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International Journal of Non-Linear Mechanics A weakly nonlinear Love hypothesis for longitudinal waves in elastic rods --Manuscript Draft--

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Corresponding Author:	Andrea Nobili, PhD University of Modena and Reggio Emilia Modena, ITALY	
First Author:	Andrea Nobili, PhD	
Order of Authors:	Andrea Nobili, PhD	
Abstract:	When investigating nonlinear wave propagation in slender hyperelastic rods, the usual stance is to construct a reduced kinematics and then derive a system of coupled nonlinear PDEs for the unknown functions. To make further analytical progress, the linear Love hypothesis, that connects longitudinal and transversal strain, is often reverted to. The viability of this assumption, that was originally proposed within the framework of linear elasticity, remains uncertain. In this paper, a refined Love hypothesis is derived in the weakly nonlinear regime by slow-time perturbation of the motion equations. For the sake of illustration, the simplest two-modal setting is adopted. This refined Love assumption is not equivalent, not even in principle, to that derived by Porubov (1993) by accommodating for the free boundary conditions at the rod mantle. Besides, the perturbation process lends a uni-dimensional model equation which parallels that obtained by Ostrovskii (1977) with the help of the linear Love hypothesis, with yet different coefficients in the dispersive term. The corresponding longitudinal motion is compared numerically against the solution of the bimodal nonlinear system and the transversal motion is contrasted with the linear Love hypothesis. For both motions, excellent agreement is found and the quality of the approximation extends to a wide range of values for the small parameter. Finally, within this setting, the corresponding unimodal Lagrangian is also derived, and it remains accurate regardless of the first correction terms to the linear Love hypothesis.	
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	Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca (P2022P3Y2T)	Professor Andrea Nobili
Suggested Reviewers:	Julius Kaplunov, PhD full professor, Keele University j.kaplunov@keele.ac.uk Established expert in the field of asymptotic methods Gennady Mishuris, PhD full professor, Aberystwyth University ggm@aber.ac.uk Expert in continuum mechanics Yibin Fu, PhD full professor, Keele University y.fu@keele.ac.uk Established expert in wave propagation	
	Davide Bigoni, PhD full professor, University of Trento	

Powered by Editorial Manager $\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}$ and ProduXion Manager $\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}$ from Aries Systems Corporation

davide.bigoni@unitn.it Established expert in the field of reduced models
Gaetano Napoli, PhD full professor, Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II gaetano.napoli@unina.it Expert in the field of microstructured materials





April 9th, 2024

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed, the revised version of the research paper NLM-D-24-00069

"A weakly nonlinear Love hypothesis for longitudinal waves in elastic rods"

by A. Nobili

submitted for consideration in the International Journal of Non-Linear Mechanics, for the special issue "Multiscale and microstructure-inspired constitutive models for soft materials".

The paper has been revised according to the Reviewers' suggestions. Changes are highlighted in red color.

The material is original and it has not been submitted for publications in other journals. The author is aware of the ethical guidelines put forward by the journal and fully adhere to it.

The author is in no conflict of interest regarding the material presented in this paper.

Best regards, Andrea Nobili (Corresponding author)

Dudree/bll.

Research paper NLM-D-24-00069

A weakly nonlinear Love hypothesis for longitudinal waves in elastic rods

Reply to Reviewer #1

The author is grateful to the reviewer for his/her scrutiny of the manuscript and for his/her support.

Following upon the Reviewer's suggestion, in the Conclusion section the opportunity to extend the present analysis to rods that are reinforced with fibres, possibly made of soft material. For the Reviewer's convenience, corrections in the manuscript are marked in red.

Reply to Reviewer #2

The author is much appreciative for the honest assessment of the paper and for the many suggestions that are proposed by the Reviewer, especially in terms of literature review. In fact, it clearly appears that the Reviewer competence adds significant value to this work and I tried to make the most out of it. The author has put his best effort in addressing the Reviewer's objections with a fair and honest mindset, while collecting as much literature background as he could manage. The manuscript has been modified according to the Reviewer's suggestion as hereinafter detailed:

1. Overall, the approach is similar to that in

L. Ostrovsky, A. Sutin, 1977. Nonlinear elastic waves in rods. J. Appl. Math. Mech. (PMM) 41, 543-549.

In the 1977 paper the full Lagrangian of the problem was simplified using the Love hypothesis, and the reduced Lagrangian was used to derive a two-directional Boussinesq equation, and then the KdV approximation for uni-directional waves..

Answer.

Indeed, in this paper the Lagrangian approach is undertaken, much like in Ostrovsky, A. Sutin (1977) or Samsonov (2001) or Porubov (2003) or Dai and Fan (2004) or many more, but other than this the similarity is not great. In fact, it was precisely the point of this paper NOT to adopt the Love hypothesis firsthand but, rather, to (possibly) motivate it, specifically by a slow time perturbation. Indeed, the Love hypothesis is derived from the two-modal kinematics and in this sense it is no longer a hypothesis. Of course, in a weakly nonlinear setting the leading order solution is the linear Love hypothesis and therefore a two-directional Boussinesq equation is arrived at similarly to Ostrovsky, A. Sutin's. Yet, coefficients in the dispersive term (and also in the nonlinear term but this may be a typo in Ostrovsky, A. Sutin's paper) are different.

2. This was then followed by research in A. Samsonov's group, most notably Porubov and Samsonov, see

A. M. Samsonov, Strain Solitons in Solids and How to Construct Them (Monogr. Surv. Pure Appl. Math., Vol. 117), Chapman and Hall CRC, Boca Raton, Fla. (2001).

A. V. Porubov, Amplification of Nonlinear Strain Waves in Solids (Ser. Stab. Vibr. Control of Systems Ser. A, Vol. 9), World Scientific, Singapore (2003).

Porubov and Samsonov have refined the Love hypothesis, using the weakly-nonlinear

boundary conditions of the problem formulation, and used this weakly-nonlinear Love hypothesis in order to derive a refined model.

Answer

As pointed out by the Reviewer, the motivation behind this paper parallels that put forward in Samsonov (2001), Sec.2.3.2, where the need for a refined Love assumption is expressed. However, as confirmed by the Reviewer, in Samsonov's work this need is satisfied by matching the free boundary conditions, that is an altogether different approach than it is considered here. Indeed, this paper makes use of slow time perturbation of the motion equations and utterly disregars the free boundary conditions. In fact, it provides an alternative and different expression for the refinement of the Love hypothesis. This is now stressed in the manuscript to avoid confusion and a comparison is drawn. It should be also stressed that the fact that the free boundary conditions are disregarded is not a problem by itself, because, following Samsonov (2001), "generally speaking the identity is not required because an asymptotic solution is to be found". It is therefore important to emphasize that indeed a refined Love assumption is derived in Samsonov (2001) and yet this refinement is very different from the one that is proposed here, which purposefully makes no use of the boundary conditions for it aims to remain within a fully asymptotic solution.

3. Moreover, Garbuzov et al. (2019), mentioned in the paper, have derived Boussinesq-type equations using the multiple-scale analysis of the full problem formulation for a Murnaghan material, having again derived a weakly-nonlinear generalisation of the Love hypothesis.

Answer

Garbuzov et al. (2019) proceed in a similar way as Dai and Fan (2004) (and to an extent as Samsonov (2001) and Prubov (2003)) by introducing a multi-modal representation in the radius, then enforcing the motion equation in an asymptotic sense (i.e. term-wise) and finally accounting for force-type boundary conditions, either asymptotically or to linear terms. A second derivation is also presented which solves a set of nonlinear ODEs obtained by asymptotic solution of the boundary conditions.

Either way, this approach differs under many respects from that considered in this paper (for example and above all the fact that no mention is here made of the boundary conditions) and, indeed, it provides a model equation (in fact two of them) different than Ostrovsky, A. Sutin's in the dispersive term. Still, two interesting observations emerge from comparing Garbuzov et al. (2019)'s work with this paper. First, as observed by the Reviewer, despite its simplicity, this paper presents results that are qualitatively similar to those of other, much more involved works. Second, it appears that, to within this level of approximation, no need is felt to introduce the fulfillment of the boundary conditions.

