On the tides and resonances of Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait

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Abstract. The resonances of Hudson Bay, Foxe Basin and Hudson Strait are investigated using a linear shallow water numerical model. The region is of particular interest because it is the most important region of the world ocean for dissipating tidal energy.

The model shows that the semi-diurnal tides of the region are dominated by four nearby overlapping resonances. It shows that these not only affect Ungava Bay, a region of extreme tidal range, but they also extend far into Foxe Basin and Hudson Bay and appear to be affected by the geometry of those regions. The results also indicate that it is the four resonances acting together which make the region such an important area for dissipating tidal energy.

1 Introduction

In his study of tidal dissipation on the world ocean, Miller (1966) estimated that Hudson Bay and the Labrador Sea dissipated 140 GW of M2 tidal energy. This made it the fifth most important region of tidal dissipation, the first four being the Bering Sea, the Sea of Okhotsk, the Northwest Australian Shelf and the European Shelf.

More recent studies have completely changed this picture. Le Provost and Rougier (1997), using a numerical model, found that the M2 tide dissipated 313 GW in the Hudson Bay region. This made it their most important region for tidal dissipation, the first four being the Bering Sea, the Sea of Okhotsk, the Northwest Australian Shelf and the European Shelf.

Egbert and Ray (2001) assimilated satellite altimeter data into an ocean model and again found the Hudson Bay region to be the most important, the M2 tide dissipating 261 GW. Next in importance was the European Shelf (∼208 GW), followed by the Northwest Australian Shelf (∼158 GW), the Yellow Sea (∼149 GW) and the Patagonian Shelf (∼112 GW).

The importance of the Hudson Bay complex is also emphasised if one plots the M2 energy flux vectors for the North Atlantic. This has been done in Fig. 1, making use of the satellite-derived tidal fields of Egbert and Erofeeva (2002). In the eastern North Atlantic the figure shows a northward flux of tidal energy associated with a propagating Kelvin wave. Part of the energy is lost to the European Shelf but a large amount continues north. It then turns westwards and passes south of Greenland before converging on Hudson Strait.

If the fluxes of Fig. 1 are integrated along lines between 44°W, 42°N and the coasts of Spain and Greenland, the results show that the M2 tide fluxes 490 GW northwards into the northeast Atlantic and that 220 GW passes south of Greenland towards Hudson Strait. At the entrance to Hudson Strait the flux of energy is 250 GW – the increase being due to a small northward flow of tidal energy on the western side of the Atlantic.

Thus not only is the Hudson Bay complex the major tidal dissipation region of the global ocean, it is also so effective that no energy-transporting Kelvin wave continues southwards along the coast of Labrador and Newfoundland. This is in marked contrast to the behaviour on the eastern side of the ocean where a large fraction of the energy flux continues past the resonant European continental shelves. Even though the entrance to Hudson Strait is only 70 km wide, it transmits much more energy than the Celtic Sea, at the entrance to the English Channel and Irish Sea, which is over 400 km wide.

Continental shelf regions with large amounts of tidal dissipation are usually associated with resonances of the shelf. Examples are the Bristol Channel (Fong and Heaps, 1978; Webb, 2013a), the Patagonian Shelf (Huthnance, 1980) and the Northwest Australian Shelf. Such regions are usually associated with high tides, so one possible reason why Hudson Bay was overlooked is that it is only recently that Leaf...
Bay, part of Ungava Bay\textsuperscript{1} near the entrance to Hudson Strait, has been reported as having the world’s second highest tidal range (O’Reilly et al., 2005).

The high tides of Ungava Bay were studied by Arbic et al. (2007) using a time-dependent numerical model. This showed that the tides of the region were affected by a quarter-wavelength resonance between the coast and the deep ocean. The resonance mode also showed maxima elsewhere in Foxe Basin and Hudson Bay which, following the recent study of the English Channel and Irish Sea (Webb, 2013a), might indicate the presence of additional resonances affecting the tides.

The English Channel and Irish Sea study used a time-independent model. This has the advantage that it can be run for complex values of angular velocity and so allows a detailed study of the resonant structure of a region.

The study uses a method of analysis in regular use by physicists (e.g. Morse and Feshbach, 1953; Mathews and Walker, 1965; Courant and Hilbert, 2008; Riley et al., 1998) but not widely used by physical oceanographers. In this, the response to forcing of a linear (or approximately linear) system is shown to depend on the resonance properties of the system. Use is also made of the fact that, for such systems, the response to periodic forcing is described by an analytic function, the response function, whose poles correspond to the resonant angular velocities or eigenvalues of the system. Once the resonance eigenvalues and eigenfunctions are known, the response of the system to any kind of forcing can be calculated.

Although the tides are affected by nonlinearities, the amplitude of the nonlinear tidal constituents are small over most of the ocean. As a result, the assumption of linearity is a good first approximation for any study of the large-scale behaviour of the tides.

If the system is frictionless, the poles of the response function lie on the real angular velocity axis and the eigenfunctions corresponding to the different resonances are orthogonal. If friction is present, as it is within the ocean, the poles lie off the real axis and the imaginary component of angular velocity then equals the inverse decay time of the resonance. With friction the eigenfunctions are also not orthogonal. This complicates the analysis, but it is still tractable making use of the adjoint set of equations and eigenvalues.

A simple example of the approach, using a 1-D tidal model, is given in Webb (2011). Further details and examples, solving Laplace’s tidal equations in more realistic regions of ocean, are given in other papers from the present series (Webb, 2012, 2013a, b, 2014). Results from three much earlier papers on the tides (Webb, 1973, 1976, 1982) are also relevant.

In the present paper, a model similar to that used for the English Channel study is used to study the Hudson Bay region. The study aims to investigate the resonances and also the impact of three unusual properties of the region.

