DRAFT Version 1.1 Standards for Digital Tide and Tidal Current Tables

The following is a list of fundamental attributes that digital tide prediction tables should have.

A. General Guidelines for all types of Digital Tide and Tidal Current Tables

- The issuing office should provide documentation on how to install or read the electronic tables. This information should be provided in either hardcopy written form (for example, on a separate sheet of paper or on the cover of a CD or other media), or electronically in a plain ASCII text 'readme.txt' type of file.
- The issuing office should provide its formal name, mailing address, web url and point of contact information on the cover of the media. It should also provide information an producing the tables (including both address and website), information on how to obtain annual updates, and how to obtain interim updates or errata information.
- There should be a statement outlining minimum computer system requirements,
- There should be user license and/or condition of use information.
- There should be a statement concerning the standing of the digital tables as meeting the applicable maritime regulations, either SOLAS and/or local country carriage requirements.
- Information on how to obtain product support should be provided.

B. Digital Tide Tables

Digital tide predictions can follow one of two formats.

1. Scanned image of Tide Tables:

This format consists of scanned images of the paper tide tables. This format should have the following attributes.

- a. Should be a faithful reproduction of all the pages of printed tide tables.
- b. The images should be formatted in a widely available, common format. Examples formats include, but not limited to, PDF, tiff, Jpeg, Gif. If PDF files are provided, then information on how to download Adobe[©] Reader must be provided.
- c. If multiple books are published, then each book should be located within its own folder.
- d. No modification of the scanned images is permitted.

2. Electronically Generated Tide Predictions

a. Station Selection:

Can either be map based or list based, organized by water body

b. Station InformationStation NameBody of Water Descriptor (if appropriate)Station Number (as appropriate)

Latitude and Longitude (degrees:min:sec and tenths? or decimal equivalent using GIS convention with western and southern hemispheres as being negative latitude and longitude)

Location Map with nearby prediction stations identified.

- c. Earth-Moon-Sun Astronomical Calendar Information (Tabular and/or integrated with graphical data output)
- d. Sunrise/Sunset Calendar Information (Tabular and/or integrated with graphical data output)
- e. Datum reference for all predicted data
 Default Reference Datum is the Chart Datum used by the Country.
 Ability to reference predictions to LAT if not the default Reference Datum.
 Ability to reference predictions to other tidal datums (such as HAT, MHW, MSL) and user identified datum such as a national geodetic datum or other coastal engineering or threshold datums.
- f. Data displays and tables in Metric or English units, with default depending upon country
- g. Time Zone display with Local Standard Time as default, with user selected option for UTC/GMT , daylight savings time, etc.
- h. Source of tidal predictions is provided via links to metadata information: Harmonic Constants or Time and Range Correction to Reference Station Dates of Harmonic Analyses time series used to create the set of Harmonic Constants used in the prediction.

Links to list of the Harmonic Constants used in the Prediction Dates of the observations used to create tabular time and height corrections (for Table 2 or secondary port stations) to a reference Station.

i. Ability to obtain graphical and tabular output for desired time period (historical and into the future) for:

Time series at minimum 1- hour increments.

Times and heights of predicted high and low tides.

Time series plots non-harmonic stations using curve fit to times and heights of high and low waters

- j. Ability to obtain output in common formats such as PDF, TXT, XML, CSV, S-112 single point formats
- k. Links to text files that contain special warning notes explaining areas of anomalous tidal conditions, special datums, or tidal based hazards to navigations (dual high or low waters, tidal bores, river flow dependencies and river datums, frequent non-tidal conditions, etc..)

1. Estimates of uncertainty in the predicted times and heights of high and low waters.

3. Graphical Display of Electronic Tide Predictions

If the product contains graphical representations of tidal predictions, they should follow the following recommendations. The objective of these recommendations is not to prescribe specific graphical views but rather to identify common elements that transcend all types of graphs.

- a. All axes should be clearly labelled
- b. The default datum should be the same as chart datum for the location of the prediction
- c. The tidal height units default should be the same as the country's printed tables.
- d. The display should include station information (as defined above)
- e. The display should include information on the source authority organization.
- f. The display should have the option to view the tide prediction numerical values used to create the graphic.

