Data Sheet

BK PRECISION

Modular Programmable DC Electronic Load

MDL4U Series

The MDL4U Series is a multi-channel modular programmable electronic load system. Seven different modules of programmable DC loads ranging in power from 200 W to 600 W provide users the flexibility to test a wide range of power sources from multi-output AC/DC power supplies to batteries, fuel cells, and photovoltaic arrays.

The mainframe consists of a controller and four open slots that can be populated with any combination of modules up to 2400 W (up to 4800 W with mainframe extension). The high-performance electronic load modules of the MDL4U Series are capable of operating in constant current (CC), constant voltage (CV), constant resistance (CR), constant power (CW), and constant impedance (CZ) mode, which uses DSP technology to simulate non-linear loads and realistic loading behavior.

Easily edit the load's parameters such as voltage, current, slew rate, and width via the front panel. Increase productivity by saving your test parameters into any one of the 101 memory areas for quick system recall. Additionally, the MDL4U Series provides 16-bit resolution as well as numerous protection modes and a power-on system self-test to ensure the reliability of your testing.

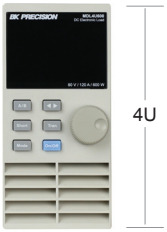
For remote communication, the MDL4U Series provides LAN, USB (USBTMC-compliant), RS232, and GPIB standard interfaces that support SCPI command protocol.

Features and benefits

- Power range up to 2400 W
- Voltage range up to 500 V
- Current range up to 120 A
- CC/CV/CR/CW/CZ operating modes
- Removable modules for easy system configurability
- Support for up to 16 channels using dual channel modules with mainframe extension
- Operate identical modules in parallel mode for high current applications
- Synchronous load on/off function
- Standard LAN, GPIB, USB, and RS232 interfaces with USBTMC/SCPI protocol support
- Analog current control and monitoring
- Transient mode up to 25 kHz
- List mode (sequence mode) - minimum 20 µs step width with 84 user programmable steps
- Adjustable slew rate in CC mode
- 16-bit voltage and current measurement system providing high resolution of 0.1 mV and 0.01 mA
- Automatic test function
- 101 memory locations to save/recall setting parameters
- Remote sense
- OVP/OCP/OPP/OTP and reverse voltage protection
- Rack-mount brackets with handles included

Populate the mainframe or mainframe extension with any combination of four modules.

Model	MDL4U200	MDL4U252	MDL4U302	MDL4U305	MDL4U400	MDL4U505	MDL4U600
Power	200 W	*250 W / 50 W	*300 W / 300 W	300 W	400 W	500 W	600 W
Operating Voltage	80 V	80 V	80 V	500 V	80 V	500 V	80 V
Rated Current	40 A	20 A	45 A	20 A	60 A	30 A	120 A
No. of Channels	1	2	2	1	1	1	1



* The MDL4U252 and MDL4U302 are dual-channel load modules. The MDL4U252 can allocate up to 250 W to either channel up to 300 W total. (e.g. 250 W/50 W, 150 W/150 W). Similarly, the MDL4U302 can allocate 300 W to either channel up to 600 W total (e.g. 300 W/300 W)

The tools you need

High performance architecture

Equipped with a high-performance microprocessor in every mainframe and module, the MDL4U Series programmable DC electronic load utilizes a parallel architecture that provides high measurement speed. Additionally, a simultaneous load on/off operation can be performed through the front panel, analog control terminal, or remote SCPI command. This configuration allows the system to control modules synchronously and increases productivity in testing.

Powerful communication interfaces

The MDL4U Series mainframe offers all the latest options to the user for remote communication. Connect via GPIB, Ethernet, USB, or RS232 to carry out data communication through SCPI and USBTMC standard communication protocols to control all your electronic load modules from a PC.

