# arm

# SMC Fuzzing Improvements

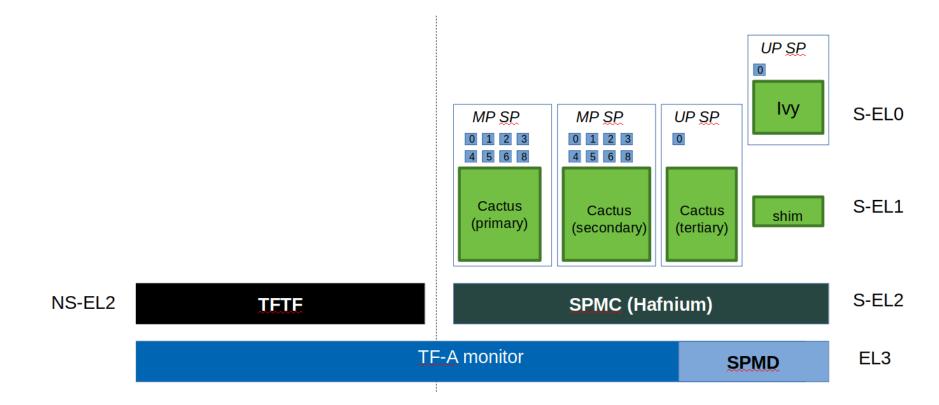
Slava Andrianov 30th October 2025

## Agenda

- Motivating Secure World Fuzzing
- SMC Fuzzer Improvements
- Configuring Secure World Fuzzing
- **Future Work**

#### Motivating Secure World Fuzzing

- The Firmware Framework for A profile (FF-A) specification defines how communication should happen across partition boundaries, especially in the case of communication between the secure and non secure worlds
- The secure world can have access to sensitive information and/or perform privileged actions
- Secure world partitions have multiple different states, each of which have differing restrictions on the partition's FF-A behavior



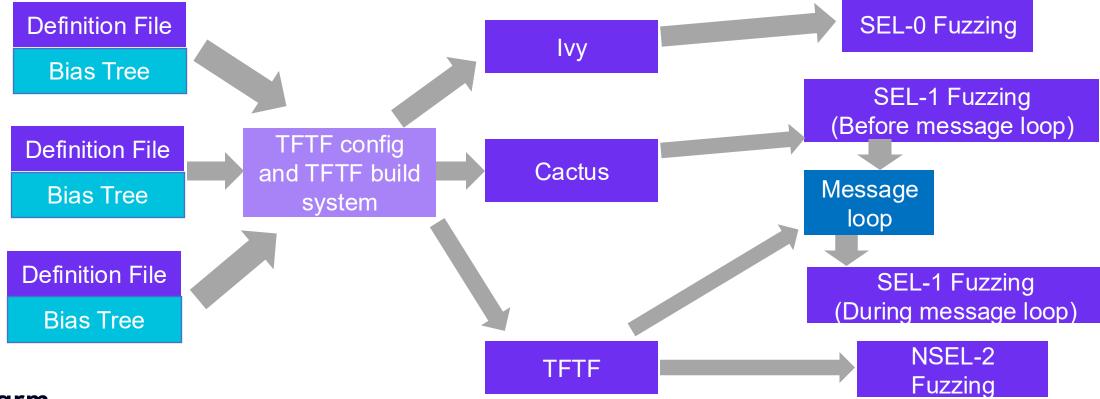
#### **Improvements**

- The SMC fuzzer can be run at SEL-1 (Cactus partition) and SEL-0 (Ivy partition) in addition to the previous NSEL-2 (tftf)
- SEL-1 fuzzing can be run before and during the message loop
  - The cactus VM with ID 1 will run its fuzzing before it enters the the cactus message loop
  - Through the cactus message loop, the non secure world can issue a cactus command to request that a secure partition run more fuzzing
- Each EL can now specialize its fuzzing through per exception level definition files and bias trees
- Can use variable coverage to get an overview of the different inputs that have been used in the fuzzing, ensuring the sufficient coverage of the possible inputs into the SMC calls.



### Configuring Secure World Fuzzing

- Fuzzing configuration is primarily handled through the TFTF configuration file
- Key parameters
  - Definition file describes the arguments of the SMC calls and the fields that make up each argument
  - Device tree source file describes the bias tree that should be used to determine an ordering for the SMC calls
  - Test group new tests can be added to send a message from NSEL2 to start SEL1 fuzzing



#### **Future Work**

- Per partition fuzz configuration
- Greater configurability of fuzzing for the different secure world partition runtime models
- Cactus commands to specify type of fuzzing to run in the secure world



#### References

- Patches
  - https://review.trustedfirmware.org/c/TF-A/tf-a-tests/+/43898
  - https://review.trustedfirmware.org/c/ci/tf-a-ci-scripts/+/44649
- TFTF SPM Tests Configuration Documentation
  - https://trustedfirmware-a-tests.readthedocs.io/en/latest/getting\_started/build.html#cactus-and-ivy
- FFA specification
  - https://developer.arm.com/Architectures/Firmware%20Framework%20for%20A-Profile
- Previous presentations on FFA fuzzing
  - https://www.trustedfirmware.org/docs/TF\_A\_SMC-Fuzzing\_100725.pdf
  - https://www.trustedfirmware.org/docs/Fuzzing-Tech-Forum-11Jul24.pdf

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Merci Danke Gracias Grazie 谢谢 ありがとう Asante Thank You 감사합니다 धन्यवाद Kiitos شکر ً ا ধন্যবাদ תודה ధన్వవాదములు