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\*CORRESPONDENCE Youjun Chen chenyoujun@ncwu.edu.cn

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# Disturbance observer based adaptive fuzzy synchronization controller design for uncertain fractional-order chaotic systems

## Youjun Chen<sup>1\*</sup> and Feng Wang<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Mathematics and Statistics, North China University of Water Resources and Electric Power, Zhengzhou, China, <sup>2</sup>School of Information Engineering, North China University of Water Resources and Electric Power, Zhengzhou, China

This study premeditated the synchronization of two fractional-order chaotic systems (FOCSs) with uncertainties and external disturbances. We utilized fuzzy logic systems (FLSs) to estimate unknown nonlinearities, and implemented disturbance observers to estimate unknown bounded external disturbances. Then, a robust control term was devised to compensate for the unavoidable approximation error of the fuzzy system. In addition, a sliding mode surface was devised to construct an adaptive fuzzy sliding mode controller (AFSMC) that can guarantee that the synchronization error converges to a small neighborhood of zero. Finally, the validity of the proposed control strategy was verified *via* a numerical simulation.

#### KEYWORDS

fractional-order chaotic system, adaptive fuzzy control, sliding mode control, disturbance observer, chaos synchronization

# 1. Introduction

Fractional calculus has been developing for over three centuries, which is seen as an extension of ordinary calculus. It plays an important role in dealing with noninteger order systems, which have caught the attention of several scholars owing to its fascinating properties and potential application values. Over the past few decades, it has been discovered that, in some actual systems related to time series, compared with integer order systems, fractional order nonlinear systems (FONSs) have better modeling accuracy due to their memory and inheritance, such as financial systems [1], viscoelastic systems [2], dielectric polarization [3], and electrode-electrolyte polarization [4, 5].

Recently, some studies indicated that a considerable number of FONSs behave in chaotic phenomena, which is a nonlinearity with complexity, randomness, unpredictability, and extreme sensitivity to initial values [6–9] and has a great application value in secure communication [10], signal processing, mathematics, biology, machinery [8], etc. Therefore, many scholars conducted extensive and in-depth research on the control and synchronization of fractional order chaotic systems (FOCSs). Zhu et al. [11] proposed a one-way coupling means using a coupling matrix to discuss the synchronous control of the fractional-order Chua's system. Lu [12] adopted a scalar transmission signal to achieve the synchronization of FOCSs that does not depend on Lyapunov exponent conditions. Radwan et al. [13] noticed three switching synchronizations, namely static synchronization, single dynamic synchronization, and double dynamic synchronization, by designing two switches for the slave system to perform active control. The system models utilized in the above literature are widely known. However, in the actual modeling, due to the external environment, parameter uncertainties, and vulnerability to disturbances and other factors, the accurate model of the system is very difficult to be obtained. Thus, it is essential to study the synchronization of FOCSs with uncertain models and disturbances.

It is well known that the uncertainties of FOCSs will affect the synchronization performance. Therefore, researchers attempted to address this issue through various methods, such as fuzzy logic system (FLS) [2, 14-16], adaptive sliding mode control (SMC) [17-20], neural network [21-23]. Among these methods, adaptive fuzzy SMC (AFSMC) is an efficacious and common solution for handling uncertain items that have been proven and recognized by many researchers. It has a relatively quicker dynamic response and cuts down sensitivity to factors such as external disturbances and uncertainties. Boulkroune et al. [24] proposed a novel adaptive fuzzy controller light of the Lyapunov scheme to bring about proper projection synchronization. While Lin et al. [25] proposed an AFSMC method to further reduce the chattering phenomenon in the control by constructing an output feedback control law and an adaptive law to adjust the free parameters online. In addition, Yin et al. [26] put forward a robust controller designed directly in the robot task space by utilizing AFSMC technology, which can guarantee zero steady-state tracking error for a limited time. Based on the AFSMC scheme, Zhu et al. [27] implemented a specific performance of the tracking error by utilizing the conversion function of an error performance and used the estimation of the weight vector norm in the FLS to cut down the number of estimation parameters so that the designed controller is concise and easy to implement. It is important to note that the AFSMC used in the above literature can handle uncertainties well, but the setup of the controller is very complicated, and the results are not ideal in the presence of disturbances. Therefore, how to devise an ideal controller for uncertain FOCSs with external disturbances deserves further research.

