



# Can you trust me now?

The Current State of Mobile Security

Black Hat USA  
August 2016



# Atredis Partners Overview

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## **Bene Diagnoscitur, Bene Curatur**

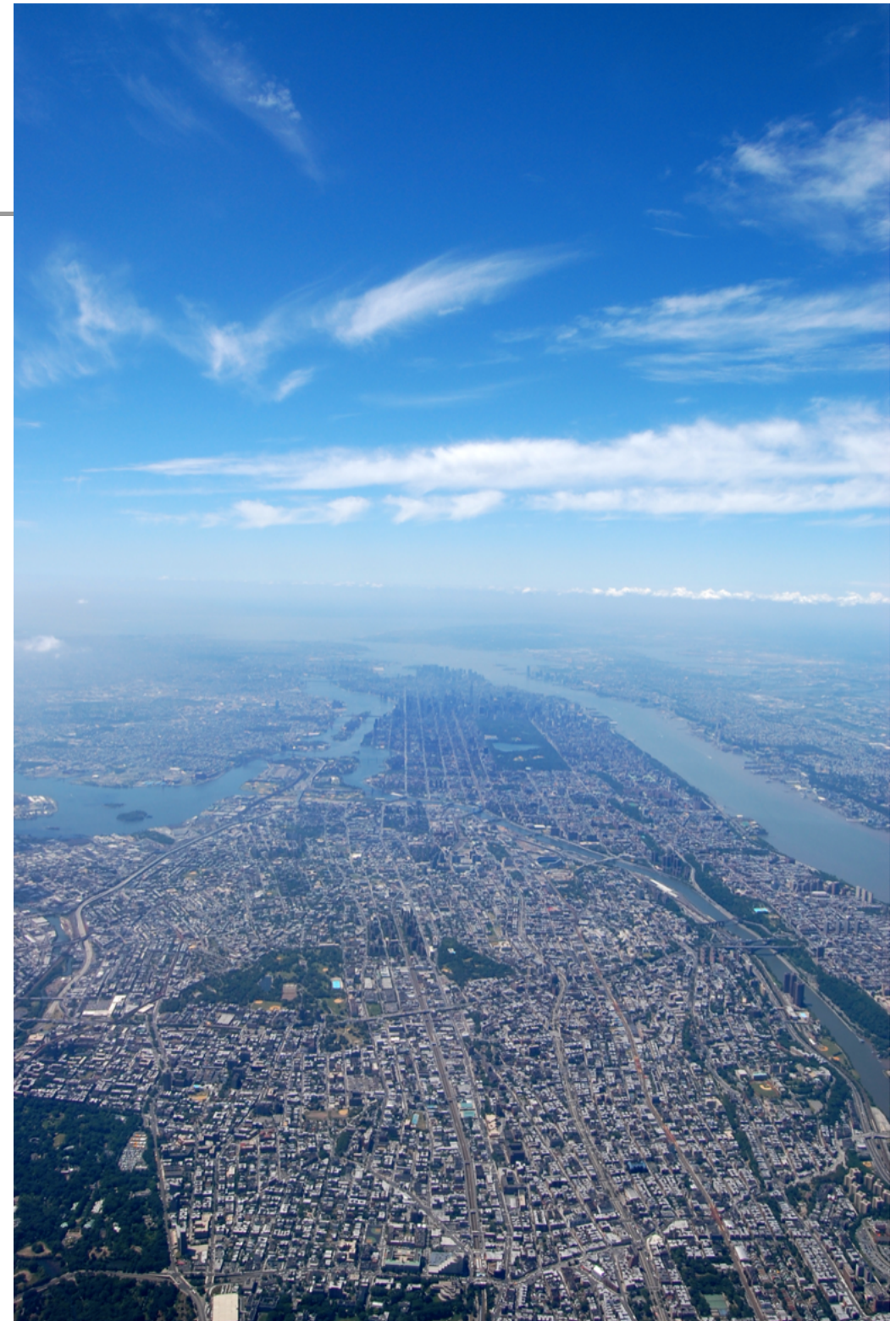
- “That which is well diagnosed is well cured.”
- Research Driven Security Consulting
- Advanced Secure Design & Development
- Advanced Penetration Testing
- Advanced Risk Consulting

## **Josh Thomas**

- 16 Years in the field
- Focus on mobile devices, development, hardware design, architecture

## **Shawn Moyer**

- 20 years in the field
- Focus on industrial, software and network security





# Today's Focus

## Mobile Layers and Landscape

- What are the actual components and layers of a production mobile device?

## BYOD and Market share

- What to expect when we allow anything to happen

## Android versus iOS

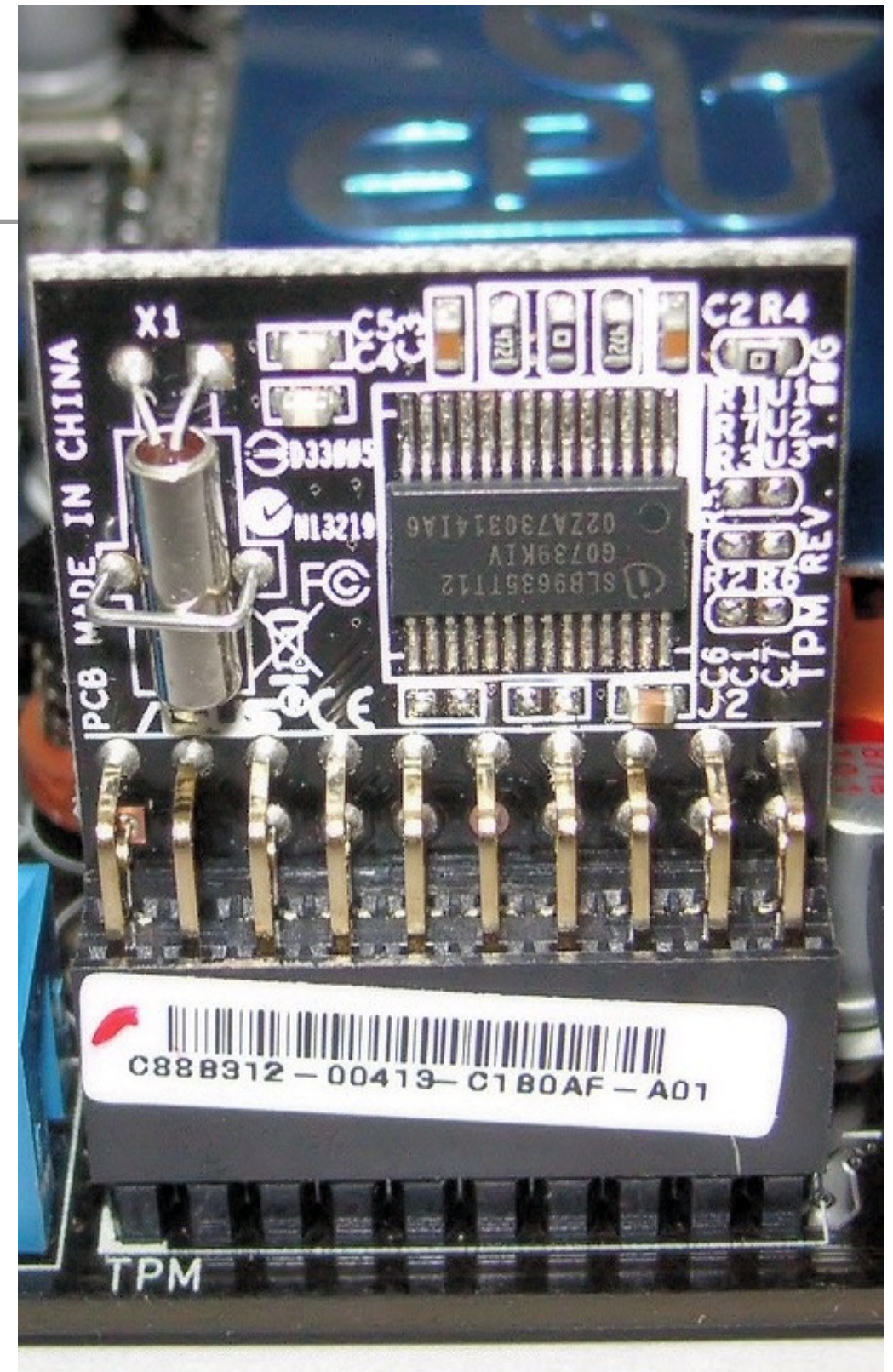
- The little engine that could train a generation to break trusted boot

