#### Supplemental Online Materials to

Mind your own customers and ignore the others: Asymptotic optimality of a local policy in multiclass queueing systems with customer feedback by Jiankui Yang, Junfei Huang and Yunan Liu.

# Appendix A: Proof of Lemma 5.3

We prove the second inequality as an illustration. Because there is only a finite number of subsets of  $\mathcal{I}$ , it is enough to prove that

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \bar{L}_i'(t) \ge \epsilon$$

for some  $\epsilon$  which depends on  $\mathcal{I}_*(t)$ .

Denote by  $\mathcal{J}_*(t)$  the subset of  $\mathcal{J}$  such that  $\mathcal{C}(j) \cap \mathcal{I}_*(t) \neq \emptyset$  for  $j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)$ . Then  $i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)$  and  $j \in \mathcal{S}(i)$  implies  $i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)$  and  $j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)$ . Also,  $i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)$  and  $j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t) \setminus \mathcal{S}(i)$  implies  $\mu_{ij} = 0$ . As a result, we can write

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu^* \bar{L}_i'(t) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \lambda_i^e - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}(i)} \mu_{ij} \bar{T}_{ij}'(t) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \lambda_i^e - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)} \mu_{ij} \bar{T}_{ij}'(t).$$

From (9) and (17),

$$\begin{split} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)} \mu_{ij} \bar{T}'_{ij}(t) &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \mu_{ij} \bar{T}'_{ij}(t) \\ &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)} z_j^* \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \bar{T}'_{ij}(t) \\ &< \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)} z_j^* \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} x_{ij}^* \\ &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \mu_{ij} x_{ij}^* \\ &\leq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}(i)} \nu_i^* \mu_{ij} x_{ij}^* \\ &= \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}(i)} \mu_{ij} x_{ij}^* = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \nu_i^* \lambda_i^e. \end{split}$$

This strict inequality is because, for  $j \in \mathcal{J}_*(t)$ , if  $\mathcal{C}(j) \cap (\mathcal{I}_*(t))^c = \emptyset$ , then  $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \bar{T}'_{ij}(t) \leq 1 = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} x^*_{ij}$ ; and there exists at least one j, such that  $\mathcal{C}(j) \cap (\mathcal{I}_*(t))^c \neq \emptyset$ ; for such j, from (36),  $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} \bar{T}'_{ij}(t) = 0 < \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)} x^*_{ij}$ .

# **Appendix B: Proof of Proposition 1**

We first prove (a). For ease of reference, we list the four steps for proving (a) again:

Step 1: There exists a finite  $t_1 \ge t_0$ , such that for all  $t \ge t_1$ ,  $\mathcal{I}^*(t) \ne \{2\}$ ;

Step 2: For  $t \ge t_1$ , such that  $\bar{Q}(t)$  is not a fixed point,  $\sum_{i=1}^{3} *\bar{Q}'_i(t) \ge \epsilon_1$  for some  $\epsilon_1 > 0$ ;

Step 3: For all  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $\bar{W}(t) = \bar{W}(t_0)$ ;

Step 4: Assume that  $\bar{Q}(t_2)$  is a fixed point, then for all  $t \geq t_2$ ,  $\bar{Q}(t) = \bar{Q}(t_2) = q^*(\bar{W}(t_0))$ .

**Proof of Step 1:** If  $\mathcal{I}^*(t_0) \neq \{2\}$ , let  $t_1 = t_0$ ; otherwise, note that if  $\mathcal{I}^*(t) = \{2\}$ , then from (36) and (35),  $\bar{T}'_{11}(t) = \bar{T}'_{32}(t) = 0$  and  $\bar{T}'_{21}(t) = \bar{T}'_{22}(t) = 1$ . As a result,

$$\bar{Q}'_1(t) \ge 0$$
 and  $\bar{Q}'_3(t) \ge 0$ ,

and

$$\bar{Q}'_{2}(t) = \lambda_{2} - (1 - P_{22})(\mu_{21} + \mu_{22})$$

$$< \lambda_{2} + P_{12}\mu_{11}x_{11}^{*} + P_{32}\mu_{32}x_{32}^{*} - (1 - P_{22})(\mu_{21}x_{21}^{*} + \mu_{22}x_{22}^{*})$$

$$= 0,$$

thus, starting from  $t_0$ ,  $\bar{Q}_2$  decreases while  $\bar{Q}_1$  and  $\bar{Q}_3$  are nondecreasing. As a result, in a finite time (which can be bounded), say at time  $t_1$ ,  $\mathcal{I}^*(t_1) \neq \{2\}$ .

