

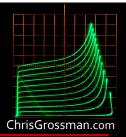
## Part I. Function & Operation

## Part II. Hardware & Tear Down

# Part III. Discussion, Recommendations, & Conclusion

April 11, 2021

# Introduction

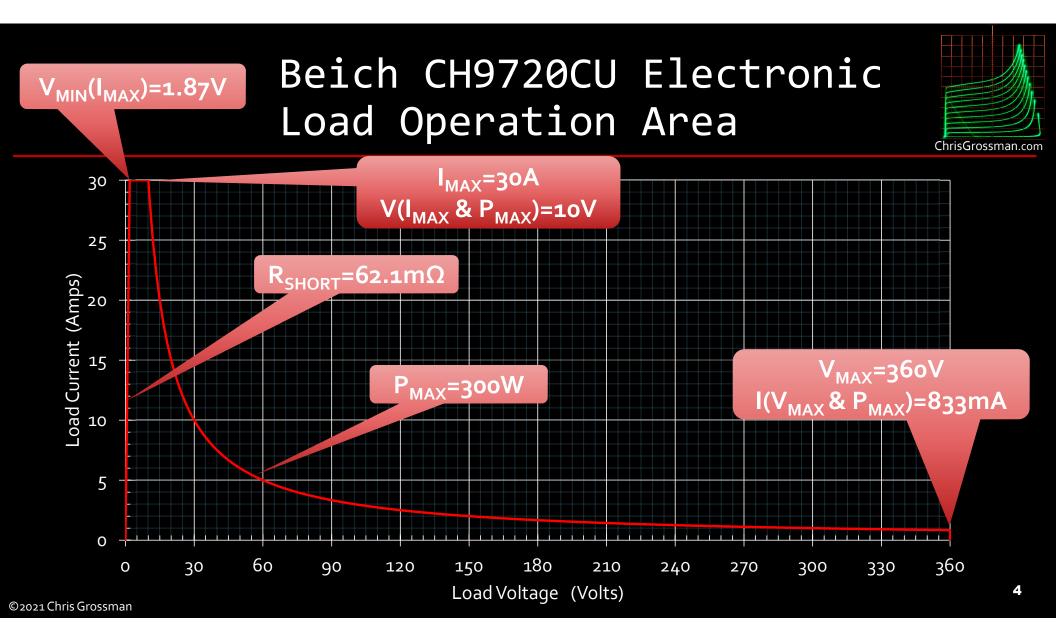


- I bought and paid for this Beich CH9720CU electronic load in March 2021 with my own funds to use in my home "lab" and in future YouTube videos
- I received no compensation of any kind for this review, nor did I give Beich any prior notice of this review
- A large part of my motivation for doing this review was to help me understand the capabilities and limitations of this instrument so I can deploy it intelligently in future tests
- This is the 1<sup>st</sup> commercial electronic load I have used
  - I have zero experience with other models or brands
    - Please leave your experience with other models &/or brands in the comments

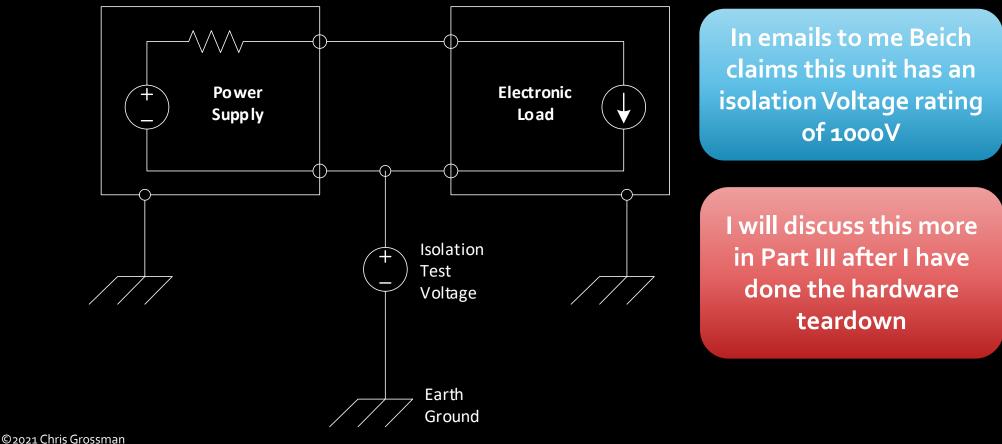
## Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Hardware & Firmware Version

©2021 Chris

BEICH	System Ir	nfo	25 <b>.</b> 7C	22:12:46		
Model	:CH9720C	U				
Name	:Programmable DC Electronic Load					
SerialNo	:L0-13-16084					
Hardware	:V1.03					
Firmware	: V3. 20. 1026					
Copyright	BEICH Electronic Technology Co.,Ltd					
Installed	:RS232C,USB HOST					
🗼 Use softkeys to select						
Ŷ			BACK	ENT		

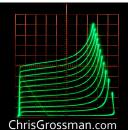






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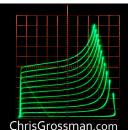
### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Published Measurement & Setting Specifications



