

(12) PATENT
(19) AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE

(11) Application No. AU 199896817 B2
(10) Patent No. 740495

(54) Title
Photopolymerizable dental compositions

(51)⁷ International Patent Classification(s)
A61K 006/08

(21) Application No: **199896817**

(22) Application Date: **1998.10.02**

(87) WIPO No: **WO99/62460**

(30) Priority Data

(31) Number	(32) Date	(33) Country
09/092550	1998.06.05	US

(43) Publication Date : **1999.12.20**

(43) Publication Journal Date : **2000.03.02**

(44) Accepted Journal Date : **2001.11.08**

(71) Applicant(s)
Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company

(72) Inventor(s)
Joel D. Oxman; Matthew C. Trom; Dwight W. Jacobs

(74) Agent/Attorney
DAVIES COLLISON CAVE,GPO Box 3876,SYDNEY NSW 2001

(56) Related Art
EP 290133

96817/a8


PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
 International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

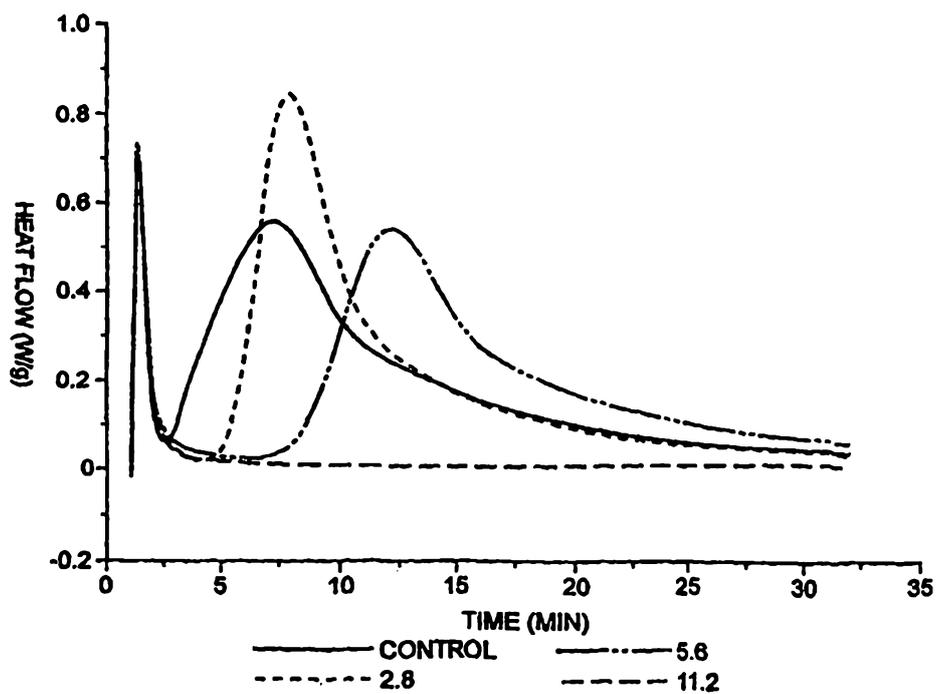
(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61K 6/08	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/62460
		(43) International Publication Date: 9 December 1999 (09.12.99)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/20836
 (22) International Filing Date: 2 October 1998 (02.10.98)
 (30) Priority Data:
 09/092,550 5 June 1998 (05.06.98) US
 (71) Applicant: MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY [US/US]; 3M Center, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).
 (72) Inventors: OXMAN, Joel, D.; P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US). TROM, Matthew, C.; P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US). JACOBS, Dwight, W.; P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).
 (74) Agents: BJORKMAN, Dale, A. et al.; Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, Office of Intellectual Property Counsel, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).

(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published
With international search report.

(54) Title: PHOTOPOLYMERIZABLE DENTAL COMPOSITIONS



(57) Abstract

Photopolymerizable compositions that include free radically active and cationically active functional groups, and methods for polymerizing such compositions, in which the onset of cationic polymerization is controllably delayed to extend the time between formation of a moldable gel and formation of a hardened solid.

PHOTOPOLYMERIZABLE DENTAL COMPOSITIONS

5

Background of the Invention

The invention relates to polymerizing compositions having cationically active and free radically active functional groups.

Acrylate and methacrylate-based compositions polymerize via a one-
10 step free radical mechanism. "Hybrid" compositions featuring both cationically and free radically polymerizable components have been proposed as well. Epoxy resins are typically used as the cationically polymerizable component, and offer the advantage of reduced shrinkage relative to acrylate and methacrylate-based compositions. The hybrid composition polymerizes initially to form a moldable
15 "gel" that can be shaped and compacted. As the polymerization proceeds, the gel forms a hard solid.

Summary of the Invention

The inventors have discovered that one problem with hybrid compositions is that it is difficult to control the amount of time between formation
20 of the gel and formation of the hardened solid. To address this problem, the inventors have discovered polymerizable hybrid compositions, and methods for polymerizing the free radically active and cationically active functional groups of such compositions, in which the onset of cationic polymerization can be controllably delayed to extend the time between formation of the moldable gel and
25 formation of the hardened solid. The net result is enhanced processing flexibility.

Accordingly, in a first aspect, the invention features a photopolymerizable composition that includes: (a) a cationically active functional group; (b) a free radically active functional group; and (c) a photoinitiation system. Examples of preferred photopolymerizable compositions are dental compositions
30 such as dental adhesives, dental composites (including dental restoratives and prostheses), and dental sealants.

The photoinitiation system is capable of initiating, at a reaction temperature less than about 40°C, free radical polymerization of the free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of the cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 . T_1 and T_3 are measured relative to administration of the first dose of actinic radiation which occurs at T_0 . The photoinitiation system includes: (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of the free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of the cationically active functional group; and (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier. The amount and type of modifier are selected such that in the absence of the modifier, cationic polymerization of the cationically active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 (also measured relative to T_0), where T_2 is less than T_3 .

As used herein, a "cationically active functional group" refers to a chemical moiety that is activated in the presence of an initiator capable of initiating cationic polymerization such that it is available for reaction with other compounds bearing cationically active functional groups. A "free radically active functional group" refers to a chemical moiety that is activated in the presence of an initiator capable of initiating free radical polymerization such that it is available for reaction with other compounds bearing free radically active functional groups.

"Initiation of polymerization" after a "finite induction period" means that after a finite period of time has elapsed, an exotherm (as measured by differential scanning calorimetry) occurs, reflecting initiation of the polymerizable groups. Initiation (and thus a successful polymerization) of the cationically polymerizable groups is said to have occurred if the area under the resulting exotherm peak is greater than 5% of the area of the corresponding peak for a control composition lacking the modifier but irradiated under the same conditions set forth in the Examples, *infra*.

The term "composite" refers to a filled dental material. The term "restorative" refers to a composite which is polymerized after it is disposed

adjacent to a tooth. The term "prosthesis" refers to a composite which is shaped and polymerized for its final use (e.g., as crown, bridge, veneer, inlay, onlay or the like) before it is disposed adjacent to a tooth. The term "sealant" refers to a lightly filled composite or to an unfilled dental material which is polymerized after it is
5 disposed adjacent to a tooth. Each of these materials is suitable for temporary or permanent use.

Suitable components of the photopolymerizable composition include epoxy resins (which contain cationically active epoxy groups), vinyl ether resins (which contain cationically active vinyl ether groups), and ethylenically active
10 unsaturated compounds (which contain free radically active unsaturated groups). Examples of useful ethylenically unsaturated compounds include acrylic acid esters, methacrylic acid esters, hydroxy-functional acrylic acid esters, hydroxy-functional methacrylic acid esters, and combinations thereof. Also suitable are
15 polymerizable components that contain both a cationically active functional group and a free radically active functional group in a single molecule. Examples include epoxy-functional acrylic acid esters, methacrylic acid esters, and combinations thereof.

A preferred material for component (i) of the photoinitiation system is an onium salt, e.g., an iodonium salt. The photoinitiation system preferably
20 contains a photosensitizer as well, e.g., a visible light sensitizer. The term "visible light" refers to light having a wavelength of about 400 to about 1000 nanometers. Examples of suitable photosensitizers include alpha diketones.

The cationic polymerization modifier is preferably selected such that the photoinitiator system has a photoinduced potential less than that of 3-
25 dimethylaminobenzoic acid in a standard solution of 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate and 1.5×10^{-5} moles/g camphorquinone in 2-butanone. The modifiers typically are bases having pK_b values, measured in aqueous solution, of no greater than 10. Particularly preferred are modifiers in which the type and amount of modifier are selected such that cationic
30 polymerization of the cationically active functional group after a finite induction

period T_3 proceeds at a rate that is greater than the rate in the absence of the cationic polymerization modifier under the same irradiation conditions.

Examples of suitable cationic polymerization modifiers include aromatic amines (e.g., t-butyl-dimethylaniline); aliphatic amines (e.g., trimethyl-
5 1,3-propane diamine, 2-(methylamino)ethanol, and combinations thereof); aliphatic amides; aliphatic ureas; phosphines (e.g., aliphatic and aromatic); salts of organic or inorganic acids (e.g., sulfinic acid salts); and combinations thereof.

In a second aspect, the invention features a method of polymerizing a photopolymerizable composition that includes exposing the composition to a
10 source of actinic radiation (preferably a source of visible radiation) at a reaction temperature sufficiently high to initiate the polymerization reaction. Preferably, the reaction temperature is less than 40°C. Suitable photopolymerizable compositions include the compositions described above. Also suitable are photopolymerizable compositions that include a cationically active functional
15 group, free radically active functional group, and photoinitiation system (as defined above), but which are not necessarily capable of polymerizing at temperatures less than 40°C. The method is particularly useful for photopolymerizable compositions in the form of dental adhesives, dental composites, dental sealants, and combinations thereof, in which case the method includes applying the
20 photopolymerizable composition to a surface and conducting polymerization within the oral cavity at temperatures less than 40°C.

In one embodiment, the photopolymerizable composition is continuously exposed to actinic radiation beginning at T_0 . In another embodiment, the photopolymerizable is exposed to a single dose of actinic radiation at T_0 .

25 In a third embodiment, two separate irradiation events occur. First, the photopolymerizable composition is exposed at a first reaction temperature to a first dose of actinic radiation at T_0 to initiate polymerization of the free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 . Thereafter, the photopolymerizable composition is exposed at a second reaction temperature to a
30 second dose of actinic radiation to initiate polymerization of the cationically active

functional group after a finite induction period T_3 which is greater than T_1 (where both T_1 and T_3 are measured relative to T_0). Preferably, actinic radiation of the same wavelength is used for both irradiation events. The first and second reaction temperatures preferably are substantially the same.

