

Large Deviations for Stochastic Evolution Equations with Small Multiplicative Noise ^{*}

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Abstract

The Freidlin-Wentzell large deviation principle is established for the distributions of stochastic evolution equations with general monotone drift and small multiplicative noise. Roughly speaking, besides the assumptions for existence and uniqueness of the solution, one only need assume some additional assumptions on diffusion coefficient in order to obtain Large deviation principle for the distribution of solution. As applications we can apply the main result to different type examples of SPDEs (e.g. stochastic reaction-diffusion equation, stochastic porous media and fast diffusion equations, stochastic p-Laplacian equation) in Hilbert space. The weak convergence approach is employed to verify the Laplace principle, which is equivalent to large deviation principle in our framework.

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1 Introduction

There basically exist three different approaches to analyze stochastic partial differential equations(SPDE) in literature. The “martingale measure approach” initiated by J. Walsh

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in [41]. The “variational approach” was first used by Bensoussan and Temam in [3, 4] to study SPDE, then this approach was further developed in the works of Pardoux [26], Krylov and Rozovskii [24] for more general case. Concerning the “semigroup (or mild solution) approach” we can refer to the classical book by Da Prato and Zabczyk [15]. In this paper we will use the variational approach because we mainly treat the nonlinear SPDEs of evolutionary type. All kinds of dynamics with stochastic influence in nature or man-made complex systems can be modeled by such equations. This type of SPDEs have been studied intensively also in recent years, we refer to [5, 12, 13, 14, 23, 29, 32, 33, 42, 45] for many different generalizations and applications.

Concerning the large deviation principle(LDP), there also exist fruitful results under the different framework for SPDE. The LDP was first formulated by Varadhan [38] in 1966. For its validity to stochastic differential equations in the finite dimensional case we mainly refer to the well known Freidlin-Wentzell’s LDP ([22]). And the same problem was also treated by Varadhan in [40] and Stroock in [37] by a different approach, which followed the large deviation theory developed by Azencott [2], Donsker-Varadhan [16] and Varadhan [38]. In the classical paper [21] Freidlin studied large deviations for the small noise limit of stochastic reaction-diffusion equations. Subsequently, many authors have obtained Large deviations results under less and less restrictive conditions. For the extensions to infinite dimensional diffusions or stochastic PDE under global Lipschitz condition on the nonlinear term, we refer the reader to Da Prato and Zabczyk [15] and Peszat [27] (also see the references therein). For the case of local Lipschitz conditions we refer to [10] where also multiplicative and degenerate noise is handled. The LDP for semilinear parabolic equations on a Gelfand triple was studied by Chow in [11]. Recently, Röckner, Wang and Wu obtained the LDP in [35] for the distributions of stochastic porous media equations. All these papers mainly used the classical ideas of discretization approximations and Contraction principle which first developed by Wentzell and Freidlin. But the situation became much dispersive in infinite dimensional case since each type of stochastic nonlinear PDE needs different specific techniques and estimates. Another alternative approach for LDP has been developed in [20], which mainly used nonlinear semigroup theory and infinite dimensional Hamilton-Jacobi equation.

In this paper we will study the Large deviation principle for stochastic evolution equations with general monotone drift and multiplicative noise, which is more general and complicated than semilinear case studied in [11] and additive noise case in [35]. It’s quite difficult here to follow the classical discretization approach that we mentioned above. The reason is many technical difficulties appear since the coefficients of SPDE in our framework live on a Gelfand triple(three different spaces are involved). So we would use the stochastic control and weak convergence approach in this paper, which is mainly based on a variational representation for certain functionals of infinite dimensional Brownian Motion in [7]. The main advantage of this approach is one can avoid all exponential probability estimates which are very difficult to derive for infinite dimensional models(especially for our case). This approach is used to obtain the Large deviations for homeomorphism flows

of non-Lipschitz SDEs in [30], for two-dimensional stochastic Navier-Stokes equations in [36] and reaction-diffusion type SPDEs in [8]. For more references on this approach we refer to [17, 31].

We first recall some standard definitions and results from the large deviation theory. Let $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ be a family of random variables defined on a probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbf{P})$ and taking values in some Polish space E . The large deviations theory is mainly concerned with events A for which probabilities $\mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in A)$ converge to zero exponentially fast as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. The rate of such exponential decay is expressed by the “rate function”.

Definition 1.1. (Rate function) A function $I : E \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ is called a rate function if I is lower semicontinuous. A rate function I is called a good rate function if the level set $\{x \in E : I(x) \leq K\}$ is compact for all $K < \infty$.

Definition 1.2. (Large deviation principle) The sequence $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ is said to satisfy the *large deviation principle with rate function I* if for each Borel subset A of E

$$-\inf_{x \in A^o} I(x) \leq \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in A) \leq \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in A) \leq -\inf_{x \in \bar{A}} I(x),$$

where A^o and \bar{A} are respectively the closure and the interior of A in E .

If one is interested in obtaining the exponential estimates on general functions instead of indicator functions of Borel subsets of E above, then one can study the following Laplace principle.

Definition 1.3. (Laplace principle) The sequence $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ is said to satisfy the *Laplace principle (LP in short) with rate function I* if for each real-valued, bounded continuous function h defined on E ,

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{E} \left\{ \exp \left[-\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} h(X^\varepsilon) \right] \right\} = -\inf_{x \in E} \{h(x) + I(x)\}.$$

The starting point for the weak convergence approach is the equivalence of LDP and LP if E is Polish space and the rate function is good, which was first formulated in [28]. This equivalence is essentially a consequence of Varadhan’s Lemma [38] and Bryc’s converse to Varadhan’s Lemma [9]. We refer to [17, 18] for an elementary proof. In view of this equivalence, we only need to concern with the study of the Laplace principle.

Let $\{W_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ is a cylindrical Wiener process on a separable Hilbert space U w.r.t a complete filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}_t, \mathbf{P})$ (i.e. the path of W take values in $C([0, T]; U_1)$, where U_1 is another Hilbert space such that the embedding $U \subset U_1$ is Hilbert-Schmidt). Suppose $g^\varepsilon : C([0, T]; U_1) \rightarrow E$ is a measurable map and $X^\varepsilon = g^\varepsilon(W)$. Let

$$\mathcal{A} = \left\{ v : v \text{ is } U\text{-valued } \mathcal{F}_t\text{-predictable process s.t. } \int_0^T \|v_s(\omega)\|_U^2 ds < \infty \text{ a.s.} \right\},$$

$$S_N = \left\{ \phi \in L^2([0, T], U) : \int_0^T \|\phi_s\|_U^2 ds \leq N \right\}.$$

The set S_N endowed with the weak topology is a Polish space (we will always refer to weak topology on S_N in this paper if we don't state explicitly). Define

$$\mathcal{A}_N = \{v \in \mathcal{A} : v(\omega) \in S_N, \mathbf{P} - a.s.\}.$$

Then the crucial step in the proof of Laplace principle is based on the following variational representation for certain functionals of Brownian motion obtained in [7].

$$(1.1) \quad -\log \mathbf{E} \exp\{-f(W)\} = \inf_{v \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbf{E} \left(\frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|v_s\|_U^2 ds + f \left(W + \int_0^\cdot v_s ds \right) \right)$$

where f is any bounded Borel measurable function from $C([0, T]; U_1)$ to \mathbf{R} . The connection between exponential functionals and variational representations appeared to be first exploited by Fleming in [19]. The formula (1.1) for finite dimensional Brownian motion case is first obtained in [6]. Now we can formulate the following sufficient condition of the Laplace principle (equivalently, Large deviation principle) in [7] for X^ε as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.

(A) There exists a measurable map

$$g^0 : C([0, T]; U_1) \rightarrow E$$

such that following two conditions hold:

(i) Let $\{v^\varepsilon : \varepsilon > 0\} \subset \mathcal{A}_N$ for some $N < \infty$. If v^ε converge to v in distribution as S_N -valued random elements, then

$$g^\varepsilon \left(W + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_0^\cdot v_s^\varepsilon ds \right) \rightarrow g^0 \left(\int_0^\cdot v_s ds \right)$$

in distribution as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.

(ii) For each $N < \infty$, the set

$$K_N = \left\{ g^0 \left(\int_0^\cdot \phi_s ds \right) : \phi \in S_N \right\}$$

is a compact subset of E .

In this case, for each $f \in E$ we define

$$(1.2) \quad I(f) = \inf_{\{\phi \in L^2([0, T]; U) : f = g^0(\int_0^\cdot \phi_s ds)\}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|\phi(s)\|_U^2 ds \right\}$$

where the infimum over an empty set is taken as ∞ .

Lemma 1.1. [7, Theorem 4.4] *If $\{g^\varepsilon\}$ satisfies (A), then the family $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfies the Laplace principle (hence Large deviation principle) on E with the good rate function I given by (1.2).*

2 Main framework and result

Suppose

$$V \subset H \equiv H^* \subset V^*$$

is a Gelfand triple, i.e. V is a reflexive and separable Banach space, H is a separable Hilbert space and identified with its dual space by Riesz isomorphism, V is continuously and densely embedded in H . The inner product in H is denoted by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_H$, the dual between V^* and V is denoted by ${}_{V^*}\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$. It's obvious that

$${}_{V^*}\langle u, v \rangle_V = \langle u, v \rangle_H, \quad u \in H, v \in V.$$

$\{W_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ is a cylindrical Wiener process on a separable Hilbert space U w.r.t a complete filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}_t, \mathbf{P})$. $(L_2(U; H), \|\cdot\|_2)$ and $L(U; H)$ denote the space of all Hilbert-Schmidt operators and bounded linear operators from U to H respectively.