Modular design

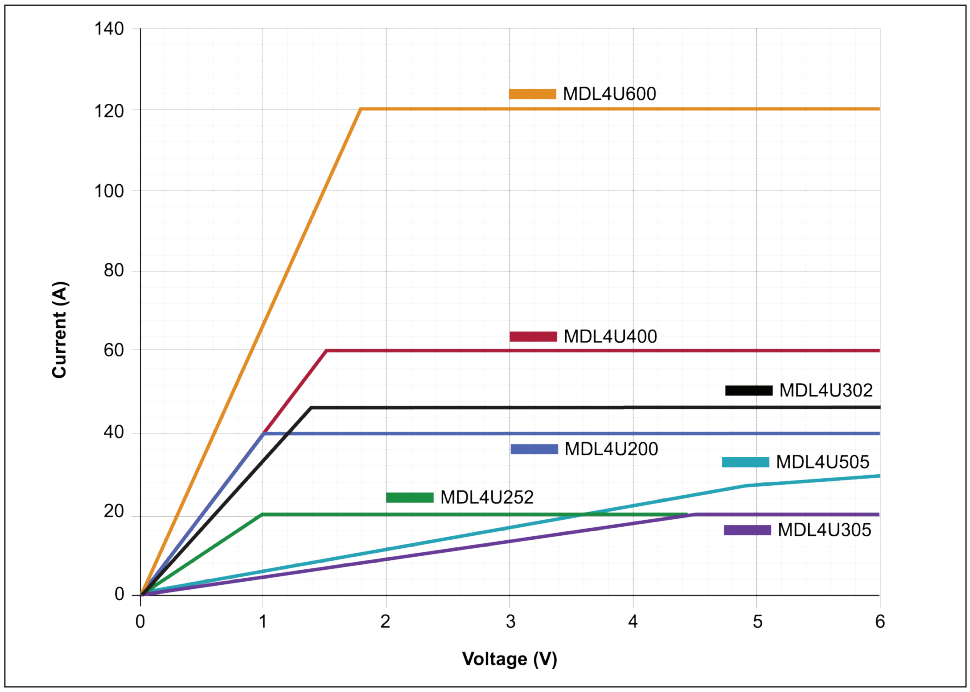
With the removable module design, you can choose suitable load modules to modify the system according to your requirements. This design allows for multiple channels and is ideal for testing several units, especially power supplies with multiple outputs. At the same time, all load modules can be configured to work independently. All load modules, including the high power 500 W and 600 W modules can fit in one slot. Unlike competitor models that require two slots for high power modules, the MDL4U Series offers a one-slot form factor for all modules.

Adjustable slew rate

In constant current mode, users can control the rate or slope of the change in current in a transient response test. Set the slew rate to as slow as 0.0001 A/μs or as fast as 2.5 A/μs depending on the module and selected current range.

Low Voltage Operation

The MDL4U Series can operate at low voltages for applications such as fuel cell and solar cell testing.

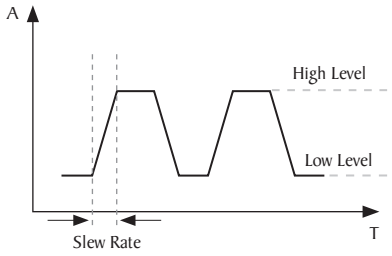


Typical minimum operating voltage at full scale current:

MDL4U200	MDL4U252	MDL4U302	MDL4U305	MDL4U400	MDL4U505	MDL4U600
1 V	1 V	1.4 V	4.5 V	1.5 V	5.4 V	1.8 V

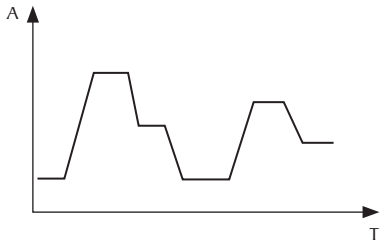
Transient operation

Transient operation enables the module to periodically switch between two load levels. A power supply's regulation and transient characteristic can be evaluated by monitoring the supply's output voltage under varying combinations of load levels, duty cycle, and slew rate. The MDL4U Series can simulate these conditions up to 25 kHz.



