Intrinsic and Extrinsic Noise Effects on Molecular Distributions in Bacteria

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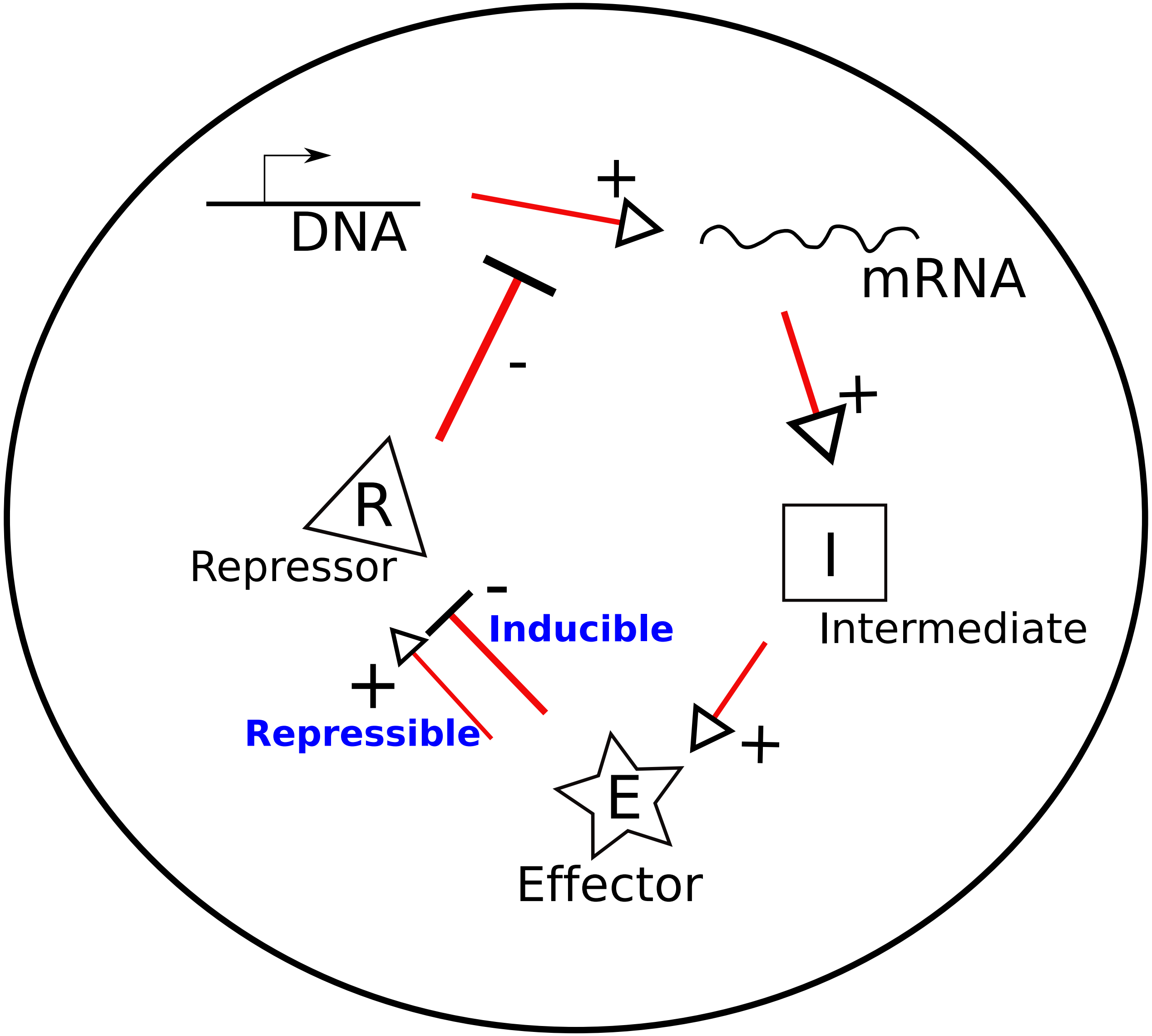
Introduction

- Simple example of the regulatory process
- Role of noise when considering events at the single cell level
- Types of noise
  - Extrinsic vs Intrinsic

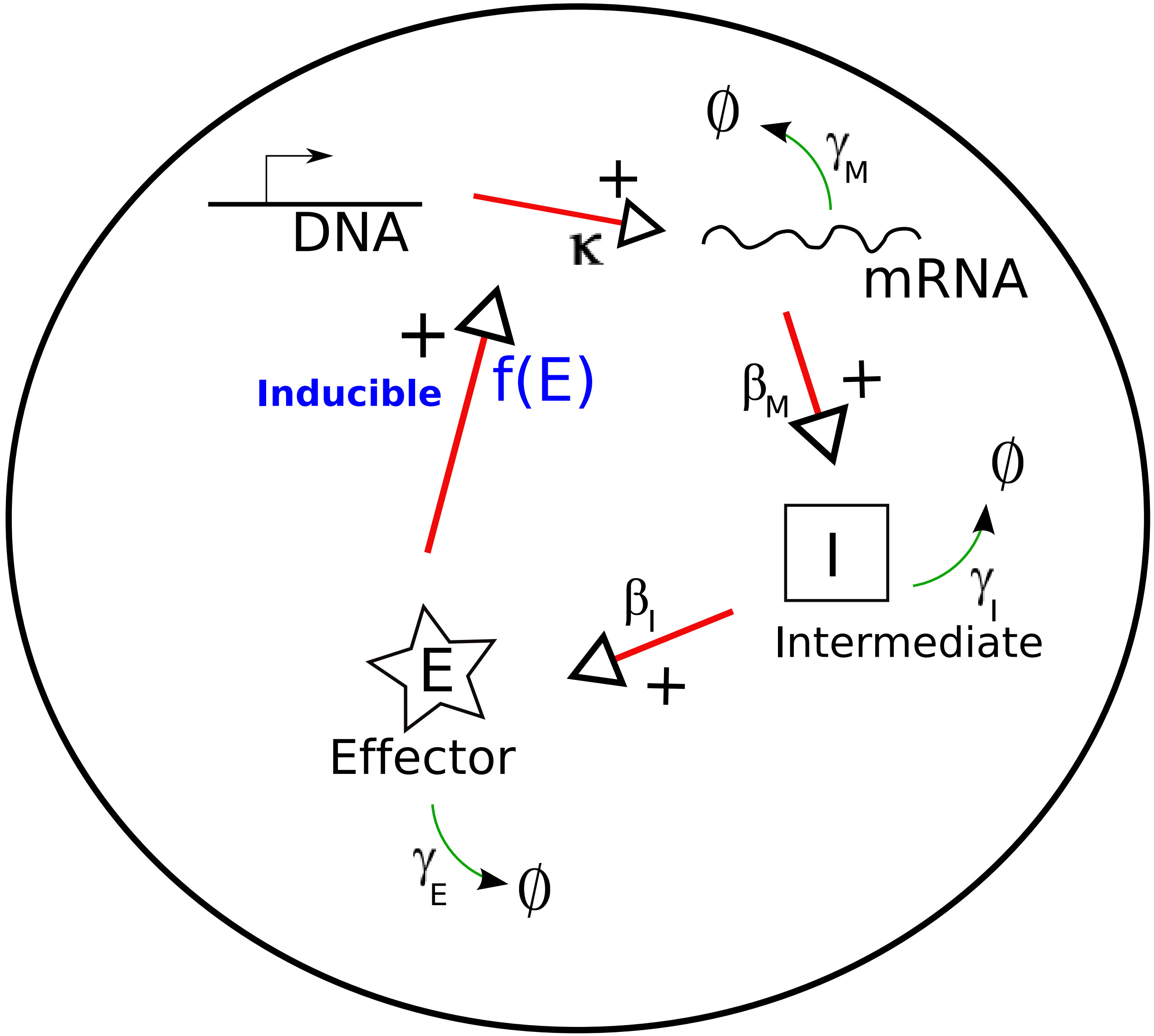
Outline

- Quick tour of the model and the deterministic case
- What happens in the case with bursting (intrinsic noise) ?
- And then what about the effects of diffusion (extrinsic noise) ?
- Both together
- Conclusions and problems

