

BQ27Z746EVM Impedance Track™ Battery Gas Gauge and Protection Solution for 1-Series Cell Li-ion Battery Packs



ABSTRACT

The BQ27Z746EVM comes with the BQ27Z746 integrated gas gauge and protection IC with external high-side protection N-Channel FETs. This user's guide will walk you through the following tasks:

- Connect the necessary components together to power up the EVM
- Installation of the necessary Texas Instruments software tools
- Setup of the EVM with additional hardware and software
- Calibrate the BQ27Z746 voltage and current readings
- Set gauge hardware protections
- Perform the Chemical ID selection process
- Optimize gauge reporting with a Learning Cycle
- Create and upload a Golden Image
- Use Advanced Communication with the gauge

These tasks will guide users of the BQ27Z746EVM through the process required to prepare for production with the BQ27Z746 by creating a "Golden Pack". A Golden Pack is a single gauge and battery that has had optimization and configuration processes performed on it during the development stage. The resulting values are extracted from the Golden Pack gauge into the "Golden File" or "Golden Image". The Golden File is a flash image programmed into every gauge used in mass production as there should be minimal pack-to-pack variation during a well-controlled manufacturing process. The Impedance Track™ algorithm enables the gauge to continue to learn once a pack is deployed to account for manufacturing differences, field conditions, and battery degradation over its lifetime.

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1 Software Setup

This section describes the installation of the BQ27Z746EVM PC software, and how to connect the different components of the EVM.

1.1 System Requirements

The bqStudio software requires Windows 7 or later. Using earlier versions of Windows operating system may not work with the USB driver support.

1.2 Software Installation

Find the latest software version of bqStudio-test and the EV2400 driver on [ti.com](https://www.ti.com). Search for the BQ27Z746 part number to get to the tool folder for the device. Following these steps to install the BQ27Z746 bqStudio software.

1. Run the Firmware updater tool installer. Take note of the location where the Firmware Updater tool is installed on the computer.
2. Connect the EV2400 that is to be updated to the computer.
3. Ensure that no other EV2400 is connected to the computer being used for the firmware update.
4. Go to the location of the Firmware Updater tool installed. Run the Firmware Updater tool.
5. The updater tool should detect the connected EV2400, display the current firmware version, and prompt the user to continue to update the EV2400 firmware.
6. Type Y and press Enter.
7. The Firmware Updater tool should place the EV2400 into FW Update mode, perform a mass erase of the older EV2400 version's firmware, program the EV2400, and then reset the device. The tool will prompt the user to continue when finished.
8. Press Enter to close the Firmware Updater tool.
9. Unplug the EV2400 from the personal computer (PC).
10. Open the archive containing the installation package of bqStudio and copy its contents into a temporary directory.
11. Rename any previous Battery Management Studio folder by adding a version to the end.
12. Open the bqStudio installer file that was downloaded from the TI website.
13. Follow the instructions on-screen until completing the software installation.
14. Before launching the evaluation software, connect the EV2400 USB cable to the computer and I2C port to the EVM board (J11).

Note

The EV2400 should remain plugged into the computer during the entire firmware updating process.

2 Troubleshooting Unexpected Dialog Boxes

The user that is downloading the files must be logged in as the administrator. The driver is not signed, so the administrator must allow installation of unsigned drivers in the operating system. If using Windows 7, install the software with administrator privileges.

3 Hardware Setup

The BQ27Z746 with integrated protection module requires hardware connections for using the evaluation module and creating a Golden File.

3.1 Hardware Requirements

The following hardware is required to complete the steps for creating a Golden File outlined in this guide:

- A PC with Windows® 10 or later
- EV2400 and USB cable
- BQ27Z746 Evaluation Board (EVM)
- Constant-Voltage and Constant-Current Power Supply (preferable 1mV and 1mA accuracy for the power supply)
- Lithium-chemistry 1-cell battery (Golden Pack battery identical to those to be used in production)

3.2 Connecting the BQ27Z746 Circuit Module to a Battery Pack

Figure 3-1 shows how to connect the BQ27Z746 circuit module to the battery, personal computer (PC), and a system load/charger.

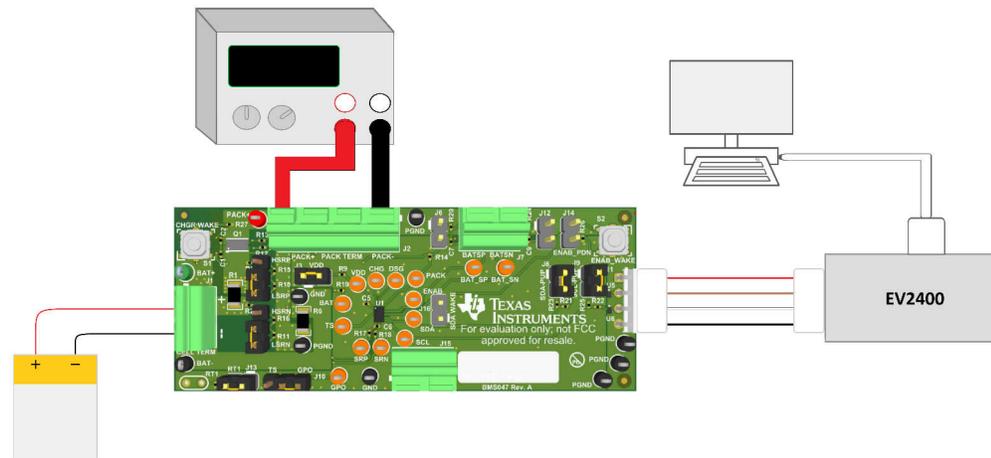


Figure 3-1. Connect the BQ27Z746 Circuit Module to a 1SxP

3.3 EVM Jumpers Description

The following section describes the critical jumpers and their purpose on this board:

1. **J3 - LDO Regulator Input (VDD):** This jumper ties the BQ27Z746 VDD pin to the cell+. This jumper is intended to be able to install a shunt resistor/ammeter to monitor device current consumption under various operating conditions. The shunt needs to be installed for normal operation.
2. **J9 - I2C Clock Pullup (SCL):** This jumper applies a 10-k Ω pullup resistor on the I2C communication line. When using a communication device without external pullup, install this shunt. If attaching an EV2400 and/or debug sniffer which contains unremovable pullups, these jumpers can be removed.
3. **J8 - I2C Data Pullup (SDA):** This jumper applies a 10-k Ω pullup resistor on the I2C communication line. When using a communication device without external pullup, install this shunt. If attaching an EV2400 and/or debug sniffer which contains unremovable pullups, these jumpers can be removed.
4. **J5 - Current Sense Resistor Negative Input (SRN):** This jumper selects high-side or low-side current sensing for the SRN pin of the BQ27Z746. Install this shunt in the "LO" position for low-side current sensing or "HI" position for high-side current sensing. This shunt must be in the same position on both J4 and J5 jumpers.
5. **J4 - Current Sense Resistor Positive Input (SRP):** This jumper selects high-side or low-side current sensing for the SRP pin of the BQ27Z746. Install this shunt in the "LO" position for low-side current sensing or "HI" position for high-side current sensing. This shunt must be in the same position on both J4 and J5 jumpers.
6. **J10 - External Temperature Sensor (TS/GPO):** This jumper ties the TS pin or GPO pin to an external temperature sensor (NTC) through terminal J15. Install this shunt in the "TS" position to connect the TS pin to an external temperature sensor and remove the shunt for jumper J13 or install this shunt in the "GPO" position to connect the GPO pin to an external temperature sensor.
7. **J13 - Onboard Temperature Sensor (TS):** This jumper ties the TS pin to an onboard temperature sensor (NTC). Install this shunt for normal operation when using the default TS pin for temperature sensing.
8. **J16 - External Enable (ENAB):** This jumper ties the ENAB pin to the SDA pin to provide a system side wakeup or exit from SHUTDOWN option for pin limited battery pack connectors without requiring a charger be connected to exit SHUTDOWN.

4 Using bqStudio

This section details the operation of the BQ27Z746 bqStudio software.

4.1 Starting the Program

Run bqStudio from the desktop. The window consists of a tools panel at the top, and other child windows that can be hidden, docked in various positions or allowed to float as separate windows. When bqStudio first starts up the *Gauge Dashboard* window, the *Registers* window, and *Data Memory* window should be seen in the main window. *Registers*, *Data Memory*, *Commands*, and other windows can be added to the main window by clicking on the corresponding icon in the tools panel at the top of the main window. Data should appear initially in the *Gauge Dashboard*, *Registers* and *Data Memory* sections. The **Refresh** (single time scan) or the **Scan** (continuous scan) buttons can be clicked in order to update the data in the *Registers* and *Data Memory* windows. Continuous scan is enabled when the *Scan* checkbox is highlighted green and disabled when the *Scan* checkbox is not highlighted. The continuous scanning interval can be set with the *stopwatch* icon next to the **Scan** button. When the *stopwatch* icon is clicked, a drop-down menu appears and the desired scanning interval can be selected. The scan interval value shows up next to the *stopwatch* icon.

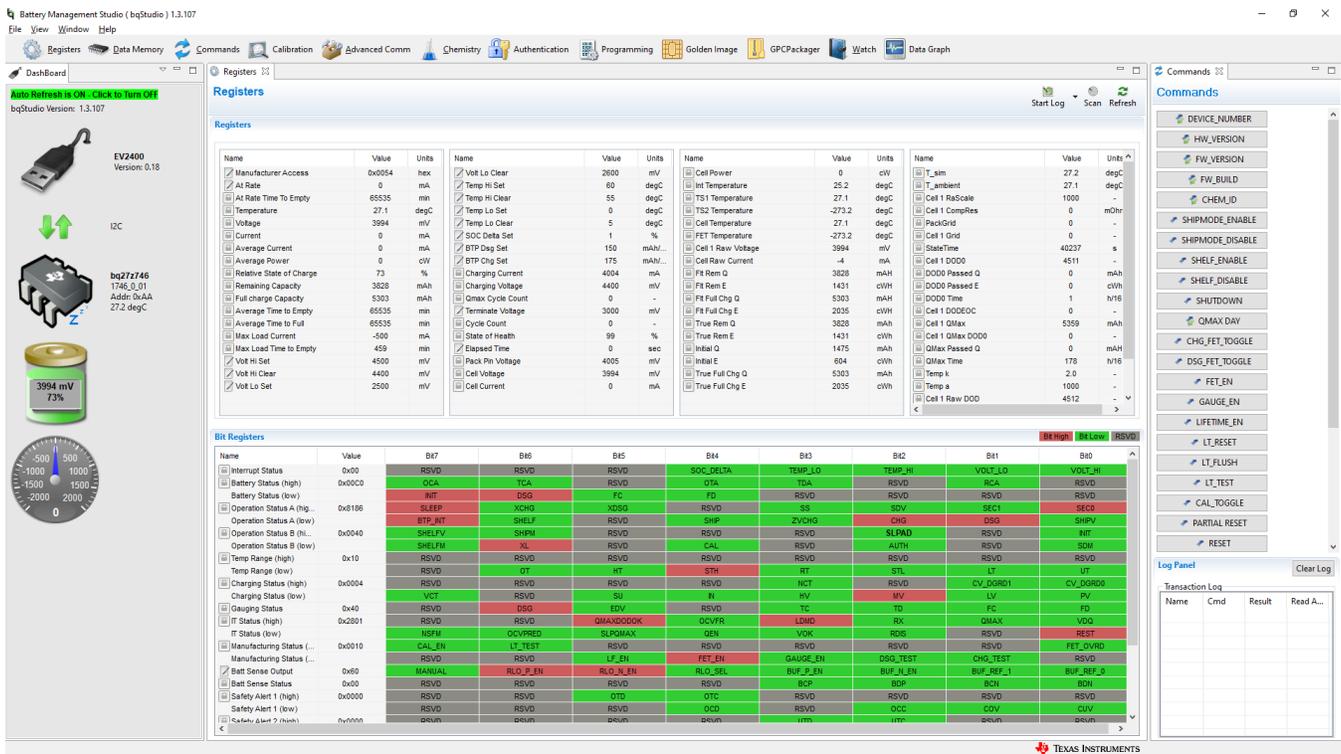


Figure 4-1. Registers Screen

Figure 5-1 shows the main bqStudio window. Additional Flag and Control Status data can be viewed at the bottom of the registers window.

