

# Explainable Vulnerabilities Descriptions with NIST BF

Ericsson Program Analysis Workshop

Ericsson, Stockholm, Sweden  
Dec. 1, 2022



The Bugs Framework (BF)  
<https://samate.nist.gov/BF>



National Institute of  
Standards and Technology  
U.S. Department of Commerce

Irena Bojanova

# Agenda

- Introduction:
  - Terminology:
    - ✓ Bug
    - ✓ Weakness
    - ✓ Vulnerability
    - ✓ Failure
  - “Bad Alloc” Pattern
- Existing Repositories:
  - CWE
  - CVE
  - NVD
  - KEV
- The Bugs Framework (BF)
  - Goals
  - Features
- BF Taxonomy
- Validation towards CWE
- BF Hands On:
  - BF Descriptions of CVEs
  - NLP, ML, AI Applications
- Potential Impacts

# Introduction

# Terminology

NIST

- Software Bug:
  - A coding error or a specification error
  - The first error in a chain of weaknesses
  - Needs to be fixed
- Software Weakness:
  - Caused by a bug or a previous weakness
  - A chain of weaknesses ends with a final error
  - **Weakness Type** – a meaningful notion!
- Software Vulnerability:
  - An instance of a **weakness type** that leads to a security failure
  - May have several underlying weaknesses
- Security Failure:
  - A violation of a system security requirement
  - Caused by the final error



The Bugs Framework (BF)  
<https://samate.nist.gov/BF>

# “BadAlloc” Pattern – 25 CVEs

NIST



CYBERSECURITY  
& INFRASTRUCTURE  
SECURITY AGENCY

Alerts and Tips

Re

ICS-CERT Advisories

>

ICS Advisory

Multiple RTOS (I)

Original release date: April

Print

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Feedback

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Light Protocol (LPL) marking

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CVE-2021-27431 has been assigned to this vulnerability. A CVSS v3 base score of 7.3 has been assigned to this vulnerability.

CVSS v3 9.8

ATTENTION: Exploit:

Vendors: Multiple

Equipment: Multiple

Vulnerabilities: Integer

CISA is aware of a public

issuing this advisory to |

The various open-source

2. UPDATE INFO

This updated advisory is:

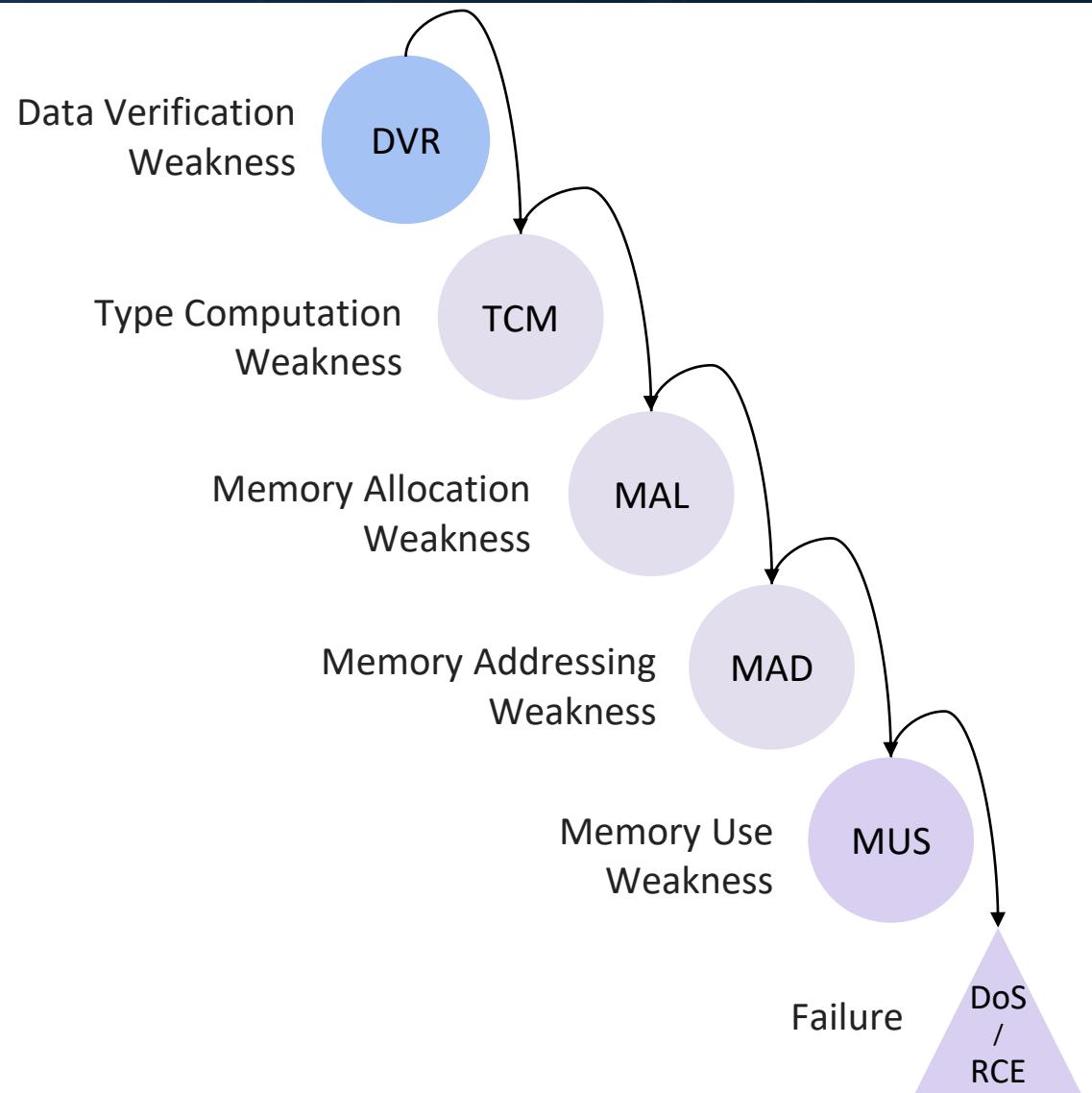
www.cisa.gov/uscert.

3. RISK EVALUATION

Successful exploitation of

4. TECHNICAL DETAILS

CVE-2021-27435 has been assigned to this vulnerability. A CVSS v3 base score of 7.3 has been assigned to this vulnerability.



# Existing Repositories

# Commonly Used Repositories



- Weaknesses:

CWE – Common Weakness Enumeration

<https://cwe.mitre.org/>

- Vulnerabilities:

CVE – Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures

<https://cve.mitre.org/>

→ over 18 000 documented in 2020

- Vulnerabilities by priority for remediation – CVEs:

KEV – Known Exploited Vulnerabilities Catalog

<https://www.cisa.gov/known-exploited-vulnerabilities-catalog>

- Linking weaknesses to vulnerabilities – CWEs to CVEs

NVD – National Vulnerabilities Database

<https://nvd.nist.gov/>

→ links also to KEV

# Repository Problems



1. Imprecise Descriptions – CWE & CVE
2. Unclear Causality – CWE & CVE
3. No Tracking Methodology – CVE
4. Gaps in Coverage – CWE
5. Overlaps in Coverage – CWE
6. No Tools – CWE & CVE

# Problem #1: Imprecise Descriptions



- Example:

CWE-502: Deserialization of Untrusted Data:

The application deserializes untrusted data without  
*sufficiently verifying that the resulting data will be valid.*

- Unclear what “*sufficiently*” means,
- “verifying that data is valid” is also confusing

# Problems #2, #3: Unclear Causality, Tracking



- Example:

[CVE-2018-5907](#)

Possible **buffer overflow** in `msm_adsp_stream_callback_put` due to **lack of input validation** of user-provided data that leads to **integer overflow** in all Android releases (Android for MSM, Firefox OS for MSM, QRD Android) from CAF using the Linux kernel.

→ the NVD label is [CWE-190](#)

While the CWEs chain is:

CWE-20 → CWE-190 → CWE-119

# Problems #4, #5: Gaps/Overlaps in Coverage



- Example:

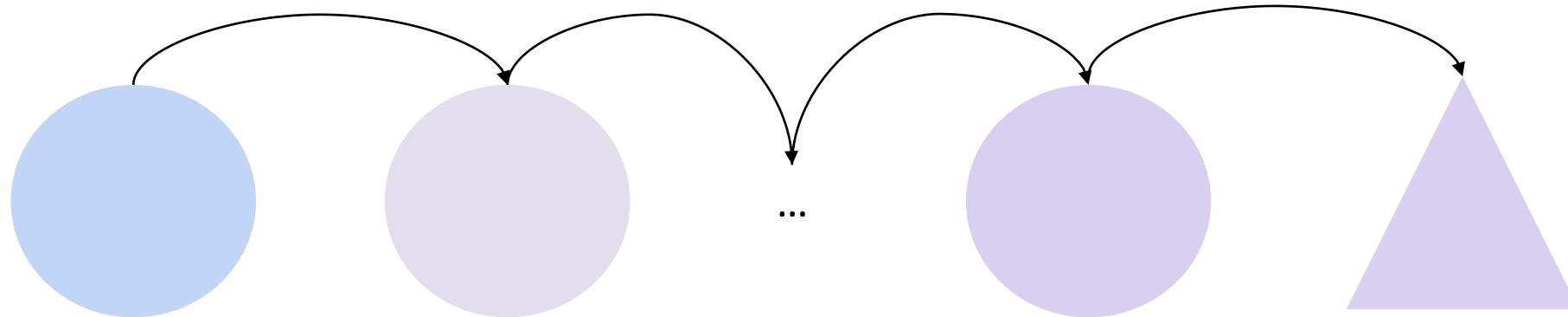
CWEs coverage of buffer overflow by:

- ✓ Read/ Write
- ✓ Over/ Under
- ✓ Stack/ Heap

	Over	Under	Either End	Stack	Heap
Read	CWE-127	CWE-126	CWE-125	★	★
Write	CWE-124	CWE-120	CWE-123 CWE-787	CWE-121	CWE-122
Read/ Write	CWE-786	CWE-788	★	★	★

# The Bugs Framework (BF)

1. Solve the problems of imprecise descriptions and unclear causality

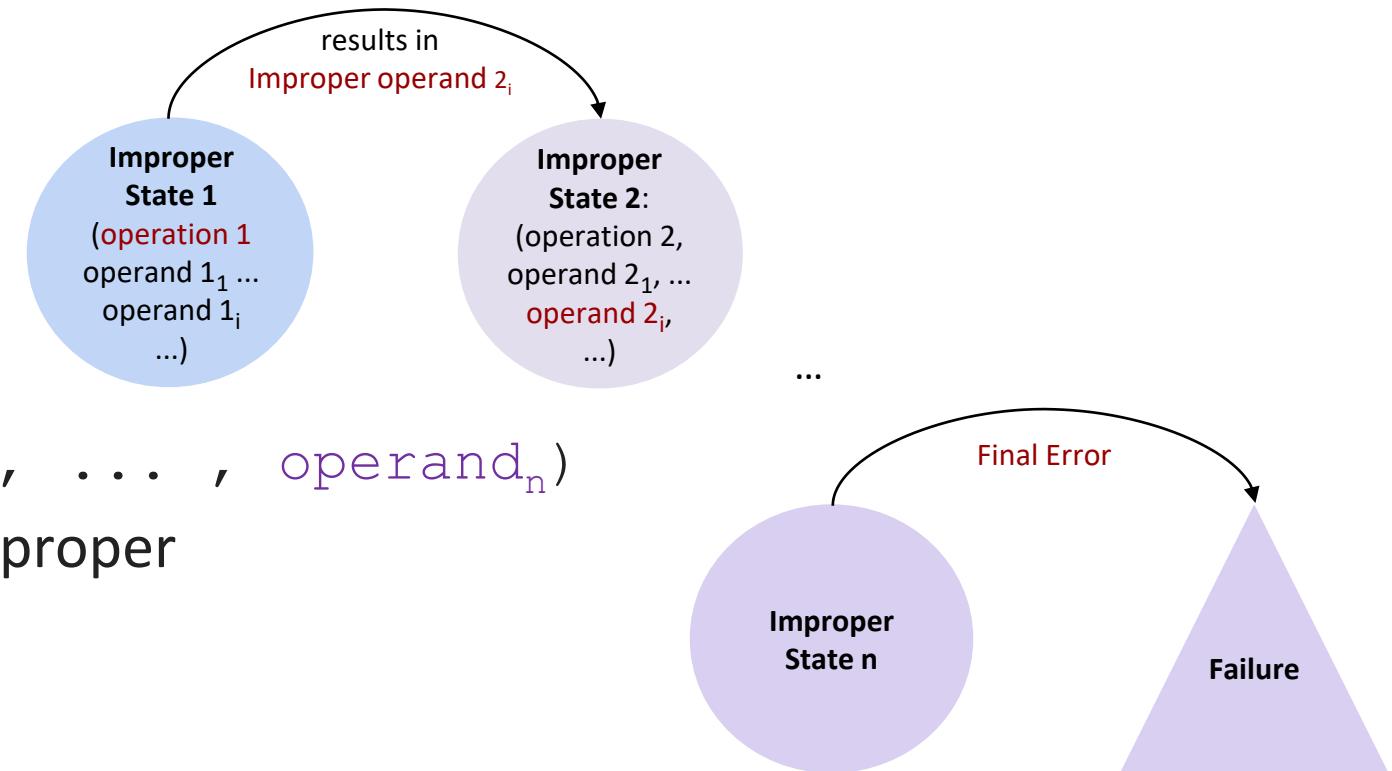


2. Solve the problems of gaps and overlaps in coverage

# BF Features – Clear Causal Descriptions

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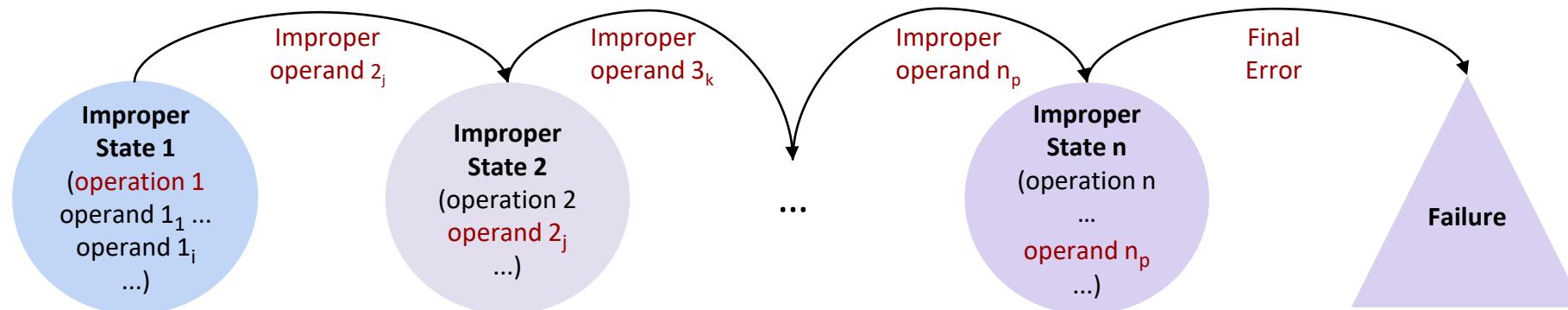
- BF describes a weakness as:
  - An improper state and
  - It's transition
- Improper State –  
a tuple  $(\text{operation}, \text{operand}_1, \dots, \text{operand}_n)$ , where at least one element is improper
- Transition –  
the result of the  $\text{operation}$  over the  $\text{operands}$



- Initial State – caused by the Bug – the operation is improper
- Intermediate State – caused by at least one operand is improper
- Failure – caused by a final error

# BF Features – Chaining Weaknesses

- BF describes a vulnerability as:
  - A chain of improper states and their transitions
  - States change until a failure is reached



Initial State – caused by the Bug – the operation is improper

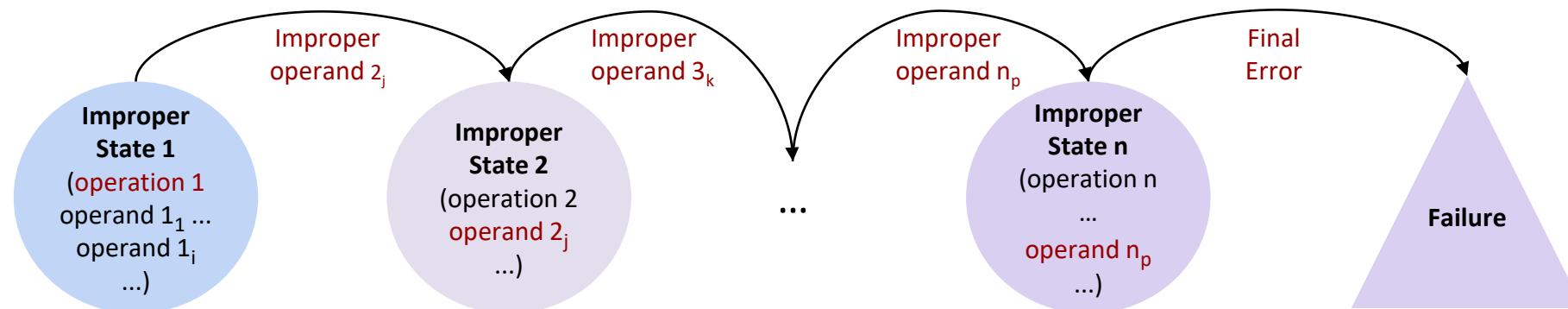
Intermediate State – caused by at least one operand is improper