The first of these concerns Hudson Strait. With central depths of over 300 m, the strait is much deeper than is normal for continental shelf regions. The extra depth means that tidal wavelengths are longer than normal and frictional effects are smaller. As a result there is a potential for quarter and three-quarter wavelength resonances extending far into Hudson Bay in the south and into Foxe Basin in the north.

A second concerns the complex pattern of bays and channels in Foxe Basin. These all have the potential for supporting resonances and introducing extra complexity into the system.

\textsuperscript{1}Leaf Bay is adjacent to Hopes Advanced Bay, indicated by the letter U in Fig. 1. Other locations discussed in the text are also shown in this figure.

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Figure 1. Energy flux vectors for the M2 tide in the north Atlantic, based on data from OTIS2 (Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002). Energy flux in units of MW m\textsuperscript{-1}. 
Finally, the open region of Hudson Bay in the south is large enough to support a circulating wave. This may act like a resonator but a damped circulating wave might also have the properties of a damped infinite channel.

Section 2 of the paper gives the details of the model used for the study. Section 3 then reports on the results obtained using real values of angular velocity and Sect. 4 extends this to complex values of angular velocity. Section 5 is concerned with the main resonances affecting the semi-diurnal tides and Sect. 6 investigates how these combine to generate the observed response within the tidal band. Finally the discussion section reviews the main results of this study and considers their implications.

2 The numerical model

The model used to study the Hudson Bay, Hudson Strait and Foxe Basin region is based on that described by Webb (2013a). It solves the linear form of Laplace’s tidal equations at a single angular velocity using finite difference equations based on an Arakawa C-grid distribution of model variables.

The model covers the region bounded by the latitude and longitude lines at 94.25° W, 57.5° W, 51.125° N and 70.375° N, with a resolution of 0.125° in the east–west direction and 0.25° in the north–south direction. The other free parameters are the linear coefficient of bottom friction and the minimum cell depth. These were set to 0.2 cm s⁻¹ and 2.5 m, as in Webb (2013a).²

Coastlines and cell depths are based on the GEBCO coastline depth data sets (IOC et al., 2003). The GEBCO depth data is at a higher resolution (1/60°) than that used for the model grid, so depths were calculated such that the volume of each model grid cell is the same as the corresponding GEBCO region. Away from coastlines this is equivalent to them having the same average depth.

As discussed in Webb (2013a), coastlines are specified to pass through velocity points, such that the normal velocity at the coast can be specified to be zero. Open boundaries are specified to follow lines of sea surface height points.

In the extreme northwest, the model closes off the narrow Fury and Hecla Strait which connects Foxe Basin with the Gulf of Boothia. The east of the strait is blocked by Elder and Ormonde islands, with the largest of the narrows being only 2 km wide. The total cross-section is so small that little tidal energy can flow into or out of Foxe Basin via this route.

The open boundary includes part of the Labrador Sea with depths extending down to 3000 m. In this region of the model the northern and southern limits are at 57.125° N and 66.875° N. As a result the open boundary in the east includes almost all of the energy inflow region shown in Fig. 1.

For the open boundary, Webb (2013a) used Dirichlet boundary conditions in which the tidal height on the boundary is fixed by observations. The tangential velocity is set to the value one row in from the open boundary.

The present version of the model uses the same open boundary condition for the validation stage where the deep ocean tide is known. Then in the remainder of the study it is changed to allow radiation of energy back into the deep ocean. The radiation scheme is based on that of Flather (1976) which is often used for time-dependent models. Details are given in Appendix B1.

3 The M2 tide

The model was validated using a simulation of the M2 tide. For this the model was forced at the open boundary with tidal amplitudes and phases taken from a global assimilation of satellite altimeter data (Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002).
model result is shown in Fig. 2 and the values at representative stations compared with tidal observations (IHB, 1954) in Table 1.

The agreement is good at Hopes Advance Bay, in the west of Ungava Bay near Leaf Basin. The phase in the deep ocean is around 300° so the coast here is approximately 70° out of phase. Given that some of the highest tides in the world are found in Leaf Basin, this phase difference between the coast and the deep ocean is less than the 90° expected from a pure quarter-wavelength resonance.

Agreement is also good at Churchill in the far west of Hudson Bay and, after the tidal wave has propagated around the south of Hudson Bay, the reduction in amplitude is represented reasonably well at Great Whale River in the southeast. However, the model tide arrives there early. This may indicate that the model depths are too deep or it may be because the model is not correctly representing the nearby amphidrome.

Unfortunately, in the north of the model region, analyses are available from only three stations and these are based on only a month’s data. Two of these (Repulse Bay and Hall Beach) are included in the table. The third, Rowley Island, lies close to Hall Beach.

At both Repulse Bay and Hall Beach the model amplitude is not unreasonable but the phase is almost 180° out of agreement. Two series of tests were carried out to see if the difference could be understood.

In the first, the model was run with different values of the friction coefficient. This was found to affect the amplitude at inland stations but have only a small effect on phase. Thus halving the friction coefficient increased the amplitude at Churchill by over 50% but only changed the phase by 11°. At Repulse Bay the increase was over 150% and the phase change 12°.

The second set of tests arose from the observation that model phases close to the observed phase at Repulse Bay were found in the southwest of Foxe Basin. There is also a minimum amplitude in the channel joining the two regions and an area of rapid phase change, implying the presence of an amphidrome or nearby virtual amphidrome.

As the channel may have been too small in the model, tests were carried out where this was made wider and had its shallows removed. The changes affected the amplitude at Repulse Bay but had very little effect on the phases or the position of the amphidrome. A 180° phase change at Repulse Bay only appears possible if the amphidrome is moved to the channel running south towards Hudson Bay.

