

# Electric Vehicle Battery Management System with Charge Monitor and Fire Protection

Abutalaha Inamdar<sup>1</sup>, Vipashana Kharate<sup>1</sup>, Abhishekkumar Singh<sup>1</sup>, Ashwini Farad<sup>1</sup>  
Prashant Kedarnath Magadam<sup>2</sup>

Students, Department of Electrical Engineering<sup>1</sup>

Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering<sup>2</sup>

Bramhdevdada Mane Institute of Technology, Belati, Solapur, Maharashtra, India

**Abstract:** *This paper outlines the development and execution of an Electric Vehicle Battery Management System (BMS) outfitted with charge surveillance and fire prevention functionalities. As the utilization of electric vehicles (EVs) continues to grow, ensuring the safety and optimal functioning of battery packs becomes increasingly crucial. The suggested BMS merges sophisticated monitoring algorithms with fire suppression systems to alleviate risks linked with overcharging and thermal runaway incidents. Through thorough examination and validation procedures, our findings underscore the efficacy of the implemented BMS in ameliorating battery performance and guarding against potential dangers, thereby fostering the widespread embrace of electric mobility*

**Keywords:** Battery management system, Charge monitoring, Fire protection

## I. INTRODUCTION

The global automotive industry is currently experiencing a substantial shift due to the rapid expansion of electric vehicles (EVs), fueled by concerns regarding environmental sustainability and the imperative to diminish reliance on fossil fuels. EVs present a plethora of advantages, such as decreased emissions and lower operating expenses. However, the safety and dependability of their battery systems are pivotal factors influencing consumer acceptance and market expansion. At the heart of ensuring the secure and efficient operation of EVs lies the Electric Vehicle Battery Management System (EV BMS), which plays a crucial role in overseeing, regulating, and enhancing the performance of the battery pack.

### A. Background:

The Electric Vehicle Battery Management System (BMS) acts as the control center for the battery pack, ensuring safe operation by managing functions like cell balancing, state-of-charge estimation, and thermal management. It's crucial for maximizing battery lifespan and preventing safety hazards.

### B. Motivation:

Despite advancements, EVs face challenges like limited range and safety concerns, especially regarding thermal runaway and fire incidents in lithium-ion batteries. Enhancing BMS with better charge monitoring and fire protection is necessary to address these issues and improve EV safety and reliability.

### C. Objectives:

This paper aims to:

- Explain the role of BMS in EVs and its functions.
- Discuss current challenges in EV battery management.
- Highlight the importance of charge monitoring for optimizing performance.
- Explore fire protection strategies in EV battery systems.
- Investigate integrating charge monitoring and fire protection into BMS.
- Review recent advancements in EV BMS, charge monitoring, and fire protection.
- Identify future research directions and challenges in the field.

## II. ELECTRIC VEHICLE BATTERY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS: OVERVIEW

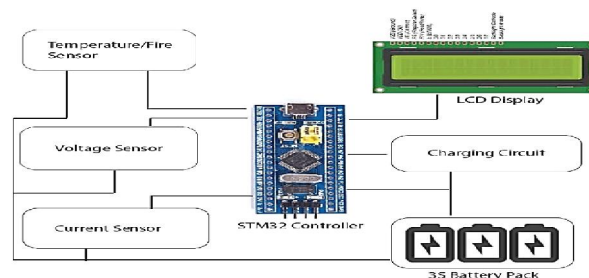
### A. Components and Functions

Electric Vehicle Battery Management Systems (EV BMS) are vital for overseeing the health, safety, and performance of battery packs in electric vehicles. Typically, an EV BMS comprises several components, each serving a specific function:

