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# **SYNCHRONIZATION OF SINGULAR MARKOVIAN JUMPING NEUTRAL COMPLEX DYNAMICAL NETWORKS WITH TIME-VARYING DELAYS VIA PINNING CONTROL***<sup>∗</sup>*

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**Abstract** This article discusses the synchronization problem of singular neutral complex dynamical networks (SNCDN) with distributed delay and Markovian jump parameters via pinning control. Pinning control strategies are designed to make the singular neutral complex networks synchronized. Some delay-dependent synchronization criteria are derived in the form of linear matrix inequalities based on a modified Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional approach. By applying the Lyapunov stability theory, Jensen's inequality, Schur complement, and linear matrix inequality technique, some new delay-dependent conditions are derived to guarantee the stability of the system. Finally, numerical examples are presented to illustrate the effectiveness of the obtained results.

**Key words** Singular complex networks; synchronization; Lyapunov-krasovski method; markovian jump; pinning control; linear matrix inequality

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# **1 Introduction**

Over the past decade, complex networks have been studied intensively in various disciplines, such as sociology, biology, mathematics, and engineering  $[1-6]$ . A complex network is a large

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set of interconnected nodes, where the nodes and connections can be anything, and a node is a fundamental unit having specific contents and exhibiting dynamical behavior. There are two ways of connection between nodes: directed connection and undirected connection, and the connection relationship can be unweighted and weighted. According to different ways of connection and whether there are weights or not between nodes, we get some different kinds of complex networks, such as undirected unweighted network, directed weighted network, etc. A complex network can exhibit complicated dynamics which may be absolutely different from that of a single node.

The most well-known examples are electrical power grids, communication networks, internet, World Wide Web, metabolic systems, food webs, and so on. Hence, the investigation of complex dynamical networks is of great importance, and many systems in science and technology can be modeled as complex networks [8–10]. Time delay is encountered in many dynamical systems and often results in poor performance and even instability of control systems [11–13]. Because delay is usually time-varying in many practical system, many approaches were developed to investigate the stability of systems with time-varying delay such as descriptor model transformation method; the improved bounding technique; free weighting matrices; and the properly chosen Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional (LKFs) (see [14–16] and references therein).

Synchronization is a kind of typical collective behaviors and basic motions in nature [17–19]. Recently, one of the interesting and significant phenomena in complex dynamical networks is the synchronization of all dynamical nodes in a network. It is well known that there are many useful network synchronization phenomena in our real life, such as the synchronous transfer of digital or analog signals in communication networks [20]. More recently, adaptive synchronization in networks or coupled oscillators has received an increasing attention [21]. In particular, one of the interesting phenomena in complex networks is the synchronization, which is an important research subject with the rapidly increasing research, and there are amounts of results [22]. There are many different kinds of synchronization, such as generalized synchronization, phase synchronization, projective synchronization, cluster synchronization, and so on [23–27]. Moreover, synchronization has some potential applications in real-world systems, such as synchronization phenomena on the Internet, synchronization related to biological neural networks. As we know the real-world complex networks normally have a large number of nodes. Therefore, it is usually difficult to control a complex network by adding the controllers to all nodes. To reduce the number of the controllers, a natural approach is to control a complex network by pinning part of nodes. In [28–32], the authors explored the controllability of complex networks via pinning. In [33], authors analyzed the synchronization of general complex dynamical network via pinning control.

Singular systems describe the physical systems better than the regular (nonsingular) ones. They have variety of physical processes such as power systems and circuit systems. These systems are sometimes called generalized systems, descriptor systems, differential-algebraic systems, or implicit systems. It has been noted that a considerable number of results of regular (nonsingular) systems were extended to singular systems (see references [34–37]). As pointed out in [38], singular systems can be introduced to improve the traditional complex networks to describe the singular dynamic behaviours of nodes.

Singular systems can be introduced to improve the traditional complex networks to describe2 Springer

the singular dynamic behaviors of nodes. Recently, there has been a growing interest in singular systems for their extensive application in control theory, circuits, economics, mechanical systems, and other areas, inspired by [39–42]. The neutral-type complex dynamic network of coupled identical nodes is described by a group of neutral functional differential equations, in which the derivatives of the past state variables are involved as well in the present state of the system [43]. Synchronization of neutral complex dynamical networks (NCDNs) with coupling time-varying delays is investigated in [44]. Synchronization of neutral complex dynamical networks with Markovian switching based on sampled-data controller is discussed in [45].

Motivated by the above, we investigate synchronization of Markovian jumping singular neutral complex dynamical network with time- delays via pinning control by utilizing a novel Lyapunov - Krasovskii functional. The novel delay dependent synchronization conditions are derived in terms of linear matrix inequalities, then synchronization problem is studied for the complex networks. By constructing a new Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional containing tripleintegral terms, employing Newton-Leibnitz formulation and linear matrix inequality techniques, and introducing free-weighting matrices, some robust global asymptotic stability criteria are derived in terms of linear matrix inequalities (LMIs). To the best of our knowledge, synchronization of singular neutral complex dynamical network with Markovian jumping and time delays via pinning control have received very little research attention, therefore, the main purpose of this article is to shorten such a gap. By employing some analysis techniques, less conservative sufficient conditions are derived in terms of LMIs. Finally, numerical example are provided to demonstrate the advantage and applicability of the proposed result.

**Notation** The following notations are used throughout this article. *R<sup>n</sup>* denotes the *n* dimensional Euclidean space and  $\mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$  is the set of all  $m \times n$  real matrices. The superscript  $\mathcal{I}^{\prime}$  denotes matrix transposition, and the notation  $X \geq Y$  (respectively,  $X \leq Y$ ), where X and *Y* are symmetric matrices, means that X-Y is positive semidefinite (respectively, positive definite), and  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes the Euclidean norm in  $\mathcal{R}^n$ . If *A* is a square matrix, denote by  $\lambda_{\max}(A)$ (respectively,  $\lambda_{\min}(A)$ ) means the largest(respectively, smallest) eigenvalue of *A*. Moreover, let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t>0}, \mathcal{P})$  be a complete probability space with a filtration  $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t>0}$  satisfying the usual conditions (that is, the filtration contains all *P*-null sets and is right continuous). The asterisb *∗* in a symmetric matrix is used to denote term that is induced by symmetry. Given a complete probability space  $\{\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t>0}, \mathcal{P}\}\)$ , let a natural filtration  $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t>0}$  satisfy the usual conditions, where  $\Omega$  is the sample space,  $\mathcal F$  is the algebra of events, and  $\mathcal P$  is the probability measure defined on *F*. Let  $\{r(t)(t \geq 0)\}$  be a right-continuous Markovian chain on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t\geq 0}, \mathcal{P})$  taking values in the finite space  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$  with generator  $\Pi = {\pi_{ij}}_{m \times m}$   $(i, j \in S)$  given by

$$
Pr{r(t + \Delta) = j | r(t) = i} = \begin{cases} \pi_{ij}\Delta + 0(\Delta) & \text{if } i \neq j; \\ 1 + \pi_{ij}\Delta + 0(\Delta) & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}
$$

Here,  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\pi_{ij} \geq 0$  is the transition rate from *i* to *j* if  $j \neq i$ , while  $\pi_{ii} = -\sum$ *πij .* $j \neq i$ 2 Springer

### **2 Problem Formulation and Preliminaries**

#### **2.1 Problem description**

Consider the following Markovian jumping singular neutral complex dynamical network with time varying distributed delay consisting of N identical nodes, in which each node is an *n*-dimensional dynamical subsystem:

$$
E\dot{x}_k(t) - C(r(t))\dot{x}_k(t - \tau(t,r(t)))
$$
  
=  $A(r(t))x_k(t) + B(r(t))x_k(t - d(t,r(t)))$   
+  $D(r(t))\int_{t-h(t,r(t))}^{t} x_k(s)ds + b_1 \sum_{w=1}^{N} g_{kw}^{(1)}(r(t))\Gamma_1(r(t))x_w(t)$   
+  $b_2 \sum_{w=1}^{N} g_{kw}^{(2)}(r(t))\Gamma_2(r(t))x_w(t - d(t,r(t)))$   
+  $b_3 \sum_{w=1}^{N} g_{kw}^{(3)}(r(t))\Gamma_3(r(t))\dot{x}_w(t - \tau(t,r(t)))$   
+  $L(r(t))f_1(x_k(t)) + H(r(t))f_2(x_k(t - d(t,r(t))))$   
+  $J(r(t))f_3(\dot{x}_k(t - \tau(t,r(t)))), k = 1, 2, \dots, N,$  (2.1)

where  $E \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a singular matrix and rank $(E) = r(0 \lt r \lt n); x_k(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state variable of the node  $k \in 1, 2, \cdots, N$ ;  $\{r(t)(t \geq 0)\}\)$  is the continuous-time Markov process which describes the evolution of the mode at time t;  $A(r(t)), B(r(t)), C(r(t)), D(r(t)), L(r(t)), H(r(t)),$ and  $J(r(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are parametric matrices with real values in mode  $r(t)$ ; and  $f_1, f_2, f_3 : \mathbb{R}^n \to$  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are continuously nonlinear vector functions which are, with respect to the current state  $x_k(t)$ , the delayed state  $x_k(t - d(t, r(t)))$  and the neutral delay state  $\dot{x}_k(t - \tau(t, r(t)))$ .

