

Preface

In the spring of 2009 in Cargèse, Corsica, we organized a school titled ‘Tides in Astronomy and Astrophysics’ with the support of CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), which brought researchers and students together and approached the theme of tides from as many directions as we could, offering lectures of a few hours each. This book is the outcome. We hope it will prove useful to a wide variety of readers.

The book focuses on the fundamental theories of tides at different scales of the universe—from tiny satellites to whole galaxies—and on the most recent developments. It also attempts to place the study of tides in a historical perspective.

We are grateful to Springer’s Editorial Board for welcoming the book to the *Lecture Notes in Physics* series. We wish to express our thanks as well to the laboratory SYRTE (Systèmes de Référence Temps-Espace, Observatoire de Paris) and to CNRS and its staff, especially Victoria Terziyan who helped to coordinate the spring school.

J. Souchay
S. Mathis
T. Tokieda



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Souchay, J.; Mathis, S.; Tokieda, T. (Eds.)

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