



# LC29H Series

## EVB User Guide

**GNSS Module Series**

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## Safety Information

The following safety precautions must be observed during all phases of operation, such as usage, service, or repair of any terminal or mobile incorporating the module. Manufacturers of the terminal should notify users and operating personnel of the following safety precautions by incorporating them into all product manuals. Otherwise, Quectel assumes no liability for customers' failure to comply with these precautions.



Ensure that the product may be used in the country and the required environment, as well as that it conforms to the local safety and environmental regulations.



Keep away from explosive and flammable materials. The use of electronic products in extreme power supply conditions and locations with potentially explosive atmospheres may cause fire and explosion accidents.



The product must be powered by a stable voltage source, while the wiring must conform to security precautions and fire prevention regulations.



Proper ESD handling procedures must be followed throughout the mounting, handling and operation of any devices and equipment incorporating the module to avoid ESD damages.

# About the Document

## Document Information

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## Revision History

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-	2021-12-14	Creation of the document
1.0	2021-12-20	<p>First official release</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Updated the EVB version from V1.2 to V1.3.</li><li>Deleted the chapter of communication via QCOM.</li><li>Updated the firmware upgrade tool as QGNSS (<a href="#">Chapter 4</a>).</li><li>Added the following chapters, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>DR application (<a href="#">Chapter 5</a>);</li><li>RTK application (<a href="#">Chapter 6</a>);</li><li>EVB and antenna installation (<a href="#">Chapter 7</a>);</li><li>Measuring power consumption (<a href="#">Chapter 8</a>);</li><li>EVB framework (<a href="#">Chapter 9</a>);</li><li>Common problems and troubleshooting (<a href="#">Chapter 10</a>);</li><li>Cautions (<a href="#">Chapter 11</a>).</li></ul></li></ol>
1.1	2023-04-26	

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# 1 Introduction

This document provides information on the steps needed to evaluate the Quectel LC29H series module by using the Evaluation Board (EVB). The EVB is a convenient tool that allows you to become familiar with the LC29H series modules.

The Quectel LC29H series module includes five variants: LC29H (AA), LC29H (BA), LC29H (CA), LC29H (DA) and LC29H (EA).

Specifically, the document is divided into several sections:

- Chapter 2 provides the general overview of EVB kit;
- Chapter 3 describes the EVB interfaces;
- Chapter 4 describes how to test the module and upgrade firmware via QGNSS tool;
- Chapter 5 describes the application of the DR function;
- Chapter 6 describes how to test the RTK function;
- Chapter 7 describes the installation of EVB and antenna.
- Chapter 8 describes how to measure power consumption for the module.
- Chapter 9 provides the EVB framework.
- Chapter 10 describes the common problems and troubleshooting.
- Chapter 11 describes the cautions.
- Chapter 12 is an appendix, which summarizes the relevant documents, terms and abbreviations appearing herein.

## NOTE

1. Request QGNSS software tool from Quectel Technical Support ([support@quectel.com](mailto:support@quectel.com)).
2. For more details on how to use LC29H (BS) EVB, see [document \[1\] EVB user guide](#).

## 1.1. Special Mark

**Table 1: Special Mark**

Mark	Definition
*	Unless otherwise specified, when an asterisk (*) is used after a function, feature, interface, pin name, or argument, it indicates that the function, feature, interface, pin, or argument is under development and currently not supported; and the asterisk (*) after a model indicates that the sample of the model is currently unavailable.

# 2 General Overview

## 2.1. EVB Kit

The EVB kit includes: Evaluation Board (EVB), active GNSS antenna, Type-B USB cables, bolts and coupling nuts.

The EVB kit components are shown in the figure below. Check [Table 2: List of Kit Components](#) for details.

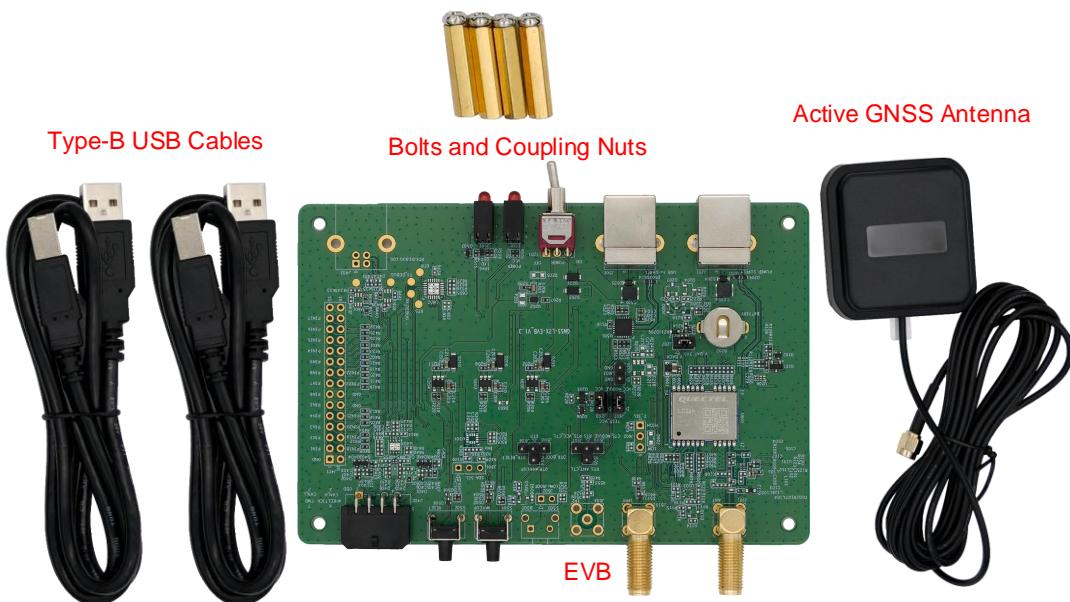


Figure 1: EVB Kit Components

**Table 2: List of Kit Components**

Items	Description	Quantity
EVB	Evaluation Board Size: 80 mm × 120 mm	1
USB Cable	Type-B USB Cable	2
Active GNSS Antenna	Active GNSS Antenna: YB0017AA Antenna Size: 61.5 mm × 56.5 mm × 23 mm Cable Length: 3000 mm  The GNSS antenna supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● GPS L1 C/A and L5</li><li>● GLONASS L1</li><li>● Galileo E1 and E5a</li><li>● BDS B1I and B2a</li><li>● QZSS L1 C/A and L5</li><li>● SBAS L1 (only LC29H (AA, DA))</li></ul>	1
Other	Bolts and Coupling Nuts	4 pairs

**NOTE**

Request Quectel Technical Support ([support@quectel.com](mailto:support@quectel.com)) for details about Quectel Active GNSS Antenna.

## 2.2. Connect Cables and Antenna to EVB

The connection between the EVB and its components is shown in the figure below.



Figure 2: EVB and Components Assembly

**NOTE**

1. It is optional to connect PC and the “POWER SUPPLY” (J201) on the EVB via a Type-B USB. For more information, see [Chapter 3.2 EVB Interfaces](#).
2. Make sure that the active GNSS antenna is placed with a clear line of sight to the sky.

