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Reachability and Observability of Positive Linear Electrical Circuits Systems Described by Generalized Fractional Derivatives

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Abstract: Positive linear electrical circuits systems described by generalized fractional derivatives are studied in this paper. We mainly focus on the reachability and observability of linear electrical circuits systems. Firstly, generalized fractional derivatives and ρ -Laplace transform of f is presented and some preliminary results are provided. Secondly, the positivity of linear electrical circuits systems described by generalized fractional derivatives is investigated and conditions for checking positivity of the systems are derived. Thirdly, reachability and observability of the generalized fractional derivatives systems are studied, in which the ρ -Laplace transform of a Mittag-Leffler function plays an important role. At the end of the paper, illustrative electrical circuits systems are presented, and conclusions of the paper are presented.



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1. Introduction

Fractional differential equations play an important role in the analysis and modeling of various processes. Many classical methods, such as perturbation method [1], Fourier transform and Merlin transform, have important applications in fractional calculus. Fractional calculus has many new diffusion processes in physics [2–4]. There are many types of fractional derivatives in fractional calculus, see [5–11] for details. For the basic principles of fractional calculus and its most interesting applications, see [12–18]. In recent years, fractional calculus has become a useful and promising tool in modeling and analyzing different dynamic behavior processes. Fractional calculus system has attracted more and more scholars' attention since its wide application value in the field of science and engineering.

Fractional derivative has more advantages than classical derivative. The first advantage is that the fractional derivative takes into account memory. Memory effect is a basic property of differential equations. This explains the application of fractional derivative in differential equation modeling [14,16]. Another advantage is that the fractional derivative produces many diffusion processes [4]. Due to these advantages, fractional derivative also has many applications in electronics [15,19,20].

The new mathematical model appears with the emergence of fractional derivative. In recent years, researchers began to apply fractional derivatives to describe electrical circuit systems. Many types of fractional electrical circuits have been introduced recently in the literature, see [14,15,19,20] and fractional RL (Resistor-Inductor) and RC (Resistor-Capacitance) circuit modeling in [11,18,21–23]. Many studies on the properties of fractional electrical circuit system will use numerical solutions and analytical solutions., because it is an important way to study properties of circuits systems. Reference [18] studies

the analytical and numerical solutions of fractional RL and RC circuits using Atangana-Baleanu derivative and bi-order derivative. Reference [21] studies the solutions of fractional electrical RL, LC (Inductor-Capacitance) and RC electrical circuit systems described by Mittag-Leffler fractional derivatives. Fractional RL and LC electrical circuits systems are studied in reference [22]. They also compared the fractional electrical circuit systems with the traditional electrical circuit systems.

In the literature of fractional electrical circuits systems, many studies mainly focus on performance properties of systems, such as stability [11,23–32]. In [27,28], the asymptotic stability of integer and fractional positive continuous-time linear system with delays is studied, respectively. The necessary and sufficient conditions for the asymptotic stability of integer and fractional positive linear system with delays are given, and it is proved that the asymptotic stability integer and fractional of the systems is independent of delays. By comparison, it can be found that the asymptotic stability conditions and checking methods of integer and fractional positive linear systems with delays are similar. In recent years, generalized fractional derivative has been widely used in stability analysis. For more details, see [6,33,34]. In [29], several stabilities of fractional differential equations described by Caputo type generalized fractional derivatives are studied. In this paper, a new concept of stability, fractional input stability is introduced. Thus, it provides a new idea and method for the stability analysis of fractional differential equations described by generalized fractional derivatives. In [32], the stability of RLC (Resistor-Inductor-Capacitance) electrical circuits described by Caputo-Liouville generalized fractional derivatives is studied. The local asymptotic stability and global asymptotic stability of trivial equilibrium are analyzed. The results of this paper are very valuable for the study of circuit stability. Of course, in addition to stability, electrical circuits systems have other performance properties [35–37], such as reachability and observability. In [37], fractional positive discrete-time linear systems are studied in the literature. The necessary and sufficient conditions of positivity, reachability and controllability are given. In [38], the reachability and observability of integer and fractional positive linear electrical circuits are studied. And it is found that the reachability and observability of integer and fractional positive linear electrical circuits are invariant. At this time, reference [39] further extends the result of [38] to positive linear electrical circuits with delays. In [39], the electrical circuit systems are extended to positive linear electrical circuits with delays, and it is found that the reachability and observability of integer and fractional positive linear electrical circuits with delays are similar. Many scholars have studied the properties of electrical circuits described by generalized fractional derivatives and positive linear electrical circuit systems. In this paper, generalized fractional derivatives are applied to positive linear electrical circuit systems.

The generalized fractional derivative unites the Riemann-Liouville fractional derivative and Hadamard fractional derivative into a unified form in that it is mediated by an additional fractional parameter, which is more general than the ordinary classical fractional derivative. By observing, we can find that when α is fixed, the smaller the parameter ρ is, the greater the initial slope of the described circuit trajectory is, and the more realistic the described trajectory is. Contributions of this paper are listed below:

(1) We present the positivity of linear electrical circuits systems described by generalized fractional derivatives and obtained conditions for checking positivity of the systems. Also we investigate the checking method of reachability and observability of the generalized fractional derivatives studied.

(2) In references [23,29], the ρ -Laplace transform was performed on the Mittag-Leffler function with a constant λ , but we are extended to the Mittag-Leffler function with matrix A , and the corresponding form of ρ -Laplace transform is obtained.