5 In a third aspect, the invention features a method of preparing a polymerized dental composition in which the polymerizable composition includes two separate initiation systems. One of the initiation systems initiates polymerization of the free radically active functional group at a first reaction temperature less than 40°C. Suitable examples include photoinitiation systems,
10 thermal initiation systems, and redox (i.e., autocure) initiation systems. The other initiation system is a photoinitiation system that initiates photopolymerization of the cationically active functional group at a second reaction temperature less than 40°C. The first and second reaction temperatures preferably are substantially the same.

15 The method includes applying the polymerizable composition to a surface, inducing polymerization of the free radically active functional group, and thereafter, in a separate step, exposing the composition to actinic radiation to cause polymerization of the cationically active functional group. Polymerization is conducted within the oral cavity.

20 The invention provides hybrid polymerizable compositions in which the onset of polymerization of the cationically active functional groups can be delayed relative to the onset of polymerization of the free radically active functional groups for a desired period of time without adversely affecting cationic polymerization once it is initiated at the end of that period. The invention thus provides flexibility
25 and control in applications for which the compositions are used. These advantages are particularly useful in dental applications where the compositions may be applied within the oral cavity. By delaying polymerization of the cationically active component, the dentist has ample time to apply and shape the composition to conform to the contours of the oral surface to which it is applied, e.g., a tooth.

Once these operations are complete, the dentist can then initiate the cationic polymerization to form the final, hardened material.

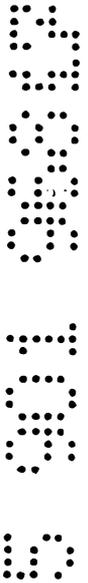
In accordance with the above summary of the invention the invention provides a photopolymerizable dental composition comprising: (a) a cationically active functional group; (b) a free radically active functional group; and (c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at a reaction temperature less than about 40°C, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 , said photoinitiation system comprising: (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier, wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .

Further in accordance with the summary herein above, the invention provides a photopolymerizable composition comprising: (a) a cationically active functional group; (b) a free radically active functional group; and (c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at a reaction temperature less than about 40°C, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 , said photoinitiation system comprising: (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier, wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .



Further in accordance with the summary herein above, the invention provides a method of polymerizing a photopolymerizable dental composition, said method comprising applying said composition to a surface and exposing said composition to a source of actinic radiation at a reaction temperature less than 40°C, 5 said photopolymerizable composition comprising: (a) a cationically active functional group; (b) a free radically active functional group; and (c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at said reaction temperature, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction 10 period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 , said photoinitiation system comprising: (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier, wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group is 15 initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .

Further in accordance with the summary herein above, the invention provides a method of polymerizing a composition, said method comprising exposing a photopolymerizable composition to a source of actinic radiation at a reaction 20 temperature, said photopolymerizable composition comprising: (a) a cationically active functional group; (b) a free radically active functional group; and (c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at said reaction temperature, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after 25 a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 , said photoinitiation system comprising: (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier, wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically 30 active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .



Further in accordance with the summary herein above, the invention provides a method of preparing a polymerized dental composition, said method comprising: (a) providing a polymerizable dental composition comprising: (i) a cationically active functional group; (ii) a free radically active functional group; (iii) a first initiation system capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group at a first reaction temperature less than 40°C; and (iv) a second initiation system different from said first initiation system that is capable of initiating photo-induced cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group at a second reaction temperature less than 40°C; (b) applying said composition to a surface; (c) inducing polymerization of said free radically active functional group at said first reaction temperature; and (d) thereafter exposing said composition to actinic radiation at said second reaction temperature to cause polymerization of said cationically active functional group.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments thereof, and from the claims.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a plot of heat flow vs. time obtained by Photo Differential Scanning Calorimetry for polymerizable compositions containing various concentrations of the cationic polymerization modifier 2-(methylamino)-ethanol.

Fig. 2 is a plot of heat flow vs. time obtained by Photo Differential Scanning Calorimetry for polymerizable compositions containing various concentrations of the cationic polymerization modifier N,N,N'-trimethyl-1,3-propanediamine.

Detailed Description

Polymerizable Composition

The polymerizable compositions of the invention feature one or more cationically active functional groups, one or more free radically active functional groups, and at least one initiation system. The compositions are designed for use in a staged polymerization process in which the free radically active functional



groups are polymerized in a first step and the cationically active functional groups are polymerized thereafter in a second step. The initiation system may perform the dual function of initiating both cationic and free radical polymerization.

Alternatively, two separate initiation systems, one of which initiates free radical polymerization and the other of which initiates cationic polymerization, may be used.

5

Single Initiation System

An initiation system suitable for initiating both free radical and cationic polymerization is designed such that for a given reaction temperature,

10 photoinitiation of free radical polymerization occurs after a finite induction period

15

20

25

30



Once these operations are complete, the dentist can then initiate the cationic polymerization to form the final, hardened material.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments thereof, and from the
5 claims.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a plot of heat flow vs. time obtained by Photo Differential Scanning Calorimetry for polymerizable compositions containing various concentrations of the cationic polymerization modifier 2-(methylamino)-ethanol.

10 Fig. 2 is a plot of heat flow vs. time obtained by Photo Differential Scanning Calorimetry for polymerizable compositions containing various concentrations of the cationic polymerization modifier N,N,N'-trimethyl-1,3-propanediamine.

Detailed Description

15 Polymerizable Composition

The polymerizable compositions of the invention feature one or more cationically active functional groups, one or more free radically active functional groups, and at least one initiation system. The compositions are designed for use in a staged polymerization process in which the free radically active functional
20 groups are polymerized in a first step and the cationically active functional groups are polymerized thereafter in a second step. The initiation system may perform the dual function of initiating both cationic and free radical polymerization. Alternatively, two separate initiation systems, one of which initiates free radical polymerization and the other of which initiates cationic polymerization, may be
25 used.

Single Initiation System

An initiation system suitable for initiating both free radical and cationic polymerization is designed such that for a given reaction temperature,
30 photoinitiation of free radical polymerization occurs after a finite induction period

T_1 and photoinitiation of cationic polymerization occurs after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 . T_1 and T_3 are measured relative to administration of the first dose of actinic radiation which begins at T_0 . The photoinitiation system includes: (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of the free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of the cationically active functional group; and (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier. The amount and type of modifier are selected such that in the absence of the modifier, initiation of cationic polymerization under the same irradiation conditions occurs at the end of a finite induction period T_2 (also measured relative to T_0), where T_2 is less than T_3 .

The induction periods (T_1 , T_2 , and T_3) can be measured using differential scanning calorimetry. Following the first irradiation event at T_0 , the exotherm of the reaction is measured as a function of time. Both initiation of free radical polymerization and initiation of cationic polymerization result in an exotherm, observed as a pair of separate peaks on a graph of heat flows vs. time. The time at which initiation occurs is taken to be the time at which the exotherm begins to increase.

There are numerous examples of sources of species capable of initiating both free radical and cationic polymerization. Representative examples include onium salts and mixed ligand arene cyclopentadienyl metal salts with complex metal halide ions, as described in "CRC Handbook of Organic Photochemistry", vol II, ed. J.C. Scaiano, pp. 335-339 (1989). Preferably, the source is an onium salt. Of the onium salts, iodonium salts (e.g., aryl iodonium salts) are particularly useful. The iodonium salt should be soluble in the composition and preferably is shelf-stable, meaning it does not spontaneously promote polymerization when dissolved therein in the presence of the cationic polymerization modifier and photosensitizer (if included). Accordingly, selection of a particular iodonium salt may depend to some extent upon the particular polymerizable reactants, cationic polymerization modifiers, and sensitizers (if present).

Suitable iodonium salts are described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 3,729,313; 3,741,769; 4,250,053; and 4,394,403, the iodonium salt disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference. The iodonium salt can be a simple salt, containing an anion such as Cl⁻, Br⁻, I⁻, C₄H₅SO₃⁻, or C(SO₂CF₃)₃⁻; or a metal
5 complex salt containing an antimonate, arsenate, phosphate, or borate such as SbF₅OH⁻, AsF₆⁻, or B(C₆F₅)₄⁻. Mixtures of iodonium salts can be used if desired.

Examples of useful aromatic iodonium complex salt photoinitiators include: diphenyliodonium tetrafluoroborate; di(4-methylphenyl)iodonium tetrafluoroborate; phenyl-4-methylphenyliodonium tetrafluoroborate; di(4-
10 heptylphenyl)iodonium tetrafluoroborate; di(3-nitrophenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(4-chlorophenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(naphthyl)iodonium tetrafluoroborate; di(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)iodonium tetrafluoroborate; diphenyliodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(4-
15 methylphenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; diphenyliodonium hexafluoroarsenate; di(4-phenoxyphenyl)iodonium tetrafluoroborate; phenyl-2-thienyliodonium hexafluorophosphate; 3,5-dimethylpyrazolyl-4-phenyliodonium hexafluorophosphate; diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate; 2,2'-
diphenyliodonium tetrafluoroborate; di(2,4-dichlorophenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(4-bromophenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(4-
20 methoxyphenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(3-carboxyphenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(3-methoxycarbonylphenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(3-methoxysulfonylphenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(4-acetamidophenyl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; di(2-benzothieryl)iodonium hexafluorophosphate; diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate; diphenyl or
25 diaryliodonium tris-trifluoromethylsulfonyl methide; or diphenyl or diaryliodonium tetra(pentafluorophenyl)borate.

The cationic polymerization modifier preferably has a photoinduced potential less than that of 3-dimethylaminobenzoic acid in a standard solution of 2.9 x 10⁻⁵ moles/g diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate and 1.5 x 10⁻⁵ moles/g
30 camphorquinone in 2-butanone. The photoinduced potential can be evaluated in

the following manner. A standard solution is prepared that contains 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g of diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate and 1.5×10^{-5} moles/g of camphorquinone in 2-butanone. A pH electrode is then immersed in the solution and a pH meter is calibrated to zero mV. A test solution of the standard solution
5 and the modifier is prepared next using the modifier at a concentration of 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g. This test solution is irradiated using blue light having a wavelength of about 400 to 500 nm having an intensity of about 200 to 400 mW/cm² for about 5 to 10 seconds at a distance of about 1 mm. Millivolts relative to the standard solution are then determined by immersing the pH electrode in the test solution and
10 obtaining a mV reading on the pH meter. Useful modifier are those compounds that provide a reading no greater than about 75 mV relative to the standard solution.

In some instances there may be some uncertainty regarding the outcome of the above procedure. This may be due to questions or uncertainty arising from
15 the instrumentation employed, from the way the procedure was carried out, or other factors, or one may wish to verify the suitability of a particular modifier. A second test may be performed to verify the result obtained by following the above procedure and resolve any such uncertainty.

