

*Research Article*

# Asymptotical Mean Square Stability of Cohen-Grossberg Neural Networks with Random Delay

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The asymptotical mean-square stability analysis problem is considered for a class of Cohen-Grossberg neural networks (CGNNs) with random delay. The evolution of the delay is modeled by a continuous-time homogeneous Markov process with a finite number of states. The main purpose of this paper is to establish easily verifiable conditions under which the random delayed Cohen-Grossberg neural network is asymptotical mean-square stability. By employing Lyapunov-Krasovskii functionals and conducting stochastic analysis, a linear matrix inequality (LMI) approach is developed to derive the criteria for the asymptotical mean-square stability, which can be readily checked by using some standard numerical packages such as the Matlab LMI Toolbox. A numerical example is exploited to show the usefulness of the derived LMI-based stability conditions.

## 1. Introduction

It has been widely known that many biological and artificial neural networks contain an inherent time delay, which may cause oscillation and instability (see, e.g., [1]). Recently, many important results have been published on various analysis aspects for Cohen-Grossberg neural networks (CGNNs) with delay. In particular, the existence of equilibrium point, global asymptotic stability, global exponential stability, and the existence of periodic solutions

have been intensively investigated in recent publications on the broad topics of time-delay systems (see, e.g., [2–26]). Generally speaking, the time delay considered can be categorized as constant delay, time-varying delay, and distributed delay, and the methods used include the linear matrix inequality (LMI) approach, Lyapunov functional method,  $M$ -matrix theory, topological degree theory, and techniques of inequality analysis.

On the other hand, it can be seen from the existing references that only the deterministic time-delay case was concerned, and the stability criteria were derived based only on the information of variation range of the time delay. In practice, the delay in some NNs is due to multiple factors (e.g., synaptic transmission delay, neuroaxon transmission delay), one natural paradigm for treating it is to use a probabilistic description (see, e.g., [22, 26–30]). For example, to control and propagate the stochastic signals through universal learning networks (ULNs), a probabilistic universal learning network (PULN) was proposed in [30]. In a PULN, the output signal of the node is transferred to another node by multibranches with arbitrary time delay which is random and its probabilistic characteristic can often be measured by the statistical methods. For this case, if some values of the time delay are very large but the probabilities of the delay taking such large values are very small, it may result in a more conservative result if only the information of variation range of the time delay is considered.

In many situations, the delay process can be modeled as a Markov process with a finite number of states (see, e.g., [27, 28]). References [27, 28] argue in favor of such representation of the delay in communication networks. The discrete values of the delay may correspond to “low”, “medium”, “high” network loads. However, to the best of the authors’ knowledge, so far, the stability analysis of CGNNs with random delay modeled by a continuous-time homogeneous Markov process with a finite number of states has received little attention in the literature. This situation motivates our present investigation.

Motivated by the above discussions, the aim of this paper is to investigate the stability of CGNNs with random delay in mean square. By using a Markov chain with a finite number of states, we propose a new model of CGNNs with random delay. By employing Lyapunov-Krasovskii functionals and conducting stochastic analysis, we develop a linear matrix inequality (LMI) approach to derive the stability criteria that can be readily checked by using some standard numerical packages. A simple example is provided to demonstrate the effectiveness and applicability of the proposed testing criteria.

### 1.1. Notations

The notations are quite standard. Throughout this paper,  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  denote, respectively, the  $n$  dimensional Euclidean space and the set of all  $n \times m$  real matrices. The superscript “ $T$ ” denotes the transpose and the notation  $X \geq Y$  (resp.,  $X > Y$ ) where  $X$  and  $Y$  are symmetric matrices, means that  $X - Y$  is positive semi-definite (resp., positive definite).  $I$  is the identity matrix with compatible dimension. For  $h > 0$ ,  $C([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$  denotes the family of continuous functions  $\varphi$  from  $[-h, 0]$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the norm  $\|\varphi\| = \sup_{-h \leq \theta \leq 0} |\varphi(\theta)|$ , where  $|\cdot|$  is the Euclidean norm in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . If  $A$  is a matrix, denote by  $\|A\|$  its operator norm, that is,  $\|A\| = \sup\{|Ax| : |x| = 1\} = \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^T A)}$  where  $\lambda_{\max}(\cdot)$  (resp.,  $\lambda_{\min}(\cdot)$ ) means the largest (resp., smallest) eigenvalue of  $A$ . Moreover, let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}, P)$  be complete probability space with a filtration  $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}$  (i.e., it is right continuous and  $\mathcal{F}_0$  contains all  $P$ -null sets). Denote by  $C_{\mathcal{F}_0}^b([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$  the family of all bounded,  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable,  $C([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ -valued random variables. For  $p > 0$  and  $h > 0$ , denote by  $L_{\mathcal{F}_0}^p([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$  the family of all  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable  $C([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ -valued

