



UM90022

NBM5100; NBM7100 Evaluation board module

Rev. 1 — 11 July 2023

user manual

Document information

Information	Content
Keywords	NBM5100; NBM7100 Evaluation board module
Abstract	This user's guide describes the NBM5100 and NBM7100 Evaluation board module.

1. Introduction

The NBM5100x and NBM7100x are battery booster integrated circuits intended to expand the lifetime and current capability of a coin cell battery like CR2032 and Lithium Thionyl batteries.

This manual gives a quick start of the NBM5100x and NBM7100x evaluation boards usage together with the PC application or standalone.

The NBM5100x, NBM7100x evaluation board is fully assembled, containing all necessary components to evaluate the performance and behavior of these battery boosters.

In total 4 variants of the evaluation board are available:

Table 1. Evaluation board variants

Evaluation board variant	Bus interface	Auto start mode	Storage Cap Charge Balance Function	Max Storage Cap Voltage	Max Load Current
NBM7100A	I ² C	+	-	11 V	200 mA
NBM5100A	I ² C	+	+	5.5 V	150 mA
NBM7100B	SPI	-	-	11 V	200 mA
NBM5100B	SPI	-	+	5.5 V	150 mA

All variants use the same PCB design and expose a USB to SPI/USB to I²C interface to allow control of the Battery booster from a PC application.

2. Hardware description

The Evaluation Board enables evaluation of the Battery Booster products by controlling them from a PC or connection to a board under development. The NBM5100x, NBM7100x evaluation kit is fully assembled, containing apart from a CR2032 battery cell all necessary components to evaluate the performance and behavior of the battery boosters before applying them in an application. The top area of the PCB contains an USB to I²C and USB to SPI converter and a level shifter circuit for controlling the Evaluation board with a PC GUI application. The following sections give a detailed overview of the module and available test pins for observing the behavior.

2.1. Storage capacitor

By default, one storage capacitor is mounted for the NBM7100x series. For the NBM5100x two (balanced) super capacitors are mounted in series. The size of these capacitors depends on the amount of energy needed to supply the load. For demonstration purposes 1000 μ F capacitors are placed on the NBM7100x board and 470 mF for the NBM5100x board. Both boards offer the possibility to mount leaded (super-) capacitors. It is also possible to connect a custom storage capacitor to connector J6.

2.2. Breakout board

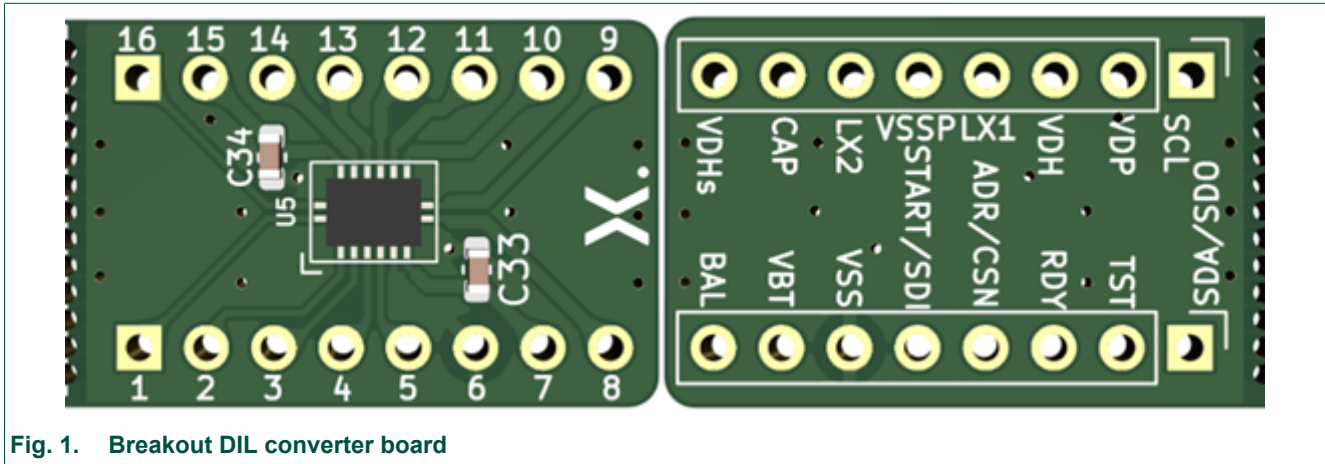


Fig. 1. Breakout DIL converter board

The Evaluation board also includes a DIL converter board, which can be broken from the Main PCB. Removing it from the main board will not impact the operation of it, as the board is electrically not connected to it. This enables an easy evaluation of the product in an application prototype or on a breadboard. An inductor was not included on the board and has to be connected externally to allow evaluation of different inductors. The Pin numbers on the TOP side silkscreen directly map to the pin numbers of the battery booster IC.