4. The difference with the aforementioned studies is that in the present manuscript approximations have been built as a two-step process. First, a two-modal approximation (1) was assumed, hugely simplifying the problem at hand, and then the subsequent analysis has followed that in Dai and Fan (2004) and Garbuzov et al. (2019). It will be fair to comment that the derivation of the KdV equation in this hugely simplified setting could be performed by a student.

Answer

As stressed in the manuscript, "Spotlight is set on elucidating the procedure as well as on assessing the quality of the approximation in the simplest setting, leaving more sophisticated mechanical models for future developments." Indeed, the simplest possible setting is adopted, with the aim of communicating the method deprived of unnecessary details. For the same reason, the introduction of the boundary conditions is excluded, because, as well-

known and also pointed out by Samsonov (2001), they are not required in an asymptotic solution. Clearly, this by no means precludes that more involved situations may be addressed by this approach, also accounting for the boundary conditions. It is nonetheless emphasized that none of the literature contributions, to the best of my knowledge, rely on slow-time perturbation to reduce one of the motion equations to a Love-like assumption. Instead, the general approach is to either introduce some form of Love hypothesis, somehow guessed, or to adopt the reductive perturbation method to the full system, like, for example, in Dai and Fan (2004).

5. Finally, numerical comparisons were made between solutions of the two-modal approximation and the reduced model based on the Love hypothesis, showing good agreement in the range of validity of the model.

This last part should be put in the context of the study in

F.E. Garbuzov, Y.M. Beltukov, K.R. Khusnutdinova, Longitudinal bulk strain solitons in a hyperelastic rod with quadratic and cubic nonlinearities, Theor. Math. Phys. 202 (2020) 319-333,

where numerics was performed within the scope of the full nonlinear problem formulation for a Murnaghan material, and results of the weakly-nonlinear modelling with the KdV and extended KdV (i.e. higher-order model) were compared to that solution, showing excellent agreement for weakly-nonlinear waves, with the extended KdV equation extending the range of validity to the waves of moderate amplitude.

Answer

I thank the Reviewer for this reference. The procedure followed in Garbuzov et al (2020) exactly parallels that in Garbuzov et al. (2019) and therefore, on the basis of the previous comments, it is significantly different than that used in this paper. In terms of numerics, the soliton solution is investigated that is not the focus of interest of this paper, which instead compares the longitudinal motion against the wave equation and the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system and the transversal motion against the linear Love hypothesis (which is the focus of this paper). None of the above is related in Garbuzov et al (2020). Still, this paper is now referred to in the manuscript.

6. Minor points: Boussinesq equation can not be integrated exactly, this wording is incorrect. We can construct certain classes of exact solutions, e.g. travelling waves.

Answer

This is indeed correct. The incorrect wording is taken verbatim from Soerensen (1984) "The BE contains Uxxxx and U^{2xx} and is exactly integrable". This is now better specified in the paper.

7. The other minor points raised by the Reviewer have been dealt with.

Finally, some rearrangements, rewriting and error corrections have been introduced in the manuscript.

For the Reviewer's convenience, corrections in the manuscript are marked in red color.

Declaration of interests

 \boxtimes The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

□ The author is an Editorial Board Member/Editor-in-Chief/Associate Editor/Guest Editor for [Journal name] and was not involved in the editorial review or the decision to publish this article.

□ The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

Highlights of the paper A weakly nonlinear Love hypothesis for longitudinal waves in elastic rods

- A weakly nonlinear Love hypothesis is derived from a two-modal kinematics by the method of multiple scales;
- The corresponding model equation is the Boussinesq equation;
- Comparison with numerical integration reveals that the quality of the approximation is excellent;
- The same unimodal Lagrangian is derived irrespective of the correction to the linear Love hypothesis.

A weakly nonlinear Love hypothesis for longitudinal waves in elastic rods

Andrea Nobili¹

^aDepartment of Engineering Enzo Ferrari, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, via Vivarelli 10, 41125 Modena, Italy

6 Abstract

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When investigating nonlinear wave propagation in slender hyperelastic rods, the usual stance is to construct a reduced kinematics and then derive a system of coupled nonlinear PDEs for the unknown functions. To make further analytical progress, the linear Love hypothesis, that connects longitudinal and transversal strain, is often reverted to. The viability of this assumption, that was originally proposed within the framework of linear elasticity, remains uncertain. In this paper, a refined Love hypothesis is derived in the weakly nonlinear regime by slow-time perturbation of the motion equations. For the sake of illustration, the simplest two-modal setting is adopted. This refined Love assumption is not equivalent, not even in principle, to that derived by Porubov and Samsonov (1993) by accommodating for the free boundary conditions at the rod mantle. Besides, the perturbation process lends a uni-dimensional model equation which parallels that obtained by Ostrovskii and Sutin (1977) with the help of the linear Love hypothesis, with yet different coefficients in the dispersive term. The corresponding longitudinal motion is compared numerically against the solution of the bimodal nonlinear system and the transversal motion is contrasted with the linear Love hypothesis. For both motions, excellent agreement is found and the quality of the approximation extends to a wide range of values for the small parameter. Finally, within this setting, the corresponding unimodal Lagrangian is also derived, and it remains accurate regardless of the first correction terms to the linear Love hypothesis.

7 Keywords: Love hypothesis, Murnaghan materials, Multiple scales, Nonlinear

Pred mail: and rea. no bili cunimore.it, Tel.+39 059 2056217, Fax.+39 059 20561261 9. 2024

9 1. Introduction

When developing models to describe wave propagation in elastic rods, the 10 starting point is usually represented by a restricted kinematics in which some 11 unknown functions are introduced expressing the longitudinal and the radial 12 strain in the body, see Shatalov et al. (2011) and references therein. Besides 13 the classical wave equation, the simplest case in point is the so-called bimodal 14 representation, where this restricted kinematics takes the form of the Navier-15 Bernoulli (NB) assumption of plane cross-sections, in which only two functions 16 are used, respectively W for longitudinal and RU for transversal displacement, 17 R being the rod radial position. In the special case U = 0, this procedure 18 produces the classical non-dispersive wave equation. Moving from some original 19 intuitions of Rayleigh (1894), this approach was later refined by Love (1927) 20 to encompass for transversal inertia through the well-know Love hypothesis, 21 $U = -\nu_0 W_{,Z}$, that relates longitudinal and transversal strain via the Possion's 22 ratio ν_0 . In Love's original formulation (Love, 1927, Sec.278), this connection 23 is purposefully assumed for inertia terms only, in the so-called Rayleigh-Love 24 theory (on this point see also Hutchinson and Percival (1968)). This ad-hoc 25 procedure, which proves very effective, was later relaxed by Bishop (1952) to 26 include shear deformations, thus leading to the Bishop-Love theory. It may be 27 worth noting that the opposite pathway was taken by Sørensen et al. (1984) to 28 derive the improved Boussinesq equation in a simplified weakly nonlinear setting 29 where transversal inertia is neglected in favor of shear deformation. Mindlin 30 (1951) presents, for the first time, a full bimodal plane section approach and the 31 resulting pair of coupled PDEs is in fact named the Mindlin-Herrmann system 32 (Graff, 2012, Sec.8.3.3). In general, the bimodal approach is especially attractive 33 for its simplicity, although it remains limited in that it cannot accommodate 34 for all three boundary conditions on the mantle. Later, McNiven and Perry 35 (1962) remediated this shortcoming at the expense of introducing extra degrees 36

of freedom, by extending the transversal kinematics through successive odd
powers of the radius *R* multiplied by extra unknown functions.

