

RYZ014A and RX MCU

Firmware Upgrade from Host MCU for RX

Introduction

This document describes a sample application that upgrades the RYZ014A firmware from the host MCU.

This sample application works in a configuration that uses the CK-RX65N board with RX65N as the host MCU and connects the Pmod™ Expansion Board for RYZ014A to the Pmod connector. Store the RYZ014A firmware file on a USB flash drive and connect it to the USB Full Speed connector on the CK-RX65N board. Transfer the firmware from the USB flash drive to the RYZ014A for upgrade.

This sample application works on bare metal.

Target Device

[RYZ014A](#)

[CK-RX65N](#)

Related Documents

- Renesas LTE Cat-M1 Cellular IoT Module RYZ014A Pmod™ Expansion Board (R21QS0004)
- RYZ014 Module System Integration Guide (R19AN0074)
- RX65N Group, RX651 Group User's Manual: Hardware (R01UH0590)
- Cloud Kit for RX65N Microcontroller Group CK-RX65N v1 User's Manual (R20UT5100)
- Firmware Integration Technology User's Manual (R01AN1833)

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1. Overview

During a product lifetime, at least one modem software upgrade will most likely be required. There are three types of firmware upgrade methods for RYZ014A, and this application note describes how to upgrade from the control microcomputer (Host MCU) among them.

- Connect to LTE network and upgrade wirelessly (Firmware Upgrade Over-the-Air (FOTA))
- Upgrade from PC
- Upgrade from the control microcomputer (Host MCU)

It works in a configuration where the CK-RX65N board with RX65N is used as the host MCU and the Pmod Expansion Board for RYZ014A is connected to the Pmod connector. Store the RYZ014A firmware file on a USB flash drive and connect it to the USB Full Speed connector on the CK-RX65N board. Transfer the firmware from the USB flash drive to the RYZ014A for upgrade.

Figure 1-1 shows a configuration diagram of the firmware upgrade sample application.

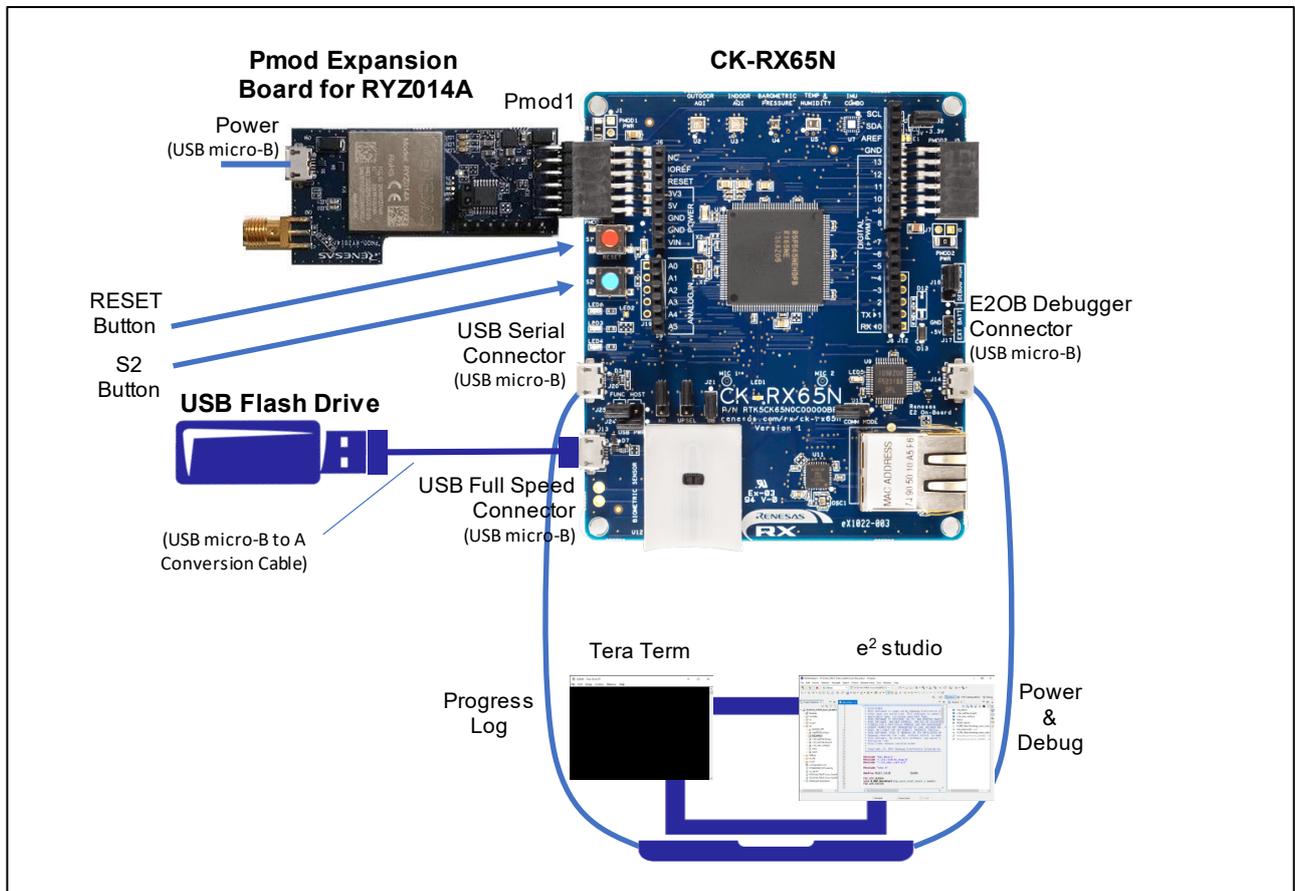


Figure 1-1 Firmware upgrade sample application configuration diagram

2. Operating Environment

2.1 Hardware

The hardware requirements used in the sample application are shown in "Table 2-1 Hardware requirements".

Table 2-1 Hardware requirements

Hardware	Description
Pmod Expansion Board for RYZ014A	RTKYZ014A0B00000BE
CK-RX65N	RTK5CK65N0S04000BE
USB Flash Drive	10MB or more
Windows 10 PC	---
USB Cable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> for CK-RX65N E2OB Debugger(Power & Debug) (micro-B) for CK-RX65N USB Serial Connector(Progress Log) (micro-B) for Pmod Expansion Board for RYZ014A(Power) (micro-B) for USB Flash Drive (USB micro-B to A Conversion)

2.2 Software

The software requirements used in the sample application are shown in "Table 2-2 Software requirements".

Table 2-2 Software requirements

Software	Version
e ² studio	2022-10
CC-RX Compiler	3.04
Renesas Flash Programmer	V3.11
Tera Term	V4.106 (It is used in the execution log display for operation check.)

2.3 Microcontroller Peripheral Functions

The microcontroller peripheral functions used in the sample application are shown in "Table 2-3 Microcontroller peripheral functions".

