## Supplementary Material (not for the paper publication)

## Supplementary Material B. The transient boundary layer flow $[\breve{u}, \breve{v}]_{bl}$

We investigate the nature of  $[\check{u}, \check{v}]_{bl}$  (5.6c) for  $t \gg 1$ . We anticipate that it is localised in a boundary layer of z-thickness  $\Delta_{bl} = xt^{-1/2}$ , near z = 0, for which convenient coordinates are  $(\zeta, z)$ :

$$\zeta = 2(1-\mathbf{x})t = O(1),$$
  $2(1-\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{z}^2 + O(\mathbf{z}^4),$   $\mathbf{z} \ll 1.$  (1*a*-c)

The evaluation of (5.6c) for large t is helped by writing

$$[\breve{u}, \breve{v}]_{bl} = (\pi x)^{-1} [\mathsf{x}\mathsf{F}_i, \mathsf{F}_r + \mathsf{F}_0], \qquad \mathsf{F}_0(t) = \int_t^\infty \frac{\mathrm{J}_1(2\tau)}{\tau} \,\mathrm{d}\tau \qquad (2a, b)$$

with

$$\mathsf{F}_{r} + \mathrm{i}\mathsf{F}_{i} \equiv \mathsf{F}(\mathsf{x}, t) = -\int_{t}^{\infty} \frac{\mathrm{J}_{1}(2\tau)}{\tau} \exp(\mathrm{i}2\mathsf{x}(t-\tau)) \,\mathrm{d}\tau \,. \tag{2c}$$

Since  $J_1(2\tau) = (\pi\tau)^{-1/2} \cos(2\tau - 3\pi/4) + O(\tau^{-3/2})$ , we have

$$\mathsf{F}_0 \approx \frac{1}{2}\pi^{-1/2}t^{-3/2}\cos(2t - \pi/4) = O(t^{-3/2}), \tag{3}$$

which is small compared to the resonant contribution to F:

$$\mathsf{F} = -\frac{\exp[\mathrm{i}(2t - 3\pi/4)]}{\pi^{1/2}} \int_{t}^{\infty} \frac{\exp[\mathrm{i}2(1 - \mathsf{x})(\tau - t)]}{2\tau^{3/2}} \,\mathrm{d}\tau \, + \, O\big(t^{-3/2}\big),$$

obtained on the basis that x is close to unity. It may be expressed as

$$\mathsf{F} = \mathrm{i} \, \frac{\exp[\mathrm{i}(2t - \pi/4)]}{(\pi t)^{1/2}} \, \mathsf{G}(\zeta) \, + \, O(t^{-3/2}), \tag{4a}$$

where

$$\mathsf{G}(\zeta) = \frac{\zeta^{1/2}}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\zeta'}}{(\zeta + \zeta')^{3/2}} \,\mathrm{d}\zeta' = 1 - (-\mathrm{i}\pi\zeta)^{1/2} \,\mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\zeta} \,\mathrm{erfc}\big((-\mathrm{i}\zeta)^{1/2}\big) \tag{4b}$$

$$= -\zeta^{1/2} \frac{d}{d\zeta} \left[ \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{i\zeta'}}{(\zeta + \zeta')^{1/2}} \right] d\zeta' = -(i\pi\zeta)^{1/2} \frac{d}{d\zeta} \left[ e^{-i\zeta} \operatorname{erfc} \left( (-i\zeta)^{1/2} \right) \right], \quad (4c)$$

is a function of the similarity variable  $\zeta$  (1*a*). Use of (4*c*) shows that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\mathsf{G}(\zeta)}{\zeta^{1/2}} \,\mathrm{d}\zeta \,=\, (\mathrm{i}\pi)^{1/2} \,. \tag{5}$$

With the help of (http://dlmf.nist.gov/7.6.E2), we may express (4b) in the form

$$\mathsf{G}(\zeta) = -(-\mathrm{i}\pi\zeta)^{1/2}\,\mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\zeta} + \mathsf{P}(\zeta)\,,\tag{6a}$$

where  $\mathsf{P}(\zeta)$  is an entire function with the power series expansion

$$P(\zeta) \equiv P_r(\zeta) + iP_i(\zeta) = 1 + (-i\pi\zeta)^{1/2} e^{-i\zeta} \operatorname{erf}((-i\zeta)^{1/2})$$
$$= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-i2\zeta)^n}{1 \cdot 3 \cdots (2n-1)}.$$
 (6b)

Explicitly the real and imaginary parts are

$$\mathsf{P}_r(\zeta) = 1 - (2\zeta)^2/3 + \cdots, \qquad \mathsf{P}_i(\zeta) = -2\zeta + (2\zeta)^3/15 + \cdots. \qquad (6c)$$

