

South County ARES

Batteries 101

AGENDA

- Primary (single-use) Batteries
 - Alkaline
 - Lithium
- Secondary (rechargeable) Batteries
 - Ni-Cad, NiMH
 - Lithium Ion
- Real World Testing
- 12v Batteries
 - Lead Acid
 - Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4)

Rachel Kinoshita – KK6DAC

ALKALINE

Pros

- Very low self-discharge (10 year shelf life)
- Ubiquitous
- Adapters available for most HTs

Cons

- Poor high current handling
- Single use (non-rechargeable)
- Possibility of leakage
- Moderate energy density







ALKALINE

- Alkaline batteries are 1.5v
- AAA
 - 500 1,100 mAh*
- AA
 - 1,500 3,000 mAh*
- C
 - 4,800 8,000 mAh*
- D
 - 9,000 17,000 mAh*
- 9v
 - 350 600 mAh*







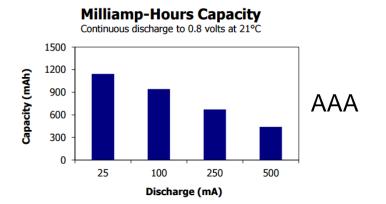


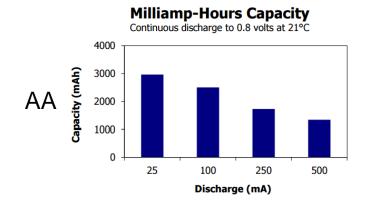


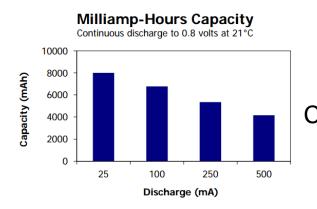


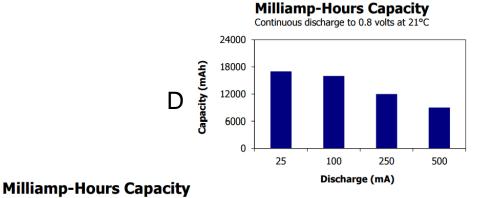


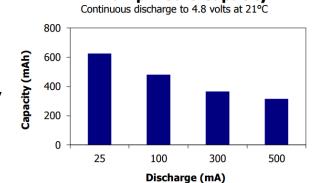
ALKALINE (ENERGIZER)









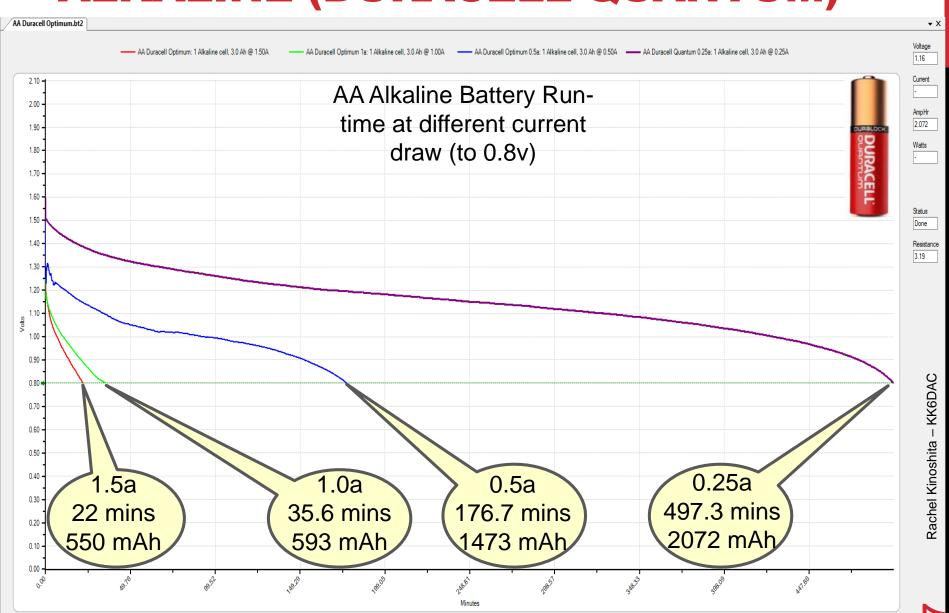


Source: http://data.energizer.com/

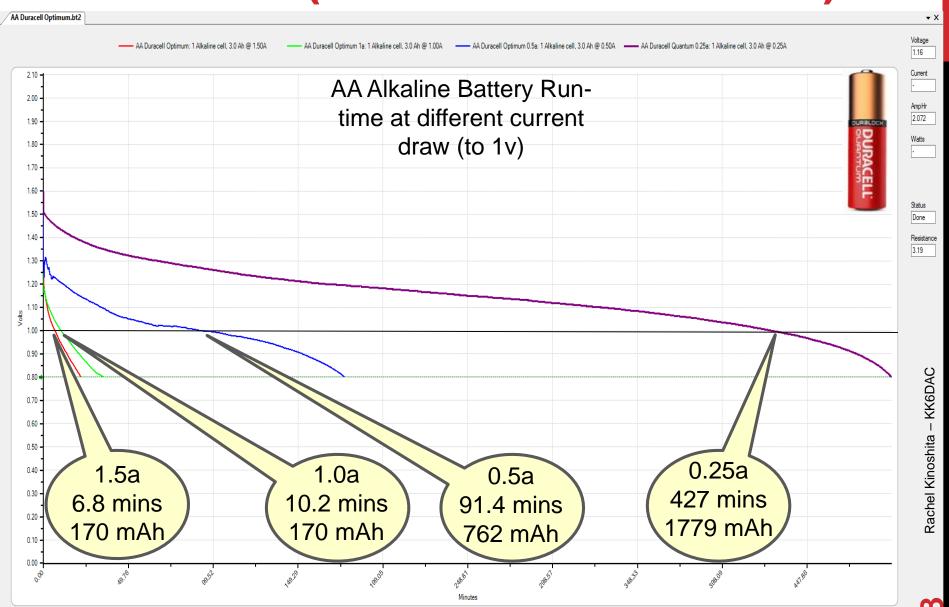
ALKALINE (PEUKERT'S LAW)

- Peukert's Law In lead acid batteries, as the discharge amps increase, the batteries available capacity decreases
- Presented by Wilhelm Peukert in 1897
- Has applications in alkaline batteries

ALKALINE (DURACELL QUANTUM)



ALKALINE (DURACELL QUANTUM)



PRIMARY LITHIUM

- Pros (Energizer Ultimate Lithium)
 - Good for high current applications
 - Very long shelf life (20 year shelf life)
 - Will not leak
 - High energy density
 - Adapters available for most HTs
- Cons
 - Expensive
 - Single use (non-rechargeable)

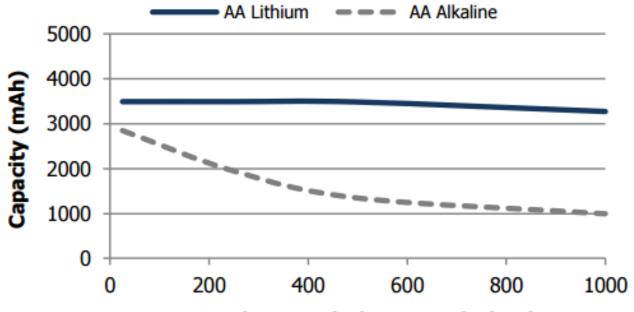


PRIMARY LITHIUM

- Primary Lithium batteries are 1.5v
- AA Energizer Ultimate Lithium
 - 3,500 mAh

Milliamp-Hours Capacity

Constant Current Discharge to 0.8 Volts



Continuous Discharge Drain (mA)

(alkaline shown for comparison)

Source: http://data.energizer.com/

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NICKEL METAL HYDRIDE (NIMH)

- Pros (Panasonic Eneloops and Tenergy Centuras)
 - Good for high current applications
 - Rechargeable
 - Relatively long shelf life (retains 80% capacity after 1 year)
 - Will not leak
 - Adapters available for most HTs

