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Uniform asymptotic stability and global asymptotic stability for time-delay Hopfield neural networks

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Abstract. In this paper, we consider the uniform asymptotic stability and global asymptotic stability of the equilibrium point for time-delays Hopfield neural networks. Some new criteria of the system are derived by using the Lyapunov functional method and the linear matrix inequality approach for estimating the upper bound of the derivative of Lyapunov functional. Finally, we illustrate a numerical example showing the effectiveness of our theoretical results.

1 Introduction

Hopfield ([1-2]) has proposed Hopfield neural networks (HNN) which have found applications in a broad range of discipline where the targeted problems can reduce to optimization problems. It has been extensively studied and developed in recent years, and it has attracted much attention in the literature on Hopfield neural networks with time delays, . They are now recognized as candidates for information processing systems and have been successfully applied to associative memory, pattern recognition, automatic control, model identification, optimization problems, etc. (we refer to reader [3-10]). Therefore, the study of stability of HNN has caught many researchers' attention. HNN with time delays has been extensively investigated over the years, and various sufficient conditions for the stability of the equilibrium point of such neural networks have been presented via different approaches. In [5], [13], some sufficient conditions of stability by utilizing the Lyapunov functional method, and linear matrix inequality approach for delayed continuous HNN are derived. In [14], G.Zong and J.Liu established a novel delay-dependent condition to guarantee the existence of HNN and its global asymptotic stability by resorting to the integral inequality and constructing a Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional. In [16], S.Long and D.Xu got the sufficient conditions for global exponential stability and global asymptotic stability by using Lyapunov-Krasovskii-type functionally of negative definite matrix and Cauchy criterion.

This paper is organized as follows: In section 2, a model of time-delay Hopfield neural network is described. In addition, we present some basic definitions and lemmas. New stability criteria for Hopfield neural network are derived in section

3. An example is given in section 4, to illustrate the advantage of the results obtained. Finally, some conclusions are drawn in section 5.

2 Preliminaries

Let \mathbb{R} denote the set of real numbers, \mathbb{Z}_+ denote the positive integers and \mathbb{R}^n denote the n -dimensional real space equipped with the Euclidean norm $\|\cdot\|$. The identity matrix, with appropriate dimensions, is denoted by Id and $\text{diag}(\dots)$ denotes the block diagonal matrix.

Consider the following delayed HNN model with impulses

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_i(t) = -c_i x_i(t) + \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} f_j(x_j(t)) \\ + \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij} g_j(x_j(t - \tau(t))) + I_i \text{ if } t \neq t_k \\ \Delta x_i \setminus t=t_k = d_k^{(i)} (x_i(t_k^-) - \bar{x}_i) \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad n, k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where $n \geq 2$ corresponds to the number of units in a neural network; the impulsive times t_k satisfy:

$0 \leq t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_k < \dots, \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} t_k = +\infty$; x_i corresponds to the state of the

unit i at time t ; c_i is positive constant; f_j, g_j , denote respectively, the measures of response or activation to their incoming potentials of the unit j at time t and $t - \tau(t)$; constant a_{ij} denotes the synaptic connection weight of the unit j on the unit i at time t ; constant b_{ij} denotes the synaptic connection weight of the unit j on the unit i at time $t - \tau(t)$; I_i is the input of the unit i ; $\tau(t)$ is the transmission delay such as $0 < \tau(t) \leq \tau$ and $\dot{\tau}(t) \leq \rho < 1$; $t \geq t_0$; $\tau, \rho, d_k^{(i)}$ are constants; \bar{x} is the equilibrium point of the first equation in the system (1).

The evolution of the neuron state i at time t_k is described by the equation:

$$\Delta x_i \setminus t=t_k = x_i(t_k) - x_i(t_k^-) = d_k^{(i)} (x_i(t_k^-) - \bar{x}_i), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

The initial conditions associated with system (1) are of the form:

$$x(s) = \phi(s), \quad s \in [t_0 - \tau, t_0] \quad (2)$$

where

$$x(s) = (x_1(s), x_2(s), \dots, x_n(s))^T, \quad \phi(s) = (\phi_1(s), \phi_2(s), \dots, \phi_n(s))^T \in PC([-\tau, 0], \mathbb{R}^n)$$