The nonlinear functions are globally Lipschitz,

$$
||f_1(x_k(t)) - f_1(y_k(t))|| \le l_{k1} ||x_k(t) - y_k(t)||,
$$
  
\n
$$
||f_2(x_k(t - d(t, r(t)))) - f_2(y_k(t - d(t, r(t))))|| \le l_{k2} ||x_k(t - d(t, r(t))) - y_k(t - d(t, r(t)))||,
$$
  
\n
$$
||f_3(\dot{x}_k(t - \tau(t, r(t)))) - f_3(\dot{y}_k(t - \tau(t, r(t))))|| \le l_{k3} ||\dot{x}_k(t - \tau(t, r(t))) - \dot{y}_k(t - \tau(t, r(t)))||,
$$
\n(2.2)

where  $l_{k1}$ ,  $l_{k2}$ , and  $l_{k3}$  are non-negative constants.

 $\Gamma_1(r(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\Gamma_2(r(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , and  $\Gamma_3(r(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  represent the inner-coupling matrices linking between the subsystems in mode  $r(t)$ .  $G^{(1)}(r(t)) = [g_{kw}^{(1)}]_{N \times N}$ ,  $G^{(2)}(r(t)) =$  $[g_{kw}^{(2)}]_{N \times N}$ , and  $G^{(3)}(r(t)) = [g_{kw}^{(3)}]_{N \times N}$  are the coupling configuration matrices of the networks representing the coupling strength and the topological structure of the SNCDN in mode  $r(t)$ , in which  $g_{kw}^{(m)}$  is defined as follows: if there exists a connection between  $k^{th}$  and  $w^{th}$  ( $k \neq w$ ) nodes, then  $g_{kw}^{(m)}(r(t)) = g_{wk}^{(m)}(r(t)) > 0$ , otherwise,  $g_{kw}^{(m)}(r(t)) = g_{wk}^{(m)}(r(t)) = 0$  and

$$
g_{kk}^{(m)}(r(t)) = -\sum_{w=1, w \neq k}^{N} g_{kw}^{(m)}(r(t)) = -\sum_{w=1, w \neq k}^{N} g_{wk}^{(m)}(r(t)), m = 1, 2, 3; k = 1, 2, \cdots, N.
$$

For simplicity of notations, we denote  $A(r(t)), B(r(t)), C(r(t)), D(r(t)), L(r(t)), H(r(t)), J(r(t)),$  $G^{(m)}(r(t)), \Gamma_m(r(t)), (m = 1, 2, 3), \text{ by } A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i, L_i, H_i, J_i, G_i^{(m)}, \Gamma_{mi} \text{ for } r(t) = i \in s.$ 

**Remark 2.1** The synchronization of Markovian jumping SNCDN (2.1) is investigated in this work, which is devoted to revealing the effect of pinning controller over the Markovian switching network topologies. The network topology switching is governed by a time homogenous Markov process, whose state space corresponds to all the possible topologies. However, a general complex network always has a fixed network topology, which can not describe the situation changing, so the research on the complex networks under randomly switching topologies, such as SNCDN (2.1), is very significant and important.

**Assumption 1**  $\tau(t, r(t))$ ,  $h(t, r(t))$ , and  $d(t, r(t))$  denote the mode-dependent time-varying neutral delay, distributed delay, and retarded delay, respectively. They are assumed to satisfy the followings:

$$
0 \le \tau_i(t) \le \bar{\tau}_i, \dot{\tau}_i \le \nu_i; \n0 \le h_i(t) \le \bar{h}_i, \dot{h}_i \le \delta_i < 1; \n0 \le d_{1i} \le d_i(t) \le d_{2i}, \max_{i \in s} \{d_{1i}\} \le \min_{j \in s} \{d_{2j}\}; \n\dot{d}_i(t) \le \mu_i, r(t) = i,
$$
\n(2.3)

where  $\bar{\tau}_i, \bar{h}_i, \delta_i, d_{1i}, d_{2i}, \mu_i$ , and  $\nu_i$  are real constant scalars. The initial conditions associated with Markovian jumping SNCDN  $(2.1)$  are given as follows:

$$
x_k(t_0) = \varphi_k(t_0) \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{F}_0}^2 C([-\zeta, 0], R^n), t_0 \in [-\zeta, 0],
$$
  

$$
\zeta = \max\{\max_{i \in s} \{\bar{h}_i\}, \max_{i \in s} \{\bar{\tau}_i\}, \max_{i \in s} \{d_{2i}\}\}.
$$

Correspondingly the response complex network with the control inputs  $u_k(t) \in \mathbb{R}^N$  ( $k =$  $1, 2, \cdots, N$  can be written as

$$
E\dot{y}_k(t) - C_i \dot{y}_k(t - \tau_i(t))
$$
  
=  $A_i y_k(t) + B_i y_k(t - d_i(t)) + D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t y_k(s) ds + b_1 \sum_{w=1}^N g_{kwi}^{(1)} \Gamma_{1i} y_w(t)$   
+  $b_2 \sum_{w=1}^N g_{kwi}^{(2)} \Gamma_{2i} y_w(t - d_i(t)) + b_3 \sum_{w=1}^N g_{kwi}^{(3)} \Gamma_{3i} \dot{y}_w(t - \tau_i(t) + L_i f_1(y_k(t))$   
+  $H_i f_2(y_k(t - d_i(t)) + J_i f_3(\dot{y}_k(t - \tau_i(t)) + u_k(t), k = 1, 2, \dots, N,$  (2.4)

where  $u_k(t)$  is defined by

$$
u_k(t) = \begin{cases} -b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4(y_k(t) - x_k(t)), & k = 1, 2, \cdots, l; \\ 0, & k = l + 1, l + 2, \cdots, N. \end{cases}
$$
(2.5)

#### **2.2 Basic ideas and Lemmas**

In this section, we provide some definitions and lemmas which are absolutely necessary to derive the proposed synchronization criterion.

**Definition 2.2** ([50]) Complex dynamical network (2.1) is said to be global (asymptotically) synchronized by pinning control, if

$$
\lim_{t \to \infty} ||x_k(t) - y_k(t)|| = 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \cdots, N.
$$
\n(2.6)

**Definition 2.3** ([51]) The pair  $(E, A_i + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_k - b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4)$  is said to be regular, if the  $\det(aE - (A_i + b_1\Gamma_{1i}\lambda_k - b_4\sigma_k\Gamma_4)$ , for some finite complex number a, is not identically zero.

**Definition 2.4** ([51]) The pair  $(E, A_i + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_k - b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4)$  is said to be impulse free, if  $\deg(\det(aE - (A_i + b_1\Gamma_{1i}\lambda_k - b_4\sigma_k\Gamma_4))) = \text{rank}(E)$  for some finite complex number 'a'.

**Lemma 2.5** ([50]) The eigenvalues of an irreducible matrix  $G = (g_{kw}) \in R^{N \times N}$  with ∑ *N*  $w \neq k$  $g_{kw} = -g_{kk}, k = 1, 2, \cdots, N$  satisfy the following properties:

(i) Real parts of all eigenvalues of *G* are less than or equal to 0 with multiplicity 1;

(ii) *G* has an eigenvalue 0 with multiplicity 1 and the right eigenvector  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)^T$ .

**Lemma 2.6** ([52]) The pair  $(E, A_i + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_k - b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4)$  is regular and impulse free if and only if there exist matrices  $P_{ki}$  such that the following inequalities hold for  $k = 2, 3, \dots, N$ :

- (i)  $E^T P_{ki} = P_{ki} E \geq 0$  and
- (ii)  $(A_i + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_k b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4)^T P_{ki} + P_{ki}^T (A_i + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_k b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4) < 0.$

**Lemma 2.7** ([53]) If for any constant matrix  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ,  $R = R^T > 0$ , scalar  $\gamma > 0$ , and a vector function  $\phi : [0, \gamma] \to \mathbb{R}^m$  such that the integrations concerned are well defined, the following inequality holds:

(a) 
$$
-\gamma \int_0^{\gamma} \phi^T(s) R\phi(s) ds \le -\left[\int_0^{\gamma} \phi(s) ds\right]^T R \left[\int_0^{\gamma} \phi(s) ds\right].
$$
  
(b) 
$$
-\gamma \int_{t-\gamma}^t \dot{\phi}^T(s) R\dot{\phi}(s) ds \le \left(\begin{array}{c} \phi(t) \\ \phi(t-\gamma) \end{array}\right)^T \left(\begin{array}{c} -R & R \\ * & -R \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} \phi(t) \\ \phi(t-\gamma) \end{array}\right).
$$

Let the error be  $e_k(t) = y_k(t) - x_k(t)$ . So, the error dynamics of Markovian jumping SNCDN (2.1) can be derived as follows:

$$
E\dot{e}_k(t) - C_i \dot{e}_k(t - \tau_i(t))
$$
  
=  $A_i e_k(t) + B_i e_k(t - d_i(t)) + D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t e_k(s) ds + b_1 \sum_{w=1}^N g_{kwi}^{(1)} \Gamma_{1i} e_w(t)$   
+  $b_2 \sum_{w=1}^N g_{kwi}^{(2)} \Gamma_{2i} e_w(t - d_i(t)) + b_3 \sum_{w=1}^N g_{kwi}^{(3)} \Gamma_{3i} \dot{e}_w(t - \tau_i(t)) + L_i F_{k1}(e_k(t))$   
+  $H_i F_{k2}(e_k(t - d_i(t)) + J_i F_{k3}(\dot{e}_k(t - \tau_i(t))) - b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4 e_k(t), k = 1, 2, \dots, N,$  (2.7)

where  $F_{k1}(e_k(t)) = f_1(y_k(t)) - f_1(x_k(t)), F_{k2}(e_k(t - d_i(t))) = f_2(y_k(t - d_i(t))) - f_2(x_k(t - d_i(t))),$ and  $F_{k3}(\dot{e}_k(t-\tau_i(t))) = f_3(\dot{y}_k(t-\tau_i(t))) - f_3(\dot{x}_k(t-\tau_i(t))).$ 

**Remark 2.8** The pinning controllers are applied to achieve synchronization of the Markovian jumping SNCDN  $(2.1)$ . It can be seen that the synchronization problem of  $(2.1)$  is equivalent to the stabilization problem of the error dynamical systems (2.7) at the origin. The controller (2.5) accelerate each node to synchronizing with the target node according to the instantaneous state information, and the similar one also can be found in [28]. We only exert control actions on the pinned nodes to achieve the synchronization and reduce the number of controllers.