In most FOCSs, external disturbances are unavoidable and have a certain impact on synchronization accuracy. Fortunately, many researchers studied and proposed many effective solutions. Mofid et al. [28] combined a disturbance observation (DOB) with an adaptive SMC scheme to achieve a rapid response for the synchronization of three-dimensional FOCSs. Waghmare et al. [29] adopted a reduced-order extended DOB to estimate unmodeled dynamic and disturbance, which can further improve estimation accuracy, and, at the same time, utilized an SMC technology to design a controller to stabilize the fluctuations in the body, thereby improving the comfort of people riding the vehicle. Guha et al. [30] developed a DOB to estimate disturbance in the endogenous or exogenous system to accelerate dynamic response with minimal flutter, and utilized the Mittag-Leffler stability theorem to ensure the limited time convergence of disturbance error. The above literature provides several outstanding solutions for dealing with disturbances. However, in this study, there have been few results on the synchronization of FOCSs considering disturbances and uncertainties simultaneously.

This study aimed to analyze the synchronization of FOCSs with uncertainties and disturbances based on the AFSMC technology. FLSs are used to estimate uncertain nonlinear terms, while DOBs are designed to estimate external disturbances. The proposed AFSMC strategy ensures that all signals are bounded, and the synchronization errors are asymptotically converged to a small neighborhood of zero. Finally, the effectiveness of the method is demonstrated by Lyapunov's stability theory. The contributions of this article are as follows: (1) taking into account both uncertainties and disturbances, the proposed AFSMC technology can achieve a fast response. (2) a DOB was designed to estimate the disturbance. Compared to traditional fuzzy techniques, a more accurate estimation can be obtained by using the proposed DOB.

The remaining part of the study is laid as follows. Section 2 raises some notations and preliminaries. Section 3 introduces the master-slave systems and the FLSs. Section 4 devises DOBs and adaptive fuzzy controllers, while stability analysis is implemented by using the Lyapunov scheme. Section 5 employs a simulation example to check out and validate this fashion. Furthermore, Section 6 provides the conclusion.

# 2. Preliminaries

Several fundamental definitions and lemmas with respect to fractional-order integrals and derivatives are useful for stability analysis.

**Definition 1.** Liu et al. [31] the fractional integral with order  $\vartheta \in (0, 1)$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{I}^{\vartheta}f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\vartheta)} \int_{t_0}^t \frac{f(\omega)}{(t-\omega)^{1-\vartheta}} d\omega, \tag{1}$$

where  $t \ge t_0$ ,  $\Gamma(\vartheta) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{\vartheta-1} dt$ , and  $(Re(\vartheta) > 0)$  is the familiar Gamma function, where  $Re(\vartheta)$  is the real part of  $\vartheta$ .

In this study, we mainly premeditated Caputo's fractional derivative owing to its initial conditions for fractional differential equations possessing an identical physical meaning with the integer-order one. **Definition 2.** Abbas and Benchohra [32] Caputo's fractional derivative with order  $\vartheta \in (0, 1)$  is described as

$${}^{c}\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\vartheta)} \int_{t_0}^{t} \frac{f'(\omega)}{(t-\omega)^{\vartheta}} d\omega, \qquad (2)$$

where  $f(t) \in \mathbb{C}^{n}([t_{0}, +\infty], \mathbb{R})$ . Hereafter,  $\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}$  represents  ${}^{c}\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}$  for convenience.

