



Secure Tera-scale Data Crunching with a Small TCB

Bruno Vavala

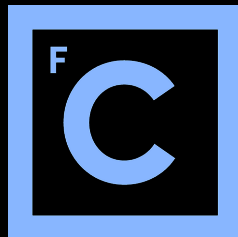
UL / CMU

Nuno Neves

UL

Peter Steenkiste

CMU



**Ciências
ULisboa**

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**

Goal

delivering **security guarantees** for
large-scale data processing
on untrusted hosts with a **small TCB**

security guarantees

**trusted
HW based**

**data
integrity**

1 TB

large-scale data processing

**small
interface**

**small
code**

small TCB

**No HW
devices**

Some use cases

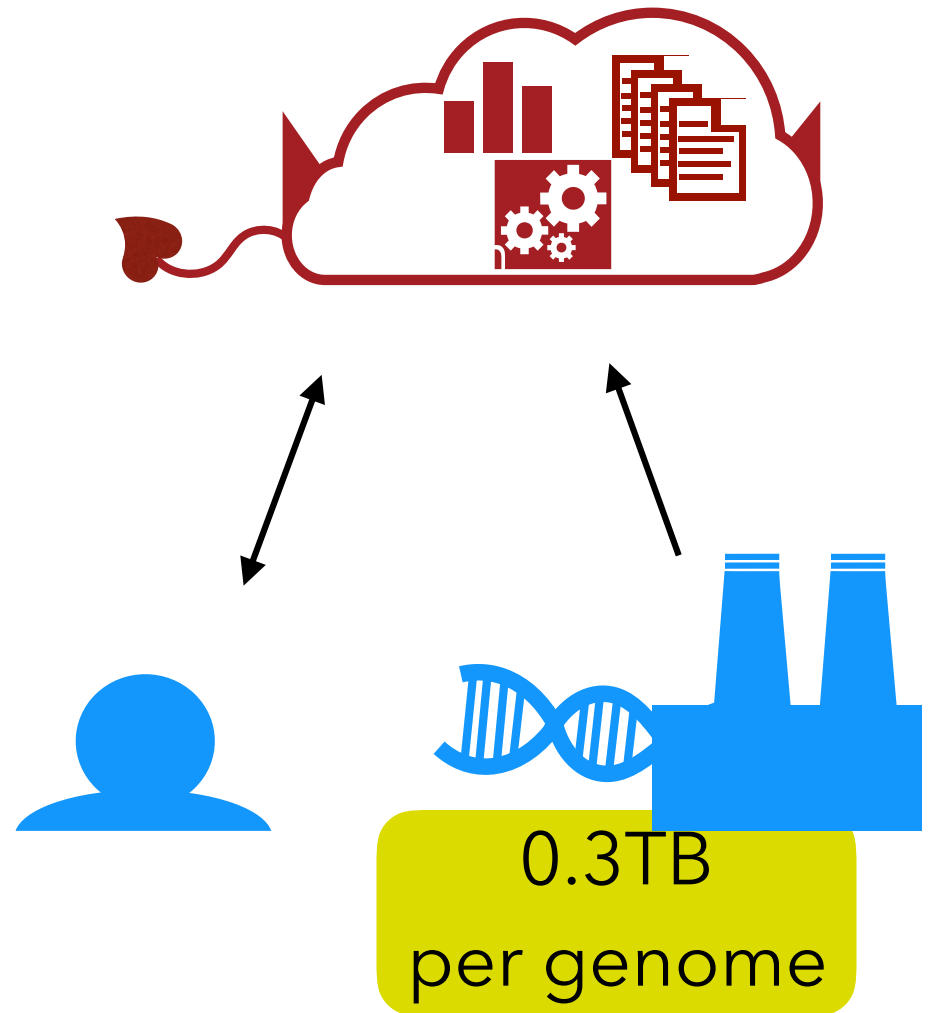
**public cloud
service provider**



Some use cases

**public cloud
service provider**

**computational
genomics**



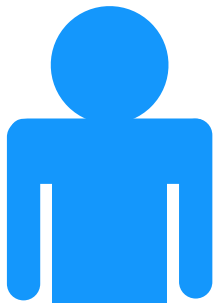
...more generally...

