# Anomalous Energy Flux in Critical $L^{p}$-Based Spaces 

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#### Abstract

We construct a three-dimensional vector field that exhibits positive energy flux at every Littlewood-Paley shell and has the best possible regularity in $L^{p}$-based spaces, $p \leq 3$; in particular, it belongs to $H^{\left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^{-}}$.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Anomalous Dissipation: What is Known

In his famous 1949 work [1] Onsager conjectured energy dissipation 'without final assistance of viscosity' in fluids. In today's mathematical literature such phenomenon is referred to as 'anomalous dissipation' of solutions to the Euler equation. Onsager's original conjecture was stated in terms of Hölder spaces and is by now fully resolved: Constantin, E and Titi [2] proved conservation of energy of any weak Euler solution which is $C^{1 / 3+\varepsilon}$-regular in space, while Isett [3] constructed non-conservative $C^{1 / 3-\varepsilon}$ Euler solutions, using the convex integration technique developed by De Lellis and Székelyhidi [4]. For the truly dissipative case, see Buckmaster, De Lellis, Székelyhidi, and Vicol [5].

Both results remain valid if stated in terms of $L^{3}$-based Sobolev or Besov spaces, i.e. for $W^{1 / 3 \pm \varepsilon, 3}$ or $B_{3, \infty}^{1 / 3 \pm \varepsilon}$ : the dissipative one trivially, the conservative part was shown by Duchon and Robert [6]. The exponent 3 appears naturally via the cubic term in the energy balance equation, but less is known if the integrability is below 3 , in particular for $H^{s}=W^{s, 2}$. The best known result on the conservative side is the trivial one: by Sobolev embedding $H^{5 / 6+\varepsilon} \hookrightarrow W^{1 / 3+\varepsilon, 3}$. On the non-conservative side, recently $H^{1 / 2-\varepsilon}$ has been reached in Buckmaster, Masmoudi, Novack, and Vicol [7] (which was later extended by Novack and Vicol [8]). While the exponent $1 / 2$ may be critical for full ( $h$-principle-type) flexibility of Euler solutions, it is conjectured (cf. Problem 5 in the survey [9] by Buckmaster and Vicol) that $5 / 6$ is the threshold for energy conservation.

Conjecture 1. For any $s<\frac{5}{6}$ there are weak solutions to the Euler equation in $C_{t} H_{x}^{s}$ with strictly decreasing kinetic energy.

In this work we do not prove the conjecture, but provide evidence in its favour.

### 1.2. Energy Flux and Statement of the Main Result

The first step for proving conservation of energy is usually to regularize the Euler equation and to test it with the regularised solution:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d}{d t} \frac{1}{2} \int\left(S_{q} u\right)^{2} d x=\int S_{q} u \cdot \partial_{t} S_{q} u d x=-\int S_{q} u \cdot S_{q}(u \cdot \nabla u) d x \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $S_{q}$ denotes any linear regularizing operator such that $S_{q} \rightarrow I d$ as $q \rightarrow \infty$; in our case it will be the Littlewood-Paley projection onto functions with frequencies $\lesssim 2^{q}$. Note that the pressure term vanishes due to incompressibility and linearity of $S_{q}$.

The second step is showing that the right hand side of (1), called the energy flux (towards high frequencies), vanishes as $q \rightarrow \infty$, which holds if $u$ is a divergence free field with enough regularity; this step may be thus completely detached from the fact that $u$ solves the Euler equation!

By (1), vanishing of the energy flux is a sufficient condition for conservation of energy. Even though it may not be a necessary condition, non-vanishing of the flux suggests an energy cascade as described by Richardson (cf. Frisch [10]), i.e. continuous transport of energy from low to high and higher frequency structures, which is in turn seen as the mechanism of anomalous dissipation. Therefore, constructing a non-vanishing energy flux of certain regularity is a strong premise for non-conservative Euler solutions with that regularity. Such flux construction, with certain further desired properties, is the subject of this note.

Let us define for a distributionally divergence-free vector field $u: \mathbb{T}^{3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3}$

$$
\Pi_{q}(u)=\int_{\mathbb{T}^{3}} S_{q}(u \otimes u): \nabla S_{q}(u) d x
$$

where $S_{q}$ denotes a Littlewood-Paley projection, to be precised later. The right hand side of (1), with $S_{q}$ disambiguated as a Littlewood-Paley projection, after applying incompressibility and integration by parts, is precisely our $\Pi_{q}(u)$. With this definition, and the standard notion of Besov spaces $B_{p, r}^{s}$ (defined in Sect. 2) we state

Theorem 1. For any $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\delta>0$, there exists a divergence-free vector field $U \in B_{2, \infty}^{5 / 6}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\liminf _{q \rightarrow \infty} \Pi_{q}(U)>c-\delta \quad \text { and } \quad \underset{q \rightarrow \infty}{\limsup } \Pi_{q}(U)<c+\delta . \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

In fact, $U \in B_{p, \infty}^{\frac{3}{p}-\frac{2}{3}}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)$ with any $p \in\left(1, \frac{9}{2}\right)$ and $U \in \dot{B}_{p, \infty}^{\frac{3}{p}}-\frac{2}{3}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)$ with any $p \in(1, \infty]$.

### 1.3. Remarks and Comparison to Previous Results

(i) The theorem is sharp concerning regularity of $U$. Indeed, for any $p<\infty$ the flux $\Pi_{q}(U)$ vanishes for $q \rightarrow \infty$ for every $U \in B_{2, r}^{5 / 6}$. This follows from embedding into $B_{3, r}^{1 / 3}$ and Theorem 3.3 of Cheskidov, Constantin, Friedlander, and Shvydkoy [11].
(ii) A proper limit seems possible with a more careful choice of parameters. We did not pursue this here, as the main objective was obtaining a positive lim inf for critical spaces in three space dimensions.
(iii) Our construction is strongly inspired by Cheskidov, Lopes Filho, Nussenzveig Lopes, and Shvydkoy [12], which in turn develops ideas of Eyink [13]. Regularity-wise, a two dimensional sharp result is sketched in [12]. The vector field $\mathcal{U}$ described there enjoys $\lim \sup _{q \rightarrow \infty} \Pi_{q}(\mathcal{U}) \neq 0$, while $\liminf { }_{q \rightarrow \infty} \Pi_{q}(\mathcal{U})=0$. In fact, [12] points at Cheskidov and Shvydkoy [14] for details of the construction aimed at sharp regularity for $p<3$. A straightforward attempt to fill in those details may result in non-zero values appearing extremely sparsely in the sequence $\Pi_{q}(\mathcal{U})$, which means that 'typically' $\Pi_{q}(\mathcal{U})=0$. This is unsatisfactory from the perspective of energy cascade. Indeed, any $\Pi_{q}(\mathcal{U}) \approx 0$ disrupts the transport of energy, which is predominantly local (from lower to slightly higher frequencies; this locality remains in accordance with turbulence literature). Hence there cannot be a continuous cascade related to $\mathcal{U}$.
(iv) Another approach towards anomalous dissipation is proposed by Cheskidov and Luo [15]: the authors construct almost fully intermittent vector fields in 3 or more dimensions, which are not stationary but instead use time as another degree of freedom. More precisely, the construction features a 'timedelayed' energy cascade and the definition of energy flux involves averaging in time. This is a very interesting approach, especially towards possible blow-up scenarios, but it does not satisfy the energy cascade heuristics sketched above.
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### 1.4. Organisation

In Sect. 2 we detail the construction of the vector field $U$ and gather its properties. In Sect. 3 we decompose the energy flux of $U$, which facilitates computations of the final Sect. 4, where the proof of Theorem 1 is concluded.