Consider the following stochastic evolution equation

$$(2.1) \quad dX_t = A(t, X_t)dt + B(t, X_t)dW_t,$$

where $A : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow V^*$ and $B : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow L_2(U; H)$ are measurable. In order to obtain Large deviation principle, we assume the following conditions which are slightly stronger than those in [24] for the existence and uniqueness of strong solution to (2.1).

For a fixed $\alpha > 1$, there exist constants $\delta > 0$ and K such that the following conditions hold all $v, v_1, v_2 \in V$ and $t \in [0, T]$.

(A1) Semicontinuity of A : The map

$$\mathbb{R} \ni s \mapsto {}_{V^*}\langle A(t, v_1 + sv_2), v \rangle_V$$

is continuous.

(A2) Strong Monotonicity of (A, B) :

$$2{}_{V^*}\langle A(t, v_1) - A(t, v_2), v_1 - v_2 \rangle_V + \|B(t, v_1) - B(t, v_2)\|_2^2 \leq -\delta \|v_1 - v_2\|_V^\alpha + K \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2.$$

(A3) Boundedness of growth A :

$$\|A(t, v)\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} \leq K(1 + \|v\|_V^\alpha).$$

(A4) Local Lipschitz and growth property of B : There exists constant K_N

$$\begin{aligned} \|B(t, v_1) - B(t, v_2)\|_2^2 &\leq K_N \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2, \quad \|v_i\|_H \leq N, \quad i = 1, 2. \\ \|B(t, v)\|_2^2 &\leq K(1 + \|v\|_H^2). \end{aligned}$$

If $1 < \alpha < 2$, we assume also

$$\|B(t, v)\|_{L(U, V^*)} \leq K(1 + \|v\|_V^{\alpha-1}).$$

(A5) Approximated property of B : Suppose $B(\cdot, 0)$ is continuous on $[0, T]$ and there exist

$$H_n \subseteq H_{n+1}, H_n \hookrightarrow V \text{ compact}, \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} H_n \subseteq H \text{ dense}$$

such that for any $M > 0$

$$(2.2) \quad \sup_{(t,v) \in [0,T] \times S_M} \|P_n B(t, v) - B(t, v)\|_2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

where $P_n : H \rightarrow H_n$ is standard projection operator and

$$S_M = \{v \in V : \|v\|_H \leq M\}.$$

Remark 2.1. (i) Notice (A1) – (A3) is mainly for the existence and uniqueness of strong solution to (2.1). Additional assumptions (A4) – (A5) on diffusion coefficient are used in order to establish large deviation principle. We will verify that many examples in [32, 24] (e.g. stochastic reaction-diffusion equation, stochastic porous media equation, stochastic p-Laplacian equation) satisfy (A1) – (A5).

(ii) By (A2) and (A3) we can easily obtain the Coercivity of (A, B) :

$$2_{V^*} \langle A(t, v), v \rangle_V + \|B(t, v)\|_2^2 + \frac{\delta}{2} \|v\|_V^\alpha \leq C(1 + \|v\|_H^2).$$

(iii) Since for all $(t, v) \in [0, T] \times V$

$$\|P_n B(t, v) - B(t, v)\|_2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty).$$

Hence a simple sufficient condition for (2.2) hold is to assume

$$\{B(t, v) : (t, v) \in [0, T] \times S\}$$

is a relatively compact set in $L_2(U; H)$. For example, we can take

$$B(t, v) = \sum_{i=1}^N b_i(v) B_i(t),$$

where $b_i(\cdot) : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are Lipschitz functions and $B_i(\cdot) : [0, T] \rightarrow L_2(U; H)$ are continuous.

If one take n -dimensional subspace of V as H_n , denote $\{u_i\}$ and $\{e_i\} (\subseteq V)$ are ONB of U and H respectively. Suppose

$$B(t, v) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} b_{i,j}(t, v) u_i \otimes e_j.$$

Then (2.2) holds if

$$|b_{i,j}(t, v)| \leq b_{i,j}(1 + \|v\|_H^\gamma)$$

where $\gamma, b_{i,j} > 0$ and $\sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} b_{i,j}^2 < \infty$.

(iv) If there exists a Hilbert space H_0 such that the embedding $H_0 \subseteq H$ is compact, $\{e_i\} \subseteq H_0 \cap V$ is an ONB in H_0 and also orthogonal set in H . Suppose for all $M > 0$

$$\sup_{(t,v) \in [0,T] \times S_M} \|B(t, v)\|_{L_2(U; H_0)} < \infty.$$

Then (2.2) holds. Because $B(t, v) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} b_{i,j}(t, v)u_i \otimes e_j$, by assumptions we know $\|e_j\|_H^2 \rightarrow 0$ and

$$\sup_{(t,v) \in [0,T] \times S_M} \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} b_{i,j}^2(t, v) < \infty.$$

then

$$\|P_n B(t, v) - B(t, v)\|_2^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=n+1}^{\infty} b_{i,j}^2(t, v) \|e_j\|_H^2.$$

hence (2.2) holds. \square

According to [24, Theorem II2.1] and the remark above, if (A1) – (A3) hold, then for any $X_0 \in L^2(\Omega \rightarrow H; \mathcal{F}_0; \mathbf{P})$, (2.1) has an unique solution $\{X_t\}_{t \in [0, T]}$ which is an adapted continuous process on H such that $\mathbf{E} \int_0^T (\|X_t\|_V^\alpha + \|X_t\|_H^2) dt < \infty$ and

$$\langle X_t, v \rangle_H = \langle X_0, v \rangle_H + \int_0^t \langle A(s, X_s), v \rangle_V ds + \int_0^t \langle B(s, X_s) dW_s, v \rangle_H, \quad \mathbf{P} - a.s.$$

holds for all $v \in V$ and $t \in [0, T]$. Moreover, we have

$$\mathbf{E} \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t\|_H^2 dt < \infty$$

and the following crucial Itô formula

$$\|X_t\|_H^2 = \|X_0\|_H^2 + \int_0^t (2_{V^*} \langle A(s, X_s), X_s \rangle_V + \|B(s, X_s)\|_2^2) ds + 2 \int_0^t \langle X_s, B(s, X_s) dW_s \rangle_H.$$

Let us consider the stochastic evolution equation (2.1) with small noise:

$$(2.3) \quad dX_t^\varepsilon = A(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dt + \varepsilon B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t, \quad \varepsilon > 0, \quad X_0^\varepsilon = x \in H.$$

Let $T > 0$ and x be fixed. By assumptions we know there exists an unique strong solution $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ of (2.3) with values in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$. The metric on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ is defined as

$$(2.4) \quad \rho(f, g) := \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|f_t - g_t\|_H + \left(\int_0^T \|f_t - g_t\|_V^\alpha dt \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}.$$

Obviously, $(C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V), \rho)$ is a Polish space. It follows (from infinite dimensional version of Yamada-Watanabe theorem in [32, Appendix E] or [34]) that there exists a Borel-measurable function

$$g^\varepsilon : C([0, T]; U_1) \rightarrow C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$$

such that $X^\varepsilon = g^\varepsilon(W)$ *a.s.*. To state our main result, let us introduce the skeleton equation associated to (2.3):

$$(2.5) \quad \frac{dz_t^\phi}{dt} = A(t, z_t^\phi) + B(t, z_t^\phi)\phi_t, \quad z_0^\phi = x$$

where $\phi \in L^2([0, T]; U)$. An element $z^\phi \in C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ is called a solution to (2.5) if for any $v \in V$,

$$(2.6) \quad \langle z_t^\phi, v \rangle_H = \langle x, v \rangle_H + \int_0^t v^* \langle A(s, z_s^\phi) + B(s, z_s^\phi)\phi_s, v \rangle_V ds, \quad t \in [0, T].$$

We will prove (see Lemma 3.1) that (A1) – (A4) imply the existence and the uniqueness of the solution to (2.5) for any $\phi \in L^2([0, T]; U)$.

Define $g^0 : C([0, T]; U_1) \rightarrow C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ by

$$g^0(h) := \begin{cases} z^\phi, & \text{if } h = \int_0^\cdot \phi_s ds \text{ for some } \phi \in L^2([0, T]; U), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then it's obvious that the rate function in (1.2) can be written as

$$(2.7) \quad I(z) = \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|\phi_s\|_U^2 ds : z = z^\phi, \phi \in L^2([0, T], U) \right\},$$

where $z \in C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$.

Now we can formulate the main result which is a well-known Freidlin-Wentzell type estimate:

Theorem 2.1. *Assume (A1) – (A5) hold. For each $\varepsilon > 0$, let $X^\varepsilon = (X_t^\varepsilon)_{t \in [0, T]}$ be the solution to (2.3). Then as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfies the LDP on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ with the good rate function I which is given by (2.7).*

Remark 2.2. (i) According to [8, Theorem 5], we can also prove uniform Laplace principle by using the same arguments but with more cumbersome notation. Hence we omit the details here for simplicity.

(ii) The LDP is obtained on the space $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$, which is stronger than the same LDP on $C([0, T]; H)$ since the embedding

$$C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V) \subseteq C([0, T]; H)$$

is obviously continuous.

(iii) This theorem can't be applied to stochastic fast-diffusion equation in [25, 29] since (A2) fails to satisfy. However, if we replace (A2) by usual monotone and coercive condition as in [24], then LDP can be obtained on $C([0, T]; H)$ (not $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$) by similar proof. This result will be formulate in section 6.

The organization of this paper as follows. In section 3, we prove Large deviation principle by using weak convergence approach under some additional assumptions on B . Section 4 and 5 are devoted to drop those superfluous assumptions by some approximation arguments. In section 6 we prove the LDP under a slightly weaker assumptions than in Theorem 2.1, which can also be applied to stochastic fast diffusion equations. In Section 7 we apply the main results to different class of SPDEs in Hilbert space as applications.

