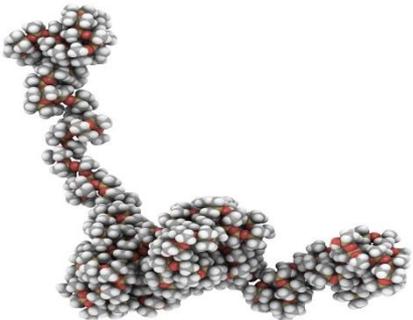


# UV REACTIVE SILICONES FOR 3D PRINTING

Bob Ruckle (robert@siltech.com)

Tom Seung-Tong Cheung (tom2@siltech.com)

Siltech Corporation  
Toronto, ON Canada

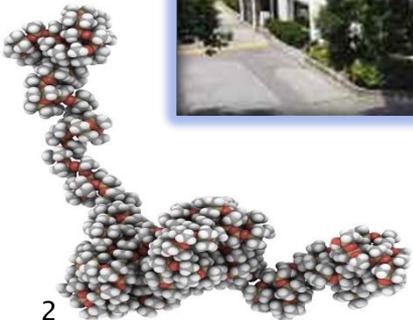


# Siltech Background

- ▶ Family owned/operated
- ▶ 120 Employees
- ▶ Focus on modified silicones
- ▶ 20 kg to 30,000 kg reactors in two modern plants

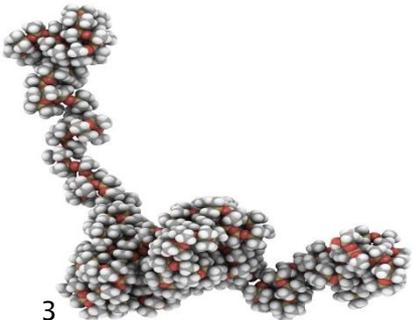


**Headquarters**  
225 Wicksteed Avenue  
Toronto, ON  
Canada M4H 1G5  
+1 (416) 424-4567  
[www.siltech.com](http://www.siltech.com)

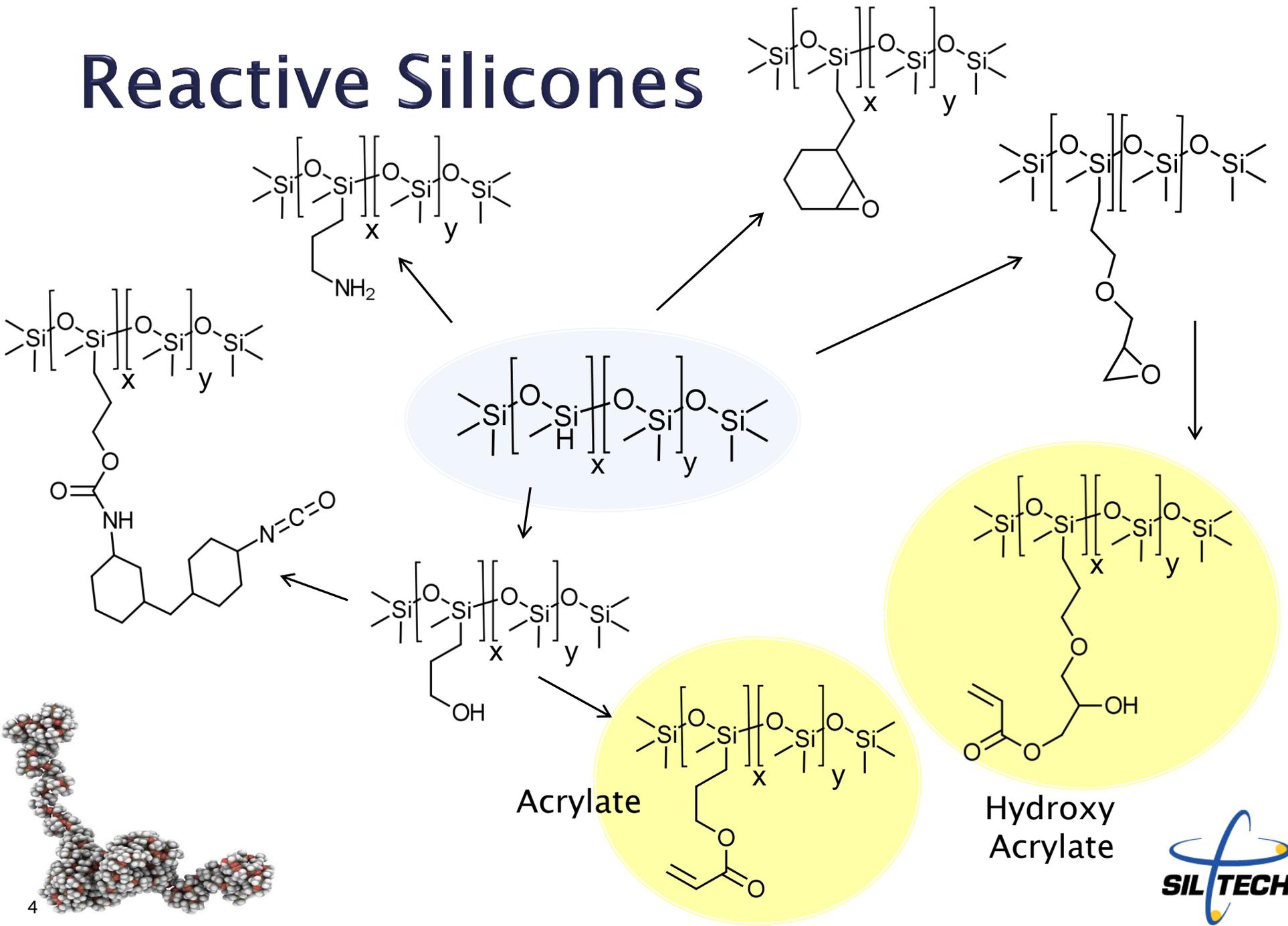


# Agenda

- ▶ Overview. Reactive silicones
- ▶ Silicones reacted with themselves.
  - Structure Property/ Formulating.
- ▶ Silicones reacted with other resins.
- ▶ 3D printed examples

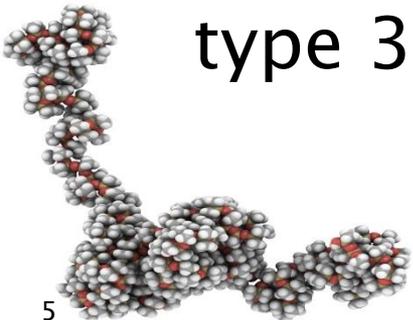


# Reactive Silicones

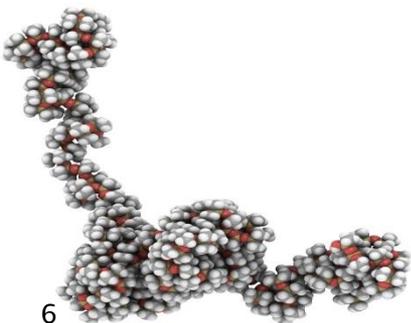
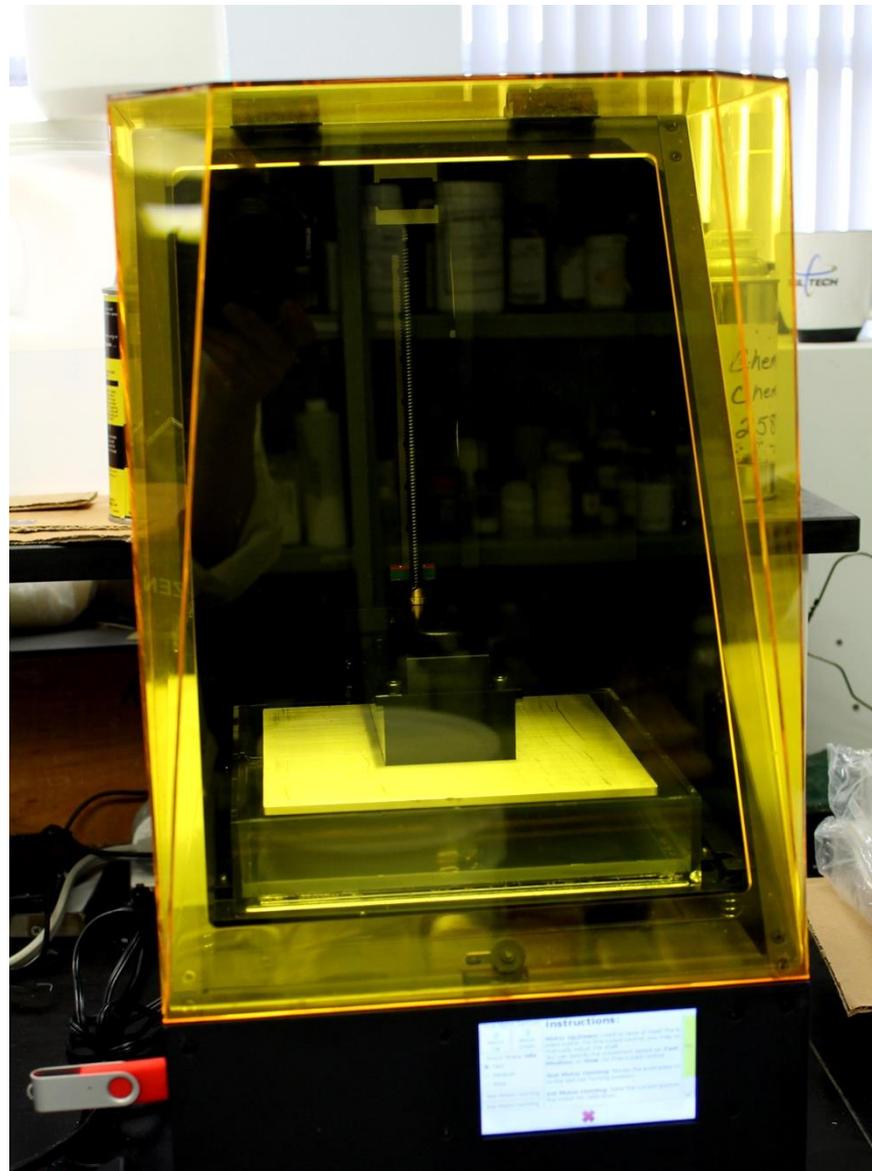


# Experimental

- ▶ Materials are cured in a TA Instrument AR-G2 Rheometer using:
  - 150 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> LCD UV lamp at 365nm
  - UV lamp turned on at 300 sec. for 600 sec.
  - Strain Set at 0.05% with normal force control
- ▶ Properties measured with an Instron 1122 according to ASTM D412 using separately cured dumbbells.
- ▶ Some dumbbells were 3D printed with a SLA type 3D printer from Full Spectrum Laser

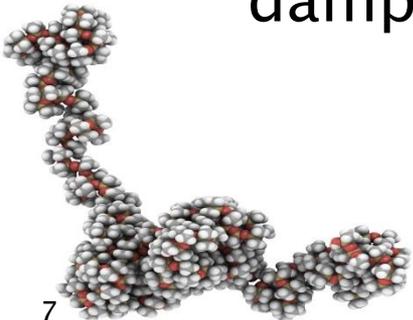


# Pegasus Touch from FSL3D



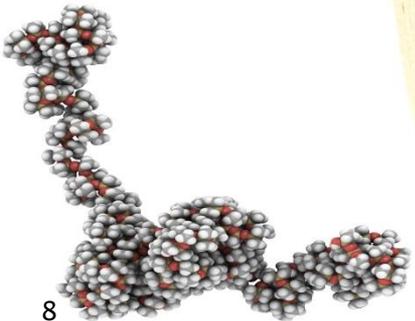
# Definitions and Experimental

- ▶  $G'$  is the storage modulus
  - The *storage modulus* measures the stored energy, representing the elastic portion. Similar to Young's Modulus
- ▶  $G''$  is the loss modulus
  - The *loss modulus* measures the energy dissipated as heat, representing the viscous portion.
- ▶  $\tan(\delta)$ 
  - Tangent of the phase angle. Also  $G''/G'$ . Measures dampening.