random variables  $\phi = \{\phi(\theta) : -h \leq \theta \leq 0\}$  such that  $\sup_{-h \leq \theta \leq 0} \mathbb{E}|\phi(\theta)|^p < \infty$  where  $\mathbb{E}$  stands for the mathematical expectation operator with respect to the given probability measure  $P$ . In symmetric block matrices, we use an asterisk “\*” to represent a term that is induced by symmetry and  $\text{diag}\{\dots\}$  stands for a block-diagonal matrix. Sometimes, the arguments of a function will be omitted in the analysis when no confusion can be arise.

## 2. Problem Formulation

In this section, we will introduce the model of Cohen-Grossberg neural networks with random delay, give the definition of stability related, and put forward the problem to be dealt with in this paper.

Let  $\{\eta(t), t \geq 0\}$  be a right-continuous homogeneous Markov process on the probability space which take values in the finite space  $S = \{\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_N\}$  satisfying  $0 \leq \eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_N \leq h$  and its generator  $\Pi = (\pi_{ij})_{N \times N}$  is given by

$$P\{\eta(t + \Delta) = \eta_j \mid \eta(t) = \eta_i\} = \begin{cases} \pi_{ij}\Delta + o(\Delta) & \text{if } \eta_i \neq \eta_j, \\ 1 + \pi_{ii} + o(\Delta) & \text{if } \eta_i = \eta_j, \end{cases} \tag{2.1}$$

where  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} o(\Delta)/\Delta = 0, \pi_{ij} \geq 0$  is the transition rate from  $\eta_i$  to  $\eta_j$  if  $\eta_i \neq \eta_j$  and

$$\pi_{ii} = - \sum_{\eta_j \neq \eta_i} \pi_{ij}. \tag{2.2}$$

Consider the following Cohen-Grossberg neural network with constant delay model described by

$$\frac{du_i(t)}{dt} = -a_i(u_i(t)) \left[ b_i(u_i(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}g_j(u_j(t)) - \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij}g_j(u_j(t-h)) + V_i \right], \tag{2.3}$$

where  $u_i(t)$  is the state of the  $i$ th unit at time  $t$ ,  $a_i(u_i(t))$  is the amplification function,  $b_i(u_i(t))$  denotes the behaved function, and  $g_i(u_i(t))$  is the activation function. The matrices  $A = (a_{ij})_{n \times n}, B = (b_{ij})_{n \times n}$  are, respectively, the connection weight matrix and the discretely delayed connection weight matrix.  $V = [V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n]^T$  is a constant external input vector. The scalar  $h > 0$ , which may be unknown, denotes the discrete time delay.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) &= (u_1(t), u_2(t), \dots, u_n(t))^T, & a(u) &= \text{diag}(a_1(u_1), \dots, a_n(u_n)), \\ b(u) &= (b_1(u_1), \dots, b_n(u_n))^T, & g(u(\cdot)) &= (g_1(u_1(\cdot)), g_2(u_2(\cdot)), \dots, g_n(u_n(\cdot)))^T. \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

The model (2.3) can be rewritten the following matrix form:

$$\frac{du(t)}{dt} = -a(u(t)) [b(u(t)) - Ag(u(t)) - Bg(u(t-h)) + V]. \tag{2.5}$$

In this paper, we make the following assumptions on the amplification function, the behaved function, and the neuron activation functions.

*Assumption 1.* For each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , the amplification function  $a_i(\cdot)$  is positive, bounded, and satisfies

$$0 < \underline{\alpha}_i \leq a_i(\cdot) \leq \bar{\alpha}_i \quad (2.6)$$

where  $\underline{\alpha}_i$  and  $\bar{\alpha}_i$  are known positive constants.

*Assumption 2.* The behaved function  $b_i(x) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous and differentiable, and

$$b'_i(x) \geq \gamma_i > 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (2.7)$$

*Assumption 3.* For  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , the neuron activation function in (2.3) satisfies

$$0 \leq \frac{g_i(x) - g_i(y)}{x - y} \leq k \quad (2.8)$$

for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x \neq y$ , where  $k$  is a positive constant.

