Research Article

Periodic Oscillation of Fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg Neural Networks with Distributed Delay and Variable Coefficients

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A class of fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg neural networks with distributed delay and variable coefficients is discussed. It is neither employing coincidence degree theory nor constructing Lyapunov functionals, instead, by applying matrix theory and inequality analysis, some sufficient conditions are obtained to ensure the existence, uniqueness, global attractivity and global exponential stability of the periodic solution for the fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg neural networks. The method is very concise and practical. Moreover, two examples are posed to illustrate the effectiveness of our results.

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1. Introduction

Recently, Cohen-Grossberg neural networks (CGNNs) and fuzzy cellular neural networks (FC-NNs) with their various models have attracted many scholars' attention due to their potential applications in classification, associative memory, parallel computation, image processing, and pattern recognition, especially in white blood cell detection and in the solution of some optimization problems, presented by [1–22]. It is well known that FCCNs [16–18] have been proposed by T. Yang and L. Yang in 1996. Unlike the traditional CNNs structures, FCNNs have fuzzy logic between their template input and output besides the sum of product operation. It is worth noting that studies have indicated FCNNs' potential applications in many fields such as image and signal processing, pattern recognition, white blood cell detection, and so on. Some results on stability have been derived from the FCNNs models without or with time delays; see [16–21]. In [22], the authors obtained a new detection algorithm based on FCNNs for white blood cell detection, with which one can detect almost all white blood cells and the contour of each detected cell is nearly completed. It is also noted that CGNNs are presented by Cohen and Grossberg in 1983 [1]. This model is a very common class of neural networks, which includes lots of famous neural networks such as Lotka-Volterra ecological system, Hopfield neural networks, and cellular neural networks, and so on. Up to now, some useful results were given to ensure the existence and stability of the equilibrium point of CGNNs without or with time delays, presented by [1–11, 13–15]. In [4], the boundedness and stability were analyzed for a class of CGNNs with time-varying delays using the inequalities technique and Lyapunov method. In [2, 8], by constructing suitable Lyaponuv functionals and using the linear matrix inequality (LMI) technique, the authors investigated a class of delayed CGNNs and obtained several criteria to guarantee the global asymptotic stability of the equilibrium point for this system. In [3, 6, 7, 9, 13, 15], the global exponential stability is discussed for a class of CGNNs, maintained local connectedness among cells which are called fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg neural networks (FCGNNs), and studied impulsive effects on stability of FCGNNs with time-varying delays.

Due to the presence of an amount of parallel pathways of a variety of axon sizes and lengths, neural networks usually have spatial nature so it is desired to model them by introducing continuously distributed delays over a certain duration of time so that the distant past has less influence compared with the recent behavior of the state [28]. Hence, some authors have researched neural networks with distributed delays; see, for example, [5, 20]. In [20], stability was considered for a class of FCNNs with distributed delay. The condition for feedback kernel is $\int_0^{\tau} k(s) ds = 1$. In [5], following the idea of vector Lyapunov function, *M*-matrix theory, and inequality technique, authors studied Cohen-Grossberg neural network model with both time-varying and continuously distributed delays and obtained several sufficient conditions to ensure the existence, uniqueness, and global exponential stability of equilibrium point for this system. The delay kernel $K_{ij} : [0, +\infty) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ is real-valued nonnegative continuous function and satisfies $\int_0^{+\infty} e^{\beta s} K_{ij}(s) ds = p_{ij}(\beta)$, where $p_{ij}(\beta)$ is continuous function in $[0, \delta)$, $\delta > 0$ and $p_{ij}(0) = 1$, i, j = 1, 2, ..., n.

Moreover, studies on neural dynamical systems do not only involve a discussion of stability properties, but also many other dynamic behaviors such as periodic oscillatory; see [21, 23, 24] and references therein. Although many results were derived from testing the stability of CGNNs [1–14], to the best of our knowledge, FCGNNs with distributed delay and variable coefficients are seldom considered. Motivated by the above discussions, the objective of this paper is to study the periodic oscillatory solutions of fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg neural networks with distributed delay and variable coefficients and to obtain several novel sufficient conditions to ensure the existence, uniqueness, global attractivity, and global exponential stability of periodic solutions for the model with periodic external inputs. In this paper, we do not use coincidence degree theory nor apply Lyapunov method but use inequality analysis and matrix theory to discuss them.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we will describe the model and introduce some necessary notations, definitions, and preliminaries which will be used later. In Section 3, several sufficient conditions are derived from the existence, uniqueness, global attractivity, and global exponential stability of periodic solutions. In Section 4, two examples are given to show the effectiveness of the obtained results. Finally, we make the conclusion in Section 5.

2. Model description and preliminaries

In this paper, we will consider the following fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg neural networks with periodic coefficients and distributed delays:

$$\begin{split} \dot{x}_{i}(t) &= -a_{i}(x_{i}(t)) \left[b_{i}(x_{i}(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}(t) f_{j}(x_{j}(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} d_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}(t) \\ &\times \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds - \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} \beta_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds \\ &- \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} G_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} H_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - I_{i}(t) \right], \end{split}$$
(2.1)

where $i = 1, 2, ..., n, n \ge 2$ is the number of neurons in the networks, $x_i(t)$ denotes the neuron state vector; $a_i(\cdot)$ is an amplification function, $b_i(\cdot)$ denotes an appropriately behaved function, f_i is the activation function of the neurons, and $\alpha_{ij}(t)$, $\beta_{ij}(t)$, $G_{ij}(t)$, $H_{ij}(t)$ are elements of fuzzy feedback MIN template, fuzzy feedback MAX template, fuzzy feed-forward MIN template, and fuzzy feed-forward MAX template at the time t, respectively. $C = (c_{ij}(t))_{n \times n}$ and $D = (d_{ij}(t))_{n \times n}, c_{ij}(t), d_{ij}(t)$ are elements of feedback template and feed-forward template at the time t, respectively; $\alpha = (\alpha_{ij}(t))_{n \times n}$ and $\beta = (\beta_{ij}(t))_{n \times n}, \alpha_{ij}(t), \beta_{ij}(t)$ are elements of fuzzy feedback MIN template and fuzzy feedback MAX template, respectively; $G = (G_{ij}(t))_{n \times n}$ and $H = (H_{ij}(t))_{n \times n}, G_{ij}(t), H_{ij}(t)$ are elements of fuzzy feed-forward MIN template, respectively; A and V denote the fuzzy AND and fuzzy OR operations, respectively; $u_i(t), I_i(t)$ denote input and bias of the *i*th neurons at the time *t*, respectively; $k_i(s) \ge 0$ is the feedback kernel, defined on the interval $[0, \tau]$ when τ is a positive finite number or $[0, +\infty)$ while τ is infinite.