Final State – ends with a final error

Failure – caused by a final error

# BF Features – Backtracking

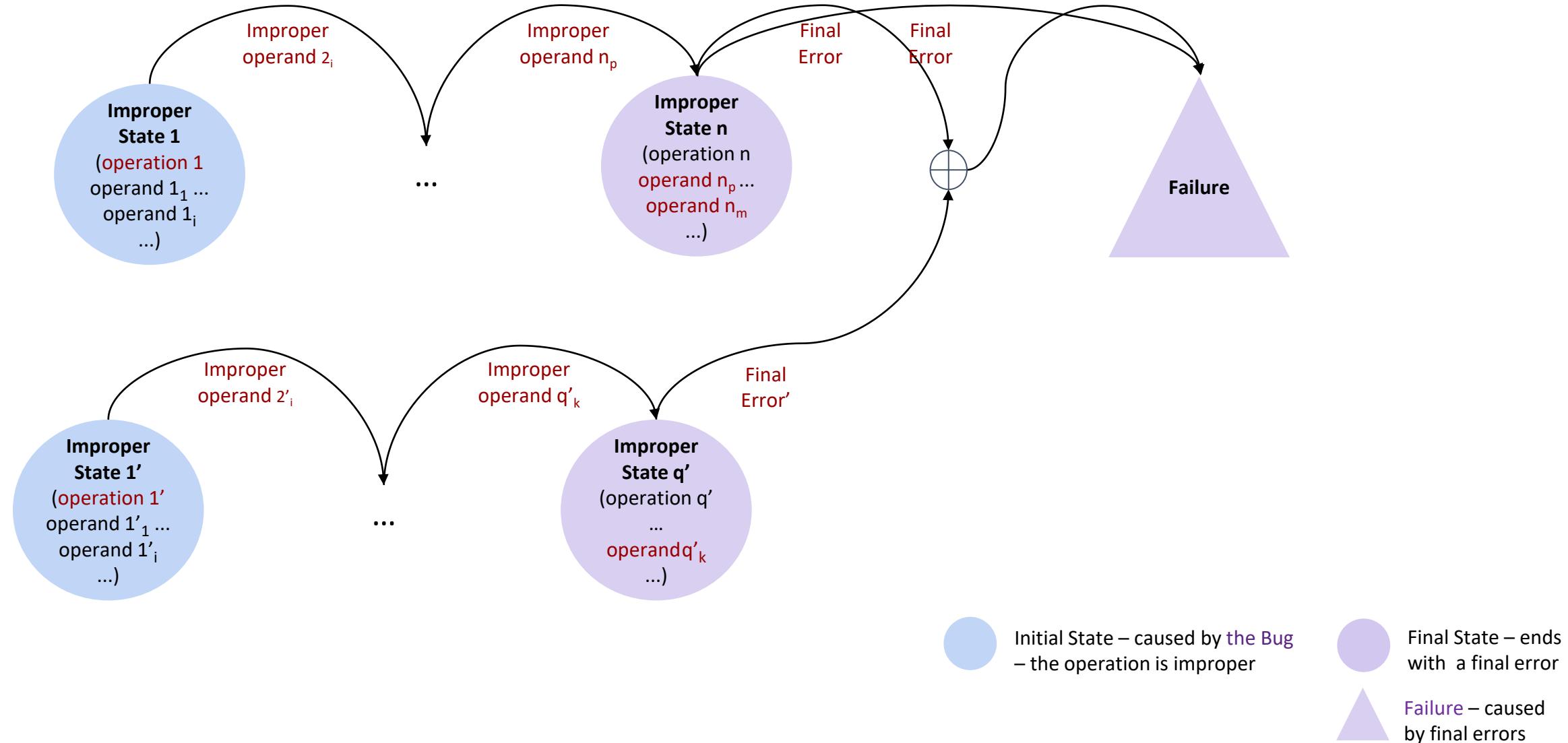
- How to find the Bug?
- Go backwards by operand until an operation is a cause



- Initial State – caused by the Bug**  
– the operation is improper
- Intermediate State – caused by at least one operand is improper**
- Final State – ends with a final error**
- Failure – caused by a final error**

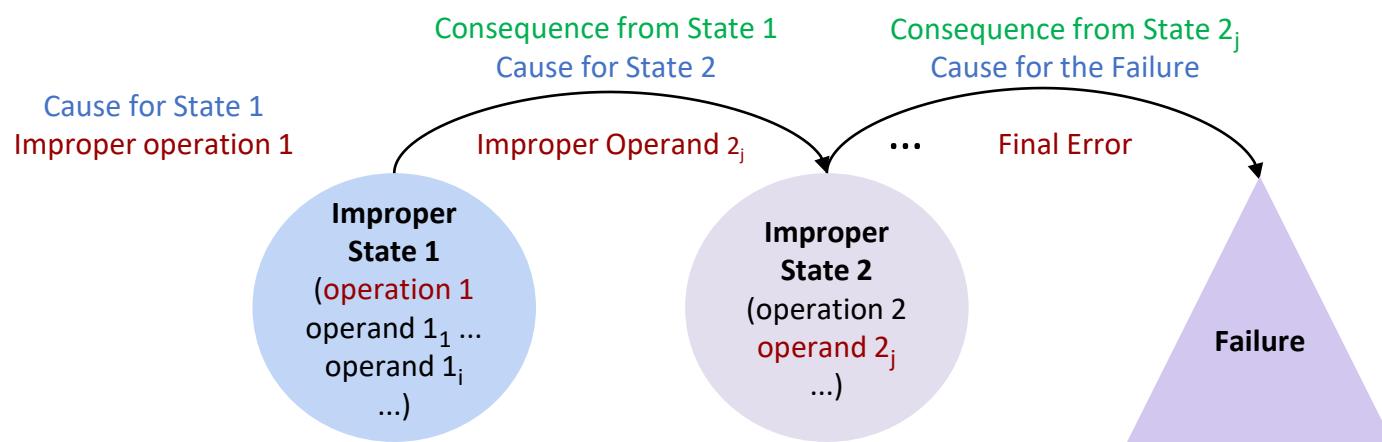
# BF Features – Converging Vulnerabilities

NIST



# BF Features – Classification

- BF Class – a taxonomic category of a weakness type, defined by:
  - A set of operations
  - All valid cause → consequence relations
  - A set of attributes



- BF weakness description – instance of a BF class with:
  - one cause
  - one operation
  - one consequence
  - and their attributes
- BF vulnerability description –
  - chain of BF classes instances
  - consequence–cause transitions.

Initial State – caused by the Bug  
– the operation is improper

Intermediate State – caused by  
at least one operand is improper

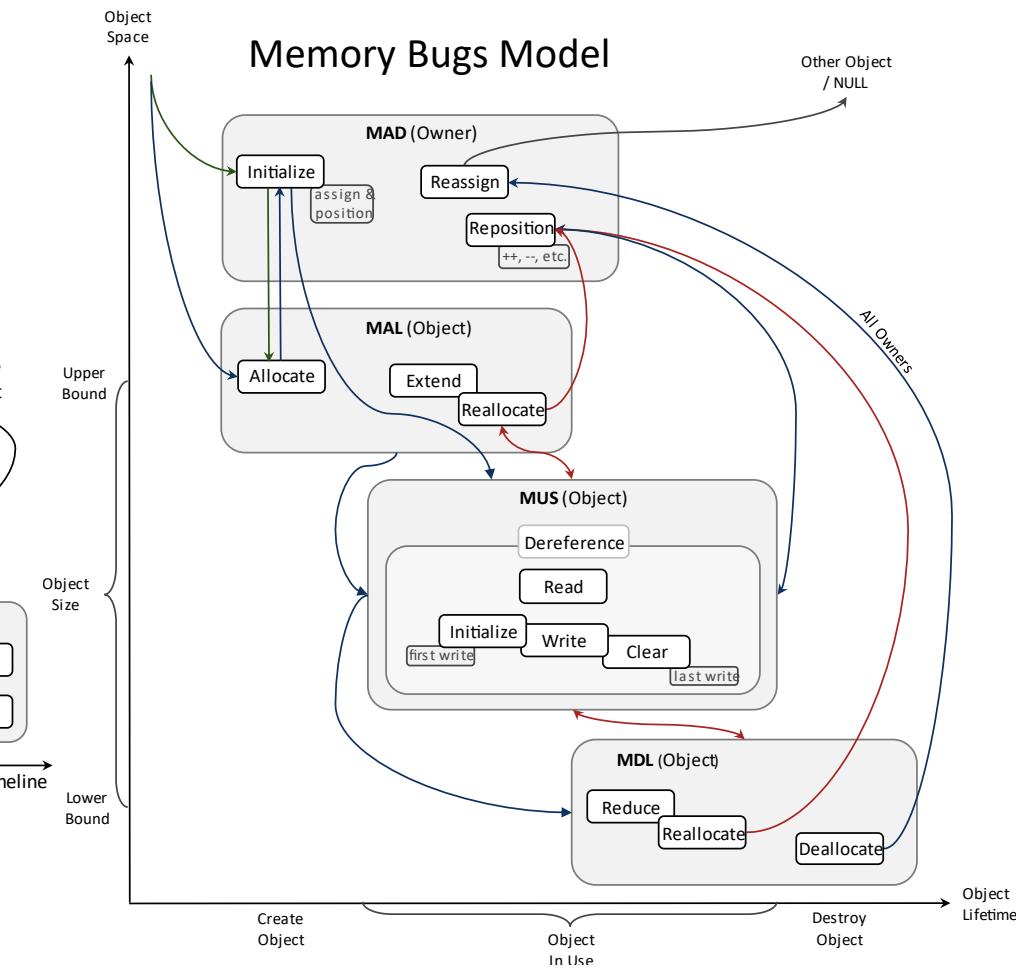
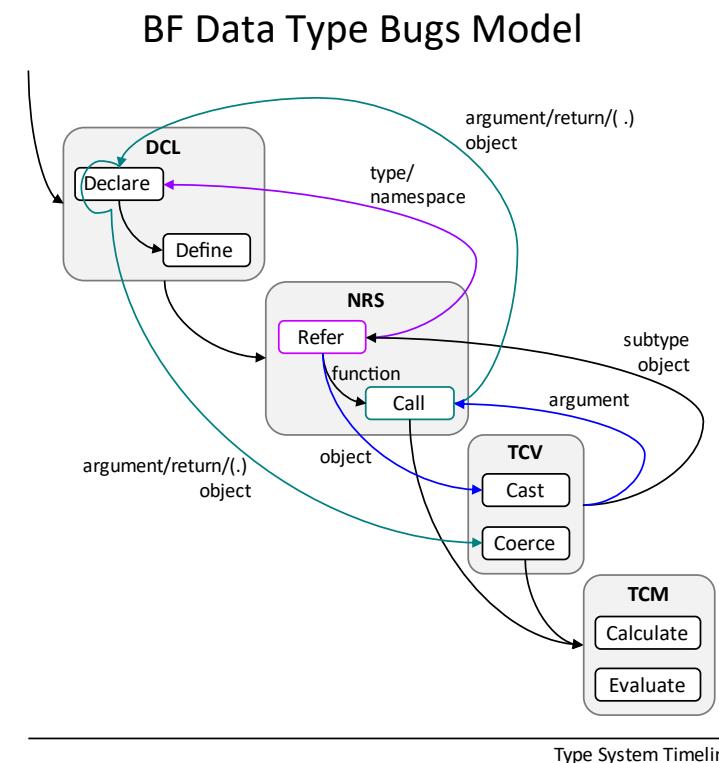
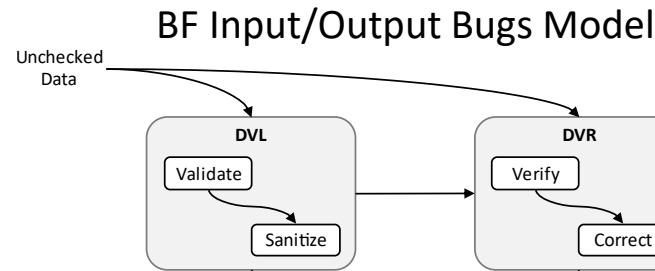
Final State – ends  
with a final error

Failure – caused  
by a final error

# BF Taxonomy

# BF – Bugs Models

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- Identify Secure Code Principles:
  - Input/Output Safety
  - Data Type Safety
  - Memory Safety

# BF Data Type Bugs Model

NIST

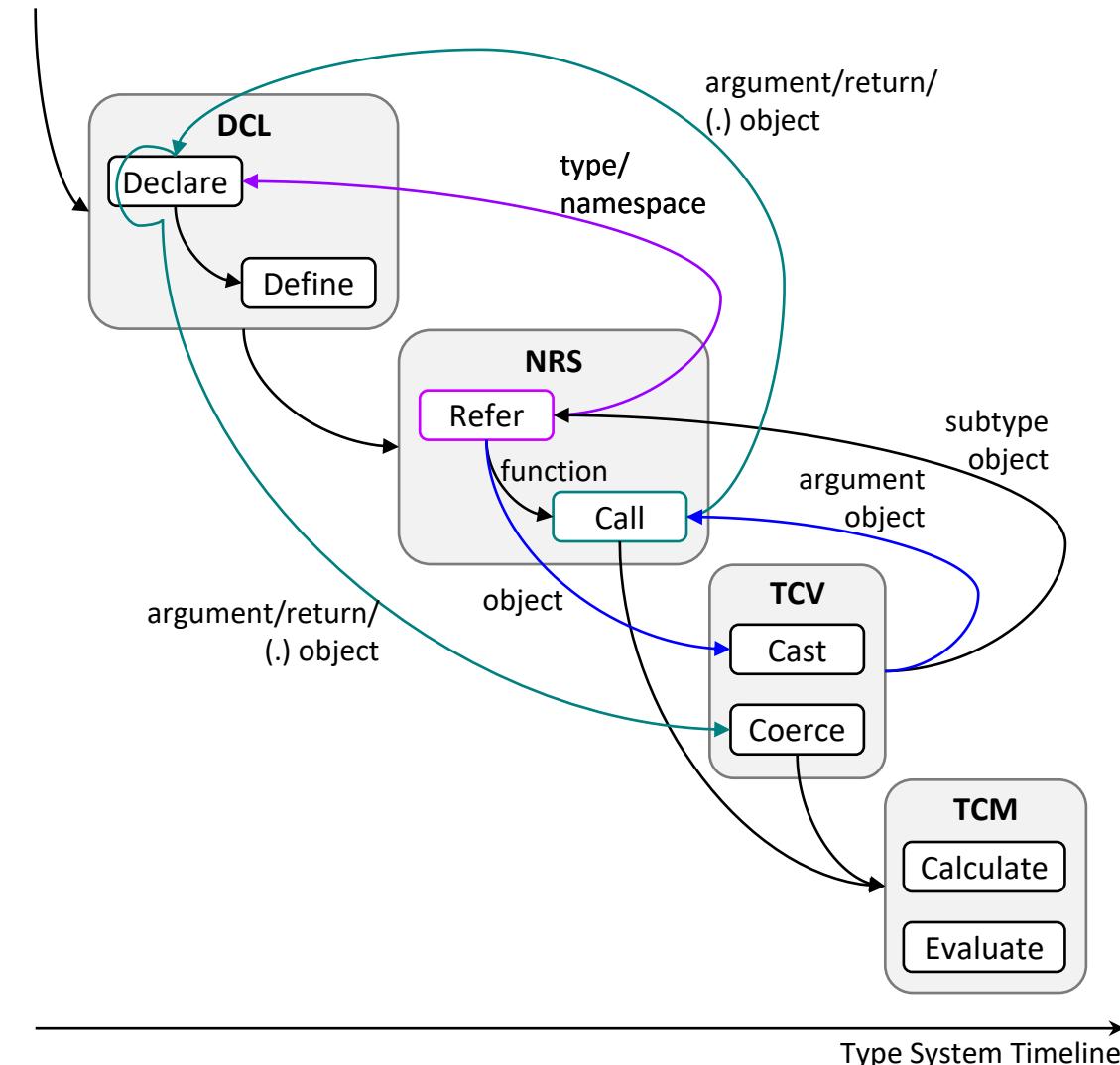
- Four phases, corresponding to the BF Data Type Bugs classes: DCL, NRS, TCV, and TCM

- Data Type operations flow



## Entity:

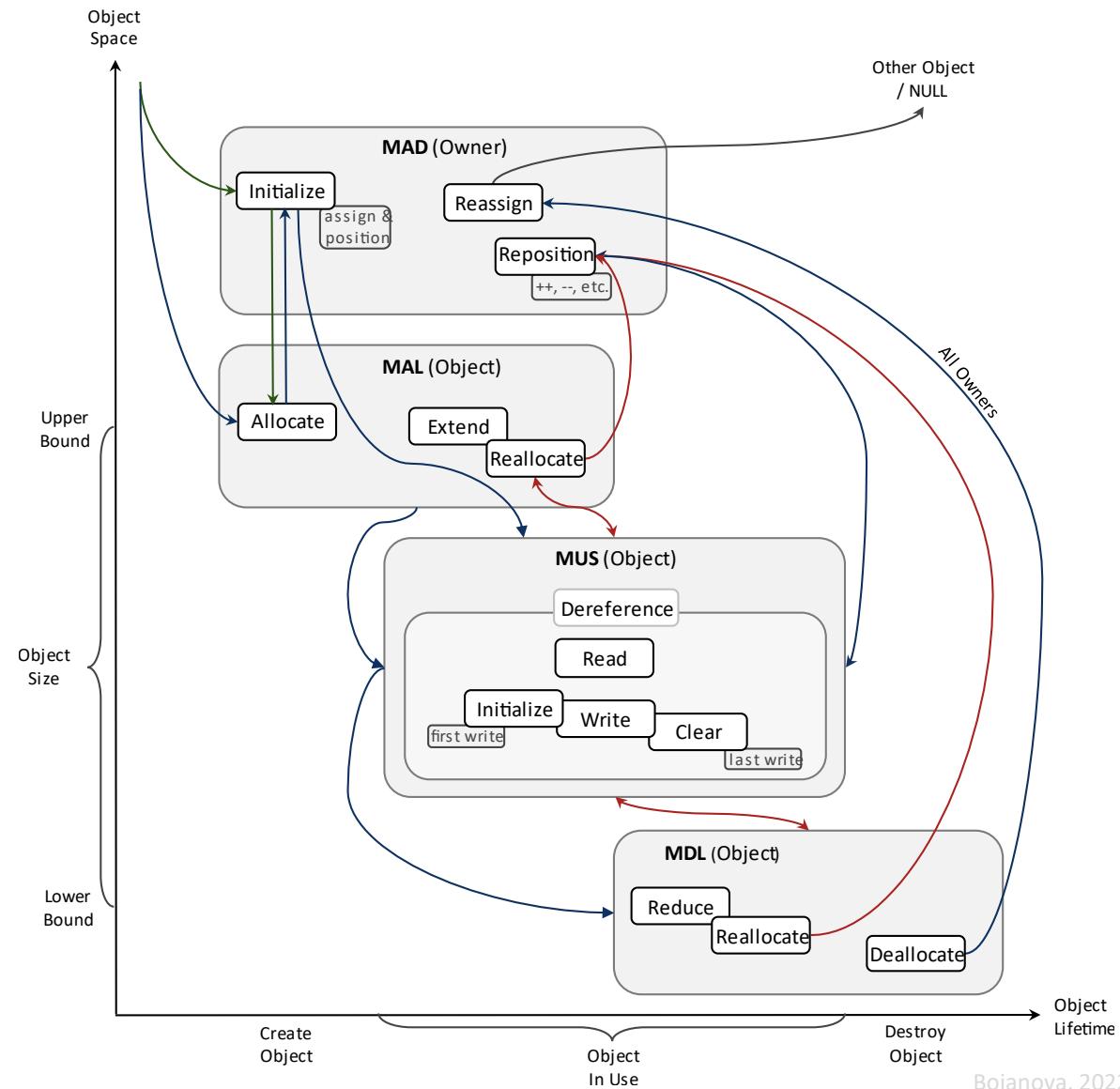
- Object
- Function
- Data Type
- Namespace



