

# Announcements

Did you fill in the

- mid-course questionnaire?

- <https://mycourses.aalto.fi/mod/questionnaire/view.php?id=410158>

- survey preferences form?

- <https://mycourses.aalto.fi/mod/questionnaire/view.php?id=406678>

**Deadline is today!**

Lecture 3

# MOBILE PLATFORM SECURITY

# You will be learning:

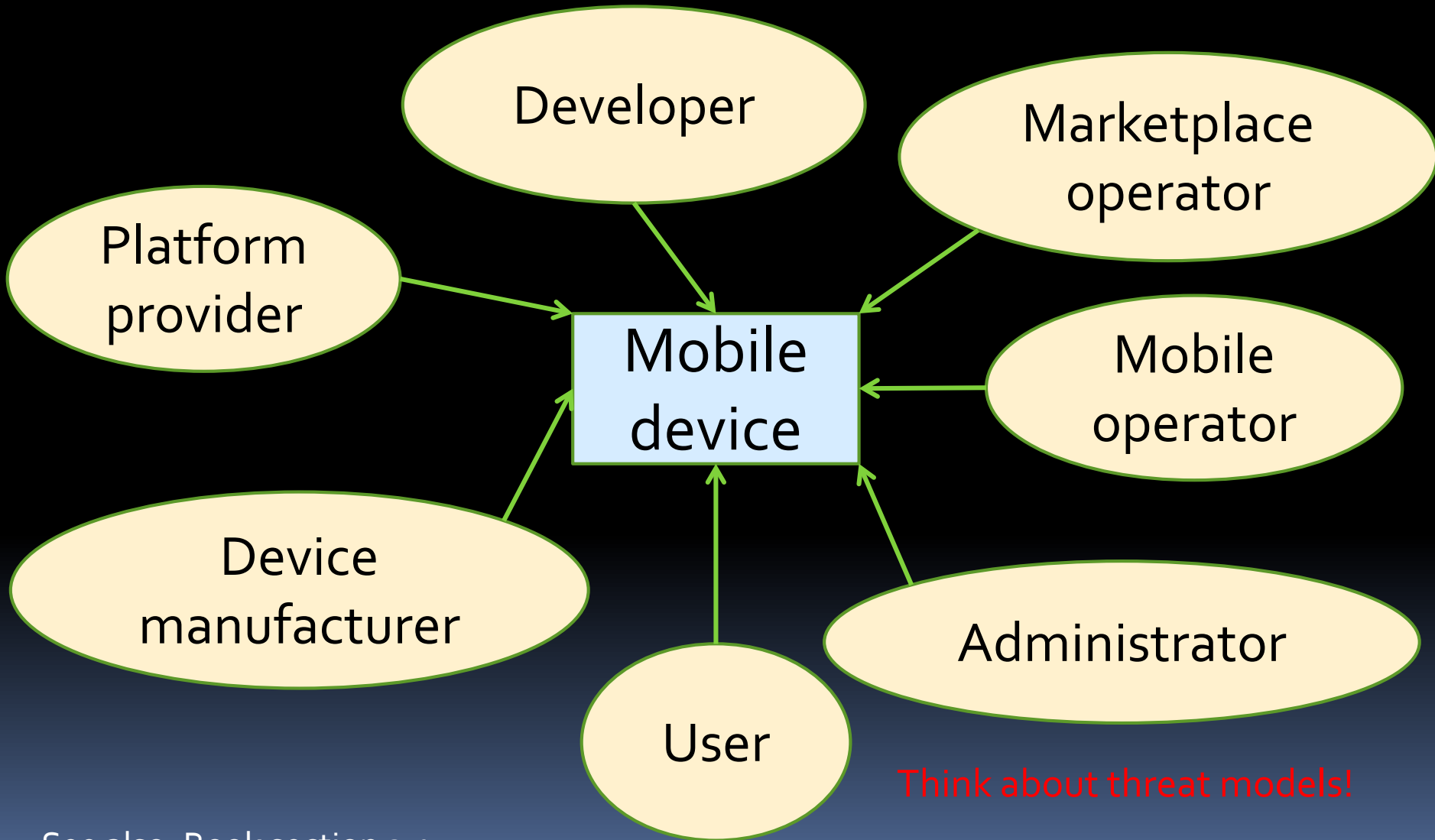
- What techniques are used in mobile software platform security?
- What techniques are used in mobile hardware platform security?
- Is there a common general architecture?

# Mobile platform security

Recall classes of basic security techniques:

- Application isolation
- Permission-based access control
- Application signing
- Hardware-based security features

# Ecosystem stakeholders



Think about threat models!

See also: Book section 2.1.

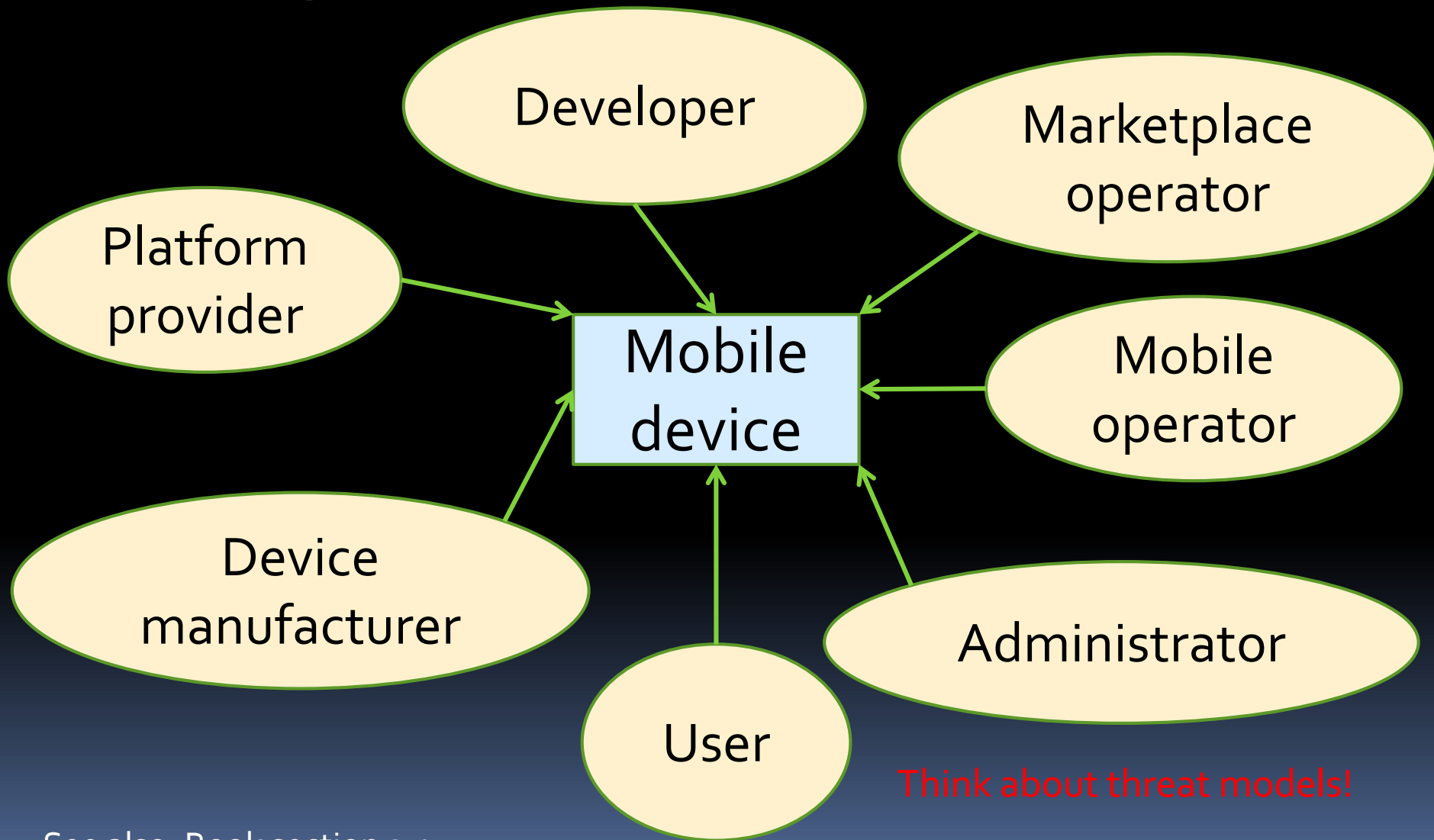
# Modeling threats

## Identify

- Assets and trust assumptions
- Potential adversaries
- Adversary capabilities/limitations
- Possible attack vectors

Cf. Software Security course

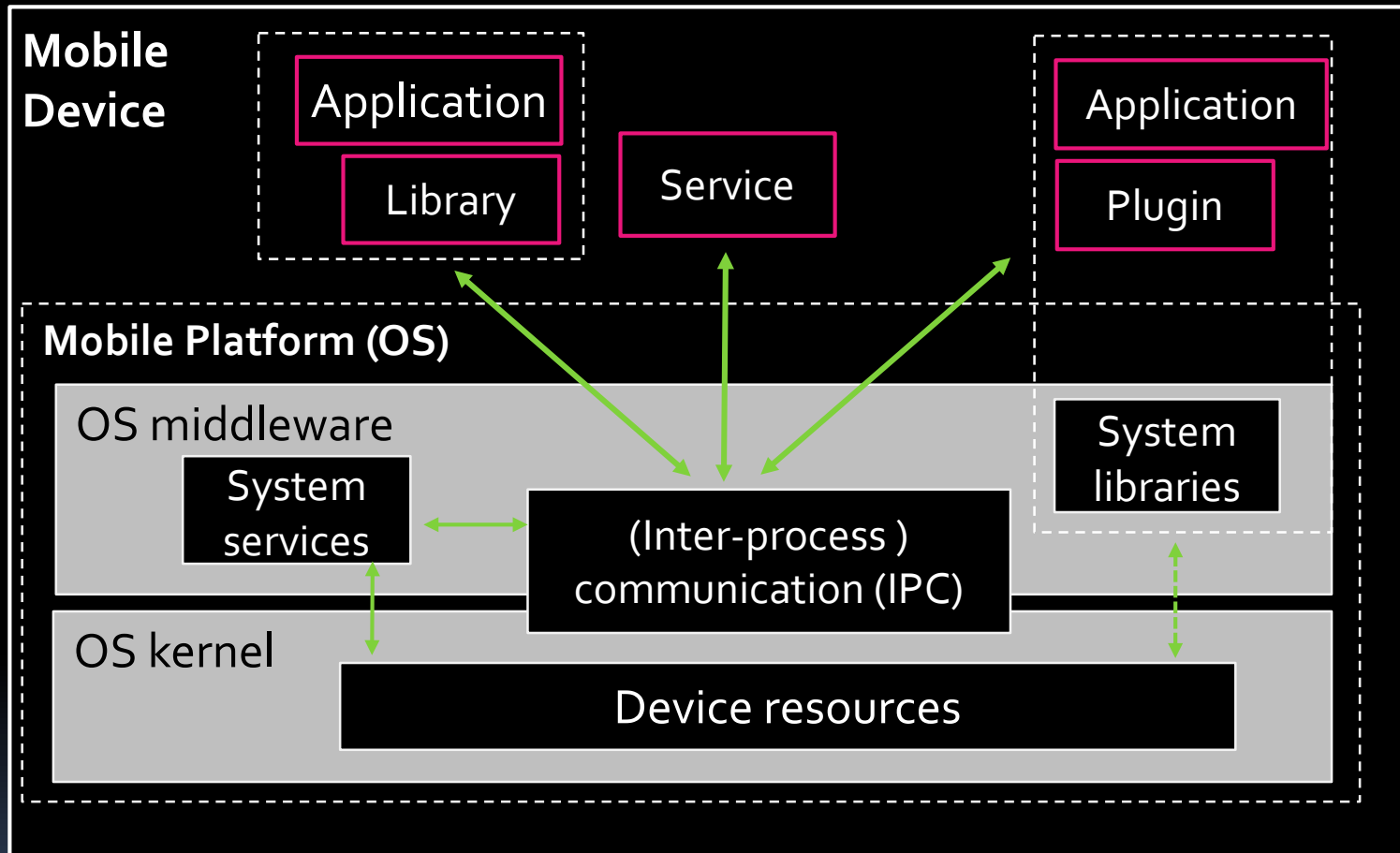
# Ecosystem stakeholders



Think about threat models!

See also: Book section 2.1.

