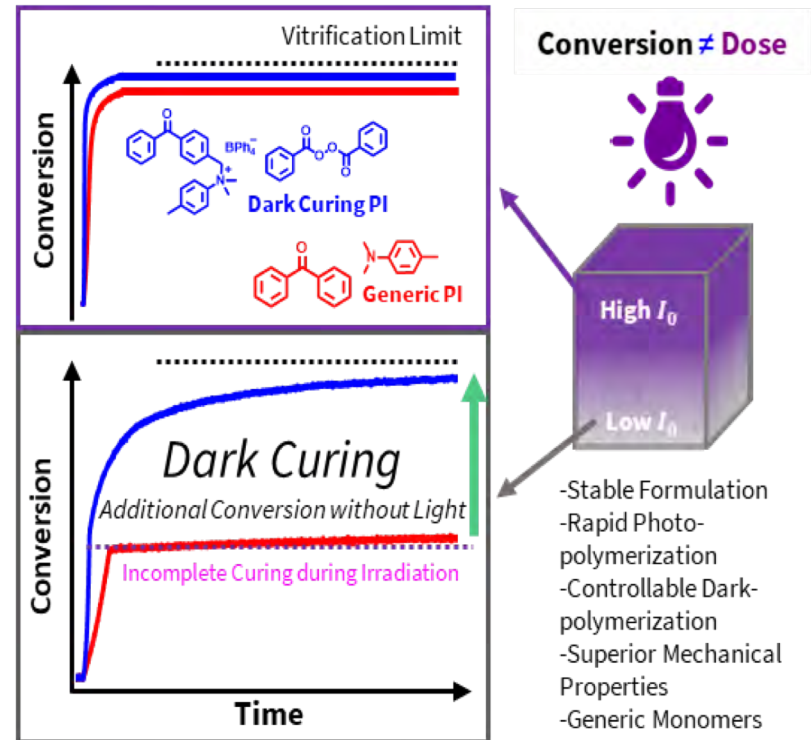
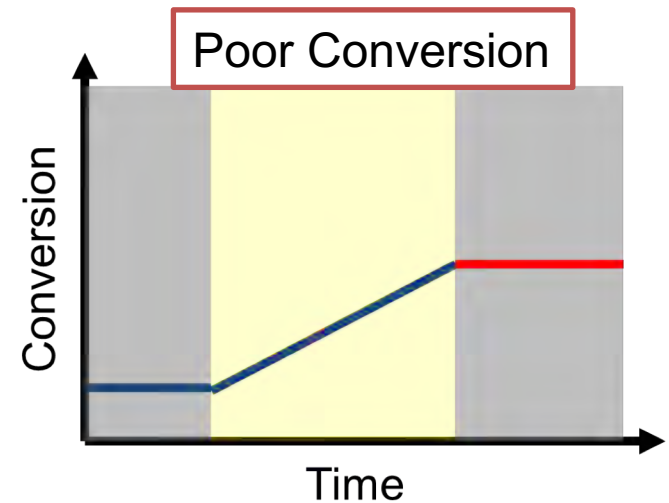
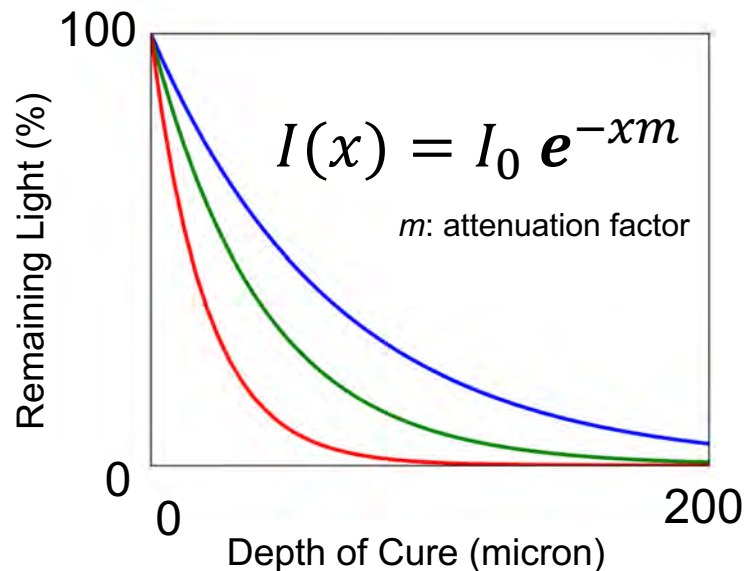
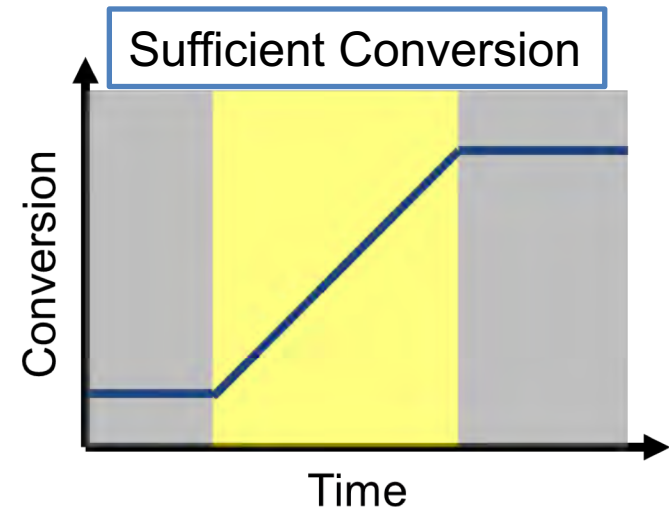
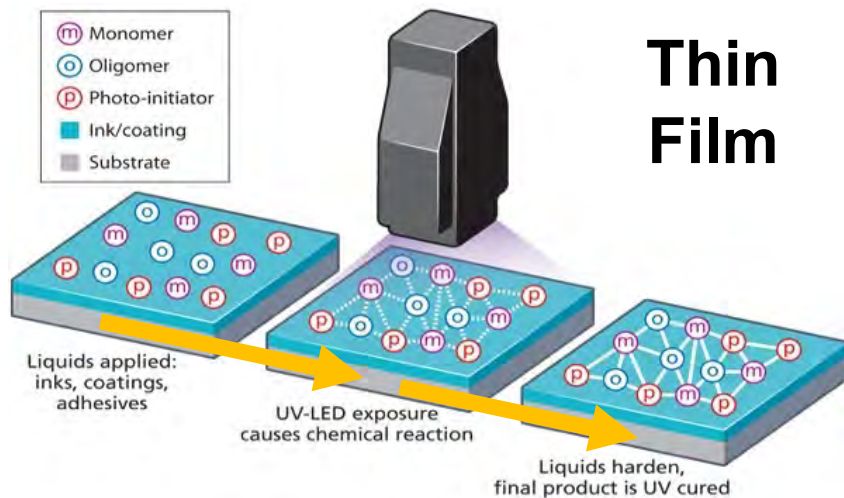


# High Efficiency Radical Photopolymerization Enhanced By Autonomous Dark Cure

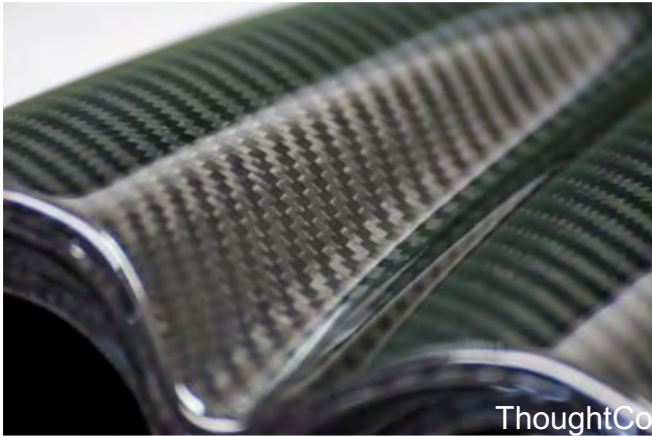
**Kangmin Kim**, Jasmine Sinha,  
Charles Musgrave, Jeffrey Stansbury  
University of Colorado  
RadLaunch - March/10/2020  
Kangmin.Kim@Colorado.Edu



# Conversion is determined by light dose



# Photopolymer Applications are Expanding



Filled Resin (composite)



