



# Lag $\mathcal{H}_\infty$ synchronization and lag synchronization for multiple derivative coupled complex networks

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## ABSTRACT

This paper mainly devotes to the study of lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization and lag synchronization issues for the multiple derivative coupled complex networks (MDCCNs) with and without external disturbances, which have never been investigated. On one side, with the help of state feedback controller, adaptive state feedback controller and Lyapunov functionals, two criteria are developed to insure the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization for the MDCCN with external disturbances. On the other side, we also discuss the lag synchronization in the MDCCN in virtue of choosing appropriate state feedback controller and adaptive state feedback controller. Lastly, two numerical examples are put forward to verify the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization and lag synchronization criteria.

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## 1. Introduction

It is generally known that there exist many important dynamical behaviors in complex networks (CNs) [1], such as synchronization, passivity, stability, etc. Especially, the synchronization for CNs has become a focus of interest for many researchers [2–15]. In virtue of utilizing inequality techniques, Lyapunov functionals and edge-based adaptive control strategies, Wang et al. [3] discussed the synchronization for two kinds of coupled reaction–diffusion neural networks. In [4], the authors considered an adaptive coupled reaction–diffusion neural networks, procured several passivity criteria by devising suitable adaptive scheme and employing inequality techniques, and developed a criterion of synchronization based on the result of the passivity. Toopchi et al. [7] put forward a fractional Proportional-Integral pinning control strategy to address the synchronization problem of fractional order CNs. Furthermore, in the real-life world, there may exist the external disturbances (EDs) in CNs. As the matter of fact, the synchronization in CNs may be destroyed on account of the existence of EDs. Conse-

quently, how to weaken or avoid the influence of EDs has become the focus of interest for lot of researchers from home and abroad [16–20]. Based on inequality techniques, Lyapunov functional approach, and adaptive control strategies, Wang and Wu [16] studied the  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization and synchronization problems of hybrid coupled reaction–diffusion neural networks. In [18], the authors came up with a discrete stochastic CN, and investigated the bound  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization issue of such network on the basis of the Kronecker product and time-varying real-valued function.

In the world in which we live today, the time-delay commonly exists due to the finite speed of transmission and network congestion, which is always considered as the impact factor for the instability of system. Therefore, it is very intriguing to research the lag synchronization for the CNs [21–28]. In [21], with the help of devised adaptive controllers, the authors studied the lag synchronization for two types of CNs which are referred to as response and drive systems. Ji et al. [22] considered the lag synchronization between the delayed coupled uncertain CN and a nonidentical reference node based on the adaptive control approach. In [25], through devised discontinuous and continuous feedback controllers, Li et al. both coped with the lag complete synchronization and lag quasi-synchronization issues of coupled memristive neural networks. In this existing literature [21–28], unfortunately, the authors only investigated the lag synchronization for CNs. But, there exists very few results about the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization issue for CNs [29].

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On the basis of Lyapunov functional method, inequality techniques, and adaptive control approach, Wang et al. [29] studied the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization in spatial diffusion coupled and state coupled neural networks with reaction–diffusion terms. Consequently, it makes the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization worthy of being researched further.

Moreover, lots of systems in the real-life world should be depicted as multi-weighted complex networks (MWCNs) [30–36], for instance, social networks, coupled neural networks, etc. More recently, the synchronization issue for the MWCNs has become a focus of interest for some researchers in various fields. In [30], the authors put forward two multi-weighted complex dynamical networks, and established some synchronization criteria for these network models based on Lyapunov functional method, inequality techniques, pinning control approach and the obtained results of the passivity. By selecting suitable Lyapunov functionals and using pinning control approach, Wang et al. [31] investigated the synchronization in undirected and directed MWCNs. Apparently, it is also meaningful to study the  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization for the MWCNs [33–36]. In [33], the authors discussed the  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  output synchronization issue for the MWCNs on the basis of Barbalat's lemma and pinning control approach. Qin et al. [35] analyzed the robust  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization of uncertain multiple time-delayed CNs based on inequality techniques, and gave several robust  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization criteria for the presented network with the help of the devised adaptive state feedback controller. However, there exists few results about lag synchronization in MWCNs [32]. In particular, the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization for MWCNs has not been considered. Consequently, it makes the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization and lag synchronization of the MWCNs worthy of being studied further.

As the matter of fact, there exist three kinds of coupling forms in the CNs: state coupling [4–6], output coupling [37–39] and derivative coupling [40–46]. More recently, the synchronization issue of CNs with derivative coupling has caused lots of concerns [40–43]. In [40], the authors coped with the synchronization problem for the derivative coupled complex-valued complex delayed dynamical networks with parameters perturbation on the basis of intermittent pinning control strategy and inequality techniques. Zheng [42] discussed the synchronization issue for the derivative coupled CNs with the help of a pinning controller and a pinning impulsive controller. Especially, some authors have further investigated the synchronization for the multiple derivative coupled CNs [44–46]. In virtue of utilizing inequality techniques and the devised adaptive controllers, Wang et al. [44] investigated the output synchronization of multiple output or output derivative coupled CNs. In [46], the authors studied the  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  output synchronization and output synchronization for the multiple derivative coupled CNs with the help of Lyapunov functional approach, matrix theory, some inequality techniques and the devised adaptive controllers. However, the state synchronization, output synchronization and  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  output synchronization were taken into account in these existing literatures [40–46]. But, there have not been any studies on the lag synchronization and lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization for CNs with multiple derivative couplings.

In this paper, we respectively research the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization and lag synchronization for multiple derivative coupled complex networks (MDCCNs). The main contributions of this paper are given as follows. Firstly, we put forward two kinds of MDCCNs. Secondly, in virtue of utilizing appropriate state feedback controller, adaptive state feedback controller, and selecting suitable Lyapunov functionals, two criteria of the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization are developed for MDCCN. Thirdly, we also investigate the lag synchronization issue for MDCCN by employing suitable state feedback controller and adaptive feedback controller.

