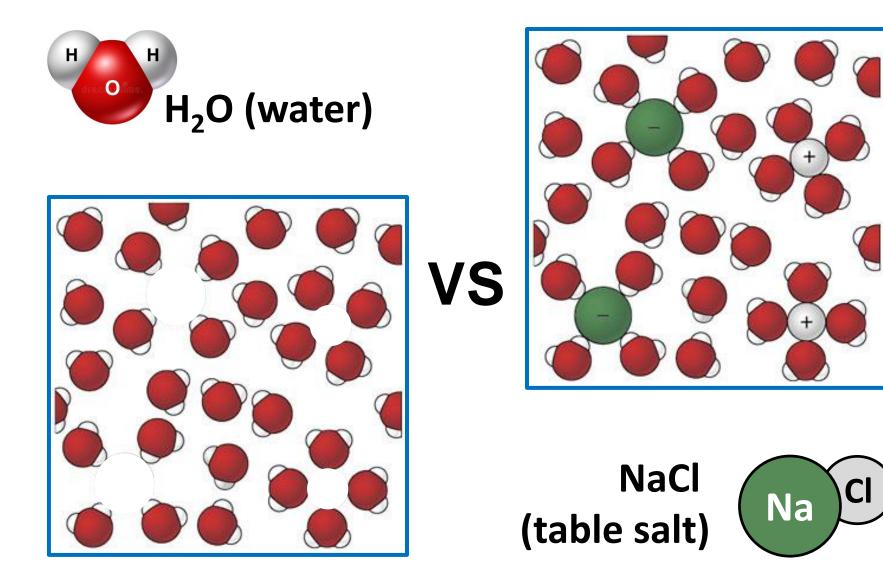
# WORLD OCEAN

PART 1

## What Kind of Water?



# Saltwater (Saline Water)

- <u>Saltwater</u> is water that contains a certain amount of salts with dissolved salt concentration of more than 1%.
- Oceans and seas.
- Saltwater is also found in some lakes and ponds as well as underground.



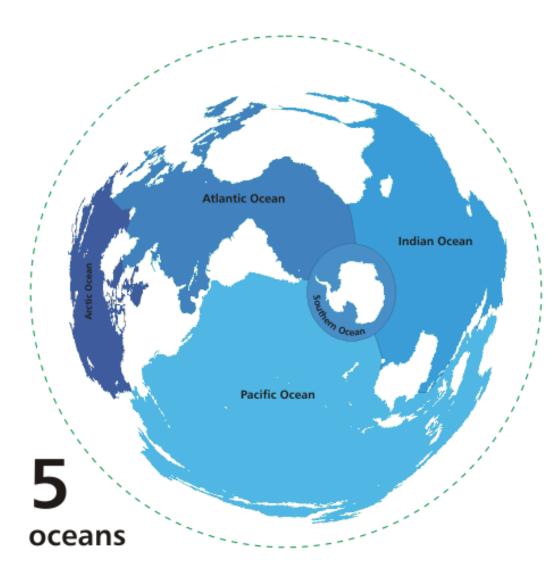
## **Quick Sea Facts**

1. There are 111 seas in the world!



- 2. <u>Largest sea: Philippine Sea</u>, ~2 million sq mi.
- 3. <u>Smallest</u> sea: Marmara Sea (Turkey), at 4,380 sq mi.
- 4. <u>Saltiest true (open) sea: Red Sea</u>, ~4.0%, due to high evaporation, little precipitation, and few (and mostly seasonal) inflowing rivers.
- 5. <u>Saltiest land-locked</u> sea: Dead Sea, ~30%!
- 6. <u>Lowest salt content: Baltic Sea</u>, only 1.0-1.5%, due to low evaporation and many inflowing rivers.
- 7. <u>Warmest sea: the Persian Gulf</u> contains the warmest sea water in the world reaching at 35°C (95°F); Red Sea is the second warmest.
- 8. <u>Coldest</u> seas are found <u>near the poles</u>.
- 9. The only sea <u>without a land boundary</u>: Sargasso Sea, home to free-floating seaweed called Sargassum and an amazing variety of marine species.

#### Oceans are the largest bodies of water on Earth (contain salt water only)



- Historically, people first began exploring shoreline shape, ocean depth, and tides.
- Temperature and salinity are two important factors that influence ocean circulation and as a result, the climate of the Earth.

#### Tides

<u>Tides</u> are the slow, periodic vertical rise and fall of the ocean surface.

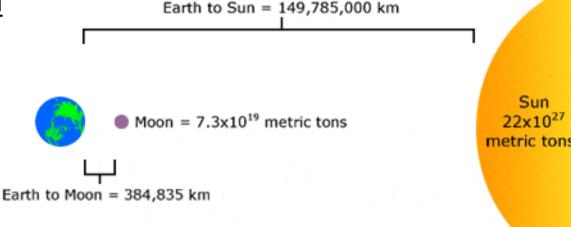


- Tide is a giant wave caused by gravitational pull of the Moon and Sun on the rotating Earth.
- The gravitational pull on liquids is much more noticeable than on solids (because liquids move more easily than solids).
- One <u>low-tide/high-tide cycle</u> takes about 12 hours and 25 minutes (the *lunar day* is equal to about 24.8 hours).
- <u>Tidal range</u> is the difference in water level between high-tide and low-tide.
- Tides produce oscillating currents known as tidal streams.
- While tidal changes in sea level are easier to observe where land and water meet, they exist everywhere even in the middle of the ocean.

#### **Gravitational Pull of the Moon and Sun**

The relationship between the masses of the Earth, Moon and Sun and their distances to each other play a critical role in affecting the Earth's tides.

