

# Dynamic Self-Triggered Impulsive Synchronization of Complex Networks With Mismatched Parameters and Distributed Delay

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**Abstract**—Synchronization of complex networks with nonlinear couplings and distributed time-varying delays is investigated in this article. Since the mismatched parameters of individual systems, a kind of leader-following quasisynchronization issues is analyzed via impulsive control. To acquire appropriate impulsive intervals, the dynamic self-triggered impulsive controller is devoted to predicting the available instants of impulsive inputs. The proposed controller ensures the control effects while reducing the control costs. In addition, the updating laws of the dynamic parameter is settled in consideration of error bounds to adapt to the quasisynchronization. With the utilization of the Lyapunov stability theorem, comparison method, and the definition of average impulsive interval, sufficient conditions for realizing the synchronization within a specific bound are derived. Moreover, with the definition of average impulsive gain, the parameter variation scheme is extended from the fixed impulsive effects case to the time-varying impulsive effects case. Finally, three numerical examples are given to show the effectiveness and the superiority of proposed mathematical deduction.

**Index Terms**—Dynamic self-triggered mechanism, distributed time-varying delay, extended parameter variation scheme, quasisynchronization.

## I. INTRODUCTION

IN LAST few decades, synchronization, as one of the most important collaborative phenomena, has attracted lots of scholars' interests. Since the rapid development in this field, complete synchronization has been well studied until now. In terms of delay types, proportional delay, a kind of

unbounded delays, and its influence on synchronization were studied for the first time [1]; in field of convergence velocities, the unified stability analysis of finite time and fix time was well investigated with the utilization of the Filippov theorem [2]; in view of network topologies, cluster pinning synchronization of dynamical networks, which were composed of switched systems, was addressed via event-based strategy [3]. However, in our daily life, there occur very few situations to achieve complete synchronization. Therefore, other forms of synchronization including projective synchronization [4], quasisynchronization [15], [17], [27], [34], and secure synchronization [5] have attracted the attention of scholars. Among these synchronization phenomena, quasisynchronization has received extensive attention because of its value in industrial applications. In production activities, even for the same machine model, due to the differences in service experiences and maintenance methods, the mathematical description of their system models will be inconsistent. From the perspective of control theorem, the problem can be viewed as parameter mismatch [6], [7]. Consequently, these machines are difficult to achieve complete synchronization and can only maintain consistence within a certain error range, which motivates scholars to conduct research on quasisynchronization.

Although different types of controllers, such as feedback controllers [8] and intermittent controllers [21], [22], show the capabilities of facilitating synchronous behavior, the adjacency information are invariably needed. That is, the information exchanges in the communication channels are continuously active or piecewise continuously active [8], [9]. In other words, the above two methods occupy lots of communication resources during operation. In order to reduce the active instants of communication channels, an effective discrete control method called impulsive control is obviously more favorable [14], [15], [25]–[28].

Actually, impulsive control scheme has its advantages on control efficiency, and there still leaves the possibility of improvements in terms of cost saving. Consider the characteristic that the impulsive controller is only activated at a few of impulse instants, and many recent investigations have been done on designing the conditions for its activations. For instance, a kind of communication protocols was designed in [10] to force error vectors to converge to zero by the transient information exchange among different nodes in a complex network. Moreover, it was proved that bounded

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synchronization can be ensured by proposing an event-based quantized communication protocol in [11]. In [29], a decentralized event-triggered condition containing the current sampling vector and the last sampling vector is constructed to address the drive-response synchronization. Although the above mentioned impulsive schemes could guarantee the efficiency of control effects by designing suitable triggering conditions, unfortunately, most of the event-triggered mechanisms require real-time monitoring, which runs counter to the original intention of the impulsive controller (see [10], [11], [38], and references therein). Even though in [7] and [12], a discrete event-triggered mechanism was proposed, which reduced the number of monitoring times through periodic communication. Regrettably, the selection of the monitoring intervals still relies on experience rather than quantitative conditions.

In addition, the sensors and actuators are ordinarily equipped with limited resources in the actual production process. Therefore, proposing a kind of efficiency and energy-saving methods for both controlling and monitoring [42] is the priority work. Since it was proved in [13] that a complex network could achieve complete synchronization by utilizing appropriate coupling strength, then it is reasonable to rely on a suitable coupling strength of the complex network to keep the errors between each system and the target state within a certain range if possible. Naturally, it is intuitively to design a controller that can effectively reduce the state differences between the control objects and the target in the early stage of system evolution, and as time goes on, the control inputs could be gradually decreased. Recent advances in event-based mechanisms, especially the self-triggered mechanisms [23], [24], [35], make the monitoring and controlling in low cost to be possible. For example, by setting the triggering condition with an exponential function, a self-triggered impulsive controller whose impulsive effects obeyed certain normal distribution was proposed in [23] to synchronize the multiagent systems. Even though some complete synchronization theorems were derived by such kinds of event-based mechanisms, how self-triggered impulsive controller contributes to the quasisynchronization remains poorly understood.

As we all knew that time delays caused by information transmission in the communication channels are usually regarded as an adverse factor on synchronization. To model the transmission delays, studies on time delays existed in the systems or the couplings, or even in both simultaneously have been well studied [14]–[19]. To proceed, scholars have considered that delays may remain in the procession from receiving the instructions to the execution of the controllers, including the intermittent controllers, the impulsive controllers, and so on [19], [20]. In terms of the diversity of the delay types, although the coupling time delay was considered in [14], the extent to which distributed delay has deep relevance to synchronization is still unclear. In addition, coupled delays and distributed delays should be considered as with different sizes rather than the same [37]. Furthermore, considering the spatial characteristics of complex networks, it is particularly critical

to investigate the influence of distributed time delays on synchronization results, such as error bound and convergence velocity, in another word, delay-dependent criteria should be given.

Motivated by above-mentioned issues, this article intends to study the quasisynchronization for a class of complex networks with hybrid time-varying delays, including coupling delay and distributed delay. Noticeably, the extended parameter variation method is introduced to the case with time-varying impulsive effects. This article differs from some previous works mainly in the following three aspects.

- 1) This article studies a leader-following issue for a class of complex networks with nonlinear couplings, distributed time-varying delay, and mismatched parameters. Comparing with [14]–[17], the model analyzed in this article is more desirable.
- 2) By choosing an appropriate triggering function, the impulsive instants are predicted. Accordingly, the active time duration of monitors will be greatly reduced comparing with the event-triggered mechanism. Also, the dynamic self-triggered mechanism is proved to be more flexible than the static self-triggered mechanism [24] in reducing the number of triggering instants. It is worth mentioning that since the quasisynchronization is studied in this article rather than the complete synchronization as in [23], we will show how the dynamic self-triggering parameter is adopted with the improved adaptive updating laws.
- 3) Comparing with some previous literatures, which discussed the synchronizing and desynchronizing functions corresponding to different ranges of fixed impulsive effects [25]–[27], the time-varying impulsive effects are considered in this article. The extended parameter variation method, the definition of average impulsive gain, and the definition of average impulsive interval and comparison principle are jointly introduced and applied in order to derive some less conservative quasisynchronization results.

*Notations:*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  represents the  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space in this article. The notation  $T$  denotes the transpose of a matrix or a vector.  $\mathfrak{N}$  represents the set of nonnegative integers.  $\lambda(Q)$  represents the eigenvalues of matrix  $Q$ .  $I_n$  is equivalent to the identity matrix of order  $n$ . Inequality  $X < (\leq) 0$  is used to denote a real negative-definite (negative-semidefinite) matrix.  $\|\gamma\| = \sqrt{\gamma^T \gamma}$  is used to present norm of vector  $\gamma$ . Notation  $\mathcal{N}_i$  stands for the set of nodes, which are directly connected to the  $i$ th node. In following context, dimensions of matrices and vectors will be explained specifically.

## II. MODEL SELECTION AND PRELIMINARIES

In this section, the mathematical model of complex networks will be given first. Then, some useful definitions, lemmas, and assumptions will be introduced. In addition, the Zero behavior will be discussed.

