Desktop Comet Lake

Support	Version
Initial macOS Support	macOS 10.15, Catalina

Starting Point

So making a config.plist may seem hard, it's not. It just takes some time but this guide will tell you how to configure everything, you won't be left in the cold. This also means if you have issues, review your config settings to make sure they're correct. Main things to note with OpenCore:

- **All properties must be defined**, there are no default OpenCore will fall back on so **do not delete sections unless told explicitly so**. If the guide doesn't mention the option, leave it at default.
- **The Sample.plist cannot be used As-Is**, you must configure it to your system
- **DO NOT USE CONFIGURATORS**, these rarely respect OpenCore's configuration and even some like Mackie's will add Clover properties and corrupt plists!

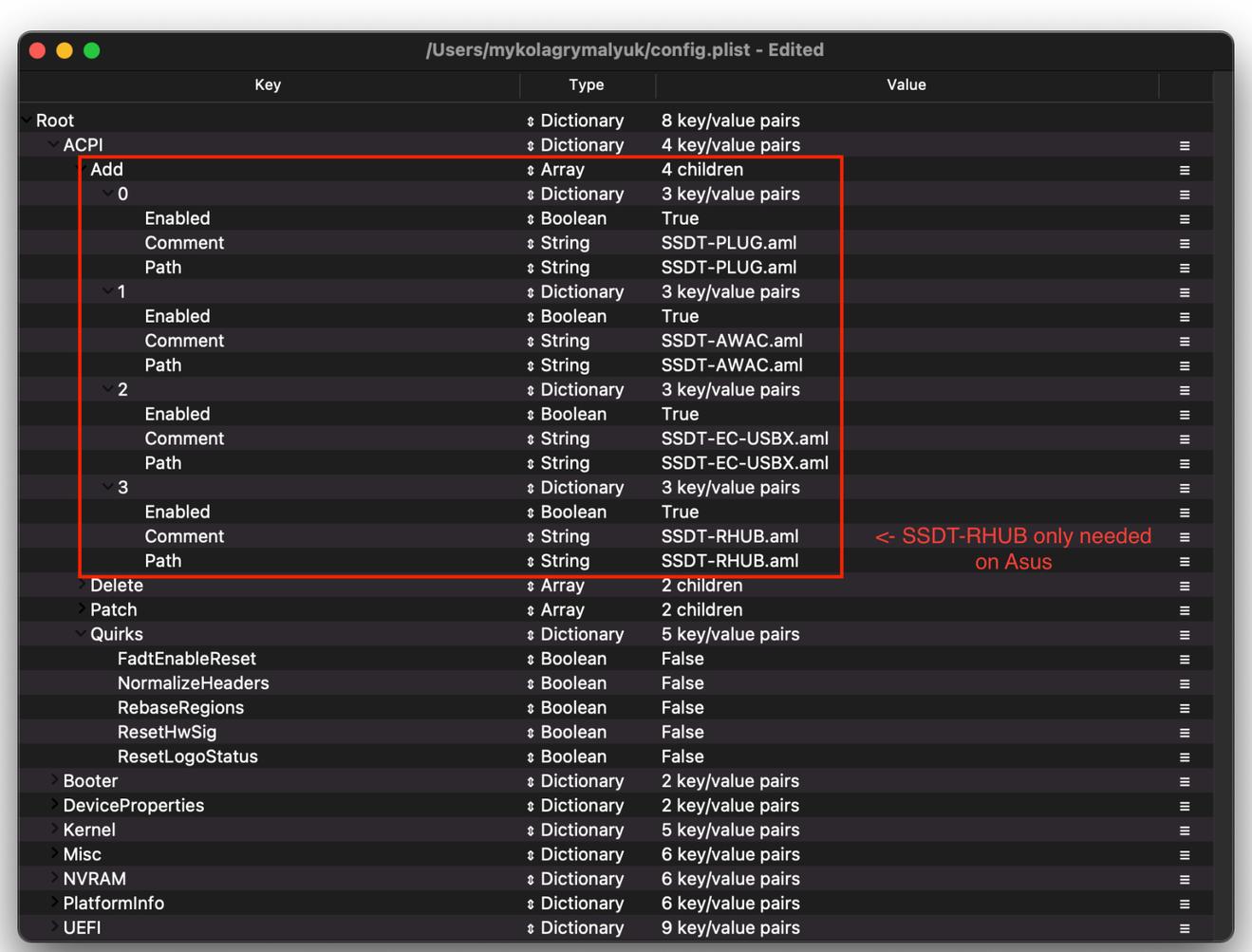
Now with all that, a quick reminder of the tools we need

- ProperTree
  - Universal plist editor
- GenSMBIOS
  - For generating our SMBIOS data
- Sample/config.plist
  - See previous section on how to obtain: config.plist Setup

WARNING

Read this guide more than once before setting up OpenCore and make sure you have it set up correctly. Do note that images will not always be the most up-to-date so please read the text below them, if nothing's mentioned then leave as default.

ACPI



Add

Info

This is where you'll add SSDTs for your system, these are very important to **booting macOS** and have many uses like USB maps , disabling unsupported GPUs and such. And with our system, **it's even required to boot**. Guide on making them found here: **Getting started with ACPI**

For us we'll need a couple of SSDTs to bring back functionality that Clover provided:

Required SSDTs	Description
SSDT-PLUG	Allows for native CPU power management on Haswell and newer, see Getting Started With ACPI Guide for more details.
SSDT-EC-	Fixes both the embedded controller and USB power, see Getting Started With ACPI Guide

USBX	for more details.
SSDT-AWAC	This is the 300 series RTC patch , required for all B460 and Z490 boards which prevent systems from booting macOS. The alternative is SSDT-RTC0 for when AWAC SSDT is incompatible due to missing the Legacy RTC clock, to check whether you need it and which to use please see Getting started with ACPI page.
SSDT-RHUB	Needed to fix Root-device errors on Asus and potentially MSI boards. Gigabyte and AsRock motherboards **do not** need this SSDT

Note that you **should not** add your generated `DSDT.aml` here, it is already in your firmware. So if present, remove the entry for it in your `config.plist` and under EFI/OC/ACPI.