## 2. Preliminaries

### 2.1. Notations

$\mathcal{B}$  denotes the undirected connections set in MDCCN,  $\mathcal{N}_i$  denotes the neighbors of the node  $i$ ,  $\lambda_L(\mathcal{Y})$  and  $\lambda_H(\mathcal{Y})$  represent the minimum and maximum eigenvalues of the real symmetric matrix  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

### 2.2. Lemma

**Lemma 2.1.** (see [47]) *If the differentiable function  $o(t)$  has a finite limit as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\dot{o}(t)$  is uniformly continuous, then  $\dot{o}(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .*

## 3. Lag $\mathcal{H}_\infty$ synchronization of MDCCN

### 3.1. MDCCN model

The MDCCN model considered in this section is described by

$$\dot{k}_i(t) = Ak_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \dot{k}_j(t) + u_i(t) + \zeta_i(t), \quad (1)$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ ;  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \ni A = \text{diag}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ ;  $k_i(t) = (k_{i1}(t), k_{i2}(t), \dots, k_{in}(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  denotes the state vector of the  $i$ th node;  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \ni \Psi^m = \text{diag}(\psi_1^m, \psi_2^m, \dots, \psi_n^m) > 0$  represents the inner coupling matrix;  $\mathbb{R}^n \ni u_i(t) = (u_{i1}(t), u_{i2}(t), \dots, u_{in}(t))^T$  is the control input vector of node  $i$ ;  $b_m (m = 1, 2, \dots, q)$  is the coupling strength of the  $m$ th coupling form; the outer coupling matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q} \ni F^m = (F_{ij}^m)_{Q \times Q} (m = 1, 2, \dots, q)$  has the following definition: if there exists a connection between nodes  $j$  and  $i (j \neq i)$ , then  $\mathbb{R} \ni F_{ji}^m = F_{ij}^m > 0$ ; otherwise,  $\mathbb{R} \ni F_{ji}^m = F_{ij}^m = 0 (i \neq j)$ ; furthermore,  $F_{ii}^m = -\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^Q F_{ij}^m$ ;  $\mathbb{R}^n \ni \zeta_i(t)$  is external disturbance, and

$$\int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt < +\infty$$

for any  $\mathbb{R} \ni t_s \geq 0$ . In this section, the MDCCN (1) is connected.

**Remark 1.** As the matter of fact, the change of the node state may be affected by the state derivatives of the neighbor nodes in many real networks [40–43]. For instance, the stock transaction system is a complex dynamical network, in which a node represents a stock and an edge denotes the correlations between different stocks. Apparently, the price of each stock is affected by the price fluctuating rates of other stocks. Consequently, the derivative coupling should be considered in the stock transaction system. Moreover, there exist different influencing factors for the price fluctuating rate of the stock, such as international events, natural disasters and so on. Therefore, the stock transaction system should be modeled by the complex network with multiple derivative couplings. Obviously, it is very meaningful to investigate the complex networks with multiple derivative couplings.

Defining  $k^*(t) = \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q k_\rho(t)$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{k}^*(t) &= \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \left( Ak_\rho(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{\rho j}^m \Psi^m \dot{k}_j(t) + u_\rho(t) + \zeta_\rho(t) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q Ak_\rho(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \left( \sum_{\rho=1}^Q F_{\rho j}^m \right) \Psi^m \dot{k}_j(t) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t) \\ &= Ak^*(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\check{k}_i(t) = k_i(t) - k^*(t)$ , one gets

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\check{k}}_i(t) &= \dot{k}_i(t) - \dot{k}^*(t) \\ &= Ak_i(t) - Ak^*(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m (\dot{k}_j(t) + \dot{k}^*(t)) + u_i(t) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t) \\ &= A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \dot{k}_j(t) + u_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \\ &\quad + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t).\end{aligned}\quad (2)$$

**Definition 3.1.** The lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization for MDCCN (1) is achieved if

$$\int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt \leq V(0) + \eta^2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \int_0^{t_s} \zeta_i^T(t) \zeta_i(t) dt, \quad (3)$$

in which  $E(t) = \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))^T \Upsilon (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \ni \Upsilon = \text{diag}(\Upsilon_1, \Upsilon_2, \dots, \Upsilon_n) > 0$ ,  $\mathbb{R} \ni \tau_{ji} = \tau_{ij} > 0$  are the time delay between nodes  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, Q\}$  and  $j \in \mathcal{N}_i$ , the function  $V(\cdot) \geq 0$ ,  $\mathbb{R} \ni \eta > 0$ ,  $\mathbb{R} \ni t_s \geq 0$ .

Denote

$$\zeta(t) = (\zeta_1(t), \zeta_2(t), \dots, \zeta_Q(t)),$$

$$\check{k}(t) = (\check{k}_1(t), \check{k}_2(t), \dots, \check{k}_Q(t)).$$

### 3.2. State feedback controller

For the purpose of ensuring the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization for MDCCN (1), an appropriate state feedback controller is devised as follows:

$$u_i(t) = -d\check{k}_i(t) + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)), \quad (4)$$

where  $\mathbb{R} \ni d > 0$ .

By (2) and (4), one has

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\check{k}}_i(t) &= A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \dot{k}_j(t) \\ &\quad - d\check{k}_i(t) + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \\ &\quad + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t),\end{aligned}\quad (5)$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** On the basis of the state feedback controller (4), the MDCCN (1) is lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronized if the following condition is met:

$$\Upsilon A - d\Upsilon + \frac{\Upsilon^2}{2d\eta^2} \leq 0.$$

**Proof.** Consider the following Lyapunov functional for network (2):

$$\begin{aligned}V_1(t) &= \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t) - \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{k}_j^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Upsilon)] \check{k}(t) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \int_{t-\tau_{ji}}^t \check{k}_j^T(s) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(s) ds.\end{aligned}\quad (6)$$

In what follows, one gets

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}_1(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_i(t) - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}_j^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Upsilon)] \dot{\check{k}}(t) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \left[ A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \dot{k}_j(t) - d\check{k}_i(t) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t) \right] \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}_j^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Upsilon)] \dot{k}(t) + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) \\ &\quad - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \left( A\check{k}_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t) \right) \\ &\quad - 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t) + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}).\end{aligned}\quad (7)$$

On account of

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i(t) &= \sum_{i=1}^Q (k_i(t) - k^*(t)) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^Q \left( k_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q k_\rho(t) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^Q k_i(t) - \sum_{\rho=1}^Q k_\rho(t) \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Apparently, one has

$$\sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i(t) \left( \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t) \right) = 0. \quad (8)$$

By (7) and (8), one obtains

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}_1(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon A\check{k}_i(t) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \zeta_i(t) - 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t) \\ &\quad + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}).\end{aligned}\quad (9)$$

Since the MDCCN (1) is undirected, one gets

$$\sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t) = \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t). \quad (10)$$

Accordingly, one has

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}_1(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon (A - dI_n) \check{k}_i(t) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \zeta_i(t) \\ &\quad + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\
& = 2\check{k}^T(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A - d\Upsilon)] \check{k}(t) + 2\check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) - dE(t).
\end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

By (11), one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
& d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt - d\eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt \\
& = d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt - d\eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt + \int_0^{t_s} \dot{V}_1(t) + V_1(0) - V_1(t_s) \\
& \leq d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt - d\eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt + 2 \int_0^{t_s} \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) dt \\
& \quad - d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt + 2 \int_0^{t_s} \check{k}^T(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A - d\Upsilon)] \check{k}(t) dt + V_1(0) \\
& = V_1(0) - \int_0^{t_s} \left[ \left( I_Q \otimes \frac{\Upsilon}{\sqrt{d}\eta} \right) \check{k}(t) - \sqrt{d}\eta \zeta(t) \right]^T \left[ \left( I_Q \otimes \frac{\Upsilon}{\sqrt{d}\eta} \right) \check{k}(t) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \sqrt{d}\eta \zeta(t) \right] dt + 2 \int_0^{t_s} \check{k}^T(t) \left[ I_Q \otimes \left( \Upsilon A - d\Upsilon + \frac{\Upsilon^2}{2d\eta^2} \right) \right] \check{k}(t) \\
& \leq V_1(0).
\end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Obviously, we can conclude that

$$\int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt \leq V(0) + \eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt,$$

where  $V(t) = \frac{V_1(t)}{d}$ .

