

**TI *Live!* BATTERY MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEMS SEMINAR**

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**DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR BATTERY  
CHARGERS TO ACHIEVE THE BEST USER  
EXPERIENCE**



# Agenda

- Charger basics.
- Stand-alone vs. host-controlled chargers.
- Power-path management.
- Charging accuracy.
- Power consumption.
- Protections.
- Input detection (D+/D-).
- On-the-go (OTG) mode.
- Additional resources to help complete your design.

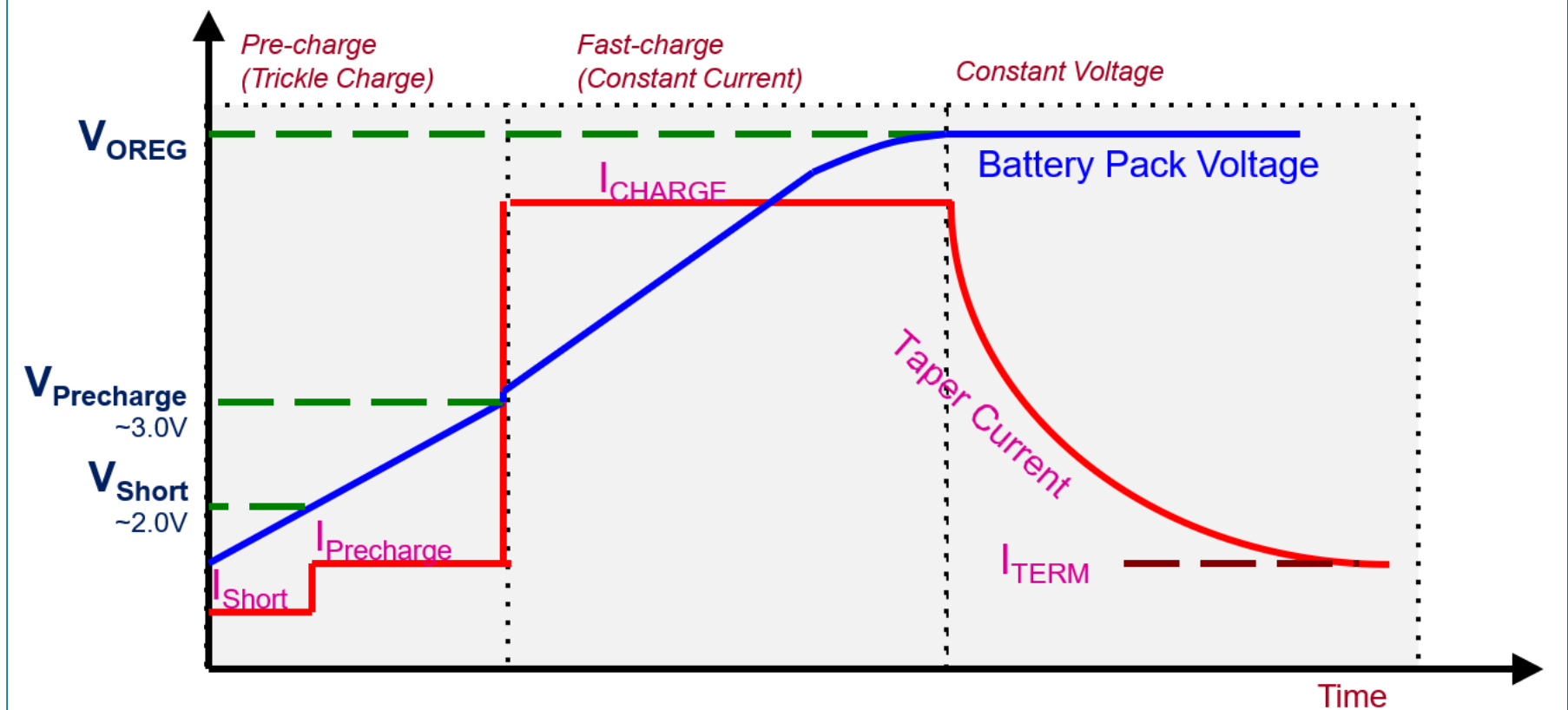
# Charger basics

# Charging thresholds

## Charging fundamentals

- Battery-charger IC regulates battery voltage and current.
- Chemistry and capacity determine safe charging voltages and current.
- Li-ion has distinct pre-charge, fast charge and taper regions charge.
- Follows a constant-current, constant-voltage (CC-CV) charging curve.

## Typical charging profile

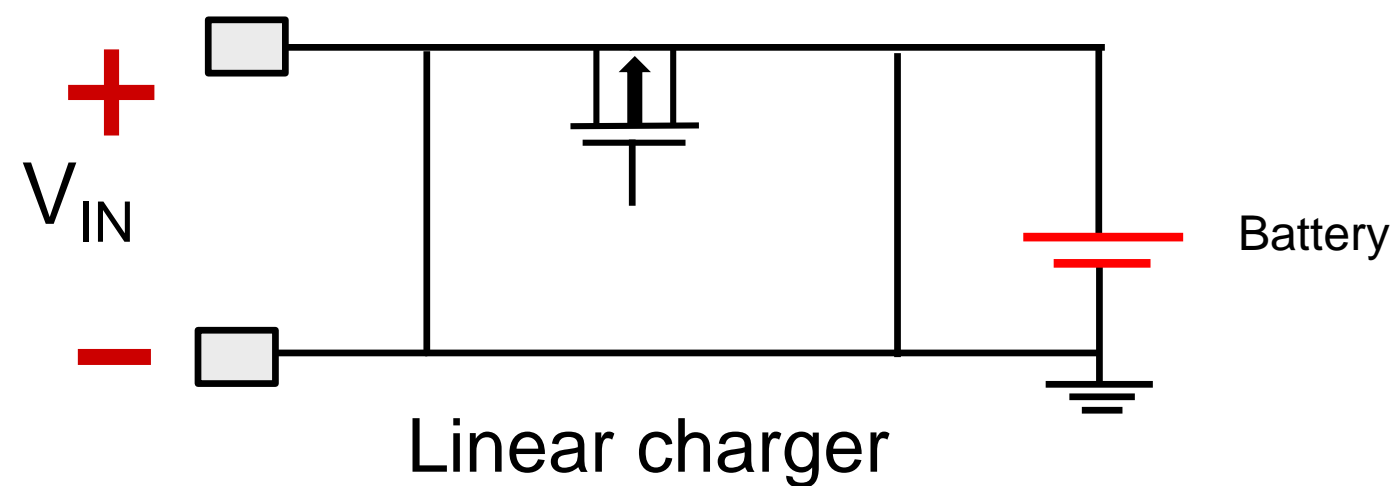




# Charger topologies

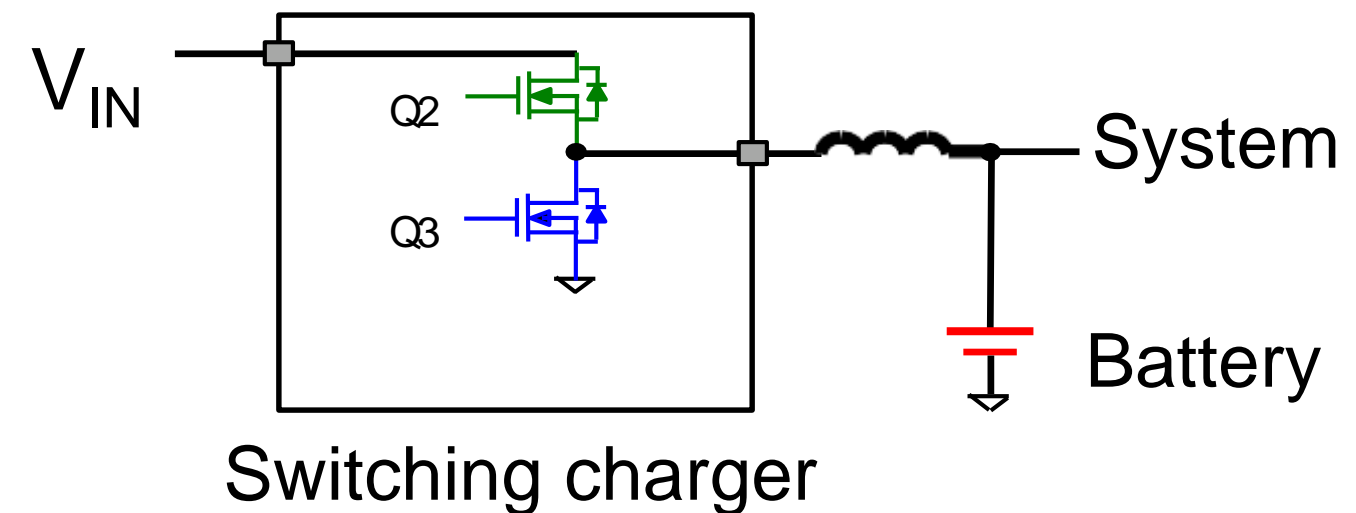
## Linear chargers

- Low charge current:  $<1.5$  A.
- Thermal performance depends on  $V_{OUT}/V_{IN}$ .
- No EMI concerns.
- Lower efficiency.
- Typically lower cost.



## Switch-mode chargers

- Higher charge current:  $>1.0$  A.
- Good thermal performance.
- Switching noise dependent on layout.
- Higher efficiency.
- Typically higher cost.