Accuracy Resolution Range ± ( 0.05%+0.03%FS ) 1mV 0-36V 0-360V 0.05%+0.03%FS) 10 mV ± ( Load accuracy 0-3A 0.05%+0.05%FS) 0.1 mA ± ( 0-30A 0.05%+0.05%FS) 1 mA ± ( 1.5V - 36V 0.05%+0.03%FS > 18mV 1mV ± ( Rated voltage mode 1.5V - 360V 0.05%+0.03%FS > 180mV 10mV ± ( 0-3A 0.05%+0.05%FS > 1.5mA 0.1 mA ± ( Rated current Setting Accuracy 0-30A ± ( 0.05%+0.05%FS > 15mA mode 1mA  $0.05\Omega - 5\Omega$ ± ( 0.2%+0.2%FS ) ► 10mΩ 0.001Ω Rated  $0.5 \Omega - 50\Omega$ ± ( 0.1%+0<del>.1%FS ) ►</del> 50mΩ 0.01Ω resistance mode ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 500mΩ 5Ω - 500Ω 0.1Ω (When input voltage and current value≥10%FS) ± ( 1%+<del>1%FS) > 50Ω</del> 500Ω - 5ΚΩ 10 ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 50mW 0-50W 1 mW Rated power <u>Measurement</u> mode 0-150W ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 150mW 10mW (When input voltage and current value≥10%FS) ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 300mW 0-300W 0.1 W Accuracy 0-9.9999V ± ( 0.05%+0.03%FS → 3mV 0.1 mVVoltage ± ( 0.05%+0.03%FS → 30mV measurement 10.000 - 99.999V 1mV accuracy 100.00 - 360.00V 0.05%+0.03%FS > 108mV 10mV ± ( Current 0-9.9999A 0.05%+0.05%FS > 5mA 0.1 mA ± ( 6 measurement ± ( 0.05%+0.05%FS > 15mA 10.000 - 30.000A 1mA accuracy

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### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Published Measurement & Setting Specifications



Accuracy Resolution Range 0.05%+0.03%FS) 1mV 0-36V ± ( 0-360V 0.05%+0.03%FS) 10 mV ± ( Load accuracy 0-3A 0.05%+0.05%FS) 0.1 mA ± ( 0-30A 1 mA 0.05%+0.05%FS) ± ( 1.5V - 36V 0.05%+0.03%FS > 18mV ± ( Rated voltage Settings I have observed and mode 1.5V - 360V 0.05%+0.03%FS > 180mV ± ( measured are much better than 0-3A 0.05%+0.05%FS > 1.5mA ± ( Rated current Setting Accuracy 0-30A ± ( 0.05%+0.05%FS > 15mA the specified accuracy and mode  $0.05\Omega - 5\Omega$ ± ( 0.2%+<del>0.2%FS ) ►</del> 10mΩ appear to be monotonic Rated  $0.5 \Omega - 50\Omega$ ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 50mΩ resistance mode ± ( 0.1%+<del>0.1%FS ) ► 500mΩ</del> 5Ω - 500Ω 0.1Ω (When input voltage and current value≥10%FS) ± ( 1%+<del>1%FS) > 50</del>Ω 500Q - 5KQ The Voltage measurements ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 50mW 0-50W Rated power Measurement are as accurate or better than mode 0-150W ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 150mW (When input voltage and current value > 10%FS) ± ( 0.1%+0.1%FS ) ► 300mW 0-300W any handheld meter I own. All Accuracy 0-9.9999V ± ( 0.05%+0.03%FS → 3mV of the measuremets I have Voltage 10.000 - 99.999V 0.05%+0.03%FS > 30mV measurement ± ( checked are much better than accuracy 100.00 - 360.00V 0.05%+0.03%FS → 108mV ± ( the specification limts Current 0-9.9999A 0.05%+0.05%FS > 5mA ± ( 7 measurement ± ( 0.05%+0.05%FS ) 15mA 10.000 - 30.000A 1mA accuracy

### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Modes of Operation

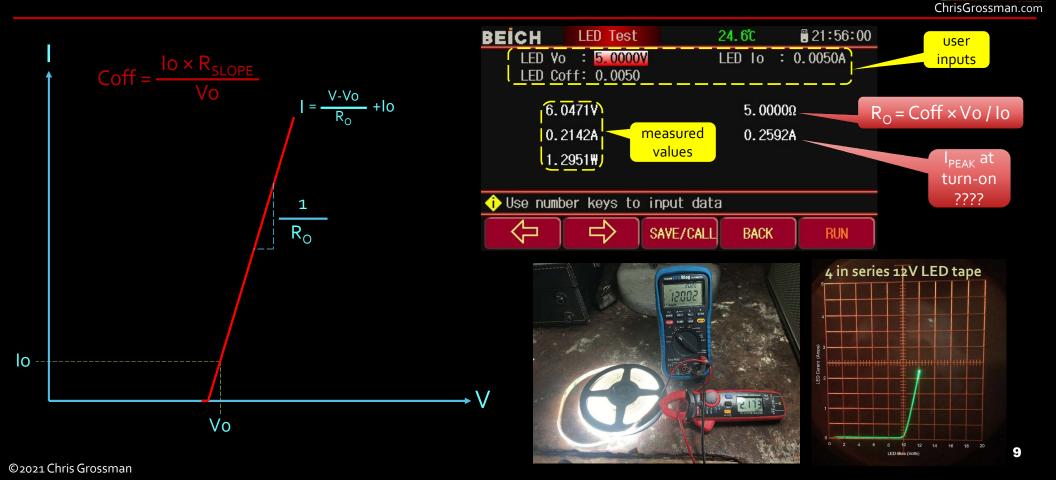
#### **Basic Modes**

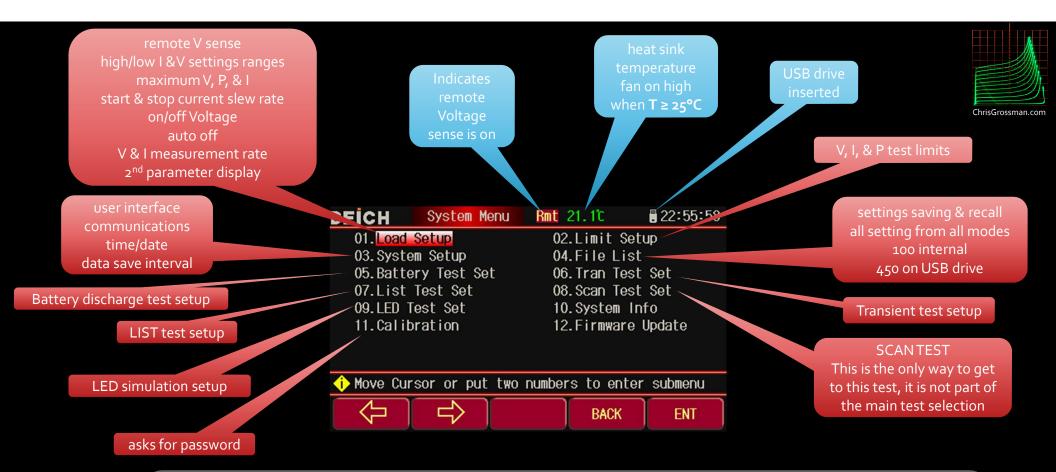
- Constant Current (CC)
- Constant Voltage (CV)
- Constant Resistance (CR)
- Constant Power (CP)
- Short
- LED Simulation
- Battery Discharge Test
  - 1-3 currents or constant resistance
- Transient
  - slewing between 2 currents

#### **Extended Modes**

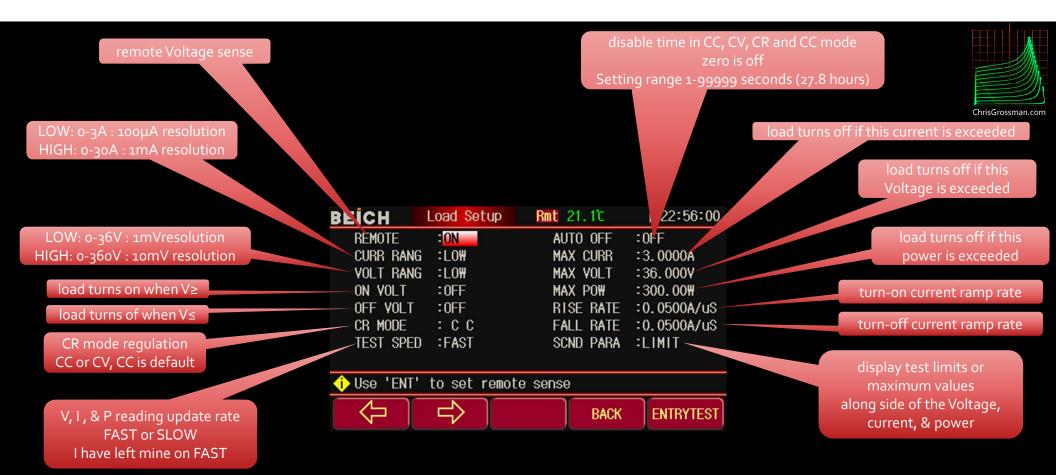
- ScanTest
  - Sweeps Current or Voltage
- CC + C V
  - Attempts to start in CC mode, if it can not stabilize it switches to CV mode
- CR + CV
  - Attempts to start in CR mode, if it can not stabilize it switches to CV mode
- List Mode
  - A sequence of CC, CV, CR, or CP tests with pass/fail limits
- File List (save all instrument settings)
  - 100 to internal memory
  - 450 to USB drive
- Firmware update

### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load LED Simulation Mode



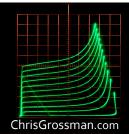


Press the SET key on the keypad do get to this menu Use the dial selector to select a sub menu and press the dial to enter the sub menu





### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Color Themes

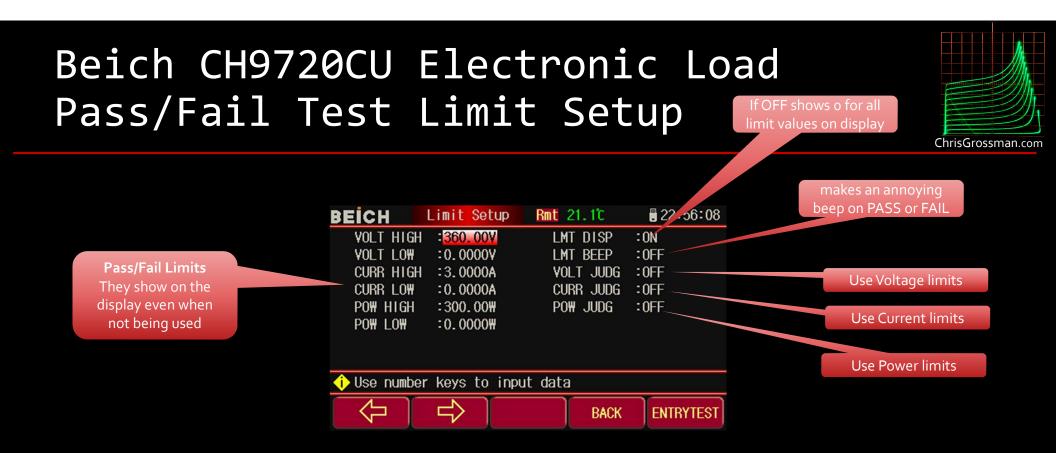


RED

BEICH	Meas Dis	play	24. 3°C	21:57:39
V: 5	5. 9289	9V LMT	H:360.00 L:0.0000	
I: 2	2. 999	1A LMT	H:30.000 L:0.0000	
P: 1	7. 78 <sup>-</sup>	1 <b>W</b> LMT	H:300.00 L:0.0000	
🔶 ls = 3.	00 <u>0</u> 0A			
I-SET	V-SET	P-SET	MORE	CC