- The Sun is <u>27 million</u> <u>times more massive</u> than the Moon.
- It is also <u>390 times</u> <u>further away</u> from the Earth than the Moon.

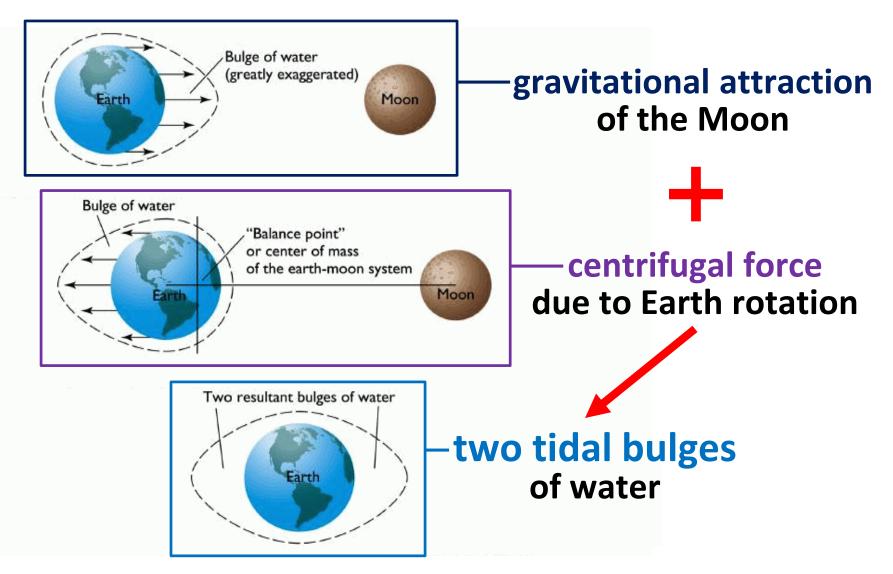


• As a result, the Sun's tide-generating force is about half that of the Moon.

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Tide-Generating ~ <u>Mass</u>
Force (Distance)<sup>3</sup>
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The Moon is the dominant force affecting the Earth's tides.

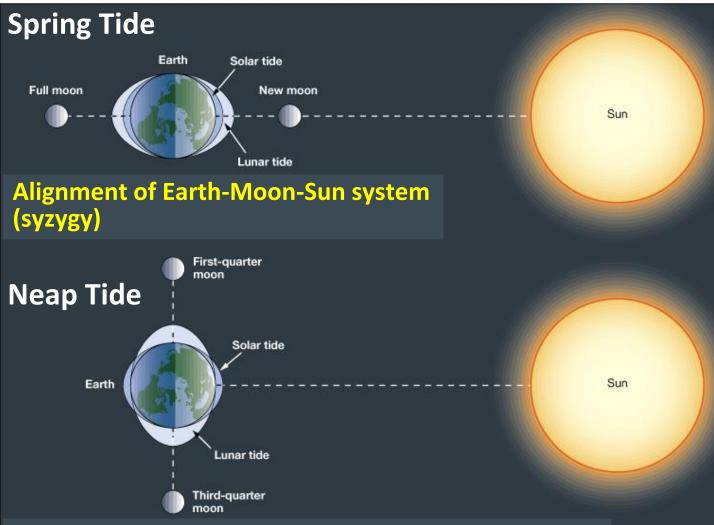
## **Tidal Bulges**



The Sun has a similar effect, however ~2 times smaller.

#### Monthly Tidal Cycle (29½ days)

#### About every 7 days, Earth alternates between:

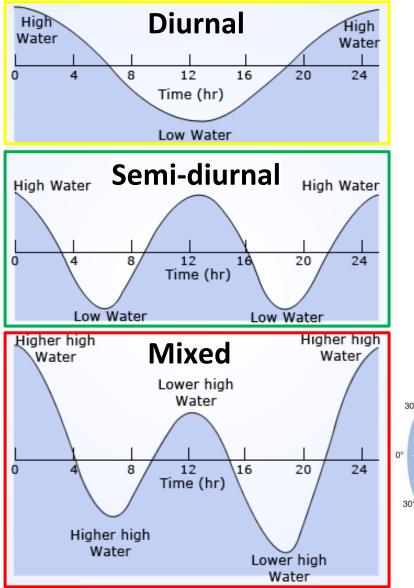


Earth-Moon-Sun system at right angles (quadrature)

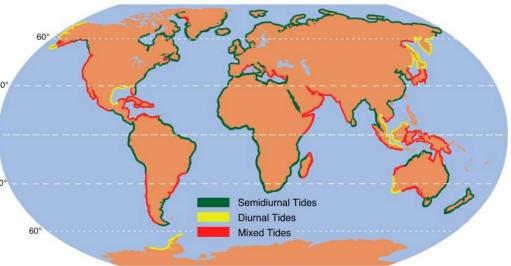
Spring Tide large tidal range, highest high tide and lowest low tide

Neap Tide moderate tidal range

# **Types of Tides**

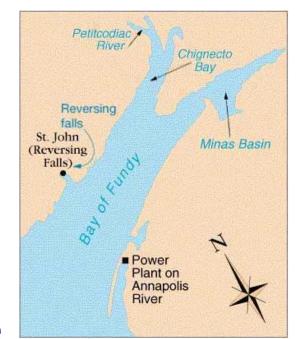


- Diurnal: one tidal cycle per day (Gulf of Mexico)
- Semi-diurnal: two high waters and two low waters each day (Boston, MA)
- Mixed: two high and two low waters each day, all four with different heights (Los Angeles, CA).



#### The Bay of Fundy, Canada: world's largest tidal range

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



#### Alma harbor at High Tide and Low Tide