**Lemma 1.** Aguila-Camacho et al. [33] if  $\partial(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  is a realvalued continuous differentiable vector function, then we have

$$\frac{1}{2}\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}(\partial^{T}\partial) \leq \partial^{T}\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\partial \quad \forall \vartheta \in (0,1], \ t \geq 0.$$
(3)

**Lemma 2.** (Yong's Inequality) For  $\forall a, b \geq 0$ , the following inequality holds

$$ab \le \frac{a^p}{p} + \frac{b^q}{q}.\tag{4}$$

Lemma 3. Li and Sun [34] considering the FONS below

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\Psi(t) \le -\eta_0\Psi(t) + \eta_1,\tag{5}$$

there exists a constant  $t_1 > 0$  such that, for  $\forall t \in (t_1, \infty)$ , the following condition can be fulfilled

$$\|\Psi(t)\| \le \frac{2\eta_1}{\eta_0},$$
 (6)

where the  $\Psi(t)$  is the state variable and  $\eta_0$  and  $\eta_1$  are assumed to be normal numbers.

## 3. Problem statement

We considered a class of uncertain FOCSs portrayed by the master-slave system below

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} x = F(x), \tag{7}$$

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} y = G(y) + r(t, y) + u, \tag{8}$$

where  $x = [x_1, ..., x_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $y = [y_1, ..., y_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  denote the state vector of the master system and the slave system that are assumed to be measurable, respectively  $F(x) = [f_1, ..., f_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $G(y) = [g_1, ..., g_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are the smooth unknown nonlinear functions,  $u = [u_1, ..., u_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  represents the control input vector, and  $r = [r_1, ..., r_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the unknown disturbance.

**Remark 1.** There exist numerous FOCSs in the form described in Equations (7) and (8), such as fractional Chen system, fractional Lu system, and fractional Chua's system; thus, the proposed method is also valid for most of FOCSs.

In particular, to estimate uncertainties, an FLS is required and characterized as below.

Normally, an FLS involves a fuzzifier, a fuzzy inference engine, a defuzzifier, and some fuzzy IF-THEN rules. Fuzzy inference engine is greatly significant and indispensable, which maps the control input vector  $x^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  to an output  $\hat{\Xi} \in \mathbb{R}$ through a series of fuzzy rule numbers. The *i*th rule is portrayed as follows:  $\mathbb{R}^{(i)}$ : if  $x_1$  is  $\Upsilon_1^i, \ldots, x_n$  is  $\Upsilon_n^i$ , then  $\hat{\Xi}$  is  $\Lambda^i$ , where  $\Upsilon_1^i, \ldots, \Upsilon_n^i$  are fuzzy sets and  $\hat{\Xi}$  is the output. By taking advantage of the defuzzification, the output of the FLS can be manifested as follows:

$$\hat{\Xi}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{q} \rho_i(\prod_{j=1}^{n} \varpi_{\Upsilon_j^i}(x_j))}{\sum_{i=1}^{q} (\prod_{j=1}^{n} \varpi_{\Upsilon_j^i}(x_j))}$$
$$= \rho^T \tau(x), \tag{9}$$

where  $\varpi_{\Upsilon_j^i}(x_j)$  is the degree of membership of  $x_j$  to  $\Upsilon_j^i$ , q is the number of fuzzy rules,  $\rho = [\rho_1, \dots, \rho_q]^T$  is an adjustable parameter vector, and  $\tau = [\tau_1, \dots, \tau_q]^T$  is the *fuzzy basis function* (FBF), where

$$\tau_i(x) = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^n \varpi_{\Upsilon_j^i}(x_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^q (\prod_{j=1}^n \varpi_{\Upsilon_j^i}(x_j))}$$

Assuming that the picked FBFs have at least one active rule count, i.e.,  $\sum_{i=1}^{q} (\prod_{j=1}^{n} \varpi_{\Upsilon_{j}^{i}}(x_{j})) > 0$ . Thus, FLS (Equation 9) is greatly universally employed in control applications. According to the general approximation outcomes, the FLS (Equation 9) can appraise any nonlinear smooth function f with arbitrary precision in a compact operation space. It should be noted that the construction of the FLS (Equation 9), i.e., membership function parameters and number of rules, can be correctly predesigned by the designer. However, the parameter  $\rho$  must be defined by the learning algorithm.

## 4. Main results

This section discussed about promoting proper synchronization between the systems (Equations 7, 8) by devising a fuzzy adaptive control law  $u_i$  while guaranteeing that all signals were bounded and the synchronization error asymptotically converged to zero.

