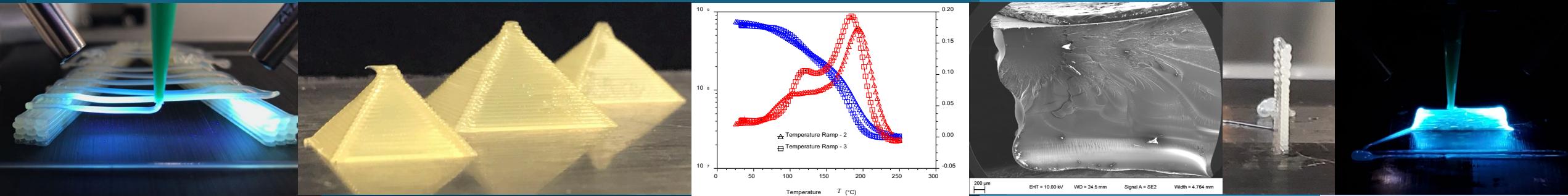


# Application of Photorheology to the Characterization of UV-Curable Resins for DIW AM



PRESENTED BY

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Sam Leguizamon, Jessica Kopatz, Adam Cook

August 25, 2021



Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.



**Thanks to:**

**Sam Leguizamon**

**Nick Monk, Liz Zapien**

**Jess Kopatz**

**Adam Cook, Derek Reinholtz**

Current and former Dept. 1853

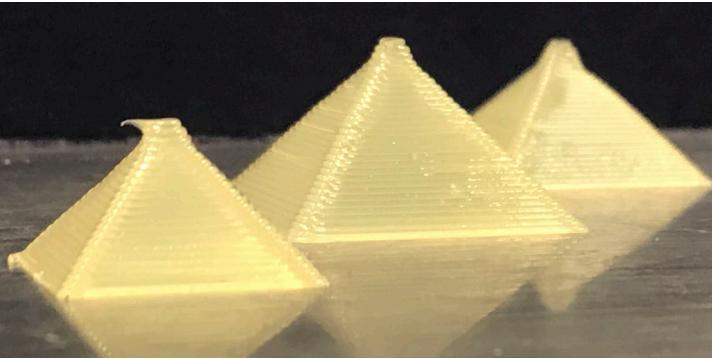
**\$\$\$ NNSA NA-115 Additive Manufacturing  
Development Program**

# SNL DIW Thermosets Research

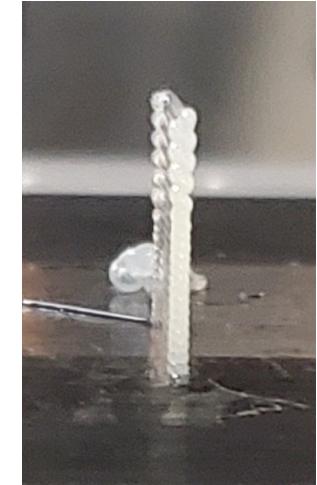
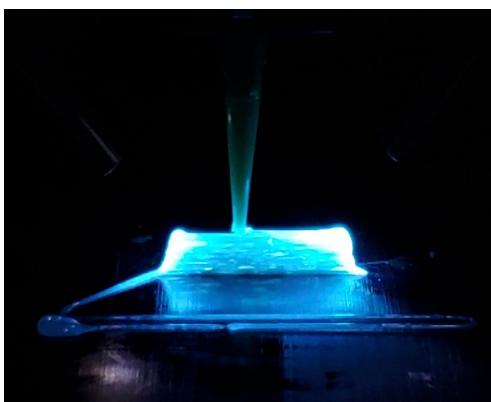


## Development of thermoset resins for DIW

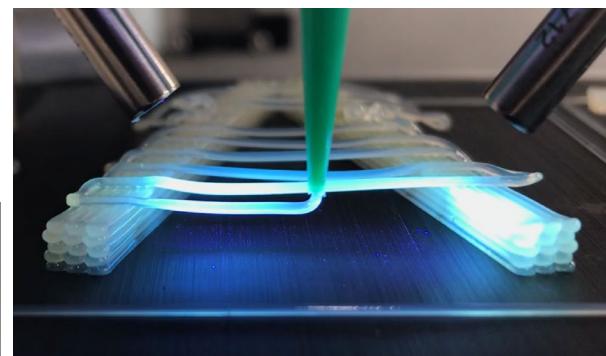
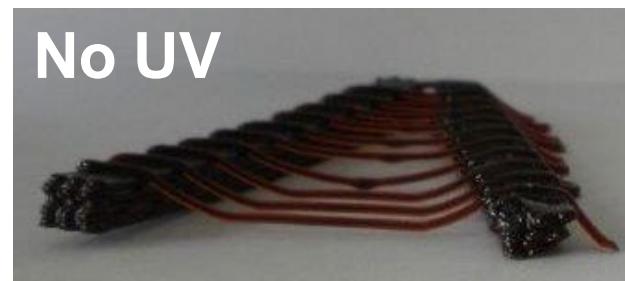
- Develop **thermoset systems** to target specific materials requirements.
- Characterize resin component contribution to physical properties and cure kinetics to enable **design of tunable resin systems**.
- Characterize **DIW-unique factors** that impact network formation, extent of cure, and final properties.
- Develop **printability metrics and optimize print techniques** for varied thermoset systems.



*Printing of acrylate/epoxy UV/thermal dual-cure system*



>10:1 w:h



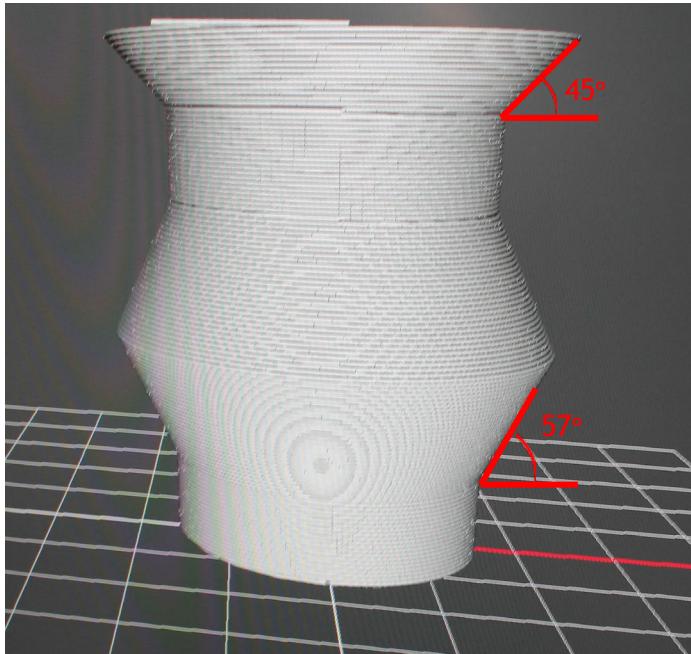
# Application of Photorheology to the Characterization of UV-Curable Resins for DIW AM



OR

## Taking the Fun Out of 3D Printing

Proposed rendering



# Resin Optimization for AM Printing



*Langmuir* **2002**, *18*, 5429–5437

## Colloidal Inks for Directed Assembly of 3-D Periodic Structures

- **Stereolithography (SLA)**
  - Layer-by-layer photopolymerization of flowable liquid resins
- **Fused deposition modelling (FDM)**  
(fused filament fabrication, FFF)
  - Extrusion of thermoplastic filaments
- **Direct ink write (DIW)**
  - Extrusion of an ink or resin
  - Shear-thinning, reactive, or *in situ* cure

James E. Smay,<sup>†,‡</sup> Joseph Cesarano III,<sup>‡</sup> and Jennifer A. Lewis<sup>\*,†</sup>

*Journal of Manufacturing Processes* **35** (2018) 526–537

What makes a material printable? A viscoelastic model for extrusion-based 3D printing of polymers

Chad Duty<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Christine Ajinjeru<sup>a</sup>, Vidya Kishore<sup>a</sup>, Brett Compton<sup>a</sup>, Nadim Hmeidat<sup>a</sup>, Xun Chen<sup>b</sup>, Peng Liu<sup>b</sup>, Ahmed Arabi Hassen<sup>b</sup>, John Lindahl<sup>b</sup>, Vlastimil Kunc<sup>a,b,c</sup>

*International Journal of Mechanical Sciences* **137** (2018) 145–170

Mechanical performance of wall structures in 3D printing processes: Theory, design tools and experiments

A.S.J. Suiker

*Additive Manufacturing* **35** (2020) 101177

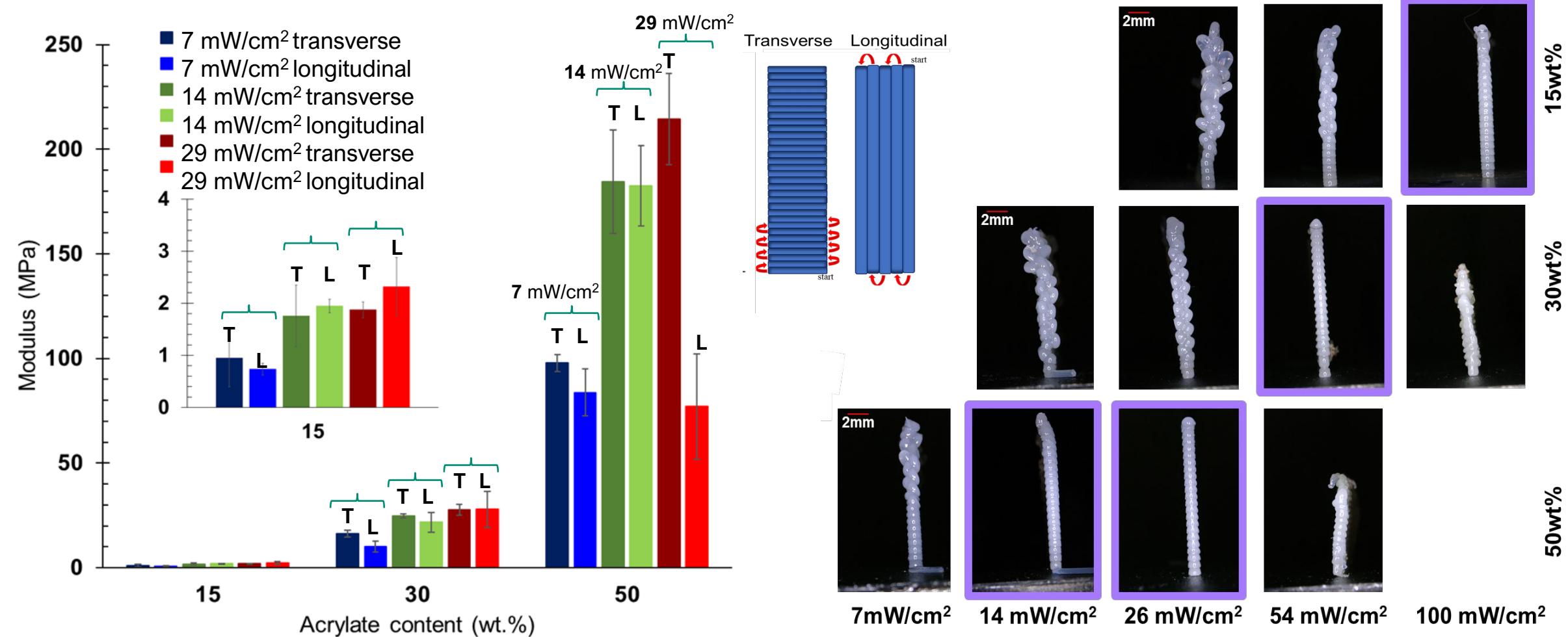
A comprehensive review of the photopolymerization of ceramic resins used in stereolithography

Setareh Zakeri\*, Minnamari Vippola, Erkki Levänen

# Epoxy/Acrylate Dual Cure: Determine Printability by Printing



## UV Print Intensity vs Modulus (Print Cure Only)

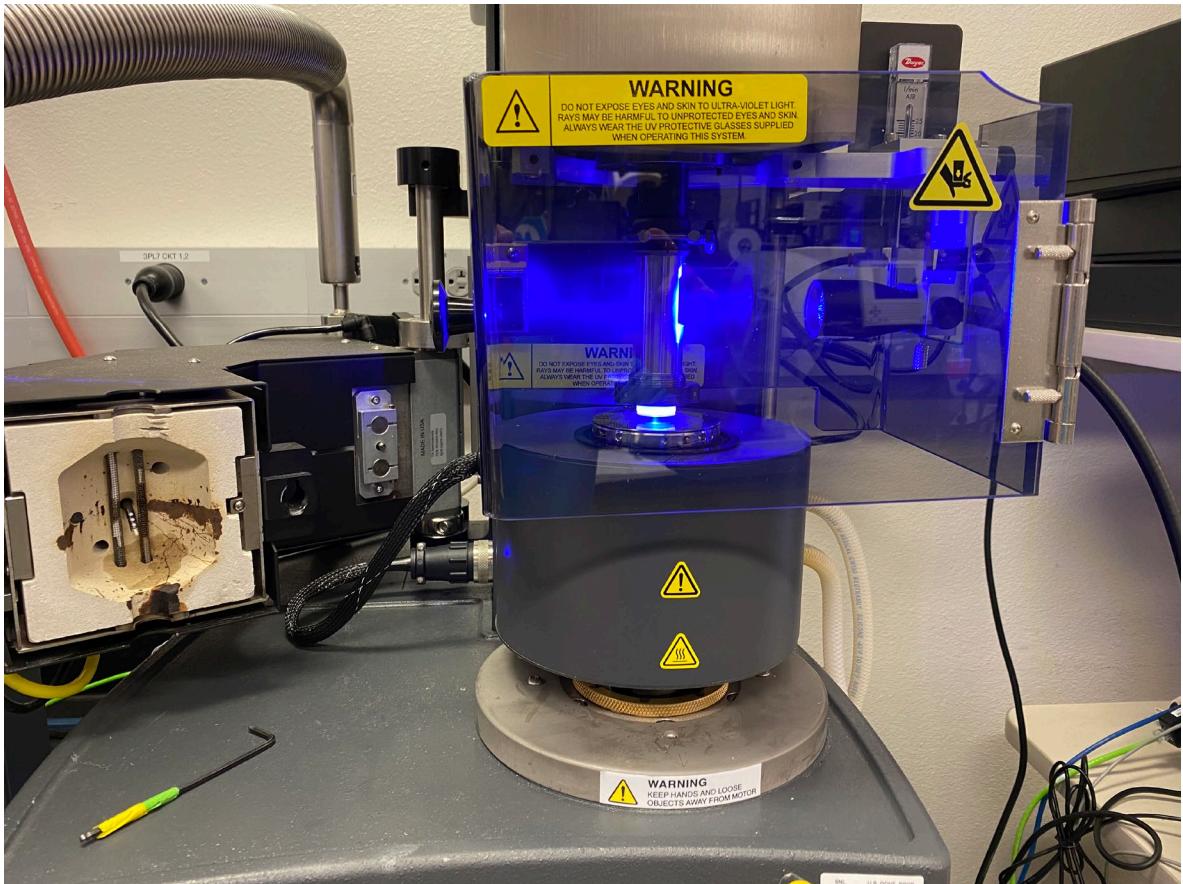
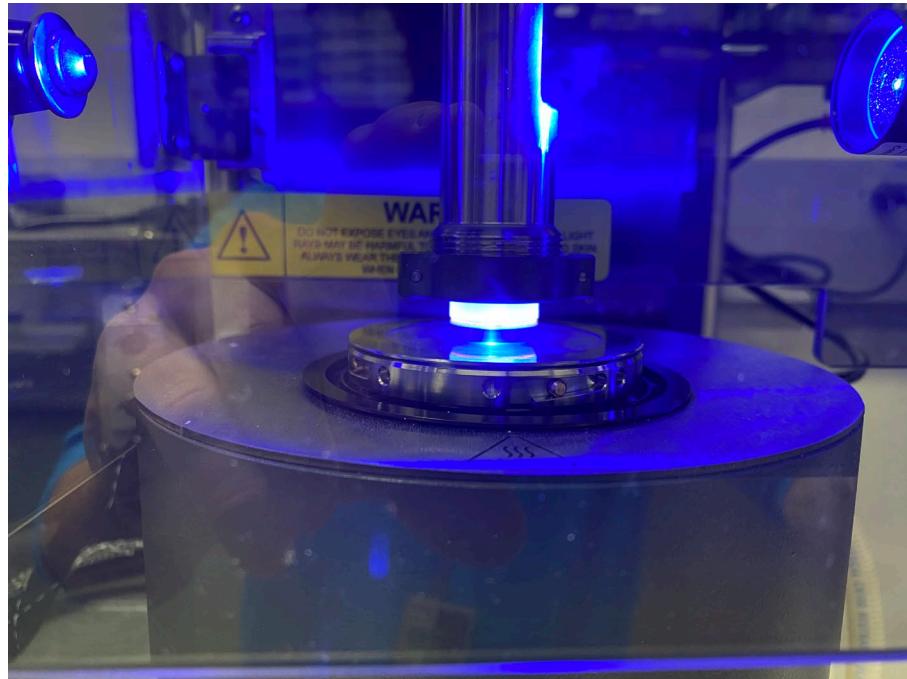


