DOI: 10.1007/s11401-024-0042-4

# Multi-dimensional Backward Stochastic Differential Equations of Diagonally Quadratic Generators with a Special Structure\*

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**Abstract** The present paper is devoted to the well-posedness of a type of multi-dimensional backward stochastic differential equations (BSDE for short) with a diagonally quadratic generator. The author gives a new priori estimate, and prove that the BSDE admits a unique solution on a given interval when the generator has a sufficiently small growth of the off-diagonal elements (i.e., for each i, the i-th component of the generator has a small growth of the j-th row  $z^j$  of the variable z for each  $j \neq i$ ). Finally, a solvability result is given when the diagonally quadratic generator is triangular.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Keywords} & \textbf{Multi-dimensional BSDE, Diagonally quadratic generator, BMO} \\ & \textbf{martingale} \end{array}$ 

2000 MR Subject Classification 60H10

# 1 Introduction

Bismut [2] first introduced Backward stochastic differential equation (BSDE for short):

$$Y_t = \xi + \int_t^T f(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s, \quad t \in [0, T],$$
 (1.1)

where  $(W_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$  is a d-dimensional standard Brownian motion defined on some complete probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ , and  $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$  is the augmented natural filtration generated by the standard Brownian motion W. The terminal value  $\xi$  is an  $\mathcal{F}_T$ -measurable n-dimensional random vector, the generator function  $f(\omega, t, y, z) : \Omega \times [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times d} \to \mathbb{R}^n$  is  $(\mathcal{F}_t)$ -progressively measurable for each pair (y, z), and the solution  $(Y_t, Z_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$  is a pair of  $(\mathcal{F}_t)$ -progressively measurable processes with values in  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  which almost surely verifies BSDE (1.1). In 1990, Pardoux and Peng [18] established the existence and uniqueness result for B-SDE with an  $L^2$ -terminal value and a generator satisfying a uniformly Lipschitz continuous condition. When the generators have a quadratic growth in the state variable z, the situation is more complicated. In the one-dimensional case, Kobylanski [16] established the first existence and uniqueness result for quadratic BSDE with bounded terminal values, Tevzadze [19] gave a fixed-point argument, Briand and Elie [3] provided a constructive approach to quadratic BSDE

Manuscript received February 23, 2023. Revised August 6, 2023.

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<sup>\*</sup>This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Nos. 11631004, 12031009).

with and without delay. Briand and Hu [4–5], Delbaen et al. [7–8], Barrieu and El Karoui [1] and Fan et al. [9] considered the unbounded terminal value case.

For multi-dimensional quadratic BSDE, when the terminal value is small enough in the supremum norm, Tevzadze [19] proved a general existence and uniqueness result for multi-dimensional quadratic BSDE. Frei and Dos Reis [12] provided a counterexample which shows that multi-dimensional quadratic BSDE with a bounded terminal value may fail to have a global solution. Frei [11] introduced the notion of split solution and studied the existence of solution by considering a special kind of terminal value. Cheridito and Nam [6] and Xing and Žitković [20] obtained the solvability for multi-dimensional quadratic BSDE in the Markovian setting. Jamneshan et al. [14] provided solutions for multi-dimensional quadratic BSDE with separated generators. Cheridito and Nam [6], Hu and Tang [13] and Luo [17] obtained local solvability of systems of BSDE with sub-quadratic, diagonally quadratic and triangularly quadratic generators respectively, which under additional assumptions on the generator can be extended to global solutions. When the terminal value is unbounded, Jamneshan et al. [14] provided solutions when the terminal value is small in the BMO-sense, and Fan et al. [10] obtained global solutions when the generator is convex or concave.

As a continuation of Hu and Tang [13] and Fan et al. [10], we are devoted to the solvability of multi-dimensional diagonally quadratic BSDE when the generator has a small growth of the off-diagonal elements. The local solution is constructed directly by [13, Theorem 2.2]. Together with the new priori estimate we build and a special kind of "intermediate value" property of the  $S^{\infty}$ -norm of the local solution, we are able to stitch local solutions to get the global solution. In contrast to [13, Theorem 2.3] and [10, Theorem 2.4], we allow the generator to have a small growth of the off-diagonal elements. In contrast to [10, Theorem 2.5] and [17], we do not assume that the generator is strictly quadratic. Finally, assuming that for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the i-th component  $f^i$  of the generator f is diagonally quadratic, depends only on the first i components of the state variable g and the first g rows of the state variable g, we prove existence and uniqueness of the global solution to the multi-dimensional diagonally quadratic BSDE with a bounded terminal value.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we prepare some notations and state the main results of this paper. In Section 3, we give an estimate and prove our main results. In Section 4, we prove a global solvability result for triangular and diagonally quadratic BSDE.

#### 2 Preliminaries and Statement of Main Results

#### 2.1 Notations

Let  $W = (W_t)_{t\geq 0}$  be a d-dimensional standard Brownian motion defined on a complete probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ , and  $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t\geq 0}$  be the augmented natural filtration generated by W. Throughout this paper, we fix a  $T \in (0, \infty)$ . We endow  $\Omega \times [0, T]$  with the predictable  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with its Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . All the processes are assumed to be  $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$ progressively measurable, and all equalities and inequalities between random variables and processes are understood in the sense of  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s. and  $d\mathbb{P} \times dt$ -a.e., respectively. The Euclidean norm is always denoted by  $|\cdot|$ , and  $||\cdot||_{\infty}$  denotes the  $L^{\infty}$ -norm for one-dimensional or multidimensional random variable defined on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ .

We define the following four Banach spaces of stochastic processes. By  $S^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for  $p \geq 1$ , we denote the set of all  $\mathbb{R}^n$ -valued continuous adapted processes  $(Y_t)_{t \in [0,T]}$  such that

$$\|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}^p}:=\left(\mathbb{E}[\sup_{t\in[0,T]}|Y_t|^p]\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}<+\infty.$$

By  $\mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , we denote the set of all  $\mathbb{R}^n$ -valued continuous adapted processes  $(Y_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$  such that

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}} := \left|\left|\sup_{t \in [0,T]} |Y_t|\right|\right|_{\infty} < +\infty.$$

By  $\mathcal{H}^p(\mathbb{R}^{n\times d})$  for  $p\geq 1$ , we denote the set of all  $\mathbb{R}^{n\times d}$ -valued  $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$ -progressively measurable processes  $(Z_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$  such that

$$||Z||_{\mathcal{H}^p} := \left\{ \mathbb{E}\left[ \left( \int_0^T |Z_s|^2 \mathrm{d}s \right)^{\frac{p}{2}} \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{p}} < +\infty.$$

By BMO( $\mathbb{R}^{n\times d}$ ), we denote the set of all  $Z\in\mathcal{H}^2(\mathbb{R}^{n\times d})$  such that

$$||Z||_{\text{BMO}} := \sup_{\tau} \left| \left| \mathbb{E}_{\tau} \left[ \int_{\tau}^{T} |Z_{s}|^{2} \mathrm{d}s \right] \right| \right|_{\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}} < +\infty.$$

Here and hereafter the supremum is taken over all  $(\mathcal{F}_t)$ -stopping times  $\tau$  with values in [0, T], and  $\mathbb{E}_{\tau}$  denotes the conditional expectation with respect to  $\mathcal{F}_{\tau}$ .

The spaces  $\mathcal{S}^p_{[a,b]}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\mathcal{S}^\infty_{[a,b]}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\mathcal{H}^p_{[a,b]}(\mathbb{R}^{n\times d})$ , and  $\mathrm{BMO}_{[a,b]}(\mathbb{R}^{n\times d})$  are identically defined for stochastic processes over the time interval [a,b]. We note that for  $Z\in\mathrm{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^{n\times d})$ , the process  $\int_0^t Z_s \mathrm{d}B_s$ ,  $t\in[0,T]$ , is an n-dimensional BMO martingale. For the theory of BMO martingales, we refer the reader to Kazamaki [15].

For  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , denote by  $z^i$ ,  $y^i$  and  $f^i$  the *i*-th row of matrix  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , the *i*-th component of the vector  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and the generator f, respectively.

#### 2.2 Statement of the main results

The main result of this paper concerns global solutions for bounded terminal value case. Consider the multi-dimensional BSDE (1.1) of the following structured quadratic generator:

$$f^{i}(t, y, z) = g^{i}(t, z^{i}) + h^{i}(t, y, z), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$
 (2.1)

We need the following assumptions.

(H1) There exist two positive real constants  $\gamma$  and C and a real constant  $\delta \in [0,1)$ , such that for  $i=1,\cdots,n,\ g^i:\Omega\times[0,T]\times\mathbb{R}^d\to\mathbb{R}$  and  $h^i:\Omega\times[0,T]\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^{n\times d}\to\mathbb{R}$  satisfy the following inequalities:

$$|g^{i}(t,z)| \leq \frac{\gamma}{2}|z|^{2}, \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{R}^{d};$$

$$|g^{i}(t,z_{1}) - g^{i}(t,z_{2})| \leq C(1+|z_{1}|+|z_{2}|)|z_{1} - z_{2}|, \quad \forall z_{1}, z_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{d};$$

$$|h^{i}(t,0,0)| \leq C;$$

$$|h^{i}(t,y_{1},z_{1}) - h^{i}(t,y_{2},z_{2})| \leq C|y_{1} - y_{2}| + C(1+|z_{1}|^{\delta} + |z_{2}|^{\delta})|z_{1} - z_{2}|, \quad \forall y_{1}, y_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{n},$$

$$z_{1}, z_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}.$$

(H2) There exists a three-dimensional non-negative deterministic vector function  $(\alpha_t, \beta_t, \eta_t)_{t \in [0,T]}$  and a positive constant  $r \in (0, 1 + \delta]$  such that for  $i = 1, \dots, n, h^i$  satisfies

$$\operatorname{sgn}(y^i)h^i(t,y,z) \le \alpha_t + \beta_t |y| + \eta_t |z|^r, \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ z \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}.$$

(H3) There exist four non-negative constants  $C_0$ ,  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  such that

$$\|\xi\|_{\infty} \leq C_0, \quad \int_0^T \alpha_t dt \leq C_1, \quad \int_0^T \beta_t dt \leq C_2, \quad \int_0^T (\eta_t + \eta_t^{\frac{2}{1-\delta}}) dt \leq C_3.$$

Our main result ensures existence and uniqueness for the diagonally quadratic BSDE (1.1).

**Theorem 2.1** There exists a constant  $r_0 > 0$  (depending only on the vector of parameters  $(n, \gamma, \delta, C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3)$ ) such that if (H1)-(H3) holds for  $r \in (0, r_0)$ , then BSDE (1.1) has a unique solution  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times BMO(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$  on [0, T].

The proof is given in Section 3.