The phase agreement at Churchill indicates that amplitudes and phases are good in Hudson Bay, so the amphidrome can only be moved if the depths in the south of Foxe Basin are increased to raise the speed of the tidal wave through the region. Similarly, the phase error at Hall Beach, which is also in a region of low amplitudes, may be explained if the position of the model amphidrome is incorrect due to errors in model depths.

Good depth data from Foxe Basin is limited, as it is covered in ice for much of the year. Freely floating sea-ice should not affect the tidal wave. Sea-ice fixed to the shore should result in increased turbulence and damping but is not expected to have a significant effect on wavelength.

This is because, as discussed in Webb (2011), with the friction coefficient and depths used in the model, friction has a significant effect on amplitudes and decay times but only a small effect on wavelength. Similarly, the use of a linear friction coefficient, instead of a fully nonlinear one, should affect decay times and amplitudes but have little effect on wavelength.

The suspicion therefore remains that the model phase errors result from a problem with the depths. No more can be done at this stage but the phase errors need to be kept in mind in the remainder of this analysis.

4 The response at real values of angular velocity

For the remainder of the study, the model was forced at the open boundary with an incoming wave of unit amplitude. Figure 3 shows the amplitude of the resulting model response at representative points within the region plus the amplitude of the outgoing wave at one point of the open boundary.

The chosen locations include Ungava Bay, Repulse Bay and model points R2 and R3. The latter two are on the north side of Hudson Strait and the east side of Foxe Basin where
Table 1. Model M2 tidal amplitude (m) and phases (degrees relative to the equilibrium tide at Greenwich) compared with tide gauge analyses (IHB, 1954).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Model Amp. (m)</th>
<th>Model Phase°</th>
<th>Tide gauge Amp. (m)</th>
<th>Tide gauge Phase°</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hopes Advance Bay</td>
<td>69.6° W 59.4° N</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>3.88</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Churchill</td>
<td>94.2° W 58.8° N</td>
<td>1.46</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Whale River</td>
<td>77.8° W 55.3° N</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repulse Bay</td>
<td>86.5° W 66.4° N</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hall Beach</td>
<td>81.2° W 68.8° N</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 4. Real and imaginary components of (a) the response function on the west side of Ungava Bay and (b) the outgoing wave at point R1 on the open boundary, plotted for real values of angular velocity between zero and 30 rad day\(^{-1}\). Crosses at intervals of 10 rad day\(^{-1}\). The red sections correspond to the diurnal and semi-diurnal tides. At zero rad day\(^{-1}\) the response function at Ungava Bay has the value \((2 + i0)\) and the outgoing wave has the value \((1 + i0)\).

Finally, the figure includes the outgoing wave at point R1 on the open boundary (see Fig. 2). This is chosen because it is in deep water at the foot of the continental slope and is in a position where it should give an indication of the behaviour of Kelvin waves travelling south out of the model region. It also lies near the positions where the resonances, discussed later, show the maximum energy losses through the open boundary.

At zero angular velocity both the ingoing and outgoing waves at the open boundary have unit amplitude, so the amplitude everywhere equals two. As angular velocity increases, the amplitudes initially tend to decrease but they then increase to maxima near the semi-diurnal tidal band. There is then a general decrease to minima around 21 rad day\(^{-1}\) after which there are further maxima between 25 and 30 rad day\(^{-1}\).

Within this large-scale behaviour there are many individual maxima and changes in curvature, which, on the basis of previous work, are likely to be due to individual resonances or groups of resonances. Sometimes the maxima and changes in curvature occur at the same angular velocity, indicating that such regions are coupled and affected by the same resonance. However, at other angular velocities the same regions may have very different response to the forcing.

A noticeable feature of the outgoing wave at R1 is that it has a minimum where the resonances are largest near 12 rad day\(^{-1}\) and a maximum near 22 rad day\(^{-1}\) where the large-scale response is least. It then has another minimum near 26 rad day\(^{-1}\) where Ungava Bay has a maximum.

An alternative view of the system’s response is obtained by plotting the real and imaginary components of the response function, as in Fig. 4. As shown in Appendix A, the response function \(R(x, \omega)\) at position \(x\) and angular velocity \(\omega\) can be

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3The paper uses units of radians per day (rad day\(^{-1}\)). Thus the semi-diurnal tides with periods around 12 h have angular velocities around \(4\pi\) rad day\(^{-1}\).

expressed as a sum over the resonance contributions,
\[ R(x, \omega) = \sum_j \psi_j(x) r_j/(\omega - \omega_j), \]
where \(\omega_j\) is the angular velocity of the \(j\)th resonance, \(\psi_j(x)\) describes the spatial structure of the resonance and \(r_j\) depends on how the system is forced.

At a fixed location when the resonances are well separated, the response function \(R(\omega)\) near each resonances has the form
\[ R(\omega) = A_j/(\omega - \omega_j) + B(\omega), \]
where \(B(\omega)\) represents the smooth background due to of distant resonances.

When this function, without the background term, is plotted as in Fig. 4, its locus generates a simple circle. This starts at the origin when \(\omega\) is minus infinity. It then moves in an anticlockwise direction, reaching maximum amplitude when \(\omega\) equals \(\omega_j\), and returning to the origin as \(\omega\) approaches infinity.

When the background is added, isolated resonances generate single loops on the smooth background. Where resonances are overlapping, more complicated structures may be formed but the contribution of each resonance still has the same simple underlying form.

Applying these ideas to Fig. 4, at Ungava Bay the response function is seen to contain four main loop structures. These consist of two small loops generating the amplitude minima near 2 and 21 rad day\(^{-1}\) and two larger ones which generate the maxima near 13 and 26 rad day\(^{-1}\).