## 2. The Construction

Take a smooth function

$$
\varphi:[0, \infty) \rightarrow[0,1], \quad \varphi(\xi)= \begin{cases}1 & \xi \leq \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}+2 \epsilon \\ 0 & \xi \geq 2-4 \epsilon\end{cases}
$$

with $\epsilon$ small enough, to be fixed later. Let $\psi(\xi)=\varphi(2 \xi)-\varphi(\xi)$. The Littlewood-Paley low-frequency and dyadic projections are, respectively, $\widehat{S_{q} u}(k):=\varphi\left(\lambda_{q}^{-1}|k|\right) \hat{u}(k)$ and $\widehat{\Delta_{q} u}(k):=\psi\left(\lambda_{q}^{-1}|k|\right) \hat{u}(k)$, where $\lambda_{q}=2^{q}$.

### 2.1. The Planar Construction

In this section we construct the planar vector field $U_{0}$ along [12]. Fix the plane $P_{0}:=\left\{\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right) \in\right.$ $\left.\mathbb{R}^{3} \mid x_{3}=0\right\}$. Define the frequency vectors

$$
F_{0}^{(1)}:=(0,1,0), F_{0}^{(2)}:=(2,0,0), F_{0}^{(3)}:=(2,1,0)
$$

and amplitude vectors

$$
V_{0}^{(1)}:=(1,0,0), V_{0}^{(2)}:=(0,1,0), V_{0}^{(3)}:=(-1,2,0) .
$$

The planar 'skeleton field' $S$ is the sum over $q \in 3 \mathbb{N}$ of $s_{q}=s_{q}^{(1)}+s_{q}^{(2)}+s_{q}^{(3)}$, where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& s_{q}^{(1)}:=\lambda_{q}^{-\frac{1}{3}} V_{0}^{(1)} \sin \left(\lambda_{q} F_{0}^{(1)} \cdot x\right), \\
& s_{q}^{(2)}:=\lambda_{q}^{-\frac{1}{3}} V_{0}^{(2)} \cos \left(\lambda_{q} F_{0}^{(2)} \cdot x\right), \\
& s_{q}^{(3)}:=\lambda_{q}^{-\frac{1}{3}} V_{0}^{(3)} \cos \left(\lambda_{q} F_{0}^{(3)} \cdot x\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

The skeleton field $S$ suffices to obtain the limsup result in $B_{3, \infty}^{\frac{1}{3}}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)$; in particular div $S=0$ thanks to $F_{0}^{(1)} \cdot V_{0}^{(1)}=0$.

Since the Bernstein inequality implies the Sobolev inequality:

$$
\left\|\Delta_{q} f\right\|_{L^{3}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)} \leq C \lambda_{q}^{\frac{1}{2}}\left\|\Delta_{q} f\right\|_{L^{2}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)} \Longrightarrow\|f\|_{B_{3, \infty}^{\frac{1}{3}}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)} \leq C\|f\|_{B_{2, \infty}^{5}\left(\mathbb{T}^{3}\right)}
$$

constructing $U \in B_{2, \infty}^{\frac{5}{6}}$ with a positive flux could be reached by replicating the interactions arising in $S$, while saturating the Bernstein inequality. This strategy is realised by a three-dimensional blurring of the skeleton frequencies, with the new amplitudes preserving solenoidality and being appropriately rescaled. To this end define the active regions ('blurs' of frequencies $\lambda_{q} F_{0}^{(1)}$ that are 'active' in $S$ ) as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A_{0, q}^{(1)}:=\mathbb{Z}^{3} \cap \lambda_{q}\left(F_{0}^{(1)}+[0, \epsilon]^{3}\right), \\
& A_{0, q}^{(2)}:=\mathbb{Z}^{3} \cap \lambda_{q}\left(F_{0}^{(2)}+[0, \epsilon]^{3}\right), \\
& A_{0, q}^{(3)}:=\mathbb{Z}^{3} \cap \lambda_{q}\left(F_{0}^{(3)}+[0,2 \epsilon]^{3}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Define $\pi_{\xi}$ to be the orthogonal projection onto the plane $\xi^{\perp}$. Note that $\pi_{\xi}(v) e^{i \xi \cdot x}$ is a divergence-free vector field and agrees with the classical Leray-Helmholtz projection of $v e^{i \xi \cdot x}$, since $\pi_{\xi}=1-\frac{\xi}{|\xi|} \otimes \frac{\xi}{|\xi|}$.

We can now define the components of $u_{q}=u_{q}^{(1)}+u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}$

$$
\begin{align*}
& u_{q}^{(1)}:=\epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \sum_{\xi \in A_{0, q}^{(1)}} \pi_{\xi}\left(V_{0}^{(1)}\right) \sin (\xi \cdot x), \\
& u_{q}^{(2)}:=\epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \sum_{\xi \in A_{0, q}^{(2)}} \pi_{\xi}\left(V_{0}^{(2)}\right) \cos (\xi \cdot x),  \tag{3}\\
& u_{q}^{(3)}:=\epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \sum_{\xi \in A_{0, q}^{(3)}} \pi_{\xi}\left(V_{0}^{(3)}\right) \cos (\xi \cdot x) .
\end{align*}
$$

Finally, the (almost) planar vector field is $U_{0}:=\sum_{q \in 3 \mathbb{N}} u_{q}$. It is real-valued and (weakly) divergence-free.

### 2.2. The Rotations and the Full Field $\boldsymbol{U}$

The flux of $U_{0}$ is controlled only for $q \in 3 \mathbb{N}$, thus merely a lim sup result is possible. Straightforward 'condensation' $3 \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ results however in undesirable interactions. We overcome this problem by combining almost-planar fields at three distinct planes. Each of these three types of almost-planar fields is obtained by rotating the construction from Sect.2.1.

