



# Design of Grid Multi-Wing Chaotic Attractors Based on Fractional-Order Differential Systems

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In this article, a new method for generating grid multi-wing chaotic attractors from fractional-order linear differential systems is proposed. In order to generate grid multi-wing attractors, we extend the method of constructing heteroclinic loops from classical differential equations to fractional-order differential equations. Firstly, two basic fractional-order linear systems are obtained by linearization at two symmetric equilibrium points of the fractional-order Rucklidge system. Then a heteroclinic loop is constructed and all equilibrium points of the two basic fractional-order linear systems are connected by saturation function switching control. Secondly, the theoretical methods of switching control and construction of heteromorphic rings of fractal-order two-wing and multi-wing chaotic attractors are studied. Finally, the feasibility of the proposed method is verified by numerical simulation.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

At present, chaotic dynamics is gradually transitioning from the basic theoretical research of mathematics and physics to the practical engineering application field. For example, chaotic theory has been greatly developed in the fields of memristor [1–6], secure communication [7–11], image encryption [12–17], neural network [18–29], so chaotic dynamics has a wide application prospect. A key factor in the application of chaos in engineering is to improve the complex dynamic characteristics of chaos. In recent years, many scholars have deeply analysed and studied the complex dynamic characteristics of chaos, and found many chaotic attractors with complex dynamics. Some research results show that chaotic systems with multi-wing or multi-scroll attractors can show richer and more complex dynamic characteristics [30–35].

Fractional calculus has a history of more than 300 years, but its applications in engineering and physics have only aroused interest in recent decades [36–38]. With the deepening of scientific research, some researchers were surprised to find that these systems have complex chaos and bifurcation phenomena when studying fractional-order nonlinear differential systems [39–45]. In [42], the author designed a method to eliminate chaos in the system trajectory through state feedback controller. In order to form multi-scroll attractors, the potential nonlinearity of fractional-order chaotic systems is changed. In [43], it is proved that the fractional-order system coupled by two fractional Lorentz systems can produce four-wing chaotic attractors. In [44], a series method of saturation function is proposed, which can enable fractional-order differential systems to generate multi-spiral chaotic attractors, including multi-scroll chaotic attractors in three directions. In [45], a suitable nonlinear state feedback controller is designed by employing the four construction criteria of

the basic fractional-order differential nominal linear system to generate multi-wing chaotic attractors for the controlled fractional-order differential system. However, these multi-wing chaotic systems all contain product terms, which makes their circuit implementation complicated. In [46], Petras proposed a fractional-order Chua’s model based on memristor. Through digital simulation, it is found that the fractional-order Chua’s circuit can also produce two-scroll chaotic attractors. However, it is still a very challenging problem to find how to generate grid multi-wing attractors in fractal-order chaotic systems.

In this article, a new design method of generating grid multi-wing chaotic attractors from fractional-order differential system is proposed by switching control of saturation function and constructing heteroclinic loops. Because the fractional-order derivative is a nonlocal operator with weak singular kernel, the multi-wing attractors generated in fractional-order differential system are very different from the multi-wing attractors generated in the classical differential system. In addition, it can be seen from [47–52] that shil’nikov theorem can be used to construct two-wing and multi-wing chaotic attractors in classical differential systems. In this paper, the classical differential system construction method is extended to the fractional-order differential system construction method based on shil’nikov theorem [47]. Firstly, the heteroclinic loops are constructed from the fractional-order piecewise linear differential system, and then a method to generate various grid multi-wing attractors through switching control is proposed. Two basic fractional-order linear systems are constructed by linearization at two symmetrical equilibrium points of fractional-order Rucklidge system [53]. After switching the control, in order to connect all the equilibrium points of the two basic fractional-order linear systems [54], we design a heteroclinic loop. Under appropriate conditions, according to shil’nikov theorem, a variety of grid multi-wing attractors can be obtained. We use a predictor-corrector numerical simulation algorithm to confirm the effectiveness of the proposed method [55].

The other parts of this paper are organized as follows. In **Section 2**, we first introduce some preliminary knowledge about fractional-order differential systems. Two fundamental fractional differential linear systems are deduced from Rucklidge system in **Section 3**. In **Section 4**, we study the theoretical method of designing fractional-order two-wing and multi-wing chaotic attractors by switching control and constructing heteroclinic loops. Finally, the conclusions of this paper are given in **Section 5**.

