Product Specification

K30 FR

Fast Response CO₂ Sensor



General

- The K30 sensor platform, in its default appearance named K30 FR, can be customised for a variety of sensing and control applications. This platform is designed to be an OEM module for built-in applications in a host apparatus, and hence should be optimised for its tasks during a dialog between Senseair and the OEM customer. This document describes a certain model of this platform optimized for fast response measurements, named K30 FR, and is to be considered as the starting point for such a dialog.
- K30 FR is a high performance, linear transmitter CO₂ sensor module optimised for fast response time. It is designed to be built-in into equipment that requires a fast update rate of CO₂ measurements. The sample cell is well protected by a particle filter and is designed for fast diffusion without any need for external pump. In addition, there is a tube inlet for on-line test gas feed-through. In spite of being based on reliable infrared gas sensing technology, and being very precise, the design is very cost efficient.

The unit is designed to run at 4.5-14 V stabilised supply voltages provided that load and line regulation of power supply is within $\pm 5\%$.

During normal operation, the sensor module measures ambient gas CO_2 concentrations twice every second. The measurement register can be monitored via an I^2C bus or UART serial interface. The measured CO_2 concentration is filtered by a configurable digital filter and is also transmitted to the Analogue Linear Voltage Outputs.



Item	K30 FR Art. No.: 030-8-0010	
Target gas	Carbon dioxide (CO ₂)	
Operating Principle	Non-dispersive infrared (NDIR)	
Measurement range	0 — 5000ppm _{vol}	
Accuracy	±30ppm ±3% of reading ¹	
Response time _{T90}	2 seconds @ 0,5 l/min tube gas flow, 20 sec diffusion time	
Rate of Measurement	2Hz	
Operating temperature	0 – 50°C	
Operating humidity	0 — 95%RH non condensed	
Storage temperature	-30 — 70°C	
Dimensions (mm)	51 x 57 x 14mm (Length x Width x approximate Height)	
Power supply	$4.5-14.0 \text{VDC}$ maximum rating (without reverse polarity protection) stabilised to $\pm 5\%$ over load and line changes. Ripple voltage less than $100 \text{mV}.^2$	
Power consumption	<600mA peak, 70mA average	
Warm Up time to spec precision	1 min	
Life expectancy	> 3 years	
Serial communication	UART, Modbus protocol. Direction control pin for direct connection to RS485 transceiver integrated circuit.	
OUT 1	D/A Resolution: 10mV (10 bit) Linear Conversion Range: $0 - 10V = 0 - 5000$ ppm Electrical Characteristics: $R_{OUT} < 100$ Ohm, $R_{LOAD} > 5$ k Ohm	
OUT 2	D/A Resolution: 5mV (10 bit) Linear Conversion Range: $0-5V=0-5000$ ppm Electrical Characteristics: R_{OUT} <100 Ohm, R_{LOAD} >5k Ohm	
OUT 3	Digital (High/Low) output, 700/800ppm	
OUT 4	Digital (High/Low) output, 900/1000ppm	
Maintenance Interval	Subject for discussion with customer	

Table 1. Key technical specification for the K30 FR

Accuracy is specified over operating temperature range at normal pressure 101.3 kPa. Specification is referenced to certified calibration mixtures. Uncertainty of calibration gas mixtures (±2% currently) is to be added to the specified accuracy for absolute measurements.

Notice that absolute maximum rating is 14V, so that sensor can be used with a 12V±10% supply.



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^{*} PATENTED: WO 97/18460, WO 98/09152, WO 2005/015175

Terminal descriptions

The table below specifies what terminals and I/O options are available in the general **K30** platform. Please note, however, that in the K30 FR default configuration, only OUT1, OUT2, Din1, Din2 and Status have any pre-programmed functions. These are described in the chapter "Default Configuration".