Let $\mathbb{C} = C([-\tau, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ denote the Banach space of continuous mapping from $[-\tau, 0]$ to \mathbb{R}^n with the topology of uniform convergence. For a given $s \in [0, \infty)$ and a continuous function $x : [-\tau, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}^n$, we define $x_s : [-\tau, 0] \to \mathbb{R}^n$ by $x_s(\theta) = x(s + \theta)$ for $\theta \in [-\tau, 0]$. The initial conditions of (2.1) are of the form $x_i(t) = \phi_i(t), -\tau \le t \le 0$, where ϕ_i is bounded and continuous on $[-\tau, 0]$. For matrix $P = (p_{ij}(t))_{n \times n}$, let $\rho(P)$ denote the spectral radius of P. A matrix or a vector $P \ge 0$ means that all the elements of P are greater than or equal to zero, similarly define P > 0. For $x(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t))^T$ define $|x(t)| = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i(t)|, ||x(t)|| = \max_{1 \le i \le n} \{||x_i(t)||\}, [x(t)]^+ = (||x_1(t)||, ||x_2(t)||, \dots, ||x_n(t)||)^T$, where $||x_i(t)|| = \max_{\tau \le s \le 0} \{|x_i(t + s)|\}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Remark 2.1. $\mathbb{C} = C([-\tau, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ when τ is a positive finite number or $\mathbb{C} = C((-\infty, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ while τ is infinite.

To obtain our results, we give the following assumptions.

(A1) The functions $a_i(\cdot)$ (i = 1, 2, ..., n) are continuously bounded, that is, there exist positive constants a_i^- and a_i^+ so that

$$0 < a_i^- \le a_i(x) \le a_i^+, \quad \forall x \in R, \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(2.2)

(A2) Each $b_i(\cdot)$ with $b_i(0) = 0$ is continuous and there exists a constant δ_i so that

$$\frac{b_i(x) - b_i(y)}{x - y} \ge \delta_i > 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R, \ x \neq y, \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(2.3)

(A3) For activation function $f_i(x)$ with $f_i(0) = 0$, there exist $l_i > 0$ so that

$$l_{i} = \sup_{x \neq y} \left| \frac{f_{i}(x) - f_{i}(y)}{x - y} \right|, \quad \forall x, y \in R, \ x \neq y, \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(2.4)

(A4) The feedback kernels satisfy $k_j(s) \ge 0$ and $\int_0^{\tau} k_j(s) ds = 1$, j = 1, 2, ..., n. Where τ is a positive finite number or infinite.

In addition, we will use the following notations throughout this paper:

$$c_{ij} = \max_{t \ge t_0} |c_{ij}(t)|, \qquad \alpha_{ij} = \max_{t \ge t_0} |\alpha_{ij}(t)|, \qquad \beta_{ij} = \max_{t \ge t_0} |\beta_{ij}(t)|,$$

$$\widetilde{I}_i(t) = \sum_{j=1}^n d_{ij}(t)u_j(t) + \bigwedge_{j=1}^n G_{ij}(t)u_j(t) + \bigvee_{j=1}^n H_{ij}(t)u_j(t) + I_i(t), \qquad \widetilde{I}_i = \max_{t \ge t_0} \{|\widetilde{I}_i(t)|\}.$$
(2.5)

Definition 2.2 (see [25]). Let $R^+ = [0, \infty)$. Suppose that ℂ is a Banach space and that $\varphi : R \times \mathbb{C} \times R^+ \to \mathbb{C}$ is a given mapping. Define $\Theta(u, t) : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$, $\forall u \in R$, $t \in R^+$ by $\Theta(u, t)x = \varphi(u, x, t)$. A process on ℂ is a mapping $\varphi : R \times \mathbb{C} \times R^+ \to \mathbb{C}$ satisfying the following properties: (i) φ is continuous; (ii) $\Theta(u, 0) = E$ is the identity; (iii) $\Theta(u + s, t)\Theta(u, s) = \Theta(u, s + t)$.

A process ρ is said to be an ω -periodic process if there is an $\omega > 0$ such that $\Theta(u + \omega, t) = \Theta(u, t)$, for all $u \in R$ and $t \in R^+$.

Remark 2.3. Suppose that $F : R \times \mathbb{C} \to R^n$ is completely continuous and let $x(t_0, \varphi)$ denote a solution of the system

$$\dot{x}(t) = F(t, x_t) \tag{(*)}$$

through (t_0, φ) and assume x is uniquely defined for $t \ge t_0 - \tau$. If $\varphi(t_0, \varphi, t) = x_{t_0+t}(t_0, \varphi)$ for $(t_0, \varphi, t) \in R \times \mathbb{C} \times R^+$, then φ is a process on \mathbb{C} . If there is an $\omega > 0$ such that $F(t_0 + \omega, \varphi) = F(t_0, \varphi)$ for all $(t_0, \varphi) \in R \times \mathbb{C}$, then the process generated by $F(t, x_t)$ is an ω -periodic process. Furthermore, if Θ is defined as before, then $\Theta(t_0, s) = T(t_0 + s, t_0)$, where $T(t, t_0)$ is the solution operator of $\dot{x}(t) = F(t, x_t)$ satisfying $T(t, t_0)\varphi = x_t(t_0, \varphi)$.

Definition 2.4 (see [24]). A continuous map $\Upsilon : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$ is said to be point dissipative if there exists a bounded set $\mathbb{C}_0 \subset \mathbb{C}$ such that \mathbb{C}_0 attracts each point of \mathbb{C} .

Lemma 2.5 (see [25]). If an ω -periodic $F(t, x_t)$ generates an ω -periodic process φ on \mathbb{C} , $\Theta(u, t)$ is a bounded map for each u, t and is point dissipative, then there exists a compact, connected, global attractor. Also, there is an ω -periodic solution of $F(t, x_t)$.

For $F(t, x_t)$, Lemma 2.5 provides the existence of a periodic solution under the weak assumption of point dissipative. Let system (2.1) be rewritten as the system (*) and one can obtain that system (2.1) can generate an ω -periodic process ρ on \mathbb{C} (see [24, 25]). Under some assumptions, one can view system (2.1) as a dissipative system and apply Lemma 2.5 to it.