3 Proof of Theorem 2.1 under additional assumptions on B

In order to prove large deviations principle for X^ε , we only need to verify **(A)** according to Lemma 1.1. Concerning the proof of (i) in **(A)**, we need to assume additionally

(A6) $B : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow L(U; V_0)$, $V_0 \subseteq V$ is compact embedding such that

$$\|B(t, v)\|_{L(U; V_0)}^2 \leq C(1 + \|v\|_V^\alpha + \|v\|_H^2).$$

(A7) B is globally Lipschitz and bounded:

$$\begin{aligned} \|B(t, v_1) - B(t, v_2)\|_2^2 &\leq K\|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2; \\ \sup_{(t, v) \in [0, T] \times V} \|B(t, v)\|_2^2 &< \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Then **(A)** can be verified by a series of Lemmas.

For reader's convenience, we recall two well-known inequalities which used quite often in the proof. Throughout the paper, the generic constants may be different from line to line. If it is essential, we will written the dependence of the constant on parameters explicitly.

Young's inequality: Given $p, q > 1$ satisfy $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, for any positive number σ, a, b

$$ab \leq \sigma \frac{a^p}{p} + \sigma^{-\frac{q}{p}} \frac{b^q}{q}.$$

Gronwall's inequality: Let $W, \Phi, \Psi : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^+$ be Lebesgue measurable. Suppose Ψ is locally integrable and $\int_0^T \Psi(s)W(s)ds < \infty$. If

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} W(t) &\leq \Phi(t) + \int_0^t \Psi(s)W(s)ds, \quad t \in [0, T] \quad \text{or} \\ \frac{d}{dt}W(t) &\leq \frac{d}{dt}\Phi(t) + \Psi(t)W(t), \quad t \in [0, T), \quad W(0) \leq \Phi(0). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$(3.2) \quad W(t) \leq \Phi(t) + \int_0^t \exp \left[\int_s^t \Psi(u) du \right] \Psi(s) \Phi(s) ds, \quad t \in [0, T].$$

Lemma 3.1. *Assume (A1) – (A4) hold. Let $\|z\| := \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|z_t\|_H$ for $z \in C([0, T]; H)$. For all $x \in H$ and $\phi \in L^2([0, T]; U)$ there exists a unique solution z^ϕ to (2.5) and*

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|z^\phi - z^\psi\|^2 + \delta \int_0^T \|z_t^\phi - z_t^\psi\|_V^\alpha dt \\ & \leq \exp \left\{ \int_0^T \left(K + \|\phi_t\|_U^2 + \|B(t, z_t^\psi)\|_2^2 \right) dt \right\} \int_0^T \|\phi_t - \psi_t\|_U^2 dt \end{aligned}$$

hold for some constant K and all $\phi, \psi \in L^2([0, T]; U)$.

Proof. To verify the existence of the solution, we make use of [24, Theorem II.2.1] (see e.g. (B1) – (B4) in section 6). First we assume $\phi \in L^\infty([0, T]; U)$ and

$$\tilde{A}(s, v) := A(s, v) + B(s, v)\phi_s.$$

Then, due to (A1) – (A4), it's easy to verify that \tilde{A} satisfies Assumptions A_i ($i = 1, \dots, 5$) on page 1252 of [24].

(i) Semicontinuity of \tilde{A} follows from (A1) and (A2) (or (A4)).

(ii) Monotonicity and Coercivity of \tilde{A} follows from (A2) and (A4).

(iii) Boundedness of \tilde{A} follows from (A3) and (A4) if $1 < \alpha < 2$.

If $\alpha \geq 2$, then by (A3) and (A4)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{A}(s, v)\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} & \leq C \|A(s, v)\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} + C \|B(t, v)\phi_t\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} \\ & \leq C(1 + \|v\|_V^\alpha) + C \|B(t, v)\|_{L(U, V^*)}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} \\ & \leq C(1 + \|v\|_V^\alpha) + C \|B(t, v)\|_2^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} \\ & \leq C(1 + \|v\|_V^\alpha) + C(1 + \|v\|_H^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}}) \\ & \leq C(1 + \|v\|_V^\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

By [24, Theorems II.2.1 and II.2.2] (see also [44, Theorem 30.A]) we know (2.5) has a unique solution.

For general $\phi \in L^2([0, T]; U)$, we can find a sequence of $\phi^n \in L^\infty([0, T]; U)$ such that

$$\phi_n \rightarrow \phi \quad \text{in } L^2([0, T]; U).$$

Let z^n be the unique solution to (2.5) for ϕ^n , we will show $\{z^n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$. By Itô's formula due to [24, Theorem I.3.2] and (A2) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.4) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|z_t^n - z_t^m\|_H^2 &= 2_{V^*} \langle A(t, z_t^n) - A(t, z_t^m), z_t^n - z_t^m \rangle_V \\
&\quad + 2 \langle B(t, z_t^n) \phi_t^n - B(t, z_t^m) \phi_t^m, z_t^n - z_t^m \rangle_H \\
&\leq 2_{V^*} \langle A(t, z_t^n) - A(t, z_t^m), z_t^n - z_t^m \rangle_V + \|B(t, z_t^n) - B(t, z_t^m)\|_2^2 \\
&\quad + \|\phi_t^n\|_U^2 \|z_t^n - z_t^m\|_H^2 + 2 \langle z_t^n - z_t^m, B(t, z_t^m) \phi_t^n - B(t, z_t^m) \phi_t^m \rangle_H \\
&\leq -\delta \|z_t^n - z_t^m\|_V^\alpha + (K + \|\phi_t^n\|_U^2) \|z_t^n - z_t^m\|_H^2 \\
&\quad + 2 \|B^*(t, z_t^m) (z_t^n - z_t^m)\|_U \|\phi_t^n - \phi_t^m\|_U \\
&\leq -\delta \|z_t^n - z_t^m\|_V^\alpha + \|\phi_t^n - \phi_t^m\|_U^2 \\
&\quad + (K + \|\phi_t^n\|_U^2 + \|B(t, z_t^m)\|_2^2) \|z_t^n - z_t^m\|_H^2.
\end{aligned}$$

where B^* denote the adjoint operator of B and we also use the fact

$$\|B^*\|_{L(H;U)} = \|B\|_{L(U;H)} \leq \|B\|_2.$$

Then by Gronwall lemma we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.5) \quad \|z^n - z^m\|^2 + \delta \int_0^T \|z_t^n - z_t^m\|_V^\alpha dt \\
\leq \exp \left\{ \int_0^T (K + \|\phi_t^n\|_U^2 + \|B(t, z_t^m)\|_2^2) dt \right\} \int_0^T \|\phi_t^n - \phi_t^m\|_U^2 dt
\end{aligned}$$

By the similar argument we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.6) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|z_t^n\|_H^2 &= 2_{V^*} \langle A(t, z_t^n), z_t^n \rangle_V + 2 \langle B(t, z_t^n) \phi_t^n, z_t^n \rangle_H \\
&\leq -\frac{\delta}{2} \|z_t^n\|_V^\alpha + C(1 + \|z_t^n\|_H^2) + \|\phi_t^n\|_U^2 \|z_t^n\|_H^2 \\
&\leq -\frac{\delta}{2} \|z_t^n\|_V^\alpha + C + (C + \|\phi_t^n\|_U^2) \|z_t^n\|_H^2
\end{aligned}$$

Then by Gronwall lemma and boundedness of ϕ^n in $L^2([0, T]; U)$

$$(3.7) \quad \|z^n\|^2 + \int_0^T \|z_t^n\|_V^\alpha dt \leq C \exp \left\{ \int_0^T (C + \|\phi_t^n\|_U^2) dt \right\} (\|x\|_H^2 + T) \leq \mathbf{Constant} < \infty.$$

Hence we have

$$(3.8) \quad \int_0^T \|B(t, z_t^m)\|_2^2 dt \leq c \int_0^T (1 + \|z_t^m\|_H^2 + \|z_t^m\|_V^\alpha) dt \leq \mathbf{Constant} < \infty.$$

Combining (3.5),(3.8) and $\phi^n \rightarrow \phi$, we can conclude that $\{z^n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$, the limit is denoted by z^ϕ . Similarly, from (3.7), (A3) and (A4) we know there exist η such that

$$\begin{aligned} A(\cdot, z^n) &\rightarrow \eta \text{ weakly in } L^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}}([0, T]; V^*); \\ B(\cdot, z^n)\phi^n &\rightarrow B(\cdot, z)\phi \text{ strongly in } L^2([0, T]; H). \end{aligned}$$

Then one can verify $\eta = A(\cdot, z^\phi)$ by using (A2) and standard monotonicity argument(e.g.[44, Theorem 30.A]). Hence z^ϕ is the solution of (2.5) corresponding to ϕ .

And (3.3) can be derived by the same argument for (3.5). So the proof is complete. \square

The following Lemma shows that I defined by (2.7) is a good rate function.

Lemma 3.2. *Assume (A1) – (A4) hold. For every $N < \infty$, the set*

$$K_N = \{g^0(\int_0^\cdot \phi_s ds) : \phi \in S_N\}$$

is a compact subset of $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$.

Proof. Step 1: we first assume B also satisfy (A6). By definition we know

$$K_N = \{z^\phi : \phi \in L^2([0, T]; U), \int_0^T \|\phi_s\|_U^2 ds \leq N\}.$$

For any sequence $\phi^n \subset S_N$, we may assume $\phi^n \rightarrow \phi$ weakly in $L^2([0, T]; U)$ since $L^2([0, T]; U)$ is weakly compact. Denote z^n, z are the solutions of (2.5) corresponding to ϕ^n, ϕ respectively. Now it sufficient to show $z^n \rightarrow z$ strongly in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$.