Cons

- Moderate energy density
- Only 1.2v vs 1.5v of alkalines





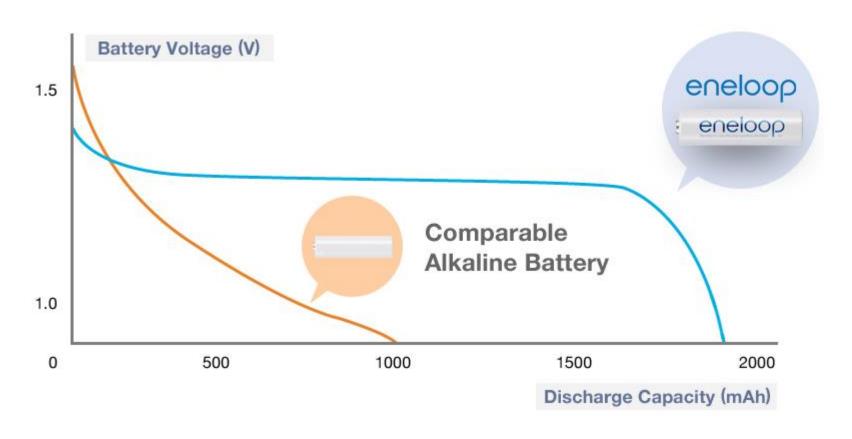
NICKEL METAL HYDRIDE (NIMH)

- Nickel Metal Hydride batteries are 1.2v
- AAA Panasonic Eneloop Low Self-Dischage
 - 800 mAh*
- AA Panasonic Eneloop Low Self-Dischage
 - 2,000 mAh*
- C Tenergy Centura Low Self-Dischage
 - 4,000 mAh*
- D Tenergy Centura Low Self-Dischage
 - 8,000 mAh*
- 9v Tenergy Centura Low Self-Discharge
 - 200 mAh*

^{*500} mA discharge current

NICKEL METAL HYDRIDE (NIMH)

500 mA continuous discharge





RECHARGEABLE LITHIUM BATTERIES

- First proposed in 1973
- First rechargeable Lithium cell developed in 1980
- First commercial Lithium Ion battery developed in 1991
- Lithium Iron Phosphate battery proposed 1996
- Today Lithium batteries are found in smart phones, laptop computers, tablets, Bluetooth headsets, handi-talkies (HTs), cameras, flashlights, lanterns, power tools, electric bicycles, electric cars and so on

Advantages

- Rechargeable
- Very lightweight
- Able to provide a great deal of energy in a short amount of time
- Very low self-discharge
- Will not leak
- No outgassing
- High energy density









So why are we so afraid of lithium ion batteries?

- So why are we so afraid of lithium ion batteries?
- Yes, there were those hoverboards that caught on fire



- So why are we so afraid of lithium ion batteries?
- Yes, there were those hoverboards that caught on fire
- And those darned mobile phones





- So why are we so afraid of lithium ion batteries?
- Yes, there were those hoverboards that caught on fire
- And those darned mobile phones
- And yes, there were even a few electric cars



- So why are we so afraid of lithium ion batteries?
- Yes, there were those hoverboards that caught on fire
- And those darned mobile phones
- And yes, there were even a few electric cars
- Hoverboards were using poor quality batteries to keep the costs down
- Samsung phone batteries also had quality control issues, but keep in mind, only 0.01% caught fire
- 5 times more likely to experience a fire in a gasoline powered vehicle

18650 batteries

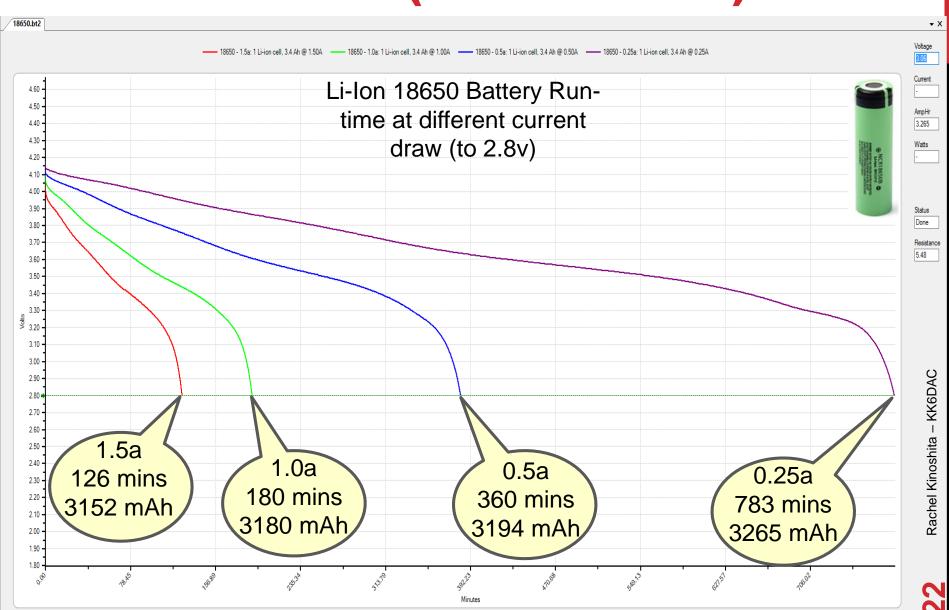
- A little bigger than AA batteries
- 3.7v
- Recommend using ones with a protection circuit
- Panasonic NCR18650B (3,400 mAh)
- LG MJ1 18650F (3,500 mAh)
- Used in many high output LED flashlights
- Used in most USB Power Banks
- Used in most laptop batteries
- Used in the Tesla Automobiles and Battery Wall





I – KK6DAC

LI-ION 18650 (PANASONIC)