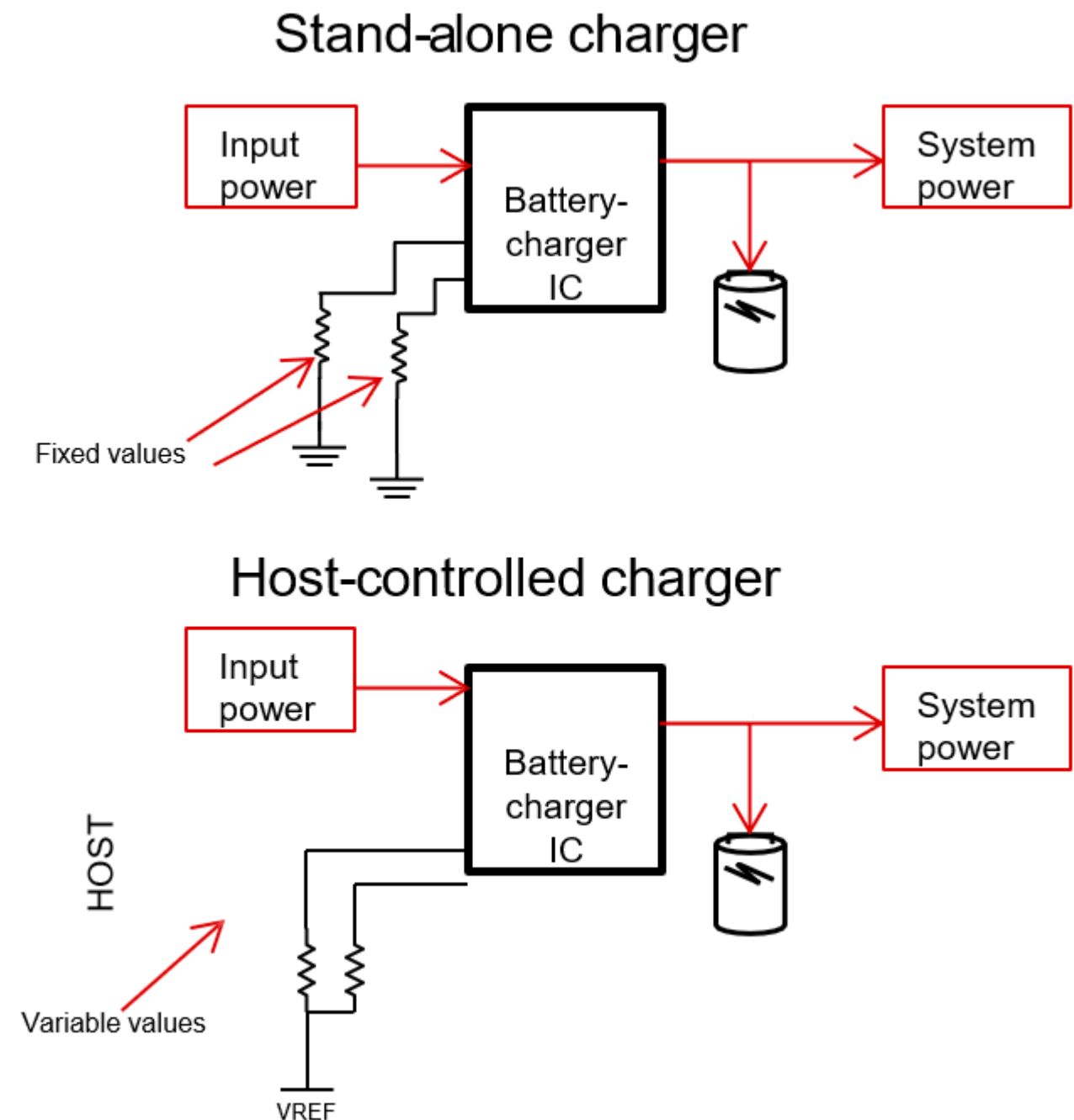
# Stand-alone vs. host-controlled chargers

# Stand-alone vs. I<sup>2</sup>C (host controlled)

## Stand-alone vs. I<sup>2</sup>C comparison

- Stand-alone – configured by passive resistor values:
  - For straightforward applications, use our RC-settable devices.
  - Faster development time with no firmware needed.
  - Typically less options to configure; limited diagnostics.
- Host controlled (I<sup>2</sup>C):
  - Wider range of system functionality.
  - Configurable charging thresholds, TS ranges.
  - Rich status and fault reporting; interrupts.
  - ADC-enabled chargers enable continuous current, voltage, temperature monitoring.

## External components



# Power path and $V_{INDPDM}$



# Power-path management

## What is a power path?

- Adapter supplies power through Q1; Q2 controls charge current.
- Separates charge current path from system current path, with priority given to system current.
- Suitable topology when powering a system and charging a battery simultaneously is a requirement.
- System input enables instant system turnon when plugged in, even with a totally discharged battery, enables accurate termination as charging and system paths are different.
- Non-power-path, system and battery connected in parallel.

## Featured products

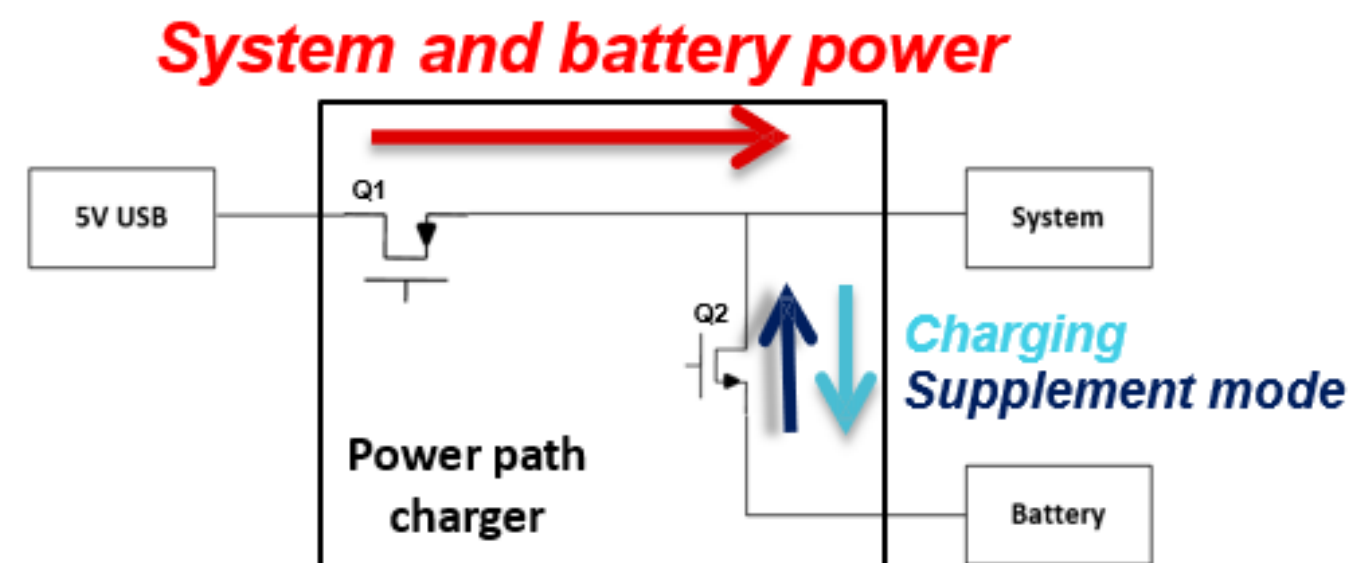
[BQ25180](#) | 1-A power-path 1S linear charger

[BQ25170](#) | 800-mA non-power-path 1S linear charger

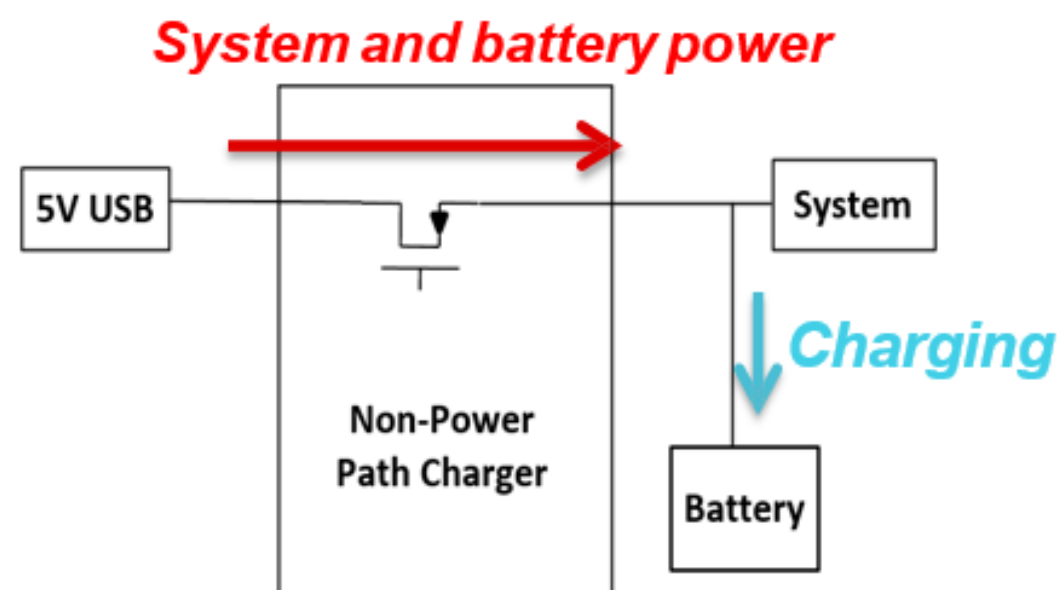
[BQ25723](#) | 16-A power-path 1S to 4S buck-boost charger

