



Research article

Survival analysis and probability density function of switching heroin model

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Abstract: We study a switching heroin epidemic model in this paper, in which the switching of supply of heroin occurs due to the flowering period and fruiting period of opium poppy plants. Precisely, we give three equations to represent the dynamics of the susceptible, the dynamics of the untreated drug addicts and the dynamics of the drug addicts under treatment, respectively, within a local population, and the coefficients of each equation are functions of Markov chains taking values in a finite state space. The first concern is to prove the existence and uniqueness of a global positive solution to the switching model. Then, the survival dynamics including the extinction and persistence of the untreated drug addicts under some moderate conditions are derived. The corresponding numerical simulations reveal that the densities of sample paths depend on regime switching, and larger intensities of the white noises yield earlier times for extinction of the untreated drug addicts. Especially, when the switching model degenerates to the constant model, we show the existence of the positive equilibrium point under moderate conditions, and we give the expression of the probability density function around the positive equilibrium point.

Keywords: heroin model; stationary distribution; extinction; regime switching; Fokker-Planck equation; probability density function

1. Model establishment

Heroin is a semi-synthetic opioid drug, which is mainly extracted from opium poppy. Heroin was originally developed as a drug to cure morphine addiction, but later it was found to be highly addictive, dependence causing and toxic [1]. Heroin became one of the most popular drugs in the world [2]. White and Comiskey [3] were the first to study the spreading of heroin by using an ordinary differential equation (ODE) compartmental model, and they separated the local population into three compartments

based on the states of drug addicts: the susceptible individuals, the untreated drug addicts and drug addicts under treatment. Based on White's model, many scholars developed different mathematical models to discuss the transmission mechanisms of heroin, such as age structure models [4–6], distributed delay models [7–9] and nonlinear incidence models [10–13] as well. Within the above-mentioned works, the authors found that the consumption of heroin was transmitted from a drug addict to a non-drug addict, which was similar to the mechanism of the spreading of infectious diseases. They further discussed the basic reproduction number R_0 as the threshold, and they determined the stability of the drug-free equilibrium and the endemic equilibrium.

Meanwhile, environmental noises usually affected the dynamics of heroin models in [14–19]. More precisely, Liu et al. [14] proposed a stochastic heroin epidemic model, in which they obtained a threshold for the extinction of the drug addicts. Further, [15] studied a stochastic heroin epidemic model with the bilinear incidence within a varying population. Then, Wei et al. [16] analyzed the long-term dynamics of a perturbed heroin epidemic model under non-degenerate noise. Later, Wei et al. [17] established a heroin population model with the standard incidence rates between distinct patches, and by constructing suitable Lyapunov functions, they established the sufficient criteria for the existence of the addict elimination and the existence of an ergodic stationary distribution. The recent contributions in [20–33] governed the continuous-time Markov chains taking values in a finite-state space to describe the regime switchings, in which Markov-chains were memoryless, and the waiting time from one state to another state usually obeyed the exponential distribution. Therefore, in this paper, we consider the following stochastic heroin model with the bilinear incidence rate under regime switching:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} dS(t) = \left[\Lambda(m(t)) - \beta_1(m(t))S(t)U(t) - \mu(m(t))S(t) \right] dt \\ \quad + \sigma_1(m(t))S(t)dB_1(t), \\ dU(t) = \left[\beta_1(m(t))S(t)U(t) - p(m(t))U(t) + \beta_2(m(t))U(t)T(t) \right. \\ \quad \left. - (\mu(m(t)) + \delta_1(m(t)))U(t) \right] dt + \sigma_2(m(t))U(t)dB_2(t), \\ dT(t) = \left[p(m(t))U(t) - \beta_2(m(t))U(t)T(t) - (\mu(m(t)) + \delta_2(m(t)))T(t) \right] dt \\ \quad + \sigma_3(m(t))T(t)dB_3(t), \end{array} \right. \quad (1.1)$$

where $S(t)$ is the number of the susceptible individuals; $U(t)$ is the number of the untreated drug addicts; and $T(t)$ is the number of the drug addicts under treatment at time t respectively. Moreover, $N(t) = S(t) + U(t) + T(t)$ denotes the total population size at time t ; $B_i(t)$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) are mutually independent standard Brownian motions defined on a complete probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ with a filtration $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}$, which is increasing and right continuous while \mathcal{F}_0 contains all \mathbb{P} -null sets; and $\sigma_i^2 > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) denote the intensities of the white noises. Λ is the population density entering the susceptible per unit of time, μ is the natural death rate of the total population, p is the proportion of drug users who are under treatment, β_1 is the rate that an individual becomes a drug user, β_2 is the rate that drug users under treatment relapsed to the untreated, δ_1 is the drug-related death rate, δ_2 is the successful cure rate. We assume that all parameters of model (1.1) are non-negative.

Let $m(t)$ be a right-continuous Markov chain on the complete probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ taking values in a finite state space $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ for $t \geq 0$ and $\Delta t > 0$, which is generated by the

transition matrix $\Gamma = (p_{ij})_{N \times N}$, i.e., $\mathbb{P}\{m(t + \Delta t) = j | m(t) = i\} \leq p_{ij}\Delta t + o(\Delta t)$ if $i \neq j$; otherwise, $\mathbb{P}\{m(t + \Delta t) = j | m(t) = i\} \leq 1 + p_{ii}\Delta t + o(\Delta t)$ if $i = j$, where $p_{ij} \geq 0$ is the transition rate from state i to state j if $i \neq j$ while $\sum_{j=1}^N p_{ij} = 1$.

In this paper, we assume that $p_{ij} > 0$ for $i, j = 1, \dots, N$ with $i \neq j$. In model (1.1), the parameters $\Lambda, p, \mu, \beta_1, \beta_2, \delta_1, \delta_2, \sigma_i$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) are not constants; instead they are generated by a homogeneous continuous-time Markov chain $m(t)$ for $t \geq 0$. That is, for each fixed $k \in \mathbb{S}$, $\Lambda(k), p(k), \mu(k), \beta_1(k), \beta_2(k), \delta_1(k), \delta_2(k)$ and $\sigma_i(k)$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) are all positive constants. We assume that the Markov chain $m(t)$ is irreducible, which means that the system can switch from one regime to another regime. It implies that the Markov chain $m(t)$ has a unique stationary distribution $\pi = (\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_N)$ which can be determined by the equation $\pi\Gamma = 0$ subject to $\sum_{k=1}^N \pi_k = 1$ and $\pi_k > 0$ for any $k \in \mathbb{S}$. Define $\mathbb{R}_+^n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_i > 0, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. For any vector $g = (g(1), g(2), \dots, g(N))$, let $\hat{g} = \min_{k \in \mathbb{S}} \{g(k)\}$ and $\check{g} = \max_{k \in \mathbb{S}} \{g(k)\}$. Next, we will show the existence and uniqueness of a global positive solution. Then, we will discuss the survival dynamics including the extinction and persistence of the untreated drug addicts for the switching model (1.1). Further, we will investigate the probability density function of the degenerated model (2.20) under some sufficient conditions.

2. Main results

In this section, we give the generalized SDEs

$$dX(t) = f(X(t), m(t))dt + g(X(t), m(t))dB(t), \quad t \geq 0, \quad (2.1)$$

with the initial values $X(0) = X_0, m(0) = m$, where $B(\cdot)$ and $m(\cdot)$ are the d -dimensional Brownian motions and the right-continuous Markov chains, respectively. $f(\cdot, \cdot)$ and $g(\cdot, \cdot)$ respectively map $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{S}$ to \mathbb{R}^n and $\mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ with $g(X, k)g^T(X, k) = (g_{ij}(X, k))_{n \times n}$. For each $k \in \mathbb{S}$, let $V(\cdot, k)$ be any twice continuously differentiable function, and the operator \mathcal{L} can be defined by

$$\mathcal{L}V(X, k) = \sum_{i=1}^N f_i(X, k) \frac{\partial V(X, k)}{\partial X_i} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^N g_{ij}(X, k) \frac{\partial^2 V(X, k)}{\partial X_i \partial X_j} + \sum_{l \in N} p_{kl} V(X, l).$$

2.1. Existence-and-uniqueness of the solution

We first of all consider the existence and uniqueness of a global positive solution before investigating other long-term properties of model (1.1) in this section.

