

TPMC550-SW-82

Linux Device Driver

8/4 Channels of Isolated 12 bit D/A

Version 1.1.x

User Manual

Issue 1.1.2

September 2025

TPMC550-SW-82

Linux Device Driver

8/4 Channels of Isolated 12 bit D/A

Supported Modules:

TPMC550

This document contains information, which is proprietary to TEWS Technologies GmbH. Any reproduction without written permission is forbidden.

TEWS Technologies GmbH has made any effort to ensure that this manual is accurate and complete. However TEWS Technologies GmbH reserves the right to change the product described in this document at any time without notice.

TEWS Technologies GmbH is not liable for any damage arising out of the application or use of the device described herein.

©2006-2025 by TEWS Technologies GmbH

Issue	Description	Date
1.0.0	First Issue	December 8, 2006
1.0.1	File list modified	November 11, 2008
1.0.2	Address TEWS LLS removed	September 22, 2010
1.1.0	Parameters: 32-bit value values changed from long to int COPYING-File added to file-list	December 10, 2018
1.1.1	Layout corrections	January 14, 2022
1.1.2	Address of TEWS Technologies modified	September 29, 2025

Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION.....	4
2	INSTALLATION.....	5
2.1	Build and install the Device Driver	5
2.2	Uninstall the Device Driver	6
2.3	Install Device Driver into the running Kernel	6
2.4	Remove Device Driver from the running Kernel	7
2.5	Change Major Device Number	7
3	DEVICE INPUT/OUTPUT FUNCTIONS	8
3.1	open.....	8
3.2	close	10
3.3	ioctl.....	11
3.3.1	TPMC550_IOCWRITE	13
3.3.2	TPMC550_IOCREADPARAM	15
3.3.3	TPMC550_IOCSTARTSEQ	17
3.3.4	TPMC550_IOCWRITESEQ	19
3.3.5	TPMC550_IOCSTOPSEQ	21
4	DIAGNOSTIC.....	22

1 Introduction

The TPMC550-SW-82 Linux device driver allows the operation of the TPMC550 PMC conforming to the Linux I/O system specification. This includes a device-independent basic I/O interface with *open()*, *close()* and *ioctl()* functions.

The TPMC550-SW-82 device driver supports the following features:

- write a new output value to a specified channel
- start and setup the output sequencer
- update sequencer output values
- stop the output sequencer
- read the module configuration

The TPMC550-SW-82 device driver supports the modules listed below:

TPMC550	8/4 Channels of Isolated 12 bit D/A	(PMC)
---------	-------------------------------------	-------

To get more information about the features and use of TPMC550 devices it is recommended to read the manuals listed below.

TPMC550 User Manual

2 Installation

Following files are located on the distribution media:

Directory path 'TPMC550-SW-82':

TPMC550-SW-82-1.1.1.pdf	This manual in PDF format
TPMC550-SW-82-SRC.tar.gz	GZIP compressed archive with driver source code
Release.txt	Release information
ChangeLog.txt	Release history

The GZIP compressed archive TPMC550-SW-82-SRC.tar.gz contains the following files and directories:

Directory path './tpmc550/':

tpmc550.c	Driver source code
tpmc550def.h	Driver private include file
tpmc550.h	Driver public include file for application program
Makefile	Device driver make file
makenode	Script to create device nodes on the file system
include/config.h	Driver independent library header file
include/tpxxxhwdep.c	Low level hardware access functions source file
include/tpxxxhwdep.h	Access functions header file
include/tpmodule.c	Driver independent library
include/tpmodule.h	Driver independent library header file
example/tpmc550exa.c	Example application
example/Makefile	Example application make file
COPYING	Copy of the GNU Public License (GPL)

In order to perform an installation, extract all files of the archive TPMC550-SW-82-SRC.tar.gz to the desired target directory. The command 'tar -xzf TPMC550-SW-82-SRC.tar.gz' will extract the files into the local directory.

- Login as *root* and change to the target directory
- Copy tpmc550.h to */usr/include*

2.1 Build and install the Device Driver

- Login as *root*
- Change to the target directory
- To create and install the driver in the module directory */lib/modules/<version>/misc* enter:

make install

To update the device driver's module dependencies, enter:

depmod -a

2.2 Uninstall the Device Driver

- Login as *root*
- Change to the target directory
- To remove the driver from the module directory */lib/modules/<version>/misc* enter:

 # make uninstall
- Update kernel module dependency description file

 # depmod -a

2.3 Install Device Driver into the running Kernel

- To load the device driver into the running kernel, login as root and execute the following commands:

 # modprobe tpmc550drv
- After the first build or if you are using dynamic major device allocation it's necessary to create new device nodes on the file system. Please execute the script file *makenode* to do this. If your kernel has enabled a device file system (devfs or sysfs with udev) then you have to skip running the *makenode* script. Instead of creating device nodes from the script the driver itself takes creating and destroying of device nodes in its responsibility.