## 2 FRACTIONAL-ORDER DIFFERENTIAL SYSTEM

Unlike ordinary differential equations, due to the lack of appropriate mathematical methods, the research on the theoretical analysis and numerical solution of fractional-order calculation is still a difficult topic. In recent years, Caputo type fractional-order differential equations have aroused great interest.

Under the promotion of Adams [56], we choose Caputo version of Adams prediction correction algorithm. Next, we will give a brief introduction to the fractional-order algorithm.

Fractional-order differential equation is generally expressed by the following formula:

$$\begin{cases} D_t^{\alpha_1} x(t) = \frac{d^{\alpha_1} x(t)}{dt^{\alpha_1}} = f_1(x, y, z) \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y(t) = \frac{d^{\alpha_2} y(t)}{dt^{\alpha_2}} = f_2(x, y, z) \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z(t) = \frac{d^{\alpha_3} z(t)}{dt^{\alpha_3}} = f_3(x, y, z) \end{cases} \quad 0 \leq t \leq T \quad (1)$$

When the initial values are chosen as  $x(0) = x_0, y(0) = y_0, z(0) = z_0, \alpha_i \in (0, 1), i = 1, 2, 3$ , **Eq. 1** forms the following Volterra integral equation:

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = x(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)} \int_0^t (t-\tau)^{\alpha_1-1} f_1(x(\tau), y(\tau), z(\tau)) d\tau \\ y(t) = y(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_2)} \int_0^t (t-\tau)^{\alpha_2-1} f_2(x(\tau), y(\tau), z(\tau)) d\tau \\ z(t) = z(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_3)} \int_0^t (t-\tau)^{\alpha_3-1} f_3(x(\tau), y(\tau), z(\tau)) d\tau \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where  $\Gamma(\alpha_i)$  is the Gamma function, which can be defined as  $\Gamma(\alpha_i) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{\alpha_i-1} dt$ . Set  $h = \frac{T}{N}, t_n = nh (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N)$ , then **Eq. 2** can take discretization as:

$$\begin{cases} x_h(t_{n+1}) = x(0) + \frac{h^{\alpha_1}}{\Gamma(\alpha_1+2)} f_1(x_h^p(t_n), y_h^p(t_n), z_h^p(t_n)) + \frac{h^{\alpha_1}}{\Gamma(\alpha_1+2)} \sum_{j=0}^n a_{1,j,n+1} f_1(x(t_j), y(t_j), z(t_j)) \\ y_h(t_{n+1}) = y(0) + \frac{h^{\alpha_2}}{\Gamma(\alpha_2+2)} f_2(x_h^p(t_n), y_h^p(t_n), z_h^p(t_n)) + \frac{h^{\alpha_2}}{\Gamma(\alpha_2+2)} \sum_{j=0}^n a_{2,j,n+1} f_2(x(t_j), y(t_j), z(t_j)) \\ z_h(t_{n+1}) = z(0) + \frac{h^{\alpha_3}}{\Gamma(\alpha_3+2)} f_3(x_h^p(t_n), y_h^p(t_n), z_h^p(t_n)) + \frac{h^{\alpha_3}}{\Gamma(\alpha_3+2)} \sum_{j=0}^n a_{3,j,n+1} f_3(x(t_j), y(t_j), z(t_j)) \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where  $a_{i,j,n+1}$  is given by:

$$a_{i,j,n+1} = \begin{cases} n^{\alpha_i+1} - (n-\alpha_i)(n+1)^{\alpha_i}, & j = 0, \\ (n-j-2)^{\alpha_i+1} + (n-j)^{\alpha_i+1} - 2(n-j+1)^{\alpha_i+1}, & 1 \leq j \leq n, (i = 1, 2, 3) \\ 1, & j = n+1 \end{cases}$$

, and the predicted value  $x_h^p(t_{n+1})$  is determined by:

$$\begin{cases} x_h^p(t_{n+1}) = x(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)} \sum_{j=0}^n b_{1,j,n+1} f_1(x_h(t_j)) \\ y_h^p(t_{n+1}) = y(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_2)} \sum_{j=0}^n b_{2,j,n+1} f_2(x_h(t_j)) \\ z_h^p(t_{n+1}) = z(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_3)} \sum_{j=0}^n b_{3,j,n+1} f_3(x_h(t_j)) \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