For those wanting a deeper dive into dumping your DSDT, how to make these SSDTs, and compiling them, please see the **Getting started with ACPI page.** Compiled SSDTs have a **.aml** extension(Assembled) and will go into the `EFI/OC/ACPI` folder and **must** be specified in your config under `ACPI -> Add` as well.

Delete

This blocks certain ACPI tables from loading, for us we can ignore this.

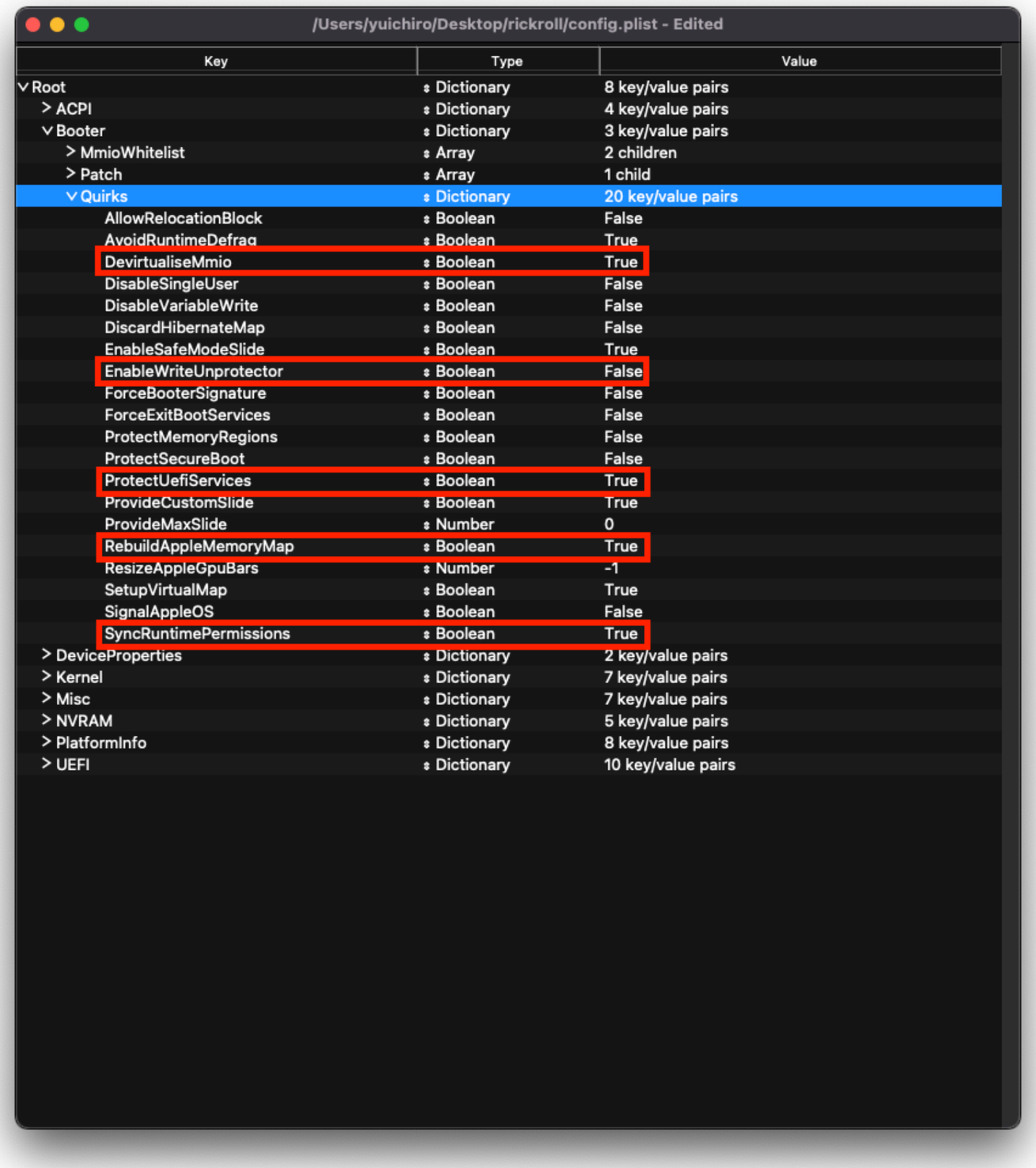
Patch

This section allows us to dynamically modify parts of the ACPI (DSDT, SSDT, etc.) via OpenCore. For us, our patches are handled by our SSDTs. This is a much cleaner solution as this will allow us to boot Windows and other OSes with OpenCore

Quirks

Settings relating to ACPI, leave everything here as default as we have no use for these quirks.

Booter



This section is dedicated to quirks relating to boot.efi patching with OpenRuntime, the replacement for AptioMemoryFix.efi

MmioWhitelist

This section is allowing devices to be passthrough to macOS that are generally ignored, for us we can ignore this section.

