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*Research article*

## Near-optimal control and threshold behavior of an avian influenza model with spatial diffusion on complex networks

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**Abstract:** Near-optimization is as sensible and important as optimization for both theory and applications. This paper concerns the near-optimal control of an avian influenza model with saturation on heterogeneous complex networks. Firstly, the basic reproduction number  $\mathcal{R}_0$  is defined for the model, which can be used to govern the threshold dynamics of influenza disease. Secondly, the near-optimal control problem was formulated by slaughtering poultry and treating infected humans while keeping the loss and cost to a minimum. Thanks to the maximum condition of the Hamiltonian function and the Ekeland's variational principle, we establish both necessary and sufficient conditions for the near-optimality by several delicate estimates for the state and adjoint processes. Finally, a number of examples presented to illustrate our theoretical results.

**Keywords:** complex networks; avian influenza model; spatial diffusion; near-optimal control; basic reproduction number

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### 1. Introduction

Avian influenza is an animal disease, it caused by avian influenza A virus. Avian influenza generally targets specific species, but the virus can infect humans by crossing species barriers in rare cases. For example, avian influenza virus AH5N1 and AH5N7. Since the first outbreak of avian influenza AH5N1 in Hong Kong in 1997, the virus has infected more than 400 people worldwide, with a mortality rate close to 60% [1]. In 2013, the avian influenza AH7N9 crossed the species barrier for the first outbreak in mainland China. More than 400 people have been infected, and the mortality rate is close to 40% [1]. Avian influenza has not only brought serious threat to human health, but also caused human psychological panic. And it caused a huge blow to the national economy. Therefore, to provide effective control and prevention strategies, mathematical models and methods have been widely adopted to study the epidemiological characteristics of infectious diseases.

The mathematical dynamics method can describe the internal mechanism of infectious disease transmission by establishing a mathematical model. Kermack and McKendrick [2–4] established the famous compartmental model, a “threshold theory” was proposed to distinguish the prevalence of the disease. Liu and Ruan [5] constructed two bird-to-human avian influenza models with different growth laws of the avian population, and proved the globally asymptotic stability. Gourley et al. [6] established a patch model with delay to investigate the role of migratory birds in the spread of H5N1 avian influenza, they proved globally asymptotic stability of the disease-free equilibrium. Bourouiba et al. [6] established a delayed avian influenza model to investigate the role of migrating birds in the spread of avian influenza. S. Iwami et al. [7] constructed a mathematical model to explain the spread of avian influenza and mutant avian influenza. Tuncer and Martcheva [8] addressed the question of modeling the periodicity in cumulative number of human cases of H5N1. Three potential drivers of influenza seasonality were investigated. Hu [9] constructed an avian influenza model with nonlinear incidence and analyzed the stability of the model, as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dS_a}{dt} = \Lambda_a - \frac{\lambda_a S_a I_a}{1 + \alpha_1 I_a} - \mu_a S_a, \\ \frac{dI_a}{dt} = \frac{\lambda_a S_a I_a}{1 + \alpha_1 I_a} - \delta_a I_a - \mu_a I_a, \\ \frac{dS_h}{dt} = \Lambda_h - \frac{\lambda_h S_h I_a}{1 + \alpha_2 I_h^2} - \mu_h S_h, \\ \frac{dI_h}{dt} = \frac{\lambda_h S_h I_a}{1 + \alpha_2 I_h^2} - \gamma_h I_h - \delta_h I_h - \mu_h I_h, \\ \frac{dR_h}{dt} = \gamma_h I_h - \mu_h R_h, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

in model (1.1),  $S_a$  and  $I_a$  denote the sizes of susceptible poultry and infectious poultry.  $S_h$ ,  $I_h$ , and  $R_h$  denote the sizes of susceptible human, infectious human, recovery human, respectively.  $\frac{1}{1 + \alpha_1 I_a}$  [10] describes the saturation due to the protection measures of the poultry farmers when the number of infective poultry increases. Similarly, as the number of the infective human individuals increases, the susceptible human population may tend to reduce the number of contacts with infective infective avian population per unit time due to the psychological effect, so we use a nonmonotone incidence function to describe the transmission of the virus from infective poultry to susceptible human; that is,  $\frac{\beta_h S_h I_a}{1 + \alpha_2 I_h^2}$  [11, 12]. All parameters are assumed non-negative and their meanings are described as follows:  $\Lambda_a$  and  $\Lambda_h$  denote the recruitment rate of poultry and human population, respectively;  $\lambda_a$  and  $\lambda_h$  represent the infected rate of poultry and human population, respectively;  $\mu_a$  and  $\mu_h$  represent the natural mortality rate of poultry and human population, respectively;  $\delta_a$  and  $\delta_h$  represent the mortality due to disease in poultry and human population, respectively;  $\gamma_h$  denotes recovery rate of infected human population.

The model (1.1) is a time-dependent ordinary differential system. But in fact, the spread of infectious diseases are significantly affected by the spatial heterogeneity, for example, spatial position, water resource availability and other factors. There is increasing evidence that the spatial diffusion has significant impact on the spread of infectious diseases. Tang [13] investigated an avian influenza epidemic model with diffusion and nonlocal delay, this model describes the transmission of avian influenza among birds and human; especially the asymptomatic individuals in the latent period have infectious force. Lin [14] introduce two moving boundaries, which are called free boundaries, to describe the avian influenza virus transmitting in the habitat.

However, all the above models are obtained under the assumption that all individuals are uniformly mixed, which means they have the same contact rate with other individuals in the region. That is, the mixture between individuals are homogeneous, but, the contact between poultry-to-poultry, and poultry-to-human are obviously heterogeneous [15] in reality. In order to reflect the heterogeneity of contacting between individuals, it is of great significance to explore the spread of avian influenza on coupled networks. Zhan [16] had studied the coupling dynamics between epidemic spreading and relevant information diffusion.

On the other hand, as is known to all that avian influenza has posed huge economic burden which primarily includes opportunity loss, health care related expenditures, loss of employment and so on. Because of resource limitations, it is very necessary to formulate optimal control strategies which can prevent wide spreading of infectious diseases at minimum cost. Therefore, we introduce the slaughtering for poultry and treatment for humans as control variables, and establish an optimal control problem to decrease the number infected poultry and humans. Mathematically, the optimal control is obtained by solving the state equation and adjoint equation or the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation. In fact, for a complex system, such equations have difficulties giving analytic solutions. Optimal controls may not even exist in many situations, while near-optimal controls always exist. Many more near-optimal controls are available than optimal ones. Therefore, in this paper, we explore the near-optimal controls, aiming to slaughter poultry and treat infected humans while keeping the loss and cost to a minimum. The main contributions of this paper are as follows:

- An avian influenza model with spatial diffusion on complex networks is established.
- We define the basic reproduction number of virus and show that it is a threshold for viral persistence or extinction.
- The necessary and sufficient conditions of near-optimal control are presented.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we construct an avian influenza model with spatial diffusion on complex networks, In section 3, we discuss the well-posedness of the system. We compute the basic reproduction number of the avian influenza model in section 4. In section 5, we analyze the sufficient and necessary conditions for the near optimal control. In section 6, several numerical simulations are given to demonstrate the theory results. Finally, we give a brief conclusion and future work in section 7.

## 2. Model formulation

We will use the following notations in this paper:

- $|\cdot|$ : the norm of an Euclidean space;
- $f_x$ : the partial derivation of  $f$  with respect to  $x$ ;
- $\chi_S$ : the indicator function of a set  $S$ ;
- $C$ : generally refers to all arbitrary normal numbers.

Considering the heterogeneity of the contact between poultry-to-poultry and poultry-to-human, we introduce one-way-coupled networks into avian influenza model. There are two separate networks,  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$ . Network  $\mathcal{H}$  consists of humanity, where each node represents an individual, and each connection between two individuals represents direct contact between them. Network  $\mathcal{A}$  is composed

of poultry population. And there is a connection from subnetwork  $\mathcal{A}$  to subnetwork  $\mathcal{H}$ . We express in degrees  $(i, j)$  that there are  $i$  edges connected to subnetwork  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $j$  edges connected to subnetwork  $\mathcal{H}$ . And it is expressed in degrees  $(i, \cdot)$  that  $i$  edges are connected to subnetwork  $\mathcal{A}$ , and any edges are connected to subnetwork  $\mathcal{H}$ . The same degree  $(\cdot, j)$  indicates that any edge is connected to the subnetwork  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $j$  edges are connected to the sub-network  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then, model (1.1) can be written as

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dS_{i,j}^a(t)}{dt} = \Lambda_a - \lambda_a(i)S_{i,j}^a(t)\frac{\Theta_a(t)}{1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a(t)} - \mu_a S_{i,j}^a(t), \\ \frac{dI_{i,j}^a(t)}{dt} = \lambda_a(i)S_{i,j}^a(t)\frac{\Theta_a(t)}{1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a(t)} - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a(t) - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a(t), \\ \frac{dS_{i,j}^h(t)}{dt} = \Lambda_h - \lambda_{ah}(j)S_{i,j}^h(t)\frac{\Theta_{ah}(t)}{1 + \alpha_2\Theta_{ah}(t)} - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h(t), \\ \frac{dI_{i,j}^h(t)}{dt} = \lambda_{ah}(j)S_{i,j}^h(t)\frac{\Theta_{ah}(t)}{1 + \alpha_2\Theta_{ah}(t)} - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h(t) - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h(t) - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h(t), \\ \frac{dR_{i,j}^h(t)}{dt} = \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h(t) - \mu_h R_{i,j}^h(t), \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

$\Theta_a(t)$  denotes the infection probability of susceptible poultry nodes with the degree  $i$  in contact with the infected poultry nodes.  $\Theta_{ah}(t)$  denotes the infection probability of susceptible human nodes with the degree  $j$  in contact with the infected poultry nodes. In the uncorrelated networks,  $\Theta_a(t)$ ,  $\Theta_{ah}(t)$  can be written as

$$\Theta_a(t) = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle_a} \sum_{i=1}^n i p_a(i, \cdot) I_{i,j}^a(t), \quad \Theta_{ah}(t) = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle_{ah}} \sum_{j=1}^n j p_a(\cdot, j) I_{i,j}^a(t),$$

where  $\langle k \rangle_a = \sum_{i=1}^n i p_a(i, \cdot)$ ,  $\langle k \rangle_{ah} = \sum_{j=1}^n j p_a(\cdot, j)$ ,  $p_a(i, \cdot) = \sum_{j=1}^n p_a(i, j)$ ,  $p_a(\cdot, j) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_a(i, j)$ ,  $p_a(i, j) = \frac{N_{i,j}^a}{N^a}$ ,  $N^a = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n S_{i,j}^a + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n I_{i,j}^a$ . The stability of equilibrium points is often governed by a threshold called the basic reproduction number  $\mathcal{R}_0$ . The basic reproduction number  $\mathcal{R}_0$  of model (2.1) is obtained by using the method in the reference [17], where

$$\mathcal{R}_0 = \frac{\Lambda_a}{\mu_a(\delta_a + \mu_a)} \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle_a} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_a(i) i p_a(i, \cdot) = \frac{\Lambda_a \lambda_a}{\mu_a(\delta_a + \mu_a)} \frac{\langle i^2 \rangle}{\langle i \rangle},$$

where  $\langle i^2 \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 p_a(i, \cdot)$ . The parameters of the coupling network are described in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The parameters of the coupling network are described in model (2.1).