Model

**trusted
hardware
module**



P

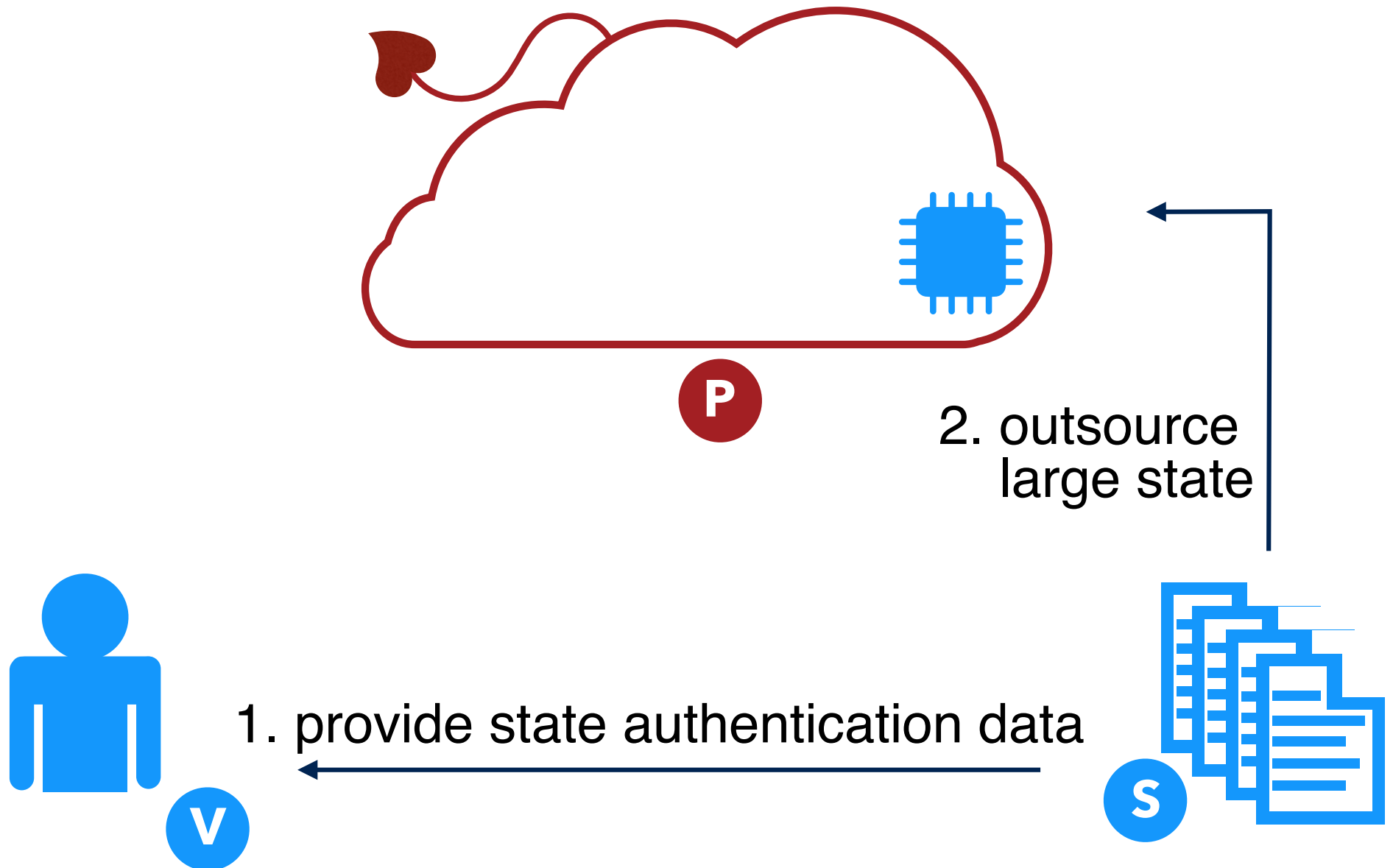


V

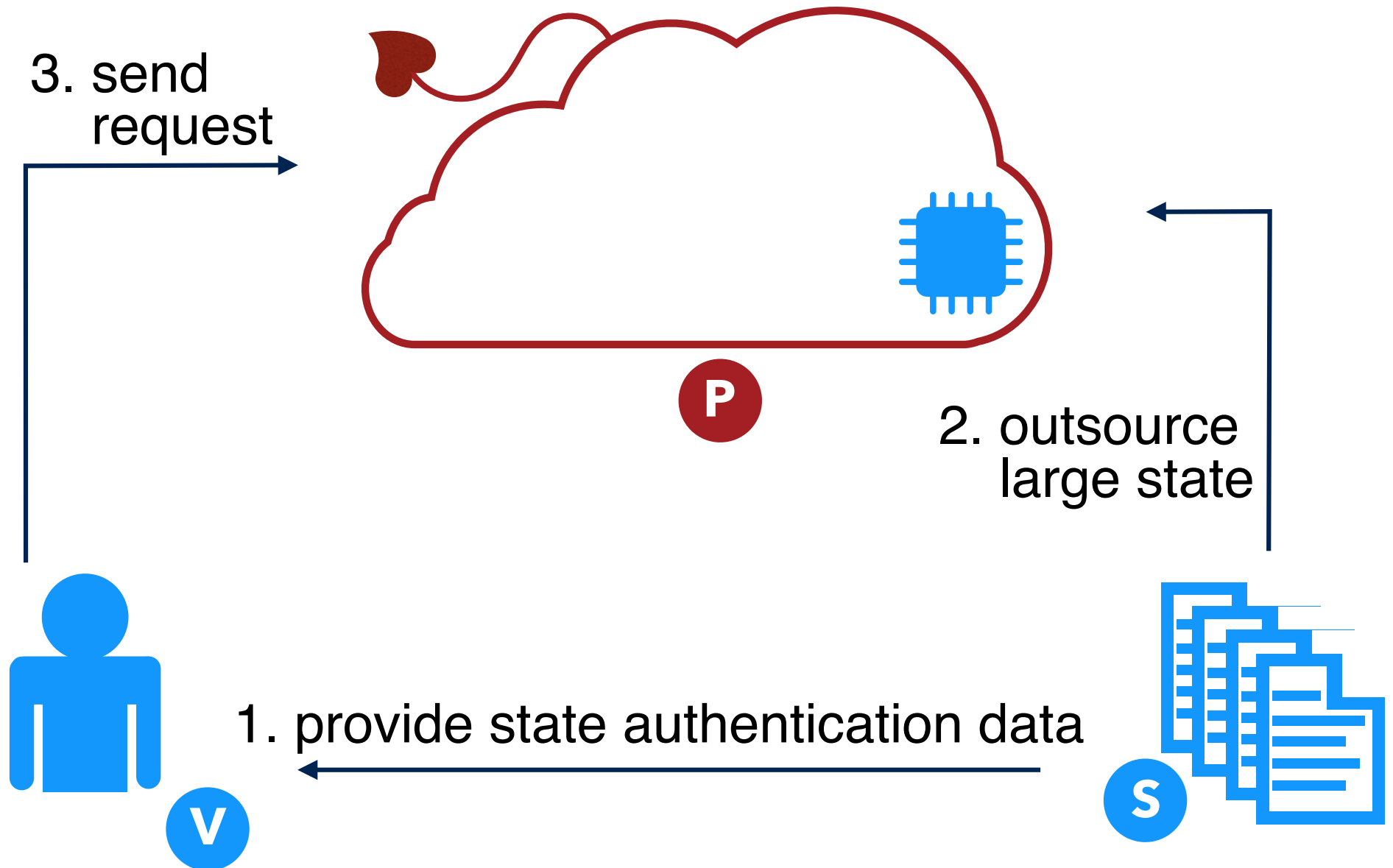


S

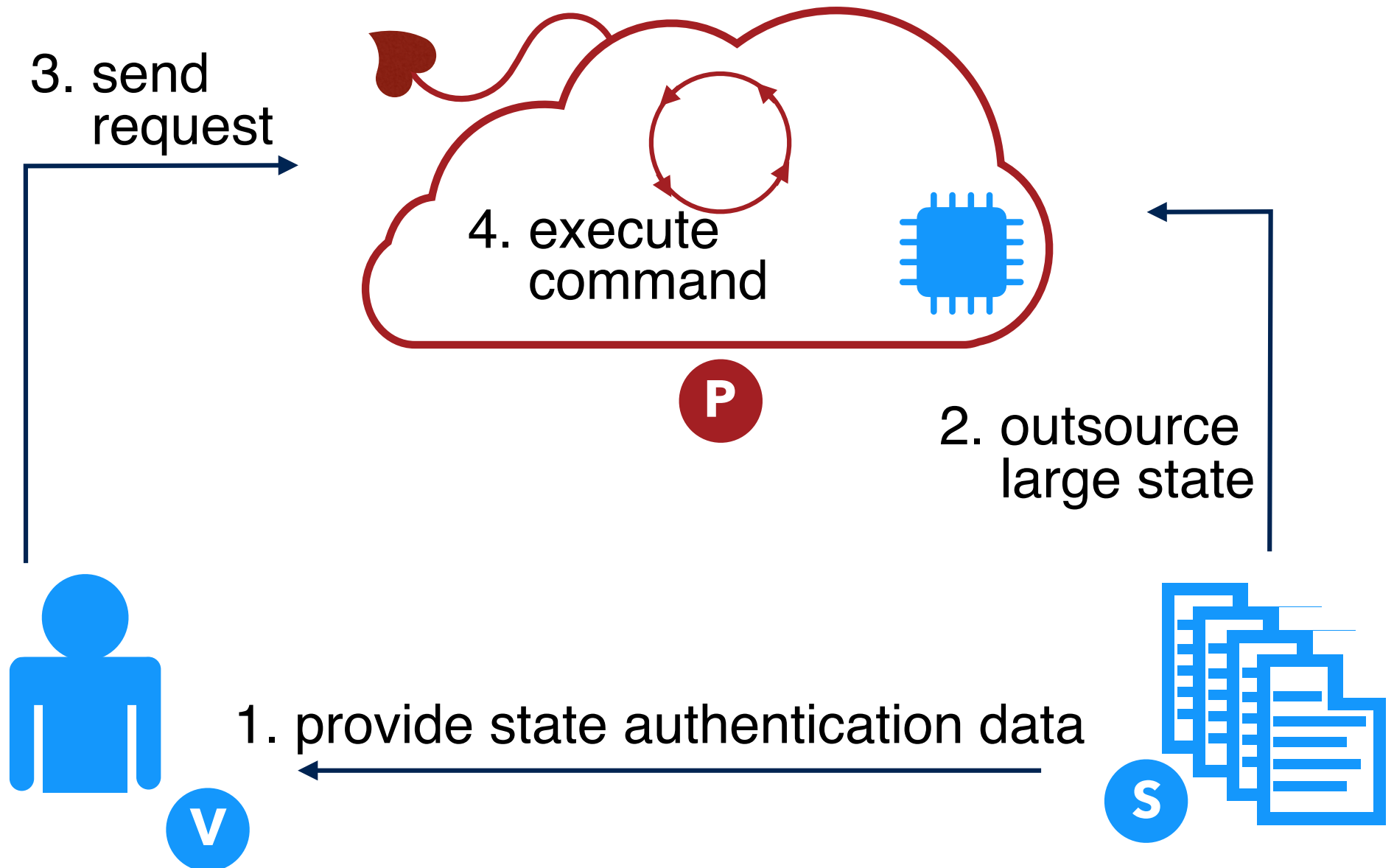
Model



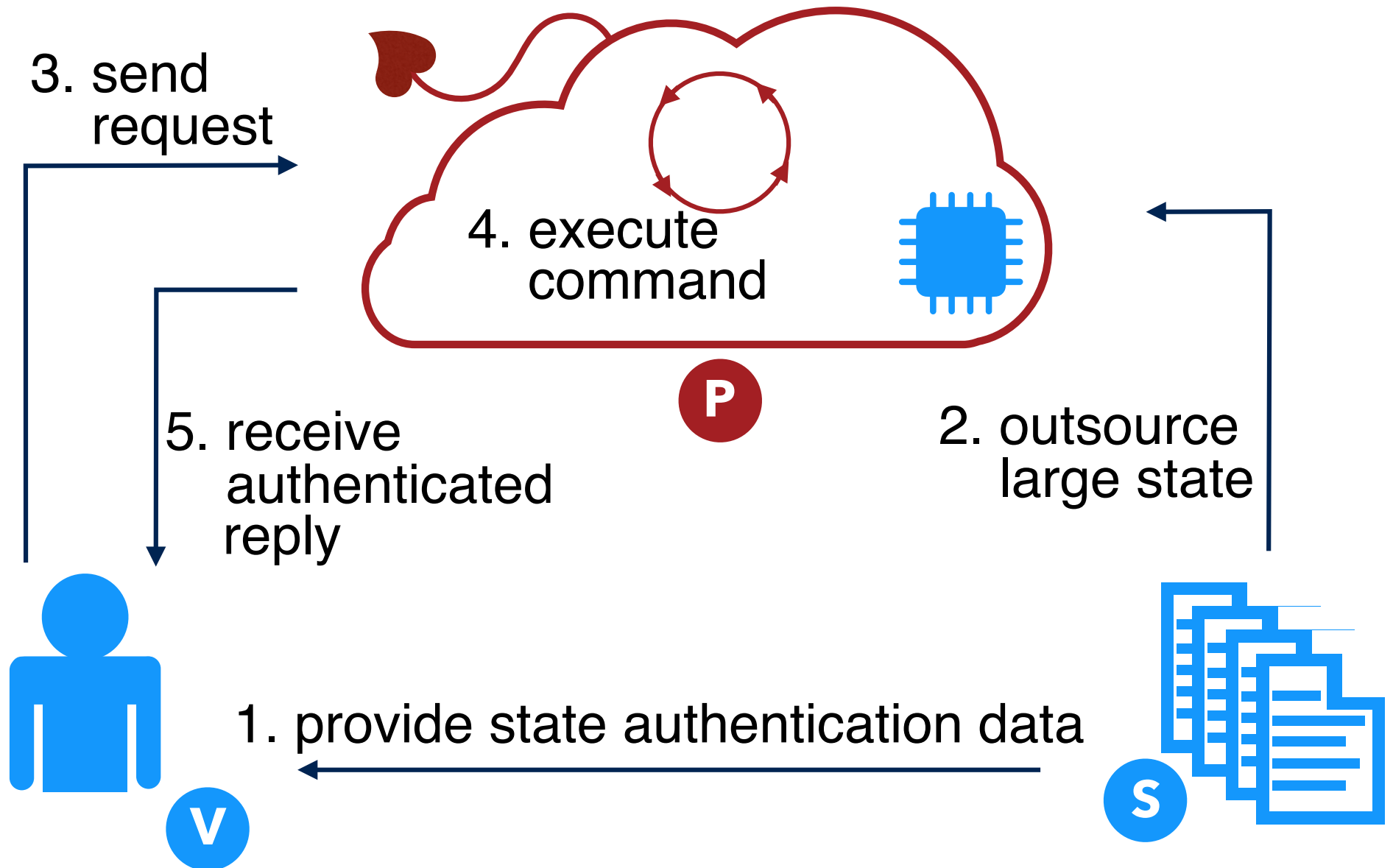
Model



Model



Model



Outline

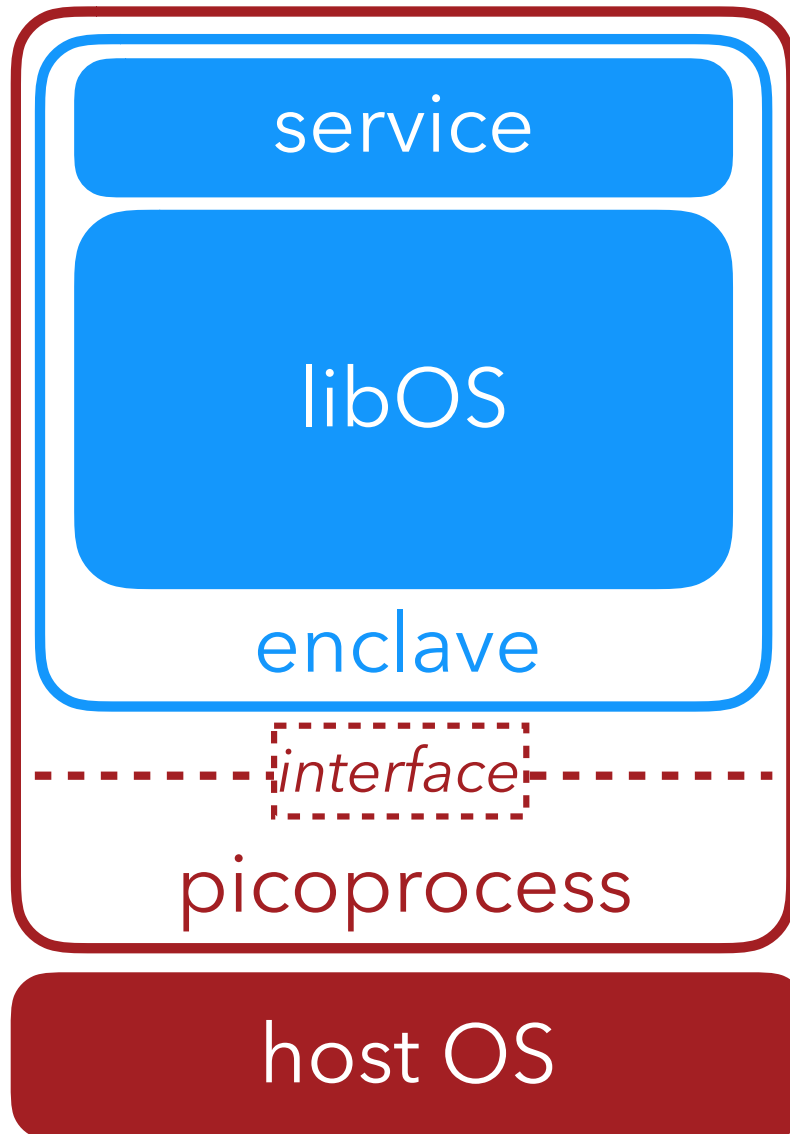
- **Goal**
- Previous Work
- Our solution: key ideas and overview
- Evaluation

Outline

- **Previous Work**

Haven

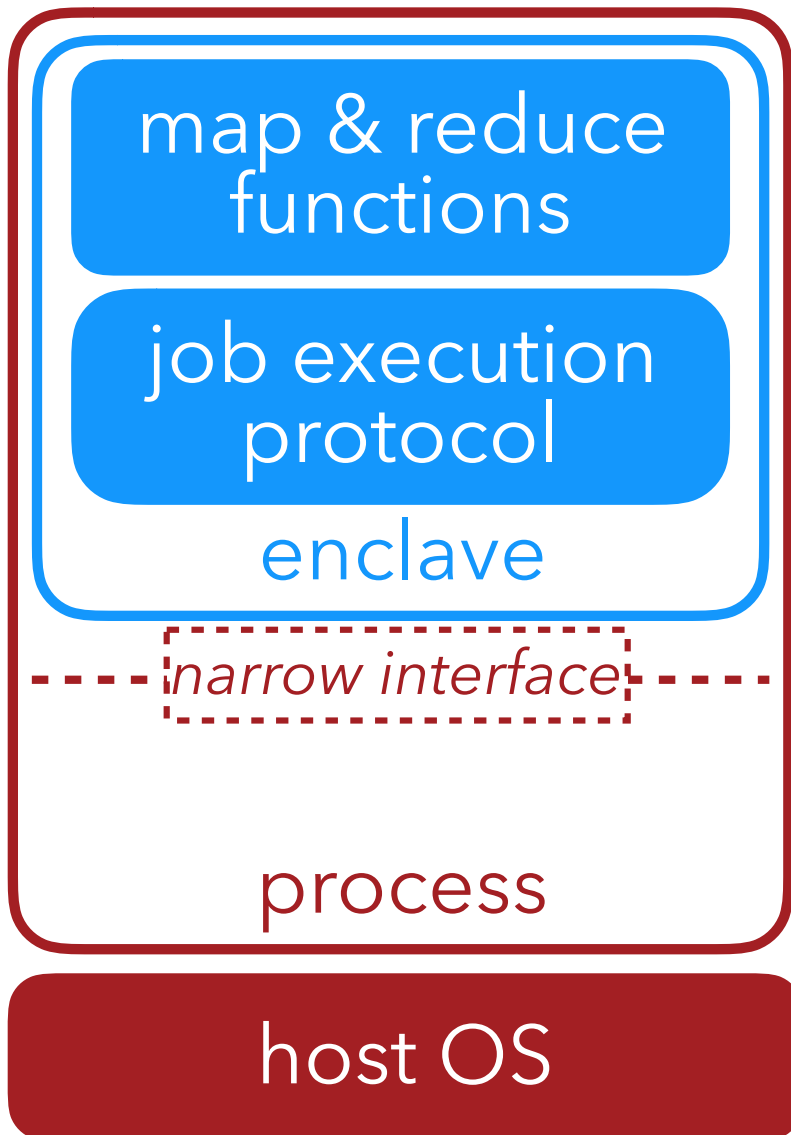
(OSDI'14)



- designed for Intel SGX
- large TCB (due to libOS)
- 10s of new interface calls
- + works with unmodified applications

VC³

(IEEE S&P'15)