# 3 EVB Interfaces

## 3.1. EVB Top View

EVB top view is shown in the figure below.

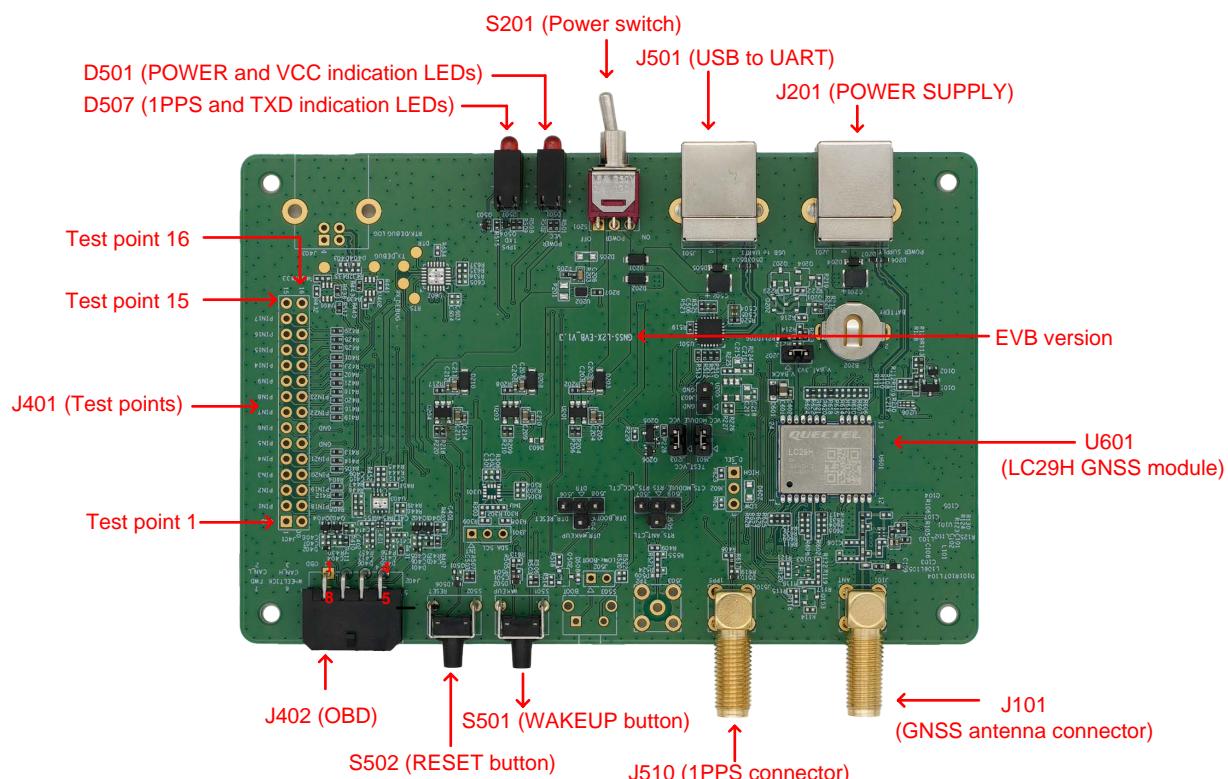


Figure 3: EVB Top View

### 3.2. EVB Interfaces

The EVB interfaces are detailed in the table below.

**Table 3: Detailed EVB Interfaces**

Function	Interfaces	Description	
	J201 POWER SUPPLY	J201: Only used to supply power to avoid the insufficient supply of J501.	
Power Supply	J501 USB to UART	J501: Used to communicate and supply power.  Power supply input: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● DC power supply: 4.5–5.5 V, typ. 5.0 V</li><li>● Current capability should be &gt; 100 mA</li></ul>	
Communication Interface	J501 USB to UART	Supports standard NMEA message, RTCM message, binary data, PAIR/PQTM message and firmware upgrade.	
SMA Connector	J101 Antenna connector	Used for connecting GNSS antenna.	
	J510 1PPS connector	Used for testing 1PPS signal.	
Signal Indication	D501 Indication LEDs	POWER (Red LED)	Bright: EVB is powered well. Extinct: EVB is not powered.
		VCC (Green LED)	Bright: Module is powered. Extinct: Module is not powered.
	D507 Indication LEDs	1PPS (Red LED)	Flashing: Successful position fix. Frequency: 1 Hz. Extinct: No position fix.
		TXD (Green LED)	Flashing: Data are being output from UART TXD pin. Extinct or Bright: No data are output from UART TXD pin.
Switches and Buttons	S201 Power switch	Powers the module on/off.	
	S501 WAKEUP	Short press on the button to wake up the module from Backup mode.	
	S502 RESET	Short press on the button to reset the module.	

Function	Interfaces	Description
Others	J402 OBD	Used for WHEELTICK and FWD signals input (only LC29H (BA, CA)). Pins are detailed in <a href="#">Table 5: J402 Pin Description</a> .

Pin description of J401 is shown below:

**Table 4: J401 Pin Description**

Test No.	Point Label	Test Function	Point I/O	Description
1	GND	GND	-	Ground
2	PIN1	U601: Pin 1	DI	WAKEUP: Wakes up the module from Backup mode
3	PIN2	U601: Pin 2	DI	FWD: Forward/Backward status signal input (only LC29H (BA, CA))
4	PIN3	U601: Pin 3	DO	1PPS:1 pulse per second
5	PIN4	U601: Pin 4	DI	WHEELTICK: Odometer/Wheel-tick pulse input (only LC29H (BA, CA))
6	PIN5	U601: Pin 5	DI	D_SEL1: Selects UART1/SPI*/I2C
7	PIN6	U601: Pin 6	DI	D_SEL2: Selects UART1/SPI*/I2C
8	PIN7	U601: Pin 7	PO	VDD_EXT: Provides 2.8 V for external circuit
9	PIN8	U601: Pin 8	DI	RESET_N: Resets the module
10	PIN9	U601: Pin 9	PO	VDD_RF: Supplies power for external RF components
11	PIN14	U601: Pin 14	DO	ANT_ON: Control external LNA and active antenna power
12	PIN15	U601: Pin 15	DO	TXD2: UART2 transmits data
13	PIN16	U601: Pin 16	DI	RXD2: UART2 receives data
14	PIN17	U601: Pin 17	DO	WI*: Warming indicator (only LC29H (BA, CA))
15	No label	-	-	NC (Not Connected)
16	No label	-	-	NC
17	No label	-	-	NC

Test No.	Point Label	Test Function	Point I/O	Description
18	No label	-	-	NC
19	No label	-	-	NC
20	No label	-	-	NC
21	No label	-	-	NC
22	PIN23	U601: Pin 23	PI	VCC: Main power supply
23	PIN22	U601: Pin 22	PI	V_BCKP: Backup power supply for backup domain of module
24	GND	GND	-	Ground
25	GND	GND	-	Ground
26	PIN21	U601: Pin 21	DI	RXD1: Receives data
27	PIN20	U601: Pin 20	DO	TXD1: Transmits data
28	PIN19	U601: Pin 19	DI	I2C_SCL: I2C serial clock
29	PIN18	U601: Pin 18	DIO	I2C_SDA: I2C serial data
30	No label	-	-	NC

