## **Supplementary Material.**

## Slow Manifold Reduction by Multiple-Scale Expansion

Begin with equations (2) and (3), written in the form

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = v_i \tag{13a}$$

$$\varepsilon \frac{dv}{dt} = \varepsilon \frac{3R}{2} \frac{Du}{Dt} + (v - u) + \varepsilon \left(1 - \frac{3R}{2}\right) g_r + 3\varepsilon R\Omega \times (u - v) + 2\varepsilon \left(\frac{3R}{2} - 1\right) \Omega \times v$$
(13b)

Let  $\tilde{t} = (t - t_o)/\varepsilon$  represent a fast time variable, and consider the particle position and velocity to be functions of t and  $\tilde{t}$ , which are formally treated as separate variables. Thus d/dt is replaced by  $\varepsilon^{-1}\partial/\partial \tilde{t} + \partial/\partial t$ , where it is understood that both  $\partial/\partial t$  and  $\partial/\partial \tilde{t}$  are to be interpreted as particle-following derivatives (and not derivatives with position held constant). Note that the background flow does not depend on  $\tau$ , and thus the substantial derivative  $D\vec{u}/Dt$  is with respect to t alone. However, dependence on  $\tilde{t}$  is introduced when the derivative is evaluated at the position  $\vec{x}(\tilde{t}, t)$ .

Expanding both variables in a power series in  $\varepsilon$  leads to

$$\vec{x} = \vec{x}^{(0)}(\tilde{t}, t) + \varepsilon \vec{x}^{(1)}(\tilde{t}, t) + \cdots$$

$$\vec{v} = \vec{v}^{(0)}(\tilde{t}, t) + \varepsilon \vec{v}^{(1)}(\tilde{t}, t) + \cdots$$

Substitution into (13) leads to

$$\left(\varepsilon^{-1}\frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(0)}}{\partial \tilde{t}} + \frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(0)}}{\partial t}\right) + \varepsilon \left(\varepsilon^{-1}\frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(1)}}{\partial \tilde{t}} + \frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(1)}}{\partial t}\right) + \dots = \vec{v}^{(0)} + \varepsilon \vec{v}^{(1)} + \dots,$$
(14a)

and

$$\varepsilon \left( \varepsilon^{-1} \frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(0)}}{\partial \tilde{t}} + \frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(0)}}{\partial t} \right) + \varepsilon^2 \left( \varepsilon^{-1} \frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(1)}}{\partial \tilde{t}} + \frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(1)}}{\partial t} \right) + \dots = \vec{u} \left( \vec{x}^{(0)}(\tilde{t}, t), t \right) - \vec{v}^{(0)} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x_j} x_j^{(1)}$$

$$-\varepsilon v_i^{(1)} + \varepsilon \left[\frac{3R}{2}\frac{D\vec{u}}{Dt} + 3R\vec{\Omega} \times \left(\vec{u} - \vec{v}^{(0)}\right) + 2\left(\frac{3R}{2} - 1\right)\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v}^{(0)} + \left(1 - \frac{3R}{2}\right)\vec{g}_r\right] + \cdots,$$
(14b)

where again, the derivatives of  $\vec{u}$  are evaluated at  $\vec{x}^{(0)}$ . To lowest order, we have

$$\frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(0)}}{\partial \tilde{t}} = 0 \text{ and } \frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(0)}}{\partial \tilde{t}} = \vec{u} \left( \vec{x}^{(0)}(\tilde{t}, t), t \right) - \vec{v}^{(0)}.$$
(15a,b)

Thus  $\vec{x}^{(0)} = \vec{x}^{(0)}(t)$ , and since the right-hand side of (15b) is then independent of  $\tilde{t}$ , it follows that

$$\vec{v}^{(0)} = \vec{u} \left( \vec{x}^{(0)}(t), t \right) + \vec{c}^{(0)}(t) e^{-\tilde{t}}.$$
(16)

If a particle is initiated with a velocity that is differs from the local fluid velocity by more than  $O(\varepsilon)$ , then the drag on the particle brings it  $O(\varepsilon)$  close to the fluid velocity over a time scale of  $O(\varepsilon^{-1})$ . This behavior is consistent with the requirement in Fenichel theory that the background flow is a normally attracting manifold.