In which  $b_{i,j,n+1} = \frac{h^{\alpha_i}}{\alpha_i} ((n-j+1)\alpha_i - (n-j)\alpha_i) (i = 1, 2, 3), 0 \leq j \leq n$ . The estimation error in this method is  $e = \max\{\max|x(t_j) - x_h(t_j)|, \max|y(t_j) - y_h(t_j)|, \max|z(t_j) - z_h(t_j)|\} = o(h^\rho)$ , where  $j = (0, 1, 2, \dots, N), \rho = \min\{1 + \alpha_1, 1 + \alpha_2, 1 + \alpha_3\}$ . By using this method, we can determine the numerical solution of the fractional-order difference equation system.

### 3 DESIGN OF TWO FUNDAMENTAL FRACTIONAL-ORDER LINEAR SYSTEMS

Considering the fractional-order version of Rucklidge system, it can be expressed by the following formula:

$$\begin{cases} D_t^{\alpha_1} x(t) = \frac{d^{\alpha_1} x(t)}{dt^{\alpha_1}} = -2x + 6.7y - yz \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y(t) = \frac{d^{\alpha_2} y(t)}{dt^{\alpha_2}} (t) = x \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z(t) = \frac{d^{\alpha_3} z(t)}{dt^{\alpha_3}} = y^2 - z \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where  $\alpha_i (i = 1, 2, 3)$  is the fractional-order satisfying  $0 < \alpha_i \leq 1$ . Clearly, system (Eq. 5) has three equilibria:  $E_0 = (0, 0, 0)$ ,  $E_1 = (0, \sqrt{6.7}, 6.7)$ ,  $E_2 = (0, -\sqrt{6.7}, 6.7)$ . Linearizing system (Eq. 5) at equilibrium point  $E_1$ , one gets the following fractional-order linear system:

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_t^{\alpha_1} x_1(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y_1(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z_1(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & -\sqrt{6.7} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\sqrt{6.7} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix} = J_1 X_1 \quad (6)$$

In the same way, we linearize system (Eq. 5) at equilibrium point  $E_2$ , and the following fractional-order linear system can be obtained:

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_t^{\alpha_1} x_2(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y_2(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & \sqrt{6.7} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\sqrt{6.7} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = J_2 X_2 \quad (7)$$

Through the processing of the above method, systems (Eqs 6, 7) can be called basic fractional-order linear systems. Obviously, the only equilibrium point of systems Eqs 6, 7 is  $O_0 = O_1 = (0, 0, 0)$ , and the corresponding eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = \gamma = -3.5145$  and  $\lambda_{2,3} = \sigma \pm j\omega = 0.2577 \pm j1.9353$ . Therefore, equilibrium points  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  become saddle focus with index 2. Moreover,  $\lambda_1 < 0$ ,  $R_e(\lambda_{2,3}) > 0$  and  $|\lambda_1| > R_e(\lambda_{2,3})$ , satisfy the conditions of Shil'nikov Theorem [47]. If all eigenvalues of Jacobian matrix  $A = \partial f/\partial x$  meet the following condition:

$$|\arg(\text{eig}(A))| > \alpha\pi/2 \quad (8)$$

According to the analysis in [56], the equilibrium points in systems Eqs 6, 7 are locally asymptotically stable. If a system has more memory, the system is usually more stable than those systems with less memory [57]. It can be seen from inequality (Eq. 8) that due to the large memory of fractional-order differential equation systems, they are more stable than integer order equation systems. Through analysis, we conclude that the unstable regions are shown in Figure 1. It can be seen from the figure that except for the unstable regions, other regions are stable regions.

$\alpha\pi/2$  When the values of  $\alpha_i < 1 (i = 1, 2, 3)$  change, system Eqs 6, 7 do not always remain chaotic. According to inequality (Eq. 8), if the system (Eq. 6) wants to maintain a chaotic state, in the unstable regions, at each non original equilibrium point of the system (Eq. 6), the Jacobian matrix must have two conjugate eigenvalues [58]. According to this description, we have

