What Causes Tides?

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Abstract Tide (the daily cycle of high and low water) has been known for thousands of years. The widely accepted theory for this movement is the attractive mechanism, that's to say, the Moon's gravitational attraction yields a pair of water bulges on the Earth's surface, an Earthly site would pass through these bugles and undergo alternation of high and low water as the Earth spins. However, an in-depth investigation of tide-gauge data shows these bulges of water nonexistent. This absence suggests that tide cannot be explained by the attractive mechanism. Here we propose, the Earth's rotations about the centre of mass of the Earth-Moon system and around the Sun create centrifugal effects to stretch solid Earth; the deformed Earth generates oscillation for ocean basin as the Earth rotates, forming water movement between all the parts of the basin and further the rise and fall of water level around the globe. A modelling test shows that the *RMS* (Root Mean Square) deviation of amplitude calculated against observation for deep ocean (34 sites) and shelf-coastal regions (42 sites) are approximately 6.16 and 10.59 cm.

1 Introduction

1.1 A brief retrospect of tidal theories

From antiquity it has been known that coastal seas always perform daily regular water movements of rise and fall. Since these movements are closely related to the frequently coastal activities, explaining them has undoubtedly tested human wisdom. Aristotle (384-322 BC) was highly perplexed by the phenomenon and vaguely attributed it to the

rocky nature of the coastline. The early Chinese considered tides as the beating of the Earth's pulse and alternately, it was believed to be caused by the Earth's breathing. Others thought tides were caused by the different depths of ocean water. Galileo theorized that the rotations of the Earth around the Sun and about its axis induced motion within the sea to generate the tides. The majority certainly linked tidal action to the influence of the Moon and of the Sun. Seleucus (2nd century BC) was the first to consider this connection and concluded the height of tide was correlated with the Moon's position relative to the Sun. However, the exact determination of how the Moon and Sun caused tides was unknown. A few Arabic explanations proposed that the Moon used its rays to heat and expand the water. Descartes argued that space was full of ethereal substance and the resulting stresses between the ether and the Earth's surface gave birth to tides when the Moon orbited the Earth. In contrast, Kepler and Newton defined the action as the attraction of the Moon and Sun on water. Newton concluded the Moon's gravitation caused a pair of water bulges on the Earth. In consideration of the complexity of actual oceans and currents, Laplace developed a set of hydrodynamic equations. Together with the following endeavours (made by William Thomson, Baron Kelvin, Henri Poincaré, Arthur Thomas Doodson, etc.,), the idea of the gravitational attractions of the Moon and Sun on water, i.e., the attractive mechanism, was increasingly consolidated and became the cornerstone of modern tidal theories. A fuller review of tidal theory is included in these works (Pugh 1987; Cartwright 1999; Deacon 1971; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). Undoubtedly, the physics of tides involves in a variety of fields ranging from the orbit of celestial objects (the Moon and the Sun, for instance), the mixing of the oceans, solid-Earth geophysics and coastal flooding (Lambeck 1988; Munk 1997; Vlasenko et al. 2005). In the past decades a rapid growth of ocean tide models greatly facilitated spatial and ground measurements (Pekeris et al. 1969; Schwiderski 1979; Fu and Cazenave 2001; Visser et al. 2010), tidal dynamics and energy dissipation were also studied (Stammer et al. 2014), the investigation on internal tides becomes considerably active (Gargett and Hghes 1972; Phillips 1974; Shepard 1975; Garrett and Munk 1979; Gao et al. 2013; Shanmugam 2014), all these help realize a better understanding of the science of tide.

1.2 An examination of the attractive mechanism

The attractive mechanism postulates the Earth orbits about the centre of mass of the Earth-Moon system, this makes all particles of the Earth travel around in the circles of same radius. The force responsible for these circular or curved motions is treated as centripetal force. The centripetal force necessary to maintain each particle in this rotation is the same as for the particles at the centre. For particles nearer the Moon, its gravitational attraction on them is greater than the centripetal force. Further away, the Moon's gravitational attraction is weaker than the centripetal force. The difference between the centripetal force and the Moon's gravitational attraction is the tide-generating force (Pugh 1987; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). The tide-generating force is then decomposed into two components of respectively vertical and horizontal to the Earth's surface. The vertical can be compensated by Earth's gravity, but the horizontal cannot be counteracted in the same manner and causes particles to move in the direction of the force. The net result of the tidal forces acting on a watery Earth is to move water towards positions nearest to and farthest from the Moon. This eventually yields two bulges of water along the Earth-Moon line and a depression of water in a ring around the Earth halfway between the two bulges (Pugh 1987; Robert 2008; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). For an Earthly site it would pass through these bulges of water and the depression as the Earth spins, and hence undergoes two cycles of high and low water per day. Similarly, another two bulges of water along the Earth-Sun line and another depression of water between these two bulges are also yielded due to the Sun's gravitational attraction. When these two types of bulges and depressions are combined together, they reinforce or cancel each other to generate two cycles of high and low water per month (Pugh 1987; Robert 2008; Pugh and Woodworth 2014).

More than 300 years, most of people had been guided by the knowledge of these bulges of water to understand tide, the paradigm of the two bulges of water is also extensively included in many textbooks. However, the existence of these bulges of water has never been strictly investigated. Nowadays, many large tide data collections like UHSLC (University of Hawaii Sea Level Center), PSMSL (Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level), and BODC (British Oceanographic Data Center) provide chance

for people to do this work. The investigation is relatively complicated and may follow a line below.

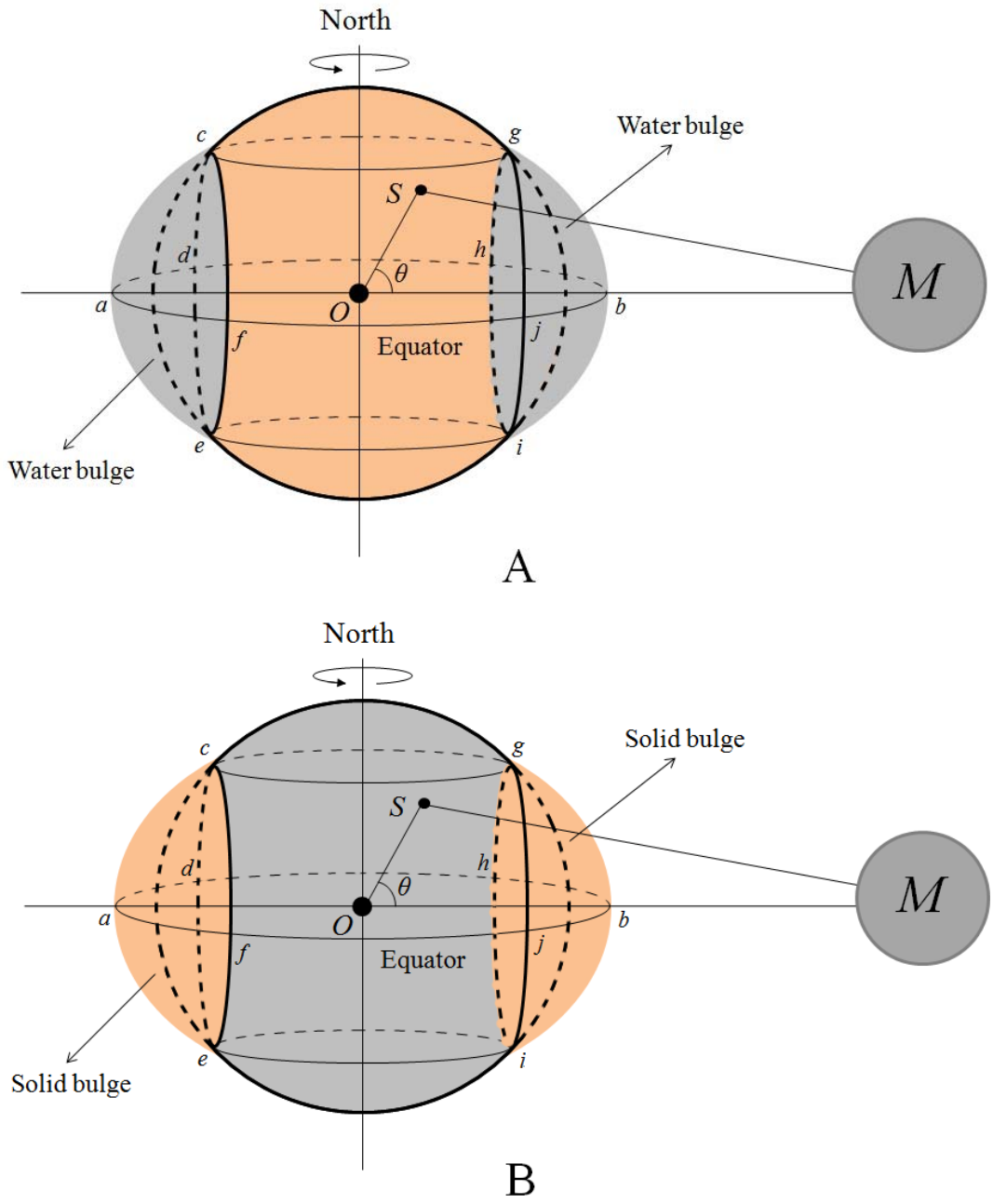

FIG. 1 A modelling frame for the two bulges and the Moon in space. A, two bulges of water. **B**, two bulges of solid Earth. *O* and *M* denote respectively the Earth's centre and the Moon's. θ is the lunar angle of an Earthly site (marked with *S*). Note that, the two bugles are highly exaggerated.

The response of the water to the Moon's attraction is firstly assumed to be at a timely manner, this allows the two bulges of water to be directed along the Earth-Moon line. The frame of the two bulges and depression of water may be outlined in Figure 1(A). Area *a-cdef* and *b-ghij* denote two bulges of water, while area *cfeijg* and *cdeihg* denote parts of the depression of water. It may be inferred that, when an Earthly site (marked with *S*, for instance) enters into one of the two bulges, it would perform a behavior of high water, and when the site enters into the depression, it would perform a behavoir of low water. Specifically, the two bulges (depression) of water would require all the Earthly sites that enter into them (it) to show a concentration of high (low) waters as the Earth spins. To realize a better understanding, the two bulges of water are constrained to be located between 45^{o}N and 45^{o}S, and hourly tide-gauge data of 189 sites who belong to this region are selected to examine the expectation. A latitudinal fitting of the region enables these sites to smoothly pass through the two bulges and depression of water as the Earth spins. Tide-gauge data come from GLOSS database-UHSLC and represent water level changes in the day of August 13, 2014. At the moment, the Moon is just on equator. These sites are extensively distributed around Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian oceans, and their geographic positions (latitude and longitude, for instance) are listed in Table 1. Both the position of an Earthly site and the Moon's position allow to exactly know the lunar angle. Lunar angle is the angle of an Earthly site and the Moon with respect to the Earth's centre. Geometrically, we believe, when the lunar angle of an Earthly site falls into a phase of 0^{o}~45^{o} or 135^{o}~180^{o}, this site must have entered into one of the two bulges, and when the lunar angle falls into a phase of 45^{o}~135^{o}, this site must have entered into the depression. This relationship allows to use water level change and lunar angle to make comparison between all these sites. Tide-gauge data are treated as follows: water level change of a tide gauge site is the difference of the mean of all hourly water levels of this site during a month and its hourly water level. This treatment yields a same reference frame (water level is zero) for these sites to be compared together. Hourly water level change and lunar angle for 189 tide gauge sites at the moments of 0h, 2h, 4h, ..., 22hour are shown in Figure 2.