- **STM32 Controller:** This component controls and manages the operation of the battery management system. It monitors various parameters, executes algorithms, and communicates with other system components.
- **Temperature Sensor:** Responsible for measuring the temperature of the battery cells, this sensor helps prevent overheating and optimizes charging/discharging processes to ensure battery safety and longevity.
- **Voltage Sensor:** Monitors the voltage of individual battery cells or packs to maintain proper balancing and prevent overcharging or undercharging, which could lead to damage or reduced performance.
- **Current Sensor:** Measures the flow of current in and out of the battery to monitor charging and discharging rates. This data is crucial for accurately estimating the state of charge and preventing over-current situations that could damage the battery.
- **LCD Display:** Provides a user-friendly interface for displaying real-time data such as battery status, temperature, voltage, and current information. This allows users and maintenance personnel to monitor the system and diagnose any issues.
- **Li ion Battery:** Serving as the primary energy storage component, the Li-ion battery powers the electric vehicle's propulsion system and other onboard systems.
- **Regulatory Circuitry:** Implements safety and protection features like over-voltage protection, under-voltage protection, and over-current protection to safeguard the battery and ensure compliance with safety standards.
- **Switches:** Control the flow of current within the battery management system, enabling functions like power on/off, isolation, and emergency shutdown in case of faults or safety concerns.
- **LED's:** These provide visual indicators for the status of the battery system, indicating charging status, fault conditions, or other system states to users or maintenance personnel.
- **PCB Board:** This serves as the physical platform for mounting and interconnecting all the components of the battery management system. It facilitates efficient operation and integration into the electric vehicle's architecture.

Each of these components plays a crucial role in ensuring the safe and efficient operation of electric vehicle battery systems, contributing to overall vehicle performance and longevity.

### B. Block Diagram:



**Fig a: Battery Management system**

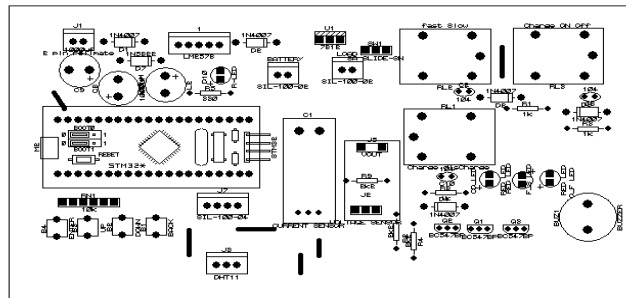
The LM2576 family of integrated circuits are like all-in-one components that help control the voltage in electronic devices, particularly for lowering it (called "buck" regulation). You can get them in fixed versions with set output voltages like 3.3V, 5V, or 12V. Or, there are adjustable versions that let you choose the output voltage within a certain range, from 1.23 to 37 volts. These regulators are great at keeping the output voltage stable even when the input power or the device's power needs change.

The STM32 is a type of microcontroller made by a company called STMicroelectronics. Think of it as the brain of many electronic gadgets. It's built with a powerful 32-bit processor called ARM Cortex-M, and it's really good at connecting to different parts of a device, like sensors, cameras, and motors, using different types of communication methods.

The DHT11 is a common sensor used to measure temperature and humidity. It's like a tiny computer itself, designed to give out data about temperature and humidity in a format that other devices, like microcontrollers, can understand. It's pretty straightforward to use since it's already calibrated at the factory. For temperature, it can measure from 0°C to 50°C, and for humidity, it measures from 20% to 90%. And it's pretty accurate, with just a 1°C difference for temperature and a 1% difference for humidity.

### C. PCB Design:

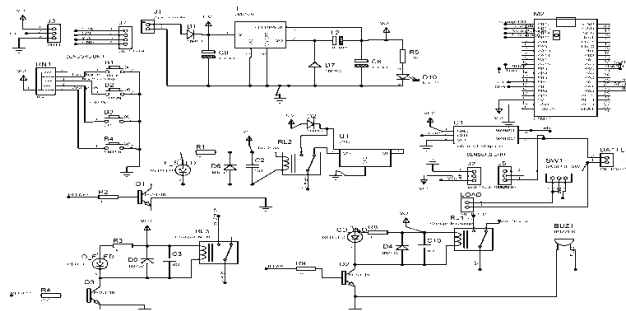
Fig b showcases the PCB design tailored for Electric Vehicle Battery Management Systems (EV BMS) equipped with charge monitoring and fire protection.