4.2 Setting Programmable BQ27Z746 Options

The BQ27Z746 comes configured per the default settings detailed in the BQ27Z746 Technical Reference Manual. Ensure that the settings are correctly changed to match the pack and application for the BQ27Z746 solution being evaluated.

Note

The correct setting of these options is essential for best performance. Configure these settings using the *Data Memory* window seen in the main bqStudio window (Figure 5-2).

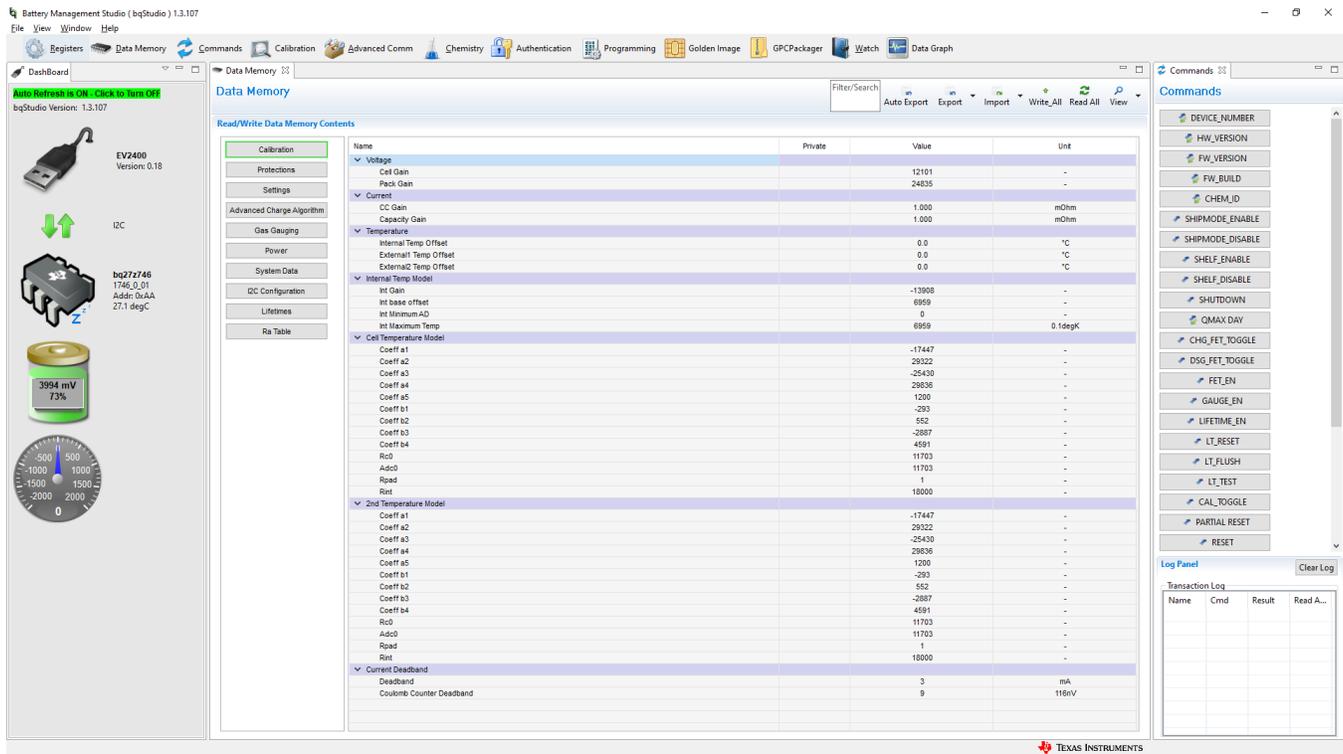


Figure 4-2. Data Memory Screen

To read all of the data from the BQ27Z746, click the **Read All** button in the *Data Memory* window. For ease of configuration, a text file with a `.gg.csv` extension can be extracted, modified, and imported back on the device. Use the export and import buttons as seen in [Figure 5-2](#) to export and import `.gg.csv` files. The auto export button enables gg files to be exported periodically at intervals. This feature is useful when debugging issues with the gauge. A write command is necessary if a `.gg.csv` file is imported to ensure that all changes made on the `.gg.csv` file are affected on the gauge. Use the read command to read back all of the data written to the gauge to verify the changes were made. The filter/search field enables the user to search for a particular parameter in the data memory content.

Note

Do not make modifications to the `.gg.csv` file using Microsoft Excel® as it makes changes to the file, which bqStudio rejects. Make sure to use a text editor like notepad or similar to edit a `.gg.csv` file.

5 Calibrating Gauge Measurements

This section describes the process of using bqStudio and the hardware setup required to calibrate a gauge's voltage and current readings. It is important for rest of the processes inside of this guide to have a calibrated gauge.

5.1 Voltage Calibration

Set up the EVM and other hardware as pictured in [Figure 4-1](#). The BAT pins can be connected to a battery or a power supply, but the voltage of this source must be known to millivolt precision for accurate calibration.

Inside of bqStudio, navigate to the *Calibration* window. Then, as shown in [Figure 5-1](#), enter the precise value of the voltage source used, check **Calibrate Cell Voltage**, and then press the **Calibrate Gas Gauge** button.

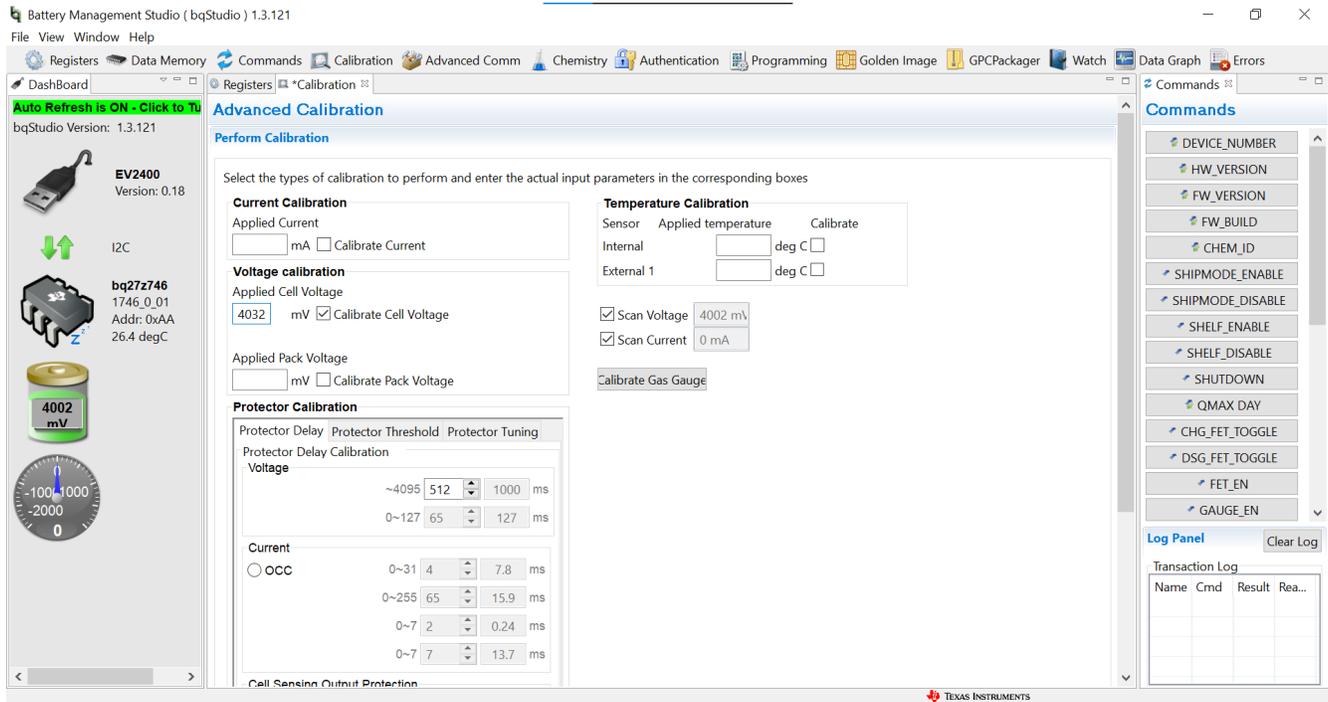


Figure 5-1. Voltage Calibration in bqStudio

5.2 Current Calibration

Set up the EVM, a voltage power supply (either a battery or a bench power supply can be used), and a power supply capable of supplying a constant current with milliamp precision. The constant-current supply should be connected to the BAT- and PACK- headers. The exact circuit layout is shown in [Figure 5-2](#). The constant-current supply is shown as being attached to the test point of BAT-, but can also be attached to the BAT- header, as well.

