

University of Kentucky, Physics 404G  
Homework #7, Rev. B, due Tuesday, 2020-10-20

1. **Gravity waves** propagate along the interface between a liquid and a gas (or any two fluids of different density, for example air and water), as gravity or *buoyancy* tries to restore equilibrium. The particles in the liquid follow elliptical trajectories with their amplitude decaying exponentially in depth. If the velocity field  $\mathbf{v}(x, z)$  is irrotational ( $\nabla \times \mathbf{v} = 0$ ), it can be represented by the gradient of a scalar flow potential  $\mathbf{v} = -\nabla\phi(x, z)$ . If the fluid is also incompressible ( $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$ ), its flow satisfies the Laplace equation  $\nabla^2\phi = 0$ . Let the gas-liquid interface be at height  $z = \eta(x, t)$  above the equilibrium level at  $z = 0$ , and  $h$  be water depth (the sea bed is at  $z = -h$ ).

In addition to gravity, surface tension  $\gamma$ , exerts a downward pressure  $P = -\gamma\nabla_{\perp}^2\eta$  on the liquid, also propagating ripples on the surface. This is the two-dimensional analog of the vertical force  $dF = T f'' dx$  of a wave on an element of string under horizontal tension  $T$ . Both of these effects can be described by **Airy wave theory**, which we develop below.

a) Show that the function  $\phi(x, z, t) = A \cosh(k(z + h)) \cos(kx - \omega t)$  is a solution of  $\nabla^2\phi = 0$ . Plot the equipotentials of  $\phi$  at  $t = 0$ , with arrows showing the direction of  $\mathbf{v}$ .

b) Show this solution satisfies the boundary condition  $v_z(x, -h) = 0$ , at the bottom of the liquid. The boundary condition on the top surface is  $v_z = \dot{\eta}$ , evaluated at  $z = 0$  (the boundary to  $0^{th}$  order). Find  $A$  so that  $\phi$  satisfies this boundary condition at the interface  $\eta(x, t) = a \sin(kx - \omega t)$ .

c) Integrating Newton's law over  $z$  leads to Bernoulli's law  $\rho\partial_t\phi = \rho g\eta - \gamma\partial_x^2\eta$ , where  $\rho$  is the mass density of the liquid. Substitute  $\phi$  and  $\eta$  into Bernoulli's law at  $z = 0$  to obtain the dispersion relation  $\omega^2 = (gk + \frac{\gamma}{\rho}k^3) \tanh(kh)$ . Plot  $\omega(k)$ ,  $v_\phi(k) = \omega/k$ , and  $v_g(k) = d\omega/dk$ .

d) Calculate the wavelength  $\lambda_c$  below which waves are dominated by surface tension, using  $\gamma = 72.8$  mN/m and  $\rho = 1.00$  g/cm<sup>3</sup> for water. What is the dispersion relation in this limit?

e) Approximate  $\phi(x, z, t)$  and  $\omega(k)$  in the deep water limit, where  $kh \gg 1$ . [bonus: Do individual crests move forward or backward within the wave packet?]

f) Approximate  $\omega(k)$  in the shallow water limit, and show that all frequencies have the same velocity. What is the speed of a tsunami ( $\lambda \approx 100$  km) in 10 km deep [shallow!] ocean waters? How long will it take one wavelength to pass?

2. [bonus] **Elastic waves** in solids, also known as body, bulk, **seismic**, stress, or strain waves, are the three-dimensional analog of waves traveling along a Slinky. They have three polarizations: one longitudinal polarized acoustic P-wave, (primary or pressure), and two transverse polarized S-waves (secondary or shear). [Note there are three completely different and inconsistent definitions of S- and P-waves for seismic, optical, and quantum mechanical angular momentum waves!]

Pressure and shear waves are both described in terms of elastic deformation. Similar to the displacement  $f(x, t)$  of coils in a Slinky, the displacement field  $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}, t)$  describes the shift of the particle at position  $\mathbf{r}$  in equilibrium to the new position  $\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{u}$ . Elastic strain (deformation)  $\epsilon$  indicates the change in displacement  $d\mathbf{u} = \epsilon \cdot d\mathbf{r}$  between neighboring particles, analogous to  $f'(x, t)$  for the Slinky. This symmetric *strain tensor*  $\epsilon_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i)$  is the matrix of all nine possible linear deformations. On the other hand, the *stress tensor*  $\tau_{ij} = dF_i/da_j$  describes all three components of force  $dF_i$  per area along all three independent directions of surface area  $da_j$  of the interface between two neighboring elements at  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{r} + d\mathbf{r}$  at equilibrium in the bulk, so that the equal and