Rachel Kinoshita – KK6DAC

LITHIUM ION

• 18650 for your FT-60







Rachel Kinoshita – KK6DAC

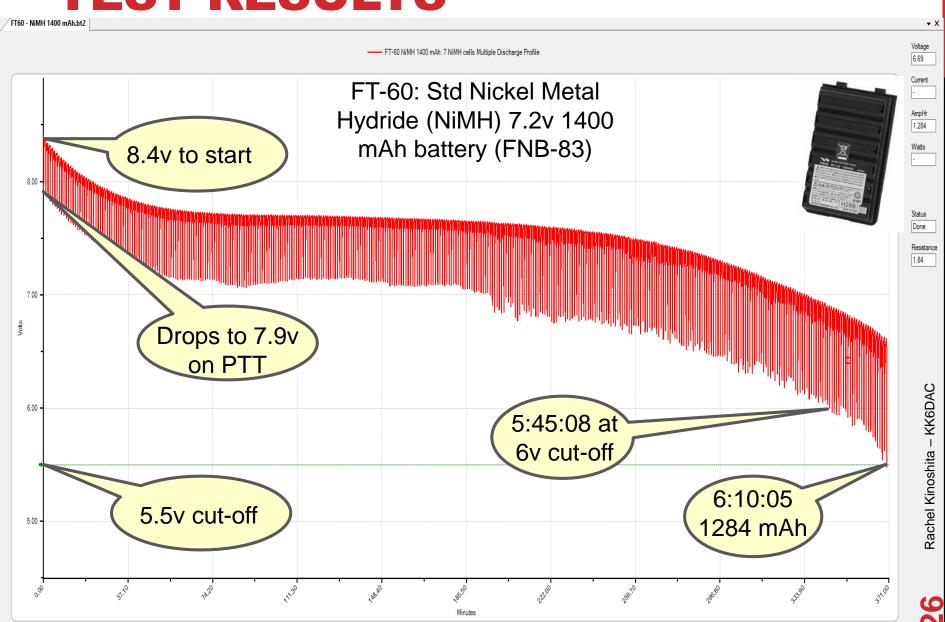
TEST METHODOLOGY

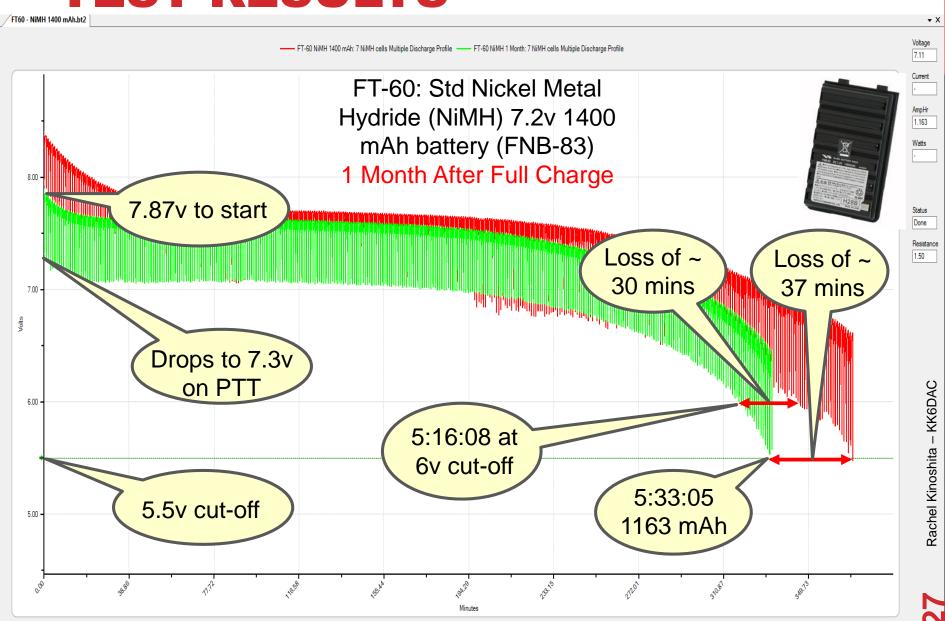
- West Mountain Radio Computerized Battery Analyzer (CBA) IV
- WMR CBA Software V2.4.16.0 with Extended License
- Custom (i.e. homemade) interfaces to the various battery packs

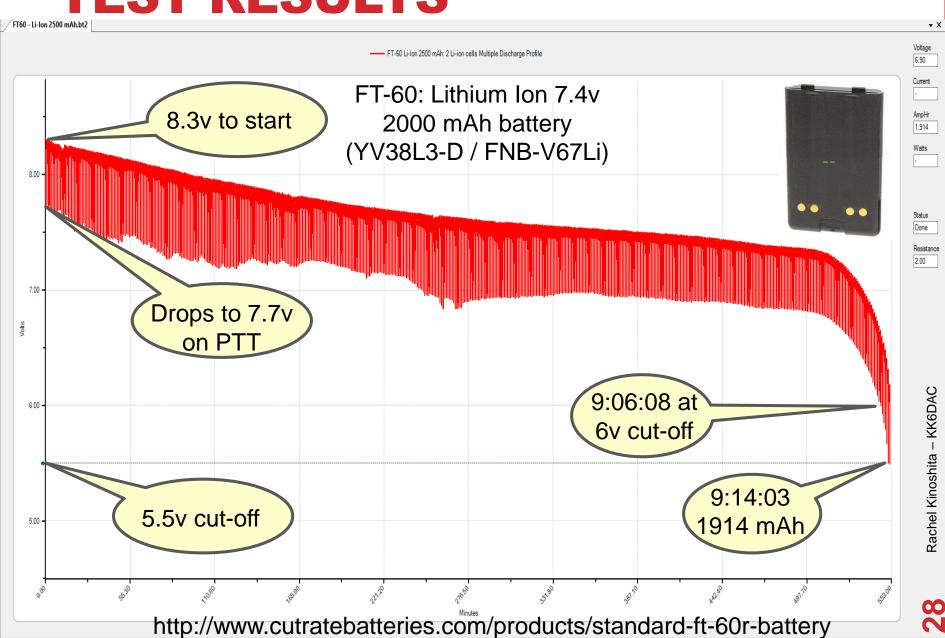


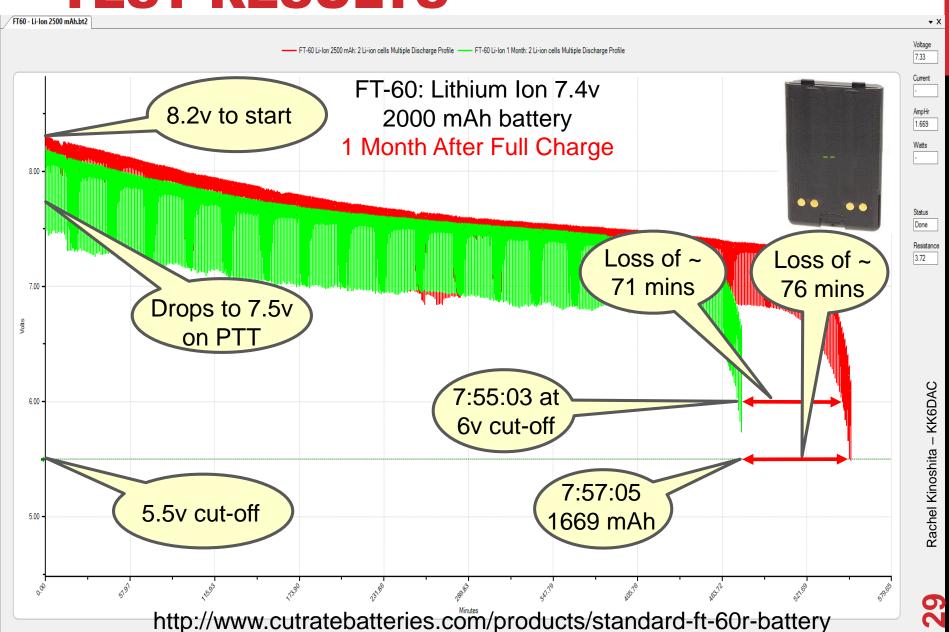
TEST METHODOLOGY

- Used the Multi-Discharge test using the following settings
 - Low-Voltage cut-off: 5.5v
 - 1s steps until cut-off voltage is met
 - Three step discharge
 - 5s @ 1.6a (transmit)
 - 22s @ 0.2a (receive)
 - 33s @ 0.02a (idle)
- All primary/single-use batteries were "fresh"
- All secondary/rechargeable batteries were fully charged before testing





