# **Statistical Equilibrium States and Long-Time Dynamics for a Transport Equation**

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Statistical equilibrium states for a linear transport equation were defined in a previous work. We consider here the two-dimensional case: we show that under some mild assumptions these equilibrium states actually describe the long-time dynamics of the system.

**KEY WORDS:** Statistical equilibrium states; transport equation; long-time dynamics.

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

We shall consider in this paper the linear transport equation

$$(\mathcal{T}) \quad \begin{cases} \rho_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0 & \text{on } \Omega\\ \rho(0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0(\mathbf{x}) \end{cases}$$

where  $\Omega$  is a bounded, connected, and regular open domain of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  [we shall assume  $d\mathbf{x}(\Omega) = 1$  for simplicity];  $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$  is a given incompressible  $(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0)$  velocity field in  $C^1(\overline{\Omega})$  which satisfies  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$  on  $\partial \Omega$  (**n** is the normal unit vector at the boundary  $\partial \Omega$ ); and  $\rho(t, \mathbf{x})$  is a scalar function.

It is well known that for any given  $\rho_0(\mathbf{x})$  in  $L^{\infty}(\Omega)$ , the equation  $(\mathcal{F})$  has a unique weak solution  $\rho(t, \mathbf{x})$  given by  $\rho(t, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0(\varphi_t^{-1}(\mathbf{x}))$ , where  $\varphi_t$  is the Lagrangian flow associated to **u**:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{u}(\varphi_t(\mathbf{x})) \\ \varphi_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} \end{cases}$$

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Since **u** is incompressible,  $\varphi_i: \Omega \to \Omega$  conserves the Lebesgue measure  $d\mathbf{x}$ .

We denote by  $\Phi_t$  the flow on  $L^{\infty}(\Omega)$  defined by  $(\mathcal{T})$ :

$$\rho(t, \mathbf{x}) = (\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t \rho_0)(\mathbf{x})$$

We will investigate here the long-time behavior of this flow. It is easily observed that besides some degenerate cases (mainly the case where **u** is the velocity field of a solid-body rotation), the solution of  $(\mathcal{T})$  undergoes small-scale oscillations and converges (in a weak sense), when t goes to infinity, toward some final state. We will give here a mathematical proof of the convergence of the flow, and show that the final state is accurately described as a statistical equilibrium state, according to the theory given in ref. 2.

Although this problem is interesting in itself, it is enlightening to consider it in the context of 2D turbulence: equation  $(\mathcal{T})$  describes the particular case of a passive scalar convected by a frozen velocity field. Our result points out a simple example where the "topological invariants" (such as the number of patches or holes) are clearly irrelevant to the long-time behavior. And we may conjecture that these invariants have no influence on the final state in the case of the 2D Euler system.

# 2. STATISTICAL EQUILIBRIUM STATES FOR (*T*)

As previously noticed, <sup>(2)</sup> ( $\mathscr{T}$ ) belongs to a class of equations to which a statistical equilibrium theory can be applied. Therefore to any given  $\rho_0(\mathbf{x})$ in  $L^{\infty}(\Omega)$  we can associate a statistical equilibrium state which is a Young measure  $v^*$  (see ref. 2 and below). We will prove in the following section that, under some mild assumptions on the field **u**, the Young measure  $v^*$ describes also the long-time dynamics of the system. Thus, that, in this particular case, a precise link between the long-time dynamics and the statistical equilibrium theory is established.

We refer to ref. 2 for a detailed presentation of the theory; we shall only indicate here the main recipe to get the equilibrium states.

## 2.1. Constants of the Motion for $(\mathcal{T})$

Let us denote by  $\psi$  the stream function of  $\mathbf{u} [\mathbf{u} = \nabla \times (\psi \mathbf{k}), \psi = 0$  on  $\partial \Omega$ , with  $\mathbf{k}$  the unit vector normal to the plane].

For any bounded continuous function  $g(\psi, \lambda)$  on  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ , we define the functional

$$F_g(\rho) = \int_{\Omega} g(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \rho(\mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x}$$

One easily checks that  $F_g$  is conserved by the flow  $\Phi_i$ . Indeed,

$$F_g(\Phi,\rho) = \int_{\Omega} g(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \rho(\varphi_i^{-1}(\mathbf{x}))) \, d\mathbf{x}$$

We make the change of variable  $\mathbf{x} = \varphi_i(\mathbf{x}')$ ; since  $\psi$  is the stream function of **u**, we have  $\psi(\varphi_i(\mathbf{x}')) = \psi(\mathbf{x}')$ , so that  $F_g(\Phi_i, \rho) = F_g(\rho)$ .