Fix the line $L:=\left\{x_{1}+2 x_{2}=0=x_{3}\right\}$ within the plane $P_{0}$. Let $\mathcal{R}$ denote the rotation around $L$ by $\frac{\pi}{3}$, which is given by the matrix

$$
\mathcal{R}=\frac{1}{10}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
9 & -2 & -\sqrt{15} \\
-2 & 6 & -2 \sqrt{15} \\
\sqrt{15} & 2 \sqrt{15} & 5
\end{array}\right]
$$

The rotated components will be similar to $u_{q}$ from the previous section, but anchored instead at the plane $P_{1}=\mathcal{R} P_{0}$ or $P_{2}=\mathcal{R}^{2} P_{0}$. More precisely: fix $q \in 3 \mathbb{N}+1$, for $i=1,2,3$ define $V_{1}^{(1)}:=\mathcal{R} V_{0}^{(1)}, F_{1}^{(1)}:=\mathcal{R} F_{0}^{(1)}$ and the regions

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A_{1, q}^{(1)}:=\mathbb{Z}^{3} \cap \lambda_{q}\left(F_{1}^{(1)}+[0, \epsilon]^{3}\right), \\
& A_{1, q}^{(2)}:=\mathbb{Z}^{3} \cap \lambda_{q}\left(F_{1}^{(2)}+[0, \epsilon]^{3}\right), \\
& A_{1, q}^{(3)}:=\mathbb{Z}^{3} \cap \lambda_{q}\left(F_{1}^{(3)}+[0,2 \epsilon]^{3}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

(Note that we first rotate the skeleton frequencies and blur afterwards, since rotating the blurs $A_{0, q}^{(1)}$ results in non-integer values.) The components $u_{q}^{(1)}$ and $u_{q}$ are then defined as in Sect. 2.1, now with $V_{1}^{(1)}$ replacing $V_{0}^{(1)}$ and $A_{1, q}^{(3)}$ replacing $A_{0, q}^{(3)}$. We write $U_{1}:=\sum_{q \in 3 \mathbb{N}+1} u_{q}$.

The $\frac{2 \pi}{3}$-rotated field $U_{2}:=\sum_{q \in 3 \mathbb{N}+2} u_{q}$ is defined with $\mathcal{R}$ in the definition of $V_{1}^{(1)}, F_{1}^{(1)}$ replaced by $\mathcal{R}^{2}$ (yielding $V_{2}^{(1)}, F_{2}^{(1)}$, and $A_{2, q}^{(1)}$ ). Finally

$$
U=U_{0}+U_{1}+U_{2}
$$

For brevity, we will at times suppress the lower index $j$ in $A_{j, q}^{(1)}$ (denoting rotation), since it is unambiguously determined by $q \bmod 3$. In other words

$$
\begin{aligned}
& U=\sum_{q} u_{q}=\sum_{q} u_{q}^{(1)}+u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}, \quad \text { with } \\
& u_{q}^{(1)}=\epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \sum_{\xi \in A_{q}^{(1)}} \pi_{\xi}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}\right) \sin (\xi \cdot x) \\
& u_{q}^{(2)}=\epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \sum_{\xi \in A_{q}^{(2)}} \pi_{\xi}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(2)}\right) \cos (\xi \cdot x) \\
& u_{q}^{(3)}=\epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \sum_{\xi \in A_{q}^{(3)}} \pi_{\xi}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)}\right) \cos (\xi \cdot x) .
\end{aligned}
$$

### 2.3. Regularity of $U$

By $O(\epsilon)$ we will denote a real scalar, vector or tensor of magnitude $\lesssim \epsilon$, i.e. such that $|O(\epsilon)| \leq C \epsilon$, with a uniform constant $C$ (i.e. independent from any parameters).

For objects defined in Sects. 2.1, 2.2 we have
Proposition 1. For $j=0,1,2$ (rotations) and $i=1,2,3$ it holds

$$
\begin{align*}
& \pi_{\xi}\left(V_{j}^{(1)}\right)-V_{j}^{\mathrm{i}}=O(\epsilon) \quad \forall \xi \in A_{j, q}^{(1)},  \tag{4}\\
& \left|A_{j, q}^{(1)}\right| \in\left[\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}-1\right)^{3},\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}+1\right)^{3}\right] \quad \text { for } \quad i=1,2,  \tag{5a}\\
& \left|A_{j, q}^{(3)}\right| \in\left[\left(2 \epsilon \lambda_{q}-1\right)^{3},\left(2 \epsilon \lambda_{q}+1\right)^{3}\right] . \tag{5b}
\end{align*}
$$

Moreover, for any $p \in(1, \infty]$

$$
\begin{align*}
\left\|u_{q}\right\|_{L^{p}} & \leq C_{p} \epsilon^{1-\frac{3}{p}} \lambda_{q}^{\frac{2}{3}-\frac{3}{p}}  \tag{6}\\
\|U\|_{\dot{B}_{p, \infty}^{\frac{3}{p}-\frac{2}{3}}} & \leq C_{p} \epsilon^{1-\frac{3}{p}} \tag{7}
\end{align*}
$$

Proof. From the construction in Sects. 2.1, 2.2 we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\xi \in A_{j, q}^{(1)} \Longrightarrow \frac{\xi}{|\xi|}=\frac{F_{j}^{(1)}}{\left|F_{j}^{(1)}\right|}+O(\epsilon) \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $F_{j}^{(1)} \perp V_{j}{ }^{(1)}$. The projection $\pi_{\xi}=\mathbf{1}-\frac{\xi}{|\xi|} \otimes \frac{\xi}{|\xi|}$, therefore

$$
\pi_{\xi}\left(V_{j}^{(\mathrm{i})}\right)=V_{j}^{(\mathrm{i})}-\frac{\xi}{|\xi|}\left(\frac{F_{j}^{(\mathrm{i}}}{\left|F_{j}^{\mathrm{(1}}\right|}+O(\epsilon)\right) \cdot V_{j}^{\mathrm{i})}=V_{j}^{\mathrm{i})}-\frac{\xi}{|\xi|} O(\epsilon)
$$

from which (4) follows immediately.
In any cube $x_{0}+\left[0, \epsilon \lambda_{q}\right]^{3}$, there are at most $\left(\left\lfloor\epsilon \lambda_{q}\right\rfloor+1\right)^{3} \leq\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}+1\right)^{3}$ and at least $\left(\left\lfloor\epsilon \lambda_{q}\right\rfloor\right)^{3} \geq\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}-1\right)^{3}$ lattice points. This proves (5) in the case $i=1,2$. For $i=3$ the only difference is that the cube has twice longer edges.

Since $\pi_{\xi}$ agrees with the Leray-Helmholtz projector, we can use the $L^{p}$ theory for the latter, obtaining

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\|u_{q}^{(1)}\right\|_{p} & \leq C_{p} \epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}}\left\|\sum_{\xi \in A_{q}^{(1)}} V_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)} \sin (\xi \cdot)\right\|_{p} \\
& \leq C_{p} \epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}}\left\|\sum_{\xi \in A_{q}^{(1)}} \sin (\xi \cdot)\right\|_{p} \\
& \leq C_{p} \epsilon^{-2} \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}}\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}\right)^{3\left(1-\frac{1}{p}\right)}
\end{aligned}
$$

where the last but one inequality holds, because $V_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}$ is constant. The last inequality, since $A_{q}$ is a cube, follows along the lines of the Dirichlet kernel estimate. An analogous computation for $u_{q}^{(2)}$, $u_{q}^{(3)}$ yields (6) for $p \in(1, \infty)$. The case $p=\infty$ follows from the (non-optimal) straightforward bound $\left\|u_{q}\right\|_{L^{\infty}} \leq\left\|\hat{u}_{q}\right\|_{L^{\infty}} \operatorname{spt}\left(\hat{u}_{q}\right)$ and application of (4) and (5).

