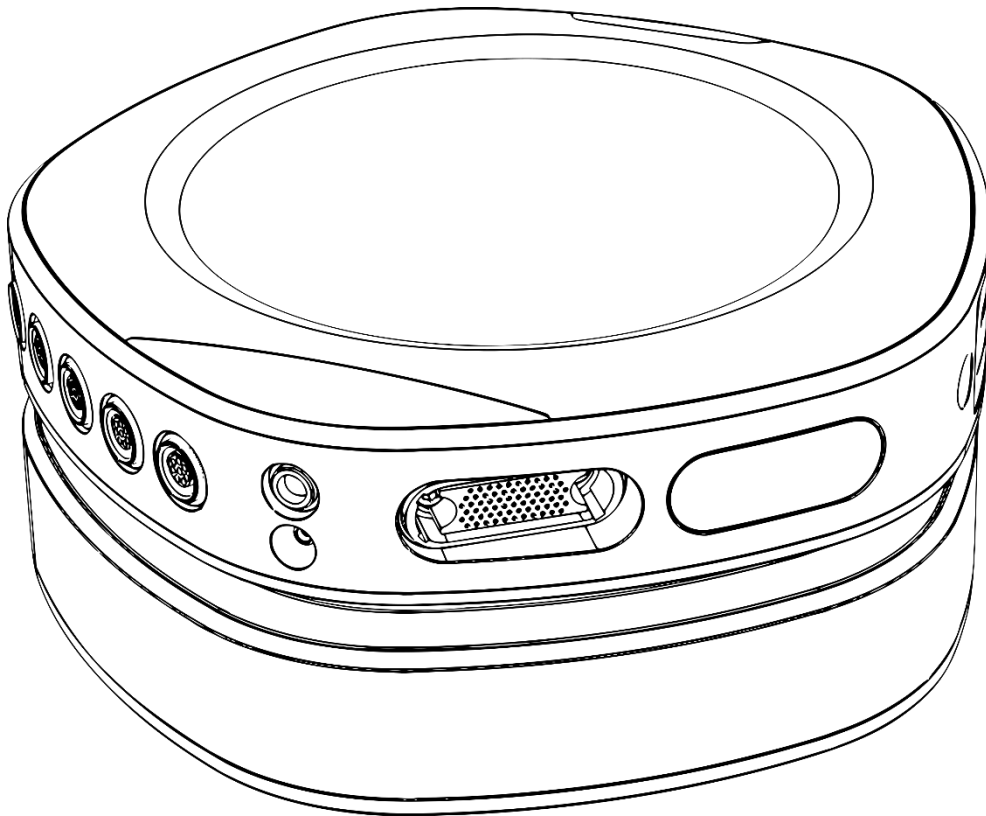


# saga 32+ 64



**API DOCUMENTATION**

**TMSI PYTHON INTERFACE**

**TMSi**

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 About this document

This document describes the TMSi Python Interface (*TMSiPy*), what it does, how it should work and what you can and cannot expect from TMSi regarding this interface. Please read carefully through this document.

## 1.2 TMSi Python Interface

The TMSi Python Interface is a library for Python written by TMSi to interface the SAGA Device Driver to Python. This interface allows you to acquire data, change device configurations and write and read .poly5 files via Python.

Functionality that is included in the TMSi Python Interface is limited to the signal acquisition part of the driver and loading data from previously recorded data in TMSi Polybench, the TMSi SAGA interface for MATLAB, or the TMSi Python Interface. All functionality needed to perform on-board memory recordings (so-called ambulatory measurement) is **NOT** implemented.

## 1.3 License and Support

The TMSi Python Interface is **free of charge** and distributed under the Apache License, Version 2.0. The complete text of the license is included in LICENSE.txt, which can be found in the root folder of the TMSi Python Interface.

TMSi has tested the interface, but cannot guarantee that it works under every circumstance, let alone that it will function in the experimental setup that you have in mind.

