# MODERATE DEVIATION PRINCIPLE FOR DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS WITH SMALL RANDOM PERTURBATION

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ABSTRACT. Consider the stochastic differential equation in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ 

$$\begin{cases} dX_t^{\varepsilon} = b(X_t^{\varepsilon})dt + \sqrt{\varepsilon}\sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon})dB_t; \\ X_0^{\varepsilon} = x_0, \quad x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{cases}$$

where  $b : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$  is  $C^1$  such that  $\langle x, b(x) \rangle \leq C(1 + |x|^2), \sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathcal{M}(d \times n)$ is locally Lipschitzian with linear growth, and  $B_t$  is a standard Brownian motion taking values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Freidlin-Wentzell's theorem gives the large deviation principle for  $X^{\varepsilon}$  for small  $\varepsilon$ . In this paper we establish its moderate deviation principle.

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**Keywords:** Freidlin-Wentzell's theorem; large deviations; moderate deviations, Talagrand's transportation inequality.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULT

Consider the stochastic differential equation

$$\begin{cases} dX_t^{\varepsilon} = b(X_t^{\varepsilon})dt + \sqrt{\varepsilon}\sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon})dB_t; \\ X_0^{\varepsilon} = x_0, \end{cases}$$
(1.1)

where  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is the starting point,  $b : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$  is the macroscopic vector field,  $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathcal{M}(d \times n)$  (the space of all real  $d \times n$  matrices) and  $(B_t)$  is the standard Brownian motion taking values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  defined on some well filtered probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, (\mathcal{F}_t), \mathbb{P})$ . We always assume

(**H**):  $\sigma$  is locally Lipschitzian, b is  $C^1$  and there exists some positive constant C such that

$$\max\left\{\operatorname{tr}(\sigma\sigma^*(x)),\,\langle x,b(x)\rangle\right\} \le C(1+|x|^2),\,\,\forall x\in\mathbb{R}^d.$$

Here  $\langle x, y \rangle = x \cdot y$  is the Euclidean inner product and  $|x| := \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$ .

The stochastic differential equation (1.1) has a unique non-explosive solution denoted by  $X_t^{\varepsilon}$  (see [10]). Given T > 0, when  $\varepsilon$  goes to 0,  $\sup_{t \in [0,T]} |X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0| \to 0$ in probability, where  $X^0$  is the solution of ordinary differential equation (the nonperturbed dynamical system)

$$\begin{cases} dX_t^0 = b(X_t^0) dt; \\ X_0^0 = x_0. \end{cases}$$
(1.2)

Let  $C([0,T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  be the Banach space of continuous functions  $\gamma : [0,T] \to \mathbb{R}^d$ equipped with the sup-norm  $\|\gamma\| := \sup_{t \in [0,T]} |\gamma(t)|$ . For a precise asymptotic estimate of deviations of  $X^{\varepsilon}$  from the dynamical system  $X^0$ , Freidlin-Wentzell's theorem (see [6, 7, 9]) tells us that  $\{X_t^{\varepsilon}\}$  satisfies the large deviation principle (LDP in short) on  $C([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  with the good rate function given by

$$I_{LD}(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \langle (\sigma \sigma^*(\gamma_t))^{-1} (\dot{\gamma}_t - b(\gamma_t)), \dot{\gamma}_t - b(\gamma_t) \rangle dt, \qquad (1.3)$$

if  $\gamma$  is absolutely continuous with  $\gamma(0) = x_0$ , and  $I(\gamma) = +\infty$  otherwise. In the expression above,  $\langle A^{-1}x, x \rangle$  for a symmetric non-negative definite (not necessarily positive definite) matrix  $A \in \mathcal{M}(d \times d)$  is defined by

$$\langle A^{-1}x, x \rangle := \sum_{k=1}^{d} \frac{1}{\lambda_k} \langle x, e_k \rangle^2 \tag{1.4}$$

with the convention  $c/0 = +\infty 1_{c>0}$  for  $c \ge 0$ , where  $(e_k)$  is the orthonormal base of eigenvectors associated to the eigenvalues  $(\lambda_k)$  of A. Freidlin-Wentzell's theorem is a significant generalization of Schilder's theorem for Brownian motion ([13]), and it was usually proved under the global Lipschitz condition on  $\sigma, b$ . It still holds under the weaker condition (**H**) above by Lemma 3.1 below (this is more or less known).