# BF Memory Bugs Model

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- Four phases, corresponding to the BF memory bugs classes: MAD, MAL, MUS, MDL
- Memory operations flow



# BF – Clusters of Bugs Classes



- Input/Output Bugs:  
DVL, DVR
  - Data Type Bugs:  
DCL, NRS, TVC, TCM
  - Memory Bugs:  
MAD, MAL, MUS, MD
  - Cryptography Bugs:  
ENC, VRF, KMN
  - Random Numbers Generation Bugs:  
RND, PRN
  - Access Control Bugs
  - Control Flow Bugs
  - Concurrency Bugs
  - ...
- 
- BF cluster:
    - Bugs Model
    - Set of Classes
  - BF class:
    - Set of Operations
    - Set of Causes
    - Set of Consequences

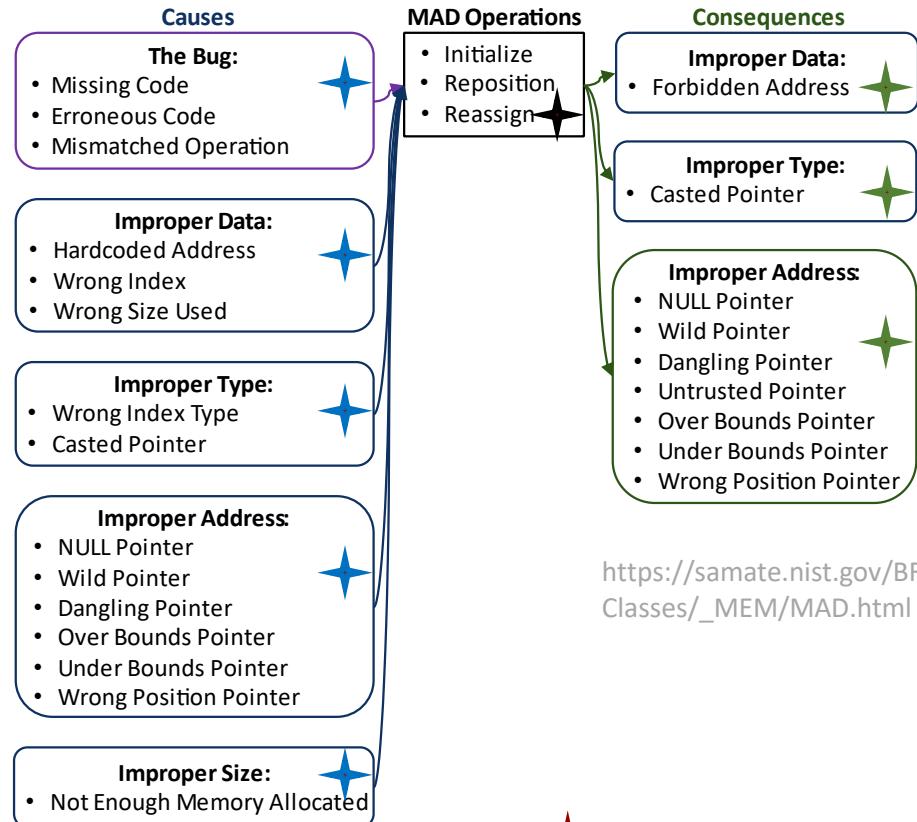


<https://samate.nist.gov/BF/>

# BF Classes – MAD & MUS

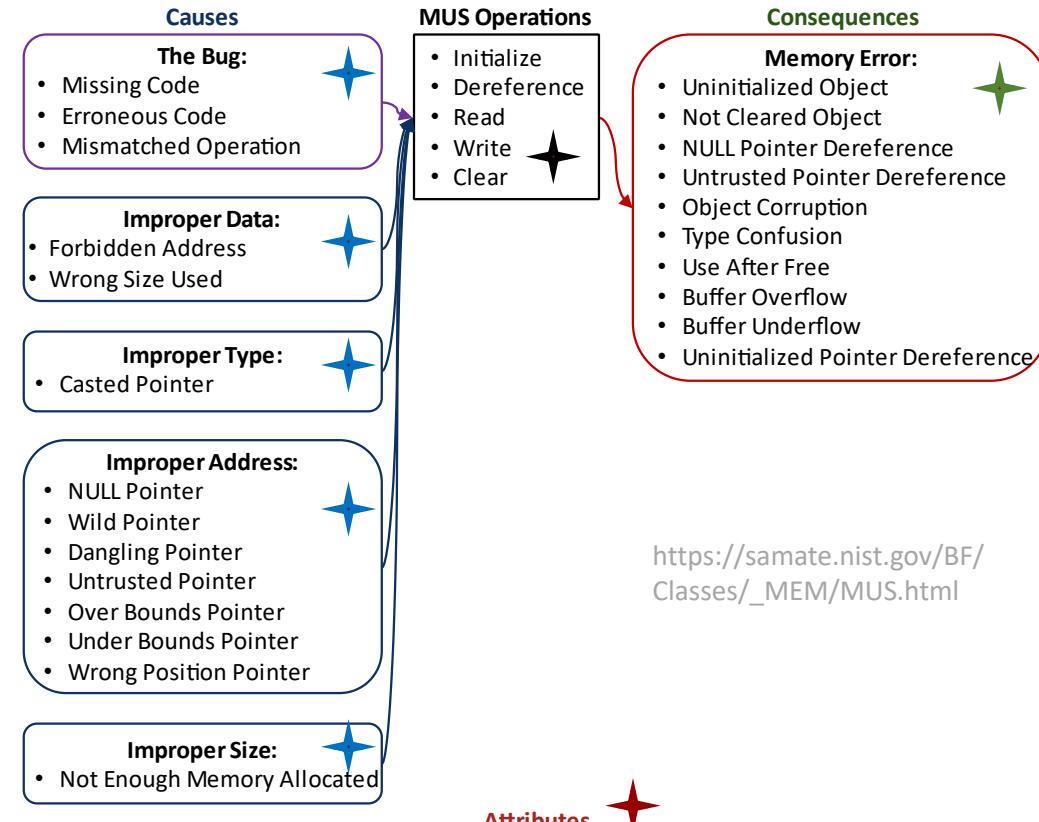
NIST

Memory Addressing Bugs (MAD) – *The pointer to an object is initialized, repositioned, or reassigned to an improper memory address.*



Mechanism:	Source Code:	Execution Space:	Location:
• Direct • Sequential	• Codebase • Third Party • Standard Library • Compiler/ Interpreter	• Userland • Kernel • Bare-Metal	• Stack • Heap • ...

Memory Use Bugs (MUS) – *An object is initialized, read, written, or cleared improperly.*

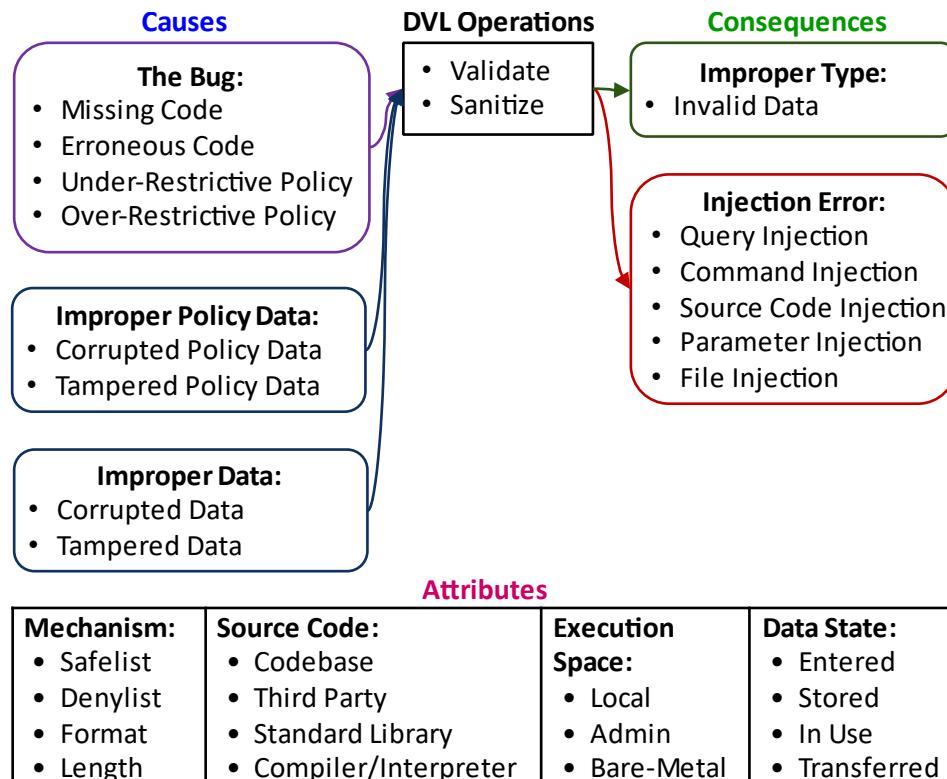


Mechanism:	Source Code:	Execution Space:	Span:	Location:
• Direct • Sequential	• Codebase • Third Party • Standard Library • Compiler/ Interpreter	• Userland • Kernel • Standard Library • Compiler/ Interpreter	• Little • Moderate • Huge	• Stack • Heap • ...

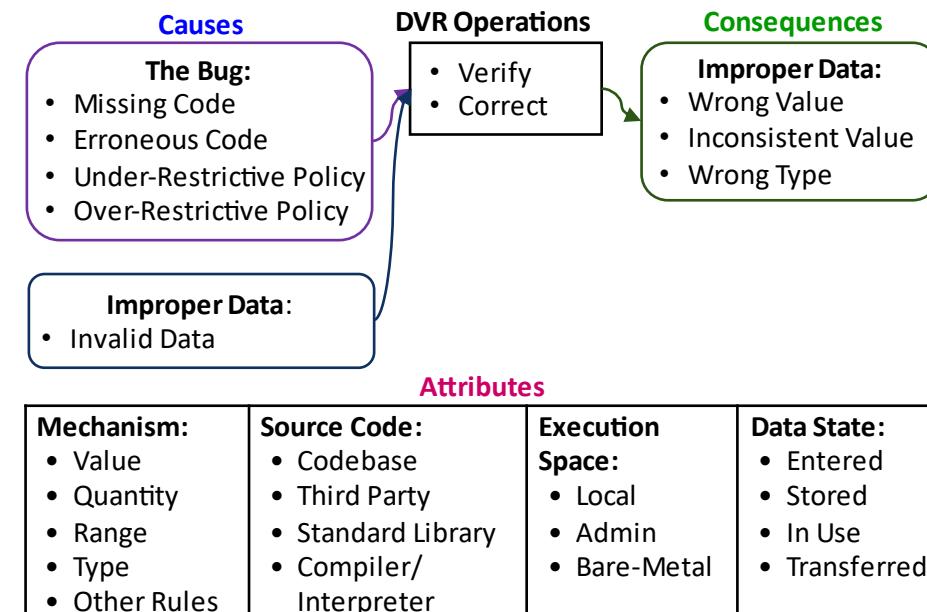
# BF Classes – DVL & DVR

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Data Validation Bugs (DVL) – *Data are validated (syntax check) or sanitized (escape, filter, repair) improperly.*



Data Verification Bugs (DVR) – *Data are verified (semantics check) or corrected (assign value, remove) improperly.*



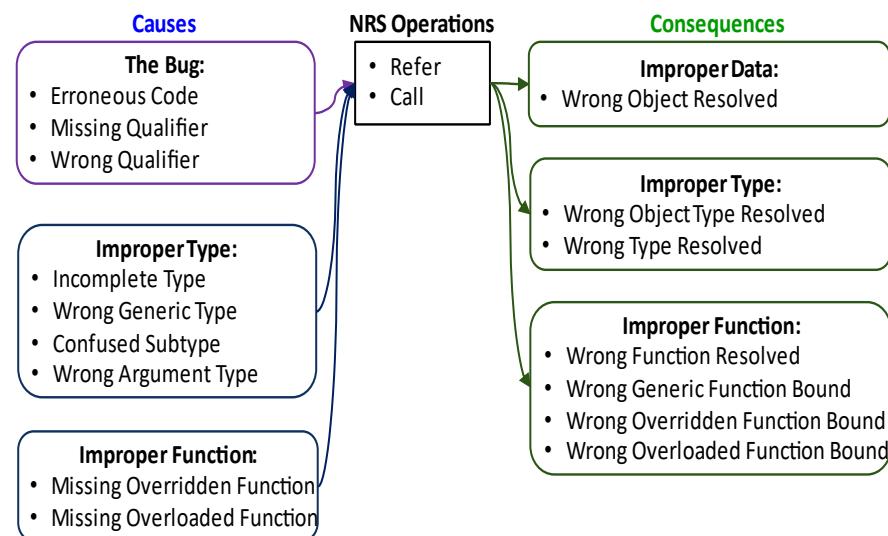
[https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/\\_INP/DVR.html](https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/_INP/DVR.html)

[https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/\\_INP/DVL.html](https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/_INP/DVL.html)

# BF Classes – NRS, TCV, TCM

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Name Resolution Bugs (NRS) – *The name of an object, a function, or a data type is resolved improperly or bound to an improper data type or implementation.*

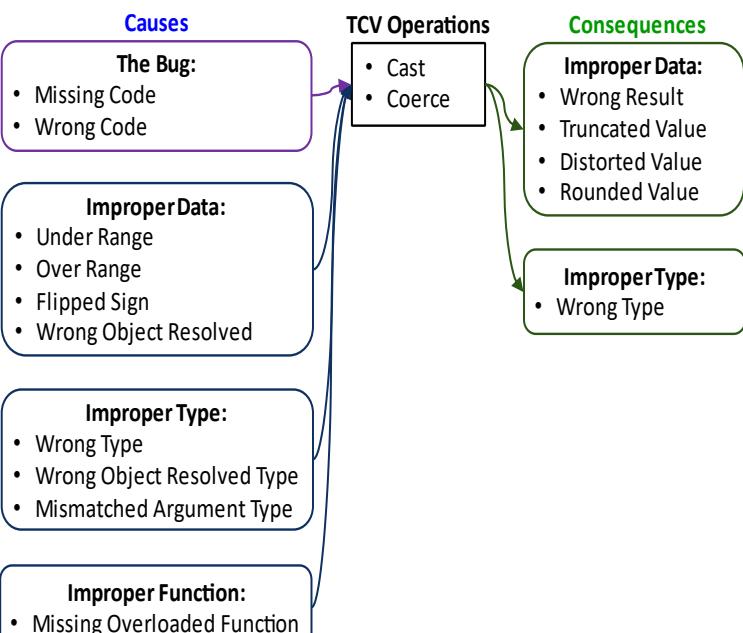


## Attributes

Mechanism:	Source Code:	Entity:	Type Kind:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolve</li> <li>• Bind</li> <li>• Early Bind</li> <li>• Late Bind</li> <li>• Ad-hoc Bind</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Codebase</li> <li>• Third Party</li> <li>• Standard Library</li> <li>• Compiler/Interpreter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Object</li> <li>• Function</li> <li>• Data Type</li> <li>• Namespace</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primitive</li> <li>• Structured</li> </ul>

[https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/\\_DTC/NRS.html](https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/_DTC/NRS.html)

Type Conversion Bugs (TCV) – *A data value is cast or coerced into another data type improperly.*

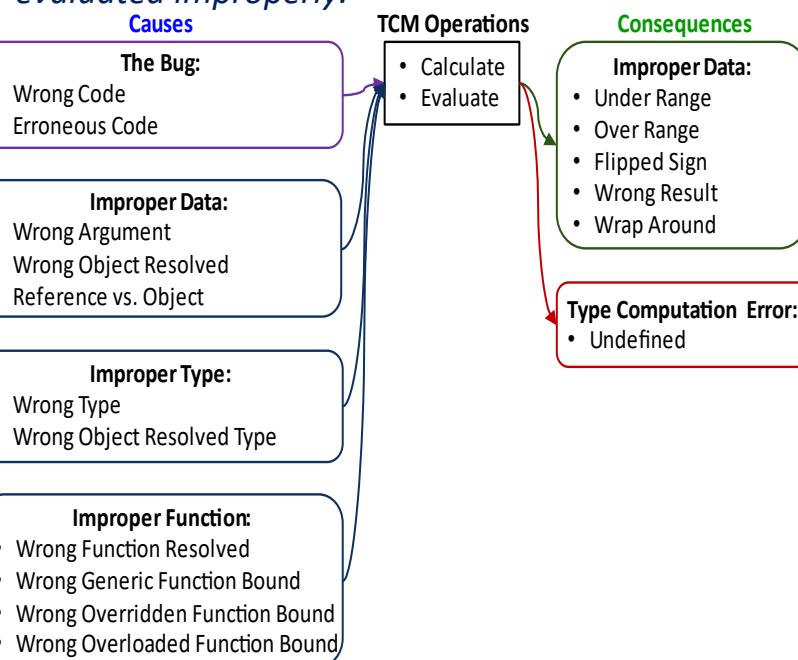


## Attributes

Mechanism:	Source Code:	Data Kind:	Type Kind:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass In</li> <li>• Pass Out</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Codebase</li> <li>• Third Party</li> <li>• Standard Library</li> <li>• Compiler/Interpreter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numeric</li> <li>• Text</li> <li>• Pointer</li> <li>• Boolean</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primitive</li> <li>• Structured</li> </ul>

[https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/\\_DTC/TCV.html](https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/_DTC/TCV.html)

Type Computation Bugs (TCM) – *An arithmetic expression (over numbers, strings, or pointers) is calculated improperly, or a boolean condition is evaluated improperly.*



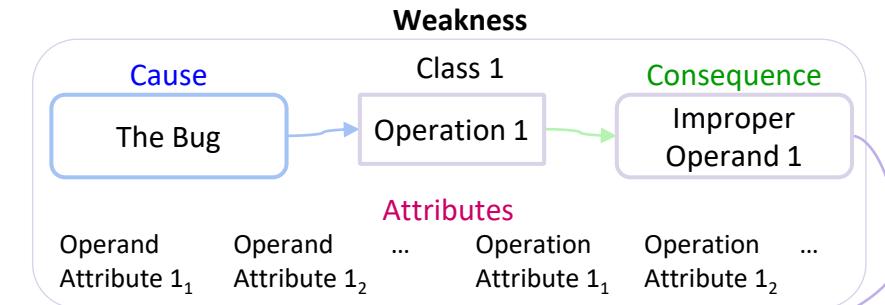
## Attributes

Mechanism:	Source Code:	Data Kind:	Type Kind:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Function</li> <li>• Operator</li> <li>• Method</li> <li>• Lambda Expression</li> <li>• Procedure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Codebase</li> <li>• Third Party</li> <li>• Standard Library</li> <li>• Compiler/ Interpreter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numeric</li> <li>• Text</li> <li>• Pointer</li> <li>• Boolean</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primitive</li> <li>• Structured</li> </ul>