List mode

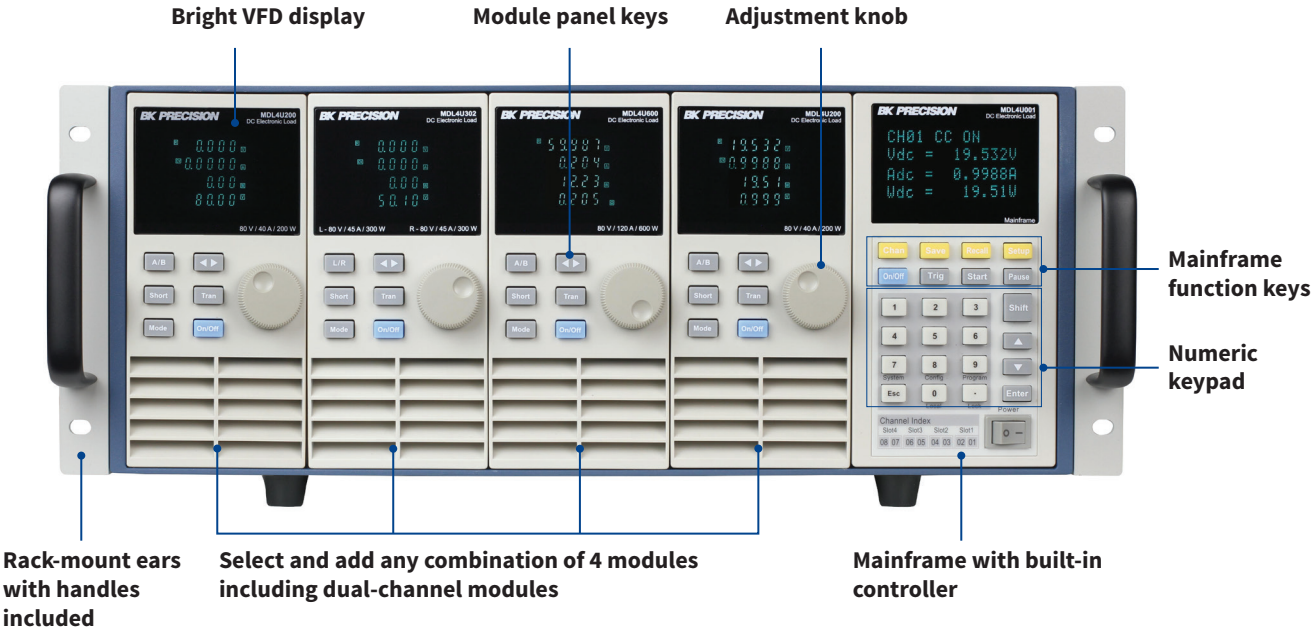
Not limited to just switching between two levels, list mode lets you generate more complex sequences of input changes with several different levels. Up to 7 groups of list files can be saved in the mainframe. Each list can contain up to 84 steps with a minimum width time of 20 μs per step.