[BQ25303J](#) | 3-A non-power-path 1S buck charger

## Power-path charger



## Non-power-path charger

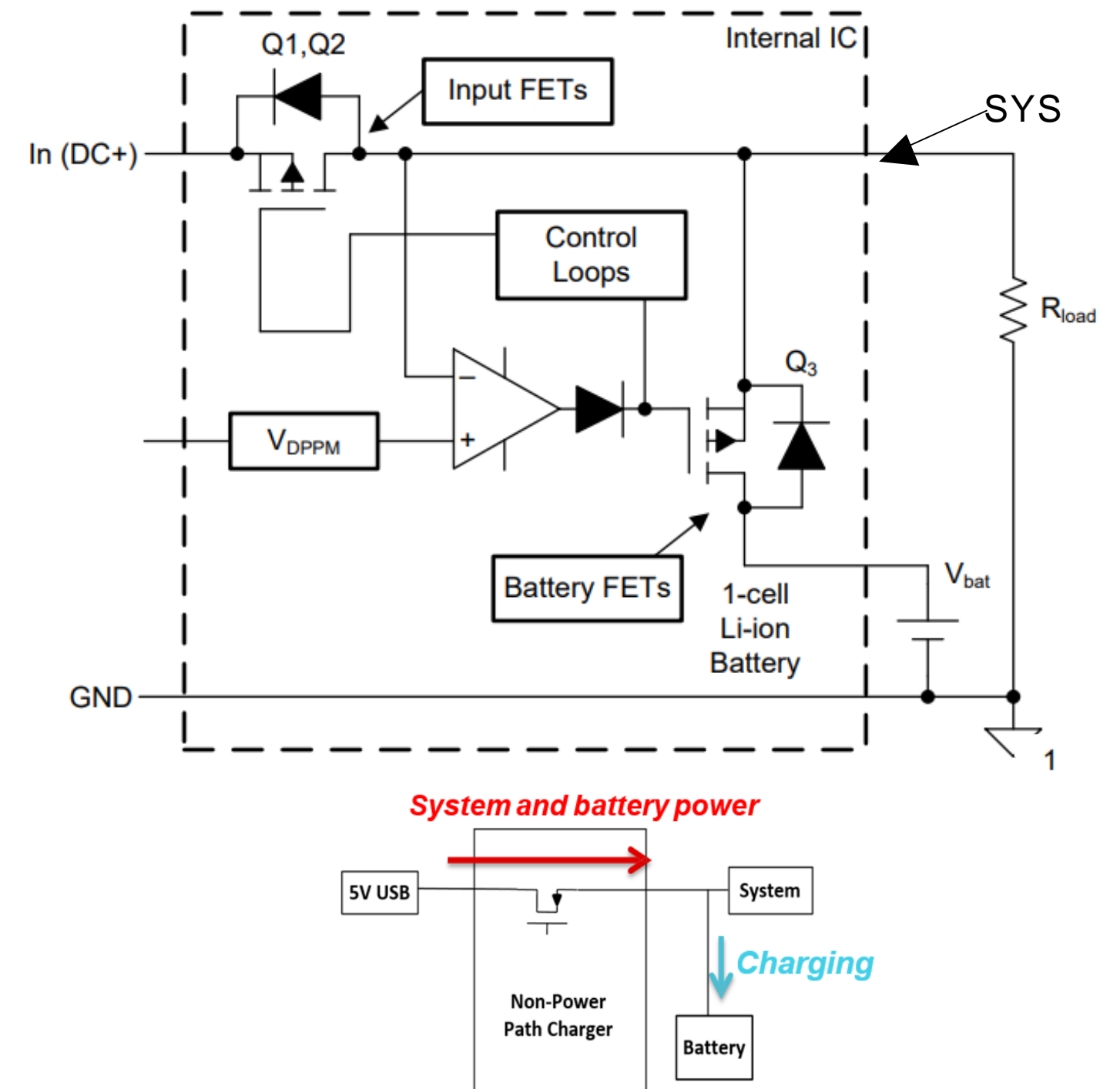


# Dynamic power-path management (DPPM)

## What is DPPM?

- DPPM monitors the input current, input voltage and output currents of a power-path device and automatically gives priority to the system when the adapter cannot support system and charging loads.
- The figure shows a DPPM circuit in a linear charger. The same principle applies for switching chargers.
- DPPM tries to keep SYS above a desired minimum voltage threshold to keep the system running.
- Allows for system power when the battery has been deeply discharged (Q3 off).
- Terminates current with higher accuracy than a non-power-path device where current into the battery is shared with load.

## DPPM functional block diagram

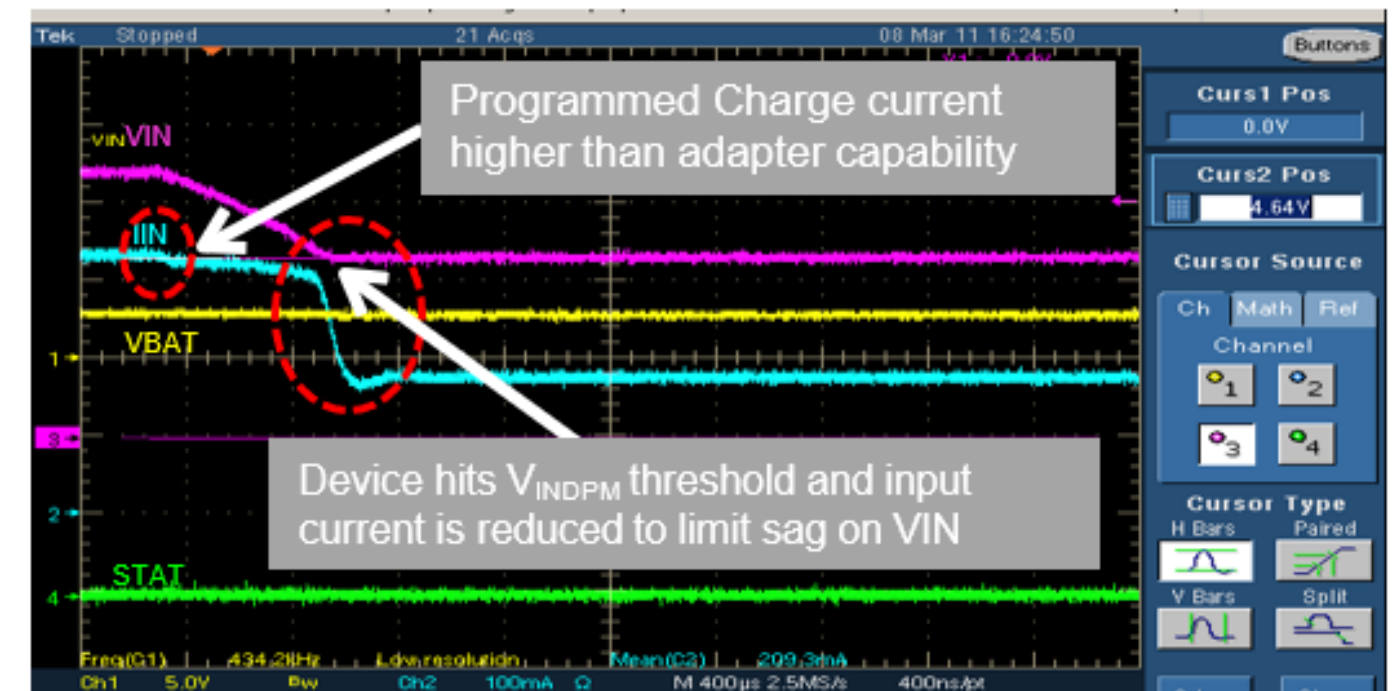
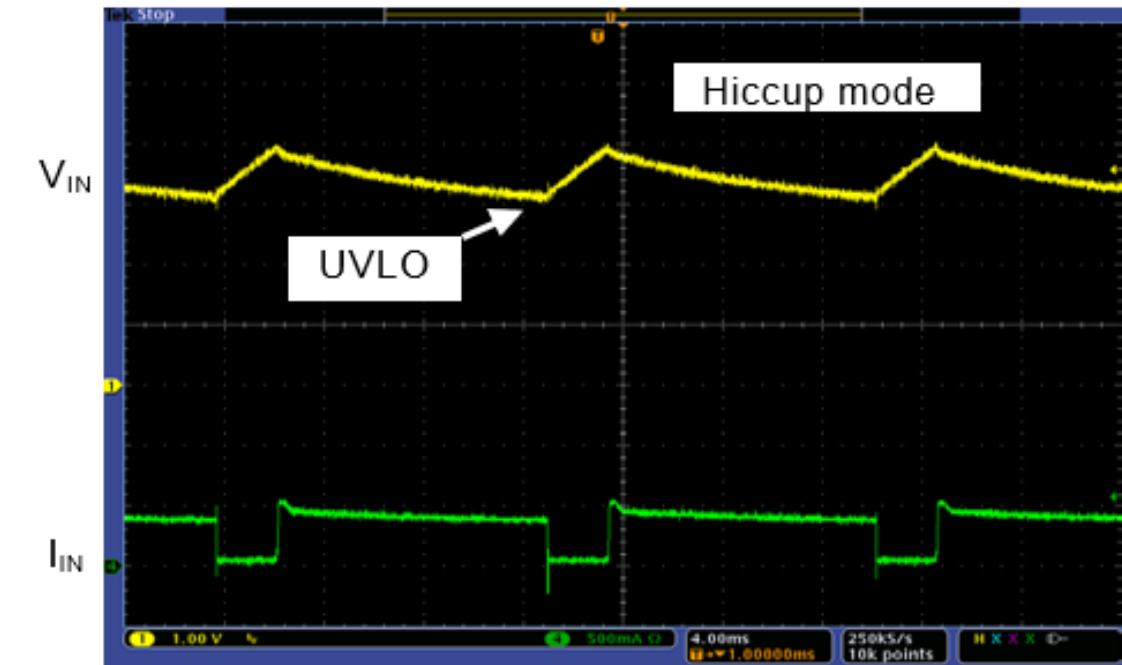


# Input voltage dynamic power management ( $V_{INDPDM}$ )

## What is $V_{INDPDM}$ ?

- A  $V_{INDPDM}$  control loop prevents the adapter voltage from dropping below the set  $V_{INDPDM}$  threshold.
- For most adapter types, the adapter output voltage ( $V_{IN}$  to the charger IC) will start to droop as it is overloaded.
- When the input voltage drops, the device will limit the input current, while charging can still occur.
- Without  $V_{INDPDM}$ , the device can enter a “hiccup mode” if the input source is overloaded ( $V_{IN}$  falls to undervoltage lockout [ULVO] trip level).
- In hiccup mode, user sees charging start and stop and a reduced charging rate.

## How does $V_{INDPDM}$ work?



# Does $V_{INDPDM} = DPPM$ ?

- No!
  - $V_{INDPDM}$  prevents the adapter from hitting a brownout condition through the current-regulating loop.
  - A charger can have  $V_{INDPDM}$  and not have **power path (DPPM)**.
  - Charge current and system current are combined, and the charger does not know how much current is being delivered only to the battery.
- DPPM enables the charger to know exactly how much current is going to the battery.
  - With this information, the charger can reduce the charge current and extend the charging safety timer in the event that the system demands higher currents.
- Which one does your design require?
  - For devices that stay plugged into adapter for long periods, power path. Power path ensures that the adapter exclusively powers the system, reducing battery cycle counts.
  - Non-power-path is suitable for low-cost or very-high-current applications.