The second method involves the evaluation of the photoinduced
20 potential of an initiator system that includes the modifier compared to a system that includes 3-dimethylamino benzoic acid. For this method, a standard solution of 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate, 1.5×10^{-5} moles/g camphorquinone and 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g of 3-dimethylaminobenzoic acid in 2-butanone is prepared. A pH electrode is then immersed in the solution and a pH
25 meter is calibrated to zero mV. The standard solution is irradiated with blue light having a wavelength of between about 400-500 nm and an intensity of about 200 to 400 mW/cm² for about 5 to 10 seconds using a focused light source such as a dental curing light at a distance of about 1 mm. After light exposure, the potential of the solution is measured by immersing a pH electrode in the irradiated standard
30 solution and reading the potential in mV using a pH meter. A test solution is then

prepared using 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g of diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate, 1.5×10^{-5} moles/g of camphorquinone and 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g of the modifier in 2-butanone. The test solution is irradiated and the photoinduced potential measured using the same technique as described for the standard solution. If the test solution
5 has a photoinduced potential that is less than that of the 3-dimethylaminobenzoic acid containing standard solution, then the modifier may be a useful cationic polymerization modifier.

Useful cationic polymerization modifiers are typically bases having pK_b values, measured in aqueous solution, of less than 10. Examples of classes of
10 suitable cationic polymerization modifiers include aromatic amines, aliphatic amines, aliphatic amides, aliphatic ureas; aliphatic and aromatic phosphines, and salts of organic or inorganic acids (e.g., salts of sulfinic acid). Specific examples include 4-(dimethylamino)phenylacetic acid, dimethylaminophenethanol, dihydroxy p-toluidine, N-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-N,N-diethanolamine, 2,4,6-
15 pentamethylaniline, dimethylbenzylamine, N,N-dimethylacetamide, tetramethylurea, N-methyldiethanolamine, triethylamine, 2-(methylamino)ethanol, dibutylamine, diethanolamine, N-ethylmorpholine, trimethyl-1,3-propanediamine, 3-quinuclidinol, triphenylphosphine, sodium toluene sulfinate, tricyclohexylphosphine, N-methylpyrrolidone, and t-butyl dimethylaniline. These
20 modifiers may be used alone or in combination with each other, or with a material having photoinduced potential greater than that of 3-dimethylaminobenzoic acid in a standard solution of 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate and 1.5×10^{-5} moles/g camphorquinone in 2-butanone; an example of such a material is ethyl 4-(dimethylamino)benzoate ("EDMAB").

25 The choice of modifier, and amount thereof, is selected based upon the photopolymerizable composition and the extent to which it is desired to delay initiation of the cationically polymerizable groups (i.e., what the target T_3 value is). In addition, it is important that the amount of modifier not be so high that polymerization is inhibited completely. As discussed in the Summary of the
30 Invention, above, a successful cationic polymerization is one in which the area

under the exotherm peak accompanying cationic initiation, as measured by differential scanning calorimetry, is greater than 5% of the area of the corresponding peak for a control composition lacking the modifier but irradiated under the same conditions set forth in the Examples, infra.

5 Another variable which influences whether or not successful polymerization occurs is the reaction temperature. For example, some compositions which do not successfully polymerize (as defined above) at one reaction temperature may successfully polymerize at a higher temperature. In general, however, it is preferred that the polymerization reaction be capable of
10 proceeding at temperatures less than 40°C. This feature is particularly useful in the case of dental compositions where polymerization takes place within the oral cavity in which the temperature is at or slightly above body temperature (37°C). If the composition is capable of polymerizing at reaction temperatures less than 40°C, the polymerization reaction can be conducted without supplying additional heat.

15 The inventors have discovered that one class of cationic polymerization modifiers offers an additional advantage. Specifically, these modifiers not only delay the onset of cationic polymerization, but, upon initiation, increase the rate of polymerization relative to the rate of polymerization in the absence of the cationic polymerization modifier conducted under the same irradiation conditions. The rate
20 is measured using differential scanning calorimetry as the difference between the time required to reach maximum exotherm peak height (T_4) and the time at which polymerization is initiated (i.e., the induction time). Examples of modifiers found to exhibit this behavior include aliphatic amines such as N-methyldiethanolamine, triethylamine, dibutylamine, diethanolamine, N-ethylmorpholine, 2-
25 (methylamino)ethanol, and dimethylbenzylamine.

The initiation system may also include a sensitizer such as a visible light sensitizer that is soluble in the polymerizable composition. The sensitizer preferably is capable of absorbing light having wavelengths in the range from about 300 to about 1000 nanometers.

Examples of suitable sensitizers include ketones, coumarin dyes (e.g., ketocoumarins), xanthene dyes, acridine dyes, thiazole dyes, thiazine dyes, oxazine dyes, azine dyes, aminoketone dyes, porphyrins, aromatic polycyclic hydrocarbons, p-substituted aminostyryl ketone compounds, aminotriaryl methanes, merocyanines, squarylium dyes, and pyridinium dyes. Ketones (e.g., monoketones or alpha-diketones), ketocoumarins, aminoarylketones, and p-substituted aminostyryl ketone compounds are preferred sensitizers. For applications requiring deep cure (e.g., cure of highly filled composites), it is preferred to employ sensitizers having an extinction coefficient below about $1000 \text{ l mole}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, more preferably about or below $100 \text{ l mole}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, at the desired wavelength of irradiation for photopolymerization. The alpha-diketones are an example of a class of sensitizers having this property, and are particularly preferred for dental applications.

Examples of particularly preferred visible light sensitizers include camphorquinone; glyoxal; biacetyl; 3,3,6,6-tetramethylcyclohexanedione; 3,3,7,7-tetramethyl-1,2-cycloheptanedione; 3,3,8,8-tetramethyl-1,2-cyclooctanedione; 3,3,18,18-tetramethyl-1,2-cyclooctadecanedione; dipivaloyl; benzil; furil; hydroxybenzil; 2,3-butanedione; 2,3-pentanedione; 2,3-hexanedione; 3,4-hexanedione; 2,3-heptanedione; 3,4-heptanedione; 2,3-octanedione; 4,5-octanedione; and 1,2-cyclohexanedione; Of these, camphorquinone is the most preferred sensitizer.

Dual Initiation Systems

Staged polymerizations may also be effected using one initiation system for free radical polymerization and a separate initiation system for cationic polymerization. The free radical polymerization initiation system is selected such that upon activation, only free radical polymerization is initiated.

One class of initiators capable of initiating polymerization of free radically active functional groups, but not cationically active functional groups, includes conventional chemical initiator systems such as a combination of a

peroxide and an amine. These initiators, which rely upon a thermal redox reaction, are often referred to as "auto-cure catalysts." They are typically supplied as two-part systems in which the reactants are stored apart from each other and then combined immediately prior to use.

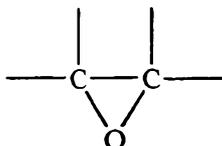
5 A second class of initiators capable of initiating polymerization of free radically active functional groups, but not cationically active functional groups, includes free radical-generating photoinitiators, optionally combined with a photosensitizer or accelerator. Such initiators typically are capable of generating free radicals for addition polymerization at some wavelength between 200 and 800
10 nm. Examples include alpha-diketones, monoketals of alpha-diketones or ketoaldehydes, acyloins and their corresponding ethers, chromophore-substituted halomethyl-s-triazines, and chromophore-substituted halomethyl-oxadiazoles.

 A third class of initiators capable of initiating polymerization of free radically active functional groups, but not cationically active functional groups,
15 includes free radical-generating thermal initiators. Examples include peroxides and azo compounds such as AIBN.

 The dual initiation systems further include a separate photoinitiation system for initiating polymerization of the cationically active functional groups. The cationic initiation system is selected such that activation of the free radical
20 initiation system does not activate the cationic initiation system. Examples of suitable cationic photoinitiation systems for a dual initiation system composition include the onium salts and mixed ligand arene cyclopentadienyl metal salts with complex metal halide ions described above.

25 Polymerizable Components

 The polymerizable compositions include cationically active functional groups and free radically active functional groups. Materials having cationically active functional groups include cationically polymerizable epoxy resins. Such materials are organic compounds having an oxirane ring, i.e., a group of the
30 formula



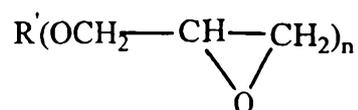
which is polymerizable by ring opening. These materials include monomeric epoxy compounds and epoxides of the polymeric type and can be aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, aromatic or heterocyclic. These materials generally have, on the average, at least 1 polymerizable epoxy group per molecule, preferably at least about 1.5 and more preferably at least about 2 polymerizable epoxy groups per molecule. The polymeric epoxides include linear polymers having terminal epoxy groups (e.g., a diglycidyl ether of a polyoxyalkylene glycol), polymers having skeletal oxirane units (e.g., polybutadiene polyepoxide), and polymers having pendent epoxy groups (e.g., a glycidyl methacrylate polymer or copolymer). The epoxides may be pure compounds or may be mixtures of compounds containing one, two, or more epoxy groups per molecule. The "average" number of epoxy groups per molecule is determined by dividing the total number of epoxy groups in the epoxy-containing material by the total number of epoxy-containing molecules present.

These epoxy-containing materials may vary from low molecular weight monomeric materials to high molecular weight polymers and may vary greatly in the nature of their backbone and substituent groups. Illustrative of permissible substituent groups include halogens, ester groups, ethers, sulfonate groups, siloxane groups, nitro groups, phosphate groups, and the like. The molecular weight of the epoxy-containing materials may vary from about 58 to about 100,000 or more.

Useful epoxy-containing materials include those which contain cyclohexane oxide groups such as epoxycyclohexanecarboxylates, typified by 3,4-epoxycyclohexylmethyl-3,4-epoxycyclohexanecarboxylate, 3,4-epoxy-2-

methylcyclohexylmethyl-3,4-epoxy-2-methylcyclohexane carboxylate, and bis(3,4-epoxy-6-methylcyclohexylmethyl) adipate. For a more detailed list of useful epoxides of this nature, reference is made to the U.S. Patent No. 3,117,099, which is incorporated herein by reference.

5 Further epoxy-containing materials which are useful in the compositions of this invention include glycidyl ether monomers of the formula



10 where R' is alkyl or aryl and n is an integer of 1 to 6. Examples are glycidyl ethers of polyhydric phenols obtained by reacting a polyhydric phenol with an excess of chlorohydrin such as epichlorohydrin (e.g., the diglycidyl ether of 2,2-bis-(2,3-epoxypropoxyphenol)-propane). Further examples of epoxides of this type are described in U.S. Patent No. 3,018,262, which is incorporated herein by reference,
 15 and in "Handbook of Epoxy Resins" by Lee and Neville, McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York (1967).