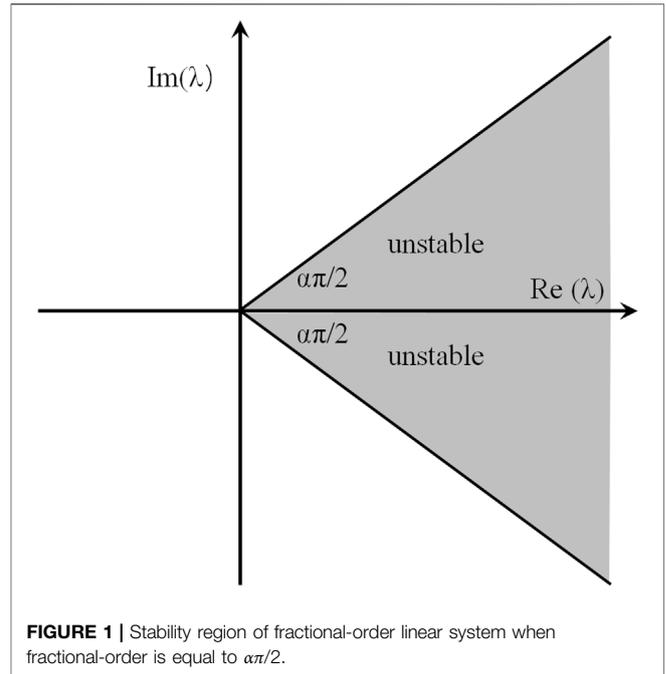


FIGURE 1 | Stability region of fractional-order linear system when fractional-order is equal to  $\alpha\pi/2$ .

$\alpha_i > \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{1.9353}{0.2577}\right) \approx 0.916$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . Moreover, their corresponding eigenvectors are given as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \eta_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.4725 \\ 0.1737 \\ 0.7149 \end{pmatrix} \pm j \begin{pmatrix} 0.4050 \\ 0.2673 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \mu_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.8381 \\ 0.2384 \\ -0.4907 \end{pmatrix} \end{cases}; \begin{cases} \eta_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.4725 \\ -0.1737 \\ 0.7149 \end{pmatrix} \pm j \begin{pmatrix} -0.4050 \\ -0.2673 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \mu_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.8381 \\ 0.2384 \\ 0.4907 \end{pmatrix} \end{cases}$$

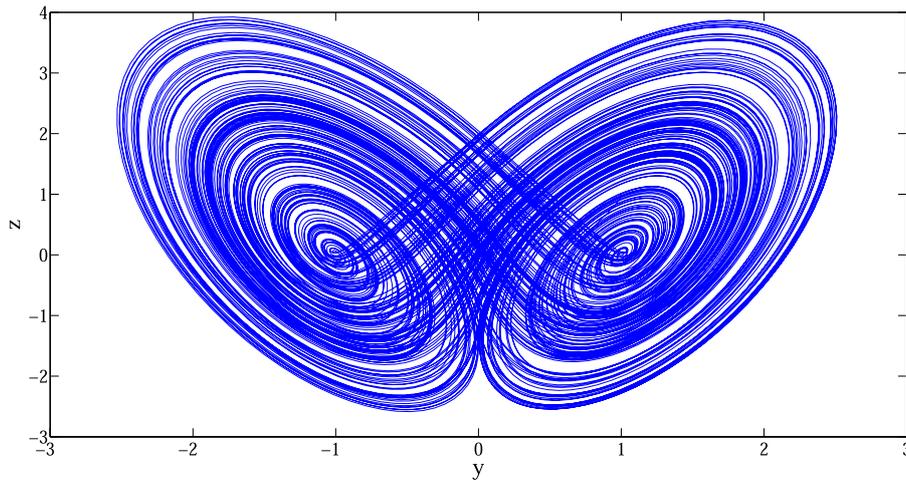
Through analysis and calculation, one-dimensional stable eigenline  $E^S(O_1)$  and two-dimensional unstable eigenplane  $E^U(O_1)$  of system (Eq. 6) at  $O_1$  can be obtained:

$$\begin{cases} E^S(O_1): \frac{x}{l_1} = \frac{y}{m_1} = \frac{z}{n_1} \\ E^U(O_1): A_1x + B_1y + C_1z = 0 \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