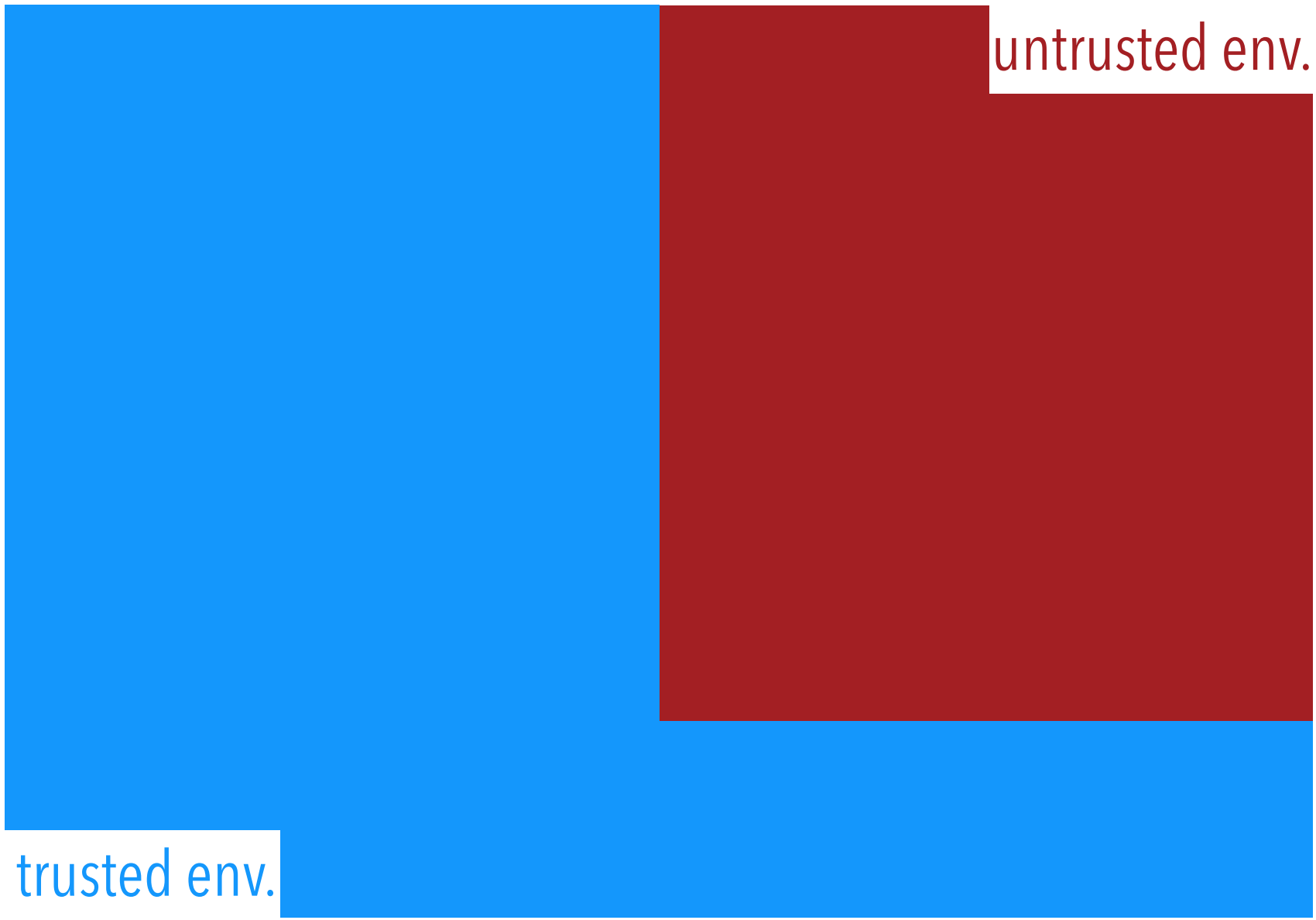
- designed for Intel SGX
- specific for Hadoop
- + small TCB
- + data confidentiality
- + can run unmodified Hadoop applications

A Niche in the State of the Art

| | small TCB | Large State | Interface calls | App Specific | Trusted Computing arch. |
|--|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Haven (OSDI'14) | No | Yes | tens | No | SGX |
| VC3 (S&P'15) | Yes | Yes MapReduce workloads | R,W | Yes | SGX |
| XMHF-TrustVisor (S&P'13,'10) | Yes | No | none (but Minibox has tens) | No | TPM / TXT |
| LaSt^{GT} | Yes | Yes | zero! | No | TV&SGX |

Outline

- **Our solution: key ideas and overview**



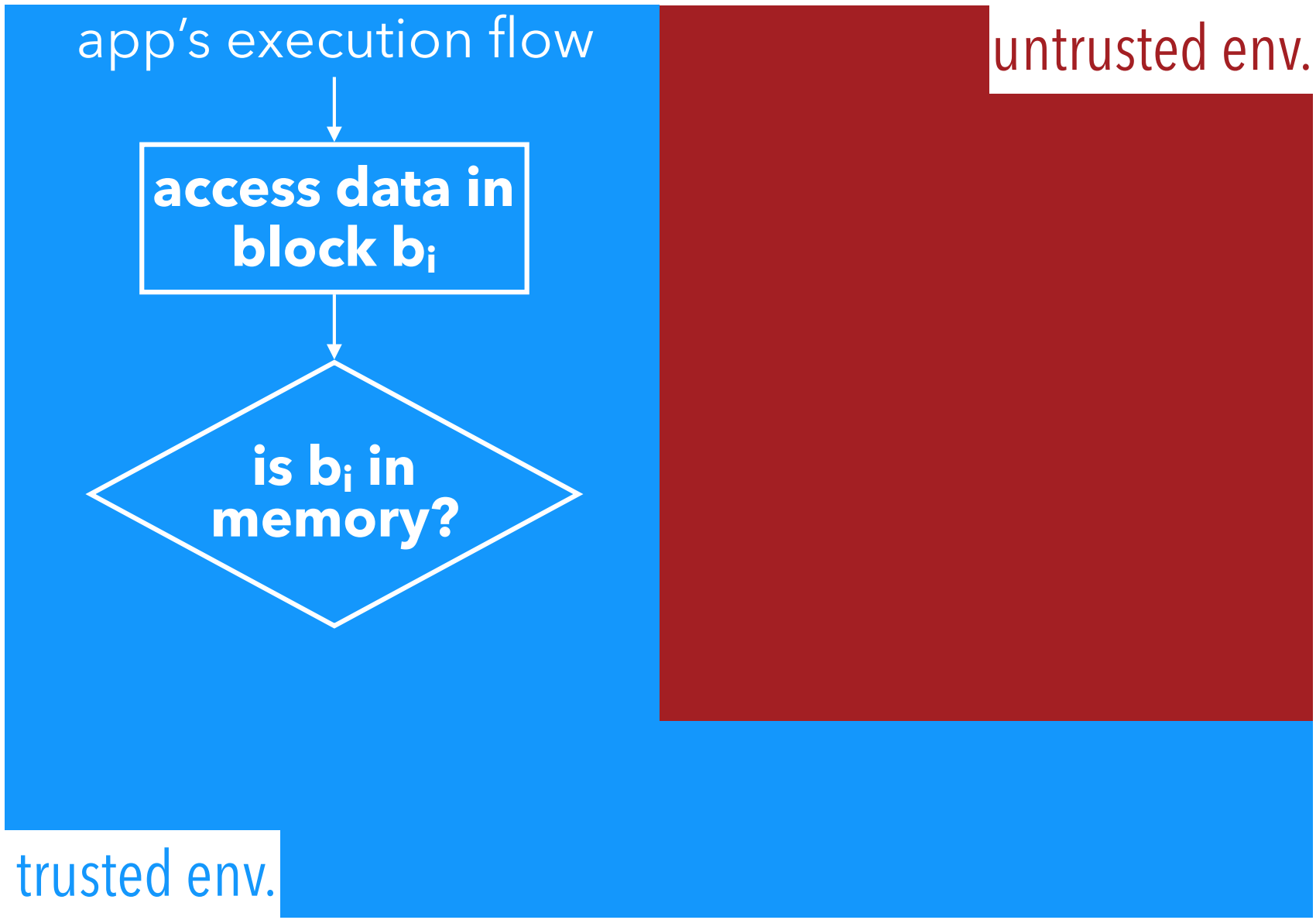
Scenario: two execution environments

app's execution flow

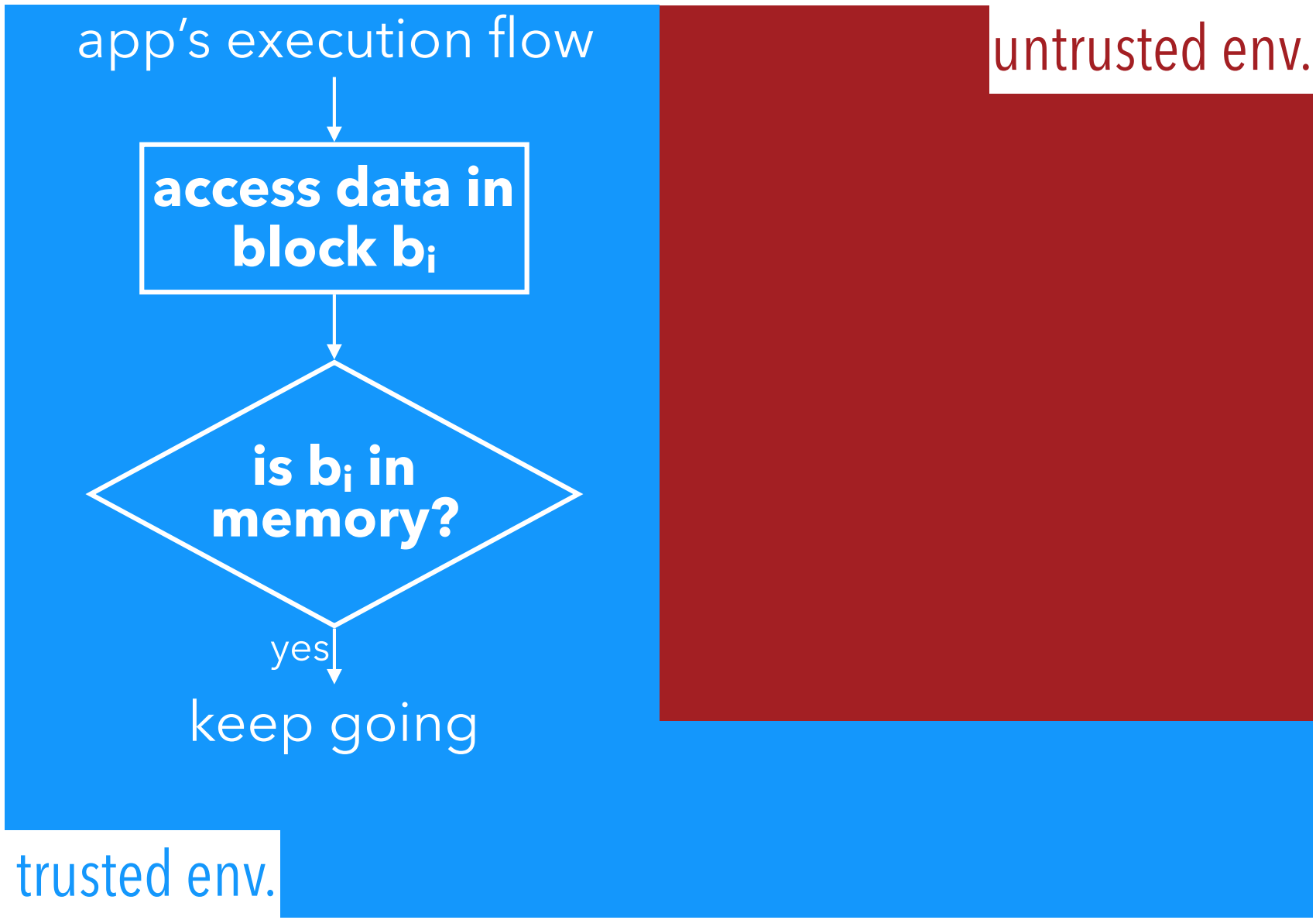
untrusted env.

trusted env.

