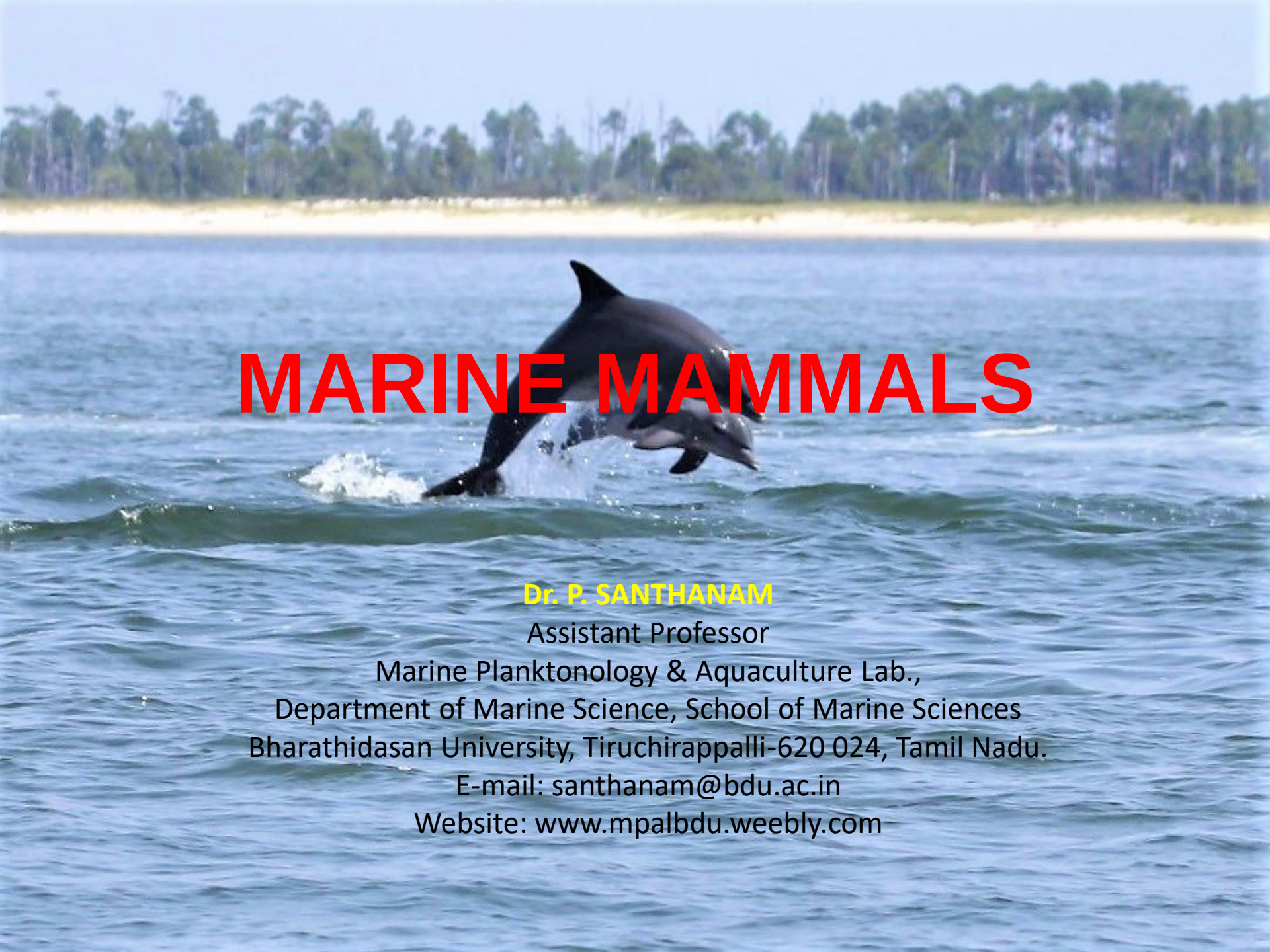


A photograph of a dolphin leaping from the water, carrying a smaller calf in its mouth. The dolphin is dark grey with a lighter patch on its belly. The water is blue with white foam from the leap. In the background, there is a sandy beach and a line of green trees under a clear sky.