Next assume there is a  $t \geq t_1$ , such that  $\mathcal{I}^*(t) = \{2\}$ . Denote by  $\epsilon := \frac{C_2'(\bar{Q}_2(t))}{y_2^*} - \max_{i=1,3} \frac{C_i'(\bar{Q}_i(t))}{y_i^*} > 0$ , then due to the continuity, and from the fact that  $\frac{C_2'(\bar{Q}_2(t_1))}{y_2^*} \leq \max_{i=1,3} \frac{C_i'(\bar{Q}_i(t_1))}{y_i^*}$ , there exists a time  $s_0 \in [t_1, t]$  such that  $\frac{C_2'(\bar{Q}_2(s_0))}{y_2^*} - \max_{i=1,3} \frac{C_i'(\bar{Q}_i(s_0))}{y_i^*} = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$  and for all  $s \in [s_0, t]$ ,  $\frac{C_2'(\bar{Q}_2(s))}{y_2^*} - \max_{i=1,3} \frac{C_i'(\bar{Q}_i(s))}{y_i^*} \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . However, similar to the argument above,  $\frac{C_2'(\bar{Q}_2(s))}{y_2^*}$  decreases on  $[s_0, t]$  and  $\max_{i=1,3} \frac{C_i'(\bar{Q}_i(s))}{y_i^*}$  does not decrease. As a result, one cannot get  $\frac{C_2'(\bar{Q}_2(t))}{y_2^*} - \max_{i=1,3} \frac{C_i'(\bar{Q}_i(t))}{y_i^*} = \epsilon$ . Hence, we must have  $\mathcal{I}^*(t) \neq \{2\}$  for all  $t \geq t_1$ .

**Proof of Step 2:** First note that  $\bar{Q}_i(t) \geq {}_*\bar{Q}_i(t)$  and  $\bar{Q}_i(t) \leq {}^*\bar{Q}_i(t)$ . If  $i \in \mathcal{I}_*(t)$ , then  $\bar{Q}_i(t) = {}_*\bar{Q}_i(t)$ , hence  $\bar{Q}_i'(t) = {}_*\bar{Q}_i'(t)$ . Similarly, if  $i \in \mathcal{I}^*(t)$ , then  $\bar{Q}_i'(t) = {}^*\bar{Q}_i'(t)$ . Finally note that all  ${}_*\bar{Q}_i'$  have the same sign, and all  ${}^*\bar{Q}_i'$  have the same sign.

Because  $\bar{Q}(t)$  is not a fixed point and  $I^*(t) \neq \{2\}$ , we know that  $\mathcal{I}_*(t)$  can be one of these:  $\{1\}$ ,  $\{2\}$ ,  $\{3\}$ ,  $\{1,2\}$  and  $\{2,3\}$ . We discuss these sets case-by-case.

1.  $\mathcal{I}_*(t) = \{2\}$ : from (35) and (36), we have  $\bar{T}'_{11}(t) = 1$ ,  $\bar{T}'_{32}(t) = 1$ ,  $\bar{T}'_{21}(t) = 0$  and  $\bar{T}'_{22}(t) = 0$ , hence

$$_*\bar{Q}_2'(t) = \bar{Q}_2'(t) = \lambda_2 + P_{12}\mu_{11} + P_{32}\mu_{32}$$
  
 $> \lambda_2 + P_{12}\mu_{11}x_{11}^* + P_{32}\mu_{32}x_{32}^* - (1 - P_{22})(\mu_{21}x_{21}^* + \mu_{32}x_{32}^*) = 0.$ 

Because all  ${}_*\bar{Q}_i'(t)$  have the same sign, then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{3} {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{i}(t) \ge {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{2}(t) > 0.$$