### A. Model Description

Consider the  $i$ th follower system whose dynamic property is described by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{z}_i(t) = & -\Upsilon_{A_i} z_i(t) + \Upsilon_{B_i} \tilde{h}(z_i(t)) + u_i(t) \\ & + b \sum_{j=1}^N c_{ij} \Gamma_1 \tilde{g}(z_j(t - \tau_1(t))) \\ & + d \sum_{j=1}^N \psi_{ij} \Gamma_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t z_j(s) ds \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where  $z_i(t) = [z_i^1(t), z_i^2(t), \dots, z_i^n(t)]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  denotes the state vector of the  $i$ th system for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .  $\Upsilon_{A_i}$  and  $\Upsilon_{B_i} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are the connected weight matrices of the  $i$ th system. Nonlinear functions  $\tilde{h}(\cdot)$  and  $\tilde{g}(\cdot)$  represent some processions, which cannot be observed directly. Positive matrices  $\Gamma_1 = \text{diag}\{\gamma_1^1, \gamma_1^2, \dots, \gamma_1^n\}$  and  $\Gamma_2 = \text{diag}\{\gamma_2^1, \gamma_2^2, \dots, \gamma_2^n\} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are inner coupling matrices. Matrices  $C = (c_{ij})_{N \times N}$  and  $\Psi = (\psi_{ij})_{N \times N}$  are outer coupling matrices. It should be declared that  $c_{ij}$  and  $\psi_{ij} > 0$  if there is a connection from the  $j$ th system to the  $i$ th system, otherwise,  $c_{ij}$  and  $\psi_{ij} < 0$ . In addition,  $C$  and  $\Psi$  are assumed to be diffusive, that is,  $c_{ii} = -\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N c_{ij}$  and  $\psi_{ii} = -\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \psi_{ij}$ . Positive scalars  $b$  and  $d$  are the coupling strengths of coupling matrices  $C$  and  $\Psi$ , correspondingly.  $0 < \tau_1(t), \tau_2(t) \leq \tilde{\tau}$  are time-varying delays, which satisfy  $0 < \dot{\tau}_1(t), \dot{\tau}_2(t) < 1$ . The detailed design of controller  $u_i(t)$  will be introduced in the following part.

The leader system is modeled as

$$\dot{s}(t) = -\Upsilon_{A_s} s(t) + \Upsilon_{B_s} \tilde{h}(s(t)) \quad (2)$$

where  $s(t) = [s^1(t), s^2(t), \dots, s^n(t)]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .  $\Upsilon_{A_s}$  and  $\Upsilon_{B_s} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are the connected weight matrices of the leader system. Moreover, to design a suitable controller, the following three steps are essential.

1) *Control Scheme*: Impulsive controller  $u_i(t)$  and measurement error  $\hat{e}_i(t)$  are adopted by

$$u_i(t) = \kappa \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \hat{e}_i(t) \beta(t - t_k^i) \quad (3)$$

$$\hat{e}_i(t) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \xi_{ij} (z_j(t) - z_i(t)) - w_i (z_i(t) - s(t)) \quad (4)$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , constants  $\kappa$  and  $w_i$  denote the impulsive effect and the control gains of the  $i$ th node.  $\beta(t - t_k^i)$  stands for the Dirac impulsive function.  $\Xi = (\xi_{ij})_{N \times N}$  is the distributed coupling matrix, which satisfies  $\xi_{ij} > 0$  if there exist control signals sent from the  $j$ th system to the  $i$ th system and  $\xi_{ii} = -\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \xi_{ij}$ .

2) *Triggering Condition*: To determine the next triggering instant  $t_{k+1}^i$ , the following condition is proposed:

$$t_{k+1}^i = \inf\{t > t_k^i : \varphi_i(t) - \mu_i(t) > 0\} \quad (5)$$

where  $\varphi_i(t) = \|\hat{e}_i(t_k)\|^2 (e^{\rho(t-t_k)} - 1) - \theta \|\hat{e}_i(t_k)\|^2 - e^{-l(t-t_0)}$  and  $\rho, \theta$ , and  $l$  are positive constants. From (5), it can be observed that  $\|\hat{e}_i(t_k)\|^2 (e^{\rho(t-t_k)} - 1)$  will reset to zero at every  $t = t_k$ , which leads to a negative  $\varphi_i(t_k)$  at beginning of each impulsive interval  $[t_k, t_{k+1})$ .

Consequently, the controller will not be triggered continuously. The setting of variable  $\mu_i(t)$  will be discussed soon.  $\{t_k^i\}$  satisfies  $0 = t_0^i < t_1^i < \dots < t_k^i < \dots$ . For later usage, all triggering instants are ordered as  $\{t_k\} = \bigcup_{i=1}^N \{t_k^i\}$ ,  $w \in \mathfrak{N}$ . The new impulse sequence satisfies  $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_k < \dots$ ,  $k \in \mathfrak{N}$ .

3) *Updating Laws*: The dynamic self-triggered function  $\mu_i(t)$  will be updated by

$$\dot{\mu}_i(t) = -\epsilon_1 \mu_i(t) - \epsilon_2 \varphi_i(t) + \epsilon_3 e_b \quad (6)$$

where  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2$ , and  $\epsilon_3$  are positive constants and  $e_b \in \{e_{b_1}, e_{b_2}, e_{b_3}\}$  denotes the error bound, which will be discussed next.

By jointly considering (1)–(6) and defining the error vector as  $e_i(t) = z_i(t) - s(t)$ , the following result could be derived:

$$\begin{cases} e_i(t) = -\Upsilon_{A_i} e_i(t) + \Upsilon_{B_i} h(e_i(t)), & t \neq t_k \\ \quad + b \sum_{j=1}^N c_{ij} \Gamma_1 g(e_j(t - \tau_1(t))) + \mathcal{Y}_i(s(t)) \\ \quad + d \sum_{j=1}^N \psi_{ij} \Gamma_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t e_j(s) ds \\ \Delta e_i(t_k) = e_i(t_k^+) - e_i(t_k^-), & t = t_k \\ \quad = \kappa \left( \sum_{j=1}^N \xi_{ij} e_j(t_k^-) - w_i e_i(t_k^-) \right) \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where  $k \in \mathfrak{N}$ ,  $\mathcal{Y}_i(s(t)) = -(\Upsilon_{A_i} - \Upsilon_{A_s})s(t) + (\Upsilon_{B_i} - \Upsilon_{B_s})\tilde{h}(s(t))$ ,  $h(e_i(t)) = \tilde{h}(z_i(t)) - \tilde{h}(s(t))$ , and  $g(e_j(t - \tau_1(t))) = \tilde{g}(z_j(t - \tau_1(t))) - \tilde{g}(s(t - \tau_1(t)))$ .

*Remark 1*: In some previous literature, such as [25] and [28], the impulsive control protocols were applied by combining the continuous negative feedback control protocol to increase the control efficiency and speed up the synchronization procession. However, during the actual production process, it is difficult to let continuous actuators and discrete actuators receive the same type of signals. Therefore, as it can be seen from (3) that only the impulsive control protocol is considered in this article. As it is known to us that the impulsive intervals are key points in the impulsive controller. A question remains about the triggering strategy of impulses. Therefore, a type of event-based rather than time-based control strategy [36], [37] is considered in this article. Although both the event-triggered and the self-triggered mechanisms have shown their capabilities on providing assistance with discrete control signal inputs, that is, determining appropriate impulsive intervals and saving control costs [7], [10], [11], [24], the event-triggered mechanism requires continuous monitoring [38], which is contrary to the intention of saving control costs. Therefore, by designing a suitable self-triggering condition, this article establishes a kind of self-triggered impulsive controllers, which only occupies communication channels in very few instants. It is worth mentioning that the event-triggered mechanism will be applied if substituting  $\|\hat{e}_i(t_k)\|$  with  $\|\hat{e}_i(t)\|$  in (5).

### B. Related Preliminaries

*Definition 1* [30]: Non-Zeno behavior is declared for a kind of self-triggered impulsive controllers if there exists a scalar  $\mathcal{S} > 0$  satisfying that

$$t_{k+1} - t_k \geq \mathcal{S}, \quad k \in \mathfrak{N}$$

holds for any instants belonging to time sequence  $\{t_k\}$ .

*Definition 2:* Quasisynchronization between follower systems (1) and leader system (2) is said to be achieved if error state vector  $e(t) = [e_1^T(t), e_2^T(t), \dots, e_N^T(t)]^T$  converges exponentially below the bound of an existed set  $\mathcal{B} = \{e(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{Nn} \mid \|e(t)\| \leq e_b\}$  with any initial value  $e_i(0)$  for  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

*Definition 3 [31]:* In this article, the number of impulses available times will be estimated in two ways, therefore, two following definitions of average impulsive interval are given.

- 1) For the sequence  $\zeta = \{t_0, t_1, \dots\}$ , with assumption that average impulsive interval is less than  $T_a$ , number of impulsive times  $N_\zeta$  can be estimated by

$$\frac{T-t}{T_a} - N_0 \leq N_\zeta(T, t) \leq \frac{T-t}{T_a} + N_0 \quad \forall T \geq t \geq 0 \quad (8)$$

where  $T_a$  and  $N_0$  are positive scalars.