It is extremely striking to see, the distributions of high and low waters of these sites are relatively scattered, there is no a concentration of high (low) waters at the bulges (depression). In other words, no evidence is found to support the existence of the two bulges and depression of water. Lots of people ascribes this absence to be the influences of continents, seafloor topography, Coriolis force, and so on, while others speculate the Moon's gravitational attraction might be ineffective in yielding the two bulges and depression of water. Putting aside these arguments, we like to consider a consequence of this absence, namely, without these bulges and depression of water on the Earth' surface, it is impossible for an Earthly site to pass them, and also impossible for the two types of bugle (i.e., lunar and solar) to reinforce or cancel each other, and then, the daily and fortnightly cycles of high and low water, which are asserted by the attractive mechanism to account for tide, will become impossible. This unknowing appeals some alternative explanation for tide.

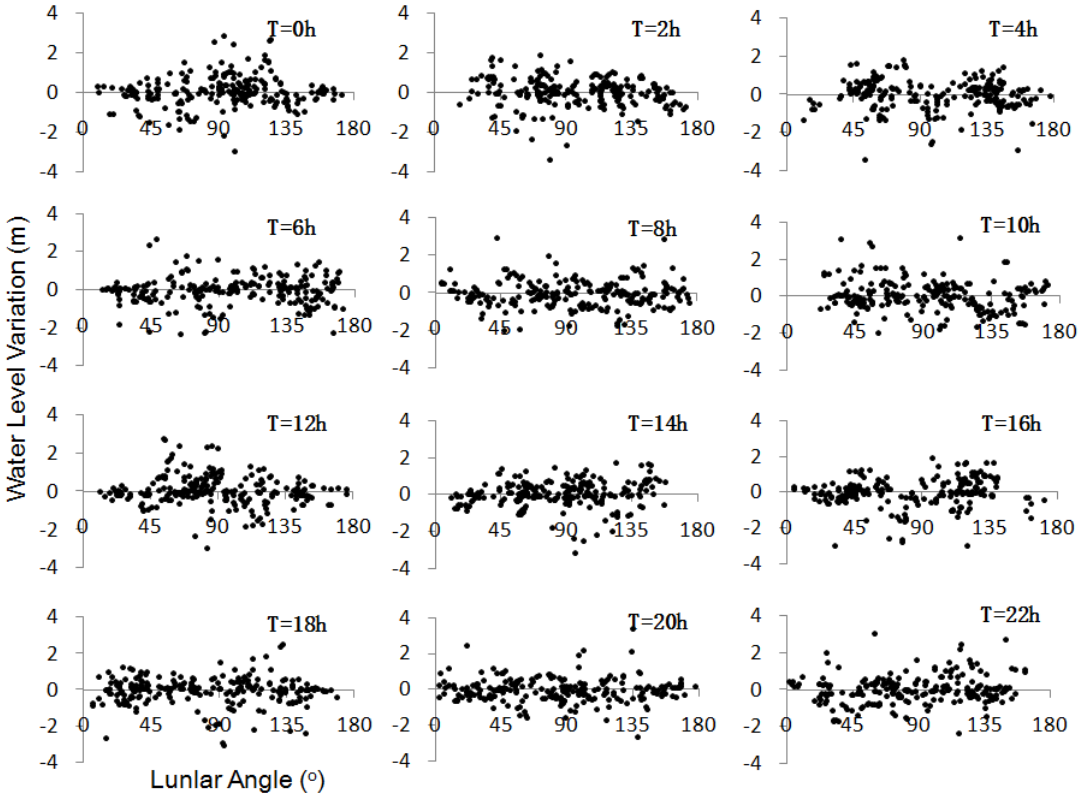

FIG. 2 Hourly water level changes of 189 tide gauge sites out to their lunar angles in the day of August 13, 2014. Tide gauge data are extracted from GLOSS database-UHSLC (Caldwell et al. 2015).

Table 1 Geographic positions of 189 tide gauge sites from GLOSS database-UHSLC

ID	Tide-gauge station	Latitude	Longitude	ID	Tide-gauge station	Latitude	Longitude
1	POHNPEI	6.98	158.20	242	KEY	24.55	278.18
2	BETIO	1.37	172.93	245	SAN	18.47	293.88
3	BALTRA	0.43	269.72	253	NEWPORT	41.50	288.67
5	MAJURO	7.10	171.37	257	SETTLEMENT	26.72	281.00
7	MALAKAL	7.33	134.47	259	BERMUDA	32.37	295.30
8	YAP	9.52	138.13	260	DUCK	36.18	284.27
9	HONIARA	-9.43	159.95	261	CHARLESTON	32.78	280.07
11	CHRISTMAS	1.98	202.53	264	ATLANTIC	39.35	285.58
14	FRENCH	23.87	193.72	266	CRISTOBAL	9.35	280.10
15	PAPEETE	-17.53	210.43	268	LIMON	10.00	276.97
16	RIKITEA	-23.13	225.05	271	FORT	14.60	298.93
18	SUVA	-18.13	178.43	275	HALIFAX	44.67	296.42
19	NOUMEA	-22.30	166.43	283	FORTALEZA	-3.72	321.53
21	JUAN	-33.62	281.17	289	GIBRALTAR	36.12	354.65
22	EASTER	-27.15	250.55	291	ASCENSION	-7.92	345.58
23	RAROTONGA	-21.20	200.22	302	BALBOA	8.97	280.43
24	PENRHYN	-8.98	201.95	328	KO	11.80	99.82
25	FUNAFUTI	-8.53	179.22	329	QUARRY	22.30	114.22
29	KAPINGAMARANGI	1.10	154.78	331	BRISBANE	-27.37	153.17
30	SANTA	0.75	269.68	332	BUNDABERG	-24.83	152.35
31	NUKU	-8.93	219.92	333	FORT	-33.85	151.23
34	CABO	22.88	250.08	334	TOWNSVILLE	-19.25	146.83
38	NUKU'ALOFA	-21.13	184.83	335	SPRING	-42.55	147.93
43	PALMYRA	5.87	197.90	336	BOOBY	-10.60	141.92
46	PORT	-17.77	168.30	340	KAOHSIUNG	22.62	120.28
47	CHICHIJIMA	27.10	142.18	341	KEELUNNG	25.15	121.75
49	MINAMITORISHIMA	24.30	153.97	345	NAKANO	29.83	129.85
50	MIDWAY	28.22	182.63	347	ABASHIRI	44.02	144.28
51	WAKE	19.28	166.62	348	HAMADA	34.90	132.07
52	JOHNSTON	16.75	190.48	349	TOYAMA	36.77	137.22
53	GUAM	13.43	144.65	350	KUSHIRO	42.97	144.38
55	KWAJALEIN	8.73	167.73	351	OFUNATO	39.07	141.72
56	PAGO	-14.28	189.32	352	MERA	34.92	139.83
57	HONOLULU	21.30	202.13	353	KUSHIMOTO	33.47	135.78
58	NAWILIWILI	21.97	200.65	354	ABURATSU	31.57	131.42
59	KAHULUI	20.90	203.53	355	NAHA	26.22	127.67
60	HILO	19.73	204.93	356	MAISAKA	34.68	137.62
61	MOKUOLOE	21.43	202.20	359	NAZE	28.38	129.50
71	WELLINGTON	-41.28	174.78	362	NAGASAKI	32.73	129.87
79	CHATHAM	-43.95	183.43	363	NISHINOOMOTE	30.73	131.00
80	ANTOFAGASTA	-23.65	289.60	364	HAKODATE	41.78	140.73

81	VALPARAISO	-33.03	288.37	365	ISHIGAKI	24.33	124.15
82	ACAJUTLA	13.58	270.17	370	MANILA	14.58	120.97
83	ARICA	-18.47	289.67	371	LEGASPI	13.15	123.75
88	CALDERA	-27.07	289.17	372	DAVAO	7.08	125.63
91	LA	-2.20	279.08	381	QUINHON	13.77	109.25
93	CALLAO	-12.05	282.85	382	SUBIC	14.82	120.28
94	MATARANI	-17.00	287.88	383	VUNG	10.33	107.07
101	MOMBASA	-4.07	39.65	402	LAUTOKA	-17.60	177.43
103	PORT	-20.15	57.50	417	SADENG	-8.50	110.78
104	DIEGO	-7.28	72.40	418	WAIKELO	-9.40	119.23
105	RODRIGUES	-19.67	63.42	419	LAMBAR	-8.73	116.07
108	HULHULE	4.18	73.53	420	MAUMLAKI	-7.98	131.28
109	GAN	0.68	73.15	547	BARBERS	21.32	201.88
110	MUSCAT	23.63	58.57	548	KAUMALAPAU	20.78	203.00
113	MASIRAH	20.68	58.87	551	SAN	37.80	237.53
115	COLOMBO	6.97	79.87	552	KAWAIHAE	20.03	204.17
117	HANIMAADHOO	6.77	73.17	554	LA	32.87	242.73
119	DJIBOUTI	11.60	43.15	556	CRESCENT	41.75	235.82
121	POINT	-4.67	55.53	569	SAN	32.72	242.83
122	SIBOLGA	1.75	98.77	592	SOUTH	44.63	235.95
123	SABANG	5.83	95.33	654	CURRIMAO	18.02	120.48
124	CHITTAGONG	22.23	91.83	655	LUBANG	13.82	120.20
125	PRIGI	-8.28	111.73	684	PUERTO	41.48	287.03
126	JASK	25.63	57.77	699	TANJONG	1.27	103.85
128	THEVENARD	-32.15	133.63	701	PORT	-29.28	16.85
129	PORTLAND	-38.35	141.60	702	LUDERITZ	-26.63	15.17
142	LANGKAWI	6.43	99.75	703	SALDAHNA	-33.02	17.95
147	KARACHI	24.80	66.97	704	CAPE	-34.18	18.43
148	KO	7.83	98.43	708	SALVADOR	-12.97	321.48
149	LAMU	-2.27	40.90	729	MAR	-38.03	302.47
153	MINICOY	8.12	73.05	731	PUERTO	-42.77	294.97
155	DZAOUDZI	-12.78	45.25	737	SAN	12.58	278.30
162	CILACAP	-7.75	109.02	738	SANTA	11.23	285.77
163	BENOA	-8.75	115.22	739	EL	9.57	281.05
164	REUNION	-20.92	55.30	752	FORT	32.03	279.10
168	DARWIN	-12.47	130.85	755	VIRGINIA	25.73	279.83
171	COCOS	-12.12	96.90	762	PENSACOLA	30.40	272.78
172	ADEN	11.22	44.98	775	GALVESTON(PIER21)29	29.32	265.20
174	COCHIN	9.97	76.27	776	PUNTA	18.50	291.62
175	FREMANTLE	-32.05	115.73	777	PUERTO	19.80	289.30
176	ESPERANCE	-33.87	121.90	786	ROSEAU	15.30	298.60
181	DURBAN	-29.88	31.00	789	PRICKLEY	12.00	298.23
184	PORT	-33.97	25.63	799	PORT	18.57	287.65
185	MOSSEL	-34.07	22.33	806	NOUAKCHOTT	18.10	344.05