Theorem 1. *For any initial value $(S(0), U(0), T(0), m(0)) \in \mathbb{R}_+^3 \times \mathbb{S}$, there exists a unique solution $(S(t), U(t), T(t), m(t))$ of model (1.1) on $t \geq 0$, and the solution will remain in $\mathbb{R}_+^3 \times \mathbb{S}$ with probability one.*

Proof. We write down similar lines as we did in [34, 35] and define the stopping time

$$\tau_r = \inf \left\{ t \in [0, \tau_e) : \min \{S(t), U(t), T(t)\} \leq \frac{1}{r} \text{ or } \max \{S(t), U(t), T(t)\} \geq r \right\}.$$

Therefore, there exists an integer $r_1 \geq r_0$ such that $\mathbb{P}\{\tau_r \leq l\} \geq \varepsilon$ for each integer $r \geq r_1$. Define a C^2 -function $V : \mathbb{R}_+^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ as follows:

$$V(S, U, T) = S - c - \ln \frac{S}{c} + U - 1 - \ln U + T - 1 - \ln T,$$

where c is a positive constant to be determined later. Let $l > 1$ be arbitrary, for any $0 \leq t \leq \tau_r \wedge l = \min\{\tau_r, l\}$, and applying Itô's formula to V , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}V &= -\mu(k)S - (\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))U - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))T \\ &\quad - \frac{c\Lambda(k)}{S} - \beta_1(k)S - \beta_2(k)T - \frac{p(k)U}{T} + (c\beta_1(k) + \beta_2(k))U + \Lambda(k) \\ &\quad + (c+2)\mu(k) + p(k) + \delta_1(k) + \delta_2(k) + \frac{1}{2}(c\sigma_1^2(k) + \sigma_2^2(k) + \sigma_3^2(k)) \\ &< \check{\Lambda} + (c+2)\check{\mu} + \check{p} + \check{\delta}_1 + \check{\delta}_2 + \frac{1}{2}(c\check{\sigma}_1^2 + \check{\sigma}_2^2 + \check{\sigma}_3^2) + (c\check{\beta}_1 + \check{\beta}_2 - \hat{\mu} - \hat{\delta}_1)U. \end{aligned}$$

Choosing c such that $c\check{\beta}_1 + \check{\beta}_2 = \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1$,

$$\mathcal{L}V \leq \check{\Lambda} + (c+2)\check{\mu} + \check{p} + \check{\delta}_1 + \check{\delta}_2 + \frac{1}{2}(c\check{\sigma}_1^2 + \check{\sigma}_2^2 + \check{\sigma}_3^2) := K.$$

The rest of the proof is similar to Theorem 1 in [17], so we omit it. The proof is complete.

2.2. Extinction of the untreated drug addicts within local population

For a long time, extinction always refers to the disappearance of infectious diseases in epidemiology. So, the most important concern of the dynamical behaviors for the stochastic heroin model is to control the spreading of heroin and the number of the untreated drug addicts. By the approaches given in [34–39], together with constructing several Lyapunov functions, combining generalized Itô's formula and the strong law of large numbers, we derive the moderate conditions for the extinction of the untreated drug addicts to model (1.1). With these conditions, we find that the spreading of heroin ultimately vanishes in the local population, in other words, the number of the untreated drug addicts declines to zero.

Lemma 1. Assume that $\hat{\mu} > \frac{1}{2}(\check{\sigma}_1^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_2^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_3^2)$, and the solution $(S(t), U(t), T(t), m(t))$ of model (1.1) satisfies

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \check{\sigma}_1 S(s) dB_1(s) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \check{\sigma}_2 U(s) dB_2(s) = 0 \quad a.s.,$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \check{\sigma}_3 T(s) dB_3(s) = 0 \quad a.s..$$

Proof. We write down similar lines by the same approach as in Lemma 2.2 of [28], so the proof is easy to check, and we omit the details.

Lemma 2. For $t \geq 0$, the solution $(S(t), U(t), T(t), m(t))$ of model (1.1) satisfies

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} (S(t) + U(t) + T(t)) = 0 \quad a.s..$$

Proof. Define $W(N) = (1 + N)^\rho$ with $\rho > 1$, which gives

$$dW(N) = \mathcal{L}W(N)dt + \rho(1 + N)^{\rho-1}(\sigma_1(k)SdB_1(t) + \sigma_2(k)UdB_2(t) + \sigma_3(k)TdB_3(t)),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}W(N) &= \rho(1+N)^{\rho-1}[\Lambda(k) - \mu(k)S - (\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))U - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))T] \\
 &\quad + \frac{\rho(\rho-1)}{2}(1+N)^{\rho-2}(\sigma_1^2(k)S^2 + \sigma_2^2(k)U^2 + \sigma_3^2(k)T^2) \\
 &= \rho(1+N)^{\rho-2}[(1+N)(\Lambda(k) - \mu(k)S - (\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))U \\
 &\quad - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))T) + \frac{\rho-1}{2}(\sigma_1^2(k)S^2 + \sigma_2^2(k)U^2 + \sigma_3^2(k)T^2)] \\
 &\leq \rho(1+N)^{\rho-2}\left[(1+N)(\check{\Lambda} - \hat{\mu}N) + \frac{\rho-1}{2}(\check{\sigma}_1^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_2^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_3^2)N^2\right] \\
 &= \rho(1+N)^{\rho-2}\left[-\left(\hat{\mu} - \frac{\rho-1}{2}(\check{\sigma}_1^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_2^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_3^2)\right)N^2 + (\check{\Lambda} - \hat{\mu})N + \check{\Lambda}\right].
 \end{aligned}$$

The remaining proof is referred as Lemma 2.3 of [28]. We omit the details.

Theorem 2. *If the conditions*

$$\hat{\mu} > \frac{1}{2}(\check{\sigma}_1^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_2^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_3^2)$$

and

$$\frac{\max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}}\check{\Lambda} - \left(\hat{p} + \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\sigma}_2^2\right) < 0$$

hold, then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln U(t)}{t} < 0.$$

That is, the density of the untreated drug addicts will decline to zero with an exponential rate.

Proof. Model (1.1) gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(S + U + T) &< \left[\check{\Lambda} - \hat{\mu}(S + T) - (\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1)U\right]dt \\
 &\quad + \check{\sigma}_1 S dB_1(t) + \check{\sigma}_2 U dB_2(t) + \check{\sigma}_3 T dB_3(t).
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

Integrating (2.2) from 0 to t , we get

$$\frac{A(t)}{t} \leq \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \left[\check{\Lambda} - \hat{\mu}(S(s) + T(s)) - (\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1)U(s)\right]ds + \frac{M(t)}{t}. \tag{2.3}$$

Together with

$$M(t) = \int_0^t \check{\sigma}_1 S(s)dB_1(s) + \int_0^t \check{\sigma}_2 U(s)dB_2(s) + \int_0^t \check{\sigma}_3 T(s)dB_3(s)$$

and

$$A(t) = S(t) + U(t) + T(t) - S(0) - U(0) - T(0),$$

the expression (2.3) further gives

$$\frac{1}{t} \int_0^t (S(s) + T(s)) ds \leq \frac{1}{\hat{\mu}} \left\{ \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t [\check{\Lambda} - (\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1)U(s)] ds + \frac{M(t)}{t} - \frac{A(t)}{t} \right\}. \quad (2.4)$$

From model (1.1), we can see

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{t} (\ln U(t) - \ln U(0)) &\leq \max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t (S(s) + T(s)) ds \\ &\quad - \left(\hat{p} + \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\sigma}_2^2 \right) + \frac{\check{\sigma}_2 B_2(t)}{t}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

Combining expressions (2.4) and (2.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\ln U(t)}{t} &\leq \frac{\max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}} \left\{ \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t [\check{\Lambda} - (\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1)U(s)] ds + \frac{M(t)}{t} - \frac{A(t)}{t} \right\} \\ &\quad - \left(\hat{p} + \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\sigma}_2^2 \right) + \frac{\check{\sigma}_2 B_2(t)}{t} + \frac{\ln U(0)}{t} \\ &< \frac{\max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}} \left(\frac{M(t)}{t} - \frac{A(t)}{t} \right) + \frac{\check{\sigma}_2 B_2(t)}{t} + \frac{\ln U(0)}{t} \\ &\quad + \frac{\check{\Lambda} \max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}} - \left(\hat{p} + \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\sigma}_2^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

By the strong law of large numbers for local martingales, together with Lemma 1 and Lemma 2, we obtain

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \check{\sigma}_2 dB_2(s) = 0 \quad \text{a.s.,}$$

and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \left\{ \frac{\max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}} (M(t) - A(t)) + \ln U(0) \right\} = 0 \quad \text{a.s..}$$

If

$$\frac{\max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}} \check{\Lambda} - \left(\hat{p} + \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\sigma}_2^2 \right) < 0,$$

this means that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln U(t)}{t} < 0.$$

In other words, by Definition 3.2 in [34], the density of the untreated drug addicts declines to extinction exponentially. The proof is complete.

2.3. Persistence of the untreated drug addicts within local population

Next, we investigate the sufficient conditions of the existence of an ergodic stationary distribution for model (1.1). Define

$$R_0^s := \sum_{k \in \mathbb{S}} \pi_k R_{0k}, \quad (2.6)$$

where

$$R_{0k} = c_1(k)\Lambda(k) - p(k) - \mu(k) - \delta_1(k) - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_2^2(k),$$

and $c_1(k)$ is the solution of the linear system (2.7).

Lemma 3. For each $k \in \mathbb{S}$, the linear system

$$c_1(k)\mu(k) - \beta_1(k) - \sum_{l \in \mathbb{S}} p_{kl}c_1(l) = 0 \quad (2.7)$$

has a unique solution $c_1 = (c_1(1), c_1(2), \dots, c_1(N))^T \gg 0$; moreover,

$$c_2(k)(\mu(k) + \delta_2(k)) - \beta_2(k) - \sum_{l \in \mathbb{S}} p_{kl}c_2(l) = 0 \quad (2.8)$$

has a unique solution $c_2 = (c_2(1), c_2(2), \dots, c_2(N))^T \gg 0$.