The final regularity statement (7) follows from (6) and the fact that by (12) below at most 3 components $u_{q}$ interfere with a single Littlewood-Paley shell.

### 2.4. Fourier Side of $U$

For the sake of the next section, let us write $u_{q}$ in terms of Fourier modes, restricting our attention to the leading order amplitudes, provided by (4):

$$
\begin{align*}
& \widehat{u_{q}^{(1)}}=-i \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \epsilon^{-2}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}+O(\epsilon)\right)\left(\chi_{A_{q}}^{(\mathbb{1}}-\chi_{-A_{q}(\mathbb{1}}\right), \\
& \widehat{u_{q}^{(2)}}=\lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \epsilon^{-2}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(2)}+O(\epsilon)\right)\left(\chi_{A_{q}^{(2)}}+\chi_{-A_{q}(2)}^{2}\right),  \tag{9}\\
& \widehat{u_{q}^{(3)}}=\lambda_{q}^{-\frac{7}{3}} \epsilon^{-2}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)}+O(\epsilon)\right)\left(\chi_{A_{q}^{(3)}}+\chi_{-A_{q}^{(3)}}\right),
\end{align*}
$$

where $\chi_{A}$ denotes the characteristic function of $A$. Differentiation yields

$$
\begin{align*}
& \widehat{\nabla u_{q}^{(1)}}=-\lambda_{q}^{-\frac{4}{3}} \epsilon^{-2}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)} \otimes F_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}+O(\epsilon)\right)\left(\chi_{A_{q}(\mathbb{1}}+\chi_{-A_{q}^{\mathbb{1}}}\right), \\
& \widehat{\nabla u_{q}^{(2)}}=i \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{4}{3}} \epsilon^{-2}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(2)} \otimes F_{q \bmod 3}^{(2)}+O(\epsilon)\right)\left(\chi_{A_{q}^{(2)}}-\chi_{-A_{q}^{(2)}}\right),  \tag{10}\\
& \widehat{\nabla u_{q}^{(3)}}=i \lambda_{q}^{-\frac{4}{3}} \epsilon^{-2}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)} \otimes F_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)}+O(\epsilon)\right)\left(\chi_{A_{q}^{(3)}}-\chi_{-A_{q}^{(3)}}\right) .
\end{align*}
$$

Observe that the amplitudes of $\nabla u_{q}^{(1)}$ are real while the other ones are purely imaginary.
We will also need the following precise estimates about the shells in which the Fourier support of $U$ is contained:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q}^{(1)}}\right) \subset\left\{\lambda_{q}(1-\sqrt{3} \epsilon) \leq|\xi| \leq \lambda_{q}(1+\sqrt{3} \epsilon)\right\} \\
& \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q}^{(2)}}\right) \subset\left\{\lambda_{q}(2-\sqrt{3} \epsilon) \leq|\xi| \leq \lambda_{q}(2+\sqrt{3} \epsilon)\right\}  \tag{11}\\
& \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q}^{3}}\right) \\
& \subset\left\{\lambda_{q}(\sqrt{5}-2 \sqrt{3} \epsilon) \leq|\xi| \leq \lambda_{q}(\sqrt{5}+2 \sqrt{3} \epsilon)\right\}
\end{align*}
$$

Hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q}}\right) \subset\left\{\lambda_{q}(1-2 \epsilon)<|\xi|<\lambda_{q}(\sqrt{5}+4 \epsilon)\right\} . \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$



Fig. 1. Active regions from three consecutive generations $q-1, q, q+1$ and support of $\nabla \varphi\left(\lambda_{q}^{-1}\right.$.). Different colours of active regions indicate that in fact they are anchored at three different planes

Bounds (11) can be seen using Fig. 1. Let us justify them more extensively. It holds $\operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q}^{(1)}}\right)= \pm A_{q}^{(1)}$; in particular the supports are symmetric, so we can ignore the 'negative' part in our computation. For $i=1,2, A_{q}^{(\mathrm{i})} \subset Q^{i}:=\lambda_{q}\left(F_{q \text { mod } 3}^{(1)}+[0, \epsilon]^{3}\right)$, while for $Q^{3}$ we replace $\epsilon$ with $2 \epsilon$. The diameter of $Q^{i}$ equals $\sqrt{3} \lambda_{q} \epsilon$ for $i=1,2$ and $2 \sqrt{3} \lambda_{q} \epsilon$ for $i=3$. Observe that

$$
\left|F_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}\right|=1,\left|F_{q \bmod 3}^{(2)}\right|=2,\left|F_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)}\right|=\sqrt{5}
$$

irrespective of rotation. This, the fact that $\lambda_{q} F_{q \text { mod } 3}^{(1)} \in Q^{i}$ and the values of the diameters yield the generous estimate (11).

## 3. Flux Decomposition

Let $v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}$ be any vector fields from $\mathbb{T}^{3}$ to $\mathbb{C}^{3}$. Then, for $\xi_{j} \in \mathbb{Z}^{3}, j=1,2,3$, via Parseval

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int\left(v_{1} \otimes v_{2}\right): \nabla v_{3}=\sum_{\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}=0} \widehat{v_{1}}\left(\xi_{1}\right) \otimes \widehat{v_{2}}\left(\xi_{2}\right): \widehat{\nabla v_{3}}\left(\xi_{3}\right) . \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus, any contribution to the integral necessitates $\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}=0$. This observation is an underlying principle for the following analysis of the flux. In particular, modes satisfying $\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}=0$ will be referred to as 'interacting' (i.e. contributing to the flux), exhibiting 'non-zero interactions' etc.

The aim of this section is to split the flux $\Pi_{q}(U)$ into a local part $\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}$, which is restricted to interactions within a single component $u_{q}$, and a non-local part $\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}$, which involves modes further apart. We will show that $\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}$ behaves precisely like the flux of the skeleton field $S$. However, unlike in the $\Pi_{q}(S)$ case, $\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}$ will contribute to the flux. Indeed, a blur of a very high frequency interacts with its almost-symmetric counterpart, producing a much lower non-zero mode, which in turn may interact with a low-frequency mode.

Recall that $|O(\epsilon)| \leq C \epsilon$ with a uniform $C$. We will from now onwards tacitly assume that $\epsilon \leq \epsilon_{0}$, where $C \epsilon_{0} \leq \frac{1}{C}$. Consequently, $1-|O(\epsilon)| \geq 1-\frac{1}{C}$. Even though $O(\epsilon)$ is unsigned and even not necessarily a real number, we will write at times $1-O(\epsilon)$, meaning $1-|O(\epsilon)|$. Denoting $a \odot b:=a \otimes b+b \otimes a$, we state

Lemma 1 (Flux decomposition). The energy flux $\Pi_{q}(U)=\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}+\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}$, where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}=\int u_{q}^{(2)} \odot u_{q}^{(3)}: \nabla u_{q}^{(1)} \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}=\sum_{i=1,2,3} \sum_{l \leq q} \sum_{k>\max \left(q, l+N_{\epsilon}\right)} \int u_{k}^{(1)} \otimes u_{k}^{(1)}: \nabla u_{l}^{(1)} \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $N_{\epsilon}=\lfloor 3-\log \epsilon\rfloor$.
The remainder of this section contains proof of Lemma 1.