 # sh makenode

On success the device driver will create a minor device for each TPMC550 module found. The first module of the first TPMC550 module can be accessed with device node */dev/tpmc550_0*, the second module with device node */dev/tpmc550_1*, the third TPMC550 module with device node */dev/tpmc550_2* and so on.

The assignment of device nodes to physical TPMC550 modules depends on the search order of the PCI bus driver.

2.4 Remove Device Driver from the running Kernel

- To remove the device driver from the running kernel login as root and execute the following command:

```
# modprobe -r tpmc550drv
```

If your kernel has enabled devfs or sysfs (udev), all /dev/tpmc550_x nodes will be automatically removed from your file system after this.

Be sure that the driver isn't opened by any application program. If opened you will get the response "*tpmc550drv: Device or resource busy*" and the driver will still remain in the system until you close all opened files and execute *modprobe -r* again.

2.5 Change Major Device Number

This paragraph is only for Linux kernels without DEVFS installed. The TPMC550 device driver uses dynamic allocation of major device numbers per default. If this isn't suitable for the application it is possible to define a major number for the driver.

To change the major number edit the file tpmc550def.h, change the following symbol to appropriate value and enter make install to create a new driver.

TPMC550_MAJOR	Valid numbers are in range between 0 and 255. A value of 0 means dynamic number allocation.
---------------	---

Example:

```
#define TPMC550_MAJOR      122
```

Be sure that the desired major number is not used by other drivers. Please check /proc/devices to see which numbers are free.

Keep in mind that it is necessary to create new device nodes if the major number for the TPMC550 driver has changed and the makenode script is not used.

3 Device Input/Output Functions

This chapter describes the interface to the device driver I/O system.

3.1 open

NAME

open() - open a file descriptor

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <fcntl.h>
```

```
int open (const char *filename, int flags)
```

DESCRIPTION

The open function creates and returns a new file descriptor for the file named by *filename*. The *flags* argument controls how the file is to be opened. This is a bit mask; you create the value by the bitwise OR of the appropriate parameters (using the | operator in C).

See also the GNU C Library documentation for more information about the open function and open flags.

EXAMPLE

```
int fd;

fd = open("/dev/tpmc550_0", O_RDWR);
if (fd < 0)
{
    /* handle open error conditions */
}
```

RETURNS

The normal return value from open is a non-negative integer file descriptor. In the case of an error, a value of -1 is returned. The global variable *errno* contains the detailed error code.

ERRORS

Error Code	Description
E_NODEV	The requested minor device does not exist.

This is the only error code returned by the driver, other codes may be returned by the I/O system during open. For more information about open error codes, see the *GNU C Library description – Low-Level Input/Output*.

SEE ALSO

GNU C Library description – Low-Level Input/Output

3.2 close

NAME

close() – close a file descriptor

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int close (int filedes)
```

DESCRIPTION

The close function closes the file descriptor *filedes*.

EXAMPLE

```
int fd;

if (close(fd) != 0)
{
    /* handle close error conditions */
}
```

RETURNS

The normal return value from close is 0. In the case of an error, a value of –1 is returned. The global variable *errno* contains the detailed error code.

ERRORS

Error Code	Description
E_NODEV	The requested minor device does not exist.

This is the only error code returned by the driver, other codes may be returned by the I/O system during close. For more information about close error codes, see the *GNU C Library description – Low-Level Input/Output*.