$PC([-\tau, 0], \mathbb{R}^n) = \{\psi : [-\tau, 0] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \text{ is continuous everywhere except at finite number of points } t_k, \text{ at which } \psi(t_k^+) \text{ and } \psi(t_k^-) \text{ exist and } \psi(t_k^+) = \psi(t_k^-)\}$. For $\psi \in PC([-\tau, 0], \mathbb{R}^n)$, the norm of ψ is defined by

$$\|\psi\|_\tau = \sup_{-\tau \leq \theta \leq 0} \|\psi(\theta)\|.$$

For any $t_0 \geq 0$, let: $PC_\delta(t_0) = \{\psi \in PC([-\tau, 0], \mathbb{R}^n) : \|\psi\|_\tau < \delta\}$.

In this paper, we assume that some conditions are satisfied so that the equilibrium point of system (1) does exist, see ([5], [11]). Impulsive operator is viewed

as perturbation of the equilibrium point \bar{x} of such system without impulsive effects.

Since \bar{x} is an equilibrium point of system (1), one can derive from system (1) that the transformation $y_i = x_i - \bar{x}_i$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ transforms such system into the following system:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}_i(t) = -c_i y_i(t) + \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} F_j(y_j(t)) + \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij} G_j(y_j(t - \tau(t))) \text{ si } t \neq t_k \\ y_i(t_k) = (1 + d_k^{(i)}) y_i(t_k^-) \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad n, k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where $F_j(y_j(t)) = f_j(\bar{x}_j + y_j(t)) - f_j(\bar{x}_j)$ and $G_j(y_j(t - \tau(t))) = g_j(\bar{x}_j + y_j(t - \tau(t))) - g_j(\bar{x}_j)$.

To prove the stability of \bar{x} of system (1), it is sufficient to prove the stability of the zero solution of system (3).

In this paper, we assume that there exist constants $L_i, M_i \geq 0$ such as

$$|F_i(y)| \leq L_i |y|, |G_i(y)| \leq M_i |y|, i \in \Lambda = \{1, 2, \dots, n\},$$

and we set

$$\begin{aligned} L_{max} &= \max_{i \in \Lambda} L_i, M_{max} = \max_{i \in \Lambda} M_i, c_{max} = \max_{i \in \Lambda} c_i, \\ c_{min} &= \min_{i \in \Lambda} c_i, D_k = \text{diag}(1 + d_k^{(1)}, 1 + d_k^{(2)}, \dots, 1 + d_k^{(n)}). \end{aligned}$$

So, the system (3) can be written as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}(t) = -C y(t) + A F(y(t)) + B G(y(t - \tau(t))) \text{ si } t \neq t_k \\ y(t_k) = D_k y(t_k^-) \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad n, k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, \\ y(t_0 + \theta) = \varphi(\theta), \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= (y_1(t), \dots, y_n(t))^T; y(t - \tau(t)) = (y_1(t - \tau(t)), \dots, y_n(t - \tau(t)))^T; \\ C &= \text{diag}[c_1, \dots, c_n]; A = (a_{ij})_{n \times n}; B = (b_{ij})_{n \times n}; F(y) = (F_1(y_1), F_2(y_2), \dots, F_n(y_n))^T; \\ G(y) &= (G_1(y_1), G_2(y_2), \dots, G_n(y_n))^T. \end{aligned}$$

Some definitions and lemma of stability for system (1) at its equilibrium point are introduced as follows:

Definitions 21 Assume $y(t) = y(t_0, \varphi)(t)$ be the solution of (3) through (t_0, φ) , then the zero solution of (3) is said to be [12]

P1 stable, if for any $\epsilon > 0$ and $t_0 \geq 0$, there exists some $\delta(\epsilon, t_0) > 0$ such as $\varphi \in PC_\delta(t_0)$ implies $\|y(t_0, \varphi)(t)\| < \epsilon$, $t \geq t_0$.

P2 uniformly stable, if the δ in (P1) is independent of t_0 .

P3 uniformly attractive, if there exists some $\delta > 0$ such as for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists some $T = T(\epsilon, \delta) > 0$ such as $t_0 \geq 0$ and $\varphi \in PC_\delta(t_0)$ implies $\|y(t_0, \varphi)(t)\| < \epsilon$, $t \geq t_0 + T$.

