

Research Article

Synchronization of Switched Complex Bipartite Neural Networks with Infinite Distributed Delays and Derivative Coupling

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A new model of switched complex bipartite neural network (SCBNN) with infinite distributed delays and derivative coupling is established. Using linear matrix inequality (LMI) approach, some synchronization criteria are proposed to ensure the synchronization between two SCBNNs by constructing effective controllers. Some numerical simulations are provided to illustrate the effectiveness of the theoretical results obtained in this paper.

1. Introduction

In recent years, neural networks have been intensively studied due to their potential applications in many different areas such as signal and image processing, content-addressable memory, optimization, and parallel computation [1–3]. Bidirectional associative memory (BAM) neural networks were first proposed by Kosko in [4, 5]. This class of networks has good applications in pattern recognition, solving optimization problems, and automatic control engineering. A large number of results on the dynamical behavior of BAM neural networks have been reported [6–9].

Switched systems, as an important kind of hybrid systems, have drawn considerable attention of researchers because of their theoretical significance and practical applications [10–12]. Switched systems are composed of a family of continuous-time or discrete-time subsystems and a rule that specifies the switching among them [13, 14]. Recently, the switched neural networks, whose individual subsystems are a set of neural networks, have found applications in the field of high speed signal processing, artificial intelligence, and biology, so

there are many theoretical results about the switched neural networks [15–17].

Complex networks, which are a set of interconnected nodes with specific dynamics, have sparked the interest of many researchers from various fields of science and engineering such as the World Wide Web, electrical power grids, global economic markets, sensor networks; for example, see [18–20] and references therein. Bipartite networks are an important kind of complex networks, whose nodes can be divided into two disjoint nonempty sets such that every edge only connects a pair of nodes, which belong to different sets. Many real-world networks are naturally bipartite networks, such as the papers-scientists networks [21] and producer-consumer networks [22]. Recently, authors [23] have introduced a bipartite-graph complex dynamical network model that is only linearly coupled and has no delays. It is well known that time delays exist commonly in real-world systems. Therefore, many models of coupled networks with coupling delays are proposed, for example, constant single time delay [24], time-varying delays [25], and mix-time delays [26]. On the other hand, the coupled network often occurs

in other forms, for example, nonlinearly coupled networks [27] and linearly derivative coupled networks [28]. In [29], a general model of bipartite dynamical network (BDN) with distributed delays and nonlinear derivative coupling was introduced. Synchronization of complex networks has been intensively investigated since they can be applied in power system control, secure communication, automatic control, chemical reaction, and so on [30–32]. The study of synchronization of coupled neural networks is an important step for both understanding brain science and designing coupled neural networks for practical use. Yu et al. [33] consider the synchronization of switched linearly coupled neural networks with constant delays, but the controllers are complex and changed with the switched rule. Synchronization of two coupled BDNs was investigated by adaptive method [29], but the controllers are complicated and the model does not include infinite distributed delays coupling and switching. Extending BAM neural networks to complex networks, we get complex bipartite dynamical networks (CBDNs). The dynamics of individual node in CBDNs is switched system and the switched coupling is considered; switched complex bipartite neural network (SCBNN) can be obtained. To the best of our knowledge, up to now, there is not any work that discusses the synchronization problem in SCBNN.

Motivated by the previous discussion, we first proposed a model of SCBNN, and then investigated the synchronization between two SCBNNs with infinite distributed delays and derivative coupling. Using adaptive controllers and linear matrix inequality (LMI) approach, some synchronization criteria are proposed to ensure the synchronization between two coupled SCBNNs. In our paper, the proposed controllers are simpler and do not change with the switched rule, which can be realize more easily.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, a model of SCBNN with infinite distributed delays and derivative coupling is presented, and some hypotheses and lemmas are given too. In Section 3, several synchronization criteria on the SCBNNs are deduced. In Section 4, numerical examples are given to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed controller design methods in Section 3. Finally, conclusions are given in Section 5.

Notations. Throughout this paper, $\rho_{\max}(\cdot)$ and $\rho_{\min}(\cdot)$ denote the maximum eigenvalue and minimum eigenvalue of a real symmetric matrix, respectively. The notation $*$ denotes the symmetric block.

2. Model Description, Assumptions, and Lemmas

Consider a complex bipartite dynamical network (CBDN) consisting of two disjoint nonempty node sets V_1 and V_2 . Suppose that $V_1 = \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_l\}$ and $V_2 = \{\nu_1, \nu_2, \dots, \nu_m\}$, l, m are integer. The coupled network is described as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_i(t) = & -Dx_i + R_1 f_1(x_i(t)) + R_2 f_2(x_i(t - \tau(t))) + I \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} y_j(t - \tau_1(t)) + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{ij} g(y_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{ij} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s)k(y_j(s)) ds, \\ & i = 1, 2, \dots, l, \\ \dot{y}_j(t) = & -\bar{D}y_j + \bar{R}_1 \bar{f}_1(y_j(t)) + \bar{R}_2 \bar{f}_2(y_j(t - \sigma(t))) + J \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{ji} x_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{ji} \bar{g}(\dot{x}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{ji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s)\bar{k}(x_i(s)) ds, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where $x_i(t) = (x_{i1}(t), x_{i2}(t), \dots, x_{in}(t))^T$, $y_j(t) = (y_{j1}(t), y_{j2}(t), \dots, y_{jn}(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ denotes the state variables of nodes μ_i and ν_j , respectively. $D = \text{diag}(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ and $\bar{D} = \text{diag}(\bar{d}_1, \bar{d}_2, \dots, \bar{d}_n)$ are diagonal matrices with $d_i, \bar{d}_i > 0$. $R_1, \bar{R}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are weight matrices, $R_2, \bar{R}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are delayed weight matrices, $f_k(x_i) = (f_{k1}(x_{i1}), f_{k2}(x_{i2}), \dots, f_{kn}(x_{in}))^T$, $\bar{f}_k(y_j) = (\bar{f}_{k1}(y_{j1}), \bar{f}_{k2}(y_{j2}), \dots, \bar{f}_{kn}(y_{jn}))^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $k = 1, 2$, $g(\dot{y}_j) = (g_1(\dot{y}_{j1}), g_2(\dot{y}_{j2}), \dots, g_n(\dot{y}_{jn}))^T$, $\bar{g}(\dot{x}_i) = (\bar{g}_1(\dot{x}_{i1}), \bar{g}_2(\dot{x}_{i2}), \dots, \bar{g}_n(\dot{x}_{in}))^T$, $k(y_j) = (k_1(y_{j1}), k_2(y_{j2}), \dots, k_n(y_{jn}))^T$, $\bar{k}(x_i) = (\bar{k}_1(x_{i1}), \bar{k}_2(x_{i2}), \dots, \bar{k}_n(x_{in}))^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ corresponds to the boundedness activation functions of neurons. $h(t) = \text{diag}(h_1(t), h_2(t), \dots, h_n(t))$, $\bar{h}(t) = \text{diag}(\bar{h}_1(t), \bar{h}_2(t), \dots, \bar{h}_n(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are the delay kernel functions. $\tau(t), \tau_1(t), \tau_2(t), \sigma(t), \sigma_1(t)$, and $\sigma_2(t) > 0$ are time delays. $\int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s)k(y_j(s))ds$ and $\int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s)\bar{k}(x_i(s))ds$ express infinite distributed delays. $I = (I^1, I^2, \dots, I^n)^T$ and $J = (J^1, J^2, \dots, J^n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are the constant external input vectors. The matrix $A = (a_{ij})_{l \times m}$ is the delayed weight coupling matrix denoting coupling strength between nodes. If there is a connection from node μ_i to ν_j , then $a_{ij} \neq 0$; otherwise, $a_{ij} = 0$ and the matrix A satisfies the sum of every row being zero. The definitions of the other coupling matrixes $B = (b_{ij})_{l \times m}$, $C = (c_{ij})_{l \times m}$, $\bar{A} = (\bar{a}_{ji})_{m \times l}$, $\bar{B} = (\bar{b}_{ji})_{m \times l}$, and $\bar{C} = (\bar{c}_{ji})_{m \times l}$ are similar to that of matrix A ; hence, they are omitted here.