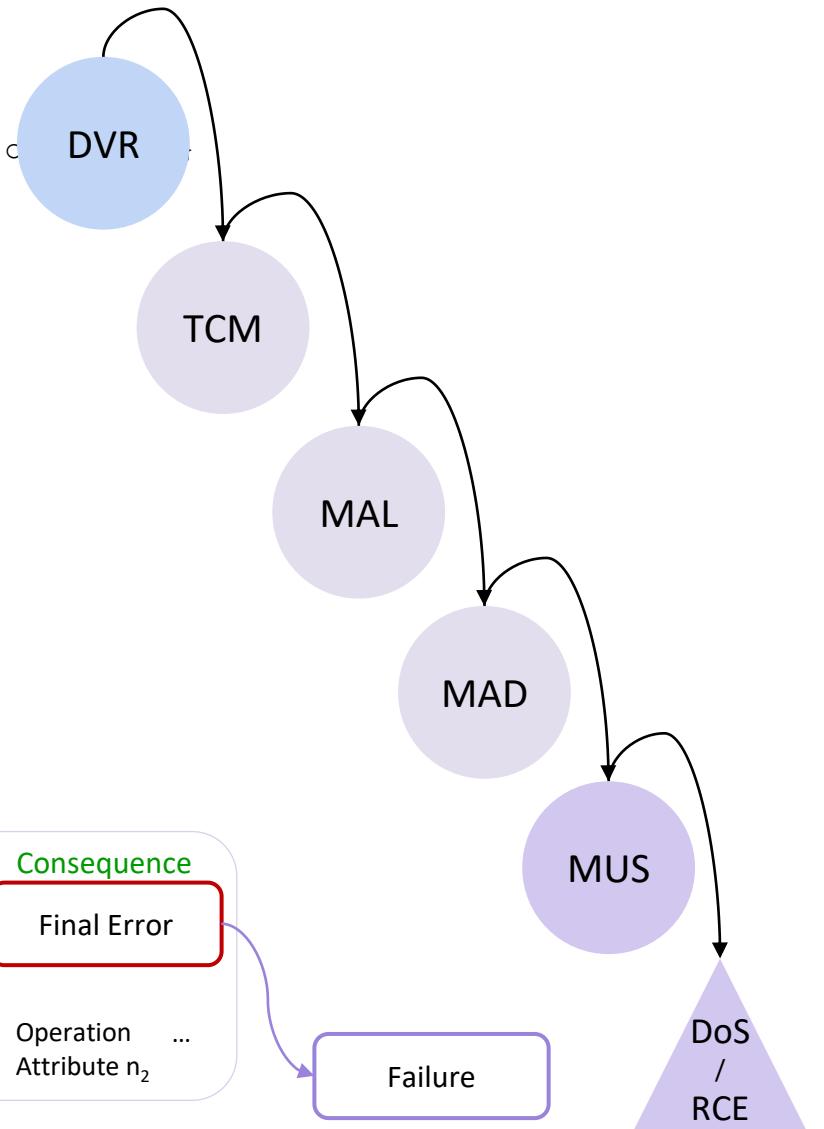
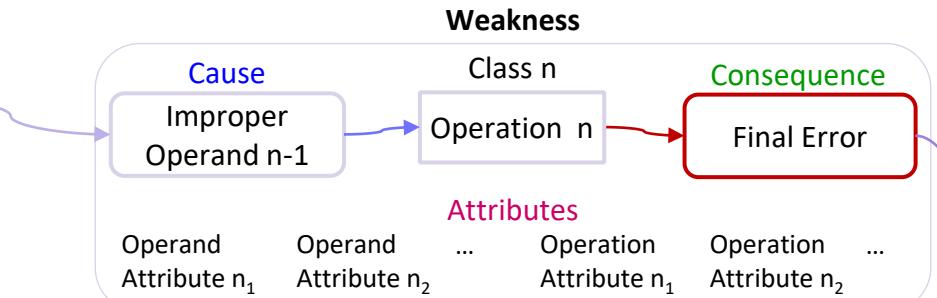
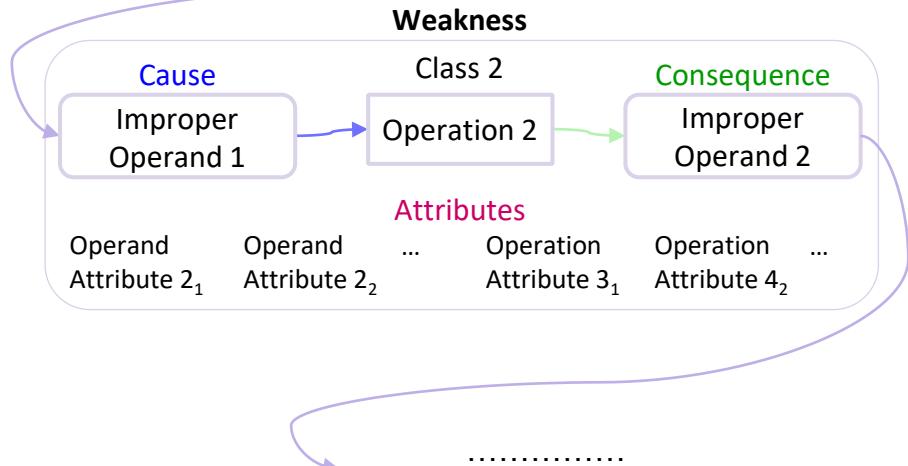
[https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/\\_DTC/TCM.html](https://samate.nist.gov/BF/Classes/_DTC/TCM.html)

# Security Vulnerability

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vulnerability ::= bug operation {improperOperand class} finalError  
{ } - zero or more



The Bug      Final Error      Failure

# BF Early Work – Buffer Overflow

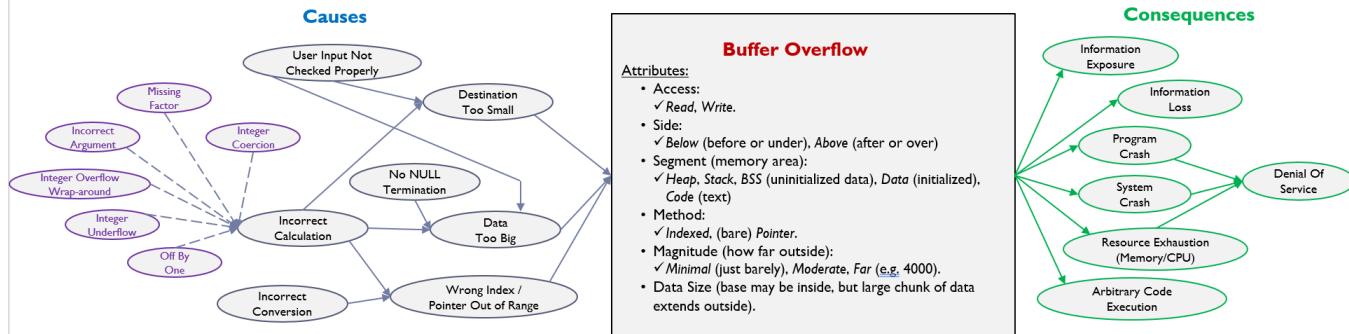


Table 2. Buffer Overflow CWEs Attributes.

	before	after	either end	stack	heap
read	127	126	125		
write	124	120	123, 787	121	122
either r/w	786	788			

Where:

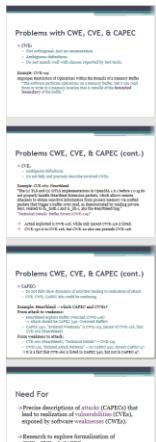
- access = either read/write
- outside = either before/below start or after/above

## Towards a “Periodic Table” of Bugs

Irena Bojanova, Paul E. Black, Yaacov Yesha, Yan Wu

April 9, 2015

NIST, BGSU



12/08/2014

## Formalizing Software Bugs

Irena Bojanova  
UMUC, NIST

### CWE-128 in Z notation

CWE-128: Wrap-around Error: “Wrap around errors occur whenever a value is incremented past the maximum value for its type and therefore “wraps around” to a very small, negative, or undefined value.”

```

MAX_INT: Z
MIN_INT: Z
INT == {i: Z | MIN_INT ≤ i ∧ i ≤ MAX_INT}
BAD_INT: Z
BAD_INT < MIN_INT ∨ MAX_INT < BAD_INT
add, mul: INT × INT → INT ∪ {BAD_INT}
  
```

```

channel network 2;
enum (payloadLength, payload, validPayload, invalidPayload);
Attacker() = network!payloadLength -> network!payload -
>network?payloadResponse->Attacker();
CWE_126() = network?payloadLength -> network?payload-
(payloadLengthIsEqualTopayloadSize->network!validPayload->CWE_126()
[] payloadLengthIsNotEqualTopayloadSize->network!invalidPayload ->
CWE_126());
System() = Attacker() ||| CWE_126();
  
```

Bojanova, 2022

## They Know Your Weaknesses – Do You?: Reintroducing Common Weakness Enumeration

Yan Wu, Bowling Green State University

Irena Bojanova, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Yaacov Yesha, University of Maryland University College

### 1.1 History of CWE

There have been several community efforts to leverage the existing large number of diverse real-world vulnerabilities. For example, an important step towards creating the needed collection of software weakness types was the establishment of the CVE (Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures) list [2] in 1999 by MITRE. Another important step from MITRE was creating the

# Validation towards CWE

# BF Class Related CWEs



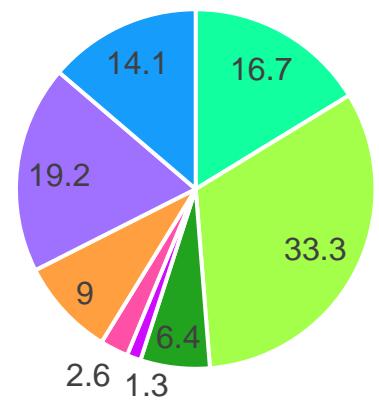
- Identify CWEs:
  1. CWE Filtering
  2. Automated Extraction
  3. Manual Review
- BF Input/Output Bugs Classes – 161 CWEs:
  - 80.7% – Input Validation Operation
    - 68.3% – Injection Error
- BF Data Type Bugs Classes – 78 CWEs:
  - 50% Declaration/Definition Operation
  - 33.3% Cast/Coerce Operation
    - 16% Access Error
    - 0.6% Type Compute Error
- BF Memory Bugs Classes 52 CWEs:
  - 61.5% Initialize, Dereference,  
Read, Write, Clear Operations
    - 67.3% Memory Error

BF: <https://samate.nist.gov/BF/>  
CWE: <https://cwe.mitre.org/>

# CWEs by BF Operation

NIST

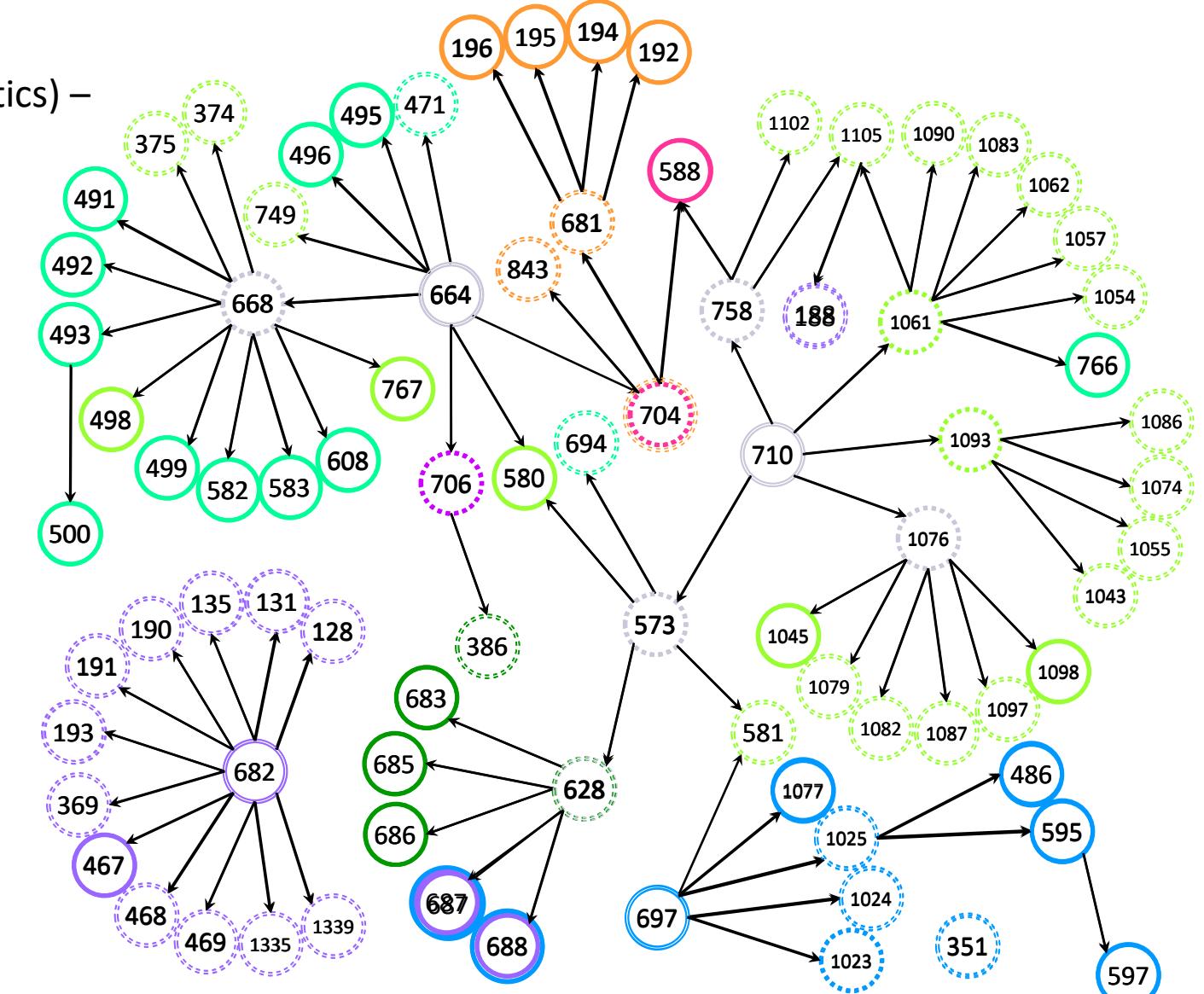
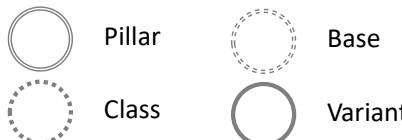
- Data Type CWEs  
(incl. Integer Overflow, Juggling, and Pointer Arithmetics) –  
mapped by BF DCL, RNS, TCV, TCM operation



## CWEs by DTC, NRS, TCV, and TCM operation:



## CWEs by Abstraction:



# CWEs by BF Consequence

NIST

- Input/Output CWEs (incl. Injection) – mapped by BF DVL and BF DVR consequences

CWE by DVL Injection Error:

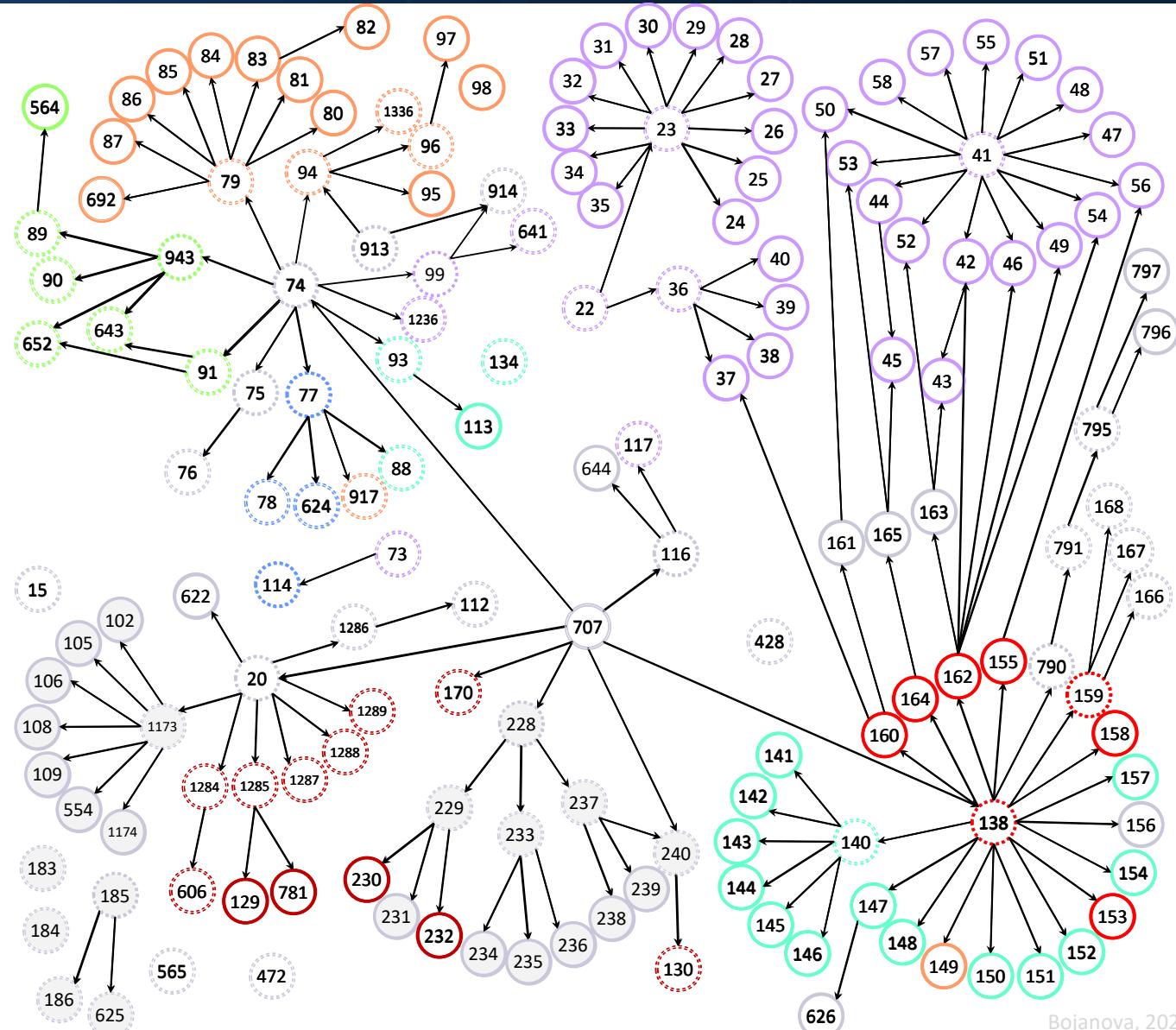
- Query Injection
- Command Injection
- Source Code Injection
- Parameter Injection
- File Injection

CWE by DVL or DVR Wrong Data for Next Operation Consequence:

- DVL Invalid Data
- DVR Wrong Value, Inconsistent Value, and Wrong Type
- No consequence (only cause listed)

CWEs by Abstraction:

- Pillar
- Base
- Class
- Variant



# BF – Defined



- BF is a ...
  - Structured
  - Complete
  - Orthogonal
  - Technology and Language Independent

Classification System of software bugs and weaknesses.