### 2.2. The Variational Problem

Let us recall a few definitions.<sup>(2,5)</sup>

• A Young measure  $\nu$  on  $\Omega \times [-R, R]$  is a measurable mapping  $\mathbf{x} \to \nu_{\mathbf{x}}$  from  $\Omega$  into the space  $M_1([-R, R])$  of the Borel probability measures on [-R, R], endowed with the narrow topology (weak topology associated to the continuous bounded functions). We denote by  $\mathcal{M}_R$  the convex set of the Young measures on  $\Omega \times [-R, R]$ ;  $\mathcal{M}_R$  is endowed with the narrow topology (of bounded measures on  $\Omega \times [-R, R]$ ) and it is a compact space.

• To any measurable function  $\rho: \Omega \to [-R, R]$  (i.e.,  $\rho \in L^{\infty}_{R}(\Omega)$ ), we associate the Young measure  $\delta_{\rho}: \mathbf{x} \to \delta_{\rho(\mathbf{x})}$ , the Dirac mass at  $\rho(\mathbf{x})$ .

• For  $\rho_0 \in L^{\infty}_R(\Omega)$ , we define the probability distribution  $\pi_0$  on [-R, R] by

$$\langle \pi_0, f \rangle = \int_{\Omega} f(\rho_0(\mathbf{x})) \, d\mathbf{x}$$

and we denote by  $\pi$  the Young measure such that  $\pi_x = \pi_0$ , for all x.

• For  $v \in \mathcal{M}_R$ , the Kullback information functional  $I_{\pi}(v)$  is defined by<sup>(4)</sup>

$$I_{\pi}(\nu) = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \int \operatorname{Ln}\left(\frac{d\nu_{x}}{d\pi_{0}}\right) d\nu_{\mathbf{x}}$$

if v is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\pi$ 

$$I_{\pi}(v) = +\infty$$
 if not

Let us suppose now that  $\delta_{\phi_{t}\rho_{0}} \rightarrow v$  (when  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ ) in the space  $\mathcal{M}_{R}$ , so that

$$\int_{\Omega} f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}, \boldsymbol{\rho}_0(\mathbf{x})) \, d\mathbf{x} \to \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \int f(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) \, dv_{\mathbf{x}}(\lambda)$$

for any continuous bounded function  $f(\mathbf{x}, \lambda)$ . In particular, if we take  $f(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = g(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \lambda)$ , we get

$$\int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \int g(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \lambda) \, d\nu_{\mathbf{x}}(\lambda) = \int_{\Omega} g(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \rho_0(\mathbf{x})) \, d\mathbf{x} \tag{1}$$

for any continuous bounded function  $g(\psi, \lambda)$ .

We denote by  $\mathscr{E}$  the subset of  $\mathscr{M}_R$  composed of the Young measures satisfying (1).  $\mathscr{E}$  is convex, compact, and nonempty.

Now, following the approach given in ref. 2, the equilibrium state  $v^*$  is defined as the solution of the variational problem

(V.P.) 
$$I_{\pi}(\nu^*) = \min_{\nu \in \mathscr{E}} I_{\pi}(\nu)$$

Since  $I_{\pi}$  is a (positive) convex lower-semicontinuous functional on  $\mathcal{M}_R$  which is strictly convex on  $\{v: I_{\pi}(v) < +\infty\}$ , (V.P.) has always a solution, which is unique if  $I_{\pi}$  is not identical to  $+\infty$  on  $\mathscr{E}$ .

We describe now the solution of this variational problem.

## 2.3. The Young Measure $\pi^{\psi}$

The functional  $g(\psi, \lambda) \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} g(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \rho_0(\mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x}$  defines a Borel probability measure on  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ , whose first projection is the image measure P of  $d\mathbf{x}$  by  $\psi$ , i.e.,

$$\int_{\Omega} g(\psi(\mathbf{x})) \, d\mathbf{x} = \int g(\psi) \, dP(\psi)$$

Therefore, by a general theorem,<sup>(1)</sup> there is a unique Young measure  $\psi \to \zeta_{\psi}$  on  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ , such that

$$\int_{\Omega} g(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \rho_0(\mathbf{x})) \, d\mathbf{x} = \int dP(\psi) \int g(\psi, \lambda) \, d\zeta_{\psi}(\lambda)$$

The Young measure  $\pi^{\psi}$  on  $\Omega \times [-R, R]$  is now defined by  $\pi_x^{\psi} = \zeta_{\psi(x)}$  a.e. (almost everywhere) in  $\Omega$ .

