Adaptive synchronization of fractional Lorenz systems using a reduced number of control signals and parameters

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**Abstract**

This paper analyzes the synchronization of two fractional Lorenz systems in two cases: the first one considering fractional Lorenz systems with unknown parameters, and the second one considering known upper bounds on some of the fractional Lorenz systems parameters. The proposed control strategies use a reduced number of control signals and control parameters, employing mild assumptions. The stability of the synchronization errors is analytically demonstrated in all cases, and the convergence to zero of the synchronization errors is analytically proved in the case when the upper bounds on some system parameters are assumed to be known. Simulation studies are presented, which allows verifying the effectiveness of the proposed control strategies.

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**1. Introduction**

The goal of the synchronization of two dynamical systems evolving separately, one called “master” and the other called “slave,” is that these systems will be sharing a common trajectory from a certain time onward. The synchronization of chaotic systems has been widely studied due to its theoretical challenges and its applications in important areas such as secure communications, chemical systems, modeling brain activities\cite{1}, ecological systems\cite{2}, among others.

The synchronization can be performed under the hypothesis that system parameters are known (nonadaptive synchronization, or simply synchronization) or, if those parameters are unknown (adaptive synchronization)\cite{3}. When the systems to be put in synchrony are described by fractional differential equations, the term fractional adaptive synchronization is used.

We can find in literature many works related to adaptive synchronization, whose results can be applied to the adaptive synchronization of fractional Lorenz systems. Different techniques have been proposed in these works, such as modified projective adaptive synchronization\cite{1,4,5}, adaptive full-state linear error feedback\cite{6–8}, adaptive sliding mode control\cite{9–12}, fuzzy generalized projective synchronization\cite{13}, among others\cite{14}. However, these techniques use the maximum possible number of control signals, which in the case of the fractional Lorenz system analyzed in this work is three.

We can find some few works that can be applied to fractional Lorenz system, where only one control signal is used to make adaptive stabilization, using sliding mode control\cite{15–17}. Applying these control techniques it is possible to stabilize a Lorenz system at the origin, using only one control signal. However, the assumption on the system structure for the application of these techniques does not allow their use in synchronization of two fractional Lorenz systems. This is because the definition of the synchronization errors lead to a structure different from the one required for the application of these techniques. Moreover, even for making stabilization of the Lorenz system using these techniques, some of the Lorenz system parameters are needed to construct the control signal, so all the system parameters cannot be unknown.

In this paper we study the synchronization of two fractional Lorenz systems with unknown parameters, using a direct approach. The direct approach consists of directly adjusting the controller parameters, without identification of the unknown plant parameters. Since all the parameters of the Lorenz system are considered unknown and only one or two control signals are used to achieve synchronization, this is a work that, as far as the authors know, has not been reported in literature.

Firstly, we analyze the three possible cases where two control signals and one adjustable parameter are used. Next we analyze two cases where only one control signal and one adjustable parameter are employed. In the first four cases studied, no assumptions on the system states boundedness is made. In the fifth case,
boundedness on the master state trajectories is assumed. The sta-
bility of the controlled systems are proved in all cases, using the
fractional extension of the Lyapunov direct method, and the main
difficulties in proving the convergence to zero of the synchroniza-
tion errors are exposed.

An alternative solution for the five cases, where an upper bound
on some of the system parameters is assumed to be known is pre-
sented as well. In these cases, not only the stability of the con-
trolled system is proved, but the convergence to zero of the syn-
chronization errors is proved as well, using the fractional extension
of the Lyapunov direct method.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents some basic
concepts of fractional calculus and stability of fractional order sys-
tems, which are used along the paper. Section 3 presents the state-
ment of the adaptive synchronization problem, and the proposed
solutions in the adaptive case. The alternative solutions assuming
a known upper bound on some system parameters are presented
as well. The theoretical stability analysis of the controlled system
in both cases and the convergence of the synchronization errors
when the upper bound on some system parameters are assumed
to be known are also presented in Section 3. Section 4 presents
the simulation results for the solutions proposed in Section 3, and
a comparison with another control strategy available in literature.
Finally, Section 5 presents the main conclusions of the work.

2. Some concepts related to fractional calculus and stability of
fractional systems

This section presents some basic concepts of fractional calculus
and stability of fractional order systems.

2.1. Fractional calculus

Fractional calculus studies integrals and derivatives of orders
that can be any real or complex numbers [18]. The Riemann–
Liouville fractional integral is one of the main concepts of frac-
tional calculus, and is presented in Definition 1.

Definition 1 (Riemann–Liouville fractional integral [18]). The
Riemann–Liouville fractional integral of order \( \alpha \in \mathbb{C}(\Re(\alpha) > 0) \) is de-
defined as

\[
p_{a+}^{\alpha}f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_{a}^{t} \frac{f(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{1-\alpha}} d\tau
\]

where \( t > a \), \( \Im(\alpha) \) is the real part of \( \alpha \) and \( \Gamma(\alpha) \) corresponds to
the Gamma Function, given by Eq. (2):

\[
\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_{0}^{\infty} t^{\alpha-1} e^{-t} dt.
\]

There are some alternative definitions regarding fractional
derivatives. Definition 2 corresponds to the fractional derivative
according to Caputo, which is the one most frequently used in en-
gineering problems and the one used in this paper.

Definition 2 (Caputo fractional derivative [18]). The Caputo frac-
tional derivative of order \( \alpha \in \mathbb{C}(\Re(\alpha) > 0) \) is defined as

\[
^{c}D_{a+}^{\alpha}f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_{a}^{t} \frac{f^{(n)}(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{n+1-\alpha}} d\tau
\]

where \( t > a \), \( n = \Re(\alpha) + 1 \) for \( \alpha \notin \mathbb{N}_{0} \); \( n = \alpha \) for \( \alpha \in \mathbb{N}_{0} \).