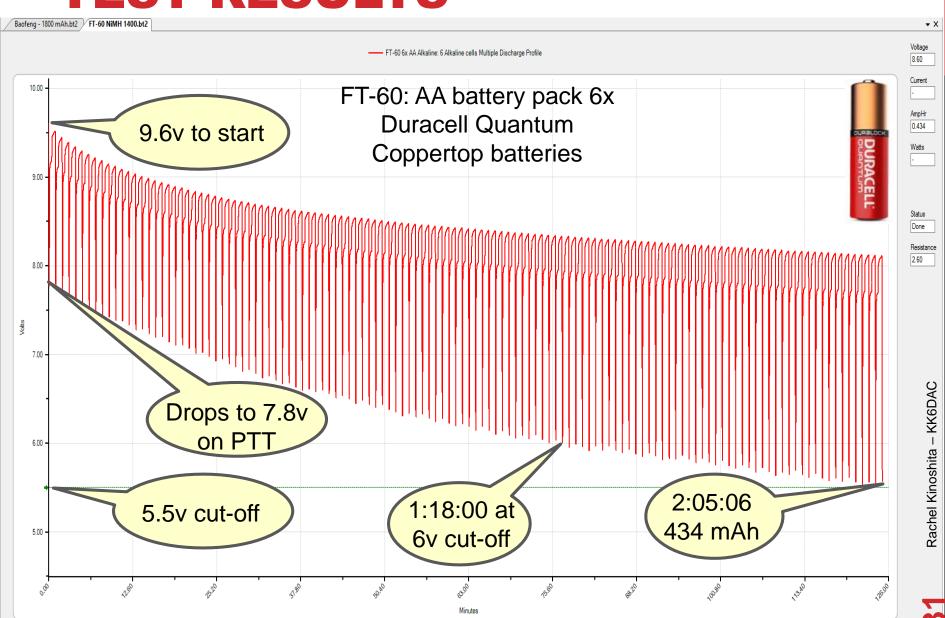


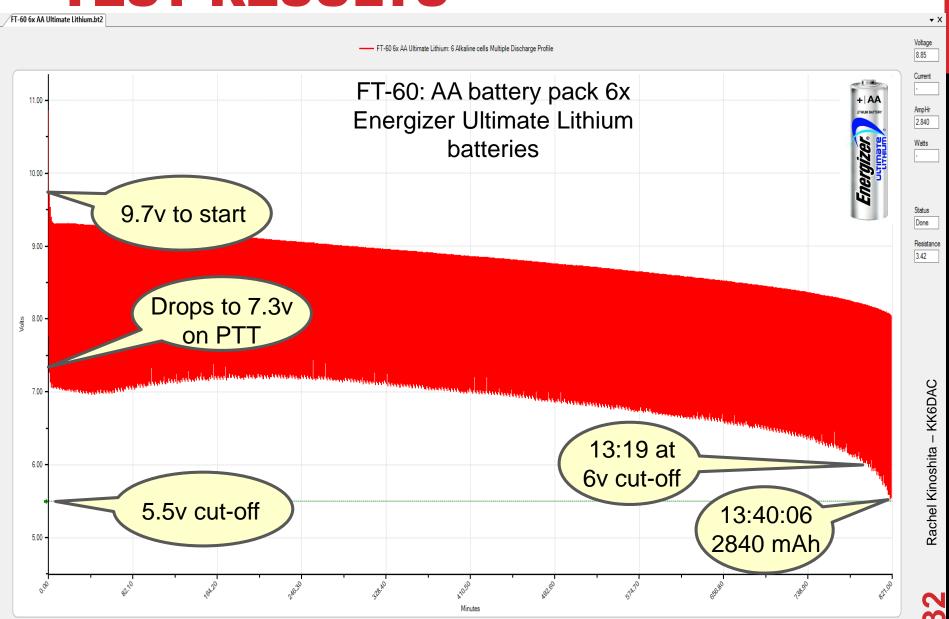


Yaesu FT-60 Operating Manual – Page 10

Installation of FBA-25 Alkaline Battery Case

Note that the power output and battery life will be **much shorter** when using Alkaline AA cells. They should be considered an emergency backup power source only, for this reason





61 alkaline batteries / \$43.00 / 57.36 oz (3.5 lbs)



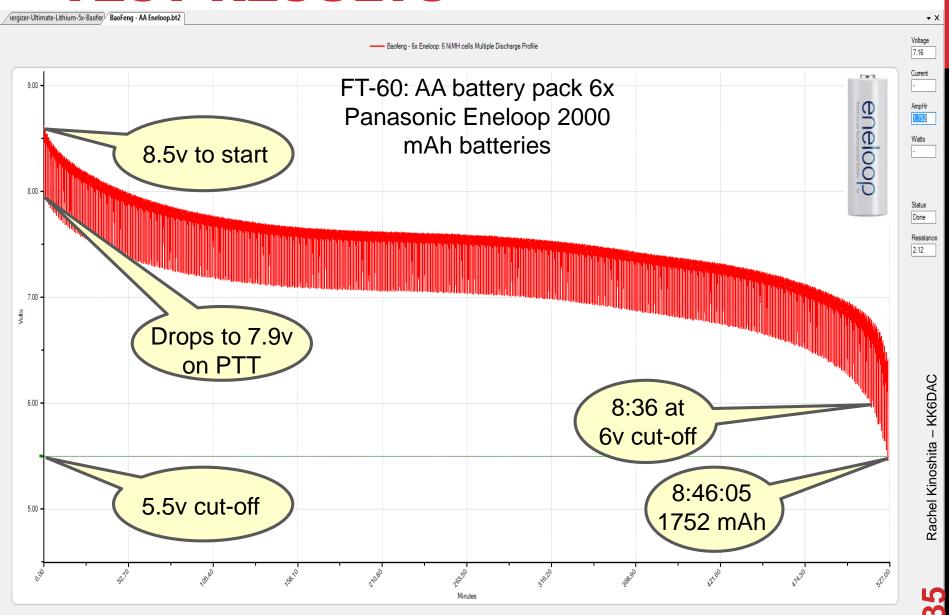
\$9.00 / 3 oz



Yaesu FT-60 Operating Manual – Page 10

Installation of FBA-25 Alkaline Battery Case

The **FBA-25A** must not be used with rechargeable cells. The **FBA-25A** does not contain the thermal and over-current protection circuits (provided in the "FNB" series of Ni-MH Battery Packs) required when utilizing Ni-Cd or Ni-MH cells.



CBA #40706 - Idle 🞆 🌹

Rachel Kinoshita – KK6DAC

TEST RESULTS

40 alkaline batteries / \$27.77 / 37 oz (2.3 lbs)



\$12.00 / 2.7 oz



TEST RESULTS

40 alkaline batteries / \$27.77 / 37 oz (2.3 lbs)

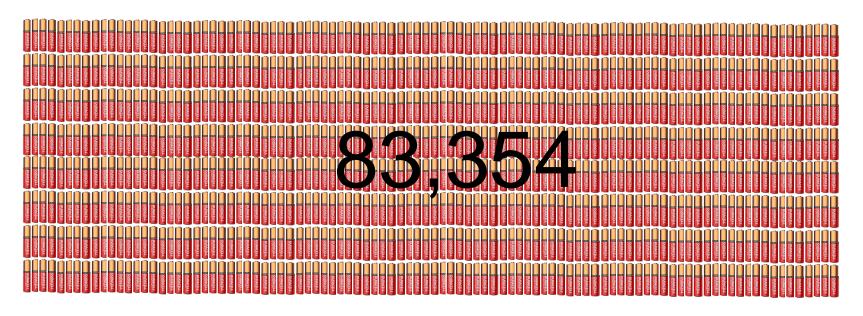


But wait, the Eneloop's are rechargeable up to 2100 times

\$12.00 / 2.7 oz



\$58,320 / 2.43 tons



\$12.00 / 2.7 oz (plus \$50.40 to recharge then 2100 times)



- It takes 20Wh or 0.02 kWh to charge one Eneloop
 All six would take 0.12 kWh
 We pay an average of \$0.20 per kWh
- Charging all six batteries costs less than 2 ½ ¢
- To recharge them 2100 times would cost \$50.40