**Fig b: PCB Design for EV BMS With Charge Monitor And Fire Protection**

### D. Circuit Diagram OF BMS:

A comprehensive Electric Vehicle Battery Management System (BMS) with charge monitoring and fire protection is pivotal for ensuring EV safety and efficiency. The circuit diagram (Figure C) outlines the key components:



**Fig c: Circuit Diagram of Battery Management System**

- **Battery Pack:** The system's foundation, comprising series and parallel-connected battery cells to achieve the requisite voltage and capacity.
- **Cell Balancing Circuit:** Maintains uniform cell charge levels to optimize capacity and lifespan.
- **Voltage Monitoring Circuit:** Continuously oversees individual cell voltages to prevent deviations beyond safe thresholds.
- **Current Monitoring Circuit:** Tracks charging and discharging currents to ensure they remain within safe parameters.
- **Temperature Monitoring Circuit:** Detects overheating, a precursor to potential fire hazards, triggering protective measures.

- **Charge Monitoring Circuit:** Supervises the charging process, ensuring adherence to safe current and voltage levels and terminating charging when complete.
- **Fire Protection Circuit:** Incorporates various sensors and mechanisms to detect and prevent thermal runaway or fire incidents within the battery pack.

#### E. Importance of BMS in EVs

Efficient electric vehicle operation hinges on battery pack performance and reliability. A robust BMS maximizes battery lifespan, optimizes energy utilization, and safeguards against safety risks like thermal runaway and fire hazards. Without effective management, batteries are prone to degradation and capacity loss.

#### F. Challenges and Limitations

Despite significant advancements in EV battery technology and BMS design, several challenges and limitations persist:

- **Accuracy and Reliability:** Estimating battery variables accurately remains intricate due to factors like aging and temperature variation.
- **Integration Complexity:** Coordinating BMS integration with other vehicle systems necessitates meticulous planning and communication protocols.
- **Safety Concerns:** Mitigating risks of overcharging, over-discharging, and thermal runaway remains critical as battery capacities increase.
- **Cost and Scalability:** Developing cost-effective, scalable BMS solutions that meet safety and performance standards across different vehicle platforms poses ongoing challenges for manufacturers.

### III. CHARGE MONITORING IN EV BATTERY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Charge monitoring is a pivotal aspect of Electric Vehicle Battery Management Systems (EV BMS) as it ensures the safe and efficient operation of lithium-ion batteries utilized in electric vehicles. Among its myriad functions, charge monitoring emerges as a critical component of EV BMS. This segment delves into the significance of charge monitoring, the methodologies and sensors utilized for this task, and the cutting-edge charge monitoring systems within EV BMS.

#### A. Significance of Charge Monitoring

Charge monitoring within EV BMS serves a multitude of purposes indispensable for battery health, safety, and performance optimization. It encompasses the real-time tracking and analysis of various parameters associated with the battery's state of charge (SoC), state of health (SoH), and state of function (SoF). Through continual monitoring of the charge state, EV BMS can furnish precise prognostications of battery performance, estimate available driving range, and forestall overcharging or undercharging, both of which can detrimentally impact battery longevity.

Furthermore, charge monitoring facilitates early detection of aberrant battery behaviors such as voltage spikes, capacity deterioration, or thermal runaway, all of which could precipitate safety hazards like battery fires or explosions. Prompt intervention based on charge monitoring data enables preemptive maintenance and efficacious mitigation strategies, thereby augmenting overall battery safety and reliability.

#### B. State-of-the-Art Charge Monitoring Systems

Recent advancements in charge monitoring systems for EV BMS have led to the development of highly integrated and sophisticated solutions capable of real-time data acquisition, analysis, and control. State-of-the-art charge monitoring systems often feature:

- **Multi-sensor integration:** Integration of multiple sensors for voltage, current, temperature, and impedance measurements facilitates comprehensive monitoring of battery parameters, enhancing accuracy and reliability.
- **Data fusion algorithms:** Advanced algorithms for data fusion and signal processing enable real-time amalgamation of sensor data, facilitating precise estimation of battery SoC, SoH, and SoF.

- **Wireless communication:** Wireless connectivity facilitates seamless communication between the BMS and other vehicle systems, as well as remote monitoring and diagnostics, bolstering system flexibility and accessibility.
- **Predictive analytics:** Machine learning and predictive analytics techniques are progressively being harnessed to scrutinize historical data and prognosticate future battery performance, enabling proactive maintenance and optimization strategies.

