

# Long-time behavior of scalar conservation laws with critical dissipation

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**Abstract.** The critical Burgers equation  $\partial_t u + u\partial_x u + \Lambda u = 0$  is a toy model for the competition between transport and diffusion with regard to shock formation in fluids. It is well known that smooth initial data does not generate shocks in finite time. Less is known about the long-time behavior for ‘shock-like’ initial data:  $u_0 \rightarrow \pm a$  as  $x \rightarrow \mp\infty$ . We describe this long-time behavior in the general setting of multidimensional critical scalar conservation laws  $\partial_t u + \operatorname{div} f(u) + \Lambda u = 0$  when the initial data has limits at infinity. The asymptotics are given by certain self-similar solutions, whose stability we demonstrate with the optimal diffusive rates.

## 1. Introduction

Our motivating example is the Burgers equation with critical non-local dissipation

$$\partial_t u + u\partial_x u + \Lambda u = 0 \tag{1.1}$$

and ‘shock-like’ initial data:

$$u_0(x) \rightarrow \pm a \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \mp\infty, \tag{1.2}$$

where  $\Lambda = (-\Delta)^{1/2}$  and  $a > 0$ . This equation arises as a toy model in fluid mechanics. It models the competition between the transport non-linearity  $u\partial_x u$ , which drives the solution towards a shock, and the dissipation term  $\Lambda u$ , whose smoothing effects counteract the tendency of the non-linearity to form shocks. The equation is *critical* in the sense that these two terms are in balance. In PDE terms, the strongest known monotone quantities, the  $L^\infty$  norm and total variation, are invariant under the scaling symmetry

$$u \rightarrow u(\lambda x, \lambda t), \tag{1.3}$$

which preserves the equation (1.1).

By now, it is well known that solutions of (1.1) evolving from smooth initial data do not form shocks in finite time. *What happens in infinite time?* We answer this question for

the critical Burgers equation (1.1) and in the more general context of scalar conservation laws with critical non-local dissipation in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$\partial_t u + \operatorname{div} f(u) + \Lambda u = 0, \tag{1.4}$$

where the initial data has ‘limits at infinity’. The long-time behavior is described to leading order by certain *self-similar solutions*, that is, solutions invariant under the scaling symmetry (1.3).

Let  $h \in C^\infty(S^{n-1})$  and  $u_0^{\text{ss}}(x) = h(x/|x|)$ . Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  belong to  $C_{\text{loc}}^\infty(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^n)$ . Let  $v_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $|v_0| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|x| \rightarrow +\infty$ , specifically,

$$\|v\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_R)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } R \rightarrow +\infty. \tag{1.5}$$

Let  $u_0 = u_0^{\text{ss}} + v_0$  and  $\|u_0^{\text{ss}}\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)}, \|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq m$ . Let  $u^{\text{ss}}, u$  be the unique *entropy solutions* to (1.4) with initial data  $u_0^{\text{ss}}, u_0$ , respectively. In the context of (1.4), the notion of entropy solution was introduced by Alibaud in [3], and we review it below. Notice that, by virtue of its uniqueness,  $u^{\text{ss}}$  must be self similar.

Here is our main theorem:

**Theorem 1.1** (Long-time behavior). *The above entropy solution  $u$  converges to the self-similar solution  $u^{\text{ss}}$  with the following (diffusive) rates:*

$$\|u(\cdot, t) - u^{\text{ss}}(\cdot, t)\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_{m,n} o_{t \rightarrow +\infty}(1) t^{\frac{n}{q} - \frac{n}{p}} \|u_0 - u_0^{\text{ss}}\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \tag{1.6}$$

for all  $1 < p \leq q \leq +\infty$ . If  $p = 1$ , then (1.6) holds with  $O(1)$  instead of  $o(1)$  on the right-hand side.

When  $f \equiv 0$ , (1.4) reduces to the fractional heat equation, and the above diffusive rates are easily seen to be sharp.

In dimension  $n = 1$ , we also have stability in BV:

**Theorem 1.2** (BV convergence). *If also  $u_0 \in \text{BV}(\mathbb{R})$ , then*

$$\|u(\cdot, t) - u^{\text{ss}}(\cdot, t)\|_{\text{TV}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow +\infty. \tag{1.7}$$

Additionally,  $u^{\text{ss}}$  is monotone and satisfies the following spatial asymptotics:

$$C^{-1} \langle x \rangle^{-1} \leq |u^{\text{ss}}(x, 1) - u_0^{\text{ss}}| \leq C \langle x \rangle^{-1}, \quad |x| \geq C, \tag{1.8}$$

provided that  $u_0^{\text{ss}}$  is not identically constant.<sup>1</sup> Notice that, when  $n \geq 2$ ,  $u_0^{\text{ss}}$  does not generally belong to  $\text{BV}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and the total variation is no longer scaling invariant.

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<sup>1</sup>It may be possible to obtain more precise spatial asymptotics for  $u^{\text{ss}}$  and its derivatives by analyzing the similarity profile  $u^{\text{ss}}(\cdot, 1)$ , which satisfies a quasilinear non-local elliptic equation.

*Added in print:* In the rarefaction case, qualitative properties of the self-similar profile (symmetry, monotonicity, and convexity of  $u^{\text{ss}}(\cdot, 1)$ , as well as asymptotics for  $\partial_x u^{\text{ss}}(x, 1)$  as  $|x| \rightarrow +\infty$ ) were studied in Theorem 1.7 of [5] from this perspective.

### 1.1. Comparison with existing literature

The critical Burgers equation (1.1) belongs to the following family of Burgers equations with fractional diffusion:

$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u + \Lambda^s u = 0, \tag{1.9}$$

where  $s \in (0, 2]$ . These models were considered by Biler, Funaki, and Woyczynski in [7], where they are known as *fractal Burgers equations*. One may consider also the analogous conservation laws with fractional diffusion  $\Lambda^s$ . The relevant literature is fairly extensive:

**Regularity theory.** A detailed picture of the regularity theory of (1.9) was shown by Kiselev, Nazarov, and Shterenberg in [32] in the periodic setting. When  $s \geq 1$ , smooth initial data gives global smooth solutions, whereas when  $s < 1$ , solutions may develop shocks in finite time. In that case, solutions may be continued uniquely within the class of entropy solutions. See [4, 20] for further discussions on regularity vs. blow-up. The proof of global regularity in [32] in the critical case follows the method of ‘moduli of continuity’. This method was introduced in [33] by Kiselev, Nazarov, and Volberg in the context of the critical SQG equation:<sup>2</sup>

$$\partial_t \theta + \vec{R}^\perp \theta \cdot \nabla \theta + \Lambda \theta = 0. \tag{SQG}$$