(3) We investigate the effect of the parameter ρ on the electrical circuits systems. Since the generalized fractional derivative involves parameters, which is more general than the classical fractional derivative. Therefore, we studied the electrical circuits systems by illustrative examples when the fixed order α is unchanged, We let the parameter ρ take different values to observe how the parameter ρ affects the change of state trajectories.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, generalized fractional integrals, derivatives and ρ -Laplace transform are reviewed and some new results are given. Positive linear electrical circuits systems described by generalized fractional derivatives are presented in Section 3. In Section 4, reachability of positive linear electrical circuits systems described by generalized fractional derivatives are investigated. Observability of positive linear electrical circuits systems described by generalized fractional derivatives are investigated in Section 5. The illustrative electrical circuits are presented in Section 6. Concluding remarks are given in Section 7.

The following notation will be used in this paper. R is a set of real numbers, $R^{n \times m}$ is a set of $n \times m$ dimensional real matrix, $R_+^{n \times m}$ is a set of $n \times m$ dimensional real matrix with nonnegative entries and $R_+^n = R_+^{n \times 1}$, M_n is a set of $n \times n$ Metzler matrix (real matrix with nonnegative off-diagonal entries).

2. Generalized Fractional Integrals, Derivatives and ρ -Laplace Transform

For the knowledge of classical fractional calculus, we refer to references [7,13], in which there are many types of fractional integrals and derivatives. In this paper, we consider the following forms of generalized fractional integrals:

$$({}_a I^{\alpha, \rho} f)(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_a^x \left(\frac{x^\rho - t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} f(t) \frac{dt}{t^{1-\rho}} \tag{1}$$

and

$$({}_b I_b^{\alpha, \rho} f)(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_x^b \left(\frac{t^\rho - x^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} f(t) \frac{dt}{t^{1-\rho}}. \tag{2}$$

where α is the order, ρ is an additional fractional parameter, and integrals (1) and (2) are left generalized fractional integral and right generalized fractional integral, respectively. We can find that when $\rho = 1$, the integrals (1) and (2) become Riemann-Liouville fractional integrals. See [13] for details. When the limit is $\rho \rightarrow 0$, the integrals (1) and (2) will become Hadamard fractional integrals defined in [7].

The generalized fractional derivatives defined by [6] for order $\alpha > 0$ are as follows:

$$({}_a D^{\alpha, \rho} f)(x) = \gamma^n ({}_a I^{n-\alpha, \rho} f)(x) = \frac{\gamma^n}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_a^x \left(\frac{x^\rho - t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{n-\alpha-1} f(t) \frac{dt}{t^{1-\rho}} \tag{3}$$

and

$$({}_b D_b^{\alpha, \rho} f)(x) = (-\gamma^n) ({}_b I_b^{n-\alpha, \rho} f)(x) = \frac{-\gamma^n}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_x^b \left(\frac{t^\rho - x^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{n-\alpha-1} f(t) \frac{dt}{t^{1-\rho}} \tag{4}$$

where fractional parameter $\rho > 0$, $n = [\alpha] + 1$ and $\gamma = x^{1-\rho} \frac{d}{dx}$.

Derivatives (3) and (4) are left and right generalized fractional derivatives, respectively. We can find that when $\rho = 1$, the derivatives (3) and (4) become Riemann-Liouville fractional derivatives. See [13] for details. When the limit is $\rho \rightarrow 0$, the derivatives (3) and (4) will become Hadamard fractional derivatives defined in [7].

The reason we study the generalized fractional derivative is that it generalizes the Riemann-Liouville fractional derivative and Hadamard fractional derivative into one form. When the parameters are fixed at different values or take limits, the above derivative is generated as a special case [6]. The generalized fractional derivative is more general than the ordinary classical fractional derivative.

Let's recall some details of the ρ -Laplace transform and its basic concepts, which plays an important role in the next research.

Definition 1 ([9]). *The ρ -Laplace transform of a continuous function $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow R$ is defined by*

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho \{f(x)\}(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-s \frac{x^\rho}{\rho}} f(x) \frac{dx}{x^{1-\rho}}, \rho > 0, \tag{5}$$

The integral is valid for all values of s .

Theorem 1 ([7]). If the ρ -Laplace transform of a continuous function $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow R$ exists, the following relationship holds

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho\{f(x)\}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f((\rho x)^{\frac{1}{\rho}})\}(s), \tag{6}$$

where $\mathcal{L}\{f\}$ is the usual Laplace transform of f .

Theorem 2 ([7]). If continuous function $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow R$ has ρ -Laplace transform for $s > c_1$ and continuous function $g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow R$ has ρ -Laplace transform for $s > c_2$. Then, continuous function $af + bg$ has Laplace transform for any constants a and b , and has the following linear property

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho\{af(x) + bg(x)\}(s) = a\mathcal{L}_\rho\{f(x)\}(s) + b\mathcal{L}_\rho\{g(x)\}(s), s > \max\{c_1, c_2\}. \tag{7}$$

The reference [9] gave some ρ -Laplace transforms of elementary functions as shown below.

Theorem 3. Suppose $\mathcal{L}_\rho\{\cdot\}$ is the ρ -Laplace transform

- (1) $\mathcal{L}_\rho\{1\}(s) = \frac{1}{s}, s > 0.$
- (2) $\mathcal{L}_\rho\{t^p\}(s) = \rho^{\frac{p}{\rho}} \frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{p}{\rho})}{s^{1 + \frac{p}{\rho}}}, p \in R, s > 0.$
- (3) $\mathcal{L}_\rho\{e^{\lambda \frac{t^p}{\rho}}\}(s) = \frac{1}{s - \lambda}, s > \lambda.$
- (4) $\mathcal{L}_\rho\{(\frac{t^p}{\rho})^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha, \alpha}(A(\frac{t^p}{\rho})^\alpha)\}(s) = (s^\alpha I - A)^{-1}, A \in R^{n \times n}, \rho(A) < s^\alpha$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{A}{s^\alpha})^n = 0,$

where $\rho(A)$ is the spectral radius of the matrix A .

