CONTENTS

	Declaration	i
	Abstract	ii
	Acknowledgements	iii
	Contents	iv
	List of Tables	vi
	List of Figures	vii
	List of Abbreviations	xii
1	**INTRODUCTION**	**1**
	1.1 BACKGROUND	1
	1.2 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY	4
	1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM	5
	1.4 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES	6
2	**LITERATURE REVIEW**	**9**
	2.1 OCEANOGRAPHY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN	9
	2.1.1 Physical Properties of sea water	10
	2.1.2 Physical Processes in the Ocean	12
	2.1.3 Biological Processes in the Ocean	14
	2.2 FISHERIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN	18
	2.2.1 Tuna Fishery in the Indian Ocean	18
	2.2.2 Tuna Production in the Indian Ocean	22
	2.2.3 Tuna Management in The Indian Ocean	27
	2.3 OCEAN REMOTE SENSING	28
	2.3.1 Satellites and Sensors	29
	2.3.2 Advantages and limitations of Remote Sensing	36
	2.4 REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS IN FISHERIES	39
	2.4.1 Predictions of Fishing Grounds	41
	2.4.2 Predictions of Fishing Depth	45
	2.4.3 Fisheries Management	46
3	**STUDY AREA**	**49**
	3.1 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	49
	3.2 OCEANOGRAPHIC ENVIRONMENT	49
	3.2.1 Salinity and Temperature	51
	3.2.2 Upwelling	54
	3.2.3 Mixed Layer Properties	54
	3.3 TUNA FISHERY IN THE STUDY AREA	55
	3.3.1 Sri Lanka's Tuna Fishery	56
	3.3.2 Sri Lanka's Tuna Production	59

4 MATERIALS AND METHODS **61**
4.1 DATA USED 61
4.1.1 Satellite Data 61
4.1.2 Argo Float Data 71
4.1.3 Fishery Data 74
4.2 DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSES 76
4.2.1 Satellite Data Processing 76
4.2.2 Fishery Data Processing 77
4.2.3 Fishery and Satellite Data Matching 78
4.2.4 Statistical Analyses 79
4.2.5 Processing of Temperature Vertical Profiles 82
4.2.6 Modeling of Temperature Vertical Profiles 82
4.2.7 Model Outputs and Satellite Data Matching 84
4.3 DETERMINATION OF POTENTIAL FISHING GROUNDS 85
4.3.1 Fuzzy Logic System 85
4.3.2 Image Classification 87

5 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION **92**
5.1 VARIABILITY OF CATCH DATA 92
5.1.1 Spatial and Temporal Variability of Catch Rates 92
5.1.2 Catch Variability on Sea Surface Temperature 96
5.1.3 Catch Variability on Sea Surface Chlorophyll 97
5.1.4 Catch Variability on Sea Surface Height 98
5.2 HABITAT PREFERENCES OF YELLOWFIN TUNA 98
5.3 POTENTIAL FISHING GROUNDS 104
5.3.1 Fishing Grounds Forecast 104
5.3.2 Validation of Fishing Grounds 108
5.4 YELLOWFIN TUNA AGGREGATING DEPTHS 115
5.3.1 The Sigmoid Model Results 115
5.3.2 Calculation of Parameters for the Sigmoid Model 121
5.3.3 Fishing depth Predictions 131

6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK **136**
6.1 CONCLUSIONS 136
6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK 137

APPENDICES 147
A International Publication-1 148
B International Publication-2 158
C Fishery Database 166

LIST OF TABLES

	Caption	Page No.
Table 2.1	AMSR-E performance characteristics.	30
Table 2.2	The spectral bandwidth (μm) and Field of View (IFoV) of the AVHRR, Source: World Data Center.	32
Table 2.3	Temporal coverage of NOAA-AVHRR sensor.	33
Table 2.4	MODIS sensor specifications of Band 8-16 used for ocean color, phytoplankton and biogeochemistry.	34
Table 2.5	Details about MODIS ocean products (NASA, b).	35
Table 2.6	The mission goals Topex/Poseidon are carrying six science instruments that are divided into 4 operational and 2 experimental sensors.	37
Table 3.1	Summary of offshore and high seas fishing fleets operated by Sri Lanka in 2012.	57
Table 4.1	Logbook data sheet printed on calendar days to record daily operational fishery data and information.	75
Table 5.1	Monthly variation of SST, SSC, SSH for Yellowfin tuna abundance.	99
Table 5.2	Single predictor GAM fits for Yellowfin tuna fishing grounds. The percentage of deviance and the generalized cross validation score is given for each predictor.	100
Table 5.3	Significance of the smooth terms included in the GAM for Yellowfin tuna occurrence in fishing grounds.	100
Table 5.4	Deviance and GCV scores of Yellowfin tuna CPUE of fishing grounds explained in GAM with variables added.	100
Table 5.5	Construction of GLM as each variable is added, residual deviance, the approximate AIC and F-statistic for Yellowfin tuna availability in the fishing grounds.	100
Table 5.6	Set of coefficients (slop and offset) in the linear relationships as shown in Figure 5.23, 5.23 and 5.25 corresponding to each latitude intervals.	122