2.2. Stability of fractional order systems

The known methods for stability analysis of integer order sys-
tems differ from those that have been proposed for fractional order
systems. The conditions under which fractional order linear time-
invariant systems are stable were studied in [19]. However, in the
case of fractional adaptive systems this analysis is not valid, since
they are time-varying. The following theorem is used in this paper
for the stability analysis of the adaptive fractional synchronization
schemes.

Theorem 1 (Lyapunov stability and uniform stability of fractional
order systems [20]). Let \( x = 0 \) be an equilibrium point for the nonau-
tonomous fractional-order system (4).

\[
^{c}D_{0+}^{\alpha}x(t) = f(x(t), t), \quad \alpha \in (0, 1)
\]

Let us assume that there exists a continuous function \( V(x(t), t) \) such
that

- \( V(x(t), t) \) is positive definite.
- \( ^{c}D_{0+}^{\beta}V(x(t), t), \) with \( \beta \in (0, 1] \), is negative semidefinite.

then the origin of system (4) is Lyapunov stable.

- Furthermore, if \( V(x(t), t) \) is decrescent,
then the origin of system (4) is Lyapunov uniformly stable.

Besides the stability and uniform stability, asymptotic sta-
tility can be proved for fractional order systems using the fractional
extension of Lyapunov direct method as well, as it is stated in
Theorem 2.

Definition 3. A continuous function \( \gamma : [0, t) \to [0, \infty) \) is said to
belong to class-\( K \) if it is strictly increasing and \( \gamma(0) = 0 \) [21].

Theorem 2 (Fractional-order extension of Lyapunov direct method
[21]). Let \( x = 0 \) be an equilibrium point for the nonautonomous
fractional-order system (4). Assume that there exists a Lyapunov func-
tion \( V(t, x(t)) \) and class-\( K \) functions \( \gamma_{i} \) (i = 1, 2, 3) satisfying

\[
\gamma_{1}(||x||) \leq V(t, x(t)) \leq \gamma_{2}(||x||)
\]

Let \( x = 0 \) be an equilibrium point for the nonautonomous
fractional-order system (4). Assume that \( V(t, x(t)) \) is positive definite and decrescent, satisfying that

\[
^{c}D_{0+}^{\beta}V(t, x(t)) \leq -\gamma_{3}(||x||)
\]

where \( \beta \in (0, 1) \). Then the origin of the system (4) is asymptotically
stable.

Remark 1. Given the relationship between positive definite func-
tions and class-\( K \) functions, Theorem 2 can be rewritten as in the
following.

Let \( x = 0 \) be an equilibrium point for the nonautonomous
fractional-order system (4). Assume that \( V(t, x(t)) \) is positive definite and decrescent, satisfying that

\[
^{c}D_{0+}^{\beta}V(t, x(t)) \leq -\gamma_{3}(||x||)
\]

where \( \beta \in (0, 1) \), then the origin of system (4) is asymptotically stable.

The following lemma will be useful in proving the stability of
fractional synchronization schemes, together with Theorem 1.

Lemma 1 ([20]). Let \( x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n} \) be a vector of differentiable functions.
Then, for any time instant \( t \geq t_{0} \), the following relationship holds

\[
\frac{1}{2} \xi^{T} \xi \leq \xi^{T} (t) P \xi^{T} (t), \quad \forall \alpha \in (0, 1]
\]

where \( P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \) is a constant, square, symmetric and positive definite
matrix.

The case when \( P = I \) was treated in [22], and the specific scalar
case can also be found in [23].
3. Problem statement and solutions

Let us consider the synchronization of two fractional Lorenz systems [24] formulated in the state space, one called “master system” and the other called “slave system”, described by the following equations:

\begin{align}
\text{Master:} & \quad \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}x_m = \sigma (y_m - x_m) \\
& \quad \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}y_m = \gamma y_m - x_m z_m - y_m \\
& \quad \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}z_m = x_m y_m - \beta z_m \\
\text{Slave:} & \quad \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}y_s = \gamma y_s - x_s z_s - y_s + U_1 \\
& \quad \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}z_s = x_s y_s - \beta z_s + U_3
\end{align}

where \( \alpha \in (0, 1) \) and

\[
\begin{align}
& \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}x_s = \sigma (y_s - x_s) + U_1 \\
& \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}y_s = \gamma y_s - x_s z_s - y_s + U_2 \\
& \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}z_s = x_s y_s - \beta z_s + U_3
\end{align}
\]

where \( X_m = [x_m, y_m, z_m]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 \) and \( X_s = [x_s, y_s, z_s]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 \) are the states of the master and slave systems, respectively. \( U = [U_1, U_2, U_3]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 \) is the control signal applied to the slave system, designed to achieve the synchronization of both systems. The goal is to find \( U(t) \) such that the controlled system is stable and

\[
\lim_{t \to \infty} \|X_m - aX_s\| = 0
\]

i.e., to synchronize both systems except for a scaling factor \( a \in \mathbb{R} \) (generalized projective synchronization [25]), which in this study is a scalar and constant factor.

It is well known that Lorenz systems [24] exhibit chaotic behavior for the following parameter values:

\[
\sigma = 10, \quad \gamma = 28, \quad \beta = 8/3.
\]

We define the synchronization error as \( e = [e_1, e_2, e_3]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 \) or \( e = X_m - aX_s \in \mathbb{R}^3 \), where \( a \in \mathbb{R}^+ \) is the scale factor. Then from (8) and (9), the equations describing the synchronization errors evolution are

\[
\begin{align}
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}e_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 - aU_1 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}e_2 &= \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_m z_m + a x_s z_s - aU_2 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}e_3 &= -\beta e_1 + \gamma y_m - a x_s y_s - aU_3
\end{align}
\]

When \( a = 1 \), Eq. (11) turns out to be

\[
\begin{align}
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}e_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 - U_1 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}e_2 &= \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_e e_3 - z_m e_1 - U_2 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha}e_3 &= -\beta e_1 + x_m e_2 + y_m e_1 - U_3
\end{align}
\]

The question to be answered is how to synchronize both systems (8) and (9) to achieve and maintain a common regime as \( t \) goes to infinity. Moreover, it is desired to accomplish this task without the knowledge of the parameters \( \sigma, \gamma, \beta \), seeking for solutions involving a reduced number of control and states signals, as well as with a reduced number of adjustable parameters and, hopefully, without any assumption on the boundedness of the master system trajectories.