Extensions of the Freidlin-Wentzell theory attract many recent studies. We mention here only

1) Boué-Dupuis [2] provided a new variational approach for the large deviations of Brownian functionals. Their beautiful approach turns out to be simple and efficient, even in the infinite dimension case ([11]).

2) The vector field b has some jumps. Chiang and Sheu [5] obtained its LDP with a completely different rate function related to the large deviations of local times.

3) Extensions to infinite dimension diffusions such as stochastic partial differential equations (SPDE's in short). See [3, 4, 11, 12] and references therein.

Quite surprisingly the problem of moderate deviation principle (MDP in short) for  $\{X_t^{\varepsilon}\}_{t\in[0,T]}$  was left open (up to our knowledge). That is the subject of this paper. More precisely, we shall study the asymptotic behavior of

$$\eta_t^{\varepsilon} := \frac{Y_t^{\varepsilon}}{h(\varepsilon)}, \quad \text{with} \quad Y_t^{\varepsilon} := \frac{X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}},$$

$$(1.5)$$

where

$$h(\varepsilon) \to +\infty \text{ and } \sqrt{\varepsilon}h(\varepsilon) \to 0, \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \to 0.$$
 (1.6)

Through this paper we always assume that  $h(\varepsilon)$  satisfies (1.6).

**Theorem 1.1.** Assume the condition (H). Then as  $\varepsilon \to 0$ ,

(1) (CLT)  $Y^{\varepsilon} = (Y_t^{\varepsilon})_{t \in [0,T]}$  converges in probability on  $C([0,T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  to the Gaussian Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process  $Y^0$ , determined by

$$\begin{cases} dY_t^0 = Db(X_t^0)Y_t^0 dt + \sigma(X_t^0)dB_t; \\ Y_0^0 = 0 \end{cases}$$
(1.7)

where 
$$Db = (\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}b^i)_{1 \le i,j \le d}$$
 is the Jacobian matrix of b.

(2) (MDP)  $\eta^{\varepsilon} = \left(\frac{X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}h(\varepsilon)}\right)_{t \in [0,T]}$  obeys the LDP on the space  $C([0,T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  with speed  $h^2(\varepsilon)$  and with rate function

$$I(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \langle (\sigma \sigma^*(X_t^0))^{-1} (\dot{\gamma}_t - Db(X_t^0)\gamma_t), \dot{\gamma}_t - Db(X_t^0)\gamma_t \rangle dt, \qquad (1.8)$$

if  $\gamma$  is absolutely continuous with  $\gamma_0 = 0$ , and  $I(\gamma) := +\infty$  otherwise, where the definition (1.4) is used in the expression above. More precisely, for any Borel measurable subset A of  $C([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,

$$-\inf_{\gamma\in A^{o}}I(\gamma)\leq \liminf_{\varepsilon\to 0}h^{-2}(\varepsilon)\log\mathbb{P}\left(\eta^{\varepsilon}\in A\right)\\\leq \limsup_{\varepsilon\to 0}h^{-2}(\varepsilon)\log\mathbb{P}\left(\eta^{\varepsilon}\in A\right)\leq -\inf_{\gamma\in\bar{A}}I(\gamma),$$

where  $A^{o}$  and  $\overline{A}$  denote the interior and the closure of A, respectively.

The paper is organized as follows. An outline of the proof of Theorem 1.1 is presented in the next section. In section 3 we first prove that under the assumption (**H**),  $X^{\varepsilon}$  is bounded in the sense of Freidlin-Wentzell's LDP, so we reduce our study to the case where  $\sigma$  and b are globally Lipschitzian. The details of the proof are given in Section 4, with the help of Talagrand's transportation inequality on path space established in [8] and measure concentration [1, 8, 14].

