

Cantilever Characterisation at Fundamental Frequency Modes

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Abstract — This paper presents micro-cantilevers characteristics when it targeted at multi-frequency signals. This is performed by keeping the cantilever beam at multiples of the frequency range. The analysis is carried out by putting a load at the end of a beam and study a moment, produced stress, and strain on the beam. The cantilever's strain and stress measurement are useful to analyse various parameters of beam at the varying frequencies. The experimentation shows that the cantilever behaviour are changes with respect to change in frequency mode and shows different effect at low and high frequency.

Keywords - Cantilever, frequency, optimization, beam, characteristics.

I. INTRODUCTION

Cantilevers is one of the useful part of mechanical engineering and have many applications, from the springboard at the pool to the structures in machine design & buildings. A cantilevered beam is a constructed by keeping a one end fixed and across the other a load is applied to measure a moment, strain and stress. The stress and the moment measurements are calculated based on the length of the beam, L, weight and the forced applied at the beam.

The aim of the optimization routine is to place several range of frequencies at integer multiples of the fundamental frequency. The proposed optimization routine provides a number of benefits over existing routines for cantilever designs. It provides the flexibility to place multiple modal frequencies simultaneously.

This includes both flexural and torsional modes of operation. To ensure that the design is feasible before carrying out the analysis, an image processing routine is applied to the cantilever topology. A region identification routine is applied to the binary matrix to find all the separate structures in the topology.

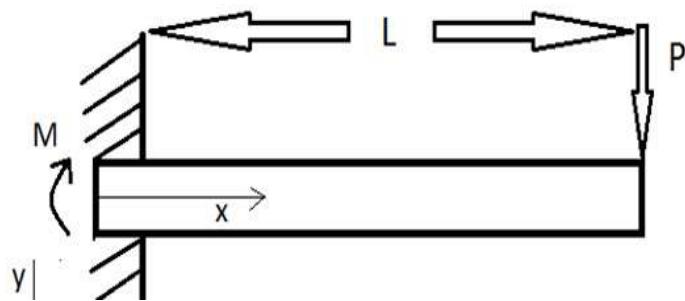


Figure 1: Cantilevered Beam with a length of L, applied force of P at the end of the beam, and the moment M.

II. OBJECTIVE AND APPROACH

In this work, we report a very soft probe, which comprises a polymer-based cantilever with a sharp tip at its free end. To obtain biological parameters, we required cellular characteristics in the model. A reliable three-mask surface- micromachining process that incorporates a low-cost assembly method and bio-compatible materials is developed to implement polymer-based cantilever probes. The physical properties of fabricated beam such as effective spring constant, resonant frequency, and quality factor are determined experimentally .

III. DESIGN AND STRUCTURE

Figure 2 shows an isometric schematic, design parameters and values, and scanning electron micrographs (SEMs) of polymer-based triangular and rectangular cantilever probes. Fabricated rectangular prototype cantilever probes were integrated into the piezoelectric actuator of a commercial system.

The distance between the ridges and valleys was designed to be $2 \mu\text{m}$, which is the minimum feature size that can be resolved by the contact printer used for this work. The width and length of Au and Cr at the tip region were designed to be greater than $20 \mu\text{m}$ in order to reflect the laser light to the photodetector to track the cantilever motion.

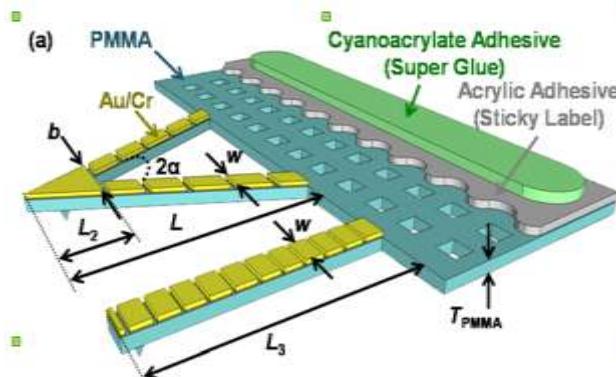


Figure 2: Isometric view of rectangular polymer-based cantilever probes.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP AND METHOD

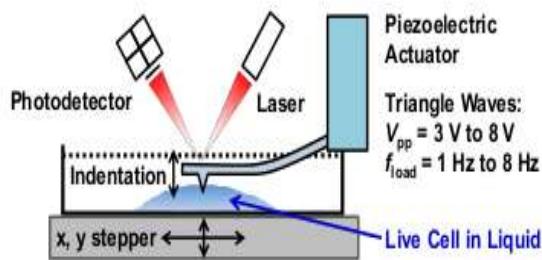


Figure 3: Experimental setup

A fabricated cantilever probes (with $k_{\text{eff}} \approx 0.08 \text{ N/m}$) was employed in the nano indentation measurements of live HeLa cells in a liquid culture medium using the testing setup .