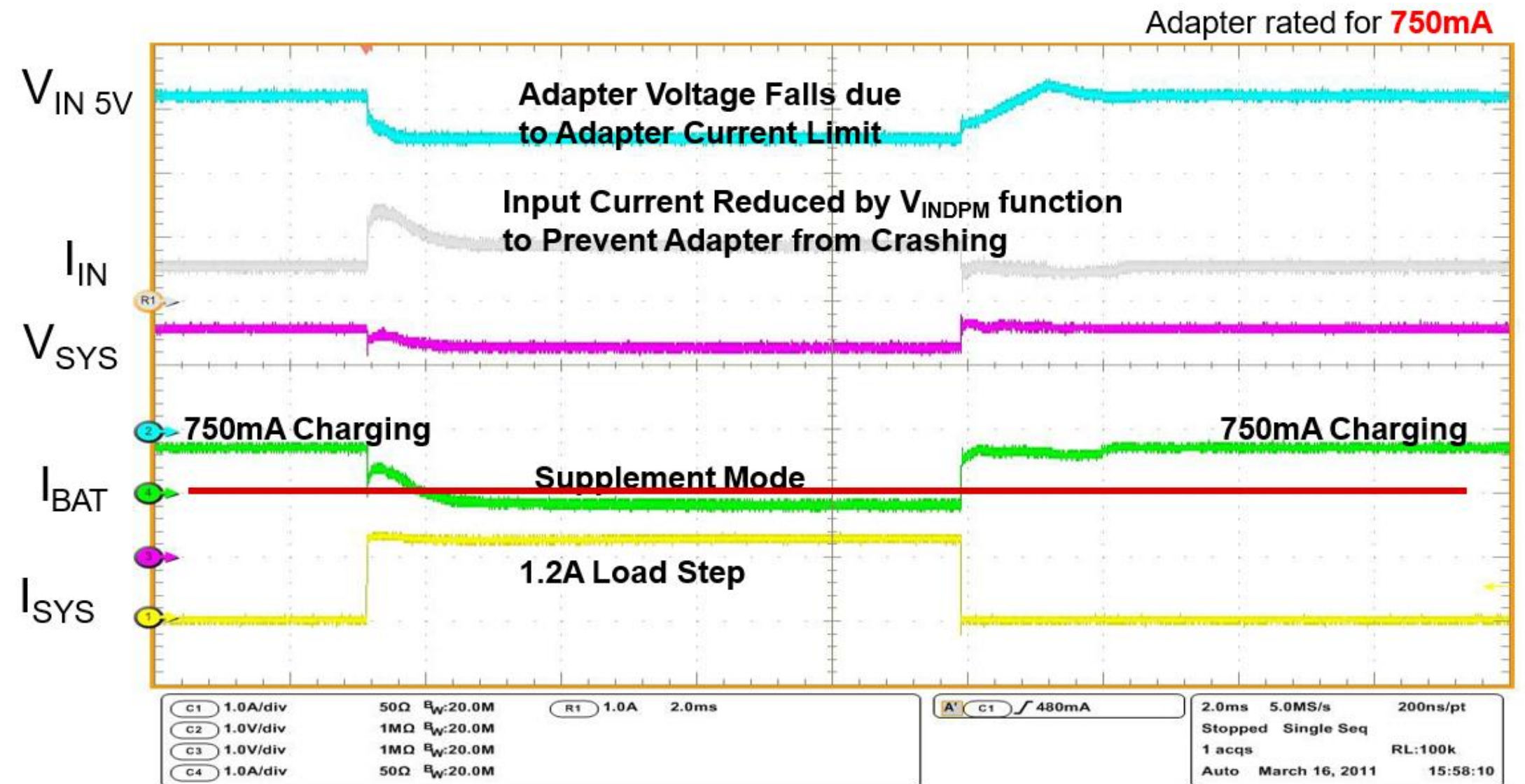


# Supplement mode – use case

## Using supplement mode

- Smartphone plugged in, user starts playing a game.
- Load step on the SYS rail draws more current than the adapter can support.
- $V_{INDPM}$  reduces input current to prevent  $V_{IN}$  from collapsing.
- Supplement mode turns on wherein the system load is **supplemented** by the battery while still drawing current from the adapter.

## Supplement-mode scope capture





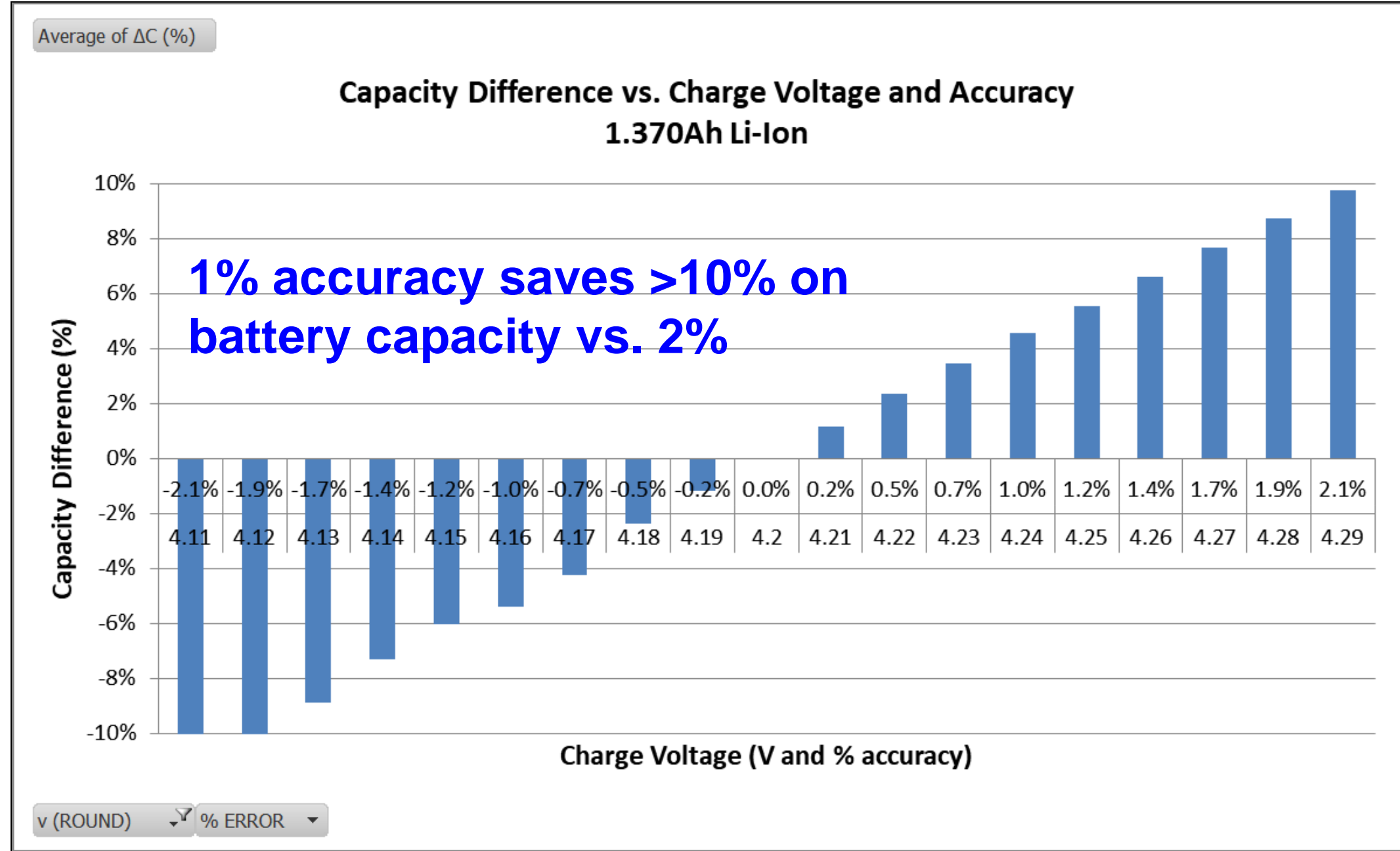
# Charging accuracy

# Charge voltage accuracy

## Impact of charge accuracy

- The higher the charge voltage, the higher the initial capacity.
- Overcharging can shorten battery cycle life and at extreme scenarios can cause thermal runaway.
- Undercharging results in an underutilization of the battery's maximum capacity.
- $\pm 1\%$  charge accuracy helps better utilize battery capacity while maintaining lifetime.

## Charge accuracy vs. capacity difference



# Charge and termination current accuracy

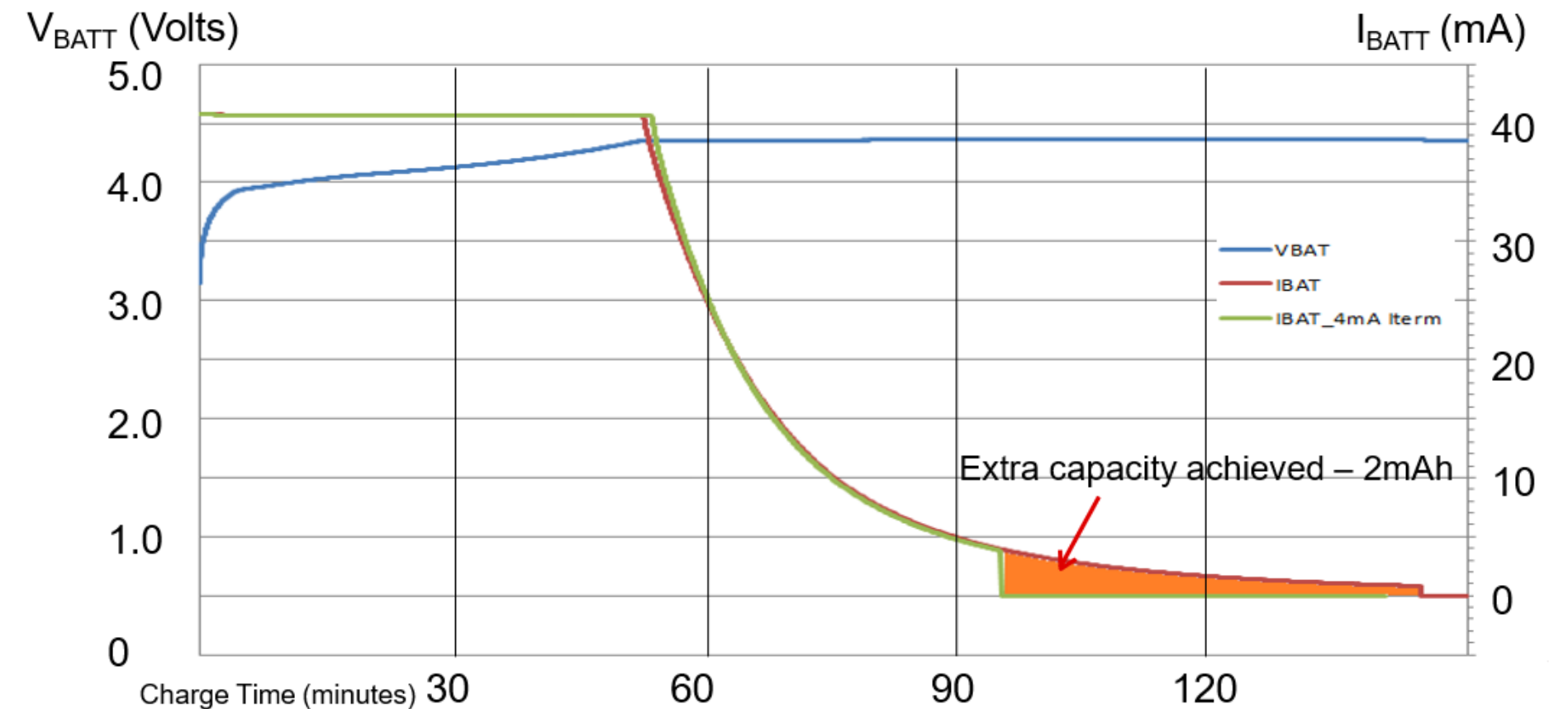
## Impact of charge accuracy

- High charging accuracy enables a more consistent user experience across many devices.
- Lower termination current will charge the battery closer to full capacity. However, setting it too low can impact charging duration.
- Good termination accuracy necessary to get the most out of your battery and deliver a consistent full capacity being restored.