Pin description of J402 is shown below:

**Table 5: J402 Pin Description**

Pin Number	Pin Label	Pin Function	I/O	Description
1	-	GND	-	Ground
2	CAN_L	-	-	NC
3	CAN_H	-	-	NC
4	-	GND	-	Ground
5	-	-	-	-
6	WHEELTICK	WHEELTICK	DI	Odometer/Wheel-tick pulse input (only LC29H (BA, CA))

Pin Number	Pin Label	Pin Function	I/O	Description
7	FWD	FWD	DI	Forward/Backward status signal input (only LC29H (BA, CA))
8	-	-	-	-

**NOTE**

1. Test points of J401 are arranged clockwise, and their serial numbers are shown in [Figure 3: EVB Top View](#).
2. A J401 test point refers to the module's corresponding function. For detailed descriptions, see [document \[2\] hardware design](#).
3. For reference circuit diagram of WHEELTICK and FWD, see [document \[3\] reference design](#).

# 4 Testing and Firmware Upgrading via QGNSS Tool

This chapter explains how to use the QGNSS software tool for verifying the status of GNSS modules and for firmware upgrading. For more information about QGNSS use, see [document \[4\] QGNSS user guide](#).

## 4.1. Testing via QGNSS

**Step 1:** Assembly the EVB components.

**Step 2:** Connect the EVB and the PC with two Type-B USB cables via “**POWER SUPPLY**” and “**USB to UART**” interfaces or connect the EVB to the PC with a Type-B USB cable via “**USB to UART**” interface. Then flip the power switch (S201) to **ON** position to power on the module.

**Step 3:** Start the QGNSS and click “**Device**” and “**Set Device Information**” (default baud rate: 115200 bps <sup>1</sup>).

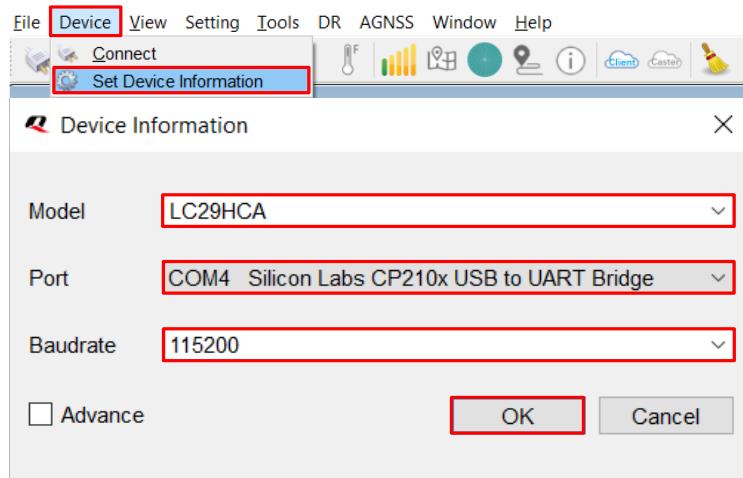


Figure 4: COM Port and Baud Rate Setting

**Step 4:** Click the  “**Connect or disconnect**” button. The interface shown in the figure below appears once the module is connected.

<sup>1</sup> UART interface default settings may vary depending on software versions.

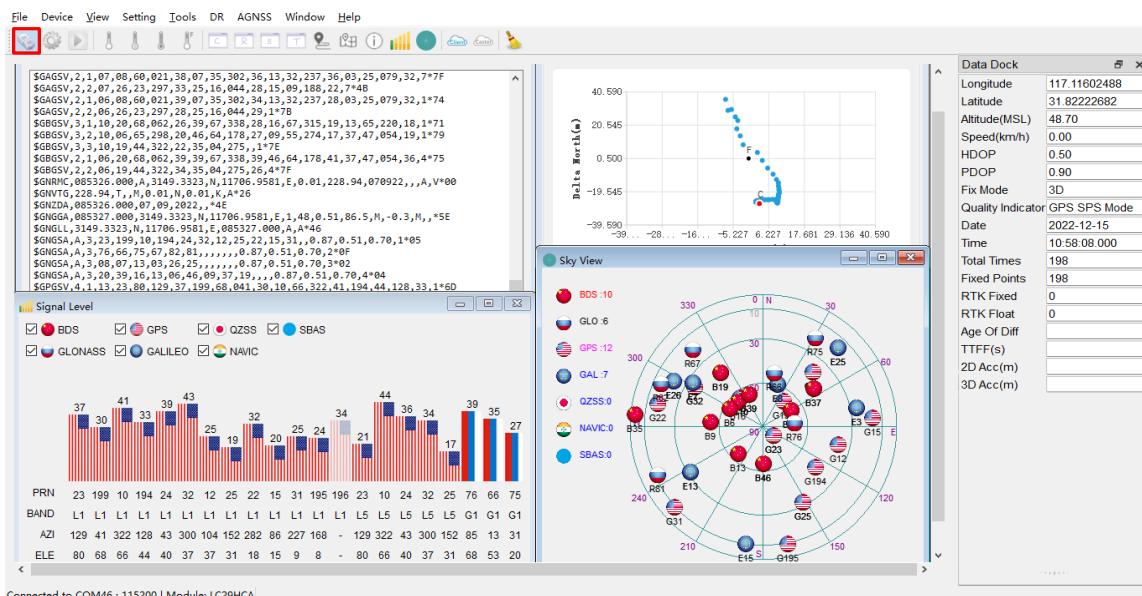


Figure 5: QGNSS Interface (Connected)

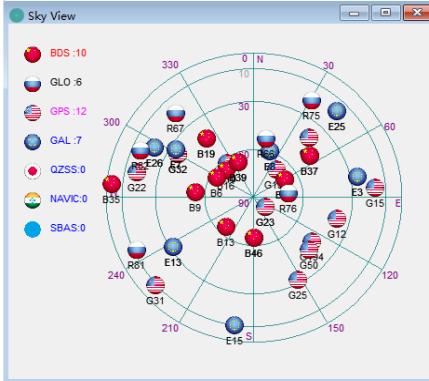
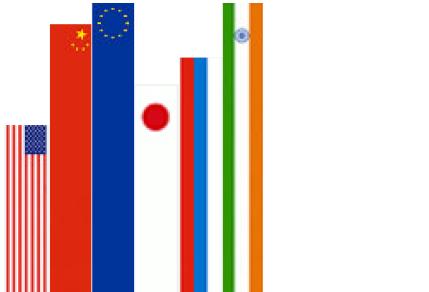
**NOTE**

Ensure the CP210x driver has been installed when you use the QGNSS tool for the first time. For more information about the driver, please contact the Quectel Technical Support ([support@quectel.com](mailto:support@quectel.com)).

## 4.2. QGNSS Interface Explanation

You can view GNSS information, such as C/N<sub>0</sub> message, time, position, speed, and precision in the QGNSS interface. See the following table to find out more about these parameters.