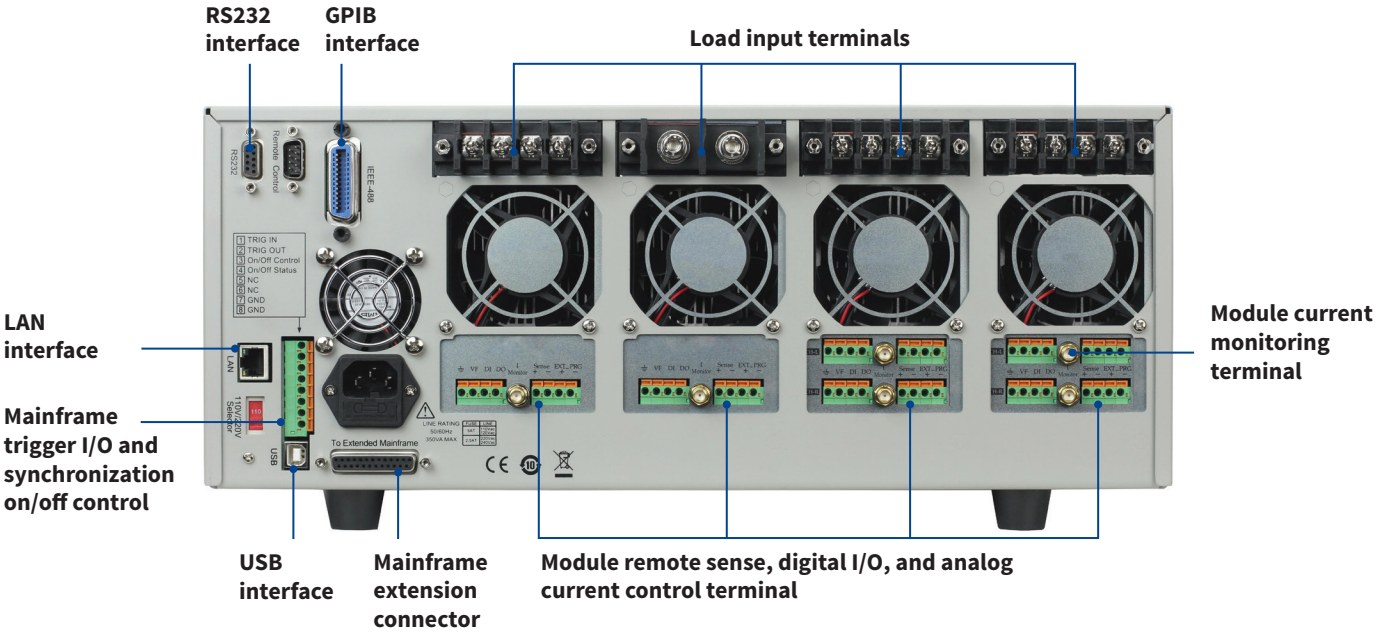
Automatic test mode

The MDL4U Series can execute multiple test sequences across all channels. Sequences can be cascaded, and each step can be programmed with upper and lower limit values. When applied in automatic production testing, you can easily judge whether the test parameters of your devices are within the specification limits and adjust your process according to the GO/NG verdict.

Front panel



Rear panel



Mainframe Extension

The MDL4U002 mainframe extension provides power to additional modules enabling control of up to 8 modules from a connected MDL4U001 mainframe.

Specifications

Model		MDL4U200	MDL4U252	MDL4U302	MDL4U305	MDL4U400	MDL4U505	MDL4U600
Input rating								
Input Voltage		0 to 80 V	0 to 80 V	0 to 80 V	0 to 500 V	0 to 80 V	0 to 500 V	0 to 80 V
Input Current	Low	0 to 4 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 4.5 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 6 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 12 A
	High	0 to 40 A	0 to 20 A	0 to 45 A	0 to 20 A	0 to 60 A	0 to 30 A	0 to 120 A
Input Power		200 W	250 W / 50 W (1)	300 W / 300 W (1)	300 W	400 W	500 W	600 W
Channels		1	2	2	1	1	1	1
Minimum Operating Voltage	Low	0.10 V at 4 A	0.15 V at 3 A	0.14 V at 4.5 A	0.7 V at 3 A	0.15 V at 6 A	0.54 V at 3 A	0.18 V at 12 A
	High	1 V at 40 A	1 V at 20 A	1.4 V at 45 A	4.5 V at 20 A	1.5 V at 60 A	5.4 V at 30 A	1.8 V at 120 A
CV mode								
Range	Low	0 to 18 V						
	High	0 to 80 V			0 to 500 V	0 to 80 V	0 to 500 V	0 to 80 V
Resolution	Low	1 mV						
	High	10 mV						
Accuracy	Low	± (0.05% + 0.02% F.S.)		± (0.05 % + 0.025% F.S.)	± (0.05% + 0.02% F.S.)			
	High	± (0.05% + 0.025% F.S.)						
CC mode								
Range	Low	0 to 4 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 4.5 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 6 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 12 A
	High	0 to 40 A	0 to 20 A	0 to 45 A	0 to 20 A	0 to 60 A	0 to 30 A	0 to 120 A
Resolution	Low	0.1 mA					1 mA	0.1 mA
	High	1 mA					10 mA	1 mA
Accuracy	Low	± (0.05% + 0.05% F.S.)						± (0.05% + 0.1% F.S.)
	High	± (0.05% + 0.05% F.S.)						± (0.1% + 0.1% F.S.)
CR mode								
Range	Low	0.05 Ω to 10 Ω			0.25 Ω to 10 Ω	0.05 Ω to 10 Ω	0.2 Ω to 10 Ω	
	High	10 Ω to 7.5 kΩ						
Resolution		16-bit						
Accuracy	Low	0.01% + 0.08 S						
	High	0.01% + 0.0008 S						
CW mode								
Range		200 W	250 W	300 W		400 W	500 W	600 W
Resolution		10 mW						
Accuracy		± (0.2% + 0.2% F.S.)						
Transient mode (CC mode)								
T1&T2 (2)		20 µs to 3600 s / Res: 5 µs to 10 ms						
Accuracy		5 µs + 100 ppm						
Slew Rate(3)	Low	0.0001 to 0.25 A/µs	0.0001 to 0.2 A/µs	0.0001 to 0.25 A/µs	0.0001 to 0.1 A/µs	0.0001 to 0.25 A/µs	0.0001 to 0.1 A/µs	0.0001 to 0.25 A /µs
	High	0.001 to 2.5 A/µs	0.001 to 2 A/µs	0.001 to 2.5 A/µs	0.001 to 1 A/µs	0.001 to 2.5 A/µs	0.001 to 1 A/µs	0.001 to 2.5 A/µs