## Hardware and components

- Reuse and architecture limitations

## MDM

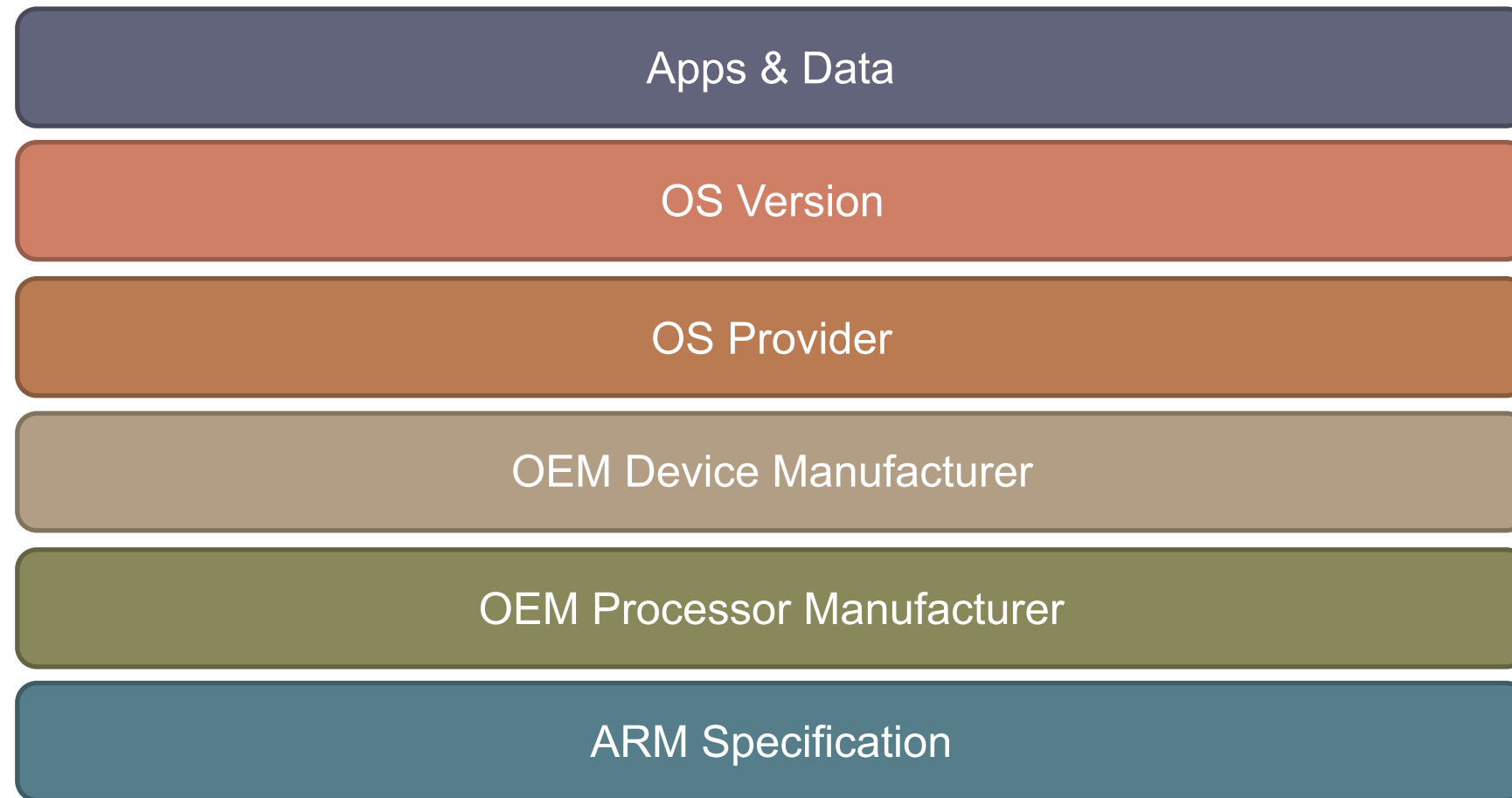
- A false sense of stability



# Mobile Layers and Landscape

*The foundations of mobile trust*

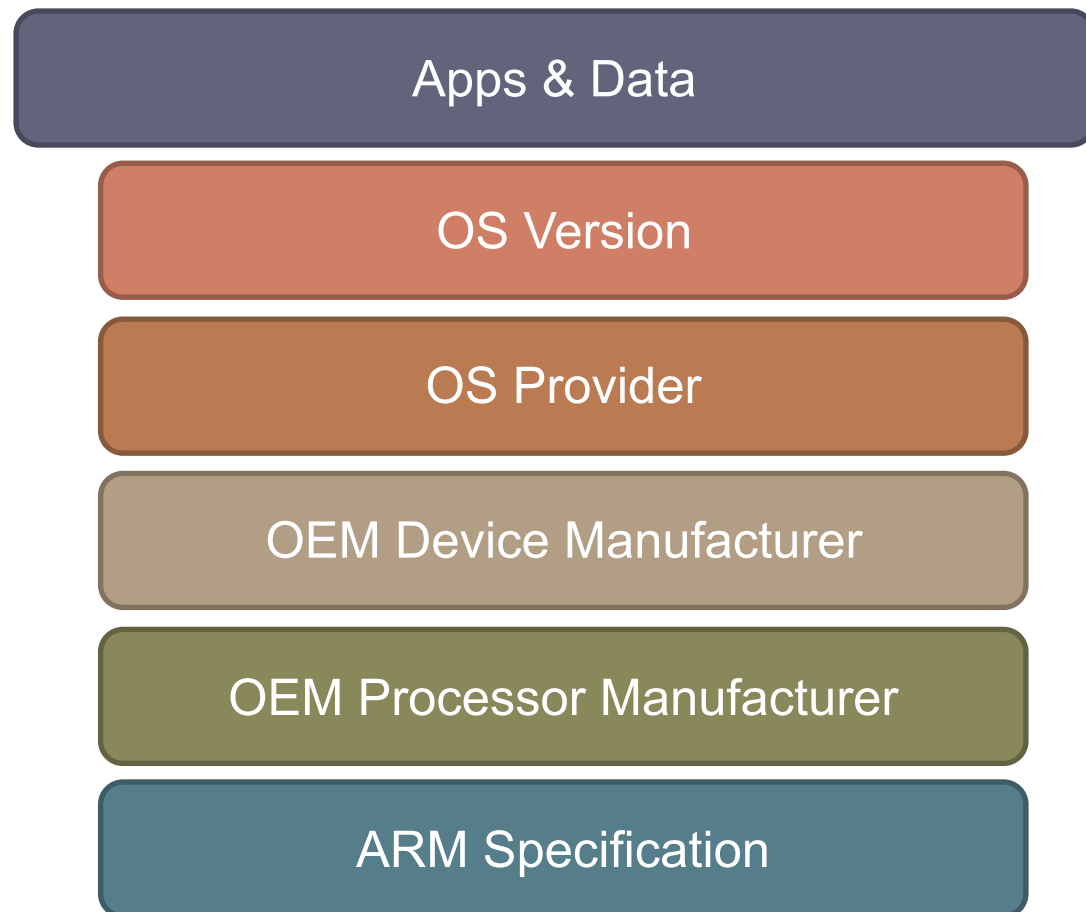
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# Functional Layers: App & Data

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## •Data

- Protected by App or OS

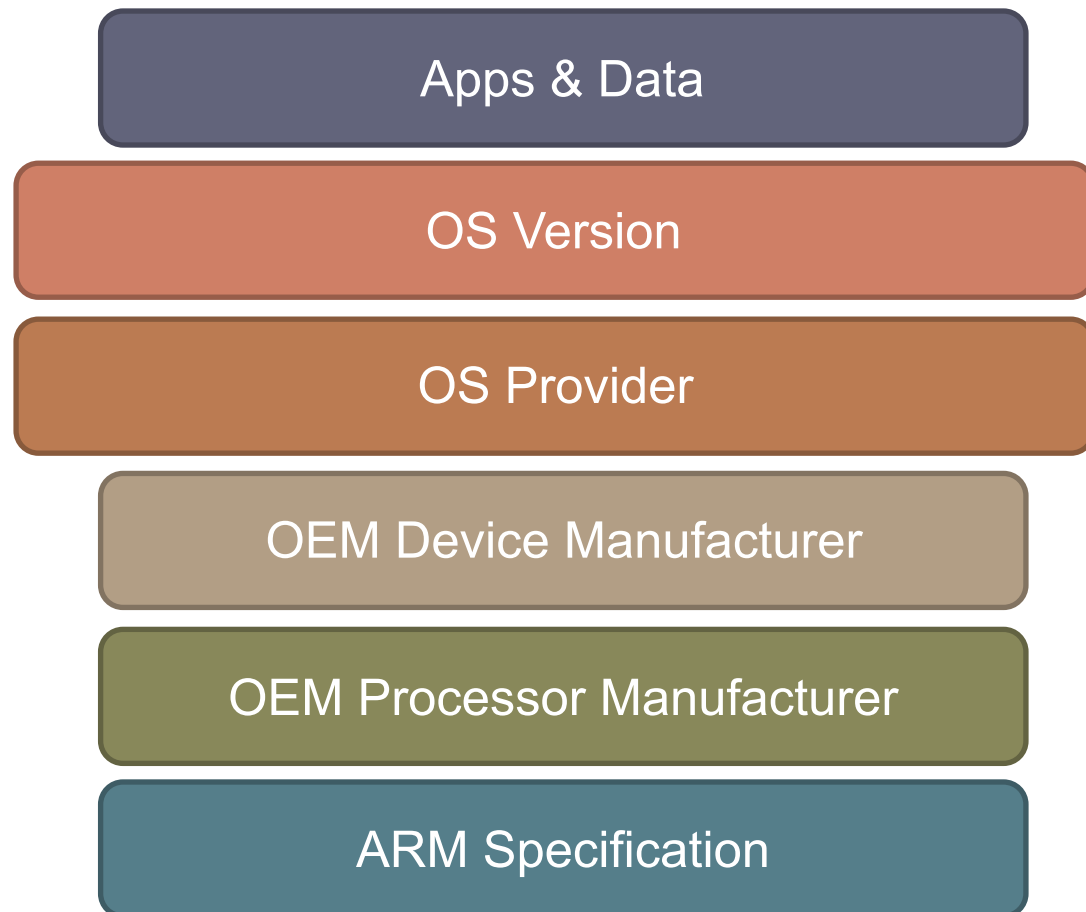
## •App

- Written for OS and OS version
- Moderated by Platform App Store
- Constrained by Platform API



