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Secure Partition Manager Update Initial Investigation

An Implementation Update

Ken Liu Mar 18

Backgrounds

- NS RTOS wants to reduce the impact on NS interrupt handling.
- The FF-M updated to 1.1 version supports simpler smaller system.
 - Secure Function Model (SFN).
- SPM needs to be updated to address the two main requirements above.

The NS Interrupt Handling Latency



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Existing Execution Timeline and Expected Timeline



How many privileged thread instance are needed?



If there is ONE NS thread is supported, only ONE is enough:

- Privileged thread has highest software priority (it would get run first if it is there).
- HW priority is still 256 to be preempted by interrupt routine.

How many privileged thread instance are needed?



If there are **N** NS entities, **N** is enough:

- Privileged thread has highest software priority (it would get run first if it is there).
- HW priority is still 256 to be preempted by interrupt routine.

Reason:

- Secure firmware execution is typically triggered by NS (NS is the initial user!).

Still want to remove the reset 'Handler' execution? Check Secure Function Model.

Secure Functions



Design Goal



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SPM Internal Modules – Call Routine



SPM Internal Modules – Software Modulization



SPM Internal Modules – Simplest Case



- There is no secure boundaries under Isolation Level 1, so all plain function call is possible.
- This is for SFN model. IPC model scheduling needs to deal with interrupt cases, which means PendSV can't be avoided.

SPM Internal Modules – Interfaces



Not mandatory to create boundaries inside PRoT domain; but it is a plus if it does. ٠

SPM Internal Modules – Extra Components



IPC Isolation Levels – Theoretic Timeline





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IPC vs SFN Theoretic Timeline

IPC Isolation Level 1



SFN Isolation Level 1



SPM Update – The Path



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