Consequently, on the basis of the controller (4), the MDCCN (1) is lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronized.  $\square$

### 3.3. Adaptive state feedback controller

$\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q} \ni \mathcal{Y}^m(t) = (\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t))_{Q \times Q}$  represents a matrix varied with time, and it has the following definition:

$$\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{Y}_{ji}^m(t) > 0, & \text{if } (i, j) \in \mathcal{B}, \\ -\sum_{\rho \neq i}^Q \mathcal{Y}_{i\rho}^m(t), & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

in which  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ .

For MDCCN (1), devising the adaptive controller as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
u_i(t) &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} d(\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t), \\
\dot{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m(t) &= \begin{cases} \iota_{ij}^m(k_i(t) - k_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Upsilon (k_i(t) - k_j(t)), & \text{if } (i, j) \in \mathcal{B}, \\ -\sum_{\rho \neq i}^Q \dot{\mathcal{Y}}_{i\rho}^m(t), & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}
\end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

in which  $\mathbb{R} \ni \iota_{ij}^m = \iota_{ji}^m > 0$ ,  $\mathbb{R} \ni d > 0$ , and  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \ni \Upsilon = \text{diag}(\Upsilon_1, \Upsilon_2, \dots, \Upsilon_n) > 0$ .

By (2) and (13), one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{\check{k}}_i(t) &= A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) \\
& \quad + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \\
& \quad + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t),
\end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

in which  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** With the help of the adaptive controller (13), the MDCCN (1) can realize the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization.

**Proof.** Select the following Lyapunov functional for network (14):

$$\begin{aligned}
V_2(t) &= \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t) - \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Upsilon)] \check{k}(t) \\
& \quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \frac{b_m (\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) - \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m)^2}{2\iota_{ij}^m} \\
& \quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \int_{t-\tau_{ji}}^t \check{k}_j^T(s) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(s) ds,
\end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

in which  $\mathbb{R} \ni \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m = \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ji}^m \geq 0$  ( $i \neq j$ ),  $\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m = 0$  when and only when  $\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) = 0$ ,  $\check{k}(t) = (\check{k}_1^T(t), \check{k}_2^T(t), \dots, \check{k}_Q^T(t))^T$ .

In what follows, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V}_2(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_i(t) - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Upsilon)] \dot{\check{k}}(t) \\
& \quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \frac{b_m (\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) - \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m)}{\iota_{ij}^m} \dot{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m(t) + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) \\
& \quad - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\
& = 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \left[ A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t) \right] \\
& \quad - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Upsilon)] \dot{\check{k}}(t) \\
& \quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} b_m (\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) - \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m) (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Upsilon (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t)) \\
& \quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\
& = 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \left( A\check{k}_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) + \zeta_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \zeta_\rho(t) \right) \\
& \quad + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) \\
& \quad + 2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) \check{k}_i^T(t) \Psi^m \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t) \\
& \quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} b_m (\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) - \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m) (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Upsilon (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t)) \\
& \quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}).
\end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Furthermore, one derives

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} b_m (\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) - \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m) (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Upsilon (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t)) \\
& = -2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m (\mathcal{Y}_{ij}^m(t) - \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m) \check{k}_i^T(t) \Psi^m \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t),
\end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

in which  $\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ii}^m = -\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^Q \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m$ .

By (16) and (17), one has

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V}_2(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon A \check{k}_i(t) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \zeta_i(t) \\
&\quad + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_i(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m \check{k}_i^T(t) \Psi^m \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t) \\
&\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\
&= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon A \check{k}_i(t) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \zeta_i(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m \check{k}_i^T(t) \Psi^m \Upsilon \check{k}_j(t) - dE(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Upsilon \zeta_i(t) - dE(t) \\
&= 2 \check{k}^T(t) \left[ I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A) + \sum_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq r}}^q b_m \hat{\mathcal{Y}}^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Upsilon) + b_r \hat{\mathcal{Y}}^r \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon) \right] \check{k}(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) - dE(t) \\
&\leq 2 \check{k}^T(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A) + b_r \hat{\mathcal{Y}}^r \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon)] \check{k}(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) - dE(t), \tag{18}
\end{aligned}$$

in which  $\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q} \ni \hat{\mathcal{Y}}^m = (\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^m)_{Q \times Q}$ ,  $\check{k}(t) = (\check{k}_1^T(t), \check{k}_2^T(t), \dots, \check{k}_Q^T(t))^T$ , and  $E(t) = \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))^T \Upsilon (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))$ .

Clearly one acquires an orthogonal matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q} \ni \Gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_Q)$  such that

$$\Gamma^T \hat{\mathcal{Y}}^r \Gamma = \mathcal{Y} = \text{diag}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_Q) \in \mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q},$$

in which  $0 = \gamma_1 > \gamma_2 \geq \gamma_3 \geq \dots \geq \gamma_Q$ . Let  $\omega(t) = (\omega_1^T(t), \omega_2^T(t), \dots, \omega_Q^T(t))^T = (\Gamma^T \otimes I_n) \check{k}(t)$ . By reason of  $\gamma_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{Q}}$   $(1, 1, \dots, 1)^T$ , it is easily to see that  $\omega_1(t) = (\gamma_1^T \otimes I_n) \check{k}(t) = 0$ . Consequently, one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V}_2(t) &\leq 2 \check{k}^T(t) \left\{ I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A) + b_r (\Gamma \otimes I_n) [\mathcal{Y} \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon)] (\Gamma^T \otimes I_n) \right\} \check{k}(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) - dE(t) \\
&= 2 \check{k}^T(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A)] \check{k}(t) + 2 b_r \omega^T(t) [\mathcal{Y} \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon)] \omega(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) - dE(t) \\
&\leq 2 \check{k}^T(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A)] \check{k}(t) + 2 b_r \gamma_2 \omega^T(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon)] \omega(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) - dE(t) \\
&= 2 \check{k}^T(t) \left\{ I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A) + b_r \gamma_2 [I_Q \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon)] \right\} \check{k}(t) \\
&\quad + 2 \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) - dE(t). \tag{19}
\end{aligned}$$