MARINE MAMMALS

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CETACEANS

Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops melaena*)

- The bottlenose dolphin is perhaps the most familiar of the sea mammals. Their gentle nature has endeared them in our hearts.
- These highly social animals have actually been known to rescue humans from danger.
- They are intelligent creatures with a brain size similar to human. Some scientists believe they are capable of complex communication skills.



CETACEANS

Atlantic Spotted Dolphin (*Stenella frontalis*)

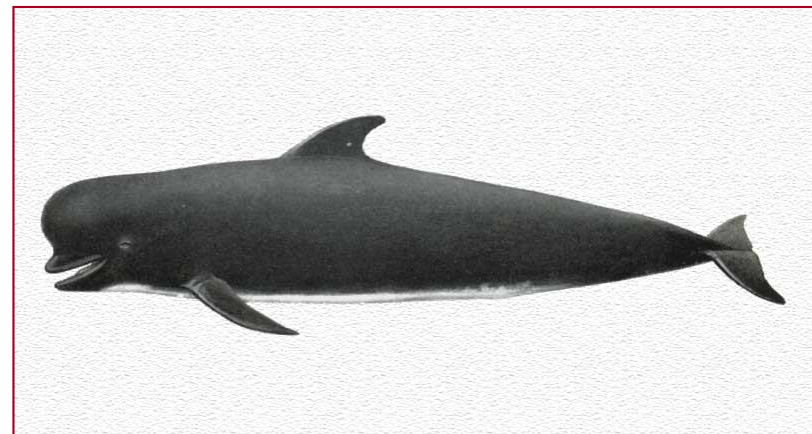
- The Atlantic spotted dolphin looks very similar to the bottlenose dolphin except for the noticeable body spots.
- They are generally somewhat smaller than their cousins.
- As with all dolphins they travel in close family groups called pods.



CETACEANS

Pilot Whale (*Globicephala melaena*)

- The pilot whale is a small member of the whale family, averaging about 10 feet in length.
- They are perhaps better known for the mass stranding in which entire pods of these animals will beach themselves in an apparent attempt at suicide. This behavior has yet to be explained.



CETACEANS

Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*)

- The killer whale is a highly intelligent and very sociable animal.
- It is a standard attraction at most marine parks.
- Pods of Orcas have been known to work together when hunting for food.
- They will even temporarily beach themselves to catch one of their favorite foods - the sea lion.



CETACEANS

Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*)

- The humpback whale is a large animal, growing to 60 feet in length.
- These magnificent animals were one hunted to the brink of extinction, but are now starting to make a comeback.
- They feed on plankton, and are perhaps best known for their enchanting song, which can be heard for hundreds of miles under the sea.



CETACEANS

Pacific Gray Whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*)

- Gray whales are among the best known large whales.
- They can frequently be seen swimming along the shores of the western states.
- Long endangered, these animals are just starting to recover from excessive hunting.
- They grow to 50 feet and are often seen covered with patches of barnacles.



CETACEANS

Blue Whale

(*Balaenoptera musculus*)

- At up to 33 meters (110 ft) in length and 181 metric tonnes or more in weight, it is believed to be the largest animal to have ever lived.
- Long and slender, the Blue Whale's body can be various shades of bluish-gray.
- Blue Whales were abundant in nearly all oceans until the beginning of the twentieth century



CETACEANS

Blue Whale

(*Balaenoptera musculus*)

- Blue Whales can reach speeds of 50 km/h (30 mph) over short bursts, usually when interacting with other whales, but 20 km/h (12 mph) is a more typical travelling speed. When feeding they slow down to 5 km/h (3 mph).
- Blue Whales feed plankton almost exclusively on krill, though they also take small numbers of copepods.



CETACEANS

Porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*)

- These are small cetaceans of the family **Phocoenidae**; they are related to whales and dolphins.
- The most obvious visible difference between the two groups is that porpoises have flattened, spade-shaped teeth distinct from the conical teeth of dolphins.
- Porpoises, divided into six species, live in all oceans, mostly near the shore. Probably best known is the Harbour Porpoise, which can be found across the Northern Hemisphere.