Central dogma



Central dogma



Deterministic situation: Many cells

Through rescaling parameters and variables, the equations read $(M, I, E) \to (x_1, x_2, x_3)$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{dx_1}{dt} &= \gamma_1[\kappa_d f(x_3) - x_1] \\
\frac{dx_2}{dt} &= \gamma_2(x_1 - x_2) \\
\frac{dx_3}{dt} &= \gamma_3(x_2 - x_3)
\end{aligned}
$$

And

$$f(x) = \frac{1 + x^n}{K + x^n}$$

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\frac{dx_3}{dt} &= \gamma_3(x_2 - x_3) = 0
\end{aligned}
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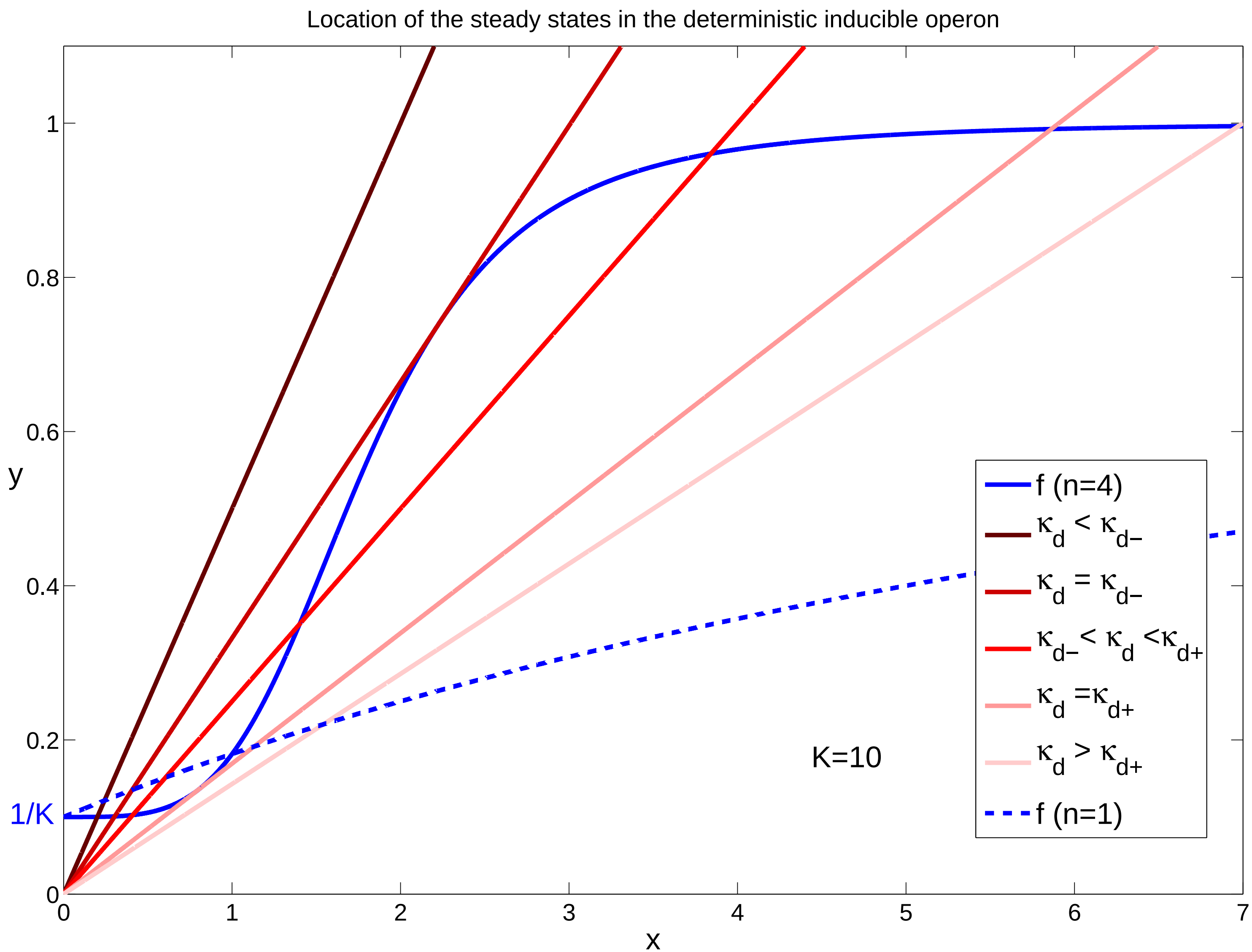
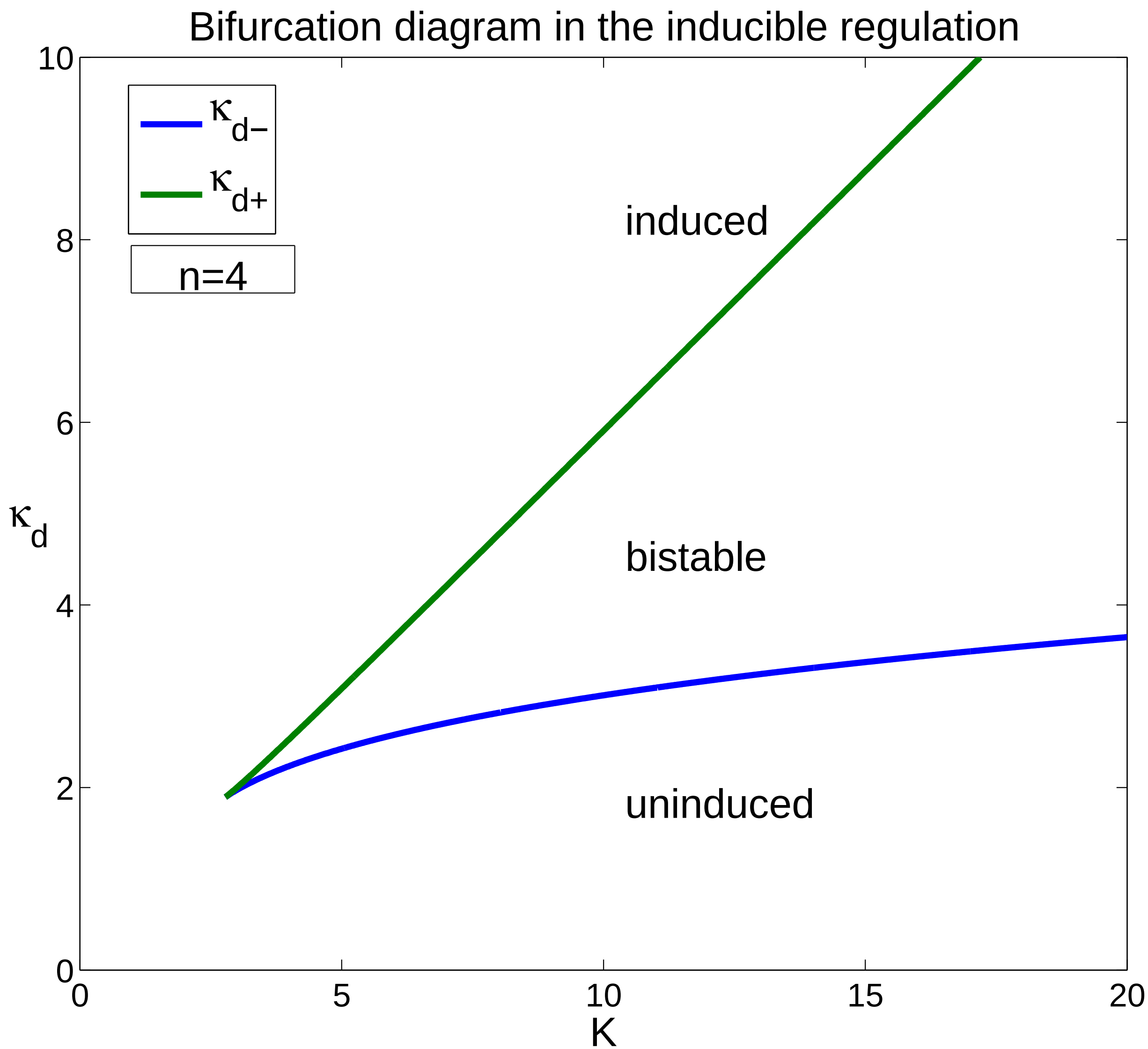
And