Then, one has

$$\begin{aligned}
&d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt - d \eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt \\
&= d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt - d \eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt + \int_0^{t_s} \dot{V}_2(t) dt + V_2(0) - V_2(t_s) \\
&\leq d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt - d \eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt + V_2(0) + 2 \int_0^{t_s} \check{k}^T(t) (I_Q \otimes \Upsilon) \zeta(t) dt \\
&\quad - d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt + 2 \int_0^{t_s} \check{k}^T(t) \left\{ I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A) + b_r \gamma_2 [I_Q \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon)] \right\} \check{k}(t) dt \\
&= V_2(0) - \int_0^{t_s} \left[ \left( I_Q \otimes \frac{\Upsilon}{\sqrt{d\eta}} \right) \check{k}(t) - \sqrt{d\eta} \zeta(t) \right]^T \left[ \left( I_Q \otimes \frac{\Upsilon}{\sqrt{d\eta}} \right) \check{k}(t) \right.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\quad \left. - \sqrt{d\eta} \zeta(t) \right] dt + 2 \int_0^{t_s} \check{k}^T(t) \left\{ I_Q \otimes (\Upsilon A) + b_r \gamma_2 [I_Q \otimes (\Psi^r \Upsilon)] \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( I_Q \otimes \frac{\Upsilon^2}{2d\eta^2} \right) \right\} \check{k}(t) dt. \tag{20}
\end{aligned}$$

By selecting  $\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{ij}^r$  sufficiently large such that

$$\lambda_H(\Upsilon A) + b_r \gamma_2 \lambda_L(\Psi^r \Upsilon) + \lambda_H \left( \frac{\Upsilon^2}{2d\eta^2} \right) \leq 0. \tag{21}$$

By (20) and (21), one obtains

$$d \int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt - d \eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt \leq V_2(0). \tag{22}$$

Obviously, we can conclude that

$$\int_0^{t_s} E(t) dt \leq V(0) + \eta^2 \int_0^{t_s} \zeta^T(t) \zeta(t) dt,$$

where  $V(t) = \frac{V_2(t)}{d}$ .

Consequently, on the basis of the controller (13), the MDCCN (1) is lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronized.  $\square$

#### 4. Lag synchronization for MDCCN

##### 4.1. MDCCN model

The MDCCN model considered in this section is described by

$$\dot{k}_i(t) = A k_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m k_j(t) + u_i(t), \tag{23}$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ ;  $A, b_m, F_{ij}^m, \Psi^m, k_i(t), u_i(t)$  have the same definitions as these in the Section 3. In this section, the MDCCN (23) is also connected.

Taking  $k^*(t) = \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q k_\rho(t)$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{k}^*(t) &= \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q \left( A k_\rho(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{\rho j}^m \Psi^m k_j(t) + u_\rho(t) \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q A k_\rho(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \left( \sum_{\rho=1}^Q F_{\rho j}^m \right) \Psi^m k_j(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \\
&= A k^*(t) + \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t). \tag{24}
\end{aligned}$$

Defining  $\check{k}_i(t) = k_i(t) - k^*(t)$ , one obtains

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{\check{k}}_i(t) &= \dot{k}_i(t) - \dot{k}^*(t) \\
&= A k_i(t) - A k^*(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m (\check{k}_j(t) + \dot{k}^*(t)) \\
&\quad + u_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \\
&= A \check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) + u_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t), \tag{25}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ .

In what follows, the lag synchronization for the MDCCN (23) is defined:

**Definition 4.1** [32]. The MDCCN (23) is lag synchronized if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \|\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji})\| = 0, \quad \text{for all } i \neq j,$$

where  $\mathbb{R} \ni \tau_{ji} = \tau_{ij} > 0$  are the time delay between nodes  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, Q\}$  and  $j \in \mathcal{N}_i$ .



#### 4.2. State feedback controller

In order to ensure the lag synchronization of MDCCN (23), devising a suitable controller has following the form:

$$u_i(t) = -d\check{k}_i(t) + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)), \quad (26)$$

where  $\mathbb{R} \ni d > 0$ .

By (25) and (26), one has

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\check{k}}_i(t) &= A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) \\ &\quad - d\check{k}_i(t) + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t), \quad (27) \end{aligned}$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** On the basis of the state feedback controller (26), the MDCCN (23) is lag synchronized if there exists a matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \ni \Theta = \text{diag}(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n) > 0$  such that

$$\Theta A - d\Theta \leq 0.$$

**Proof.** Consider the following Lyapunov functional for MDCCN (27):

$$\begin{aligned} V_3(t) &= \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_i(t) - \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta)] \check{k}(t) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \int_{t-\tau_{ji}}^t \check{k}_j^T(s) \Theta \check{k}_j(s) ds. \quad (28) \end{aligned}$$

In what follows, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_3(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \dot{\check{k}}_i(t) - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta)] \dot{\check{k}}(t) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Theta \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \left[ A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - d\check{k}_i(t) + d \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \right] \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{k}^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta)] \dot{\check{k}}(t) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Theta \dot{\check{k}}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \left( A\check{k}_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \right) - 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_i(t) \\ &\quad + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta (\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_j(t) \\ &\quad - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta A\check{k}_i(t) - 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_i(t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_i(t) \\ &\quad - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}), \\ &= 2\check{k}^T(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Theta A - d\Theta)] - d\hat{E}(t) \\ &\leq -d\hat{E}(t), \quad (29) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\hat{E}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))^T \Theta (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))$ ,  $\check{k}(t) = (\check{k}_1^T(t), \check{k}_2^T(t), \dots, \check{k}_Q^T(t))^T$ .

In light of (29), one gets  $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} V_3(t)$  exists and

$$\hat{E}(t) \leq -\frac{\dot{V}_3(t)}{d}.$$

Accordingly, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \hat{E}(q) dq &\leq - \int_0^t \frac{\dot{V}_3(q)}{d} dq \\ &= \frac{V_3(0)}{d} - \frac{V_3(t)}{d} \\ &\leq \frac{V_3(0)}{d}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t \hat{E}(q) dq$  exist. Furthermore,

$$\dot{\hat{E}}(t) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))^T \Theta (\dot{\check{k}}_i(t) - \dot{\check{k}}_j(t - \tau_{ji})).$$

Based on (29) and the definition of  $V_3(t)$ , one gets  $\check{k}_i(t)$  is bounded for any  $t \in [0, +\infty)$ . Then, one has  $\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji})$  is bounded for any  $t \in [0, +\infty)$ . Therefore,  $u_i(t)$  is bounded.

From (27), one obtains

$$\mathcal{M}\dot{\check{k}}(t) = (I_Q \otimes A)\check{k}(t) + u(t) - 1_Q \otimes \left( \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \right),$$

where  $\mathcal{M} = I_{Qn} - \sum_{m=1}^q b_m F^m \otimes \Psi^m$ ,  $u(t) = (u_1(t), u_2(t), \dots, u_Q(t))$ ,  $1_Q = (1, 1, \dots, 1)^T \in \mathbb{R}^Q$ .

On account of  $\mathcal{M} > 0$ , one obtains  $\check{k}_i(t), \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}), i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$  are also bounded. Apparently, it is easy to infer that  $\|\dot{\hat{E}}(t)\|$  is bounded. Therefore,  $\hat{E}(t)$  is uniformly continuous.