Proof. (1), (2) and (3) have been proved, please refer to [9] for details. Only (4) will be proved below

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho\{(\frac{t^p}{\rho})^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha, \alpha}(A(\frac{t^p}{\rho})^\alpha)\}(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k}{\Gamma(k\alpha + \alpha) \rho^{k\alpha + \alpha - 1}} \mathcal{L}_\rho\{t^{k\alpha\rho + \alpha\rho - \rho}\} \tag{9}$$

From (2) we can get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k}{\Gamma(k\alpha + \alpha) \rho^{k\alpha + \alpha - 1}} \rho^{k\alpha + \alpha - 1} \frac{\Gamma(k\alpha + \alpha)}{s^{k\alpha + \alpha}} = \frac{1}{s^\alpha} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\frac{A}{s^\alpha})^k = \frac{1}{s^\alpha} (I + \frac{A}{s^\alpha} + \frac{A^2}{s^{2\alpha}} + \dots). \tag{10}$$

According to the famous Neumann series, we can know if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A^n = 0$, then $I - A$ is nonsingular and $(I - A)^{-1} = I + A + A^2 + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A^k$. In that case, here Equation (10) can be written in the following form

$$\frac{1}{s^\alpha} (I + \frac{A}{s^\alpha} + \frac{A^2}{s^{2\alpha}} + \dots) = \frac{1}{s^\alpha} (I - \frac{A}{s^\alpha})^{-1} = (s^\alpha I - A)^{-1} \tag{11}$$

where we can find an s and let $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{A}{s^\alpha})^n = 0$, then $I - \frac{A}{s^\alpha}$ is nonsingular. Then

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho\{(\frac{t^p}{\rho})^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha, \alpha}(A(\frac{t^p}{\rho})^\alpha)\}(s) = \frac{1}{s^\alpha} (I - \frac{A}{s^\alpha})^{-1} = (s^\alpha I - A)^{-1} \tag{12}$$

when $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{A}{s^\alpha})^n = 0$, the above formula holds. \square

Definition 2 ([7]). Let f and g be two piecewise continuous functions on each interval $[0, T]$ and of exponential order. We define the ρ -convolution formula of functions f and g is

$$(f *_{\rho} g)(t) = \int_0^t f((t^{\rho} - \tau^{\rho})^{\frac{1}{\rho}})g(\tau) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} \tag{13}$$

The following lemma gives the commutativity of ρ -convolution of two functions.

Lemma 1 ([7]). Let f and g be two piecewise continuous functions on each interval $[0, T]$ and of exponential order. Then

$$f *_{\rho} g = g *_{\rho} f \tag{14}$$

Theorem 4 ([7]). Let f and g be two piecewise continuous functions on each interval $[0, T]$ and of exponential order $e^{c \frac{t^{\rho}}{\rho}}$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{f *_{\rho} g\} = \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{f\}\mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{g\} \quad s > c. \tag{15}$$

The following theorem is the ρ -Laplace transformation of the left generalized fractional derivative starting from 0.

Theorem 5 ([7]). Let $\alpha > 0$ and $f \in AC_{\gamma}^n[0, a]$ for any $a > 0$ and ${}_0I^{n-k-\alpha, \rho} f, k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ be of ρ -exponential order $e^{c \frac{t^{\rho}}{\rho}}$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{({}_0D^{\alpha, \rho} f)(t)\}(s) = s^{\alpha} \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{f(t)\} - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} s^{n-k-1} ({}_0I^{n-k-\alpha, \rho} f)(0), \quad s > c. \tag{16}$$

3. Positive Linear Electrical Circuits Described by Generalized Fractional Derivatives

Consider the linear electrical circuit systems described by the left generalized fractional derivatives as the following system equation:

$$({}_0D^{\alpha, \rho} x)(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t), \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1 \tag{17}$$

$$y(t) = Cx(t) + Du(t), \tag{18}$$

where $x(t) \in R^n$ is the state vector, $u(t) \in R^m$ is the input vector and $y(t) \in R^p$ is the output vector, and $A \in R^{n \times n}$, $B \in R^{n \times m}$, $C \in R^{p \times n}$, $D \in R^{p \times m}$. The initial conditions for (17) and (18) have the form $x_0 = ({}_0I^{1-\alpha, \rho} x)(0)$, where x_0 is a given vector function.

Theorem 6. The solution of Equation (17) is given by:

$$x(t) = \left(\frac{t^{\rho}}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha, \alpha} \left(A \left(\frac{t^{\rho}}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha}\right) x(0) + \int_0^t \left(\frac{t^{\rho} - \tau^{\rho}}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha, \alpha} \left(A \left(\frac{t^{\rho} - \tau^{\rho}}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha}\right) Bu(\tau) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} \tag{19}$$

where

$$E_{\alpha, \alpha} \left(A \left(\frac{t^{\rho}}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha}\right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k t^{\alpha \rho k}}{\Gamma(\alpha k + \alpha) \rho^{\alpha k}} \tag{20}$$

and $E_{\alpha, \alpha} \left(A \left(\frac{t^{\rho}}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha}\right)$ is the Mittag-Leffler matrix function, $\Gamma(x) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{x-1} dt$ is the gamma function.