#### **IV. FIRE PROTECTION MECHANISMS IN EV BATTERY SYSTEMS**

Electric vehicles (EVs) have garnered significant attention in recent years due to their environmental benefits and reduced reliance on fossil fuels. Nevertheless, the lithium-ion batteries commonly used in EVs pose inherent fire risks due to their energy density and chemical composition. Thermal runaway, resulting from internal short circuits or external abuse, can lead to catastrophic battery failure and fire incidents. Therefore, it is crucial to implement effective fire protection mechanisms to ensure the safety of EV occupants, bystanders, and property. This section explores various strategies employed to mitigate fire hazards in EV battery systems.

##### **A. Fire Hazards in Lithium-ion Batteries**

Lithium-ion batteries are prone to thermal runaway, marked by uncontrollable heat generation and cell-to-cell propagation of thermal events. This can arise from manufacturing defects, mechanical damage, overcharging, or exposure to high temperatures. Once initiated, thermal runaway can trigger rapid temperature escalation, electrolyte decomposition, and the release of flammable gases, posing significant fire and explosion risks.

##### **B. Fire Protection Strategies**

To address the fire hazards associated with lithium-ion batteries in EVs, several fire protection strategies have been developed:

- **Thermal Management Systems:** Effective thermal management is crucial for maintaining battery temperature within safe operating limits. Active cooling systems like liquid cooling or forced-air cooling aid in dissipating heat during charging and discharging cycles, thereby reducing the likelihood of thermal runaway.
- **Fire Detection Systems:** Early detection of battery abnormalities and thermal events is critical for preventing fire incidents. Advanced monitoring techniques, including temperature sensors, voltage sensors, and gas sensors, enable real-time detection of abnormal battery behavior. Integrated with intelligent algorithms, these systems can trigger appropriate responses, such as thermal isolation or emergency shutdown, to mitigate fire risks.
- **Fire Suppression Systems:** Rapid suppression of fires is essential to prevent their escalation. Fire suppression systems, such as dry powder extinguishers or foam-based agents, can be integrated directly into the battery pack or vehicle compartments. These systems rapidly release extinguishing agents upon fire detection, effectively smothering the flames and limiting heat and gas spread.
- **Passive Safety Features:** Passive safety features are incorporated into battery designs to minimize fire propagation and mitigate thermal hazards. These features include flame-retardant electrolytes, ceramic-coated separators, and thermal barriers, enhancing thermal stability and inhibiting flame spread within the battery pack.

##### **C. Integration Challenges and Considerations**

While significant progress has been made in the development of fire protection mechanisms for EV battery systems, several challenges and considerations remain:

- **System Integration:** Integrating fire protection systems into EV battery packs requires careful consideration of space constraints, weight limitations, and compatibility with existing Battery Management System (BMS) architectures. Effective integration ensures seamless operation and minimal impact on vehicle performance.



- **Reliability and Robustness:** Fire protection systems must be highly reliable and robust to withstand harsh automotive environments and prolonged operation stresses. Comprehensive testing and validation are essential to ensure system effectiveness under various operating conditions and failure scenarios.
- **Cost and Complexity:** Implementing advanced fire protection mechanisms increases the overall cost and complexity of EV battery systems. Balancing safety requirements with cost considerations is crucial to ensuring the affordability and accessibility of electric vehicles.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Compliance with regulatory standards and safety certifications is essential for EV commercialization and deployment. Fire protection systems must meet stringent performance criteria and undergo rigorous testing to obtain regulatory approval from relevant authorities.

## V. ADVANTAGES AND APPLICATIONS OF EV BMS

### A. Advantages:

- **Safety Boost:** This feature makes electric vehicle (EV) operation safer by preventing overheating and fire accidents, crucial for EV battery systems.
- **Battery Life Extension:** By avoiding overcharging and over-discharging, the system helps EV batteries last longer, maintaining optimal conditions for operation.
- **Better Performance:** Monitoring battery charge and temperature levels optimizes energy use, leading to improved vehicle performance.
- **Real-time Monitoring:** Users get immediate alerts about battery health, charge status, and potential fire risks, allowing for proactive maintenance.
- **Customization Options:** Users can adjust settings to fit their preferences and vehicle needs, such as charging profiles and safety measures.
- **Data Analysis:** Detailed data logging enables analysis of battery performance over time, aiding in predictive maintenance and optimization.