186	KNYSNA	-34.08	23.05	807	ALEXANDRIA	31.22	29.92
187	EAST	-33.00	27.92	824	MARSEILLE	43.30	5.35
188	RICHARD'S	-28.78	32.10	830	LA	43.37	351.60
207	CEUTA	35.90	354.68	878	BULLEN	12.18	290.98
209	CASCAIS	38.70	350.58	906	MOULMEIN	16.48	97.62
211	PONTA	37.73	334.32	907	SITTWE	11.68	92.77
220	WALVIS	-22.95	14.50	908	PORT	11.68	92.77
221	SIMON'S	-34.18	18.43	914	MEULABOH	5.13	96.13
223	DAKAR	14.67	342.57	922	MITWARA	-10.28	40.18
235	PALMEIRA	16.75	337.02				

2 An analytic treatment for solid Earth deformation

The Earth may be treated as a solid sphere that is enveloped by water and atmosphere (Fowler 2004; National Research Council 1964, 1993). The structure of solid Earth, from surface to interior, is sequentially divided into different layers like crust, mantle, outer core, and inner core (Jordan 1979). A large number of works had confirmed that these layers are filled with various materials (Wootton 2006; Stixrude and Cohen 1995; Ozawa et al. 2011; Herndon 1980; Herndon 2005; Birch 1964) and denser materials are concentrated towards the interior (Monnereau et al. 2010). Notwithstanding, solid Earth is strictly not a rigid body. Both experiment and measurement had proved it to be elastic (Stixrude and Cohen 1995; Schettino 2014) and to had been stretched into an oblate spheroid because of the centrifugal effect of the Earth's rotation about its axis (Heiskanen 1962; Burša 1993). It is already known that there are two curved motions for the Earth in space: one is the Earth orbits about the centre of mass of the Earth-Moon system, and another is the Earth-Moon system orbits about the Sun. Fuller details of these motions of the Earth, Moon, and Sun may be found in these works (Kopal 1969; Schureman 1976; Smart 1940; Doodson and Warburg 1941; Kaula 1968; Roy 1978). These two curved motions may separately generate two centrifugal effects F_1 and F_2 for solid Earth (Fig. 3(a_1)). F_1 and F_2 are mechanically balanced by the gravitation f_1 from the Moon and by the gravitation f_2 from the Sun. The ratio of F_1 and F_2 will be 1:178 according to some established parameters such as orbital radius and period, mass of each body, and so on. Apparently, F_2 is far greater than F_1, but since its working point is not at the Earth's centre, we need to assume the effective part of F_2,

which is able to stretch the Earth, to be relatively small and to exert at the Earth's centre. The counteraction of F_1 (F_2) and f_1 (f_2) finally elongates solid Earth along the Earth-Moon (Sun) line, and also compresses it in the midway of the elongation, the net effect is solid Earth becomes an oblate spheroid (Fig. 3(a_2 and a_4)). We call these lunar and solar deformations in the following sections. A rigorously dynamical treatment on this matter may refer to Pugh's work (1987, pp 60-63).

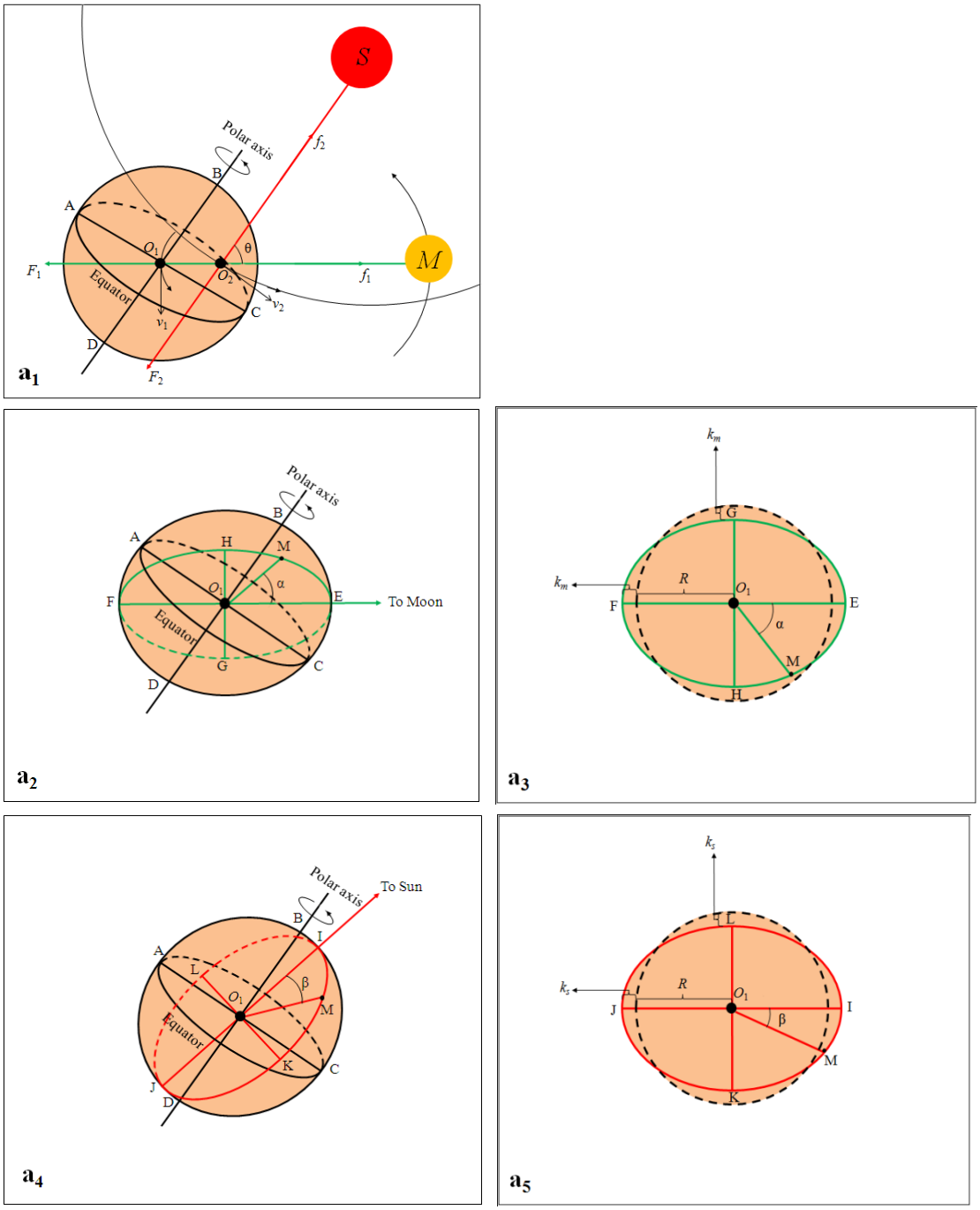

Fig. 3 Combined centrifugal effects for solid Earth and the resultant deformation. a_1, the curved motions of the Earth around the barycenter of the Earth-Moon system and around the

Sun, a_2 and a_4 are the resultant deformations respectively from the Moon and from the Sun, a_3 and a_5 are the elliptical intersections respectively from these deformations. F_1 and F_2 are the centrifugal effects solid Earth undergoes due to these curved motions. O_1, O_2, M, and S are the Earth's centre, the barycenter of the Earth-Moon system, the Moon, and the Sun, respectively. Θ is the angle of the Moon and Sun relative to the barycenter of the Earth-Moon system. v_1 and v_2 are respectively the velocity of the Earth orbiting the barycenter of the Earth-Moon system and the velocity of the Earth-Moon system orbiting the Sun, it is these motions to generate the centrifugal effects F_1 and F_2. Black dashed circles in diagram a_3 and a_5 are referred as the original shape of solid Earth.

A section that cuts an oblate spheroid along its long axis can form an ellipse (Fig. 3(a_3 and a_5)), and then, according to the geometry of ellipse, the vertical displacement of an Earthly site (marked with M) relative to the Earth's centre at time t may be expressed as

$$\Delta H_{(t)} = \Delta H(lunar)_{(t)} + \Delta H(solar)_{(t)} \quad (1)$$

$$\Delta H(lunar)_{(t)} = [(R+k_m)^2\cos^2\alpha + (R-k_m)^2\sin^2\alpha]^{1/2} - R$$

$$\Delta H(solar)_{(t)} = [(R+k_s)^2\cos^2\beta + (R-k_s)^2\sin^2\beta]^{1/2} - R$$

where $\Delta H(lunar)_{(t)}$ and $\Delta H(solar)_{(t)}$ are respectively the vertical displacement of site M in the lunar and solar deformations. R is mean radius of solid Earth, k_m and k_s are the amplitude of the lunar and solar deformations. α and β are the lunar and solar angle of site M, they may be calculated through these formulas of spherical geometry: $\cos\alpha = \sin\sigma\sin\delta_m + \cos\sigma\cos\delta_m\cos C_{mm}$, $\cos\beta = \sin\sigma\sin\delta_s + \cos\sigma\cos\delta_s\cos C_{ms}$, σ, δ_m, δ_s, C_{mm}, and C_{ms} are respectively the geographic latitude of site M, the declination of the Moon, the declination of the Sun, the hour angle of site M with respect to the Moon, and the hour angle of site M with respect to the Sun.