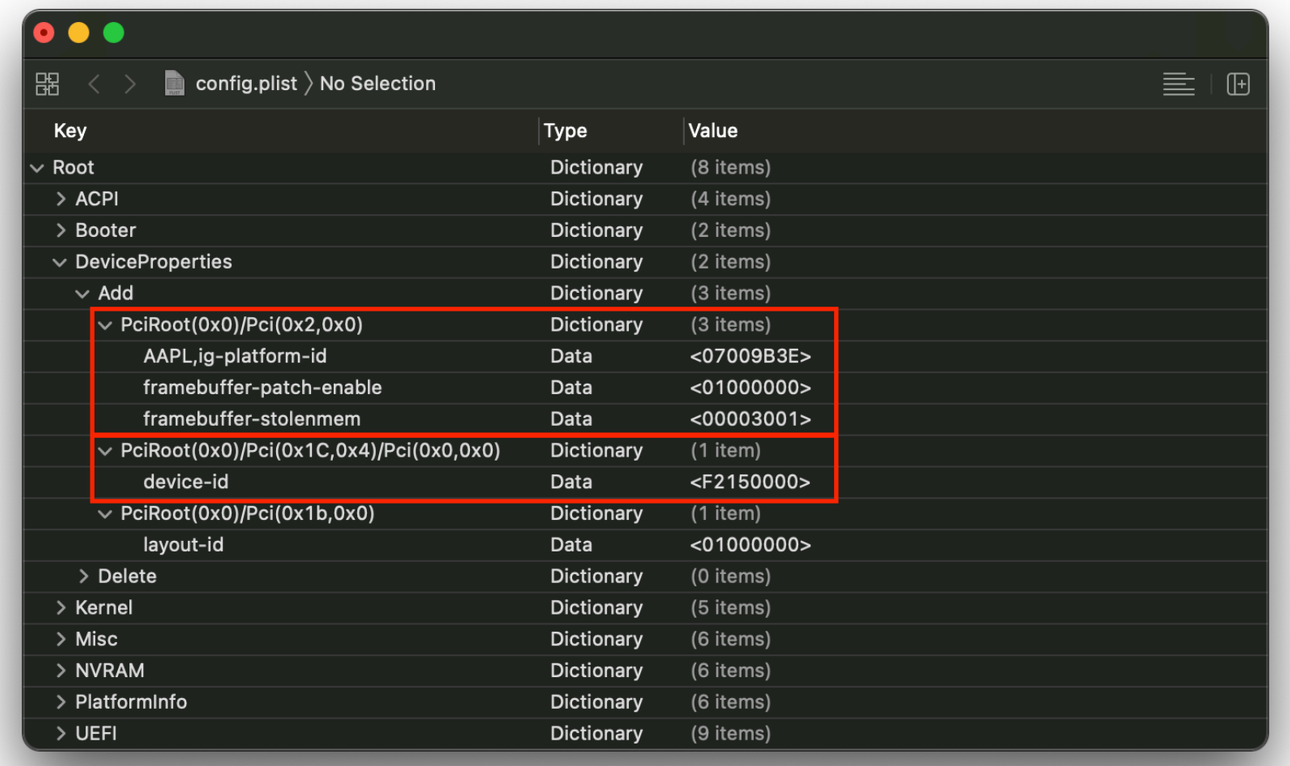
Quirks

Settings relating to boot.efi patching and firmware fixes, for us, we need to change the following:

Quirk	Enabled	Comment
DevirtualiseMmio	YES	
EnableWriteUnprotector	NO	
ProtectUefiServices	YES	
RebuildAppleMemoryMap	YES	
ResizeAppleGpuBars	-1	If your firmware supports increasing GPU Bar sizes (ie Resizable BAR Support), set this to `0`
SetupVirtualMap	NO	
SyncRuntimePermissions	YES	

▶ More in-depth Info

DeviceProperties



Add

Sets device properties from a map.

PciRoot(0x0)/Pci(0x2,0x0)

This section is set up via WhateverGreen's Framebuffer Patching Guide and is used for setting important iGPU properties. **If you have a `-F` series CPU, you can ignore this section as you do not have an iGPU.**

The config.plist doesn't already have a section for this so you will have to create it manually.

`AAPL,ig-platform-id` is what macOS uses to determine how the iGPU drivers interact with our system, and two values choose between are as follows:

AAPL,ig-platform-id	Comment
`07009B3E`	Used when the Desktop iGPU is used to drive a display
`00009B3E`	Alternative to `07009B3E` if it doesn't work
`0300C89B`	Used when the Desktop iGPU is only used for computing tasks and doesn't drive a display

- **Note**: With macOS 10.15.5 and newer, there seems to be a lot of issues with black screen using `07009B3E` , if you get similar issues try swapping to `00009B3E`

We also add 2 more properties, `framebuffer-patch-enable` and `framebuffer-stolenmem` . The first enables patching via WhateverGreen.kext, and the second sets the min stolen memory to 19MB. This is usually unnecessary, as this can be configured in BIOS(64MB recommended) but required when not available.

- **Note**: Headless framebuffers(where the dGPU is the display out) do not need `framebuffer-patch-enable` and `framebuffer-stolenmem`

Key	Type	Value
AAPL,ig-platform-id	Data	`07009B3E`

framebuffer-patch-enable	Data	`01000000`
framebuffer-stolenmem	Data	`00003001`

(This is an example for a desktop UHD 630 without a dGPU and no BIOS options for iGPU memory)

PciRoot(0x0)/Pci(0x1C,0x1)/Pci(0x0,0x0)

This entry relates to Intel's I225-V 2.5GBe controller found on higher end Comet Lake boards, what we'll be doing here is tricking Apple's I225LM driver into supporting our I225-V network controller:

Key	Type	Value
device-id	Data	`F2150000`

- **Note**: If your board didn't ship with the Intel I225 NIC, there's no reason to add this entry.
- **Note 2**: If you get a kernel panic on the AppleIntelI210Ethernet kext, your Ethernet's path is likely `PciRoot(0x0)/Pci(0x1C,0x4)/Pci(0x0,0x0)`

PciRoot(0x0)/Pci(0x1b,0x0)

