

Re: setting a spca5xx webcam under sarge?

Re: setting a spca5xx webcam under sarge?

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2007-01/msg00916.html>

- *From:* Bruno Buys <bruno.grupos@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 08 Jan 2007 19:15:32 -0200
-

Andrew Sackville-West wrote:

On Sun, Jan 07, 2007 at 07:35:12PM -0200, Bruno Buys wrote:

Andrew Sackville-West wrote:

On Sun, Jan 07, 2007 at 01:53:23AM -0200, Bruno Buys wrote:

Andrew Sackville-West wrote:

On Sat, Jan 06, 2007 at
10:47:43PM -0200, Bruno
Buys wrote:

compiled it
with
module-assistant.
Everything
went ok,
and
modprobe
inserts the
driver with
no apparent
problems.
The thing
is, accessing

Re: setting a spca5xx webcam under sarge?

the camera
causes the
whole
system to
freeze.
Some
tutorials
suggest its
a gcc
version
problem
between the
kernel gcc
and the
driver gcc.
Relevant
modules
loaded are:
spca5xx
videodev
v4l1-compat
v4l2-common
usbcore

I don't know much, but how
are you accessing the
camera? what if you
do a

```
cat /dev/video[0] > testvid
```

does that cause a freeze?

if not, can you play that file
in mplayer or xine or
whatever?

this method sometimes
works with tuner cards for
example just to see
if the thing is working. I just
tried it with my webcam and
it didn't
really work, in that I got no
playable video (probably
due to
compression), but at least it
shows that there is info

Re: setting a spca5xx webcam under sarge?

coming from the
camera.

Other
people seem
to be using
this
webcam
model quite
successfully,
with
various
distros, so I
believe its
some
troubleshootable
thing which
I am
missing
badly.
Someone
help?

I think that you can get
spca5xx binaries from
debian, its the gspca
that needs compiling... at
least in sid its
spca5xx-modules-<kernel>

Hi andrew,
I tested the camera with the utility from the
driver author, spcaview
and spcagui. Cat'ing /dev/video1 (video0 is a
bttv card) froze the
machine just the same.

So, the problem is with the driver?

Re: setting a spca5xx webcam under sarge?

sounds like it. using cat pretty much eliminates everything but the drivers from the chain. but maybe you are conflicting with the bttv card? can you pull the tv card and try it? maybe you have conflicting interrupts? as I said before, have you tried the binary modules from debian ?

I upgraded the machine to etch, so now its 2.6.18-3-k7. Before that I did try removing the bttv card, but no difference. Actually, I could set those utilities to open both the webcam and the bttv card, doing '-d /dev/video[1,2]'. The bttv was ok (no freeze), but the cam froze. Also, I received feedback from Michel Xhaard, the author of the driver, and following his advice, I upgraded to the new gspcav1 driver. Now the machine doesn't freeze anymore. I seem to be moving forward, ;). But spcagui and spcaview now open a window without any image. All I get is a dark background. So, I 'm stuck in this point.

I've not used either program so you're on your own there.

What I already did was:

– Test the webcam in a virtual win in the same machine: test ok.

what do you mean by this?

– Tried with both 'using frame buffer' option from xorg conf and 'not using frame buffer'. (This is because when quitting, spcagui print 'Unmapping frame buffer' and 'freeing frame buffer' to the console. Test yield no difference.

I am using the nvidia 3D binary driver, if it makes any difference. And

Re: setting a spca5xx webcam under sarge?

now the bttv card is installed.

don't think it matters

I was told to upgrade to 2.6.19, but no further explanation. So, it remains to be seen. Sounds reasonable?

I'm running my camera on debian sid binary kernel (2.6.18-3 I think).

Do you have any idea whats going on?

nope. ;-)

why don't you try one of the other tools to view it before you start heading off on tangents. I've had success with camstream and gqcam. In one, if not both of them (not at my machine right now), you have to close the camera window and re-open a new one to get an image. worth a shot. another you could try is motion. its strictly cli, but will generate a whole mess of jpg's and avi's when you move in front of the camera.

A

I tried camE, gqcam and camstream. The dark background thing is widespread. No single software did ok with the cam. So weird, the camera lights on and off when some program accesses it. But no image. Well, the issue is open...

—

To UNSUBSCRIBE, email to debian-user-REQUEST@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx with a subject of "unsubscribe". Trouble? Contact listmaster@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Re: setting a spca5xx webcam under sarge?