There are a host of commercially available epoxy resins which can be used in this invention. In particular, epoxides which are readily available include octadecylene oxide, epichlorohydrin, styrene oxide, vinylcyclohexene oxide,
 20 glycidol, glycidyl methacrylate, diglycidyl ether of Bisphenol A (e.g., those available under the trade designations "Epon 828", "Epon 825", "Epon 1004" and "Epon 1010" from Shell Chemical Co., "DER-331", "DER-332", and "DER-334", from Dow Chemical Co.), vinylcyclohexene dioxide (e.g., "ERL-4206" from Union Carbide Corp.), 3,4-epoxycyclohexylmethyl-3,4-epoxycyclohexene
 25 carboxylate (e.g., "ERL-4221" or "CYRACURE UVR 6110" or "UVR 6105" from Union Carbide Corp.), 3,4-epoxy-6-methylcyclohexylmethyl-3,4-epoxy-6-methylcyclohexene carboxylate (e.g., "ERL-4201" from Union Carbide Corp.), bis(3,4-epoxy-6-methylcyclohexylmethyl) adipate (e.g., "ERL-4289" from Union Carbide

Corp.), bis(2,3-epoxycyclopentyl) ether (e.g., "ERL-0400" from Union Carbide Corp.), aliphatic epoxy modified from polypropylene glycol (e.g., "ERL-4050" and "ERL-4052" from Union Carbide Corp.), dipentene dioxide (e.g., "ERL-4269" from Union Carbide Corp.), epoxidized polybutadiene (e.g., "Oxiron 2001" from FMC Corp.), silicone resin containing epoxy functionality, flame retardant epoxy resins (e.g., "DER-580" a brominated bisphenol type epoxy resin available from Dow Chemical Co.), 1,4-butanediol diglycidyl ether of phenolformaldehyde novolak (e.g., "DEN-431" and "DEN-438" from Dow Chemical Co.), and resorcinol diglycidyl ether (e.g., "Kopoxite" from Koppers Company, Inc.), bis(3,4-epoxycyclohexyl)adipate (e.g., "ERL-4299" or "UVR-6128", from Union Carbide Corp.), 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexyl-5, 5-spiro-3,4-epoxy) cyclohexane-metadioxane (e.g., "ERL-4234" from Union Carbide Corp.), vinylcyclohexene monoxide 1,2-epoxyhexadecane (e.g., "UVR-6216" from Union Carbide Corp.), alkyl glycidyl ethers such as alkyl C₈-C₁₀ glycidyl ether (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 7" from Shell Chemical Co.), alkyl C₁₂-C₁₄ glycidyl ether (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 8" from Shell Chemical Co.), butyl glycidyl ether (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 61" from Shell Chemical Co.), cresyl glycidyl ether (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 62" from Shell Chemical Co.), p-ter butylphenyl glycidyl ether (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 65" from Shell Chemical Co.), polyfunctional glycidyl ethers such as diglycidyl ether of 1,4-butanediol (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 67" from Shell Chemical Co.), diglycidyl ether of neopentyl glycol (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 68" from Shell Chemical Co.), diglycidyl ether of cyclohexanedimethanol (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 107" from Shell Chemical Co.), trimethylol ethane triglycidyl ether (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 44" from Shell Chemical Co.), trimethylol propane triglycidyl ether (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 48" from Shell Chemical Co.), polyglycidyl ether of an aliphatic polyol (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 84" from Shell Chemical Co.), polyglycol diepoxide (e.g., "HELOXY Modifier 32" from Shell Chemical Co.), bisphenol F epoxides (e.g., "EPN-1138" or "GY-281" from Ciba-Geigy Corp.), 9,9-bis[4-(2,3-epoxypropoxy)-phenyl]fluorenone (e.g., "Epon 1079" from Shell Chemical Co.).

Still other epoxy resins contain copolymers of acrylic acid esters or glycidol such as glycidylacrylate and glycidylmethacrylate with one or more copolymerizable vinyl compounds. Examples of such copolymers are 1:1 styrene-glycidylmethacrylate, 1:1 methylmethacrylate-glycidylacrylate and a 62.5:24:13.5
5 methylmethacrylate-ethyl acrylate-glycidylmethacrylate.

Other useful epoxy resins are well known and contain such epoxides as epichlorohydrins, alkylene oxides, e.g., propylene oxide, styrene oxide; alkenyl oxides, e.g., butadiene oxide; glycidyl esters, e.g., ethyl glycidate.

Blends of various epoxy-containing materials are also contemplated.
10 Examples of such blends include two or more weight average molecular weight distributions of epoxy-containing compounds, such as low molecular weight (below 200), intermediate molecular weight (about 200 to 10,000) and higher molecular weight (above about 10,000). Alternatively or additionally, the epoxy resin may contain a blend of epoxy-containing materials having different chemical
15 natures, such as aliphatic and aromatic, or functionalities, such as polar and non-polar.

Other types of useful materials having cationically active functional groups include vinyl ethers, oxetanes, spiro-orthocarbonates, spiro-orthoesters, and the like.

20 Materials having free radically active functional groups include monomers, oligomers, and polymers having one or more ethylenically unsaturated groups. Suitable materials contain at least one ethylenically unsaturated bond, and are capable of undergoing addition polymerization. Such free radically polymerizable materials include mono-, di- or poly- acrylates and methacrylates
25 such as methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, ethyl acrylate, isopropyl methacrylate, n-hexyl acrylate, stearyl acrylate, allyl acrylate, glycerol diacrylate, glycerol triacrylate, ethyleneglycol diacrylate, diethyleneglycol diacrylate, triethyleneglycol dimethacrylate, 1,3-propanediol diacrylate, 1,3-propanediol dimethacrylate, trimethylolpropane triacrylate, 1,2,4-butanetriol trimethacrylate,
30 1,4-cyclohexanediol diacrylate, pentaerythritol triacrylate, pentaerythritol

tetraacrylate, pentaerythritol tetramethacrylate, sorbitol hexacrylate, bis[1-(2-acryloxy)]-p-ethoxyphenyldimethylmethane, bis[1-(3-acryloxy-2-hydroxy)]-p-propoxyphenyldimethylmethane, and trishydroxyethyl-isocyanurate trimethacrylate; the bis-acrylates and bis-methacrylates of polyethylene glycols of
5 molecular weight 200-500, copolymerizable mixtures of acrylated monomers such as those in U.S. Pat. No. 4,652,274, and acrylated oligomers such as those of U.S. Pat. No. 4,642,126; and vinyl compounds such as styrene, diallyl phthalate, divinyl succinate, divinyl adipate and divinylphthalate. Mixtures of two or more of these free radically polymerizable materials can be used if desired.

10 If desired, both cationically active and free radically active functional groups may be contained in a single molecule. Such molecules may be obtained, for example, by reacting a di- or poly-epoxide with one or more equivalents of an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid. An example of such a material is the reaction product of UVR-6105 (available from Union Carbide) with one equivalent
15 of methacrylic acid. Commercially available materials having epoxy and free-radically active functionalities include the "Cyclomer" series, such as Cyclomer M-100, M-101, or A-200 available from Daicel Chemical, Japan, and Ebecryl-3605 available from Radcure Specialties.

Other Additives

20 The polymerizable composition may further include a hydroxyl-containing material. Suitable hydroxyl-containing materials can be any organic material having hydroxyl functionality of at least 1, and preferably at least 2. Preferably, the hydroxyl-containing material contains two or more primary or secondary aliphatic hydroxyl groups (i.e., the hydroxyl group is bonded directly to
25 a non-aromatic carbon atom). The hydroxyl groups can be terminally situated, or they can be pendent from a polymer or copolymer. The molecular weight of the hydroxyl-containing organic material can vary from very low (e.g., 32) to very high (e.g., one million or more). Suitable hydroxyl-containing materials can have low molecular weights, i.e. from about 32 to 200, intermediate molecular weight,

i.e. from about 200 to 10,000, or high molecular weight, i.e. above about 10,000. As used herein, all molecular weights are weight average molecular weights.

The hydroxyl-containing materials can be non-aromatic in nature or can contain aromatic functionality. The hydroxyl-containing material can optionally
5 contain heteroatoms in the backbone of the molecule, such as nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur, and the like. The hydroxyl-containing material can, for example, be selected from naturally occurring or synthetically prepared cellulosic materials. Of course, the hydroxyl-containing material is also substantially free of groups which may be thermally or photolytically unstable; that is, the material will not
10 decompose or liberate volatile components at temperatures below about 100°C or in the presence of actinic light which may be encountered during the desired polymerization conditions for the free radically active components of the polymerizable composition.

Representative examples of suitable hydroxyl-containing materials
15 having a hydroxyl functionality of 1 include alkanols, monoalkyl ethers of polyoxyalkyleneglycols, monoalkyl ethers of alkylene-glycols, and others known in the art.

Representative examples of useful monomeric polyhydroxy organic materials include alkylene glycols (e.g., 1,2-ethanediol; 1,3-propanediol; 1,4-
20 butanediol; 1,6-hexanediol; 1,8-octanediol; 2-ethyl-1,6-hexanediol; bis(hydroxymethyl)cyclohexane; 1,18-dihydroxyoctadecane; 3-chloro-1,2-propanediol); polyhydroxyalkanes (e.g., glycerine, tri-methylolethane, pentaerythritol, sorbitol) and other polyhydroxy compounds; 2-butyne-1,4-diol; 4,4-bis(hydroxymethyl)diphenylsulfone; castor oil; and the like.

25 Representative examples of useful polymeric hydroxyl-containing materials include polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene glycols, and particularly the polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene glycol diols and triols having molecular weights from about 200 to about 10,000 corresponding to a hydroxy equivalent weight of 100 to 5000 for the diols or 70 to 3300 for triols;
30 polytetramethylene ether glycols such as polytetrahydrofuran or "poly THF" of

varying molecular weight; copolymers of hydroxypropyl and hydroxyethyl acrylates and methacrylates with other free radical-polymerizable monomers such as acrylate esters, vinyl halides, or styrene; copolymers containing pendent hydroxy groups formed by hydrolysis or partial hydrolysis of vinyl acetate
5 copolymers, polyvinylacetal resins containing pendent hydroxyl groups; modified cellulose polymers such as hydroxyethylated and hydroxypropylated cellulose; hydroxy-terminated polyesters; hydroxy-terminated polylactones, and particularly the polycaprolactones; fluorinated polyoxyethylene or polyoxypropylene glycols; and hydroxy-terminated polyalkadienes.