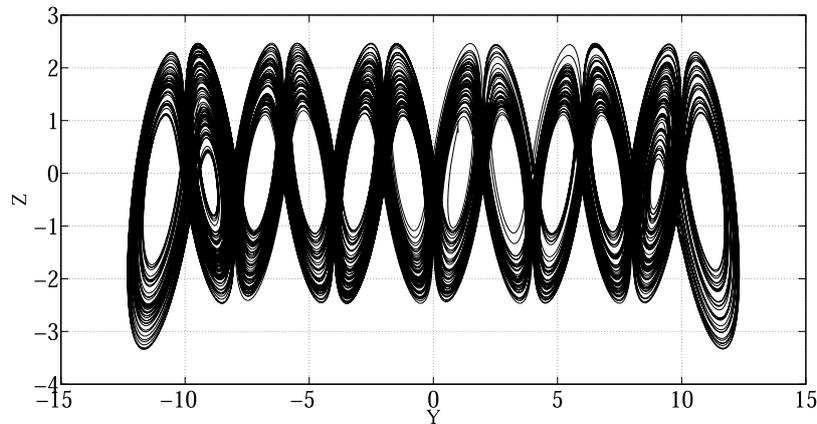
Here  $l_1 = -0.8381, m_1 = 0.2384, n_1 = -0.4907, A_1 = -0.1911, B_1 = 0.2895, C_1 = -0.1966$ . Similarly, one-dimensional stable eigenline  $E^S(O_2)$  and two-dimensional unstable eigenplane  $E^U(O_2)$  of system (Eq. 7) at  $O_2$  can be obtained:

$$\begin{cases} E^S(O_2): \frac{x}{l_2} = \frac{y}{m_2} = \frac{z}{n_2} \\ E^U(O_2): A_2x + B_2y + C_2z = 0 \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

Here  $l_2 = -0.8381, m_2 = 0.2384, n_2 = 0.4907, A_2 = 0.1911, B_2 = -0.2895, C_2 = -0.1966$ . Clearly, the stable manifolds  $E^S(O_1)$  and  $E^S(O_2)$  are symmetric to a certain extent, respectively, as are unstable manifolds  $E^U(O_1)$  and  $E^U(O_2)$ . Based on this symmetry, we can construct a heteroclinic loop, and heteroclinic chaos can be generated from fractional-order multi piecewise Rucklidge system, just



**FIGURE 2** | Double-wing butterfly chaotic attractor of system (Eq. 12) When  $\alpha_i = 0.92$ .



**FIGURE 3** | 12-wing chaotic attractor of system (Eq. 13) when  $\alpha_i = 0.92$ .

as heteroclinic chaos can be generated from integer multi piecewise linear system [53].

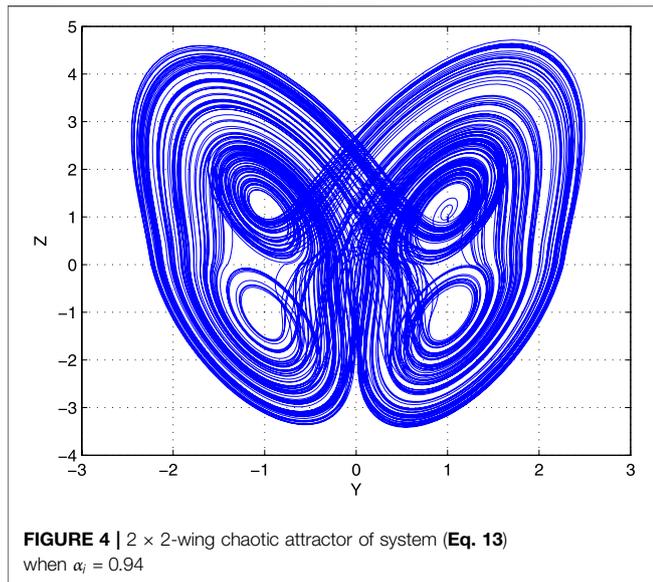
### 4 DESIGN OF TWO-WING AND MULTI-WING CHAOTIC ATTRACTORS

In this section, we construct heteroclinic loops, and then use the switching control method to design two-wing and multi-wing chaotic attractors in the two basic fractional-order linear systems introduced earlier. Based on the fundamental fractional linear systems Eqs 6, 7, extend the heteroclinic Shil’nikov theorem [47], we can design a switch controller and then connect the heteroclinic track of systems Eqs 6, 7 to make the track form a heteroclinic loop. Set the switching controller to  $w = F(x, y, z)$  and the switching plane to