# Mobile platform architecture



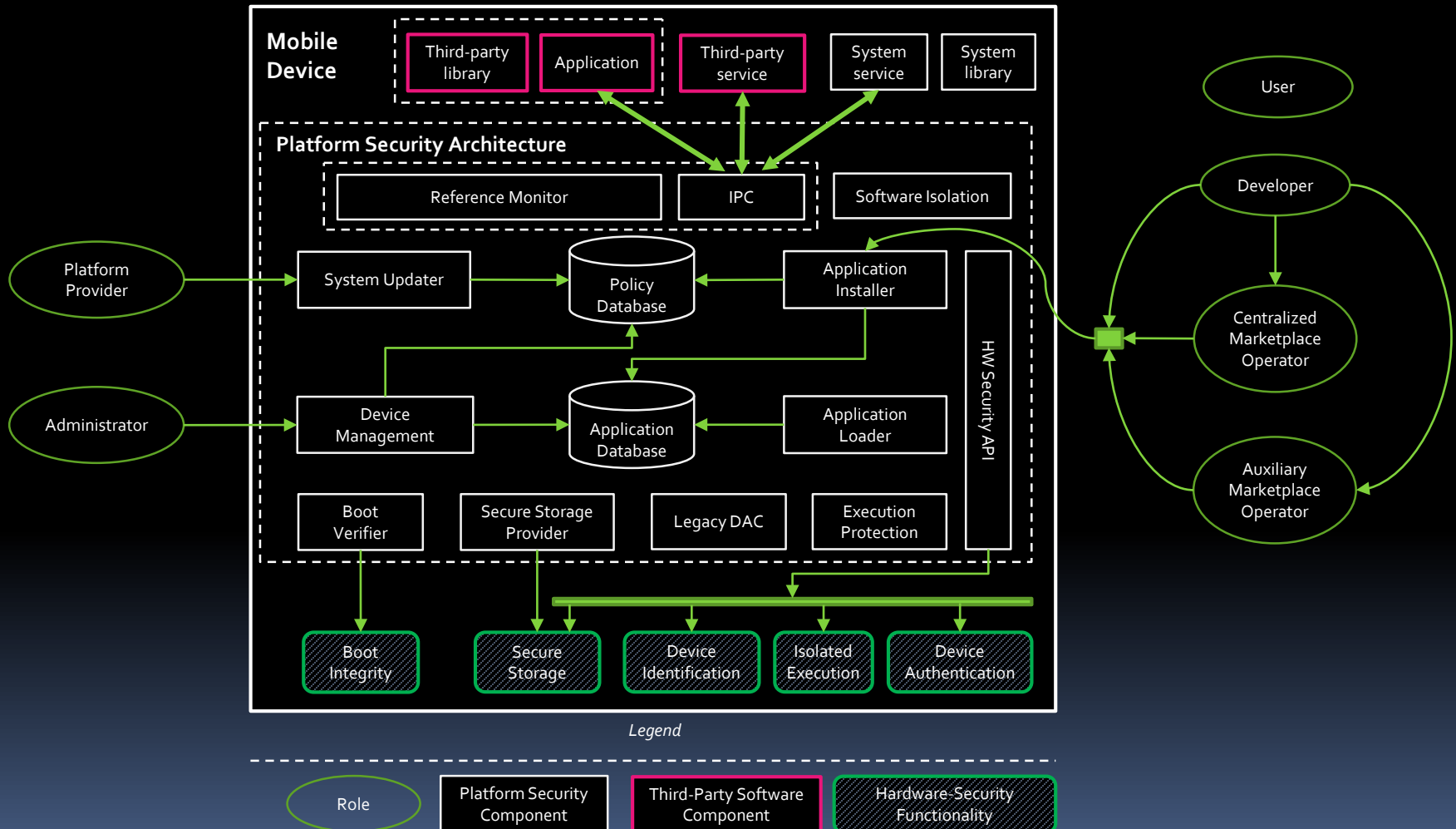
## Legend

Mobile Platform Component

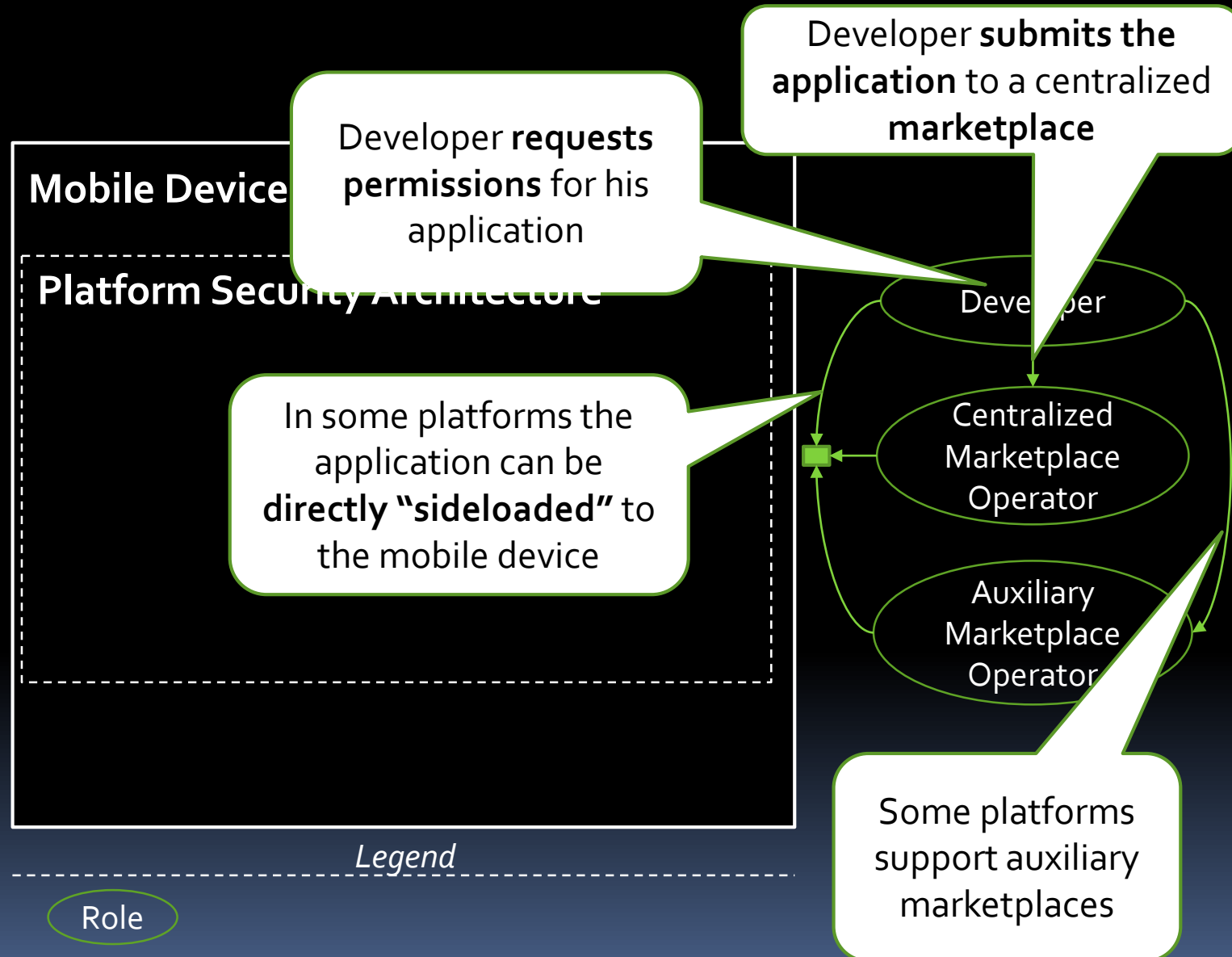
Third-Party Software Component



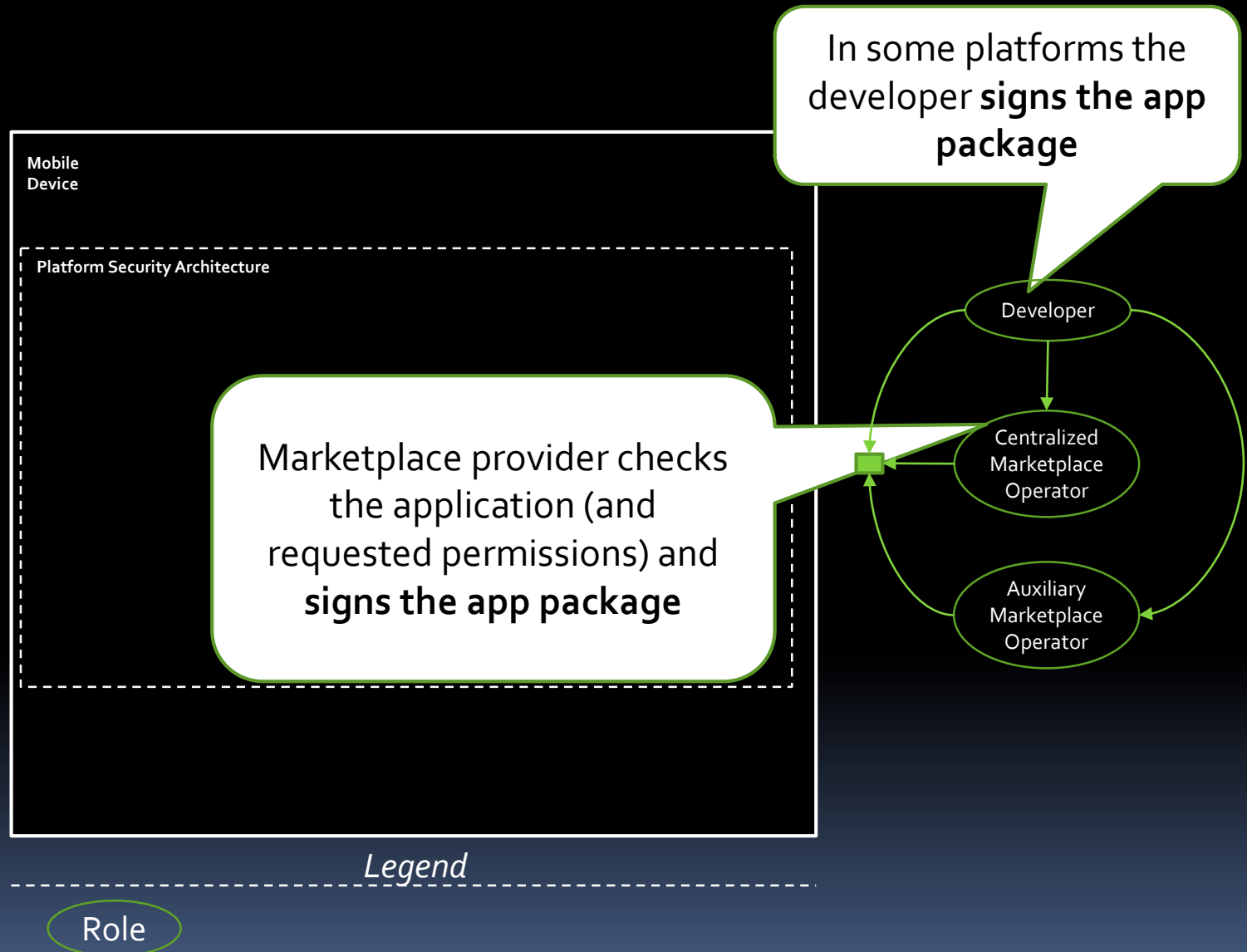
# Platform security architecture



# Step 1a: Developer publishes an application



# Step 1b: Marketplace signs the application



# Step 2: Application installation

Installer **consults local policy database** about requested permissions

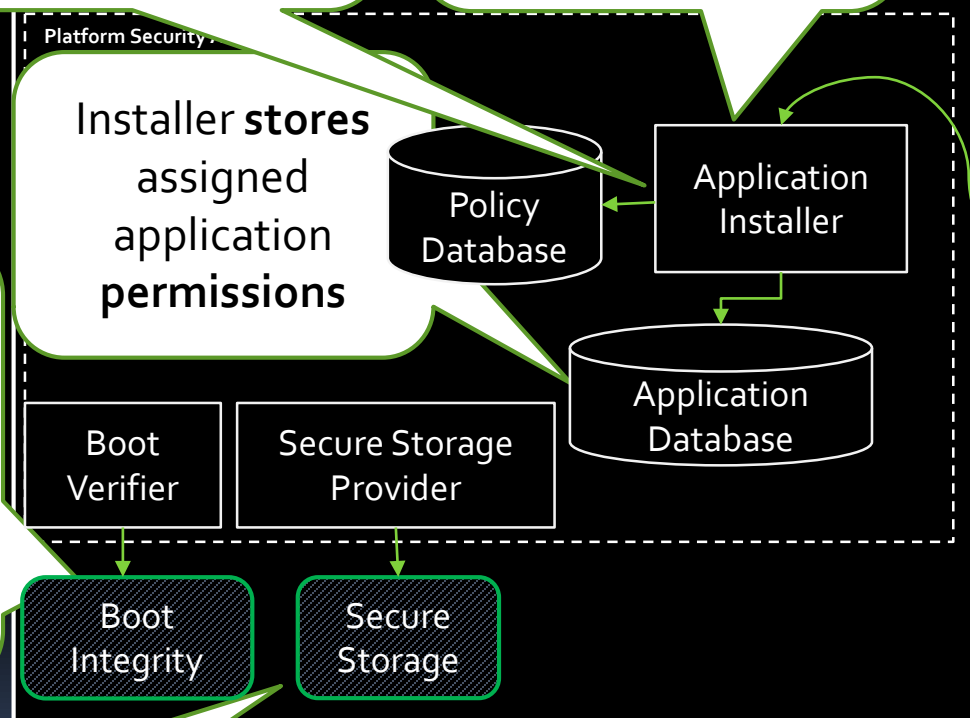
Installer **checks application signature** and requested permissions

Installer may **prompt** user to accept some of the requested permissions

Installer **stores assigned application permissions**

Application installer component needs **integrity protection**

Permission and policy databases need **integrity protection**

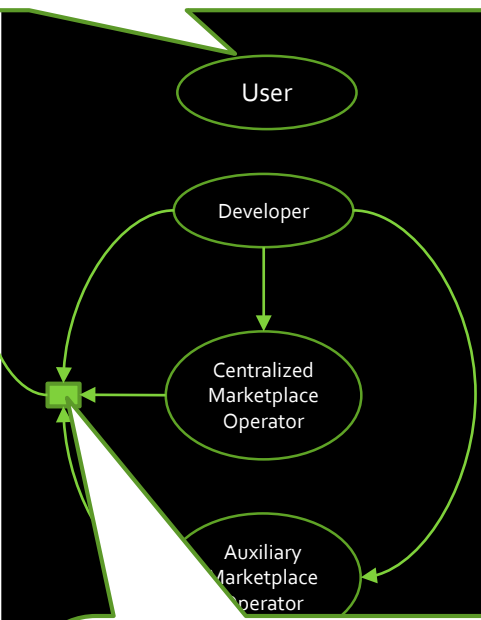


Legend

Platform Security Component

Hardware-Security Functionality

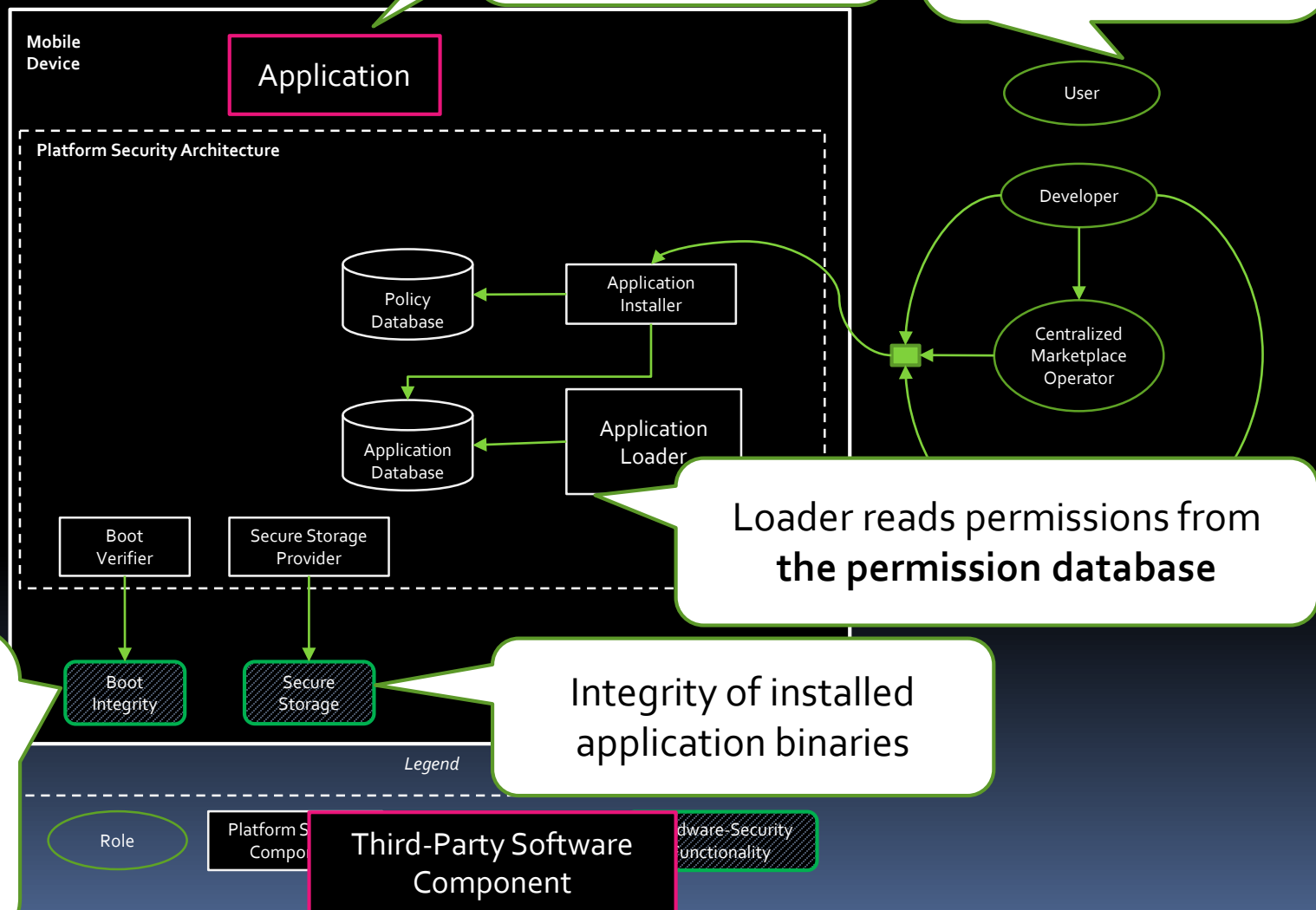
Mobile device receives an application installation package from a marketplace (or developer)