## Featured products

[BQ25100](#) | 250-mA 1-mA termination 1S linear charger  
[BQ25618](#) | 1.5-A 20-mA termination 1S buck charger

## Benefits of accurate termination



- Charged 41-mAh battery at 40-mA fast charge current (1C).
- Termination at 4 mA (10%) or 1 mA.
- Shaded area represents additional 5% capacity restored on each charge.

# Power consumption

# Low battery leakage

## Impact of leakage/ $I_Q$

- Low battery quiescent current ( $I_Q$ ) is critical for extending the shelf life of small batteries.
- For further extend the battery shelf life, look for products that support “ship mode” or “shutdown mode,” where the  $I_Q$  can be as low as 2 nA.

For a device that uses a 50-mAh battery and must sit in storage, how much capacity is lost?

BAT leakage current	250nA	1 $\mu$ A	5 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A	20 $\mu$ A	50 $\mu$ A
Lost battery capacity (mAh ) 3-month shelf time	0.5%	2.2%	10.9%	21.8%	43.7%	100.0%
Lost battery capacity (mAh ) 6-month shelf time	1.1%	4.4%	21.8%	43.7%	87.4%	100.0%
Lost battery capacity (mAh ) 12-month shelf time	2.2%	8.8%	43.8%	87.6%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 1: Battery capacity percentage lost for a 50-mA battery for different shelf-life durations

## Featured products

- [BQ25175](#) | 800-mA 350-nA  $I_Q$  1S linear charger
- [BQ25302](#) | 2-A 200-nA  $I_Q$  1S buck charger
- [BQ25155](#) | 500-mA 450-nA  $I_Q$  1S linear charger



# Leakage/ $I_Q$ – functional modes

## $I_Q$ modes

- Many chargers offer multiple power modes to allow a high level of system customization:
  - **Ship mode.** Minimal circuitry is powered inside the charger looking for a user input. System is off. Best for devices sitting in storage before reaching the user.
  - **Low-power mode.** Default mode of the device when the battery is connected. Limited feature set (no I<sup>2</sup>C or ADC).
  - **Active battery mode.** I<sup>2</sup>C is enabled for communication with host. ADC channels enabled.

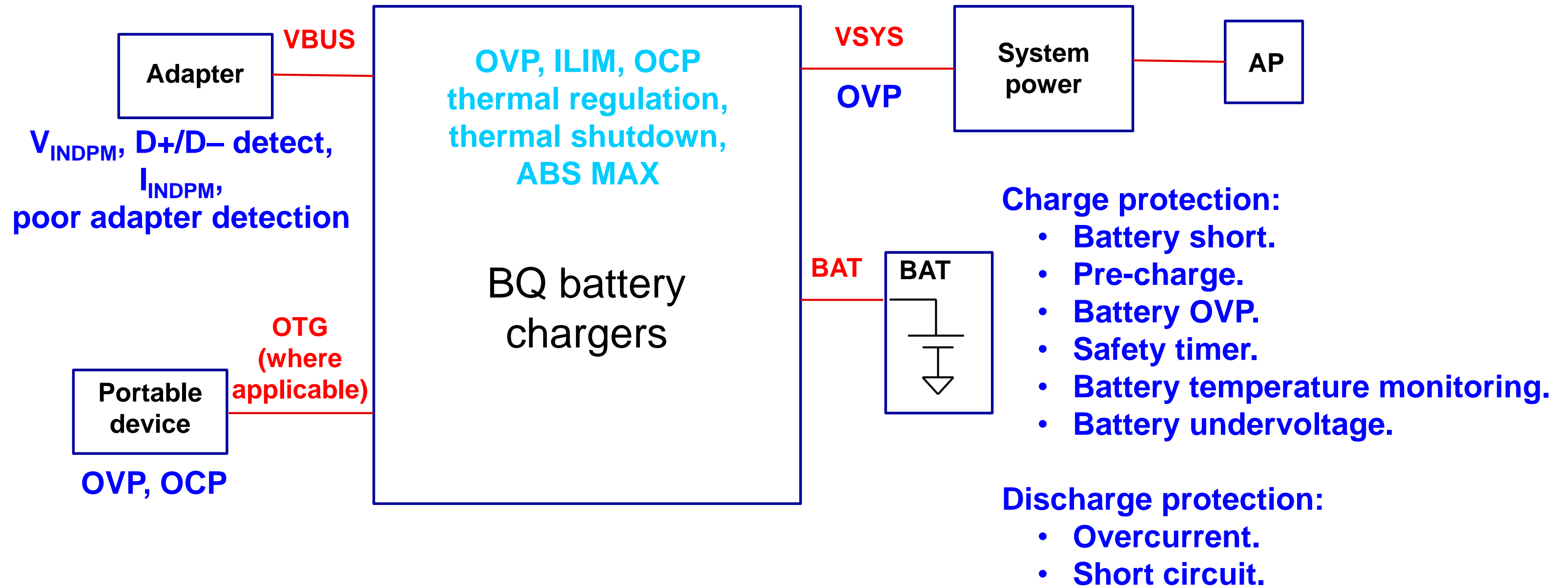
## BQ25155 example

Battery-only mode	$I_Q$ (typ)
Ship mode	10 nA
Low-power mode	460 nA
Active battery mode	18 $\mu$ A

# Protections

# Safe charging – system protections

## Various types of integrated protection features



\*Note: Pack-side protection is integrated into the battery pack.

# Protection against voltage transients

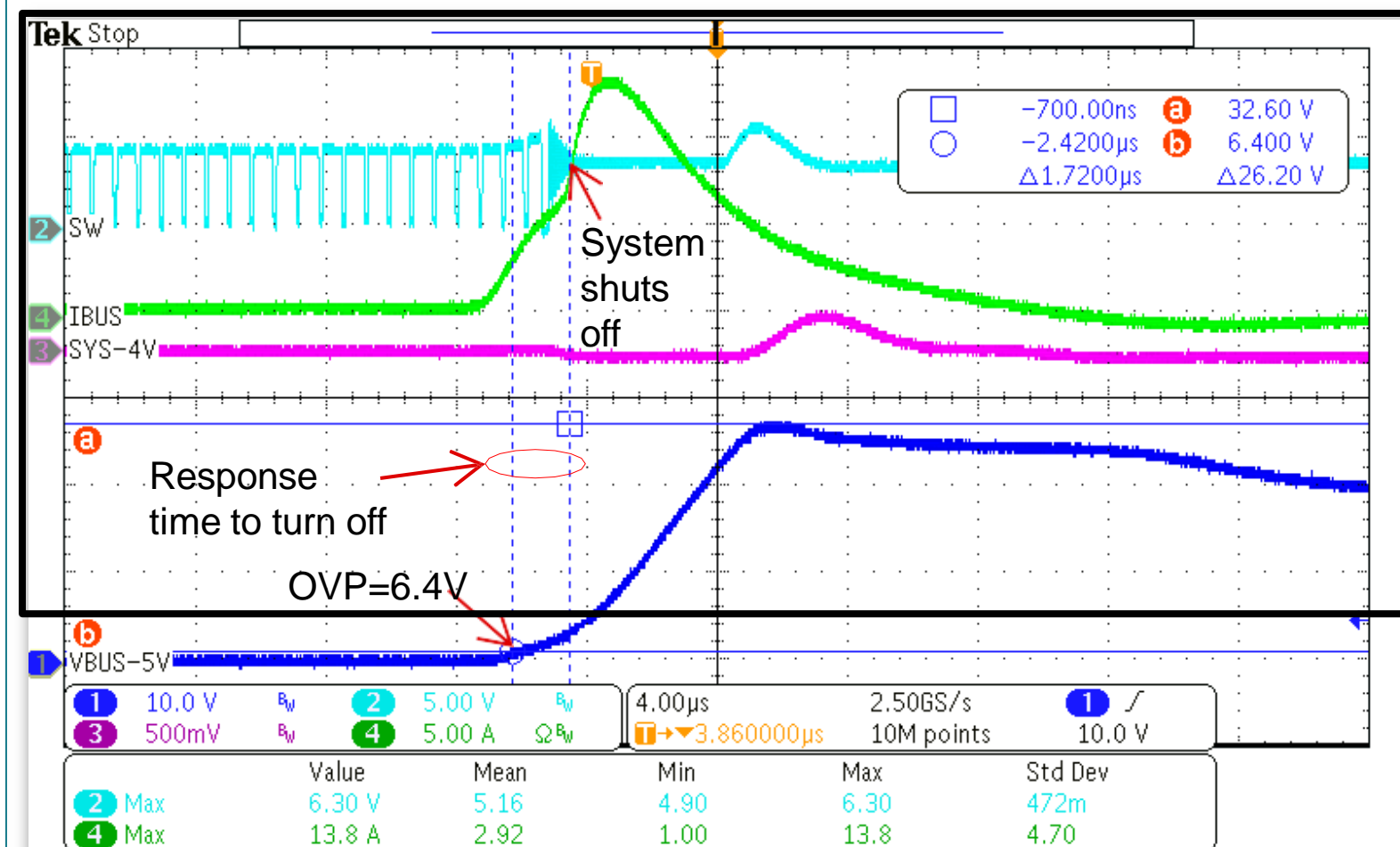
## Safe charging overview

- Chargers often directly interface to the adapter cable and require protection against transient voltage spikes.
- Integrated OVP enables the charger to protect the system from any spikes at the input without damaging the charger or downstream devices when using low-cost adapters or converters with poor regulation.
- OVP is not the absolute maximum rating; electrical overstress can occur when voltage or current exceeds absolute maximum ratings.
- Chargers with integrated OVP save board area and cost.