2.3. Jumper description

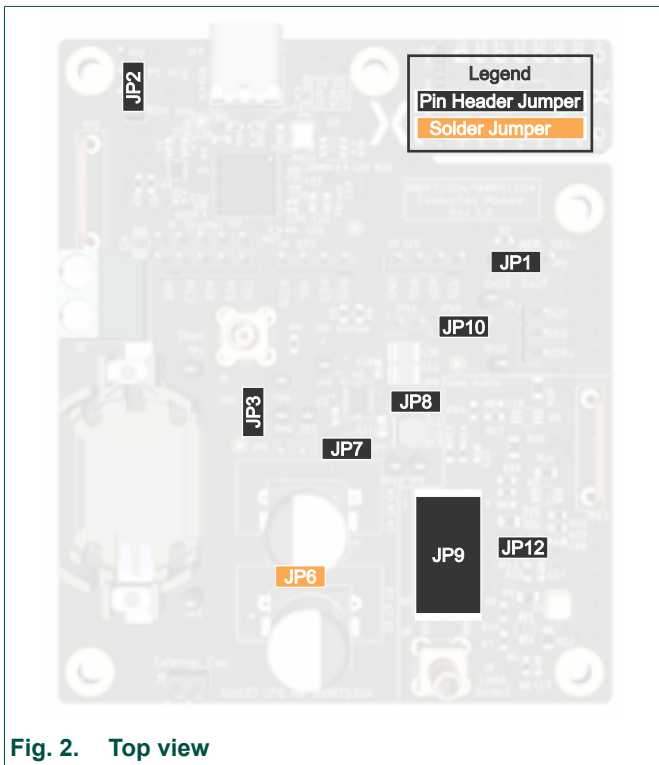


Fig. 2. Top view

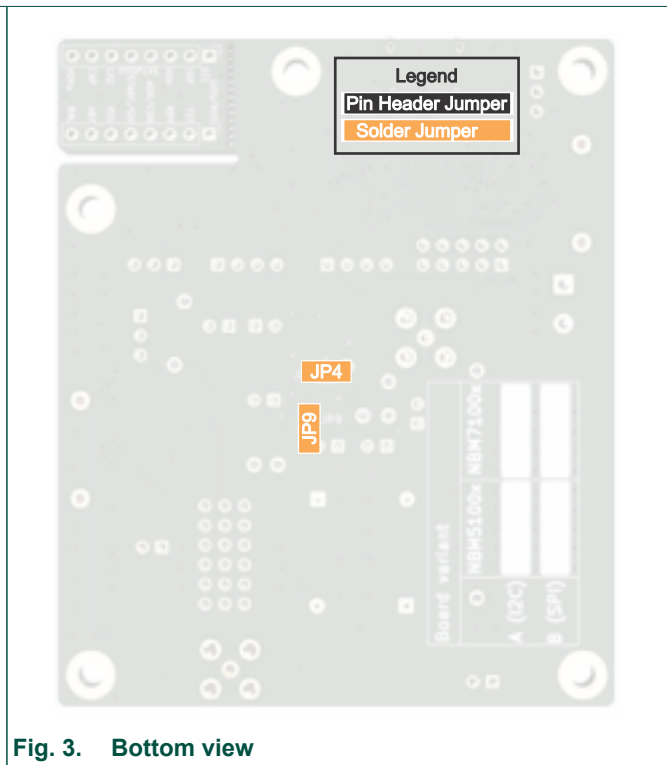


Fig. 3. Bottom view

Table 2. Evaluation board variants

Jumper name	PCB side	Position	Description
JP1	Top	1-2 (Left)	Selects 7-bit I ² C address 0x2e
		2-3 (Right)	Selects 7-bit I ² C address 0x2f
		Open	Mandatory position for NBM5100B and NBM7100B (SPI variants)
JP2	Top	1-2 (top)	Selects PC (FTDI) to drive the Load matrix.
		2-3 (bot)	Selects NBM RDY signal to drive the Load matrix.
JP3	Top	Closed	Connects the Battery positive pole and the external power supply input to the supply input to Battery supply of NBM.
		Open	External J2 supply input is not connected.
JP4	Bottom	Closed	Mandatory position to ground TST pin. Don't open this jumper.
JP5	Top	Open	Disconnect Balance pin from capacitors.
		Closed	Connect Balance pin to center pin of series capacitors. Mandatory for NBM5100A & NBM5100B board in their default configuration.
JP6	Top	Open	Don't bypass low side capacitor. This is required for NBM5100A / NBM5100B boards which have 2 capacitors in series.
		Closed	Mandatory position for NBM7100A and NBM7100B variants to connect the negative pin of the storage capacitor to ground.
JP7	Top	Open	Disconnect on board capacitor.
		Closed	Connect on board storage capacitor(s) to CAP pin of NBM. The intention of this pin it to give the ability to measure the charging current.
JP8	Top	Close	Default position. Connects the on board inductor to NBM. The Jumper can be used to measure the coil current. Default should be closed, when removed the IC will not operate correctly.
JP9	Bottom	Open	Disconnect VDHs (sense) line from VDH output.
		Close	Default position. Connects VDHs to VDH output.
JP10	Top	Open	Connects VDH output of NBM to connector J7 and can be used to measure the load current.
		Close	Disconnects VDH output from JP7. Useful to disconnect all loads from Battery booster.
P12	Top		Option to connect an external load which can be controlled over the Load Matrix and on-board FET. Remove R24 to use this feature, in case the load is high ohmic.

Pin header JP2 and J9 (Load Matrix)

The Load Matrix is a circuit (see [Fig. 4](#)) to simulate load current pulses for evaluation purposes. Multiple loads in form of resistors are present in the load matrix. An additional LED is present to show a visual representation of a capacitor loading. The loads are switched with Transistors. Using a Jumper bank the source of the load signal, but also the load current can be set.

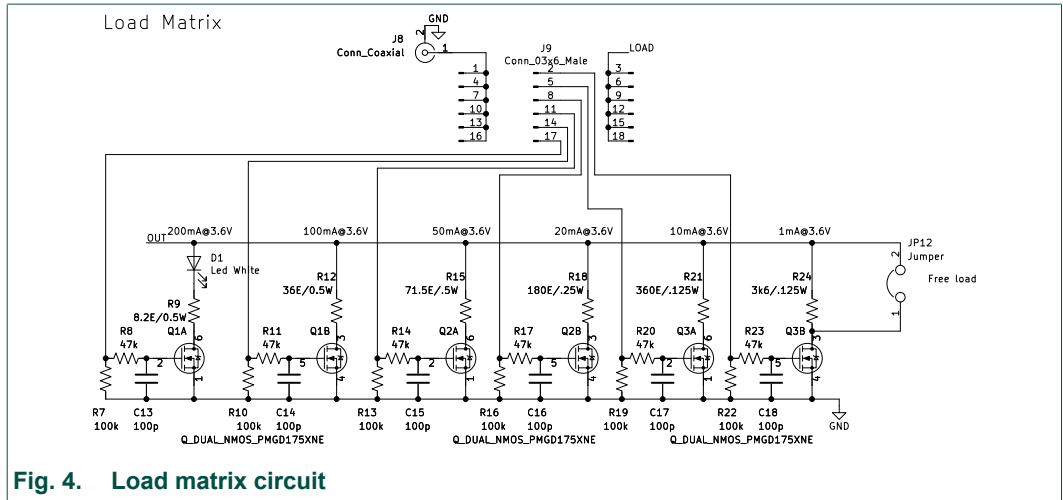


Fig. 4. Load matrix circuit

As visible from above picture the center pin row of the 6x3 pin header connects to the FET gate pins for load actuation. The left side connects to SMB connector J8 for external load triggering. The right side connects depending on Jumper JP2 setting either to the FTDI for actuation of a load pulse from the PC GUI application (future GUI extension, JP2 position 1-2) or to the NBM RDY pin (JP2 position 2-3).