Pigmented Resin



Thick Resin

Non-ideal photocuring conditions  
due to light attenuation

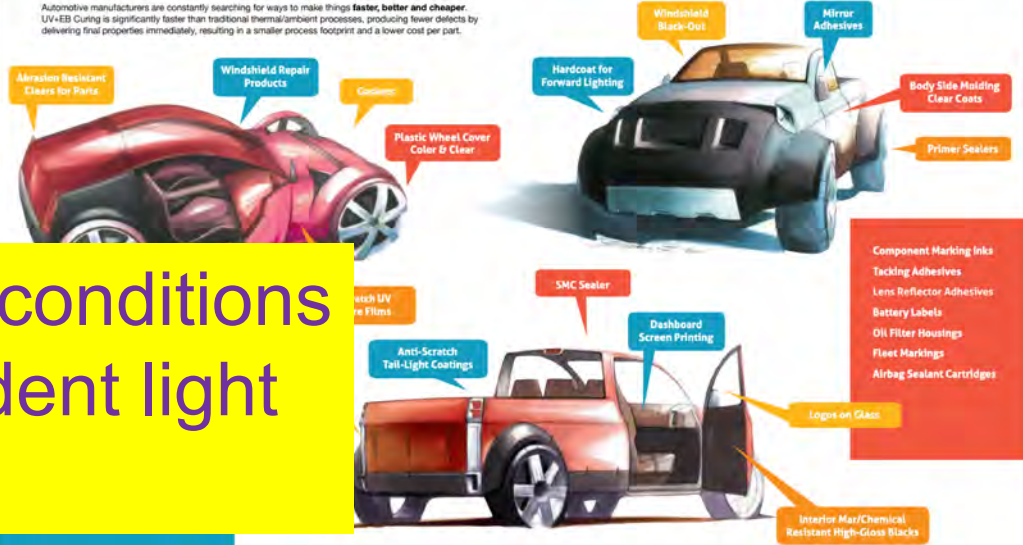
# Photopolymer Applications are Expanding

2017 Quarter 1  
Vol. 3, No. 1

**U+V**  
TECHNOLOGY

## Current Uses of UV+EB Cure Technology

Automotive manufacturers are constantly searching for ways to make things **faster, better and cheaper**. UV+EB Curing is significantly faster than traditional thermal/ambient processes, producing fewer defects by delivering final properties immediately, resulting in a smaller process footprint and a lower cost per part.

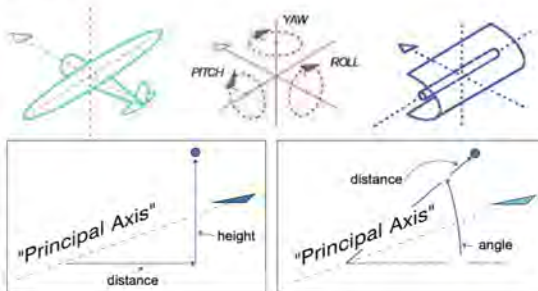


Non-ideal photocuring conditions due to geometry-depedent light exposure

## Q. How Can the Orientation of UV Lamps in a 3D Curing System be Described?

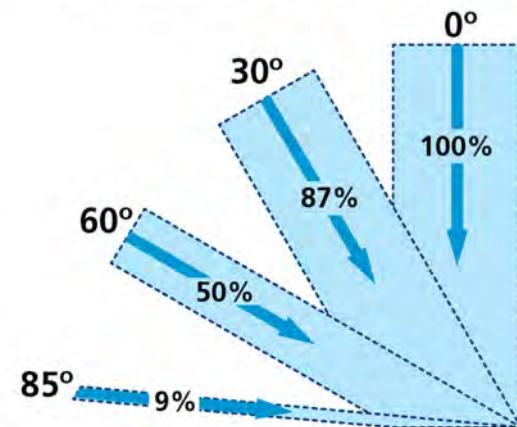
**A.** There is a useful language. Life in the UV curing world was easier when UV lamps only stretched across a web or flat conveyor, and all we had to worry about was *width*, number of *rows* and *distance* from the work. But, as we move into 3D processing of complex shaped objects, lamps are located all over the curing zone. In fixed-lamp 3D configurations, each lamp has its own optimized position. Setting lamps in a large 3D installation falls somewhere between science and art.

Chain-on-edge systems and paint lines represent a whole family of problems in orienting the UV lamps. The line can be continually moving or intermittent.