$$f(x) = \frac{1 + x^n}{K + x^n}$$

Deterministic inducible regulation



Dependence of bistability on κ_d and K



Fast and slow variables

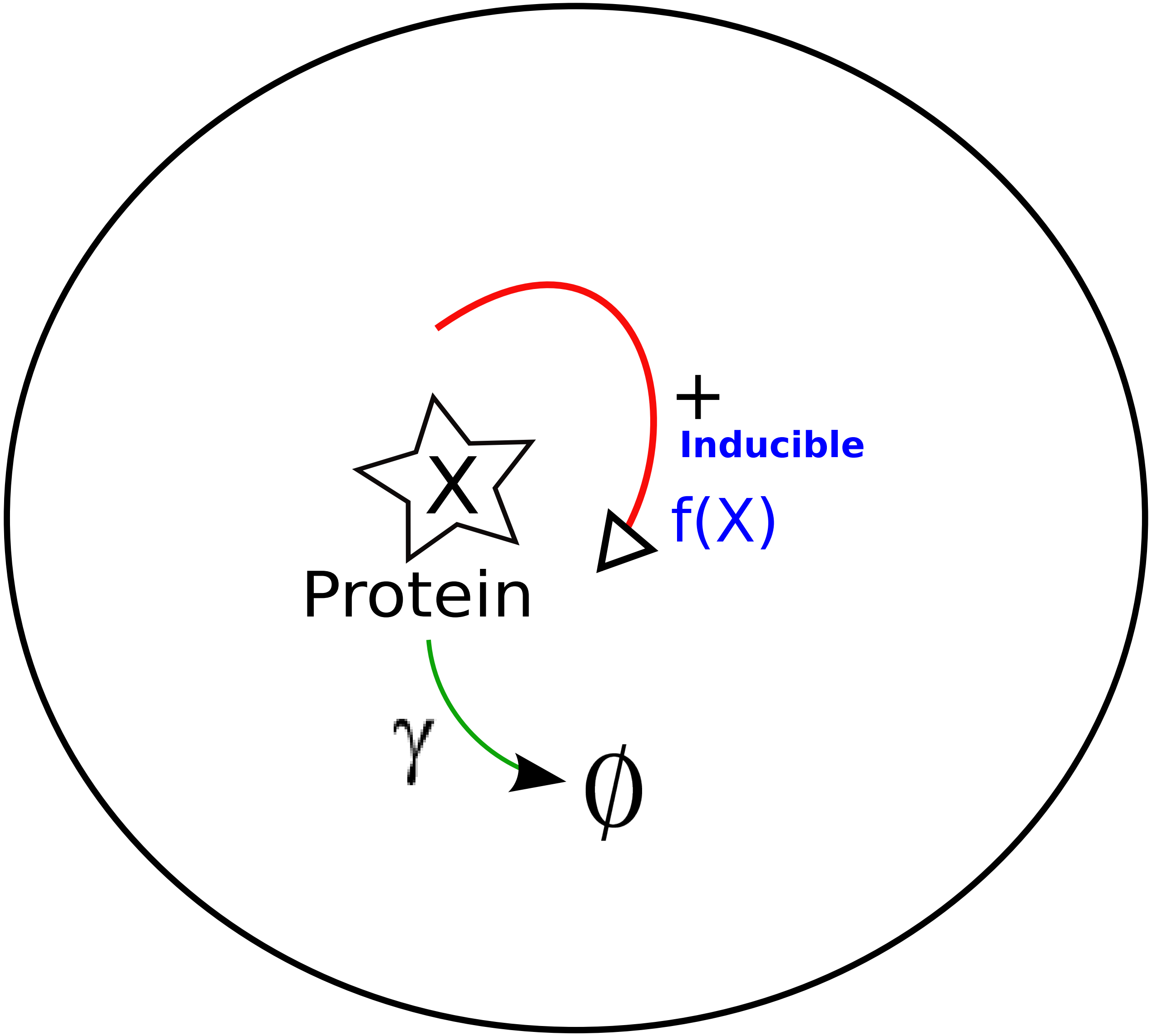
Typically the degradation rate of mRNA is much greater than that of either the intermediate or effector so $x_1 \simeq \kappa_d f(x_3)$ and equations reduce to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx_2}{dt} &= \gamma_2[\kappa_d f(x_3) - x_2] \\ \frac{dx_3}{dt} &= \gamma_3(x_2 - x_3) \end{aligned}$$

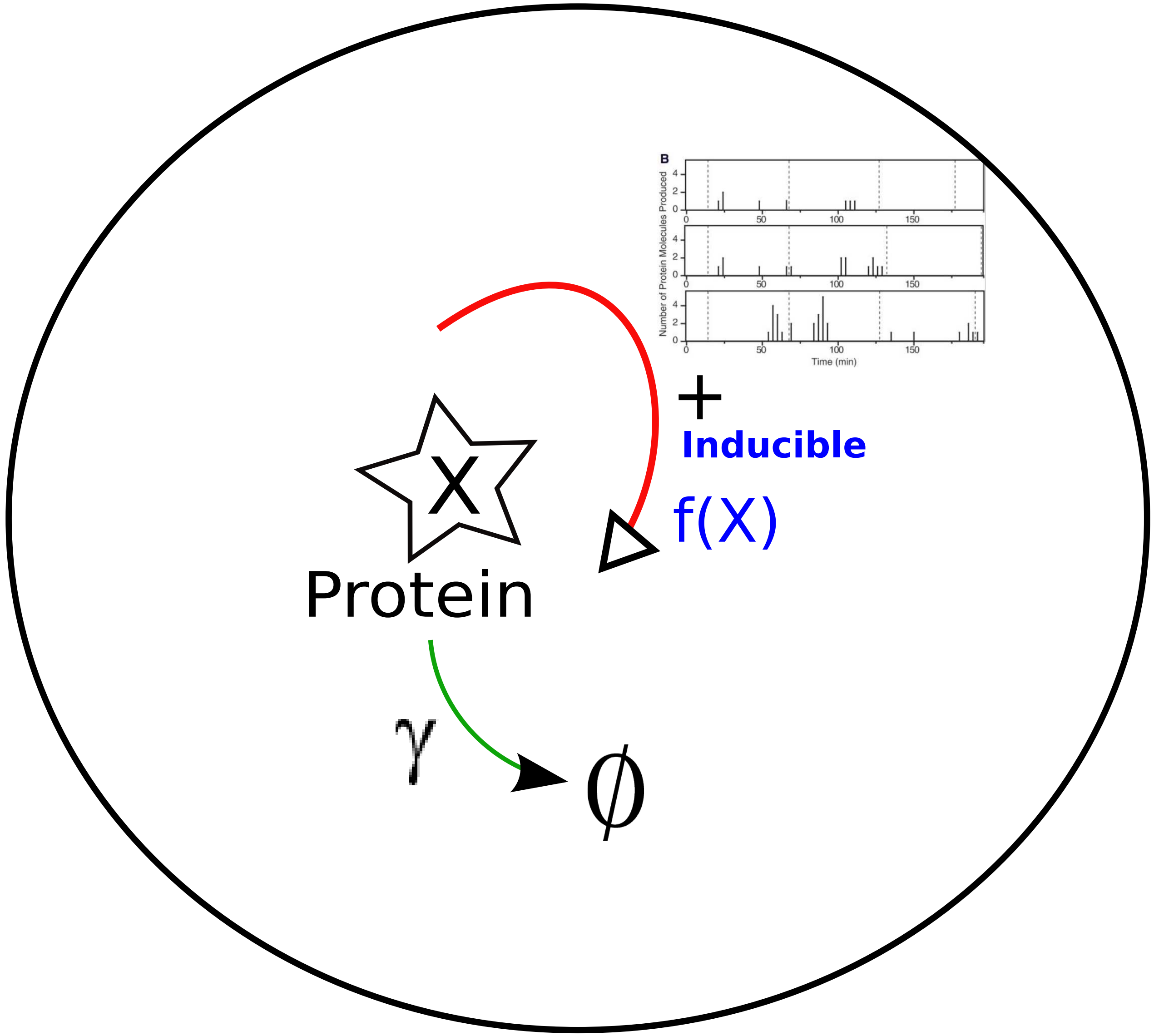
With either intermediate or effector dynamics additionally dominating because of time scales we have