Other proofs of the regularity of (SQG) are contained in [11] (De Giorgi’s method), [31], [34] (Nash’s method), [17] (‘nonlinear maximum principle’), and [16]. The above proofs can be categorized as proofs of *smoothing* [11, 34] or *propagation of regularity* [16, 17, 31, 33]. The smoothing proofs notably ‘forget’ that the equation is nonlinear. Alternative proofs of regularity for (1.1), based on smoothing, were given in [12] (De Giorgi’s method) and [38, 39] (non-divergence form techniques). We rely on these smoothing estimates, particularly those of Silvestre, in an essential way below.<sup>3</sup>

**Long-time behavior.** The long-time behavior of (1.9) is perhaps less well studied than its regularity. When  $s \in (0, 2)$  and the initial data is well localized, the non-linearity of (1.9) is ‘irrelevant’, in the sense of [9], for the long-time dynamics. When  $s = 1$ , Iwabuchi [24, 25] demonstrated that all solutions with  $u_0 \in L^1 \cap \dot{B}_{\infty,1}^0$  converge to the Poisson kernel. When  $s = 2$ , the spaces  $L^1$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  (finite measures) are critical, and it is classical that the long-time behavior is given by a self-similar solution, sometimes called a *diffusion wave*. This case and its precise asymptotic behavior can be illuminated by the Cole–Hopf transformation [6, 14, 29, 35].

What about non-decaying solutions? The current best results in this direction concern ‘rarefaction-like’ initial data, that is,  $a < 0$  in (1.2). In [28], it was shown that such solutions converge to an inviscid rarefaction wave when  $s > 1$ . In [5], it was shown that when

<sup>2</sup>This method has since been generalized to other models, including the one-dimensional critical Keller–Segel equations [10] and the one-dimensional fractional Euler alignment system [19].

<sup>3</sup>For supercritical SQG, global regularity remains open, though it is possible to show eventual regularity [13, 18, 30, 37]. We mention also the recent extension of [11] to bounded domains in [41].

$s = 1$ , the solutions converge to a certain self-similar solution, and when  $s < 1$ , the non-linearity is ‘irrelevant’ in the long-time asymptotic expansion. Notably, in the rarefaction case, the potential term in the energy estimates for the linearized equation appears with a good sign.

In this paper, we analyze the case of ‘shock-like’ initial data, which is less clear. Initially, one might wonder whether (i) solutions converge to a smooth traveling or standing wave, known as a ‘viscous shock’, or perhaps (ii) solutions form a shock in infinite time. Regarding (i), it was already shown in [7] that traveling wave solutions satisfying reasonable regularity conditions do not exist when  $s \in (0, 1]$ . Regarding (ii), one might additionally wonder whether the standing waves constructed in the subcritical case  $s > 1$  in [15] converge to a shock as  $s \rightarrow 1^+$ . This is apparently also not the case, as we show in Theorem 1.1.

It is tempting to conjecture that, in the subcritical case  $s > 1$ , shock-like solutions of (1.9) behave as in the classical case  $s = 2$ , where there is a unique viscous shock, whose global asymptotic stability was shown by Il’in and Oleĭnik in [23]. See [27, 36, 44] and many others for further developments and precise asymptotics. For  $s \in (1, 2)$ , the uniqueness, spatial asymptotics, and global asymptotic stability of the monotone viscous shocks constructed in [15] do not seem to have appeared in the literature, although local asymptotic stability was recently demonstrated in [1].

**Self-similarity and (non-)uniqueness.** The two-dimensional Navier–Stokes equations

$$\partial_t \omega + u \cdot \nabla \omega - \Delta \omega = 0, \quad u = \nabla^\perp \Delta^{-1} \omega \tag{NS}$$

exhibit a family of self-similar solutions known as the *Oseen vortices*:  $\omega(x, t) = \alpha \Gamma(x, t/\nu)$ , where  $\Gamma$  is the heat kernel and  $\alpha = \int \omega_0 dx$  is the circulation. In [21], Gally and Wayne famously showed that all localized solutions converge to Oseen vortices as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ , and, moreover, the vortex solutions are unique within a natural solution class. Our situation is analogous, with the circulation  $\alpha$  corresponding to the jump parameter  $a$  in (1.2). By contrast, self-similar solutions of the three-dimensional Navier–Stokes equations are expected to be non-unique [22, 26]. For (SQG), this is investigated in forthcoming work of Bradshaw and the first author. While the entropy solutions of (1.1) are unique, there may be a different class of self-similar solutions with potential non-uniqueness, for example, with  $u_0 \sim \log x$ , so that  $\nabla u_0$  is  $-1$ -homogeneous.

### 1.2. Main idea

Our starting point is the existence and uniqueness of  $L^\infty$  entropy solutions to (1.4), due to Alibaud [3], which immediately gives the existence and uniqueness of a self-similar solution  $u^{ss}$ . Let  $v = u - u^{ss}$  be the difference between an entropy solution  $u$  and the self-similar solution. Consider a sequence  $(v^{(k)})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  obtained by ‘zooming out’ on  $v$  using the scaling symmetry (1.3). Then establishing  $v(\cdot, t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  is the same as establishing  $v^{(k)} \rightarrow 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times (1/2, 1)$  as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ . To analyze the new problem, we exploit a key (standard) observation about viscous scalar conservation laws, namely, that

$v$  satisfies the *viscous continuity equation*

$$\partial_t v + \operatorname{div}(g v) + \Lambda v = 0, \tag{1.10}$$

where

$$g = \frac{f(u) - f(u^{ss})}{u - u^{ss}} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, +\infty)). \tag{1.11}$$

In our setting, *the main difficulty is that at the initial time,  $g$  is no better than bounded, since  $u_0^{ss}$  is not continuous.* This is an essential feature of the problem, and we handle it using two tools:

- (1) *smoothing for drift-diffusion equations.* By the known regularity theory, the solution, which is initially merely bounded, instantaneously becomes  $C^\alpha$ -in- $x$ . This may be bootstrapped to higher regularity. The key point is then to move the problem past  $t = 0$ , which is done by the
- (2) *controlled speed of propagation.* Solutions of (1.10) have finite propagation speed *up to the effect of the diffusion.* This allows us to keep the initial spatial decay of the solution for small positive times and exploit (1.10) with smooth coefficients and smooth, decaying initial data.