CETACEANS

Porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*)

- Porpoises tend to be smaller but stouter than dolphins. They have small, rounded heads and blunt jaws instead of beaks.
- Their teeth are spade-shaped. In addition, a porpoise's dorsal fin is generally triangular.
- Porpoises are predators of fish, squid, and crustaceans. Although they are capable of dives up to 200 m.



SIRENIA

Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*)

- Manatees are graceful and peaceful creatures.
- They feed on water plants, and inhabit the waterways and shores of Florida.
- Other species are found in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.
- They are slow creatures, and are in danger of extinction due to careless boaters.
- Most manatees can be seen with boat motor scars on their backs.



SIRENIA

Sea cow (*Dugong dugong*)

- The **dugong** is a large marine mammal which, together with the three species of manatee,
- This is only fully-aquatic herbivorous mammals.
- Which spans the waters of at least 37 countries throughout the Indo-Pacific.
- The majority of dugongs live in the northern waters of Australia between Shark Bay and Moreton Bay.



MARINE MAMMALS

SIRENIA

- The dugong has a fusiform body with no dorsal fin or hind limbs, instead possessing paddle-like forelimbs used to maneuver itself.
- It is easily distinguished from the manatees by its fluked, dolphin-like tail, but also possesses a unique skull and teeth.
- The dugong is heavily dependent on seagrasses for subsistence



MARINE MAMMALS

SIRENIA

- Its also found in South Pacific and Indian Oceans.
- Before 1970, it is thought that large populations were also present in Mozambique and coastal Kenya, but these have declined.



MARINE MAMMALS

Pinnipedia

Sea Lion

(*Zalophus californianus*)

- Sea lions are probably the best-known members of the pinniped family.
- They inhabit the western coast of the United States and Canada.
- These animals are clumsy on land, but underwater their graceful ballets can reach speeds of 25 mph.
- They can dive to over 1000 feet, where they feed primarily on fish and squid.



MARINE MAMMALS

Pinnipedia

Sea Otter

(*Enhydra lutris*)

- These adorable animals were once hunted to the brink of extinction for their fur.
- Inhabiting the coastal waters of the western United States, they are now protected and are making a comeback.
- They are often seen lying on their backs eating their favorite food - crustaceans.



MARINE MAMMALS

Pinnipedia

Seals

(Arctocephalus gazella)

- All of these seals have rear flippers that point backwards, and they move on land with a vertical undulating motion called "gallupping."
- They lack external ears and use their hind flippers for propulsion through the water.
- Typically, phocids have thin fur that does not trap air, therefore, they use blubber for insulation.



MARINE MAMMALS

Pinnipedia

Walruses

(*Odobenus rosmarus*)

- The only member of the family Odobenidae, are currently found in both Pacific and Atlantic Arctic ice pack areas, but in colonial times they were found as far south as Sable Island off Nova Scotia.
- One of their most distinctive features is their tusks. They are also known for nearly hairless skin and thin blubber. walruses lack external ears.
- In the water, walruses use either fore flippers (like otariids) or hind flippers (like phocids) for propulsion.



MARINE MAMMALS

Pinnipedia

Polar bear

(*Ursus maritimus*)

- Bear is native to the Arctic. Polar bears are the world's largest land carnivores, with most adult males weighing 300-600 kg (660-1320 lb); adult females are about half the size of males.
- Its thick blubber and fur insulate it against the cold. The bear has a short tail and small ears that help reduce heat loss, as well as a relatively small head and long, tapered body to streamline it for swimming.



MARINE MAMMALS

- A semi-aquatic marine mammal the polar bear has adapted for life on a combination of land, sea, and ice.
- It feeds mainly on seals, young walruses, and whales, although it will eat anything it can kill. It is the bear species most likely to prey on humans.



Importance of Marine mammals

- ❖ Whales, sea cows meat were eaten by several peoples.
- ❖ Oil from the whale and sea cows used as medicine, for cooking and lighting.
- ❖ Sea cows ivory and bones are used to make ornamental goods.
- ❖ Skin is used to make shields, helmet, belt and shoes.
- ❖ The milk of sea cows are drink by some peoples.