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \gamma \kappa_d f(x) - \gamma x$$

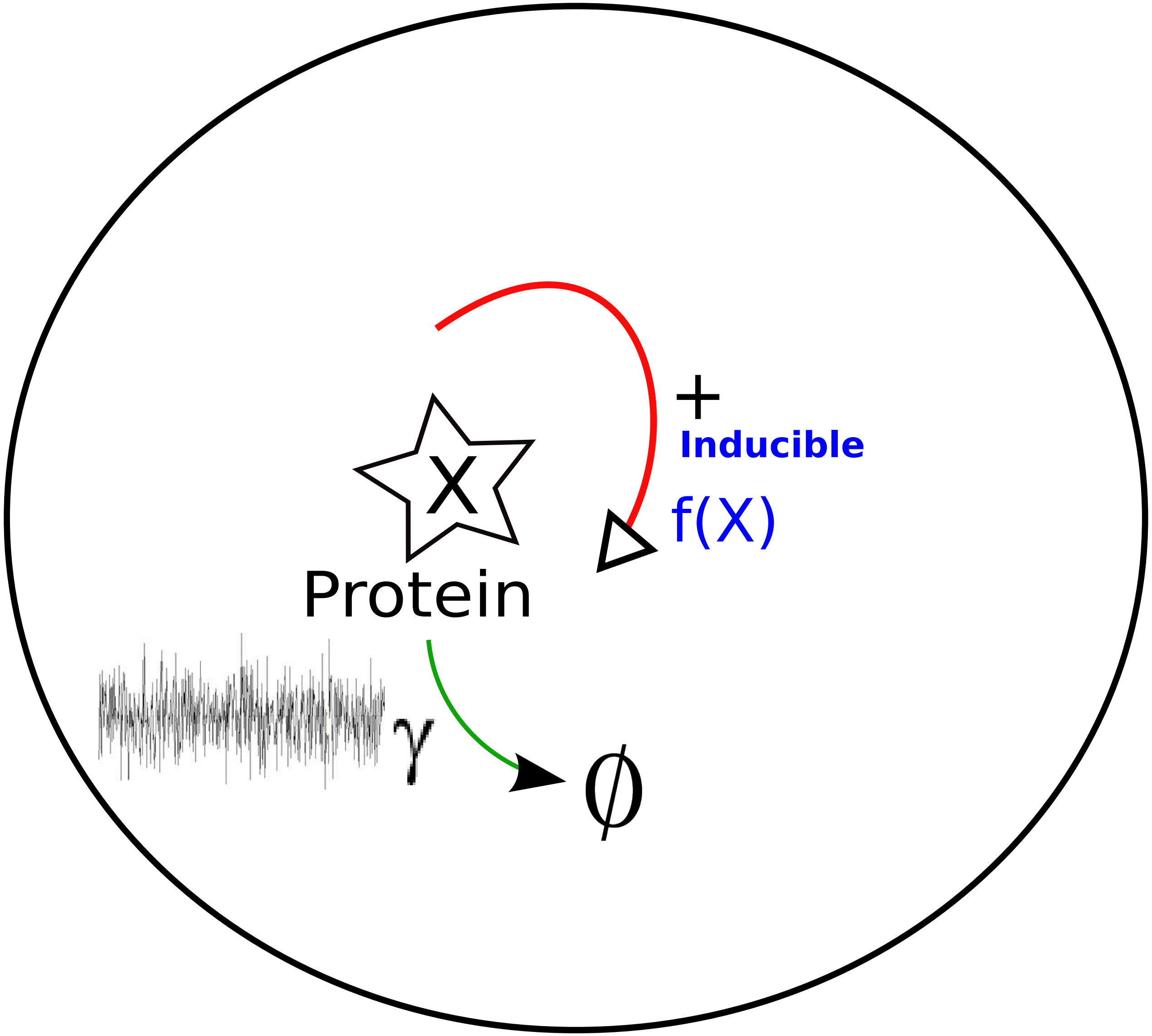
Reduced model



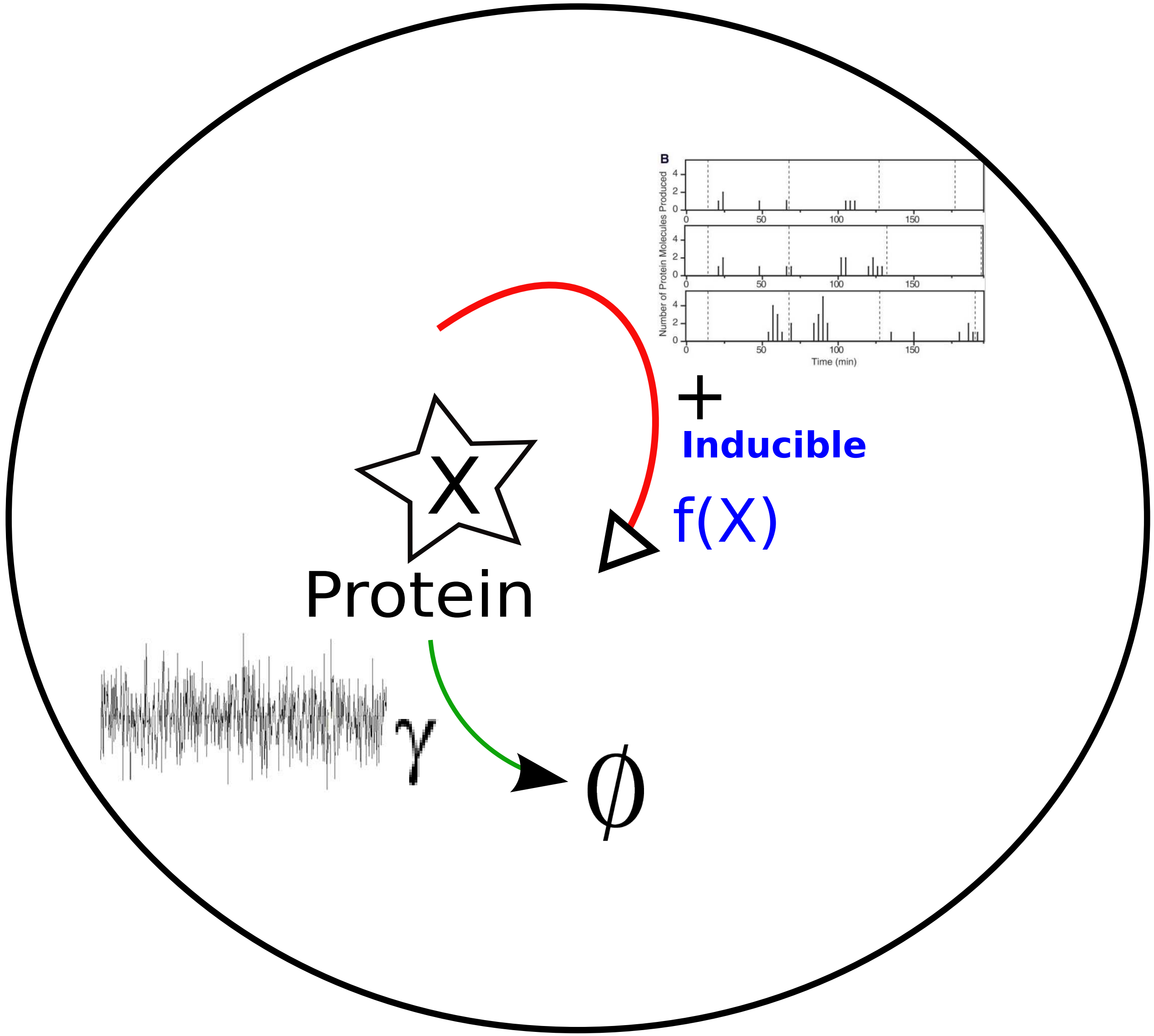
Intrinsic noise



Extrinsic noise

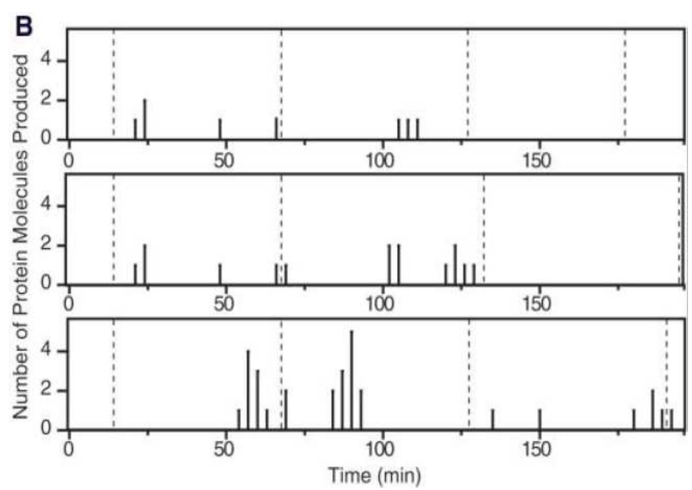


Intrinsic and Extrinsic noise



Bursting (intrinsic noise) in cells

- Experimentally observed that in many organisms the amplitude of protein production through bursting translation of mRNA is exponentially distributed at the single cell level
- Let the density of this distribution be $h(y) = \dfrac{1}{b} e^{-y/b}$



Yu (2006), Science, **311**

Bursting as a jump Markov process

- Replace the simple deterministic dynamics

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\gamma x + \gamma\kappa_d f(x)$$

with