The expression indicates that site M would regularly rise and fall as the Earth spins. The amplitudes of the rise and fall vary with the adjustment of the positions of the Moon, Sun, and Earth in space, in particular, they becomes maximum at the times of full and new Moon and minimum at the times of first quarter and last quarter. This is because at the times of full and new Moon the two sets of deformations add each other

to reinforce, whereas at the times of first quarter and last quarter the two cancel each other to weaken. The amplitude $k_m(k_s)$ may be gotten through a relation of gravity and lunar angle. Gravitation acceleration at an Earthly site satisfies with an relationship $g_H = GMe/H^2$, the resultant gravity change may be then expressed as $\Delta g = (1/H^2 - 1/R^2)GMe$, where G, Me, R, and H are respectively gravitation constant, mass of the Earth, mean radius of the Earth. The distance of an Earthly site from the Earth's centre, if refer to equation (1), may be written as $H = [(R+k_m)^2\cos^2\alpha + (R-k_m)^2\sin^2\alpha]^{1/2} + [(R+k_s)^2\cos^2\beta + (R-k_s)^2\sin^2\beta]^{1/2} - R$. A purely experienced consideration for these deformations would be $k_m = E_m Q_m(\cos\delta_m + \cos\Theta)$ and $k_s = Q_s\cos\delta_s$, where E_m is elliptical coefficient of the Moon's orbit and may be written as $E_m = R_{ME}^2/R_M^2$ (R_{ME} and R_M are respectively mean distance of the Moon from Earth and the Moon's orbital radius). Q_m and Q_s denote respectively the amplitudes of the lunar and solar deformations, δ_m, Θ, and δ_s denote respectively the Moon's declination, the angle of the Moon and Sun, and the Sun's declination. After these parameters are included, we use hourly gravity data of 4 sites from IGETS (International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service) (Voigt et al., 2016), which cover the whole August of 2014, by means of a least-squares fitting, to resolve Q_m and Q_s. As every gravity gauge site involved has its own reference level g_{re} when measurement is operated in the site, the gravity change of this site may be expressed as $\Delta g = (1/H^2 - 1/R^2)GMe - g_{re}$. The calculated and measured gravity changes are shown in Figure 4, the values of related parameters (G, Me, R, and R_{ME}, for instance) that bear these calculations and the results for Q_m, Q_s, and g_{re} are listed in Table 2.

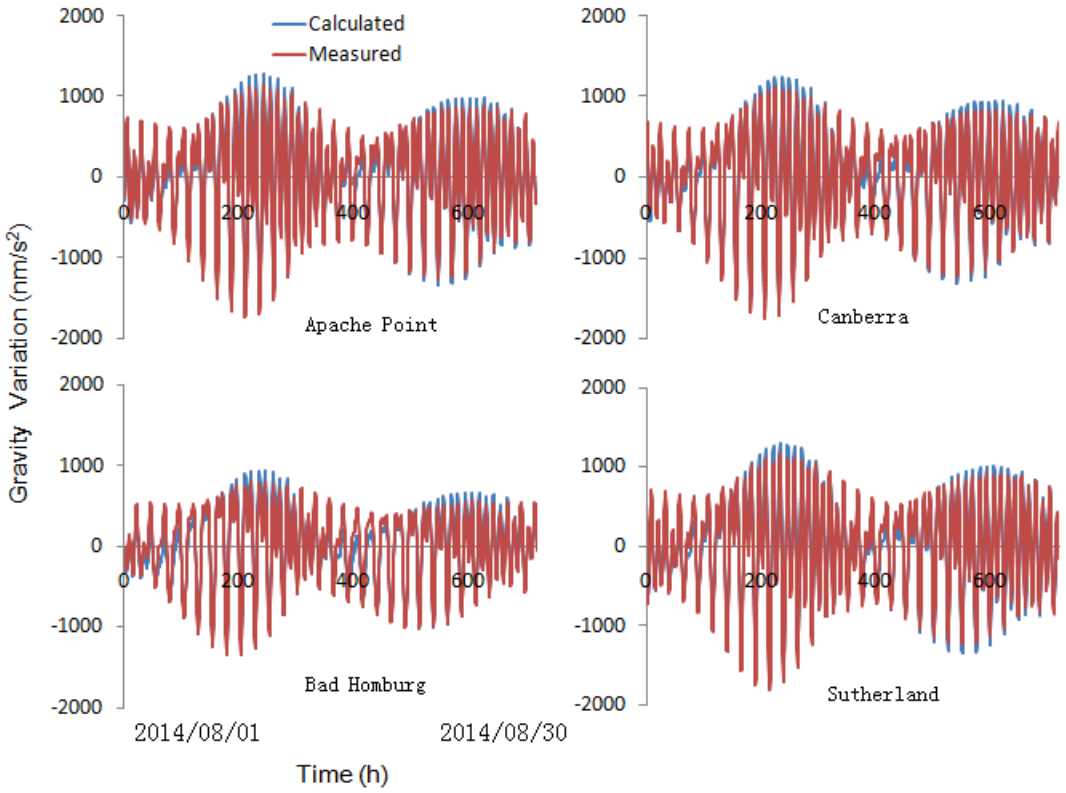

FIG. 4 A comparison of calculated and measured gravity changes. Gravity data refer to IGETS (International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service) (Voigt et al. 2016).

Table 2 Calculated parameters for lunar and solar deformations

Gravity gauge		Apache	Bad Homburg	Canberra	Sutherland	Mean
Q_m (m)		0.19	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.19
Q_s (m)		0.11	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.11
g_{re} (nm/s^2)		379.04	695.91	426.76	371.88	--
Astronomical parameters	Moon	M_m	$7.35*10^{22}$ kg (Wieczorek et al, 2006)			
		R_{ME}	384,400 km (Wieczorek et al, 2006)			
	Earth	M_e	$5.97*10^{24}$ kg (Luzum et al., 2011)			
		R	6370 km (Lide, 2000)			
	Sun	R_s	$1.49*10^{8}$ km (Simon et al., 1994)			
		M_s	$1.99*10^{30}$ kg (Williams, 2013)			
	G gravitational constant		6.67×10^{-11}m^{3}kg^{-1}s^{-2}			

Note: Q_m, Q_s, and g_{re} are respectively the amplitudes of the lunar and solar deformations, and gravity reference level of each site. M_m, M_e, and M_s are respectively the moon's, the earth's,

and the sun's mass; R earth's mean radius, R_{ME} and R_s are respectively the mean distance of the moon from the earth and the mean distance of the sun from the earth.

For a watery Earth, the elongated body would require the water to automatically concentrate in the midway of the elongation, forming a ring of water. The frame of two bulges of solid Earth and a ring of water may be outlined in Figure 1(B). Area *a-cdef* and *b-ghij* denote two bulges of solid Earth, while area *cfeijg* and *cdeihg* denote parts of a ring of water. Two passages are considered to verify the existence of these bulges and ring. On the one hand, the rise (fall) of an Earthly site relative to the Earth's centre requires a fall (rise) of gravity, therefore, gravity change of an Earthly site may be a testing index. On the other hand, two bulges of solid Earth (a ring of water) require all the sites that enter into them (it) to show a concentration of low (high) waters as the Earth spins, therefore water level change of tide-gauge site may be another texting index.

Hourly gravity data of 9 gauge sites from IGETS (International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service) (Voigt et al., 2016) are employed. These data represent gravity changes in the day of August 13, 2014. We deal with these data as follows: gravity change of an Earthly site is the difference of the mean of all hourly gravity changes of this site during the whole August and the hourly gravity change. This treatment yields a same reference frame for these sites to be compared together. Gravity changes of these sites and their lunar angles are shown in Figure 5. Evidently, these sites regularly perform a fall of gravity when their lunar angles fall into a phase of 0^o~45^o and 135^o~180^o, whereas perform a rise of gravity when their lunar angles fall into a phase of 45^o~135^o. Since these sites are extensively scattered on several continents (African, European, North American, for instance), their responses of gravity change to lunar angle is a strong evidence to support the existence of two bulges of solid Earth.

Hourly tide-gauge data of 189 sites (see Table 1) are employed again. The number of these sites performing high and low waters and their lunar angles during 24 moments (i.e., 0h, 1h, 2h, 3h, ..., 23h) are statistically listed in Table 3. On the whole, nearly 53%

of these sites that fall into a phase of 45°~135° perform a behavior of high water, while 54% of those sites that fall into the phases of 0°~45° and 135°~180° perform a behavior of low water. If we refer to Figure (1), this weak concentration of high (low) waters trends to support the existence of two bulges of solid Earth and a ring of water.

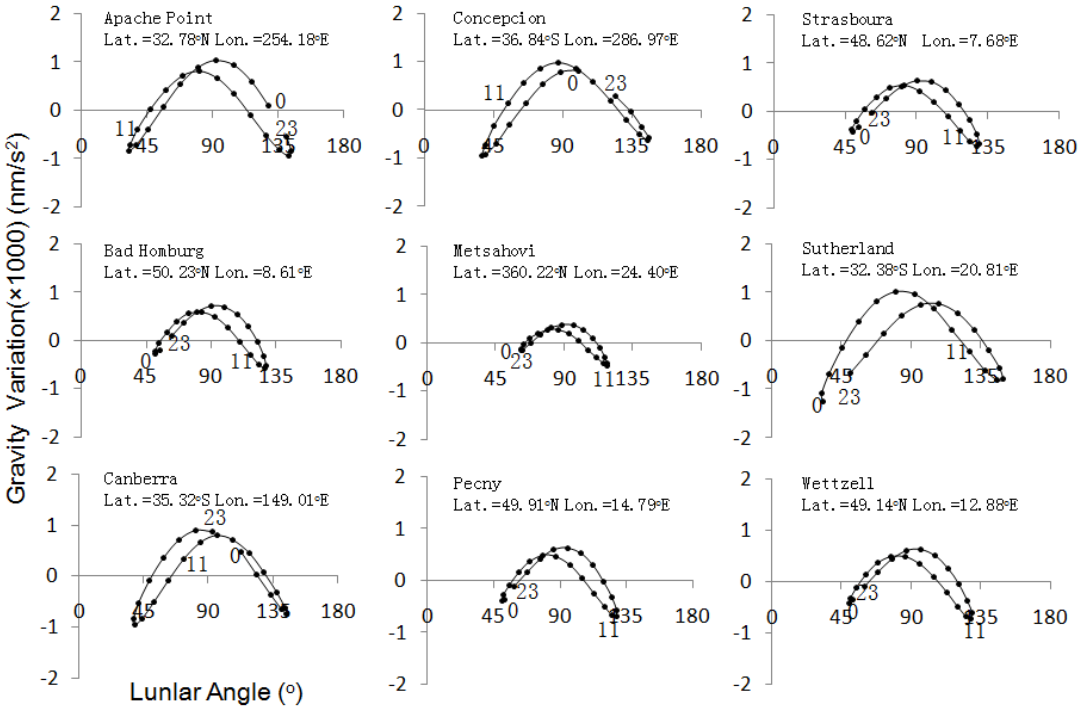

Fig. 5 Solid Earth Deformation Versus Gravity Change. In each diagram number 0, 11, and 23 represent a GMT hour sequence of August 13, 2014. Hourly gravity data are extracted from IGETS (International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service) (Voigt et al., 2016).

Table 3 Numbers of high and low water for 189 tide gauge sites out to Moon's position in the day of August 13, 2014

Hours	Water	Lunar angle		
		0°-45°	45°-135°	135°-180°
0	L	18	55	24
	H	15	70	7
1	L	5	59	18
	H	22	71	14
2	L	8	53	21
	H	20	67	20
3	L	6	53	31
	H	11	71	17
4	L	9	36	36
	H	7	73	28
5	L	13	27	38

6	H	18	60	33
	L	24	29	35
7	H	20	53	28
	L	27	41	34
8	H	15	48	24
	L	23	50	32
9	H	17	45	22
	L	22	55	28
10	H	17	48	19
	L	17	70	19
11	H	14	50	19
	L	18	68	27
12	H	11	54	11
	L	25	66	21
13	H	5	58	14
	L	23	66	7
14	H	8	63	22
	L	19	67	5
15	H	18	59	21
	L	20	63	5
16	H	23	64	14
	L	36	46	9
17	H	25	66	7
	L	32	38	12
18	H	31	66	10
	L	32	26	23
19	H	38	57	13
	L	36	37	23
20	H	29	46	18
	L	33	48	21
21	H	23	43	21
	L	26	56	19
22	H	24	46	18
	L	22	63	18
23	H	19	50	17
	L	21	71	15
Total	H	16	51	15
	L	515	1243	521
	H	446	1379	432

Note: H-high, and L-low.