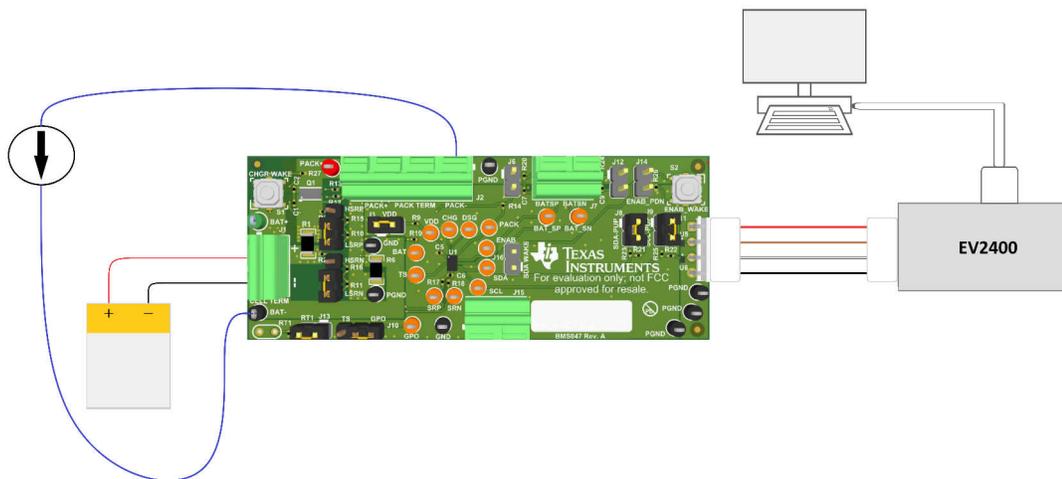


Figure 5-2. Current Calibration Hardware Setup

As shown in [Figure 5-3](#), from the *Calibration* window in bqStudio, enter the precise value of current being supplied, click to check the **Calibrate Current** box, and then press the **Calibrate Gas Gauge** button.

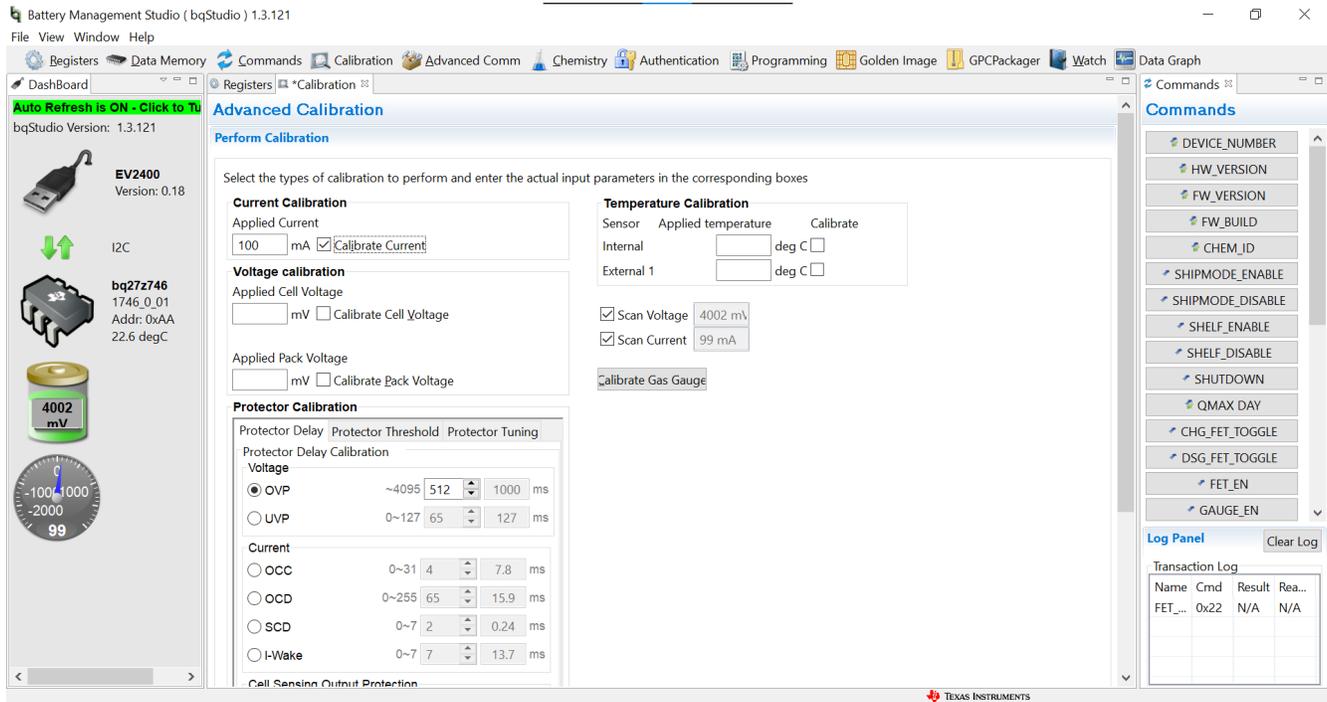


Figure 5-3. Current Calibration in bqStudio

6 Protections

This section describes the process of setting the gauge's hardware protections. To calibrate these protections, a test build for bqStudio from version 1.3.115 or later is required. Navigate to BQSTUDIO-TEST on ti.com for the download link to this version.

6.1 Protector Calibration in bqStudio

To calibrate the gauge's hardware protections, go to the *Calibration* window in bqStudio and scroll down. The *Protector Calibration* sub-windows are viewable from here, shown in [Figure 6-1](#).

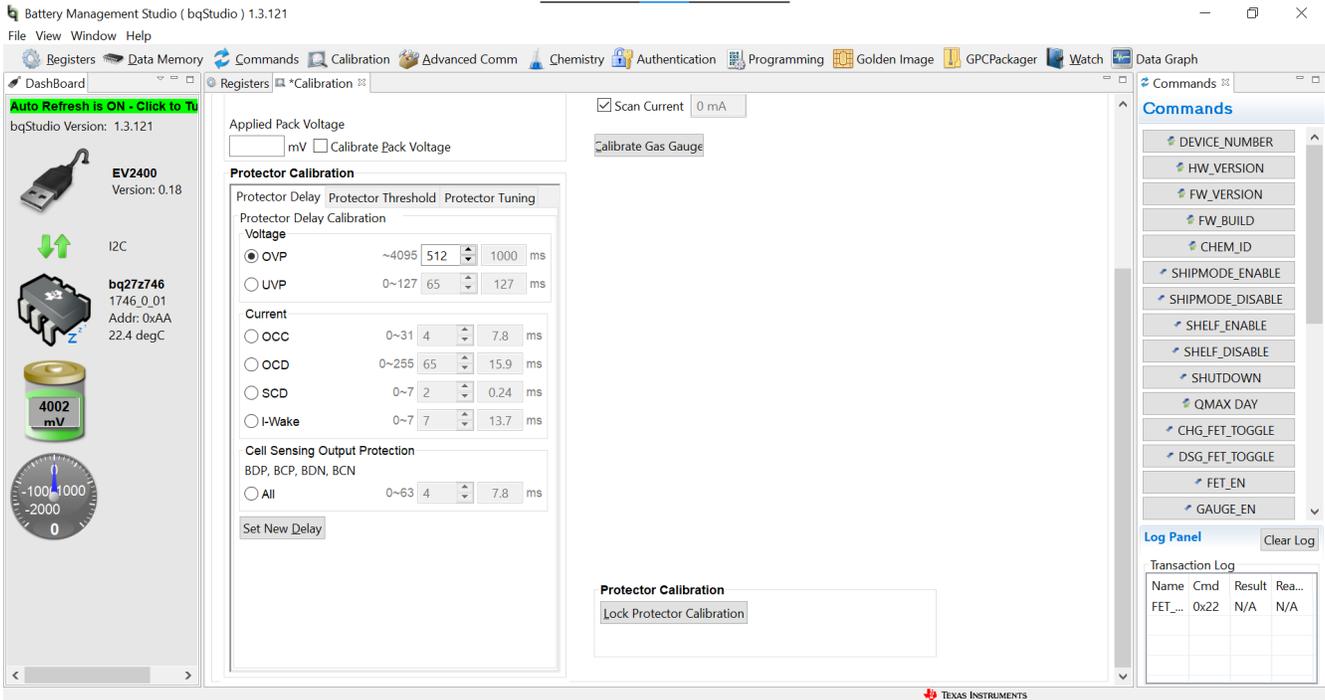


Figure 6-1. Protector Calibration Sub-Windows

From the *Protector Calibration* sub-windows, the *Protector Delay* and *Protector Threshold* windows can be used to set protections. The method to set the protection on the gauge is determined by the production environment. If in production there will be a reference voltage available, then use the *Protector Threshold* sub-window. If there will be no reference voltage applied to the gauge then use the *Protector Tuning* sub-window. The *Protector Tuning* sub-window is used to set the same protections as the *Protector Threshold*, but it does not need a reference voltage.

6.2 Protector Threshold Process

When programming protections in the *Protector Threshold* sub-window, a trim voltage is needed for reference on the gauge. For where each protector threshold reference voltage should be applied on the EVM, see [Figure 6-2](#).

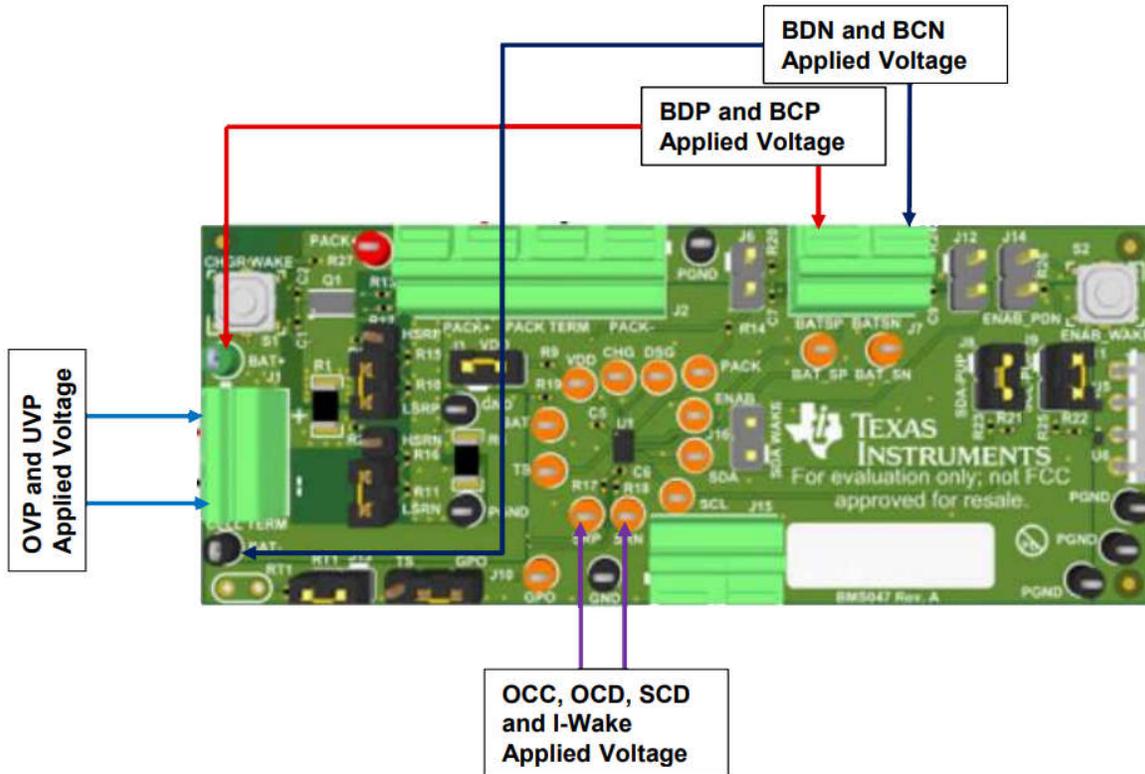


Figure 6-2. Protector Threshold Applied Voltages

To set a protection, select the sub-window and use the field adjacent to the protection name to designate a delay or threshold value. Notice the units being used to the right of this field as well as the minimum and maximum values to the left. Click the button on the bottom of the sub-window to program this protection. A green check mark indicates that protector programming was successful.

