

# **RSA**®Conference2019 **Asia Pacific & Japan**

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**BETTER.**

SESSION ID: FLE-W03

## **Battling Snapdragon and Kirin: Data Extraction from Chinese Android Phones**

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#RSAC

# The Presentation outline

- Introduction to basic terminology
- Attack surfaces on
  - Xiaomi Android smartphone powered by Qualcomm Snapdragon pre-msm8994
  - Huawei Android smartphone powered by Kirin pre-970
- Demonstration
- Conclusion

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## **DISCLAIMER**

**This research is solely based on open source information  
and reverse-engineering of executables**

An abstract graphic in the bottom right corner of the slide. It consists of numerous thin, curved lines in shades of light blue and purple, some of which are dotted with small circles. These lines sweep across the lower right portion of the dark blue background, creating a sense of motion and digital connectivity.

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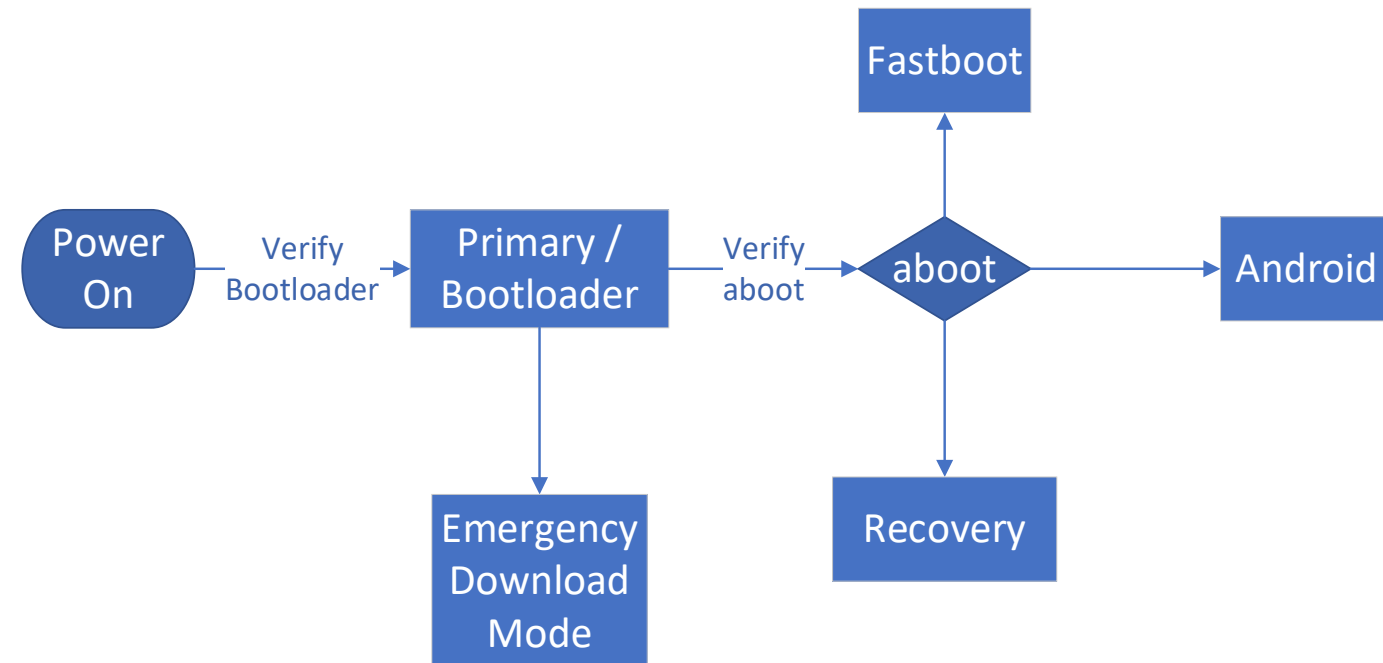
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### **Introduction**

**Overview of Qualcomm boot process for Xiaomi phone  
(Qualcomm Snapdragon pre-msm8994 )**

# Qualcomm boot process for Xiaomi phone in a Nutshell

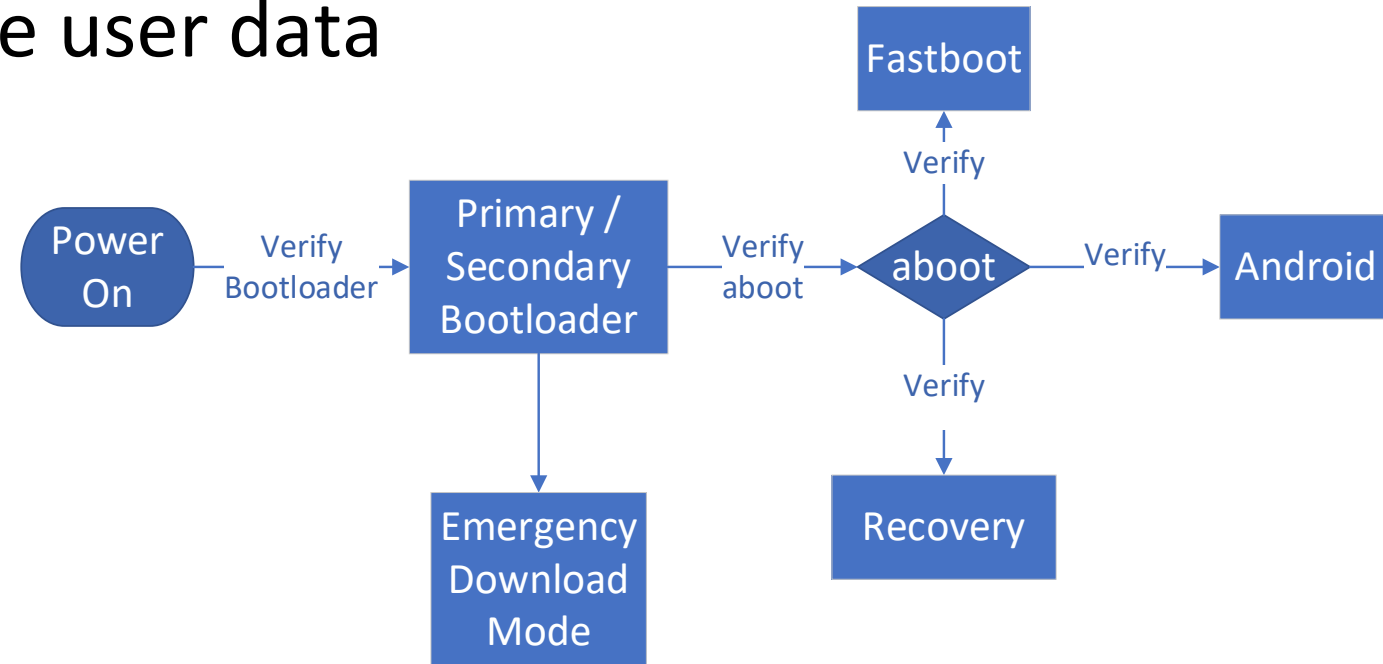
- Emergency Download mode
- Three modes of boot up
- Secure boot
- Unlock bootloader