`layout-id`

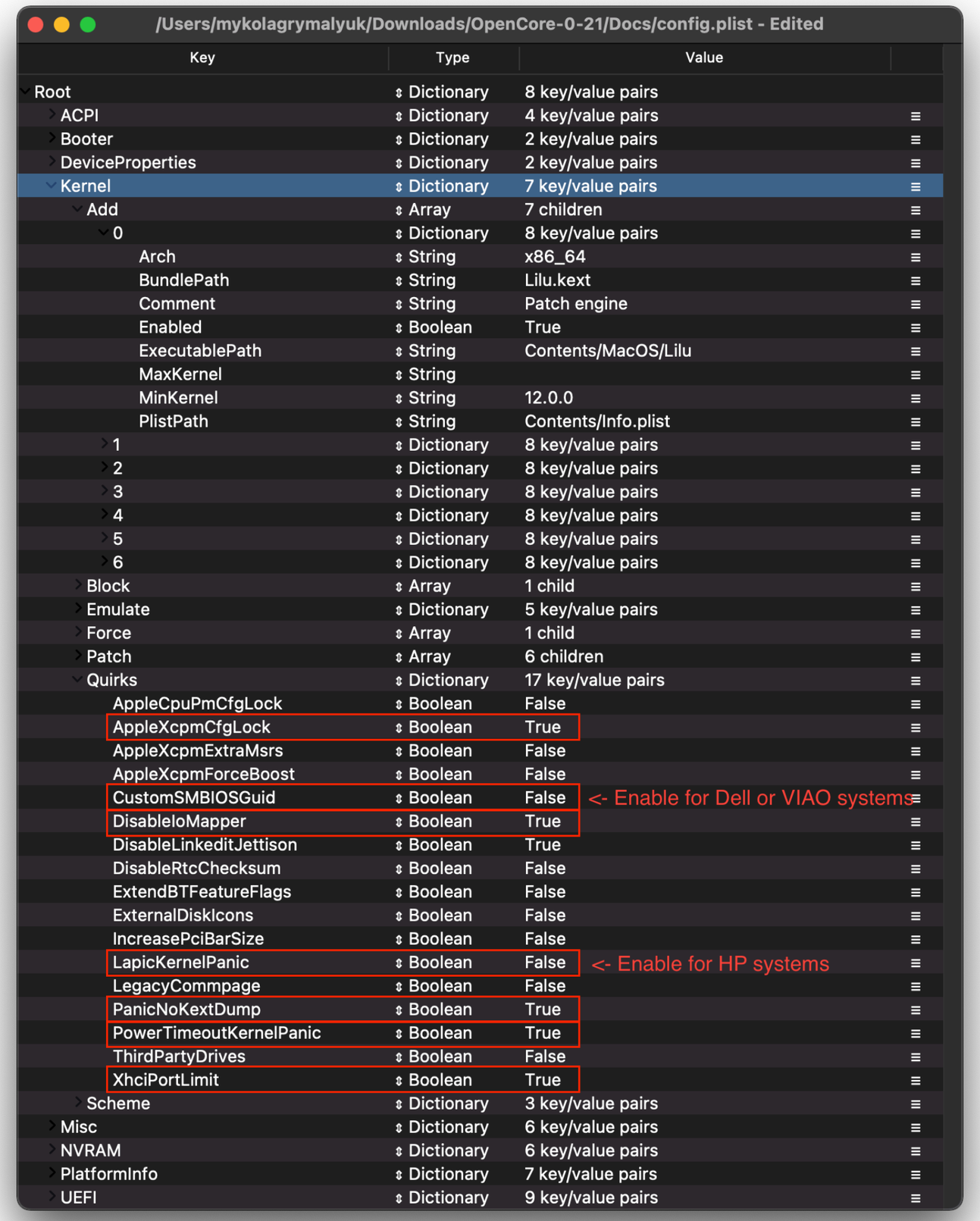
- Applies AppleALC audio injection, you'll need to do your own research on which codec your motherboard has and match it with AppleALC's layout. AppleALC Supported Codecs .
- You can delete this property outright as it's unused for us at this time

For us, we'll be using the boot-arg `alcid=xxx` instead to accomplish this. `alcid` will override all other layout-IDs present. More info on this is covered in the Post-Install Page

Delete

Removes device properties from the map, for us we can ignore this

Kernel



Add

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Emulate

Needed for spoofing unsupported CPUs, thankfully in 10.15.5+ Comet Lake S support was added so no need to spoof here. For those running High Sierra or Mojave, you will need the below to spoof to a supported CPU model(due to stability issues, this guide will not go over such CPUID spoofs)

Force

Used for loading kexts off system volume, only relevant for older operating systems where certain kexts are not present in the cache(ie. IONetworkingFamily in 10.6).

For us, we can ignore.

Block

Blocks certain kexts from loading. Not relevant for us.

Patch

Patches both the kernel and kexts.

Fixing I225-V controllers

This entry relates to Intel's I225-V 2.5GBe controller found on higher end Comet Lake boards, what we'll be doing here is tricking Apple's I225LM driver into supporting our I225-V network controller. However, this is only needed on Catalina and Big Sur, up to 11.3.