# Functional Layers: OS & OS Version

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## •OS Version

- Incremental Approach to Security
- Incremental Approach to Functionality

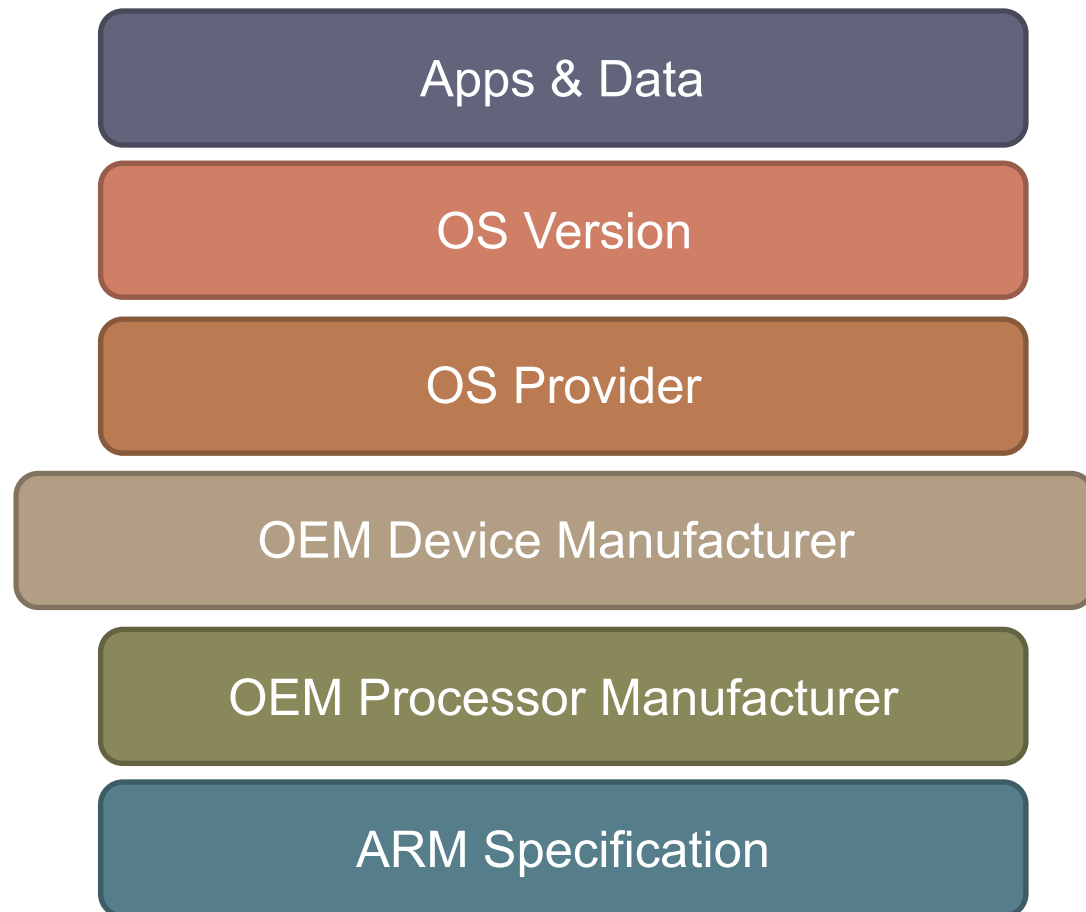
## •OS

- Fundamental Approach to Security
- Fundamental Approach to Functionality



# Functional Layers: OEM

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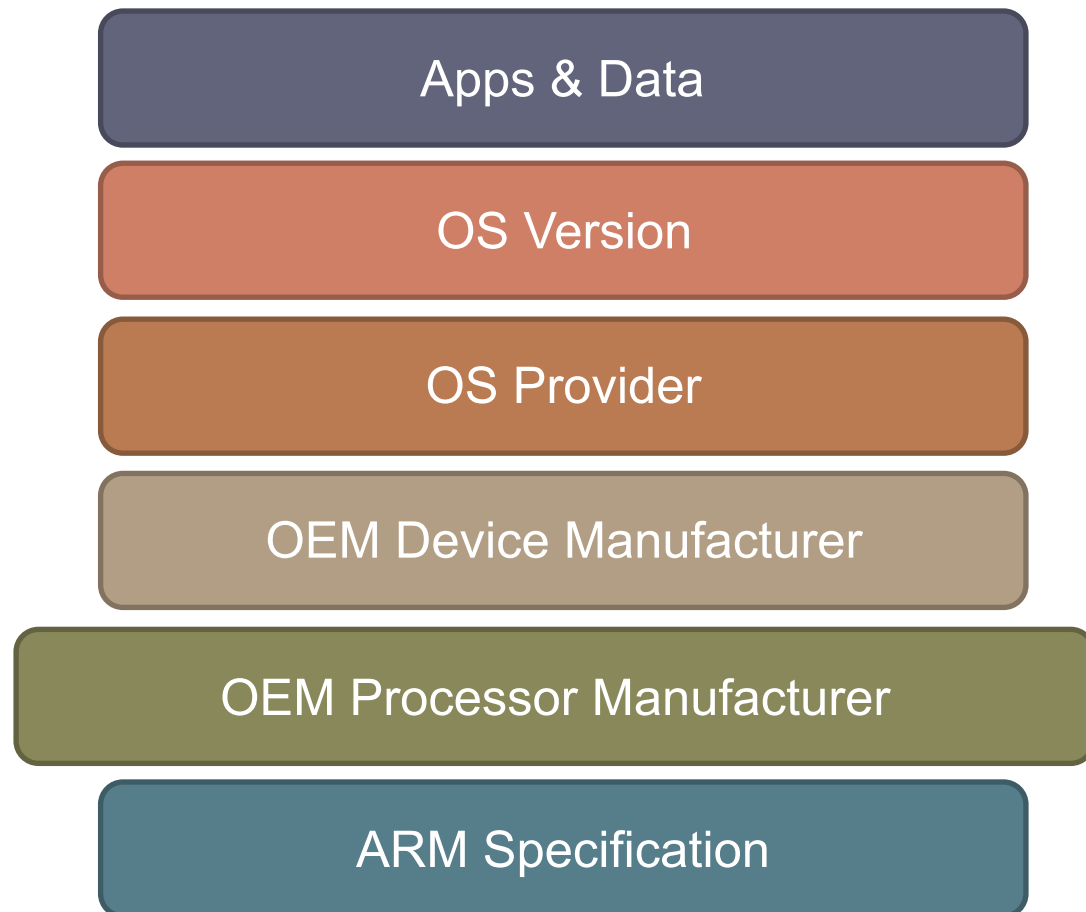
## •OEM

- Design of Hardware
- Selection of Secure Components
- Approach to Market
- Solution Customization



# Functional Layers: System on Chip

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## •SoC

- Design of Component Hardware
- Control of Trust
- Control of Security

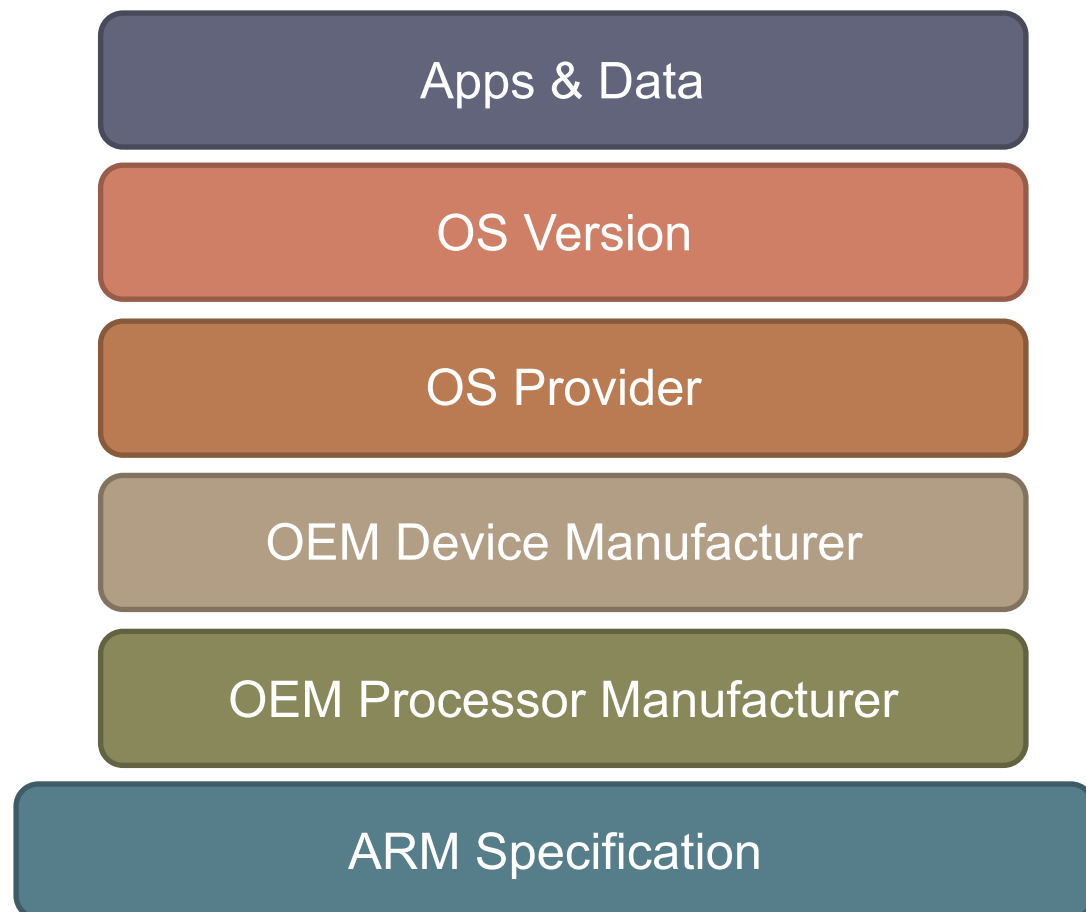
## •SoC Version

- Similar to OS Version
- Incremental updates driven by platform vision



# Common Talking Points: Specification

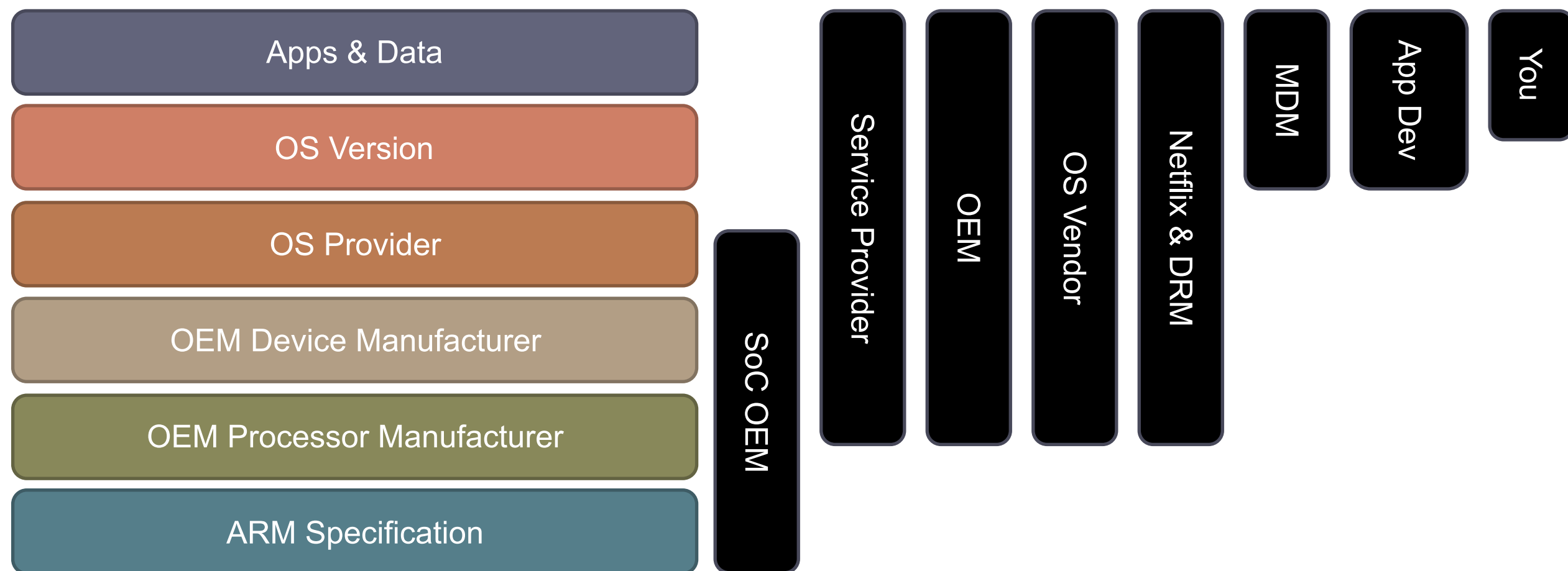
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## •ARM Specification

- Core Design of Security
- Applied Academic Design
- As Much Theory as Reality

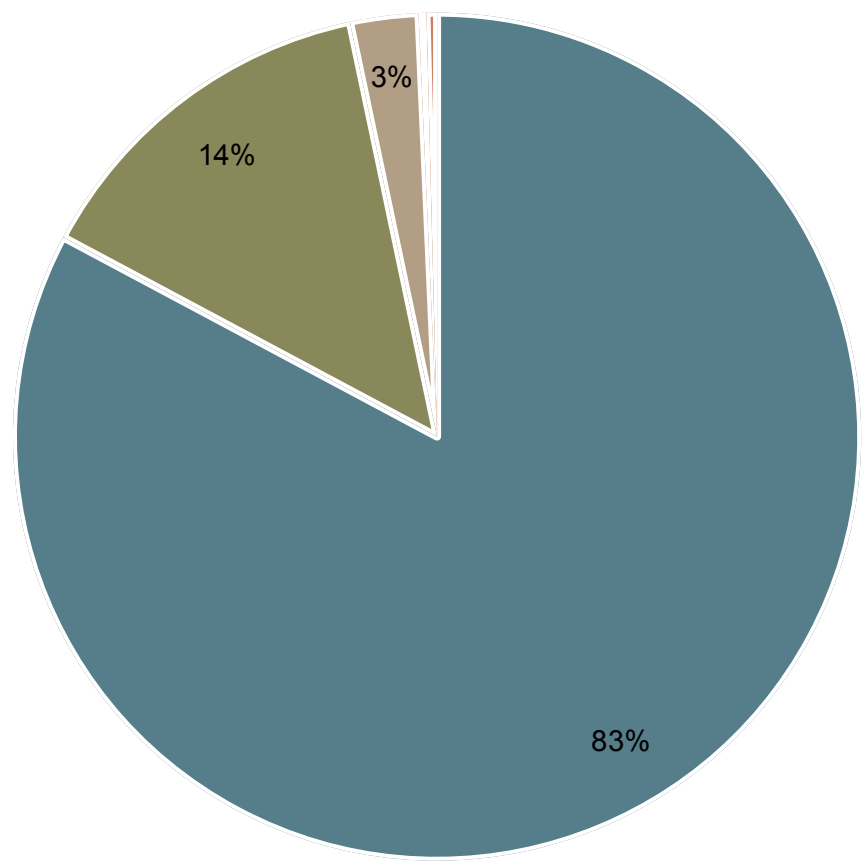
# Who Writes The Software?



