

# Linear-time Temporal Logic guided Greybox Fuzzing

Ruijie Meng

ruijie@comp.nus.edu.sg

Co-authors: Zhen Dong, Jialin Li, Ivan Beschastnikh, Abhik Roychoudhury



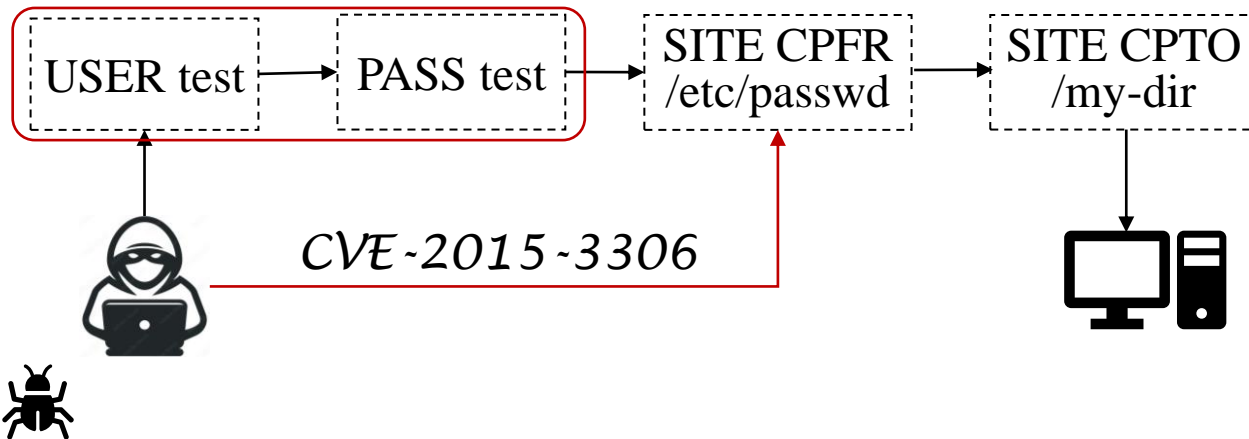
# Background

## Violations of Simple Oracles:

Crashes/Hangs  
Overflows...



## Violations of Temporal Logic Properties:



# Fuzzing

- ➔ Automatic and dynamic testing technique
- ➔ Continuously generates inputs and feeds them to the target programs, and then reports inputs that trigger **crashes** or **hangs**
- ➔ Types:
  - **Blackbox Fuzzing** (without program analysis and feedback)
  - **Whitebox Fuzzing** (heavy program analysis)
  - **Greybox Fuzzing** (lightweight feedback)



```
american_fuzzy_top ++2.65d (libpng_harness) [explore] 10
process timing
  run time      0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 43 sec
  last new path 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 1 sec
  last unit crash none seen yet
  last unit hang  none seen yet
cycle progress  261*1 (37.1%)
new interesting 0 (0.00%)
path timed out 0 (0.00%)
stage progress
new trying      splice 14
stage execs    2522 (90.80%)
total execs    2.55M
time spent     61.2k/sec
fuzzing strategy
  bit flip     n/a, n/a, n/a
  byte flip   n/a, n/a, n/a
  arithmetic  n/a, n/a, n/a
  loop intro  n/a, n/a, n/a
  dictionary  n/a, n/a, n/a
  havoc/pull  596/1.65M, 193/1.44M
  permutation 0/0, 0/0
  total       19.25M/53.2k, n/a
overall results
  cycles done  35
  total paths  703
  unit crashes 0
  unit hangs  0
map coverage   5.70% / 33.98%
count coverage 3.30 bits/tuple
  Fuzzops in depth
  favored paths 114 (16.22%)
  new edges on 107 (22.76%)
  total crashes 0 (0 unique)
  total inouts  0 (0 unique)
  unit geometry
  levels      11
  pending     121
  pend fav   0
  new files   0/0
  imported   n/a
  stability  99.88%
  [cpu@000: 12%]
```

# Greybox Fuzzing

## Advantages of Greybox Fuzzing

- ✓ better **coverage** than blackbox fuzzing
- ✓ better **scalability** than whitebox fuzzing
- ✓ widely used and have exposed many bugs



## Challenges of Greybox Fuzzing

- ✗ Checking functional properties (e.g., linear-time temporal logic (LTL) properties), not just crashes or hangs
- ✗ Efficiently search executions of systems under test to check



There is already an approach that does that — model checking!!

But... model checking works well on models, and scales poorly to large programs



Can we have the best of the both worlds ???

# Linear-time Temporal Logic (LTL)

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## ☛ LTL Syntax:

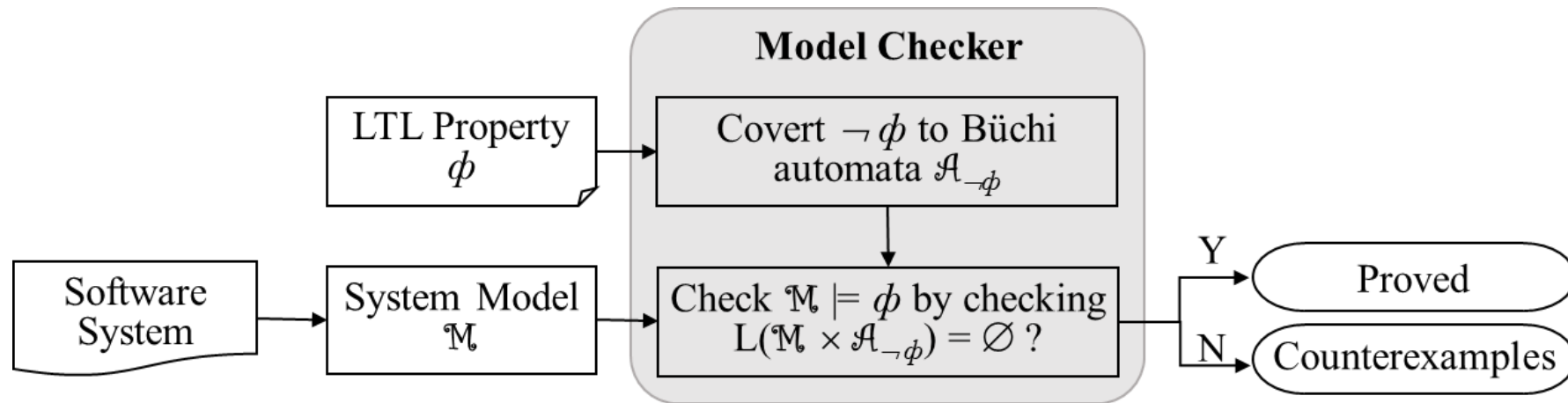
- Propositional Linear-time Temporal logic
- $\varphi = X\varphi \mid G\varphi \mid F\varphi \mid \varphi_1 \text{ U } \varphi_2 \mid \varphi_1 \text{ R } \varphi_2 \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \text{Prop}$
- Temporal operators: X(next state), F(eventually), G(globally), U(until), R(release)

## ☛ LTL Conventions:

- An LTL formula  $\varphi$  is interpreted over an infinite sequence of states  $\pi = s_0, s_1, \dots$   
Use  $\mathfrak{M}, \pi \models \varphi$  to denote that formula  $\varphi$  holds in path  $\pi$  of system model  $\mathfrak{M}$
- An LTL property  $\varphi$  is true of a system model *iff* all its traces satisfy  $\varphi$ ,  $\mathfrak{M} \models \varphi$  *iff*  $\mathfrak{M}, \pi \models \varphi$  for all traces  $\pi$  in system model  $\mathfrak{M}$

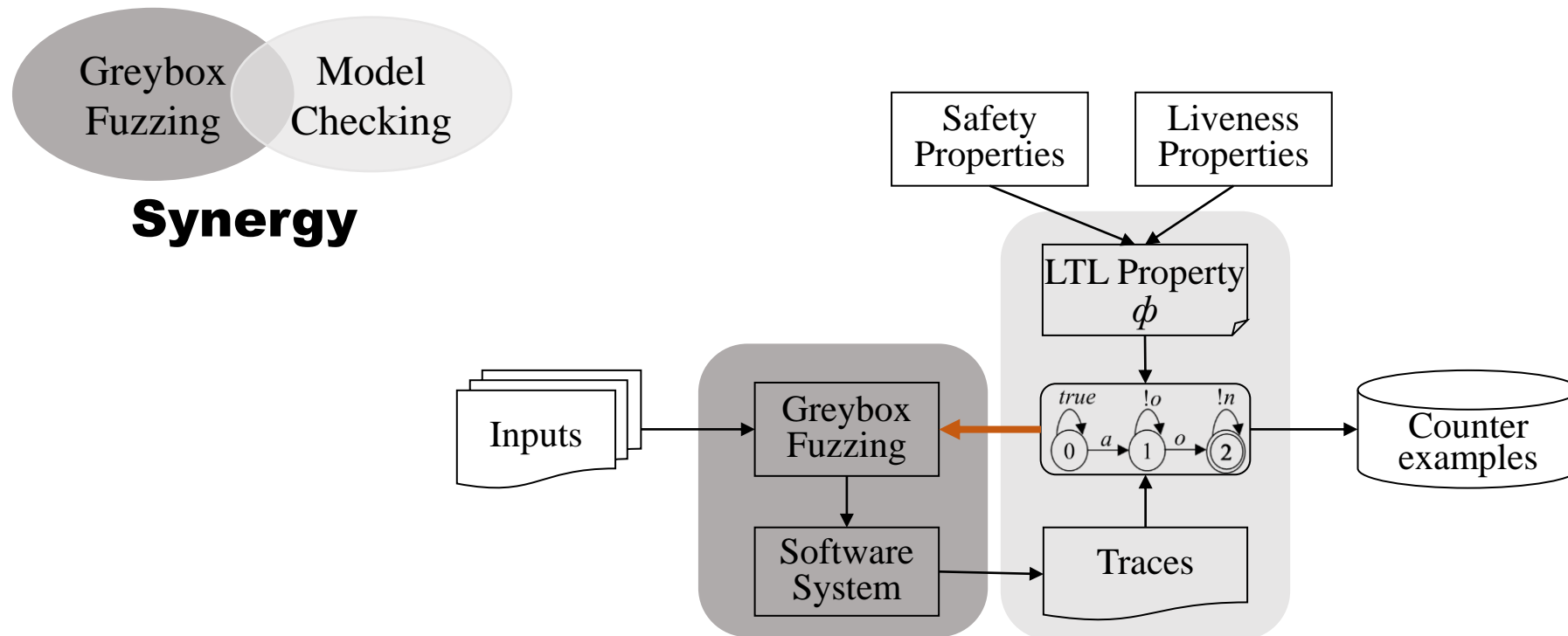
# Software Model Checking

- ☛ A property verification technique, but common usage is bug-finding
- ☛ Check if a *finite-state* transition system model satisfies a temporal logic property
  - The property constraints orderings of events
  - The system model is abstracted from the software system
- ☛ Automata-theoretic model checking is widely used (e.g., SPIN)