C. Digital Tidal Currents Tables

Digital Tidal Current Tables can be in the same two formats as Tide Tables and many of the same requirements that apply to digital tide tables should pertain to tidal current tables.

1. Scanned image of Tidal Current Tables:

This format consists of scanned images of the paper tide tables. This format should have the following attributes.

- a. Should be a faithful reproduction of all the pages of printed tide tables.
- b. The images should be formatted in a widely available, common format. Examples formats include, but not limited to, PDF, tiff, Jpeg, Gif. If PDF files are provided, then information on how to download Adobe[©] Reader must be provided.
- c. If multiple books are published, then each book should be located within its own folder.
- d. No modification of the scanned images is permitted.

2. Electronically Generated Tidal Current Predictions

a. Station Selection:

Can either be map based or list based, organized by water body

b. Station InformationStation NameBody of Water Descriptor (if appropriate)Station Number (as appropriate)

Depth of prediction, with the descriptor that the depth is either from the surface down or from the bottom up.

Latitude and Longitude (degrees:min:sec and tenths? or decimal equivalent using GIS convention with western and southern hemispheres as being negative latitude and longitude)

Location Map with nearby prediction stations identified.

- c. Earth-Moon-Sun Astronomical Calendar Information (Tabular and/or integrated with graphical data output)
- d. Sunrise/Sunset Calendar Information (Tabular and/or integrated with graphical data output)
- e. If applicable, Flood and ebb direction (True North) Datum reference for all predicted data
- f. Data displays and tables in Metric or English units, with default depending upon country
- g. Time Zone display with Local Standard Time as default, with user selected option for UTC/GMT, daylight savings time, etc.
- h. Source of tidal predictions is provided via links to metadata information: Harmonic Constants or Time and Range Correction to Reference Station Dates of Harmonic Analyses time series used to create the set of Harmonic Constants used in the prediction.

Links to list of the Harmonic Constants used in the Prediction Dates of the observations used to create tabular time and height corrections (for Table 2 or secondary port stations) to a reference Station.

i. Ability to obtain graphical and tabular output for desired time period (historical and into the future) for:

Time series at minimum 1- hour increments.

Times and heights of predicted high and low tides.

Time series plots non-harmonic stations using curve fit to times and heights of high and low waters

- j. Ability to obtain output in common formats such as PDF, TXT, XML, CSV, S-112 single point formats
- k. Links to text files that contain special warning notes explaining areas of anomalous current conditions, or tidal based hazards to navigations (e.g. tidal bores, river flow dependencies, frequent non-tidal conditions, etc..)
- 1. Estimates of uncertainty in the predicted times and heights of high and low waters.

3. Graphical Display of Electronic Tide Current Predictions

If the product contains graphical representations of tidal predictions, they should follow the following recommendations. The objective of these recommendations is not to prescribe specific graphical views but rather to identify common elements that transcend all types of graphs.

- g. All axes should be clearly labelled
- h. The default datum should be the same as chart datum for the location of the prediction
- i. The tidal height units default should be the same as the country's printed tables.
- j. The display should include station information (as defined above)
- k. The display should include information on the source authority organization.
- 1. The display should have the option to view the tide prediction numerical values used to create the graphic.