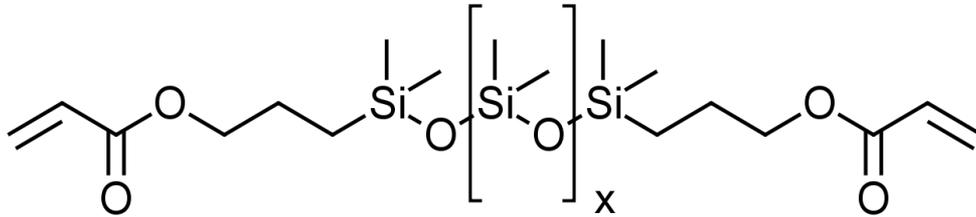


# Silicone as the Resin

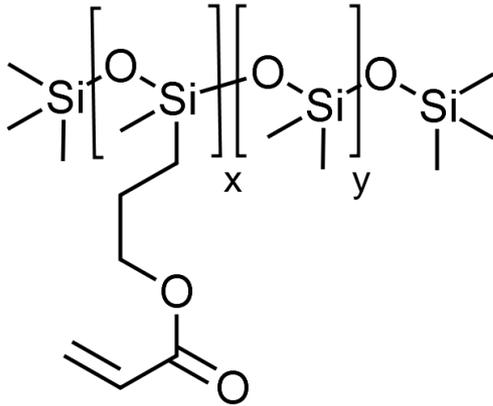
- ▶ Cured Acrylated Silicones provide soft and flexible elastomer with excellent release, impact resistance, elongation, temperature tolerance and feel properties.



# Acrylated Silicone Types

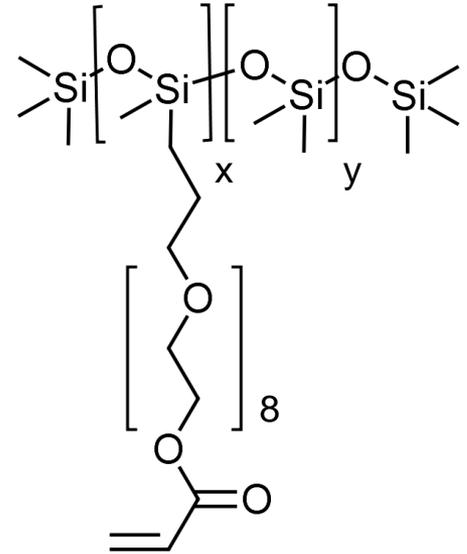


Linear, Di-functional  
Extender

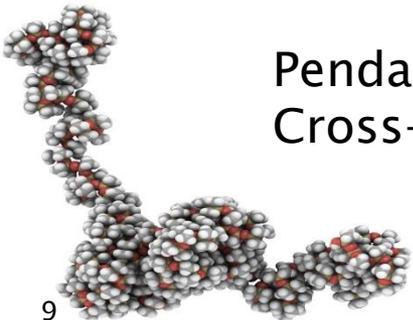


Pendant, Multi-functional  
Cross-Linker

Illustrated with  
Acrylate Type

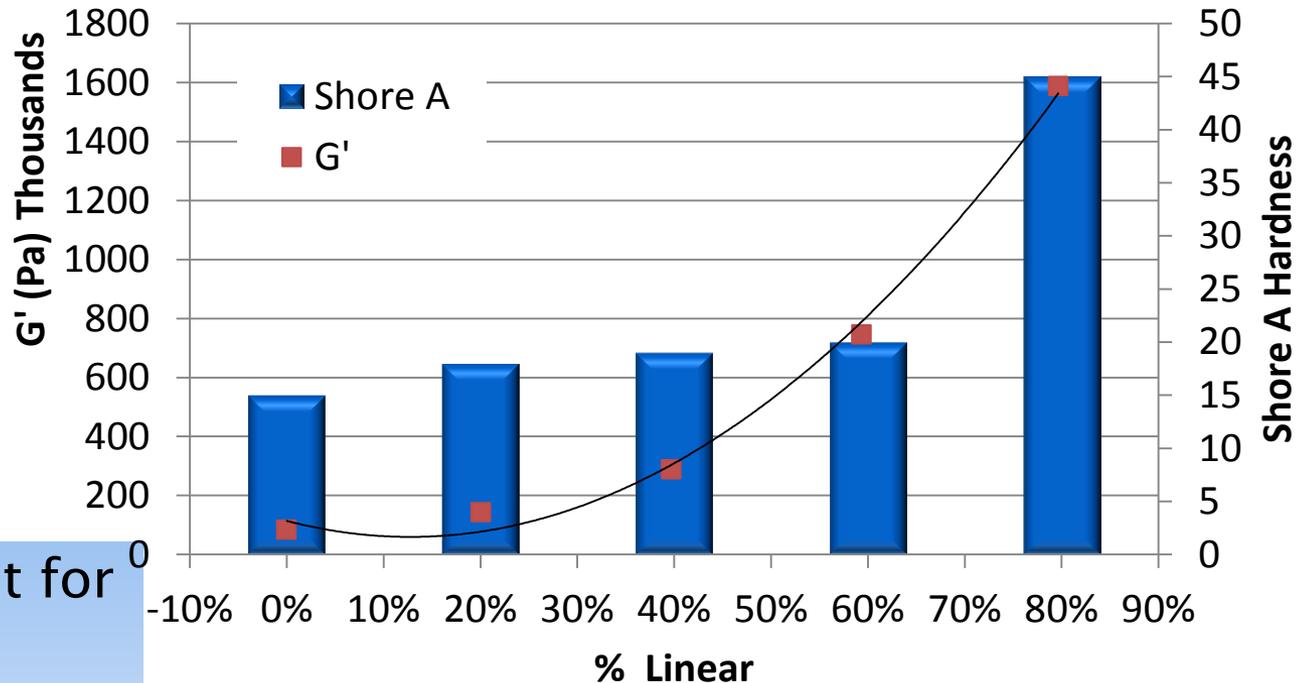
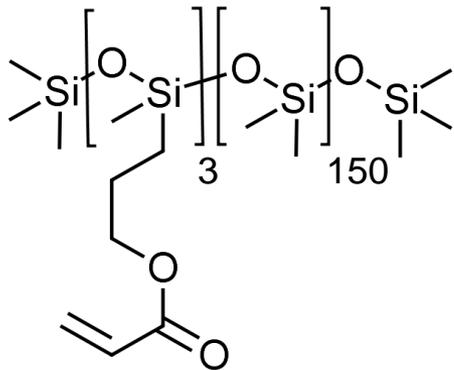
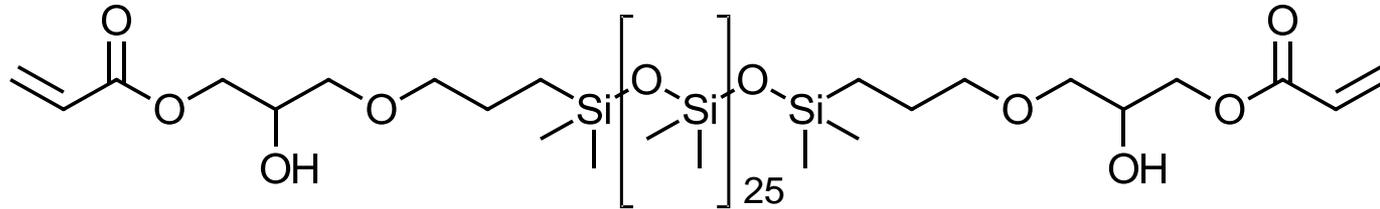