2. An outline for the proof of Theorem 1.1

Obviously

$$Y_t^{\varepsilon} = \frac{X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}}, \quad t \ge 0,$$

satisfies

$$dY_t^{\varepsilon} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} (b(X_t^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_t^0))dt + \sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon})dB_t.$$

As  $X^{\varepsilon}$  is close to  $X^0$ , we have intuitively

$$dY_t^{\varepsilon} \approx Db(X_t^0)Y_t^{\varepsilon}dt + \sigma(X_t^0)dB_t,$$

in other words  $Y^{\varepsilon}$  should be close to  $Y^{0}$  determined by (1.7). As

$$d\left(\frac{Y_t^0}{h(\varepsilon)}\right) = Db(X_t^0)\left(\frac{Y_t^0}{h(\varepsilon)}\right)dt + \frac{\sigma(X_t^0)}{h(\varepsilon)}dB_t,$$

then by Schilder's theorem (together with the contraction principle) or Freidlin-Wentzell's theorem,  $Y^0/h(\varepsilon)$  obeys the LDP with the speed  $h^2(\varepsilon)$  and the rate function  $I(\gamma)$  given by (1.8). Hence by [6, Theorem 4.2.13], for the MDP in Theorem 1.1, it is enough to show that  $\eta^{\varepsilon} = Y^{\varepsilon}/h(\varepsilon)$  is  $h^2(\varepsilon)$ -exponentially equivalent to  $Y^0/h(\varepsilon)$ , i.e.,

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} h^{-2}(\varepsilon) \log \mathbb{P}\left( \|\eta^{\varepsilon} - \frac{Y^0}{h(\varepsilon)}\| > \delta \right) = -\infty, \ \forall \delta > 0.$$
 (2.1)

This turns out to be quite difficult and we shall prove it under the global Lipschitz condition, by means of Talagrand's  $T_2$ -transportation inequality on path space established by Djellout-Guillin-Wu [8] and the corresponding concentration inequality (Bobkov-Götze's criterion [1]), in the last section.

### 3. Reduction to the global Lipschitzian case

At first, we shall prove that under the assumption (**H**),  $X^{\varepsilon}$  is bounded in the sense of LDP. For any  $R \geq 0$ , let

$$\tau_R^{\varepsilon} := \inf\{t; |X_t^{\varepsilon}| \ge R\}.$$

Lemma 3.1. Under the assumption (H),

$$\lim_{R \to +\infty} \limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} \varepsilon \log \mathbb{P} \left( \tau_R^{\varepsilon} \le T \right) = -\infty.$$

*Proof.* Let  $f(x) = \log(1 + |x|^2)$ . By Itô's formula,

$$df(X_t^{\varepsilon}) = \langle \sqrt{\varepsilon} \nabla f(X_t^{\varepsilon}), \sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon}) dB_t \rangle + \langle b(X_t^{\varepsilon}), \nabla f(X_t^{\varepsilon}) \rangle dt + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \sum_{i,j} (\sigma \sigma^*)_{ij} (X_t^{\varepsilon}) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} f(X_t^{\varepsilon}) dt \\ = \langle \sqrt{\varepsilon} \nabla f(X_t^{\varepsilon}), \sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon}) dB_t \rangle + \mathcal{L}^{\varepsilon} f(X_t^{\varepsilon}) dt,$$

where  $\mathcal{L}^{\varepsilon}$  is the generator of  $X^{\varepsilon}$ .