**Table 6: QGNSS Interface Explanation**

Icon	Explanation
	<p>This sky view interface shows the position of the satellites in use.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The left column icons show the satellites in use and their numbers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BDS: 10</li> <li>GLO (GLONASS): 6</li> <li>GPS: 12</li> <li>GAL (Galileo): 7</li> <li>QZSS: 0</li> <li>NAVIC: 0</li> <li>SBAS: 0</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The sky view on the right shows the position of the satellites in use.</li> </ol> <p>Legend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GPS satellite (USA flag)</li> <li>BDS satellite (China flag)</li> <li>GLONASS satellite (Russia flag)</li> <li>Galileo satellite (European Union flag)</li> <li>QZSS satellite (Japan flag)</li> <li>NAVIC satellite (Brazil flag)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRN 30 C/N<sub>0</sub> is 39 dB-Hz.</li> <li>Column in <b>bright red</b> means that the navigation data of the satellite is in use.</li> <li>PRN 1 C/N<sub>0</sub> is 21 dB-Hz.</li> <li>Column in <b>light red</b> means that the navigation data of the satellite is not in use.</li> </ul>

Icon	Explanation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Longitude (unit: °)</li> <li>● Latitude (unit: °)</li> <li>● Altitude (MSL) (unit: m)</li> <li>● Receiver speed (unit: km/h)</li> <li>● Horizontal dilution of precision</li> <li>● Position dilution of precision</li> <li>● Fix Mode: 2D, 3D</li> <li>● Quality Indicator: DGNSS, DGPS, GPS SPS, Float RTK and Fixed RTK modes</li> <li>● Date: UTC date</li> <li>● Time: UTC time</li> <li>● Total Times</li> <li>● Fixed Points</li> <li>● RTK Fixed</li> <li>● RTK Float</li> <li>● Age of differential GPS data</li> <li>● TTFF (unit: s)</li> <li>● 2D accuracy (unit: m)</li> <li>● 3D accuracy (unit: m)</li> </ul>

## 4.3. Firmware Upgrading

Power on the module before upgrading the firmware. See [Chapter 4.1 Testing via QGNSS](#) for details.

Firmware upgrading steps:

**Step 1:** Open QGNSS tool, and click “Tools” and select “Firmware Download” in the drop-down box.

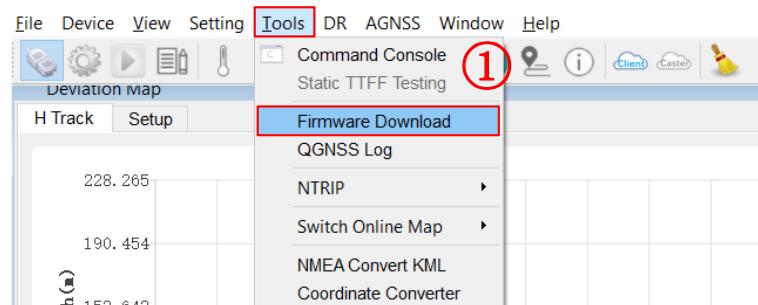


Figure 6: Tool Startup

**Step 2:** Select the “Download Baudrate” (921600 bps or 115200 bps) in the drop-down box of “Settings”.

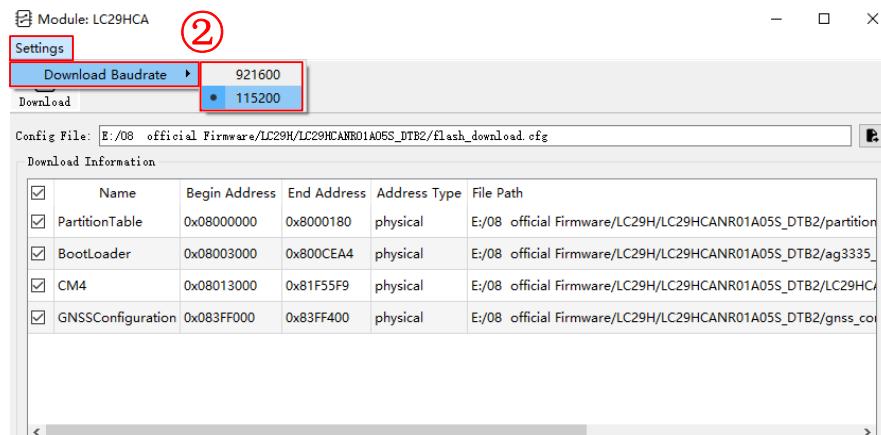


Figure 7: Tool Setting

Step 3: Click the “Open Config File” button to select Config file, e.g., “flash\_download.cfg”.

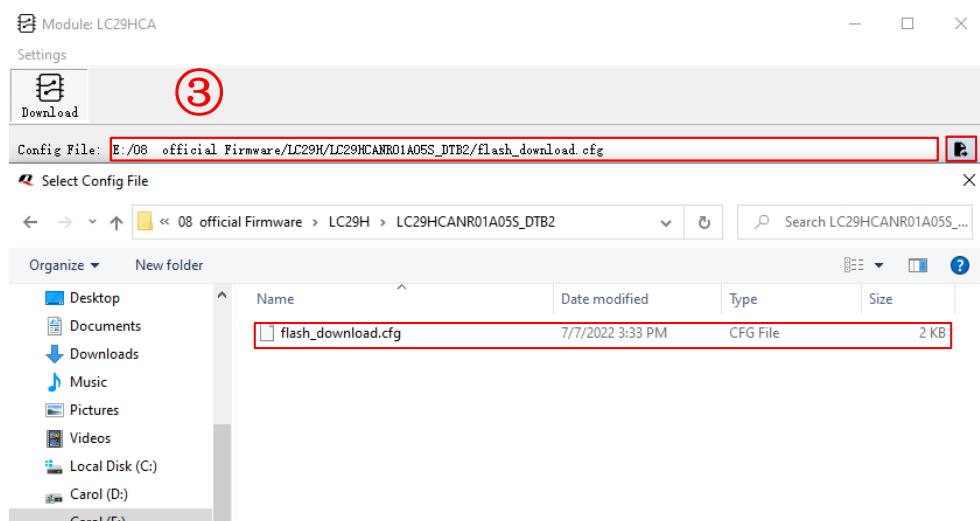


Figure 8: Firmware Selecting

Step 4: Click the “Run” button and then short press the reset button after the progress bar prompts you to reset the module.