Pendant, Compatibilized





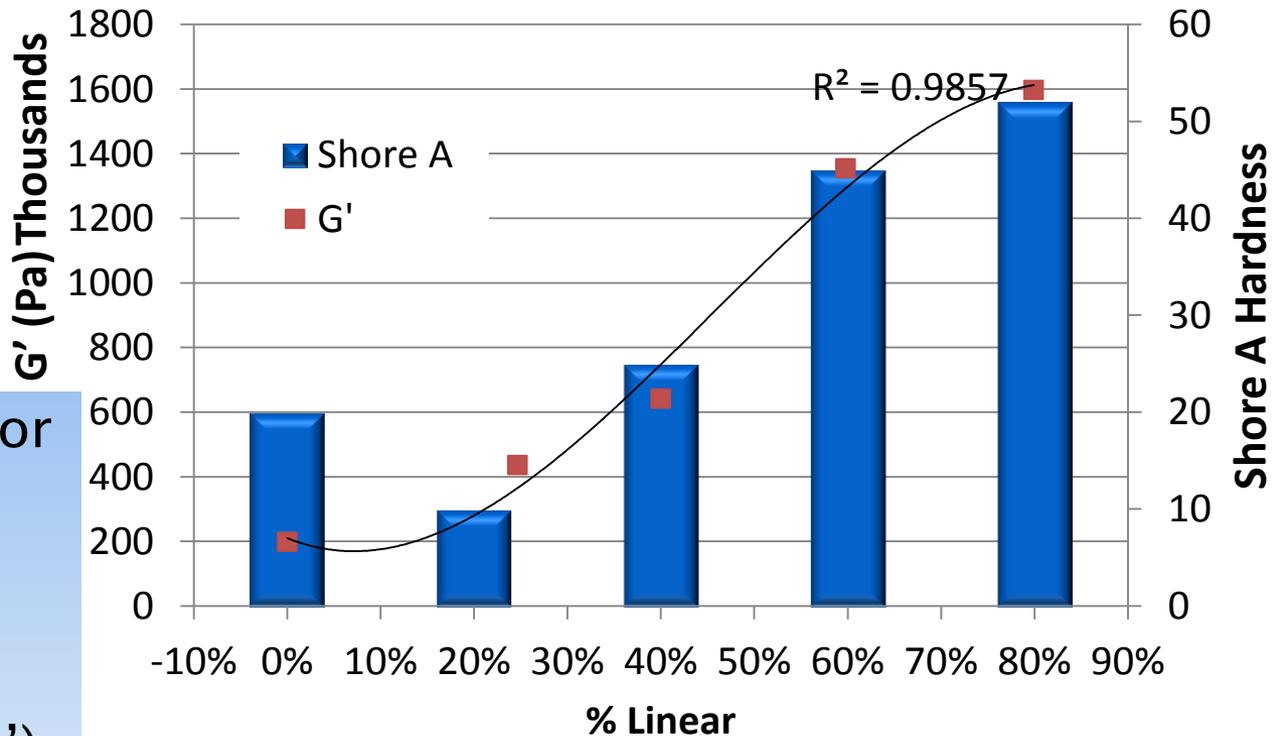
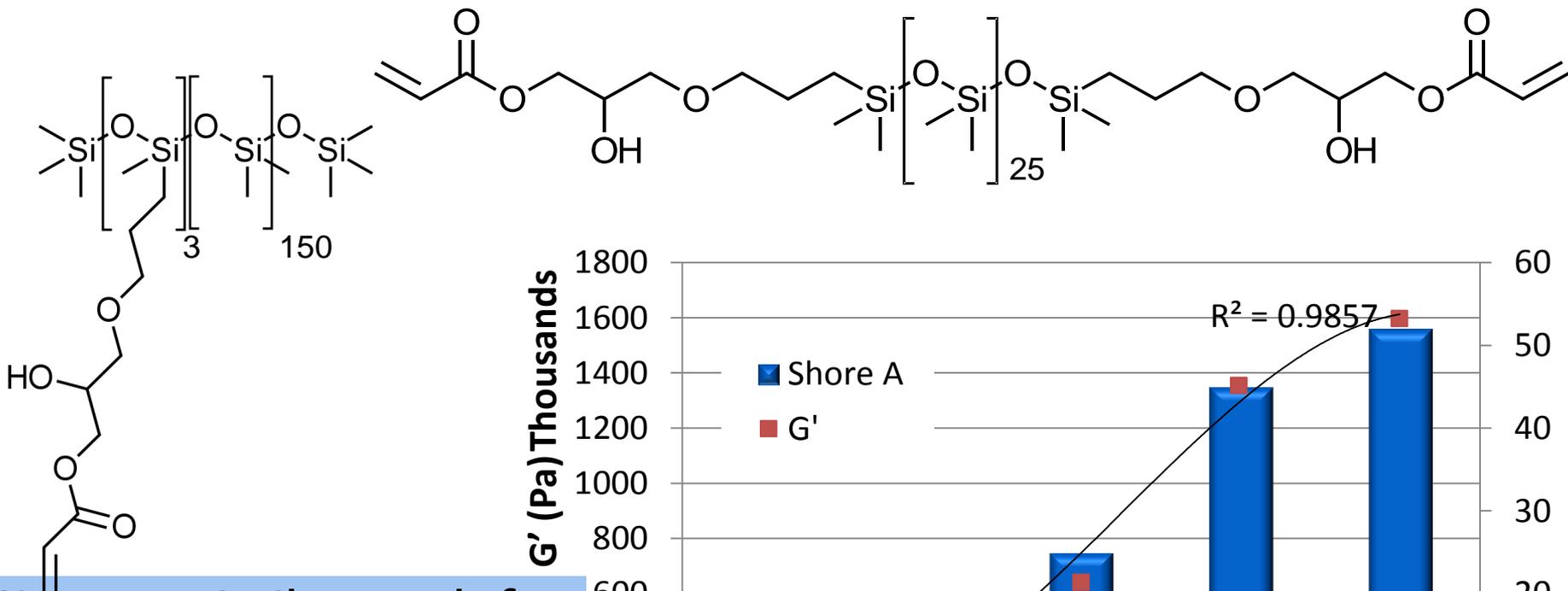
# Effect of Extender Concentration



We see a similar result for this smaller X-linker.

The Storage modulus (G') increases and the hardness increases.

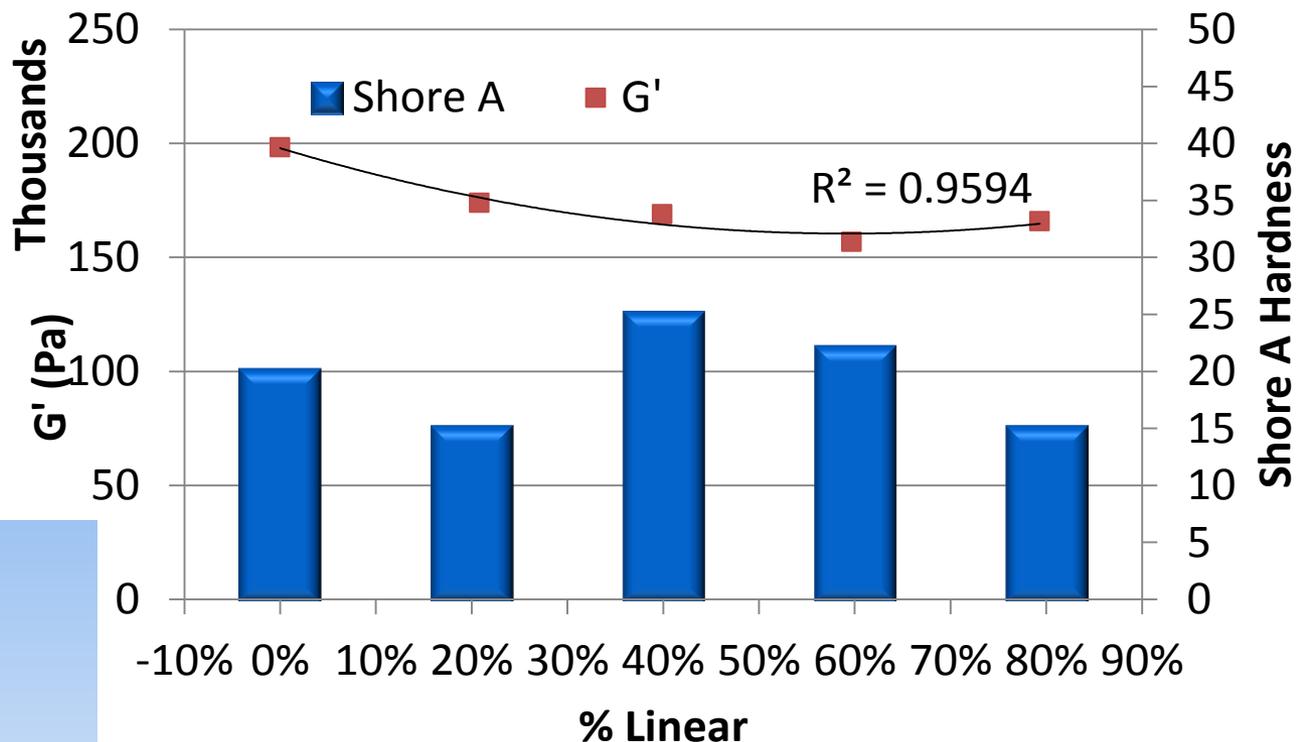
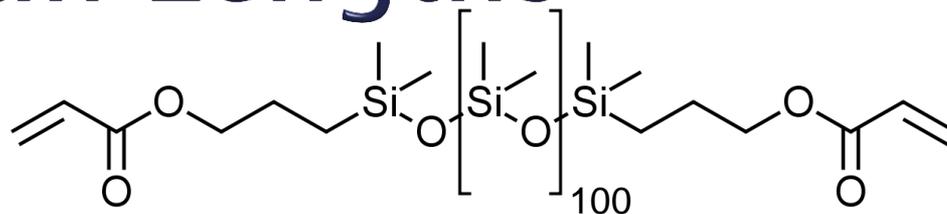
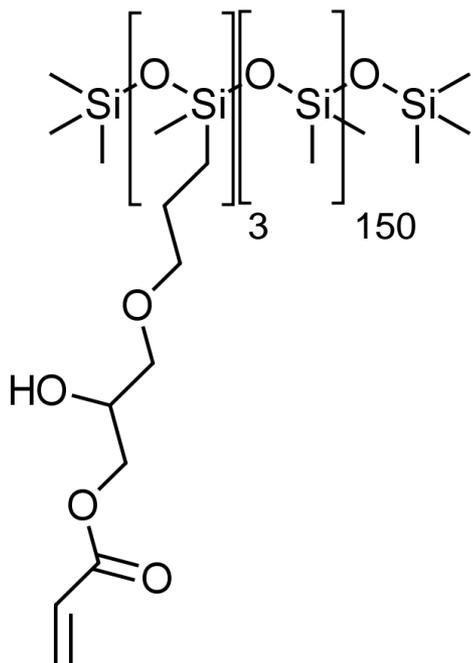
# Effect of Extender Concentration



We see a similar result for the corresponding hydroxy acrylate cross-linker.