## 1.4 TMSi Support

The TMSi Python Interface can be obtained through [our website's Support page](#). We cannot help you write Python code, but any questions about (using) the TMSi Python Interface can be asked via [support@tmsi.com](mailto:support@tmsi.com).

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE TMSI PYTHON INTERFACE

### 2.1 Features

The code in the TMSi Python Interface is a Python library for sampling TMSi SAGA devices. The goal of this library is to provide an easy and intuitive way of accessing the TMSi devices from Python to use in your own experiments.

The library provides the following functionality:

- Sampling over USB.
- Sampling over electrical (docked) and optical interface.
- (Limited) live plotting of sampled data.
- (Limited) live filtering of the sampled data.
- Sampling in impedance mode and (limited) live plotting of impedance values.
- Changing (part of) the SAGA device configuration, including saving and loading the configuration using an XML-structured format.
- Directly saving sampled data to Poly5 file format.
- Loading data from Poly5 file format.
- Catching device related errors. However, no typical error handling has been included.

The library does not (yet) support the following features:

- Recovery of lost samples when measuring over wireless interface.
- Recording data on SAGA's onboard memory.
- Changing the full device configuration. The supported changes to the device configuration are outlined in the examples.

The library has been tested on the following Python version:

- Python 3.8.6 (Windows 10 / 64bit).
- Python 3.6.9 (Ubuntu 18.04 LTS / 64bit).

### 2.2 Installation requirements

The TMSi Python Interface requires the following for Windows computers:

- A computer with Windows 10, 64bit.
- SAGA Device Driver 2.0.0.
- Python version 3.6 or higher
  - Windows: WinPython64 3.8.6.0 (<https://winpython.github.io/>)

The TMSi Python Interface requires the following for Linux computers:

- A computer with Ubuntu 18.04 LTS, 64bit.
- SAGA Device Driver 2.1.0.
- Python version 3.6 or higher:
  - Ubuntu: Spyder3 and Python3 libraries

Possibly, additional Python libraries need to be installed using the Python package manager. Below is a list of relevant libraries that have been used during development, including version number:

- NumPy, v1.19.2
- Pyqtgraph, v0.11.0 (Linux) or v0.12.1 (Windows)
- PySide2, v5.15.2
- SciPy, v1.5.3
- Tkinter, v8.6

## 2.3 Installation

When using the Python library, ensure that the TMSi SAGA Device Driver has been successfully installed. Before using the library, copy the folder (including TMSiSDK and examples) to the working directory and start by having a look at the example code provided in the 'examples' folder (explained in Chapter 3 as well).

To use the plotters, additional steps need to be taken on Windows, as the correct Qt5 backend needs to be configured. First, open 'Control Panel → Edit System Environment Variables → Environment Variables'. Next, below User variables, click 'New...'. In the 'Variable name:' field, you should add `PYQTGRAPH_QT_LIB` and in the 'Variable value:' field, you should add `PySide2`.

When the Spyder IDE is used, it is necessary to configure the plots to change the IPython Graphics Backend to 'inline'. This can be configured from Spyder's menu bar as follows: 'Tools → Preferences → IPython Console → Graphics → Graphics backend → Inline'.

## 2.4 Usage

Below, a code snippet is given that shows basic usage of the TMSi Python Interface.

```
1  from TMSiSDK import tmsi_device
2  from TMSiSDK.device import DeviceInterfaceType, ChannelType
3
4  tmsi_device.initialize()
5  dev = tmsi_device.create(tmsi_device.DeviceType.saga,
6                          DeviceInterfaceType.docked, DeviceInterfaceType.usb)
7
8  dev.open()
9  dev.start_measurement()
10 dev.stop_measurement()
11 dev.close()
```

The first two lines import two different subclasses of the TMSiSDK which are required to run the code snippet. Line 4 of the code snippet initialises the SDK, after which a device object can be created using the required Interface Types. This is shown on line 5 of the code snippet. After successful initialisation of the device object, the connection to the device can be opened (line 6). Next, the user may want to change the configuration, initialise a `file_writer` object or `plotter` object. The use of these functionalities is not shown in the code snippet, but can be found in the different examples that are described in Chapter 3. The code snippet shows how to start and stop a measurement on lines 8 and 10. Finally, it is important that the connection to the device is closed, which is shown on line 11 of the code snippet.