3 An oceanic basin oscillation-driving mechanism for tide

3.1 Water movement in an oscillating vessel

Our understanding of tide begins with a conceptual demonstration of how water moves in an oscillating vessel. According to Figure 6, we let the right end of a rectangular

water box rise firstly, the water then mechanically flows towards left. If line MN represents a reference level, the water level at site M rises whereas the water level at site N falls. We restore the right end of the vessel to its former level and continue to let the left end rise, the water at the left end flows towards right, the water level at site M correspondingly falls whereas the water level at site N rises. Repeat the rise and fall of the two ends continuously, the water level of sites M and N alternately vary. Compared to sites M and N, another site S, which is located in the middle of this vessel, always holds a minimal variation of water level. Now we let only one end rise and fall alternately, the water level at sites M and N still alternately vary. Further, we let one end rise (fall) but another end fall (rise) at the same time, the water level at sites M and N also alternately vary. The variation of water level at one end may be approximately expressed with a difference of vertical displacement between the two ends, i.e., $\Delta H=H_N-H_M$, where H_N and H_M denote respectively the vertical displacement of sites N and M. Mathematically, this variation may be depicted with a sinusoidal function of $h\sin(\omega t+\sigma)$, where h, ω, and σ denote respectively amplitude, angular frequency, and phase lag. Please especially note, this mode is different from the first gravitational mode of the oscillations of water that was mentioned in Pugh's work (1987, pp149), in that mode the vessel remains always motionless and the oscillations of water are ascribed to a pull of the tide-generating force.

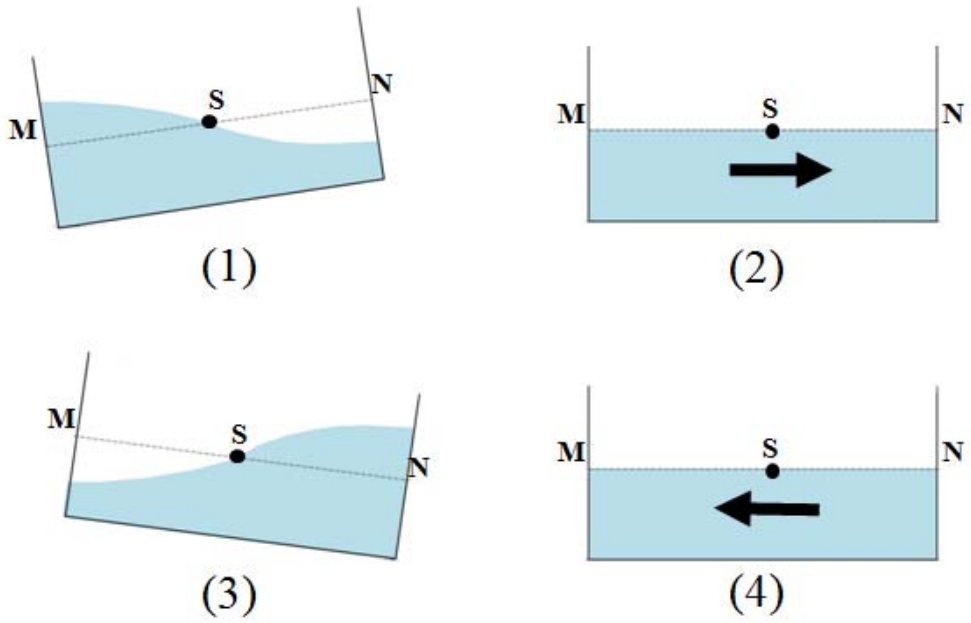

FIG. 6 A modelling for the water movement of an oscillating rectangular box. From (1), (2), (3) to (4) it orderly represents a full alternation of the rise and fall of the two ends. Arrows denote the directions of water movements.

3.2 Ocean basin's oscillation for water movement

About 71% the Earth's surface is covered with ocean (Pidwirny 2006), and ocean basin looks like a gigantic vessel of water. Due to the existence of the two bulges of solid Earth, the spinning Earth drives each part of ocean basin to regularly move up and down, this oscillation leads water to mechanically flow between all the parts of ocean basin. For example, as shown in Figure 7, the two bulges of solid Earth in the lunar deformation track from east to west along line L and L' as the Earth spins, this leads each part of ocean basin (i.e., a, b, and c may be some representative of infinite parts) to vertically oscillate (i.e., rise and fall). These oscillations of ocean basin subsequently result in water movements between all the parts of the basin. Some factors would undoubtedly influence water movements over the Earth's surface. The Coriolis force deflects the travelling water to right in the northern hemisphere and to left in the southern hemisphere. For example, the red lines a_1 and a_2 may represent real paths of the water movements from site a to site b and to site c, respectively. From

deep oceans to shelf seas, the slope of sea floor greatly disperses and refracts the travelling water. In addition, the travelling water also would encounter continents, by which a reflection of water is formed. A more detailed consideration of the water movement around a rotating Earth refers to Laplace's hydrodynamic equations (Pugh 1987; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). The inflow of water at a site generates an increase of water level, whereas the outflow of water generates a decrease of water level, and therefore, the inflow and outflow of water determine water level variation for each part of ocean basin. As ocean basin is separately oscillated by the two bulges of solid Earth as the Earth spins, this ultimately gives each part of ocean basin two high waters and two low waters per day. If this oscillation of ocean basin that is generated due to the lunar deformation is associated with another oscillation of ocean basin that is generated due to the solar deformation, the composition of the resultant two sets of water movements would become strongest at the times of full and new Moon and weakest at the times of first quarter and last quarter, this generates two cycles of high and low waters during a month. Together with the influences of these factors such as Coriolis force, the shape of ocean basin, and so on, the times of all sites occurring high and low waters become various.

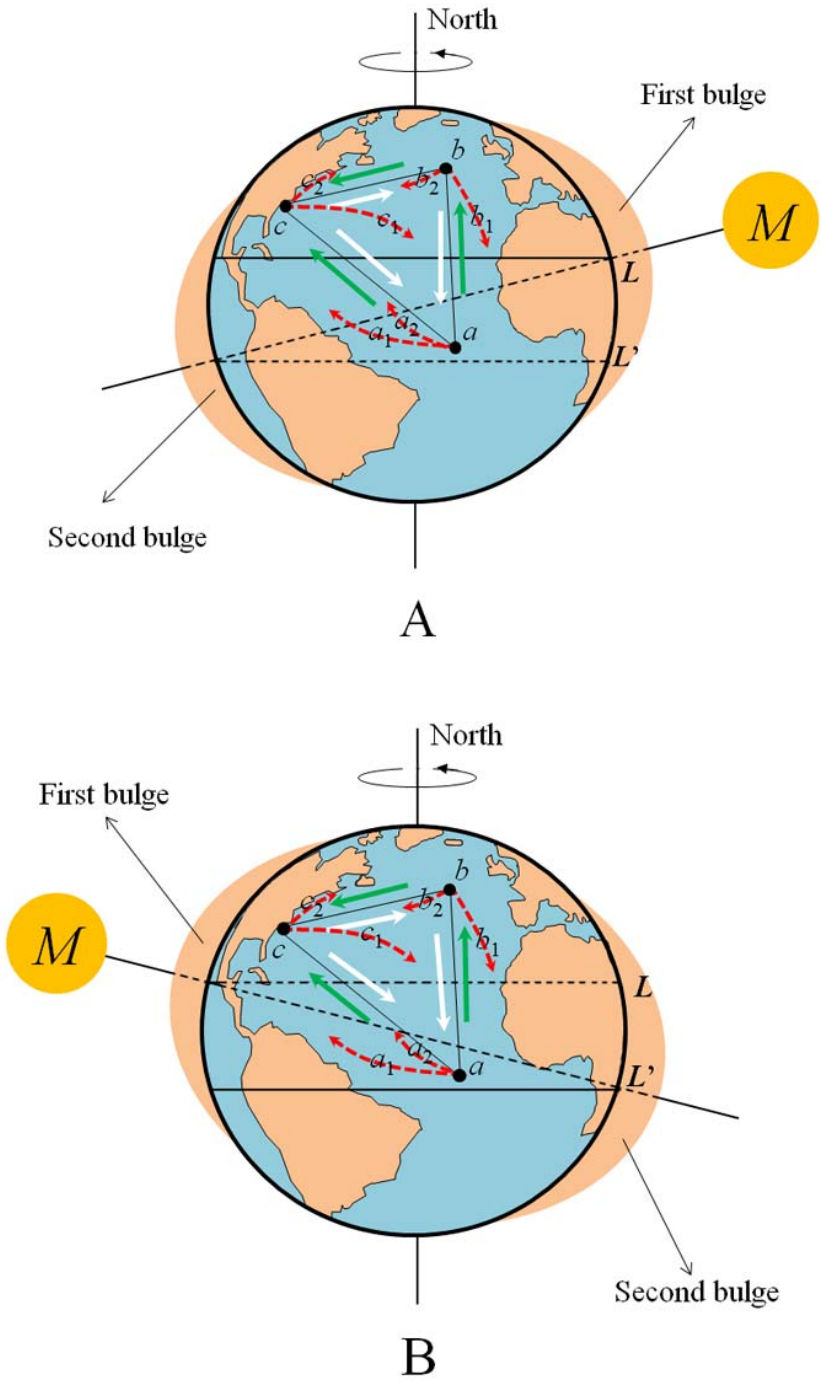

FIG. 7 A simplified system illustrates the spinning deformed solid Earth and its resultant water movements. From A to B, the Earth rotates 180° with respect to the Moon. *L* and *L'* denote the paths that the Earth-Moon line tracks along the Earth's surface (dashed line means it is at far side), the two bulges represent the elongation of solid Earth. *a*, *b*, and *c* are the representatives of infinite sites located in ocean basin, green and white arrows between them represent water movements along the horizontal direction.