Functional group	Descriptions and ratings			
Power supply				
G+ referred to G0:	Absolute maximum ratings 4.5 — 14V, stabilised to within 5% 5.0 — 9V preferred operating range. Unprotected against reverse connection!			
Outputs				
OUT1	Buffered linear output 0 – 5 or 1 – 5VDC or 0 – 10V or 2 – 10V, depending on specified power supply and sensor configuration. Load to ground only! Resolution: 10mV (8.5 bits in the range 15V). Can be used as an overview alternative to OUT2, or in an independent linear control loop, such as housing temperature stabilisation.			
OUT2	Buffered linear output 0 – 5 or 1 – 5VDC, depending on specified power supply and sensor configuration. Load to ground only! Resolution: 5mV (10 bits)			
OUT3	CMOS unprotected. Digital (High/Low) output. High Output level in the range 2.3V min to DVDD = 3.3V. (1mA source) Low output level 0.75V max (4mA sink) Can be used for gas alarm indication, or for status indication etc.			
OUT4	CMOS unprotected. Digital (High/Low) output. High Output level in the range 2.3V min to DVDD = 3.3V. (1mA source) Low output level 0.75V max (4mA sink) Can be used for gas alarm indication, or for status indication etc.			
Status	CMOS unprotected. High Output level in the range 2.3V min to DVDD = 3.3V. (1mA source) Low output level 0.75V max (4mA sink)			
Serial Communication	on			
UART (TxD, RxD)	CMOS, ModBus communication protocol. Logical levels corresponds 3.3V powered logics. Refer TDE2336 "ModBus on CO2 Engine and eSENSE" for electrical specification.			
I ² C extension.				
Contact Senseair	Pull-up of SDA and SCL lines to 3.3V.			
Inputs & Optional jumper field				
Din0, Din1, Din2, Din3, Din4	Digital switch inputs have pull-up 120k to DVCC 3.3V most of the time. Pull-up resistance is decreased to 4 — 10k only during read of input / jumper to provide cleaning of the contacts by larger currents. They are the same as inputs on IDC connector. Can be used to initiate calibration or to switch output range or to force output to predefined state. All depends on customer needs.			

Table 2. I/O notations used in this document for the K30 platform with some descriptions and ratings. Beware of the red coloured texts that pinpoint important features for the system integration!



General PCB overview

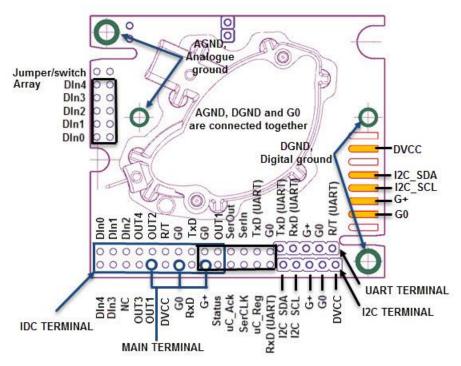


Figure 1. K30 FR I/O notations and terminal positions (Top view).

See mechanical drawing

Installation

The modules are factory calibrated and ready for use directly after power up. There are several alternative ways to connect the K30 FR to a host system:

Do not use edge connector for connection to the host system without discussion with Senseair!

- 1. Using "UART connector", including terminals for power supply (G+ and G0), UART (TxD, RxD).
- 2. Using the 3 pins main terminal. Available signals are power supply (G+ and G0) and the buffered analogue output (OUT1). A variety of user selections exists for this option regarding standard 5.08 mm pitch components and mounting alternatives (top/bottom).
- 3. Using 20 pin connector strips, or IDC connector, most of the system information is reached.

Host integration considerations and EMI shielding

If an IDC connector is being used to connect the K30 module to a host PCB, this connector can in some situations be used as the only fixture. If instead fixing the K30 PCB using mechanical poles and screws, no more than two (2) positions should be considered. This is because the PCB should not be exposed to any mechanical stress, and it is small and lightweight enough for just two (2) attachment points.

To provide means for attachments, there are four (4) possible screw holes available, all of them having a collar that is electrically connected to ground (G0). These connections are, however, not totally equivalent:



- The two screw points in the upper left corner (having the IDC and edge connectors faced downwards) are connected to the analogue ground. They are the preferred choice for connection to some EMI shield, if so is required. This is normally necessary only if the application is such that large EMFs are foreseen. If this option is being used, precaution must be taken so as to exclude any power supply currents! Sensor reading instability is an indication of the need for shielding, or of improper enclosure system groundings.
- The two screw points in the right bottom corner are connected to the *digital* ground. Connection to some EMI housing shield is less effective when this option is used, but on the other hand the sensor may be powered via these connections.

Note 1: To avoid ground loops, one should avoid connecting the analogue and digital grounds externally! They are connected internally on the K30 PCB.

Note 2: The terminals are not protected against reverse voltages and current spikes! Proper ESD protection is required during handling, as well as by the host interface design.

Default functions /configurations Outputs

The basic K30 FR configuration is a simple analogue output sensor transmitter signal directed to OUT1 and OUT2. Output OUT1 is configured to give a measurement overview, whereas OUT2 by default is to provide more exact measurements. Via the edge connector serial communication terminal, the CO₂ readings are available to an even higher precision (Modbus protocol), together with additional system information such as sensor status, analogue outputs, and other variables.

The user can modify the output ranges at any time using a dedicated development kit, including PC software and a special serial communication cable.