Consider the local martingale

$$M_t^{\varepsilon} = \sqrt{\varepsilon} \int_0^t \langle \nabla f(X_s^{\varepsilon}), \sigma(X_s^{\varepsilon}) dB_s \rangle$$

By the linear growth of  $\sigma$  in (**H**), its quadratic variation process  $\langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle$  satisfies

$$\langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle_t = \varepsilon \int_0^t |\sigma(X_s^{\varepsilon})^* \nabla f(X_s^{\varepsilon})|^2 ds \le 4\varepsilon Ct.$$

Notice that for all  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}^{\varepsilon}f(x) = \frac{\varepsilon \text{tr}(\sigma\sigma^{*}(x)) + 2\langle b(x), x \rangle}{1 + |x|^{2}} - \frac{2|x|^{2}}{(1 + |x|^{2})^{2}} \le 3C,$$

where C is the constant in (H). Consequently for all  $t \ge 0$  and  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$ ,

$$f(X_t^{\varepsilon}) \le f(x_0) + M_t^{\varepsilon} + 3Ct.$$

For any R > 0 large enough so that  $c(R, T) := \log(1+R^2) - [\log(1+|x_0|^2) + 3CT] > 0$ , we have by the Bernstein inequality for continuous local martingale,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}(\tau_R^{\varepsilon} \leq T) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{t \in [0,T]} |X_t^{\varepsilon}| \geq R\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{t \in [0,T]} f(X_t^{\varepsilon}) \geq \log(1+R^2)\right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{t \in [0,T]} |M_t^{\varepsilon}| \geq c(R,T)\right) \leq 2\exp\left\{-\frac{c(R,T)^2}{8\varepsilon CT}\right\}, \end{split}$$

where the desired result follows.

Now for any R > 0 large enough so that c(R,T) > 0, let  $\sigma^{(R)}(x) = \sigma(x)$  and  $b^{(R)}(x) = b(x)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  with  $|x| \leq R$ , such that  $\sigma^{(R)}$  is globally Lipschitzian and bounded, and  $b^{(R)}$  is  $C^1$  with  $Db^{(R)}$  uniformly continuous and bounded. Consider

~0

the solution  $X_t^{\varepsilon,R}$  of the corresponding stochastic differential equation (1.1) with  $(\sigma, b)$  replaced by  $(\sigma^{(R)}, b^{(R)})$ . We have by Lemma 3.1 and the proof above,

$$\begin{split} &\limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} \varepsilon \log \mathbb{P} \left( X_t^{\varepsilon} \neq X_t^{\varepsilon, R} \text{ for some } t \in [0, T] \right) \\ &\leq \limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} \varepsilon \log \mathbb{P} \left( \tau_R^{\varepsilon} \leq T \right) \leq -\frac{c(R, T)^2}{8CT}. \end{split}$$

Hence by the approximation lemma ([6]), Freidlin-Wentzell's theorem still holds under the weaker condition (**H**) (as claimed in the Introduction); and  $(X^{\varepsilon}-X^{0})/h(\varepsilon)$ and  $(X^{\varepsilon,R}-X^{0})/h(\varepsilon)$  obey the same LDP by [6, Theorem 4.2.13].

In other words considering  $(\sigma^{(R)}, b^{(R)})$  if necessary, we may and will suppose that **(L)** b is  $C^1$  with Db uniformly continuous and bounded on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , and

$$\frac{1}{2}tr[(\sigma(x) - \sigma(y))(\sigma(x) - \sigma(y))^*] + \langle x - y, b(x) - b(y) \rangle \le L|x - y|^2,$$
(3.1)

for some constant  $L \in \mathbb{R}$  and for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and  $tr(\sigma\sigma^*) \leq M$  for some positive constant M.

When L < 0, condition (3.1) means that the diffusion is dissipative and it is equivalent to Bakry-Emery's  $\Gamma_2$  condition if  $\sigma = \sqrt{2}I_d$  ( $I_d$  being the identity matrix in  $\mathcal{M}(d \times d)$ ).