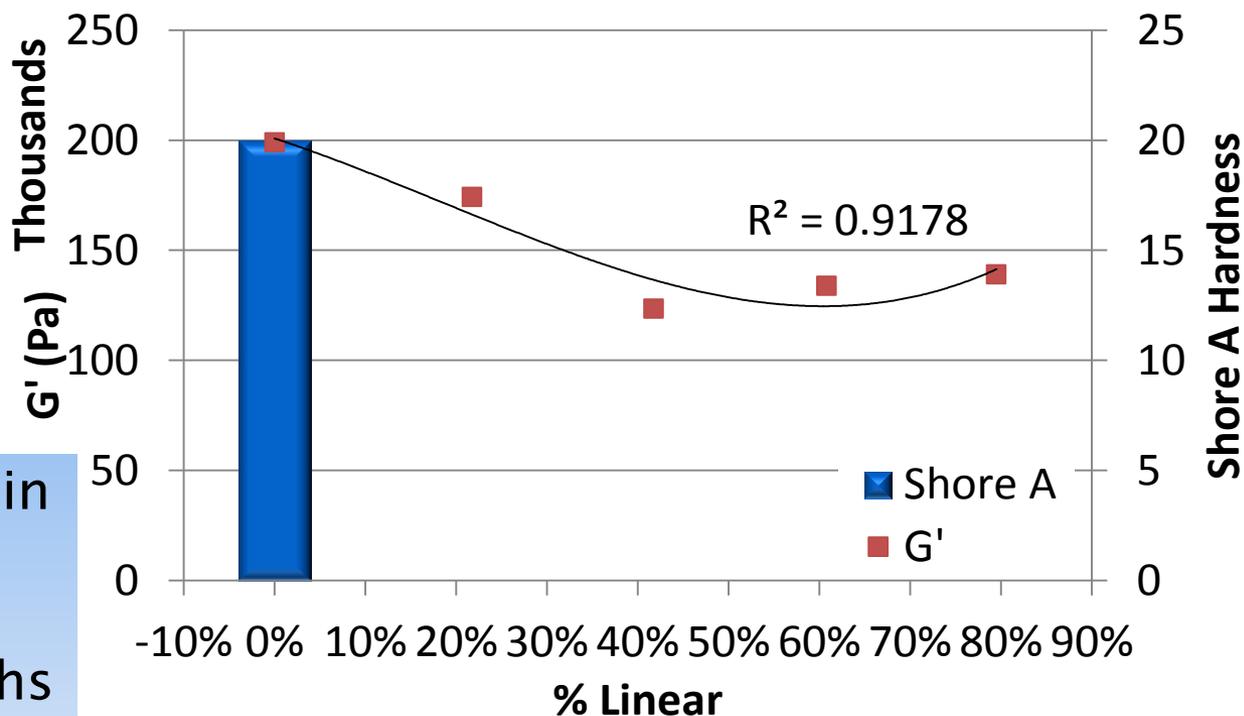
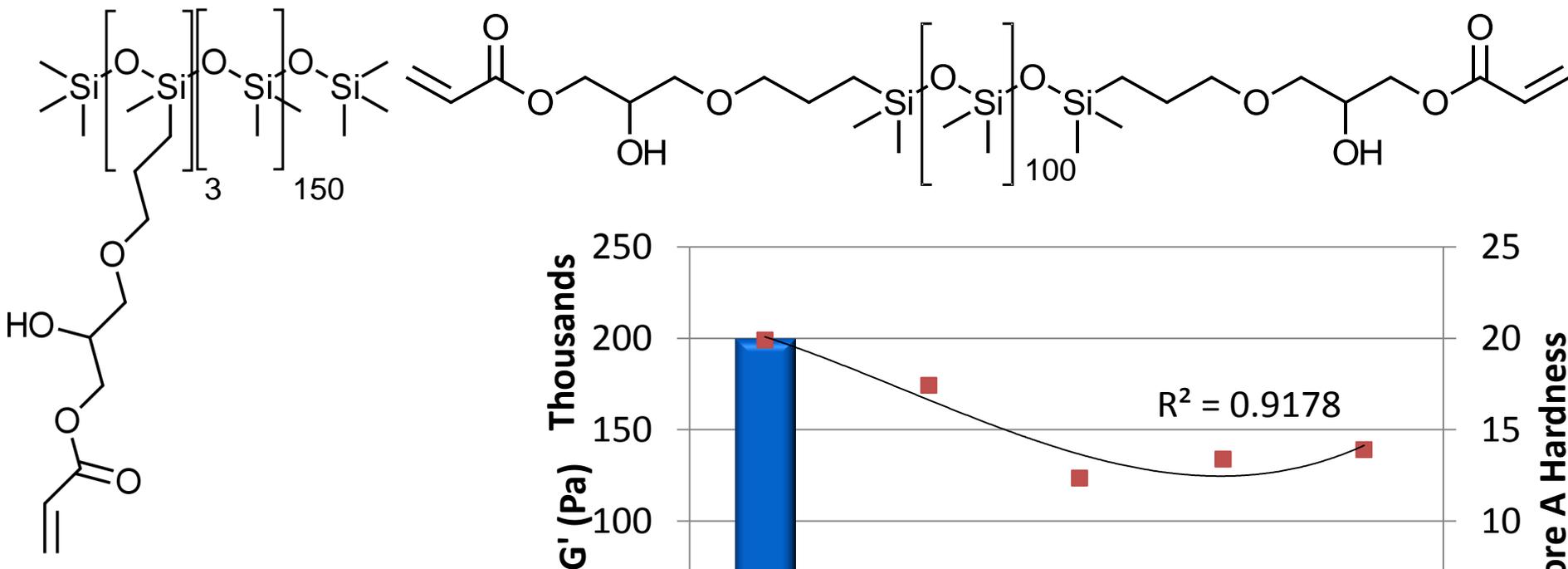
The Storage modulus (G') increases and the hardness increases.

# Similar Chain Lengths



When the extender and cross-linker chain lengths are similar, there is little or no change in properties.

# Similar Chain Lengths

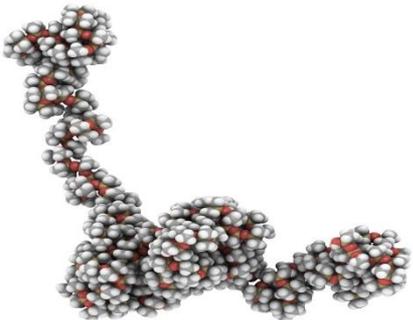
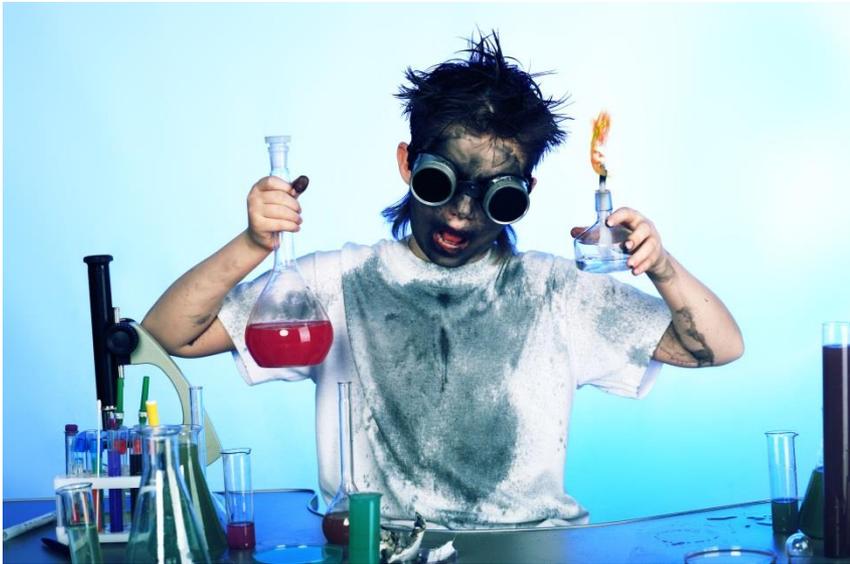


The same effect is seen in both connection types. When the extender and cross-linker chain lengths are similar, little impact is seen on G'. The hardness could not be measured.

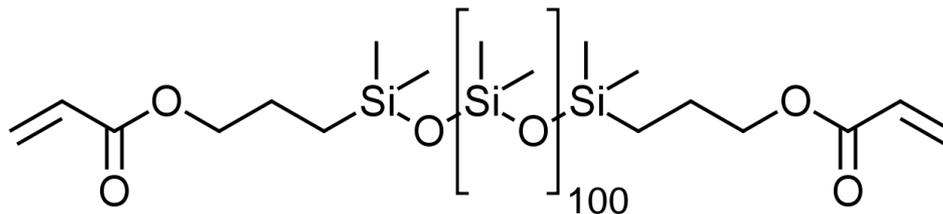


# Optimized Blend

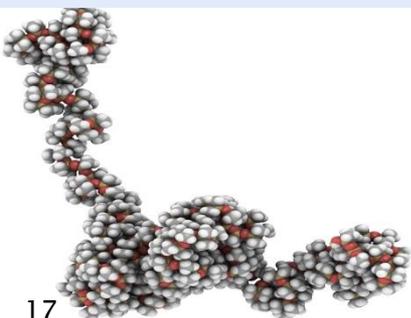
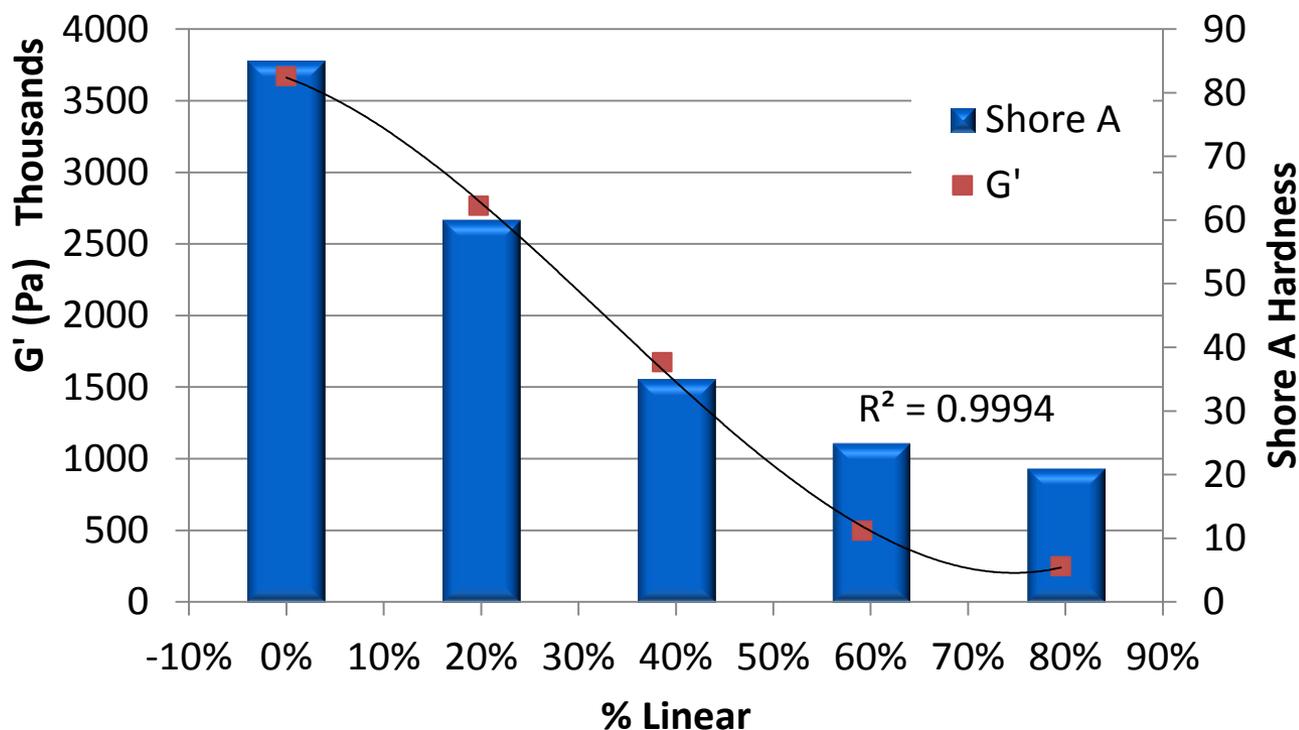
- ▶ By combining a cross-linker with higher functionality and MW with a small MW extender we can get a much better basic formulation.