P4 uniformly asymptotically stable, if (P2) and (P3) are held.

P5 globally asymptotically stable, if (P1) holds and for any given initial value $y_0 = \varphi$, $\|y(t_0, \varphi)(t)\| \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow +\infty$.

Now, we need the following basic lemmas used in our work.

Lemma 21 [15] For any $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the inequality

$$\pm 2a^T b \leq a^T X a + b^T X^{-1} b$$

holds, where X is any $n \times n$ matrix with $X > 0$.

3 Robust stability criteria

In this section, we shall establish some theorems which provide sufficient conditions for uniform asymptotic stability and global asymptotic stability of system (1).

Theorem 31 The system (1) is uniformly stable if there is $\epsilon^* \in [0, 1]$, $\sigma > 0$ and positive $n \times n$ definite matrix Q such as:

- (i) $\sigma \cdot \frac{\max_{i,j} c_i \cdot q_{ij}}{\min_{i,j} |b_{ij}|} \leq \frac{\tau^2 + 4 - \tau\sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}{\tau^2 + 4 + \tau\sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}$
- (ii) $\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \frac{1}{c_i} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ L_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ M_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} + \frac{\epsilon^*}{c_{min}}$
 $+ \frac{1}{\sigma} \lambda_{max}(C^{-1} B Q^{-1} B^T C^{-1}) < 2$
- (iii) $\frac{\prod_{t_0 < t_k < t} \max\{c_{max} \xi_k, 1\}}{1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2} < \infty$, where ξ_k is the largest eigenvalue of $D_k C^{-1} D_k$, and $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$.

In addition, if we have:

- (iv) $\frac{\prod_{t_0 < t_k < t} \max\{c_{max} \xi_k, 1\}}{1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2} \rightarrow 0$, if $t \rightarrow +\infty$, then the system (1) is uniformly asymptotically stable and globally asymptotically stable.

Proof. First, we prove the equilibrium point of system (1) is uniformly stable. We consider this Lyapunov function:

$$V(y)(t) = [1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2] \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c_i} y_i^2(t) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \int_{t-\tau(t)}^t (1 + (s - t_0)^2) G_j^2(y_j(s)) ds. \quad (5)$$

For condition (iii), there is a constant $M^* > 0$, such as:

$$\frac{\prod_{t_0 < t_k < t} \max\{c_{max} \xi_k, 1\}}{1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2} < M^*, t \geq t_0.$$

For any $t_0 \geq 0$, let $y(t_0, \varphi)(t)$ be a solution of system (1). So, $\forall \epsilon > 0$, we choose δ of the following manner:

$$\delta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{c_{max}[\frac{1}{c_{min}} + \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{ \sum_{j=1}^n M_j^2 \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \}](\tau + \frac{\tau^3}{3})]M^*}} \cdot \epsilon$$

By simple calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial V(y)(t)}{\partial t} &= [1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2] \{ -2 \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2(t) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} y_i(t) F_j(y_j(t)) \\ &\quad + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{b_{ij}}{c_i} y_i(t) G_j(y_j(t - \tau(t))) \} + 2\epsilon^*(t - t_0) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c_i} y_i^2(t) \\ &+ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} (1 + (t - t_0)^2) G_j^2(y_j(t)) - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} (1 + (t - \tau(t) - t_0)^2) G_j^2(y_j(t - \tau(t))). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial V(y)(t)}{\partial t} &= -2(1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2) \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2(t) + (1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2) \{ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} y_i^2(t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} F_j^2(y_j(t)) + \frac{1}{\sigma} \lambda_{max}(C^{-1} B Q^{-1} B^T C^{-1}) \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2(t) \} \\ &\quad + 2\epsilon^*(t - t_0) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c_i} y_i^2(t) + \sigma(1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2) \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n q_{ij} G_j^2(y_j(t - \tau(t))) \\ &\quad - (1 + (t - \tau(t) - t_0)^2) \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} G_j^2(y_j(t - \tau(t))) + (1 + (t - t_0)^2) \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} G_j^2(y_j(t)). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial V(y)(t)}{\partial t} &\leq (1 + (t - t_0)^2) \{ -2 \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2(t) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} y_i^2(t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} F_j^2(y_j(t)) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} G_j^2(y_j(t)) + \frac{1}{\sigma} \lambda_{max}(C^{-1} B Q^{-1} B^T C^{-1}) \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2(t) \\ &\quad + \frac{2\epsilon^*(t - t_0)}{1 + (t - t_0)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c_i} y_i^2(t) \} + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n [(1 + (t - t_0)^2) \sigma \cdot q_{ij} \\ &\quad - (1 + (t - \tau(t) - t_0)^2) \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i}] G_j^2(y_j(t - \tau(t))). \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{c_i} b_{ij} y_i(t) G_j(y_j(t - \tau(t))) = 2y^T(t) C^{-1} B G(y(t - \tau(t))) \\
& = 2G^T(y(t - \tau(t))) B^T C^{-1} y(t) = 2[G(y(t - \tau(t))) \sqrt{\sigma}]^T (B^T C^{-1} y(t) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma}}) \\
& \leq \sigma G^T(y(t - \tau(t))) Q G(y(t - \tau(t))) + \frac{1}{\sigma} y^T(t) C^{-1} B Q^{-1} B^T C^{-1} y(t) \\
& \leq \sigma \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n q_{ij} G_j^2(y_j(t - \tau(t))) + \frac{1}{\sigma} \lambda_{max}(C^{-1} B Q^{-1} B^T C^{-1}) \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2(t). \quad (7)
\end{aligned}$$