$S = \{(x, y, z)|y = 0\}$ . From systems Eqs 6, 7, the following switching systems can be constructed:

$$\begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} D_t^{\alpha_1} x(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & -\sqrt{6.7} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\sqrt{6.7} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} - w = J_1(X-w)V \in V_1 = \{(x, y, z)|y > 0\} \\ \begin{pmatrix} D_t^{\alpha_1} x(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & \sqrt{6.7} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2\sqrt{6.7} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} - w = J_2(X-w)V \in V_2 = \{(x, y, z)|y < 0\} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

It should be noted here that according to Ref. [54], the existence condition of heteroclinic loop in system (Eq. 11) can determine the detailed mathematical expression of switching controller  $w = F(x, y, z) = [f_1(x, y, z), f_2(x, y, z), f_3(x, y, z)]^T$ . It is obvious that the equilibrium points  $P_2(x_2, y_2, z_2) \in V_2$  and  $P_1(x_1, y_1, z_1) \in V_1$  of system Eq. 11 are located on either side of the switching plane  $S = \{(x, y, z)|y = 0\}$ .

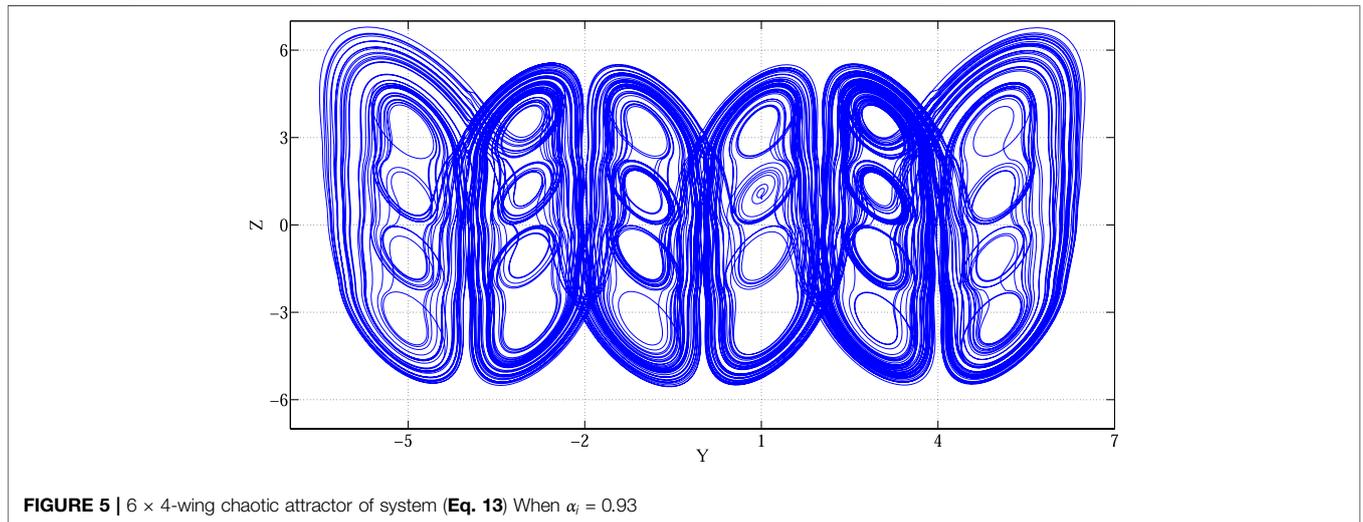


**FIGURE 4** | 2 × 2-wing chaotic attractor of system (Eq. 13) when  $\alpha_i = 0.94$

and  $H_2$ , which join  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  together. According to heteroclinic Shil'nikov theory [47], if this situation exists, the system (6) has chaotic state in the sense of Smale's horseshoe.

From the transformation  $(x, y, z) \rightarrow (-x, -y, z)$ , it can be seen that there is invariance of the system, so the switching plane  $S = \{(x, y, z) | y = 0\}$  satisfying  $P_1(x_1, y_1, z_1) \in V_1$  and  $P_2(x_2, y_2, z_2) \in V_2$  with  $x_1 = -x_2 = x_0$ ,  $y_1 = -y_2 = y_0 > 0$ , and  $z_1 = z_2 = z_0$  can be selected. Thus, one can deduce the necessary conditions of  $Q_1 \in L_2$  and  $Q_2 \in L_1$  as follows:  $x_0 = \frac{A_1 l_2 - B_1 m_2 + C_1 n_2}{2A_1 m_2} y_0 = \frac{A_2 l_1 - B_2 m_1 + C_2 n_1}{2A_2 m_1} y_0$ .