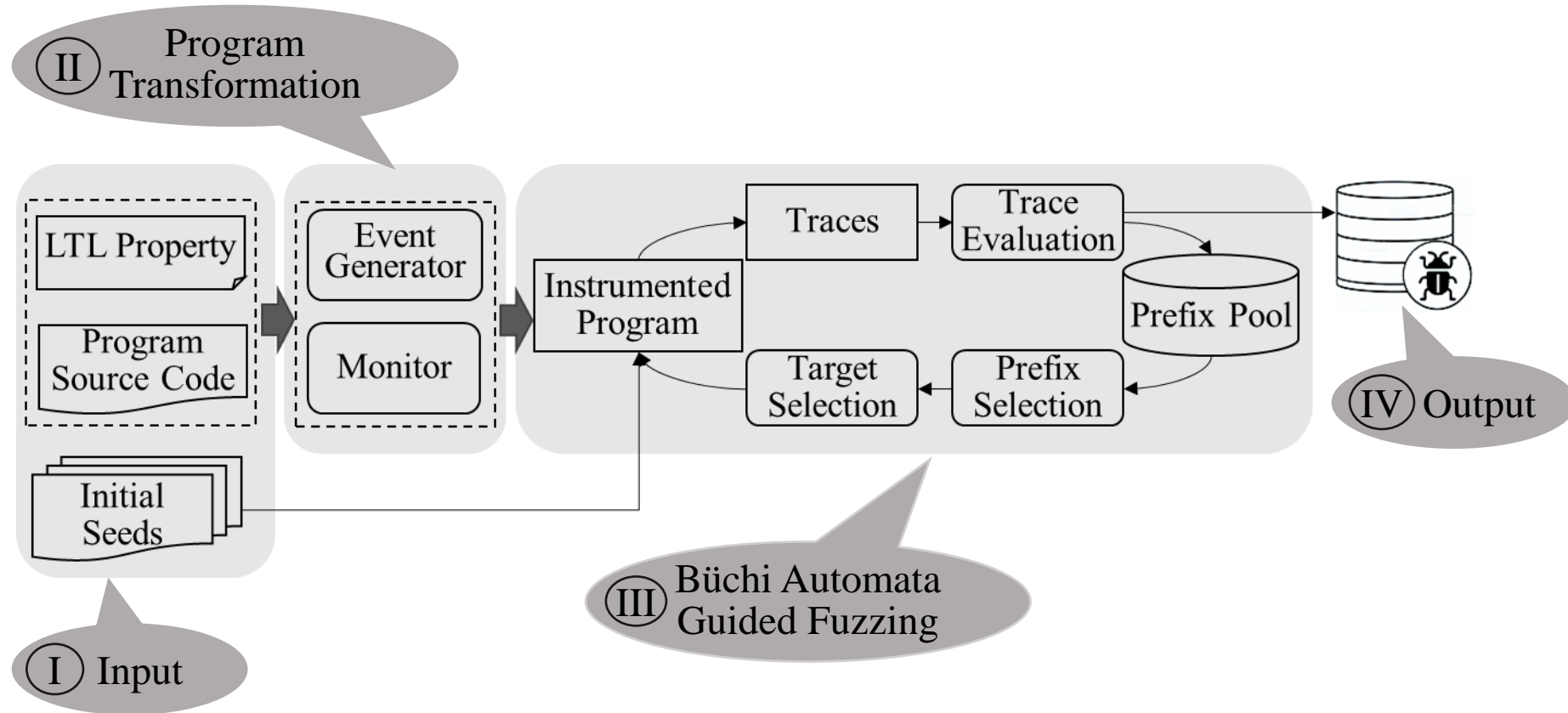
# LTL guided Fuzzing

- ☛ Use LTL properties as test oracles and check them
- ☛ Use Büchi automata of the negated LTL properties to guide greybox fuzzing



