

# ASSURE

## Towards Sustainable Security in Systems-of-Systems

### **GNNs-Based Zero-Assumption Control-Flow Attestation**

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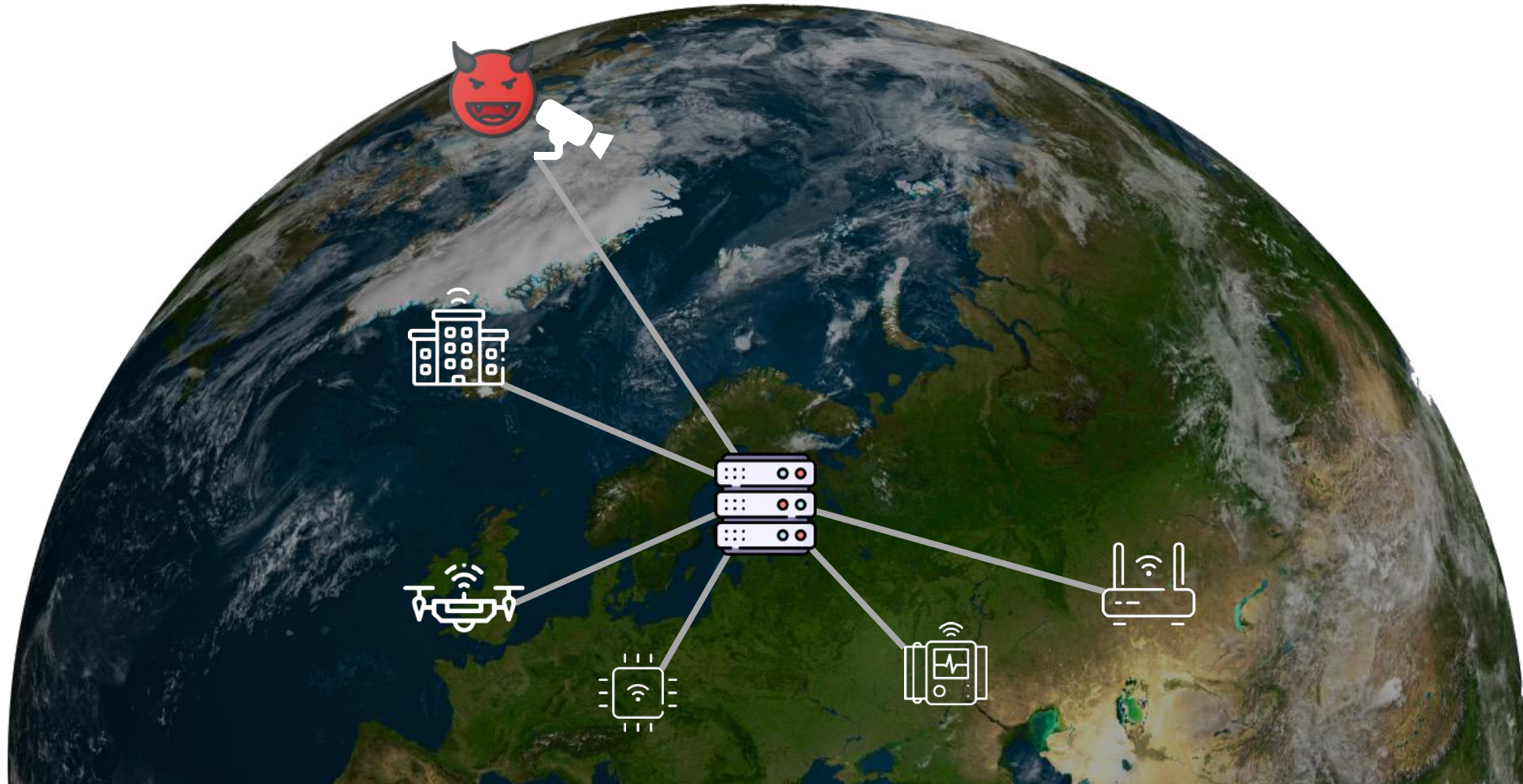
*Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany*

**Scientific Workshop**

*Darmstadt (Germany), 26.04.2023*

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# Why Attestation?