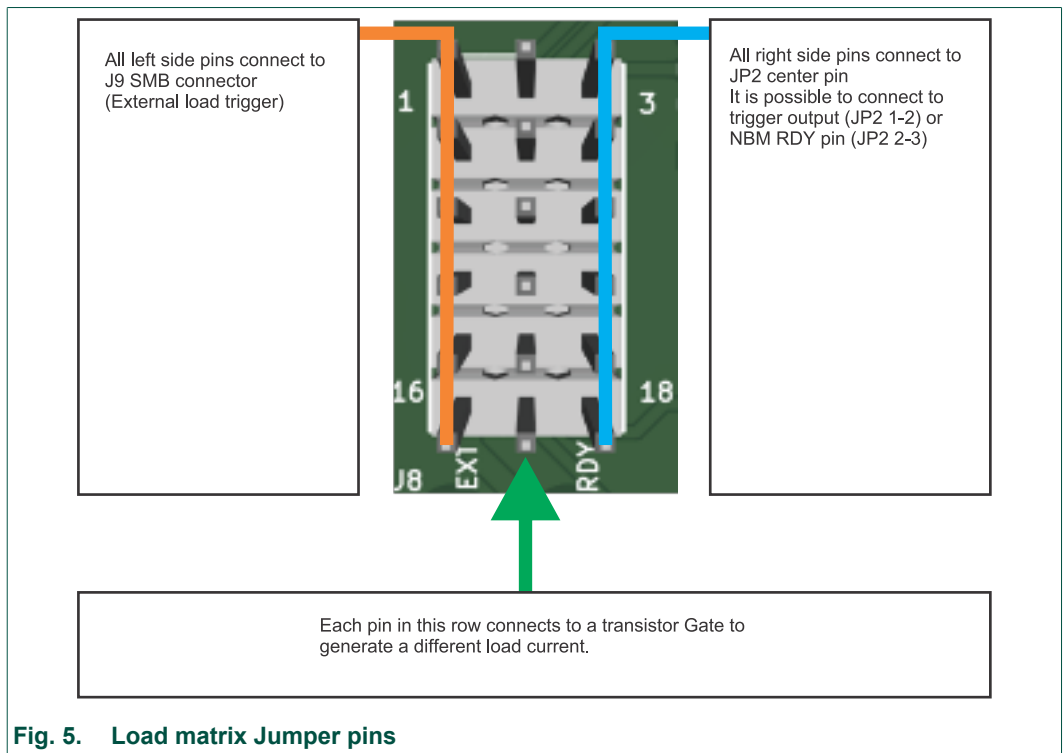


Fig. 5. Load matrix Jumper pins

Multiple jumpers can be placed at the same time to add up the individual currents.

Table 3. Evaluation board variants

Row (enumerated from top to bottom)	Approximate current (VDP = 3.6 V)	Comment
1	1 mA	-
2	10 mA	-
3	20 mA	-
4	50 mA	-
5	100 mA	-
6	200 mA	This selection supplies a high power LED

Example jumper placement to select 200 mA LED as current sink driven by the NBM ready signal is shown in Fig. 6.

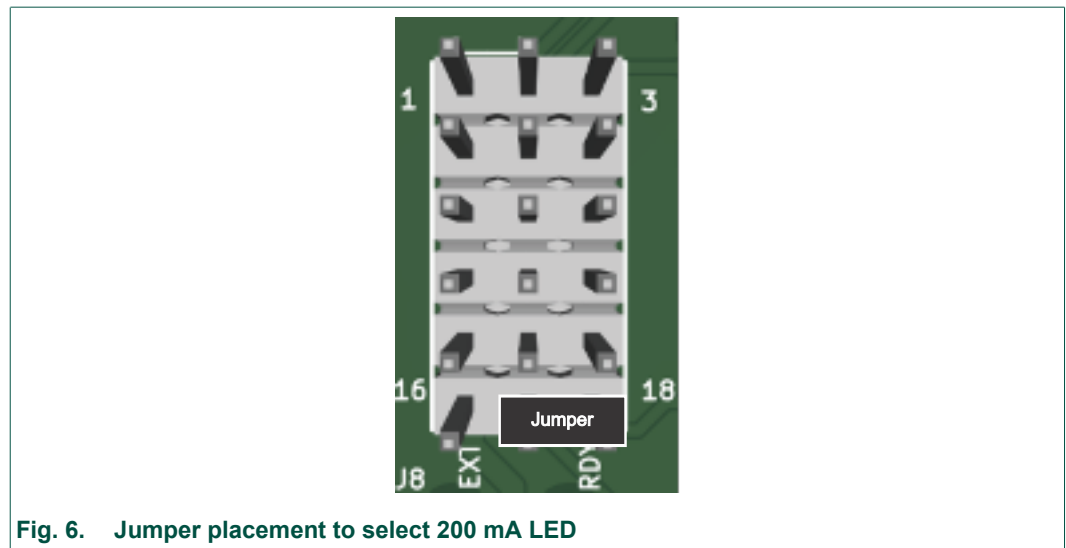


Fig. 6. Jumper placement to select 200 mA LED

Delivery state jumper settings

When the boards get delivered, they use different jumper settings. Below table summarizes the default jumper setting.

Table 4. Delivery state jumper settings

Jumper	NBM5100A Default position	NBM5100B Default position	NBM7100A Default position	NBM7100B Default position
JP1	0x2E	open	0x2E	open
JP2	2-3	2-3	2-3	2-3
JP3	closed	closed	closed	closed
JP4	closed	closed	closed	closed
JP5	closed	closed	open	open
JP6	open	open	closed	closed
JP7	closed	closed	closed	closed
JP8	closed	closed	closed	closed
JP9	closed	closed	closed	closed
JP10	closed	closed	closed	closed
JP12	open	open	open	open

2.4. Connector description

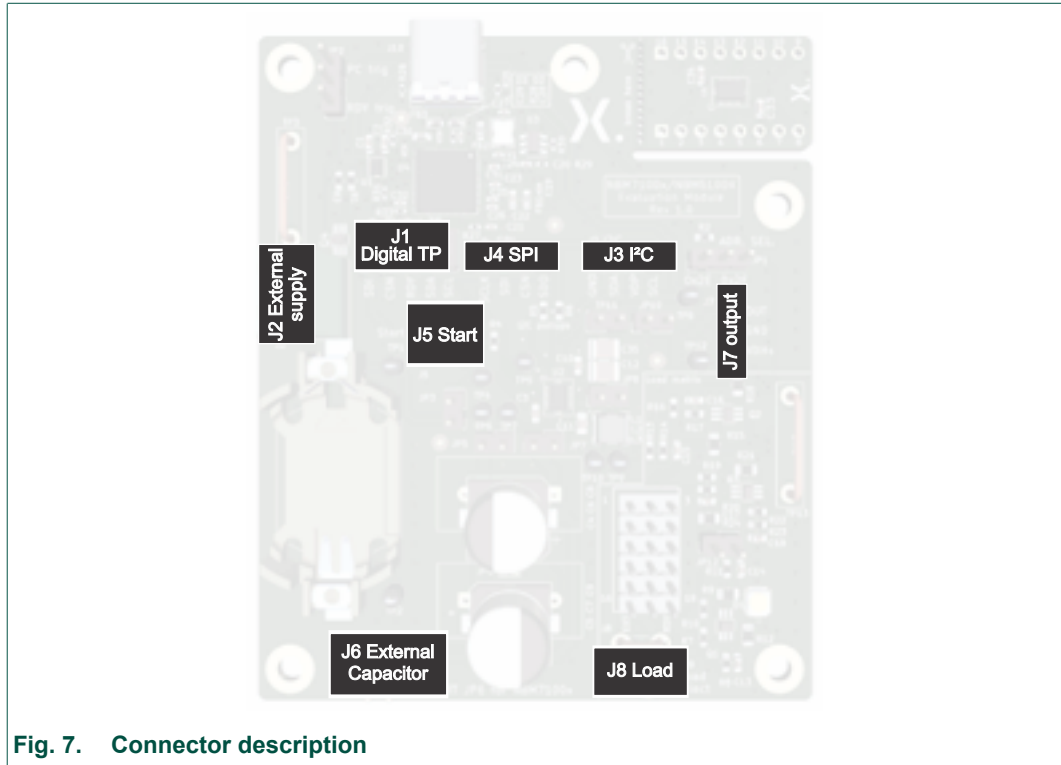


Fig. 7. Connector description

Pin header J1 (Digital TP)

This jumper block makes all digital IO signals available. Depending on the Battery booster type, the pins have different usages.

