

# Obliquely reflected backward stochastic differential equations

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we study existence and uniqueness to multidimensional Reflected Backward Stochastic Differential Equations in a non-empty open convex domain, allowing for oblique directions of reflection. In a Markovian framework, combining *a priori* estimates for penalised equations and compactness arguments, we obtain existence results under quite weak assumptions on the driver of the BSDEs and the direction of reflection, which is allowed to depend on both  $Y$  and  $Z$ . In a non Markovian framework, we obtain existence and uniqueness result for direction of reflection depending on time and  $Y$  in smooth convex domain. We make use in this case of stability estimates that require some regularity conditions on the direction of reflection only.

**Résumé.** Nous étudions dans cet article l'existence et l'unicité des solutions d'équations différentielles stochastiques rétrogrades multidimensionnelles réfléchies dans un domaine ouvert convexe non vide avec une possible obliquité de la direction de réflexion. Dans le cadre markovien, en utilisant des estimées *a priori* pour les équations pénalisées et des arguments de compacité, nous obtenons un résultat d'existence sous des hypothèses faibles sur le générateur de l'EDSR et la direction de réflexion qui peut dépendre de  $Y$  et  $Z$ . Dans un cadre non markovien, nous obtenons un résultat d'existence et d'unicité lorsque la direction de réflexion dépend uniquement du temps et de  $Y$  et que le domaine de réflexion est régulier. Pour ce faire, nous utilisons des estimées de stabilité qui nécessitent des conditions de régularité portant uniquement sur la direction de réflexion.

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## 1. Introduction

In this paper, we study a class of BSDE whose solution is constrained to stay in a non-empty open convex domain, hereafter denoted  $\mathcal{D}$ . The “reflection” at the boundary of the domain is made along an oblique direction. Such equations are known as Obliquely Reflected BSDEs and they allow to represent the solution to some stochastic control problems. Precisely, let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a complete probability space and  $(W_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$  a  $k$ -dimensional Brownian motion, defined on this space, whose natural filtration is denoted  $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$ .  $\mathcal{P}$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the progressively measurable processes on  $[0, T] \times \Omega$ . In the sequel,  $T > 0$  is a terminal time for the equation under consideration. In this paper, we are interested in the study of existence and uniqueness of a  $\mathcal{P}$ -measurable solution  $(Y, Z, \Phi)$  to the following equation

$$\begin{cases} \text{(i)} & Y_t = \xi + \int_t^T f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T H(s, Y_s, Z_s) \Phi_s ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \\ \text{(ii)} & Y. \in \bar{\mathcal{D}} \text{ a.s.,} \quad \Phi. \in \partial\varphi(Y.) \quad dt \otimes d\mathbb{P}\text{-a.e.,} \quad \int_0^T |\Phi_s| \mathbf{1}_{\{Y_s \notin \partial\mathcal{D}\}} ds = 0, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\partial\mathcal{D}$  is the boundary of the non-empty open convex domain  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $\varphi$  the (convex) indicator function of  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $\partial\varphi$  the sub-differential of  $\varphi$  and  $(f, H) : \Omega \times [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$  is a  $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k})$ -measurable random function. The terminal value  $\xi$  is given as a parameter and belongs to  $\mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_T)$ , where for  $p > 0$  and a  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^p(\mathcal{B})$  is the space of  $\mathcal{B}$ -measurable random  $R$  variable satisfying  $\mathbb{E}[|R|^p] < +\infty$ . Of course, we shall require some extra conditions to get an existence and uniqueness result. Classically, we will look for solutions with the following integrability property:  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ , where, for  $p \in [1, \infty]$ ,  $\mathcal{H}^p$  is the set of progressively measurable process  $V$  such that  $\mathbb{E}[(\int_0^T |V_t|^2 dt)^{\frac{p}{2}}] < +\infty$ , and  $\mathcal{S}^p$  is the set of continuous and adapted processes  $U$  satisfying  $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{t \in [0, T]} |U_t|^p]$ . The main constraints on the couple  $(Y, \Phi)$  are given in (1.1)(ii). As already mentioned, the first one is that  $Y$  takes its value

in  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ , where  $\mathcal{D}$  is a non-empty open convex subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The fact that  $\Phi_t \in \partial\varphi(Y_t)$  imposes that  $\Phi$  is directed along the outward normal of the convex domain, the important point being that in (i) this direction is perturbed by the operator  $H$  and we are thus dealing with an oblique direction of reflection. When (1.1)(i) is viewed backward in time, the process  $\Phi$  or, more precisely  $\Psi := H(\cdot)\Phi$ , is the process allowing  $Y$  to stay in  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ . The condition  $\int_0^T |\Phi_t| \mathbf{1}_{\{Y_t \notin \partial\mathcal{D}\}} dt = 0$  is then interpreted as a minimality condition, in the sense that  $\Psi$  will be active only when  $Y$  touches the boundary of the domain. This is of course one of the main ingredient to get uniqueness result for this kind of equation.

Let us now mention some known results about these equations. In the one dimensional case, they have been first studied in [8] for the – so called– simply reflected case and in [4] for the doubly reflected case. The literature on this specific form of equation has then grown very importantly due to their range of application, in particular in mathematical economics or stochastic control. The multidimensional case is only well understood in the case of normal reflection i.e. when the matrix-valued random function  $H$  is equal to the identity, see the seminal paper [11]. We also refer to [22] for BSDEs with jumps, [17] for normal reflection in time-dependent random convex domains and [9,21] for the case of BSDEs with jumps normally reflected in time-dependent random convex domains. The case of oblique direction of reflection has been only partially treated. Up until recently, only very specific cases have been considered for the couple  $(H, \mathcal{D})$ . In [26], the author studies the case of the reflection in an orthant with some restriction on the direction of oblique reflection and the driver  $f$ . Another case that has received a lot of attention is the setting of RBSDEs associated to “switching problems”, see e.g. [3,14,15] and the references therein: the multidimensional domain has a specific form and the direction is along the axis, see also Section 4.1 for more details. In this case, structural conditions on  $f$  are required to retrieve existence and uniqueness results also. This restriction are based on the technique of proof used to obtain the results and which is mainly based on a monotonic limit theorem à la Peng [25], in a multidimensional setting. To the best of our knowledge, the first attempt to treat the question of BSDEs with oblique reflection in full generality can be found in [10]. Unfortunately, their setting is still quite restrictive concerning  $H$  and  $f$ .

To the best of our knowledge, there is no, up to now, satisfying global approach for the question of well-posedness of Obliquely Reflected BSDEs, especially when compared the case of forward SDEs, where existence and uniqueness results are obtained for oblique reflection and general domain, see e.g. [7,18,19,28].

Our goal in this paper is thus to prove existence and uniqueness for the RBSDEs (1.1) for generic  $H$  and non-empty convex domain  $\mathcal{D}$  without imposing any structural dependence condition on the driver  $f$  of the equation. In the general case of  $\mathcal{P}$ -measurable random coefficients  $f$ , our first result, see Proposition 3.1, is to obtain existence of a solution to the RBSDEs imposing some regularity and boundedness assumptions on the terminal condition  $\xi$  and some  $\mathcal{C}^2$  smoothness assumption on  $H$ , which depends then only on the time and  $y$  variables. Let us stress the fact that this result can then be invoked to get existence of RBSDEs in some domains with corners, see Remark 3.1. Then, assuming  $\mathcal{C}^2$  smoothness of the domain also, we obtain our main result in the non-Markovian setting, see Theorem 3.1, which states existence and uniqueness of the solution to the obliquely reflected BSDEs, for unbounded  $\xi$  with some regularity.

In the Markovian case, the existence results are dramatically improved; the coefficient  $H$  can depend on  $Z$  and there is no restriction on the convex domain. The two main results in this setting are Theorem 4.1, for continuous  $H$  and Theorem 4.2 for discontinuous  $H$ . In this last case, we exhibit a simple counterexample to uniqueness of solution. Essentially, the only question that remains open is then the uniqueness of solution when there is no smoothness assumption on  $\mathcal{D}$  and when  $H$  is assumed to be continuous. Currently, in the litterature, this question of uniqueness is investigated in a case by case basis, relying for example on the link with stochastic control problem, see e.g. [15].

Let us now give some details on how the above results are proved. The main tool to obtain the existence result is to consider a sequence of penalised equation: for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $t \in [0, T]$ ,

$$Y_t^n = \xi + \int_t^T f(s, Y_s^n, Z_s^n) ds - \int_t^T Z_s^n dW_s - \int_t^T H(s, Y_s^n, Z_s^n) \nabla \varphi_n^M(Y_s^n) ds, \tag{1.2}$$

where, for  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and some  $M > 0$ ,

$$\varphi_n^M(y) := n \inf_{x \in \mathcal{D}} \theta_M(y - x) \quad \text{with } \theta_M(h) = \begin{cases} M|h| - \frac{M^2}{2} & \text{if } |h| > M, \\ \frac{1}{2}|h|^2 & \text{if } |h| \leq M. \end{cases} \tag{1.3}$$

The key point is to obtain the convergence in a strong sense of  $(Y^n)$  to some process  $Y$  along with some *a priori* estimates on  $(Z^n, \Phi^n)$ . This will then allow to obtain the existence of some limiting process  $(Z, \Phi)$  as well.

The first possible argument to obtain the convergence of  $(Y^n)$  is to prove some monotonicity on the sequence to apply Peng’s monotonic limit theorem [25]. In a multidimensional setting, this monotonicity is obtained under very restrictive structural condition on the coefficient. Nevertheless, it has been successfully used for the study of RBSDE associated to switching problem. Another possible argument is to invoke some fine compactness arguments and this is the approach

followed in [10]. But, again some strong structural conditions are required to obtain convergence results in a weak setting. In this paper, we follow a similar approach in the Markovian setting, see Section 4. At the heart of our proof, we use the paper [13], which was concerned with multidimensional (non-reflected) BSDEs with continuous only driver  $f$ . With this approach, in the Markovian setting, we are able to obtain existence result for  $H$  that can depend on  $Z$  and even be discontinuous. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time such general setting is considered successfully. It has been brought to our attention that independently from us, [5] has followed a similar approach to treat BSDEs associated to the classical switching problem in a more restrictive setting.

The last approach to obtain convergence of the sequence  $(Y_n)$  is to show classically that it is a Cauchy sequence. This approach has been used in the case of multidimensional RBSDE when there is no perturbation  $H$  of the direction of reflection, namely  $H$  is the identity matrix of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , in the seminal paper [11]. To obtain this result and a key stability estimate, authors of [11] use dramatically the convexity property of the domain linked with the normal reflection by applying Itô's formula to the Euclidean norm of the difference of two solutions. In our setting of general perturbation  $H$ , we cannot follow directly their proof. In order to retrieve the stability estimates, we modify the Euclidean norm to take into account the oblique reflection, inspired by [18]. Unfortunately, this produces new terms that have to be controlled. The most difficult one is certainly the term linked to the quadratic variation of the martingale term in (1.1)(i) or (1.2). Let us emphasize that this term cannot be dealt with as one would do in the forward SDE case. Nevertheless, we are able to treat this term using BMO martingales estimates. This tool was already used with success to deal with quadratic BSDEs but, to the best of our knowledge, this approach is completely new in the setting of Reflected BSDEs. We are then able to obtain in the non-Markovian setting existence results when  $(\mathcal{D}, H)$  satisfies some smoothness condition, with  $H$  depending only on the time and  $y$  variables. Let us note also that in this case the uniqueness result is obtained as an easy consequence of the stability estimate.

The rest of the paper is organised as follows. In the next Section, we present precisely our framework and the assumption made on the coefficients along with some discussions on these assumptions. We also prove the key *a priori* and stability estimates, that will be used later on. In Section 3, we present our first novel result on existence and uniqueness of Obliquely Reflected BSDEs in a regular setting for  $(\mathcal{D}, H)$ . In Section 4, restricting to a Markovian framework, we extend our previous existence result assuming no regularity on  $(\mathcal{D}, H)$  and allowing a dependence in  $Z$  for the  $H$  operator.

*Notations.* We denote by  $\varphi$  the indicator function of  $\mathcal{D}$

$$\varphi(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}, \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and  $\partial\varphi$  its sub-differential operator:

$$\partial\varphi(y) = \begin{cases} \{\hat{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \hat{y} \cdot (z - y) \leq 0, \forall z \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}\} & \text{if } y \in \bar{\mathcal{D}} \\ \emptyset & \text{if } y \notin \bar{\mathcal{D}}. \end{cases}$$

In particular,  $\partial\varphi(y)$  is the closed cone of outward normals to  $\mathcal{D}$  at  $y$  when  $y \in \partial\mathcal{D}$  and  $\partial\varphi(y) = \{0\}$  when  $y \in \mathcal{D}$ . Finally, we denote by  $\mathfrak{P}$  the projection onto  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$  and by  $\mathfrak{n}(y)$  the set of unit outward normals at  $y \in \partial\mathcal{D}$ .

For a matrix  $M$ , we denote  $M^\dagger$  its transpose.

We denote  $\mathcal{B}^2$ , the set of processes  $V \in \mathcal{H}^2$ , such that

$$\|V\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} := \left\| \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_t^T |V_s|^2 ds \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] \right\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}} < +\infty.$$

Let us remark that  $V \in \mathcal{B}^2$  means that the martingale  $\int_0^\cdot V_s dW_s$  is a BMO martingale and  $\|V\|_{\mathcal{B}^2}$  is the BMO norm of  $\int_0^\cdot V_s dW_s$ . We refer to [16] for further details about BMO martingales.

The set of continuous function from  $[0, T]$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is denoted  $\mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n)$ . For  $x \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n)$ , we denote by  $\|x\|_\infty := \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |x_t|$ , the sup-norm on this space.

## 2. Setting and preliminary estimates

In this section, we first introduce and discuss the main assumptions that will be used to obtain our existence and uniqueness results. In a second part, we give important *a priori* estimates and prove a key stability result, which is one of the novelty in our approach to solve Obliquely Reflected BSDEs.

2.1. Framework

The first minimal set of assumption that we consider here is the following.