Terminals	Output	Correspondence
OUT1	0.0 — 10.0VDC	0 — 5000ppm CO ₂
OUT2	0.0 - 5.0VDC	0 — 5000ppm CO ₂

Table 3. Default analogue output configuration for K30 FR

Calibration

Single-point Calibration restore switch Din1

For highest possible accuracy, the sensor can be re-calibrated just before the important measurement is to be carried out. This is possible to do by a qualified operator, provided that the sensor is exposed to a reference gas, which by default should contain exactly 400ppm CO_2 . This number can be selected to any other value of preference using serial interface and PC software provided by Senseair.

During a calibration process the sensor must be carefully exposed to the calibration gas in a manner that assure no dilution air of the reference gas from the ambient, and that no overpressure is created in the sensor sample cell. One way to achieve this is to position the sensor in a deep and soft plastic bag and flush the reference gas inside this bag for a while.



Creating an electrical shortcut between the two holes labeled Din1 actuates the calibration process. A closure here will ground one of the micro-controller I/O pins. As soon as the micro-controller detects this manually grounded switch terminal, a new zero constant sensor parameter is calculated replacing the old parameter, so as to push the current sensor reading to what is being defined for the reference gas (default = 400ppm CO_2).

If the operator leaves the sensor with Din1 closed for some period of time, the sensor will continue to recalibrate for the 400ppm target value until the switch closure eventually is released.

Zero Calibration restore switch Din2

The Din2 switch operates exactly in the same way as the Din1 switch, but assumes that the reference gas contains no Carbon dioxide at all, such as Nitrogen, for instance. Hence, a calibration executed by shorting the Din2 switch performs a true zero point calibration adjustment.

Input Switch Terminal (normally open)	Default function (when closed for minimum 8 seconds)	
Din1	bCAL (background calibration) assuming 400ppm CO2 sensor exposure	
Din2	CAL (zero calibration) assuming 0ppm CO ₂ sensor exposure	

Table 4. Switch input default configurations for K30 FR

Note: To make a full sensor recalibration, includes also a change of the sensor span constant, a serial communication interface is required. Contact Senseair for technical support on this matter if this is required.

Maintenance

Self-diagnostics

The system contains complete self-diagnostic procedures. A full system test is executed automatically every time the power is turned on. In addition, constantly during operation, the sensor probes are checked against failure by checking the valid dynamic measurement ranges. All EEPROM updates, initiated by the sensor itself, as well as by external connections, are checked by subsequent memory read back and data comparisons. These different system checks return error bytes to the system RAM. If this byte is not zero, the logic output terminal **Status** would be put into Low level state. The full error codes are available from the UART port or via I²C communication. *Offset regulation error* and *Out of Range* are the only bits that are reset automatically after return to normal state. All other error bits have to be reset after return to normal by UART overwrite, or by power off/on.

Output Terminal	Default function
Status	High level = OK ; Low level = Fault

Table 5. Default Logic output configured for K30 FR



Error code and action plan

(rror code can be read via one of communication channels)

Bit #	Error code	Error description	Suggested action
0	1	Fatal Error	Try to restart sensor by power OFF/ON. Contact local distributor.
1	2	Offset regulation error	Try to restart sensor by power OFF/ON. Contact local distributor.
2	4	Algorithm Error. Indicate wrong EEPROM configuration.	Try to restart sensor by power OFF/ON. Check detailed settings and configuration with software tools. Contact local distributor.
3	8	Output Error Detected errors during output signals calculation and generation.	Check connections and loads of outputs. Check detailed status of outputs with software tools.
4	16	Self-Diagnostic Error. May indicate the need of zero calibration or sensor replacement.	Check detailed self-diagnostic status with software tools. Contact local distributor.
5	32	Out of Range Error Accompanies most of other errors. Can also indicate overload or failures of sensors and inputs. Resets automatically after source of error disappearance.	Check connections of temperature and relative humidity probe (if mounted). Try sensor in fresh air. Perform CO ₂ background calibration. Check detailed status of measurements with software tools. (see Note)
6	64	Memory Error Error during memory operations.	Check detailed settings and configuration with software tools.
7	128	Reserved	

Table 6. Error code and action plan

Note. Any probe is out of range. It occurs, for instance, during over-exposure of CO₂ sensor, in which case the error code will automatically reset when the measurement values return to normal. It could also indicate the need of zero point calibration. If the CO₂ readings are normal, and still the error code remains, any other sensor probe mounted (if any) can be defect, or the connection to this probe is broken.

Remark: If several errors are detected at the same time the different error code numbers will be added together into one single error code!

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