Table 2-3 Microcontroller peripheral functions

Function Name		Description
Serial Communication Interface	SCI6(UART6)	Pmod1: UART communication with RYZ014A Baudrate :921600 bps Data length :8 bit Parity :none Stop bit :1 bit Flow control :Hardware CTS/Software RTS RTS : P02 CTS : PJ3
	SCI5(UART5)	USB Serial Connector: Display progress log in Tera Term Baudrate :115200 bps Data length :8 bit Parity :none Stop bit :1 bit Flow control :none
Compare Match Timer W	CMTW0	UART communication timeout with RYZ014A
	CMTW1	LED blinking cycle
USB2.0 FS Host	USB2.0 FS Host	USB Full Speed Connector: Communication with the USB flash drive where the firmware file is stored.
I/O Port	P55	Reset pin control of RYZ014A
	P02	RTS signal used for UART communication with RYZ014A.
	PJ3	CTS signal used for UART communication with RYZ014A.
	PA3	User LED Blue
	P25	User LED Red
External Interrupt Request	IRQ1	External interrupt request of user button S2

2.4 FIT Modules

The FIT modules used in the sample application are shown in "Table 2-4 FIT modules". The FIT module can be obtained automatically by generating code with Smart Configurator.

Table 2-4 FIT modules

Function	Component		Version
BSP	Board Support Package	r_bsp	7.20
Port	Config_PORT	Config_PORT	2.4.0
SCI	SCI Driver	r_sci_rx	4.40
	Byte-based circular buffer library	r_byteq	2.00
	GPIO Driver	r_gpio_rx	4.50
IRQ	IRQ Driver	r_irq_rx	4.10
USB	USB Basic	r_usb_basic	1.40
	USB Host Mass Storage Class	r_usb_hmsc	1.31
File System	Open Source Fat File System	r_tfat_rx	4.02
	Memory Driver Interface for Open Source FAT File System	r_tfat_driver_rx	2.20
	CMT driver	r_cmt_rx	5.20
	Generic system timer for RX MCUs using CMT module	r_sys_timer_rx	1.01
Timer	CMTW Driver	r_cmtw_rx	2.60

2.5 Directory/File Structure

Directory/file structure of sample application are shown in "Table 2-5 Directory/File structure".

Table 2-5 Directory/File structure

Directory/ File Structure		Description
RYZ014A_FWUP_from_HostMCU\	.cproject .project RYZ014A_FWUP_from_HostMCU HardwareDebug.launch RYZ014A_FWUP_from_HostMCU.rcpc RYZ014A_FWUP_from_HostMCU.scfg	Project files.
.settings\	com.renesas.cdt.managedbuild.renesas.ccrx.prefs com.renesas.hardwaredebug.rx.e2.PerfAnalysisSettings.xml com.renesas.smc.e2studio.qe.xml com.renesas.smc.generationsetting.properties CoverageSetting.xml DebugVirtualConsoleSetting.xml Dependency_Scan_Preferences.prefs e2studio_project.prefs IORegisterSetting.xml org.eclipse.cdt.core.prefs org.eclipse.core.resources.prefs renesasPGModel.xml	e ² studio setting files.
src\	main.c r_lte_ryz014a_fwup.c r_lte_ryz014a_fwup.h r_lte_ryz014a_fwup_console.c r_lte_ryz014a_fwup_console.h r_lte_ryz014a_fwup_hal_data.c r_lte_ryz014a_fwup_hal_data.h r_lte_user_config.h	Firmware upgrade sample application source codes.
	smc_gen\	FIT module source codes

3. How to Use this project

Shows how to use the sample application. Refer to "Figure 1-1 Firmware upgrade sample application configuration diagram" for the execution environment.

This sample application executes without connecting to an LTE network.

3.1 Preparation of RYZ014A firmware

Rename the RYZ014A firmware file^(Note) to the following name and copy it to the root directory of the USB flash drive.

ryz014a_firmware.dup

Note: Firmware files will be provided directly to you by Renesas as needed. The file will differ depending on the version of the firmware you are running, so please let us know the version of the firmware you are running when contacting Renesas.

3.2 CK-RX65N jumper setting

The USB Full Speed interface of CK-RX65N is used as a USB Host to connect a USB flash drive. Set the jumper as follows according to "RX65N Group Cloud Kit for RX65N Microcontroller Group CK-RX65N v1 User's Manual" (R20UT5100).

J25: Jumper on pins 1-2 (USB Host)

J24: Closed (Bus-powered operation)

Other jumpers should be set as described in "Table 2. Default Jumper Settings" in "RX65N Group Cloud Kit for RX65N Microcontroller Group CK-RX65N v1 User's Manual" (R20UT5100).

3.3 Import of project

The steps to import a sample application project into e² studio are shown below.