Which indicates that  $y_0$  depending on  $x_0$ , and  $z_0$  can be any values. In this case, let  $y_0 = y_1 = -y_2 = 1$  and  $z_1 = z_2 = z_0 = 0$ , then one gets  $x_0 = x_1 = -x_2 = 0.0585$ ,  $P_1(x_1, y_1, z_1) = P_1(0.0585, 1, 0)$ , and  $P_2(x_2, y_2, z_2) = P_2(-0.0585, -1, 0)$ . Thus, the switching controller is  $F(x, y, z) = (x_0 s(y), y_0 s(y), z_0 s(z))^T$  with  $x_0 = 0.0585, y_0 = 1$ , and  $z_0 = 0$ , where  $s(y)$  (or  $s(z)$ ) is the saturated function, is described by:  $s(y) = \frac{1}{2\alpha} (|y + \alpha| - |y - \alpha|)$ . Where  $\alpha$  decides the slope of the saturated function, here we set  $\alpha = 0.01$ .



**FIGURE 5** | 6 × 4-wing chaotic attractor of system (Eq. 13) When  $\alpha_i = 0.93$

Here,  $E^S(P_1)$  and  $E^S(P_2)$  are the eigenlines systems Eqs 6, 7 at  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ ,  $E^U(P_1)$  and  $E^U(P_2)$  are the eigenplanes of systems Eqs 6, 7 at  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , respectively. Let:

$$Q_1 = E^S(P_1) \cap S = \left( x_1 - \frac{l_1}{m_1} y_1, 0, z_1 - \frac{n_1}{m_1} y_1 \right),$$

$$Q_2 = E^S(P_2) \cap S = \left( x_2 - \frac{l_2}{m_2} y_2, 0, z_2 - \frac{n_2}{m_2} y_2 \right),$$

$$L_1 = E^U(P_1) \cap S = A_1(x - x_1) + B_1(0 - y_1) + C_1(z - z_1) = 0,$$

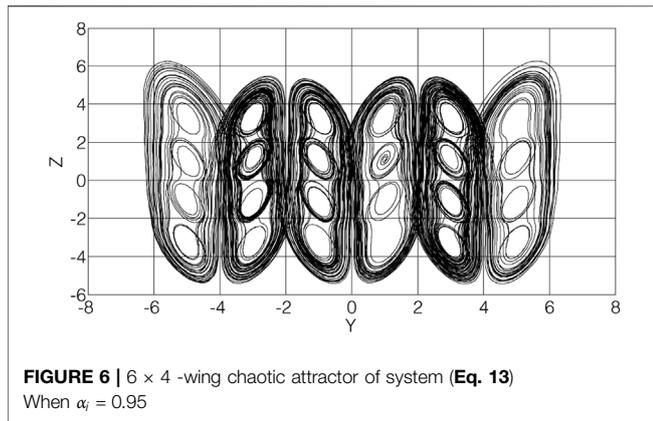
$$L_2 = E^U(P_2) \cap S = A_2(x - x_2) + B_2(0 - y_2) + C_2(z - z_2) = 0.$$

If  $Q_1$  is at  $L_2$ , there is heteroclinic orbital  $H_1 = E^U(P_2) \cup Q_1 \cup E^S(P_1)$  between  $P_2$  and  $P_1$ . Similarly, if  $Q_2$  is at  $L_1$ , there is heteroclinic orbital  $H_2 = E^U(P_1) \cup Q_2 \cup E^S(P_2)$  between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Thus, if  $Q_1$  is located at  $L_2$ ,  $Q_2$  is located at  $L_1$ , then a heterotopic loop is formed by two heteroclinic orbitals  $H_1$

According to the above theoretical analysis, switch controller  $s_0 = s(y)$ ,  $w_0 = F(x, y, z) = (x_0 s(y), y_0 s(y), z_0 s(z))^T$  can be designed, where  $x_0 = 0.0585, y_0 = 1$ , and  $z_0 = 0$ . From system (Eq. 11), one gets

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_t^{\alpha_1} x(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & -s(y)\sqrt{6.7} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s(y)2\sqrt{6.7} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} - F(x, y, z) \tag{12}$$

The simulation of various fractional-order double-wing butterfly chaotic attractor can be obtained when  $\alpha_i > 0.916$ , as shown in Figure 2 when  $\alpha_i = 0.92$ .