10 Useful commercially available hydroxyl-containing materials include the "TERATHANE" series of polytetramethylene ether glycols such as "TERATHANE" 650, 1000, 2000 and 2900 (available from du Pont de Nemours, Wilmington, DE) the "PEP" series of polyoxyalkylene tetrols having secondary hydroxyl groups such as "PEP" 450, 550 and 650; "BUTVAR" series of
15 polyvinylacetal resins such as "BUTVAR" B-72A, B-73, B-76, B-90 and B-98 (available from Monsanto Chemical Company, St. Louis, MO); and the "FORMVAR" series of resins such as 7/70, 12/85, 7/95S, 7/95E, 15/95S and 15/95E (available from Monsanto Chemical Company); the "TONE" series of polycaprolactone polyols such as "TONE" 0200, 0210, 0230, 0240, 0300 and 0301
20 (available from Union Carbide); "PARAPLEX U-148" aliphatic polyester diol (available from Rohm and Haas, Philadelphia, PA), the "MULTRON" R series of saturated polyester polyols such as "MULTRON" R-2, R-12A, R-16, R-18, R-38, R-68 and R-74 (available from Mobay Chemical Co.); "KLUCEL E" hydroxypropylated cellulose having an equivalent weight of approximately 100
25 (available from Hercules Inc.); "Alcohol Soluble Butyrate" cellulose acetate butyrate ester having a hydroxyl equivalent weight of approximately 400 (available from Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, NY); polyether polyols such as polypropylene glycol diol (e.g., "ARCOL PPG-425", "ARCOL PPG-725", "ARCOL PPG-1025", "ARCOL PPG-2025", "ARCOL PPG-3025", "ARCOL PPG-4025"
30 from ARCO Chemical Co.); polypropylene glycol triol (e.g., "ARCOL LT-28",

"ARCOL LHT-42", "ARCOL LHT 112", "ARCOL LHT 240", "ARCOL LG-56", "ARCOL LG-168", "ARCOL LG-650" from ARCO Chemical Co.); ethylene oxide capped polyoxypropylene triol or diol (e.g., "ARCOL 11-27", "ARCOL 11-34", "ARCOL E-351", "ARCOL E-452", "ARCOL E-785", "ARCOL E-786" from ARCO Chemical Co.); ethoxylated bis-phenol A; propylene oxide or ethylene oxide - based polyols (e.g., "VORANOL" polyether polyols from the Dow Chemical Co.).

The amount of hydroxyl-containing organic material used in the polymerizable compositions may vary over broad ranges, depending upon factors such as the compatibility of the hydroxyl-containing material with the epoxide and/or free radically polymerizable component, the equivalent weight and functionality of the hydroxyl-containing material, the physical properties desired in the final composition, the desired speed of polymerization, and the like.

Blends of various hydroxyl-containing materials may also be used. Examples of such blends include two or more molecular weight distributions of hydroxyl-containing compounds, such as low molecular weight (below 200), intermediate molecular weight (about 200 to 10,000) and higher molecular weight (above about 10,000). Alternatively, or additionally, the hydroxyl-containing material can contain a blend of hydroxyl-containing materials having different chemical natures, such as aliphatic and aromatic, or functionalities, such as polar and non-polar. As an additional example, one may use mixtures of two or more poly-functional hydroxy materials or one or more mono-functional hydroxy materials with poly-functional hydroxy materials.

The polymerizable material(s) can also contain hydroxyl groups and free radically active functional groups in a single molecule. Examples of such materials include hydroxyalkylacrylates and hydroxyalkylmethacrylates such as hydroxyethylacrylate, hydroxyethylmethacrylate; glycerol mono- or di-(meth)acrylate; trimethylolpropane mono- or di-(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol mono-, di-, and tri-(meth)acrylate, sorbitol mono-, di-, tri-, tetra-, or penta-(meth)acrylate; and 2,2-bis[4-(2-hydroxy-3-methacryloxypropoxy)phenyl]propane.

The polymerizable material(s) can also contain hydroxyl groups and cationically active functional groups in a single molecule. An example is a single molecule that includes both hydroxyl groups and epoxy groups.

The polymerizable composition can also contain suitable additives such as fluoride sources, anti-microbial agents, accelerators, stabilizers, absorbers, pigments, dyes, viscosity modifiers, surface tension depressants and wetting aids, antioxidants, fillers, and other ingredients well known to those skilled in the art. The amounts and types of each ingredient should be adjusted to provide the desired physical and handling properties before and after polymerization.

10

Polymerization Procedure

The polymerizable compositions are prepared by admixing, under "safe light" conditions, the various components of the compositions. Suitable inert solvents may be employed if desired when effecting the mixture. Examples of suitable solvents include acetone, dichloromethane, and acetonitrile.

In the case of single initiation systems, polymerization is effected by exposing the composition to a radiation source, preferably a visible light source. It is convenient to employ light sources that emit ultraviolet or visible light such as quartz halogen lamps, tungsten-halogen lamps, mercury arcs, carbon arcs, low-, medium-, and high-pressure mercury lamps, plasma arcs, light emitting diodes, and lasers.

In general, useful light sources have intensities in the range of 200-500mW/cm². One example, which is particularly useful for dental applications, is a Visilux dental curing light commercially available from 3M Company of St. Paul, MN. Such lights have an intensity of about 200-400 mW/cm² at a wavelength of 400-500 nm.

The exposure may be effected in several ways. For example, the polymerizable composition may be continuously exposed to radiation throughout the entire polymerization process. It is also possible to expose the composition to a single dose of radiation, and then remove the radiation source, thereby allowing

30

polymerization to occur. Preferably, however, the composition is initially exposed to a single dose of radiation to initiate polymerization of the free radically active functional groups, followed by exposure to a second dose of radiation to initiate polymerization of the cationically active functional groups.

5 Where dual exposures are employed, the intensity of each dosage may be the same or different. Similarly, the total energy of each exposure may be the same or different.

 Regardless of the particular irradiation protocol employed, cationic polymerization-initiating species are also generated during the first exposure.

10 However, the amount of cationic polymerization modifier is sufficient to scavenge some or all of these species, thereby preventing cationic polymerization from occurring until a desired amount of time has elapsed.

 In the case of a single dose exposure, the amount of modifier is adjusted so that a sufficient number of cationic polymerization-initiating species remains to
15 initiate cationic polymerization. Initiation is delayed, however, because the concentration of cationic polymerization-initiating species effectively has been decreased.

 In the case of continuous radiation exposure, additional cationic polymerization-initiating species continue to be generated, thereby augmenting the
20 concentration of such species. Again, however, because of the cationic scavenging effect of the modifier, the concentration of such species is lower than it would have been in the absence of the modifier, resulting in delayed cationic polymerization.

 In the case of the dual exposure protocol, the modifier concentration is adjusted such that it scavenges substantially all of the available cationic
25 polymerization-initiating species, thereby preventing any significant amount of cationic polymerization from occurring. Upon exposure to a second dose of radiation, however, additional species are generated. Because modifier molecules are no longer available to perform the scavenging function, these species then proceed to initiate cationic polymerization. The net effect, therefore, is to "turn

off" cationic polymerization until a desired amount of time has elapsed, and then to "turn it on" again at the end of this period.

Delaying the onset of cationic polymerization is also achieved using the dual initiation systems. In such systems, preferential polymerization of the free
5 radically active functional groups is initiated by selectively activating the free radical initiation system. Because this system does not generate cationically active species, cationic polymerization does not occur. After a desired amount of time has elapsed, cationic polymerization is activated by exposing the composition to radiation (preferably visible radiation), at which point the cationic polymerization
10 proceeds.

Regardless of whether single or dual initiation systems are used, the ability to perform a staged cure offers the advantage of controlling the overall polymerization process. This ability is particularly useful in dentistry, as the viscosity (and thus the workability) of the composition changes significantly
15 throughout the polymerization process. For example, the pre-polymerized composition is generally in the form of a viscous liquid that can readily be applied to a tooth. Upon irradiation, polymerization of the free radically active groups occurs, leading to the ultimate formation of a higher viscosity "gel." This gel has unique handling characteristics. Specifically, it can be readily shaped, adapted,
20 carved, or otherwise manipulated; thus, the dentist can manipulate it to fill crevices and conform to desired portions of the tooth surface. Once manipulation is complete, cationic polymerization is initiated, causing the composition to form a hardened solid that provides the ultimate characteristics of the product. This solid, however, cannot be readily manipulated without using mechanical abrasives or
25 machining (e.g., burrs or bits). By controlling the onset of cationic polymerization, the dentist has ample time to manipulate the composition while it is still in the gel form.

The invention will now be described further by way of the following examples.

30

EXAMPLES

Examples 1-21 and Control

A stock resin solution (Stock Solution #1) was prepared by combining 5.0 g camphorquinone (CPQ) and 15.0 g diaryliodonium hexafluoroantimonate (CD1012 from Sartomer) with 720.0 g Cyracure™ UVR 6105 cycloaliphatic diepoxide resin (available from Union Carbide), 180.0 g of a polytetrahydrofuran diol having an average molecular weight of 250 (p-THF-250, available from Aldrich Chemical Co.), and 100 g of acrylate oligomer (Ebecryl 1830, available from UCB Radcure, Inc.), and stirring until homogeneous under safe light conditions.

A second stock solution (Stock Solution #2) was prepared by combining 10.0 g of Stock Solution #1 with a sufficient amount of a cationic polymerization modifier to achieve a modifier concentration of 1.13×10^{-4} moles per 10.0 g of Stock Solution #1. A total of 22 solutions were prepared, each with a different cationic polymerization modifier. The following cationic polymerization modifiers were used:

Example	Modifier
1	4-(dimethylamino)phenylacetic acid
2	Dimethylaminphenethanol
3	Dihydroxy-p-toluidine
4	N-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-N,N-diethanolamine
5	2,4,6-pentamethylaniline
6	Dimethylbenzylamine
7	N,N-dimethylacetamide
8	Tetramethylurea
9	N-methyldiethanolamine
10	Triethylamine
11	2-(methylamino)ethanol
12	Dibutylamine

13	Diethanolamine
14	N-ethylmorpholine
15	Trimethyl-1,3-propanediamine
16	3-quinuclidinol
17	Triphenylphosphine
18	Sodium toluene sulfinate
19	Tricyclohexylphosphine
20	N-methylpyrrolidone
21	T-butyl dimethylaniline

Three experimental samples were then prepared for each cationic polymerization modifier by combining sufficient amounts of Stock Solution #1 and Stock Solution #2 to arrive at samples having a modifier concentration of 1.4×10^{-6} moles/g (prepared by combining 3.5 g of Stock Solution #1 and 0.5 g of Stock Solution #2), 2.8×10^{-6} moles/g (prepared by combining 3.0 g of Stock Solution #1 and 1.0 g of Stock Solution #2), and 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g (prepared by combining 2.0 g of Stock Solution #1 and 2.0 g of Stock Solution #2), respectively. A control sample was also prepared that consisted of 100% of Stock Solution #1.

The polymerization behavior of each sample was examined using differential scanning photocalorimetry ("Photo DSC"). The equipment used was a TA Instruments Dual Sample Photo DSC model 2920 with a 10 mg cured resin reference. The light source was a mercury/argon lamp with an Oriel PN 59480 425 nm long pass light filter. The light intensity was 3mW/cm^2 , measured using an International Light light meter Model IL 1400 equipped with a Model XRL 340A detector.

An aluminum sample pan was prepared using 10 mg of each sample. The sample temperature was then raised to 37°C and held at that temperature for one minute. Next, the light aperture was opened to irradiate the sample. During irradiation the sample temperature was held at 37°C . The total irradiation time was

30 minutes. After 30 minutes, the aperture was closed and the sample maintained at 37°C for one additional minute.