In this study we will distinguish five different cases. We will analyze first the three cases of adaptive synchronization using two control signals and one adjustable parameter, and later it is analyzed two cases using one control signal and one adjustable parameter. In the first case, we will also introduce the alternative solution using upper bounds on some of the system parameters, with the corresponding stability and convergence analysis. In the other four cases we will only introduce the alternative solution, but no stability and convergence analysis will be made for the sake of space, since the demonstration is pretty similar to the first case.

3.1. Fractional synchronization using control signals \( U_2 \) and \( U_3 \)

This subsection presents the solution to the synchronization problem using control signals \( U_2 \) and \( U_3 \). The problem is addressed first in the adaptive case and later in the nonadaptive case.

**Lemma 2.** (Adaptive fractional synchronization using control signals, \( U_2 \) and \( U_3 \) and one adjustable parameter \( \theta \)). Let us assume that the parameters \( \sigma, \gamma, \beta \) in (8) and (9) are unknown and \( \sigma, \beta > 0 \). If the following control signals are used in (9)

\[
\begin{align}
U_1 &= 0 \\
U_2 &= \frac{1}{\alpha} (\theta e_1 - x_m z_m + a x_s z_s) \\
U_3 &= \frac{1}{\alpha} (x_m y_m - a x_s y_s)
\end{align}
\]

where \( \theta \) is an adjustable parameter with the following adaptive law

\[
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} \theta = \delta e_1 e_2
\]

where \( \delta \) corresponds to the adaptive gain that can be used to handle the convergence speed, then the controlled system (11),(13),(14) is uniformly stable.

**Proof.** Using the control signals (13) in (11), the evolution of the synchronization errors results

\[
\begin{align}
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} e_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} e_2 &= (\gamma - \theta) e_1 - e_2 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} e_3 &= -\beta e_1 - e_2
\end{align}
\]

Defining the parametric error as \( \phi = \gamma - \theta \in \mathbb{R} \), Eq. (15) can be expressed as

\[
\begin{align}
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} e_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} e_2 &= \phi e_1 - e_2 \\
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} e_3 &= -\beta e_1 - e_2
\end{align}
\]

In order to prove the stability of the controlled system, let us use the fractional extension of Lyapunov direct method [20]. We propose the following Lyapunov candidate function, which is positive definite and decrescent

\[
V = \frac{1}{2\sigma} e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_3^2 + \frac{1}{2\delta} \phi^2
\]

with \( \delta \in \mathbb{R} \), \( \delta > 0 \).

Assuming that \( e_1, e_2, e_3, \phi \) are differentiable, then applying Lemma 1 to (17) and using (16) and (14) it can be written as

\[
\frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} V \leq -\frac{1}{2} (e_1 - e_2)^2 - \frac{1}{2} e_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} e_2^2 - \beta e_3^2.
\]

As can be seen from (18), the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function is negative semidefinite, then it can be concluded from Theorem 1 that the origin of system (16),(14) is uniformly stable, and therefore \( e_1, e_2, e_3, \phi \in L^\infty \), and this concludes the proof. \( \square \)

**Remark 2.** In order to prove the convergence of the synchronization errors to zero, in the integer order case [26] it is used the Corollary of the Barbalat Lemma [27]. To this extent, besides the fact that the synchronization errors are bounded (\( e_1, e_2, e_3 \in L^\infty \),
it is proved that the integer integral of the squared synchronization errors is bounded \((e_1, e_2, e_3, \phi \in L^2)\) and that the errors are uniformly continuous \((\dot{e}_1, \dot{e}_2, \dot{e}_3 \in L^\infty)\).

However, in the fractional case it is not possible to prove that the integer integral of the squared synchronization errors is bounded, so it is no possible to use the corollary of the Barbalat Lemma \([27]\).

Instead of this, it can be proved that the fractional integral of the squared synchronization errors is bounded (integrating expression \((18)\)), but unfortunately there is not a fractional equivalent to the corollary of the Barbalat Lemma. That is why the analytical proof of the convergence to zero of the synchronization errors is a subject currently under research. Nevertheless, all the simulation studies accomplished during this research have shown that the synchronization errors converge to zero, as it will be shown in Section 4.

**Lemma 3.** (Nonadaptive fractional synchronization using control signals. \(U_2\) and \(U_3\), assuming a known upper bound on parameter \(\gamma\)). Let us assume that the parameters \(\alpha, \gamma, \beta\) in \((8)\) and \((9)\) are unknown and \(\alpha, \gamma, \sigma, \beta > 0\). It is also assumed that an upper bound \(B_\gamma\) on the parameter \(\gamma\) is known \((\gamma < B_\gamma)\). If the following control signals are used in \((9)\)

\[
\begin{align*}
U_1 &= 0 \\
U_2 &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \left(-x_mz_m + ax_zz_\beta + B_\gamma e_2 \right) \\
U_3 &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \left(x_mz_m - ax_zy_\gamma \right)
\end{align*}
\] \[(19)\]

then the controlled system \((11), (19)\) is asymptotically stable.