From (3.4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} (3.9) \quad &\|z_t^n - z_t\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^t \|z_s^n - z_s\|_V^\alpha ds \\ &\leq \int_0^t (K + \|\phi_s^n\|_U^2) \|z_s^n - z_s\|_H^2 ds + 2 \int_0^t \langle z_s^n - z_s, B(s, z_s)(\phi_s^n - \phi_s) \rangle_H ds \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$h_t^n = \int_0^t B(s, z_s)(\phi_s^n - \phi_s) ds.$$

By (A5) and (3.8) we know $h^n \in C([0, T]; V_0)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} (3.10) \quad &\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|h_t^n\|_{V_0} \leq \int_0^T \|B(s, z_s)(\phi_s^n - \phi_s)\|_{V_0} ds \\ &\leq \left(\int_0^T \|B(s, z_s)\|_{L(U, V_0)}^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_0^T \|\phi_s^n - \phi_s\|_U^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \mathbf{Constant} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Since the embedding $V_0 \subseteq V$ is compact and $\phi^n \rightarrow \phi$ weakly in $L^2([0, T]; U)$, it's easy to show that $h^n \rightarrow 0$ in $C([0, T]; V)$ by using the Arzèla-Ascoli theorem (also see e.g. [7, Lemma 3.2]). In particular, $h^n \rightarrow 0$ in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$.

Moreover the derivative (w.r.t. time variable) is given by

$$(h_s^n)' = B(s, z_s)(\phi_s^n - \phi_s).$$

If $\alpha \geq 2$ we have

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_0^T \|(h_s^n)'\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} ds &\leq \int_0^T \|B(s, z_s)(\phi_s^n - \phi_s)\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} ds \\ &\leq C \left(1 + \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|z_t\|_H^2\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{2(\alpha-1)}} \left(\int_0^T \|\phi_s^n - \phi_s\|_U^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} ds\right) \\ &\leq \mathbf{Constant} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $(h_s^n)'$ is an element in $L^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}}([0, T]; V^*)$. If $1 < \alpha < 2$, we need to approximate ϕ^n, ϕ by element in $L^\infty([0, T]; U)$ as in Lemma 3.1. Since Lemma 3.1 shows that the convergence of the corresponding solution z^ϕ is uniformly on S_N w.r.t. this approximation, the conclusion on case $1 < \alpha < 2$ can be derived by the following proof for the case $\alpha \geq 2$ and standard 3ε -argument. We omit the details here.

By [44, Proposition 23.23] we have the following integration by parts formula

$$\langle z_t^n - z_t, h_t^n \rangle_H = \int_0^t v^* \langle (z_s^n - z_s)', h_s^n \rangle_V ds + \int_0^t v^* \langle (h_s^n)', z_s^n - z_s \rangle_V ds.$$

Since $z_s^n - z_s$ and $(h_s^n)'$ all take values in H , we know

$$v^* \langle (h_s^n)', z_s^n - z_s \rangle_V = \langle z_s^n - z_s, B(s, z_s)(\phi_s^n - \phi_s) \rangle_H.$$

Hence one has

$$(3.12) \quad \begin{aligned} &\int_0^t \langle z_s^n - z_s, B(s, z_s)(\phi_s^n - \phi_s) \rangle_H ds \\ &= \langle z_t^n - z_t, h_t^n \rangle_H - \int_0^t v^* \langle (z_s^n - z_s)', h_s^n \rangle_V ds \\ &= \langle z_t^n - z_t, h_t^n \rangle_H - \int_0^t v^* \langle A(s, z_s^n) - A(s, z_s), h_s^n \rangle_V ds \\ &\quad - \int_0^t \langle B(s, z_s^n)\phi_s^n - B(s, z_s)\phi_s, h_s^n \rangle_H ds \\ &=: I_1 + I_2 + I_3 \end{aligned}$$

By using the Hölder inequality, (A3) and (3.7) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I_1 &\leq \|z_t^n - z_t\|_H \cdot \|h_t^n\|_H \leq \frac{1}{4} \|z_t^n - z_t\|_H^2 + \|h_t^n\|_H^2. \\
I_2 &\leq \int_0^t \|A(s, z_s^n) - A(s, z_s)\|_{V^*} \|h_s^n\|_V ds \\
&\leq \left(\int_0^t \|A(s, z_s^n) - A(s, z_s)\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}} ds \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} \left(\int_0^t \|h_s^n\|_V^\alpha ds \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
&\leq \left(\int_0^t C(1 + \|z_s\|_V^\alpha + \|z_s^n\|_V^\alpha) ds \right)^{\frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}} \left(\int_0^t \|h_s^n\|_V^\alpha ds \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
(3.13) \quad &\leq C \left(\int_0^t \|h_s^n\|_V^\alpha ds \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}. \\
I_3 &\leq \int_0^t \|B(s, z_s^n)\phi_s^n - B(s, z_s)\phi_s\|_H \cdot \|h_s^n\|_H ds \\
&\leq \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^n\|_H \int_0^t \|B(s, z_s^n)\phi_s^n - B(s, z_s)\phi_s\|_H ds \\
&\leq \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^n\|_H \left\{ N^{1/2} \left(\int_0^t \|B(s, z_s^n)\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} + N^{1/2} \left(\int_0^t \|B(s, z_s)\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \right\} \\
&\leq C \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^n\|_H.
\end{aligned}$$

where C is a constant which come from the following estimate

$$\int_0^t \|B(s, z_s^n)\|_2^2 ds \leq C \int_0^t (1 + \|z_s^n\|_H^2 + \|z_s^n\|_V^\alpha) ds \leq \mathbf{Constant} < \infty$$

Combining (3.9) and (3.12)-(3.13) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.14) \quad &\|z_t^n - z_t\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^t \|z_t^n - z_t\|_V^\alpha dt \\
&\leq C \int_0^t (1 + \|\phi_s^n\|_U^2) \|z_s^n - z_s\|_H^2 ds + C \left(\sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^n\|_H + \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^n\|_H^2 + \left(\int_0^t \|h_s^n\|_V^\alpha ds \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Then by Gronwall Lemma and L^2 -boundedness of ϕ^n , there exists a constant C such that

$$\|z^n - z\|^2 + \delta \int_0^T \|z_s^n - z_s\|_V^\alpha ds \leq C \left(\sup_{s \in [0, T]} \|h_s^n\|_H + \sup_{s \in [0, T]} \|h_s^n\|_H^2 + \left(\int_0^T \|h_s^n\|_V^\alpha ds \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \right).$$

Since $h^n \rightarrow 0$ in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$, we know

$$z^n \rightarrow z \text{ strongly in } C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Step 2: we prove the conclusion for general B without condition (A6). Denote $z_{t,n}^\phi$ the solution of the following equation

$$\frac{dz_{t,n}^\phi}{dt} = A(t, z_{t,n}^\phi) + P_n B(t, z_{t,n}^\phi) \phi_t, \quad z_{0,n}^\phi = x$$

Where P_n is the standard projection (see (A5) and section 4 for details). By using the same argument in Lemma 3.1 we can prove

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|z_n^\phi - z^\phi\|^2 + \delta \int_0^T \|z_{s,n}^\phi - z_s^\phi\|_V^\alpha ds \\ & \leq \exp \left\{ \int_0^T (K + 2\|\phi_s\|_U^2) ds \right\} \int_0^T \|(I - P_n)B(s, z_s^\phi)\|_2^2 ds \end{aligned}$$

Since $B(\cdot, \cdot)$ are Hilbert-Schmidt (hence compact) operators, then by dominated convergence theorem we know

$$\int_0^T \|(I - P_n)B(s, z_s^\phi)\|_2^2 ds \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Hence $z_n^\phi \rightarrow z^\phi$ in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Moreover, this convergence is uniformly (w.r.t ϕ) on bounded set of $L^2([0, T]; U)$ which follows from (3.15) and (3.8). Notice $P_n B$ satisfy (A6), combining with **Step 1** and standard 3ε -argument we can conclude that $z^n \rightarrow z$ strongly in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ also for general B . Now the proof is complete. \square

Lemma 3.3. *Assume (A1) – (A4) and (A6) – (A7) hold. Let $\{v^\varepsilon\}_{\varepsilon>0} \subset \mathcal{A}_N$ for some $N < \infty$. Assume v^ε converge to v in distribution as S_N -valued random elements, then*

$$g^\varepsilon \left(W. + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_0^\cdot v_s^\varepsilon ds \right) \rightarrow g^0 \left(\int_0^\cdot v_s ds \right)$$

in distribution as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.