Proof. The linear system (2.7) can be rewritten as the form of $AV = \beta_1$, where $V \in \mathbb{R}^N$, $\beta_1 = (\beta_1(1), \beta_1(2), \dots, \beta_1(N))^T$, and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \mu(1) - p_{11} & -p_{12} & \cdots & -p_{1N} \\ -p_{21} & \mu(2) - p_{22} & \cdots & -p_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ -p_{N1} & -p_{N2} & \cdots & \mu(N) - p_{NN} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Obviously, $A \in Z^{N \times N}$, and $Z^{N \times N} = \{B = (b_{ij})_{N \times N} : b_{ij} \leq 0, i \neq j\}$. By Lemma 5.3 in [40], we obtain that determinant of (A_k) is positive for $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$, where

$$A_k = \begin{pmatrix} \mu(1) - p_{11} & -p_{12} & \cdots & -p_{1k} \\ -p_{21} & \mu(2) - p_{22} & \cdots & -p_{2k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ -p_{k1} & -p_{k2} & \cdots & \mu(k) - p_{kk} \end{pmatrix}.$$

In other words, the leading principal minors of A are all positive, which means that A is a nonsingular M -matrix. For the vector $\beta_1 \in \mathbb{R}^N$, the linear system (2.7) has a solution $c_1 = (c_1(1), c_1(2), \dots, c_1(N))^T$. Similarly, we show that the linear system (2.8) has a solution $c_2 = (c_2(1), c_2(2), \dots, c_2(N))^T$.

Theorem 3. If $R_0^S > 0$, then model (1.1) admits a unique ergodic stationary distribution.

Proof. Let

$$x(t) = \ln S(t), \quad y(t) = \ln U(t), \quad z(t) = \ln T(t),$$

and then model (1.1) is rewritten as follows:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} dx(t) = \left[\frac{\Lambda(m(t))}{e^x} - \beta_1(m(t))e^y - \left(\mu(m(t)) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_1^2(m(t)) \right) \right] dt \\ \quad + \sigma_1(m(t))dB_1(t), \\ dy(t) = \left[\beta_1(m(t))e^x - p(m(t)) + \beta_2(m(t))e^z - \left(\mu(m(t)) + \delta_1(m(t)) \right. \right. \\ \quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_2^2(m(t)) \right) \right] dt + \sigma_2(m(t))dB_2(t), \\ dz(t) = \left[\frac{p(m(t))e^y}{e^z} - \beta_2(m(t))e^y - \left(\mu(m(t)) + \delta_2(m(t)) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_3^2(m(t)) \right) \right] dt \\ \quad + \sigma_3(m(t))dB_3(t). \end{array} \right. \quad (2.9)$$

Equivalently, we study the stationary distribution of model (2.9) by using Lemma 2.1 in [41] (also referred as Lemma 5.1 in [36]).

Step 1. The assumption $p_{ij} > 0$ for $i \neq j$ implies that condition (i) in Lemma 2.1 in [41] is satisfied.

Step 2. The diffusion matrix

$$D(x, k) = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2(k) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2(k) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_3^2(k) \end{pmatrix}$$

of model (2.9) is positive definite, which implies that condition (ii) in Lemma 2.1 in [41] holds.

Step 3. We define a C^2 -function

$$W(x, y, z, k) = \frac{1}{\theta + 1} (e^x + e^y + e^z)^{(\theta+1)} \\ - B[c_1(k)(e^x + e^y) + c_2(k)(e^y + e^z) + y + \omega_k] - x - z,$$

such that $\theta \in (0, 1)$ satisfying

$$\hat{\mu} - 0.5\theta\check{\sigma}_1^2 > 0, \quad \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 - 0.5\theta\check{\sigma}_2^2 > 0, \quad \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_2 - 0.5\theta\check{\sigma}_3^2 > 0,$$

and such that $B > 0$ satisfying

$$f_1'' + f_3'' - BR_0^s \leq -2,$$

here ω_k will be determined later. Obviously, there exists a point (x_0, y_0, z_0, k) at which the minimum value $W(x_0, y_0, z_0, k)$ is taken. We define a non-negative C^2 -Lyapunov function as follows:

$$V(x, y, z, k) = W(x, y, z, k) - W(x_0, y_0, z_0, k). \quad (2.10)$$

Denote

$$\begin{aligned} V_1(x, y, z, k) &= \frac{1}{\theta + 1} (e^x + e^y + e^z)^{(\theta+1)}, \\ V_2(x, y, z, k) &= -c_1(k)(e^x + e^y) - c_2(k)(e^y + e^z) - y - \omega_k, \\ V_3(y, k) &= -x, \\ V_4(x, k) &= -z. \end{aligned}$$

By using the generalized Itô's formula, together with the elementary equality

$$(a + b + c)^\theta \leq 3^\theta (a^\theta + b^\theta + c^\theta), \text{ for } a > 0, b > 0, c > 0,$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}V_1 &= (e^x + e^y + e^z)^\theta [\Lambda(k) - \mu(k)e^x - (\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))e^y - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))e^z] \\ &\quad + \frac{\theta}{2}(e^x + e^y + e^z)^{\theta-1}(\sigma_1^2(k)e^{2x} + \sigma_2^2(k)e^{2y} + \sigma_3^2(k)e^{2z}) \\ &\leq 3^\theta \Lambda(k)(e^{\theta x} + e^{\theta y} + e^{\theta z}) + \frac{\theta}{2}(\sigma_1^2(k)e^{(\theta+1)x} + \sigma_2^2(k)e^{(\theta+1)y} + \sigma_3^2(k)e^{(\theta+1)z}) \\ &\quad - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))e^{(\theta+1)z} - \mu(k)e^{(\theta+1)x} - (\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))e^{(\theta+1)y}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

and picking the coefficients by terms gives that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}V_1 &\leq -\left(\hat{\mu} - \frac{\theta}{2}\check{\sigma}_1^2\right)e^{(\theta+1)x} - \left(\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 - \frac{\theta}{2}\check{\sigma}_2^2\right)e^{(\theta+1)y} - \left(\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_2 - \frac{\theta}{2}\check{\sigma}_3^2\right)e^{(\theta+1)z} \\ &\quad + 3^\theta \check{\Lambda}(e^{\theta x} + e^{\theta y} + e^{\theta z}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

According to the similar discussion and Lemma 3, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}V_2 &= -c_1(k)[\Lambda(k) - \mu(k)e^x - p(k)e^y + \beta_2(k)e^{y+z} - (\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))e^y] \\ &\quad - c_2(k)[\beta_1(k)e^{x+y} - (\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))e^y - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))e^z] \\ &\quad - \beta_1(k)e^x - \beta_2(k)e^z + p(k) + \mu(k) + \delta_1(k) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_2^2(k) - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}\omega(l) \\ &\quad - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}c_1(l)(e^x + e^y) - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}c_2(l)(e^y + e^z) \\ &\leq \left[c_1(k)\mu(k) - \beta_1(k) - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}c_1(l)\right]e^x \\ &\quad + \left[c_2(k)(\mu(k) + \delta_2(k)) - \beta_2(k) - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}c_2(l)\right]e^z \\ &\quad + \left[c_1(k)(p(k) + \mu(k) + \delta_1(k)) + c_2(k)(\mu(k) + \delta_1(k))\right. \\ &\quad \left. - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}c_1(l) - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}c_2(l)\right]e^y \\ &\quad + p(k) + \mu(k) + \delta_1(k) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_2^2(k) - c_1(k)\Lambda(k) - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}\omega(l) \\ &=: -R_{0k} - \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}\omega(l) \\ &\quad + \left[c_1(k)(p(k) + \delta_1(k)) + c_2(k)(\delta_1(k) - \delta_2(k)) + \beta_1(k) + \beta_2(k)\right]e^y, \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

with

$$R_{0k} = c_1(k)\Lambda(k) - p(k) - \mu(k) - \delta_1(k) - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_2^2(k).$$

We define a vector $R_0 = (R_{01}, R_{02}, \dots, R_{0N})^T$, since the generator matrix Γ is irreducible, there exists a solution of the Poisson system $\omega = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_N)^T$ such that

$$\Gamma\omega = \left(\sum_{k=1}^N \pi_k R_{0k}\right)\vec{1} - R_0, \quad (2.14)$$

where $\vec{1}$ is a column vector in which all elements are one, which further implies

$$R_{0k} + \sum_{l \in S} p_{kl}\omega(l) = \sum_{k=1}^N \pi_k R_{0k},$$

and together with (2.6), the expression (2.13) turns into

$$\mathcal{L}V_2 \leq -R_0^s + [\check{c}_1(\check{\rho} + \check{\delta}_1) + \check{c}_2\check{\delta}_1 + \check{\beta}_1 + \check{\beta}_2]e^y. \quad (2.15)$$

By the same arguments, we derive

$$\mathcal{L}V_3 = -\frac{\Lambda(k)}{e^x} + \beta_1(k)e^y + \mu(k) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_1^2(k) \leq -\frac{\hat{\Lambda}}{e^x} + \check{\beta}_1 e^y + \check{\mu} + \frac{1}{2}\check{\sigma}_1^2, \quad (2.16)$$

$$\mathcal{L}V_4 \leq -\frac{\hat{p}(k)}{e^z} + \check{\beta}_2(k)e^y + \check{\mu} + \check{\delta}_2 + \frac{1}{2}\check{\sigma}_3^2. \quad (2.17)$$