LIST OF FIGURES

	Caption	Page No.
Figure 2.1	The Indian Ocean	9
Figure 2.2	Schematic representation of upwelling process due to surface wind stress and Ekman transport.	12
Figure 2.3	Marine Phytoplanton and Zoopnlankton.	16
Figure 2.4	Distribution of Tropical and Temperate tunas in the world oceans.	19
Figure 2.5	Target speicies of tuna by Sri Lanka offshore/high seas fishry, Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) and Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) from top to bottom in relative sizes.	20
Figure 2.6	Purse seine (PS) fishing effort form 1980-2010 in geographical areas shown above. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	21
Figure 2.7	Increased effort on log-schools of Yellowfin tuna by purse seine fishing gear. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	22
Figure 2.8	Yellowfin tuna (left) and Bigeye tuna (right) catches by gear types in 2011. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	22
Figure 2.9	Annual catches of Skipjack tuna by gear type from 1955 to 2007. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	24
Figure 2.10	Mean of annual total catches of Skipjack tuna by gear operating in the Indian Ocean over the period of 2008. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	24
Figure 2.11	Annual catches of Yellowfin tuna by gear type from 1955 to 2007. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	25
Figure 2.12	Mean of annual total catches of Yellowfin tuna by gear operating in the Indian Ocean over the period of 2008. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	25
Figure 2.13	Annual catches of Bigeye tuna by gear type from 1955 to 2007. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	26
Figure 2.14	Mean of annual total catches of Bigeye tuna by gear operating in the Indian Ocean over the period 2008. Source: (IOTC, 2009).	26
Figure 3.1	A schematic representation of identified current branches during the Southwest Monsoon (May-September). Source: (Schott *et al.*, 2002)	50

Figure 3.2 A schematic representation of identified current branches showing reversal current pattern during the Northeast monsoon from December to March. Source: (Schott *et al.*, 2002) 51

Figure 3.3 Sea surface currents overlay on sea surface height in the Bay of Bengal from Jan-Dec 2008. Source: (Office of Naval Research) 52

Figure 3.4 Sea surface salinity variation in the Bay of Bengal from Jan-Dec 2008. Source: (Office of Naval Research) 53

Figure 3.5 Sri Lankan Longline fishing fleets, over 40 feet long; Picture taken from a fishery harbor at Negombo-Sri Lanka. 58

Figure 3.7 Total fishery production of Sri Lanka showing its catch trends of large pelagic fish from 1997-2008 (Source: *PELAGOS* database, NARA). 59

Figure 4.1 Monthly average sea surface temperature generated using daily AMSR-AVHRR microwave-infrared blended data products from Jan-June 2008. 63

Figure 4.2 Monthly average sea surface temperature generated using daily AMSR-AVHRR microwave-infrared blended data products from Jul-Dec 2008. 64

Figure 4.3 Monthly average sea surface chlorophyll$_a$ generated using daily Terra/Aqua MODIS data products from Jan-Jun 2008. 66

Figure 4.4 Monthly average sea surface chlorophyll$_a$ generated using daily Terra/Aqua MODIS data products from Jul-Dec 2008. 67

Figure 4.5 Monthly average sea surface height generated using daily Topex/Poseidon data products from Jan-Jun 2008. 69

Figure 4.6 Monthly average sea surface height generated using daily Topex/Poseidon data products from Jul-Dec 2008. 70

Figure 4.7 Float structure showing its components of 3-subsystems including the measuring sensors. (source: http://imos.org.au/instrument.html). 72

Figure 4.8 Maps showing the distribution of Argo floats and the observed temperature veertical profiles during the period from 2007-2009. 73

Figure 4.9 Schematic illustration of 3-day time series data generation of SSC. 77

Figure 4.10 Flow chart showing the main steps of data processing and analyses. 79

Figure 4.11 Sketch diagram showing temperature vertical profile of the ocean, illustrating upper mixed surface waters, the thermocline and deep layer. 83

Figure 4.12 Flow chart showing data processing, analyses and prediction of temperature vertical profiles. 85

Figure 4.13 The fuzzyfication with membership function of the three variables to generate potential fishing grounds. 86

Figure 4.14 The function to evaluate the combined probability image to classify highest potential fishing grounds. 88

Figure 4.15 The fuzzy membership functions of the three fuzzy sets of oceanographic parameters in each month (Jan-April). 89

Figure 4.16 The fuzzy membership functions of the three fuzzy sets of oceanographic parameters in each month (May-Aug). 90

Figure 4.17 The fuzzy membership functions of the three fuzzy sets of oceanographic parameters in each month (Sep-Dec). 91

Figure 5.1 Geographical locations of Yellowfin tuna fishing activities of the 3-year dataset (2006-2008). 93

Figure 5.2 Favorable SST isotherm on monthly average temperature image with superimposed of Yellowfin tuna catch rates (dots). This shows the space-time variability is more effective in predicting fishing grounds on SST images. 94