## Featured products

[BQ25171-Q1](#) | 800-mA 40-V absolute maximum 1S linear charger  
[BQ25798](#) | 5-A 30-V absolute maximum 1S to 4S buck-boost charger

## VBUS OVP response – scope capture

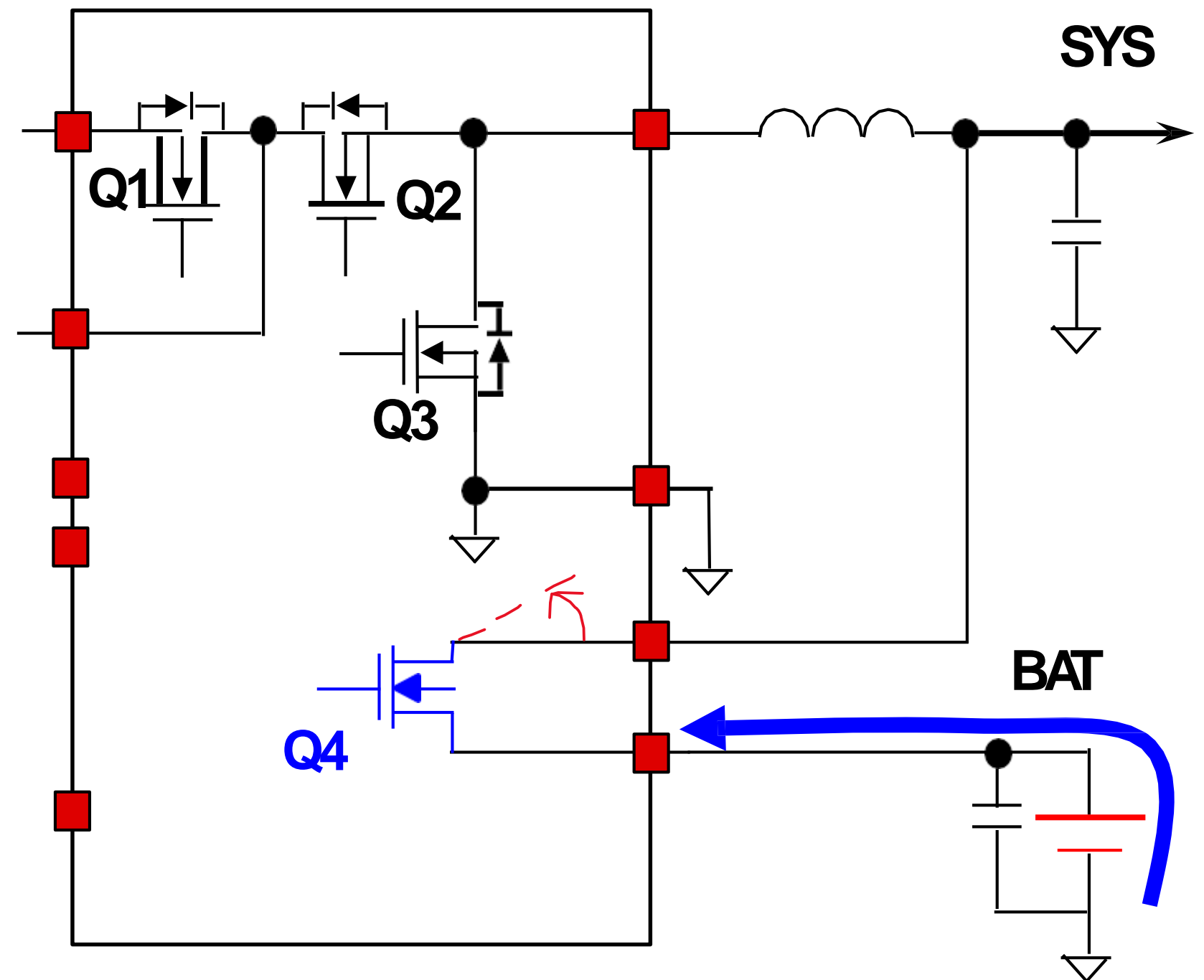


# Battery undervoltage lockout (BUVLO)

## What is BUVLO?

- In BUVLO, BATFET is off; isolate the SYS from the battery.
- Turning off BATFET (Q4) when below the UVLO threshold prevents deep battery discharge.
- BUVLO voltage threshold is configurable for variable applications, typically around 2.2 V to 3.0 V.
- Preventing over discharge increases the lifespan of the battery.
- Less need for an additional battery-protector IC.

## BUVLO control loop



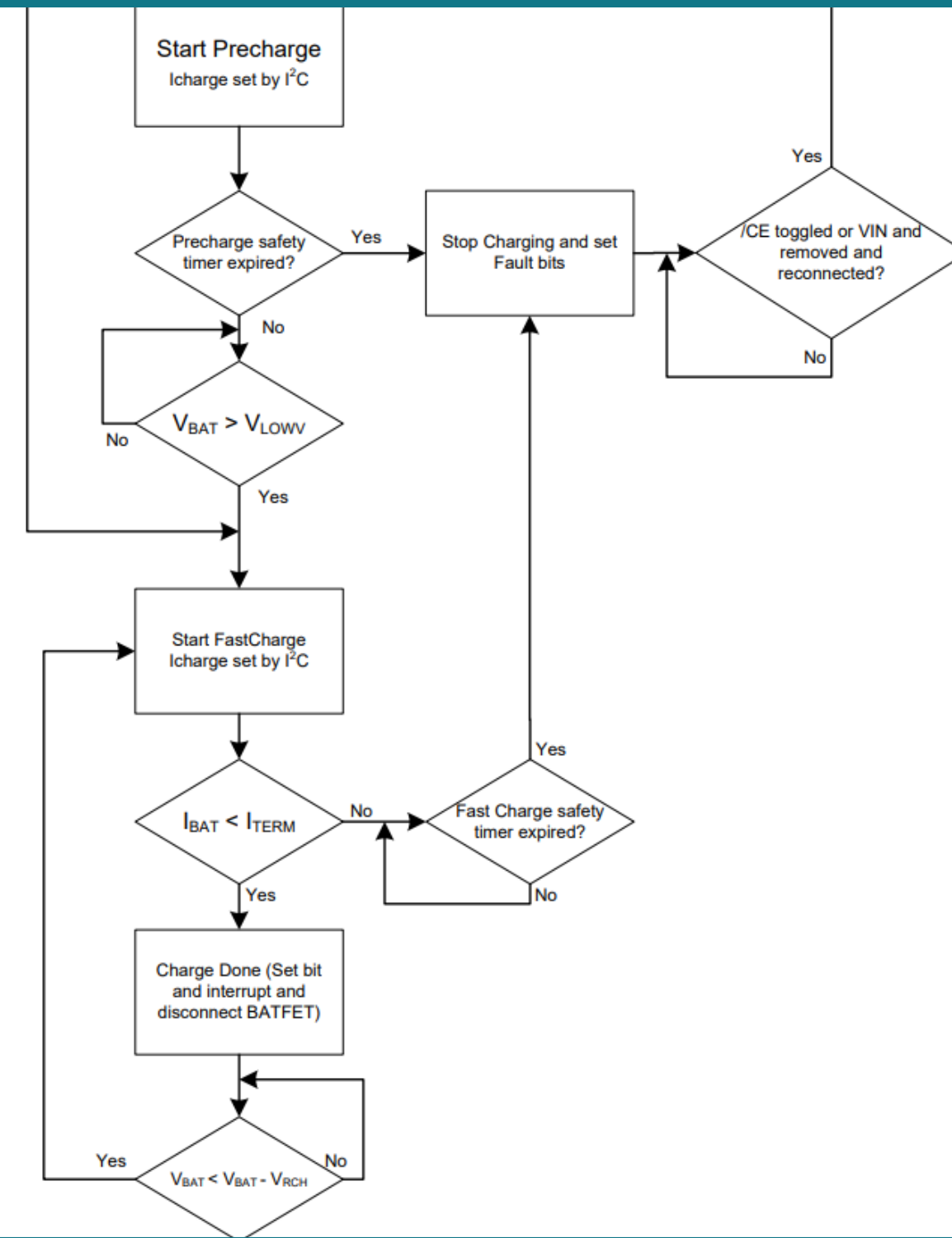


# Safety timers

## Safety timer modes of operation

- 10-hour safety timer limits the time during which the device can be in fast charge mode.
- 30-minute safety timer for pre-charge.
- Prevents continuous charging of a damaged battery or defective board.
- Safety timer duration doubles during faults that reduce charging current ( $V_{INDPM}$ , TS).
- Configurable by the host on I<sup>2</sup>C chargers or through the TMR pin on stand-alone offerings.