In the linear framework, the quality of these approximations is usually as-39 sessed by comparison with the well-known Pochhammer (1876) solution of the 40 3D elasticity problem for a rod with circular cross-section. Indeed, as already 41 observed by Graff (2012), the Love hypothesis is the leading order approxima-42 tion of the Pochhammer-Chree solution in the long-wave low-frequency (LWLF) 43 approximation. This specific feature, that is further detailed in Nobili and Sac-44 comandi (2024), cannot be pursued in the nonlinear framework because of the 45 insurmountable difficulties attached to developing any analytical solution within 46 the full 3D theory. In fact, avoiding such difficulties is precisely the main reason 47 why reduced-dimensional models are introduced in the first place. Still, while 48 facing the formidable task of solving complicated systems of coupled nonlinear 49 PDEs, many contributions appear in the literature that appeal to the original 50 linear Love hypothesis outside the linear framework where it properly belongs. 51 Sørensen et al. (1984) numerically study soliton interaction in nonlinear elas-52 tic rods under many approximations that include the original Love hypothesis. 53 His interest lies in developing soliton solutions of nearly integrable systems. 54 Wright (1985) develops a purely axiomatic (in his words "intrinsic") 1D theory 55 of straight elastic incompressible rods and is able to connect longitudinal and 56 transversal deformation through the incompressibility constraint. As pointed 57 out in Amendola and Saccomandi (2021), the incompressibility constraint is 58 compatible with the Love's hypothesis only to leading order, while the analysis 59 in Wright (1985) is extended to the first correction term in the small deforma-60 tion, i.e. it is weakly nonlinear. It is noted that a similar "intrinsic" 1D theory 61 was used very recently by Li et al. (2023) to derive nonlinear dispersion curves. 62 Much research on the topic of nonlinear waves in rods is contributed by 63 Samsonov and his collaborators. Samsonov (1994) assumes the linear Love 64 hypothesis to be valid in a fully nonlinear framework and derives the improved 65 Boussinesq equation. Porubov and Samsonov (1993) propose a multi-modal 66

⁶⁷ solution that satisfies the motion equation in the asymptotic sense, as well as

the free boundary conditions in the Piola stress. In this process, a refined 68 Love assumption is introduced. According to Samsonov (2001), this analysis is 69 motivated by the desire to "confirm the Love hypothesis formally", whose limit 70 "is that the boundary conditions on a free lateral surface were not properly 71 taken into account", although "generally speaking, the identity is not required 72 because an asymptotic solution is to be found". Precisely in this sense, and as 73 an alternative to Porubov and Samsonov's approach, this paper adopts a slow 74 time perturbation of the motion equations to derive an asymptotically refined 75 Love hypothesis that is valid regardless of the boundary conditions. 76

Also Dai and collaborators have much contributed to this topic. Dai and 77 Huo (2000) study propagation of small-but-finite-amplitude (i.e. weakly nonlin-78 ear) longitudinal waves in compressible rods by employing an asymptotic form 79 of the Love hypothesis, that is suggested by comparison with the incompress-80 ible case. The reductive perturbation method of Jeffrey and Kawahara (1982) 81 is then adopted to derive the model equation valid in the far-field. This pro-82 cedure is in essence a multiscale analysis similar to that used in this paper. In 83 Dai and Huo (2002), the reductive perturbation method is used in the incom-84 pressible context to support the validity of the Navier-Bernoulli approximation 85 through comparing the resulting model equations. Dai and Fan (2004) intro-86 duce four different 1D models to study longitudinal waves in a weakly nonlinear 87 Murnaghan material with an enriched kinematics that, departing from the NB 88 assumption, accommodates all free boundary condition on the mantle. How-89 ever, when developing the far-field model, the linear Love's assumption is again 90 reverted to. Dai and Fan (2004) are especially critical of Porubov and Samsonov 91 (1993)'s refined model because "still boundary conditions cannot be completely 92 satisfied even for linear terms". Besides, while discussing Samsonov et al. (1998) 93 and Porubov et al. (1998), they observe "some serious algebraic errors in their 94 derivations [that] led the model equations to be unacceptable". 95

More recently, Garbuzov et al. (2019) extend Samsonov (2001)'s approach to the case of general force conditions at the rod mantle and longitudinal prestretch. A family of Boussinesq-type model equations is obtained. The same approach is adopted in Garbuzov et al. (2020) where a stable propagating tabletop soliton is observed numerically.

From the above literature review, it appears that several approaches to the 101 problem are possible which lead to widely different model equations. As pointed 102 out by Amendola and Saccomandi (2021), the adoption of the Love hypothesis 103 outside the realm of linear elasticity is questionable and calls for further investi-104 gation. In particular, Nobili and Saccomandi (2024) make some progress in this 105 direction by showing that the original Love hypothesis may be equally obtained 106 from slow-time perturbation of the Mindlin-Herrmann model. The advantage 107 of this observation lies in that it provides a pathway to developing the equiva-108 lent of the Love hypothesis outside the linear regime and within the asymptotic 109 approach, i.e. without recourse to the boundary conditions. This is precisely 110 the aim of this paper, which sets the spotlight on elucidating the procedure as 111 well as on assessing the quality of the approximation in the simplest possible 112 setting, namely the NB assumption and a bimodal representation (Sec.2). The 113 multiscale analysis is carried out in Sec.3 and the quality of the approxima-114 tion is numerically investigated in Sec.4. A unimodal asymptotic Lagrangian is 115 illustrated in 5 and conclusions are finally drawn in Sec.6. 116

117 2. Mathematical background

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Let us consider a rod that, in a reference configuration, is a circular cylinder of radius A and let us introduce cylindrical coordinates in the current configuration $\mathbf{x} = r\mathbf{e}_r + \theta\mathbf{e}_{\theta} + z\mathbf{e}_z$ and, equally, cylindrical coordinates in the reference configuration $\mathbf{X} = R\mathbf{E}_R + \Theta\mathbf{E}_{\Theta} + Z\mathbf{E}_Z$, with $0 \leq R \leq A$. Within this framework and in the absence of torsion, the NB hypothesis consists of assuming the following axisymmetric time dependent two-modal deformation (Wright, 1981, Eq.(12))

$$r = R + RU(Z,T), \quad \theta = \Theta, \quad z = Z + W(Z,T).$$
(1)

Letting the displacement vector $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X}$ with components in our cylindrical reference system

¹²⁸
$$u_r(R, Z, t) = RU(Z, T), \quad u_\theta = 0, \quad u_z(Z, T) = W(Z, T),$$
 (2)

¹²⁹ the Lagrangian strain tensor immediately follows $\boldsymbol{E} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\boldsymbol{C} - \boldsymbol{I} \right)$, namely

$$\mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}U(U+2) & 0 & \frac{1}{2}R(U+1)U_{,Z} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2}U(U+2) & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}R(U+1)U_{,Z} & 0 & \frac{1}{2}\left(R^{2}U_{,Z}^{2} + (W_{,Z}+1)^{2} - 1\right) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

the linearized version of which is the infinitesimal strain tensor given, among
many, in Nobili and Saccomandi (2024)

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \begin{bmatrix} U & 0 & \frac{1}{2}RU_Z \\ 0 & U & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}RU_Z & 0 & W_Z \end{bmatrix}.$$
 (4)

Here, the identity (rank 2) tensor I has been introduced as the invariant element in tensor composition, and it is understood that a comma subscript implies differentiation with respect to the following coordinate, i.e. $U_{,Z} = \partial U/\partial Z$. We let the quadratic (in the deformation components) invariants

$$I_{11} = \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{E}), \quad I_{21} = \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{E}^2), \tag{5}$$

¹³⁹ alongside the cubic deformation invariants

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$$I_{31} = I_{21}I_{11}, \quad I_{32} = I_{11}^3, \quad I_{34} = \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{E}^3).$$
 (6)

Here, tr $\boldsymbol{E} = \frac{1}{2} \left(R^2 U_{,Z}^2 + (W_{,Z}+1)^2 - 1 \right) + U(U+2)$ denotes the usual trace operator. In the nonlinear framework, we take the isotropic Murnaghan strainenergy density per unit volume, see (Dai and Fan, 2004, Eq.(21))

$$\mathcal{W} = \mu I_{21} + \frac{1}{2}\lambda I_{11}^2 + \mu \left(\kappa_1 I_{31} + \frac{1}{3}\kappa_2 I_{32} + \frac{1}{3}\kappa_4 I_{34}\right),\tag{7}$$

where μ and λ are the usual Lamé parameters and $\mu \kappa_i$, $i \in \{1, 2, 4\}$ are Murnaghan material constants (the reason why it is three of them, instead of four, is discussed in Ciarlet (2021)). The form (7) corresponds to the isotropic thirdorder Landau-Lifshitz constitutive relation.