With the help of Lemma 2.2, one concludes that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \hat{E}(t) = 0,$$

Scilicet,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \|\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji})\| = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, Q, \quad j \in \mathcal{N}_i.$$

Therefore, by virtue of the controller (26), the MDCCN (23) is lag output synchronized.  $\square$

#### 4.3. Adaptive state feedback controller

$\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q} \ni \tilde{Y}^m(t) = (\tilde{Y}_{ij}^m(t))_{Q \times Q}$  represents a matrix varied with time, and it has the following definition:

$$\tilde{Y}_{ij}^m(t) = \begin{cases} \tilde{Y}_{ji}^m(t) > 0, & \text{if } (i, j) \in \mathcal{B}, \\ -\sum_{\rho=1}^Q \tilde{Y}_{i\rho}^m(t), & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

in which  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ .

For MDCCN (23), devising the adaptive controller as follows:

$$u_i(t) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} d(\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{y}_{ij}^m(t) \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t),$$

$$\dot{\check{y}}_{ij}^m(t) = \begin{cases} \iota_{ij}^m(k_i(t) - k_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Theta(k_i(t) - k_j(t)), & \text{if } (i, j) \in \mathcal{B}, \\ -\sum_{\rho \neq i}^Q \check{y}_{i\rho}^m(t), & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

in which  $\mathbb{R} \ni \iota_{ij}^m = \iota_{ji}^m > 0$ ,  $\mathbb{R} \ni d > 0$ , and  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \ni \Theta = \text{diag}(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n) > 0$ .

By (25) and (30), one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\check{k}}_i(t) &= A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) + u_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \\ &= A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} d(\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) \\ &\quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{y}_{ij}^m(t) \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t), \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

in which  $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** With the help of the adaptive controller (30), the MDCCN (23) realizes the lag synchronization.

**Proof.** Select the following Lyapunov functional for network (31):

$$\begin{aligned} V_4(t) &= \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_i(t) - \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{k}_j^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta)] \check{k}(t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \frac{b_m (\check{y}_{ij}^m(t) - \check{y}_{ij}^m)^2}{2\iota_{ij}^m} \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \int_{t-\tau_{ji}}^t \check{k}_j^T(s) \Theta \check{k}_j(s) ds, \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

in which  $\mathbb{R} \ni \check{y}_{ij}^m = \check{y}_{ji}^m \geq 0$  ( $i \neq j$ ),  $\check{y}_{ij}^m = 0$  when and only when  $\check{y}_{ij}^m(t) = 0$ ,  $\check{k}(t) = (\check{k}_1^T(t), \check{k}_2^T(t), \dots, \check{k}_Q^T(t))^T$ .

In what follows, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_4(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \dot{\check{k}}_i(t) - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{k}_j^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta)] \dot{\check{k}}(t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \frac{b_m (\check{y}_{ij}^m(t) - \check{y}_{ij}^m)}{\iota_{ij}^m} \dot{\check{y}}_{ij}^m(t) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \left[ A\check{k}_i(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m F_{ij}^m \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} d(\check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) - \check{k}_i(t)) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{y}_{ij}^m(t) \Psi^m \check{k}_j(t) \right] \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{k}_j^T(t) [F^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta)] \dot{\check{k}}(t) + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} b_m (\check{y}_{ij}^m(t) \\ &\quad - \check{y}_{ij}^m) (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Theta (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t)) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \left( A\check{k}_i(t) - \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{\rho=1}^Q u_\rho(t) \right) \\ &\quad - 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_i(t) + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &\quad + 2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{y}_{ij}^m(t) \check{k}_i^T(t) \Psi^m \Theta \check{k}_j(t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} b_m (\check{y}_{ij}^m(t) - \check{y}_{ij}^m) (\check{k}_i(t) \\ &\quad - \check{k}_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Theta (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t)) \\ &\quad + d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_j(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}). \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Furthermore, one derives

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} b_m (\check{y}_{ij}^m(t) - \check{y}_{ij}^m) (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t))^T \Psi^m \Theta (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t)) \\ &= -2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m (\check{y}_{ij}^m(t) - \check{y}_{ij}^m) \check{k}_i^T(t) \Psi^m \Theta \check{k}_j(t), \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

in which  $\check{y}_{ii}^m = -\sum_{j \neq i}^Q \check{y}_{ij}^m$ .

By (33) and (34), one has

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_4(t) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^Q \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta A\check{k}_i(t) - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_i(t) \\ &\quad + 2d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_i^T(t) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &\quad + 2 \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j=1}^Q b_m \check{y}_{ij}^m \check{k}_i^T(t) \Psi^m \Theta \check{k}_j(t) \\ &\quad - d \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \check{k}_j^T(t - \tau_{ji}) \Theta \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}) \\ &= 2\check{k}(t) \left[ I_Q \otimes (\Theta A) + \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{y}^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta) \right] \check{k}(t) - d\hat{E}(t) \\ &= 2\check{k}(t) \left[ I_Q \otimes (\Theta A) + \sum_{m=1}^q b_m \check{y}^m \otimes (\Psi^m \Theta) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + b_r \check{y}^r \otimes (\Psi^r \Theta) \right] \check{k}(t) - d\hat{E}(t) \\ &\leq 2\check{k}(t) [I_Q \otimes (\Theta A) + b_r \check{y}^r \otimes (\Psi^r \Theta)] \check{k}(t) - d\hat{E}(t), \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

in which  $\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q} \ni \check{y}^m = (\check{y}_{ij}^m)_{Q \times Q}$ ,  $\check{k}(t) = (\check{k}_1^T(t), \check{k}_2^T(t), \dots, \check{k}_Q^T(t))^T$ , and  $\hat{E}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^Q \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))^T \Theta (\check{k}_i(t) - \check{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji}))$ .

Clearly, one acquires an orthogonal matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q} \ni \hat{\Gamma} = (\hat{\gamma}_1, \hat{\gamma}_2, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_Q)$  such that

$$\hat{\Gamma}^T \check{y}^r \hat{\Gamma} = \bar{y} = \text{diag}(\bar{y}_1, \bar{y}_2, \dots, \bar{y}_Q) \in \mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q},$$