**Proof.** Using the control signals \((19)\) in \((11)\), the evolution of the synchronization errors results

\[
\begin{align*}
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 \\
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_2 &= \gamma e_1 - e_2 - B_\gamma e_2 \\
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_3 &= -\beta e_3
\end{align*}
\] \[(20)\]

In order to analyze the stability of the corresponding controlled system \((20)\), let us use the fractional extension of Lyapunov direct method \([21]\). We propose the following Lyapunov candidate function, which is positive definite and decrescent

\[
V = \frac{1}{2\sigma} e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2\gamma} e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_3^2.
\] \[(21)\]

Note that it is the same Lyapunov function that is used in the adaptive case, except for the term including the parameter error \((\frac{1}{2\alpha \phi^2})\), which in this case does not exist since this is a nonadaptive solution.

Assuming that \(e_1, e_2, e_3\) are differentiable, applying Lemma 1 and using \((20)\) it can be written as

\[
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha V \leq -(e_1 - e_2)^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma} e_2^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma} B_\gamma e_2^2 - \beta e_3^2
\]

\[
\leq -(e_1 - e_2)^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma} e_2^2 \left(1 - \frac{B_\gamma}{\gamma}\right) - \beta e_3^2
\] \[(22)\]

Given that \(\gamma < B_\gamma\) and \(\gamma, B_\gamma > 0\), then \(\frac{B_\gamma}{\gamma} > 1\) and consequently \(\frac{1 - B_\gamma}{\gamma} < 0\). Using this result in expression \((22)\), it can be concluded that the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function is negative definite. Then using Theorem 2, it can be concluded that the origin of the system \((20)\) is asymptotically stable, that is \(e_1, e_2, e_3 \in L^\infty\) and

\[
limit_{t \to \infty} e_1(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_2(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_3(t) = 0
\] \[(23)\]

and this concludes the proof.

Note that in this nonadaptive case, asymptotic stability can be proved directly from the fractional extension of Lyapunov direct method, so no additional tools are needed in order to prove that the synchronization errors converge to zero. This is due to the fact that more knowledge on the system is needed to construct the solution than in the adaptive case, since the upper bound \(B_\gamma\) must be known.

### 3.2. Fractional synchronization using control signals \(U_1\) and \(U_2\)

This subsection presents the solution to the synchronization problem using control signals \(U_1\) and \(U_2\). The problem is addressed in the adaptive case and in the nonadaptive case.

**Lemma 4.** (Adaptive fractional synchronization using control signals. \(U_1\) and \(U_2\) and one adjustable parameter \(\theta\)). Let us assume that the parameters \(\sigma, \gamma, \beta\) in \((8)\) and \((9)\) are unknown, \(\sigma, \beta > 0\) and \(a = 1\). If the following control signals are used in \((9)\)

\[
\begin{align*}
U_1 &= -z_m e_2 + \theta e_2 \\
U_2 &= 0 \\
U_3 &= x_m e_2 + y_\gamma e_1 - x_\gamma e_2
\end{align*}
\] \[(24)\]

where \(\theta\) is an adjustable parameter with the following adaptive law:

\[
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha \theta = \delta e_1 e_2
\] \[(25)\]

where \(\delta\) corresponds to the adaptive gain that can be used to handle the convergence speed, then the controlled system \((12), (24), (25)\) is uniformly stable.

**Proof.** Using control signals \((24)\) in \((12)\), the evolution of the synchronization errors turns out to be

\[
\begin{align*}
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + (\sigma - \theta) e_2 + z_m e_2 \\
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_2 &= \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_\gamma e_3 - z_m e_1 \\
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_3 &= -\beta e_3 + x_\gamma e_2
\end{align*}
\] \[(26)\]

Defining the parametric error as \(\phi = \sigma + \gamma - \theta\), then we can write that \((\sigma - \theta) e_2 = \phi e_2 - \gamma e_2\). Therefore, Eq. \((26)\) can be expressed as

\[
\begin{align*}
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + \phi e_2 - \gamma e_2 + z_m e_2 \\
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_2 &= \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_\gamma e_3 - z_m e_1 \\
C_{t_1}D_0^\alpha e_3 &= -\beta e_3 + x_\gamma e_2
\end{align*}
\] \[(27)\]

In order to prove the stability of the controlled system, we will use the fractional extension of the Lyapunov direct method \([20]\), proposing the following Lyapunov candidate function, which
is positive definite and decrescent:

\[ V = \frac{1}{2}e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2}e_3^2 + \frac{1}{25}\phi^2 \]  
(28)

with \( \delta \in \mathbb{R}, \delta > 0 \).

Assuming that \( e_1, e_2, e_3, \phi \) are differentiable, then applying Lemma 1 and using (27) and (25) results

\[ \zeta \dot{V} \leq -\sigma e_1^2 - e_2^2 - \beta e_3^2 \]  
(29)

As can be seen from (29), the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function is negative semidefinite, then it can be concluded that the origin of system (27),(25) is uniformly stable, and \( e_1, e_2, e_3, \phi \in \mathcal{L}^\infty \) and this concludes the proof. \( \Box \)

Regarding the convergence to zero of the synchronization errors, explanation given in Remark 2 is also valid.

**Lemma 5.** (Nonadaptive fractional synchronization using control signals. \( U_1 \) and \( U_2 \), assuming a known upper bound on parameters \( \gamma, \sigma \)). Let us assume that the parameters \( \gamma, \beta \) in (8) and (9) are unknown, \( \beta > 0 \) and \( a = 1 \). It is also assumed that an upper bound \( B_{\gamma,\sigma} \) on the sum \( \frac{(\gamma + \sigma)^2}{4} \) is known \((\frac{(\gamma + \sigma)^2}{4} < B_{\gamma,\sigma})\). If the following control signals are used in (9)

\[
\begin{align*}
U_1 &= -z_me_2 + B_{\gamma,\sigma}e_1 \\
U_2 &= 0 \\
U_3 &= x_m e_2 + y_i e_1 - x_i e_2 
\end{align*}
\]

then the controlled system (12),(30) is asymptotically stable.