# Optimized Blend



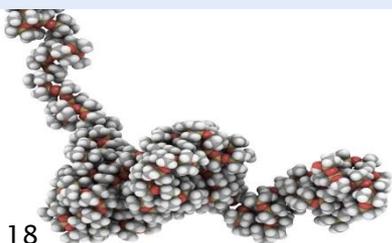
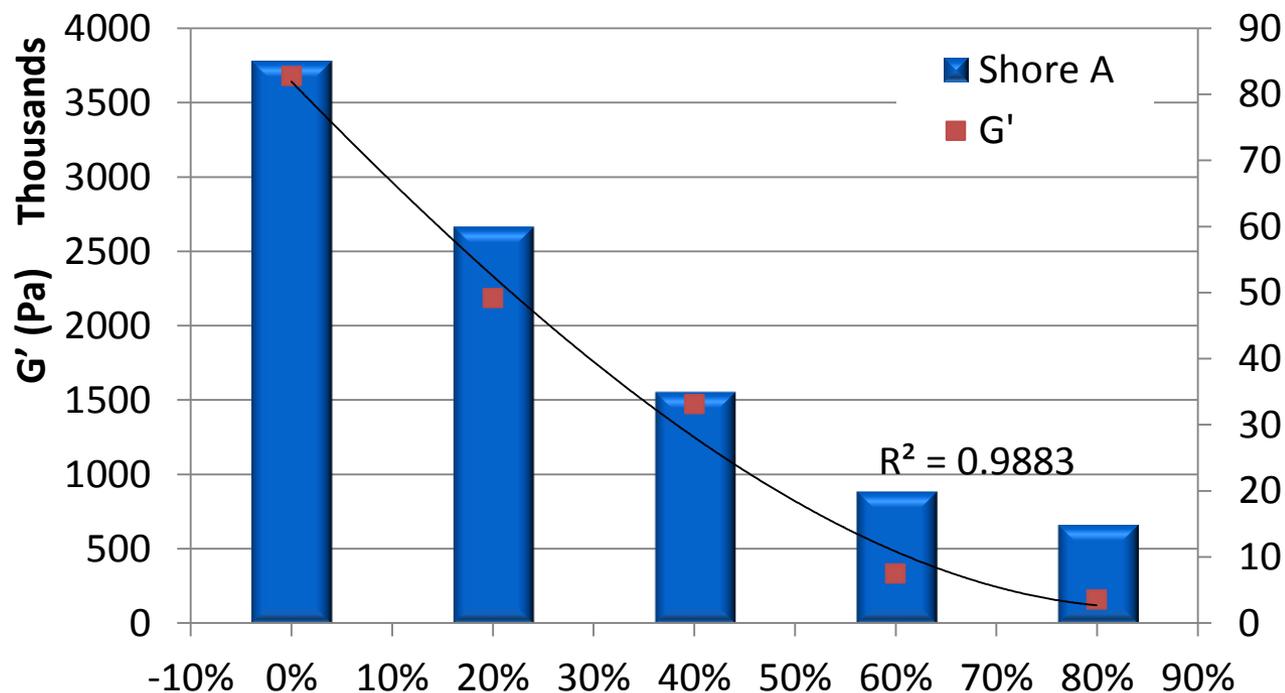
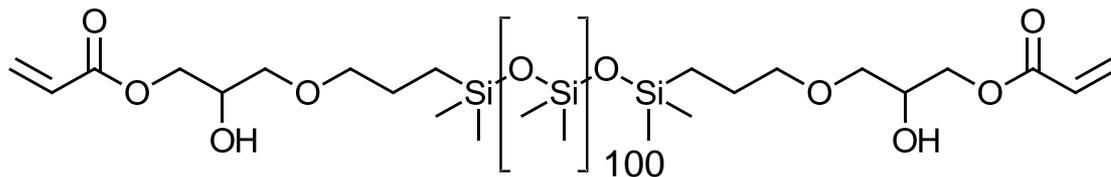
With this somewhat optimized formula, the addition of a similar MW extender, lowers  $G'$  and hardness less substantially.



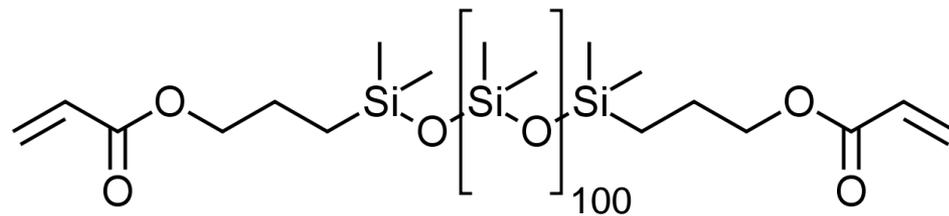
# Optimized Blend

We see a similar result for the hydroxy acrylate type extender.

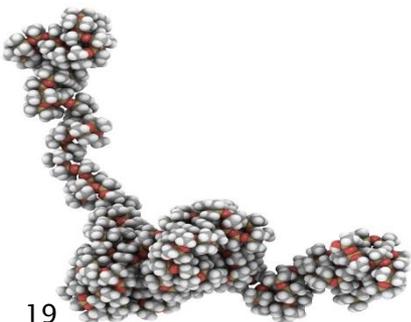
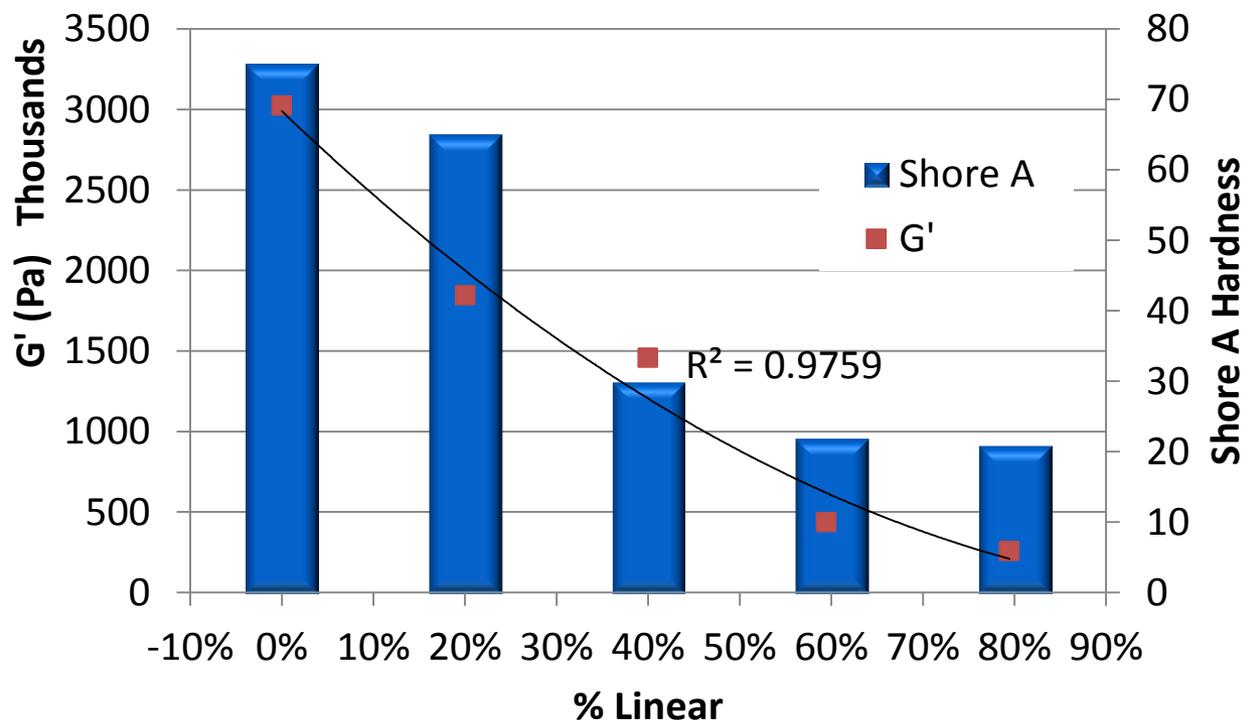
The Storage modulus ( $G'$ ) and the hardness decreases with more  $x=100$  extender.



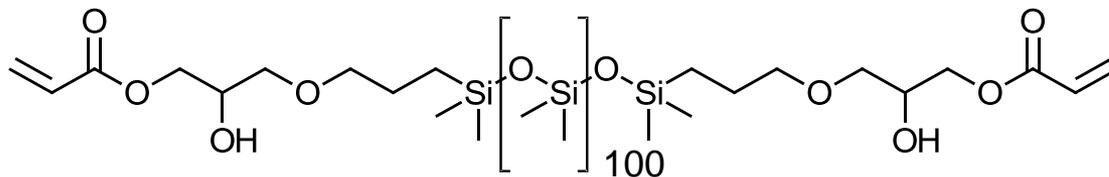
# Optimized Blend Higher MW



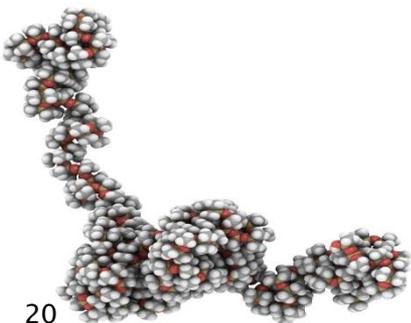
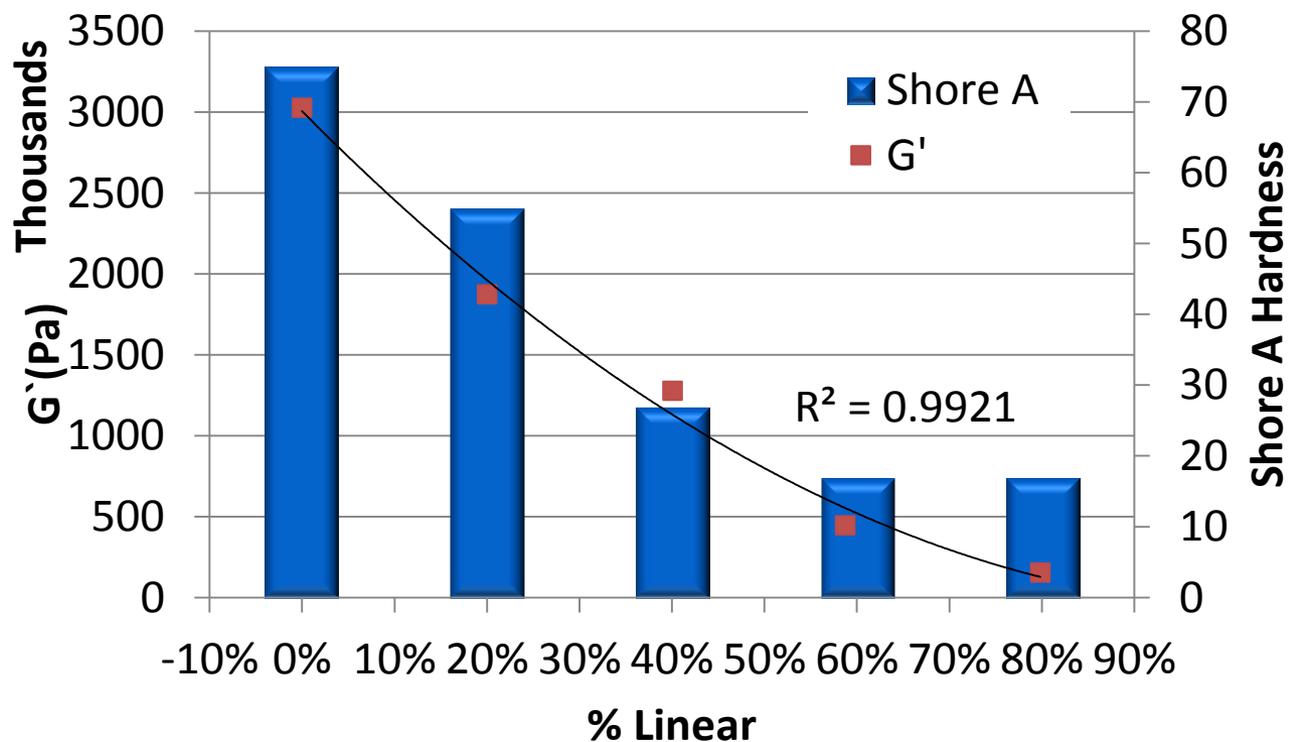
With this higher MW X-linker, the addition of the similar MW extender, lowers  $G'$  and hardness even less substantially.