Hamilton's principle is employed to determine the functions U(Z,T) and W(Z,T) through the Euler-Lagrange equations associated with the Lagrangian density $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{T} - \mathcal{V}$. The kinetic energy density per unit length remain the same as that given by (Graff, 2012, Eq.(2.5.49)) or (Dai and Fan, 2004, Eq.(24))

¹⁵³
$$\mathcal{T} = \int_0^A \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\rho}{2} \left(W_T^2 + R^2 U_T^2 \right) R \,\mathrm{d}\Theta \,\mathrm{d}R = \frac{\pi A^2 \rho}{4} \left(2W_T^2 + A^2 U_T^2 \right), \quad (8)$$

where ρ is the mass density in the reference configuration. In light of the assumed deformation (4), the strain-energy density (7) is given by Eq.(A.1) in the Appendix. The weakly nonlinear assumption affords great simplification of this otherwise cumbersome energy density. Within such framework, the displacement is small, i.e. $U \sim W_{,Z} \sim O(\varepsilon)$, with $\varepsilon \ll 1$, and only quadratic and cubic terms in ε are retained in the Lagrangian. We introduce the shorthands

$$_{160} k_1 = 2(2\kappa_1 + \frac{4}{3}\kappa_2 + \frac{1}{3}\kappa_4 + \kappa^2 - 1), k_2 = \kappa^2 - 1 + \kappa_1 + \frac{\kappa_4}{4}, (9)$$

$$k_3 = \kappa^2 - 2 + 2(\kappa_1 + 2\kappa_2), \qquad k_4 = \frac{1}{2}\kappa^2 + \frac{1}{2}\kappa_1 + \frac{\kappa_4}{4}, \qquad (10)$$

$$k_5 = \kappa^2 - 2 + 2(\kappa_1 + \kappa_2), \qquad k_6 = \frac{1}{2}\kappa^2 + \kappa_1 + \frac{\kappa_2 + \kappa_4}{3}, \qquad (11)$$

where $\kappa = c_L/c_S$ is the ratio of $c_L = \sqrt{(\lambda + 2\mu)/\rho}$ over $c_S = \sqrt{\mu/\rho}$, that are, respectively, the longitudinal and the transversal (shear) wave speed of linear elasticity. It is emphasized that the following constraints hold

$$k_1 - k_5 - 2k_6 = 0, \quad -3k_1 + 8k_2 + 2k_3 = 2(1 + 2\lambda/\mu), \quad -3k_1 + 8k_4 + 4k_5 = 2(1 + \lambda/\mu)$$
(12)

¹⁶⁷ Thus, the elastic energy density reads (Dai and Fan, 2004, Eq.(22))

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$$\mathcal{W} = \mu \left(\frac{1}{2} R^2 U_{,Z}^2 + 2U^2 + W_{,Z}^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \left(2U + W_{,Z} \right)^2$$

$$+ \mu \left[k_1 U^3 + k_2 R^2 U U_{,Z}^2 + k_3 W_{,Z} U^2 + k_4 R^2 W_{,Z} U_{,Z}^2 + k_5 U W_{,Z}^2 + k_6 W_{,Z}^3 \right],$$

$$(13)$$

which differs from the form adopted by Dai and Huo (2000) in Eq.(2.9). Inte-

¹⁷¹ grating over the cross section

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$$\mathcal{V} = \int_0^A \int_0^{2\pi} \mathcal{W} R d\Theta dR,\tag{14}$$

we obtain the potential energy per unit length (Dai and Fan, 2004, Eq.(23))

$$\mathcal{V} = \pi A^2 \left\{ 2(\mu + \lambda)U^2 + 2\lambda UW_{,Z} + \left(\mu + \frac{1}{2}\lambda\right)W_{,Z}^2 + \frac{\mu A^2}{4}U_{,Z}^2 + \mu \left[\frac{1}{2}A^2U_{,Z}^2\left(k_2U + k_4W_{,Z}\right) + k_3U^2W_{,Z} + k_5UW_{,Z}^2 + k_1U^3 + k_6W_{,Z}^3\right] \right\}.$$
 (15)

176 We then form the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{T} - \mathcal{V}, \tag{16}$$

and the corresponding Euler-Lagrange equations form a pair of nonlinear PDEs

¹⁸⁰
$$A^{2}k_{4}U_{,Z}U_{,ZZ} + 2U_{,Z}\left(k_{3}U + k_{5}W_{,Z} + \kappa^{2} - 2\right) + W_{,ZZ}\left(2k_{5}U + 6k_{6}W_{,Z} + \kappa^{2}\right)$$

¹⁸¹ $= c_{S}^{-2}W_{,TT}$ (17a)

¹⁸²
$$-3k_1U^2 - 2U\left(k_3W_{,Z} + 2\kappa^2 - 2\right) - W_{,Z}\left(k_5W_{,Z} + 2\kappa^2 - 4\right)$$

$$+\frac{1}{2}A^{2}\left[k_{2}U_{,Z}^{2}+2k_{4}U_{,Z}W_{,ZZ}+U_{,ZZ}\left(2k_{2}U+2k_{4}W_{,Z}+1\right)\right]=\frac{1}{2}c_{S}^{-2}A^{2}U_{,TT},$$
(17b)

which provide a nonlinear generalization of the well-known Mindlin-Herrmann system, where the Murnaghan strain energy density is used and small terms in the deformation are retained up to $O(\varepsilon^2)$. These equations seem to differ somehow from the corresponding equations (27) given by Dai and Fan (2004) and specifically Eq.(27a) misses the term multiplying k_4 in (17a), while (27b) misses several terms, such as those multiplying k_2 and k_4 . Clearly, the original Mindlin-Herrmann system (Mindlin, 1951)

(18)

$$(\lambda + 2\mu)W_{,ZZ} + 2\lambda U_Z = \rho W_{,TT},$$

$$\mu A^2 U_{,ZZ} - 8(\lambda + \mu)U - 4\lambda W_{,Z} = \rho A^2 U_{,TT},$$

is immediately retrieved when retaining only linear terms in (17). This reveals
that the system is a perturbation of a pair of coupled wave equations. This

coupled system provides the time evolution of U and W once suitable initial and boundary conditions are given. Since only second order time derivatives appear (linearly), initial conditions take the form

$$U(Z,0) = U_0(Z), W(Z,0) = W_0(Z)$$
(19a)

$$U_{,T}(Z,0) = U_0(Z), W_{,T}(Z,0) = W_0(Z).$$
 (19b)

Also, in light of the fact that the highest space derivative is two, a pair of boundary conditions is equally required. In general, solving Eqs.(17) calls for numerical methods, as it occurs in Sec.4. A way around the solution of the full system is to impose the Love (L-) *hypothesis*, that assumes a linear relationship between the radial displacement and the longitudinal strain i.e

$$U = -\nu_0 W_{,Z},\tag{20}$$

205 where

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$$\nu_0 = \frac{\lambda}{2(\lambda+\mu)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\kappa^2 - 2}{\kappa^2 - 1}$$

is the Poisson's ratio. A nice derivation of the Love model in the context of invariant manifolds from nonlinear dynamical systems theory is given by Roberts (1993). As it was originally proposed by Porubov and Samsonov (1993), Samsonov (2001) and later argued by Amendola and Saccomandi (2021), Love's hypothesis belongs to the linear framework and should be suitably generalized to the nonlinear setting. This is precisely the aim of the next Section.