- 2.  $\mathcal{I}_*(t) = \{1\}$  or  $\mathcal{I}_*(t) = \{3\}$ . We use  $\mathcal{I}_*(t) = \{1\}$  to illustrate. There are two subcases:
  - (a)  $\mathcal{I}^*(t) = \{3\}$ :

from (35) and (36), we have  $\bar{T}'_{21}(t)=1,\,\bar{T}'_{32}(t)=1,\,\bar{T}'_{11}(t)=0$  and  $\bar{T}'_{22}(t)=0,\,$  hence

$$_*\bar{Q}_1'(t) = \bar{Q}_1'(t) = \lambda_1 + P_{31}\mu_{32} + P_{21}\mu_{21} > 0,$$

the last strict inequality is because at least one of these three terms is positive. Then  $\sum_{i=1}^{3} {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{i}(t) \geq {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{1}(t) > 0.$ 

(b)  $\mathcal{I}^*(t) = \{2, 3\}$ :

First note that from (36),  $\bar{Q}'_1(t) \geq 0$ . Also note that  $\bar{Q}'_2(t)$  and  $\bar{Q}'_3(t)$  have the same sign because  $\bar{Q}'_2(t) = {}^*\bar{Q}'_2(t)$  and  $\bar{Q}'_3(t) = {}^*\bar{Q}'_3(t)$ , and  ${}^*\bar{Q}'_2(t)$  has the same sign as  ${}^*\bar{Q}'_3(t)$ . From the first inequality in Lemma 5.3  $(\sum_{i\in\mathcal{I}^*(t)}\nu_i^*\bar{L}'_i(t)\leq -\epsilon_1)$ , we conclude that both  $\bar{Q}'_2(t)$  and  $\bar{Q}'_3(t)$  are negative. From the second inequality in Lemma 5.3  $(\sum_{i\in\mathcal{I}_*(t)}\nu_i^*\bar{L}'_i(t)\geq \epsilon_1)$ , then  $\bar{Q}'_1(t)$  is lower bounded by a strictly positive constant. Then  $\sum_{i=1}^3 {}_*\bar{Q}'_i(t)\geq {}_*\bar{Q}'_1(t)=\bar{Q}'_1(t)>0$ .

3.  $\mathcal{I}_*(t) = \{1, 2\}$  or  $\mathcal{I}_*(t) = \{2, 3\}$ . We use  $\mathcal{I}_*(t) = \{1, 2\}$  to illustrate.

From (35) and (36),  $\bar{T}'_{32}(t) = 1$ ,  $\bar{T}'_{22}(t) = 0$  and  $\bar{T}'_{11}(t) + \bar{T}'_{21}(t) = 1$ . For  $\bar{Q}_1$  and  $\bar{Q}_2$ :

$$\bar{Q}'_1(t) = \lambda_1 + P_{31}\mu_{32} + P_{21}\mu_{21}\bar{T}'_{21}(t) - (1 - P_{11})\mu_{11}\bar{T}'_{11}(t),$$

$$\bar{Q}_2'(t) = \lambda_2 + P_{32}\mu_{32} + P_{12}\mu_{11}\bar{T}_{11}'(t) - (1 - P_{22})\mu_{21}\bar{T}_{21}'(t).$$

From (35),  $\bar{T}'_{11}(t) + \bar{T}'_{21}(t) = 1$ . Then (using (9))

$$(\nu_{1}^{*}, \nu_{2}^{*}) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 - P_{11} & -P_{21} \\ -P_{12} & 1 - P_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{Q}'_{1}(t) \\ \bar{Q}'_{2}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= (\nu_{1}^{*}, \nu_{2}^{*}) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 - P_{11} & -P_{21} \\ -P_{12} & 1 - P_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{1} + P_{31}\mu_{32} \\ \lambda_{2} + P_{32}\mu_{32} \end{pmatrix} - z_{1}^{*}.$$

Note that

$$\lambda_1 + P_{21}(\mu_{21}x_{21}^* + \mu_{22}x_{22}^*) + P_{31}\mu_{32}x_{32}^* - (1 - P_{11})\mu_{11}x_{11}^* = 0,$$
  
$$\lambda_2 + P_{12}\mu_{11}x_{11}^* + P_{32}\mu_{32}x_{32}^* - (1 - P_{22})(\mu_{21}x_{21}^* + \mu_{22}x_{22}^*) = 0.$$

Thus

$$\lambda_1 + P_{31}\mu_{32} + P_{21}\mu_{21}x_{21}^* - (1 - P_{11})\mu_{11}x_{11}^* = P_{31}\mu_{32}(1 - x_{32}^*) - P_{21}\mu_{22}x_{22}^*,$$

$$\lambda_2 + P_{32}\mu_{32} + P_{12}\mu_{11}x_{11}^* - (1 - P_{22})\mu_{21}x_{21}^* = P_{32}\mu_{32}(1 - x_{32}^*) + (1 - P_{22})\mu_{22}x_{22}^*.$$