In this paper, we consider a class of switched complex bipartite neural network with infinite distributed delays and derivative coupling, which is described as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_i(t) = & -D_\lambda x_i + R_{\lambda 1} f_1(x_i(t)) + R_{\lambda 2} f_2(x_i(t - \tau(t))) \\ & + I_\lambda + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{\lambda ij} y_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{\lambda ij} g(y_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{\lambda ij} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s)k(y_j(s)) ds, \\ & i = 1, 2, \dots, l, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y}_j(t) = & -\bar{D}_\lambda y_j + \bar{R}_{\lambda 1} \bar{f}_1(y_j(t)) + \bar{R}_{\lambda 2} \bar{f}_2(y_j(t - \sigma(t))) \\ & + J_\lambda + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{\lambda ji} x_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{\lambda ji} \bar{g}(\dot{x}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{\lambda ji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s) \bar{k}(x_i(s)) ds, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where switching signal λ is piecewise constant functions, which is a value in the finite set $\aleph = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$. This means that the matrices $\{D_\lambda, R_{\lambda 1}, R_{\lambda 2}, A_\lambda = (a_{\lambda ij}), B_\lambda = (b_{\lambda ij}), C_\lambda = (c_{\lambda ij}), I_\lambda, \bar{D}_\lambda, \bar{R}_{\lambda 1}, \bar{R}_{\lambda 2}, \bar{A}_\lambda = (\bar{a}_{\lambda ji}), \bar{B}_\lambda = (\bar{b}_{\lambda ji}),$ and $\bar{C}_\lambda = (\bar{c}_{\lambda ji}), J_\lambda\}$ are allowed to take values at particular time, in a finite set $\{(D_r, R_{r1}, R_{r2}, A_r, B_r, C_r, I_r, \bar{D}_r, \bar{R}_{r1}, \bar{R}_{r2}, \bar{A}_r, \bar{B}_r, \bar{C}_r, J_r) \mid r = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$. We define the function as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{when the switched system is described} \\ & \text{by the } r\text{th mode, that is, } \lambda = r, \\ 0, & \text{others.} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

It follows that under any switching rules $\sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) = 1$. Model (2) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_i(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-D_r x_i + R_{r1} f_1(x_i(t)) \right. \\ & + R_{r2} f_2(x_i(t - \tau(t))) \\ & + I_r + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{rij} y_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij} g(y_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{rij} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) k(y_j(s)) ds \right], \\ & i = 1, 2, \dots, l, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y}_j(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-\bar{D}_r y_j + \bar{R}_{r1} \bar{f}_1(y_j(t)) \right. \\ & + \bar{R}_{r2} \bar{f}_2(y_j(t - \sigma(t))) \\ & + J_r + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{rji} x_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{rji} \bar{g}(\dot{x}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{rji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s) \bar{k}(x_i(s)) ds \right], \\ & j = 1, 2, \dots, m. \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

The response network of the drive network (4) is

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{x}}_i(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-D_r \hat{x}_i(t) + R_{r1} f_1(\hat{x}_i(t)) \right. \\ & + R_{r2} f_2(\hat{x}_i(t - \tau(t))) \\ & + I_r + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{rij} \hat{y}_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij} g(\hat{y}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{rij} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) k(\hat{y}_j(s)) ds + u_i(t) \right], \\ \dot{\hat{y}}_j(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-\bar{D}_r \hat{y}_j(t) + \bar{R}_{r1} \bar{f}_1(\hat{y}_j(t)) \right. \\ & + \bar{R}_{r2} \bar{f}_2(\hat{y}_j(t - \sigma(t))) \\ & + J_r + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{rji} \hat{x}_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{rji} \bar{g}(\dot{\hat{x}}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{rji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s) \bar{k}(\hat{x}_i(s)) ds + v_j(t) \right], \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

where $u_i(t)$ and $v_j(t) \in R^n$ are the control inputs.

Let $e_i(t) = \hat{x}_i(t) - x_i(t)$, $\varepsilon_j(t) = \hat{y}_j(t) - y_j(t)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, l$, and $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$. The error dynamical system of (4) and (5) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{e}_i(t) &= \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ &\times \left[-D_r e_i(t) + R_{r1} F_1(e_i(t)) \right. \\ &\quad + R_{r2} F_2(e_i(t - \tau(t))) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{rij} \varepsilon_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij} G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{rij} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds + u_i(t) \right], \\ &\quad i = 1, 2, \dots, l, \\ \dot{\varepsilon}_j(t) &= \sum_{r=1}^N \bar{\xi}_r(t, \lambda) \\ &\times \left[-\bar{D}_r \varepsilon_j(t) + \bar{R}_{r1} \bar{F}_1(\varepsilon_j(t)) \right. \\ &\quad + \bar{R}_{r2} \bar{F}_2(\varepsilon_j(t - \sigma(t))) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{rji} e_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{rji} \bar{G}(\dot{e}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{rji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s) \bar{K}(e_i(s)) ds + v_j(t) \right], \\ &\quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} F_k(e_i(t)) &= f_k(\hat{x}_i(t)) - f_k(x_i(t)), \\ \bar{F}_k(\varepsilon_j(t)) &= \bar{f}_k(\hat{y}_j(t)) - \bar{f}_k(y_j(t)), \quad k = 1, 2, \\ G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) &= g(\dot{\hat{y}}_j(t)) - g(\dot{y}_j(t)), \\ \bar{G}(\dot{e}_i(t)) &= \bar{g}(\dot{\hat{x}}_i(t)) - \bar{g}(\dot{x}_i(t)), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} K(\varepsilon_j(s)) &= k(\hat{y}_j(s)) - k(y_j(s)) \\ &= (K_1(\varepsilon_{j1}(s)), \dots, K_n(\varepsilon_{jn}(s)))^T, \\ \bar{K}(e_i(s)) &= \bar{k}(\hat{x}_i(s)) - \bar{k}(x_i(s)) \\ &= (\bar{K}_1(e_{i1}(s)), \dots, \bar{K}_n(e_{in}(s)))^T. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

In this paper, the following assumptions and lemmas are needed.

(S₁) There exist diagonal matrices $L_i^- = \text{diag}(l_{i1}^-, l_{i2}^-, \dots, l_{in}^-)$ and $L_i^+ = \text{diag}(l_{i1}^+, l_{i2}^+, \dots, l_{in}^+)$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{l}_{kj}^- &\leq \frac{f_{kj}(x) - f_{kj}(y)}{x - y} \leq l_{kj}^+, \quad \bar{l}_{3j}^- \leq \frac{k_j(x) - k_j(y)}{x - y} \leq l_{3j}^+, \\ \bar{l}_{4j}^- &\leq \frac{g_j(x) - g_j(y)}{x - y} \leq l_{4j}^+, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \neq y$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and $k = 1, 2$.

(S₂) There exist diagonal matrices $\bar{L}_i^- = \text{diag}(\bar{l}_{i1}^-, \bar{l}_{i2}^-, \dots, \bar{l}_{in}^-)$ and $\bar{L}_i^+ = \text{diag}(\bar{l}_{i1}^+, \bar{l}_{i2}^+, \dots, \bar{l}_{in}^+)$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\bar{l}}_{kj}^- &\leq \frac{\bar{f}_{kj}(x) - \bar{f}_{kj}(y)}{x - y} \leq \bar{l}_{kj}^+, \quad \bar{\bar{l}}_{3j}^- \leq \frac{\bar{k}_j(x) - \bar{k}_j(y)}{x - y} \leq \bar{l}_{3j}^+, \\ \bar{\bar{l}}_{4j}^- &\leq \frac{\bar{g}_j(x) - \bar{g}_j(y)}{x - y} \leq \bar{l}_{4j}^+, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \neq y$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and $k = 1, 2$.

(S₃) $\tau(t)$, $\tau_1(t)$, $\tau_2(t)$, $\sigma(t)$, $\sigma_1(t)$, and $\sigma_2(t)$ are differential functions with $\dot{\tau}(t) < \tau < 1$, $\dot{\sigma}(t) < \sigma < 1$, $\dot{\tau}_1(t) < \tau_1 < 1$, $\dot{\sigma}_1(t) < \sigma_1 < 1$, $\dot{\tau}_2(t) < \tau_2 < 1$, and $\dot{\sigma}_2(t) < \sigma_2 < 1$.

(S₄) $h_i(t)$, $\bar{h}_i(t)$ are real-value nonnegative continuous functions defined in $[0, \infty)$ satisfying

$$\int_0^\infty h_i(s) ds < \infty, \quad \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_i(s) ds < \infty, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (10)$$

Lemma 1 (see [34]). Given any real matrices Σ_1 , Σ_2 , and Σ_3 of appropriate dimensions and a scalar $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $0 < \Sigma_3 = \Sigma_3^T$, then the following inequality holds:

$$\Sigma_1^T \Sigma_2 + \Sigma_2^T \Sigma_1 \leq \varepsilon \Sigma_1^T \Sigma_3 \Sigma_1 + \varepsilon^{-1} \Sigma_2^T \Sigma_3^{-1} \Sigma_2. \quad (11)$$

Lemma 2 (see [35]). Given a positive definite matrix $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and a symmetric matrix $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, then

$$\rho_{\min}(P^{-1}Q) x^T P x \leq x^T Q x \leq \rho_{\max}(P^{-1}Q) x^T P x, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (12)$$

Lemma 3 (Schur complement). *Given constant symmetric matrices Σ_1, Σ_2 , and Σ_3 , where $\Sigma_1 = \Sigma_1^T$ and $0 < \Sigma_2 = \Sigma_2^T$, then $\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_3^T \Sigma_2^{-1} \Sigma_3 < 0$ if and only if*

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_1 & \Sigma_3^T \\ \Sigma_3 & -\Sigma_2 \end{pmatrix} < 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -\Sigma_2 & \Sigma_3 \\ \Sigma_3^T & \Sigma_1 \end{pmatrix} < 0. \quad (13)$$

For convenience, let

$$L_i = \text{diag} \left(\max \{ |l_{i1}^-|, |l_{i1}^+| \}, \right. \\ \left. \max \{ |l_{i2}^-|, |l_{i2}^+| \}, \dots, \max \{ |l_{im}^-|, |l_{im}^+| \} \right), \\ i = 1, 2, 3, 4,$$

$$\bar{L}_i = \text{diag} \left(\max \{ |\bar{l}_{i1}^-|, |\bar{l}_{i1}^+| \}, \right. \\ \left. \max \{ |\bar{l}_{i2}^-|, |\bar{l}_{i2}^+| \}, \dots, \max \{ |\bar{l}_{im}^-|, |\bar{l}_{im}^+| \} \right), \\ i = 1, 2, 3, 4,$$

$$H = \text{diag} \left(\int_0^\infty h_1(v) dv, \int_0^\infty h_2(v) dv, \dots, \int_0^\infty h_n(v) dv \right),$$

$$\bar{H} = \text{diag} \left(\int_0^\infty \bar{h}_1(v) dv, \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_2(v) dv, \dots, \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_n(v) dv \right). \quad (14)$$