²¹³ 3. Love hypothesis for weakly nonlinear elasticity

Let's begin by assuming that the deformation is small and yet not so small that third order terms in the Lagrangian may be neglected. Next, let's introduce the dimensionless coordinates

$$\zeta = Z/l, \quad t = T/\mathbb{T},$$

where l is a typical wavelength and $\mathbb{T} = l/c_S$ is a reference time. Hence, the dimensionless small parameter $\delta = A^2/l^2$ naturally emerges, cf. Garbuzov et al.

(2019). Next, we need to introduce the weakly nonlinear hypothesis, and specif-220 ically its connection to the idea that the solid is slender, namely that $\delta \ll 1$. 221 For this we introduce a second small parameter, ε , which is a measure of the 222 magnitude of the deformation, i.e. $U \sim W_{,Z} = O(\varepsilon)$. As customary, we also as-223 sume that differentiation does not affect the asymptotic order of the unknowns. 224 In this form, the problem is multi-parametric and to make further progress we 225 need to assume the reciprocal relation between the small parameters δ and ε . In 226 this paper, we assume $\varepsilon = \delta$, meaning that the deformation gets smaller as the 227 rod becomes slender in linear fashion. This distinct limit amounts to assuming 228 that nonlinearity and dispersion are in balance and small enough (Samsonov, 229 2001). Indeed, according to Ablowitz (2011), this is the "maximum balance 230 model" wherein nonlinear and dispersive effects are equally important. Other 231 choices are of course possible but we don't pursue them in here. Thus, we let 232

$$U = \delta u(\zeta, \tau)$$
 and $W = \delta l w(\zeta, \tau)$. (21)

The E-L equations may be given to first order in δ

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$$-4 (\kappa^{2} - 1) u - 2 (\kappa^{2} - 2) w_{,\zeta} + \frac{1}{2} \delta [u_{,\zeta\zeta} - 6k_{1}u^{2} - 4k_{3}uw_{,\zeta} - 2k_{5}w_{,\zeta}^{2}] + O(\delta^{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \delta u_{,tt}$$
(22a)
$$2 (\kappa^{2} - 2) u_{,\zeta} + \kappa^{2}w_{,\zeta\zeta} + \delta [2u_{,\zeta} (k_{3}u + k_{5}w_{,\zeta}) + (2k_{5}u + 6k_{6}w_{,\zeta}) w_{,\zeta\zeta}] + O(\delta^{2}) = w_{,tt}.$$
(22b)

Following Nobili (2021), the motion equations are perturbed in the slow time $\tau = t\delta$, having let the moving axial coordinate $\xi = \zeta - ct$. Consequently, a straightforward expansion in δ is introduced

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$$u = \phi_0(\xi, \tau) + \delta \phi_1(\xi, \tau) + \dots, \quad w = \psi_0(\xi, \tau) + \delta \psi_1(\xi, \tau) + \dots$$

To leading order, the system already obtained in Nobili and Saccomandi (2024)
is obtained,

(4 - 2
$$\kappa^2$$
) $\psi_{0,\xi}$ - 4 (κ^2 - 1) $\phi_0 = 0$, (23)

²⁴⁵
$$(\kappa^2 - c^2) \psi_{0,\xi\xi} + 2(\kappa^2 - 2) \phi_{0,\xi} = 0.$$
 (24)

²⁴⁶ This system lends the trivial solution unless

$$c = \pm \hat{c}_B$$
, with $\hat{c}_B = \sqrt{\frac{3\kappa^2 - 4}{\kappa^2 - 1}}$

that, multiplied by c_S , gives the dimensional longitudinal wave speed in rods $c_B = \sqrt{E/\rho}$, where $E = \mu \frac{3\lambda + 2\mu}{\lambda + \mu} > 0$ is Young's modulus. Then, the leading order eigenform is obtained

$$\phi_0 = -\nu_0 \psi_{0,\xi},\tag{25}$$

that is precisely the Love assumption, which remains valid at leading order,
with the understanding that a moving coordinate frame is considered.

²⁵⁴ Moving to the next order, we find

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$$\phi_1 + \frac{k_5 - 2\nu_0 k_3 + 3\nu_0^2 k_1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} \psi_{0,\xi}^2 - \nu_0 \frac{\hat{c}_B^2 - 1}{8(\kappa^2 - 1)} \psi_{0,\xi\xi\xi} + \nu_0 \psi_{1,\xi} = 0$$
(26a)

$$(\kappa^{2} - 2) \phi_{1,\xi} + \hat{c}_{B} \psi_{0,\xi\tau} + (3k_{6} - 2\nu_{0}k_{5} + \nu_{0}^{2}k_{3}) \psi_{0,\xi} \psi_{0,\xi\xi} + \nu_{0} (\kappa^{2} - 2) \psi_{1,\xi\xi} = 0$$

$$(26b)$$

Remarkably, this system shows no dependence on k_2 and k_4 which only come at higher order and are therefore disregarded. Clearly, Eq.(26a) immediately lends the first correction to Love hypothesis

$$\phi_1 = -\nu_0 \psi_{1,\xi} + \nu_0 \frac{\hat{c}_B^2 - 1}{8(\kappa^2 - 1)} \psi_{0,\xi\xi\xi} - \frac{k_5 - 2\nu_0 k_3 + 3\nu_0^2 k_1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} \psi_{0,\xi}^2, \quad (27)$$

which consists of the linear terms, already appreciated in Nobili and Saccomandi
(2024), together with a nonlinear contribution which depends on Murnaghan's
moduli. Together, Eq.(25) and (27) give the refined Love hypothesis in the
weakly nonlinear setting

$$\phi = -\nu_0 \psi_{,\xi} + \delta \nu_0 \frac{\hat{c}_B^2 - 1}{8(\kappa^2 - 1)} \psi_{,\xi\xi\xi} - \delta \frac{k_5 - 2\nu_0 k_3 + 3\nu_0^2 k_1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} \psi_{,\xi}^2 + O(\delta^2), \quad (28)$$

and, in particular, we see that the linear Love hypothesis, in its simplicity, only
conveys the first of such terms, and certainly misses the nonlinear correction.
Plugging Eq.(27) into Eq.(26b), yields the governing equation for the perturbation to leading order,

$$\frac{1}{4}\nu_0^2 \left(\hat{c}_B^2 - 1\right)\Psi_{\xi\xi\xi} + \hat{c}_B\Psi_{,\tau} + 3\beta_1\Psi\Psi_{,\xi} = 0, \quad \beta_1 = -\nu_0^3 k_1 + \nu_0^2 k_3 - \nu_0 k_5 + k_6,$$
(29)

that is the well-known Korteweg-de Vries (KdV) equation for the longitudinal strain $\Psi = \psi_{0,\xi}$. This equation corresponds to the far-field model (4.18) of Dai and Huo (2002) that is valid for an incompressible elastic rod, whence coefficients are different. Space differentiation of the KdV and exploiting the connection

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\xi\partial\tau} = \frac{1}{2}\delta^{-1}\hat{c}_B\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\zeta\partial\zeta} - \hat{c}_B^{-2}\frac{\partial^2}{\partialt\partial t}\right) + O(\delta),$$

²⁷⁶ lends the *Boussinesq equation* (BE)

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$$\Psi_{,\zeta\zeta} - \hat{c}_B^{-2}\Psi_{,tt} + \frac{\delta}{\hat{c}_B^2} \left[\frac{1}{2}\nu_0^2 \left(\hat{c}_B^2 - 1 \right) \Psi_{,\zeta\zeta} + 3\beta_1 \Psi^2 \right]_{,\zeta\zeta} = 0, \qquad (30)$$

that admits soliton-like travelling solutions, see Bullough and Caudrey (1980).
The BE features poor existence and uniqueness properties and, in particular,
no local well-posedness result is available. To the same order of approximation,
the asymptotically equivalent form may be obtained (this process, sometimes,
is called "regularization")

$$\Psi_{,\zeta\zeta} - \hat{c}_B^{-2}\Psi_{,tt} + \frac{\delta}{\hat{c}_B^2} \left[\frac{1}{2}\nu_0^2 \left(1 - \hat{c}_B^{-2} \right) \Psi_{,tt} + 3\beta_1 \Psi^2 \right]_{,\zeta\zeta} = 0, \qquad (31)$$

that goes under the name of *improved Boussinesq equation* (IBE). The IBE is far superior to the BE in that it is well-posed.

