

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Kali / Airmon-ng / Alfa WIFI - Issue](#)

rangr000t - July 17, 2018, 8:57 pm

Hello. I have a strange issue with Kali on two different computers.

I'm kind of a noob, and I'm trying to learn legally by attacking my own router, etc.

I'm trying to get acquainted with airmon-ng and WPA2 cracking.

I'm using an Alfa AWUS036NEH WIFI USB Dongle

I have 1 Laptop and 1 Desktop.

Both are running Windows 10 Both are using VMware Workstation 14 Pro Both are using Kali Linux 2018.2

I've only ever been able to run airodump-ng and have it successfully return AP's on the laptop.

The desktop will recognize the Alfa card, it will put it into monitor mode, it will run airmon and airodump, but there aren't any results on any channel.

Now here is the weird thing...

When I actually am able to get it working on my laptop, it goes like this:

```
Code ifconfig wlan0 down  
iwconfig wlan0 mode monitor  
ifconfig wlan0 up
```

```
airmon-ng start kill  
airmon-ng start wlan0mon
```

```
airodump-ng wlan0
```

And it will run, but show NOTHING.

Then, I open up the VMware Virtual Machine Settings for Kali,

I go USB Controller > And I changed USB compatibility from 2.0 to 3.0

Click Ok.

Then all I do is run airodump-ng wlan0 again..... and it somehow starts printing results. Changed nothing else except USB comparability.

There's only two ports on my laptop and both of them are USB 3.0.

If I turn the VM off on the laptop after airodump-ng has been successfully run, turn it back on, run it... it won't work. The only way to get it working on the laptop is changing USB comparability.

That's all for my laptop.

Desktop:

I've never ever gotten airodump to work successfully on the desktop.

The desktop has 2 rear (motherboard) USB 3.0 slots and 2 front (case, connected by header) 3.0 slots.

If I stick the Alfa into a 3.0 slot on the Desktop, windows will recognize it, but VMware will not recognize it no matter what (even messing with USB compatibility options).

VMware will recognize the Alfa if I stick it in a USB 2.0, I can put it into monitor mode, etc... but airodump doesn't return any results ever. Doesn't matter what channel.

TL:DR - I can only get airodump to print results on my laptop, and that's only after I've changed the USB comparability in VMware settings mid-session. And even then it won't work anymore if I reboot.

Let me know if you need any more info.

Thanks.

shaberu - July 17, 2018, 10:33 pm

try like this

```
Code airmon-ng check kill
ifconfig wlan0 down
iwconfig wlan0 mode monitor
ifconfig wlan0 up
airodump-ng wlan0
```

rangr000t - July 17, 2018, 11:07 pm

Still no dice. Thanks for trying.

Code root@kali:~# airmon-ng check kill

Killing these processes:

```
PID Name
559 wpa_supplicant
782 dhclient
```

```
root@kali:~# ifconfig wlan0 down
root@kali:~# iwconfig wlan0 mode monitor
root@kali:~# ifconfig wlan0 up
root@kali:~# airodump-ng wlan0
```

[CH 1][Elapsed: 1 min][2018-07-17 23:01

BSSID	PWR	Beacons	#Data, #/s	CH	MB	ENC	CIPHER	AUTH	ESSID
-------	-----	---------	------------	----	----	-----	--------	------	-------

BSSID	STATION	PWR	Rate	Lost	Frames	Probe
-------	---------	-----	------	------	--------	-------

iwconfig and ifconfig results:

Code root@kali:~# ifconfig

eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500

inet netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast

inet6 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>

ether txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)

RX packets 174 bytes 47055 (45.9 KiB)

RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0

TX packets 21 bytes 1855 (1.8 KiB)

TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536

inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0

inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>

loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)

RX packets 20 bytes 1116 (1.0 KiB)

RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0

TX packets 20 bytes 1116 (1.0 KiB)

TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

wlan0: flags=867<UP,BROADCAST,NOTRAILERS,RUNNING,PROMISC,ALLMULTI> mtu 1500

unspec 00-C0-CA-96-22-75-30-3A-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00 txqueuelen 1000 (UNSPEC)

RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)

RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0

TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)

TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

root@kali:~# iwconfig

eth0 no wireless extensions.

wlan0 IEEE 802.11 Mode:Monitor Frequency:2.442 GHz Tx-Power=20 dBm

Retry short long limit:2 RTS thr:off Fragment thr:off

Power Management:off

lo no wireless extensions.

root@kali:~#

shaberu - July 18, 2018, 12:15 am

out of curiosity try reinstalling the firmware with

Code apt-get remove firmware-atheros

apt-get install firmware-atherosthan try

Code airmon-ng check kill

ifconfig wlan0 down

```
iwconfig wlan0 mode monitor
ifconfig wlan0 up
airodump-ng wlan0
```

rangr000t - July 18, 2018, 12:02 pm

I got it to work on the laptop using your way (airmon-ng check kill being first was important). Also it still does seem like USB Controller compatibility HAS to be set to USB 3.0 in the VMware settings or it won't work.

So thank you there.

Just odd I can't get it working on the Desktop. I'm thinking the issue has to do with USB compatibility/drivers and VMware.

Laptop has 2 USB ports. Both are USB 3.0, but probably backwards compatible with 2.0.

I mounted a flash drive on the laptop. Windows can see the flash drive. VMware and Kali can see the flash drive (USB compatibility still set to 3.0).

I mount the same flash drive on my Desktop in a USB 3.0 slot. Windows can see it. But VMware and Kali cannot.

So ultimately I think that possibly confirms my suspicions about there being a USB issue. The host can use and see what is mounted to USB 3.0, but VMware and the VM OS cannot.

Could be a coincidence and there is another issue, but this is where I'm at.

jalfraag - July 19, 2018, 8:23 am

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Try running a live version from usb and see if the problems go away.

You could also try virtualbox.

rangr000t - July 24, 2018, 5:12 pm

So I tried booting Kali from a USB and airodump finally actually started picking things up on my Desktop.

I tried Virtual Box just to see what would happen, and it didn't work.

So airodump-ng scan shows results when booting Kali from a USB but not when booting it within VMware Workstation or Virtualbox. So weird.

Any ideas?

B4ND4ID - July 24, 2018, 9:29 pm

Probably an issue with your drivers or the way the VM is handling the wifi card. It's been a few years since i've used VMWare though, are you using a unix or MS host though?

RoMa - July 25, 2018, 10:21 am

it has to be airmon-ng wlan0mon cant be wlan0 because that interface has been put into monitor mode and no longer goes under the name wlan0.

pasnger57 - July 25, 2018, 12:34 pm

hummm

should look more like this

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airmon-ng start wlan0

airodump-ng wlan0mon

rangr000t - July 26, 2018, 1:58 pm

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(Jul 25, 2018 10:21 AM)_RoMa_ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) it has to be airmon-ng wlan0mon cant be wlan0 because that interface has been put into monitor mode and no longer goes under the name wlan0. I've gotten it to work fine with wlan0mon or just wlan0.

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pasnger57 - July 26, 2018, 3:36 pm

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IF you boot from a USB you giving Full Root access to the hard ware if you running under Vm your access is only relent to the hardware you designate to the VM .. ill note that in a laptop Most Wifi chips are attaches on the PCI Bus and not on the usb and this is probably the issue you are having and why ruining from a USB work better as you ginve the OS full run of the hardware
side note if you attach a USB card device on top of the internal WiFi it my almost add the next interface down the line the wlan1 as 0 will be the internal hardware one most likely or maybe ath0

B4ND4ID - July 26, 2018, 7:09 pm

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Yeah this reminds me, i don't have much experience with VMWare i used to always use oracle because free and stuff. I do remember having to enable usb/hardware filters for the wifi adapter. That way the VM will "own" the card so to speak, and it won't be shared by the host machine. The only way i could get it to work if for the VM to intercept the card entirely, you shouldn't be able to access it from the host while the filter is active. I'm pretty confident this is the solution you are looking for.

[virtualbox.org/manual/ch03.html#settings-usb](https://www.virtualbox.org/manual/ch03.html#settings-usb)