Invariant distributions and scaling limits for some diffusions in time-varying random environments

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Abstract We consider a family of one-dimensional diffusions, in dynamical Wiener mediums, which are random perturbations of the Ornstein–Uhlenbeck diffusion process. We prove quenched and annealed convergences in distribution and under weigh-ted total variation norms. We find two kind of stationary probability measures, which are either the standard normal distribution or a quasi-invariant measure, depending on the environment, and which is naturally connected to a random dynamical system. We apply these results to the study of a model of time-inhomogeneous Brox's diffusions, which generalizes the diffusion studied by Brox (Ann Probab 14(4):1206–1218, 1986) and those investigated by Gradinaru and Offret (Ann Inst Henri Poincaré Probab Stat, 2011). We point out two distinct diffusive behaviours and we give the speed of convergences in the quenched situations.

Keywords Time-dependent random environment · Time-inhomogeneous Brox's diffusion · Random dynamical system · Foster–Lyapunov drift condition · Fluctuating stationary distribution

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1 Introduction

Random walks (RWs) in random environments (REs) and their continuous-time counterparts, the diffusions in random environment, pave the way for the study of a

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multitude of interesting cases, which have been tackled since the 70's in a large section of the literature.

Concerning the genesis of the theory, we allude to [27,46], as regards the discrete-time situation, and to [9,26,44], as regards the continuous-time one. For more recent refinements and generalizations, we refer to [10,12–14,23,24,34,42,45,49] and for a general review of the topic, we refer to [50].

Here we investigate one-dimensional diffusions evolving in dynamical Wiener media, which have some common features with those studied in [9,21]. We give, under weighted total variation norms, quenched and annealed diffusive scaling limits, which may depend on the environment, and thus, which are not always normal distributions. We also give the speeds of convergence under the quenched distributions. In addition, we bring out a phase transition phenomenon, which is the analogue in RE, to a particular situation considered in [21].

RWs in dynamical REs have been widely and intensively considered in the past few years under several assumptions. Initially, space–time i.i.d. REs have been introduced and studied in [6,7,39]. Further difficulties arise when the fluctuations of the REs are i.i.d. in space and Markovian in time, case addressed in [5,16], and major one arise when we consider space–time mixing REs, case recently studied in [4,8,15]. However, continuous-time diffusions in time-varying random environment have been sparsely investigate. Nevertheless, we can mention [29,30,32,40] concerning the homogenization of diffusions in time-dependent random flows.

1.1 The Wiener space

Introduce the space

$$\Theta := \left\{ \theta \in C(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}) : \theta(0) = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{|x| \to \infty} x^{-2} \theta(x) = 0 \right\} \tag{1.1}$$

endowed by the standard σ-field $\mathscr{B}$ generated by the Borel cylinder sets. It is classical that there exists a unique probability measure $\mathscr{W}$ on $(\Theta, \mathscr{B})$ such that the processes $\{\theta(\pm x) : \theta \in \Theta, x \geq 0\}$ are two independent standard Brownian motions. The probability distribution $\mathscr{W}$ is called the Wiener measure. We denote by $\{S_\lambda : \lambda > 0\}$ the scaling transformations on Θ defined by

$$S_\lambda \theta(*) := \frac{\theta(\lambda *)}{\sqrt{\lambda}}. \tag{1.2}$$

Note that Θ is naturally endowed with a structure of separable Banach space, such that $\mathscr{B}$ coincides with the Borel σ-field $\mathscr{B}_\Theta$.

1.2 Schumacher and Brox's results

Brox makes sense in [9] to solution of the informal diffusion equation

$$dX_t = dB_t - \frac{1}{2}\theta'(X_t)\,dt, \tag{1.3}$$

where $\theta \in \Theta$ and B is a standard one-dimensional Brownian motion independent of the Brownian environment $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$. Denoting by $\mathbb{P}_\theta$ and $\widehat{\mathbb{P}}$, respectively the quenched and annealed distributions (the expectation of $\mathbb{P}_\theta$ under $\mathscr{W}$) of such solution, Schumacher and Brox show, independently in [43,44] and [9], that there exists a family of measurable functions $\{b_h : h > 0\}$ on $(\Theta, \mathscr{B})$ such that the following convergence holds in probability

$$\frac{X_t}{(\log t)^2} - b_1\left(S_{(\log t)^2}\theta\right) = \frac{X_t - b_{\log t}(\theta)}{(\log t)^2} \xrightarrow[t\to\infty]{\widehat{\mathbb{P}}} 0. \tag{1.4}$$

The Wiener measure being invariant under the scaling transformations, if we denote by $\hat{b}_1$ the distribution of b_1 under $\mathscr{W}$, the following annealed convergence holds in distribution

$$\frac{X_t}{(\log t)^2} \xrightarrow[t\to\infty]{(d)} \hat{b}_1. \tag{1.5}$$

The key to prove these results is to take full advantage of the representation of X in terms of a one-dimensional Brownian motion changed in scale and time, and of the invariance of the Brownian motions B and θ under the scaling transformations S_λ. The authors prove that the diffusion is localized in the valleys of the potential θ, which are themselves characterized by b_1.

1.3 Phase transition in a 2-stable deterministic environment

Set $W(x) := |x|^{1/2}$ and consider, for any $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$, the particular time-inhomogeneous singular stochastic differential equation (SDE) studied in [21] and which is given by

$$dY_t = dB_t - \frac{1}{2}\frac{W'(Y_t)}{t^\beta} dt. \tag{1.6}$$

The authors show in [21] the existence of a pathwise unique strong solution and prove diffusive and subdiffusive scaling limits in distribution, depending on the position of β with respect to $1/4$. More precisely, they prove that

$$\frac{Y_t}{\sqrt{t}} \xrightarrow[t\to\infty]{(d)} \begin{cases} \mathscr{N}(0,1), & \text{when } \beta > 1/4, \\ k_c^{-1}e^{-\left[\frac{x^2}{2}+W(x)\right]} dx, & \text{when } \beta = 1/4, \end{cases} \tag{1.7}$$

and

$$\frac{Y_t}{t^{2\beta}} \xrightarrow[t\to\infty]{(d)} k_u^{-1}e^{-W(x)} dx, \quad \text{when } \beta < 1/4, \tag{1.8}$$

k_c and k_u being two normalization positive constants. In fact, to obtain the convergences in (1.7), they study the diffusion equation

$$\mathrm{d}Z_t = \mathrm{d}B_t - \frac{1}{2}\left[Z_t + e^{-rt}\, W'(Z_t)\right]\mathrm{d}t. \tag{1.9}$$

This process is naturally related to Eq. (1.6) by setting $r := \beta - 1/4$, via a well chosen scaling transformation taking full advantage of the scaling property of the Brownian motion B and of the deterministic scaling property of the potential W. For more details, we refer to [21]. We can expect to obtain similar results by replacing W in Eq. (1.6) by a typical Brownian path $\theta \in \Theta$, a 2-stable random process, and this is one of the main objects of this article.

1.4 Overview of the article

The paper is organized as follows: in Sect. 2, we introduce a diffusion equation (2.2) in a dynamical Wiener potential, which generalizes Eq. (1.9). Then we state our main results and we give the general strategy of the proofs. In Sect. 3, we apply these results to a model of time-inhomogeneous Brox's diffusions. This is a generalization of Eqs. (1.6) and (1.3) and we obtain similar asymptotic behaviours as in (1.7). Thereafter, in Sect. 4, we introduce some linear perturbations of Eq. (2.2). We show some properties, related to these ones, which are used in Sects. 5 and 6 to prove existence, uniqueness and nonexplosion for the diffusion process (2.2) (Theorem 2.1) and also to prove that this process is a strongly Feller diffusion satisfying the lower local Aronson estimate and a kind of cocycle property (Theorem 2.2). In Sect. 7, we prove some technical results in order to obtain the quenched and annealed convergences (Theorems 2.3 and 2.4) in the two last Sections.

2 Model and statement of results

2.1 Diffusions in a fluctuating Ornstein–Uhlenbeck potential

In the present paper, we study Brownian motions dynamics, in time-dependent Wiener media, given by the underlying dynamical random environment

$$\left\{T_t\theta(x) := S_{e^{t/2}}\theta(x) = e^{-t/4}\,\theta(e^{t/2}x) : \theta \in \Theta,\, t,\, x \in \mathbb{R}\right\}. \tag{2.1}$$

The family $\{T_t : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a one-parameter group of transformations leaving invariant $\mathscr{W}$ and such that, under this probability measure, $\{T_t\theta(x) : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a stationary Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process having $\mathscr{N}(0, x)$ as stationary distribution. Moreover, the dynamical system $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W}, (T_t)_{t\in\mathbb{R}})$ is ergodic (see Proposition 7.5).

We consider, for any $r \in \mathbb{R}$, the diffusion process Z, solution of the informal SDE driven by a standard Brownian motion B, independent of $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$,

$$\mathrm{d}Z_t = \mathrm{d}B_t - \frac{1}{2}\partial_x V_\theta(t, Z_t)\,\mathrm{d}t, \quad Z_s = z \in \mathbb{R}, \ t \geq s \geq 0, \ \theta \in \Theta, \qquad (2.2)$$

with

$$V_\theta(t, x) := \frac{x^2}{2} + e^{-rt}\, T_t\theta(x). \qquad (2.3)$$

Note that when θ is equal to W, defined in (1.6), $T_t\theta$ in (2.3) is simply equal to θ and Eq. (2.2) is nothing but Eq. (1.9). The diffusion process Z can be seen as a Brownian motion immersed in the random time-varying potential $\{V_\theta(t, \cdot) : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$, as well as an Ornstein–Uhlenbeck diffusion process, whose potential is perturbed by the dynamical Wiener medium $\{e^{-rt}\, T_t\theta : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Moreover, one can see Z as a distorted Brownian motion, whose drift is a Gaussian field $\{\Gamma(t, x) : t, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ having mean function m_Γ and covariance function C_Γ (here a Dirac measure) given by

$$m_\Gamma(t, x) = -\frac{x}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad C_\Gamma(t, x; s, z) = \frac{1}{4}e^{-\left[r(t+s) + \frac{|t-s|}{4}\right]}\delta(e^{t/2}x - e^{s/2}z).$$

We need to give a correct sense to solution of Eq. (2.2). Formally, we can see Z as the diffusion process, whose conditional infinitesimal generator, given $\theta \in \Theta$, is

$$L_\theta := L_{\theta,t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} := \left[\frac{1}{2}e^{V_\theta(t,x)}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(e^{-V_\theta(t,x)}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)\right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}. \qquad (2.4)$$

The domain and the so-called generalized domain of L_θ are defined by

$$D(L_\theta) := \left\{F \in \mathrm{C}^1 : e^{-V_\theta}\partial_x F \in \mathrm{C}^1\right\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\overline{D}(L_\theta) := \left\{F \in \mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{loc}}^{1,\infty} : e^{-V_\theta}\partial_x F \in \mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{loc}}^{1,\infty}\right\} \qquad (2.5)$$

where C^1 and $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{loc}}^{1,\infty}$ denote the space of real continuous functions $F(t, x)$ on $[s, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ such that the partial derivatives $\partial_t F$ and $\partial_x F$ (in the sense of distributions) exist and are respectively continuous functions and locally bounded functions.

This kind of diffusion operators, with distributional drift, have been already study in [20,41] in the case where the coefficients of the SDE do not depend on time. Rigorously speaking, a weak solution to Eq. (2.2) is a solution to the martingale problem related to $(L_\theta, D(L_\theta))$.

Definition 2.1 A continuous stochastic process $\{Z_t : t \geq s\}$ defined on a given filtered probability space is said to be a weak solution to Eq. (2.2) if $Z_s = z$ and if there exists an increasing sequence of stopping times $\{\tau_n : n \geq 0\}$ such that, for all $n \geq 0$ and $F \in D(L_\theta)$,

$$F(t \wedge \tau_n, Z_{t \wedge \tau_n}) - \int_s^{t \wedge \tau_n} L_\theta F(u, Z_u) \, du, \quad t \geq s, \tag{2.6}$$

is a local martingale, with

$$\tau_e := \sup_{n \geq 0} \inf\{t \geq s : |Z_t| \geq n\} = \sup_{n \geq 0} \tau_n. \tag{2.7}$$

A weak solution is global when the explosion time satisfies $\tau_e = \infty$ a.s. and we said that the weak solution is unique if all the weak solutions have the same distribution.

We are now able to state our first result.

Theorem 2.1 *For any $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in \Theta$, $s \geq 0$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists a unique global weak solution Z to Eq. (2.2). Moreover, there exists a standard Brownian motion B such that, for all $F \in \overline{D}(L_\theta)$,*

$$F(t, Z_t) = F(s, z) + \int_s^t L_\theta F(u, Z_u) \, du + \int_s^t \partial_x F(u, Z_u) \, dB_u, \quad t \geq s. \tag{2.8}$$

Since the one-dimensional Eq. (2.2) is not time-homogeneous, there are not simple conditions which characterize the nonexplosion as in [9,20,41]. Therefore, the main difficulty is to construct Lyapunov functions. To this end, we consider some linear perturbations of Eq. (2.2), given in (4.1), for which we are able, when the potential (4.2) is sufficiently confining, to construct suitable Lyapunov functions (see Proposition 4.2). Then we prove (see Theorem 5.1) nonexplosion, existence and uniqueness (in a more general setting) by using the Girsanov transformation and by considering the SDE (4.6). This equation is connected to Eq. (4.1), when the associated potential is attractive, via the pseudo-scale function S_θ defined in (4.4) (see Proposition 4.1). This method is a generalization in the time-inhomogeneous setting of that employed in [9,20,41] and which uses the effective scale function.