3. Main Results

Theorem 4. *Under assumptions (S_1) – (S_4) , the two coupled SCBNNs (4) and (5) can be synchronized, if there exist positive constants, $\alpha, \beta, p, \bar{p}, \gamma_i, \eta_j$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, l, j = 1, 2, \dots, m$), $n \times n$ positive matrices $P, Q, U, \bar{P}, \bar{Q}, \bar{U}$ and $n \times n$ diagonal positive matrices $W = \text{diag}(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)$, $\bar{W} = \text{diag}(\bar{w}_1, \bar{w}_2, \dots, \bar{w}_n)$, M_i, \bar{M}_i ($i = 1, 2, 3$) such that*

$$\begin{bmatrix} Z_{ri} & PR_{r1} & PR_{r2} & \left(\sum_{j=1}^m a_{rij}^2 \right)^{1/2} & P & \left(\sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij}^2 \right)^{1/2} & P & \left(\sum_{j=1}^m c_{rij}^2 \right)^{1/2} & P \\ * & -M_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & -M_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & -M_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & -I_n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & * & -W & 0 & 0 & -W \end{bmatrix} < 0, \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{Z}_{rj} & \bar{P}\bar{R}_{r1} & \bar{P}\bar{R}_{r2} & \left(\sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{rji}^2 \right)^{1/2} & \bar{P} & \left(\sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{rji}^2 \right)^{1/2} & \bar{P} & \left(\sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{rji}^2 \right)^{1/2} & \bar{P} \\ * & -\bar{M}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & -\bar{M}_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & -\bar{M}_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & -I_n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & * & -\bar{W} & 0 & 0 & -\bar{W} \end{bmatrix} < 0, \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{m}{1 - \sigma_2} - 2\alpha p \leq 0, \quad P \geq pI_n, \quad \bar{P} \geq \bar{p}I_n, \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{l}{1 - \tau_2} - 2\beta \bar{p} \leq 0, \quad (18)$$

$$L_2 M_2 L_2 - (1 - \tau) Q \leq 0, \quad M_3 - (1 - \tau_1) U \leq 0, \quad (18)$$

$$\bar{L}_2 \bar{M}_2 \bar{L}_2 - (1 - \sigma) \bar{Q} \leq 0, \quad \bar{M}_3 - (1 - \sigma_1) \bar{U} \leq 0, \quad (19)$$

and the adaptive feedback controllers are designed as

$$u_i(t) = -[\gamma_i + \alpha_i(t)] e_i(t), \\ v_j(t) = -[\eta_j + \beta_j(t)] \varepsilon_j(t), \\ \alpha_i(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{\| \bar{G}(\dot{e}_i(t)) \|^2}{\| e_i(t) \|^2} \alpha, & \| e_i(t) \|^2 \neq 0, \\ 0, & \| e_i(t) \|^2 = 0, \end{cases} \quad (20) \\ \beta_j(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{\| G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) \|^2}{\| \varepsilon_j(t) \|^2} \beta, & \| \varepsilon_j(t) \|^2 \neq 0, \\ 0, & \| \varepsilon_j(t) \|^2 = 0, \end{cases}$$

where $Z_{ri} = -2PD_r + \bar{L}_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3 + L_1 M_1 L_1 + m\bar{U} - 2\gamma_i P + Q$, $\bar{Z}_{rj} = -2\bar{P}\bar{D}_r + L_3 HWHL_3 + \bar{L}_1 \bar{M}_1 \bar{L}_1 + lU + \bar{Q} - 2\eta_j \bar{P}$, $r \in \mathcal{N}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, l$, and $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Proof. For the error dynamical system (6), we design the following Lyapunov-Krasovskii function:

$$V(t) = V_1(E(t)) + V_2(E(t)), \quad (21)$$

where $E(t) = (e_1^T(t), e_2^T(t), \dots, e_l^T(t), \varepsilon_1^T(t), \varepsilon_2^T(t), \dots, \varepsilon_m^T(t))^T$,

$$V_1 = \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t) P e_i(t) + \sum_{i=1}^l \int_{t-\tau_i(t)}^t e_i^T(s) Q e_i(s) ds \\ + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \int_0^\infty h_i(\theta) \\ \times \int_{t-\theta}^t K_i^2(\varepsilon_{ji}(s)) ds d\theta \\ + l \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{t-\tau_1(t)}^t \varepsilon_j^T(s) U \varepsilon_j(s) ds \\ + \frac{l}{1 - \tau_2} \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t G^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(s)) G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(s)) ds, \quad (22)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V_2 = & \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t) \bar{P} \varepsilon_j(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{t-\mu(t)}^t \varepsilon_j^T(s) \bar{Q} \varepsilon_j(s) ds \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{w}_j \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_j(v) dv \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_j(\theta) \\
& \times \int_{t-\theta}^t \bar{K}_j(e_{ij}(s)) ds d\theta \\
& + m \sum_{i=1}^l \int_{t-\mu_1(t)}^t e_i^T(s) \bar{U} e_i(s) ds \\
& + \frac{m}{1-\sigma_2} \sum_{i=1}^l \int_{t-\mu_2(t)}^t \bar{G}^T(\dot{e}_i(s)) \bar{G}(\dot{e}_i(s)) ds \\
& + l \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(s) U \varepsilon_j(s) - (1 - \dot{\tau}_1(t)) l \\
& \times \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t - \tau_1(t)) U \varepsilon_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\
& + \frac{l}{1 - \tau_2} \sum_{j=1}^m G^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) \\
& - \frac{1 - \dot{\tau}_2(t)}{1 - \tau_2} l \\
& \times \sum_{j=1}^m G^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \Big\}. \tag{23}
\end{aligned}$$

Calculating the derivative of (22) along the trajectories of (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V}_1 = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\
& \times \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^l 2e_i^T(t) P \right. \\
& \times \left[-D_r e_i(t) + R_{r1} F_1(e_i(t)) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + R_{r2} F_2(e_i(t - \tau(t))) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{rij} \varepsilon_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij} G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{rij} \right. \\
& \quad \left. \times \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds + u_i(t) \right] \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t) Q e_i(t) - (1 - \dot{\tau}(t)) \\
& \times \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t - \tau(t)) Q e_i(t - \tau(t)) \\
& + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \left(K_i(\varepsilon_{ji}(t)) \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \right)^2 \\
& - \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \\
& \times \int_0^\infty h_i(\theta) K_i^2(\varepsilon_{ji}(t - \theta)) d\theta
\end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 1, we can get from (S₁)

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2e_i^T(t) P R_{r1} F_1(e_i(t)) \\
& \leq e_i^T(t) P R_{r1} M_1^{-1} R_{r1}^T P e_i(t) \\
& \quad + F_1^T(e_i(t)) M_1 F_1(e_i(t)) \\
& \leq e_i^T(t) (P R_{r1} M_1^{-1} R_{r1}^T P + L_1 M_1 L_1) e_i(t), \\
& 2e_i^T(t) P R_{r2} F_2(e_i(t - \tau(t))) \\
& \leq e_i^T(t) P R_{r2} M_2^{-1} R_{r2}^T P e_i(t) \\
& \quad + F_2^T(e_i(t - \tau(t))) M_2 F_2(e_i(t - \tau(t))) \\
& \leq e_i^T(t) P R_{r2} M_2^{-1} R_{r2}^T P e_i(t) \\
& \quad + e_i^T(t - \tau(t)) L_2 M_2 L_2 e_i(t - \tau(t)), \\
& 2a_{rij} e_i^T(t) P \varepsilon_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\
& \leq a_{rij}^2 e_i^T(t) P M_3^{-1} P e_i(t) \\
& \quad + \varepsilon_j^T(t - \tau_1(t)) M_3 \varepsilon_j^T(t - \tau_1(t)).
\end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

By assumptions (S₁) and (S₄), it is obvious that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \left(K_i(\varepsilon_{ji}(t)) \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \right)^2 \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^m K^T(\varepsilon_j(t)) H W H K(\varepsilon_j(t)) \\
& \leq \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t) L_3 H W H L_3 \varepsilon_j(t), \\
& 2 \sum_{i=1}^l c_{rij} e_i^T(t) P \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds \\
& \leq l \sum_{i=1}^l c_{rij}^2 e_i^T(t) P W^{-1} P e_i(t) \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^l \left(\int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds \right)^T
\end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \times W \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds \\
 & = l \sum_{i=1}^l c_{rij}^2 e_i^T(t) P W^{-1} P e_i(t) \\
 & \quad + \left(\int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds \right)^T \\
 & \quad \times W \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds.
 \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \frac{l(1-\tau_2(t))}{1-\tau_2} \sum_{j=1}^m G^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t))) G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t))) \\
 & \quad + 2 \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m e_i^T(t) P b_{rij} G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t))) \\
 & \leq - \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m G^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t))) G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t))) \\
 & \quad + 2 \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m e_i^T(t) P b_{rij} G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t))) \\
 & = - \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m (b_{rij} P e_i(t) - G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t))))^T \\
 & \quad \times (b_{rij} P e_i(t) - G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t-\tau_2(t)))) \\
 & \quad + \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij}^2 e_i^T(t) P^2 e_i(t), \\
 & \leq \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij}^2 e_i^T(t) P^2 e_i(t).
 \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