**Remark 2.9** The novelty of this article can be summarized as follows: (1) Synchronization of Markovian jumping singular neutral complex dynamical networks via pinning control2 Springer

is considered in this article; (2) A new Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional is constructed with triple-integral term.

## **3 Main Results**

### **3.1 Asymptotic stability of complex dynamical systems**

In this section, we derive delay-dependent stability criteria for the error dynamical network system (2.7). We also discuss the impact of additive time-varying delays on the stability of the system.

Denoting  $\sigma_k = 0$  ( $k = l+1, l+2, \cdots, N$ ), then we may write the error system in its compact form as

$$
E\dot{e}(t) - C_i\dot{e}(t - \tau_i(t)) = A_i e(t) + B_i e(t - d_i(t)) + D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t e(s)ds + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} G_i^{(1)} e(t) + b_2 \Gamma_{2i} G_i^{(2)} e(t - d_i(t)) + b_3 \Gamma_{3i} G_i^{(3)} \dot{e}(t - \tau_i(t)) + L_i F_1(e(t)) + H_i F_2(e(t - d_i(t))) + J_i F_3(\dot{e}(t - \tau_i(t))) - b_4 \sigma \Gamma_4 e(t).
$$
 (3.1)

where  $e(t) = (e_1(t), e_2(t), \cdots, e_N(t)),$   $F_1(e(t)) = (F_{11}(e_1(t)), F_{21}(e_2(t)), \cdots, F_{N1}(e_N(t))),$  $F_2(e(t-d_i(t)) = (F_{12}(e_1(t-d_i(t)), F_{22}(e_2(t-d_i(t)), \cdots, F_{N2}(e_N(t-d_i(t))), F_3(\dot{e}(t-\tau_i(t))) =$  $(F_{13}(e_1(t-\tau_i(t))), F_{23}(e_2(t-\tau_i(t))), \cdots, F_{N3}(e_N(t-\tau_i(t))))$ , and  $\sigma = \text{diag}\{\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \cdots, \sigma_N\}.$ 

By the properties of the outer-coupling matrix  $G_i^{(a)}(a=1,2,3)$ , there exists a unitary matrix  $U = [U_1, U_2, \cdots, U_N] \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  such that  $U^T G_i^{(a)} = \Lambda_i U^T$  with  $\Lambda_i = \text{diag}\{\lambda_{1i}, \lambda_{2i}, \cdots, \lambda_{Ni}\}$  $(a = 1, 2, 3)$  and  $UU^T = I$ . Using the nonsingular transform  $e(t)U = z(t) = [z_1(t), z_2(t)]$  $\cdots$ ,  $z_N(t)$   $\in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ , from equation (3.1), it follows the matrix equation

$$
E\dot{z}(t) - C_i\dot{z}(t - \tau_i(t)) = A_i z(t) + B_i z(t - d_i(t)) + D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t z(s)ds + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \Lambda_i z(t) + b_2 \Gamma_{2i} \Lambda_i z(t - d_i(t)) + b_3 \Gamma_{3i} \Lambda_i \dot{z}(t - \tau_i(t)) + L_i F_1(e(t))U + H_i F_2(e(t - d_i(t))U + J_i F_3(\dot{e}(t - \tau_i(t)))U - b_4 \sigma \Gamma_4 z(t).
$$
 (3.2)

In a similar way, model (3.2) can be written as

$$
E\dot{z}_k(t) = (A_i + b_1\Gamma_{1i}\lambda_{ki}b_4\sigma_k\Gamma_4)z_k(t) + (B_i + b_2\Gamma_{2i}\lambda_{ki})z_k(t - d_i(t))
$$
  
+ 
$$
D_i \int_{t-h_i(t)}^t z_k(s)ds + (C_i + b_3\Gamma_{3i}\lambda_{ki})\dot{z}_k(t - \tau_i(t))
$$
  
+ 
$$
L_i h_{k1}(t) + H_i h_{k2}(t) + J_i h_{k3}(t), \ k = 1, 2, \cdots, N,
$$
 (3.3)

where  $h_{k1}(t) = F_1(e(t))U_k$ ,  $h_{k2}(t) = F_2(e(t - d_i(t)))U_k$ , and  $h_{k3}(t) = F_3(\dot{e}(t - \tau_i(t)))U_k$ .

So far, we transformed the synchronization problem of the singular complex dynamical networks (3.1) into the synchronization problem of the *N* pieces of the corresponding error dynamical network (3.3). From Lemma 2.5,  $\lambda_{i1} = 0$  and  $z_1(t) = e(t)U_1 = 0$ . Therefore, if the following  $(N-1)$  pieces of the corresponding error dynamical network,

$$
E\dot{z}_k(t) = (A_i + b_1\Gamma_{1i}\lambda_{ki} - b_4\sigma_k\Gamma_4)z_k(t) + (B_i + b_2\Gamma_{2i}\lambda_{ki})z_k(t - d_i(t))
$$

$$
+ D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t z_k(s)ds + (C_i + b_3\Gamma_{3i}\lambda_{ki})\dot{z}_k(t - \tau_i(t))
$$

$$
+ L_i h_{k1}(t) + H_i h_{k2}(t) + J_i h_{k3}(t), \ k = 2, 3, \cdots, N,
$$
\n(3.4)

are asymptotically stable, which implies that the synchronized states (3.1) are asymptotically stable.

Let us define

$$
\xi_{k}^{T}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} z_{k}^{T}(t) & z_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{\tau}_{i}) & z_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{\tau}_{i}) & z_{k}^{T}(t - \tau_{i}(t)) & z_{k}^{T}(t - \tau_{i}(t)) \end{bmatrix}
$$
  

$$
\int_{t-\tau_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t-\tau_{i}(t)} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds \quad z_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{h}_{i})
$$
  

$$
\dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{h}_{i}) & z_{k}^{T}(t - h_{i}(t)) & \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - h_{i}(t)) \int_{t-h_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds
$$
  

$$
\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t-h_{i}(t)} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds \quad z_{k}^{T}(t - d_{i}(t)) & z_{k}^{T}(t - d_{1i}) & z_{k}^{T}(t - d_{mi}) & z_{k}^{T}(t - d_{2i})
$$
  

$$
\dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - d_{1i}) & \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - d_{mi}) & \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - d_{2i}) \int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds \int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds
$$
  

$$
\int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds \quad h_{k1}^{T}(t) \quad h_{k2}^{T}(t) \quad h_{k3}^{T}(t) \end{bmatrix}, \qquad (3.5)
$$
  

$$
\eta_{k} = \begin{bmatrix} (A_{i} + b_{1} \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_{ki} - b_{4} \sigma_{k} \Gamma_{4}) & 0 & 0 & 0 & (C_{i} + b_{3} \Gamma_{3i} \lambda_{ki}) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (B_{i} + b_{2} \Gamma_{2i} \lambda_{ki}) \end{bmatrix}
$$

$$
0 \t L_i \t H_i \t J_i,
$$
\n
$$
(3.6)
$$

$$
E\dot{z}_k(t) = \eta_k \xi_k(t). \tag{3.7}
$$

The inequality (2.2) and the Lipschitz continuity of  $h_{k1}(t)$  can be used to make  $h_{k1}(t)$  to satisfy

$$
||h_{k1}(t)|| = \left\| \sum_{w=1}^{N} [f_1(x_w(t)) - f_1(y_w(t))]u_{kw} \right\|
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \sum_{w=1}^{N} ||[f_1(x_w(t)) - f_1(y_w(t))]|| \mid u_{kw} \mid
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \sum_{w=1}^{N} l_{k1} ||[x_w(t) - y_w(t)]|| = \sum_{w=1}^{N} l_{k1} ||e_w(t)||
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \sum_{w=1}^{N} l_1 ||z_w(t)|| = \sum_{w=2}^{N} l_1 ||z_w(t)||,
$$
\n(3.8)

where  $u_{kw}$  is the  $\omega$ -th element of  $U_k$  and  $\bar{l}_1 = \max l_{k1}$ . Therefore, the following inequality

$$
\sum_{k=2}^{N} \left( \|h_{k1}(t)\| - \bar{l}_1 \sum_{w=2}^{N} \|z_w(t)\| \right) = \sum_{k=2}^{N} \|h_{k1}(t)\| - \bar{l}_1 \sum_{k=2}^{N} \sum_{w=2}^{N} \|z_w(t)\|
$$

$$
= \sum_{k=2}^{N} \left( \|h_{k1}(t)\| - (N-1)\bar{l}_1\|z_k(t)\| \right) \le 0
$$

holds, if the inequality

$$
||h_{k1}(t)|| - (N-1)\bar{l}_1||z_k(t)|| \le 0, \quad k = 2, 3, \cdots, N
$$
\n(3.9)

is satisfied. Similarly, the following inequalities holds:

$$
\sum_{k=2}^{N} \left( \|h_{k2}(t)\| - (N-1)\bar{l}_2\|z_k(t - d_i(t))\| \right) \le 0,
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{k=2}^{N} \left( \|h_{k3}(t)\| - (N-1)\bar{l}_3\| \dot{z}_k(t - \tau_i(t))\| \right) \le 0,
$$
\n(3.10)

if the following inequalities are satisfied that

$$
||h_{k2}(t)|| - (N-1)\bar{l}_2||z_k(t - d_i(t))|| \le 0, \quad k = 2, 3, \cdots, N;
$$
  

$$
||h_{k3}(t)|| - (N-1)\bar{l}_3||\dot{z}_k(t - \tau_i(t))|| \le 0, \quad k = 2, 3, \cdots, N,
$$
 (3.11)

where  $\bar{l}_2 = \max l_{k2}, \bar{l}_3 = \max l_{k3}$ . From the inequality (3.8)–(3.11), there exist positive diagonal matrices  $S_{k1}$ ,  $S_{k2}$ , and  $S_{k3}$  such that