**Assumption (A).**

- (i)  $\xi$  is an  $\mathcal{F}_T$ -measurable random variable,  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued such that  $\mathbb{E}[|\xi|^2] < +\infty$ .
- (ii)  $f : \Omega \times [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a  $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k})$ -measurable function and there exists a non negative progressively measurable process  $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}^2(\mathbb{R})$  and a constant  $L$  such that

$$|f(t, y, z)| \leq \alpha_t + L(|y| + |z|), \quad \forall (t, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}. \tag{2.1}$$

- (iii)  $H : \Omega \times [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is a  $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k})$ -measurable function and there exists a constant  $\eta > 0$  such that, for any  $(t, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$

$$H(t, y, z)v \cdot v \geq \eta, \quad v \in \mathfrak{n}(\mathfrak{P}(y)), \tag{2.2}$$

$$|H(t, y, z)| \leq L. \tag{2.3}$$

The above assumptions are too weak to obtain existence and uniqueness result in a general random framework. They will be used in Section 4 in a Markovian framework with their Markovian counterpart (AM). Nevertheless, it is possible to derive useful *a priori* estimates in the general setting of (A).

**Remark 2.1.** In applications,  $H(t, \cdot, z)$  is usually specified only on the boundary  $\partial\mathcal{D}$ . The extension to  $\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \bar{\mathcal{D}}$  in a continuous way can be done easily by setting  $H(t, y, z) := H(t, \mathfrak{P}(y), z)$ . Moreover, if  $H(t, \cdot, z)$  is a continuous and bounded function on  $\partial\mathcal{D}$  it is possible to extend it to a continuous and bounded function on  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ . Indeed,  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$  is a closed convex set in finite dimension so it is homeomorph to a set  $S$  that satisfies

- there exists  $r$  with  $0 \leq r \leq d$  such that  $S = \mathbb{R}^r \times B^{d-r}$ ,
- or  $S$  is a half plane of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

The constant  $r$  is a topological invariant of  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ . Moreover, the boundary of  $\mathcal{D}$  is sent to the boundary of  $S$ . Then we remark that the extension of  $H(t, \cdot, z)$  is straightforward when  $\mathcal{D} = S$ .

In the non-Markovian setting, our results require more smoothness and control on the parameters of the BSDE. We will then work under the following assumption.

**Assumption (SB).**

- (i)  $\xi$  is an  $\mathcal{F}_T$ -measurable  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ -valued random variable and the martingale  $\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi := \mathbb{E}_t[\xi] = \xi - \int_t^T \mathcal{Z}_s^\xi dW_s, t \leq T$ , is BMO (see [16] for further details on BMO martingales).
- (ii)  $f : \Omega \times [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a  $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k})$ -measurable function, there exists a constant  $L > 0$  such that, for all  $(t, y, y', z, z') \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ ,

$$|f(t, y, z) - f(t, y', z')| \leq L(|y - y'| + |z - z'|). \tag{2.4}$$

Moreover, the process  $\theta^\xi := f(\cdot, \mathcal{Y}^\xi, \mathcal{Z}^\xi)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{B}^2$ .

- (iii)  $H : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is valued in the set of symmetric matrices  $\mathcal{Q}$  satisfying

$$|\mathcal{Q}| \leq L, \quad L|v|^2 \geq v^\dagger \mathcal{Q} v \geq \frac{1}{L}|v|^2, \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^d. \tag{2.5}$$

$(t, y) \mapsto H(t, y)$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^{0,1}$ -function and  $(t, y) \mapsto H^{-1}(t, y)$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^{1,2}$  function satisfying

$$|\partial_y H| + |H^{-1}| + |\partial_t H^{-1}| + |\partial_y H^{-1}| + |\partial_{yy}^2 H^{-1}| \leq \Lambda, \tag{2.6}$$

for some positive  $\Lambda$ .

- (iv) The open convex domain  $\mathcal{D}$  is given by a  $\mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$  function  $\phi$  with a bounded first derivative, namely  $\mathcal{D} = \{\phi < 0\}$  and  $\partial\mathcal{D} = \{\phi = 0\}$ . This function satisfies moreover

$$|\phi(x)| = d(x, \partial\mathcal{D}) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathcal{V} \cap (\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \bar{\mathcal{D}}), \text{ where } \mathcal{V} \text{ is a neighbourhood of } \partial\mathcal{D}. \tag{2.7}$$

We first comment assumptions made on BSDE parameters.

**Remark 2.2.**

- (i) Let us observe that under the BMO condition, there exists  $\mu^\xi > 0$ , such that  $\mathbb{E}[e^{\mu^\xi \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi|}] < \infty$  and that  $\|\mathcal{Z}^\xi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} < \infty$ , see e.g. [16]. For later use, we define

$$\sigma^\xi := \mathbb{E}[e^{\mu^\xi \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi|}] + \|\mathcal{Z}^\xi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} + \|\theta^\xi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} < \infty. \quad (2.8)$$

- (ii) The end of Assumption (SB)(ii) are a mix of the property of  $\xi$ ,  $f$  and the domain  $\mathcal{D}$ . In many applications, it will be straightforward to check. For example, it is trivially satisfied in the following cases:
- (a)  $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{D}} f(s, y, z) \leq C$ , for some  $C > 0$ ;
  - (b)  $\xi \in \mathcal{L}^\infty(\mathcal{F}_T)$ ;
  - (c)  $\mathcal{D}$  is a bounded domain.
- (iii) If (SB) holds, then (A) holds as well. Indeed, one can set  $\alpha := L(|\mathcal{Y}^\xi| + |\mathcal{Z}^\xi| + |\theta^\xi|)$ .

We now discuss the various assumptions made on  $H$  and the domain  $\mathcal{D}$ .

**Remark 2.3.**

- (i) An example of function  $\phi$  can be constructed as in e.g. [11] Section 2.4 if the non-empty convex domain  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $\mathcal{C}^2$ . From (SB)(iv), it follows that  $\partial\phi(x)$  (resp.  $\mathfrak{n}(x)$ ) is the outward normal (resp. unit outward normal) of  $\mathcal{D}$  at a point  $x \in \partial\mathcal{D}$ . Moreover, the constructed function  $\phi$  is convex on  $\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \mathcal{D}$  and thus,  $\partial_{xx}^2\phi$  is a positive semi-definite matrix on this domain. Let us also observe that the application  $\mathfrak{P} : \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \bar{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow \partial\mathcal{D}$  is  $\mathcal{C}^2$ .
- (ii) The matrix  $H$  defines on  $\partial\mathcal{D}$  a unit vector field  $\nu$  in the following way

$$\tilde{\nu}(t, y) := H(t, y)\mathfrak{n}(y) \quad \text{and} \quad \nu(t, y) := \frac{\tilde{\nu}(t, y)}{|\tilde{\nu}(t, y)|}, \quad \text{for } y \in \partial\mathcal{D},$$

which represents the oblique direction of reflection. Then, (2.2) rewrites as

$$\langle \tilde{\nu}(t, y), \mathfrak{n}(y) \rangle \geq \eta, \quad \text{for } y \in \partial\mathcal{D}. \quad (2.9)$$

In applications, it is generally the case that only the smooth vector field  $\nu$  is given on  $\partial\mathcal{D}$ . Following Lemma 4.1 in [18], it is possible to construct  $H$  satisfying (SB)(iii) on  $\partial\mathcal{D}$  and then to extend it on  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$  under (SB)(iv) using classical extension results, see e.g. [12].

We now introduce a class of terminal conditions that are admissible for the purpose of our work, in the sense that we can obtain an existence and uniqueness result for this class.

**Definition 2.1.** For  $\beta > 0$ , the class  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$  is the subset of  $\xi \in \mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_T)$  satisfying: there exists  $\lambda_\xi > \beta$ , such that

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda_\xi \int_0^T |\mathcal{Z}_s^\xi|^2 ds}] < \infty, \quad (2.10)$$

where  $\mathcal{Z}^\xi$  is given by the martingale representation theorem applied to  $\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi := \mathbb{E}_t[\xi] = \xi - \int_t^T \mathcal{Z}_s^\xi dW_s$ ,  $t \leq T$ .

We study the class  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$  in Section 2.4. Especially, we exhibit some specific elements of this class that are quite useful for applications.

**Remark 2.4.** In the following, we will use in proofs the notation “ $C$ ” to denote a generic constant that may change from line to line and that depends in an implicit way on  $T$ ,  $L$  and  $\eta$ . We shall denote it  $C_\theta$ , if it depends on an extra parameters  $\theta$ . In the statement of the results, we prefer the notation “ $c$ ” and the dependence upon any extra parameters on top of  $T$ ,  $L$  and  $\eta$ , will also be made clear.

### 2.2. A priori estimates

In this section, we prove some *a priori* control on the solution  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  to the following generalised BSDE

$$Y_t = \xi + \int_t^T f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T H(s, Y_s, Z_s)\Phi_s ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T. \tag{2.11}$$

Importantly, we assume that  $(Y, Z, \Phi)$  satisfies the following structural condition:

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T |\Phi_s|^2 ds \right] \leq K \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T |f(s, Y_s, Z_s)|^2 ds \right], \quad \text{for some } K > 0. \tag{2.12}$$

Equation (2.11) encompasses both the obliquely reflected BSDE (1.1) and its penalised approximation given in equation (1.2). The key point for these two equations will then be to prove that their solutions satisfy condition (2.12).

Our first estimate is quite classical.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Assume (A). Let  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  be a solution to (2.11) with condition (2.12) holding true. Then, for some  $c := c(K)$ ,*

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathbb{E}[|Y_t|^2] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |Z_s|^2 ds \right] \leq c \mathbb{E} \left[ |\xi|^2 + \int_0^T |\alpha_s|^2 ds \right].$$

**Proof.** We apply Itô’s formula to  $|Y|^2$  to obtain

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ |Y_t|^2 + \int_t^T |Z_s|^2 ds \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ |\xi|^2 + 2 \int_t^T Y_s f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds - 2 \int_t^T Y_s H(s, Y_s, Z_s)\Phi_s ds \right].$$

We thus compute, using (2.12) and Assumption (A)(ii), the boundedness of  $H$  and Young’s inequality, for some  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_t^T Y_s H(s, Y_s, Z_s)\Phi_s ds \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_t^T Y_s f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds \right] \leq C \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_t^T \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} |Y_s|^2 + \epsilon |Z_s|^2 + |\alpha_s|^2 \right) ds \right].$$

For  $\epsilon$  small enough and using Grönwall Lemma, we get the result. □

The following proposition refines the previous estimates in the smooth setting of Assumption (SB). It will also allow to use the stability result proved in the next section. Interestingly, it shows that most of the properties of the martingale  $\mathcal{Y}^\xi$  are transferred to the non-linear process given in equation (2.11).

**Proposition 2.1.** *Assume that (SB)(i)–(ii) holds. Let  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  be a solution to (2.11) with condition (2.12) in force. Then, the following holds*

(i)  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{B}^2 \times \mathcal{B}^2$  with, for some  $c := c(K, \sigma^\xi)$ , recalling (2.8) for the definition of  $\sigma^\xi$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\mu^\xi \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |Y_t|} \right] + \|\Phi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} + \|Z\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \leq c, \tag{2.13}$$

and, for all  $b > 0$  and some  $c' := c'(b, K, \sigma^\xi)$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{b \int_0^T (|\Phi_s| + |Z_t - Z_t^\xi| + |\theta_t^\xi|) ds} \right] \leq c'. \tag{2.14}$$

(ii) *Moreover, if  $\xi \in \mathfrak{T}_\beta$ , for some  $\beta > 0$ , then there exists  $\Theta \in \mathcal{H}^2$  such that, for all non negative increasing process  $\gamma$  satisfying  $\mathbb{E}[|\gamma_T|^p] < \infty$  for some  $p > 1$  (depending on  $\gamma$ ), we have for all  $t \in [0, T]$*

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s |Z_s|^2 ds \right] \leq \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s |\Theta_s|^2 ds \right] < +\infty \tag{2.15}$$

and for some  $\lambda \in (\beta, \lambda^\xi)$  and  $c := c(K, \sigma^\xi, \lambda)$ , recalling (2.10) for the definition of  $\lambda^\xi$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\lambda \int_0^T |\Theta_t| dt} \right] \leq c. \tag{2.16}$$

**Proof.** An important step to obtain our estimates below is to compare the BSDE  $(Y, Z)$  with the martingale  $\mathcal{Y}^\xi$ . To this end, we introduce for this proof  $\Delta Y := Y - \mathcal{Y}^\xi$  and  $\Delta Z = Z - \mathcal{Z}^\xi$ .

1.a We apply Itô's formula to  $|\Delta Y|^2$  to obtain, for all  $r \leq t$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_r \left[ |\Delta Y_t|^2 + \int_t^T |\Delta Z_s|^2 ds \right] = 2\mathbb{E}_r \left[ \int_t^T \Delta Y_s f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T \Delta Y_s H(s, Y_s) \Phi_s ds \right]. \tag{2.17}$$

We thus compute, using (2.12), the Lipschitz continuity of  $f$ , the boundedness of  $H$  and Young's inequality, for all  $r \leq t$  and some  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$

$$\mathbb{E}_r \left[ \int_t^T \Delta Y_s f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds \right] + \mathbb{E}_r \left[ \int_t^T \Delta Y_s H(s, Y_s) \Phi_s ds \right] \leq C_K \mathbb{E}_r \left[ \int_t^T \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} |\Delta Y_s|^2 + \epsilon |\Delta Z_s|^2 + |\theta_s^\xi|^2 \right) ds \right].$$

Combining the last estimate with (2.17), setting  $\epsilon$  small enough and using Gronwall Lemma, we get for all  $r \leq t$

$$\mathbb{E}_r \left[ |\Delta Y_t|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T |\Delta Z_s|^2 ds \right] \leq C_K \mathbb{E}_r \left[ \int_t^T |\theta_s^\xi|^2 ds \right].$$

1.b Setting  $r = t$  in the preceding inequality, we have

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} |\Delta Y_t|^2 + \|\Delta Z\|_{\mathcal{B}^2}^2 \leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi} \tag{2.18}$$

from which we straightforwardly deduce

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\mu^\xi \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |Y_t|} \right] \leq \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\mu^\xi \sup_{t \in [0, T]} (|\Delta Y_t| + |\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi|)} \right] \leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi} \tag{2.19}$$

$$\text{and } \|Z\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \leq \|\mathcal{Z}^\xi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} + \|\Delta Z\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi}. \tag{2.20}$$

Combining (2.18) with (2.12), we obtain

$$\|\Phi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi}. \tag{2.21}$$

This concludes the proof of (2.13).