7 Chemical ID

This section describes the process of finding the chemistry identifier, sometimes referred to as "Chemical ID" or "ChemID", of a battery that will be used. The ChemID is a necessary element of the Impedance Track algorithm that needs to be identified before performing a learning cycle. For the Golden File creation process, it is necessary that this battery is the exact same type that will be used in production. Use this battery for the proceeding sections, as well.

Texas Instruments has a database of thousands of battery profiles, and the ChemID selection process will identify either the exact battery profile or the most similar. This ChemID is then programmed into the gauge, updating dataflash with the battery profile. This profile is used in the IT algorithm for capacity and resistance learning as well as for capacity prediction and other features.

The Chemical ID selection process consists of recording the current, voltage, and temperature (IVT) of a battery during a charge and discharge. This data is then submitted to the online Gauging Parameter Calculator (GPC) Tool, which then gives the customer a report with a best-fit Chemistry ID to program into their gauge. The process performed with this hardware is a charge-relaxation-discharge-relaxation test. A programmable power supply is recommended for this process.

7.1 Chemical ID Selection Process Description

The test consists of the following steps:

1. Test is performed at room temperature. If the cell was at a different temperature, let the cell relax for two hours at room temperature prior to the test.
2. Charge using CC or CV charging to full using taper current (for example, C/100). Use nominal CC charge rate and CV voltage. If another charging method is specified by the cell maker, use that method.
3. Let the battery relax for two hours to reach full equilibrium open circuit voltage (OCV).
4. Discharge the battery at C/10 rate until the minimal voltage (as specified by the cell manufacturer) is reached.
5. Let the battery relax for five hours to reach full equilibrium OCV.

Figure 8-1 shows an example of what this process looks like graphically.

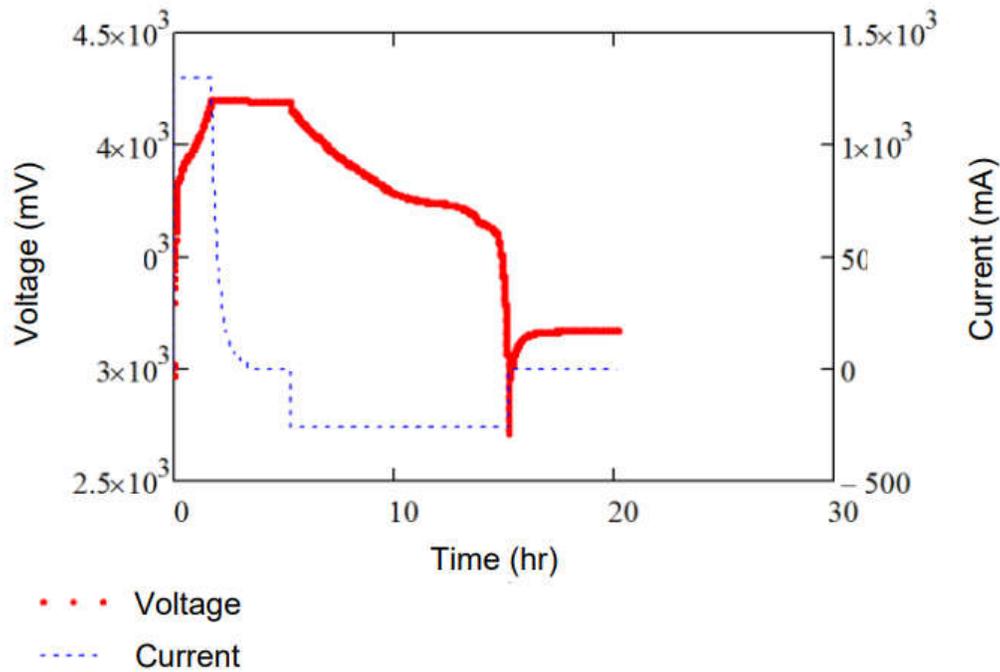


Figure 7-1. Graph of IV Data in Charge-Relax-Discharge-Relax

7.2 Hardware Requirements and Setup

Performing the charge and discharge cycle and recording the IVT characteristics of a battery can be done using a battery, a constant-voltage and constant-current power supply, bqStudio, and a BQ27Z746EVM.

Start by setting this hardware up as shown in [Figure 7-2](#). This setup is identical to [Figure 4-1](#).

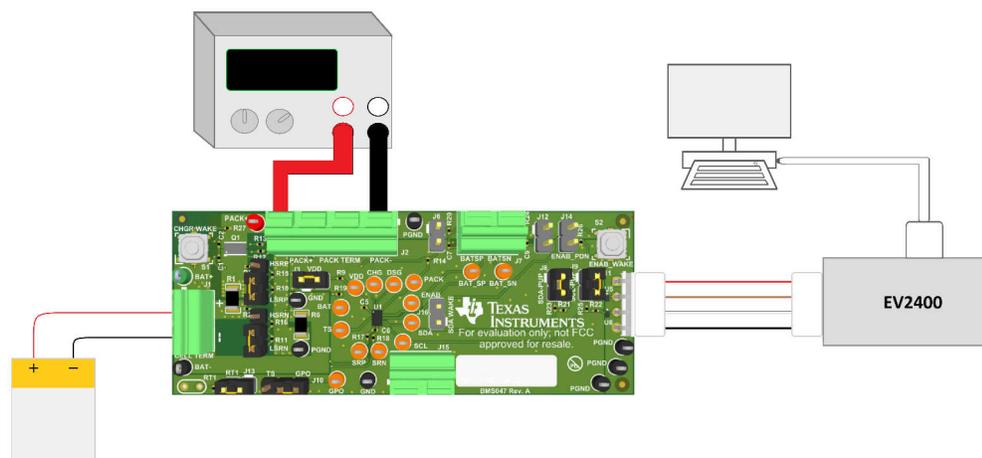


Figure 7-2. ChemID Hardware Setup

7.3 Logging Data in bqStudio

The recording of voltage, current, and temperature can be done with bqStudio. The logging functionality in bqStudio allows a constant capture and recording of the registers of a connected gauge. The default elapsed interval is 4000 milliseconds. To change this interval, go to Window, select Preferences, choose Registers, and change Scan/Log Interval from 4000 to a minimum of 1000 milliseconds. There is no need to log faster than 1 second as the gas gauge updates the registers once every second.

To begin recording the battery's IVT properties during charge and discharge, use the **Start Log** button on the **Registers** window in bqStudio as shown in [Figure 7-3](#).

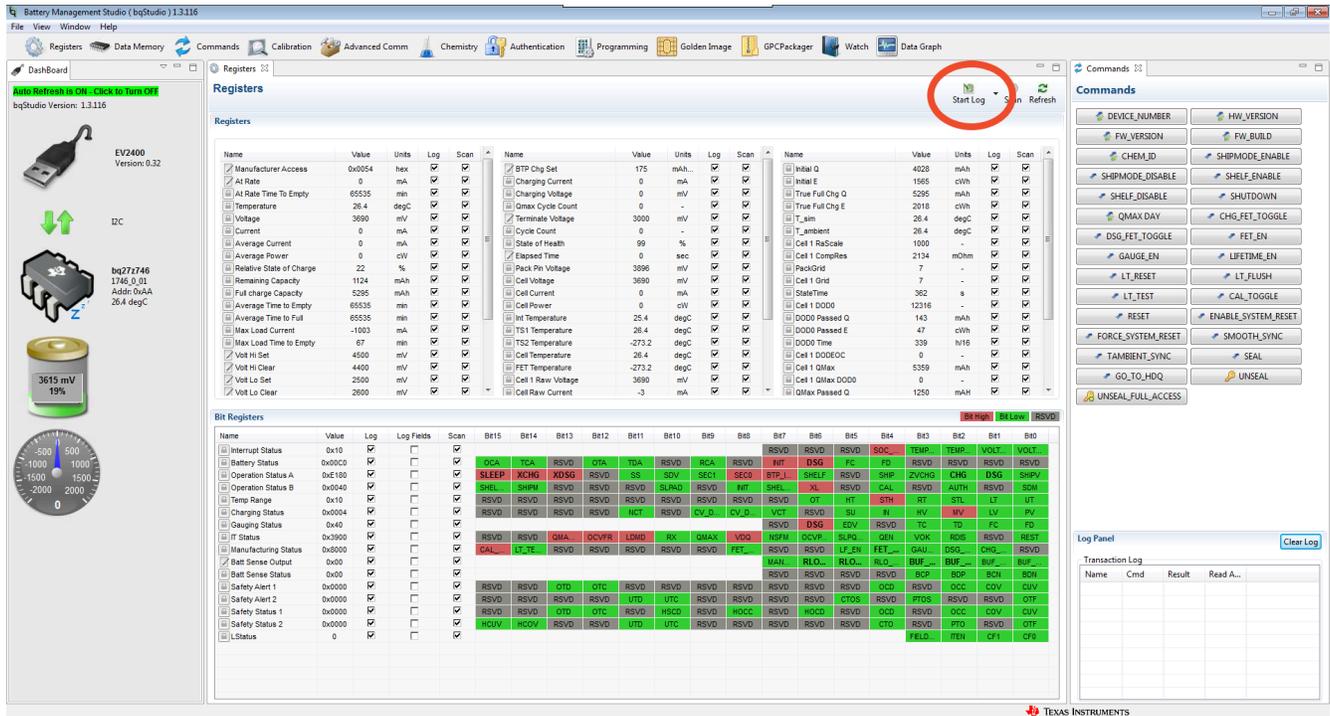


Figure 7-3. Start Log Button in bqStudio

Upon pressing the **Start Log** button, a prompt to select a location for the .log file to save will be shown. Select a location to save this file. The .log file type can be changed to the .csv format and viewed inside of Microsoft Excel™ or a similar application to facilitate debugging of the register states through the course of the logging period. At the end of the relaxation period after the gauge has been allowed to discharge, use the **Stop Log** button in bqStudio to end logging.

7.4 GPCChem Tool

Convert the .log file to a .csv file by renaming the file format. Create a blank .csv file and copy into the first, second, third, and fourth columns the time, voltage, current, and temperature, respectively. Ensure that your units for each of these are seconds, millivolts, milliamps, and Celsius. The first row can be names for each of the columns, which the tool will skip assuming there is only one row of names before the data begins. Figure 7-4 is an example of the required .csv file formatting as well as the first few rows of data.