Using inequality

$$\int_0^\infty f^2(s) ds \int_0^\infty g^2(s) ds \geq \left(\int_0^\infty f(s) g(s) ds \right)^2, \tag{29}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \int_0^\infty h_i(\theta) K_i^2(\varepsilon_{ji}(t-\theta)) d\theta \\
 & \geq \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \left(\int_0^\infty h_i(\theta) K_i(\varepsilon_{ji}(t-\theta)) d\theta \right)^2 \\
 & = \left(\int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds \right)^T \\
 & \quad \times W \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds.
 \end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

Using Lemma 2 and condition (17), we get

$$-e^T(t) P \frac{\|\bar{G}(\dot{\varepsilon}_i(t))\|^2}{\|e_i(t)\|^2} e(t) \leq -p \bar{G}^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_i(t)) \bar{G}(\dot{\varepsilon}_i(t)). \tag{31}$$

Substituting (20) into (24) and combining (24)–(31), it can be derived by condition (18) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_1 & \leq \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\
 & \times \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t) \Omega_{ri} e_i(t) \right. \\
 & \quad + \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t-\tau(t)) [L_2 M_2 L_2 - (1-\tau) Q] \\
 & \quad \times e_i(t-\tau(t)) \\
 & \quad + \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(s) (IU + L_3 H W H L_3) \varepsilon_j(s) \\
 & \quad + \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t-\tau_1(t)) [LM_3 - l(1-\tau_1) U] \\
 & \quad \times \varepsilon_j(t-\tau_1(t)) \\
 & \quad + \frac{l}{1-\tau_2} \sum_{j=1}^m G^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) \\
 & \quad \left. - 2\alpha p \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{G}^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_i(t)) \bar{G}(\dot{\varepsilon}_i(t)) \right\} \\
 & \leq \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\
 & \times \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t) \Omega_{ri} e_i(t) \right. \\
 & \quad + \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t) (IU + L_3 H W H L_3) \varepsilon_j(t) \\
 & \quad + \frac{l}{1-\tau_2} \sum_{j=1}^m G^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) \\
 & \quad \left. - 2\alpha p \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{G}^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_i(t)) \bar{G}(\dot{\varepsilon}_i(t)) \right\}, \tag{32}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\Omega_j = -2PD_r + PR_{r1}M_1^{-1}R_{r1}^TP + L_1M_1L_1 + PR_{r2}M_2^{-1}R_{r2}^TP + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{rij}^2 PM_3^{-1}P + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij}^2 P^2 + l \sum_{j=1}^m c_{rij}^2 PW^{-1}P - 2\gamma_i P + Q$.

Meanwhile, by a similar process, the following inequality can be true:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_2 \leq & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t) \bar{\Omega}_{rj} \varepsilon_j(t) \right. \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t) (m\bar{U} + \bar{L}_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3) e_i(t) \quad (33) \\ & + \frac{m}{1 - \sigma_2} \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{G}^T(\dot{e}_i(t)) \bar{G}(\dot{e}_i(t)) \\ & \left. - 2\beta \bar{P} \sum_{j=1}^m \bar{G}^T(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) \bar{G}(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t)) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{\Omega}_j = -2\bar{P}\bar{D}_r + \bar{P}\bar{R}_{r1}\bar{M}_1^{-1}\bar{R}_{r1}^T\bar{P} + \bar{L}_1\bar{M}_1\bar{L}_1 + \bar{P}\bar{R}_{r2}\bar{M}_2^{-1}\bar{R}_{r2}^T\bar{P} + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{rij}^2 \bar{P}\bar{M}_3^{-1}\bar{P} + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{rji}^2 \bar{P}^2 + m\sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{rji}^2 \bar{P}\bar{W}^{-1}\bar{P} - 2\eta_j \bar{P} + \bar{Q}$.

By condition (17), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V} \leq & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[\sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t) (\Omega_{ri} + m\bar{U} + \bar{L}_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3) e_i(t) \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t) (\bar{\Omega}_{rj} + lU + L_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3) \varepsilon_j(t) \right]. \quad (34) \end{aligned}$$

By (15)-(16) and Lemma 3 (Schur complement), it can be obtained that $\Omega_{ri} + m\bar{U} + \bar{L}_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3 < 0$, $\bar{\Omega}_{rj} + lU + L_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3 < 0$. Set $\rho = \min\{\rho_1, \rho_2\}$, where

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_1 = & -\min \left\{ \rho_{\min}(\Omega_{ri} + m\bar{U} + \bar{L}_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3), \right. \\ & \left. r \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq i \leq l \right\}, \\ \rho_2 = & -\min \left\{ \rho_{\min}(\bar{\Omega}_{rj} + lU + L_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3), \right. \\ & \left. r \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq j \leq m \right\}, \quad (35) \end{aligned}$$

then $\rho > 0$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V} \leq & -\rho_1 \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t) e_i(t) - \rho_2 \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t) \varepsilon_j(t) \\ & \leq -\rho E^T(t) E(t). \quad (36) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, V is nonincreasing in $t \geq 0$. One has V bounded since $0 \leq V(t, E(t)) \leq V(0, E(0))$, so $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} V(t, E(t))$ exists and

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t E^T(s) E(s) ds \\ & \leq -\frac{1}{\rho} \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t \frac{dV}{ds} ds \quad (37) \\ & = \frac{1}{\rho} V(0, E(0)) - \frac{1}{\rho} \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} V(t, E(t)). \end{aligned}$$

From (22)-(23) and conditions $P \geq pI$, $\bar{P} \geq \bar{p}I$ and we have $0 \leq E^T(t)E(t) \leq \max\{1/p, 1/\bar{p}\}V(t, E(t))$, so $E^T(t)E(t)$ is bounded. According to error system (6), $(d/dt)E^T(t)E(t) = 2E^T(t)\dot{E}(t)$ is bounded for $t \geq 0$ due to the boundedness of activation functions. From the above we can see that $E(t) \in L^2 \cap L^\infty$ and $(d/dt)E^T(t)E(t) \in L^\infty$. By using Barbálat lemma (see [36]), one has $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} E^T(t)E(t) = 0$, so the two SBNNs (4) and (5) can obtain synchronization under the controllers (20). This completes the proof. \square

We take CBDN (1) as drive network. The response network of the drive network (1) is

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x}_i(t) = & -D\hat{x}_i(t) + R_1 f_1(\hat{x}_i(t)) + R_2 f_2(\hat{x}_i(t - \tau(t))) \\ & + I(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \hat{y}_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{ij} g(\hat{y}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{ij} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) k(\hat{y}_j(s)) ds + u_i(t), \\ \hat{y}_j(t) = & -\bar{D}\hat{y}_j(t) + \bar{R}_1 \bar{f}_1(\hat{y}_j(t)) + \bar{R}_2 \bar{f}_2(\hat{y}_j(t - \sigma(t))) \\ & + J(t) + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{ji} \hat{x}_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{ji} \bar{g}(\hat{x}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{ji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s) \bar{k}(\hat{x}_i(s)) ds + v_j(t), \quad (38) \end{aligned}$$

where $u_i(t), v_j(t) \in R^n$ are the control inputs.

From Theorem 4, we can get the following corollary.

Corollary 5. Under assumptions (S₁)–(S₄), the two coupled CBDNs (1) and (38) can be synchronized, if there exist positive constants $\alpha, \beta, p, \bar{p}, \gamma_i, \eta_j$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, l, j = 1, 2, \dots, m$), $n \times n$ positive matrices $P, Q, U, \bar{P}, \bar{Q}, \bar{U}$ and $n \times n$ diagonal positive matrices $W = \text{diag}(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n), \bar{W} = \text{diag}(\bar{w}_1, \bar{w}_2, \dots, \bar{w}_n), M_i, \bar{M}_i$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} Z_i & PR_1 & PR_2 & \left(\sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij}^2\right)^{1/2} & P & \left(\sum_{j=1}^m b_{ij}^2\right)^{1/2} & P & \left(\sum_{j=1}^m c_{ij}^2\right)^{1/2} & P \\ * & -M_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & -M_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & -M_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & -I_n & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & -W \end{bmatrix} < 0,$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{Z}_j & \bar{P}\bar{R}_1 & \bar{P}\bar{R}_2 & \left(\sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{ji}^2\right)^{1/2} & \bar{P} & \left(\sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{ji}^2\right)^{1/2} & \bar{P} & \left(\sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{ji}^2\right)^{1/2} & \bar{P} \\ * & -\bar{M}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & -\bar{M}_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & -\bar{M}_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & -I_n & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & -\bar{W} \end{bmatrix} < 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{m}{1 - \sigma_2} - 2\alpha p &\leq 0, & P &\geq pI_n, & \bar{P} &\geq \bar{p}I_n, \\ \frac{l}{1 - \tau_2} - 2\beta \bar{p} &\leq 0, \\ L_2 M_2 L_2 - (1 - \tau) Q &\leq 0, & M_3 - (1 - \tau_1) U &\leq 0, \\ \bar{L}_2 \bar{M}_2 \bar{L}_2 - (1 - \sigma) \bar{Q} &\leq 0, & \bar{M}_3 - (1 - \sigma_1) \bar{U} &\leq 0, \end{aligned} \tag{39}$$