Obviously  $\pi^{\psi}$  belongs to  $\mathscr{E}$ , and the solution of (V.P.) straightforwardly follows from the following lemma, whose proof is easy.

**Lemma.** Let  $\nu$  be any Young measure in  $\mathscr{E}$ ; then we have  $I_{\pi}(\nu) = I_{\pi^{\psi}}(\nu) + I_{\pi}(\pi^{\psi})$ .

Therefore, if  $I_{\pi}(\pi^{\psi}) < +\infty$ ,  $\pi^{\psi}$  is the unique solution of (V.P.).

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**Remark.** We can easily check that the condition  $I_{\pi}(\pi^{\psi}) < +\infty$  is satisfied if  $\rho_0$  takes a finite number of values, but we do not know whether it is always satisfied. If  $I_{\pi}(\pi^{\psi}) = +\infty$ ,  $\pi^{\psi}$  is still a solution of (V.P.), but it is no longer unique.

## 3. LONG-TIME DYNAMICS

It is a general underlying assumption in statistical mechanics that the equilibrium state describes, in some sense, the long-time dynamics of the system. More precisely, we expect here that  $\delta_{\varphi_t\rho_0} \rightarrow \pi^{\psi}$  (when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ) in the space  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{R}}$ .

We prove now that this is true, under some mild assumptions on the velocity field  $\mathbf{u}$  (which mainly consists in discarding the degenerate case of a solid-body rotation).

#### 3.1. Preliminary Assumptions on u

• The stream function  $\psi$  varies from 0 (value taken at the boundary  $\partial \Omega$ ) to its maximum value  $\psi_m > 0$ , which is reached at a unique point  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \Omega$ .

•  $\nabla \psi(\mathbf{x}) \neq 0$ , for all  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}^*$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \overline{\Omega}$ .

• For all  $\psi$ ,  $0 \le \psi < \psi_m$ , the set  $\Sigma_{\psi} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \overline{\Omega}: \psi(\mathbf{x}) = \psi\}$  is a closed regular curve. We denote by  $d\sigma$  the superficial measure on  $\Sigma_{\psi}$ , and by  $d\sigma_{\psi} = d\sigma/|\nabla \psi|$  the  $\varphi_{t}$ -invariant measure.

• We denote by  $T_{\psi} = \int_{\Sigma_{\psi}} d\sigma_{\psi}$  the time needed to cover  $\Sigma_{\psi}$ . We assume that  $T_{\psi}$  is a regular function of  $\psi$  on the interval  $[0, \psi_m[$ ; it is integrable since

$$\int_{0}^{\psi_{m}} T_{\psi} d\psi = \int_{0}^{\psi_{m}} d\psi \int_{\Sigma_{\psi}} d\sigma_{\psi} = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} = 1$$

We can now state our result.

**Theorem.** Let us assume that, besides the above assumptions, the following hypothesis (H) holds:

(H) 
$$\left(\int_{\psi}^{\psi_m} T_{\psi} d\psi\right)^{1/2} \left|\frac{d}{d\psi}\left(\frac{1}{T_{\psi}^2}\right)\right| \ge c > 0$$
 for  $0 \le \psi < \psi_n$ 

Then, for any  $\rho_0 \in L^\infty_R(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\delta_{\Phi_t \rho_0} \xrightarrow[(t \to \infty)]{} \pi^{\psi}$$
 in the space  $\mathcal{M}_R$ 

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**Proof.** Let us first clear up the meaning of the hypothesis (H), which is a priori rather obscure. With this aim, let us take  $\Omega = D(0, \pi^{-1/2})$ , disk of radius  $\pi^{-1/2}$  centered at 0, and  $\psi = \psi(r)$ , a radially symmetric function. Let us denote by  $\alpha(r) = -\psi'(r)/r$  the angular velocity of the motion on the circle of radius r. Elementary calculations give

$$\alpha'(r) = -2\pi^{3/2} \left( \int_{\psi(r)}^{\psi_m} T_{\psi} \, d\psi \right)^{1/2} \frac{d}{d\psi} \left( \frac{1}{T_{\psi}^2} \right)$$

so that (H) is written  $|\alpha'(r)| \ge \alpha_0 > 0$  for  $0 < r \le \pi^{-1/2}$ .