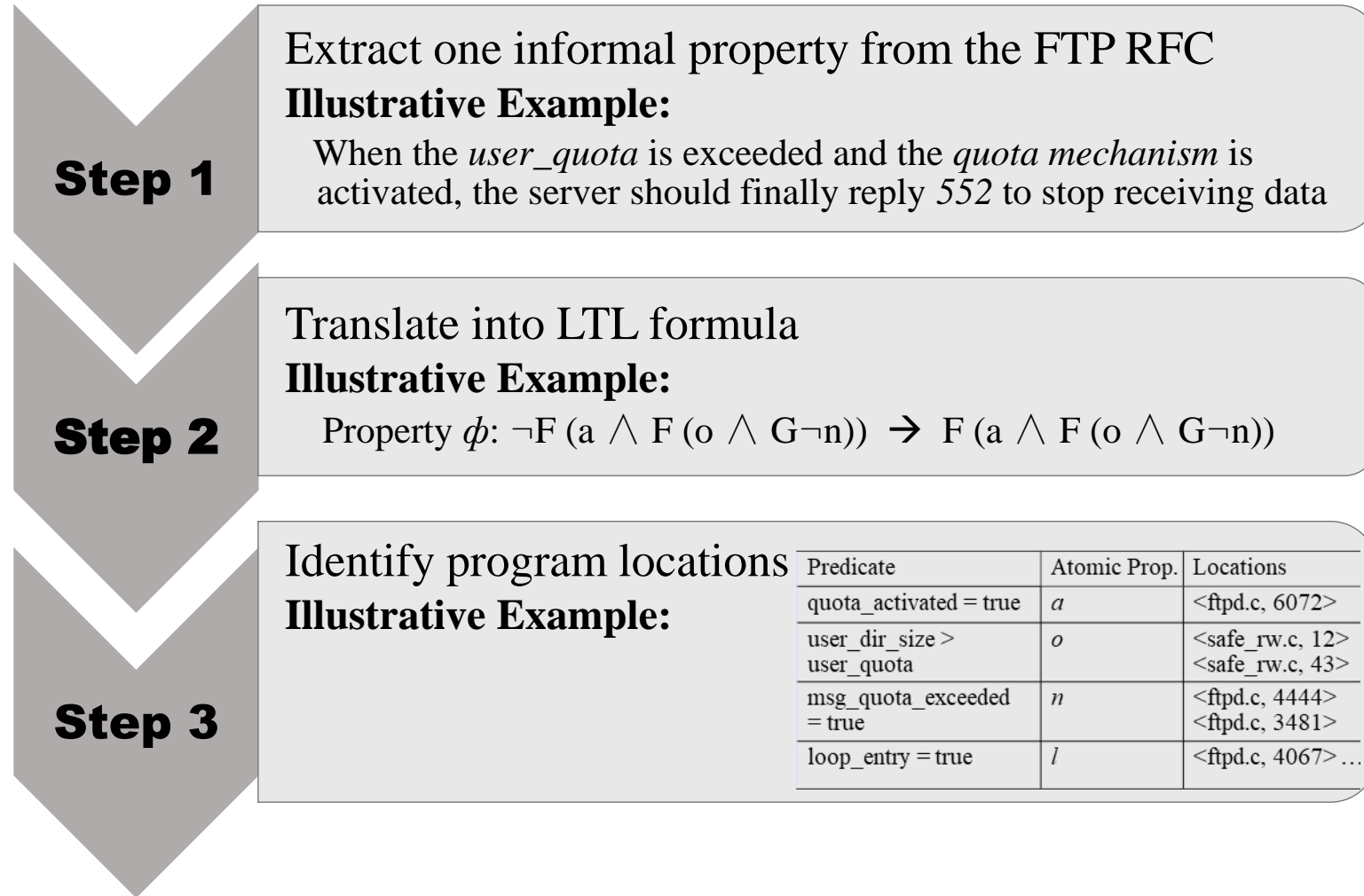
# Workflow

☛ Work on sequential reactive stateful systems

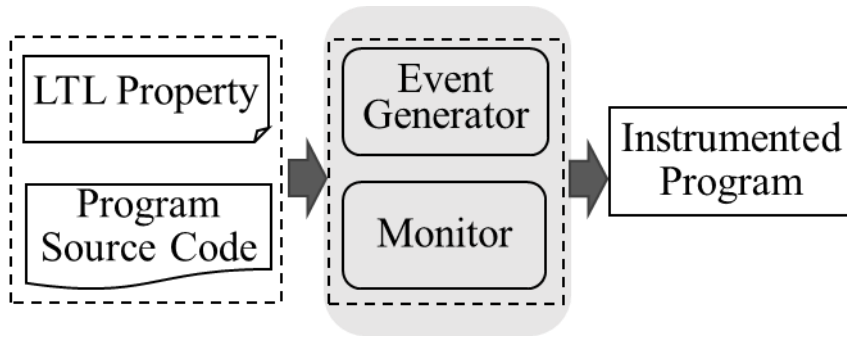




# LTL Property Construction



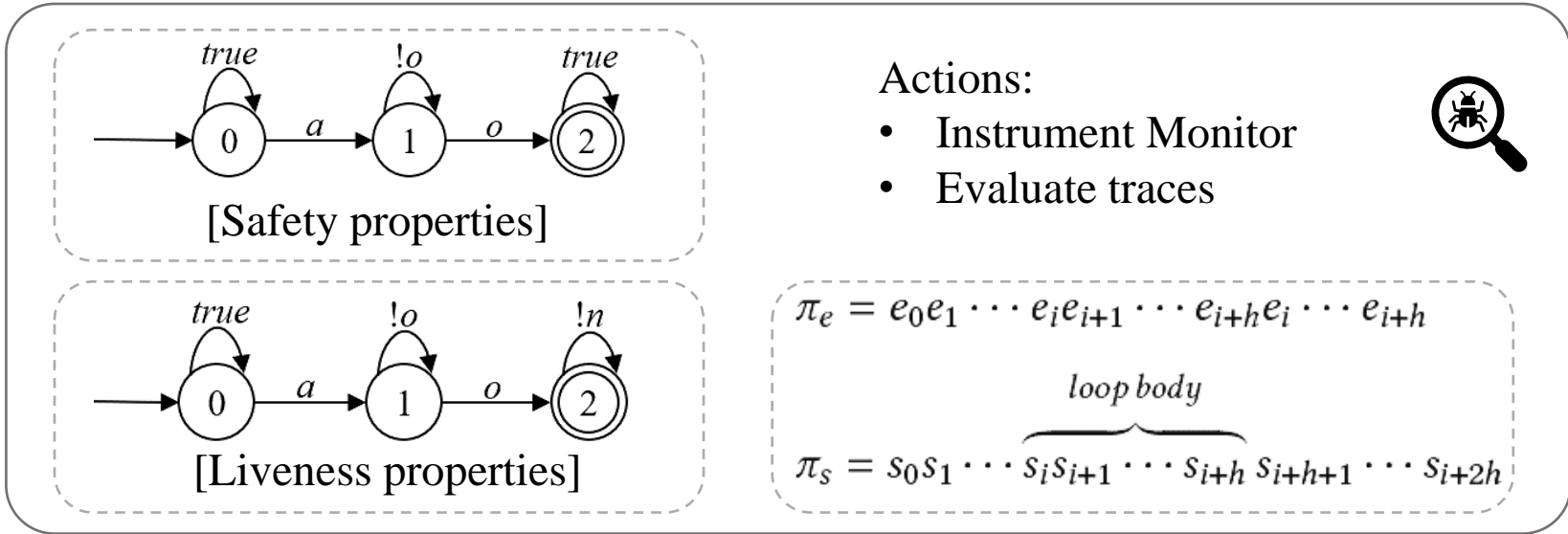
# Program Transformation



```

6063 #ifdef QUOTAS
6064 case 'n': {
...
6072 user_quota_size *= (1024ULL * 1024ULL);
6073 + if(1){
6074 +   generate_event("a");
6075 +   if(liveness) record_state();
6076 + }
    
```

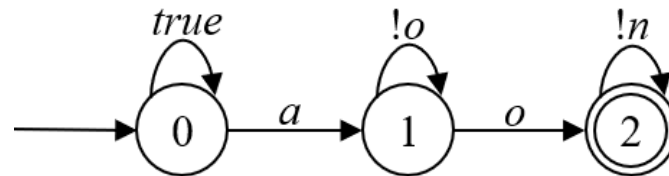
Callouts: 'Event Generator' points to the `generate_event("a");` line. 'State Recorder' points to the `if(liveness) record_state();` line.



# Büchi Automata Guided Fuzzing

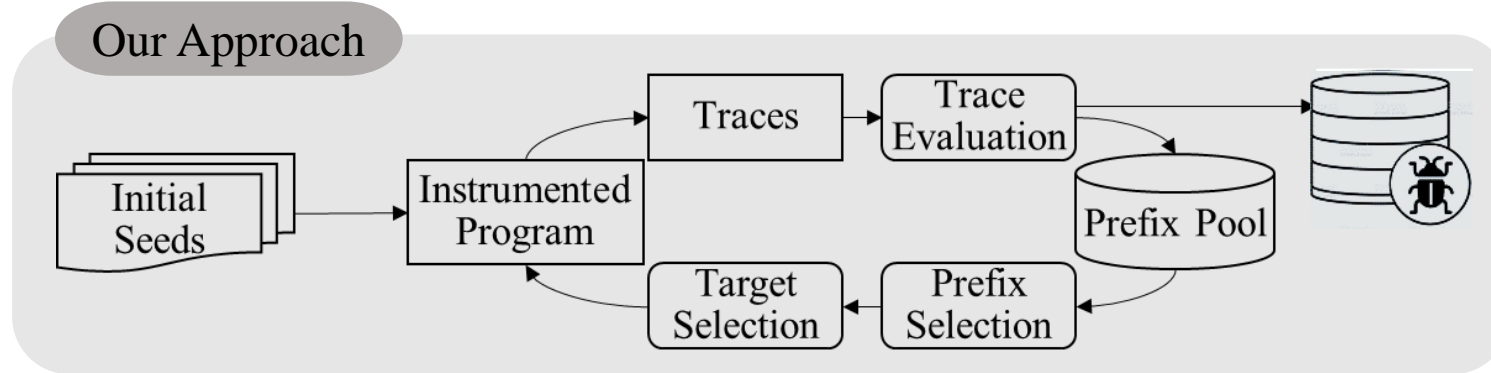
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- ☛ Büchi automata accepts traces with a specific order of propositions
- ☛ Direct fuzzing towards multiple program locations in a specific order
  - **Power scheduling (reach one target):**
    - Select seeds closer to the target on the inter-procedural control flow graph
  - **Input prefix saving (reach further targets):**
    - Observe execution and save the achieved progress when reaching a target by saving input prefixes



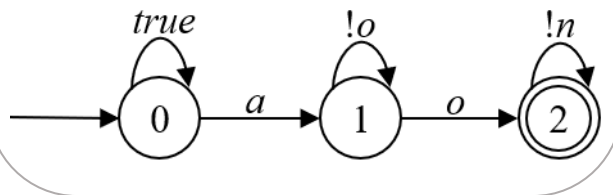
# Büchi Automata Guided Fuzzing

## Our Approach



## Example

1. LTL property  $\phi$ :  
 $\neg F (a \wedge F (o \wedge G \neg n))$
2. Büchi automata  $\mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ :



## Fuzzing Process

Prefix	State	Target	Input	Trace	Prefix Saving	Violation
--	0	<i>a</i>	xxxxy	{ <i>a</i> }	<1, xxx>	×
xxx	1	<i>o</i>	xxxzy	{ <i>a, o</i> }	<2, xxxz>	×
xxxz	2	<i>l</i>	xxxzww	{ <i>a, o, l</i> }	<2, xxxzw>	×
xxxzw	2	<i>l</i>	xxxzwzz	{ <i>a, o, l, l</i> }	--	√

# Finding deep bugs from Software MC via Fuzzing

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Common usage of Software Model Checking is for bug finding



Bug finding search in model checking via directed greybox fuzzing

- ✗ Restricted set of properties for software model checking
- ✗ Mostly restricted to proving / disproving of invariants due to nature of state abstractions
- ✗ Unnecessary state savings and state explosion problem

- ✓ Cover the whole specification language of properties for a well-known and popular temporal logic – LTL
- ✓ **Fuzzing for more advanced oracles than simple oracles such as crashes and overflows**
- ✓ No state explosion problem as in model checking

# Evaluation

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## Research Questions

- RQ1** Effectiveness: How effective is LTL-Fuzzer at finding LTL property violations?
- RQ2** Comparison: How does LTL-Fuzzer compare to the state-of-the-art tools in terms of finding LTL property violations?
- RQ3** Usefulness: How useful is LTL-Fuzzer in revealing LTL property violations in real-world systems?

## Subject Programs

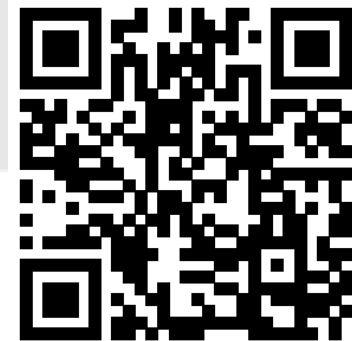
- ProFTPD • Pure-FTPd
- Live555 • OpenSSL
- OpenSSH • TinyDTLS
- Contiki-Telnet

## Comparisons

- AFLGo
- AFL<sub>LTL</sub>
- L+NuSMV

Our tool LTL-Fuzzer and dataset are publicly available at:

<https://github.com/ltlfuzzer/LTL-Fuzzer>



# Effectiveness & Comparison

Prop	CVE-ID	Type of Vulnerability	Program	Version	LTL-FUZZER	AFL <sub>LTL</sub>		AFLGo		L+NuSMV	
					Time(h)	Time(h)	$\hat{A}_{12}$	Time(h)	$\hat{A}_{12}$	Time(h)	$\hat{A}_{12}$
$PrF_1$	CVE-2019-18217	Infinite Loop	ProFTPD	1.3.6	4.62	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$PrF_2$	CVE-2019-12815	Illegal File Copy	ProFTPD	1.3.5	0.95	2.01	<b>0.84</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$PrF_3$	CVE-2015-3306	Improper Access Control	ProFTPD	1.3.5	1.14	1.89	<b>0.76</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$PrF_4$	CVE-2010-3867	Illegal Path Traversal	ProFTPD	1.3.3	2.06	5.17	<b>0.85</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$LV_1$	CVE-2019-6256	Improper Condition Handle	Live555	2018.10.17	5.29	11.13	<b>1.00</b>	11.47	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$LV_2$	CVE-2019-15232	Use after Free	Live555	2019.02.03	0.22	1.42	<b>0.91</b>	1.46	<b>0.92</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$LV_3$	CVE-2019-7314	Use after Free	Live555	2018.08.26	1.27	4.18	<b>0.98</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$LV_4$	CVE-2013-6934	Numeric Errors	Live555	2013.11.26	2.73	2.58	0.40	2.21	0.39	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$LV_5$	CVE-2013-6933	Improper Operation Limit	Live555	2011.12.23	1.80	1.99	0.63	1.45	0.33	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$SH_1$	CVE-2018-15473	User Enumeration	OpenSSH	7.7p1	0.18	0.17	0.44	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	24.00	<b>1.00</b>
$SH_2$	CVE-2016-6210	User Information Exposure	OpenSSH	7.2p2	0.19	0.19	0.50	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	24.00	<b>1.00</b>
$SL_1$	CVE-2016-6309	Use after Free	OpenSSL	1.1.0a	3.77	6.00	<b>0.74</b>	6.58	<b>0.82</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$SL_2$	CVE-2016-6305	Infinite Loop	OpenSSL	1.1.0	1.45	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
$SL_3$	CVE-2014-0160	Illegal Memory Access	OpenSSL	1.0.1f	1.11	7.31	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>	T/O	<b>1.00</b>
Found violations in total					-	14	12	5	2		
Average time usage (hours)					-	1.91	6.57	17.08	24.00		
Comparison with LTL-FUZZER on time usage					-	-	3.44x	8.93x	12.55x		