Parameter	Description
$N_{i,j}^X$	The number of nodes with degree $(i, j)$ on subnet $X$
$S_{i,j}^a(I_{i,j}^a)$	The number of susceptible (infected) nodes with degree $(i, j)$ on subnet $\mathcal{A}$
$S_{i,j}^h(I_{i,j}^h)$	The number of susceptible (infected) nodes with degree $(i, j)$ on subnet $\mathcal{H}$
$R_{i,j}^h$	The number of recovered nodes nodes with degree $(i, j)$ on subnet $\mathcal{H}$
$p_a(i, \cdot)(p_a(\cdot, j))$	The boundary degree distribution of subnet $\mathcal{A}$
$\langle k \rangle_a(\langle k \rangle_{ah})$	The average of nodes in subject $\mathcal{A}$ connected to subnet $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{H})$
$\lambda_a(i) = \lambda_a i$	Poultry to poultry transmission rate of degree $i$
$\lambda_{ah}(j) = \lambda_{ah} j$	Poultry to human transmission rate of degree $j$

In general, the individual disperses randomly in the habitat. Therefore, we consider not only the individuals activity in temporal dimension, but also the distribution of the individual in the spatial and the dynamic characteristic of the avian influenza. Considering spatial spreading, Kim et al. [18] investigated a diffusive epidemic model, this model describes the transmission of avian influenza among birds and humans. (We assume that susceptible individuals, infectious individuals and recovered individuals move spatially randomly.) In view of the fact that the spatial diffusion and environmental heterogeneity are important factors in modeling the spread of many diseases, with reference [19], an extended version of the avian-human model can be described by

$$\begin{cases}
 \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_a - \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \mu_a S_{i,j}^a, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\
 \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\
 \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_h - \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\
 \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\
 \frac{\partial R_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial R_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h - \mu_h R_{i,j}^h, & t > 0, x \in \Omega,
 \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

because the removed population has no effect on the dynamics of  $S_{i,j}^h$  and  $I_{i,j}^h$ , model (2.2) can be

decoupled to the following model

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_a - \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \mu_a S_{i,j}^a, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_h - \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

where  $S_{i,j}^a := S_{i,j}^a(t, x)$ ,  $I_{i,j}^a := I_{i,j}^a(t, x)$ ,  $S_{i,j}^h := S_{i,j}^h(t, x)$ ,  $I_{i,j}^h := I_{i,j}^h(t, x)$ ,  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_l)^T \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^l$ ,  $\Omega$  is the spatial habitat in  $\mathbb{R}^l$  with smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$ ,  $\Omega = \{x | |x_k| \leq L_k\}$ ,  $L_k$  is constant,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, l$ ;  $D_{ik} := D_{ik}(t, x) > 0$ ,  $G_{kj} := G_{kj}(t, x) > 0$  denote the transmission diffusion operator,  $\Lambda_a := \Lambda_a(x)$ ,  $\Lambda_h := \Lambda_h(x)$ ,  $\lambda_a(i) := \lambda_a(i)(x)$ ,  $\lambda_{ah}(j) := \lambda_{ah}(j)(x)$ ,  $\mu_a := \mu_a(x)$ ,  $\mu_h := \mu_h(x)$ ,  $\delta_a := \delta_a(x)$ ,  $\delta_h := \delta_h(x)$ , and  $\gamma_h := \gamma_h(x)$  are positive Hölder continuous functions on  $\bar{\Omega}$ .

$$\Theta_a(t, x) = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle_a} \sum_{i=1}^n i p_a(i, \cdot) I_{i,j}^a(t, x) := \Theta_a, \quad \Theta_{ah}(t, x) = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle_{ah}} \sum_{j=1}^n j p_a(\cdot, j) I_{i,j}^a(t, x) := \Theta_{ah},$$

the initial conditions are given by  $S_{i,j}^a(0, x) = \phi_{1i}$ ,  $I_{i,j}^a(0, x) = \phi_{2i}$ ,  $S_{i,j}^h(0, x) = \phi_{3j}$ ,  $I_{i,j}^h(0, x) = \phi_{4j}$ ,  $\phi \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $x \in \bar{\Omega}$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , where  $\mathbb{R}_+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq 0\}$ . For  $x \in \Omega$ , with homogeneous Neumann boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial n} &= \left( \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, \quad t > 0, x \in \partial\Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial n} &= \left( \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, \quad t > 0, x \in \partial\Omega, \\ \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial n} &= \left( \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, \quad t > 0, x \in \partial\Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial n} &= \left( \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, \quad t > 0, x \in \partial\Omega, \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where  $\Omega$  is a bounded smooth domain in  $\mathbb{R}^l$ ,  $\partial\Omega$  and  $\bar{\Omega}$  are the boundary and the closure of  $\Omega$ ,  $n$  is the outer normal vector of  $\partial\Omega$ . Let  $\mathbb{X} := C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{4n})$  be the Banach space with the supremum norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Define  $\mathbb{X}^+ := C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}_+^{4n})$ . The symbol  $\nabla$  is the gradient operator.

### 3. Well-posedness of the system

In this section, we will focus on the existence and uniqueness of the global solutions of model (2.3).

**Lemma 3.1.** For every initial value function  $\phi := (\phi_{1i}, \phi_{2i}, \phi_{3j}, \phi_{4j}) \in \mathbb{X}^+$ , the solution  $U(t, x; \phi) = (S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{1i}), I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{2i}), S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{3j}), I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{4j}))$  of model (2.3), satisfies that

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} (S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{1i}) + I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{2i}) + S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{3j}) + I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{4j})) < C,$$

where  $C$  is a normal constant.

*Proof.* Let

$$\begin{aligned} W(t) &= \int_{\Omega} (S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{1i}) + I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{2i}) + S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{3j}) + I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{4j})) dx, \\ \frac{W(t)}{dt} &= \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{1i})}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{2i})}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{3j})}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{4j})}{\partial t} \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \Lambda_a - \mu_a S_{i,j}^a - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a + \Lambda_h - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h \right) dx \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{k=1}^l (D_{ik} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial n}) + \sum_{k=1}^l (D_{ik} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial n}) + \sum_{k=1}^l (G_{kj} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial n}) + \sum_{k=1}^l (G_{kj} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial n}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \Lambda_a + \Lambda_h - \mu_h S_{i,j}^a - \mu_h I_{i,j}^a - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} (\Lambda_a + \Lambda_h) dx - \mu_h W(t), \end{aligned}$$

where  $|\Omega|$  represents the volume of  $\Omega$ , we can obtain

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} W(t) \leq \frac{\int_{\Omega} (\Lambda_a + \Lambda_h) dx}{\mu_h}.$$

In other words, there is a positive constant  $C$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} W(t) < C$ . This proof is complete.  $\square$

Next, we will focus on the existence and uniqueness of the global solutions of model (2.3) by semigroup.

**Theorem 3.2.** For every initial value function  $\phi := (\phi_{1i}, \phi_{2i}, \phi_{3j}, \phi_{4j}) \in \mathbb{X}^+$ , model (2.3) has a unique solution  $U(t, x; \phi) = (S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{1i}), I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{2i}), S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{3j}), I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{4j}))$  with  $U(0, x; \phi) = \phi$  and the semiflow  $\Psi_t : \mathbb{X}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{X}^+$  generated by (2.3) is defined by

$$\Psi_t(\phi) = (S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi), I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi), S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi), I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi)), \quad \forall x \in \overline{\Omega}, t \geq 0.$$

Furthermore, the semiflow  $\Psi_t : \mathbb{X}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{X}^+$  is point dissipative and the positive orbits of bounded subsets of  $\mathbb{X}^+$  for  $\Psi_t$  are bounded.

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathcal{T}_{1i}(t), \mathcal{T}_{2i}(t), \mathcal{T}_{3j}(t), \mathcal{T}_{4j}(t): C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R})$  be the  $C_0$  semigroups associated with  $\sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) = \mu_a$ ,  $\sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) = (\mu_a + \delta_a)$ ,  $\sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) = \mu_h$ ,  $\sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) = (\mu_h + \delta_h + \gamma_h)$  subject to the Neumann boundary condition, respectively. It then follows that  $\mathcal{T}(t) := (\mathcal{T}_{1i}(t), \mathcal{T}_{2i}(t), \mathcal{T}_{3j}(t), \mathcal{T}_{4j}(t))$ , it is strongly positive and compact for each  $t > 0$  [20]. For every initial value functions  $\phi = (\phi_{1i}(x), \phi_{2i}(x), \phi_{3j}(x), \phi_{4j}(x)) \in \mathbb{X}^+$ , we define  $F = (F_{1i}, F_{2i}, F_{3j}, F_{4j}): \mathbb{X}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{X}$  by  $F_{1i}(\phi)(x) = \Lambda_a - \lambda_a(i)\phi_{1i}(x) \frac{\Theta_a(t, x, \phi_{2i})}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t, x, \phi_{2i})}$ ,  $F_{2i}(\phi)(x) = \lambda_a(i)\phi_{1i}(x) \frac{\Theta_a(t, x, \phi_{2i})}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t, x, \phi_{2i})}$ ,  $F_{3j}(\phi)(x) = \Lambda_h - \lambda_{ah}(j)\phi_{3j}(x)\Theta_{ah}(t, x, \phi_{2i})$ ,  $F_{4j}(\phi)(x) = \lambda_{ah}(j)\phi_{3j}(x)\Theta_{ah}(t, x, \phi_{2i})$ . The model (2.3) can be rewritten as the integral equation

$$U(t) = \mathcal{T}(t)\phi + \int_0^t \mathcal{T}(t-s)F(U(s))ds,$$

where  $U(t) = (S_{i,j}^a, I_{i,j}^a, S_{i,j}^h, I_{i,j}^h)^T$ . It is easy to show that  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \text{dist}(\phi + hF(\phi), \mathbb{X}^+) = 0, \forall \phi \in \mathbb{X}^+$ . By in [21], model (2.3) has a unique positive solution  $(S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{1i}), I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi_{2i}), S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{3j}), I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi_{4j}))$  on  $[0, \tau_e) \times \Omega$ , where  $0 < \tau_e \leq \infty$ . In what follows, we prove that the local solution can be extended to a global one, that is  $\tau_e = \infty$ . For this purpose, by a standard argument, we only need to prove that the solution is bounded in  $[0, \tau_e) \times \Omega$ . To this end, we let  $N_{i,j}^a(t, x) = S_{i,j}^a(t, x) + I_{i,j}^a(t, x)$ ,  $N_{i,j}^h(t, x) = S_{i,j}^h(t, x) + I_{i,j}^h(t, x) + R_{i,j}^h(t, x)$ . Then  $N_{i,j}^a(t, x)$ , and  $N_{i,j}^h(t, x)$  satisfy the following system

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial N_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial N_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_a - \mu_a N_{i,j}^a(t, x) - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a(t, x), & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial N_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial N_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_h - \mu_h N_{i,j}^h(t, x) - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h(t, x) - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h(t, x), & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ N_{i,j}^a(0, x) = S_{i,j}^a(0, x) + I_{i,j}^a(0, x) \geq 0, N_{i,j}^h(0, x) = S_{i,j}^h(0, x) + I_{i,j}^h(0, x) + R_{i,j}^h(0, x) \geq 0, & x \in \Omega, \\ D_{ik} \frac{\partial N_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_k} \cdot n = 0, G_{kj} \frac{\partial N_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_k} \cdot n = 0, & t > 0, x \in \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

Thank to [22], model (3.1) admits a unique positive steady state  $E^0$  which is globally asymptotically stable in  $C(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$ . It follows that  $U(t, x; \phi) = (S_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi), I_{i,j}^a(t, x; \phi), S_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi), I_{i,j}^h(t, x; \phi))$  is bounded on  $[0, \tau_e) \times \Omega$ , which implies the Theorem.  $\square$

#### 4. Threshold dynamics

In the rest of this subsection, we first define the basic reproduction number of virus and show that it is a threshold for viral persistence or extinction.

It follows from Theorem 3.2 model (2.3) with (2.4) admits a unique disease free steady state,  $E^0 = (S_{1,j}^{a0}, S_{2,j}^{a0}, \dots, S_{n,j}^{a0}, 0, 0, \dots, 0, S_{i,1}^{h0}, S_{i,2}^{h0}, \dots, S_{i,n}^{h0}, 0, 0, \dots, 0)$ , linearizing (2.3) with (2.4) at  $E^0$ , we get



the following linear cooperative system for  $I_{i,j}^a$ , and  $I_{i,j}^h$ , component

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^{a0} \Theta_a - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^{h0} \Theta_{ah} - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial n} = \left( \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a(t, x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, & t > 0, x \in \partial\Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial n} = \left( \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h(t, x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, & t > 0, x \in \partial\Omega, \\ I_{i,j}^a(0, x) = \phi_{2i}, I_{i,j}^h(0, x) = \phi_{4j}. \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

Substituting  $I_{i,j}^a = e^{\xi_i t} \psi_i(x)$ ,  $I_{i,j}^h = e^{\xi_j t} \varphi_j(x)$ , into (4.1),  $\psi_i(x) \in C(\overline{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{2n})$ ,  $\varphi_j(x) \in C(\overline{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{2n})$ , we obtain the following eigenvalue problem,

$$\begin{cases} \xi_i \psi_i(x) - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial \psi_i(x)}{\partial x_k}) = \frac{\lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^{a0}}{\langle k \rangle_a} \sum_{i=1}^n i p_a(i, \cdot) \psi_i(x) - \delta_a \psi_i(x) - \mu_a \psi_i(x), & x \in \Omega, \\ \xi_j \varphi_j(x) - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial \varphi_j(x)}{\partial x_k}) = \frac{\lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^{h0}}{\langle k \rangle_{ah}} \sum_{j=1}^n j p_a(\cdot, j) \varphi_j(x) - \gamma_h \varphi_j(x) - \delta_h \varphi_j(x) - \mu_h \varphi_j(x), & x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial \psi_i(x)}{\partial n} = \left( \frac{\partial \psi_i(x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial \psi_i(x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial \psi_i(x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega, \\ \frac{\partial \varphi_j(x)}{\partial n} = \left( \frac{\partial \varphi_j(x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial \varphi_j(x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial \varphi_j(x)}{\partial x_l} \right)^T = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega, \\ \psi_i(x) = \phi_{2i}, \varphi_j(x) = \phi_{4j}, \end{cases} \quad (4.2)$$

which is a cooperation system. By a similar argument in [39], it follows that (4.2) admits a unique principal eigenvalue  $\xi_0(E^0)$  with a strongly positive eigenfunction  $(\psi_i(x), \varphi_j(x))$ . Denote by  $\Gamma(t)$  the solution semigroup of (4.1) on  $C(\overline{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{2n})$  with generator  $\mathcal{B} := B + F$ ,

