
AdafruitMAX31856 Library Documentation

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Contents

1	Dependencies	3
2	Installing from PyPI	5
3	Usage Example	7
4	Contributing	9
5	Documentation	11
6	Table of Contents	13
6.1	Simple test	13
6.2	MAX31856	13
6.2.1	Implementation Notes	14
7	Indices and tables	17
	Python Module Index	19
	Index	21

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

Installing from PyPI

On supported GNU/Linux systems like the Raspberry Pi, you can install the driver locally [from PyPI](#). To install for current user:

```
pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-max31856
```

To install system-wide (this may be required in some cases):

```
sudo pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-max31856
```

To install in a virtual environment in your current project:

```
mkdir project-name && cd project-name
python3 -m venv .env
source .env/bin/activate
pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-max31856
```


CHAPTER 3

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 4

Contributing

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

CHAPTER 5

Documentation

For information on building library documentation, please check out [this guide](#).

6.1 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
6 # create a spi object
7 spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)
8
9 # allocate a CS pin and set the direction
10 cs = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D0)
11 cs.direction = digitalio.Direction.OUTPUT
12
13 # create a thermocouple object with the above
14 thermocouple = adafruit_max31856.MAX31856(spi, cs)
15
16 # print the temperature!
17 print(thermocouple.temperature)
```

6.2 MAX31856

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

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6.2.1 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

CHAPTER 7

Indices and tables

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`

a

adafruit_max31856, [13](#)

A

`adafruit_max31856` (*module*), [13](#)

F

`fault` (*adafruit_max31856.MAX31856 attribute*), [14](#)

M

`MAX31856` (*class in adafruit_max31856*), [14](#)

R

`reference_temperature`
(*adafruit_max31856.MAX31856 attribute*),
[14](#)

`reference_temperature_thresholds`
(*adafruit_max31856.MAX31856 attribute*),
[14](#)

T

`temperature` (*adafruit_max31856.MAX31856 attribute*), [14](#)

`temperature_thresholds`
(*adafruit_max31856.MAX31856 attribute*),
[14](#)

`ThermocoupleType` (*class in adafruit_max31856*), [14](#)