1. Launch e² studio, specify the workspace directory, and click the "Launch" button.

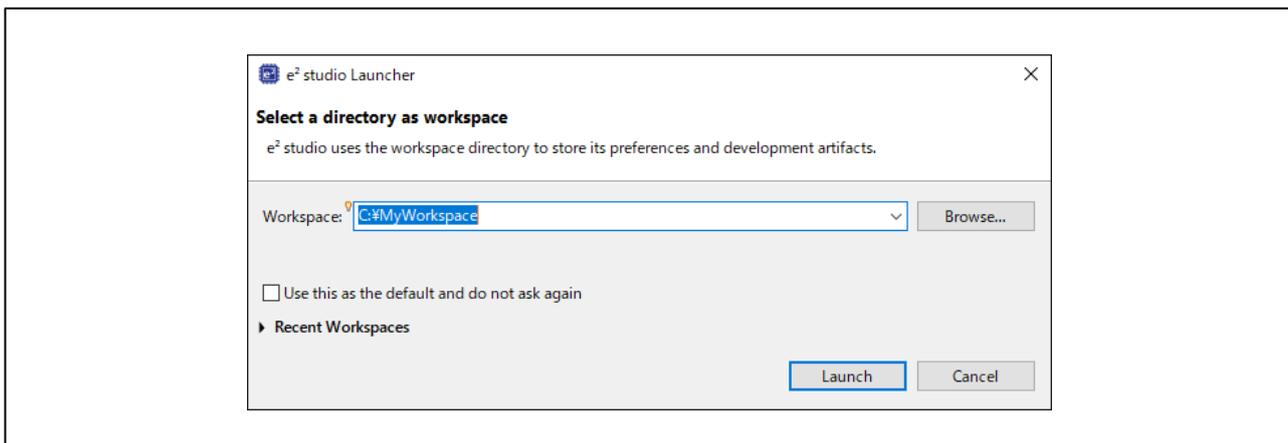


Figure 3-1 Workspace selection

2. Select "File" → "Import ..." from the menu bar.

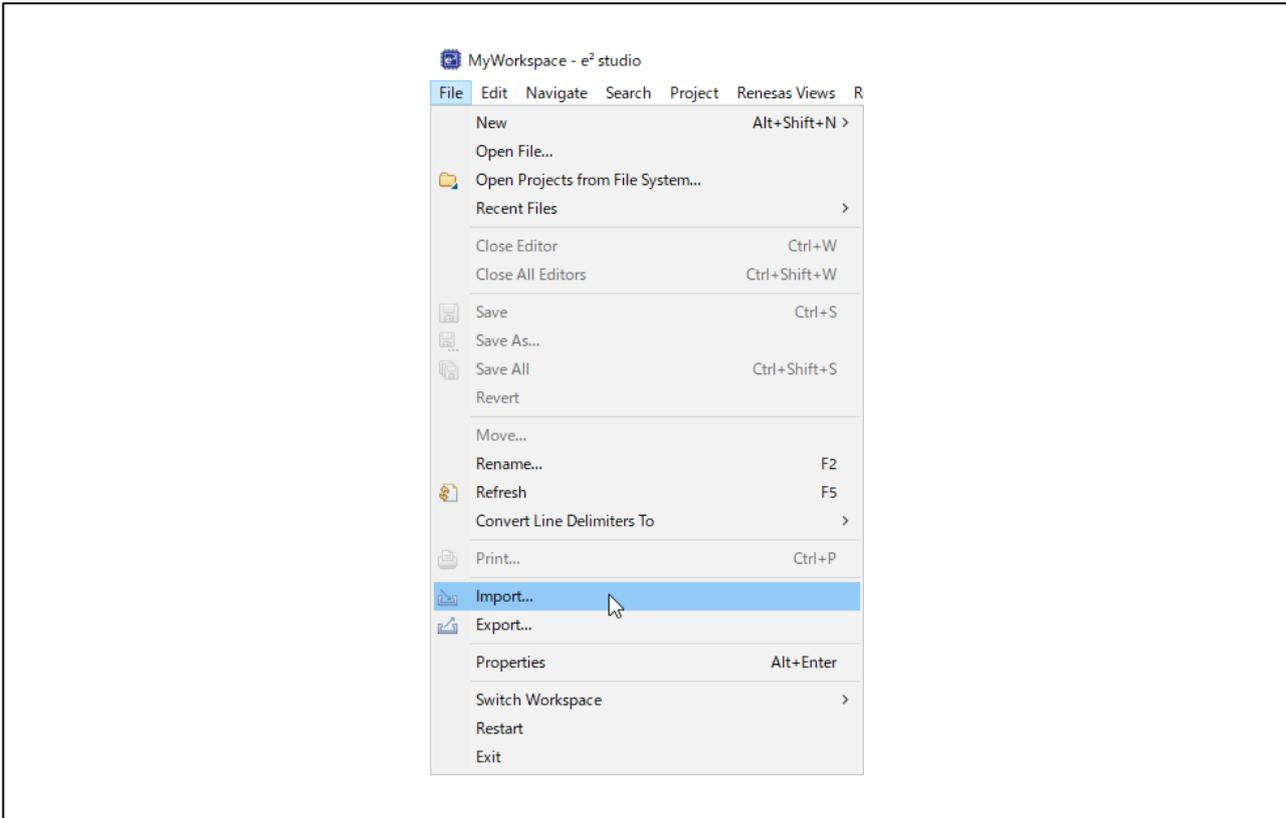


Figure 3-2 File menu

3. Select "Existing Projects into Workspace" and click "Next".

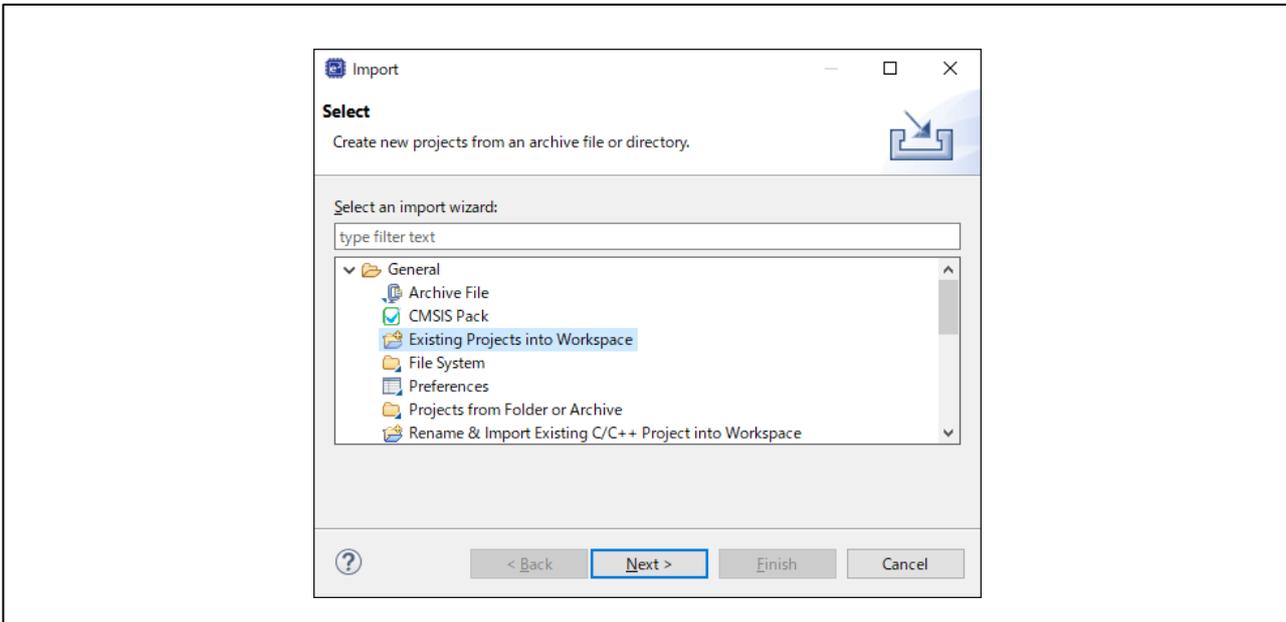


Figure 3-3 Import wizard selection

4. Select "Select root directory", click "Browse..." and select the directory for your sample project. Click the "Finish" button to import the project.