The above tools, due to [38, 39] and [3], respectively, are key to our arguments. We encounter a further, technical difficulty in that the controlled speed of propagation only allows us to propagate  $L^1$ -based quantities. This requires the use of special norms  $\|\cdot\|_{\ell_k^q L_x^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}$ , for example,

$$\|v\|_{\ell_k^\infty L_x^1(\mathbb{R}^n)} = \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \int_{k+(-1/2, 1/2)^n} |v(x)| dx. \tag{1.12}$$

After the initial time, we use the smoothing effect to estimate more standard quantities, such as  $\|v\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)}$ , in terms of these special norms.<sup>4</sup> For this, we use pointwise estimates for fundamental solutions of non-local parabolic equations with subcritical lower order terms, due to Xie and Zhang [43]. When  $f$  is merely Lipschitz, we offer less precise asymptotics, see Remark 3.3.<sup>5</sup>

## 2. Preliminaries

In the sequel, constants in the  $C, \lesssim$  notation may implicitly depend on  $n \geq 1, f \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^n)$ .

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<sup>4</sup>Similar norms appear in the Navier–Stokes literature. See [8] and the references therein. Apparently, these spaces are known as *Wiener amalgam spaces*.

<sup>5</sup>*Added in print:* See Remark 3.2 for an alternative proof, due to Hongjie Dong, based on a maximal function estimate.

Recall that the Poisson kernel  $P$  is given by

$$P(x, t) = c_n \frac{t}{(|x|^2 + t^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}, \tag{2.1}$$

where  $c_n > 0$  is chosen to satisfy  $\int P(x, t) dx = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ .

In [3, Definition 2.3], Alibaud introduced the notion of *entropy solution* to the critical scalar conservation law (1.4). We summarize only the facts we need about entropy solutions; see [3, Section 3]. For each  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , there exists a unique entropy solution  $u$  of (1.4). This solution exists globally and satisfies the maximum principle

$$\|u\|_{L^\infty_{t,x}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, +\infty))} \leq \|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{2.2}$$

The PDE (1.4) is satisfied in the distributional sense. Finally,  $u$  belongs to the space  $C([0, T]; L^1(K))$  for each  $T > 0$  and compact  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .

The following proposition is contained in [3, Theorem 3.2]:

**Proposition 2.1** (Controlled speed of propagation). *Let  $u_0, \tilde{u}_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Consider  $u, \tilde{u}$  entropy solutions to (1.4) with initial conditions  $u_0$  and  $\tilde{u}_0$ , respectively. Then for all  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , all  $t > 0$  and all  $R > 0$ ,*

$$\int_{B(x_0, R)} |u(x, t) - \tilde{u}(x, t)| dx \leq \int_{B(x_0, R+Lt)} P(\cdot, t) * |u_0 - \tilde{u}_0| dx, \tag{2.3}$$

where  $L$  is the Lipschitz constant of  $f$  on  $[-m, m]$  and  $m$  is defined by  $m = \max(\|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)}, \|\tilde{u}_0\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)})$ .

We use Proposition 2.1 to establish the following corollary.

**Proposition 2.2** (Controlled BV). *If  $u_0 \in \text{BV}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , then  $u(\cdot, t) \in \text{BV}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $\|u(\cdot, t)\|_{\text{TV}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \|u_0\|_{\text{TV}(\mathbb{R}^n)}$  for all  $t > 0$ . Let  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be non-negative and radial with  $\psi \equiv 1$  in a neighborhood of the origin. Let  $\psi(x, t) = \psi(x - xLt/|x|)$  when  $|x| \geq Lt$  and  $\psi \equiv 1$  otherwise. Then, for all  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , all  $t > 0$ , and  $k = 1, \dots, n$ ,*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(x - x_0) |\omega_k(x, t)| dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(x - x_0, t) P(\cdot, t) * |\omega_{k,0}| dx, \tag{2.4}$$

where  $\omega_k = \partial_k u$  and  $\omega_{k,0} = \partial_k \omega_0$  are finite measures.<sup>6</sup>

By approximation, if also  $\nabla u(\cdot, t) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for a given  $t > 0$ , then  $\psi = \mathbf{1}_{B_R}$  with  $R > 0$  is an admissible weight function.

*Proof.* The global BV bound is directly from [3, Proposition 3.4]. Let us justify (2.4) with  $x_0 = 0$  when  $\nabla u_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is compactly supported. First, Alibaud’s formula (2.3) holds with integration against weight  $\psi$  as in (2.4). This is shown by integrating (2.3)

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<sup>6</sup>This is why we require integration against continuous  $\psi$  on the left-hand side.

according to the principle  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi F dx = \int_0^\infty \int_{\{\psi > \lambda\}} F dx d\lambda$ . Let  $D_k^\varepsilon$  be the different quotient operator  $D_k^\varepsilon u = (u(x) - u(x - \varepsilon \vec{e}_k))/\varepsilon$ . Letting  $\tilde{u} = u(\cdot - \varepsilon \vec{e}_k, t)$  in (2.3) with weight  $\psi$ , and dividing by  $\varepsilon$ , we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(x) |D_k^\varepsilon u(x, t)| dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(x, t) P(\cdot, t) * |D_k^\varepsilon u_0| dx. \tag{2.5}$$

We have  $D_k^\varepsilon u_0 \rightarrow \omega_{k,0}$  strongly in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then  $P(\cdot, t) * |D_k^\varepsilon u_0| \rightarrow P(\cdot, t) * |\omega_{k,0}|$  in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  also. This implies that the left-hand side remains bounded as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . Hence,  $\nabla u(\cdot, t)$  actually belongs to  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and the left-hand side converges to  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(x) |\omega_k(x, t)| dx$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . To complete the proof for general  $u_0 \in \text{BV}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , we approximate  $u_0$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  by  $u_0^{(i)}$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , and we approximate  $\nabla u_0$  weakly-\* in  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  by  $\nabla u_0^{(i)}$  compactly supported, belonging to  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and satisfying  $|\omega_{k,0}^{(i)}| \xrightarrow{*} |\omega_{k,0}|$  in the sense of measures. Then one may verify, using the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem and kernel estimates, that  $P(\cdot, t) * |\omega_{k,0}^{(i)}| \rightarrow P(\cdot, t) * |\omega_{k,0}|$  strongly in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . The left-hand side is handled by lower semicontinuity. This completes the proof. ■