2.2 Strong Feller property, cocycle property and lower local Aronson estimate

In the following, we denote by $\mathbb{P}_{s,z}(\theta)$ the distribution of the weak solution to Eq. (2.2), called the quenched distribution, which existence is stated in Theorem 2.1. We introduce the canonical process $\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$ on the space of continuous functions from $[0, \infty)$ to $\mathbb{R}$, endowed with its standard Borel σ-field $\mathscr{F}$, and we denote by $P_\theta(s, z; t, dx)$ and $P_{s,t}(\theta)$, the probability transition kernel and the associated Markov kernel defined, for all measurable nonnegative function F on $\mathbb{R}$ by

$$P_{s,t}(\theta)F(z) := \mathbb{E}_{s,z}(\theta)[F(X_t)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} F(x) P_\theta(s, z; t, dx). \tag{2.9}$$

Theorem 2.2 *For any $r \in \mathbb{R}$ and all $\theta \in \Theta$, the family $\{\mathbb{P}_{s,z}(\theta) : s \geq 0, z \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is strongly Feller continuous. Moreover, the associated time-inhomogeneous semigroups $\{P_{s,t}(\theta) : t \geq s \geq 0, \theta \in \Theta\}$ satisfy*

$$P_{s,s+t}(\theta) = P_{0,t}(e^{-rs} T_s \theta) \quad and \quad P_{0,s+t}(\theta) = P_{0,s}(\theta) P_{0,t}(e^{-rs} T_s \theta). \quad (2.10)$$

Besides, $P_\theta(s, z; t, dx)$ admits a density $p_\theta(s, z; t, x)$, which is measurable with respect to (θ, s, t, z, x) on $\Theta \times \{t > s \geq 0\} \times \mathbb{R}^2$, and which satisfies the lower local Aronson estimate: for all $\theta \in \Theta$, $T > 0$ and compact set $C \subset \mathbb{R}$, there exists $M > 0$ such that, for all $0 \leq s < t \leq T$ and $z, x \in C$,

$$p_\theta(s, z; t, x) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{M(t-s)}} \exp\left(-M \frac{|z-x|^2}{t-s}\right). \quad (2.11)$$

The idea is to study the more general equivalent SDE (4.6) and to prove, by using standard technics, the analogous theorem for this diffusion (see Theorem 6.1).

Besides, the transition density being measurable with respect to θ, we can define the annealed distribution $\widehat{\mathbb{P}}_{s,z}$ and the associated Markov kernel $\widehat{P}_{s,t}$ as

$$\widehat{\mathbb{P}}_{s,z} := \mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\mathbb{P}_{s,z}] := \int_\Theta \mathbb{P}_{s,z}(\theta) \, \mathscr{W}(\mathrm{d}\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{P}_{s,t} := \mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[P_{s,t}] := \int_\Theta P_{s,t}(\theta) \, \mathscr{W}(\mathrm{d}\theta).$$

We point out that X is not a Markov process under $\widehat{\mathbb{P}}_{s,z}$. Moreover, in the light of (2.10), we can assume without loss of generality that $s = 0$ in (2.2) and we set

$$\mathbb{P}_z(\theta) := \mathbb{P}_{0,z}(\theta), \quad P_\theta(z; t, \mathrm{d}x) = P_\theta(0, z; t, \mathrm{d}x), \quad p_\theta(z; t, x) = p_\theta(0, z; t, x),$$
$$P_t(\theta) := P_{0,t}(\theta), \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{P}_t := \widehat{P}_{0,t}.$$

Furthermore, we can see that the case $r = 0$ is of particular interest since the relation (2.10) can be written in this situation

$$P_{s,s+t}(\theta) = P_t(T_s \theta) \quad and \quad P_{s+t}(\theta) = P_s(\theta) P_t(T_s \theta). \quad (2.12)$$

Roughly speaking, the Eq. (2.2) is time-homogeneous in distribution since from the scaling property $\mathscr{W}$ is (T_t)-invariant. Relation (2.12) is called the cocycle property and it induces (see [1] for a definition) a random dynamical system (RDS) over $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W}, (T_t))$ on the set $\mathscr{M}$ of signed measures on $\mathbb{R}$, by setting, for all $\nu \in \mathscr{M}$,

$$\nu P_t(\theta)(\mathrm{d}x) := \int_\mathbb{R} P_\theta(z; t, \mathrm{d}x) \, \nu(\mathrm{d}z) = \left(\int_\mathbb{R} p_\theta(z; t, x) \, \nu(\mathrm{d}z) \right) \mathrm{d}x.$$

Note that the subset of probability measures $\mathscr{M}_1 \subset \mathscr{M}$ is invariant under this RDS.

2.3 Quasi-invariant and stationary probability measures

To state our next important results, we need to introduce some additional notations. We said that μ is a random probability measure on $\mathbb{R}$, over $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$, if $\mu_\theta \in \mathscr{M}_1$ for $\mathscr{W}$-almost all θ, and if $\theta \longmapsto \mu_\theta(A)$ is measurable for all Borel set A. For such random probability measure μ, we introduce the probability measure $\hat{\mu}$ defined by

$$\hat{\mu} := \mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\mu] := \int_\Theta \mu_\theta \, \mathscr{W}(\mathrm{d}\theta).$$

Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and U_α, V_α be the functions on $\mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$U_\alpha(x) := \exp\left(\alpha \frac{x^2}{2}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad V_\alpha(x) := \exp(|x|^\alpha). \tag{2.13}$$

The F-total variation norm, $F \in \{U_\alpha, V_\alpha\}$, of a signed measures ν, is defined by

$$\|\nu\|_F := \sup\{|\nu(f)| : |f| \le F, \ f \text{ bounded and measurable}\}.$$

Note that if $\nu \in \mathscr{M}_1$ then $\|\nu\|_F = \nu(F)$. In addition, we set

$$\mathscr{M}_F := \{\nu \in \mathscr{M} : \|\nu\|_F < \infty\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathscr{M}_{1,F} = \mathscr{M}_1 \cap \mathscr{M}_F.$$

Theorem 2.3 *Assume that $r = 0$. There exists a random probability measure μ on $\mathbb{R}$ over $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$, unique up to a $\mathscr{W}$-null set, such that, for all $t \ge 0$,*

$$\mu_\theta P_t(\theta) = \mu_{T_t\theta} \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{2.14}$$

Moreover, for all $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, the quasi-invariant measure satisfies

$$\mu_\theta \in \mathscr{M}_{1,U_\alpha} \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\mu} \in \mathscr{M}_{1,V_\alpha}. \tag{2.15}$$

Furthermore, there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that, for all $\nu \in \mathscr{M}_{1,U_\alpha}$ and $\hat{\nu} \in \mathscr{M}_{1,V_\alpha}$,

$$\limsup_{t\to\infty} \frac{\log(\|\nu P_t(\theta) - \mu_{T_t\theta}\|_{U_\alpha})}{t} \le -\lambda \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{2.16}$$

and

$$\lim_{t\to\infty} \|\hat{\nu}\widehat{P_t} - \hat{\mu}\|_{V_\alpha} = 0. \tag{2.17}$$

Linear RDSs have been studied in an extensive body of the literature. The dynamics (in particular the Lyapunov exponents) in the case where the discrete-time linear RDS acts on a finite dimensional space (the case of infinite products of random matrices) have been well understood for a long time, for instance in [22,37], whereas the situation

where the general linear RDS acts on a separable Banach space has been newly studied in [33].

Our goal in Theorem 2.3 is to obtain a quasi-invariant probability measure for the random Markov kernels $P_t(\theta)$ and to give convergence results in the separable Banach spaces $\mathscr{M}_{U_\alpha}$ (exponential convergence) and $\mathscr{M}_{V_\alpha}$. We need a kind of random Perron-Frobenius theorem, which has been, for example, obtained in [2] for infinite products of nonnegative matrices, and more recently in [28] for infinite products of stationary Markov kernels over a compact set.

However, the Markov operators that we consider act on the infinite dimensional space $\mathscr{M}$ and are defined over the noncompact set $\mathbb{R}$. To overcome this problem, we need to see that U_α and V_α are Foster–Lyapunov functions (see Propositions 7.2 and 7.3). More precisely, we show that Lyapunov exponents can be chosen independently of the environment θ, while keeping a control on the expectation of the U_α-norm and the V_α-norm. The classical method to construct Foster–Lyapunov functions for Markov kernels is to construct Lyapunov functions for the infinitesimal generators (see Lemma 7.1 and 7.2). Nonetheless, we stress that neither U_α nor V_α belong to the generalized domain $\overline{D}(L_\theta)$ and we need to approximate uniformly these functions by functions of this domain, while keeping a control on the expectation under the Wiener measure. This is possible by using the Hölder continuity of Brownian paths (see Proposition 7.1).

Then, we use the explicit bound on convergence of time-inhomogeneous Markov chains (see Proposition 7.4), obtained from [17], via coupling constructions, Foster–Lyapunov conditions and the cocycle property, together with the ergodicity of the underlying dynamical system $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W}, (T_t)_{t\in\mathbb{R}})$. We point out that the Aronson estimate (2.11) is necessary to the coupling constructions.

Furthermore, let us denote by $\{U_t : t \geq 0\}$ the canonical process on the space Ξ of continuous functions from $[0, \infty)$ to Θ, endowed with its standard Borel σ-field $\mathscr{G}$, and introduce the Markov kernels $\Pi_{\theta,z}$ on $(\Xi \times \Omega, \mathscr{G} \otimes \mathscr{F})$, and the probability measure $\overline{\mu}$ on $(\Theta \times \mathbb{R}, \mathscr{B} \otimes \mathscr{B}(\mathbb{R}))$, defined by the product and disintegration formula

$$\Pi_{\theta,z} := \delta_{\{T_t\theta : t \geq 0\}} \otimes \mathbb{P}_z(\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{\mu}(\mathrm{d}\omega, \mathrm{d}x) := \mathscr{W}(\mathrm{d}\omega)\mu_\omega(\mathrm{d}x).$$

Then we can see that $\{(U_t, X_t) : t \geq 0\}$ is a time-homogeneous Markov process under $\Pi_{\theta,z}$ such that $\overline{\mu}$ is an invariant initial distribution. This process is called the skew-product Markov process (see [11,36] for the discrete-time situation). By applying standard results on general time-homogeneous Markov processes (see for instance [35]) we deduce that for all $F \in \mathrm{L}^1(\Theta \times \mathbb{R}, \overline{\mu})$, $z \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathscr{W}$ almost all $\theta \in \Theta$,

$$\lim_{t\to\infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t F(U_\tau, X_\tau)\,\mathrm{d}\tau = \int_{\Theta\times\mathbb{R}} F(\omega, x)\,\overline{\mu}(\mathrm{d}\omega, \mathrm{d}x), \quad \Pi_{\theta,z}\text{-a.s.}$$

Note that Eq. (2.15) provides some information on the tails of μ_θ and $\hat{\mu}$.

Theorem 2.4 *Assume that $r > 0$. For any $z \in \mathbb{R}$ and for $\mathscr{W}$-almost all $\theta \in \Theta$, the following convergence holds under the quenched distribution $\mathbb{P}_z(\theta)$,*

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} X_t \overset{\text{(d)}}{=} \mathscr{N}(0, 1). \tag{2.18}$$

Here the space–time mixing environment is, contrary to Theorem 2.3, asymptotically negligible and the diffusion behaves, in long time, as the underlying Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process. Since the cocycle property (2.12) is no longer satisfied, we loss the structure of linear RDS. To prove this result, we use once-again Proposition 7.4 but we also need to apply [21, Lemma 4.5] to the more general equivalent SDE (4.6).

Following the terminology used in [21], it is not difficult to see that this equation is asymptotically time-homogeneous and $S_*\varGamma$-ergodic, with S the scale function of the Ornstein–Uhlenbeck diffusion process having $\varGamma \sim \mathscr{N}(0, 1)$ as stationary distribution and $S_*\varGamma$ the pushforward distribution of $\varGamma$ by S. As they mention in [21], the main difficulty to apply this lemma is usually to show the boundedness in probability. To this end, we need to use again the Foster–Lyapunov functions U_α and V_α.

3 Application to time-inhomogeneous Brox's diffusions

3.1 Associated models

We turn now to our main application, the study of the socalled time-inhomogeneous Brox's diffusion. We consider, for any $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$, the informal SDE driven by a standard Brownian motion B, independent of the Brownian environment $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$,

$$dY_t = dB_t - \frac{1}{2}\frac{\theta'(Y_t)}{t^\beta}\,dt, \quad Y_u = y \in \mathbb{R}, \ t \geq u > 0, \ \theta \in \Theta. \tag{3.1}$$

A weak solution to Eq. (3.1) is, in the same manner as in Definition 2.1, the diffusion whose conditional generator, given $\theta \in \Theta$, is

$$\mathscr{L}_\theta := \left[\frac{1}{2}e^{\theta(x)/t^\beta}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(e^{-\theta(x)/t^\beta}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)\right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \quad \text{with}$$

$$D(\mathscr{L}_\theta) := \left\{F(t, x) \in \mathrm{C}^1 : e^{-\theta(x)/t^\beta}\partial_x F(t, x) \in \mathrm{C}^1\right\}.$$

As for Eq. (2.2), where we can assume without loss of generality that $s = 0$, we can assume that $u = 1$ in Eq. (3.1). Moreover, as in (1.9), we assume that $\beta = r + 1/4$ and we define, for all continuous functions ω on $[1, \infty)$ and all measurable function G on $[1, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$, $\Phi_e(\omega)(t) := \omega(e^t)/e^{t/2}$ and $\mathscr{E}G(t, x) := G(e^t, e^{t/2}x)$.

