

Chimera states in neural networks: interplay of fractal topology and delay

Jakub Sawicki¹, Iryna Omelchenko¹, Anna Zakharova¹, Eckehard Schöll¹

¹*Institut für Theoretische Physik, Technische Universität Berlin, Hardenbergstraße 36, 10623 Berlin, Germany (e-mail: zergon@gmx.net, omelchenko@itp.tu-berlin.de, anna.zakharova@tu-berlin.de, schoell@physik.tu-berlin.de)*

Chimera states are an example of intriguing partial synchronization patterns emerging in networks of identical oscillators. They consist of spatially coexisting domains of coherent (synchronized) and incoherent (desynchronized) dynamics [1]. We analyze chimera states in networks of FitzHugh-Nagumo oscillators with fractal (hierarchical) connectivities [2], and elaborate the role of time delay introduced in the coupling term [3, 4]. In the parameter plane of coupling strength and delay time we find tongue-like regions of existence of chimera states alternating with regions of synchronization. We demonstrate that by varying the time delay one can deliberately stabilize desired spatio-temporal patterns in the system.

- [1] Schöll E., Synchronization patterns and chimera states in complex networks: interplay of topology and dynamics, *The European Physical Journal Special Topics* **225**:891, 2016.
- [2] Omelchenko I., Provata A., Hizanidis J., Schöll E., Hövel P., Robustness of chimera states for coupled FitzHugh-Nagumo oscillators, *Physical Review E* **91**:022917, 2015.
- [3] Sawicki J., Omelchenko I., Zakharova A., Schöll E., Chimera states in complex networks: interplay of fractal topology and delay, *The European Physical Journal Special Topics* **226**:1883, 2017.
- [4] Sawicki J., Omelchenko I., Zakharova A., Schöll E., to be published, 2018.