Eq.(29) may be put to advantage in order to eliminate the third derivative in (28). Indeed, differentiating (28) with respect to ξ and using (29), one finds an asymptotically equivalent form of the refined weakly-nonlinear Love hypothesis

$$\phi_{\xi} = -\nu_0 \psi_{\xi\xi} - \delta \frac{\hat{c}_B}{\kappa^2 - 2} \psi_{\xi\tau} - \delta \frac{\nu_0 \left(k_3 \nu_0 - 2k_5\right) + 3k_6}{\kappa^2 - 2} \psi_{\xi\xi} \psi_{\xi\xi} + O(\delta^2).$$
(32)

Going back to the original variables, the KdV equation (29) becomes

$$w_{,\zeta\zeta} - \hat{c}_B^{-2} w_{,tt} + \delta \hat{c}_B^{-2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \nu_0^2 \left(\hat{c}_B^2 - 1 \right) w_{,\zeta\zeta\zeta\zeta} + 6\beta_1 w_{,\zeta} w_{,\zeta\zeta} \right] = O(\delta^2), \quad (33)$$

²⁹² that, to first correction terms, gives

²⁹³
$$W_{,ZZ} - c_B^{-2} W_{,TT} + \nu_0^2 K^2 \left(1 - \hat{c}_B^{-2}\right) W_{,ZZZZ} + 3 \hat{c}_B^{-2} \beta_1 (W_{,Z})_{,Z}^2 = 0,$$
 (34)

where $K = A/\sqrt{2}$ is the polar radius of gyration of the cross-section. Furthermore, Eq.(33) may be rewritten, within the same order of accuracy, as

$$w_{\zeta\zeta} - \hat{c}_B^{-2} w_{,tt} + \delta \hat{c}_B^{-2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \nu_0^2 \hat{c}_B^{-2} \left(\hat{c}_B^2 - 1 \right) w_{,\zeta\zeta tt} + 6\beta_1 w_{,\zeta} w_{,\zeta\zeta} \right] = O(\delta^2), \quad (35)$$

which has the undoubted advantage of being of order 2 in space as well as in time and therefore it requires only one pair of spatial boundary condition and one pair of initial conditions. In the original variables and to first correction, it becomes

³⁰¹
$$W_{,ZZ} - c_B^{-2} W_{,TT} + \nu_0^2 K^2 c_B^{-2} \left(1 - \hat{c}_B^{-2}\right) W_{,ZZTT} + 3 \hat{c}_B^{-2} \beta_1 (W_{,Z})_{,Z}^2 = 0.$$
 (36)

³⁰² Recalling that

$$\beta_1 = E/\rho + \kappa_1 (1 - 2\nu_0)(1 + 2\nu_0^2) + \frac{1}{3}\kappa_2 (1 - 2\nu_0)^3 + \frac{1}{3}\kappa_4 (1 - 2\nu_0^3), \quad (37)$$

Eq.(36) corresponds to Eq.(1.4) of Ostrovskii and Sutin (1977), provided the 30 coefficient $1 - \hat{c}_B^{-2}$ in the dispersion term is suppressed and the factor 1/2 added 305 in the nonlinear term (the latter appears in Garbuzov et al. (2019)'s writing 306 of Ostrovskii and Sutin's result). This partial correspondence may not be too 307 surprising, given that Ostrovskii and Sutin obtain their equation via the linear 308 Love hypothesis and therefore miss the correction terms. Conversely, the model 309 equation (34) in Dai and Fan (2004), that is obtained using the linear Love hy-310 pothesis, also appears in Porubov and Samsonov (1993) and it is a Boussinesq-311 type combination of the BE and of the IBE, that is named by Garbuzov et al. 312 (2019) the "doubly dispersive equation" (DDE). In fact, Eq.(45) in Garbuzov 313 et al. (2019) provides yet another model equation. As pointed out by Garbuzov 314 et al. (2019), "the models [by Porubov and Samsonov (1993) and by Ostrovskii 315 and Sutin (1977) (adding the missing 1/2 coefficient)] have different dispersive 316 properties", although, after "regularization", they are all asymptotically equiv-317 alent. Furthermore, "it would be interesting to compare the performance of 318 these four nonlinear models with the exact (numerical) solution of the nonlinear 319 problem", that is indeed what is carried out in Sec.4 for the present model. Be-320 sides being equivalent, it is also clear that these models are also asymptotically 321 consistent up to $O(\delta)$ terms. In contrast, however, they are not the same to 322 those in Dai and Huo (2000) and Dai and Fan (2004) (where, presumably in 323 Eq.(33) and (34) W should be written in the place of U). 324

Similarly, the refined Love assumption (32) becomes

$$u_{,\zeta} = -\nu_0 w_{,\zeta\zeta} - \frac{1}{2(\kappa^2 - 2)} \left(\hat{c}_B^2 w_{,\zeta\zeta} - w_{,tt} \right) - \delta \frac{\nu_0 \left(k_3 \nu_0 - 2k_5 \right) + 3k_6}{\kappa^2 - 2} w_{,\zeta} w_{,\zeta\zeta} + O(\delta^2),$$
(38)

327 that, to first correction terms, gives

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$$U_{,Z} = -\nu_0 W_{,ZZ} - \frac{\hat{c}_B^2}{2(\kappa^2 - 2)} \left(W_{,ZZ} - c_B^{-2} W_{,TT} \right) - \frac{\nu_0 \left(k_3 \nu_0 - 2k_5 \right) + 3k_6}{\kappa^2 - 2} W_{,ZZ}$$
(39)

³²⁹ The refined Love hypothesis (28), in the original variables, reads

$$U = -\nu_0 W_{,Z} + K^2 \nu_0 \frac{\hat{c}_B^2 - 1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} W_{,ZZZ} - \frac{k_5 - 2\nu_0 k_3 + 3\nu_0^2 k_1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} W_{,Z}^2, \quad (40)$$

and it may be compared with Eq.(2.52) in Samsonov (2001), which, however, 331 emerges from a completely different setting, by enforcing the free boundary 332 conditions. The two equations reveal a similar structure, although coefficients 333 are very different for each correction term (dispersive and nonlinear). In fact, 334 according to Samsonov, the linear correction term sign is opposite and exhibits 335 a quadratic dependence on the radius R (whence it disappears on the rod axis). 336 Nonetheless, this structural correspondence is somewhat remarkable, consider-337 ing that equations emerge from very different assumptions. 338