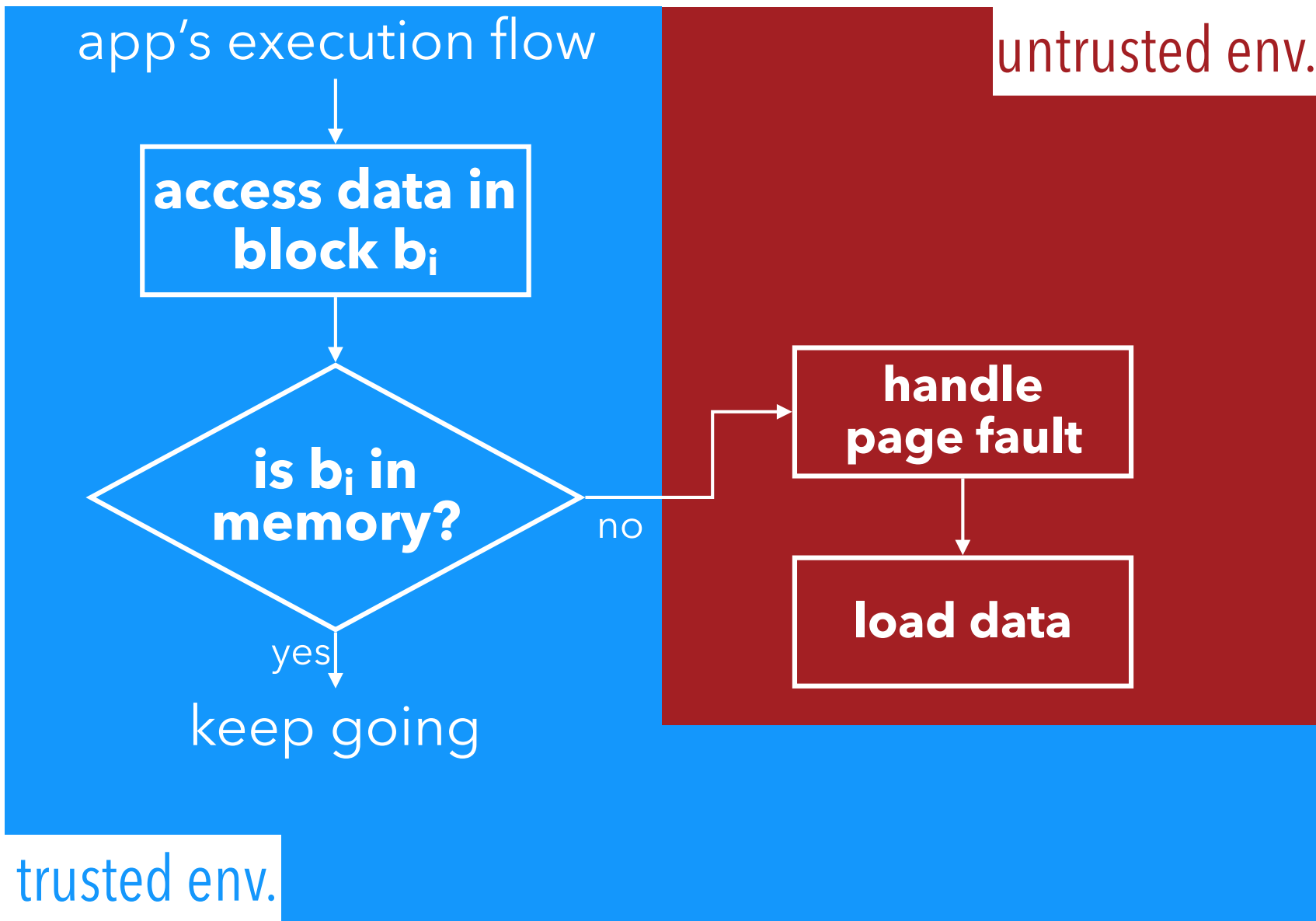
the service code is running



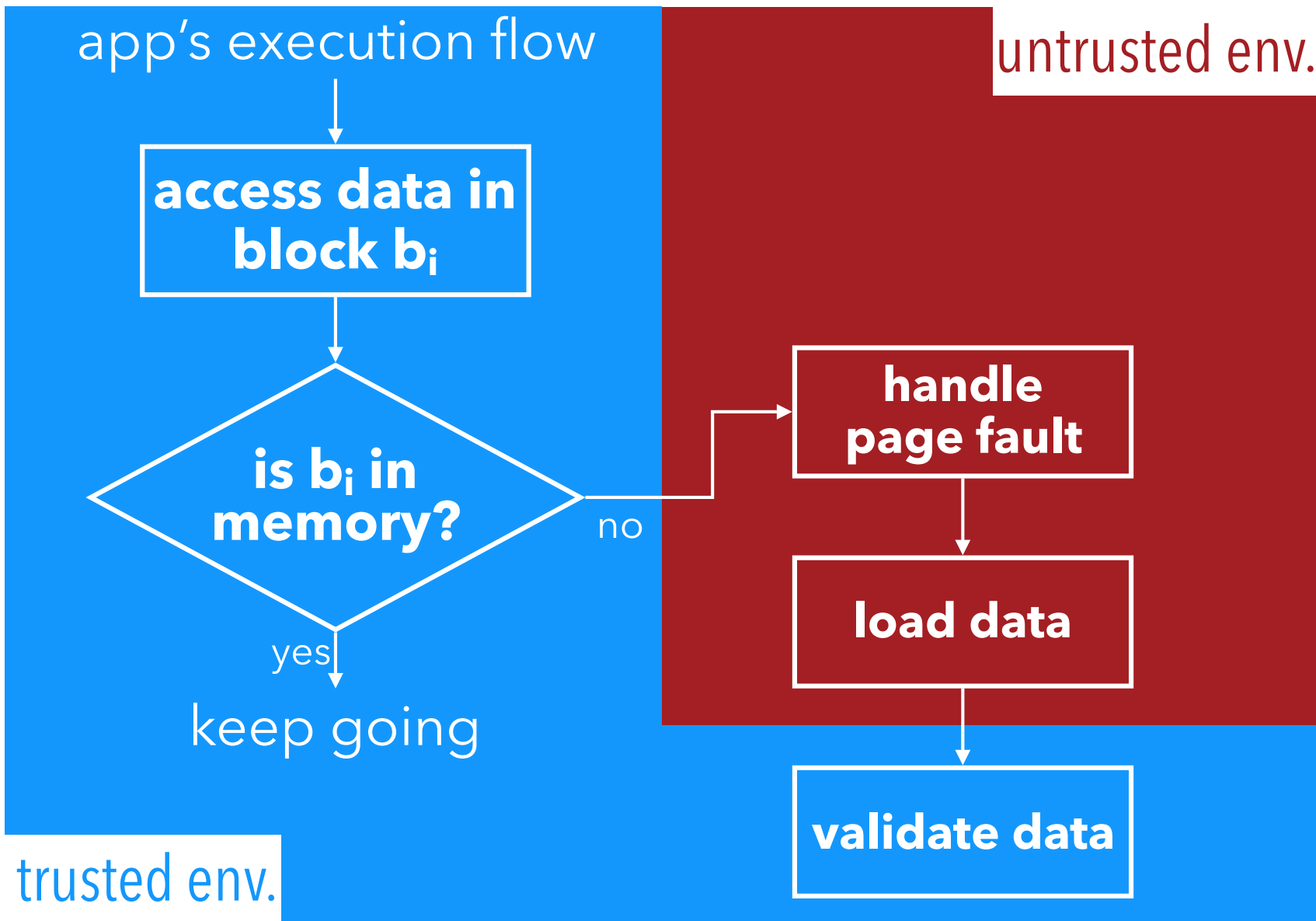
the service code accesses data in memory



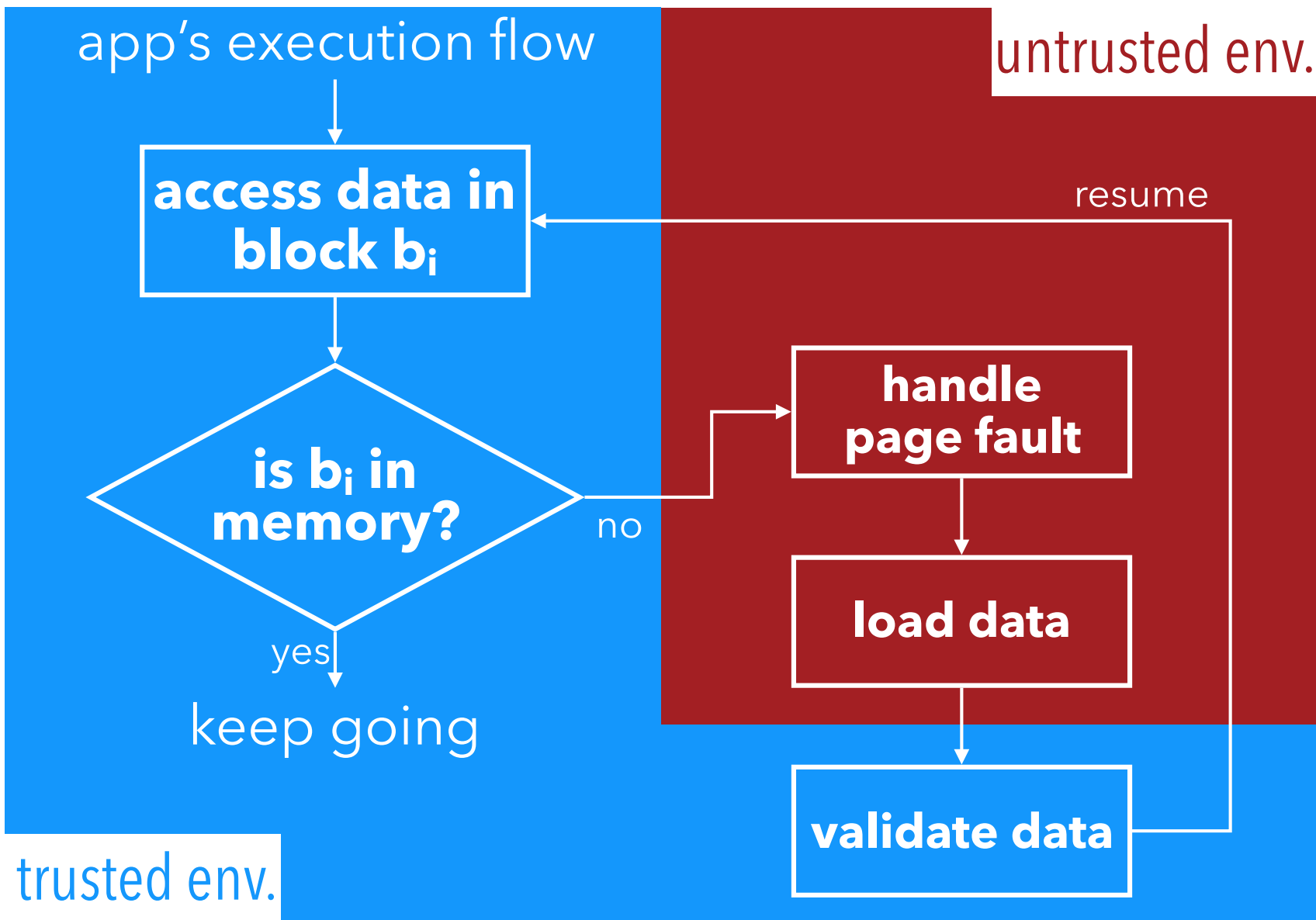
when data is available, there are no interruptions



otherwise, the service is interrupted and data memory pages are loaded



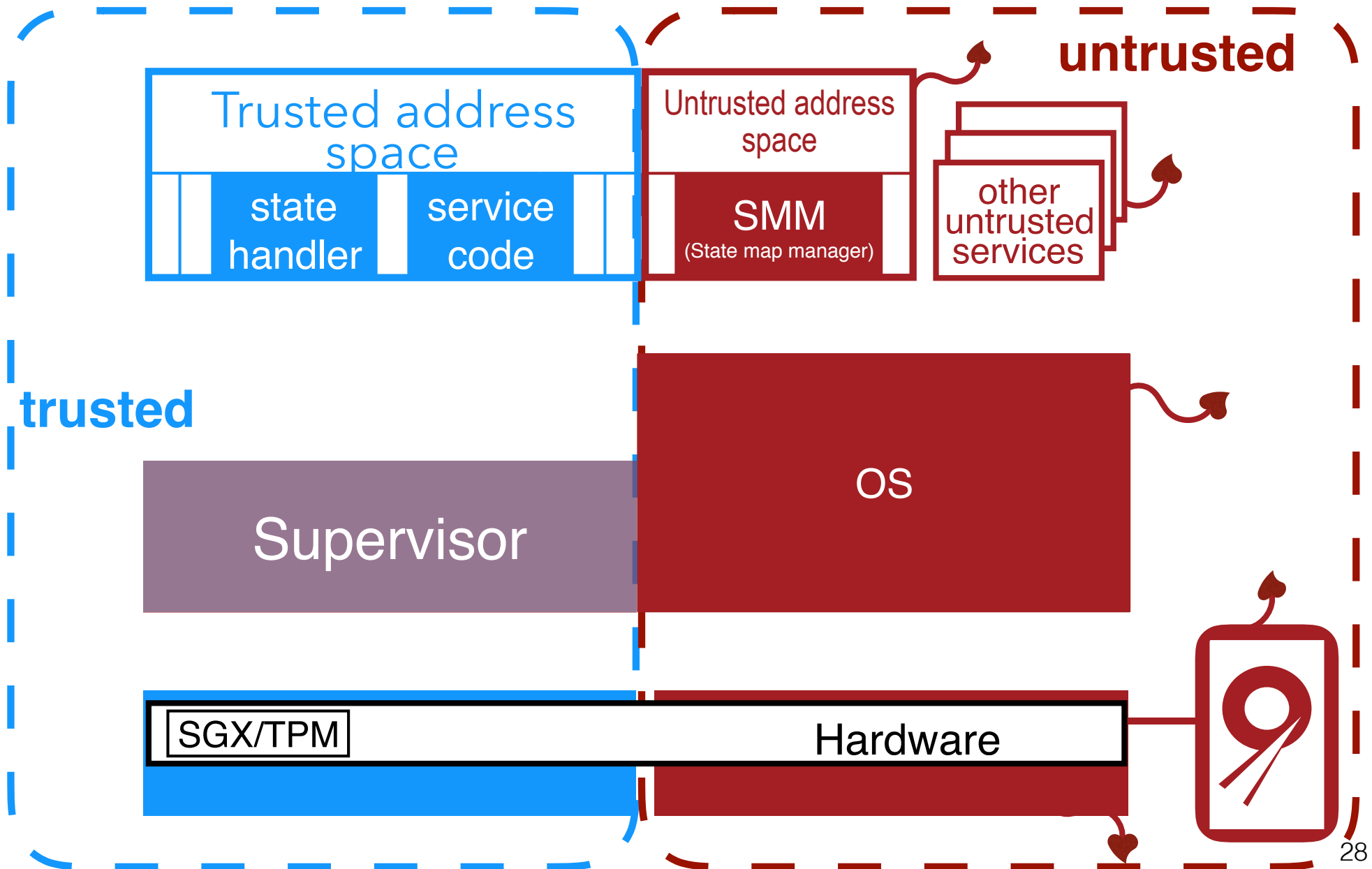
data is validated inside trusted environment,
independently from service execution



