



# Secure Interrupt Delivery for SEV-SNP Guests

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# Agenda

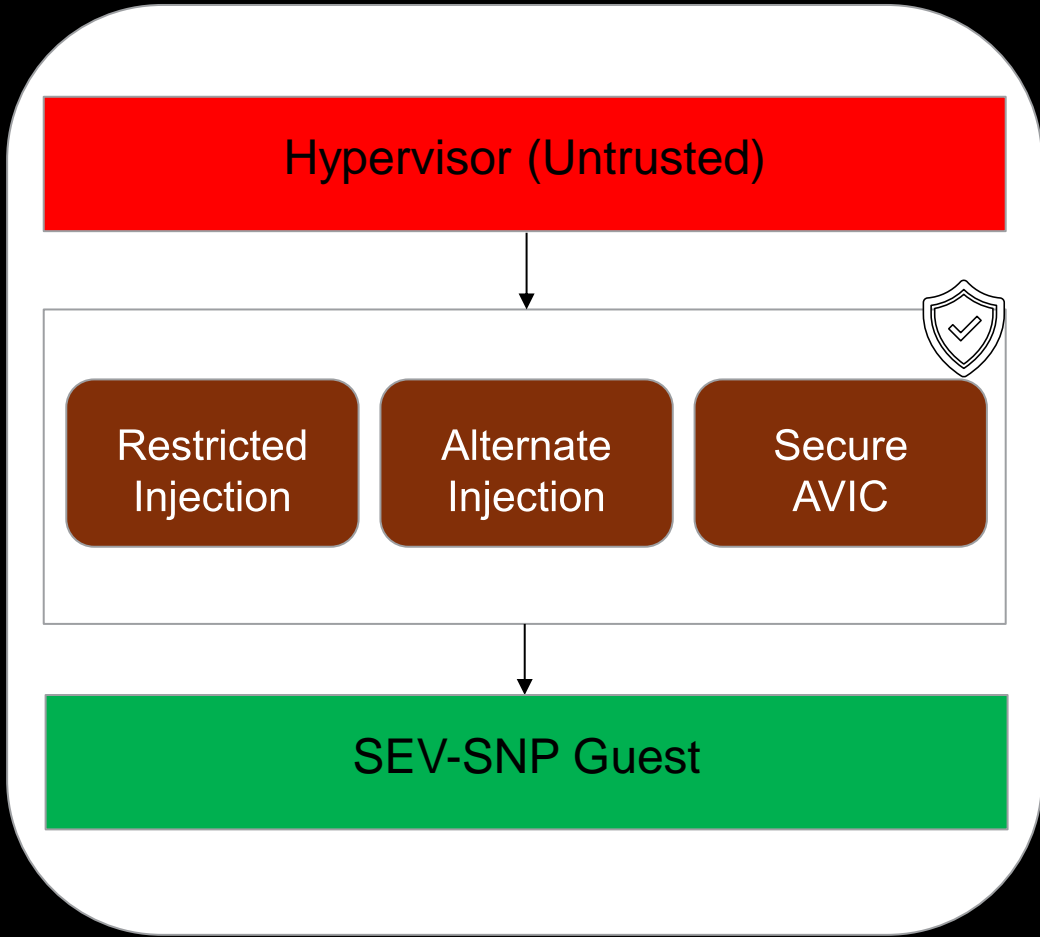
- Introduction
- Overview of Alternate Injection
- KVM support for Restricted Injection
- Alternate Injection support
  - KVM
  - SVSM
  - Linux Guest

# Introduction

- Why is secure interrupt delivery needed?
  - With SEV-SNP, the hypervisor is untrusted and in control of interrupts injected
  - Examples: recent CVEs show the hypervisor can inject malicious interrupts to break the confidentiality and integrity of the guest
    - Virtual interrupt 29 (#VC)
    - Virtual interrupts 0 and 14
    - Int80
- Solution
  - A more restricted interface between VM and hypervisor regarding interrupts
  - VM can selectively accept/drop interrupts