# End Goal: Access User Data (AUD)

- Complex problem to solve
- Unlock bootloader will wipe user data
- Boot images are verified
  - No Custom ROM
- Android > 6 ≈ encrypted

user data





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## **Xiaomi Android smartphone powered by Qualcomm Snapdragon pre-msm8994**

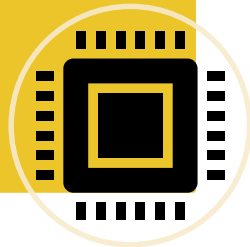
**Attacking surfaces**

An abstract graphic in the bottom right corner of the slide, consisting of numerous overlapping circles and dots in shades of light blue and purple, creating a complex, web-like pattern.

# Attacking surfaces – s.s.h.

- Emergency Download Mode (EDL)
- Recovery
- Fastboot

System



- Bootloader
- aboot
- Android

Software



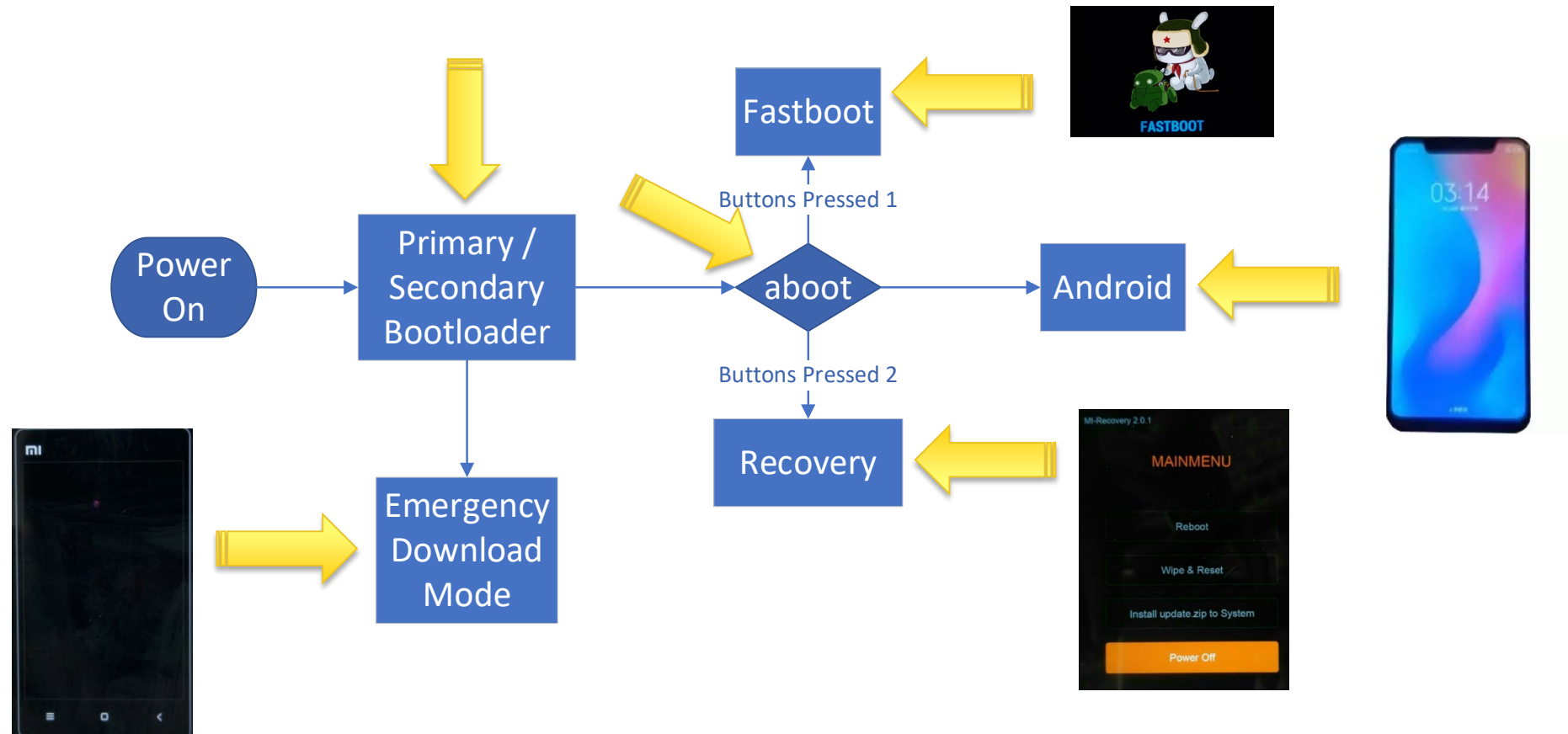
- Chip-off
- JTAG
- ISP (In-System Programming)