*ξ T k* (*t*)diag{ *−* (*N −* 1)¯*l*1*Sk*1*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*, −*(*N −* 1)¯*l*3*Sk*3*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*, −*(*N −* 1)¯*l*2*Sk*2*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*,* 0*, Sk*1*, Sk*2*, Sk*<sup>3</sup> } *ξk*(*t*) = *ξ T k* (*t*)Φ*kξk*(*t*) *≤* 0*,* (3.12)

where

$$
\Phi_k = \text{diag}\left\{ \begin{array}{cccccc} -(N-1)\bar{l_1}S_{k1}, & 0, & 0, & 0, & -(N-1)\bar{l_3}S_{k3}, & 0, & 0, & 0, & 0, \\ 0, & 0, & 0, & 0, & 0, & -(N-1)\bar{l_2}S_{k2}, & 0, & 0, & 0, & 0, \\ 0, & 0, & 0, & S_{k1}, & S_{k2}, & S_{k3} \end{array} \right\}.
$$

**Theorem 3.1** For given scalars  $\bar{\tau}_i, \nu_i, \bar{h}_i, \sigma_i, d_{1i}, d_{2i}, \mu_i$  and constant scalar  $d_{mi}$  satisfying  $d_{1i} < d_{mi} < d_{2i}$ , the Markovian jumping singular error dynamical network  $(3.4)$  is asymptotically stable if there exist positive constants  $\alpha_k$ , matrices  $P_{ki} > 0$ ,  $Q_{k1i} > 0$ ,  $Q_{k2i} > 0$ ,  $R_{k1i} > 0$ ,  $R_{k2i} > 0, T_{k1i} > 0, Q_{kj} > 0, R_{kj} > 0 (j = 3, 4), T_{kj} > 0 (j = 2, 3, 4), U_{kj} > 0 (j = 1, 2, 3),$  $W_{kj} > 0$ ,  $M_{kj} > 0$ ,  $N_{kj} > 0$  (j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5), and positive diagonal matrices  $S_{kj}$  (j = 1, 2, 3) such that the following LMIs hold for all  $i \in S$ :

$$
E^T P_{ki} = P_{ki} E \ge 0,\tag{3.13}
$$

$$
\Xi = \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_{k1} & \Sigma_{k12} \\ * & \Sigma_{k22} \end{bmatrix} \leq 0, \quad k = 2, 3, \cdots, N,\tag{3.14}
$$

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (Q_{k1j} - Y_{1i}) \leq 0; \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} E^{T} (Q_{k2j} - Y_{2i}) E \leq 0; \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (T_{k1j} - Y_{5i}) \leq 0; \tag{3.15}
$$

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (R_{k1j} - Y_{3i}) \leq 0; \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} E^{T} (R_{k2j} - Y_{4i}) E \leq 0; \qquad (3.16)
$$

where

$$
\Psi_{k1} = \begin{bmatrix}\n\Psi_{k11} & \Psi_{k12} & \Psi_{k13} & \Psi_{k13} & \Psi_{k14} & \Psi_{k15} \\
* & \Psi_{k22} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
* & * & \Psi_{k33} & 0 & 0 \\
* & * & * & \Psi_{k44} & 0 \\
* & * & * & 0 & \Psi_{k55}\n\end{bmatrix},
$$
\n
$$
\Sigma_{k12} = \eta_k^T \left[ Q_{k2i} \quad Q_{k4} \quad R_{k2i} \quad R_{k4} \quad U_{k1} \quad \sqrt{\tau_1} M_{k1} \quad \sqrt{h_i} M_{k2} \quad \sqrt{d_{1i}} M_{k3} \right],
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{k22} = \text{diag} \left\{ -Q_{k2i} \quad -Q_{k4} \quad -R_{k2i} \quad -R_{k4} \quad -U_{k1} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k3} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \right\},
$$
\n
$$
\Sigma_{k22} = \text{diag} \left\{ -Q_{k2i} \quad -Q_{k4} \quad -R_{k2i} \quad -R_{k4} \quad -U_{k1} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k3} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k3} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k3} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k6} \quad -M_{k7} \quad -M_{k8} \quad -M_{k9} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k3} \quad -M_{k4} \quad -M_{k5} \quad -M_{k1} \quad -M_{k2} \quad -M_{k3} \quad -M
$$

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$$
\Phi_{k22} = -\frac{1}{\bar{\tau}_i} E^T M_{k1} E - Q_{k3}; \quad \Phi_{k33} = -E^T Q_{k4} E; \quad \Phi_{k44} = -(1 - \nu_i) Q_{k1i};
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k55} = -(1 - \nu_i) E^T Q_{k2i} E + \alpha_k (N - 1) \bar{l}_3 S_{k3}; \quad \Phi_{k66} = -\frac{\bar{\tau}_i}{\tau_i(t)} W_{k1};
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k77} = -E^T N_{k1} E; \quad \Phi_{k88} = -\frac{\bar{\tau}_i}{\bar{\tau}_i - \tau_i(t)} W_{k1}; \quad \Phi_{k99} = -R_{k3} - \frac{1}{\bar{h}_i} E^T M_{k2} E;
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k1010} = -E^T R_{k4} E; \quad \Phi_{k1111} = -(1 - \delta_i) R_{k1i}; \quad \Phi_{k1212} = -(1 - \delta_i) E^T R_{k1i} E;
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k1313} = -\frac{\bar{h}_i}{\bar{h}_i(t)} W_{k2}; \quad \Phi_{k1414} = -E^T N_{k2} E; \quad \Phi_{k1515} = -\frac{\bar{h}_i}{\bar{h}_i - \bar{h}_i(t)} W_{k2};
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k1616} = -(1 - \mu_i) T_{k1i} + \alpha_k (N - 1) \bar{l}_2 S_{k2};
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k1717} = T_{k1i} - T_{k2} + T_{k3} - \frac{1}{d_{1i}} E^T M_{k3} E - \frac{1}{\rho_{1i}} E^T M_{k4} E;
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k1919} = -T_{k4} - \frac{1}{\rho_{2i}} E^T M_{k5} E;
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k2020} = E^T U_{k2} E - E^T U_{k1} E; \quad \Phi_{k2121} = E^T U_{k3} E - E^T U_{k2} E; \quad \Phi_{k2222} = -E^T U_{k3} E;
$$
\n
$$
\Phi_{k2323} = -W_{k3} - E^T N_{k3
$$

**Proof** Construct the Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional:

$$
V_k(z_k(t), i, t) = \sum_{r=1}^{8} V_{kr}(z_k(t), i, t),
$$
\n(3.17)

where

$$
V_{k1}(z_{k}(t),i,t) = z_{k}^{T}(t)P_{ki}Ez_{k}(t),
$$
\n
$$
V_{k2}(z_{k}(t),i,t) = \int_{t-\tau_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)Q_{k1i}z_{k}(s)ds + \int_{t-\tau_{i}(t)}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}Q_{k2i}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)Q_{k3}z_{k}(s)ds + \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}Q_{k4}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds,
$$
\n
$$
V_{k3}(z_{k}(t),i,t) = \int_{t-h_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)R_{k1i}z_{k}(s)ds + \int_{t-h_{i}(t)}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}R_{k2i}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)R_{k3}z_{k}(s)ds + \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}R_{k4}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds,
$$
\n
$$
V_{k4}(z_{k}(t),i,t) = \int_{t-d_{i}(t)}^{t-d_{i1}} z_{k}^{T}(s)T_{k1i}z_{k}(s)ds + \int_{t-d_{i1}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)T_{k2}z_{k}(s)ds
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} z_{k}^{T}(s)T_{k3}z_{k}(s)ds + \int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_{k}^{T}(s)T_{k4}z_{k}(s)ds,
$$
\n
$$
V_{k5}(z_{k}(t),i,t) = \int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}U_{k1}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds + \int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{mi}} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}U_{k2}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds
$$
\n
$$
V_{k6}(z_{k}(t),i,t) =
$$

$$
+\int_{-d_{1i}}^{0} \int_{t+\theta}^{t} d_{1i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k3}z_{k}(s)dsd\theta + \int_{-d_{mi}}^{-d_{1i}} \int_{t+\theta}^{t} \rho_{1i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k4}z_{k}(s)dsd\theta + \int_{-d_{2i}}^{-d_{mi}} \int_{t+\theta}^{t} \rho_{2i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k5}z_{k}(s)dsd\theta,
$$
  

$$
V_{k7}(z_{k}(t), i, t) = \int_{-\tilde{\tau}_{i}}^0 \int_{t+\theta}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k1}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\theta + \int_{-\bar{h}_{i}}^0 \int_{t+\theta}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k2}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\theta + \int_{-d_{1i}}^0 \int_{t+\theta}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k3}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\theta + \int_{-d_{mi}}^{-d_{ni}} \int_{t+\theta}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k4}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\theta + \int_{-d_{2i}}^{-d_{mi}} \int_{t+\theta}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k5}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\theta,
$$
  

$$
V_{k8}(z_{k}(t), i, t) = \int_{-\tilde{\tau}_{i}}^0 \int_{\theta}^0 \int_{t+\lambda}^{t} \frac{\bar{\tau}_{i}^2}{2} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}N_{k1}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\lambda d\theta + \int_{-\bar{h}_{i}}^0 \int_{\theta}^0 \int_{t+\lambda}^{t} \frac{\bar{\tau}_{i}^2}{2} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}N_{k2}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\lambda d\theta + \int_{-d_{1i}}^0 \int_{\theta}^0 \int_{t+\lambda}^{t} \frac{d_{1i}}{2} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}N_{k4}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)dsd\lambda
$$