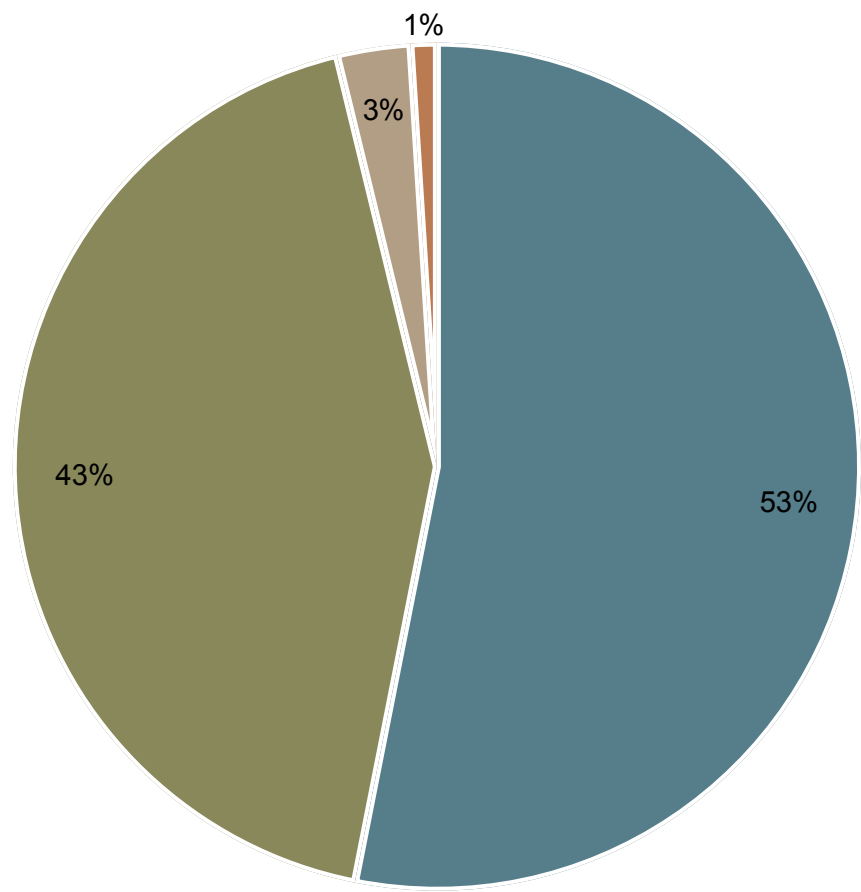


# OS Market Share

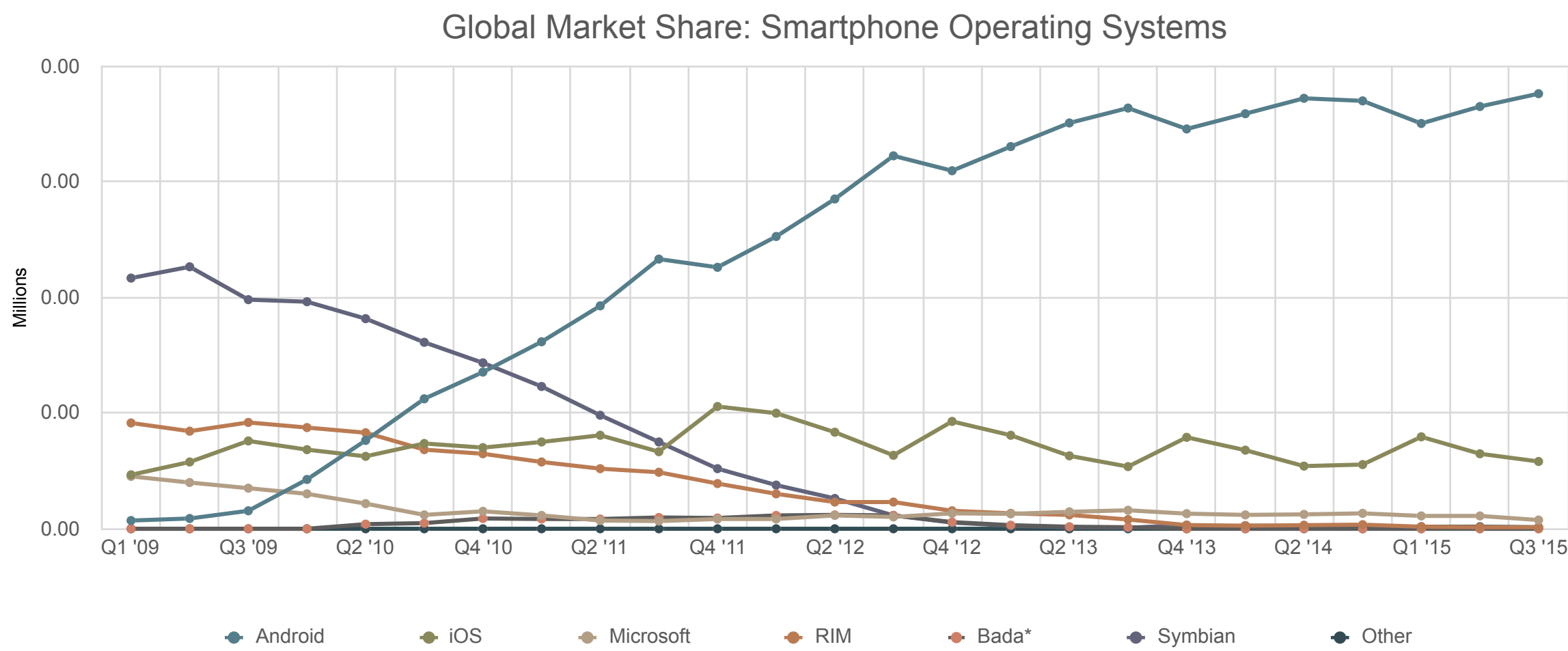
OS Global Market Share  
(2015 Q2)



OS US Market Share  
(2015 Q3)