# Step 3a: Application loading

Loader **attaches permissions** to the started process

Loader may prompt user to accept some of the requested permissions



# Step 3b: Application execution

Reference monitor checks permissions to control access to system resources

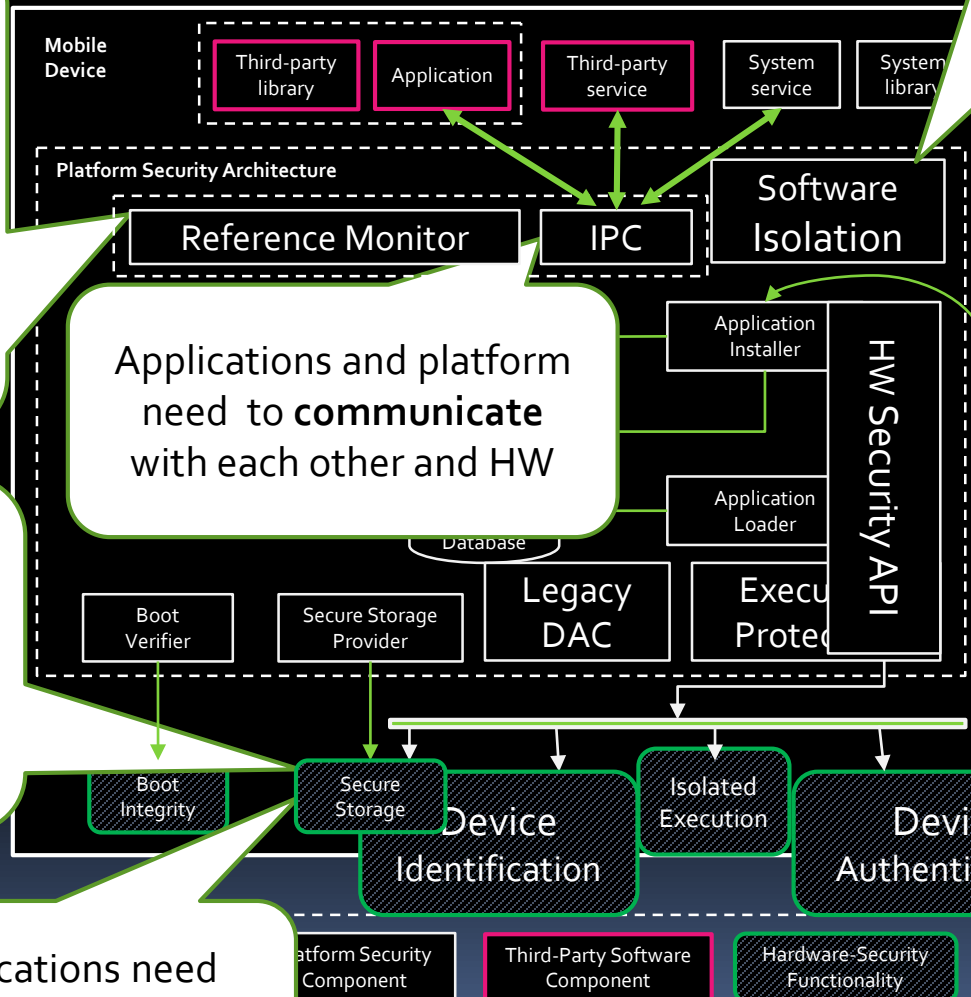
Applications and platform need to communicate with each other and HW

Some applications need secure state (e.g., DRM)

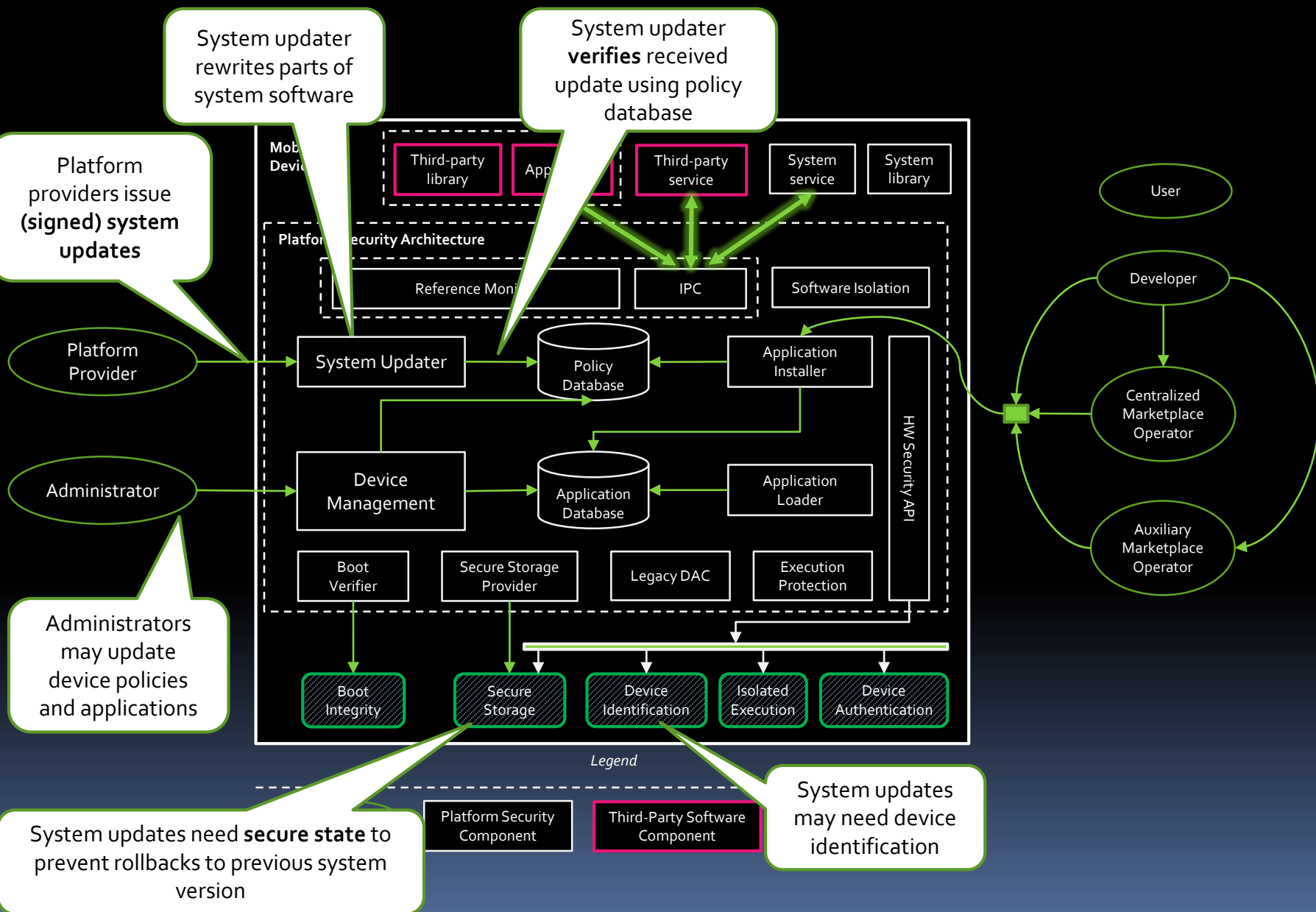
Some applications need secrecy for their persistent storage

OS/HW isolate applications from one another at runtime

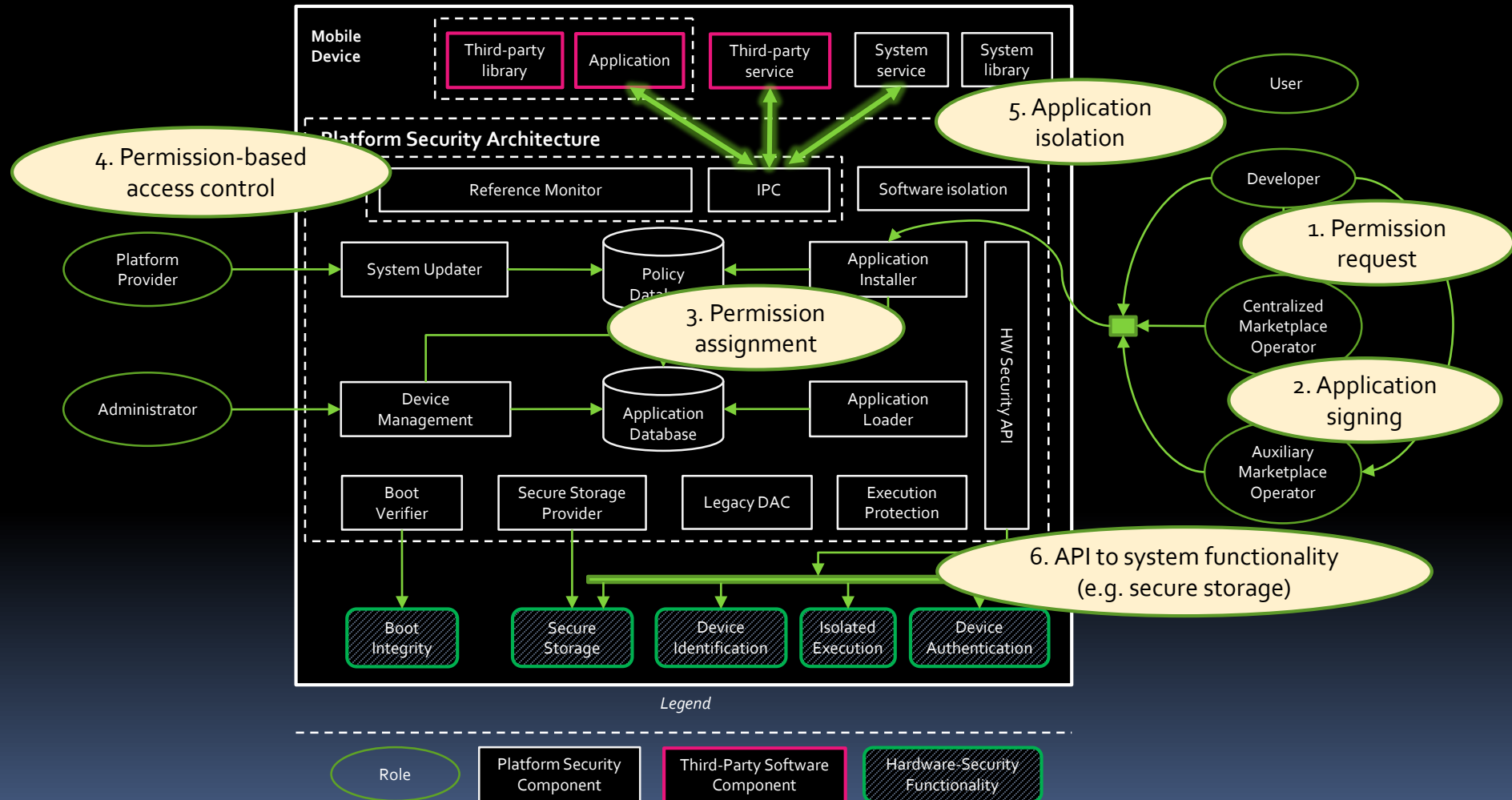
Some applications need device identification and authentication (e.g., provisioning)