in which  $0 = \bar{y}_1 > \bar{y}_2 \geq \bar{y}_3 \geq \dots \geq \bar{y}_Q$ . Let  $\hat{\omega}(t) = (\hat{\omega}_1^T(t), \hat{\omega}_2^T(t), \dots, \hat{\omega}_Q^T(t))^T = (\hat{\Gamma}^T \otimes I_n) \check{k}(t)$ . By reason of  $\hat{\gamma}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{Q}}(1, 1, \dots, 1)^T$ , it is easily to see that  $\hat{\omega}_1(t) = (\hat{\gamma}_1^T \otimes I_n) \check{k}(t) = 0$ . Consequently, one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V}_4(t) &\leq 2\tilde{k}^T(t)[I_Q \otimes (\Theta A) + b_r(\hat{\Gamma} \otimes I_n)]\tilde{y} \otimes (\Psi^T \Theta)](\hat{\Gamma}^T \otimes I_n)\tilde{k}(t) - d\hat{E}(t) \\
&= 2\tilde{k}^T(t)[I_Q \otimes (\Theta A)]\tilde{k}(t) + 2b_r\hat{\omega}^T(t)[\tilde{y} \otimes (\Psi^T \Theta)]\hat{\omega}(t) - d\hat{E}(t) \\
&\leq 2\tilde{k}^T(t)[I_Q \otimes (\Theta A)]\tilde{k}(t) + 2b_r\tilde{y}_2\hat{\omega}^T(t)[I_Q \otimes (\Psi^T \Theta)]\hat{\omega}(t) - d\hat{E}(t) \\
&= 2\tilde{k}^T(t)[I_Q \otimes (\Theta A) + b_r\tilde{y}_2I_Q \otimes (\Psi^T \Theta)]\tilde{k}(t) - d\hat{E}(t). \quad (36)
\end{aligned}$$

By selecting  $\tilde{y}_{ij}^r$  sufficiently large such that

$$\lambda_H(\Theta A) + b_r\tilde{y}_2\lambda_L(\Psi^T \Theta) \leq 0. \quad (37)$$

By (36) and (37), one has

$$\dot{V}_4(t) \leq -d\hat{E}(t). \quad (38)$$

From (38) and the definition of  $V_4(t)$ , one gets  $V_4(t)$  is bounded. Then, one obtains  $\tilde{y}_{ij}^m(t)$  is also bounded. The following proof is similar as Theorem 4.1, thus we omit its proof to save space.  $\square$

**Remark 2.** In recent years, many authors have been investigated the dynamical behaviors (e.g. synchronization, passivity, etc) of the multi-weighted complex networks, and lots of meaningful results have been obtained [2–15]. Unfortunately, in these existing works [2–15], the nodes in network models are coupled through their states. As the matter of fact, the derivative of node state may affect other nodes in networks. Consequently, it is very intriguing to investigate the dynamical behaviors of complex networks with derivative coupling [40–43]. More recently, some authors have further studied the dynamical behaviors (e.g. synchronization, passivity, etc) of the complex networks with multiple derivative couplings [44–46]. But, the lag synchronization and the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization for the complex networks with multiple derivative couplings have not yet been discussed.

**Remark 3.** In this paper, several lag synchronization and lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization conditions are obtained based on the Lyapunov stability theory [see Theorems 3.1, 3.2, 4.1 and 4.2], which are dependent on the dimension and the number of nodes. Apparently, it could be difficult to solve these conditions when node number is very huge. In future, we will adopt some new approaches to obtain lower dimension and easier to solve the lag synchronization and lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization criteria.

## 5. Numerical example

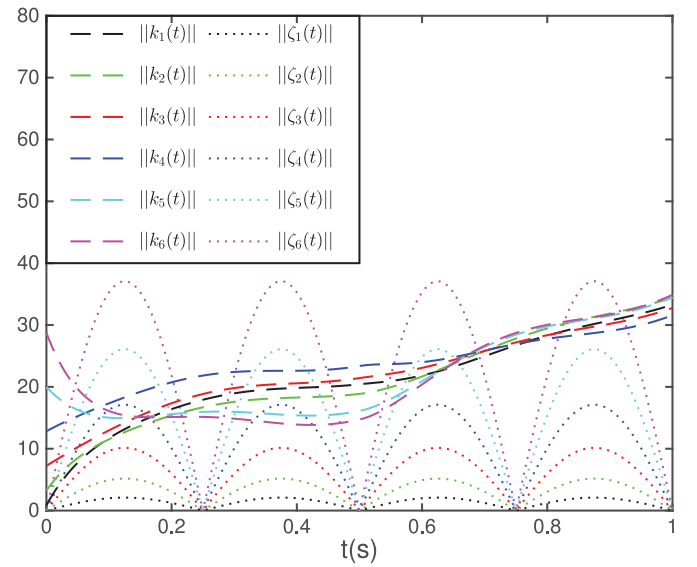
**Example 5.1.** Take the following MDCCN into consideration:

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{k}_i(t) &= Ak_i(t) + 0.4 \sum_{j=1}^6 F_{ij}^1 \Psi^1 \dot{k}_j(t) + 0.5 \sum_{j=1}^6 F_{ij}^2 \Psi^2 \dot{k}_j(t) \\
&\quad + 0.6 \sum_{j=1}^6 F_{ij}^3 \Psi^3 \dot{k}_j(t) + u_i(t) + \zeta_i(t),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ ,  $k_i(t) = (k_{i1}(t), k_{i2}(t), k_{i3}(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $u_i(t) = (u_{i1}(t), u_{i2}(t), u_{i3}(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $A = \text{diag}(1, 2, 3)$ ,

$$F^1 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.4 & 0.1 & 0.2 & 0 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.1 & -0.6 & 0 & 0.3 & 0.2 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0.3 \\ 0 & 0.3 & 0 & -0.7 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0 & 0.2 & -0.4 & 0 \\ 0.1 & 0 & 0.3 & 0.2 & 0 & -0.6 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$F^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.6 & 0.3 & 0.1 & 0 & 0 & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & -0.5 & 0 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.1 & 0 & -0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0.1 & 0 & -0.3 & 0.1 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0.1 & 0 & 0.1 & -0.2 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.5 & 0.1 & 0 & -0.8 \end{pmatrix},$$



**Fig. 1.** Change processes of  $\|k_i(t)\|$  and  $\|\zeta_i(t)\|$  for the MDCCN (1) under the state feedback controller (4), where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ .

$$F^3 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.7 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0 & 0 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & -0.6 & 0 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0 \\ 0.3 & 0 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0.2 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0 & -0.4 & 0.1 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0 & 0.1 & -0.3 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0 & -0.5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Case 1:** Choosing  $\eta = 2$ ,  $\Upsilon = I_3$ ,  $d = 5$ ,  $\Psi^1 = \text{diag}(0.3, 0.2, 0.4)$ ,  $\Psi^2 = \text{diag}(0.4, 0.1, 0.2)$ ,  $\Psi^3 = \text{diag}(0.3, 0.5, 0.1)$ , it is easily to calculate the condition of the Theorem 3.1 is met. On the basis of the Theorem 3.1, the MDCCN (1) is lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronized via controller (4). Taking  $\zeta_i(t) = (i^2 * \sin(4\pi t), 1.2\sqrt{i} * \sin(4\pi t), 1.4i * \sin(4\pi t))^T$ , the change processes of the node state  $\|k_i(t)\|$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ ), and the external distance  $\|\zeta_i(t)\|$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ ) are shown in Fig. 1.