Hardware



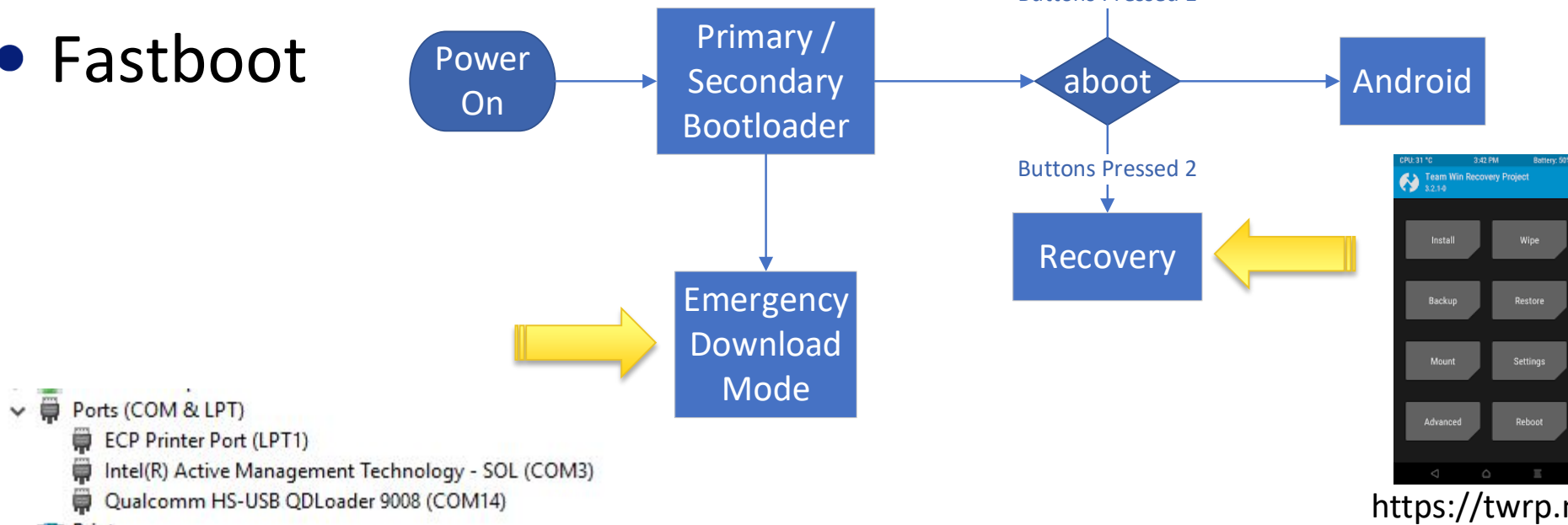


# Attack surfaces



# System attack surface

- Emergency Download Mode (EDL)
  - Firehose and Sahara
- Recovery
- Fastboot

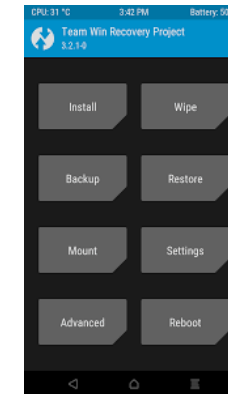


```

PS D:\download\platform-tools> .\fastboot.exe devices
57    4c    fastboot

PS D:\download\platform-tools> .\fastboot.exe boot .\recovery.img
Downloading 'boot.img'          OKAY [ 0.795s]
booting                        OKAY [ 0.255s]
Finished. Total time: 1.175s

PS D:\download\platform-tools> .\adb.exe shell
~ # [6nwhoami
  
```



<https://twrp.me/>

# Software attack surface

- Bootloader, aboot and Android

tree commit

```
Name
.gitignore
AndroidBoot.mk
LICENSE
app
arch
dev
include
kernel
lib
make
makefile
platform
project
scripts
target
```

summary refs log tree c

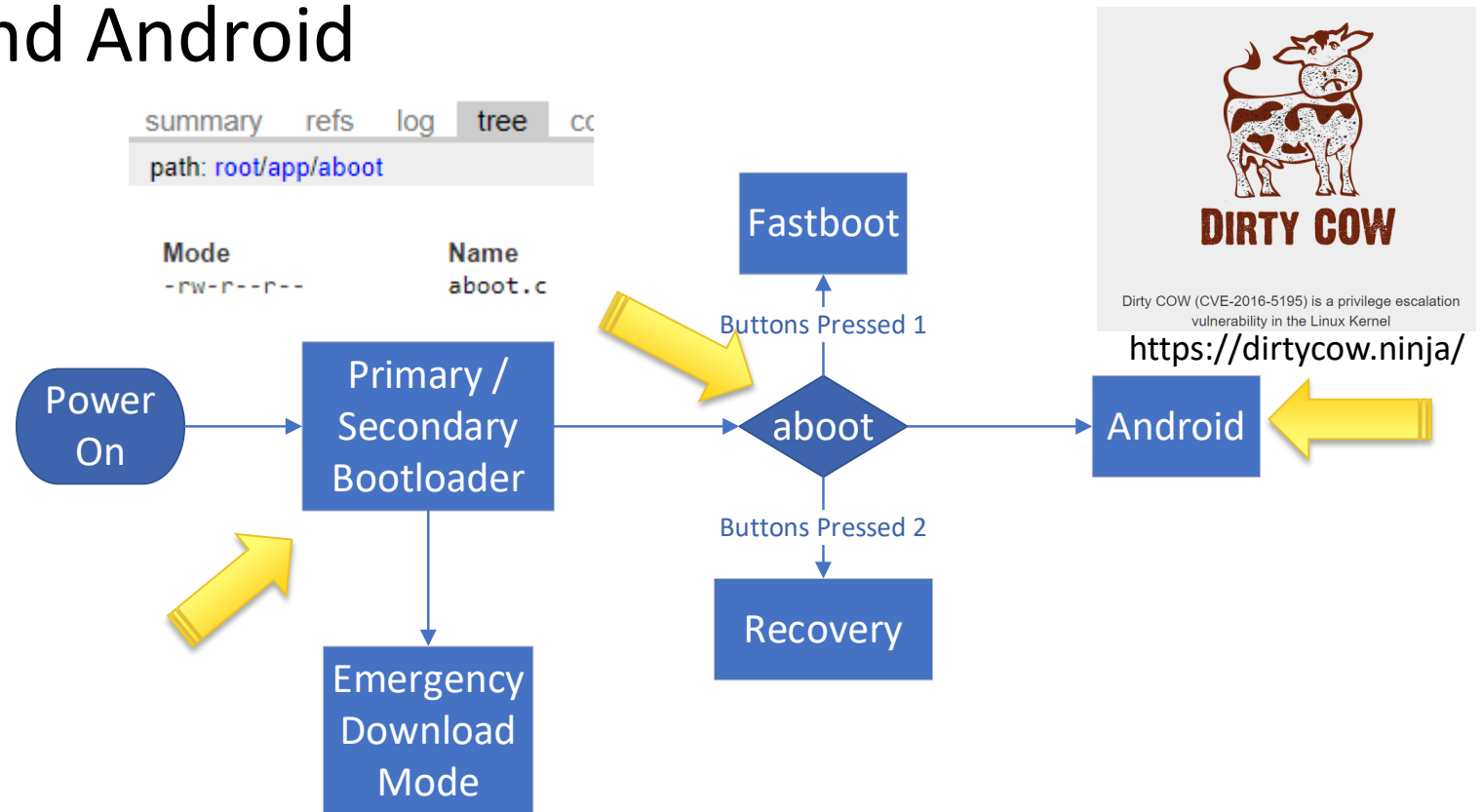
path: root/target

Mode	Name
d-----	apq8084
d-----	armemu
d-----	beagle
d-----	fsm9010
d-----	fsm9900
-rw-r--r--	init.c
d-----	mdm9607
d-----	mdm9615
d-----	mdm9625
d-----	mdm9635
d-----	mdm9640
d-----	msm7627_sl
d-----	msm7627a
d-----	msm7630_sl
d-----	msm8226
d-----	msm8610

