

GENERIC · NETWORK

U040C

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U040C

Invalid Data Received From Exhaust Gas Recirculation Control Module B

U040C is a communication fault where the engine control module (ECM) or another primary controller receives invalid or missing data from the exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) control module B over the vehicle's controller area network (CAN) bus. The computer has detected that the EGR module's messages are either absent, corrupted, or outside expected parameters, so it cannot trust the EGR system's status or commands.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Network	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Invalid data received from a module

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light (malfunction indicator lamp) with no other obvious drivability complaint
- Rough idle or stumbling when the EGR system is commanded to open, especially during light-throttle cruise
- Intermittent hesitation or surge during acceleration as the ECM loses EGR feedback
- Reduced fuel economy if the ECM defaults to a rich or non-EGR operating strategy
- Possible failure of the EGR monitor to complete, preventing other readiness tests from running
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light when the fault is purely a communication glitch

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged, corroded, or loose wiring or connector pins on the CAN bus circuit between the ECM and EGR control module B
- 2 Failed EGR control module B (internal communication fault or power/ground issue)
- 3 Low or unstable battery voltage or a poor ground connection affecting module communication
- 4 Open or shorted CAN bus wiring harness, often from chafing or rodent damage
- 5 Software or calibration issue in the EGR module or ECM requiring a reflash
- 6 Aftermarket accessories or poor previous repairs tapping into the CAN bus and corrupting signals



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and charge the battery if low, then clear the code and retest to see if it returns immediately
- 2 Inspect the EGR control module B connector and the ECM connector for corrosion, loose pins, or pushed-back terminals
- 3 Perform a CAN bus continuity and resistance check (typically 60 ohms across the bus) to rule out wiring faults
- 4 Check power and ground supplies at the EGR control module B with a multimeter under load
- 5 Use a scan tool to monitor live EGR module data and confirm whether the module is communicating at all
- 6 If wiring and power are good, substitute a known-good EGR control module B and retest
- 7 After repair, clear codes and complete a full drive cycle to confirm the EGR monitor runs and the code does not reset

What U040C really tells you about the EGR module

- U040C is a communication code, not a performance code, so replacing the EGR valve or cleaning the EGR passages will not fix it unless the module itself is faulty.
- A weak or failing battery is a common hidden cause; modules can drop off the CAN bus during cranking and set U040C without any hard wiring fault.
- The EGR control module B may be a separate module from the main EGR valve on some vehicles, so confirm the exact component location before ordering parts.
- Aftermarket alarms, remote starters, or phone chargers plugged into the diagnostic port can corrupt CAN bus signals and trigger U040C intermittently.
- This code can be stored alongside U0100 or U040D if the same bus fault affects multiple modules, so always check for other communication codes first.

Can I keep driving with U040C?

You can generally drive the vehicle with U040C set, but avoid heavy acceleration and long uphill pulls because the ECM may not command EGR correctly, which can increase combustion temperatures. If the check engine light flashes or you notice rough running, have it diagnosed promptly to prevent damage to the EGR system or catalytic converter.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and CAN bus monitoring capability
- Digital multimeter with continuity and resistance functions
- Wiring diagram for the specific vehicle's CAN bus and EGR module circuits
- Terminal pick and electrical contact cleaner
- Battery charger or jump box to maintain voltage during testing



Reading U040C

- U** Network: communication between the vehicle's control modules.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 4** Invalid data received from a module.
- 0C** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0400 Exhaust Gas Recirculation Flow Malfunction · **P0401** EGR Flow Insufficient Detected · **U0100** Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0101** Lost Communication with TCM · **U040D** Invalid Data Received From Turbocharger/Supercharger Control

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Inline-Four Engine X-Ray: Firing Order 1-3-4-2](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u040c/>