The proof of the theorem is in two steps. First we prove the result for a disk and a radially symmetric motion (proposition below), next we deduce the general case by an appropriate transformation.

**Proposition.** Let  $\Omega = D(0, \pi^{-1/2})$  and  $\psi$  be radially symmetric. Let us suppose that  $|\alpha'(r)| \ge \alpha_0 > 0$  for  $0 < r \le \pi^{-1/2}$ . Then for any  $\rho_0 \in L^{\infty}_R(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\delta_{\Phi_t \rho_0} \xrightarrow[(t \to \infty)]{} \pi^{\psi}$$
 in the space  $\mathcal{M}_R$ 

Proof. Let us first remark that it suffices to show that

$$\langle \delta_{\Psi_t \rho_0}, f \rangle \rightarrow \langle \pi^{\psi}, f \rangle$$

for any smooth, compactly supported  $f(\mathbf{x}, \lambda)$  on  $\Omega \times \mathbb{R}$ .

We may now prove the result for a continuous  $\rho_0$  with compact support in  $\Omega$ : indeed, let  $\rho_0 \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$  and f as above; then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists  $\rho_0^{\varepsilon}$  continuous with compact support such that

$$\|\rho_0 - \rho_0^\varepsilon\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq \varepsilon$$

and so

$$|\langle \delta_{\varphi_t \rho_0}, f \rangle - \langle \delta_{\varphi_t \rho_0^{\varepsilon}}, f \rangle| \leq K_f \varepsilon$$

where  $K_f$  is the Lipschitz constant of f in the second variable, as well as

$$|\langle \pi^{\psi}, f \rangle - \langle \pi^{\psi}_{\varepsilon}, f \rangle| \leqslant K_{f} \varepsilon$$

with  $\pi_{\varepsilon}^{\psi}$  associated to  $\rho_{0}^{\varepsilon}$ .

We thus obtain

$$|\langle \delta_{\varPhi_l \rho_0}, f \rangle - \langle \pi^{\psi}, f \rangle| \leq 2K_f \varepsilon + |\langle \delta_{\varPhi_l \rho_0^{\varepsilon}}, f \rangle - \langle \pi_{\varepsilon}^{\psi}, f \rangle|$$

From now on we suppose  $\rho_0$  continuous with compact support.

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Let  $\mathscr{A}^{m,n}$  be the following partition of  $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$ :

$$\mathscr{A}^{m,n} = \left\{ A_{k,j}^{m,n}, \, 0 \leq k < m, \, 0 \leq j < n \right\}$$

where  $A_{k,j}^{m,n}$  is the set of those points whose polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  satisfy

$$\begin{cases} \frac{2k\pi}{m} \leq \theta < \frac{2(k+1)\pi}{m} \\ \frac{j}{n\sqrt{\pi}} \leq r < \frac{j+1}{n\sqrt{\pi}} \end{cases}$$

(the first inequality on the radius being strict for j=0).

Define  $\rho_0^{m,n}$  on  $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$  by

$$\rho_0^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{|A_{k,j}^{m,n}|} \int_{\mathcal{A}_{k,j}^{m,n}} \rho(\mathbf{x}') \, d\mathbf{x}' \qquad \text{if} \quad \mathbf{x} \in A_{k,j}^{m,n}$$

and  $f^{m,n}$  in the same way.

It is obvious that  $\|\rho_0 - \rho_0^{m,n}\|_{\infty}$  and  $\|f - f^{m,n}\|_{\infty}$  both converge to 0 as m and n tend to infinity.

One easily sees that

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle \delta_{\varphi_{t}\rho_{0}}, f \rangle - \langle \pi^{\psi}, f \rangle| \\ \leqslant |\langle \delta_{\varphi_{t}\rho_{0}^{m,n}}, f^{m,n} \rangle - \langle \pi^{\psi}_{m,n}, f^{m,n} \rangle| + 2 \|f - f^{m,n}\|_{\infty} + 2K_{f} \|\rho_{0} - \rho_{0}^{m,n}\|_{\infty} \end{aligned}$$

For fixed m, n we shall give an upper bound for

$$\limsup_{t \to \infty} |\langle \delta_{\varphi_t \rho_0^{m,n}}, f^{m,n} \rangle - \langle \pi_{m,n}^{\psi}, f^{m,n} \rangle|$$