## Safety timer – flow chart



# Thermal regulation and protection loops

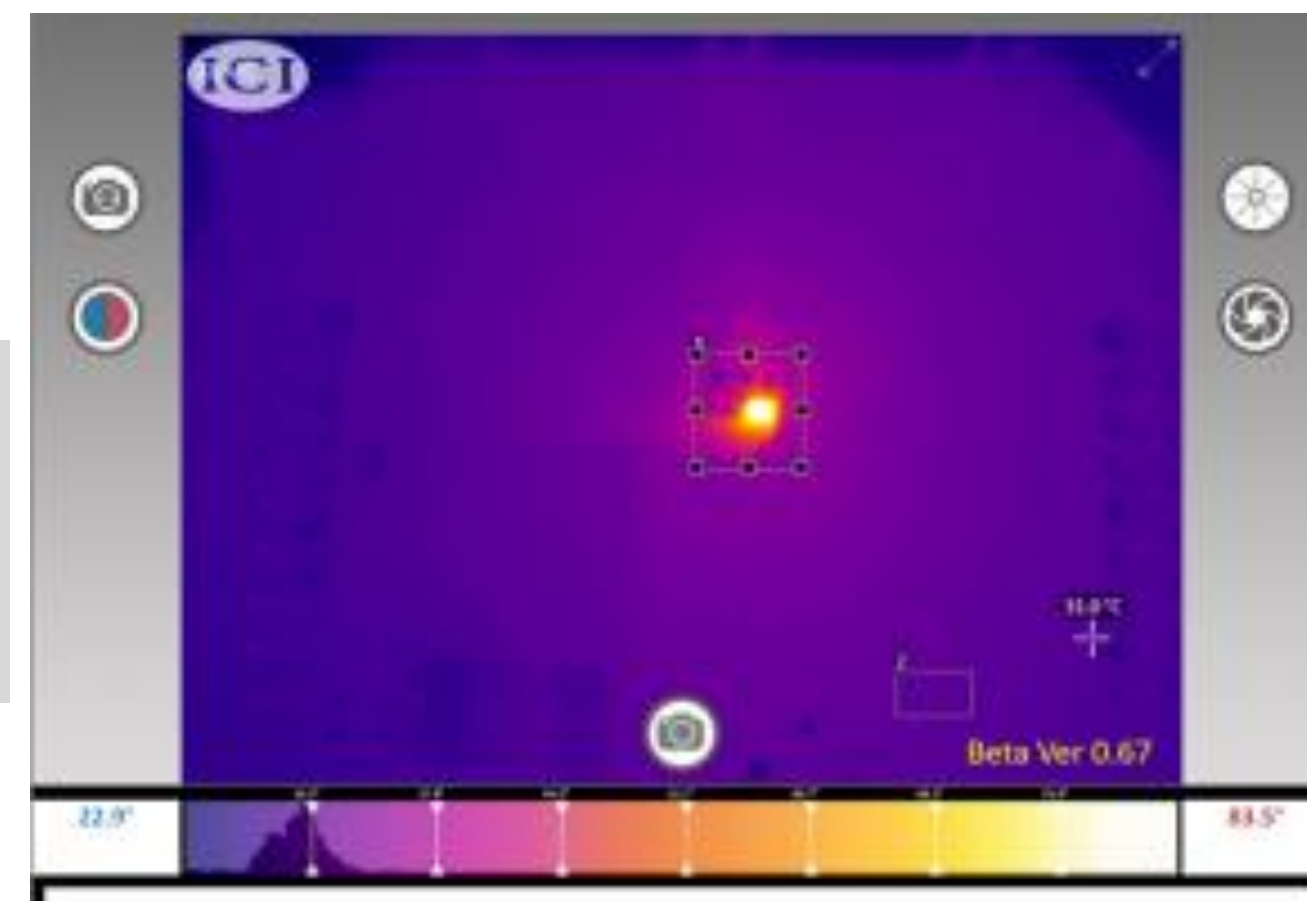
## Thermal management functions

- TREG – regulates the IC junction temperature by reducing charge current above 125°C.
- TSHUT – turns off the charger when the IC junction temperature is excessive, >150°C.
- Slow down the safety timers when the charge current is reduced by the thermal loop, avoiding a false safety timer fault.

## Calculating thermal budget

- Maximum power dissipated in the IC occurs at the minimum fast charge voltage (usually 2.5 V to 3 V).
- $R_{\theta JA}$  represents the junction-to-ambient thermal resistance, available in data sheets or EVM user's guides.

## Power dissipation



$$P_{LOSS} = (V_{IN} - V_{BAT}) \times I_{CHG}$$

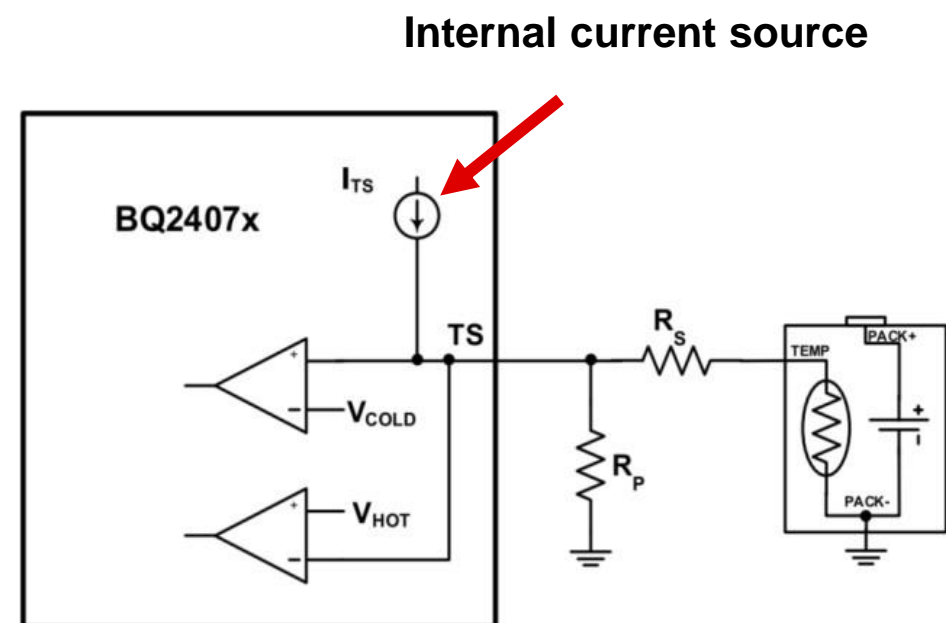
$$T_J = T_{AMB} + R_{\theta JA} \times P_{LOSS}$$

# NTC monitoring

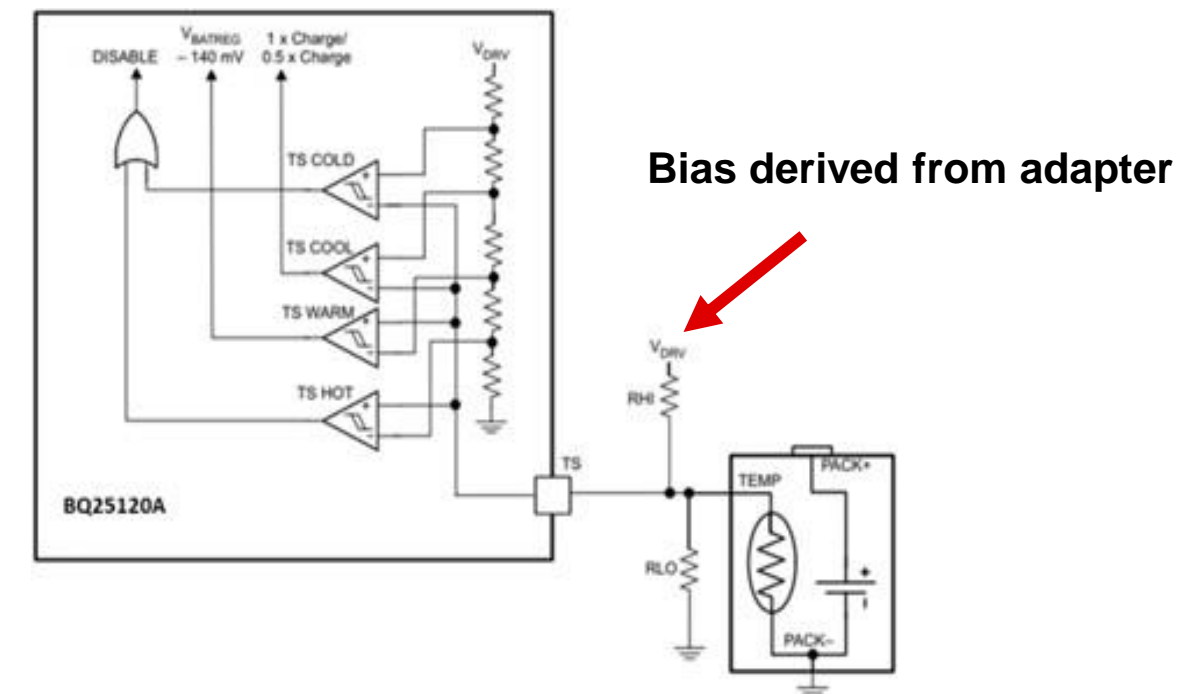
## Types of NTC monitoring

- Charging the battery at safe temperatures is very important to improve battery life.
- Charging is allowed at safe temperatures, typically 0 – 60C
- TI chargers have two types of NTC monitoring: current and voltage based

## Current-based monitoring



## Voltage-based monitoring



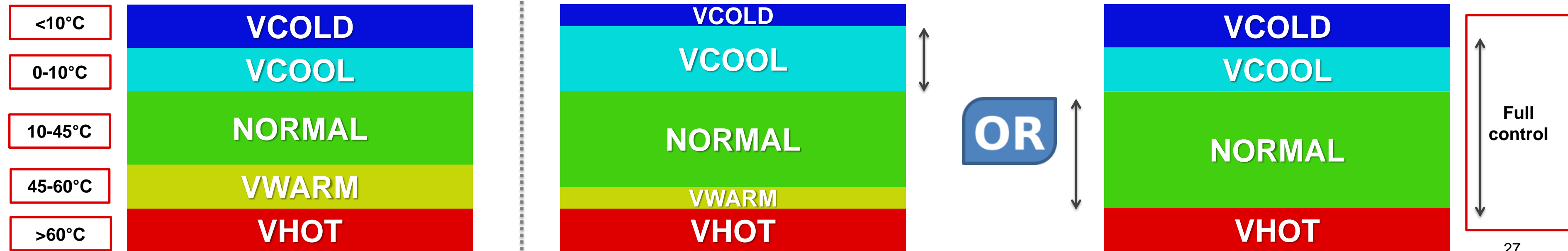
# Battery temperature monitoring – beyond JEITA

## Using the charger's temperature-monitoring capability

- Various applications these days demand operation over wide thermal regions.
- Making BOM changes or adding Rs/Rp to adjust for JEITA is often not possible.
- Using a charger that can support software configurability of cutoffs and actions provides design and BOM flexibility.

**Most chargers:**  
**Fixed thresholds**

**TI chargers with configurable JEITA:**  
**Variable thresholds on software**



# Input detection (D+/D-)



# What is USB D+/D- detection?

## D+/D- detection overview

- Industry standard:
  - Used to identify current and communications capability of adapters.
  - USB Battery Charging Specification Rev 1.2 (**BC1.2**) compatibility.
- Why USB D+/D- detection?
  - Maximize current potential of adapter.
  - More efficient power management.
  - Universal charging for convenience.
  - Less e-waste.



