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**Sinopsis**

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This book provides a comprehensive introduction to the theoretical and experimental studies of atomic optical bistability and multistability, and their dynamical properties in systems with two- and three-level inhomogeneously-broadened atoms inside an optical cavity. By making use of the modified linear absorption and dispersion, as well as the greatly enhanced nonlinearity in the three-level electromagnetically induced transparency system, the optical bistability and efficient all-optical switching can be achieved at relatively low laser powers, which can be well controlled and manipulated. Until now, the rapid rate of progress in applications of multilevel systems in cross-disciplinary field has made it difficult to newcomers to the field to obtain a broad overview of this topic. This monograph will serve the purpose.

Sample Chapter(s)

Table of Contents (55 KB)

Chapter 1: Introduction (508 KB)

Contents:

Introduction

Atomic Optical Bistability in a Two-level System

Three-level Atoms as the Intracavity Medium and Atomic Optical Bistability

Atomic Optical Multistability

Dynamical Instability to Chaos

Controlled All-optical Switching

Dynamical Hysteresis and Noise-induced Behaviors

Conclusion and Outlooks

Readership: Graduate students, researchers and academics in optical physics.