Data was collected as heat output per unit weight (mW/g). The data was analyzed using TA Thermal Solutions Universal Analysis software. The

5 following parameters were determined for each sample:

T_1 (induction period for acrylate initiation);

T_3 (induction period for epoxy initiation);

T_4 (time to reach peak max for epoxy polymerization);

10 Exotherm associated with epoxy polymerization (J/g).

Photo DSC analysis was also performed on the control sample which lacked a cationic polymerization modifier. The induction period for epoxy initiation was measured and designated T_2 . The value of T_2 was 1.93 minutes. The

15 difference between T_2 and T_3 was then calculated for each sample prepared with a cationic polymerization modifier to determine the effect of the modifier on extending the epoxy induction period.

The exotherm of the control sample was determined as well. Its value was 227.9 J/g. It was then compared to the exotherm of the cationic

20 polymerization modifier-containing samples. If the exotherm value of the modifier-containing sample was at least 5% of the exotherm value of the control sample, the epoxy polymerization was determined to be a successful polymerization.

The results of these experiments are shown in Table I. All modifier

25 concentrations are given as moles of modifier $\times 10^{-6}$ /g resin. All induction period values are given in minutes. All exotherm values are given in J/g.

The asterisks associated with Example 4 (modifier concentration = 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g resin) and Example 20 (modifier concentration = 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g resin) reflect the fact that the peak max for epoxy polymerization was not observed

30 within the time scale used for the experiment (i.e., 30 minutes). With respect to the

remaining samples, the results demonstrate that, with two exceptions (Example 7/modifier concentration = 1.4×10^{-6} moles/g resin and Example 8/modifier concentration = 1.4×10^{-6} moles/g resin), each cationic polymerization initiator, at the concentrations tested, extended the time period for cationic epoxy initiation, as evidenced by the fact that all values of T_3 were greater than T_2 , without unacceptably suppressing the epoxy polymerization reaction, as evidenced by the fact that the exotherm value for each sample was greater than 5% of the corresponding value for the control sample. The relatively low T_3 values for the Example 7 and Example 8 samples noted above reflect the fact that epoxy initiation occurred relatively soon after acrylate initiation. However, the T_4 - T_3 values, computed for these two samples as discussed below, demonstrate that, once initiated, the epoxy polymerization rate was relatively slow.

The difference between T_4 and T_3 reflects the rate at which the epoxy polymerization proceeds. The smaller the difference, the higher the polymerization rate. This difference was determined for both the modifier-containing samples and the control sample. In the case of the latter, the difference between T_4 and T_2 was determined and found to be 4.86. As shown in Table I, some of the samples exhibited differences that were less than the difference exhibited by the control sample, indicating that once initiated, the epoxy polymerization of these samples proceeded at a greater rate than that of the control sample.

TABLE I

Example	Modifier concentration	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	T ₂ -T ₁	T ₃ -T ₁	Exotherm	Exotherm/Exotherm (control)
1	1.4	0.08	2.50	6.22	0.57	3.72	220.6	0.97
	2.8	0.07	3.29	7.07	1.36	3.78	220.2	0.97
	5.6	0.05	4.74	9.74	2.81	5.00	246.6	1.08
2	1.4	0.08	2.92	6.79	0.99	3.87	225.2	0.99
	2.8	0.09	4.14	7.99	2.21	3.85	220.9	0.97
	5.6	0.09	6.13	10.83	4.20	4.70	241.0	1.06
3	1.4	0.06	7.25	12.45	5.32	5.2	228.8	1.0
	2.8	0.07	11.01	16.83	9.08	5.82	193.4	0.85
	5.6	0.06	18.91	26.61	16.98	7.7	74.6	0.33
4	1.4	0.15	7.68	13.89	5.75	6.21	200.5	0.88
	2.8	0.18	11.61	19.19	9.68	7.58	168.9	0.74
	5.6	0.20	*	*	*	*	*	*
5	1.4	0.06	2.62	6.70	0.69	4.08	235.7	1.03
	2.8	0.05	3.35	6.76	1.42	3.41	232.2	1.02
	5.6	0.04	5.39	8.98	3.46	3.59	230.0	1.01
6	1.4	0.05	2.15	5.56	0.22	3.41	245.9	1.08
	2.8	0.06	2.52	5.45	0.59	2.93	249.1	1.09
	5.6	0.07	3.19	6.41	1.26	3.22	265.1	1.16
7	1.4	0.08	1.71	16.30	-0.22	14.59	155.7	0.68
	2.8	0.08	9.59	23.28	7.66	13.69	88.9	0.39
	5.6	0.11	13.19	30.01	11.26	16.82	50.9	0.22
8	1.4	0.12	1.90	13.72	-0.03	11.82	163.0	0.71
	2.8	0.14	1.99	19.24	0.06	17.25	111.1	0.49
	5.6	0.11	1.95	30.01	0.02	28.06	61.5	0.27
9	1.4	0.10	2.73	5.25	0.8	2.52	269.4	1.18
	2.8	0.11	3.31	5.51	1.38	2.2	269.9	1.18
	5.6	0.13	4.55	6.85	2.62	2.3	269.0	1.18
10	1.4	0.16	2.99	5.50	1.06	2.51	281.6	1.23
	2.8	0.17	3.66	5.75	1.73	2.09	277.5	1.22
	5.6	0.11	4.75	6.66	2.82	1.91	285.1	1.25
11	1.4	0.10	2.99	5.57	1.06	2.58	278.5	1.22
	2.8	0.10	3.77	5.83	1.84	2.06	280.2	1.23
	5.6	0.12	5.63	7.61	3.70	1.98	282.8	1.24
12	1.4	0.05	2.55	4.94	0.62	2.39	281.5	1.23
	2.8	0.05	3.33	5.26	1.4	1.93	275.8	1.21
	5.6	0.05	5.09	7.01	3.16	1.92	286.2	1.25
13	1.4	0.06	2.44	4.94	0.51	2.5	272.0	1.19
	2.8	0.07	3.02	5.02	1.09	2.0	270.4	1.19
	5.6	0.08	4.19	6.02	2.26	1.83	274.6	1.20
14	1.4	0.08	2.41	5.09	0.48	2.68	278.6	1.22
	2.8	0.08	2.82	5.36	0.89	2.54	286.4	1.26
	5.6	0.07	3.62	6.30	1.69	2.68	274.5	1.20
15	1.4	0.05	3.23	5.48	1.3	2.25	268.1	1.18
	2.8	0.07	4.73	7.01	2.8	2.28	257.1	1.13
	5.6	0.06	8.21	11.88	6.28	3.67	235.2	1.03
16	1.4	0.06	2.39	4.84	0.46	2.45	262.7	1.15
	2.8	0.07	3.22	5.22	1.29	2.0	260.0	1.14
	5.6	0.06	4.87	6.78	2.94	1.91	266.4	1.17
17	1.4	0.08	1.95	11.81	0.02	9.86	220.3	0.97
	2.8	0.08	2.69	15.62	0.76	12.93	186.3	0.82
	5.6	0.07	5.21	19.38	3.28	14.17	154.8	0.68
18	1.4	0.10	2.20	5.51	0.27	3.31	264.7	1.16
	2.8	0.10	2.65	5.51	0.72	2.86	256.0	1.12

	5.6	0.08	3.41	5.79	1.48	2.38	274.2	1.20
19	1.4	0.07	4.51	10.95	2.58	6.44	226.6	0.99
	2.8	0.08	7.02	14.99	5.09	7.97	189.3	0.83
	5.6	0.09	11.15	21.27	9.22	10.12	131.5	0.58
20	1.4	0.10	7.96	16.26	6.03	8.3	187.0	0.82
	2.8	0.11	14.14	24.15	12.21	10.01	92.2	0.40
	5.6	0.09	*	*	*	*	*	*
21	1.4	0.08	2.81	6.30	0.88	3.49	246.9	1.08
	2.8	0.08	3.96	7.68	2.03	3.72	247.4	1.08
	5.6	0.07	5.60	10.12	3.67	4.52	257.2	1.13

Examples 22-24 and Control

The procedure of Examples 1-21 was followed except that filled composite samples were tested. In addition, a stock solution (Stock Solution #3) having modifier concentrations two times higher than the amounts used in Stock Solution #2 were used to prepare samples for testing. Three different modifiers were tested: 2-(methylamino)ethanol (Example 22), trimethyl-1,3-propanediamine (Example 23), and t-butyl dimethyl aniline (Example 24). Four experimental samples were then prepared for each cationic polymerization modifier by combining sufficient amounts of Stock Solution #1 and Stock Solution #3 to arrive at samples having a modifier concentration of 2.8×10^{-6} moles/g (prepared by combining 3.5 g of Stock Solution #1 and 0.5 g of Stock Solution #2), 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g (prepared by combining 3.0 g of Stock Solution #1 and 1.0 g of Stock Solution #2), 11.26×10^{-6} moles/g (prepared by combining 2.0 g of Stock Solution #1 and 2.0 g of Stock Solution #2), and 22.4×10^{-6} moles/g (prepared by combining 0.0 g of Stock Solution #1 and 4.0 g of Stock Solution #2), respectively. A control sample was also prepared that consisted of 100% of Stock Solution #1. Each sample, including the control sample, was then combined with a sufficient amount of an epoxy silane-treated quartz filler to create a filled paste having 84% by weight filler and 16% by weight resin.

The samples were then subjected to Photo DSC as described above. The results are reported in Table II. The designation "###" means that no measurable epoxy polymerization could be detected within the time period of the test (i.e., 30 minutes), suggesting that the modifier concentration was so high that it suppressed epoxy polymerization, rather than merely delaying it. For comparison

purposes, the control sample exhibited a T_2 value of 2.99, a T_4 value of 6.37, and an exotherm value of 58.99 J/g. The difference between T_4 and T_2 , reflecting the rate of polymerization for the control sample, was 3.38.

The results shown in Table II demonstrate that both the identity of the modifier and its concentration are important with respect to the ability of the modifier to delay the onset of epoxy polymerization without suppressing polymerization entirely.