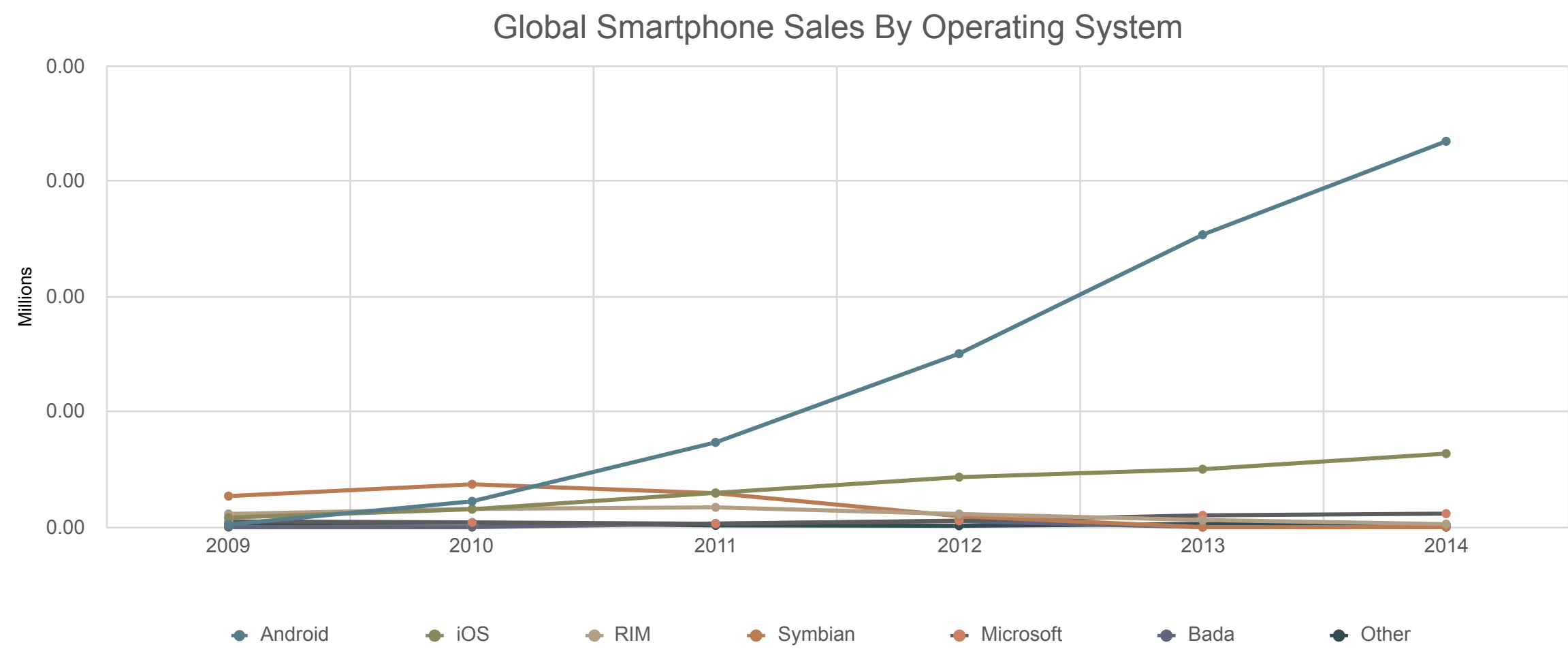


# Trending Toward Irrelevance With Subscribers



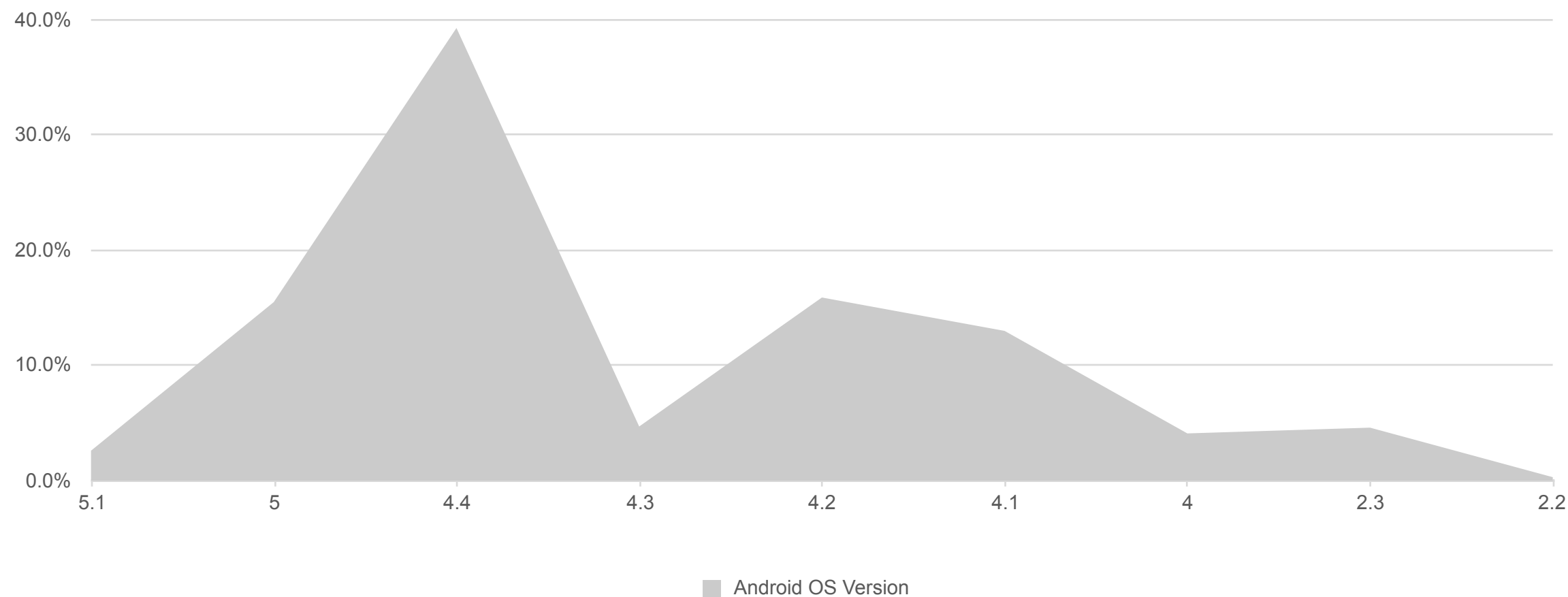


# Trending Toward Irrelevance With Sales



# Android: Plagued by Version Fragmentation

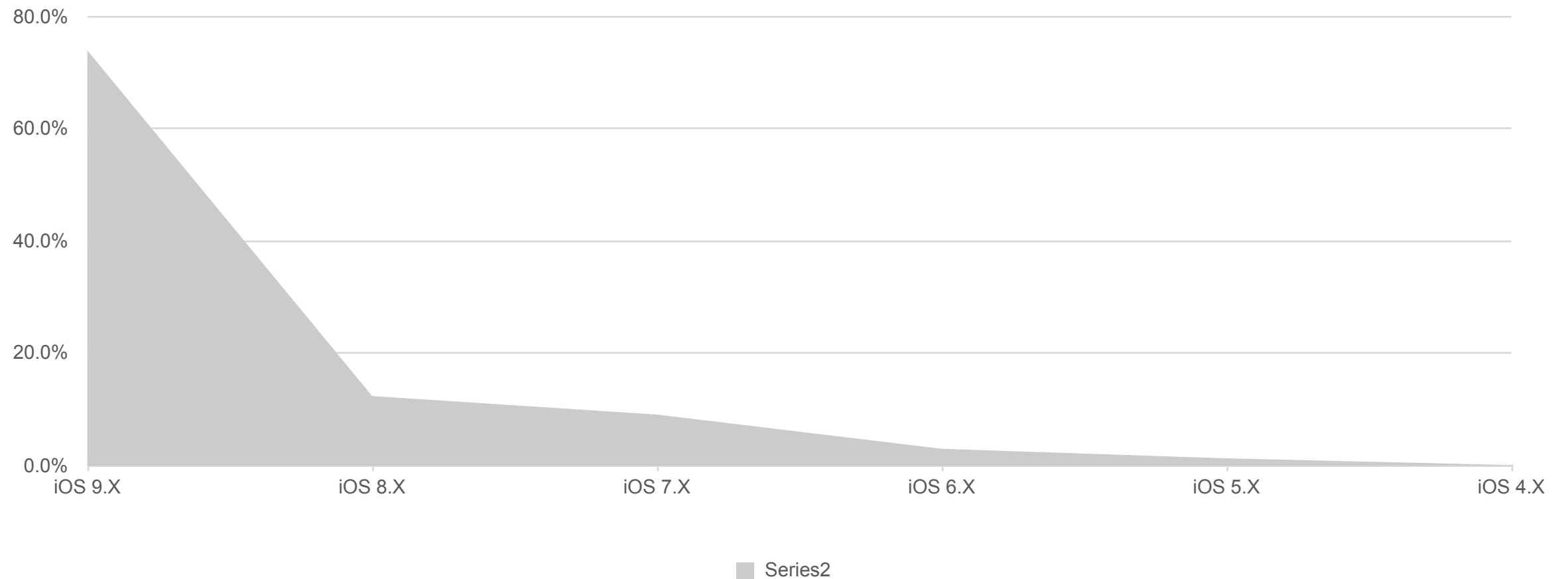
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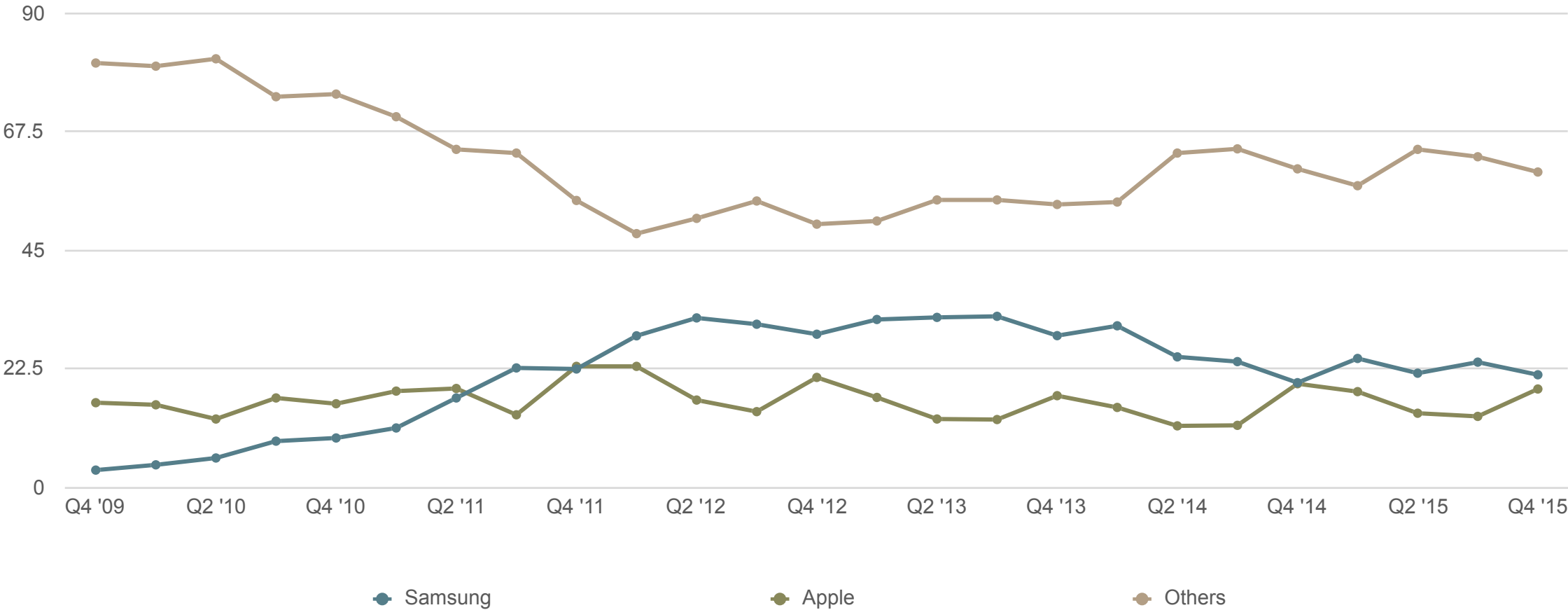


# Apple: Version Fragmentation

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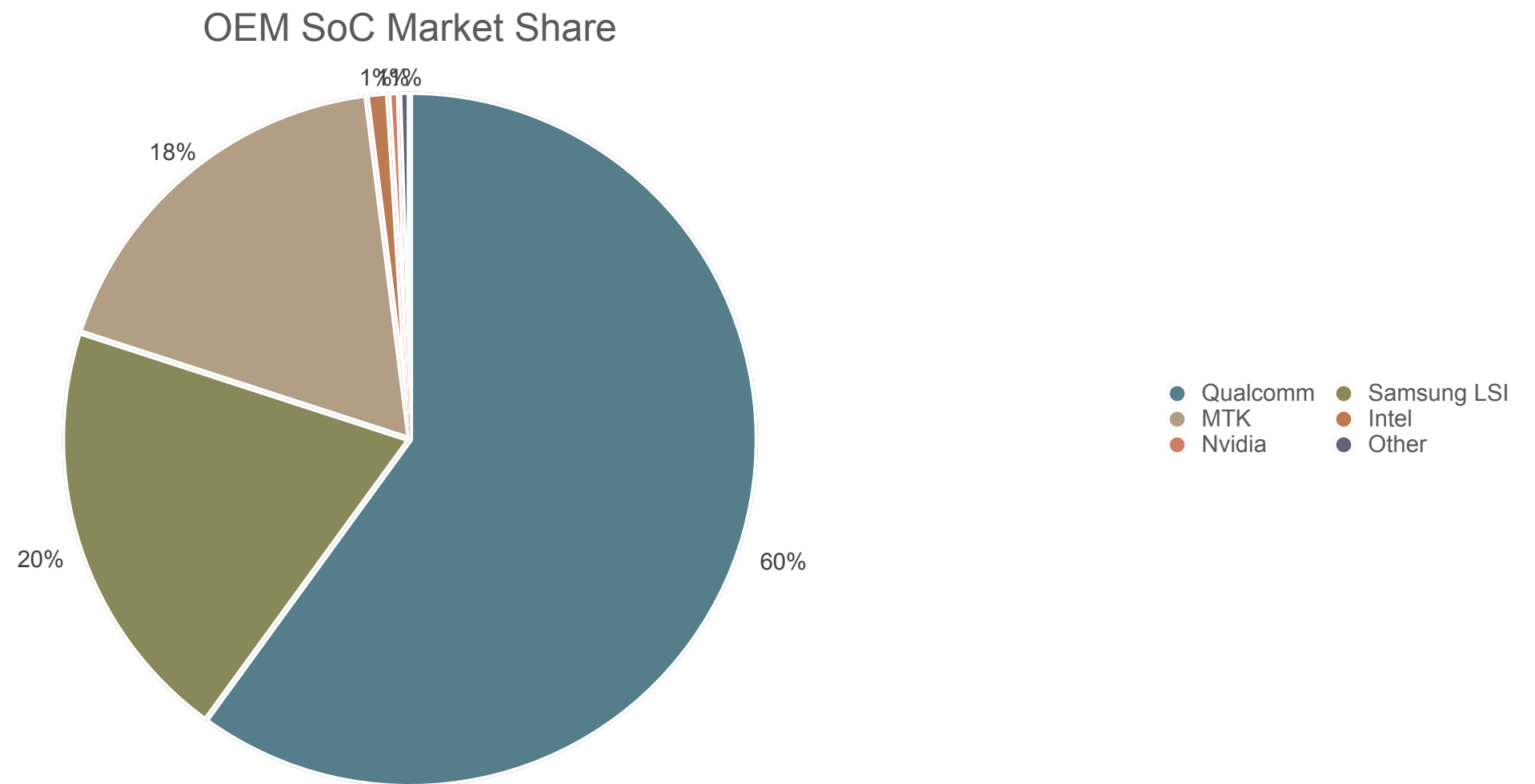
# Market Share of the Leaders