2.a We denote  $\mathfrak{R} := |\Phi| + |\Delta Z| + |\theta^\xi|$ . For all  $b > 0$ , we use Young inequality to get

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{b \int_0^T \mathfrak{R}_s ds} \right] \leq e^{\frac{b^2 T}{\epsilon}} \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\epsilon \int_0^T |\mathfrak{R}_s|^2 ds} \right] \tag{2.22}$$

for all  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then, by setting  $\epsilon = (1 + 4\|\Phi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2}^2 + 4\|\Delta Z\|_{\mathcal{B}^2}^2 + 4\|\theta^\xi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2}^2)^{-1}$  we compute, for all  $r \in [0, T]$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_r \left[ \int_r^T \epsilon |\mathfrak{R}_s|^2 ds \right] \leq 3\epsilon \mathbb{E}_r \left[ \int_r^T |\Phi_s|^2 + |\Delta Z_s|^2 + |\theta_s^\xi|^2 ds \right] \leq \frac{3}{4}.$$

Going back to (2.22) and applying the John–Nirenberg formula, see Theorem 2.2 in [16], we obtain

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{b \int_0^T \mathfrak{R}_s ds} \right] \leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi, b}, \tag{2.23}$$

which proves (2.14).

2.b Applying Itô's formula to  $\gamma \cdot |\Delta Y|^2$ , on  $[t, T]$ , we compute,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_t |\Delta Y_t|^2 + \int_t^T \gamma_s |\Delta Z_s|^2 ds + \int_t^T |\Delta Y_s|^2 d\gamma_s &= 2 \int_t^T \gamma_s \Delta Y_s f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds \\ &\quad - 2 \int_t^T \gamma_s \Delta Y_s H(s, Y_s) \Phi_s ds - 2 \int_t^T \gamma_s \Delta Y_s \Delta Z_s dW_s. \end{aligned} \tag{2.24}$$

Let us observe that the local martingale  $\int_0^\cdot \gamma_t \Delta Y_t \Delta Z_t dW_t$  is a true martingale. Indeed, we compute, using Burkholder–Davis–Gundy inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{s \in [0, T]} \left| \int_0^s \gamma_t \Delta Y_t \Delta Z_t dW_t \right| \right] &\leq C \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T |\gamma_t \Delta Y_t \Delta Z_t|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] \\ &\leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi} \mathbb{E} \left[ |\gamma_T| \left( \int_0^T |\Delta Z_t|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

where we used (2.18) for the last inequality. Using Hölder inequality, denoting  $q$  the conjugate exponent of  $p$ , we get

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{s \in [0, T]} \left| \int_0^s \gamma_t \Delta Y_t \Delta Z_t dW_t \right| \right] \leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi, p} \mathbb{E}[|\gamma_T|^p]^{\frac{1}{p}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T |\Delta Z_t|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{q}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

From the energy inequality, c.f. (VI.109.7) in [6], we have that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T |\Delta Z_t|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{[q]}{2}} \right] \leq C_q \|\Delta Z\|_{\mathfrak{B}^2}^{[q]}.$$

We thus deduce

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{s \in [0, T]} \left| \int_0^s \gamma_t \Delta Y_t \Delta Z_t dW_t \right| \right] < \infty.$$

Since  $\gamma$  is non-decreasing, we then compute, using (2.24), (2.12) and the Lipschitz continuity of  $f$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s |\Delta Z_s|^2 ds \right] \leq \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s \Xi_s ds \right] < \infty, \tag{2.25}$$

where we set  $\Xi := C_{K, \sigma^\xi} (1 + \mathfrak{R})$  recalling that  $\Delta Y$  is bounded by (2.18) and  $\mathfrak{R}$  is defined in step 2.a. Using (2.23) we compute

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{b \int_0^T |\Xi_s| ds} \right] \leq C_{K, \sigma^\xi, b}, \tag{2.26}$$

for all  $b > 0$ .

2.c We set  $\lambda = (1 + \epsilon)\beta$  with  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $(1 + \epsilon)^2\beta \leq \lambda_\xi$ , recalling Definition 2.1. Now we define

$$\Theta := (1 + \epsilon) |\mathcal{Z}^\xi|^2 + \left(1 + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) \Xi.$$

We observe that  $\mathbb{E}_t[\int_t^T \gamma_s |\Theta_s| ds] < \infty$ : this follows from (2.25) and the fact that

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s |\mathcal{Z}_s^\xi|^2 ds \right] < \infty.$$

This last inequality is simply obtained by applying Itô’s formula to  $\gamma |\mathcal{Y}^\xi|^2$  which yields

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \gamma_s |\mathcal{Z}_s^\xi|^2 ds \right] \leq \mathbb{E}[\gamma_T |\xi|^2] \leq \|\gamma_T\|_{\mathcal{L}^p} \|\xi\|_{\mathcal{L}^q} < \infty.$$

From the definition of  $\Theta$ , we have that, for  $t \leq T$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s \Theta_s ds \right] \geq (1 + \epsilon) \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s |\mathcal{Z}_s^\xi|^2 ds \right] + \left(1 + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s |\Delta Z_s|^2 ds \right]$$

where we used (2.25). Then it follows from Young’s inequality,

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s |Z_s|^2 ds \right] \leq C \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \gamma_s \Theta_s ds \right] < \infty,$$



which proves (2.15). Finally, we compute using Hölder’s inequality,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^{(1+\epsilon)\beta \int_0^T \Theta_s ds}\right] \leq C \mathbb{E}\left[e^{(1+\epsilon)^2 \beta \int_0^T |\mathcal{Z}_s^\xi|^2 ds}\right]^{\frac{1}{1+\epsilon}} \mathbb{E}\left[e^{(1+\frac{1}{\epsilon})^2 \beta \int_0^T |\Xi_s| ds}\right]^{\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}}$$

and using the fact that  $\xi \in \mathfrak{T}_\beta$  and (2.26), we obtain (2.16) with  $\lambda = (1 + \epsilon)\beta$ . □

Let us remark the following result, that will be useful in the next section.

**Corollary 2.1.** *Assume that (SB)(i)–(ii) holds. Let  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  be a solution to (2.11) with condition (2.12) in force and assume moreover that  $\xi \in \mathcal{L}^\infty(\mathcal{F}_T)$  then  $Y$  is bounded, namely for some  $c := c(K, \sigma^\xi, \|\xi\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty})$ , we have*

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} |Y_t| \leq c.$$

**Proof.** We observe that  $|\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi| \leq \|\xi\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty}$  and then conclude the proof using (2.18). □

### 2.3. A stability result

In this section, we prove a key estimate for the difference of two solutions of the generalised BSDE (2.11) satisfying (2.12). For  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , we denote  $({}^i Y, {}^i Z, {}^i \Phi)$  the solutions associated to parameters  $({}^i \xi, {}^i f)$  and we furthermore assume that

$${}^i \Phi \cdot \in \partial\varphi(\mathfrak{P}({}^i Y)) \text{ d}\mathbb{P} \otimes \text{d}t\text{-a.e.} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^T |{}^i \Phi_t| \mathbf{1}_{\{|Y_t \in \mathcal{D}\}} \text{d}t = 0. \tag{2.27}$$

**Remark 2.5.** The above assumption allows us to cover both cases of equation (1.1) and equation (1.2).

We now define  $\delta Y = {}^1 Y - {}^2 Y$ ,  $\delta Z = {}^1 Z - {}^2 Z$ ,  $\delta \Psi = {}^1 \Psi - {}^2 \Psi$ , where  ${}^i \Psi = H(\cdot, {}^i Y) {}^i \Phi$  and  $\delta f = {}^1 f(\cdot, {}^1 Y, {}^1 Z) - {}^2 f(\cdot, {}^2 Y, {}^2 Z)$ . We have the following key result for our work.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Assume that (SB)(i)–(iii) holds. There exist two increasing functions  $\mathfrak{B}(\cdot)$  and  $\mathfrak{A}(\cdot)$  from  $(0, \infty)$  to  $(0, \infty)$ , such that for all  ${}^1 \xi$  belonging to  $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)}$ , setting*

$$\Gamma_t := e^{\mathfrak{A}(\Lambda)t + \int_0^t \mathfrak{B}(\Lambda) \{ \Theta_s^1 + \Theta_s^\Phi + \Theta_s^f \} ds}$$

where  $\Theta^\Phi := |{}^1 \Phi| + |{}^2 \Phi|$ ,  $\Theta^f := |{}^1 Z - {}^2 Z| + |\theta^{1\xi}|$ , and  $\Theta^1$  is given by Proposition 2.1(ii) applied to the BSDE with parameters  $({}^1 \xi, {}^1 f)$ , we have,

- (i)  $\mathbb{E}[|\Gamma_T|^p] < c$  for some  $p := p(\Lambda) > 1$  and  $c := c(K, \Lambda, \sigma^{1\xi}, \sigma^{2\xi})$ ;
- (ii) for some  $c' := c'(K, \Lambda, \sigma^{1\xi}, \sigma^{2\xi})$ , and for all  $t \leq T$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |\delta Y_t|^2 + \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T |\delta Z_s|^2 ds \right] &\leq c' \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \Gamma_T |\delta \xi|^2 + \int_t^T \Gamma_s |({}^1 f - {}^2 f)(s, {}^1 Y_s, {}^1 Z_s)|^2 ds \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_t^T \Gamma_s (|\mathfrak{P}({}^2 Y_s) - {}^2 Y_s| + |\mathfrak{P}({}^1 Y_s) - {}^1 Y_s|) (|{}^1 \Phi_s| + |{}^2 \Phi_s|) ds \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.28}$$

**Proof.** In this proof, we denote  $A = (a^{ij}) = H^{-1}$  and the following simplified notation will be used  $a_t^{ij} = a^{ij}(t, {}^1 Y_t)$ ,  $\partial_t a_t^{ij} = \partial_t a^{ij}(t, {}^1 Y_t)$ ,  $\partial_y a_t^{ij} = \partial_y a^{ij}(t, {}^1 Y_t)$ ,  $\partial_{yy}^2 a_t^{ij} = \partial_{yy}^2 a^{ij}(t, {}^1 Y_t)$  and  $f_t = f(t, {}^1 Y_t, {}^1 Z_t)$ . For the reader’s convenience, we shall also denote  $\sigma := \sigma^{1\xi} \vee \sigma^{2\xi}$  in the proof below.

1. We first show the integrability property of  $\Gamma$ . We first recall that from Proposition 2.1, for all  $b > 0$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^{b \int_0^T (|\Theta_s^\Phi| + |\Theta_s^f|) ds}\right] \leq C_{K, \sigma, b}. \tag{2.29}$$

Setting  $p := p(\Lambda) > 1$  such that  $p^2\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda) \leq \lambda_\xi$ , recall Definition 2.1, we obtain using Hölder inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[|\Gamma_T|^p] &\leq C_\Lambda \mathbb{E}\left[e^{p\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)} \int_0^T \{\Theta_s^1 + \Theta_s^\Phi + \Theta_s^f\} ds\right] \\ &\leq C_{K,\Lambda,\sigma} \mathbb{E}\left[e^{p^2\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)} \int_0^T \Theta_s^1 ds\right]^{\frac{1}{p}} \\ &\leq C_{K,\Lambda,\sigma}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used (2.29) and Proposition 2.1 (ii).

2.a To obtain the stability result, we first expand the product  $(\Gamma_t \delta Y_t^\dagger A(t, Y_t) \delta Y_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ . Applying Itô's formula, we compute, for  $1 \leq i, j \leq d$ ,

$$d[\Gamma_t a_t^{ij} \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j] / \Gamma_t \tag{2.30}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j (a_t^{ij} \mathfrak{A}(\Lambda) + \partial_t a_t^{ij}) dt =: (\mathcal{E}_t^T)^{ij} dt \\ &+ \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j \left( a_t^{ij} \mathfrak{B}(\Lambda) \Theta_t^1 + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}[\partial_{yy}^2 a_t^{ij1} Z_t^1 Z_t^{\dagger}] \right) dt =: (\mathcal{E}_t^Z)^{ij} dt \\ &+ \{ a_t^{ij} (-\delta Y_t^i \delta f_t^j - \delta Y_t^j \delta f_t^i + \mathfrak{B}(\Lambda) \Theta_t^f \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j) - \partial_y a_t^{ij1} f_t \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j \} dt =: (\mathcal{E}_t^f)^{ij} dt \end{aligned} \tag{2.31}$$

$$+ \left\{ a_t^{ij} \sum_{m=1}^k \delta Z_t^{im} \delta Z_t^{jm} + \sum_{m=1}^k \partial_y a_t^{ij1} Z_t^m (\delta Y_t^i \delta Z_t^{jm} + \delta Y_t^j \delta Z_t^{im}) \right\} dt =: (\mathcal{E}_t^{\delta Z})^{ij} dt \tag{2.32}$$

$$+ \{ a_t^{ij} (\delta Y_t^i \delta Z_t^j + \delta Y_t^j \delta Z_t^i) + \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j \partial_y a_t^{ij1} Z_t \} dW_t =: dM_t^{ij} \tag{2.33}$$

$$+ \{ a_t^{ij} (\delta Y_t^i \delta \Psi_t^j + \delta Y_t^j \delta \Psi_t^i) + (\partial_y a_t^{ij1} \Psi_t + \mathfrak{B}(\Lambda) a_t^{ij} \Theta_t^\Phi) \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j \} dt =: (\mathcal{E}_t^{\mathcal{R}})^{ij} dt. \tag{2.34}$$

We now study each term separately.