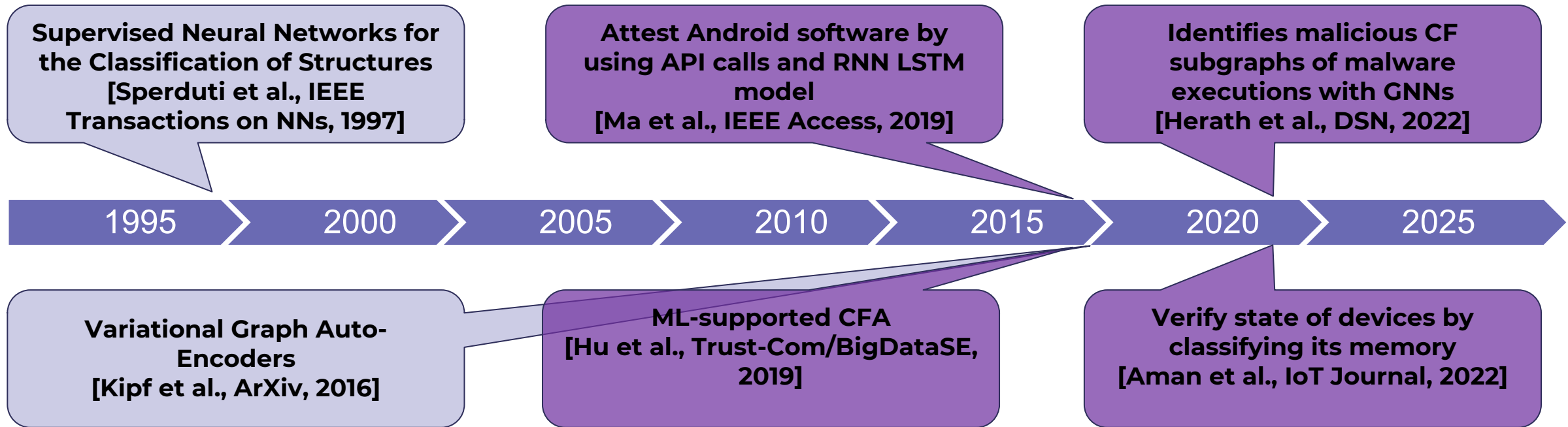
- Current approaches have **unrealistic assumptions**
  - Full Control-Flow Graph
  - Memory access
  - Custom hardware
- In real-world we cannot rely on any of these assumptions
  - **Extracted CFGs are incomplete → Machine Learning?**

## Research Question

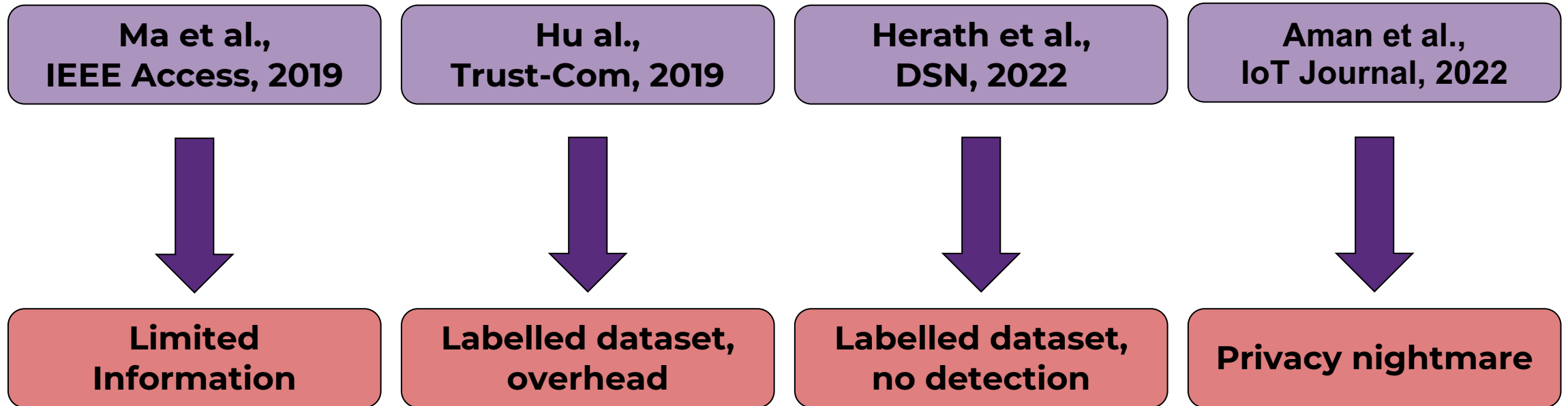
Is it possible to utilize Machine Learning on incomplete CFG for Control Flow Attestation?