$$\mathcal{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_a + \Delta_1^a + \lambda_a(1) S_{1,j}^{a0} f(1) & \cdots & \lambda_a(1) S_{1,j}^{a0} f(n) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \lambda_a(n) S_{n,j}^{a0} f(1) & \cdots & \omega_a + \Delta_n^a + \lambda_a(n) S_{n,j}^{a0} f(n) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \lambda_{ah}(1) S_{i,1}^{h0} g(1) & \cdots & \lambda_{ah}(1) S_{i,1}^{h0} g(n) & \omega_h + \Delta_1^h & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \lambda_{ah}(n) S_{i,n}^{h0} g(1) & \cdots & \lambda_{ah}(n) S_{i,n}^{h0} g(n) & 0 & \cdots & \omega_h + \Delta_n^h \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\omega_a = -\mu_a - \delta_a$ ,  $\omega_h = -\mu_h - \delta_h$ ,  $f(i) = \frac{i p_a(i, \cdot)}{\langle k \rangle_a}$ ,  $g(j) = \frac{j p_a(\cdot, j)}{\langle k \rangle_{ah}}$ ,  $\Delta_i^a = \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$ ,  $\Delta_j^h = \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} G_{kj} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$ ,

$$B = \text{diag}(\omega_a + \Delta_1^a, \dots, \omega_a + \Delta_n^a, \omega_h + \Delta_1^h, \dots, \omega_h + \Delta_n^h)^T = \text{diag}(\Delta_1^a, \dots, \Delta_n^a, \Delta_1^h, \dots, \Delta_n^h)^T - V,$$

$$F = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_a(1)S_{1,\cdot}^{a0}f(1) & \cdots & \lambda_a(1)S_{1,\cdot}^{a0}f(n) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \lambda_a(n)S_{n,\cdot}^{a0}f(1) & \cdots & \lambda_a(n)S_{n,\cdot}^{a0}f(n) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \lambda_{ah}(1)S_{\cdot,1}^{h0}g(1) & \cdots & \lambda_{ah}(1)S_{\cdot,1}^{h0}g(n) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \lambda_{ah}(n)S_{\cdot,n}^{h0}g(1) & \cdots & \lambda_{ah}(n)S_{\cdot,n}^{h0}g(n) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We further let  $\bar{\Gamma}(t) : C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{2n}) \rightarrow C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{2n})$  be the  $C_0$ -semigroup generated by operator  $B$ , we know that both  $B$  and  $-V$  are cooperative for any  $x \in \Omega$ , which implies that  $\bar{\Gamma}(t)$  is a positive semigroup in the sense that  $\bar{\Gamma}(t)C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}_+^{2n}) \subseteq C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}_+^{2n})$ . Further from [27] and the fact that both  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $B$  are resolvent-operators, it then follows that the next generation operator is  $\mathcal{L} := -FB^{-1}$ , given by  $\mathcal{L}(\phi) = \int_0^\infty F(x)\bar{\Gamma}(t)\phi(x)dt$ ,  $\phi \in C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{2n})$ ,  $x \in \bar{\Omega}$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}$  is well-defined, continuous, and positive operator on  $C(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^{2n})$ , which maps the initial infection distribution  $\phi$  to the distribution of the total new infections produced during the infection period. We follow the procedure in [28] to define the spectral radius of  $\mathcal{L}$  as the basic reproduction number

$$\mathcal{R}_0 = r(\mathcal{L}) = r(-FB^{-1}) = \sup\{|\lambda|, \lambda \in \sigma(\mathcal{L})\} = \frac{\int_{\Omega} \lambda_a(i)S_{i,j}^{a0} \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle_a} \sum_{i=1}^n ip_a(i, \cdot) \psi_i^2 dx}{\int_{\Omega} [\sum_{k=1}^l (\nabla_k \psi_i)^T (D_{ik} \nabla_k \psi_i) + (\mu_a + \delta_a) \psi_i^2] dx}.$$

**Lemma 4.1.**  $\mathcal{R}_0 - 1$  and  $\xi_0(E^0)$  have the same sign. The steady state  $E^0$  is asymptotically stable if  $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$ , and it is unstable  $\mathcal{R}_0 > 1$ .

*Proof.* The method was the same as that in reference [26, 27]. □

**Theorem 4.2.** (i) If  $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$  then the disease-free equilibrium  $E^0$  is globally asymptotically stable.  
(ii) If  $\mathcal{R}_0 > 1$ , then there exists  $\epsilon_0$  such that any positive solution of model (2.3) satisfies

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|(S_{i,j}^a(t, \cdot), I_{i,j}^a(t, \cdot), S_{i,j}^h(t, \cdot), I_{i,j}^h(t, \cdot)) - (S_{i,j}^{a0}(t, \cdot), 0, S_{i,j}^{h0}(t, \cdot), 0)\| > \epsilon_0.$$

*Proof.* The method was the same as that in reference [29, 30]. □

## 5. Near-optimal control

In this section, we will establish an near-optimal control of model (2.3) and get an optimal control strategy in theory. We introduce control variables  $u(t, x) = (u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))^T \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega) = \{u_i^a(t, x) \text{ and } u_j^h(t, x) \text{ measurable: } 0 \leq u_i^a(t, x) \leq 1, 0 \leq u_j^h(t, x) \leq 1, i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Assume the control set  $U([0, T] \times \Omega)$  is convex.  $u_i^a(t, x)$  denotes the proportion of slaughtered susceptible poultry and infected poultry,  $u_j^h(t, x)$  denotes the proportion of treatment for infected humans. Now, we obtain an optimal

control system as follows,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_a - \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \mu_a S_{i,j}^a - u_i^a S_{i,j}^a, \quad t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a - u_i^a I_{i,j}^a, \quad t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \Lambda_h - \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h, \quad t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial t} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) = \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h - \frac{cu_j^h I_{i,j}^h}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h}, \quad t > 0, x \in \Omega, \end{array} \right. \quad (5.1)$$

we take saturated treatment rate  $\frac{cu_j^h I_{i,j}^h}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h}$  ( $\alpha_2$  denotes saturation constant) because of the medical resources are limited. We intend to get an near-optimal pair of slaughter and treatment, which seeks to minimize the number of infected poultry, the number of infected humans, and the cost during the implementing these  $2n$  control strategies. Therefore, we establish the following objective function

$$\begin{aligned} J(u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x)) &= \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n A_{1i} I_{i,j}^a(t, x) + A_{2i} u_i^a(t, x) (S_{i,j}^a(t, x) + I_{i,j}^a(t, x)) + \frac{1}{2} \varsigma_i (u_i^a)^2(t, x) dx dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n A_{3j} I_{i,j}^h(t, x) + A_{4j} u_j^h(t, x) I_{i,j}^h(t, x) + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h)^2(t, x) dx dt, \end{aligned} \quad (5.2)$$

where  $A_{1i}$ ,  $A_{2i}$ ,  $A_{3j}$ ,  $A_{4j}$  are regarded as a tradeoff factor. The meaning of the objective functional  $J(u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))$  is described as follows:

(1) The term  $\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n A_{1i} I_{i,j}^a(t, x) dx dt + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n A_{3j} I_{i,j}^h(t, x) dx dt$  gives the total number of infected poultry infected with avian influenza virus and the total number of infected human over the time period  $T$ .

(2) The term  $\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n A_{2i} u_i^a(t, x) (S_{i,j}^a(t, x) + I_{i,j}^a(t, x)) + \frac{1}{2} \varsigma_i (u_i^a)^2(t, x) dx dt$  gives the total cost of slaughtering for susceptible and infected avian.

(3) The term  $\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n A_{4j} u_j^h(t, x) I_{i,j}^h(t, x) + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h)^2(t, x) dx dt$  gives the total cost of treatment for infected humans.

The objective of the optimal control problem is to minimize the cost function  $J(u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))$  over all  $u(t, x) = (u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))^T \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$ . The value function is defined as

$$V(0, \phi(0, x)) = \inf_{(u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x)) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)} J(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x)).$$

**Definition 5.1.** (Near-optimal Control) [24] Both a family of admissible pairs  $\{(u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x))\}$  parameterized by  $\varepsilon > 0$  and any element  $(u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x))$  in the family are called near-optimal if

$$|J(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x)) - V(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))| \leq r(\varepsilon),$$

holds for sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$ , where  $r$  is a function of  $\varepsilon$  satisfying  $r(\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . The estimate  $r(\varepsilon)$  is called an error bound. If  $r(\varepsilon) = c\varepsilon^\kappa$  for some  $\kappa$  independent of the constant  $c$ , then  $u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t)$ ,  $u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t)$  are called near-optimal with order  $\varepsilon^\kappa$ .

**Lemma 5.2.** (Ekeland's Principle, [25]). Let  $(S, d)$  be a complete metric space, and let  $\rho(\cdot) : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  be lower semicontinuous and bounded from below. For  $\epsilon \geq 0$ , suppose that  $u^\epsilon(t, x) \in S$  satisfies

$$\rho(u^\epsilon(\cdot)) \leq \inf_{u(\cdot) \in S} \rho(u(\cdot)) + \epsilon,$$

then, for any  $\iota > 0$ , there exists  $u^\iota(\cdot) \in S$  such that  $\rho(u^\iota(\cdot)) \leq \rho(u^\epsilon(\cdot))$ ,  $d(u^\iota(\cdot), u^\epsilon(\cdot)) \leq \iota$ ,  $\rho(u^\iota(\cdot)) \leq \rho(u(\cdot)) + \frac{\epsilon}{\iota} d(u(\cdot), u^\iota(\cdot))$ .

### 5.1. Adjoint equation and some prior estimates

In this section, we will first show a few lemmas, which will be used to establish the sufficient and necessary condition for the near-optimal control of model (5.1). As is well known, the study of adjoint equations plays a key role in deriving the necessary and sufficient conditions of optimality. Next, we introduce the adjoint equation:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial p_{1i}(t, x)}{\partial t} &= \left( \mu_a + u_i^a + \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \right) p_{1i} - \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} p_{2i} - A_{2i} u_i^a, \\ \frac{\partial p_{2i}(t, x)}{\partial t} &= \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a)^2} p_{1i} + \left( \delta_a + \mu_a + u_i^a - \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a)^2} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \right) p_{2i} \\ &\quad + \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h p_{3j} - \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h p_{4j} - A_{1i} - A_{2i} u_i^a, \\ \frac{\partial p_{3j}(t, x)}{\partial t} &= \left( \mu_h + \lambda_{ah}(j) \Theta_{ah} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \right) p_{3j} - \lambda_{ah}(j) \Theta_{ah} p_{4j}, \\ \frac{\partial p_{4j}(t, x)}{\partial t} &= \left( \gamma_h + \delta_h + \mu_h + \frac{c u_j^h}{(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h)^2} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \right) p_{4j} - A_{3j} - A_{4j} u_j^h, \\ p_{1i}(T, x) &= p_{2i}(T, x) = p_{3j}(T, x) = p_{4j}(T, x) = 0. \end{aligned} \right. \quad (5.3)$$

The following Lemma 5.3 shows that the solution of model (5.1) is bounded.

**Lemma 5.3.** For any  $\eta \geq 0$ , and  $(u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x)) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |S_{i,j}^a(t, x)|^\eta + |I_{i,j}^a(t, x)|^\eta + |S_{i,j}^h(t, x)|^\eta + |I_{i,j}^h(t, x)|^\eta \leq C, \quad (5.4)$$

where  $C$  is a constant that depends only on  $\eta$ .

*Proof.* The method was the same as that the Lemma 3.1, we get the almost surely positively invariant set of model (5.1), which means that the inequality (5.4) holds.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.4.** For any  $(u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x)) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |p_{1i}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{2i}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{3j}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{4j}(t, x)|^2 \leq C,$$

where  $C$  is a constant.

The proof is shown in Appendix A.

For any  $u(t, x), \tilde{u}(t, x) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , define a metric on  $\mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  as follows

$$d(u(t, x), \tilde{u}(t, x)) = \mathbb{E}[\text{mes}\{(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \Omega : u(t, x) \neq \tilde{u}(t, x)\}],$$

by a similar way as Lemma 6.4 in [32], we know that  $\mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  is a complete space under  $d$ .

The following Lemma will show the continuity of the state process  $(S_{i,j}^a(t, x), I_{i,j}^a(t, x), S_{i,j}^h(t, x), I_{i,j}^h(t, x))$  under metric  $d$ .

**Lemma 5.5.** *For any  $\eta \geq 0$ , and  $0 < \kappa < 1$  satisfying  $\kappa\eta < 1$ , there exists a constant  $C_{\kappa\eta}$  such that  $u(t, x), \tilde{u}(t, x) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  along with the corresponding trajectory  $(S_{i,j}^a(t, x), I_{i,j}^a(t, x), S_{i,j}^h(t, x), I_{i,j}^h(t, x))$ ,  $(\tilde{S}_{i,j}^a(t, x), \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a(t, x), \tilde{S}_{i,j}^h(t, x), \tilde{I}_{i,j}^h(t, x))$ , we have*

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |S_{i,j}^h - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^h - \tilde{I}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} \leq C[d(u_i^a, \tilde{u}_i^a)^{\kappa\eta} + d(u_j^h, \tilde{u}_j^h)^{\kappa\eta}].$$

The proof is shown in Appendix B.

The next lemma will show that the  $p$ th moment continuity of the solutions to the adjoint Eq (5.3) under metric  $d$ .