2.b We start by the reflection terms in (2.34). We first observe that

$$\sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} (\mathcal{E}_t^{\mathcal{R}})^{ij} = 2A(t, {}^1Y_t) \delta Y_t \cdot \delta \Psi_t + \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} \partial_y a_t^{ij1} \Psi_t \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j + \mathfrak{B}(\Lambda) \Theta_t^\Phi \delta Y_t \cdot A(t, {}^1Y_t) \delta Y_t.$$

Recalling (2.5) and (2.6), we compute

$$\sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} (\mathcal{E}_t^{\mathcal{R}})^{ij} \geq 2A(t, {}^1Y_t) \delta Y_t \cdot \delta \Psi_t + \left( \frac{\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)}{L} \Theta_t^\Phi - C_\Lambda |{}^1\Phi_t| \right) |\delta Y_t|^2. \tag{2.35}$$

For the first term in the right hand side of (2.35), we compute

$$A(t, {}^1Y_t) \delta Y_t \cdot \delta \Psi_t = A(t, {}^1Y_t) \delta Y_t \cdot {}^1\Psi_t - A(t, {}^2Y_t) \delta Y_t \cdot {}^2\Psi_t - \{A(t, {}^1Y_t) - A(t, {}^2Y_t)\} \delta Y_t \cdot {}^2\Psi_t. \tag{2.36}$$

We now observe that,

$$\begin{aligned} A(t, {}^1Y_t) \delta Y_t \cdot {}^1\Psi_t &= \delta Y_t \cdot A(t, {}^1Y_t) {}^1\Psi_t = \delta Y_t \cdot {}^1\Phi_t \\ &\geq ({}^1Y_t - \mathfrak{P}({}^1Y_t) + \mathfrak{P}({}^2Y_t) - {}^2Y_t) \cdot {}^1\Phi_t \\ &\geq -(|\mathfrak{P}({}^1Y_t) - {}^1Y_t| + |\mathfrak{P}({}^2Y_t) - {}^2Y_t|) |{}^1\Phi_t| \end{aligned} \tag{2.37}$$

where we used (2.27) and the convexity property of  $\mathcal{D}$ . Similarly, we compute

$$-A(t, {}^2Y_t) \delta Y_t \cdot {}^2\Psi_t \geq -(|\mathfrak{P}({}^1Y_t) - {}^1Y_t| + |\mathfrak{P}({}^2Y_t) - {}^2Y_t|) |{}^2\Phi_t|. \tag{2.38}$$

For the last term in the right-hand side of (2.36), we get, using the Lipschitz property of  $A$  that

$$\{A(t, {}^1Y_t) - A(t, {}^2Y_t)\} \delta Y_t \cdot {}^2\Psi_t \geq -C_\Lambda |\delta Y_t|^2 |{}^2\Phi_t|. \tag{2.39}$$

Combining (2.37)–(2.38)–(2.39) with (2.35), we obtain, for  $\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)$  large enough,

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \Gamma_s \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} (\mathcal{E}_s^{\mathcal{R}})^{ij} ds \right] \geq -C_\Lambda \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \Gamma_s (|\mathfrak{P}(^2 Y_s) - ^2 Y_s| + |\mathfrak{P}(^1 Y_s) - ^1 Y_s|) (|{}^1 \Phi_s| + |{}^2 \Phi_s|) ds \right]. \tag{2.40}$$

2.c Using Young’s inequality, we compute, recalling (2.5) and (2.6),

$$\sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} (\mathcal{E}_t^{\delta Z})^{ij} \geq \frac{1}{2L} |\delta Z_t|^2 - C_\Lambda |\delta Y_t|^2 |{}^1 Z_t|^2. \tag{2.41}$$

The terms  $\mathcal{E}^f$  in (2.31) can be lower bounded, using Young’s inequality and (2.5), by

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} (\mathcal{E}_t^f)^{ij} &\geq -\frac{1}{3L} |\delta Z_t|^2 + \left( \frac{\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)}{L} \Theta_t^f - C_{K, \Lambda, \sigma} (1 + |\theta_t^{1\xi}| + |{}^1 Z_t - \mathcal{Z}^{1\xi}|) \right) |\delta Y_t|^2 \\ &\quad - C_\Lambda |({}^1 f - {}^2 f)(t, {}^1 Y_t, {}^1 Z_t)|^2, \end{aligned} \tag{2.42}$$

recalling (2.18).

We also have that

$$\sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} (\mathcal{E}_t^Z)^{ij} \geq \left( \frac{\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)}{L} \Theta_t^1 - C_\Lambda |{}^1 Z_t|^2 \right) |\delta Y_t|^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} (\mathcal{E}_t^{\mathcal{T}})^{ij} \geq \left( \frac{\mathfrak{A}(\Lambda)}{L} - C_\Lambda \right) |\delta Y_t|^2. \tag{2.43}$$

2.d We now consider the local martingale  $\mathcal{M}$ , defined by

$$\mathcal{M}_t := \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} \mathcal{M}_t^{ij} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{M}_t^{ij} := \int_0^t \Gamma_s dM_s^{ij},$$

and are going to show that it is in fact a true martingale. We study only the second term in (2.33), the first term is treated similarly with  $\delta Z$  in place of  ${}^1 Z$ . Applying Burkholder–Davis–Gundy inequality, we compute, using (2.6),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \left| \int_0^t \Gamma_t \delta Y_t^i \delta Y_t^j \partial_y a_t^{ij} {}^1 Z_t dW_t \right| \right] &\leq C_\Lambda \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T \Gamma_t^2 |\delta Y_t|^2 |{}^1 Z_t|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] \\ &\leq C_{\Lambda, p} \mathbb{E} [|\Gamma_T|^p]^{\frac{1}{p}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |\delta Y_t|^q \left( \int_0^T |{}^1 Z_t|^2 dt \right)^q \right]^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &\leq C_{\Lambda, p} \mathbb{E} [|\Gamma_T|^p]^{\frac{1}{p}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, the energy inequality, with the fact that  $\sup_t |\delta Y_t|$  is bounded in any  $\mathcal{L}^r(\mathcal{F}_T)$  and  ${}^1 Z \in \mathcal{B}^2$ . From step 1. we deduce then that the supremum of the local martingale term is integrable and it is thus a martingale.

3. Combining the results from steps 2.a–2.c, we get, for  $\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)$  and  $\mathfrak{A}(\Lambda)$  large enough,

$$\begin{aligned} &\Gamma_t \delta Y_t \cdot A(t, Y_t) \delta Y_t + \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \Gamma_s \frac{1}{6L} |\delta Z_s|^2 ds + \mathcal{M}_t - \mathcal{M}_T \right] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}_t [\Gamma_T \delta \xi \cdot A(T, Y_T) \delta \xi] \\ &\quad + C_{\Lambda, K, \sigma} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T \Gamma_s \{ |({}^1 f - {}^2 f)(s, {}^1 Y_s, {}^1 Z_s)|^2 + (|\mathfrak{P}(^2 Y_s) - ^2 Y_s| + |\mathfrak{P}(^1 Y_s) - ^1 Y_s|) (|{}^1 \Phi_s| + |{}^2 \Phi_s|) \} ds \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Step 2.d allows us to claim that  $\mathbb{E}_t[\mathcal{M}_t - \mathcal{M}_T] = 0$  in the preceding inequality. Moreover, we have, recalling (2.5) and  $\Gamma \geq 1$ ,

$$|\delta Y_t|^2 \leq L \Gamma_t \delta Y_t \cdot A(t, Y_t) \delta Y_t \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}_t [\Gamma_T \delta \xi \cdot A(T, Y_T) \delta \xi] \leq L \mathbb{E}_t [\Gamma_T |\delta \xi|^2],$$

which combined with the preceding inequality concludes the proof of (2.28). □

**Remark 2.6.** The dependence upon  $\Lambda$  is a key fact that will restrain us to extend straightforwardly to rougher coefficients our main existence and uniqueness results in the non-Markovian case, recall assumption (SB). This justifies Section 4 where the Markovian framework is studied under a weaker regularity assumption on  $H$  thanks to a different approach.

2.4. *Some interesting facts about the class  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$*

We first make the following observation.

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $\xi \in \mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_T)$  satisfying (SB)(i). If we have, for some  $\beta > 0$ ,*

$$d_{\mathcal{B}^2}(\mathcal{Z}^\xi, \mathcal{H}^\infty) < \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}}, \tag{2.44}$$

then  $\xi \in \mathfrak{T}_\beta$ .

**Proof.** We can find  $V \in \mathcal{H}^\infty$ , s.t.  $\|\mathcal{Z}^\xi - V\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} = \frac{1}{(1+\eta)\sqrt{\beta}}$ , for some  $\eta > 0$  small enough. We now set  $\lambda := (\frac{1+\frac{\eta}{2}}{1+\frac{\eta}{3}})^2 \beta$  and we compute, using Young’s inequality,

$$|\mathcal{Z}^\xi|^2 \leq \left(1 + \frac{\eta}{3}\right) |\mathcal{Z}^\xi - V|^2 + \left(1 + \frac{3}{\eta}\right) |V|^2.$$

This leads, using Hölder inequality, to

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^{\lambda \int_0^T |\mathcal{Z}_t^\xi|^2 dt}\right] \leq C \mathbb{E}\left[e^{(1+\frac{\eta}{3})^2 \lambda \int_0^T |\mathcal{Z}_t^\xi - V_t|^2 dt}\right]^{\frac{1}{1+\frac{\eta}{3}}}$$

where we used the fact that  $V \in \mathcal{H}^\infty$ . Since  $\|(1 + \frac{\eta}{3})\sqrt{\lambda}(\mathcal{Z}^\xi - V)\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} = \frac{1+\frac{\eta}{2}}{1+\eta} < 1$ , we can apply the John–Nirenberg inequality, see Theorem 2.2 in [16], to obtain

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^{(1+\frac{\eta}{3})^2 \lambda \int_0^T |\mathcal{Z}_t^\xi - V_t|^2 dt}\right] < \infty,$$

which concludes the proof. □

Proposition 2.3 only suggests a sufficient condition. In the case  $\beta = +\infty$ , for which condition (2.44) should read  $d_{\mathcal{B}^2}(\mathcal{Z}^\xi, \mathcal{H}^\infty) = 0$ , it is known that the condition is not necessary. We refer the interested reader to the paper [27], where this question is treated with more details.

The next result shows that a class of path-dependent function of some smooth processes are naturally contained in  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$  and actually for all  $\beta > 0$ . This class is quite important for applications.

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $X \in \mathcal{S}^2$  such that for all  $t, s \leq T$ , the Malliavin derivatives of  $X_s$  denoted  $D_t X_s$  is well defined and satisfies  $\|\sup_{t,s} |\mathbb{E}_t[D_t X_s]|\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty} < \infty$ . Let  $g : \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be a uniformly continuous function, then denoting  $\xi = g(X.)$ , we have that  $\mathcal{Z}^\xi \in \mathcal{H}^\infty \mathcal{B}^2$ .*

**Proof.** 1.a We first start by considering a sequence  $(g_N)$  of  $N$ -Lipschitz regularisation of  $g = (g^1, \dots, g^d)$  given by

$$g_N^i(x) = \inf_{u \in \mathcal{C}^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n)} \{g^i(u) + N\|u - x\|_\infty\}, \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathcal{C}^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n), 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Let us observe that  $g_N$  is finite for  $N$  large enough due to the linear growth of  $g$ . Then we have, for all  $x \in \mathcal{C}^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} g^i(x) &\geq g_N^i(x) \geq \inf_{u \in \mathcal{C}^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n)} \{g^i(x) - \omega_{g^i}(|u - x|_\infty) + N|u - x|_\infty\} \\ &\geq g^i(x) + \inf_{u \in \mathcal{C}^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n)} \{N|u|_\infty - \omega_{g^i}(|u|_\infty)\} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\omega_{g^i}$  is a concave modulus of continuity for the uniformly continuous component  $g^i$  of  $g$ . Thus we get

$$|g_N - g|_\infty \leq C \sum_{i=1}^d \sup_{u \in C^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^n)} \{ \omega_{g^i}(|u|_\infty) - N|u|_\infty \} := c(N). \tag{2.45}$$

Since  $\omega_{g^i}(h) = o(1)$  when  $h \rightarrow 0^+$  then  $c(N) = o(1)$  when  $N \rightarrow +\infty$ .

1.b Defining  $\mathcal{Y}_t^N := \mathbb{E}_t[g_N(X_\cdot)] = g_N(X_\cdot) - \int_t^T \mathcal{Z}_s^N dW_s$  and applying Itô's formula to  $|\mathcal{Y}^N - \mathcal{Y}^\xi|^2$ , we compute

$$|Y_t^N - \mathcal{Y}_t^\xi|^2 + \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T |\mathcal{Z}_t^N - \mathcal{Z}_t^\xi|^2 dt \right] = \mathbb{E}_t [ |g_N(X_\cdot) - g(X_\cdot)|^2 ] \leq c(N)^2$$

recall (2.45). From this, we deduce that for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N_\epsilon$ , s.t. for all  $N \geq N_\epsilon$ ,

$$\| \mathcal{Z}^N - \mathcal{Z}^\xi \|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \leq \epsilon. \tag{2.46}$$

2. Let us now focus on  $\mathcal{Z}^N$ . By classical arguments, see e.g. Proposition 3.3 in [2], we can show that

$$|\mathcal{Z}^N| \leq C_N, \quad d\mathbb{P} \otimes dt\text{-a.e.}$$

which shows that  $\mathcal{Z}^N$ , belongs to  $\mathcal{H}^\infty$ .

Finally, we remark that  $\mathcal{Z}^\xi \in \mathcal{B}^2$  since  $\mathcal{Z}^\xi - \mathcal{Z}^N \in \mathcal{B}^2$  and  $\mathcal{Z}^N \in \mathcal{H}^\infty \subset \mathcal{B}^2$ . We conclude the proof by using (2.46). □

We obtain the following direct corollary, which gives a sufficient condition on models in a path-dependent framework to check the admissibility of the terminal condition.

**Corollary 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be solution of the Lipschitz SDE*

$$X_t = x + \int_0^t b(X_s) ds + \int_0^t \sigma(X_s) dW_s,$$

where  $\sigma$  and  $b$  are Lipschitz continuous functions and  $\sigma$  is bounded.

Set  $\xi := g(X_\cdot)$  where  $g$  is a uniformly continuous function on  $\mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ , then  $\xi$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$ , for all  $\beta > 0$ . Moreover, if  $\tilde{\xi} \in \mathcal{L}^\infty$ , then  $\xi + \tilde{\xi}$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$  for all  $\beta < \|\tilde{\xi}\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty}^{-2}$ .