To realize the above objects, we first characterized the synchronization errors as

$$e_i = y_i - x_i, i = 1, \dots, n.$$
 (10)

then, we have

$$E = [e_1, \dots, e_n]^T = y - x.$$
 (11)

For an efficacious layout of the control system and stability analysis, a fractional integral sliding mode surface is presented as

$$S = [S_1, \dots, S_n]^T = \lambda^T E, \tag{12}$$

where  $S_i = \lambda_i e_i$  and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)^T$ , where  $\lambda_i$  is the positive constant.

From Equation (12), the dynamic of S can be obtained as

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}S = \lambda^{T}(\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}E) = \lambda^{T}(\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}y - \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}x) = \lambda^{T}(G(y) - F(x)_{(13)} + u + r(t, y)).$$

If

$$\hbar(x, y) = [\hbar_1(x, y), \dots, \hbar_n(x, y)]^T = \lambda^T (G(y) - F(x)),$$
(14)

then, we have

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}S = \hbar(x, y) - \lambda^{T}(u + r(t, y)).$$
(15)

To facilitate the following stability analysis, we made the following assumptions.

**Assumption 1.** There exists an unknown smooth positive function vector  $\overline{h}(y)$  such that  $|h(x, y)| \leq \overline{h}(y)$ , where  $\overline{h} = [\overline{h}_1, \dots, \overline{h}_n]^T$ .

The unknown function  $\overline{h}_i(y)$  can be estimated on a compact operation space  $\Omega_y$  by adopting the FLS (Equation 9), i.e.,

$$\ddot{\bar{h}}_i(y,\rho_i) = \rho_i^T \tau_i(y), \tag{16}$$

where  $\tau_i(y)$  is the FBF vector, which is devised in advance by the projector, and simultaneously,  $\rho_i$  is a parameter vector and  $\hat{\bar{h}}(y,\rho) = [\hat{\bar{h}}_1(y,\rho_1), \dots, \hat{\bar{h}}_n(y,\rho_n)]^T$ .

The optimal estimation of  $\rho_i$  can be described as

$$\rho_i^* = \arg\min_{\rho_i} \left[ \sup_{y \in \Omega_y} |\bar{h}_i(y) - \hat{\bar{h}}_i(y, \rho_i)| \right].$$
(17)

Since the vector  $\rho_i^*$  is only utilized for stability analysis, it is not necessary to calculate its specific values in the implementation process.

Now,  $\tilde{\rho}_i = \rho_i - \rho_i^*$  and

$$\varepsilon_i(y) = \bar{h}_i(y) - \hat{\bar{h}}_i(y, \rho_i^*) = \bar{h}_i(y) - \rho_i^{*T} \tau_i(y)$$
(18)

are the parameter estimation error and the fuzzy estimation error, respectively, where  $\varepsilon(y) = [\varepsilon_1(y), \dots, \varepsilon_n(y)]^T$  and  $\rho_i^*$  is a normal number. Additionally, an assumption is given.

**Assumption 2.** For the fuzzy estimation error, it satisfies  $|\varepsilon_i(y)| \leq \overline{\varepsilon}_i, \forall y \in \Omega_y$ , where  $\overline{\varepsilon}_i$  is an unknown normal number and  $\overline{\varepsilon} = [\overline{\varepsilon}_1, \dots, \overline{\varepsilon}_n]^T$ .

Then, from Equations (16) and (18), we have

$$\begin{split} \hat{\bar{h}}(y,\rho) - \bar{\bar{h}}(y) &= \hat{\bar{h}}(y,\rho) - \hat{\bar{h}}(y,\rho^*) + \hat{\bar{h}}(y,\rho^*) - \bar{\bar{h}}(y) \\ &= \rho^T \tau(y) - \rho^{*T} \tau(y) + \rho^{*T} \tau(y) - \bar{\bar{h}}(y) \quad (19) \\ &= \tilde{\rho}^T \tau(y) - \varepsilon(y). \end{split}$$

#### 4.1. Design of disturbance observer

We know that unknown external disturbances often appear in real-world systems, which will affect the performance of the system. Therefore, a DOB will be devised immediately to estimate this unknown disturbance of the slave system.