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\gamma x + \Xi(h, \gamma\kappa_b f(x))$$

where $\Xi(h, \varphi)$ is a jump Markov process occurring at a rate φ and distributed with density h

Evolution equation for density of x

The evolution equation for the density $u(t,x)$ of x is

$$\frac{\partial u(t,x)}{\partial t} - \gamma \frac{\partial (x u(t,x))}{\partial x} = -\alpha f(x) u(t,x) + \alpha \int_0^x f(y) u(t,y) h(x-y) dy$$

(differential Chapman-Kolmogorov equation) so the stationary density $u_*(x)$ satisfies

$$-\gamma \frac{d(x u_*(x))}{dx} = -\alpha f(x) u_*(x) + \alpha \int_0^x f(y) u_*(y) h(x-y) dy$$

Evolution equation for density of x

The evolution equation for the density $u(t, x)$ of x is

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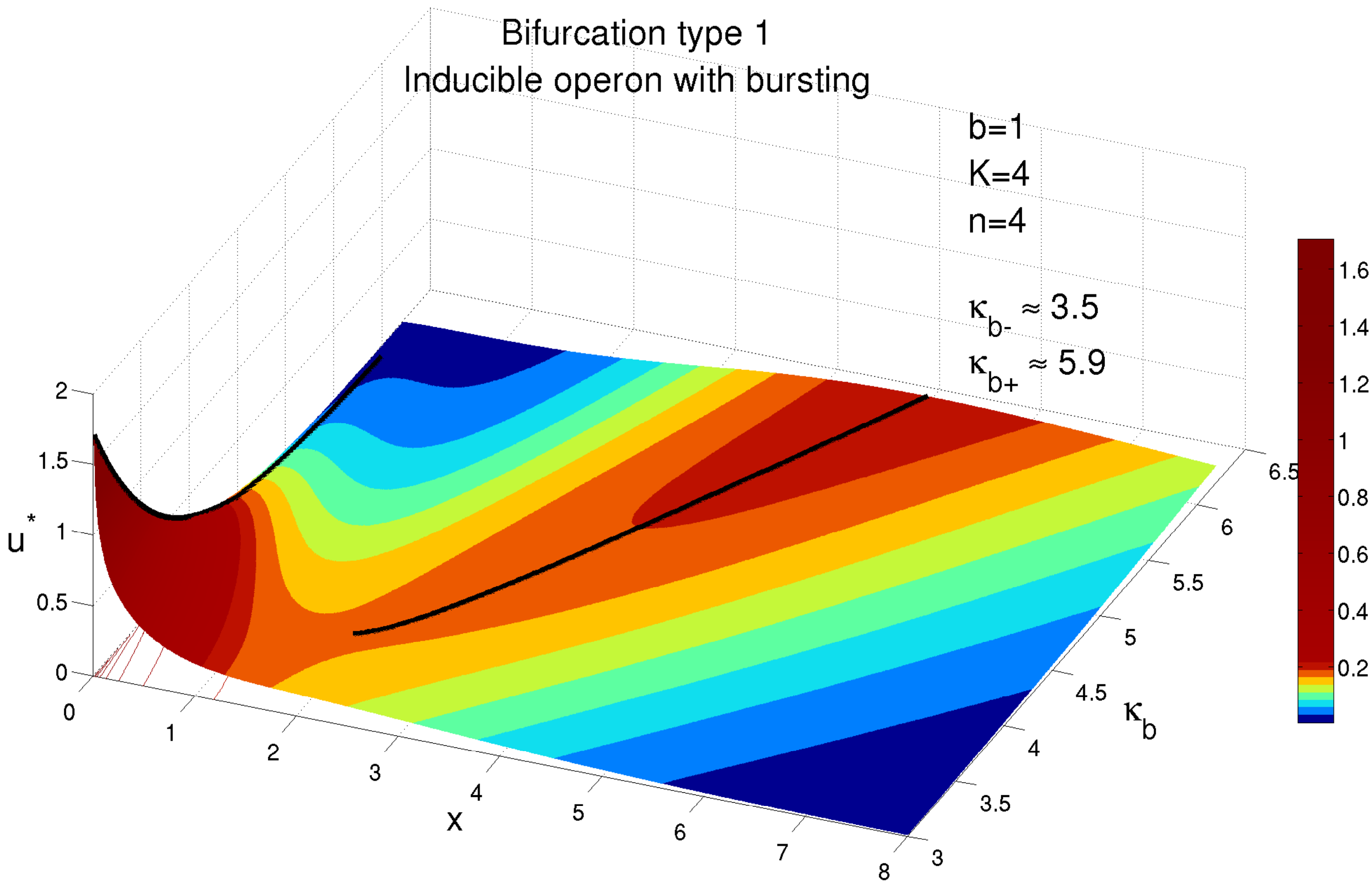
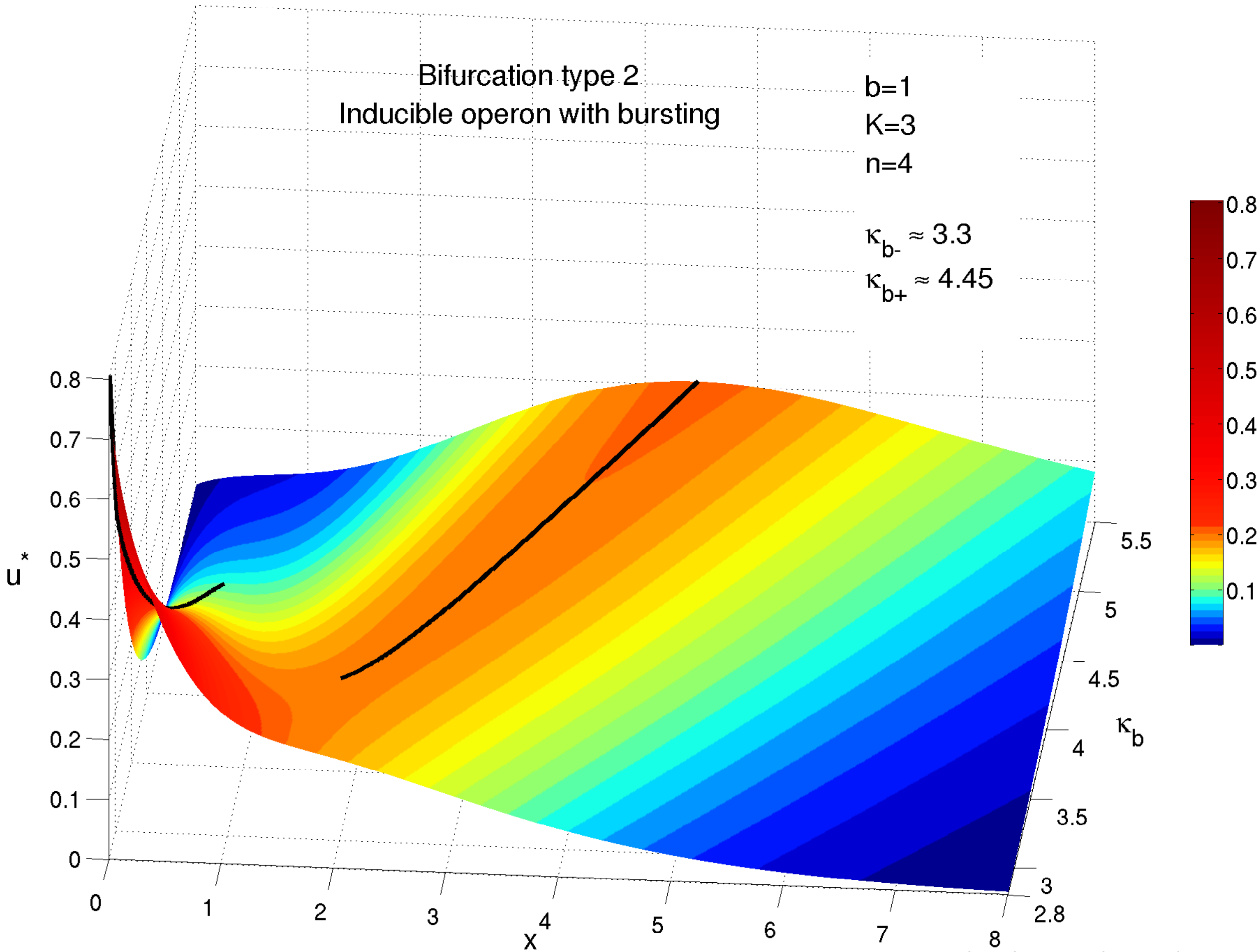
(1)