# Introduction

- **Restricted Injection**
  - Disable the virtual interrupt queuing and partially the interrupt injection interface
- **Alternate Injection**
  - Standard virtual interrupt queuing and injection interfaces
  - But controlled by the guest itself
- **Secure AVIC**
  - Advanced Virtual Interrupt Controller
  - Hardware acceleration for performance-sensitive APIC accesses
  - Support for managing guest-owned APIC state for SEV-SNP guests
  - Added to AMD64 architecture, appearing in a future part

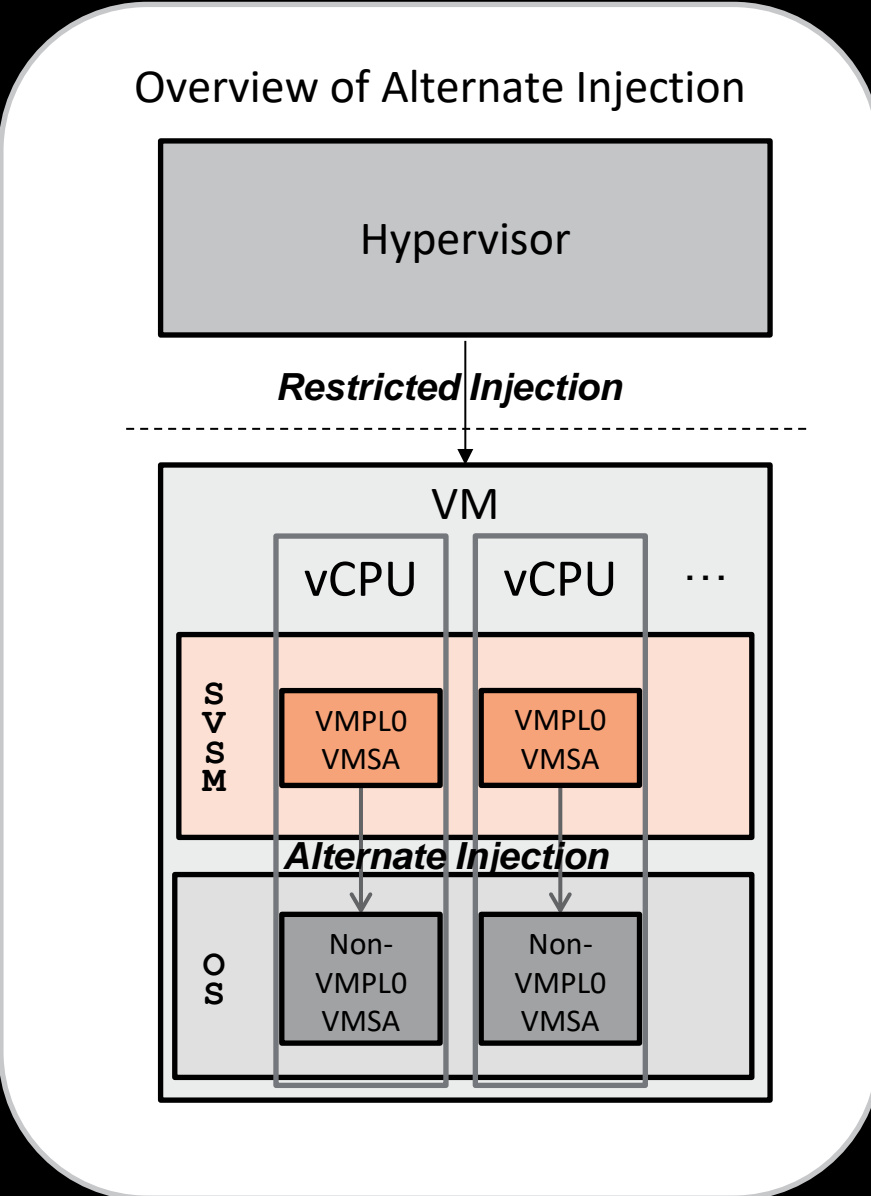


# Restricted Injection vs. Alternate Injection

- **Restricted Injection**
  - Better performance than Alternate Injection
    - No Virtual Machine Privilege Levels (VMPL) transition
  - Not preferred for a Linux guest, facing obstacles upstreaming
    - X86 exception handling – nested exception detection problematic
- **Alternate Injection**
  - Restricted Injection would be into a Secure VM Service Module (SVSM)
    - Require VMPL transitions
  - Does not have the concerns related to Restricted Injection
    - Simpler, can handle nested exceptions properly