339 4. Numerical results

We now show how the model equation (33) compares to the nonlinear cou-340 pled system (17) and to the solution of the wave equation. Specifically, we are 341 interested in the accuracy of the transversal motion, with special regard to the 342 nonlinear contribution. It is pointed out that this is not the same comparison 343 that is presented in Garbuzov et al. (2020), which instead focuses on propa-344 gating solitons. We consider the dimensionless variables $\delta u(\zeta, t)$ and $\delta w(\zeta, t)$, 345 where δ is introduced to properly scale quantities as in (21). We choose the 346 parameter set 347

$$\kappa = 3, k_1 = 1.1, k_2 = 1, k_3 = 5, k_4 = 2, k_5 = 0.5, k_6 = 0.3,$$

with the aim to produce a significant nonlinear contribution. A few numerical
experiments show that this particular choice of parameters is of little importance

for the overall picture. In contrast, it is crucial to take for δ a small value: 351 hereinafter we begin with $\delta = 0.1$, which warrants equally small initial conditions 352 to remain within the weakly nonlinear hypothesis. In the following, we assume 353 a periodic system, because our approximation relies on the far-field concept 354 which is at odd with a finite domain. Therefore, we chose a periodic boundary 355 conditions, namely 356

$$w(-\pi, t) = w(\pi, t), \quad u(-\pi, t) = u(\pi, t).$$
(41)

in the period range $\zeta \in [-\pi, \pi]$. For the initial condition on w, we assume 358

$$w(\zeta, 0) = \sin(\zeta), \tag{42}$$

and, for the sake of definiteness, we assume zero initial velocity, i.e. 360

$$w_{,t}(\zeta, 0) = u_{,t}(\zeta, 0) \equiv 0.$$
 (43)

For $u(\zeta, 0)$, we adopt the linear Love assumption, whereby 362

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$$u(\zeta, 0) = -\nu_0 w_{\zeta}(\zeta, 0) = -\nu_0 \cos \zeta, \tag{44}$$

with the understanding that this choice works in favor of the accuracy of Love's 364 linear hypothesis (25). 365

To determine the approximating solution, we integrate the Boussinesq-type 366 Eq.(33) by standard methods. Here, it is important to point out that a fourth 367 space derivative appears, which calls for two sets of boundary conditions, pre-368 cisely as in (41). To bring about periodicity on u, we call upon (28) and thereby 369 impose 370

$$= -\nu_0 u_{,\zeta}(-\pi,t) + \delta \nu_0 \frac{\hat{c}_B^2 - 1}{8(\kappa^2 - 1)} u_{,\zeta\zeta\zeta}(-\pi,t) - \frac{k_5 - 2\nu_0 k_3 + 3\nu_0^2 k_1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} u_{,\zeta}^2(-\pi,t)$$

$$= -\nu_0 u_{,\zeta}(\pi,t) + \delta \nu_0 \frac{\hat{c}_B^2 - 1}{2(\kappa^2 - 1)} u_{,\zeta\zeta\zeta}(\pi,t) - \frac{k_5 - 2\nu_0 k_3 + 3\nu_0^2 k_1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} u_{,\zeta}^2(\pi,t).$$

$$= -\nu_0 u_{,\zeta}(\pi,t) + \delta \nu_0 \frac{\hat{c}_B^2 - 1}{8(\kappa^2 - 1)} u_{,\zeta\zeta\zeta}(\pi,t) - \frac{k_5 - 2\nu_0 k_3 + 3\nu_0^2 k_1}{4(\kappa^2 - 1)} u_{,\zeta}^2(\pi,t)$$

Finally, for the wave equation, we have the analytic solution 373

$$w(\zeta, t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sin(\zeta + c_B t) - \sin(\zeta - c_B t) \right), \tag{45}$$



Figure 1: $\delta w(\zeta, t)$ for $\delta = 0.1$ as a function of t for $\zeta = \pi/3$ (left) and $\zeta = \pi/2$ (right) as obtained from the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (black, solid), the KdV equation (blue, solid) and the solution of the wave equation (red, dashed). The solid curves are indistinguishable.



Figure 2: $\delta w_{,\zeta}(\zeta, t)$ for $\delta = 0.1$ as a function of t for $\zeta = \pi/3$ (left) and $\zeta = \pi/2$ (right) as obtained from the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (black, solid), the KdV equation (blue, solid) and the solution of the wave equation (red, dashed). The solid curves are indistinguishable.



Figure 3: $\delta w_{,t}(\zeta, t)$ for $\delta = 0.1$ as a function of t for $\zeta = \pi/3$ (left) and $\zeta = \pi/2$ (right) as obtained from the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (black, solid), the KdV equation (blue, solid) and the solution of the wave equation (red, dashed). The solid curves are indistinguishable.



Figure 4: $\delta u(\zeta, t)$ for $\delta = 0.1$ as a function of t for $\zeta = \pi/3$ (left) and $\zeta = \pi/2$ (right) as obtained from the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (black, solid), the refined nonlinear Love hypothesis (blue, solid) and the linear Love hypothesis applied to the solution of the wave equation (red, dashed). The solid curves are indistinguishable.

³⁷⁵ which disposes of the initial velocity, according to the first of Eqs.(43).

Figure 1 plots $\delta w(\zeta, t)$ as it emerges from the numerical solution of the non-376 linear Mindlin-Herrmann system (17), from the numerical solution of the KdV 371 (33) and finally from solving the wave equation. Clearly, all three solutions ap-378 pear very close, at least initially, the deviation from the wave equations building 379 up slowly in time. Yet, it is interesting to look at corresponding plots for the 380 space derivative of w, that are shown in Fig.2 where it clearly appears that 381 the wave equation is unable to reproduce the features of the solution. This is 382 especially true for the position $\zeta = \pi/2$ because there the wave equation solu-383 tion vanishes, thus leaving only the nonlinear term as the leading source for the 384 solution. In contrast, the numerical solution of the KdV offers an outstanding 385 approximation, which can be hardly resolved from the Mindlin-Herrmann sys-386 tem. The same comparison is given in Fig.3 with respect to the time derivative 387 of w and similar conclusions may be drawn. 388

We now compare the numerical solution for δu obtained from solving the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (17) with the refined Love hypothesis (28) and with the linear Love hypothesis (25) applied to the solution of the wave equation (namely a O(1) solution). Fig.4 presents this comparison for $\zeta = \pi/3$ and for $\zeta = \pi/2$ and confirms the excellent approximation offered by the refined Love hypothesis, that is indeed capable of reproducing the nonlinear contributions over time. Once again, the location $\zeta = \pi/2$ is expedient to rule



Figure 5: $\delta w(\pi/2, t)$ (left) and $\delta w_{\zeta}(\pi/2, t)$ (right) as a function of t for $\delta = 0.2$ as obtained from the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (black, solid), the KdV (blue, solid) and the solution of the wave equation (red, dashed). The solid curves begin to resolve for t > 10 in the derivative only.



Figure 6: $\delta u(\pi/2, t)$ as a function of t for $\delta = 0.2$ as obtained from the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (black, solid), the refined nonlinear Love hypothesis (blue, solid) and the linear Love hypothesis applied to the solution of the wave equation (red, dashed). The latter is zero throughout. The solid curves exhibit some small differences at large times.

³⁹⁶ out any contribution from the linearized solution and single out the outcomes ³⁹⁷ of the nonlinear terms. It should be emphasized that obtaining the numerical ³⁹⁸ solution of the Mindlin-Herrmann system is rather delicate and time consuming, ³⁹⁹ especially for long time frames.

We now investigate the robustness of the approximation in dependence of 400 the parameter δ . Fig.5 shows the displacement δw and its space derivative $\delta w_{,\zeta}$ 401 at $\zeta = \pi/2$, having let $\delta = 0.2$. Some little deviations of the KdV approxima-402 tion may be appreciated for long times in the space derivative only. A similar 403 comparison, this time for u and the refined Love hypothesis, is plotted in Fig.6 404 where again little deviations begin to appear at large times. This trend becomes 405 more evident for $\delta = 0.25$ and Fig.7 reveals that the nonlinear approximation 406 deteriorates substantially over time, although it still fares a lot better than the 407



Figure 7: $\delta w(\pi/3, t)$ (left) and $\delta w(\pi/2, t)$ (right) as a function of t for $\delta = 0.25$ as obtained from the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system (black, solid), the KdV (blue, solid) and the solution of the wave equation (red, dashed). The solid curves begin to resolve for t > 10 in both locations.

408 wave equation.