*Remark 2.1.* It is obvious that, the condition in Assumption 3 is more general than the usual sigmoid functions and the recently commonly used Lipschitz conditions, see, for example, [4–10].

*Assumption 4.* The neuron activation function in (2.3),  $g_j$  satisfies the following condition

$$g_j(x_j(t - \eta_i))x_j(t - \eta_i) \leq \rho(x_j(t - \eta_i))^2, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad 0 \leq \eta_i \leq h, \quad (2.9)$$

where  $\rho$  is a positive constant.

For notational convenience, we shift the equilibrium point  $u^* = (u_1^*, u_2^*, \dots, u_n^*)^T$  to the origin by translation  $x(t) = u(t) - u^*$  which yields the following system:

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = -\alpha(x(t)) [\beta(x(t)) - A I(x(t)) - B I(x(t-h))], \quad (2.10)$$

where  $x(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state vector of the transformed system and

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(x(t)) &= \text{diag}(\alpha_1(x_1(t)), \alpha_2(x_2(t)), \dots, \alpha_n(x_n(t))) \\ \alpha_i(x_i(t)) &= a_i(x_i(t) + u_i^*) \\ \beta(x(t)) &= (\beta_1(x_1(t)), \beta_2(x_2(t)), \dots, \beta_n(x_n(t))) \\ \beta_i(x_i(t)) &= b_i(x_i(t) + u_i^*) - b_i(u_i^*) \\ l(x(\cdot)) &= (l_1(x_1(\cdot)), l_2(x_2(\cdot)), \dots, l_n(x_n(\cdot))) \\ l_j(x_j(\cdot)) &= g_j(x_j(\cdot) + u_j^*) - g_j(u_j^*).\end{aligned}\tag{2.11}$$

It follows, respectively, Assumptions 1 and 2 that

$$0 < \underline{\alpha}_i \leq \alpha_i(\cdot) \leq \bar{\alpha}_i, \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)\tag{2.12}$$

$$x_i(t)\beta_i(x_i(t)) \geq \gamma_i x_i^2(t), \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n).\tag{2.13}$$

Note that Assumption 3 implies the following condition:

$$0 \leq \frac{l_i(x_i)}{x_i} \leq k, \quad \forall x_i \neq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,\tag{2.14}$$

and from (2.14), we have

$$l_i(x_i)(l_i(x_i) - kx_i) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.\tag{2.15}$$

Assumption 4 implies that

$$l_j(x_j(t - \eta_i))x_j(t - \eta_i) \leq \rho(x_j(t - \eta_i))^2, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad 0 \leq \eta_i \leq h.\tag{2.16}$$

Now we consider the following Cohen-Grossberg neural network with random delay, which is actually a modification of (2.10):

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = -\alpha(x(t))[\beta(x(t)) - Al(x(t)) - Bl(x(t - \eta(t)))]\tag{2.17}$$

where  $\eta(t)$  is a Markov process with a finite number of states  $0 \leq \eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_N \leq h$ .

Now we shall work on the network mode  $\eta(t) = \eta_i$ , for all  $\eta_i \in S$ . Let  $x(t; \xi)$  denote the state trajectory from the initial data  $x(\theta) = \xi(\theta)$  on  $-h \leq \theta \leq 0$  in  $L^2_{\mathcal{F}_0}([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ . According to [31], for any initial value  $\xi$ , (2.17) has only a globally continuous state. Clearly, the network (2.17) admits an equilibrium point (trivial solution)  $x(t; 0) \equiv 0$  corresponding to the initial data  $\xi = 0$ .

*Remark 2.2.* It is noted that the introduction of random delay modeled by a continuous-time homogeneous Markov process with a finite number of states was first introduced in [27, 28]. Unlike the common assumptions on the delay in published literature, the probability distribution of the delay taking some values is assumed to be known in advance in this paper, and then a new model of the neural system (2.17) has been derived, which can be seen as an extension of the common neural system (2.10).

The following stability concept is needed in this paper.

*Definition 2.3.* For system (2.17) and every  $\xi \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_0}([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\eta(0) = \eta_{i_0} \in S$ , the equilibrium point is asymptotically stable in the mean-square sense if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} |x(t, \xi, \eta_{i_0})|^2 = 0, \quad (2.18)$$

where  $x(t, \xi, \eta_{i_0})$  is the solution of system (2.17) at time  $t$  under the initial state  $\xi$  and initial mode  $\eta_{i_0}$ .