### 3.1. Initial Splitting of $\Pi_{q}(U)$

Let us define for $U=\sum_{q} u_{q}$ of Sect.2.2

$$
U_{<q}:=\sum_{l<q} u_{l} \quad \text { and analogously: } \quad U_{>q}, U_{\leq q}, U_{\geq q} .
$$

The splitting $U=U_{<q}+u_{q}+U_{>q}$ is usually called Bony decomposition. By (11) and the choice of the cutoff function $\varphi$, implying there are no active modes of $U$ in the support of derivative of $\varphi$, we have (cf. Fig. 1)

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{q}(U)=U_{<q}+u_{q}^{(1)} \quad \text { and } \quad U-S_{q}(U)=u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}+U_{>q} . \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore

$$
\begin{align*}
\Pi_{q}(U) & =\int S_{q}(U \otimes U): \nabla S_{q}(U)=\int S_{q}(u \otimes U): \nabla\left(U_{<q}+u_{q}^{\mathbb{1}}\right) \\
& =\int(U \otimes U): \nabla\left(U_{<q}+u_{q}^{\mathbb{1}}\right) \tag{17}
\end{align*}
$$

$U$ is divergence-free and integrable, while $U_{<q}+u_{q}^{(1)}$ is smooth, thus integrating by parts

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int\left(U_{<q}+u_{q}^{\mathbb{D}}\right) \otimes U: \nabla\left(U_{<q}+u_{q}^{\mathbb{D}}\right)=0 \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

Subtracting (18) from (17) we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Pi_{q}(U)=\int\left(u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}+U_{>q}\right) \otimes U: \nabla\left(U_{<q}+u_{q}^{(1)}\right) . \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

We split now $\Pi_{q}(U)$ of (19) into the part $\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}$ where modes are separated and the remainder $\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}$ as follows:

$$
\begin{align*}
\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}= & \int\left(u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}+u_{q+1}\right) \otimes\left(u_{q-1}+u_{q}+u_{q+1}\right): \nabla\left(u_{q-1}+u_{q}^{(1)}\right)  \tag{20}\\
\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }} & =\int U_{>q+1} \otimes U: \nabla\left(U_{<q}+u_{q}^{(1)}\right) \\
& +\int\left(u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}+u_{q+1}\right) \otimes U: \nabla U_{<q-1}  \tag{21}\\
& +\int\left(u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}+u_{q+1}\right) \otimes\left(U_{<q-1}+U_{>q+1}\right): \nabla\left(u_{q-1}+u_{q}^{(1)}\right) .
\end{align*}
$$

We need to show that (20) is in fact (14), and that (21) is in fact (15).

### 3.2. Exclusion of Three Different Planes Interacting

We will say that a point $\xi$ is anchored to a set $\Omega$ if $\operatorname{dist}(\xi, \Omega) \leq 2 \epsilon|\xi|$. We claim that each frequency $\xi$ of $\widehat{U}$ is unambiguously anchored at one of three different planes $P_{0}, P_{1}$ or $P_{2}$, thanks to $\epsilon \leq \epsilon_{0}$ small in our definition of active frequency regions $A_{q}^{(1)}$.

Indeed, $\lambda_{q} F_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)} \in P_{q \bmod 3}$, so $\operatorname{dist}\left(\xi, P_{q \bmod 3}\right) \leq\left|\xi-\lambda_{q} F_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}\right|$. At the same time, if $\xi \in A_{q}^{(1)}$ then by construction $\xi$ belongs to a cube with a vertex $\lambda_{q} F_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}$ and with its side length $\epsilon \lambda_{q}$ or $2 \epsilon \lambda_{q}$. This reads for $\xi \in A_{q}^{(1)}$ with $i=1,2$

$$
\operatorname{dist}\left(\xi, P_{q \bmod 3}\right) \leq\left|\xi-\lambda_{q} F_{q \bmod 3}^{(\mathrm{i} 3}\right| \leq \sqrt{3} \epsilon \lambda_{q} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3} \epsilon}{1-2 \epsilon}|\xi|,
$$

where the last inequality stems from (12). Hence for $i=1,2, \xi \in A_{q}^{(1)}$ are anchored to $P_{q \text { mod 3 }}$, provided $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{1-2 \epsilon_{0}} \leq 2$. Similarly for $\xi \in A_{q}^{(3)}$, because

$$
\operatorname{dist}\left(\xi, P_{q \bmod 3}\right) \leq\left|\xi-\lambda_{q} F_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)}\right| \leq 2 \sqrt{3} \epsilon \lambda_{q} \leq \frac{2 \sqrt{3} \epsilon}{\sqrt{5}-2 \sqrt{3} \epsilon}|\xi|,
$$

applying now (11) and again an uniform upper bound on $\epsilon_{0}$.
Since $\epsilon$ is small, we see that the anchoring is unambiguous, as claimed.
Our next goal is to exclude any interactions between modes related to three different planes $P$.
Proposition 2. If each $\operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q^{\prime}}}\right), \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q^{\prime \prime}}}\right), \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q^{\prime \prime \prime}}}\right)$ is anchored at a different plane $P$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int u_{q^{\prime}} \otimes u_{q^{\prime \prime}}: \nabla u_{q^{\prime \prime \prime}}=0 \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. Every $P$ stems from a rotation around axis $L$, whose normal plane we call $L^{\perp}$. Let us denote the orthogonal projection onto $L^{\perp}$ by $\pi_{L^{\perp}}$. For modes $\xi_{j} \in \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{j}}\right)$ with $j=1,2,3$ to interact, it is necessary that $\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{i}\right)$ do interact, i.e. that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{1}\right)+\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{2}\right)+\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{3}\right)=0 . \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the following considerations, it may be beneficial to visualise $U$ projected onto $L^{\perp}$, i.e. Fig. 1 seen along the axis $L$, see Fig. 2.

Observe that $\pi_{L \perp}$ projections of modes of $u_{q}$ have norms equal either $\frac{2 \sqrt{5}}{5} \lambda_{q}(1+O(\epsilon))=: \tilde{\lambda}_{q}(1+O(\epsilon))$ or $2 \tilde{\lambda}_{q}(1+O(\epsilon))$.