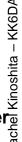
\$12,206 / 254 lbs

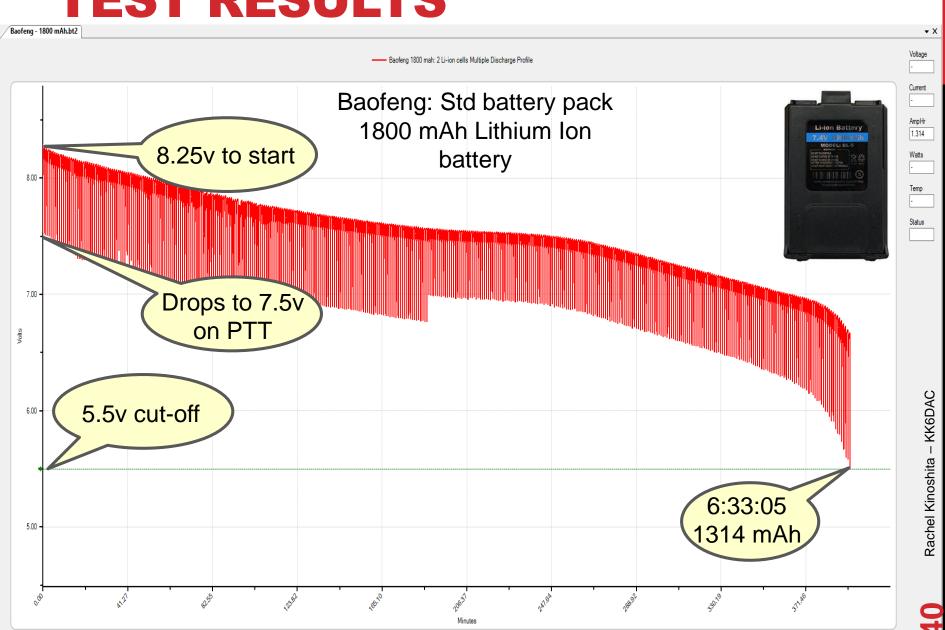


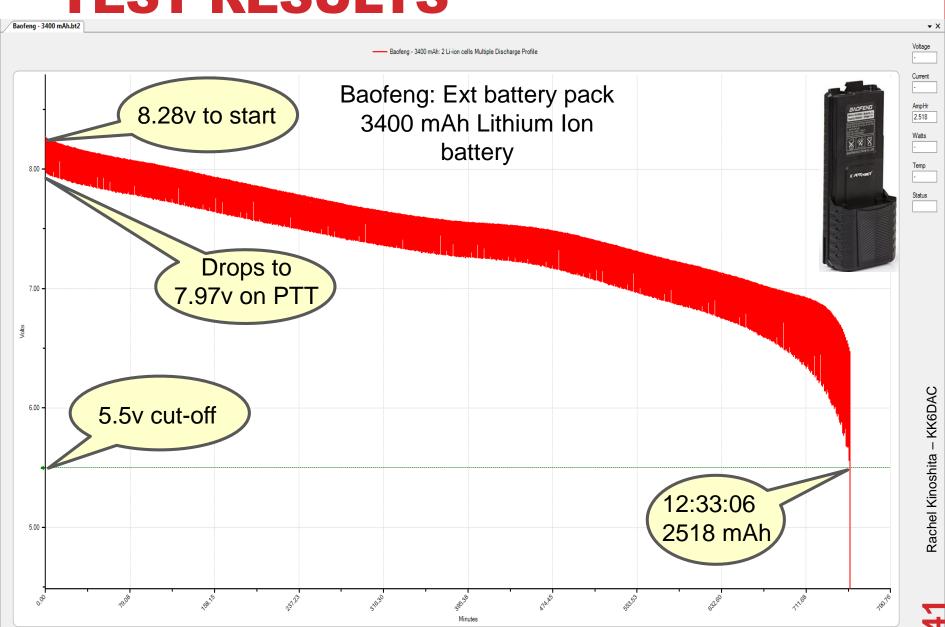
\$12.00 / 2.7 oz (plus \$50.40 to recharge then 2100 times)



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TEST RESULTS

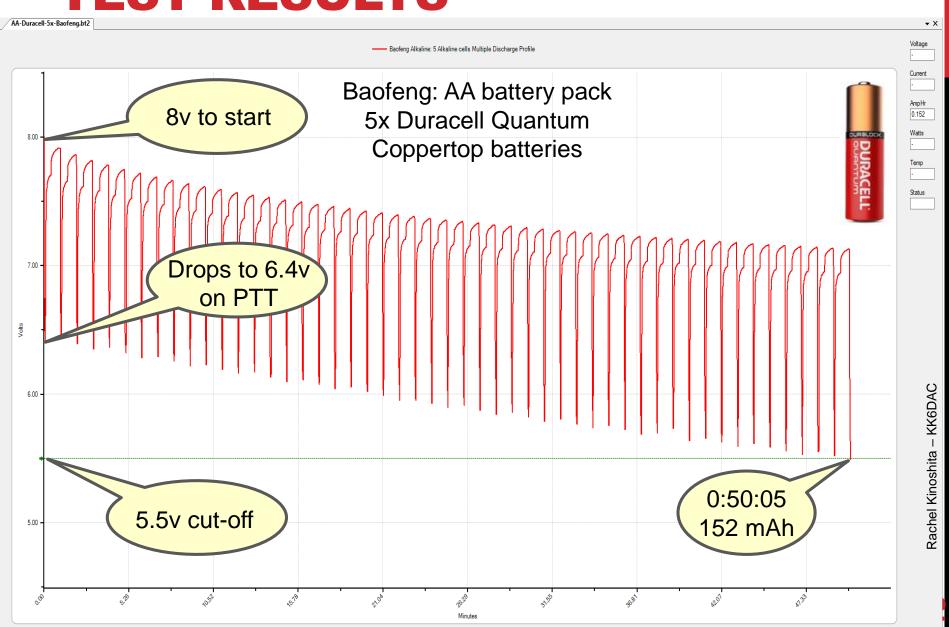
Baofeng BL-5 AA Battery Pack Uses 5x AA alkaline batteries (7.5v) plus an included dummy cell or 6x AA NiMH batteries (7.2v)