### 3. Main Results and Proofs

The following lemma is needed in deriving our main results.

**Lemma 3.1** (see [8]). *Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then we have*

$$x^T y + y^T x \leq \varepsilon x^T x + \varepsilon^{-1} y^T y. \quad (3.1)$$

**Lemma 3.2** (see (Schur Complement) [32]). *Given constant matrices  $\Omega_1, \Omega_2, \Omega_3$  where  $\Omega_1 = \Omega_1^T$  and  $0 < \Omega_2 = \Omega_2^T$ , then*

$$\Omega_1 + \Omega_3^T \Omega_2^{-1} \Omega_3 < 0 \quad (3.2)$$

*if and only if*

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Omega_1 & \Omega_3^T \\ \Omega_3 & -\Omega_2 \end{bmatrix} < 0, \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -\Omega_2 & \Omega_3 \\ \Omega_3^T & \Omega_1 \end{bmatrix} < 0. \quad (3.3)$$

*Before stating our main results, let us denote*

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\alpha} &:= \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \alpha_i & \bar{\alpha} &:= \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \bar{\alpha}_i, \\ \Upsilon &:= \text{diag}\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n\} & P_i &:= \text{diag}\{p_1^i, p_2^i, \dots, p_n^i\}, \\ \Omega_1 &= -\underline{\alpha} P_i \Upsilon - \bar{\alpha} \Upsilon P_i, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

where  $\alpha_i, \bar{\alpha}_i$  are defined in (2.12),  $\gamma_i$  is defined in (2.13), the diagonal positive definite matrix  $P_i$  is a parameter to be designed.

We are now ready to derive the conditions under which the network dynamics of (2.17) is asymptotic mean square stability. The main theorem given below shows that the stability criteria can be expressed in terms of the feasibility of two LMIs.

**Theorem 3.3.** *If there exist two sequences of positive scalars  $\{\epsilon_{1i}, \epsilon_{2i}\}$ , two symmetric positive matrices  $Q, R$  and two positive diagonal matrix  $P_i, \Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) > 0$  such that the following LMIs hold:*

$$M_1 := \begin{bmatrix} (1.1) & k\Lambda & 0 & \lambda_{\max}^{1/2}(AA^T)\bar{\alpha}P_i & \lambda_{\max}^{1/2}(BB^T)\bar{\alpha}P_i \\ * & (1.2) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & -2\Lambda + \epsilon_{2i}I & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & -\epsilon_{1i}I & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & -\epsilon_{2i}I \end{bmatrix} < 0, \tag{3.5}$$

$$-R + 2\rho k\Lambda \leq 0,$$

where

$$(1.1) = -\underline{\alpha}P_i\Upsilon - \underline{\alpha}\Upsilon P_i + R + \sum_{j=1}^N \pi_{ij}P_j, \tag{3.6}$$

$$(1.2) = -2\Lambda + \epsilon_{1i}I + Q.$$

Then the dynamics of the neural network (2.17) is asymptotic mean square stability.

*Proof.* Let  $C^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times S; \mathbb{R}_+)$  denote the family of all nonnegative functions  $V(x, t, i)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times S$  which are continuously twice differentiable in  $x$  and differential in  $t$ . In order to establish the stability conditions, we define a Lyapunov functional candidate  $V(x(t), t, \eta(t) = \eta_i) := V(x(t), t, \eta_i) \in C^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times S; \mathbb{R}_+)$  by

$$V(x(t), t, \eta(t) = \eta_i) = x^T(t)P_i x(t) + \int_{t-\eta(t)}^t x^T(s)Rx(s)ds + \int_{t-\eta(t)}^t l^T(x(s))Ql(x(s))ds. \tag{3.7}$$

It is known (see [27]) that  $\{x(t), \eta(t)\}$  is a  $C([-h, 0]; \mathbb{R}^n) \times S$ -valued Markov process. From (2.17) and (3.7), the weak infinitesimal operator  $\mathcal{L}$  (see [27]) of the stochastic process  $\{x(t), \eta(t)\}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}V(x(t), t, \eta(t) = \eta_i) &:= \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{\Delta} [\mathbb{E}\{V(x(t + \Delta), \eta(t + \Delta)) \mid x(t), \eta(t) = \eta_i\} \\ &\quad - V(x(t), \eta(t) = \eta_i)] \\ &= \dot{x}^T(t)P_i x(t) + x^T(t)P_i \dot{x}(t) + x^T(t)R x(t) \\ &\quad - x^T(t - \eta_i)R x(t - \eta_i) + \sum_{j=1}^N \pi_{ij} x^T(t)P_j x(t) \\ &\quad + l^T(x(t))Ql(x(t)) - l^T(x(t - \eta_i))Ql(x(t - \eta_i)). \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