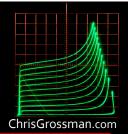
### VIOLET

BEICH	Meas Disp	play	2 <b>4.</b> 3°C	21:58:01			
V: 3	5. 9306	SV lmt	H: 360.00 L:0.0000				
1: 3	<mark>2. 999</mark> 1	A LMT	H:30.000 L:0.0000				
P:	17. 786	SW lmt	H:300.00 L:0.0000				
↓ Is = 3.00 <u>0</u> 0A							
I-SET	V-SET	P-SET	MORE	CC			



The load will display PASS in green or FAIL in red based on the limit values The limit values have no effect load operation except for the pass & logic fail signals on the rear connector If the load looses lock it will not show PASS or FAIL

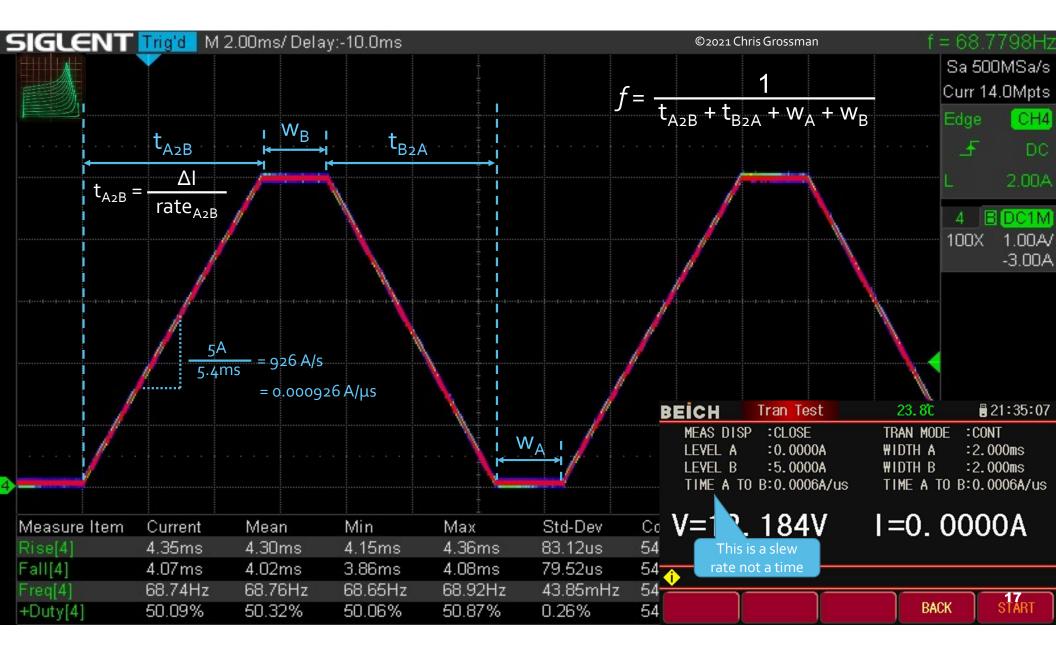
### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Noise in the Load Current