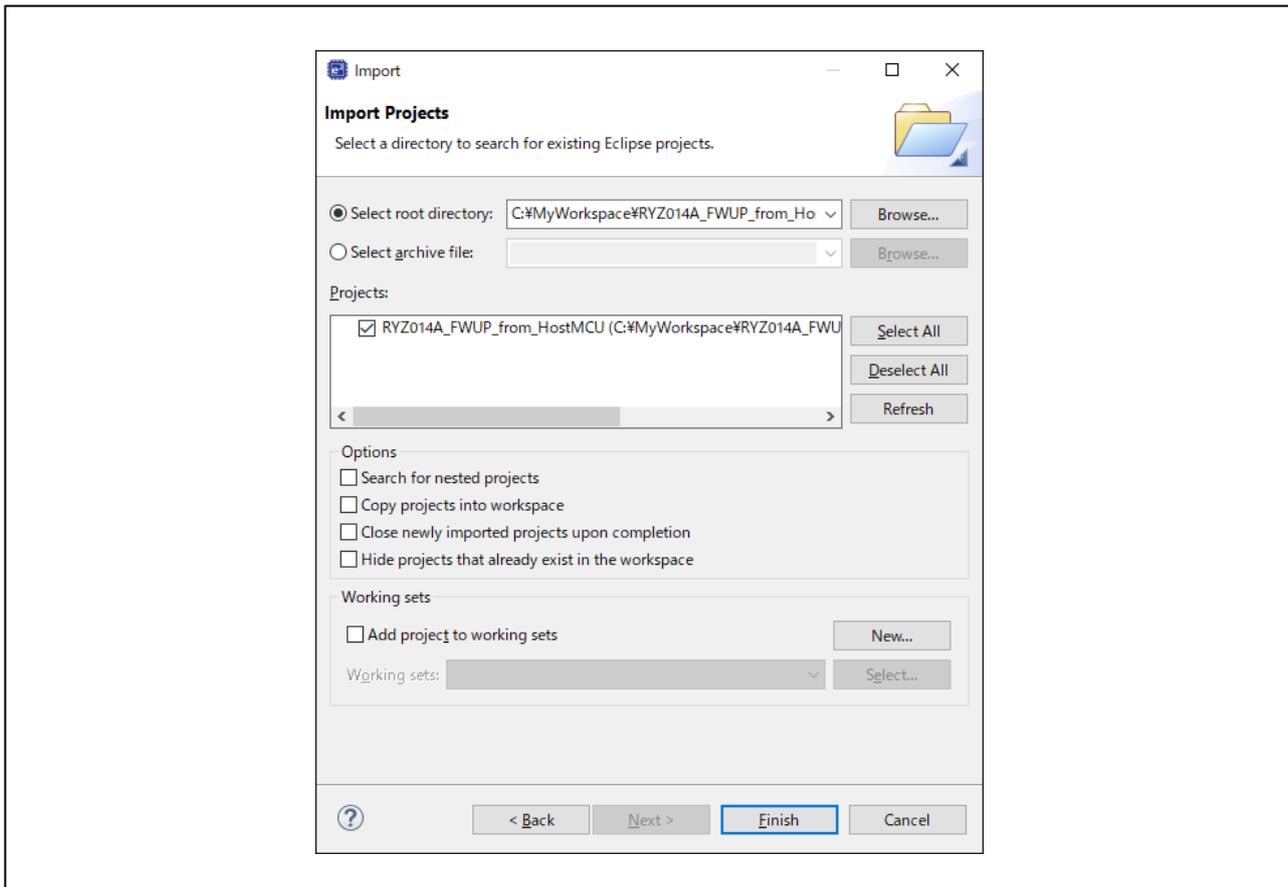


Figure 3-4 Import project

3.4 Build and Download

1. Double-click RYZ014A_FWUP_from_HostMCU.scfg to open the Smart Configurator window.

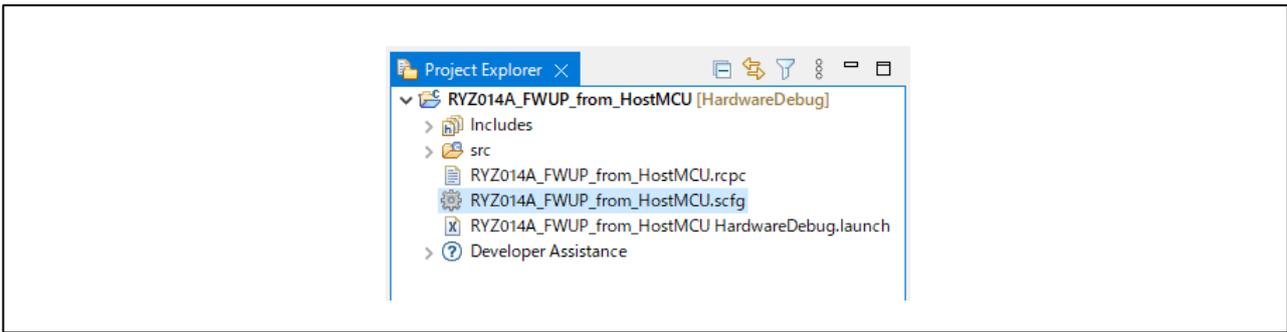


Figure 3-5 configuration.xml

2. Click the Generate Code icon  in the upper right corner of the Smart Configurator window. The required files are extracted from the FIT and the source and header files are added to the project.
3. Select "Project" → "Build Project" from the menu bar or click the Build icon  to build the project.
4. Click the debug icon  to launch the project. When the project starts, the sample application will be downloaded to CK-RX65N.

3.5 Launch Tera Term

1. Launch Tera Term and Select "Setup" → "Serial port" from the menu bar.
2. Set the Serial port by referring to SCI5 (UART5) in "Table 2-3 Microcontroller peripheral functions".

3.6 Firmware Upgrade Execution

- (1) Click the  icon on the top right of e² studio to open the debug perspective. Click the resume icon  in the debug perspective to run the sample application.

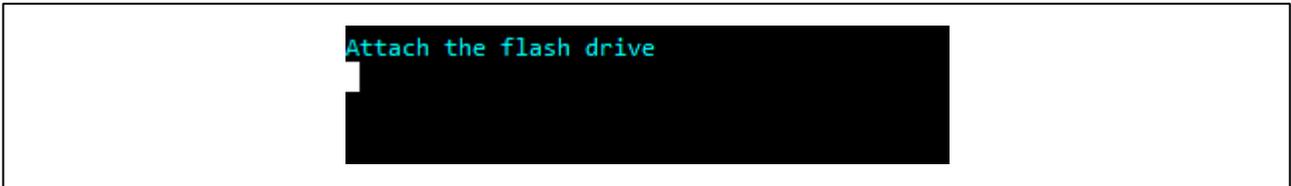


Figure 3-6 Sample application execution

- (2) Connect the USB flash drive to the USB micro-B to A conversion cable connected to the USB Full Speed connector of the CK-RX65N. The RYZ014A firmware file stored on the USB flash drive will be found and the file size will be displayed.