# Foundations of Mobile Trust

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# Android versus iOS

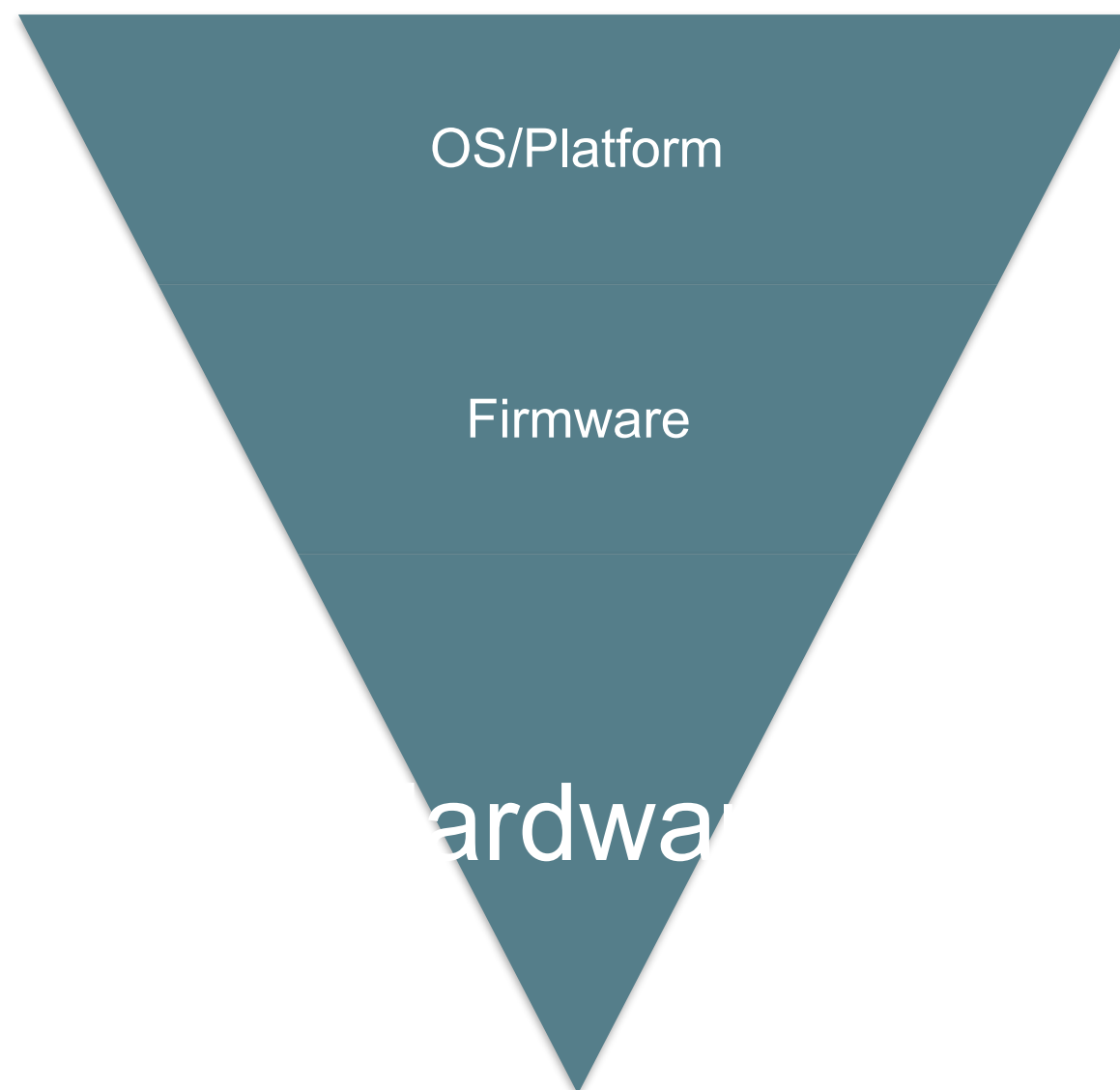
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## •Security Capabilities

- Android tries things first, enters the market with partial implementations
- iOS enters the market with finished software
- Iterative Android releases accidentally help train security professionals to beat iOS protections

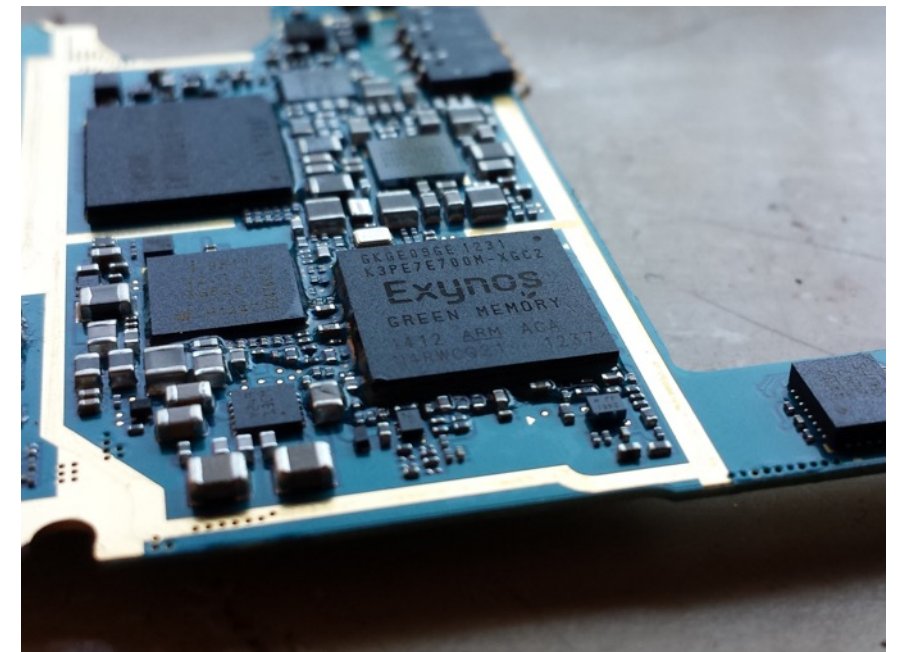
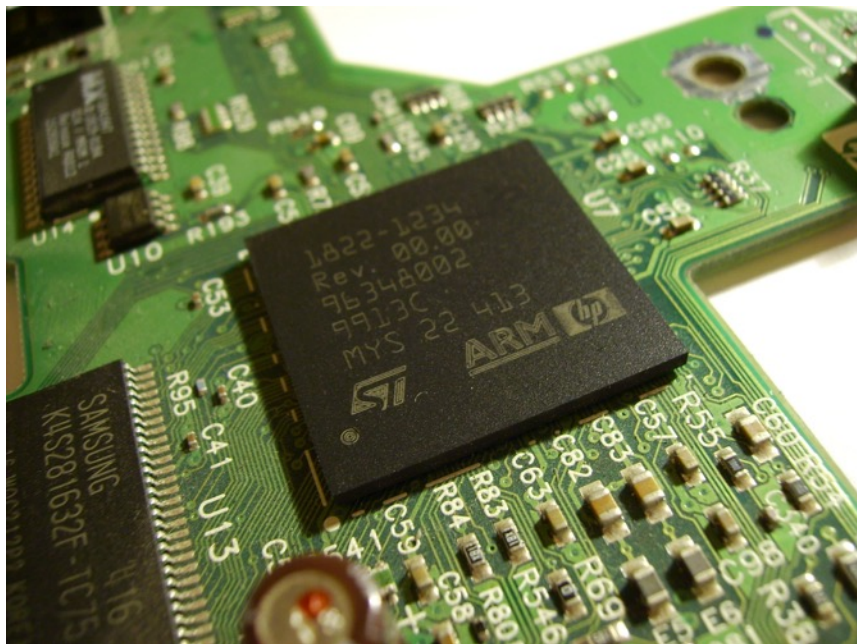
# Layers of Security

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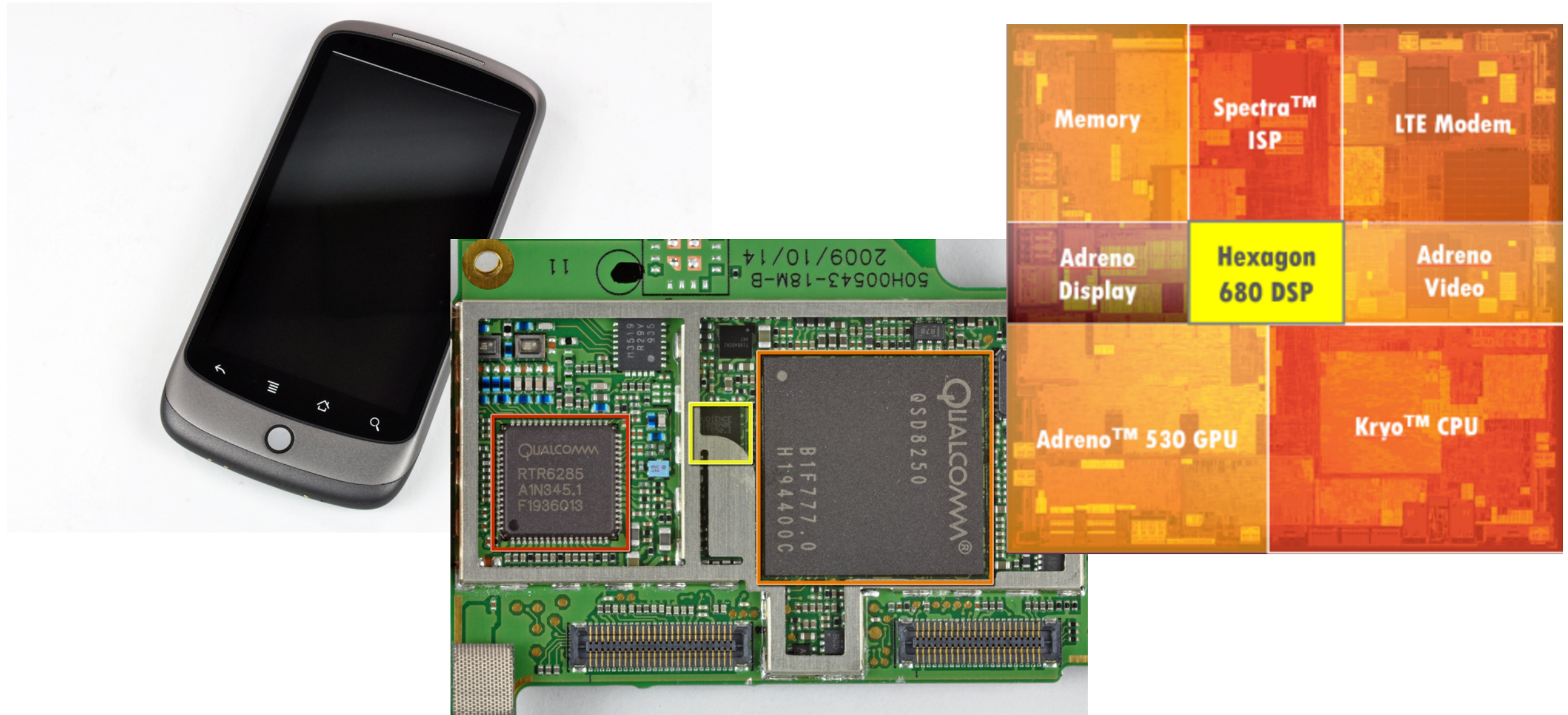
# Mobile Security Starts Here