and the adaptive feedback controllers are designed as

$$\begin{aligned} u_i(t) &= -[\gamma_i + \alpha_i(t)] e_i(t), \\ v_j(t) &= -[\eta_j + \beta_j(t)] \varepsilon_j(t), \\ \alpha_i(t) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\|\bar{G}(\dot{e}_i(t))\|^2}{\|e_i(t)\|^2} \alpha, & \|e_i(t)\|^2 \neq 0, \\ 0, & \|e_i(t)\|^2 = 0, \end{cases} \\ \beta_j(t) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\|G(\dot{\varepsilon}_j(t))\|^2}{\|\varepsilon_j(t)\|^2} \beta, & \|\varepsilon_j(t)\|^2 \neq 0, \\ 0, & \|\varepsilon_j(t)\|^2 = 0, \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

where $Z_i = -2PD + \bar{L}_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3 + L_1 M_1 L_1 + m\bar{U} - 2\gamma_i P + Q, \bar{Z}_j = -2\bar{P}\bar{D} + L_3 H W H L_3 + \bar{L}_1 \bar{M}_1 \bar{L}_1 + lU - 2\eta_j \bar{P} + \bar{Q}, i = 1, 2, \dots, l, j = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Remark 6. From Corollary 5, we can easily get that the controllers in this paper are simpler than those of Theorem 1 in [29].

Remark 7. If the coupling matrix of the SCBNN is not a diffusive matrix satisfying the sum of every row being zero, we can still obtain the same result from the proof of Theorem 4.

Theorem 8 presents another sufficient condition to ascertain that the two networks (4) and (5) can be synchronized, using the following simple adaptive feedback controllers:

$$\begin{aligned} u_i(t) &= -\gamma_i e_i(t), \\ v_j(t) &= -\bar{\gamma}_j \varepsilon_j(t), \end{aligned} \tag{41}$$

where $i = 1, 2, \dots, l, j = 1, 2, \dots, m, \gamma_i$, and $\bar{\gamma}_j$ are positive constants.

Let

$$e(t) = (e_1^T(t), e_2^T(t), \dots, e_l^T(t))^T,$$

$$\varepsilon(t) = (\varepsilon_1^T(t), \varepsilon_2^T(t), \dots, \varepsilon_m^T(t))^T,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{F}_k(e(t)) &= (F_k^T(e_1(t)), F_k^T(e_2(t)), \dots, F_k^T(e_l(t)))^T, \\ & k = 1, 2, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{F}_k(e(t)) &= (\bar{F}_k^T(\varepsilon_1(t)), \bar{F}_k^T(\varepsilon_2(t)), \dots, \bar{F}_k^T(\varepsilon_m(t)))^T, \\ & k = 1, 2, \end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{G}(\dot{e}(t)) = (G^T(\dot{e}_1(t)), G^T(\dot{e}_2(t)), \dots, G^T(\dot{e}_l(t)))^T,$$

$$\widehat{G}(\dot{e}(t)) = (\bar{G}^T(\dot{e}_1(t)), \bar{G}^T(\dot{e}_2(t)), \dots, \bar{G}^T(\dot{e}_l(t)))^T,$$

$$\bar{K}(\varepsilon(t)) = (K^T(\varepsilon_1(t)), K^T(\varepsilon_2(t)), \dots, K^T(\varepsilon_m(t)))^T,$$

$$\widehat{K}(e(t)) = (\bar{K}^T(e_1(t)), \bar{K}^T(e_2(t)), \dots, \bar{K}^T(e_l(t)))^T,$$

$$\tilde{\Gamma} = -\text{diag}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_l),$$

$$\widehat{\Gamma} = -\text{diag}(\bar{\gamma}_1, \bar{\gamma}_2, \dots, \bar{\gamma}_m), \tag{42}$$

then the error dynamical system of (6) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{e}(t) &= \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ &\times \left[-(I_l \otimes D_r) e(t) + (I_l \otimes R_{r1}) \tilde{F}_1(e(t)) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (I_l \otimes R_{r2}) \tilde{F}_2(e(t - \tau(t))) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + (A_r \otimes I_n) \varepsilon(t - \tau_1(t)) & + (\bar{B}_r \otimes I_n) \widehat{G}(\dot{e}(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\
 & + (B_r \otimes I_n) \widehat{G}(\dot{e}(t - \tau_2(t))) & + (\bar{C}_r \otimes I_n) \int_{-\infty}^t (I_l \otimes h(t-s)) \widehat{K}(e(s)) ds \\
 & + (C_r \otimes I_n) \int_{-\infty}^t (I_m \otimes h(t-s)) \widehat{K}(\varepsilon(s)) ds & + (\widehat{\Gamma} \otimes I_n) \varepsilon(t)], \\
 & + (\widetilde{\Gamma} \otimes I_n) e(t),
 \end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{\varepsilon}(t) &= \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\
 &\times \left[- (I_m \otimes \bar{D}) \varepsilon(t) + (I_m \otimes \bar{R}_{r1}) \widehat{F}_1(\varepsilon(t)) \right. \\
 &\quad + (I_m \otimes \bar{R}_{r2}) \widehat{F}_2(\varepsilon(t - \sigma(t))) \\
 &\quad \left. + (\bar{A}_r \otimes I_n) e(t - \sigma_1(t)) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 8. Under assumptions (S₁)–(S₄) and using the adaptive feedback controllers (41), the two coupled SCBNNs (4) and (5) can be synchronized, if there exist $n \times n$ positive matrices P, U, \bar{P}, \bar{U} and $n \times n$ diagonal positive matrices $W = \text{diag}(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n), \bar{W} = \text{diag}(\bar{w}_1, \bar{w}_2, \dots, \bar{w}_n), Q, V, M, \bar{Q}, \bar{V}, \bar{M}$ such that for $r \in \mathbb{N}$, the following matrix inequalities hold:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Omega_r &= \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{r1} & \Psi_{r2} & \Psi_{r3} & \Psi_{r4} & \Psi_{r5} & \Psi_{r6} \\ * & \Psi_{r7} & I_l \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T \bar{V} \bar{R}_{r2}) & A_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T \bar{V}) & B_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T \bar{V}) & C_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T \bar{V}) \\ * & * & \Psi_{r8} & A_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r2}^T \bar{V}) & B_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r2}^T \bar{V}) & C_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r2}^T \bar{V}) \\ * & * & * & \Psi_{r9} & (A_r^T B_r) \otimes \bar{V} & (A_r^T C_r) \otimes \bar{V} \\ * & * & * & * & \Psi_{r10} & (B_r^T C_r) \otimes \bar{V} \\ * & * & * & * & * & \Psi_{r11} \end{pmatrix} < 0, \\
 \bar{\Omega}_r &= \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\Psi}_{r1} & \bar{\Psi}_{r2} & \bar{\Psi}_{r3} & \bar{\Psi}_{r4} & \bar{\Psi}_{r5} & \bar{\Psi}_{r6} \\ * & \bar{\Psi}_{r7} & I_l \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T V \bar{R}_{r2}) & \bar{A}_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T V) & \bar{B}_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T V) & \bar{C}_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T V) \\ * & * & \bar{\Psi}_{r8} & \bar{A}_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r2}^T V) & \bar{B}_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r2}^T V) & \bar{C}_r \otimes (\bar{R}_{r2}^T V) \\ * & * & * & \bar{\Psi}_{r9} & (\bar{B}_r) \otimes V & (\bar{A}_r^T \bar{C}_r) \otimes V \\ * & * & * & * & \bar{\Psi}_{r10} & \bar{B}_r^T \bar{C}_r \otimes V \\ * & * & * & * & * & \bar{\Psi}_{r11} \end{pmatrix} < 0,
 \end{aligned} \tag{44}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi_{r1} &= I_l \otimes (-PD_r - D_r^T P + Q + \bar{U} \\
 &\quad + \bar{L}_3 \bar{H} \bar{W} \bar{H} \bar{L}_3 + L_1 M L_1 + D_r^T \bar{V} D_r) \\
 &\quad + 2\Gamma \otimes P + \Gamma^2 \otimes \bar{V} - \Gamma \otimes (D_r^T \bar{V} + \bar{V} D_r), \\
 \Psi_{r2} &= \Gamma \otimes (\bar{V} \bar{R}_{r1}) + I_l \otimes (P \bar{R}_{r1} - D_r^T \bar{V} \bar{R}_{r1}), \\
 \Psi_{r3} &= I_l \otimes (P \bar{R}_{r2} - D_r^T \bar{V} \bar{R}_{r2}) + \Gamma \otimes \bar{V} \bar{R}_{r2}, \\
 \Psi_{r4} &= (\Gamma A_r) \otimes \bar{V} + A_r \otimes (P - D_r^T \bar{V}), \\
 \Psi_{r5} &= (\Gamma B_r) \otimes \bar{V} + B_r \otimes (P - D_r^T \bar{V}), \\
 \Psi_{r6} &= (\Gamma C_r) \otimes \bar{V} + C_r \otimes (P - D_r^T \bar{V}), \\
 \Psi_{r7} &= I_l \otimes (\bar{R}_{r1}^T \bar{V} \bar{R}_{r1} - M), \\
 \Psi_{r8} &= I_l \otimes [\bar{R}_{r2}^T \bar{V} \bar{R}_{r2} - (1 - \tau) L_2^{-1} Q L_2^{-1}],
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi_{r9} &= (A_r^T A_r) \otimes \bar{V} - (1 - \tau_1) (I_m \otimes U), \\
 \Psi_{r10} &= (B_r^T B_r) \otimes \bar{V} - (1 - \tau_2) (I_m \otimes (L_4^{-1} V L_4^{-1})), \\
 \Psi_{r11} &= (C_r^T C_r) \otimes \bar{V} - I_m \otimes \bar{W}, \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r1} &= I_m \otimes (-\bar{P} \bar{D}_r - \bar{D}_r^T \bar{P} + \bar{Q} + U + L_3 H W H L_3 \\
 &\quad + \bar{L}_1 \bar{M} \bar{L}_1 + \bar{D}_r^T V \bar{D}_r) \\
 &\quad + 2\bar{\Gamma} \otimes \bar{P} + \bar{\Gamma}^2 \otimes V - \bar{\Gamma} \otimes (\bar{D}_r^T V + V \bar{D}_r), \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r2} &= \bar{\Gamma} \otimes (V \bar{R}_{r1}) + I_m \otimes (\bar{P} \bar{R}_{r1} - \bar{D}_r^T V \bar{R}_{r1}), \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r3} &= I_m \otimes (\bar{P} \bar{R}_{r2} - \bar{D}_r^T V \bar{R}_{r2}) + \bar{\Gamma} \otimes V \bar{R}_{r2}, \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r4} &= (\bar{\Gamma} \bar{A}_r) \otimes V + \bar{A}_r \otimes (\bar{P} - \bar{D}_r^T V), \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r5} &= (\bar{\Gamma} \bar{B}_r) \otimes V + \bar{B}_r \otimes (\bar{P} - \bar{D}_r^T V), \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r6} &= (\bar{\Gamma} \bar{C}_r) \otimes V + \bar{C}_r \otimes (\bar{P} - \bar{D}_r^T V),
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{\Psi}_{r7} &= I_m \otimes \left(\bar{R}_{r1}^T V \bar{R}_{r1} - \bar{M} \right), \\
 \bar{\Psi}_8 &= I_m \otimes \left[\bar{R}_{r2}^T V \bar{R}_{r2} - (1 - \sigma) \bar{L}_2^{-1} \bar{Q} \bar{L}_2^{-1} \right], \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r9} &= \left(\bar{A}_r^T \bar{A}_r \right) \otimes V - (1 - \sigma_1) \left(I_l \otimes \bar{U} \right), \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r10} &= \left(\bar{B}_r^T \bar{B}_r \right) \otimes V - (1 - \sigma_2) \left(I_l \otimes \left(\bar{L}_4^{-1} \bar{V} \bar{L}_4 \right) \right), \\
 \bar{\Psi}_{r11} &= \left(\bar{C}_r^T \bar{C}_r \right) \otimes V - I_l \otimes W.
 \end{aligned} \tag{45}$$