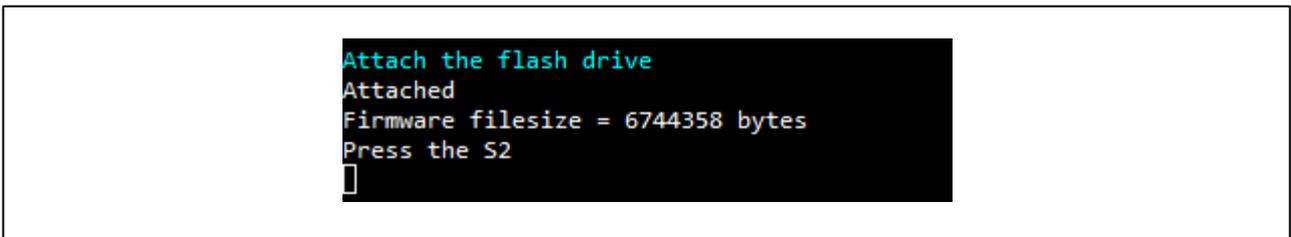


Figure 3-7 RYZ014A Firmware file detection

- (3) Press the S2 button on CK-RX65N. The firmware upgrade will be executed. The firmware upgrade is successfully executed and "R_LTR_FWUpgrade success" is displayed.

```

Attach the flash drive
Attached
Firmware filesize = 6744358 bytes
Press the S2
Pressed S2

-----
snd num=1 atc=AT
rcv num=1 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=2 atc=AT+SMLOG?
rcv num=2 rsp=ERROR

-----
snd num=3 atc=AT+SMOD?
rcv num=3 rsp=2
rcv num=3 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=4 atc=AT+SQNWL="sqndcc",2
rcv num=4 rsp+=SQNWL: "sqndcc",2
rcv num=4 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=5 atc=AT+CFUN=4
rcv num=5 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=6 atc=AT+SMSTPU
rcv num=6 rsp=OK
STP operation reset
STP remaining=6740278
STP remaining=6736198
STP remaining=6732118
STP remaining=6728038
STP remaining=6723958
STP remaining=6719878
STP remaining=6715798
STP remaining=6711718

-----
STP remaining=8278
STP remaining=4198
STP remaining=118
STP remaining=0
STP operation reset

-----
snd num=7 atc=AT
rcv num=7 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=8 atc=AT+SMUPGRADE
rcv num=8 rsp=OK
wait 5s...
timeout atc_num=9

-----
snd num=10 atc=AT
rcv num=10 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=11 atc=AT+SMLOG?
rcv num=11 rsp+=SMLOG: LOG_INHERIT
rcv num=11 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=12 atc=AT+SMOD?
rcv num=12 rsp=3
rcv num=12 rsp=OK
wait 5s...
timeout atc_num=13

-----
snd num=14 atc=AT
rcv num=14 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=15 atc=AT+SMLOG?
rcv num=15 rsp+=SMLOG: LOG_INHERIT
rcv num=15 rsp=OK
wait 5s...
timeout atc_num=13

-----
snd num=14 atc=AT
rcv num=14 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=15 atc=AT+SMLOG?
rcv num=15 rsp=ERROR

-----
snd num=16 atc=AT+SMOD?
rcv num=16 rsp=2
rcv num=16 rsp=OK

-----
snd num=17 atc=AT+SMUPGRADE?
rcv num=17 rsp+=SMUPGRADE: success
rcv num=17 rsp=OK
R_LTE_FWUpgrade success

```

Figure 3-8 Firmware upgrade execution

4. Program processing

Firmware upgrade is performed by calling R_LTE_FWUpgrade function. When the firmware file of RYZ014A stored in the USB flash drive is detected and the S2 button is pressed, AT command (ATC) processing starts.

In AT command processing, AT commands are sent in the order shown in "4.2.1 AT Command Flow" and responses are received. Then, instruct RYZ014A to execute the firmware upgrade.

Firmware data transfer processing uses the Simple Transfer Protocol (STP) shown in "4.3 Firmware Data Transfer Processing" to send firmware data to RYZ014A.

If the host MCU or RYZ014A is powered off during the firmware upgrade, power them on and then call the R_LTE_FWUpgrade function. Performing the firmware upgrade again will complete the upgrade normally.

Refer to "3 How to Use this project" for how to execute the firmware upgrade using the sample application.

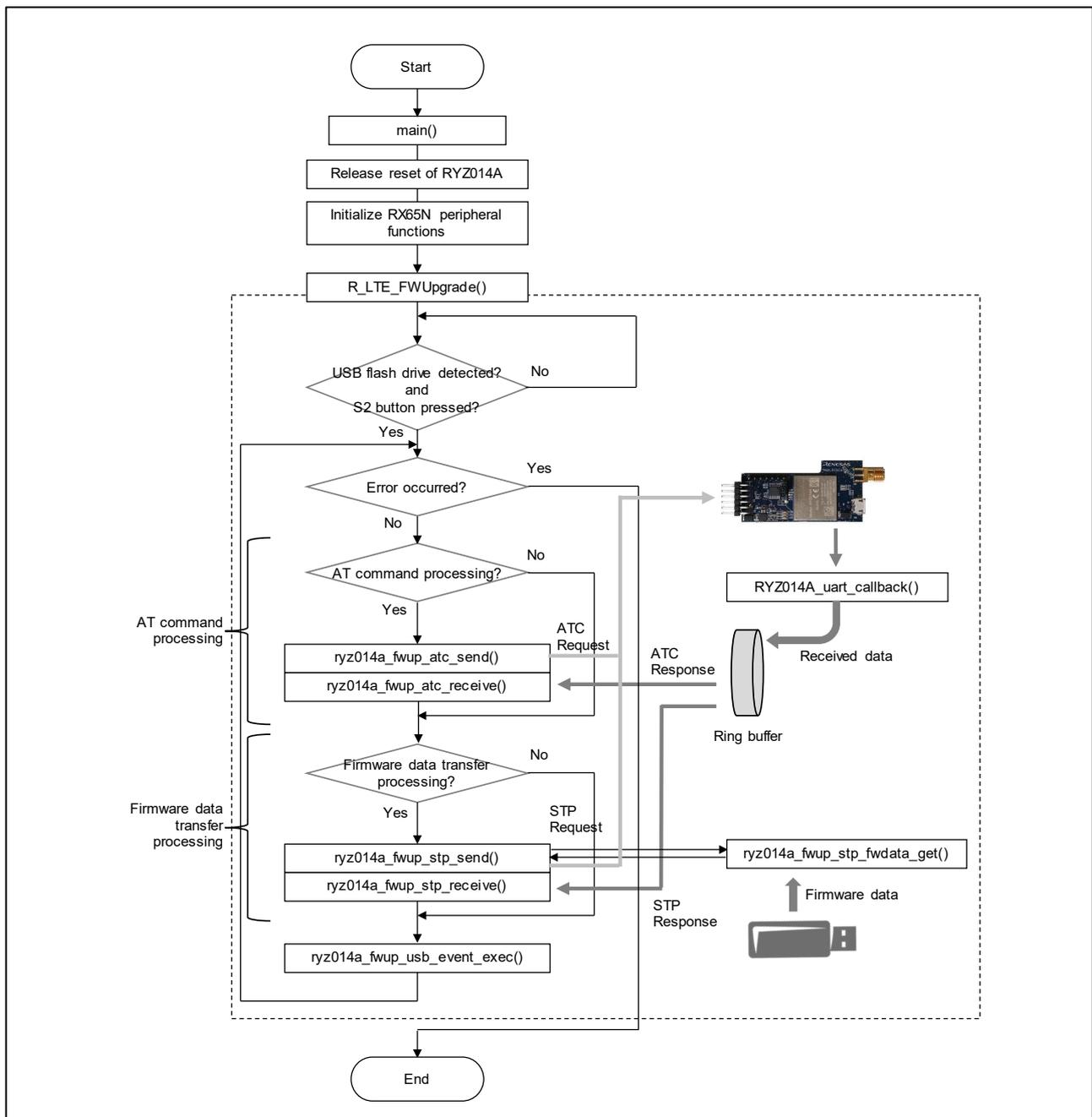


Figure 4-1 Firmware upgrade program processing overview diagram

4.1 API

4.1.1 User API

4.1.1.1 Firmware Upgrade Function

(1) R_LTE_FWUpgrade

Function	Upgrade the firmware of RYZ014A.
Arguments	None
Return	Success : LTE_SUCCESS (Successful firmware upgrade) Error : LTE_ERR_FWUPGRADE (Firmware upgrade failure) LTE_ERR_NOT_FOUND_FWFILE (Firmware file not found) (Refer to "r_lte_ryz014a_fwup.h" for error definition macros.)