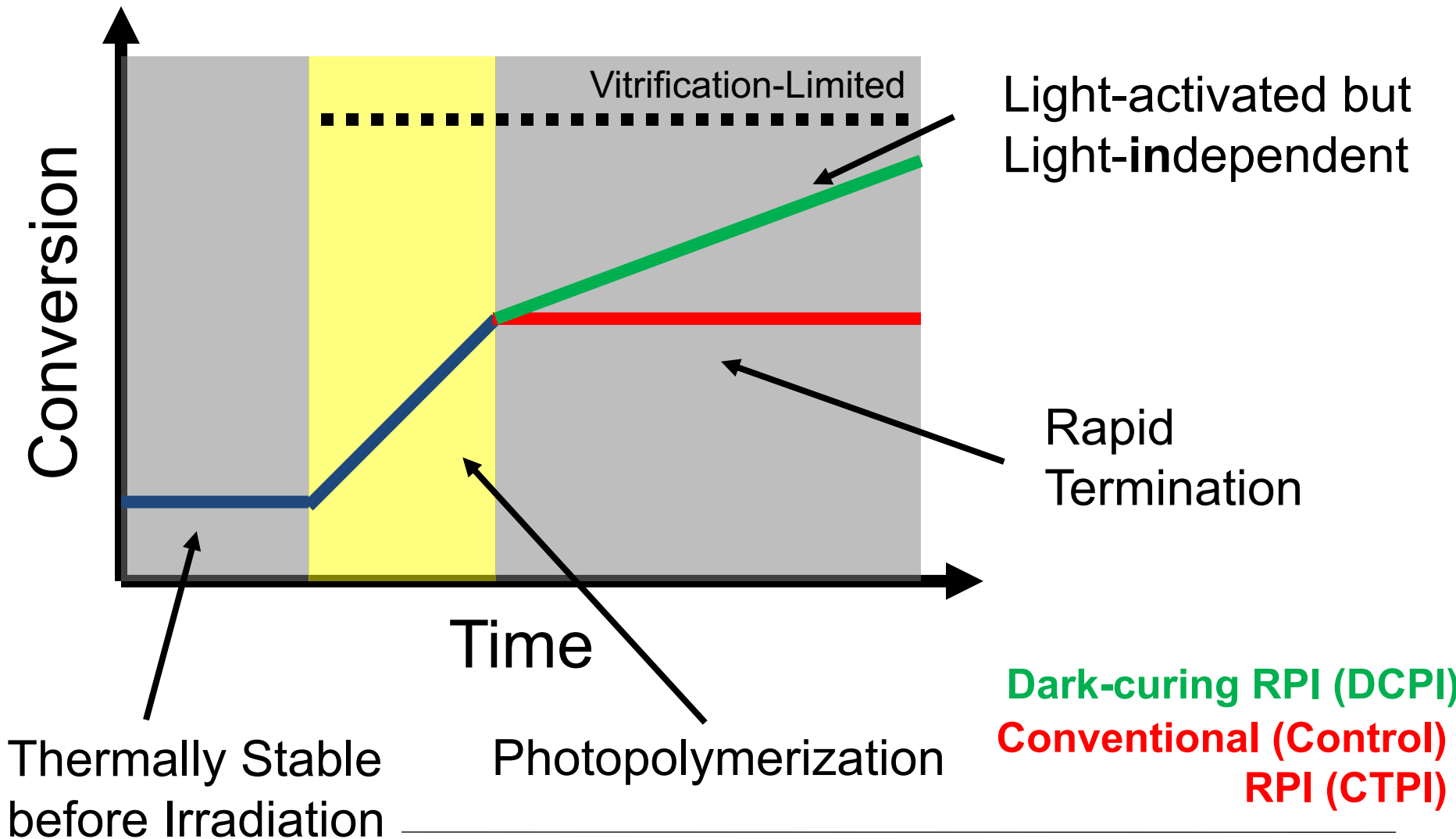


## 3D Objects and Their Surfaces

Cosine Law:  $E_{\theta} = E * \cos(\theta)$

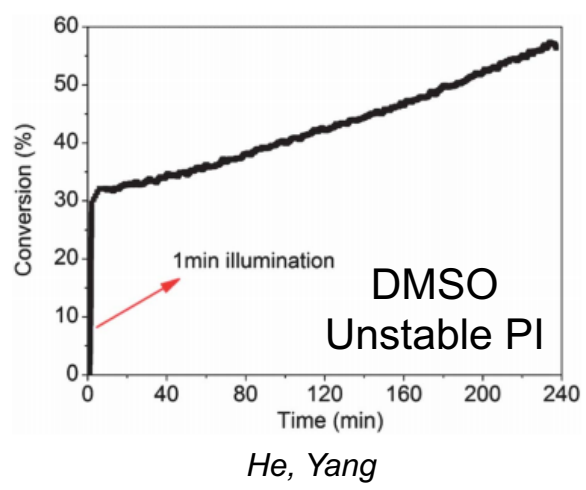
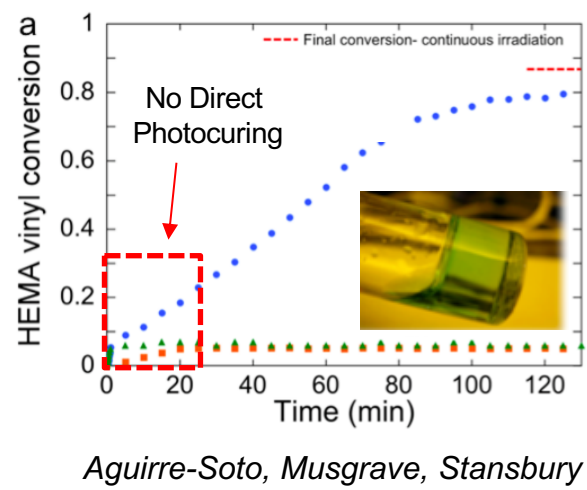
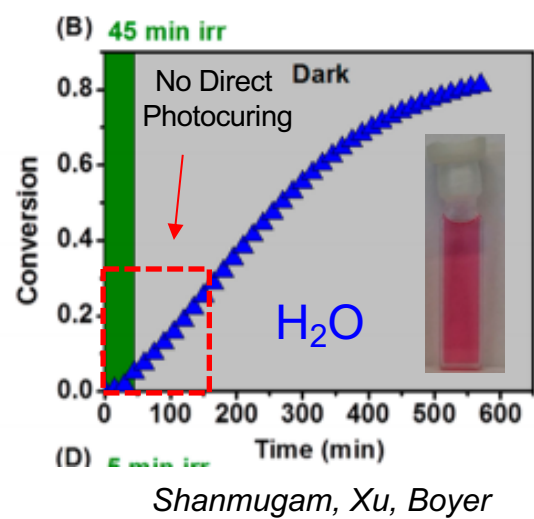
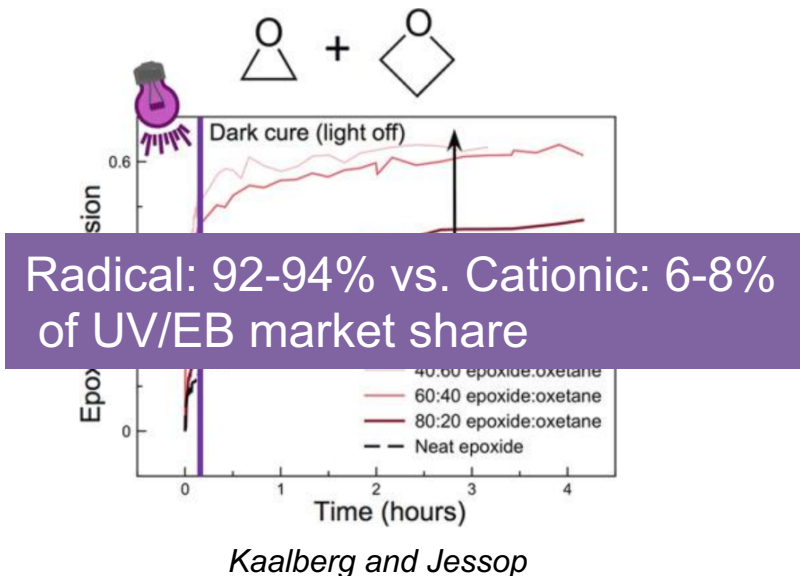


# Dark-curing PI Overcomes Insufficient Dose

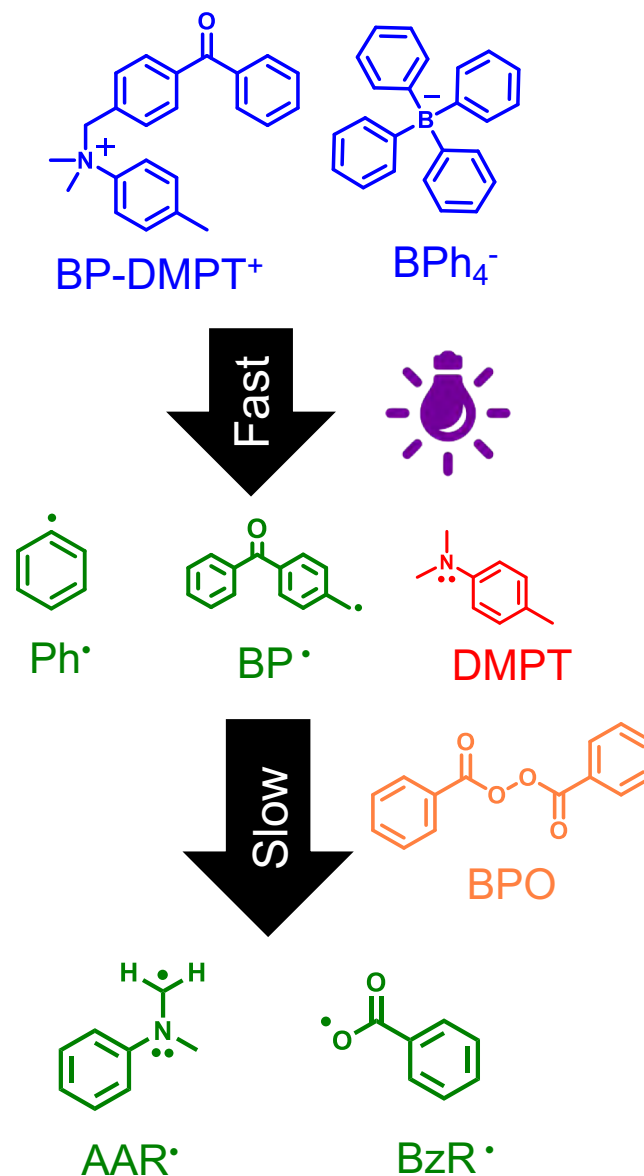
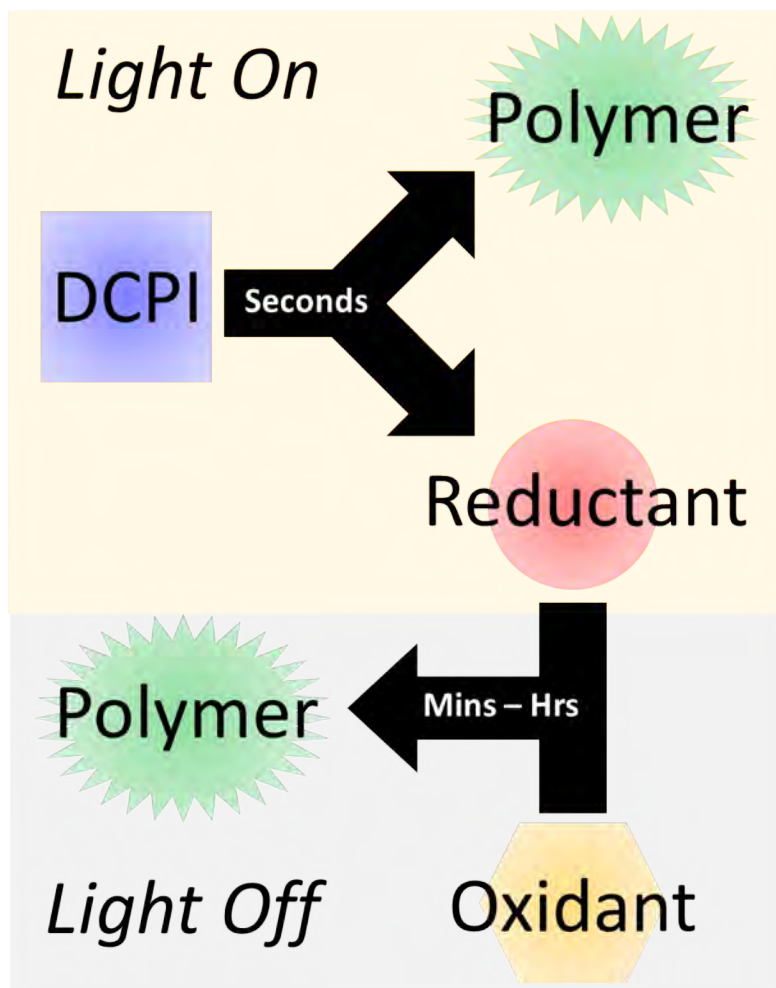