It is a simple calculation to see that $\mathscr{E} : D(\mathscr{L}_\theta) \longrightarrow D(L_\theta)$ is a bijection and that $L_\theta = \mathscr{E} \circ \mathscr{L}_\theta \circ \mathscr{E}^{-1}$. In the same way as in [21, Proposition 2.1 and Section 2.2.1] we deduce that $\{Y_t : t \geq 1\}$ is a weak solution to Eq. (3.1) if and only if $\{Z_t := \Phi_e(Y_t) : t \geq 0\}$ is a weak solution to Eq. (2.2). Then a direct application of Theorem 2.1 gives that for all $\theta \in \Theta$, there exists a unique irreducible strongly Feller diffusion process solution to Eq. (3.1).

Let $\mathbb{Q}_y(\theta)$ be its quenched distribution and denote by $\{R_t(\theta) : t \geq 1\}$, the time-inhomogeneous semigroup associated to $\{X_t/\sqrt{t} : t \geq 1\}$ under $\mathbb{Q}_y(\theta)$, and by $\widehat{\mathbb{Q}}_y$ and $\{\widehat{R}_t : t \geq 1\}$, there annealed counterparts.

3.2 Associated asymptotic behaviours

The following two corollaries are the analogous of Theorems 2.3 and 2.4. We recall that S_λ is defined in (1.2).

Corollary 3.1 *Assume that $\beta = 1/4$. For all $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that, for all $\nu \in \mathcal{M}_{1,U_\alpha}$ and $\hat{\nu} \in \mathcal{M}_{1,V_\alpha}$,*

$$\limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{\log(\|\nu R_t(\theta) - \mu_{S_{\sqrt{t}}\theta}\|_{U_\alpha})}{\log t} \leq -\lambda \quad \mathcal{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{3.2}$$

and

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \|\hat{\nu}\widehat{R}_t - \hat{\mu}\|_{V_\alpha} = 0. \tag{3.3}$$

Corollary 3.2 *Assume that $\beta > 1/4$. For any $y \in \mathbb{R}$ and for $\mathcal{W}$-almost all $\theta \in \Theta$, the following convergence holds under the quenched distribution $\mathbb{Q}_y(\theta)$,*

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{X_t}{\sqrt{t}} \overset{(\mathrm{d})}{=} \mathcal{N}(0, 1). \tag{3.4}$$

The scaling limits (3.2), (3.3) and (3.4) are to be compared with the two convergences presented in (1.7) (the deterministic situation studied in [21]) and convergences (1.4) and (1.5) (the random time-homogeneous situation considered in [9]). These results have some commons features with those presented in [21] and [9] and also with those presented in [7,29,30,32,39,40,42,49] concerning the quenched central limit theorem (3.4). There is still a phase transition phenomenon for $\beta = 1/4$ and we obtain distinct quenched and annealed scaling limits for the critical point. Moreover, we are more accurate concerning the speed of convergence, which is polynomial here, and exponential in Theorem 2.3.

Nevertheless, the case $\beta < 1/4$ seems to be out of range of the present technics. In fact, we expect a stronger localization phenomenon and a subdiffusive behaviour of order $t^{2\beta} \log^2(t)$ when $\beta \geq 0$ and an almost sure convergence when $\beta < 0$ (which can seen as a generalization and mixture of results presented in (1.4), (1.5) and (1.8)). Note that in the case where $\beta < 0$, Eq. (3.1) is (via a simple change of time) a damped SDE in random environment.

Furthermore, some methods elaborated in this paper can be used to study a similar interesting situation where we replace the Brownian environment θ in (3.1) by an another self-similar process. These situations are object of some works in progress. The case of a multiplicative noise or similar equations in higher dimension seems to be more difficult.

4 Preliminaries of Theorems 2.1 and 2.2

4.1 Linear perturbations of equation (2.2)

We consider, for any $a \in \mathbb{R}$, the informal SDE

$$\mathrm{d}Z_t = \mathrm{d}B_t - \frac{1}{2}\partial_x Q_\theta(t, Z_t)\,\mathrm{d}t, \quad Z_s = z \in \mathbb{R},\ t \geq s \geq 0,\ \theta \in \Theta, \qquad (4.1)$$

with the more general potential than (2.2) given by

$$Q_\theta(t, x) := a\frac{x^2}{2} + e^{-rt}T_t\theta(x) = V_\theta(t, x) + \frac{a-1}{2}x^2. \qquad (4.2)$$

Here once again $r \in \mathbb{R}$ and B denotes a standard Brownian motion independent of the Wiener space $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$. This equation coincides with Eq. (2.2) for $a = 1$. The conditional infinitesimal generator A_θ and its associated domains are given as in (2.4) and (2.5), replacing V_θ by Q_θ. Moreover, it is not difficult to check that

$$A_\theta = L_\theta - \frac{a-1}{2}x\frac{\partial}{\partial x}. \qquad (4.3)$$

We get that the domains of A_θ and L_θ are equals, in particular, the domains of A_θ do not depend on a. A weak solution to Eq. (4.1) is, in the same way as in Definition 2.1, a solution to the martingale problem related to $(A_\theta, D(A_\theta))$. In the sequel, we set

$$A_{\theta,t} := A_\theta - \frac{\partial}{\partial t}.$$

4.2 Equivalent SDE and martingale problem

We assume that $a > 0$ and we introduce an auxiliary SDE on $\mathbb{R}$, which is naturally connected to Eq. (4.1). Let S and H be the functions on $\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by

$$S_\theta(t, x) := \int_0^x e^{Q_\theta(t,y)}\mathrm{d}y = e^{-t/2}\int_0^{e^{t/2}x} \exp\left(a\frac{e^{-t}z^2}{2} - e^{-(r+1/4)t}\theta(z)\right)\mathrm{d}z$$
$$\text{and}\quad S_\theta(t, H_\theta(t, x)) = x. \qquad (4.4)$$

Note that H_θ is well defined since $a > 0$ and in this case, the socalled pseudo-scale function $x \longmapsto S_\theta(t, x)$ is an increasing bijection of $\mathbb{R}$. Moreover, by using the second representation of S, obtained by the change of time $z := e^{t/2}y$, we can see that $S_\theta(t, x)$ and $H_\theta(t, x)$ are continuously differentiable with respect to $(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and we can set

$$\sigma_\theta(t, x) := (\partial_x S_\theta)(t, H_\theta(t, x)) \quad \text{and}\quad d_\theta(t, x) := (\partial_t S_\theta)(t, H_\theta(t, x)).$$

In addition, remark that, for all $(\theta, s, t, x) \in \Theta \times \mathbb{R}^3$,

$$S_\theta(s + t, x) = S_{(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)}(t, x), \quad H_\theta(s + t, x) = H_{(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)}(t, x),$$
$$\sigma_\theta(s + t, x) = \sigma_{(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)}(t, x) \quad \text{and} \quad d_\theta(s + t, x) = d_{(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)}(t, x).$$
$$(4.5)$$

We can consider, for any $\theta \in \Theta$, the SDE on $\mathbb{R}$ with continuous coefficients and driven by a standard Brownian motion B, independent of $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$,

$$d\widetilde{Z}_t = \sigma_\theta(t, \widetilde{Z}_t) \, dB_t + d_\theta(t, \widetilde{Z}_t) \, dt, \quad \widetilde{Z}_s = \tilde{z} \in \mathbb{R}, \quad t \geq s \geq 0. \quad (4.6)$$

Let $C^{1,2}$ be the space of continuous functions $F(t, x)$ on $[s, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ such that $\partial_t F$, $\partial_x F$ and $\partial_{xx}^2 F$ exist and are continuous functions and introduce

$$\widetilde{A}_\theta := \widetilde{A}_{\theta, t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} := \left[\frac{\sigma_\theta^2(t, x)}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + d_\theta(t, x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}.$$

Note that S_θ and H_θ induce two bijections from the space of measurable functions on $[s, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ into itself, inverse to each other, by setting

$$\mathscr{S}_\theta F(t, x) := F(t, S_\theta(t, x)) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathscr{H}_\theta F(t, x) := F(t, H_\theta(t, x)).$$

By restriction, we get that $\mathscr{S}_\theta$ and $\mathscr{H}_\theta$ induce bijections

$$\mathscr{S}_\theta : C^{1,2} \longrightarrow D(A_\theta), \quad \mathscr{H}_\theta : D(A_\theta) \longrightarrow C^{1,2},$$
$$\mathscr{S}_\theta : W_{\text{loc}}^{1,2,\infty} \longrightarrow \overline{D(A_\theta)} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathscr{H}_\theta : \overline{D(A_\theta)} \longrightarrow W_{\text{loc}}^{1,2,\infty},$$

where $W_{\text{loc}}^{1,2,\infty}$ denote the Sobolev space of continuous functions $F(t, x)$ on $[s, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ such that the partial derivatives $\partial_t F$, $\partial_x F$, $\partial_t(\partial_x F)$ and $\partial_{xx}^2 F$ exist and are locally bounded functions. Moreover, the infinitesimal generators A_θ and $\widetilde{A}_\theta$ are equivalent. More precisely, they satisfy

$$\mathscr{S}_\theta^{-1} \circ A_\theta \circ \mathscr{S}_\theta = \widetilde{A}_\theta. \quad (4.7)$$

Proposition 4.1 *For any $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in \Theta$, $s \geq 0$ and $z, \tilde{z} \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\tilde{z} := S_\theta(s, z)$, $\{Z_t : t \geq s\}$ is a weak solution to Eq. (4.1) if and only if $\{\widetilde{Z}_t := S_\theta(t, Z_t) : t \geq s\}$ is a weak solution, up to the explosion time τ_e, to SDE (4.6). Furthermore, there exists a unique weak solution $(\widetilde{Z}, B)$ and, for all $G \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1,2,\infty}$ and $s \leq t < \tau_e$,*

$$G(t, \widetilde{Z}_t) = G(s, \tilde{z}) + \int_s^t \widetilde{A}_\theta G(u, \widetilde{Z}_u) \, du + \int_s^t \partial_x G(u, \widetilde{Z}_u) \sigma_\theta(u, \widetilde{Z}_u) \, dB_u. \quad (4.8)$$

Proof Assume that $\widetilde{Z}$ is a weak solution to (4.6). By using the Ito formula, $\widetilde{Z}$ solves the martingale problem related to $(\widetilde{A}_\theta, \mathrm{C}^{1,2})$. Therefore, $\widetilde{Z}_s = \tilde{z}$ and there exists an increasing sequence of stopping time $\{\tau_n : n \geq 0\}$ such that, for all $n \geq 0$ and $G \in \mathrm{C}^{1,2}$,

$$G(t \wedge \tau_n, \widetilde{Z}_{t \wedge \tau_n}) - \int_s^{t \wedge \tau_n} \widetilde{A}_\theta G(u, \widetilde{Z}_u) \, \mathrm{d}u, \quad t \geq s,$$

is a local martingale, with

$$\tau_e := \sup_{n \geq 0} \inf \left\{ t \geq s : |\widetilde{Z}_t| \geq n \right\} = \sup_{n \geq 0} \tau_n.$$

We deduce from relation (4.7) that $\{Z_t := H_\theta(t, \widetilde{Z}_t) : t \geq s\}$ is a weak solution to (4.1) since $Z_s = z$, for all $n \geq 0$ and $F \in D(L_\theta)$, $G := \mathscr{H}_\theta F \in \mathrm{C}^{1,2}$, and

$$F(t \wedge \tau_n, Z_{t \wedge \tau_n}) - \int_s^{t \wedge \tau_n} A_\theta F(u, Z_u) \, \mathrm{d}u = G(t \wedge \tau_n, \widetilde{Z}_{t \wedge \tau_n}) - \int_s^{t \wedge \tau_n} \widetilde{A}_\theta G(u, \widetilde{Z}_u) \, \mathrm{d}u.$$

A similar reasoning allow us to show that if Z is a weak solution to (4.1) then $\{\widetilde{Z}_t := S_\theta(t, Z_t) : t \geq s\}$ is a weak solution to (4.6). Moreover, Eq. (4.6) has continuous coefficients σ_θ and d_θ and is strictly elliptic ($\sigma_\theta > 0$) and we deduce, by using classical arguments of localization (see, for instance, [48, pp. 250–251]), that there exists a unique weak solution $(\widetilde{Z}, B)$. Furthermore, by using the Ito–Krylov formula (see, for instance, [31, Chapter 10] or [18, p. 134]), we obtain (4.8). □

4.3 Chain rules and nonexplosion

To construct Lyapunov functions for the infinitesimal generator L_θ, or more generally for A_θ associated to (4.1), we need to give the associated chain rules. For all $\theta \in \Theta$ and $\varphi \in \mathrm{W}^{1,\infty}_{\mathrm{loc}}$ (the space of real continuous functions such that the partial derivatives in the sense of distributions exist and are locally bounded functions) define

$$F_\theta^\varphi(t, x) := \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y) \right] \varphi(t, y) \, \mathrm{d}y \in \overline{D}(A_\theta). \tag{4.9}$$

By standard computations, we get the following chain rules

$$A_{\theta, t} F_\theta^\varphi(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(x) \right] \left(\partial_x \varphi(t, x) - ax\varphi(t, x) \right), \tag{4.10}$$

and

$$\partial_t F_\theta^\varphi(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(x)\right] x \, \varphi(t, x) - \frac{1}{2} F_\theta^\varphi(t, x)$$

$$+ \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y)\right] \left(\partial_t \varphi(t, y) - \frac{y}{2} \partial_x \varphi(t, y)\right) dy$$

$$-\left(r + \frac{1}{4}\right) \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y)\right] \left(e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y)\right) \varphi(t, y) \, dy. \quad (4.11)$$