Proof. By Girsanov theorem and uniqueness of solution to (2.3), it's easy to see that $X^\varepsilon := g^\varepsilon \left(W. + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_0^\cdot v_s^\varepsilon ds \right)$ (the abuse of notation here is for simplicity) is the unique solution of the following equation

$$(3.16) \quad dX_t^\varepsilon = (A(t, X_t^\varepsilon) + B(t, X_t^\varepsilon)v_t^\varepsilon) dt + \varepsilon B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t, \quad X_0^\varepsilon = x.$$

Now we only need to show $X^\varepsilon \rightarrow z^v$ in distribution as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. We may assume $\varepsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}$, by using Itô formula, the Young inequality and (A2) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.17) \quad d\|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_H^2 &= 2_{V^*} \langle A(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - A(t, z_t^v), X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v \rangle_V dt \\
&\quad + 2 \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, (B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - B(t, z_t^v))v_t^\varepsilon + B(t, z_t^v)(v_t^\varepsilon - v_t) \rangle_H dt \\
&\quad + \varepsilon^2 \|B(t, X_t^\varepsilon)\|_2^2 dt + 2\varepsilon \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t \rangle_H \\
&\leq (2_{V^*} \langle A(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - A(t, z_t^v), X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v \rangle_V + \|B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - B(t, z_t^v)\|_2^2) dt \\
&\quad + 2\|v_t^\varepsilon\|_U^2 \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_H^2 dt + 2 \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, B(t, z_t^v)(v_t^\varepsilon - v_t) \rangle_H dt \\
&\quad + 2\varepsilon^2 \|B(t, z_t^v)\|_2^2 dt + 2\varepsilon \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t \rangle_H \\
&\leq -\delta \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_V^\alpha + [C(1 + \|v_t^\varepsilon\|_U^2) \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_H^2 + 2\varepsilon^2 \|B(t, z_t^v)\|_2^2] dt \\
&\quad + 2 \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, B(t, z_t^v)(v_t^\varepsilon - v_t) \rangle_H dt + 2\varepsilon \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t \rangle_H
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly we define

$$h_t^\varepsilon = \int_0^t B(s, z_s^v)(v_s^\varepsilon - v_s) ds,$$

then we can show $h^\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ in distribution as $C([0, T]; V)$ -valued random element (see e.g. [7, Lemma 3.2]), consequently also in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$. Notice that

$$2 \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, h_t^\varepsilon \rangle_H = \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v + h_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2 - \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_H^2 - \|h_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2.$$

By using the Itô formula for corresponding square norm we can conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.18) \quad &\int_0^t \langle X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v, B(s, z_s^v)(v_s^\varepsilon - v_s) \rangle_H ds \\
&= \langle X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v, h_t^\varepsilon \rangle_H - \int_0^t {}_{V^*} \langle A(s, X_s^\varepsilon) - A(s, z_s^v), h_s^\varepsilon \rangle_V ds \\
&\quad - \int_0^t \langle B(s, X_s^\varepsilon)v_s^\varepsilon - B(s, z_s^v)v_s, h_s^\varepsilon \rangle_H ds - \varepsilon \int_0^t \langle B(s, X_s^\varepsilon) dW_s, h_s^\varepsilon \rangle_H
\end{aligned}$$

By using the same argument in (3.13) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.19) \quad &\int_0^t \langle X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v, B(s, z_s^v)(v_s^\varepsilon - v_s) \rangle_H ds \\
&\leq \frac{1}{4} \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_H^2 + \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2 - \varepsilon \int_0^t \langle B(s, X_s^\varepsilon) dW_s, h_s^\varepsilon \rangle_H \\
&\quad + C \left(\int_0^t (1 + \|z_s^v\|_V^\alpha + \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha) ds \right)^{\frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}} \cdot \left(\int_0^t \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha ds \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
&\quad + C \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_H \left\{ \left(\int_0^t \|B(s, X_s^\varepsilon)\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} + \left(\int_0^t \|B(s, z_s^v)\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence from (3.17)-(3.19) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v\|_V^\alpha ds \\
& \leq c_1 \int_0^t (1 + \|v_s^\varepsilon\|_U^2) \|X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v\|_H^2 ds + c_2 (\varepsilon^2 + \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2) \\
(3.20) \quad & + c_3 \left(1 + \int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha ds\right)^{\frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}} \cdot \left(\int_0^t \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha ds\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
& + c_4 \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_H \left\{1 + \left(\int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2 ds\right)^{1/2}\right\} \\
& + 4\varepsilon \int_0^t \langle X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v - h_s^\varepsilon, B(s, X_s^\varepsilon) dW_s \rangle_H
\end{aligned}$$

where we used the estimate (see (3.6)-(3.8)) that there exists constant C such that

$$\int_0^T \|B(s, z_s^v)\|_2^2 ds + \int_0^T \|z_s^v\|_V^\alpha ds \leq C, \quad a.s.$$

By applying Gronwall Lemma we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.21) \quad & \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v\|_V^\alpha ds \\
& \leq C [\varepsilon^2 + \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2 + \left(1 + \int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha ds\right)^{\frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}} \left(\int_0^t \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha ds\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
& + \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|h_s^\varepsilon\|_H \left\{1 + \left(\int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2 ds\right)^{1/2}\right\} + \sup_{u \in [0, t]} \left| \varepsilon \int_0^u \langle X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v - h_s^\varepsilon, B(s, X_s^\varepsilon) dW_s \rangle_H \right|
\end{aligned}$$

Define stopping time

$$\tau^{M, \varepsilon} = \inf \left\{ t \leq T : \sup_{s \in [0, t]} \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2 + \int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha ds > M \right\}.$$

By Burkholder-Davis-Gundy inequality one has

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.22) \quad & \varepsilon \mathbf{E} \sup_{t \in [0, \tau^{M, \varepsilon}]} \left| \int_0^t \langle X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v - h_s^\varepsilon, B(s, X_s^\varepsilon) dW_s \rangle_H \right| \\
& \leq 3\varepsilon \mathbf{E} \left\{ \int_0^{\tau^{M, \varepsilon}} \|X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v - h_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2 \|B(s, X_s^\varepsilon)\|_2^2 ds \right\}^{1/2} \\
& \leq 3\varepsilon \mathbf{E} \left\{ \sup_{s \in [0, \tau^{M, \varepsilon}]} \|X_s^\varepsilon - z_s^v - h_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2 + C \int_0^{\tau^{M, \varepsilon}} (1 + \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2) ds \right\} \\
& \leq C\varepsilon \rightarrow 0 \quad (\varepsilon \rightarrow 0).
\end{aligned}$$

Since B is bounded, by using the similar argument in (3.17) we have

$$d\|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2 \leq -\frac{\delta}{2} \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha + C(1 + \|v_t^\varepsilon\|_U^2 + \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2) dt + 2\varepsilon \langle X_t^\varepsilon, B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t \rangle_H,$$

where C is a constant. Repeat the same argument in [24, Theorem 3.10] we can prove

$$\sup_{\varepsilon \in [0, 1]} \mathbf{E} \left\{ \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2 + \int_0^T \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha dt \right\} \leq \mathbf{constant} < \infty$$

Hence it's easy to show that for a suitable constant C

$$(3.23) \quad \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{P}\{\tau^{M, \varepsilon} = T\} \geq 1 - \frac{C}{M}$$

Recall that $h^\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ in distribution in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$, combining with (3.21)-(3.23) one can conclude

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_H^2 + \int_0^T \|X_t^\varepsilon - z_t^v\|_V^\alpha dt \rightarrow 0 \quad (\varepsilon \rightarrow 0)$$

in distribution. Hence the proof is complete. \square

Remark 3.1. According to Lemma 1.1, Lemma 3.2 and Lemma 3.3, $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy LDP provided (A1) – (A4) and (A6) – (A7) hold. The next two section is to drop (A6) and (A7) by using some approximate argument.

4 From $L(U; V_0)$ to $L_2(U; H)$: drop (A6)

For any fixed $n \geq 1$, let $H_n \subseteq V$ compact and $P_n : H \rightarrow H_n$ be the orthogonal projection. Let $X_t^{\varepsilon, n}$ be the solution of

$$(4.1) \quad dX_t^{\varepsilon, n} = A(t, X_t^{\varepsilon, n}) dt + \varepsilon P_n B(t, X_t^{\varepsilon, n}) dW_t, \quad X_0^{\varepsilon, n} = x.$$

Since $P_n B$ satisfy (A6), according to section 3 and [7, Theorem 4.4] we know $\{X^{\varepsilon,n}\}$ satisfy (LDP) provided (A1) – (A4) and (A7) hold. Now we prove that $\{X^{\varepsilon,n}\}$ are the exponential good approximation to $\{X^\varepsilon\}$.

Lemma 4.1. *If (A1) – (A5) and (A7) hold, then $\forall \sigma > 0$*

$$(4.2) \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(\rho(X^\varepsilon, X^{\varepsilon,n}) > \sigma) = -\infty,$$

where ρ is the metric on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ defined in (2.4).

Proof. For $\varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$, by using Itô's formula and (A2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & d\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 \\ &= (2_{V^*} \langle A(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - A(t, X_t^{\varepsilon,n}), X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n} \rangle_V + \varepsilon^2 \|B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - P_n B(t, X_t^{\varepsilon,n})\|_2^2) dt \\ &\quad + 2\varepsilon \langle X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}, (B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - P_n B(t, X_t^{\varepsilon,n})) dW_t \rangle_H \\ &\leq -\delta \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_V^\alpha dt + C(\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 + \varepsilon^2 \|(I - P_n)B(t, X_t^\varepsilon)\|_2^2) dt + 2\varepsilon dM_t^{(n)} \end{aligned}$$

where $dM_t^{(n)} := \langle X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}, (B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) - P_n B(t, X_t^{\varepsilon,n})) dW_t \rangle_H$ and C is a constant. Define

$$\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\| = \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon - X_s^{\varepsilon,n}\|_V^\alpha ds; \quad a_n = \sup_{(t,v) \in [0,T] \times V} \|(I - P_n)B(t, v)\|_2^2.$$

By the standard truncation argument (see section 5 for details) we can replace B by truncated map B_N here, hence by (A5) and monotone convergence theorem

$$a_n = \max \left\{ \sup_{(t,v) \in [0,T] \times S_{2N}} \|(I - P_n)B(t, v)\|_2^2, \sup_{t \in [0,T]} \|(I - P_n)B(t, 0)\|_2^2 \right\} \rightarrow 0 (n \rightarrow \infty).$$

Therefore

$$\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\| \leq C \int_0^t (\|X_s^\varepsilon - X_s^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 + \varepsilon^2 a_n) ds + 2\varepsilon M_t^{(n)}$$

