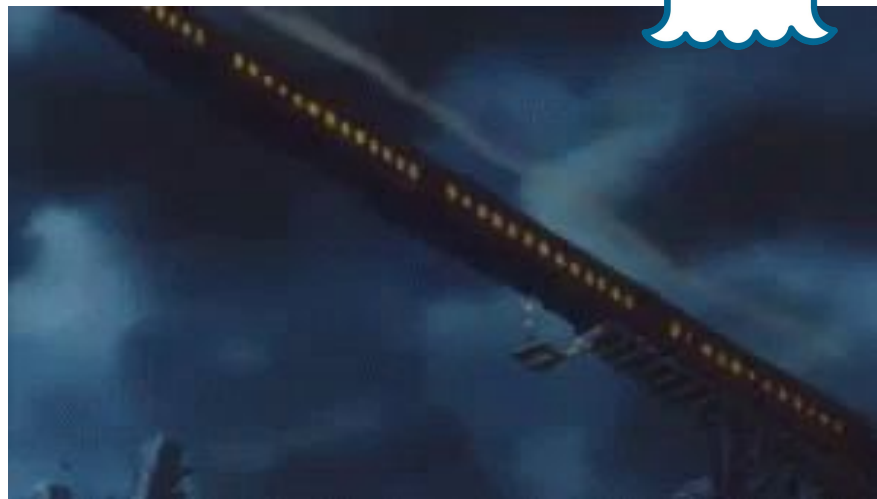
SPECULATION UNDERMINES INTEGRITY (3/4)



SPECULATION UNDERMINES INTEGRITY (4/4)



```
// program  
// with an  
indirect_branch()  
// keeps on  
// going
```



Mis-predict target

// attacker-owned snippet ←····· *accessor*
←····· *transmitter*