To facilitate the design of the DOB, an auxiliary variable is brought by

$$\xi_i = r_i - \lambda_i e_i. \tag{20}$$

The fractional derivative of  $\xi_i$  is

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\xi_{i} = \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i} - \lambda_{i}\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}e_{i}.$$
(21)

Substituting (Equations 7, 8, 10, and 20 into 21) yields

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\xi_{i} = \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i} - \lambda_{i}(g_{i}(y) - f_{i}(x) + u_{i} + r_{i})$$

$$= \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i} - \lambda_{i}(g_{i}(y) - f_{i}(x) + u_{i} + \xi_{i} + \lambda_{i}e_{i})$$

$$= \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i} - \lambda_{i}(g_{i}(y) - f_{i}(x)) - \lambda_{i}u_{i} - \lambda_{i}\xi_{i} - \lambda_{i}^{2}e_{i}$$

$$= \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i} - \bar{h}_{i}(x, y) - \lambda_{i}u_{i} - \lambda_{i}\xi_{i} - \lambda_{i}^{2}e_{i}.$$
(22)

To enhance the estimation performance of the disturbance, the estimation of the  $\xi_i$  is introduced as

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\hat{\xi}_{i} = -\hat{\bar{h}}_{i}(y,\rho_{i}) - \lambda_{i}u_{i} - \lambda_{i}\hat{\xi}_{i} - \lambda_{i}^{2}e_{i}.$$
(23)

Next, using Equation (20), the DOB can be constructed as

$$\hat{r}_i = \hat{\xi}_i + \lambda_i e_i, \tag{24}$$

where disturbance estimation error is

$$\tilde{r}_i = r_i - \hat{r}_i. \tag{25}$$

Furthermore, based on Equations (20), (24), and (25), we have

$$\tilde{\xi}_i = \xi_i - \hat{\xi}_i = r_i - \hat{r}_i = \tilde{r}_i.$$
(26)

Now, by using Equations (22) and (23), the fractional derivative of  $\tilde{\xi}_i$  is obtained as

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\tilde{\xi}_{i} = \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\xi_{i} - \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\hat{\xi}_{i} = \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i} - \bar{h}_{i}(x,y) - \lambda_{i}u_{i}$$
$$-\lambda_{i}\xi_{i} - \lambda_{i}^{2}e_{i} + \hat{\bar{h}}_{i}(y,\rho_{i}) + \lambda_{i}u_{i} + \lambda_{i}\hat{\xi}_{i} + \lambda_{i}^{2}e_{i} \qquad (27)$$
$$\leq \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T}\tau_{i} - \lambda_{i}\tilde{\xi}_{i}.$$

## 4.2. Controller design

In this subsection, we devised the synchronous control input by using the adaptive fuzzy method, and further took the Lyapunov method for the stability analysis.

The control input vector is devised to be

$$u = -\frac{1}{\lambda^T} (\rho^T \tau(y) + \lambda^T \hat{r} + \kappa_0 \operatorname{sign}(S) + \kappa_1 S), \qquad (28)$$

where  $\kappa_0 = Diag(\kappa_{01}, \dots, \kappa_{0n})$  and  $\kappa_1 = Diag(\kappa_{11}, \dots, \kappa_{1n})$  are positive definite diagonal matrices. Next, the adaptive law is designed as

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\rho_i = \mu_{\rho_i}(|S_i|\tau_i(y) - \beta_{\rho_i}|S_i|\rho_i), \qquad (29)$$

where  $\mu_{\rho_i}$  and  $\beta_{\rho_i}$  are normal numbers.

In light of the preceding foreshadowing, the theorem can be formulated as follows:

**Theorem 1.** Premeditating the systems (Equations (7), (8)), if a assumptions (Equations 1, 2) are fulfilled, while presuming the sliding mode surface is characterized as Equation (12). Furthermore, the DOB, the controller, and the fuzzy adaptive law are described as Equations (24), (28), and (29), respectively. Then, the system can ensure that the properties hold below.

