

# Kernel driver i2c-ali15x3

Supported adapters:

- Acer Labs, Inc. ALI 1533 and 1543C (south bridge)

Datasheet: Now under NDA

<http://www.ali.com.tw/>

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## Module Parameters

- `force_addr`: int  
Initialize the base address of the i2c controller

## Notes

The `force_addr` parameter is useful for boards that don't set the address in the BIOS. Does not do a PCI force; the device must still be present in `lspci`. Don't use this unless the driver complains that the base address is not set.

Example:

```
modprobe i2c-ali15x3 force_addr=0xe800
```

SMBus periodically hangs on ASUS P5A motherboards and can only be cleared by a power cycle. Cause unknown (see Issues below).

## Description

This is the driver for the SMB Host controller on Acer Labs Inc. (ALI) M1541 and M1543C South Bridges.

The M1543C is a South bridge for desktop systems.

The M1541 is a South bridge for portable systems.

They are part of the following ALI chipsets:

- "Aladdin Pro 2" includes the M1621 Slot 1 North bridge with AGP and 100MHz CPU Front Side bus
- "Aladdin V" includes the M1541 Socket 7 North bridge with AGP and 100MHz CPU Front Side bus

Some Aladdin V motherboards:

- Asus P5A
- Atrend ATC-5220
- BCM/GVC VP1541
- Biostar M5ALA
- Gigabyte GA-5AX (Generally doesn't work because the BIOS doesn't enable the 7101 device!)
- Iwill XA100 Plus
- Micronics C200
- Microstar (MSI) MS-5169

- "Aladdin IV" includes the M1541 Socket 7 North bridge with host bus up to 83.3 MHz

For an overview of these chips see <http://www.acerlabs.com>. At this time the full data sheets on the web site are password protected, however if you contact the ALI office in San Jose they may give you the password.

The M1533/M1543C devices appear as FOUR separate devices on the PCI bus. An output of `lspci` will show something similar to the following:

```
00:02.0 USB Controller: Acer Laboratories Inc. M5237 (rev 03)
00:03.0 Bridge: Acer Laboratories Inc. M7101      <= THIS IS THE ONE WE NEED
00:07.0 ISA bridge: Acer Laboratories Inc. M1533 (rev c3)
00:0f.0 IDE interface: Acer Laboratories Inc. M5229 (rev c1)
```

### Important

If you have a M1533 or M1543C on the board and you get "ali15x3: Error: Can't detect ali15x3!" then run `lspci`.

If you see the 1533 and 5229 devices but NOT the 7101 device, then you must enable ACPI, the PMU, SMB, or something similar in the BIOS.

The driver won't work if it can't find the M7101 device.

The SMB controller is part of the M7101 device, which is an ACPI-compliant Power Management Unit (PMU).

The whole M7101 device has to be enabled for the SMB to work. You can't just enable the SMB alone. The SMB and the ACPI have separate I/O spaces. We make sure that the SMB is enabled. We leave the ACPI alone.

## Features

This driver controls the SMB Host only. The SMB Slave controller on the M15X3 is not enabled. This driver does not use interrupts.

## Issues

This driver requests the I/O space for only the SMB registers. It doesn't use the ACPI region.

On the ASUS P5A motherboard, there are several reports that the SMBus will hang and this can only be resolved by powering off the computer. It appears to be worse when the board gets hot, for example under heavy CPU load, or in the summer. There may be electrical problems on this board. On the P5A, the W83781D sensor chip is on both the ISA and SMBus. Therefore the SMBus hangs can generally be avoided by accessing the W83781D on the ISA bus only.