- 2) With no more assumption, the average impulsive interval  $T_a$  can be simply defined by

$$T_a = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{t - t_0}{N_\zeta(t, t_0)}. \quad (9)$$

*Definition 4 [32]:* Consider time series  $\{t_k\}$  that impulsive controller will be triggered at every instant  $t_k$ .  $\kappa(t_1), \kappa(t_2), \dots, \kappa(t_{N_\zeta})$  are the time-varying impulsive effects in respect to instants  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{N_\zeta}$ . Then, define  $N_\zeta(t, t_0)$  as the number of impulses from instant  $t_0$  to  $t$ , it gives us

$$\bar{\kappa} = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{|\kappa(t_1)| + |\kappa(t_2)| + \dots + |\kappa(t_{N_\zeta})|}{N_\zeta(t, t_0)}, \quad k \in \mathfrak{N}. \quad (10)$$

*Lemma 1 [33]:* Suppose  $V(t)$  is continuous at  $t \neq t_k, t \geq 0$ , and  $V(t)$  satisfies:

- 1)  $V(t_k^-) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_k^-} V(t)$  exists;
- 2)  $V(t_k) = V(t_k^+) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_k^+} V(t)$ ;
- 3)  $V(t) \in PC([t_0 - \bar{\tau}, t_0], \mathbb{R})$

if there exist scalars  $\varepsilon, \chi$ , and  $r$ , for two functions  $V_a(t)$  and  $V_b(t)$  whose properties are same with  $V(t)$ , such that

$$\begin{cases} D^+ V_a(t) \leq -\varepsilon V_a(t) + \chi \left( \sup_{t-\tau_1 \leq s \leq t} V_a(s) \right) \\ \quad + d \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t V_a(s) ds, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t_0 \\ V_a(t_k^+) \leq r V_a(t_k^-), \quad t = t_k, \quad t \in [t_0 - \bar{\tau}, t_0] \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

$$\begin{cases} D^+ V_b(t) > -\varepsilon V_b(t) + \chi \left( \sup_{t-\tau_1 \leq s \leq t} V_b(s) \right) \\ \quad + d \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t V_b(s) ds, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t_0 \\ V_b(t_k^+) = r V_b(t_k^-), \quad t = t_k, \quad t \in [t_0 - \bar{\tau}, t_0] \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

$k \in \mathfrak{N}$ , then, there holds  $V_a(t) \leq V_b(t)$  for  $t > 0$  if  $V_a(t) \leq V_b(t)$  holds for  $-\bar{\tau} \leq t \leq 0$ .

*Assumption 1:* For  $n$ -dimensional vectors  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$ , the nonlinear Lipschitz functions  $\tilde{h}(\cdot)$  and  $\tilde{g}(\cdot)$  satisfy the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{h}(\mathcal{A}_1) - \tilde{h}(\mathcal{A}_2)\| &\leq \eta_1 \|\mathcal{A}_1 - \mathcal{A}_2\| \\ \|\tilde{g}(\mathcal{A}_1) - \tilde{g}(\mathcal{A}_2)\| &\leq \eta_2 \|\mathcal{A}_1 - \mathcal{A}_2\| \end{aligned}$$

where positive scalars  $\eta_1$  and  $\eta_2$  are the linearization coefficients.

### C. Analysis of Non-Zeno Behavior

Non-Zeno behavior should be declared before stability discussion. According to (5), we have

$$\|\hat{e}_i(t_k)\|^2 \left( e^{\rho(t-t_k)} - 1 \right) - \theta \|\hat{e}_i(t_k)\|^2 - e^{-l(t-t_0)} - \mu_i(t) > 0. \quad (13)$$

Since the target is to let systems be synchronized within a bound, variable  $\|\hat{e}_i(t_k)\|^2$  will not converge to 0, it can be easily obtained that

$$t_{k+1}^i - t_k^i > \frac{1}{\rho} \ln \left( 1 + \theta + \frac{\mu_i(t_k^i)}{\|\hat{e}_i(t_k^i)\|^2} \right) > 0 \quad (14)$$

which demonstrates that Zeno behavior is excluded with the designed control protocol.

*Remark 2:* Different from many works focused on the static self-triggered mechanism, dynamic self-triggered mechanism is studied by introducing a time-varying function  $\mu_i(t)$ . Since the quasisynchronization is considered rather than complete synchronization [1]–[3], the dynamic self-triggered function  $\mu_i(t)$  is monopoly decreasing and may converge to zero, that is, the dynamic self-triggered mechanism will be invalid and it turns to be a static self-triggered mechanism as discussed in [35]. Therefore, the error bound  $e_b$  is introduced to establish a nonmonopoly updating law on the dynamic self-triggered scheme. It should be noticed that the updating laws in [23] could be thought as one of the special cases in our paper. It can be found that  $\mu_i(t)$  is closely related to  $\varphi_i(t)$ , which indicates that a larger value of measurement error would lead to a smaller  $\mu_i(t)$ . As a consequence, the impulsive controller would be easier to be triggered. On the contrary, the triggering intervals would get larger with an enhanced  $\mu_i(t)$ . This is the way how the dynamic self-triggering function  $\mu_i(t)$  coordinates the relationship between the energy consumption and the triggering efficiency.

## III. QUASISYNCHRONIZATION VIA DYNAMIC SELF-TRIGGERED IMPULSIVE CONTROL

In this section, more detailed conditions for achieving the quasisynchronization of a kind of complex networks with hybrid time-varying delays via designed control scheme will be given. First, fixed impulsive effects with different functions will be discussed, and then, time-varying impulsive effects will be analyzed. We will show how the parameter variation method is extended in this research.

### A. Self-Triggered Scheme With Synchronizing and Desynchronizing Impulsive Effects

In this part, the quasisynchronization via dynamic self-triggered impulsive controller will be investigated. By introducing the comparison systems, the convergence rate and the error bound are specifically estimated.

*Theorem 1:* Consider the complex dynamical networks (1) satisfying Assumption 1. The average impulsive interval is less than  $T_a$  as defined in Definition 3-1). If there exist positive constants  $\eta_1, \eta_2, \pi$ , and  $\alpha_i$  such that as the following.

Case I:

1) Matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} -rI_{Nn} & \kappa(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn} \\ * & -I_{Nn} \end{bmatrix} < 0. \quad (15)$$

2)  $r \in (0, 1)$ , that is,  $\lambda(\Xi - W) \in (-[2/\kappa], 0)$ .

3) Inequality

$$r^{N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) + \left( \chi + d\pi \tau_2^2 \right) < 0 \quad (16)$$

then the controlled error network (7) globally and exponentially converges to the following compact set:

$$\mathcal{B}_1 = \left\{ e(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{Nn} \mid \|e(t)\| \leq e_{b1} \right. \\ \left. = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2}{-r^{N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)}} \right\} \quad (17)$$

with convergence velocity  $(\lambda/2)$ , where  $\varepsilon = -\lambda_{\max}\{-2\Upsilon_A + 2\eta_1 \Upsilon_B + b(C \otimes \Gamma_1)(C \otimes \Gamma_1)^T + d(\Psi \Psi^T) \otimes (\Gamma_2 \pi^{-1} \Gamma_2) + I_{Nn}\}$ ,  $\chi = b\eta_2$ ,  $\Upsilon_A = I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{A_i}$ ,  $\Upsilon_B = I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{B_i}$ , and  $\lambda$  is the unique solution of equation  $\lambda + ([\ln r/T_a] - \varepsilon) + r^{-N_0}(\chi \exp(\lambda \tau_1) + d\pi \tau_2 [\exp(\lambda \tau_2) - 1]/\lambda) = 0$ .

Case II: If condition 1) in case I is satisfied and 2')  $r \in (1, +\infty)$ , that is,  $\lambda(\Xi - W) \in (-\infty, -(2/\kappa)) \cup (0, +\infty)$ ; and 3') inequality

$$r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) + \left( \chi + d\pi \tau_2^2 \right) < 0 \quad (18)$$

then the controlled error network (7) globally and exponentially converges to the following compact set:

$$\mathcal{B}_2 = \left\{ e(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{Nn} \mid \|e(t)\| \leq e_{b2} \right. \\ \left. = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2}{-r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)}} \right\} \quad (19)$$

with convergence velocity  $(\hat{\lambda}/2)$ , where  $\varepsilon = -\lambda_{\max}\{-2\Upsilon_A + 2\eta_1 \Upsilon_B + b(C \otimes \Gamma_1)(C \otimes \Gamma_1)^T + d(\Psi \Psi^T) \otimes (\Gamma_2 \pi^{-1} \Gamma_2) + I_{Nn}\}$ ,  $\chi = b\eta_2$ ,  $\Upsilon_A = I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{A_i}$ ,  $\Upsilon_B = I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{B_i}$ , and  $\hat{\lambda}$  is the unique solution of equation  $\hat{\lambda} + ([\ln r/T_a] - \varepsilon) + r^{N_0}(\chi \exp(\hat{\lambda} \tau_1) + d\pi \tau_2 [\exp(\hat{\lambda} \tau_2) - 1]/\hat{\lambda}) = 0$ .

