Record Nr.	UNINA9910165154003321
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Titolo	Lyotropic Chromonic Liquid Crystals : From Viscoelastic Properties to Living Liquid Crystals / / by Shuang Zhou
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2017
ISBN	3-319-52806-8
Edizione	[1st ed. 2017.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XXIII, 95 p. 37 illus., 32 illus. in color.)
Collana	Springer Theses, Recognizing Outstanding Ph.D. Research, , 2190- 5053
Disciplina	530.429
Soggetti	Amorphous substances
	Complex fluids
	Organic chemistry
	Biophysics
	Biological physics
	Fiulds Soft and Granular Matter, Complex Fluids and Microfluidics
	Organic Chemistry
	Biological and Medical Physics, Biophysics
	Fluid- and Aerodynamics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction Elasticity of Lyotropic Chromonic Liquid Crystals Probed
	by Director Reorientation in Magnetic Field Ionic-content
	Crystal Sunset Yellow Flasticity Viscosity and Orientational
	Fluctuations of a Lyotropic Chromonic Nematic Liquid Crystal Disodium
	Cromoglycate Living Liquid Crystals Summary.
Sommario/riassunto	This thesis describes lyotropic chromonic liquid crystals (LCLCs) with
	exotic elastic and viscous properties. The first part of the thesis
	LCLCs as functions of concentration, temperature and ionic contents
	while the second part explores an active nematic system: living liquid
	crystals, which represent a combination of LCLC and living bacteria.

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LCLCs are an emerging class of liquid crystals that have shown profound connections to biological systems in two aspects. First, the assembly process of the chromonic aggregates is essentially the same as DNA oligomers and other super-molecular assemblies of biological origin. LCLCs thus provide an excellent model system for studying physical properties such as the elasticity and viscosity of these supramolecular assemblies. Second, LCLCs are biocompatible, thus serving as a unique anisotropic matrix to interface with living systems such as bacteria. This thesis deepens our understanding of both aspects. The noncovalent nature of chromonic aggregation produces the unique viscoelasticity to be found in LCLCs, which differs dramatically from that of traditional LCs. Anisotropic interactions between LCLCs and bacteria lead to fascinating phenomena such as the deformation of LCLCs with a characteristic wavelength determined by the elasticity of the LCLCs and the activity of the bacteria. orientationally controlled trajectories of bacteria and visualization of 24 nm flagella motion.