Figure 5.3 Temporal variability of (a) Yellofin tuna catch rates, (b) AMSR-AVHRR SST, (c) MODIS SSC and (d) AVISO SSH extracted from fishing grounds during the 3-year period (2006-2008). 95

Figure 5.4 (a) Box and whisker plot of SST ranges of Yellowfin tuna caught (b) Scatter plot of CPUE against SST and (c) Frequency of SST of Yellowfin tuna caught by Sri Lankan longliners. 96

Figure 5.5 (a) Box and whisker plot of SSC ranges of Yellowfin tuna caught (b) Scatter plot of CPUE against SSC and (c) frequency distribution SSC of Yellowfin tuna caught by Sri Lankan longlines. 97

Figure 5.6 (a) Box and whisker plot of SSH ranges of Yellowfin tuna caught (b) Scatter plot of CPUE against SSH and (c) Frequency distribution SSH of Yellowfin tuna caught by Sri Lankan longliners. 99

Figure 5.7 Empirical cumulative distribution frequencies for (a) AMSR-AVHRR SST, (b) MODIS SSC and (c) AVISO SSH as weighted by Yellowfin tuna catch during the period 2006-2008. 101

Figure 5.8 Generalized additive model (GAM) derived effect of oceanographic variables (a) AMSR-AVHRR SST, (b) MODIS SSC, and (c) AVISO SSH on Yellowfin tuna catch rates. Tick marks (rug) at abscissa axis represent the observed data points. Solid-line is the explaining function and dashed-line indicates the 95% confidence interval, equivalent to two standard deviations ($\pm 2S.D.$) 102

Figure 5.9 Potential Probability maps for Yellowfin tuna fishing grounds generated using monthly averaged SST, SSC and SSH from Jan-Jun 2008. 106

Figure 5.10 Potential Probability maps for Yellowfin tuna fishing grounds generated using monthly averaged SST, SSC and SSH from Jul-Dec 2008. 107

Figure 5.11 Catch overlay (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds in Jan. 2008 on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 110

Figure 5.12 Catch overlay (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds in March 2008 on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 110

Figure 5.13 Catch overlay (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds in April 2008 on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 111

Figure 5.14 Catch overlay (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds in May 2008 on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 111

Figure 5.15 Catch overlay (green circles) on weekly predicted potential fishing grounds on May 2008. 112

Figure 5.16 Deviation of Tuna catches (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds during SW monsoon peaks (June 2008) on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 113

Figure 5.17 Deviation of Tuna catches (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds during SW monsoon peaks (July 2008) on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 113

Figure 5.18 Deviation of Tuna catches (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds during NE monsoon peaks (October 2008) on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 114

Figure 5.19 Less deviation of Tuna catches (black circles) on predicted potential fishing grounds during NE monsoon (November 2008) on left and on right showing the catch rates against predicted fishing potentials. 114

Figure 5.20 Histograms of the thermocline dephs (Z_{tc}), hermocline temperatures (T_{tc}), and mixed layer temperatures (T_{max}) calculated using the Argo temperature profiles from 2007-2009. 116

Figure 5.21 Relationship between mixed layer temperature (T_{max}) obtained from Argo and SST measured by satellites. 116

Figure 5.22 Sigmoid Model fits (solid line) to the average temperature profile measured by Argo floats (dots) in six locations on January 2008. Horizontal and vertical dotted lines show the thermocline depth and its temperature. Date and location of the profiles is shown on the upper left corner. 118

Figure 5.23 Linear model fits showing the relationships, (a) A vs T_{max}, (b) ρ vs A and (c) λ vs A of the profiles between latitude 14-17. 119

Figure 5.24 Linear model fits showing the relationships, (a) A vs T_{max}, (b) ρ vs A and (c) λ vs A of the profiles between latitude 10-13. 120

Figure 5.25 Relationship between SSH and thermocline depths (Z_{tc}) calculated by Sigmoid model fitting to the Argo temperature profiles. 123

Figure 5.26 Based on the Table 5.6, linear model fits to (a) $slopeA$, (c) $slope\rho$, (e) $slope\lambda$, (g) $slopeZ_{tc} * offset\lambda$ with respect to latitudes, and (b) $offsetA$, (d) $offset\rho$, (f) $offset\lambda$ and (h) $offsetZ_{tc}$ with respect to their slopes. 124

Figure 5.27 Temperature vertical profiles predicted (solid line) and observed (circles) in four locations on 16.09.2007. 129

Figure 5.28 Temperature vertical profiles predicted (solid line) and observed (circles) in four locations on 01.06.2008 and 11.06.2008. 130

Figure 5.29 Thermocline depth (m) predictions made by the predictive algorithm using monthly SST and SSH from Jan.-June. 2008. 132

Figure 5.30 Thermocline depth (m) predictions made by the predictive algorithm using monthly SST and SSH from Jul.-Dec. 2008. 133

Figure 5.31 20°C Isotherm depth (m) predictions made by the predictive algorithm using monthly SST and SSH from Jan.-June. 2008. 134

Figure 5.32 20°C Isotherm depth (m) predictions made by the predictive algorithm using monthly SST and SSH from Jul.-Dec. 2008. 135