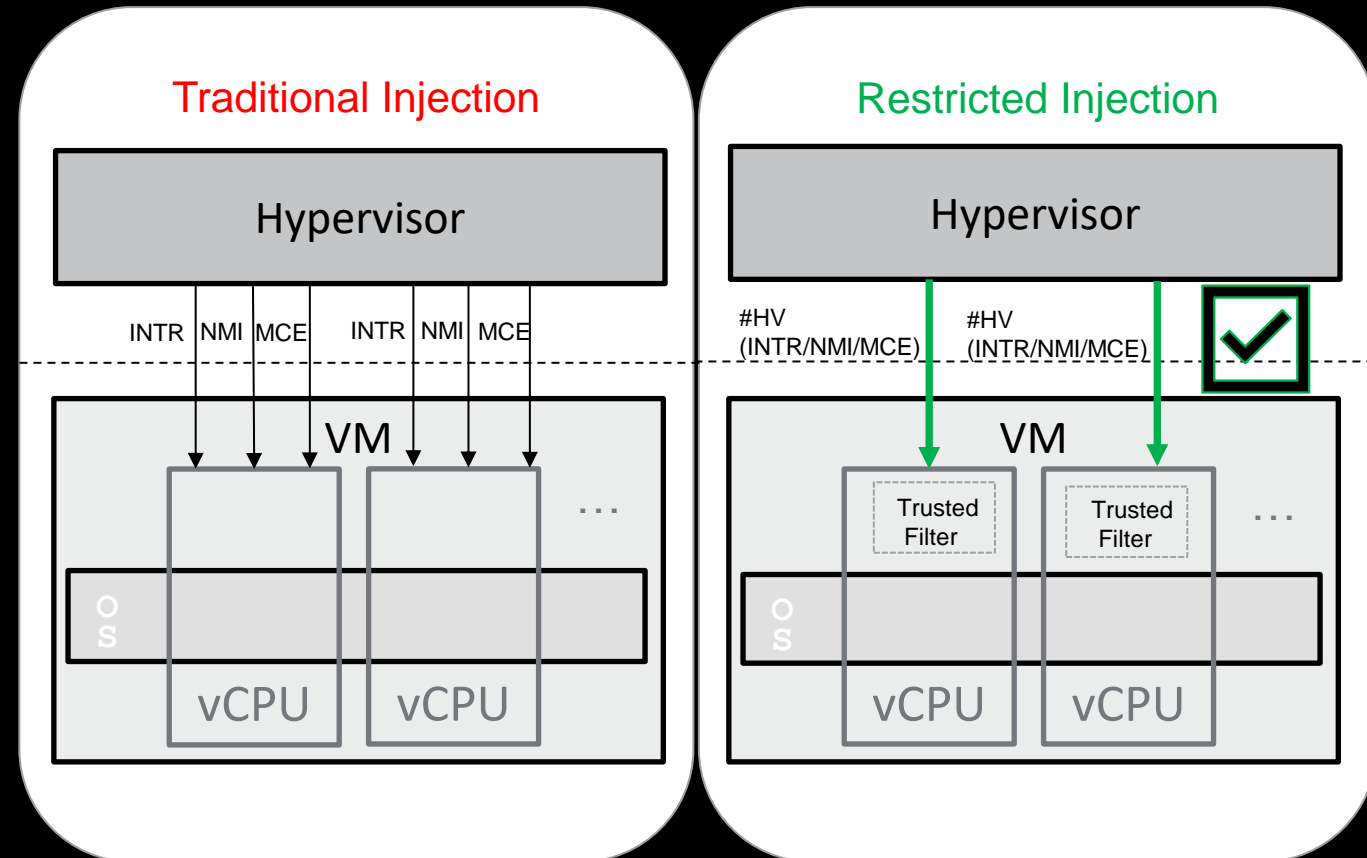
# Overview of Alternate Injection

- **Alternate Injection**
  - Ensure interrupt presentation can only be performed by a trusted entity – the SVSM (Secure VM Service Module)
- **Restricted Injection (Hypervisor -> SVSM)**
  - Insulate the SVSM itself from malicious interrupts injected by the hypervisor
- **SVSM (Secure VM Service Module)**
  - Running at VMPL0 presents interrupts to the guest OS by writing to its VM Save Area (VMSA)



