
AdafruitMAX31856 Library Documentation

Release 1.0

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A CircuitPython driver for the MAX31856 Universal Thermocouple Amplifier

CHAPTER 1

Dependencies

This driver depends on:

- [Adafruit CircuitPython](#)
- [Bus Device](#)

Please ensure all dependencies are available on the CircuitPython filesystem. This is easily achieved by downloading the [Adafruit library and driver bundle](#).

CHAPTER 2

Usage Example

```
import board
import busio
import digitalio
import adafruit_max31856

# create a spi object
spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)

# allocate a CS pin and set the direction
cs = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D5)
cs.direction = digitalio.Direction.OUTPUT

# create a thermocouple object with the above
thermocouple = adafruit_max31856.MAX31856(spi, cs)

# print the temperature!
print(thermocouple.temperature)
```


CHAPTER 3

Contributing

Contributions are welcome! Please read our [Code of Conduct](#) before contributing to help this project stay welcoming.

4.1 Zip release files

To build this library locally you'll need to install the `circuitpython-build-tools` package.

```
python3 -m venv .env
source .env/bin/activate
pip install circuitpython-build-tools
```

Once installed, make sure you are in the virtual environment:

```
source .env/bin/activate
```

Then run the build:

```
circuitpython-build-bundles --filename_prefix adafruit-circuitpython-max31856 --
↳library_location .
```

4.2 Sphinx documentation

Sphinx is used to build the documentation based on rST files and comments in the code. First, install dependencies (feel free to reuse the virtual environment from above):

```
python3 -m venv .env
source .env/bin/activate
pip install Sphinx sphinx-rtd-theme
```

Now, once you have the virtual environment activated:

```
cd docs
sphinx-build -E -W -b html . _build/html
```

This will output the documentation to `docs/_build/html`. Open the `index.html` in your browser to view them. It will also (due to `-W`) error out on any warning like Travis will. This is a good way to locally verify it will pass.

5.1 Simple test

Ensure your device works with this simple test.

Listing 1: examples/max31856_simpletest.py

```
1 import board
2 import busio
3 import digitalio
4 import adafruit_max31856
5 # create a spi object
6 spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)
7
8 # allocate a CS pin and set the direction
9 cs = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D0)
10 cs.direction = digitalio.Direction.OUTPUT
11
12 # create a thermocouple object with the above
13 thermocouple = adafruit_max31856.MAX31856(spi, cs)
14
15 # print the temperature!
16 print(thermocouple.temperature)
```

5.2 MAX31856

CircuitPython module for the MAX31856 Universal Thermocouple Amplifier. See examples/simpletest.py for an example of the usage.

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5.2.1 Implementation Notes

Hardware:

- Adafruit [Universal Thermocouple Amplifier MAX31856 Breakout](#) (Product ID: 3263)

Software and Dependencies:

- Adafruit CircuitPython firmware for the supported boards: <https://github.com/adafruit/circuitpython/releases>
- Adafruit's Bus Device library: https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_CircuitPython_BusDevice

class adafruit_max31856.**MAX31856** (*spi*, *cs*, *thermocouple_type*=3)

Driver for the MAX31856 Universal Thermocouple Amplifier

Parameters

- **spi_bus** (*SPI*) – The SPI bus the MAX31856 is connected to.
- **cs** (*Pin*) – The pin used for the CS signal.
- **thermocouple_type** (*ThermocoupleType*) – The type of thermocouple. Default is Type K.

fault

A dictionary with the status of each fault type where the key is the fault type and the value is a bool if the fault is currently active

Key	Fault type
"cj_range"	Cold junction range fault
"tc_range"	Thermocouple range fault
"cj_high"	Cold junction high threshold fault
"cj_low"	Cold junction low threshold fault
"tc_high"	Thermocouple high threshold fault
"tc_low"	Thermocouple low threshold fault
"voltage"	Over/under voltage fault
"open_tc"	Thermocouple open circuit fault

reference_temperature

The temperature of the cold junction in degrees celsius. (read-only)

reference_temperature_thresholds

The cold junction's low and high temperature thresholds as a (low_temp, high_temp) tuple

temperature

The temperature of the sensor and return its value in degrees celsius. (read-only)

temperature_thresholds

The thermocouple's low and high temperature thresholds as a (low_temp, high_temp) tuple

class adafruit_max31856.**ThermocoupleType**

An enum-like class representing the different types of thermocouples that the MAX31856 can use. The values can be referenced like `ThermocoupleType.K` or `ThermocoupleType.S`. Possible values are

- `ThermocoupleType.B`
- `ThermocoupleType.E`
- `ThermocoupleType.J`
- `ThermocoupleType.K`
- `ThermocoupleType.N`

- ThermocoupleType.R
- ThermocoupleType.S
- ThermocoupleType.T

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