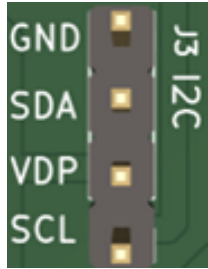
Pin header J4 (SPI)

Table 5. Pin header J4 (SPI)

NBM5100A NBM7100A	NBM5100B NBM7100B		NBM5100A NBM7100A	NBM5100B NBM7100B
SDI = START pin for auto mode	SDI = SPI MOSI pin		GND	GND
CSN = I²C address select	CSN = SPI chip select pin		GND	GND
RDY = ready signal (output)			GND	GND
SDA = I²C data	SDA = SPI MISO		GND	GND
SCL = I²C clock	SCL = SPI SCLK		GND	GND

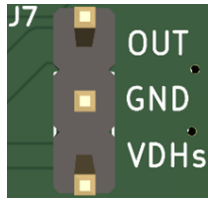
Pin header J3 (I²C)

Table 6. Pin header J3 (I²C)

NBM5100A NBM7100A	NBM5100B NBM7100B	
GND		
SDA = I ² C data	SDA = SPI MISO	
VDP = VDP voltage output from NBM (the intention is to provide an IO voltage level reference)		
SCL = I ² C clock	SCL = SPI SCLK	

Pin Header J7 (Output)


Table 7. Pin Header J7 (Output)

NBM5100A NBM7100A	NBM5100B NBM7100B	
OUT = VDH output voltage from NBM. (ensure jumper JP10 is placed)		
GND		
VDHs = VDH sense signal to NBM. Default-wise it is connected to the OUT pin using solder-jumper JP9		

Pin Header J6 (External capacitor)

Use this pin header to connect an external capacitor. An external capacitor can be used in parallel to the mounted one. In case only an external capacitor should be used, it is required to desolder the mounted capacitor.


Table 8. Pin Header J6 (External capacitor)

NBM5100A NBM7100A	NBM5100B NBM7100B	
- = GND		
+ = Positive capacitor terminal		

SMB connector J8 (Load)

The Load connector can be used to connect an external function generator (or microcontroller) to create a timed load pulse for product evaluation. The center pin of the connector connects to the left side pins of the J9 load selector pin header. The input impedance is high-ohmic.


Table 9. SMB connector J8 (Load)

NBM5100A NBM7100A	NBM5100B NBM7100B	
SMB male connector		

SMB connector J5 (Start)

The Start connector can be used to connect an external function generator to generate a Start pulse to the battery booster IC (evaluation of autonomous mode). The input impedance is 100 k Ω .

Table 10. SMB connector J5 (Start)

NBM5100A NBM7100A	NBM5100B NBM7100B	
SMB male connector		

3. Test points

Many test points are provided to observe waveforms or voltage levels of the Battery booster. A description of the test point location and connection is listed below.

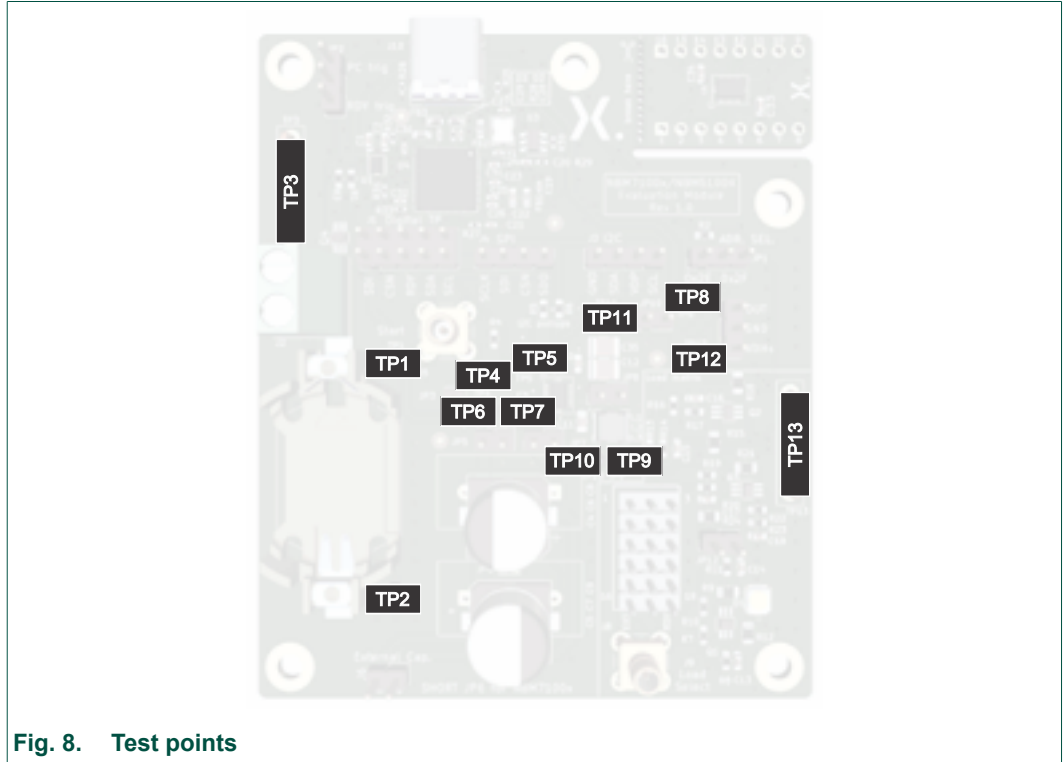


Fig. 8. Test points

Table 11. Pin header J4 (SPI)

Test pin name	Connected to	Description
TP1	External Supply + pin	Measure point for input supply voltage
TP2	GND	
TP3	GND	Ground bar. Use to connect an oscilloscope probe ground lead.
TP4	VBT	VBT voltage going to VBT pin of NBM.
TP5	TST	Do not use.
TP6	BAL	Balance pin measurement point. Useful for NBM5100 to measure capacitor voltage of each capacitor.
TP7	CAP	Capacitor positive terminal, connected to CAP pin of NBM.
TP8	VDP	Connected to VDP pin of NBM.
TP9	LX1	LX1 inductor pin.
TP10	LX2	LX2 inductor pin.
TP11	Pin 2: VDH Pin 1: GND	Measurement point for VDH output in case Jumper J10 is open.
TP12	VDHs	VDH Sense input. In case solder Jumper JP9 is opened, it can be used to inject an externally supplied sense signal.
TP13	GND	Ground bar. Use to connect an oscilloscope probe ground lead

4. Using the Evaluation board with PC

Below steps are assuming as precondition, that the board is in default jumper setting state. Insert a CR2032 Battery into the coin cell holder or supply externally 3 V to the supply connector J2. Next connect the Evaluation board to the PC. When connecting it the first time a driver will be installed automatically by windows. This can take a few minutes. Windows will confirm once the driver is installed. In case you want to doublecheck if the driver got correctly installed, open the Windows device manager and check for the presence of the device:

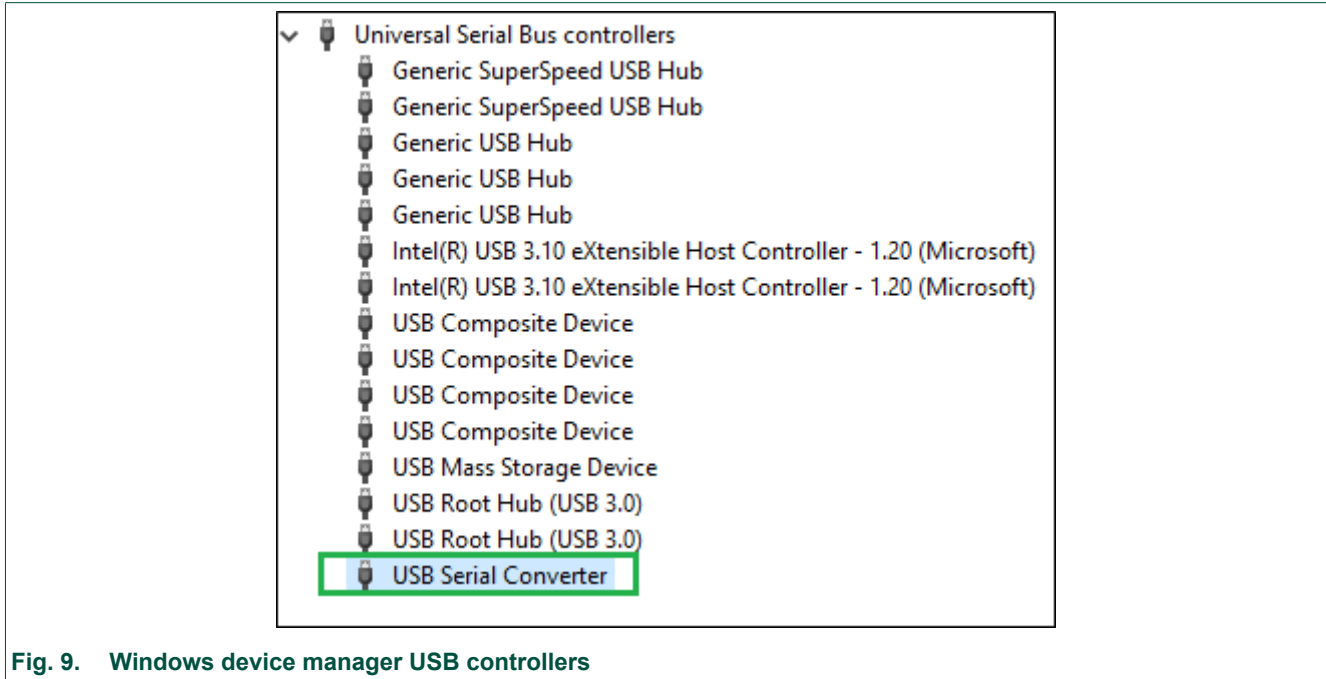


Fig. 9. Windows device manager USB controllers

Now the device is ready to be used with the GUI application. The automatic driver installation is a one-time action. Following connections over USB don't require waiting time. In case the Driver does not install automatically, it can be download from this website: <https://ftdichip.com/drivers/d2xx-drivers/> and installed manually. The GUI is delivered as a .zip archive, which needs to be extracted. It can be placed at any location of your PC harddrive. No installation is required. The GUI itself can be started by doubleclicking the .exe file. After starting the GUI, the main screen content is expected to look like this:

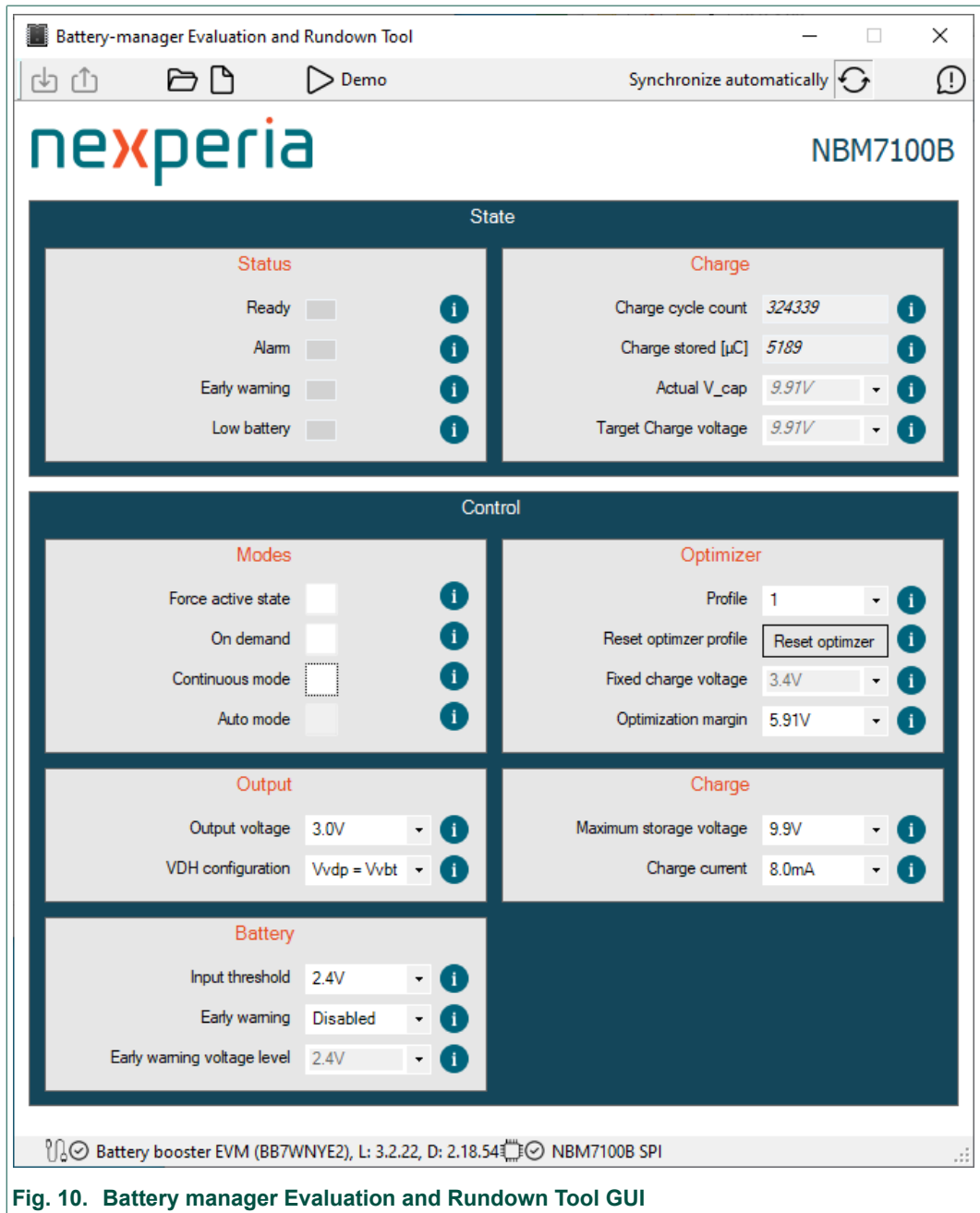


Fig. 10. Battery manager Evaluation and Rundown Tool GUI

The status bar indicates, if the Battery booster managed to connect to the Evaluation module and which kind of Interface (I²C Address 0x2e/0x2f or SPI) was identified.