Lemma 2.6 (see [26]). If $\rho(A) < 1$ for $A \ge 0$, then $(E - A)^{-1} \ge 0$, where E denotes the identity matrix of size n, A denotes a square matrix of size n.

Definition 2.7. For system (2.1), an ω -periodic solution $x^*(t) = (x_1^*(t), x_2^*(t), \dots, x_n^*(t))^T$ is said to be globally exponentially stable if there exist constants $\lambda > 0$ and M > 0 so that

$$|x(t) - x^{*}(t)| \le M ||\phi - x^{*}||e^{-\lambda(t-t_{0})}, \quad t \ge t_{0},$$
(2.6)

for the solution x(t) of system (2.1) with any initial value $\phi \in \mathbb{C}$. Moreover, λ is called globally exponentially convergent rate.

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Lemma 2.8 (see [18]). Suppose that x and x' are two states of system (2.1), then one has

$$\left| \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij} f_{j}(x_{j}) - \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij} f_{j}(x_{j}') \right| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{n} |\alpha_{ij}| |f_{j}(x_{j}) - f_{j}(x_{j}')|,$$

$$\left| \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} \beta_{ij} f_{j}(x_{j}) - \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} \beta_{ij} f_{j}(x_{j}') \right| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{n} |\beta_{ij}| |f_{j}(x_{j}) - f_{j}(x_{j}')|.$$
(2.7)

3. Main results and proofs

In this section, by making use of some inequal analysis and matrix knowledge, we will derive some sufficient conditions ensuring the existence, uniqueness, global attractivity and global exponential stability of periodic solution of system (2.1). First and foremost, in order to ensure the existence of periodic attractor, we should find out an invariant set where the expected periodic attractor * is located.

Theorem 3.1. Assume that assumptions (A1)–(A4) hold and

(A5) $\rho(S) < 1$, where $S = (s_{ij})_{n \times n}$ and $s_{ij} = (l_j a_i^+ / \delta_i a_i^-)(c_{ij} + \alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij});$ then the set $\Omega = \{\phi \in \mathbb{C}; [\phi]^+ \le P = (E - S)^{-1}Q\}$ is a positively invariant set of system (2.1), where vector $Q = (Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_n)^T$, and $Q_i = (a_i^+ \tilde{I}_i / \delta_i a_i^-)$, E denotes the identity matrix of size n.

Proof. Associated with system (2.1), (A1)-(A4), and Lemma 2.8, we have

$$\frac{d|x_{i}(t)|}{dt} \leq -\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}|x_{i}(t)| + a_{i}^{+}\left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n}c_{ij}l_{j}|x_{j}(t)| + \sum_{j=1}^{n}(\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j})\int_{t-\tau}^{t}k_{j}(t-s)|x_{j}(s)|ds + \left|\sum_{j=1}^{n}d_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n}G_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + \bigvee_{j=1}^{n}H_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + I_{i}(t)\right|\right\} \leq -\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}|x_{i}(t)| + a_{i}^{+}\left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n}c_{ij}l_{j}|x_{j}(t)| + \sum_{j=1}^{n}(\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j})\int_{t-\tau}^{t}k_{j}(t-s)|x_{j}(s)|ds + \widetilde{I}_{i}\right\}.$$
(3.1)

Applying the variation of constant formula for the above, we can derive that

$$\begin{aligned} |x_{i}(t)| &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right]|x_{i}(t_{0})| \\ &+ a_{i}^{+}\int_{t_{0}}^{t}\exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-s)\right]\left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n}c_{ij}l_{j}|x_{j}(s)| + \sum_{j=1}^{n}(\alpha_{ij}l_{j}+\beta_{ij}l_{j}) \\ &\times \int_{s-\tau}^{s}k_{j}(s-\theta)|x_{j}(\theta)|d\theta + \widetilde{I}_{i}\right\}ds, \quad t \geq t_{0}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(3.2)$$

Together with $\rho(S) < 1$ and Lemma 2.6, one has $(E - S)^{-1} \ge 0$. In view of Q > 0, then $P = (E - S)^{-1}Q > 0$. We will prove that if $[\phi]^+ \le P$, then

$$[x(t)]^+ \le P, \quad t \ge t_0.$$
 (3.3)

It suffices to show that for all $\lambda > 1$, if $[\phi]^+ < \lambda P$, then

$$[x(t)]^+ < \lambda P, \quad t \ge t_0. \tag{3.4}$$

Using the method of contrary. If not, there exist some $i \in \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ and $t_1 \ge t_0$ such that

$$|x_i(t_1)| = \lambda P_i, \quad |x_i(t)| \le \lambda P_i, \quad t \in [t_0 - \tau, t_1), \tag{3.5}$$

$$\left[x(t)\right]^{+} \leq \lambda P, \quad t \in \left[t_{0}, t_{1}\right], \tag{3.6}$$

where P_i is the *i*th component of vector *P*. Noticing that SP + Q = P or $\sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}P_j + Q_i = P_i$, then according to (3.5) and (3.2), we have

$$\begin{split} \lambda P_{i} &= \left| x_{i}(t_{1}) \right| \leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t_{1}-t_{0}) \right] \left\| \phi_{i} \right\| a_{i}^{+} \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t_{1}-s) \right] \\ &\times \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}l_{j} \left\| x_{j}(s) \right\| + \sum_{j=1}^{n} (\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j}) \int_{s-\tau}^{s} k_{j}(s-\theta) d\theta \left\| x_{j}(s) \right\| + \widetilde{l}_{i} \right\} ds \\ &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t_{1}-t_{0}) \right] \left\| \phi_{i} \right\| \\ &+ a_{i}^{+} \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t_{1}-s) \right] \delta_{i}a_{i}^{-} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{(c_{ij} + \alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij})l_{j}}{\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}} \right\| x_{j}(s) \right\| + \frac{\widetilde{l}_{i}}{\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}} \right\} ds \\ &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t_{1}-t_{0}) \right] \lambda P_{i} + \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}\lambda P_{j} + Q_{i} \right) \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t_{1}-s) \right] \delta_{i}a_{i}^{-} ds \\ &= \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t_{1}-t_{0}) \right] \left[\lambda P_{i} - \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}\lambda P_{j} + Q_{i} \right) \right] + \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}\lambda P_{j} + Q_{i} \right). \end{split}$$

In view of exp $[-\delta_i a_i^-(t_1 - t_0)] < 1$, we can easily conclude that $\lambda P_i < \lambda P_i$ from (3.7), which is a contradiction. Therefore, (3.4) holds. Let $\lambda \to 1$, then we imply that (3.3) holds. The proof of Theorem 3.1 is completed.