**Acrylate network controls the green strength, print parameters optimized for each formulation.**

# UV Rheology: A “New” Characterization Tool



- Correlate UV exposure profiles and conversion to rheological behavior
- Design printable resins w/o printing\*

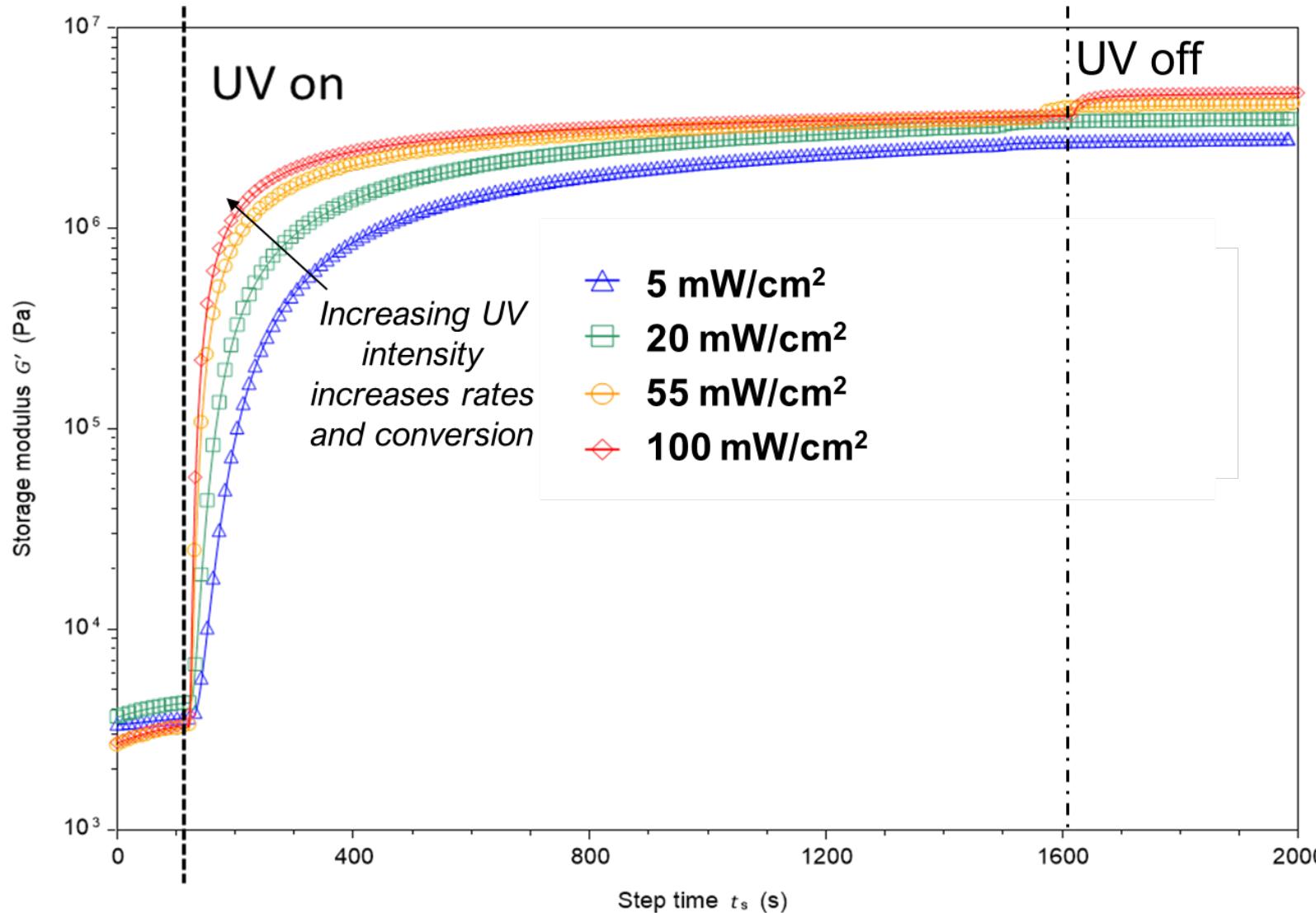


- Peltier oven allows control of lower plate temperature
- 365 nm filter to mimic printing conditions

# UV Rheology: Basic Measurements



Continuous exposures at varying intensity for **15wt% acrylate resin**. Irradiation time = 25 min



**Continuous exposures can be used to:**

**Investigate effects of:**

- Intensity
- Formulation
- Fillers

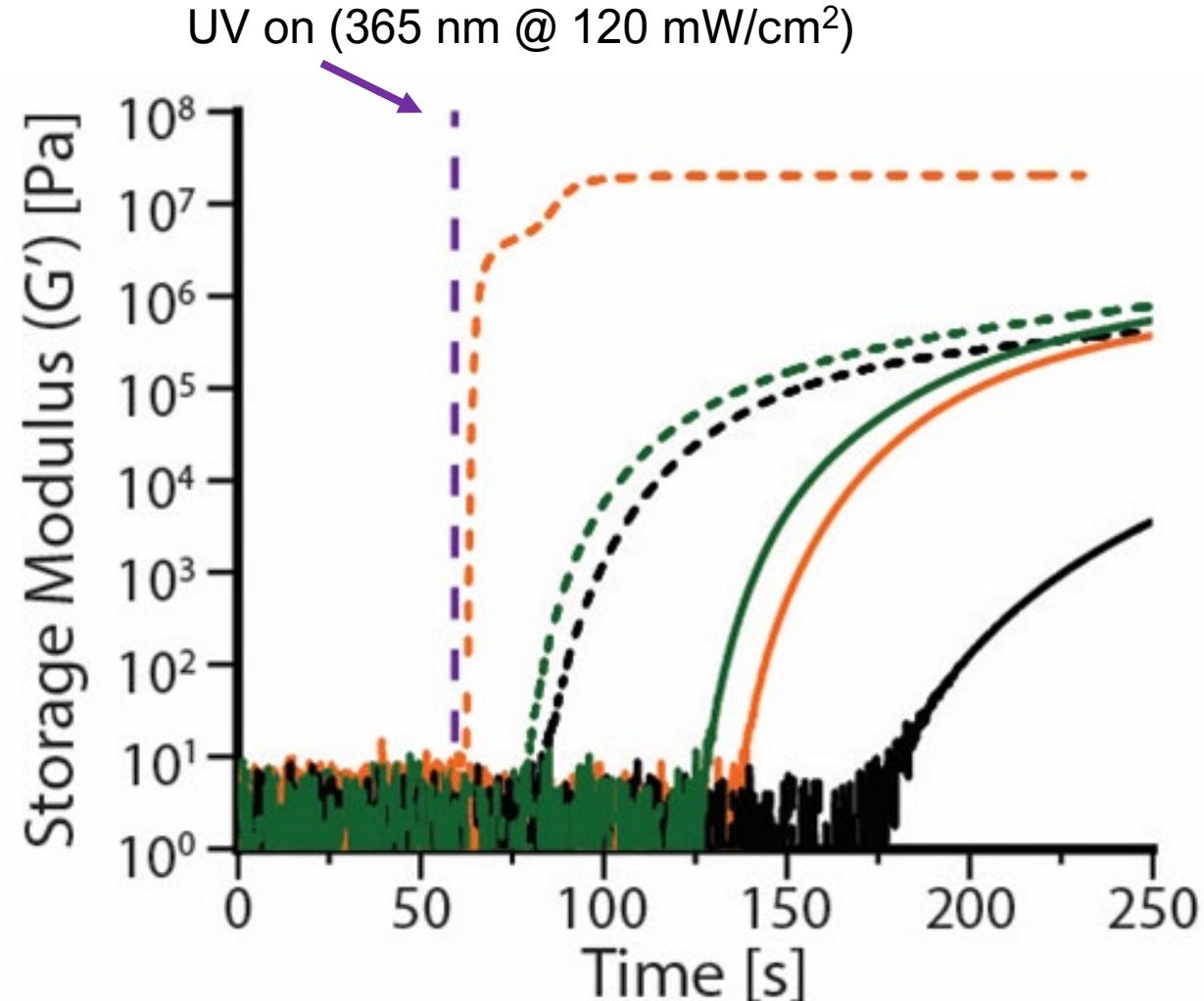
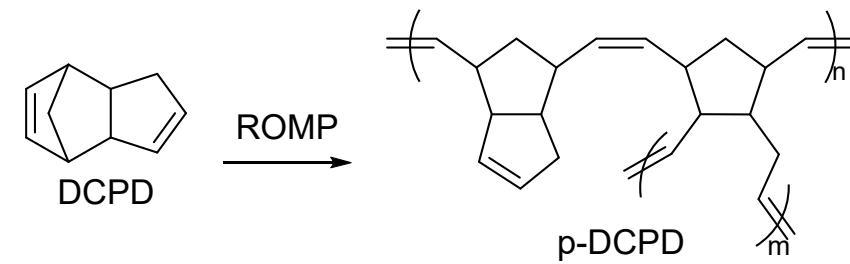
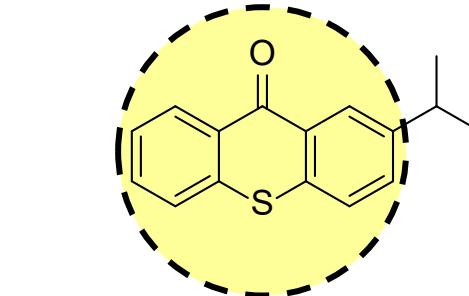
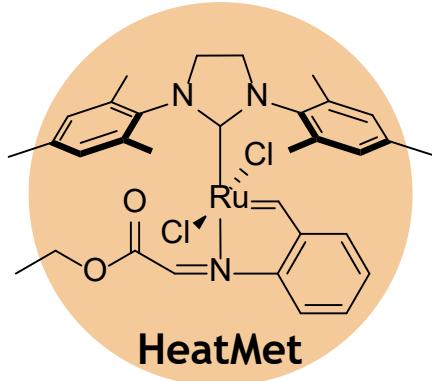
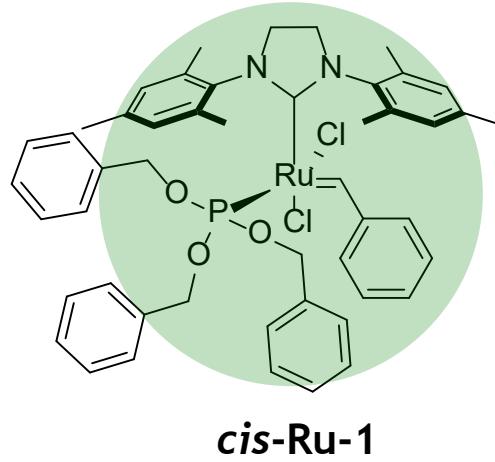
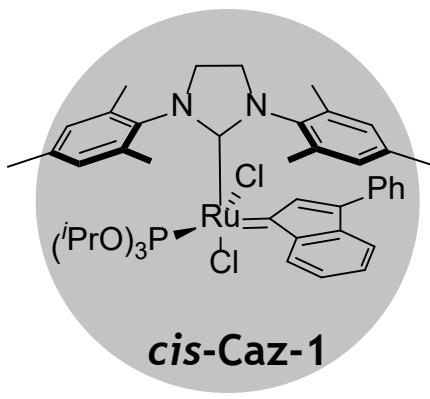
**On:**

- Reaction rates
- Gel point/modulus crossover
- Plateau moduli
- $t = x$  moduli

# UV Rheology Applied: Photo-ROMP AM



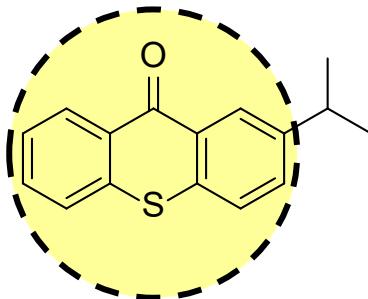
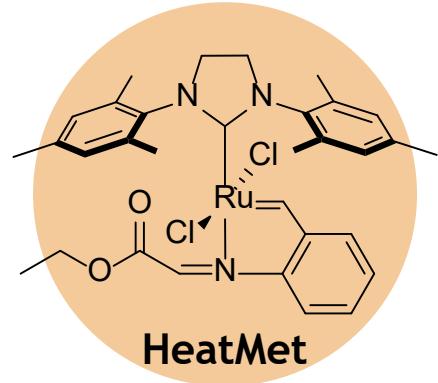
Used UV rheology to easily investigate photopolymerization reaction rates with minimal catalyst/resin.



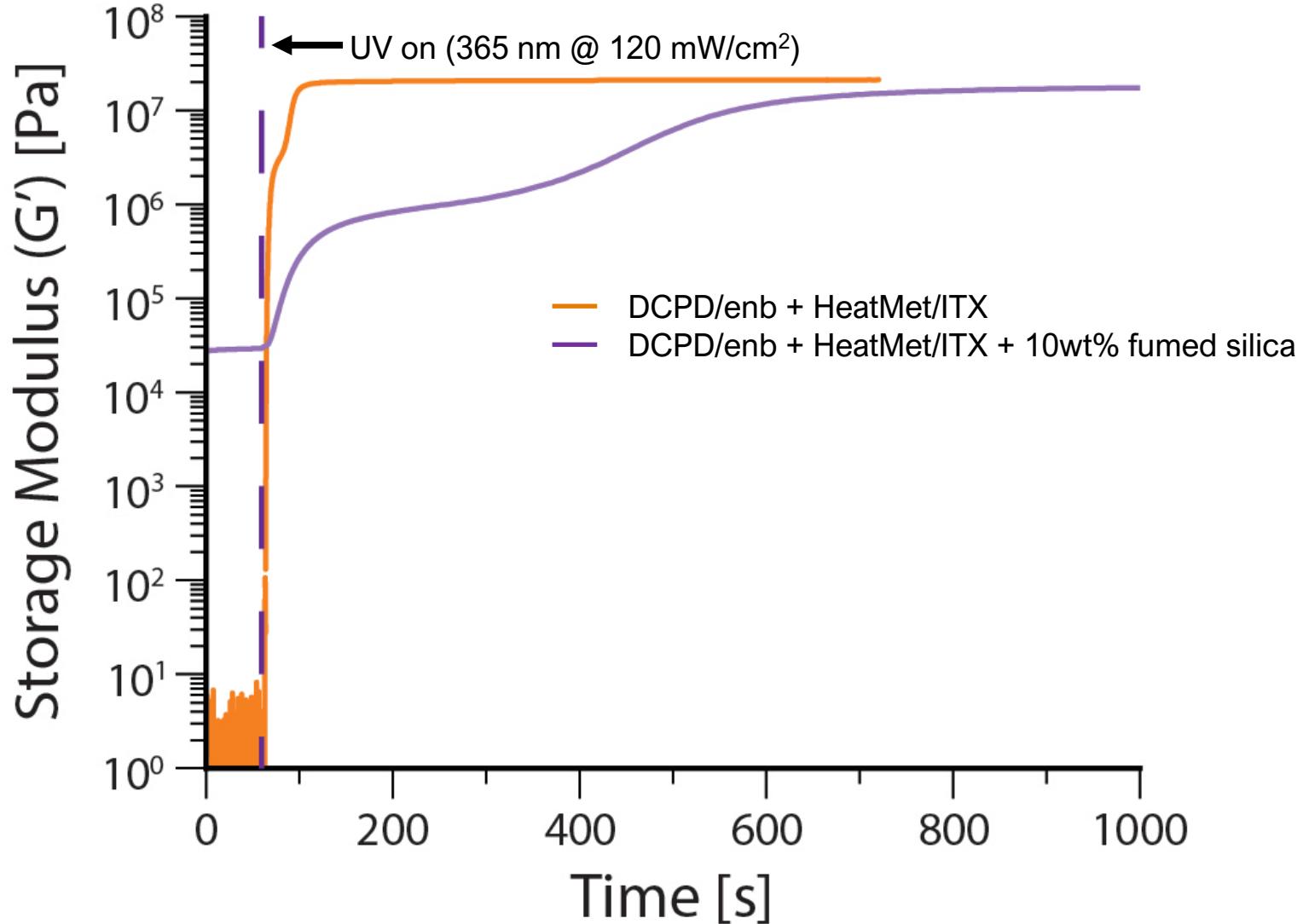
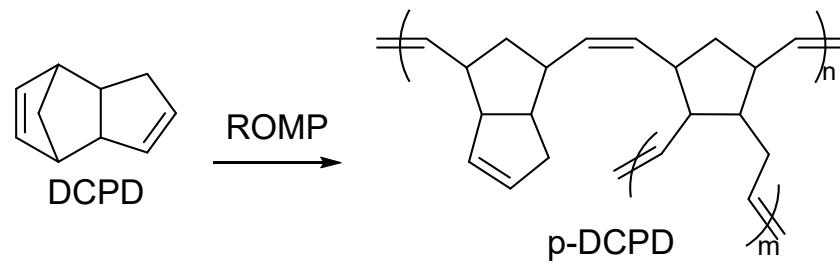
# UV Rheology Applied: Photo-ROMP AM



Investigate the effect of silica (rheology modifier) on photopolymerization rates and modulus evolution.