**Case 2:** Let  $\eta = 3$ ,  $\Upsilon = I_3$ ,  $d = 3$ ,  $\Psi^1 = \text{diag}(0.4, 0.5, 0.2)$ ,  $\Psi^2 = \text{diag}(0.3, 0.4, 0.6)$ ,  $\Psi^3 = \text{diag}(0.2, 0.4, 0.3)$ . In virtue of the controller (13), the MDCCN (1) is lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronized. Selecting  $\zeta_i(t) = (0.6i^2 * \sin(4\pi t), 0.5\sqrt{i} * \sin(4\pi t), 0.4i * \sin(4\pi t))^T$ ,

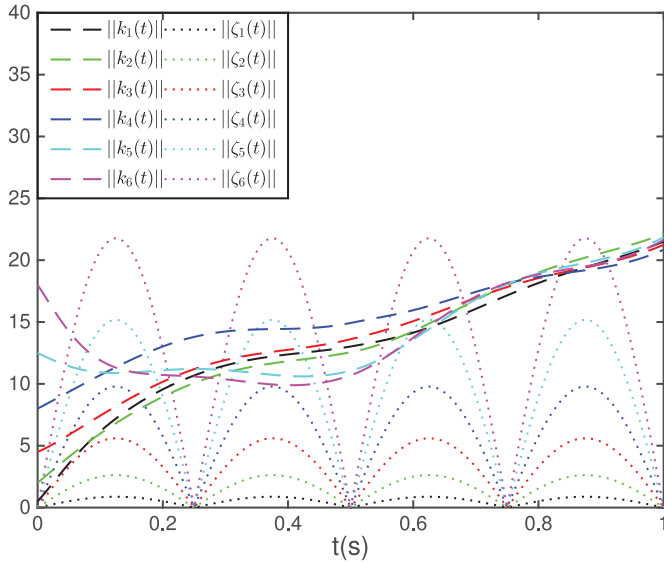
$$\gamma^1(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.05 & 0.01 & 0.02 & 0 & 0 & 0.02 \\ 0.01 & -0.07 & 0 & 0.02 & 0.04 & 0 \\ 0.02 & 0 & -0.04 & 0 & 0 & 0.02 \\ 0 & 0.02 & 0 & -0.04 & 0.01 & 0.01 \\ 0 & 0.04 & 0 & 0.01 & -0.05 & 0 \\ 0.02 & 0 & 0.02 & 0.01 & 0 & -0.05 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\gamma^2(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.06 & 0.02 & 0.01 & 0 & 0 & 0.03 \\ 0.02 & -0.04 & 0 & 0.01 & 0.01 & 0 \\ 0.01 & 0 & -0.03 & 0 & 0 & 0.02 \\ 0 & 0.01 & 0 & -0.03 & 0.01 & 0.01 \\ 0 & 0.01 & 0 & 0.01 & -0.02 & 0 \\ 0.03 & 0 & 0.02 & 0.01 & 0 & -0.06 \end{pmatrix},$$

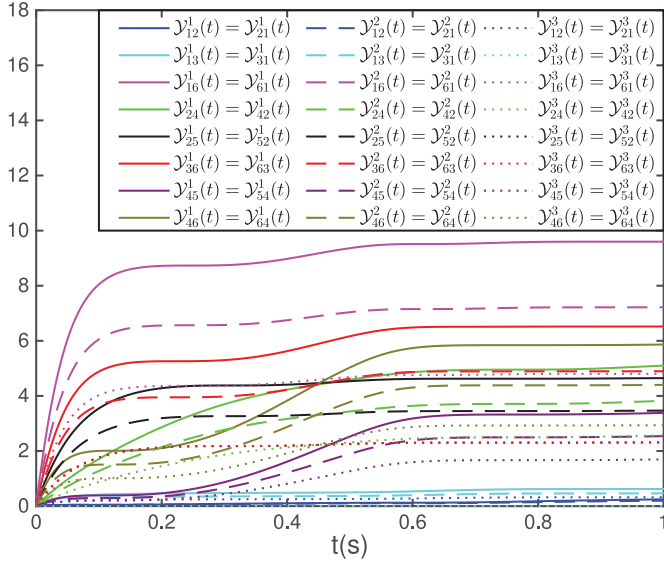
$$\gamma^3(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.04 & 0.01 & 0.02 & 0 & 0 & 0.01 \\ 0.01 & -0.05 & 0 & 0.03 & 0.01 & 0 \\ 0.02 & 0 & -0.07 & 0 & 0 & 0.05 \\ 0 & 0.03 & 0 & -0.05 & 0.01 & 0.01 \\ 0 & 0.01 & 0 & 0.01 & -0.2 & 0 \\ 0.01 & 0 & 0.05 & 0.01 & 0 & -0.07 \end{pmatrix},$$

the change processes of the node state  $\|k_i(t)\|$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ ), the external distance  $\|\zeta_i(t)\|$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ ), and the adaptive feedback gains are displayed in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, respectively.





**Fig. 2.** Change processes of  $\|k_i(t)\|$  and  $\|\zeta_i(t)\|$  for the MDCCN (1) under the adaptive state feedback controller (13), where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ .



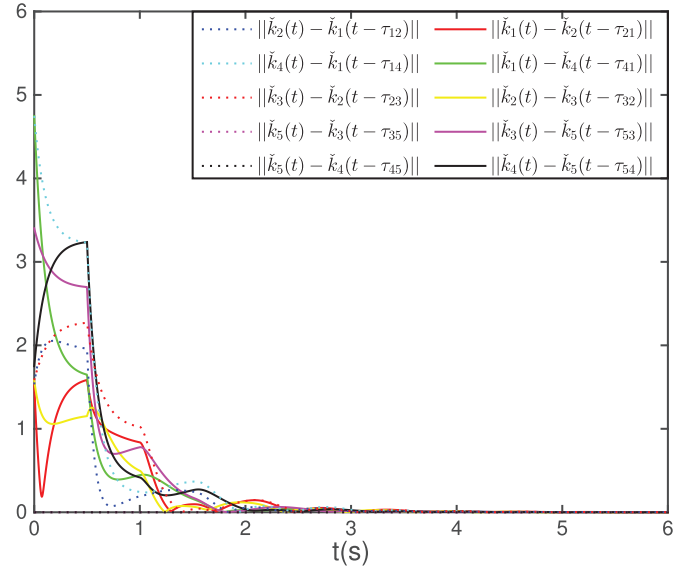
**Fig. 3.** Change processes of the adaptive feedback gains in the controller (13).