4. TALAGRAND'S INEQUALITY AND PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

## 4.1. An $L^2$ -estimate for $Y^{\varepsilon}$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** Under the assumption (L),  $Y^{\varepsilon} = (X^{\varepsilon} - X^0)/\sqrt{\varepsilon}$  satisfies

$$\mathbb{E}|Y_t^{\varepsilon}|^2 \le M(e^{2Lt} - 1)/2L, \quad t \ge 0.$$
 (4.1)

*Proof.* Under the assumption  $(\mathbf{L})$ , by Itô's formula,

$$\begin{aligned} d|X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0|^2 &= 2\langle X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0, b(X_t^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_t^0) \rangle dt \\ &+ 2\langle X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0, \sqrt{\varepsilon}\sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon})dB_t \rangle + \varepsilon \operatorname{tr}(\sigma\sigma^*)(X_t^{\varepsilon})dt \\ &\leq 2L|X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0|^2 dt + \varepsilon M dt + 2\langle X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0, \sqrt{\varepsilon}\sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon})dB_t \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\mathbb{E}|X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0|^2 \le 2L \int_0^t \mathbb{E}|X_s^{\varepsilon} - X_s^0|^2 ds + \varepsilon Mt.$$

By Gronwall's inequality, we have

$$\mathbb{E}|X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0|^2 \le \int_0^t e^{2L(t-s)} \varepsilon M ds = \varepsilon M (e^{2Lt} - 1)/2L,$$

which implies the desired result by the very definition of  $Y^{\varepsilon}$ .

4.2. Talagrand's  $T_2$ -transportation inequality. First we shall introduce some useful notions and notations (see Villani [14] for an extensive study of such quantities). Given a metric space (E, d) equipped with its Borel  $\sigma$  field, and  $1 \leq p < +\infty$ , the  $L^p$ -Wasserstein distance between two probability measures  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  on E is defined as

$$W_p(\mu,\nu) := \inf\left(\iint d(x,y)^p d\pi(x,y)\right)^{1/p},$$

where the infimum runs over all couplings  $\pi$  of  $(\mu, \nu)$ .

A probability measure  $\mu$  is said to satisfy Talagrand's  $T_2$ -transportation inequality  $T_2(C_T)$  on (E, d), where  $C_T > 0$  is some constant (here the index T is referred to Talagrand), if for all probability measure  $\nu$ 

$$W_2(\nu,\mu)^2 \le 2C_T H(\nu|\mu),$$

where  $H(\nu|\mu)$  is the Kullback-Leibler information or relative entropy of  $\nu$  with respect to  $\mu$ :

$$H(\nu|\mu) = \begin{cases} \int \log(\frac{d\nu}{d\mu}) d\nu, & \text{if } \nu \ll \mu; \\ +\infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Now let  $\mu = P^{\varepsilon}$ , the law of  $X^{\varepsilon} = (X_t^{\varepsilon})_{t \in [0,T]}$ , which is also a probability measure on the Hilbert space

$$E = L^2([0,T]; \mathbb{R}^d) = \left\{ \varphi : [0,T] \to \mathbb{R}^d \text{ measurable } ; \|\varphi\|_2^2 = \int_0^T |\varphi(t)|^2 dt < +\infty \right\}$$

(up to *dt*-equivalence), equipped with the metric  $d_2(\varphi_1, \varphi_2) := \|\varphi_1 - \varphi_2\|_2$ . By Djellout-Guillin-Wu [8, (5.5) and Remark 5.9], we have

**Lemma 4.2.** Assume that  $\sigma$ , b are locally Lipschitzian,  $\sigma$  is bounded and (3.1) holds. Then for any  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$ , the law  $P^{\varepsilon}$  of  $X^{\varepsilon} = (X_t^{\varepsilon})_{t \in [0,T]}$  satisfies on  $(L^2([0,T]; \mathbb{R}^d), d_2)$ Talagrand's  $T_2$ -inequality  $T_2(\varepsilon C_T)$ , where

$$C_T = \frac{\|\sigma\|_{\infty}^2 (e^{(\delta + 2L)T} - 1)}{\delta(\delta + 2L)}$$
(4.2)

with  $\delta > 0$  arbitrary,  $\frac{e^{(\delta+2L)T}-1)}{\delta+2L} := T$  if  $\delta+2L = 0$  (this type convention will be used later too) and  $\|\sigma\|_{\infty} = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d, z \in \mathbb{R}^n, |z|=1} |\sigma(x)z|$ .