In order to investigate the global attractivity of the periodic solutions, it is necessary to require global attractivity of the invariant set Ω .

Theorem 3.2. Under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, the set Ω is a global attractivity set of system (2.1).

Proof. Using similar discussion to Theorem 3.1, for any given initial value $\phi \in \mathbb{C}$, there exists some constant $\lambda > 1$ such that if $[\phi]^+ < \lambda P$, then

$$[x(t)]^+ < \lambda P, \quad t \ge t_0. \tag{3.8}$$

If this is not true, there exists a nonnegative vector $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n)^T$ such that

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \sup \left[x(t) \right]^+ = \sigma + P. \tag{3.9}$$

By the definition of upper limit of x(t) and (3.8), for any sufficiently small value ε (0 < $\varepsilon \ll$ 1), there exists some $t_2 \ge t_0$ such that

$$|x_i(t-\tau)| < P_i + (1+\varepsilon)\sigma_i, \quad t \ge t_2, \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
 (3.10)

By the continuity of function $\exp(\cdot)$, set $T > -\ln \varepsilon / \delta_i a_i^- > 0$, then we have

$$\exp\left[-\int_{t-T}^{t} \delta_{i} a_{i}^{-} ds\right] < \varepsilon, \qquad \text{or} \qquad \exp(-T\delta_{i} a_{i}^{-}) < \varepsilon, \tag{3.11}$$

for all $t > t_2 + T$.

According to (2.1) and (3.9)–(3.11), we have

$$\begin{aligned} x_{i}(t) &| \leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right] |x_{i}(t_{0})| + a_{i}^{*} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-s)\right] \\ &\times \left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}l_{j}|x_{j}(s)| + \sum_{j=1}^{n} (\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j}) \int_{0}^{\tau} k_{j}(\theta) |x_{j}(s-\theta)| d\theta + \tilde{I}_{i}\right\} ds \\ &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right] |x_{i}(t_{0})| + a_{i}^{*} \left(\int_{t_{0}}^{t-T} + \int_{t-T}^{t}\right) \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-s)\right] \\ &\times \left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}l_{j}|x_{j}(s)| + \sum_{j=1}^{n} (\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j}) ||x_{j}(s-\tau)|| + \tilde{I}_{i}\right\} ds \\ &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right] |x_{i}(t_{0})| + (\exp\left(-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}T\right) - \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right]\right) \\ &\times \frac{a_{i}^{*}}{\delta_{i}a_{i}^{*}} \left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}l_{j}(P_{j} + \sigma_{j}) + \sum_{j=1}^{n} (\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j})(P_{j} + (1+\varepsilon)\sigma_{j}) + \tilde{I}_{i}\right\} \\ &+ (1 - \exp\left(-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}T\right)) \frac{a_{i}^{*}}{\delta_{i}a_{i}^{*}} \left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}l_{j}(P_{j} + \sigma_{j}) + \sum_{j=1}^{n} (c_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j})(P_{j} + (1+\varepsilon)\sigma_{j}) + \tilde{I}_{i}\right\} \\ &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right] |x_{i}(t_{0})| + \frac{a_{i}^{*}}{\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}} \\ &\times \left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}l_{j}(P_{j} + \sigma_{j}) + \sum_{j=1}^{n} (\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j})(P_{j} + (1+\varepsilon)\sigma_{j}) + \tilde{I}_{i}\right\} \\ &= \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right] |x_{i}(t_{0})| + \sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}P_{j} + \sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}\sigma_{j} + Q_{i} \\ &+ \varepsilon\left\{\frac{a_{i}^{*}}{\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}}\sum_{j=1}^{n} (\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j})\sigma_{j}\right\} \\ &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right] |\phi_{i}|| + \sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}P_{j} + (1+\varepsilon)\sum_{j=1}^{n} s_{ij}\sigma_{j} + Q_{i}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(3.12)$$

It follows from (3.9) and the properties of the upper limit of x(t) that there exists a sequence t_k so that $t_k \ge t_2 + T$ and

$$\lim_{t_k \to \infty} \left| x_i(t_k) \right| = \sigma_i + P_i. \tag{3.13}$$

Let $t_k \to \infty$, $\varepsilon \to 0$, then we have

$$\sigma_i + P_i \le \sum_{j=1}^n s_{ij} P_j + \sum_{j=1}^n s_{ij} \sigma_j + Q_i.$$
(3.14)

Noting that $P_i = \sum_{j=1}^n s_{ij}P_j + Q_i$, we can easily obtain that $\sigma_i \leq \sum_{j=1}^n s_{ij}\sigma_j$, i = 1, 2, ..., n, that is, $\sigma \leq S\sigma$. By [27, Theorem 8.3.2], we have $\rho(S) \geq 1$, which is a contradiction. Thus, $\sigma \equiv 0$, this completes the proof of the theorem.

Theorem 3.2 implies that under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, system (2.1) is a dissipative system. Associated with Lemma 2.5 and Theorem 3.2, we can easily deduce the sufficient conditions for the existence of global periodic attractor of system (2.1) as follows.

Theorem 3.3. Under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, there exists a global attractor of system (2.1). Moreover, it is ω -periodic and belongs to the positively invariant set Ω .

Proof. Obviously, system (2.1) can generate an ω -periodic process by Lemma 2.5 and Theorem 3.2. Moreover, together with the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, we can conclude that there exists ω -periodic solution denoted by $x^*(t)$.

Let x(t) be an arbitrary solution of model (2.1) and use the substitution $y(t) = x(t)-x^*(t)$, the neural network model (2.1) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{split} \dot{y}_{i}(t) &= -\tilde{a}_{i}(y_{i}(t)) \left[\tilde{b}_{i}(y_{i}(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}(t) F_{j}(y_{j}(t)) \\ &- \left(\bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds - \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}^{*}(s)) ds \right) \\ &- \left(\bigvee_{j=1}^{n} \beta_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds - \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} \beta_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}^{*}(s)) ds \right) \right], \end{split}$$
(3.15)

where $\tilde{a}_i(y_i(t)) = a_i(y_i(t) + x_i^*(t)), \tilde{b}_i(y_i(t)) = b_i(y_i(t) + x_i^*(t)) - b_i(x_i^*(t)), F_j(y_j(t)) = f_j(y_j(t) + x_j^*(t)) - f_j(x_j^*(t)), i = 1, 2, ..., n.$

Associated with system (3.15), (A1-A4), and Lemma 2.8, we have

$$\frac{d|y_i(t)|}{dt} \le -\delta_i a_i^- |y_i(t)| + a_i^+ \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} l_j |y_j(t)| + \sum_{j=1}^n (\alpha_{ij} l_j + \beta_{ij} l_j) \int_{t-\tau}^t k_j(t-s) |y_j(s)| ds \right\}, \quad (3.16)$$

where i = 1, 2, ..., n. Repeating the above arguments, it is easy to see that system (3.15) satisfies all conditions of Theorem 3.2 with $Q = \{0\}$. Thus, $\lim_{t\to\infty} y_i = 0$, i = 1, 2, ..., n, which implies that the periodic solution $x^*(t)$ is globally attracting. Thus, we complete the proof of this theorem.