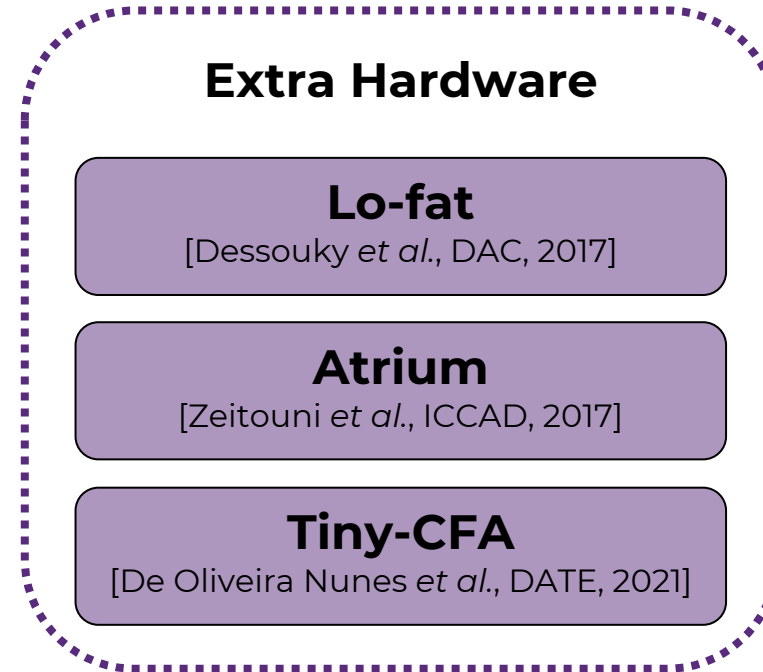
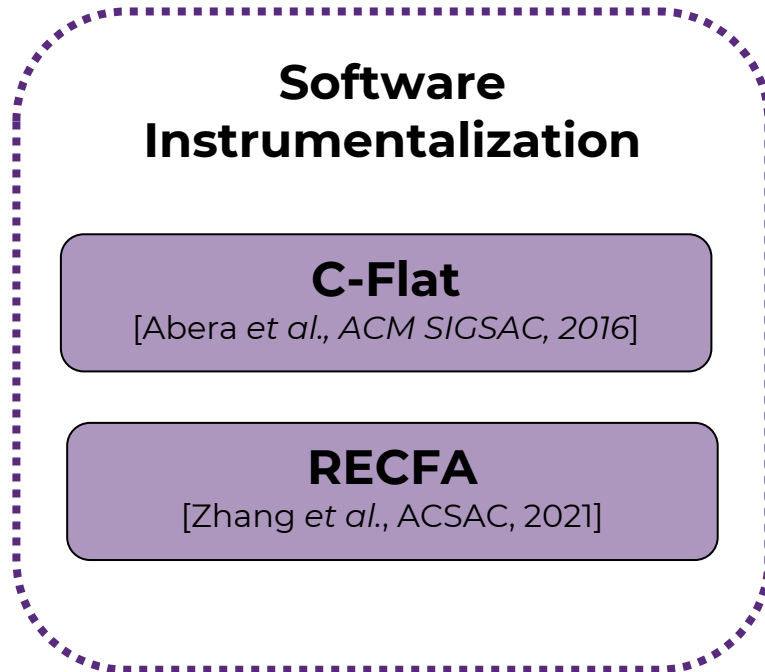