	A	B	C	D
1	elapsed time (sec)	voltage (mv)	current (mA)	temperature (C)
2	10.0004	3498.071671	0	24.07476807
3	20.0012	3497.159958	0	24.07457924
4	30.0002	3497.159958	0	24.10800362
5	40.001	3497.159958	0	24.04404068
6	50.0002	3498.987198	0	24.05429077
7	60.0001	3498.071671	0	24.08539391
8	60.0022	3498.071671	0	24.08539391
9	62.1557	3593.915939	853.401184	24.08539391
10	63.2021	3665.113449	2212.631226	24.09855461
11	64.2035	3669.679642	2212.358475	24.09855461
12	65.2026	3672.418594	2212.413788	24.09855461
13	66.2026	3675.157547	2212.303162	24.14687157
14	67.2036	3677.892685	2212.083817	24.14687157
15	68.2022	3679.719925	2212.030411	24.09255028
16	69.203304	3680.631638	2212.413788	24.09255028
17	70.2022	3684.282303	2212.631226	24.09255028
18	71.2028	3687.021255	2212.194443	24.11014557
19	72.202304	3688.848495	2212.247849	24.11014557
20	73.202696	3691.587448	2212.358475	24.11014557

Figure 7-4. Cell Formatting for .csv

1. Save this created file with the name "roomtemp_rel_dis_rel.csv".
2. Create a second file "config.txt" and write the following in it:
 - a. ProcessingType = 2
 - b. NumCellSeries = 1
 - c. ElapsedTimeColumn = 0
 - d. VoltageColumn = 1
 - e. CurrentColumn = 2
 - f. TemperatureColumn = 3
3. Create a folder with any name. Put both the roomtemp_rel_dis_rel.csv and config.txt files in this folder, and convert the folder to a .zip file. Submit this .zip file to the GPC Tool through the web interface found on ti.com.

After processing, an e-mail with a report that indicates the results of the tool's process is sent to the e-mail address you provided when logging into ti.com to use the GPC Tool. The report contains the selected ChemID and a list of additional ChemIDs that satisfy the "less than 3%" error criteria. For example, this can be useful to verify that a ChemID used previously is still suitable. If any formatting mistakes or other errors are present, they are reflected in the report.

7.5 Programming a Chemical ID

The ChemID is programmed into the gauge using bqStudio. Navigate to the “Chemistry” window in bqStudio. A view of this window is shown in Figure 7-5.

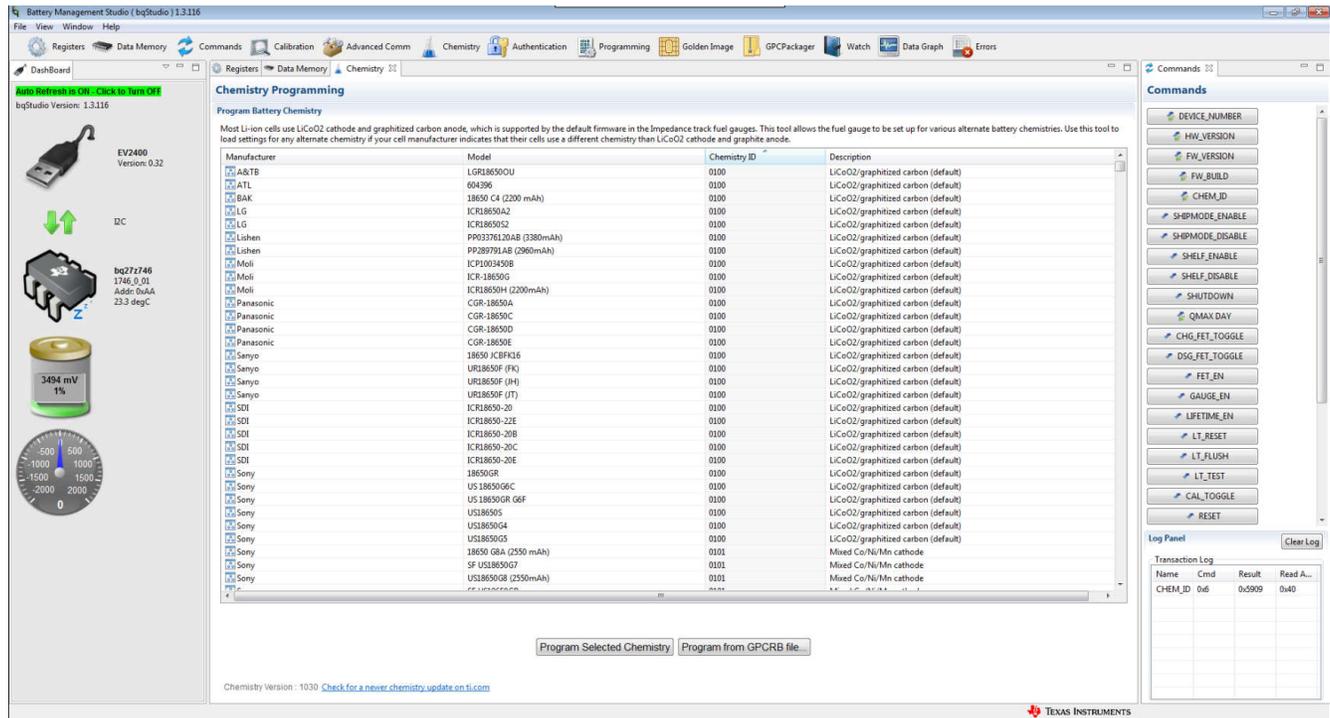


Figure 7-5. Chemistry Window View in bqStudio

Sort by a given parameter by clicking the top of that column once. It is recommended that you sort the table by Chemistry ID so that the ChemIDs are ordered numerically. Scroll down to the Chemistry ID that was reported as the best fit in the GPC Tool report, select this Chemistry ID, and then press the **Program Selected Chemistry** button.

If you do not see your Chemistry ID in this list, update the Chemistry version in bqStudio. To do so, see to the gas gauge chemistry resources found on ti.com.

Once the gauge is programmed with this chemistry, the ChemID can be confirmed by pressing the **CHEM_ID** button in the Commands window, shown on the right side of Figure 7-5. Check the *Log Panel* window, shown in the bottom-right corner of Figure 7-5, and confirm that the correct Chemistry ID was returned.

7.6 Further Resources for Chemical ID Process

For further details and more instruction on finding a Chemistry ID with the GPC Tool, refer to the "Simple Guide to Chemical ID Selection Tool (GPC) (Rev. A)" document found on ti.com.

8 Learning Cycle and Golden Image

The learning cycle process is the initial optimization that Impedance Track gauges perform in order to ensure accuracy of the gauge in reporting state of charge. The learning cycle allows the gauge to learn a specific battery's resistance and maximum chemical capacity, ensuring accuracy as the cell ages. It is necessary that a correct ChemID, with less than 3% of error, has been identified and programmed into the gauge before attempting a learning cycle.

8.1 Learning Cycle Process Description

The learning cycle process consists of charge – relaxation – discharge – relaxation – charge while certain data memory parameters are set in the gauge, enabling the gauge to begin the cycle and accurately recognize when state changes have occurred over the charge/discharge process. Through the course of the learning cycle, the **[LStatus]** register updates as different states are achieved, marking three points in the progression of the learning cycle.

The first **[LStatus]** update goes from 0x00 to 0x04 when the gauge has had the Impedance Track bit enabled, allowing the learning cycle to begin. **[LStatus]** goes from 0x04 to 0x05 when the post-charge relaxation has allowed the battery to relax enough so that the change in voltage is very low ($dV/dt < 1 \mu V/s$). The **[REST]** flag will be set indicating that the battery has adequately relaxed. The final **[LStatus]** update to 0x06 happens after the second discharge when the change in voltage is very low.

For more details on the register updates and flags set at each point in the learning cycle, see the *Learning Cycle Procedure* section of the [Achieving the Successful Learning Cycle](#).

For more details on the learning cycle registers, see the *Gauging* chapter of the [BQ27Z746 Technical Reference Manual](#).

8.2 Data Memory Configuration

The gauge's Data Memory is configured in bqStudio from the Data Memory window. This window is shown below in [Figure 8-1](#).

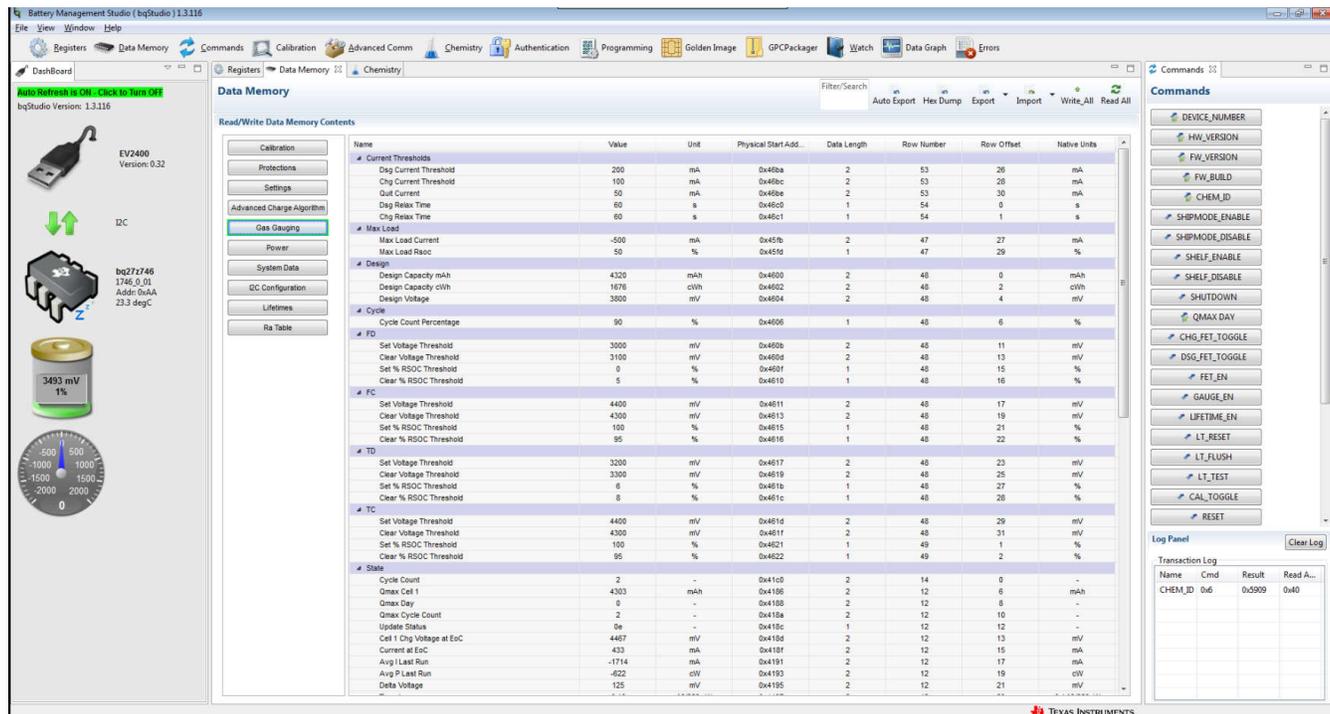


Figure 8-1. Data Memory View in bqStudio

The necessary data memory configurations will be made in this screen, using only the **[Advanced Charging Algorithm]** and **[Gas Gauging]** sections of the data memory window. Use the *Filter/Search* box to find specific parameters. Use the **Write All** button to write data memory parameters that have been changed on this screen to the gauge. Use the **Read All** button to read the current data memory configurations from the gauge and verify a successful write. Ensure that each value is programmed in the correct unit, indicated in the third column for each data memory parameter.