The outgoing wave at R1 also shows large and small loops at roughly the same angular velocities, but this time the large loops reduce the amplitude of the radiated wave. Near 12 rad day\(^{-1}\) the amplitude drops to near 0.1, and as the radiated power depends on the square of the amplitude it implies that the radiated power is close to 1% of the incident power.

5 The response at complex values of angular velocity

The previous figures illustrate the type of information that can be obtained with models that can investigate real values of angular velocity. However, an advantage of the present model is that it can also obtain solutions for complex values of angular velocity and thus explore the full resonant structure of the system.

Figures 5–7 show the response function at four stations plotted on the complex plane. In these figures the vertical coordinate indicates the response function amplitude and the colour represents phase, zero phase being the phase of the incoming wave on the open boundary.

The functions can be interpreted using Eq. (1). The poles in the complex plane correspond to the resonances, the coordinate of the poles giving the real and imaginary components of each eigenvalue \(\omega_j\). The position of the resonances is the same in each figure but their strengths differ due to changes in the eigenvector \(\psi_j(x)\) between locations.

The figures show only a quarter of the complex angular velocity plane, the quarter where the real component of angular velocity is zero or positive and the imaginary component is zero or negative. There is no need to show more because, as discussed in Appendix A, causality means that there can be no resonances with positive imaginary components and symmetry requires the function to be mirrored about the imaginary axis. Thus each resonance with angular velocity \(\omega_j\) and residue \(r_j\) has a twin with angular velocity \(-\omega_j^*\) and residue \(-r_j^*\).


In Fig. 5, Ungava Bay is plotted because of the interest in its extreme tides and because the region appears to support a classic quarter-wavelength resonance. Churchill and location R3 (Fig. 6) are chosen to represent Hudson Bay and Foxe Basin. Location R1 (Fig. 7) lies beyond the outer edge of the continental slope and is chosen to capture any Kelvin wave progressing southward out of the model region.

In the limit of zero angular velocity, both the incoming and outgoing wave on the open boundary have unit amplitude. As a result, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the amplitude at the origin is two. Figure 7 shows only the outgoing wave on the boundary, so its amplitude at the origin is one.

As angular velocity increases along the real axis, the phase tends to increase. This arises because the ratio of the phase to the angular velocity is a measure of the time taken for the wave to propagate to each location from the forcing region. Off the real axis the behaviour is more complicated due to the phase increase of 2π radians close around each pole which arises from Eq. (2).

Starting from near the origin, there is initially a dense group of weak resonances which extends to near 6 rad day$^{-1}$. As in Webb (2013a) these are the continental shelf and Rossby wave modes. There is then a series of gravity wave modes extending to higher angular velocities. The angular velocities of these modes, calculated using the method outlined in Appendix B2, are given in Table 2.

Near the real axis, the colours show that the phase at Ungava Bay increases slowly, reaching 90° in the region of the semi-diurnal tides. In contrast, there is a more rapid phase change at both Churchill and at location R3, the colours indicating that near the semi-diurnal band these phases are approximately 450°, i.e. one and a quarter wavelengths different from the forcing.

The response function for Ungava Bay shows that the large-amplitude region near the semi-diurnal tidal band (12 rad day$^{-1}$) is associated with four main resonances. These are resonances D to G of Table 2. The figures show that the same resonances are also responsible for large amplitudes in Hudson Bay and Foxe Basin, the strength of individual resonances there often being larger than in Ungava Bay.

In some ways this result is surprising. Ungava Bay is known to have high tides, and given the local bathymetry and distance from the shelf edge and the phase of the response function, the high semi-diurnal response might be expected to be due to a single quarter-wavelength resonance. Hudson
The amplitude and phase of resonances D to G of Table 2. Amplitudes normalised to one and phases are relative to the west side of Ungava Bay. Thick lines are contours of amplitude at 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6 and 0.8. Thin lines are contours of phase at intervals of 30 degrees. Colours as in Fig. 1, with zero phase between the red and blue areas.

Bay and Foxe Basin are much further from the shelf edge and on the same basis they must involve at least three-quarter wavelength resonances and possibly one and a quarter wavelength resonances.

At higher angular velocities the Ungava Bay response function shows two further strong resonances. The first, resonance Q near 21 rad day\(^{-1}\), has little impact on the response at real values of angular velocity. The second, resonance U near 27 rad day\(^{-1}\), has a much greater impact on the response in Ungava Bay. It is also responsible for an increased amplitude at Churchill but has essentially no impact at position R3. Further investigation of their structure showed that resonance Q is primarily a quarter-wavelength resonance of Cumberland Sound and U a similar resonance of Frobisher Bay.

### 5.1 Radiation at the open boundary

Figure 7 indicates that the first of the large loops in Fig. 4b is associated with resonances D to G and the second large loop with resonance U. The first of the small loops is associated with the shelf and Rossby wave resonances. The cause of the second loop is not so clear but it is likely to be Q together with K and L.

In the previous study of the English Channel and Irish Sea (Webb, 2013a), the high semi-diurnal tides in the Bristol Channel were found to result from two resonances which both had slightly higher angular velocities. It was assumed that these were also responsible for the large amount of tidal energy that was dissipated in the region.

The present result indicates that the strong absorption of tidal energy by the Hudson Bay system is a result of four resonances which straddle the tidal band. The strong absorption thus may result from straddling the tidal band or it may result from the fact that four resonances are involved, each of which can provide an independent contribution to resonant absorption of tidal energy.
6 Structure of the main semi-diurnal resonances

The spatial structures of the four largest resonances near the semi-diurnal tidal band were calculated using the method outlined in Appendix B2. The results are shown in Fig. 8. The solutions have been normalised so that the maximum amplitude is one and the phase is zero in the west of Ungava Bay. For two of the modes, the maxima are on the eastern side of Foxe Basin. The other two have maxima on the western side of James Bay.