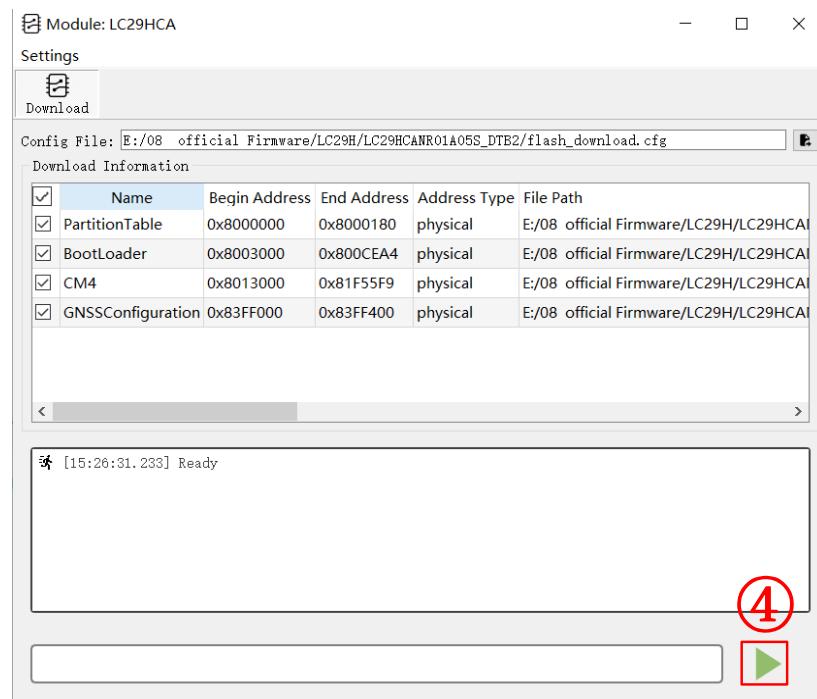


Figure 9: Firmware Upgrading - 1

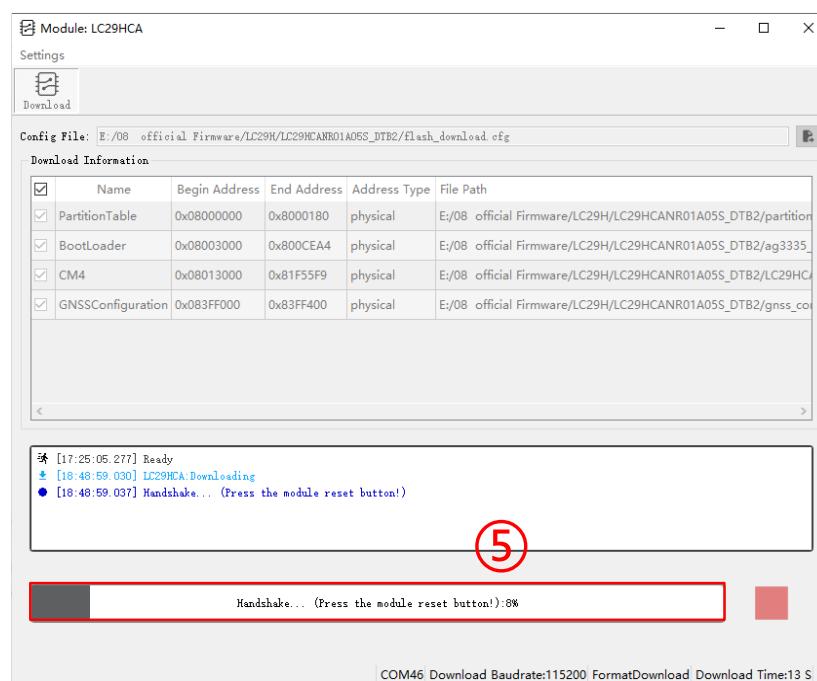


Figure 10: Firmware Upgrading - 2

**Step 5:** Upon successful firmware upgrading, the QGNSS tool's progress bar on the screen will indicate “100 %”.

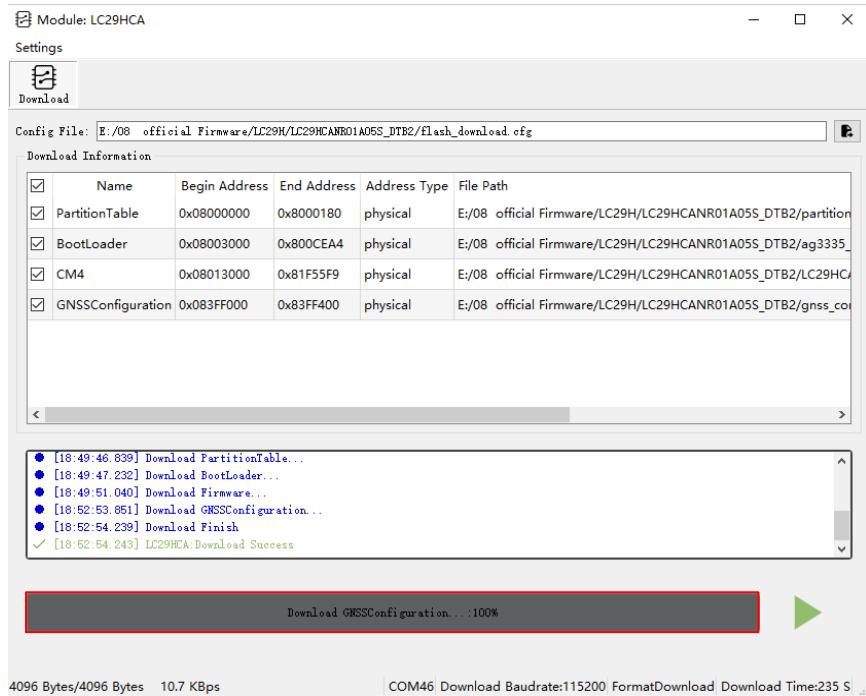


Figure 11: Successful Firmware Upgrading

# 5 DR Application

LC29H (BA) and LC29H (CA) support the Dead Reckoning technology. This chapter outlines the implementation of the DR function.

Before using the DR function, the module integrated IMU needs to be calibrated. To ensure module performance, the EVB must be mounted properly on the vehicle in such a way that it is firmly attached to the vehicle during use and no relative movement is allowed between the vehicle and the EVB. For more information, see [document \[5\] DR&RTK application note](#).

# 6 RTK Application

LC29H (BA), LC29H (DA) and LC29H (EA) support RTK function. This chapter mainly describes how to test the RTK function of the module.

Before transferring RTK data, ensure that the connection to server is stable and the COM port and baud rate are set. See [Chapter 4.1 Testing via QGNSS](#) for details.

To test the RTK function:

**Step 1:** Click the  “NTRIP Client” button to pop up the NTRIP Client window.

**Step 2:** Fill in NTRIP account information (obtained by yourself) in the window. Please verify if there is an RTK correction service at your region.

**Step 3:** Click the “Update NTRIP source table” button and select the corresponding “NTRIP mount point”. Then, click the “Connect To Host” button to “ON” and connect the NTRIP server, as shown in the figure below.