Noticing that  $P_i$  and  $\alpha(x(t))$  are diagonal positive-definite matrices, we obtain from (2.12) and (2.13) that

$$\begin{aligned} -2x^T(t)P_i \alpha(x(t))\beta(x(t)) &= -2 \sum_{j=1}^n x_j(t)p_j^i \alpha_j(x_j(t))\beta_j(x_j(t)) \\ &\leq -2 \sum_{j=1}^n p_j^i \alpha_j(x_j(t))\gamma_j x_j^2(t) \\ &\leq -2 \sum_{j=1}^n p_j^i \underline{\alpha}_j \gamma_j x_j^2(t) \\ &\leq -2 \underline{\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^n p_j^i \gamma_j x_j^2(t) \\ &= -2 \underline{\alpha} x^T(t)P_i \Upsilon x(t). \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

It follows from Lemma 3.1 that

$$\begin{aligned} 2x^T(t)P_i \alpha(x(t))Al(x(t)) &\leq \epsilon_{1i}^{-1} x^T(t)P_i \alpha(x(t))AA^T \alpha(x(t))P_i x(t) + \epsilon_{1i} l^T(x(t))l(x(t)) \\ &\leq \epsilon_{1i}^{-1} \lambda_{\max}(AA^T) \bar{\alpha}^2 x^T(t)P_i^2 x(t) + \epsilon_{1i} l^T(x(t))l(x(t)) \\ 2x^T(t)P_i \alpha(x(t))Bl(x(t - \eta_i)) &\leq \epsilon_{2i}^{-1} \lambda_{\max}(BB^T) \bar{\alpha}^2 x^T(t)P_i^2 x(t) + \epsilon_{2i} l^T(x(t - \eta_i))l(x(t - \eta_i)). \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$



Substituting (3.9)-(3.10) into (3.8) leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{L}V(x(t), t, \eta(t) = \eta_i) \\
& \leq x^T(t) \left[ -\underline{\alpha}P_i\Upsilon - \underline{\alpha}\Upsilon P_i + \epsilon_{1i}^{-1} \lambda_{\max}(AA^T) \bar{\alpha}^2 P_i^2 + \epsilon_{2i}^{-1} \lambda_{\max}(BB^T) \bar{\alpha}^2 P_i^2 \right] \\
& \quad \times x(t) + \epsilon_{1i} l^T(x(t)) l(x(t)) + \epsilon_{2i} l^T(x(t - \eta_i)) l(x(t - \eta_i)) + x^T(t) R x(t) \\
& \quad - x^T(t - \eta_i) R x(t - \eta_i) + \sum_{j=1}^N \pi_{ij} x^T(t) P_j x(t) \\
& \quad + l^T(x(t)) Q l(x(t)) - l^T(x(t - \eta_i)) Q l(x(t - \eta_i)) \\
& \leq x^T(t) \left[ -\underline{\alpha}P_i\Upsilon - \underline{\alpha}\Upsilon P_i + \epsilon_{1i}^{-1} \lambda_{\max}(AA^T) \bar{\alpha}^2 P_i^2 + \epsilon_{2i}^{-1} \lambda_{\max}(BB^T) \bar{\alpha}^2 P_i^2 \right. \\
& \quad \left. + R + \sum_{j=1}^N \pi_{ij} P_j \right] x(t) + \epsilon_{1i} l^T(x(t)) l(x(t)) + \epsilon_{2i} l^T(x(t - \eta_i)) l(x(t - \eta_i)) \\
& \quad - x^T(t - \eta_i) R x(t - \eta_i) + l^T(x(t)) Q l(x(t)) - l^T(x(t - \eta_i)) Q l(x(t - \eta_i)) \\
& \quad - 2 \sum_i \lambda_i l_i(x_i(t)) (l_i(x_i(t)) - k x_i(t)) \\
& \quad - 2 \sum_j \lambda_j l_j(x_j(t - \eta_i)) (l_j(x_j(t - \eta_i)) - k x_j(t - \eta_i)) \\
& = \begin{bmatrix} x^T(t) & l^T(x(t)) & l^T(x(t - \eta_i)) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (1.3) & k\Lambda & 0 \\ k\Lambda & -2\Lambda + \epsilon_{1i} I + Q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2\Lambda + \epsilon_{2i} I \end{bmatrix} \\
& \quad \times \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ l(x(t)) \\ l(x(t - \eta_i)) \end{bmatrix} - x^T(t - \eta_i) R x(t - \eta_i) - l^T(x(t - \eta_i)) Q l(x(t - \eta_i)) \\
& \quad + 2k \sum_j \lambda_j l_j(x_j(t - \eta_i)) x_j(t - \eta_i) \\
& \leq \begin{bmatrix} x^T(t) & l^T(x(t)) & l^T(x(t - \eta_i)) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (1.3) & k\Lambda & 0 \\ k\Lambda & -2\Lambda + \epsilon_{1i} I + Q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2\Lambda + \epsilon_{2i} I \end{bmatrix} \\
& \quad \times \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ l(x(t)) \\ l(x(t - \eta_i)) \end{bmatrix} + x^T(t - \eta_i) (-R + 2\rho k\Lambda) x(t - \eta_i), \tag{3.11}
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(1.3) = -\underline{\alpha}P_iY - \underline{\alpha}YP_i + \epsilon_{1i}^{-1}\lambda_{\max}(AA^T)\bar{\alpha}^2P_i^2 + \epsilon_{2i}^{-1}\lambda_{\max}(BB^T)\bar{\alpha}^2P_i^2 + R + \sum_{j=1}^N \pi_{ij}P_j. \quad (3.12)$$