**FIGURE 6** | 6 × 4 -wing chaotic attractor of system (Eq. 13) When  $\alpha_i = 0.95$

$\alpha_i = 0.92$ In the same way, we can design the following systems according to systems (Eqs 6, 11):

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_t^{\alpha_1} x(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_2} y(t) \\ D_t^{\alpha_3} z(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & -T\sqrt{6.7} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2T\sqrt{6.7} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} - F(x, y, z) \tag{13}$$

where  $F(x, y, z)$  is the equilibrium switching controller, and  $T = T(x, y, z)$  is the parameter switching controller.  $F(x, y, z)$  and  $T(x, y, z)$  are the sequence of saturation functions here, as shown below:

$$T(x, y, z) = s(y) + \sum_{m=1}^M (-1)^m [s(y + 2my_0) + s(y - 2my_0)] \tag{14}$$

$$F(x, y, z) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(x, y, z) \\ f_2(x, y, z) \\ f_3(x, y, z) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_0s(y) + \sum_{m=1}^M x_0 [s(y + 2my_0) + s(y - 2my_0)] \\ y_0s(y) + \sum_{m=1}^M y_0 [s(y + 2my_0) + s(y - 2my_0)] \\ z_0s(y) + \sum_{n=1}^N z_0 [s(z + 2mz_0) + s(z - 2mz_0)] \end{pmatrix} \tag{15}$$

where  $s(y + 2my_0) = \frac{1}{2\alpha} (|y + 2my_0 + \alpha| - |y + 2my_0 - \alpha|)$ .

The prediction correction algorithm is used to solve the fractional-order differential system (Eq. 13), and the simulation results of the fractional-order 12-wing butterfly chaotic attractor are obtained when  $\alpha_i > 0.916$ ,  $x_0 = 0.0585$ ,  $y_0 = 1$ ,  $z_0 = 0$ ,  $N = 0$  and  $M = 5$ , the multi-wing attractors are shown in Figure 3 when  $\alpha_i = 0.92$ .

A grid multi-wing butterfly chaotic attractor with a grid of  $2 \times 2$  is obtained when  $x_0 = 0.0585$ ,  $y_0 = 1$ ,  $z_0 = 1$ ,  $M = 0$ ,  $N = 0$  and  $\alpha_i = 0.94$ , as shown in Figure 4.

$\alpha_i = 0.94$ A grid multi-wing butterfly chaotic attractor with a grid of  $6 \times 4$  is obtained when  $x_0 = 0.0585$ ,  $y_0 = 1$ ,  $z_0 = 1.125$ ,  $M = 2$ ,  $N = 1$  and  $\alpha_i = 0.93$ , as shown in Figure 5.

$\alpha_i = 0.93$ Keeping other parameters unchanged, change the order to  $\alpha_i = 0.95$ . The simulation results are shown in Figure 6, it can be seen that the system (Eq. 13) can also generate grid  $6 \times 4$ -wing chaotic attractors.

From the above simulation results, it can be seen that if the appropriate parameters are set, when  $\alpha_i > 0.916$ , the system can generate multi-wing and grid multi-wing chaotic attractors.

## 5 CONCLUSION

In this paper, based on fractional-order linear differential system, a novel grid multi-wing chaotic attractor is proposed by switching saturation function control and constructing heteroclinic loops. Firstly, the two symmetric equilibrium points of the fractional Rucklidge system are linearized to obtain two basic fractional-order linear systems. Then all the equilibrium points of the two basic fractional-order linear systems are connected by a saturation function switching control and a heteroclinic loop. Finally, the effectiveness of the proposed design method is verified by numerical simulation. Since the proposed fractional-order chaotic system can generate multi-wing chaotic attractors with complex dynamic characteristics, however, it does not contain product terms and is easy to implement in circuits, so the chaotic system proposed in this paper has abundant potential engineering applications. In the future, we will further design the circuit realization of the fractional-order multi-wing chaotic system.

## DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The raw data supporting the conclusion of this article will be made available by the authors, without undue reservation.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

YL, XZ, FY and YH contributed to conception and design of the study. JG and YH organized the database. YL and FY performed the statistical analysis. YL and FY wrote the first draft of the manuscript. YL, XZ, JG, and FY wrote sections of the manuscript. All authors contributed to manuscript revision, read, and approved the submitted version.

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