Key	Type	Value
Base	String	__Z18e1000_set_mac_typeP8e1000_hw
Comment	String	I225-V patch
Count	Number	1
Enabled	Boolean	True
Find	Data	`F2150000`
Identifier	String	com.apple.driver.AppleIntelI210Ethernet
MinKernel	String	19.0.0
MaxKernel	String	20.4.0
Replace	Data	`F3150000`

- **Note 1**: If your board didn't ship with the Intel I225 NIC, there's no reason to add this entry.
- **Note 2**: Leave all other keys at their default values

Quirks

Info

Settings relating to the kernel, for us we'll be enabling the following:

Quirk	Enabled	Comment
AppleXcpmCfgLock	YES	Not needed if `CFG-Lock` is disabled in the BIOS
DisableIoMapper	YES	Not needed if `VT-D` is disabled in the BIOS
LapicKernelPanic	NO	HP Machines will require this quirk
PanicNoKextDump	YES	
PowerTimeoutKernelPanic	YES	
XhciPortLimit	YES	Disable if running macOS 11.3+

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Scheme

Settings related to legacy booting(ie. 10.4-10.6), for majority you can skip however for those planning to boot legacy OSes you can see below:

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Misc

Boot

Info

Quirk	Enabled	Comment
HideAuxiliary	YES	Press space to show macOS recovery and other auxiliary entries

▶ More in-depth Info

Debug

Info

Helpful for debugging OpenCore boot issues(We'll be changing everything *but* `DisplayDelay`):

Quirk	Enabled
AppleDebug	YES
ApplePanic	YES
DisableWatchDog	YES
Target	67

▶ More in-depth Info

Security

Info

Security is pretty self-explanatory, **do not skip**. We'll be changing the following:

AllowSetDefault	YES	
BlacklistAppleUpdate	YES	
ScanPolicy	0	
SecureBootModel	Default	Leave this as `Default` for OpenCore to automatically set the correct value corresponding to your SMBIOS. The next page goes into more detail about this setting.
Vault	Optional	This is a word, it is not optional to omit this setting. You will regret it if you don't set it to Optional, note that it is case-sensitive

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Serial

Used for serial debugging (Leave everything as default).

Tools

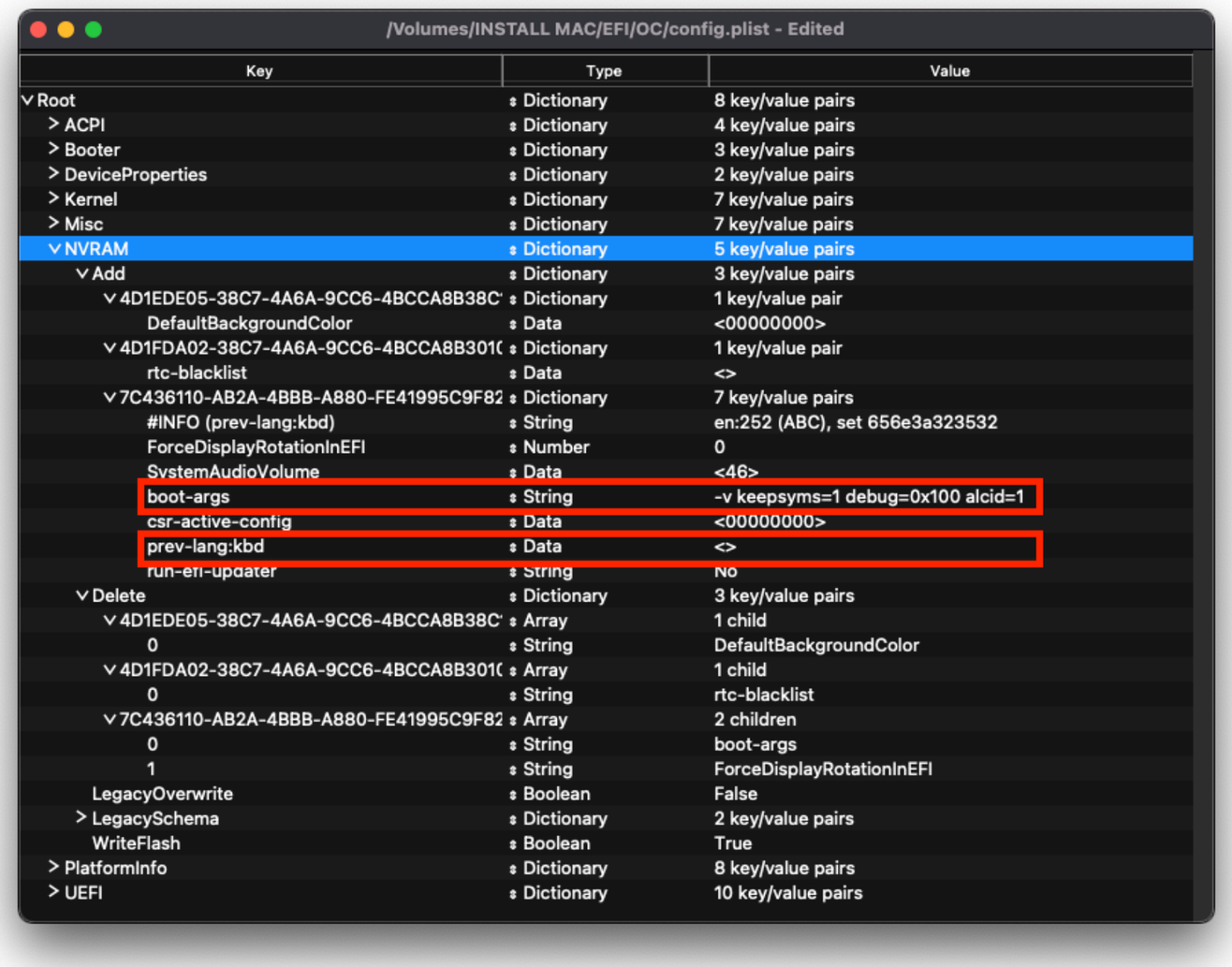
Used for running OC debugging tools like the shell, ProperTree's snapshot function will add these for you.

Entries

Used for specifying irregular boot paths that can't be found naturally with OpenCore.