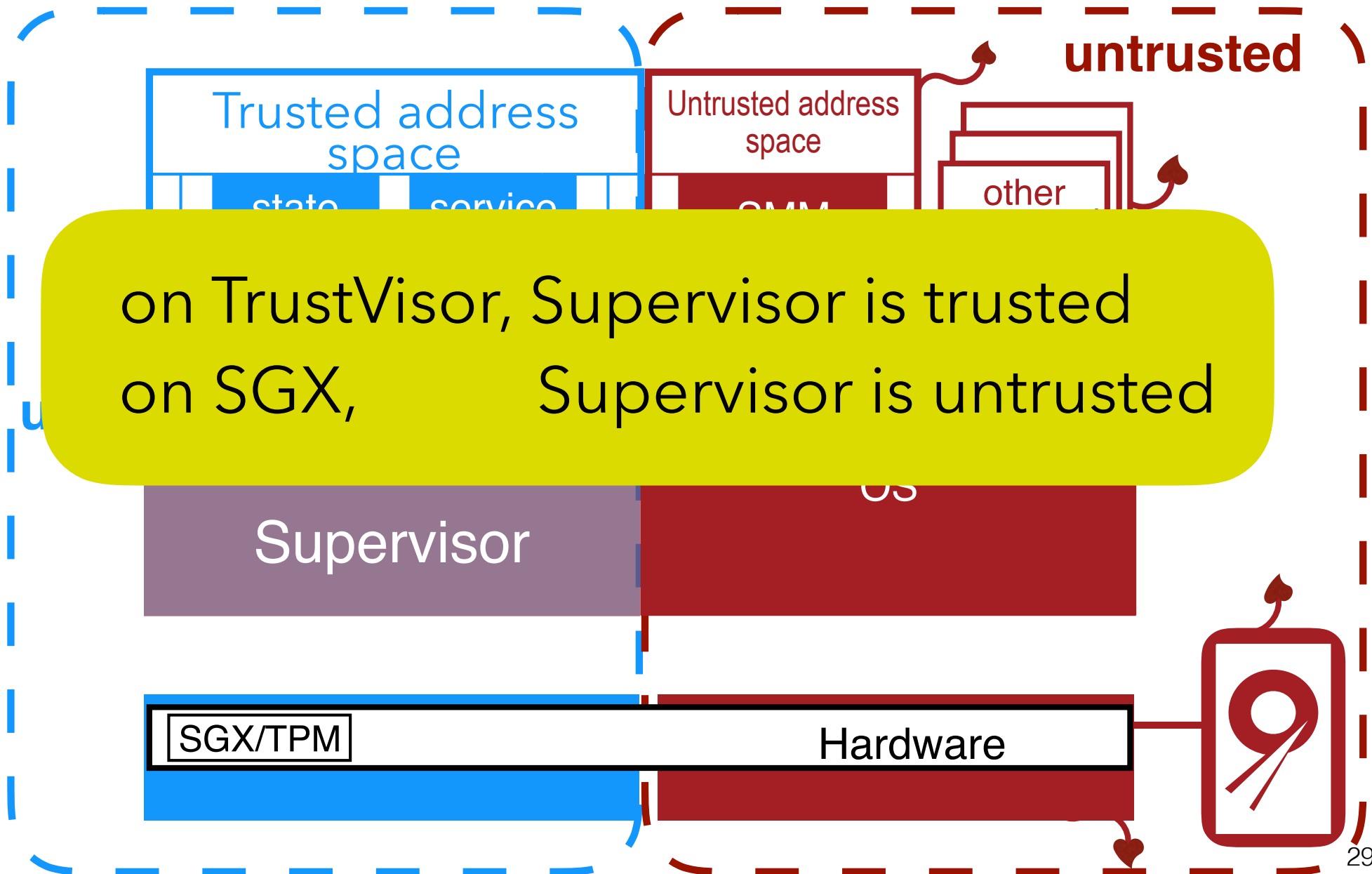
service is resumed and only if data is valid, service can make progress

...in practice...

Architecture



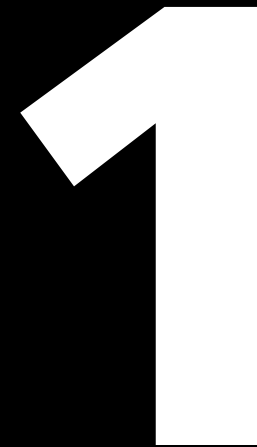
Architecture



LaSt^{GT} in ~~5~~ 4 steps

- Offline data protection at the source
- State registration
- Data processing
- Lazy loading from memory & disk
- ~~Execution verification~~

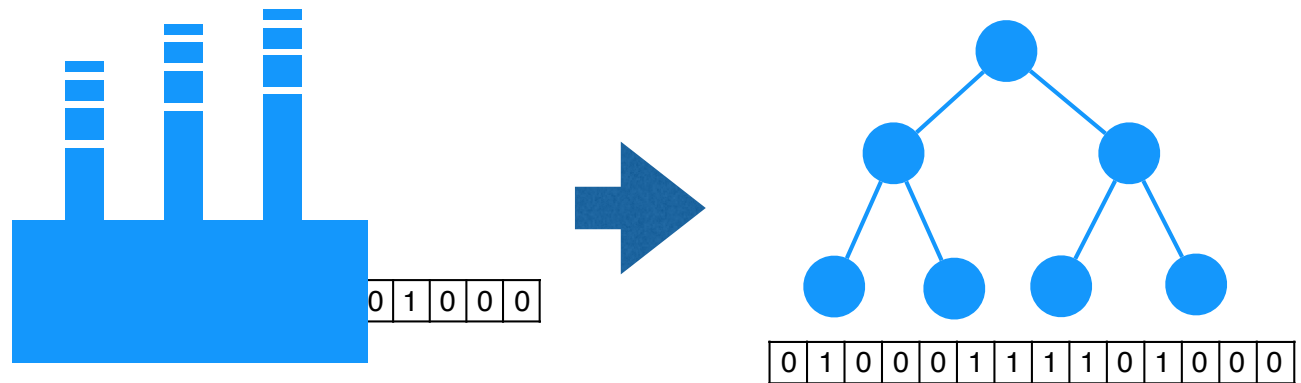
- **Offline data protection at the source**



Data protection

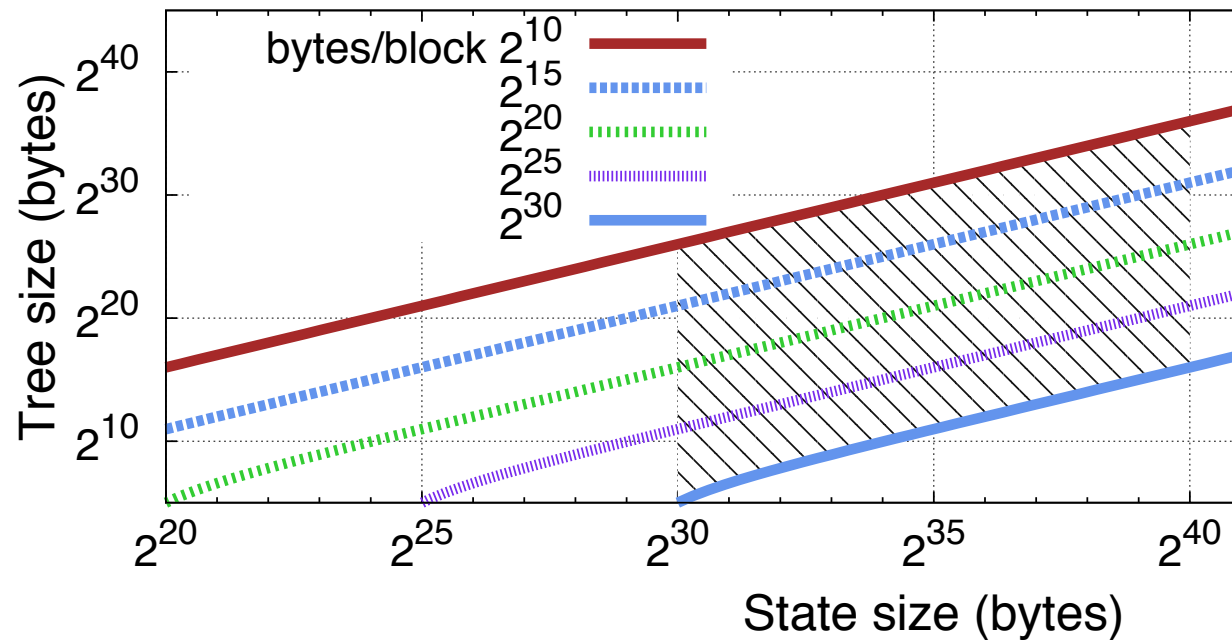
Hierarchical

- Incremental as data is created

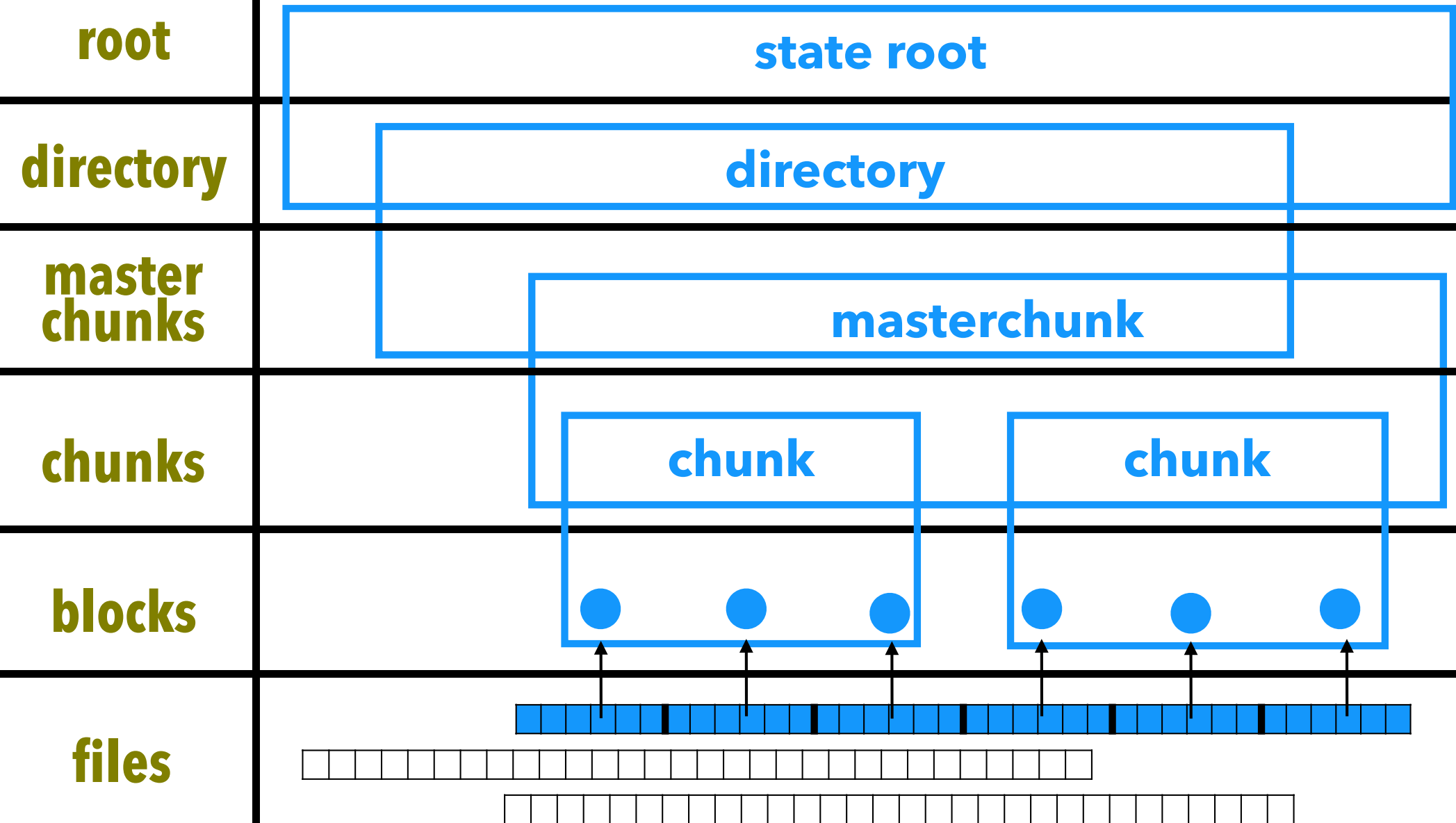


Made for:

- Incremental validation as data is loaded
- Fast verification
- Single hash tree is unsuitable

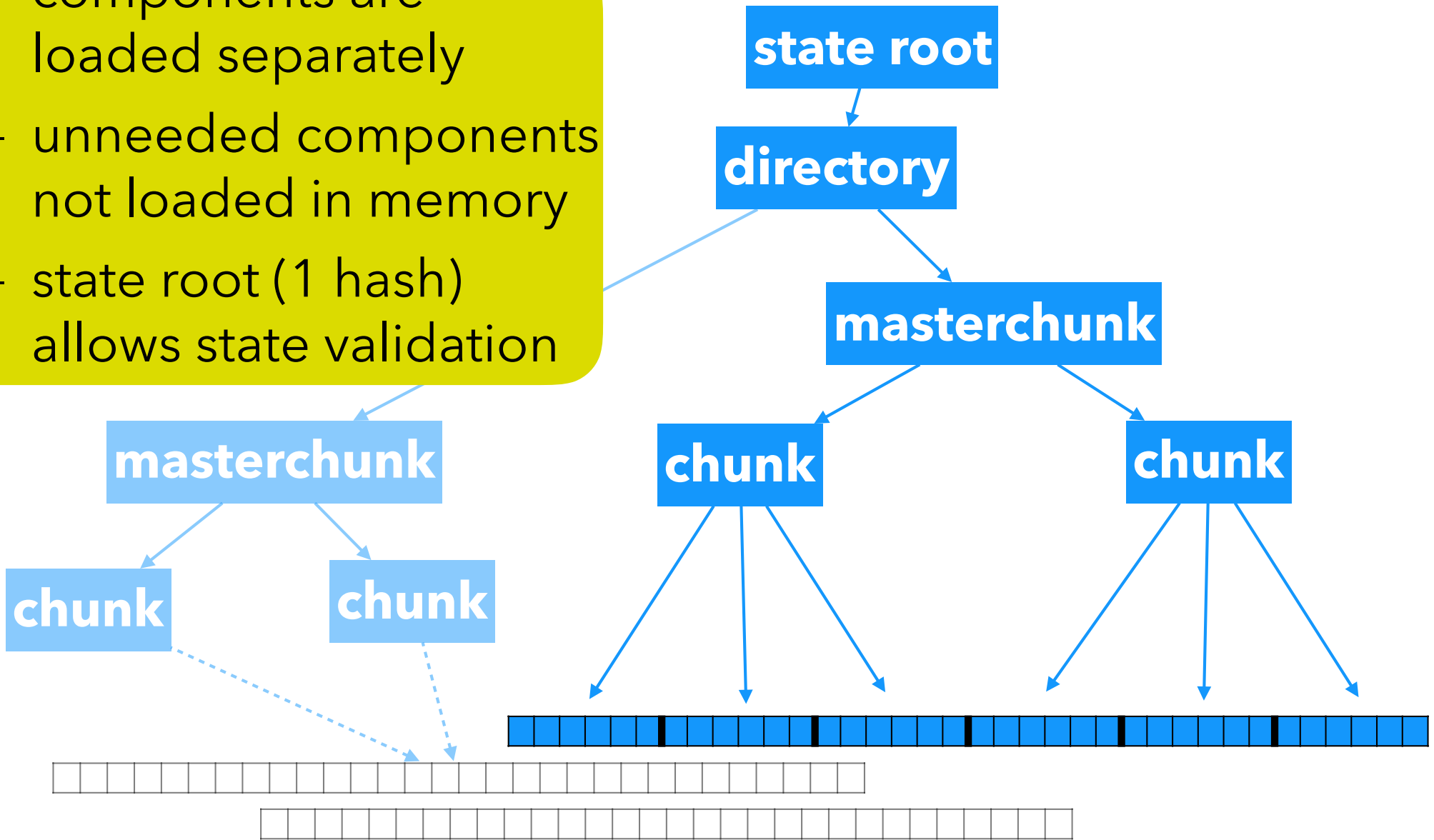


State Hierarchy



State Hierarchy

- components are loaded separately
- unneeded components not loaded in memory
- state root (1 hash) allows state validation

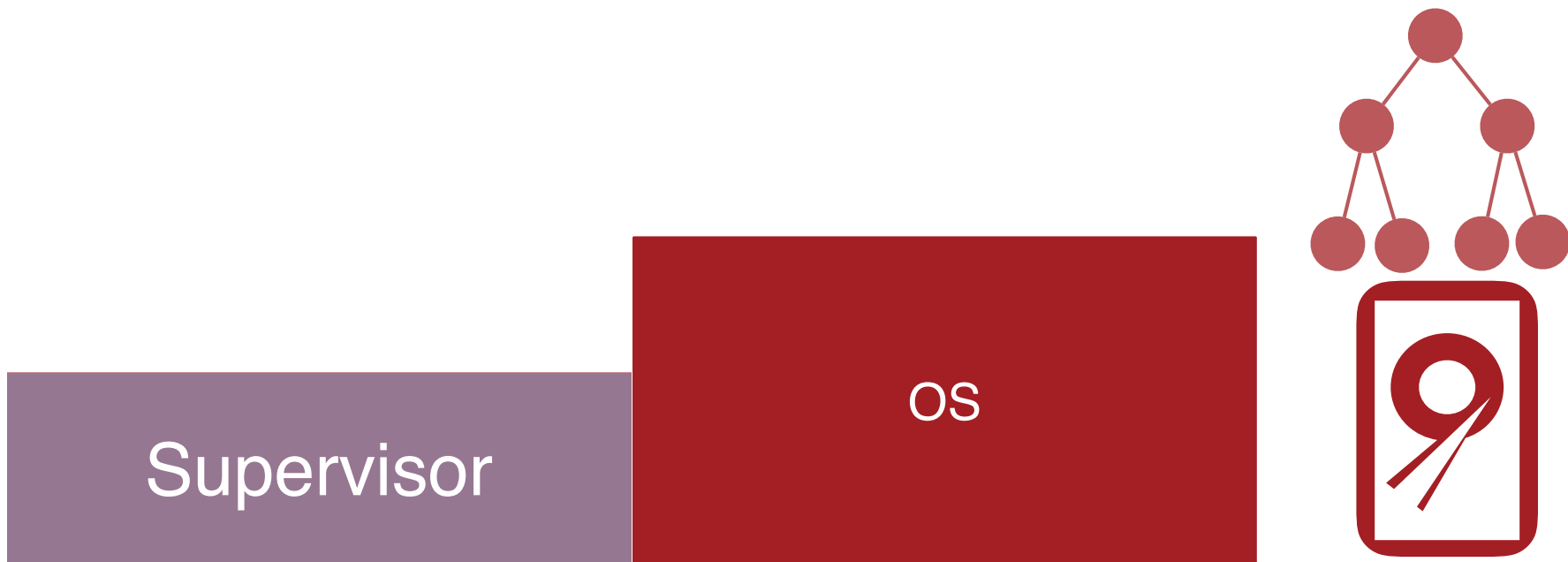


- **State registration**

2



When the trusted execution environment is created, only the code is available inside

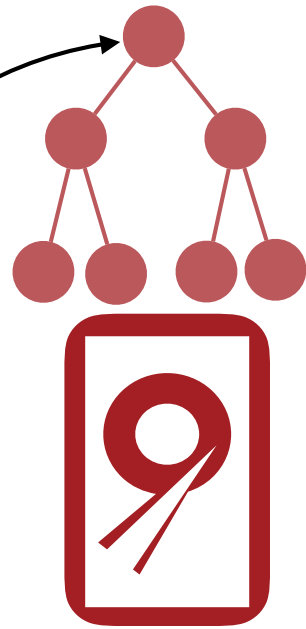




grab root from disk

Supervisor

OS





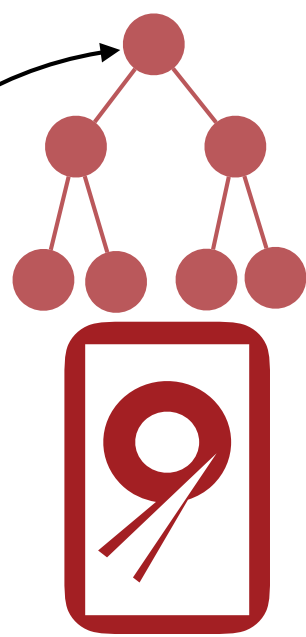
- registration is the first execution
- state handler installs root
- root is trusted