# Related Work



# State of the Art





- **In general:** large database of full execution path or CF events

## Our approach

**NO Full CFG**

**NO memory  
access**

**NOT platform  
specific**

**NO extra HW**

**NO data  
labelling**

**Lightweight**

**1 Benign CF**

**Privacy  
Enhancing**

**ROP Detection**

**DOP Detection**



## Our approach

NO Full CFG

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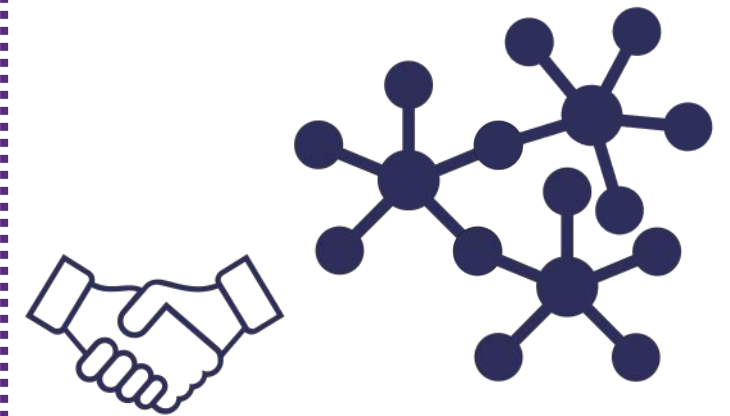
Lightweight