We assumed that each mode $\xi_{i}$ is anchored at a different $P$ plane. Consequently, each $\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{i}\right)$ is anchored to a different line $l_{i}$ which is $\pi_{L^{\perp}}$ projection of a plane $P$. Take the mode with the largest norm, say $\xi_{1}$ of $\widehat{u_{q_{0}}}$, anchored at $l_{1}$. We have

$$
\begin{align*}
& \text { either } \quad\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{1}\right)\right|=\tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon)),  \tag{24a}\\
& \text { or } \quad\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{1}\right)\right|=2 \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon)) . \tag{24b}
\end{align*}
$$

The remaining two active $\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{i}\right)$ 's, $i=2,3$ are anchored, respectively, at different lines $l_{2}, l_{3}$. Therefore we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{2}\right)\right|=2^{-j} \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon)) \quad \text { for a } j \geq 0  \tag{25a}\\
& \left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{3}\right)\right|=2^{-k-1} \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon)) \quad \text { for a } k \geq 0 . \tag{25b}
\end{align*}
$$

The first consequence of (25) is that (24b) cannot happen. Indeed, using (23) we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{1}\right)\right|=\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{2}\right)+\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{3}\right)\right| \leq \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon))+2^{-1} \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon))<\frac{3}{2} \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon)) . \tag{26}
\end{equation*}
$$

Next, knowing that (24a) is the only possibility, we argue that (24a) requires $j=1$ in (25a). Indeed, $j<1$ is immediately excluded analogously to (26). Take case $j=0$ in (25a). The involved projections of modes


FIG. 2. Windmill: dots indicate (approximately) active regions projected on the plane of rotation $L^{\perp}$
$\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{1}\right), \pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{2}\right)$ are anchored at different lines $l_{1}, l_{2}$, with angle $\pi / 3$ between them. This spreading means that, by adding vectors we have

$$
\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{1}\right)+\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{2}\right)\right| \geq \lambda_{q_{0}}(1-O(\epsilon)),
$$

but then (25b) makes (23) impossible. (Recall we write $1-O(\epsilon)$ for $1-|O(\epsilon)|$.)
Finally, having both (24a) and (25a) with $j=1$, we see that $k>0$ in (25b) is now excluded analogously to (26).

Altogether, (23) may occur only if

$$
\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{1}\right)\right|=\tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon)),\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{2}\right)\right|=\frac{\tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}}{2}(1+O(\epsilon)),\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{3}\right)\right|=\frac{\tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}}{2}(1+O(\epsilon)),
$$

but due to $\pi / 3$ angle between $l_{2}, l_{3},\left|\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{2}\right)+\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(\xi_{3}\right)\right| \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1+O(\epsilon))<\tilde{\lambda}_{q_{0}}(1-O(\epsilon))$, so (23) is impossible.

### 3.3. Exclusion of Near-Field Interactions

It turns out that active modes which are not all from the same $\widehat{u_{q}}$ may interact only in the following scenario: the two higher-frequency modes are from the same $\widehat{u_{q}}$, while the third mode is of considerably lower frequency. More precisely, we have
Proposition 3. Let $q_{1} \leq q_{2} \leq q_{3}$. Assume that $u_{q_{j}}$ 's interact, i.e. there are $\xi_{1}, \xi_{2}, \xi_{3}$ where $\xi_{j} \in \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{j}}\right)$ for $j=1,2,3$ such that

$$
\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}=0
$$

Suppose $q_{1}<q_{3}$, then $q_{1}+3 \leq q_{2}=q_{3}$.
Proof. We distinguish three elementary cases, depending on the separation between the largest $q_{3}$ and the smallest $q_{1}$.

Case 1. $q_{1}=q_{3}-1$. Since $q_{2} \in\left\{q_{1}, q_{3}\right\}$ there are exactly two modes anchored at the same plane and the third mode at a different one, say $\xi, \eta$ are anchored at $P_{0}$ while $\zeta$ is not. Then, on the one hand

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{dist}\left(\xi+\eta, P_{0}\right) \leq \operatorname{dist}\left(\xi, P_{0}\right)+\operatorname{dist}\left(\eta, P_{0}\right) \leq 2 \epsilon(|\xi|+|\eta|) \leq 2 \epsilon(2 \sqrt{5}+O(\epsilon)) \lambda_{q_{3}} \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

with the last inequality given by (12) and the fact that $q_{3}$ is the largest of $q_{j}$ 's. On the other hand, projections do not increase distances, so $\operatorname{dist}\left(\zeta, P_{0}\right) \geq \operatorname{dist}\left(\pi_{L^{\perp}}(\zeta), l_{0}\right)$, with $l_{0}=\pi_{L^{\perp}}\left(P_{0}\right)$ (recall setting of proof of Proposition 2). Since the angle between the planes $P_{q \text { mod } 3}$ is always $\frac{\pi}{3}$ (thus between lines $l_{q \bmod 3}$ being their projections) and $\zeta$ is anchored to $l_{q \bmod 3} \neq l_{0}$, we have, of Fig. 2

$$
\begin{align*}
\operatorname{dist}\left(\zeta, P_{0}\right) & \geq \operatorname{dist}\left(\pi_{L^{\perp}}(\zeta), l_{0}\right) \geq \tilde{\lambda}_{q_{1}}(1-O(\epsilon))\left(\sin \left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)-O(\epsilon)\right) \\
& \geq\left(\frac{\sqrt{15}}{5}-O(\epsilon)\right) \lambda_{q_{1}}=\left(\frac{\sqrt{15}}{10}-O(\epsilon)\right) \lambda_{q_{3}} \tag{28}
\end{align*}
$$

Comparing (27) and (28), we see that $\operatorname{dist}\left(\xi+\eta, P_{0}\right)<\operatorname{dist}\left(\zeta, P_{0}\right)$ for $\epsilon \leq \epsilon_{0}$, so there is no interaction.
Case 2. $q_{1}=q_{3}-2$. There are two possibilities:
(a) $q_{2}=q_{1}+1$, i.e. $q_{2}$ is strictly inbetween $q_{1}$ and $q_{3}$. Then all $\xi_{j}$ are anchored at a different plane, so by Proposition 2 there is no interaction.
(b) $q_{2} \in\left\{q_{1}, q_{3}\right\}$. Then the very same argument as in Case 1 applies, with a smaller but fixed parameter $\epsilon_{0}$.
Case 3. $q_{1} \leq q_{3}-3$. We can estimate using (12) twice

$$
(\sqrt{5}+4 \epsilon) \lambda_{q_{2}}>\left|\xi_{2}\right|=\left|\xi_{1}+\xi_{3}\right| \geq\left|\xi_{3}\right|-\left|\xi_{1}\right| \geq\left(1-\frac{\sqrt{5}}{8}-\frac{5 \epsilon}{2}\right) \lambda_{q_{3}}>\frac{\sqrt{5}+4 \epsilon}{4} \lambda_{q_{3}},
$$

where the last inequality uses $\epsilon \leq \epsilon_{0}$. Comparing the leftmost and the rightmost quantity above, we see that necessarily $q_{2} \geq q_{3}-1$. We have thus two options: either $q_{2}+1=q_{3}$ or $q_{2}=q_{3}$; the latter being the final statement. Therefore it remains to exclude $q_{2}+1=q_{3}$. In such case $\xi_{2}$ and $\xi_{3}$ are anchored at different planes, say $P_{0}$ and $P_{1}$, respectively. Analogously to (28) we thus have

$$
\operatorname{dist}\left(\xi_{3}, P_{0}\right) \geq\left(\frac{\sqrt{15}}{5}-O(\epsilon)\right) \lambda_{q_{3}}
$$