Thus, using (9) and (16)  $(x_{11}^* + x_{21}^* = 1)$ ,

$$(\nu_{1}^{*}, \nu_{2}^{*}) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 - P_{11} & -P_{21} \\ -P_{12} & 1 - P_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{1} + P_{31}\mu_{32} \\ \lambda_{2} + P_{32}\mu_{32} \end{pmatrix} - z_{1}^{*}$$

$$\geq (\nu_{1}^{*}, \nu_{2}^{*}) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 - P_{11} & -P_{21} \\ -P_{12} & 1 - P_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} -P_{21} \\ 1 - P_{22} \end{pmatrix} \times \mu_{22} x_{22}^{*}$$

$$= \nu_{2}^{*} \times \mu_{22} x_{22}^{*} > 0.$$

Note that  $\bar{Q}_1'(t) = *\bar{Q}_1'(t)$ ,  $\bar{Q}_2'(t) = *\bar{Q}_2'(t)$ , and  $*\bar{Q}_1'(t)$  and  $*\bar{Q}_2'(t)$  have the same sign, they must be both positive and also

$$(\nu_1^*, \nu_2^*) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 - P_{11} & -P_{21} \\ -P_{12} & 1 - P_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} {}_*\bar{Q}'_1(t) \\ {}_*\bar{Q}'_2(t) \end{pmatrix} \ge \nu_2^* \times \mu_{22} x_{22}^*.$$

Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{3} {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{i}(t) \ge \sum_{i=1}^{2} {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{i}(t) \ge C(\nu_{1}^{*}, \nu_{2}^{*}) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 - P_{11} & -P_{21} \\ -P_{12} & 1 - P_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{1}(t) \\ {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{2}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

for an appropriate positive constant C. Thus,  $\sum_{i=1}^{3} {}_{*}\bar{Q}'_{i}(t)$  has a (positive constant) lower bound.

**Proof of Step 3:** From (34),

$$\bar{W}'(t) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} z_j^* (1 - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}(j)} T'_{ij}(t)).$$

With the assumption that there are at least two nonzero  $\bar{Q}_i(t)$ , for each server j,  $\sum_{i \in C(j)} \bar{Q}_i(t) > 0$ . As a result, from (35),

$$1 - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}(j)} T'_{ij}(t) = 0, \quad \text{for} \quad j \in \mathcal{J}.$$

Thus,  $\bar{W}'(t) = 0$ , which can be implied by a special case that there are at least two nonempty queues from the following lemma.

**Lemma 7.1.** Assume that at a regular time t, at least two  $\bar{Q}_i(t)$  are nonzero, then under any service policy such that (35) holds, we have

$$\bar{W}'(t) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} y_i^* \bar{Q}_i'(t) = 0.$$

The lemma is direct and we omit the proof. From Lemma 7.1, it is enough to prove that for all  $t > t_0$ , there are at least two  $\bar{Q}_i(t)$  being nonzero. We consider  $(t_0, t_1]$  and  $(t_1, \infty)$ . For  $(t_1, \infty)$ , the result is obvious because  $\sum_{i=1}^3 *\bar{Q}'_i(t) > 0$ . For  $(t_0, t_1]$ , note that

$$\bar{Q}'_1(t) + \bar{Q}'_3(t) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_3 + (P_{21} + P_{23})(\mu_{21} + \mu_{22}) > 0,$$

because at least one of the above terms on the right hand side should be positive.

**Proof of Step 4:** Assume it does not hold. Then there is one t such that  $\bar{Q}(t) \neq \bar{Q}(t_2)$ . Because  $\bar{W}(t) = \bar{W}(t_0)$ , we can conclude that  $\sum_{i=1}^3 {}_*\bar{Q}_i(t) < \sum_{i=1}^3 q_i^*(\bar{W}(t_0))$ . Let  $\epsilon = \sum_{i=1}^3 q_i^*(\bar{W}(t_0)) - \sum_{i=1}^3 {}_*\bar{Q}_i(t)$ , then due to the continuity, there is a time  $s \in [t_2, t]$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^3 {}_*\bar{Q}_i(s) = \sum_{i=1}^3 q_i^*(\bar{W}(t_0)) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$  and for  $u \in (s, t)$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^3 {}_*\bar{Q}_i(u) < \sum_{i=1}^3 q_i^*(\bar{W}(t_0)) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . However, from step 2,  $\sum_{i=1}^3 {}_*\bar{Q}_i'(\cdot)$  is always positive, thus it cannot decrease to  $\sum_{i=1}^3 q_i^*(\bar{W}(t_0)) - \epsilon$ . Hence, we arrive at a contradiction.

