

# This presentation shows transformations of slides from the traditional to the assertion-evidence design

Before

Aalto University  
*Marine and Arctic Technology*  
Marine Risk and Safety Group

## Autonomous ship safety and future of seafaring

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**A!** Aalto University  
School of Engineering

After

## An initial risk assessment of autonomous ships

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<https://www.aalto.fi/en/2020/04/autonomous-ships-research-project-uses-remote-control-technology>

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School of Engineering

# Content

- Introduction
- Methods for autonomous ship safety
- Results of the initial steps of STPA applied to the concept of autonomous ship
- Recommendations related to capacity building for autonomous ships
- Conclusion

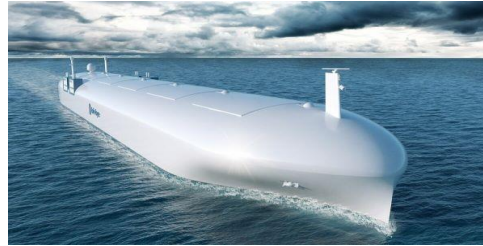
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# This talk focuses on the risk assessment and what its results recommend for the operators of autonomous ships



Risk assessment methods

Applied to  
autonomous ships



Recommendations for  
capacity building



# Introduction

## Why Autonomous Ships?

- They will have environmental advantages due to the fuel savings, which were already proven by Decision Support Systems onboard current ships.
- With the Blockchain, they will increase fuel efficiency, information sharing and optimize logistics chain
- They will improve transport infrastructure by reducing the density of land traffic
- They will shift the seafarers' workplace to Shore-based Control Centres
- **They will enhance safety both at ports and at sea**

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# Why autonomous ships?



<https://www.morethanshipping.com/blockchain-technology-friend-foe/>



<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/08-MS-C-99-MASS-scoping.aspx>



[https://www.shutterstock.com/search/trucks+business?orientation=horizontal&image\\_type=photo&safe=true&search\\_source=base\\_related\\_searches](https://www.shutterstock.com/search/trucks+business?orientation=horizontal&image_type=photo&safe=true&search_source=base_related_searches)

# Why do we need risk assessment?

Safety  
=  
Freedom of Risk



[https://www.freepik.com/premium-vector/care-person-crossing-street-urban-city-crosswalk-disabilities-man-with-helper-isometric\\_6214620.htm](https://www.freepik.com/premium-vector/care-person-crossing-street-urban-city-crosswalk-disabilities-man-with-helper-isometric_6214620.htm)

# Risk assessment is the possibility of undesired events and the associated uncertainties

Can cause losses



<http://marasine.com/var/node/6595>

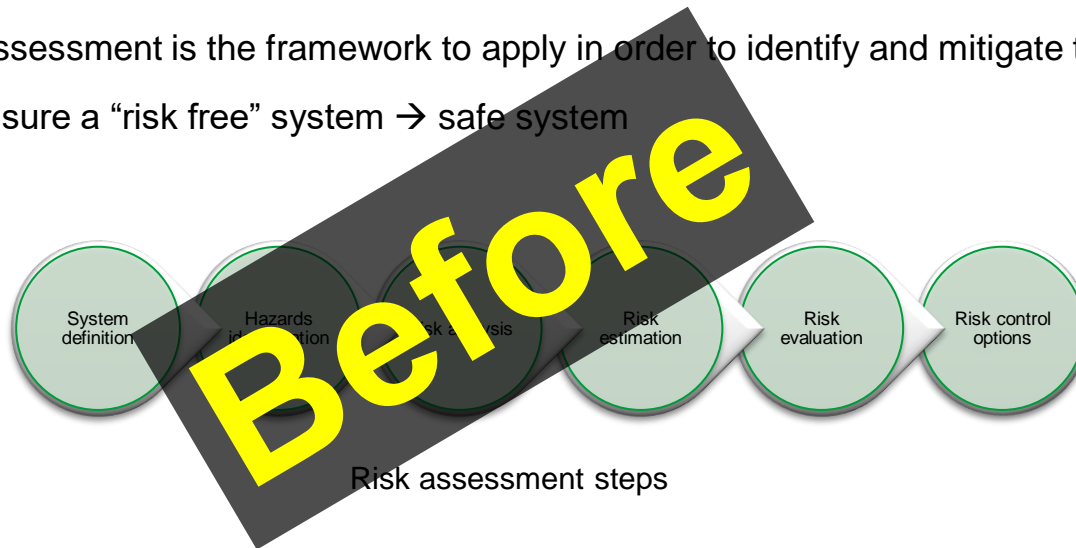
Uncertainties about the event  
Possibility and Consequences



<https://ocean.si.edu/conservation/pollution/animals-and-oil-spill-what-can-you-do>

