



**TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DRESDEN**

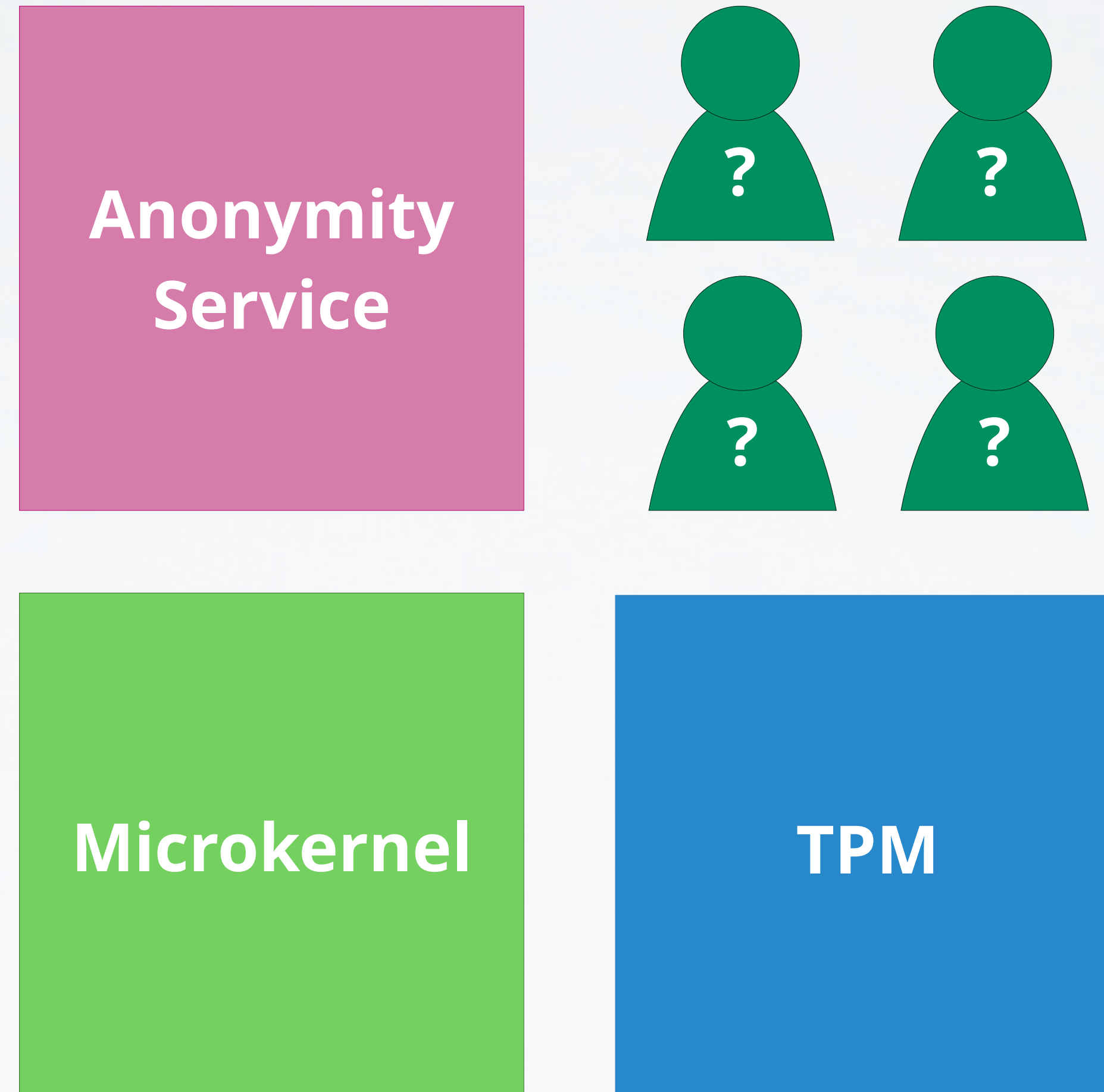
**Faculty of Computer Science** Institute of Systems Architecture, Operating Systems Group

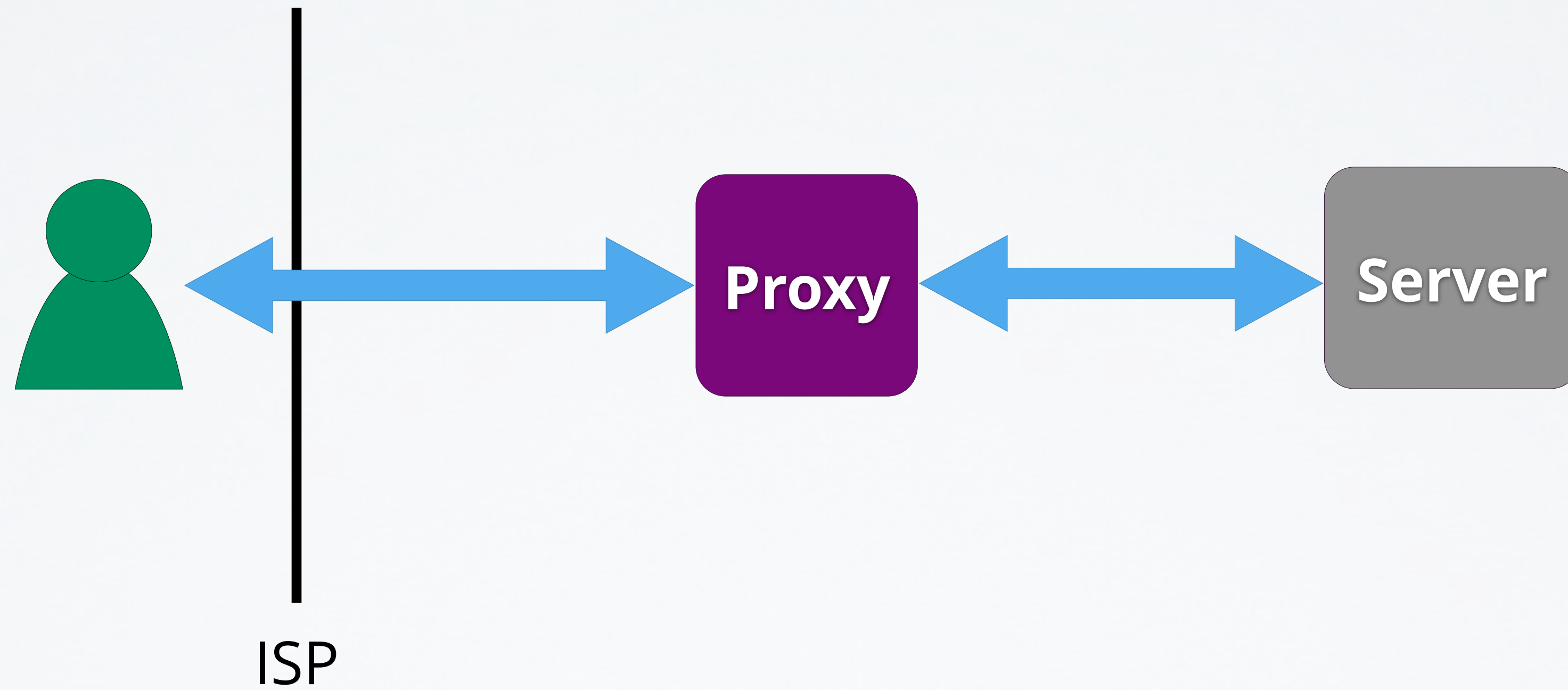
# TRUSTED COMPUTING

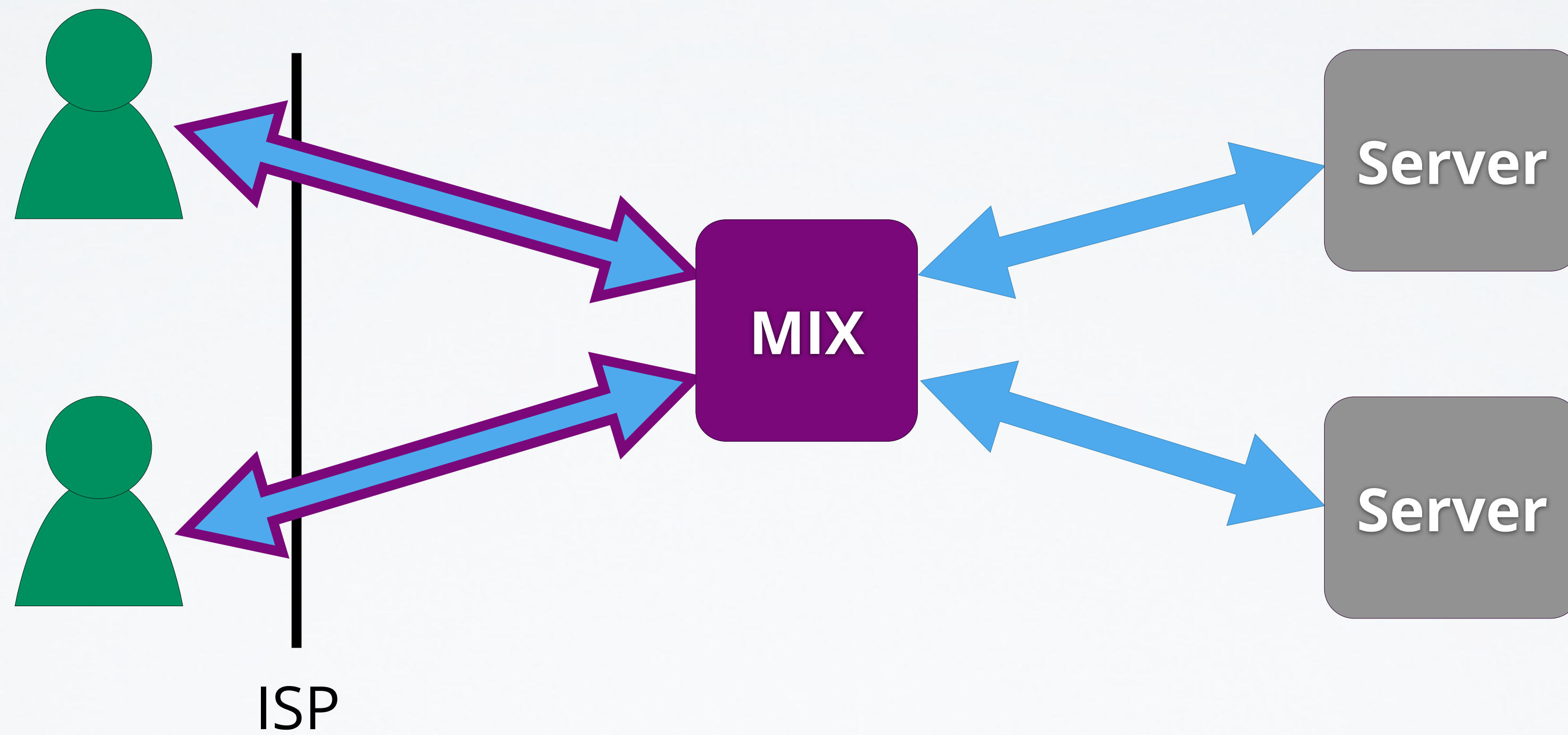
**CARSTEN WEINHOLD**

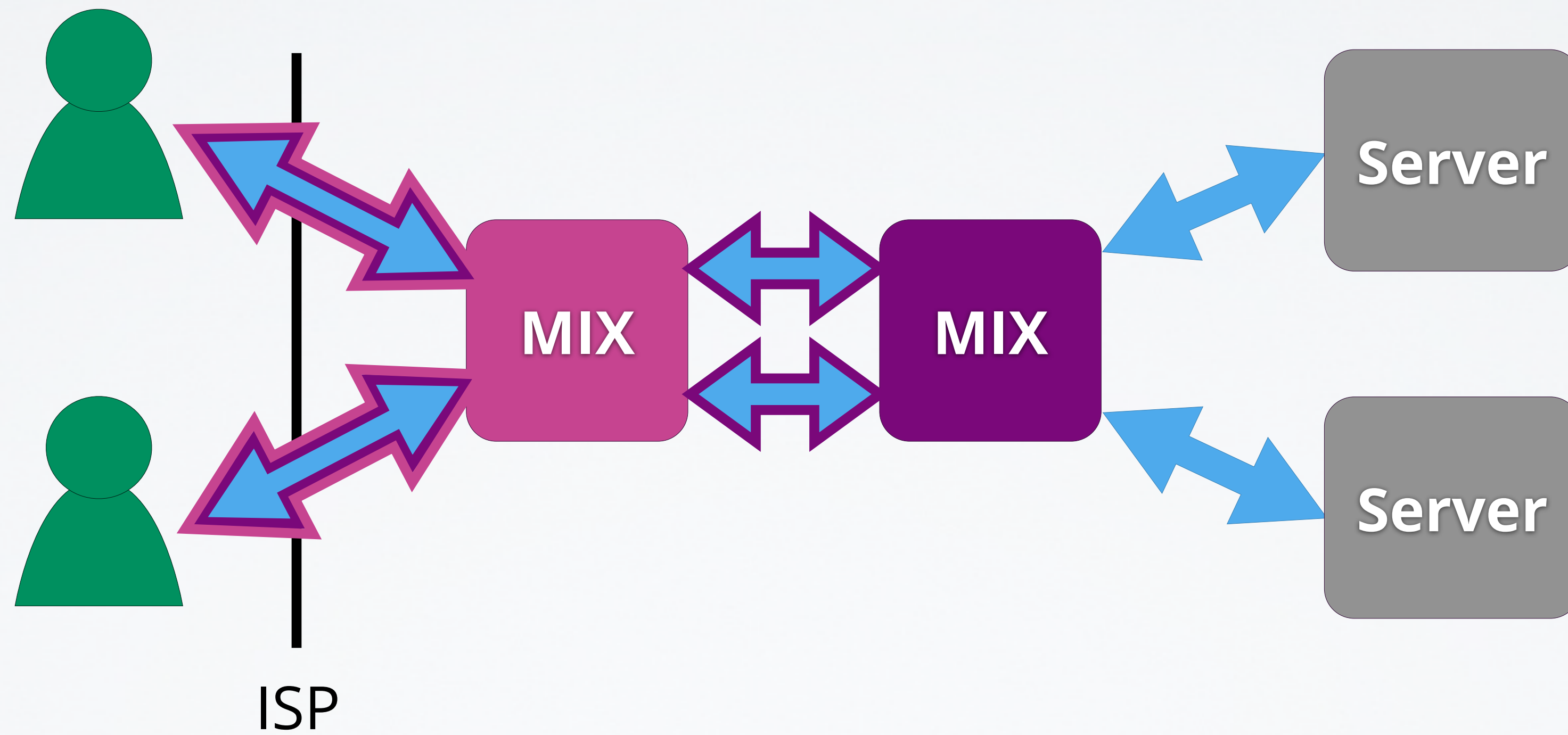
- **Today: Trusted Computing Technology**
  - Lecture discusses basics in context of TPMs + outlook
  - More theoretical concepts also covered in lecture „Distributed Operating Systems“
- **Things you should have heard about:**
  - How to use asymmetric encryption
  - Concept of digital signatures
  - Collision-resistant hash functions

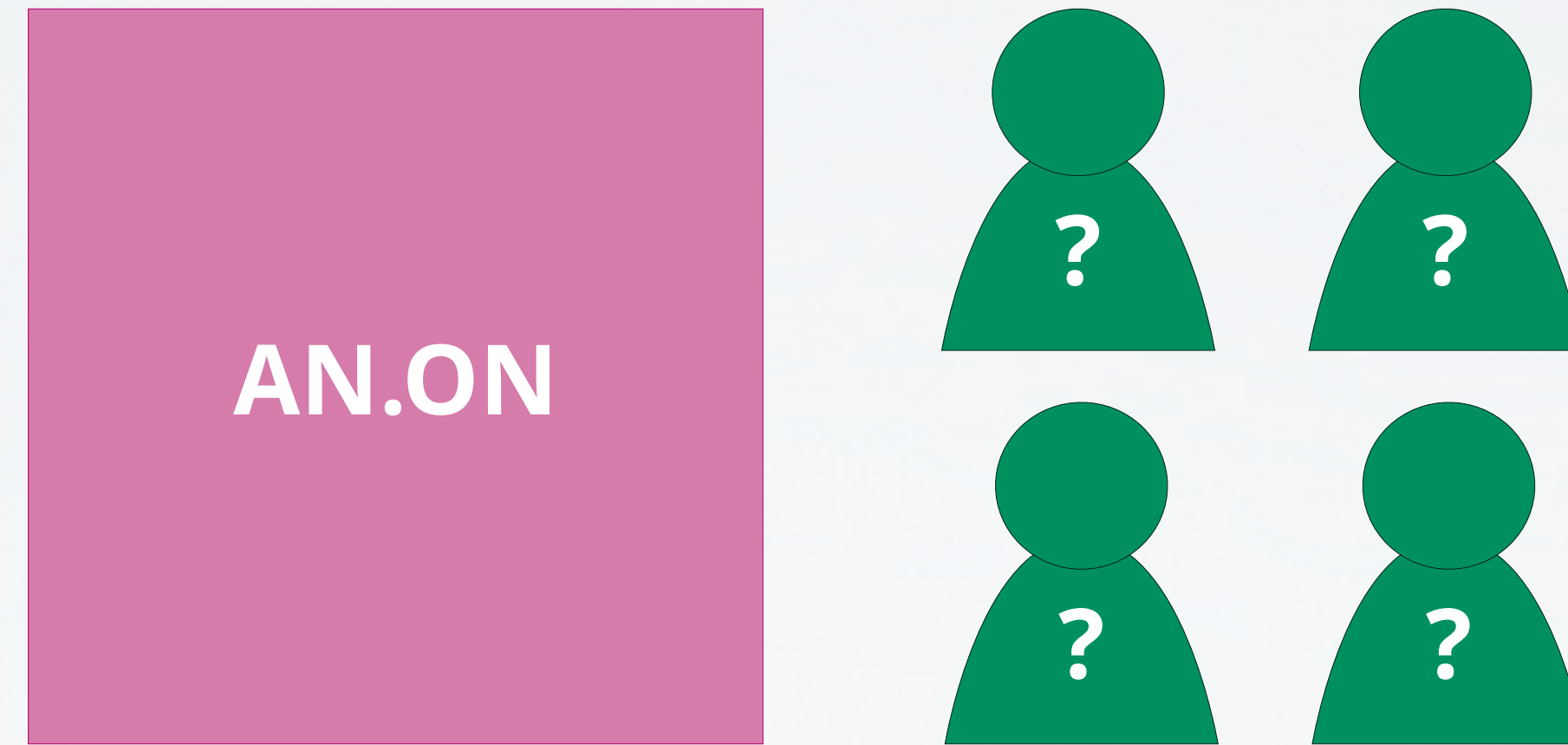
# AN EXAMPLE USE CASE

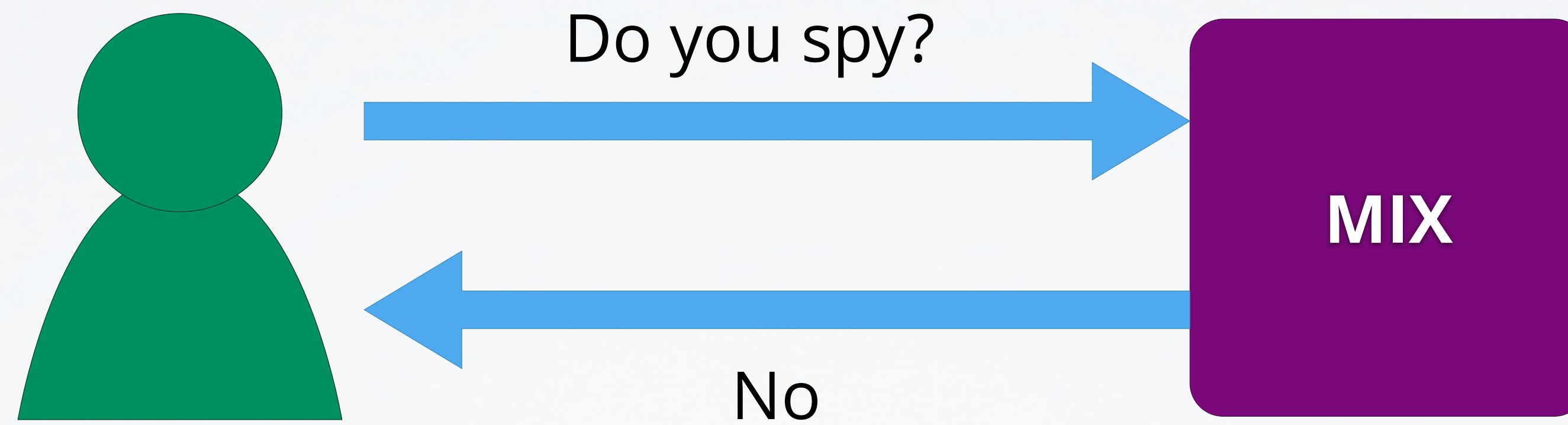




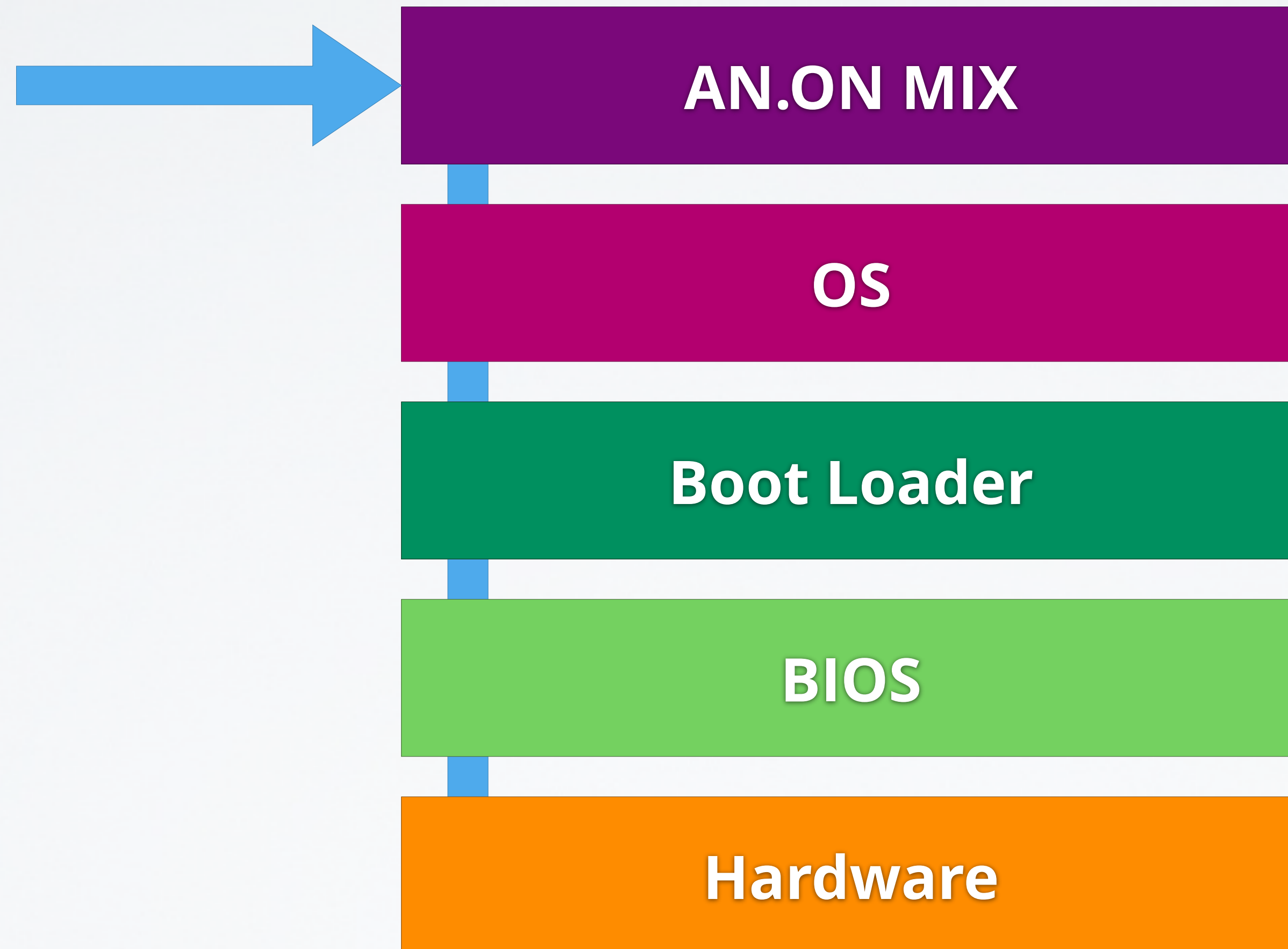










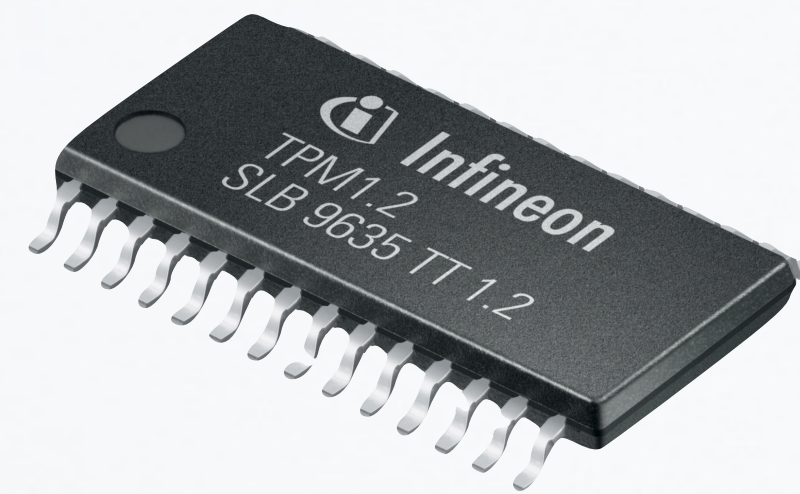




[http://www.infineon.com/export/sites/default/media/press/Image/press\\_photo/TPM\\_SLB9635.jpg](http://www.infineon.com/export/sites/default/media/press/Image/press_photo/TPM_SLB9635.jpg)

## Platform Configuration Register

$$\text{PCR} := \text{SHA256}(\text{PCR} \mid \mathbf{X})$$



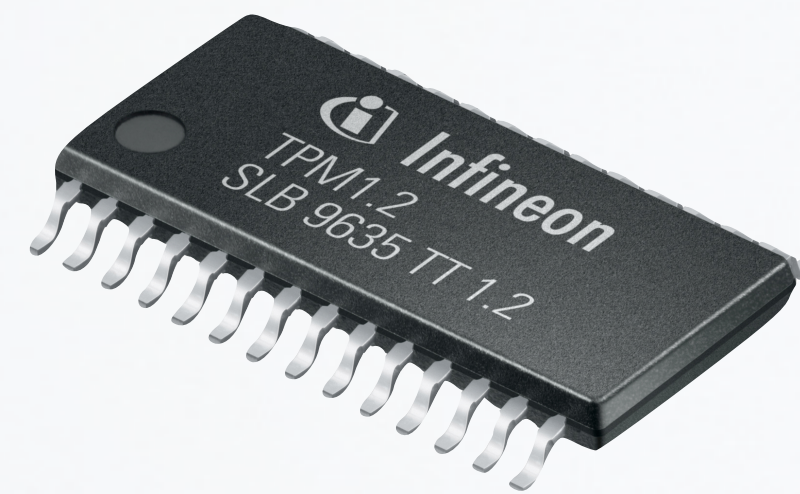
Picture for illustration purposes only. SHA256 requires TPM 2.0.

AN.ON MIX

OS

Boot Loader

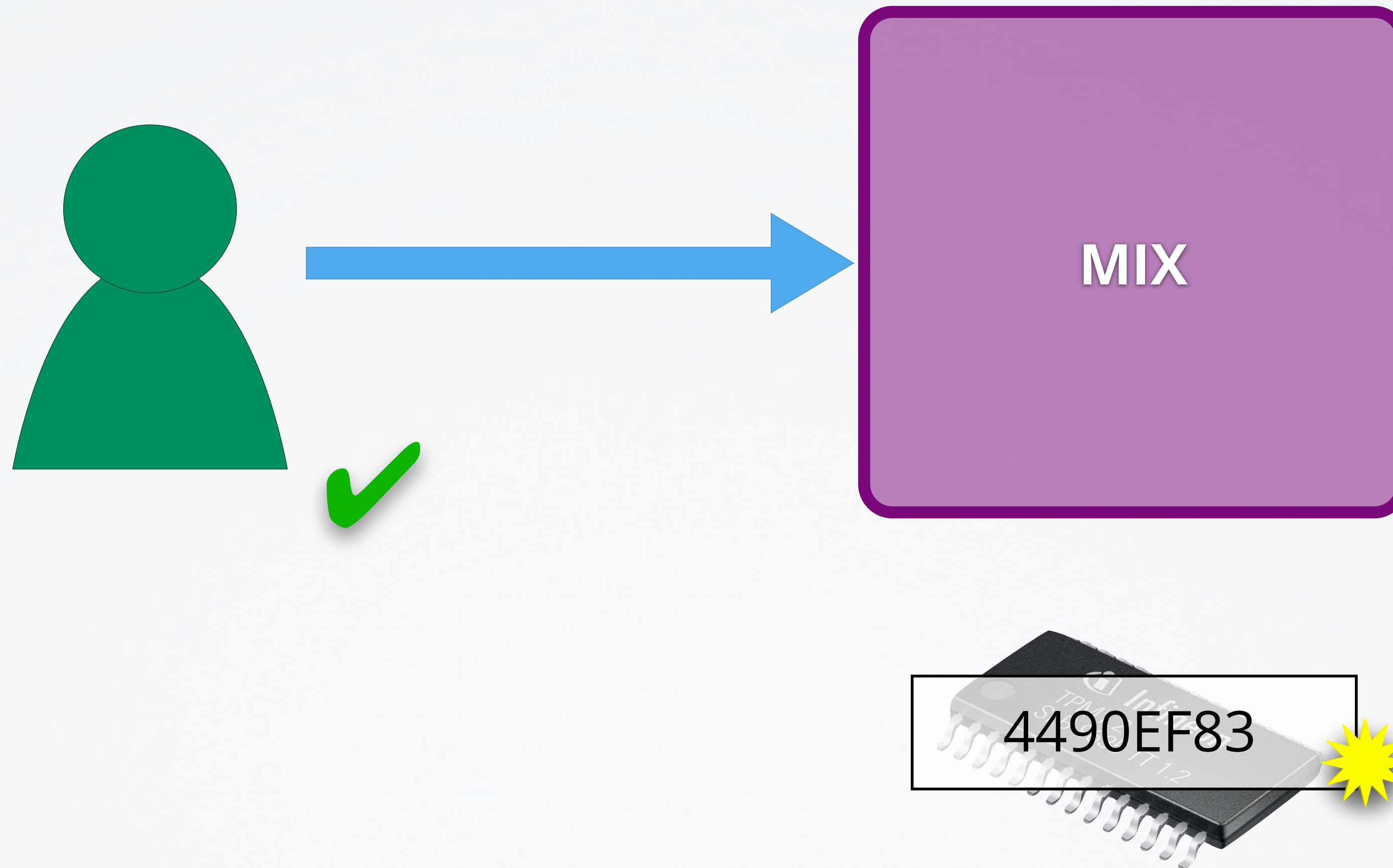
BIOS

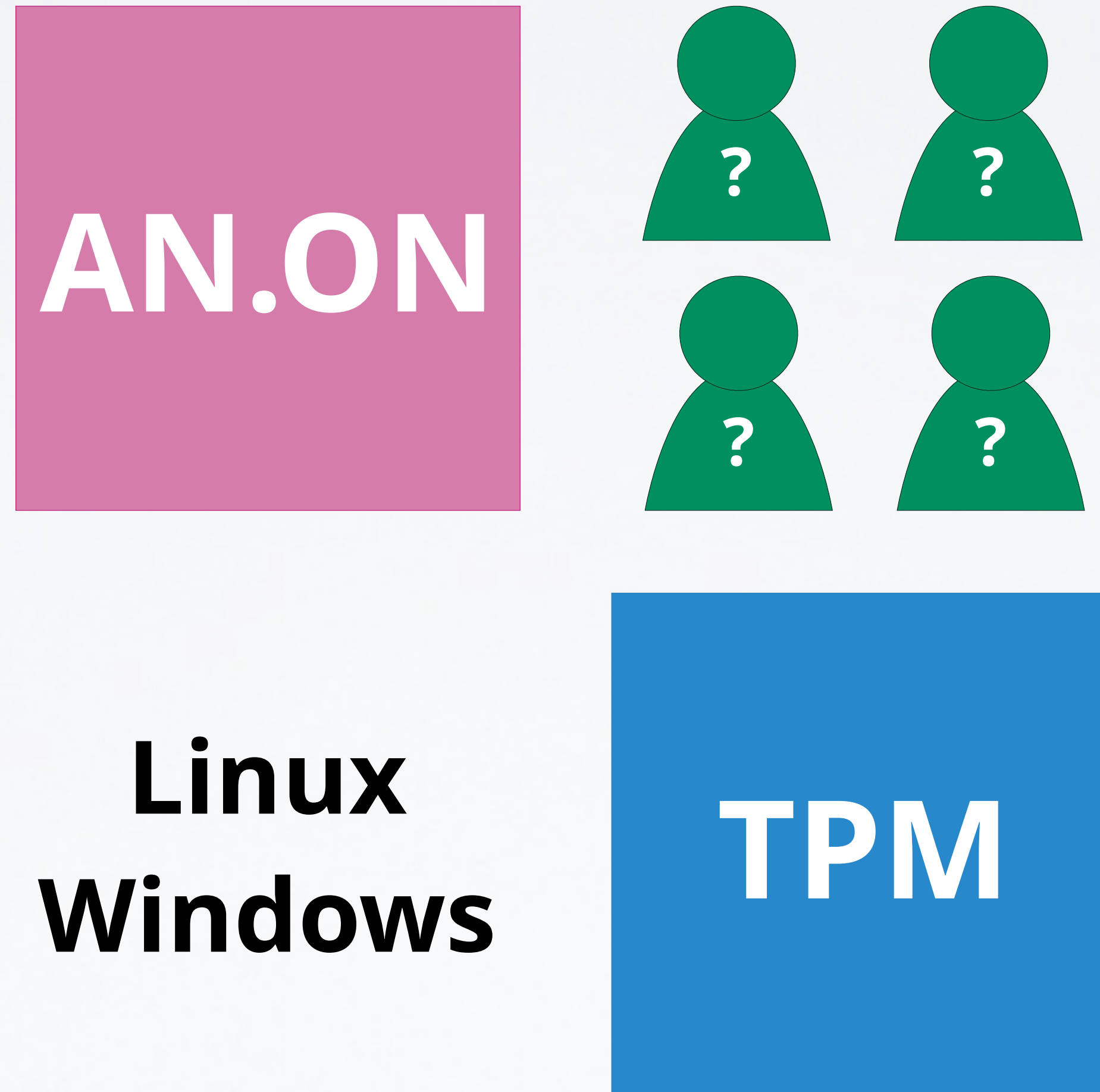


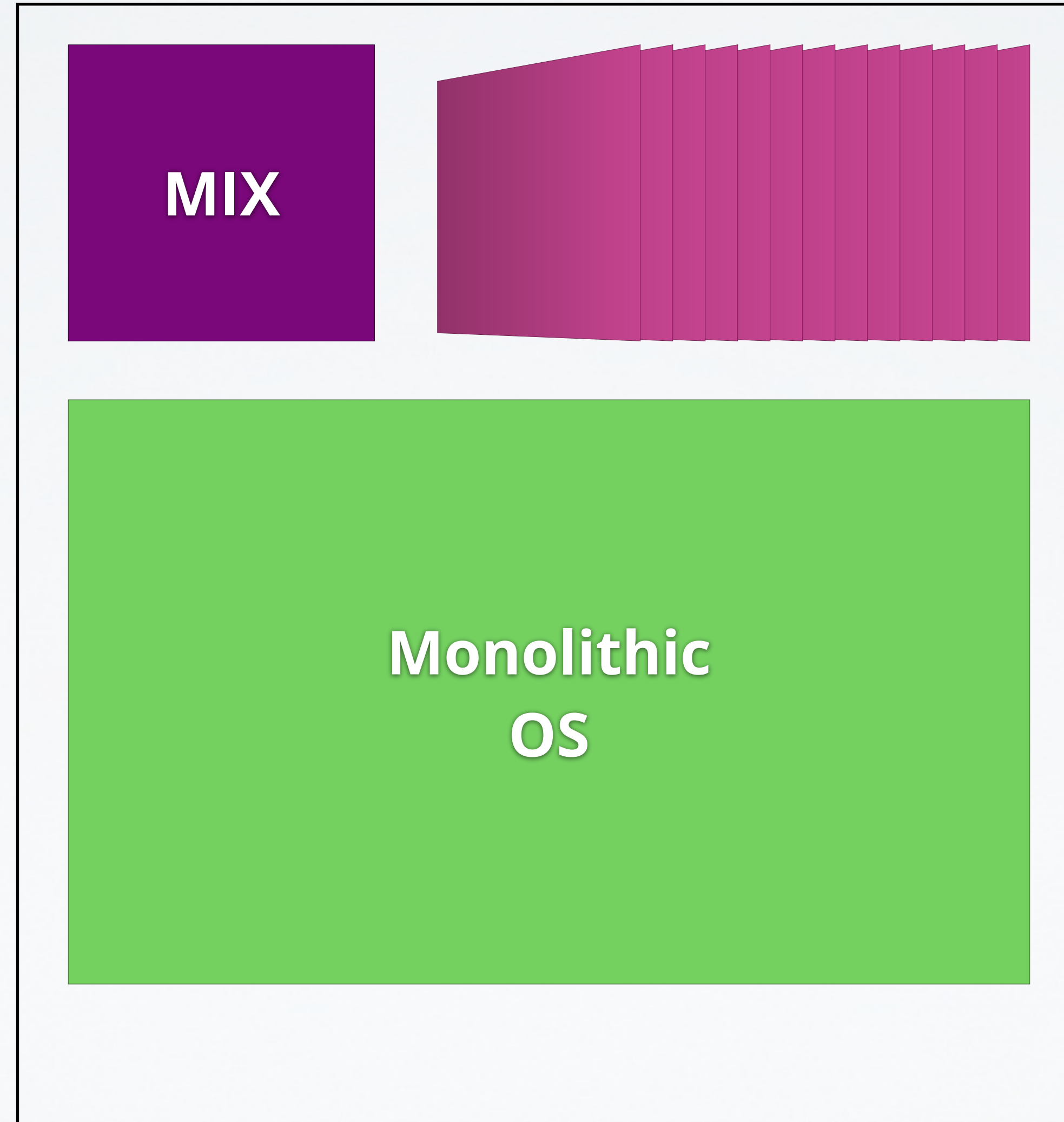
PCR

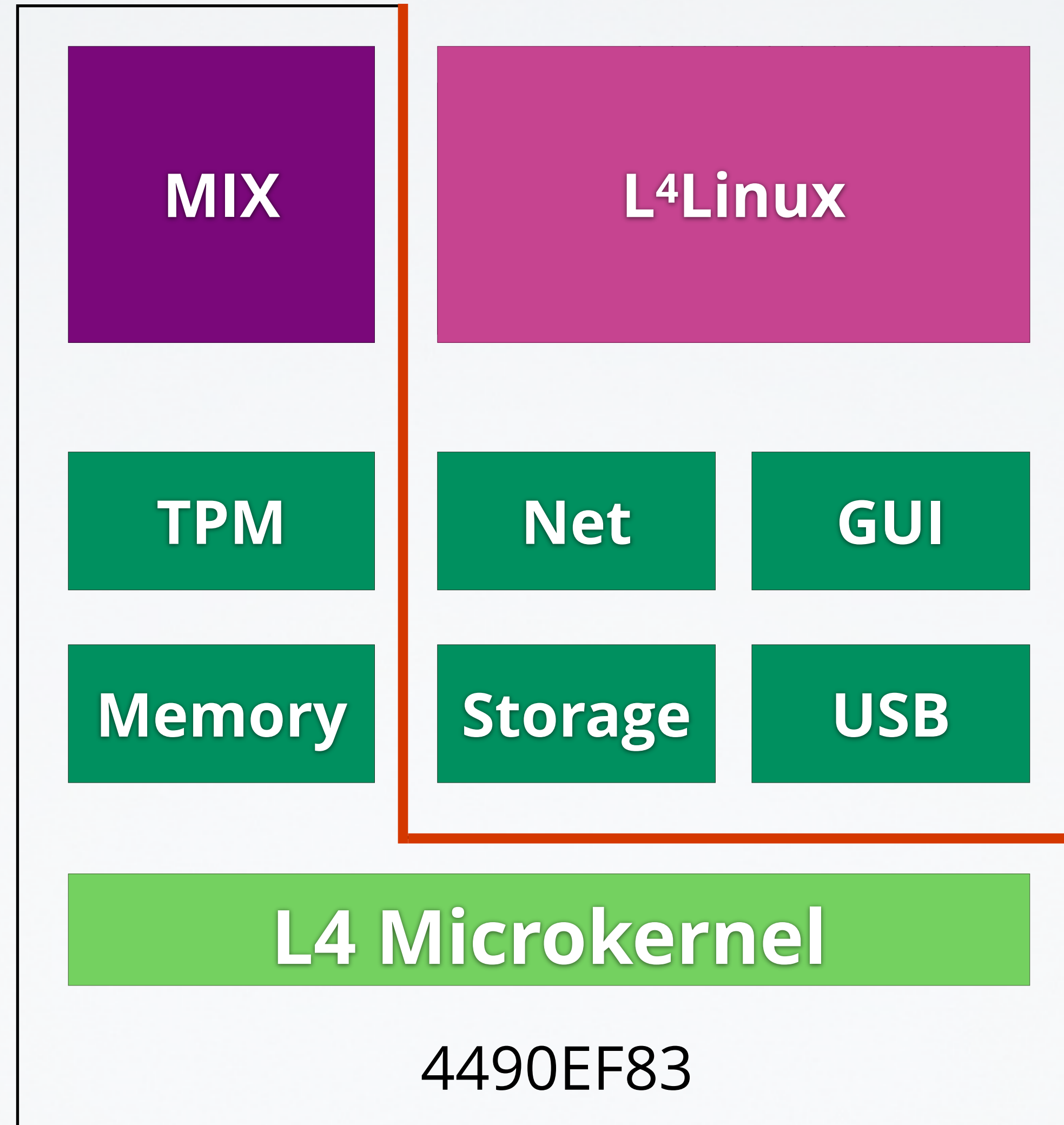
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## Remote Attestation









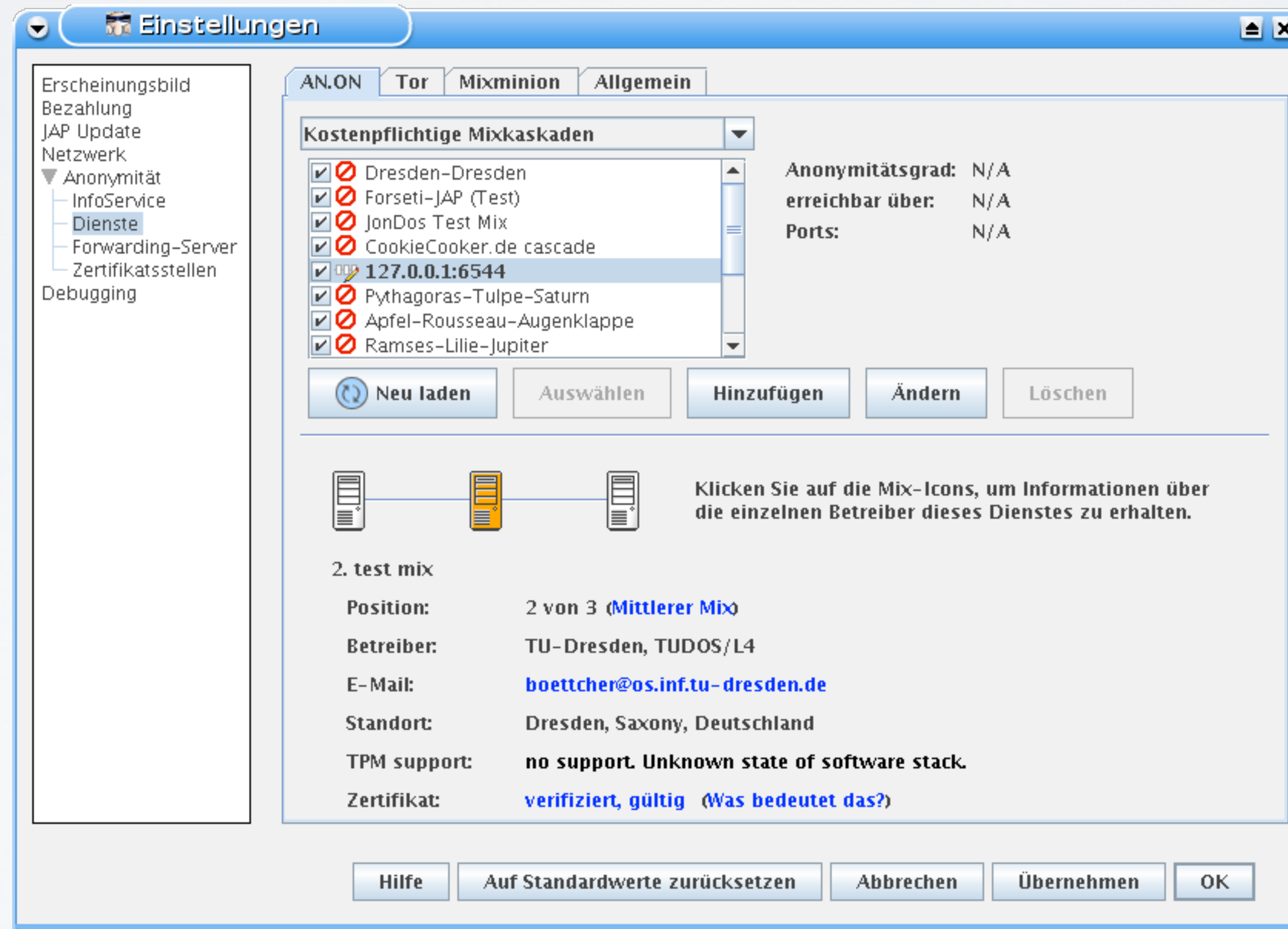


The screenshot shows the 'Einstellungen' (Settings) window for AN.ON, with the 'Allgemein' (General) tab selected. The left sidebar contains a tree view with 'Anonymität' expanded to 'Dienste'. The main area features a 'Kostenpflichtige Mixkaskaden' (Paid Mix Cascades) list with several entries checked, including '141.76.49.51:6544'. Below the list are buttons for 'Neu laden', 'Auswählen', 'Hinzufügen', 'Ändern', and 'Löschen'. A diagram shows three server icons connected in a line, with a note: 'Klicken Sie auf die Mix-Icons, um Informationen über die einzelnen Betreiber dieses Dienstes zu erhalten.' Below this, details for '2. test mix' are shown: Position: 2 von 3 (Mittlerer Mix), Betreiber: TU-Dresden, TUDOS/L4, E-Mail: boettcher@os.inf.tu-dresden.de. A prominent notification box states: 'TPM support: detected. Software stack is in expected state.' Below the notification, the certificate status is 'Zertifikat: verifiziert, gültig (Was bedeutet das?)'. At the bottom are buttons for 'Hilfe', 'Auf Standardwerte zurücksetzen', 'Abbrechen', 'Übernehmen', and 'OK'.



The screenshot shows a window titled 'Zertifikatsdetails' with three tabs: 'Details', 'Zertifikatshierarchie', and 'Softwarestackzustand'. The 'Details' tab is active, displaying a list of PCR (Platform Configuration Registers) values from PCR: 00 to PCR: 23. The values are hexadecimal strings of 16 bytes each, separated by spaces. PCR: 00 through PCR: 07 and PCR: 17 have non-zero values, while PCR: 08 through PCR: 16, PCR: 18, PCR: 20 through PCR: 22, and PCR: 23 are all zeros.

```
PCR: 00 0b 35 2b e2 28 1b a1 46 bf 33 3b b9 53 40 4a a2 98 15 80 13
PCR: 01 3a 3f 78 0f 11 a4 b4 99 69 fc aa 80 cd 6e 39 57 c3 3b 22 75
PCR: 02 3a 3f 78 0f 11 a4 b4 99 69 fc aa 80 cd 6e 39 57 c3 3b 22 75
PCR: 03 3a 3f 78 0f 11 a4 b4 99 69 fc aa 80 cd 6e 39 57 c3 3b 22 75
PCR: 04 fa 68 bf fd e1 33 3f ad 5d 7e ff 67 36 7f f9 bd c2 05 51 67
PCR: 05 3a 3f 78 0f 11 a4 b4 99 69 fc aa 80 cd 6e 39 57 c3 3b 22 75
PCR: 06 3a 3f 78 0f 11 a4 b4 99 69 fc aa 80 cd 6e 39 57 c3 3b 22 75
PCR: 07 3a 3f 78 0f 11 a4 b4 99 69 fc aa 80 cd 6e 39 57 c3 3b 22 75
PCR: 08 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 09 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 10 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 11 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 12 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 13 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 14 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 15 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 16 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 17 79 3c 9f a7 5c 23 24 bb ac c0 48 ab f8 cd fd 96 2d 82 dd ae
PCR: 18 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 19 15 6b f3 58 45 c9 1d 2a de ab cd d6 76 9b d7 42 dc 21 56 ed
PCR: 20 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 21 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 22 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PCR: 23 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
```



**Einstellungen**

AN.ON | Tor | Mixminion | **Allgemein**

**Kostenpflichtige Mixkaskaden**

- Dresden-Dresden
- Forseti-JAP (Test)
- JonDos Test Mix
- CookieCooker.de cascade
- 127.0.0.1:6544**
- Pythagoras-Tulpe-Saturn
- Apfel-Rousseau-Augenklappe
- Ramses-Lilie-Jupiter

Anonymitätsgrad: N/A  
 erreichbar über: N/A  
 Ports: N/A

Neu laden | Auswählen | Hinzufügen | Ändern | Löschen

Klicken Sie auf die Mix-Icons, um Informationen über die einzelnen Betreiber dieses Dienstes zu erhalten.

**2. test mix**

Position: 2 von 3 (Mittlerer Mix)

Betreiber: TU-Dresden, TUDOS/L4

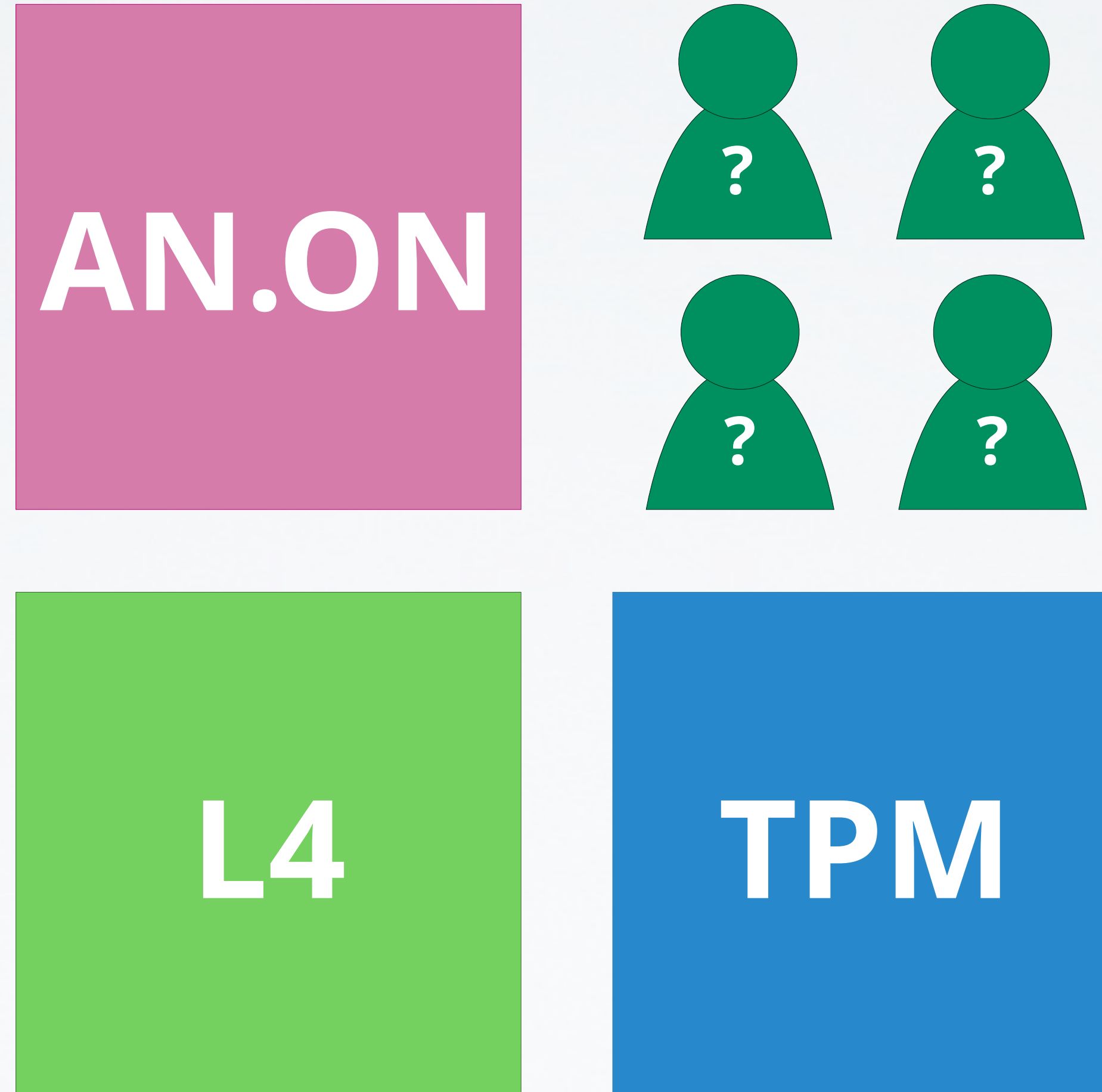
E-Mail: [boettcher@os.inf.tu-dresden.de](mailto:boettcher@os.inf.tu-dresden.de)

Standort: Dresden, Saxony, Deutschland

TPM support: no support. Unknown state of software stack.

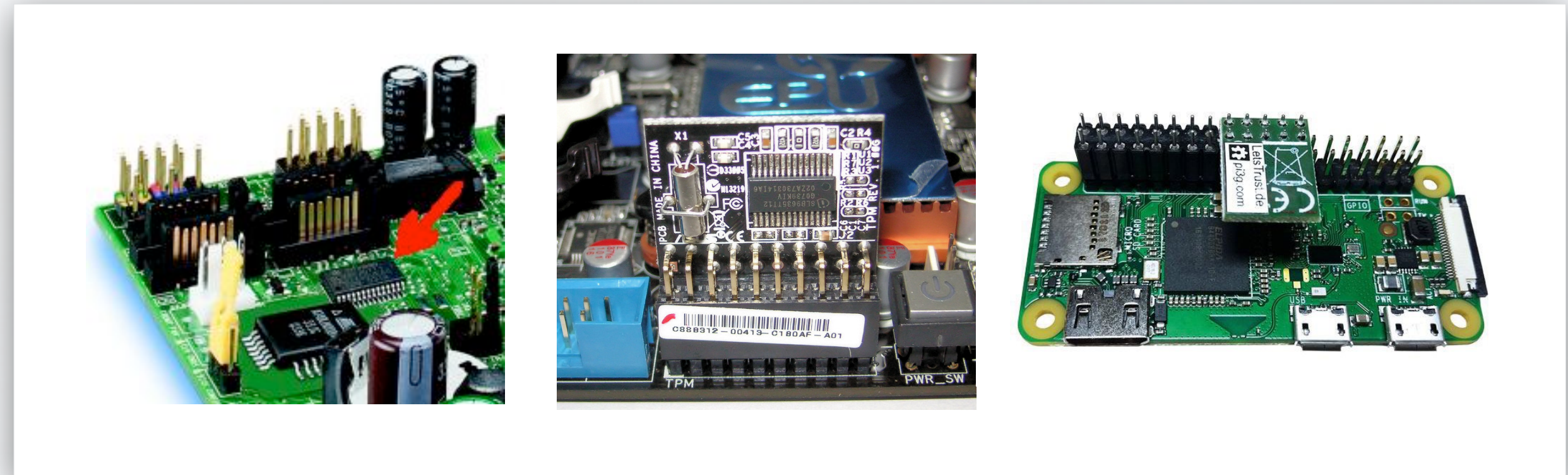
Zertifikat: [verifiziert, gültig \(Was bedeutet das?\)](#)

Hilfe | Auf Standardwerte zurücksetzen | Abbrechen | Übernehmen | OK



# THE TRUSTED PLATFORM MODULE

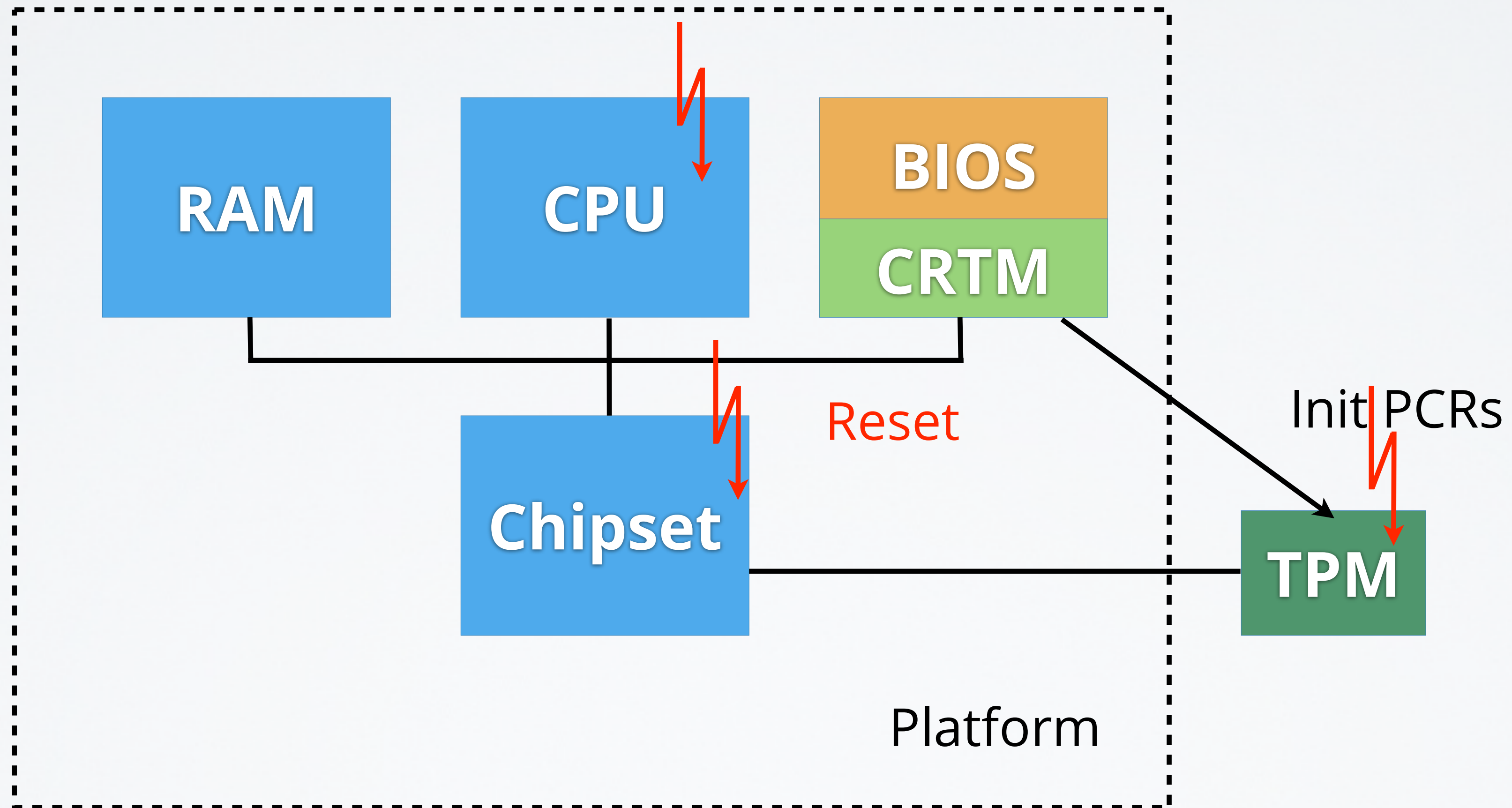
- TPMs are tightly integrated into platform:
  - Soldered on motherboard
  - Insecure / for experimentation only:  
Pluggable modules (PC, Raspberry Pi, ...)
  - Built into chipset / SoC
  - Implemented in Firmware
- Tamper resistant casing
- Widely deployed:
  - Business notebooks + desktops
  - Windows RT/8/10 tablets + all Windows 11 PCs



- TPM is cryptographic coprocessor:
  - **RSA** (encryption, signatures), **AES** (encryption), **SHA-1** (cryptographic hashes)
  - Other crypto schemes (e.g., **DAA**)
  - Random number generator
  - Platform Configuration Registers (**PCRs**)
  - Non-volatile memory
- TPMs are passive devices!

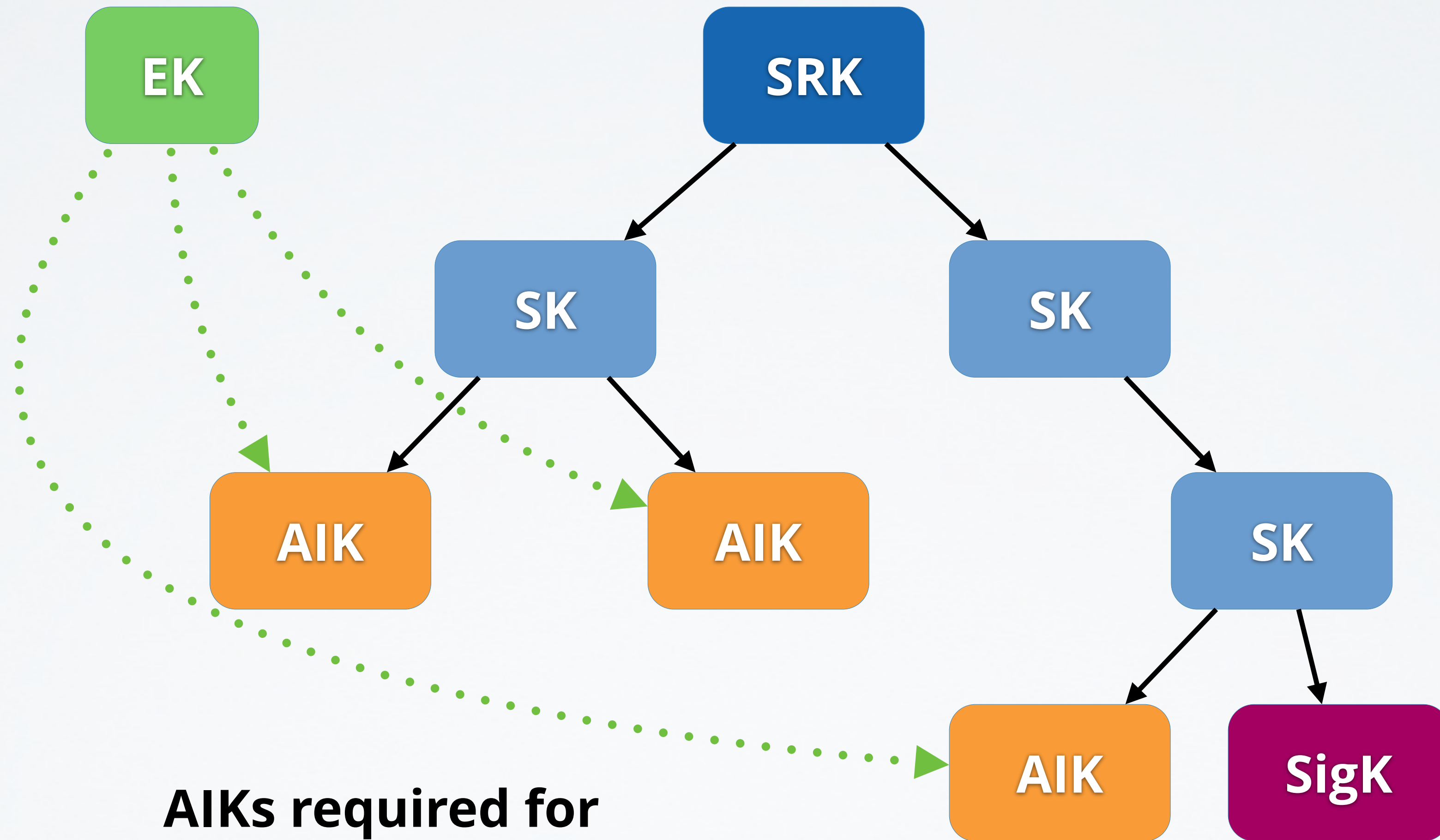
- TPMs specified by Trusted Computing Group [2]
- Multiple implementations
- TPM specifications [3,4] cover:
  - Architecture, interfaces, security properties
  - Data formats of input / output
  - Schemes for signatures, encryption, ...
  - TPM life cycle, platform requirements





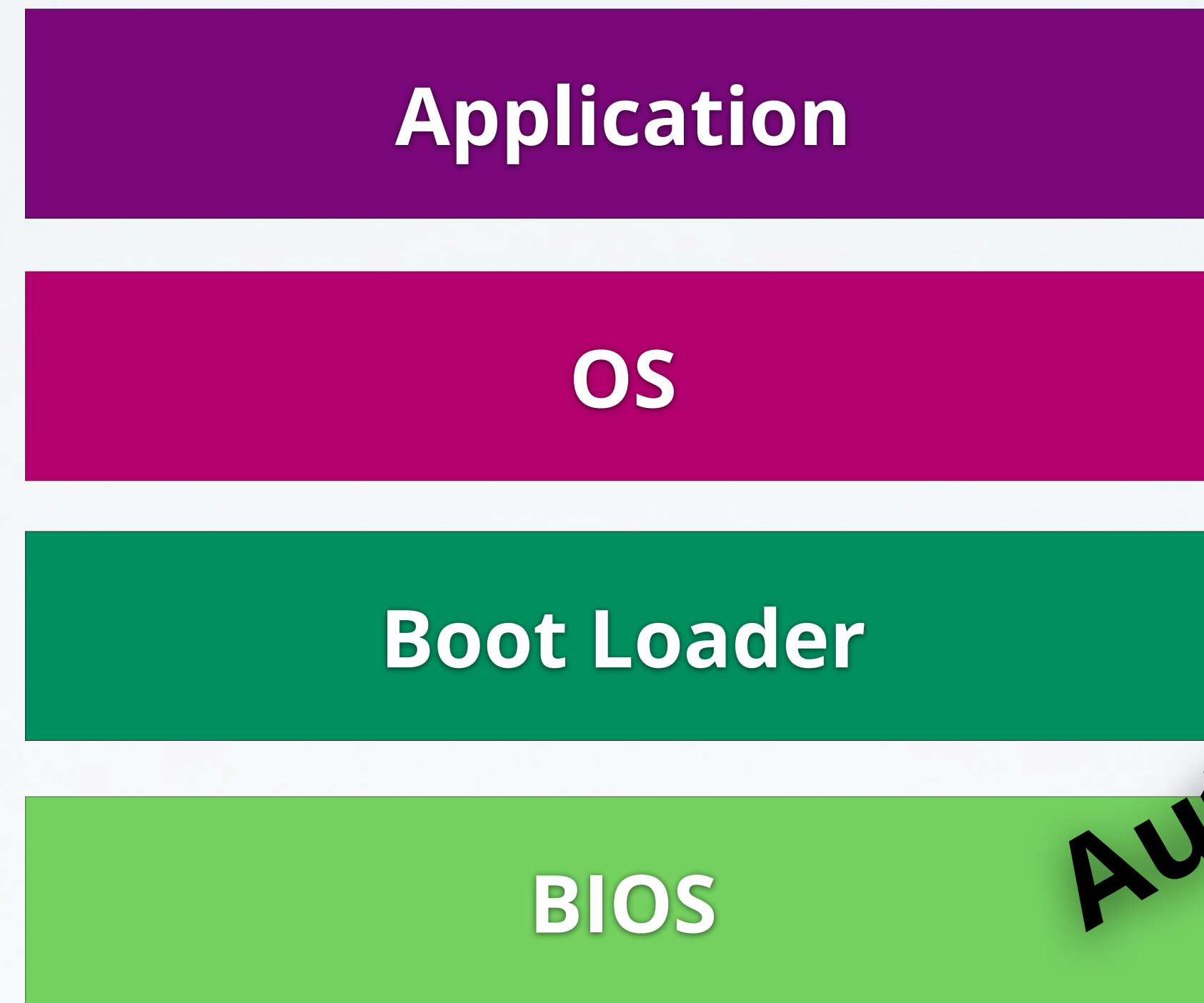
- TPM identified by Endorsement Key **EK**:
  - Generated in manufacturing process
  - Certified by manufacturer
  - Unique among all TPMs
  - Can only decrypt, serves as root of trust
- Creating entirely new **EK** possible (e.g., for use in corporate environments)
- Private part of **EK** never leaves TPM

- All keys except for **EK** are part of key hierarchy below Storage Root Key **SRK**:
  - **SRK** created when user „takes ownership“
  - Key types: **storage, signature, identity, ...**
  - Storage keys are parent keys at lower levels of hierarchy (like **SRK** does at root level)
  - Keys other than **EK** / **SRK** can leave TPM:
    - Encrypted under parent key before exporting
    - Parent key required for loading and decrypting

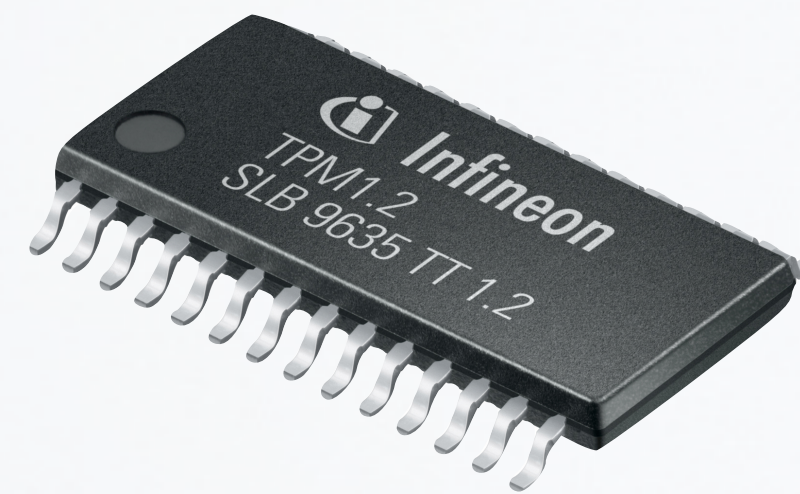


**AIKs required for  
Remote Attestation**

- Special key type for remote attestation: Attestation Identity Key (**AIKs**)
  - TPM creates AIK + certificate request
  - **Privacy CA** checks certificate request + **EK**, issues certificate and encrypts under **EK**
  - TPM can decrypt certificate using **EK**
- **AIK** certificate:
  - „This **AIK** has been created by a valid TPM“
  - TPM identity (**EK**) cannot be derived from it



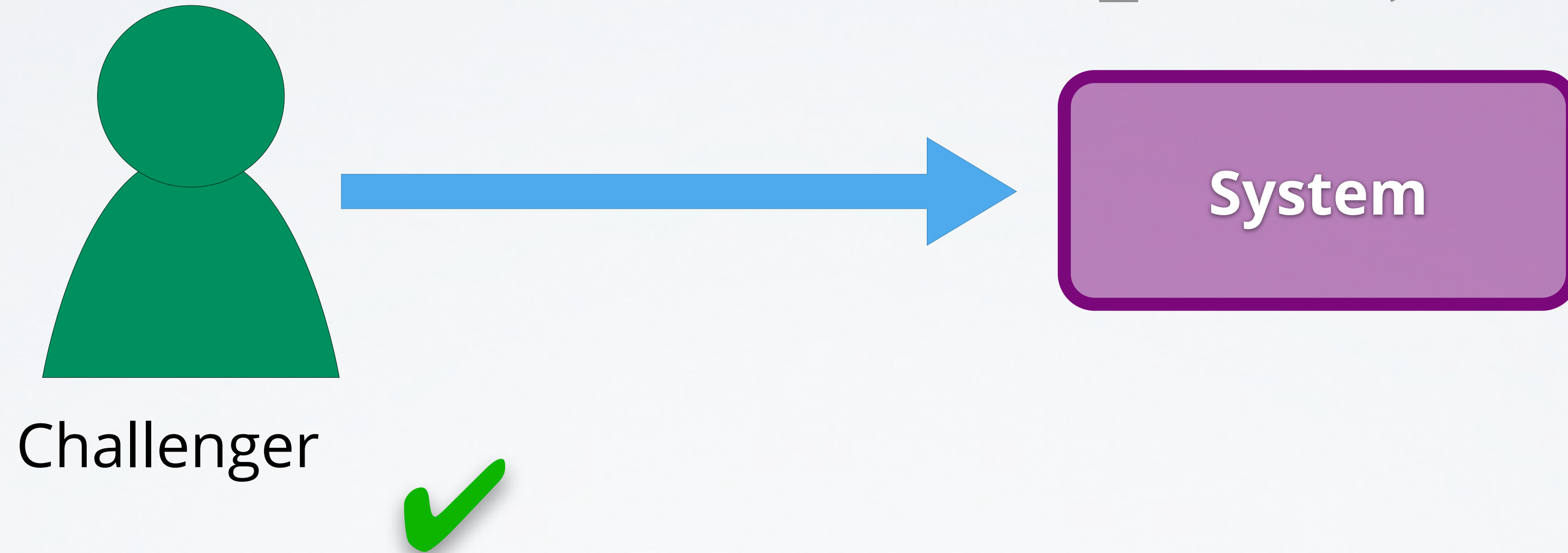
**Authenticated  
Boot**



PCR

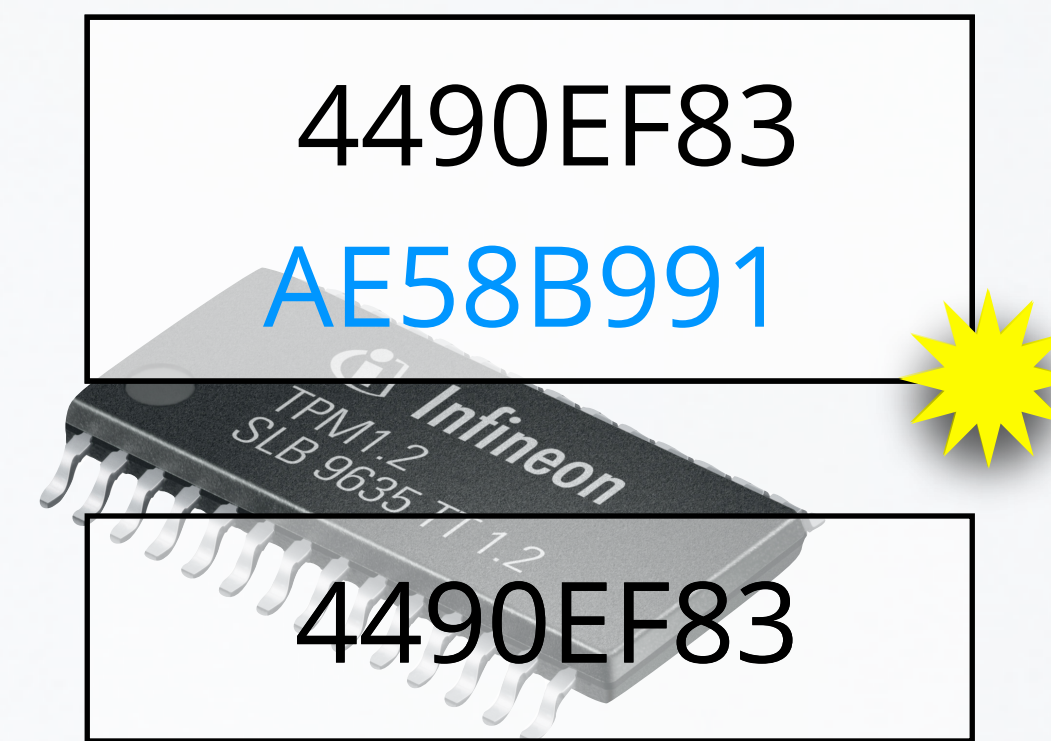
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TPM\_Quote(AIK, Nonce, PCR)



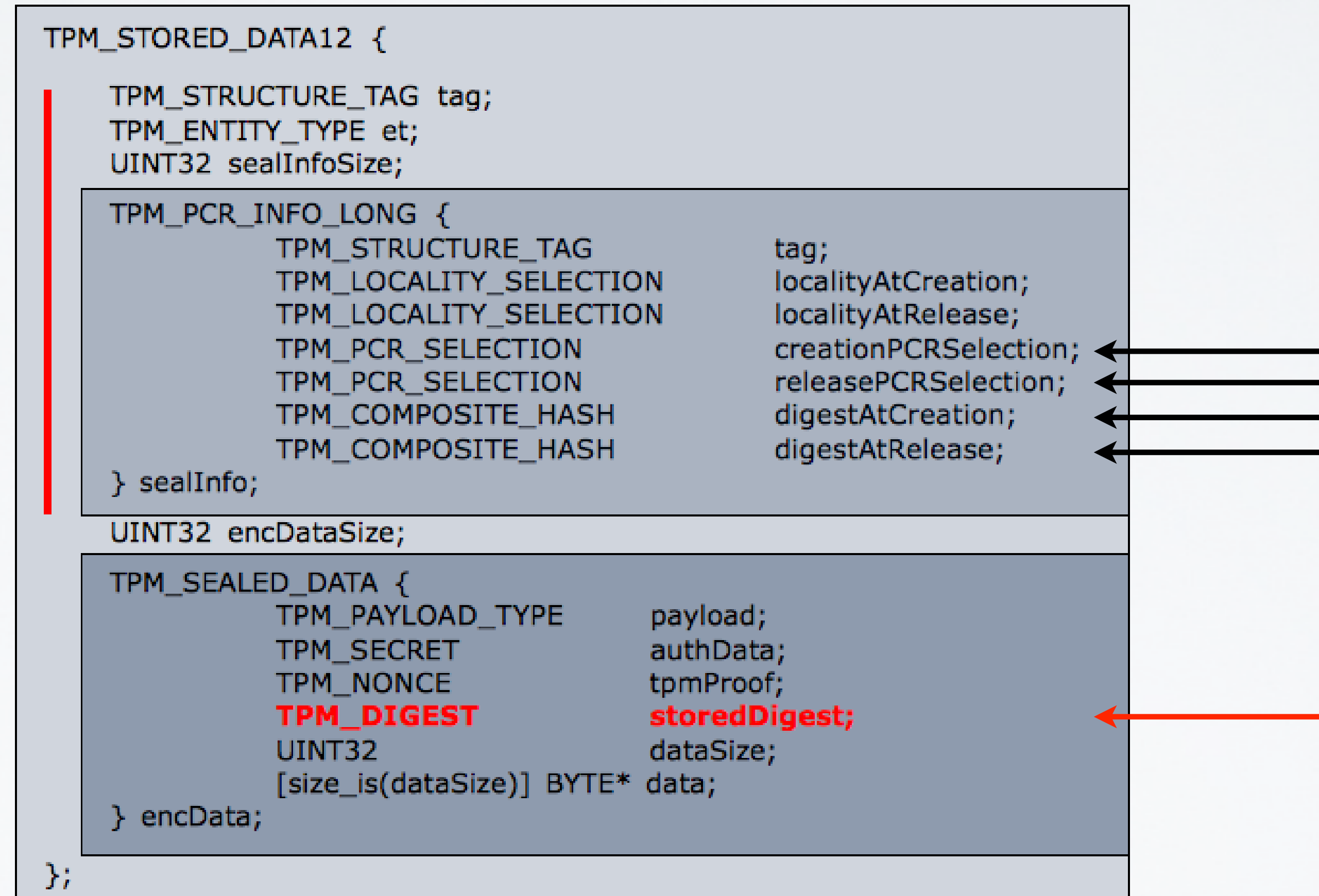
AE58B991

**Remote Attestation with  
Challenge/Response**



- Applications require secure storage
- TPMs can lock data to **PCR** values:
  - **TPM\_Seal():**
    - Encrypt user data under specified storage key
    - Encrypted blob contains **expected PCR** values
  - **TPM\_Unseal():**
    - Decrypt encrypted blob using storage key
    - Compare **current** and **expected PCR** values
    - Release user data only if PCR values match





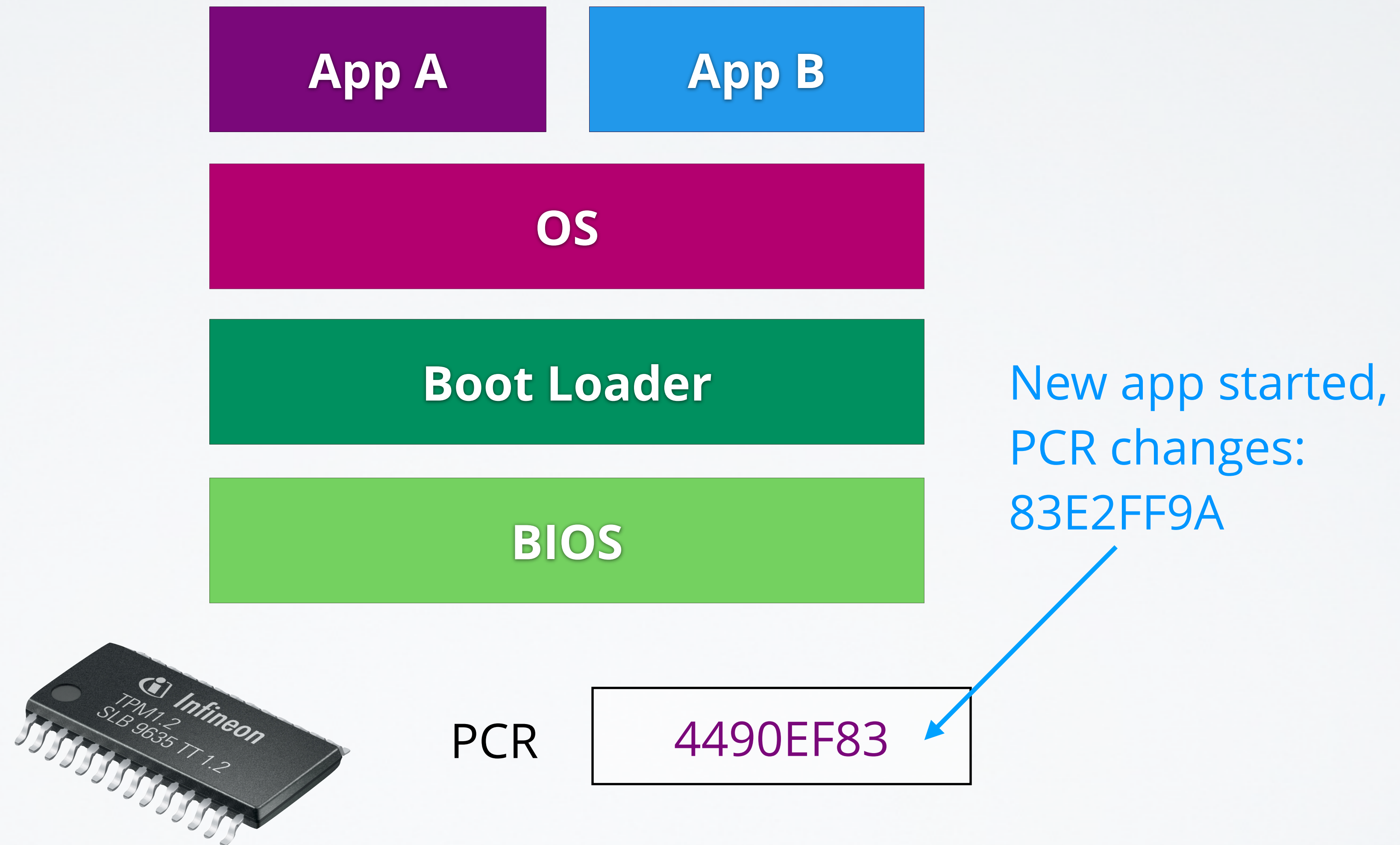
Only the TPM\_SEALED\_DATA structure is encrypted

- Sealed data is stored outside the TPM
- Vulnerable to replay attacks:
  - Multiple versions of sealed blob may exist
  - Any version can be passed to TPM
  - TPM happily decrypts, if crypto checks out
- Problem:
  - What if sealed data must be current?
  - How to prevent use of older versions?

- TPMs provide **monotonic counters**
- Only two operations: **increment, read**
- Password protected
- Prevent replay attacks:
  - Seal expected value of counter with data
  - After unseal, compare unsealed value with current counter
  - Increment counter to invalidate old versions

- Key functionality of TPMs:
  - Authenticated booting
  - Remote attestation
  - Sealed memory
- Problems with current TPMs:
  - No (sensible) support for virtualization
  - Can be slow (hundreds of ms / operation)
  - Linear chain of trust

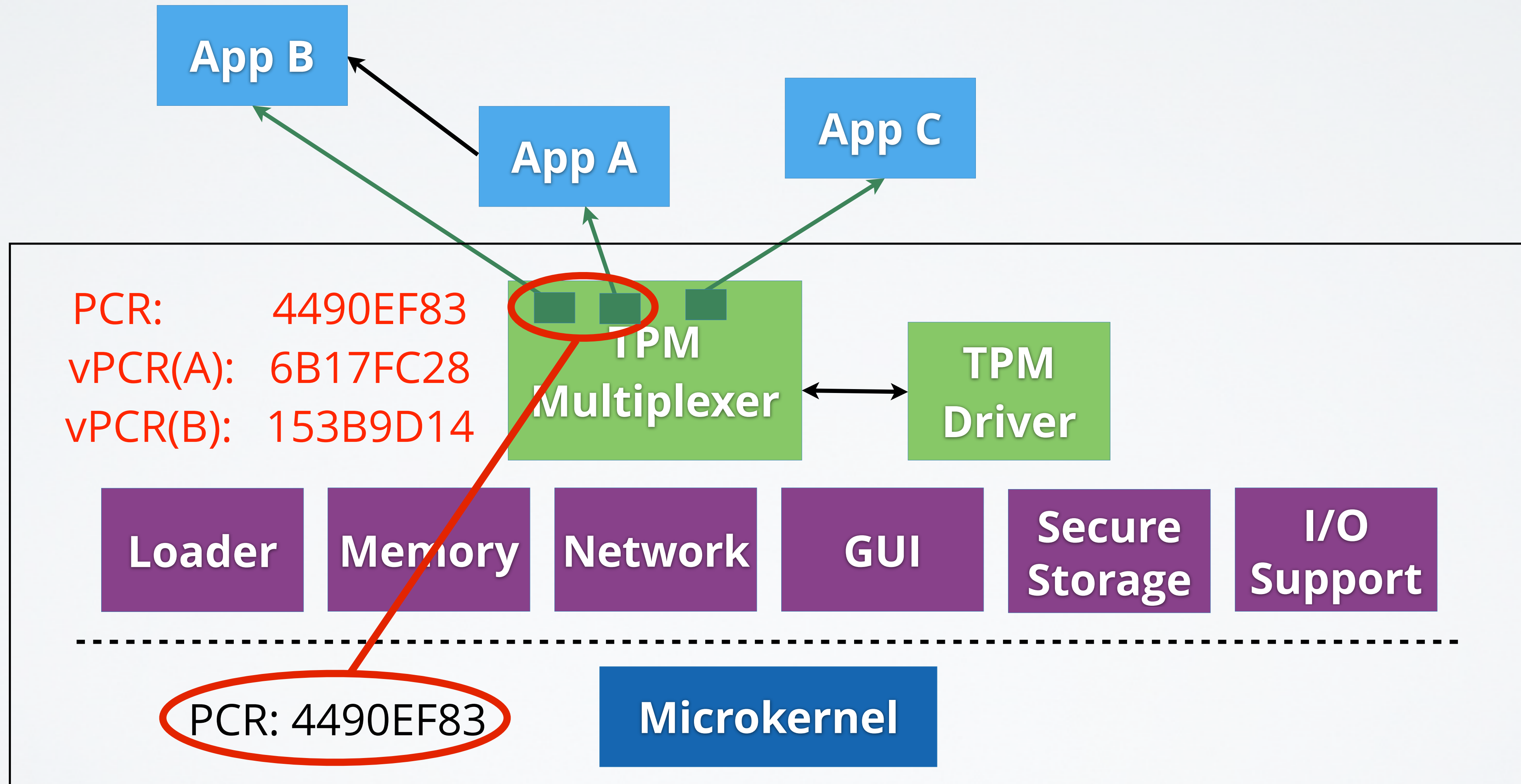
# TPMS IN NIZZA ARCHITECTURE



- Use one PCR per application:
  - Application measurements independent
  - Number of PCRs is limited (usually 24 PCRs)
- Use one PCR for all applications:
  - Chain of trust / application log grows
  - All applications reported in remote attestation (raises privacy concerns)
  - All applications checked when unsealing

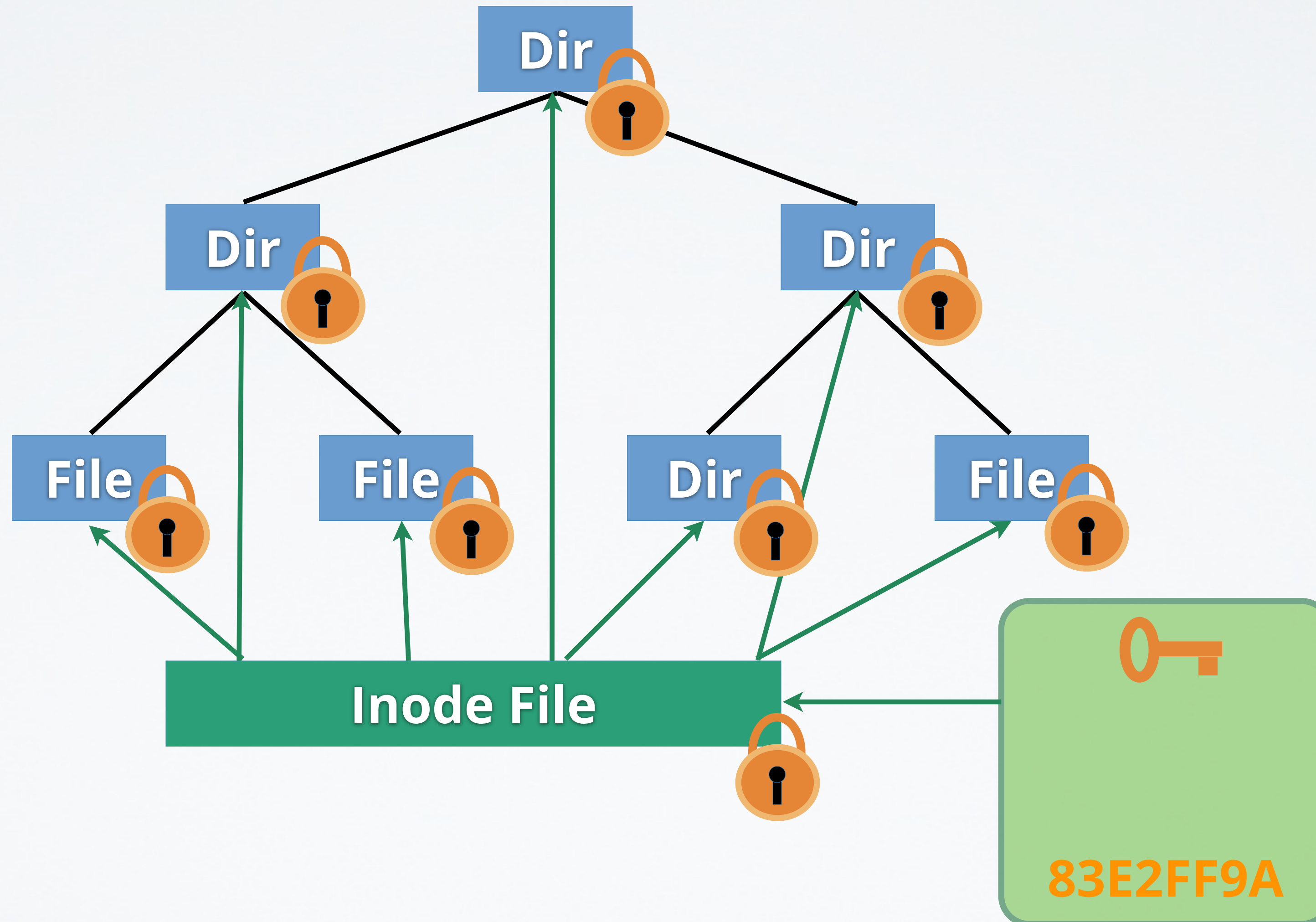
- Idea: per-application PCRs in software:
  - Measure only base system into TPM PCRs (microkernel, basic services, TPM driver, ...)
  - „Software TPM“ provides „software PCRs“ for each application
  - More flexibility with „software **PCRs**“:
    - Chain of trust common up to base system
    - Extension of chains of trust for applications fork above base system
    - Branches in **Tree of Trust** are independent

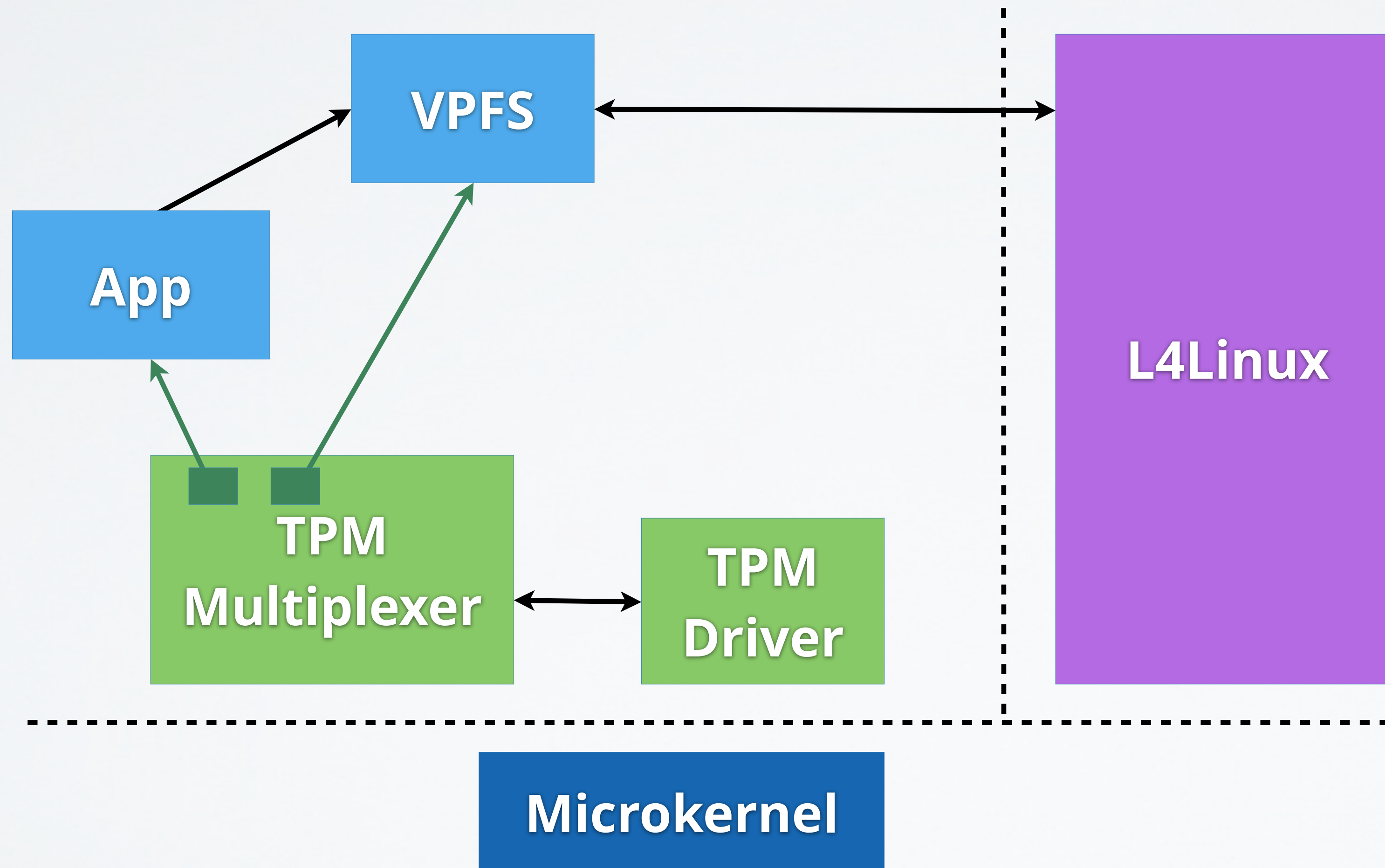




- Operations on software PCRs:
  - **Seal, Unseal, Quote, Extend**
  - **Add\_child, Remove\_child**
- Performed using software keys (AES, RSA)
- Software keys protected with real TPM
- Link between software **PCRs** and real **PCRs**: certificate for RSA signature key

# A SECOND LOOK AT VPFS





VPFS can access secrets only, if its own vPCR and the vPCR for the app match the respective expected values.

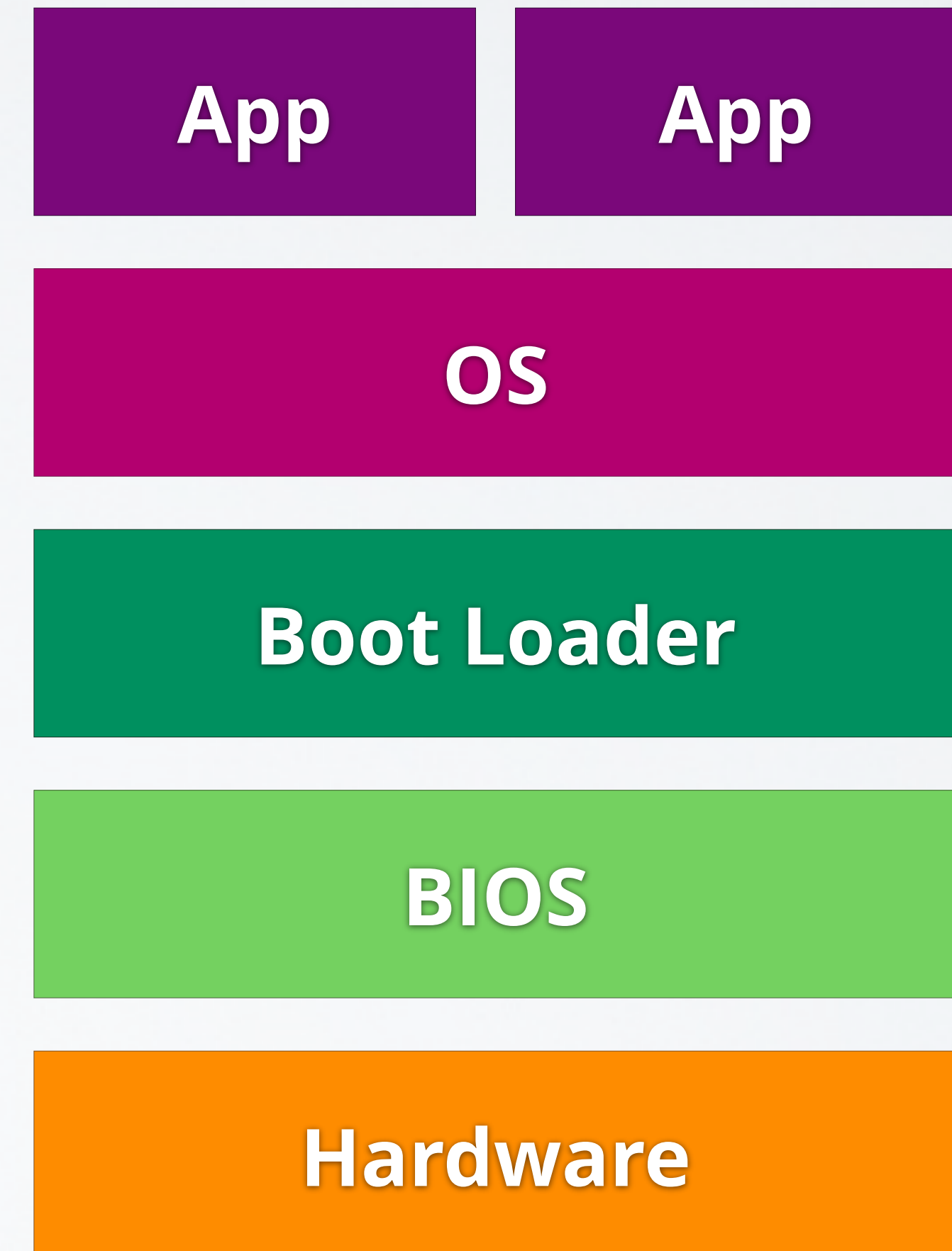
- VPFS uses **sealed memory**:
  - Secret encryption key
  - Root hash of Merkle hash tree
- Second use case is **remote attestation**:
  - Trusted backup storage required, because data in untrusted storage can be lost
  - Secure access to backup server needed
  - VPFS challenges backup server: „Will you store my backups reliably?“

# A SECOND LOOK AT THE CHAIN OF TRUST

- When you press the power button ...
  - First code to be run: BIOS boot block (stored in ROM)
  - Starts chain of trust:
    - Initialize TPM
    - Hash BIOS into TPM
    - Pass control to BIOS
- **Core Root of Trust for Measurement (CRTM)**

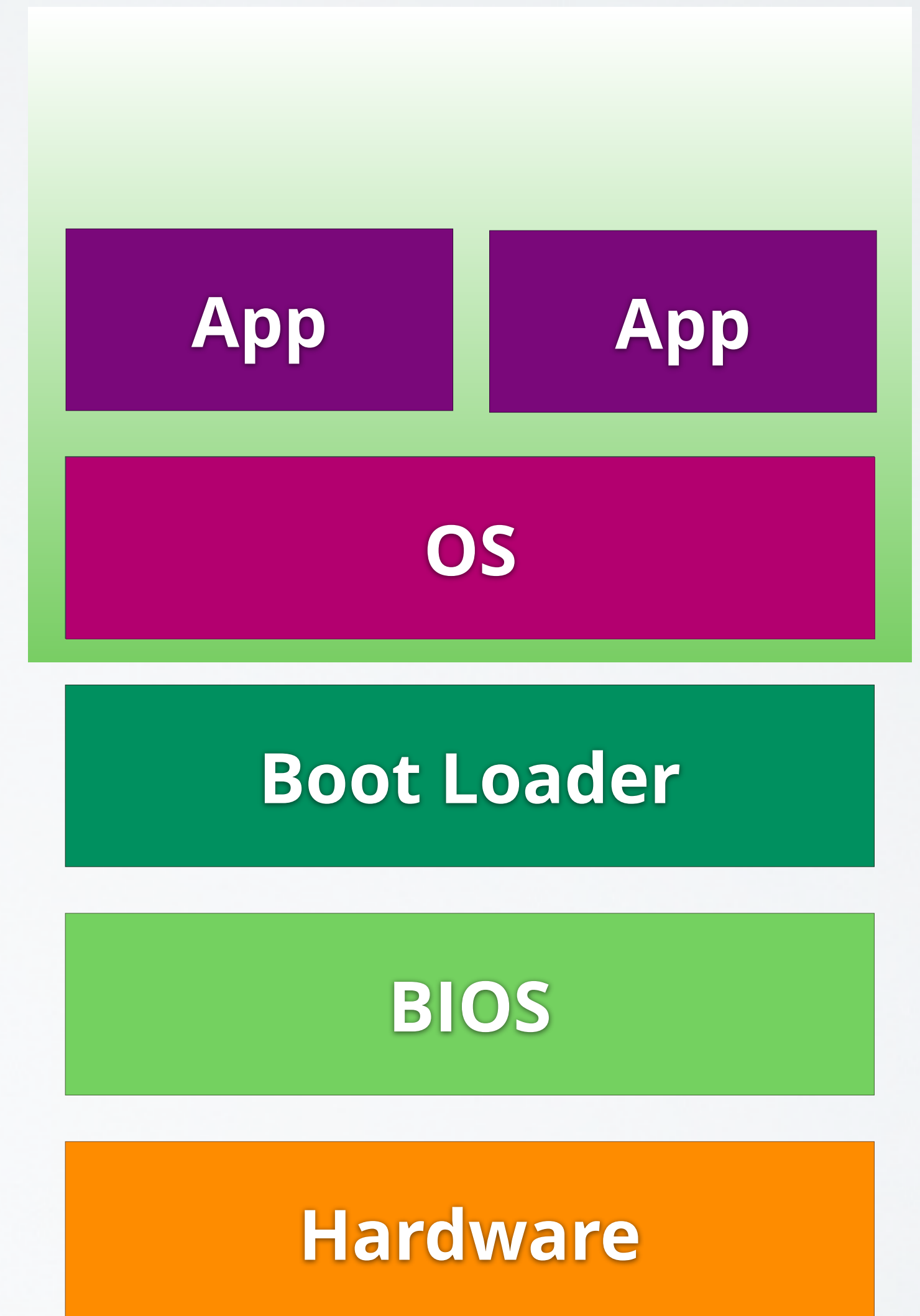


- Discussed so far:
  - **CRTM** & chain of trust
  - How to make components in chain of trust smaller
- **Observation:** BIOS and boot loader only needed for booting
- **Question:** can chain of trust be shorter?



- **CRTM** starts chain of trust early
- **Dynamic Root of Trust for Measurement (DRTM)** starts it late:
  - Special CPU instructions (AMD: skinit, Intel: senter)
  - Put CPU in known state
  - Measure small „secure loader“ into TPM
  - Start „secure loader“
- **DRTM**: Chain of trust can start anywhere

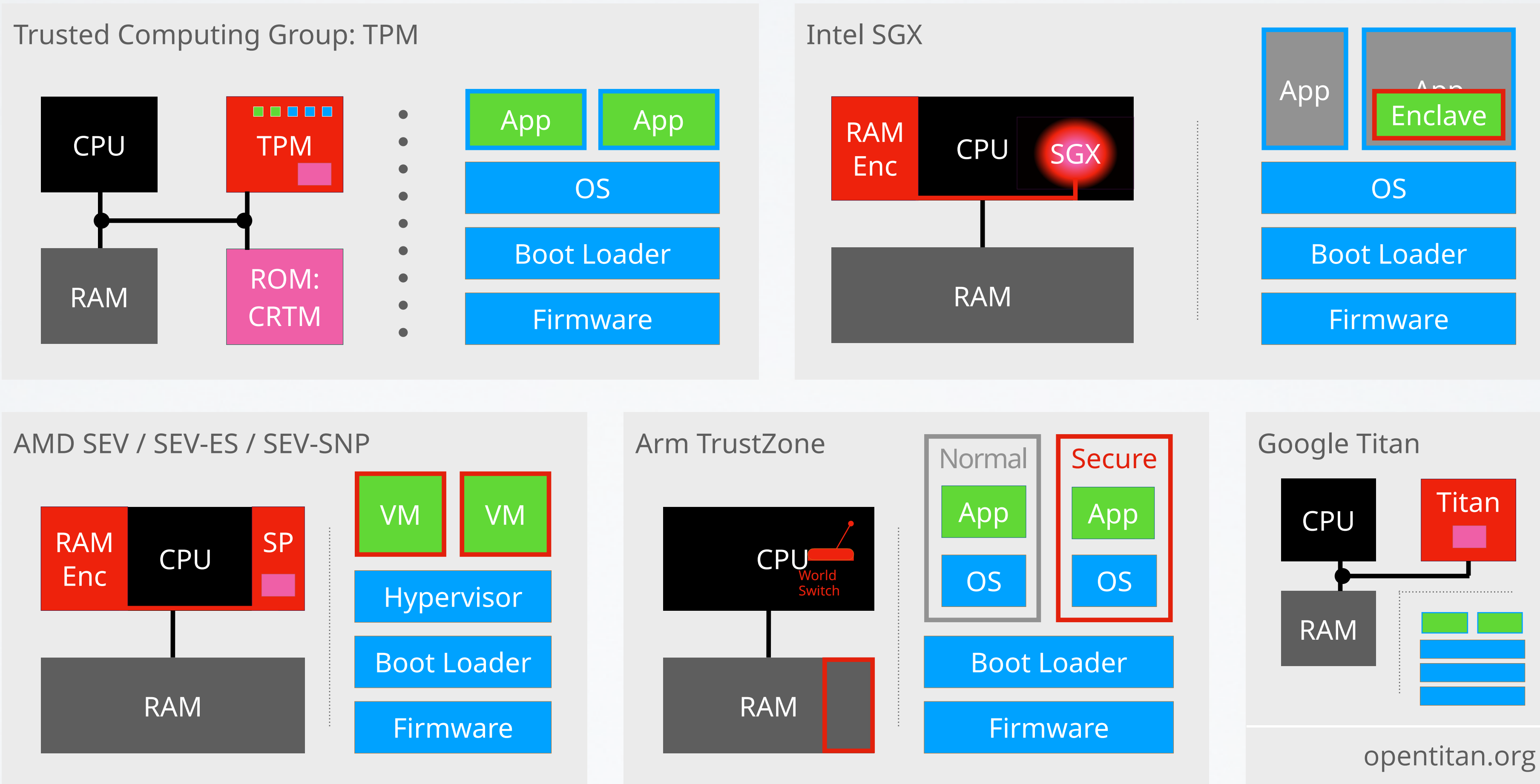
- Simple: **DRTM** put right below OS
- Smaller TCB:
  - Large and complex BIOS / boot loader removed
  - Small and simple **DRTM** bootstrapper added
- Open Secure Loader **OSLO**: **1,000** SLOC, **4KB** binary size [6]



- DRTM remove boot software from TCB
- Key challenges:
  - „Secure loader“ must not be compromised
  - Requires careful checking of platform state
  - Secure loader must actually run in locked RAM, not in insecure device memory
- DRTM can also run after booting OS

# BEYOND THE TRUSTED PLATFORM MODULE

- Simple implementations in smartphones, etc.
  - Non-modifiable boot ROM loads OS
  - OS is signed with manufacturer key, checked by ROM-based boot loader
  - Small amount of flash integrated into SoC
  - Cryptographic co-processor: software can use (but not obtain) encryption and signature keys
- Not open: **closed** or **secure boot** instead of **authenticated booting**

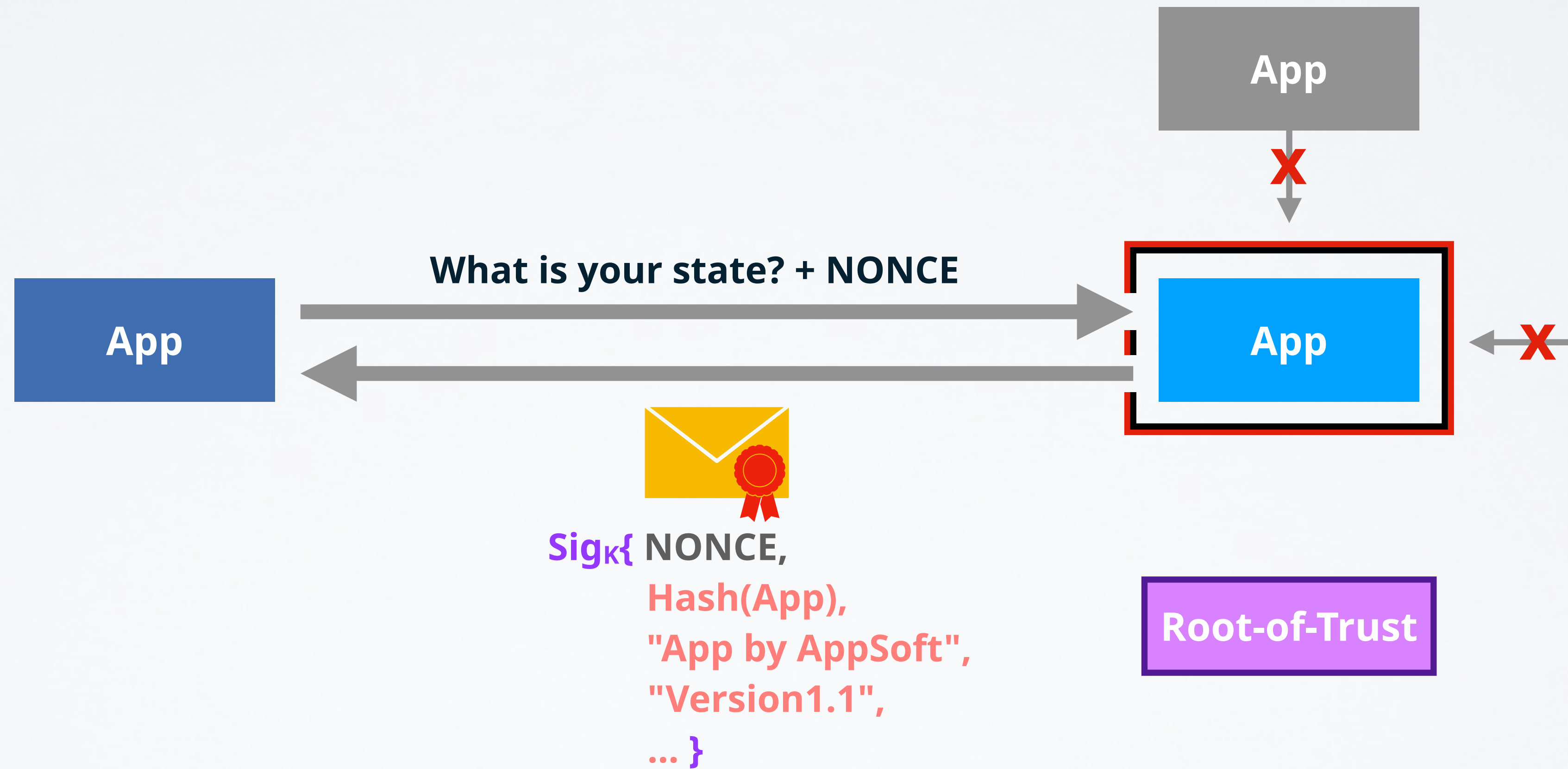


- Intel TDX: 4th Gen Xeon Scalable Processors
- Arm Confidential Compute Architecture (CCA)  
(introduced with Armv9)
- TPM support in VMs
  - Software TPM: libtpms + SWTPM
  - SWTPM runs as process outside VM
  - SWTPM identity linked to hardware TPM



# WHAT IS A TRUSTED EXECUTION ENVIRONMENT?

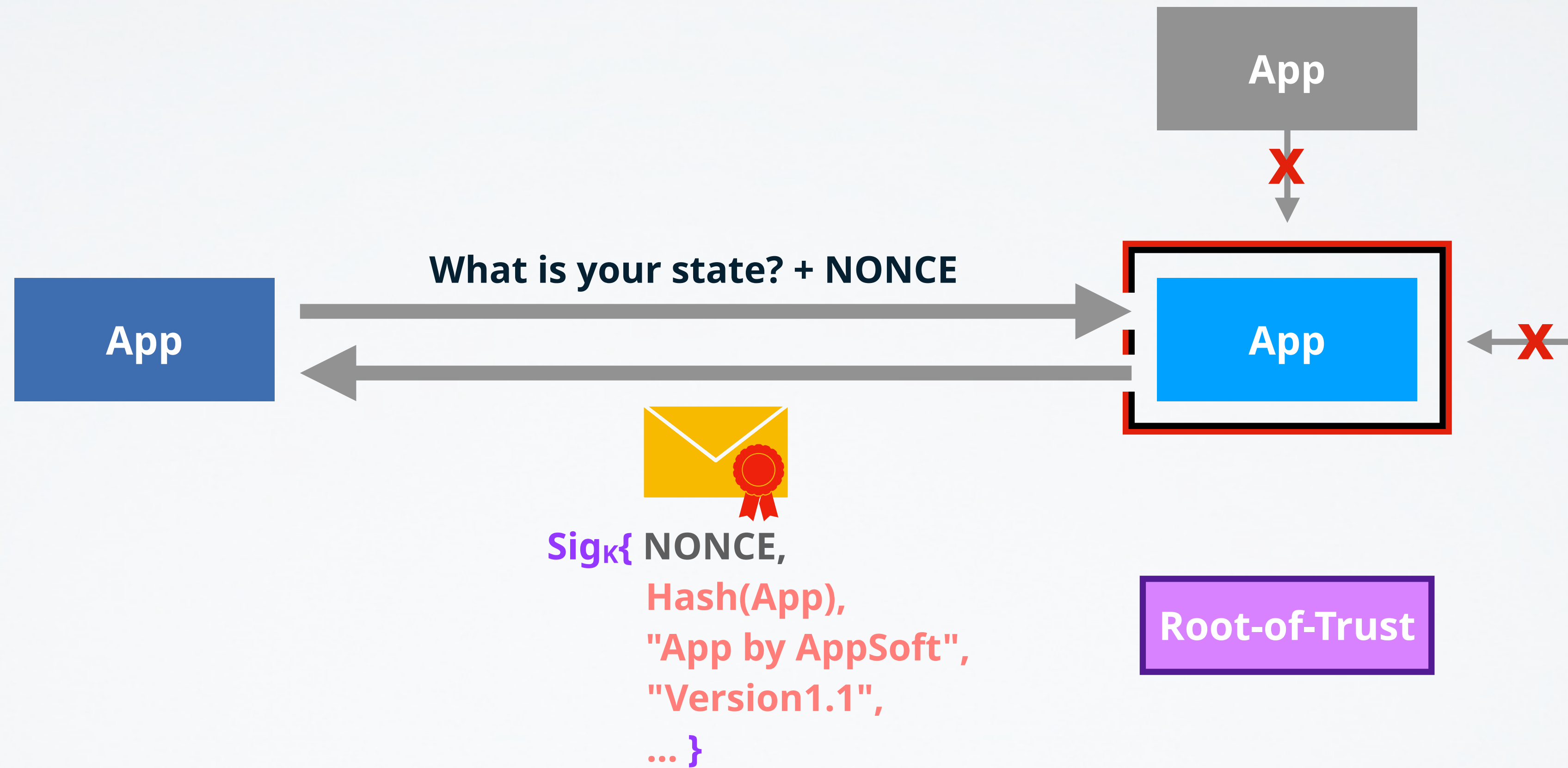
# WHAT IS A TEE?



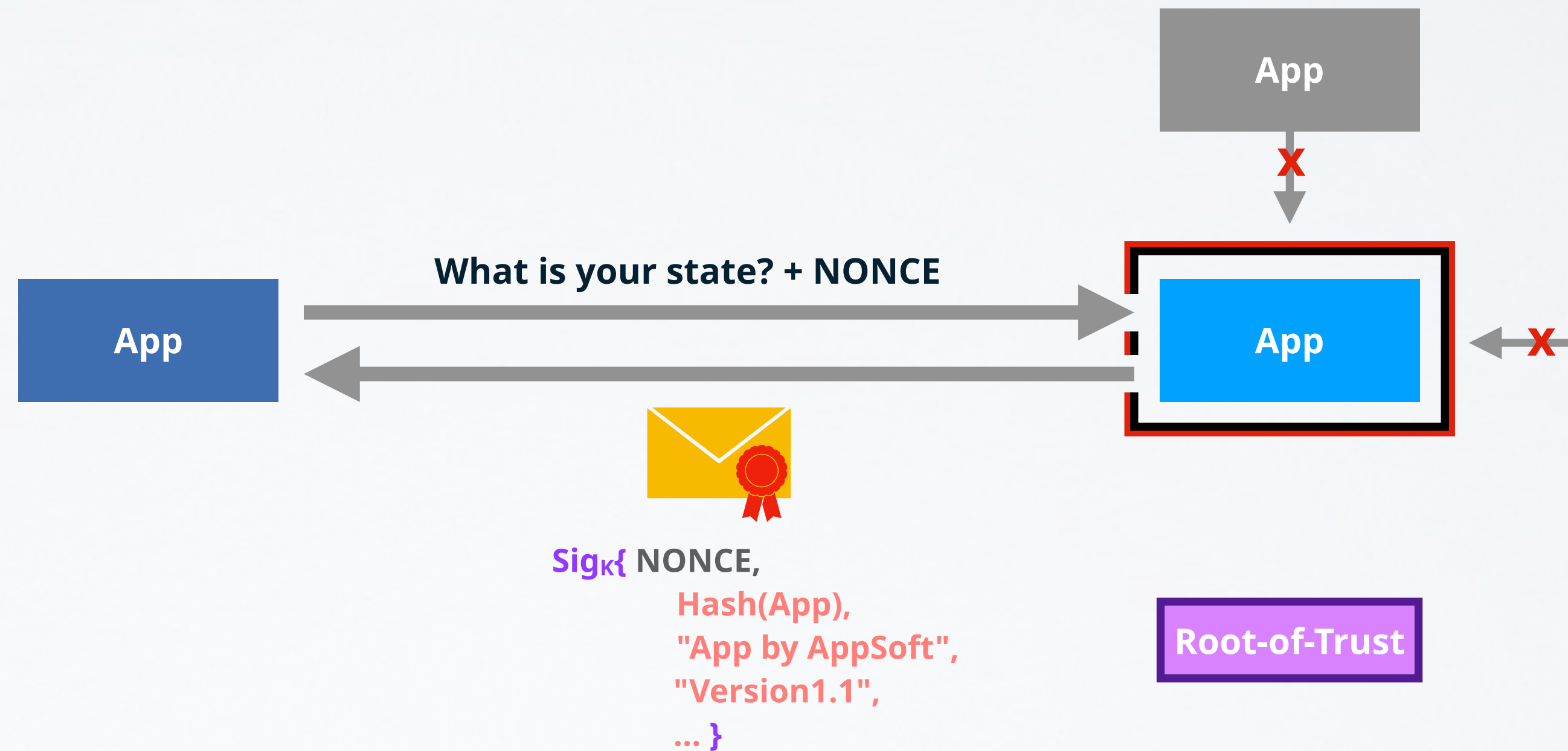
## **There are many TEEs, but there is not much choice:**

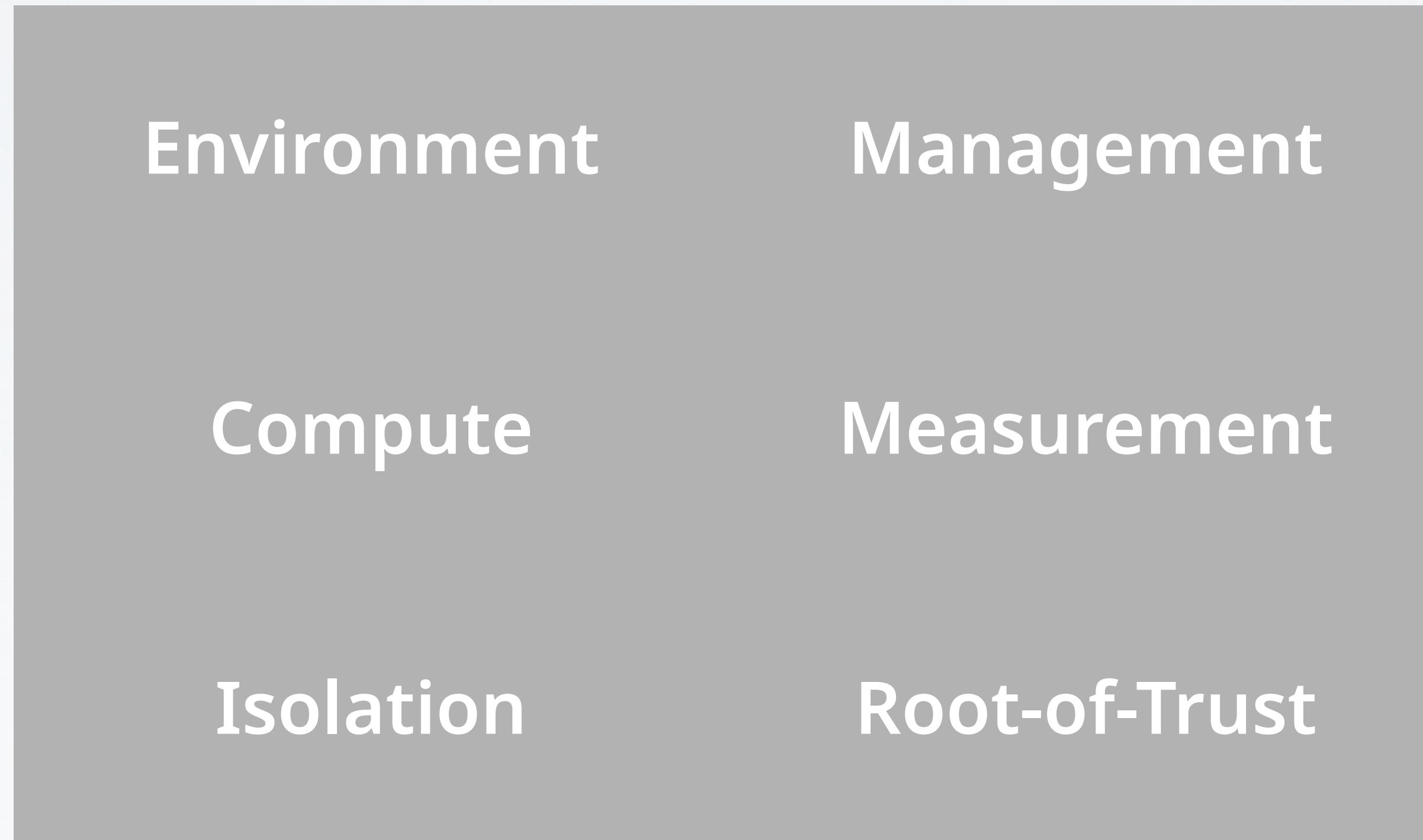
- TEE and ISA cannot be chosen independently
- TEE implementation deeply integrated with core microarchitecture
- TEEs lack "good" integration with system software

# WHAT IS A TEE?



- Computation
- Measurement
- Root of Trust
- Isolation
- Management
- Environment





Environment

Compute

Isolation

Management

Measurement

Root-of-Trust

Environment

Management

Compute

Measurement

Isolation

Root-of-Trust



Environment

Management

Compute

Measurement

Isolation

Root-of-Trust

[10]

- [1] <http://www.heise.de/security/Anonymisierungsnetz-Tor-abgephisht--/news/meldung/95770>
- [2] <https://www.trustedcomputinggroup.org/home/>
- [3] <https://www.trustedcomputinggroup.org/specs/TPM/>
- [4] <https://www.trustedcomputinggroup.org/specs/PCClient/>
- [5] Carsten Weinhold and Hermann Härtig, „VPFS: Building a Virtual Private File System with a Small Trusted Computing Base“, Proceedings of the 3rd ACM SIGOPS/EuroSys European Conference on Computer Systems 2008, 2008, Glasgow, Scotland UK
- [6] Bernhard Kauer, „OSLO: Improving the Security of Trusted Computing“, Proceedings of 16th USENIX Security Symposium, 2007, Boston, MA, USA
- [7] McCune, Jonathan M., Bryan Parno, Adrian Perrig, Michael K. Reiter, and Hiroshi Isozaki, "Flicker: An Execution Infrastructure for TCB Minimization", In Proceedings of the ACM European Conference on Computer Systems (EuroSys'08), Glasgow, Scotland, March 31 - April 4, 2008
- [8] <http://arm.com/products/processors/technologies/trustzone/index.php>
- [9] <http://software.intel.com/en-us/intel-isa-extensions#pid-19539-1495>
- [10] Carsten Weinhold, Nils Asmussen, Diana Göhringer, Michael Roitzsch, "Towards Modular Trusted Execution Environments", 6th Workshop on System Software for Trusted Execution (SysTEX), 2023