4.1.2 Internal Processing Function

4.1.2.1 AT Command Processing Function

(1) ryz014a_fwup_atc_send

Function	Send an AT command to RYZ014A. For the AT command to be sent, refer to "4.2.1 AT Command Flow".
Arguments	None
Return	None

(2) ryz014a_fwup_atc_receive

Function	The response of the AT command is received from RYZ014A and the result is evaluated. For the response to be received, refer to "4.2.1 AT Command Flow". If the following error occurs, re-send the same AT command 5 times. If a normal response cannot be received during retransmission, reset RYZ014A and re-start from the beginning of AT command processing. If the same error occurs again, the firmware upgrade will fail. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An invalid response was received. ● No response was received for 5 seconds.
Arguments	None
Return	None

4.1.2.2 Firmware Data Transfer processing function**(1) ryz014a_fwup_stp_send**

Function	Send an STP request to RYZ014A. For details on the protocol, refer to "4.3 Firmware Data Transfer Processing".
Arguments	None
Return	None

(2) ryz014a_fwup_stp_receive

Function	<p>The STP response is received from RYZ014A and the result is evaluated. For details on the protocol, refer to "4.3 Firmware data Transfer Processing".</p> <p>If the following error occurs, reset the RYZ014A and re-execute from the beginning of AT command processing. If the same error occurs again, the firmware upgrade will fail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An invalid response was received. ● No response was received for 5 seconds.
Arguments	None
Return	None

(3) ryz014a_fwup_stp_fwdata_get

Function	Gets the firmware data of the specified size from the firmware file.
Arguments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Firmware data storage buffer pointer. (output) ● Data size to get. (input)
Return	None

4.2 AT Command Processing

4.2.1 AT Command Flow

The flow of AT commands used for firmware upgrade is shown below.

The right branch is the recovery route if the RYZ014A is powered down during the upgrade. Normally not executed.

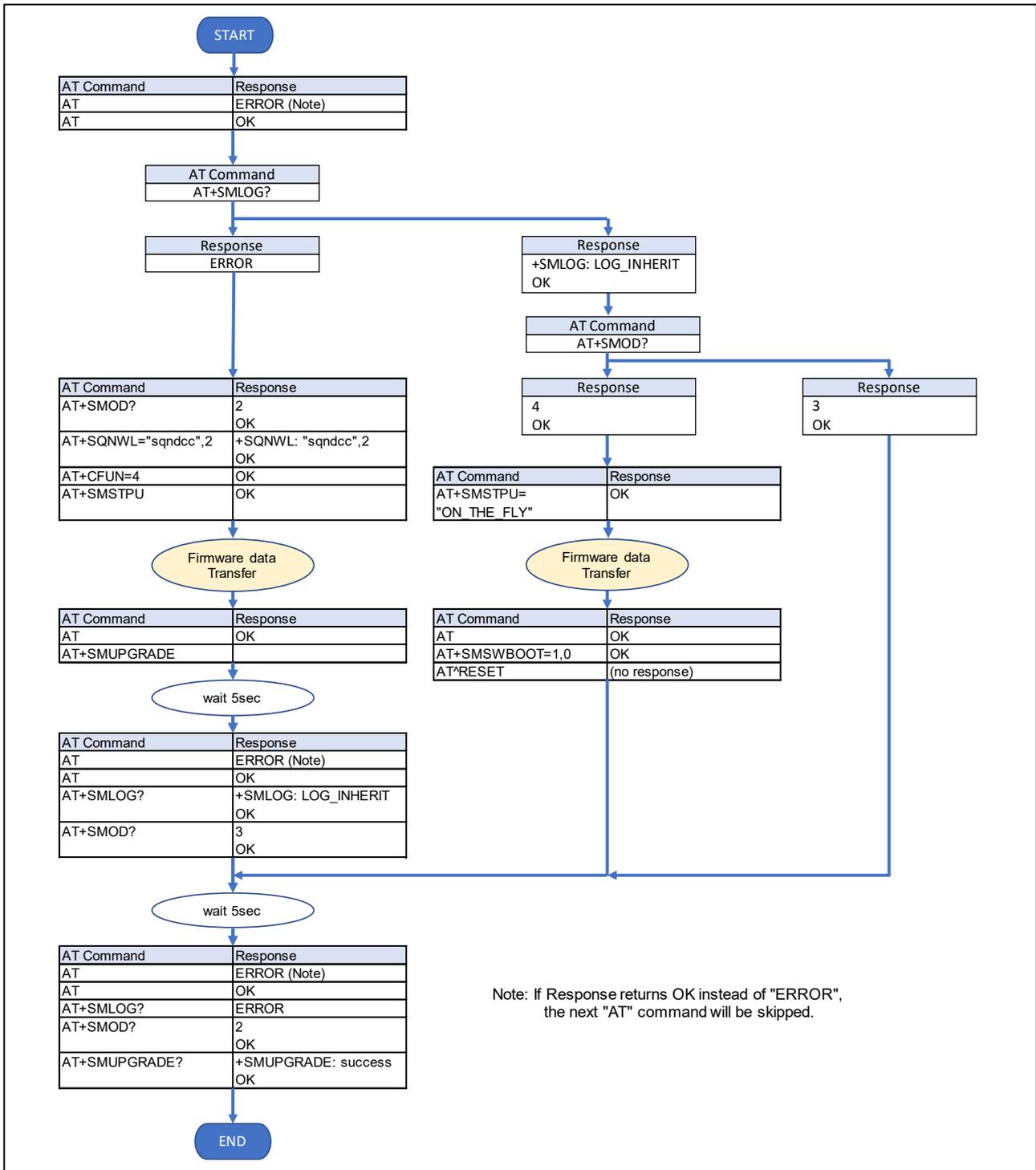


Figure 4-2 AT command flowchart

4.2.2 AT Command

An overview of the AT commands used for firmware upgrade is shown in "Table 4-1 AT Command". For details of AT commands, refer to "5.1 AT Commands Definition".

Table 4-1 AT Command

AT Command	Description
AT+SMLOG	Specifies how to output the console log.
AT+SMOD	Returns the boot mode.
AT+SQNWL	Controls the transition to sleep mode.
AT+CFUN	Select the Mobile Termination (MT) functional level.
AT+SMSTPU	Starts Simple Transfer Protocol (STP) transfer.
AT+SMUPGRADE	Execute firmware upgrade.
AT+SMSWBOOT	Boots the device in the specified mode.

4.3 Firmware Data Transfer Processing

The Firmware data transfer process uses original protocol called Simple Transfer Protocol (STP) to send firmware data to the RYZ014A. Communication is performed using the request packet sent from the host MCU to the RYZ014A and the response packet sent from the RYZ014A to the host MCU.

The packet configuration is shown in "4.3.1 Packet Configuration", and the STP processing details are shown in "4.3.2 Operation Flow".

4.3.1 Packet Configuration

4.3.1.1 STP packet

The STP packet configuration is shown in "Table 4-2 STP packet configuration". The 16 bytes excluding the payload in "Table 4-2 STP packet configuration" are called the STP header.

Table 4-2 STP packet configuration

Name	Size	Description
signature	4	Request : 0x66617374 ("fast") Response : 0x74736166 ("tsaf")
operation	1	0x00 : reset 0x01 : open session 0x02 : transfer block command 0x03 : transfer block Response operation is OR with 0x80.
session ID (sid)	1	set to 0 on reset, set to 1 once session is open.
payload length	2	payload length
transaction ID (tid)	4	transaction ID, set to 0 on reset, then incremented after each answer.
full header checksum	2	Request : full header checksum Response : 0
payload checksum	2	payload checksum or 0 if no payload.
payload	-	payload data Refer to "4.3.1.2 Payload" for the data structure.

4.3.1.2 Payload

The Payload configuration is shown below. The payload size used differs depending on the status of each operation (1) to (4).

(1) open session operation payload (Response)

The payload configuration added to the open session operation response is shown in "Table 4-3 open session payload configuration".