One has

$$\langle \delta_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{t}\rho_{0}^{m,n}}, f^{m,n} \rangle = \sum_{k,j} \int_{\mathcal{A}_{k,j}^{m,n}} f^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}_{k,j}, \rho_{0}^{m,n}(\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{t}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}))) d\mathbf{x}$$
$$= \sum_{i,k,j} \int_{\mathcal{A}_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{t}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}_{k,j}^{m,n})} f^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}_{k,j}, \rho_{0}^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}_{i,j})) d\mathbf{x}$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_{k,j}$  is any fixed point in  $A_{k,j}^{m,n}$ , so

$$\langle \delta_{\Phi_{t}\rho_{0}^{m,n}}, f^{m,n} \rangle = \sum_{i,k,j} |A_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \varphi_{t}^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})| f^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}_{k,j}, \rho_{0}^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}))$$

On the other hand,

$$\langle \pi_{m,n}^{\psi}, f^{m,n} \rangle = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \frac{1}{T_{\psi(\mathbf{x})}} \int_{\Sigma_{\psi(\mathbf{x})}} f^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}, \rho_0^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}')) \, d\sigma_{\psi}(\mathbf{x}')$$
$$= \sum_{i,k,j} \frac{|\mathcal{A}_{k,j}^{m,n}|}{m} f^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}_{k,j}, \rho_0^{m,n}(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}))$$

where  $|A| = d\mathbf{x}(A)$ . Hence

$$\begin{split} |\langle \delta_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{t} \boldsymbol{\rho}_{0}^{m,n}}, f^{m,n} \rangle - \langle \pi_{m,n}^{\psi}, f^{m,n} \rangle| \\ \leqslant \|f\|_{\infty} \sum_{i,k,j} \left| |A_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \varphi_{t}^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})| - \frac{|A_{k,j}^{m,n}|}{m} \right| \end{split}$$

We shall now use the following lemma, whose proof will be given later. Lemma. Under the same hypotheses as in the proposition, one has

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \sup_{t \to \infty} \left| |A_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \varphi_t^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})| - \frac{|A_{k,j}^{m,n}|}{m} \right| \leq \frac{C}{n^2 m^2}$$

We deduce from this lemma that

 $\limsup_{\ell \to \infty} |\langle \delta_{\Phi_{\ell} \rho_0^{m,n}}, f^{m,n} \rangle - \langle \pi_{m,n}^{\psi}, f^{m,n} \rangle| \leq ||f||_{\infty} \sum_{i,k,j} \frac{C}{n^2 m^2} = \frac{C}{n} ||f||_{\infty}$ 

and that  $\forall m, n > 0$ ,

$$\begin{split} \underset{t \to \infty}{\operatorname{Lim}} \sup_{t \to \infty} |\langle \delta_{\varphi_{t},\rho_{0}}, f \rangle - \langle \pi^{\psi}, f \rangle| \\ \leqslant \frac{C}{n} \|f\|_{\infty} + 2 \|f - f^{m,n}\|_{\infty} + 2K_{f} \|\rho_{0} - \rho_{0}^{m,n}\|_{\infty} \end{split}$$

which concludes the proof of the proposition.

**Proof.** Since  $|\alpha'(r)| \ge \alpha_0 > 0$ , the angular velocity is either strictly increasing or strictly decreasing with the radius. It follows that  $\varphi_t^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})$  will swirl around the origin as t increases.

If x has  $(r, \theta)$  as polar coordinates,  $\varphi_t^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$  will be represented by  $(r, \theta - \alpha(r) t)$ . Let us compute the area of  $A_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \varphi_t^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})$ . This set is a union of several connected components, all but at most two of them being "complete." The evaluation of the area of one of those  $C_{r_1, r_2, r_3}$  (see Fig. 1) gives

$$|C_{r_1,r_2,r_3}| = t \int_{r_1}^{r_2} |\alpha(r) - \alpha(r_1)| r \, dr + t \int_{r_2}^{r_3} |\alpha(r_3) - \alpha(r)| r \, dr$$



Fig. 1. Connected component  $C_{r_1, r_2, r_3}$  of  $\varphi_t^{-1}(A_{k, l}^{m, n}) \cap A_{i, l}^{m, n}$ .