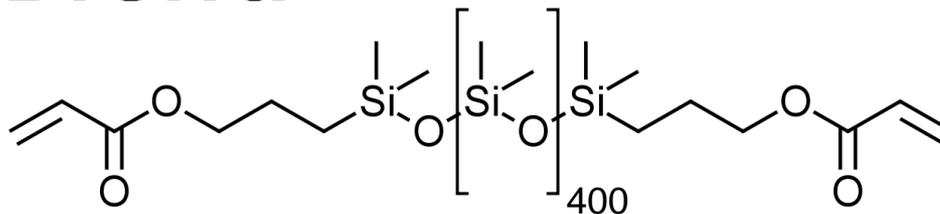
# Optimized Blend Higher MW



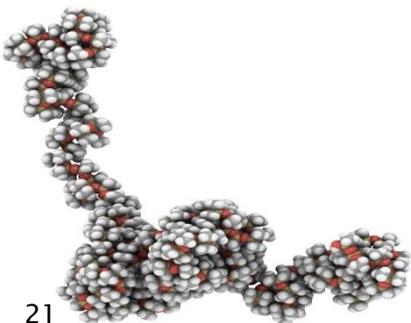
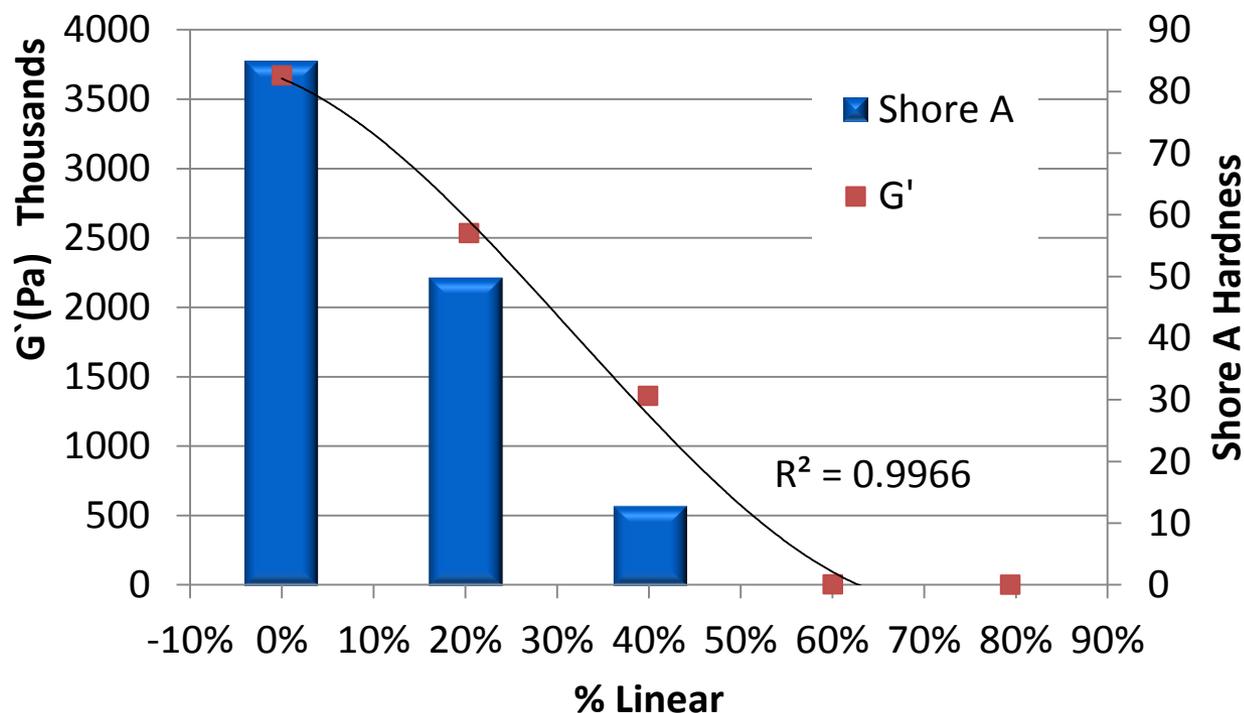
Similar results with Hydroxy Acrylate type



# Optimized Blend

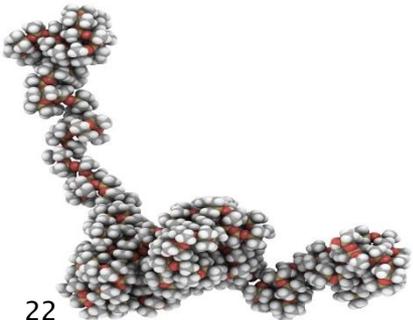


Even in the optimized system, when the extender is much larger than the cross-linker chain;  $G'$  and Hardness are lost.



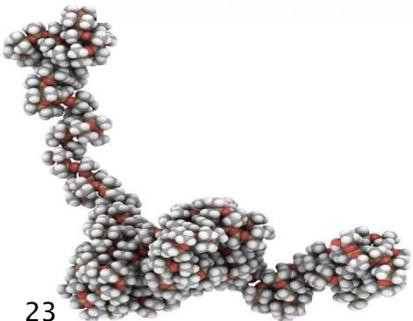
# Summary

- ▶ The best formulation contains, a cross-linker with a high number of cross-link sites and higher molecular weight.
- ▶ Small MW extender is needed.
- ▶ With this base higher MW extenders will lower Storage and Loss Moduli, adding flexibility.

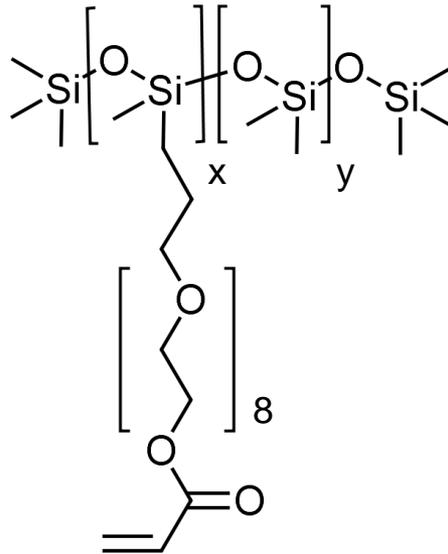
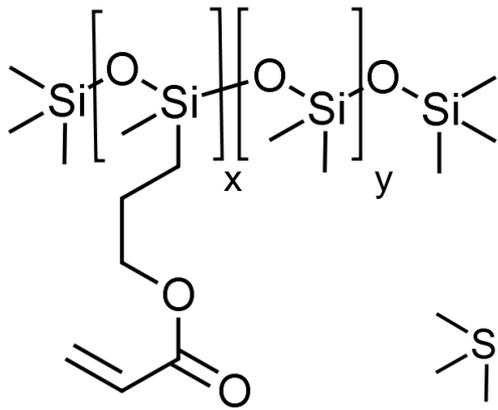
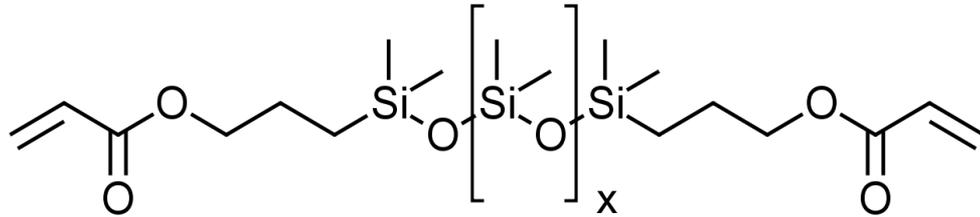


# Modifying Organic Resins

- ▶ Silicone/Organic Hybrids can give the best compromise



# Compatibilizer Often Needed



22% silicone



40% CN 102Z (epoxy acrylate)

15% CN 386 (Synergist)

5% Esacure T2T

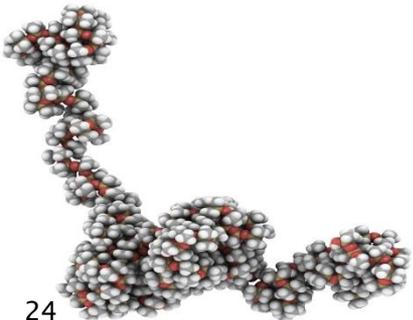
1.5% Darocur 1173

0.5% reactive defoamer

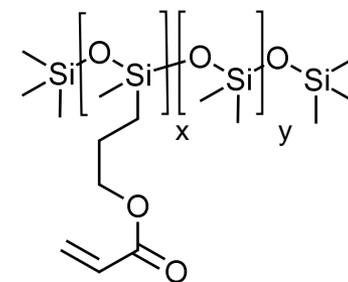
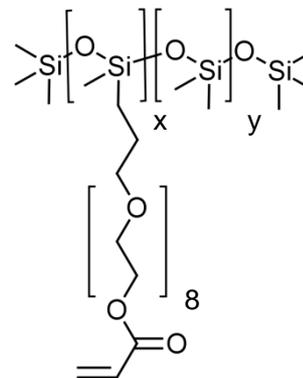
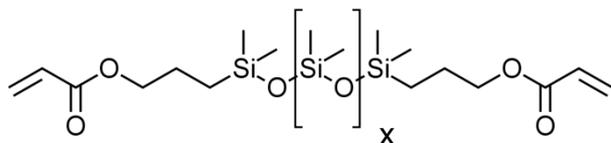
10% DTPTA

6% TRPGDA

UV light, RT

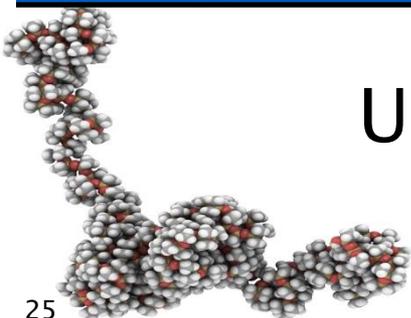


# Imperfect Cure

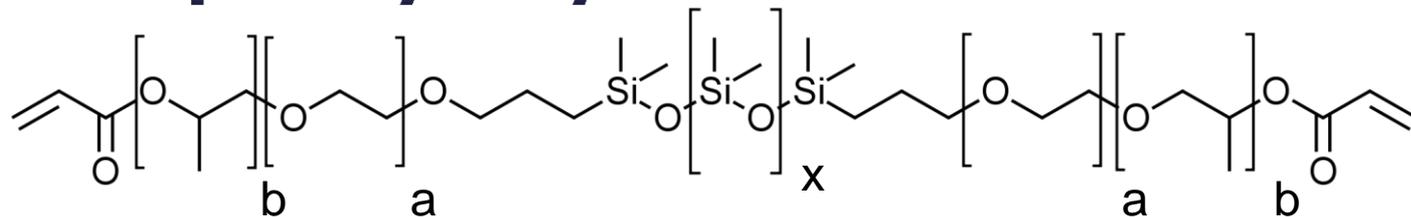


	X=10	X=50	X=100	x, y =4,8	x, y =5,30	x, y = 4,8	Control
Polyether	None	None	None	EO	EO	None	NA
G' (MPa)	8.3	18.5	11.91	9.71	11.64	20.06	20.1
G'' (MPa/10)	0.71	3.19	1.88	0.82	0.91	1.42	1.56
Condition & Appearance	oily	oily, defects	oily	Cured	Cured	Sl. Tacky	Cured