Remark 3.4. By Theorem 3.3, all other solutions of system (2.1) converge to the ω -periodic solution as $t \to \infty$. Theorem 3.3 provides a guideline on the choice of interconnection matrices for a neural network which is desired to have a unique global attractor. Moreover, if the parameters $c_{ij}(t)$, $\alpha_{ij}(t)$, $\beta_{ij}(t)$, and $I_i(t)$ are not periodic in time t, under the assumptions of (A1)–(A4) and $\int_{t_0}^{+\infty} \delta_i a_i^- dt = +\infty$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., n, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 are also achievable.

Theorem 3.5. Under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, the ω -periodic solution $x^*(t)$ of system (2.1) is globally exponentially stable if the following condition holds:

$$\delta_i a_i^- > a_i^+ \sum_{j=1}^n (c_{ij} + \alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij}) l_j, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(3.17)

Proof. According to Theorem 3.3, we only prove that $(0, 0, ..., 0)^T$ of the system (3.15) is globally exponentially stable. Consider the function $g_i(\xi)$ given by

$$g_i(\xi) = \delta_i a_i^- - \xi - a_i^+ \left[\sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} l_j + \sum_{j=1}^n (\alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij}) l_j e^{\xi \tau} \right], \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(3.18)

By (3.17), we have

$$g_i(0) = \delta_i a_i^- - a_i^+ \left[\sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} l_j + \sum_{j=1}^n (\alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij}) l_j \right] > 0$$
(3.19)

and $g_i(\xi)$ is continuous, $g_i(\xi) \to -\infty$ as $\xi \to +\infty$. Thus, there exists a $\xi_i > 0$ so that $g_i(\xi_i) = 0$. Without loss of generality, set $\xi_i = \min\{\xi > 0 \mid g_i(\xi) = 0\}$, so $g_i(\xi) > 0$ when $\xi \in (0, \xi_i)$. Now let $\tilde{\xi} = \min\{\xi_i, i = 1, 2, ..., n\}$, when $\xi_0 \in (0, \tilde{\xi})$, we have $g_i(\xi_0) > 0$, i = 1, 2, ..., n, that is,

$$\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}-\xi_{0}-a_{i}^{+}\left[\sum_{j=1}^{n}c_{ij}l_{j}+\sum_{j=1}^{n}(\alpha_{ij}+\beta_{ij})l_{j}e^{\xi_{0}\tau}\right]>0, \quad i=1,2,\ldots,n.$$
(3.20)

Let $y(t) = (y_1(t), y_2(t), \dots, y_n(t))^T$ be a solution of system (3.15) with any initial value $\phi \in \mathbb{C}$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |y_{i}(t)| &\leq \exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-t_{0})\right]|y_{i}(t_{0})| \\ &+a_{i}^{+}\int_{t_{0}}^{t}\exp\left[-\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}(t-s)\right]\left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n}c_{ij}l_{j}|y_{j}(s)|+\sum_{j=1}^{n}(\alpha_{ij}l_{j}+\beta_{ij}l_{j})\int_{0}^{\tau}k_{j}(\theta)|y_{j}(s-\theta)|d\theta\right\}ds, \end{aligned}$$
(3.21)

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for $t \ge t_0$ and i = 1, 2, ..., n. Set

$$w_{i}(t) = \begin{cases} e^{\xi_{0}(t-t_{0})} |y_{i}(t)|, & t > t_{0}, \\ |y_{i}(t)|, & t_{0} - \tau \le t \le t_{0}. \end{cases}$$
(3.22)

Then, it follows from (3.21) and (3.22) that for $t > t_0$ and i = 1, 2, ..., n,

$$w_{i}(t) \leq \exp\left[-\left(\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}-\xi_{0}\right)(t-t_{0})\right]w_{i}(t_{0}) + a_{i}^{+}\int_{t_{0}}^{t}\exp\left[-\left(\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-}-\xi_{0}\right)(t-s)\right]\left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left[c_{ij}l_{j}+\left(\alpha_{ij}l_{j}+\beta_{ij}l_{j}\right)e^{\tau\xi_{0}}\right]\|w_{j}(s)\|\right\}ds,$$
(3.23)

for $t \ge t_0$, i = 1, 2, ..., n.

For the initial value $\phi \in \mathbb{C}$, there must exist $\eta > 0$ and $r \in \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ so that $\|\phi_r(0)\| = \eta$ and $\|\phi_i(0)\| \le \eta$ for i = 1, 2, ..., n.

We will show that for any sufficiently small constant $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$w_i(t) < \eta + \varepsilon, \quad t \ge t_0, \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \tag{3.24}$$

If it is not true, there must exist some $t_1 \ge t_0$ and $k \in \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ so that

$$w_k(t_1) = \eta + \varepsilon, \quad w_i(t) \le \eta + \varepsilon, \quad t \in [t_0, t_1), \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(3.25)

By (3.23) and (3.20), we have

$$\eta + \varepsilon = w_{k}(t_{1}) \leq \exp\left[-\left(\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-} - \xi_{0}\right)(t_{1} - t_{0})\right]w_{k}(t_{0}) \\ + a_{i}^{+} \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \exp\left[-\left(\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-} - \xi_{0}\right)(t_{1} - s)\right] \left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[c_{ij}l_{j} + \left(\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j}\right)e^{\tau\xi_{0}}\right] \|w_{j}(s)\|\right\} ds \\ \leq (\eta + \varepsilon)\exp\left[-\left(\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-} - \xi_{0}\right)(t_{1} - t_{0})\right] + (\eta + \varepsilon)\frac{a_{i}^{+}}{\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-} - \xi_{0}}\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[c_{ij}l_{j} + \left(\alpha_{ij}l_{j} + \beta_{ij}l_{j}\right)e^{\tau\xi_{0}}\right] \\ \times \left\{1 - \exp\left[-\left(\delta_{i}a_{i}^{-} - \xi_{0}\right)(t_{1} - t_{0})\right]\right\} < \eta + \varepsilon,$$
(3.26)

which is a contradiction. Thus (3.24) holds. Let $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have

$$w_i(t) \le \eta, \quad t \ge t_0, \; i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$
 (3.27)

that is,

$$w_i(t) \le \|\phi_r(0)\|, \quad t \ge t_0, \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
 (3.28)