SEE ALSO

GNU C Library description – Low-Level Input/Output

3.3 ioctl

NAME

ioctl() – device control functions

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/ioctl.h>
#include <tpmc550.h>
```

```
int ioctl(int fildes, int request [, void *argp])
```

DESCRIPTION

The **ioctl** function sends a control code directly to a device, specified by *fildes*, causing the corresponding device to perform the requested operation.

The argument *request* specifies the control code for the operation. The optional argument *argp* depends on the selected request and is described for each request in detail later in this chapter.

The following ioctl codes are defined in *tpmc550.h*:

Value	Meaning
TPMC550_IOCWRITE	Write output value
TPMC550_IOCREADPARAM	Read the module configuration
TPMC550_IOCSTARTSEQ	Start sequencer mode
TPMC550_IOCWRITESEQ	Update sequencer output data
TPMC550_IOCSTOPSEQ	Stop sequencer mode

See behind for more detailed information on each control code.

To use these TPMC550 specific control codes the header file tpmc550.h must be included in the application

RETURNS

On success, zero is returned. In the case of an error, a value of `-1` is returned. The global variable *errno* contains the detailed error code.

ERRORS

Error Code	Description
EINVAL	Invalid argument. This error code is returned if the requested ioctl function is unknown. Please check the argument <i>request</i> .

Other function dependant error codes will be described for each ioctl code separately. Note, the TPMC550 device driver always returns standard Linux error codes.

SEE ALSO

ioctl man pages

3.3.1 TPMC550_IOCWRITE

NAME

TPMC550_IOCWRITE – Write output value

DESCRIPTION

This ioctl function attempts to write the output value of the specified TPMC550 D/A channel.

A pointer to the caller's output buffer (*TPMC550_WRITEBUF*) is passed by the parameter *argp* to the driver.

typedef struct

```
{
    unsigned short    channel;
    unsigned short    flags;
    int               value;
} TPMC550_WRITEBUF, *PTPMC550_WRITEBUF;
```

channel

This value specifies the DAC channel that will be used. Allowed values are 1 to 8 for TPMC551-10/-20 and 1 to 4 for TPMC551-11/-21.

flags

This value is an ORed value of the flags shown in the following table.

Name	Meaning
TPMC550_FL_CORR	If this flag is set, the driver will correct the DAC output value with the factory programmed correction data. If this flag is not set, the output value will not be corrected.
TPMC550_FL_LATCHED	If this flag is set the data will be loaded into the DAC, but the conversion will not be started, until the <i>TPMC550_FL_SIMCONV</i> flag is set.
TPMC550_FL_SIMCONV	This flag starts a simultaneous conversion for all channels. This flag is necessary to start a conversion in latched mode.

value

This parameter specifies the DAC output value (12bit LSB aligned). The value must be between 0 and 4095 for 0V...+10V mode and between -2048 and +2047 for -10V...+10V mode.

EXAMPLE

```
#include <tpmc550.h>

int          fd;
int          result;
TPMC550_WRITEBUF  DACBuf;

/*****
Write channel 5 with corrected data
*****/
DACBuf.channel    = 5;
DACBuf.value      = 0x0123;
DACBuf.flags      = TPMC550_FL_CORR;
result = ioctl(fd, TPMC550_IOCWRITE, &DACBuf);
if (result < 0)
{
    /* handle error */
    printf("\nFailed --> Error = %d\n", errno);
}
```

ERRORS

Error Code	Description
EFAULT	Invalid pointer to the data buffer. Error copying data from user space.
ECHRNA	Invalid channel specified.
EBUSY	The sequencer mode is active on the specified device
ETIME	The settling or conversion time exceeds the supposed range.

3.3.2 TPMC550_IOCGRADPARAM

NAME

TPMC550_IOCGRADPARAM – Read the module configuration

DESCRIPTION

This ioctl function returns the module parameters. This includes the factory programmed correction data, number of channels and the voltage range selection.

A pointer to the callers parameter buffer (*TPMC550_PARABUF*) is passed by the parameter *argp* to the driver.

typedef struct

```
{  
    int             NumChan;  
    int             biPol_1_4;  
    int             biPol_5_8;  
    signed char     OffsCorr[8];  
    signed char     GainCorr[8];  
} TPMC550_PARABUF, *PTPMC550_PARABUF;
```

NumChan

This parameter returns the number of DAC channels supported by the module.

biPol_1_4

This parameter returns TRUE, if the channels 1 to 4 are configured for –10V...+10V mode, if FALSE is returned, the channels are configured for 0V...+10V mode.

biPol_5_8

This parameter returns TRUE, if the channels 5 to 8 are configured for –10V...+10V mode, if FALSE is returned, the channels are configured for 0V...+10V mode.

OffsCorr

This array returns the factory programmed offset correction data set, which is used if the *TPMC550_FL_CORR* flag is set. The index of the array specifies the channel number, 0 selects channel 1, 1 selects channel 2 and so on.

GainCorr

This array returns the factory programmed gain correction data set, which is used if the *TPMC550_FL_CORR* flag is set. The index of the array specifies the channel number, 0 selects channel 1, 1 selects channel 2 and so on.

EXAMPLE