The derivative of  $V_{kr}(z_k(t), i, t)$  along the trajectory of (3.4) with respect to *t* is given by

$$
\dot{V}_{k1}(z_k(t), i, t) = 2z_k^T(t)P_{ki}\Big[(A_i + b_1\Gamma_{1i}\lambda_{ki} - b_4\sigma_k\Gamma_4)z_k(t) + (B_i + b_2\Gamma_{2i}\lambda_{ki})z_k(t - d_i(t))\n+ D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t z_k(s)ds + (C_i + b_3\Gamma_{3i}\lambda_{ki})\dot{z}_k(t - \tau_i(t)) + E_i h_{k1}(t) + H_i h_{k2}(t)\n+ J_i h_{k3}(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m \tau_{ij}\big[z_k^T(t)P_{kj}Ez_k(t)\big]\Big],
$$
\n(3.18)

$$
\dot{V}_{k2}(z_{k}(t), i, t) \leq z_{k}^{T}(t)[Q_{k1i} + Q_{k3}]z_{k}(t) + \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t)[E^{T}Q_{k2i}E + E^{T}Q_{k4}E]\dot{z}_{k}(t) \n- z_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{\tau}_{i})Q_{k3}z_{k}(t - \bar{\tau}_{i}) - (1 - \nu_{i})z_{k}^{T}(t - \tau_{i}(t))Q_{k1i}z_{k}(t - \tau_{i}(t)) \n- (1 - \nu_{i})\dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - \tau_{i}(t))E^{T}Q_{k2i}\dot{z}_{k}(t - \tau_{i}(t)) - \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{\tau}_{i})E^{T}Q_{k4}E\dot{z}_{k}(t - \bar{\tau}_{i}) \n+ \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} \int_{t - \bar{\tau}_{j}}^{t} [z_{k}^{T}(s)Q_{k1j}z_{k}(s) + \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}Q_{k2j}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)]ds,
$$
\n(3.19)

$$
\dot{V}_{k3}(z_{k}(t), i, t) \leq z_{k}^{T}(t)[R_{k1i} + R_{k3}]z_{k}(t) + \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t)[E^{T}R_{k2i}E + E^{T}R_{k4}E]\dot{z}_{k}(t) \n- z_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{h}_{i})R_{k3}z_{k}(t - \bar{h}_{i}) - (1 - \delta_{i})\dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - h_{i}(t))E^{T}R_{k2i}E\dot{z}_{k}(t - h_{i}(t)) \n- (1 - \delta_{i})z_{k}^{T}(t - h_{i}(t))R_{k1i}z_{k}(t - h_{i}(t)) - \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t - \bar{h}_{i})E^{T}R_{k4}E\dot{z}_{k}(t - \bar{h}_{i}) \n+ \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} \int_{t - \bar{h}_{j}}^{t} [z_{k}^{T}(s)R_{k1j}z_{k}(s) + \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}R_{k2j}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)]ds,
$$
\n(3.20)

 $\dot{V}_{k4}(z_k(t), i, t) \leq z_k^T(t - d_{1i})[T_{k1i} - T_{k2} + T_{k3}]z_k(t - d_{1i}) + z_k^T(t - d_{mi})[T_{k4} - T_{k3}]z_k(t - d_{mi})$  $\underline{\textcircled{\tiny 2}}$  Springer

$$
-(1 - \mu_i)z_k^T(t - d_i(t))T_{k1i}z_k(t - d_i(t)) - z_k^T(t - d_{2i})T_{k4}z_k(t - d_{2i})
$$
  
+  $z_k^T(t)T_{k2}z_k(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} \int_{t - d_{2j}}^{t - d_{1j}} z_k^T(s)T_{k1j}z_k(s)ds,$  (3.21)

$$
\dot{V}_{k5}(z_k(t), i, t) = \dot{z}_k^T(t)E^T U_{k1} E \dot{z}_k(t) + \dot{z}_k^T (t - d_{1i}) [E^T U_{k2} E - E^T U_{k1} E] \dot{z}_k(t - d_{1i}) \n+ \dot{z}_k^T (t - d_{mi}) [E^T U_{k3} E - E^T U_{k2} E] \dot{z}_k(t - d_{mi}) \n+ \dot{z}_k^T (t - d_{2i}) E^T U_{k3} E \dot{z}_k(t - d_{2i}),
$$
\n(3.22)

$$
\dot{V}_{k6}(z_{k}(t), i, t) = z_{k}^{T}(t)[\bar{\tau}_{i}^{2}W_{k1} + \bar{h}_{i}^{2}W_{k2} + d_{1i}^{2}W_{k3} + \rho_{1i}^{2}W_{k4} + \rho_{2i}^{2}W_{k5}]z_{k}(t) \n- \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} \bar{\tau}_{i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k1}z_{k}(s)ds - \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} \bar{h}_{i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k2}z_{k}(s)ds \n- \int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} d_{1i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k3}z_{k}(s)ds - \int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} \rho_{1i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k4}z_{k}(s)ds \n- \int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} \rho_{2i}z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k5}z_{k}(s)ds, \qquad (3.23)
$$
\n
$$
\dot{V}_{k7}(z_{k}(t), i, t) = \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t)E^{T}[\bar{\tau}_{i}M_{k1} + \bar{h}_{i}M_{k2} + d_{1i}M_{k3} + \rho_{1i}M_{k4} + \rho_{2i}M_{k5}]E\dot{z}_{k}(t)
$$

$$
K_{k7}(z_{k}(t), i, t) = \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t)E^{T}[\bar{\tau}_{i}M_{k1} + \bar{h}_{i}M_{k2} + d_{1i}M_{k3} + \rho_{1i}M_{k4} + \rho_{2i}M_{k5}]E\dot{z}_{k}(t)
$$

$$
- \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k1}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds - \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k2}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds
$$

$$
- \int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k3}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds - \int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k4}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds
$$

$$
- \int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s)E^{T}M_{k5}E\dot{z}_{k}(s)ds,
$$
(3.24)

$$
\begin{split}\n\dot{V}_{k8}(z_{k}(t),i,t) &= \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(t)E^{T}\Big[\frac{\bar{\tau}_{i}^{4}}{4}N_{k1} + \frac{\bar{h}_{i}^{4}}{4}N_{k2} + \frac{d_{1i}^{4}}{4}N_{k3} + \rho_{3i}^{2}N_{k4} + \rho_{4i}^{2}N_{k5}\Big]E\dot{z}_{k}(t) \\
&+ z_{k}^{T}(t)\Big[-E^{T}\bar{\tau}_{i}^{2}N_{k1}E - E^{T}\bar{h}_{i}^{2}N_{k2}E - E^{T}d_{1i}^{2}N_{k3}E - E^{T}\rho_{1i}^{2}N_{k4}E \\
&- E^{T}\rho_{2i}^{2}N_{k5}E\Big]z_{k}(t) + \bar{\tau}_{i}z_{k}^{T}(t)E^{T}N_{k1}E\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)\mathrm{d}s \\
&- \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)\mathrm{d}s E^{T}N_{k1}E\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)\mathrm{d}s + \bar{\tau}_{i}\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)\mathrm{d}s E^{T}N_{k1}Ez_{k}(t) \\
&+ \bar{h}_{i}z_{k}^{T}(t)E^{T}N_{k2}E\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)\mathrm{d}s + \bar{h}_{i}\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)\mathrm{d}s E^{T}N_{k2}Ez_{k}(t) \\
&- \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)\mathrm{d}s E^{T}N_{k2}E\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)\mathrm{d}s + d_{1i}\int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)\mathrm{d}s E^{T}N_{k3}Ez_{k}(t) \\
&- \int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)\mathrm{d}s E^{T}N_{k3}E\int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)\mathrm{d}s + d_{1i}z_{k}^{T}(t)E^{T}N_{k3}E\int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)\mathrm{d}s \\
&+ \rho_{1i}z
$$

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$$
-\int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_k^T(s)ds E^T N_{k5} E \int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_k(s)ds + \rho_{2i} \int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_k^T(s)ds E^T N_{k5} E z_k(t).
$$
\n(3.25)