**For RQ2 (Comparison):**

- Our tool found the *most* violations
- Our tool was the *fastest*

**For RQ1 (effectiveness):**  
 LTL-Fuzzer discovered violations for *all* 14 properties derived from known CVEs





# Usefulness

Prop	Program	Description of violated properties	Bug Status
<i>TD</i> <sub>1</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	If the server is in the WAIT_CLIENTHELLO state and receives a ClientHello request with valid cookie and the epoch value 0, must finally give ServerHello responses.	CVE-2021-42143, fixed
<i>TD</i> <sub>2</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	If the server is in WAIT_CLIENTHELLO state and receives a ClientHello request with valid cookie but not 0 epoch value, must not give ServerHello responses before receiving ClientHello with 0 epoch value.	CVE-2021-42142, fixed
<i>TD</i> <sub>3</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	If the server is in the WAIT_CLIENTHELLO state and receives a ClientHello request with an invalid cookie, must reply HelloVerifyRequest.	CVE-2021-42147, fixed
<i>TD</i> <sub>5</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	If the server is in the DTLS_HT_CERTIFICATE_REQUEST state and receives a Certificate request, must give a DTLS_ALERT_HANDSHAKE_FAILURE or DTLS_ALERT_DECODE_ERROR response, or set Client_Auth to be verified.	CVE-2021-42145, fixed
<i>TD</i> <sub>11</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	After the server receives a ClientHello request without renegotiation extension and gives a ServerHello response, then receives a ClientHello again, must refuse the renegotiation with an Alert.	Confirmed
<i>TD</i> <sub>12</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	After the server receives a ClientHello request and gives a ServerHello response, then receives a ClientKeyExchange request with a different epoch value than that of ClientHello, server must not give ChangeCipherSpec responses.	CVE-2021-42141, fixed
<i>TD</i> <sub>13</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	After the server receives a ClientHello request and gives a ServerHello response, then receives a ClientHello request with the same epoch value as that of the first one, server must not give ServerHello.	CVE-2021-42146
<i>TD</i> <sub>14</sub>	TinyDTLS0.9	If the server receives a ClientHello request and gives a HelloVerifyRequest response, and then receives a over-large packet even with valid cookies, the server must refuse it with an Alert.	CVE-2021-42144, fixed
<i>CT</i> <sub>1</sub>	Contiki-Telnet3.0	After WILL request is received and the corresponding option is disabled, must send DO or DONT responses.	CVE-2021-40523
<i>CT</i> <sub>2</sub>	Contiki-Telnet3.0	After DO request is received and the corresponding option is disabled, must send WILL or WONT responses.	Confirmed
<i>CT</i> <sub>7</sub>	Contiki-Telnet3.0	After WONT request is received and the corresponding option is disabled, must not give responses.	CVE-2021-38311
<i>CT</i> <sub>8</sub>	Contiki-Telnet3.0	After DONT request is received and the corresponding option is disabled, must not give responses.	Confirmed
<i>CT</i> <sub>10</sub>	Contiki-Telnet3.0	Before Disconnection, must send an Alert to disconnect with clients.	CVE-2021-38387
<i>CT</i> <sub>11</sub>	Contiki-Telnet3.0	If conducting COMMAND without AbortOutput, the response must be same as the real execution results.	CVE-2021-38386
<i>PuF</i> <sub>5</sub>	Pure-FTPd1.0.4	When quota mechanism is activated and user quota is exceeded, must finally reply a quota exceed message.	CVE-2021-40524, fixed

Extract 50 LTL properties from FTP, RTSP, SSL, SSH, DTLS and Telnet RFCs

**For RQ3 (Usefulness):**  
Out of 50 LTL properties, **15** new property violations are found and **12** CVEs are assigned





# Summary

**Advantages of Greybox Fuzzing**

- ✓ better coverage than blackbox fuzzing
- ✓ better scalability than whitebox fuzzing
- ✓ widely used and have exposed many bugs

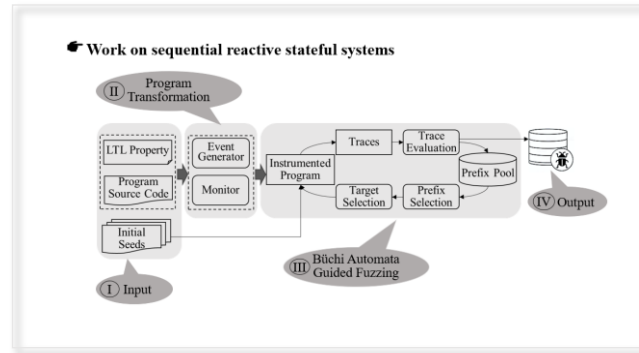
**Challenges of Greybox Fuzzing**

- ✗ Checking functional properties (e.g., linear-time temporal logic (LTL) properties), not just crashes or hangs
- ✗ Efficiently search executions of systems under test to check

There is already an approach that does that — model checking!!

But... model checking works well on models, and scales poorly to large programs

Can we have the best of the both worlds ???



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- Restricted set of properties for software model checking
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Bug finding search in model checking via directed greybox fuzzing

- Cover the whole specification language of properties for a well-known and popular temporal logic – LTL
- No state explosion problem as in model checking.
- **Fuzzing for more advanced oracles than simple oracles such as crashes and overflows**

**Research Questions**

**RQ1** Effectiveness: How effective is LTL-Fuzzer at finding LTL property violations?

**RQ2** Comparison: How does LTL-Fuzzer compare to the state-of-the-art tools in terms of finding LTL property violations?