(1) MDL4U252: The user can allocate 250 W to either channel up to 300 W total (e.g. 50 W/250 W, 250 W/50 W, 150 W/150 W). MDL4U302: The user can allocate 300 W to either channel up to 600 W total (e.g. 300 W/300 W).

(2) Fast pulse trains with large transitions may not be achievable.

(3) The slew rate specifications are not warranted, but are descriptions of typical performance. The actual transition time is defined as the time for the input to change from 10% to 90%, or vice versa, of the programmed current values. In case of very large load changes, e.g. from no load to full load, the actual transition time will be larger than the expected time. The load will automatically adjust the slew rate to fit within the range (high or low) that is closest to the programmed value.

Specifications

Model		MDL4U200	MDL4U252	MDL4U302	MDL4U305	MDL4U400	MDL4U505	MDL4U600
Readback voltage								
Range	Low	0 to 18 V						
	High	0 to 80 V			0 to 500 V	0 to 80 V	0 to 500 V	0 to 80 V
Resolution	Low	0.1 mV			1 mV	0.1 mV	1 mV	0.1 mV
	High	1 mV			10 mV	1 mV	10 mV	1 mV
Accuracy		± (0.025% + 0.025% F.S.)						
Readback current								
Range	Low	0 to 4 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 4.5 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 6 A	0 to 3 A	0 to 12 A
	High	0 to 40 A	0 to 20 A	0 to 45 A	0 to 20 A	0 to 60 A	0 to 30 A	0 to 120 A
Resolution	Low	0.01 mA				0.1 mA	0.01 mA	0.1 mA
	High	0.1 mA				1 mA	0.1 mA	1 mA
Accuracy	Low	± (0.05% + 0.05% F.S.)						± (0.05% + 0.1% F.S.)
	High	± (0.05% + 0.05% F.S.)						± (0.1% + 0.1% F.S.)
Readback power								
Range		200 W	250 W	300 W		400 W	500 W	600 W
Resolution		10 mW						
Accuracy		± (0.2% + 0.2% F.S.)						
Protection range (typical)								
OPP		200 W	250 W	310 W	300 W	400 W	500 W	600 W
OCP	Low	4.4 A	3.3 A	5 A	3.3 A	6.6 A	3.3 A	13.2 A
	High	44 A	22 A	50 A	22 A	66 A	33 A	132 A
OVP		82 V			510 V	82 V	510 V	82 V
OTP		185 °F (85 °C)						
General (typical)								
Short Circuit								
Current (CC)	Low	4 A	3 A	5 A	3 A	6 A	3 A	12 A
	High	40 A	30 A	50 A	20 A	60 A	30 A	120 A
Voltage (CV)		0 V						
Resistance (CR)		25 mΩ	50 mΩ	30 mΩ	220 mΩ	25 mΩ	180 mΩ	15 mΩ
Input Terminal Impedance		300 kΩ			1 MΩ	300 kΩ	1 MΩ	300 kΩ
Safety		EN61010-1:2010, EU Low Voltage Directive (LVD) 2014/35/EU						
Electromagnetic Compatibility		Meets EMC Directive 2014/30/EU, EN61326-1:2013						
Warranty		3 Years						
Dimensions		3.2" x 6.7" x 22.6" (82 x 170.5 x 573 mm)						
Weight		11 lbs (5 kg)						