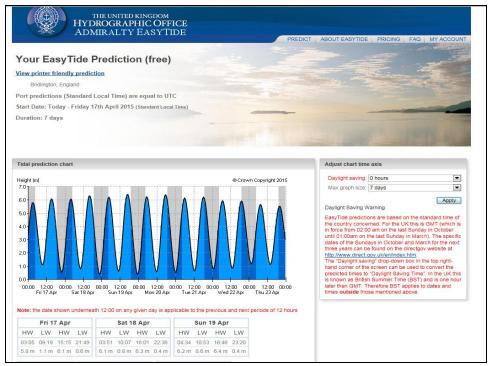
USA - NOAA Example Scanned Tide Table

Albany, New York, 2015

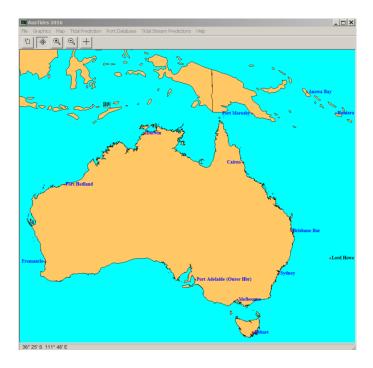
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7 w	0022 0540 1216 1742	-0.2 4.8 0.2 5.1	-6 146 6 155	22 Th	0018 0520 1227 1733	-0.5 5.0 -0.4 5.7	-15 152 -12 174	7 Sa	0104 0632 1310 1826	0.2 5.0 0.5 5.0	152 15 152	22 Su	0128 0642 1356 1913	-0.2 5.6 -0.2 5.6	-6 171 -6 171	7 Sa	0520 1209 1728	5.6 0.5 5.3	171 15 162	22 Su	0013 0523 1245 1756	0.2 6.3 0.0 6.0	192 0 183
8 Th	0103 0625 1255 1822	0.0 4.7 0.4 5.0	0 143 12 152	23 F	0106 0612 1320 1830	-0.5 5.1 -0.4 5.6	-15 155 -12 171	8 Su	0137 0706 1350 1851	0.3 5.0 0.6 4.9	9 152 18 149	23 M	0216 0739 1452 2012	-0.1 5.6 -0.1 5.5	-3 171 -3 168	8 Su	0027 0550 1249 1757	0.5 5.6 0.6 5.2	15 171 18 158	23 M	0100 0615 1337 1853	0.3 6.2 0.1 5.8	189 177
9 F	0141 0710 1334 1901	0.1 4.6 0.5 4.9	140 15 149	24 Sa	0154 0708 1414 1931	-0.5 5.2 -0.4 5.5	-15 158 -12 168	9 M	0208 0730 1434 1924	0.4 5.0 0.7 4.8	152 152 21 146	24 Tu	0307 0837 1549 2111	0.1 5.6 0.1 5.4	171 3 165	9 M	0058 0607 1330 1821	0.6 5.7 0.7 5.2	18 174 21 158	24 Tu	0148 0710 1431 1951	0.5 6.1 0.3 5.7	15 186 9 174
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12 M	0334 0922 1559 2115	0.4 4.7 0.8 4.4	12 143 24 134	27 Tu	0429 1002 1710 2231	-0.3 5.3 -0.1 5.1	-9 162 -3 155	12 Th	0413 0923 1733 2234	0.7 5.2 0.9 4.4	21 158 27 134	27	0552 1133 1843	0.5 5.4 0.3	15 165 9	12 Th	0245 0751 1602 2041	0.9 5.8 1.1 4.9	27 177 34 149	27 F	0426 1005 1718 2245	1.0 5.6 0.7 5.5	30 171 21 168
13 Tu	0416 1006 1701 2220	0.4 4.7 0.8 4.3	12 143 24 131	28 W	0524 1101 1810 2330	-0.2 5.3 -0.1 5.0	-6 162 -3 152	13 F	0520 1028 1837 2348	0.7 5.2 0.8 4.4	21 158 24 134	28 Sa	0007 0648 1231 1938	5.3 0.5 5.4 0.2	162 15 165 6	13 F	0341 0844 1705 2201	1.0 5.8 1.1 4.9	30 177 34 149	28 Sa	0522 1104 1814 2342	1.1 5.6 0.8 5.6	34 171 24 171
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				31 Sa	0123 0808 1347	5.1 -0.1 5.4	155 -3 165													31 Tu	0128 0806 1346	5.9 1.0 5.7	180 30 174

Time meridian 75° W. 0000 is midnight. 1200 is noon. Times are not adjusted for Daylight Saving Time. Heights are referred to mean low water during lowest river stages which is the chart datum of soundings.

UK Example



Australian Example



TWCWG Programme Matters – P.Stone 04/13/2017