## Featured products

[BQ25611D](#) | 3-A 1S buck charger with USB detection

# OTG mode



# Chargers – application diagrams

# BQ25171-Q1: Application diagram for lithium-based batteries

Wide input voltage range supports 1S or 2S charging with 18-V OVP  
**Abs Max: 40 V**

CHM\_TMR programs chemistry and charge timer:  
 Safety timer disable  
 10 hours  
 5 hours

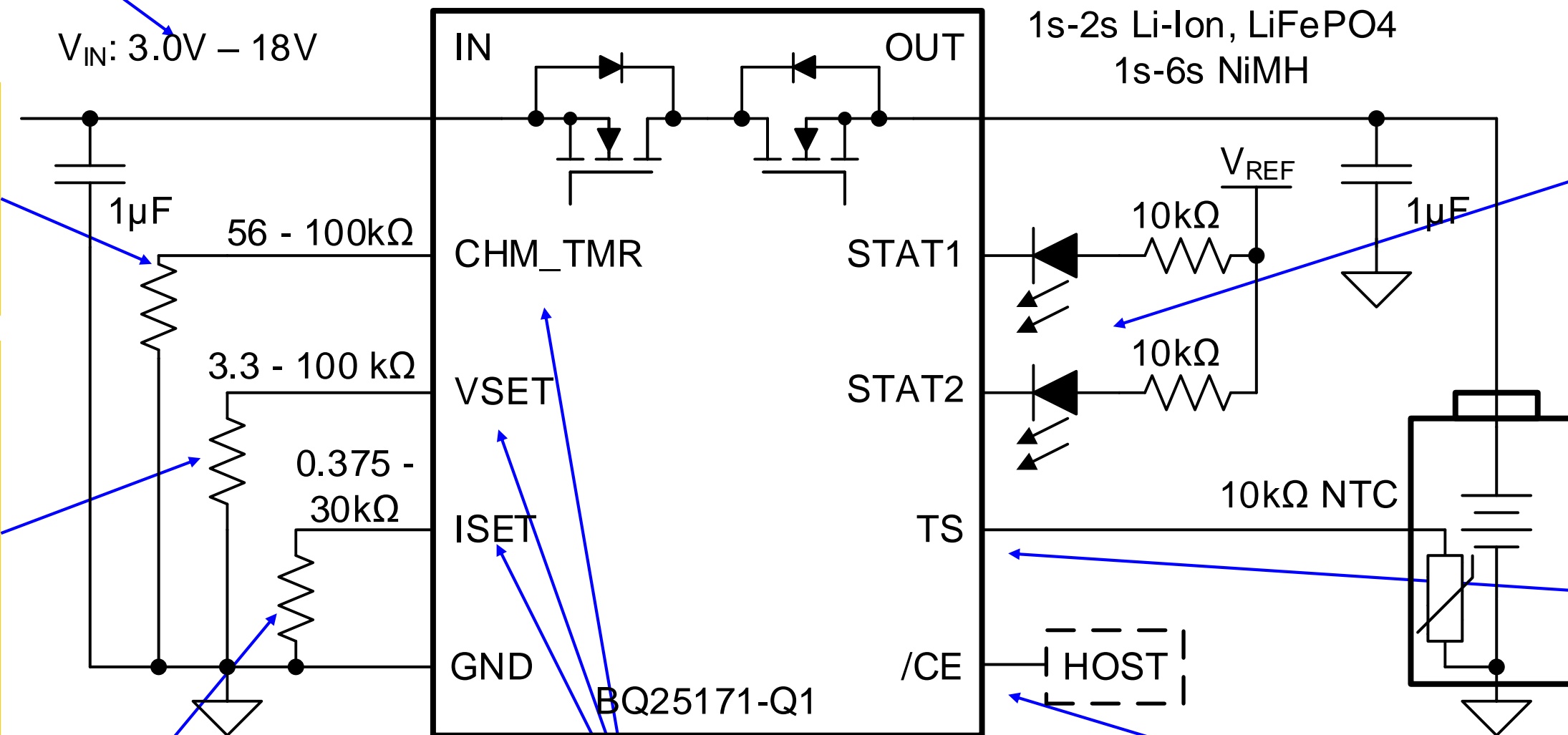
VSET programmable levels:

1S:	2S:
3.5 V	7.0 V
3.6 V	7.2 V
3.7 V	7.4 V
3.8 V	
3.9 V	
4.05 V	
4.1 V	8.2 V
4.2 V	8.4 V
4.35 V	

Continuously programmable charge-current pin from 10 mA to 800 mA

3.0-mm-by-3.0-mm<sup>2</sup> QFN 10-pin package

Automatic charge cycle control of pre-charge, fast-charge and CV modes with IPRECHG and ITERM  
 Battery OVP and OCP



1s-2s Li-Ion, LiFePO4  
 1s-6s NiMH

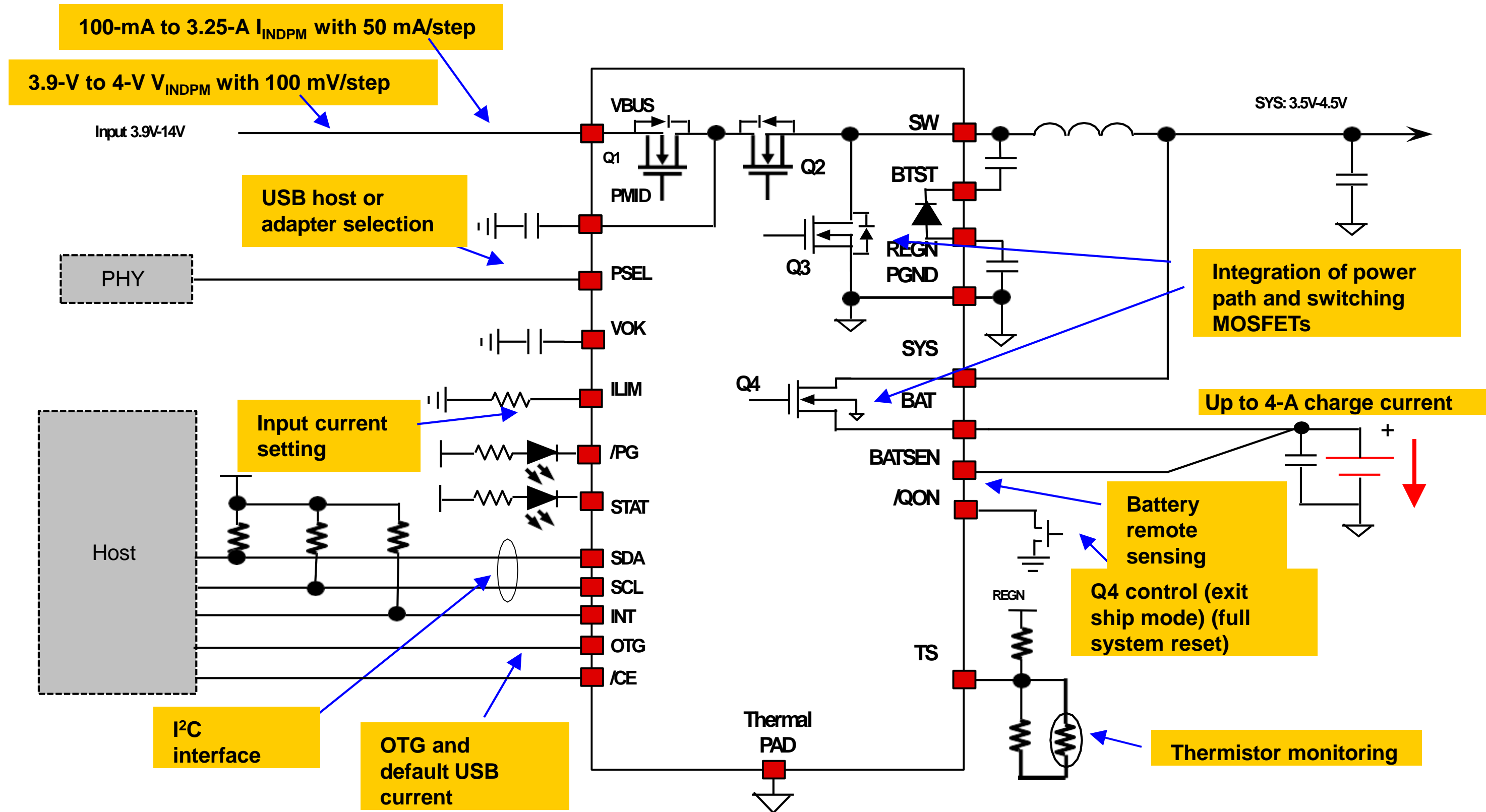
Four-state battery charger status indicator

Battery temperature sensing for safe battery charging with hot/cold profile

/CE pin for immediate host control of charger function

Pin-short and pin-open protection

# BQ25898 application diagram





# Additional resources to help complete your design

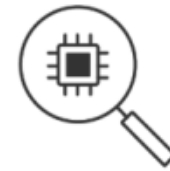
# TI.com charger selection

- [TI.com/chargers](https://www.ti.com/chargers) is a great tool to select the right charger for your system.
- You can select multiple parameters like battery chemistry, control topology and features to meet system requirements.

Part Number	Number of series cells	Cell chemistry	Control topology	Charge current (Max) (A)	Operating Vin (Max) (V)	Battery charge voltage (Min) (V)	Battery charge voltage (Max) (V)	Absolute Vin (safety rating) (Max) (V)	Control interface	Features	Package Group
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">BQ25125</a> - Low IQ highly integrated battery charge management solution for wearables and IoT - <b>New</b>	1	Li-Ion/Li-Polymer	Linear	0.3	5.5	3.6	4.65	20	I2C	Integrated Buck Converter, Integrated LDO, JEITA BAT Temp Monitoring (Thermistor Pin), OVP, Power Path, Temp Monitoring (Thermistor Pin), Thermal Regulation, UVLO	DSBGA   25
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">BQ25150</a> - Low IQ linear battery charge management solution with LDO and ADC - <b>New</b>	1	Li-Ion/Li-Polymer	Linear	0.5	5.5	3.6	4.6	20	I2C	Integrated LDO, Power Path, JEITA BAT Temp Monitoring (Thermistor Pin), Temp Monitoring (Thermistor Pin), Integrated ADC, Thermal Regulation	DSBGA   20
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">BQ25120A</a> - 700nA Low Iq Highly Integrated Battery Charge Management Solution	1	Li-Ion/Li-Polymer	Linear	0.3	5.5	3.6	4.65	20	I2C	Integrated Buck Converter, Integrated LDO, JEITA BAT Temp Monitoring (Thermistor Pin), OVP, Power Path, Temp Monitoring (Thermistor Pin), Thermal Regulation, UVLO	DSBGA   25

# How to leverage TI to expedite your design process

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