Proof. For the error dynamical system (43), we define the following Lyapunov-Krasovskii function:

$$V(t, e(t), \varepsilon(t)) = V_1(t, e(t), \varepsilon(t)) + V_2(t, e(t), \varepsilon(t)),$$

$$V_1 = e^T(t) (I_l \otimes P) e(t) + \int_{t-\tau(t)}^t e^T(s) (I_l \otimes Q) e(s) ds$$

$$+ \int_{t-\tau_1(t)}^t \varepsilon^T(s) (I_m \otimes U) \varepsilon(s) ds$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \int_0^\infty h_i(\theta)$$

$$\times \int_{t-\theta}^t K_i^2(\varepsilon_{ji}(s)) ds d\theta$$

$$+ \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t \dot{\varepsilon}^T(s) (I_m \otimes V) \dot{\varepsilon}(s) ds,$$

$$V_2 = \varepsilon^T(t) (I_m \otimes \bar{P}) \varepsilon(t)$$

$$+ \int_{t-\sigma(t)}^t \varepsilon^T(s) (I_m \otimes \bar{Q}) \varepsilon(s) ds$$

$$+ \int_{t-\sigma_1(t)}^t e^T(s) (I_l \otimes \bar{U}) e(s) ds$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{w}_j \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_j(v) dv \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_j(\theta)$$

$$\times \int_{t-\theta}^t \bar{K}_j(e_{ij}(s)) ds d\theta$$

$$+ \int_{t-\sigma_2(t)}^t \dot{e}^T(s) (I_l \otimes \bar{V}) \dot{e}(s) ds,$$

$$\dot{V}_1 = e^T(t) (I_l \otimes P) \dot{e}(t) + \dot{e}^T(t) (I_l \otimes P) e(t)$$

$$+ e^T(t) (I_l \otimes Q) e(t) - (1 - \dot{\tau}(t)) e^T(t - \tau(t))$$

$$\times (I_l \otimes Q) e(t - \tau(t)) + \varepsilon^T(t) (I_m \otimes U) \varepsilon(t)$$

$$- (1 - \dot{\tau}_1(t)) \varepsilon^T(t - \tau_1(t)) (I_m \otimes U) \varepsilon(t - \tau_1(t))$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \left(K_i(\varepsilon_{ji}(t)) \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \right)^2 \\
 &- \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \int_0^\infty h_i(\theta) K_i^2(\varepsilon_{ji}(t - \theta)) d\theta \\
 &+ \dot{\varepsilon}^T(t) (I_m \otimes V) \dot{\varepsilon}(t) \\
 &- (1 - \dot{\tau}_2(t)) \dot{\varepsilon}^T(t - \tau_2(t)) (I_m \otimes V) \dot{\varepsilon}(t - \tau_2(t)), \\
 \dot{V}_2 &= \varepsilon^T(t) (I_m \otimes \bar{P}) \dot{\varepsilon}(t) + \dot{\varepsilon}^T(t) (I_m \otimes \bar{P}) \varepsilon(t) \\
 &+ \varepsilon(t) (I_m \otimes \bar{Q}) \varepsilon(t) - (1 - \dot{\sigma}(t)) \varepsilon(t - \sigma(t)) \\
 &\times (I_m \otimes \bar{Q}) \varepsilon(t - \sigma(t)) + e^T(t) (I_l \otimes \bar{U}) e(t) \\
 &- (1 - \dot{\sigma}_1(t)) e^T(t - \sigma_1(t)) (I_l \otimes \bar{U}) e(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\
 &+ \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{w}_j \left(\bar{K}_j(e_{ij}(t)) \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_j(v) dv \right)^2 \\
 &- \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{w}_j \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_j(v) dv \int_0^\infty \bar{h}_j(\theta) \bar{K}_j^2(e_{ij}(t - \theta)) d\theta \\
 &+ \dot{e}^T(t) (I_l \otimes \bar{V}) \dot{e}(t) - (1 - \dot{\sigma}_2(t)) \dot{e}^T(t - \sigma_2(t)) \\
 &\times (I_l \otimes \bar{V}) \dot{e}(t - \sigma_2(t)).
 \end{aligned} \tag{46}$$

By (26), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \left(K_i(\varepsilon_{ji}(t)) \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \right)^2 \\
 &\leq \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t) L_3 H W H L_3 \varepsilon_j(t) \\
 &= \varepsilon^T(t) (I_m \otimes (L_3 H W H L_3)) \varepsilon(t).
 \end{aligned} \tag{47}$$

Using (30), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \int_0^\infty h_i(v) dv \int_0^\infty h_i(\theta) K_i^2(\varepsilon_{ji}(s)(t - \theta)) d\theta \\
 &\geq \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds \right)^T \\
 &\quad \times W \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) K(\varepsilon_j(s)) ds \\
 &= \left(\int_{-\infty}^t (I_m \otimes h(t-s)) \bar{K}(\varepsilon(s)) ds \right)^T (I_m \otimes W) \\
 &\quad \times \int_{-\infty}^t (I_m \otimes h(t-s)) \bar{K}(\varepsilon(s)) ds.
 \end{aligned} \tag{48}$$

From (S₃) and (46)–(48), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V}_1 \leq & e^T(t)(I_l \otimes P)\dot{e}(t) + \dot{e}^T(t)(I_l \otimes P)e(t) \\
& + e^T(t)(I_l \otimes Q)e(t) - (1 - \tau)e^T(t - \tau(t)) \\
& \times (I_l \otimes Q)e(t - \tau(t)) \\
& + \dot{\varepsilon}^T(t)[I_m \otimes (U + L_3HWHL_3)]\varepsilon(t) \\
& - (1 - \tau_1)\varepsilon^T(t - \tau_1(t))(I_m \otimes U)\varepsilon(t - \tau_1(t)) \\
& - \left(\int_{-\infty}^t (I_m \otimes h(t-s))\bar{K}(\varepsilon(s))ds \right)^T (I_m \otimes W) \\
& \times \int_{-\infty}^t (I_m \otimes h(t-s))\bar{K}(\varepsilon(s))ds \\
& + \dot{\varepsilon}^T(t)(I_m \otimes V)\dot{\varepsilon}(t) - (1 - \tau_2)\dot{\varepsilon}^T(t - \tau_2(t)) \\
& \times (I_m \otimes V)\dot{\varepsilon}(t - \tau_2(t)).
\end{aligned} \tag{49}$$