**Example 2.1** Assuming that T=1, then the following generator f satisfies (H1)–(H3) with  $(\alpha_t, \beta_t, \eta_t) = (2, 1, 1)$  and  $(\gamma, \delta, C_1, C_2, C_3) = (2, 0.5, 2, 1, 2)$  when  $r \in (0, 1.5]$ :

$$f^{i}(t,y,z) = |z^{i}|^{2} + |y| + \sin(|z|^{\frac{3}{2}}) + |z|^{r} \mathbf{1}_{\{|z| > 1\}} + |z| \mathbf{1}_{\{|z| \le 1\}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

The second result of this paper concerns a special type of diagonally quadratic BSDE as follows:

$$Y_t^i = \xi^i + \int_t^T k^i(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s^i dW_s, \quad 0 \le t \le T, \ 1 \le i \le n.$$
 (2.2)

For each  $i=1,\cdots,n,$   $H\in\mathbb{R}^{n\times d},$   $z\in\mathbb{R}^{1\times d},$   $Y\in\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $y\in\mathbb{R}$ , define by H(z;i) the matrix in  $\mathbb{R}^{n\times d}$  whose i-th row is z and whose j-th row is  $H^j$  for any f function f for any f function f for any f function f fu

(A1) There exists a constant  $\alpha \in (-1,1)$  and a positive constant  $K_1$  such that for  $i=1,\dots,n$ , the function  $k^i:\Omega\times[0,T]\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^{n\times d}\to\mathbb{R}$  depends only on the first i components of y and the first i rows of z, and

$$|k^{i}(t, y, z)| \le K_{1} \Big( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{i} |y^{j}| + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} |z^{j}|^{1+\alpha} + |z^{i}|^{2} \Big), \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ z \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}.$$

(A2) There exists a non-negative constant  $\beta$  and a positive constant  $K_2$  such that for  $i=1,\cdots,n$  and each  $(Y,Z,y_1,y_2,z_1,z_2)\in\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^{n\times d}\times\mathbb{R}\times\mathbb{R}\times\mathbb{R}^{1\times d}\times\mathbb{R}^{1\times d}$ , the function  $k^i$  satisfies:

$$|k^{i}(t, Y(y_{1}; i), Z(z_{1}; i)) - k^{i}(t, Y(y_{2}; i), Z(z_{2}; i))| \le \beta |y_{1} - y_{2}| + K_{2}(1 + |z_{1}| + |z_{2}|)|z_{1} - z_{2}|.$$

(A3) There exists a non-negative constant  $K_3$  such that  $\xi = (\xi^1, \dots, \xi^n)^*$  satisfies

$$\|\xi\|_{\infty} \leq K_3$$
.

We have the following result.

**Theorem 2.2** Let (A1)–(A3) be satisfied. Then BSDE (2.2) has a unique solution  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times BMO(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$  on [0, T].

The proof is given in Section 4.

**Remark 2.1** In Theorem 2.2, we do not require (H1)–(H3).

**Example 2.2** The following generator k satisfies (A1)–(A2) in Theorem 2.2:

$$\begin{aligned} k^{1}(t,y,z) &= 1 + y^{1} + \sin(y^{1}) + |z^{1}|^{2}; \\ k^{i}(t,y,z) &= 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{i} y^{j} + \sin(y^{i-1})y^{i} + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} |z^{j}|^{1+\alpha} + \cos(|z^{i-1}|)|z^{i}|^{2}, \quad i = 2, \cdots, n. \end{aligned}$$

# 3 Diagonally Quadratic BSDE

We first give an estimate.

**Lemma 3.1** Let (H1)-(H3) hold,  $(Y,Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t_0,T]}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times \mathcal{H}^2_{[t_0,T]}(\mathbb{R}^{n\times d})$  is a solution of BSDE (1.1) on  $[t_0,T]$ , then there exist two positive constants  $C_4,C_5$  (depending on the vector of parameters  $(n,\gamma,\delta,C_0,C_1,C_2,C_3)$ ) such that

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[t_0,T]}^{\infty}} \le C_4 + C_5 \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta}||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[t_0,T]}^{\infty}}\right).$$
 (3.1)

**Proof** Define

$$u(x) = \frac{\exp(\gamma|x|) - \gamma|x| - 1}{\gamma^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then we have that for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$u'(x) = \frac{\exp(\gamma|x|) - 1}{\gamma} \operatorname{sgn}(x), \quad u''(x) = \exp(\gamma|x|), \quad u''(x) - \gamma|u'(x)| = 1.$$

Using Itô's formula to compute  $u(Y_t^i)$  and using the assumption (H2), we have

$$u(Y_{t}^{i}) = u(\xi^{i}) + \int_{t}^{T} \left[ u'(Y_{s}^{i}) \left( g^{i}(s, Z_{s}^{i}) + h^{i}(s, Y_{s}, Z_{s}) \right) - \frac{1}{2} u''(Y_{s}^{i}) |Z_{s}^{i}|^{2} \right] ds - \int_{t}^{T} u'(Y_{s}^{i}) Z_{s}^{i} dW_{s}$$

$$\leq u(\xi^{i}) - \int_{t}^{T} u'(Y_{s}^{i}) Z_{s}^{i} dW_{s}$$

$$+ \int_{t}^{T} \left[ \frac{\exp(\gamma |Y_{s}^{i}|) - 1}{\gamma} \left( \frac{\gamma}{2} |Z_{s}^{i}|^{2} + \alpha_{s} + \beta_{s} |Y_{s}| + \eta_{s} |Z_{s}|^{r} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \exp(\gamma |Y_{s}^{i}|) |Z_{s}^{i}|^{2} \right] ds$$