# BF Hands On: BIG-IP TMUI RCE

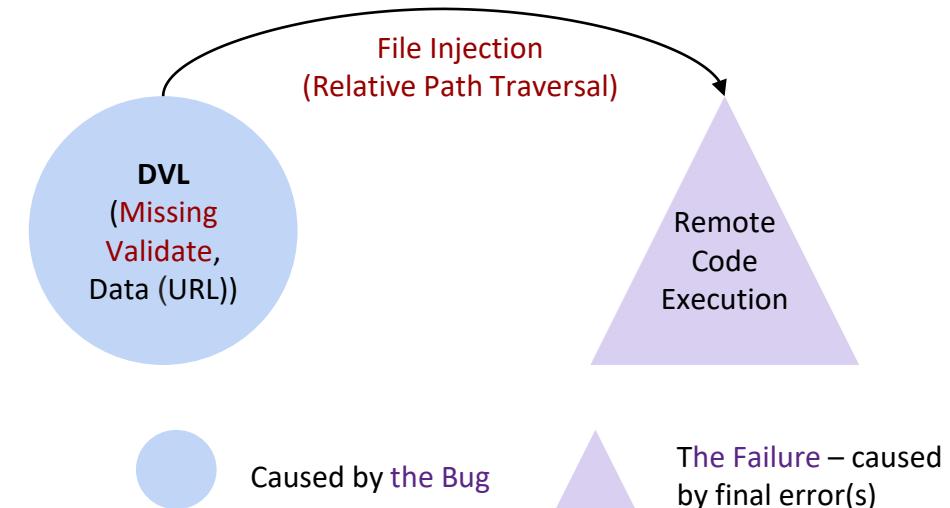
# BIG-IP TMUI RCE (CVE-2020-5902)



[CVE-2020-5902](#) In BIG-IP versions 15.0.0-15.1.0.3, 14.1.0-14.1.2.5, 13.1.0-13.1.3.3, 12.1.0-12.1.5.1, and 11.6.1-11.6.5.1, the Traffic Management User Interface (TMUI), also referred to as the Configuration utility, has a Remote Code Execution (RCE) vulnerability in undisclosed pages.

- Vulnerability in BIG-IP TMUI login interface

`https://[F5 Host]/tmui/login.jsp/`

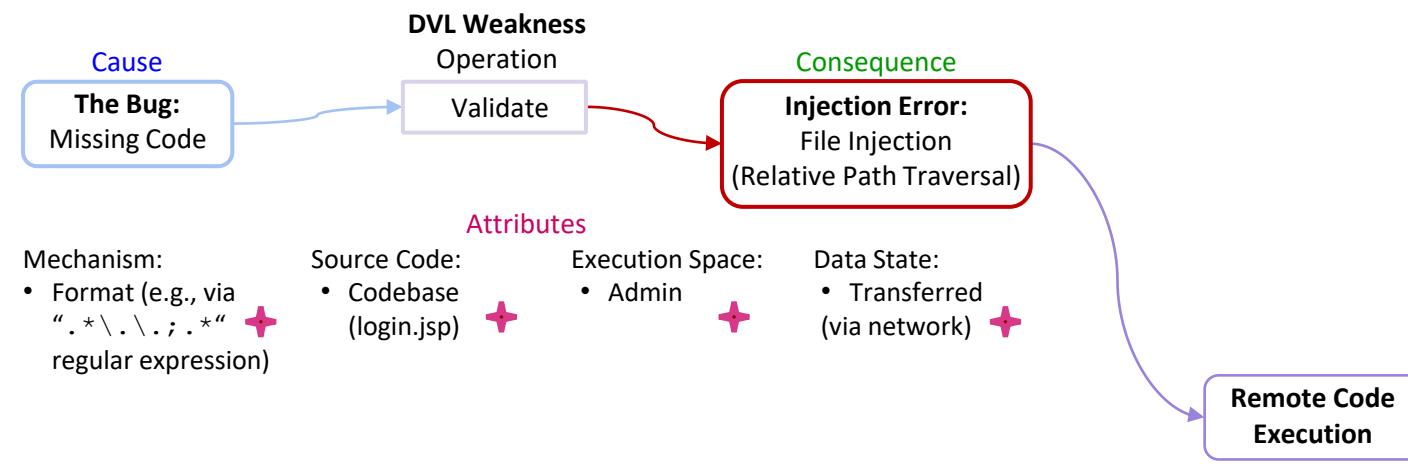


- Proof-Of-Concept: TMSH command execution

`https://[F5 Host]/tmui/login.jsp/...;/tmui/localbb/workspace/tmshCmd.jsp`

.../

# BF Description of BIG-IP TMUI RCE



The Bug



Final Error



Failure

# BF Hands On: Bad Alloc

# “BadAlloc” Pattern – 25 CVEs



Alerts and Tips    Re

ICS-CERT Advisories >

## ICS Advisory

Multiple RTOS (I)

Original release date: April

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[Email](#)

## Legal Notice

All information products inclu  
regarding any information co

Light Protocol (LTP) marking

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

• CVSS v3 9.8

• ATTENTION: Exploit:

• Vendors: Multiple

• Equipment: Multiple

• Vulnerabilities: Integ

CISA is aware of a public  
issuing this advisory to |

The various open-sourc

## 2. UPDATE INFO

This updated advisory is

[www.cisa.gov/uscert](http://www.cisa.gov/uscert).

## 3. RISK EVALUAT

Successful exploitation

## 4.2 VULNERABILITY OVERVIEW

### 4.2.1 INTEGER OVERFLOW OR WRAPAROUND CWE-190

Media Tek Linkit SDK versions prior to 4.6.1 are vulnerable to integer overflow in memory allocation, resulting in memory corruption on the target device.

CVE-2021-30636 has been assigned to this vulnerability. A CVSS v3 base score of 7.3 has been assigned to this vulnerability.

### 4.2.2 INTEGER OVERFLOW OR WRAPAROUND CWE-190

ARM CMSIS RTOS2 versions prior to 2.1.3 are vulnerable to integer wrap-around in osRtxMemory allocation, resulting in unexpected behavior such as a crash or injected code execution.

CVE-2021-27431 has been assigned to this vulnerability. A CVSS v3 base score of 7.3 has been assigned to this vulnerability.

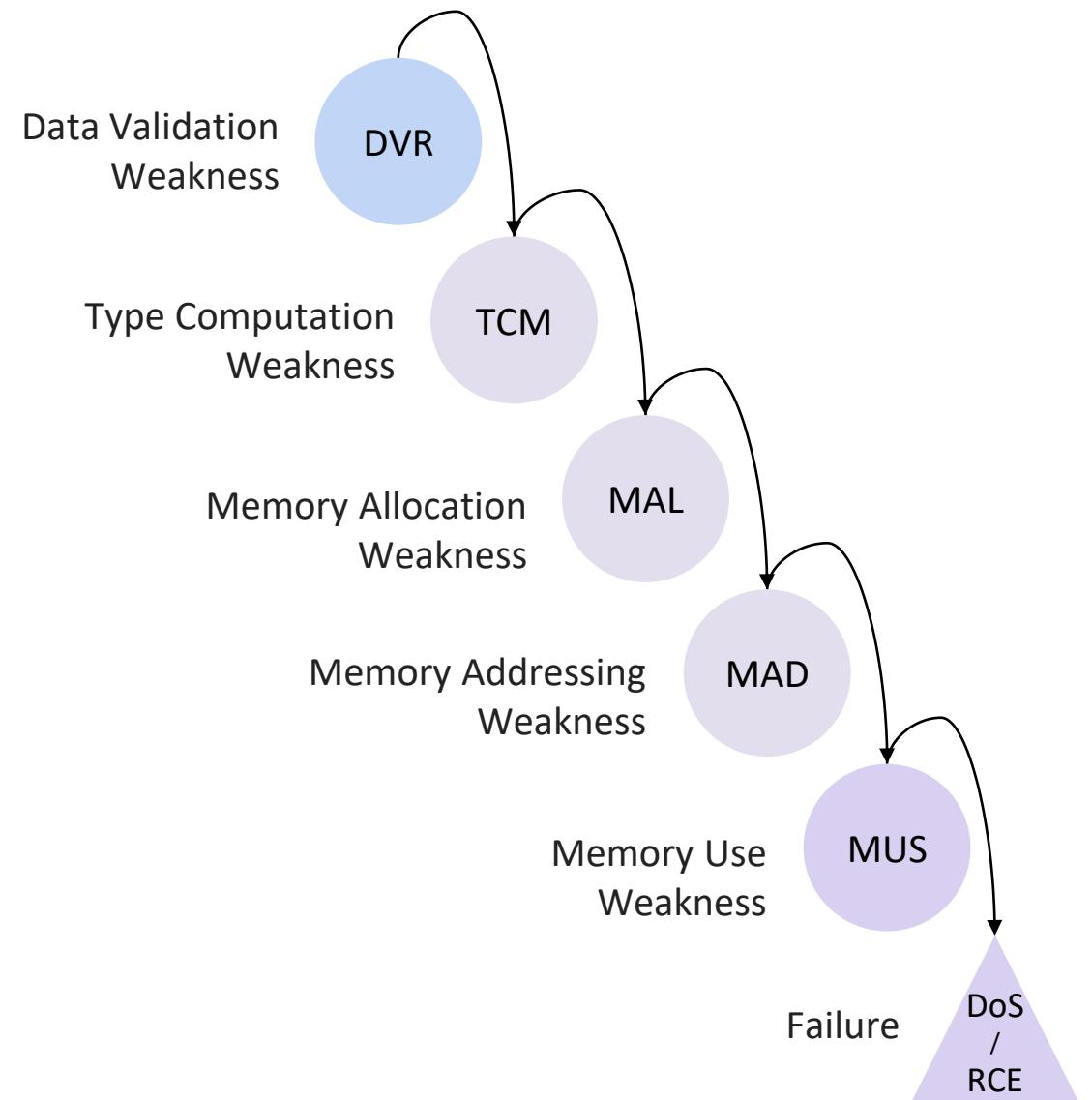
### 4.2.3 INTEGER OVERFLOW OR WRAPAROUND CWE-190

ARM mbed-alloc memory library Version 1.3.0 is vulnerable to integer wrap-around in function, resulting in unexpected behavior such as a crash or a remote code injection/execution.

CVE-2021-27433 has been assigned to this vulnerability. A CVSS v3 base score of 7.3 has been assigned to this vulnerability.

### 4.2.4 INTEGER OVERFLOW OR WRAPAROUND CWE-190

ARM mbed product Version 6.3.0 is vulnerable to integer wrap-around in malloc\_wrapper function, resulting in unexpected behavior such as a crash or a remote code injection/execution.

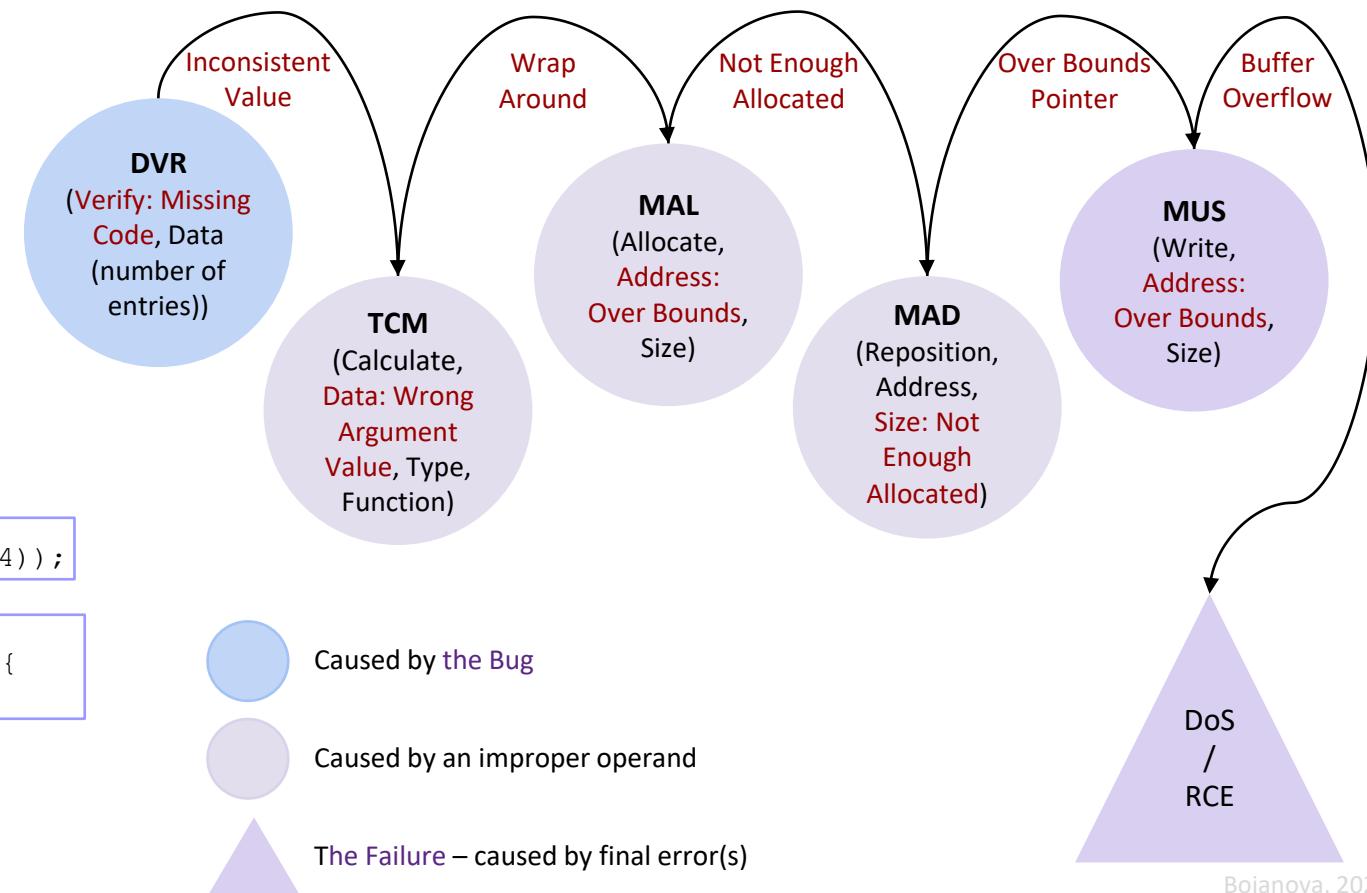


# “BadAlloc”(CVE-2021-21834)

[CVE-2021-21834](#) An exploitable integer overflow vulnerability exists within the MPEG-4 decoding functionality of the GPAC Project on Advanced Content library v1.0.1. A specially crafted MPEG-4 input when decoding the atom for the &#8220;co64&#8221; FOURCC can cause an integer overflow due to unchecked arithmetic resulting in a heap-based buffer overflow that causes memory corruption. An attacker can convince a user to open a video to trigger this vulnerability.

```

41 GF_Err co64_box_read(GF_Box* s, GF_BitStream* bs)
42 {
43     u32 entries;
44     GF_ChunkLargeOffsetBox* ptr = (GF_ChunkLargeOffsetBox*)s;
45     ptr->nb_entries = gf_bs_read_u32(bs);
46
47     ISOM_DECREASE_SIZE(ptr, 4)
48
49     if (ptr->nb_entries > ptr->size / 8) {
50         GF_LOG(GF_LOG_ERROR, GF_LOG_CONTAINER,
51             ("[iso file] Invalid number of entries %d in co64\n",
52             ptr->nb_entries));
53     }
54     ptr->offsets = (u64*)gf_malloc(ptr->nb_entries * sizeof(u64));
55     if (ptr->offsets == NULL) return GF_OUT_OF_MEM;
56     ptr->alloc_size = ptr->nb_entries;
57     for (entries = 0; entries < ptr->nb_entries; entries++) {
58         ptr->offsets[entries] = gf_bs_read_u64(bs);
59     }
60
61 }
```

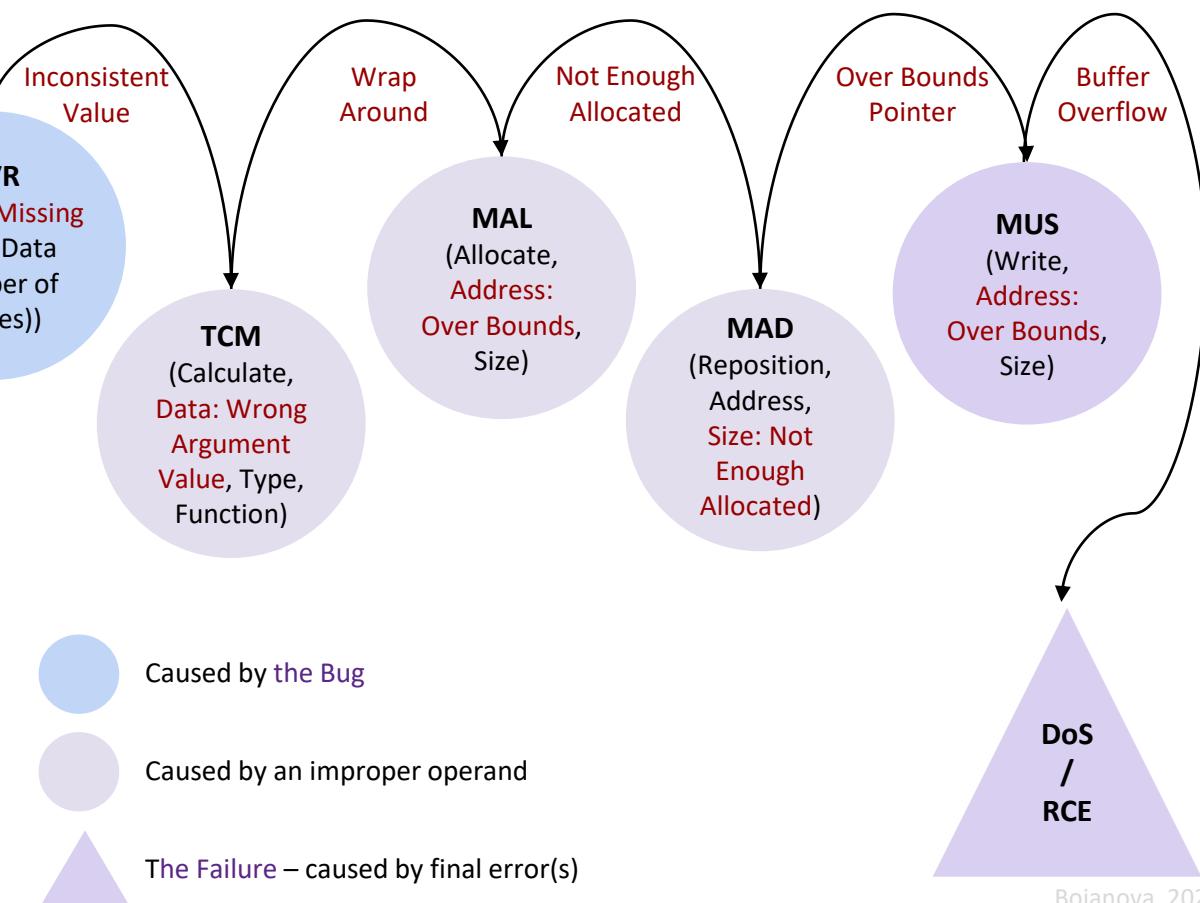


# “BadAlloc” – the Fix

[CVE-2021-21834](#) An exploitable integer overflow vulnerability exists within the MPEG-4 decoding functionality of the GPAC Project on Advanced Content library v1.0.1. A specially crafted MPEG-4 input when decoding the atom for the &#8220;co64&#8221; FOURCC can cause an integer overflow due to unchecked arithmetic resulting in a heap-based buffer overflow that causes memory corruption. An attacker can convince a user to open a video to trigger this vulnerability.