At the next order of approximation [O(0) in 14a], we have

$$\frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(1)}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(0)}}{\partial t} + \vec{v}^{(0)} = -\frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(0)}}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \big( \vec{x}^{(0)}(t), t \big) + \vec{c}^{(0)}(t) e^{-t}$$

After decay of the final term, the remaining terms on the right-hand side depend only on *t* and therefore lead to secular growth in  $\tau$  of  $x_i^{(1)}$ . To prevent this growth we must set these terms to zero:

$$\frac{\partial \vec{x}^{(0)}}{\partial t} = \vec{u} \left( \vec{x}^{(0)}(t), t \right) \tag{17}$$

Which indicates simply that following the decay from the initial velocity, the particle follows the flow at leading order. Solving the remaining equation for  $\vec{x}^{(1)}$  then gives

$$\vec{x}^{(1)} = \vec{x}_o^{(1)}(t) - \vec{c}^{(1)}(t)e^{-\tilde{t}}$$
(18)

Proceeding to  $O(\varepsilon)$  in (14b) then gives

$$\frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(1)}}{\partial \tilde{t}} + \vec{v}^{(1)} = -\frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(0)}}{\partial t} + \left(\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x_j}\right)_{x_i = x_i^{(0)}} x_j^{(1)} + \frac{3R}{2} \frac{D\vec{u}}{Dt} + 3R\vec{\Omega} \times (\vec{u} - \vec{v}^{(0)})$$
$$+ 2\left(\frac{3R}{2} - 1\right)\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v}^{(0)} + \left(1 - \frac{3R}{2}\right)\vec{g}_r$$

Using (16) to substitute for  $v_i^{(0)}$  on the right-hand side, and keeping in mind that  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$  represents not a local time derivative but a time derivative with  $\tilde{t}$  held constant, we have

$$\frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(0)}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{u} \left( \vec{x}^{(0)}(t), t \right) + \frac{\partial \vec{c}^{(0)}}{\partial t} e^{-\tilde{t}} = \frac{D\vec{u}}{Dt} + \frac{\partial \vec{c}^{(0)}}{\partial t} e^{-\tilde{t}}$$

Using this expression as well as (18) to substitute for and  $x_j^{(1)}$  leads to, after some regrouping of terms, to

$$\frac{\partial \vec{v}^{(1)}}{\partial t} + \vec{v}^{(1)} = \vec{a}^{(1)}(t) - \vec{b}^{(1)}(t)e^{-\tilde{t}},\tag{19}$$

where

$$\vec{a}^{(1)}(t) = \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x_j} x_{o,j}^{(1)}(t) + \left(\frac{3R}{2} - 1\right) \left[\frac{D\vec{u}}{Dt} - \vec{g}_r + 2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{u}^{(0)}\right],$$

and

$$\vec{b}^{(1)}(t) = \frac{\partial c_i^{(0)}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x_j} c_j^{(0)} + 3R\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{c}^{(0)}.$$

The solution to (19) is

$$\vec{v}^{(1)} = \vec{a}^{(1)}(t) - \vec{b}^{(1)}(t)\tilde{t}e^{-\tilde{t}}$$
<sup>(20)</sup>

We can now write down an expression for the particle velocity on the slow manifold, obtained by taking the limit  $\tilde{t} \to \infty$  in (16) and (20):

$$\vec{v}^{(0)} + \varepsilon \vec{v}^{(1)} = \vec{u} \left( \vec{x}^{(0)}(t), t \right) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x_j} x^{(1)}_{o,j}(t) + \varepsilon \left( \frac{3R}{2} - 1 \right) \left[ \frac{D \vec{u}}{D t} - \vec{g}_r + 2 \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{u}^{(0)} \right]$$

or, noting that  $\vec{x} = \vec{x}^{(0)} + \varepsilon \vec{x}_o^{(1)}(t) + O(\varepsilon^2)$  on the slow manifold:

$$\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = \vec{u}(\vec{x}(t), t) + \varepsilon \left(\frac{3R}{2} - 1\right) \left[\frac{D\vec{u}}{Dt} - \vec{g}_r + 2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{u}^{(0)}\right] + O(\varepsilon^2).$$
(2)