1 Benign CF

Privacy Enhancing

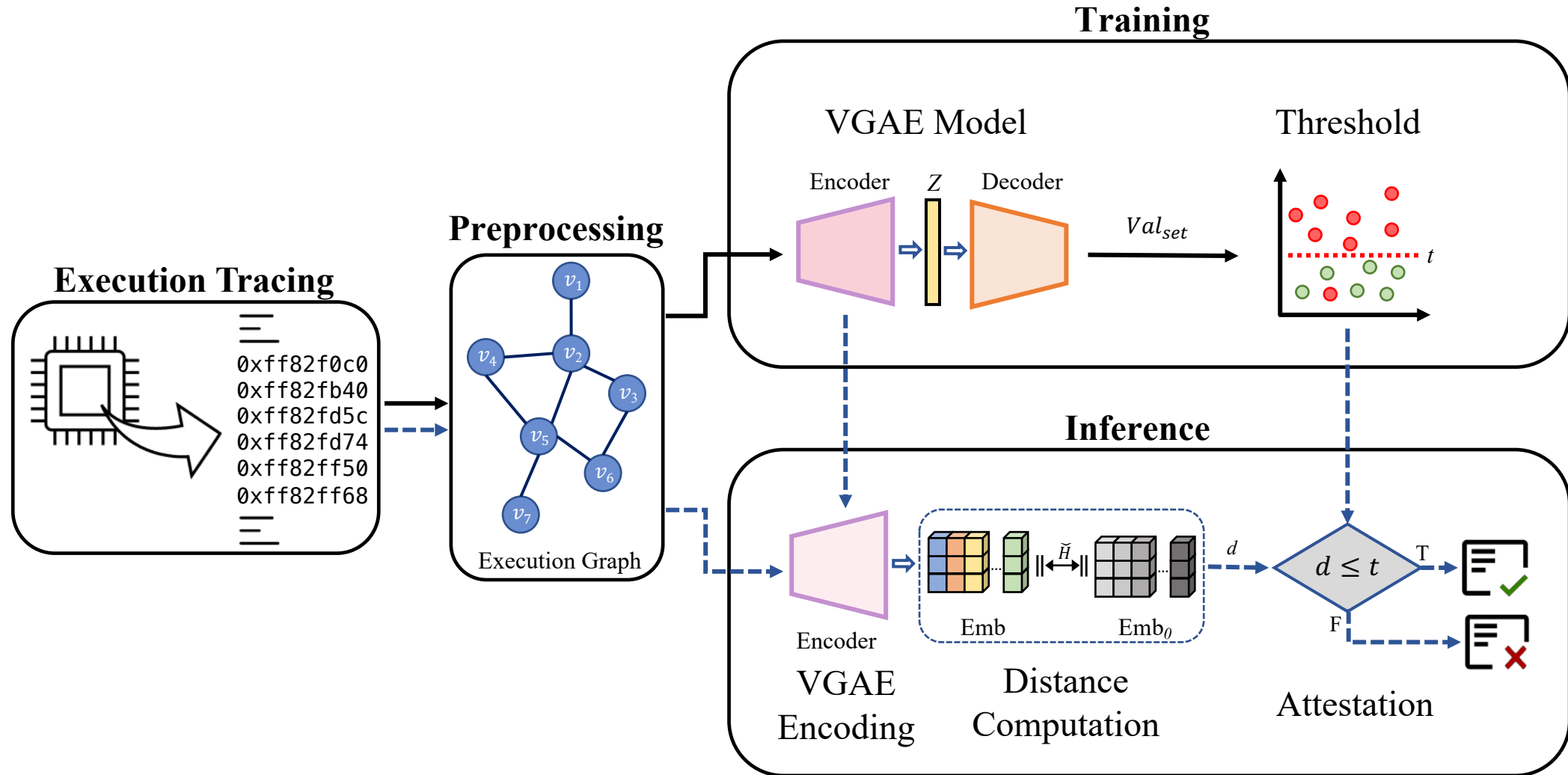
ROP Detection

DOP Detection



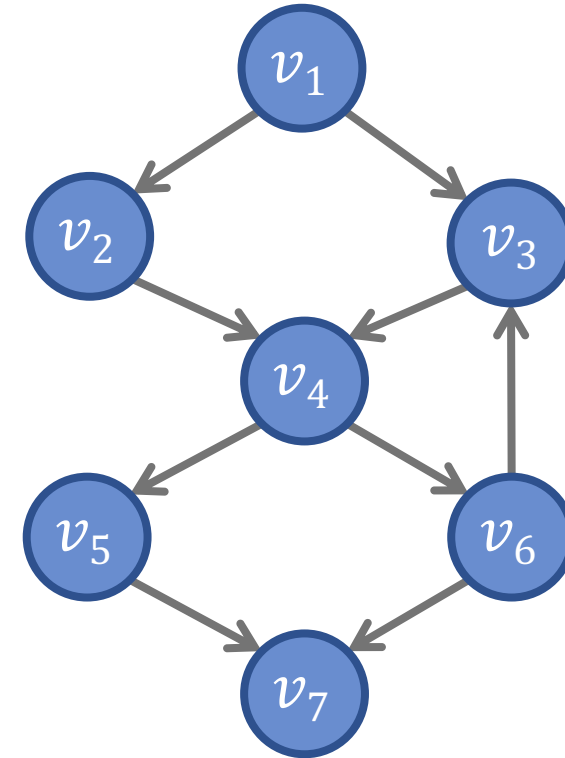
Unsupervised Graph Neural Networks

# System Overview



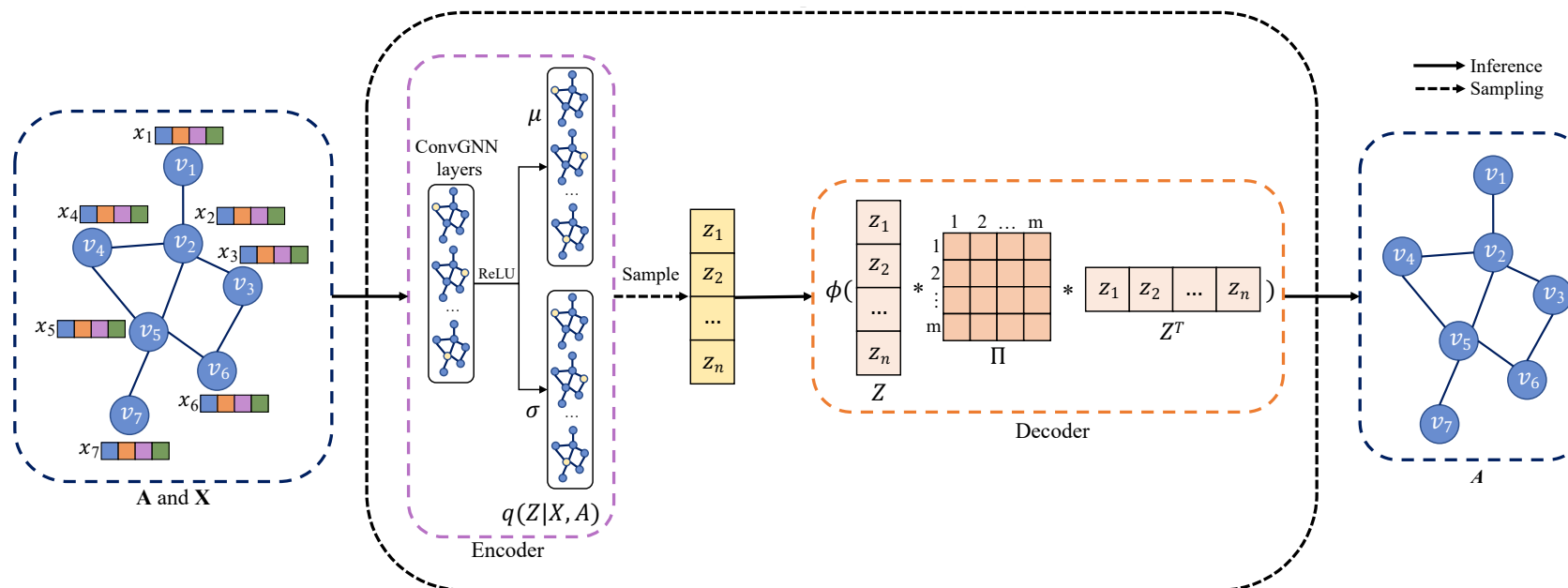