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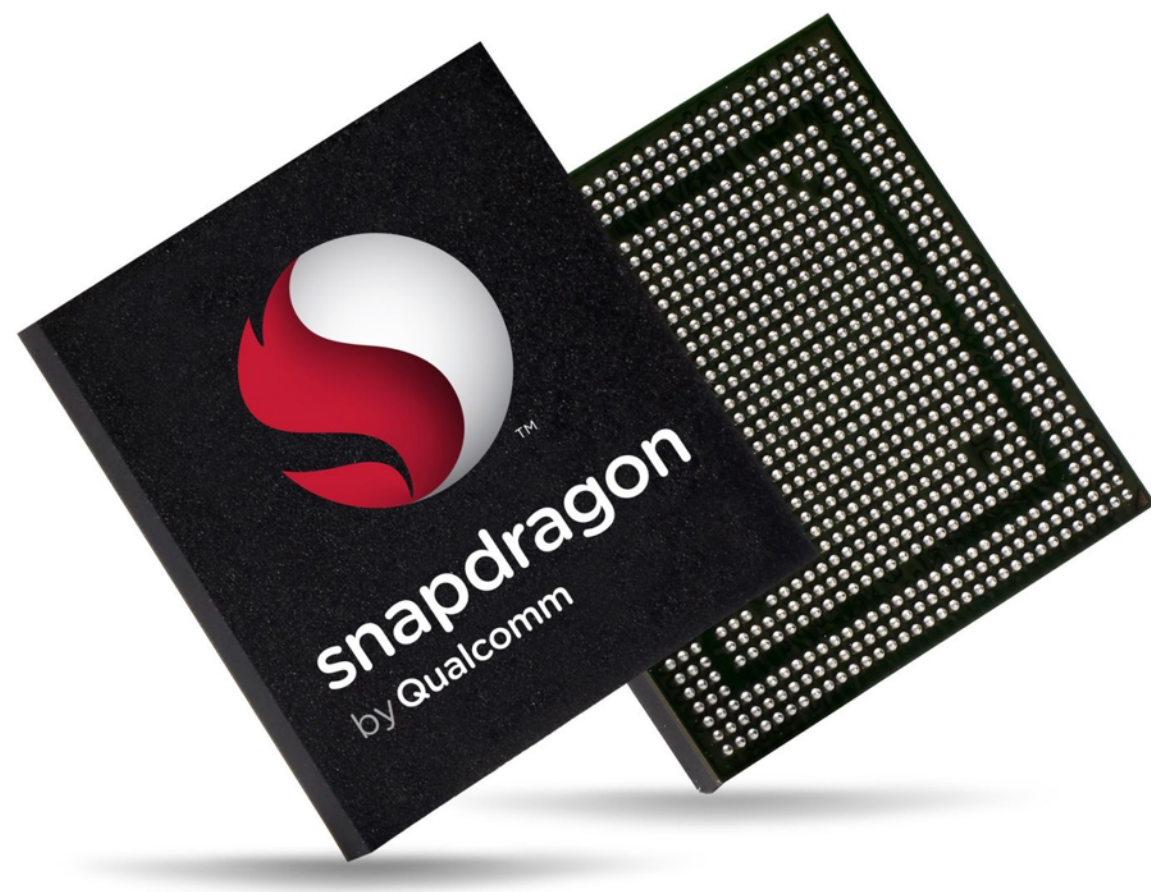


# System on a Chip



# What OS Does This Run?

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- Android
- Little Kernel
- REX
- QuRT
- QSEE

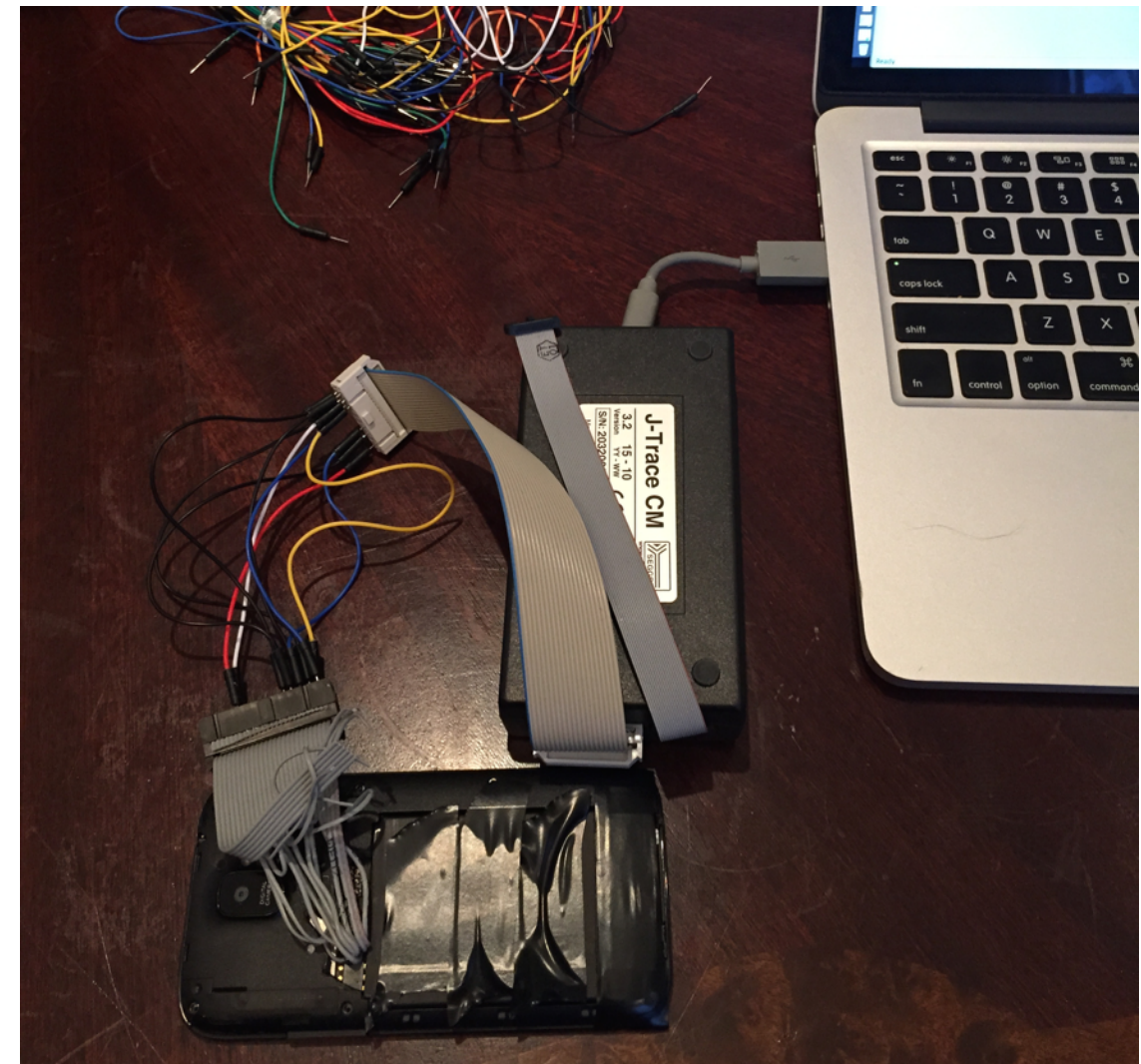




# Physical Attack Surface

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- Direct memory access, Modem, TrustZone, power management
- USB often exposes diagnostic or factory test modes
- JTAG, UART, FIQ debugging cables
- \$2,000



# Remote Attack Surface

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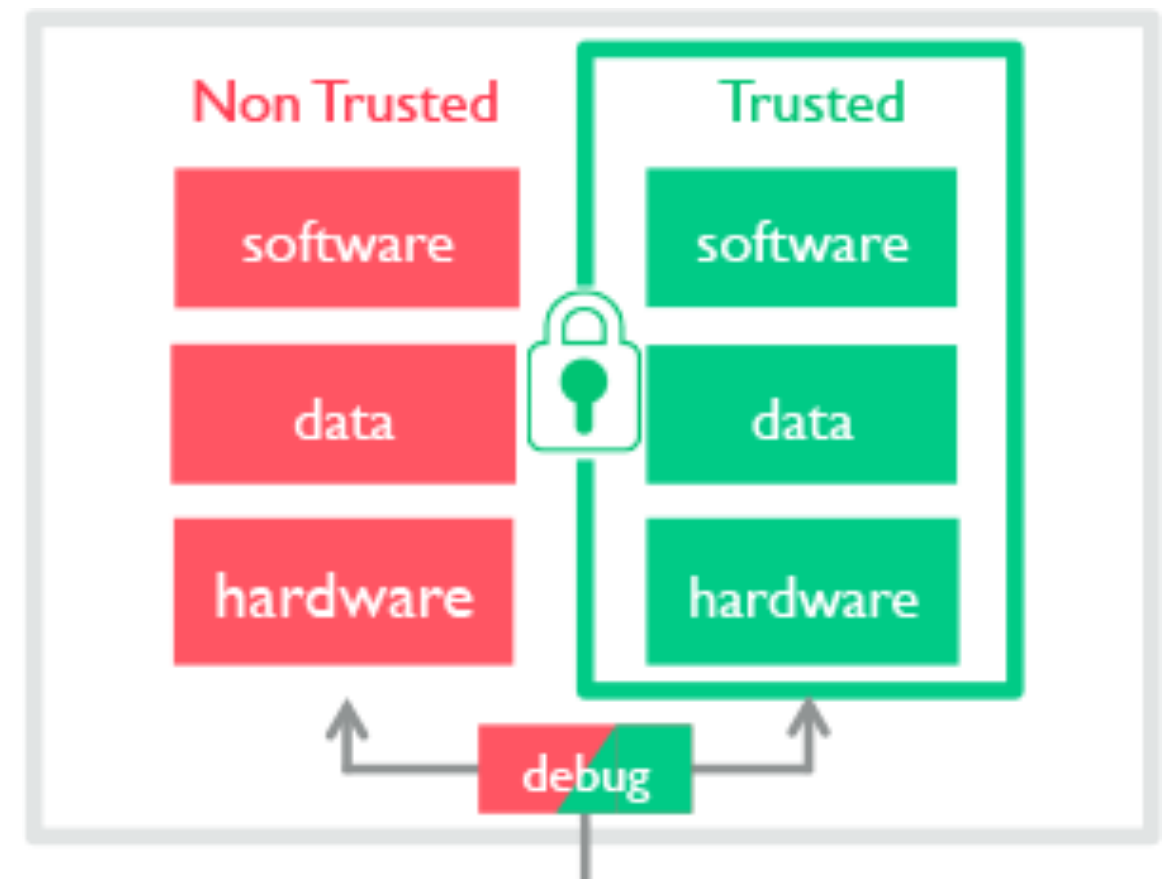
- Modem, TrustZone, HLOS
- Large attack surface between DRM and cellular protocols
- \$2,000 + time fighting software





# Trusted Execution Environments

- Provide a separate execution environment
- Closed source blobs
- Key storage
- DRM
- How trusted are they?



# TrustZone TEE

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- TrustZone can introspect and interact with the mobile operating system
- The mobile operating system cannot introspect TrustZone
- Controls sensitive information from keys to secure boot
- Handles DRM and parses video and audio data
- Vulnerability affects large quantities of devices
- Imagine malware that could...