Proof. Firstly, ρ -Laplace transform is performed on both sides of Equation (17). Then, when $n = 1$, through Theorem 5, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{({}_0D^{\alpha, \rho} x)(t)\} &= A \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{x(t)\} + \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{Bu(t)\}, \\ s^{\alpha} \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{x(t)\} - ({}_0I^{1-\alpha, \rho} x)(0) &= A \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{x(t)\} + \mathcal{L}_{\rho}\{Bu(t)\}, \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

Let $x_0 = ({}_0I^{1-\alpha,\rho}x)(0)$ and multiply the identity matrix I on both sides of the above formula, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} s^\alpha I \mathcal{L}_\rho\{x(t)\} - Ix_0 &= A \mathcal{L}_\rho\{x(t)\} + I \mathcal{L}_\rho\{Bu(t)\}, \\ (s^\alpha I - A) \mathcal{L}_\rho\{x(t)\} &= Ix_0 + I \mathcal{L}_\rho\{Bu(t)\}, \\ \mathcal{L}_\rho\{x(t)\} &= (s^\alpha I - A)^{-1}x_0 + (s^\alpha I - A)^{-1} \mathcal{L}_\rho\{Bu(t)\}, \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

From (4) of Theorems 3 and 4, We can write the above form as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_\rho\{x(t)\} &= (s^\alpha I - A)^{-1}x_0 + (s^\alpha I - A)^{-1} \mathcal{L}_\rho\{Bu(t)\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}_\rho\left\{\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right)x_0 + \mathcal{L}_\rho\left\{\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right)\mathcal{L}_\rho\{Bu(t)\}\right\}\right\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}_\rho\left\{\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right)x_0 + \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) *_\rho Bu(t)\right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right)x_0 + \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) *_\rho Bu(t) \\ &= \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right)x_0 + \int_0^t \left(\frac{t^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) Bu(\tau) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}}. \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

□

Definition 3 ([12]). The linear electrical circuit described by (17) and (18) is called (internally) positive if $x(t) \in R_+^n$ and $y(t) \in R^p$ for $t \geq 0$ for any initial conditions $x_0 \in R_+^n$ for $t \geq 0$ and $u(t) \in R_+^m, t \geq 0$.

Theorem 7 ([12]). The linear electrical circuit system described by (17) and (18) is (internally) positive if and only if

$$A \in M_n, B \in R_+^{n \times m}, C \in R_+^{p \times n}, D \in R_+^{p \times m}. \tag{25}$$

Theorem 8. Let $A \in R^{n \times n}$ and $0 < \alpha \leq 1$. Then, for $t \geq 0$,

$$E_\alpha\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty \frac{A^k t^{\alpha\rho k}}{\Gamma(\alpha k + 1)\rho^{\alpha k}} \in R_+^{n \times n} \tag{26}$$

and

$$E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty \frac{A^k t^{\alpha\rho k}}{\Gamma(\alpha k + \alpha)\rho^{\alpha k}} \in R_+^{n \times n} \tag{27}$$

if and only if A is a Metzler matrix.

Proof. From the expansions:

$$\begin{aligned} E_\alpha\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) &= I + \frac{At^{\alpha\rho}}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)\rho^\alpha} + \frac{A^2 t^{2\alpha\rho}}{\Gamma(2\alpha + 1)\rho^{2\alpha}} + \dots, \\ E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) &= \frac{I}{\Gamma(\alpha)} + \frac{At^{\alpha\rho}}{\Gamma(2\alpha)\rho^\alpha} + \frac{A^2 t^{2\alpha\rho}}{\Gamma(3\alpha)\rho^{2\alpha}} + \dots. \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

It follows that $E_\alpha\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) \in R_+^{n \times n}$ and $E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) \in R_+^{n \times n}$ for small $t > 0$ only if A is a Metzler matrix.

The sufficiency will be proved by counter evidence. Suppose $\Psi = E_{\alpha,\alpha}(A(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha)$ is not positive, that is, there are i and j such that $\Psi(i, j) < 0, i \neq j$. (27) can be written in the following form

$$\frac{E_{\alpha,\alpha}(A(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha) - \frac{I}{\Gamma(\alpha)}}{t^{\alpha\rho} \Gamma(2\alpha)\rho^\alpha} = A[I + \frac{At^{\alpha\rho}\Gamma(2\alpha)}{\Gamma(3\alpha)\rho^\alpha} + \dots] \tag{29}$$

Let $e_i = (0 \ 0 \ 1 \ \dots \ 0)^\top$ denote a vector whose i -th component is 1 and the rest is 0. Calculate the limit of $t \rightarrow 0^+$ for the above formula, we can get

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\Psi(i, j)}{t^{\alpha\rho} \Gamma(2\alpha)\rho^\alpha} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} e_i^\top \frac{E_{\alpha,\alpha}(A(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha) - \frac{I}{\Gamma(\alpha)}}{t^{\alpha\rho} \Gamma(2\alpha)\rho^\alpha} e_j = e_i^\top A e_j = a_{ij} \tag{30}$$

where $e_i^\top e_j = 0$ and $e_i^\top \Psi e_j = \Psi(i, j)$.

From $\Psi(i, j) < 0$, we can get $a_{ij} < 0, i \neq j$. Therefore, matrix A is not a Metzler matrix. Thus, A is Metzler matrix, which means $E_{\alpha,\alpha}(A(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha) > 0$ for $t \geq 0$. The proof for Equation (26) is similar. \square

4. Reachability of Positive Linear Electrical Circuits Systems Described by Generalized Fractional Derivatives

In this part, since it is independent of the output term, we only need to consider the fractional electrical circuit systems (17).

Definition 4 ([12]). The fractional linear electrical circuit described by Equation (17) is called (internally) positive if $x(t) \in R_+^n$ and all $u(t) \in R_+^m, t \geq 0$.

Theorem 9 ([12]). The fractional linear electrical circuit (17) is (internally) positive if and only if

$$A \in M_n, B \in R_+^{n \times m}. \tag{31}$$

Definition 5 ([29]). If there exists the input $u(t) \in R_+^m$ for $t \in [0, t_f], t_f > 0$, which steers the state of electrical circuit from $x(0) = 0$ to the given final state $x_f \in R_+^n$, i.e., $x(t_f) = x_f$, we will call this fractional positive electrical circuit (17), reachable in time $[0, t_f]$.

Theorem 10. The fractional linear positive electrical circuit described by Equation (17) is reachable in the time $[0, t_f]$ if and only if the reachability matrix

$$R_\alpha(t_f) = \int_0^{t_f} (\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho})^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}(A(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha) B B^\top E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top(A(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} \in R_+^{n \times n} \tag{32}$$

is a monomial matrix.