$$= u(\xi^{i}) - \int_{t}^{T} u'(Y_{s}^{i}) Z_{s}^{i} dW_{s}$$

$$+ \int_{t}^{T} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} |Z_{s}^{i}|^{2} + \frac{\exp(\gamma |Y_{s}^{i}|) - 1}{\gamma} (\alpha_{s} + \beta_{s} |Y_{s}| + \eta_{s} |Z_{s}|^{r}) \right] ds$$

$$(3.2)$$

Using Hölder's inequality, we get

$$\eta_s |Z_s|^r = \varepsilon^{\frac{r}{2}} |Z_s|^r \cdot \varepsilon^{-\frac{r}{2}} \eta_s \le \frac{r}{2} \varepsilon |Z_s|^2 + \frac{2-r}{2} (\varepsilon^{-\frac{r}{2}} \eta_s)^{\frac{2}{2-r}}. \tag{3.3}$$

Taking

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\gamma}{nr} \exp(-\gamma \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}),$$

we have

$$\eta_s |Z_s|^r \le \frac{\gamma}{2n} \exp(-\gamma ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}) |Z_s|^2 + \frac{2-r}{2} \eta_s^{\frac{2}{2-r}} \left(\frac{\gamma}{nr} \exp(-\gamma ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}})\right)^{-\frac{r}{2-r}}.$$
 (3.4)

From  $0 < r \le 1 + \delta < 2$ , we have

$$\frac{2-r}{2} \le 1$$
,  $1 \le \frac{2}{2-r} \le \frac{2}{1-\delta}$ ,  $\frac{r}{2-r} \le \frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}$ .

Therefore

$$\eta_s^{\frac{2}{2-r}} \le \eta_s^{\frac{2}{1-\delta}} + \eta_s, \quad \left(\frac{nr}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{r}{2-r}} \le \left(\frac{2n}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{r}{2-r}} \le \left(\frac{2n}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1.$$

From (3.4), we deduce

$$\eta_s |Z_s|^r \le \frac{\gamma}{2n} \exp(-\gamma \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}) |Z_s|^2 + (\eta_s^{\frac{2}{1-\delta}} + \eta_s) \left( \left(\frac{2n}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1 \right) \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{2-r} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} \right). \tag{3.5}$$

Let

$$k_s = (\eta_s^{\frac{2}{1-\delta}} + \eta_s) \left( \left( \frac{2n}{\gamma} \right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1 \right).$$

From (3.2) and (3.5), we have

$$u(Y_t^i) \le u(\xi^i) - \int_t^T u'(Y_s^i) Z_s^i dW_s + \int_t^T \left[ -\frac{1}{2} |Z_s^i|^2 + \frac{1}{2n} |Z_s|^2 \right] ds + \int_t^T \frac{\exp(\gamma |Y_s^i|)}{\gamma} \left( \alpha_s + \beta_s ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + k_s \exp\left( \frac{r\gamma}{2-r} ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} \right) \right) ds.$$
 (3.6)

Hence it holds that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} u(Y_{t}^{i}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n} u(\xi^{i}) - \int_{t}^{T} \sum_{i=1}^{n} u'(Y_{s}^{i}) Z_{s}^{i} dW_{s} + \frac{1}{\gamma} \int_{t}^{T} \left( \alpha_{s} + \beta_{s} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + k_{s} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{2-r} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right) \right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp(\gamma |Y_{s}^{i}|) ds.$$
 (3.7)

Noting that

$$\frac{\exp(\gamma|x|) - 2}{2\gamma^2} \le u(x) \le \frac{\exp(\gamma|x|)}{\gamma^2},$$

we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\exp(\gamma | Y_t^i|) - 2}{2\gamma^2}$$

$$\leq \frac{n \exp(\gamma | \xi|_{\infty})}{\gamma^2} - \int_t^T \sum_{i=1}^n u'(Y_s^i) Z_s^i dW_s$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\gamma} \int_t^T \left(\alpha_s + \beta_s ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + k_s \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{2 - r} ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right)\right) \sum_{i=1}^n \exp(\gamma |Y_s^i|) ds. \tag{3.8}$$

Taking conditional expectation with respect to  $\mathcal{F}_{\tau}$  for  $\tau \in [t_0, t]$ , we show

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp(\gamma | Y_t^i|) | \mathcal{F}_\tau\right] \\
\leq 2n(\exp(\gamma | \xi|_{\infty}) + 1) + \int_t^T 2\gamma \left(\alpha_s + \beta_s ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + k_s \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{2-r} ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right)\right) \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp(\gamma |Y_s^i|) | \mathcal{F}_\tau\right] ds. \tag{3.9}$$

Using Gronwall's inequality, we get

$$\mathbb{E}\Big[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp(\gamma | Y_t^i|) | \mathcal{F}_\tau\Big]$$

$$\leq 2n(\exp(\gamma ||\xi||_{\infty}) + 1) \cdot \exp\Big(\int_t^T 2\gamma \Big(\alpha_s + \beta_s ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + k_s \exp\Big(\frac{r\gamma}{2-r} ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\Big)\Big) ds\Big). \quad (3.10)$$

Setting  $\tau = t$  and noting  $r \leq 1 + \delta$ , we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp(\gamma | Y_t^i |)$$

$$\leq 2n(\exp(\gamma ||\xi||_{\infty}) + 1) \exp\left(\int_t^T 2\gamma \left(\alpha_s + \beta_s ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + k_s \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta} ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right)\right) ds\right).$$