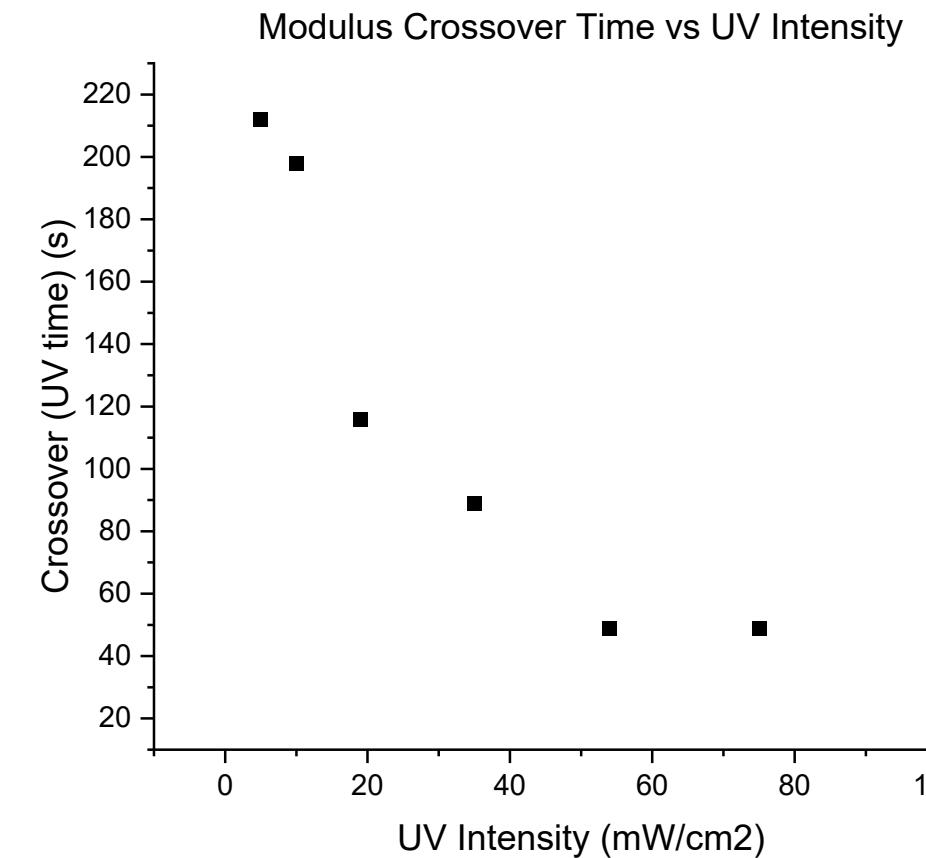
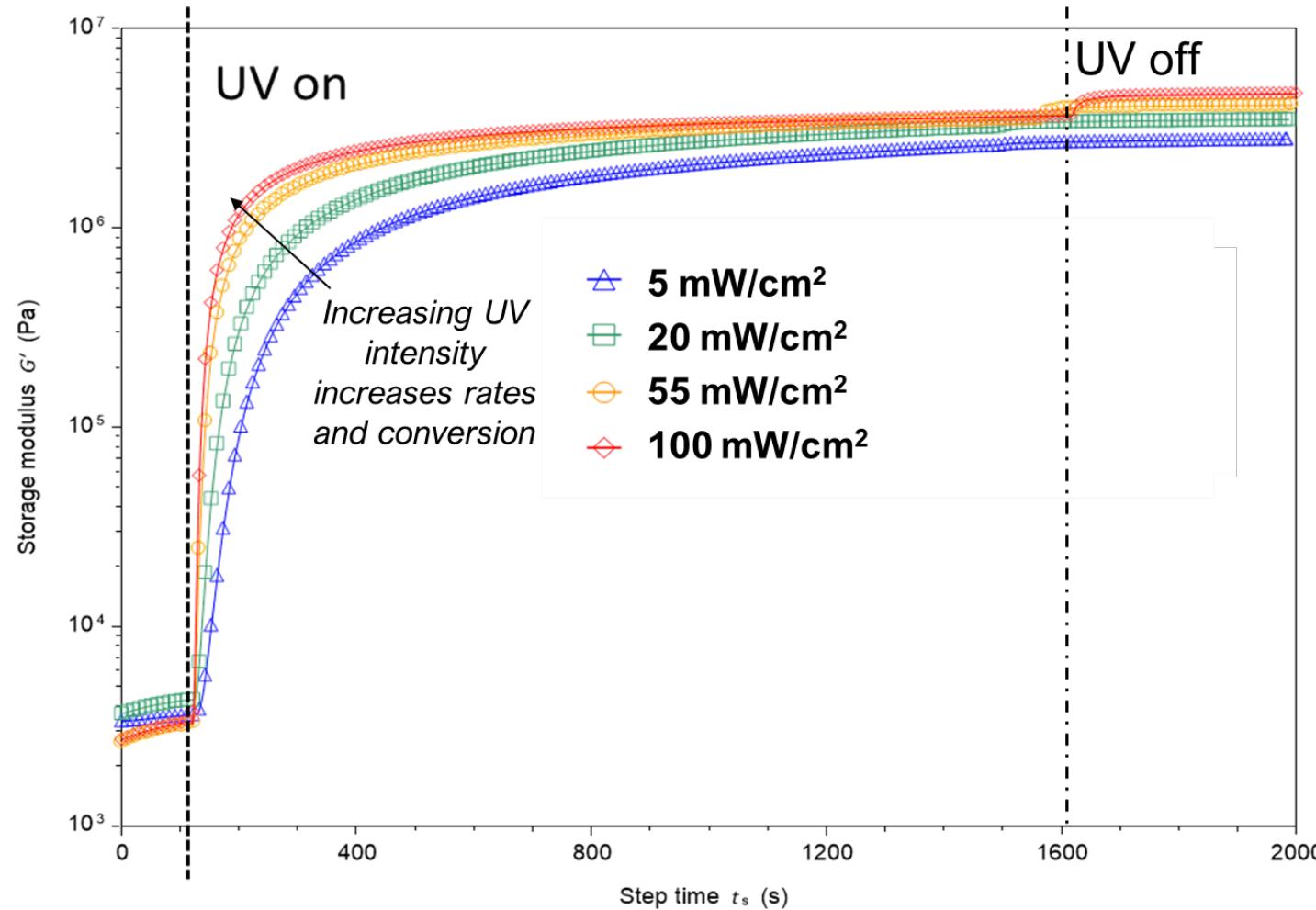
2-isopropylthioxanthone (ITX)



# UV Rheology: Basic Measurements



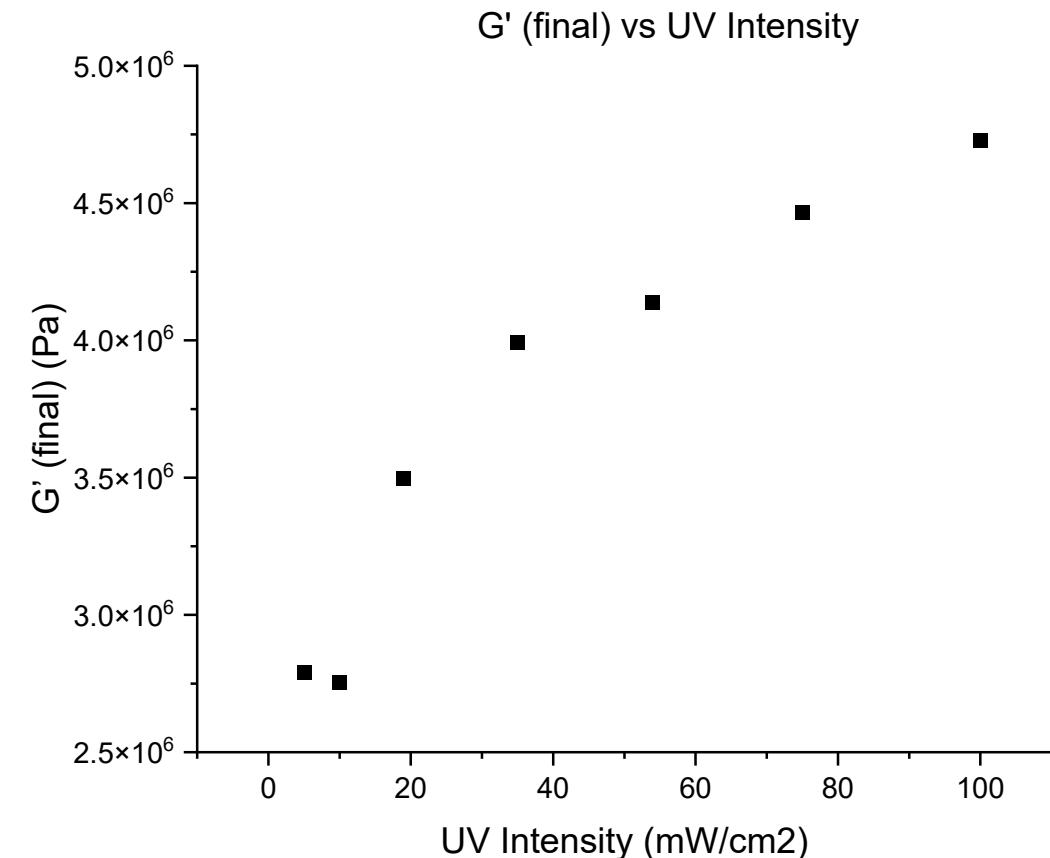
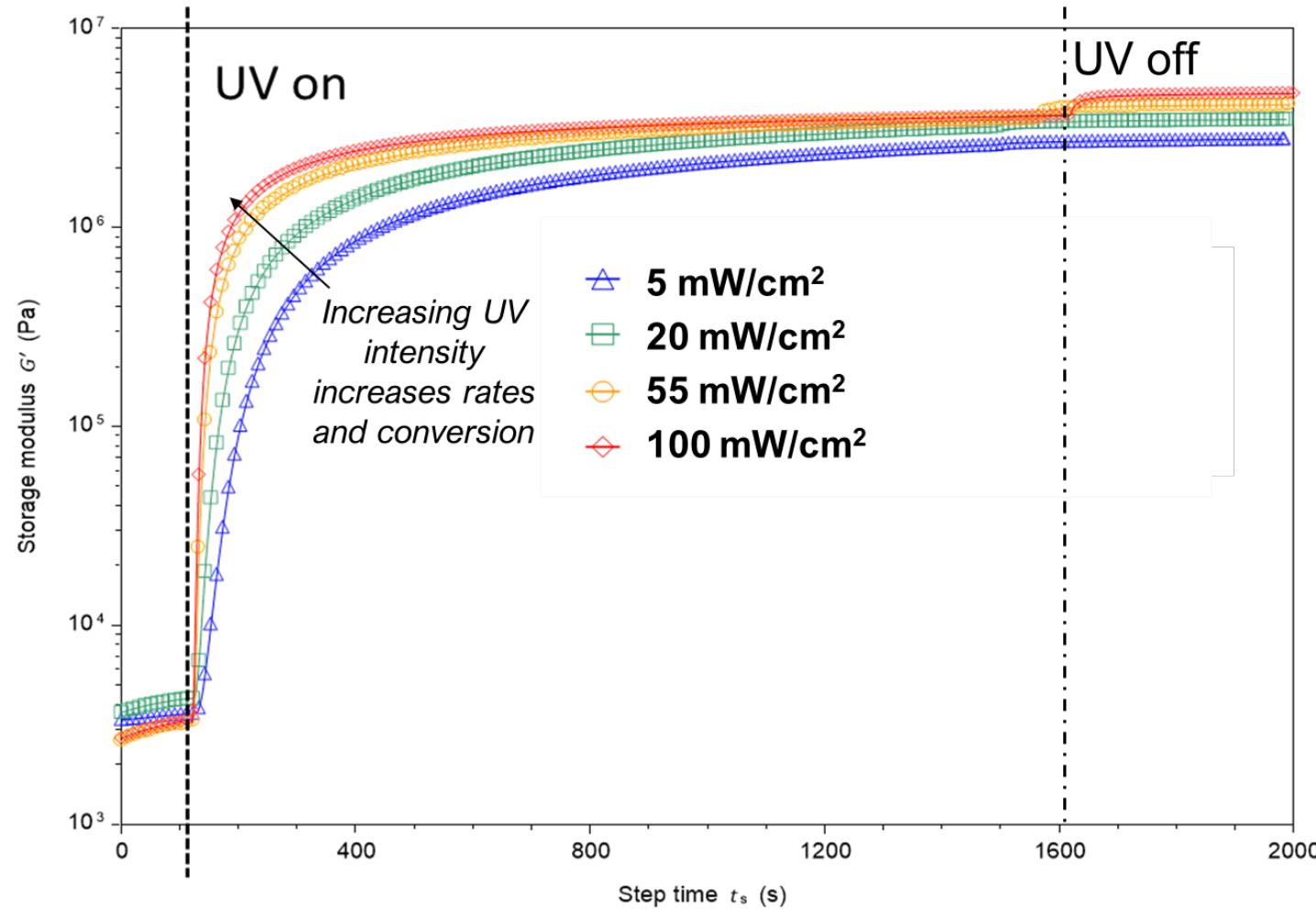
Continuous exposures at varying intensity for **15wt% acrylate resin**. Irradiation time = 25 min