Thus the following result is derived

$$\mathcal{L}V = \mathcal{L}V_1 + B\mathcal{L}V_2 + \mathcal{L}V_3 + \mathcal{L}V_4 < f(x, y, z) = f_1(x) + f_2(y) + f_3(z), \quad (2.18)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(x) &= -\left(\hat{\mu} - \frac{\theta}{2}\check{\sigma}_1^2\right)e^{(\theta+1)x} + 3^\theta\check{\Lambda}e^{\theta x} - \frac{\hat{\Lambda}}{e^x} + 2\check{\mu} + \check{\delta}_2 + \frac{1}{2}(\check{\sigma}_1^2 + \check{\sigma}_3^2), \\ f_2(y) &= -\left(\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 - \frac{\theta}{2}\check{\sigma}_2^2\right)e^{(\theta+1)y} + 3^\theta\check{\Lambda}e^{\theta y} + (\check{\beta}_1 + \check{\beta}_2)e^y \\ &\quad + B[-R_0^s + (\check{c}_1(\check{\rho} + \check{\delta}_1) + \check{c}_2\check{\delta}_1 + \check{\beta}_1 + \check{\beta}_2)e^y], \\ f_3(z) &= -\left(\hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_2 - \frac{\theta}{2}\check{\sigma}_3^2\right)e^{(\theta+1)z} + 3^\theta\check{\Lambda}e^{\theta z} - \frac{\hat{p}}{e^z}. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we have

$$f(x, y, z) \leq f_1(x) + f_2^u + f_3^u \rightarrow -\infty, \text{ if } x \rightarrow +\infty \text{ or } x \rightarrow -\infty,$$

and the same arguments give that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y, z) &\leq f_1^u + f_2(y) + f_3^u \rightarrow -\infty, \text{ if } y \rightarrow +\infty, \\ f(x, y, z) &\leq f_1^u + f_2(y) + f_3^u \rightarrow f_1^u + f_3^u - BR_0^s \leq -2, \text{ if } y \rightarrow -\infty, \\ f(x, y, z) &\leq f_1^u + f_2^u + f_3(z) \rightarrow -\infty, \text{ if } z \rightarrow +\infty \text{ or } z \rightarrow -\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we take $\varepsilon > 0$ sufficiently large, and let

$$U = (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon).$$

Then,

$$\mathcal{L}V(x, y, z, k) \leq -1, \quad (x, y, z, k) \in U^c \times \mathbb{S}.$$

Hence condition (iii) of Lemma 2.1 in [41] is verified.

2.4. Probability density function of model (2.20) within local population

Lemma 4. [42] *Let Υ_0 be a symmetric positive definite matrix, such that the three dimensional algebraic equation*

$$G_0^2 + A_0 \Upsilon_0 + \Upsilon_0 A_0^T = 0 \quad (2.19)$$

holds, where $G_0 = \text{diag}\{1, 0, 0\}$, and

$$A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -c_1 & -c_2 & -c_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and also that $c_1 > 0, c_3 > 0$ and $c_1 c_2 - c_3 > 0$, then Υ_0 follows

$$\Upsilon_0 = \frac{1}{2(c_1 c_2 - c_3)} \begin{pmatrix} c_2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & \frac{c_1}{c_3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Lemma 5. [42] *Let Υ_0 be a symmetric positive semi-definite matrix, such that the three-dimensional algebraic equation*

$$G_0^2 + \tilde{A}_0 \Upsilon_1 + \Upsilon_1 \tilde{A}_0^T = 0$$

holds, where $G_0 = \text{diag}\{1, 0, 0\}$, and

$$\tilde{A}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -d_1 & -d_2 & -d_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_{33} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Also, $d_1 > 0, d_2 > 0$, and thus Υ_1 takes the form

$$\Upsilon_1 = \text{diag}\left\{\frac{1}{2d_1}, \frac{1}{2d_1 d_2}, 0\right\}.$$

Next, as a special case, we consider the degenerated model (2.20) as follows:

$$\begin{cases} dS(t) = [\Lambda - \beta_1 S(t)U(t) - \mu S(t)]dt + \sigma_1 S(t)dB_1(t), \\ dU(t) = [\beta_1 S(t)U(t) - pU(t) + \beta_2 U(t)T(t) - (\mu + \delta_1)U(t)]dt \\ \quad + \sigma_2 U(t)dB_2(t), \\ dT(t) = [pU(t) - \beta_2 U(t)T(t) - (\mu + \delta_2)T(t)]dt + \sigma_3 T(t)dB_3(t). \end{cases} \quad (2.20)$$

Then, we investigate the existence of the probability density function of model (2.20). First of all, we consider the existence of the positive equilibrium point to model (2.20).

Theorem 4. *If the conditions*

$$g_1 = 0, \quad 1 + \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 p - \beta_1 \Lambda} > 0, \quad (2.21)$$

or

$$g_1 < 0, \quad \Delta > 0, \quad \beta_1 \Lambda - m_1 p - m_1 m_2 > 0, \quad (2.22)$$

or

$$g_1 < 0, \quad \Delta = 0, \quad (\beta_2 m_1 - \beta_1 m_3)(m_2 + p) + \beta_2(m_1 p - \beta_1 \Lambda) > 0, \quad (2.23)$$

hold, then, model (2.20) admits a positive equilibrium point P^* , where g_1, m_1, m_2, m_3 and Δ could be found later.

Proof. Let $(z_1, z_2, z_3)^T = (\ln S, \ln U, \ln T)^T$, by using Itô's formula, the following is derived from model (2.20) that

$$\begin{cases} dz_1 = \left[\frac{\Lambda}{e^{z_1}} - \beta_1 e^{z_2} - \left(\mu + \frac{\sigma_1^2}{2} \right) \right] dt + \sigma_1 dB_1(t), \\ dz_2 = \left[\beta_1 e^{z_1} - p + \beta_2 e^{z_3} - \left(\mu + \delta_1 + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{2} \right) \right] dt + \sigma_2 dB_2(t), \\ dz_3 = \left[p e^{z_2 - z_3} - \beta_2 e^{z_2} - \left(\mu + \delta_2 + \frac{\sigma_3^2}{2} \right) \right] dt + \sigma_3 dB_3(t). \end{cases} \quad (2.24)$$

Then, we determine the unique local equilibrium point

$$P^* = (S^*, U^*, T^*) = (e^{z_1^*}, e^{z_2^*}, e^{z_3^*}),$$

by solving the following equations:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\Lambda}{e^{z_1^*}} - \beta_1 e^{z_2^*} - \left(\mu + \frac{\sigma_1^2}{2} \right) = 0, \\ \beta_1 e^{z_1^*} - p + \beta_2 e^{z_3^*} - \left(\mu + \delta_1 + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{2} \right) = 0, \\ p e^{z_2^* - z_3^*} - \beta_2 e^{z_2^*} - \left(\mu + \delta_2 + \frac{\sigma_3^2}{2} \right) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (2.25)$$

in which

$$S^* = \frac{p - \beta_2 T^* + m_2}{\beta_1} > 0, \quad U^* = \frac{m_3 T^*}{p - \beta_2 T^*} > 0,$$

and T^* satisfies the following quadratic equation

$$g_1 T^2 + g_2 T + g_3 = 0, \quad (2.26)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}g_1 &= \beta_1\beta_2m_3 - \beta_2^2m_1, \\g_2 &= 2\beta_2m_1p + \beta_2m_1m_2 - \beta_1\beta_2\Lambda - \beta_1m_2m_3 - \beta_1m_3p, \\g_3 &= \beta_1p\Lambda - m_1m_2p - m_1p^2,\end{aligned}$$

and

$$m_1 = \mu + \frac{\sigma_1^2}{2}, m_2 = \mu + \delta_1 + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{2}, m_3 = \mu + \delta_2 + \frac{\sigma_3^2}{2}.$$

Next, we discuss the value of g_1 by three cases.

Case 1. If $g_1 = 0$ (i.e., $\beta_1m_3 - \beta_2m_1 = 0$), and

$$1 + \frac{m_1m_2}{m_1p - \beta_1\Lambda} > 0, \quad (2.27)$$

together with

$$g_2 = \beta_2(m_1p - \beta_1\Lambda), \quad g_3 = p(\beta_1\Lambda - m_1m_2 - m_1p),$$

as (2.27) is valid, then we get

$$\frac{g_3}{g_2} = \frac{p(\beta_1\Lambda - m_1m_2 - m_1p)}{\beta_2(m_1p - \beta_1\Lambda)} = -\frac{p}{\beta_2}\left(1 + \frac{m_1m_2}{m_1p - \beta_1\Lambda}\right) < 0,$$

and thus Eq (2.26) has a unique positive root.

Case 2. If $g_1 < 0$, then we get

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta &= g_2^2 - 4g_1g_3 \\&= [2\beta_2m_1p + \beta_2m_1m_2 - \beta_1\beta_2\Lambda - \beta_1m_2m_3 - \beta_1m_3p]^2 \\&\quad + 4\beta_2p(\beta_2m_1 - \beta_1m_3)(\beta_1\Lambda - m_1p - m_1m_2).\end{aligned}$$

Next, we turn to analyze the value of Δ . When

$$\Delta > 0, \quad \beta_1\Lambda - m_1p - m_1m_2 > 0, \quad (2.28)$$

which further gives

$$\frac{g_3}{g_1} = \frac{\beta_1p\Lambda - m_1m_2p - m_1p^2}{\beta_1\beta_2m_3 - \beta_2^2m_1} = \frac{p(\beta_1\Lambda - m_1m_2 - m_1p)}{\beta_2(\beta_1m_3 - \beta_2m_1)} < 0.$$

Thus, Eq (2.26) has a unique positive root. When

$$\Delta = 0, \quad (\beta_2m_1 - \beta_1m_3)(m_2 + p) + \beta_2(m_1p - \beta_1\Lambda) > 0, \quad (2.29)$$

which gives that

$$\begin{aligned}-\frac{g_2}{2g_1} &= -\frac{2\beta_2m_1p + \beta_2m_1m_2 - \beta_1\beta_2\Lambda - \beta_1m_2m_3 - \beta_1m_3p}{2\beta_2(\beta_1m_3 - \beta_2m_1)} \\&= \frac{(\beta_2m_1 - \beta_1m_3)(m_2 + p) + \beta_2(m_1p - \beta_1\Lambda)}{2\beta_2(\beta_2m_1 - \beta_1m_3)} > 0,\end{aligned}$$

and thus Eq (2.26) has a unique positive root.