summary refs log tree cc

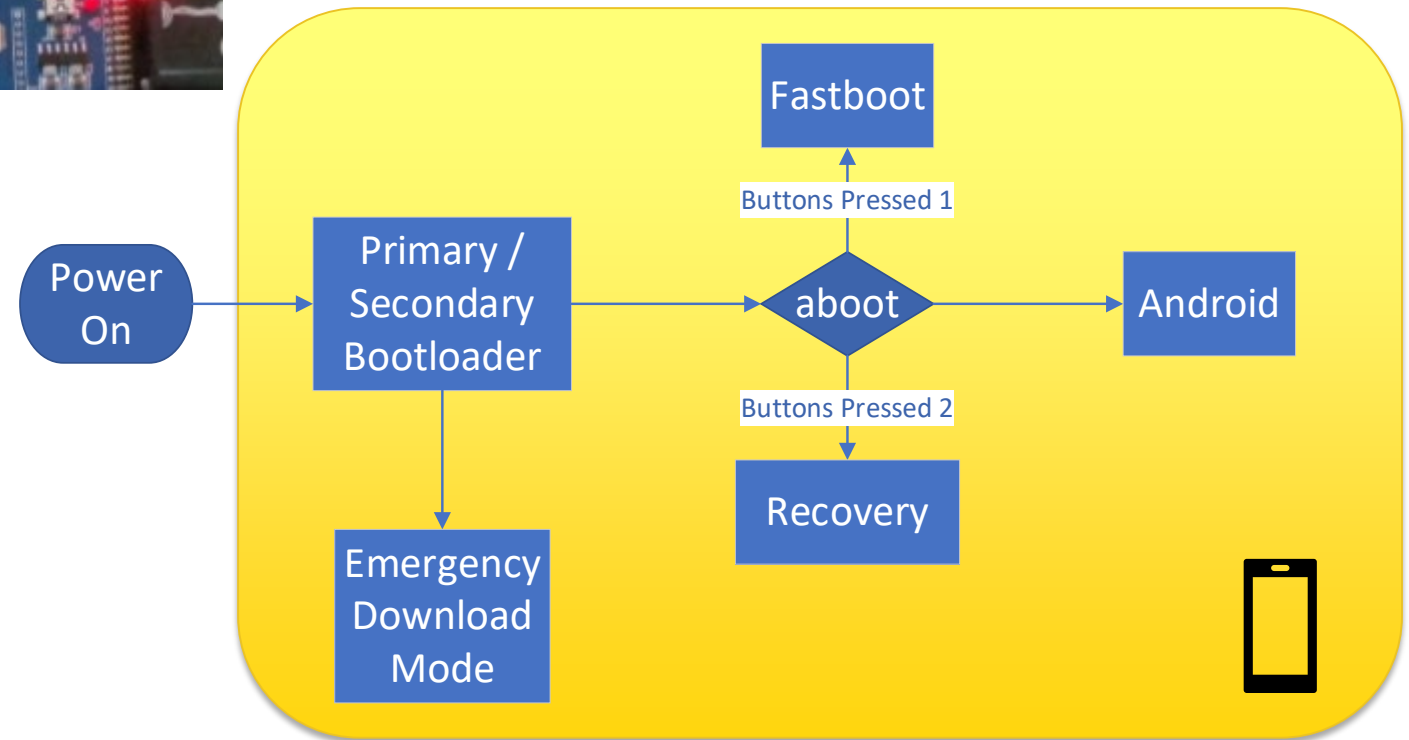
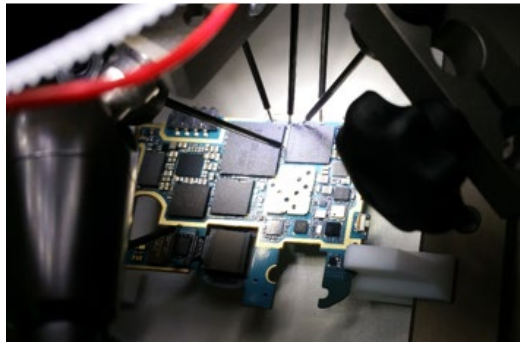
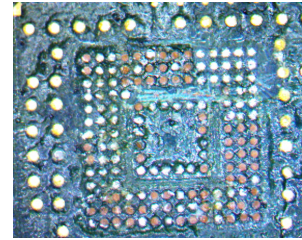
path: root/app/aboot

Mode	Name
-rw-r--r--	aboot.c



# Hardware attack surface

- Chip-off
- JTAG
- ISP
  - In-System Programming



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## **Xiaomi Android smartphone powered by Qualcomm Snapdragon pre-msm8994**

**Demo – XiaoMi Android smartphone powered by  
Qualcomm Snapdragon pre-msm8994 era with Full Disk  
Encryption with user password**

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## **Introduction to Kirin**