# UV Rheology: Basic Measurements



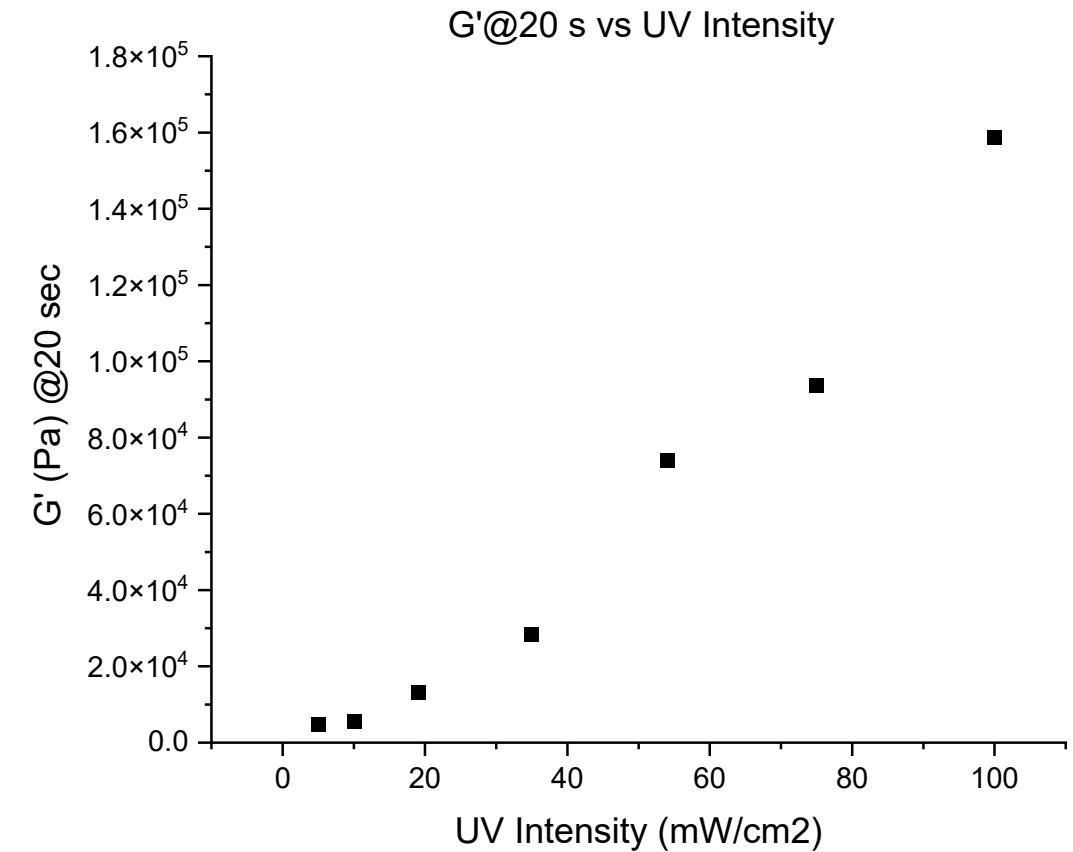
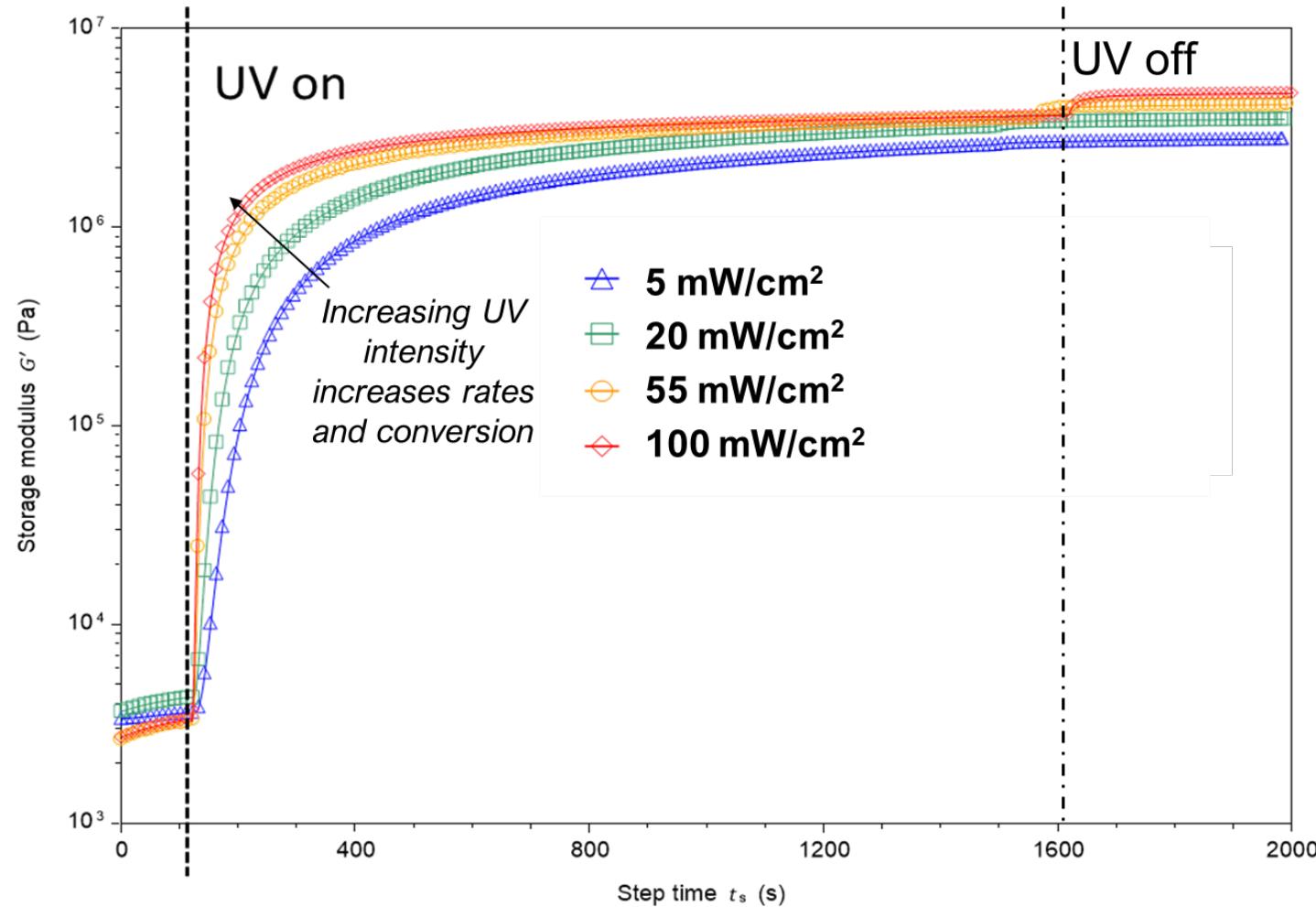
Continuous exposures at varying intensity for **15wt% acrylate resin**. Irradiation time = 25 min



# UV Rheology: Basic Measurements



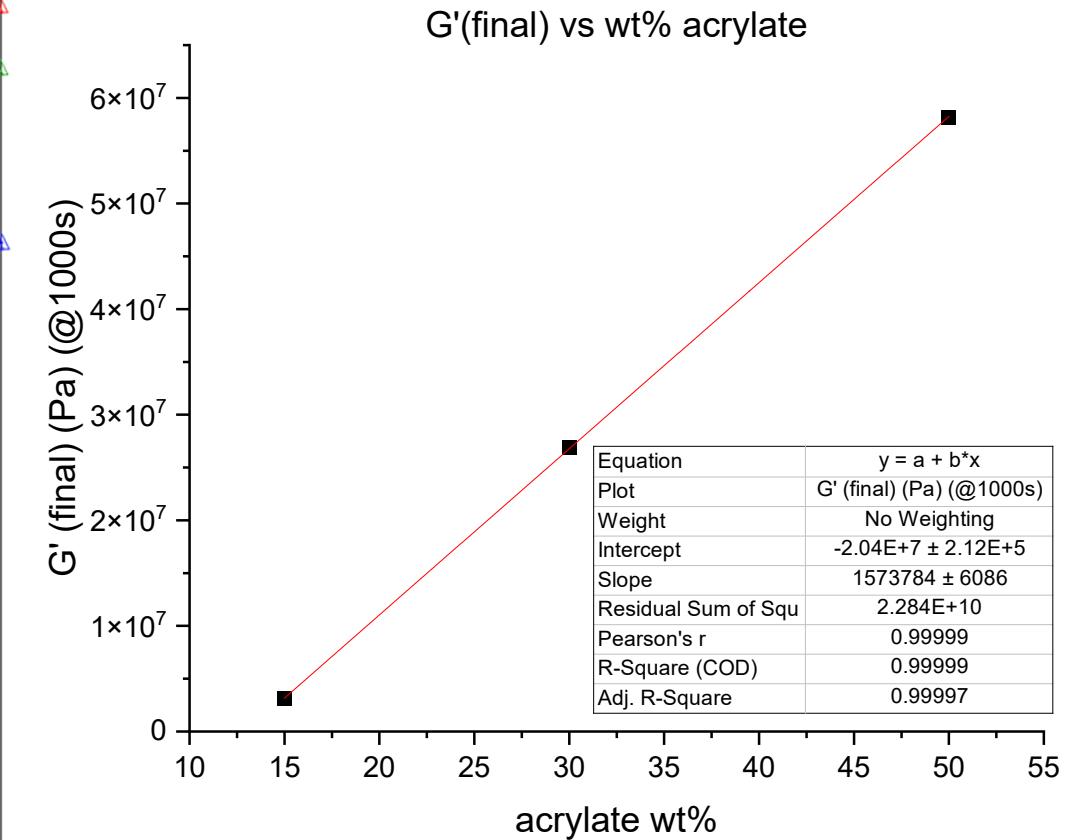
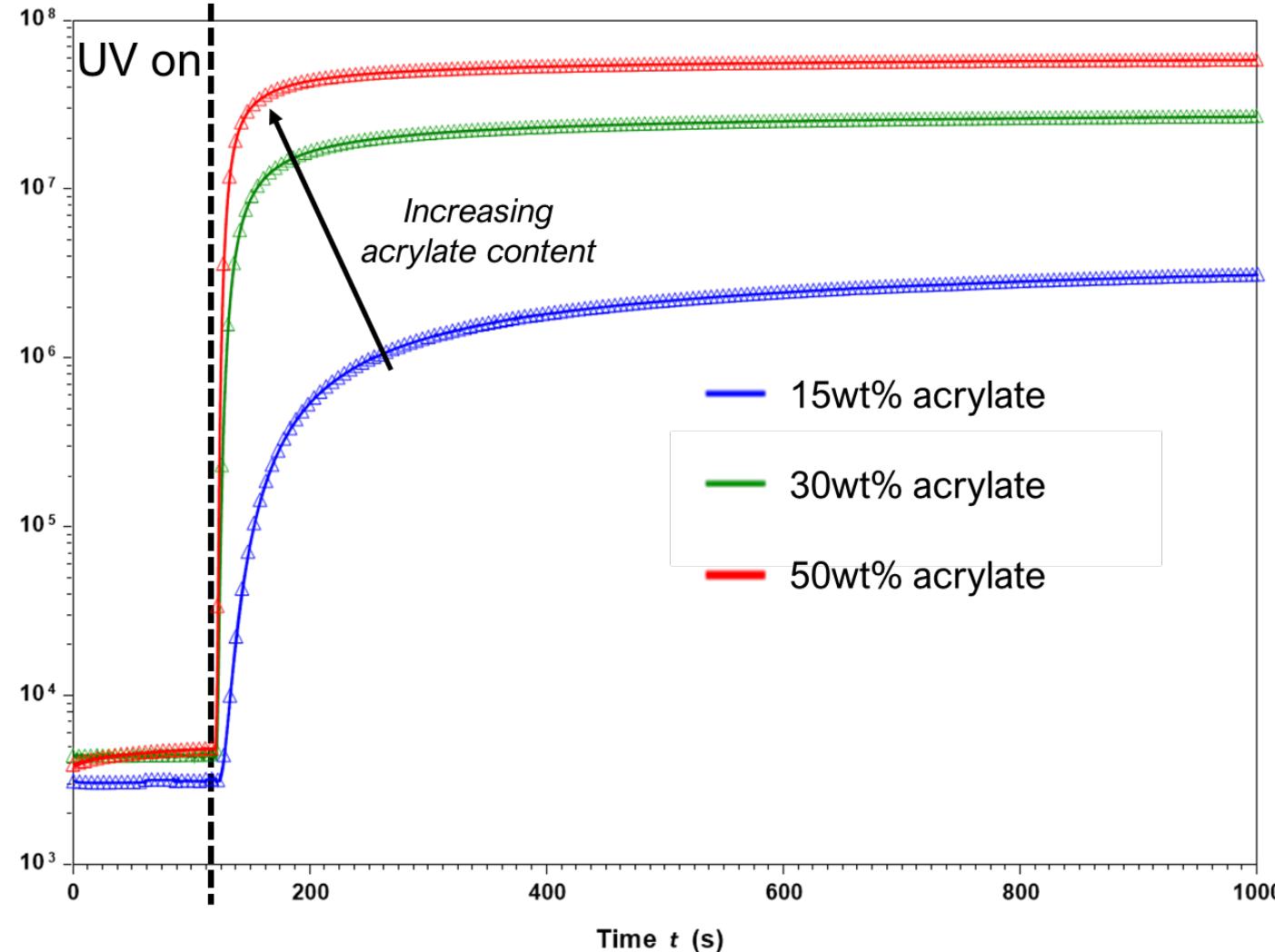
Continuous exposures at varying intensity for **15wt% acrylate resin**. Irradiation time = 25 min



# UV Rheology: Basic Measurements



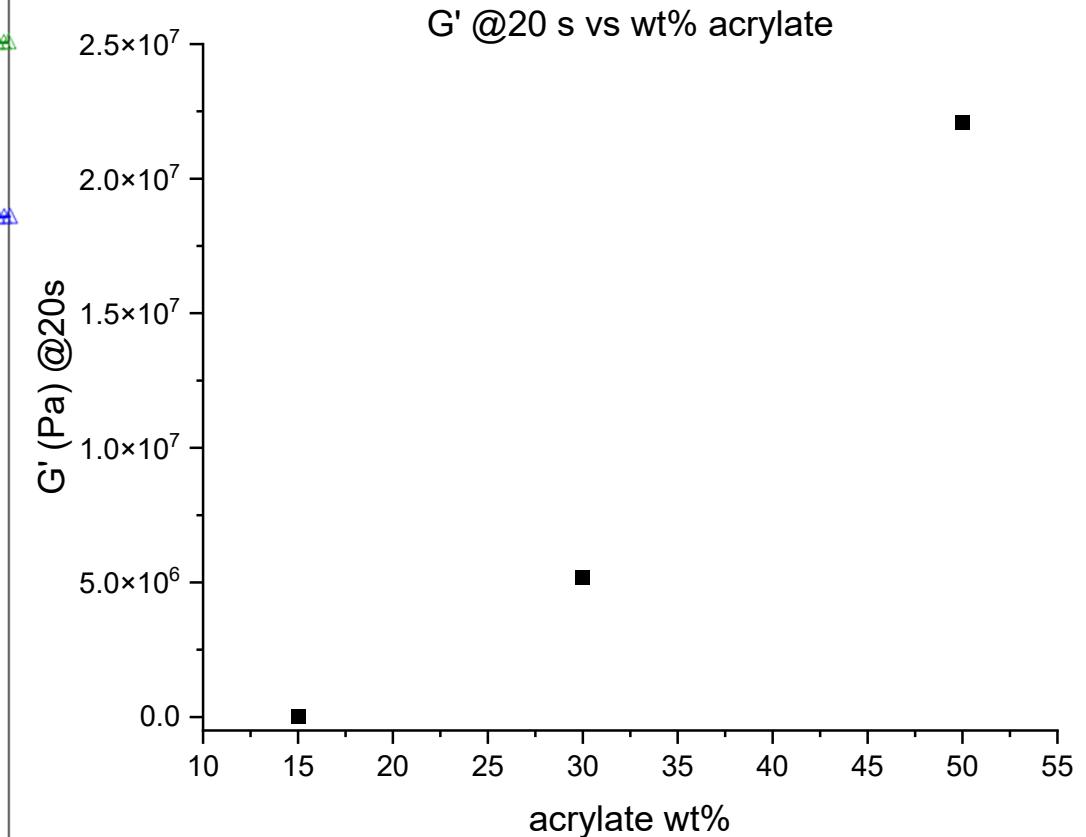
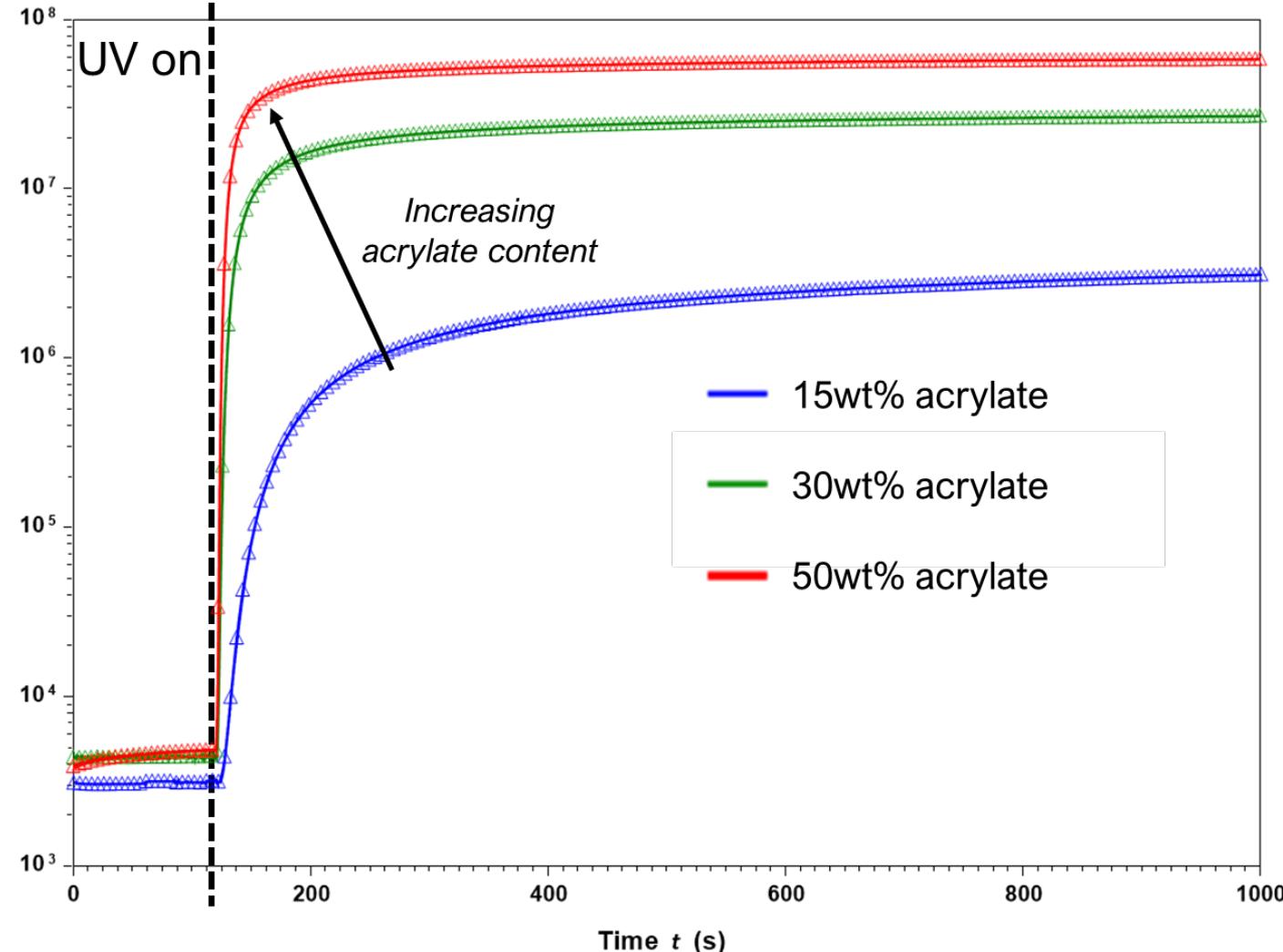
Continuous exposures at **35 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>** for different acrylate wt% resins.