# Step 4: System updates

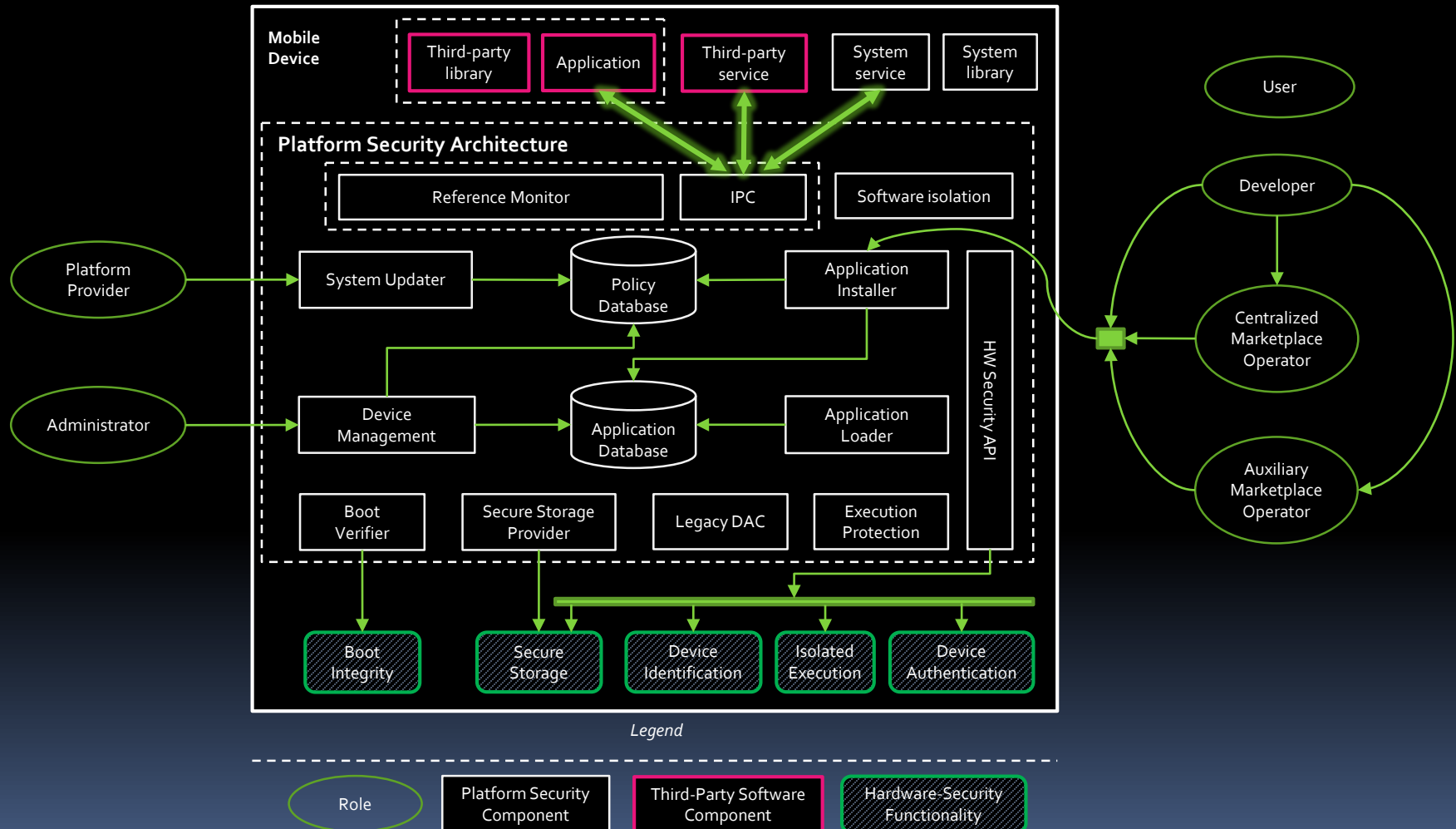


# Recap: main techniques





# Platform security architecture

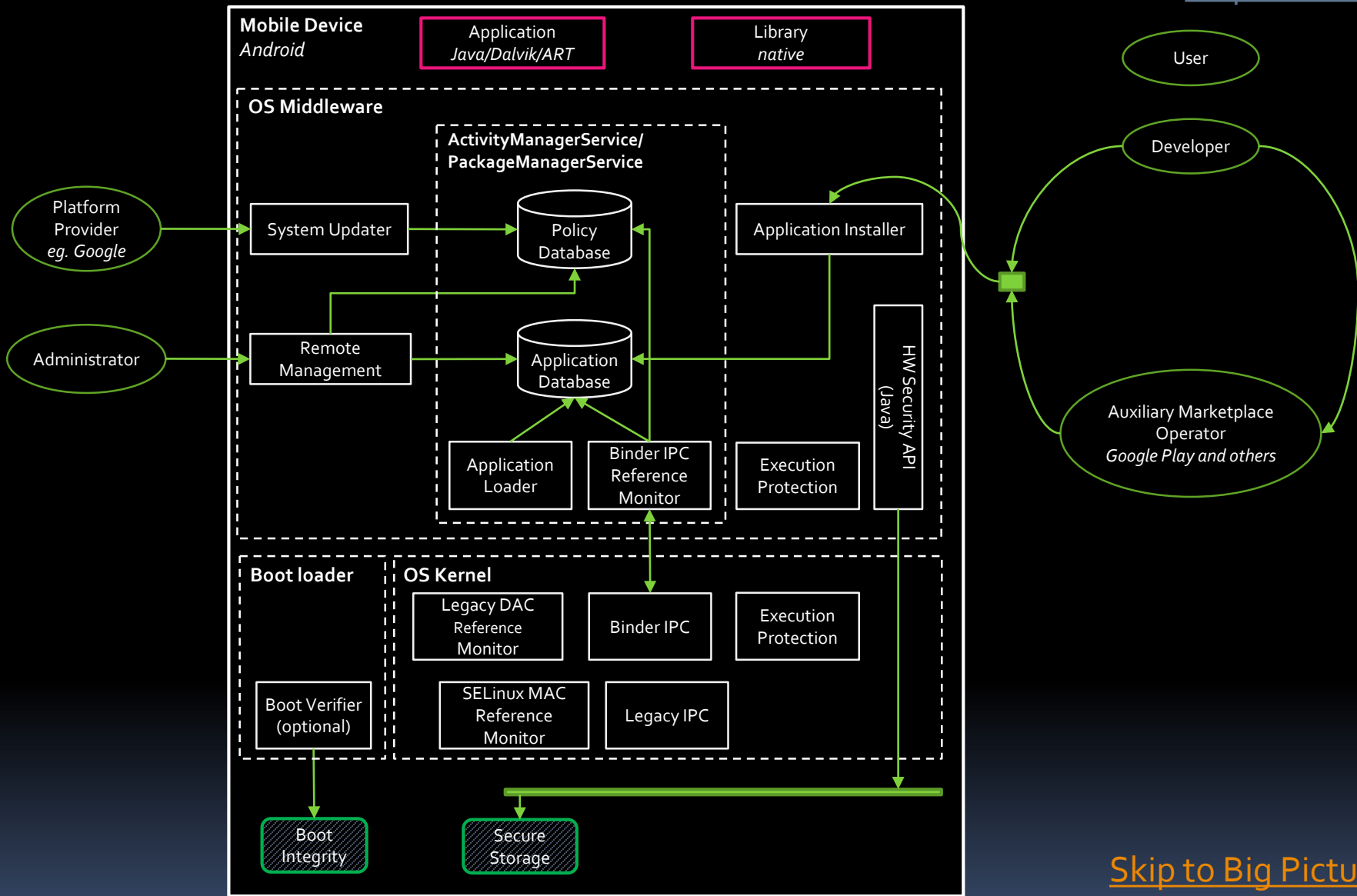


# Mobile platforms revisited

- Android ~2007
- Java ME ~2001
  - “feature phones”: 3 billion devices!
  - Not in smartphone platforms
- Symbian ~2001
  - First “smartphone” OS

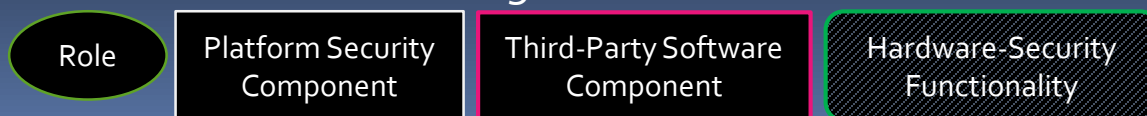
# Mobile platforms revisited

- iOS ~2007
  - iP\* devices; BSD-based
- MeeGo ~2010
  - Linux-based
  - MSSF (security architecture)
- Windows Phone ~2010
- ...



Skip to Big Picture

*Legend*



Android

# Symbian

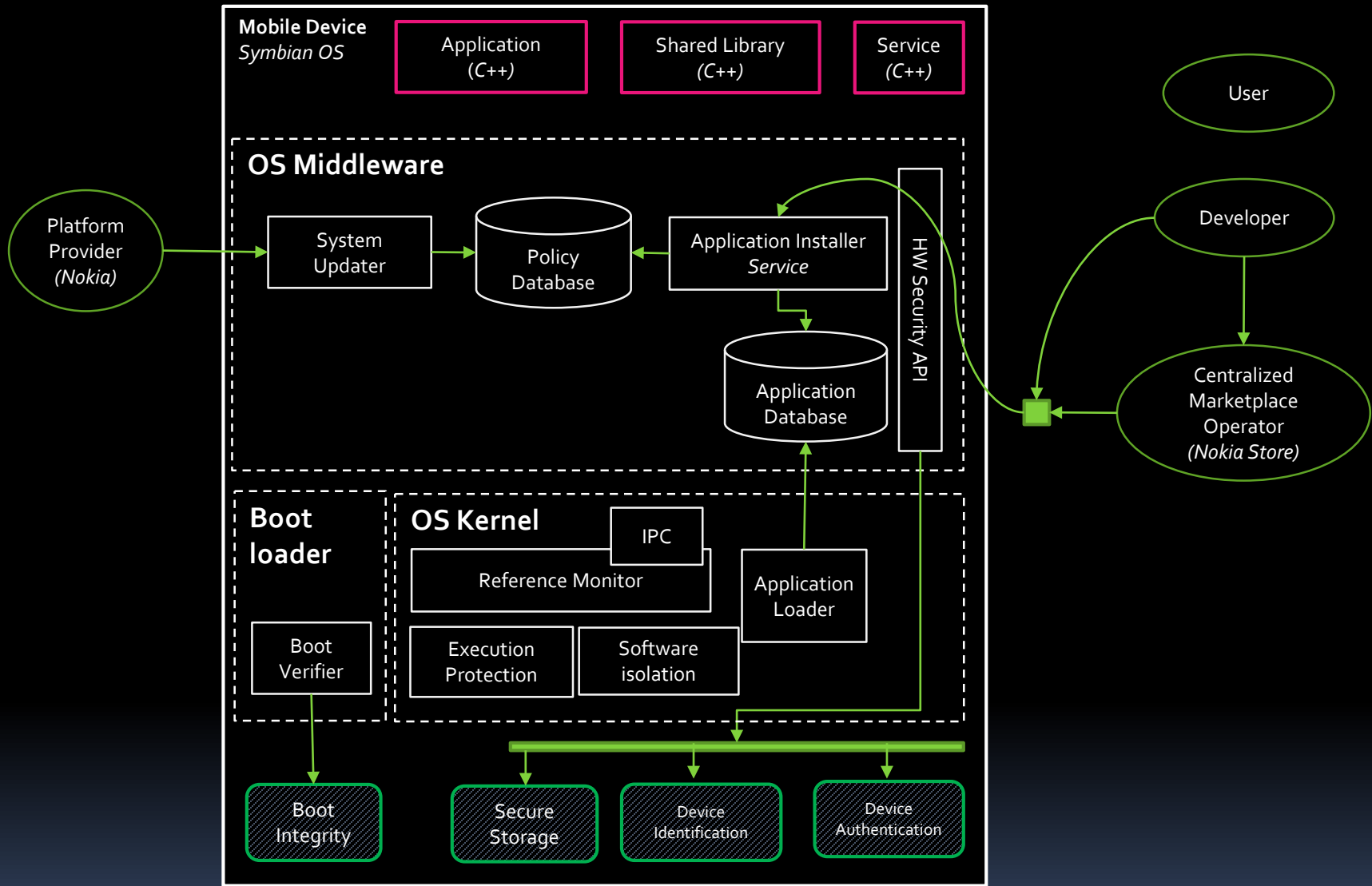
- First widely deployed smartphone OS
  - EPOC OS for Psion devices (1990s)
- Microkernel architecture:
  - OS components as user space services
  - Accessed via inter-process communication (IPC)

# Symbian Platform Security

- Introduced in ~2004
- Apps distributed via Nokia Store
  - Sideloaded supported
- Permissions are called 'capabilities', fixed set (21)
  - 4 Groups: User, System, Restricted, Manufacturer

# Symbian Platform Security

- Applications identified by:
  - UID from protected range, based on trusted code signature
  - Or UID picked by developer from unprotected range
  - Optionally, vendor ID (VID), based on trusted code signature



*Legend*



Symbian

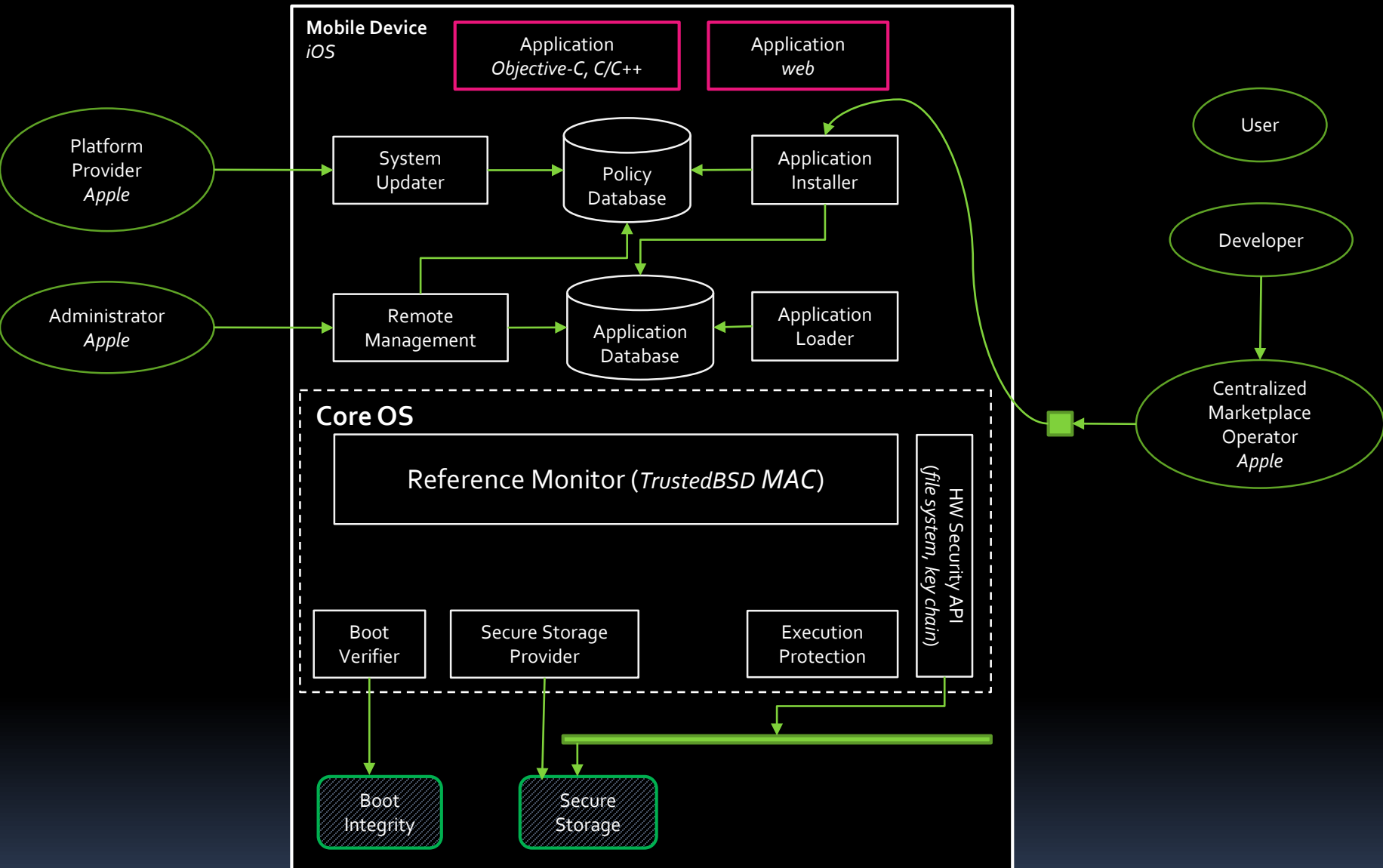


# Apple iOS

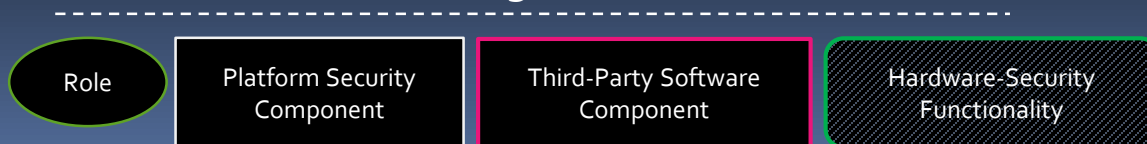
- Native application development in Objective C
  - Web applications on Webkit
- Based on Darwin + TrustedBSD kernel extension
  - TrustedBSD implements Mandatory Access Control
  - Darwin also used in Mac OS X

# iOS Platform Security

- Apps identified by unique “app IDs”
  - Cf. Android package names
- Apps distributed via iTunes App Store
- One centralized signature authority
  - Apple software vs. third party software
- Runtime protection
  - All 3<sup>rd</sup> party s/w sandboxed with same profile
  - Permissions: “entitlements” (post iOS 6)
  - Contextual permission prompts: e.g. location