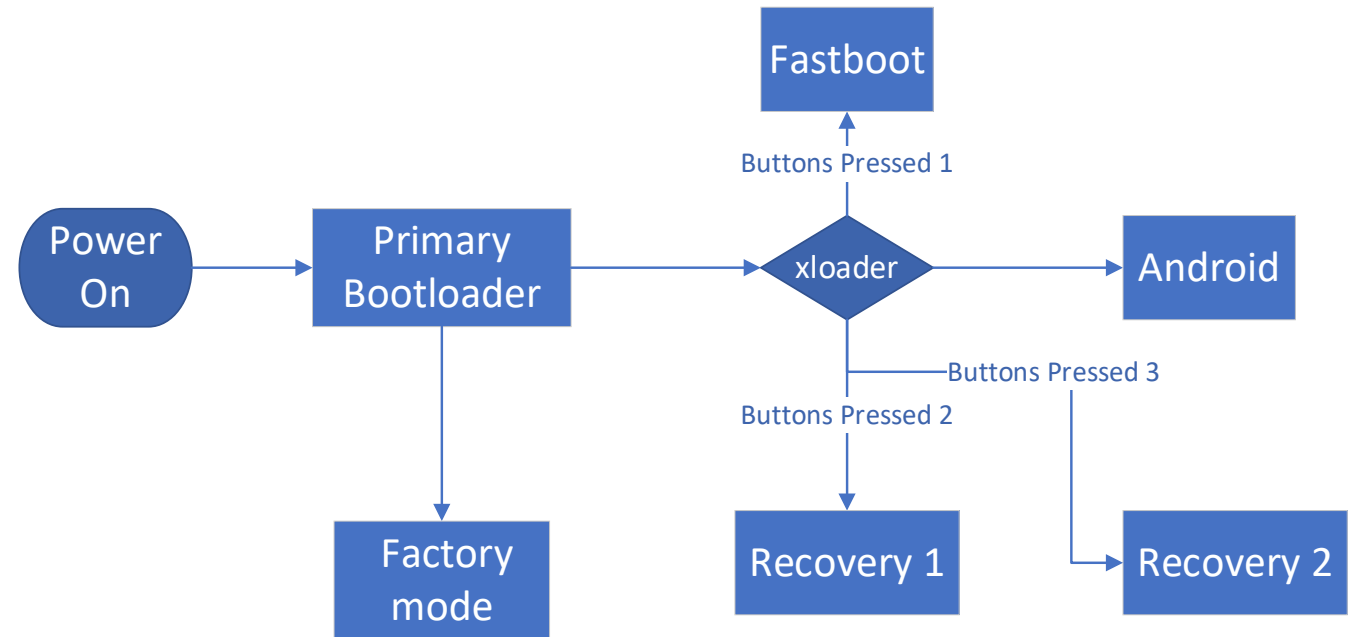
**Overview of Android boot process**





# Kirin boot process for Huawei phone in a Nutshell

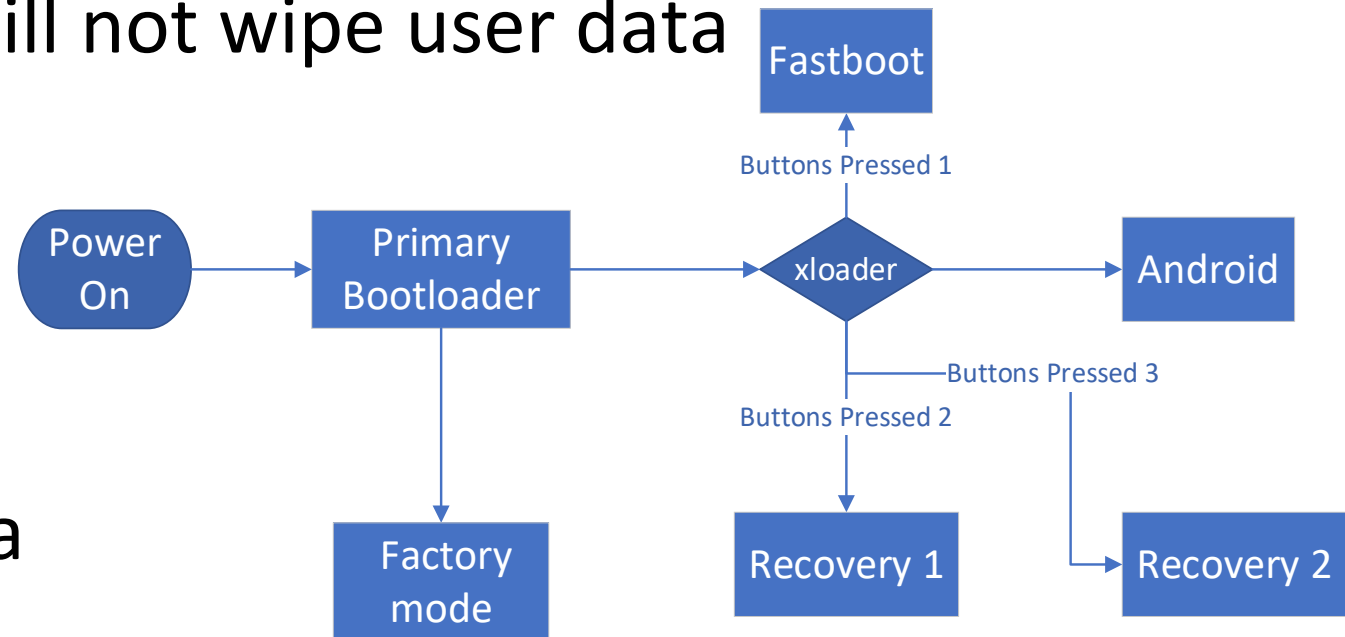
- Factory mode
- Four modes of boot up
- Secure boot
- Unlock bootloader
  - (Ceased unlock service)
    - User unlock
      - Unlock bootloader
    - Full bootloader unlock
      - Full changes to all partitions



# End Goal: Access User Data (AUD)

- Complex problem to solve
- Unlock bootloader will/will not wipe user data
- Boot images are verified
  - No Custom ROM
- Android > 6 ≈ encrypted

user data



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## **Huawei Android smartphone powered by Kirin pre-970**

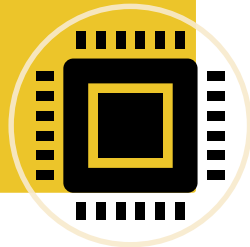
**Attacking surfaces**

An abstract graphic in the bottom right corner of the slide. It consists of numerous thin, light blue lines that form a complex web of overlapping circles and arcs. Small dots are scattered along these lines, creating a sense of motion or data flow. The overall effect is a dynamic, network-like pattern that contrasts with the solid dark blue background.