## 2.5 Recommendations

A few recommendations and things to keep in mind when using this code.

- When an unexpected error occurs and the device can't be reached anymore, restarting the Python kernel, or opening a new Python Console, should ensure that the device stops sampling and is disconnected.
- Limit the number of channels/sampling rate, especially when using a `RealTimePlot` and/or `RealTimeFilter`.
- The plotters are not optimised for displays with resolutions lower than 1920x1080.

## 2.6 Content

The library contains the following:

### **TMSiSDK/**

Folder containing all SDK files. This should be copied to the directory from which you want to use the TMSi Python Interface.

### **TMSiSDK/device**

This class is the main device interface and explicitly defines how the classes, properties and methods of TMSi devices are specified in the TMSi Python Interface.

### **TMSiSDK/error**

This class contains TMSi Error codes that can be retrieved in the application.

### **TMSiSDK/file\_writer**

This class explicitly states how the classes, properties and methods of file writers for specific data formats need to be defined.

### **TMSiSDK/sample\_data**

This class defines the properties of received samples.

### **TMSiSDK/sample\_data\_server**

This class puts data retrieved from a specific device into a queue, to which different consumer types (such as file writers or plotters) are registered. The module keeps track of which consumers are registered to which device.

### **TMSiSDK/settings**

This class specifies the 'locally' used settings of the SDK module.

### **TMSiSDK/tmsi\_device**

This class is a starting module to initialize the TMSi Python Interface and to instantiate device objects.

### **TMSiSDK/devices/**

Folder containing device-specific implementations of the SDK. Currently, only the SAGA device is supported.

### **TMSiSDK/devices/saga/**

This folder contains all SAGA-specific device interface implementations, such as the TMSi\_Device\_API. Furthermore, this folder includes the saga\_device and saga\_types class, which contain device-specific classes and methods based on the general TMSiSDK/device class. Finally, this folder contains the XML-based reading and writing of SAGA's configuration.

### **TMSiSDK/file\_formats/**

This folder contains all different types of specific file writers. This version of the TMSi Python Interface only contains a class which writes data to TMSi Polybench native .Poly5 files.

### **TMSiSDK/file\_readers/**

This folder contains all different types of specific file readers. This version of the TMSi Python Interface only contains a class which reads data from TMSi Polybench native .Poly5 files. This makes it possible to review/analyse recordings in the Python environment.

### **TMSiSDK/filters/**

This folder contains the different type of pre-configured filters that can be used in combination with a plotter object. Currently, only a semi-real-time filter is implemented that can be used to retrieve and filter data, which can be passed to the plotter. Different (Butterworth) filters can be generated for the three analogue channel types. The user can configure a high-pass, low-pass and band-pass filter for these channel groups.

### **TMSiSDK/plotters/**

This folder contains the two types of plotters that are available to the user.

#### **TMSiSDK/plotters/impedance\_plotter**

This class creates a GUI window that displays the measured impedance values in either a grid or head layout. Next to the plot, the specific values per channels are displayed. When the GUI is closed, the device stops sampling in impedance mode.

#### **TMSiSDK/plotters/plotter**

This class creates a GUI window that displays the sampled time-series data online. For reasons of performance, the visualized data is downsampled to 500 Hz. The



plotter allows for autoscaling of the different channels, observing different time ranges (from 1 to 10 seconds) and making a selection on which channels to display during the recording. When the GUI is closed, the device stops sampling data. This class loads the `plotter_gui.py` file that has been created using Qt Designer.

## 2.7 Known issues

During testing, one issue has been encountered that has to be kept in mind when using the TMSi Python Interface.