**Example 5.2.** Take the following MDCCN into consideration:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{k}_i(t) = & Ak_i(t) + 0.8 \sum_{j=1}^5 F_{ij}^1 \Psi^1 \dot{k}_j(t) + 0.7 \sum_{j=1}^5 F_{ij}^2 \Psi^2 \dot{k}_j(t) \\ & + 0.6 \sum_{j=1}^5 F_{ij}^3 \Psi^3 \dot{k}_j(t) + u_i(t), \end{aligned}$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ ,  $k_i(t) = (k_{i1}(t), k_{i2}(t), k_{i3}(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $u_i(t) = (u_{i1}(t), u_{i2}(t), u_{i3}(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $A = \text{diag}(1, 2, 3)$ ,

$$F^1 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.6 & 0.4 & 0 & 0.2 & 0 \\ 0.4 & -0.5 & 0.1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.1 & -0.3 & 0 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0 & -0.4 & 0.2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.2 & 0.2 & -0.4 \end{pmatrix},$$



**Fig. 4.** Change processes of  $\|\tilde{k}_i(t) - \tilde{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji})\|$  for the MDCCN (23) under the state feedback controller (26), where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ ,  $j \in \mathcal{N}_i$ .

$$F^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.5 & 0.3 & 0 & 0.2 & 0 \\ 0.3 & -0.6 & 0.3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.3 & -0.4 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0 & -0.3 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.1 & 0.1 & -0.2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$F^3 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.7 & 0.4 & 0 & 0.3 & 0 \\ 0.4 & -0.6 & 0.2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.2 & -0.5 & 0 & 0.3 \\ 0.3 & 0 & 0 & -0.4 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.3 & 0.1 & -0.4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Case 1:** Choosing  $\Theta = I_3$ ,  $d = 5$ ,  $\Psi^1 = \text{diag}(0.5, 0.2, 0.3)$ ,  $\Psi^2 = \text{diag}(0.4, 0.3, 0.1)$ ,  $\Psi^3 = \text{diag}(0.2, 0.5, 0.4)$ , it is easily to calculate the condition of Theorem 4.1 is met. On the basis of Theorem 4.1, the MDCCN (23) is lag synchronized via controller (26). The change processes of  $\|\tilde{k}_i(t) - \tilde{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji})\|$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ ,  $j \in \mathcal{N}_i$ ) are shown in Fig. 4.

**Case 2:** Let  $\Theta = I_3$ ,  $d = 3$ ,  $\Psi^1 = \text{diag}(0.5, 0.2, 0.3)$ ,  $\Psi^2 = \text{diag}(0.4, 0.3, 0.1)$ ,  $\Psi^3 = \text{diag}(0.2, 0.5, 0.4)$ . In virtue of the controller (30), the MDCCN (23) is lag synchronized. Choosing

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathcal{Y}}^1(0) = & \begin{pmatrix} -0.04 & 0.03 & 0 & 0.01 & 0 \\ 0.03 & -0.05 & 0.02 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.02 & -0.03 & 0 & 0.01 \\ 0.01 & 0 & 0 & -0.03 & 0.02 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.01 & 0.02 & -0.03 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \tilde{\mathcal{Y}}^2(0) = & \begin{pmatrix} -0.05 & 0.02 & 0 & 0.03 & 0 \\ 0.02 & -0.04 & 0.02 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.02 & -0.05 & 0 & 0.03 \\ 0.03 & 0 & 0 & -0.04 & 0.01 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.03 & 0.01 & -0.04 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \tilde{\mathcal{Y}}^3(0) = & \begin{pmatrix} -0.07 & 0.04 & 0 & 0.03 & 0 \\ 0.04 & -0.05 & 0.01 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.01 & -0.03 & 0 & 0.02 \\ 0.03 & 0 & 0 & -0.05 & 0.02 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.02 & 0.02 & -0.04 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

the change processes of  $\|\tilde{k}_i(t) - \tilde{k}_j(t - \tau_{ji})\|$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ ,  $j \in \mathcal{N}_i$ ) and the adaptive feedback gains are displayed in Fig. 5 and Fig. 6, respectively.

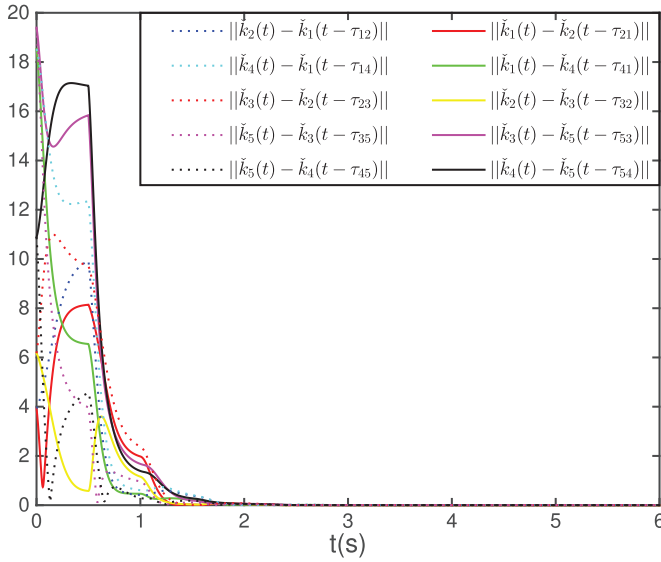


Fig. 5. Change processes of  $\|\tilde{k}_i(t) - \tilde{k}_j(t - \tau_{ij})\|$  for the MDCCN (23) under the adaptive state feedback controller (30), where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ ,  $j \in N_i$ .

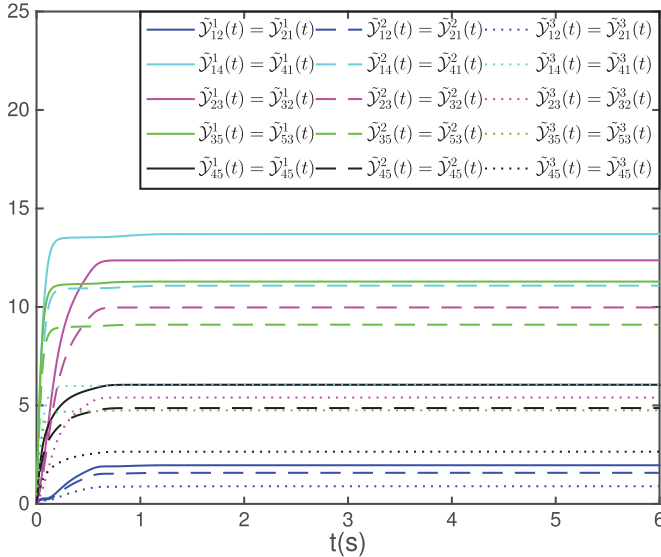


Fig. 6. Change processes of the adaptive feedback gains in the controller (30).

## 6. Conclusion

In this paper, we have taken the lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization and lag synchronization problems for the MDCCNs into consideration. In virtue of devising appropriate state feedback controller and adaptive state feedback controller, and selecting suitable Lyapunov functionals, two lag  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synchronization criteria for the MDCCN have been developed. Moreover, by utilizing Barbalat's Lemma, two criteria of the lag synchronization for the MDCCN have been acquired on the basis of the state feedback controller and the adaptive state feedback controller. At last, we have came up with two examples to verify the effectiveness of the obtain consequences.

## Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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