# Attacking surfaces – s.s.h.

- Factory mode
- Recovery 1 and 2
- Fastboot

System



- xloader
- Android
- Manufacture mode

Software

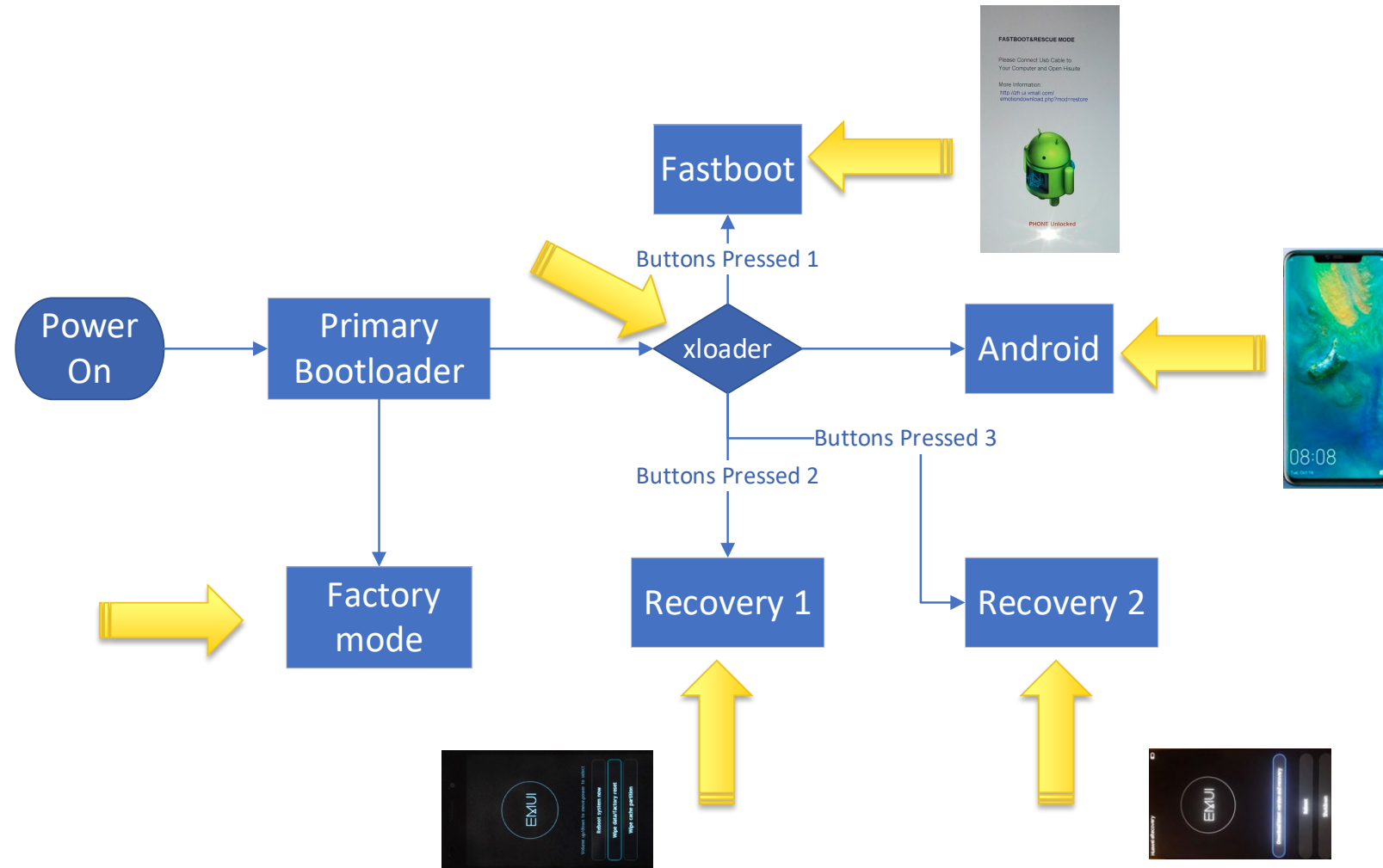


- Chip-off
- JTAG
- ISP (In-System Programming)