*Proof:* Consider the following Lyapunov functional:

$$V(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N e_i^T(t) e_i(t), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N. \quad (20)$$

When  $t \in [t_{k-1}, t_k)$ , calculating the derivative of  $V(t)$  gives

$$\dot{V}(t) = - \sum_{i=1}^N e_i^T(t) \Upsilon_{A_i} e_i(t) + \sum_{i=1}^N e_i^T(t) \Upsilon_{B_i} h(e_i(t)) \\ + b \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N c_{ij} e_i^T(t) \Gamma_{1g} g(e_j(t - \tau_1(t)))$$

$$+ d \sum_{i=1}^N e_i^T(t) \sum_{j=1}^N \psi_{ij} \Gamma_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t e_j(s) ds \\ + \sum_{i=1}^N e_i(t) \mathcal{Y}_i(s(t)) \\ \leq -e^T(t) (I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{A_i}) e(t) + \eta_1 e^T(t) (I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{B_i}) e(t) \\ + \frac{1}{2} b e^T(t) (C \otimes \Gamma_1) (C \otimes \Gamma_1)^T e(t) \\ + \frac{1}{2} b \eta_2 e^T(t - \tau_1(t)) e(t - \tau_1(t)) \\ + d e^T(t) (\Psi \otimes \Gamma_2) \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t e(s) ds \\ + \frac{1}{2} e^T(t) e(t) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{Y}_i^T(s(t)) \mathcal{Y}_i(s(t)) \quad (21)$$

where  $e(t) = [e_1^T(t), e_2^T(t), \dots, e_N^T(t)]^T$ ,  $e(t - \tau_1(t)) = [e_1^T(t - \tau_1(t)), e_2^T(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, e_N^T(t - \tau_1(t))]^T$ , and

$$d e^T(t) (\Psi \otimes \Gamma_2) \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t e(s) ds \leq \frac{1}{2} d e^T(t) \\ \times \left( \Psi \Psi^T \otimes \Gamma_2 \pi^{-1} \Gamma_2 \right) e(t) + \frac{1}{2} d \pi \tau_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t e^T(s) e(s) ds.$$

For the stable time  $T$  of the chaotic oscillator  $s(t)$ , define  $\sup_{t>T} \|\mathcal{Y}_i(s(t))\|^2 = \alpha_i q_i^2$ . In accordance with (20) and (21), it yields that

$$\dot{V}(t) \leq \frac{1}{2} e^T(t) \left( -2\Upsilon_A + 2\eta_1 \Upsilon_B + b(C \otimes \Gamma_1)(C \otimes \Gamma_1)^T \right. \\ \left. + d(\Psi \Psi^T) \otimes (\Gamma_2 \pi^{-1} \Gamma_2) + I_{Nn} \right) e(t) \\ + \frac{1}{2} b \eta_2 e^T(t - \tau(t)) e(t - \tau(t)) \\ + \frac{1}{2} d \tau_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t e^T(s) (I_N \otimes \pi) e(s) ds + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 \\ \leq \varepsilon V(t) + \chi V(t - \tau_1(t)) + \pi d \tau_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t V(s) ds \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2. \quad (22)$$

When  $t = t_k$ , we have

$$e(t_k^+) = (\kappa(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn}) e(t_k^-). \quad (23)$$

Taking (23) into (20) gives following inequality:

$$(\kappa(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn})^T (\kappa(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn}) \\ < r I_{Nn}. \quad (24)$$

Therefore, we have

$$V(t_k^+) \leq r V(t_k^-). \quad (25)$$

To handle the comparison principle, the following comparison system, which is right-hand continuous, is intuitively constructed with considering the results in (22) and (25)

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\zeta}(t) = -\varepsilon \zeta(t) + \chi \zeta(t - \tau_1(t)) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \\ \quad + d\pi \tau_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t \zeta(s) ds, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad k \in \mathfrak{N} \\ \zeta(t_k^+) = r \zeta(t_k^-), \quad t = t_k \\ \zeta(0) = \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(0)\|^2, \quad -\tilde{\tau} \leq t \leq 0. \end{cases} \quad (26)$$

It can be further calculated that

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(t) = & M(t, 0)\zeta(0) + \int_0^t M(t, s) \left( \chi \zeta(t - \tau_1(t)) + d\pi \tau_2 \right. \\ & \left. \times \int_{s-\tau_2(s)}^s \zeta(x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) ds \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

where  $M(t, s)$  is regarded as the Cauchy matrix of the following linear impulsive system:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\zeta}(t) = -\varepsilon \zeta(t), & t \neq t_k, & k \in \mathfrak{N} \\ \zeta(t_k^+) = r \zeta(t_k^-), & t = t_k. \end{cases} \quad (28)$$

Then, the quasynchronization conditions with two different functions of impulsive effects will be discussed separately.

*Case I (Synchronizing Impulsive Effects):* In this case, impulsive effects are considered to be beneficial for synchronizing the coupled networks, that is,  $0 < r < 1$ . With the definition of average impulsive interval in Definition 3-1), it can be easily known

$$\begin{aligned} M(t, s) = & \exp(-\varepsilon(t-s)) \prod_{s < t_k < t} r = \exp(-\varepsilon(t-s)) r^{N_{\zeta}(t,s)} \\ & \leq \exp(-\varepsilon(t-s)) r^{\frac{t-s}{T_a} - N_0} \\ & = r^{-N_0} \exp\left(\left(\frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon\right)(t-s)\right). \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Substituting (29) into (27) derives

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(t) = & M(t, 0)\zeta(0) + \int_0^t M(t, s) \left( \chi \zeta(t - \tau_1(t)) \right. \\ & \left. + d\pi \tau_2 \int_{s-\tau_2(s)}^s \zeta(x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) ds \\ & \leq r^{-N_0} \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(0)\|^2 \exp\left(\left(\frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon\right)t\right) \\ & + \int_0^t r^{-N_0} \exp\left(\left(\frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon\right)(t-s)\right) \\ & \times \left( \chi \zeta(t - \tau_1(t)) + d\pi \tau_2 \int_{s-\tau_2(s)}^s \zeta(x) dx \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Define a function as  $\vartheta(\lambda) = \lambda + (\ln r/T_a) - \varepsilon + r^{-N_0} \chi \exp(\lambda \tau_1) + r^{-N_0} d\pi \tau_2 (\exp(\lambda \tau_2) - 1)/\lambda$ . One can easily obtain that  $\vartheta(\lambda)$  is a continuous function for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . By simple calculation, it can be derived that

$$\begin{aligned} \vartheta(0^+) = & \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon + r^{-N_0} \chi + \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} r^{-N_0} d\pi \tau_2 \frac{\exp(\lambda \tau_2) - 1}{\lambda} \\ & = \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon + r^{-N_0} \chi + r^{-N_0} d\pi \tau_2^2 < 0. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

It can be noted that  $\vartheta(0^+) < 0$  and  $\vartheta(+\infty) > 0$ . Calculate the derivative along parameter  $\lambda$ , and we have

$$\dot{\vartheta}(\lambda) = 1 + \tau_1 r^{-N_0} \chi \exp(\lambda \tau_1) + d\pi \tau_2^2 r^{-N_0} \frac{\exp(\lambda \tau_2)}{\lambda}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & - d\pi \tau_2 r^{-N_0} \frac{\exp(\lambda \tau_2) - 1}{\lambda} \\ & = 1 + \tau_1 r^{-N_0} \chi \exp(\lambda \tau_1) + d\pi \tau_2 r^{-N_0} \\ & \times \frac{\tau_2 \lambda \exp(\lambda \tau_2) - \exp(\lambda \tau_2) + 1}{\lambda^2} > 0 \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

which shows that  $\vartheta(\lambda)$  is a monotonically increasing function, there exists at least one point  $\lambda = \lambda_0$  letting  $\vartheta(\lambda_0) = 0$ .

