

EL3XIR: Fuzzing COTS Secure Monitors

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TEEs on COTS ARMv8-A Devices





Rich Execution Environment (REE)

Trusted Execution Environment (TEE)





Fuzzing Secure Monitors - Challenges

C1 Limited Introspection



Rehosting: Execute firmware in an emulated environment mimicking (parts of) the original device

C1.1 Dependency on Software Components

C1.2 Infeasibility of Manual Peripheral Modeling



Fuzzing Secure Monitors - Challenges

C2 Complex Input Space



Several tens of runtime services with unique APIs...

EL3XIR's Approach - Overview



Contribution ①: Partial-Rehosting of Secure Monitors C1.1 Dependency on Software Components



Contribution 2: Reflected Peripheral Modeling

C1.2 Infeasibility of Manual Peripheral Modeling



Contribution ③: Harness Synthesis c2 Complex Input Space



Evaluation - Bugs and CVEs

7 targets from 6 different vendors
 4 open-source, 3 closed-source



- EL3XIR triggered 34 bugs (17 security relevant) in 5 targets
 Naive baseline comparison triggered 19 bugs (10 security relevant)
- Responsible disclosure resulted in 6 CVEs plus 11 confirmed bugs

CVE-2022-38787, CVE-2023-22327 (5 different bugs), CVE-2023-49614, CVE-2024-22390, CVE-2023-31339, CVE-2023-49100



Evaluation - Coverage



EL3XIR: Fuzzing COTS Secure Monitors



github.com/HexHive/EL3XIR



- Rehosting Framework for proprietary TrustZone Firmware
- Highly automated Fuzzing Pipeline including Harness Synthesis and Peripheral Modeling
- Fuzz your own Secure Monitor

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