In the same way, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V}_2 \leq & \varepsilon^T(t)(I_m \otimes \bar{P})\dot{\varepsilon}(t) + \dot{\varepsilon}^T(t)(I_l \otimes \bar{P})\varepsilon(t) \\
& + \varepsilon^T(t)(I_m \otimes \bar{Q})\varepsilon(t) - (1 - \sigma)\varepsilon^T(t - \sigma(t)) \\
& \times (I_m \otimes \bar{Q})\varepsilon(t - \sigma(t)) \\
& + e^T(t)[I_l \otimes (\bar{U} + \bar{L}_3\bar{H}\bar{W}\bar{H}\bar{L}_3)]e(t) \\
& - (1 - \sigma_1)e^T(t - \sigma_1(t))(I_l \otimes \bar{U})e(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\
& - \left(\int_{-\infty}^t (I_l \otimes \bar{h}(t-s))\bar{K}(e(s))ds \right)^T (I_l \otimes \bar{W}) \\
& \times \int_{-\infty}^t (I_l \otimes \bar{h}(t-s))\bar{K}(e(s))ds \\
& + \dot{e}^T(t)(I_l \otimes \bar{V})\dot{e}(t) - (1 - \sigma_2)\dot{e}^T(t - \sigma_2(t)) \\
& \times (I_l \otimes \bar{V})\dot{e}(t - \sigma_2(t)).
\end{aligned} \tag{50}$$

From (S₁) and (S₂),

$$\begin{aligned}
& e^T(t)[I_l \otimes (L_1ML_1)]e(t) \\
& - \tilde{F}_1^T(e(t))(I_l \otimes M)\tilde{F}_1(e(t)) \geq 0, \\
& \varepsilon^T(t)[I_m \otimes (\bar{L}_1\bar{M}\bar{L}_1)]\varepsilon(t) \\
& - \tilde{F}_1^T(\varepsilon(t))(I_m \otimes \bar{M})\tilde{F}_1(\varepsilon(t)) \geq 0, \\
& e^T(t - \tau(t))(I_l \otimes Q)e(t - \tau(t)) \\
& \geq \tilde{F}_2^T(e(t - \tau(t)))[I_l \otimes (L_2^{-1}QL_2^{-1})]\tilde{F}_2(e(t - \tau(t))),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \varepsilon^T(t - \sigma(t))(I_m \otimes \bar{Q})\varepsilon(t - \sigma(t)) \\
& \geq \tilde{F}_2^T(\varepsilon(t - \sigma(t)))[I_m \otimes (\bar{L}_2^{-1}\bar{Q}\bar{L}_2^{-1})]\tilde{F}_2(\varepsilon(t - \sigma(t))), \\
& \dot{e}^T(t - \tau_2(t))(I_m \otimes V)\dot{e}(t - \tau_2(t)) \\
& \geq \tilde{G}^T(\dot{e}(t - \tau_2(t)))(I_m \otimes (L_4^{-1}VL_4^{-1}))\tilde{G}(\dot{e}(t - \tau_2(t))), \\
& \dot{e}^T(t - \sigma_2(t))(I_l \otimes \bar{V})\dot{e}(t - \sigma_2(t)) \\
& \geq \tilde{G}^T(\dot{e}(t - \sigma_2(t)))(I_l \otimes (\bar{L}_4^{-1}\bar{V}\bar{L}_4^{-1}))\tilde{G}(\dot{e}(t - \sigma_2(t))).
\end{aligned} \tag{51}$$

With the aid of (43) and (51), we have

$$\dot{V} \leq \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) [\eta^T(t)\Omega_r\eta(t) + \bar{\eta}^T(t)\bar{\Omega}_r\bar{\eta}(t)], \tag{52}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\eta(t) = & \left(e^T(t), \tilde{F}_1^T(e(t)), \tilde{F}_2^T(e(t - \tau(t))), e^T(t - \tau_1(t)), \right. \\
& \left. \tilde{G}^T(\dot{e}(t - \tau_2(t))), \right. \\
& \left. \left(\int_{-\infty}^t (I_m \otimes h(t-s))\bar{K}(\varepsilon(s))ds \right)^T \right)^T, \\
\bar{\eta}(t) = & \left(\varepsilon^T(t), \tilde{F}_1^T(\varepsilon(t)), \tilde{F}_2^T(\varepsilon(t - \sigma(t))), e^T(t - \sigma_1(t)), \right. \\
& \left. \tilde{G}^T(\dot{e}(t - \sigma_2(t))), \right. \\
& \left. \left(\int_{-\infty}^t (I_l \otimes \bar{h}(t-s))\bar{K}(e(s))ds \right)^T \right)^T.
\end{aligned} \tag{53}$$

Let $\rho = \min\{\rho_1, \rho_2\}$, where $\rho_1 = -\min\{\rho_{\min}(\Omega_r), r \in \mathbb{N}\}$, $\rho_2 = -\min\{\rho_{\min}(\bar{\Omega}_r), r \in \mathbb{N}\}$, then $\rho > 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V} \leq & -\rho_1 \sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t)e_i(t) - \rho_2 \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t)\varepsilon_j(t) \\
& \leq -\rho \left[\sum_{i=1}^l e_i^T(t)e_i(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m \varepsilon_j^T(t)\varepsilon_j(t) \right].
\end{aligned} \tag{54}$$

The following proof is similar to that of Theorem 4 and is omitted here. \square

4. Simulations

In this section, numerical examples are provided to demonstrate the validity of the synchronization criteria obtained

in the previous sections. Consider the following network as drive network:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_i(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-D_r x_i + R_{r1} f_1(x_i(t)) \right. \\ & + R_{r2} f_2(x_i(t - \tau(t))) \\ & + I_r + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{rj} y_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rj} g(\dot{y}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{rj} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) k(y_j(s)) ds \right], \\ & i = 12, \dots, l, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y}_j(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-\bar{D}_r y_j + \bar{R}_{r1} \bar{f}_1(y_j(t)) \right. \\ & + \bar{R}_{r2} \bar{f}_2(y_j(t - \sigma(t))) \\ & + J_r + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{rji} x_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{rji} \bar{g}(\dot{x}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{rji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s) \bar{k}(x_i(s)) ds \right], \\ & j = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{aligned} \tag{55}$$

where $x_i(t), y_j(t) \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $l = 3$, and $m = 3$. $f_1(z(t)) = 0.1(\tanh(z_1(t)), \tanh(z_2(t)))^T$, $z(t) = (z_1(t), z_2(t))^T$, $\bar{f}_1 = g = \bar{g} = k = \bar{k} = f_2 = \bar{f}_2 = f_1$, and $h(t) = \bar{h}(t) = \text{diag}(e^{-t}, e^{-t})$. Choose time delays $\tau(t) = 1 + 0.4 \sin t$, $\tau_1(t) = 2 + 0.2 \arctan(t)$, $\tau_2(t) = 0.6 + 0.5 \cos t$, and $\sigma(t) = 1 + 0.8 \sin t$, $\sigma_1(t) = 0.7 + 0.1 \cos t$, $\sigma_2(t) = 0.5 + (0.3e^t/(1 + e^t))$. We define a switching rule $\lambda : t \in [0, +\infty) \rightarrow \{1, 2\}$, $\lambda(t) = \text{int}(t) \bmod 2 + 1$. The other parameters are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 = & \begin{pmatrix} 1.8 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, & R_{11} = & \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0.2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ R_{12} = & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 \\ 0.6 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, & I_1 = J_1 = & (1, 2)^T, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 = (a_{1ij}) = & \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ B_1 = (b_{1ij}) = & \begin{pmatrix} -0.2 & 0 & -0.2 \\ 0.1 & -0.4 & 0.3 \\ 0.2 & 0.1 & -0.3 \end{pmatrix}, \\ C_1 = (c_{1ij}) = & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{D}_1 = & \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{R}_{11} = & \begin{pmatrix} -0.3 & 1 \\ 0.2 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{R}_{12} = & \begin{pmatrix} 0.3 & 0.4 \\ 0.6 & -0.5 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{A}_1 = (\bar{a}_{1ji}) = & \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{B}_1 = (\bar{b}_{1ji}) = & \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 & 0 & -0.1 \\ 0.2 & -0.3 & 0.1 \\ 0.1 & 0.2 & -0.2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{C}_1 = (\bar{c}_{1ji}) = & \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ -4 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \\ D_2 = & \begin{pmatrix} 1.4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1.4 \end{pmatrix}, & R_{21} = & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -5 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \\ R_{22} = & \begin{pmatrix} -1.5 & -0.1 \\ -3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, & A_2 = (a_{2ij}) = & \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 1.2 & 1 & -2.2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ B_2 = (b_{2ij}) = & \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 & -0.1 & 0 \\ 0.1 & -0.5 & 0.4 \\ 0.2 & 0 & -0.2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ C_2 = (c_{2ij}) = & \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{D}_2 = & \begin{pmatrix} 1.2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1.2 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{R}_{21} = & \begin{pmatrix} -0.3 & 1 \\ -4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{R}_{22} = & \begin{pmatrix} 0.3 & 0.4 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, & I_2 = J_2 = & (3, 4)^T, \\ \bar{A}_2 = (\bar{a}_{2ji}) = & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{B}_2 = (\bar{b}_{2ji}) = & \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & -0.2 & 0 \\ 0.1 & -0.2 & 0.1 \\ 0.3 & 0.1 & -0.4 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{C}_2 = (\bar{c}_{2ji}) = & \begin{pmatrix} -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{56}$$