Let us now suppose  $\alpha(r)$  increasing (the decreasing case may be treated in the same way). Let us compute

$$t\int_{r_1}^{r_2} \left(\alpha(r) - \alpha(r_1)\right) r \, dr$$

Since

$$\alpha(r) - \alpha(r_1) = (r - r_1) \left[ \alpha' \left( \frac{j}{n \sqrt{\pi}} \right) + O\left( \frac{1}{n} \right) \right]$$

a straightforward calculation gives

$$t \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (\alpha(r) - \alpha(r_1)) r \, dr = t \alpha' \left(\frac{j}{n\sqrt{\pi}}\right) \frac{j}{n\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{(r_2 - r_1)^2}{2} + O\left(t \frac{(r_2 - r_1)^2}{n}\right)$$

and also

$$t \int_{r_2}^{r_3} (\alpha(r_3) - \alpha(r)) r \, dr$$
  
=  $t \alpha' \left( \frac{j}{n \sqrt{\pi}} \right) \frac{j}{n \sqrt{\pi}} \frac{(r_3 - r_2)^2}{2} + O\left( t \frac{(r_3 - r_2)^2}{n} \right)$ 

On the other hand, from the relationships

$$t(\alpha(r_2) - \alpha(r_1)) = \frac{2\pi}{m}$$

and

$$t(\alpha(r_3) - \alpha(r_2)) = \frac{2\pi}{m}$$

one easily gets

$$r_2 - r_1 = \frac{2\pi}{mt\alpha'(j/n\sqrt{\pi})} + O\left(\frac{1}{mnt}\right)$$

and the same for  $r_3 - r_2$ . So

$$|C_{r_1, r_2, r_3}| = 4\pi^2 \frac{j}{n\sqrt{\pi} m^2 t \alpha'(j/n\sqrt{\pi})} + O\left(\frac{1}{m^2 n^3 t}\right)$$

Now the number of connected components of  $A_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \varphi_i^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})$  is equal to

$$\frac{t}{2\pi} \left[ \alpha \left( \frac{j+1}{n\sqrt{\pi}} \right) - \alpha \left( \frac{j}{n\sqrt{\pi}} \right) \right] + O(1) = \frac{t}{2\pi} \frac{1}{n\sqrt{\pi}} \alpha' \left( \frac{j}{n\sqrt{\pi}} \right) + O\left( \frac{t}{n^2} \right) + O(1)$$

so that

$$|A_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \varphi_{\iota}^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})| = \frac{2j}{m^2 n^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{m^2 n^5}\right) + O\left(\frac{1}{m^2 n^3 t}\right)$$

but  $|A_{k,j}^{m,n}| = (2j+1)/mn^2$ , hence

$$\left| |A_{i,j}^{m,n} \cap \varphi_{\iota}^{-1}(A_{k,j}^{m,n})| - \frac{|A_{k,j}^{m,n}|}{m} \right| \leq \frac{C}{n^2 m^2} + \frac{C}{m^2 t}$$

which concludes the lemma.

Now, to prove the theorem, we construct an area-preserving homeomorphism  $\Theta: \overline{\Omega} \to \overline{D}(0, \pi^{-1/2})$ , which transforms the motion into a radially symmetric one.

We proceed as follows.

• We define the function

$$r(\psi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \int_{\psi}^{\psi_m} T_{\psi} \, d\psi \right)^{1/2}$$

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• We fix an origin  $O_{\psi}$  on each streamline  $\Sigma_{\psi}$  such that  $\psi \to O_{\psi}$  is a continuous curve.

• For  $\mathbf{x} \in \Sigma_{\psi}$ ,  $\Theta(\mathbf{x})$  is located on the circle of radius  $r(\psi)$ , with polar angle  $(2\pi/T_{\psi}) \int_{O_{\psi}}^{\mathbf{x}} d\sigma_{\psi}$ .

Due to our particular choice of  $r(\psi)$ , we easily check that  $\Theta$  is an areapreserving homeomorphism; and  $\Theta(\varphi_i)$  gives a uniform circular motion on each circle of radius  $r(\psi)$ , with the angular speed  $\alpha(r(\psi)) = 2\pi/T_{\psi}$ , from which we obtain

$$\alpha'(r(\psi)) = -2\pi^{3/2} \left( \int_{\psi}^{\psi_m} T_{\psi} \, d\psi \right)^{1/2} \frac{d}{d\psi} \left( \frac{1}{T_{\psi}^2} \right)$$

The theorem then straightforwardly follows from the proposition.

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