Jung and Hänggi Reply: In a previous Letter[1] we have numerically evaluated (error $< 0.1\%$) the lowest, nonvanishing eigenvalue $\lambda_1(\tau)$ of a colored-noise driven bistable system. We compared our numerical results with theoretical predictions which had been derived at weak noise and small noise color $\tau \rightarrow 0$, and in addition commented on the behavior of moderate to large noise color. Although a previous "crude" (see p. 697 in Ref. 2) approximation for the stationary probability,[2] i.e., the decoupling theory (DT), is in *qualitative* agreement with our numerical findings, we explicitly commented in this context critically on an *a priori* use of the DT. We state in Ref. 1 that the DT overestimates the value of the slope for the data by a factor of 5 [note our discussion following Eq. (2) in Ref. 1]. In the asymptotic large-τ regime, $\tau \rightarrow \infty$, the DT overestimates the correct slope of $(8V_0/27D_0)\tau$, which has been derived first in Ref. 3, by a factor of 6.75.... In particular, we nowhere state that *our own* numerical study[1] is in *quantitative* agreement with DT. Therefore, contrary to the statements in the preceding Comment,[4] we believe that our argumentation in Ref. 1 on the possible use (misuse) of DT is quite clear, and not misleading.

The information plotted in Figs. 1 and 2 of the preceding Comment is not challenged. The fact that the decoupling approximation is in *quantitative disagreement* with precise results is well known,[1-8] and has already been noted by the authors Ref. 4 repeatedly in previous items, see, e.g., Fig. 3 in Ref. 5 and Figs. 3–5 in Ref. 6.

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