**RQ3** Usefulness: How useful is LTL-Fuzzer in revealing LTL property violations in real-world systems?

**Subject Programs**

- ProFTPD • Pure-FTPd
- Live555 • OpenSSL
- OpenSSH • TinyDILS
- Contiki-Telnet

**Comparisons**

- AFL<sub>LTL</sub>
- AFLGo
- L+NuSMV

Our tool LTL-Fuzzer and dataset are publicly available at:

<https://github.com/ltlfuzzer/LTL-Fuzzer>

Prop	CVE-ID	Type of Vulnerability	Program	Version	LTL-Fuzzer (Time(s))	AFL <sub>LTL</sub> (Time(s))	AFLGo (Time(s))	L+NuSMV (Time(s))
ProF	CVE-2010-1817	Infinit Loop	ProFTPD	1.3.0	0.02	1.00	1.00	TO
ProF	CVE-2010-1815	Illegal File Copy	ProFTPD	1.3.5	0.05	1.01	0.64	TO
ProF	CVE-2010-1506	Insopser Access Control	ProFTPD	1.3.5	1.14	1.89	0.76	TO
ProF	CVE-2010-3602	Illegal Path Traversal	ProFTPD	1.3.5	2.06	5.17	0.82	TO
LI	CVE-2010-4256	Insopser Condition Handle	Live555	2010.10.17	3.29	11.3	1.00	11.47
LI	CVE-2010-1202	Use After Free	Live555	2010.02.09	0.22	1.42	0.91	1.46
LI	CVE-2010-7314	Use After Free	Live555	2010.08.26	1.27	4.18	0.98	1.00
LI	CVE-2010-4916	Numerical Errors	Live555	2011.11.26	2.75	2.38	0.40	2.21
LI	CVE-2010-4919	Insopser Operation Limit	Live555	2011.12.23	1.80	1.99	0.62	1.45
SH	CVE-2010-1473	User Enumeration	OpenSSH	7.3p1	0.18	0.17	0.44	1.00
SH	CVE-2010-4210	User Information Exposure	OpenSSH	7.2p2	0.19	0.19	0.50	1.00
SH	CVE-2010-4309	Use After Free	OpenSSH	1.1.0p	3.77	6.00	0.74	6.56
SH	CVE-2010-4305	Infinit Loop	OpenSSH	1.1.0	1.45	1.70	1.00	1.00
SH	CVE-2010-4166	Illegal Memory Access	OpenSSH	1.1.0	1.11	7.31	1.00	1.00
Found violations in total					14	12	3	2
Average time usage (hour)					-	1.91	4.57	17.66
Competition with LTL-Fuzzer on time usage					-	1.86	8.76	12.51

**For RQ2 (Comparison):**

- Our tool found the **fastest** violations
- Our tool was the **fastest**

**For RQ1 (effectiveness):**

LTL-Fuzzer discovered violations for all 14 properties derived from known CVEs

Prop	Program	Description of violated properties	Bug Status
FD	TinyDILS	If the server is in the WAIT_CONNECTION state and receives a C11000110 request with valid cookie and the speech value is most finally give the server's response.	CVE-2011-42143, Fixed
FD	TinyDILS	If the server is in the WAIT_CONNECTION state and receives a C11000110 request with valid cookie but not a speech value, must not give the server's response before receiving C11000110 with a speech value.	CVE-2011-42142, Fixed
FD	TinyDILS	If the server is in the WAIT_CONNECTION state and receives a C11000110 request with an invalid cookie and with the limit of the property.	CVE-2011-42147, Fixed
FD	TinyDILS	If the server is in the WAIT_CONNECTION state and receives a C11000110 request, must give a PUS_ALERT, SORROWING, FAULT, or PUS_ALERT, SORROW, SORROW, SORROW, or not C11000110, and be verified.	CVE-2011-42145, Fixed
FD	TinyDILS	After the server receives a C11000110 request without negotiation extension and gives a server's response, then receives a C11000110 again, must refuse the negotiation with an Alert.	Confirmed
FD	TinyDILS	After the server receives a C11000110 request and gives a server's response, then receives a C11000110 change request with a different speech value than that of C11000110, server must not give a Change/Cancel speech response.	CVE-2011-42141, Fixed
FD	TinyDILS	After the server receives a C11000110 request and gives a server's response, then receives a C11000110 request with the same speech value as that of the first one, server must not give the server's response.	CVE-2011-42146, Fixed
FD	TinyDILS	If the server receives a C11000110 request and gives a server's response, and then receives a C11000110 request with valid cookies, the server must refuse it with an Alert.	CVE-2011-42144, Fixed
CT	Contiki-Telnet	After PULL request is received and the corresponding system is disabled, must send OK in ONI responses.	CVE-2011-40223, Confirmed
CT	Contiki-Telnet	After ONI request is received and the corresponding system is disabled, must send PULL in ONI responses.	CVE-2011-40222, Confirmed
CT	Contiki-Telnet	After ONI request is received and the corresponding system is disabled, must not give responses.	CVE-2011-39111, Confirmed
CT	Contiki-Telnet	Before the connection limit, must not send an Alert to disconnect with clients.	CVE-2011-39107, Confirmed
CT	Contiki-Telnet	If conducting (OPEN) without client's output, the response must be same as the real execution results.	CVE-2011-39106, Confirmed
ProF	Pure-FTPd-1.4	When quote mechanism is activated and user quota is exceeded, must finally reply a quote exceed message.	CVE-2011-40154, Fixed

**For RQ3 (Usefulness):**

Out of 50 LTL properties, **15** new property violations are found and **12** CVEs are assigned

THANKS!!