So, from (6) and (7):

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\partial V(y)(t)}{\partial t} \leq (1 + (t - t_0)^2) [-2 + \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{ \frac{1}{c_i} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \}] \\
& + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \{ L_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} \} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \{ M_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \} + \frac{1}{\sigma} \lambda_{max}(C^{-1} B Q^{-1} B^T C^{-1}) + \frac{\epsilon^*}{c_{min}} \|y(t)\|^2 \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n [(1 + (t - t_0)^2) \sigma \cdot q_{ij} - (1 + (t - \tau(t) - t_0)^2) \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i}] G_j^2(y_j(t - \tau(t))).
\end{aligned}$$

Then we obtain,

$$\frac{\partial V(y)(t)}{\partial t} < 0, \quad (8)$$

if

$$(1 + (t - t_0)^2) \sigma \cdot q_{ij} \leq (1 + (t - \tau(t) - t_0)^2) \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i}.$$

Therefore, it is sufficient that: $\frac{\sigma \cdot q_{ij} c_i}{|b_{ij}|} \leq \frac{(1 + (t - \tau(t) - t_0)^2)}{(1 + (t - t_0)^2)}$.

Let $u(t) = \frac{1 + (t - \tau(t))^2}{1 + t^2}$, next we show for $t \geq 0$

$$u(t) \geq \frac{\tau^2 + 4 - \tau \sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}{\tau^2 + 4 + \tau \sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}. \quad (9)$$

First, for $t \in [\tau, +\infty[$, we have: $u(t) \geq \frac{1 + (t - \tau)^2}{1 + t^2} = v(t)$, it is easy to compute that for $t \geq 0$

$$v_{min} = v\left(\frac{\tau + \sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}{2}\right) = \frac{\tau^2 + 4 - \tau \sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}{\tau^2 + 4 + \tau \sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}},$$

also we obtain $v(\tau) > v_{min}$, that is

$$\frac{1}{1 + \tau^2} \geq \frac{\tau^2 + 4 - \tau \sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}{\tau^2 + 4 + \tau \sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}. \quad (10)$$

Second, for $t \in [0, \tau[$, we have:

$$u(t) = \frac{1 + (t - \tau(t))^2}{1 + t^2} \geq \frac{1}{1 + \tau^2}. \quad (11)$$

In view of (10) and (11), we obtain that (9) also holds for $t \in [0, \tau[$. Then we obtain that we have proved (9) holds for all $t \in [0, +\infty[$.