The input $u(t) \in R_+^m, t \in [0, t_f]$ which steers the state of system from $x(0) = 0$ to the given final state $x_f \in R_+^n$, is given by

$$u(\tau) = B^\top E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top(A(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha) R_\alpha^{-1}(t_f) x_f \in R_+^m, \tau \in [0, t_f]. \tag{33}$$

Proof. The solution of (17) for $t \geq 0$ has the form (18), let $x(0) = 0, t = t_f$ then we obtain

$$x(t_f) = \int_0^{t_f} (\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho})^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}(A(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho})^\alpha) B u(\tau) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} \tag{34}$$

It is well-known that $R_{\alpha}^{-1}(t_f) \in R_+^{n \times n}$ if and only if the matrix (32) is monomial [12]. Substituting (33) into (34) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x(t_f) &= \int_0^{t_f} \left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) BB^T E_{\alpha,\alpha}^T\left(A\left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) R_{\alpha}^{-1}(t_f) x_f \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} \\ &= \int_0^{t_f} \left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) BB^T E_{\alpha,\alpha}^T\left(A\left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} R_{\alpha}^{-1}(t_f) x_f \\ &= x_f \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

Therefore, the input (33) steers the state of the electrical circuit from $x(0) = 0$ to $x(t_f) = x_f$. \square

Theorem 11. *The fractional linear positive electrical circuit (17) is reachable if and only if the following $n \times nm$ dimensional matrix is row full rank.*

$$Q_r = [B \quad AB \quad A^2B \quad \dots \quad A^{n-1}B], \text{rank } Q_r = n. \tag{36}$$

Proof. Using the well-known Cayley-Hamilton theorem it is possible to write the transition matrix in the form

$$E_{\alpha,\alpha}\left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i(t^\rho) A^i \tag{37}$$

where the coefficients $a_i(t^\rho)$ depend on t , and $a_i(t) \geq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$.

Substitute the above formula into (34), we can get

$$x(t_f) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} A^i B \int_0^{t_f} \left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} a_i(t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho) u(\tau) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} \tag{38}$$

where

$$\int_0^{t_f} \left(\frac{t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} a_i(t_f^\rho - \tau^\rho) u(\tau) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1-\rho}} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_{i1} \\ \gamma_{i2} \\ \vdots \\ \gamma_{im} \end{bmatrix} = \gamma_i, (i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1). \tag{39}$$

Then

$$x(t_f) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} A^i B \gamma_i = [B \quad AB \quad A^2B \quad \dots \quad A^{n-1}B] \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_0 \\ \gamma_1 \\ \vdots \\ \gamma_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}, \tag{40}$$

where we let $[B \quad AB \quad A^2B \quad \dots \quad A^{n-1}B] = Q_r$. If the system is reachable $\gamma_0 \dots \gamma_{n-1}$ can be obtained from Equation (40), when $\text{rank } Q_r = n$. \square

5. Observability of Positive Linear Electrical Circuits Systems Described by Generalized Fractional Derivatives

This section will study the observability of fractional linear electrical circuits described by differential Equations (17) and (18). The positivity of electrical circuits described by (17) and (18) have been explained in definition 3 and theorem 8. The observability of the circuit will be studied below.

Definition 6 ([29]). *If by knowing the input $u(t)$ and output $y(t)$ for $[0, t_f]$ it is possible to find the unique $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ of the electrical circuit, we will call the fractional positive electrical circuit described by (17) and (18) is (strongly) observable in the interval of $[0, t_f]$.*

Theorem 12. *The fractional positive electrical circuit described by (17) and (18) is observable in the interval $[0, t_f]$ if and only if the matrix*

$$W_\alpha = \int_0^{t_f} \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) C^\top C E_{\alpha,\alpha} \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) dt \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n} \tag{41}$$

is a monomial matrix.

Proof. Assuming $u(t) = 0$ and we have

$$y(t) = C \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha} \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) x(0). \tag{42}$$

Using the value of $y(t)$ in $[0, t_f]$, by weighting, i.e., multiply $E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) C^\top$ left on both sides of (42), then

$$\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) C^\top C E_{\alpha,\alpha} \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) x(0) = E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) C^\top y(t). \tag{43}$$

Integrating (43) on the interval $[0, t_f]$, we obtain

$$W_\alpha x(0) = \int_0^{t_f} E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) C^\top y(t) dt$$

and

$$x(0) = W_\alpha^{-1} \int_0^{t_f} E_{\alpha,\alpha}^\top \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) C^\top y(t) dt \in \mathbb{R}_+^n \tag{44}$$

if and only if the matrix (41) is monomial [29]. \square

Theorem 13. *The fractional linear positive electrical circuit system described by (17) and (18) is observable if and only if the following $np \times n$ dimensional matrix is column full rank.*

$$Q_o = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ \vdots \\ CA^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}, \text{rank } Q_o = n \tag{45}$$

Proof. Let $u(t) = 0$, the solution of the system described by (17) and (18) is

$$x(t) = \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha} \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) x(0), \tag{46}$$

$$y(t) = C \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha} \left(A\left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^\alpha\right) x(0), \tag{47}$$

Using the well-known Cayley-Hamilton theorem (37) and substituting (47), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 y(t) &= \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i(t^\rho) CA^i x(0) \\
 &= \left(\frac{t^\rho}{\rho}\right)^{\alpha-1} [a_0(t^\rho) \quad a_1(t^\rho) \quad \dots \quad a_{n-1}(t^\rho)] \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ \vdots \\ CA^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} x(0).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{48}$$

Let $[C \quad CA \quad \dots \quad CA^{n-1}]^T = Q_o$, since $a_i(t^\rho)$ is a known function, the initial state $x(0)$ can be uniquely determined according to $y(t)$ in finite time $[0, t_f]$ if and only if the matrix Q_o is column full rank. \square

6. Illustrative Examples

In this section, we will present some generalized fractional derivatives circuit systems examples.