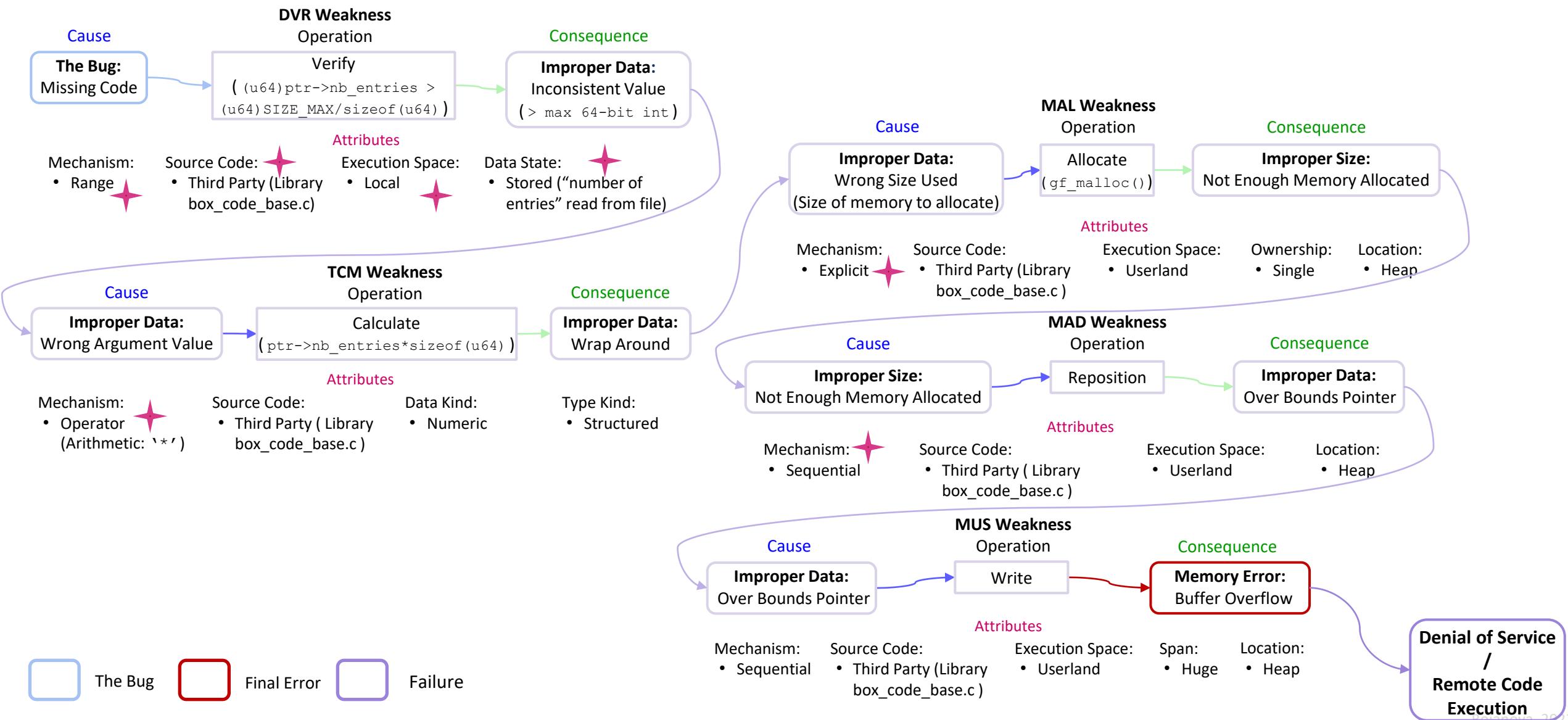
```

41 GF_Err co64_box_read(GF_Box* s, GF_BitStream* bs)
42 {
43     u32 entries;
44     GF_ChunkLargeOffsetBox* ptr = (GF_ChunkLargeOffsetBox*)s;
45     ptr->nb_entries = gf_bs_read_u32(bs);
46
47     ISOM_DECREASE_SIZE(ptr, 4)
48
49     if ((u64)ptr->nb_entries > ptr->size / 8
50         || (u64)ptr->nb_entries > (u64)SIZE_MAX/sizeof(u64)) {
51
52         GF_LOG(GF_LOG_ERROR, GF_LOG_CONTAINER,
53             ("[iso file] Invalid number of entries %d in co64\n",
54             ptr->nb_entries));
55         return GF_ISOM_INVALID_FILE;
56     }
57
58     ptr->offsets = (u64*)gf_malloc(ptr->nb_entries * sizeof(u64));
59     if (ptr->offsets == NULL) return GF_OUT_OF_MEM;
60     ptr->alloc_size = ptr->nb_entries;
61     for (entries = 0; entries < ptr->nb_entries; entries++) {
62         ptr->offsets[entries] = gf_bs_read_u64(bs);
63     }
64     return GF_OK;
65 }
```



# BF Description of “BadAlloc”

NIST



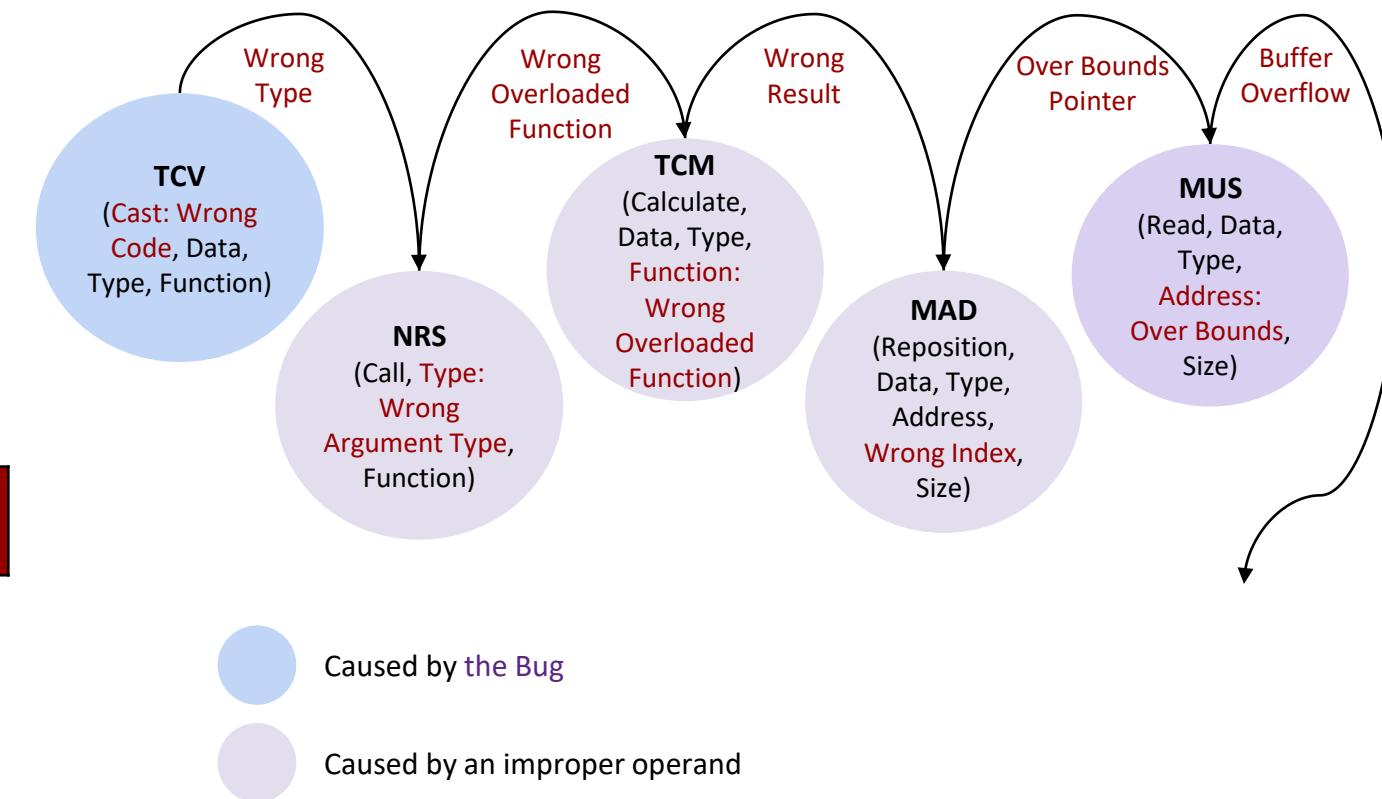
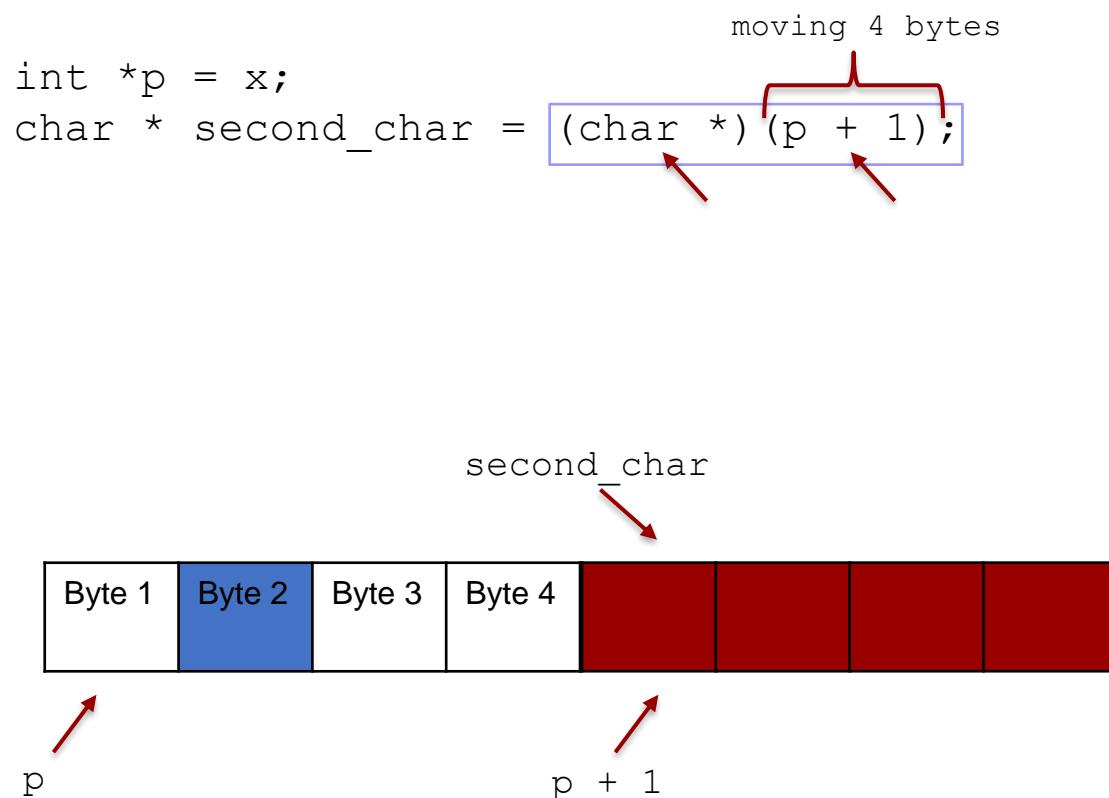
# BF Hands On: Incorrect Pointer Scaling

# Incorrect Pointer Scaling (CWE-468, Ex. 1 )

NIST

CWE-468, Example 1: This example attempts to calculate the position of the second byte of a pointer.

*Example Language: C*



# Incorrect Pointer Scaling – the Fix

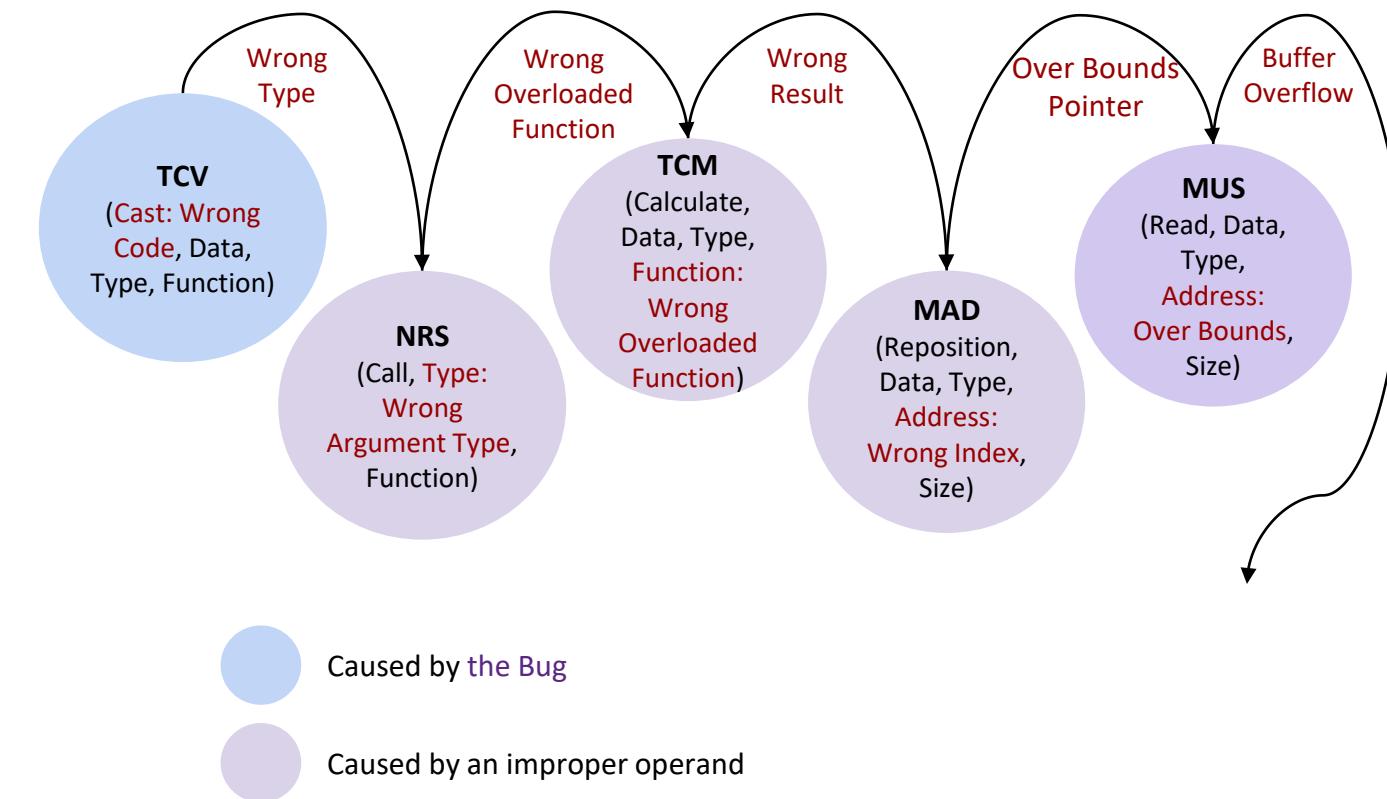
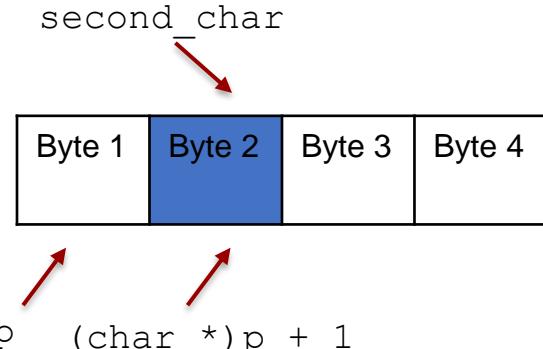


## CWE-468 Example 1

This example attempts to calculate the position of the second byte of a pointer.