Because of  $\sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} = 0$ , the following zero equations hold for arbitrary matrices  $Y_{1i} = Y_{1i}^T$ ,  $Y_{2i} = Y_{2i}^T$ ,  $Y_{3i} = Y_{3i}^T$ ,  $Y_{4i} = Y_{4i}^T$ ,  $Y_{5i} = Y_{5i}^T$ ,  $(i \in S)$ 

$$
-\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_j}^{t} z_k^T(s) \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} Y_{1i} z_k(s) \, \mathrm{d}s = 0,\tag{3.26}
$$

$$
-\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_j}^{t} \dot{z}_k^T(s) E^T \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} Y_{2i} E \dot{z}_k(s) ds = 0, \qquad (3.27)
$$

$$
-\int_{t-\bar{h}_j}^{t} z_k^T(s) \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} Y_{3i} z_k(s) \, \mathrm{d}s = 0,\tag{3.28}
$$

$$
-\int_{t-\bar{h}_j}^{t} \dot{z}_k^T(s) E^T \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} Y_{4i} E \dot{z}_k(s) ds = 0, \qquad (3.29)
$$

$$
-\int_{t-d_{2j}}^{t-d_{1j}} z_k^T(s) \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} Y_{5i} z_k(s) ds = 0.
$$
 (3.30)

Notice (a) of Lemma 2.7, then,

$$
-\bar{\tau}_{i}\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k1}z_{k}(s)ds \leq -\Big(\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds\Big)W_{k1}\Big(\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)ds\Big),
$$
  
\n
$$
-\bar{h}_{i}\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k2}z_{k}(s)ds \leq -\Big(\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds\Big)W_{k2}\Big(\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)ds\Big),
$$
  
\n
$$
-d_{1i}\int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k3}z_{k}(s)ds \leq -\Big(\int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds\Big)W_{k3}\Big(\int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} z_{k}(s)ds\Big),
$$
  
\n
$$
-\rho_{1i}\int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k4}z_{k}(s)ds \leq -\Big(\int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds\Big)W_{k4}\Big(\int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} z_{k}(s)ds\Big),
$$
  
\n
$$
-\rho_{2i}\int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_{k}^{T}(s)W_{k5}z_{k}(s)ds \leq -\Big(\int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_{k}^{T}(s)ds\Big)W_{k5}\Big(\int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} z_{k}(s)ds\Big).
$$
  
\n(3.31)

Notice (b) of Lemma 2.7, then,

$$
-\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s) E^{T} M_{k1} E \dot{z}_{k}(s) ds
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \frac{1}{\bar{\tau}_{i}} \begin{pmatrix} z_{k}(t) \\ z_{k}(t-\bar{\tau}_{i}) \end{pmatrix}^{T} \begin{pmatrix} -E^{T} M_{k1} E & E^{T} M_{k1} E \\ * & -E^{T} M_{k1} E \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_{k}(t) \\ z_{k}(t-\bar{\tau}_{i}) \end{pmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
-\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s) E^{T} M_{k2} E \dot{z}_{k}(s) ds
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \frac{1}{\bar{h}_{i}} \begin{pmatrix} z_{k}(t) \\ z_{k}(t-\bar{h}_{i}) \end{pmatrix}^{T} \begin{pmatrix} -E^{T} M_{k2} E & E^{T} M_{k2} E \\ * & -E^{T} M_{k2} E \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_{k}(t) \\ z_{k}(t-\bar{h}_{i}) \end{pmatrix},
$$

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$$
-\int_{t-d_{1i}}^{t} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s) E^{T} M_{k3} E \dot{z}_{k}(s) ds
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \frac{1}{d_{1i}} \left( \frac{z_{k}(t)}{z_{k}(t - d_{1i})} \right)^{T} \left( -E^{T} M_{k3} E E E^{T} M_{k3} E \right) \left( \frac{z_{k}(t)}{z_{k}(t - d_{1i})} \right),
$$
  
\n
$$
-\int_{t-d_{mi}}^{t-d_{1i}} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s) E^{T} M_{k4} E \dot{z}_{k}(s) ds
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \frac{1}{\rho_{1i}} \left( \frac{z_{k}(t - d_{1i})}{z_{k}(t - d_{mi})} \right)^{T} \left( -E^{T} M_{k4} E E E^{T} M_{k4} E \right) \left( \frac{z_{k}(t - d_{1i})}{z_{k}(t - d_{mi})} \right),
$$
  
\n
$$
-\int_{t-d_{2i}}^{t-d_{mi}} \dot{z}_{k}^{T}(s) E^{T} M_{k5} E \dot{z}_{k}(s) ds
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \frac{1}{\rho_{2i}} \left( \frac{z_{k}(t - d_{mi})}{z_{k}(t - d_{2i})} \right)^{T} \left( -E^{T} M_{k5} E E E^{T} M_{k5} E \right) \left( \frac{z_{k}(t - d_{mi})}{z_{k}(t - d_{2i})} \right).
$$
  
\n(3.32)

For  $\tau_i(t) \in [0, \bar{\tau}_i]$ , using Lemma 2.7(a), we obtain the following:

$$
-\int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t} \bar{\tau}_{i} z_{k}^{T}(s) W_{k1} z_{k}(s) \, ds \leq \frac{-\bar{\tau}_{i}}{\bar{\tau}_{i} - \tau_{i}(t)} \Big( \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t-\tau_{i}(t)} z_{k}^{T}(s) \, ds \Big) W_{k1} \Big( \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{i}}^{t-\tau_{i}(t)} z_{k}(s) \, ds \Big) - \frac{\bar{\tau}_{i}}{\tau_{i}(t)} \Big( \int_{t-\tau_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s) \, ds \Big) W_{k1} \Big( \int_{t-\tau_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}(s) \, ds \Big). \tag{3.33}
$$

For  $h_i(t) \in [0, \bar{h}_i]$ , using Lemma 2.7(a), we obtain the following:

$$
-\int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t} \bar{h}_{i} z_{k}^{T}(s) W_{k2} z_{k}(s) ds \leq \frac{-\bar{h}_{i}}{\bar{h}_{i} - h_{i}(t)} \Big( \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t-h_{i}(t)} z_{k}^{T}(s) ds \Big) W_{k2} \Big( \int_{t-\bar{h}_{i}}^{t-h_{i}(t)} z_{k}(s) ds \Big) - \frac{\bar{h}_{i}}{h_{i}(t)} \Big( \int_{t-h_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s) ds \Big) W_{k2} \Big( \int_{t-h_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}(s) ds \Big). \tag{3.34}
$$

From equations  $(3.12)$  and  $(3.17)$ – $(3.34)$ , we obtain

$$
\dot{V}_{k} \leq \sum_{r=1}^{8} \dot{V}_{kr} - \alpha_{k} \xi_{k}^{T}(t) \Phi_{k} \xi_{k}(t)
$$
\n
$$
\leq \xi_{k}^{T}(t) \Psi_{k1} \xi_{k}(t) + \xi_{k}^{T}(t) \eta_{k}^{T} \Big[ Q_{k2i} + Q_{k4} + R_{k2i} + R_{k4} + U_{k1} + \bar{\tau}_{i} M_{k1} + \bar{h}_{i} M_{k2} + d_{1i} M_{k3} + \rho_{1i} M_{k4} + \rho_{2i} M_{k5} + \frac{\bar{\tau}_{i}^{4}}{4} N_{k1} + \frac{\bar{h}_{i}^{4}}{4} N_{k2} + \frac{d_{1i}^{4}}{4} N_{k3} + \rho_{3i}^{2} N_{k4} + \rho_{4i}^{2} N_{k5} \Big] \eta_{k} \xi_{k}(t)
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{j}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s) \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (Q_{k1j} - Y_{1i}) z_{k}(s) ds + \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{j}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s) E^{T} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (Q_{k2j} - Y_{2i}) E z_{k}(s) ds
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{t-\bar{h}_{j}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s) \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (R_{k1j} - Y_{3i}) z_{k}(s) ds + \int_{t-\bar{h}_{j}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s) E^{T} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (R_{k2j} - Y_{4i}) E z_{k}(s) ds
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{t-d_{2j}}^{t-d_{1j}} z_{k}^{T}(s) \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (T_{k1j} - Y_{5i}) z_{k}(s) ds
$$
\n
$$
\leq \xi_{k}^{T}(t) \Xi \xi_{k}(t) + \int_{t-\bar{\tau}_{j}}^{t} z_{k}^{T}(s) \sum_{j=1}^{m} \pi_{ij} (Q_{k1j} - Y_{1i}) z_{k}(s) ds
$$

$$
+\int_{t-\bar{r}_j}^{t} \dot{z}_k^T(s) E^T \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} (Q_{k2j} - Y_{2i}) E \dot{z}_k(s) ds + \int_{t-\bar{h}_j}^{t} z_k^T(s) \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} (R_{k1j} - Y_{3i}) z_k(s) ds + \int_{t-\bar{h}_j}^{t} \dot{z}_k^T(s) E^T \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} (R_{k2j} - Y_{4i}) E \dot{z}_k(s) ds + \int_{t-d_{2j}}^{t-d_{1j}} z_k^T(s) \sum_{j=1}^m \pi_{ij} (T_{k1j} - Y_{5i}) z_k(s) ds
$$
\n(3.35)

By Schur complement Lemma, we get (3.14), and

$$
\dot{V}_k(z_k(t), i, t) < 0. \tag{3.36}
$$

As  $E^T P_{ki} = P_{ki} E \geq 0$ , the stable result cannot be obtained via the Lyapunov stability theory because the rank of  $E^T P_{ki}$  in the Lyapunov function  $V_{k1}(z_k(t), i, t)$  is  $r < n$ .