Hardware

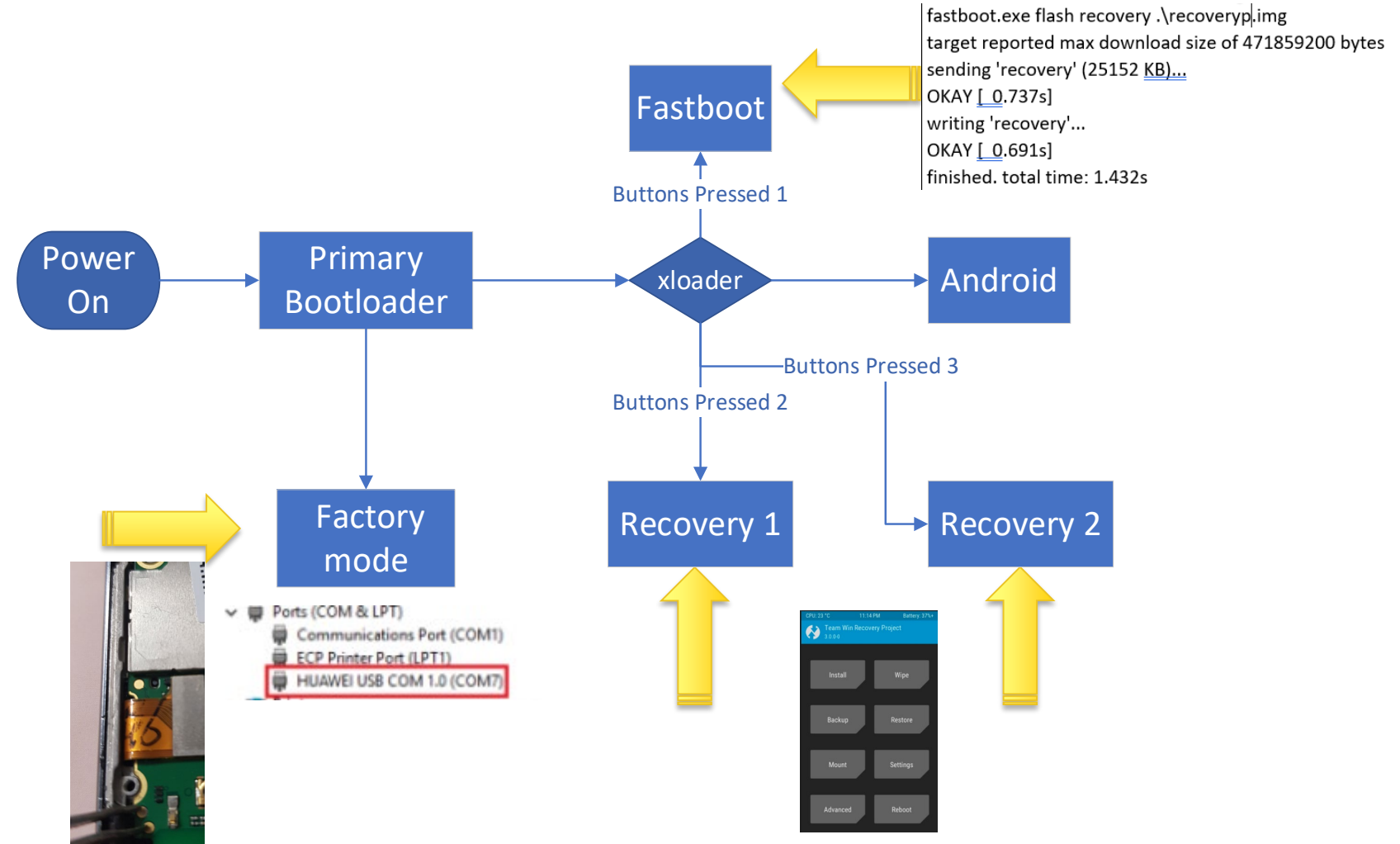


# Attack surfaces



# Attack surfaces

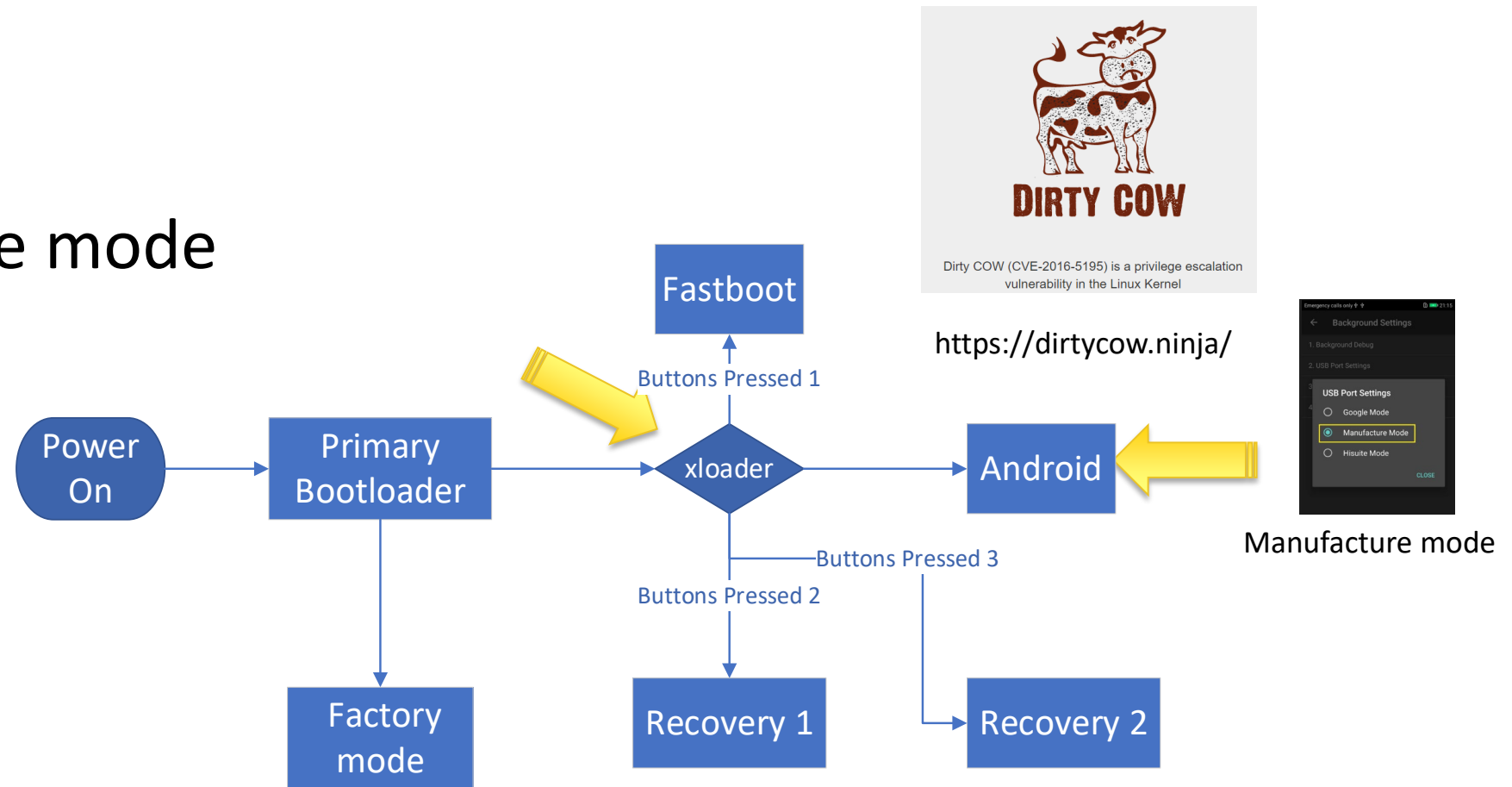
- Factory mode
- Recovery 1 and 2
- Fastboot
  - No fastboot boot



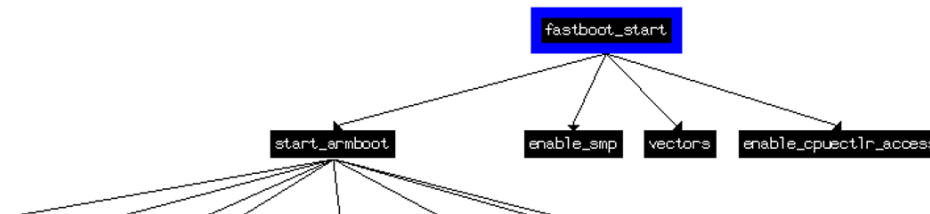


# Software attack surface

- xloader
- Android
- Manufacture mode



# Reversing Fastboot



```

000F77F0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
000F7800 0A 66 61 73 74 62 6F 6F 74 32 2E 65 6C 64 3A 20 .fastboot2.elf:
000F7810 20 20 20 20 66 69 6C 65 20 66 6F 72 6D 61 74 20   file format
000F7820 65 6C 66 36 34 2D 6C 69 74 74 6C 65 61 61 72 63 elf64-littleaarc
000F7830 68 36 34 0A 0A 53 59 4D 42 4F 4C 20 54 41 42 4C h64...SYMBOL TABL
  
```

Loading address	0x07000000
File offset	0x0800

volumnkey_down_press_process_func	ROM	62	<pre> {     v2 = 30;     while ( (*(unsigned int     {         mdelay(80i64);         if ( !--v2 )         ,   </pre>
volumnkey_up_down_press_process_func	ROM	63	
volumnkey_up_press_process_func	ROM	64	
wait_coulometer_work	ROM	65	
watchdog_enalbs from nv	ROM	66	
	ROM	67	
		--	

# Permanent FB bootloader unlock

```

26 v0 = get_operators((__int64)"nve");
27 if ( v0 )
28 {
29     v18 = 0x138i64;
30     v17 = 1i64;
31     strncpy(&v19, "FBLOCK", 7i64);
32     v1 = *(unsigned int (__fastcall *))(__int64 *)v0;
33     v20 = 1i64;
34     if ( v1(&v17) )
35     {
36         cprintf("Read nv fblock info failed\n");
37         log_buffer((__int64)"Read nv fblock info failed\n", v3, v4, v5, v6, v7);
38         result = 0i64;
39     }
40     else
41     {
42         result = v21 == 0;
43     }
44 }
45 else
46 {
47     cprintf("can not get nve_ops!\n");
48     log_buffer((__int64)"can not get nve_ops!\n", v18, v11, v12, v13, v14, v15);
49     result = 0i64;
50 }
51 return result;
52 }

```

0001F200 nve\_fblock\_info:42 (701EA00)

Offset(h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	
000E9BF0	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
000E9C00	38	01	00	00	86	42	4C	4F	43	4B	00	00	01	00	00	00	8...FBLOCK.....
000E9C10	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	..
000E9C20	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
000E9C30	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
000E9C40	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
000E9C50	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
000E9C60	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....