3.3 Modelling of tide

The demonstration above leads to a conclusion that, the water level variation of a site is always determined by the water level variations of all sites within ocean basin, although water movements in the oceans indeed perform in an extremely complicated manner. This relationship provides a theoretical basis to explain the observed tide. To facilitate the following deduction, we divide ocean basin of the globe into a grid of $15^{o}*15^{o}$ and use the locations of nodes of the grid, which are situated in ocean basin, to act as oscillators (Figure 8), and then, the water level variation of a site at time t may be approximately expressed as

$$\Delta Y_{(t)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n}\sum_{j=1}^{k} Qa_i b_j\left(lunar\right)\Delta Ha_i b_j\left(lunar\right)_{(t)} + \sum_{i=1}^{n}\sum_{j=1}^{k} Qa_i b_j\left(solar\right)\Delta Ha_i b_j\left(solar\right)_{(t)}$$
$$+Q_s\left(lunar\right)\Delta H_s\left(lunar\right)_{(t)} + Q_s\left(solar\right)\Delta H_s\left(solar\right)_{(t)} \qquad (2)$$

where $\Delta Ha_ib_j(lunar)_{(t)}$ and $\Delta Ha_ib_j(solar)_{(t)}$ are respectively the vertical displacement of a_ib_j oscillator in the lunar and solar deformations at time t, n=24 and k=11, referring to the map, combine together to represent the number of oscillators. $\Delta H_s(lunar)_{(t)}$ and $\Delta H_s(solar)_{(t)}$ are respectively the vertical displacement of the site itself in the lunar and solar deformations at the time. These displacements may be got from equation (1). $Qa_ib_j(lunar)$, $Qa_ib_j(solar)$, $Q_s(lunar)$, and $Q_s(solar)$ are the coefficients of oscillations of all related sites.

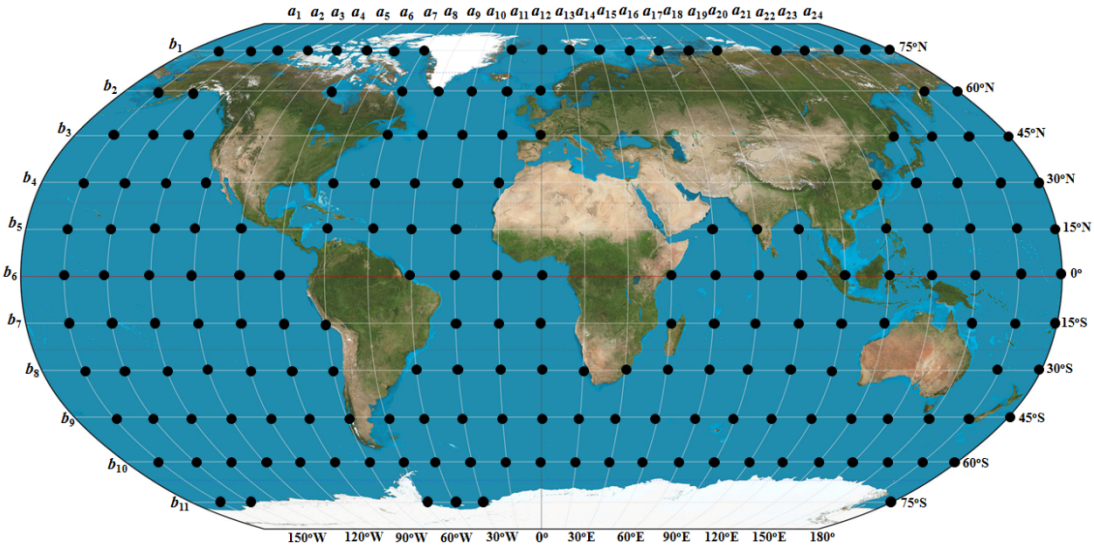

FIG. 8 Globally-distributed oscillators within ocean basin. The background image is created by Daniel R. Strebe with the Geocart map projection software.

187 oscillators are totally extracted from the nodes of the grid. The grid is plotted referring to both equator and meridian, this treatment makes the latitude and longitude of these oscillators easily known from the map. The behaviour of these oscillators is similar to that of the constituents of the harmonic analysis. Hourly tide-gauge data of 76 tide gauge sites (75 from UHSLC and 1 from Australia) are selected to test the model. Hourly tide-gauge data last the whole August of 2014. The evaluation of the results is realized in term of the Root Mean Square (*RMS*) of amplitude. The *RMS* deviation for a tide-gauge site during the month may be written as

$$RMS = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(\Delta Y_{(t)-\mathrm{mod}\,elled} - \Delta Y_{(t)-observed}\right)^2}{m}} \tag{3}$$

where $\Delta Y_{(t)\text{-}modelled}$ and $\Delta Y_{(t)\text{-}observed}$ denote respectively the in-phase amplitudes of the modelled and tide-gauge data, and m=744, which denotes a time sequence of 31 days during the month.

The results are listed in Table 4, some of the modelled results and tide-gauge data are compared in Figure 9. These fittings trend to agree that the observed tide may be a consequence of the oscillation of ocean basin. The model presented here may be used to make tide prediction. Simply, we firstly takes the tide-gauge data by a least-squares fitting to solve the coefficients of all the oscillations involved, subsequently, we use the coefficients to multiply the vertical displacements of these oscillations that occur at the future time, a tidal height for each oscillation is gotten, finally, a simple addition of all tidal heights gives the total tidal height at the location at the future time. We employ the hourly tide-gauge data covering the whole August of 2014 to make tidal prediction in the following month (September 2014). The prediction is successful for some of the 76 sites we selected above. Figure 10 compares tide predictions of four sites (Atlantic city, San Francisco, Adak, and Betio) and observations. The evaluation of these predictions is made through the Root Mean Square (*RMS*) to determine the

average errors. The calculated *RMS*s for these sites are 16.36, 15.47, 16.79, and 19.78 cm, respectively.

A further development of this model and its prediction should be focused on these aspects: 1) ocean basin may be divided into smaller grid of 5^o*5^o or 1^o*1^o, this may add more oscillators into the model. We believe, more oscillators the model holds, more accurate the model would become. It is also important to note, a well-equipped computer and powerful software should be prepared for the addition of more oscillators. We here uses a computer of CPU 3.40 GHz and RAM 16.0 GB with a software (1stOpt-First Optimization, 7.0 version) for this model, but slightly sad, each round of treatment still takes too much time; and 2) a longer tide-gauge data of a few months or one year should be included to resolve the coefficients of oscillations of the model, so as to highly improve the accuracy of tide prediction.

Table 4 RMS calculated for 76 sites over different regions

Tide-gauge station					RMS (cm)
ID at UHSLC	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Region	
1	Betio (Tarawa)	1.35	172.92	D	6.87
3	Baltra	0.43	269.72	D	16.10
5	Majuro	7.10	171.37	D	9.06
7	Malakal	7.33	134.47	D	7.02
8	Yap	9.52	138.13	D	6.43
14	French Fr Shall	23.87	193.72	D	3.21
15	Papeete	-17.53	210.43	D	2.36
16	Rikitea	-23.13	225.05	D	4.65
22	Easter	-27.15	250.55	D	7.30
23	Rarotonga	-21.20	200.22	D	4.79
24	Penrhyn	-8.98	201.95	D	2.80
29	Kapingamarangi	1.10	154.78	D	4.41
31	Nuku	-8.93	219.92	D	8.97
38	Nuku' alofa	-21.13	184.83	D	8.26
39	Kodiak	57.73	207.48	S	15.73
40	Adak	51.87	183.37	S	9.60

41	Dutch	53.90	193.50	S	12.78
43	Palmyra	5.87	197.90	D	3.67
46	Port Vila	-17.77	168.30	D	4.74
47	Chichijima	27.10	142.18	S	3.75
49	Minamitorishima	24.30	153.97	D	9.03
50	Midway	28.22	182.63	D	3.16
51	Wake	19.28	166.62	D	4.12
52	Johnston	16.75	190.48	D	2.99
53	Guam	13.43	144.65	D	3.81
55	Kwajalein	8.73	167.73	D	5.07
56	Pago	-14.28	189.32	D	6.04
58	Nawiliwili	21.97	200.65	D	3.02
60	Hilo	19.73	204.93	D	3.78
71	Wellington	-41.28	174.78	D	11.72
72	Bluff	-46.60	168.33	D	15.78
79	Chatham	-43.95	183.43	D	9.76
80	Antofagasta	-23.65	289.60	SC	7.14
81	Valparaiso	-33.03	288.37	SC	7.62
83	Arica	-18.47	289.67	SC	7.38
88	Caldera	-27.07	289.17	SC	7.56
91	La	-2.20	279.08	SC	9.87
93	Callao	-12.05	282.85	SC	5.25
94	Matarani	-17.00	287.88	SC	5.38
101	Mombasa	-4.07	39.65	SC	14.05
103	Port Louis	-20.15	57.50	SC	3.96
105	Rodrigues	-19.67	63.42	D	4.60
108	Hulhule	4.18	73.53	D	3.78
109	Gan	0.68	73.15	D	4.04
115	Colombo	6.97	79.87	SC	3.51
119	Djibouti	11.60	43.15	SC	7.60
121	Point La Rue	-4.67	55.53	D	6.40
122	Sibolga	1.75	98.77	SC	4.81
124	Chittagong	22.23	91.83	SC	39.57
125	Prigi	-8.28	111.73	SC	8.70
126	Jask	25.63	57.77	SC	10.46

128	Thevenard	-32.15	133.63	SC	15.61
142	Langkawi	6.43	99.75	SC	7.64
147	Karachi	24.80	66.97	SC	12.71
149	Lamu	-2.27	40.90	SC	11.77
211	Ponta Delgada	37.73	334.32	SC	6.90
223	Dakar	14.70	342.60	SC	7.24
235	Palmeira	16.70	337.00	D	4.09
245	San Juan	18.47	293.88	SC	3.32
253	Newport	41.50	288.67	SC	9.49
257	Settlement Point	26.72	281.00	SC	6.60
259	Bermuda	32.37	295.30	D	7.42
260	Duck Pier	36.18	284.27	SC	9.66
264	Atlantic City	39.40	285.00	SC	10.73
276	St-John's	47.57	307.28	SC	7.91
299	Qaqortoq	60.70	314.00	SC	14.77
329	Quarry Bay	22.30	114.22	SC	9.00
340	Kaohsiung	22.62	120.28	SC	5.53
540	Prince Rupert	54.32	229.67	SC	26.88
551	San Francisco	37.80	237.53	SC	9.70
752	Fort Pulaski	32.03	279.10	SC	18.35
755	Virginia Key	25.70	279.90	SC	7.38
776	Punta Cana	18.50	291.62	SC	3.05
803	Rorvik	64.87	11.25	SC	11.31
820	Nuuk	64.17	308.28	SC	20.62
*	Karumba	-17.7	139.2	SC	24.00

Note: D, Deep ocean; SC, Shelf and Costal area. Karumba isn't included in UHSLC.