Proposition 4.2 *Assume that* $a > 1$. *For any* $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in \Theta$, $s \geq 0$ *and* $z \in \mathbb{R}$, *any weak solution* Z *to* (4.1) *is global and, for all* $T > s$ *and* $0 < \beta < (a-1)/2$,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left(\beta \sup_{s \leq t \leq T} Z_t^2\right)\right] < \infty. \quad (4.12)$$

Proof Let $0 < \alpha < a - 1$ and U_α be the function defined in (2.13) and set

$$U_{\theta,\alpha}(t, x) := 1 + \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y)\right] U_\alpha'(y) \, dy \in \overline{D}(A_\theta).$$

We shall prove that U_θ is a Lyapunov function, in the sense that, for all $T > s$, there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that, for all $0 \leq t \leq T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$A_\theta U_{\theta,\alpha}(t, x) \leq \lambda U_{\theta,\alpha}(t, x) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{|x| \to \infty} \inf_{0 \leq t \leq T} U_{\theta,\alpha}(t, x) = \infty. \quad (4.13)$$

First note that the second relation in (4.13) is clear since $\lim_{|x| \to \infty} \theta(x)/x^2 = 0$. Moreover, by using (4.11) and (4.10), we can see that

$$A_{\theta,t} U_{\theta,\alpha}(t, x) = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha(a - \alpha)\left(1 - \frac{1}{(a-\alpha)x^2}\right) x^2 \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(x)\right] U_\alpha(x) \quad (4.14)$$

and

$$\partial_t U_{\theta,\alpha}(t, x) = \frac{1}{2}\alpha x^2 \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(x)\right] U_\alpha(x) - \frac{1}{2}(U_{\theta,\alpha}(t, x) - 1)$$

$$- \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y)\right] \left(\frac{\alpha y^2 + 1}{2}\right) U_\alpha'(y) \, dy$$

$$-\left(r + \frac{1}{4}\right) \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y)\right] \left(e^{-rt} T_t \theta(y)\right) U_\alpha'(y) \, dy. \quad (4.15)$$

In addition, since $0 < \alpha < a - 1$, we can write for x sufficiently large,

$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha(a-\alpha)\left(1 - \frac{1}{(a-\alpha)x^2}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\alpha < 0. \qquad (4.16)$$

Then we get from (4.16) and (4.14) that there exist $L_1 > 0$ and a compact set C such that, for all $0 \le t \le T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$A_{\theta,t}U_{\theta,\alpha}(t,x) + \frac{1}{2}\alpha x^2 \exp\left[e^{-rt}T_t\theta(x)\right]U_\alpha(x) \le L_1 \mathbb{1}_C(x) \le L_1 U_{\theta,\alpha}(t,x). \qquad (4.17)$$

Besides, we can see that there exists $L_2 > 0$ such that, for all $0 \le t \le T$ and $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\frac{\alpha y^2 + 1}{2} + \left(r + \frac{1}{4}\right)e^{-rt}T_t\theta(y) \ge \frac{\alpha y^2}{4} - L_2. \qquad (4.18)$$

We deduce from (4.18), (4.17) and (4.15) that (4.13) is satisfied with $\lambda := L_1 + L_2$. By using a classical argument (see, for instance, [48, Theorem 10.2.1]) we get that the explosion time is infinite a.s. Furthermore, the right-hand side of (4.13) implies that $\{e^{-\lambda t}U_{\theta,\alpha}(t,Z_t) : s \le t \le T\}$ is a positive supermartingale. By using the maximal inequality (obtain from the optional stopping theorem) we get that, for all $R > 0$,

$$R\,\mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{s \le t \le T} e^{-\lambda t}U_{\theta,\alpha}(t,Z_t) \ge R\right) \le e^{-\lambda s}U_{\theta,\alpha}(s,z). \qquad (4.19)$$

Besides, we can check that, for all $\beta < \alpha/2$, there exists $c > 0$ such that, for all $s \le t \le T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $c\,U_{\theta,\alpha}(t,x) \ge \exp(\beta x^2)$. Then by using (4.19), we obtain

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{s \le t \le T} Z_t^2 \ge R\right) \le c\,e^{\lambda(T-s)}U_{\theta,\alpha}(s,z)\exp(-\beta R).$$

Since β and α are arbitrary parameters satisfying $\beta < \alpha/2 < (a-1)/2$, we deduce from the last inequality that (4.12) holds for any $\beta < (a-1)/2$. □

5 Proof of Theorem 2.1

Theorem 2.1 will be a direct consequence of Theorem 5.1 below.

Theorem 5.1 *For any $a, r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in \Theta$, $s \ge 0$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists a unique global weak solution to Eq. (4.1). Moreover, there exists a standard Brownian motion B such that, for all $F \in \overline{D}(A_\theta)$,*

$$F(t,Z_t) = F(s,z) + \int_s^t A_\theta F(u,Z_u)\,du + \int_s^t \partial_x F(u,Z_u)\,dB_u, \quad t \ge s. \qquad (5.1)$$

Proof First of all, when $a > 1$, the proof is a direct consequence of Propositions (4.2) and (4.1). More generally than relation (4.3), we note that, for any $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$A_\theta^{(1)} = A_\theta^{(2)} - \frac{a_1 - a_2}{2} x \frac{\partial}{\partial x},$$

where $A^{(i)}$ denotes the infinitesimal generator associated to a_i, $i \in \{1, 2\}$. By using this relation, it is not difficult to see that the Girsanov transformation induces, by localization, a linear bijection between the weak solutions associated to parameters a_1 and a_2. Since for all $a_2 > 1$ there exists a unique weak solution, we obtain that, for all $a_1 \leq 1$ there exists a unique weak solution. Therefore, to complete the proof, it suffices to show that there exists a global weak solution. Remark that since uniqueness holds for the martingale problems, any weak solution is a Markov process.

Let $a_1 \leq 1 < a_2$ be and consider for a_2 a global weak solution (Z, W) on a given filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathscr{F}, \mathbb{P}_2)$. We set $k := (a_2 - a_1)/2$ and, for all $t \geq s$,

$$D_t := \exp\left(\int_s^t k\, Z_u\, \mathrm{d}W_u - \frac{1}{2} \int_s^t k^2\, Z_u^2\, \mathrm{d}u \right) \quad \text{and} \quad B_t := W_t - W_s - \int_s^t k\, Z_u\, \mathrm{d}u.$$

By using the moment inequality (4.12) and the Novikov criterion, we can see that $\{D_t : s \leq t \leq s + T\}$ is a martingale for any $0 < T < (a_2 - 1)/k^2$. The Girsanov theorem applies and $\{B_t : s \leq t \leq s + T\}$ is a standard Brownian motion under the probability measure $\mathbb{P}_1$, defined by the Radon–Nykodym derivatives

$$\mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}_{1|\mathscr{F}_t} := D_t\, \mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}_{2|\mathscr{F}_t}, \quad s \leq t \leq s + T.$$

Moreover, for all $F \in \overline{D}(A_\theta^{(2)}) \equiv \overline{D}(A_\theta^{(1)})$ and $s \leq t \leq s + T$,

$$F(t, Z_t) = F(s, z) + \int_s^t A_\theta^{(2)} F(u, Z_u)\, \mathrm{d}u + \int_s^t \partial_x F(u, Z_u)\, \mathrm{d}W_u$$

$$= F(s, z) + \int_s^t A_\theta^{(1)} F(u, Z_u)\, \mathrm{d}u + \int_s^t \partial_x F(u, Z_u)\, \mathrm{d}B_u.$$

Then $\{(Z_t, B_t) : s \leq t \leq s + T\}$ is a weak solution, which does not explode, on the filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathscr{F}, \mathbb{P}_1)$. Since the life time T is independent on the initial state (s, z), we deduce by using the Markov property that the unique weak solution associated to a_1 is global. This completes the proof. $\qquad\square$

6 Proof of Theorem 2.2

We first show that it suffices to prove the analogous theorem for the more general equivalent SDE (4.6) (see Theorem 6.1). Thereafter, we prove this theorem.

Let $\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s,\tilde{z}}(\theta)$ be the distribution of the global weak solution to the SDE (4.6), which existence is stated in Proposition (6.1), and denote by $\widetilde{P}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}; t, \mathrm{d}x)$ and $\widetilde{P}_{s,t}(\theta)$ the associated transition kernels and Markov kernels.

Theorem 6.1 *For any $r \in \mathbb{R}$ and all $\theta \in \Theta$, the family $\{\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s,\tilde{z}}(\theta) : s \geq 0, \tilde{z} \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is strongly Feller continuous. Moreover, the associated time-inhomogeneous semigroups $\{\widetilde{P}_{s,t}(\theta) : t \geq s \geq 0, \theta \in \Theta\}$ satisfy*

$$\widetilde{P}_{s,s+t}(\theta) = \widetilde{P}_{0,t}(e^{-rs}T_s\theta) \quad and \quad \widetilde{P}_{0,s+t}(\theta) = \widetilde{P}_{0,s}(\theta)\widetilde{P}_{0,t}(e^{-rs}T_s\theta). \quad (6.1)$$

Besides, $\widetilde{P}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}; t, \mathrm{d}x)$ admits a density $\tilde{p}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}; t, x)$, which is measurable with respect to $(\theta, s, t, \tilde{z}, x)$ on $\Theta \times \{t > s \geq 0\} \times \mathbb{R}^2$, and which satisfies the lower local Aronson estimate: for all $\theta \in \Theta$, $T > 0$ and compact set $C \subset \mathbb{R}$, there exists $M > 0$ such that, for all $0 \leq s < t \leq T$ and $\tilde{z}, x \in C$,

$$\tilde{p}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}; t, x) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{M(t-s)}} \exp\left(-M\frac{|\tilde{z}-x|^2}{t-s}\right). \quad (6.2)$$

Denote by $\mathbb{P}_{s,z}(\theta)$ the distribution of the unique global weak solution to the Eq. (4.1), which is given in Theorem 5.1, and by $P_\theta(s, z; t, \mathrm{d}x)$ and $P_{s,t}(\theta)$ the associated transition kernels and Markov kernels. Assume first that $\{\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s,\tilde{z}}(\theta) : s \geq 0, \tilde{z} \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is strongly Feller continuous. One get by using Proposition 4.1 that, for all bounded measurable function F on $[0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$, $t \geq s \geq 0$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\mathbb{E}_{s,z}(\theta)[F(t, X_t)] = \widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s, S_\theta(s,z)}(\theta)[F(t, H_\theta(t, X_t))].$$

Since S_θ is continuous on $\mathbb{R}^2$, we deduce that $\{\mathbb{P}_{s,z}(\theta) : s \geq 0, z \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is also strongly Feller continuous. Secondly, assume that $\{\widetilde{P}_{s,t}(\theta) : t \geq s \geq 0\}$ satisfies relations (6.1). We get from (4.5) and Proposition 4.1 that, for all nonnegative function F on $\mathbb{R}$, $s, t \geq 0$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{s,s+t}(\theta)F(z) &= \widetilde{P}_{s,s+t}(\theta)[F(H_\theta(s+t, *))](S_\theta(s, z)) \\
&= \widetilde{P}_{0,t}(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)[F(H_{(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)}(t, *))](S_{(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)}(0, z)) = P_{0,t}(e^{-rs}T_s\theta)F(z).
\end{aligned}$$

By using the Markov property, we obtain relations (2.10). Finally, assume that the transition kernels $\widetilde{P}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}; t, \mathrm{d}x)$ admits a measurable density $\tilde{p}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}; t, x)$ which satisfies the lower local Aronson estimate (6.2). Once again, Proposition 4.1 applies and gives that $P_\theta(s, z; t, \mathrm{d}x)$ admits a density p such that

$$p_\theta(s, z; t, x) = \tilde{p}_\theta(s, S_\theta(s, z); t, S_\theta(t, x))e^{Q_\theta(t,x)}.$$

Since S_θ is a locally Lipschitz function, we deduce that $p_\theta(s, z; t, \mathrm{d}x)$ is also measurable and satisfies the lower local Aronson estimate. In particular, Theorem 6.1 implies Theorem 2.2. This ends the proof, excepted for Theorem 6.1.

Proof of Theorem 6.1 Since Eq. (4.6) is strictly elliptic ($\sigma_\theta > 0$) and has continuous coefficients, it is classical (see for instance [48, Corollary 10.1.4]) that its unique weak solution is a strongly Feller continuous diffusion, which admits transition densities $\tilde{p}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}; t, x)$ measurable with respect to $(s, t, \tilde{z}, x) \in \{t > s \geq 0\} \times \mathbb{R}^2$ for each $\theta \in \Theta$. Moreover, we can see that relations (6.1) are direct consequences of the Markov property and of (4.5). We need to prove the measurability of $\tilde{p}$ on $\Theta \times \{t > s \geq 0\} \times \mathbb{R}^2$ and the lower local Aronson estimate (6.2). Set, for all $\delta \geq 0$,

$$\widetilde{P}_{\delta,\theta}(s, \tilde{z}; t, \mathrm{d}x) := \widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s,\tilde{z}}(\theta)(X_t \in \mathrm{d}x, \ \tau_\delta(s) > t) = \widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s,\tilde{z}}^{(\delta)}(\theta)(X_t \in \mathrm{d}x, \ \tau_\delta > t)$$

with

$$\tau_\delta(s) := \inf\{t \geq s : |X_t| \geq \delta\} \wedge T.$$

Here $\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s,\tilde{z}}^{(\delta)}(\theta)$ denotes the distribution of the truncated diffusion process whose coefficients are given on $[s, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ by

$$d_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, x) := d_\theta(t \wedge T, (x \wedge \delta) \vee -\delta) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, x) := \sigma_\theta(t \wedge T, (x \wedge \delta) \vee -\delta).$$

Then the fundamental solution $\tilde{p}_\theta^{(\delta)}$ of the associated partial differential equation (PDE) satisfies the local Aronson estimates. Indeed, even if the associated partial differential operator is not of divergence form, we can see that it is equivalent to a uniformly elliptic divergence type operator, with bounded coefficients, employing the change of scale defined on $[s, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ by

$$k_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, x) := \int\limits_0^x \frac{1}{(\sigma_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, y))^2} \exp\left(2 \int\limits_0^y \frac{d_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, z)}{(\sigma_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, z))^2} \, \mathrm{d}z\right) \mathrm{d}y.$$

Therefore, the results in [3] or [38] apply, and the fundamental solution $\tilde{q}_\theta^{(\delta)}$ of the associated PDE satisfies the global Aronson estimates. Besides, since

$$\tilde{p}_\theta^{(\delta)}(s, \tilde{z}, t, x) = \tilde{q}_\theta^{(\delta)}\big(s, k_\theta^{(\delta)}(s, \tilde{z}), t, k_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, x)\big)\partial_x k_\theta^{(\delta)}(t, x)$$

and $k_\theta^{(\delta)}$ is locally Lipschitz, we get that $\tilde{p}_\theta^{(\delta)}$ satisfies the local Aronson estimates.