### Legend

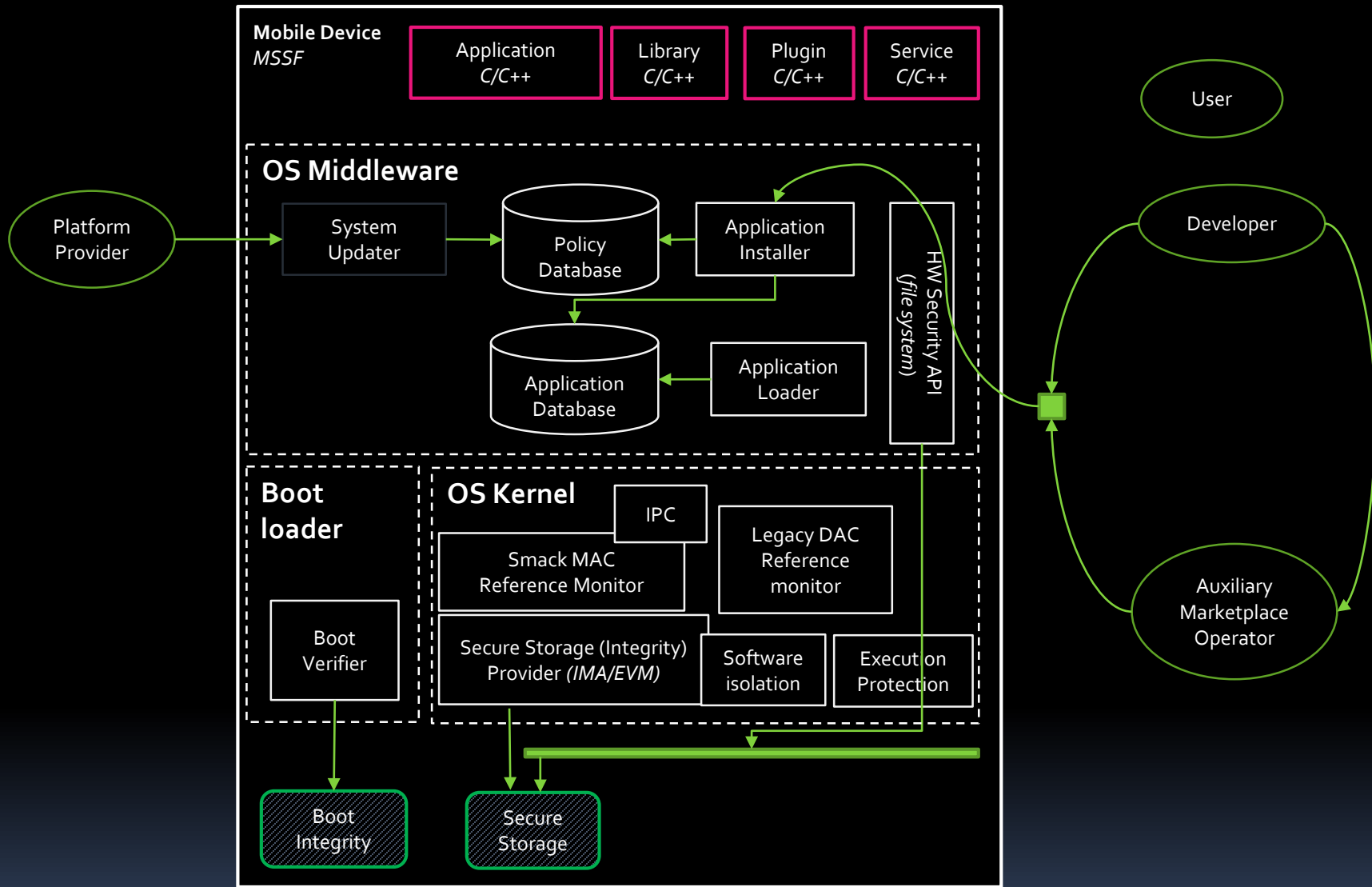


# MeeGo

- Linux-based open source OS
  - Intel, Nokia, Linux Foundation
  - Evolved from Maemo and Moblin
- Application development in Qt/C++
- Partially buried, but lives on
  - Linux Foundation shifted to HTML5-based Tizen
  - MeeGo -> Mer -> Jolla's Sailfish OS

# MeeGo Platform Security

- Mobile Simplified Security Framework (MSSF)
  - Permissions: “resource tokens”
  - Enforced via “Smack”
  - Apps identified by signatures from “software sources”
  - Policy specifies privileges grantable by software sources



*Legend*



# Model for platform security

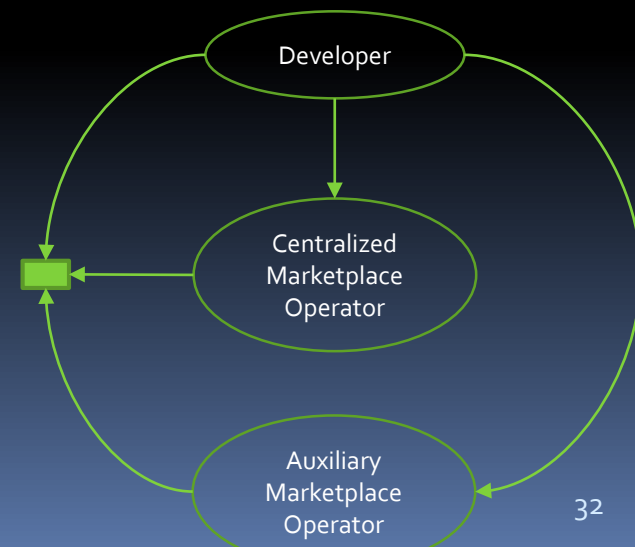
Four processes to protect:

1. Software deployment
2. Application installation
3. Runtime operation
4. Platform management

# 1. Software deployment

## Developing and publishing

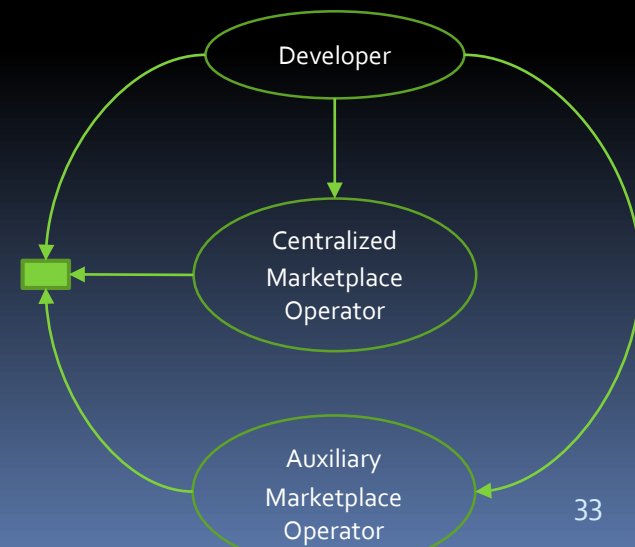
- Design choices:
  - Distribution : centralized vs. decentralized
  - App signing: certified vs. self-signed





# 1. Software deployment

- Design choices:
  - App identification: global vs. local
  - ...



More design choices discussed in book chapter 4.

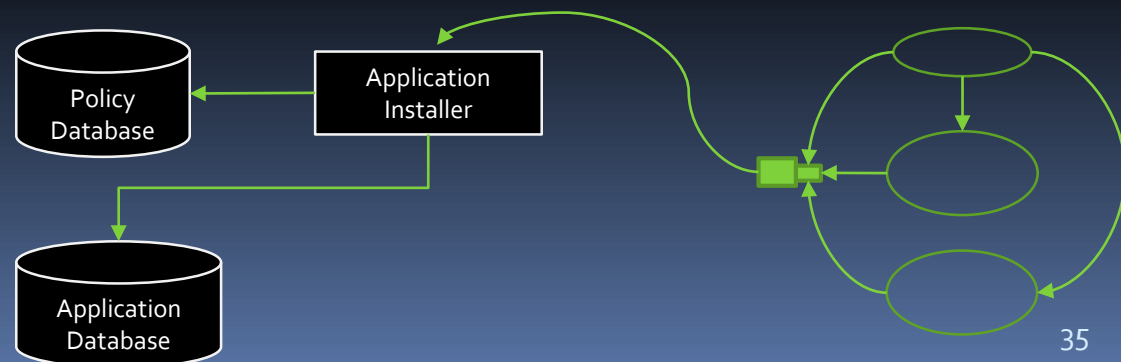
# Software deployment

	Android	iOS	MSSF	Symbian
<b>Distribution model</b>	Multiple marketplaces, sideloading	Centralized marketplace	Multiple marketplaces, sideloading	Centralized marketplace, limited sideloading
<b>Application signing</b>	Developer signature	Centralized signature	Marketplace and developer signature	Centralized or developer signing: affects set of permissions
<b>Application identifier</b>	Package ID, local Linux UID for permissions	Application ID	3-part ID: Marketplace - package - application	Application ID, vendor ID

# 2. App installation

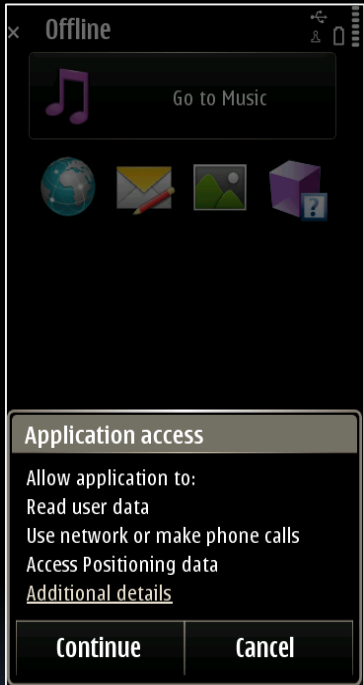
## Acquiring/installing a new app

- Design choices:
  - Permission assignment: user vs. authority?
  - Permission granularity?
  - Application updates: same origin vs. centrally authorized?



# App permissions

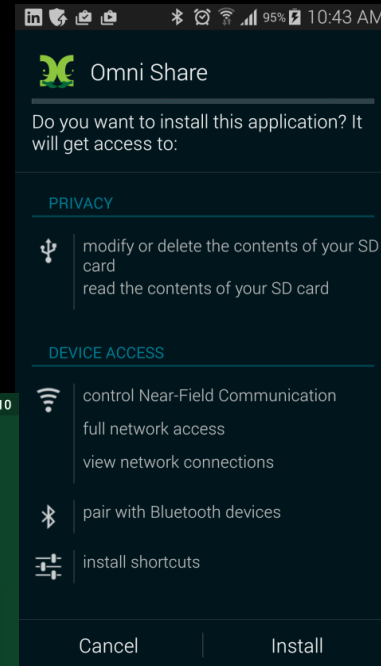
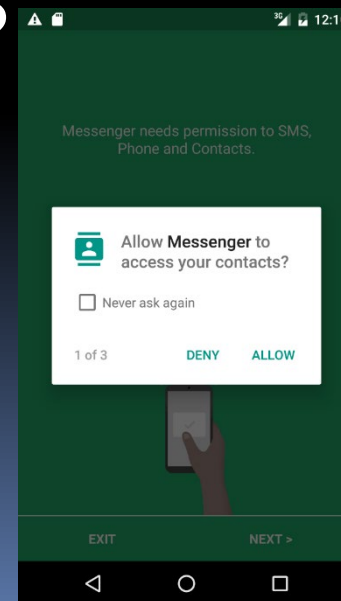
- Ask user?
  - Install or use time?
- Automatic granting?
- Revocation?
- What about libraries?



Symbian



iOS



Android

# App permissions

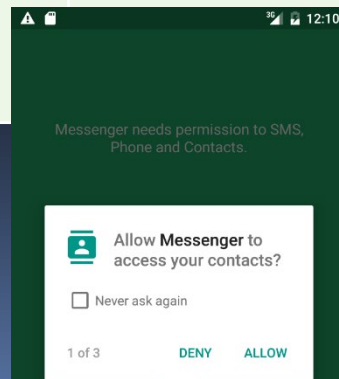
	Android	iOS	MSSF	Symbian
<b>Granularity</b>	Fine-grained	Pre-defined profiles (iOS6 entitlements)	Fine-grained	Coarse-grained
<b>Assignment</b>	Ask user or app signature	Fixed profile for all apps	Marketplace-specific rights profiles	Ask user or centralized signature
<b>Ask user: presentation</b>	by group (11), install time & runtime (6.o)	by name, runtime	never ask	by name (21), install time

Both Android (> 6.o) and iOS allow revocation of granted permissions

# App permissions

- Runtime permission changes

	Android	iOS	MSSF	Symbian
Changes in process permissions at runtime	Pre 6.0: Constant (except URI permissions) > 6.0: User can change rights	User can change rights	Rights can increase by plugin loading, <b>decrease by request</b>	Constant (library loading can fail)
Permissions of libraries	App's permissions	App's permissions	Union of app and library permissions	App's permissions (library perms must be a superset)



# App updates

- Who can update an app?
  - Same-origin: same dev. key
  - Trusted marketplace(s)
  - Allow anyone

	Android	iOS	MSSF	Symbian
<b>Updates allowed if...</b>	Same-origin: must match old version's developer key	Centrally signed	Marketplace's trust level high enough	Protected? Same-origin; Unprotected? Anyone

# 3. Runtime operation

- Design choices:
  - Permission enforcement: where?
  - App data protection: how to secure storage?



Hardware support: Later in Lecture 3, Lecture 4



# Runtime operation

- Access control enforcement: where is "reference monitor"?

	Android	iOS	MSSF	Symbian
<b>Where is access control enforced?</b>	UID/GID-based in kernel + IPC access control in Binder + application code	Centralized	D-Bus framework + socket IPC in kernel + application code	Reference monitor for IPC calls + application code

# Protecting data & code

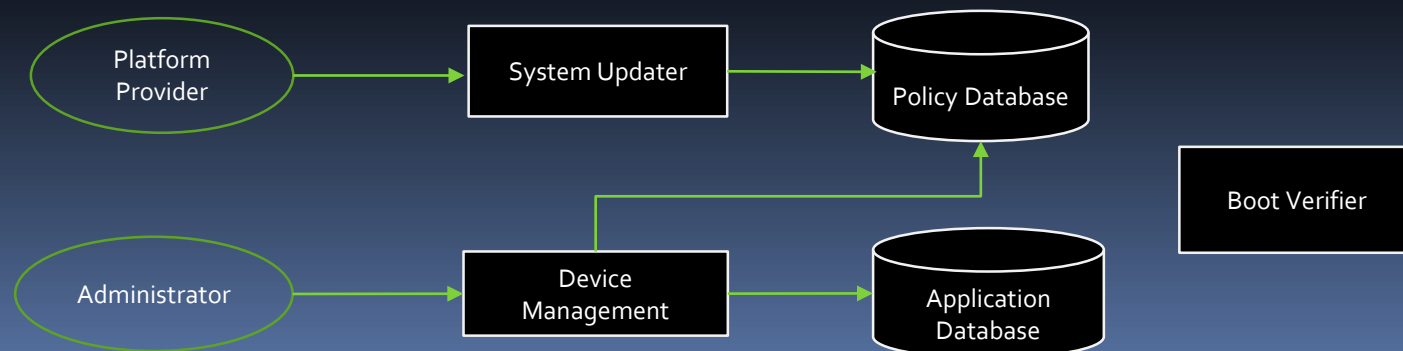
- Applications: isolation for data access
- Platform: executables (see later)

	Android	iOS	MSSF	Symbian
<b>Application data integrity</b>	Own directory and Linux access control	Access to own directory only	Permission-based policies	Own directory

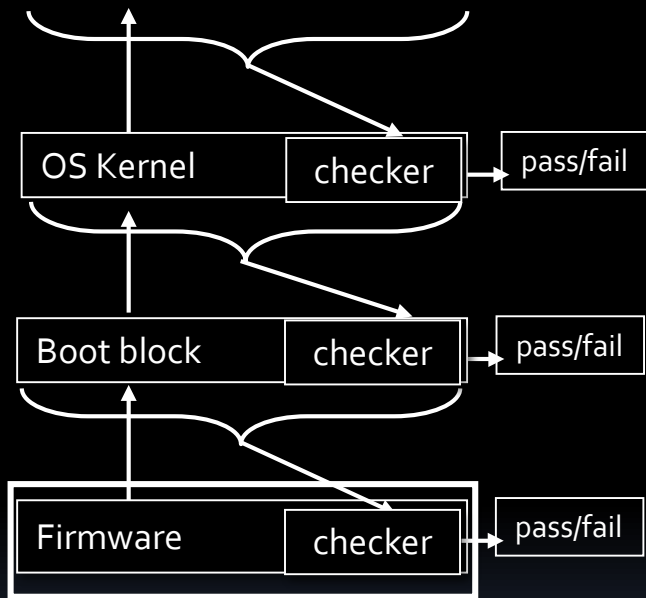
# 4. Platform management

Bootup, platform integrity, updates

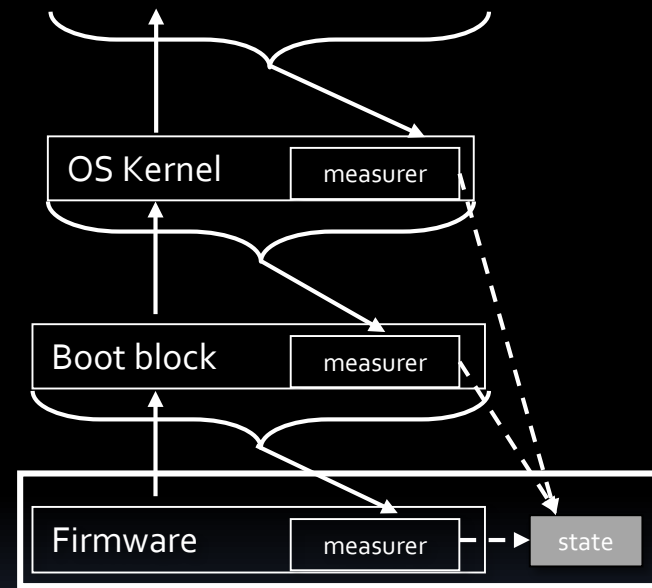
- Design choices:
  - Boot integrity: secure vs. authenticated?