We have $\forall k \geq 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} V(y)(t_k) &= [1 + (t_k - t_0)^2] \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c_i} y_i^2(t_k) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \int_{t_k - \tau(t_k)}^{t_k} (1 + (s - t_0)^2) G_j^2(y_j(s)) ds \\ &= [1 + (t_k - t_0)^2] y^T(t_k^-) D_k C^{-1} D_k y(t_k^-) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \int_{t_k^- - \tau(t_k^-)}^{t_k^-} (1 + (s - t_0)^2) G_j^2(y_j(s)) ds \\ &\leq [1 + (t_k - t_0)^2] \xi_k y^T(t_k^-) y(t_k^-) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \int_{t_k^- - \tau(t_k^-)}^{t_k^-} (1 + (s - t_0)^2) G_j^2(y_j(s)) ds \\ &\leq [1 + (t_k - t_0)^2] \frac{\xi_k}{\lambda_{\min}(C^{-1})} y^T(t_k^-) C^{-1} y(t_k^-) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \int_{t_k^- - \tau(t_k^-)}^{t_k^-} (1 + (s - t_0)^2) G_j^2(y_j(s)) ds \\ &\leq \max\left\{ \frac{\xi_k}{\lambda_{\min}(C^{-1})}, 1 \right\} V(t_k^-). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$V(y)(t_k) \leq \max\{\xi_k c_{\max}, 1\} V(t_k^-). \quad (12)$$

Then, we have:

$$\frac{1}{c_{\max}} (1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2) \|y(t)\|^2 \leq V(t) \leq V(t_0) \times \prod_{t_0 < t_k \leq t} \max\{\xi_k c_{\max}, 1\}. \quad (13)$$

From (5), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{c_{\max}} (1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2) \|y(t)\|^2 &\leq V(t) \leq \frac{1}{c_{\min}} (1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2) \|y(t)\|^2 \\ &\quad + \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n M_j^2 \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} (\tau(t) + \frac{(t - t_0)^3 - (t - t_0 - \tau(t))^3}{3}) \|y(t)\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} V(t) &\leq \left[\frac{1}{c_{\min}} (1 + \epsilon^*(t - t_0)^2) + \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n M_j^2 \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} (\tau(t) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{(t - t_0)^3 - (t - t_0 - \tau(t))^3}{3}) \right] \|y(t)\|^2. \quad (14) \end{aligned}$$

For $t = t_0$, we have:

$$V(t_0) \leq \left[\frac{1}{c_{\min}} + \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n M_j^2 \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} \left(\tau + \frac{\tau^3}{3} \right) \right] \|\varphi\|^2. \quad (15)$$

Then,

$$\frac{1}{c_{\max}} (1 + \epsilon^* (t - t_0)^2) \|y(t)\|^2 \leq \left[\frac{1}{c_{\min}} + \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n M_j^2 \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} \left(\tau + \frac{\tau^3}{3} \right) \right] \|\varphi\|^2 \times \prod_{t_0 < t_k < t} \{\xi_k c_{\max}, 1\}.$$

This implies that:

$$\|y(t)\|^2 \leq \left[\frac{1}{c_{\min}} + \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n M_j^2 \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} \left(\tau + \frac{\tau^3}{3} \right) \right] c_{\max} \|\varphi\|^2 \times \frac{\prod_{t_0 < t_k < t} \{\xi_k c_{\max}, 1\}}{(1 + \epsilon^* (t - t_0)^2)} \leq \epsilon^2.$$

Hence, the zero solution of system (1) is uniformly stable.

In view of condition (iv), it is obvious that :

$\limsup_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \|y(t)\|^2 = 0$, so the equilibrium point of system (1) is also uniformly asymptotically stable and globally asymptotically stable.

Which completes the proof.

If $\prod_{t_0 < t_k \leq t} \max\{c_{\max} \cdot \xi_k, 1\} < \infty$, then we can get the following criterion for stability with $\epsilon^* = 0$.

Corollary 32 *Assume that there is a constant $\sigma > 0$ and $n \times n$ positive definite matrix Q such as:*

$$(i) \sigma \cdot \frac{\max_{i,j} c_i \cdot q_{ij}}{\min_{i,j} |b_{ij}|} \leq \frac{\tau^2 + 4 - \tau\sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}{\tau^2 + 4 + \tau\sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}$$

$$(ii) \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \frac{1}{c_i} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ L_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ M_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} + \frac{1}{\sigma} \lambda_{\max}(C^{-1} B Q^{-1} B^T C^{-1}) < 2.$$

Then, the equilibrium point of system (1) is uniformly asymptotically stable and globally asymptotically stable.