- All signals remain bounded in a closed-loop system.
- The synchronization error converges asymptotically to a small neighborhood of zero.

First, to accomplish the proof of Theorem 1, an assumption is reasonable to be given.

**Assumption 3.** The  $r_i(t)$  and its fractional-order derivative are bounded, i.e.,  $|r_i(t)| \leq \overline{r}_i(t)$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_i(t) \leq M_i$ , where  $\overline{r}_i(t)$  and  $M_i$  are unknown positive function and normal number, respectively.



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Proof: Selecting the Lyapunov function as

$$V = V_1 + V_2 + V_3, (30)$$

where  $V_1 = \frac{1}{2}S^T S$ ,  $V_2 = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_i}} \tilde{\rho}_i^T \tilde{\rho}_i$ , and  $V_3 = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{r}_i^T \tilde{r}_i$ , from Equations (15), (19), and Lemma 1, the fractional-order derivative of  $V_1$  is calculated as

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V_{1} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} S^{T} S \leq S^{T} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} S \leq S^{T} [\bar{h}(x, y) + \lambda^{T} u + \lambda^{T} \bar{r}]$$
  
$$\leq S^{T} [\rho^{T} \tau - \tilde{\rho}^{T} \tau + \bar{\varepsilon} + \lambda^{T} u + \lambda^{T} \tilde{r} + \lambda^{T} \hat{r}].$$
(31)

Next, by using Lemma 1, we have

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V_{2} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_{i}}} \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tilde{\rho}_{i} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_{i}}} \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \tilde{\rho}_{i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_{i}}} \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \rho_{i}.$$
(32)

At the same time, according to Lemma 1, Equations (25), and (27), we get

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V_{3} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \tilde{r}_{i}^{T} \tilde{r}_{i} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T} \tilde{\xi}_{i} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n} \tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \tilde{\xi}_{i}$$
$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^{n} \tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T} (\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} r_{i} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tau_{i} - \lambda_{i}^{T} \tilde{\xi}_{i}).$$
(33)

Then, the fractional-order derivative of V can be acquired as

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V = \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V_{1} + \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V_{2} + \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V_{3}$$

$$\leq S^{T} [\rho^{T} \tau - \tilde{\rho}^{T} \tau + \bar{\varepsilon} + \lambda^{T} u + \lambda^{T} \tilde{r} + \lambda^{T} \hat{r}]$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_{i}}} \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \rho_{i} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T} (\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} r_{i} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tau_{i} - \lambda_{i}^{T} \tilde{\xi}_{i}).$$
(34)





Based on Lemma 2, we have

$$\tilde{\xi}_i \mathcal{D}^\vartheta r_i \le \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\xi}_i^T \tilde{\xi}_i + \frac{1}{2} (\mathcal{D}^\vartheta r_i)^2,$$
(35)

$$\tilde{\xi}_i \tilde{\rho}_i^T \tau_i(y) \le \frac{1}{2} \delta_0 \tilde{\xi}_i^T \tilde{\xi}_i + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\rho}_i^T \tilde{\rho}_i,$$
(36)

where  $\delta_0 = \|\tau(y)\|^2$  is the positive constant. Then, we got

$$\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V \leq S^{T}(\rho^{T}\tau(y) - \tilde{\rho}^{T}\tau(y) + \bar{\varepsilon}(y) + \lambda^{T}u + \lambda^{T}\tilde{r} + \lambda^{T}\hat{r}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu\rho_{i}} \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\rho_{i} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\xi}_{i} + (\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}r_{i})^{2}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\frac{1}{2}\delta_{0}\tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\xi}_{i} + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\rho}_{i} - \lambda_{i}\tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\xi}_{i}).$$
(37)