# UV Rheology: Basic Measurements



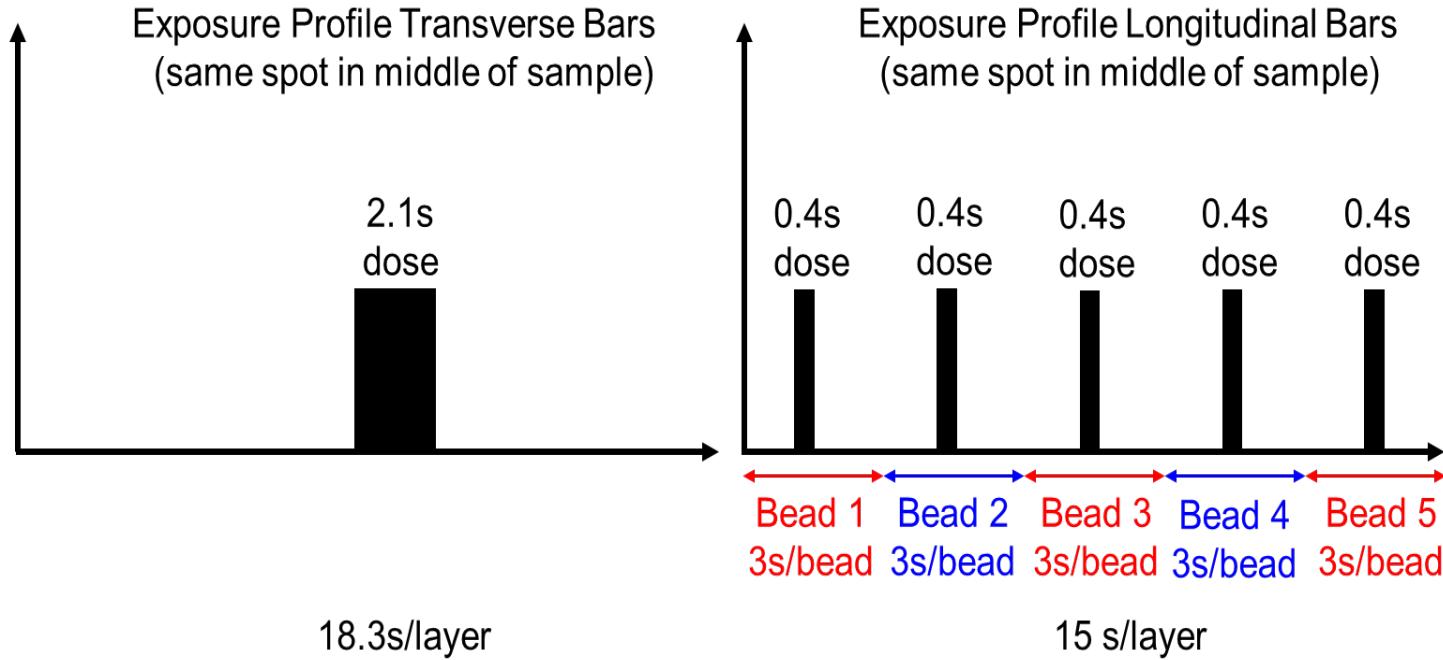
Continuous exposures at 35 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> for different acrylate wt% resins.



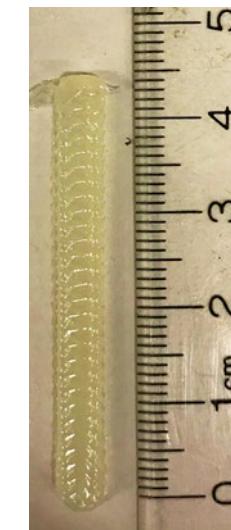
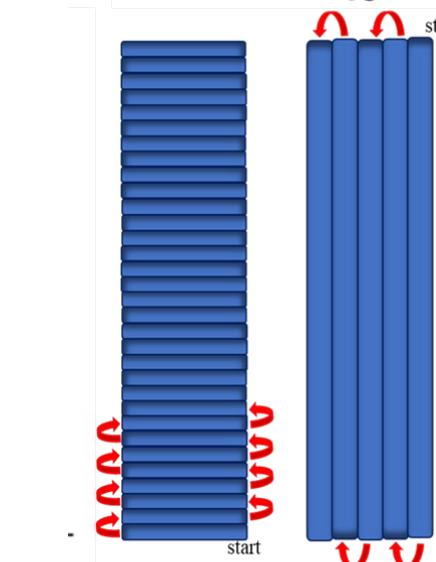
# UV Rheology: Pulsed exposures



Print path determines exposure profile.



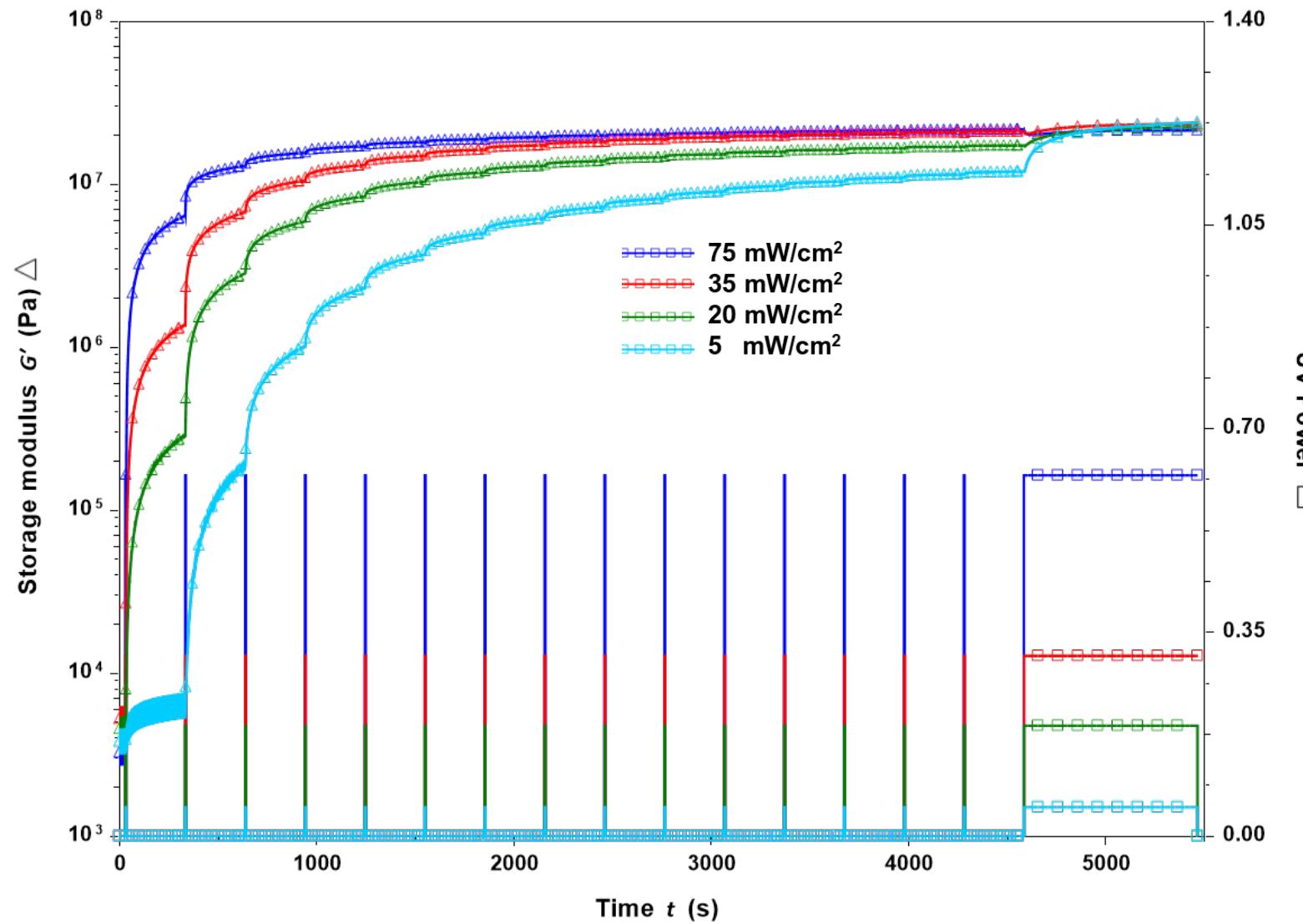
Transverse      Longitudinal



# UV Rheology: Pulsed exposures



Pulsed exposures at varying intensity for 30 acrylate wt% resin.



**Pulsed exposures can be used to mimic print conditions.**

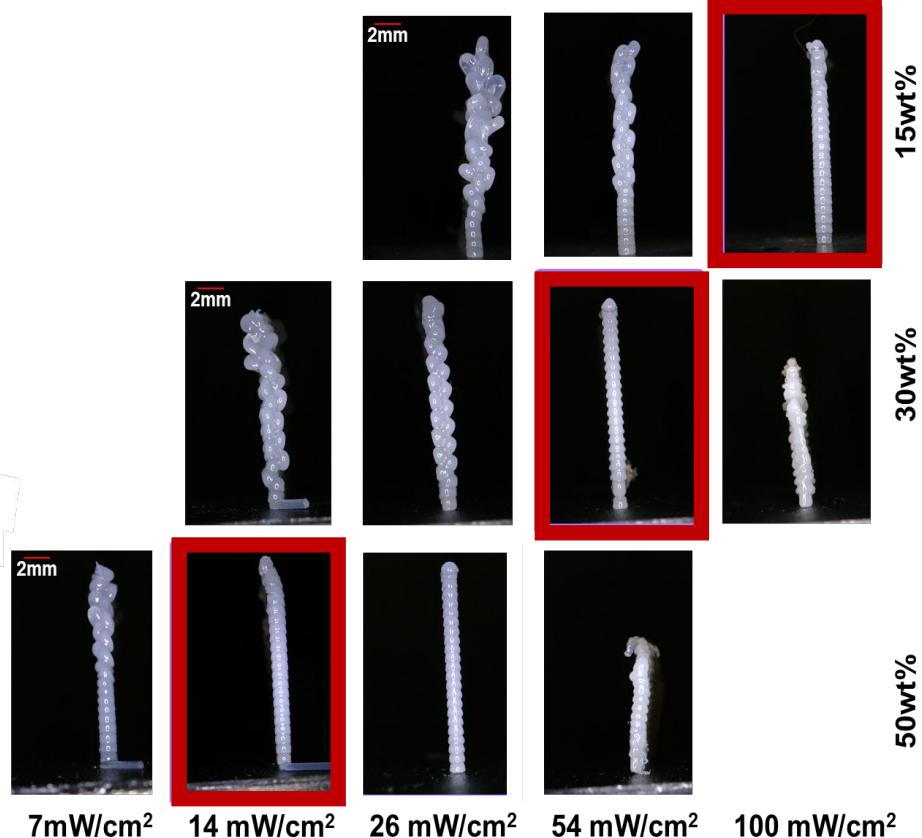
**Investigate effects of:**

- Dark cure
- Exposure times
- Exposure profiles

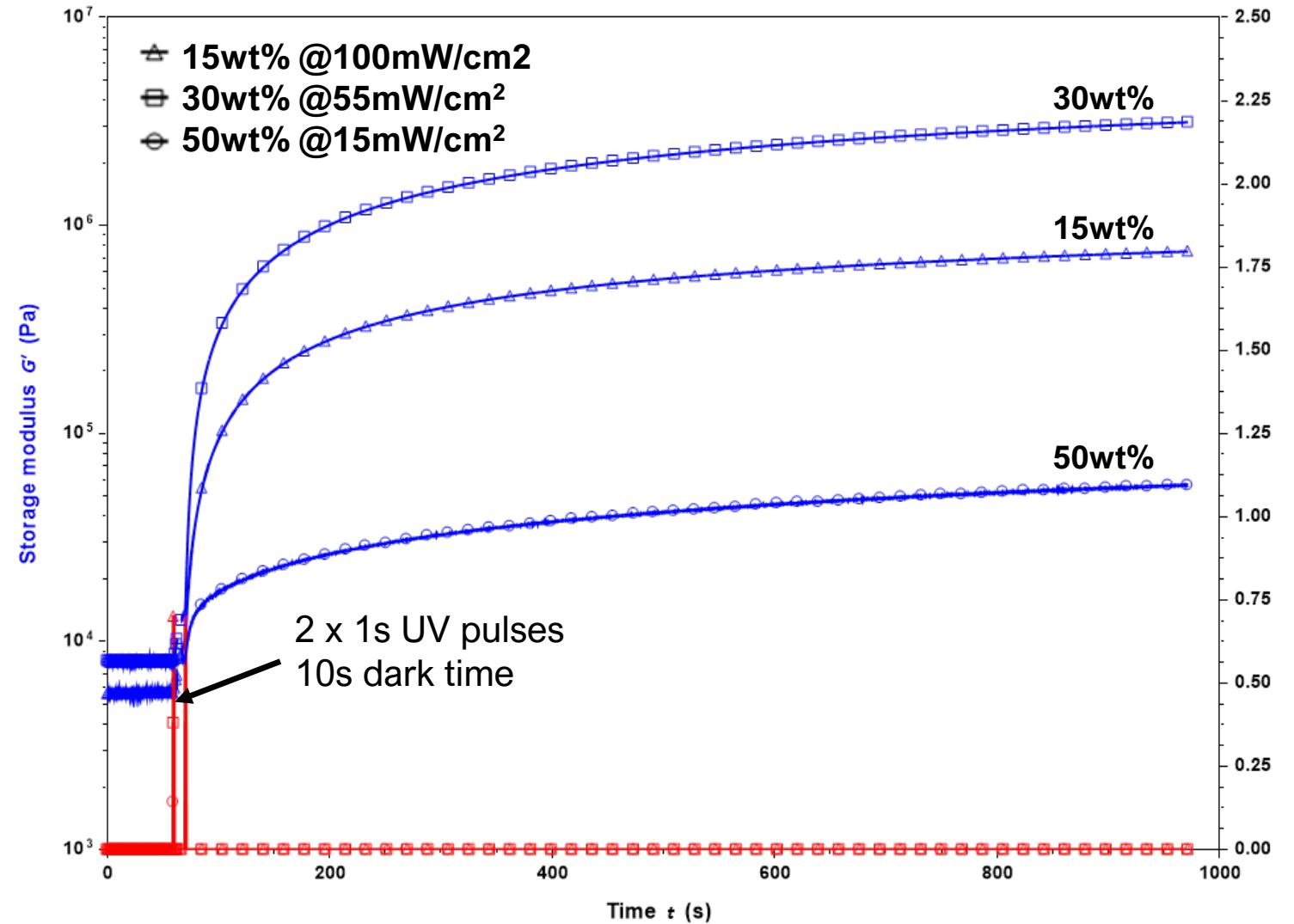
**On:**

- Gel point
- Plateau moduli
- $t = x$  moduli

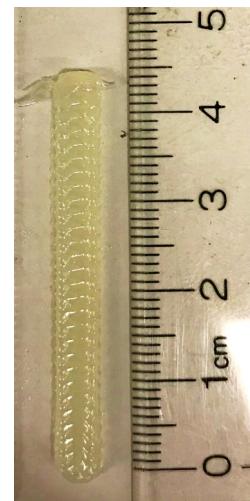
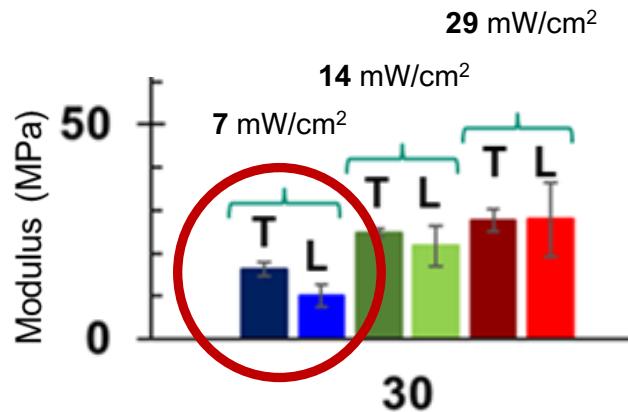
# UV Rheology: Can pulsed exposures predict printability?