**Proof.** Using the control signals (30) in (12), the evolution of the synchronization errors results

\[
\begin{align*}
\zeta \dot{e}_1 &= -\sigma e_1 + \gamma e_2 + z_m e_2 - B_{\gamma,\sigma} e_1 \\
\zeta \dot{e}_2 &= \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_i e_3 - z_m e_1 \\
\zeta \dot{e}_3 &= -\beta e_3 + x_i e_2 
\end{align*}
\]
(31)

For the sake of space, the stability proof is not explicitly given in this subsection. The reader can check that using the Lyapunov function candidate \( V = \frac{1}{2}e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2}e_3^2 \) and Lemma 1, the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function results negative definite

\[ \zeta \dot{V} \leq -\left(\frac{(\gamma + \sigma)}{2}e_1 - e_2 \right)^2 - \beta e_3^2 \\
+ e_1^2 \left(\frac{(\gamma + \sigma)^2}{4} - B_{\gamma,\sigma}\right) \]  
(32)

Then using Theorem 2, it can be easily concluded that the origin of system (31) is asymptotically stable, that is \( \lim_{t \to \infty} e_1(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_2(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_3(t) = 0 \).

### 3.3. Fractional synchronization using control signals \( U_1 \) and \( U_2 \)

This subsection presents the solution to the synchronization problem using control signals \( U_1 \) and \( U_2 \). As in the previous subsections, the problem is addressed in the adaptive case and in the nonadaptive case.

**Lemma 6.** (Adaptive fractional synchronization using control signals. \( U_1 \) and \( U_2 \) and one adjustable parameter \( \theta \)). Let us assume that the parameters \( \sigma, \gamma, \beta \) in (8) and (9) are unknown, \( \beta > 0 \) and \( a = 1 \). If the following control signals are used in (9)

\[
\begin{align*}
U_1 &= y_i e_3 + \theta e_2 \\
U_2 &= -x_i e_3 - z_m e_1 + x_m e_3 \\
U_3 &= 0 
\end{align*}
\]
(33)

then the controlled system (12),(39) is asymptotically stable.
Proof. Using the control signals (39) in (12), the evolution of the synchronization errors results:

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_1 = -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 - y_1 e_3 - B_{y_\sigma} e_1 \]

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_2 = \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_m e_3 \]  \hspace{1cm} (40)

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_3 e_1 \]

As in the previous case, the stability proof is not explicitly given here. The reader can easily check that using the Lyapunov function candidate \( V = \frac{1}{2} e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_3^2 \) and Lemma 1, the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function results negative definite:

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} V \leq -\left( \frac{\gamma + \alpha}{2} e_1 - e_2 \right)^2 - \beta e_3^2 + e_1^2 \left( \frac{\gamma + \alpha}{4} - B_{y_\sigma} \right) \]  \hspace{1cm} (41)

Then using Theorem 2, it can be proved that the origin of system (40) is asymptotically stable, that is \( \lim_{t \to \infty} e_1(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_2(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_3(t) = 0 \), and this concludes the proof. \( \square \)

3.4. Fractional synchronization using only control signal \( U_1 \)

This subsection presents the solution to the synchronization problem using only control signal \( U_1 \). As in the previous subsections, the problem is addressed in the adaptive case and in the nonadaptive case.

Lemma 8. (Adaptive fractional synchronization using only control signal, \( U_1 \) and one adjustable parameter \( \theta \)). Let us assume that the parameters \( \gamma, \beta, \alpha \) in (8) and (9) are unknown, \( \sigma, \beta > 0 \) and \( a = 1 \). If the following control signals are used in (9)

\[ U_1 = \theta e_2 - y_m z_1 + y_3 z_2 \]

\[ U_2 = 0 \]  \hspace{1cm} (42)

\[ U_3 = 0 \]

where \( \theta \) is an adjustable parameter with the following adaptive law:

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} \theta = \delta e_1 e_2 \]  \hspace{1cm} (43)

where \( \delta \) corresponds to the adaptive gain that can be used to handle the convergence speed, then the controlled system (12),(42),(43) is uniformly stable.

Proof. Using the control signals (42) in (12), the evolution of the synchronization errors (12) becomes:

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_1 = -\sigma e_1 + (\sigma - \theta) e_2 + y_m z_1 - y_3 z_2 \]

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_2 = \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_m z_3 + x_3 z_3 \]  \hspace{1cm} (44)

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_1 e_1 \]

Defining the parametric error as \( \phi = \sigma + \gamma - \theta \), then Eq. (44) can be expressed as

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_1 = -\sigma e_1 + e_2 (\phi - \gamma) + y_m z_1 - y_3 z_2 \]

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_2 = \gamma e_1 - e_2 - x_m z_3 + x_3 z_3 \]  \hspace{1cm} (45)

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_1 e_1 \]

In order to prove the stability of the controlled system, the fractional extension of the Lyapunov direct method is used [20], proposing the following Lyapunov candidate function, which is positive definite and decrescent:

\[ V = \frac{1}{2} e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_3^2 + \frac{1}{2} \delta \phi^2 \]

with \( \delta \in \mathbb{R}, \delta > 0 \).

Assuming that \( e_1, e_2, e_3, \phi \) are differentiable, then applying Lemma 1 and using (45) and (43) the result turns out to be

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} V \leq -\sigma e_1^2 - e_2^2 - \beta e_3^2 \]  \hspace{1cm} (47)

As can be seen from (47), the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function is negative semidefinite, then it can be concluded that the origin of system (45),(43) is uniformly stable, that is \( e_1, e_2, e_3, \phi \in \mathcal{C}^\infty \), and this concludes the proof. \( \square \)

Regarding the analytical proof for the convergence to zero of the synchronization errors, the comments made in Remark 2 are also valid in this case.