**Lemma 5.6.** *For any  $1 < \eta < 2$ , and  $0 < \kappa < 1$  satisfying  $(1 + \kappa)\eta < 2$ , there exists a constant  $C_{\kappa\eta}$  such that  $u(t, x), \tilde{u}(t, x) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  along with the corresponding trajectory  $(S_{i,j}^a(t, x), I_{i,j}^a(t, x), S_{i,j}^h(t, x), I_{i,j}^h(t, x))$ ,  $(\tilde{S}_{i,j}^a(t, x), \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a(t, x), \tilde{S}_{i,j}^h(t, x), \tilde{I}_{i,j}^h(t, x))$ , and the solution of corresponding adjoint equation, we have*

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |p_{1i} - \tilde{p}_{1i}|^\eta + |p_{2i} - \tilde{p}_{2i}|^\eta + |p_{3j} - \tilde{p}_{3j}|^\eta + |p_{4j} - \tilde{p}_{4j}|^\eta \leq C[d(u_i^a, \tilde{u}_i^a)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}} + d(u_j^h, \tilde{u}_j^h)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}}].$$

The proof is shown in Appendix C.

## 5.2. Sufficient conditions for near optimal control

To obtain the sufficient conditions, we define the Hamiltonian function  $H$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} H = & \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{1i} I_{i,j}^a + A_{2i} u_i^a (S_{i,j}^a + I_{i,j}^a) + \frac{1}{2} S_i (u_i^a)^2 + p_{1i} \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) + \Lambda_a - \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. - \mu_a S_{i,j}^a - u_i^a S_{i,j}^a \right) + p_{2i} \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^a}{\partial x_k}) + \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a - u_i^a I_{i,j}^a \right) \right) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{3j} I_{i,j}^h + A_{4j} u_j^h I_{i,j}^h + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h)^2 + p_{3j} \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial S_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) + \Lambda_h - \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h \right) \right. \\ & \left. + p_{4j} \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial I_{i,j}^h}{\partial x_k}) + \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h - \delta_h I_{i,j}^h - \mu_h I_{i,j}^h - \frac{c u_j^h I_{i,j}^h}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h} \right) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (5.5)$$

We can test the Hamiltonian function  $H$  is convex, a.s. Next, the sufficient conditions for the approximate optimal controls of model model (5.1) are proposed.

**Theorem 5.7.** Let  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x))$  be an admissible pair and  $(p_{1i}^\varepsilon(t, x), p_{2i}^\varepsilon(t, x), p_{3j}^\varepsilon(t, x), p_{4j}^\varepsilon(t, x))$  be the solution of (5.3) corresponding to  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x))$ . Assume the control set  $\mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  is convex.a.s. Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , if

$$\sup_{u_i^a \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)} \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i(u_i^{a\varepsilon} + u_i^a) \right) - S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} p_{1i}^\varepsilon - I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} p_{2i}^\varepsilon (u_i^{a\varepsilon} - u_i^a) dxdt \geq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2},$$

$$\sup_{u_j^h \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)} \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j(u_j^{h\varepsilon} + u_j^h) - \frac{c I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^\varepsilon}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) (u_j^{h\varepsilon} - u_j^h) dxdt \geq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2},$$

we have

$$\int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n A_{2i} u_i^{a\varepsilon} (S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i(u_i^{a\varepsilon})^2 dxdt + \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n A_{4j} u_j^{h\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} dxdt$$

$$\leq \inf_{(u_i^a, u_j^h) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)} \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n A_{2i} u_i^a (S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i(u_i^a)^2 dxdt + \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n A_{4j} u_j^h I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} dxdt + C\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

*Proof.* In order to prove that  $H_u$  can be estimated by  $\varepsilon$ , we define a new metric  $d$  on  $\mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$ . Since the control region is closed,  $\mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  becomes a complete metric space when endowed with the metric

$$d(u, \tilde{u}) = \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n v^\varepsilon(t, x) |u_i^a - \tilde{u}_i^a| dxdt + \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n v^\varepsilon(t, x) |u_j^h - \tilde{u}_j^h| dxdt,$$

where  $v^\varepsilon(t, x) = 1 + |S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}| + |I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}| + |S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}| + |I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}|$ . Next, we will estimate  $J(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x)) - J(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))$ . From the Hamiltonian function (5.5) and the objective function (5.2), we have

$$J(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x)) - J(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))$$

$$\leq \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^a + I_{i,j}^a) + S_i u_i^a - p_{1i} S_{i,j}^a - p_{2i} I_{i,j}^a \right) (u_i^{a\varepsilon} - u_i^a) dxdt$$

$$+ \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^h + \varrho_j u_j^h - \frac{c I_{i,j}^h p_{4j}}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h} \right) (u_j^{h\varepsilon} - u_j^h) dxdt. \quad (5.6)$$

Next, we will focus on the estimation of  $H_u$ . Firstly, we define a new functional  $M(\cdot) : \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$M(u) = \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i} u_i^a (S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i(u_i^a)^2 - p_{1i}^\varepsilon u_i^a S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^\varepsilon u_i^a I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} \right) dxdt$$

$$+ \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} u_j^h I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h)^2 - \frac{c u_j^h I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^\varepsilon}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) dxdt,$$

we show that

$$\begin{aligned}
& |M(u) - M(\bar{u})| \\
&= \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon})(u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^a) + \frac{1}{2} s_i(u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^a)(u_i^a + \bar{u}_i^a) - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^a) - p_{2i}^{\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^a) \right) dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^h) + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j(u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^h)(u_j^h + \bar{u}_j^h) - \frac{c p_{4j}^{\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}}(u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^h) \right) dx dt \\
&\leq \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n [A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + s_i](u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^a) dx dt + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n [A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \varrho_j](u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^h) dx dt \\
&\leq C \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n (S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon})(u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^a) dx dt + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n (S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon})(u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^h) dx dt.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $M(u)$  is continuous on  $\mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  with respect to  $d$ . According to the conditions of Theorem (5.7) and Lemma 5.2, we can see that there exists  $\bar{u}^{\varepsilon} \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  such that

$$d(u^{\varepsilon} - \bar{u}^{\varepsilon}) \leq \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}, M(\bar{u}^{\varepsilon}) \leq M(u) + \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} d(u, \bar{u}^{\varepsilon}), \quad \forall u \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega).$$

This show that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i} \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} (S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} s_i (\bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon})^2 - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^{\varepsilon} \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} \right) dx dt \\
&+ \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (\bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon})^2 - \frac{c \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^{\varepsilon}}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) dx dt \\
&= \min_{(u_i^a, u_j^h) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i} u_i^a (S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} s_i (u_i^a)^2 - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} u_i^a S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^{\varepsilon} u_i^a I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{\varepsilon} |u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}| \right) dx dt \\
&+ \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} u_j^h I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h)^2 - \frac{c u_j^h I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^{\varepsilon}}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} + \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{\varepsilon} |u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}| \right) dx dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{5.7}$$

According to [23], we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\in \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + s_i \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^{\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \varrho_j \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon} - \frac{c I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^{\varepsilon}}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) \\
&\subset \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + s_i \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^{\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \varrho_j \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon} - \frac{c I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^{\varepsilon}}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) + [-\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{\varepsilon}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{\varepsilon}].
\end{aligned} \tag{5.8}$$

Because the Hamiltonian function  $H$  is differentiable in  $u$ , it follows from (5.8) that there exists a  $\vartheta^{\varepsilon} \in [-\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{\varepsilon}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{\varepsilon}]$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + s_i \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^{\varepsilon} I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \varrho_j \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon} - \frac{c I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^{\varepsilon}}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) + \vartheta^{\varepsilon} = 0. \tag{5.9}$$

From (5.9), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + S_i u_i^{a\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^\varepsilon S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^\varepsilon I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \varrho_j u_j^{h\varepsilon} - \frac{c I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^\varepsilon}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) \right| \\
 & \leq \left| \sum_{i=1}^n S_i (u_i^{a\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) + \sum_{j=1}^n \varrho_j (u_j^{h\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) \right| + \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + S_i \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^\varepsilon S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - p_{2i}^\varepsilon I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \varrho_j \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon} - \frac{c I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^\varepsilon}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) \right| \leq C \left( \sum_{i=1}^n v^\varepsilon |u_i^{a\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}| + \sum_{j=1}^n v^\varepsilon |u_j^{h\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}| \right) + \vartheta^\varepsilon \\
 & \leq C \left( \sum_{i=1}^n v^\varepsilon |u_i^{a\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}| + \sum_{j=1}^n v^\varepsilon |u_j^{h\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}| \right) + 2\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} v^\varepsilon.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5.10}$$

This proof is complete.  $\square$

From the Lemma 5.4 and definition of  $d$ , we can achieve the desired conclusion from (5.6) and (5.10) by Hölder's inequality. Furthermore, according to the ideas in Lenhart and Workman [34], the optimal control  $(u_i^{a*}, u_j^{h*})$ , which minimizes the objective function  $J(u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x))$ , is obtained and represented by

$$\begin{cases} u_i^{a*}(t, x) = \min\{\max\{\frac{(p_{1i}(t, x) - A_{2i})S_{i,j}^{a*}(t, x) + p_{2i}(t, x)I_{i,j}^{a*}(t, x)}{S_i}, 0\}, 1\}, & i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \\ u_j^{h*}(t, x) = \min\{\max\{\frac{cp_{4j}(t, x)I_{i,j}^{h*}(t, x) - A_{4j}I_{i,j}^{h*}(t, x)(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h*}(t, x))}{(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h*}(t, x))\varrho_j}, 0\}, 1\}, & j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{cases} \tag{5.11}$$

### 5.3. The necessary conditions for near optimal control

In this section, we will derive the necessary conditions for near optimal control of model (5.1).

**Theorem 5.8.** Let  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x))$  be an admissible pair. There exists a constant  $C$  such that any  $\eta \in [0, 1)$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and any  $\varepsilon$ -optimal pair  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}(t, x), u_i^{a\varepsilon}(t, x), u_j^{h\varepsilon}(t, x))$ , the following condition holds:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \inf_{u_i^a \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)} \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} + I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i (u_i^a + u_i^{a\varepsilon}) - S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} p_{1i}^\varepsilon - I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} p_{2i}^\varepsilon \right) (u_i^a - u_i^{a\varepsilon}) dx dt \geq -C\varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}}, \\
 & \inf_{u_j^h \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)} \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h + u_j^{h\varepsilon}) - \frac{c I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon} p_{4j}^\varepsilon}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}} \right) (u_j^h - u_j^{h\varepsilon}) dx dt \geq -C\varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* We have that  $J(0, \phi(0, x); u_i^a(t, x), u_j^h(t, x)): \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous under the metric  $d$ , therefore, by using Ekeland's Principle 5.2, we can choose  $\iota = \varepsilon^{\frac{2}{3}}$ , there exists an admissible pair  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, u_i^{a\varepsilon}, u_j^{h\varepsilon})$  such that  $d(u^\varepsilon, \widetilde{u}^\varepsilon) < \varepsilon^{\frac{2}{3}}$ , and  $\widetilde{J}(0, \phi(0, x); \widetilde{u}^\varepsilon) \leq \widetilde{J}(0, \phi(0, x); u), \forall u \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , where  $\widetilde{J}(0, \phi(0, x); u(t, x)) = J(0, \phi(0, x); u(t, x)) + \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} d(u^\varepsilon, \widetilde{u}^\varepsilon)$ . This show that  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, u_i^{a\varepsilon}, u_j^{h\varepsilon})$  is an optimal pair for the objective function  $\widetilde{J}(0, \phi(0, x); u(t, x))$ . Next, we will use the spike variation



technique to derive a "maximum principle" for  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, u_i^{a\varepsilon}, u_j^{h\varepsilon})$ . Let  $\bar{t} \in [0, T]$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , and  $u(t, x) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , we define  $u^\delta(t, x) \in \mathcal{U}([0, T] \times \Omega)$  as follows

$$u^\delta(t, x) = \begin{cases} u(t, x), & if(t, x) \in [\bar{t}, \bar{t} + \delta] \times \Omega, \\ \bar{u}^\varepsilon(t, x), & if(t, x) \in [0, T] \setminus [\bar{t}, \bar{t} + \delta] \times \Omega. \end{cases}$$

Then, we have

$$\bar{J}(0, \phi(0, x); \bar{u}^\varepsilon(t, x)) \leq \bar{J}(0, \phi(0, x); u^\delta(t, x)), \quad d(u^\delta(t, x), \bar{u}^\varepsilon(t, x)) \leq \delta. \quad (5.12)$$

Thus  $J(0, \phi(0, x); \bar{u}^\varepsilon(t, x)) = \bar{J}(0, \phi(0, x); \bar{u}^\varepsilon(t, x)) \leq \bar{J}(0, \phi(0, x); u^\delta(t, x)) = J(0, \phi(0, x); u^\delta(t, x)) + \delta\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}$ . It follows from (5.12), Lemma 5.5 and Taylor's expansion, we can obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} -\delta\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} &\leq J(0, \phi(0, x); u^\delta(t, x)) - J(0, \phi(0, x); \bar{u}^\varepsilon(t, x)) \\ &\leq \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n A_{2i} u_i^a (S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + (A_{1i} + A_{2i} u_i^a) (I_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) dxdt + \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n (A_{3j} + A_{4j} u_j^h) (I_{i,j}^{h\delta} - \bar{I}_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}) dxdt \\ &\quad + \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i} (S_{i,j}^a + I_{i,j}^a) (u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i (u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) (u_i^a + \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) \right) dxdt \\ &\quad + \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^h (u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) (u_j^h + \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) \right) dxdt + o(\delta). \end{aligned} \quad (5.13)$$