Won't be covered here, see 8.6 of Configuration.pdf for more info

NVRAM



Add

4D1EDE05-38C7-4A6A-9CC6-4BCCA8B38C14

Used for OpenCore's UI scaling, default will work for us. See in-depth section for more info

▶ More in-depth Info

4D1FDA02-38C7-4A6A-9CC6-4BCCA8B30102

OpenCore's NVRAM GUID, mainly relevant for RTCMemoryFixup users

▶ More in-depth Info

7C436110-AB2A-4BBB-A880-FE41995C9F82

System Integrity Protection bitmask

boot-args	Description
-v	This enables verbose mode, which shows all the behind-the-scenes text that scrolls by as you're booting instead of the Apple logo and progress bar. It's invaluable to any Hackintosher, as it gives you an inside look at the boot process, and can help you identify issues, problem kexts, etc.
debug=0x100	This disables macOS's watchdog which helps prevents a reboot on a kernel panic. That way you can *hopefully* glean some useful info and follow the breadcrumbs to get past the issues.
keepsyms=1	This is a companion setting to debug=0x100 that tells the OS to also print the symbols on a kernel panic. That can give some more helpful insight as to what's causing the panic itself.
alcid=1	Used for setting layout-id for AppleALC, see supported codecs to figure out which layout to use for your specific system. More info on this is covered in the Post-Install Page

- **Networking-Specific boot-args**:

boot-args	Description
e1000=0	Disables `com.apple.DriverKit-AppleEthernetE1000` (Apple's DEXT driver) from matching to the Intel I225-V Ethernet controller found on higher end Comet Lake boards, causing Apple's I225 kext driver to load instead. This boot argument is optional on most boards as they are compatible with the DEXT driver. However, it is required on Gigabyte and several other boards, which can only use the kext driver, as the DEXT driver causes hangs. You don't need this if your board didn't ship with the I225-V NIC. On macOS 12.2.1 and below, use `dk.e1000=0` instead

- **GPU-Specific boot-args**:

boot-args	Description
agdpmod=pikera	Used for disabling board ID checks on some Navi GPUs (RX 5000 & 6000 series), without this you'll get a black screen. **Don't use if you don't have Navi** (ie. Polaris and Vega cards shouldn't use this)
-radcodec	Used for allowing officially unsupported AMD GPUs (spoofed) to use the Hardware Video Encoder
radpg=15	Used for disabling some power-gating modes, helpful for properly initializing AMD Cape Verde based GPUs
unfairgva=1	Used for fixing hardware DRM support on supported AMD GPUs
nvda_drv_vrl=1	Used for enabling NVIDIA's Web Drivers on Maxwell and Pascal cards in macOS Sierra and High Sierra
-wegnoegpu	Used for disabling all other GPUs than the integrated Intel iGPU, useful for those wanting to run newer versions of macOS where their dGPU isn't supported

- **csr-active-config**: `00000000`
  - Settings for 'System Integrity Protection' (SIP). It is generally recommended to change this with `csrutil` via the recovery partition.
  - csr-active-config by default is set to `00000000` which enables System Integrity Protection. You can choose a number of different values but overall we recommend keeping this enabled for best security practices. More info can be found in our troubleshooting page: Disabling SIP
- **run-efi-updater**: `No`
  - This is used to prevent Apple's firmware update packages from installing and breaking boot order; this is important as these firmware updates (meant for Macs) will not work.
- **prev-lang:kbd**: <>
  - Needed for non-latin keyboards in the format of `lang-COUNTRY:keyboard`, recommended to keep blank though you can specify it(**Default in Sample config is Russian**):
  - American: `en-US:0` (`656e2d55533a30` in HEX)
  - Full list can be found in AppleKeyboardLayouts.txt
  - Hint: `prev-lang:kbd` can be changed into a String so you can input `en-US:0` directly instead of converting to HEX
  - Hint 2: `prev-lang:kbd` can be set to a blank variable (eg. `<>`) which will force the Language Picker to appear instead at first boot up.