Lemma 9. (Nonadaptive fractional synchronization using only control signal, \( U_1 \) assuming a known upper bound on parameters \( \gamma, \beta \)). Let us assume that the parameters \( \sigma, \gamma, \beta \) in (8) and (9) are unknown, \( \beta > 0 \) and \( a = 1 \). It is also assumed that an upper bound \( B_{y_\sigma} \) on the sum \( \frac{(\gamma + \alpha)}{4} \) is known \( \frac{(\gamma + \alpha)}{4} < B_{y_\sigma} \). If the following control signals are used in (9)

\[ U_1 = -y_m z_1 + y_3 z_2 + B_{y_\sigma} e_1 \]

\[ U_2 = 0 \]  \hspace{1cm} (48)

\[ U_3 = 0 \]

then the controlled system (12),(48) is asymptotically stable.

Proof. Using the control signals (48) in (12), the evolution of the synchronization errors results:

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_1 = -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 + y_m z_3 - y_3 z_2 - B_{y_\sigma} e_1 \]

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_2 = \gamma e_1 - e_2 + x_m z_3 - x_3 z_3 \]  \hspace{1cm} (49)

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_1 e_1 \]

Again in this case, for the sake of space, the detailed stability proof is not given. However, the reader can check that using the Lyapunov function candidate \( V = \frac{1}{2} e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_3^2 \) and Lemma 1, the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function results negative definite

\[ C \frac{D^\alpha}{t^\alpha} V \leq -\left( \frac{\gamma + \alpha}{2} e_1 - e_2 \right)^2 - \beta e_3^2 + e_1^2 \left( \frac{\gamma + \alpha}{4} - B_{y_\sigma} \right) \]  \hspace{1cm} (50)

Then using Theorem 2, it can be proved that the origin of system (49) is asymptotically stable, that is \( \lim_{t \to \infty} e_1(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_2(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_3(t) = 0 \) and this concludes the proof. \( \square \)

3.5. Fractional synchronization using only control signal \( U_2 \)

Finally, this subsection presents the solution to the synchronization problem using only control signal \( U_2 \) for both, adaptive and nonadaptive case.

Lemma 10. (Adaptive fractional synchronization using only control signal, \( U_2 \) and one adjustable parameter \( \theta \)). Let us assume that the parameters \( \sigma, \gamma, \beta \) in (8) and (9) are unknown, \( \sigma, \beta > 0 \), \( a = 1 \) and that the master states trajectories \( x_m, y_m \) remain bounded. If the
following control signals are used in (9)

\[ U_1 = 0 \]
\[ U_2 = \theta e_1 - x_m z_m + x_s z_5 \]  
\[ U_3 = 0 \]  

where \( \theta \) is an adjustable parameter with the following adaptive law

\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t \theta = \delta e_1 e_2 \]  

(52)

where \( \delta \) corresponds to the adaptive gain, then the controlled system (12),(51),(52) is uniformly stable.

Proof. Using the control signals (51) in (12), the evolution of the synchronization errors becomes

\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_1 = -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 \]  
\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_2 = (\gamma - \theta) e_1 - e_2 \]  
\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_s e_1 \]  

Defining the parametric error as \( \phi = \sigma - \theta \), thus Eq. (53) can be written as

\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_1 = -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 \]  
\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_2 = \phi e_1 - e_2 \]  
\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_s e_1 \]  

In order to prove the stability of the controlled system, let us analyze first the subsystem \( \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_1, \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_2, \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t \phi \), using the fractional extension of the Lyapunov direct method [20]. Let us consider the following Lyapunov candidate function, which is positive definite and decrescent

\[ V = \frac{1}{2\delta} e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} e_2^2 + \frac{1}{2\delta} \phi^2 \]  

(55)

with \( \delta \in \mathbb{R}, \delta > 0 \).

Assuming that \( e_1, e_2, \phi \) are differentiable, then applying Lemma 1 and using (54) and (52) the result becomes

\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t V \leq \frac{1}{2} (e_1^2 + e_2^2 + \phi^2) \]  
\[ \leq - \frac{1}{2} (e_1^2 + e_2^2 + \phi^2) \]  

(56)

As can be seen from (56), \( \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t V \) is negative semidefinite, then it can be concluded that the origin of subsystem \( \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_1, \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_2 \) together with (52) is uniformly stable. This means that \( e_1, e_2, \phi \in L^\infty \).

In order to analyze the stability of \( e_3 \), let us analyze the third equation of (54), which has the form

\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_s e_1 \]  

(57)

Since the master state trajectory \( y_m \) remains bounded, i.e., \( y_m \in L^\infty \), then given that \( e_1 \in L^\infty \), it can be concluded that \( y_s \in L^\infty \).

Since \( x_m \in L^\infty \) as well, then by using the BIBO stability concepts for fractional systems [28], it can be concluded from (57) that \( e_3 \in L^\infty \), and this concludes the proof. \( \square \)

Lemma 11. (Nonadaptive fractional synchronization using only control signal \( U_2 \), assuming a known upper bound on parameter \( \gamma \)) Let us assume that the parameters \( \sigma, \gamma, \beta, \) and \( \alpha \) are unknown, \( \sigma, \gamma, \beta > 0 \) and \( \alpha = 1 \). It is also assumed that an upper bound \( B_\gamma \) on the parameter \( \gamma \) is known \( (\gamma < B_\gamma) \) and that the master system trajectories \( x_m, y_m, z_m \) remain bounded. If the following control signals are used in (9)

\[ U_1 = -y m z_s + y_s z_m + B_\gamma e_1 \]  
\[ U_2 = 0 \]  
\[ U_3 = 0 \]

then the controlled system (12),(58) is asymptotically stable.