Now we prove (b). Assume the conclusion in (b) does not hold. Then there is a t such that  $\bar{Q}(t) \neq 0$ . Denote by  $\epsilon = \sum_{i=1}^{3} y_i^* \bar{Q}_i(t)$ . Due to the continuity, there must be a time  $t_1 \in (0,t)$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{3} y_i^* \bar{Q}_i(t_1) = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . Then from step 3 above, for all  $s \geq t_1$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^{3} y_i^* \bar{Q}_i(s) = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . Hence, we arrive at a contradiction.

Remark 6. Step 3 gives a different result from that in Mandelbaum and Stolyar (2004) (see the bound using a constant  $K \geq 1$  in their Theorem 3). The significance of this result is that even if the initial status is not a fixed point, the workload has no jump; therefore the proposed policy is always optimal. This is mainly due to the fact that there are no nonbasic activities according to the system structure.

### Appendix C: Proof of Lemma 5.4

The proof is similar to the one for Lemma 6 in Chen and Ye (2012), and we provide it here for completeness. From Proposition 1, there is some time T sufficiently long, so that in any hydrodynamic limit,  $\bar{Q}(t)$  will approach the fixed-point state from an initial state  $\bar{Q}(0)$  with  $\bar{W}(0) \leq \chi + c + 1$  for  $t \geq T$ . Let

$$T = T_{\chi + c + 1}. (47)$$

The initial state bound  $\chi + c + 1$  is used as the subscript to remind us that T varies on the initial state.

#### 1. The case $\ell = 0$ :

Property (a): From assumption (38),  $(\bar{W}^{r,0}(0), \bar{Q}^{r,0}(0)) \to (\chi, q^*(\chi))$  as  $r \to \infty$ . Hence, it follows from the hydrodynamic convergence (Lemma 5.2) and the uniform attraction (Proposition 1), that as  $r \to \infty$ ,

$$(\bar{W}^{r,0}(u), \bar{Q}^{r,0}(u)) \to (\bar{W}(u), \bar{Q}(u)) = (\chi, q^*(\chi)), \text{ u.o.c. in } u \in [0, T].$$
 (48)

(Because the limit is unique, the convergence is along the whole sequence of r.) Let r be sufficiently large, such that  $|\bar{W}^{r,0}(u) - \chi| \leq \min_{i \in \mathcal{I}} y_i^* \epsilon/2$  and  $|\bar{Q}^{r,0}(u) - q^*(\chi)| \leq \epsilon/2$  for all  $u \in [0,T]$ . Then, we have

$$|\bar{Q}^{r,0}(u) - q^*(\bar{W}^{r,0}(u))| \le |\bar{Q}^{r,0}(u) - q^*(\chi)| + |q^*(\bar{W}^{r,0}(u)) - q^*(\chi)|$$

$$\le \frac{\epsilon}{2} + |\bar{W}^{r,0}(u) - \chi| / \min_{i \in \mathcal{I}} y_i^* \le \epsilon,$$
(49)

for all  $u \in [0, T]$ . Hence, property (a) holds for  $\ell = 0$  when r is sufficiently large.

Property (b): It follows from (48) that  $\bar{W}^{r,0}(u)$  is close to  $\chi$  for all  $u \in [0,T]$  when r is sufficiently large, which leads to property (b) for  $\ell = 0$ .