From (A7) we know the quadratic variation process of the local martingale $M^{(n)}$ satisfies

$$d\langle M^{(n)} \rangle_t \leq C \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 (\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 + a_n) dt.$$

Define $\varphi_\theta(y) = (a_n + y)^\theta$ for some $\theta > 0$, then

$$(4.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & d\varphi_\theta(\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|) \\ &\leq \theta (a_n + \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|)^{\theta-1} \left(C(\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 + \varepsilon^2 a_n) dt + 2\varepsilon dM_t^{(n)} \right) \\ &\quad + 2C\varepsilon^2 \theta (\theta - 1) (a_n + \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|)^{\theta-2} \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 (\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H^2 + a_n) dt \\ &\leq C(\theta + \theta^2 \varepsilon^2) \varphi_\theta(\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|) dt + d\beta_t \end{aligned}$$

where β_t -term is a local martingale. By standard localization argument we may assume β_t is a martingale here for simplicity. Let $\theta = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}$ we know

$$N_t := e^{-\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}t} \varphi_{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}}(\|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|)$$

is a supermartingale. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{P}(\rho(X^\varepsilon, X^{\varepsilon,n}) > 2\sigma) \\ & \leq \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_H > \sigma\right) + \mathbf{P}\left(\int_0^T \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\|_V^\alpha dt > \sigma^\alpha\right) \\ & \leq \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} N_t > \exp\left\{-\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\}(\sigma^2 + a_n)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}}\right) + \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} N_t > \exp\left\{-\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\}(\delta\sigma^\alpha + a_n)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}}\right) \\ & \leq \exp\left\{\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\}(\sigma^2 + a_n)^{-\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}} \mathbf{E}N_0 + \exp\left\{\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\}(\delta\sigma^\alpha + a_n)^{-\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}} \mathbf{E}N_0 \\ & = \exp\left\{\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\} \left[\left(\frac{a_n}{\sigma^2 + a_n}\right)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}} + \left(\frac{a_n}{\sigma^\alpha + a_n}\right)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}\left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t^\varepsilon - X_t^{\varepsilon,n}\| > 2\sigma\right) \\ & \leq 2CT + \max\left\{\log \frac{a_n}{\sigma^2 + a_n}, \log \frac{a_n}{\delta\sigma^\alpha + a_n}\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $a_n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, the proof is complete. \square

Corollary 4.2. *If (A1) – (A5) and (A7) hold, then $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy LDP in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ with rate function (2.7).*

Proof. According to [43, Theorem 2.1] and section 3 one can conclude $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy LDP with the following rate function

$$\tilde{I}(f) := \sup_{r>0} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g) = \sup_{r>0} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g).$$

where $S_r(f)$ is the closed ball in $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ centered at f with radius r and I^n is given by

$$(4.4) \quad I^n(z) := \inf\left\{\frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|\phi_s\|_U^2 ds : z = z^{n,\phi}, \phi \in L^2([0, T], U)\right\},$$

where $z^{n,\phi}$ is the unique solution of following equation

$$\frac{dz_t^n}{dt} = A(t, z_t^n) + P_n B(t, z_t^n) \phi_t, \quad z_0^n = x.$$

Now we only need to prove $\tilde{I} = I$, i.e.

$$I(f) = \sup_{r>0} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g).$$

We will first show that for any $r > 0$

$$I(f) \geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g).$$

We assume $I(f) < \infty$, then by Lemma 3.2 there exists ϕ such that

$$f = z^\phi \quad \text{and} \quad I(f) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|\phi_s\|_U^2 ds.$$

Since $z^{n,\phi} \rightarrow z^\phi$, for n large enough we have

$$f_n := z^{n,\phi} \in S_r(f).$$

Notice $I^n(f_n) \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|\phi_s\|_U^2 ds$, hence we have

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} I^n(f_n) \leq I(f).$$

Since r is arbitrary we have proved the lower bound

$$I(f) \geq \sup_{r>0} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g).$$

For the upper bound we can proceed as in finite dimensional case in [37, Lemma 4.6] to show

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g) \geq \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I(g)$$

Hence we have

$$\sup_{r>0} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I^n(g) \geq \sup_{r>0} \inf_{g \in S_r(f)} I(g) \geq I(f).$$

Hence the proof is complete. □

5 From boundedness to linear growth: drop (A7)

In order to drop the additional assumption (A7) on B , we need to use some truncation techniques. This part is a modification of the argument in [37, 11].

Lemma 5.1. *Assume (A1) – (A4) hold, then*

$$(5.1) \quad \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P} \left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^T \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha dt > R \right) = -\infty.$$

Proof. By using Itô's formula and (A2) – (A3), for $\varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} d\|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2 &= (2_{V^*}\langle A(t, X_t^\varepsilon), X_t^\varepsilon \rangle_V + \varepsilon^2\|B(t, X_t^\varepsilon)\|_2^2) dt + 2\varepsilon\langle X_t^\varepsilon, (B(t, X_t^\varepsilon)dW_t) \rangle_H \\ &\leq -\frac{\delta}{2}\|X_t^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha dt + C(1 + \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2)dt + 2\varepsilon dM_t^{(n)} \end{aligned}$$

where $M_t^{(n)} := \int_0^t \langle X_s^\varepsilon, B(s, X_s^\varepsilon)dW_s \rangle_H$ is a local martingale. Then

$$\|X_t^\varepsilon\| \leq C \int_0^t (1 + \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_H^2)ds + 4\varepsilon M_t^{(n)}$$

where $\|X_t^\varepsilon\| := \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^t \|X_s^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha ds$. The quadratic variation process of $M^{(n)}$ satisfies

$$d\langle M^{(n)} \rangle_t \leq C\|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2(1 + \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2)dt.$$

Define $\varphi_\theta(y) = (1 + y)^\theta$ for some $\theta > 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (5.2) \quad d\varphi_\theta(\|X_t^\varepsilon\|) &\leq \theta(1 + \|X_t^\varepsilon\|)^{\theta-1} \left(C(1 + \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2)dt + 2\varepsilon dM_t^{(n)} \right) \\ &\quad + 8C\varepsilon^2\theta(\theta - 1)(1 + \|X_t^\varepsilon\|)^{\theta-2}\|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2(1 + \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2) dt \\ &\leq C(\theta + \theta^2\varepsilon^2)\varphi_\theta(\|X_t^\varepsilon\|)dt + d\beta_t \end{aligned}$$

where β_t -term is a local martingale. We also omit the standard localization procedure here for simplicity. Let $\theta = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}$ we know

$$N_t := e^{-\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}t} \varphi_{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}}(\|X_t^\varepsilon\|)$$

is a supermartingale. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbf{P} \left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_H^2 + \delta \int_0^T \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_V^\alpha dt > R \right) \\ &\leq \mathbf{P} \left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} N_t > \exp\left\{-\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\}(1 + R)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}} \right) \\ &\leq \exp\left\{\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\}(1 + R)^{-\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}} \mathbf{E}N_0 \\ &= \exp\left\{\frac{2C}{\varepsilon^2}T\right\} \left(\frac{1}{1 + R} \right)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P} \left(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|X_t^\varepsilon\| > R \right) \leq \log \frac{1}{1 + R} + 2CT.$$

Then the proof is complete. \square

Now we can finish the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Proof of Theorem 2.1: The proof here is a slight modification of [37, Theorem 4.13]. Define $\xi : V \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be a C_0^∞ -function such that

$$\xi(v) := \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \|v\|_H > 2, \\ 1, & \text{if } \|v\|_H \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Let $\xi_N(v) = \xi(\frac{v}{N})$ and

$$B_N(t, v) = \xi_N(v)B(t, v) + (1 - \xi_N(v))B(t, 0).$$

Consider the mollified problem for equation (2.3):

$$(5.3) \quad dX_{t,N}^\varepsilon = A(t, X_{t,N}^\varepsilon)dt + \varepsilon B_N(t, X_{t,N}^\varepsilon)dW_t, \quad X_0 = x.$$

It's easily to see that A, B_N satisfy (A1) – (A5) and (A7). Hence by Corollary 4.2 we know $\{X_N^\varepsilon\}_{\varepsilon>0}$ satisfy large deviation principle on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ with the following mollified rate function

$$(5.4) \quad I_N(z) := \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|\phi_s\|_U^2 ds : z = z_N^\phi, \phi \in L^2([0, T], U) \right\},$$

where z_N^ϕ is the unique solution of following equation

$$\frac{dz_{t,N}}{dt} = A(t, z_{t,N}) + B_N(t, z_{t,N})\phi_t, \quad z_{0,N} = x.$$

Let $N \rightarrow \infty$, then the LDP for $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ can be derived as in the finite dimensional case. According to Lemma 3.2, I defined in (2.7) is a (good) rate function. Notice $I_N(z) = I(z)$ for any $z \in C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$ satisfy

$$\|z\|_T := \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|z_t\|_H \leq N.$$

We now first show that for any open set $G \subseteq C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$

$$\liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in G) \geq - \inf_{z \in G} I(z).$$

Obviously, we only need to prove that for all $\bar{z} \in G$ with $\bar{z}_0 = x$

$$\liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in G) \geq -I(\bar{z}).$$

Choose $R > 0$ such that $\|\bar{z}\|_T < R$ and set

$$N_R = \{z \in C([0, T]; H) \cap L^\alpha([0, T]; V) : \|z\|_T < R\}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in G) &\geq \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in G \cap N_R) \\
&= \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X_N^\varepsilon \in G \cap N_R) \\
&\geq - \inf_{z \in G \cap N_R} I_N(z) \\
&\geq -I(\bar{z}).
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, given a closed set F and an $L < \infty$, by Lemma 5.1 there exists R such that

$$\begin{aligned}
\limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in F) &\leq \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log (\mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in F \cap \overline{N_R}) + \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in N_R^c)) \\
&\leq (- \inf_{z \in F \cap \overline{N_R}} I_N(z)) \vee (-L) \\
&\leq - \left[\inf_{z \in F} I(z) \wedge L \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Let $L \rightarrow \infty$, we obtain

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^2 \log \mathbf{P}(X^\varepsilon \in F) \leq - \inf_{z \in F} I(z).$$

Now the proof of Theorem 2.1 is complete. \square

6 LDP on $C([0, T]; H)$ under weaker assumptions

As applications of Theorem 2.1, many examples of SPDE are studied in the next section. But Theorem 2.1 can't be applied to conclude LDP for stochastic fast diffusion equation in [29, 25] since strong Monotonicity condition (A2) doesn't satisfy. Notice (A2) mainly used to prove the additional convergence in $L^\alpha([0, T]; V)$. Hence, if we only interested in LDP on $C([0, T]; H)$, then we can prove the analogue of Theorem 2.1 under the following weaker assumptions than (A1) – (A5), which can be applied to stochastic fast diffusion equation also.