Using Jensen's inequality, we obtain

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp(\gamma | Y_t^i |) \ge n \exp\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \gamma | Y_t^i |}{n}\right) \ge n \exp\left(\frac{\gamma | Y_t |}{n}\right).$$

Combining the preceding inequalities and the assumption (H3), we have

$$|Y_{t}| \leq \frac{n}{\gamma} \log(2 \exp(\gamma \|\xi\|_{\infty}) + 2) + \int_{t}^{T} 2n \left(\alpha_{s} + \beta_{s} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + k_{s} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right)\right) ds$$

$$\leq \frac{n}{\gamma} \log(2 \exp(\gamma C_{0}) + 2) + 2nC_{1} + 2n \int_{t_{0}}^{T} k_{s} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right) ds$$

$$+ \int_{t}^{T} 2n\beta_{s} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} ds. \tag{3.11}$$

Let

$$K_0 := \frac{n}{\gamma} \log(2 \exp(\gamma C_0) + 2) + 2nC_1 + 2n \int_{t_0}^T k_s \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1 - \delta} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[s,T]}}\right) \mathrm{d}s.$$

We have

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[t,T]}^{\infty}} \le K_0 + \int_t^T 2n\beta_s ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} ds, \quad \forall t \in [t_0, T].$$
 (3.12)

Using Gronwall's inequality and the assumption (H3), we have

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[t_0,T]}^{\infty}} \leq K_0 \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^{T} 2n\beta_s \mathrm{d}s\right)$$

$$\leq \exp(2nC_2)\left(\frac{n}{\gamma}\log(2\exp(\gamma C_0) + 2) + 2nC_1\right)$$

$$+ 2n\int_{t_0}^{T} k_s \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta}||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right) \mathrm{d}s\right). \tag{3.13}$$

Let

$$C_4 = \exp(2nC_2) \left(\frac{n}{\gamma} \log(2\exp(\gamma C_0) + 2) + 2nC_1\right), \quad C_5 = 2nC_3 \exp(2nC_2) \left(\left(\frac{2n}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1\right).$$

From the definition of  $k_s$  and the assumption (H3), we get (3.1). The proof is complete.

From Lemma 3.1, we get the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1** There exists a constant  $r_0 > 0$  (depending on the vector of parameters  $(n, \gamma, \delta, C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3)$ ) such that if (H1)-(H3) holds for  $r \in (0, r_0)$ , and  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t_0, T]}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times \mathcal{H}^2_{[t_0, T]}(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$  is a solution of BSDE (1.1) on  $[t_0, T]$ , then

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[t_0,T]}^{\infty}} \le C_4 + 2C_5,$$
 (3.14)

where  $C_4$  and  $C_5$  are given by (3.1).

**Proof** Define

$$F(x) = C_4 + C_5 \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma x}{1-\delta}\right) - x, \quad x \ge 0.$$

Then we have

$$F'(x) = \frac{r\gamma C_5}{1 - \delta} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma x}{1 - \delta}\right) - 1, \quad F''(x) = \frac{r^2 \gamma^2 C_5}{(1 - \delta)^2} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma x}{1 - \delta}\right) > 0.$$

Let

$$r_0 = \frac{(1 - \delta) \log 2}{\gamma (C_4 + 2C_5)}.$$

For a given  $r \in (0, r_0)$ , let

$$x_0 = \frac{1 - \delta}{r\gamma} \log \frac{1 - \delta}{C_5 r\gamma}.$$

Then we have

$$r < r_0 < \frac{1-\delta}{\gamma C_5}, \quad x_0 > 0, \quad F'(x_0) = 0.$$

Hence, F is decreasing on  $[0, x_0]$  and increasing on  $[x_0, +\infty)$ , and

$$F(C_4 + 2C_5) = C_4 + C_5 \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma(C_4 + 2C_5)}{1 - \delta}\right) - C_4 - 2C_5$$

$$= C_5 \left(\exp\left(\frac{r\gamma(C_4 + 2C_5)}{1 - \delta}\right) - 2\right)$$

$$< C_5 \left(\exp\left(\frac{r_0\gamma(C_4 + 2C_5)}{1 - \delta}\right) - 2\right) = 0.$$

Then F(x) = 0 has two zeros  $x_1, x_2$  and they satisfy

$$C_0 < C_4 < x_1 < C_4 + 2C_5 < x_2, \quad \{x : F(x) \ge 0\} = [0, x_1] \cup [x_2, +\infty).$$
 (3.15)

From Lemma 3.1, we obtain that

$$F(||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t,T]}}) \ge 0, \quad \forall t \in [t_0, T].$$

Hence

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t,T]}} \in [0,x_1] \cup [x_2,+\infty), \quad \forall t \in [t_0,T].$$

Define

$$\hat{t} = \inf\{t \in [t_0, T] : ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t, T]}} \le x_1\}.$$

Notice that

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[T,T]}} = ||\xi||_{\infty} \le C_0 < x_1.$$

 $\hat{t}$  is well defined.  $||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[t,T]}^{\infty}}$  is decreasing and right-continuous about t, so we have  $||Y||_{\mathcal{S}_{[\hat{t},T]}^{\infty}} \leq x_1$ . If  $\hat{t} > t_0$ , then

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t,T]}} > x_1, \quad \forall t \in [t_0, \widehat{t}).$$

Therefore

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t,T]}} \ge x_2, \quad \forall t \in [t_0, \widehat{t}).$$

From (3.13), we deduce that

$$x_{2} \leq \limsup_{t \to \widehat{t}^{-}} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t,T]}}$$

$$\leq \limsup_{t \to \widehat{t}^{-}} \left[ C_{4} + 2n \exp(2nC_{2}) \int_{t}^{T} k_{s} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[s,T]}}\right) ds \right]$$

$$= C_{4} + 2n \exp(2nC_{2}) \int_{\widehat{t}}^{T} k_{s} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[s,T]}}\right) ds$$

$$\leq C_{4} + 2n \exp(2nC_{2}) \left(\left(\frac{2n}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1\right) C_{3} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{1-\delta} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[\widehat{t},T]}}\right)$$

$$\leq C_{4} + C_{5} \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma x_{1}}{1-\delta}\right) = F(x_{1}) + x_{1} = x_{1}. \tag{3.16}$$

This is a contradiction. Hence  $\hat{t} = t_0$ , and

$$||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t_0,T]}} \le x_1 < C_4 + 2C_5.$$

The proof is complete.

**Proof of Theorem 2.1** For the number  $r_0$  given in Proposition 3.1 and a given  $r \in (0, r_0)$ , define

$$\lambda := C_4 + 2C_5.$$

where  $C_4$  and  $C_5$  are the same as in Lemma 3.1. From (3.15), we have

$$\|\xi\|_{\infty} \le C_0 \le C_4 \le \lambda.$$

From [13, Theorem 2.2, p. 1072], there exists  $t_{\lambda} > 0$  which depends on constants  $(n, C, \gamma, \delta, \lambda)$ , such that BSDE (1.1) has a local solution  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$  on  $[T - t_{\lambda}, T]$ . From Proposition 3.1, we obtain

$$||Y_{T-t_{\lambda}}||_{\infty} \le ||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[T-t_{\lambda},T]}} \le \lambda.$$

Taking  $T - t_{\lambda}$  as the terminal time and  $Y_{T-t_{\lambda}}$  as the terminal value, BSDE (1.1) has a local solution  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$  on  $[T - 2t_{\lambda}, T - t_{\lambda}]$ . Stitching the solutions we have a solution  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times \mathcal{H}^2(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$  on  $[T - 2t_{\lambda}, T]$  and  $\|Y_{T-2t_{\lambda}}\|_{\infty} \leq \lambda$ . Repeating the preceding process, we can extend the pair (Y, Z) to the whole interval [0, T] within finite steps such that Y is uniformly bounded by  $\lambda$  and  $Z \in \mathcal{H}^2(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$ . We now show that  $Z \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$ . Identical to the proofs of inequalities (3.5)–(3.6), we have

$$\eta_{s}|Z_{s}|^{r} \leq \frac{\gamma}{4n} \exp(-\gamma \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}})|Z_{s}|^{2} + (\eta_{s}^{\frac{2}{1-\delta}} + \eta_{s}) \left(\left(\frac{4n}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1\right) \exp\left(\frac{r\gamma}{2-r} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}}\right)$$
(3.17)

and

$$u(Y_{t}^{i}) \leq u(\xi^{i}) - \int_{t}^{T} u'(Y_{s}^{i}) Z_{s}^{i} dW_{s} + \int_{t}^{T} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} |Z_{s}^{i}|^{2} + \frac{1}{4n} |Z_{s}|^{2} \right] ds + \int_{t}^{T} \frac{\exp(\gamma |Y_{s}^{i}|)}{\gamma} \left( \alpha_{s} + \beta_{s} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} + \widehat{k}_{s} \exp\left( \frac{r\gamma}{2-r} \|Y\|_{\mathcal{S}_{[s,T]}^{\infty}} \right) \right) ds,$$
(3.18)

where

$$\widehat{k}_s = (\eta_s^{\frac{2}{1-\delta}} + \eta_s) \left( \left( \frac{4n}{\gamma} \right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1 \right).$$

Summing i from 1 to n and taking conditional expectation with respect to  $\mathcal{F}_t$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{4}\mathbb{E}\left[\int_{t}^{T}|Z_{s}|^{2}\mathrm{d}s|\mathcal{F}_{t}\right] \leq \frac{n\exp(\gamma C_{0})}{\gamma^{2}} + \frac{n\exp(\gamma \lambda)}{\gamma}\left(C_{1} + C_{2}\lambda + C_{3}\left(\left(\frac{4n}{\gamma}\right)^{\frac{1+\delta}{1-\delta}} + 1\right)\exp\left(\frac{r\gamma\lambda}{2-r}\right)\right).$$

Hence  $Z \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^{n \times d})$ . Finally, the uniqueness on the given interval [0, T] is a consequence of [13, Theorem 2.2, p. 1072] via a pasting technique.

Remark 3.1 Assumptions (H1)–(H3) of Theorem 2.1 are different from those of [13, Theorem 2.3, p. 1072] and [10, Theorem 2.4]. We allow the generator to have a small growth of the off-diagonal elements. They are different from those of [10, Theorem 2.5] in that the generator is not required to be strictly quadratic. For example, the following generator f satisfies Theorem 2.1 rather than the others when f is sufficiently small:

$$f^{i}(t, y, z) = |z^{i}|^{2} \sin\left(\log(|z^{i}| + 1)\right) + |y| + \sin(|z|^{1+\delta}) + |z|^{T} \mathbf{1}_{\{|z| > 1\}} + |z| \mathbf{1}_{\{|z| < 1\}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

**Remark 3.2** When  $C_3$  is sufficiently small such that  $C_5 < \exp\left(-\frac{\gamma(1+\delta)(1+C_4)}{1-\delta}\right)$ , taking  $r_0 = 1 + \delta$ , then for  $r \in (0, r_0]$ , we have

$$F(C_4 + 1) = C_5 \exp\left(\frac{\gamma(1+\delta)(1+C_4)}{1-\delta}\right) - 1 < 0.$$

In a similar way we have Theorem 2.1. In particular, when  $C_3 = 0$  we have  $C_5 = 0$ , then we have  $||Y||_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}_{[t_0,T]}} \leq C_4$  by (3.1) and thus Theorem 2.1 holds, which is the case of [10, Theorem 2.4].

**Remark 3.3** From [10, Theorem 2.1], (H1) and (H2) can be replaced with the following in Theorem 2.1.

(H1') There exist a deterministic scalar-valued positive function  $(\alpha_t)_{t\in[0,T]}$ , a deterministic nondecreasing continuous function  $\phi(\cdot):[0,+\infty)\to[0,+\infty)$  with  $\phi(0)=0$  and several real constants  $\gamma>0,\ C\geq0,\ \delta\in[0,1)$  such that for  $i=1,\cdots,n$  and each  $(y,\overline{y},z,\overline{z})\in\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n\times\mathbb{R}^n$  (f) satisfies the following inequalities:

$$\begin{split} |f^{i}(t,y,z)| &\leq \alpha_{t} + \phi(|y|) + \frac{\gamma}{2}|z^{i}|^{2} + C\sum_{j \neq i}|z^{j}|^{1+\delta}, \\ |f^{i}(t,y,z) - f^{i}(t,\overline{y},\overline{z})| \\ &\leq \phi(|y| \vee |\overline{y}|) \Big[ (1+|z|+|\overline{z}|)(|y-\overline{y}|+|z^{i}-\overline{z}^{i}|) + (1+|z|^{\delta}+|\overline{z}|^{\delta}) \sum_{j \neq i}|z^{j}-\overline{z}^{j}| \Big]. \end{split}$$

(H2') There exist a two-dimensional non-negative deterministic vector function  $(\beta_t, \eta_t)_{t \in [0,T]}$  and a positive constant  $r \in (0, 1 + \delta]$  such that for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $(y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , the function  $f^i$  satisfies:

$$\operatorname{sgn}(y^i)f^i(t,y,z) \le \alpha_t + \beta_t |y| + \eta_t |z|^r + \frac{\gamma}{2}|z^i|^2.$$

# 4 Diagonally Quadratic and Triangular BSDE

To prove Theorem 2.2, we need the following lemma.

Lemma 4.1 We consider the following one-dimensional BSDE:

$$Y_t = \eta + \int_t^T l(s, Y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s, \quad 0 \le t \le T.$$
 (4.1)

The terminal value  $\eta$  and the generator l satisfy the following assumptions:

(B1)  $\forall K > 0$ , the function  $l: \Omega \times [0,T] \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d} \to \mathbb{R}$  satisfies:

$$\sup_{t \in [0,T]} \left\| \mathbb{E} \left[ \exp \left( K \int_t^T |l(s,0,0)| \mathrm{d}s \right) \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] \right\|_{\infty} < +\infty.$$

(B2) There exist a non-negative constant  $\beta$  and a positive constant C such that for each  $(y, \overline{y}, z, \overline{z}) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d} \times \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d}$ , the function l satisfies:

$$|l(t, y, z) - l(t, \overline{y}, \overline{z})| \le \beta |y - \overline{y}| + C(1 + |z| + |\overline{z}|)|z - \overline{z}|.$$

(B3) There exists a non-negative constant  $C_1$  such that  $\eta$  satisfies:

$$\|\eta\|_{\infty} \leq C_1$$
.

Then BSDE (4.1) has a unique solution  $(Y, Z) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}) \times BMO(\mathbb{R}^{1 \times d})$  on [0, T].

**Proof** When  $\beta = 0$ , l is independent of y. From [13, Lemma 2.1], we know that the result holds. When  $\beta > 0$ , for  $y \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$ , we define a map  $\varphi(y) = Y$ , where Y is given by

$$Y_t = \eta + \int_t^T l(s, y_s, Z_s) ds - \int_t^T Z_s dW_s, \quad 0 \le t \le T.$$

From the preceding result, we know that  $\varphi$  is well-defined and maps  $\mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$  to itself. For  $y, \overline{y} \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$ , let  $Y = \varphi(y), \overline{Y} = \varphi(\overline{y})$ . Denote  $\delta Y = Y - \overline{Y}$ ,  $\delta y = y - \overline{y}$ ,  $\delta Z = Z - \overline{Z}$ . We have

$$\delta Y_t = \int_t^T [l(s, y_s, Z_s) - l(s, \overline{y}_s, \overline{Z}_s)] ds - \int_t^T \delta Z_s dW_s$$
$$= \int_t^T (\beta_s \delta y_s + \delta Z_s \alpha_s) ds - \int_t^T \delta Z_s dW_s.$$

Here  $|\beta_s| \leq \beta$ ,  $|\alpha_s| \leq C(1+|Z_s|+|\overline{Z}_s|)$ , therefore  $\alpha \cdot W$  is a BMO martingale. Define

$$\widetilde{W}_t := W_t - \int_0^t \alpha_s \, \mathrm{d}s, \quad t \in [0, T]; \quad \mathrm{d}\widetilde{\mathbb{P}} := \mathscr{E}(\alpha \cdot W)_0^T \mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}.$$

Then,  $\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}$  is a new probability equivalent to  $\mathbb{P}$ , and  $\widetilde{W}$  is a Brownian motion with respect to  $\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}$ . We have

$$\delta Y_t = \int_t^T \beta_s \delta y_s ds - \int_t^T \delta Z_s d\widetilde{W}_s.$$

Taking the conditional expectation with respect to  $\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}$ , we have

$$\|\delta Y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}} \le \int_{t}^{T} \beta \|\delta y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}} \mathrm{d}s \le \beta T \|\delta y\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}}.$$

When  $T \leq \frac{1}{2\beta}$ ,  $\varphi$  is a contraction map and and the statement follows from the Banach fixed point theorem. For general T, we can repeat the preceding process and get the result within finite steps. The proof is complete.