In line with assumption Lemma 3, Equations (28), and (29), we obtained

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} V &\leq S^{T}(-\tilde{\rho}^{T}\tau + \bar{\varepsilon} + \lambda^{T}\tilde{r} - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}}\kappa_{0}\mathrm{sign}(\mathrm{S}) - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}}\kappa_{1}\mathrm{S}) \\ &+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_{i}}}\tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T}\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\rho_{i} - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n}((2\lambda_{i} - 1 - \delta_{0i})\tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\xi}_{i} \\ &+ M_{i}^{2} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\rho}_{i}) = S^{T}(\bar{\varepsilon} - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}}\kappa_{0}\mathrm{sign}(\mathrm{S})) - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}}\mathrm{S}^{T}\kappa_{1}\mathrm{S} \\ &+ \lambda^{T}S^{T}\tilde{r} - S^{T}\tilde{\rho}^{T}\tau + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_{i}}}\tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T}\mathcal{D}^{\vartheta}\rho_{i} - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n}((2\lambda_{i} - 1 - \delta_{0i})\tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\xi}_{i} + M_{i}^{2} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\rho}_{i}) \leq S^{T}(\bar{\varepsilon} - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}}\kappa_{0}\mathrm{sign}(\mathrm{S})) \\ &- 1 - \delta_{0})\tilde{\xi}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\xi}_{i} + M_{i}^{2} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T}\tilde{\rho}_{i}) \leq S^{T}(\bar{\varepsilon} - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}}\kappa_{0}\mathrm{sign}(\mathrm{S})) \\ &- \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}}S^{T}\kappa_{1}\mathrm{S} + \frac{1}{2}\lambda^{T}\lambda S^{T}\mathrm{S} + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{r}^{T}\tilde{r} - S^{T}\tilde{\rho}^{T}\tau \end{split}$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_{i}}} \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} \rho_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} ((2\lambda_{i} - 1 - \delta_{0i}) \tilde{r}_{i}^{T} \tilde{r}_{i} + M_{i}^{2}$$

$$+ \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tilde{\rho}_{i}) = S^{T} (\bar{\varepsilon} - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}} \kappa_{0} \text{sign}(S)) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} ((2\lambda_{i} \quad (38)))$$

$$- 2 - \delta_{0i} \tilde{r}_{i}^{T} \tilde{r}_{i} + M_{i}^{2} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tilde{\rho}_{i}) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_{\rho_{i}} |S_{i}| \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \rho_{i}$$

$$- S^{T} (\frac{1}{\lambda^{T}} \kappa_{1} - \frac{1}{2} \lambda^{T} \lambda I) S \leq S^{T} (\bar{\varepsilon} - \frac{1}{\lambda^{T}} \kappa_{0} \text{sign}(S))$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} ((2\lambda_{i} - 1 - \delta_{0i}) \tilde{r}_{i}^{T} \tilde{r}_{i} + M_{i}^{2} + \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tilde{\rho}_{i})$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_{\rho_{i}} |S_{i}| (\tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tilde{\rho}_{i} - \rho^{*T} \rho^{*}) - S^{T} (\frac{1}{\lambda^{T}} \kappa_{1})$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \lambda^{T} \lambda I) S \leq -S^{T} (\frac{1}{\lambda^{T}} \kappa_{1} - \frac{1}{2} \lambda^{T} \lambda I) S - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (2\lambda_{i})$$

$$\begin{aligned} &-2 - \delta_{0i} \tilde{r}_{i}^{T} \tilde{r}_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\beta_{\rho_{i}} |S_{i}| - 1) \tilde{\rho}_{i}^{T} \tilde{\rho}_{i} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{i}^{2} \\ &\leq -\iota_{0} V + \iota_{1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\iota_{0i} = \min\{\frac{2}{\lambda_i}\min(\kappa_{1i} - \lambda_i^2), (2\lambda_i - \delta_{0i} - 2), \mu_{\rho_i}(\beta_{\rho_i}|S_i| - 1)\}$  and  $\iota_{1i} = \frac{1}{2}M_i^2$  are positive constants, and  $\kappa_{0i} \ge \lambda_i(\bar{\varepsilon}_i(y) + \frac{1}{2}\beta_{\rho_i}|S_i|\|\rho_i^*\|^2)$ . In accordance with Lemma 3 and Equation (38), we have

$$|V(t)| \le \frac{2\iota_1}{\iota_0},\tag{39}$$

and the above inequality (Equation 39) means that

$$\|S_i\| \le \sqrt{\frac{4\iota_1}{\iota_0} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\mu_{\rho_i}}} \tilde{\rho}_i^T \tilde{\rho}_i - \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{r}_i^T \tilde{r}_i.$$
(40)



From Equation (40), the e(t) and the S(t) will be finally bounded as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, the synchronization of systems (Equations 7 and 8) is realized. This completes the proof process.