Proof. Using the control signals (58) in (12), the evolution of the synchronization errors results

\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_1 = -\sigma e_1 + \sigma e_2 \]  
\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_2 = \gamma e_1 - e_2 - B_\gamma e_2 \]  
\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_3 = -\beta e_3 + x_m e_2 + y_s e_1 \]  

The stability of the subsystem \( \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_1, \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_2 \) can be first analyzed, using the Lyapunov function candidate \( V = \frac{1}{2\sigma} e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2\gamma} e_2^2 \) and Lemma 1, obtaining that the fractional derivative of the Lyapunov function is negative definite:

\[ \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t V \leq - (e_1^2 + e_2^2) + e_2^2 \left( 1 - \frac{b}{\gamma} \right) \]  

(59)

Thus using Theorem 2, it can be concluded that \( \lim_{t \to \infty} e_1(t) = \lim_{t \to \infty} e_2(t) = 0 \).

Since \( x_m, y_m, z_m \in L^\infty \), the equation for \( \zeta_0 D^\alpha_t e_3 \) in (59) can be analyzed using BIBO stability concepts for fractional systems [28], concluding that \( \lim_{t \to \infty} e_3(t) = 0 \), and this concludes the proof. \( \square \)

Remark 3. Solution using only control signal \( U_3(t) \) could not be found using the methodology proposed in this paper, which is why this case is not presented in this document.

As a summary of all the results already presented in Section 3, we present in Tables 1 and 2 the main characteristics of the five proposed control strategies for the adaptive case and the nonadaptive case, respectively.

Remark 4. Although the solutions proposed in this paper are for Lorenz systems, the proposed methodology using the fractional extension of Lyapunov direct method and quadratic Lyapunov functions could be applied to achieve synchronization of other type of systems.

4. Numerical results and simulations

From the approaches presented in Section 3, it can be concluded analytically that fractional adaptive synchronization of Lorenz systems can be reached, by handling either one or two control signals, using one adjustable parameter. It is also possible to achieve nonadaptive synchronization using one or two control signals, assuming a known upper bound on one or two system parameters.

In the adaptive cases, it can be concluded analytically from the results presented in Section 3 that the controlled system is uniformly stable, although the convergence to zero of the synchronization errors could not be proved analytically, due to a lack of tools to accomplish this task. However, simulations studies have been developed in the context of this research, and they have shown that the synchronization can be effectively achieved in the adaptive cases as well.

This section presents some representative simulation results, for the case when only control signals \( U_2, U_3 \) are used, for both the
adaptive case (see Subsection 3.1) and the nonadaptive case (see Subsection 3.2). The results presented here illustrate the effectiveness of the proposed synchronization schemes. No simulation results are presented for the rest of the cases for the sake of space, although the conclusions about stability and convergence that can be observed in this case are valid for the rest of the cases as well.

For these simulations, the Ninteger Toolbox [29] for Matlab/Simulink was used. The parameter values for the master system (8) and slave system (9), which are assumed to be unknown, are $\alpha = 10$, $\gamma = 28$ and $\beta = 8/3$. It was reported in [30] that for this value, the Lorenz system exhibits a chaotic behavior when the derivation order lies in the interval $0.99 \leq \alpha \leq 1.18$, when $\alpha < 0.99$ the Lorenz system tends asymptotically to one of the two attractors and when $\alpha > 1.18$ the system exhibits unstable behavior. Given that the analytical proofs given in this paper are valid in the interval $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, only simulations for the cases $\alpha \in [0.99, 1)$ (chaotic) and $\alpha \in (0, 0.99)$ (stable) are presented.

The initial conditions for master and slave systems were chosen as $[-8, -5.6]^T$ and $[10, -10, -10]^T$, respectively. For this study we took a scale factor $\alpha = 1$ as well as $\alpha = 2$. In all simulations, the adaptive gain $\delta = 1$ was chosen in the adaptive case for simplicity, although the analysis is also valid for any $\delta > 0$.

Fig. 1 shows the fractional adaptive case for different values of the derivation order $\alpha$. The norm of the synchronization error vector $e = [e_1 \ e_2 \ e_3]^T$ has been plotted in this graphic and a scale factor $a = 1$ has been used.

As can be seen, in the three cases the adaptive synchronization is achieved, that is, the norm of the synchronization error converges to zero. It can be noted that the convergence speed is greater as the derivation order $\alpha$ gets closer to 1. However, the initial overshoot is lower as the derivation order $\alpha$ gets farther from 1, as can be noted in the zoomed part of the graph. This last characteristic is directly related to the control effort, that is, the control effort is lower as the derivation order gets farther from 1.

Fig. 2 shows the evolution of the master and the slave states for two different values of the derivation order, in this case using a scale factor $a = 2$.

As can be seen from Fig. 2, the synchronization is effectively achieved in both cases and the use of a scale factor $a = 2$ is observed as well. Also it can be noted that when using a derivation order $\alpha = 0.5$, the systems exhibit an stable behavior, and when $\alpha = 0.99$ the systems exhibit a chaotic behavior, as it was found in [30].

Let us now analyze the results in the nonadaptive case. In this simulations the same parameter values and initial conditions than in the adaptive case are used, and the upper bound on the system parameter used is $B_p = 40$.

Fig. 3 shows the fractional nonadaptive case for different values of the derivation order $\alpha$. The norm of the synchronization error vector $e = [e_1 \ e_2 \ e_3]^T$ has been plotted in this graphic as it was done in the adaptive case, and a scale factor $a = 1$ has been used.