**Proof.** When  $\sigma$  and  $b$  are smooth enough, it is well known, see e.g. [20], that  $X$  is Malliavin differentiable and, for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $(D_t^i X_s)_{s \in [t, T]}$  is solution of the linear SDE given by

$$D_t^i X_s = \sigma^i(X_t) + \int_t^s \nabla b(X_r) D_t^i X_r dr + \int_t^s \sum_{j=1}^k \nabla \sigma^j(X_r) D_t^i X_r dW_r^j, \quad t \leq s \leq T.$$

Then, we easily get that  $|\mathbb{E}_t[D_t X_s]| \leq e^{K_b T} M$  with  $K_b$  the Lipschitz constant of  $b$  and  $M$  a bound of  $\sigma$ . Thus we can apply Proposition 2.4 to get the first part of the result. When coefficients are not smooth enough, a standard approximation gives us the result, pointing out the fact that  $\|\sup_{t,s} |\mathbb{E}_t[D_t X_s]|\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty}$  can be uniformly bounded with respect to the approximation. For the second part of the corollary, we just have to remark that

$$d_{\mathcal{B}^2}(\mathcal{Z}^{\xi+\tilde{\xi}}, \mathcal{H}^\infty) \leq \| \mathcal{Z}^{\xi+\tilde{\xi}} - \mathcal{Z}^\xi \|_{\mathcal{B}^2} + d_{\mathcal{B}^2}(\mathcal{Z}^\xi, \mathcal{H}^\infty) = \| \mathcal{Z}^{\tilde{\xi}} \|_{\mathcal{B}^2}.$$

Moreover, applying Itô's formula to  $|\mathcal{Y}_t^{\tilde{\xi}}|^2$ , we compute

$$\| \mathcal{Z}^{\tilde{\xi}} \|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \leq \|\tilde{\xi}\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty},$$

which implies

$$d_{\mathcal{B}^2}(\mathcal{Z}^{\xi+\tilde{\xi}}, \mathcal{H}^\infty) \leq \|\tilde{\xi}\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty}.$$

Thus, we just have to apply Proposition 2.3 to conclude. □

### 3. Existence and uniqueness in a regular setting

In this section, we obtain an existence and uniqueness result in a non Markovian setting, working under assumption (SB) and considering terminal condition in the class  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$ , for some  $\beta > 0$ . This  $\beta$ , as shown in the previous section depends dramatically on the smoothness of the coefficients. Our proof is done in two main steps. In the first step, we restrict to the case of a bounded terminal condition. We study the well-posedness of the penalised equation, and prove their convergence to an obliquely reflected BSDE. In a second step, we extend our result to all terminal condition in the class  $\mathfrak{T}_\beta$ .

#### 3.1. Bounded terminal condition

We first obtain some results on the penalised BSDE that will be used later in this section and also in Section 4 in the Markovian case. We thus essentially work here under the assumption (A).

We start with the following lemma that verifies the well-posedness of equation (1.2) under some classical conditions.

**Lemma 3.1.** *We assume that (A) is in force and that  $f$  and  $H$  are Lipschitz continuous with respect to  $(y, z)$ . Then, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a unique solution to (1.2) in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $\mathcal{D}$  is convex,  $\varphi_n^M$  is convex and  $nM$ -Lipschitz continuous, recall (1.3). Indeed, denoting  $\mathcal{D}_M := \{y \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid d(y, \mathcal{D}) \leq M\}$ , we have that

$$\varphi_n^M(h) = \begin{cases} n\frac{1}{2}d^2(h, \mathcal{D}) & \text{if } h \in \mathcal{D}_M \\ nMd(h, \mathcal{D}) - \frac{nM^2}{2} & \text{if } h \notin \mathcal{D}_M \end{cases} \tag{3.1}$$

and

$$\nabla\varphi_n^M(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y \in \bar{\mathcal{D}} \\ nd(y, \mathcal{D})\frac{y-\mathfrak{P}(y)}{|y-\mathfrak{P}(y)|} & \text{if } y \in \mathcal{D}_M \setminus \bar{\mathcal{D}} \\ nM\frac{y-\mathfrak{P}(y)}{|y-\mathfrak{P}(y)|} & \text{if } y \notin \mathcal{D}_M. \end{cases} \tag{3.2}$$

Finally  $H$  and  $\nabla\varphi_n^M$  are two Lipschitz bounded functions which proves that the penalised BSDE (1.2) has a Lipschitz driver: the classical result of [23] then applies to get the existence and uniqueness result.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Assume that (A) holds and that there exists a solution to (1.2) in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ . Then,  $(Y^n, Z^n, \nabla\varphi_n^M(Y^n))$  satisfies Condition (2.12) for some  $K > 0$  and for some  $c > 0$  we have*

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathbb{E}[\varphi_n^M(Y_t^n)] + \mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^T |\nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_s^n)|^2 ds\right] \leq c\mathbb{E}\left[|\xi|^2 + \int_0^T |\alpha_s|^2 ds\right]. \tag{3.3}$$

Importantly,  $K$  and  $c$  do not depend on  $n$ , nor  $M$ .

Moreover, if (SB)(i)–(ii) holds, then, there exists  $c' := c'(\sigma^\xi)$ , which does not depend on  $n$  nor  $M$ , such that

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \varphi_n^M(Y_t^n) + \|\nabla\varphi_n^M(Y^n)\|_{\mathcal{B}^2}^2 \leq c'. \tag{3.4}$$

**Proof.** Since  $\varphi_n^M$  is a  $C^1$  convex function, we have the following inequality (see Lemma 2.38 in [24]): for  $s \in [t, T]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_n^M(Y_s^n) &+ \int_s^T \nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_u^n) \cdot H(u, Y_u^n, Z_u^n) \nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_u^n) du \\ &\leq \varphi_n^M(\xi) + \int_s^T \nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_u^n) \cdot f(u, Y_u^n, Z_u^n) du - \int_s^T \nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_u^n) \cdot Z_u^n dW_u, \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

and we recall that  $\varphi_n^M(\xi) = 0$ . We observe, using (2.2) that

$$\nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_u^n) \cdot H(u, Y_u^n, Z_u^n) \nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_u^n) \geq \eta |\nabla\varphi_n^M(Y_u^n)|^2 \tag{3.6}$$

and combining Cauchy–Schwarz inequality with Young’s inequality

$$\int_s^T \nabla \varphi_n^M(Y_u^n) \cdot f(u, Y_u^n, Z_u^n) \, du \leq \frac{\eta}{2} \int_s^T |\nabla \varphi_n^M(Y_u^n)|^2 \, du + \frac{2}{\eta} \int_s^T |f(u, Y_u^n, Z_u^n)|^2 \, du.$$

From this, we deduce

$$\varphi_n^M(Y_t^n) + \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T |\nabla \varphi_n^M(Y_u^n)|^2 \, du \right] \leq \frac{4}{\eta} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T |f(u, Y_u^n, Z_u^n)|^2 \, du \right], \tag{3.7}$$

which proves (2.12) for  $(Y^n, Z^n, \Phi^n)$ . This allows then to invoke Lemma 2.1 to obtain (3.3) under (A). Under (SB)(i)–(ii), (3.7) allows also to conclude recalling that  $f$  is Lipschitz continuous,  $\theta^\xi \in \mathcal{B}^2$  and (2.18).  $\square$

We now prove our first existence result for the obliquely reflected BSDE

$$\begin{cases} Y_t = \xi + \int_t^T f(s, Y_s, Z_s) \, ds - \int_t^T H(s, Y_s) \Phi_s \, ds - \int_t^T Z_s \, dW_s, & 0 \leq t \leq T, \\ Y_t \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}, \quad \Phi_t \in \partial \varphi(Y_t), \quad \int_0^T \mathbf{1}_{\{Y_t \notin \partial \mathcal{D}\}} |\Phi_t| \, dt = 0. \end{cases} \tag{3.8}$$

**Proposition 3.1.** *Assume that (SB)(i)–(iii) holds and that  $\xi \in \mathcal{L}^\infty \cap \mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)}$ . Then, there exists a solution in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  to the obliquely reflected BSDE (3.8).*

**Proof.** To obtain the existence result, we consider a sequence of penalised BSDEs given by equation (1.2) for which we have existence and uniqueness from Lemma 3.1. In the definition of  $\varphi_n^M$ , recall (1.3), we set  $M = 2c$  where  $c$  is given in Corollary 2.1. In particular, we observe that for this choice of  $M$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq T$ ,

$$\Phi_t^n := \nabla \varphi_n^M(Y_t^n) = n(Y_t^n - \mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n)) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{n} \varphi_n(Y_t^n) = \frac{1}{2} |\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n) - Y_t^n|^2, \tag{3.9}$$

recall (3.1) and (3.2). We will use this fact later on.

1.a. We now prove that  $(Y^n, Z^n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ . Indeed, let  $m \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ , thanks to Lemma 3.2 we can apply Proposition 2.2 to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathbb{E}[|Y_t^n - Y_t^m|^2] + \|Z^n - Z^m\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2 \\ & \leq C_\Lambda \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \Gamma_s^{n,m} (|\mathfrak{P}(Y_s^n) - Y_s^n| + |\mathfrak{P}(Y_s^m) - Y_s^m|) (|\Phi_s^m| + |\Phi_s^n|) \, ds \right] =: A^{n,m}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

Let us notice that, from Proposition 2.2 again, there exist  $p > 1$  and a constant  $C$  such that

$$\mathbb{E}[|\Gamma_T^{n,m}|^p] \leq C, \tag{3.11}$$

where, importantly,  $p$  and  $C$  do not depend on  $(n, m)$ . Applying Itô’s formula to  $|Y^n - Y^m|^2$  on  $[0, T]$ , we compute, using usual arguments,

$$\begin{aligned} \|Y^n - Y^m\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 & \leq C \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |Y_t^n - Y_t^m| (|\Phi_t^n| + |\Phi_t^m|) \, dt \right] \\ & \quad + C \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \left| \int_0^t (Y_s^n - Y_s^m) (Z_s^n - Z_s^m) \, dW_s \right| \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Using Burkholder–Davis–Gundy inequality and Young’s inequality, we obtain

$$\|Y^n - Y^m\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 \leq C \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |Y_t^n - Y_t^m| (|\Phi_t^n| + |\Phi_t^m|) \, dt \right] + C \|Z^n - Z^m\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2.$$

Applying Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, and using Lemma 3.2, we get

$$\|Y^n - Y^m\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 \leq C (\|Y^n - Y^m\|_{\mathcal{H}^2} + \|Z^n - Z^m\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2). \tag{3.12}$$

Combining the preceding inequality with (3.10), we have

$$\|Y^n - Y^m\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 + \|Z^n - Z^m\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2 \leq C(A_{n,m} + \sqrt{A_{n,m}}). \tag{3.13}$$

1.b We now study the  $A_{n,m}$  term. We first observe, recalling Lemma 3.2 and (3.9),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \Gamma_t^{n,m} |\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n) - Y_t^n| |\Phi_s^m| \, ds \right] &\leq \left\| \sup_t |\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n) - Y_t^n| \right\|_{\mathcal{L}^\infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \Gamma_T^{n,m} \int_0^T |\Phi_s^m| \, ds \right] \\ &\leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{n}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \Gamma_T^{n,m} \int_0^T |\Phi_s^m| \, ds \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Applying Hölder inequality, denoting  $q$  the conjugate exponent of  $p$  introduced in (3.11), we deduce from the preceding inequality

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \Gamma_t^{n,m} |\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n) - Y_t^n| |\Phi_s^m| \, ds \right] \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{n}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T |\Phi_s^m|^2 \, ds \right)^{\frac{q}{2}} \right].$$

Then, combining the energy inequality with (3.4), we conclude

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \Gamma_t^{n,m} |\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n) - Y_t^n| |\Phi_s^m| \, ds \right] \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{n}}. \tag{3.14}$$

Similarly we obtain,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \Gamma_t^{n,m} |\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^m) - Y_t^m| |\Phi_s^n| \, ds \right] \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{m}}$$

and

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \Gamma_t^{n,m} (|\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n) - Y_t^n| + |\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^m) - Y_t^m|) |\Phi_s^m| \, ds \right] \leq C \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right).$$

Combining the preceding inequalities with (3.13), we compute that

$$\|Y^n - Y^m\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 + \|Z^n - Z^m\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2 \leq C(n^{-\frac{1}{4}} + m^{-\frac{1}{4}}),$$

which proves that  $(Y^n, Z^n)_n$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ . We denote  $(Y, Z)$  its limit.

2. We now prove that  $(Y, Z)$  is solution to an obliquely reflected BSDE, namely we pass to the limit in (1.2). Let us first observe that, passing to the limit in (3.4) yields that  $Y \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}$  as expected.

2.a We first study the reflecting term. Since, by Lemma 3.2,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |\nabla \varphi_n(Y_s^n)|^2 \, ds \right] \leq C,$$

we have, up to a subsequence, the following weak  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega)$ -convergence:

$$\nabla \varphi_n(Y^n) \rightharpoonup \Phi, \quad \text{when } n \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Let  $(V_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$  be a continuous adapted process valued in  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ . From the convexity property of  $\mathcal{D}$  and the fact that  $\nabla \varphi_n(Y^n) = n(Y^n - \mathfrak{P}(Y_s^n))$ , recall (3.9), we have

$$\int_0^T (Y_t^n - V_t)^\dagger \nabla \varphi_n(Y_t^n) \, dt \leq 0.$$

By strong convergence of  $(Y^n)_{n \geq 0}$  to  $Y$ , weak convergence of  $(\nabla \varphi_n(Y^n))_{n \geq 0}$  and the uniform  $L^2$ -bound on  $\nabla \varphi_n(Y^n)$ , recall Lemma 3.2, we obtain

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T (Y_t - V_t)^\dagger \Phi_t \, dt \mathbf{1}_A \right] \leq 0,$$



for all  $A \in \mathcal{F}_T$ . This leads to  $\int_0^T (Y_t - V_t)^\dagger \Phi_t \, dt \leq 0$ . Using Lemma 2.1 in [11]  $\omega$ -wise, we obtain that

$$\Phi \in \partial\varphi(Y) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^T \mathbf{1}_{\{Y_t \notin \partial\mathcal{D}\}} |\Phi_t| \, dt = 0,$$

which fully characterise  $\Phi$ .

2.b Now we want to show that  $(Y, Z, \Phi)$  is solution of (3.8). By strong convergence of  $(Y^n, Z^n)$  to  $(Y, Z)$  and the Lipschitz-continuity of  $f$ , we have

$$f(\cdot, Y^n, Z^n) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{H}^2} f(\cdot, Y, Z) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^t Z_s^n \, dW_s \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}^2} \int_0^t Z_s \, dW_s,$$

for all  $t \leq T$ . Moreover,  $\Phi^n \rightharpoonup \Phi$  in  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , when  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ . Using Mazur’s Lemma, we know that there exists a convex combination of the above converging strongly in  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , namely

$${}^p\Phi := \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \Phi^r \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow \infty} \Phi,$$

where  $\lambda_r^p \geq 0$  for all  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p \leq r \leq N_p$ , and  $\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p = 1$ . Let us observe that by strong convergence, the following combination

$$({}^pY, {}^pZ) := \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p (Y^r, Z^r)$$

still converges to  $(Y, Z)$  in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  and, by strong convergence,

$$\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p f(\cdot, Y^r, Z^r) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{H}^2} f(\cdot, Y, Z) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^t {}^pZ_s \, dW_s \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}^2} \int_0^t Z_s \, dW_s, \quad t \leq T.$$

Moreover, we remark that

$$\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p H(\cdot, Y^r) \Phi^r = \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p [H(\cdot, Y^r) - H(\cdot, Y)] \Phi^r + H(\cdot, Y) \Phi.$$

Using the Lipschitz property of  $H$  and the uniform  $L^2$ -bound on  $\nabla\varphi_n(Y^n)$ , the first term in the right hand side of the preceding equation tends to zero in  $\mathcal{H}^2$ . Then we get

$$\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p H(\cdot, Y^r) \Phi^r \xrightarrow{\mathcal{H}^2} H(\cdot, Y) \Phi.$$

Finally, we just have to pass to the limit into

$${}^pY_t = \xi + \int_t^T \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p f(s, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) \, ds - \int_t^T {}^pZ_s \, dW_s - \int_t^T \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p H(s, Y_s^r) \Phi_s^r \, ds$$

to conclude the proof of the theorem. □

**Remark 3.1.** We insist here on the fact that no smoothness condition is imposed on the convex domain in the previous result. The main point is the smoothness of  $H$  and this depends on the problem under consideration. If the domain and the direction of reflection are smooth, one can exhibit a smooth  $H$ , see Remark 2.3. If the domain is allowed to have corners, the construction of  $H$  becomes a delicate task. However this is possible in some cases of practical interest: Several examples of construction of smooth  $H$  in domains with corners are provided for randomised switching control problems in [1].

