

GENERIC · CHASSIS

C0076

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

C0076

PWM for Traction Control

C0076 indicates that the traction control system's pulse-width-modulated (PWM) signal circuit has a fault, typically an open, short, or excessive current draw. The electronic brake control module (EBCM) monitors the PWM output that controls the traction control valve or motor and sets this code when the expected feedback or current is outside the normal range.

SYSTEM

Chassis

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Brakes, steering and suspension

Symptoms you may notice

- Traction control warning light illuminated on the dashboard
- Anti-lock brake system (ABS) light may also be on
- Traction control system disabled, often with a message on the driver information center
- Reduced or no traction control intervention during slippery conditions
- Often no other symptoms besides the warning light
- In some cases, a slight pulsation or noise from the brake modulator during self-test

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged or corroded wiring or connector at the traction control solenoid or motor
- 2 Failed traction control solenoid or valve inside the ABS modulator assembly
- 3 Open or shorted PWM signal wire between the EBCM and the traction control component
- 4 Poor ground connection for the traction control circuit
- 5 Faulty electronic brake control module (EBCM) driver circuit
- 6 Blown fuse or relay supplying power to the traction control circuit

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the traction control circuit wiring and connectors for damage, corrosion, or loose pins
- 2 Check the fuse and relay that supply power to the traction control system
- 3 Measure resistance and continuity of the PWM signal wire from the EBCM to the traction control solenoid
- 4 Test the traction control solenoid or motor for proper resistance and function
- 5 Verify ground connections for the traction control circuit are clean and tight
- 6 If all external circuits test good, suspect the EBCM and perform pinpoint diagnostics per the manufacturer's service information
- 7 Clear the code and verify the repair by test-driving the vehicle and confirming the traction control system operates correctly



What most technicians overlook with C0076

- A common misdiagnosis is replacing the ABS modulator when the real fault is a chafed wire in the wheel well or a corroded connector pin that only acts up in wet weather.
- The PWM signal can be affected by a weak battery or charging system, so always check battery voltage and ground quality before condemning the EBCM.
- Some vehicles set C0076 when the traction control motor is seized from lack of use, especially if the system rarely activates; exercising the system can sometimes free it.
- The code does not always mean the EBCM is bad; a shorted solenoid coil can draw excessive current and damage the EBCM driver, so test the solenoid before replacing the module.
- After repairs, a relearn or calibration procedure may be required for the traction control system to function properly, and this step is often missed.

Can I keep driving with C0076?

The vehicle remains safe to drive under normal conditions because the base braking system is unaffected, but traction control and possibly ABS are disabled, so avoid slippery or loose surfaces and do not rely on the system for stability assistance. Have the fault diagnosed soon to prevent further damage to the EBCM or modulator.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with ABS/traction control capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the specific vehicle
- Basic hand tools for connector and component access
- Test light or power probe

Reading C0076

C	Chassis: brakes, steering and suspension.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
0	Brakes, steering and suspension.
76	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

C0035 Left Front Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit Range/Performance · **C0040** Left Rear Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit · **C0050** Right Rear Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **C0110** ABS Pump Motor Circuit Malfunction · **C0121** Valve Relay Circuit Malfunction



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Push-Button Start Works: Keyless Ignition](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/c0076/>