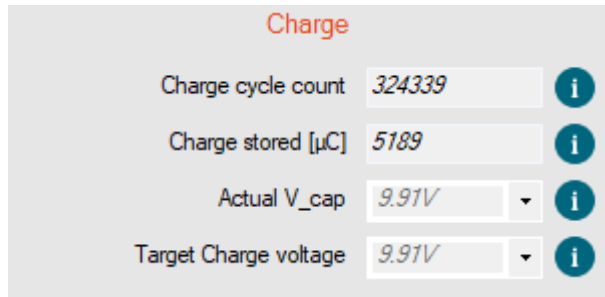


Fig. 11. Battery manager Status bar

Testing continuous mode

Click on the Continuous mode button: Continuous mode

After that it can be observed that the charge cycle count, stored charge and actual v_cap voltage increases. The V_cap voltage show the voltage across the storage capacitor(s). The voltage can be observed with an oscilloscope or multimeter on TP7 of the board too.



The VDP output voltage is in this state still the battery supply voltage. The Battery booster is in charged state, but not generating its supply from the storage capacitor. To turn on consumption from the storage capacitor the active mode has to be turned on by clicking the “Force active state”

button: Force active state

By clicking the “force active state button” the charge state changes to the ready state. Output power will now be supplied from the storage capacitor. Forcing the active state during charging is called override mode and can be useful if instant power needs to be available. Forcing the active state is normally done when the device indicates that the storage capacitor is fully charged, indicated by a high ready signal. A load to the output voltage connector J7 can be connected or enable a load in the load matrix. Now you can observe in the GUI V_cap field, but also e.g. on an oscilloscope the storage capacitor voltage decreasing, because the energy is consumed from it. Care should be taken that you don't keep the active state on too long, cause the V_cap voltage can drop below its minimum limit. Disable the force active state for that reason after some time. The storage cap will charge again afterwards.

Troubleshooting

In case the Evaluation board is not powered from battery or external supply, it will be visible from the status bar:



Fig. 12. Battery manager Status bar

Check, if the Battery booster is powered correctly. E.g. the CR2032 could be empty or the external supply is not passing through because Jumper J2 is not placed. In case the USB to SPI/I²C device was not found it is also indicated:



Fig. 13. Battery manager Status bar

Check, if the Device driver got correctly installed and the USB cable is plugged into the board & PC.

5. Using the Evaluation board stand alone

I²C or SPI control from external Microcontroller

It is also possible to control the Battery booster IC using an off-board microcontroller or external SPI/I²C master. To be able to use this mode, ensure that the USB connector is not plugged in. Only supply VBAT by inserting a CR2032 coin battery or by supplying it from an external power source.

Two Control options are available:

1. Jumper J4 makes SPI pins available for wiring to an external SPI master. This option is available for NBM5100B and NBM7100B variants of the boards.
2. Jumper J3 makes I²C pins available for control from an external I²C master. Use this option for NBM5100A and NBM7100A boards. Pull-up resistors for SDA and SCL lines to VDP are placed on board already (1 k Ω resistors R5 and R6).

When connecting an external master, make sure, that you IO levels of this master follow the VDP voltage. The VDP pin of Jumper J3 can be used to supply an external board and ensure correct IO levels.

Auto mode

The autonomous mode of NBM5100A and NBM7100A allows a simple evaluation of Battery booster. This mode is not supported by NBM5100B or NBM7100B, because they don't have a start input pin. Place a CR2032 coin cell battery in the BT1 battery holder, make sure that the jumper between pin 17 and 18 of the load matrix (J9) is placed. Apply a high active start pulse with a width of about 10 μ s (min 10 μ s, max 150 μ s) on the start SMB connector (J4). The charge cycle of the storage capacitor will start and when the device exits the charge state, the white LED will turn on until the storage capacitor is depleted.

6. Schematic

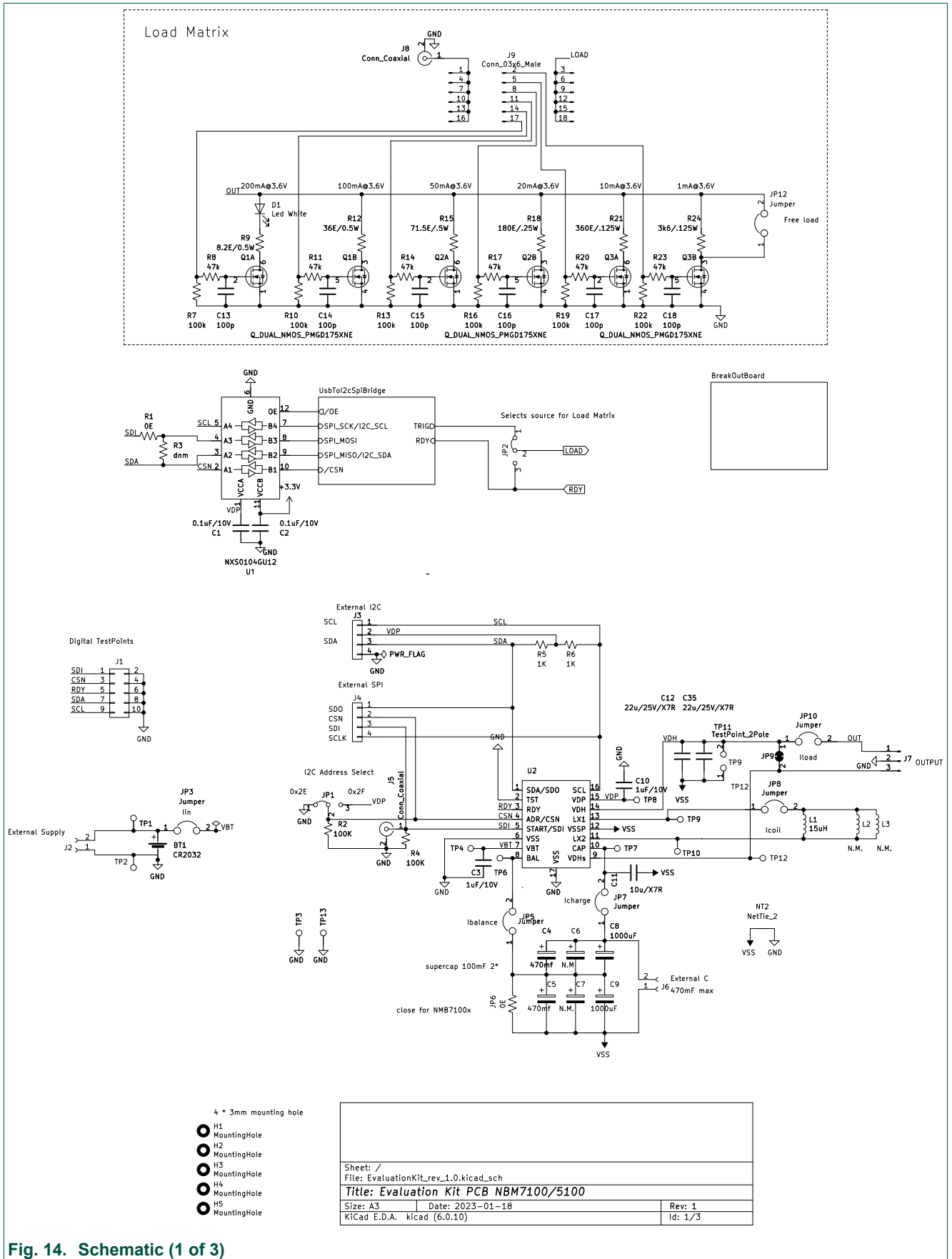


Fig. 14. Schematic (1 of 3)