3.2. General case

**Theorem 3.1.** Assume that (SB) holds and  $\xi \in \mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)}$ . There exists a unique solution  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{B}^2 \times \mathcal{B}^2$  to (1.1).

Before proving our main result, we consider the following lemma which is a key result for the study of Obliquely Reflected BSDEs, as it proves, among other things, the structural condition (2.12). It is the counterpart of Lemma 3.2 introduced for the penalised BSDE.

**Lemma 3.3.** Assume that (SB) holds. Let  $(Y, Z, \Phi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  be a solution to the Obliquely Reflected BSDE (1.1). Then, the structural condition (2.12) holds true for  $(Y, Z, \Phi)$  for some  $K > 0$ . Moreover, there exists  $c := c(\sigma^\xi)$  such that

$$\|\Phi\|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \leq c. \tag{3.15}$$

**Proof.** Applying Itô’s formula to  $U_t := \phi(Y_t)$ , recall assumption (SB), we compute that  $dU_t = a_t dt + b_t dW_t$  with

$$a_t := \partial\phi(Y_t)\{-f(t, Y_t, Z_t) + H(t, Y_t)\Phi_t\} + \frac{1}{2}\text{Tr}[\partial^2\phi(Y_t)Z_tZ_t^*] \quad \text{and} \quad b_t := \partial\phi(Y_t)Z_t.$$

Using Itô–Tanaka formula, we obtain

$$d[-U_t]^+ = -a_t 1_{\{U_t < 0\}} dt - b_t 1_{\{U_t < 0\}} dW_t + dL_t^0$$

where  $L^0$  is the local time at 0 of the semi-martingale  $U$ . Taking the difference of the two preceding equations, we obtain

$$0 = a_t 1_{\{U_t = 0\}} dt + b_t 1_{\{U_t = 0\}} dW_t + dL_t^0$$

which leads to  $a_t 1_{\{U_t = 0\}} dt \leq 0$ . We then deduce

$$|\Phi_t| dt \leq \frac{1}{\eta} [\partial\phi(Y_t)f(t, Y_t, Z_t)]^+ dt, \tag{3.16}$$

recall (2.9) and Remark 2.3(i). From this, we deduce that *a fortiori* (2.12) holds true. □

We should notice that in the proof of the above lemma, we obtain a stronger result than the structural condition (2.12). Indeed, we are able to control in (3.16) the reflecting process without the conditional expectation appearing in (2.12).

We now turn to the proof of our main result for this section.

**Proof of Theorem 3.1.** 1. We first prove uniqueness of the solution. Let  $(^1Y, ^1Z, ^1\Phi)$  and  $(^2Y, ^2Z, ^2\Phi)$  be two solutions of (3.8) in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ . We first observe that both solutions satisfies (2.12) by application of Lemma 3.3 which allows us to invoke Proposition 2.1. Moreover, both solutions satisfy (2.27) by definition. Then, a straightforward application of Proposition 2.2 concludes the proof of this step, noticing that all the terms in the right hand side of (2.28) are null.

2. We now turn to the existence question.

2.a We first approximate  $\xi$  by a sequence of bounded random variables  $(\xi_N)_{N \geq 1}$ . Let  $(\tau_N)_{N \geq 1}$  be the sequence of stopping time defined by

$$\tau_N := \inf\{t \geq 0 \mid |\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi| \geq N\} \wedge T,$$

and we set  $\xi_N := \mathcal{Y}_{\tau_N}^\xi$ . Importantly, we observe that  $\xi_N$  satisfies (SB)(i) and it belongs also to the class  $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{B}(\Lambda)}$ , indeed  $\int_0^T |\mathcal{Z}_s^{\xi_N}|^2 ds \leq \int_0^T |\mathcal{Z}_s^\xi|^2 ds$ . For later use, let us also remark that

$$\sigma^{\xi_N} \leq \sigma^\xi, \quad \text{for all } N \geq 1, \tag{3.17}$$

recall (2.8). Moreover, since

$$\xi_N \rightarrow \xi \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.} \quad \text{and} \quad |\xi_N - \xi| \leq 2 \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |\mathcal{Y}_t^\xi|,$$

we have that by the dominated convergence theorem, recall Remark 2.2 (i),  $\xi_N \rightarrow \xi$  in  $\mathcal{L}^q$ , for any  $q \geq 1$ .

2.b Applying Proposition 3.1, we introduce a sequence of Obliquely RBSDEs,  $(Y^N, Z^N, \Phi^N)$  with terminal condition  $\xi_N$ . We now show that  $(Y^N, Z^N)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ . First, we apply the stability estimate given in Proposition 2.2: for  $N, P \geq 1$ , we have

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathbb{E}[|Y_t^N - Y_t^P|^2] + \|Z^N - Z^P\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2 \leq C \mathbb{E}[\Gamma_T^{N,P} |\xi^N - \xi^P|^2],$$

with  $\Gamma^{N,P}$  such that for some  $p > 1$  and  $C > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[\Gamma_T^{N,P} |^p] \leq C,$$

where importantly  $p$  and  $C$  do not depend on  $(N, P)$ , recall (3.17). Using Hölder inequality, we then obtain

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathbb{E}[|Y_t^N - Y_t^P|^2] + \|Z^N - Z^P\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2 \leq C \|\xi^N - \xi^P\|_{\mathcal{L}^{2q}}^2.$$

Following classical arguments, see Step 1.a in the proof of Proposition 3.1, we compute also

$$\|Y^N - Y^P\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 \leq C \mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^T |Y_t^N - Y_t^P| (|\Phi_t^N| + |\Phi_t^P|) dt\right] + C \|Z^N - Z^P\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2.$$

Applying Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, and combining Lemma 3.3 and (3.17), we get

$$\|Y^N - Y^P\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 \leq C (\|Y^N - Y^P\|_{\mathcal{H}^2} + \|Z^N - Z^P\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2).$$

Eventually, we obtain

$$\|Y^N - Y^P\|_{\mathcal{S}^2}^2 + \|Z^N - Z^P\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}^2 \leq C (\|\xi^N - \xi^P\|_{\mathcal{L}^{2q}} + \|\xi^N - \xi^P\|_{\mathcal{L}^{2q}}^2).$$

From the conclusion of Step 1. we deduce the Cauchy property of the sequence  $(Y^N, Z^N)$  and we denote  $(Y, Z)$  its limit. The proof is then concluded following the same arguments as in step 2 of Proposition 3.1, once observed that by Lemma 3.3,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^T |\Phi_s^N|^2 ds\right] \leq C,$$

where again  $C$  does not depend on  $N$  from (3.17). □

#### 4. A general existence result in the Markovian framework

In this section, we introduce a Markovian framework: for all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q$ , we denote  $(X_s^{t,x})_{s \in [0, T]}$  the solution of the SDE

$$\begin{aligned} dX_s &= b(s, X_s) ds + \sigma(s, X_s) dW_s, \quad s \in [t, T], \\ X_s &= x, \quad s \in [0, t], \end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

and we consider the following Markovian reflected BSDE:

$$\begin{cases} Y_t = g(X_T^{0,a}) + \int_t^T f(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s - \int_t^T H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) \Phi_s ds, \\ Y_t \in \bar{D}, \quad \Phi_t \in \partial\varphi(Y_t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad \int_0^T \mathbf{1}_{\{Y_t \notin \partial D\}} |\Phi_t| dt = 0. \end{cases} \tag{4.2}$$

The main goal of this section is to prove an existence result for the above reflected BSDE when  $H$  is only continuous, compare with assumption (SB). We also discuss the case of discontinuous  $H$  and the difficulty arising for uniqueness in this setting.

4.1. Continuous oblique direction of reflection

We now introduce the main setting for this part. The set of assumption below echoes assumption (A) introduced in Section 2.1 but in a Markovian setting.

**Assumption (AM).**

- (i)  $b : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  and  $\sigma : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{q \times k}$  are measurable functions satisfying linear growth condition and uniform Lipschitz condition with respect to the space variable namely

$$|b(t, x)| + |\sigma(t, x)| \leq L(1 + |x|) \quad \text{and} \quad |b(t, x) - b(t, y)| + |\sigma(t, x) - \sigma(t, y)| \leq L|x - y|,$$

for some  $L > 0$  and all  $(t, x, y) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^q$ .

- (ii)  $g : \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{D}}$  is a measurable function and there exists  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,

$$|g(x)| \leq L(1 + |x|^p).$$

- (iii)  $f : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a measurable function satisfying: there exists  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that, for any  $(t, x, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ , we have

$$|f(t, x, y, z)| \leq L(1 + |x|^p + |y| + |z|),$$

and, for all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $f(t, x, \cdot, \cdot)$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ .

- (iv)  $H : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is a measurable function. There exists  $\eta > 0$  such that, for all  $(t, x, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$

$$H(t, x, y, z)v \cdot v \geq \eta, \quad \forall v \in \mathfrak{n}(\mathfrak{P}(y)),$$

(4.3)

$$\text{and} \quad |H(t, x, y, z)| \leq L.$$

- (v) Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{\mu(t, x; s, dy), x \in \mathbb{R}^q \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq s \leq T\}$  be the family of laws of  $X^{t,x}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^q$ , i.e., the measures such that  $\forall A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^q)$ ,  $\mu(t, x; s, A) = \mathbb{P}(X_s^{t,x} \in A)$ . For any  $t \in [0, T)$ , for any  $\mu(0, a; t, dy)$ -almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^q$ , and any  $\delta \in ]0, T - t]$ , there exists an application  $\phi_{t,x} : [t, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that:

- (a)  $\forall k \geq 1$ ,  $\phi_{t,x} \in L^2([t + \delta, T] \times [-k, k]^q; \mu(0, a; s, dy) ds)$ ,
- (b)  $\mu(t, x; s, dy) ds = \phi_{t,x}(s, y)\mu(0, a; s, dy) ds$  on  $[t + \delta, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q$ .

- (vi) For all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $H(t, x, \cdot, \cdot)$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}^d \times \bar{\mathcal{D}}$ .

**Remark 4.1.**

- (i) We observe that  $H(t, X, \cdot)$  and  $f(t, X, \cdot)$  satisfy assumption (A). Thus we will use in the sequel the *a priori* estimates obtained in Section 2.2.
- (ii) Remark 2.1 applies for  $H$  which is continuous in this context.
- (iii) The  $\mathcal{L}^2$ -domination condition (AM)(v) was initially introduced in [13]. We refer to [5,13] for examples of assumptions on coefficients of the SDE (4.1) under which (AM)(v) is true.

**Theorem 4.1.** Assume (AM). Then, there exists a solution  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  to (4.2). Moreover, the following Markovian representation holds true:

There exist  $u : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $v : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  measurable functions such that

$$Y_t = u(t, X_t^{0,a}) \quad \text{and} \quad Z_t = v(t, X_t^{0,a}),$$

and, for some  $c > 0$ , for all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q$ ,

$$|u(t, x)| \leq c(1 + |x|^p).$$

By choosing properly the function  $H$  we can obtain the following corollary.

**Corollary 4.1.** *Let us consider the following obliquely reflected Markovian BSDE*

$$\begin{cases} Y_t = g(X_T^{0,a}) + \int_t^T f(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s + \int_t^T \Psi_s ds, & 0 \leq t \leq T, \\ Y_t^\ell \geq \max_{j \in \mathcal{I}} \{Y_t^j - c^{\ell j}\}, & 0 \leq t \leq T, \ell \in \mathcal{I}, \\ \int_0^T [Y_t^\ell - \max_{j \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{\ell\}} \{Y_t^j - c^{\ell j}\}] \Psi_t^\ell dt = 0, & \ell \in \mathcal{I}, \end{cases} \tag{4.4}$$

where  $\mathcal{I} := \{1, \dots, d\}$  and the switching costs  $(c^{ij})_{i,j \in \mathcal{I}}$  satisfy the following structure condition

$$\begin{cases} c^{ii} = 0, & \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq d; \\ \{c^{ij} + c^{jl} - c^{il}\} > 0, & \text{for } 1 \leq i, j \leq d \text{ with } i \neq j, j \neq l. \end{cases} \tag{4.5}$$

We assume that assumption (AM) is in force. Then there exists a solution  $(Y, Z, \Psi) \in \mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  to (4.4). Moreover the following Markovian representation holds true: There exist two measurable functions  $u : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $v : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  such that

$$Y_t = u(t, X_t^{0,x}) \quad \text{and} \quad Z_t = v(t, X_t^{0,x}),$$

and, for some  $c > 0$ , for all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q$ ,

$$|u(t, x)| \leq c(1 + |x|^p).$$

**Remark 4.2.**

- (i) Usually obliquely reflected BSDEs associated to switching control problems are written with a reflection term  $dK_t$  that is not assumed to be absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure in time (see e.g. [14,15]). So our framework seems to be at first slightly less general. Nevertheless, it is possible to show that the reflecting term for obliquely reflected BSDEs in fixed convex domain appearing in switching control problems is in fact absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure: This is due to the fact that the existence result is usually obtained by a penalisation procedure that gives a uniform bound on the penalised term which allows to use a weak topology convergence argument. For more details, we refer to Remark 2.1 in [15].
- (ii) The main novelty here is the dependence of the generator on the whole  $z$  (as in the concomitant article [5]) which extend the result of [3,14,15]. Our result only cover the case of constant switching costs due to a priori estimates obtained previously in the framework of a deterministic domain  $\mathcal{D}$ . Nevertheless our approach might be adapted to treat random domains by following same ideas than [17].