It follows from the Schur Complement Lemma that the first item of (3.11) is negative which is equivalent to the following

$$M_1 := \begin{bmatrix} (1.1) & k\Lambda & 0 & \lambda_{\max}^{1/2}(AA^T)\bar{\alpha}P_i & \lambda_{\max}^{1/2}(BB^T)\bar{\alpha}P_i \\ * & (1.2) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & -2\Lambda + \epsilon_{2i}I & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & -\epsilon_{1i}I & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & -\epsilon_{2i}I \end{bmatrix} < 0. \quad (3.13)$$

In view of the LMIs (3.5) and Itô formula [31], we have

$$\mathbb{E}[dV(x(t), t, \eta(t) = \eta_i)] = \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}V(x(t), t, \eta(t) = \eta_i)] < 0. \quad (3.14)$$

Therefore, the dynamics of the neural network (2.17) is asymptotical stable in the mean square.  $\square$

#### 4. A Numerical Example

In this section, a numerical example is presented to demonstrate the effectiveness and applicability of the developed method on the asymptotic mean square stability of the Cohen-Grossberg neural network (2.17) with random delay.

*Example 4.1.* Consider a two-neuron neural network (2.17) with two modes. The network parameters are given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 0.5 \\ 0.6 & -0.8 \end{bmatrix}; & B &= \begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.5 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix}; \\ \Pi &= \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}; & Y &= \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}; \\ k = \rho &= 0.3; & \underline{\alpha} &= 0.4; & \bar{\alpha} &= 0.8. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

By using the Matlab LMI toolbox [32], we solve the LMIs in Theorem 3.3 and obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 24.6783 & 0 \\ 0 & 34.8663 \end{bmatrix} > 0; & P_2 &= \begin{bmatrix} 24.4824 & 0 \\ 0 & 32.2167 \end{bmatrix} > 0; \\
 Q &= \begin{bmatrix} 30.1665 & 0 \\ 0 & 28.0524 \end{bmatrix} > 0; & R &= \begin{bmatrix} 51.8909 & 0 \\ 0 & 30.9299 \end{bmatrix} > 0; \\
 \Lambda &= \begin{bmatrix} 59.0367 & 0 \\ 0 & 57.5684 \end{bmatrix} > 0; & \epsilon_{11} &= 46.1415; \\
 \epsilon_{12} &= 46.1256; & \epsilon_{21} &= 60.9479; & \epsilon_{22} &= 62.0387.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

Therefore, it follows from Theorem 3.3 that the Cohen-Grossberg neural network (2.17) with random delay is asymptotical mean square stability.

## 5. Conclusions

In this paper, we have investigated the asymptotical mean square stability analysis problem of CGNNs with random delay. By utilizing a markov chain to describe discrete delay, a new neural network model has been presented. By employing a Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional and conducting stochastic analysis, we have developed a linear matrix inequality (LMI) approach to derive the stability criteria that can be readily checked by using some standard numerical packages. A simple example has been provided to demonstrate the effectiveness and applicability of the proposed testing criteria.

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