By Lemma 2.6, it is clear that the pair  $(E, A_i + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_k - b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4)$  is regular and impulse free whenever inequalities (3.13)–(3.16) hold. Then, the nonsingular matrices are  $X_k = \begin{bmatrix} X_{k1}^T & X_{k2}^T \end{bmatrix}$ and  $Y_k = \begin{bmatrix} Y_{k1}^T & Y_{k2}^T \end{bmatrix}^T$ . The following decomposition holds:

$$
X_k E Y_k = \text{diag}\{I_r, 0\};\tag{3.37}
$$

$$
X_k(A_i + b_1 \Gamma_{1i} \lambda_k - b_4 \sigma_k \Gamma_4) Y_k = \text{diag}\{\bar{A}_{ki}, I_{n-r}\},\tag{3.38}
$$

where  $X_{k1} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$ ,  $X_{k2} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-r)\times n}$ ,  $Y_{k1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ ,  $Y_{k2} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n-r)}$ , and  $\bar{A}_{ki} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r}$ ,  $k =$  $2, 3, \cdots, N$ 

The network system (3.4) is equivalent to

$$
\begin{cases}\n\dot{z}_{k}^{(1)}(t) = \bar{A}_{ki}z_{k}^{(1)}(t) + X_{k1}E_{ri}h_{k1} + X_{k1}H_{ri}h_{k2} + X_{k1}J_{ri}h_{k3} \\
+ X_{k1}D_{ri}Y_{k1} \int_{t-h_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{(1)}(s)ds + X_{k1}(B_{ri} + b_{2}\Gamma_{2ri}\lambda_{k})Y_{k1}z_{k}^{(1)}(t - d_{i}(t)) \\
+ X_{k1}(C_{ri} + b_{3}\Gamma_{3ri}\lambda_{k})Y_{k1}\dot{z}_{k}^{(1)}(t - \tau_{i}(t)), \\
0 = z_{k}^{(2)}(t) + X_{k2}E_{(n-r)i}h_{k1} + X_{k2}H_{(n-r)i}h_{k2} + X_{k2}J_{(n-r)i}h_{k3} \\
+ X_{k2}D_{(n-r)i}Y_{k2} \int_{t-h_{i}(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{(2)}(s)ds + X_{k2}(B_{(n-r)i} \\
+ b_{2}\Gamma_{2(n-r)i}\lambda_{k})Y_{k2}z_{k}^{(2)}(t - d_{i}(t)) + X_{k2}(C_{(n-r)i} \\
+ b_{3}\Gamma_{3(n-r)i}\lambda_{k})Y_{k2}\dot{z}_{k}^{(2)}(t - \tau_{i}(t)), \quad k = 2, 3, \cdots, N,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(3.39)

where  $Y_k^{-1}z_k(t) =$  $\sqrt{ }$  $\mathcal{L}$  $z_k^{(1)}$  $f_k^{(1)}(t)$  $z_k^{(2)}$  $f_k^{(2)}(t)$  $\setminus$  $\bigg\}, \ \Gamma_{2ri} = \text{diag}\{c_1(i), c_2(i), \cdots, c_r(i)\}, \ \Gamma_{2(n-r)i} = \text{diag}\{c_{r+1}(i), c_{r+1}(i)\},$  $c_{r+2}(i), \dots, c_n(i)$ ,  $\Gamma_{3ri} = \text{diag}\{d_1(i), d_2(i), \dots, d_r(i)\}$ , and  $\Gamma_{3(n-r)i} = \text{diag}\{d_{r+1}(i), d_{r+2}(i), d_{r+2}(i)\}$  $\cdots$ ,  $d_n(i)$ . Let  $X_k^{-T} P_{ki} Y_k =$  $\sqrt{ }$  $\overline{1}$  $P_{ki}^{(1)}$   $P_{ki}^{(2)}$ *ki*  $P_{ki}^{(3)}$   $P_{ki}^{(4)}$ *ki*  $\setminus$  *.* Then, according to equations (3.17), (3.37), and (3.38), it is easy to see that  $P_{ki}^{(1)} = P_{ki}^{(1)T}$  and  $P_{ki}^{(2)} = 0$ . Hence,  $V_{k1}(z_k(t), i, t) = z_k^{(1)T}$  $p_k^{(1)T}(t)P_{ki}^{(1)}E z_k^{(1)}$  $(t)$ . (3.40)

From  $\dot{V}_k(z_k) < 0, z_k^{(1)}$  $f_k^{(1)}(t)$  of system (3.4) is asymptotically stable, that is,  $\lim_{t\to\infty} ||z_k^{(1)}||$  $\|k^{(1)}(t)\| = 0,$  $k = 2, 3, \cdots, N$ . In the following, we show that  $z_k^{(2)}$  $f_k^{(2)}(t)$  are also asymptotically stable. From Springer

equation (3.38) and choosing  $X_{k2}$  such that  $X_{k2}X_{k2}^T = I_{n-r}$  which implies that  $||X_{k2}|| = 1$  and using Lemma 2.5, we have

$$
||z_{k}^{(2)}(t)|| = ||X_{k2}E_{(n-r)i}h_{k1} + X_{k2}H_{(n-r)i}h_{k2} + X_{k2}J_{(n-r)i}h_{k3} + X_{k2}D_{(n-r)i}Y_{k2}\int_{t-h_i(t)}^{t} z_{k}^{(2)}(s)ds + X_{k2}(B_{(n-r)i} + b_{2}\Gamma_{2(n-r)i}\lambda_{k})Y_{k2}z_{k}^{(2)}(t - d_{i}(t)) + X_{k2}(C_{(n-r)i} + b_{3}\Gamma_{3(n-r)i}\lambda_{k})Y_{k2}z_{k}^{(2)}(t - \tau_{i}(t))|| \leq ||X_{k2}|| ||E_{(n-r)i}|| ||h_{k1}|| + ||X_{k2}|| ||H_{(n-r)i}|| ||h_{k2}|| + ||X_{k2}|| ||J_{(n-r)i}|| ||h_{k3}|| + ||X_{k2}|| ||D_{(n-r)i}|| ||Y_{k2}|| \int_{t-h_i(t)}^{t} ||z_{k}^{(2)}(s)||ds + ||X_{k2}||(||B_{(n-r)i}|| + b_{2}||\Gamma_{2(n-r)i}|| \max(\lambda_{k}))||Y_{k2}|| ||z_{k}^{(2)}(t - d_{i}(t)))|| + ||X_{k2}||(||C_{(n-r)i}|| + b_{3}||\Gamma_{3(n-r)i}|| \max(\lambda_{k}))||Y_{k2}|| ||z_{k}^{(2)}(t - \tau_{i}(t))|| \leq ||h_{k1}|| + ||h_{k2}|| + ||h_{k3}|| = \sum_{k=2}^{N} {\overline{t}_{1} ||z_{k}(t)|| + {\overline{t}_{2} ||z_{k}(t - d_{i}(t))|| + {\overline{t}_{3} ||z_{k}(t - \tau_{i}(t))||}} \leq \sum_{k=2}^{N} {\overline{t}_{1} ||z_{k}(t)||.
$$
 (3.41)

If we choose  $W_k$ , such that  $\left(1-\sum_{k=1}^{N_k}\right)$  $\sum_{k=2}^{N} \bar{l}_1 \|W_k\| > 0$ , which leads  $\lim_{t \to \infty} \|z_k^{(2)}\|$  $\|k_{k}^{(2)}(t)\| = 0, k = 2, 3, \cdots, N.$ This completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

**Remark 3.2** In the literature, the authors  $(2, 5, 7, 13, 20, 21)$  investigated the problem of complex dynamical networks with time delay components. It is noted that unfortunately in the existing literature the problem of synchronization criteria for a class of singular neutral complex dynamical networks with distributed delay and Markovian jump parameters via pinning control has not been considered yet. Motivated by this, in this article we provided a sufficient condition to ensure that the SNCDN (3.1) is global (asymptotically) synchronized.

**Remark 3.3** Synchronization of the Markovian jumping neutral complex dynamical networks is considered in [45]. In this article, Markovian jumping singular neutral complex dynamical networks with pinning control is employed. Synchronization conditions are established in the form of linear matrix inequalities (LMIs). The solvability of derived conditions depends not only on the pinned nodes but also on the initial values of the Markovian jumping parameter. It is pointed out that there is no useful term is ignored while maintaining our stability results.

## **4 Numerical Examples**

In this section, numerical examples are presented to demonstrate the effectiveness of the synchronization for pinning control.