As can be seen from Fig. 3, the synchronization is achieved for every derivation order used, as it was expected from the stability analysis in Section 3. It is important to note that in this nonadaptive case, the convergence speed does not present important differences if we look at the cases $\alpha = 0.5$ and $\alpha = 0.8$, as it was in the adaptive case. This is due to the fact that no adaptation process takes place here, so the usual adaptation speed given by the derivation of the adaptive law does not affect the convergence speed of the errors, as it is in the adaptive case. Of
course, in this case more knowledge of the system is needed in order to construct the control signal than in the adaptive case.

Regarding the transient response in this case, it can be seen from the zoomed part of Fig. 3 that the overshoot is higher as the derivation order gets closer to 1, as it happens in the adaptive case.

Fig. 4. Evolution of the synchronization errors for three different control strategies.

4.1. Comparison with another control strategy proposed in the technical literature

The work presented in this paper has advantage over other techniques, since all the system parameters $\sigma$, $\gamma$, $\beta$ are assumed to be unknown, and a reduced number of control signals and adjustable parameters are used to achieve the synchronization. Although there are no similar works reported in the literature accomplishing all these conditions, we would like to make some comparison between the results reported in this paper and another result reported in literature for the same system, no matter the information needed to implement the control or the number of control signals used. The idea is to analyze the convergence time and the transient response of the synchronization errors for each case, as well as the control effort.

In what follows, we are going to refer to the control strategy proposed in this paper using control signals $U_2$ and $U_3$ and one adjustable parameter described in Section 3.1 as Control strategy 1. On the other hand, the control strategy proposed in this paper using only control signal $U_2$ and one adjustable parameter described in Section 3.5 will be referred as Control strategy 2.

Finally, Control strategy 3 corresponds to the one reported in [6], which does not need any knowledge of the system parameters, but it uses three control signals $U_1$, $U_2$, $U_3$ and three adjustable parameters $k_1$, $k_2$, $k_3$. Basically, Control strategy 3 uses a feedback control in the form

$$
\begin{align*}
U_1 &= k_1 (x_1 - x_m) \\
U_2 &= k_2 (y_1 - y_m) \\
U_3 &= k_3 (z_1 - z_m)
\end{align*}
$$

(61)

where the parameters $k_1$, $k_2$ and $k_3$ are adaptively adjusted using the following adaptive laws:

$$
\begin{align*}
k_1 &= -\delta e_1^2 \\
k_2 &= -\delta e_2^2 \\
k_3 &= -\delta e_3^2
\end{align*}
$$

(62)

The parameter $\delta$ corresponds to the adaptive gain.

Fig. 4 shows the evolution of the synchronization errors using these three control strategies, and Fig. 5 shows the corresponding control signals. In these simulations, the initial conditions for the master and slave systems are the same as in previous simulations, adaptive gains are $\delta = 1$ and the initial condition for all the adjustable parameters is 40. The fractional order used is $\alpha = 0.993$ and the simulation time is 5 seconds.

As can be observed in Fig. 4, no big differences can be seen about the convergence time of the synchronization errors between...
the three control strategies. In the case of errors \( e_1 \) and \( e_2 \), the difference in the convergence time is about half a second between Control strategy 3 and Control strategies 1 and 2.

In the case of \( e_3 \), the difference in the convergence time is about 1 second between Control strategy 1 and Control strategy 3. In the case of Control strategy 2 the difference is about 2 seconds with respect to Control strategy 3 and 1 second with respect to Control strategy 1.

Although no big differences can be seen between the three control strategies regarding the convergence time of the synchronization errors, it can be seen from Fig. 4 that the initial overshoot of \( e_1 \) and \( e_2 \) for Control strategy 3 is significantly higher than for Control strategies 1 and 2. In the case of \( e_3 \), Control strategy 1 does not present overshoot at all, while for Control strategy 2 the magnitude of the overshoot is lesser than for Control strategy 3.

Another aspect of great importance can be seen in Fig. 5, where it can be observed that the initial control effort is particularly high for Control strategy 3, compared to Control strategies 1 and 2. Since Control strategy 2 uses only control signal \( U_2 \) and Control strategy 1 uses only control signals \( U_2 \) and \( U_3 \), this behavior represents a great advantage of using control strategies proposed in this paper.

We must point out that Control strategy 1 and 2 use not only less control signals (2 and 1 respectively) than Control strategy 3, but they also use only one adjustable parameter, compared to three used in Control strategy 3.

Of course, the simulations presented here were carried out using specific values for adaptive gains, initial conditions of the estimated parameters, order of the fractional adaptive laws in the case of Control strategies 1 and 2, among others. Thus, the results could be different under different values of all these parameters. An optimization procedure could be a great option to find specific parameters (adaptive gains, fractional orders, initial conditions) that guarantee desired results.

5. Conclusions

In this paper, the analysis of the adaptive synchronization of two fractional Lorenz systems has been presented, as well as the analysis of nonadaptive synchronization. The synchronization was studied based on theoretical results and complemented by simulations, analyzing the behavior of the synchronization errors.

The study performed in this paper indicates that fractional adaptive synchronization of Lorenz systems can be achieved with a reduced number of parameters and signals, under mild assumptions. This can be done by using two control signals and one adjustable parameter, even if using one control signal and one adjustable parameter. The study also indicates that nonadaptive synchronization can be achieved under the same mild assumptions, using one or two control signals and upper bounds on one or two of the system unknown parameters.

In both solutions, adaptive and nonadaptive, the stability of the resulting schemes was analytically proved, using the fractional extension of Lyapunov direct method. The convergence to zero of the synchronization errors was proved in the nonadaptive case, using the fractional extension of the Lyapunov direct method as well. In the adaptive case, however, the convergence to zero of the synchronization errors could not be analytically proved, due to a lack of available tools to accomplish this task, being this topic currently under investigation. Nevertheless, simulation studies indicate that the synchronization errors do converge to zero in the adaptive case too.

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