Case 3. When $g_1 > 0$, if the drug addicts under treatment $T(t)$ has a unique positive root, the value of β_1 will be very small, and the drug addicts $U(t)$ and susceptible individuals $S(t)$ are negative, so we omit this case.

Theorem 5. *If the conditions of Theorem 4 are satisfied, and*

$$\Lambda\beta_1^2 - m_3\beta_2p > 0, \quad (2.30)$$

then, model (2.20) possesses a probability density function

$$\Phi(S, U, T) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{3}{2}} |\Sigma|^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} (\ln \frac{S}{S^*}, \ln \frac{U}{U^*}, \ln \frac{T}{T^*}) \Sigma^{-1} (\ln \frac{S}{S^*}, \ln \frac{U}{U^*}, \ln \frac{T}{T^*})^T},$$

and the positive definite matrix Σ is presented later.

Proof. Let $x_i = z_i - z_i^*$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$, and the linearized equation of model (2.24) is written as

$$\begin{cases} dx_1 = (-a_{11}x_1 - a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3)dt + \sigma_1 dB_1(t), \\ dx_2 = (a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3)dt + \sigma_2 dB_2(t), \\ dx_3 = (a_{31}x_1 + a_{32}x_2 - a_{33}x_3)dt + \sigma_3 dB_3(t), \end{cases} \quad (2.31)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} &= \Lambda e^{-z_1^*}, a_{12} = \beta_1 e^{z_2^*}, a_{13} = 0, \\ a_{21} &= \beta_1 e^{z_1^*}, a_{22} = 0, a_{23} = \beta_2 e^{z_3^*}, \\ a_{31} &= 0, a_{32} = p e^{z_2^* - z_3^*} - \beta_2 e^{z_2^*}, a_{33} = p e^{z_2^* - z_3^*}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $X = (x_1, x_2, x_3)^T$, $B(t) = (B_1(t), B_2(t), B_3(t))^T$, $M = \text{diag}\{\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3\}$ and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -a_{11} & -a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} \\ 0 & a_{32} & -a_{33} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, Eq (2.31) can be equally rewritten as

$$dX(t) = AX(t)dt + MdB(t).$$

According to the relative theory in Gardiner [43], there is a unique density function $\Phi(X)$ around the positive equilibrium point P^* which satisfies the following equation (i.e., Fokker-Planck equation):

$$\begin{aligned} & - \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\sigma_i^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x_i^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} [(-a_{11}x_1 - a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3)\Phi] \\ & + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} [(a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3)\Phi] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} [a_{31}x_1 + a_{32}x_2 - a_{33}x_3)\Phi] = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.32)$$

On the basis of Roozen [44], we can approximate it with a Gaussian distribution

$$\Phi(X) = \Phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = C_0 e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_1, x_2, x_3)Q(x_1, x_2, x_3)^T},$$

where C_0 is a positive constant, which is determined by

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 = 1.$$

Also, the real symmetric inverse matrix Q meets the subsequent algebraic equation

$$QM^2Q + QA + A^TQ = 0,$$

such that $\Sigma = Q^{-1}$, and then we derive

$$M^2 + A\Sigma + \Sigma A^T = 0. \quad (2.33)$$

Furthermore, we have $C_0 = (2\pi)^{-\frac{3}{2}} |\Sigma|^{-\frac{1}{2}}$.

According to the finite independent superposition principle, we express Eq (2.33) as the sum of the solutions of the following algebraic sub-equations:

$$M_k^2 + A\Sigma_k + \Sigma_k A^T = 0, k = 1, 2, 3, \quad (2.34)$$

where

$$M_1 = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, 0, 0), M_2 = \text{diag}(0, \sigma_2, 0), M_3 = \text{diag}(0, 0, \sigma_3)$$

with

$$\Sigma = \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 + \Sigma_3, M^2 = M_1^2 + M_2^2 + M_3^2.$$

Obviously, the characteristic polynomial of matrix A is

$$\lambda^3 + p_1\lambda^2 + p_2\lambda + p_3 = 0,$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} p_1 &= a_{33} + a_{11}, \\ p_2 &= a_{11}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{21} - a_{23}a_{32}, \\ p_3 &= a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.35)$$

We find that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 &= p_1 = a_{33} + a_{11} > 0, \\ \Delta_2 &= p_1p_2 - p_3 = a_{11}^2a_{33} + a_{11}a_{12}a_{21} + a_{11}a_{33}^2 - a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.36)$$

due to $a_{11}^2a_{33} + a_{11}a_{33}^2 > 0$, and direct substitution gives that

$$a_{11}a_{12}a_{21} - a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} = \frac{m_3T^*(\Lambda\beta_1^2 - \beta_2m_3p)}{p - \beta_2T^*} > 0. \quad (2.37)$$

We derive that A is a Hurwitz matrix. Next, we will prove that Σ is positive definite.

Step 1. We consider the algebraic equation

$$M_1^2 + A\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_1 A^T = 0, \quad (2.38)$$

and our discussion will be separated into two cases according to the value of a_{32} .

Case 1.1. If $a_{32} \neq 0$, according to Li et al. [45], we select the standardized transformation matrix

$$H_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{32}a_{21} & -a_{32}a_{33} & a_{33}^2 + a_{32}a_{23} \\ 0 & a_{32} & -a_{33} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.39)$$

such that $B_1 = H_1 A H_1^{-1}$. By direct calculation, we obtain

$$B_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -y_1 & -y_2 & -y_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$y_1 = a_{11} + a_{33},$$

$$y_2 = a_{11}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{21} - a_{23}a_{32},$$

$$y_3 = a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32}.$$

Furthermore, algebraic Eq (2.38) can be converted to the equivalent

$$H_1 M_1^2 H_1^T + B_1 H_1 \Sigma_1 H_1^T + H_1 \Sigma_1 H_1^T B_1^T = 0,$$

letting

$$\Theta_1 = \varrho_1^{-2} H_1 \Sigma_1 H_1^T, \varrho_1 = a_{21}a_{32}\sigma_1,$$

and algebraic Eq (2.38) is converted as

$$G_0^2 + B_1 \Theta_1 + \Theta_1 B_1^T = 0. \quad (2.40)$$

We notice that the real parts of the eigenvalues of A are all negative, so B_1 is a Hurwitz matrix. By Lemma 4, Θ_1 is positive definite and takes the form

$$\Theta_1 = \frac{1}{2(y_1 y_2 - y_3)} \begin{pmatrix} y_2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & \frac{y_1}{y_3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, $\Sigma_1 = \varrho_1^2 H_1^{-1} \Theta_1 (H_1^T)^{-1}$.

Case 1.2. If $a_{32} = 0$, we choose \hat{H}_1 such that $\hat{B}_1 = \hat{H}_1 A \hat{H}_1^{-1}$ with

$$\hat{H}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \hat{B}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -b_1 & -b_2 & -b_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -a_{33} \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$b_1 = a_{11}, b_2 = a_{12}a_{21}, b_3 = a_{23}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}.$$

One can equivalently transform (2.38) into

$$\hat{H}_1 M_1^2 \hat{H}_1^T + \hat{B}_1 \hat{H}_1 \Sigma_1 \hat{H}_1^T + \hat{H}_1 \Sigma_1 \hat{H}_1^T \hat{B}_1^T = 0,$$

letting

$$\hat{\Theta}_1 = \hat{\varrho}_1^{-2} \hat{H}_1 \Sigma_1 \hat{H}_1^T, \hat{\varrho}_1 = a_{21} \sigma_1.$$

The algebraic Eq (2.38) becomes

$$G_0^2 + \hat{B}_1 \hat{\Theta}_1 + \hat{\Theta}_1 \hat{B}_1^T = 0, \quad (2.41)$$

with

$$\hat{\Theta}_1 = \text{diag}\left\{\frac{1}{2b_1}, \frac{1}{2b_1 b_2}, 0\right\}. \quad (2.42)$$

Therefore, $\Sigma_1 = \hat{\varrho}_1^2 \hat{H}_1^{-1} \hat{\Theta}_1 (\hat{H}_1^T)^{-1}$.