Using the Itô's formula to  $Q(t, x) = \bar{p}_{1i}^\varepsilon (S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \bar{p}_{2i}^\varepsilon (I_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + \bar{p}_{3j}^\varepsilon (S_{i,j}^{h\delta} - \bar{S}_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}) + \bar{p}_{4j}^\varepsilon (I_{i,j}^{h\delta} - \bar{I}_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon})$ , and from Lemmas 5.3 and 5.4, we can obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n A_{2i} u_i^a (S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) + (A_{1i} + A_{2i} u_i^a) (I_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) dxdt + \int_0^T \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n (A_{3j} + A_{4j} u_j^h) (I_{i,j}^{h\delta} - \bar{I}_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}) dxdt \\ &\leq \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n - (u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \bar{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) \bar{p}_{1i}^\varepsilon - (u_i^{a\delta} I_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \bar{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) \bar{p}_{2i}^\varepsilon dxdt - \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n (u_j^{h\delta} - \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) \bar{p}_{4j}^\varepsilon dxdt. \end{aligned} \quad (5.14)$$

Substituting (5.14) into (5.13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\delta\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} &\leq J(0, \phi(0, x); u^\delta(t, x)) - J(0, \phi(0, x); \bar{u}^\varepsilon(t, x)) \\ &\leq \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i} (S_{i,j}^a + I_{i,j}^a) (u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i (u_i^a - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) (u_i^a + \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) \right) dxdt \\ &\quad + \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j} I_{i,j}^h (u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j (u_j^h - \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) (u_j^h + \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) \right) dxdt + o(\delta) \\ &\quad - \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{i=1}^n \left( (u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \bar{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) \bar{p}_{1i}^\varepsilon + (u_i^{a\delta} I_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \bar{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \bar{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) \bar{p}_{2i}^\varepsilon \right) dxdt - \int_{\bar{t}}^{\bar{t}+\delta} \int_\Omega \sum_{j=1}^n (u_j^{h\delta} - \bar{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) \bar{p}_{4j}^\varepsilon dxdt. \end{aligned} \quad (5.15)$$

Dividing (5.15) by  $\delta$  and letting  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ , we can get

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} \leq & \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^a(\bar{t}) + I_{i,j}^a(\bar{t}))(u_i^a(\bar{t}) - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}(\bar{t})) + \frac{1}{2} S_i(u_i^a(\bar{t}) - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}(\bar{t}))(u_i^a(\bar{t}) + \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}(\bar{t})) \right. \\
 & - [u_i^{a\delta}(\bar{t})S_{i,j}^{a\delta}(\bar{t}) - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}(\bar{t})\widetilde{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(\bar{t})]\widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon}(\bar{t}) - [u_i^{a\delta}(\bar{t})I_{i,j}^{a\delta}(\bar{t}) - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}(\bar{t})\widetilde{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}(\bar{t})]\widetilde{p}_{2i}^{\varepsilon}(\bar{t}) \Big) dx \\
 & + \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n A_{4j}I_{i,j}^h(\bar{t})(u_j^h(\bar{t}) - \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}(\bar{t})) + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j(u_j^h(\bar{t}) - \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}(\bar{t}))(u_j^h(\bar{t}) + \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}(\bar{t})) - [u_j^{h\delta}(\bar{t}) - \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}(\bar{t})]\widetilde{p}_{4j}^{\varepsilon}(\bar{t}) \Big) dx.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5.16}$$

Now, we will derive an estimate for the right side of (5.16) with all the  $(\widetilde{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}, \widetilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon})$  replaced by  $(S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}, S_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, I_{i,j}^{h\varepsilon}, u_i^{a\varepsilon}, u_j^{h\varepsilon})$ . To achieve this goal, we first estimate the following difference:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( [u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}] \widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon} - [u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}] p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} \right) dx dt \\
 & = \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n (\widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon})(u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) dx dt + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon} (u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) dx dt.
 \end{aligned}$$

From Lemma 5.6 and due to  $d(u^{\varepsilon}, \widetilde{u}^{\varepsilon}) < \varepsilon^{\frac{2}{3}}$ , we have that for any  $1 < \eta < 2$ , and  $0 < \kappa < 1$  satisfying  $(1 + \kappa)\eta < 2$ , and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n (\widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon})(u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) dx dt \\
 & \leq \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n |\widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon} - p_{1i}^{\varepsilon}|^{\eta} dx dt \right)^{\frac{1}{\eta}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n |u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}|^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}} dx dt \right)^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} \\
 & \leq C \left( d(u_i^a, \widetilde{u}_i^a)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\eta}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n |u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta}|^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}} + |u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}|^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}} dx dt \right)^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} \leq C \varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}},
 \end{aligned}$$

similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon} (u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) dx dt \\
 & \leq C \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n |\widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon}|^2 dx dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n |u_i^{a\varepsilon} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}|^2 \chi_{u_i^{a\varepsilon} \neq \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}} dx dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 & \leq C \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n |u_i^{a\varepsilon}|^4 + |\widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}|^4 dx dt \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \chi_{u_i^{a\varepsilon} \neq \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}} dx dt \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \leq C \left( d(u_i^{a\varepsilon}, \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \leq C \varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( [u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \widetilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}] \widetilde{p}_{1i}^{\varepsilon} - [u_i^{a\delta} S_{i,j}^{a\delta} - u_i^{a\varepsilon} S_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}] p_{1i}^{\varepsilon} \right) dx dt \leq C \varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}}. \tag{5.17}$$

By analogous calculation as (5.17), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_{2i}(S_{i,j}^a + I_{i,j}^a)(u_i^a - \tilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} S_i(u_i^a - \tilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon})(u_i^a + \tilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon}) \right) dxdt \\ & + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n \left( A_{4j}I_{i,j}^h(u_j^h - \tilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} \varrho_j(u_j^h - \tilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon})(u_j^h + \tilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) \right) dxdt \leq C\varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}}, \\ & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n (u_i^{a\delta} I_{i,j}^{a\delta} - \tilde{u}_i^{a\varepsilon} \tilde{I}_{i,j}^{a\varepsilon}) \tilde{p}_{2i}^{\varepsilon} dxdt \leq C\varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}}, \quad \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n (u_j^{h\delta} - \tilde{u}_j^{h\varepsilon}) \tilde{p}_{4j}^{\varepsilon} dxdt \leq C\varepsilon^{\frac{\eta}{3}}. \end{aligned}$$

Combine the expression of Hamiltonian function (5.5), we can immediately obtain the conclusion.  $\square$

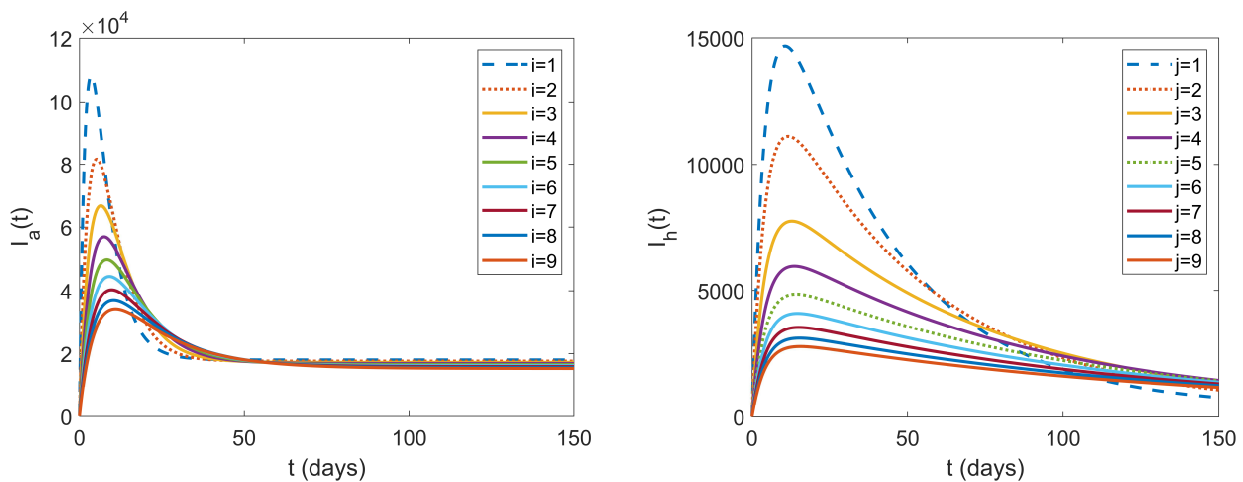
## 6. Numerical simulations

In this section, we present numerical simulations to demonstrate the results. Let  $[0, T] \times \Omega$  be the admissible control domain. We consider a near-optimal problem with the following objective function, simulations are based on a scale-free network with  $p(k) = (r-1)m^{(r-1)}k^{-r}$ , where  $m$  represents the smallest degree on a scale-free network nodes,  $r$  is power exponent. Let  $m = 1, r = 3$ , the number of nodes on a scale-free network is  $N = 100$ , and we add each new node with 3 new edges. We choose degree  $k$  as  $k_1 = 1, k_2 = 2, k_3 = 3, k_4 = 4, k_5 = 5, k_6 = 6, k_7 = 7, k_8 = 8, k_9 = 9$ . We get the average degree of complex network structure  $\langle k \rangle_a (\langle k^2 \rangle_a) = 3.27(9.04)$  through simple calculation. The parameter values are chosen as follows:

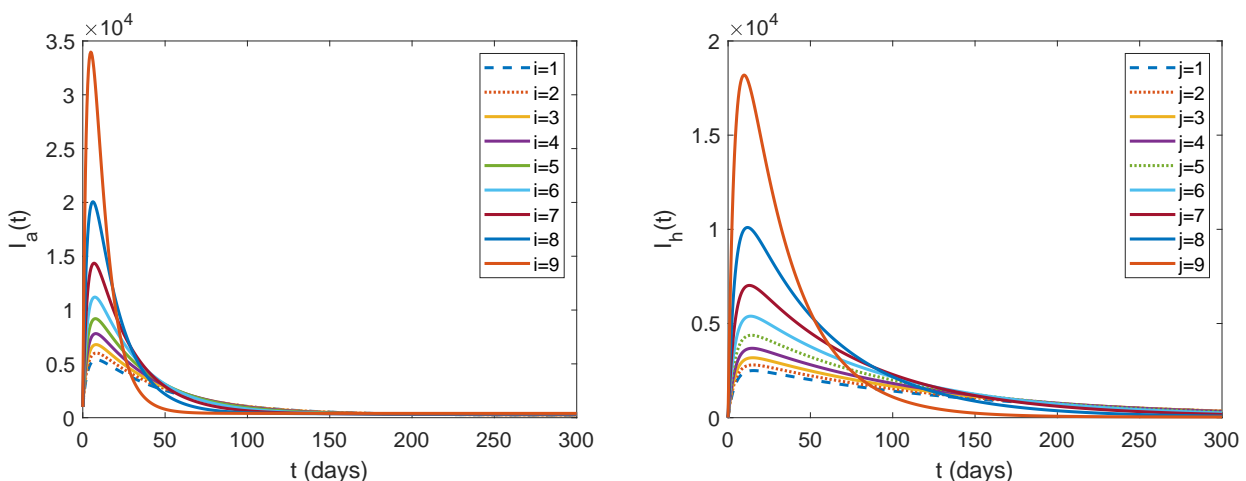
**Table 2.** The parameters of the coupling network are described in model (2.1).

Parameter	Value	Data Source
$\Lambda_a(\Lambda_h)$	1000/245(2000/36500) per day	[35, 36]
$\lambda_a(\lambda_h)$	$5.1 \times 10^{-4}(2 \times 10^{-6})$ per day	[35]
$\mu_a(\mu_h)$	1/245( $5.48 \times 10^{-5}$ ) per day	[35, 36]
$\delta_a(\delta_h)$	1/400(0.001) per day	[35, 37, 38]
$\gamma_h$	0.1 per day	[37, 38]
$c$	0.5	Assumed
$\alpha_1$	0.01	Assumed
$\alpha_2$	0.03	Assumed

**Example 6.1.** For model (2.3) all parameters are positive constants, we choose degree  $k$  as  $k_1 = 1, k_2 = 2, k_3 = 3, k_4 = 4, k_5 = 5, k_6 = 6, k_7 = 7, k_8 = 8, k_9 = 9$ . We get the average degree of complex network structure  $\langle k \rangle_a (\langle k^2 \rangle_a) = 3.27(9.04)$  through simple calculation, when we choose  $\lambda_a = 7 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_0 = 1.5246 > 1$ ; when we choose  $\lambda_a = 3 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_0 = 0.3689 < 1$ .



**Figure 1.** The density of susceptible and infected human nodes with different degree  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9$  when  $\mathcal{R}_0 > 1$ .



**Figure 2.** The density of susceptible and infected poultry nodes with different degree  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9$  when  $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$ .

Figure 1 shows the unique endemic equilibrium point is globally asymptotically stable, and the virus will persist. Figure 2 shows the unique disease-free equilibrium point  $E^0$  is globally asymptotically stable, and the virus will die out in the long run. Furthermore, we can obtain that the density of infected nodes increase with the degree  $k$  increase in Example 6.1. In other words, the larger the degree  $k$  is, the higher the density of infected nodes is, which indicates that the nodes having lots of relative neighbors are more likely to be infected by contacting frequently.