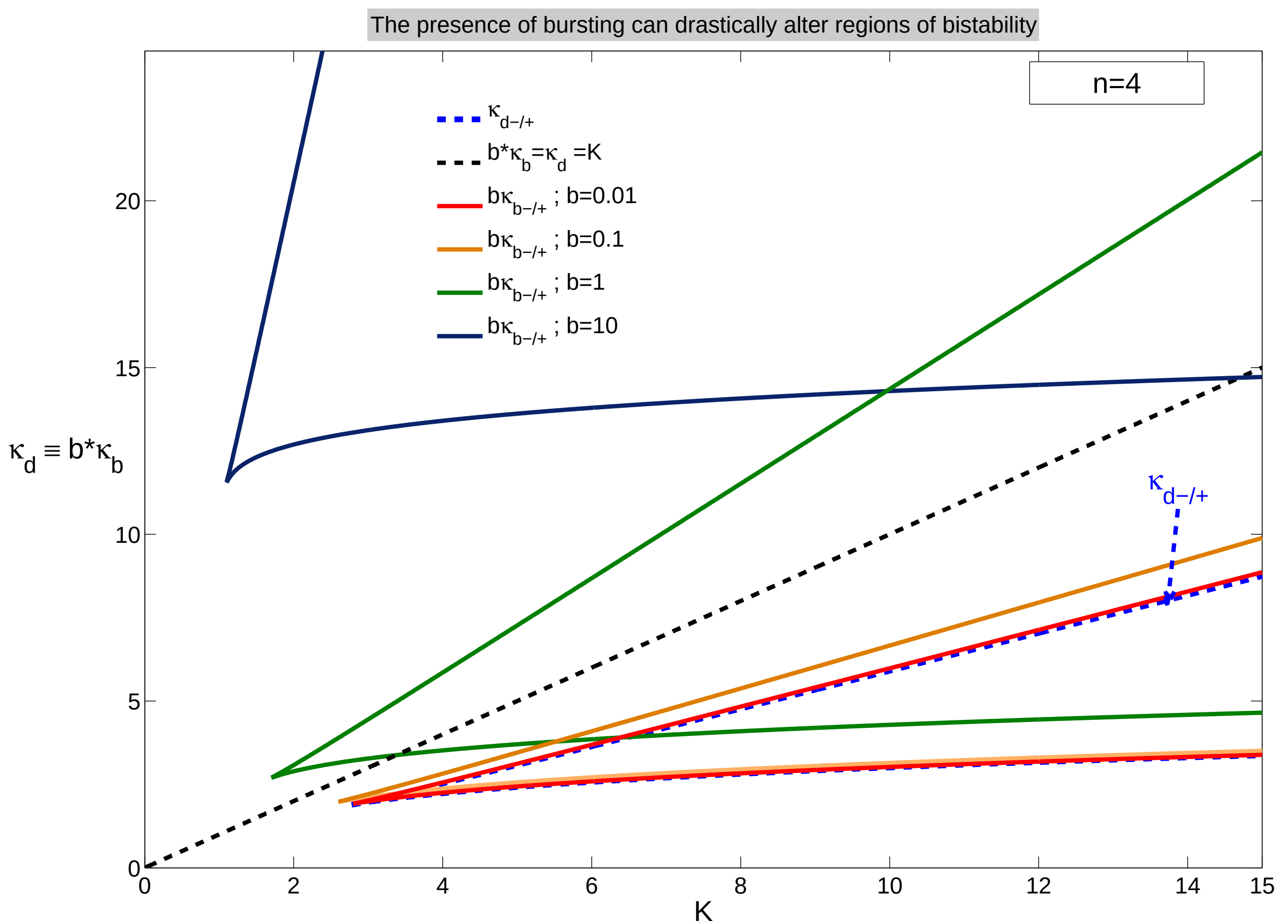
Stationary density as a function of κ_b



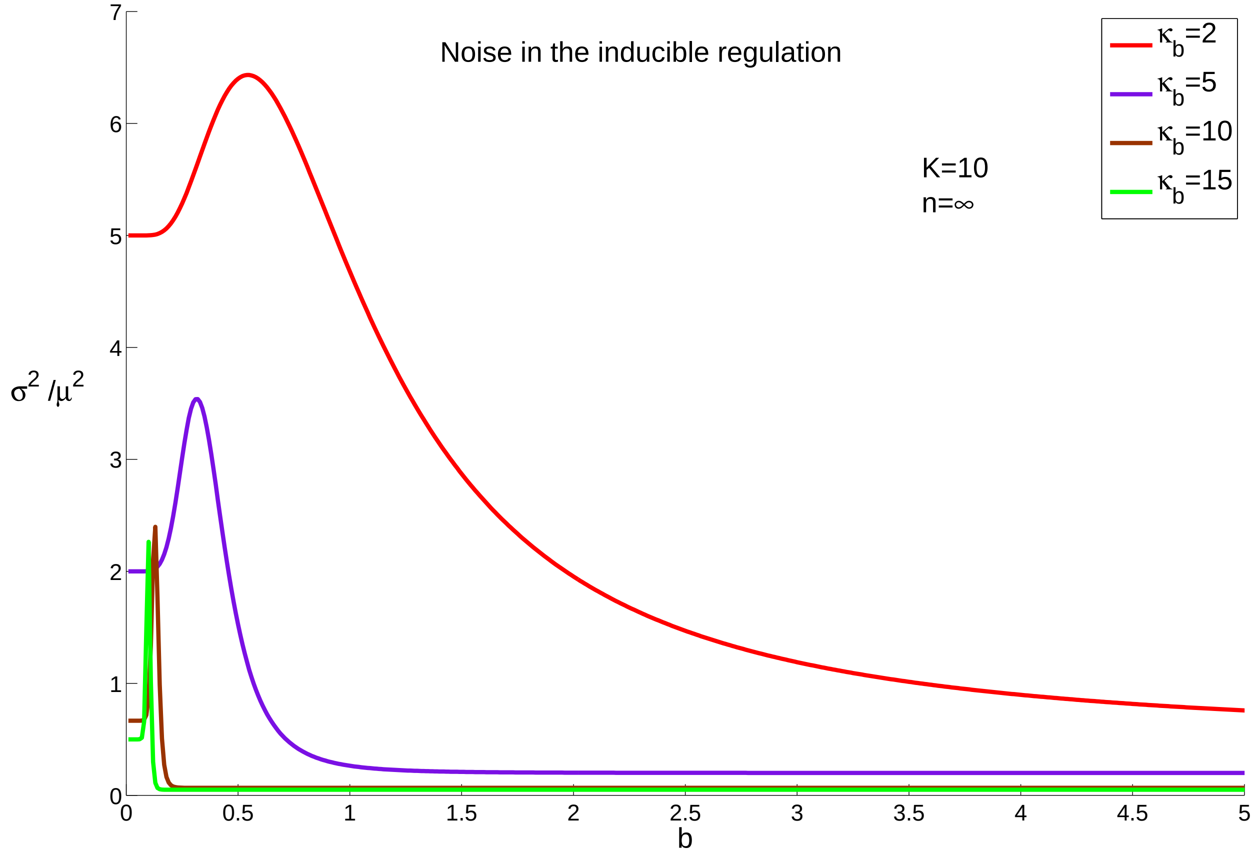
Stationary density as a function of κ_b



Effects of bursting



Noise induced by bursting



Diffusion (extrinsic noise) in cells

- We consider the fluctuations that appear in the degradation rate γ of the generic equation.
- From standard chemical kinetic arguments (Oppenheim (1969), J. Chem. Phys.**50**, 460-466), if the fluctuations are Gaussian distributed the mean numbers of molecules decaying in a time dt is simply $\gamma x dt$ and the standard deviation of these numbers is given by $\gamma\sqrt{x}/\sqrt{2}$