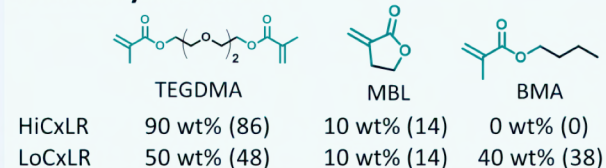
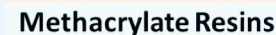
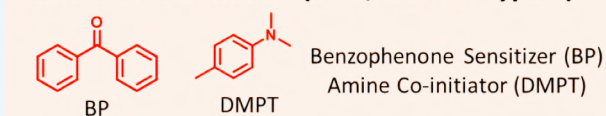
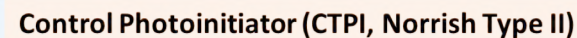
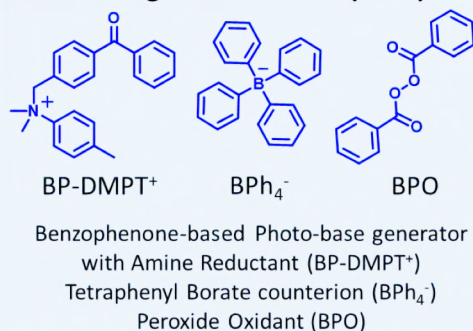
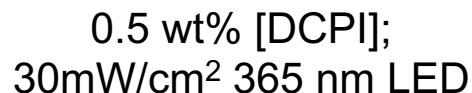
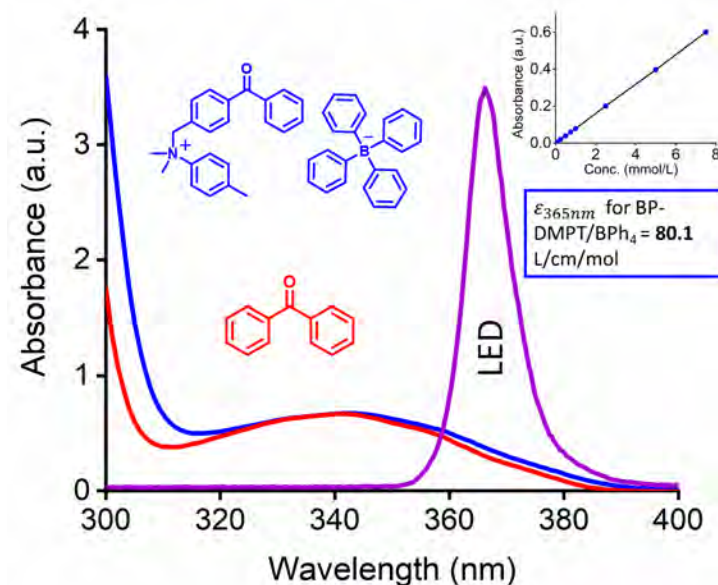
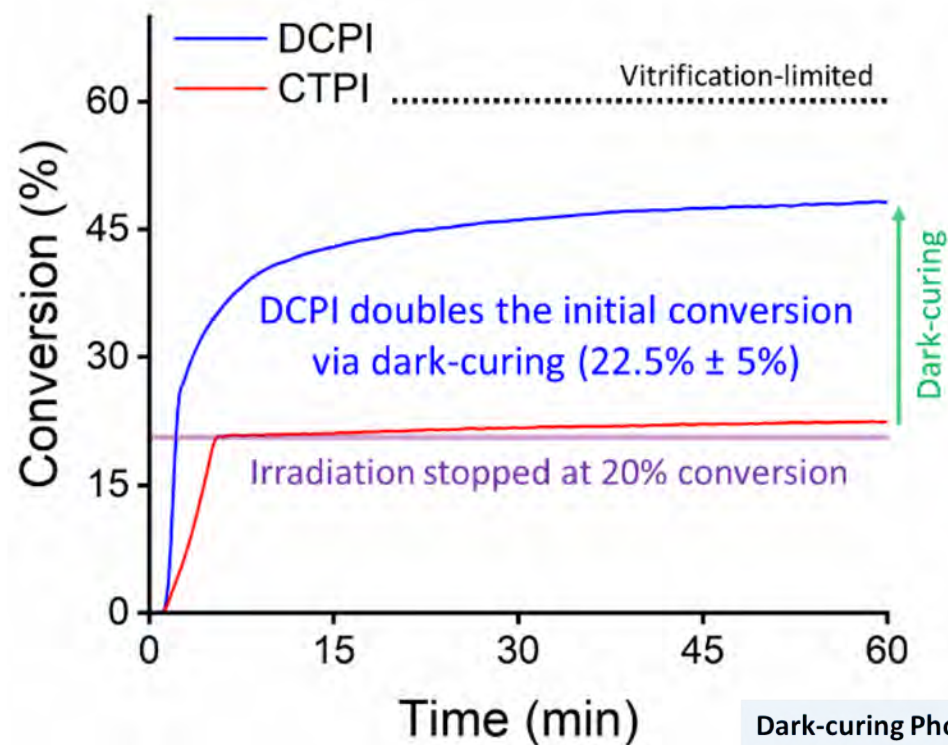
# Previous Dark-curing is Limited



# New Radical Dark-curing Initiator (DCPI)

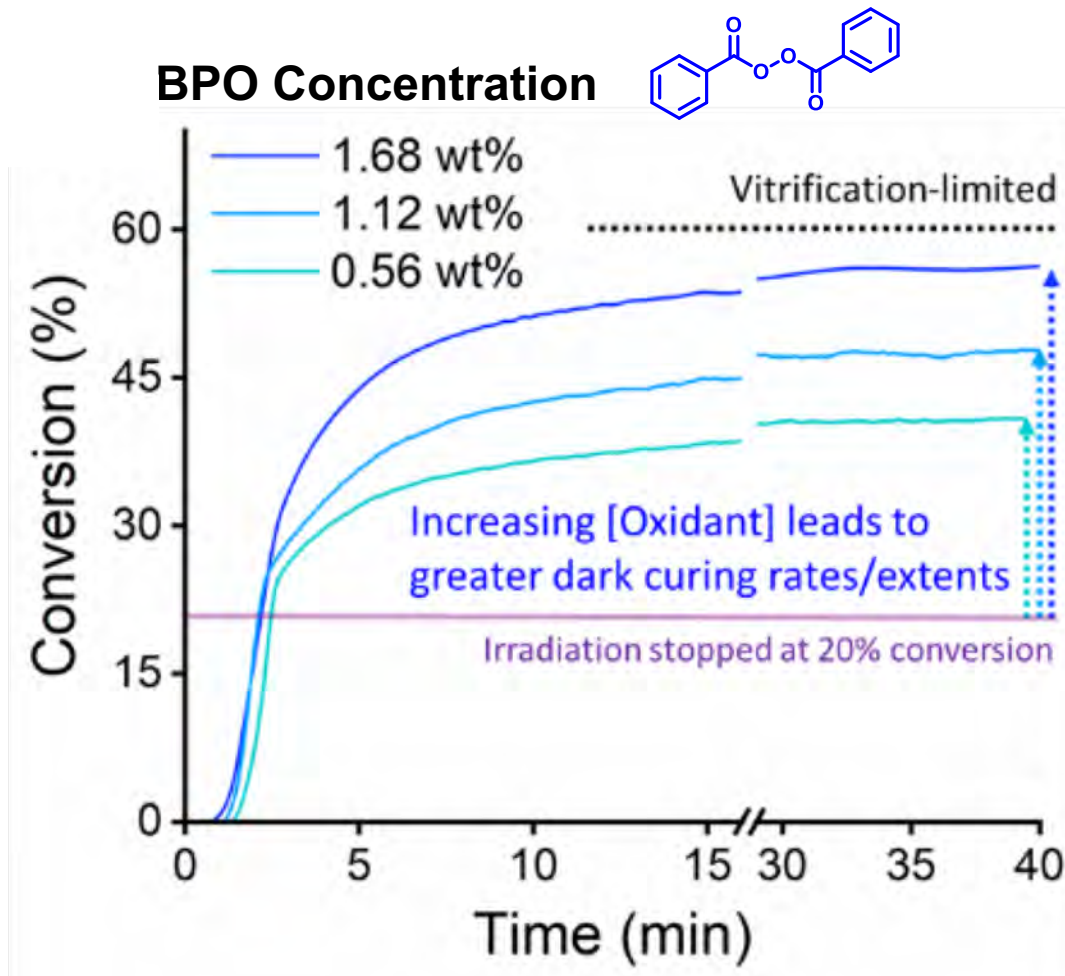


# DCPI Guarantees Additional Conversion

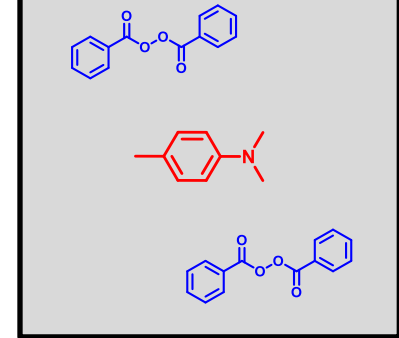




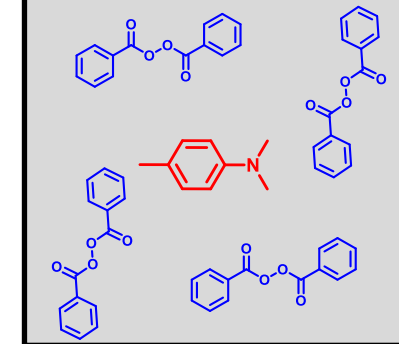
# Easy Modulation of Dark-curing Rates



Low BPO Conc.