**Example 6.2.** We analyzed the effects of slaughter rate and curative ratio on avian influenza control. Let's take a one-dimensional spatial variable,  $\Omega = [0, L]$ . The control  $u_i^a(t, x)$ ,  $u_j^h(t, x)$  are measurable and for any  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times [0, L]$ ,  $0 \leq u_i^a(t, x)$ ,  $u_j^h(t, x) \leq 1$ . Without the loss of generality, for any fixed time  $T$ , we give step size  $\Delta t \in (0, 1)$  and for any fixed space  $L$ , we give step size  $\Delta x \in (0, 1)$ , we denote  $t_m = m\Delta t$ ,  $x_n = n\Delta x$ ,  $m = 0, 1, \dots, [\frac{T}{\Delta t}]$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots, [\frac{L}{\Delta x}]$ . For the numerical simulations of

model (5.1) and adjoint Eq (5.3), we use the Milstein's method [33]. Thus, model (5.1) and (5.3) can be rewritten as the following discrete equations:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} S_{i,j}^a(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) + \left( D_{i1}(t_m, x_n) \frac{S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) + S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \Lambda_a - \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) \frac{\Theta_a(t_m, x_n)}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t_m, x_n)} - \mu_a S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) - u_i^a(t_m, x_n) S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) \right) \Delta t, \\ I_{i,j}^a(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= I_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) + \left( D_{i1}(t_m, x_n) \frac{I_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2I_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) + I_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \lambda_a(i) S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) \frac{\Theta_a(t_m, x_n)}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t_m, x_n)} - \delta_a I_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) - \mu_a I_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) - u_i^a(t_m, x_n) I_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) \right) \Delta t, \\ S_{i,j}^h(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) + \left( G_{1j}(t_m, x_n) \frac{S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) + S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \Lambda_h - \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) \Theta_{ah}(t_m, x_n) - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) \right) \Delta t, \\ I_{i,j}^h(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= I_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) + \left( G_{1j}(t_m, x_n) \frac{I_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2I_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) + I_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) \Theta_{ah}(t_m, x_n) - \gamma_h I_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) - \delta_h S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) - \mu_h S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{cu_j^h(t_m, x_n) S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n)}{1 + \alpha_2 S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n)} \right) \Delta t, \end{aligned} \right. \quad (6.1)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} p_{1i}(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= p_{1i}(t_m, x_n) + \left( D_{i1}(t_m, x_n) \frac{p_{1i}(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2p_{1i}(t_m, x_n) + p_{1i}(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} + \mu_a p_{1i}(t_m, x_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + u_i^a(t_m, x_n) p_{1i}(t_m, x_n) + \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a(t_m, x_n)}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t_m, x_n)} - \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a(t_m, x_n)}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t_m, x_n)} p_{2i}(t_m, x_n) - A_{2i} u_i^a(t_m, x_n) \right) \Delta t, \\ p_{2i}(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= p_{2i}(t_m, x_n) + \left( D_{i1}(t_m, x_n) \frac{p_{2i}(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2p_{2i}(t_m, x_n) + p_{2i}(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} - A_{2i} u_i^a(t_m, x_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n)}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t_m, x_n))^2} p_{1i}(t_m, x_n) + \delta_a p_{2i}(t_m, x_n) + \mu_a p_{2i}(t_m, x_n) + u_i^a(t_m, x_n) p_{2i}(t_m, x_n) - A_{1i} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a(t_m, x_n) p_{2i}(t_m, x_n)}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a(t_m, x_n))^2} + \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) p_{3j}(t_m, x_n) - \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n) p_{4j}(t_m, x_n) \right) \Delta t, \\ p_{3j}(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= p_{3j}(t_m, x_n) + \left( D_{3j}(t_m, x_n) \frac{p_{3j}(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2p_{3j}(t_m, x_n) + p_{3j}(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} + \mu_h p_{3j}(t_m, x_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \lambda_{ah}(j) \Theta_{ah}(t_m, x_n) p_{3j}(t_m, x_n) - \lambda_{ah}(j) \Theta_{ah}(t_m, x_n) p_{4j}(t_m, x_n) \right) \Delta t, \\ p_{4j}(t_{m+1}, x_n) &= p_{4j}(t_m, x_n) + \left( D_{4j}(t_m, x_n) \frac{p_{4j}(t_m, x_{n+1}) - 2p_{4j}(t_m, x_n) + p_{4j}(t_m, x_{n-1}))}{(\Delta x)^2} + \gamma_h p_{4j}(t_m, x_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \delta_h p_{4j}(t_m, x_n) + \mu_h p_{4j}(t_m, x_n) + \frac{cu_j^h(t_m, x_n) p_{4j}(t_m, x_n)}{(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h(t_m, x_n))^2} - A_{3j} - A_{4j} u_j^h(t_m, x_n) \right) \Delta t, \end{aligned} \right. \quad (6.2)$$

in order to find the optimal control of  $u_i^a$ ,  $u_j^h$ , we give the nonlinear conjugate gradient algorithm [40] as follows:

**Step 1:** Choose an initial  $u_{i0}^a$ ,  $u_{j0}^h$ , an initial step size  $s_0$  and stopping tolerances  $Tol_1$  and  $Tol_2$ ,

initial states  $(S_{i,j}^a(0), I_{i,j}^a(0), S_{i,j}^h(0), I_{i,j}^h(0))$  by solving Eq (6.1), initial adjoints  $p_0 = (p_{1i}(0), p_{2i}(0), p_{3j}(0), p_{4j}(0))$  by solving Eq (6.2), gradient of  $J$ , i.e.,  $g_{i,0} = \varsigma_i u_{i0}^a + (p_{1i}(0) - A_{2i})S_{i,j}^{a*}(0) + p_{2i}(0)I_{i,j}^{a*}(0)$ ,  $h_{j,0} = (1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h*}(0))u_{j0}^h + c p_{4j}(0)I_{i,j}^{h*}(0) - A_{4j}I_{i,j}^{h*}(0)(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^{h*}(0))$ , anti-gradient of  $J$ , i.e.,  $d_0^* = -g_{i,0}$ ,  $d_0 = -h_{j,0}$ .

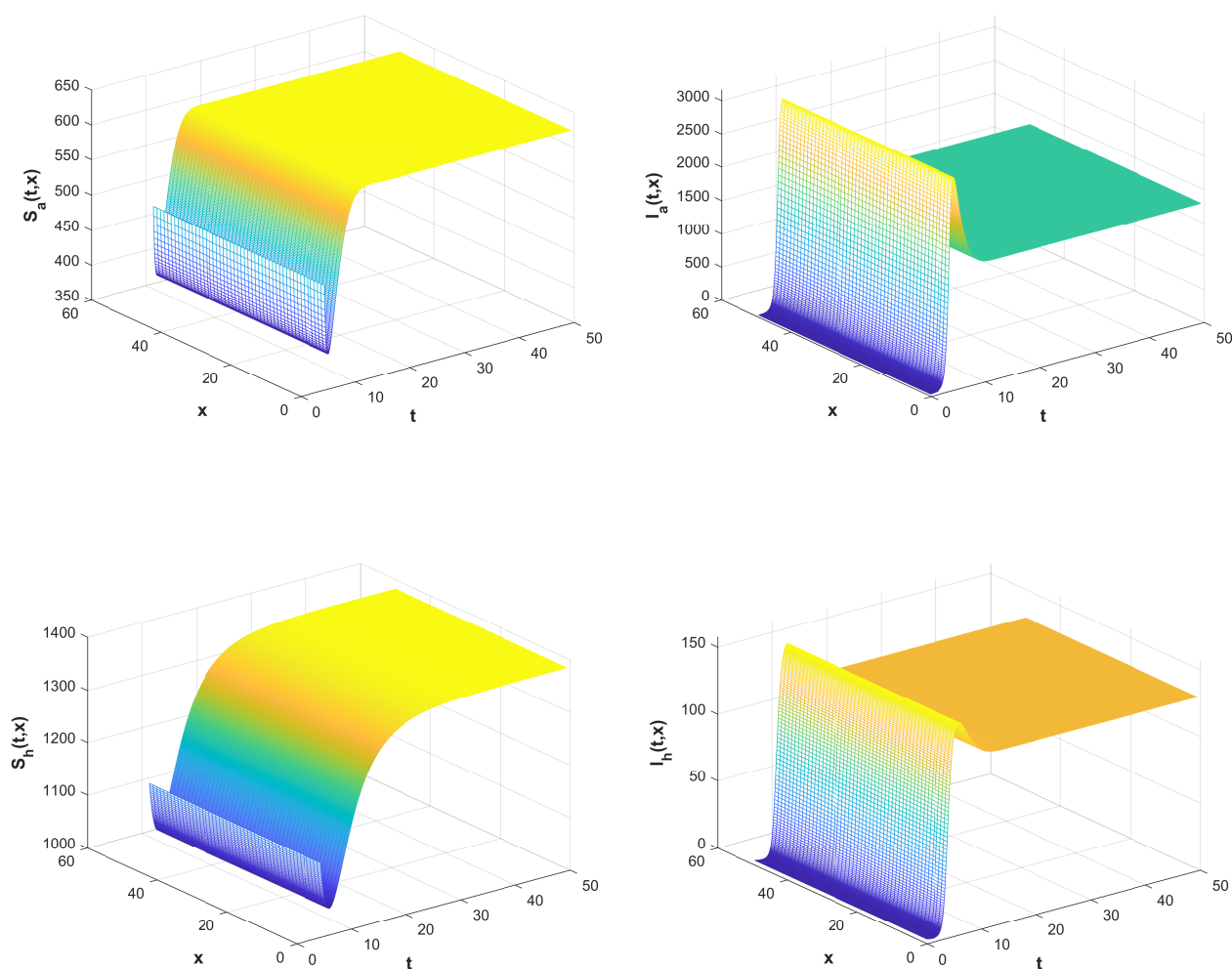
**Step 2:** control, i.e.,  $u_{k+1} = u_k + s_k d_k$ , states  $(S_{i,j,k+1}^a, I_{i,j,k+1}^a, S_{i,j,k+1}^h, I_{i,j,k+1}^h) = (S_{i,j,u_{k+1}}^a, I_{i,j,u_{k+1}}^a, S_{i,j,u_{k+1}}^h, I_{i,j,u_{k+1}}^h)$  by solving Eq (6.1)  $(p_{1i,k+1}, p_{2i,k+1}, p_{3j,k+1}, p_{4j,k+1}) = (p_{1i,S_{i,j,k+1}^a}, p_{2i,I_{i,j,k+1}^a}, p_{3j,S_{i,j,k+1}^h}, p_{4j,I_{i,j,k+1}^h})$  by solving Eq (6.2), gradient of  $J$ , i.e.,  $g_{i,k+1} = \varsigma_i u_{i,k+1}^a + (p_{1i,k+1} - A_{2i})S_{i,j,k+1}^{a*} + p_{2i,k+1}I_{i,j,k+1}^{a*}$ ,  $h_{j,k+1} = (1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j,k+1}^{h*})u_{j,k+1}^h + c p_{4j,k+1}I_{i,j,k+1}^{h*} - A_{4j}I_{i,j,k+1}^{h*}(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j,k+1}^{h*})$ .

**Step 3:** Stop if  $\|g_{i,k+1}\| < Tol_1$ ,  $\|h_{j,k+1}\| < Tol_1$  or  $\|J_{k+1} - J_k\| \leq Tol_2$ .

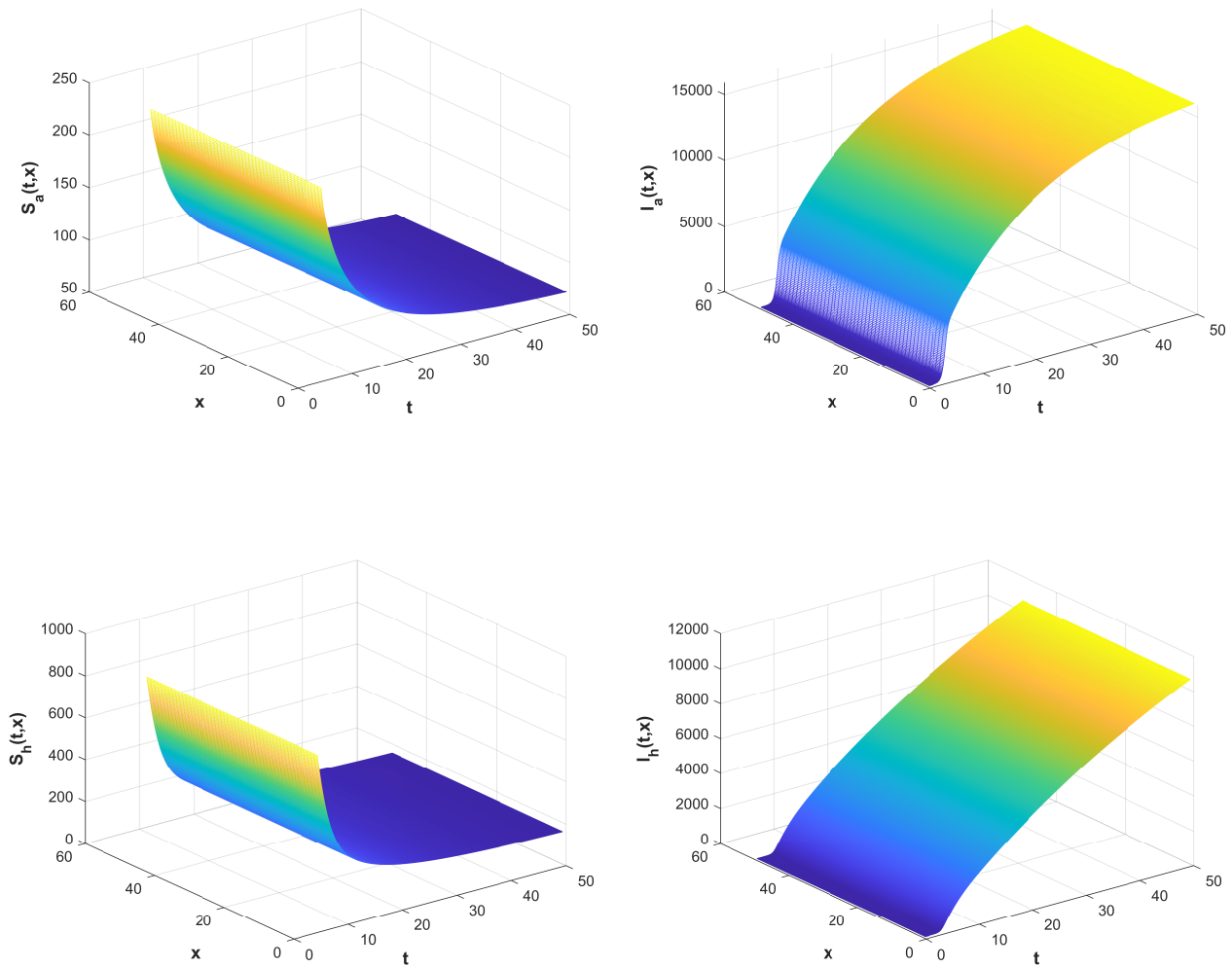
Compute the conjugate direction  $\varpi_{k+1}$  according to one of the updated formulas [41].