Uncured Silicone from Insolubility



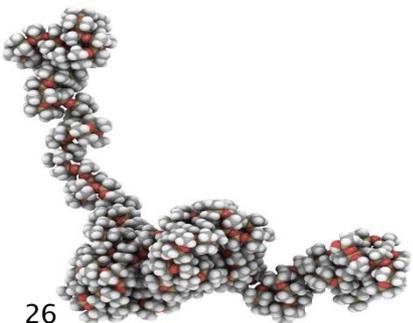
# Silicone/Epoxy Hybrid



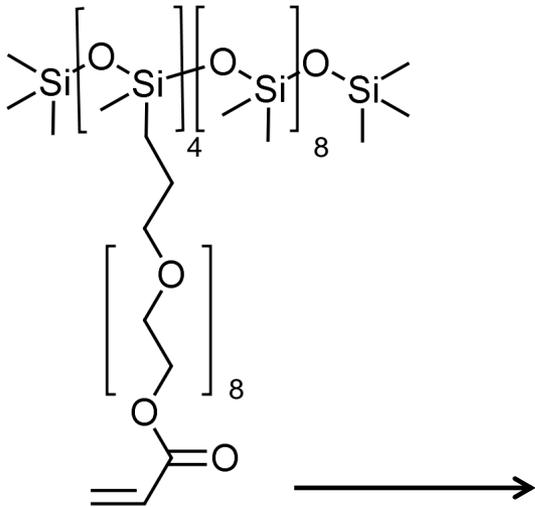
10% silicone  
→

67% CN 104 C75  
(epoxy acrylate)  
10% CN 386  
5% Esacure Tzt  
1.5% Darocur 1173  
0.5% reactive  
defoamer  
1% DTPTA  
5% TRPGDA  
UV light, RT

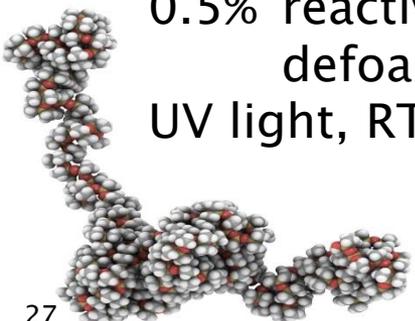
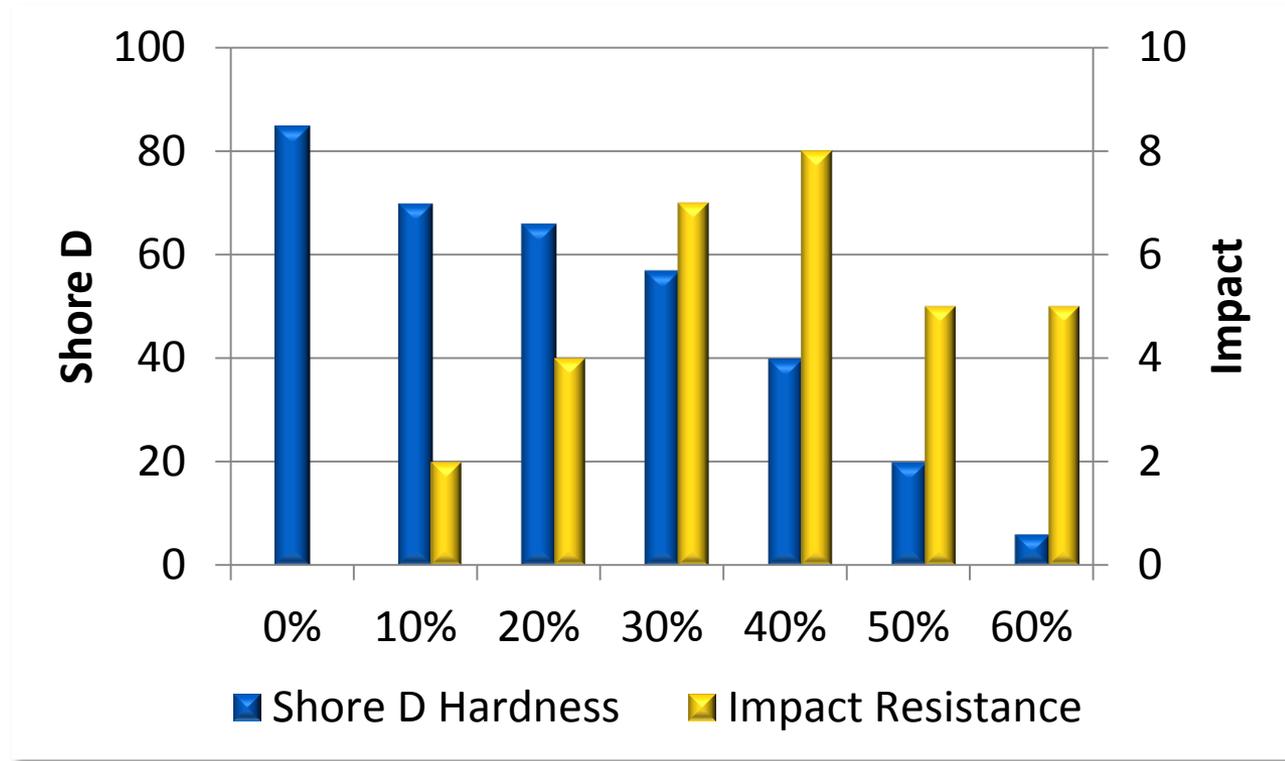
	x=15	x=45	x=40	x=10	x=20	x=25	Control
	a=8	a=15	0, a,	a=10	a=10	a=10	
	b=0	b=15	b=0	b=0	b=4	b=0	
G' (MPa)	16.5	11.6	14	17	17	16.3	17
G'' (MPa/10)	14.8	10.2	14.1	52.9	7.5	10.3	34.5
tan(delta)(/10 0)	9	8.8	10.2	31.1	4.51	6.35	20.3
Condition & Appearance	Cured	Un- cured			Cured		



# Silicone/Epoxy Hybrid



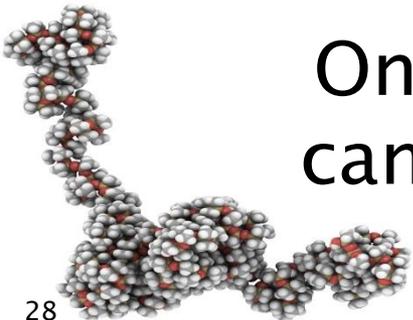
0-80% silicone  
 0-80% CN 104 C75  
 13% CN 386  
 5% Esacure TZT  
 1.5% Irgacure 184  
 0.5% reactive  
 defoamer  
 UV light, RT



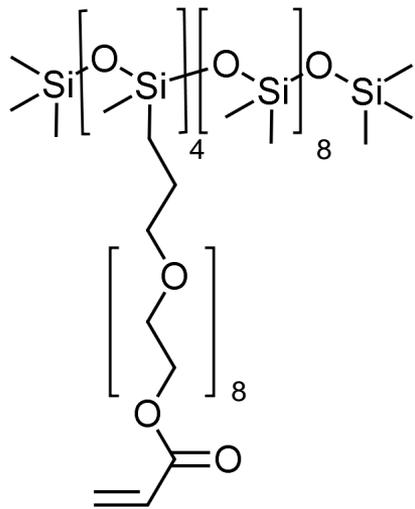
# The Effect of Use Level

Silicone	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%
Tensile (kPa)	8335	7300	6900	6675	3435	1465	978	347	197
Elongation (%)	0.04	0.13	0.14	2.65	5.44	5.61	6.18	5.37	5.01
G' (MPa)	22.3	19.9	19.9	16.6	12.6	6.94	3.44	1.63	0.83
G'' (MPa)	1.3	1.65	1.87	1.64	1.26	0.67	0.15	0.017	0.0063
tan(delta)	0.059	0.083	0.094	0.099	0.10	0.097	0.044	0.010	0.008
Film	very brittle		Sl. flex.	more flexible		flexible		no integrity	
Shore D Hardness	85	70	66	57	40	20	6	2	1
Impact Resistance	0	2	4	7	8	5	5	not measured	

One can go very high, but film integrity can be lost. 20–30% often a good range



# 3D Printed Data

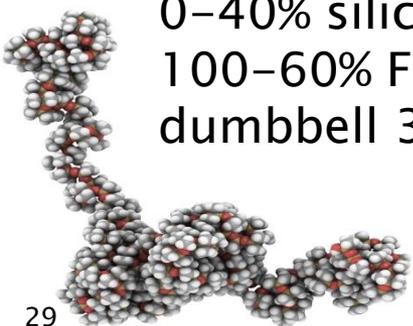
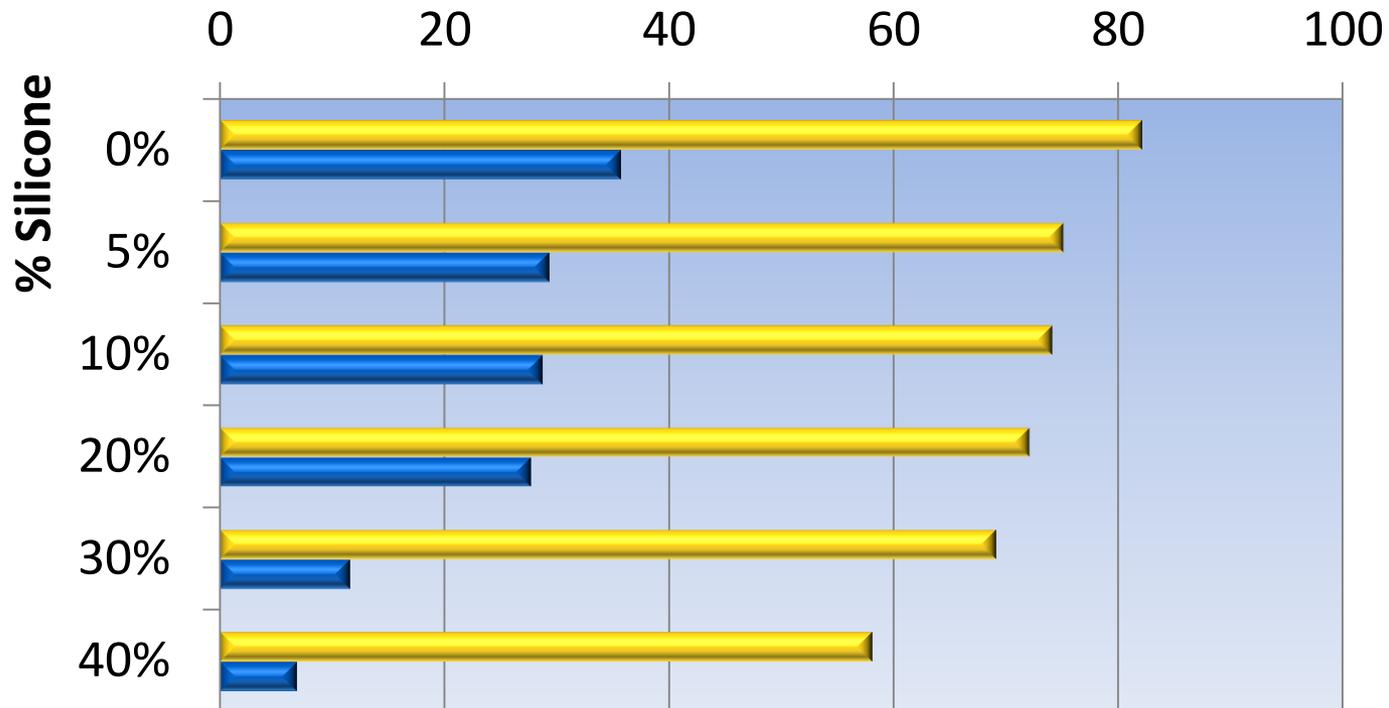