2 x 1s pulsed exposures (walls), then continuous exposure

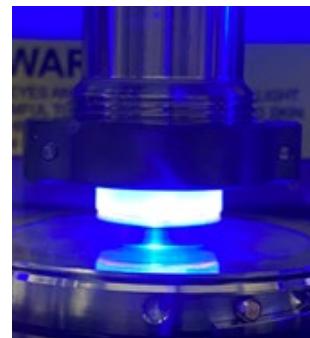
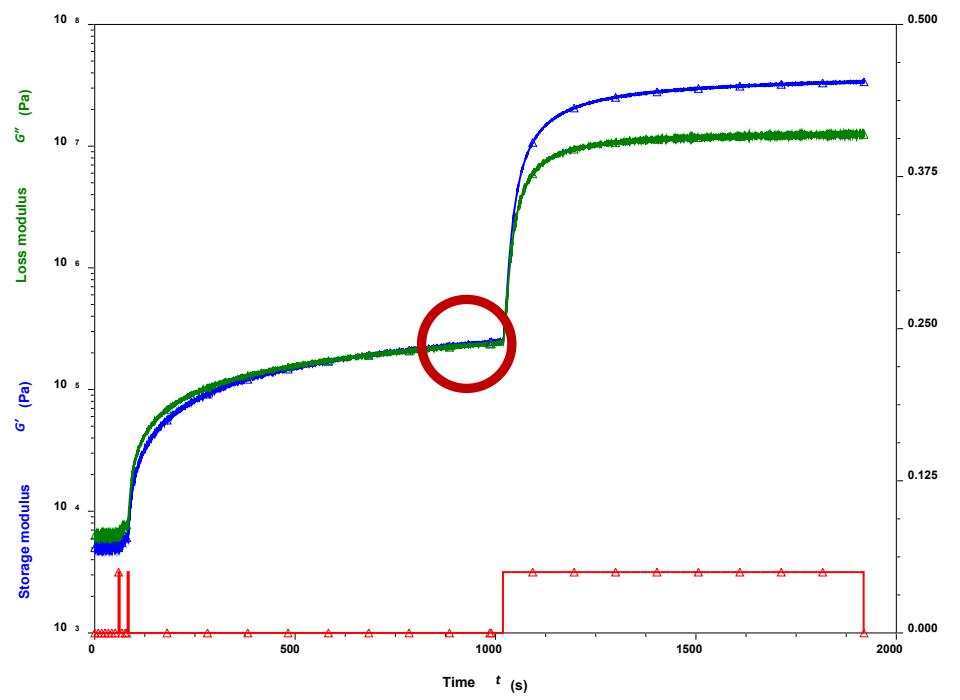


# Where predictions fall short: Modulus prediction



$G'$  for UV rheo vs printed bars  
**5 mW/cm²** for varying acrylate wt%

wt% acrylate	$G'$ (plateau) (UV rheo)	$G'$ (plateau) (printed)
15	0.03	0.16
30	0.22	25.2
50	1.15	125.9



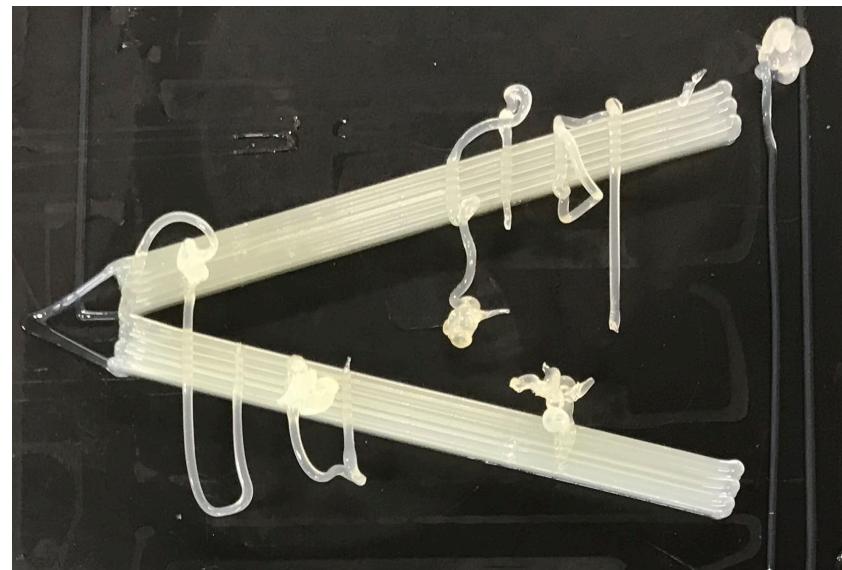
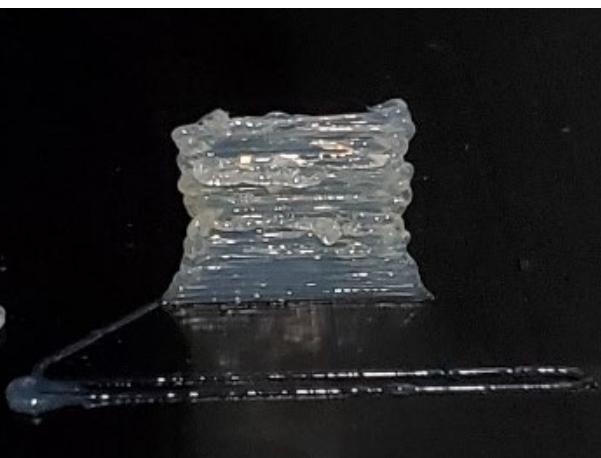
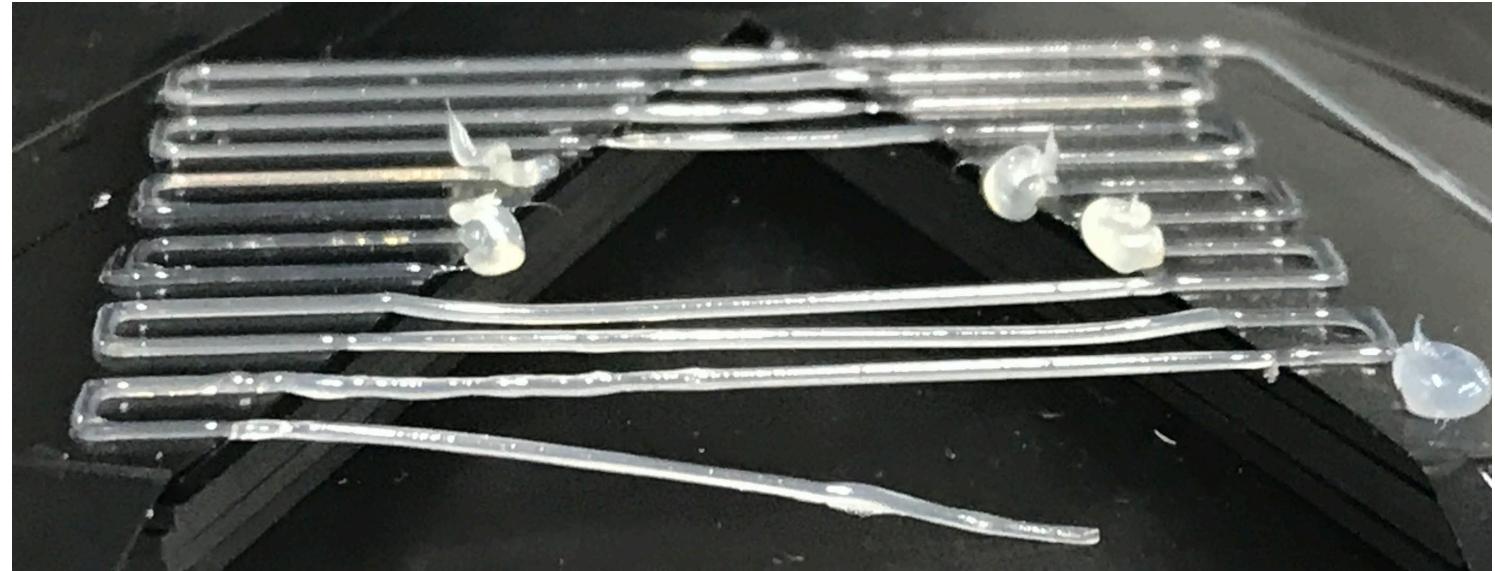
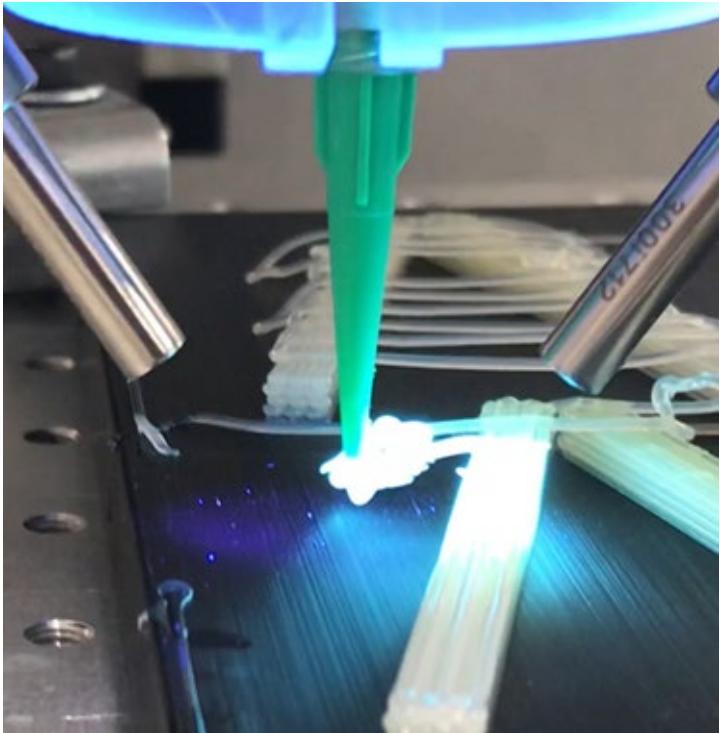
$G'$  for UV rheo vs printed bars **15wt% acrylate**  
varying intensity

Intensity (mW/cm²)	$G'$ (plateau) (UV rheo)	$G'$ (plateau) (printed)
5/7	0.03	0.16
20/26	0.81	2.74
75/NA	2.57	-

# Where predictions fall short: Interlayer adhesion



## Where predictions fall short: Clogging/cure effects on extrusion

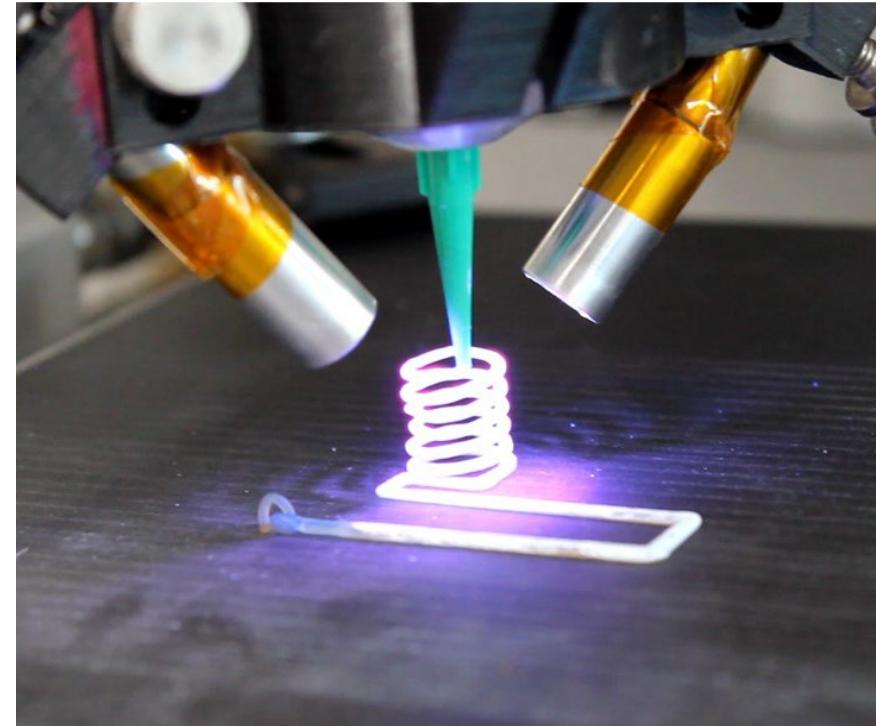


**Successes:**

- Downselect resin formulations based on photokinetics
- Interrogate effects of formulations, UV intensity, UV dose, and exposure profiles (pulse length/dark times)

**Needs future work:**

- Correlation between photorheology measurements and printed properties is not 1:1
- Translate models for thermoplastics, inert thermosets, and reactive resins to photocatalyzed dual-cure resins
- Topology optimization-like predictive print design



DCPD Photo-skywriting

# Supplementary Slides



# Sandia's UV-assisted Direct-Ink Write Capability



Adam Cook/Derek Reinholtz

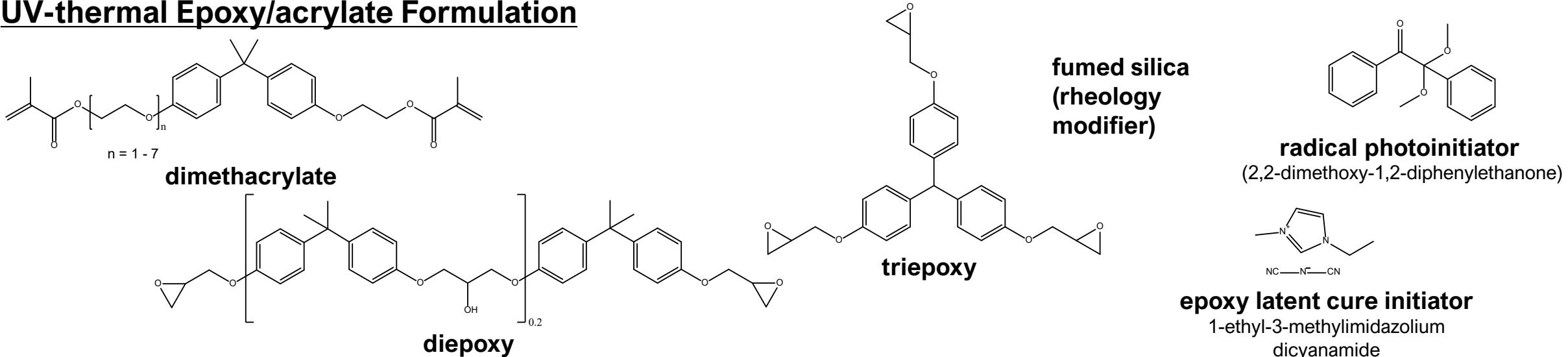
- **LED spot-curing system, 365 nm**
- **Controllable UV intensity (max  $\sim$ 450 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>)**
- **Print nozzle diameter from 0.15-1.55 mm**
- **Table speed 0.01 mm/s to  $\sim$ 60mm/s**
- **Print dimensions 300x300x200 mm**
- **Constant volume extrusion**



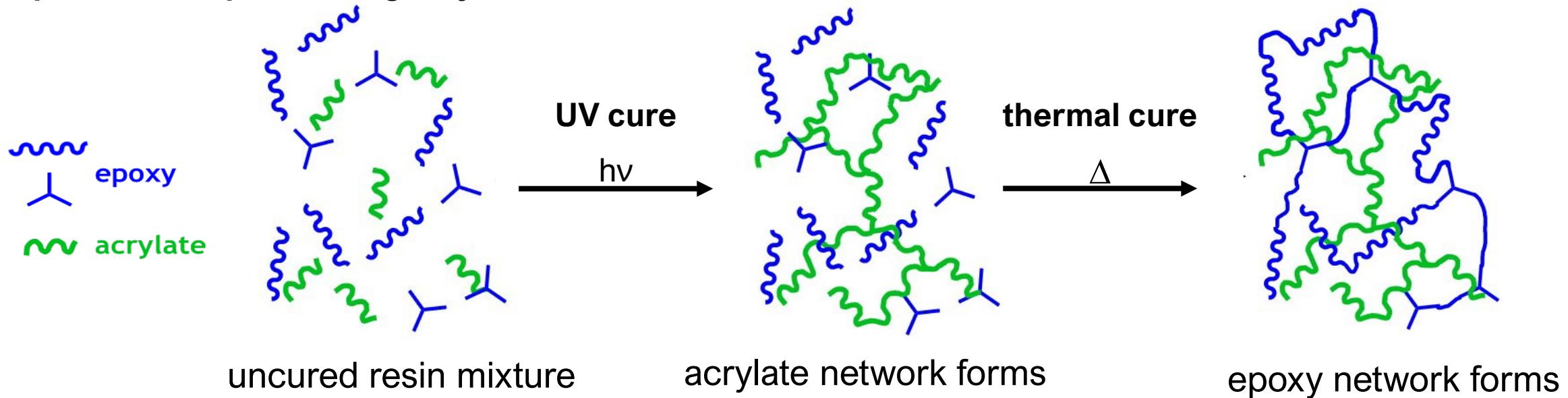
# UV-Thermal Dual Cure Resin Formulation