The following are the data memory values that should be programmed:

- **[Advanced Charging Algorithm][Termination Config][Charge Term Taper Current]:** This value should be set slightly higher than the actual taper current between $C/10$ and $C/100$. This value should also be higher than the **[Chg Current Threshold]** value.
- **[Gas Gauging][Design][Design Voltage]:** This value can be found in the battery data sheet as the nominal or average voltage.
- **[Gas Gauging][Design][Design Capacity mAh]:** This value can be found in the battery data sheet as battery capacity and is often referred to as C .
- **[Gas Gauging][Design][Design Capacity cWh]:** This value is the battery capacity in centiwatt hours. This value might be in the battery datasheet, or can be found by multiplying the capacity in mAh by the terminal voltage in Volts, then dividing by 10.
- **[Gas Gauging][IT Cfg][Term Voltage]:** This value can be found in the battery data sheet as the terminal voltage. This is the lowest voltage that the gauge should charge to.
- **[Gas Gauging][Current Thresholds][Dsg Current Threshold]:** This current value is where the gauge recognizes that the battery is being discharged. Set this value below $C/10$, as a positive number. The gauge will interpret it as a negative.
- **[Gas Gauging][Current Thresholds][Chg Current Threshold]:** This current value is where the gauge recognizes that the battery is being charged. Set this value below $C/10$ and also lower than the Charge Term Taper Current.
- **[Gas Gauging][Current Thresholds][Quit Current Threshold]:** This value is where the gauge enters relax mode. It should be less than $C/20$ and lower than the **[Dsg Current Threshold]** and **[Chg Current Threshold]**.

Figure 8-2 shows a visual representation of the current during the course of a learning cycle relative to the data memory current parameters set.

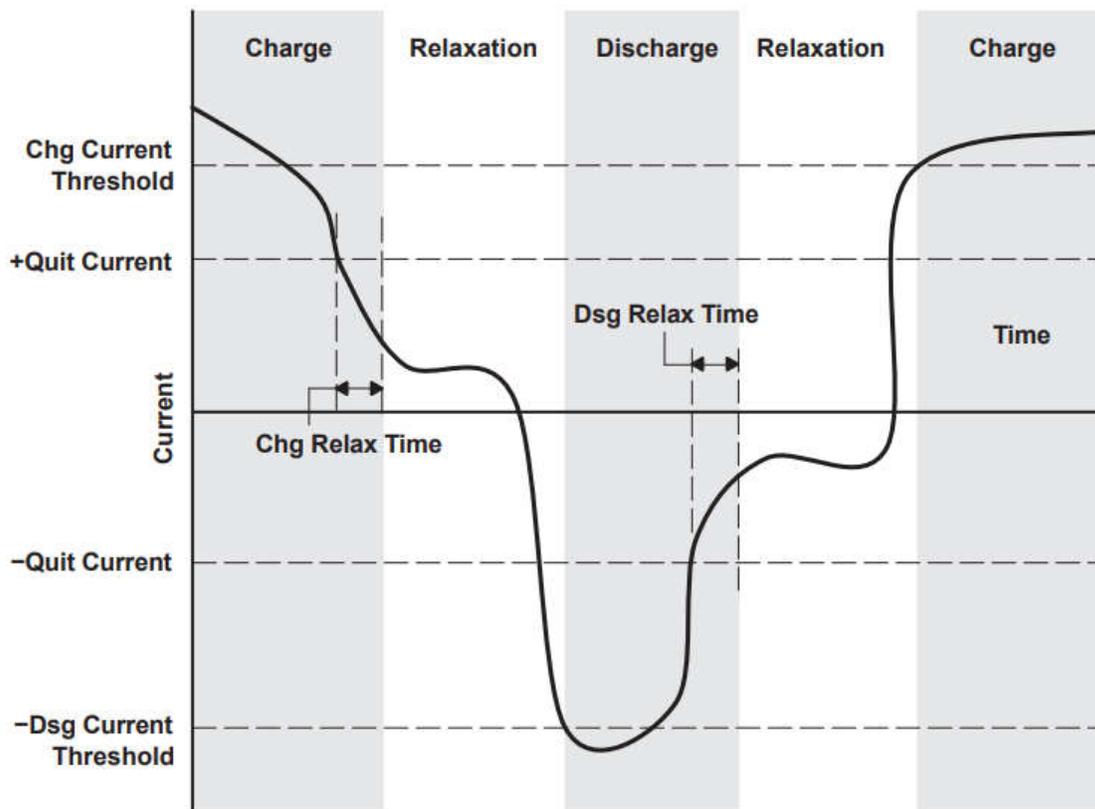


Figure 8-2. Graph of Learning Cycle Current

8.3 Learning Cycle Steps

The hardware setup for performing a learning cycle consists of the same setup as used in the Chemical ID process. This setup is described in [Section 8.2](#) and shown in [Figure 8-2](#). The charging and discharging process is very similar to a ChemID, except the first step is an initial discharge of the battery to its terminal voltage.

Before beginning the learning cycle process, starting a log in bqStudio is recommended to allow for debugging of any issues that might occur during the learning cycle.

Conducting a learning cycle consists of the following steps:

1. Test is performed at room temperature. If the cell was at a different temperature, let the cell relax for two hours at room temperature prior to the test.
2. Use the **GAUGE_EN** command in the Command window. Use the **RESET** command in the Command window. Confirm that the **[LStatus]** register has updated to 0x04.
3. Discharge the battery at C/5 until it reaches Term Voltage.
4. Relax the battery for 5 hours.
5. Charge using CC until the battery reaches the Full Charge Voltage.
6. Charge using CV at the Full Charge Voltage. Cut off CV charging at a point in between **[CHG Current Threshold]** and **[Quit Current Threshold]**.
7. Let the battery relax for two hours to reach full equilibrium open circuit voltage (OCV). The **[LStatus]** register should update to 0x05.
8. Discharge the battery at C/10 rate until the **[Term Voltage]** is reached.
9. Let the battery relax for five hours to reach full equilibrium OCV. The **[LStatus]** register should have updated to 0x06.

8.4 Low Temperature Optimization

Gauge State of Charge (SOC) reporting often loses accuracy in low temperatures due to higher cell impedances. Impedance Track gauges allow SOC reporting to be improved significantly for gauges that will experience low temperatures by using the GPCRB Tool. This simple test requires a similar process to the Chemical ID process, but adds a much greater degree of accuracy for low temperature gauging.

The test setup required to use the GPCRB Tool is very similar to the setup shown in [Figure 8-2](#). The only difference is that the EVM thermistor must be connected to the surface of the battery and a temperature-controlled chamber, such as Arbin or Maccor, is required to create a low-temperature environment where the gauge can monitor the battery's IVT characteristics.

For more information about this process, see the GPCRB page on [ti.com](https://www.ti.com).

8.5 Creating the Golden Image File

The current EVM has completed all optimization steps at this point. The Golden Gauge can be used to program all other gauges in production using a Golden Image. This will ensure gauges begin with an accurate starting point to begin reporting on and further learning about a battery's chemistry.

To get the necessary file for programming gauges, navigate to the *Golden Image* window in bqStudio. Change the output directory and base file name if needed. FlashStream is a file type created by Texas Instruments, though SREC files are preferred in some production environments. BQFS files are used when updating the flash memory as well as the firmware; this is an alternative to an SREC file for production. DFFS files are used for transferring data flash parameters.

Uncheck the undesired output formats and click **Create Image Files** to export the selected output format to the chosen output directory.

8.6 Programming the Golden Image File

An exported Golden Image file can be uploaded to another gauge in bqStudio or through custom production processes.

To upload a Golden Image file to a new gauge in bqStudio, connect the new gauge to bqStudio and open the *Programming* window. Click **Browse** and navigate to and select the Golden Image file, or enter the Golden Image's file address. Click **Program** to upload Golden Image files to the gauge.

To use Golden Image files in production, the FlashStream file format is recommended. For further guidance on using the FlashStream file format, refer to Section 5 of the "Gauge Communication" document found on ti.com.

9 Gauge Communication

This section introduces host-processor communication with the BQ27Z746. The BQ27Z746 gauge uses an I2C communication interface with communication speeds up to 400kHz. Further hardware and software specifications for the I2C interface for this gauge can be found in the device-specific data sheet and the [BQ27Z746 Technical Reference Manual](#).

9.1 Advanced Communication in bqStudio

To communicate with the gauge in bqStudio, navigate to the *Advanced Communication* window. This window allows the user to send read and write commands to the gauge for easy communication with the gauge over I2C. The I2C Address of the gauge, visible in the *DashBoard* window in bqStudio, and the Start Register are needed for each Read and Write command, and can be written in the text field. Read commands require the Number of Bytes to Read and Write commands require the Bytes to Write to be specified.

9.2 Standard Data Commands

Standard commands are common commands from the Smart Battery Specification (SBS) industry-standard which defines smart battery interfacing. Standard commands use a command code pair to associate the registers associated with each command. Read and write commands should be addressed to the LSB of the command code.

Example: Read the *RelativeStateOfCharge*.

1. Perform a Read Operation:
 - a. I2C Address (Hex) = AA
 - b. Start Register (Hex) = 2C
 - c. Number of Bytes to Read (Decimal) = 2
2. View the results in *Transaction Log*:
 - a. The Data window will show the hex value of the battery's SOC in little endian format.

Figure 9-1 shows 0x2E 00 in the Data column of the *Transaction Log* sub-window. This value is 46 in decimal, corresponding to the SOC% shown in the *DashBoard* window to the right.