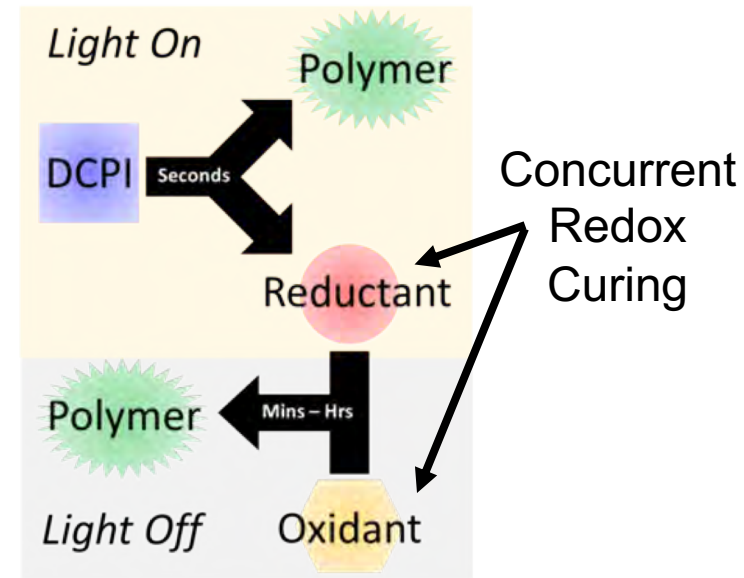
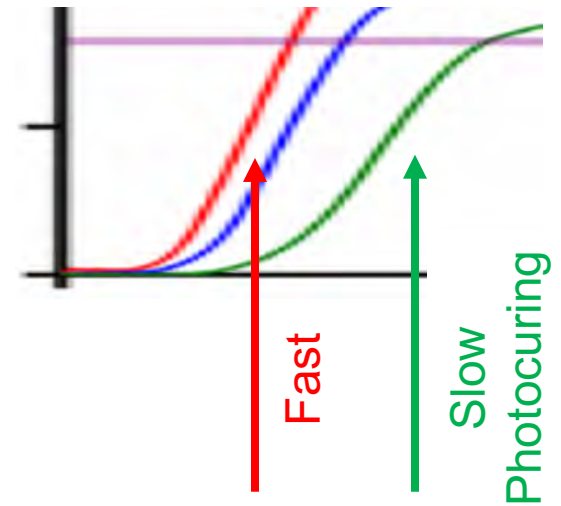
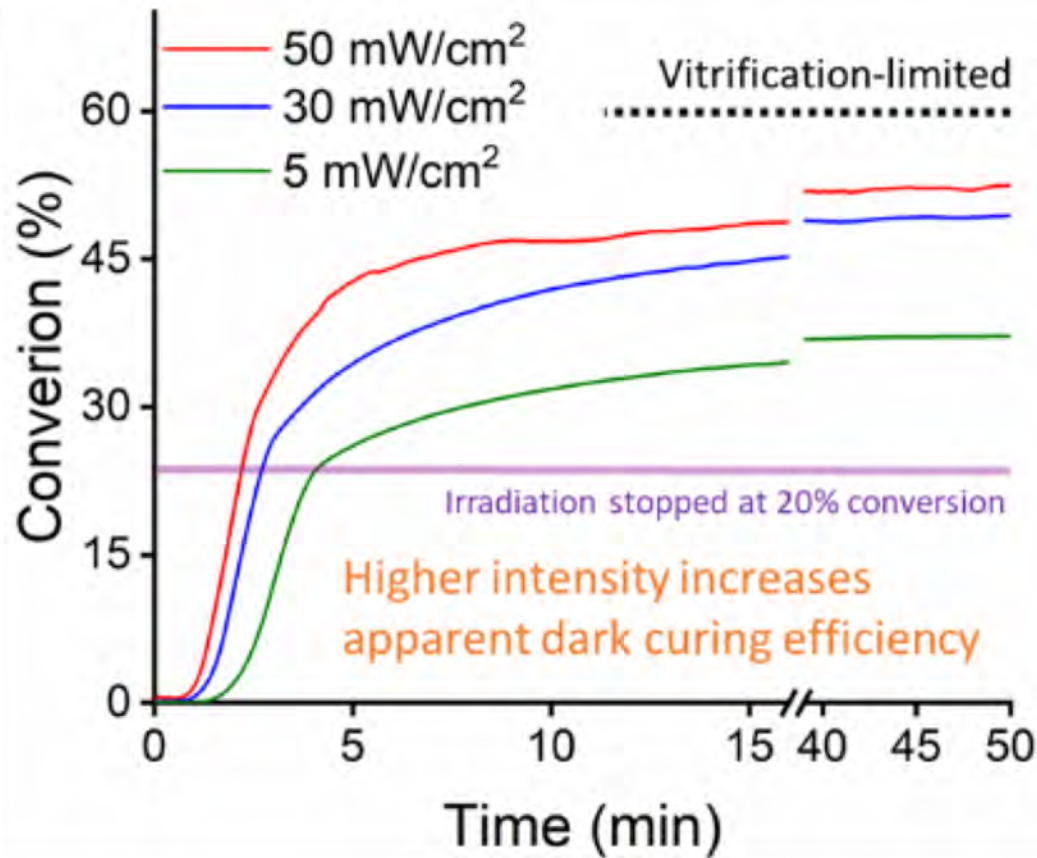
High BPO Conc.



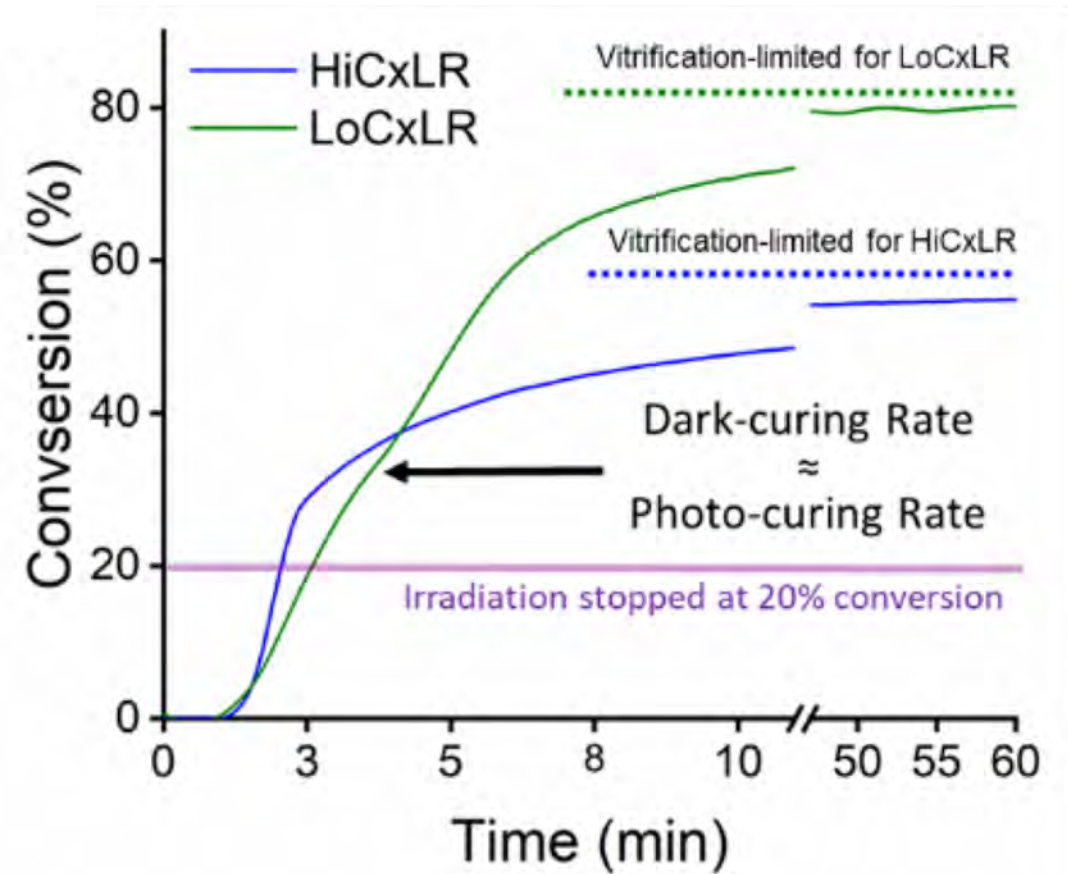
High Encounter Rate  
= High Dark-curing Rate

# Higher Intensity = Better Dark-curing

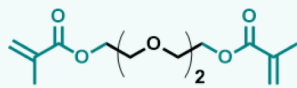
365 nm LED



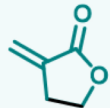
# Resin Conditions Change the DCPI Results