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This implies that there exists $\Gamma > 1$ so that

$$|w(t)| \le \Gamma ||\phi(0)||, \quad t \ge t_0.$$
 (3.29)

From (3.22), there exists some constant $\zeta \ge 1$ so that

$$|y(t)| \le \zeta \|\phi(0)\| e^{\xi_0(t_0-t)}, \quad t \ge t_0, \tag{3.30}$$

which implies that the solution $(0, 0, ..., 0)^T$ of the system (3.15) is globally exponentially stable. The proof of Theorem 3.5 is completed.

Corollary 3.6. Let $a_0 = \min_{1 \le i \le n} \{a_i^-\}$, $\delta_0 = \min_{1 \le i \le n} \{\delta_i\}$. Under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, the ω -periodic solution $x^*(t)$ of system (2.1) is globally exponentially stable if the following condition holds:

$$a_0\delta_0 > a_i^+ \sum_{j=1}^n (c_{ij} + \alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij})l_j, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
 (3.31)

Proof. Let $g_i(\xi) = \delta_0 a_0 - \xi - a_i^+ [\sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} l_j + \sum_{j=1}^n (\alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij}) l_j e^{\xi \tau}]$, i = 1, 2, ..., n. It can be directly obtained by repeating the argument of Theorem 3.5. Here we omit it.

Remark 3.7. ξ_0 is called exponentially convergent rate which can be estimated by (3.20). Global exponential stability means that system (2.1) can converge to the periodic solution associated with the inputs when the external inputs are provided to the system, irrespective of the initial values. The conditions of the above theorems and Corollary 3.6 are dependent on the spectral radius which needs $\delta_i a_i^- > 0$ for i = 1, 2, ..., n and $t \ge t_0$. They may be invalid when $\delta_i a_i^- \ge 0$ and is not identically zero. Therefore, we present other criteria to overcome the limitation.

Now we consider the following system:

$$\dot{x}_{i}(t) = -a^{-} \bigg[b_{i}(x_{i}(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}(t) f_{j}(x_{j}(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} d_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}(t) \\ \times \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds - \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} \beta_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds \qquad (3.32) \\ - \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} G_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} H_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - I_{i}(t) \bigg].$$

(A6) Function $b_i(x_i(t))$ is continuous and there exist continuous positive ω -periodic functions $\tilde{b}_i(t)$ so that

$$\frac{b_i(u) - b_i(\widetilde{u})}{u - \widetilde{u}} \ge \widetilde{b}_i(t) \ge 0, \quad \forall u, \widetilde{u} \in R, \ u \neq \widetilde{u}, \ i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(3.33)

Set

$$z_{i}(t,s) = \frac{a_{i}^{+}\exp\left(\int_{0}^{\omega}a_{i}^{-}\widetilde{b}_{i}(\theta)d\theta\right)}{\exp\left(\int_{0}^{\omega}a_{i}^{-}\widetilde{b}_{i}(\theta)d\theta\right) - 1}\exp\left(\int_{t}^{s}a_{i}^{-}\widetilde{b}_{i}(\theta)d\theta\right),$$

$$v_{ij} = \sup_{t \ge t_{0}}\int_{t}^{t+\omega}z_{i}(t,s)\left[\left|c_{ij}(s)\right| + \left|\alpha_{ij}(s)\right| + \left|\beta_{ij}(s)\right|\right]l_{j}ds, \quad i, j = 1, 2, ..., n.$$
(3.34)

Theorem 3.8. Assume that $\int_{0}^{\omega} a_{i}^{-} \tilde{b}_{i}(\theta) d\theta > 0$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., n and (A1), (A3), (A4), (A6) hold and (A7) $\rho(V) < 1$, where $V = (v_{ij})_{n \times n}$,

then system (3.32) has exactly one ω -periodic solution.

Proof. By (A7), E - V is an *M*-matrix [29]. Therefore, there exists a diagonal matrix $\tilde{Q} = \text{diag}(q_1, q_2, \ldots, q_n) > 0$ so that $(E - V)\tilde{Q}$ is strictly diagonally dominant with positive diagonal entries, that is,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} v_{ij} q_i^{-1} q_j < 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
(3.35)

Associated with systems (A1), (A3), (A4), (A6), and Lemma 2.8, we have

If $x_i(t + \omega) = x_i(t)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left|x_{i}(t)\right| &\leq \frac{\exp\left(\int_{0}^{\omega} a_{i}^{-} b_{i}(s) ds\right) a_{i}^{+}}{\exp\left(\int_{0}^{\omega} a_{i}^{-} \widetilde{b}_{i}(s) ds\right) - 1} \\ &\times \int_{t}^{t+\omega} \exp\left(\int_{t}^{s} a_{i}^{-} \widetilde{b}_{i}(\theta) d\theta\right) \left\{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left|c_{ij}(s)\right| \left|f_{j}(x_{j}(s))\right| + \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(\left|\alpha_{ij}(s)\right| + \left|\beta_{ij}(s)\right|\right)\right. \\ &\left. \times \int_{s-\tau}^{s} k_{j}(s-\theta) \left|f_{j}(x_{j}(\theta))\right| d\theta + \left|\widetilde{I}_{i}(s)\right| \right\} ds. \end{aligned}$$

$$(3.37)$$

Let $\Lambda_{\omega} = \{\varphi; \varphi = (\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_n)^T\}$, φ_i is a continuous ω -periodic function on R. With the norm $\|\varphi\| = \max_{1 \le i \le n} \{q_i^{-1} \sup_{t \in R} |\varphi_i(t)|\}$, then Λ_{ω} is a Banach space. Define operator $T : \Lambda_{\omega} \to \Lambda_{\omega}$ as follows:

$$T(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_n) = \left((T\varphi)_1, (T\varphi)_2, \dots, (T\varphi)_n \right)^T,$$
(3.38)