# Secure boot vs. authenticated boot



Secure boot



Authenticated boot

# Boot integrity

- Secure boot
  - Only authorized images can be booted
- Authenticated boot
  - Access levels depend on booted image

	Android	iOS	MeeGo	Symbian
<b>Platform boot integrity</b>	Vendor-specific, verified boot	Secure boot	Secure boot, authenticated boot	Secure boot

# Platform data integrity

	Android	iOS	MeeGo	Symbian
<b>Platform data integrity</b>	Linux A/C, SELinux, UID-based sandboxing	Dedicated directory, code signing enforcement	Linux A/C, Smack, IMA, EVM	Dedicated directory

- IMA: Integrity measurement architecture
- EVM: Extended validation module

(see "[An Overview of The Linux Integrity Subsystem](#)")

# The big picture

## Recurring common themes

- Permission-based security architectures
  - VAX/VMS privileges (~1970's): adapted for applications
  - Code signing (mid 1990's): adapted for application installation
- Application/process isolation

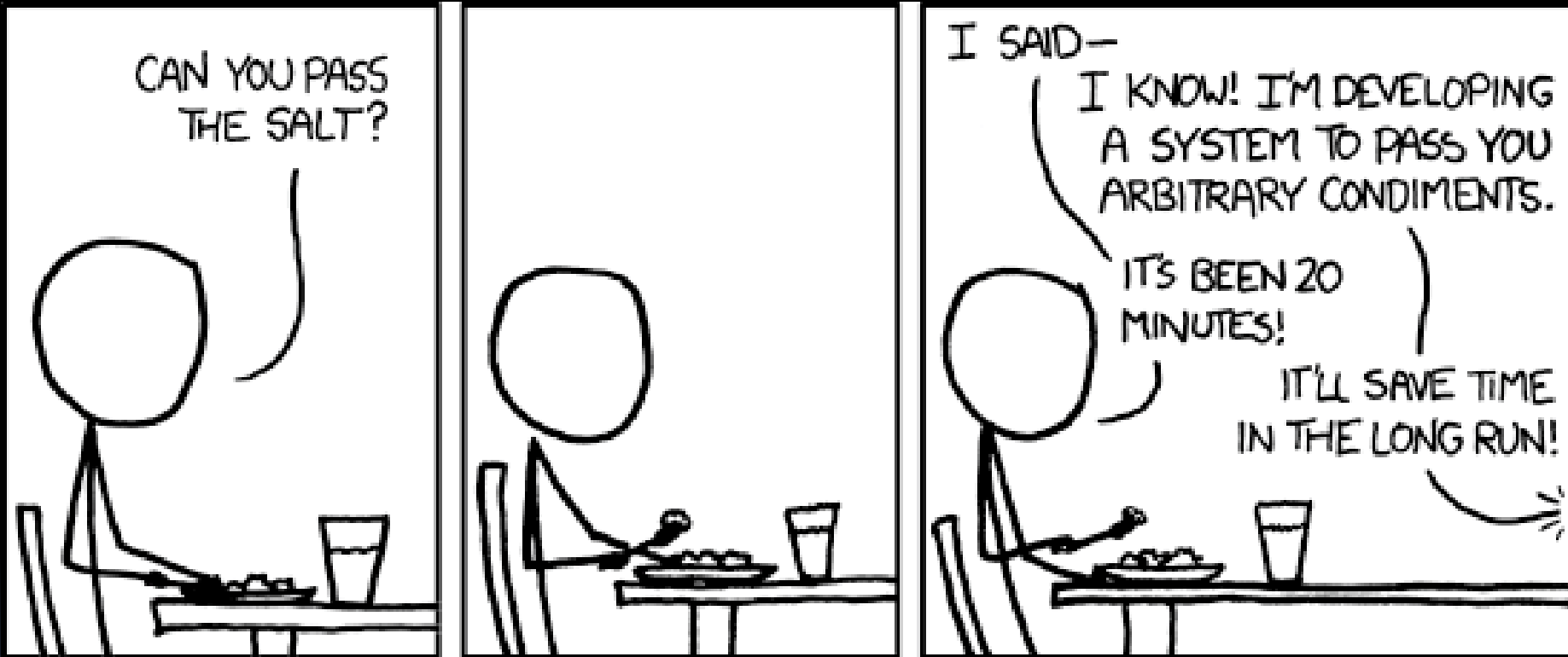
# The big picture

Different choices in the design space lead to different architectures

Open issues remain: can you think of some?

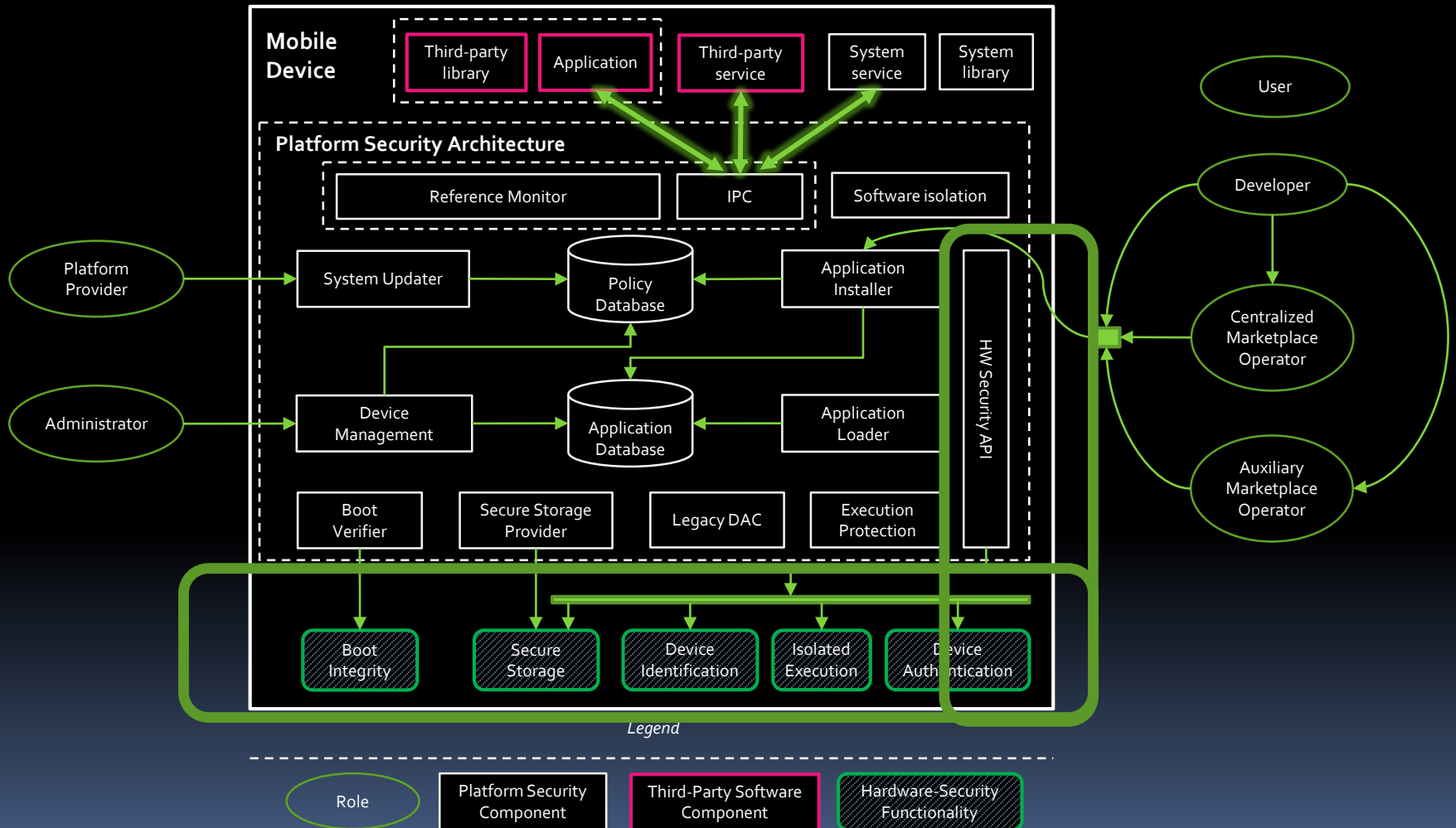


# Why Generalize?



“The General Problem” <http://xkcd.com/974/>

# Platform security architecture



# Hardware platform security

## Trusted Execution Environment

HW Security API

Boot  
Integrity

Secure  
Storage

Device  
Identification

Isolated  
Execution

Device  
Authentication

# What is a TEE?

Processor, memory, storage, peripherals

## Trusted Execution Environment

Isolated and integrity-protected

Chances are that:

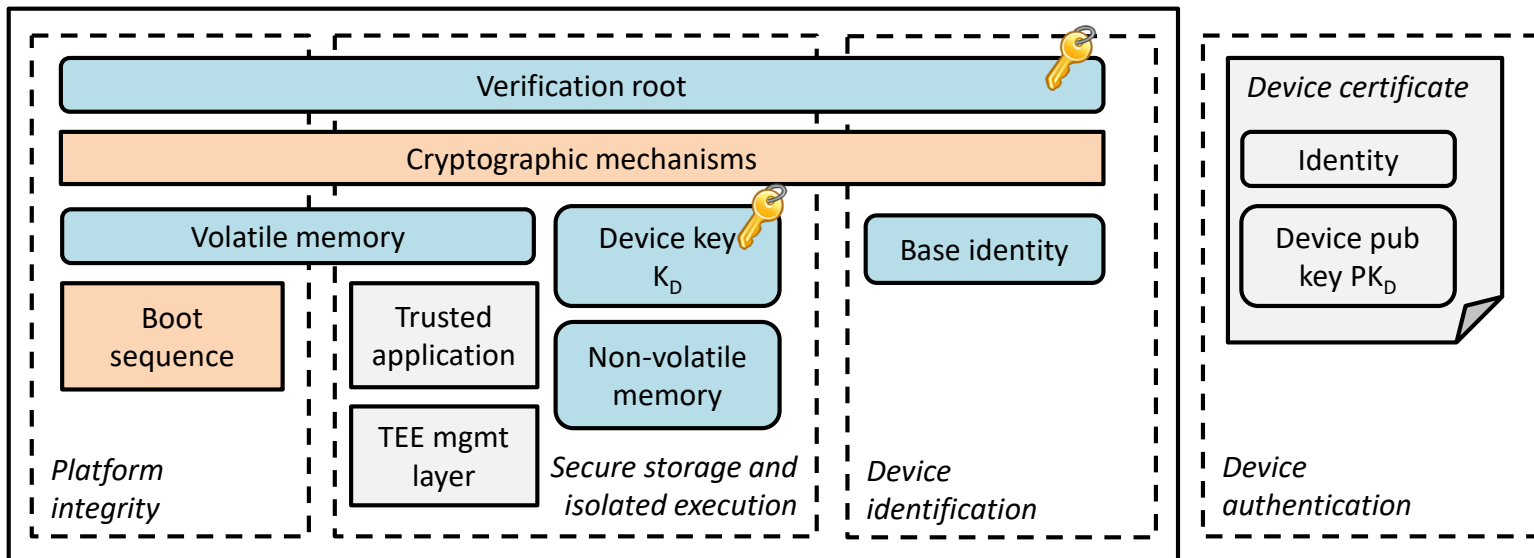
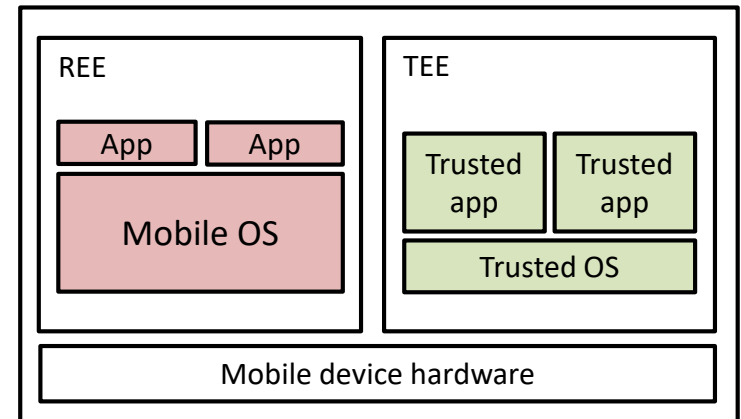
You have devices with hardware-based TEEs in them!

But you don't have (m)any apps using them

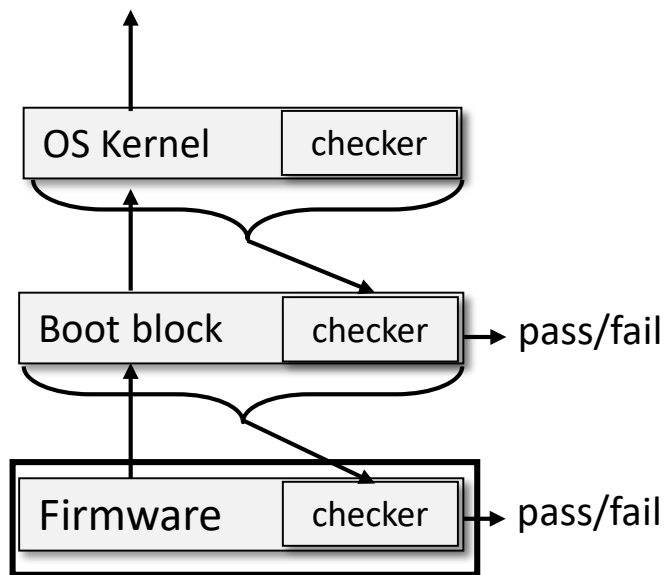
From the "normal" execution environment (Rich Execution Environment)

# TEE overview

1. Platform integrity (“boot integrity”)
2. Secure storage
3. Isolated execution
4. Device identification
5. Device authentication



# Secure boot vs. authenticated boot

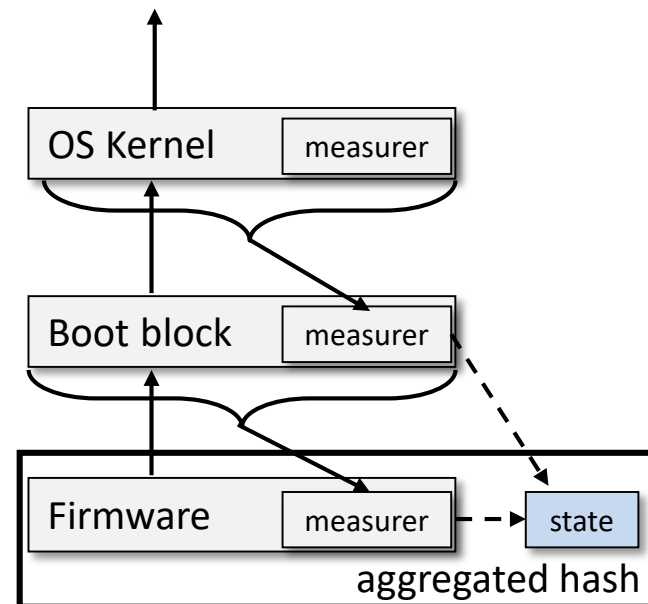


Secure boot

## Why?

How will you implement a checker?