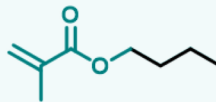
## Methacrylate Resins



TEGDMA



MBL



BMA

HiCxLR 90 wt% (86)

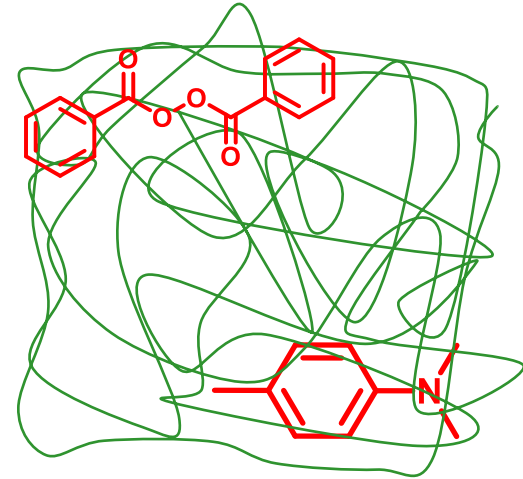
10 wt% (14)

0 wt% (0)

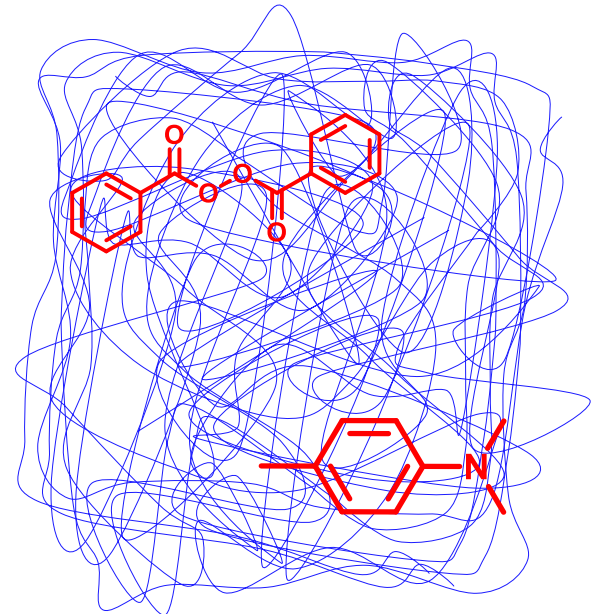
LoCxLR 50 wt% (48)

10 wt% (14)

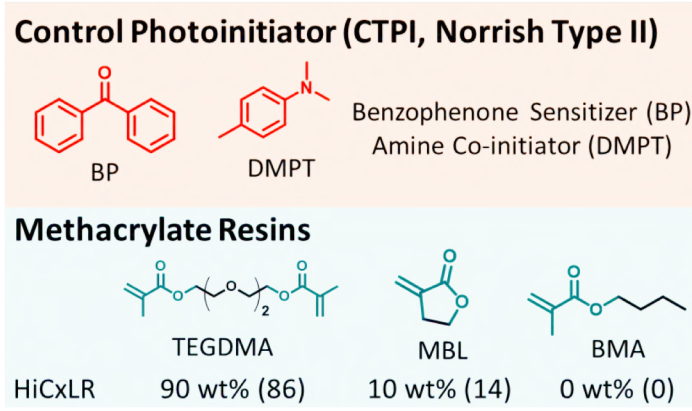
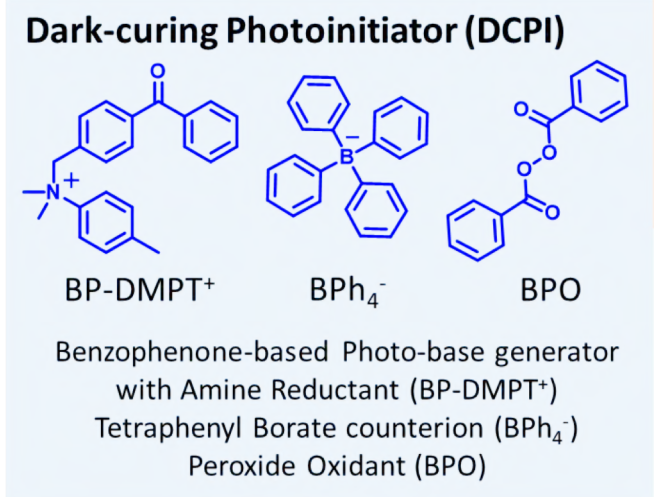
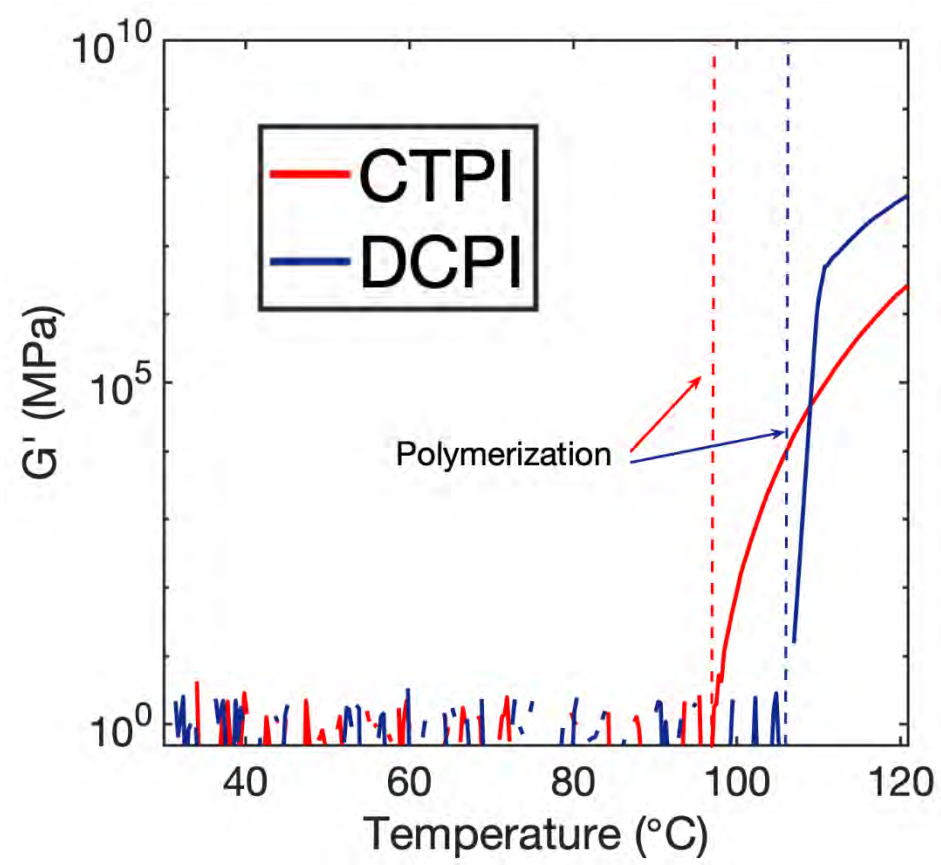
40 wt% (38)



High Diffusion Rate +  
High Vitrification Conversion  
= Greater Dark-curing Extent