Step 2. Let us consider the following algebraic equation

$$M_2^2 + A \Sigma_2 + \Sigma_2 A^T = 0, \quad (2.43)$$

we select the corresponding elimination matrix J_2 and let $A_2 = J_2 A J_2^{-1}$ with

$$J_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \frac{a_{12}}{a_{32}} \end{pmatrix}, A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{a_{12}a_{21}}{a_{32}} + a_{23} & a_{21} \\ a_{32} & -a_{33} & 0 \\ 0 & k_2 & -a_{11} \end{pmatrix},$$

with

$$k_2 = \frac{a_{11}a_{12}}{a_{32}} - \frac{a_{12}a_{33}}{a_{32}}.$$

Case 2.1. If $k_2 \neq 0$, we then let $B_2 = H_2 A_2 H_2^{-1}$ with

$$H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} k_2 a_{32} & -k_2(a_{11} + a_{33}) & a_{11}^2 \\ 0 & k_2 & -a_{11} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, B_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -q_1 & -q_2 & -q_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.44)$$

where

$$q_1 = a_{11} + a_{33},$$

$$q_2 = a_{11}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{21} - a_{23}a_{32},$$

$$q_3 = a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32}.$$

Moreover, algebraic Eq (2.43) is equivalently transformed into

$$(H_2 J_2) M_2^2 (H_2 J_2)^T + B_2 [(H_2 J_2) \Sigma_2 (H_2 J_2)^T] + [(H_2 J_2) \Sigma_2 (H_2 J_2)^T] B_2^T = 0,$$

and letting

$$\Theta_2 = \varrho_2^{-2} (H_2 J_2) \Sigma_2 (H_2 J_2)^T, \varrho_2 = k_2 a_{32} \sigma_2,$$

algebraic Eq (2.43) is converted as

$$G_0^2 + B_2 \Theta_2 + \Theta_2 B_2^T = 0, \quad (2.45)$$

with

$$\Theta_2 = \frac{1}{2(q_1 q_2 - q_3)} \begin{pmatrix} q_2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & \frac{q_1}{q_3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

In other words, $\Sigma_2 = \varrho_2^2 (H_2 J_2)^{-1} \Theta_2 [(H_2 J_2)^T]^{-1}$.

Case 2.2. If $k_2 = 0$, then we select \hat{H}_2 and let $\hat{B}_2 = \hat{H}_2 A_2 \hat{H}_2^{-1}$ with

$$\hat{H}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{32} & -a_{33} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \hat{B}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -\omega_1 & -\omega_2 & -\omega_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -a_{11} \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\omega_1 = a_{33}, \omega_2 = a_{12} a_{21} - a_{23} a_{32}, \omega_3 = -a_{21} a_{32}.$$

One can equivalently transform (2.43) into

$$(\hat{H}_2 J_2) M_2^2 (\hat{H}_2 J_2)^T + \hat{B}_2 [(\hat{H}_2 J_2) \Sigma_2 (\hat{H}_2 J_2)^T] + [(\hat{H}_2 J_2) \Sigma_2 (\hat{H}_2 J_2)^T] \hat{B}_2^T = 0,$$

letting

$$\hat{\Theta}_2 = \hat{\varrho}_2^{-2} (\hat{H}_2 J_2) \Sigma_2 (\hat{H}_2 J_2)^T, \hat{\varrho}_2 = a_{32} \sigma_2,$$

which by Lemma 5 is simplified as

$$G_0^2 + \hat{B}_2 \hat{\Theta}_2 + \hat{\Theta}_2 \hat{B}_2^T = 0, \quad (2.46)$$

with

$$\hat{\Theta}_2 = \text{diag}\left\{\frac{1}{2\omega_1}, \frac{1}{2\omega_1\omega_2}, 0\right\}.$$

Therefore, $\Sigma_2 = \hat{\varrho}_2^2 (\hat{H}_2 J_2)^{-1} \hat{\Theta}_2 [(\hat{H}_2 J_2)^T]^{-1}$.

Step 3. Let us consider the algebraic equation

$$M_3^2 + A \Sigma_3 + \Sigma_3 A^T = 0, \quad (2.47)$$

and we select J_3 and let $A_3 = J_3 A J_3^{-1}$ with

$$J_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, A_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -a_{33} & a_{32} & 0 \\ a_{23} & 0 & a_{21} \\ 0 & -a_{12} & -a_{11} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We find H_3 such that $B_3 = H_3 A_3 H_3^{-1}$ with

$$H_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -a_{12}a_{23} & a_{11}a_{12} & a_{11}^2 - a_{12}a_{21} \\ 0 & -a_{12} & -a_{11} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, B_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -s_1 & -s_2 & -s_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.48)$$

where

$$s_1 = a_{11} + a_{33},$$

$$s_2 = a_{11}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{21} - a_{23}a_{32},$$

$$s_3 = a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32}.$$

So, (2.47) is equivalently transformed into

$$(H_3 J_3) M_3^2 (H_3 J_3)^T + B_3 [(H_3 J_3) \Sigma_3 (H_3 J_3)^T] + [(H_3 J_3) \Sigma_3 (H_3 J_3)^T] B_3^T = 0,$$

and letting

$$\Theta_3 = \varrho_3^{-2} (H_3 J_3) \Sigma_3 (H_3 J_3)^T, \varrho_3 = a_{12}a_{23}\sigma_3,$$

algebraic Eq (2.47) is converted as

$$G_0^2 + B_3 \Theta_3 + \Theta_3 B_3^T = 0, \quad (2.49)$$

with

$$\Theta_3 = \frac{1}{2(s_1 s_2 - s_3)} \begin{pmatrix} s_2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & \frac{s_1}{s_3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

In other words, $\Sigma_3 = \varrho_3^2 (H_3 J_3)^{-1} \Theta_3 [(H_3 J_3)^T]^{-1}$.

3. Examples and numerical experiments

We assume that the Markov chain $m(t)$ takes values in the state space $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2\}$ with the generator

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} -0.80 & 0.80 \\ 0.20 & -0.20 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The initial value is $(S(0), U(0), T(0)) = (0.70, 0.50, 0.40)$, and the unique stationary distribution of $m(t)$ is $\pi = (\pi_1, \pi_2) = (0.20, 0.80)$, respectively. We next apply two methods to simulate the sample paths of model (1).

Milstein's higher order method (MHOM). The discretization equations of model (1.1) by MHOM in [46] are written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{i+1} &= S_i + (\Lambda(k) - \beta_1(k)S_iU_i - \mu(k)S_i) \Delta t + \sigma_1(k)S_i \sqrt{\Delta t}v_{k,i} \\
 &\quad + 0.5\sigma_1^2(k)S_i^2(v_{k,i}^2 - 1)\Delta t, \\
 U_{i+1} &= U_i + (\beta_1(k)S_iU_i + \beta_2(k)U_iT_i - (\mu(k) + p(k) + \delta_1(k))U_i)\Delta t \\
 &\quad + \sigma_2(k)U_i \sqrt{\Delta t}v_{k,i} + 0.5\sigma_2^2(k)U_i^2(v_{k,i}^2 - 1)\Delta t, \\
 T_{i+1} &= T_i + (p(k) - \beta_2(k)U_iT_i - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))T_i)\Delta t + \sigma_3(k)T_i \sqrt{\Delta t}v_{k,i} \\
 &\quad + 0.5\sigma_3^2(k)T_i^2(v_{k,i}^2 - 1)\Delta t, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

Partially truncated Euler-Maruyama method (PTEMM). The PTEMM in [47] is written as follows:

$$\Delta t = 10^{-4}, \quad h(\Delta t) = \Delta t^{-\frac{1}{3}}, \quad u^{-1}(r) = \sqrt{\frac{r}{3}}, \quad X_c = \frac{\sqrt{3} \times 10^{\frac{2}{3}}}{3 \sqrt{S_i^2 + U_i^2 + T_i^2}},$$

and the discretization equations of model (1.1) are written in (3.2), so the verifications of assumptions in [48] are straightforward

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{i+1} &= S_i + (\Lambda(k) - f_{1\Delta t,i} - \mu(k)S_i) \Delta t + g_{1\Delta t,i} \sqrt{\Delta t}v_{k,i}, \\
 U_{i+1} &= U_i + (f_{2\Delta t,i} - (\mu(k) + p(k) + \delta_1(k))U_i)\Delta t + g_{2\Delta t,i} \sqrt{\Delta t}v_{k,i}, \\
 T_{i+1} &= T_i + (p(k) - f_{3\Delta t,i} - (\mu(k) + \delta_2(k))T_i)\Delta t + g_{3\Delta t,i} \sqrt{\Delta t}v_{k,i},
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

where $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{1\Delta t,i} &= (1 \wedge X_c)\beta_1(k)S_iU_i, & f_{2\Delta t,i} &= (1 \wedge X_c)(\beta_1(k)S_iU_i + \beta_2(k)U_iT_i), \\
 f_{3\Delta t,i} &= (1 \wedge X_c)\beta_2(k)U_iT_i, & g_{1\Delta t,i} &= (1 \wedge X_c)\sigma_1(k)S_i, \\
 g_{2\Delta t,i} &= (1 \wedge X_c)\sigma_2(k)U_i, & g_{3\Delta t,i} &= (1 \wedge X_c)\sigma_3(k)T_i.
 \end{aligned}$$

$v_{k,i}$ are the Gaussian random variables, which follow the standard normal distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Next, we use PTEMM to simulate the figures in Examples 1–3.

Table 1. Values of parameters to model (1.1).