0-40% silicone

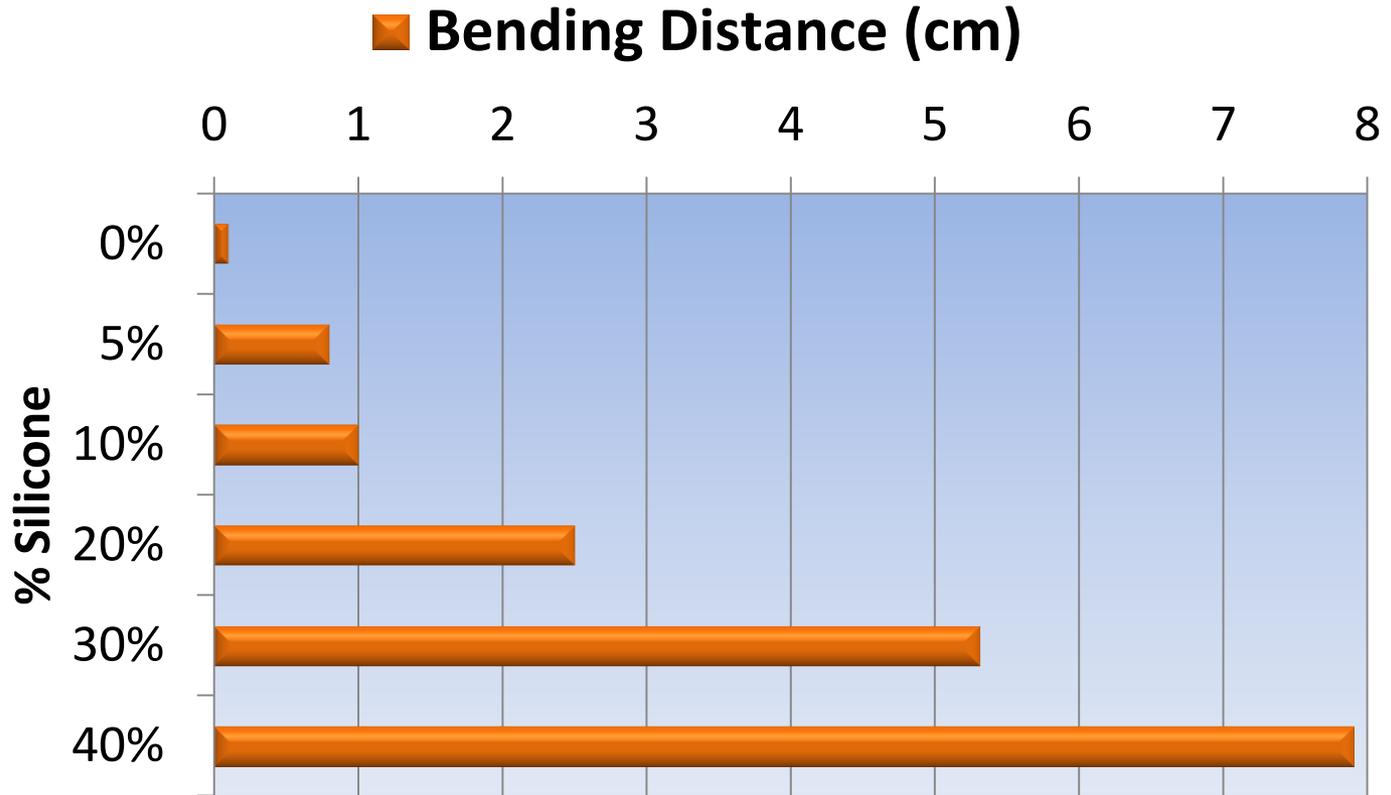
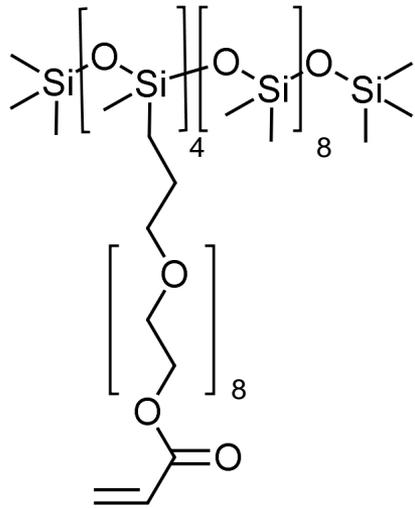
100-60% FSL3D resin

dumbbell 3D printed with ASTMD638\_specimen.stl

■ Tensile Stress at Break (MPa)    ■ Hardness Shore D



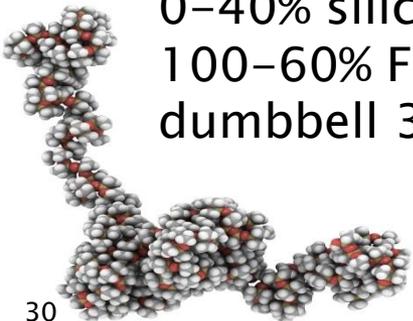
# 3D Printed Data



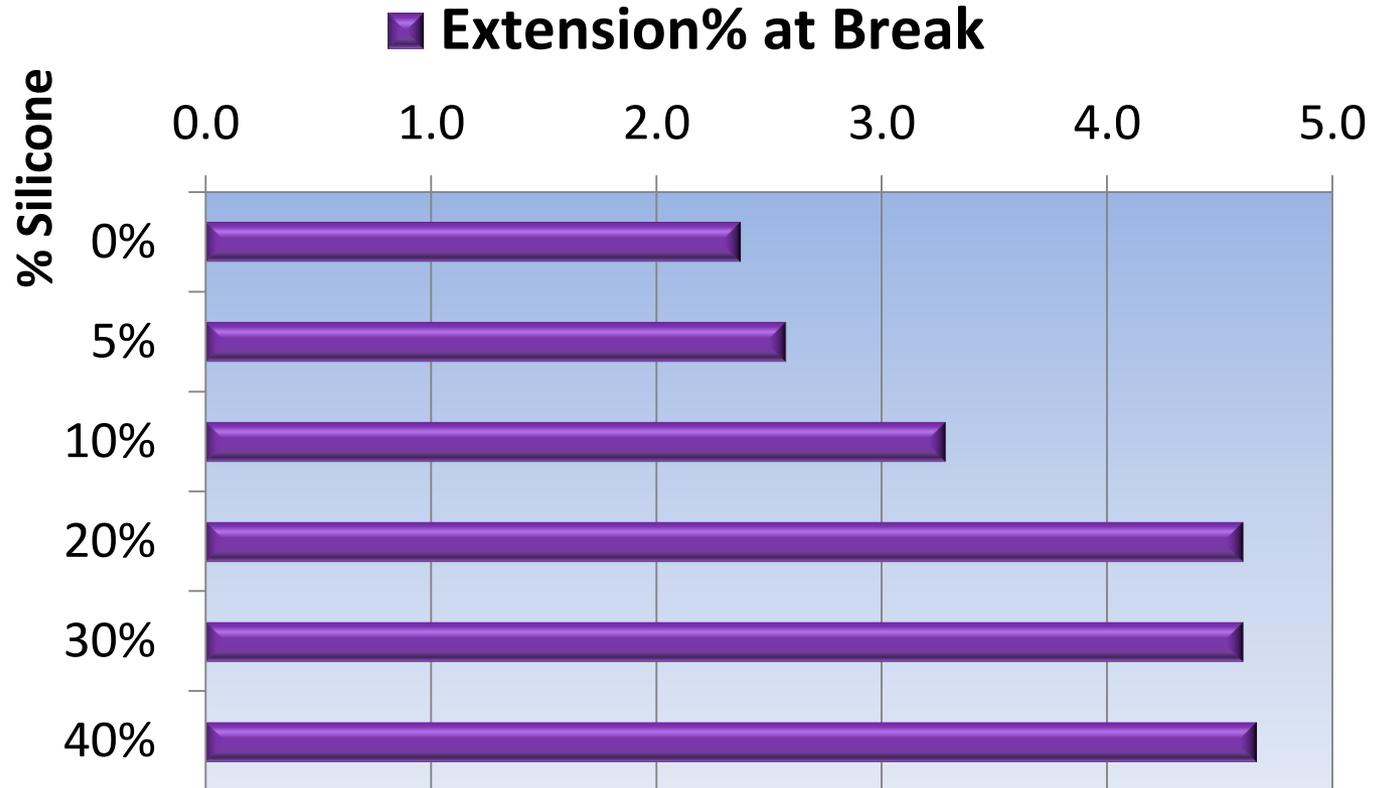
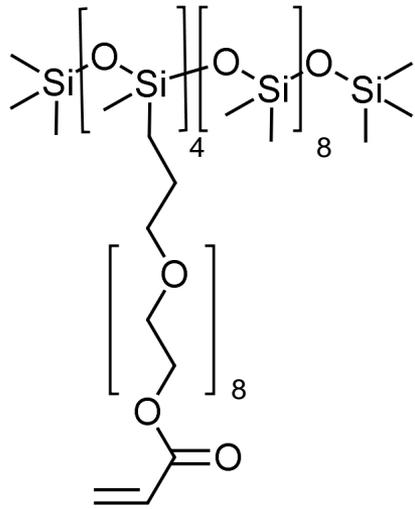
0-40% silicone

100-60% FSL3D resin

dumbbell 3D printed with ASTMD638\_specimen.stl



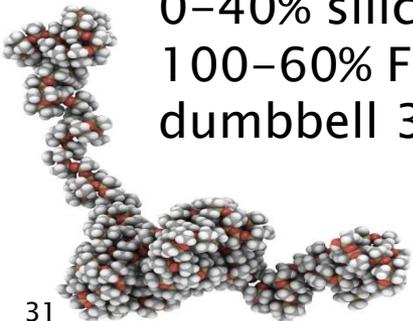
# 3D Printed Data



0-40% silicone

100-60% FSL3D resin

dumbbell 3D printed with ASTMD638\_specimen.stl



# Conclusions

- ▶ Acrylated Silicones can be cured to give soft elastomers
- ▶ Or...
- ▶ Cured with Organic Acrylates to give hard elastomers with improved flexibility