For a fixed $\alpha > 1$, there exist constants $\delta > 0$ and K such that the following conditions hold all $v, v_1, v_2 \in V$ and all $t \in [0, T]$.

(B1) Semicontinuity of A : The following map

$$\mathbb{R} \ni s \mapsto v^* \langle A(t, v_1 + sv_2), v \rangle_V$$

is continuous.

(B2) Monotonicity of (A, B) :

$$2v^* \langle A(t, v_1) - A(t, v_2), v_1 - v_2 \rangle_V + \|B(t, v_1) - B(t, v_2)\|_2^2 \leq K \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2.$$

(B3) Coercivity of (A, B) :

$$2_{V^*} \langle A(t, v), v \rangle_V + \|B(t, v)\|_2^2 + \delta \|v\|_V^\alpha \leq K(1 + \|v\|_H^2),$$

(B4) Boundedness of growth A :

$$\|A(t, v)\|_{V^*}^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}} \leq K(1 + \|v\|_V^\alpha).$$

(B5) Local Lipschitz and growth property of B :

$$\begin{aligned} \|B(t, v_1) - B(t, v_2)\|_2^2 &\leq K_N \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2, \quad \|v_i\|_H \leq N, \quad i = 1, 2. \\ \|B(t, v)\|_2^2 &\leq K(1 + \|v\|_H^2). \end{aligned}$$

If $1 < \alpha < 2$, we assume also

$$\|B(t, v)\|_{L(U, V^*)} \leq K(1 + \|v\|_V^{\alpha-1}).$$

(B6) Approximated property of B : Suppose $B(\cdot, 0)$ is continuous on $[0, T]$ and there exist

$$H_n \subseteq H_{n+1}, \quad H_n \hookrightarrow V \text{ compact}, \quad \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} H_n \subseteq H \text{ dense}$$

such that for any $M > 0$

$$(6.1) \quad \sup_{(t, v) \in [0, T] \times S_M} \|P_n B(t, v) - B(t, v)\|_2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

where $P_n : H \rightarrow H_n$ is standard projection operator and

$$S_M = \{v \in V : \|v\|_H \leq M\}.$$

Remark 6.1. If we replace constant 1 in (B3) and (B4) by a integrable function, then the condition (B1) – (B4) is exactly the same conditions in [24, 32] for the existence and uniqueness of the solution to (2.1).

Theorem 6.1. *Assume (B1) – (B6) hold. For each $\varepsilon > 0$, let $X^\varepsilon = (X_t^\varepsilon)_{t \in [0, T]}$ be the solution to (2.3). Then as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfies the LDP on $C([0, T]; H)$ with the good rate function I which is given by (2.7).*

The proof is a small modification (only consider the convergence in $C([0, T]; H)$) of the argument for Theorem 2.1. We omit the details here.

7 Examples

Now we can apply the result to many stochastic evolution equations as applications. As a preparation we prove the following lemma first.

Lemma 7.1. *Let $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is a Hilbert space, then for any $r \geq 0$ we have*

$$(7.1) \quad \langle \|a\|^r a - \|b\|^r b, a - b \rangle \geq 2^{-r} \|a - b\|^{r+2}, a, b \in H.$$

$$(7.2) \quad \| \|a\|^{r-1} a - \|b\|^{r-1} b \| \leq \max\{r, 1\} \|a - b\| (\|a\|^{r-1} + \|b\|^{r-1}), a, b \in H.$$

If $0 < r < 1$, then there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$(7.3) \quad \| |a|^{r-1} a - |b|^{r-1} b \| \leq C |a - b|^r, a, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Proof. (i) If $\|a\| = \|b\|$, then (7.1) holds obviously.

If $\|a\| \neq \|b\|$, we may assume $\|a\| > \|b\|$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \|a\|^r a - \|b\|^r b, a - b \rangle \\ &= \|b\|^r \|a - b\|^2 + (\|a\|^r - \|b\|^r) \langle a, a - b \rangle \\ &= \|b\|^r \|a - b\|^2 + (\|a\|^r - \|b\|^r) \cdot \frac{1}{2} (\|a\|^2 + \|a - b\|^2 - \|b\|^2) \\ &> \|b\|^r \|a - b\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\|a\|^r - \|b\|^r) \|a - b\|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\|a\|^r + \|b\|^r) \|a - b\|^2 \\ &\geq 2^{-r} \|a - b\|^{r+2} \end{aligned}$$

since $\|a - b\|^r \leq 2^{r-1} (\|a\|^r + \|b\|^r)$.

(ii) The proof of (7.2) and (7.3) is similar. □

The first example is to obtain *LDP* for a class of reaction-diffusion type SPDEs, which improve the result in [11].

Example 7.2. *Let Λ is an open bounded domain in \mathbb{R}^d with smooth boundary, L is a negative definite self-adjoint operator on $H := L^2(\Lambda)$. Suppose*

$$V := \mathcal{D}(\sqrt{-L}), \quad \|v\|_V := \|\sqrt{-L}v\|_H.$$

is a Banach space, $V \subseteq H$ is dense and compact, and L can be extended as a continuous operator from V to it's dual space V^ . Consider the following semilinear stochastic equation*

$$(7.4) \quad dX_t^\varepsilon = (LX_t^\varepsilon + F(t, X_t^\varepsilon))dt + \varepsilon B(t, X_t^\varepsilon)dW_t, \quad X_0^\varepsilon = x \in H,$$

where W_t is cylindrical Wiener process on another separable Hilbert space U and

$$F : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow V^*, \quad B : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow L_2(U; V).$$

If F and B satisfy the following conditions:

$$(7.5) \quad \begin{aligned} 2_{V^*} \langle F(t, v_1) - F(t, v_2), v_1 - v_2 \rangle_V &\leq C \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2, \\ \|B(t, v_1) - B(t, v_2)\|_2^2 &\leq C \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2, \\ \|F(t, v)\|_{V^*}^2 + \|B(t, v)\|_2^2 &\leq C(1 + \|v\|_H^2), \quad v, v_1, v_2 \in V. \end{aligned}$$

where C is a constant and $B(\cdot, 0)$ is continuous on $[0, T]$, then $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy Large deviation principle on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^2([0, T]; V)$.

Proof. From the assumptions (7.5), it's easy to show that (A1) – (A5) hold for $\alpha = 2$. Hence the conclusion follows from Theorem 2.1. \square

Remark 7.1. (i) We can simply take L as Laplace operator with Dirichlet boundary condition and $F(t, X_t) = -|X_t|^{p-2}X_t$ ($1 \leq p \leq 2$) as a concrete example.

(ii) Compare with the result in [11, Theorem 4.2] (only time homogeneous case), the author in [11] need to assume F is local Lipschitz and have more restricted range conditions:

$$F : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow H.$$

In our example we can allow F is monotone and take values in V^* . Another difference is we also drop the non-degenerated condition (A.4) in [11] on B .

(iii) Notice one can also take $B : V \rightarrow L_2(U; H)$ with locally compact range, which seems not allowed in [11, Theorem 4.2].

Second example is the stochastic generalized porous media equation, which have been studied quite intensively in recent years, see e.g.[5, 14, 29, 35, 42]. We use the same framework as in [35, 42].

Example 7.3. (*Stochastic porous media equation*)

Let $(E, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{m})$ be a separable probability space and $(L, \mathcal{D}(L))$ a negative definite self-adjoint linear operator on $(L^2(\mathbf{m}), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ with spectrum contained in $(-\infty, -\lambda_0]$ for some $\lambda_0 > 0$. Then the embedding

$$H^1 := \mathcal{D}(\sqrt{-L}) \subseteq L^2(\mathbf{m})$$

is dense and continuous. Define H is the dual Hilbert space of H^1 realized through this embedding. Assume L^{-1} is continuous on $L^{r+1}(\mathbf{m})$.