Group	k	$\Lambda(k)$	$p(k)$	$\mu(k)$	$\delta_1(k)$	$\delta_2(k)$	$\beta_1(k)$	$\beta_2(k)$	$\sigma_1^2(k)$	$\sigma_2^2(k)$	$\sigma_3^2(k)$
(I)	1	0.60	0.65	0.35	0.20	0.25	0.25	0.35	0.200	0.450	0.100
	2	0.40	0.55	0.25	0.10	0.20	0.15	0.25	0.100	0.350	0.050
(II)	1	0.60	0.65	0.35	0.20	0.25	0.25	0.35	0.200	0.490	0.100
	2	0.40	0.55	0.25	0.10	0.20	0.15	0.25	0.100	0.400	0.050
(III)	1	0.60	0.30	0.25	0.20	0.25	0.55	0.65	0.002	0.003	0.003
	2	0.40	0.20	0.15	0.10	0.20	0.45	0.55	0.001	0.001	0.002

Example 1 We choose (I) and (II) of Table 1 to simulate the extinction in Theorem 2. By (I), we obtain

$$\hat{\mu} = 0.25 > 0.225 = \frac{1}{2}(\check{\sigma}_1^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_2^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_3^2), \frac{\max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}}\check{\Lambda} - \left(\hat{p} + \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\sigma}_2^2\right) = -0.235 < 0.$$

By (II), we derive

$$\hat{\mu} = 0.25 > 0.245 = \frac{1}{2}(\check{\sigma}_1^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_2^2 \vee \check{\sigma}_3^2), \frac{\max\{\check{\beta}_1, \check{\beta}_2\}}{\hat{\mu}} \check{\Lambda} - \left(\hat{p} + \hat{\mu} + \hat{\delta}_1 + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\sigma}_2^2\right) = -0.260 < 0.$$

Compare the trajectories of solutions under conditions (I) and (II), and the time spent in Figure 2 under (II) is shorter than that in Figure 1 under (I) when the intensities of the white noises increase.

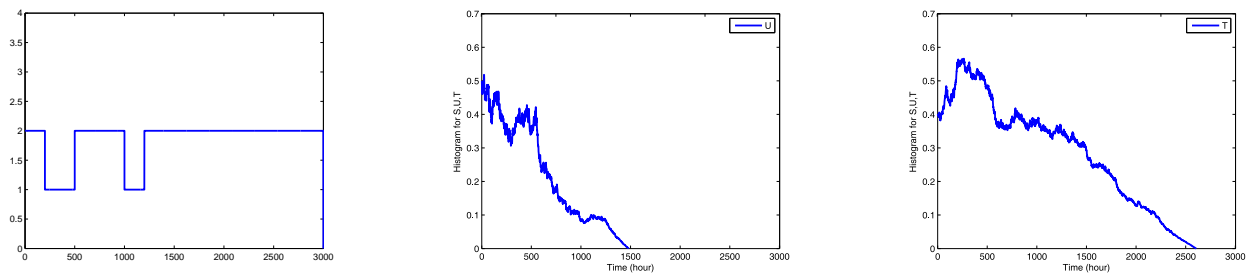


Figure 1. The extinction of the untreated drug addicts to model (1.1) under (I) with initial conditions $(S(0), U(0), T(0)) = (0.70, 0.50, 0.40)$ and $\sigma_1^2(1) = 0.2, \sigma_1^2(2) = 0.1, \sigma_2^2(1) = 0.45, \sigma_2^2(2) = 0.35, \sigma_3^2(1) = 0.1, \sigma_3^2(2) = 0.05$.

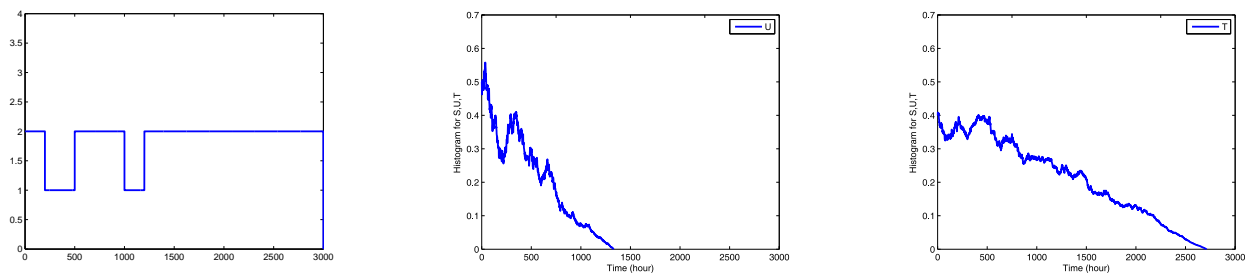


Figure 2. The extinction of the untreated drug addicts to model (1.1) under (II) with initial conditions $(S(0), U(0), T(0)) = (0.70, 0.50, 0.40)$ and $\sigma_1^2(1) = 0.2, \sigma_1^2(2) = 0.1, \sigma_2^2(1) = 0.49, \sigma_2^2(2) = 0.4, \sigma_3^2(1) = 0.1, \sigma_3^2(2) = 0.05$.

Example 2 We choose (III) of Table 1 to present the results in Theorem 3. In fact, the following condition is valid:

$$R_0^s = \sum_{k \in S} \pi_k R_{0k} = 0.707 > 0.$$

As shown in Figure 3, the densities of the susceptible, the untreated drug addicts, and the drug addicts under treatment are stationary over time. The related simulations are demonstrated by MHOM in the middle and by PTEMM on the right. Moreover, for 50000 sample paths in total, the distributions of frequency for the solution of model (1.1) are carried out in Figure 4.

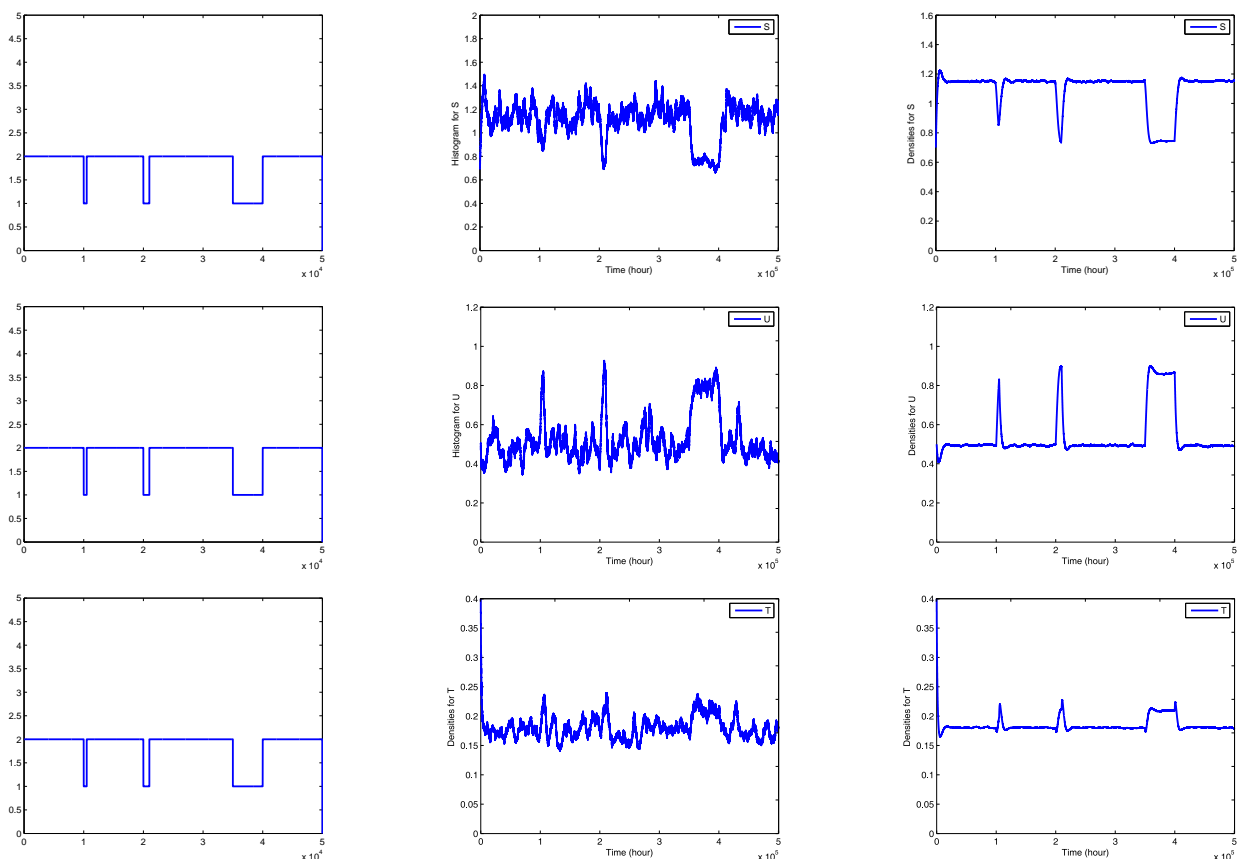


Figure 3. The stationary distributions with same Markov chain (left) under MHOM (middle) and PTEM (right) respectively.