## UV-thermal Epoxy/acrylate Formulation



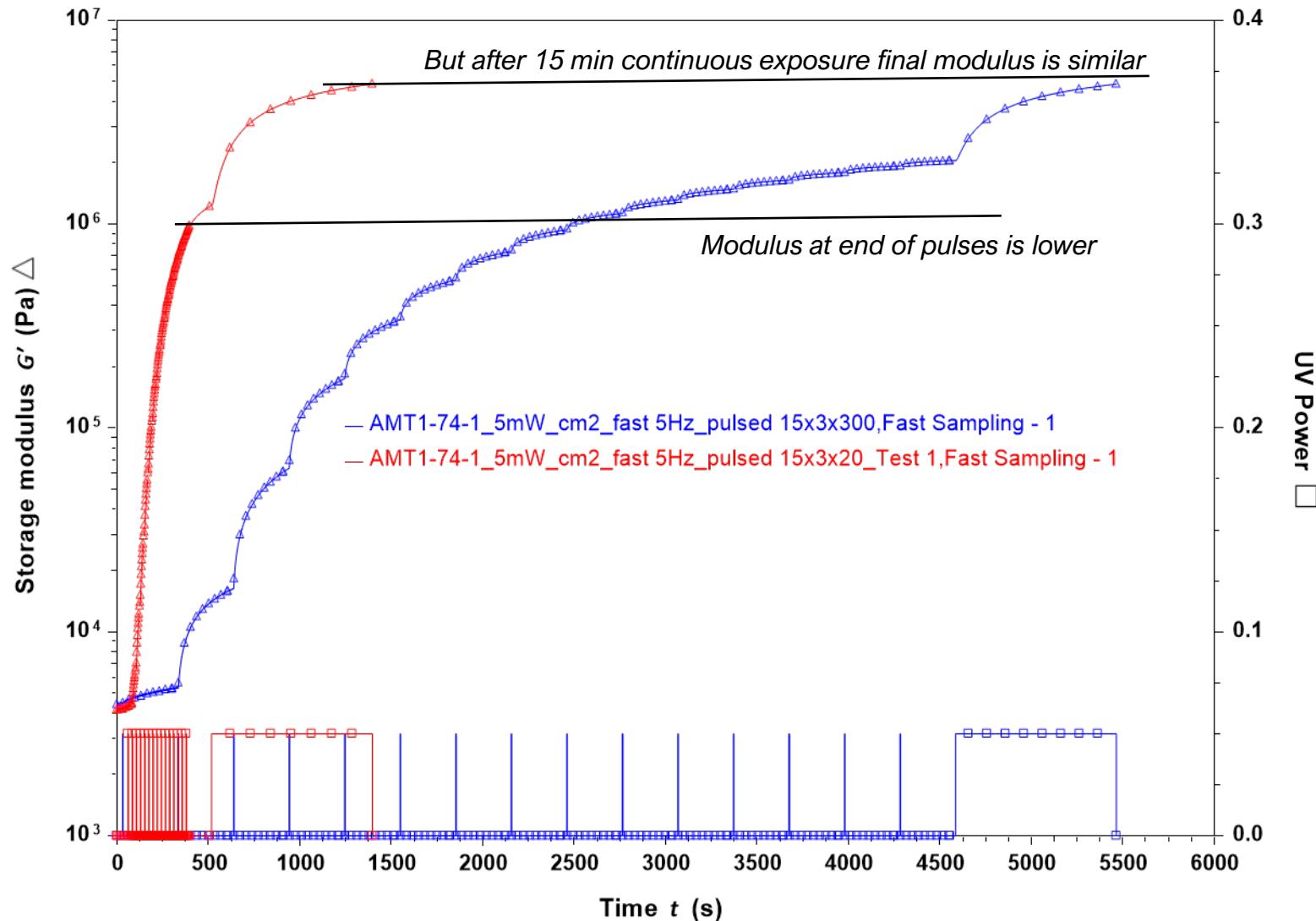
## Sequential Interpenetrating Polymer Network



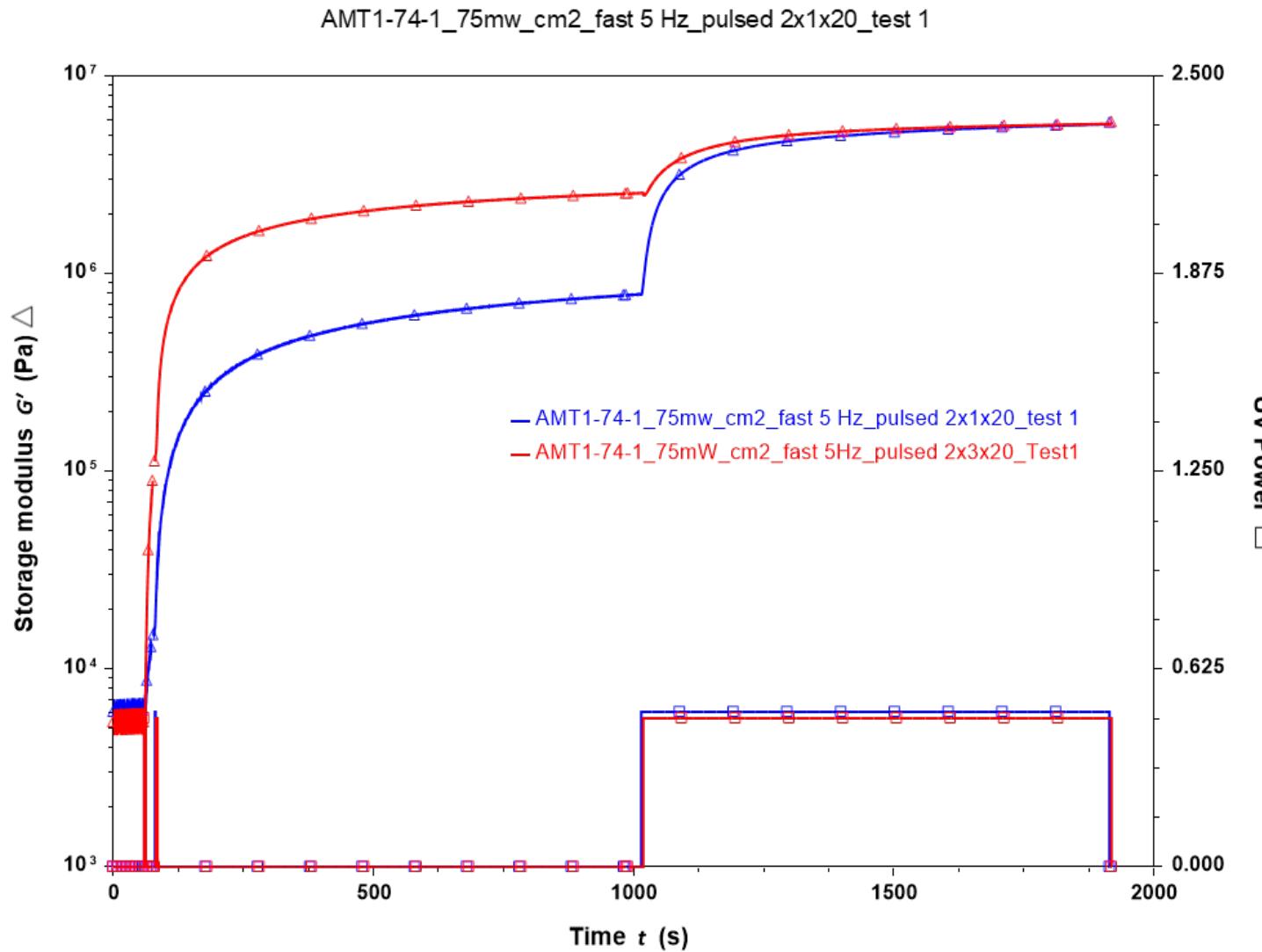
# Pulsed exposures comparing 300 s and 20 s dark times



15 pulses  
 3 s UV, X s dark time  
 15 min continuous UV  
 exposure at end



# Pulsed exposures with 3 s vs 1 s pulse lengths

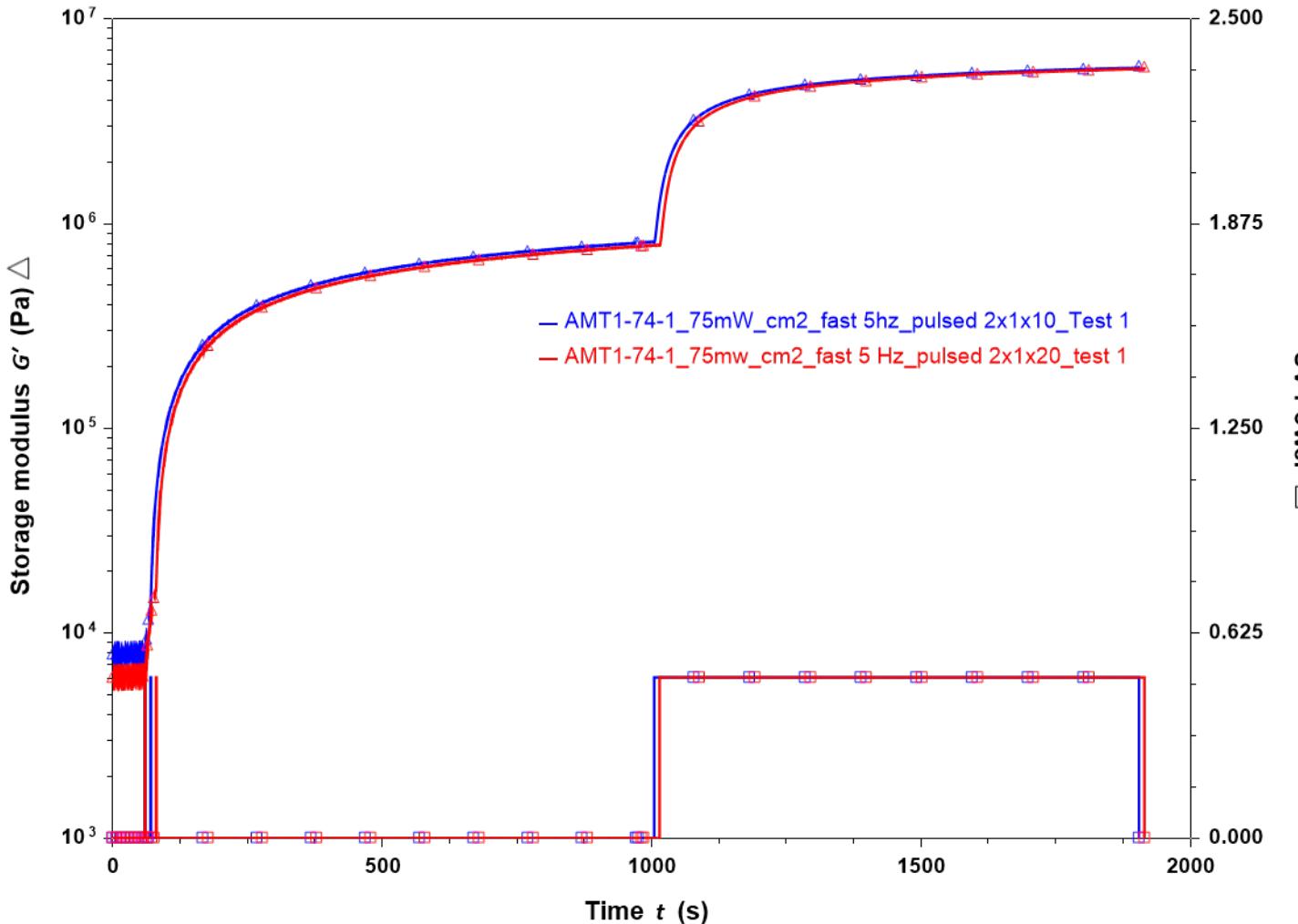


2 pulses  
1 s vs 3 s  
20 s dark time

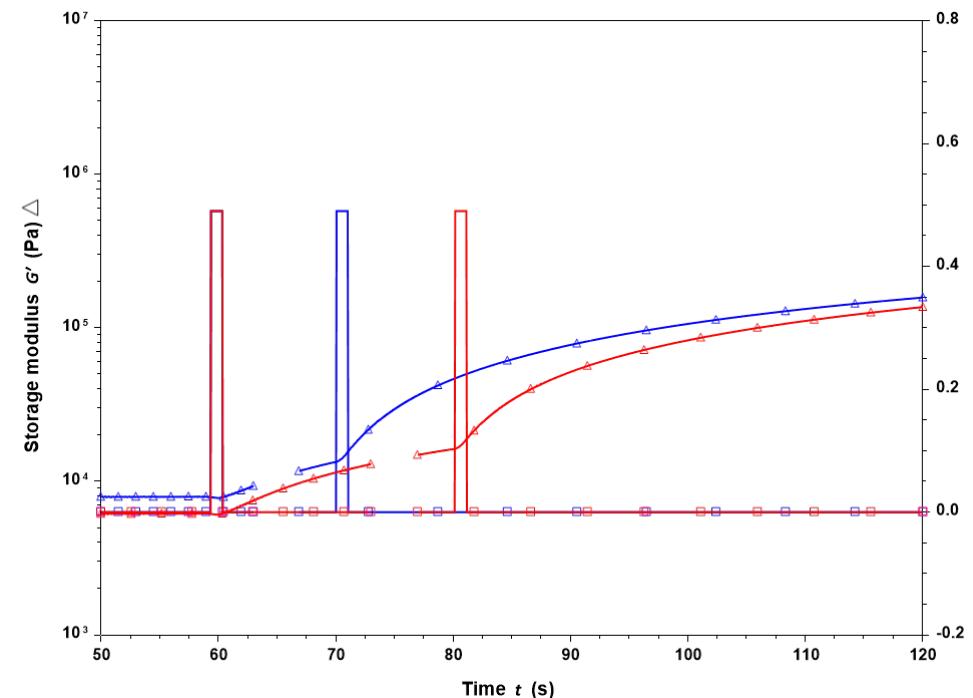
Modulus before 15 min  
continuous UV exposure is  
significantly different.

After continuous exposure  
similar final moduli.

# Pulsed exposures comparing 10s and 20 s dark times



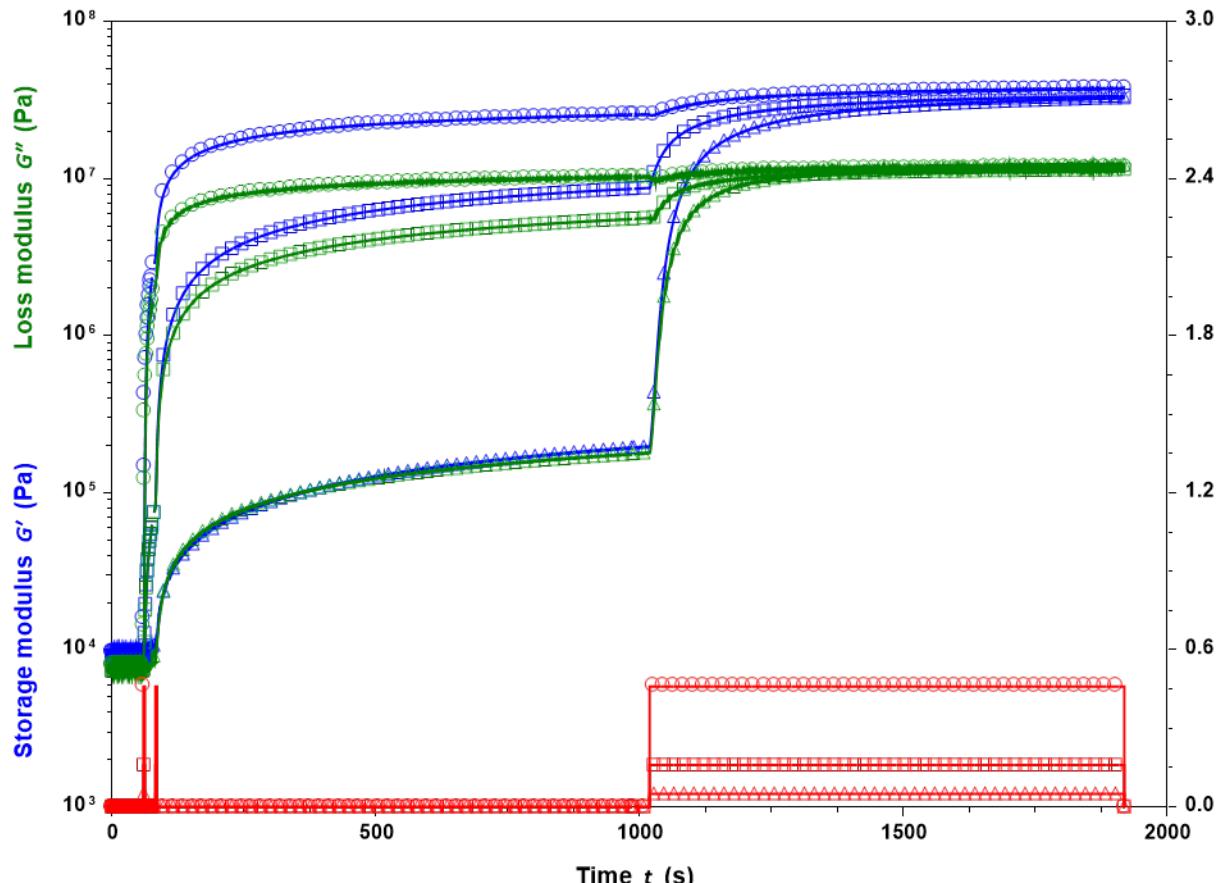
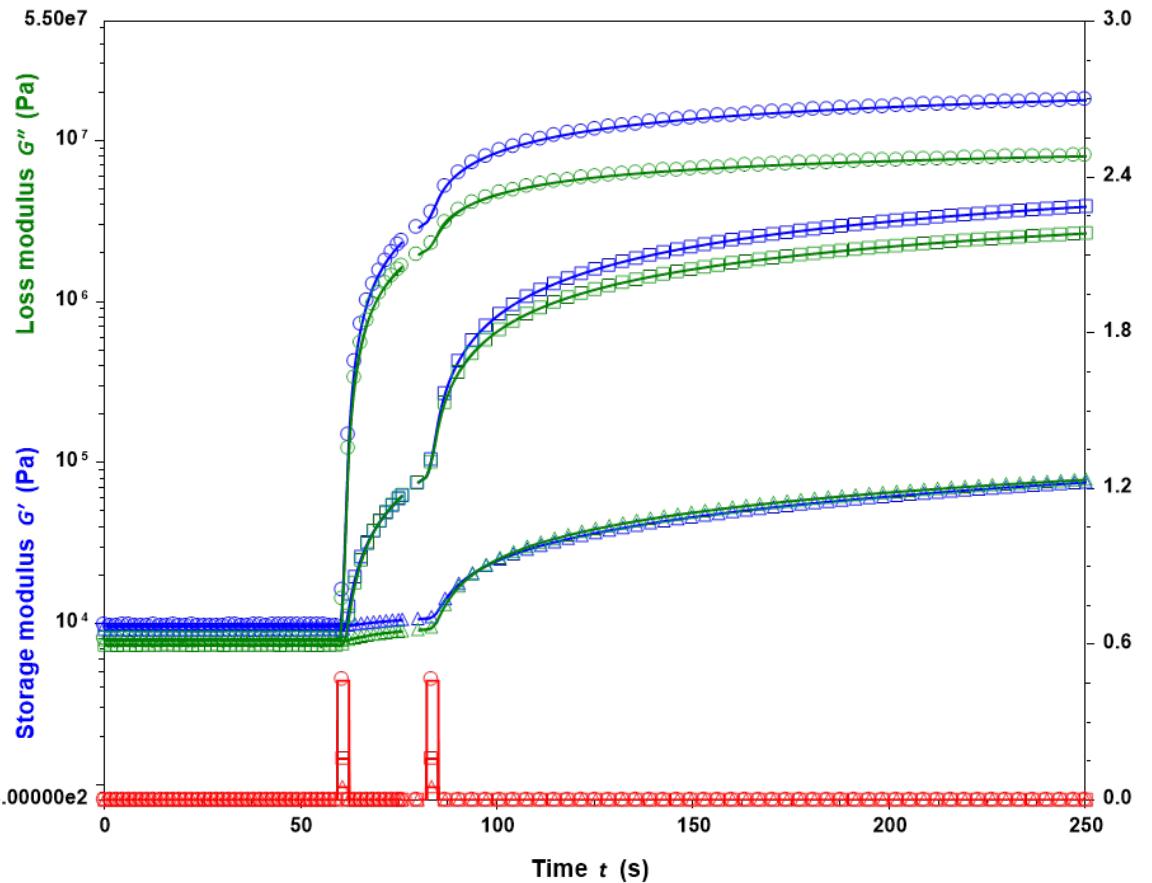
For short dark times negligible differences for plateau modulus (before and after continuous exposure) but there are short-time differences.



