

Electronic supplementary materials

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Multi-scale analysis of the self-vibration of a liquid crystal elastomer fiber-spring system exposed to constant-gradient light

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Section S1: Derivations of Eq. (8)

Combining Eqs. (4)-(7), we have

$$\bar{\tau} \frac{d\bar{T}(\bar{X}, \bar{t})}{d\bar{t}} = \bar{b} \left\{ \bar{X} \left[\bar{w}(\bar{t}) - \bar{C} \int_0^1 \bar{T}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) d\bar{X} \right] + \bar{C} \int_0^{\bar{X}} \bar{T}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) d\bar{X} + \bar{X} \right\} + \bar{Q} - \bar{T}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) \quad (\text{S1})$$

and the tension of the LCE fiber is:

$$\bar{F}_L = \bar{K}_L \left[\bar{w}(\bar{t}) - \bar{C} \int_0^1 \bar{T}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) d\bar{X} \right] \quad (\text{S2})$$

The temperature field can be written as:

$$\bar{T}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) = \bar{T}^{(0)}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) + \bar{\tau} \bar{T}^{(1)}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) + O(\bar{\tau}^2) \quad (\text{S3})$$

Combining Eqs. (S1)-(S3), we obtain the temperature field in a different form:

$$\bar{T}(\bar{X}, \bar{t}) = \frac{\bar{b}[\bar{w}(\bar{t})+1]}{e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1} (e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1) + \bar{Q} + \bar{\tau} \frac{\bar{b}\bar{w}(\bar{t})}{e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1} \left[\frac{(e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1)(\bar{C}\bar{b}e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}+1)}{e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1} - \bar{C}\bar{b}\bar{X}e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}\bar{X}} \right] \quad (\text{S4})$$

Correspondingly, Eq. (S5) can be written as:

$$\bar{F}_L(\bar{t}) = \frac{\bar{K}_L \bar{C} \bar{b}}{e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1} \bar{w}(\bar{t}) + \bar{K}_L \bar{C} \bar{b} \bar{\tau} \frac{1-e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}+\bar{C}\bar{b}e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}}{(e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1)^2} \bar{w}(\bar{t}) + \bar{K}_L \left(\frac{\bar{C}\bar{b}}{e^{\bar{C}\bar{b}}-1} - 1 - \bar{C}\bar{Q} \right) \quad (\text{S5})$$

Section S2: Derivations of Eqs. (17) and (18)

And by defining $x = \bar{w} + \frac{a_3}{a_2}$, $\omega_0 = \sqrt{a_2}$, Eq. (16) can be re-expressed as:

$$\ddot{x} - \varepsilon_0(\dot{x} - a_1|\dot{x}|\dot{x}) + \omega_0^2 x = 0 \quad (\text{S6})$$

Utilizing the linear perturbation method, we can derive the linearized equation as follows:

$$\ddot{x} - \varepsilon_0 \dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = 0 \quad (\text{S7})$$

Eq. (S7) can alternatively be written as:

$$\lambda^2 - \varepsilon_0 \lambda + \omega_0^2 = 0 \quad (\text{S8})$$

Therefore, the Hurwitz criterion ε_0 is:

$$\tau \frac{\bar{K}_L \bar{C} \bar{b} (e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}} - 1 - \bar{C} \bar{b} e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}})}{(e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}} - 1)^2} - \bar{\beta}_1 > 0 \quad (\text{S9})$$

By solving the governing equation, the analytical solution can be obtained as follows:

$$\bar{w} = \left(\frac{3\pi}{8\sqrt{a_2 a_1}} + \frac{1}{e^{\frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \alpha_0)}} \right) \cos(\sqrt{a_2} t + \theta_0) - \frac{a_3}{a_2} + o(\varepsilon) \quad (\text{S10})$$

The amplitude is:

$$A = \frac{3\pi}{8\sqrt{\frac{\bar{K}_L \bar{C} \bar{b}}{e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}} - 1} + \bar{K}_S} \frac{\bar{\beta}_2 (1 - e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}})^2}{\bar{\tau} \bar{C} \bar{b} \bar{K}_L (e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}} - \bar{C} \bar{b} e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}} - 1) - \bar{\beta}_1 (1 - e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}})^2}} \quad (\text{S11})$$

and the frequency is:

$$f = \sqrt{\frac{\bar{K}_L \bar{C} \bar{b}}{e^{\bar{C} \bar{b}} - 1} + \bar{K}_S} \quad (\text{S12})$$