Cantilever designs using optimization: Material properties used to model the cantilever are those of the silicon layer that are used to form the topology are $10 \mu\text{m}$ long and $10 \mu\text{m}$ wide. The dimension of the optimized cantilever model of the initial cantilever design is shown in figure 4. The algorithm is applied to demonstrates the initial cantilever design at different range of frequencies. In the first model, it is difficult to fabricate cantilever due to its checkerboard pattern. As a result, modifications are made in the next model where an area is preserved and allow to operate at different model frequencies.

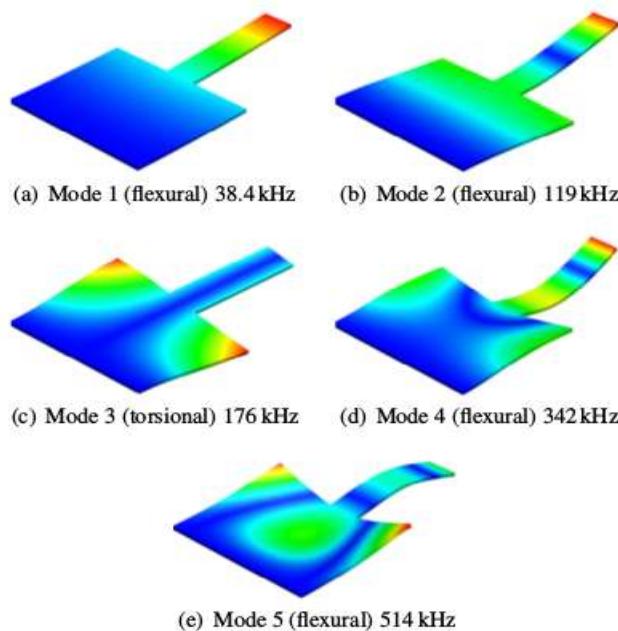
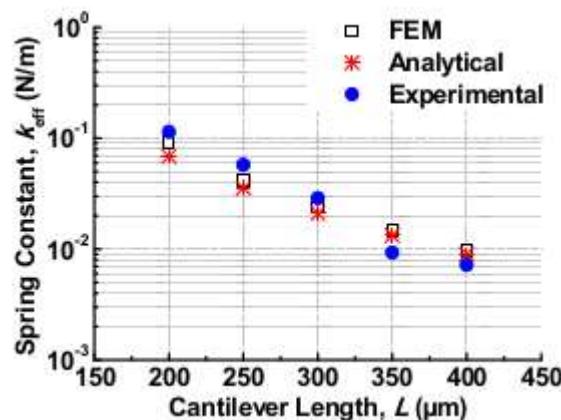


Figure 4: The cantilever modes of the initial cantilever topology

V. OBSERVATION

In order to analyse different characteristics and properties of the materials composing the cantilever, simulation software is used to calculate Coefficient values shown in figure 5. The difference between the predicted and experimental values has to process produced motion and strength parameters for analysis and to study performance behaviour.

Figure 5: Experimental, analytical, and simulated k_{eff} values of fabricated cantilevers

VI.CONCLUSION

This work has outlined the design and characterization of cantilevers for multi-frequency applications. These cantilevers amplify the motion produced during the nonlinear probe-sample interaction forces. This work has demonstrated behavioral routine for several modal frequencies simultaneously. Furthermore, the routine is simple to implement and it can be used to place both torsional and flexural modes. The experimental

results show the accurate placement of mode 2, 3 and 4 in the first cantilever design and mode 2 and 4 in the second cantilever design.

At first it was difficult to get devices that are reliable. The devices had gone through dry etching, and releasing. fully experienced stress testing for prolonged periods without affecting their performance.

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