



Chapter 10 Tides

Introductory Oceanography 10th Edition



Most ocean waves are wind-generated



The medium itself (solid, liquid, gas) does **NOT actually travel** in the direction of energy

Figure 8-2



What causes tides?

- Tides are created by the imbalance between two forces:
 - 1. Gravitational force of the Moon and Sun on Earth
 - If mass increases ([↑]), then gravitational force increases ([↑])
 - If distance increases (\uparrow), then gravitational force greatly decreases ($\checkmark \checkmark$)
 - 2. Centripetal (center-seeking) force required to keep bodies in nearly circular orbits



Gravitational forces on Earth due to the Moon

- Force decreases with increasing distance
- Force is directed toward the Moon's center of mass



• GF =
$$\frac{G m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$







Centripetal forces on Earth due to the Moon

- Force is the same everywhere on Earth
- Force is directed perpendicular to Earth's center everywhere on Earth



Figure 9-3



Resultant forces

Resultant forces are:

- ➤ The difference between gravitational (G) and centripetal (C) forces
- Directed away from Moon on the side of Earth opposite Moon
- Directed toward Moon on the side of Earth facing Moon





Resultant forces –another view

- centripetal F
 centrifugal F
- Tidegenerating force ∞ $m_1 m_2$ r^3





Tide-generating forces

- Tide-generating forces are the horizontal component of the resultant force
- Maximized along a "latitude" of 45° relative to the "equator" between the zenith and nadir



Figure 9-5



Tidal bulges – Equilibrium theory

Gravity to always point towards the center of Earth.

However, the centrifugal force is perpendicular to the axis of the Earth.

It is not exactly opposed to gravity, but adds a small horizontal vector component, pointing towards the equator.





Tidal bulges

- Tide-generating forces produce 2 bulges:
 - 1. Away from Moon on side of Earth opposite Moon
 - 2. Toward Moon on side of Earth facing Moon
- Earth rotates into and out of tidal bulges, creating high and low tides



Figure 9-6



The lunar day

- Tidal bulges follow Moon as it rotates around Earth
- High tides occurs every 12 h 25 min.
- Lunar day is 50 minutes longer than a solar day because the Moon is moving in its orbit around Earth



Relative sizes and distances on Earth, Moon, and Sun

- The Sun is much more massive than the Moon but much further away
- Solar bulges are 46% the size of lunar bulges





The monthly tidal cycle (29¹/₂ days)

- About every 7 days, Earth alternates between:
 - Spring tide
 - Alignment of Earth-Moon-Sun system (syzygy)
 - Lunar and solar bulges constructively interfere
 - Large tidal range
 - 🛛 Neap tide
 - Earth-Moon-Sun system at right angles (quadrature)
 - Lunar and solar bulges destructively interfere
 - Small tidal range



Earth-Moon-Sun positions and the monthly tidal cycle





Effect of declination

- The plane of the Moon's orbit is tilted 5° with respect to the ecliptic (23.5° to Sun)
- The center of the tidal bulges may be up to a maximum of 28.5° (23.5° + 5°) from the Equator





Effect of elliptical orbits

- Tidal ranges are greater when:
 - The Moon is at perigee
 - The Earth is at perihelion
 - ➤ Thus, in which month tidal range would be the greatest?





Predicted idealized tides





Summary of tides on an idealized Earth

- Most locations have two high tides and two low tides per lunar day
- Neither the two high tides nor the two low tides are of the same height because of the declination of the Moon and the Sun
- Yearly and monthly cycles of tidal range are related to the changing distances of the Moon and Sun from Earth
- Each week, there would be alternating spring and neap tides



Tides in the ocean –Dynamic theory

- Cotidal map shows tides rotate around amphidromic points
- More realistic pattern of tides in the ocean





Amphidromic systems.



(b) AMPHIDROMIC SYSTEM



Cotidal line in Yellow Sea (K1)





Tidal patterns

Diurnal

■ One high and one low tide each (lunar) day

Semidiurnal

■ Two high and two low tides of about the same height daily

Mixed

Characteristics of both diurnal and semidiurnal with successive high and/or low tides having significantly different heights



Figure 1 shows a diurnal tide: one high and one low tide



Time



Figure 2 shows a semidiurnal tide: two high and low tides of equal heights



Time



Figure 3 shows a mixed semidiurnal tide: two high and low tides of unequal heights





Tidal patterns in the U.S.



sometimes a mixed than pattern is referred to as mixed semiaturnal.



Tidal

components

Symbol		Period in solar hours	Amplitude $M_2 = 100$	Description
Semidiumal tides	<i>M</i> ₂	12.42	100.00	Main lunar (semidiurnal) constituent
	S ₂	12.00	46.6	Main solar (semidiurnal) constituent
	N	12.66	19.1	Lunar constituent due to monthly variation in moon's distance
	K ₂	11.97	12.7	Soli-lunar constituent due to changes in declination of sun and moon throughout their orbital cycle
Diurnal tides	K ₁	23.93	58.4	Soli-lunar constituent
	0	25.82	41.5	Main lunar (diurnal) constituent
	Р	24.07	19.3	Main solar (diurnal) constituent

(a) The seven most important partial tides

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Monthly tidal curves



The Bay of Fundy: Site of the world's largest tidal range

- Tidal energy is focused by shape and shallowness of bay
- Maximum spring tidal range in Minas Basin = 17 meters (56 feet)





Coastal tidal currents

• Tidal currents occur in some bays and rivers due to a change in tides **Ebb** currents produced by outgoing tides ▼ Flood currents produced by incoming tides





Tidal bore = a true tidal wave

- Wall of water that moves upriver
- Caused by an incoming high tide
- Occurs in some low-lying rivers
- Can be large enough to surf or raft





Extreme tides (10m or more) found where small marine basin adjoins large ocean

- Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia
- Gulf of California
- (in most places, tides are 1 to a few meters in range)

Tidal bore: Severn River,





Grunion and the tides

Grunion are the only fish that come completely out of water to spawn



 Spawning cycles are timed precisely with the tides



Sites with high potential for tidal

power generation





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G-MOZId0FNw

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpvoerFabQs

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIMN-XVcpkE