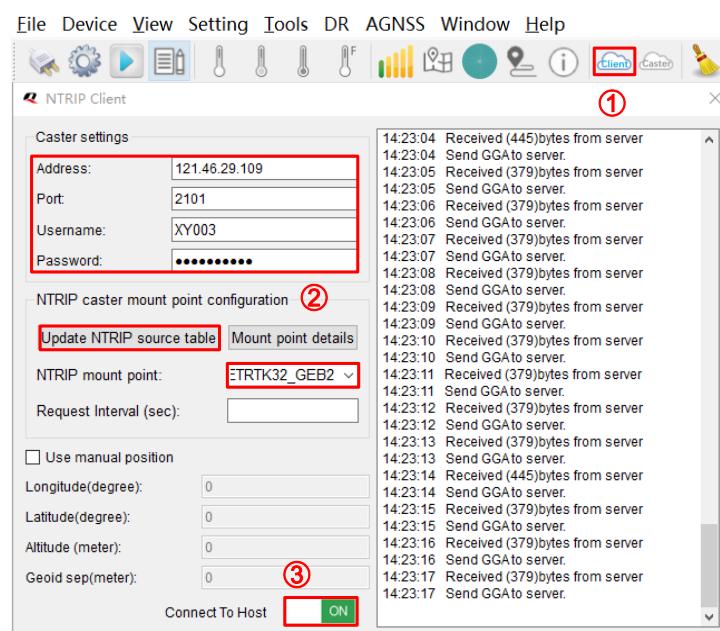


Figure 12: NTRIP Client Setting

Once the connection is established, the RTK status can be confirmed by querying the quality indicator of the **GGA** message. 2 indicates that the module entered differential mode, 4 indicates that the module entered Fixed RTK mode, and 5 indicates that the module entered Float RTK mode.

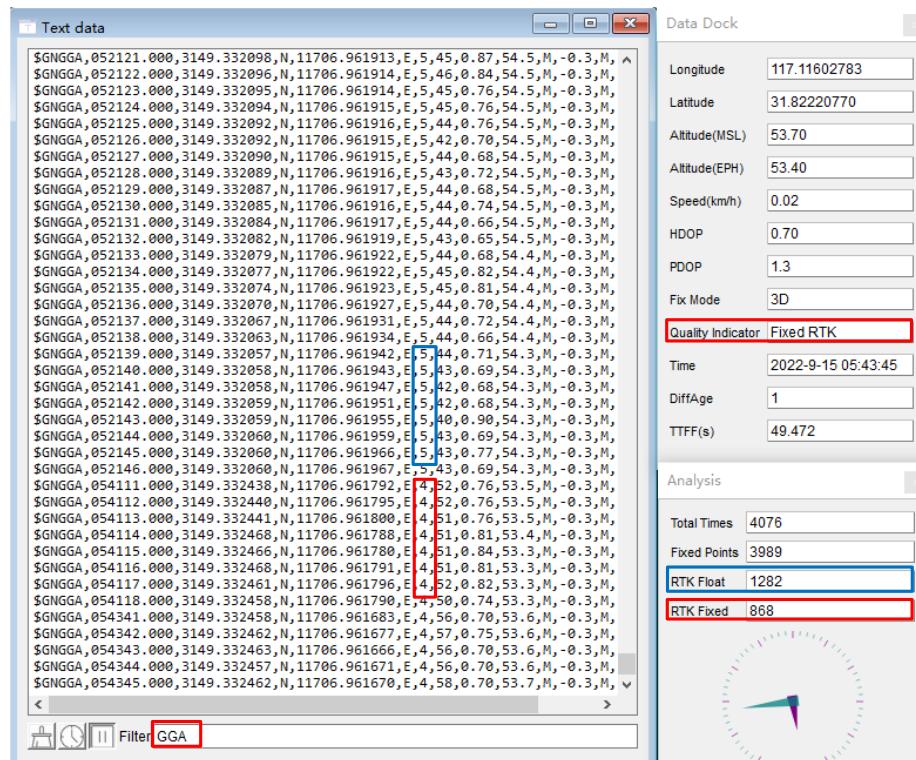


Figure 13: RTK Status Display

# 7 EVB and Antenna Installation

## 7.1. GNSS Antenna Installation

The installation environment affects the antenna reception performance and satellite visibility, which in turn affect the position quality of a GNSS receiver. In addition, antenna's orientation can also impact its reception performance. Therefore, it is important to avoid obstacles and interference when installing antenna. Place the ceramic patch antenna horizontally and make sure it faces toward the sky.

If dynamic testing is required, make sure that the GNSS antenna is firmly fixed to the device under test so as to avoid any movement or vibration with respect to the device.

## 7.2. EVB Installation

If dynamic testing and DR performance testing are required, make sure the EVB is fixed to the device under test so as to avoid any movement or vibration with respect to the device.

# 8 Measuring Power Consumption

## 8.1. Power Consumption at Different Stages

Module power consumption is measured in three stages: acquisition and tracking (including almanac update), tracking (almanac update is over) and upon entering Backup mode.

- Acquisition and tracking (including almanac update): 0 s to 12.5 min
- Tracking (almanac update is over): > 12.5 min
- Entering Backup mode

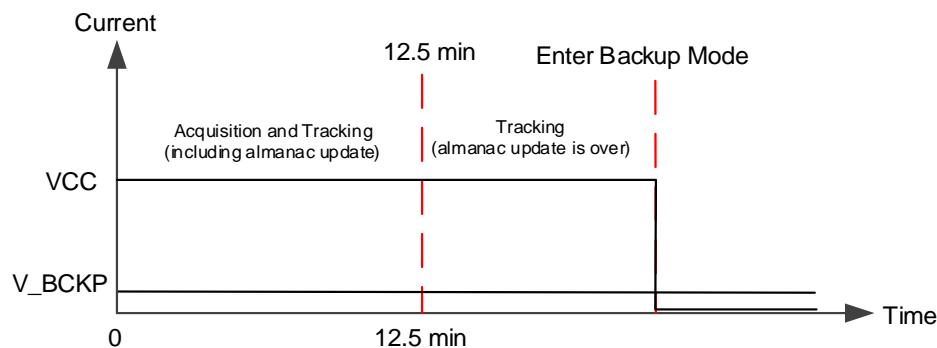


Figure 14: Power Consumption at Different Stages

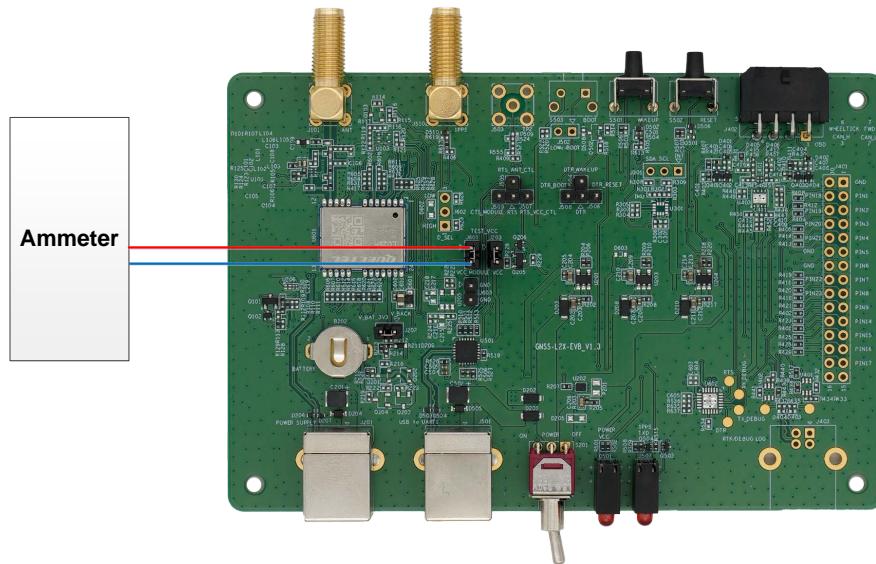
## 8.2. VCC Power Consumption Measurement

Before measuring the VCC power consumption, you must connect the components to the EVB to ensure that the module can communicate and fix normally. See [Chapter 4.1 Testing via QGNSS](#).