For fixed $r > 1$, we consider the following triple

$$V := L^{r+1}(\mathbf{m}) \subseteq H \subseteq V^*$$

and the stochastic porous media equation

$$(7.6) \quad dX_t^\varepsilon = (L\Psi(t, X_t^\varepsilon) + \Phi(t, X_t^\varepsilon))dt + \varepsilon B(t, X_t^\varepsilon)dW_t, \quad X_0^\varepsilon = x.$$

where W_t is cylindrical Wiener process on $L^2(\mathbf{m})$ and

$$\Psi, \Phi : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad B : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow L_2(L^2(\mathbf{m}); H)$$

are measurable and continuous in the second variable. Suppose $L^2(\mathbf{m}) \subseteq \mathbf{H}$ is compact and $B : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow L_2(L^2(\mathbf{m}))$. If $B(\cdot, 0)$ is continuous on $[0, T]$ and there exist two constants $\delta > 0$ and K such that

$$(7.7) \quad \begin{aligned} & |\Psi(t, x)| + |\Phi(t, x)| \leq K(1 + |x|^r), \quad t \in [0, T], x \in \mathbb{R}; \\ & -\langle \Psi(t, u) - \Psi(t, v), u - v \rangle - \langle \Phi(t, u) - \Phi(t, v), L^{-1}(u - v) \rangle \\ & \leq -\delta \|u - v\|_V^{r+1} + K \|u - v\|_H^2; \\ & \|B(t, u) - B(t, v)\|_2^2 \leq K \|u - v\|_H^2, \quad \|B(t, 0)\|_2 \leq K. \quad t \in [0, T], u, v \in V. \end{aligned}$$

Then $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy Large deviation principle on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^{r+1}([0, T]; V)$.

Proof. From the assumptions and the relation

$${}_V \ast \langle L\Phi(t, u) + \Phi(t, u), u \rangle_V = -\langle \Phi(t, u), u \rangle - \langle \Phi(t, u), L^{-1}u \rangle,$$

it's easy to show that (A1) – (A5) holds for $\alpha = r + 1$ from (7.7). We refer to [33, Example 4.1.11] for details, see also [14, 35, 32, 42]. Hence the conclusion follows from Theorem 2.1. \square

Remark 7.2. (i) If we take L the Laplace operator on a smooth bounded domain in a complete Riemannian manifold with Dirichlet boundary condition. A simple example for Ψ and Φ satisfy 7.7 is given by

$$\Psi(t, x) = f(t) \operatorname{sgn}(x) |x|^r, \quad \Phi(t, x) = g(t)x$$

for some strictly positive continuous function f and bounded function g on $[0, T]$.

(ii) This example generalized the main result in [35, Theorem 1.1] which obtain *LDP* for stochastic porous media equations with additive noise. In [35] the authors mainly used the piecewise linear approximation to the path of Wiener process and generalized contraction principle, which are totally different with the weak convergence approach in this paper.

If we assume $0 < r < 1$ in the above example, then the equation turns into the stochastic version of classical fast diffusion equation. The behavior of the solutions to these two type of PDEs are essentially different, see e.g.[1].

Example 7.4. (Stochastic fast diffusion equation)

Assume the same framework as Example 7.3 for $0 < r < 1$, i.e. assume the embedding $V := L^{r+1}(\mathbf{m}) \subseteq H$ is continuous and dense. We consider the equation

$$(7.8) \quad dX_t^\varepsilon = \{L\Psi(t, X_t^\varepsilon) + \gamma_t X_t^\varepsilon\} dt + \varepsilon B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t,$$

where $\gamma : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is locally bounded and measurable and

$$\Psi : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

be measurable and continuous in the second variable.

$$B : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow L_2(L^2(\mathbf{m}))$$

are measurable and W_t is cylindrical Wiener process on $L^2(\mathbf{m})$.

For a fixed number $r \in (0, 1)$, we assume $B(\cdot, 0)$ is continuous on $[0, T]$ and there exist constants $\delta > 0$ and K such that for all $x, x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, t \in [0, T]$ and $u, v \in V$

$$(7.9) \quad \begin{aligned} |\Psi(t, x)| &\leq K(1 + |x|^r); \\ (\Psi(t, x_1) - \Psi(t, x_2))(x_1 - x_2) &\geq \delta|x_1 - x_2|^2(|x_1| \vee |x_2|)^{r-1}; \\ \|B(t, u) - B(t, v)\|_2^2 &\leq K\|u - v\|_H^2, \quad \|B(t, 0)\|_2^2 \leq K; \\ \|B(t, u)\|_{L(L^2(\mathbf{m}), V^*)} &\leq K(1 + \|u\|_V^r). \end{aligned}$$

Then $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy Large deviation principle on $C([0, T]; H)$.

Proof. Notice

$$V^* \langle L\Psi(t, u) + \gamma_t u, u \rangle_V = -\langle \Psi(t, u), u \rangle_{L^2} + \langle \gamma_t u, u \rangle_H$$

it's easy to show (B1) – (B6) hold for $\alpha = r + 1$ under assumptions (7.9). Then the conclusion follows from Theorem 6.1. \square

Remark 7.3. (i) In particular, if $\gamma = 0, B = 0$ and $\Psi(t, s) = s^r := |s|^{r-1}s$ for some $r \in (0, 1)$, then (7.8) reduces back to the classical fast-diffusion equation (see e.g. [1]).

(ii) Here we assume the embedding $L^{r+1}(\mathbf{m}) \subseteq H$ is continuous and dense for simplicity, see e.g. [33, Remark 4.1.15] and [25] for some sufficient conditions of this assumption. But in general $L^{r+1}(\mathbf{m})$ and H are incomparable, then one need to consider the more general framework in [29].

Example 7.5. (Stochastic “ p -Laplacian” equation)

Let Λ is an open bounded domain in \mathbb{R}^d with smooth boundary, consider the following triple

$$V := H_0^{1,p}(\Lambda) \subseteq H := L^2(\Lambda) \subseteq (H_0^{1,p}(\Lambda))^*$$

and the stochastic “ p -Laplacian” equation

$$(7.10) \quad dX_t^\varepsilon = [\operatorname{div}(|\nabla X_t^\varepsilon|^{p-2} \nabla X_t^\varepsilon) - \eta_t |X_t^\varepsilon|^{\bar{p}-2} X_t^\varepsilon] dt + \varepsilon B(t, X_t^\varepsilon) dW_t, X_0^\varepsilon = x,$$

where $2 \leq p < \infty, 1 \leq \tilde{p} \leq p$, $B : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow L_2(H)$ and W_t is a cylindrical Wiener process on H . Assume

$$B(t, v) = \sum_{i=1}^N b_i(v) B_i(t),$$

where $b_i(\cdot) : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $B_i(\cdot) : [0, T] \rightarrow L_2(U; H)$. If $B_i(\cdot)$ are continuous for $1 \leq i \leq n$, η are continuous function such that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq \eta_t \leq K, \quad t \in [0, T]. \\ |b_i(u) - b_i(v)|^2 \leq K \|u - v\|_H^2, \quad u, v \in V. \end{aligned}$$

where K is a constant. Then $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy Large deviation principle on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^p([0, T]; V)$.

Proof. The assumptions for existence and uniqueness of the solution was verified in [33, Example 4.1.9] for $\alpha = p$. Hence we only need to prove (A2) hold here. By using (7.1) in Lemma 7.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} & v^* \langle \mathbf{div}(|\nabla u|^{p-2} \nabla u) - \mathbf{div}(|\nabla v|^{p-2} \nabla v), u - v \rangle_V \\ &= - \int_{\Lambda} \langle |\nabla u(x)|^{p-2} \nabla u(x) - |\nabla v(x)|^{p-2} \nabla v(x), \nabla u(x) - \nabla v(x) \rangle dx \\ &\leq -2^{p-2} \int_{\Lambda} |\nabla u(x) - \nabla v(x)|^p dx \\ &\leq -c \|u - v\|_V^p. \end{aligned}$$

where c is a positive constant and follows from Poincaré inequality.

By the monotonicity of function $|x|^{\tilde{p}-2}x$ we know

$$v^* \langle |u|^{\tilde{p}-2}u - |v|^{\tilde{p}-2}v, u - v \rangle_V \geq 0.$$

Hence (A2) holds. Then the conclusion follows from Theorem 2.1. \square

The following equation is taken from [24]. The main part of drift is a high order generalization of Laplacian operator.

Example 7.6. Let Λ is an open bounded domain in \mathbb{R}^1 and $m \in \mathbb{N}_+$, consider the following triple

$$V := H_0^{m,p}(\Lambda) \subseteq H := L^2(\Lambda) \subseteq (H_0^{m,p}(\Lambda))^*$$

and the stochastic evolution equation

$$(7.11) \quad \begin{aligned} dX_t^\varepsilon(x) &= [(-1)^{m+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m} (|\frac{\partial^m}{\partial x^m} X_t^\varepsilon(x)|^{p-2} \frac{\partial^m}{\partial x^m} X_t^\varepsilon(x)) + F(t, X_t(x))] dt \\ &+ \varepsilon B(t, X_t^\varepsilon(x)) dW_t, \quad X_0^\varepsilon = x \end{aligned}$$

where $2 \leq p < \infty$ and W_t is cylindrical Wiener process on H . Suppose

$$F : [0, T] \times V \rightarrow V^*, \quad B(t, v) = \sum_{i=1}^N b_i(v) B_i(t)$$

where $b_i(\cdot) : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $B_i(\cdot) : [0, T] \rightarrow L_2(U; H)$. Assume B_i are continuous for $1 \leq i \leq N$ and

$$\begin{aligned} 2_{V^*} \langle F(t, v_1) - F(t, v_2), v_1 - v_2 \rangle_V &\leq C \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2, \\ |b_i(v_1) - b_i(v_2)|^2 &\leq C \|v_1 - v_2\|_H^2, \\ \|F(t, v)\|_{V^*}^{\frac{p}{p-1}} &\leq C(1 + \|v\|_H^2), \quad v, v_1, v_2 \in V. \end{aligned}$$

where K is a constant. Then $\{X^\varepsilon\}$ satisfy Large deviation principle on $C([0, T]; H) \cap L^p([0, T]; V)$.

Proof. By using Lemma 7.1, the conclusions follow from Theorem 2.1 by the same arguments as in Example 7.5. □

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