- Performance issues, including data loss, can occur when measuring with large channelsets at high sampling rates.
  - Data loss has been observed during testing only when measuring with a full channel set (87 channels) at a sampling rate of 4096 Hz. Saving data to another hard drive reduced the occurrence of data loss.
  - A warning is printed in the Python console when data loss occurs.

### 3 EXAMPLES

The easiest way to start using the interface is to follow the examples. With the examples you will be guided through the main features of the TMSi Python Interface. Connect a TMSi SAGA device to the PC as you would normally do and run the different examples. All examples use the USB and electrical interface as default interface types.

#### **Example\_bipolar\_and\_auxiliary\_measurement.py**

This example shows the functionality to display the output of an AUX sensor and the output of a simultaneously sampled BIP channel on the screen. To do so, the channel configuration is updated and a call is made to update the sensor channels. The data is saved to a Poly5 file.

#### **Example\_changing\_channel\_list.py**

This example shows the manipulation of the active channel list and demonstrates how the ChannelName property can be changed.

#### **Example\_changing\_reference\_method.py**

This example shows how to change the applied reference method. The configurable options are ReferenceMethod.common and ReferenceMethod.average.

#### **Example\_changing\_sample\_rate.py**

This example shows how to change the Base Sample Rate property of SAGA, as well as how the active sample rate of individual channels can be changed.

#### **Example\_EEG\_workflow.py**

This example shows the functionality of the impedance plotter and the data stream plotter. The example is structured as if an EEG measurement is performed, so the impedance plotter is displayed in head layout. The channel names are set to the name convention of the TMSi EEG cap using a pre-configured EEG configuration.

#### **Example\_factory\_defaults.py**

This example shows how to initiate a factory reset of the SAGA device.

**Example\_filter\_and\_plot.py**

This example shows how to couple an additional signal processing object to the plotter. The application of a bandpass filter on the first 24 UNI channels is demonstrated. The filter is only applied to the plotter, the saved data does not contain any filtered data.

**Example\_impedance\_plot.py**

This example shows the functionality of the impedance plotter.

**Example\_load\_save\_configurations.py**

This example shows how to load/save several different configurations from/to a file (in the “configs” directory).

**Example\_read\_data.py**

This example shows how to read data from a Poly5-file.

**Example\_switch\_dr\_interface.py**

This example shows how to change the interface between SAGA's Docking Station and Data Recorder.

## 4 FAQ

**The script stopped running due to an error. Is there anything I should do before I can start a new measurement?**

**A:** When the script stops running, this does not necessarily mean that the device has stopped sampling. Restarting your Python kernel should ensure that the device stops sampling, after which you can reopen the connection to the device in a new Python kernel.

**Where can I find the channel name and units of my data?**

**A:** The channel name of the data can be found in device/data channel property: `(data.channels[i]._Channel__name)` with `i` the desired channel number. The units of the data can be found in the device/data channel property: `(data.channels[i]._Channel__unit_name)` with `i` the desired channel number.

**Why do I have to set a divider for a different sample rate?**

**A:** The sample rate of SAGA device can only be set by the base sample rate divided by a power of 2. For example, with a base sample rate of 4000 Hz, the possible sample rates are 4000, 2000, 1000 or 500 Hz. To get these you will have to set the divider to respectively 1, 2, 4, 8.

`Sample_rate=base_sample_rate/n` with `n=[1, 2, 4, 8]`

**What do I need to do if I get "docking station response timeout" after an error?**

**A:** First thing to do is to repower both docking station and data recorder and try again. If this does not work, restart Python Console, else restart computer. Also make sure you have followed the steps mentioned in the User Manual of your device for correct installation.

**I want to control configurations that are not shown in the examples. How do I know how to control them?**

**A.** Not all functionality of the interface is shown in the examples. More information can be found in the inline documentation of the interface. More information about general control of the SAGA device can be found in the SAGA Device API.

## 5 CHANGELOG

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Initial release of the TMSi Python Interface.

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