# Background – CFA Attacks

- Two different benign executions in the CFG
- A **ROP attack** adds **extra transitions**
- A **DOP attack** **reuses benign transitions** but still alters the Control Flow



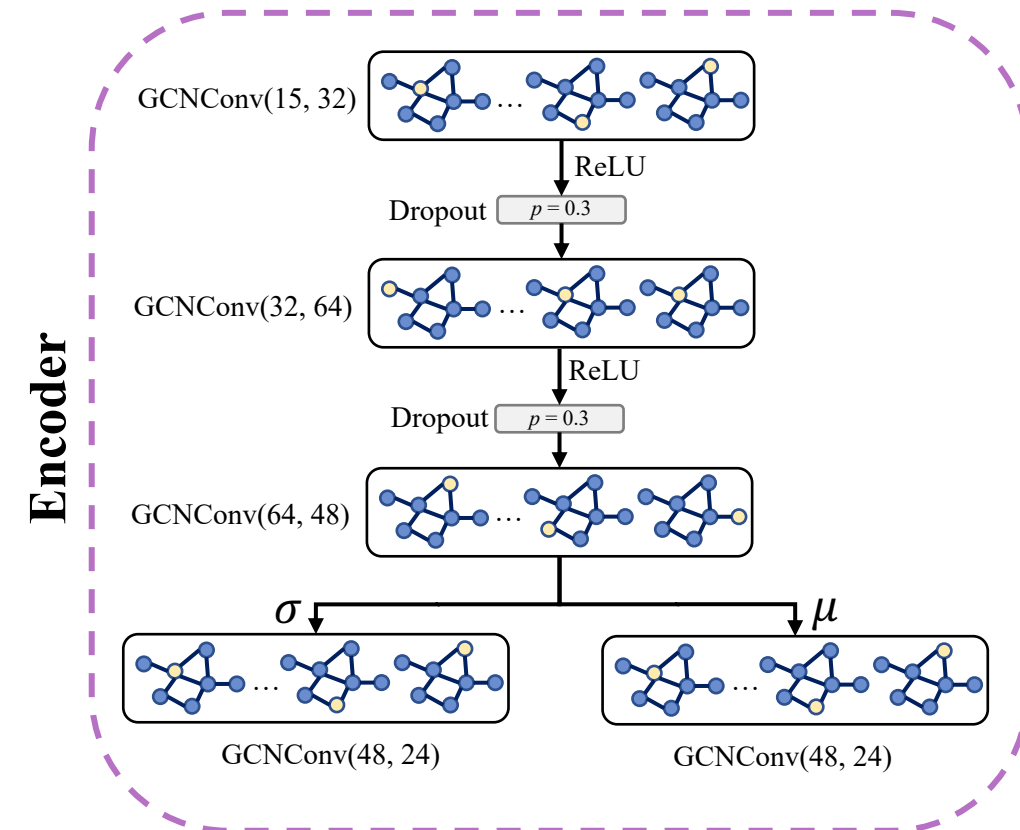
Control Flow Graph  
(CFG)