Property (c): From the assumption of cost function C,  $q_i^*(x)$  will not be zero unless x = 0. Then by (49), for any small enough  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  with  $q_i^*(\epsilon) > \epsilon_0$  and large enough r

$$\bar{Q}_i^{r,0}(u) \ge q_i^*(\bar{W}^{r,0}(u)) - \epsilon_0.$$

The increase of  $q_i^*(\cdot)$  implies that  $q_i^*(\bar{W}^{r,0}(u)) > q_i^*(\epsilon)$  when  $\bar{W}^{r,0}(u) > \epsilon$ . Thus, for any  $u \in [0,T], \bar{Q}_i^{r,0}(u) > 0$  for  $i \in \mathcal{I}$  and

$$\bar{Y}^{r,0}(u) - \bar{Y}^{r,0}(0) = \sum_{j=1}^{2} z_{j}^{*}(u - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}(j)} \bar{T}_{j}^{r,0}(u)) = 0.$$

- 2. The case  $\ell = 1, \dots, \lfloor \sqrt{r}\delta/T \rfloor$ : Suppose, to the contrary, there exists a subsequence  $\mathcal{R}_1$  of  $\{r\}$ , such that for any  $r \in \mathcal{R}_1$ , at least one of the properties fails to hold for some integers  $\ell \in [1, \sqrt{r}\delta/T]$ . Then, for any  $r \in \mathcal{R}_1$ , there exists a smallest integer, denoted by  $\ell_r$ , in the interval  $[1, \sqrt{r}\delta/T]$ , such that at least one of the properties fails to hold. To reach a contradiction, it suffices to construct an infinite subsequence  $\mathcal{R}_2 \subset \mathcal{R}_1$ , such that the properties hold for  $\ell = \ell_r$  for sufficiently large  $r \in \mathcal{R}_2$ .
- Property (a): From the contradictory assumption, we know that the properties hold for  $\ell=0,1,\cdots,\ell_r-1, r\in\mathcal{R}_1$ . Specifically, for  $\ell=\ell_r-1$ , we have  $\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r-1}(0)\leq \chi+c+1$ , for all  $r\in\mathcal{R}_1$ . Hence, it follows from the hydrodynamic limit, that there exists a further subsequence  $\mathcal{R}_2\subset\mathcal{R}_1$ , such that  $(\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r-1}(u),\bar{Q}^{r,\ell_r-1}(u))\to (\bar{W}(u),\bar{Q}(u))$ , u.o.c., as  $r\to\infty$  along  $\mathcal{R}_2$  with  $\bar{W}(0)\leq \chi+c+1$ . Then  $\bar{Q}(u)=q^*(\bar{W}(u))$  for all  $u\geq T$  by (47). Hence, for sufficiently large  $r\in\mathcal{R}_2$ ,

$$\begin{split} |\bar{Q}^{r,\ell_r}(u) - q^*(\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u))| &= |\bar{Q}^{r,\ell_r-1}(u+T) - q^*(\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r-1}(u+T))| \\ &\leq |\bar{Q}^{r,\ell_r-1}(u+T) - \bar{Q}(u+T)| \\ &+ |q^*(\bar{W}(u+T)) - q^*(\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r-1}(u+T))| \\ &\leq \epsilon, \end{split}$$

for all  $u \in [0, T]$ . Hence, property (a) holds with  $\ell = \ell_r$  for sufficiently large  $r \in \mathcal{R}_2$ .

- Property (c): It is similar to the proof of Property (a) in the case  $\ell=0$ . From property (a) in this case above, for small enough  $\epsilon_0>0$  with  $q_i^*(\epsilon)>\epsilon_0$  and all  $u\in[0,T],\ \bar{Q}_i^{r,\ell_r}(u)\geq q_i^*(\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u))-\epsilon_0$  and then  $\bar{Q}_i^{r,\ell_r}(u)>0$  when  $\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u)>\epsilon$ . Thus, for any  $u\in[0,T],$   $\bar{Y}^{r,\ell_r}(u)-\bar{Y}^{r,\ell_r}(0)=\sum_{j=1}^2 z_j^*(u-\sum_{i\in\mathcal{C}(j)}\bar{T}_j^{r,\ell_r}(u))=0$ . Hence, property (c) holds for  $\ell_r$  with sufficiently large  $r\in\mathcal{R}_2$ .
- Property (b): Fix any  $u_0 \in [0, T]$ . We consider two mutually exclusive cases: (i) The condition in (c) holds for all  $\ell = 0, 1, \dots, \ell_{r-1}$ , and for  $\ell = \ell_r$  with  $u \leq u_0$ ; (ii) the condition in (c) does not hold for some  $\ell \in [0, \ell_r 1]$ , or  $\ell = \ell_r$  but with some  $u \leq u_0$ .