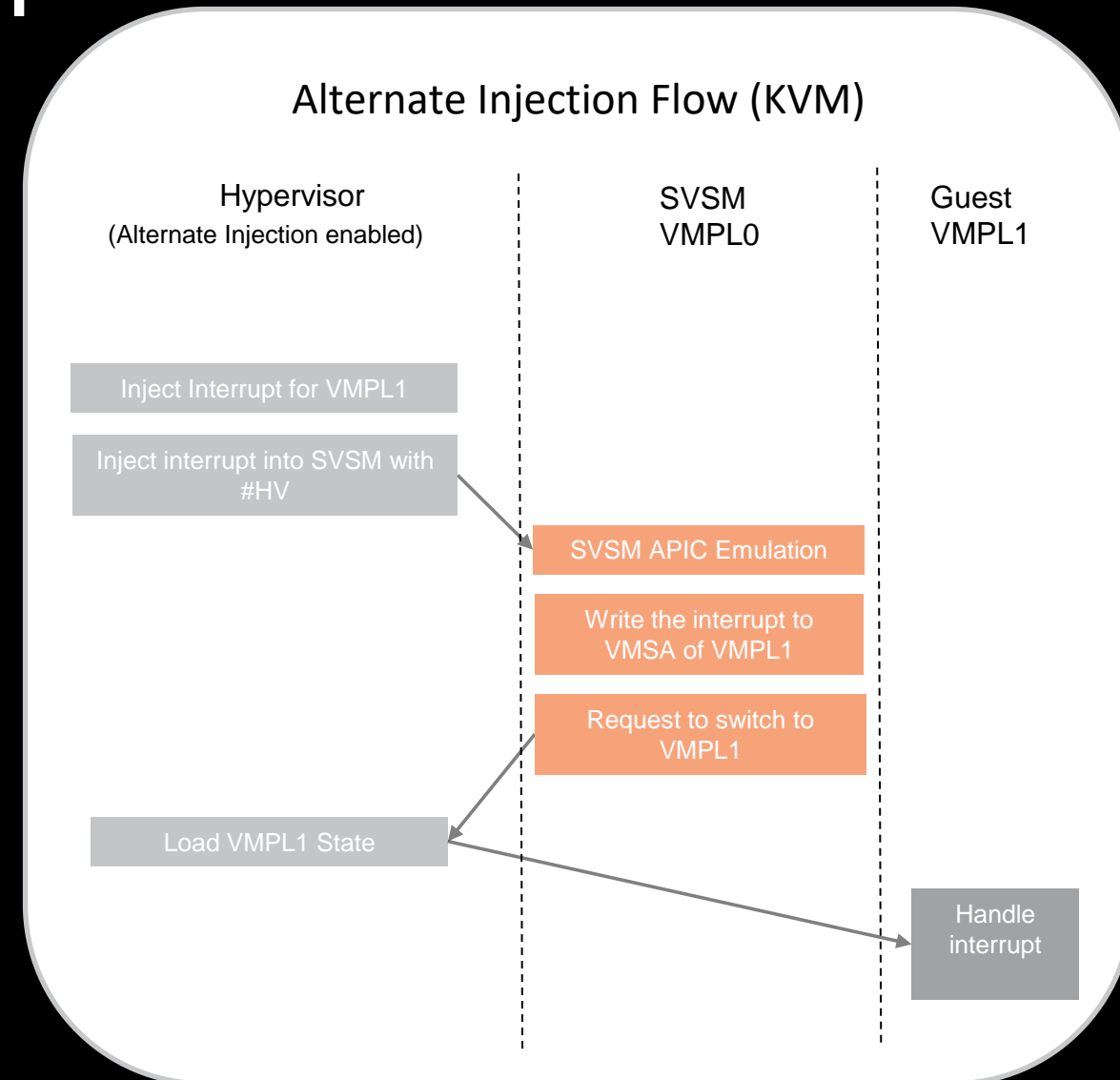
# KVM support for Restricted Injection

- Restricted Injection into VMPL0 only guest
  - Restricted Injection enabling
    - Hardware support
    - Guest request
  - #HV – a new exception vector
    - Disable all hypervisor-based interrupt queuing and event injection of all vectors except #HV
    - Interrupts, NMI, and MCE are only allowed to be injected with #HV
  - KVM support for GHCB Restricted Injection Non-Automatic Exits (NAE) events
    - #HV doorbell page – register a doorbell page for use with #HV
    - #HV IPI – send an IPI to other vCPUs
  - Restricted Injection Timer
    - #HV Timer – request timer support from the hypervisor



# KVM Support for Alternate Injection

- Alternate Injection enabling
  - Alternate Injection enabled in KVM
    - Hardware support
    - Guest request
  - Restricted Injection enabled in the SVSM
- Interrupt Injection for different VMPLs
  - The hypervisor needs to track a separate set of interrupt sources for each VMPL enabled for a given vCPU
  - Alternate Injection is not supported for VMPL0 itself
  - Interrupts for non-VMPL0 will be injected into the SVSM with #HV and then presented to the target VMPL by the SVSM writing the interrupt into its VMSA



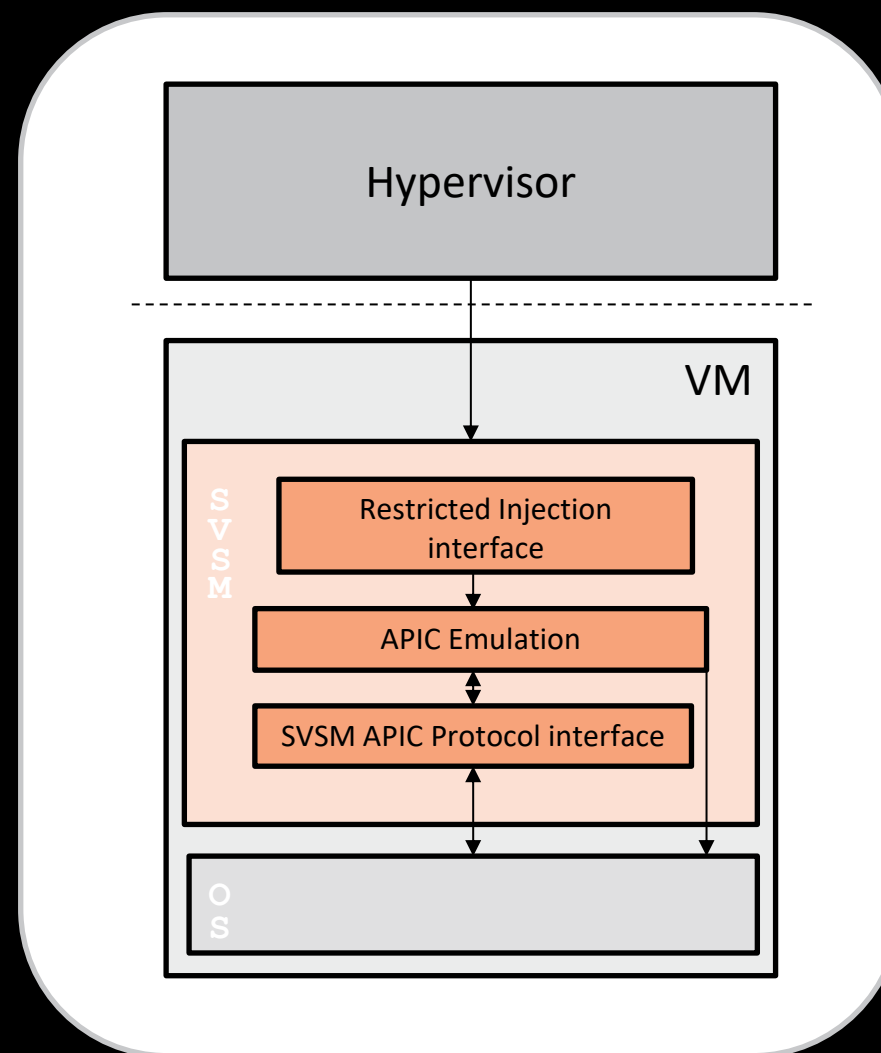


# Proposed Changes to the GHCB to Support Alternate Injection

- Changes to GHCB Non-Automatic Exits (NAE)
  - Configure Injection Notification Vector
    - Configure the interrupt vector used by the hypervisor to notify the SVSM that interrupt injection processing is required
    - Can only be called by VMPL0
  - Disable Alternate Injection
    - Disable Alternate Injection for a specific VMPL
    - Interrupt will be placed into the IRR of hypervisor-emulated APIC and delivered to the target VMPL using direct event injection
    - Can only be called by VMPL0
  - #HV Timer
    - Extend the current #HV Timer NAE to permit signaling of timer interrupts by a lower VMPL
  - Specific EOI
    - Perform an EOI cycle on a level-sensitive interrupt
- Extended Interrupt Information
  - The interrupt descriptor is extended to two 16-bit words
  - Extra 32 bytes for each VMPL containing the interrupt information

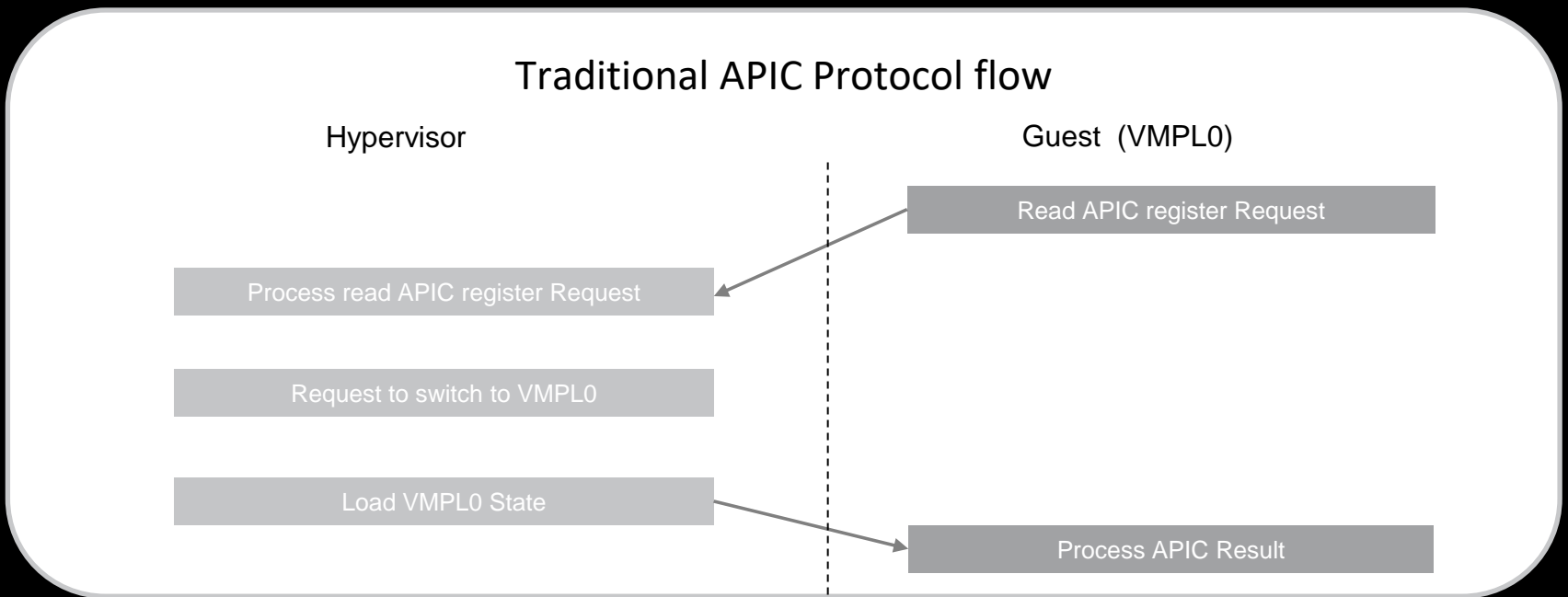
# SVSM support for Alternate Injection

- Restricted Injection
  - Restricted Injection enabling for SVSM
  - #HV exception handling
- Alternate Injection protocol support
  - Alternate Injection enabling for serving the lower VMPLs
- APIC emulation
  - Present interrupts to the different VMPLs
  - Protect guest states from being leaked to the hypervisor
- SVSM APIC Protocol for the guest
  - Enable the lower VMPL to configure its APIC state through the SVSM
  - Query Features, APIC Emulation Configuration, Read/Write APIC Register, Configure Interrupt Vector



