

Hackintosh Audio Injection FAQ

FAQ - Why SSDT Audio Injection Works on Clover but Not on OpenCore (HDEF vs HDAS)

1. Why doesn't the SSDT with layout-id activate audio on OpenCore when the path is `HDEF`?

Because most laptop DSDTs already include a `_DSM` method inside the `HDEF` device.

This method usually contains dynamic logic like:

```
```asl
If (PCIC (Arg0)) { Return (PCID (Arg0, Arg1, Arg2, Arg3)) }
```
```

OpenCore **does not override existing methods** in the DSDT.

So, the `_DSM` method from your SSDT **is ignored** if one already exists in the DSDT.

2. Why does it work fine when the audio device is called `HDAS`?

In many PCs and desktops, the DSDT **does not contain** a `_DSM` method inside `HDAS`. In such cases, macOS executes the `_DSM` method from the SSDT correctly.

Result: the layout-id injected by the SSDT **activates audio successfully** via `AppleALC.kext` or `VoodooHDA.kext`.

3. Can Clover bypass this?

Yes. Clover includes a `DropOEM_DSM` fix that automatically removes the `_DSM` method from the DSDT for devices like `HDEF`.

This allows the SSDT with layout-id to work correctly, even when the device is `HDEF`.

4. So, is it impossible to use SSDT with OpenCore on `HDEF`?

It's possible, but with **restrictions**:

- OpenCores ACPI patch to remove `_DSM` from `HDEF` **often fails**, causing boot errors.
- The only guaranteed methods are:
 - **Manually edit the DSDT**, remove the `_DSM`, and recompile
 - Or use the boot-arg: `alcid=13` (no SSDT needed)

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5. What is the safest solution for laptops with `HDEF` on OpenCore?

Use the boot-arg in your `config.plist` > NVRAM > boot-args`:

```
...  
alcid=13  
...
```

Works 100% of the time
Compatible with `AppleALC.kext`
Compatible with `VoodooHDA.kext` (tested and confirmed!)
No need for SSDT or ACPI patch

Technical Summary:

| Path | `_DSM` Method in DSDT | SSDT with `_DSM` Works? | Recommended Solution |
|--------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| `HDEF` | Yes | Not with OpenCore | `alcid=13` or Clover + SSDT |
| | | | |
| `HDAS` | No | Yes with OpenCore | SSDT with layout-id |
| | | | |

Extras

- `VoodooHDA.kext` also responds to the `_DSM` method with layout-id, working with either SSDT or `alcid`.
- Clover remains a viable option when full ACPI control is needed.

Created by Hackintosh and Beyond - share with anyone struggling to get audio working on Hackintosh!