The response network of drive network (55) is

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{x}}_i(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-D_r \hat{x}_i(t) + R_{r1} f_1(\hat{x}_i(t)) \right. \\ & + R_{r2} f_2(\hat{x}_i(t - \tau(t))) \\ & + I_r + \sum_{j=1}^m a_{rij} \hat{y}_j(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{rij} g(\hat{y}_j(t - \tau_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{j=1}^m c_{rij} \int_{-\infty}^t h(t-s) k(\hat{y}_j(s)) ds + u_i(t) \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{y}}_j(t) = & \sum_{r=1}^N \xi_r(t, \lambda) \\ & \times \left[-\bar{D}_r \hat{y}_j(t) + \bar{R}_{r1} \bar{f}_1(\hat{y}_j(t)) \right. \\ & + \bar{R}_{r2} \bar{f}_2(\hat{y}_j(t - \sigma(t))) \\ & + J_r + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{a}_{rji} \hat{x}_i(t - \sigma_1(t)) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{b}_{rji} \bar{g}(\hat{x}_i(t - \sigma_2(t))) \\ & \left. + \sum_{i=1}^l \bar{c}_{rji} \int_{-\infty}^t \bar{h}(t-s) \bar{k}(\hat{x}_i(s)) ds + v_j(t) \right], \end{aligned} \tag{57}$$

where $u_i(t), v_j(t) \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

Let $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \gamma_3 = 15, \eta_1 = \eta_2 = \eta_3 = 16, \alpha = 0.5, \beta = 0.5$, and the feasible solution of the matrix inequalities (15)–(19) by employing MATLAB LMI Toolbox be as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 7.5267, & \bar{p} &= 7.8951, \\ P &= \begin{pmatrix} 12.9508 & 0.2817 \\ 0.2817 & 10.7871 \end{pmatrix}, & Q &= \begin{pmatrix} 83.6405 & 3.6674 \\ 3.6674 & 68.8593 \end{pmatrix}, \\ U &= \begin{pmatrix} 119.1080 & 0.2216 \\ 0.2216 & 55.7869 \end{pmatrix}, \\ W &= \begin{pmatrix} 233.7870 & 0 \\ 0 & 223.7801 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 227.1153 & 0 \\ 0 & 202.1669 \end{pmatrix}, \\ M_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 206.3034 & 0 \\ 0 & 217.8341 \end{pmatrix}, \\ M_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 86.9723 & 0 \\ 0 & 41.4980 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{P} &= \begin{pmatrix} 19.4548 & 0.0336 \\ 0.0336 & 11.6060 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{Q} &= \begin{pmatrix} 26.1973 & 0.5411 \\ 0.5411 & 9.6902 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{U} &= \begin{pmatrix} 30.9126 & 0.9850 \\ 0.9850 & 22.6634 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{W} &= \begin{pmatrix} 316.6943 & 0 \\ 0 & 287.9793 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{M}_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 183.0419 & 0 \\ 0 & 162.4080 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{M}_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 250.2787 & 0 \\ 0 & 409.0398 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{M}_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 13.8704 & 0 \\ 0 & 10.1694 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{58}$$

The initial values are chosen as $x_i(s) = (-5, 9), y_j(s) = (-6, 7)^T, \hat{x}_i(s) = 2i(2, 5)^T, \hat{y}_j(s) = 3j(2, -1)^T$, and $s \in [-2, 0]$. Clearly, the two coupled networks (55) and (57) satisfy the conditions of Theorem 4. Figure 1 presents the synchronization errors of the state variables between the two networks. The simulation result shows that the synchronization is achieved under the proposed controllers (20). Thus, the proposed synchronization control scheme in Theorem 4 is valid.

Let $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \gamma_3 = 12, \bar{\gamma}_1 = \bar{\gamma}_2 = \bar{\gamma}_3 = 17$, then the feasible solution of the matrix inequalities (44) in Theorem 8 by employing MATLAB LMI Toolbox is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \begin{pmatrix} 0.0251 & 0.0005 \\ 0.0005 & 0.0214 \end{pmatrix}, & U &= \begin{pmatrix} 3.7826 & -0.0043 \\ -0.0043 & 3.5381 \end{pmatrix}, \\ Q &= \begin{pmatrix} 4.2792 & 0 \\ 0 & 3.7789 \end{pmatrix}, \\ V &= \begin{pmatrix} 0.0116 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.0079 \end{pmatrix}, & M &= \begin{pmatrix} 3.4521 & 0 \\ 0 & 3.1482 \end{pmatrix}, \\ W &= \begin{pmatrix} 3.7071 & 0 \\ 0 & 3.3433 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{P} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0.0298 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.0268 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{U} &= \begin{pmatrix} 3.3712 & -0.0132 \\ -0.0132 & 3.1782 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{Q} &= \begin{pmatrix} 7.2228 & 0 \\ 0 & 6.3479 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{V} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0.0077 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.0052 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{M} &= \begin{pmatrix} 3.3924 & 0 \\ 0 & 3.0142 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{W} &= \begin{pmatrix} 3.4120 & 0 \\ 0 & 3.2474 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{59}$$

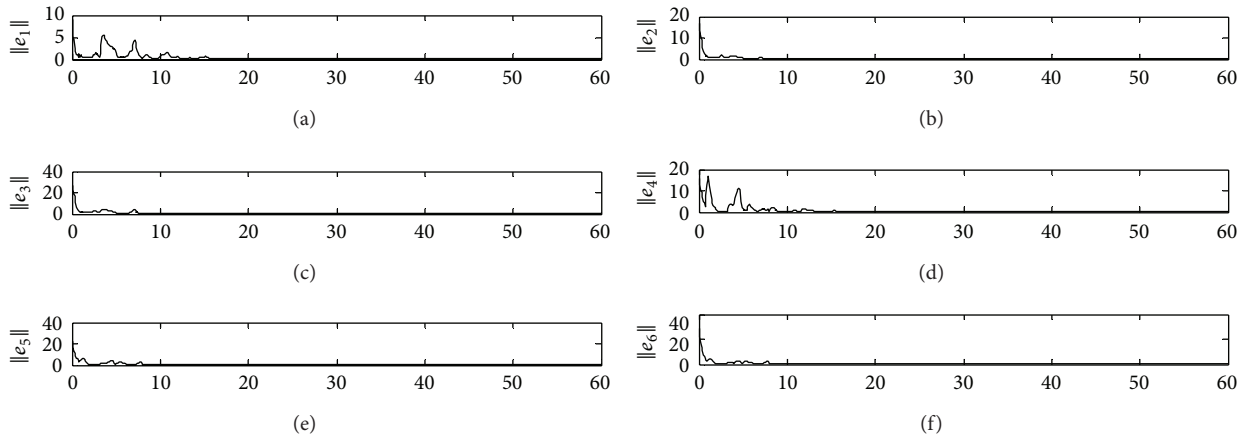


FIGURE 1: Synchronization errors of BDN (55) and (57) with adaptive feedback controllers (20).

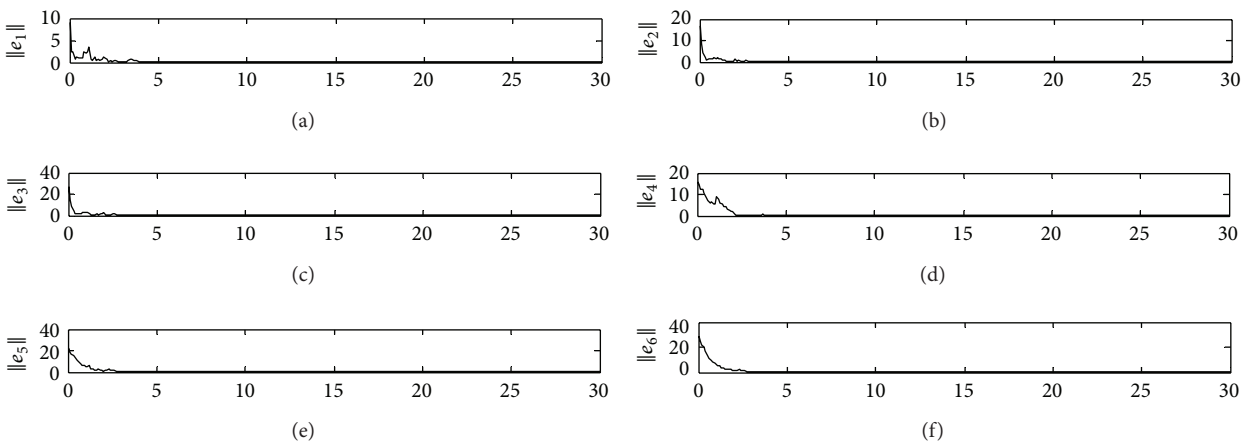


FIGURE 2: Synchronization errors with adaptive feedback controllers (41).

Using the controllers (41), the simulation result is given in Figure 2, which shows that the proposed synchronization control scheme in Theorem 8 is effective.

5. Conclusions

In this paper, we have proposed a general SCBNN with distributed delays and derivative coupling and investigated the synchronization problem in the two coupled SCBNNs. Using linear matrix inequality (LMI) approach and Barbălat lemma, we have deviated some useful synchronization criteria to ensure the synchronization of these two SCBNNs by constructing effective controllers. Compared with relative previous jobs, the controllers proposed by us are more simple and feasible. Some simulation results have been presented to demonstrate our theoretical results. In our future work, we will consider using pinning control to realize the synchronization of SCBNNs and identify the network topology of the unknown SCBNNs.

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