Then, following exactly the same lines as the proof of [47, Theorem II.1.3] in the time-homogeneous situation, we can prove that the kernel $\widetilde{P}_{\delta,\theta}$ admits a density $\tilde{p}_{\delta,\theta}$ such that, for all $0 < \eta < 1$, there exists $M > 0$ such that, for all $0 \leq s < t \leq T$, $|\tilde{z}| \leq \eta\delta$, $|x| \leq \eta\delta$ and $|t - s| \leq (\eta\delta)^2$,

$$\tilde{p}_{\delta,\theta}(s, \tilde{z}, t, x) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{M(t - s)}} \exp\left(-M\frac{|x - \tilde{z}|^2}{t - s}\right).$$

Since $\tilde{p} \geq \tilde{p}_\delta$, we deduce that $\tilde{p}$ satisfies (6.2) by taking δ sufficiently large.

It remains to prove the measurability of $\tilde{p}$. We shall apply [48, Theorem 11.1.4]. Since $(\theta, s, x) \longmapsto \sigma_\theta(s, x)$ and $(\theta, s, x) \longmapsto d_\theta(s, x)$ are continuous on $\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^2$, we can see that, for all convergent sequence $\theta_n \longrightarrow \theta$ in Θ and all $T, R > 0$,

$$\sup_{[0,T] \times [-R,R]} |\sigma_{\theta_n} - \sigma_\theta| + |d_{\theta_n} - d_\theta| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0.$$

We can check that the assumptions of [48, Theorem 11.1.4] are satisfied and we conclude that, for all convergent sequence $(s_n, \tilde{z}_n) \longrightarrow (s, \tilde{z})$ in $[0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ and all bounded continuous function G on the canonical space Ω,

$$\widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s_n, \tilde{z}_n}(\theta_n)[G] \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} \widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta)[G]$$

We deduce that $(\theta, s, \tilde{z}) \longmapsto \widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta)[G]$ is continuous on $\Theta \times [0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$. In particular, the family of probability measures $\{\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta) : s \geq 0, \tilde{z} \in \mathbb{R}, \theta \in \Theta\}$ is tight and we can see that, for all bounded measurable function F on $\mathbb{R}$, $(\theta, s, \tilde{z}, t) \longmapsto \widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta)[F(X_t)]$ is measurable on $\Theta \times \{t > s \geq 0\} \times \mathbb{R}$. To this end, assume furthermore that F is L-Lipschitz. We can write, for all compact set K of the canonical space Ω,

$$|\widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta)[F(X_t)] - \widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s_0, \tilde{z}_0}(\theta_0)[F(X_{t_0})]| \leq L \, \widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta)(\Omega \setminus K)$$
$$+ L \, \widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta)[\mathbb{1}_K |X_t - X_{t_0}|] + |\widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta)[F(X_{t_0})] - \widetilde{\mathbb{E}}_{s_0, \tilde{z}_0}(\theta_0)[F(X_{t_0})]|.$$

By letting $(s, \tilde{z}, \theta, t) \longrightarrow (s_0, \tilde{z}_0, \theta_0, t_0)$ and by using the tightness of the family of probability measure $\{\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}_{s, \tilde{z}}(\theta) : s \geq 0, \tilde{z} \in \mathbb{R}, \theta \in \Theta\}$, we get the continuity and we deduce our claim, since any measurable bounded function is the bounded pointwise limit of a sequence of Lipschitzian functions.

Therefore, we can define the measure ν on the product measurable space $\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^4$ by setting, for all $B \in \mathscr{B}$ and $I_1, I_2, I_3, I_4 \in \mathscr{B}(\mathbb{R})$,

$$\nu \left(B \times \prod_{k=1}^{4} I_k \right) := \int_{B \times I_1 \times I_2 \times I_3} \widetilde{P}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}, t, I_4) \mathbb{1}_{t > s \geq 0} \mathscr{W}(d\theta) \, ds \, d\tilde{z} \, dt.$$

By standard results on disintegration of measures, the Radon–Nykodym derivative of ν with respect to $\mathscr{W}(d\theta) \, ds \, d\tilde{z} \, dt \, dx$, which is nothing but $\tilde{p}_\theta(s, \tilde{z}, t, x)$, is measurable.

7 Preliminaries of Theorems 2.3 and 2.4

7.1 Uniform affine approximations of the environment

In the following, set for all $\gamma \in (0, 1/2)$ and $\theta \in \Theta$,

$$H_\gamma(\theta) := \sup_{n \geq 0} \frac{\|\theta^+\|_{\gamma,n} + \|\theta^-\|_{\gamma,n}}{L(n)}, \quad \Theta_\gamma := \{0 < H_\gamma < \infty\}, \qquad (7.1)$$
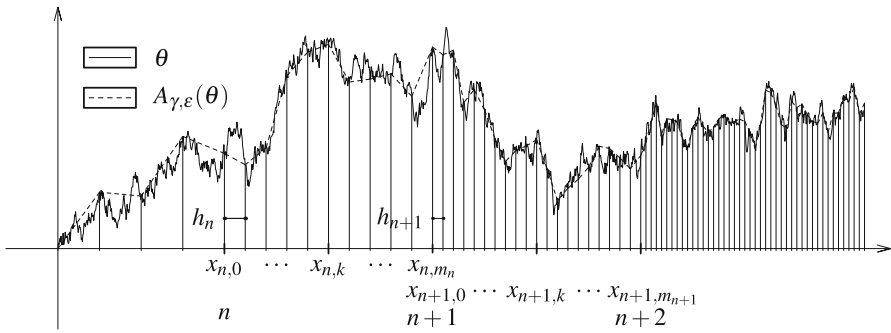
Fig. 1 Affine approximation of a typical Brownian path θ

with, for all $n \geq 0$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\|\theta^{\pm}\|_{\gamma,n} := \sup_{n \leq x < y \leq n+1} \frac{|\theta(\pm y) - \theta(\pm x)|}{|y - x|^{\gamma}} \quad \text{and} \quad L(x) := \sqrt{1 + \log(1 + |x|)}. \tag{7.2}$$

In addition, denote for all $\varepsilon > 0$ by $A_{\gamma,\epsilon}(\theta)$ (see Fig. 1) the piecewise linear approximation of θ, associated to the subdivision $S_{\gamma,\varepsilon} := \{x_{n,k} : n \in \mathbb{Z}, \ 0 \leq k \leq m_n\}$, defined by $m_n := h_n^{-1} := [L^{1/\gamma}(n)\varepsilon^{-1}] + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$, $x_{n,k} := n + k\,h_n$ and $x_{-n,k} := -x_{n,k}$. Then introduce the random affine approximation $W_{\gamma,\varepsilon}$ defined, for all $\theta \in \Theta_{\gamma}$ by

$$W_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta) := A_{\gamma,\eta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)}(\theta), \quad \text{with } \eta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta) := \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{H_{\gamma}(\theta)}\right)^{1/\gamma}, \tag{7.3}$$

and set

$$\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x) := \theta(x) - W_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x) \quad \text{and} \quad D_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta) := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{|W'_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)|}{L^{1/\gamma}(x)}. \tag{7.4}$$

Proposition 7.1 *For all $\gamma \in (0, 1/2)$, the subset $\Theta_{\gamma} \subset \Theta$ is (T_t)-invariant and of full measure. Furthermore, there exists $\alpha > 0$ such that*

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\exp(\alpha H_{\gamma}^2)] := \int_{\Theta} \exp(\alpha H_{\gamma}^2(\theta))\,\mathscr{W}(d\theta) < \infty. \tag{7.5}$$

Besides, for all $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\theta \in \Theta_{\gamma}$,

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)| \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad D_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta) \leq \varepsilon\big(1 + (\varepsilon^{-1}H_{\gamma}(\theta))^{1/\gamma}\big). \tag{7.6}$$

Proof Clearly $H_{\gamma} : \Theta \to [0, \infty]$ is a seminorm and to get inequality (7.5) it suffices to apply the Fernique theorem presented in [19, Theorem 1.3.2, p. 11]. To this end, we

need to check that $\mathscr{W}(H_\gamma < \infty) > 0$. By using the Hölder continuity of the Brownian motion on compact sets, the seminorm defined on Θ by $N(\theta) := \|\theta^+\|_{\gamma,1} + \|\theta^-\|_{\gamma,1}$ is finite $\mathscr{W}$-a.s. Moreover, by using the Fernique theorem and the Markov inequality, we deduce that there exists $c, \beta > 0$ such that, for r sufficiently large,

$$F(r) := \mathscr{W}(\{N \geq r\}) \leq \mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\exp(\beta N^2)]e^{-\beta r^2} \leq ce^{-\beta r^2}.$$

Besides, the random variables $(\theta \mapsto \|\theta^+\|_{\gamma,n} + \|\theta^-\|_{\gamma,n})$, $n \geq 0$, being i.i.d. by using again the Markov property, we get that

$$\lim_{h\to\infty} \mathscr{W}(\{H_\gamma \leq h\}) = \lim_{h\to\infty} \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} (1 - F(h L(n))) \geq \lim_{h\to\infty} \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{c}{n^{\beta h^2}}\right) = 1.$$

Fernique's theorem applies and we deduce (7.5). The fact that Θ_γ is (T_t)-invariant is obtained by noting that, for all $\theta \in \Theta$ and $t \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$H_\gamma(T_t\theta) \leq 2e^{(\gamma - 1/2)(t/2)}\left(e^{t/2} + 1\right) \sup_{n\geq 0}\left[\frac{L\left((n+1)e^{t/2} + 1\right)}{L(n)}\right]H_\gamma(\theta).$$

Furthermore, let $\varepsilon > 0$, $n \geq 0$ and $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ be such that $n \leq x, y \leq n+1$ and $|y - x| \leq h_n$, where h_n denotes the step of the subdivision $S_{\gamma,\varepsilon}$ defined in Fig. 1. We can see that

$$|\theta^{\pm}(y) - \theta^{\pm}(x)| \leq L(n)H_\gamma(\theta) h_n^\gamma \leq H_\gamma(\theta) \varepsilon^\gamma$$

and, when $|y - x| = h_n$, we get

$$\frac{|\theta^{\pm}(y) - \theta^{\pm}(x)|}{|y - x|} \leq L(n)H_\gamma(\theta)|y - x|^{\gamma-1} \leq H_\gamma(\theta) \varepsilon^\gamma \left(\varepsilon^{-1}L^{1/\gamma}(n) + 1\right).$$

Therefore, we obtain that

$$\sup_{x\in\mathbb{R}} |\theta(x) - A_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)| \leq H_\gamma(\theta) \varepsilon^\gamma \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{x\in\mathbb{R}} \frac{|A'_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)|}{L^{1/\gamma}(x)} \leq H_\gamma(\theta) \varepsilon^{\gamma-1}(1 + \varepsilon).$$

Replacing in the two last inequalities ε by $\eta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)$, defined in (7.3), we deduce the proposition. $\qquad\square$

7.2 Random Foster–Lyapunov drift conditions

7.2.1 For the infinitesimal generators

Let φ be a twice continuously differentiable function from $[1, \infty)$ into itself such that, $\varphi(v) = 1$ on $[1, 2]$, $\varphi(v) = v$ on $[3, \infty)$ and $\varphi(v) \leq v$ on $[1, \infty)$. In the sequel, we set

$$F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) := 1 + \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt}\, T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right] U_\alpha'(y)\, \mathrm{d}y \in \overline{D}(L_\theta) \qquad (7.7)$$

and

$$G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) := 1 + \int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt}\, T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right] G_\alpha'(y)\, \mathrm{d}y \in \overline{D}(L_\theta),$$

$$\text{with } G_\alpha(x) := \varphi(V_\alpha(x)). \qquad (7.8)$$

Here we use $G_\alpha = \varphi(V_\alpha)$ in (7.8) instead of V_α because V_α' do not belong to $W_{loc}^{1,\infty}$ (there is a singularity in 0) contrary to U_α' in (7.7).

Lemma 7.1 *For all $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha \in (0,1)$, $\gamma \in (0,1/2)$, $T > 0$ and $\lambda > 0$, there exists $\bar\varepsilon > 0$ such that, for all $0 < \varepsilon < \bar\varepsilon$, there exist a random variable $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [1,\infty)$ and $p, k, c > 0$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \le t \le T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,*

$$L_\theta F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \le -\lambda F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) + B_\theta, \quad \text{with } B_\theta \le k \exp(c\, H_\gamma^p(\theta)). \qquad (7.9)$$

Proof The proof will be a consequence of the following two steps.