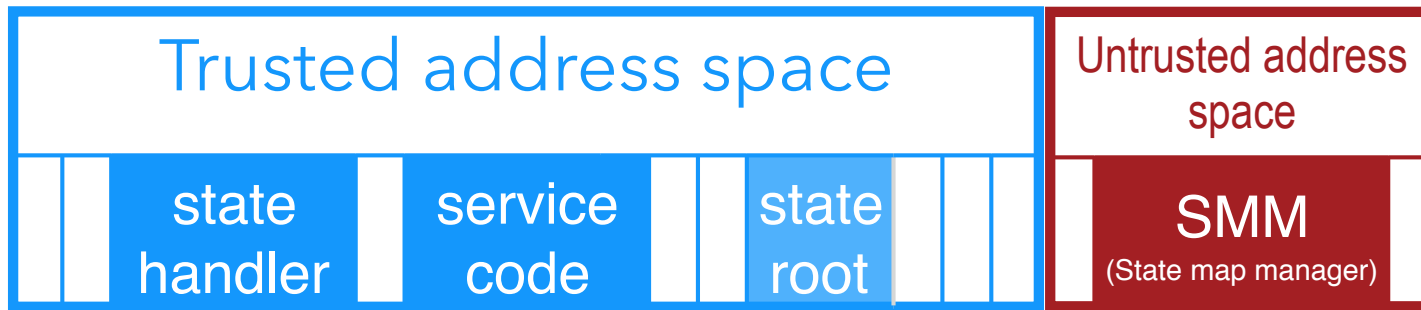
register state

grab root from disk

Supervisor

OS

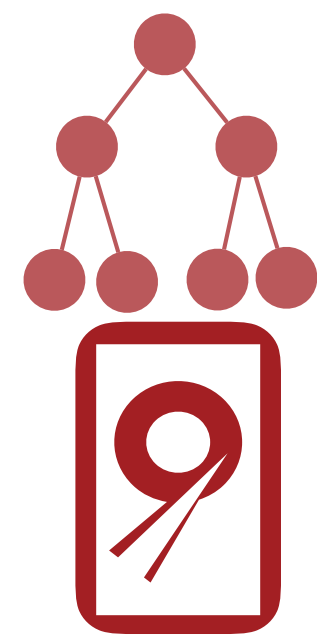




- state root is available before service code runs

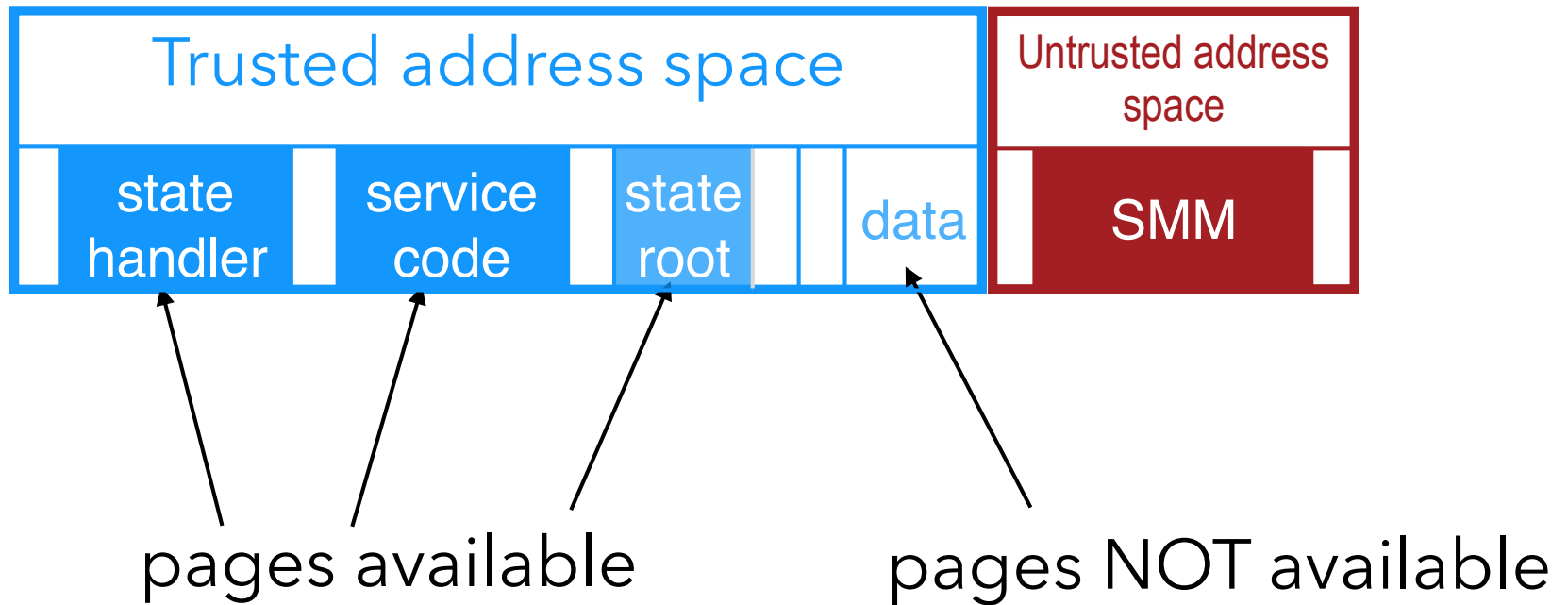
Supervisor

OS



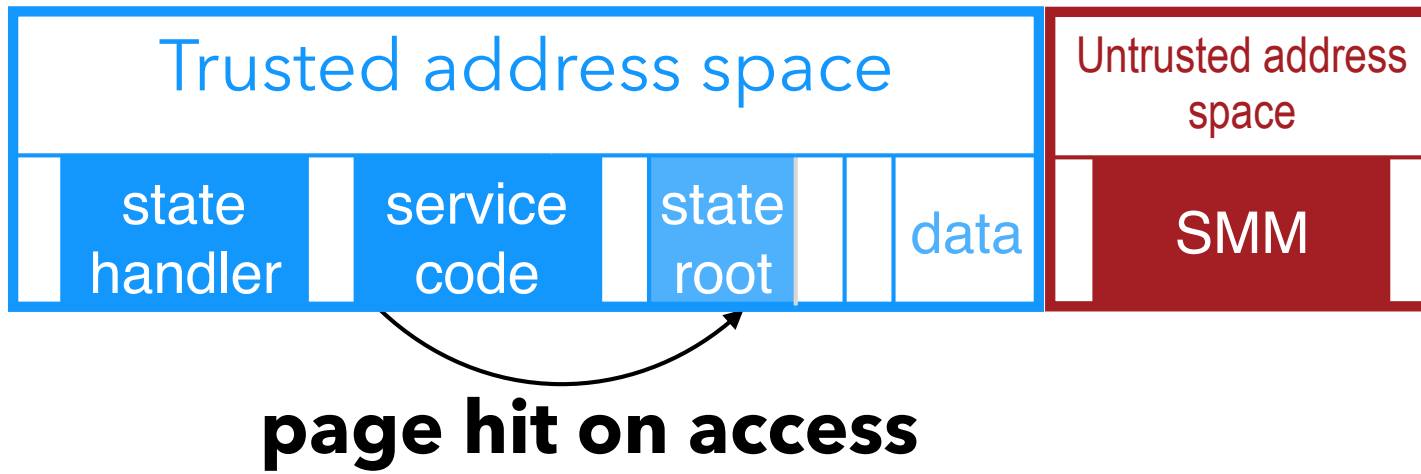
- **Data processing**

3



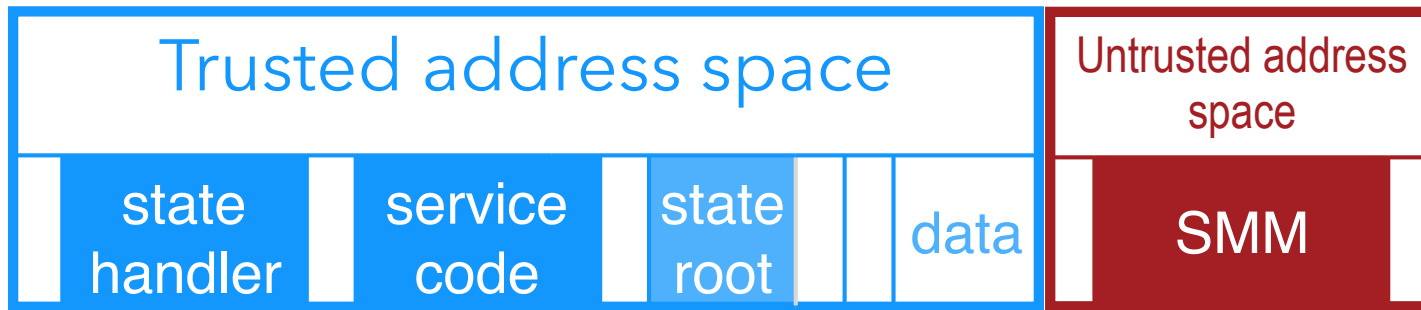
- service code has view of entire state
- state not readily available: inefficient loading it upfront





- Service code execution begins
- Service accesses data in memory
- Data retrieval is fast if data is already available





page miss on access

- Service code may access data on missing pages





**page
fault!**

- A page fault is triggered
- Execution is interrupted, seamlessly waiting to continue

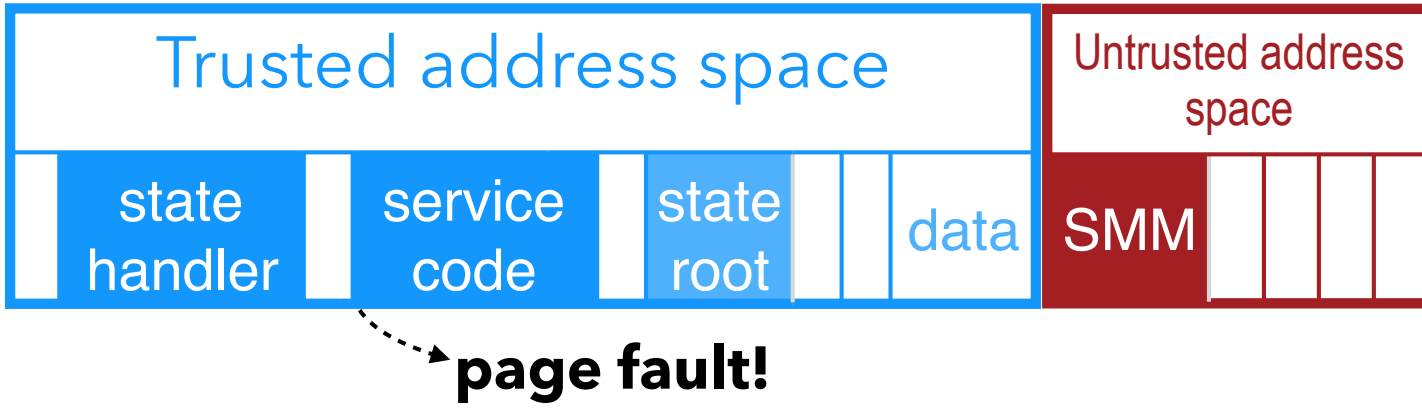
Supervisor

OS



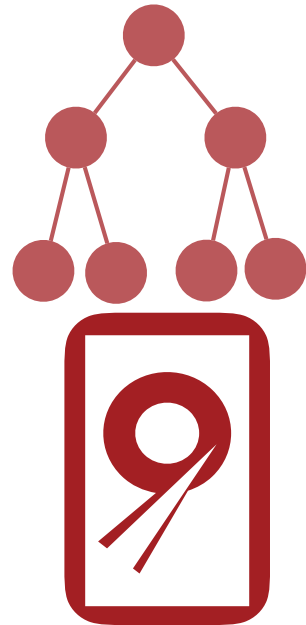
4

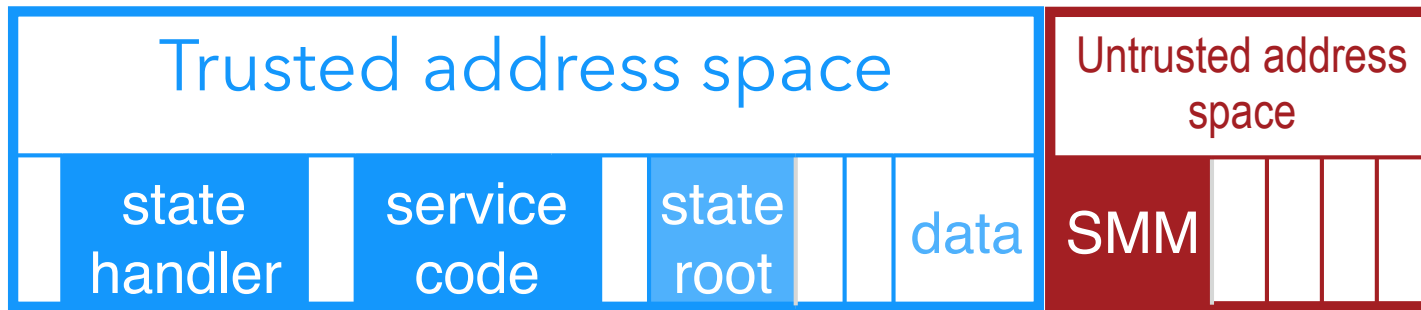
- **Lazy loading from memory & disk**



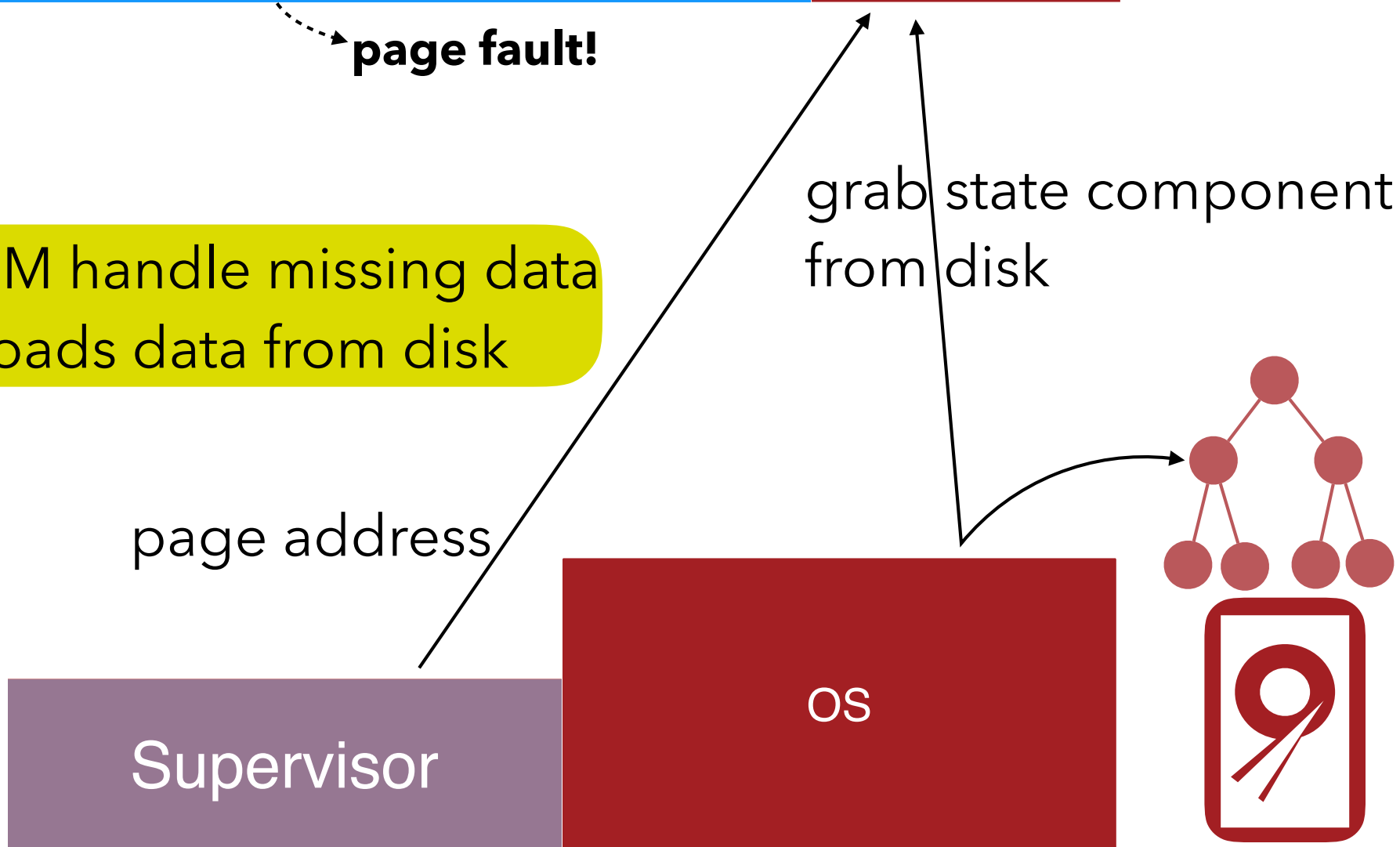
Supervisor

OS





- Let SMM handle missing data
- SMM loads data from disk





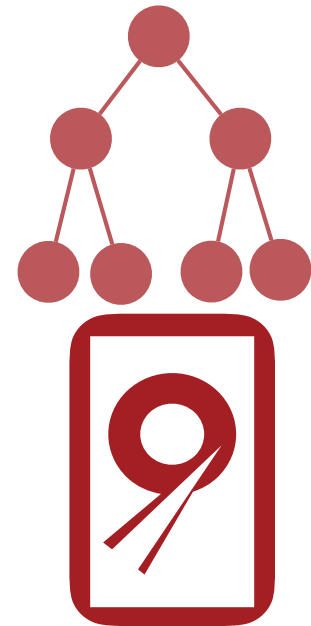
page fault!