The energy flux vectors for resonance F are shown in Fig. 9. This and similar plots (not included) for the other modes show that, in each case, the flux is away from the deep regions of Hudson Strait, both eastwards towards the open boundary and westwards towards the high-amplitude regions in Foxe Basin or Hudson Bay.

None of the modes can be characterised by a single unique feature, such as a standing wave in a limited region of shelf. Instead they appear to involve the coupling of a series of such simple or underlying modes.

The first of these is the quarter-wavelength resonance involving Ungava Bay. The justification for this is the fact that all four modes show an approximate 90 degree phase lag between the west side of Ungava Bay and the shelf edge or open boundary – although depending on the precise point chosen the value can vary between 75 and 130 degrees.

A second is a three-quarter wavelength mode between the shelf edge or open boundary and the east side of Foxe Basin.

As seen best in resonance E where there is a maximum in Hudson Strait and a node to the north of Southampton Island, the locations lying roughly one-quarter and one-half of a wavelength from the open boundary.

A third is a half-wavelength resonance trapped between the northwest and southeast coasts of Foxe Basin. This is best seen in resonance D, but as the model had poor agreement with the measured tide in the NW of Foxe Basin, this possibility should be treated with caution.

Finally, Hudson Bay itself appears to support its own underlying mode, consisting of a single wavelength that circles the bay in an anticlockwise direction. This is best seen in resonance F.

The results imply that although resonances involving the shelf edge are important, the grouping of resonances around the semi-diurnal tides is partly due to standing waves within the interior of the Hudson Bay system.

7 Resonant contributions to the semi-diurnal tides

As discussed in Webb (2012), the response function near a tidal band can be split into the contribution of nearby resonances and a smooth background due to distant resonances. Thus,

$$ R(x, \omega) = \sum_j A_j(x)/(\omega - \omega_j) + S(x, \omega) + B(x, \omega), $$

where $R(x, \omega)$ is the response function at position $x$ and angular velocity $\omega$. The sum $j$ is over key nearby resonances and $A_j(x)$ is the residue at $\omega_j$, the resonance angular velocity. Methods for calculating the residue are described in Appendix B3. For this part of the analysis, the symmetry term $S(x, \omega)$, due to the mirror images of the resonances in the summation, is simple to calculate and so is split off from the background.

Table 2. Real and imaginary components of angular velocity (in radians per day) for the gravity wave resonances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Angular velocity</th>
<th>Angular velocity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real</td>
<td>Imag.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Real</td>
<td>Imag.</td>
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8 Conclusions

The study has shown that the semi-diurnal tides of the Hudson Bay region are dominated by four resonances. These straddle the semi-diurnal tidal band and contribute both to high tidal amplitudes within the region and to very low amplitudes in the tidal wave radiated away from the region.

The previous study, made using a time-dependent model (Arbic et al., 2007), was only able to identify one resonance affecting the semi-diurnal tides. The new result therefore emphasises the usefulness of the present approach.

The study does not explain why the Hudson Bay system is such a good absorber of tidal energy and more effective than the English Channel and Irish Sea but it does give hints that need to be followed up.

The first is the primary result that the Hudson Bay system has four significant resonances close to and straddling the semi-diurnal tidal band. In the case of the Bristol Channel and Gulf of St Malo there are only two resonances and they lie to one side of the tidal band.

The study also used one of the points on the open boundary as an analogue of the reflected wave for the case of a uniform amplitude incident wave at all points on the open boundary. Although the uniform amplitude incident wave is a special case, it is a plausible first approximation to the way the M2 tide forces the region.

The results show that each of the four main resonances acted to reduce the amplitude of the reflected wave in the semi-diurnal tidal band. At 4π rad day$^{-1}$, two of the resonances together absorbed $\sim 90\%$ of the incident energy and the other two, although weaker, absorbed $\sim 70\%$ of the remainder. The small reflection coefficients imply that all four resonances have impedances which are well matched to that of the deep ocean.$^4$

The study shows that the closeness of the resonances is partly due to the complex topography of the region. As well as the “classical” 1/4 wavelength wave between Ungava Bay and the shelf edge, the deep Hudson Strait also allows the development of 3/4 wavelength, and possibly 5/4 wavelength,

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$^4$Impedance matching is critical in the design of waveguides and in other systems involving propagating waves.
resonances between the shelf edge and features far to the west. There, both Foxe Basin and Hudson Bay are of the right size to support standing waves of near-tidal period.

The depth of Hudson Strait also means that energy dissipation is reduced compared with a normal shelf. The mean depth (~300 m) is approximately four times that of a normal shelf (~80 m), so the frictional effect per wavelength in the strait should be halved. This probably helps in matching the Foxe Basin and Hudson Bay components of the resonances to the deep ocean.

The effectiveness of a continental shelf region in absorbing tidal energy is also likely to depend on both the length of continental shelf involved and the angle at which the tidal wave approaches the shelf. These features have not been studied here but as it passes the English Channel and Irish Sea, the semi-diurnal tidal wave in the deep ocean runs roughly parallel to the shelf edge. In contrast, as it approaches Hudson Strait the wave approaches roughly at right angles to the shelf edge.

To conclude, the present study has given new insights into the properties of the Hudson Bay region and the complex interactions that are involved. The study has shown that there is still much to be learnt about the physics of the region but the results presented here should provide a useful basis for further work.
Appendix A: Solution in terms of resonances

Laplace’s tidal equations with a linear friction term are
\[ \rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \rho f \times u + \rho g \nabla h + (\kappa/h) u = \rho g \nabla \eta, \quad (A1) \]
\[ \nabla \eta + \nabla \cdot (hu) = 0, \]
where \( u \) is horizontal velocity, \( \eta \) tidal height, \( \rho \) density, \( f \) the Coriolis parameter, \( g \) gravity, \( h \) water depth, \( \kappa \) the linear coefficient of bottom friction and \( \eta_0 \) the equilibrium tide forcing the ocean.