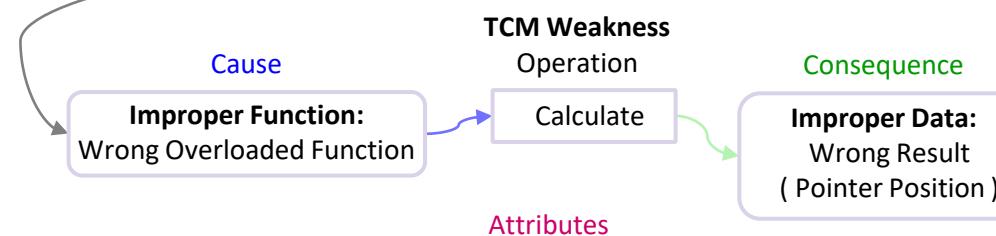
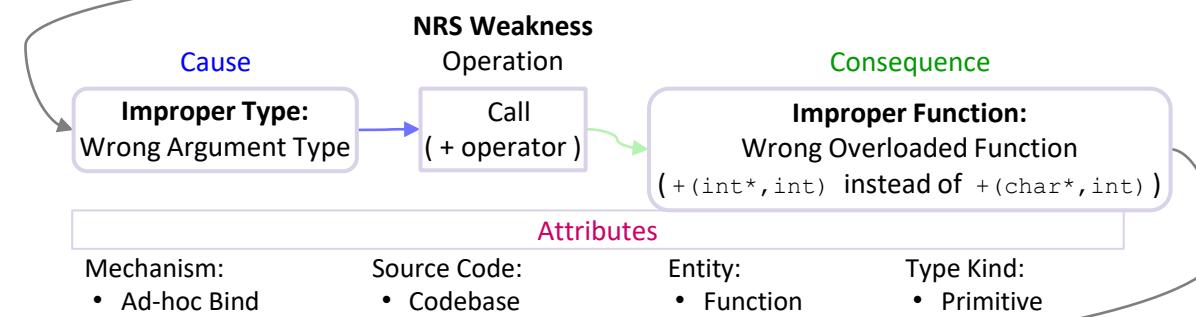
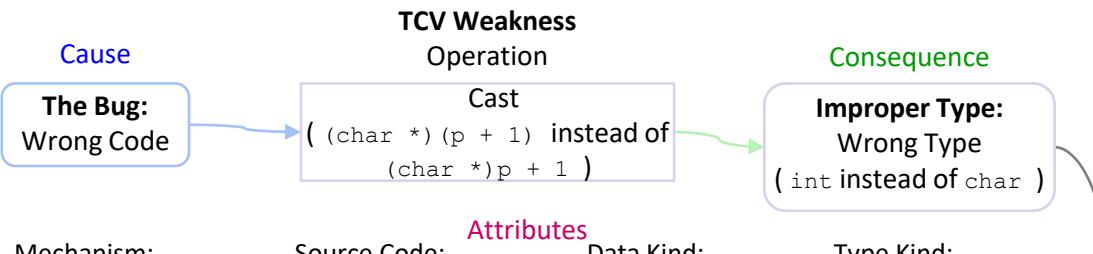
### Example Language: C

```
int *p = x;  
char * second_char = (char *) p + 1;
```



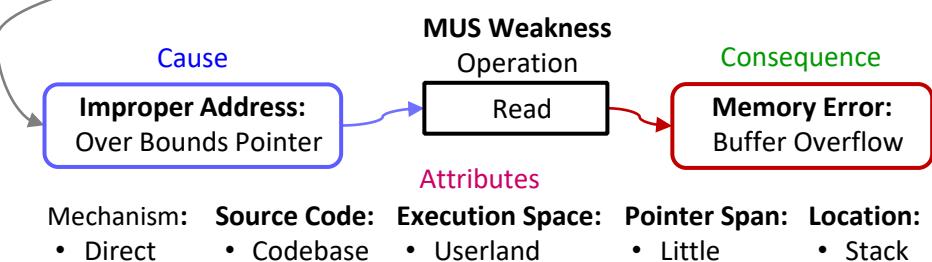
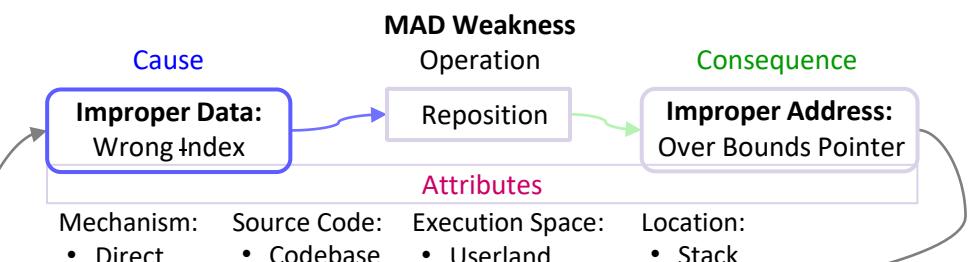
# BF Description of CWE-468, Example 1

NIST



```

int *p = x;
char * second_char = (char *) (p + 1);
    
```



The Bug



Final Error



Failure

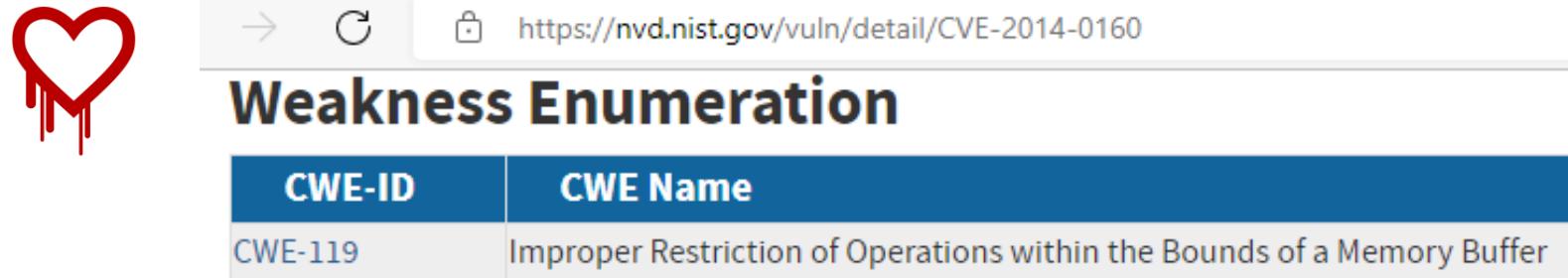
# BF Hands On: Heartbleed

# Heartbleed (CVE-2014-0160)

NIST

## CVE-2014-0160

The (1) TLS and (2) DTLS implementations in OpenSSL 1.0.1 before 1.0.1g do not properly handle Heartbeat Extension packets, which allows remote attackers to obtain sensitive information from process memory via crafted packets that trigger a **buffer over-read**, as demonstrated by **reading private keys**, related to d1\_both.c and t1\_lib.c, aka the Heartbleed bug.



CWE-ID	CWE Name
CWE-119	Improper Restriction of Operations within the Bounds of a Memory Buffer

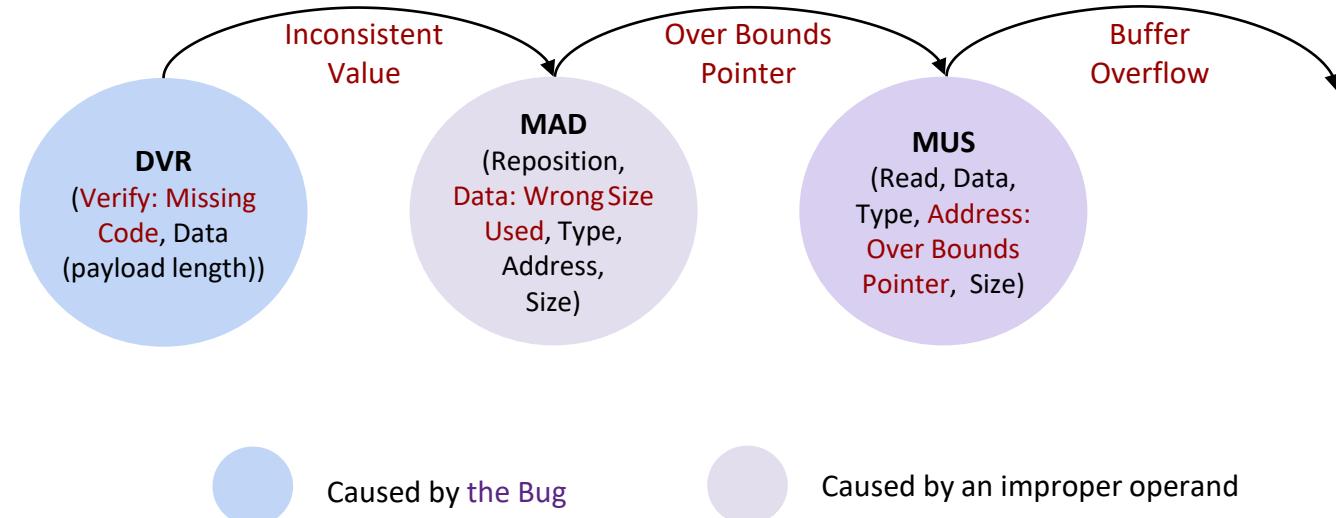
# Heartbleed (CVE-2014-0160)



CVE-2014-0160 The (1) TLS and (2) DTLS implementations in OpenSSL 1.0.1 before 1.0.1g do not properly handle Heartbeat Extension packets, which allows remote attackers to obtain sensitive information from process memory via crafted packets that trigger a **buffer over-read**, as demonstrated by **reading private keys**, related to d1\_both.c and t1\_lib.c, aka the Heartbleed bug.

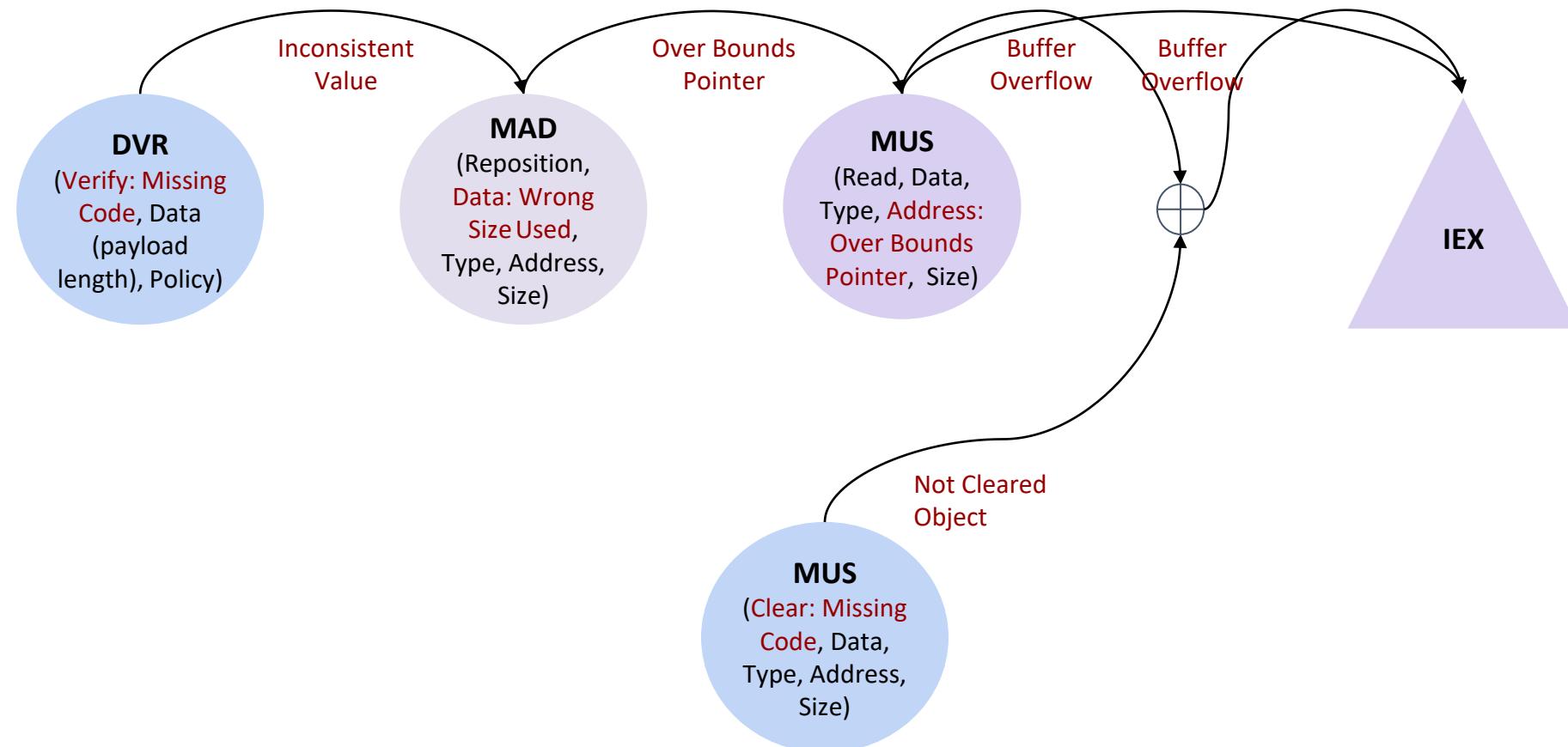
```
1448 dtls1_process_heartbeat(SSL *s)
1449 {
1450     unsigned char *p = &s->s3->rrec.data[0], *pl;
1451     unsigned short hbtype;
1452     unsigned int payload;
1453     unsigned int padding = 16; /* Use minimum padding */
1454
1455     /* Read type and payload length first */
1456     hbtype = *p++;
1457     n2s(p, payload);
1458     pl = p;
...
1465     if (hbtype == TLS1_HB_REQUEST)
1466     {
1467         unsigned char *buffer, *bp;
...
1470         /* Allocate memory for the response, size is 1 byte
1471          * message type, plus 2 bytes payload, plus
1472          * payload, plus padding
1473         */
1474         buffer = OPENSSL_malloc(1 + 2 + payload + padding);
1475         bp = buffer;
...
1477         /* Enter response type, length and copy payload */
1478         *bp++ = TLS1_HB_RESPONSE;
1479         s2n(payload, bp);
1480         memcpy(bp, pl, payload);
```

```
/* Naive implementation of memcpy
void *memcpy (void *dst, const void *src, size_t n)
{
    size_t i;
    for (i=0; i<n; i++)
        *(char *) dst++ = *(char *) src++;
    return dst;
}
```



# Heartbleed (CVE-2014-0160)

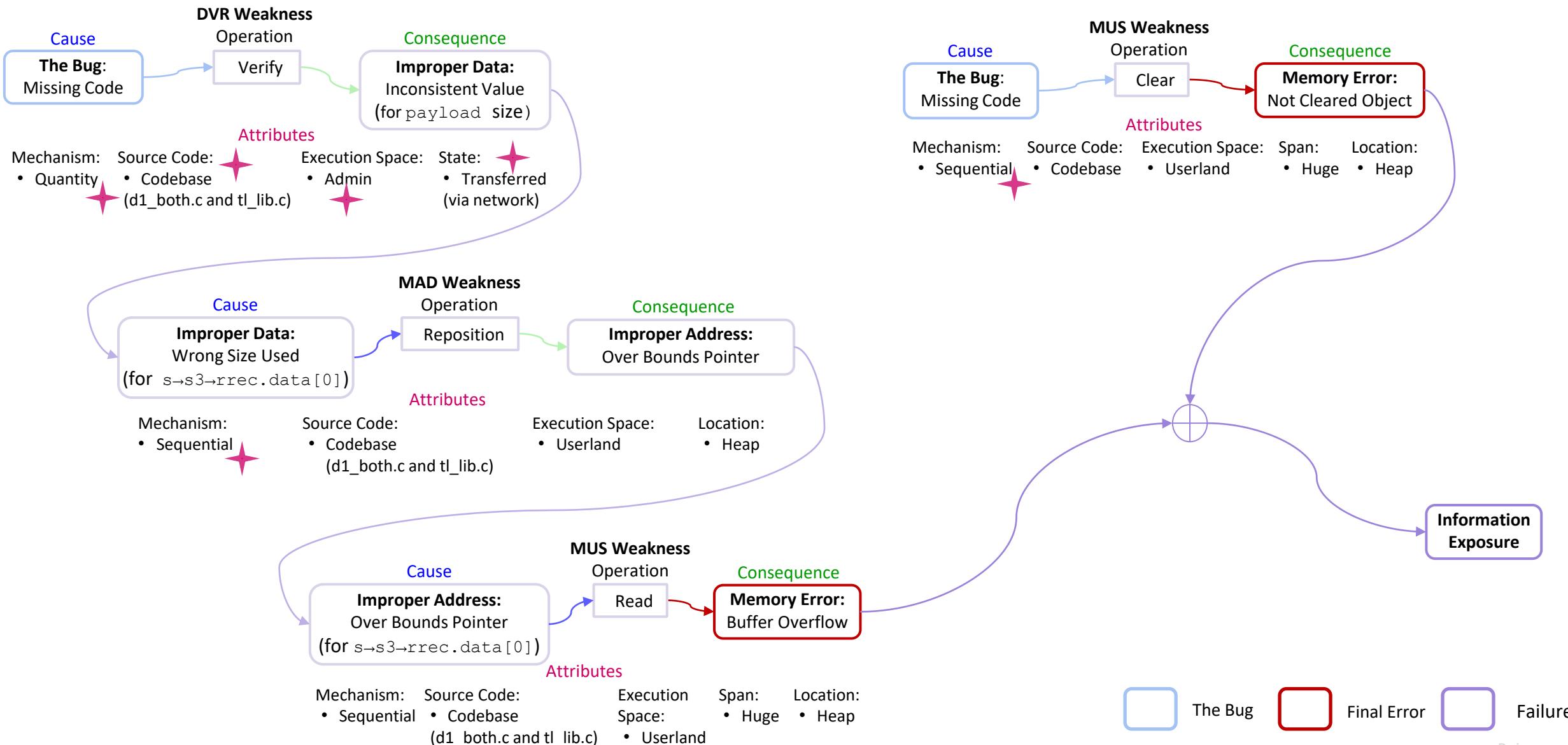
NIST



- Initial State – caused by the Bug – the operation is improper
- Intermediate State – caused by at least one operand is improper
- Final State – ends with a final error
- Failure – caused by a final error

# BF Description of Heartbleed

NIST



# BF Early Work – Heartbleed



- ▶ Heartbleed buffer overflow is:
  - caused by *Data Too Big*
  - because of *User Input not Checked Properly*
  - where there was a *Read that was After the End that was Far Outside*
  - of a buffer in the *Heap*
  - which may be exploited for *Information Exposure*

## Towards a “Periodic Table” of Bugs

Irena Bojanova, Paul E. Black, Yaakov Yesha, Yan Wu

April 9, 2015

NIST, BGSU

*Input not checked properly leads to too much data, where a huge number of bytes are read from the heap in a continuous reach after the array end, which may be exploited for exposure of information that had not been cleared.*

Bojanova, I., Black, P., Yesha, Y. and Wu, Y. (2016), The Bugs Framework (BF): A Structured Approach to Express Bugs, IEEE International Conference on Software Quality, Reliability & Security (QRS 2016), Vienna, AT,

# BF Hands On: NLP/ML/AI Applications for Security Vulnerabilities Research

# BF Taxonomy – BF.xml

BF.xml\* □ X

```

<!--@author Irena Bojanova(ivb)-->
<!--@date - 2/9/2022-->
<BF Name="Bugs Framework">
    <Cluster Name="_INP" Type="Weakness">...</Cluster>
    <Cluster Name="_DAT" Type="Weakness">
        <Class Name="DCL" Title="Declaration Bugs">
            <Operations>
                <Operation Name="Declare"/>
                <Operation Name="Define"/>
                <AttributeType Name="Mechanism">...</AttributeType>
                <AttributeType Name="Source Code">...</AttributeType>
                <AttributeType Name="Entity">...</AttributeType>
            </Operations>
            <Operands>
                <Operand Name="Type"><!--XXX-->
                    <AttributeType Name="Type Kind">...</AttributeType>
                </Operand>
            </Operands>
            <Causes>
                <BugCauseType Name="The Bug">
                    <Cause Name="Missing Code"/>
                    <Cause Name="Wrong Code"/>
                    <Cause Name="Erroneous Code"/>
                    <Cause Name="Missing Modifier"/>
                    <Cause Name="Wrong Modifier"/>
                    <Cause Name="Anonymous Scope"/>
                    <Cause Name="Wrong Scope"/>
                </BugCauseType>
            </Causes>
            <Consequences>
                <WeaknessConsequenceType Name="Improper Type (_DAT)">
                    <Consequence Name="Wrong Type"/>
                    <Consequence Name="Incomplete Type"/>
                </WeaknessConsequenceType>
            </Consequences>
        </Class>
    </Cluster>
</BF>
```