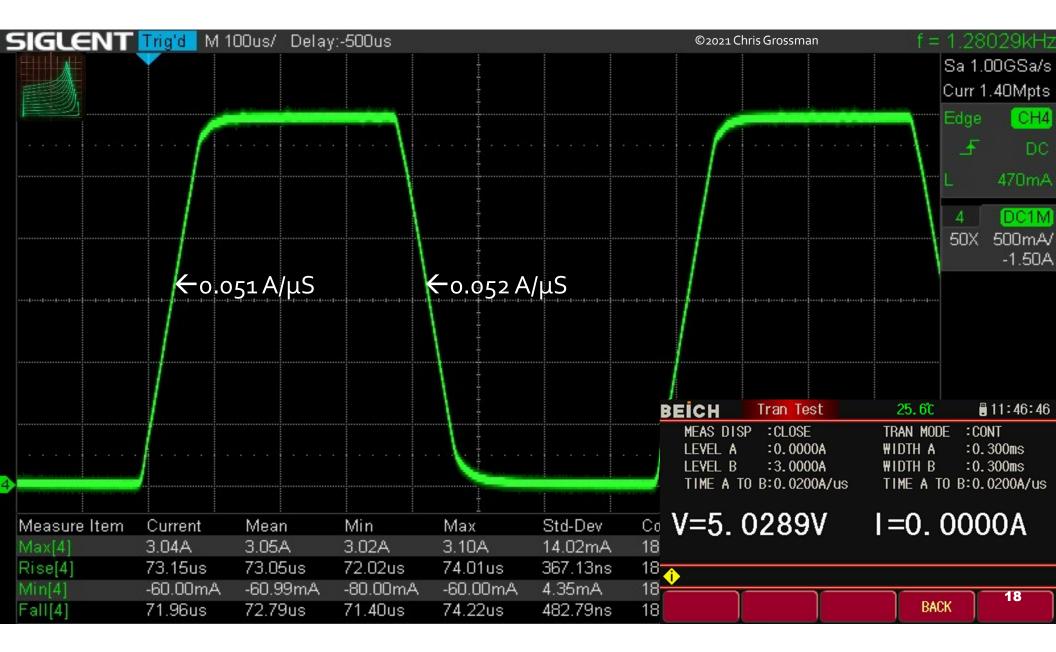


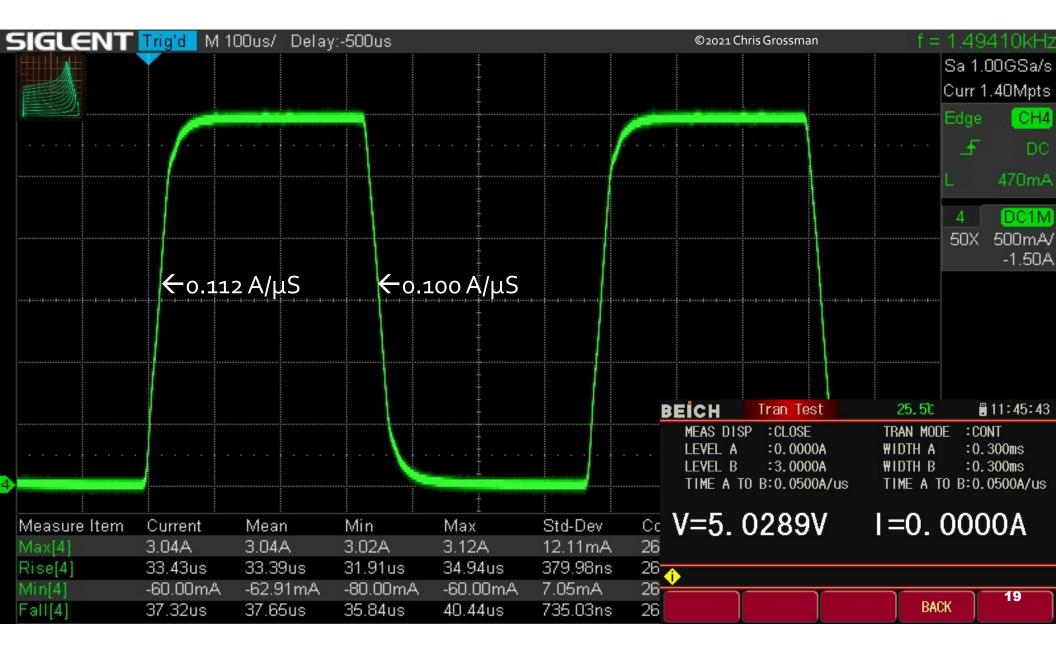
- There is switching noise in the current the Beich load draws
- It seems to be worst at around 1 Amp
  In comparison the magnitude of the current being drawn
- It seems to have no effect on the DC readings or average current
  - On the values measured by the load
  - On the values measured by external meters
- The current noise is concerning if you are using the load to make noise and/or ripple measurements of a power supply since it may contribute to the values you measure
- The following examples are at the approximately at worst case current

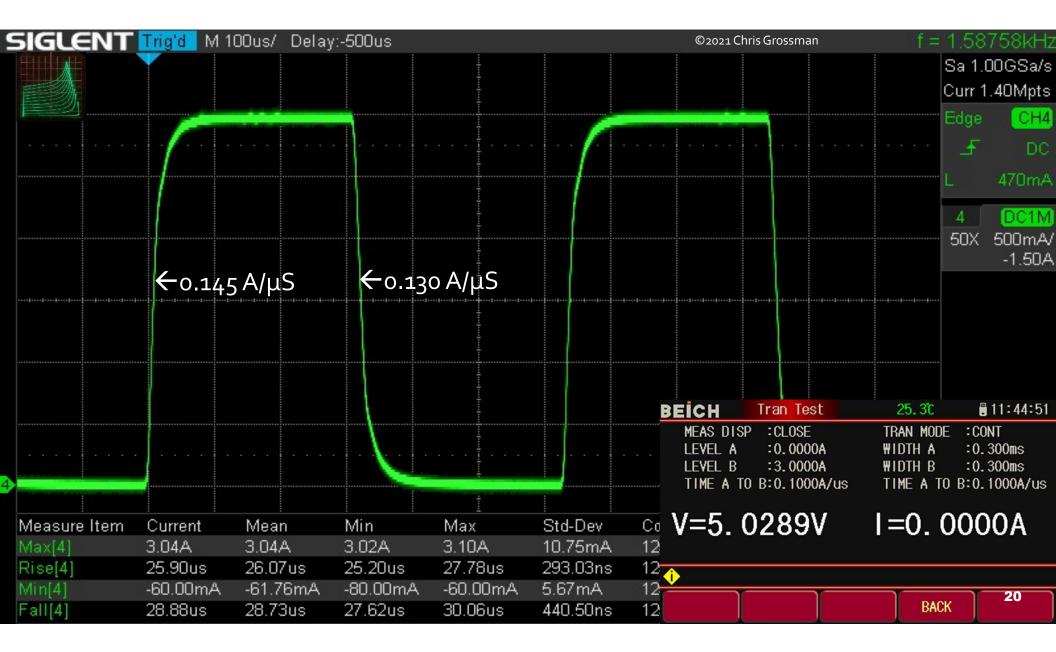
### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Current Slew Rate Control