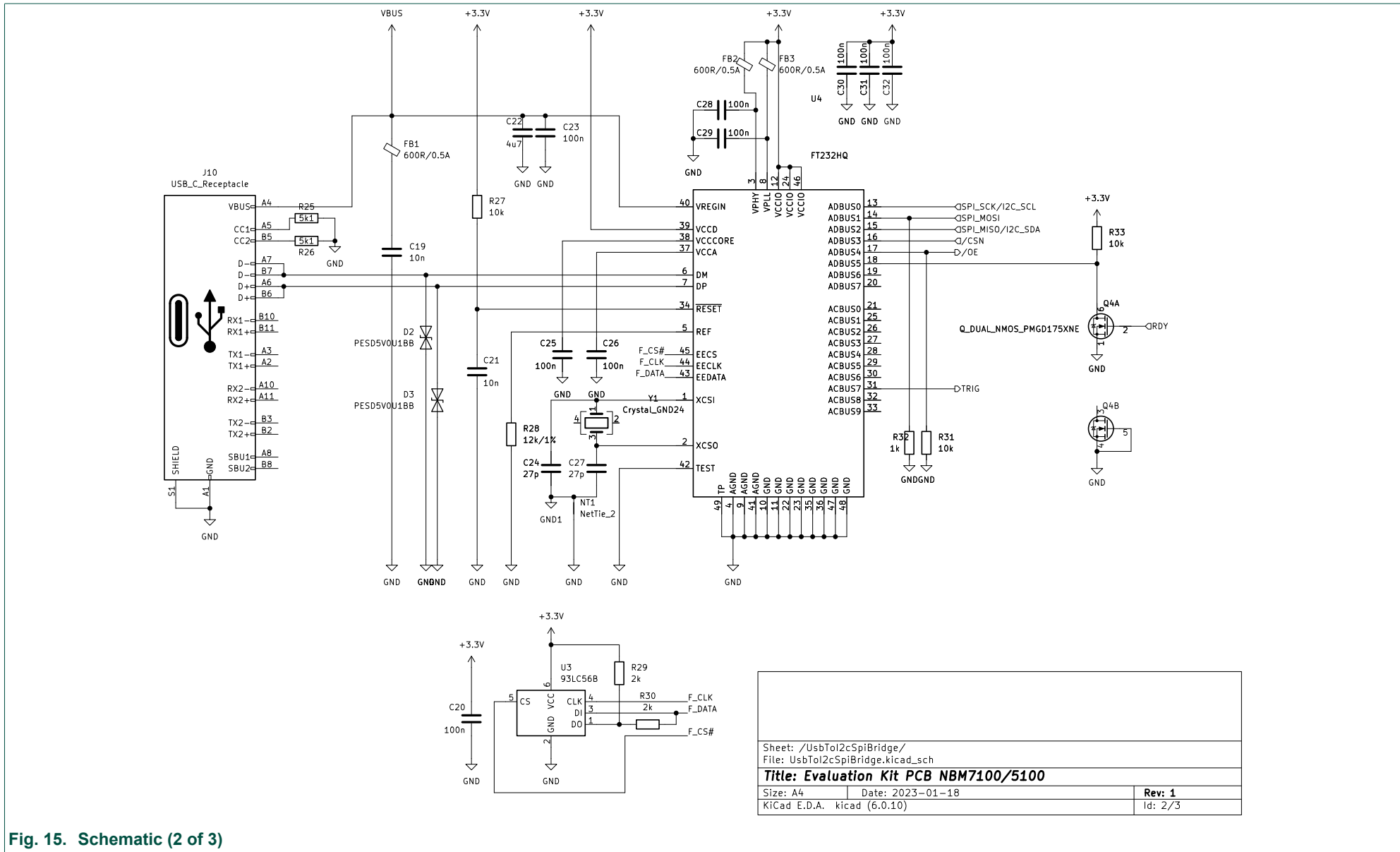


Fig. 15. Schematic (2 of 3)