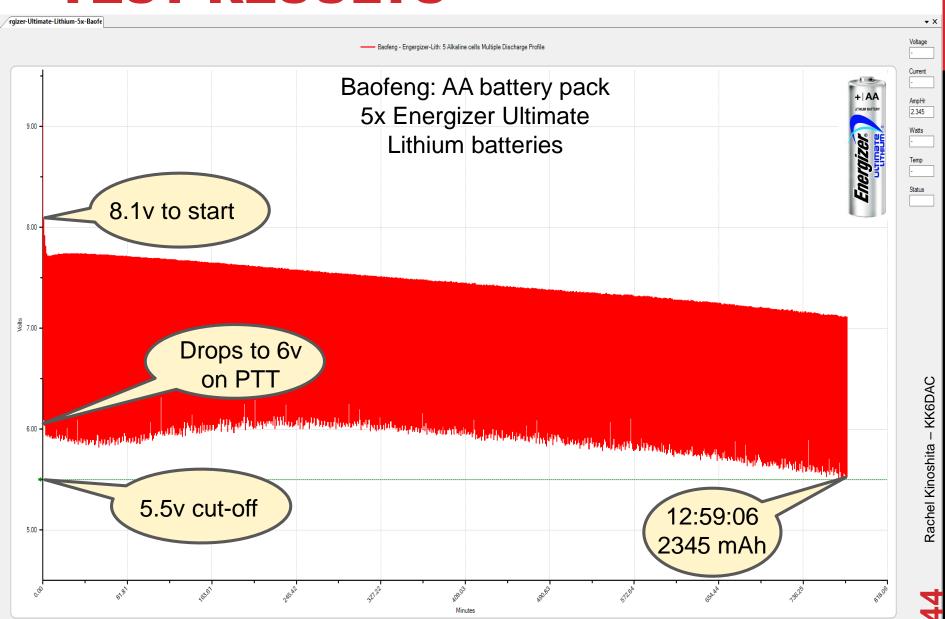


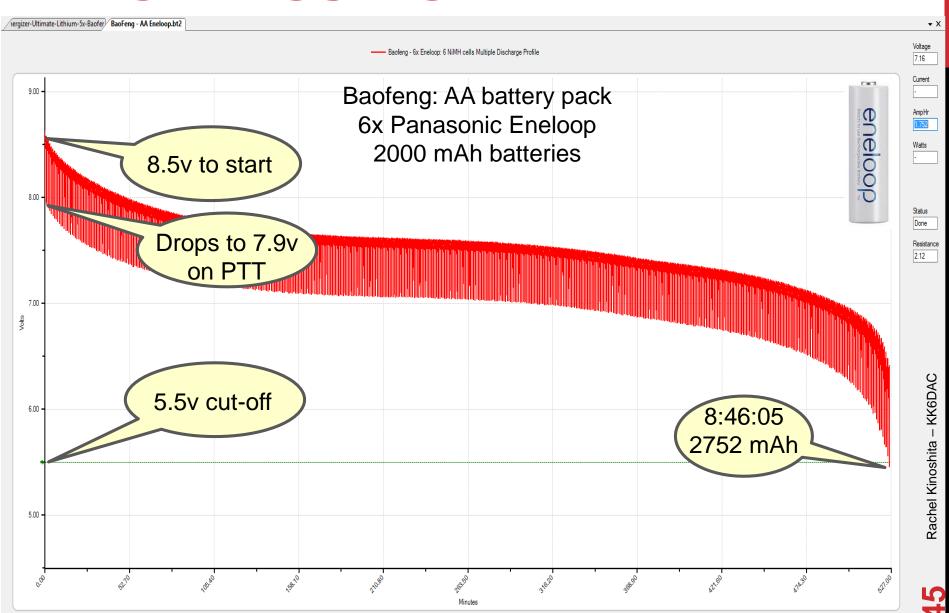












CONCLUSION

- Use the highest capacity Li-lon battery available for your radio
- When using the AA adapter
 - Alkaline batteries are the worst choice. Use as the last resort
 - Energizer Ultimate Lithium batteries are the best choice for single-use batteries
 - Extremely low self-discharge (95% of capacity after 20 years)
 - Handles high current discharge
 - About \$1.50 per battery
 - Panasonic Eneloop batteries are the best choice for rechargeable batteries
 - Relatively low self-discharge (85% of charge after 1 year)
 - Can be recharged up to 2100 times
 - Handles high current discharge
 - About \$2.00 per battery
 - Never charge from the radio

SMALL BATTERY CHARGERS

Maha PowerEx MH-C808M

- Can charge any combination of 8 AAA, AA, C, D (MaHa MH-C801D or MH-C800S if you only want to charge AA and AAA)
- Fast and slow charge mode
- Requires 120vac

NiteCore D4

- Can charge any combination of 4 AA, AAA, AAAA, C, 26650, 22650, 18650, 17670, 18490, 17500, 18350, 16340, 14500, 10440
- Can charge from either 120vac or 12vdc (adapter included)

Xtar Dragon VP4

- Can charge any combination of 4 AAAA, AAA, AA, A, SC, C, D, 10440, 14500, 14650, 16340, 17335, 17500, 17670, 18350, 18490, 18500, 18650, 22650, 2550, 26650, 32650
- 0.5a to 2.0a charging modes
- Can charge from either 120vac or 12vdc (adapter included)







12V BATTERIES

- Why 12v batteries
 - Mobile radios
 - Recharge HT radios, mobile phones, tablets, laptops, rechargeable batteries, lighting, television, etc
 - Easy to charge from solar or from your car
- Lots of different size batteries available from small 7AH sealed lead acid (SLA) to large 100+AH absorbed glass mat (AGM)
- Different chemistries available include lead acid, lithium iron phosphate (LiFePO4), Lithium-lon...you can even make a 12v battery from alkaline or NiMH batteries
- Amp Hour Measurement is typically at 20 hours
 - Peukert Effect
 - As the discharge amps increase, the batteries available capacity decreases

LEAD ACID

- Flooded (Automobile starter, Maintenance free, Deep cycle, Golf cart batteries)
 - Peukert constant = 1.6



- Sealed Lead Acid
- Gel
 - Peukert constant = 1.25



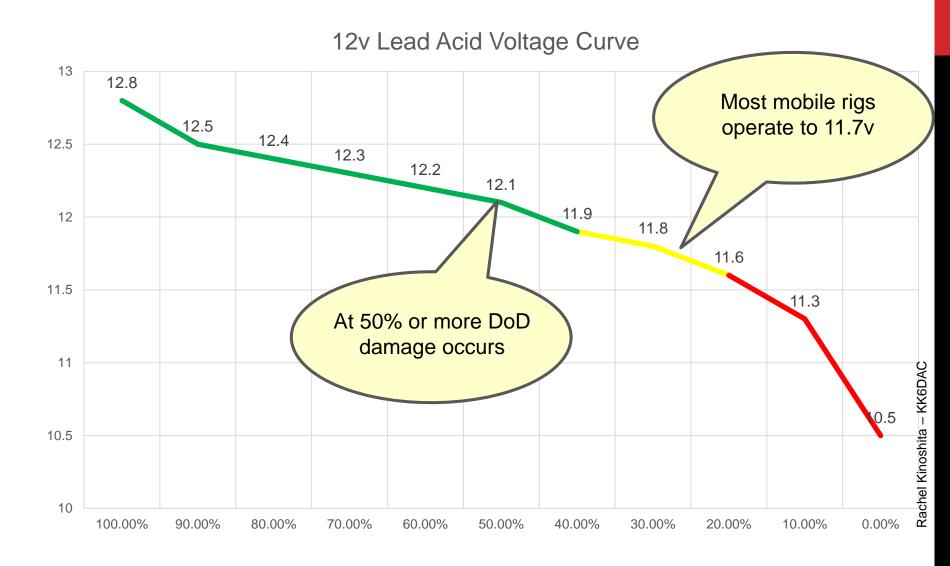
- Absorbed Glass Matte (AGM)
 - Peukert constant = 1.15



LEAD ACID

- Pros
 - Flooded (Automobile starter, Maintenance free, Deep cycle, Golf cart batteries)
 - Proven technology
 - Relatively inexpensive
 - Sealed/Gel
 - No outgassing
 - Can be installed in any position
 - Absorbed Glass Matte (AGM)
 - No outgassing
 - Can be installed in any position
 - Relatively long life (5+ years)
- Cons
 - Flooded
 - Heavy
 - Outgas
 - Spill hazard
 - Sealed/Gel
 - Heavy
 - AGM
 - Heavy
 - Expensive

LEAD ACID



LITHIUM IRON PHOSPHATE (LIFEPO4)

Pros

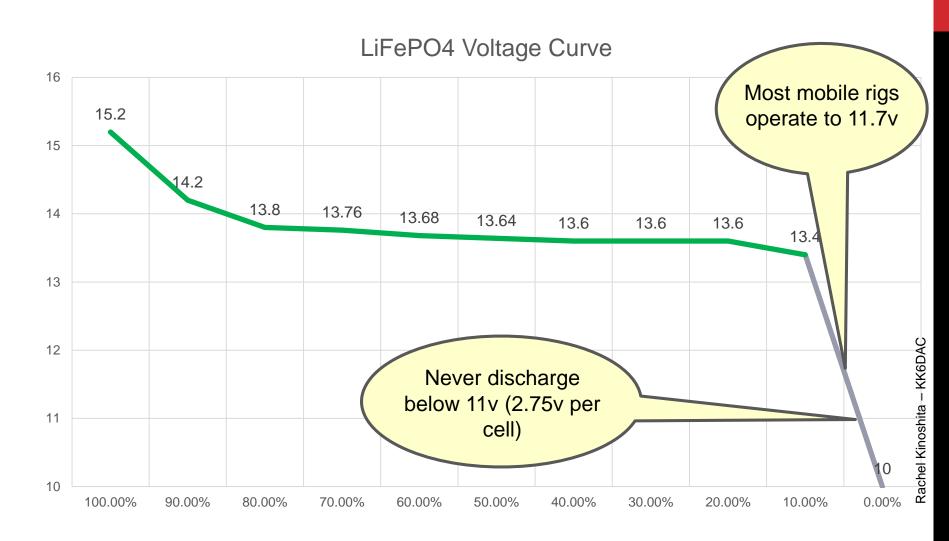
- Very low self-discharge
- Relatively flat discharge curve
- Can be recharged thousands of times
- Will not leak
- No outgassing
- High energy density
- Unlike Li-Ion, LiFePO4 is very safe
- Can be field charged using a lead acid battery charger
- Peukert constant = 1.01 or less

Cons

- Expensive
- Must balance the cells using a proper LiFePO4 charger



LITHIUM IRON PHOSPHATE (LIFEPO4)