Table 4-3 open session payload configuration

Name	Size	Description
success	1	Indicate if session has been open with success (1) or not (0).
version	1	protocol version, always 1.
max transfer size	2	max size for STP header + payload.

(2) transfer block command operation payload (Request)

The payload configuration added to the transfer block command operation request is shown in "Table 4-4 transfer block command payload configuration".

Table 4-4 transfer block command payload configuration

Name	Size	Description
block size	2	block size to transfer.

(3) transfer block operation payload (Request)

This payload configuration added to the transfer block operation request is shown in "Table 4-5 transfer block operation request payload configuration".

Table 4-5 transfer block operation request payload configuration

Name	Size	Description
firmware data	-	firmware data. size = max transfer size - STP header

(4) transfer block operation payload (Response)

This payload configuration added to the transfer block operation response is shown in "Table 4-6 transfer block command response payload configuration".

Table 4-6 transfer block command response payload configuration

Name	Size	Description
residue	2	always 0.

4.3.2 Operation Flow

Firmware data transfer processing using STP is executed by sending and receiving STP packets for each item indicated in "operation" in "Table 4-2 STP packet configuration".

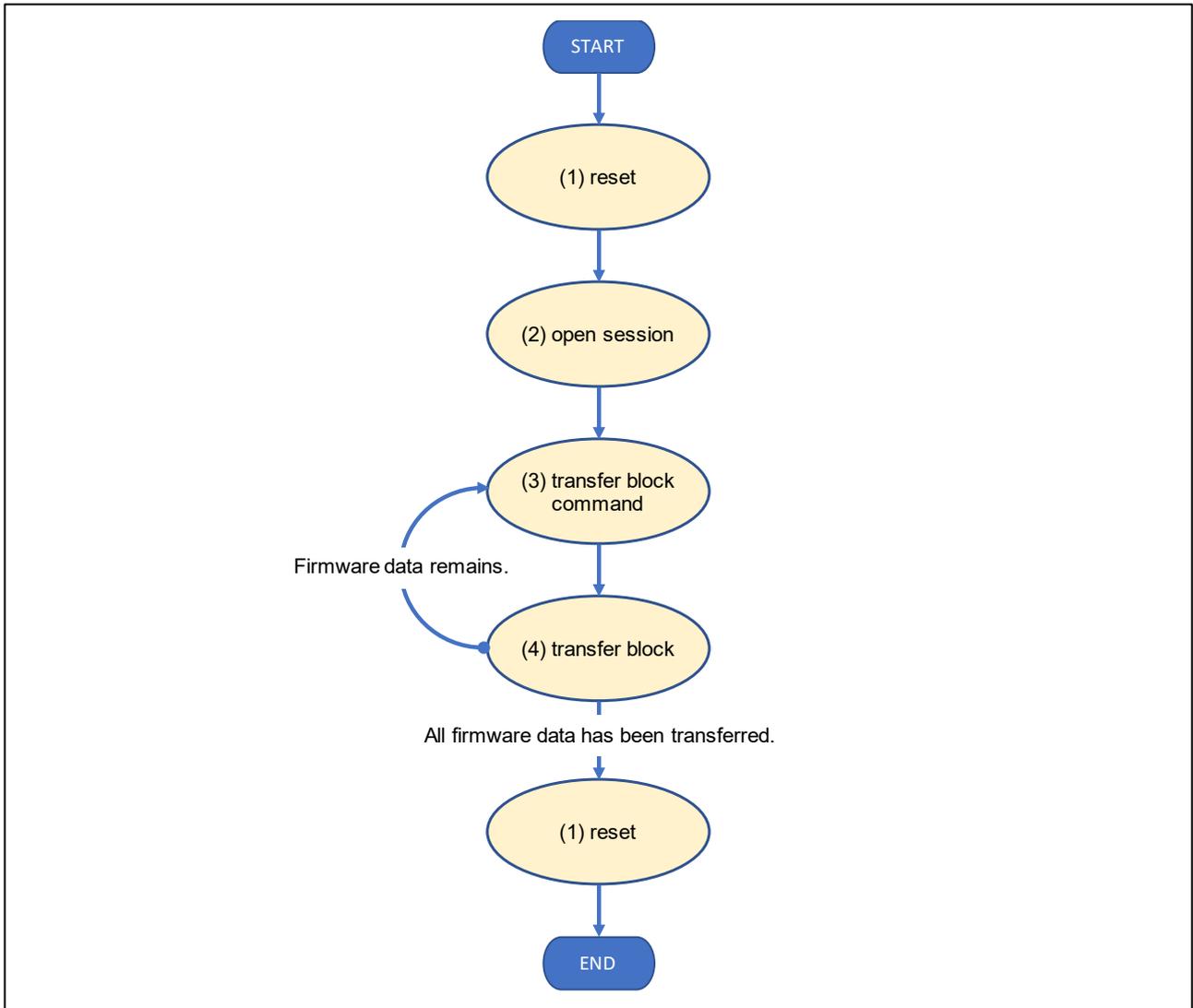


Figure 4-3 Operation flowchart

(1) reset

Function	Reset the RYZ014A session.
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set sid and tid to 0. ● Send a request packet. (no payload) ● Receive a response packet. (no payload)

(2) open session

Function	Open the RYZ014A session.
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set sid to 1. ● Increment tid. ● Send a request packet. (no payload) ● Receive a response packet. (with "open session operation payload (Response)")

(3) transfer block command

Function	Instructs RYZ014A to receive firmware data.
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increment tid. ● Send a request packet. (with "transfer block command operation payload (Request)") ● Receive a response packet. (no payload)

(4) transfer block

Function	Send the firmware data to RYZ014A.
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increment tid. ● Send a request packet. (with "transfer block operation payload (Request)") ● Receive a response packet. (with "transfer block operation payload (Response)")

5. Appendix

5.1 AT Commands Definition

This section describes the AT commands used in the firmware upgrade.

(1) AT+SMSWBOOT

Description:

This command forces the device to boot in mode <mode> (FFF, FFH, Updater or Recovery).

Syntax:

Command	Possible Response(s)
AT+SMSWBOOT=<mode>[,<reboot>]	OK

Parameters:

<mode>: integer 0, 1, 2 or 3. Device start-up mode at next boot

0: FFH

1: FFF

2: UPDATER

3: RECOVERY

<reboot>: integer 0 or 1. Automatic device reboot after <mode> change

0 (default): no reboot

(2) AT+SMOD

Description:

This command returns the boot mode.

Syntax:

Command	Possible Response(s)
AT+SMOD	<mode>

Parameters:

<mode>: Integer. Device start-up mode at next boot

0: FFH

1: FFF

2: UPDATER

3: RECOVERY

4: OTHER

(3) AT+SMUPGRADE

Description:

AT+SMUPGRADE parses the .dup file and directly flashes the data into the corresponding regions depending on which boot mode the module is:

- FFH: Upgrade all regions and filesystem
- RECOVERY: Upgrade all regions and filesystem
- FFF: Upgrade UPDATER and BOOTROM regions
- UPDATER: Upgrade FFF region and filesystem

When in FFF, all authorized regions are upgraded before the module reboots in UPDATER mode to finish the execution of the .dup file. Once the UPDATER mode is over, the module reboots in FFF mode. The SFU tool takes care of both steps, its use is highly recommended for any upgrade.