  In the first case,  $\bar{Y}^{r,\ell}(u)$  does not increase in  $u \in [0, T]$ , for  $\ell = 0, \dots, \ell_r 1$  and for

 $\ell = \ell_r$  with  $u \in [0, u_0]$ . As a result, for sufficiently large r,

$$\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u_0) = \bar{W}^{r,0}(0) + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\ell_r-1} (\bar{W}^{r,\ell}(T) - \bar{W}^{r,\ell}(0)) + (\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u_0) - \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(0))$$

$$= \bar{W}^{r,0}(0) + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\ell_r-1} ((y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell}(T) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell}(0))$$

$$+ ((y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r}(u_0) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r}(0))$$

$$= \bar{W}^{r,0}(0) + (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r}(u_0) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,1}(0)$$

$$= \widehat{W}^r(\tau) + (y^*)^T \widehat{X}^r(\tau + \ell_r T/r + u_0/r) - (y^*)^T \widehat{X}^r(\tau + T/r)$$

$$\leq (\chi + \epsilon) + [(y^*)^T \widehat{X}(\tau + \ell_r T/r + u_0/r) - (y^*)^T \widehat{X}(\tau) + \epsilon]$$

$$\leq (\chi + \epsilon) + (c + \epsilon) \leq \chi + c + 1.$$

Here, the second equality is from Property (c); the fourth equality is from (26) and (27); and the last two inequalities are from the condition of this lemma and the fact that  $\widehat{X}^r \to \widehat{X}^*$  u.o.c.

In the second case, if there is a  $u \in [0, u_0]$ , such that  $\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u) \leq \epsilon$ , then let  $\ell_r^0 = \ell_r$  and let  $u_r = \sup\{0 \leq u' \leq u_0 : \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u') \leq \epsilon\}$ ; otherwise, let  $\ell_r^0$  (among  $0, 1, \dots, \ell_r - 1$ ) be the largest integer, such that the condition in (c) does not hold. Moreover, let  $u_r = \sup\{0 \leq u' \leq T : \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u') \leq \epsilon\}$ . Then, we can conclude that  $\bar{Y}^{r,\ell_r}(u)$  does not increase for  $\ell_r = \ell_r^0$  and  $u \geq u_r$  or  $\ell_r > \ell_r^0$ .

According to the definition of  $u_r$ , we can find a time point  $u_r^{\epsilon}$ , such that

$$u_r - \epsilon \le u_r^{\epsilon} \le u_r$$
, and  $\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^{\epsilon}) \le \epsilon$ .

Then we have

$$\begin{split} & \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u) \\ = & \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) + \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r) - \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) + \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(T) - \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r) \\ & + \sum_{\ell=\ell_r^0+1}^{\ell_r-1} (\bar{W}^{r,\ell}(T) - \bar{W}^{r,\ell}(0)) + (\bar{W}^{r,\ell_r}(u) - \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(0)) \\ = & \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) + \bar{Y}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r) - \bar{Y}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) + (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) \\ & + (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r^0}(T) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r) + \sum_{\ell=\ell_r^0+1}^{\ell_r-1} ((y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell}(T) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell}(0)) \\ & + ((y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r}(u) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r}(0)) \\ = & \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) + \bar{Y}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r) - \bar{Y}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) + ((y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r}(u) - (y^*)^T \bar{X}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) \\ \leq & \bar{W}^{r,\ell_r^0}(u_r^\epsilon) + \sum_{j\in\mathcal{J}} z_j^* \epsilon + [(y^*)^T \hat{X}^r (\tau + \ell_r T/r + u/r) - (y^*)^T \hat{X}^r (\tau + \ell_r^0 T/r + u_r/r) + \epsilon] \\ \leq & (\chi + \epsilon) + \sum_{j\in\mathcal{J}} z_j^* \epsilon + [(y^*)^T \hat{X}(\tau + \ell_r T/r + u/r) - (y^*)^T \hat{X}(\tau + \ell_r^0 T/r + u_r/r) + \epsilon] \\ \leq & \chi + (\sum_{j\in\mathcal{J}} z_j^* + 1) \epsilon + (c + \epsilon) \leq \chi + c + 1. \end{split}$$

Hence, we have shown that the properties hold for  $\ell = \ell_r$  when  $r \in \mathcal{R}_2$  is sufficiently large, which contradicts the definition of the subsequence  $\mathcal{R}_2$ .