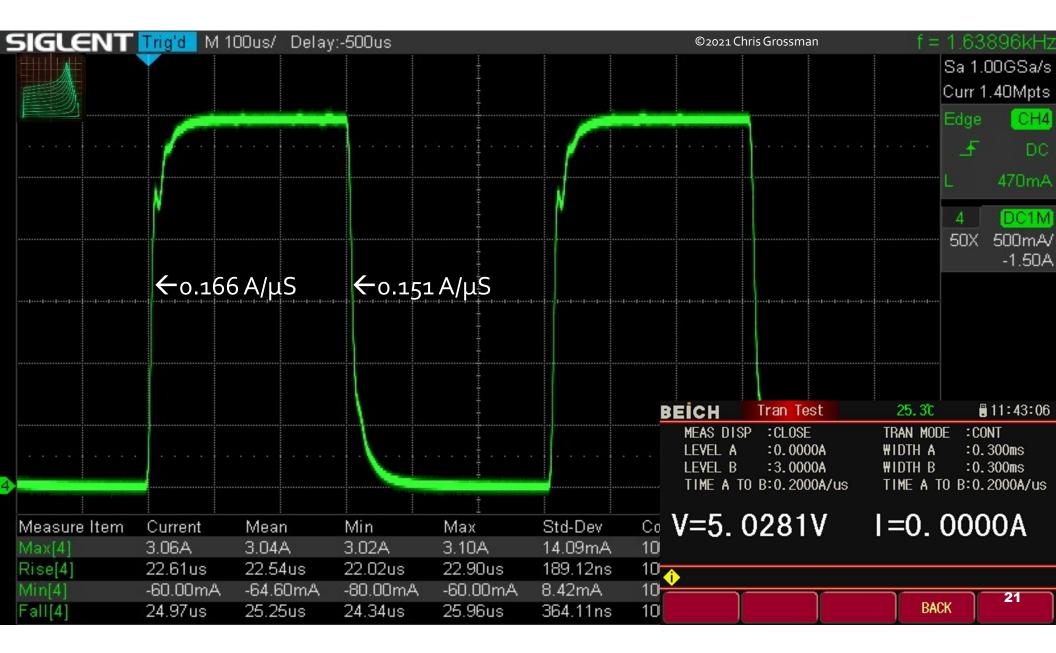
- The current slew rates can be set for turn-on, turn-off, & transient test
- The same slew rate range is available for:
  - transient test mode
  - turn-on & turn-off
  - rate settings are independent
- The settable range is:
  - 0.6000 A/μs to 0.0006 A/μs (600A/ms to 0.6A/ms) (600KA/s to 600mA/s)
- The usable setting range is:
  - 0.1000 A/ $\mu$ s to 0.0006 A/ $\mu$ s (100A/ms to 0.6A/ms) (100KA/s to 600mA/s)
- The actual slew rates are ~50% faster than the setting values
  - 0.1500 A/μs to 0.00093 A/μs (150A/ms to 0.93A/ms) (150KA/s to 930mA/s)









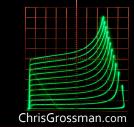


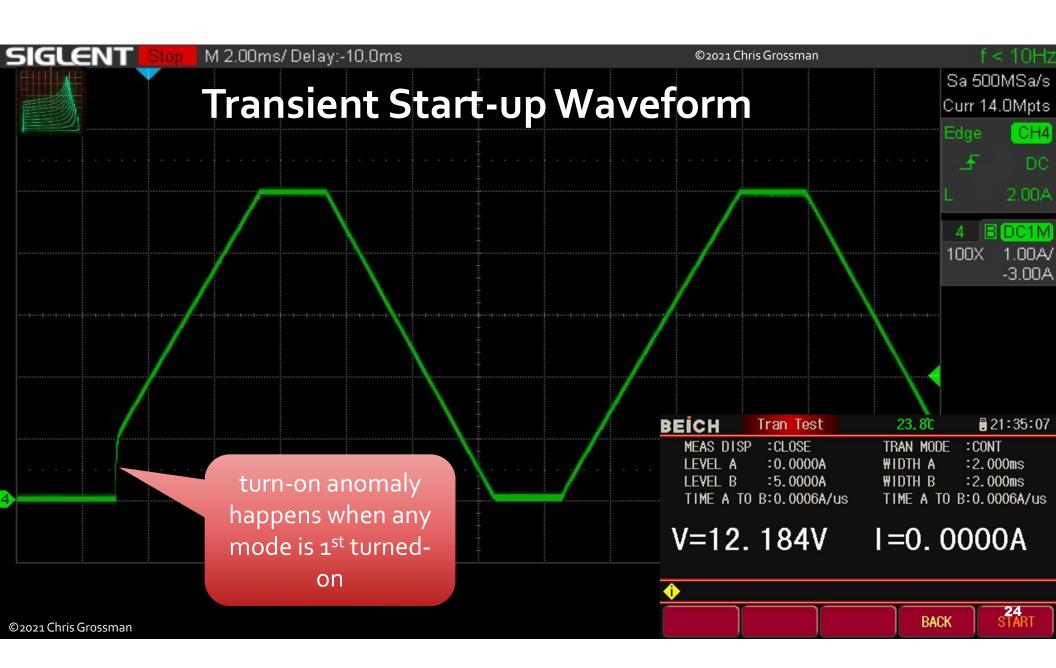


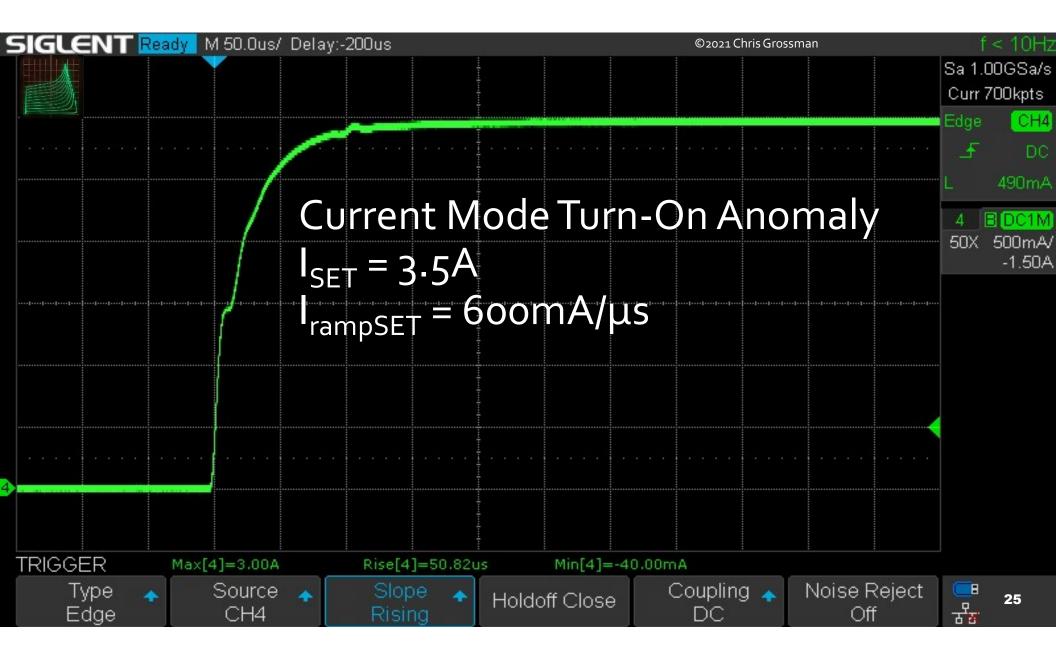
## Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Current Turn-on Anomaly