Define  $\omega = r^{-N_0} \sup_{-\tilde{\tau} \leq s \leq 0} \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(s)\|^2$ . With  $r \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ , for  $t \in [-\tilde{\tau}, 0]$ , it gives us

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(t) \leq & r^{-N_0} \sup_{-\tilde{\tau} \leq s \leq 0} \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(s)\|^2 \\ & < \omega \exp(-\lambda t) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{-r^{-N_0} \left(\frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon\right) - \chi - d\pi \tau_2^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

It is hoped to extend the above inequality to  $t > 0$ . If it cannot be realized, then there at least exists a time instant  $\hat{t}$  such that

$$\zeta(\hat{t}) \geq \omega \exp(-\lambda \hat{t}) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{-r^{-N_0} \left(\frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon\right) - \chi - d\pi \tau_2^2}. \quad (34)$$

Denote  $\sigma = \varepsilon - (\ln r/T_a)$ ,  $\varrho = -r^{-N_0} ((\ln r/T_a) - \varepsilon) - \chi - d\pi \tau_2^2$ . It implies from (30)–(34) that

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(\hat{t}) \leq & \omega \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) + \int_0^{\hat{t}} r^{-N_0} \exp\left(\left(\frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon\right)(\hat{t} - s)\right) \\ & \times \left( \chi \zeta(s - \tau_1(s)) + d\pi \tau_2 \int_{s-\tau_2(s)}^s \zeta(x) dx \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) ds \\ & < \omega \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) + \int_0^{\hat{t}} r^{-N_0} \exp(-\sigma(\hat{t} - s)) \chi \\ & \times \left( \omega \exp(-\lambda(s - \tau_1(s))) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varrho} \right) ds \\ & + \int_0^{\hat{t}} r^{-N_0} \exp(-\sigma(\hat{t} - s)) d\pi \tau_2 \\ & \times \left( \int_{s-\tau_2(s)}^s \left( \omega \exp(-\lambda x) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varrho} \right) dx \right) ds \\ & + \int_0^{\hat{t}} r^{-N_0} \exp(-\sigma(\hat{t} - s)) \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) ds \\ & \leq \omega \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) + r^{-N_0} \chi \omega \exp(\tau_1 \lambda) \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) \\ & \times \int_0^{\hat{t}} \exp((\sigma - \lambda)s) ds \\ & + r^{-N_0} \chi \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varrho} \int_0^{\hat{t}} \exp(\sigma s) ds \\ & + \omega d\pi \tau_2 r^{-N_0} \frac{\exp(\lambda \tau_2) - 1}{\lambda} \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) \int_0^{\hat{t}} \exp((\sigma - \lambda)s) ds \\ & + d\pi \tau_2^2 r^{-N_0} \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varrho} \int_0^{\hat{t}} \exp(\sigma s) ds \\ & + r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) \exp(-\sigma \hat{t}) \int_0^{\hat{t}} \exp(\sigma s) ds \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

and inequality (35) can be rewritten into

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(\hat{t}) &\leq \omega \exp(-\sigma\hat{t}) + \frac{\omega \exp(-\sigma\hat{t})}{\sigma - \lambda} r^{-N_0} \\ &\quad \times (\exp((\sigma - \lambda)\hat{t}) - 1) \left( \chi \exp(\tau_1\lambda) + d\pi\tau_2 \frac{\exp(\tau_2\lambda) - 1}{\lambda} \right) \\ &\quad + r^{-N_0} \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\rho} \left( \chi + d\pi\tau_2^2 \right) \frac{1}{\sigma} (1 - \exp(-\sigma\hat{t})) \\ &\quad + r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) \frac{1}{\sigma} (1 - \exp(-\sigma\hat{t})). \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

According to mentioned solution  $\vartheta(\lambda_0) = 0$  and condition (16), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(\hat{t}) &\leq \omega \exp(-\sigma\hat{t}) + \omega (\exp(-\lambda\hat{t}) - \exp(-\sigma\hat{t})) \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\rho} - r^{-N_0} \frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) \right) \\ &\quad \times (1 - \exp(-\sigma\hat{t})) \\ &\quad + r^{-N_0} \frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) (1 - \exp(-\sigma\hat{t})) \\ &= \omega \exp(-\lambda\hat{t}) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\rho} (1 - \exp(-\sigma\hat{t})) \\ &\leq \omega \exp(-\lambda\hat{t}) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{-r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - (\chi + d\pi\tau_2^2)} \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

which contradicts the assumption in (34). As a result, it indicates that the inequality (33) holds for  $t \in [-\tilde{\tau}, +\infty]$ . Therefore, one has

$$\begin{aligned} V(t) &= \frac{1}{2} e^T(t) e(t) \leq \zeta(t) \leq \omega \exp(-\sigma\hat{t}) \\ &\quad + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{-r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - (\chi + d\pi\tau_2^2)} \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

and it can be further rewritten into

$$\begin{aligned} \|e(t)\| &\leq \sqrt{2r^{N_0} \sup_{-\tilde{\tau} \leq s \leq 0} \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(s)\|^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2}t\right)} \\ &\quad + \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + 2\iota}{-r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - (\chi + d\pi\tau_2^2)}}. \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

With  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\iota \rightarrow 0$ , it can be further obtained that

$$\|e(t)\| \leq e_{b1} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2}{-r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - (\chi + d\pi\tau_2^2)}} \quad (40)$$

which implies that the controlled error network (7) will eventually get stable via designed impulsive controller (3) and dynamic self-triggered mechanism (5) and (6) as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ . Therefore, the proof of the leader-following synchronization issue with  $0 < r < 1$  is finished. In addition, it should be stated that the exponential convergence rate is  $(\lambda/2)$ .

*Case II (Desynchronizing Impulsive Effects):* In this case, the impulsive effects are considered to be negative in realizing synchronization, that is,  $r > 1$ . With the definition of average

impulsive interval in Definition 3-1), the Cauchy matrix now could be estimated as

$$\begin{aligned} M(t, s) &= \exp(\varepsilon(t - s)) r^{N_\zeta(t, s)} \\ &\leq r^{N_0} \exp\left(\left(\frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon\right)(t - s)\right). \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

With similar mathematical operations in (30)–(37), one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} V(t) &< \zeta(t) < \omega \exp(-\lambda\hat{t}) \\ &\quad + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{-r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - \chi - d\pi\tau_2^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

As  $\iota \rightarrow 0$ , and with  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ , it follows from (42) that:

$$\|e(t)\| \leq e_{b2} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2}{-r^{-N_0} \left( \frac{\ln r}{T_a} - \varepsilon \right) - (\chi + d\pi\tau_2^2)}} \quad (43)$$

which implies that the controlled error network (7) will eventually get stable via designed impulsive controller (3) and dynamic self-triggered mechanism (5), (6) as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ . Therefore, the proof of the leader-following synchronization issue with  $r > 1$  is finished. In addition, it should be stated that the exponential convergence rate is  $(\lambda/2)$ . Above all, the proof of synchronization with synchronizing and desynchronizing impulses is completed. ■

*Remark 3:* To decrease the control costs, many previous studies about pinning impulsive control mainly focused on reducing the quantity of controlled nodes at different control instants. For example, the nodes in the complex networks were rearranged with regard to  $\|e_i(t)\|$  in [36], and only the first few of them were chosen to be forced with impulses at each  $t_k$ . Furthermore, a node selection method, which makes the proportion of the pinned nodes number obey  $\eta_k \in (0, 1)$ , was proposed in [33], and it helps to adjust the pinning number better. However, regardless of either the pinning impulsive method, there brings a problem that it is not efficient enough to control only a few nodes with the largest errors if the initial value distribution of the nodes in a complex network is relatively scattered, and it reflects that the error norm of each node is large. Besides, since the purpose is to reduce the number of awakened controllers at a certain moment, it is reasonable to design a separate triggering law for each node. Therefore, from this point of view, the self-triggered control protocol in this article can also be viewed as a kind of pinning impulsive mechanisms.

*Remark 4:* Until now, many efforts have been made to study the influence of time delays on synchronization [15]–[17]. For instance, it is concluded in [37] that the system delay has few influences on synchronization if the size of delay is not too large. Therefore, this article only considers the coupled delay and distributed delay. As a result, it can be achieved from (16) and (18) that Theorem 1 is delay dependent. Compared with [34], not only the influence of the distributed time delay is taken into account in the upper bound of the estimated error  $e_{b1}$  and  $e_{b2}$  but also the influence of both delays on the convergence rate is skillfully analyzed. It can be

found that a larger distributed delay always leads to a larger upper bound of synchronization error.