```
#include <tpmc550.h>

int          fd;
int          result;
int          x;
TP551_PARABUF ParamBuf;

/*
** Read module configuration
*/
result = ioctl(fd, IOCGREADPARAM, &ParamBuf);
if (result >= 0)
{
    for (x = 0; ParamBuf.NumChan < 8; x++)
    {
        printf("Offset Error [%d] = %d \n", x + 1, ParamBuf.OffsCorr[x]);
        printf("Gain Error [%d] = %d \n", x + 1, ParamBuf.GainCorr[x]);
    }
} else {
    /* handle error */
    printf("\nFailed --> Error = %d\n", errno);
}
```

ERRORS

Error Code	Description
EFAULT	Invalid pointer to the parameter buffer. Please check the argument argp.

3.3.3 TPMC550_IOCSTARTSEQ

NAME

TPMC550_IOCSTARTSEQ – Setup and start the sequencer, enter sequencer mode

DESCRIPTION

This ioctl function sets up the TPMC550 to work in sequencer mode. The cycle time and the channel configuration are set up.

A pointer to the callers parameter buffer (*TPMC550_STARTSEQBUF*) is passed by the parameter *argp* to the driver.

typedef struct

```
{
    unsigned short    channels;
    unsigned short    cycleTime;
    unsigned short    flags;
} TPMC550_STARTSEQBUF, *PTPMC550_STARTSEQBUF;
```

channels

This parameter specifies which channel will be used in sequencer mode. Setting bit 0 will enable channel 1, setting bit 1 will enable channel 2 and so on.

cycleTime

This parameter specifies the cycle time that will be used. The value will be copied into the sequencer timer register. The value has a resolution of 100µs steps. If the flag TPMC550_FL_CONTINUOUS is set the parameter will be ignored (see below).

flags

This parameter is an ORed value of the following described flags.

Name	Meaning
TPMC550_FL_LATCHED	If this flag is set, the driver will output the data in latched mode, the output of all channels will be visible at the same time. Otherwise the data will be used in transparent mode.
TPMC550_FL_CONTINUOUS	The sequencer will work in continuous mode, data will be written as fast as possible to the output.

EXAMPLE

```
#include <tpmc550.h>

int fd;
int result;
TPMC550_STARTSEQBUF SeqStartBuf;

/*****
Start sequencer with a cycle time of 1 sec
Enable following channels:
    Channel 1
    Channel 6
Use latched mode
*****/
SeqStartBuf.cycleTime = 10000;    /* 10000 * 100µs */
SeqStartBuf.channels = (1 << 0) | (1 << 5);    /* Enable channel */
SeqStartBuf.flags = TPMC550_FL_LATCHED;
result = ioctl(fd, TPMC550_IOCSTARTSEQ, &SeqStartBuf);
if (result < 0)
{
    /* handle error */
    printf("\nFailed --> Error = %d\n", errno);
}
```

ERRORS

Error Code	Description
EFAULT	Invalid pointer to the parameter buffer. Please check the argument <i>argp</i> .

3.3.4 TPMC550_IOCWRITESEQ

NAME

TPMC550_IOCWRITESEQ – Write DAC data into sequencer FIFO-buffer

DESCRIPTION

This ioctl function writes data into the sequencer FIFO. The data will be used by the interrupt function in sequencer mode to update the DAC output values.

A pointer to the callers parameter buffer (*TPMC550_WRITESEQBUF*) is passed by the parameter *argp* to the driver.

typedef struct

```
{
    unsigned short    channels;
    unsigned short    correction;
    unsigned short    values[8];
    unsigned int      stat;
} TPMC550_WRITESEQBUF, *PTPMC550_WRITESEQBUF;
```

channels

This parameter specifies which channel shall update output data. Setting bit 0 will update channel 1, setting bit 1 will update channel 2 and so on. Channels which are activated and not specified to be updated will hold their value.

correction

This parameter specifies which channels shall use the factory stored correction data. Setting bit 0 will enable data correction for channel 1, setting bit 1 will enable data correction for channel 2 and so on.

values

This array specifies the new output values. The array index specifies the channel number the data assigned to. Index 0 for channel 1, index 1 for channel 2 and so on. The values must be between 0 and 4095 for 0V..+10V mode and between -2048 and +2047 for -10V..+10V mode. Only the values for channels specified for update will be used.

stat

This parameter returns the sequencer status. The status returns number of cycles which had not been used for new data output, because there has been no output data available in the FIFO. And the status can signal that an output error has occurred. This will happen if the software is not able to handle a cycle before the next cycle starts. The stat argument is split in this way:

bits 27 .. 0	number of lost cycles
bit 30 (TPMC550_E_ERROR)	sequencer error has occurred

EXAMPLE

```
#include <tpmc550.h>

int fd;
int result;
TPMC550_WRITESEQBUF SeqWriteBuf;

/*****
Update Sequencer data
Enable following channels:
    Channel 1
    Channel 6
Use correction for channel 6
*****/
SeqWriteBuf.channels = (1 << 0) | (1 << 5);
SeqWriteBuf.correction = (1 << 5);
SeqWriteBuf.values[0] = 0x0123;
SeqWriteBuf.values[5] = 0x0000;
result = ioctl(fd, TPMC550_IOCWRITESEQ, &SeqWriteBuf);
if (result < 0)
{
    /* handle error */
    printf("\nFailed --> Error = %d\n", errno);
}
```

3.3.5 TPMC550_IOCSTOPSEQ

NAME

TPMC550_IOCSTOPSEQ – Stop Sequencer Mode

DESCRIPTION

This ioctl function stops the sequencer mode.

The optional argument can be omitted for this ioctl function.

EXAMPLE

```
#include <tpmc550.h>

int fd;
int result;

/*
** stop sequencer mode
*/
result = ioctl(fd, TPMC550_IOCSTOPSEQ);
if (result < 0)
{
    /* handle error */
    printf("\nFailed --> Error = %d\n", errno);
}
```

ERRORS

No function dependent errors.

SEE ALSO

ioctl man pages

4 Diagnostic

If the TPMC550 does not work properly it is helpful to get some status information from the driver respective kernel. To get debug output from the driver enable the following symbols in 'tpmc550.c' by replacing "#undef" with "#define":

```
#define DEBUG_TPMC550
```

The log output will be available in system log, which can be shown by different distribution dependent command, e.g. `tail -f /var/log/messages`, or `journalctl -f`

```
# journalctl -f
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: TEWS Technologies - TPMC550 8 Channel  
12 Bit DAC version <Driver Version> (<Release Date>)
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel:
```

Moduletype TPMC550

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: Ch1-4: 0-10V
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: Ch5-8: 0-10V
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH1 - 0:-1 - G:2
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH2 - 0:-3 - G:4
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH3 - 0:1 - G:3
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH4 - 0:0 - G:-1
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH5 - 0:-1 - G:1
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH6 - 0:-2 - G:5
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH7 - 0:1 - G:4
```

```
Dez 06 15:38:47 linux.local kernel: CH8 - 0:-1 - G:5
```

The Linux `/proc` file system provides information about kernel, resources, drivers, devices and so on. The following screen dumps displays information of a correct running TPMC550 device driver (see also the `proc` man pages).

```
# cat /proc/devices
```

Character devices:

```
1 mem
```

```
2 pty/m%d
```

```
3 pty/s%d
```

```
4 tts/%d
```

```
5 cua/%d
```

```
10 misc
```

```
128 ptm
```

```
136 pts/%d
```

```
162 raw
```

```
254 tpmc550drv
```

cat /proc/ioproports

```
00000000-00bfffff : PCI host bridge
  00bfeeee0-00bfeeff : PLX Technology, Inc. PCI <-> IOBus Bridge
    00bfeeee0-00bfeeff : TPMC550
  00bfef00-00bfef7f : PLX Technology, Inc. PCI <-> IOBus Bridge
  00bfefc0-00bfefff : Intel Corp. 82559ER
    00bfefc0-00bfefff : eepr0100
  00bff000-00bfffff : Tundra Semiconductor Corp. CA91C042 [Universe]
ffe80000-ffe80007 : serial(auto)
ffe80008-ffe8000f : serial(auto)
```

cat /proc/interrupts

	CPU0	CPU1	CPU2	CPU3			
0:	111	0	0	0	IO-APIC	2-edge	timer
1:	0	0	14	0	IO-APIC	1-edge	i8042
...							
15:	0	0	0	0	IO-APIC	15-edge	ata_piix
16:	0	0	0	0	IO-APIC	16-fasteoi	uhci_hcd:usb5, TPMC550
18:	0	0	0	0	IO-APIC	18-fasteoi	uhci_hcd:usb4
...							