6.1. RC Circuit Systems

The circuit shown in Figure 1 is a fractional RC circuit. It includes source e , resistances R_1, R_2 and R_3 and fractional element Capacitor C_1 and C_2 ; both of them are of α . Denote $v(t)$ as voltage, let $x_1(t) = v_{C_1}, x_2(t) = v_{C_2}$ and $u(t) = e$ is the source voltage; $u(t)$ and $y(t)$ are input and output vectors, respectively. Set its parameters as follows: $C_1 = 3 \times 10^4 \mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 3 \times 10^4 \mu\text{F}$, $R_1 = 10 \Omega, R_2 = 20 \Omega, R_3 = 30 \Omega$. Using Kirchhoff's law, we can write the following systems:

$$({}_0D^{\alpha,\rho} x_1)(t) = -\frac{R_2 + R_3}{C_1 R} x_1(t) + \frac{R_3}{C_1 R} x_2(t) + \frac{R_2}{C_1 R} u(t)
 \tag{49}$$

$$({}_0D^{\alpha,\rho} x_2)(t) = \frac{R_3}{C_2 R} x_1(t) - \frac{R_1 + R_3}{C_2 R} x_2(t) + \frac{R_1}{C_2 R} u(t)
 \tag{50}$$

where $R = [R_1(R_2 + R_3) + R_2 R_3]$ and choose

$$y(t) = x_1(t) + x_2(t)
 \tag{51}$$

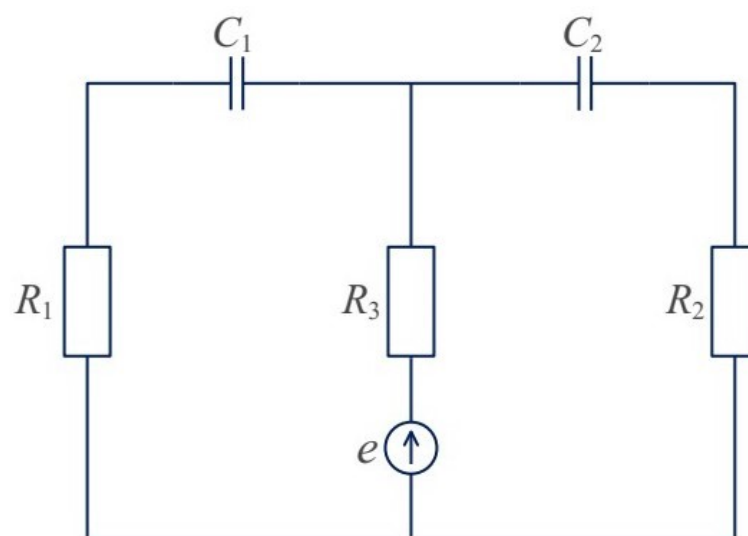


Figure 1. The fractional RC circuit.

The Systems Equations (49)–(51) can be rewritten into the following system

$$({}_0D^{\alpha,\rho}x)(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) \tag{52}$$

$$y(t) = Cx(t) \tag{53}$$

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{R_2+R_3}{C_1R} & \frac{R_3}{C_1R} \\ \frac{R_3}{C_2R} & -\frac{R_1+R_3}{C_2R} \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{R_2}{C_1R} \\ \frac{R_1}{C_2R} \end{bmatrix}, C = [1 \quad 1]. \tag{54}$$

From (54), we have

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1.515 & 0.909 \\ 0.682 & -0.909 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 0.606 \\ 0.227 \end{bmatrix}, C = [1 \quad 1]. \tag{55}$$

According to (36),

$$Q_r = [B \quad AB] = \begin{bmatrix} 0.606 & -0.71175 \\ 0.227 & 0.20695 \end{bmatrix}, \text{rank } Q_r = 2. \tag{56}$$

From Theorem 11 it follows that the fractional RC circuit is reachable.

Also, from Theorem 13 it follows that

$$Q_o = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \frac{R_3}{C_2R} - \frac{R_2+R_3}{C_1R} & \frac{R_3}{C_1R} - \frac{R_1+R_3}{C_2R} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -0.833 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{rank } Q_o = 2 \tag{57}$$

the fractional RC circuit is observable.

6.2. RL Circuit Systems

The circuit shown in Figure 2 is a fractional RL circuit. It includes sources e_1, e_2 , resistances R_1, R_2 and R_3 , and fractional element Capacitor L_1 and L_2 , both of them are of α . Denote $i(t)$ as current, let $x_1(t) = i_{L_1}, x_2(t) = i_{L_2}$ and $u(t)$ is the source voltage; $u(t)$ and $y(t)$ are input and output vectors, respectively. Set its parameters as follows: $L_1 = 0.6 \text{ H}, L_2 = 0.8 \text{ H}, R_1 = 300 \text{ } \Omega, R_2 = 400 \text{ } \Omega, R_3 = 500 \text{ } \Omega$.