Proposition 2.1 only allows us to propagate  $L^1$ -based quantities, which then smooth to  $L^q$ -based quantities,  $q \geq 1$ , after the initial time:

Let  $\ell > 0$  and  $\ell \square(k)$  be the open cube with center at  $k$  and side length  $\ell$ . That is,  $\ell \square(k) = k + (-\ell/2, \ell/2)^n$ . We write  $\square(k) = 1 \square(k)$ . Define

$$\|f\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} = \|\|f\|_{L_x^q(\square(k))}\|_{\ell_k^p(\mathbb{Z}^n)}. \tag{2.6}$$

When  $p = +\infty$ , the space  $\ell_k^\infty L_x^q(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is known in the literature as  $L_{\text{loc}}^q(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . We have  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n) = \ell_k^p L_x^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with equality of norms. We also have the obvious embeddings

$$\|f\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^{q_1}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \|f\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^{q_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \tag{2.7}$$

when  $q_1 \leq q_2$ , and

$$\|f\|_{\ell_k^{p_2} L_x^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \|f\|_{\ell_k^{p_1} L_x^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} \tag{2.8}$$

when  $p_1 \leq p_2$ . The short-time and small-distance behavior of these spaces is akin to that of  $L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , whereas the large-distance behavior is more closely akin to that of  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

We will require the following smoothing estimates when  $q = 1$  or  $p = q$ . However, it is no more effort to prove the general estimates:

**Lemma 2.3** (Smoothing for the heat equation). *Let  $p, q_1, q_2 \in [1, +\infty]$  with  $q_1 \leq q_2$ . Let  $w_0 \in \ell_k^p L_x^{q_1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Define*

$$w(\cdot, t) = P(\cdot, t) * w_0. \tag{2.9}$$

Then for  $t \leq 1$ ,

$$\|w(\cdot, t)\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^{q_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim t^{\frac{n}{q_2} - \frac{n}{q_1}} \|w_0\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^{q_1}(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{2.10}$$

*Proof.* Let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . We decompose  $\mathbb{R}^n$  into near-to- $k$  and far-from- $k$  regions:

$$\begin{aligned} \|w(x, t)\|_{L_x^{q_2}(\square(k))} &\leq \underbrace{\left\| \int_{y \in 3\square(k)} P(x - y, t) |w_0(y)| dy \right\|_{L_x^{q_2}(\square(k))}}_{=I_1(k)} \\ &+ \underbrace{\left\| \int_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus 3\square(k)} P(x - y, t) |w_0(y)| dy \right\|_{L_x^{q_2}(\square(k))}}_{=I_2(k)}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

Eventually, we will sum in  $\ell_k^p(\mathbb{Z}^n)$ . First, we estimate  $I_1(k)$ :

$$I_1(k) \leq \left\| \sum_{|j|_\infty \leq 1} P(\cdot, t) * (\mathbf{1}_{\square(k+j)} |w_0|) \right\|_{L_x^{q_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim t^{\frac{n}{q_2} - \frac{n}{q_1}} \sum_{|j|_\infty \leq 1} \|w_0\|_{L_x^{q_1}(\square(k+j))}, \tag{2.12}$$

by Young’s convolution inequality. We now sum in  $\ell_k^p(\mathbb{Z}^n)$ . By the triangle inequality, and since there are only a finite number of boxes (specifically,  $3^n$ ) in the  $j$  sum, we have

$$\|I_1(k)\|_{\ell_k^p(\mathbb{Z}^n)} \lesssim t^{\frac{n}{q_2} - \frac{n}{q_1}} \|w_0\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^{q_1}(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{2.13}$$

Now we estimate  $I_2(k)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} I_2(k) &\leq \sum_{|j|_\infty > 1} \int_{\square(k-j)} |w_0(y)| \|P(x - y, t)\|_{L_x^{q_2}(\square(k))} dy \\ &\leq \sum_{|j|_\infty > 1} \left[ \sup_{x \in \square(k)} \sup_{y \in \square(k-j)} P(x - y, t) \right] \int_{\square(k-j)} |w_0(y)| dy, \end{aligned} \tag{2.14}$$

where we used Hölder’s inequality in  $x$  and  $|\square(k)| = 1$ . When  $x \in \square(k)$  and  $y \in \square(k - j)$ , we have  $|x - y| \geq |j| - 1$ . Recall that  $P(z, t) \lesssim t/|z|^{n+1} \lesssim 1/|z|^{n+1}$  for  $t \leq 1$ . Hence,

$$\sup_{x \in \square(k)} \sup_{y \in \square(k-j)} P(x - y, t) \lesssim \frac{1}{(|j| - 1)^{n+1}}, \tag{2.15}$$

and

$$I_2(k) \lesssim \sum_{|j|_\infty > 1} \frac{1}{(|j| - 1)^{n+1}} \int_{\square(k-j)} |w_0(y)| dy. \tag{2.16}$$

One may recognize (2.16) as a discrete convolution with a summable-in- $j$  kernel. Applying  $\|\cdot\|_{\ell_k^p(\mathbb{Z}^n)}$ , we have

$$\|I_2(k)\|_{\ell_k^p(\mathbb{Z}^n)} \lesssim \sum_{|j|_\infty > 1} \frac{1}{(|j| - 1)^{n+1}} \|w_0\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^1(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim \|w_0\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^{q_1}(\mathbb{R}^n)}, \tag{2.17}$$

where we used the trivial embedding (2.7). This completes the proof. ■

We now justify that the entropy solutions immediately become Hölder continuous and better:



**Proposition 2.4** (Regularity). *Let  $u$  be the unique entropy solution of (1.4) with initial data satisfying  $\|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq m$ . Suppose also that  $f \in C_{\text{loc}}^\infty(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^n)$ . There exists  $\alpha = \alpha(m, n) \in (0, 1)$  such that  $u \in L_{t,\text{loc}}^\infty C_x^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, +\infty))$  and*

$$\text{ess sup}_{t>0} t \|\nabla u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} + t^2 \|\nabla^2 u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} + t^{2+\alpha} [\nabla^2 u(\cdot, t)]_{C^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_m 1. \tag{2.18}$$

*Proof.* The estimate

$$t^\alpha [u(\cdot, t)]_{C^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_m 1 \tag{2.19}$$

follows from a direct application of the  $L_x^\infty \rightarrow C_x^\alpha$  smoothing estimates developed by Silvestre in [39, Theorem 1.1] and [38] for bounded ‘solutions’ of non-local drift-diffusion equations

$$\partial_t u + b \cdot \nabla u + \Lambda u = g, \tag{2.20}$$

where  $b, g$  are bounded. Notably,  $b$  may be large and not necessarily divergence free. In our situation,  $b(x, t) = f'(u(x, t))$  and  $g = 0$ . The notion of ‘solution’ is in quotation marks because, here,  $b$  is allowed to be discontinuous, so the notion of viscosity solution may not be directly applicable.<sup>7</sup> To employ Silvestre’s estimates rigorously, one may mollify the initial data, argue at the level of classical solutions, and pass to the limit.