Before giving the proof of Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.1, we start by considering an approximation of (4.2). Let  $\theta$  be an element of  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{d+d \times k}, \mathbb{R}^+)$  with compact support and satisfying

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{d+d \times k}} \theta(y, z) dy dz = 1.$$

For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $(t, x, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  we set

$$f_n(t, x, y, z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d+d \times k}} n^2 f(t, x, y, z) \theta(n(y - u), n(z - v)) du dv$$

$$H_n(t, x, y, z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d+d \times k}} n^2 H(t, x, y, z) \theta(n(y - u), n(z - v)) du dv.$$

By classical convolution arguments functions  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $(H_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  satisfy following properties.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Assume (AM).*

- (i)  $f_n : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $H_n : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  are measurable and uniformly Lipschitz functions with respect to  $(y, z)$ .
- (ii)  $|f_n(t, x, y, z)| \leq L(1 + |x|^p + |y| + |z|)$  and  $|H_n(t, x, y, z)| \leq L$  for all  $(t, x, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ .
- (iii) For all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$

$$\sup_{(y,z) \in \mathcal{K}} |f_n(t, x, y, z) - f(t, x, y, z)| + \sup_{(y,z) \in \mathcal{K}} |H_n(t, x, y, z) - H(t, x, y, z)| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} 0.$$

For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we then consider the following BSDE

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_t^n &= g(X_T^{0,a}) + \int_t^T f_n(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^n, Z_s^n) ds \\
 &\quad - \int_t^T Z_s^n dW_s - \int_t^T H_n(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^n, Z_s^n) \nabla \varphi_n(Y_s^n) ds, \quad t \in [0, T]
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.6}$$

where  $\varphi_n$  is defined in (1.3) with  $M$  fixed to an arbitrary value. Note that, in this section, for the reader's convenience, we write simply  $\varphi_n$  instead of  $\varphi_n^M$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** *There exists a unique solution to (4.6) in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$ . Moreover, there is a Markovian representation for this solution: for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist  $u_n : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $v_n : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  measurable functions satisfying*

$$Y_t^n = u_n(t, X_T^{0,a}) \quad \text{and} \quad Z_t^n = v_n(t, X_T^{0,a}).
 \tag{4.7}$$

Moreover, for all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $(u_n(s, X_s^{t,x}), v_n(s, X_s^{t,x}))_{s \in [t, T]}$  is the unique solution in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  of the BSDE

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_s^{n,t,x} &= g(X_T^{t,x}) + \int_s^T f_n(r, X_r^{t,x}, Y_r^{n,t,x}, Z_r^{n,t,x}) dr - \int_s^T Z_r^{n,t,x} dW_r \\
 &\quad - \int_s^T H_n(r, X_r^{t,x}, Y_r^{n,t,x}, Z_r^{n,t,x}) \nabla \varphi_n(Y_r^{n,t,x}) dr \quad s \in [t, T].
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.8}$$

**Proof.** We use the same arguments as in the proof of Lemma 3.1: Since  $H_n$  and  $\nabla \varphi_n$  are two Lipschitz bounded functions (with respect to  $y$  and  $z$ ), the penalised BSDE (4.6) has a Lipschitz driver and the classical theory then applies to get the existence, uniqueness and representation result.  $\square$

By applying Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 3.2, we obtain the following estimates for  $(Y^{n,t,x}, Z^{n,t,x})$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *For all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q$ , we have*

$$\sup_{t \leq s \leq T} \mathbb{E}[|Y_s^{n,t,x}|^2 + \varphi_n(Y_s^{n,t,x})] + \mathbb{E}\left[\int_t^T |Z_s^{n,t,x}|^2 ds + \int_t^T |\nabla \varphi_n(Y_s^{n,t,x})|^2 ds\right] \leq C(1 + |x|^{2p}).$$

In particular, Proposition 4.1 yields that, for some  $c > 0$ ,

$$|u_n(t, x)| \leq c(1 + |x|^p), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall (t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q.$$

We now turn to the proof of the main result for this section.

**Proof of Theorem 4.1.** The proof follows mainly from arguments in [13]. Some extra work is required to identify the reflecting process properly.

1. Define,

$$F_n(t, x) = f_n(t, x, u_n(t, x), v_n(t, x)), \quad G_n(t, x) = H_n(t, x, u_n(t, x), v_n(t, x)) \nabla \varphi_n(u_n(t, x)),$$

and

$$\mathfrak{F}_n := F_n - G_n,$$

we compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\mathbb{R}^q} \int_0^T |\mathfrak{F}_n(s, y)|^2 \mu(0, a; s, dy) ds &= \mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^T |\mathfrak{F}_n(s, X_s^{0,a})|^2 ds\right] \\
 &\leq \mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^T C(1 + |X_s^{0,a}|^{2p} + |Y_s^n|^2 + |Z_s^n|^2 + |\nabla \varphi_n(Y_s^n)|^2) ds\right] \\
 &\leq C,
 \end{aligned}$$

by using Proposition 4.1. Thus we get  $\mathfrak{F}_n \rightharpoonup \mathfrak{F}$  in  $L^2([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q; \mu(0, a; s, dx) ds)$ , up to a subsequence.

2. We now show that  $(u_n(t, x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$  and for  $\mu(0, a; t, dx)$ -almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^q$ . When  $t = T$  the sequence is constant and the result is obvious. When  $t < T$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^q$  and  $\delta \in (0, T - t]$ , we compute

$$\begin{aligned} |u_n(t, x) - u_m(t, x)| &= \left| \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_t^T (\mathfrak{F}_n(s, X_s^{t,x}) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, X_s^{t,x})) ds \right] \right| \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_t^{t+\delta} |\mathfrak{F}_n(s, X_s^{t,x}) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, X_s^{t,x})| ds \right] =: A_1 \\ &\quad + \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_{t+\delta}^T |\mathfrak{F}_n(s, X_s^{t,x}) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, X_s^{t,x})| \mathbf{1}_{\{|X_s^{t,x}| \geq \kappa\}} ds \right] =: A_2 \\ &\quad + \left| \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_{t+\delta}^T (\mathfrak{F}_n(s, X_s^{t,x}) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, X_s^{t,x})) \mathbf{1}_{\{|X_s^{t,x}| < \kappa\}} ds \right] \right| =: A_3. \end{aligned}$$

For the first two terms, we easily get

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &\leq \delta^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_t^{t+\delta} |\mathfrak{F}_n(s, X_s^{t,x}) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, X_s^{t,x})|^2 ds \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq C(1 + |x|^p) \delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\ A_2 &\leq C\kappa^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_{t+\delta}^T |X_s^{t,x}| ds \right] \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_{t+\delta}^T |\mathfrak{F}_n(s, X_s^{t,x}) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, X_s^{t,x})|^2 ds \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq C(1 + |x|^{p+1}) \kappa^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C$  is a constant that does not depend on  $n$  nor  $m$ . For the third term, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_3 &= \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^q} \int_{t+\delta}^T (\mathfrak{F}_n(s, y) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, y)) \mathbf{1}_{\{|y| \leq \kappa\}} \mu(t, x; s, dy) ds \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^q} \int_{t+\delta}^T (\mathfrak{F}_n(s, y) - \mathfrak{F}_m(s, y)) \mathbf{1}_{\{|y| \leq \kappa\}} \phi_{t,x}(s, y) \mu(0, a; s, dy) ds \right| \end{aligned}$$

for  $\mu(0, a; s, dx)$ -almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^q$ , where we used the  $L^2$ -domination assumption. By weak convergence,  $A_3 \rightarrow 0$  when  $n, m \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, by taking  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  and  $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$  we show that for all  $t \in [0, T]$  and for  $\mu(0, a; t, dx)$ -almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $(u_n(t, x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a Cauchy sequence. So, there exists a Borelian application  $u : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  such that for all  $t \in [0, T]$ , for  $\mu(0, a; t, dx)$ -almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,

$$u(t, x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n(t, x). \quad (4.9)$$

We straightforwardly get, for all  $t \in [0, T]$ ,

$$Y_t^n = u_n(t, X_t^{0,a}) \rightarrow u(t, X_t^{0,a}) := Y_t, \quad \text{a.s.}$$

and, observing that  $|Y_t^n| \leq C(1 + |X_t^{0,a}|^p)$ , we obtain via the dominated convergence theorem,  $Y_t^n \rightarrow Y_t$  in  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega, dt \otimes d\mathbb{P})$ .

3. We can easily prove that the process  $Y$  lives in the non-empty convex set  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$ . Indeed, we have, recalling (3.1),

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{0 \leq s \leq T} \mathbb{E}[\varphi_1(Y_s)] &\leq \sup_{0 \leq s \leq T} \mathbb{E}[|\varphi_1(Y_s) - \varphi_1(Y_s^n)|] + \frac{1}{n} \sup_{0 \leq s \leq T} \mathbb{E}[\varphi_n(Y_s^n)] \\ &\leq M \sup_{0 \leq s \leq T} \mathbb{E}[|Y_s - Y_s^n|] + \frac{C}{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} 0, \end{aligned}$$

where we used Proposition 4.1, the fact that  $\varphi_1$  is a  $M$ -Lipschitz function and the convergence of  $(Y^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Then, for all  $s \in [0, T]$ ,  $d(Y_s, \mathcal{D}) = 0$  a.s. and so  $Y_s \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}$  a.s.

4. We now show that  $(Z^n)_n = ((v_n(t, X_t^{0,a}))_{t \in [0, T]})_n$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega, dt \otimes d\mathbb{P})$ . For  $n, m \geq 1$ , we compute, applying Itô's formula,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |Z_s^n - Z_s^m|^2 ds \right] &\leq 2\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T (Y_t^n - Y_t^m)(\mathfrak{F}_n(t, X_t^{0,a}) - \mathfrak{F}_m(t, X_t^{0,a})) dt \right] \\ &\leq C\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |Y_t^n - Y_t^m|^2 dt \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

which goes to 0 as  $n, m \rightarrow \infty$ . We denote by  $Z$  the limit. From now on, we work with the progressively measurable version of  $(Y, Z)$ .

5.a In the last step we have to prove that  $(Y, Z)$  is a solution to BSDE (4.2).

We start by studying the convergence of the generator. By mimicking [13], we can easily show that  $(f_n(t, X_t^{0,a}, Y_t^n, Z_t^n))_{t \in [0, T]}$  converges to  $(f(t, X_t^{0,a}, Y_t, Z_t))_{t \in [0, T]}$  in  $L^1([0, T] \times \Omega, dt \otimes dP)$ .

5.b Finally we study the reflecting term. Since

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |\nabla \varphi_n(Y_s^n)|^2 ds \right] \leq C,$$

we have, up to a subsequence, the following weak  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega)$ -convergence:

$$\nabla \varphi_n(Y^n) \rightharpoonup \Phi, \quad \text{when } n \rightarrow +\infty,$$

and we can follow step 2.a in the proof of Proposition 3.1 to obtain

$$\Phi \in \partial\varphi(Y) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^T \mathbf{1}_{\{Y_t \notin \partial\mathcal{D}\}} |\Phi_t| dt = 0,$$

which fully characterize  $\Phi$ . We now follow step 2.b in the proof of Proposition 3.1. Using Mazur's Lemma, we know that there exists a convex combination of  $(\Phi^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} := (\nabla \varphi_n(Y^n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converging strongly in  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , namely

$${}^p\Phi := \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \Phi^r \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow \infty} \Phi,$$

where  $\lambda_r^p \geq 0$  for all  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p \leq r \leq N_p$ , and  $\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p = 1$ . Let us observe that by strong convergence, the following combination

$$({}^pY, {}^pZ) := \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p (Y^r, Z^r)$$

still converges to  $(Y, Z)$  in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  and, by strong convergence again,

$$\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p f_r(\cdot, X^{0,a}, Y^r, Z^r) \xrightarrow{L^1([0, T] \times \Omega, dt \otimes dP)} f(\cdot, X^{0,a}, Y, Z) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^t {}^pZ_s dW_s \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}^2} \int_0^t Z_s dW_s.$$

Moreover, we remark that, for all  $t \leq T$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}^p &:= \int_0^t \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p H_r(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) \Phi_s^r ds - \int_0^t H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) \Phi_s ds \\ &= \int_0^t \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \{H_r(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) - H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r)\} \Phi_s^r ds =: A_1^p \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \{H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) - H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s)\} \Phi_s^r ds =: A_2^p \end{aligned}$$



$$+ \int_0^t H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) \{^p \Phi_s - \Phi_s\} ds =: A_3^p. \tag{4.10}$$

We study each term in the right hand side of the above equality separately. For the first one, we compute using Cauchy–Schwartz inequality and the uniform bound on  $\|\Phi^n\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}$

$$\mathbb{E}[|A_1^p|] \leq C \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^t |H_r(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) - H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r)|^2 ds \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \tag{4.11}$$

For all  $\kappa > 0$ , we then get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[|A_1^p|] &\leq C \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^t |H_r(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) - H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r)|^2 \mathbf{1}_{\{|Y_s^r|+|Z_s^r| \leq \kappa\}} ds \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} =: B_1^p \\ &+ C \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{|Y_s^r|+|Z_s^r| > \kappa\}} ds \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} =: B_2^p. \end{aligned}$$

Combining Markov inequality with the uniform square integrability of  $Y^n$  and  $Z^n$ , we easily obtain that

$$B_2^p \leq \frac{C}{\kappa}. \tag{4.12}$$

For the term  $B_1^p$ , we combine the uniform convergence (on compact set) of  $H_r$  to  $H$ , recall Lemma 4.1(iii), with the dominated convergence theorem, since  $H_r$  and  $H$  are bounded, to get that for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $N_{\kappa,\epsilon} \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$B_1^p \leq \epsilon \quad \text{for all } p \geq N_{\kappa,\epsilon}. \tag{4.13}$$

Combining (4.12) and (4.13), we then get

$$\lim_p \mathbb{E}[|A_1^p|] = 0. \tag{4.14}$$

Next, we compute, using Cauchy–Schwartz inequality and the uniform bound on  $\|\Phi^n\|_{\mathcal{H}^2}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[|A_2^p|] \leq C \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^t |H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) - H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s)|^2 ds \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and we deduce

$$\lim_p \mathbb{E}[|A_2^p|] = 0, \tag{4.15}$$

from the continuity of  $H$  and the strong convergence of  $(Y^r, Z^r)$  to  $(Y, Z)$ . Finally we use the boundedness of  $H$  and the strong convergence of  $^p \Phi$  to  $\Phi$  to get

$$\lim_p \mathbb{E}[|A_3^p|] = 0. \tag{4.16}$$

Combining (4.14), (4.15) and (4.16) with (4.10) yields  $\lim_p \mathbb{E}[|\mathcal{E}_t^p|] = 0$ . Eventually, we get that, for all  $t \leq T$ ,

$$Y_t = g(X_T^{0,a}) + \int_t^T f(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s - \int_t^T H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) \Phi_s ds,$$

which concludes the proof of Theorem 4.1. Let us remark that the preceding equation allows us to consider a continuous version of the process  $Y$ . □

We conclude this section by giving the proof of Corollary 4.1 which is an interesting application of Theorem 4.1 to the well studied case of BSDEs for switching problems. Following our approach, the main question reduces now to find an appropriate continuous  $H$  to describe the direction of reflection such that  $H(\cdot)\Phi = -\Psi$ , compare (4.2) and (4.4).