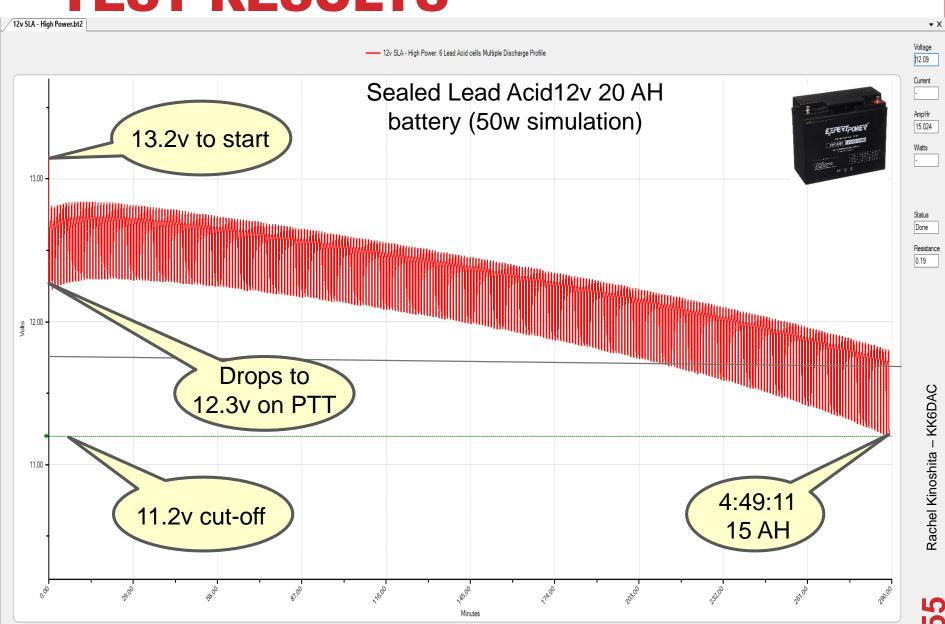
TEST METHODOLOGY

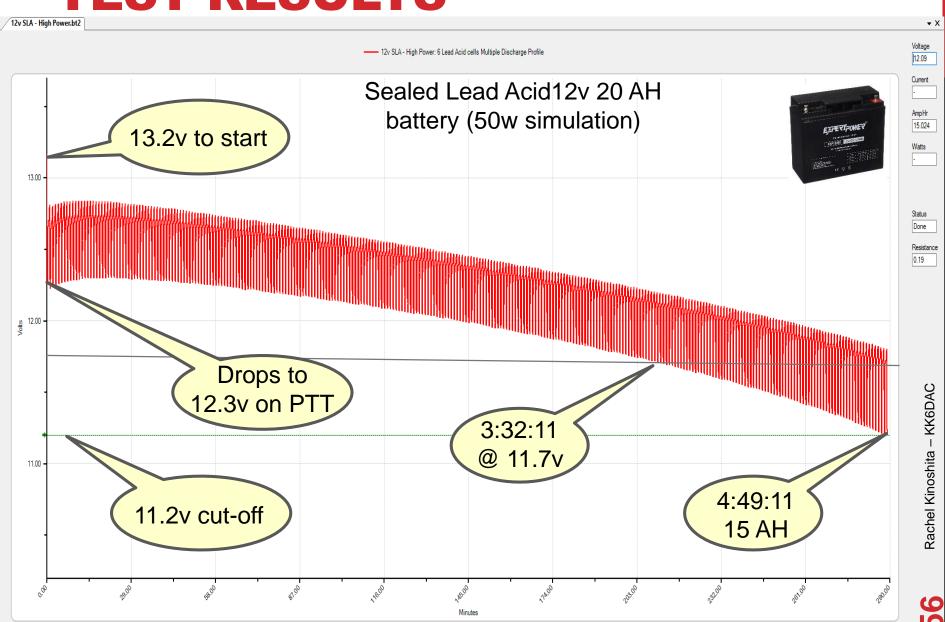
- Used the Multi-Discharge test using the following settings
 - Low-Voltage cut-off: 11.2v
 - 1s steps until cut-off voltage is met
 - Three step discharge (simulate 50w transmit)
 - 15s @ 10.3a (transmit)
 - 30s @ 1a (receive)
 - 15s @ 0.1a (idle)

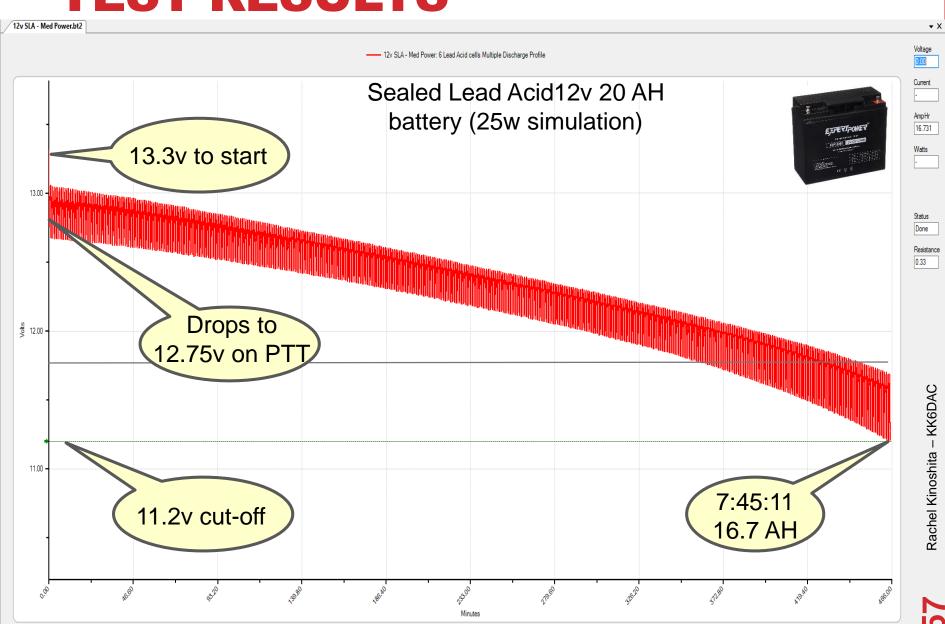
Mobile radios typically draw around 13A at 50w xmit. However this is the

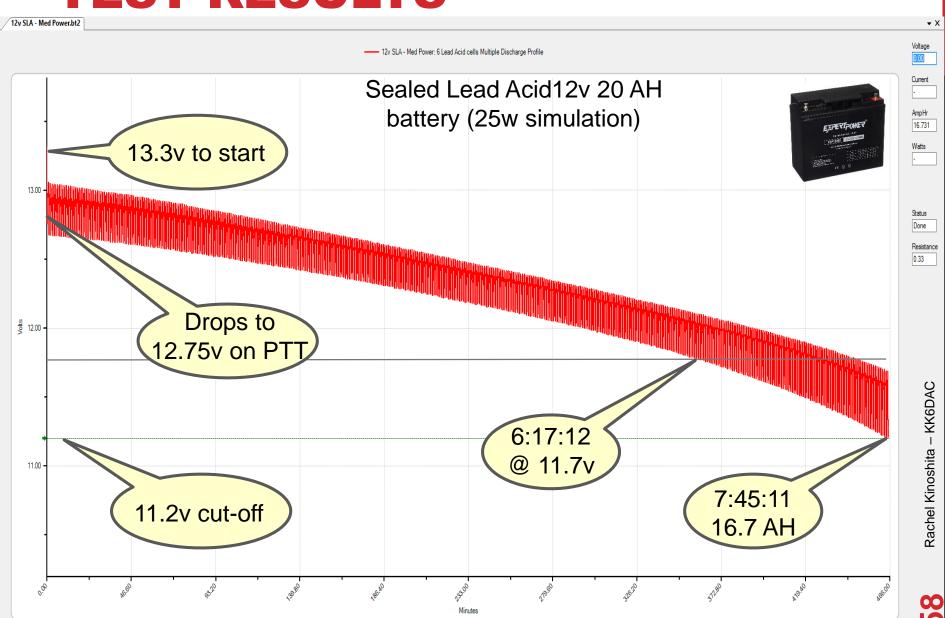
max amp draw for the CBA IV

- Three step discharge (simulate 25w transmit)
 - 15s @ 6.5a (transmit)
 - 30s @ 1a (receive)
 - 15s @ 0.1a (idle)
- Batteries were fully charged before testing
- Sealed Lead Acid battery used was an ExpertPower EXP 12200 12v, 20 AH purchased on Amazon for \$38.00; 12.5 lbs
- LiFePO4 battery used was a Bioenno BLF-1220W/A 12v, 20 AH purchased at Ham Radio Outlet \$192.95; 5.5 lbs