**Example 4.1** Consider the following time-varying delayed Markovian jumping SNCDN with 3-node and mode  $s = 2$ ,

$$
E\dot{z}_k(t) = (A_i + b_1\Gamma_{1i}\lambda_{ki} - b_4\sigma_k\Gamma_4)z_k(t) + (B_i + b_2\Gamma_{2i}\lambda_{ki})z_k(t - d_i(t)) + D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t z_k(s)ds
$$
  
+  $(C_i + b_3\Gamma_{3i}\lambda_{ki})\dot{z}_k(t - \tau_i(t)) + E_i h_{k1}(t) + H_i h_{k2}(t) + J_i h_{k3}(t), \ k = 1, 2, 3,$ 

with

$$
E = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 \ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1.2 & 0.1 \ -0.1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.3 & 0.09 \ 0.2 & -0.4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \ 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 0.2 \ -0.1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & 0 \ 0.2 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.1 \ 0.5 & -0.4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \ 0 & -0.15 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
D_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 0 \ -0.1 & 0.15 \end{bmatrix}, \quad E_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 & 0 \ 0 & -0.1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad E_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \ 0 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Gamma_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
\Gamma_{21} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Gamma_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Gamma_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Gamma_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Gamma_{22} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
\Gamma_{32} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Pi = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 \ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad G_1^{(a)} = G_2^{(a)} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 \ 1 & -2 & 1 \ 1 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}
$$

 $(a = 1, 2, 3), J_i = H_i = 0, i = \{1, 2\}.$  Let us consider  $b_1 = 1, b_2 = b_3 = 0.5, b_4 = 0.6, \sigma_1 = 0.4,$  $\sigma_2 = 0.5, \sigma_3 = 0.3, \bar{\tau}_1 = \bar{\tau}_2 = 0.2, \nu_1 = \nu_2 = 0.5, \bar{h}_1 = \bar{h}_1 = 0.3, \delta_1 = \delta_2 = 0.6, d_{11} = 0.4,$  $d_{21} = 0.6, d_{m1} = 0.5, \mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0.4$ , and the eigenvalues of  $G_i^{(a)}$  are found to be  $\lambda_{i1} = 0$ ,  $\lambda_{i2} = -3$  and  $\lambda_{i3} = -3$ . By using Matlab LMI Toolbox, we solve the LMIs (3.13)–(3.16) in Theorem 3.1, we obtain the feasible solutions for  $N = 3, k = 1, i = 1, 2$  as follows:

$$
P_{11} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.6118 & -0.0496 \\ -0.0496 & 0.6304 \end{bmatrix}, \quad P_{12} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2511 & -0.0503 \\ -0.0503 & 0.2180 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
Q_{111} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.3578 & -0.1523 \\ -0.1523 & 0.1809 \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q_{121} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.3082 & -0.1399 \\ -0.1399 & 0.0430 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
Q_{112} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5723 & -0.1205 \\ -0.1205 & -0.0205 \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q_{122} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1864 & -0.0059 \\ -0.0059 & 0.084 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
Q_{13} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5267 & -0.2653 \\ -0.2653 & 0.6233 \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q_{14} = 10^{-5} \begin{bmatrix} 0.7621 & -0.3320 \\ -0.3320 & 0.2602 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
R_{111} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.3657 & -0.1528 \\ -0.1528 & 0.1512 \end{bmatrix}, \quad R_{121} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2724 & 0.0783 \\ 0.0783 & -0.1579 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
R_{112} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.6023 & -0.1342 \\ -0.1342 & -0.0764 \end{bmatrix}, \quad R_{122} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1770 & 0.0227 \\ 0.0227 & 0.0113 \end{bmatrix},
$$

$$
R_{13} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.6323 & -0.2998 \\ -0.2998 & 0.6319 \end{bmatrix}, \quad R_{14} = 10^{-5} \begin{bmatrix} 0.7892 & -0.3260 \\ -0.3260 & 0.2599 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
T_{111} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.3254 & -0.0922 \\ -0.0922 & 0.0563 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T_{112} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.8450 & -0.0851 \\ -0.0851 & 0.3999 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
T_{12} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2189 & -0.0719 \\ -0.0719 & 0.2057 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T_{13} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1007 & -0.0143 \\ -0.0143 & 0.1176 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
T_{14} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1654 & -0.0336 \\ 0.1554 & -0.0336 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U_{11} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1074 & -0.0559 \\ -0.0559 & 0.0399 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
U_{12} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1652 & 0.1541 \\ 0.1541 & 0.1607 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U_{13} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1620 & 0.1564 \\ 0.1564 & 0.1598 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
W_{11} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.3136 & -0.0036 \\ -0.0036 & 0.3049 \end{bmatrix}, \quad W_{12} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1820 & 0.1364 \\ 0.1564 & 0.1598 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
W_{13} = 10^{-3} \
$$

Therefore, by Theorem 3.1, the Markovian jumping SNCDN with time-varying delays (3.1) achieve synchronization through the pinning controller  $u_k(t)$  with the above mentioned parameters.

**Example 4.2** Consider the following time-varying delayed Markovian jumping SNCDNSpringer with 5-node and mode  $s = 2$ :

$$
E\dot{z}_k(t) = (A_i + b_1\Gamma_{1i}\lambda_{ki} - b_4\sigma_k\Gamma_4)z_k(t) + (B_i + b_2\Gamma_{2i}\lambda_{ki})z_k(t - d_i(t)) + D_i \int_{t - h_i(t)}^t z_k(s)ds
$$
  
+  $(C_i + b_3\Gamma_{3i}\lambda_{ki})\dot{z}_k(t - \tau_i(t)) + E_i h_{k1}(t) + H_i h_{k2}(t) + J_i h_{k3}(t), \ k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,$ 

with

$$
E = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1.2 & 0.1 \\ -0.1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.3 & 0.09 \\ 0.2 & -0.4 \end{bmatrix}, B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.31 & 0.25 \\ -0.14 & 0.18 \end{bmatrix}, C_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.28 & 0.02 \\ -0.06 & 0.11 \end{bmatrix}, C_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.22 & 0.14 \\ 0.05 & -0.45 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
D_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.1 \end{bmatrix}, D_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 0 \\ -0.1 & 0.15 \end{bmatrix}, E_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.01 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.01 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
E_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix}, T_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, T_{21} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, T_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
\Gamma_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, T_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, T_{22} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, T_{32} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
\Pi = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}; G_1^{(1)} = G_1^{(2)} = G_1^{(3)} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 & -0.5 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 &
$$

 $J_i = H_i = 0, i = \{1, 2\}$ . Let us consider  $b_1 = 0.1, b_2 = b_3 = 0.3, b_4 = 0.2, \sigma_1 = 0.4, \sigma_2 = 0.5,$  $\sigma_3 = 0.3, \bar{\tau}_1 = \bar{\tau}_2 = 0.2, \nu_1 = \nu_2 = 0.5, \bar{h}_1 = \bar{h}_1 = 0.3, \delta_1 = \delta_2 = 0.6, d_{11} = 0.4, d_{21} = 0.6,$  $d_{m1} = 0.5, \ \mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0.4.$  The eigenvalues of  $G_1^{(a)}$  and  $G_2^{(a)}$  are found to be  $\lambda_{11} = 0$ ,  $\lambda_{12} = \lambda_{13} = \lambda_{14} = -0.5$ ,  $\lambda_{15} = 2.5$ , and  $\lambda_{21} = 0$ ,  $\lambda_{22} = \lambda_{23} = \lambda_{24} = \lambda_{25} = -0.5$ . Using Matlab LMI Toolbox, we solve the LMIs  $(3.13)$ – $(3.16)$  in Theorem 3.1, then we obtain the feasible solutions for  $N = 5, k = 1, i = 1, 2$  as follows:

$$
P_{11} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2923 & 0.0757 \\ 0.0757 & 0.5387 \end{bmatrix}, \quad P_{12} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1341 & -0.1466 \\ -0.1466 & 0.1501 \end{bmatrix},
$$

$$
Q_{111} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.6830 & -0.1230 \\ -0.1230 & 0.7729 \end{bmatrix}, Q_{121} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.1466 & -0.0027 \\ -0.0027 & 0.1903 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
Q_{112} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2399 & -0.0721 \\ -0.0721 & -0.0126 \end{bmatrix}, Q_{122} = 10^{-5} \begin{bmatrix} 0.8336 & -0.4680 \\ -0.4680 & 0.3318 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
Q_{13} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.0859 & -0.1268 \\ -0.1268 & 0.1839 \end{bmatrix}, Q_{14} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.7850 & 0.0468 \\ 0.0468 & 0.1630 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
R_{111} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.7125 & -0.1471 \\ -0.1471 & 0.8420 \\ -0.0735 & -0.0290 \end{bmatrix}, R_{122} = 10^{-5} \begin{bmatrix} 0.31572 & -0.0043 \\ -0.0043 & 0.1904 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
R_{13} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.9734 & -0.1245 \\ -0.1245 & 0.1835 \end{bmatrix}, R_{14} = 10^{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0.7850 & 0.0468 \\ 0.0468 & 0.1630 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n
$$
T_{111} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.8135 & -0.0743 \\ -0.1245 & 0.1835 \end{bmatrix}, T_{112} = 10^{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 0.03061 & -0.0952 \\ -0.01666 & 0.3324 \end{bmatrix},
$$
  
\n

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$$
\begin{aligned} &N_{11}=10^{-3}\begin{bmatrix} 0.0879 & 0.0006\\ 0.0006 & 0.5453 \end{bmatrix},\quad N_{12}=10^{-3}\begin{bmatrix} 0.0874 & 0.0013\\ 0.0013 & 0.5328 \end{bmatrix},\\ &\\ &N_{13}=10^{-3}\begin{bmatrix} 0.0847 & 0.0180\\ 0.0180 & 0.5022 \end{bmatrix},\quad N_{14}=10^{-3}\begin{bmatrix} 0.0860 & 0.0020\\ 0.0020 & 0.5313 \end{bmatrix},\\ &\\ &N_{15}=10^{-3}\begin{bmatrix} 0.0868 & 0.0043\\ 0.0043 & 0.5254 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}
$$

Therefore, by Theorem 3.1, the Markovian jumping SNCDN with time-varying delays (2.1) achieve synchronization through the pinning controller  $u_k(t)$  with the above mentioned parameters.



Figure 1 State trajectories of the system in Example 2

# **5 Conclusion**

In this article, some new synchronization stability criteria are proposed for a class of Markovian jumping SNCDNs with distributed delay and pinning control. On the basis of appropriate Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional which contains triple integral terms and bounding techniques, the novel delay dependent synchronization condition is derived in terms of linear matrix inequalities. We established some sufficiency conditions for synchronization, and the numerical results can demonstrate the effectiveness of the obtained result. In future, the preosed methods can be further extended to deal with some other problems on pinning control and synchronization for general stochastic dynamical networks, complex systems with impulsive perturbation, etc.

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