The mode $\xi_{2}$ is anchored at the plane $P_{0}$, so $-\xi_{2}$ is also anchored at the plane $P_{0}$. Consequently, via triangle inequality

$$
\left|\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}\right|+2 \epsilon\left|\xi_{2}\right| \geq \operatorname{dist}\left(\xi_{3}, P_{0}\right)
$$

Together, the above two inequalities yield

$$
\left|\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}\right| \geq \operatorname{dist}\left(\xi_{3}, P_{0}\right)-2 \epsilon\left|\xi_{2}\right| \geq\left(\frac{\sqrt{15}}{5}-O(\epsilon)\right) \lambda_{q_{3}}>\left(\frac{\sqrt{5}}{8}+\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right) \lambda_{q_{3}} \geq\left|\xi_{1}\right|
$$

with the last inequality due to (12) and $q_{1} \leq q_{3}-3$. Hence we excluded $q_{2}+1=q_{3}$.

### 3.4. Proof of (14)

Observe that

$$
\begin{align*}
\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }} & =\int\left(u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}+u_{q+1}\right) \otimes\left(u_{q-1}+u_{q}+u_{q+1}\right): \nabla\left(u_{q-1}+u_{q}^{(1)}\right) \\
& =\int\left(u_{q}^{(2)}+u_{q}^{(3)}\right) \otimes u_{q}: \nabla u_{q}^{(1)} . \tag{29}
\end{align*}
$$

The former identity of (29) is (20); the latter holds thanks to Proposition 3. Indeed, the remaining terms involve at least two different $q_{j}$ 's, but they do not satisfy the separation condition $q_{1}+3 \leq q_{3}$ (here $q_{1}=q-1, q_{3}=q+1$ ) demanded in Proposition 3 for a non-zero interaction.

Let us now take $\xi^{1}, \xi^{2}$ in the Fourier support of the tensor product terms in (29). For a nonzero interaction necessarily $\xi^{1}+\xi^{2} \in \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q}^{(1)}}\right)$, which requires by construction (consult Fig. 1) one of $\xi^{1}, \xi^{2}$ in $\operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{q}^{(2)}}\right)$ and the other in $\operatorname{spt}\left(u_{q}^{\widehat{3})}\right)$, implying (14).

### 3.5. Proof of (15)

First observe that none of the integrals in (21) involves only one $u_{q}$, consequently Proposition 3 applies $\left(q_{1}<q_{3}\right)$. Hence, any non-zero interaction within $\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}$ has the form

$$
\Pi_{l, k}:=\int u_{k} \otimes u_{k}: \nabla u_{l}, \quad \text { where } l \leq q \leq k \text { and } l+3 \leq k
$$

Let us analyse $\Pi_{l, k}$. First note that $\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}=0$ together with $\xi_{1}, \xi_{2} \in \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{k}}\right)$ and $\xi_{3} \in \operatorname{spt}\left(\widehat{u_{l}}\right)$ imply that $\xi_{1} \in A_{k}^{(1)}$ and $\xi_{2} \in-A_{k}^{(1)}$ with the same $i$, or $\xi_{1} \in-A_{k}^{(1)}$ and $\xi_{2} \in+A_{k}^{(1)}$ with the same $i$. Indeed, in any other case, by the separation of active regions $\pm A_{k}^{(1)}, \pm A_{k}^{(1)}$ with $i \neq j$ (cf Fig. 1) one has

$$
\left|\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}\right| \geq(1-O(\epsilon)) \lambda_{k}=8(1-O(\epsilon)) \lambda_{l}>\left|\xi_{3}\right|,
$$

with the last inequality via (12), so there cannot be any interaction. Therefore

$$
\Pi_{l, k}=\sum_{i=1,2,3} \int u_{k}^{(1)} \otimes u_{k}^{(1)}: \nabla u_{l}=\sum_{i=1,2,3} \int u_{k}^{(1)} \otimes u_{k}^{(1)}: \nabla u_{l}^{(1)},
$$

where the last identity is due to (13) and the following observation: the product of Fourier modes from opposite regions is real by (9), but by (10) modes in $\nabla u_{q}^{(1)}$ are purely imaginary unless $i=1$. The total flux is real, so any imaginary components are irrelevant.

Summarising, the non-local flux reduces to

$$
\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}=\sum_{l \leq q} \sum_{k \geq \max \{q, l+3\}} \Pi_{l, k} .
$$

Using the expression for $\Pi_{l, k}$ we can strip it down even more. Since $\xi_{1}, \xi_{2}$ are from opposite active regions, we can estimate

$$
\lambda_{l}(1-2 \epsilon) \leq\left|\xi_{3}\right|=\left|\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}\right| \leq 2 \operatorname{diam}\left(A_{k}^{(1)}\right) \leq 4 \sqrt{3} \epsilon \lambda_{k}
$$

Taking logarithms above

$$
l \leq \log _{2} \epsilon+k+2+\log _{2} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{1-2 \epsilon} \Longrightarrow k>l-3-\log _{2} \epsilon
$$

for $\epsilon \leq \epsilon_{0}$, as long as $\epsilon_{0}<\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{4}$. Now (15) follows immediately and the definition of $N(\epsilon)$ is justified.

## 4. Proof of Theorem 1

### 4.1. Exact Estimates for $\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}$

Recall (14); using (13) it reads

$$
\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}=\sum_{\xi^{1}+\xi^{2}+\xi^{3}=0} \widehat{u_{q}^{(2)}}\left(\xi_{2}\right) \odot \widehat{u_{q}^{(3)}}\left(\xi_{3}\right): \widehat{\nabla u_{q}^{(1)}}\left(\xi_{1}\right)
$$

where $\xi^{1} \in \pm A_{q}^{(1)}, \xi^{2} \in \pm A_{q}^{(2)}, \xi^{3} \in \pm A_{q}^{(3)}$, since these are the active regions of respective $u_{q}^{(1)}$,s, see (9). By our construction, for $\xi^{1} \in A_{q}^{(1)}$ and $\xi^{2} \in A_{q}^{(2)}, \xi^{1}+\xi^{2} \in A_{q}^{(3)}$ always holds, compare Fig. 1 and recall from Sect. 2.2 that we used the blurs $A_{q}^{(3)}$ with twice the side length of the blurs $A_{q}^{(1)}, i=1,2$. Consequently, any $\xi^{1} \in A_{q}^{(1)}$ and $\xi^{2} \in A_{q}^{(2)}$ interacts via $\xi^{1}+\xi^{2}+\xi^{3}=0$ with precisely one $\xi^{3} \in-A_{q}^{(3)}$;