$d_{k+1} = -g_{i,k+1} + \varpi_{k+1}d_k$ . aselect step size  $s_{k+1}$  in terms of some standard options.

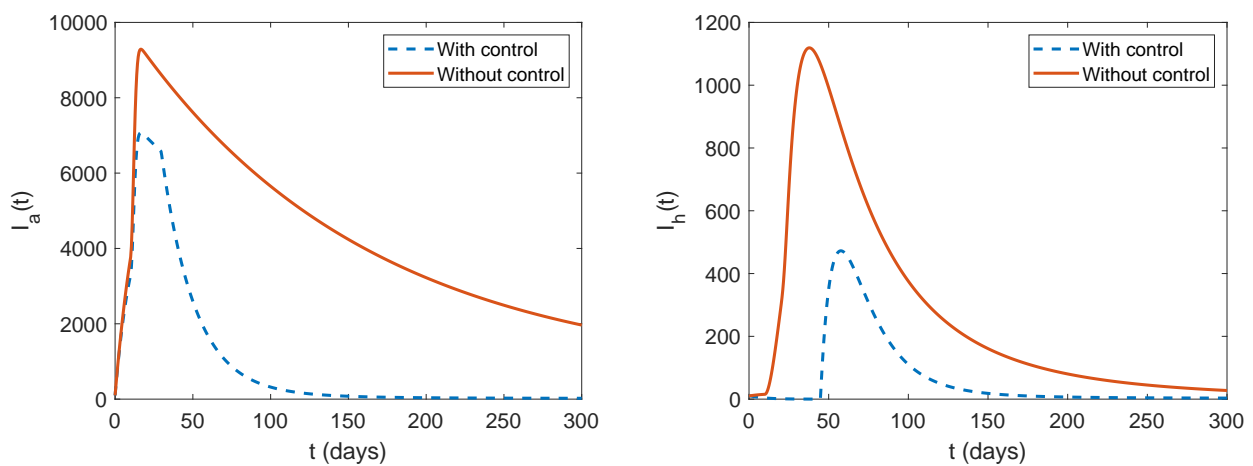
Set  $k := k + 1$  and go to Step 1.



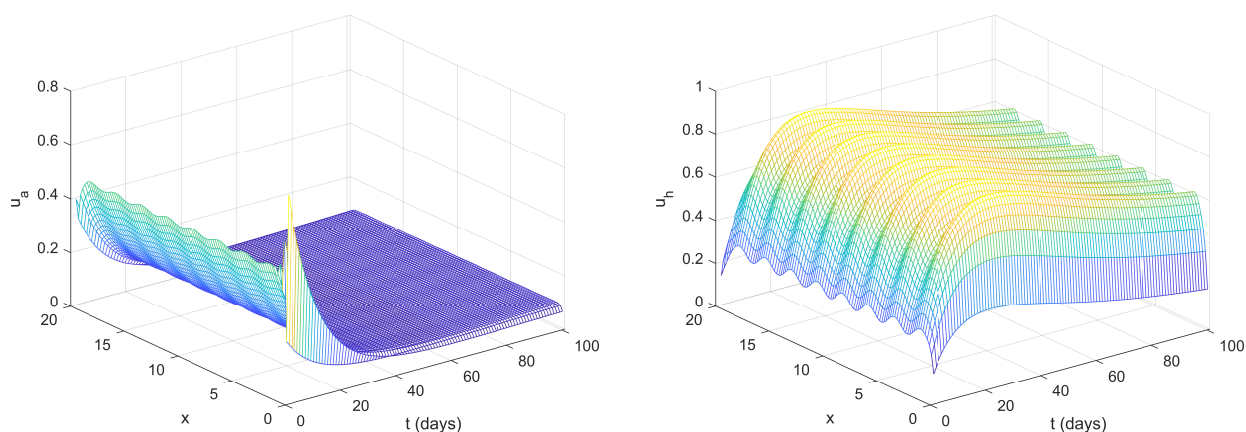
**Figure 3.** The density of susceptible and infected nodes.



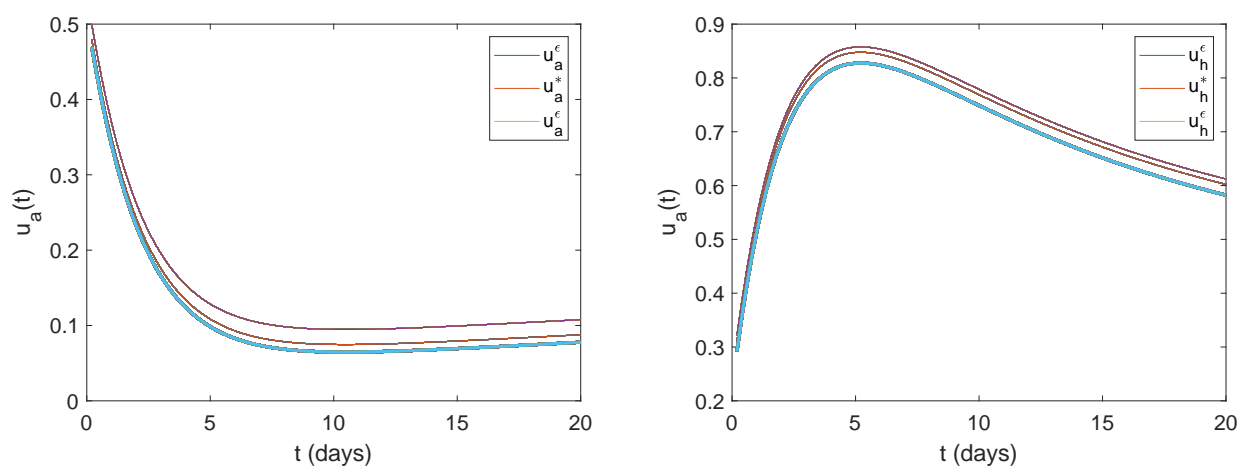
**Figure 4.** The density of susceptible and infected nodes without control.



**Figure 5.** The path of  $I_{i,j}^a$  and  $I_{i,j}^h$  of with and without control.



**Figure 6.** The optimal control of slaughtering  $u_i^a$  and treatment  $u_j^h$  with time-space.



**Figure 7.** Taking  $\varepsilon = 0.2$  and  $0.5$ , we obtained optimal control  $u_i^{a*}, u_j^{h*}$  and near-optimal control  $u_i^{a\epsilon}, u_j^{h\epsilon}$ .

Figure 3 shows the solution of model (2.3) curves representing the variation of populations for susceptible poultry, infected poultry, susceptible human, infected human. Figure 4 shows the solution of model (5.1) curves representing the variation of populations for susceptible poultry, infected poultry, susceptible human, infected human. The comparison between Figure 4 and Figure 3 shows that the proportion of slaughtered susceptible poultry and infected poultry can effectively prevent the outbreak of avian influenza; With limited medical resources, treatment of infected humans can reduce the spread of avian influenza among humans. Figure 6, we can see that in order to prevent the spread of avian influenza and reduce the economic loss it brings, the slaughter rate of poultry should be gradually reduced over time. In order to reduce the risk of the spread of avian influenza, the proportion of treatment for infected humans should be gradually increased over time. However, because of limited medical resources, after the treatment rate reaches a peak for infected humans, it will gradually decrease. Figure 7 shows the optimal control  $u_i^{a*}, u_j^{h*}$  and the near-optimal control  $u_i^{a\epsilon}, u_j^{h\epsilon}$ , respectively. The optimal control  $u_i^{a*}$  indicates that the optimal slaughter rate for the poultry



gradually decreases; the optimal control  $u_j^{h*}$  denotes that the optimal treatment rate of the human is different in different times. The results show that the error of numerical simulation results of optimal control and near-optimal control is less than 0.2.

## 7. Conclusions

The optimal control problem is usually composed of a group of state equations and adjoint equations, but these equations have difficulties obtaining an exact solution. Therefore, we concerned the near-optimal control and threshold behavior of an avian influenza model with saturation on heterogeneous complex networks in this paper. We first give the basic reproduction number  $\mathcal{R}_0$ , which can be used to govern the threshold dynamics of influenza disease. In addition, we obtained the sufficient and necessary conditions for the near-optimality. Lastly, numerical simulations were performed to illustrate the results and confirm that the treatment control resulted in a substantial reduction in the level of infected population while the treatment cost was minimized. In this paper, we assumed that the parameters are all precisely known, however, they may not be true due to the unavoidable errors and the lack of sufficient information in the measurement process and so on. How uncertain parameter values and Lévy noise affect the near-optimality of this epidemic model remains unclear and deserves further investigation. We will study the near optimal control of the avian influenza model on complex network with Lévy noise and imprecise parameters in the future work. Firstly, we give the method of parameter estimates of the avian influenza model. According to the Lévy-Itô's decomposition theorem, we have  $\tilde{L}(t) = \sigma B(t) + \int_Y \nu \tilde{N}(t, d\nu)$ . Then, by using Ekeland's principle and Hamiltonian function, we obtain the sufficient and necessary conditions of near optimal of the avian influenza model with Lévy noise and imprecise parameters.

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## Conflict of interest

This work does not have any conflict of interest.

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## Appendix

### Appendix A: The proof of lemma 5.4

*Proof.* Integrating both sides of the first equation of (5.3) from  $t$  to  $T$ , we get

$$p_{1i}(t) = p_{1i}(T) - \int_t^T \left( [\mu_a + u_i^a + \frac{\lambda_a(i)\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}] p_{1i} - \frac{\lambda_a(i)\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a} p_{2i} - A_{2i} u_i^a \right) ds.$$

By squaring the sides of the above equation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |p_{1i}(t)|^2 \\ & \leq C|p_{1i}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T \left| \left( [\mu_a + u_i^a + \frac{\lambda_a(i)\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}] p_{1i} - \frac{\lambda_a(i)\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a} p_{2i} - A_{2i} u_i^a \right) \right|^2 ds \\ & \leq C|p_{1i}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T |p_{1i}(s)|^2 + |p_{2i}(s)|^2 ds, \end{aligned} \quad (A1)$$

similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |p_{2i}(t)|^2 \\ & \leq C|p_{2i}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T \left| \left( \frac{\lambda_a(i)f(i)S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a)^2} p_{1i} + [\delta_a + \mu_a + u_i^a - \frac{\lambda_a(i)f(i)S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1\Theta_a)^2} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}] p_{2i} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \lambda_{ah}(j)g(j)S_{i,j}^h p_{3j} - \lambda_{ah}(j)g(j)S_{i,j}^h p_{4j} - A_{1i} - A_{2i} u_i^a \right) \right|^2 ds \\ & \leq C|p_{2i}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T \left( |p_{1i}(s)|^2 + |p_{2i}(s)|^2 + |p_{3j}(s)|^2 + |p_{4j}(s)|^2 \right) ds, \end{aligned} \quad (A2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |p_{3j}(t)|^2 \\ & \leq C|p_{3j}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T \left| \left( [\mu_h + \lambda_{ah}(j)\Theta_{ah} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}] p_{3j} - \lambda_{ah}(j)\Theta_{ah} p_{4j} \right) \right|^2 ds \\ & \leq C|p_{3j}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T |p_{3j}(s)|^2 + |p_{4j}(s)|^2 ds, \end{aligned} \quad (A3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |p_{4j}(t)|^2 \\ & \leq C|p_{4j}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T \left| \left( [\gamma_h + \delta_h + \mu_h + \frac{cu_j^h}{(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h)^2} - \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}] p_{4j} - A_{3j} - A_{4j} u_j^h \right) \right|^2 ds \\ & \leq C|p_{4j}(T)|^2 + C(T-t) \int_t^T |p_{4j}(s)|^2 ds. \end{aligned} \quad (A4)$$