If $\sigma = \frac{\tau^2 + 4 - \tau\sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}{\tau^2 + 4 + \tau\sqrt{\tau^2 + 4}}$ and $Q = \frac{1}{60} Id$ in Corollary 32, then we can get the following criterion for stability.

Corollary 33 *Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:*

$$(i) \frac{\max_i c_i}{60 \min_{i,j} |b_{ij}|} \leq 1$$

$$(ii) \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \frac{1}{c_i} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ L_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ M_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} + \frac{60}{\sigma} \lambda_{\max}(C^{-1} B B^T C^{-1}) < 2.$$

Then, the equilibrium point of system (1) is uniformly asymptotically stable and globally asymptotically stable.

4 Application

In this section, we present a numerical example to illustrate that our conditions are more feasible than those given in some earlier references [5].

Example 41 Consider the two-neuron delayed neural network with impulses as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1(t) = -2.5x_1(t) - 0.5f_1(x_1(t)) + 0.1f_2(x_2(t)) \\ \quad - 0.1g_1(x_1(t-\tau)) + 0.2g_2(x_2(t-\tau)) - 1 \\ \dot{x}_2(t) = -2x_2(t) + 0.2f_1(x_1(t)) - 0.1f_2(x_2(t)) \\ \quad + 0.2g_1(x_1(t-\tau)) + 0.1g_2(x_2(t-\tau)) + 4 \\ \Delta x_i|_{t=t_k} = x_i(t_k) - x_i(t_k^-) = d_k^{(i)}(x_i(t_k^-) - \bar{x}_i) \\ k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

where $\tau = 0.87$, the activation functions are the following:

$$f_1(x) = f_2(x) = g_1(x) = g_2(x) = 0.5(|x+1| - |x-1|)$$

and $d_k^{(1)} = \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{5k^2}} - 1$, $d_k^{(2)} = \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{6k^2}} - 1$, $t_k = k$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$.

So, the matrix A , B and C are:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -0.5 & 0.1 \\ 0.2 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} -0.1 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}, C = \begin{pmatrix} 2.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

By Matlab, we note

$$C^{-1}BB^TC^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.008 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.0125 \end{pmatrix} \text{ so, } \lambda_{\max}(C^{-1}BB^TC^{-1}) = 0.0125.$$

Considering the activation functions f_1 , f_2 , g_1 and g_2 , we can choose $L_i = 1$, $M_i = 1$, $i = 1, 2$.

On the other hand, by Mathematica software, we note

$$\prod_{s=1}^{\infty} \max_{i=1,2} (1 + d_s^{(i)})^2 = \prod_{s=1}^{\infty} \max_{i=1,2} (1 + \frac{1}{5s^2})^2 < 1.4$$

We show the equilibrium point of (16) is uniformly stable and globally asymptotically stable.

From Corollary 33: $\sigma = \frac{\tau^2+4-\tau\sqrt{\tau^2+4}}{\tau^2+4+\tau\sqrt{\tau^2+4}} \simeq 0.4297$, $\frac{1}{\sigma} \simeq 2.3272$. Thus,

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \frac{1}{c_i} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ L_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{c_i} \right\} + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left\{ M_j^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|b_{ij}|}{c_i} \right\} + \frac{60}{\sigma} \lambda_{\max}(C^{-1}BB^TC^{-1}) < 2.$$

Hence, by Corollary 33, the equilibrium point $(-0.2258, 1.9548)^T$ of system (16) is uniformly asymptotically stable and globally asymptotically stable.

Remark 41 In [5], the authors proved that system (16) is globally asymptotically stable with upperbound of delays $\tau = 0.17$. For this example, we additionally get that the equilibrium point of system (16) is uniformly asymptotically stable and globally asymptotically stable with upperbound of delays $\tau = 0.87 > 0.17$. However, the criteria given in [5] are invalid for $(\tau \geq 0.87)$. Therefore, our results are less conservative and more efficient those that given in [5].

5 Conclusion

In this paper, a class of HNN with delays is considered. We obtain some new criteria ensuring the global and uniform asymptotic stability of the equilibrium point for such system by using the Lyapunov method and linear matrix inequality. Our results show the effects of delay on the stability of HNN. The results here are compared to earlier results. Our criteria are more simpler to verify. An example is given to illustrate the efficiency of the results.

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