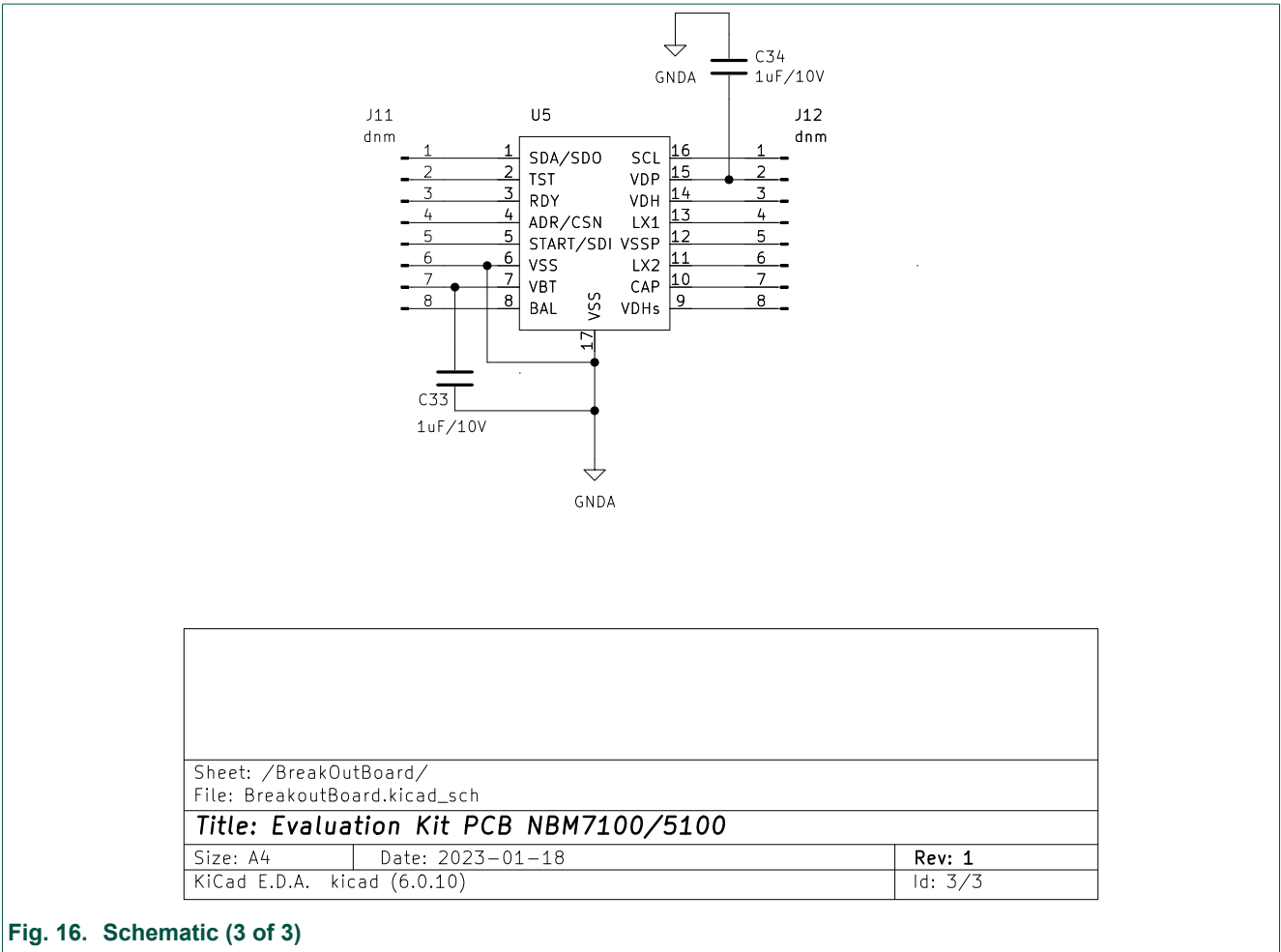


Fig. 16. Schematic (3 of 3)

7. Board layout

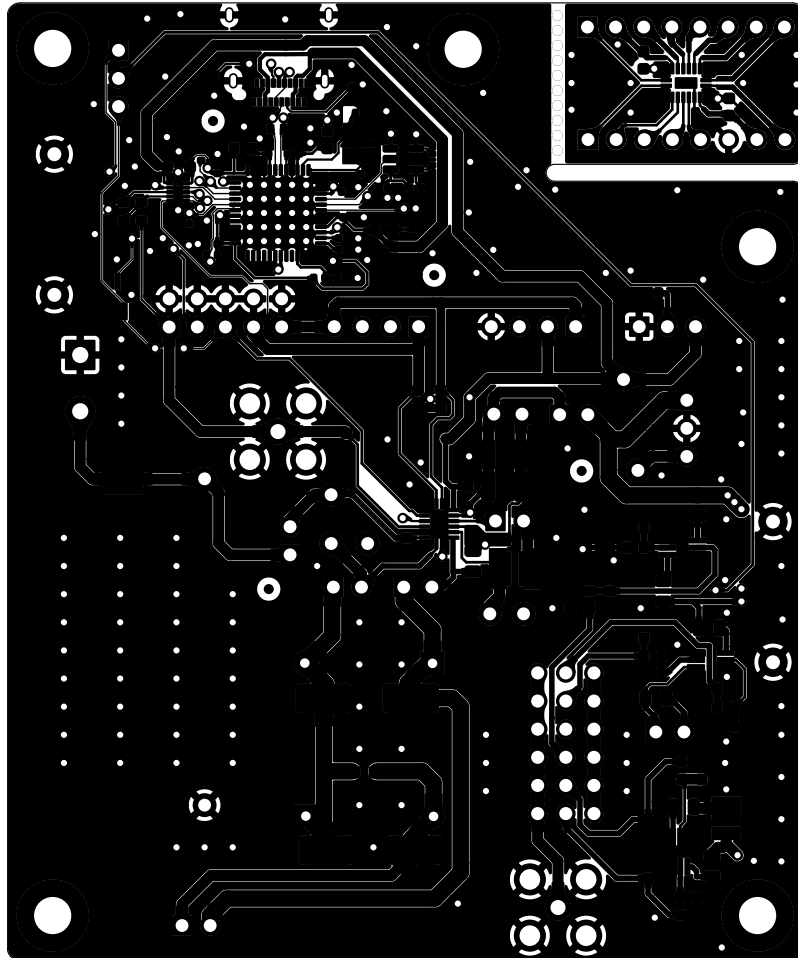


Fig. 17. Top Side Layer

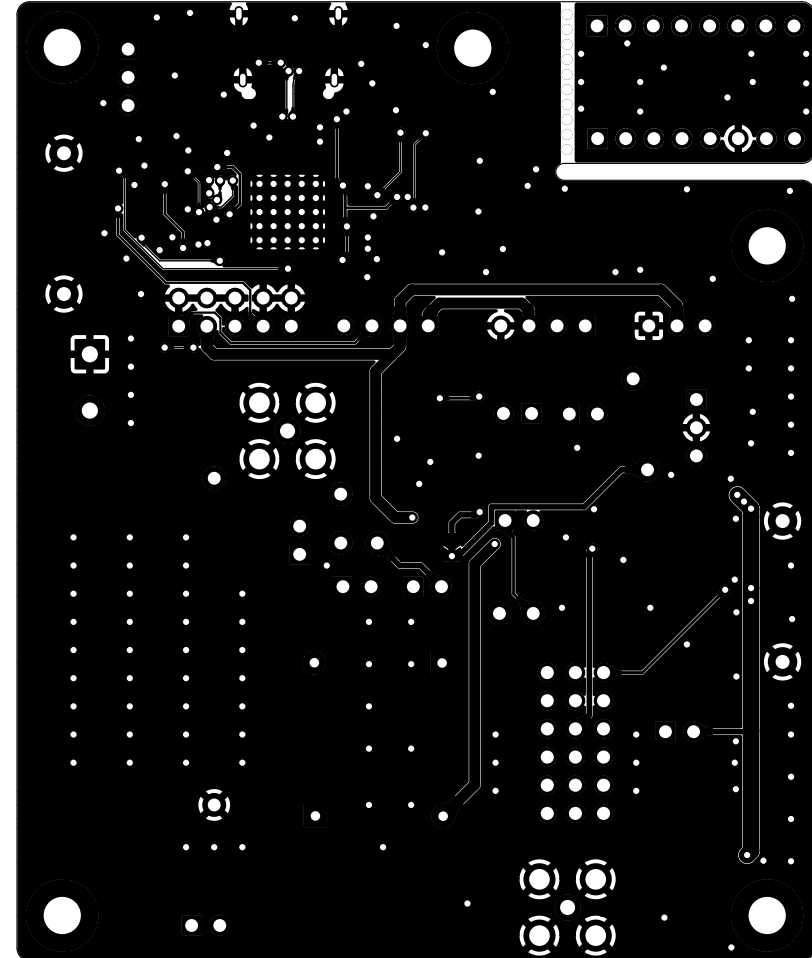


Fig. 18. Bottom Side Layer

8. Revision history

Table 12. Revision history

Revision number	Date	Description
UM90022 v.1	20230711	Initial version

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Date of release: 11 July 2023