Note that  $\|\sigma\|_{\infty} \leq \sqrt{\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \operatorname{tr}(\sigma\sigma^*(x))} \leq \sqrt{M}$ .

Next we use this key lemma to get the following crucial measure concentration inequality.

**Lemma 4.3.** Assume that  $\sigma$ , b are locally Lipschitzian,  $\sigma$  is bounded and (3.1) holds. Then for any  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$  and r > 0

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left(\int_0^T |Y_t^{\varepsilon}|^2 dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbb{E}\left(\int_0^T |Y_t^{\varepsilon}|^2 dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \ge r\right) \le \exp\{-\frac{r^2}{2C_T}\},\tag{4.3}$$

where the constant  $C_T$  is given in (4.2).

*Proof.* Since  $||Y^{\varepsilon}||_2 = \Phi(X^{\varepsilon})$  where  $\Phi(\varphi) = ||(\varphi - X^0)/\sqrt{\varepsilon}||_2$  is Lipschitzian on  $(L^2([0,T]; \mathbb{R}^d), d_2)$  with the Lipschitzian coefficient  $1/\sqrt{\varepsilon}$ , the concentration inequality (4.3) follows from Lemma 4.2, by Bobkov-Götze's criterion [1, Theorem 3.1].  $\Box$ 

Remark 4.1. The concentration inequality (4.3) is of important independent interest. If the diffusion is dissipative, i.e. L < 0 in condition (3.1), by setting  $\delta = -L$  in (4.2), we see that Talagrand's constant

$$C_T \le \frac{\|\sigma\|_{\infty}^2}{L^2}$$

which is independent of T. Notice also for the bias of  $X^{\varepsilon}$  from  $X^0$  in  $L^2$ , we have  $\mathbb{E} \int_0^T |X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0|^2 dt = \varepsilon \int_0^T |Y_t^{\varepsilon}|^2 dt \le \varepsilon MT/(2|L|)$  (by (4.1)). For other concentration inequalities which can be derived from Talagrand's  $T_2$ -inequalities, see [8, 14].

4.3. **Proof of the MDP in Theorem 1.1.** As explained in §3, we may and will assume the condition (L). For the MDP in part (2), by what is said in the outline of proof in §2, it is sufficient to show that  $Y^{\varepsilon}/h(\varepsilon)$  and  $Y^{0}/h(\varepsilon)$  are  $h^{2}(\varepsilon)$ -exponentially equivalent, i.e. (2.1).

We start by observing

$$d(Y_t^{\varepsilon} - Y_t^0) = Db(X_t^0)(Y_t^{\varepsilon} - Y_t^0)dt + \left(\sigma(X_t^{\varepsilon}) - \sigma(X_t^0)\right)dB_t + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}}\left(b(X_t^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_t^0) - Db(X_t^0)(X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0)\right)dt$$
(4.4)  
=:  $Db(X_t^0)(Y_t^{\varepsilon} - Y_t^0)dt + dZ_t^{\varepsilon}$ 

where

$$Z_t^{\varepsilon} = \int_0^t \left( \sigma(X_s^{\varepsilon}) - \sigma(X_s^0) \right) dB_s + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \int_0^t \left( b(X_s^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_s^0) - Db(X_s^0) (X_s^{\varepsilon} - X_s^0) \right) ds.$$

The solution of (4.4) is given by

$$Y_t^{\varepsilon} - Y_t^0 = Z_t^{\varepsilon} + \int_0^t Db(X_s^0) J(s, t) Z_s^{\varepsilon} ds$$

where J(s,t) satisfies the matrix differential equation

$$J(s,s) = I_d, \quad \frac{d}{dt}J(s,t) = Db(X_t^0)J(s,t), \quad 0 \le s \le t.$$