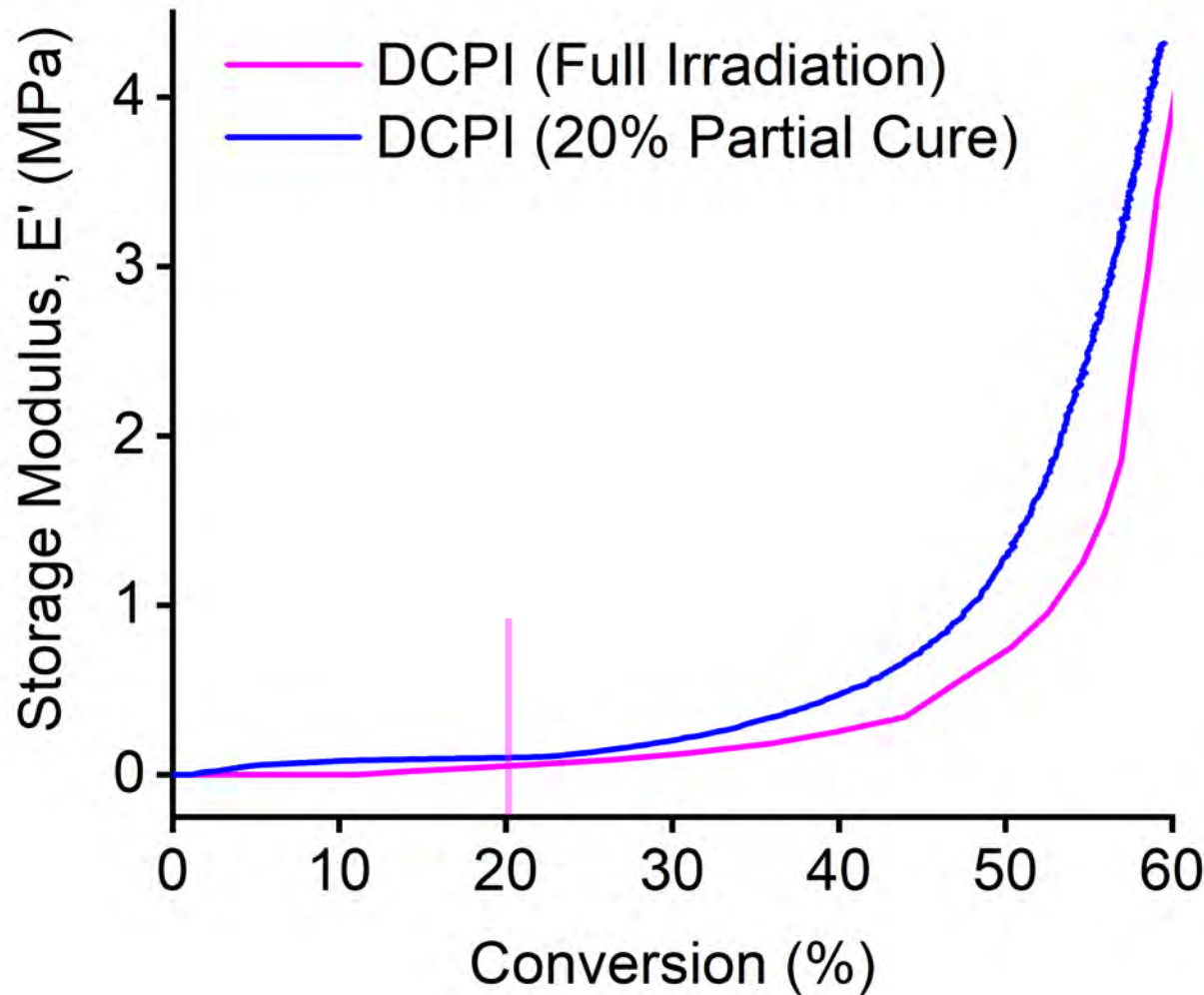


# DCPI formulation is as Stable as CTPI formulation





# Mechanical Property of DC polymer is Robust



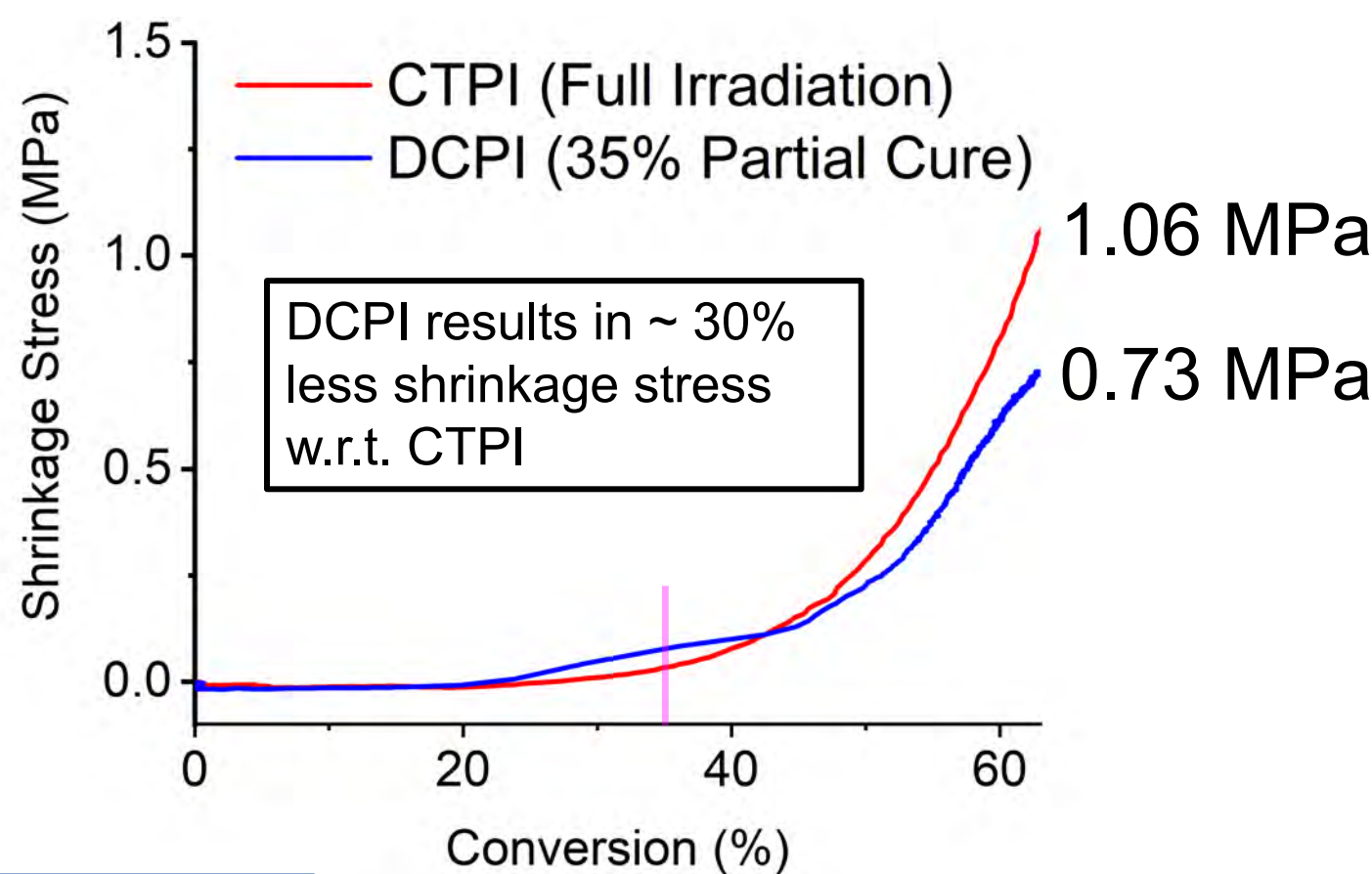
Dark-curing develops  $E'$  from 0.1 MPa at 20% to 4.3 MPa at 60%

$E'$  of dark-cured polymer is comparable to  $E'$  of photo-cured one

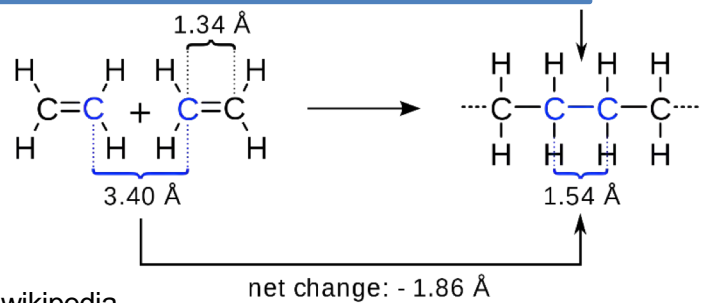




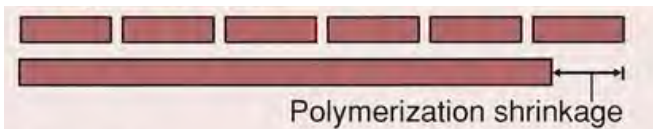
# DC Polymer may even be Better (Lower Shrinkage)



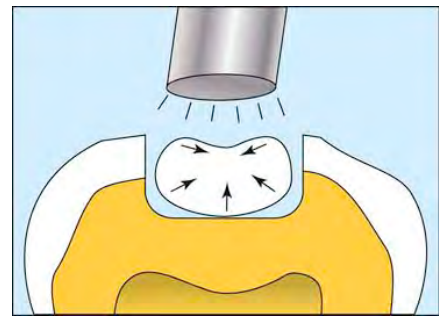
## Polymerization Shrinkage



wikipedia



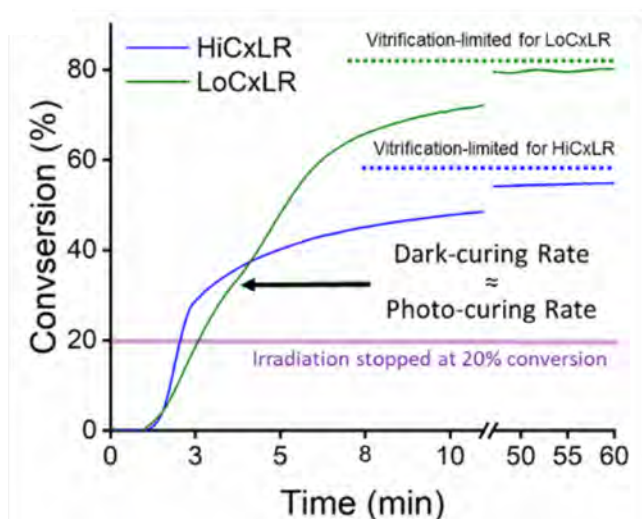
pocketdentistry



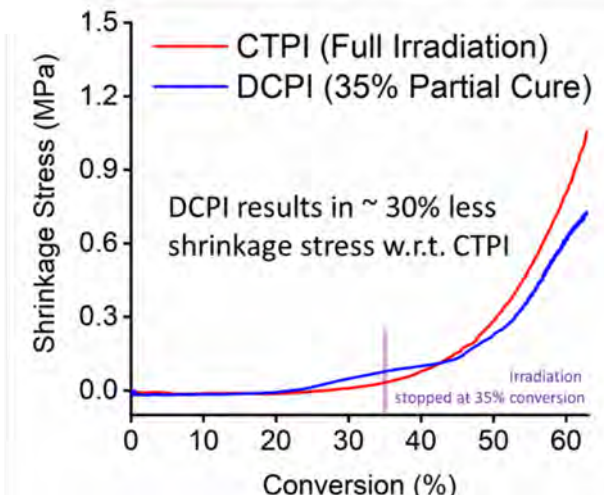
Objective: developing a photoinitiator that continues polymerization after Irradiation is interrupted