To bootstrap  $C_x^\alpha \rightarrow C_x^{1,\alpha}$ , we apply linear estimates due to Silvestre in [40, Theorem 1.1] for the drift-diffusion equation (2.20). It is also possible to proceed more directly, as in [11, Appendix B] or in [16, 17]. Since  $b = f'(u)$  is  $\alpha$ -Hölder continuous in  $\mathbb{R}^n \times (1/2, 1)$  with bounds depending only on  $m$ , Theorem 1.1 in [40] gives

$$\|u\|_{L_t^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (1/2, 1))} \lesssim_m 1. \tag{2.22}$$

Hence,  $b = f'(u)$  satisfies the same bounds. Next, we apply  $\partial_k, 1 \leq k \leq n$ , to the PDE. This gives

$$\partial_t \partial_k u + \Lambda \partial_k u + b \cdot \nabla \partial_k u = -\partial_k b \cdot \nabla u. \tag{2.23}$$

We regard  $g = -\partial_k b \cdot \nabla u$  as a forcing term belonging to  $L_t^\infty C_x^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^n \times (1/2, 1))$ . Finally, Theorem 1.1 in [40] gives

$$\|\partial_k u\|_{L_t^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (3/4, 1))} \lesssim_m 1. \tag{2.24}$$

Scaling invariance gives the sharp dependence on  $t$ . One could also proceed to higher derivatives. ■

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<sup>7</sup>This is discussed in Section 5 of Silvestre’s paper [39], see also [40, Section 3]. Silvestre mentions that, if viscosity solutions are unavailable, then one may justify the estimates at the level of the vanishing viscosity approximation

$$\partial_t u^\varepsilon + b^\varepsilon \cdot \nabla u^\varepsilon + \Lambda u^\varepsilon = \varepsilon \Delta u^\varepsilon \tag{2.21}$$

with  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . In principle, this is possible. However, in our setting, the construction in [3] was by an operator splitting method, rather than regularization by  $\varepsilon \Delta u^\varepsilon$ , so we argue differently.

Consider the linear PDE

$$\partial_t u + \Lambda u + b \cdot \nabla u + cu = 0 \tag{2.25}$$

where  $b \in L_t^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(Q_1)$  and  $c \in L_t^\infty C_x^\alpha(Q_1)$  with  $\|b\|_{L_t^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(Q_1)} + \|c\|_{L_t^\infty C_x^\alpha(Q_1)} \leq M$ . Here,  $Q_T = \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, T)$ .

**Proposition 2.5** (Fundamental solution estimates). *There exists a continuous function  $\Gamma = \Gamma(x, t; y, s)$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $0 \leq s < t \leq 1$ , satisfying the following properties:*

- (Pointwise upper and lower bounds) *For all  $0 \leq S \leq s < t \leq T \leq 1$ ,*

$$C_0^{-1} P(x, t; y, s) \leq \Gamma(x, t; y, s) \leq C_0 P(x, t; y, s), \tag{2.26}$$

where  $C_0 = C_0(T - S, M) > 0$  and  $P$  is the Poisson kernel.

- (Maximum principle) *If  $c \equiv 0$ , then*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} P(x, t; y, s) dy = 1. \tag{2.27}$$

- (Representation formula) *If  $w \in L_{t,x}^\infty(Q_1)$ , with  $w \in L_{t,\text{loc}}^\infty C_x^{1,\beta}(Q_1)$  for some  $\beta \in (0, 1)$ , is a solution of (2.25) on  $Q_1$  and  $w(\cdot, t) \xrightarrow{*} w_0$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ , then*

$$w(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Gamma(x, t; y, 0) w_0(y) dy. \tag{2.28}$$

*Solutions given by the representation formula belong to the above class.*

Proposition 2.5 was obtained in the paper [43] of Xie and Zhang by E. E. Levi’s parametrix method, *except for uniqueness*, which we sketch below. In [43], the authors work with more general assumptions:  $b$  in the subcritical space  $L_t^\infty C_x^\alpha(Q_1)$  and  $c$  in a critical Kato space.

*Proof of uniqueness.* Let  $u_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Define

$$v(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Gamma(x, t; y, 0) u_0(y) dy. \tag{2.29}$$

Let  $L = \Lambda + b \cdot \nabla + c$  and  $L^* = \Lambda - b \cdot \nabla + (c - \text{div } b)$ . Under our additional regularity assumptions, it is possible to show that  $v$  is a weak solution<sup>8</sup> of the PDE in the sense that

$$\iint v(x, t) (-\partial_t + L^*) \varphi dx dt = 0 \tag{2.30}$$

for all  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, 1))$ . Additionally, we have that  $v \in L_t^\infty L_x^2(Q_1)$  and  $v \in L_{t,\text{loc}}^2 H_x^{1/2}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, 1])$ , among many other spaces, and  $v(\cdot, t) \rightarrow u_0$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  as

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<sup>8</sup>Due to the quite general conditions in [43], the authors avoided classical solutions and space-time distributional solutions. Instead, they connect the fundamental solution to the PDE via the ‘generator’ notion.

