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Optical whispering gallery mode induced interface deformation of liquid droplets¹ PENG ZHANG, SUNGHWAN JUNG, Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061, YONG XU, ARAM LEE, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061 — In this study, we analyze nonlinear processes associated with a high-Q factor whispering gallery mode (WGM) in micro-sized liquid droplets, which can be induced by Kerr nonlinearity, thermal effect, and optical radiation pressure. Optical WGM can produce a radiation pressure on the droplet and induce droplet deformations. In our analysis, the droplet deformation will be obtained both analytically by force balance and numerically by the boundary element method. We will show that the nonlinear optofluidic effect is stronger than the Kerr effect and thermal effect. Time scales of these three nonlinear processes will also be estimated and compared. The feasibility of single photon level nonlinearities will be analyzed.

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