Result:

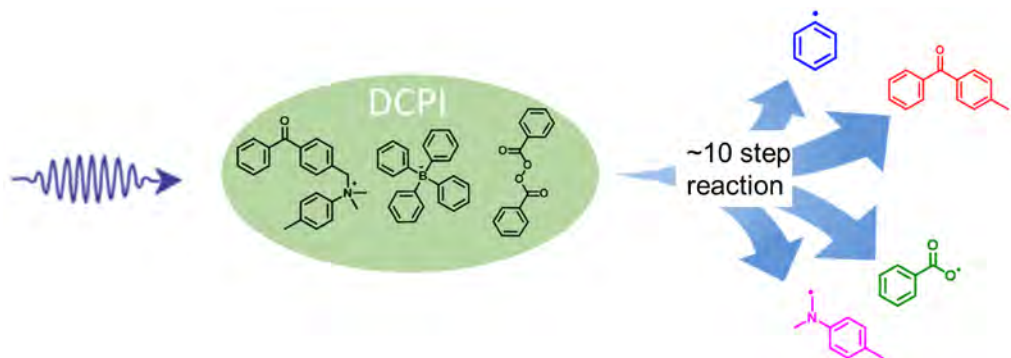
1. Additional 25-60% post-conversion is observed.



2. Dark-cured polymer is comparable/superior to photo-cured polymer

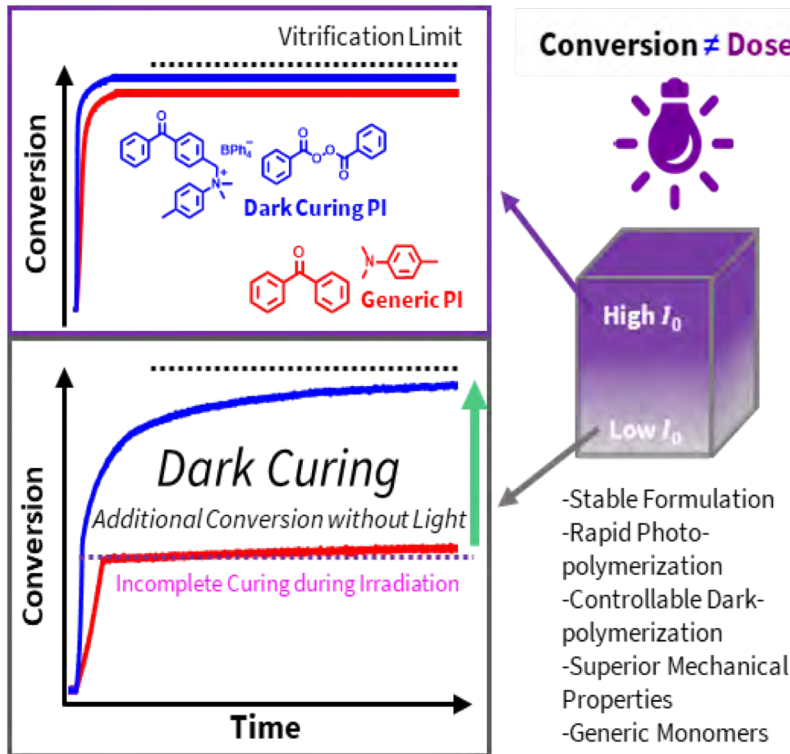


3. PI with the highest photon-efficiency to date



Complementary Presentation  
on Wed, PM 1:15

## Paradigm-Shifting Technology: Conversion is not determined by light dose




## Impacts

1. Increases the reliability of photocuring process while minimizing user errors by automatically correcting initially under-cured regions
2. Enables new applications by promoting curing of light-attenuating samples or complex geometries
3. Improves manufacturing throughput while saving energy

Complementary Presentation  
on Wed, PM 1:15



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Boulder, Colorado, with a large mountain range in the background. The city is densely packed with buildings, and the mountains are rugged and rocky. The text is overlaid on this image.

# Thank you for listening

# Questions?

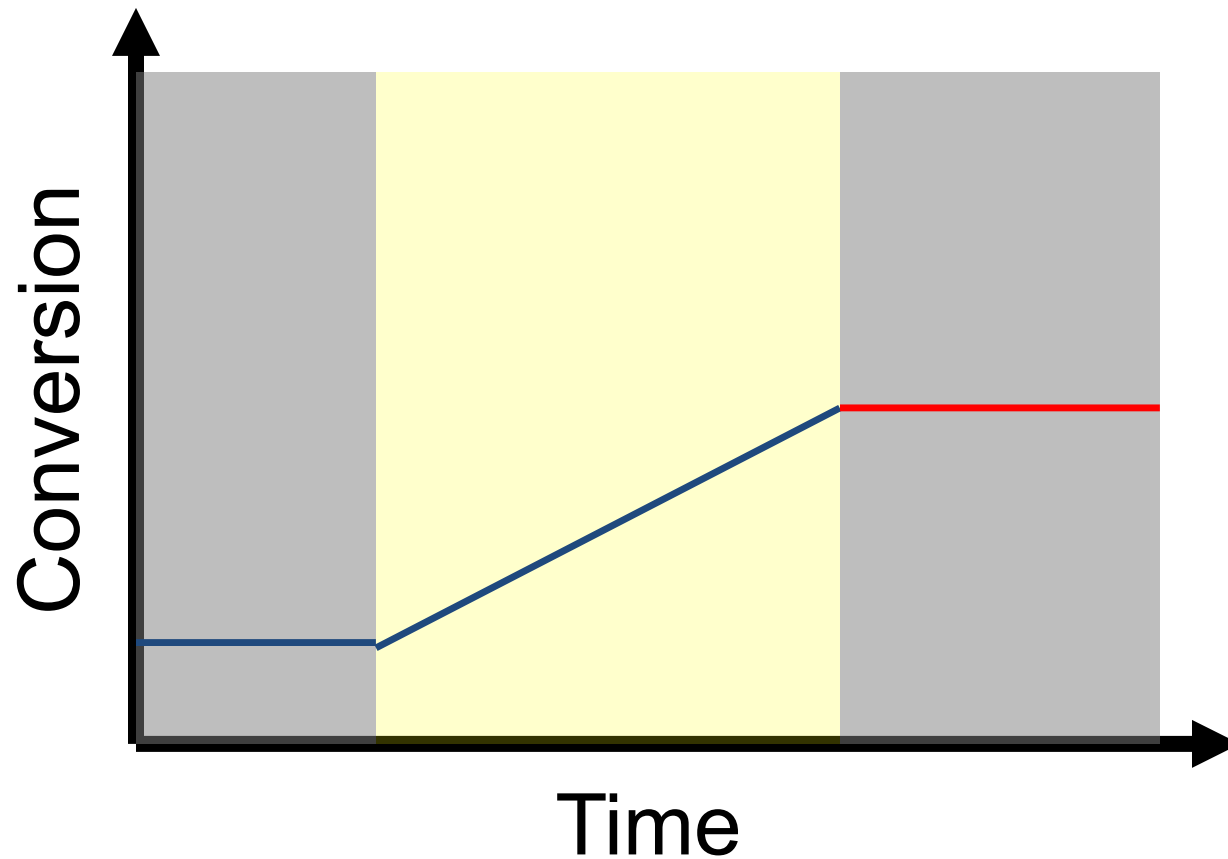
Complementary Presentation  
on Wed, PM 1:15

[Kangmin.Kim@Colorado.Edu](mailto:Kangmin.Kim@Colorado.Edu)





# Dark-curing PI Overcomes Insufficient Exposure



Dark-curing RPI (DCPI)  
Conventional RPI (CTPI)

Thermally Stable  
before Irradiation

Photopolymerization