$t \rightarrow 0^+$ . This follows from the pointwise upper bounds of the fundamental solution and its first derivatives (see [43, Theorem 1.1 (v)]) and the convergence result in [43, Theorem 1.1 (ii)]. One may show, via energy estimates, that the above solution is unique in its class and, additionally, belongs to  $C([0, 1]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)) \cap L^2_t H_x^{1/2}(Q_1)$ .<sup>9</sup>

Assume now that  $u_0 \in L^1 \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then the above solution  $v$  also belongs to  $L_t^\infty L_x^1 \cap L_{t,x}^\infty(Q_1)$ . By uniqueness within the energy class, the solution  $v$  may be obtained by vanishing viscosity:

$$\partial_t u^\varepsilon + \Lambda u^\varepsilon + b \cdot \nabla u^\varepsilon + cu^\varepsilon = \varepsilon \Delta u^\varepsilon. \tag{2.31}$$

According to Silvestre’s estimates, we have that  $v \in L_{t,\text{loc}}^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, 1])$  for some  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  with estimates depending only on  $\|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)}$  and the coefficients. By approximation, we have that when  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $v$  satisfies the same *a priori* estimates.

We now demonstrate the following uniqueness theorem by duality:

*If  $u \in L_{t,\text{loc}}^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, 1])$  is a solution of the linear PDE (2.25) with  $u(\cdot, t) \xrightarrow{*} 0$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ , then  $u \equiv 0$ .<sup>10</sup>*

Let  $T \in (0, 1)$  and  $\psi_0 \in L^1 \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . The above analysis demonstrated that there exists  $\psi \in L_t^\infty L_x^1 \cap L_{t,x}^\infty(Q_T)$  with  $\psi \in L_{t,\text{loc}}^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T])$  and satisfying the adjoint problem

$$-\partial_t \psi + L^* \psi = 0 \tag{2.32}$$

with  $\psi(T) = \psi_0$ . Let  $0 < t_0 < t_1 < T$  and  $R, \varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $\chi \in C_0^\infty(B_2)$  with  $\chi \equiv 1$  on  $B_1$  and  $\chi_R = \chi(x/R)$ . Let  $\varphi_\varepsilon^{t_0,t_1}$  be a mollification of the indicator function  $\mathbf{1}_{(t_0,t_1)}$  at scale  $\varepsilon \ll 1$ . We test (2.25) against  $\psi \chi_R \varphi_\varepsilon^{t_0,t_1}$  and omit  $t_0, t_1, R, \varepsilon$  from the notation as convenient:

$$\begin{aligned} \iint \underbrace{\partial_t u + Lu}_{=0} \psi \chi \varphi \, dx \, dt &= \iint \underbrace{-\partial_t \psi + L^* \psi}_{=0} u \varphi \, dx \, dt \\ &+ \iint (-\partial_t \varphi) \chi u \psi + \varphi (-b \cdot \nabla \chi) u \psi + \varphi u [\Lambda, \chi] \psi \, dx \, dt. \end{aligned} \tag{2.33}$$

Upon sending  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int \chi_R u(x, t_1) \psi(x, t_1) \, dx - \int \chi_R u(x, t_0) \psi(x, t_0) \, dx \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} b \cdot \nabla \chi_R u \psi + u [\Lambda, \chi_R] \psi \, dx \, dt \end{aligned} \tag{2.34}$$

for a.e.  $t_0, t_1 \in (0, 1)$ . Moreover, (2.34) is valid for all  $t_0, t_1 \in [0, T]$ , since  $u: [0, 1] \rightarrow L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is weak-\* continuous and  $\psi \in C([0, T]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^n))$ . We focus on  $t_0 = 0$  and

<sup>9</sup>It is important for the energy estimates that  $b \in L_t^\infty C_x^{1/2}(Q_1)$ .

<sup>10</sup>This argument is modeled off a similar argument in [2] by the first author and Zachary Bradshaw.

$t_1 = T$ . First, we recall the following estimate for the Calderón commutator:

$$\|[\Lambda, \chi_R]\psi\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_p R^{-1}\|\psi\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \quad \text{for all } p \in (1, +\infty). \tag{2.35}$$

Additionally, for  $|x| \geq 2R$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |[\Lambda, \chi_R]\psi(x, t)| &= c_n \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\chi_R(y)}{|x-y|^{n+1}} \psi(y, t) dy \right| \\ &\lesssim_p |x|^{-(n+1)+n/p} \|\psi(\cdot, t)\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.36}$$

Hence,

$$\int_{B_{2R}^c} |[\Lambda, \chi_R]\psi(x, t)| dx \lesssim R^{-1+n/p} \|\psi(\cdot, t)\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{2.37}$$

By Hölder’s inequality and the above two estimates on  $[\Lambda, \chi_R]\psi$ , we have

$$\left| \int_0^T \int_{B_{2R}^c \cup B_{2R}^c} u[\Lambda, \chi_R]\psi dx dt \right| \lesssim_p R^{-1+n/p} \|u\|_{L_{t,x}^\infty(Q_1)} \|\psi\|_{L_t^\infty L_x^{p'}(Q_1)} \rightarrow 0 \tag{2.38}$$

as  $R \rightarrow +\infty$  when  $p > n$ . The term containing  $b \cdot \nabla \chi_R$  is  $O(R^{-1})$ , since  $b, u \in L_{t,x}^\infty(Q_1)$  and  $\psi \in L_t^\infty L_x^1(Q_T)$ . Hence, (2.34) becomes

$$\int u(x, T)\psi_0 dx = 0, \tag{2.39}$$

for all  $T \in (0, 1)$  and  $\psi_0 \in L^1 \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Therefore,  $u \equiv 0$  on  $Q_1$ . ■

### 3. Proof of main results

#### 3.1. Proof of Theorem 1.1

Let  $u_0 \in L^\infty$  and  $u$  be the corresponding entropy solution. For each  $v_0$ , we consider the solution  $\tilde{u} = u + v$  with initial data  $\tilde{u}_0 = u_0 + v_0 \in L^\infty$ .

Let  $m > 0$  and  $\|u_0\|_{L^\infty}, \|\tilde{u}_0\|_{L^\infty} \leq m$ .

We prove continuity with respect to  $v_0$ .

**Proposition 3.1** (Continuity estimate). *Let  $1 \leq p \leq q \leq +\infty$ . If  $v_0 \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , we have*

$$\|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_{m,p,q} t^{\frac{n}{q}-\frac{n}{p}} \|v_0\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{3.1}$$

*Proof.* By scaling invariance, it is enough to demonstrate (3.1) with  $t = 1$ .