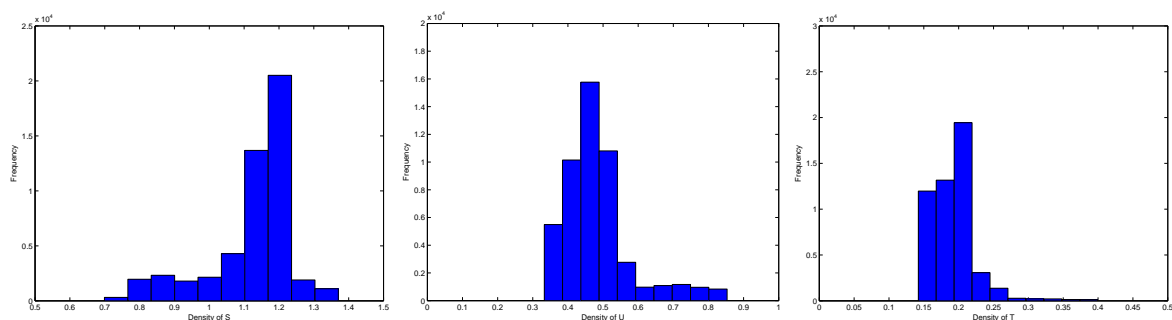


Figure 4. Histogram of $S(t)$, $U(t)$, $T(t)$ to model (1) with 50000 sample paths.

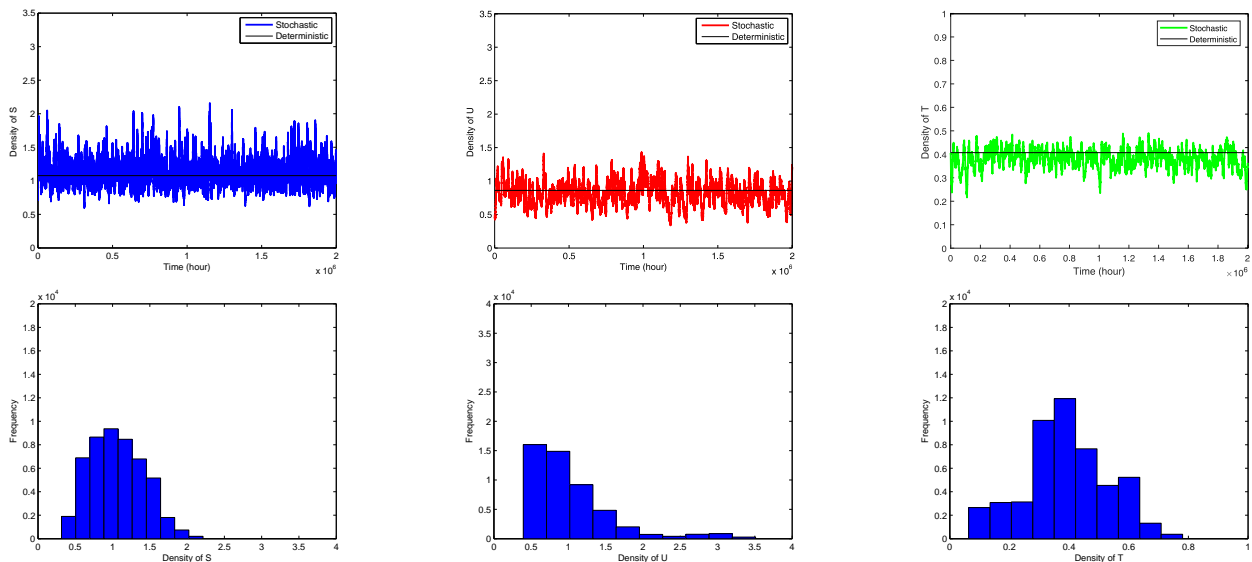
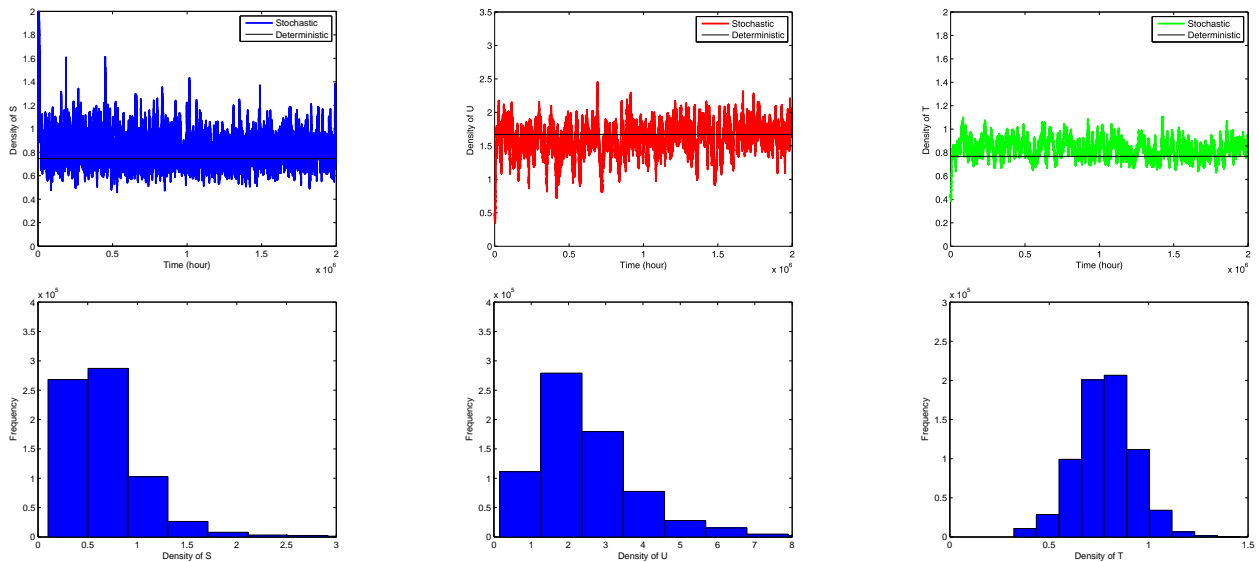
Example 3 We choose the data in Table 2 to verify the conditions of Theorem 4 and Theorem 5. By (IV), the conditions

$$1 + \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 p - \beta_1 \Lambda} = 0.618 > 0, \Lambda \beta_1^2 - m_3 \beta_2 p = 0.043 > 0$$

hold, we derive the equilibrium point $P^* = (1.078, 0.861, 0.407)$ by Theorem 4. Meanwhile, the stochastic persistence of density function of model (2.20) is demonstrated in Figure 5.

Table 2. Values of parameters to model (2.20).

Group	Λ	p	μ	δ_1	δ_2	β_1	β_2	σ_1^2	σ_2^2	σ_3^2
(IV)	0.60	0.35	0.15	0.125	0.115	0.400	0.532	0.125	0.045	0.035
(V)	0.60	0.35	0.05	0.150	0.055	0.400	0.380	0.170	0.080	0.044
(VI)	0.60	0.35	0.17	0.050	0.070	0.261	0.450	0.188	0.045	0.035

**Figure 5.** Persistence and density function of model (2.20) around (1.078, 0.861, 0.407).**Figure 6.** Persistence and density function of model (2.20) around (0.746, 1.670, 0.768).

Or, we take parameter (V) to compute the following conditions

$$\beta_1 \Lambda - m_1 p - m_1 m_2 = 0.105 > 0, \quad \Lambda \beta_1^2 - m_3 \beta_2 p = 0.106 > 0$$

then, the equilibrium point $P^* = (0.746, 1.670, 0.768)$ is followed. Further, the stochastic persistence of density function of model (2.20) is shown in Figure 6. Or, by selecting parameter (VI), the following conditions

$$(\beta_2 m_1 - \beta_1 m_3)(m_2 + p) + \beta_2(m_1 p - \beta_1 \Lambda) = 0.160 > 0, \Lambda \beta_1^2 - m_3 \beta_2 p = 0.079 > 0$$

hold, we obtain the positive equilibrium point $P^* = (0.967, 0.845, 0.679)$. So, the same dynamical properties appear, and we omit this case hereby.

4. Conclusions and discussion

Heroin is an addictive drug made from the various opium poppy plants around the world. The price and spreading of heroin depend on the flowering period (usually May–July for a year) and the fruiting period (usually June–August for a year). So, we give an SUT epidemic model with regime switching to describe the flowering period and fruiting period of opium poppy plants in this paper. We are motivated by the switching between flowering period and fruiting period of opium poppy plants in years, and the recent contributions [17, 30, 31] on epidemic models. We focus on the survival analysis of switching model (1.1) and its probability density function of constant model (2.20) for investigating their long-time dynamical properties.

For the switching SUT epidemic model (1.1), the existence and uniqueness is first derived with probability one in Theorem 1 by contradiction and stochastic analysis. Further, Theorem 2, Figures 1 and 2 verify the extinction of the switching SUT model under moderate conditions in theoretical and numerical aspects. The simulations therein also reveal that the larger intensities of the white noises make the time of extinction earlier. As a consequence of theoretical investigation, we derive the important index $R_0^s > 0$ of the existence and uniqueness of the ergodic stationary distribution in Theorem 3. The corresponding sample paths and histogram frequencies are demonstrated in Figures 3 and 4, respectively, in which Milstein's higher order method and partially truncated Euler-Maruyama method both verify well under the same Markovian chain.

For the constant SUT epidemic model (2.20), we aim at the existence of the positive equilibrium point in Theorem 4 and the existence of probability density function in Theorem 5, respectively. One of three types of sufficient conditions is required for determining a positive equilibrium point, and details could be found in Example 3. The sample paths of model (2.20) under distinct positive equilibrium points are demonstrated in Figure 5. Further, the expression of probability density function around the positive equilibrium point is obtained in Theorem 5 after we prove that coefficient matrix A is a Hurwitz matrix and diffusion matrix Σ is positive definite by using the Fokker-Planck equation.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare there is no conflict of interest.

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