If \( u(x,t) \) and \( \eta(x,t) \) at location \( x \) and time \( t \) are represented by the vector \( \Psi \),
\[ \Psi(x,t) = \begin{pmatrix} u(x,t) \\ \eta(x,t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (A2) \]
and if
\[ \Psi_0(x,t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \eta_0(x,t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (A3) \]
then the tidal equations can be written in the form
\[ \partial \Psi(x,t)/\partial t + \mathcal{L} \Psi(x,t) = \mathcal{L} \Psi_0(x,t) \quad (A4) \]
where \( \mathcal{L} \) is a matrix operator discussed further in Webb (2014).

Consider the response when the system is forced at angular velocity \( \omega \). The solution will then have the form
\[ \Psi(x,t) = (\Psi_0(x,\omega) \exp(-i\omega t) + c.c.), \quad (A5) \]
\[ = 2 \text{Re}(\Psi(x,\omega) \exp(-i\omega t)), \quad (A6) \]
where \( \text{Re}(\cdot) \) represents the real part and \( c.c. \) represents complex conjugate. Substituting in \( \mathcal{L} \).
\[ (\mathcal{L} - i\omega \mathbf{1}) \Psi \rightarrow \mathcal{L} \Psi_0, \quad (A7) \]
where \( \Psi_0(x,\omega) \) and \( \Psi(x,\omega) \) are the forcing and ocean response at angular velocity \( \omega \) and \( \mathbf{1} \) is the unit matrix.

Equations of this form can be solved using the eigenfunctions of the operator \( \mathcal{L} \) and its adjoint \( \mathcal{L}^* \). The basic method is described in Morse and Feshbach (1953). Webb (2014) discusses its application to Laplace’s tidal equations and shows how a suitable definition of the inner or dot product generates a physically meaningful adjoint.

Dropping the \( x \) coordinate, if \( \omega_j \) and \( \psi_j \) are the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the equation
\[ (\mathcal{L} - i\omega \mathbf{1}) \psi_j = 0 \quad (A8) \]
and if \( \lambda_k \) and \( \phi_k \) are the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the adjoint operator
\[ (\mathcal{L}^* - i\lambda_k \mathbf{1}) \phi_k = 0, \quad (A9) \]
then (Morse and Feshbach, 1953; Webb, 2014)
\[ \int dx \phi_k^*(x) \cdot \psi_j(x)(\omega_j + \lambda_k) = 0. \quad (A10) \]

Thus either \( \lambda_k \) equals \( -\omega_j^* \) or the integral is zero, so the eigenfunctions are orthogonal.

Normalise \( \psi_k(x) \) so that the above integral with \( \phi_k(x) \) equals one. Then expanding \( \Psi(x,\omega) \) and the equilibrium tide \( \Psi_0(x,\omega) \) in terms of the eigenfunctions
\[ \Psi(x,\omega) = \sum_j a_j(\omega) \psi_j(x), \quad (A11) \]
\[ \Psi_0(x,\omega) = \sum_j \psi_j(x) \int dx' \phi_j^*(x') \cdot \Psi_0(x',\omega). \quad (A12) \]

Substituting in Eq. (A7),
\[ (\mathcal{L} - i\omega \mathbf{1}) \sum_j a_j(\omega) \psi_j(x) = \mathcal{L} \sum_j \psi_j(x) \int dx' \phi_j^*(x') \cdot \Psi_0(x',\omega), \]
\[ \sum_j a_j(w)(i\omega_j - i\omega) \psi_j(x) = \sum_j \psi_j(x) i\omega_j \int dx' \phi_j^*(x') \cdot \Psi_0(x',\omega). \quad (A13) \]

Multiplying by \( \phi_k^*(x) \) and integrating over \( x \),
\[ a_k(\omega) = (-\omega_k/((\omega - \omega_k)) \int dx' \phi_k^*(x') \cdot \Psi_0(x',w). \quad (A14) \]

Thus the solution to Eq. (A4) is
\[ \Psi(x,\omega) = \sum_j \psi_j(x) \frac{-w_j}{w - w_j} \int dx' \phi_j^*(x') \cdot \Psi_0(x',\omega). \quad (A15) \]

In the type of problem investigated in this paper, the forcing term \( \Psi_0(x,t) \) can be separated into a spatial term \( \Psi_0(x) \) and a time-dependent term \( \Psi_0(t) \), with Fourier transform \( \Psi_0(\omega) \). Then,
\[ \Psi(x,\omega) = R(x,\omega) \Psi_0(\omega), \quad (A16) \]
\[ R(x,\omega) \text{ is the (vector) response function} \]
\[ R(x,w) = \sum_j \psi_j(x) \frac{-r_j}{w - w_j} \quad (A17) \]
\[ r_j = -\omega_j \int dx' \phi_j^*(x') \cdot \Psi_0(x'). \quad (A18) \]

The response functions plotted in Figs. 5 and 6 are the sea surface elevation component of \( R \).

A1 Forcing at an open boundary

A similar result is obtained when forcing is due by a tidal wave entering through an open boundary. In this case the eigenfunctions are first obtained with \( \eta \) equal to zero on the open boundary and the equilibrium tide term in Eq. (A1) is


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replaced by a function which is zero within the region studied but has a step change along a line just inside the open boundary,

\[ \eta_0(x) = -\Theta(n)\eta_b(s). \]  

(A19)

where \( n \) and \( s \) are the coordinates normal and tangential to each point on the open boundary and \( \eta_b(s) \) is the forced wave at position \( s \). The function \( \Theta \) is zero inside the boundary and equals one on and outside the open boundary.