Step 1 *For all $0 < \delta < 1$ and $R \ge 1$, there exists $\varepsilon_1 > 0$ such that, for all $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_1$ and $0 < \ell < 1$, there exist a map $R_1 : \Theta \longrightarrow [R,\infty)$ and $c_1 > 0$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \le t \le T$ and $|x| \ge R_1(\theta)$,*

$$L_{\theta,t} F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \le -\delta \frac{\alpha(1-\alpha)}{2} x^2 F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x), \quad \text{with } R_1(\theta) \le c_1 (H_\gamma^{\frac{1}{\gamma(1-\ell)}}(\theta) \vee 1). \qquad (7.10)$$

First of all, by using chain rule (4.10), with $a = 1$, we obtain that

$$L_{\theta,t} F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) = \frac{1}{2}\left(-\alpha(1-\alpha)x^2 - \alpha x\, e^{-rt}\, (T_t W_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta))'(x) + \alpha\right)$$
$$\times \exp\left[e^{-rt}\, T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)\right] U_\alpha(x), \qquad (7.11)$$

which can be written

$$L_{\theta,t} F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha(1-\alpha)\left[1 - \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)x^2} + \frac{e^{-rt}\, (T_t W_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta))'(x)}{(1-\alpha)x}\right]$$
$$\times x^2 \exp\left[e^{-rt}\, T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)\right] U_\alpha(x). \qquad (7.12)$$

Moreover, we can see that

$$|(T_t W_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta))'(x)| \le \varphi_\gamma(t) D_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta) L^{1/\gamma}(x), \quad \text{with } \varphi_\gamma(t) := (1 + t/2)^{1/2\gamma}\, e^{t/4}. \qquad (7.13)$$

Recall that $D_{\gamma,\varepsilon}$ is defined in (7.4). In order to simplify our calculations, introduce

$$q := 1 \vee e^{-(r+1/4)T} \quad \text{and} \quad \Psi(\varepsilon) := \exp[q\varepsilon]. \tag{7.14}$$

Note that

$$(\Psi(\varepsilon))^{-1} U_\alpha(x) \leq F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \leq \Psi(\varepsilon) U_\alpha(x). \tag{7.15}$$

Besides, we can choose $\varepsilon_1 > 0$ and $D \geq R$ such that

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)D^2} - \frac{1 \vee e^{-rT}}{(1-\alpha)D}\right) (\Psi(\varepsilon_1))^{-2} \geq \delta. \tag{7.16}$$

Then we deduce the left-hand side of (7.10) by using (7.16), (7.15), (7.13), (7.12) and by setting, for any $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_1$,

$$R_1(\theta) := \left[\varphi_\gamma(T) D_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta) c_{\gamma,\ell} \vee 1\right]^{\frac{1}{1-\ell}} D^{\frac{1}{1-\ell}}, \quad \text{with } c_{\gamma,\ell} := \sup_{|x|\geq 1} \frac{L^{1/\gamma}(x)}{|x|^\ell} < \infty. \tag{7.17}$$

Furthermore, the right-hand side of (7.10) is obtained by using the right-hand side of (7.6) and by choosing c_1 sufficiently large.

Step 2 *For all $0 < \delta < 1$ and $R \geq 1$, there exists $\varepsilon_2 > 0$ such that, for all $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_2$, there exists a constant $R_2 \geq R$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \leq t \leq T$ and $|x| \geq R_2$,*

$$\partial_t F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \leq (1-\delta)\frac{\alpha}{2}x^2 F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x). \tag{7.18}$$

By using chain rule (4.11), we get that

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_t F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) = {}& \frac{\alpha}{2}x^2 \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)\right] U_\alpha(x) - \frac{1}{2}\left(F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) - 1\right) \\
& - \int_0^x \frac{\alpha y^2 + 1}{2} \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right] U_\alpha'(y) \, \mathrm{d}y \\
& - \left(r + \frac{1}{4}\right) \int_0^x \left(e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right) \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right] U_\alpha'(y) \, \mathrm{d}y.
\end{aligned} \tag{7.19}$$

We can write, by integration by parts in the third term of the right-hand side of (7.19),

$$\partial_t F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) = \frac{\alpha}{2}x^2 \exp\left[e^{-rt}\,T_t\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)\right]U_\alpha(x) - \left(F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) - 1\right)$$
$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha x^2 F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) + \int_0^x F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,y)\alpha y\,\mathrm{d}y$$
$$-\left(r+\frac{1}{4}\right)\int_0^x \left(e^{-rt}\,T_t\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right)\exp\left[e^{-rt}\,T_t\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right]U_\alpha'(y)\,\mathrm{d}y.$$
$$(7.20)$$

Besides, by using (7.15) and the left-hand side of (7.6), we can see that

$$\left|\int_0^x \left(e^{-rt}\,T_t\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right)\exp\left[e^{-rt}\,T_t\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)\right]U_\alpha'(y)\,\mathrm{d}y\right| \le q\varepsilon\Psi^2(\varepsilon)F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x)$$

and

$$\left|\int_0^x F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,y)\alpha y\,\mathrm{d}y\right| \le \Psi^2(\varepsilon)F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x).$$

We deduce from the two previous inequalities, (7.20) and (7.15) that

$$\partial_t F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \le \left(\left[\Psi^2(\varepsilon)-1\right]\frac{\alpha}{2}x^2 + \left[1+\kappa q\varepsilon\right]\Psi^2(\varepsilon)\right)F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x), \qquad (7.21)$$

with $\kappa := |r| + 1/4$. Inequality (7.18) is then a simple consequence of (7.21) by taking $\varepsilon_2 > 0$ and $R_2 \ge R$ such that, for all $x \ge R_2$,

$$\left[\Psi^2(\varepsilon_2)-1\right]\frac{\alpha}{2}x^2 + \left[1+q\kappa\varepsilon_2\right]\Psi^2(\varepsilon_2) \le (1-\delta)\frac{\alpha}{2}x^2.$$

Proof of Lemma 7.1 We deduce Lemma 7.1 from (7.18) and (7.10). Indeed, we can choose $0 < \delta < 1$ and $R \ge 1$ such that

$$\left(\delta\frac{\alpha(1-\alpha)}{2} - (1-\delta)\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)R^2 \ge \lambda. \qquad (7.22)$$

Then we get the left-hand side of (7.9) by using (7.22) and by setting $\bar\varepsilon := \varepsilon_1 \wedge \varepsilon_2$ and

$$B_\theta := \sup_{|x|\le R_1(\theta)\vee R_2,\, 0\le t\le T} L_\theta F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x). \qquad (7.23)$$

Moreover, by using inequalities (7.21), (7.15), (7.13) and (7.11), we can see that there exists $C > 0$ such that

$$L_\theta F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \leq C\big(1 + D_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)|x|L^{1/\gamma}(x) + x^2\big)U_\alpha(x). \tag{7.24}$$

We obtain the right-hand side of (7.9) by taking $p := 2/(\gamma(1-\ell))$, k, c sufficiently large and by using (7.24), (7.23) and the right-hand sides of (7.10) and (7.6). $\qquad\square$

Lemma 7.2 *For all $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha \in (0,1)$, $\gamma \in (\alpha/2, 1/2)$, $T > 0$, $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\lambda > 0$, there exist a random variable $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [1, \infty)$, $k, c > 0$ and $0 < p < 2$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \leq t \leq T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,*

$$L_\theta G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \leq -\lambda G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) + B_\theta, \quad \text{with } B_\theta \leq k\exp(c\,H_\gamma^p(\theta)). \tag{7.25}$$

Proof This proof uses similar ideas as the proof of Lemma 7.1 and we only give the main lines. Once again, the proof will be a consequence of the following two steps.

Step 1 *For all $0 < \delta < 1$, $R \geq 1$ and $0 < \ell < 1$, there exist $R_1 : \Theta \longrightarrow [R, \infty)$ and $c_1 > 0$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \leq t \leq T$ and $|x| \geq R_1(\theta)$,*

$$L_{\theta,t}G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \leq -(1-\delta)\frac{\alpha}{2}|x|^\alpha G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x), \quad \text{with } R_1(\theta) \leq c_1(H_\gamma^{\frac{1}{\gamma(1-\ell)}}(\theta) \vee 1). \tag{7.26}$$

By using chain rule (4.10), with $a = 1$, we can see that, for all $x \in \{V_\alpha > 3\}$,

$$L_{\theta,t}G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) = -\frac{\alpha}{2}\left(1 + \frac{e^{-rt}\,(T_t W_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta))'(x)}{x} - \frac{\alpha}{|x|^{2-\alpha}} + \frac{1-\alpha}{x^2}\right)$$
$$\times |x|^\alpha \exp\big[e^{-rt}\,T_t\Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)\big]G_\alpha(x).$$

Moreover, we can choose $D \geq 1$ such that $\{V_\alpha \leq 3\} \subset [-D, D]$ and

$$\left(1 - \frac{1 \vee e^{-rT}}{D} - \frac{\alpha}{D^{2-\alpha}}\right)(\Psi(\varepsilon))^{-2} \geq (1-\delta).$$

Then by setting R_1 as in (7.17) we can deduce (7.26).

Step 2 *For all $\delta > 0$ and $R \geq 1$, there exists a constant $R_2 \geq R$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \leq t \leq T$ and $|x| \geq R_2$,*

$$\partial_t G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \leq \delta\frac{\alpha}{2}|x|^\alpha G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x). \tag{7.27}$$

By using chain rule (4.11) we can see that, for all $x \in \{V_\alpha > 3\}$,

$$\partial_t G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) = \frac{\alpha}{2}|x|^\alpha \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(x)\right] V_\alpha(x) - (G_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) - 1)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}\int_0^x \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right] y\, G_\alpha''(y)\, \mathrm{d}y$$

$$-\left(r + \frac{1}{4}\right)\int_0^x \left[e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right] \exp\left[e^{-rt} T_t \Delta_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(\theta)(y)\right] G_\alpha'(y)\, \mathrm{d}y.$$

Then we can obtain (7.27) by using similar methods as in the proof of (7.18).

Proof of Lemma 7.2 We deduce Lemma 7.2 from (7.27) and (7.26) in the same manner as we get Lemma 7.1 from (7.18) and (7.10). The main variation is that we need to choose $0 < \ell < 1$ in (7.26) such that $p := \alpha/(\gamma(1-\ell)) < 2$. □

7.2.2 For the Markov kernels

Proposition 7.2 *For all $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha \in (0,1)$, $\gamma \in (0,1/2)$ and $\eta, \tau, T > 0$, there exists a random variable $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [1,\infty)$ and $k, c, p > 0$ such that, for all $\kappa > 0$, $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \le s \le t \le T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,*

$$P_{s,t}(\theta)U_\alpha(x) \le (\eta + \kappa + \mathbb{1}_{s \le t \le s+\tau})U_\alpha(x) + B_\theta \mathbb{1}_{x \in \{U_\alpha \le \kappa^{-1}B_\theta\}}, \tag{7.28}$$

with

$$B_\theta \le k \exp(c\, H_\gamma^p(\theta)). \tag{7.29}$$

Proof Let $\lambda > e^q$ and $0 < \bar{\varepsilon} < 1$ be as in Lemma 7.1 and $0 < \varepsilon < \bar{\varepsilon}$ be such that $e^{-\lambda\tau+2q} \le \eta$ and $e^{2q\varepsilon} \le \eta + 1$, where q is defined in (7.14). One can see by using Ito's formula (2.8) that there exists a Brownian motion W such that, under $\mathbb{P}_{s,x}$,

$$e^{\lambda t} F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t, X_t) = e^{\lambda s} F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(s, x) + \int_s^t e^{\lambda u} \left(L_\theta F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon} + \lambda F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}\right)(u, X_u)\, \mathrm{d}u$$

$$+ \int_s^t e^{\lambda u} \partial_x F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(u, X_u)\mathrm{d}W_u. \tag{7.30}$$

Besides, we get from Lemma 7.1 that there exist a random variable $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [1,\infty)$, $k, c, p > 0$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \le s \le t \le T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$L_\theta F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) \le -\lambda F_\theta^{\gamma,\varepsilon}(t,x) + B_\theta, \quad \text{with } B_\theta \le k \exp(c\, H_\gamma^p(\theta)).$$

Then one can see by taking the expectation in (7.30) and by using (7.15) that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$P_{s,t}(\theta)U_\alpha(x) \leq e^{-\lambda(t-s)+2q\varepsilon}U_\alpha(x) + \lambda^{-1}e^{q\varepsilon}B_\theta \leq (\eta + \mathbb{1}_{s \leq t \leq s+\tau})U_\alpha(x) + B_\theta.$$

and we deduce that inequalities (7.28) and (7.29) hold for any $\kappa > 0$. □

Proposition 7.3 *For all $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\gamma \in (\alpha/2, 1/2)$ and $\eta, \tau, T > 0$, there exist a random variable $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [1, \infty)$, $k, c > 0$ and $0 < p < 2$ such that, for all $\kappa > 0$, $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,*

$$P_{s,t}(\theta)V_\alpha(x) \leq (\eta + \kappa + \mathbb{1}_{s \leq t \leq s+\tau})V_\alpha(x) + B_\theta \mathbb{1}_{x \in \{V_\alpha \leq \kappa^{-1}B_\theta\}}, \qquad (7.31)$$

with

$$B_\theta \leq k \exp(c\, H_\gamma^p(\theta)). \qquad (7.32)$$

Proof The proof follows the same lines as the proof of Proposition 7.2 and we only give the main ideas. Once again, by using Ito's formula and Lemma 7.2, we can prove that there exist a random variable $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [0, \infty)$, $k, c > 0$ and $0 < p < 2$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$P_{s,t}(\theta)G_\alpha(x) \leq (\eta + \mathbb{1}_{s \leq t \leq s+\tau})G_\alpha(x) + B_\theta, \quad \text{with } B_\theta \leq k \exp(c\, H_\gamma^p(\theta)).$$