where

$$(T\varphi)_{i}(t) = \int_{t}^{t+\omega} z_{i}(t,s) \left[\sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}(s) f_{j}(\varphi_{j}(s)) + \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^{s} k_{j}(s-\theta) f_{j}(\varphi_{j}(\theta)) d\theta + \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^{s} k_{j}(s-\theta) f_{j}(\varphi_{j}(\theta)) d\theta + \widetilde{I}_{i}(s) \right] ds,$$

$$(3.39)$$

for $t \ge t_0$ and i = 1, 2, ..., n. Clearly, φ is an ω -periodic solution of system (3.32) if and only if φ is the fixed point of operator *T*. For all $\varphi, \psi \in \Lambda_{\omega}$, we have

$$\begin{split} \|T\varphi - T\psi\| \\ &= \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ q_i^{-1} \sup_{i \in \mathbb{R}} \left| (T\varphi)_i(t) - (T\psi)_i(t) \right| \right\} \\ &\leq \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ q_i^{-1} \sup_{i \in \mathbb{R}} \int_t^{t+\omega} z_i(t, s) \left[\sum_{j=1}^n |c_{ij}(s)| |f_j(\varphi_j)(s) - f_j(\psi_j)(s)| \right. \\ &+ \left| \bigwedge_{j=1}^n \alpha_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\varphi_j(\theta)) d\theta \right. \\ &- \bigwedge_{j=1}^n \alpha_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &+ \left| \bigvee_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \right. \\ &- \bigvee_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \bigvee_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \bigvee_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{s-\tau}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^s k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^n k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^n k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^n k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^n k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &- \int_{i \le n}^n \beta_{ij}(s) \int_{i \le n}^n k_j(s - \theta) f_j(\psi_j(\theta)) d\theta \\ &= \sum_{i \le n}^n \left\{ \sum_{j \ge n}^n \eta_{ij}^{-1} \eta_{ij}(y_{ij}) \right\} \\ &= \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ \sum_{j \ge n}^n \eta_{ij}^{-1} \eta_{ij}(y_{ij}) \right\} \\ \\ &= \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ \sum_{j \ge n}^n \eta_{ij}^{-1} \eta_{ij}(y_{ij}) \right\} \\ \\ &= \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ \sum_{j \ge n}^n \eta_{ij}^{-1} \eta_{ij}(y_{ij}) \right\} \\ \\ \\ &= \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ \sum_{j \ge n}^n \eta_{ij}^{-1} \eta_{ij}(y_{ij}) \right\} \\ \\ \\ &= \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ \sum_{j \ge n}^n \eta_{ij}^{-1} \eta_{ij}(y_{ij}) \right\} \\ \\ \\ \\ &= \max_{1 \le i \le n} \left\{ \sum_{j \ge n}^n \eta_{ij}^{-1} \eta_{ij}(y_{ij}) \right\}$$

In view of (3.35), it is easily concluded that $\max_{1 \le i \le n} \{\sum_{j=1}^{n} q_i^{-1} q_j v_{ij}\} < 1$. This implies that *T* is a contraction operator. By the well-known contraction mapping principle, there exists a unique fixed point φ^* for *T* which is the unique ω -periodic solution of system (3.32). The proof of Theorem 3.8 is completed.

Obviously, Cohen-Grossberg-type neural networks, cellular neural networks, and so on are special forms of system (2.1). It is not difficult to see that the conditions in our results are a little generation and improvement of their theorems; see [21, 24].

Let $a_i(x_i(t)) \equiv 1$, $b_i(x_i(t)) = b_i(t)x_i(t)$, i = 1, 2, ..., n, system (2.1) reduces to the following fuzzy cellular neural networks:

$$\dot{x}_{i}(t) = -b_{i}(t)x_{i}(t) + \sum_{j=1}^{n} c_{ij}(t)f_{j}(x_{j}(t)) + \sum_{j=1}^{n} d_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}(t)\int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s)f_{j}(x_{j}(s))ds + \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} G_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + \bigvee_{j=1}^{n} H_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + I_{i}(t),$$
(3.41)

where $b_i(t) > 0$, for all $t \ge t_0$, i = 1, 2, ..., n. From (3.41), we can derive the following results.

Corollary 3.9. Assume that (A3) and (A4) hold. Moreover,

(A8) $b_i(t) \ge b_i > 0$, for all $t \in R$, i = 1, 2, ..., n; (A9) $\rho(S) < 1$, where $S = (s_{ij})_{n \times n}$ and $s_{ij} = (c_{ij}l_j + \alpha_{ij}l_j + \beta_{ij}l_j)/b_i$; set $Q = (Q_1, Q_2, ..., Q_n)^T$, and $Q_i = \tilde{I}_i/b_i$,

then (i) the set $\Omega = \{\phi \in \mathbb{C}; [\phi]^+ \le P = (E - S)^{-1}Q\}$ is a positively invariant set of system (3.41); (ii) the set Ω is a globally attracting set of system (3.41); (iii) there exists a global attractor of system (3.41), moreover, it is ω -periodic and belongs to the positively invariant set Ω .

The proof is completely similar to Theorems 3.1–3.3, here we omit it.

Corollary 3.10. Under the assumptions of Corollary 3.9, the ω -periodic solution $x^*(t)$ of system (3.41) is globally exponentially stable if the following condition holds:

$$b_i > \sum_{j=1}^n (c_{ij} + \alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij}) l_j, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$
 (3.42)

It easily follows from Theorem 3.5, so the proof is omitted.

4. Two examples

In this section, we give two examples to demonstrate the efficiencies of our criteria.