Extrinsic noise as a white noise process

- Replace the simple deterministic dynamics

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\gamma x + \gamma \kappa_d f(x)$$

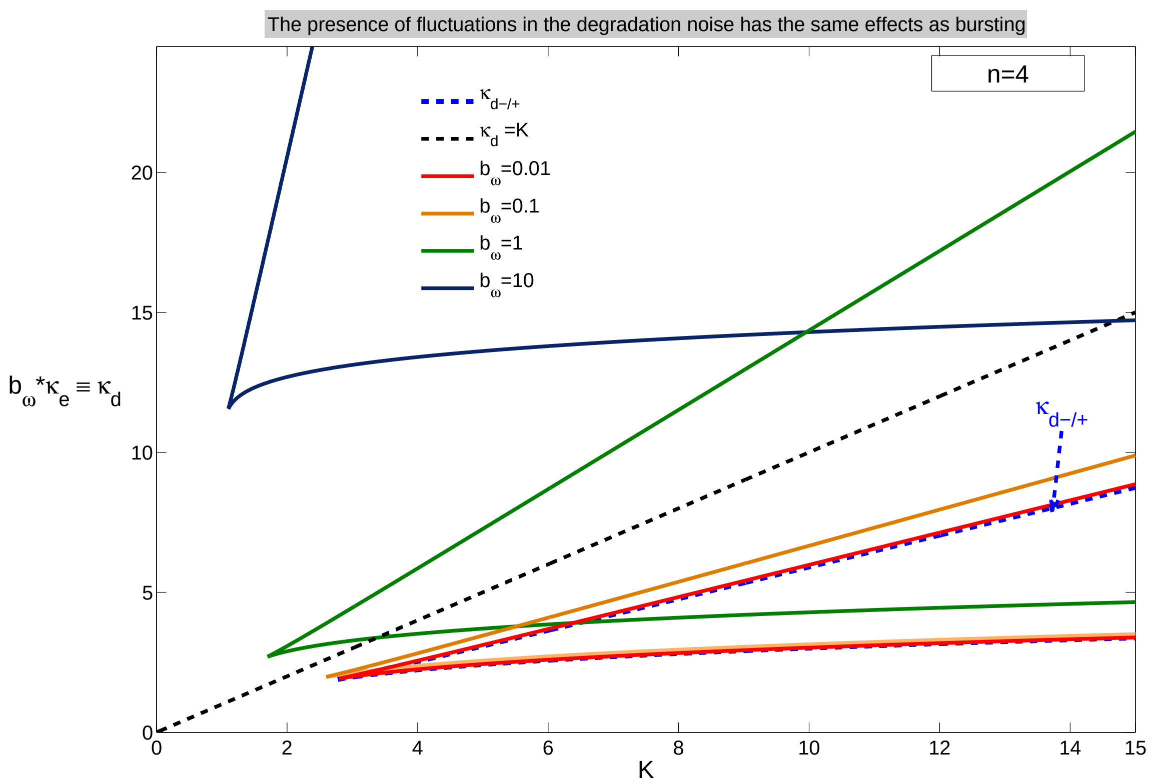
with

$$dx = [\gamma \kappa_d f(x) - \gamma x]dt + \sigma \sqrt{x} dw$$

where dw is a standard white noise process

Extrinsic noise ∼ intrinsic noise

- Let replace the average burst amplitude b with $b \to \sigma^2/2\gamma \equiv b_w$ and $\kappa_b \to \kappa_e = 2\gamma\kappa_d/\sigma^2 \equiv \kappa_d/b_w$, then the stationary density in the case of extrinsic noise has the same form as in the case of intrinsic noise.