- VGAEs are SotA **generative models** that are trained to learn to reconstruct input graphs
- Doing so it learns to capture **latent features** of the graph



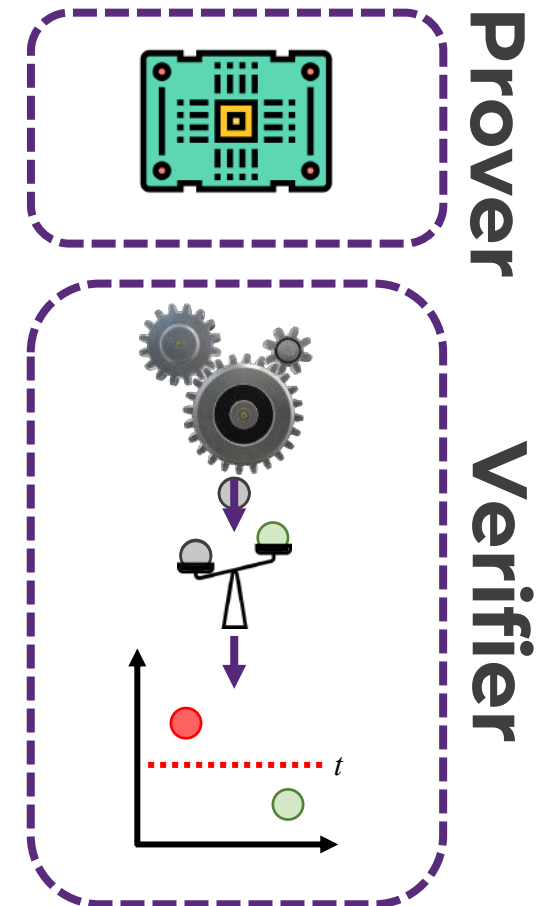
# Implementation – VGAE Model

- From the encoder we obtain the **nodes' embeddings**
  - We can imagine them as a “fingerprint” of each node that is capturing its characteristics
- We designed our **deep Encoder** so to capture graphs' characteristics (e.g., connectivity, neighbours)
- **Regularization** through dropout layers and custom **decaying learning rate** schema
- The model counts **only 8,128 parameters**



# Implementation - Attestation

- **Directed Hausdorff distance** between executions
- Attestation through **threshold test**
  - Calibrated on small benign validation set
- **Attack independent**