Mainframe Specification

Number of Slots	Power Input	Operating Temperature	Storage Temperature	Humidity
4	110/220 V ± 10%, 50/60 Hz	32 to 104 °F (0 to 40 °C)	14 to 140 °F (-10 to 60 °C)	Indoor use, ≤ 95%

Note: Applies to MDL4U001 mainframe and MDL4U002 mainframe extension.

Specifications

Mechanical Specifications

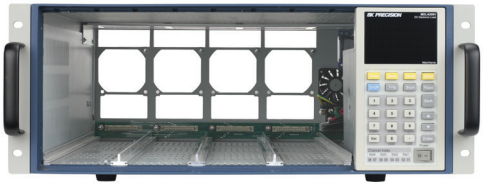
Model	MDL4U001	MDL4U002	MDL4U200	MDL4U252	MDL4U302	MDL4U305	MDL4U400	MDL4U505	MDL4U600
Type	Mainframe	Mainframe extension	Module						
Dimensions (W x H x D)	17.3" x 7" x 21.6" (440 x 177.3 x 549 mm)	17.3" x 7" x 21.6" (440 x 177.3 x 549 mm)	3.2" x 6.7" x 22.6" (82 x 170.5 x 573 mm)						
Weight	34 lbs (15.4 kg)	34 lbs (15.4 kg)	11 lbs (5 kg)						

Standard Accessories

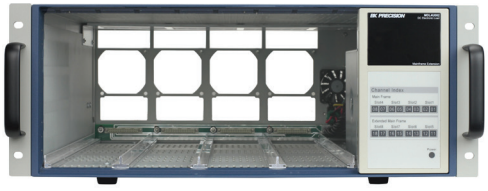
Mainframes	Modules
Power cord, USB cable (MDL4U001 only), mainframe extension cable (MDL4U002 only)	Certificate of calibration

Ordering Information

① Start with the MDL4U001 mainframe required to house and control up to 4 DC load modules. Add the MDL4U002 mainframe extension for up to 8 modules total.



MDL4U001 Mainframe



MDL4U002 Mainframe Extension

② Populate the mainframe or mainframe extension with any combination of modules.

Model	Description
MDL4U200	Single-channel DC load module 80 V / 40 A / 200 W
MDL4U252	Dual-channel DC load module 80 V / 20 A / 300 W total
MDL4U302	Dual-channel DC load module 80 V / 45 A / 600 W total
MDL4U305	Single-channel DC load module 500 V / 20 A / 300 W
MDL4U400	Single-channel DC load module 80 V / 60 A / 400 W
MDL4U505	Single-channel DC load module 500 V / 30 A / 500 W
MDL4U600	Single-channel DC load module 80 V / 120 A / 600 W

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Our headquarters in Yorba Linda, California houses our administrative and executive functions as well as sales and marketing, design, service, and repair. Our European customers are most familiar with B&K through our French subsidiary, Sefram. Engineers in Asia know us through our B+K Precision Taiwan operation. The independent service center in Singapore services customers in Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Indonesia.

B&K Precision group member Independent service center Service center location

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B&K Precision Corporation is an ISO9001 registered company employing traceable quality management practices for all processes including product development, service, and calibration.

ISO9001:2015

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