Extrinsic and intrinsic noise

- Replace the simple deterministic dynamics

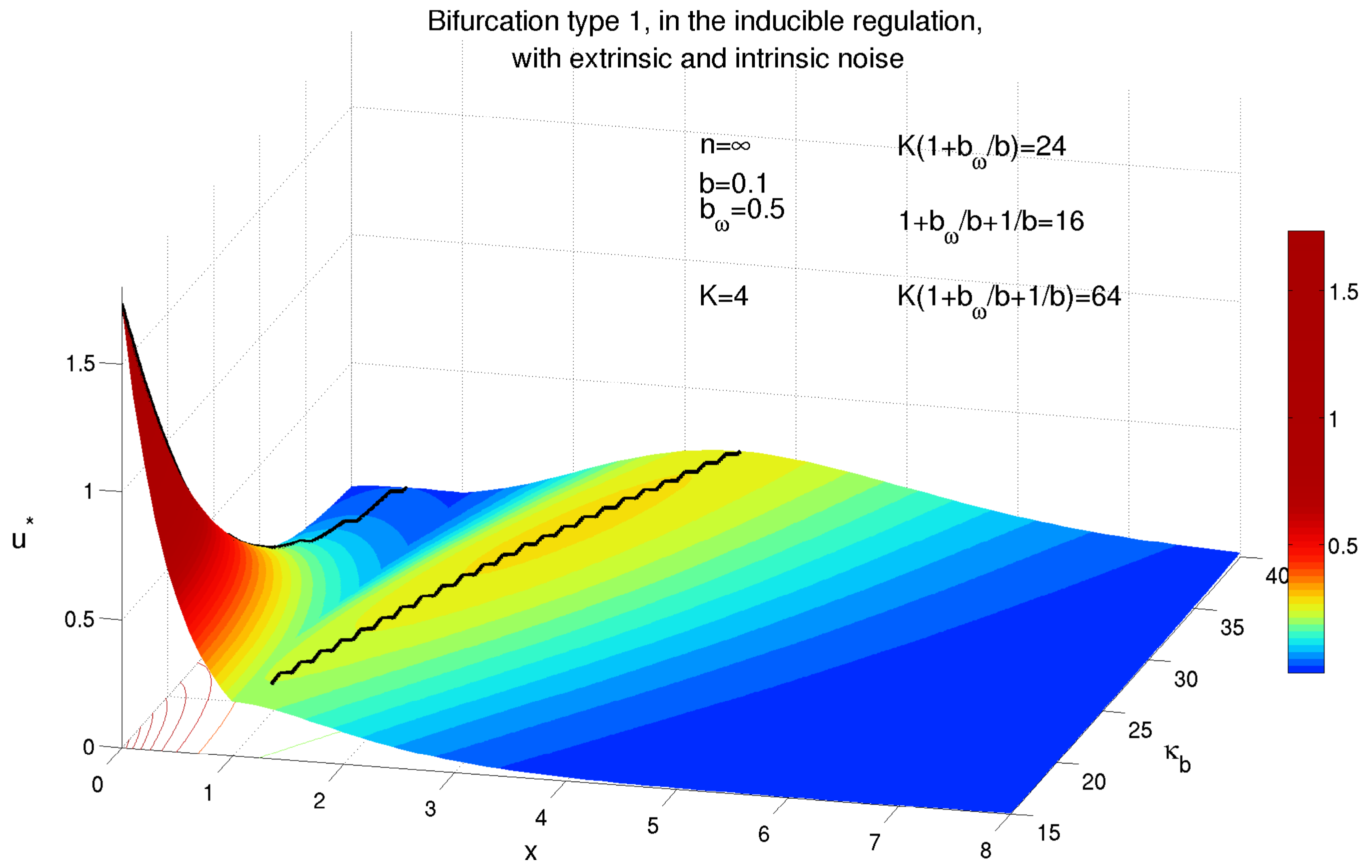
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\gamma x + \gamma \kappa_d f(x)$$

with

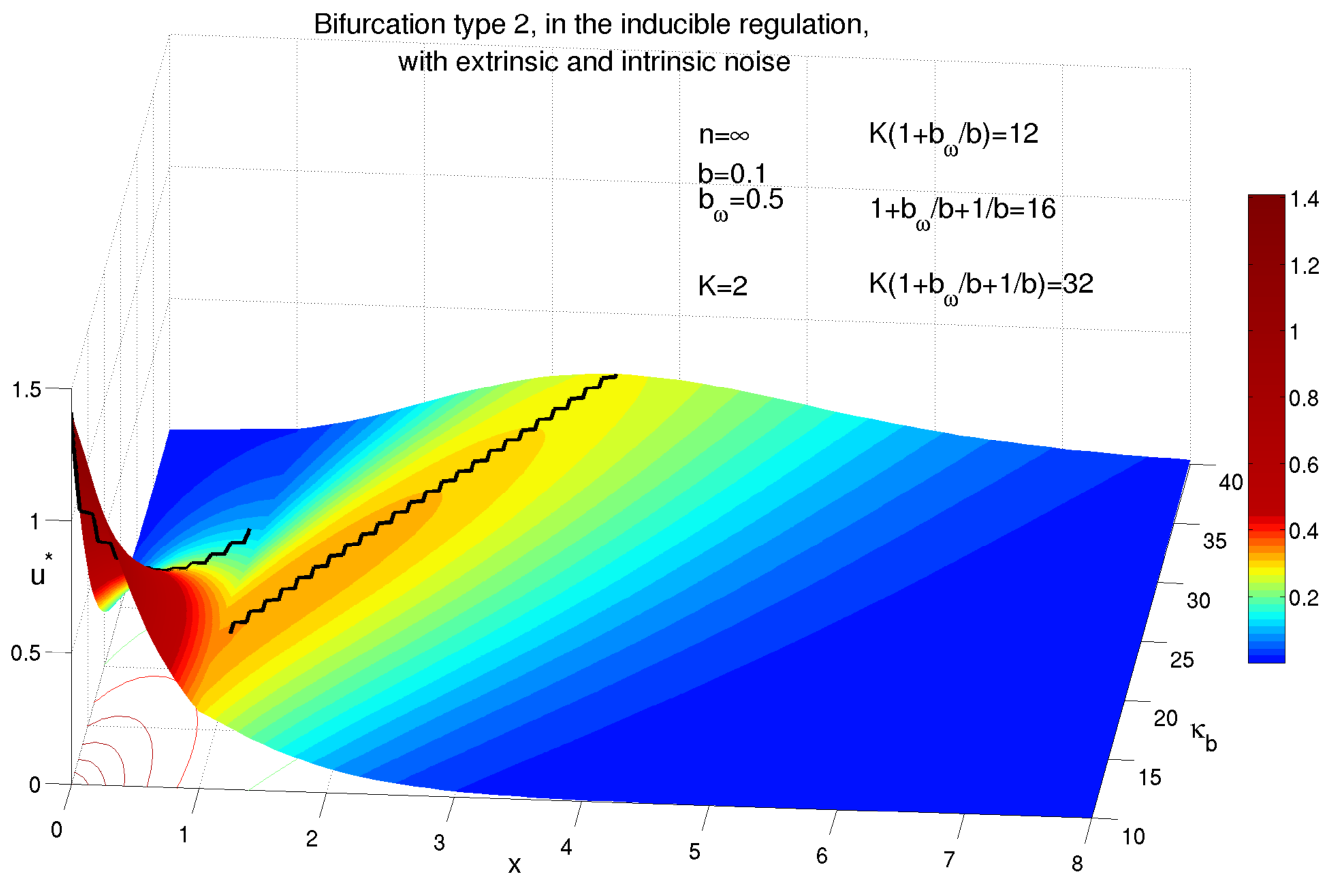
$$dx = -\gamma x dt + \Xi(h, \gamma\kappa_b f(x)) - \sigma\sqrt{x} dw,$$

where dw is a standard white noise process and $\Xi(h, \gamma\kappa_b f(x))$ is a jump Markov process occurring at a rate $\gamma\kappa_b f(x)$ and distributed with density h

Extrinsic and intrinsic noise



Extrinsic and intrinsic noise



Conclusion

- Intrinsic noise and extrinsic noise are indistinguishable from the stationnary density in this model.
- The stationary densities can be much more wider (and asymmmetric) than a poissonian ditribution.
- Noise-enhanced bistability.
- And noise-induced bistability when $n = 1$.
- When both noise are present, their effect sum up additively.

Problems and Further Studies

- Intrinsic noise should take into account transcriptional and/or translational delays.
- Extrinsic noise should take into account time correlations.
- Mean exit time and auto-correlation function should be derived to give more information on the dynamics out of equilibirum.
- The full three-stage model should be considered with noise.

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