It follows from (A1)–(A4) that

$$\begin{aligned} & |p_{1i}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{2i}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{3j}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{4j}(t, x)|^2 \\ & \leq C \left( |p_{1i}(T, x)|^2 + |p_{2i}(T, x)|^2 + |p_{3j}(T, x)|^2 + |p_{4j}(T, x)|^2 \right) \\ & \quad + C(T - t) \int_t^T \left( |p_{1i}(s, x)|^2 + |p_{2i}(s, x)|^2 + |p_{3j}(s, x)|^2 + |p_{4j}(s, x)|^2 \right) ds, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A5})$$

where  $t \in [T - \epsilon, T]$  with  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{C}$ . Using Gronwall's inequality [31], we derive from (A5) that

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |p_{1i}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{2i}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{3j}(t, x)|^2 + |p_{4j}(t, x)|^2 \leq C, \quad \text{for } t \in [T - \epsilon, T]. \quad (\text{A6})$$

We apply the same method to (A1)–(A2) in  $[T - \epsilon, T]$ , and we can see that for any  $t \in [T - 2\epsilon, T]$ , (A6) holds. Repeating a finite number of steps, we know that for any  $t \in [0, T]$ , the estimate (A6) holds.  $\square$

## Appendix B: The proof of lemma 5.5

*Proof.* If  $\eta \geq 1$ . For any  $r > 0$ , an estimate of  $|S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta}$  can be obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq r} |S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} & \leq C \int_0^r \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial(S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a)}{\partial x_k}) \right|^{2\eta} + \lambda_a^{2\eta}(i) \left| \frac{\tilde{S}_{i,j}^a \tilde{\Theta}_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \tilde{\Theta}_a} - \frac{S_{i,j}^a \Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} \right|^{2\eta} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \mu_a^{2\eta} |(\tilde{S}_{i,j}^a - S_{i,j}^a)|^{2\eta} + |\tilde{u}_i^a \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a - u_i^a S_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} \right) dt \\ & \leq C \int_0^r \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial(S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a)}{\partial x_k}) \right|^{2\eta} + \lambda_a^{2\eta}(i) |\tilde{\Theta}_a|^{2\eta} |S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + |\tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} |\Theta_a - \tilde{\Theta}_a|^{2\eta} + \mu_a^{2\eta} |(\tilde{S}_{i,j}^a - S_{i,j}^a)|^{2\eta} + |u_i^a|^{2\eta} |S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |u_i^a - \tilde{u}_i^a|^{2\eta} \right) dt \\ & \leq C \int_0^r (|S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta}) dt + C \left( \int_0^r \chi_{u_i^a \neq \tilde{u}_i^a} dt \right)^{\kappa\eta} \\ & \leq C \left( \int_0^r (|S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta}) dt + d(u_i^a, \tilde{u}_i^a)^{\kappa\eta} \right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq r} |I_{i,j}^a - \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} & \leq C \int_0^r \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (D_{ik} \frac{\partial(I_{i,j}^a - \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a)}{\partial x_k}) \right|^{2\eta} + \lambda_a^{2\eta}(i) \left| \frac{S_{i,j}^a \Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \frac{\tilde{S}_{i,j}^a \tilde{\Theta}_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \tilde{\Theta}_a} \right|^{2\eta} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (\delta_a + \mu_a)^{2\eta} |(\tilde{I}_{i,j}^a - I_{i,j}^a)|^{2\eta} + |\tilde{u}_i^a \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a - u_i^a I_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} \right) dt \\ & \leq C \left( \int_0^r (|S_{i,j}^a - \tilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \tilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta}) dt + d(u_i^a, \tilde{u}_i^a)^{\kappa\eta} \right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sup_{0 \leq t \leq r} |S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} &\leq C \int_0^r \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial (S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h)}{\partial x_k}) \right|^{2\eta} + \lambda_{ah}^{2\eta}(j) |\widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h \widetilde{\Theta}_{ah} - S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah}|^{2\eta} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \mu_h^{2\eta} |\widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h - S_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} \right) dt \leq C \left( \int_0^r (|S_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta}) dt \right), \\
\sup_{0 \leq t \leq r} |I_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} &\leq C \int_0^r \left( \sum_{k=1}^l \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (G_{kj} \frac{\partial (I_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^h)}{\partial x_k}) \right|^{2\eta} + \lambda_{ah}^{2\eta}(j) |\lambda_{ah}(j) S_{i,j}^h \Theta_{ah} - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h \widetilde{\Theta}_{ah}|^{2\eta} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (\mu_h + \delta_h + \gamma_h)^{2\eta} |\widetilde{I}_{i,j}^h - I_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} + \frac{c \widetilde{u}_j^h \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^h}{1 + \alpha_2 \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^h} - \frac{c u_j^h I_{i,j}^h}{1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h} \right) dt \\
&\leq C \left( \int_0^r (|S_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta}) dt + d(u_j^h, \widetilde{u}_j^h)^{\kappa\eta} \right),
\end{aligned}$$

so, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sup_{0 \leq t \leq r} |S_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} + |S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} \\
&\leq C \left( \int_0^r \sup_{0 \leq t \leq s} (|S_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta}) ds + d(u_i^a, \widetilde{u}_i^a)^{\kappa\eta} + d(u_j^h, \widetilde{u}_j^h)^{\kappa\eta} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

We have the result using Gronwall's inequality. Next considering  $0 \leq \eta < 1$ , by using Cauchy-Schwartz's inequality, we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |S_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |I_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{2\eta} + |S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} + |S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h|^{2\eta} \leq C [d(u_i^a, \widetilde{u}_i^a)^{\kappa\eta} + d(u_j^h, \widetilde{u}_j^h)^{\kappa\eta}].$$

This proof is complete.  $\square$

### Appendix C: The proof of lemma 5.6

*Proof.* We let  $\widehat{p}_{1i} = p_{1i} - \widetilde{p}_{1i}$ ,  $\widehat{p}_{2i} = p_{2i} - \widetilde{p}_{2i}$ ,  $\widehat{p}_{3j} = p_{3j} - \widetilde{p}_{3j}$ ,  $\widehat{p}_{4j} = p_{4j} - \widetilde{p}_{4j}$ . Then according to adjoint Eq (5.3), we can see

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} d\widehat{p}_{1i} &= - \left( (-\mu_a - \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \widehat{p}_{1i} + \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} \widehat{p}_{2i} + \widehat{f}_{1i} \right) dt, \\ d\widehat{p}_{2i} &= - \left( - \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a)^2} \widehat{p}_{1i} + (-\delta_a - \mu_a + \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a)^2} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \widehat{p}_{2i} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h \widehat{p}_{3j} + \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h \widehat{p}_{4j} + \widehat{f}_{2i} \right) dt, \\ d\widehat{p}_{3j} &= - \left( (-\mu_h - \lambda_{ah}(j) \Theta_{ah} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \widehat{p}_{3j} + \widehat{f}_{3j} \right) dt, \\ d\widehat{p}_{4j} &= - \left( (-\gamma_h - \delta_h - \mu_h - \frac{c u_j^h}{(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h)^2} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \widehat{p}_{4j} + \widehat{f}_{4j} \right) dt, \end{aligned} \right. \quad (C1)$$

where

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \widehat{f}_{1i} &= \lambda_a(i) \left( \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} - \frac{\widetilde{\Theta}_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \widetilde{\Theta}_a} \right) (\widetilde{p}_{2i} - \widetilde{p}_{1i}) + A_{2i}(u_i^a - \widetilde{u}_i^a) + \widetilde{u}_i^a \widetilde{p}_{1i} - u_i^a p_{1i}, \\ \widehat{f}_{2i} &= \lambda_a(i) f(i) \left( \frac{S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a)^2} - \frac{\widetilde{S}_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \widetilde{\Theta}_a)^2} \right) (\widetilde{p}_{2i} - \widetilde{p}_{1i}) + \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) (S_{i,j}^h - \widetilde{S}_{i,j}^h) (\widetilde{p}_{4j} - \widetilde{p}_{3j}) \\ &\quad + A_{2i}(u_i^a - \widetilde{u}_i^a) + \widetilde{u}_i^a \widetilde{p}_{2i} - u_i^a p_{2i}, \\ \widehat{f}_{3j} &= \lambda_{ah}(j) (\Theta_{ah} - \widetilde{\Theta}_{ah}) (\widetilde{p}_{4j} - \widetilde{p}_{3j}), \\ \widehat{f}_{4j} &= \left( \frac{c \widetilde{u}_j^h}{(1 + \alpha_2 \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^h)^2} - \frac{cu_j^h}{(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h)^2} \right) \widetilde{p}_{4j} + A_{4j}(u_j^h - \widetilde{u}_j^h). \end{aligned} \right. \quad (C2)$$

We assume that  $\varphi = (\varphi_{1i}, \varphi_{2i}, \varphi_{3j}, \varphi_{4j})^T$  is the following linear differential equation:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} d\varphi_{1i} &= \left( (-\mu_a - \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \varphi_{1i} - \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a)^2} \varphi_{2i} + |\widehat{p}_{1i}|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{1i}) \right) dt, \\ d\varphi_{2i} &= \left( \lambda_a(i) \frac{\Theta_a}{1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a} \varphi_{1i} + (-\delta_a - \mu_a + \frac{\lambda_a(i) f(i) S_{i,j}^a}{(1 + \alpha_1 \Theta_a)^2} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \varphi_{2i} + |\widehat{p}_{2i}|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{2i}) \right) dt, \\ d\varphi_{3j} &= \left( -\lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h \varphi_{2i} + (-\mu_h - \lambda_{ah}(j) \Theta_{ah} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \varphi_{3j} + |\widehat{p}_{3j}|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{3j}) \right) dt, \\ d\varphi_{4j} &= \left( \lambda_{ah}(j) g(j) S_{i,j}^h \varphi_{2i} + (-\gamma_h - \delta_h - \mu_h - \frac{cu_j^h}{(1 + \alpha_2 I_{i,j}^h)^2} + \sum_{k=1}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} D_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}) \varphi_{4j} + |\widehat{p}_{4j}|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{4j}) \right) dt, \end{aligned} \right. \quad (C3)$$

where  $\operatorname{sgn}(\cdot)$  is a symbolic function. According to assumption and Lemma 5.5, the existence and uniqueness of solution of (C3) can be verified, and we have

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \left( \|\widehat{p}_{1i}\|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{1i})\|^2 + \|\widehat{p}_{2i}\|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{2i})\|^2 + \|\widehat{p}_{3j}\|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{3j})\|^2 + \|\widehat{p}_{4j}\|^{\eta-1} \operatorname{sgn}(\widehat{p}_{4j})\|^2 \right) dx dt < +\infty.$$

Because  $1 < \eta < 2$ , thus there exist  $\eta_1 > 2$  such that  $\frac{1}{\eta_1} + \frac{1}{\eta} = 1$ . So, using Cauchy-Schwartz's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \left( |\varphi_{1i}|^{\eta_1} + |\varphi_{2i}|^{\eta_1} + |\varphi_{3j}|^{\eta_1} + |\varphi_{4j}|^{\eta_1} \right) &\leq \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \left( |\widehat{p}_{1i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{p}_{2i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{p}_{3j}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{p}_{4j}|^{\eta} \right) dx dt \\ &\leq C \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (|\widehat{f}_{1i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{f}_{2i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{f}_{3j}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{f}_{4j}|^{\eta}) dx dt \right). \end{aligned}$$

Using Cauchy-Schwartz's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{f}_{1i}|^{\eta} dx dt &\leq C \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |I_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{\eta} (|\widetilde{p}_{1i}|^{\eta} + |\widetilde{p}_{2i}|^{\eta}) dx dt + Cd(u_i^a, \widetilde{u}_i^a)^{\frac{\eta\eta}{2}} \right) \\ &\leq C \left( \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |I_{i,j}^a - \widetilde{I}_{i,j}^a|^{\frac{2\eta}{2-\eta}} dx dt \right)^{1-\frac{\eta}{2}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (|\widetilde{p}_{1i}|^2 + |\widetilde{p}_{2i}|^2) dx dt \right)^{\frac{\eta}{2}} + Cd(u_i^a, \widetilde{u}_i^a)^{\frac{\eta\eta}{2}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\frac{2\eta}{1-\eta} < 1$ ,  $1 - \frac{\eta}{2} > \frac{\kappa\eta}{2}$  and  $d(u, \tilde{u}) < 1$ . It follows from  $\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{f}_{1i}|^{\eta} dxdt \leq Cd(u_i^a, \tilde{u}_i^a)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}}$ . In the same way, we get  $\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{f}_{2i}|^{\eta} dxdt \leq Cd(u_i^a, \tilde{u}_i^a)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}}$ ,  $\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{f}_{3j}|^{\eta} dxdt \leq Cd(u_j^h, \tilde{u}_j^h)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}}$ ,  $\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{f}_{4j}|^{\eta} dxdt \leq Cd(u_j^h, \tilde{u}_j^h)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}}$ . So, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (|\widehat{p}_{1i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{p}_{2i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{p}_{3j}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{p}_{4j}|^{\eta}) dxdt &\leq C \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (|\widehat{f}_{1i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{f}_{2i}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{f}_{3j}|^{\eta} + |\widehat{f}_{4j}|^{\eta}) dxdt \right) \\ &\leq C(d(u_i^a, \tilde{u}_i^a)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}} + d(u_j^h, \tilde{u}_j^h)^{\frac{\kappa\eta}{2}}). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. □



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