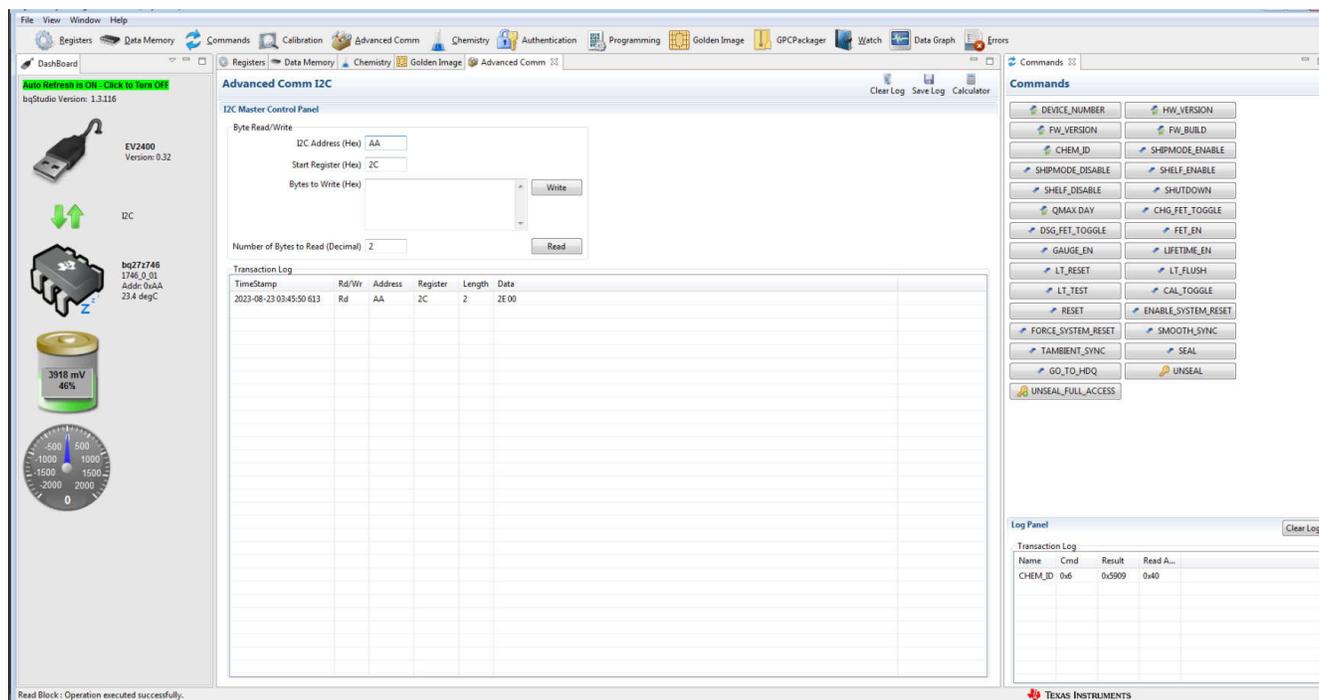


Figure 9-1. Standard Data Command Example

10 BQ27Z746-Based Circuit Module

The BQ27Z746 based circuit module is an example solution of a BQ27Z746 circuit for battery management. The circuit module incorporates a BQ27Z746 battery gas gauge and protection integrated circuit (IC) with external sense resistor to accurately predict the capacity of a 1-series Li-ion cell. In addition, it includes external N-channel FETs for high-side battery protection.

10.1 Circuit Module Connections

Contacts on the circuit module provide the following connections:

- Direct cell connection to the battery pack (J1): BAT+, BAT–
- Direct system connection for charging and discharging (J2): PACK+, PACK–
- I2C™ communications via external EV2400 to Windows-based PC USB port (J11): SDA, SCL, VSS
- Cell voltage sensing outputs (J7): BAT_SP, BAT_SN,

10.2 Pin Descriptions

Table 10-1. Pin Descriptions

Pin Name	Description
PACK+	Pack positive terminal
PACK–	Pack negative terminal
BAT+	Battery positive terminal and BQ2980 bypass path
BAT–	Battery negative terminal
SDA	External I2C communication data line
SCL	External I2C communication clock line
VSS	Device ground
BAT_SP	Cell sensing positive output terminal
BAT_SN	Cell sensing negative output terminal

11 Circuit Module Physical Layout, Bill of Materials, and Schematic

This section contains the board layout, bill of materials, and schematic for the BQ27Z746 circuit module.

11.1 Board Layout

This section shows the printed-circuit board (PCB) layers (Figure 11-2 through Figure 11-4), and assembly drawing for the BQ27Z746 module.

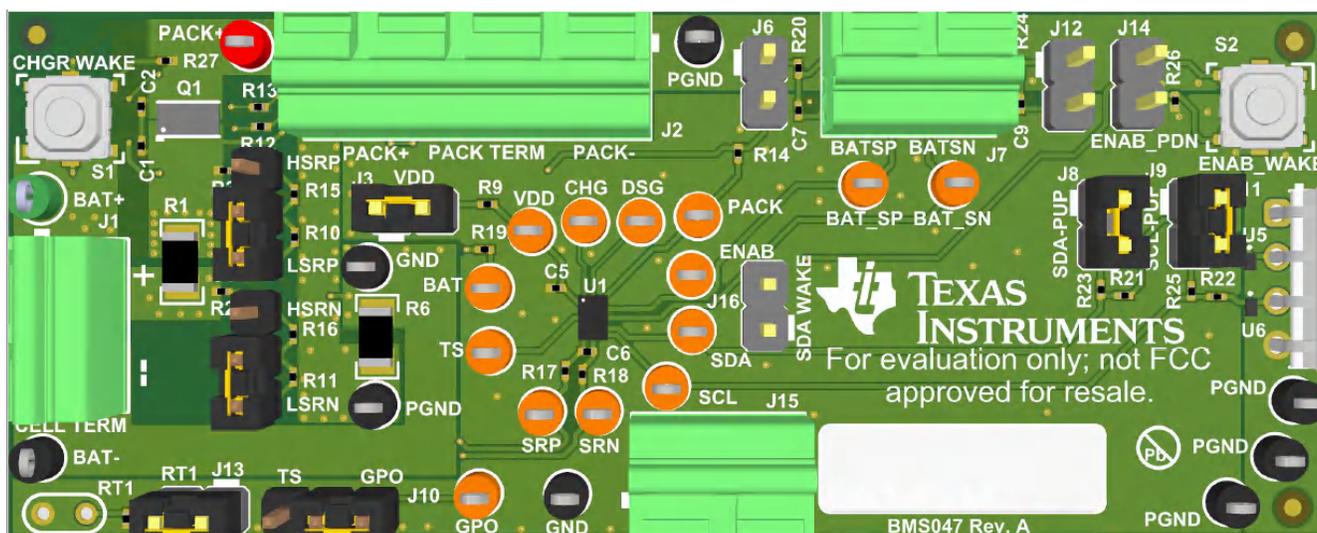


Figure 11-1. EVM Image

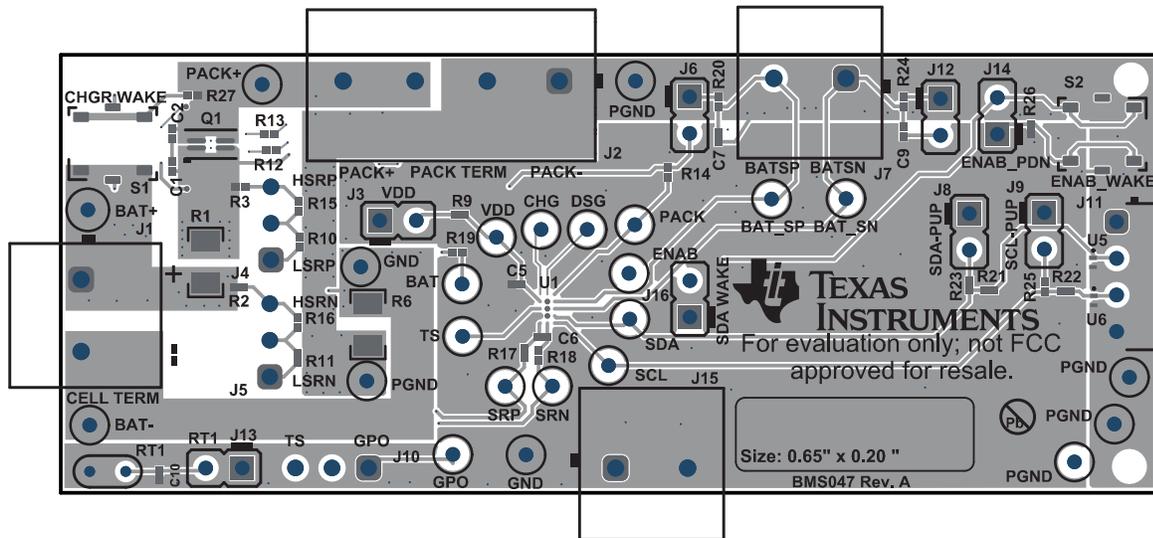


Figure 11-2. Top Layer Composite

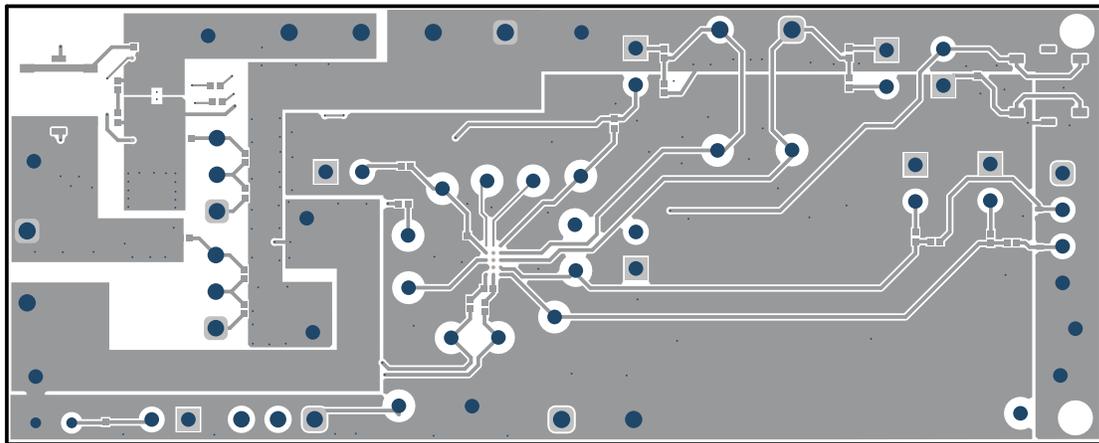


Figure 11-3. Top Layer

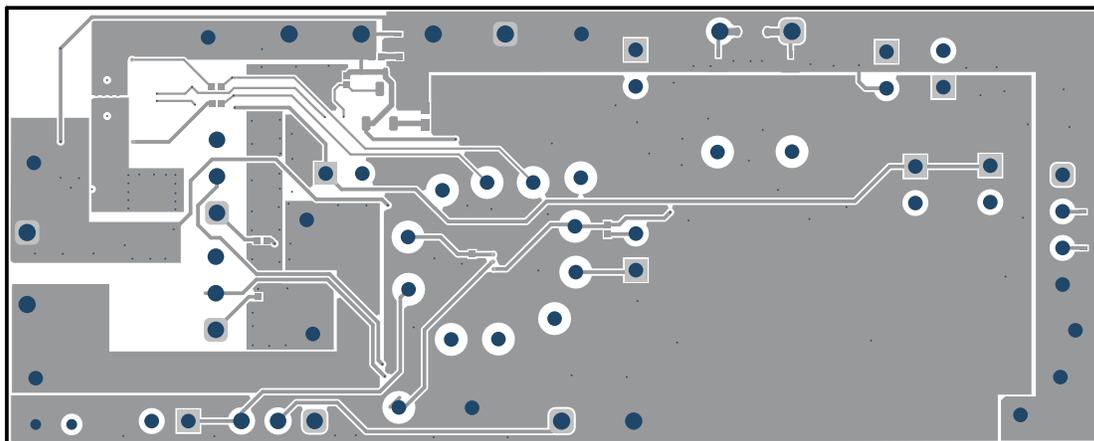


Figure 11-4. Bottom Layer

11.2 Schematic

This section contains the schematic of the different (PCB) components.

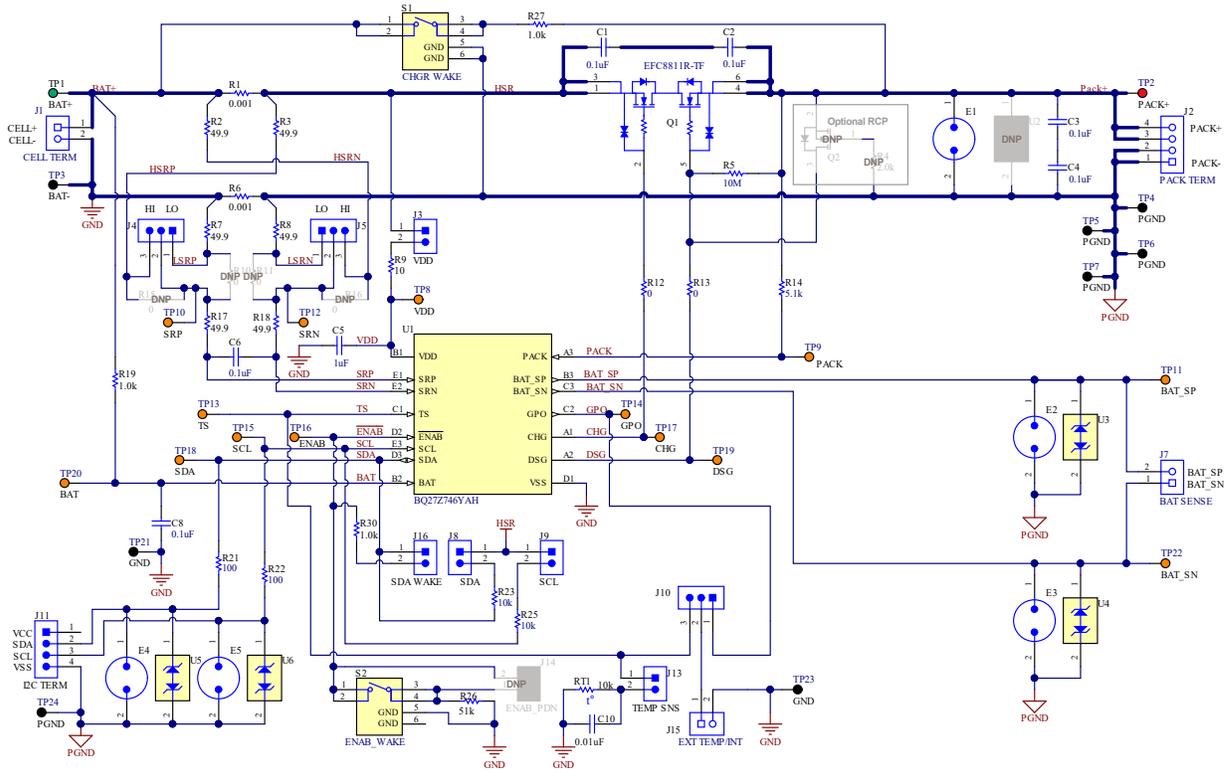


Figure 11-5. BQ27Z746 Reference Schematic

11.3 Bill of Materials

Table 11-1. Bill of Materials

Designator	Quantity	Value	Description	Package Reference	Part Number	Manufacturer
PCB1	1		Printed Circuit Board		BMS047	Any
C1, C2, C3, C4	4	0.1uF	CAP, CERM, 0.1 uF, 25 V, ± 10%, X5R, 0201	0201	GRM033R61E104KE14J	MuRata
C5	1	1uF	CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 10 V, ± 20%, X5R, 0201	0201	GRM033R61A105ME15D	MuRata
C6, C8	2	0.1uF	CAP, CERM, 0.1 uF, 16 V, ± 10%, X7R, 0201	0201	GRM033Z71C104KE14D	MuRata
C10	1	0.01uF	CAP, CERM, 0.01 uF, 10 V, ± 10%, X5R, 0201	0201	GRM033R61A103KA01D	MuRata
FID1, FID2, FID3	3		Fiducial mark. There is nothing to buy or mount.	N/A	N/A	N/A
J1, J7, J15	3		Terminal Block, 5 mm, 2x1, R/A, TH	Terminal Block, 5mm, 2x1, R/A, TH	1792863	Phoenix Contact
J2	1		Terminal Block, 5 mm, 4x1, R/A, TH	Terminal Block, 5mm, 4x1, R/A, TH	1792889	Phoenix Contact
J3, J8, J9, J13, J16	5		Header, 2.54 mm, 2x1, Gold, TH	Header, 2.54 mm, 2x1, TH	GBC02SAAN	Sullins Connector Solutions
J4, J5, J10	3		Header, 2.54 mm, 3x1, Gold, TH	Header, 2.54mm, 3x1, TH	61300311121	Würth Elektronik
J11	1		Header, 2.54 mm, 4x1, R/A, Tin, TH	Header, 2.54mm, 4x1, R/A, TH	640455-4	TE Connectivity
LBL1	1		Thermal Transfer Printable Labels, 0.650" W x 0.200" H - 10,000 per roll	PCB Label 0.650 x 0.200 inch	THT-14-423-10	Brady
Q1	1		Power MOSFET for 1 Cell Lithium-ion Battery Protection 12 V, 3.2 mΩ, 27A, Dual N-Channel, SMD	1.77x3.54mm	EFC8811R-TF	ON Semiconductor
R1, R6	2	0.001	RES, 0.001, 1%, 1 W, AEC-Q200 Grade 0, 1206	1206	CSNL1206FT1L00	Stackpole Electronics Inc
R2, R3, R7, R8, R17, R18	6	49.9	RES, 49.9, 1%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	CRCW020149R9FKED	Vishay-Dale
R5	1	10Meg	RES, 10 M, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	RC0201JR-0710ML	Yageo America
R9	1	10	RES, 10, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	RC0201JR-0710RL	Yageo America
R12, R13	2	0	RES, 0, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	CRCW02010000Z0ED	Vishay-Dale
R14	1	5.1k	RES, 5.1 k, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	RC0201JR-075K1L	Yageo America
R19, R27, R30	3	1.0k	RES, 1.0 k, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	RC0201JR-7D1KL	Yageo America
R21, R22	2	100	RES, 100, 1%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	CRCW0201100RFKED	Vishay-Semiconductor
R23, R25	2	10k	RES, 10 k, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	RC0201JR-7D10KL	Yageo America
R26	1	51k	RES, 51 k, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	RC0201JR-7D51KL	Yageo America

Table 11-1. Bill of Materials (continued)

Designator	Quantity	Value	Description	Package Reference	Part Number	Manufacturer
RT1	1	10k	Thermistor NTC, 10.0k ohm, 1%,		103AT-4-70261	SEMITEC Corporation
S1, S2	2		Switch, SPST-NO, Off-Mom, 0.02 A, 15 VDC, SMD	4.9x4.9mm	EVQ-PLHA15	Panasonic
SH-J1, SH-J3, SH-J4, SH-J5, SH-J6, SH-J7, SH-J8	7	1x2	Shunt, 100mil, Gold plated, Black	Shunt	SNT-100-BK-G	Samtec
TP1	1		Test Point, Miniature, Green, TH	Green Miniature Testpoint	5116	Keystone
TP2	1		Test Point, Miniature, Red, TH	Red Miniature Testpoint	5000	Keystone
TP3, TP4, TP5, TP6, TP7, TP21, TP23, TP24	8		Test Point, Miniature, Black, TH	Black Miniature Testpoint	5001	Keystone
TP8, TP9, TP10, TP11, TP12, TP13, TP14, TP15, TP16, TP17, TP18, TP19, TP20, TP22	14		Test Point, Miniature, Orange, TH	Orange Miniature Testpoint	5003	Keystone
U1	1		Impedance Track™ Battery Gas Gauge and Protection Solution for 1-Series Cell Li-Ion Battery Packs, YAH0015 (DSBGA-15)	YAH0015	BQ27Z746YAH	Texas Instruments
U3, U4, U5, U6	4		Single-Channel ESD in 0402 Package With 10 pF Capacitance and 6 V Breakdown, DPY0002A (X1SON-2)	DPY0002A	TPD1E10B06DPYR	Texas Instruments
C7, C9	0	0.1uF	CAP, CERM, 0.1 uF, 16 V, ± 10%, X7R, 0201	0201	GRM033Z71C104KE14D	MuRata
J6, J12, J14	0		Header, 2.54 mm, 2x1, Gold, TH	Header, 2.54 mm, 2x1, TH	GBC02SAAN	Sullins Connector Solutions
Q2	0	60V	MOSFET, N-CH, 60 V, 0.17 A, SOT-23	SOT-23	2N7002-7-F	Diodes Inc.
Q3	0		23V 30A Common-Drain Dual N-Channel MOSFET	AlphaDFN3.2x2.1_10	AOCA36136E	Alpha and Omega Semiconductor
R4	0	2.0k	RES, 2.0 k, 5%, 0.063 W, AEC-Q200 Grade 0, 0402	0402	CRCW04022K00JNED	Vishay-Dale
R10, R11, R15, R16, R28, R29	0	0	RES, 0, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	CRCW02010000Z0ED	Vishay-Dale
R20, R24	0	1.0k	RES, 1.0 k, 5%, 0.05 W, 0201	0201	RC0201JR-7D1KL	Yageo America
U2	0		Single-Channel ESD in 0402 Package With 10pF Capacitance and 6 V Breakdown, DPY0002A (X1SON-2)	DPY0002A	TPD1E10B06DPYR	Texas Instruments

11.4 BQ27Z746 Circuits Module Performance Specification Summary

This section summarizes the performance specifications of the BQ27Z746 circuit module.

Table 11-2. Performance Specification Summary

BQ27Z746 Specification	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Input voltage Pack+ to Pack–	-12	3.6	24	V
Input voltage Bat+ to Bat–	-0.3	3.6	6	V
Hardware Protection Specification				
Overvoltage protection	4.300	4.460	5.000	V
Undervoltage protection	2.000	2.500	3.000	V
Overcurrent in charge	-22	-9	-1	mV ⁽¹⁾
Overcurrent in discharge	1	9	22	mV ⁽¹⁾

(1) Based on 1-mΩ sense resistor.

Revision History

NOTE: Page numbers for previous revisions may differ from page numbers in the current version.

Changes from Revision * (October 2021) to Revision A (October 2023)	Page
• Added Golden Image Process to Section 5 through Section 9	3

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