Moreover, since $G_\alpha \leq V_\alpha$ and $G_\alpha(x) = V_\alpha(x)$, for $x \in \{V \geq 3\}$, we obtain that

$$\mathbb{E}_{s,x}(\theta)\left[V_\alpha(X_t)\mathbb{1}_{\{V_\alpha(X_t) \geq 3\}}\right] \leq (\eta + \mathbb{1}_{s \leq t \leq s+\tau})G_\alpha(x) + B_\theta \quad \text{and}$$
$$P_{s,t}(\theta)V_\alpha(x) \leq (\eta + \mathbb{1}_{s \leq t \leq s+\tau}) \leq (\eta + \mathbb{1}_{s \leq t \leq s+\tau})V_\alpha(x) + (B_\theta + 3).$$

This is enough to complete the proof. □

7.3 Coupling method

7.3.1 Coupling construction

We say that C is a random $(1, \varepsilon)$-coupling set associated to the random Markov kernel P and the random probability measure ν over $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$ on $\mathbb{R}$, if $\varepsilon : \Theta \longrightarrow (0, 1/2]$ is a measurable map, C_θ is a compact set of $\mathbb{R}$ for $\mathscr{W}$-almost all $\theta \in \Theta$ and

$$\inf_{z \in C_\theta} P_\theta(z; *) \geq \varepsilon_\theta \nu_\theta(*) \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.}$$

Given a random $(1, \varepsilon)$-coupling set C associated to the random probability measure ν, we construct a random Markov kernel $P^\star$ on $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ as follows. Let $\overline{R}$ and $\overline{P}$ be two random Markov kernels on $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ satisfying, for all $x, y \in C_\theta$ and $A, B \in \mathscr{B}(\mathbb{R})$,

$$\overline{R}_\theta(x, y; A \times \mathbb{R}) = \frac{P_\theta(x; A) - \varepsilon_\theta \, \nu_\theta(A)}{1 - \varepsilon_\theta}, \quad \overline{R}_\theta(x, y; \mathbb{R} \times A) = \frac{P_\theta(y; A) - \varepsilon_\theta \, \nu_\theta(A)}{1 - \varepsilon_\theta}$$

and

$$\overline{P}_\theta(x, y; A \times B) = (1 - \varepsilon_\theta) \overline{R}_\theta(x, y; A \times B) + \varepsilon_\theta \nu_\theta(A \cap B). \qquad (7.33)$$

Note that we can assume that $\overline{P}$ is a random coupling Markov kernel over P, in the sense that, for all $\theta \in \Theta$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $A \in \mathscr{B}(\mathbb{R})$,

$$\overline{P}_\theta(x, y; A \times \mathbb{R}) = P_\theta(x; A) \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{P}_\theta(x, y; \mathbb{R} \times A) = P_\theta(y; A). \qquad (7.34)$$

Then we define,

$$P_\theta^\star(x, y; *) := \begin{cases} \overline{R}_\theta(x, y; *), & \text{if } (x, y) \in C_\theta \times C_\theta, \\ \overline{P}_\theta(x, y; *), & \text{if } (x, y) \notin C_\theta \times C_\theta. \end{cases} \qquad (7.35)$$

7.3.2 The Douc–Moulines–Rosenthal bound

In order to simplify our claims, we set

$$P_\theta := P_1(\theta), \quad P_\theta(z; \mathrm{d}x) := P_\theta(0, z; 1, \mathrm{d}x), \quad p_\theta(z, x) := p_\theta(0, z; 1, x)$$
$$T\theta := T_1\theta \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{U}_\alpha(x, y) := \frac{U_\alpha(x) + U_\alpha(y)}{2}.$$

Moreover, we denote for any function $F : \Theta \longrightarrow (0, \infty)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $j \in \{0, \cdots, n\}$,

$$F_{j,n}^+(\theta) := \max_{0 \le n_1 < \cdots < n_j \le n-1} \prod_{k=1}^j F(e^{-r n_k} T^{n_k} \theta) \quad \text{and}$$

$$F_{j,n}^-(\theta) := \max_{1 \le n_1 < \cdots < n_j \le n} \prod_{k=1}^j F(e^{-r(n-n_k)} T^{-n_k} \theta) = F_{j,n}^+(T^{-n}\theta).$$
$$(7.36)$$

Proposition 7.4 *For all $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\gamma \in (0, 1/2)$ and $\rho \in (0, \infty)$, there exist a random variable $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [1, \infty)$, with $\log(B) \in \mathrm{L}^1(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$, and a random $(1, \varepsilon)$-coupling set C over $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$ on $\mathbb{R}$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$,*

$$P_\theta^\star \overline{U}_\alpha \le \rho \overline{U}_\alpha + B_\theta \mathbb{1}_{C_\theta \times C_\theta} \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{(x,y) \in C_\theta \times C_\theta} \overline{R}_\theta \overline{U}_\alpha(x, y) \le \frac{\rho B_\theta}{1 - \varepsilon_\theta}. \qquad (7.37)$$

Moreover, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $j \in \{1, \cdots, n+1\}$ *and* $\nu_1, \nu_2 \in \mathscr{M}_1$,

$$\|\nu_1 P_n(\theta) - \nu_2 P_n(\theta)\|_{U_\alpha} \leq 2\rho^n \left[(1-\varepsilon)^+_{j,n}(\theta)\mathbb{1}_{j \leq n} + B^+_{j-1,n}(\theta)\right] \|\nu_1\|_{U_\alpha} \|\nu_2\|_{U_\alpha}$$

$$+ 2(1-\varepsilon)^+_{j,n}(\theta)\mathbb{1}_{j \leq n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \rho^k B(e^{-r(n-k-1)} T^{n-k-1}\theta). \tag{7.38}$$

Proof Let η and κ be two positive constants such that $\rho = \eta + 2\kappa$ and use the Proposition 7.2 to obtain $\widetilde{B} : \Theta \longrightarrow [1, \infty)$ and $k, c, p > 0$ such that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$,

$$P_\theta U_\alpha \leq (\eta + \kappa)U_\alpha + \widetilde{B}_\theta \mathbb{1}_{C_\theta}, \text{ with } \widetilde{B}_\theta \leq k \exp(c H^p_\gamma(\theta)) \text{ and } C_\theta = \{U_\alpha \leq \kappa^{-1}\widetilde{B}_\theta\}.$$

The same arguments as in the proof of [17, Proposition 11, p. 1660] apply. Indeed, we can write, for any random Markov kernel $\overline{P}$ satisfying (7.34),

$$\overline{P}_\theta \overline{U}_\alpha \leq (\eta + \kappa)\overline{U}_\alpha + \frac{\widetilde{B}_\theta}{2}(\mathbb{1}_{C^c_\theta \times C_\theta} + \mathbb{1}_{C_\theta \times C^c_\theta}) + \widetilde{B}_\theta \mathbb{1}_{C_\theta \times C_\theta}.$$

Since $\widetilde{B}_\theta \leq 2\kappa \overline{U}_\alpha$ on $C^c_\theta \times C_\theta$ and $C_\theta \times C^c_\theta$, we obtain from the last inequality that

$$\overline{P}_\theta \overline{U}_\alpha \leq \rho \overline{U}_\alpha + \widetilde{B}_\theta \mathbb{1}_{C_\theta \times C_\theta}. \tag{7.39}$$

Then we deduce that (7.37) is satisfied by setting $B_\theta := ((\rho\kappa^{-1}\widetilde{B}_\theta + \widetilde{B}_\theta)\rho^{-1}) \vee \widetilde{B}_\theta$ and by using (7.39), (7.35) and (7.33). Besides, $\log(\widetilde{B}) \in L^1(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$ by using (7.5) and thus similarly for $\log(B)$. Moreover, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, C_θ is a compact set and we get from the lower local Aronson estimate (2.11) that C is a random $(1, \varepsilon)$-coupling set associated to the random distribution ν defined, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$ and $A \in \mathscr{B}(\mathbb{R})$ by

$$\varepsilon_\theta := \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} \inf_{z \in C_\theta} p_\theta(z, x)\, dx\right) \wedge \frac{1}{2} > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \nu_\theta(A) := \frac{\int_A \inf_{z \in C_\theta} p_\theta(z, x)\, dx}{\int_{\mathbb{R}} \inf_{z \in C_\theta} p_\theta(z, x)\, dx}.$$

Furthermore, we can write by using (2.10) that

$$P_n(\theta) = P(\theta) \cdots P(e^{-r(n-1)} T^{n-1}\theta)$$

and therefore, a direct application of [17, Theorem 8, p. 1656] gives (7.38). ☐

7.4 Ergodicity and exponential stability of the RDS

7.4.1 Ergodicity

Proposition 7.5 *The dynamical system* $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W}, (T_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}})$ *is ergodic.*

Proof Introduce three measurable maps $U^{\pm} : \Theta \longrightarrow \Theta$ and $S_t : \Theta \longrightarrow \Theta$ defined by

$$U^{\pm}(\theta) := (s \longmapsto e^{-s/4}\theta(\pm e^{s/2})) \quad \text{and} \quad S_t(\theta) := (s \longmapsto \theta(s+t)).$$

It is classical that the distribution of $U^{\pm}$ under the Wiener measure $\mathcal{W}$, denoted by Γ, is the distribution of the stationary Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process having the standard normal distribution as stationary distribution. This one is an ergodic process and, as a consequence, the dynamical system $(\Theta, \mathcal{B}, \Gamma, (S_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}})$ is ergodic (see, for instance, [25, Theorem 20.10]). Besides, it is clear that the following diagram is commutative:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
(\Theta, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{W}) & \xrightarrow{\quad U^{\pm} \quad} & (\Theta, \mathcal{B}, \Gamma) \\
T_t \Big\downarrow \Big\uparrow T_t^{-1} & & S_t^{-1} \Big\uparrow \Big\downarrow S_t \\
(\Theta, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{W}) & \xrightarrow{\quad U^{\pm} \quad} & (\Theta, \mathcal{B}, \Gamma)
\end{array}
$$

Let $A \in \mathcal{B}$ be such that $T_t^{-1}(A) = A$, with $t \neq 0$. By using the ergodicity of the dynamical system $(\Theta, \mathcal{B}, \Gamma, (S_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}})$, it follows that

$$S_t^{-1}(U^{\pm}(A)) = U^{\pm}(T_t^{-1}(A)) = U^{\pm}(A) \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma(U^{\pm}(A)) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad = 1.$$

Moreover, we can see that

$$U^{\pm}(A) = (U^{\pm})^{-1}(U^{\pm}(A)) \quad \text{and} \quad (U^+)^{-1}(U^+(A)) \cap (U^-)^{-1}(U^-(A)) = A.$$

We conclude that $\mathcal{W}(A) = 0$ or $= 1$ and the proof is finished.

7.4.2 Exponential stability

Lemma 7.3 *Assume that* $r = 0$. *Let* F *be such that* $(\log(F) \vee 0) \in L^1(\Theta, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{W})$ *and* $F^{\pm}$ *as in* (7.36).

1. *If* $\mathcal{W}(F < 1) = 1$ *then, for all* $L \geq 1$, *there exists* $\lambda > 0$ *such that*

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} e^{\lambda n} F^{\pm}_{[\frac{n}{L}],n}(\theta) = 0 \quad \mathcal{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{7.40}$$

2. *If* $\mathcal{W}(F \geq 1) > 0$ *then, for all* $\eta > 0$, *there exists* $L > 0$ *such that*

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} e^{-\eta n} F^{\pm}_{[\frac{n}{L}],n}(\theta) = 0 \quad \mathcal{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{7.41}$$

Proof We prove the lemma only for F^+ since the proof for F^- is obtained replacing θ by $T^{-1}\theta$ and T by T^{-1}. We set, for all $c \geq 0$ and $k \geq 1$,

$$\log[F_k^{(c)}(\theta)] := \log[F(T^{k-1}\theta)]\mathbb{1}_{F(T^{k-1}\theta) \geq c} \quad \text{and} \quad F^{(c)} := F_1^{(c)}.$$

Assume that $\mathscr{W}(F < 1) = 1$. We can see that there exist $0 < c < 1$ and $\ell > 0$ such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\mathbb{1}_{F \geq c}] < L^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\log(F^{(c)})] < -\ell.$$

By applying the ergodic theorem to the ergodic dynamical system $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W}, T)$ we obtain that, for $\mathscr{W}$-almost all $\theta \in \Theta$ and all integer n sufficiently large,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \mathbb{1}_{F(T^{k-1}\theta) \geq c} \leq \left[\frac{n}{L}\right] \quad \text{and} \quad F^{+}_{[\frac{n}{L}],n}(\theta) \leq \prod_{k=1}^{n} F_k^{(c)}(\theta) \leq e^{-\ell n}.$$

Then we deduce the first point by taking $0 < \lambda < \ell$. Assume that $\mathscr{W}(F \geq 1) > 0$. Note that if F is bounded $\mathscr{W}$-a.s. the second point of the lemma is obvious. Moreover, when F is unbounded with positive probability, it is not difficult to see that there exist $0 < \kappa < \eta$, $c \geq 1$ and $L \geq 1$ such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\log(F^{(c)})] < \kappa \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\mathbb{1}_{F \geq c}] > L^{-1}.$$

Once again, the ergodic theorem allow us to obtain the second point since, for $\mathscr{W}$-almost all $\theta \in \Theta$ and all integer n sufficiently large,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \mathbb{1}_{F(T^{k-1}\theta) \geq c} \geq \left[\frac{n}{L}\right] \quad \text{and} \quad F^{+}_{[\frac{n}{L}],n}(\theta) \leq \prod_{k=1}^{n} F_k^{(c)}(\theta) \leq e^{\kappa n}.$$