*Step 1. Propagation of localization.* First, we demonstrate that, for all  $t \in (0, 1/2]$ , we have

$$\|v(\cdot, t)\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^1(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_{m,p} \|v_0\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^1(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{3.2}$$

Using Proposition 2.1 (controlled speed of propagation), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\square(k)} |v(t, x)| dx &\leq \int_{B(k, \sqrt{2n}/2)} |v(x, t)| dx \\ &\leq \int_{B(k, \sqrt{2n}/2 + Lt)} P * |v_0|(x) dx \\ &= \sum_{|j| \leq R} \int_{\square(k+j)} P * |v_0|(x) dx, \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

where  $j \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  and  $R = R(n, L) > 0$ . We apply  $\|\cdot\|_{\ell_k^p(\mathbb{Z}^n)}$  to each side of (3.3). By the triangle inequality, and since the sum in  $j$  has only finitely many boxes, we have

$$\|v(\cdot, t)\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^1(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_R \|P * |v_0|\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^1(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{3.4}$$

Now Lemma 2.3 (smoothing for the heat equation) with  $q_1 = q_2 = 1$  gives (3.2).

*Step 2. Smoothing.* Second, we demonstrate that, for all  $t \in (3/4, 1]$ , we have

$$\|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} \lesssim_{m,p,q} \|v(\cdot, 1/2)\|_{\ell_k^p L_x^1(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \tag{3.5}$$

By Proposition 2.4 (regularity),  $u$  and  $\tilde{u}$  belong to  $L_t^\infty C_x^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (1/2, 1))$  with bounds depending only on  $m$ . Hence,  $v = \tilde{u} - u$  belongs to the same space. Let  $w(\cdot, t) = v(\cdot, t + 1/2)$  when  $t \in (0, 1/2]$ . Let  $w_0 = v(\cdot, 1/2)$ . Then

$$\partial_t w + \operatorname{div}(g(x, t)w) + \Lambda w = 0, \tag{3.6}$$

where

$$g(x, t) = \frac{f(\tilde{u}) - f(u)}{\tilde{u} - u} \tag{3.7}$$

and

$$\|g\|_{L_t^\infty C_x^{1,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, 1/2))} \lesssim_m 1. \tag{3.8}$$

Therefore, we may use the representation formula from Proposition 2.5 (fundamental solution estimates):

$$w(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Gamma(x, t; y, 0) w_0(y) dy. \tag{3.9}$$

In particular, the pointwise upper bound in Proposition 2.5 gives

$$|w(x, t)| \lesssim_m \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} P(x - y, t) |w_0|(y) dy. \tag{3.10}$$

Then Lemma 2.3 (smoothing for the heat equation) with  $q_1 = 1$  and  $q_2 = q$ , along with the embedding  $\ell_k^p L_x^q(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , gives (3.5).

Finally, we combine (3.2) and (3.5) to complete the proof of Proposition 3.1. ■

When  $v_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , the propagation of localization comes ‘for free’ from the  $L^1$ -contraction property, which was shown in [3].

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* Our goal is to demonstrate the  $o_{t \rightarrow +\infty}(1)$  improvement over the conclusion of Proposition 3.1 (continuity estimate) when  $p > 1$ . We approximate  $v_0$  strongly in  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  by  $v_0^{(k)}$  belonging to  $L^1 \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and satisfying the decay condition (1.5),  $|v_0^{(k)}| \leq |v_0|$ , and  $\|v_0^{(k)}\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq 2m$ . Let  $v^{(k)}$  be the solution corresponding to the initial data  $v_0^{(k)}$ . The  $o_{t \rightarrow +\infty}(1)$  improvement is obvious for  $v^{(k)}$ , which satisfies a faster decay rate because its initial data belongs to  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Next, the triangle inequality and Proposition 3.1 yield

$$\begin{aligned} \|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} &\leq \|v^{(k)}(\cdot, t)\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} + \|v(\cdot, t) - v^{(k)}(\cdot, t)\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\ &\lesssim m t^{\frac{n}{q} - \frac{n}{p}} o_{t \rightarrow +\infty}(1) \underbrace{\|v_0^{(k)}\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}}_{\leq \|v_0\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}} + t^{\frac{n}{q} - \frac{n}{p}} \underbrace{\|v_0 - v_0^{(k)}\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}}_{\rightarrow 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow +\infty}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

This completes the proof. ■

**Remark 3.2.** We record the following alternative proof, due to Hongjie Dong, of Step 1 in Proposition 3.1, without the  $\ell_k^p L_x^1$  spaces. Consider the adjoint problem to (1.10),

$$-\partial_t w - b \cdot \nabla w + \Lambda w = 0, \tag{3.12}$$

where

$$b(x, t) = \int_0^1 f'(\lambda \tilde{u} + (1 - \lambda)u) d\lambda \tag{3.13}$$

is Hölder continuous on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times [1/2, 1]$ . Let  $h = P(\cdot, 1/2) * v_0$  and  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Testing the PDE (1.10) against the fundamental solution  $\Gamma$  of the adjoint problem with pole at  $(x_0, 1)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |v(x_0, 1)| &\stackrel{(2.26)}{\lesssim} \sum_{j=0}^{+\infty} 2^{-j} \int_{B_{2^j}(x_0)} |v(x, 1/2)| dx \\ &\stackrel{(2.3)}{\lesssim} \sum_{j=0}^{+\infty} 2^{-j} \int_{B_{2^j}(x_0)} |h| dx \lesssim (Mh)(x_0), \end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

where  $Mh$  is the maximal function of  $h$ . One can obtain the  $L^p \rightarrow L^p$  bound and, more generally, weighted estimates, straightforwardly from (3.14).

### 3.2. BV convergence and spatial asymptotics

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* Let  $t_k \rightarrow +\infty$  with  $t_k \geq 1$ . It will be convenient to work with the rescaled solutions

$$u^{(k)}(y, s) = u(t_k y, t_k s), \tag{3.15}$$

with  $\omega^{(k)} = \partial_y u^{(k)}$ . Then

$$\|\omega^{(k)}(\cdot, 1) - \omega^{ss}(\cdot, 1)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R})} = \|\omega(\cdot, t_k) - \omega^{ss}(\cdot, t_k)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R})}. \tag{3.16}$$

By Proposition 2.4 (regularity) we can bootstrap the decay of  $\|u^{(k)}(\cdot, 1) - u^{ss}(\cdot, 1)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R})}$  given by Theorem 1.1 to get

$$\|\omega^{(k)}(\cdot, 1) - \omega^{ss}(\cdot, 1)\|_{L^\infty(B(R))} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow +\infty \tag{3.17}$$

for all  $R \geq 1$ . Therefore, it suffices to show that there is no mass of  $\omega^{(k)}$  escaping to infinity. Let  $R \geq L + 10$ . By Alibaud’s BV formula (2.4), and covering  $\mathbb{R} \setminus B(R)$  by an appropriate sequence of balls  $B(x_0, 1)$ , we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R} \setminus B(R)} |\omega^{(k)}(x, 1)| \, dx \lesssim_m \int_{\mathbb{R} \setminus B(R-L)} P(\cdot, 1) * |\omega_0^{(k)}| \, dx. \tag{3.18}$$

It is not difficult to show that the quantity on the right-hand side is  $o_{R \rightarrow +\infty}(1)$  uniformly in  $k$ . ■

*Proof of (1.8).* First, we remark that  $u^{ss}$  is monotone because the evolution of  $\omega$  preserves its sign. This is true at the level of entropy solutions, as can be seen from their construction by the splitting argument in Alibaud’s paper.