- hardcode  $H(\text{Boot block}|\text{checker})$  as reference value in checker (in Firmware)?

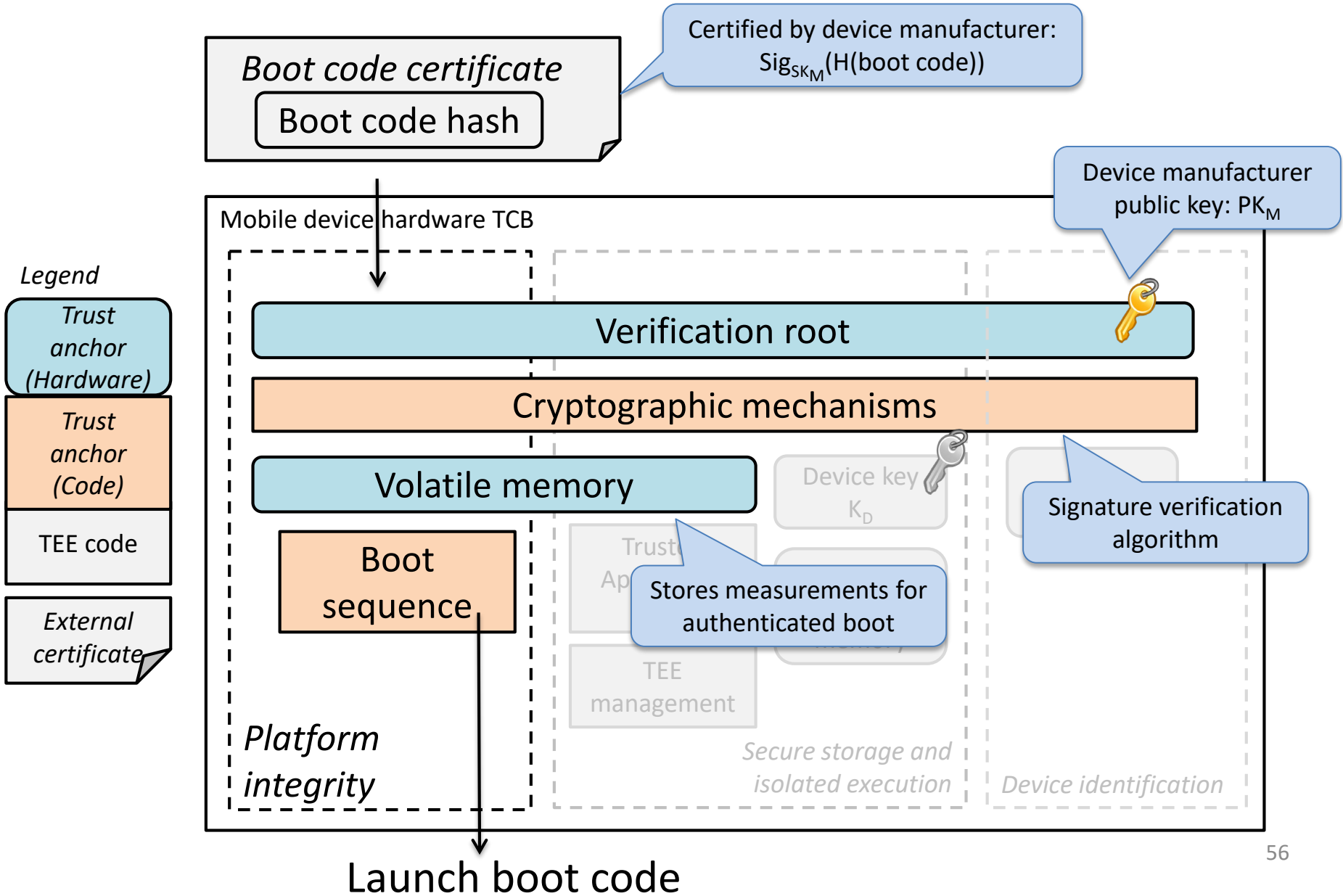


## Why? Authenticated boot

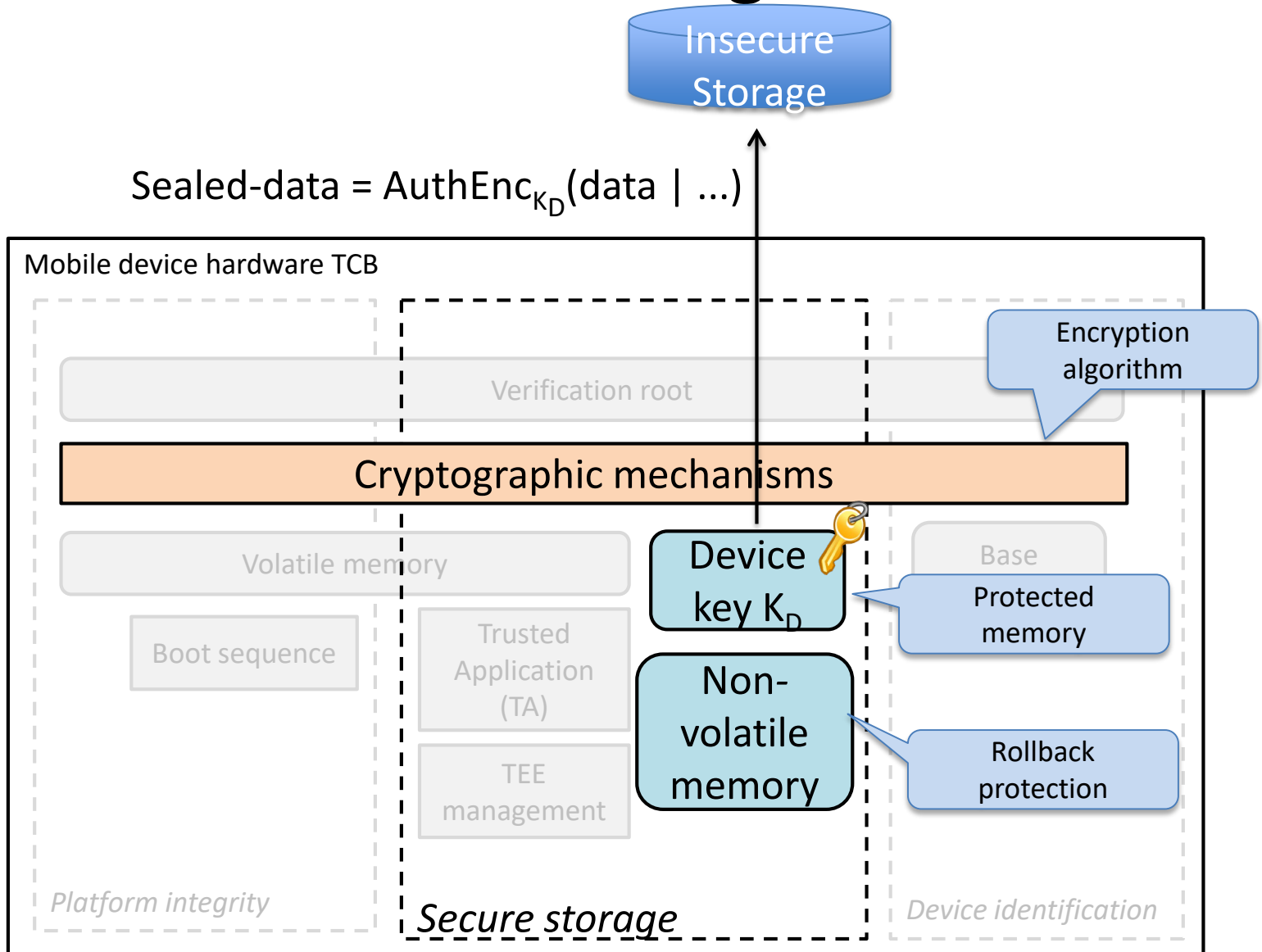
State can be:

- bound to stored secrets (sealing)
- reported to external verifier (remote attestation)

# Platform integrity

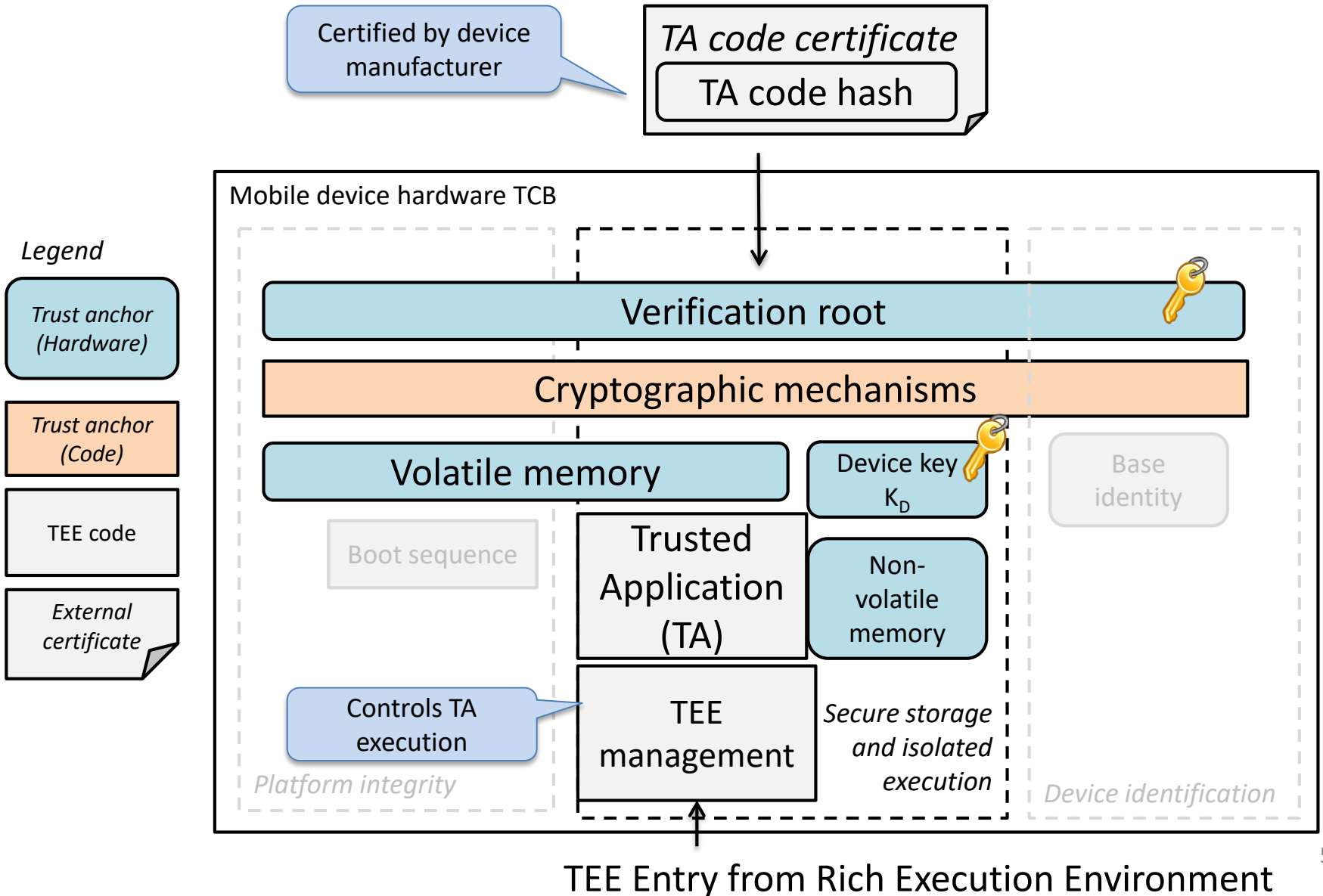


# Secure storage





# Isolated execution



# Device identification

Multiple assigned identities  
(Certified by device manufacturer)



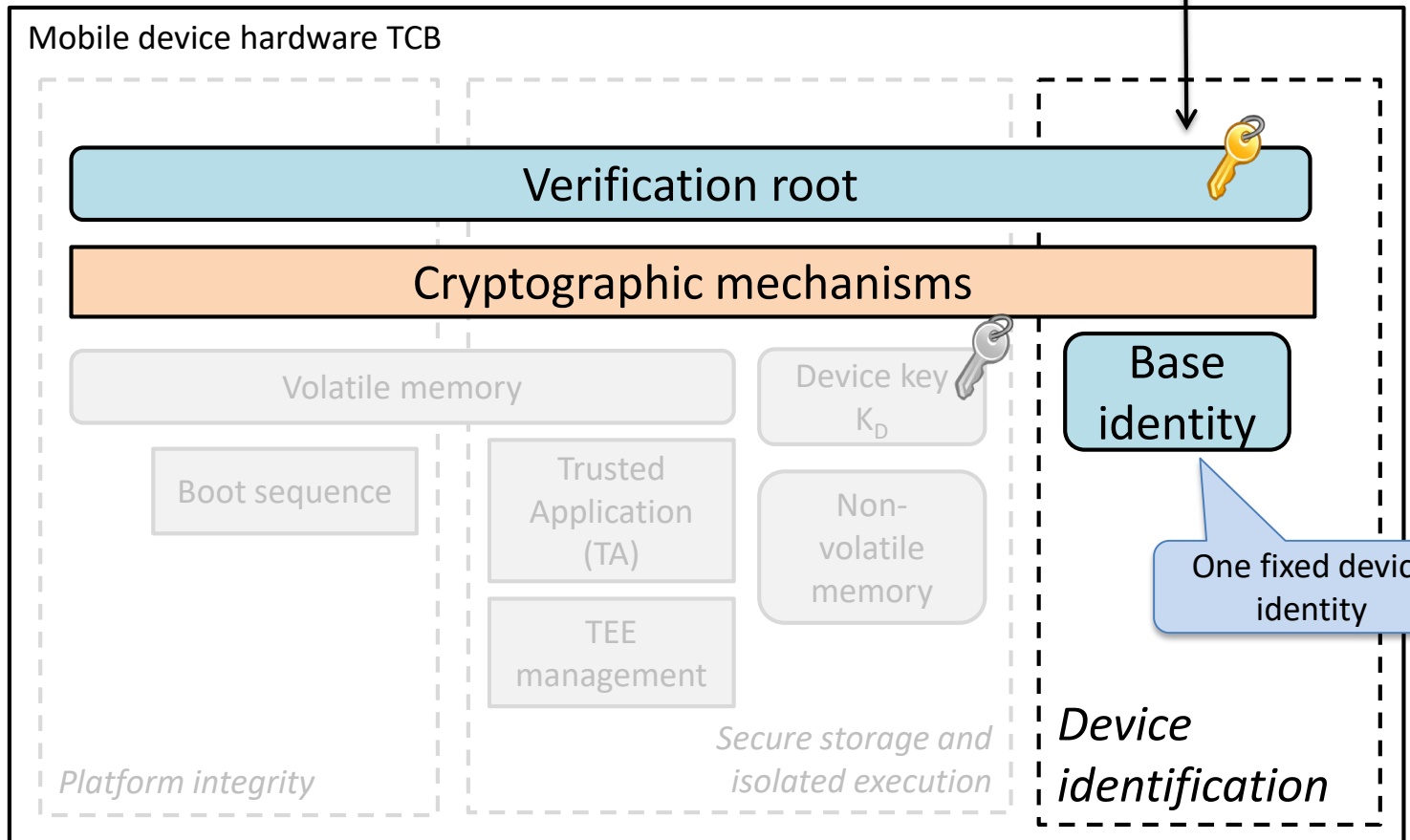
## Legend

Trust anchor  
(Hardware)