To confirm that Eq. (A19) has the right form, integrate Eq. (A1) between a point a distance \( \epsilon \) within the region and a point on the boundary. As the distance \( \epsilon \) tends to zero, all terms tend to zero except for

\[ \int_0 \frac{dn}{\rho g} \frac{\partial}{\partial n}(\Theta(n)\eta_b(s)). \]  

(A20)

But \( \eta \) is zero on the boundary and the integral of the gradient of a step function is one, so after integrating and rearranging, the value of sea level just inside the boundary equals

\[ \eta = \eta_b(s). \]  

(A21)

as required.

The derivation of Eq. (A15) follows as before, the main change occurring in Eq. (A13) which now reads as

\[ (\mathcal{L} - \iota \omega \mathbf{1}) \sum_j a_j(\omega) \Psi_j(x) = \left(-g \nabla(\Theta(n)\eta_b(s)) \right) \]  

(A22)

When multiplied by \( \phi_k^*(x) \) and integrated over \( x \), the right-hand side becomes an integral around the open boundary \( s \),

\[ -g \int ds \phi_k^*(\eta_b(s)) \cdot (\partial/\partial n) \Theta(n)\eta_b(s)). \]  

(A23)

where \( \phi_k^* \) is the velocity component of eigenvector \( \phi_k \) which is normal to the boundary. Integrating by parts, this becomes

\[ g \int ds \partial/\partial n(\phi_k^*(\eta_b(s))). \]  

(A24)

Thus the integral of Eq. (A15) is replaced by an integral around the open boundary.

A2 Symmetry

Equation (A5) corresponds to a Fourier transform representation when only a single angular velocity is present. For the general case where the system contains a full range of angular velocities, the Fourier transform between the time and angular velocity representation of \( \Psi(x) \) is

\[ \Psi(x, t) = \int d\omega \exp(-i\omega t) \Psi(x, \omega). \]  

(A25)

\[ \Psi(x, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int dt \exp(i\omega t) \Psi(x, t). \]  

(A26)

\( \Psi(x, t) \) is real so

\[ \Psi(x, -\omega^*) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \exp(i\omega t) \Psi(x, t), \]  

(A27)

and

\[ \Psi(x, -\omega^*) = \Psi(x, \omega). \]  

(A28)

\( \Psi_0(x, t) \) is also real, so

\[ \Psi_0(x, -\omega^*) = \Psi_0(x, \omega). \]  

(A29)

Similarly, for the response function \( R(x, \omega) \) relating \( \Psi(x, \omega) \) and \( \Psi_0(x, \omega) \),

\[ R(x, -\omega^*) = R(x, \omega). \]  

(A30)

In Eqs. (A15) and (A17), this means that if there is a pole at \( \omega_j \) with residue \( r_j(x) \), there must also be one at \(-\omega_j^* \) with residue \(-r_j(x)^* \).

A3 Causality

Substituting the response function equation (Eq. A16) into Eq. (A25),

\[ \Psi(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \exp(-i\omega t) \Psi(x, \omega), \]  

(A31)

\[ = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \exp(-i\omega t) R(x, \omega)\Psi_0(\omega), \]  

(A32)

\[ = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \exp(-i\omega t) R(x, \omega) \frac{1}{2\pi} \int dt \exp(i\omega t) \Psi_0(t'). \]  

(A33)

Let the forcing \( \Psi_0(t) \) be an impulse at time zero only. Such an impulse can be represented by the product \( \Psi_0(\delta(t)) \). \( \Psi_0 \) is a constant and the delta function \( \delta(t) \) has the property that for any function \( F(t) \),

\[ \int dt \delta(t) F(t) = F(0). \]  

(A34)
Then, using Eq. (A17),

$$
\Psi(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \exp(-i\omega t) \sum_j \psi_j(x) \frac{r_j}{w - w_j} \frac{1}{2\pi}
$$

$$
\int dt' \exp(i\omega t') \delta(t') \Psi_0
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \exp(-i\omega t))
$$

$$
\sum_j \psi_j(x) \frac{r_j}{w - w_j} \Psi_0.
$$

The integrand is an analytic function of \(\omega\), so the integral can be completed using the method of contour integration. If \(t\) is positive, \(\exp(-i\omega t)\) tends to zero as \(\omega\) tends to minus infinity, so the contour can be completed in a clockwise direction around the negative imaginary half-plane. Thus,

$$
\Psi(x, t) = -i \sum_j \exp(-i\omega_j t) \psi_j(x) r_j \Psi_0,
$$

where the sum is over the poles in the negative imaginary half plane. Each resonance oscillates independently and dies away at its own natural rate.

If \(t\) is negative, the contour can be completed around the positive imaginary half-plane. If there are any poles there, the result is non-zero, so the system is responding before any forcing is applied. This is impossible for physically realistic systems as it breaks causality. As a result there can be no poles in the positive imaginary half-plane, i.e. no resonances with positive imaginary components of angular velocity.

### Appendix B: Mathematical and numerical details

The model used for the present study represents Laplace’s tidal equations as a set of finite difference equations on an Arakawa C-grid, as described in Webb (2013a). The model assumes a time dependence of the form \(\exp(-i\omega t)\), where \(t\) is time and \(\omega\) the angular velocity of the ocean wave. If the model variables are represented by a vector \(y\), then the finite difference equations can be written as a matrix equation,

$$
(L - i\omega I)y = z,
$$

where \(I\) is the unit matrix. The term \((-i\omega I)\) results from the time-dependent terms in Laplace’s tidal equations and the matrix \(L\) contains the contributions from all the other terms in the set of finite difference equations. The vector \(z\) represents the forcing. If the variables are numbered in a systematic manner, \(L\) becomes a band matrix and the equations can be solved using efficient band matrix algorithms.