### B. Applications:

- **Electric Vehicles (EVs):** These systems are vital for EVs, ensuring safe and efficient battery operation.
- **Large Electric Vehicles:** Large electric vehicles like buses and trucks can benefit from advanced battery management systems to optimize energy usage and ensure safe operation over long distances.
- **Small Electric Vehicles:** Scooters and bikes can improve battery performance and safety for urban travel.
- **Energy Storage Systems (ESS):** Essential for storing renewable energy efficiently and safely, reducing reliance on traditional power sources..
- **Marine and Aerospace:** Electric propulsion systems in boats and aircraft use these systems for battery health and safety in demanding environments.
- **Off-grid and Renewable Energy Systems:** Used in solar and wind power installations for storing excess energy safely, reducing dependence on the grid.
- **Industrial Equipment:** Battery-powered machinery and forklifts can operate more safely and efficiently in warehouse and manufacturing settings.

## VI. HARDWARE TESTING

### A. Continuity test:

In electronics, a continuity test is the checking of an electric circuit to see if current flows (that it is in fact a complete circuit). A continuity test is performed by placing a small voltage (wired in series with an LED or noise-producing component such as a piezoelectric speaker) across the chosen path. If electron flow is inhibited by broken conductors, damaged components, or excessive resistance, the circuit is "open".

Devices that can be used to perform continuity tests include multimeters which measure current and specialized continuity testers which are cheaper, more basic devices, generally with a simple light bulb that lights up when current flows.

An important application is the continuity test of a bundle of wires so as to find the two ends belonging to a particular one of these wires; there will be a negligible resistance between the "right" ends, and only between the "right" ends. This test is performed just after the hardware soldering and configuration has been completed. This test aims at finding any electrical open paths in the circuit after the soldering. Many a times, the electrical continuity in the circuit is lost due to improper soldering, wrong and rough handling of the PCB, improper usage of the soldering iron, component failures and presence of bugs in the circuit diagram. We use a multi meter to perform this test. We keep the multi meter in buzzer mode and connect the ground terminal of the multi meter to the ground. We connect both the terminals across the path that needs to be checked. If there is continuation then you will hear the beep sound.



**Fig d: Project Model**

#### **B. Power on test:**

This test is performed to check whether the voltage at different terminals is according to the requirement or not. We take a multi meter and put it in voltage mode. Remember that this test is performed without microcontroller. Firstly, we check the output of the transformer, whether we get the required 12 v AC voltage. Then we apply this voltage to the power supply circuit. Note that we do this test without microcontroller because if there is any excessive voltage, this may lead to damaging the controller. We check for the input to the voltage regulator i.e., are we getting an input of 12v and an output of 5v. This 5v output is given to the microcontrollers' 40<sup>th</sup> pin. Hence we check for the voltage level at 40<sup>th</sup> pin. Similarly, we check for the other terminals for the required voltage. In this way we can assure that the voltage at all the terminals is as per the requirement.

### **VII. FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES**

Electric vehicle (EV) battery management systems (BMS) with integrated charge monitoring and fire protection represent a rapidly evolving field with numerous avenues for future research and development. This section outlines key areas where further investigation and innovation are warranted:

#### **A. Enhanced Integration of Charge Monitoring and Fire Protection**

While significant progress has been made in integrating charge monitoring and fire protection functionalities into EV BMS, there remains room for improvement in terms of seamless integration and interoperability. Future research should focus on developing holistic approaches that leverage synergies between these two critical aspects of battery safety. This may involve the development of advanced sensing technologies capable of detecting early signs of battery degradation or thermal runaway, as well as the integration of predictive algorithms for preemptive safety measures.

#### **B. Standardization and Regulatory Frameworks**

The establishment of standardized testing procedures and regulatory frameworks is essential to ensure the safety and reliability of EV battery systems across different manufacturers and regions. Future research efforts should aim to contribute to the development of universally accepted standards for EV BMS, including protocols for charge monitoring, fire protection, and thermal management. Collaborative initiatives involving industry stakeholders, regulatory bodies, and research institutions will be instrumental in achieving this goal.