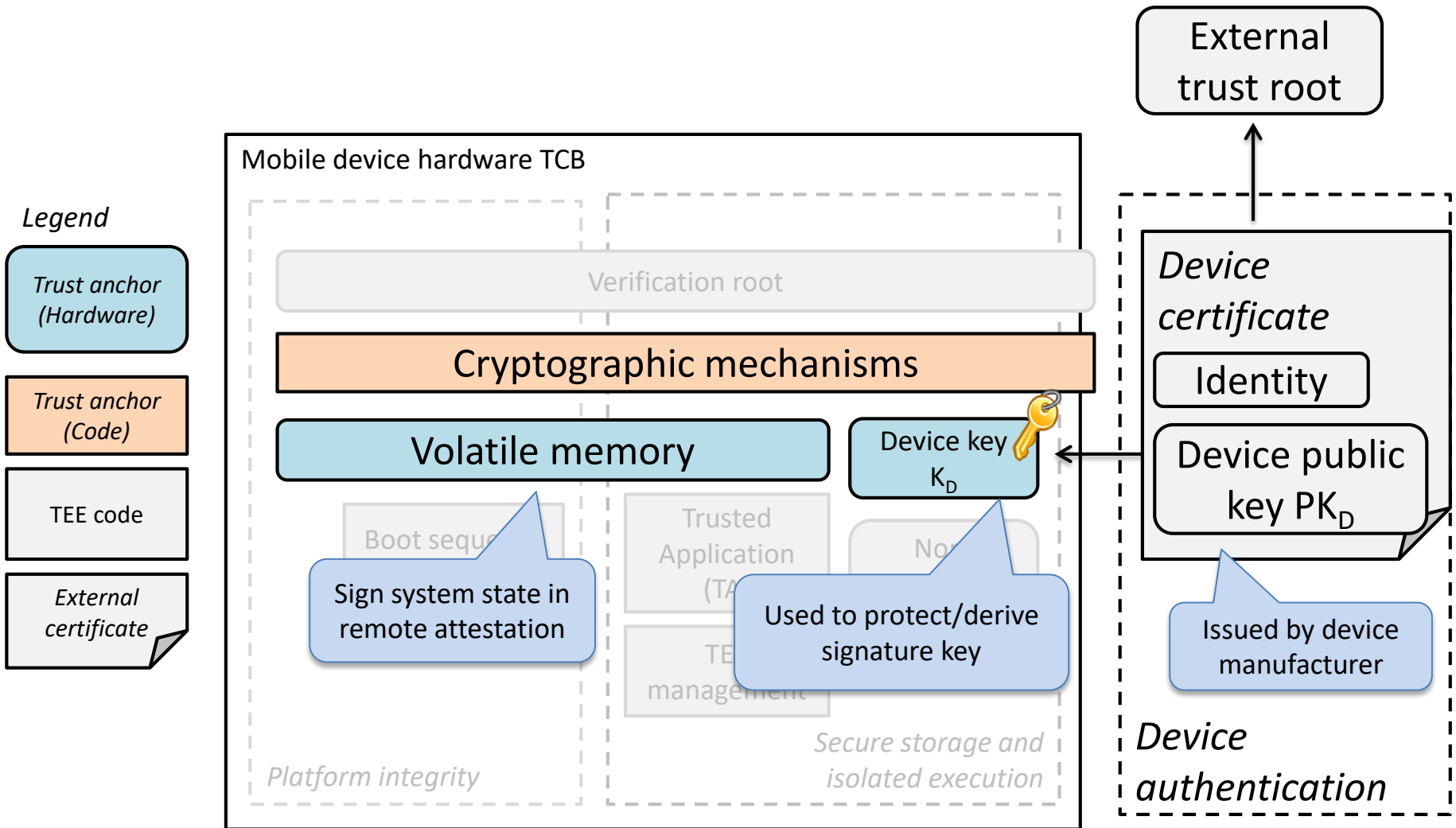
Trust anchor  
(Code)

TEE code

External  
certificate

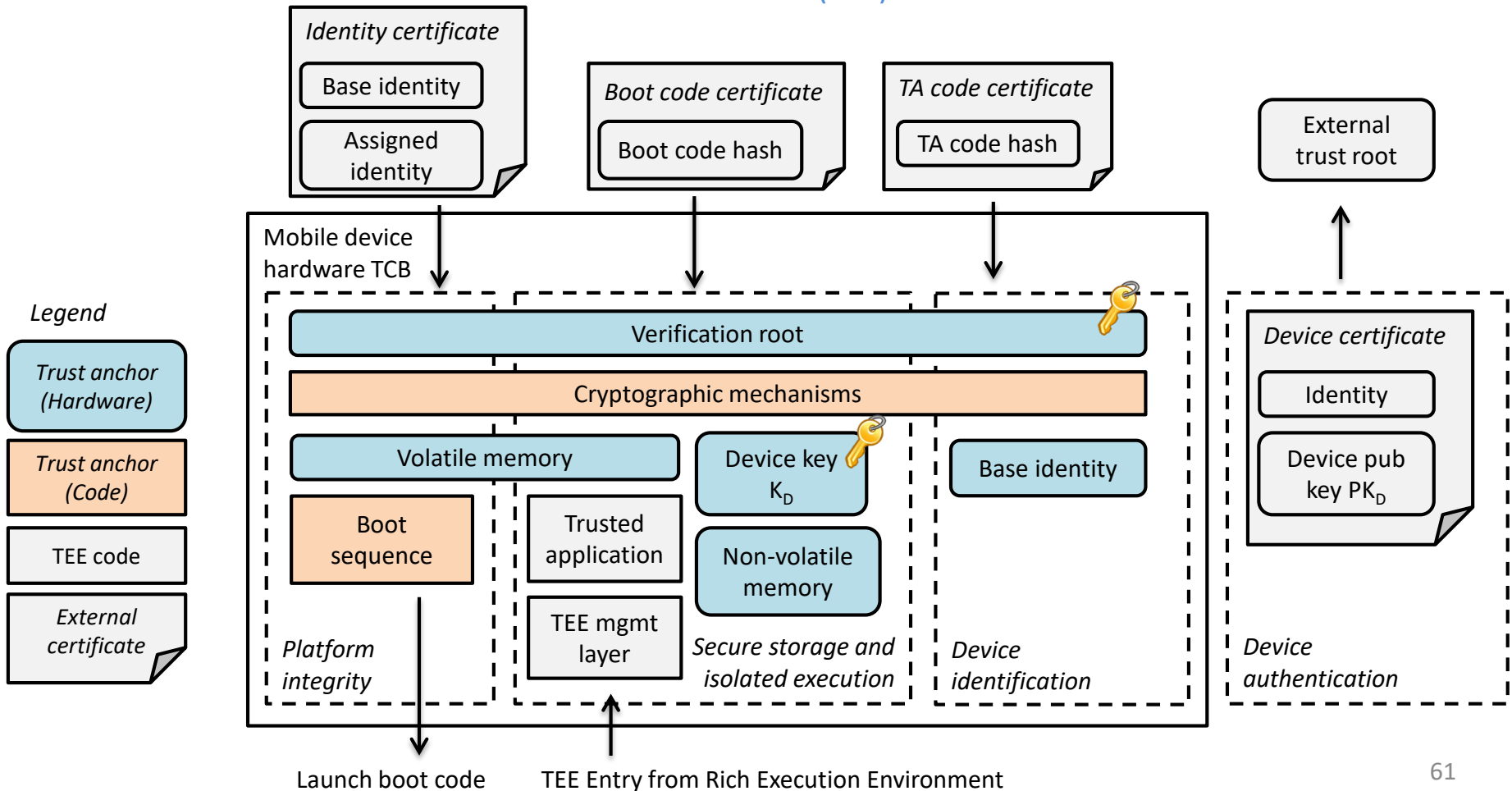


# Device authentication (and remote attestation)

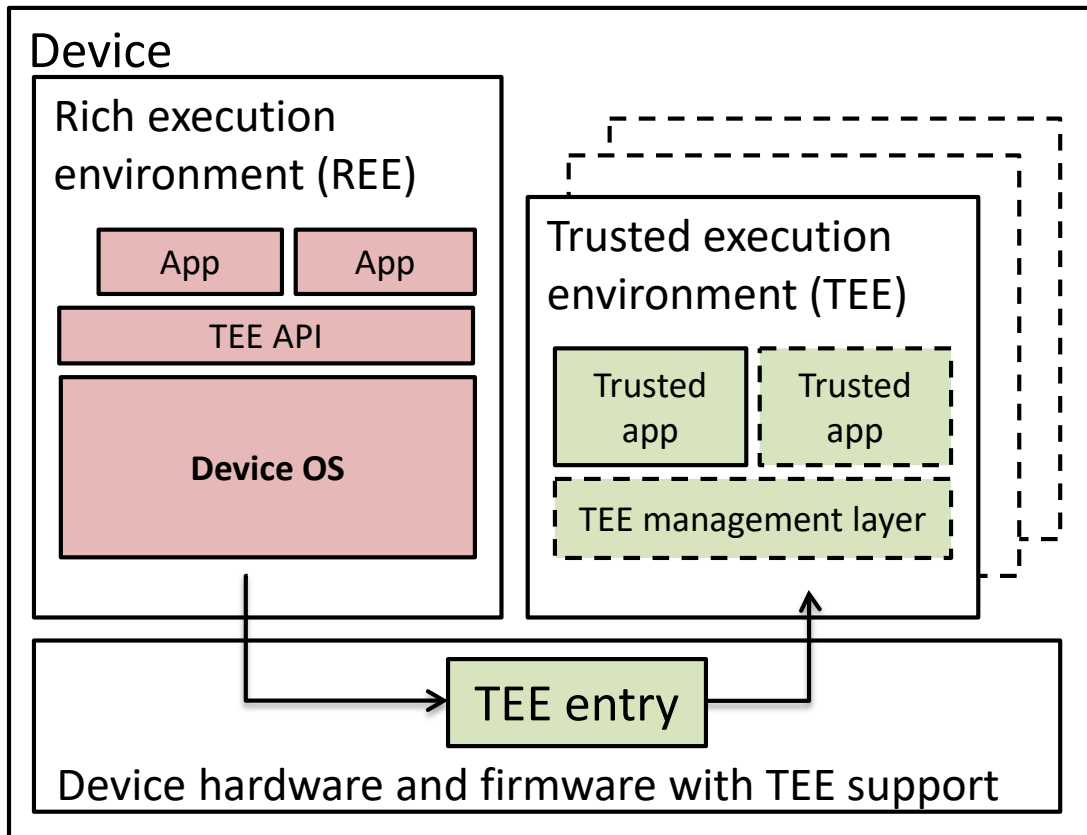


# Hardware security mechanisms (recap)

1. Platform integrity
  - Secure boot
  - Authenticated boot
2. Secure storage
3. Isolated execution
  - Trusted Execution Environment (TEE)
4. Device identification
5. Device authentication
  - Remote attestation



# TEE system architecture



## Architectures with single TEE

- ARM TrustZone
- TI M-Shield
- Smart card
- Crypto co-processor
- Trusted Platform Module (TPM)

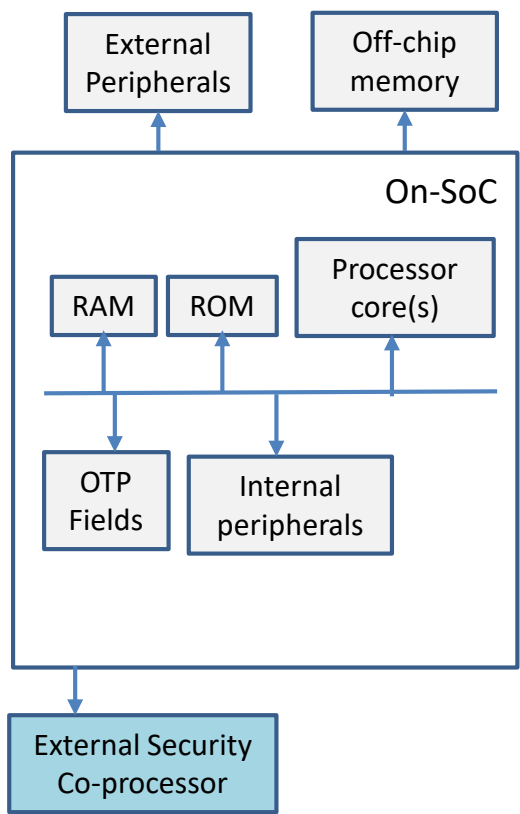
## Architectures with multiple TEEs

- Intel SGX
- TPM (and “Late Launch”)
- Hypervisor

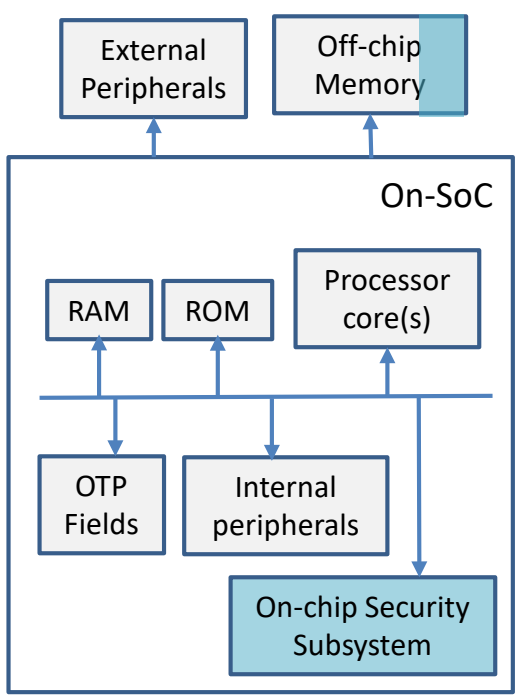
Legend:  
 SoC : system-on-chip  
 OTP: one-time programmable

# TEE hardware realization alternatives

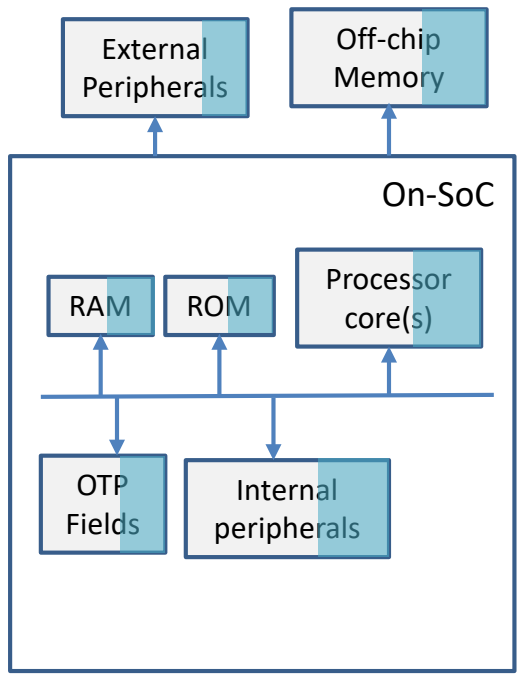
TEE component



External Secure Element  
(TPM, smart card)



Embedded Secure Element  
(smart card)



Processor Secure Environment  
(TrustZone, M-Shield)

Figure adapted from: Global Platform. [TEE system architecture](#). 2011.

# Did you learn:

- What techniques are used in mobile software platform security?
- What techniques are used in mobile hardware platform security?
- Is there a common general architecture?

# Plan for the course

- Lecture 1: Platform security basics
- Lecture 2: Case study – Android OS Platform Security
- Lecture 3: Mobile platform security
- Lecture 4: Hardware security enablers
- Lecture 5: Usability of platform security
- Lecture 6: Summary and outlook
- Lecture 7: SE Android policies
- Lecture 8: Machine learning and security
- Lecture 8: IoT Security