Proposition 7.6 *Assume that $r = 0$. For all $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that, for all families $\{v_t^{\pm} : t \geq 0\}$ of random distribution on $\mathbb{R}$ over $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$ satisfying*

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{\log(\|v_t^{\pm}\|_{U_\alpha})}{t} = 0 \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.,} \tag{7.42}$$

the following discrete-time convergences hold:

$$\limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{\log(\|v_t^{+}(\theta)P_{[t]}(\theta) - v_t^{-}(\theta)P_{[t]}(\theta)\|_{U_\alpha})}{t} \leq -\lambda \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{7.43}$$

and

$$\limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{\log(\|v_t^{+}(\theta)P_{[t]}(T^{-[t]}\theta) - v_t^{-}(\theta)P_{[t]}(T^{-[t]}\theta)\|_{U_\alpha})}{t} \leq -\lambda \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{7.44}$$

Proof We prove only (7.44) since the proof of (7.43) follows the same lines and employs the same arguments. Let $0 < \rho < 1$ be and, following Proposition 7.4, write that, for all $\theta \in \Theta_\gamma$, $t \geq 0$ and $j \in \{0, \ldots, [t] + 1\}$,

$$\|v_t^+ P_{[t]}(T^{-[t]}\theta) - v_t^- P_{[t]}(T^{-[t]}\theta)\|_{U_\alpha}$$

$$\leq 2\rho^{[t]} [(1-\varepsilon)_{j,[t]}^-(\theta)\mathbb{1}_{j\leq[t]} + B_{j-1,[t]}^-(\theta)] \, \|v_t^+\|_{U_\alpha} \|v_t^-\|_{U_\alpha}$$

$$+2(1-\varepsilon)_{j,[t]}^-(\theta)\mathbb{1}_{j\leq[t]} \sum_{k=0}^{[t]-1} \rho^k B(T^{-k-1}\theta). \qquad (7.45)$$

Since $\log B \in L^1(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$, the ergodic theorem allows us to see that, for all $\eta > 0$,

$$\lim_{k\to\infty} \frac{\log[B(T^{-k+1}\theta)]}{k} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \limsup_{n\to\infty} e^{-\eta n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \rho^k B(T^{-k+1}\theta) = 0 \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.}$$

Besides, one can see by using Lemma 7.3 that there exist $L \geq 1$ and $\ell > 0$ such that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} e^{-\eta n} B_{[\frac{n}{L}],n}^-(\theta) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n\to\infty} e^{\ell n} (1-\varepsilon)_{[\frac{n}{L}],n}^-(\theta) = 0.$$

Therefore, we deduce from (7.45) the exponential convergence (7.44). $\qquad\square$

8 Proof of Theorem 2.3

Theorem 2.3 will be a consequence of Propositions 8.1 and 8.2. In the sequel, we introduce, for any operator P acting on $\mathscr{M}_F$, $F \in \{U_\alpha, V_\alpha\}$, the subordinated norm

$$\|P\|_F := \sup\{\|\mu P\|_F : \mu \in \mathscr{M}_F, \|\mu\|_F \leq 1\}.$$

8.1 Exponential weak ergodicity and quasi-invariant measure

Proposition 8.1 *Assume that $r = 0$. For all $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that, for all $v_1, v_2 \in \mathscr{M}_{1,U_\alpha}$,*

$$\limsup_{t\to\infty} \frac{\log\left(\|v_1 P_t(\theta) - v_2 P_t(\theta)\|_{U_\alpha}\right)}{t} \leq -\lambda \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \qquad (8.1)$$

Furthermore, there exists a unique (up to a $\mathscr{W}$-null set) random probability measure μ over $(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$ on $\mathbb{R}$ such that, for all $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that, for all $v \in \mathscr{M}_{1,U_\alpha}$,

$$\limsup_{t\to\infty} \frac{\log\left(\|v P_t(T_{-t}\theta) - \mu_\theta\|_{U_\alpha}\right)}{t} \leq -\lambda \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \qquad (8.2)$$

Moreover, for all $t \geq 0$,

$$\mu_\theta \in \mathscr{M}_{1,U_\alpha} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_\theta P_t(\theta) = \mu_{T_t\theta} \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \qquad (8.3)$$

Proof By using relation (2.12) we can write $P_t(\theta) = P_{[t]}(\theta)P_{\{t\}}(T^{[t]}\theta)$ and we get

$$\|\nu_1 P_t(\theta) - \nu_2 P_t(\theta)\|_{U_\alpha} \leq \|\nu_1 P_{[t]}(\theta) - \nu_2 P_{[t]}(\theta)\|_{U_\alpha} \|P_{\{t\}}(T^{[t]}\theta)\|_{U_\alpha}. \quad (8.4)$$

Moreover, by using Propositions 7.2 and 7.1 and the ergodic theorem, we obtain

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{\log(\sup_{0\leq u\leq 1}\|P_u(T^n\theta)\|_{U_\alpha})}{n} = 0 \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \quad (8.5)$$

Besides, a direct application of Proposition 7.6 gives that there exists $\lambda > 0$, independent of ν_1 and ν_2, such that

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} \frac{\log\left(\|\nu_1 P_n(\theta) - \nu_2 P_n(\theta)\|_{U_\alpha}\right)}{n} \leq -\lambda \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \quad (8.6)$$

We deduce inequality (8.1) from (8.6), (8.5) and (8.4). Furthermore, one can see by using again Propositions 7.6, 7.2 and 7.1 and similar arguments that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|\nu P_{n+1}(T^{-n-1}\theta) - \nu P_n(T^{-n}\theta)\|_{U_\alpha} < \infty \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.}$$

We obtain that, for $\mathscr{W}$-almost all $\theta \in \Theta$, $\{\nu P_n(T^{-n}\theta) : n \geq 0\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in the separable Banach space $\mathscr{M}_{U_\alpha}$. We get that there exist $\lambda > 0$ and a random probability measure $\mu_\theta \in \mathscr{M}_{U_\alpha}$ such that, for all $\nu \in \mathscr{M}_{1,U_\alpha}$,

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} \frac{\log(\|\nu P_n(T^{-n}\theta) - \mu_\theta\|_{U_\alpha})}{n} \leq -\lambda \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \quad (8.7)$$

We deduce (8.2) from (8.7) in the same way as we obtain (8.1) from (8.6). Finally, (8.3) is a consequence of (8.2) and the cocycle property since

$$\mu_\theta P_t(\theta) \overset{\mathscr{M}_{U_\alpha}}{=} \lim_{s\to\infty} \nu P_s(T_{-s}\theta) P_t(\theta) \overset{\mathscr{M}_{U_\alpha}}{=} \lim_{s\to\infty} \nu P_{t+s}(T_{-(s+t)}T_t\theta) \overset{\mathscr{M}_{U_\alpha}}{=} \mu_{T_t\theta} \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.}$$

8.2 Annealed convergences

Proposition 8.2 *For all $\alpha \in (0,1)$ and $\hat{\nu} \in \mathscr{M}_{1,V_\alpha}$,*

$$\hat{\mu} \in \mathscr{M}_{1,V_\alpha} \quad and \quad \lim_{t\to\infty} \|\hat{\nu}\widehat{P}_t - \hat{\mu}\|_{V_\alpha} = 0. \quad (8.8)$$

Proof Let $0 < \rho < 1$ be and apply Proposition 7.3 to see that, for all $0 \leq u \leq 1$,

$$P_u(\theta)V_\alpha \leq (\rho+1)V_\alpha + B_\theta \quad and \quad P_\theta V_\alpha \leq \rho V_\alpha + B_\theta \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \quad (8.9)$$

We get from the latter inequality and (8.3) that $\mu_{T\theta}(V_\alpha) \leq \rho\mu_\theta(V_\alpha) + B_\theta$ $\mathscr{W}$-a.s. and, by taking the expectation of the last inequality, we obtain the left-hand side of (8.8). Besides, since the Wiener measure is (T_t)-invariant, we can see that

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|\hat{v}\widehat{P}_t - \hat{\mu}\|_{V_\alpha} &= \|\mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\hat{v}\widehat{P}_t(T^{-t}\theta) - \hat{\mu}_{T_{\{t\}}\theta}]\|_{V_\alpha} \\
&\leq \mathbb{E}_{\mathscr{W}}[\|\hat{v}P_t(T^{-[t]}\theta) - \mu_{T_{\{t\}}\theta}\|_{V_\alpha}].
\end{aligned} \tag{8.10}
$$

Moreover, the relation (8.3) and the cocycle property (2.12) allow us to write

$$
P_t(T^{-[t]}\theta) = P_{[t]}(T^{-[t]}\theta)P_{\{t\}}(\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_\theta P_{\{t\}}(\theta) = \mu_{T_{\{t\}}\theta}.
$$

Then similar arguments as for the proofs of (8.2) and (8.1) hold and we get that

$$
\begin{aligned}
\lim_{t\to\infty} \|\hat{v}P_t(T^{-[t]}\theta) - \mu_{T_{\{t\}}\theta}\|_{V_\alpha} \\
\leq \lim_{t\to\infty} \|\hat{v}P_{[t]}(T^{-[t]}\theta) - \mu_\theta\|_{V_\alpha}\|P_{\{t\}}(\theta)\|_{V_\alpha} = 0 \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.} \tag{8.11}
\end{aligned}
$$

Furthermore, by using (8.9) and the cocycle property, it is not difficult to see that

$$
\|vP_t(T^{-[t]}\theta)\|_{V_\alpha} \leq (\rho+1)\left(\rho\|v\|_{V_\alpha} + \sum_{k=0}^\infty \rho^k B(T^k\theta)\right) + B_\theta
$$

$$
\text{and} \quad \|\mu_{T_{\{t\}}\theta}\|_{V_\alpha} \leq (\rho+1)\|\mu_\theta\| + B_\theta.
$$

Noting that the two previous bounds belong to $\mathrm{L}^1(\Theta, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{W})$ (see Proposition 7.3) and are independent of $t \geq 0$, the dominate convergence theorem applies and we deduce from (8.11) and (8.10) the right-hand side of (8.8). □

9 Proof of Theorem 2.4

Recall that under $\mathbb{P}_z(\theta)$ (see Proposition 4.1) $\{S_\theta(t, X_t) : t \geq 0\}$ is a solution of the SDE (4.6), with $a = 1$. Moreover, since $r > 0$, we can see by using (4.5) that

$$
\lim_{t\to\infty} S_\theta(t, x) = S(x) := \int_0^x e^{\frac{y^2}{2}}\,\mathrm{d}y, \quad \lim_{t\to\infty} H_\theta(t, x) = S^{-1}(x),
$$

$$
\lim_{t\to\infty} \sigma_\theta(t, x) = S' \circ S^{-1}(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{t\to\infty} d_\theta(t, x) = 0,
$$

uniformly on compact sets. Following [21, Lemma 4.5] and denoting by Γ the standard normal distribution, $\{S_\theta(t, X_t) : t \geq 0\}$ is asymptotically time-homogeneous and $S_*\Gamma$-ergodic. According to the cited Lemma, if in addition $\{S_\theta(t, X_t) : t \geq 0\}$ is bounded in probability, it converges in distribution towards $S_*\Gamma$:

$$
\left(\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists R > 0, \sup_{t\geq 0} \mathbb{P}_z(\theta)(|S_\theta(t, X_t)| \geq R) \leq \varepsilon\right) \Longrightarrow \lim_{t\to\infty} S_\theta(t, X_t) \overset{(\mathrm{d})}{=} S_*\Gamma.
$$

We shall prove that $\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$ is bounded in probability, which shall imply the boundedness in probability of $\{S_\theta(t, X_t) : t \geq 0\}$. By using Proposition 7.2, we can find $0 < \rho < 1$, $L > 0$, $B : \Theta \longrightarrow [1, \infty)$ and $k, c, p > 0$ such that, for all $0 \leq u \leq 1$,

$$P_u(\theta)U_\alpha \leq LU_\alpha + B_\theta, \quad P_\theta U_\alpha \leq \rho U_\alpha + B_\theta \text{ and } B_\theta \leq k \exp\left[cH_\gamma^p(\theta)\right] \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.}$$

Then relations (2.10) and the ergodic theorem allow us to write that, for all $t \geq 0$,

$$\sup_{t \geq 0} \|P_\theta(t, z, \mathrm{d}x)\|_{U_\alpha}$$

$$\leq \sup_{t \geq 0} L\left(\rho^{[t]}U_\alpha(z) + k\sum_{m=0}^{[t]-1}\rho^{[t]-m}\exp\left[ce^{-rpm}H_\gamma^p(T^m\theta)\right]\right) + B_\theta$$

$$\leq L\left(\rho U_\alpha(z) + \frac{k}{1-\rho}\exp\left[\sup_{m \geq 0}\left(ce^{-rpm}H_\gamma^p(T^m\theta)\right)\right]\right) + B_\theta < \infty \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.}$$

Thereafter, the Markov inequality implies that

$$\sup_{t \geq 0}\mathbb{P}_z(\theta)(|X_t| \geq R) \leq \frac{\sup_{t \geq 0}\|P_\theta(t, z, \mathrm{d}x)\|_{U_\alpha}}{U_\alpha(R)} \quad \mathscr{W}\text{-a.s.}$$

Therefore, we get that $\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$ is bounded in probability and since

$$\lim_{|x|\to\infty}\inf_{t \geq 0}S_\theta(t, x) = \infty,$$

we obtain also the boundedness in probability of $\{S_\theta(t, X_t) : t \geq 0\}$. We deduce that [21, Lemma 4.5] applies and this completes the proof. $\square$

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