- in TrustVisor, validate in place
- in SGX, copy, validate, copy

validate data

Supervisor

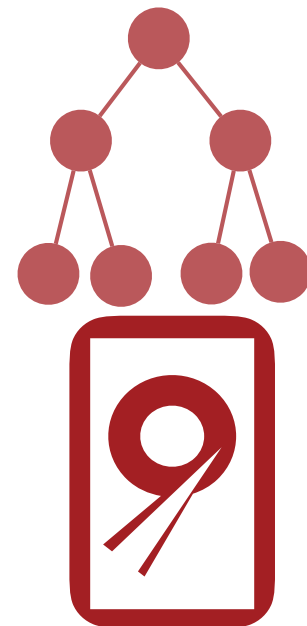
OS

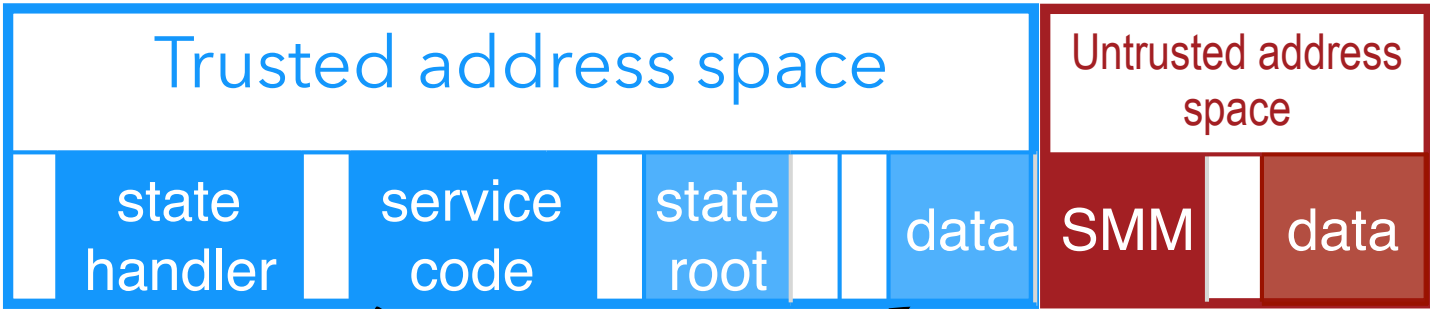




data is valid

- If Supervisor is trusted, invalid data => no resume (e.g.: TrustVisor)
- If Supervisor is untrusted, invalid data => no accept, so no access (e.g.: SGX)





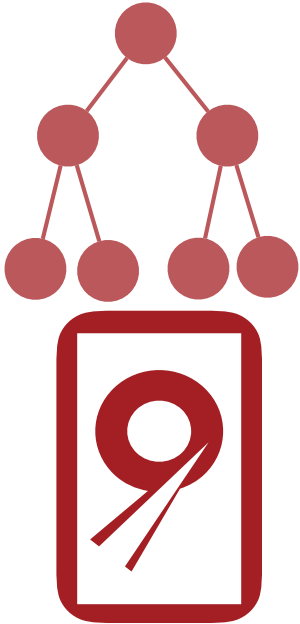
page hit on access

fault solved,
data accessible on resume,
continue...

resume

Supervisor

OS



- HW-based attestation of code identity, including input request, state root, output reply, nonce
- Client checks validity of attestation and intended identities/hashes

5

- ~~Execution verification~~

Outline

- **Evaluation**

TCB size

SGX-based

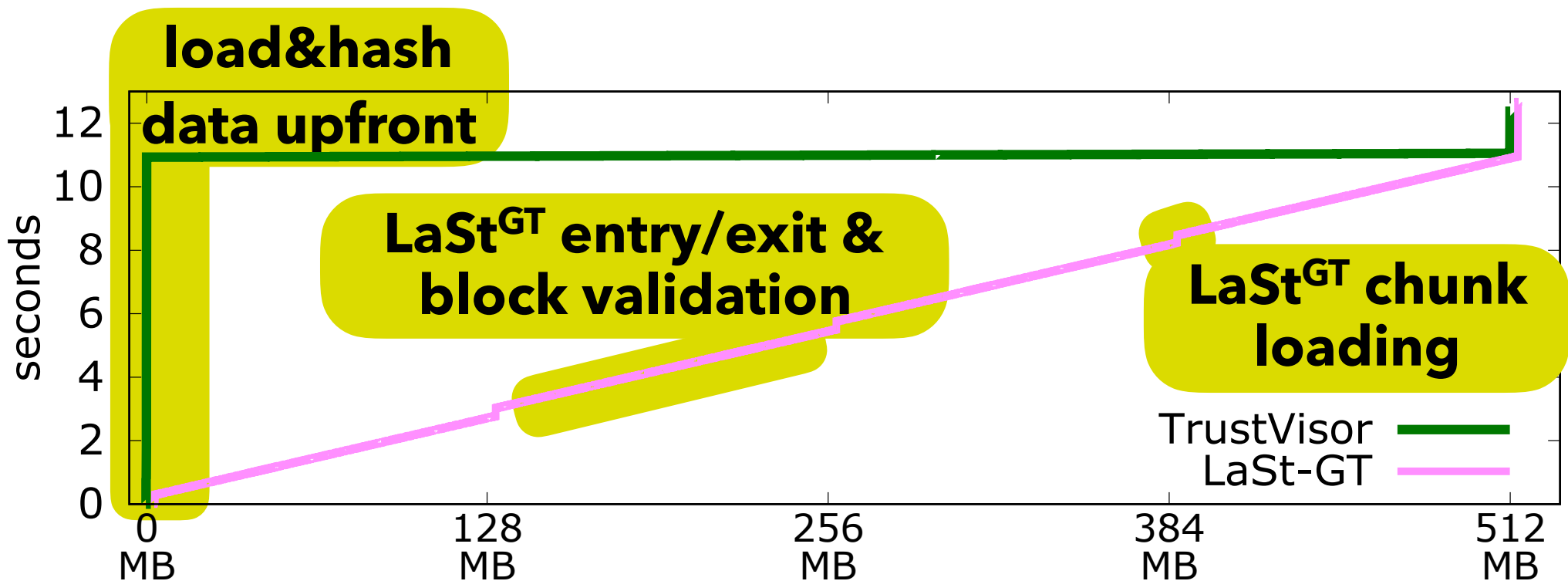
TPM/TXT
based

| | SGX-based | | TPM/TXT based | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|---------|------------------|
| | VC ³ | Haven | LaSt ^{GT} | | |
| | | | hypervisor | library | SQLite (example) |
| KSLoC (lines of code x 1000) | 9.2 | $O(10^3)$ | 17 | 7.7 | 92.6 |

library is small
compared to
real service

Comparison

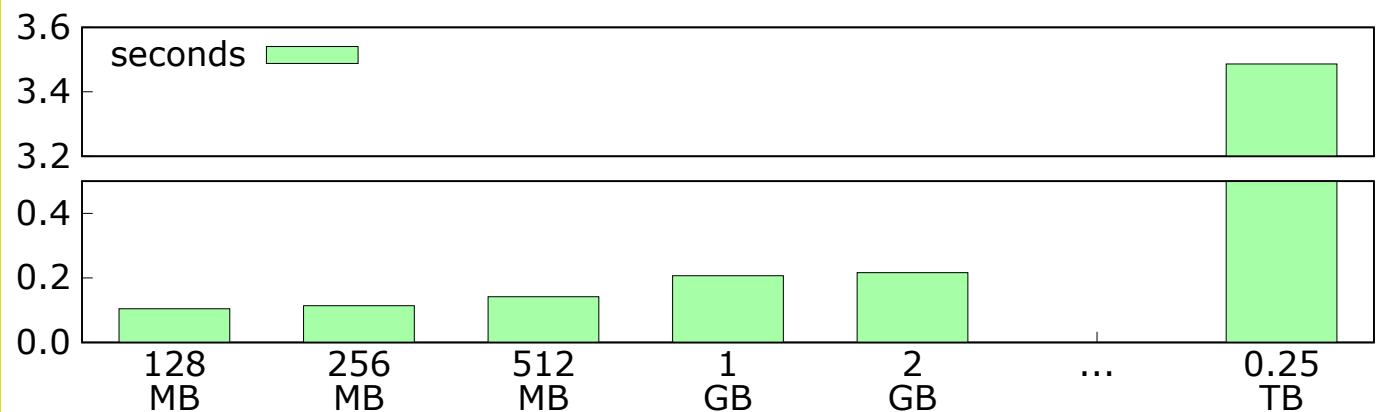
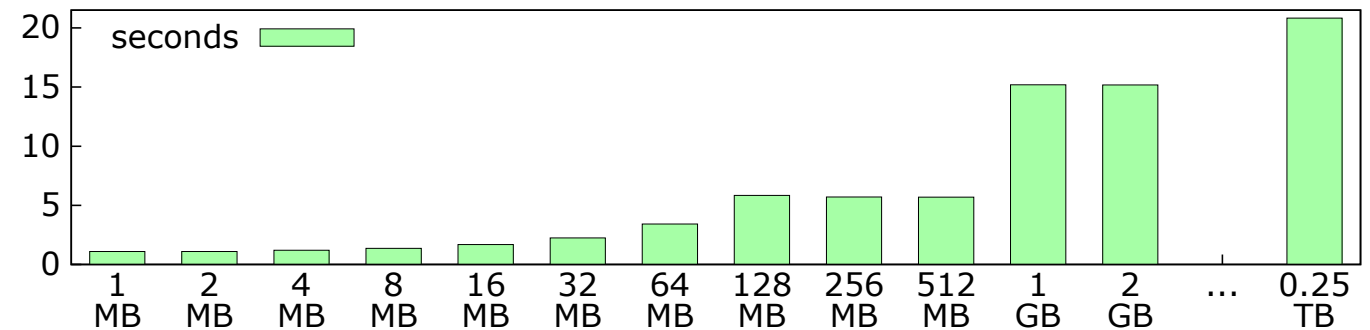
XMHF-TrustVisor vs. LaSt^{GT}



LaSt^{GT} is Incremental, Faster & Scalable

SQLite on LaSt^{GT}

- First large-scale experiment on hypervisor
- Data I/O can be optimized through state hierarchy
- SGX expected to improve substantially



Conclusions

- **Security for large-scale data processing can be guaranteed with a small TCB**
- **Virtual memory-based data handling
=> zero interface**
- **No change to source code
=> easy integration**
- **One design can fit diverse HW & SW**

ad maiora.

Secure Tera-scale Data Crunching with a Small TCB

Bruno Vavala^{1,2}, Nuno Neves¹, Peter Steenkiste²

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²*CSD, Carnegie Mellon University, U.S.*

Abstract—Outsourcing services to third-party providers comes with a high security cost—to fully trust the providers. Using trusted hardware can help, but current trusted execution environments do not adequately support services that process very large scale datasets. We present LAST^{GT}, a system that bridges this gap by supporting the execution of self-contained services over a large state, with a small and generic trusted computing base (TCB). LAST^{GT} uses widely deployed trusted hardware to guarantee integrity and verifiability of the execution on a remote platform, and it securely supplies data to the service through simple techniques based on virtual memory. As a result, LAST^{GT} is general and applicable to many scenarios such as computational genomics and databases, as we show in our experimental evaluation based on an implementation of LAST^{GT} on a secure hypervisor. We also describe a possible implementation on Intel SGX.

support the execution of either small pieces of code and data [10], or large code bases [11], or specific software like database engines [12] or MapReduce applications [13]. Recent work [14] has shown how to support unmodified services. However, since “the interface between modern applications and operating systems is so complex” [30], it relies on a considerable TCB that includes a library OS. In addition, the above systems are specific for TPMs [10], [15], secure coprocessors [12], or Intel SGX [13]. Hence, porting them to alternative architectures (e.g., the upcoming AMD Secure Memory Encryption and Secure Encrypted Virtualization [36], [37]) requires significant effort. Clearly, it is desirable to design a generic system “not relying on idiosyncratic features of the hardware” [16].

We present LAST^{GT}, a system that can handle a Large State on a Generic Trusted component with a small TCB.

(blank)

**“Never trust a computer
you can’t throw out the window.”**

Steve Wozniak

"No computer system can be absolutely secure."

(excerpt from)

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