**Proof of Corollary 4.1.** It is sufficient to define a continuous function  $H$  on  $\partial\mathcal{D}$ , recall Remark 2.1. We have

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ y \in \mathbb{R}^d : y^l > \max_{j \in \mathcal{I}} (y^j - c^{lj}), l \in \mathcal{I} \right\}, \tag{4.17}$$

thus,  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$  is a non-compact convex polyhedron. We can remark that

$$\bar{\mathcal{D}}^0 := \bar{\mathcal{D}} \cap \{y^d = 0\}$$

is, by abuse of notation, a compact convex polyhedron of  $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$  and so it is a convex polytope. Indeed, we have

$$\bar{\mathcal{D}}^0 \subset \{(y^1, \dots, y^{d-1}) | y^i \in [-c^{id}, c^{di}], \forall i \in \{1, \dots, d-1\}\} \neq \emptyset,$$

since we have  $c^{di} + c^{id} > 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq d-1$  due to the structure condition (4.5). We just have to define  $H$  on  $\partial\bar{\mathcal{D}}^0$  and then extend  $H$  to  $\partial\bar{\mathcal{D}}$  in this way: for all  $(t, x, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^k \times \mathcal{D} \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ , we define

$$H(t, x, y, z) := H(t, x, (y^1 - y^d, \dots, y^{d-1} - y^d, 0), z).$$

Since  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}^0$  is a convex polytope, then, by Krein–Milman theorem, it is the convex hull of its extremal points. We will define  $H$  on all extremal points and then the value of  $H$  on all facets

$$\mathcal{C}^{lj} = \{y \in \partial\bar{\mathcal{D}}^0 : y^l = y^j - c^{lj}\}, \quad l, j \in \mathcal{I}, l \neq j,$$

will be defined by linear interpolations. Let us consider an extremal point  $(\bar{y}^1, \dots, \bar{y}^{d-1})$ : we know that there exist  $(l_i, j_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, d-1\}} \in \{1, \dots, d\}^{2 \times (d-1)}$  such that

- $(l_i, j_i) \neq (l_k, j_k)$  when  $i \neq k$ ,
- for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, d-1\}$ ,  $\bar{y}^{l_i} = \bar{y}^{j_i} - c^{l_i j_i}$  where  $\bar{y}^d = 0$ .

Then, we define  $H(t, x, (\bar{y}^1, \dots, \bar{y}^{d-1}, 0), z)$  as the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{span}(\{e^{l_1}, \dots, e^{l_{d-1}}\})$ . To conclude it is sufficient to check that  $H(t, x, (y^1, \dots, y^{d-1}, 0), z)$  sends the vector  $e^l - e^j$  to the vector  $e^l$  when  $(y^1, \dots, y^{d-1}) \in \mathcal{C}^{lj}$  and to show the result only for extremal points. In order to do so, let us consider  $(\bar{y}^1, \dots, \bar{y}^{d-1}) \in \mathcal{C}^{lj}$  an extremal point: by the definition of  $H$  we just have to show that  $e^j \notin \{e^{l_1}, \dots, e^{l_{d-1}}\}$  where we re-use previous notations. Let us prove it by contradiction: we assume that there exists  $i \in \{1, \dots, d-1\}$  such that

$$j = l_i \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{y}^{l_i} = \bar{y}^{j_i} - c^{l_i j_i}. \tag{4.18}$$

Moreover, we have  $(\bar{y}^1, \dots, \bar{y}^{d-1}) \in \mathcal{C}^{lj}$  so

$$\bar{y}^l = \bar{y}^j - c^{lj}. \tag{4.19}$$

By combining (4.18), (4.19) and the structure condition (4.5), we obtain

$$\bar{y}^l = \bar{y}^j - c^{lj} = \bar{y}^{j_i} - (c^{lj} + c^{j_i j_i}) < \bar{y}^{j_i} - c^{l j_i},$$

which is in contradiction with the definition of  $\mathcal{D}$  given by (4.17). □

**Remark 4.3.** The  $H$  operator constructed in the above proof does not satisfy the assumption (SB)(iii) used in the non-Markovian framework of Section 3. Actually, we do not know yet if it is possible to exhibit such an  $H$  when  $d > 2$ . For positive results in this direction, we refer to [1] dealing with *randomised* switching problems.

#### 4.2. The case of discontinuous $H$

In this section, we consider the case of a discontinuous direction of reflection on the boundary  $\partial D$ . We obtain an existence result for an obliquely reflected BSDE but the characterization of the reflecting part is somehow more involved, specially at the discontinuity point of  $H$ , where many directions of reflection are allowed at the limit. This too weak characterization leads a to non-uniqueness result as illustrated in the next paragraph. The limiting equation we are studying here is then

$$Y_t = g(X_T^{0,a}) + \int_t^T f(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s - \int_t^T \Psi_s ds, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

$$\Psi_s \in E(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) \text{ and } Y_s \in \bar{\mathcal{D}} \quad d\mathbb{P} \otimes ds \text{ a.e.}, \tag{4.20}$$

with  $a \in \mathbb{R}^q$  and, for all  $(t, x, y, z) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^q \times \bar{\mathcal{D}} \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ ,

$$E(t, x, y, z) := \begin{cases} \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} \text{pos}(\{H(t, x, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z})u \mid (\tilde{y}, \tilde{z}) \in B((y, z), \varepsilon), u \in \partial\varphi(y)\}) & \text{if } y \in \partial\mathcal{D} \\ \{0\} & \text{if } y \in \mathcal{D}, \end{cases}$$

where  $\text{pos}(\{v_i\})$  is the closure of the positive linear span of the family  $\{v_i\}$ , and  $B(x, \varepsilon)$  is the closed Euclidean ball of center  $x$  and radius  $\varepsilon$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *Assume that assumptions (AM)(i)–(v) hold. Then, there exists a solution in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  to (4.20).*

**Remark 4.4.** When  $H$  is continuous, we can easily show that

$$E(t, x, y, z) = H(t, x, y, z)\partial\varphi(y)$$

which is consistent with the result of Theorem 4.1.

**Proof.** The proof of Theorem 4.2 strongly follows the proof of Theorem 4.1. The arguments are similar from step 1 to step 5.a. We thus start directly the proof at step 5.b by studying the reflecting term. Since

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |H(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^n, Z_s^n) \nabla \varphi_n(Y_s^n)|^2 ds \right] \leq C,$$

we have, up to a subsequence, the following weak  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega)$ -convergence:

$$\Psi^n := H(\cdot, X^{0,a}, Y^n, Z^n) \nabla \varphi_n(Y^n) \rightharpoonup \Psi, \quad \text{when } n \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Using once again Mazur’s Lemma, we know that there exists a convex combination of  $(\Psi^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converging strongly in  $L^2([0, T] \times \Omega)$ , namely

$${}^p\Psi := \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p \Psi^r \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow \infty} \Psi,$$

where  $\lambda_r^p \geq 0$  for all  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p \leq r \leq N_p$ , and  $\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p = 1$ . As usual, the following combination

$$({}^pY, {}^pZ) := \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p (Y^r, Z^r)$$

still converges to  $(Y, Z)$  in  $\mathcal{S}^2 \times \mathcal{H}^2$  and, by strong convergence,

$$\sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p f_r(\cdot, X^{0,a}, Y^r, Z^r) \xrightarrow{L^1([0,T] \times \Omega, dt \otimes dP)} f(\cdot, X^{0,a}, Y, Z) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^t {}^pZ_s dW_s \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}^2} \int_0^t Z_s dW_s.$$

So we can pass to the limit into

$${}^pY_t = g(X_T^{0,a}) + \int_t^T \sum_{r=p}^{N_p} \lambda_r^p f_r(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s^r, Z_s^r) ds - \int_t^T {}^pZ_s dW_s - \int_t^T {}^p\Psi_s ds$$

to obtain that

$$Y_t = g(X_T^{0,a}) + \int_t^T f(s, X_s^{0,a}, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s - \int_t^T \Psi_s ds, \quad dt \otimes d\mathbb{P}\text{a.e.}$$

To conclude we just have to study the direction of reflection. Since we have, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\Psi_t^n := H(t, X_t^{0,a}, Y_t^n, Z_t^n) \nabla \varphi_n(Y_t^n) \in H(t, X_t^{0,a}, Y_t^n, Z_t^n) \partial\varphi(\mathfrak{P}(Y_t^n))$$

and  $(Y_t^n, Z_t^n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} (Y, Z) dt \otimes d\mathbb{P}$ a.e., then, for all  $\varepsilon_1 > 0$  and  $\varepsilon_2 > 0$ , there exists  $N$  (depending on  $\omega$ ) such that, for all  $n \geq N$ ,

$$\Psi_t^n \in \text{pos}(\{H(t, X_t^{0,a}, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z})u | (\tilde{y}, \tilde{z}) \in B((Y_t, Z_t), \varepsilon_1), \bar{y} \in B(Y_t, \varepsilon_2) \cap \bar{\mathcal{D}}, u \in \partial\varphi(\bar{y})\}),$$

$dt \otimes d\mathbb{P}$ a.e. It implies that, for all  $p \geq N$ ,

$${}^p\Psi_t \in \text{pos}(\{H(t, X_t^{0,a}, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z})u | (\tilde{y}, \tilde{z}) \in B((Y_t, Z_t), \varepsilon_1), \bar{y} \in B(Y_t, \varepsilon_2) \cap \bar{\mathcal{D}}, u \in \partial\varphi(\bar{y})\})$$

$dt \otimes d\mathbb{P}$ a.e. Finally we get that

$$\Psi_t \in \bar{E}(t, X_t^{0,a}, Y_t, Z_t) \quad dt \otimes d\mathbb{P}\text{-a.e.}$$

where

$$\bar{E}(t, x, y, z) := \bigcap_{\varepsilon_1 > 0, \varepsilon_2 > 0} \text{pos}(\{H(t, x, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z})u | (\tilde{y}, \tilde{z}) \in B((y, z), \varepsilon_1), \bar{y} \in B(y, \varepsilon_2) \cap \bar{\mathcal{D}}, u \in \partial\varphi(\bar{y})\}).$$

When  $y \in \mathcal{D}$  we can remark that  $\partial\varphi(\bar{y}) = 0$  when  $\bar{y} \in B(y, \varepsilon_2) \cap \bar{\mathcal{D}}$  with  $\varepsilon_2$  small enough: thus we get  $E(t, x, y, z) = 0$ . When  $y \notin \mathcal{D}$ , Let us show that

$$\partial\varphi(y) = \bigcap_{\varepsilon_2 > 0} \{u | u \in \partial\varphi(\bar{y}), \bar{y} \in B(y, \varepsilon_2) \cap \bar{\mathcal{D}}\}. \tag{4.21}$$

One inclusion is obvious, we will prove the other one. Let us consider  $u \in \partial\varphi(y_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  with  $y_n \in B(y, 1/n) \cap \bar{\mathcal{D}}$  and let us show that  $u \in \partial\varphi(y)$ . For all  $z \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$u \cdot (z - y) = u \cdot (z - y_n) + u \cdot (y_n - y)$$

and so

$$\sup_{z \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}} (u \cdot (z - y)) \leq \sup_{z \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}} (u \cdot (z - y_n)) + u \cdot (y_n - y) \leq |u| |y_n - y|$$

by definition of  $\partial\varphi(y_n)$ . Then, by taking  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  in the preceding inequality we get

$$\sup_{z \in \bar{\mathcal{D}}} (u \cdot (z - y)) \leq 0$$

which proves (4.21). This result implies that for any  $(\tilde{y}, \tilde{z}) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ ,

$$\bigcap_{\varepsilon_2 > 0} \{H(t, x, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z})u | \bar{y} \in B(y, \varepsilon_2) \cap \bar{\mathcal{D}}, u \in \partial\varphi(\bar{y})\} = \{H(t, x, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z})u | u \in \partial\varphi(y)\},$$

and so we finally get that  $\bar{E} = E$  which concludes the proof. □

*A counter-example to uniqueness.* Inspired by Remark 4.4 in [18], we suggest the following counter-example to uniqueness in a non-smooth setting. The domain  $\mathcal{D}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{D} = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid y_1 \geq 0 \text{ and } y_2 + y_1 \geq 0\}$$

Observe that  $\partial\mathcal{D} = F_1 \cup F_2$ , where  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are given by

$$F_1 = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid y_1 = 0 \text{ and } y_2 \geq 0\}, \quad F_2 = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid y_1 \geq 0 \text{ and } y_1 + y_2 = 0\}$$

and we denote by  $G = F_1 \cap F_2$ , the corner of the domain. On  $F_1$  we assume that the reflection is normal so that  $H = I_3$ , including points on  $G$  where the outward cone of reflection if given by

$$\mathcal{K} = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid y_1 \leq 0, y_2 \leq 0 \text{ and } y_2 \geq y_1\}.$$

The direction of reflection is along the  $y_1$  axis on  $F_2 \setminus G$  and is thus oblique,  $H$  is constant but not equal to  $I_d$ .  $H$  is thus discontinuous at the corner.

We consider a BSDE with the following data:  $X = W$ ,  $\xi = (0, 0, X_T)^\top$ ,  $f(t, x, y, z) = -(z^3, z^3, 0)^\top$  is constant. Note that it satisfies the assumption (AM)(i)–(v). We give now two distinct solutions:

1. The first solution is given by  $Y_t = (0, 0, W_t)^\top$ ,  $Z_t = (0, 0, 1)^\top$  and  $\Psi_t = (-t, -t, 0)^\top$ .
2. The second solution is given by  $Y'_t = (T - t, -(T - t), W_t)^\top$ ,  $Z'_t = (0, 0, 1)^\top$  and  $\Psi'_t = (-2t, 0, 0)^\top$ .

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