**Remark 2.** It could be indicated that, in order to achieve a good synchronization effect,  $k_{1i}$  and  $\mu_{\rho i}$  should be selected as large as probable and to avoid parameter drift problem, if they are chosen too large. At the same time, to get a good control performance,  $\beta_{\rho i}$  and  $\delta_{0i}$  should be chosen as small as probable.

# 5. Simulation results

To certificate the feasibility of the put forward controller for uncertain FOCSs, we premeditated the following systems.

The master system:

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} x_1 = x_2 - 3x_1 + 2.7x_2x_3, \\ \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} x_2 = 4.7x_2 - x_1x_3, \\ \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} x_3 = 2x_1x_2 - 9x_3. \end{cases}$$
(41)

The slave system:

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} y_1 = y_2 - 3y_1 + 2.7y_2y_3 + u_1 + r_1, \\ \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} y_2 = 4.7y_2 - y_1y_3 + u_2 + r_2, \\ \mathcal{D}^{\vartheta} y_3 = 2y_1y_2 - 9y_3 + u_3 + r_3, \end{cases}$$
(42)

where  $r_1 = \sin 2t$ ,  $r_2 = \cos 2t$ , and  $r_3 = \sin 3t$ .

The initial conditions are given as follows:  $x(0) = [x_1(0), x_2(0), x_3(0)]^T = [1, 3, 0.1]^T, y(0) = [y_1(0), y_2(0), y_3(0)]^T = [0.5, -1, 1]^T, \hat{r}_1(0) = \hat{r}_2(0) = \hat{r}_3(0) = 0.1$ , and  $\hat{\xi}_1(0) = \hat{\xi}_2(0) = \hat{\xi}_3(0) = 0.1$ . The opted parameters are revealed as follows:  $\vartheta = 0.85, \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 2, \kappa_{01} = \kappa_{02} = \kappa_{03} = 0.5, \kappa_{11} = \kappa_{12} = \kappa_{13} = 20, \mu_{\rho_1} = \mu_{\rho_2} = \mu_{\rho_3} = 10$ , and  $\beta_{\rho_1} = \beta_{\rho_2} = \beta_{\rho_3} = 0.1$ .

There is an FLS adopted in the devised controller. The FLS takes *x* and *y* as its input and defines six Gaussian membership functions evenly distributed on [-6, 6]. The initial condition is picked as  $\rho(0) = [1, ..., 1]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{729}$ .

Finally, the simulation outcomes are exhibited in Figures 1–4. Figure 1 displays the chaotic phenomenon of the master system. Figure 2 displays that the master-slave system is practically synchronized. The performances of external disturbance are shown in Figure 3, and the ephemeral actions of the controller are exhibited in Figure 4. This study results showed that the synchronization error has fast convergence, and the controller works well with external disturbances and model uncertainties. Furthermore, we also observed that all signals can remain bounded, so the control objective was achieved.

# 6. Conclusion

This study investigated the synchronization of two FOCSs with system uncertainties and external disturbances. It is proven that all signals involved are bounded and the synchronization errors asymptotically approached zero by the advanced adaptive fuzzy controller and DOB. In addition, the DOB error and the synchronization error were handled together by using the proposed method. Simultaneously, the simulation results also indicated that the proposed scheme achieved good synchronization. However, the designed controller has the problem of chattering. Future work should focus on addressing this chattering problem.

## Data availability statement

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/supplementary material, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

## Author contributions

YC and FW contributed to the conception and controller design of the proposed method. YC performed the simulation. Both authors contributed to the manuscript revision, read, and approved the submitted version.

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# **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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