### B1 The open boundary condition

In previous versions of the model, sea surface height (SSH) points on the open boundary were treated explicitly as part of the model vector \(y\). However, an investigation of the properties of the adjoint system (Webb, 2014) showed that it was better to treat the open boundary condition implicitly, that is as an additional term acting on the normal velocities at points adjacent to the open boundary.

Webb (2014) also showed that it is better to set the tangential velocities at the open boundary to zero, so this was done in the present model. The change ensures that the finite difference Coriolis terms conserve energy and also ensures that the resulting matrix equation has the expected adjoint symmetry.

The previous model also used Dirichlet boundary conditions in which SSH on the open boundary is fixed. To allow radiation of energy through the open boundary, a scheme has been developed based on the one proposed by Flather (1976) which is often used for time-dependent models.

Let \(\zeta\) represent sea surface height and \(u\) the velocity normal to an open boundary placed at the origin of coordinate \(x\). In a plane wave propagating in the positive direction in a region of constant depth \(h\), the sea surface height and velocity are related by

$$
u = (c_0/h) \zeta, \quad \text{B2}
$$

where the wave speed \(c_0\) equals \((gh)^{1/2}\).

The new boundary condition assumes that the solution in the neighbourhood of a boundary point can be expressed as the sum of two such waves each propagating in opposite directions normal to the boundary,

$$
\zeta = A \exp(ikx - i\omega t) + B \exp(-ikx - i\omega t), \quad \text{B3}
$$

$$
u = A(c_0/h) \exp(ikx - i\omega t) - B(c_0/h) \exp(-ikx - i\omega t).
$$

If \(A\) represents the unknown outgoing wave and \(B\) the known incoming wave, then eliminating \(A\), the open boundary condition becomes

$$
\zeta - (c_0/h)u = 2B. \quad \text{B4}
$$

As the open boundary value of \(\zeta\) is not part of the model vector, this equation is used to replace the term involving the open boundary \(\zeta\) in the equation for the normal velocity point closest to the boundary.

Webb (2013b) proposed a similar scheme but one which allowed for the differing position of the SSH and normal velocity points. Unfortunately, the resulting open boundary condition is a function of \(\omega\) and as a result the matrix \(L\) also becomes a function of \(\omega\). Tests were carried out with both boundary conditions, to see the effect of the change on the calculated eigenvalues and eigenfunctions. The effect was small, the differences in the calculated resonance eigenvalues being less than 0.01 rad day$^{-1}$.
B2 Calculation of eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Initial estimates of the eigenvalues \( \omega_j \) were obtained from the data sets used to generate Figs. 5 and 6 by fitting the four points around each maximum of the response function, for a fixed \( x_k \), to the expansion

\[
R(x_k, \omega) = R_j(x_k)/(\omega - \omega_j) + B(x_k) + C(x_k)\omega. \tag{B5}
\]

Accurate values of the eigenvector and eigenvalue were then obtained by inverse iteration, i.e. by solving the set of equations

\[
(L - i\omega'_j)\psi_j = 0, \tag{B7}
\]

\[
(L - i\omega'_j)\psi_j = \psi_j/N_j. \tag{B8}
\]

Subtracting the equations, the true eigenvalue \( \omega \) is given by

\[
\omega_j = \omega'_j - i/N_j. \tag{B9}
\]

The results were checked by obtaining the corresponding eigenvectors \( \phi_j \) of the Hermitian adjoint matrix equation with eigenvalue \(-w^*_j\). These were then normalised so that the dot product \((\psi_j^* \cdot \phi_j)\) equaled one. Under these conditions the dot product \((\psi_j^* \cdot \phi_k)\) should be zero when \( j \neq k \). This was found to be correct to within the machine rounding error.

B3 The residue

In Sect. 7 of the paper, Eq. (3) requires the SSH residue \( A_j(x_m) \) of the eigenvector at position \( x_m \). Let \( y \) be the solution of the matrix equation B1,

\[
y = \sum_k a_k \psi_k. \tag{B9}
\]

Then using the matrix eigenvectors and eigenvalues defined in Appendix B2,

\[
(L - i\omega) \sum_k a_k \psi_k = z, \tag{B10}
\]

\[
\sum_k a_k (i\omega_k - i\omega) \psi_k = z. \tag{B11}
\]

Taking the dot product with \( \phi_j \) and rearranging,

\[
a_j = \frac{i}{(\omega - \omega_j)}(\phi_j^* \cdot z). \tag{B12}
\]

Thus the residue at \( x_m \) is

\[
A_j(x_m) = \phi_j^* m (\phi_j^* \cdot z). \tag{B13}
\]

The residue can also be obtained from the inverse iteration sequence (Eq. B6) without solving for the adjoint eigenvalue. If the iterations are initialised with \( \psi_j^{[0]} \) equal to \( z \) and \( N_j^{[0]} \) equal to 1, then after \( n \) iterations

\[
\psi_j^{[n]} = \psi_j^{[n-1]} i(\phi_j^* \cdot z) \prod_{k=1}^n (N_j^k/N_j^{[k]}), \tag{B14}
\]

where \( \epsilon \) is the contribution from other resonances. Once the solution has converged then, to within the machine rounding error, \( \epsilon \) is zero and \( \psi_j^{[n]} \) equals \( \psi_j^{[n-1]} \), so

\[
i(\phi_j^* \cdot z) = \prod_{k=1}^n (N_j^k/N_j^{[k]}). \tag{B15}
\]

\[
A_j(x_m) = \psi_j m \prod_{k=1}^n (N_j^k/N_j^{[k]}). \tag{B16}
\]
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