### B. Self-Triggered Scheme With Average Impulsive Gain

In the above section, the quasisynchronization conditions have been derived with various functions of impulsive effects while in this section, a more general result based on time-varying impulsive effects will be discussed. In addition, we will show how the parameter variation is extended with the definition of average impulsive gain.

Consider that the impulsive controller (3) has the time-varying impulsive effects  $\kappa(t_k)$ , then the corresponding controlled error network (7) could be converted into the following form:

$$\begin{cases} e_i(t) = -\Upsilon_{A_i} e_i(t) + \Upsilon_{B_i} h(e_i(t)), & t \neq t_k \\ \quad + b \sum_{j=1}^N c_{ij} \Gamma_1 \tilde{g}(e_j(t - \tau_1(t))) + \mathcal{Y}_i(s(t)) \\ \quad + d \sum_{j=1}^N \psi_{ij} \Gamma_2 \int_{t-\tau_2(t)}^t e_j(s) ds \\ \Delta e_i(t_k) = e_i(t_k^+) - e_i(t_k^-), & t = t_k \\ \quad = \kappa(t_k) \left( \sum_{j=1}^N \xi_{ij} e_j(t_k^-) - w_i e_i(t_k^-) \right) \end{cases} \quad (44)$$

where  $k \in \mathfrak{N}$ .

*Theorem 2:* Consider the complex dynamical networks (1) satisfying Assumption 1. Suppose that the number of impulses is denoted by  $N_\zeta$  as defined in Definition 3-2). If there exist positive constants  $\eta_1$ ,  $\eta_2$ ,  $\pi$ , and  $\alpha_i$  such that:

- 1)  $\bar{r} = \lceil [r(t_1) + r(t_2) + \dots + r(t_{N_\zeta})] / N_\zeta(t, s) \rceil$ ;
- 2) inequality

$$-\varepsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} + \chi + d\pi \tau_2^2 < 0 \quad (45)$$

then the controlled error network (44) globally and exponentially converges to the following compact set:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_3 &= \left\{ e(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{Nn} \mid \|e(t)\| \leq e_{b3} \right. \\ &= \left. \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2}{\varepsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)}} \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

with convergence velocity  $(\bar{\lambda}/2)$ , where  $r(t_k) = \lambda_{\max}\{(\kappa(t_k)(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn})^T (\kappa(t_k)(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn})\}$ ,  $\varepsilon = -\lambda_{\max}\{-2\Upsilon_A + 2\eta_1 \Upsilon_B + b(C \otimes \Gamma_1)(C \otimes \Gamma_1)^T + d(\Psi \Psi^T) \otimes (\Gamma_2 \pi^{-1} \Gamma_2) + I_{Nn}\}$ ,  $\chi = b\eta_2$ ,  $\Upsilon_A = I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{A_i}$ ,  $\Upsilon_B = I_N \otimes \Upsilon_{B_i}$ , and  $\bar{\lambda}$  is the unique solution of equation  $\bar{\lambda} - \varepsilon + \chi \exp(\bar{\lambda} \tau_1) + d\pi \tau_2 ([\exp(\bar{\lambda} \tau_2) - 1] / \bar{\lambda}) = 0$ .

*Proof:* For  $t \neq t_k$ , inequality (22) in the proof of Theorem 1 obviously holds. When  $t = t_k$ , because of the impulses with limited energy, it gives that

$$\begin{aligned} &(\kappa(t_k)(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn})^T (\kappa(t_k)(\Xi - W) \otimes I_n + I_{Nn}) \\ &< r(t_k) I_{Nn}. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

Therefore, we have

$$V(t_k^+) \leq r(t_k) V(t_k^-). \quad (48)$$

Due to the time-varying impulsive effects, the Cauchy matrix  $M(t, s)$  could be calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} M(t, s) &= \exp(-\varepsilon(t-s)) \prod_{s < t_k < t} r(t_k) \\ &= \exp(-\varepsilon(t-s)) \left| \frac{r(t_1) + r(t_2) + \dots + r(t_{N_\zeta})}{N_\zeta(t, s)} \right|^{N_\zeta(t, s)} \\ &\leq \bar{r}^{N_\zeta(t, s)} \exp(-\varepsilon(t-s)). \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

With the definition of  $\bar{\omega} = \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \sup_{-\bar{\tau} \leq s \leq 0} \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(s)\|^2$ , it gives

$$\begin{aligned} \varsigma(t) &\leq \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \sup_{-\bar{\tau} \leq s \leq 0} \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(s)\|^2 \\ &< \bar{\omega} \exp(-\bar{\lambda} t) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varepsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)} \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

for  $-\bar{\tau} < t < 0$ . It is hoped to extend the above inequality to any  $t > 0$ . If it cannot be realized, then assume that there at least exists a time instant  $\hat{t}$  satisfying  $t > \hat{t}$  such that

$$\varsigma(\hat{t}) \geq \bar{\omega} \exp(-\bar{\lambda} \hat{t}) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varepsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)}. \quad (51)$$

Define  $\bar{\sigma} = \varepsilon$ ,  $\bar{\rho} = \varepsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)$ . By considering  $-\varepsilon + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \chi + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} d\pi \tau_2^2 < 0$  and  $\bar{\lambda} - \varepsilon + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \chi \exp(\bar{\lambda} \tau_1) + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} d\pi \tau_2 ([\exp(\bar{\lambda} \tau_2) - 1] / \bar{\lambda}) = 0$ , it gives

$$\begin{aligned} \varsigma(\hat{t}) &\leq \bar{\omega} \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t}) + \frac{\bar{\omega} \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t})}{\bar{\sigma} - \bar{\lambda}} (\exp((\bar{\sigma} - \bar{\lambda}) \hat{t}) - 1) \\ &\quad \times \left( \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \chi \exp(\tau_1 \bar{\lambda}) + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} d\pi \tau_2 \frac{\exp(\tau_2 \bar{\lambda}) - 1}{\bar{\lambda}} \right) \\ &\quad + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\bar{\rho}} (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2) \frac{1}{\bar{\sigma}} (1 - \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t})) \\ &\quad + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) \frac{1}{\bar{\sigma}} (1 - \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t})) \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

and it further yields

$$\begin{aligned} \varsigma(\hat{t}) &\leq \bar{\omega} \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t}) + \bar{\omega} (\exp(-\bar{\lambda} \hat{t}) - \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t})) \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\bar{\rho}} - \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \frac{1}{\bar{\sigma}} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) \right) \\ &\quad \times (1 - \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t})) \\ &\quad + \bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \frac{1}{\bar{\sigma}} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota \right) (1 - \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t})) \\ &\leq \bar{\omega} \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t}) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varepsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)} \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

which contradicts to the assumption in (51). Thus, it proves that inequality (50) still holds for any  $t > 0$ . According to definition of  $V(t)$ , one could obtain

$$\begin{aligned} V(t) &= \frac{1}{2} e^T(t) e(t) \leq \varsigma(t) \\ &\leq \bar{\omega} \exp(-\bar{\sigma} \hat{t}) + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + \iota}{\varepsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)}. \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$



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**Algorithm 1** Procedure for Quasisynchronization via Dynamic Self-Triggered Impulsive Control Scheme
 

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**Require:**

- 1: Initial states of each node  $z_i(0)$ , initial states of dynamical triggering parameters  $\xi_i(t_0)$ , initial impulsive effect  $\kappa(t_1)$ ;
- 2: System parameters  $A_i$  and  $B_i$ , average impulsive gain  $\bar{r}$ , average impulsive interval  $T_a$ , specific error bound  $\mathcal{B}_3$ ;
- 3: Updating parameters  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_3$ .