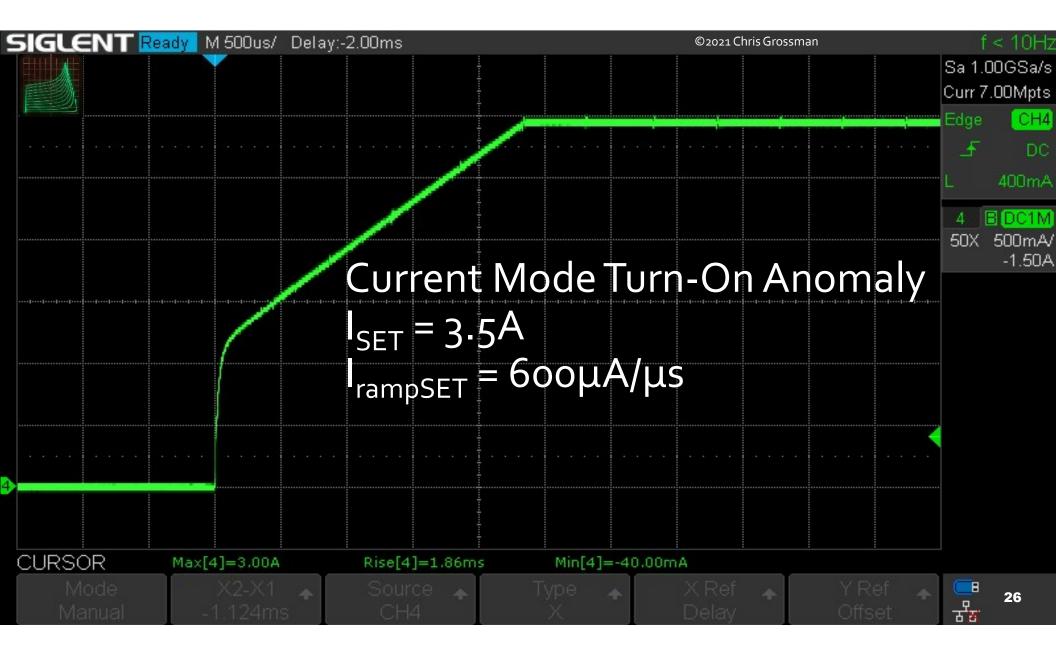
- The current turn-on anomaly occurs when the current is being ramped up when first turned on
  - When any load mode starts
  - At the start of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle of a transient test
- Only occurs on starts
  - Shutdowns behave as expected
  - Transient mode works fine after the start of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle
- Manifestations
  - Delayed start with initial fast rise-time
  - Stepped start
- I have not observed any current peaks during turn-ons or turn-offs

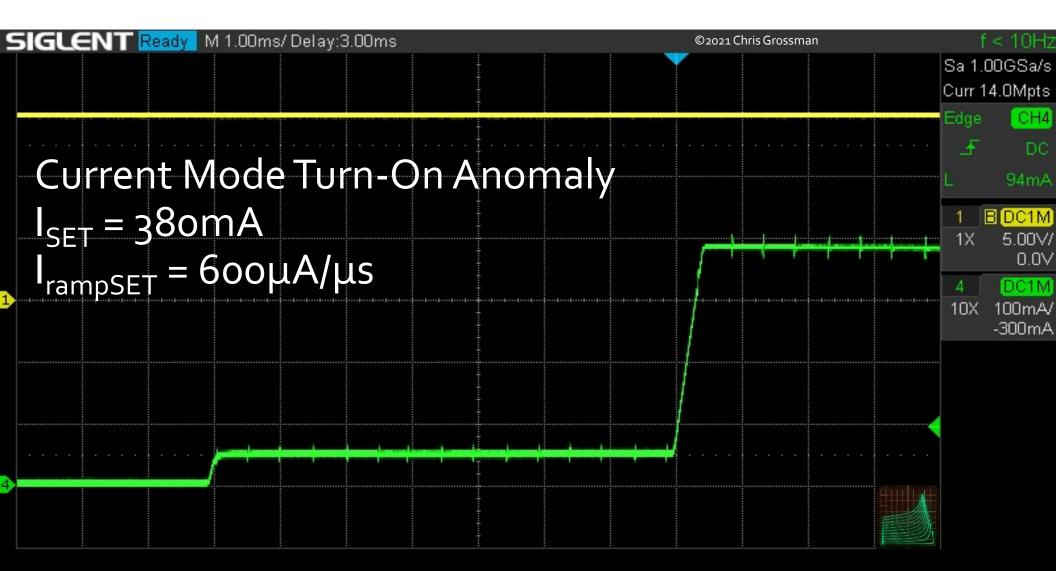
This does not seem like a big issue, but one should be aware of it





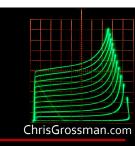






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### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Saving Data & Screen Shots to a USB drive

