

Some [standard] tidal theory: The gravitational potential  $\Phi$  at distance  $\mathbf{r}$  around a central body with mass  $M_c$  modified by a body of mass  $M_o$ , orbiting at a distance  $d$ , is to good approximation given by:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = -GM_c/r - GM_o r^2/d^3 [3 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \varphi - 1]/2 \quad (1)$$

where  $\theta$  is the polar angle and  $\varphi$  is the azimuthal angle. Since the potential on an equipotential surface can be set equal to any constant, we may set it equal to  $-GM_c/r_c$ , where  $r_c$  is the radius of the (undistorted) central body, giving

$$-GM_c/r_c = -GM_c/r - GM_o r^2/d^3 [3 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \varphi - 1]/2 \quad (2)$$

Let  $h(\theta, \varphi) = r - r_c$  be the height of the displacement due to the tide, then rearrangement of eq.(2) gives (after division through by  $-GM_c$ ):

$$h(\theta, \varphi) = (M_o/M_c)(r_c^4/d^3)[3 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \varphi - 1]/2 \quad (3)$$

where we approximate  $r_c r^3$  by  $r_c^4$ , since, by definition,  $r = r_c + h$  and  $h$  is very small compared to  $r_c$ .

For simplicity [and still to good approximation as most planetary orbits are close to a common plane] we consider the 2D case where  $\theta = 90^\circ$  (looking 'down' on the orbital plane). The tidal height as a function of longitude ( $\varphi$ ) is then

$$h(\varphi) = (M_o/M_c)(r_c^4/d^3)[3 \cos^2 \varphi - 1]/2 \quad (4)$$

We can define the tidal *range* to be the difference between high tide ( $h>0$ ) where  $\varphi = 0^\circ$  or  $180^\circ$  and low tide ( $h<0$ ) perpendicular to the line connecting the centers of the two bodies, at  $\varphi = 90^\circ$  or  $270^\circ$ . The tidal range is thus

$$T = h(0^\circ) - h(90^\circ) = 3/2 (M_o/M_c)(r_c/d)^3 r_c \quad (5)$$

If we take the region in the Sun where solar magnetic fields are thought to originate to be the radius of the tachocline:  $r_c = 0.713 R_{\odot} = 496,248,000$  m and express masses in units of the Earth, we get for the maximal tidal range ('bulge' in millimeters) generated:

Planet	$M_o$	$M_c$	$r_c$ m	d m	d AU	T mm
Mercury	0.0553	332946	496248000	5.7909E+10	0.3871	0.07776
Venus	0.8150	332946	496248000	1.0820E+11	0.7233	0.17577
Earth+Moon	1.0123	332946	496248000	1.4960E+11	1.0000	0.08261
Mars	0.1074	332946	496248000	2.2794E+11	1.5237	0.00248
Jupiter	317.8281	332946	496248000	7.7828E+11	5.2025	<b>0.18420</b>
Saturn	95.1609	332946	496248000	1.4274E+12	9.5415	0.00894
Uranus	14.5358	332946	496248000	2.8705E+12	19.1880	0.00017
Neptune	17.1478	332946	496248000	4.4983E+12	30.0695	0.00005

These tides are under the assumption that the Sun is a gas or fluid and is free to move.