Detailed steps for measuring VCC power consumption with an ammeter:

**Step 1:** Switch off the power supply (S201) and pull out the VCC\_MODULE jumper cap (J601). Connect the ammeter in series to both pins of J601 as shown below.

**Step 2:** Switch on the power supply (S201) and read the ammeter.

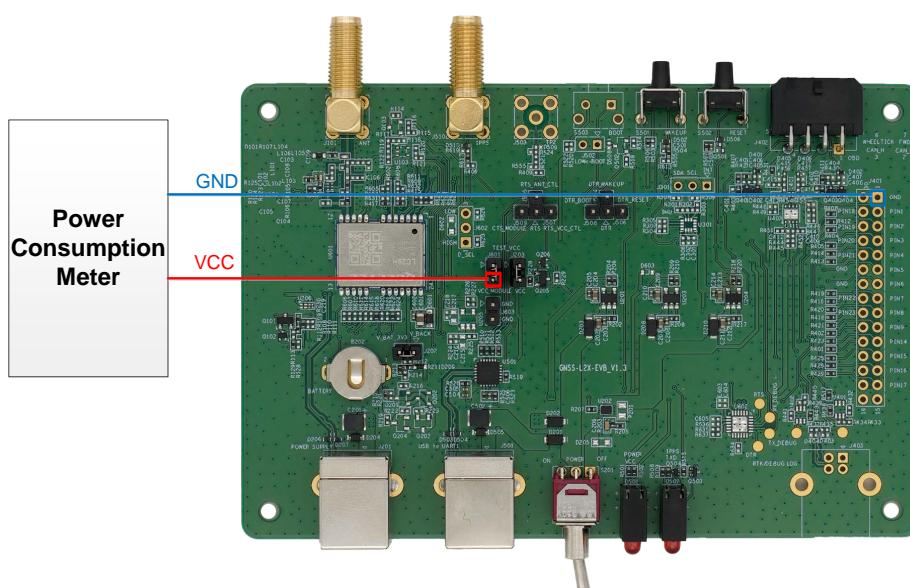


**Figure 15: VCC Power Consumption Measured with Ammeter**

Detailed steps for measuring VCC power consumption with a power consumption meter:

**Step 1:** Switch off the power supply (S201) and pull out the VCC\_MODULE jumper cap (J601). Make sure the positive pole of the power consumption meter is to be connected to pin 2 (without arrow silkscreen) of J601, and the negative pole is connected to GND.

**Step 2:** Switch on the power supply (S201) and read the power consumption meter.



**Figure 16: VCC Power Consumption Measured with Power Consumption Meter**

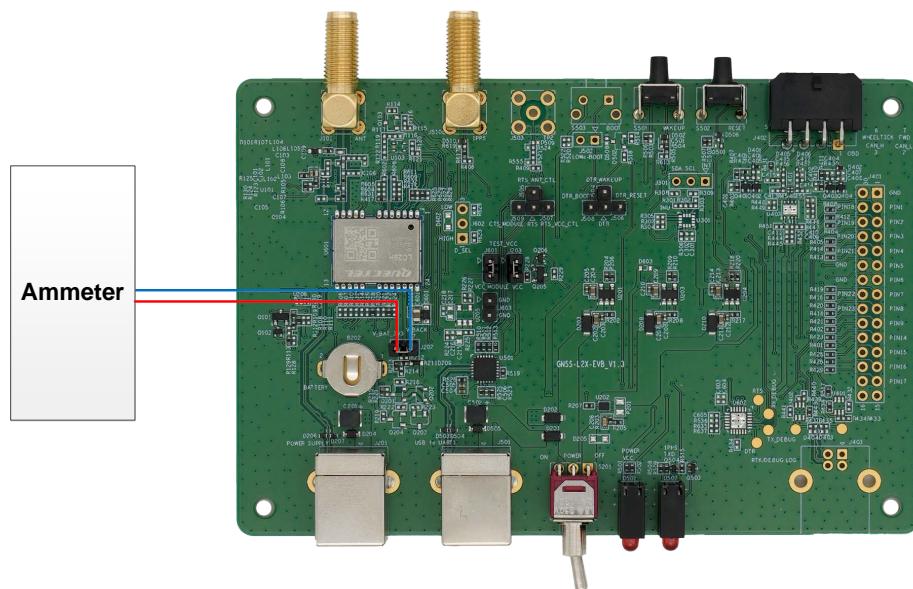
### 8.3. V\_BCKP Power Consumption Measurement

Before measuring the V\_BCKP power consumption, you must connect the components to EVB to ensure that the module can communicate and fix normally. See [Chapter 4.1 Testing via QGNSS](#).

Detailed steps for measuring V\_BCKP power consumption with an ammeter:

**Step 1:** Switch off the power supply (S201) and pull out the V\_BACK jumper cap (J202). Connect the ammeter in series to both pins of J202, as shown below.

**Step 2:** Switch on the power supply (S201) and read the ammeter.



**Figure 17: V\_BCKP Power Consumption Measured with Ammeter**

Detailed steps for measuring V\_BCKP power consumption with a power consumption meter:

**Step 1:** Switch off the power supply (S201) and pull out the V\_BACK jumper cap (J202). Then, ensure the positive pole of the power consumption meter is connected to pin 1 (with arrow silkscreen) of J202, and the negative pole is connected to GND.

**Step 2:** Switch on the power supply (S201) and read the power consumption meter.

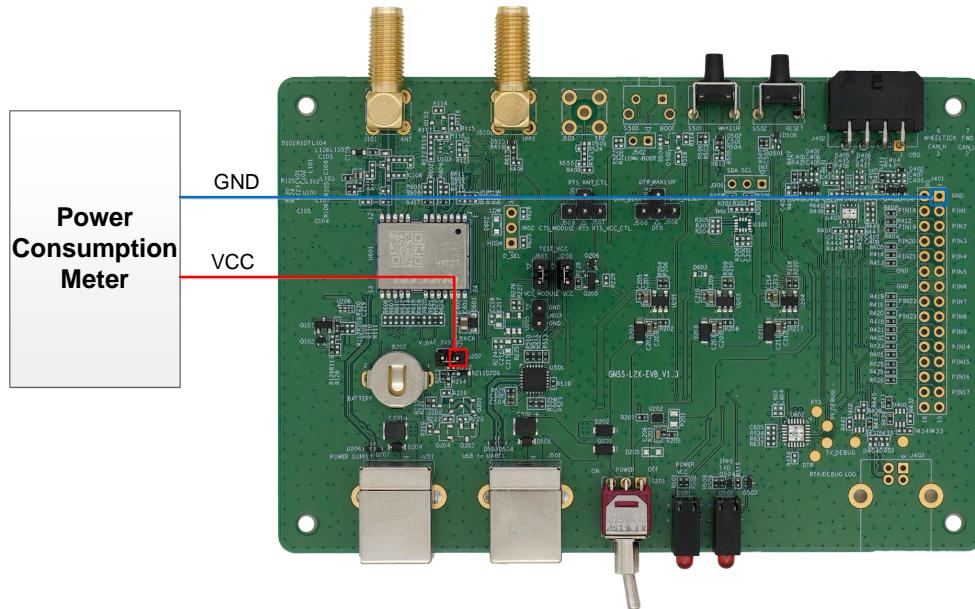


Figure 18: V\_BCKP Power Consumption Measured with Power Consumption Meter

**NOTE**

1. Adjust the current resolution when using the power consumption meter.
2. Formula for calculating the power value:  $P = V_{\text{Supply}} \times I_{\text{Test}}$ .
3. Before measuring the V\_BCKP power consumption in Backup mode, ensure that the module has entered Backup mode, and then remove the jumper cap of VCC\_MODULE (J102) to cut off the power supply of VCC. For more information about the way to enter/exit Backup mode, see [document \[2\] hardware design](#).