Since  $\langle Db(x)y, y \rangle \leq L|y|^2$   $(y \in \mathbb{R}^d)$  by condition (3.1), we have

$$|J(s,t)y| \le e^{L(t-s)}|y|, \ \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

Setting  $\|Db\|_{\infty} := \sup_{(x,z)\in (\mathbb{R}^d)^2, |z|=1} |Db(x)z|$ , we get for all  $t \in [0,T]$ ,

$$|Y_t^{\varepsilon} - Y_t^{0}| \le |Z_t^{\varepsilon}| + \int_0^t \|Db\|_{\infty} e^{L(t-s)} |Z_s^{\varepsilon}| ds \le \left(1 + \|Db\|_{\infty} \frac{(e^{LT} - 1)}{L}\right) \|Z^{\varepsilon}\|.$$
(4.5)

From (4.5) we see that the desired MDP-equivalence (2.1) between  $Y^{\varepsilon}/h(\varepsilon)$  and  $Y^0/h(\varepsilon)$  follows from

**Proposition 4.4.** For any r > 0,

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} h^{-2}(\varepsilon) \log \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\|Z^{\varepsilon}\|}{h(\varepsilon)} > r\right) = -\infty.$$

*Proof.* Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} |Z_t^{\varepsilon}| &\leq |\int_0^t \left(\sigma(X_s^{\varepsilon}) - \sigma(X_s^0)\right) dB_s| + \int_0^t |\frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \left(b(X_s^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_s^0) - Db(X_s^0)(X_s^{\varepsilon} - X_s^0)\right)| ds \\ &=: |M_t^{\varepsilon}| + \int_0^t \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} |\left(b(X_s^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_s^0) - Db(X_s^0)(X_s^{\varepsilon} - X_s^0)\right)| ds. \end{aligned}$$

$$(4.6)$$

Next we estimate the last two terms.

(a) For the continuous martingale  $M_t^{\varepsilon}$ , let  $\langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle_t$  be its quadratic variation process. For any  $\eta > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{0\leq t\leq T} |M_t^{\varepsilon}| \geq \frac{rh(\varepsilon)}{2}\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{0\leq t\leq T} |M_t^{\varepsilon}| \geq \frac{rh(\varepsilon)}{2}, \langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle_T \leq \eta\right) + \mathbb{P}\left(\langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle_T \geq \eta\right) \\
\leq 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{r^2h^2(\varepsilon)}{8\eta}\right\} + \mathbb{P}\left(\langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle_T \geq \eta\right).$$
(4.7)

Since

$$\langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle_{T} = \int_{0}^{T} \operatorname{tr}(\sigma(X_{t}^{\varepsilon}) - \sigma(X_{t}^{0}))(\sigma(X_{t}^{\varepsilon}) - \sigma(X_{t}^{0}))^{*} dt$$

$$\leq L_{1} \int_{0}^{T} |X_{t}^{\varepsilon} - X_{t}^{0}|^{2} dt = \varepsilon L_{1} \int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt$$

$$(4.8)$$

$$\text{ (4.8)}$$

for some constant  $L_1$ . When  $\varepsilon$  is small enough, by Lemma 4.1

$$\mathbb{E}\left(\int_0^T |Y_t^{\varepsilon}|^2 dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \le \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\eta}{\varepsilon L_1}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Then it follows from Lemma 4.3

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\langle M^{\varepsilon}\rangle_{T} \geq \eta\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt \geq \frac{\eta}{\varepsilon L_{1}}\right)$$
$$\leq \mathbb{P}\left(\left(\int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbb{E}\left(\int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\eta}{\varepsilon L_{1}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)$$
$$\leq \exp\left\{-\frac{\eta}{8\varepsilon C_{T}L_{1}}\right\}.$$

Noting that  $\varepsilon h^2(\varepsilon) \to 0$  as  $\varepsilon \to 0$  and  $\eta > 0$  is arbitrary, we obtain by (4.7)

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} h^{-2}(\varepsilon) \log \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{0 \le t \le 1} |M_t^{\varepsilon}| \ge \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{2}\right) = -\infty.$$
(4.9)