Example 4.1. In the following, we consider the periodic solutions of the two neurons fuzzy networks with delay:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_{i}(t) &= -d_{i}(t)x_{i}(t) + \sum_{j=1}^{2} a_{ij}(t)f_{j}(x_{j}(t)) + \sum_{j=1}^{2} b_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + \bigwedge_{j=1}^{2} \alpha_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s)f_{j}(x_{j}(s))ds \\ &+ \bigvee_{j=1}^{2} \beta_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s)f_{j}(x_{j}(s))ds + \bigwedge_{j=1}^{2} G_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + \bigvee_{j=1}^{2} H_{ij}(t)u_{j}(t) + I_{i}(t), \end{aligned}$$

$$(4.1)$$

where $d_i(t)$, $a_{ij}(t)$, $b_{ij}(t)$, $\alpha_{ij}(t)$, $\beta_{ij}(t)$, $G_{ij}(t)$, $H_{ij}(t)$, and $u_i(t)$ (i, j = 1, 2) are continuously periodic solutions with period 2π . Let

$$D(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A(t) = (a_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.21 \sin t & -0.2 \cos t \\ -0.15 \cos t & 0.19 \sin t \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\alpha(t) = (\alpha_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 \sin t & -0.11 \cos t \\ 0.12 \cos t & 0.11 \sin t \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\beta(t) = (\beta_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.15 \sin t & 0.1 \cos t \\ -0.1 \cos t & 0.12 \sin t \end{pmatrix},$$

$$(b_{ij}(t)) = (G_{ij}(t)) = (H_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad u(t) = 2I(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix},$$

$$f_i(x_i) = f(x) = \frac{1}{2}(|x+1| - |x-1|), \quad \int_0^\tau k_i(s)ds = 1, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

By simple computation, one can easily obtain

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0.46 & 0.41 \\ 0.37 & 0.42 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad P = (E - S)^{-1}Q = \begin{pmatrix} 3.0650 \\ 2.8173 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.3)$$
$$\xi(S)_1 = 0.83, \quad \xi(S)_2 = 0.05,$$

where $\xi(S)_i$ (i = 1, 2) denotes the eigenvalues of matrix S. Therefore, $\rho(S) < 1$. By Corollary 3.9, we know that the set $\Omega = \{\phi \in \mathbb{C}; [\phi]^+ \le P = (E - S)^{-1}Q\}$ is a positively invariant set of system (3.41), which is a globally attracting set of system (3.41), that is, there exists a global attractor of system (3.41). Moreover, it is 2π -periodic and belongs to the positively invariant set Ω . In addition, one can easily obtain

$$\sum_{j=1}^{2} (a_{1j} + \alpha_{1j} + \beta_{1j}) l_j = 0.88 < 1 = d_1, \qquad \sum_{j=1}^{2} (a_{2j} + \alpha_{2j} + \beta_{2j}) l_j = 0.99 < 1 = d_2.$$
(4.4)

According to Corollary 3.10, the 2π -periodic solution $x^*(t)$ of system (3.41) is globally exponentially stable.

Example 4.2. We consider the periodic solutions of the following fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg neural networks with delay:

$$\begin{split} \dot{x}_{i}(t) &= -a_{i}(x_{i}(t)) \left[b_{i}(x_{i}(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^{2} c_{ij}(t) f_{j}(x_{j}(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^{2} d_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - \bigwedge_{j=1}^{2} \alpha_{ij}(t) \right. \\ & \times \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds - \bigvee_{j=1}^{2} \beta_{ij}(t) \int_{t-\tau}^{t} k_{j}(t-s) f_{j}(x_{j}(s)) ds \qquad (4.5) \\ & - \bigwedge_{j=1}^{2} G_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - \bigvee_{j=1}^{2} H_{ij}(t) u_{j}(t) - I_{i}(t) \right], \end{split}$$

where $a_{ij}(t)$, $b_{ij}(t)$, $\alpha_{ij}(t)$, $\beta_{ij}(t)$, $G_{ij}(t)$, $H_{ij}(t)$, and $u_i(t)$ (i, j = 1, 2) are continuously periodic solutions with period 2π . Let

$$A(x(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 + \sin(x_1(t)) & 0 \\ 0 & 4 - \cos(x_2(t)) \end{pmatrix}, \quad B(x(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 4x_1(t) \\ 4x_2(t) \end{pmatrix}, \\ I(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.66 \sin t \\ 0.75 \cos t \end{pmatrix}, \\ C(t) = (c_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.35 \sin t & -0.25 \cos t \\ 0.33 \sin t & 0.34 \cos t \end{pmatrix}, \\ (d_{ij}(t)) = (G_{ij}(t)) = (H_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \alpha(t) = (\alpha_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.44 \sin t & -0.38 \cos t \\ 0.32 \cos t & 0.28 \sin t \end{pmatrix}, \\ \beta(t) = (\beta_{ij}(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.29 \sin t & 0.43 \cos t \\ -0.27 \cos t & 0.35 \sin t \end{pmatrix}, \\ f_i(x_i) = f(x) = \tanh(x), \quad \int_0^\tau k_i(s) ds = 1, \quad i = 1, 2. \end{cases}$$

By simple computation, we can obtain that $a_1^- = 4$, $a_2^- = 3$, $a_1^+ = 6$, $a_2^+ = 5$, $l_1 = l_2 = 1$, $\delta_1 = \delta_2 = 4$,

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0.4050 & 0.3975 \\ 0.3833 & 0.4042 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2475 \\ 0.3125 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad P = (E - S)^{-1}Q = \begin{pmatrix} 1.3440 \\ 1.3892 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (4.7)$$
$$\xi(P)_1 = 0.7949, \qquad \xi(P)_2 = 0.0142,$$

where $\xi(P)_i$ (i = 1, 2) denotes the eigenvalues of matrix P. Therefore, $\rho(P) < 1$. By Theorem 3.1, we know that the set $\Omega = \{\phi \in \mathbb{C}; [\phi]^+ \le Q = (E-P)^{-1}M\}$ is a positively invariant set of system (4.5). According to Theorems 3.2 and 3.3, one can derive that the set Ω is a globally attracting set of system (4.5), that is, there exists a global attractor of system (4.5). Moreover, it is 2π -periodic and belongs to the positively invariant set Ω . In addition, one can easily obtain

$$a_{1}^{+}\sum_{j=1}^{2} (c_{1j} + \alpha_{1j} + \beta_{1j})l_{j} = 12.84 < \delta_{1}a_{1}^{-} = 16,$$

$$a_{2}^{+}\sum_{j=1}^{2} (c_{2j} + \alpha_{2j} + \beta_{2j})l_{j} = 9.45 < \delta_{2}a_{2}^{-} = 12.$$
(4.8)

According to Theorem 3.5, the 2π -periodic solution $x^*(t)$ of system (4.5) is globally exponentially stable.

5. Conclusion

Periodic oscillation is an important dynamical behavior in the applications and theories of neural networks. We derived the novel criteria of fuzzy Cohen-Grossberg neural networks with

variable coefficients and distributed delays under easily checkout conditions and the minimal assumption for the feedback kernel. Our results extend some previous works and the way is common and very concise. In the mean time, we believe that the method can be applied to research other problems under some appropriate assumptions such as almost periodic solution, synchronization of neural networks, and so on.

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