# 9 EVB Framework

The power is supplied to EVB via Type-B, and then to the GNSS module via a low-dropout regulator (LDO). GNSS module outputs the signals from communication interface on EVB via USB-to-UART Bridge Chip (CP2102N). There are an antenna interface and control buttons on EVB. All functions of the module are available, including debugging.

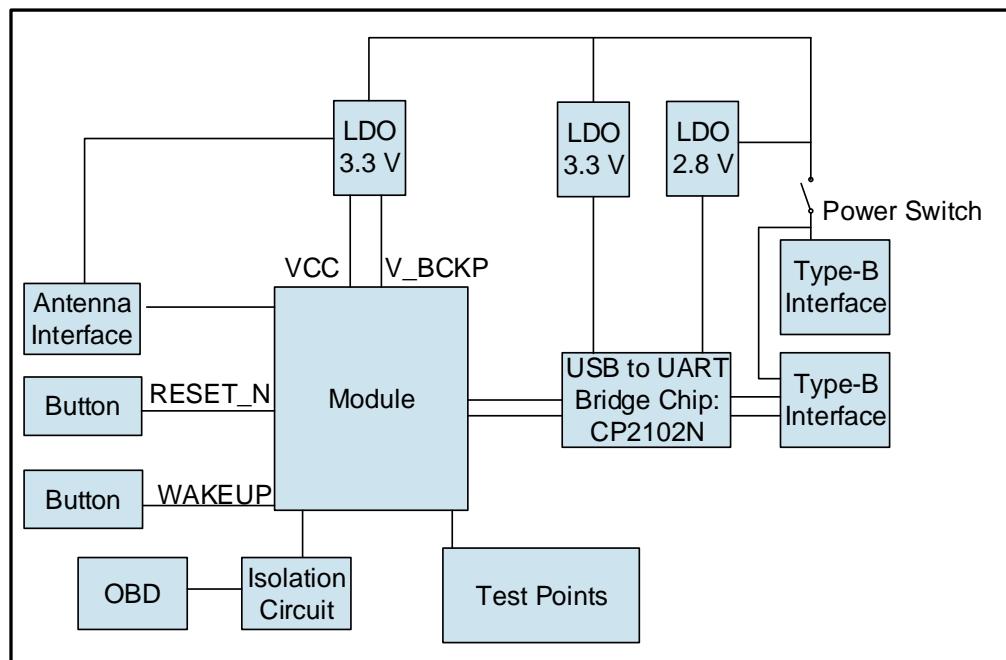


Figure 19: EVB Framework

# 10 Common Problems and Troubleshooting

1. **Unable to find COM port in the Device Manager when EVB is connected to PC with a USB cable.**
  - Check that the EVB communication interface is properly connected to the PC.
  - Verify that CP210x Driver has been installed successfully.
2. **Communication interface not outputting any messages or commands.**
  - Check that the power supply indication LED on the EVB is illuminated.
  - Verify that the jumper cap(s) is(/are) connected correctly, as shown in [Figure 1: EVB Kit Components](#).
  - Ensure that the module's power supply is normal.
3. **Module unable to search for satellite signals.**
  - If there is no transponder indoors, test the module in an open-sky environment.
4. **Module unable to upgrade.**
  - Verify whether the module is in normal operating mode.
  - Check that the downloaded firmware is correct.
  - Confirm that the correct COM port has been selected.

## NOTE

For the problem(s) that cannot be solved, please contact Quectel Technical Support ([support@quectel.com](mailto:support@quectel.com)).

# 11 Cautions

- Make sure to conduct tests under the same environment when comparing different parameters of GNSS modules.
- Note that parameters, such as cold start, acquisition and tracking, may be defined differently by chip suppliers.
- Ensure that the measurement method is correct. If there are significant differences between parameters tested via EVB and those provided by Quectel, please contact Quectel Technical Support.
- Note that momentary data obtained from measurement cannot always be regarded as reference data, because it may be affected by various factors, such as satellite positions at different times, environmental conditions, temperature, humidity and altitude.
- Keep in mind that the QGNSS Tool may updated periodically to fix bugs or improve performance. Please make sure that you are using the latest version of the tool.

# 12 Appendix References

**Table 7: Related Documents**

Document Name
[1] Quectel_LC29H(BS)_EVB_User_Guide
[2] <a href="#">Quectel LC29H Series Hardware Design</a>
[3] Quectel_LC29H_Series_Reference_Design
[4] Quectel_QGNSS_User_Guide
[5] <a href="#">Quectel LC29H(BA,CA,DA,EA) DR&amp;RTK Application Note</a>

**Table 8: Terms and Abbreviations**

Abbreviation	Description
2D	Two-dimensional
3D	Three-dimensional
BDS	BeiDou Navigation Satellite System
CAN	Controller Area Network
COM Port	Communication Port
C/N <sub>0</sub>	Carrier-to-noise-density Ratio
DC	Direct Current
DI	Digital Input
DO	Digital Output
DR	Dead Reckoning

Abbreviation	Description
ESD	Electrostatic Discharge
EVB	Evaluation Board
Galileo	Galileo Satellite Navigation System (EU)
GND	Ground
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
GPS	Global Positioning System
GLONASS	Global Navigation Satellite System (Russia)
I2C	Inter-Integrated Circuit
I/O	Input/Output
LED	Light Emitting Diode
MSL	Mean Sea Level
NMEA	NMEA (National Marine Electronics Association) 0183 Interface Standard
OBD	On-Board Diagnostics
PC	Personal Computer
PCB	Printed Circuit Board
1PPS	One Pulse Per Second
PRN	Pseudorandom Noise
QZSS	Quasi-Zenith Satellite System
RF	Radio Frequency
RXD	Receive Data (Pin)
RTK	Real-Time Kinematic
SBAS	Satellite-Based Augmentation System
SCL	Serial Clock Line
SDA	Serial Data Line

Abbreviation	Description
SMA	SubMiniature Version A
SPS	Standard Positioning Service
TTFF	Time to First Fix
TXD	Transmit Data (Pin)
UART	Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter
USB	Universal Serial Bus
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time