Key	Type	Value
prev-lang:kbd	String	en-US:0

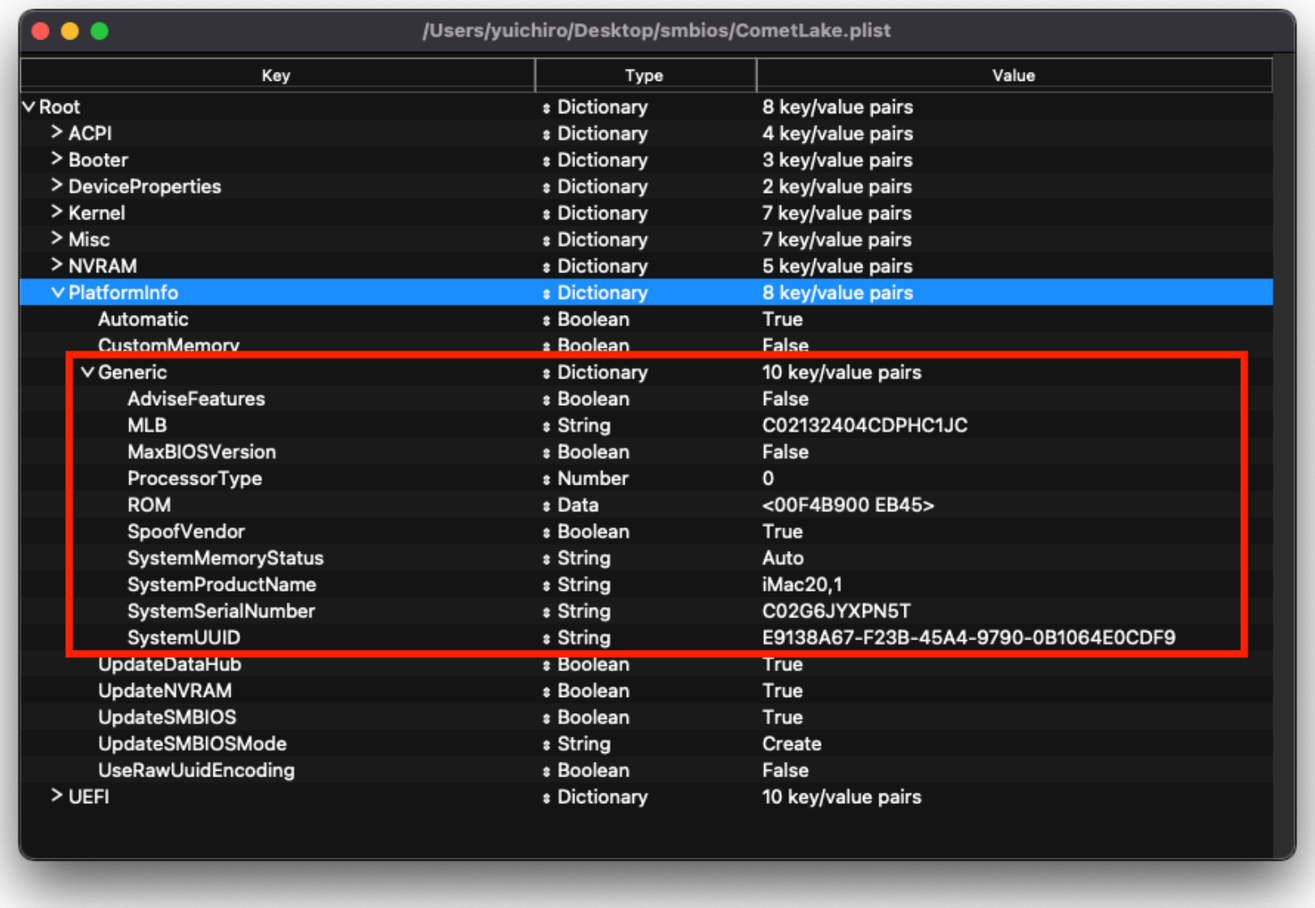
Delete

Info

Quirk	Enabled
WriteFlash	YES

▶ More in-depth Info

PlatformInfo



Info

For setting up the SMBIOS info, we'll use CorpNewt's GenSMBIOS application.

For this Comet Lake example, we'll chose the iMac20,1 SMBIOS - this is done intentionally for compatibility's sake. There are two main SMBIOS used for Comet Lake:

SMBIOS	Hardware
iMac20,1	i7-10700K and lower(ie. 8 core and lower)
iMac20,2	i9-10850K and higher(ie. 10 core)

Run GenSMBIOS, pick option 1 for downloading MacSerial and Option 3 for selecting out SMBIOS. This will give us an output similar to the following:

```sh
  ##########################################################
 #              iMac20,1 SMBIOS Info                      #
##########################################################

Type:          iMac20,1
Serial:        C02XG0FDH7JY
Board Serial: C02839303QXH69FJA
SmUUID:        DBB364D6-44B2-4A02-B922-AB4396F16DA8
```

- **Note**: MacSerial currently does not support Linux, so you must grab a Windows or macOS machine to generate the values

The `Type` part gets copied to Generic -> SystemProductName.

The `Serial` part gets copied to Generic -> SystemSerialNumber.

The `Board Serial` part gets copied to Generic -> MLB.

The `SmUUID` part gets copied to Generic -> SystemUUID.

We set Generic -> ROM to either an Apple ROM (dumped from a real Mac), your NIC MAC address, or any random MAC address (could be just 6 random bytes, for this guide we'll use `11223300 0000`. After install follow the Fixing iServices page on how to find your real MAC Address)

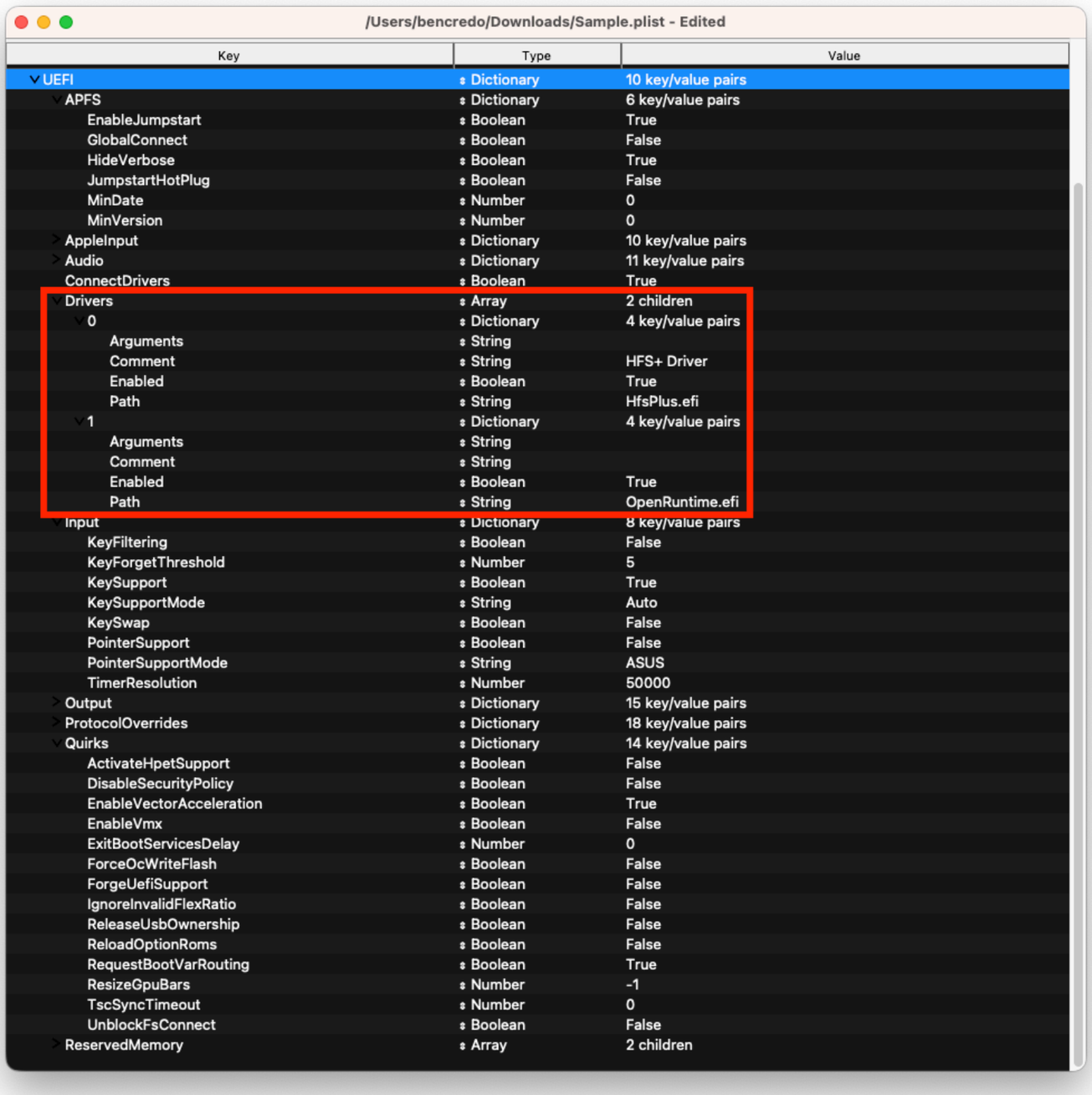
Reminder that you need an invalid serial! When inputting your serial number in Apple's Check Coverage Page, you should get a message such as "Unable to check coverage for this serial number."