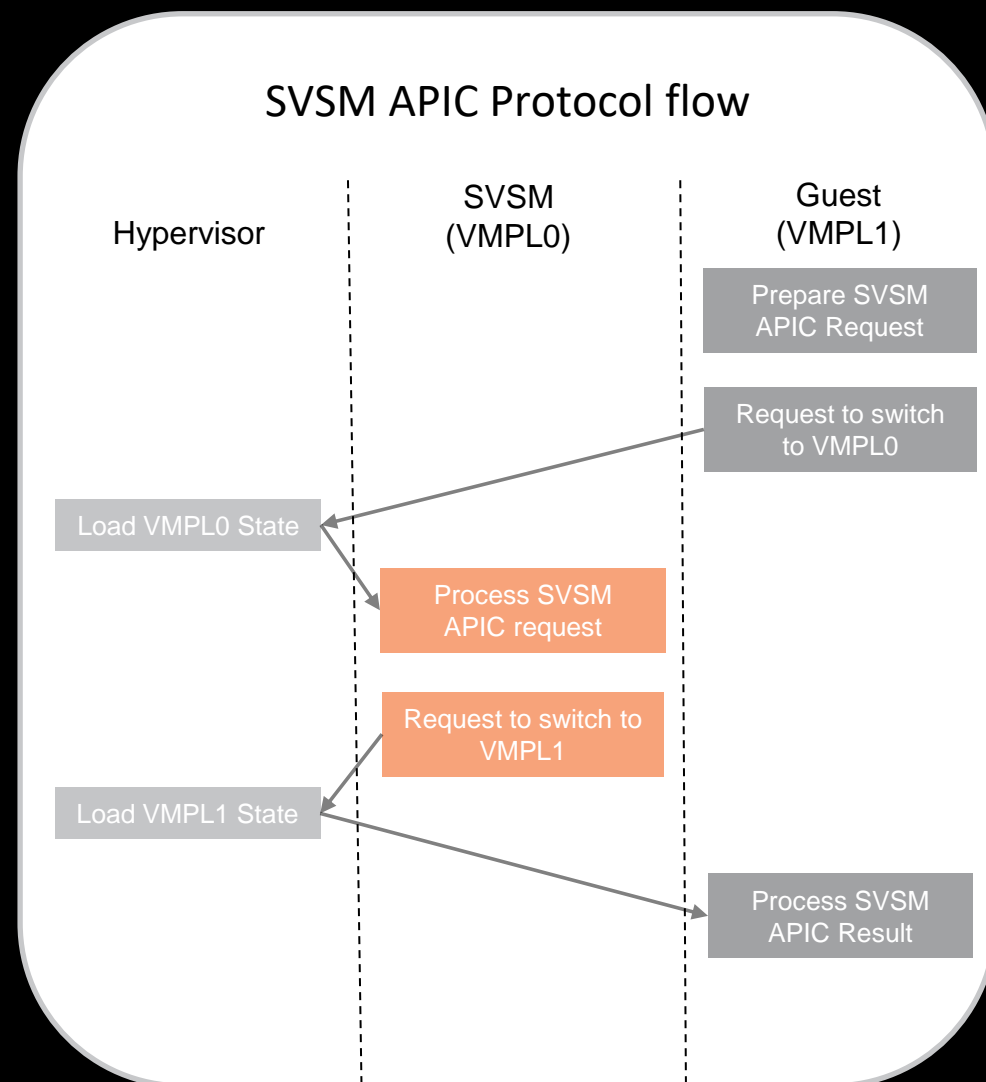
# Traditional APIC Protocol

- Traditional APIC Protocol
  - KVM APIC emulation
  - The guest modifies its local APIC register by using this APIC protocol



# Linux Guest Support for Alternate Injection

- Alternate Injection Enabling
  - Supporting multiple guest runtimes
    - Permit different configurations for virtual firmware and the guest OS
    - Three states are defined for handoff: Enabled, Disabled, and Locked
- Enlightening the guest for SVSM APIC Protocol
  - Recognize Alternate Injection is enabled
  - Detect attempts by the guest to modify its local APIC register and redirect to this APIC protocol
  - Use SVSM APIC protocol to communicate with the SVSM
    - SVSM Calling Area



# Summary

- Where are we at...
  - KVM support for Restricted Injection into VMPL0 only guest
    - Sent upstream for review
    - Support for most of the GHCB requirements
    - #HV IPI - Under development
    - NoEoiRequired – Under development
  - KVM support for Alternate Injection
    - SVSM hypervisor support (Multi-VMPL support) - Under development
    - Work with the Multi-VMPL support to track a separate set of interrupt sources for each VMPL enabled for a given vCPU – To be done
  - Linux guest support for Alternate Injection
    - Under development
  - SVSM support
    - Restricted Injection for VMPL0
    - APIC emulation
    - SVSM APIC protocol
    - Restricted Injection for lower VMPLs – To be done

# References

- Upstream thread of Restricted Injection for a Linux guest
  - <https://lore.kernel.org/all/20230515165917.1306922-1-ltykernel@gmail.com>
- Alternate Injection Specification
  - <http://mail.8bytes.org/pipermail/svsm-devel/attachments/20240517/e74aeb2f/attachment.pdf>
- SVSM (Multi-VMPL) Hypervisor talk
  - [SVSM and VM Privilege Level instantiation and execution :: KVM Forum 2024 :: pretalx](#)
- Code / Patches
  - KVM support for Restricted Injection into VMPL0 only guest
    - <https://lore.kernel.org/kvm/cover.1722989996.git.huibo.wang@amd.com/>
  - SVSM support patches
    - <https://github.com/coconut-svsm/svsm>

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