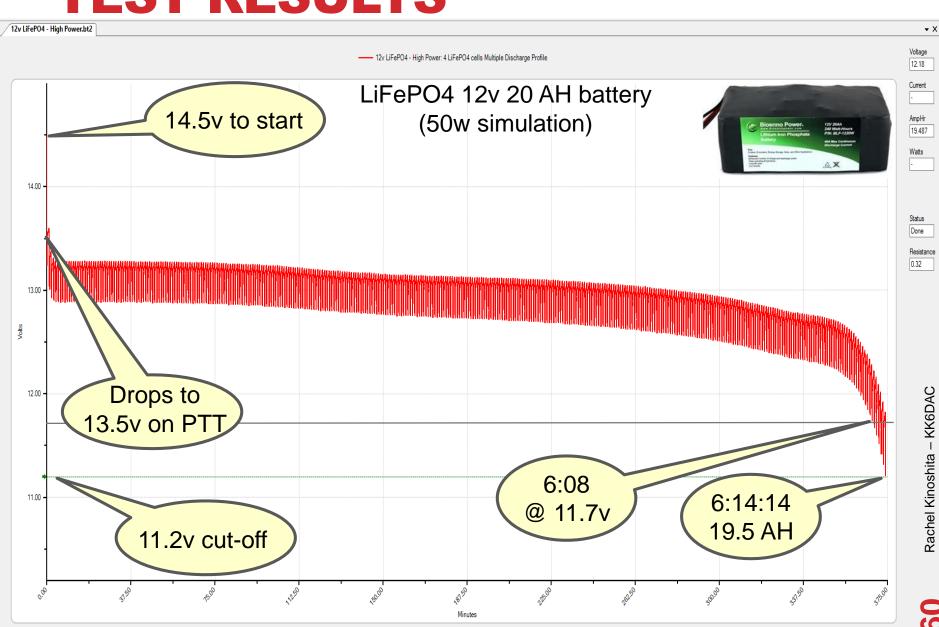


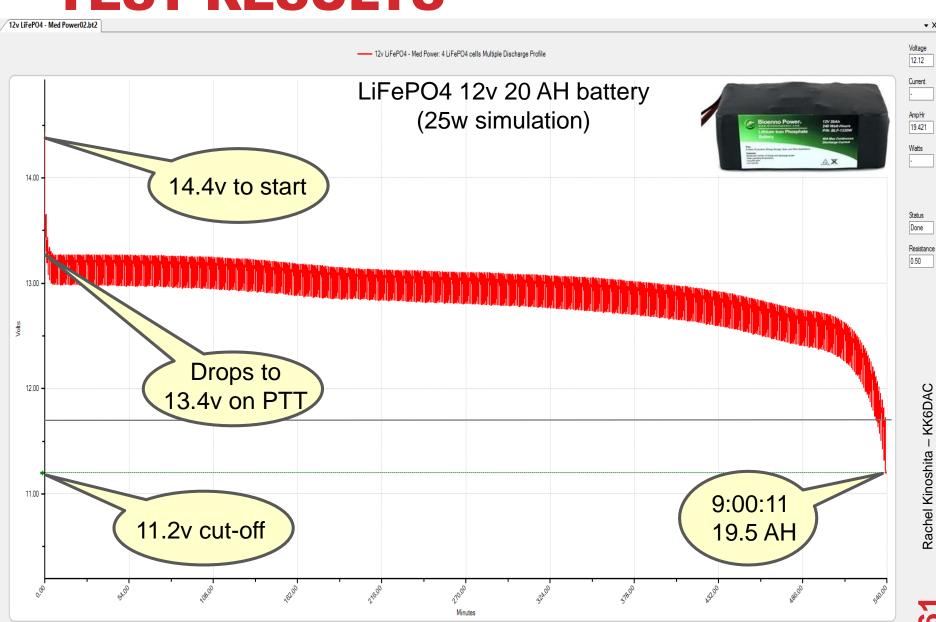


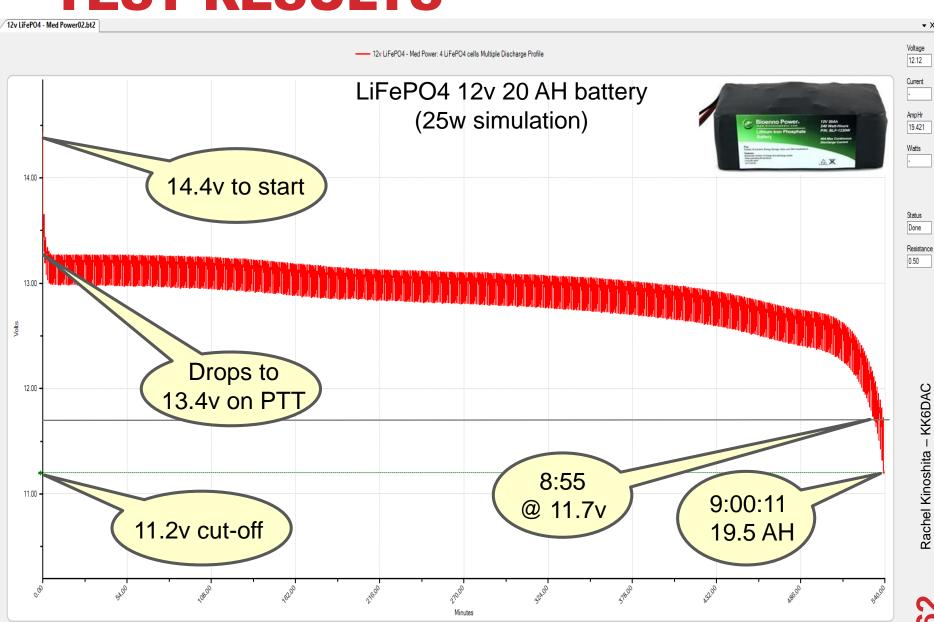












TEST RESULTS

\$53.00 / 17.5 lbs





3:32	4:49	6:17	7:45	Pb	
6:08	6:14	8:55	9:00	LiFePo4	
1.74	1.29	1.42	1.16	1.40	



\$192.95 / 5.5 lbs



TEST RESULTS

\$213.00 / 70.1 lbs



Can be fully recharged up to 500 times



Can be fully recharged up to 2000 times

\$192.95 / 5.5 lbs

CONCLUSION

Portable Operations

- Lead acid batteries are relatively inexpensive, but the trade-off is weight, capacity, self-discharge and overall life; Only sealed lead acid batteries should be used to prevent spillage
- LiFePO4 batteries are less than half the weight of an equivalent SLA battery, has more useable capacity, can sit for long periods of time without losing much charge and has 4 times the life. The trade-off is price, but in the long-term they pay for themselves

Home / Base Operations

- Weight is less of an issue so lead acid batteries have fewer disadvantages. Never use flooded batteries inside the house due to out-gassing. Need to keep them on a float charge when not in use

 LiFePO4 batteries will have a much longer life and will be easier to move around, but are expensive, especially for occasional use Weight is less of an issue so lead acid batteries have fewer

QUESTIONS