Using Kirchhoff's law, we can obtain the following systems equations:

$$({}_0D^{\alpha,\rho}x_1)(t) = -\frac{R_1 + R_3}{L_1}x_1(t) + \frac{R_3}{L_1}x_2(t) + \frac{1}{L_1}e_1 \tag{58}$$

$$({}_0D^{\alpha,\rho}x_2)(t) = \frac{R_3}{L_2}x_1(t) - \frac{R_2 + R_3}{L_2}x_2(t) + \frac{1}{L_2}e_2 \tag{59}$$

and choose

$$y(t) = R_1x_1(t) + R_2x_2(t) \tag{60}$$

The system Equations (58)–(60) can be rewritten into the following systems equations:

$$({}_0D^{\alpha,\rho}x)(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) \tag{61}$$

$$y(t) = Cx(t) \tag{62}$$

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{R_1+R_3}{L_1} & \frac{R_3}{L_1} \\ \frac{R_3}{L_2} & -\frac{R_2+R_3}{L_2} \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L_1} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{L_2} \end{bmatrix}, C = [R_1 \quad R_2], u(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \end{bmatrix}. \tag{63}$$

From (63), we have

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1.3 & 0.8 \\ 0.6 & -1.1 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 1.7 & 0 \\ 0 & 1.25 \end{bmatrix}, C = [300 \quad 400]. \tag{64}$$

According to (36),

$$Q_r = [B \ AB] = \begin{bmatrix} 1.7 & 0 & -2.2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1.25 & 1 & 1.4 \end{bmatrix}, \text{rank } Q_r = 2. \tag{65}$$

From Theorem 11 it follows that the fractional RL circuit is reachable. Also, from Theorem 13 it follows that

$$Q_o = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 300 & 400 \\ -150 & -200 \end{bmatrix}, \text{rank } Q_o = 2 \tag{66}$$

the fractional RL circuit is observable.

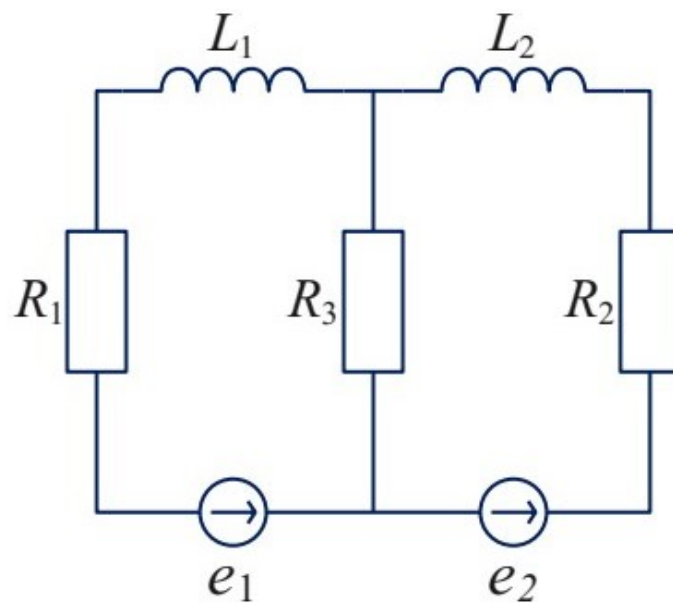


Figure 2. The fractional RL circuit.

6.3. RC, RL Circuit Systems with Different Parameters ρ

Consider the RC electrical circuit (49–51) described by the left generalized fractional derivative with $C_1 = 3 \times 10^4 \mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 3 \times 10^4 \mu\text{F}$, $R_1 = 10 \Omega$, $R_2 = 20 \Omega$, $R_3 = 30 \Omega$ and $e = 6$. The numerical simulations for the circuit with $\alpha = 0.85$ and $\rho = 0.8$ are depicted in Figure 3. In the RC circuit described by (49–51) with $\alpha = 0.85$, the relationship between the states and different parameters ρ is shown in Figure 4.

Consider the RL electrical circuit (58–60) described by the left generalized fractional derivative with $L_1 = 0.6 \text{ H}$, $L_2 = 0.8 \text{ H}$, $R_1 = 300 \Omega$, $R_2 = 400 \Omega$, $R_3 = 500 \Omega$, $e_1 = 23.56$ and $e_2 = 5.89$. The numerical simulations for the circuit with $\alpha = 0.85$ and $\rho = 0.8$ are depicted in Figure 5. And the relationship between states and different parameters in RL circuit described by (58–60) with $\alpha = 0.85$ are depicted in Figure 6.

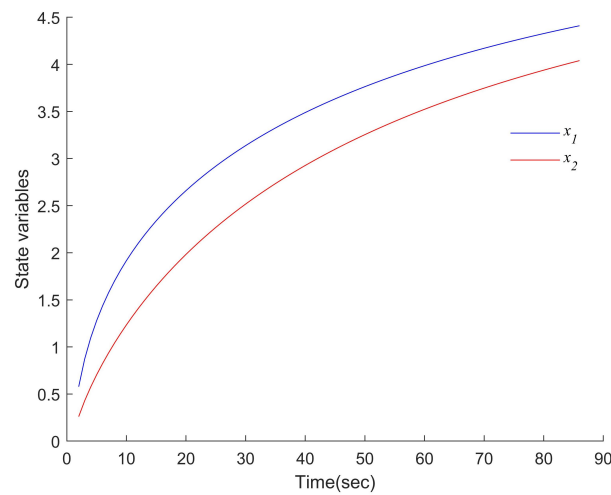


Figure 3. Voltage trajectories across the capacitors described by the fractional RC circuit (49–51).