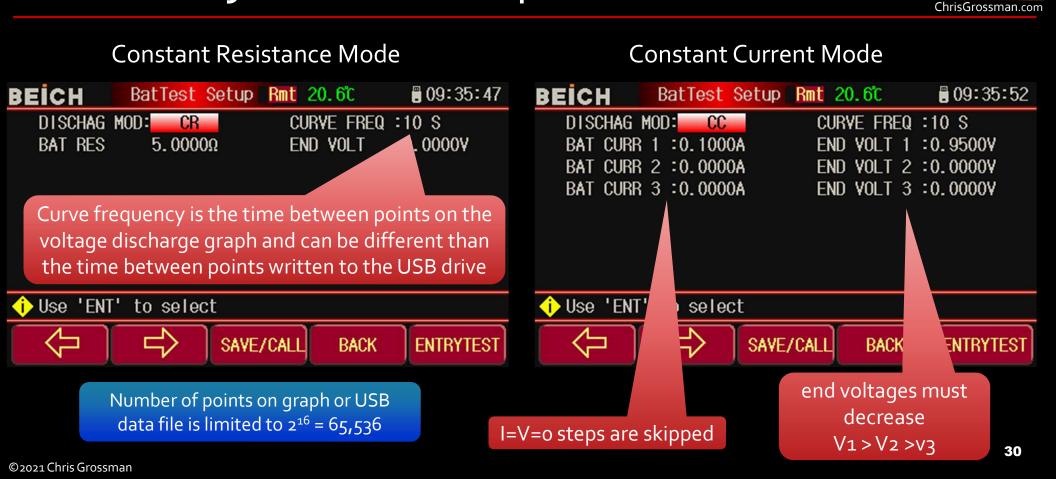


- The ability to save data to the USB drive is one of the best features of this load
- Data can be saved to a USB drive anytime the load is enabled
- It saves Voltage & current reading plus a time-stamp per line in a CSV file
- The sampling rate is variable in 100 milli-second steps
  - Range is 100 milli-seconds (10 samples/s) to 10 seconds (1 sample/ 10 seconds)
  - The data save rate is set in the System Setup menu
- BMP screen shots can be saved anytime the data save mode is not active
- I have issues with the time-stamps and data format in the CSV files
  - It is still incredibly useful as is
  - I will detail my concerns in Part III of this review

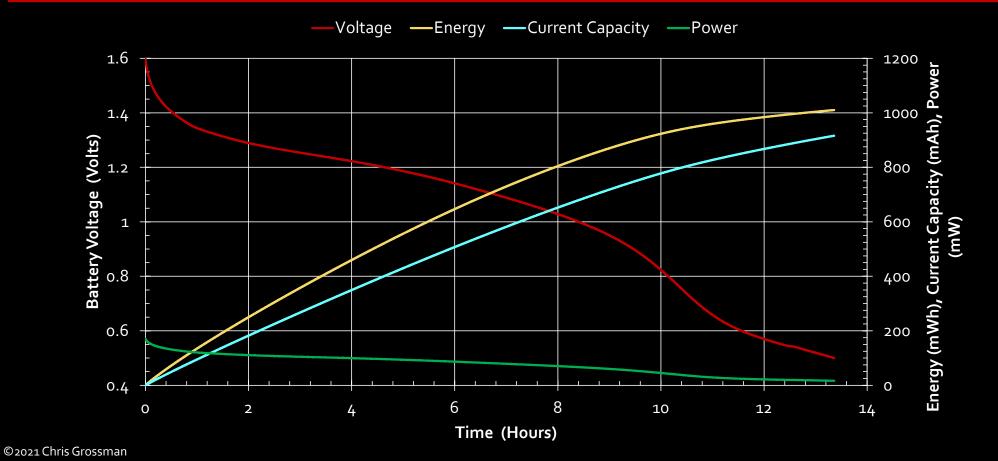
### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Battery Test Set-Up Screens



### Beich CH9720CU Electronic Load Battery Test Set-Up Screens



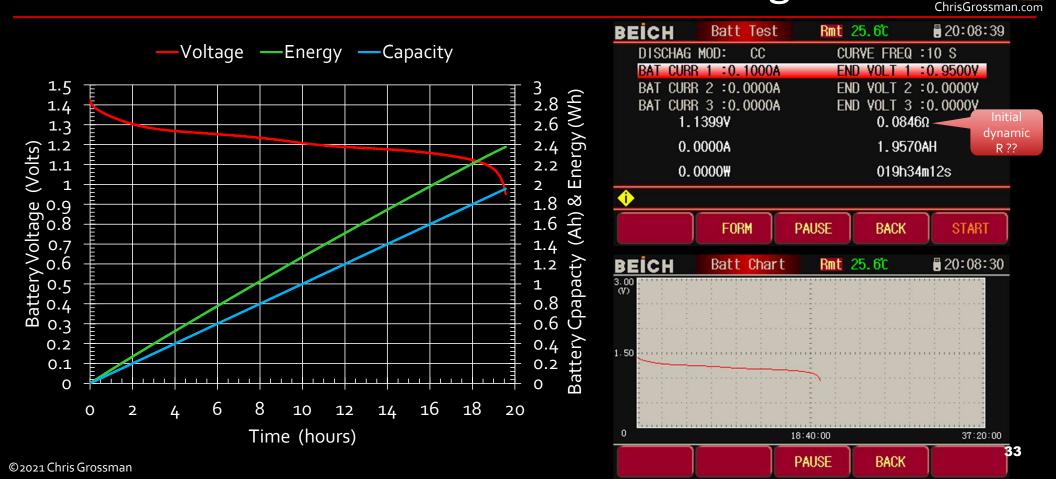
# Harbor Freight AA Heavy Duty (Zinc Chloride) Battery 15 $\Omega$ Constant Resistance Discharge



### Harbor Freight AA Heavy Duty (Zinc Chloride) Battery 250mA Constant Current Discharge



### AA Panasonic Enloop NiMH Battery 100mA Constant Current Discharge





### Part I. Function & Operation

### Part II. Hardware & Tear Down

# Part III. Discussion, Recommendations, & Conclusion