Introduction to seismology

1) Show that $\Phi(r,t) = \frac{1}{r}f(r \pm \alpha t)$, where α is the wave velocity, is a solution to the 1-D wave equation in spherically symmetric media:

$$\frac{1}{r^2}\partial_r \left[r^2\partial_r\phi\right] - \frac{1}{\alpha^2}\partial_t^2\Phi = 0$$

- 2) Computational seismology: You want to simulate wave propagation on a discrete regular grid with physical dimensions (1000km)³ with a dominant period of 10s. The maximum velocity in the medium is 8km/s, the minimum 5km/s. Your numerical algorithm requires 20 points per dominant wavelength. How many grid points do you need? The so-called stability criterion (or Courant criterion) is const=c dt/dx where c is the maximum velocity and const=1. You want to simulate 500s. Determine dt and the number of required time steps for the simulation?
- 3) Assume a longitudinal plane wave propagating in x-direction. Show that the time derivative of displacement divided by the longitudinal strain (ε_{xx}) is proportional to phase velocity. Any applications?
- 4) The Fourier transform (FT) brings a function f(x or t) into its representation in the Fourier domain (k or ω). Show that the FT of the first derivative is given as

$$F\{\partial_x f(x)\} = -ikF(k) \text{ or } F\{\partial_t f(t)\} = -i\omega F(\omega)$$

Where $F(k \text{ or } \omega)$ is the spectrum of f(x or t). Can you generalise to the n-th derivative? As a consequence, what does the wave equation (acoustic, 1D) look like in the ω -k domain?

Hint: The definitions of the Fourier transform are (integration from -∞ to ∞): Time domain: $f(t) = \int F(\omega)e^{2i\omega t}d\omega$ $F(\omega) = \int f(t)e^{-2i\omega t}dt$ Space domain: $f(x) = \int F(k)e^{2ikx}dk$ $F(k) = \int f(x)e^{-2ikx}dk$

Replace f(x) with d/dx f(x) (or d/dt f(t)) in the above equations and integrate by parts:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x)g'(x)dx = [f(x)g(x)]_{a}^{b} - \int_{a}^{b} f'(x)g(x)dx$$

Exercise 2