# Pulsed exposures mimicking transverse bar prints (30wt% acrylate)



2 x 3s pulsed exposure (transverse)  
varying intensities, 30wt% acrylate resin.

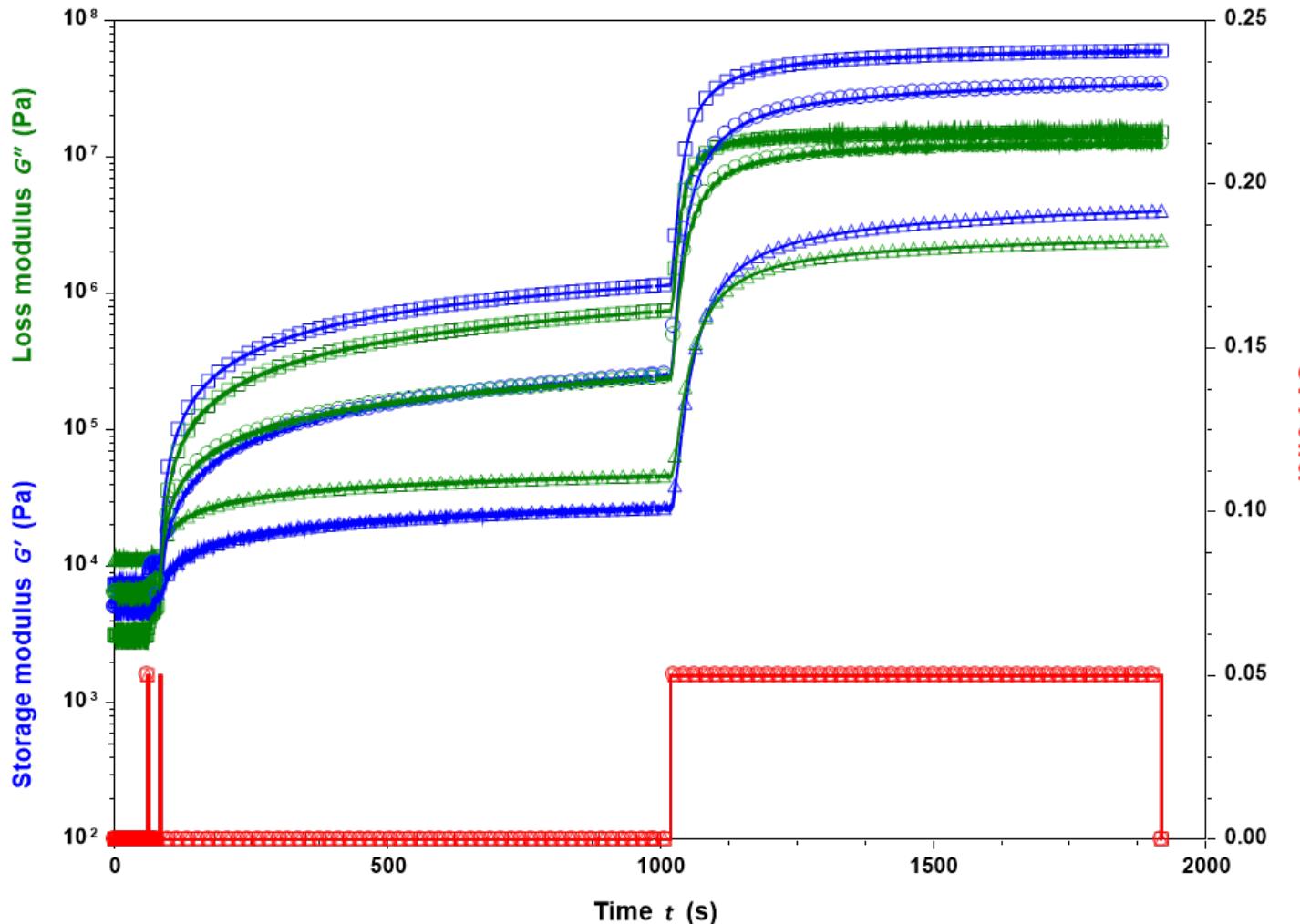


UV Power

# UV Rheology



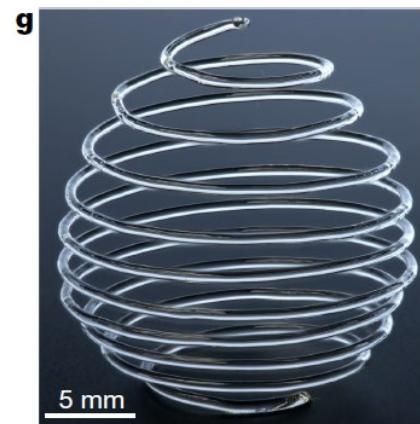
2 x 3s pulsed exposure, 20 s dark (transverse)  
5mW/cm<sup>2</sup>, varying wt% acrylate resin.



## 2) *In situ* cure

**Single cure** for rapidly polymerizing systems

- UV initiated
- Thermally initiated
- Rapid RT polymerization

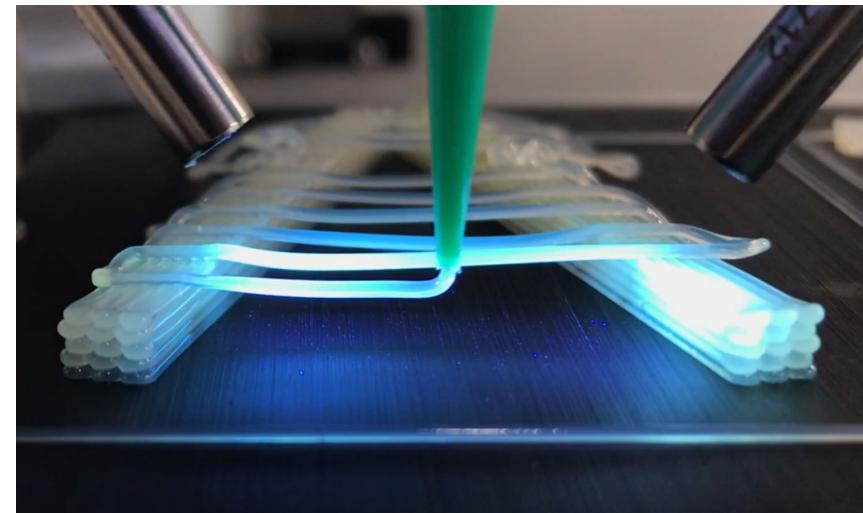


*Thermally initiated frontal polymerization (FROMP) of poly(DCPD) thermoset*

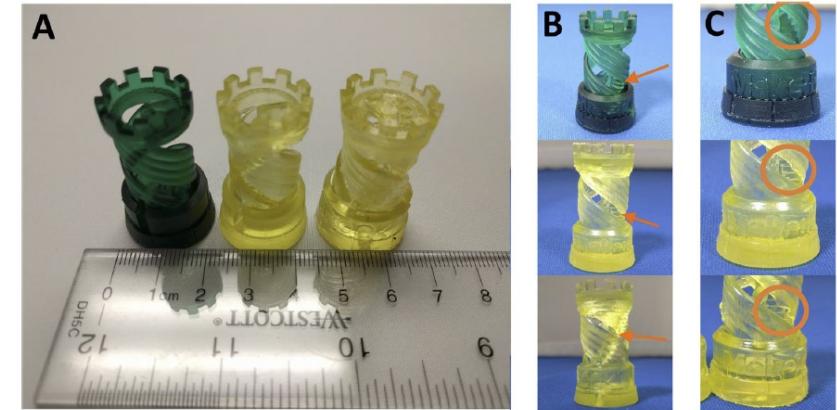
Robertson et al. *Nature*, 2018, 557, 223

## Dual-cure

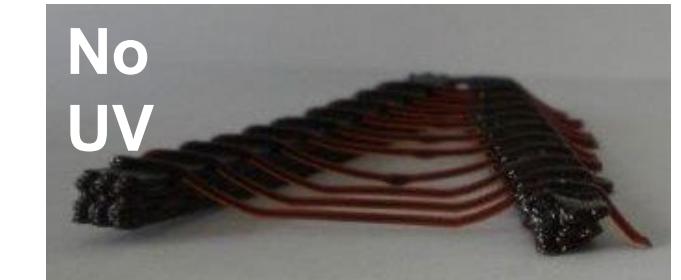
- UV/thermal
  - Acrylate/epoxy most common
- Thermal/thermal
  - Different initiation temperatures
  - Kinetic differentiation
- UV/UV
  - Different initiation wavelengths
  - Kinetic differentiation



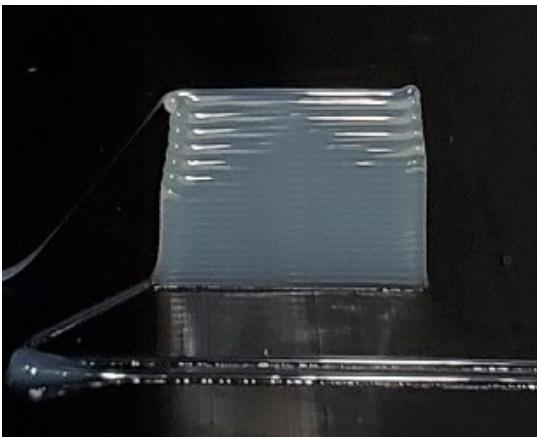
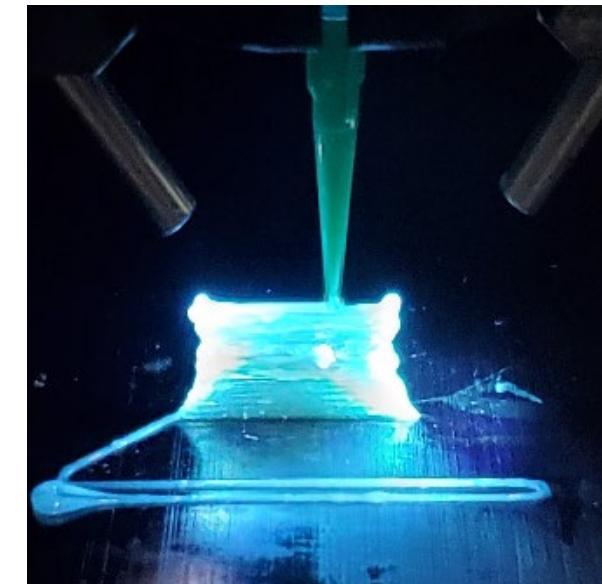
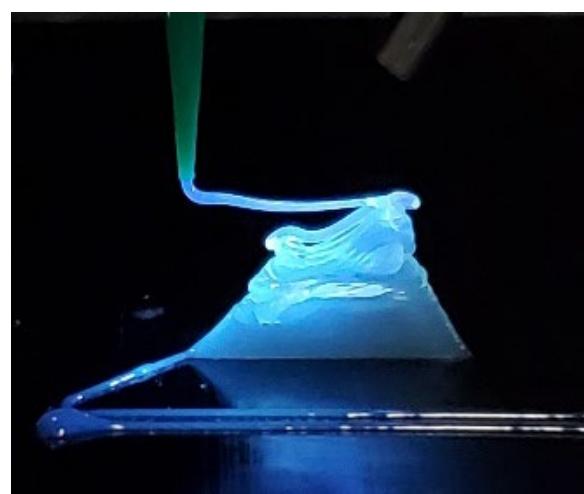
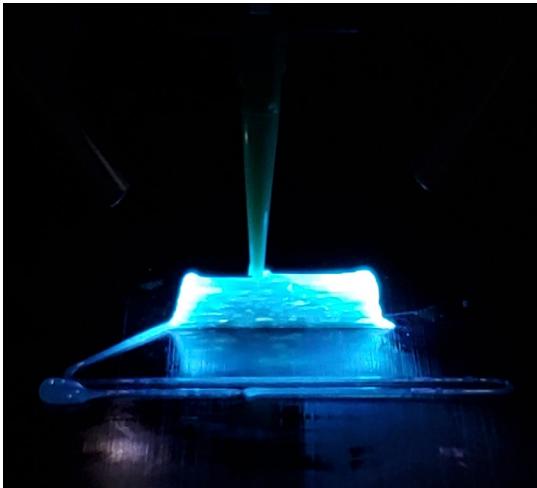
*Printing of acrylate/epoxy UV/thermal dual-cure system*



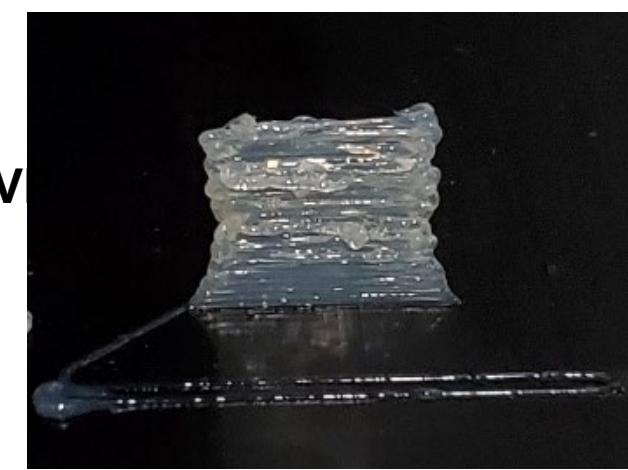
*Additive Manufacturing* 23 (2018) 374–380



# Acrylate Network Formation and UV Power Determine Printability



**15 wt% dimethacrylate at 5% UV  
(7 W/cm<sup>2</sup>)**



**15 wt% dimethacrylate at 25% UVP  
(35 W/cm<sup>2</sup>)**

**10 wt% dimethacrylate at 85% UVP  
(115 W/cm<sup>2</sup>)**