(b) Because b is  $C^1$  and Db is uniformly continuous, for any  $\eta > 0$ , there exists some constant  $\delta > 0$ , such that

$$|b(x) - b(y) - Db(y)(x - y)| \le \eta |x - y|, \quad \text{if } |x - y| \le \delta.$$

When  $|X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0| \leq \delta$ ,  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} |b(X_t^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_t^0) - Db(X_t^0)(X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0)| \leq \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} |X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0| = \eta |Y_t^{\varepsilon}|.$  Thus

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\int_{0}^{T} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \left| \left( b(X_{t}^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_{t}^{0}) - Db(X_{t}^{0})(X_{t}^{\varepsilon} - X_{t}^{0}) \right) | dt \ge \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{2} \right) \\
\le \mathbb{P}\left( \left\| X^{\varepsilon} - X^{0} \right\| \ge \delta \right) + \mathbb{P}\left( \int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}| dt \ge \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{2\eta} \right).$$
(4.10)

By Freidlin-Wentzell's theorem,

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} \varepsilon \log \mathbb{P} \left( \|X^{\varepsilon} - X^{0}\| \ge \delta \right) < 0,$$

 $\mathbf{SO}$ 

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} h^{-2}(\varepsilon) \log \mathbb{P}\left( \|X^{\varepsilon} - X^{0}\| \ge \delta \right) = -\infty.$$
(4.11)

When  $\varepsilon$  is small enough,  $\mathbb{E}\left(\int_0^T |Y_t^{\varepsilon}|^2 dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{4\eta\sqrt{T}}$  by Lemma 4.1. Therefore by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and Lemma 4.3, we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}| dt \geq \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{2\eta}\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\left(\int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{2\eta\sqrt{T}}\right) \\
\leq \mathbb{P}\left(\left(\int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbb{E}\left(\int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{4\eta\sqrt{T}}\right) \\
\leq \exp\left\{-\frac{h^{2}(\varepsilon)r^{2}}{32\eta^{2}TC_{T}}\right\}.$$
(4.12)

Due to the arbitrariness of  $\eta$ , plugging (4.11) and (4.12) into (4.10) we obtain

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \to 0} h^{-2}(\varepsilon) \log \mathbb{P}\left(\int_0^T \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} |\left(b(X_t^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_t^0) - Db(X_t^0)(X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0)\right)| dt \ge \frac{h(\varepsilon)r}{2}\right)$$
  
=  $-\infty.$  (4.13)

The desired result follows from (4.6), (4.9) and (4.13).

4.4. **Proof of the CLT in Theorem 1.1.** This is much simpler. We may assume **(L)** by Lemma 3.1. For the CLT in part (1) of Theorem 1.1, by (4.5) it suffices to show

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \mathbb{P}(\|Z^{\varepsilon}\| > r) = 0, \ \forall r > 0.$$
(4.14)

Using (4.6) and observing

$$\mathbb{E} \|M^{\varepsilon}\|^{2} \leq 4 \mathbb{E} \langle M^{\varepsilon} \rangle_{T} \leq \varepsilon L_{1} \mathbb{E} \int_{0}^{T} |Y_{t}^{\varepsilon}|^{2} dt \to 0,$$

by Doob's maximal inequality, (4.8) and Lemma 4.1, we are led to show

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\int_0^T \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \left| \left( b(X_t^{\varepsilon}) - b(X_t^0) - Db(X_t^0)(X_t^{\varepsilon} - X_t^0) \right) | dt > r \right) \to 0, \text{ as } \varepsilon \to 0.$$

This is obvious from (4.10) by taking there  $h(\varepsilon) = 2$  and the boundedness of  $\mathbb{E} \int_0^T |Y_t^{\varepsilon}|^2 dt, \varepsilon \in (0, 1]$  in Lemma 4.1.

*Remark* 4.2. It would be important and very interesting to generalize the MDP of this paper to infinite dimensional diffusions such as SPDE's.

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