**Ensure:**

- 4: **for**  $t$  from  $t_0$  to  $t_{end}$  **do**
  - 5:   **for**  $i$  from 1 to  $N$  **do**
  - 6:     Send adjacent node information to the  $i$ -th node.
  - 7:     Update  $\hat{e}_i(t)$  with Eq. (4).
  - 8:     Update value of  $\varphi_i(t)$  according to Eq. (5).
  - 9:     Update  $\mu_i(t)$  by Eq. (6).
  - 10:     **if**  $\varphi_i(t) - \mu_i(t) > 0$  **then**
  - 11:       Update instant  $t$  as  $t_{k+1}^i$ .
  - 12:       Update parameter  $r(t_{k+1})$ .
  - 13:       Update the state  $z_i(t)$  at impulsive instant  $t_{k+1}$ .
  - 14:     **else**
  - 15:       Let  $z_i(t)$  remain unchanged.
  - 16:     **end if**
  - 17:   **end for**
  - 18: **end for**
- 

Analogously as deductions in (38)–(40), the following result could be carried out:

$$\|e(t)\| \leq \sqrt{2\bar{r}^{N_\zeta} \sup_{-\bar{\tau} \leq s \leq 0} \sum_{i=1}^N \|f_i(s)\|^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\bar{\lambda}}{2}t\right)} + \sqrt{\frac{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2 + 2\iota}{\epsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)}}. \quad (55)$$

With  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\iota \rightarrow 0$ , it follows from (55) that:

$$\|e(t)\| \leq e_{b3} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i q_i^2}{\epsilon \bar{r}^{-N_\zeta} - (\chi + d\pi \tau_2^2)}} \quad (56)$$

which implies that the controlled error network (44) is eventually stable via the designed dynamic self-triggered impulsive controller as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ . In addition, it should be stated that the exponential convergence rate is  $(\bar{\lambda}/2)$ . Therefore, the proof of the leader-following synchronization issue with time-varying impulsive effect is finished. ■

To concretely show the steps of the self-triggered mechanism for achieving quasisynchronization with the designed controller, Algorithm 1 is given.

*Remark 5:* As we mentioned before, the self-triggered mechanism saves energy consumption by reducing the number of monitoring, but correspondingly, it will weaken the control effects to a certain extent. Therefore, some works such as [42] limited the range of impulsive effects to ensure the synchronizing impulses. However, the results obtained are more conservative. Obviously, an impulse sequence containing hybrid impulses with different functions could describe

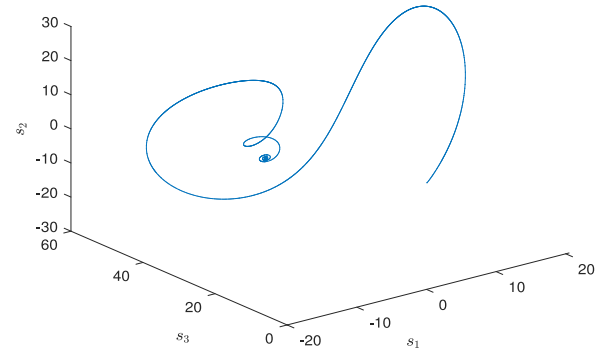


Fig. 1. Dynamic trajectory of system  $s(t)$ .

the practical applications better. To be specific, the extensive of the parameter variation method, which is also the main reason for the different results of Theorems 1 and 2, is mainly manifested in (49), where different functions of time-varying impulsive effects are considered instead of only the general fixed impulsive effects [39]–[41], and then the ambiguous relationship between  $V(t_k^+)$  and  $V(t_k^-)$  is given. As a result, there is no need to discuss  $r(t_k)$  with different ranges. In addition, the impulsive instants and the impulsive intervals could be adjusted by introducing the definition of average impulsive interval. As mentioned before, it is usually assumed that  $(T - t/T_a) - N_0 \leq N_\zeta(t, s) \leq (T - t/T_a) + N_0$  as described in [26], [31], [33], and [41]. But this assumption on  $N_\zeta(t, s)$  is removed in the proof procedure of Theorem 2, and therefore, a less conservative conclusion is obtained.

#### IV. NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

In this section, three numerical simulations will be displayed to prove the effectiveness of the derived theorems. Validity of controllers triggered by the dynamic self-triggered mechanism with both fixed and time-varying effects will be shown, respectively. In addition, estimated synchronization bound will be plotted.

Consider the following leader system  $s(t)$ :

$$\dot{s}(t) = -\Upsilon_{A_s} s(t) + \Upsilon_{B_s} \tilde{h}(s(t)) \quad (57)$$

where  $\tilde{h}(s(t))$  is selected as a Lorenz system [43].

Choose matrices

$$\Upsilon_{A_s} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & 0.06 & -0.3 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Upsilon_{B_s} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The phase trajectory of  $s(t)$  is plotted in Fig. 1.

*Example 1:* In this example, synchronization via dynamic self-triggered impulsive control will be verified. To simplify the content, only synchronizing impulsive effects will be experienced.

Consider a complex network, which is composed of six nodes. For parameters of the complex network model, letting coupling strengths  $b = 0.05$ ,  $d = 0.1$ , inner coupling matrices  $\Gamma_1 = I_3$ ,  $\Gamma_2 = 2I_3$ , time-varying delays  $\tau_1(t) = 0.01 \cos(t)$ ,  $\tau_2(t) = 0.05 \max\{\cos(t), \sin(t)\}$ .

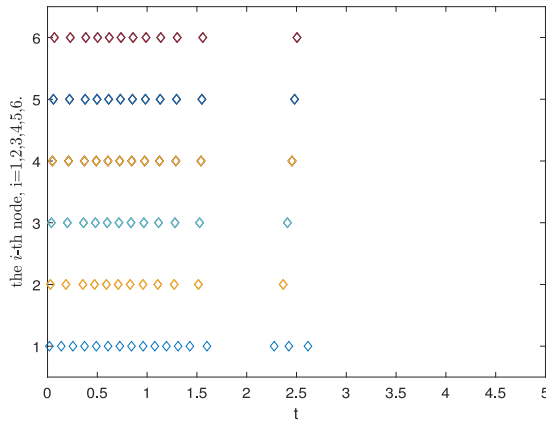


Fig. 2. Triggering instants of controllers equipped on the  $i$ th node with  $\kappa = 0.5$ .

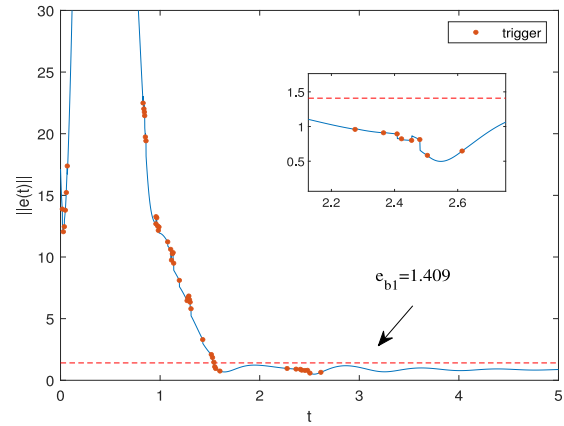


Fig. 4. Evolutionary curve of  $\|e(t)\|$  and error bound  $e_{b1}$  with  $\kappa = 0.5$ .

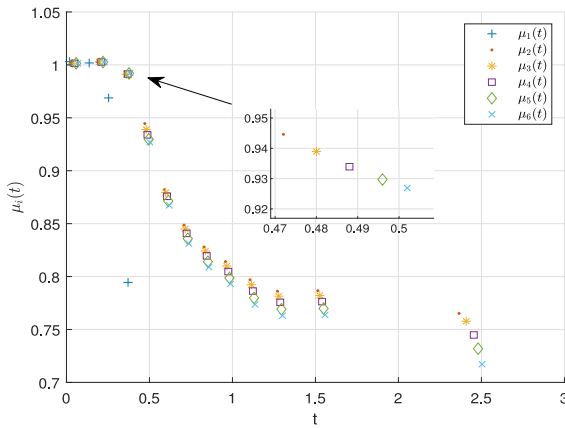


Fig. 3. Evolutionary points of  $\mu_i(t)$  with  $\kappa = 0.5$ .

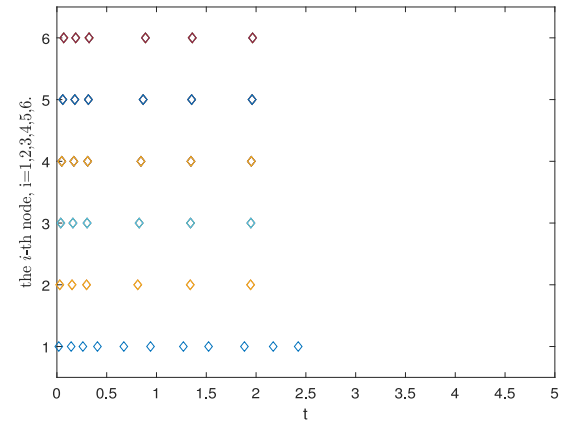


Fig. 5. Triggering instants of controllers equipped on the  $i$ th node with  $\kappa(t_k) = 0.4 + 0.1 \sin(t_k)$ .