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409 5. Unimodal Lagrangian

Plugging the refined Love hypothesis (40) into the Lagrangian (16) lends a unimodal system whose only variable is W. As already observed in Nobili and Saccomandi (2024), the corresponding Euler-Lagrange equation corresponds to the Love equation (Love, 1927, §278)

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$$W_{,ZZ} + \frac{\nu_0^2 K^2}{c_B^2} W_{,ZZTT} = \frac{W_{,TT}}{c_B^2}$$

only to leading order, while different coefficients are obtained in the first cor-415 rection. This outcome, that is a result of the fact that the Love Lagrangian 416 accommodates for transversal motion only in the inertia term and not in the 417 elastic potential, occurs regardless of the correction terms to the linear Love 418 hypothesis (20). Accordingly, the first correction plays no role in affecting the 419 E-L equation of the unimodal Lagrangian up to first order. Besides, comparing 420 the model equation against the Pochhammer-Chree solution of linear elasticity 421 as in Dai and Fan (2004) to assess its validity brings little value, because we 422 already know that the bimodal kinematics is doomed to fail (and equally so 423 in the case of richer models, provided that they are power series corrections of 424 the bimodal system). Yet, it is even more remarkable that the E-L equation 425 of the unimodal cubic Lagrangian corresponds to the BE (34) regardless of the 426

correction terms. In other words, plugging the linear Love hypothesis (20) into 427 the Murnaghan Lagrangian (16) yields the correct model equation, be it (34)428 or (36). This time, this outcome is a consequence of the first constraint in the 429 Murnaghan material parameters (12). It is concluded that, as it was the case 430 in linear elasticity, plugging a family of Love assumptions, which all differ from 431 the linear Love hypothesis (20) by first correction terms into the nonlinear La-432 grangian (16) (and regularizing) always lends the model equations (34) or (36). 433 Indeed, the unimodal Lagrangian corresponding to (34) is given by 434

$$\mathcal{L}_{1} = -\frac{1}{2}W_{,Z}^{2} + \frac{1}{2}c_{B}^{-2}W_{,T}^{2} + \frac{1}{2}\nu_{0}^{2}K^{2}\left(1 - \hat{c}_{B}^{-2}\right)W_{,ZZ}^{2} - \hat{c}_{B}^{-2}\beta_{1}W_{,Z}^{3}.$$
 (46)

436 Similarly, letting the Love Lagrangian Graff (2012)

$$\mathcal{L}^* = -\frac{1}{2}W_{,Z}^2 + \frac{1}{2}c_B^{-2}W_{,T}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\nu_0^2 K^2 c_B^{-2}W_{,ZT}^2, \tag{47}$$

 $_{\rm 438}$ $\,$ we see that the corrected Lagrangian $\,$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}^* - \frac{1}{2}\nu_0^2 K^2 c_B^{-2} \hat{c}_B^{-2} W_{,ZT}^2 - \hat{c}_B^{-2} \beta_1 W_{,Z}^3, \tag{48}$$

440 yields the E-L equation (36).

441 6. Conclusions

439

In this paper, slow time perturbation of the motion equations is proposed to 442 systematically derive the (weakly) nonlinear counterpart of the Love hypothe-443 sis of linear elasticity. For the sake of illustration, the method is shown in the 444 simplest possible setting. Indeed, a bimodal kinematics is assumed to study 445 longitudinal waves propagating in Murnaghan hyperelastic straight rods and, 446 as a result, a complicated pair of coupled nonlinear PDEs arises, which is the 447 nonlinear generalization of the Mindlin-Herrmann system of linear elasticity. 448 This nonlinear system is difficult to analyze and calls for numerical investiga-449 tion. Alternatively, a refined weakly nonlinear Love hypothesis is derived by 450 perturbation of the motion equation in slow time. This relation may be seen as 451 a generalization of the linear hypothesis originally proposed by Love (1927) in 452 the context of linear elasticity. In the process, a unidimensional model equation 453

is obtained for longitudinal strain, that, in the moving frame, is the celebrated 454 KdV. In the stationary frame, the KdV turns into the Boussinesq and into the 455 improved Boussinesq equations, which are asymptotically equivalent. In fact, as 456 noted by Garbuzov et al. (2019), the asymptotic approach justifies the presence 457 of many different model equations in the literature. In terms of longitudinal 458 displacement, the Boussinesq-type model of Ostrovskii and Sutin (1977) is re-459 trieved, which was obtained by the linear Love hypothesis, although coefficients 460 in the dispersive term are different (the nonlinear term is also different by a 1/2461 factor which, however, may be a typo). 462

The solution of either Boussinesq equation is compared against the numerical 463 solution of the nonlinear Mindlin-Herrmann system and remarkable accuracy is 464 found, both in terms of longitudinal as well as transversal displacement (and 465 their derivatives alike). In fact, assessment of the accuracy of the transversal 466 displacement, as provided by the refined nonlinear Love equation, is especially 467 interesting and seems not yet explored in the literature. Besides, the accuracy 468 of the approximation seems unexpectedly robust for not-so-small values of the 469 small parameter δ . This procedure may be easily generalized to more involved 470 scenarios, such as the presence of reinforcing fibres or exotic constitutive models, 471 see Amendola et al. (2024). Finally, a unimodal Lagrangian is derived which 472 proves capable of producing (either of) the Boussinesq equations regardless of 473 the first correction terms. This surprising outcome emerges in light of the 474 restriction that exists on the Murnaghan material parameters and, possibly, 475 it may be a by-product of the bimodal kinematics. 476

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489 Conflict of Interest statement

⁴⁹⁰ The author has no conflict of interest to declare.

491 Data Availability

⁴⁹² This paper makes use of no data.

⁴⁹³ Appendix A. Murnaghan strain energy density

The Murnaghan strain energy density, within the restricted kinematics (1), reads

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{W} &= \mu \left(2U^2 + W_{,Z}^2 + \frac{1}{2}R^2U_{,Z}^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2}\lambda \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(R^2U_{,Z}^2 + (W_{,Z}+1)^2 - 1 \right) + U(U+2) \right]^2 \\ &+ \frac{1}{24}\mu \Big\{ \kappa_2 \left(R^2U_{,Z}^2 + 2U^2 + 4U + W_{,Z} \left(W_{,Z}+2 \right) \right)^3 \\ &+ 3\kappa_1 \left(2U^2 \left(R^2U_{,Z}^2 + 4 \right) + 2R^2U_{,Z}^2 \left(W_{,Z}+1 \right)^2 + 4R^2UU_{,Z}^2 + R^4U_{,Z}^4 + 2U^4 + 8U^3 + W_{,Z}^2 \left(W_{,Z}+2 \right)^2 \right) \\ &\times \left(R^2U_{,Z}^2 + 2U^2 + 4U + W_{,Z} \left(W_{,Z}+2 \right) \right) \\ &+ \kappa_4 \Big[3R^2U^2U_{,Z}^2 \left(R^2U_{,Z}^2 + W_{,Z}^2 + 2W_{,Z}+5 \right) + 3U^4 \left(R^2U_{,Z}^2 + 8 \right) + 4U^3 \left(3R^2U_{,Z}^2 + 4 \right) \\ &+ 6R^2UU_{,Z}^2 \left(R^2U_{,Z}^2 + \left(W_{,Z}+1 \right)^2 \right) + 3R^4U_{,Z}^4 \left(W_{,Z}+1 \right)^2 + 3R^2U_{,Z}^2W_{,Z} \left(W_{,Z}+1 \right)^2 \left(W_{,Z}+2 \right) \\ &+ R^6U_{,Z}^6 + 2U^6 + 12U^5 + W_{,Z}^3 \left(W_{,Z}+2 \right)^3 \Big] \\ &+ 6 \left(2R^2U_{,Z}^2 \left(W_{,Z}+1 \right)^2 + 4R^2UU_{,Z}^2 + R^4U_{,Z}^4 + 2U^4 + 8U^3 + W_{,Z}^4 + 4W_{,Z}^3 \right) \Big\}. \end{split}$$

$$(A.1)$$

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Declaration of interests

⊠The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

□The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests: