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**universal<sub>u</sub>sbtmc***Documentation*

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Thanks for reading the documentation of the Python package `universal_usbtmc`.

`universal_usbtmc` is free software, [published on Github](#) by Philipp Klaus.

Contents:



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## The base class `universal_usbtmc.Instrument`

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The `universal_usbtmc` backends all derive from `universal_usbtmc.Instrument` and thus inherit or reimplement its methods.

Thus, you can read the reference for this class to find out how to use the backends:

**class** `universal_usbtmc.Instrument` (*device*)

USBTCM instrument interface

The backends get initialized with a single device string to set up the connection.

**Parameters** `device` (*str*) – The device to connect to

**ENCODING** = 'utf-8'

The encoding used when interpreting bytes as strings

**LINE\_ENDING** = ''

The line ending to add to `write()` or `query()` commands

**write\_raw** (*data*)

Send binary data to the instrument

The backends need to implement this method!

**Parameters** `data` (*bytes*) – The data to send to the instrument

**read\_raw** (*num=-1, timeout=0.0*)

Read binary data from the instrument

The backends need to implement this method!

**Parameters**

- **num** (*bytes*) – Number of bytes to read back
- **timeout** (*float*) – Seconds until the read operation should time out

**write** (*message, encoding='default', line\_ending='default'*)

Send a string message to the instrument

**Parameters**

- **message** (*str*) – The message to send
- **encoding** (*str*) – The encoding to use when converting the message from str to bytes
- **line\_ending** (*str*) – The line ending to add to the message

**read** (*num=-1, encoding='default', line\_ending='default'*)

Read a response string from the instrument

#### Parameters

- **num** (*bytes*) – Number of bytes to read back
- **encoding** (*str*) – The encoding to use when converting the response from bytes to str
- **line\_ending** (*str*) – The line ending to strip off from end of received message

**query\_raw** (*message, encoding='default', num=-1*)

Convenience method to first send a **string** message and then return the **binary** response data from a subsequent `read_raw()` call.

**query** (*message, num=-1, encoding='default', line\_ending='default'*)

Convenience method to first send a string command, then read and return a response string. :param str line\_ending: The line ending to add to the message

**idn**

The response to an `*IDN?` query.

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