**Proof of Theorem 2.2** We will solve BSDE (2.2) in order. For the first equation, noting that  $\|\xi^1\|_{\infty} \leq K_3$ ,  $|k^1(s,0,0)| \leq K_1$ , from [16] we know that it has a unique solution  $(Y^1,Z^1) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^{1\times d})$ . Suppose that we already solve the first (i-1) equations with  $(Y^j,Z^j) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^{1\times d})$ ,  $j=1,\cdots,i-1$ . For the i-th equation, we have that  $\forall K>0$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left(K\int_{t}^{T}|k^{i}(s,Y_{s}(0;i),Z_{s}(0;i))|\mathrm{d}s\right)\Big|\mathcal{F}_{t}\right]$$

$$\leq \exp(KTK_{1}) \cdot \mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left(KK_{1}\int_{t}^{T}\left(\sum_{j=1}^{i-1}|Y_{s}^{j}| + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1}|Z_{s}^{j}|^{1+\alpha}\right)\mathrm{d}s\right)\Big|\mathcal{F}_{t}\right]$$

$$\leq \exp\left(KTK_{1} + KTK_{1}\sum_{j=1}^{i-1}\|Y^{j}\|_{\mathcal{S}^{\infty}}\right) \cdot \mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left(KK_{1}\int_{t}^{T}\sum_{j=1}^{i-1}|Z_{s}^{j}|^{1+\alpha}\mathrm{d}s\right)\Big|\mathcal{F}_{t}\right].$$

$$(4.2)$$

By Hölder's inequality and Young's inequality we get

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left(KK_{1}\int_{t}^{T}\sum_{j=1}^{i-1}\left|Z_{s}^{j}\right|^{1+\alpha}\mathrm{d}s\right)\middle|\mathcal{F}_{t}\right]$$

$$\leq\left(\prod_{j=1}^{i-1}\mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left(KK_{1}(i-1)\int_{t}^{T}\left|Z_{s}^{j}\right|^{1+\alpha}\mathrm{d}s\right)\middle|\mathcal{F}_{t}\right]\right)^{\frac{1}{i-1}}$$
(4.3)

and

$$L|Z_s^j|^{1+\alpha} = \varepsilon^{\frac{1+\alpha}{2}} |Z_s^j|^{1+\alpha} \cdot L\varepsilon^{-\frac{1+\alpha}{2}} \le \frac{1+\alpha}{2} \varepsilon |Z_s^j|^2 + \frac{1-\alpha}{2} L^{\frac{2}{1-\alpha}} \varepsilon^{-\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}}, \quad \forall L > 0.$$

Let  $\varepsilon$  be sufficiently small such that  $\frac{1+\alpha}{2}\varepsilon ||Z^j||_{\text{BMO}}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . From John-Nirenberg inequality (see [15, Theorem 2.2]), we have that for  $1 \leq j \leq i-1$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}\Big[\exp\Big(L\int_{t}^{T}|Z_{s}^{j}|^{1+\alpha}\mathrm{d}s\Big)\Big|\mathcal{F}_{t}\Big] \leq \frac{1}{1-\frac{1+\alpha}{2}\varepsilon\|Z^{j}\|_{\mathrm{BMO}}^{2}}\exp\Big(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}L^{\frac{2}{1-\alpha}}\varepsilon^{-\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}}T\Big) \\
\leq 2\exp\Big(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}L^{\frac{2}{1-\alpha}}\varepsilon^{-\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}}T\Big), \quad \forall t \in [0,T]. \tag{4.4}$$

Combining (4.2)–(4.4), we obtain that  $\forall K > 0$ ,

$$\sup_{t \in [0,T]} \left\| \mathbb{E} \left[ \exp \left( K \int_{t}^{T} \left| k^{i}(s, Y_{s}(0; i), Z_{s}(0; i)) \right| \mathrm{d}s \right) \right| \mathcal{F}_{t} \right] \right\|_{\infty} < +\infty. \tag{4.5}$$

Therefore, we can apply Lemma 4.1 to see the *i*-th equation admits a unique solution  $(Y^i, Z^i) \in \mathcal{S}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^{1 \times d})$  on [0, T]. The proof is complete.

# 5 Conclusion Remark

We study the well-posedness of the multi-dimensional BSDE (1.1) with a diagonally quadratic generator. When the generator has a small growth of the off-diagonal elements, we build a new priori estimate and get the existence and uniqueness of the global solution, which generalizes the results in Hu and Tang [13] and Fan et al. [10]. Besides, when the generator is diagonally quadratic and triangular, we get the global solvability of the multi-dimensional BSDE (2.2) without the small growth condition. Finally, when the generator is non-triangular and has a general sub-quadratic growth of the off-diagonal elements, the existence and uniqueness of the global solutions are interesting and challenging, which remains to be studied in the future.

**Acknowledgement** The author would like to thank the referees and the editors for their careful reading and constructive comments.

#### **Declarations**

Conflicts of interest The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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