Automatic: YES

- Generates PlatformInfo based on Generic section instead of DataHub, NVRAM, and SMBIOS sections

Generic

UEFI



ConnectDrivers: YES

- Forces .efi drivers, change to NO will automatically connect added UEFI drivers. This can make booting slightly faster, but not all drivers connect themselves. E.g. certain file system drivers may not load.

Drivers

Add your .efi drivers here.

Only drivers present here should be:

- HfsPlus.efi
- OpenRuntime.efi

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APFS

By default, OpenCore only loads APFS drivers from macOS Big Sur and newer. If you are booting macOS Catalina or earlier, you may need to set a new minimum version/date. Not setting this can result in OpenCore not finding your macOS partition!

macOS Sierra and earlier use HFS instead of APFS. You can skip this section if booting older versions of macOS.

APFS Versions

Both MinVersion and MinDate need to be set if changing the minimum version.

macOS Version	Min Version	Min Date
High Sierra (`10.13.6`)	`748077008000000`	`20180621`
Mojave (`10.14.6`)	`945275007000000`	`20190820`
Catalina (`10.15.4`)	`1412101001000000`	`20200306`
No restriction	`-1`	`-1`

Audio

Related to AudioDxe settings, for us we'll be ignoring(leave as default). This is unrelated to audio support in macOS.

- For further use of AudioDxe and the Audio section, please see the Post Install page: Add GUI and Boot-chime

Input

Related to boot.efi keyboard passthrough used for FileVault and Hotkey support, leave everything here as default as we have no use for these quirks. See here for more details: Security and FileVault

Output

Relating to OpenCore's visual output, leave everything here as default as we have no use for these quirks.

▶ More in-depth Info

ProtocolOverrides

Mainly relevant for Virtual machines, legacy macs and FileVault users. See here for more details: Security and FileVault

Quirks

Info

Relating to quirks with the UEFI environment, for us we'll be changing the following:

Quirk	Enabled	Comment
UnblockFsConnect	NO	Needed mainly by HP motherboards

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ReservedMemory

Used for exempting certain memory regions from OSes to use, mainly relevant for Sandy Bridge iGPUs or systems with faulty memory. Use of this quirk is not covered in this guide

Cleaning up

And now you're ready to save and place it into your EFI under EFI/OC.

For those having booting issues, please make sure to read the Troubleshooting section first and if your questions are still unanswered we have plenty of resources at your disposal:

- r/Hackintosh Subreddit
- r/Hackintosh Discord

Intel BIOS settings

- Note: Most of these options may not be present in your firmware, we recommend matching up as closely as possible but don't be too concerned if many of these options are not available in your BIOS

Disable

- Fast Boot
- Secure Boot
- Serial/COM Port
- Parallel Port
- VT-d (can be enabled if you set `DisableIoMapper` to YES)
- Compatibility Support Module (CSM) (**Must be off in most cases, GPU errors/stalls like `gIO` are common when this option is enabled**)
- Thunderbolt (For initial install, as Thunderbolt can cause issues if not setup correctly)
- Intel SGX
- Intel Platform Trust
- CFG Lock (MSR 0xE2 write protection)(**This must be off, if you can't find the option then enable `AppleXcpmCfgLock` under Kernel -> Quirks. Your hack will not boot with CFG-Lock enabled**)

Enable

- VT-x
- Above 4G Decoding
  - 2020+ BIOS Notes: When enabling Above4G, Resizable BAR Support may become an available on some Z490 and newer motherboards. Please ensure that Booter -> Quirks -> ResizeAppleGpuBars is set to `0` if this is enabled.
- Hyper-Threading
- Execute Disable Bit
- EHCI/XHCI Hand-off
- OS type: Windows 8.1/10 UEFI Mode (some motherboards may require "Other OS" instead)
- DVMT Pre-Allocated(iGPU Memory): 64MB or higher
- SATA Mode: AHCI

Once done here, we need to edit a couple extra values. Head to the Apple Secure Boot Page

Help us improve this page!

Last Updated: 7/11/2023, 12:59:44 AM

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Arrandale →