Syntax:

Command	Possible Response(s)
AT+SMUPGRADE	-
AT+SMUPGRADE?	Upgrade report

(4) AT+SMLOG

Description:

Available in manufacturing mode (AT+CFUN=5)

Forces console logs to be printed on the specified UART (regardless of their programmed "console" functionality).

Syntax:

Command	Possible Response(s)
AT+SMLOG=<log>	OK
AT+SMLOG?	+SMLOG=<log>
AT+SMLOG=?	+SMLOG [list of supported <log>]

Parameters:

<log>: String. Chooses the UART the console log is directed to.

- LOG_DISABLE: The logs are discarded
- LOG_INHERIT: The logs are printed on the UART configured as 'console' (default)
- LOG_FORCE_UART0: The logs are printed on UART 0
- LOG_FORCE_UART1: The logs are printed on UART 1
- LOG_FORCE_UART2: The logs are printed on UART 2

(5) AT+SMSTPU

Description:

This command starts a STP transfer, waiting for an FFF image containing upgrade images.

Syntax:

Command	Possible Response(s)
AT+SMSTPU[="ON_THE_FLY"]	-

Parameters:

none: Normal transfer

ON_THE_FLY: Recovery transfer

(6) AT^RESET

Description:

This command performs an hardware reset.

Syntax:

Command	Possible Response(s)
AT^RESET	Device is reset
-	+SHUTDOWN ... +SYSSTART

(7) AT+SQNWL

Description:

This command manages resources wake locks to indicate that a client application running on the Host CPU needs to secure full and immediate availability of some device resources, which implies to prevent the considered resources to enter sleep mode.

Currently, the wake-lockable system resources are:

- CPU and external interfaces (UART, GPIO)
- Device memory (RAM)

The Set command is used to set and release the wake locks based on the resource identified by the bitmask <wl_mask>. To set the wake locks and prevent the sleep mode for the specified resource(s), <wl_mask> bit(s) should be set to 1. To release the wake locks and allow sleep mode for the specified resource(s), <wl_mask> bit(s) should be set to 0.

Note: The wake locks configuration is volatile. It is lost at reboot.

The Set command entered with bitmask omitted will return the wake lock defined by the <app> client application.

The Read command returns the list of client applications using wake locks and lock status.

Caution: It is very important release wake lock as soon as possible to avoid running down the device's battery excessively. Each application

<app> setting a wake lock to 1 should explicitly reset it to 0 when the need for resource availability is not present anymore.

Syntax:

Command	Possible Response(s)
AT+SQNWL=<app>[,<wl_mask>]	+CME ERROR:<err> +SQNWL:<app>,<wl_mask> OK
AT+SQNWL?	+SQNWL:<app1>,<mask1> [<CR><LF>...<CR><LF>+SQNWL: <appN>,<maskN>[...]] OK
AT+SQNWL=?	+SQNWL:"", (0-3) OK

Parameters:

app

- Client application name, string.

wl_mask

- Bitmask as integer in range [0-3] identifying the resource to keep available. Bitis set to 1 to keep the resource available and prevent sleep mode, or reset to 0 to release.

wl_mask

Value	Description
0	Default value. No system resource locked
Bit 0 (0x01)	Keep CPU and external interfaces (UART, GPIO) active. Prevents the CPU and external interfaces to enter sleep mode.
Bit 1 (0x02)	Keep device's RAM memory active. Prevents the device's RAM memory to enter sleep mode.
Bits 0 and 1 (0x03)	Keep CPU, external interfaces (UART, GPIO) and device's RAM memory active. Prevents the

Revision History

Rev.	Date	Description	
		Page	Summary
1.0	Dec.15.22	-	Initial Release

General Precautions in the Handling of Microprocessing Unit and Microcontroller Unit Products

The following usage notes are applicable to all Microprocessing unit and Microcontroller unit products from Renesas. For detailed usage notes on the products covered by this document, refer to the relevant sections of the document as well as any technical updates that have been issued for the products.

1. Precaution against Electrostatic Discharge (ESD)

A strong electrical field, when exposed to a CMOS device, can cause destruction of the gate oxide and ultimately degrade the device operation. Steps must be taken to stop the generation of static electricity as much as possible, and quickly dissipate it when it occurs. Environmental control must be adequate. When it is dry, a humidifier should be used. This is recommended to avoid using insulators that can easily build up static electricity.

Semiconductor devices must be stored and transported in an anti-static container, static shielding bag or conductive material. All test and measurement tools including work benches and floors must be grounded. The operator must also be grounded using a wrist strap. Semiconductor devices must not be touched with bare hands. Similar precautions must be taken for printed circuit boards with mounted semiconductor devices.

2. Processing at power-on

The state of the product is undefined at the time when power is supplied. The states of internal circuits in the LSI are indeterminate and the states of register settings and pins are undefined at the time when power is supplied. In a finished product where the reset signal is applied to the external reset pin, the states of pins are not guaranteed from the time when power is supplied until the reset process is completed. In a similar way, the states of pins in a product that is reset by an on-chip power-on reset function are not guaranteed from the time when power is supplied until the power reaches the level at which resetting is specified.

3. Input of signal during power-off state

Do not input signals or an I/O pull-up power supply while the device is powered off. The current injection that results from input of such a signal or I/O pull-up power supply may cause malfunction and the abnormal current that passes in the device at this time may cause degradation of internal elements. Follow the guideline for input signal during power-off state as described in your product documentation.

4. Handling of unused pins

Handle unused pins in accordance with the directions given under handling of unused pins in the manual. The input pins of CMOS products are generally in the high-impedance state. In operation with an unused pin in the open-circuit state, extra electromagnetic noise is induced in the vicinity of the LSI, an associated shoot-through current flows internally, and malfunctions occur due to the false recognition of the pin state as an input signal become possible.

5. Clock signals

After applying a reset, only release the reset line after the operating clock signal becomes stable. When switching the clock signal during program execution, wait until the target clock signal is stabilized. When the clock signal is generated with an external resonator or from an external oscillator during a reset, ensure that the reset line is only released after full stabilization of the clock signal. Additionally, when switching to a clock signal produced with an external resonator or by an external oscillator while program execution is in progress, wait until the target clock signal is stable.

6. Voltage application waveform at input pin

Waveform distortion due to input noise or a reflected wave may cause malfunction. If the input of the CMOS device stays in the area between V_{IL} (Max.) and V_{IH} (Min.) due to noise, for example, the device may malfunction. Take care to prevent chattering noise from entering the device when the input level is fixed, and also in the transition period when the input level passes through the area between V_{IL} (Max.) and V_{IH} (Min.).

7. Prohibition of access to reserved addresses

Access to reserved addresses is prohibited. The reserved addresses are provided for possible future expansion of functions. Do not access these addresses as the correct operation of the LSI is not guaranteed.

8. Differences between products

Before changing from one product to another, for example to a product with a different part number, confirm that the change will not lead to problems. The characteristics of a microprocessing unit or microcontroller unit products in the same group but having a different part number might differ in terms of internal memory capacity, layout pattern, and other factors, which can affect the ranges of electrical characteristics, such as characteristic values, operating margins, immunity to noise, and amount of radiated noise. When changing to a product with a different part number, implement a system-evaluation test for the given product.

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