# Evaluation

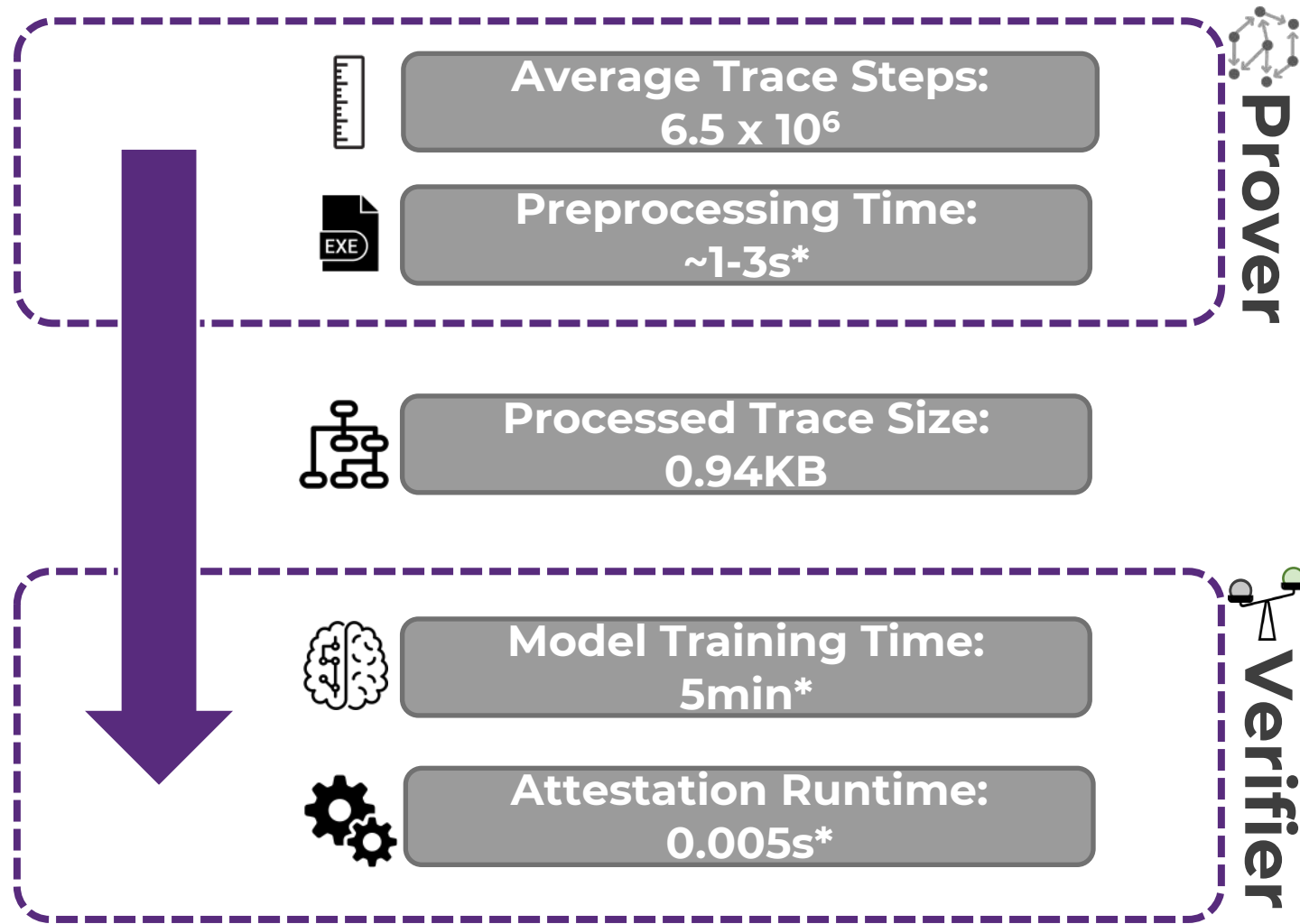
- Average F1-Score
  - ROP Attacks: 97.71%
  - DOP Attacks: 86.52%
- Average False-Positive-Rate of 3.63%

ROP Dataset	FPR	Pr.	Re.	F1
Diffie-Hellman	3.30	94.5	89.17	91.76
DES	7.72	96.93	99.37	98.14
DESX	7.34	97.08	99.22	98.14
GOST	1.16	99.53	99.53	99.53
AES	0.39	99.84	98.74	99.29
EmbenchIoT*	1.85	99.72	99.16	99.42
∅	3.63	97.93	97.53	97.71

DOP Dataset	FPR	Pr.	Re.	F1
Diffie-Hellman	3.30	70.27	78.00	73.93
DES	7.72	83.33	100.00	90.90
DESX	7.34	83.90	99.00	90.83
GOST	1.16	94.00	70.15	80.34
AES	0.39	97.61	77.36	86.31
EmbenchIoT*	1.85	95.5	98.6	96.8
∅	3.63	87.44	87.19	86.52

\*EmbenchIoT includes 18 software

# Evaluation: Performance



\*Timings observed on Raspberry Pi 4B 2GB



# THANKS



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