In the following, we allow the constant  $C$  to depend on  $u_0 = u_0^{ss}$  and  $\tilde{u}_0$ . Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  represent the limits of  $u_0$  as  $x \rightarrow \mp\infty$ .

*Step 1. Asymptotics for smooth approximation  $\tilde{u}$ .* Let  $\tilde{u}_0 \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  with  $\tilde{u}_0 \equiv u_0$  outside of  $B_1$ . Let  $\tilde{u}$  be the corresponding entropy solution, which may be shown to belong to  $L_t^\infty C_x^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, 1))$  by combining local-in-time well-posedness<sup>11</sup> with the estimates in Proposition 2.4 (regularity).

By Proposition 2.5 (fundamental solution estimates), we have

$$\tilde{u}(x, t) - u_0(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} P(x, t; y, 0)[\tilde{u}_0(y) - u_0(x)] \, dy, \tag{3.19}$$

since  $\int P(x, t; y, 0) \, dy = 1$  when  $c \equiv 0$ . Let  $x \leq -1$ . Hence,

$$\tilde{u}(x, t) - u_0(x) = \underbrace{\int_{B_1} P(x, t; y, 0)[\tilde{u}_0(y) - u_0(x)] \, dy}_{=I_1(x)} + (a - b) \underbrace{\int_{y \geq 1} P(x, t; y, 0) \, dy}_{=I_2(x)}. \tag{3.20}$$

Since  $[\tilde{u}_0 - u_0(x)]\mathbf{1}_{B_1}$  is compactly supported, we have that  $|I_1(x)| \lesssim \langle x \rangle^{-2}$ . On the other hand, when  $a \neq b$ , we have

$$C^{-1} \langle x \rangle^{-1} \leq \frac{I_2(x)}{a - b} \leq C \langle x \rangle^{-1}. \tag{3.21}$$

A similar argument holds for  $x \geq 1$ . The  $I_2$  term will dominate when  $|x| \geq C$ .

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<sup>11</sup>See the expository blog post [42] of Tao on quasilinear well-posedness.

*Step 2. Faster decay for the difference  $v$ .* Let  $v = u^{ss} - \tilde{u}$ . We will exploit that  $v_0 = v(\cdot, 1)$  is supported in  $B_1$  to demonstrate

$$|v(x, 1)| \leq C \langle x \rangle^{-2}. \tag{3.22}$$

This will complete the proof, since the  $I_2$  term will dominate  $|v|$  when  $|x| \geq C$ . We follow the scheme of propagation of localization and smoothing as in the proof of Proposition 3.1. Let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $|k| \geq 10$ . By Alibaud’s formula and the decay of the Poisson kernel, we have

$$\int_{\square(k)} |v(\cdot, 1/2)| dx \leq C \int_{B(k, \sqrt{2}/2+L)} P(\cdot, 1/2) * |v_0| dx \leq C \langle k \rangle^{-2}. \tag{3.23}$$

The difference  $v$  also satisfies this estimate when  $|k| < 10$ . Next, we consider  $w(\cdot, t) = v(\cdot, t + 1/2)$  and analyze its representation formula when  $t \in (1/4, 1/2]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |w(x, t)| &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}} \Gamma(x, t; y, 0) |w_0| dy \leq C \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \langle k \rangle^{-2} \|\Gamma(x, t; \cdot, 0)\|_{L^\infty(\square(k))} \\ &\leq C \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \langle k \rangle^{-2} \langle x - k \rangle^{-2} \\ &\leq C \langle x \rangle^{-2}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.24}$$

The proof is complete. ■

**Remark 3.3** (Rough  $f$ ). Suppose that  $f$  is locally Lipschitz and  $n \geq 1$ . It is possible to show that, for each  $R > 0$ , we have

$$\|u - u^{ss}\|_{L^\infty(B(Rt))} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow +\infty. \tag{3.25}$$

That is,  $u$  converges to  $u^{ss}$  *locally uniformly* in self-similar coordinates  $y = x/t$ ,  $s = \log(t/t_0)$  where  $t_0 > 0$  is a reference time. Indeed, consider any sequence of rescaled solutions  $u^{(k)}$  as above. Since  $u_0^{(k)} \rightarrow u_0^{ss}$  in  $L^1_{\text{uloc}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , Alibaud’s formula (2.3) gives that  $u^{(k)}(\cdot, 1)$  converges in  $L^1_{\text{uloc}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  to  $u^{ss}(\cdot, 1)$ . By the *a priori* Hölder estimates (2.19) and the Ascoli–Arzelá theorem,<sup>12</sup>  $u^{(k)}(\cdot, 1)$  converges in  $L^\infty_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and its limit must be  $u^{ss}(\cdot, 1)$ .

If  $n = 1$  and  $u_0 \in \text{BV}(\mathbb{R})$ , then we may choose  $R = +\infty$  in (3.25), since the  $\text{BV}(\mathbb{R})$  norm manages the behavior in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R} \setminus B_R)$  for  $R \gg 1$  according to Alibaud’s  $\text{BV}$  formula (2.4). If  $f \in C^{1,\alpha}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R})$ , then it is possible to upgrade to  $\text{BV}(\mathbb{R})$  convergence, since Silvestre’s estimates in [40] allow the solution to be bootstrapped from  $C^\alpha_x(\mathbb{R})$  to  $C^{1,\alpha}_x(\mathbb{R})$ .

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<sup>12</sup>To justify (2.19) with Lipschitz  $f$ , one could mollify  $f$  or apply a parabolic regularization  $\varepsilon \Delta u^\varepsilon$ , justify the estimates at the regularized level, and pass to the limit.



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