opposite force between these elements is  $d\mathbf{F} = \pm \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot d\mathbf{a}$ . The normal component of stress to the interface ( $i = j$ ) is called *pressure*, while the tangential components ( $i \neq j$ ) are called *shear*, each propagating their own polarization. Stress transfers energy and momentum across the interface, propagating the wave according to Newton's second law  $d\mathbf{F} = dm \mathbf{A}$ , which is written  $\partial_j \tau_{ij} = \rho \ddot{u}_i$ , analogous to  $dF = \mu dx \ddot{f}$  for the Slinky.

The generalization of Hooke's law,  $dF = \kappa f'' dx$ , from the Slinky to the bulk of an elastic material,  $\tau_{ij} = \lambda \epsilon_{kk} \delta_{ij} + 2\mu \epsilon_{ij}$ , relates the stress (force)  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  to the strain (stretch)  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ . This is the most general isotropic and rotationally invariant relation, which contains two independent "spring constant" *Lamé parameters*:  $\lambda$  (pressure), and  $\mu$  (shear). Other combinations of these constants, each with their own physical interpretation are: Poisson's ratio  $\nu = \lambda/2(\lambda + \mu)$ , the P-wave (longitudinal, pressure) modulus  $M = \lambda + 2\mu$ , the S-wave (transverse, shear) modulus  $G = \mu$ , the *bulk modulus* (compressibility)  $K = M - \frac{4}{3}G$ , and *Young's modulus* (stretchiness)  $E = 2G(1 + \nu) = 3K(1 - 2\nu)$ . Nonviscous fluids do not support shear strain ( $\mu = 0$ ) and only accommodate P-waves. For an ideal gas, the isentropic bulk modulus  $K_S = \gamma P$  is used, where the *adiabatic index*  $\gamma = C_P/C_V$  is the ratio of heat capacities at constant pressure and volume, respectively, and  $P$  is the equilibrium pressure. In air at STP,  $\gamma = 1.41$  and  $P = 1 \text{ bar} = 100 \text{ kPa}$ .

**a)** Combine Hooke's and Newton's laws in the form given above to obtain the wave equation  $\rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}} = M \nabla \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} - G \nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{u}$ . Note that the two operators  $\nabla_{\parallel}^2 \equiv \nabla \nabla \cdot$  and  $\nabla_{\perp}^2 \equiv -\nabla \times \nabla \times$  are the longitudinal and transverse projections of the *Laplacian*  $\nabla^2 \equiv \nabla \cdot \nabla = \nabla_{\parallel}^2 + \nabla_{\perp}^2$  (the fundamental second vector derivative) that describe the curvature of longitudinal and transverse waves, respectively.

**b)** For a P-wave,  $\nabla \times \mathbf{u} = 0$ . Take the divergence of both sides of the wave equation to show that  $\rho \ddot{n} = M \nabla^2 n$ , where  $n \equiv \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}$  is the compression of the medium. Show that the wave  $n = a e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x} - \omega t)}$  is a solution with amplitude  $a$  traveling in the direction  $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ , and obtain the dispersion relation  $\omega(\mathbf{k})$ . Calculate the velocity of a seismic P-wave ( $K = 200 \text{ GPa}$ ,  $\rho = 1700 \text{ kg/m}^3$  for rock), and of sound in air ( $\rho = 1.225 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ), water ( $K = 2.2 \text{ GPa}$ ), and steel ( $K = 160 \text{ GPa}$ ,  $\rho = 8050 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ).

**c)** For an S-wave,  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$ . Take the curl of both sides of the wave equation to show that  $\rho \ddot{\mathbf{m}} = G \nabla^2 \mathbf{m}$ , where  $\mathbf{m} \equiv \nabla \times \mathbf{u}$  is the shear strain which is perpendicular to the direction of propagation. Show that the wave  $\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{a} e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x} - \omega t)}$  is a solution with transverse amplitude  $\mathbf{a}$  traveling perpendicular to  $\mathbf{k}$ , and obtain the dispersion relation  $\omega(\mathbf{k})$ . Calculate the velocity of a seismic S-wave ( $M = 100 \text{ GPa}$  for rock), and of a sheer wave in steel ( $M = 79.3 \text{ GPa}$ ). There are no S-waves in water, air, or in the molten *outer core* of the earth, which is how we know it exists.