The value of  $\mathsf{F}$  determined by substitution of only the first term  $-(-i\pi\zeta)^{1/2} e^{-i\zeta}$  of  $\mathsf{G}$  into (4a) is  $-\sqrt{2(1-\mathbf{x})}\exp(2i\mathbf{x}t) \approx -|\mathbf{z}|\exp(2i\mathbf{x}t)$ . It defines the contribution  $-(\pi x)^{-1}|\mathbf{z}|[\mathbf{x}\sin(2\mathbf{x}t),\cos(2\mathbf{x}t)]$  to the flow  $[\check{u},\check{v}]_{bl}$  (2a), which exactly cancels the wave part of  $[\check{u},\check{v}]_{ms}$  (5.6b) so that their sum is simply  $[0,\check{v}_G]$ . Hence the remaining second term  $\mathsf{P}(\zeta)$  determines the complete boundary layer flow  $[\check{u},\check{v}]_{ms+bl}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} (\pi x)\breve{u}_{ms+bl} \\ (\pi x)\breve{v}_{ms+bl}+1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{(\pi t)^{1/2}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{x}\mathsf{P}_r(\zeta) & -\mathsf{x}\mathsf{P}_i(\zeta) \\ -\mathsf{P}_i(\zeta) & -\mathsf{P}_r(\zeta) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(2t - \pi/4) \\ \sin(2t - \pi/4) \end{bmatrix} + O(t^{-3/2}), \quad (7a)$$

in which (see (1))

$$\zeta = z^2 t (1 + O(t^{-1}))$$
  $x = 1 + O(t^{-1})$  when  $\zeta = O(1)$ . (7b)

Note that the contribution from  $\mathsf{F}_0$  is  $O(t^{-3/2})$  and contained in the error estimate. The  $\zeta = 0$  values of (7a). At z = 0 the mainstream part  $[\check{u}_{ms}, \check{v}_{ms} + (\pi x)^{-1}]$  of (7a) vanishes. So what remains is  $[\check{u}_{bl}, \check{v}_{bl}]_{z=0}$ , which with  $\zeta = 0, \mathbf{x} = 1$  recovers (B1), valid for  $t \gg 1$ .

For large  $\zeta$ , rather than (6), we use the asymptotic form

$$\mathsf{G}(\zeta) = \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{i}\zeta^{-1} + O(\zeta^{-2}) \qquad \text{for} \qquad |\zeta| \gg 1 \tag{8}$$

of (4b). To evaluate  $[\breve{u}, \breve{v}]_{bl}$  from (2) in that limit, we find it tidier, though not essential, to reinstate the the asymptotic value (3) of F<sub>0</sub>. Then substitution of (8) into (4a) determines

$$\mathsf{F} + \mathsf{F}_0 = (\pi t)^{-1/2} \zeta^{-1} \left[ -\exp(\mathrm{i}(2t - \pi/4)) + (1 - \mathrm{x})\cos(2t - \pi/4) \right] + O(t^{-3/2})$$
  
=  $-(\pi t)^{-1/2} \zeta^{-1} \left[ \mathrm{x}\cos(2t - \pi/4) + \mathrm{i}\sin(2t - \pi/4) \right] + O(t^{-3/2}).$ (9)

In turn substitution into (2a) yields

$$[\breve{u}, \breve{v}]_{bl} = -(\pi \varpi \zeta)^{-1} (\pi t)^{-1/2} [\sin(2t - \pi/4), \cos(2t - \pi/4)] + O(t^{-3/2}), \quad (10)$$

which tends to zero at fixed x as  $z \to \infty$ .

We make the approximation  $\mathbf{x} \approx 1$  in (2*a*), continue to neglect  $\mathsf{F}_0$  and evaluate the mean value  $(\pi x)^{-1} \langle \mathsf{F} \rangle$ , using (4*a*), to obtain

$$\langle \breve{v}_{bl} \rangle + \mathrm{i} \langle \breve{u}_{bl} \rangle \approx \mathrm{i} (\pi x)^{-1} (\pi t)^{-1/2} \exp(\mathrm{i}(2t - \pi/4)) \int_0^1 \mathsf{G}(\zeta) \,\mathrm{d}z \,, \qquad (11a)$$

which under the further approximation  $z \approx (\zeta/t)^{1/2}$  (see (7b)), implying  $x^{-1}dz \approx \frac{1}{2}(t\zeta)^{-1/2}d\zeta$ , yields

$$\langle \breve{v}_{bl} \rangle + \mathrm{i} \langle \breve{u}_{bl} \rangle \approx \mathrm{i} \frac{\exp(\mathrm{i}(2t - \pi/4))}{2\pi t} \frac{1}{\pi^{1/2}} \int_0^{t/\varpi^2} \frac{\mathsf{G}(\zeta)}{\zeta^{1/2}} \,\mathrm{d}\zeta \,. \tag{11b}$$

Then in the limit  $t/\varpi^2 \to \infty$ , use of (5) determines

$$\left[ \langle \breve{u}_{bl} \rangle, \langle \breve{v}_{bl} \rangle \right] = (2\pi t)^{-1} [\cos(2t), -\sin(2t)] + O(t^{-3/2}), \qquad (11c)$$

as given previously by (5.7c).