TABLE II

10

Example	Modifier Concentration	T_1	T_3	T_4	T_3-T_2	T_4-T_3	Exotherm	Exotherm/Exotherm (control)
22	2.8	0.03	2.89	6.20	-0.1	3.31	52.97	0.90
	5.6	0.04	3.50	6.61	0.51	3.11	61.15	1.04
	11.2	0.02	5.41	9.96	2.42	4.55	51.99	0.88
	22.4	0.03	9.77	20.38	6.78	10.61	9.51	0.16
23	2.8	0.04	4.17	7.37	1.18	3.2	53.32	0.90
	5.6	0.04	6.62	11.15	3.63	4.53	54.08	0.92
	11.2	0.04	###	###	###	###	###	###
	22.4	0.05	###	###	###	###	###	###
24	2.8	0.06	2.63	6.77	-0.36	4.14	50.51	0.86
	5.6	0.05	3.15	7.45	0.16	4.3	59.41	1.01
	11.2	0.04	4.49	9.81	1.50	5.32	50.75	0.86
	22.4	0.05	6.19	15.55	3.2	9.36	17.95	0.30

Examples 25-26 and Control

Two sets of samples were prepared following the procedure used to prepare Examples 22-24. The first set of samples (Example 25) included three samples prepared using 2-(methylamino)-ethanol as the cationic polymerization modifier in concentrations of 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g resin, 11.2×10^{-6} moles/g resin, and 22.4×10^{-6} moles/g resin. The second set of samples (Example 26) included three samples prepared using trimethyl-1,1,3-propanediamine as the cationic polymerization modifier in concentrations of 2.8×10^{-6} moles/g resin, 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g resin, and 11.2×10^{-6} moles/g resin. The samples, as well as a control sample, were then subjected to Photo DSC as described above. The results are shown in Fig. 1 (Example 25) and Fig. 2 (Example 26).

Referring to Fig. 1, two distinct peaks were observed, with the exception of the sample containing the highest modifier concentration (22.4×10^{-6} moles/g resin). Acrylate polymerization initiation occurred first. The induction period for acrylate polymerization was short and relatively unchanged regardless of the modifier concentration. However, at modifier concentrations of 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g resin and 11.2×10^{-6} moles/g resin, the epoxy induction period was clearly lengthened relative to the control sample. In each case, however, epoxy polymerization proceeded successfully once initiated. Moreover, the rate of epoxy polymerization was greater than the rate of the control sample, as evidenced by the fact that the epoxy exotherm peak was narrower for the modifier-containing samples relative to the control sample; the effect was particularly pronounced in the case of the sample containing 5.6×10^{-6} moles/g resin. Once the modifier concentration reached 22.4×10^{-6} g/mole resin, however, the epoxy polymerization was suppressed, as evidenced by the lack of a detectable epoxy peak.

Similar effects were observed in Fig. 2 in the case of Example 26. Samples containing 2.8×10^{-6} g/mole resin and 5.6×10^{-6} g/mole resin exhibited longer induction periods for epoxy polymerization relative to the control sample, while acrylate polymerization was relatively unaffected. The 2.8×10^{-6} g/mole resin sample also exhibited a higher epoxy polymerization rate than the control sample, as evidenced by the narrower peak. At a modifier concentration of 11.2×10^{-6} g/mole resin, the epoxy polymerization was suppressed, as evidenced by the lack of a detectable epoxy peak.

Examples 27-30

These examples describe epoxy-acrylate blends polymerized using a dual irradiation procedure.

Four resin solutions were prepared by combining various amounts of camphorquinone (CPQ), diaryliodonium hexafluoroantimonate (CD1012), and t-butyl dimethyl aniline (tBDMA) with UVR 6105 cycloaliphatic diepoxide resin (73.6 wt.%), p-THF-250 (18.4 wt.%), and Ebecryl 1830 acrylate oligomer (8 wt.%), and stirring until homogeneous under safe light conditions. The amounts of

CPQ, CD1012, and tBDMA for each example were as follows (all amounts in wt.%):

Example	CPQ	CD1012	TBDMA
27	0.7	1.0	0.2
28	0.7	2.0	0.2
29	0.2	1.0	0.2
30	0.2	2.0	0.2

5

Each sample was placed on a polyester film and then irradiated using a 3M Model 5530 AAWZ curing light having a 12 mm light guide. The distance between the curing light and the sample was 1 cm. Each sample was irradiated for 10 seconds and then tested for handling characteristics. Each sample was then allowed to sit for 5 minutes and then re-evaluated, after which each sample was irradiated until it formed a hard solid. All samples remained relatively soft and manipulatable after periods of 10 seconds and 5 minutes following the first irradiation, and formed hard solids following the second irradiation.

15 Example 31

This example describes polymerization of an epoxy/methacrylate composition using a redox initiation system (benzoyl peroxide plus dimethylaminophenethanol ("DMAPE")) for initiating free radical polymerization of the acrylate and an iodonium salt for initiating cationic polymerization of the epoxy.

A stock solution ("Stock Solution #4") was prepared by combining 0.1 g camphorquinone (CPQ), 0.3 g diaryliodonium hexafluoroantimonate (CD1012), 18.0 g UVR 6105 cycloaliphatic diepoxide resin, and 2 g Ebecryl 1830 acrylate oligomer with stirring until homogeneous under safe light conditions. 9.94 g of Stock Solution #4 was then combined with 0.03 g ethyl dimethylaminobenzoate

25

("EDMAB") and 0.03 g DMAPE to create Stock Solution #5. An additional 9.90 g of Stock Solution #4 was combined with 0.10 g benzoyl peroxide to create Stock Solution #6.

0.50 mL of Stock Solution #5 and 0.50 mL of Stock Solution #6 were
5 combined in a glass vial and mixed thoroughly in a dark room. After 7.5 minutes, the mass had solidified to form a gelatinous solid, reflecting polymerization of the Ebecryl 1830 acrylate oligomer. The gelled material was then exposed to light from a 3M Visilux 2 dental curing light commercially available from 3M Company of St. Paul, MN to initiate epoxy polymerization. After a 50 second exposure the
10 material exothermed and formed a hard solid.

In a second experiment, the gelled material was not exposed to the Visilux light. In the absence of exposure, the material remained gelled (i.e., it did not form a hard solid) for an extended period of time, reflecting the absence of any measurable epoxy polymerization.

15 Other embodiments are within the following claims.

For Example, the above-described polymerizable compositions may be provided on a substrate.

Throughout this specification and the claims which follow, unless the context requires otherwise, the word "comprise", or variations such as "comprises" or "comprising", will be understood to imply the inclusion of a stated integer or step or group of integers or steps but not the exclusion of any other integer or step or group of integers or steps.

The reference to any prior art in this specification is not, and should not be taken as an acknowledgment or any form of suggestion that prior art forms part of the common general knowledge in Australia.



The claims defining the invention are as follows:

1. A photopolymerizable dental composition comprising:
 - (a) a cationically active functional group;
 - (b) a free radically active functional group; and
 - 5 (c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at a reaction temperature less than about 40°C, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 ,
- 10 said photoinitiation system comprising:
 - (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and
 - (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier,
- 15 wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .
2. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
- 20 wherein said source comprises an onium salt.
3. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
- wherein said source comprises an iodonium salt.
- 25 4. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
- wherein cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 proceeds at a rate that is greater than the rate in the absence of said cationic polymerization modifier under the same irradiation conditions.



5 5. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said photoinitiator system has a photoinduced potential less than that of 3-
dimethylaminobenzoic acid in a standard solution of 2.9×10^{-5} moles/g
diphenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate and 1.5×10^{-5} moles/g camphorquinone
in 2-butanone.

10 6. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said modifier has a pK_b value measured in aqueous solution of no greater
than 10.

15 7. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said modifier comprises an aromatic amine.

20 8. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 7
wherein said aromatic amine comprises t-butyl dimethylaniline.

25 9. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said modifier comprises an aliphatic amine.

30 10. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 9
wherein said aliphatic amine is selected from the group consisting of trimethyl-1,3-
propane diamine, 2-(methylamino)ethanol, and combinations thereof.

35 11. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said modifier comprises an aliphatic amide.

40 12. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said modifier comprises an aliphatic urea.

13. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said modifier comprises a phosphine.
14. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
5 wherein said modifier comprises a salt of an organic or inorganic acid.
15. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 14
wherein said modifier comprises a sulfinic acid salt.
- 10 16. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said photoinitiation system further comprises a photosensitizer.
- 15 17. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 16
wherein said photosensitizer comprises a visible light sensitizer.
18. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 16
wherein said photosensitizer comprises an alpha diketone.
19. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
20 wherein said composition comprises an epoxy resin having a cationically active
functional group.
- 25 20. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said composition comprises a vinyl ether having a cationically active
functional group.
21. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1
wherein said composition comprises an ethylenically unsaturated compound
having a free radically active functional group.

30

22. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 21 wherein said ethylenically unsaturated compound is selected from the group consisting of an acrylic acid ester, a methacrylic acid ester, and combinations thereof.

5

23. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 21 wherein said ethylenically unsaturated compound is selected from the group consisting of a hydroxy-functional acrylic acid ester, a hydroxy-functional methacrylic acid ester, and combinations thereof.

10

24. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition comprises (a) an epoxy resin having a cationically active functional group and (b) ethylenically unsaturated compound having a free radically active functional group selected from the group consisting of an acrylic acid ester, a methacrylic acid ester, and combinations thereof.

15

25. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition comprises (a) a vinyl ether resin having a cationically active functional group and (b) ethylenically unsaturated compound having a free radically active functional group selected from the group consisting of an acrylic acid ester, a methacrylic acid ester, and combinations thereof.

20

26. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition comprises a polymerizable component comprising a cationically active functional group and a free radically active functional group.

25

27. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 26 wherein said polymerizable component is selected from the group consisting of an epoxy-functional acrylic acid ester, an epoxy-functional methacrylic acid ester, and combinations thereof.

30

28. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1 further comprising a polyol.

5 29. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition comprises a dental adhesive.

30. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition comprises a dental composite.

10

31. A photopolymerizable composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition comprises a dental sealant.

15 32. A photopolymerizable composition comprising:
(a) a cationically active functional group;
(b) a free radically active functional group; and
(c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at a reaction temperature less than about 40°C, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic
20 polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 ,

said photoinitiation system comprising:

(i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical
polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic
25 polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and

(ii) a cationic polymerization modifier,

wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .

30

33. A method of polymerizing a photopolymerizable dental composition, said method comprising applying said composition to a surface and exposing said composition to a source of actinic radiation at a reaction temperature less than 40°C,

5 said photopolymerizable composition comprising:

- (a) a cationically active functional group;
- (b) a free radically active functional group; and
- (c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at said reaction

10 temperature, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 ,

 said photoinitiation system comprising:

15 (i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and

- (ii) a cationic polymerization modifier,

20 wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .

34. A method according to claim 33 comprising continuously exposing said photopolymerizable composition to a source of actinic radiation.

25 35. A method according to claim 33 comprising exposing said photopolymerizable composition to a single dose of actinic radiation.

36. A method according to claim 33 comprising:

(a) exposing said photopolymerizable composition at a first reaction temperature to a first dose of actinic radiation to initiate polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 ; and

(b) thereafter exposing said photopolymerizable composition at a
5 second reaction temperature to a second dose of actinic radiation to initiate polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 .

37. A method according to claim 36 wherein said actinic radiation
10 of said first dose has the same wavelength as said actinic radiation of said second dose.