For the design of control protocol, choosing the impulsive effect  $\kappa = 0.5$ ,  $\omega_i = 0.35$ ,  $N_0 = 3$ ,  $r = 0.8$ ,  $\pi = 10$ ,  $\rho = 0.48$ ,  $\theta = 0.75$ ,  $l = 0.4$ ,  $\epsilon_1 = 0.02$ ,  $\epsilon_2 = 0.03$ , and  $\epsilon_3 = 1$ , the initial value of dynamic parameter  $\eta = [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1]^T$ . It can be further computed that  $\varepsilon = 0.6812$  and  $r^{N_0}([\ln r/T_a] - \varepsilon) + (\chi + d\pi\tau_2^2) = -5.676 < 0$ , which satisfies requirements in (16) and the estimated error bound is  $e_{b1} = 1.409$ .

Fig. 2 plots the triggering instants of each controller. Fig. 3 depicts the values of dynamic parameters  $\mu_i(t)$  during the triggering instants  $t_k$ ,  $k \in \mathcal{N}$ . Fig. 4 shows the error curve with 76 triggers and it turns out that error vector  $\|e(t)\|$  is less than error bound  $e_{b1}$ .

*Example 2:* In the above example, quasisynchronization is achieved by a kind of impulsive controllers with fixed impulsive effects, however, with time-varying impulsive effects, Theorem 1 will be no longer effective. Therefore, in this example, time-varying impulses will be introduced to verify Theorem 2.

Parameter  $\kappa(t_k) = 0.4 + 0.1 \sin(t_k)$  and the initial value of dynamic parameter  $\eta = [0.1, 0.1, 0.1, 0.1, 0.1, 0.1]^T$  are chosen, and other parameters are selected as the same in Example 1. It can be derived that  $\bar{r} = 0.73$ . The estimated error bound is  $e_{b3} = 1.113$ . It can be achieved that triggering instants of the  $i$ th controller are displayed in Fig. 5. Fig. 6 plots the value points of  $\mu_i(t)$  during the triggering instants  $t_k$ ,  $k \in \mathcal{N}$ .

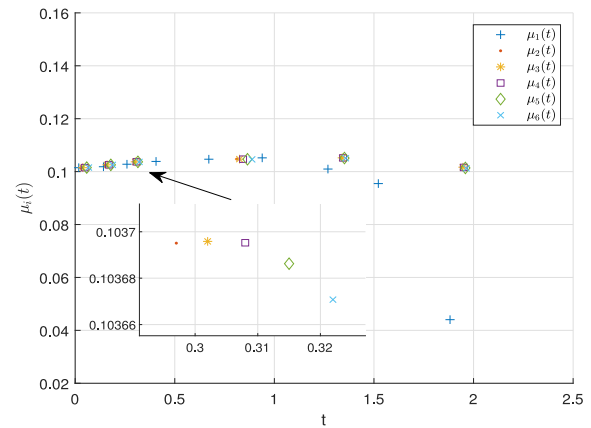


Fig. 6. Evolutionary points of  $\mu_i(t)$  with  $\kappa(t_k) = 0.4 + 0.1 \sin(t_k)$ .

It portrays in Fig. 7 that  $\|e(t)\|$  is less than error bound  $e_{b3}$  with 41 times impulses.

*Example 3:* The above examples have shown the effectiveness of Theorems 1 and 2. In this example, a comparative experiment will be demonstrated to show the advantage of the given control protocol. The related parameters are chosen as the same with those in Theorem 2. The triggering conditions for different triggered mechanism is shown in Table I. Given the initial value  $z_i(0)$ , the evolution curves of each triggered

TABLE I  
ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENT TRIGGERED MECHANISMS

Triggered mechanism	Triggering condition ( $f_i(t) > 0$ )	Monitoring	Controlling
Dynamic self-triggered mechanism	$\ \hat{e}_i(t_k)\ ^2 (e^{\rho(t-t_k)} - 1) - \theta \ \hat{e}_i(t_k)\ ^2 - e^{-l(t-t_0)} - \mu_i(t)$	62 times	62 times
Static self-triggered mechanism [44]	$\ \hat{e}_i(t_k)\ ^2 (e^{\rho(t-t_k)} - 1) - \theta \ \hat{e}_i(t_k)\ ^2 - e^{-l(t-t_0)}$	112 times	112 times
Event-triggered mechanism [23]	$\ \hat{e}_i(t_k) - e_i(t)\ ^2 - \frac{1}{2}\theta \ \hat{e}_i(t_k)\ ^2 - \frac{l}{(t-t_0)^2}$	continuous	26 times

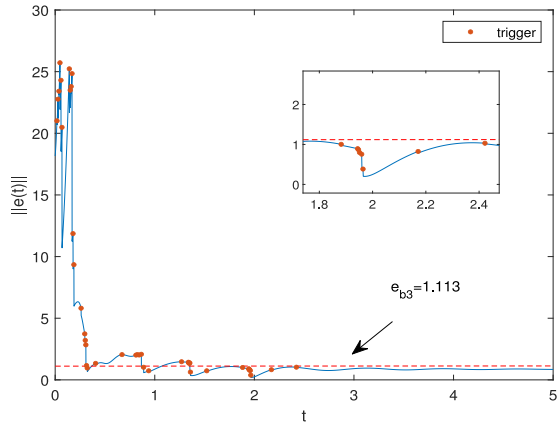


Fig. 7. Evolution curve of  $\|e(t)\|$  and error bound  $e_{b3}$  with  $\kappa(t_k) = 0.4 + 0.1 \sin(t_k)$ .

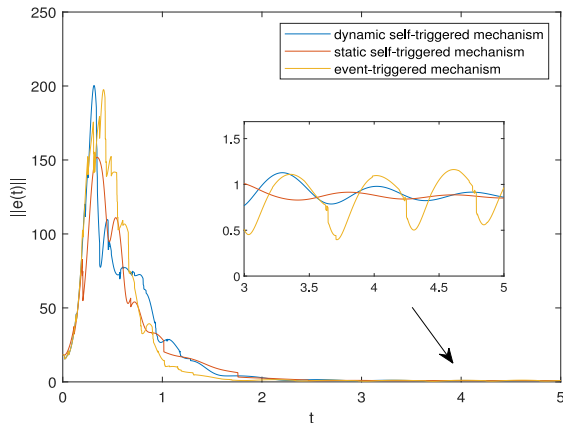


Fig. 8. Evolution curve of  $\|e(t)\|$  with different triggered mechanisms.

mechanism are plotted in Fig. 8. It can be known that even if the number of monitoring times of the self-triggered mechanism are far less than the event-triggered mechanism [23], the convergence speed of synchronization does not drop significantly. In addition, it can also be observed that the improved dynamic self-triggered mechanism can further reduce the number of triggering instants compared to the static self-triggered mechanism [35], which shows the superiority of the control method proposed in this article.

*Remark 6:* One concern about the self-triggered mechanism is that whether the wake-up timing of the control signal at the next instant is timely and effective without continuous monitoring. Actually, in the early stage of the evolution of complex networks, the impulsive controller will be frequently triggered due to the increasing of the monitoring error  $\hat{e}_i(t)$ . Moreover, in the later stage of synchronization, with the help of coupling

characteristics of complex networks, the number of impulsive triggering instants will be decreased and each node can still be synchronized to the target state  $s(t)$  within a specific bound. As can be found in Figs. 4 and 7, the error evolution curves are rapidly reduced due to dense control signals in the early stage, and remains stable in the later stage due to the influence of couplings.

## V. CONCLUSION

This article has been devoted to investigating synchronization of the complex network with hybrid time-varying delays via the self-triggered impulsive control. In consideration of mismatched parameters, the updating laws of dynamic self-triggered mechanism have been designed to cope with quasisynchronization issue. First, Zeno behavior has been excluded through mathematical analysis to verify the rationality of control scheme and updating laws. Second, with the Lyapunov stability theorem, extended parameter variation method, definition of average impulsive gain, and definition of average impulsive interval, sufficient synchronization conditions in the matter of both fixed and time-varying impulsive effects have been given. In addition, regarding different functions of impulsive effects, the convergence rate and precise synchronization bound have been elaborately derived. Finally, three numerical simulations have been conducted to illustrate the feasibility of proposed control scheme. In our future work, we plan to extend the parameter variation method to make it applicable to cases where deception attack signals are included. In addition, a kind of periodic self-triggered mechanisms may be considered to further coordinate the relationships between the number of triggering times and energy consumption.

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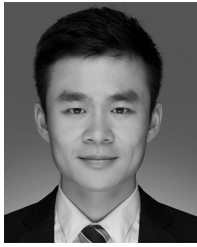
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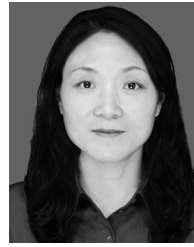


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