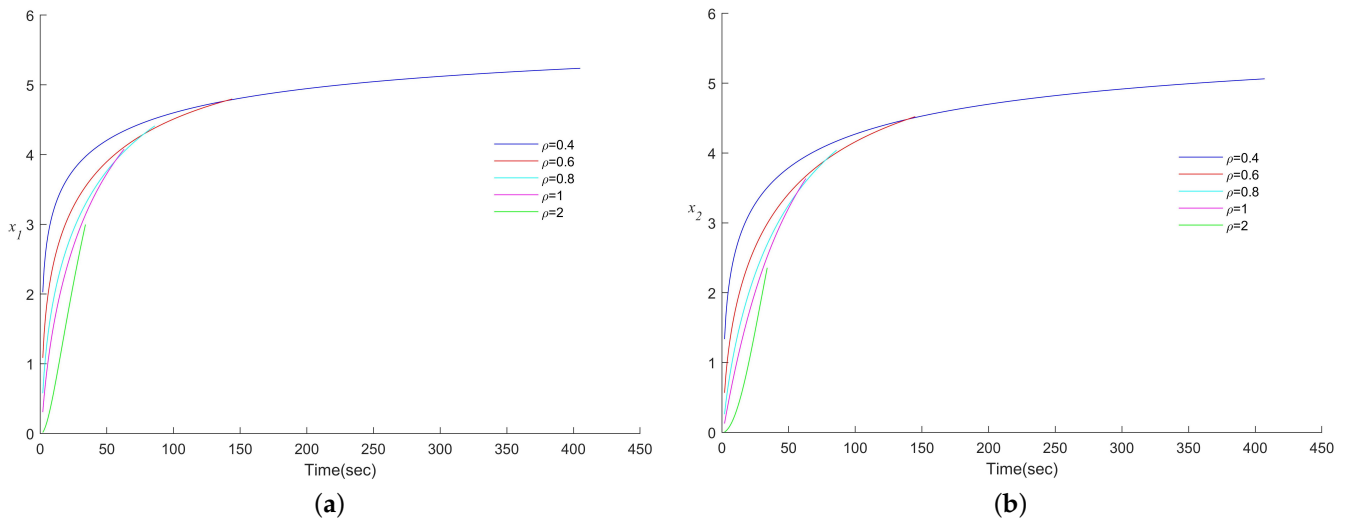


Figure 4. States with different parameters in RC circuit (49–51): (a) Trajectory of x_1 with different parameters; (b) Trajectory of x_2 with different parameters.

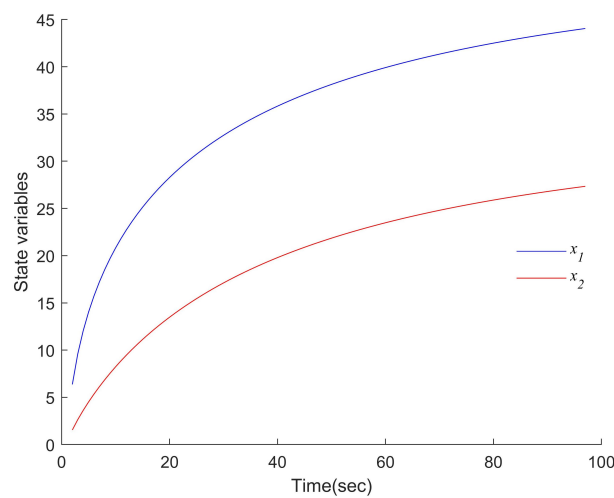


Figure 5. Current trajectories across the inductors described by the fractional RL circuit (58–60).

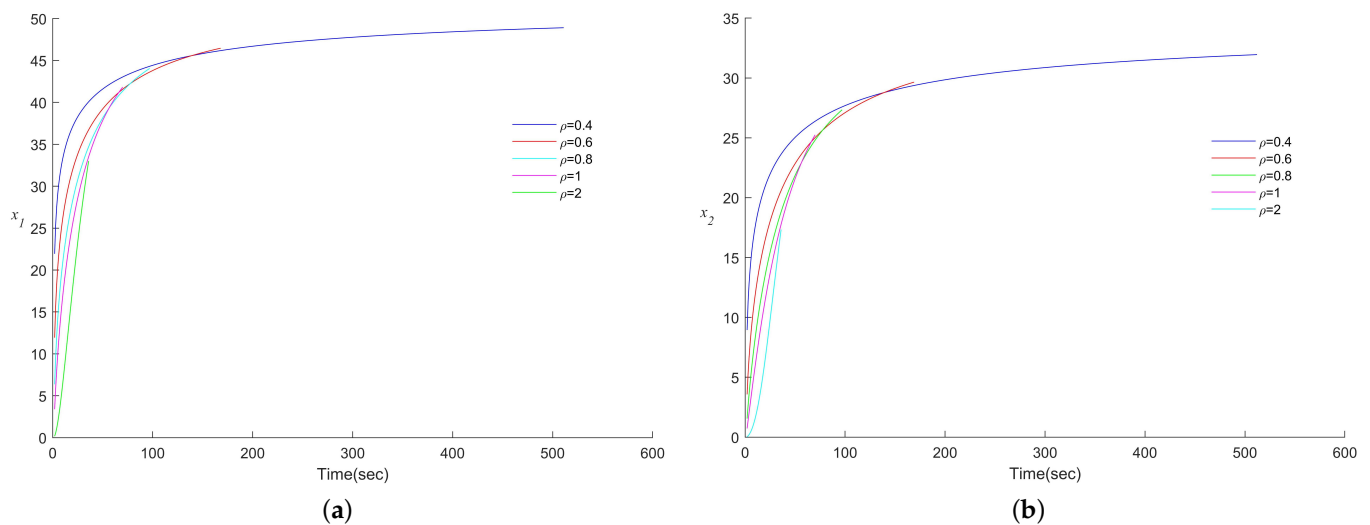


Figure 6. Relationship between states and different parameters in RL circuit (58–60): (a) Trajectory of x_1 with different parameters; (b) Trajectory of x_2 with different parameters.

7. Conclusions

In this work, we use the differential equations based on the generalized fractional derivative to describe linear electrical circuits systems, and discuss the positivity of the electrical circuits systems, methods of checking the positivity of the systems are also presented. The main work is to deduce the checking method of reachability and observability of fractional order positive linear electrical circuit systems described by generalized fractional derivative. The ρ -Laplace transform of a Mittag-Leffler function with matrix form is proved, and the conditions of this transformation are also given. At the end of the paper, illustrative examples of RLC, RC and RL electrical circuits systems are presented, the influence of parameter ρ on the state trajectory is observed, and it is found that parameter ρ has an influence on the slope of the state trajectory. The state trajectory of the circuit system described by the generalized fractional derivative is more realistic.

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