38. A method according to claim 33 wherein said actinic radiation
15 comprises visible radiation.

39. A method according to claim 33 wherein said
photopolymerizable composition comprises an epoxy resin having a cationically
active functional group.

40. A method according to claim 33 wherein said
20 photopolymerizable composition comprises (a) an epoxy resin having a cationically active functional group and (b) an ethylenically unsaturated compound having a free radically active functional group selected from the group consisting of an acrylic acid ester, a methacrylic acid ester, and combinations thereof.

41. A method according to claim 33 wherein said
25 photopolymerizable composition comprises a polymerizable component comprising a cationically active functional group and a free radically active functional group.

30

42. A method according to claim 36 wherein said first reaction temperature and said second reaction temperature are substantially the same.

43. A method of polymerizing a composition, said method
5 comprising exposing a photopolymerizable composition to a source of actinic radiation at a reaction temperature,
said photopolymerizable composition comprising:
(a) a cationically active functional group;
(b) a free radically active functional group; and
10 (c) a photoinitiation system capable of initiating, at said reaction temperature, free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group after a finite induction period T_1 and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group after a finite induction period T_3 , where T_3 is greater than T_1 ,
15 said photoinitiation system comprising:
(i) a source of species capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group and cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group; and
(ii) a cationic polymerization modifier,
20 wherein in the absence of said modifier, cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group is initiated under the same irradiation conditions at the end of a finite induction period T_2 , where T_2 is less than T_3 .

- 25 44. A method of preparing a polymerized dental composition, said method comprising:
(a) providing a polymerizable dental composition comprising:
(i) a cationically active functional group;
(ii) a free radically active functional group;

(iii) a first initiation system capable of initiating free radical polymerization of said free radically active functional group at a first reaction temperature less than 40°C; and

5 (iv) a second initiation system different from said first initiation system that is capable of initiating photo-induced cationic polymerization of said cationically active functional group at a second reaction temperature less than 40°C;

(b) applying said composition to a surface;

10 (c) inducing polymerization of said free radically active functional group at said first reaction temperature; and

(d) thereafter exposing said composition to actinic radiation at said second reaction temperature to cause polymerization of said cationically active functional group.

15 45. A method according to claim 44 wherein said first initiation system comprises a photoinitiation system.

46. A method according to claim 44 wherein said first initiation system comprises a thermal initiation system.

20

47. A method according to claim 44 wherein said first initiation system comprises a redox initiation system.

25 48. A method according to claim 44 wherein said composition comprises an epoxy resin having a cationically active functional group.

49. A method according to claim 44 wherein said composition comprises (a) an epoxy resin having a cationically active functional group and (b) an ethylenically unsaturated compound having a free radically active functional

group selected from the group consisting of an acrylic acid ester, a methacrylic acid ester, and combinations thereof.

50. A method according to claim 44 wherein said composition comprises a polymerizable component comprising a cationically active functional group and a free radically active functional group.

51. A method according to claim 48 wherein said first reaction temperature and said second reaction temperature are substantially the same.

52. A photopolymerizable composition or a photopolymerizable dental composition substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the Examples and accompanying figures.

53. Methods of polymerizing a composition or a photopolymerizable dental composition or methods of preparing a polymerized dental composition substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the Examples and accompanying figures.

DATED this 31st day of August, 2001

MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY

By its Patent Attorneys

DAVIES COLLISON CAVE



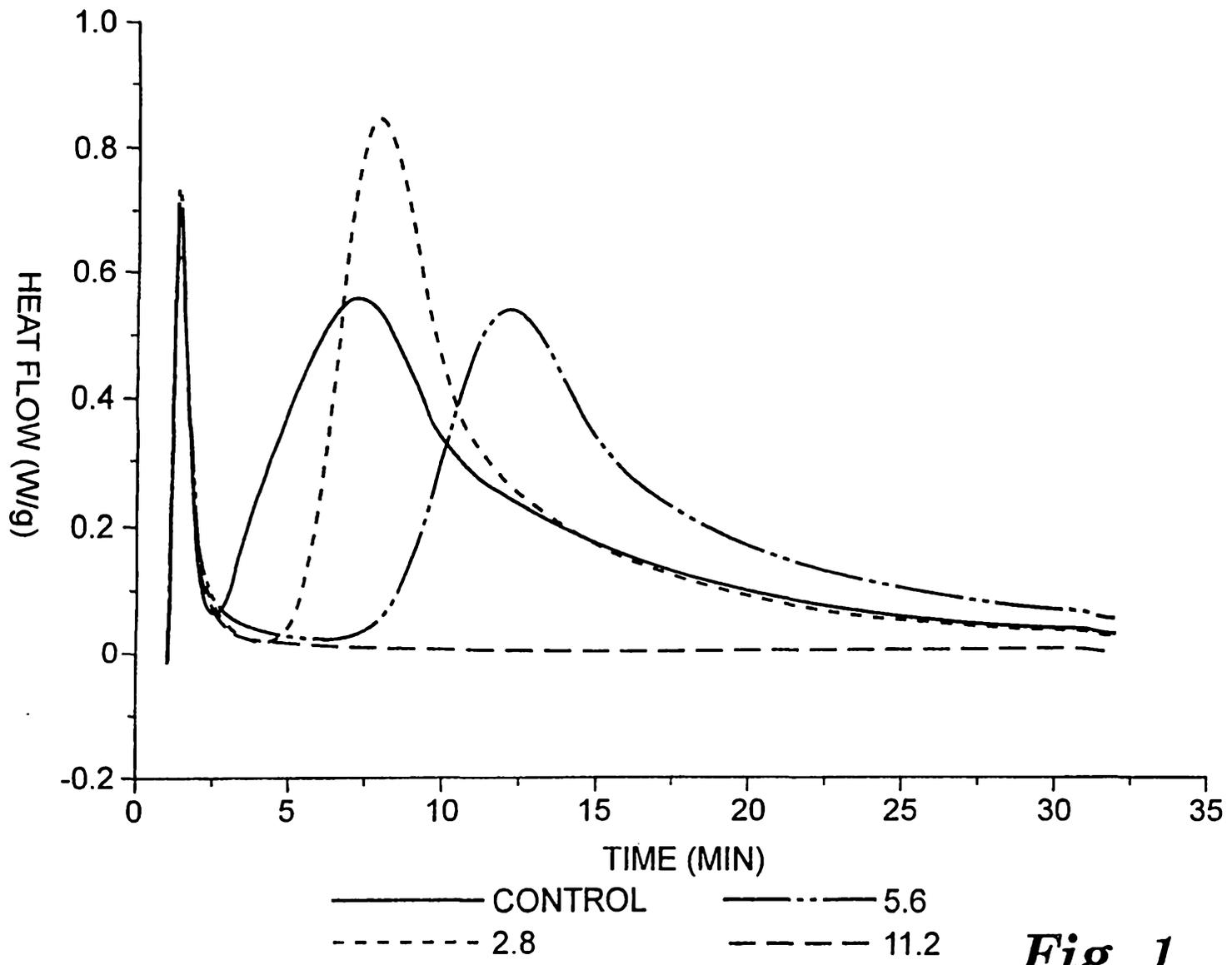


Fig. 1

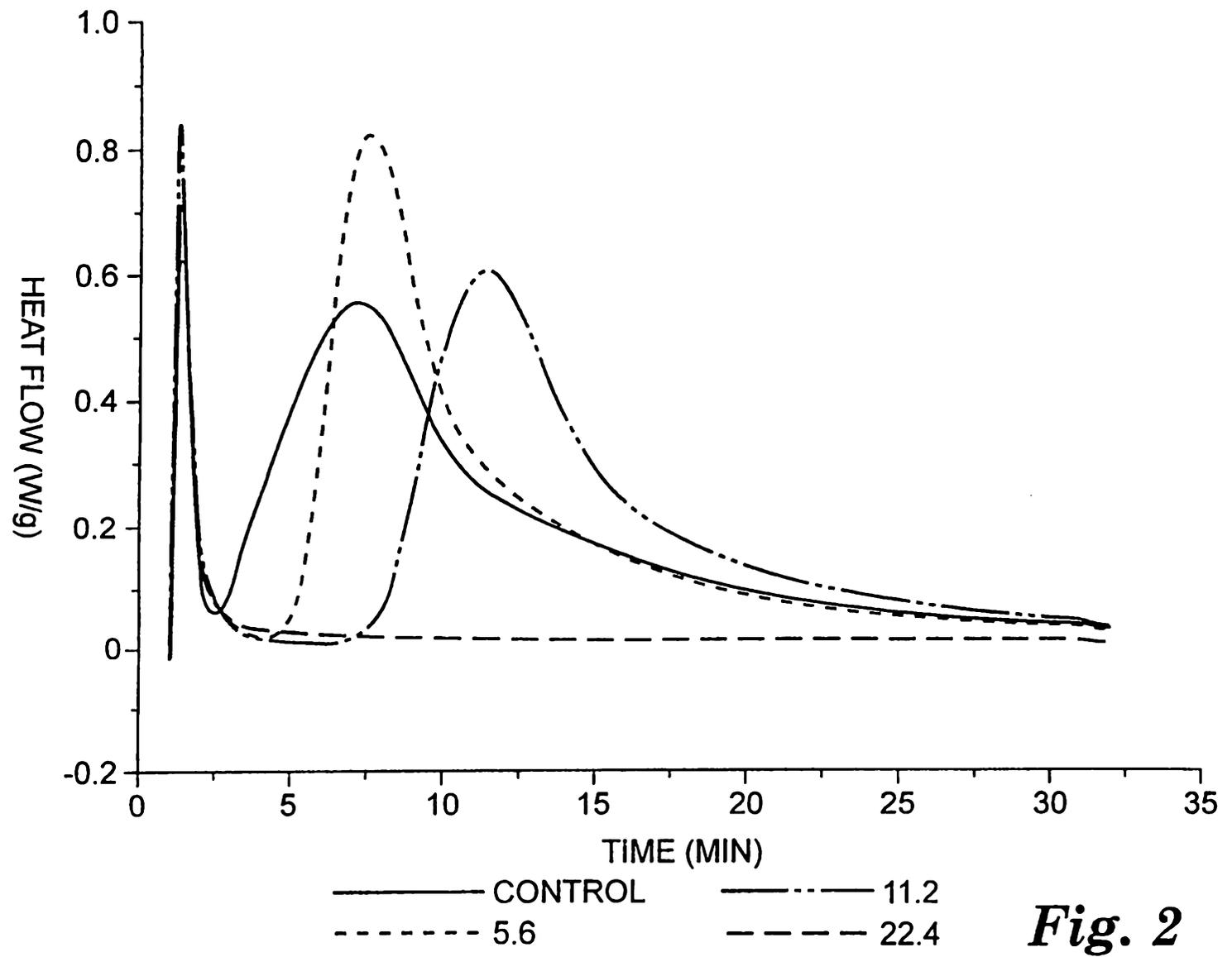


Fig. 2