

1. Consider linearised homogeneous isotropic elastic solid, that is a continuous medium where the Cauchy stress tensor is given by the formula

$$\mathbb{T} = \lambda (\text{Tr } \varepsilon) \mathbb{1} + 2\mu \varepsilon,$$

where $\varepsilon =_{\text{def}} \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \mathbf{U} + (\nabla \mathbf{U})^T)$ is the linearised strain. Show that the (linearised) governing equations in \mathbb{R}^3 admit, if there are no specific body forces, a solution in the form of a wave

$$\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A} \sin(\mathbf{K} \bullet \mathbf{X} - \omega t), \quad (1)$$

where \mathbf{A} denotes the amplitude of the wave, vector \mathbf{K} denotes the wave vector that determines the direction of the propagation of the wave and the spatial frequency of the wave, and ω is the angular frequency. (The speed of propagation of the wave is given by the formula $c =_{\text{def}} \frac{\omega}{K}$, where $K =_{\text{def}} |\mathbf{K}|$ is called the wavenumber.)

In particular, show that $\mathbf{A} \sin(\mathbf{K} \bullet \mathbf{X} - \omega t)$ is a solution to the (linearised) governing equations provided that *either* \mathbf{A} is parallel to \mathbf{K} and the speed of propagation is $c_{\parallel} = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda+2\mu}{\rho}}$ *or* \mathbf{A} is perpendicular to \mathbf{K} and the speed of propagation is $c_{\perp} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\rho}}$.

Having solved the problem, you can enjoy reading the following paper on seismic waves, *František Gallovič: Pár sekund k dobru: Systémy včasného varování před zemětřeseními (in Czech), Vesmír 91, 510-512, 2012.*