

Control of noise-induced dynamics near a global bifurcation

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A nonlinear spatially extended system under the influence of noise and time-delayed feedback control is investigated. The model under consideration is a semiconductor superlattice [1] which exhibits complex front dynamics associated with high-frequency current oscillations in the ideal noise-free case. We expand the model taking into account fluctuations, which we approximate by Gaussian white noise [2]. Noise-induced front motion is reported, when the deterministic system is prepared in a stable fixed point slightly below a saddle-node bifurcation on a limit cycle [3]. This is a global bifurcation, strongly related to excitability and the presence of two time scales in the system. Coherence resonance is confirmed by the non-monotonic relation between the regularity of oscillations and the noise intensity. The ability to control the properties of the system such as timescales and coherence [4], is very interesting in terms of applications. We therefore subject the system to a time-delayed feedback scheme, originally used to control deterministic chaotic dynamics, and demonstrate that the regularity and the time scales can be controlled by varying the control strength and time delay.

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