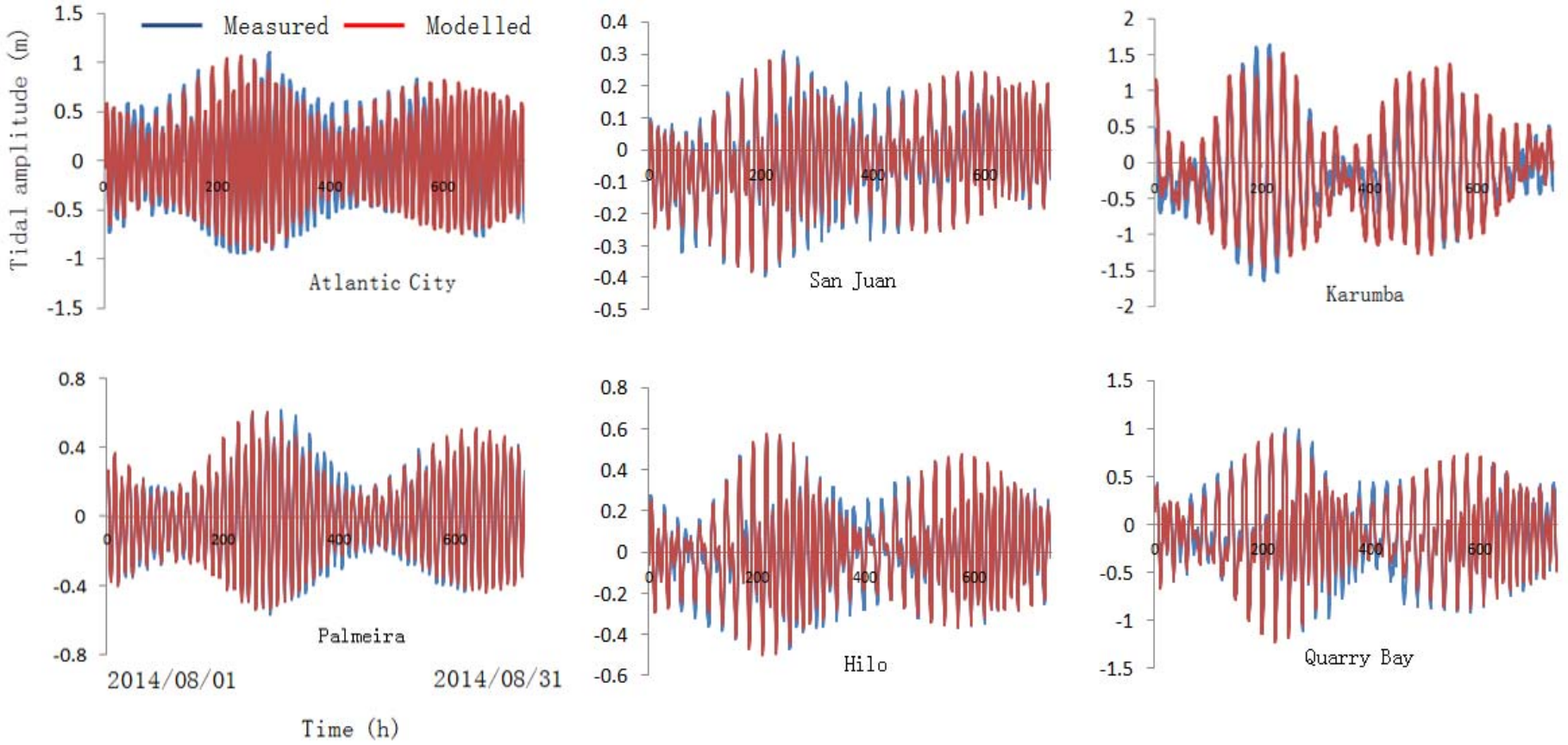

FIG. 9 (A) Representatives of the comparison between the modelled and tide-gauge data covering the whole August of 2014.

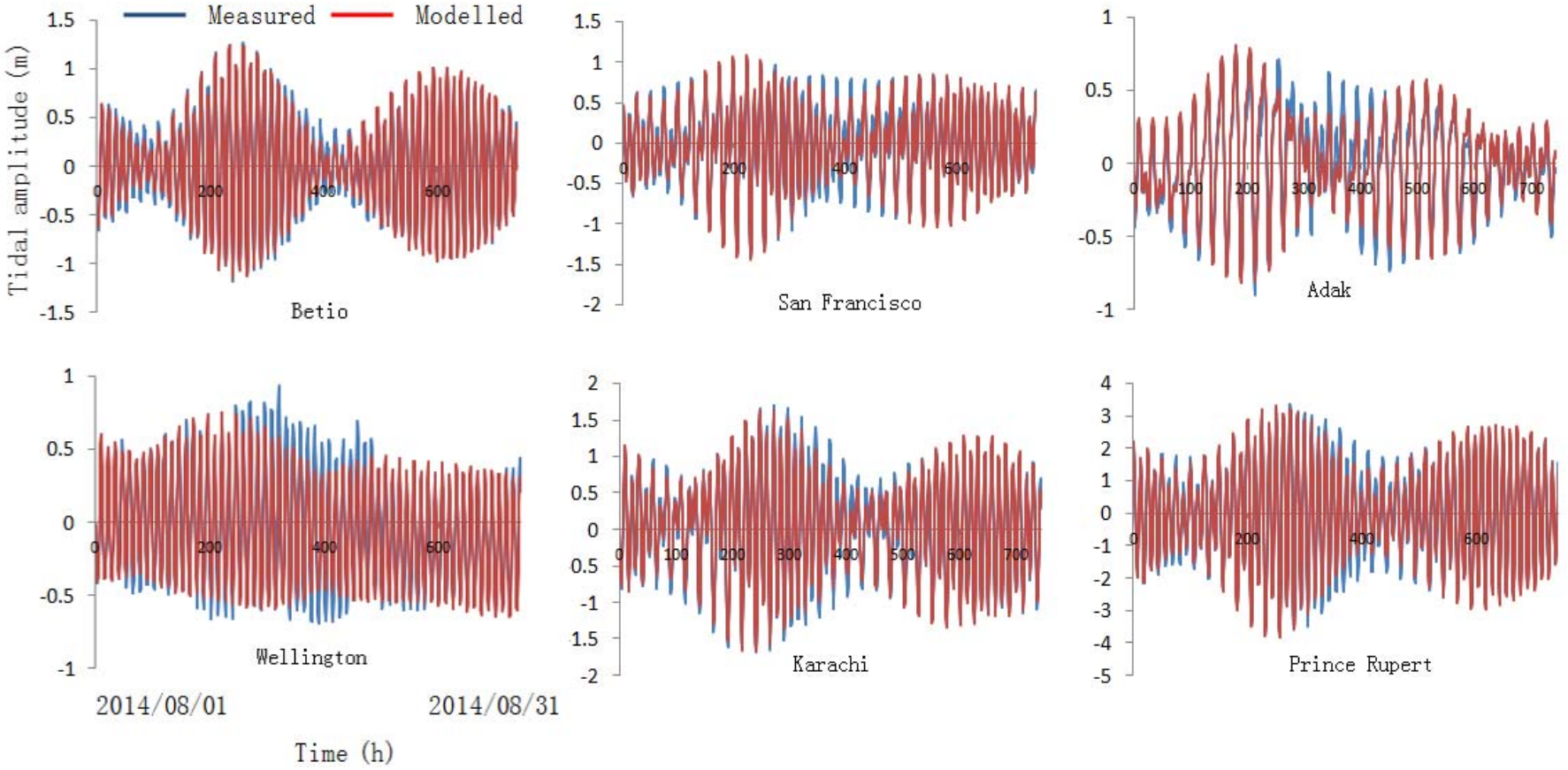

FIG. 9(B) Representatives of the comparison between the modelled and tide-gauge data covering the whole August of 2014.

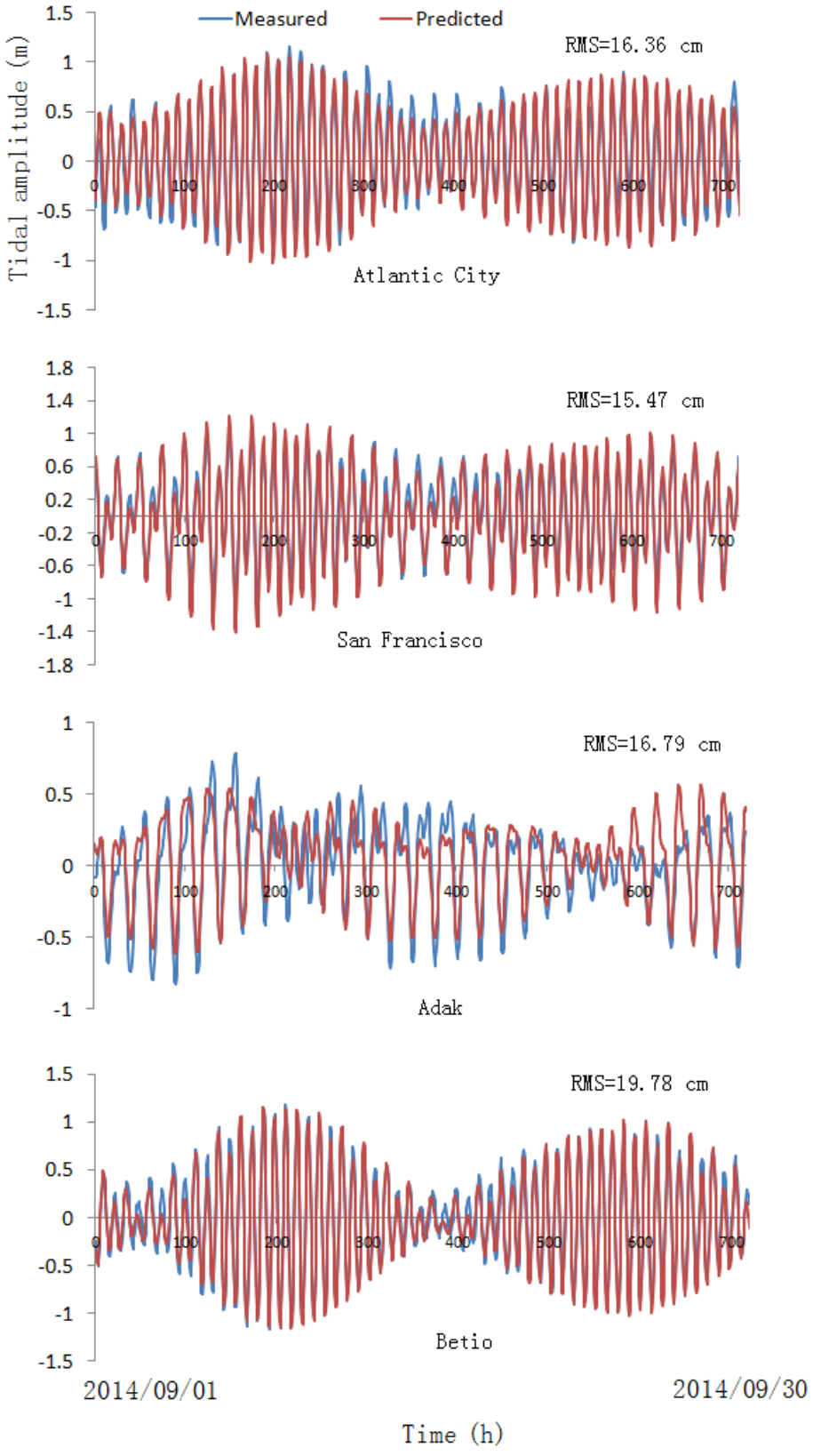

FIG. 10 A comparison of the predicted and tide-gauge data over the whole September of 2014.