### C. Sustainability and Environmental Impact

In addition to safety considerations, the sustainability and environmental impact of EV battery systems are of growing concern. Future research should explore innovative approaches to enhance the sustainability of battery materials and manufacturing processes, as well as to minimize the environmental footprint of end-of-life battery disposal and recycling. This may involve the development of alternative battery chemistries, such as solid-state or lithium-sulfur batteries, as well as the implementation of circular economy principles to promote resource efficiency and recycling.

### D. Collaborative Research Initiatives and Industry Partnerships

Collaboration between academia, industry, and government agencies is essential for driving innovation and addressing the complex challenges associated with EV battery management. Future research initiatives should prioritize collaborative efforts that bring together multidisciplinary expertise from fields such as materials science, electrical engineering, computer science, and environmental sustainability. Industry partnerships can facilitate technology transfer and commercialization, accelerating the translation of research findings into real-world applications.

## VIII. RESULTS

The integration of an Electric Vehicle Battery Management System (BMS) with charge monitoring and fire protection features, along with the utilization of advanced technologies such as sensors and microcontrollers, ensures a robust and safe charging and discharging process for electric vehicle batteries.

In 'Figure E,' we observe the temperature elevation caused by fire hazards or short-circuit situations, with a threshold set at 50°C. When the temperature surpasses this limit, a buzzer alerts to indicate potential fire or excessive heat. The system employs a DHT11 module to detect temperature changes. Additionally, it's suggested to consider integrating a CC (Constant Current) or CV (Constant Voltage) regulator to restrict the current during charging. This measure helps ensure safer charging practices, typically recommended to charge below half the capacity or at a rate of 0.5C. implies that the system should aim to recover or return to normal operating conditions once the temperature falls back below the designated threshold.

Moreover, the BMS ensures the safety and efficiency of electric vehicles by implementing various protective features. Battery monitoring and cell balancing capabilities guarantee that the battery pack operates within safe parameters, preventing individual cell overcharging or undercharging. Charge protection and discharge protection features mitigate the risk of thermal runaway and battery failure, enhancing overall safety and longevity.

Furthermore, temperature management mechanisms within the BMS maintain the battery pack within a safe temperature range, preventing overheating and optimizing the efficiency of the cooling system. In the event of temperature anomalies, such as those caused by fire risks or short circuits, the BMS triggers alarms, such as a buzzer, to alert users, thereby enhancing safety measures.

Additionally, the fault diagnosis feature of the BMS swiftly identifies any defects within the battery pack, allowing for prompt resolution and minimizing downtime. This enhances the overall dependability of electric vehicles, ensuring smooth operation and longevity of the battery system.



**Fig e: Detection Of High Temperature Of Battery On Display**



### X. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have explored the integration of charge monitoring and fire protection mechanisms into Electric Vehicle Battery Management Systems (EV BMS) to enhance the safety and performance of EV battery systems. Through a comprehensive review of existing literature, we have highlighted the significance of these features in mitigating risks associated with EV batteries, such as overcharging, thermal runaway, and fire hazards.

The integration of charge monitoring enables real-time monitoring of battery parameters, such as voltage, current, and temperature, allowing for proactive management of charging processes and early detection of potential issues. On the other hand, fire protection mechanisms, including thermal management systems and fire suppression systems, play a crucial role in minimizing the risk of thermal runaway and fire incidents, thereby ensuring the safety of EV occupants and surrounding environments.

By synergistically combining charge monitoring and fire protection within the EV BMS, manufacturers can offer safer and more reliable electric vehicles to consumers. However, this integration presents various technical challenges, including sensor accuracy, system complexity, and cost-effectiveness, which necessitate further research and development efforts.

Looking ahead, future research should focus on enhancing the integration of charge monitoring and fire protection mechanisms, optimizing system performance, and establishing standardized protocols and regulatory frameworks to ensure the safety and reliability of EV battery systems. Moreover, collaborative research initiatives and industry partnerships will be essential to drive innovation and accelerate the adoption of advanced EV BMS technologies.

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