BF.xml\* □ X

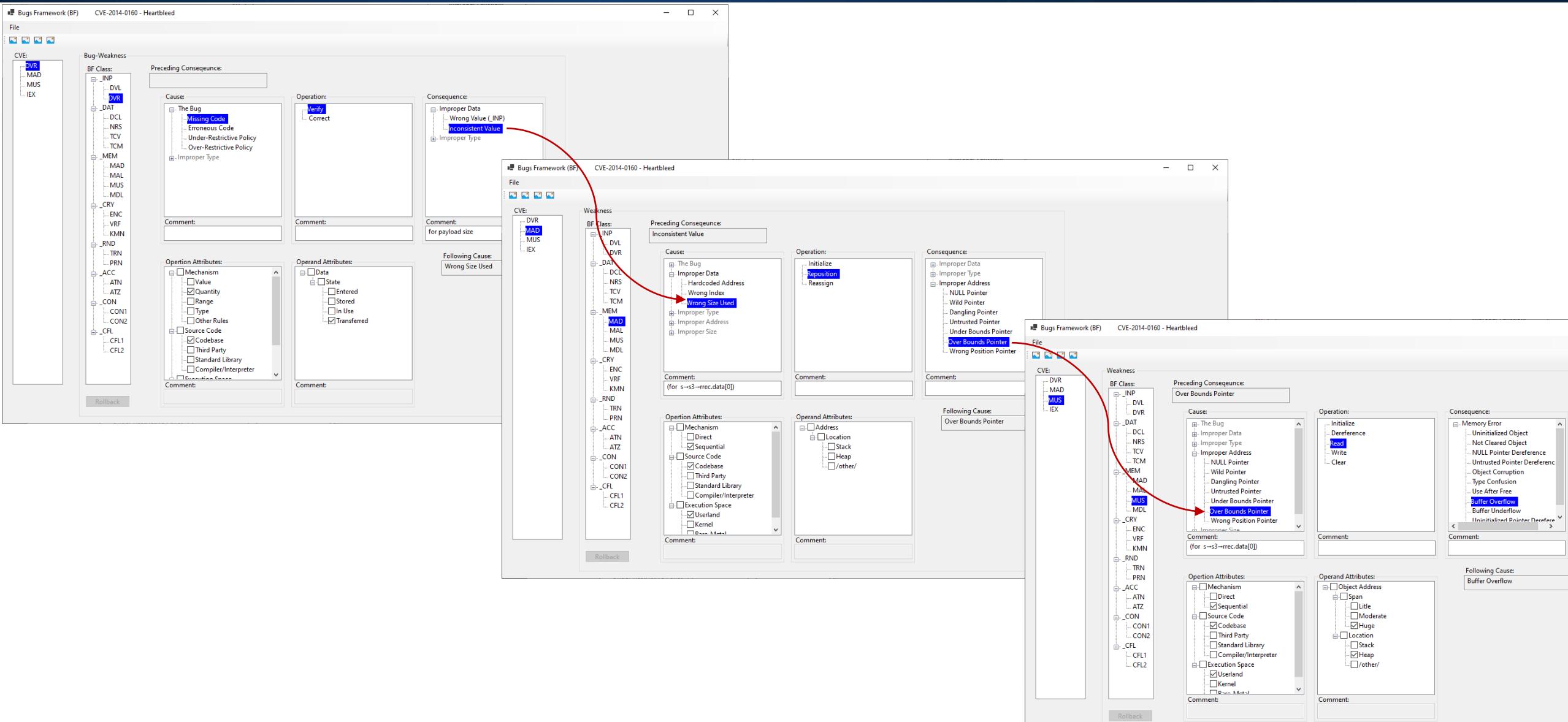
```

<Definitions>
    <!-- Clusters-->
    <Definition Name="_INP" Type="Weakness">Input/Output Check Bugs</Definition>
    <Definition Name="_DAT" Type="Weakness">Data Type Bugs - lead to type errors</Definition>
    <Definition Name="_MEM" Type="Weakness">Memory Bugs - lead to memory corruption</Definition>
    <Definition Name="_CRY" Type="Weakness">Cryptographic Store or Generation Bugs</Definition>
    <Definition Name="_RND" Type="Weakness">Random Number Generation Bugs</Definition>
    <Definition Name="_ACC" Type="Weakness">Access Control Bugs - lead to privilege escalation</Definition>

    <!-- Classes - xxx update the definitions on BF web-site-->
    <!-- _INP-->
    <Definition Name="DVL">Data are validated (syntax check) or sanitized</Definition>
    <Definition Name="DVR">Data are verified (semantics check) or converted</Definition>
    <!-- _DAT-->
    <Definition Name="DCL">An object, a function, a type, or a name is declared</Definition>
    <Definition Name="NRS">The name of an object, a function, or a type is resolved</Definition>
    <Definition Name="TCV">Data are converted or coerced into other types</Definition>
    <Definition Name="TCM">A numeric, pointer, or string value is converted</Definition>
    <!-- _MEM-->
    <Definition Name="MAD">The pointer to an object is initialized, allocated, or deallocated</Definition>
    <Definition Name="MAL">An object is allocated, extended, or reallocated</Definition>
    <Definition Name="MUS">An object is initialized, read, written, or deallocated</Definition>
    <Definition Name="MDL">An object is deallocated, reduced, or released</Definition>
    ...
    <!-- Values-->
    ...

```

# CVE-2014-0160 - Heartbleed.bfcve



# CVE-2014-0160 - Heartbleed.bfcve

NIST

Bugs Framework (BF)    CVE-2014-0160 - Heartbleed

File

CVE:

- DVR
- MAD**
- MUS
- IEX

Weakness

BF Class:

- \_INP
  - DVL
  - DVR
- \_DAT
  - DCL
  - NRS
  - TCV
  - TCM
- MEM**
  - MAD**
  - MAL
  - MUS
  - MDL
- \_CRY
  - ENC
  - VRF
  - KMN
- \_RND
  - TRN
  - PRN
- \_ACC
  - ATN
  - ATZ
- \_CON**
  - CON1
  - CON2
- \_CFL**
  - CFL1
  - CFL2

Preceding Consequence:

Inconsistent Value

Cause:

- The Bug
  - Improper Data
  - Hardcoded Address
  - Wrong Index
  - Wrong Size Used**
  - Improper Type
  - Improper Address
  - Improper Size

Comment:

(for s→s3→rrec.data[0])

Operation:

Initialize **Reposition** Reassign

Consequence:

- Improper Data
- Improper Type
- Improper Address**
  - NULL Pointer
  - Wild Pointer
  - Dangling Pointer
  - Untrusted Pointer
  - Under Bounds Pointer
  - Over Bounds Pointer**
  - Wrong Position Pointer

Comment:

Following Cause:

Over Bounds Pointer

Operation Attributes:

- Mechanism
  - Direct
  - Sequential
- Source Code
  - Codebase
  - Third Party
  - Standard Library
  - Compiler/Interpreter
- Execution Space
  - Userland
  - Kernel
  - Device/Metal

Comment:

Operand Attributes:

- Address
  - Location
    - Stack
    - Heap
    - /other/

Comment:

Rollback    <<    >>    !

# CVE-2014-0160 - Heartbleed.bfcve

NIST

```
CVE-2014-016...rtbleed.bfcve ▾ X
  <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
  <CVE Name="1 CVE-2014-0160">
    <BugWeakness Type="_INP" Class="DVR">
      <Cause Type="The Bug">Missing Code</Cause>
      <Operation>Verify</Operation>
      <Consequence Comment="for payload size" Type="Improper Data">Inconsistent Value</Consequence>
      <Attributes>...</Attributes>
    </BugWeakness>
    <Weakness Type="_MEM" Class="MAD">
      <Cause Comment="(for s→s3→rrec.data[0])" Type="Improper Data">Wrong Size Used</Cause>
      <Operation>Reposition</Operation>
      <Consequence Type="Improper Address">Over Bounds Pointer</Consequence>
      <Attributes>
        <Operation>
          <Attribute Type="Mechanism">Sequential</Attribute>
          <Attribute Comment="d1_both.c and tl_lib.c" Type="Source Code">Codebase</Attribute>
          <Attribute Type="Execution Space">Userland</Attribute>
        </Operation>
        <Operand Name="Object Address">
          <Attribute Type="Location">Heap</Attribute>
        </Operand>
      </Attributes>
    </Weakness>
    <Weakness Type="_MEM" Class="MUS">
      <Cause Comment="(for s→s3→rrec.data[0])" Type="Improper Address">Over Bounds Pointer</Cause>
      <Operation>Read</Operation>
      <Consequence Type="Memory Error">Buffer Overflow</Consequence>
      <Attributes>...</Attributes>
    </Weakness>
    <Failure Type="_FLR" Class="IEX">
      <Cause Type="Memory Error">Buffer Overflow</Cause>
    </Failure>
  </CVE>
```

# CVE-2021-21834 - Bad Alloc.bfcve



```
CVE-2021-218...d Alloc.bfcve ▾ X
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<CVE Name="CVE-2021-21834">
    <BugWeakness Type="_INP" Class="DVR">
        <Cause Type="The Bug">Missing Code</Cause>
        <Operation Comment="(u64)ptr-&gt;nb_entries > (u64)SIZE_MAX/sizeof(u64)">Verify</Operation>
        <Consequence Comment="> max 64-bit int" Type="Improper Data">Inconsistent Value</Consequence>
        <Attributes>...</Attributes>
    </BugWeakness>
    <Weakness Type="_DTC" Class="TCM">
        <Cause Type="Improper Data">Wrong Argument Value</Cause>
        <Operation Comment="ptr-&gt;nb_entries*sizeof(u64)">Cal</Operation>
        <Consequence Type="Improper Data">Wrap Around</Consequence>
        <Attributes>
            <Operation>
                <Attribute Comment="Arithmetic: '*' Type="Mech">
                    <Attribute Comment="Library box_code_base.c" Type="Source Code">
                </Attribute>
            </Operation>
            <Operand Name="Data Value">
                <Attribute Type="Data Kind">Numeric</Attribute>
            </Operand>
            <Operand Name="Data Type">
                <Attribute Type="Type Kind">Structure</Attribute>
            </Operand>
        </Attributes>
    </Weakness>
    <Weakness Type="_MEM" Class="MAL">
        <Cause Comment="Size of memory to allocate" Type="Improper Data">
            <Operation Comment="gf_malloc()">Allocate</Operation>
            <Consequence Type="Improper Size">Not Enough Memory Allocated</Consequence>
            <Attributes>...</Attributes>
        </Weakness>
        <Weakness Type="_MEM" Class="MAD">
            <Cause Type="Improper Size">Not Enough Memory Allocated</Cause>
            <Operation Comment="gf_malloc()">Allocate</Operation>
            <Consequence Type="Improper Size">Not Enough Memory Allocated</Consequence>
            <Attributes>...</Attributes>
        </Weakness>
        <Weakness Type="_MEM" Class="MAD">
            <Cause Type="Improper Object Size">Not Enough Memory Allocated</Cause>
            <Operation>Reposition</Operation>
            <Consequence Type="Improper Object Address">Over Bounds Pointer</Consequence>
            <Attributes>...</Attributes>
        </Weakness>
        <Weakness Type="_MEM" Class="MUS">
            <Cause Type="Improper Object Address">Over Bounds Pointer</Cause>
            <Operation>Write</Operation>
            <Consequence Type="Memory Error">Buffer Overflow</Consequence>
            <Attributes>
                <Operation>
                    <Attribute Type="Mechanism">Sequential</Attribute>
                    <Attribute Comment="Library box_code_base.c" Type="Source Code">
                    <Attribute Type="Execution Space">Userland</Attribute>
                </Operation>
                <Operand Name="Object Address">
                    <Attribute Type="Span">Huge</Attribute>
                    <Attribute Type="Location">Heap</Attribute>
                </Operand>
            </Attributes>
        </Weakness>
        <Failure Type="_FLR" Class="DOS">
            <Cause Type="Memory Error">Buffer Overflow</Cause>
        </Failure>
    </Weakness>
</CVE>
```

# CWE mapped to BF – BFCWE.xml

```
BFCWE.xml* ✎ X
<!--@author Irena Bojanova(ivb)-->
<!--@date - 07/09/2021-->
<BFCWE>
  <Cluster Name="_ALL">
    <showClassCWEs>...</showClassCWEs>
  </Cluster>
  <Cluster Name="_INP">
    <!--fig 1-->
    <showClassCWEs>
      <ClassOperation name="DVL Validate">
        <CWE>41</CWE>
        <CWE>42</CWE>
        <CWE>43</CWE>
        <CWE>44</CWE>
        ...
      </ClassOperation>
      <ClassOperation name="DVL Sanitize">...</ClassOperation>
      <ClassOperation name="DVR Check">...</ClassOperation>
      <ClassOperation name="DVR Verify">...</ClassOperation>
      <ClassOperation name="DVL Validate an">...</ClassOperation>
    </showClassCWEs>
    <showConsequenceCWEs>
      <Consequence name="Query Injection">...</Consequence>
      <Consequence name="Command Injection">
        <CWE>77</CWE>
        <CWE>78</CWE>
        <CWE>114</CWE>
        <CWE>624</CWE>
      </Consequence>
      <Consequence name="Source Code Inj">...</Consequence>
      <Consequence name="Parameter Injec">...</Consequence>
      <Consequence name="File Injec">...</Consequence>
    </showConsequenceCWEs>
  </Cluster>
</BFCWE>
```

```
<classStyles>
  <Caption n="CWEs by DVL and/or DVR operation:" u="sng" x="1076556" c="FF0000"/>
  <ClassOperation n="DVL Validate" c="0099FF"/>
  <ClassOperation n="DVL Sanitize" c="339966"/>
  <ClassOperation n="DVR Verify" c="FF3399"/>
  <ClassOperation n="DVL Validate and DVR Verify" c="9966FF"/>
</classStyles>
<consequenceStyles>
  <Caption n="CWEs by DVL Injection Error:" u="sng" x="1076556" c="FF0000"/>
  <Consequence n="Query Injection" c="99FF66"/>
  <Consequence n="Command Injection" c="6699FF"/>
  <Consequence n="Source Code Injection" c="FF9966"/>
  <Consequence n="Parameter Injection" c="66FFCC"/>
  <Consequence n="File Injection" c="CC99FF"/>
  <Caption n="CWEs by DVL or DVR Wrong Data:" u="sng" x="1727856" c="FF0000"/>
  <Consequence n="DVL Invalid Data" c="FF0000"/>
  <Consequence n="DVR Wrong Value, Inconsistent Value, and Wrro" c="FF0000"/>
  <OnlyCause n="No consequence" c="C8C8DA" fill="F3F3F3"/>
</consequenceStyles>
```

Machine readable formats of:

- BF taxonomy
- BF vulnerability descriptions
- CWEs to BF mappings

→ Query and analyze sets of BF descriptions  
→ NLP, ML, and AI projects related to software bugs/weaknesses, failures and risks.

- JHU APL – Automated Vulnerability Testing via Executable Attack Graphs:
  - Chain vulnerabilities via logical directed graphs
  - Determine most mitigation “paths” with least changes
  - Detect user behavior prior to malicious effect

The lack of formal, precise descriptions of known vulnerabilities and software weaknesses in the current National Vulnerability Database (NVD) has become an increasingly limiting factor in vulnerability research, mitigation research, and expression of software systems in low level modeling form.

We were thrilled to hear that a researcher at NIST was undertaking the needed improvement to make such descriptions more formal and machine-readable. Such an endeavor will greatly enhance the ability of cyber researchers to explore more complex attacks via computational methods. This will be a huge boost to the U.S.’s ability to defend its networks, military systems, and critical infrastructure, and will lead the way to better mitigation designs, improved software development practices, and automated cyber testing capabilities.

- RIT Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC):

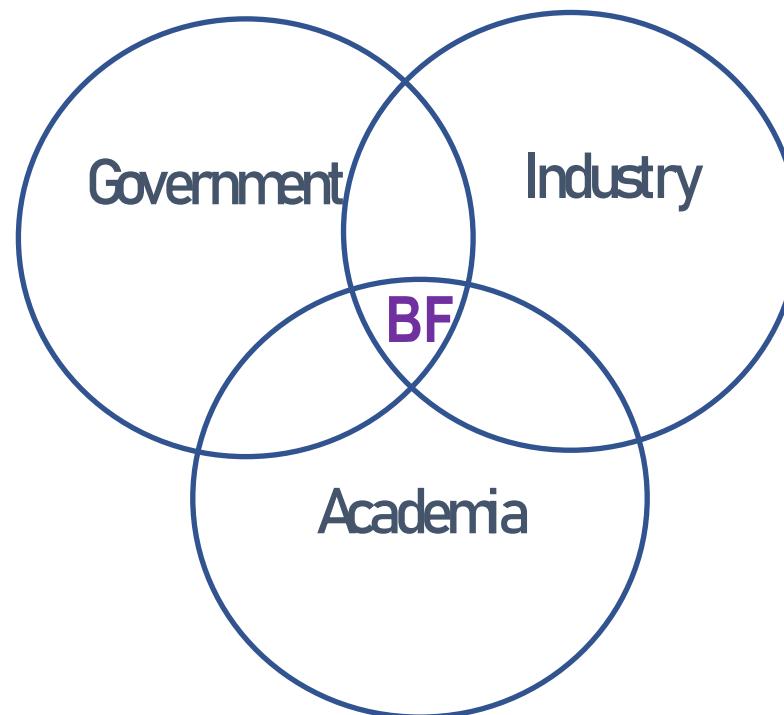
The NIST Bugs Framework (BF) has made significant advances in creating first-of-its-kind classification of software weaknesses that has enabled the community to express vulnerabilities using a precise description.

allowing us to obtain a fine-grained understanding of security bugs and their root causes. Additionally, the taxonomies and root causes in each bug class will provide us valuable data to guide and enhance our static program analysis techniques and achieve higher accuracy.

# BF – Potential Impact

# BF – Potential Impacts

- Allow precise communication about software bugs and weaknesses
- Help identify exploit mitigation techniques



# Questions

# BF Contact



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