4 Discussion

The tide modelling presented here shows that the observed tides may be a consequence of the oscillation of ocean basin, but we don't exclude other way to yield the observed tides. For example, many of the established tide models had successfully yielded the observed tides (Shum et al. 1997; Stammer et al. 2014). Also, we have found there is no a pair of water bulges on the Earth's surface, but it is unclear whether the Moon's al attraction drives ocean water or not, an exploration on this issue is especially needed. Following the line we presented above, some clarifications on related subjects need to be made further.

4.1 Problems of the established tidal theory

The established tidal theory may be divided into two parts: the equilibrium tide, which is represented by the attractive mechanism, and the dynamic tide. The dynamic tide was formed based on a consideration of the influences of several factors such as continent, seafloor topography, and the Earth's rotation. An earlier treatment of this matter was made by Laplace who expanded the equilibrium tide into a set of hydrodynamic equations of continuity and momentum. Laplace assumed spherical earth to be with a geocentric gravitational field, a rigid ocean bottom, and a shallow ocean, which allowed Coriolis accelerations to be neglected. These equations are further followed by a train of ideas such as standing wave, resonance, Kelvin wave, amphidromic system, and so on (Pugh 1987; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). According to these ideas, the tides in the oceans and in the continental shelf seas are generally explained as below. In the Pacific ocean the dominant tides are semidiurnal, these tides are well consistent with the amphidromes proposed to exist respectively at 25^{o} N, 135^{o} W and near 25^{o} S, 150^{o} W. Such amphidrome gives very small M_2 tides in the vicinity of the Society Isles (Pugh 1987); In the Atlantic ocean small tides are observed, these tides suggest a tendency for an amphidromic system to develop. The ranges become relatively large near equator and the phase is nearly constant over an extensive area, high waters occur along the whole coast of northern Brazil from 35^{o} W to 60^{o} W within an hour, this behaviour is consistent with standing wave dynamics. The most fully developed semidiurnal amphidrome is located near 50^{o} N. The tidal wave seems to travel round the position in a form which approximates to a Kelvin wave (Cartwright et al. 1980; Schwiderski 1979; Pugh 1987); In the north-west European continental shelf, the tides are thought to be derived from co-oscillation with the Atlantic Kelvin wave, the largest amplitudes occur when the Kelvin wave

moves along the British coast (Proudman and Doodson 1924; Sager and Sammler 1975; Huntley 1980; Howarth and Pugh 1983; Pugh 1987; Pugh and Woodworth 2014).

Undoubtedly, explaining tide should be wider, it includes not only telling the reason why there are tides (i.e., the daily and fortnightly cycles of high and low water) on the Earth, but also telling how tidal patterns (i.e., semidiurnal, diurnal) distribute around the globe and why there are tidal range differences between ocean and shelf sea. Nevertheless, in the long history of tide, most of people preferred to go after the reason why there are tides. On the whole, the equilibrium tide is taken to explain why there are tides, while the dynamic tide is taken to explain how tidal patterns distribute and how tidal range difference occurs. Subsequently, as we demonstrated in section 1.2, without the two bulges of water on the Earth's surface, the reason why there are tides will become unresolved in the established theory.

The observed tides in the main oceans have an average range of about 0.0~1.0 m, but in the continental shelf seas a much larger range of tides are often observed. At some places (the Bay of Fundy and the Argentine shelf, for instance) the range may reach up to 10.0 m (Pugh 1987; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). To account for this difference of tidal range, the dynamic tide presented a scenario of resonance, in which ocean tides are thought to be generated directly by the gravitational forces, the continental shelf tides are thought to be generated by a resonance of the continental shelf sea and oceanic tidal waves (Pugh 1987; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). Unfortunately, this mechanism is impracticable. A resonance of two waves requires two physical conditions to strictly follow. An approach of frequency is firstly needed, the phase of two waves must also be synchronous. In other words, even if the frequencies of two waves are the same, but there is phase difference between them, the amplitude of the combined wave would be minifying rather than magnifying. One must be aware that, due to the moon's advance in its orbit, the gravitational pull of the Moon on an Earthly site has a phase (time) lag of about 3.75^{o} per day (equivalent to 52 minutes per 24 hours). This lag indicates that the occurrence of the oceanic tidal waves is increasingly receding. Subsequently, to realize a resonance of the oceanic tidal waves and the continental shelf sea, the natural oscillation of the continental shelf sea also needs to recede so as to catch up with the oceanic tidal waves. This finally leads to a striking problem for reader: can/does the natural oscillation of the continental shelf sea recede day by day? One should be aware that, in the real world the natural oscillation of a

system never advances or recedes. In contract, the oceanic basin oscillation-driving mechanism may explain the tidal range difference easily. Referring to Figure 6, we speculate, the continent may block the moving water to form large water level variation at the margins of ocean basin, where they mainly consist of the continental shelf sea, but in the open ocean such blocking is rare, the tidal range is therefore small.

4.2 Ocean tide models

Ocean tide models generated after both tide-gauge data and satellite altimeter data had been collected, they are of course the need for geophysical corrections in the fields such as oceanography and space technology (Provost 1994). The first generation of ocean tide models appeared between 1960's and 1980's and followed by improved works in the following decades. Ocean tide models include modern data-constrained models such as GOT4.8 (Ray 1999) and TPXO8 (Egbert and Erofeeva 2002), purely hydrodynamic models such as HIM (Arbic et al. 2008), OTIS-ERB (Egbert et al. 2004), and STM-1B (Hill et al. 2011), and historic data-unconstrained models such as NSWC (Schwiderski 1979) and CSR3.0 (Eanes and Bettadpur 1996). Some comprehensive evaluations of these models may refer to these two works (Shum et al. 1997; Stammer et al. 2014). Nowadays, most of tides around the world may be gotten through these models. Ocean tide models are essentially a consequence of the combination of computer and empirical technique. In these models, many different variables can be packed together to be treated, moreover, the time of data processing is greatly shortened, these totally allow the decomposed components to be more reliable and exact.

There are significant differences between these established tide models and the ocean basin oscillation model presented here. On the one hand, most of these established models are characterized by a network of smaller grids plotting oceans and use the elevation of ocean to synthesize the observed tides, while this model divides ocean basin into a network of smaller grids and uses the elevation of basin to synthesize the observed tides. On the other hand, these established models employed various frequencies (notably M_2, S_2, N_2, K_2, K_1, O_1, P_1, and Q_1, for instance), while the frequencies of this model are constant, which are equal to that of M_2 and S_2. Nevertheless, we here need to mention a resonant ocean oscillation model. R.A. Harries firstly considered ocean as a resonantly oscillating system, Platzman (1975) provided a theoretical basis for the understanding, i.e., for a basin of depth h and

horizontal length l, the resultant oscillating frequency is $2l/(gh)^{1/2}$, where g is the gravitational constant. Platzman, however, didn't use this kind of resonant oscillation to get the observed tides, instead, he used normal modes to synthesize the observed tides (Platzman 1978; 1983; and 1984). Moreover, Platzman's modes employed various frequencies, and some of the frequencies are very close to those of some of the main constituents (notably K_1).

4.2 Tidal prediction

Many people (especially those engage in tidal field) mistakenly attribute the success of tidal prediction to the attractive mechanism. Before we put forward this section further, we need to clear out this misconception. A widely accepted routine for tidal prediction is by means of tide observation. As tidal variations (the height and time of high and low waters) are recorded continuously, once tide data become available, one may use computers to analyze the data to identify many components of complex wave. Tidal analysis usually employs three methods: non-harmonic, harmonic, and responsive. A detailed description of these methods may refer to the Pugh's work (1987). Historically, William Thomson devised the harmonic method about the year 1867. The principle of this method is that any periodic motion or oscillation can always be resolved into the sum of a series of simple harmonic motions. Apparently, a curve plotted from tide record may be regarded as a complex wave. As wave has crest and trough, this appearance corresponds to the high and low water of a tide. Harmonic analysis makes full use of this point, by which the tidal variations (high and low) are represented with a finite number of harmonic terms of cosine form ($H_n\cos(\sigma_n t - g_n)$, where H_n is amplitude, g_n is phase lag, and σ_n is angular speed). Tidal analysis worked out the wave heights and time lags (related to the Moon's or Sun's orbital movement) of many components. Once the timing, periodicity, and amplitude of each component are known for a particular location, a simple addition of these components gives the tidal height at the future time at the location. In other words, by the harmonic method the decomposed tide components are finally recombined into a composite tide. Tidal predictions made in this way are used extensively and give the basis for the tide forecasts we daily see in many public forms (Segar 2012). These arguments lead to the fact that tidal prediction is irrelevant to the attractive mechanism. The tidal prediction we made in section 3 supports another fact that the methods of making tidal prediction may be various, no limited to the classical harmonic method.

4.3 Earth tide

Solid Earth deformation (also called Earth tide) was firstly presented by Love (1909), Longman (1963) introduced a Green's function, by which Earth tide can be calculated, these authors (Hendershott 1972; Farrell 1973; Melchior 1974; Agnew 1981; Scherneck 1991) systematically investigated the responses of solid Earth to the tide-generating forces and to ocean tide. The currently view is that the impact of Earth tide on ocean tide may be expressed with $(1+k-h)\Omega p/g$, where $\Omega p/g$ is the equilibrium tide amplitude, $(1+k-h)$ is a diminishing factor (combination of Love numbers) in the equilibrium tide (Pugh 1987; Pugh and Woodworth 2014). This treatment, however, lost something important. Since $(1+k-h)\Omega p/g$ itself represents that the contribution of Earth tide to ocean tide is simply a reduction of tide amplitude, this reduction requires the occurrences of Earth tide and ocean tide to be synchronous. This work shows, however, as we see from Figure 1 and Figure 5, both Earth tide and ocean tide are not synchronous, subsequently, the established understanding of reducing Earth tide from ocean tide to get the observed tide is impracticable. Solid Earth deformation may be influenced by several factors. Near-surface geology may yield local anomalies while responding to the tidal forcing. The loading/unloading of ocean tide also may lead the Earth's lithosphere to vertically displace and become tilt (Farrell 1973; Pugh 1987). Additionally, atmospheric loading and some extreme events such as storm and earthquake would exert effect on the Earth's lithosphere.

4.4 Application of ocean basin oscillation

The physics of ocean basin oscillation is also applicable to the matter of an enclosed sea/lake. If we treat Black sea as a vessel and use equation (1) presented in section 2 to estimate, the west or east end of this region may experience a tide of up to 17.0 cm. Similarly, a tube of water (20 m in length) horizontally located at equator would experience a tide of up to $3.2*10^{-3}$ mm, an imperceptible amount. This means that, any smaller vessel, such as swimming pool, cup, bowl, and so on, because of its short size, wouldn't exhibit a perceptible tide.

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