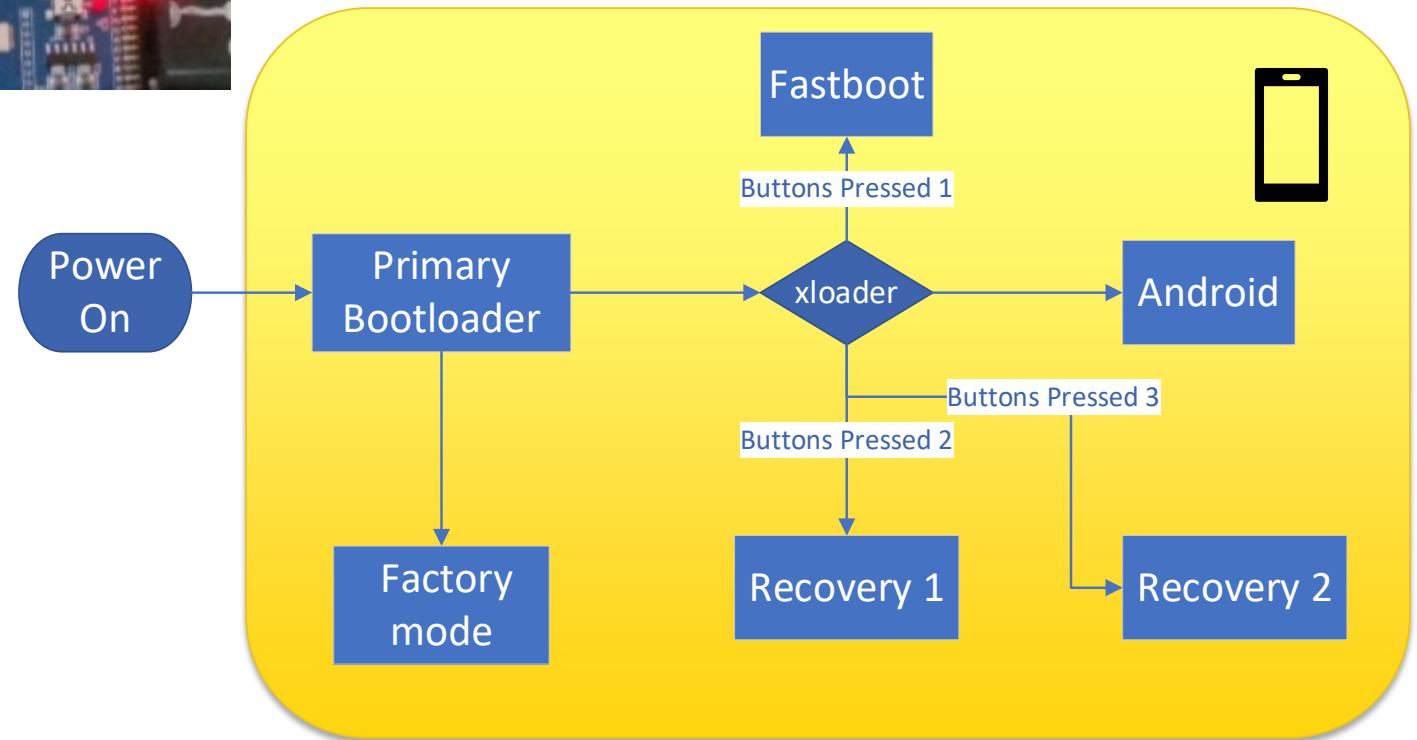
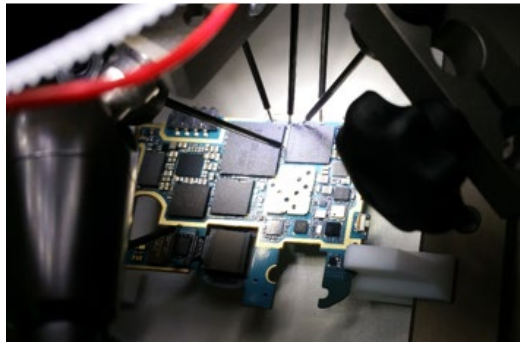
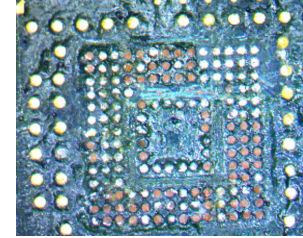
```

30 v0 = get_operators((__int64)"getmode");
31 if ( !v0 || (*(unsigned int (__fastcall *))(void))v0() )
32 {
33     if ( !MEMORY[0x70F7868] )
34     {
35         MEMORY[0x70FCAA4] = nve_fblock_info();
36         goto LABEL_5;
37     }
38 }
39 else
40 {
41     MEMORY[0x70F7868] = 1;
42 }
43 MEMORY[0x70FCAA4] = 1;
44 LABEL_5:
45 MEMORY[0x70FCAA8] = oeminfo_lock_stat_info();
46 v1 = oeminfo_root_type_info();
47 MEMORY[0x70FCA80] = 0;
48 MEMORY[0x70FCAAC] = v1;
49 MEMORY[0x70FCA84] = oeminfo_frp_stat_info();

```

# Hardware attack surface

- Chip-off
- JTAG
- ISP
  - In-System Programming



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## **Huawei Android smartphone powered by Kirin pre-970**

**Demo - Huawei Android smartphone powered by P8 Lite  
ALE-L21 with Full Disk Encryption - Bootloop**

# Apply What You Have Learned Today

- Identify the types of mobile phones in your organization
  - Their Android, Kernel, security patches versions
- Remediation actions could be
  - Baseline all the mobile phones
  - Apply security patches to the mobile phones
  - Perform a vulnerability testing of the mobile phones
  - Remain the pristine state of the bootloader



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**Thank You**