[^0]if only one of the signs of active regions of $\xi^{1}, \xi^{2}$ is flipped, there is no interaction; and any $\xi^{1} \in-A_{q}{ }^{\mathbb{1}}$ and $\xi^{2} \in-A_{q}^{(2)}$ interacts with precisely one $\xi_{3} \in A_{q}^{(3)}$. We thus arrive via (9) and (10) at
\[

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}= \\
& -\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}\right)^{-6} 2 \sum_{\substack{\xi^{1} \in A_{q}^{(1)} \\
\xi^{2} \in A_{q}^{(2)}}}\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(2)}+O(\epsilon)\right) \odot\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)}+O(\epsilon)\right):\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)} \otimes F_{q \bmod 3}^{(\mathbb{1})}+O(\epsilon)\right) \\
& =-2\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}\right)^{-6}\left|A_{q}^{(1)}\right|\left|A_{q}^{(2)}\right|\left(V_{q \bmod 3}^{(2)} \odot V_{q \bmod 3}^{(3)}: V_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)} \otimes F_{q \bmod 3}^{(1)}+O(\epsilon)\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$
\]

It holds $a \odot b: c \otimes d=(b \cdot c)(a \cdot d)+(a \cdot c)(b \cdot d)$. This, the fact that rotations, in particular $\mathcal{R}$, do not alter the dot product, and the values of $V{ }^{(1)}$ and $F^{(1)}$ provided in Sect. 2.1 yield

$$
\Pi_{q}^{\text {local }}=2\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}\right)^{-6}\left|A_{q}^{(1)}\right|\left|A_{q}^{(2)}\right|(1+O(\epsilon)) \in 2\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}\right)^{-6}\left[\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}-1\right)^{3},\left(\epsilon \lambda_{q}+1\right)^{3}\right](1+O(\epsilon)),
$$

with the latter identity using (5).
Summarizing, we obtain, for $O(\epsilon)$ independent of $q$

$$
\begin{equation*}
2\left(\frac{\epsilon \lambda_{q}-1}{\epsilon \lambda_{q}}\right)^{6}(1-O(\epsilon)) \leq \Pi_{q}^{\text {local }} \leq 2\left(\frac{\epsilon \lambda_{q}+1}{\epsilon \lambda_{q}}\right)^{6}(1+O(\epsilon)) \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

For any $\epsilon>0$ fixed, the lower and upper bound in (30) becomes, respectively, $2 \pm O(\epsilon)$ for large $q$ 's.

### 4.2. Estimate for $\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}$

Recall (15). It reads via (13)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }} \\
& =\sum_{i=1,2,3} \sum_{l \leq q} \sum_{k>\max \left\{q, l+N_{\epsilon}\right\}} \sum_{\substack{\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}+\xi_{3}=0 \\
\left|\xi^{1}\right| \in A_{k}^{(1)},\left|\xi^{3}\right| \in A_{l}}}\left(\widehat{u_{k}^{(1)}}\left(\xi_{1}\right) \otimes \widehat{u_{k}^{(1)}}\left(\xi_{2}\right): \widehat{\nabla u_{l}^{(1)}}\left(\xi_{3}\right)\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

A brutal estimate for the innermost sum, using (9) and (10), yields

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum_{\left|\xi^{1}\right| \in A_{k}^{(1)},\left|\xi^{3}\right| \in A_{l}^{(1)}}\left|\widehat{u_{k}^{(1)}}\left(\xi_{1}\right) \otimes \widehat{u_{k}^{(1)}}\left(\xi_{2}\right): \widehat{\nabla u_{l}^{(1)}}\left(\xi_{3}\right)\right| & \leq C \epsilon^{-6} \lambda_{k}^{-\frac{14}{3}} \lambda_{l}^{-\frac{4}{3}}\left|A_{k}^{(1)} \| A_{l}^{\mathbb{1}}\right| \\
& \leq C \epsilon^{-3} \lambda_{k}^{-\frac{5}{3}} \lambda_{l}^{-\frac{4}{3}}\left(\epsilon \lambda_{l}+1\right)^{3}
\end{aligned}
$$

with the latter inequality using (5) and that, since we interested in the limit $q \rightarrow \infty$, for any fixed $\epsilon$, $\epsilon \lambda_{k} \geq 1$ for $k \geq q$. Therefore

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left|\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}\right| & \leq C \sum_{l \leq q} \sum_{k>\max \left\{q, l+N_{\epsilon}\right\}} \lambda_{k}^{-\frac{5}{3}} \max \left(\lambda_{l}^{\frac{5}{3}}, \epsilon^{-3} \lambda_{l}^{-\frac{4}{3}}\right) \\
& =C \sum_{l \leq q}\left(\max \left\{1, \frac{1}{\epsilon \lambda_{l}}\right\}\right)^{3} \sum_{k>\max \left\{q, l+N_{\epsilon}\right\}}\left(\frac{\lambda_{l}}{\lambda_{k}}\right)^{\frac{5}{3}} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Observe that the max in the outer sum is 1 if $l \geq l_{\epsilon}:=-\frac{\log \epsilon}{\log 2}$. Therefore the sums split into

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left|\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}\right| \\
& \quad \leq \sum_{l<l \epsilon}\left(\epsilon \lambda_{l}\right)^{-3} \sum_{k \geq q}\left(\frac{\lambda_{l}}{\lambda_{k}}\right)^{\frac{5}{3}}+\sum_{l_{\epsilon} \leq l \leq q-N_{\epsilon}} \sum_{k \geq q}\left(\frac{\lambda_{l}}{\lambda_{k}}\right)^{\frac{5}{3}}+\sum_{q-N_{\epsilon}<l \geq q} \sum_{k \geq l+N_{\epsilon}}\left(\frac{\lambda_{l}}{\lambda_{k}}\right)^{\frac{5}{3}}
\end{aligned}
$$

(where the second sum might be empty). The first summand above vanishes as $q \rightarrow \infty$ (and $\epsilon$ fixed), the second term is bounded independent of $q$ by $2^{-\frac{5}{3} N_{\epsilon}}=O(\epsilon)$, and the third sum is bounded by $N_{\epsilon} 2^{-\frac{5}{3} N_{\epsilon}}=O(\epsilon \log \epsilon)$, in view of $N_{\epsilon}=\lfloor 3-\log (\epsilon)\rfloor$. Thus we have, for $q$ sufficiently large with respect to $\epsilon$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|\Pi_{q}^{\text {non-local }}\right| \leq O(\epsilon \log \epsilon) \tag{31}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 4.3. Conclusion of the Proof

Recall that the energy flux of $\Pi_{q}(U)$ is cubic in $U$, so by multiplying the original construction with $(c / 2)^{1 / 3}$ we obtain a field such that by (30) and (31)

$$
c-O(\epsilon \log \epsilon)<\Pi_{q}(U)<c+O(\epsilon \log \epsilon)
$$

holds for sufficiently large $q$. Choosing $\epsilon$ in the construction sufficiently small with respect to $\delta$ then proves (2).

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## Declarations

Conflict of interest The authors have no competing interests to declare that are relevant to this article.

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