# Simcard TEE

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- Simcards are another example of a mobile TEE
- Provide key storage for network encryption
- GSM networks have privacy but not authentication
- IMSI Catchers
- Eavesdropping
- Passive and Active
- Base station controlled

# Modem

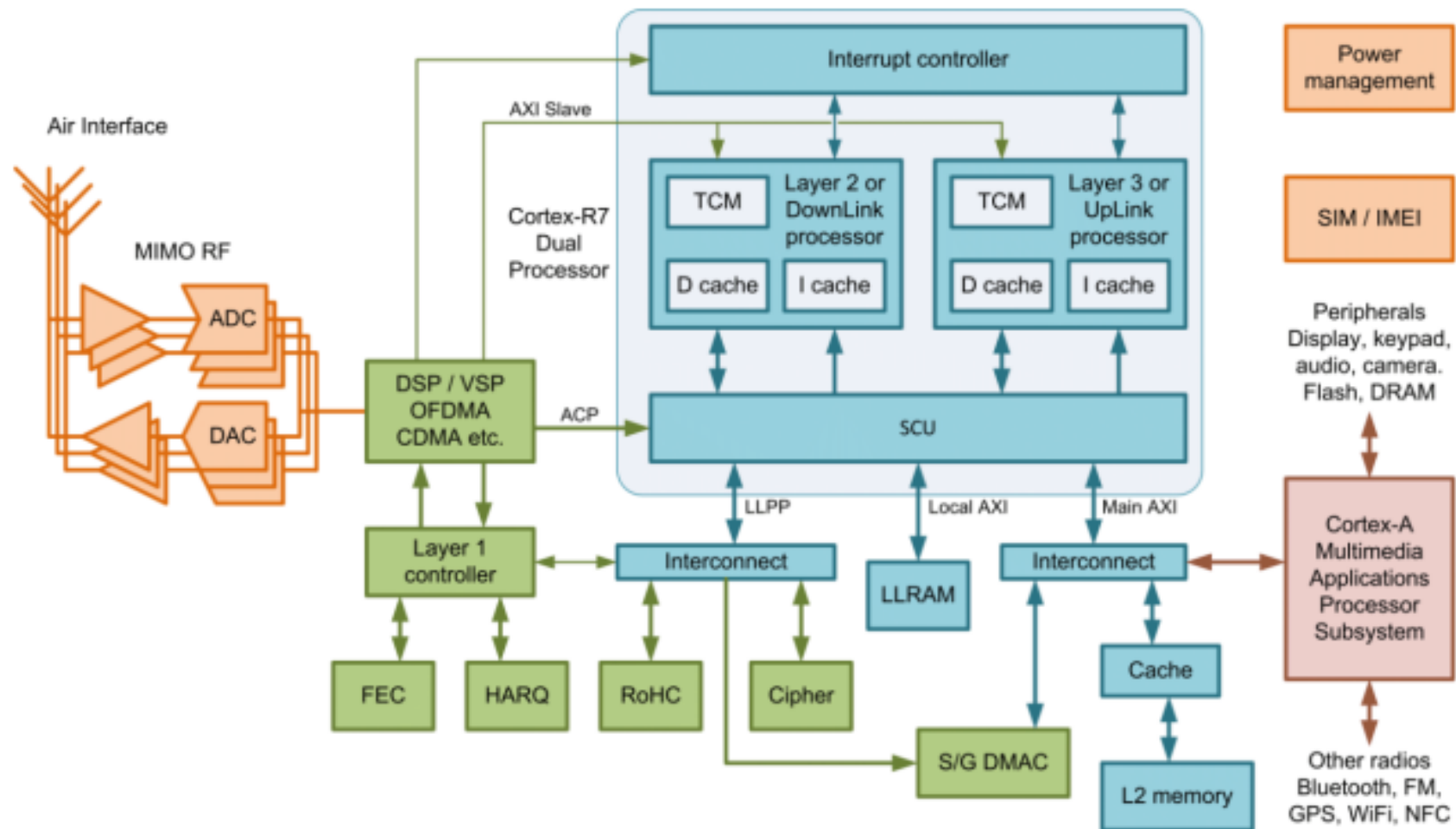
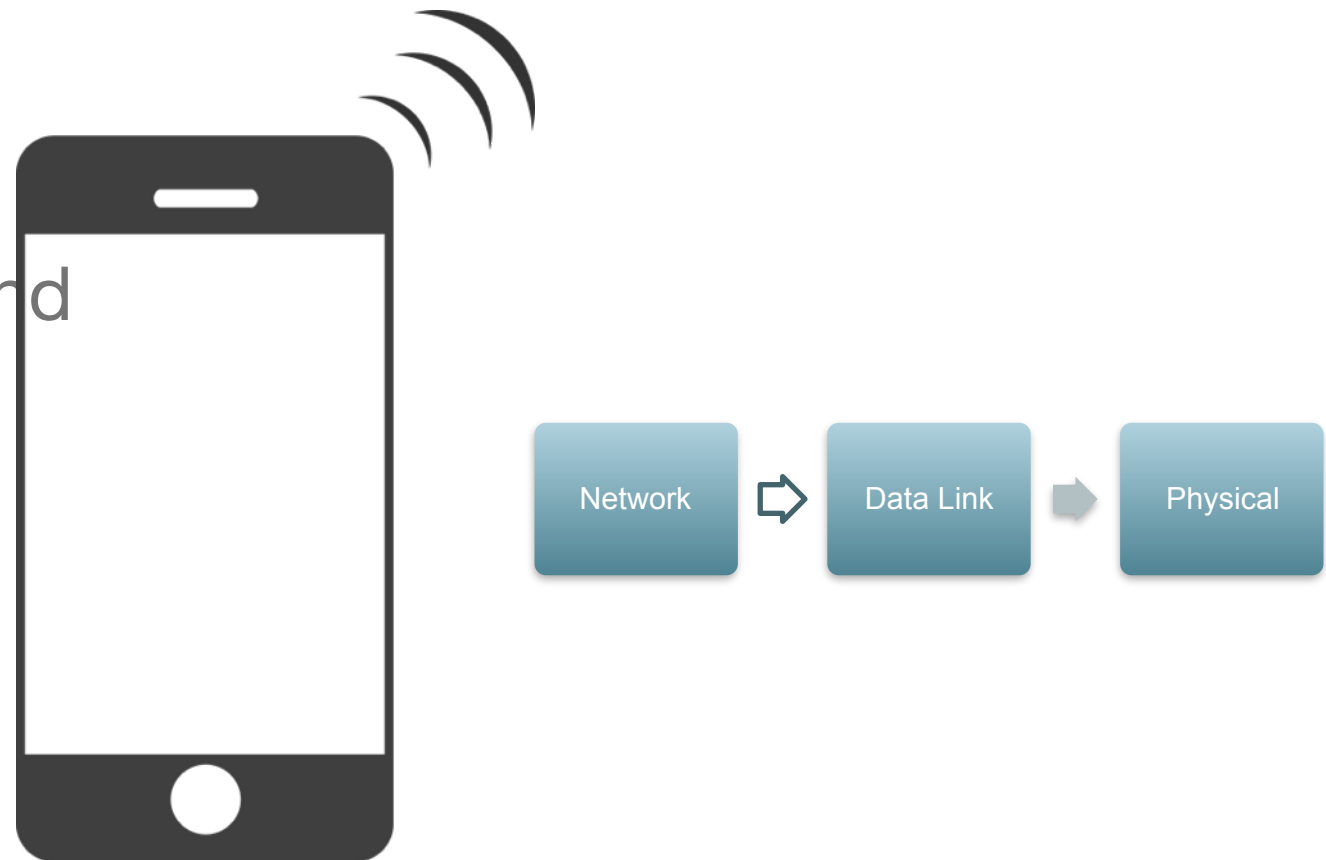


Figure 3: Illustrative baseband architecture

# Modem

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- Contains stacks for telephony protocols
- Direct access to peripherals and buses
- Mostly ignored outside of law enforcement and unlockers





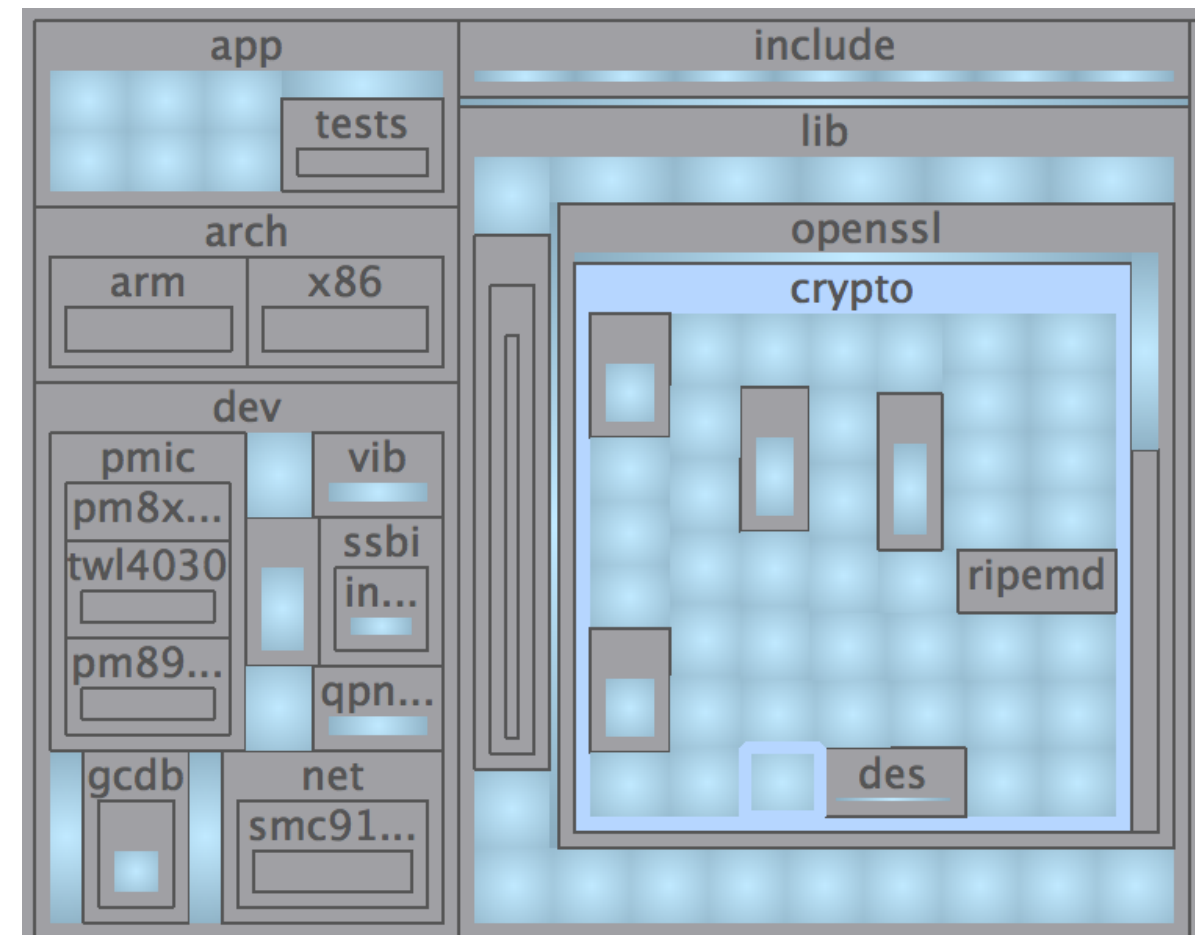
# Modem

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- Local exploitation via proprietary protocols between application and baseband processors
- QMI, MMI, AT, Diag
- Remote exploitation via proprietary telephony stacks
- GSM: LAPDm, SNDCP, RLC, MAC, CM, MM, RR
- LTE: PDCCP, NAS, RRC, IP
- Network exploitation
- IMSI Catchers
- Eavesdropping

# Boot Loader / Secure Boot

- Android traditionally runs Little Kernel bootloaders
- Contains “apps” that implement fastboot, recovery, android debugging bridge
- OEM-specific bootloaders contain other proprietary protocols for debugging, fault analysis, or engineering



# QFUSES

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- Software programmable fuses for one-time programmable configuration
- Device keys, carrier keys, OEM keys
- Security features toggles
- Normally accessible only via interface to TrustZone
- Often exploitation of TrustZone related to desire to blow fuses

# Cross Device Impacts

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- One bug to cross OEMs?
  - No Problem
- One bug to cross Operating Systems?
  - Likely

# Aside about BYOD & MDM

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- Based on the Lowest Common Denominator of Security Assumptions
- Written for Cross Platform Use
- Rarely take advantage of OS or Hardware Security Capabilities



# A Brief History of Failure: Logic Flaws

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# A Brief History of Failure: Debugging and Backdoors

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# A Brief History of Failure: Authorization, Crypto, Bootloaders

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# Be Apple, not Android