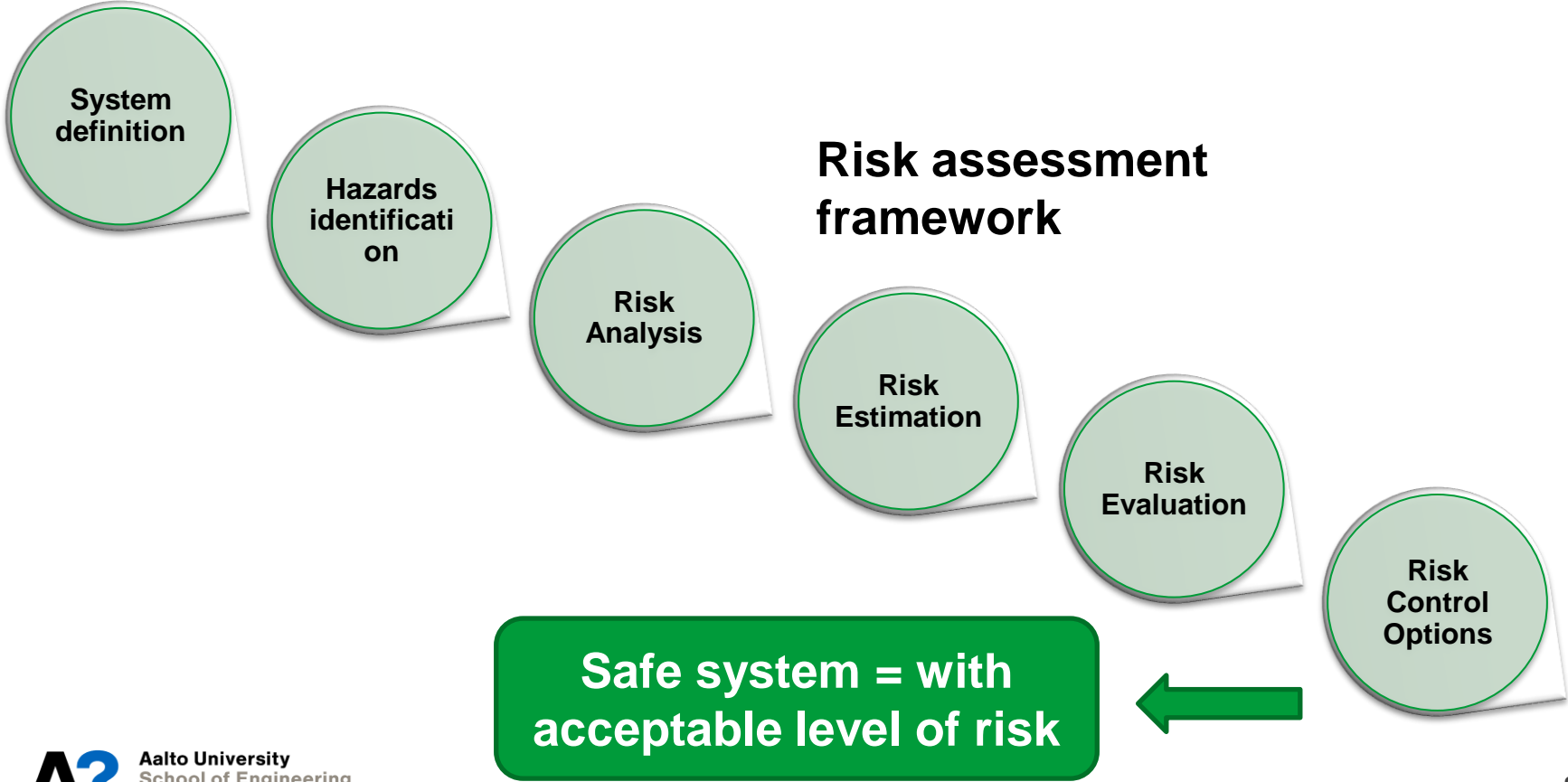
# Safety and Risk

- Safety is the freedom of risks
- Risk is the possibility of an undesired event and the associated uncertainties
- Risk assessment is the framework to apply in order to identify and mitigate the risks and ensure a “risk free” system → safe system





# A risk assessment framework is necessary to develop safe systems



# Risk assessment methods

- **Traditional methods: FTA, ETA, FMEA, HAZOP**

- They have been applied since ages , when systems were mostly electro-mechanical

- They focus on the failures of the system components and their frequencies (probabilities).

- The safety of the system is highly related to its reliability (low frequencies of failures)  $R=P*C$

- **System-theoretic methods: STPA, FRAM**

- Recent methods based on systems theory that came to cope with the complexity of modern systems

- They focus on both the components failures and the unsafe interactions between the system components

- Safety is an emergent property of the system; reliability does not necessarily result on safety

- They are limited to hazard analysis not all risk assessment steps

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# Traditional risk assessment methods have limitations

- Since 1930's
- Focus on system reliability  $f/t$



<https://www.dreamstime.com/stock-illustration-gear-system-simple-mechanical-wheels-isolated-white-background-image53996472>

$$\text{Risk} = P * C$$

→ Reliability implies safety

Probability	Consequence				
	Very Low 1	Low 10	Medium 100	High 500	Very High 1,000
Probable 1	1	10	100	500	1,000
Credible 0.1	0.1	1	10	50	100
Remote 0.01	0.01	0.1	1	5	10
Improbable 0.001	0.001	0.01	0.1	0.5	1
Unlikely 0.0001	0.0001	0.001	0.01	0.05	0.1

<https://www.ge.com/digital/documentation/meridium/Help/V43050/Default/Subsystems/Operations/Content/AboutBaselineRiskMatrixRecords.htm>

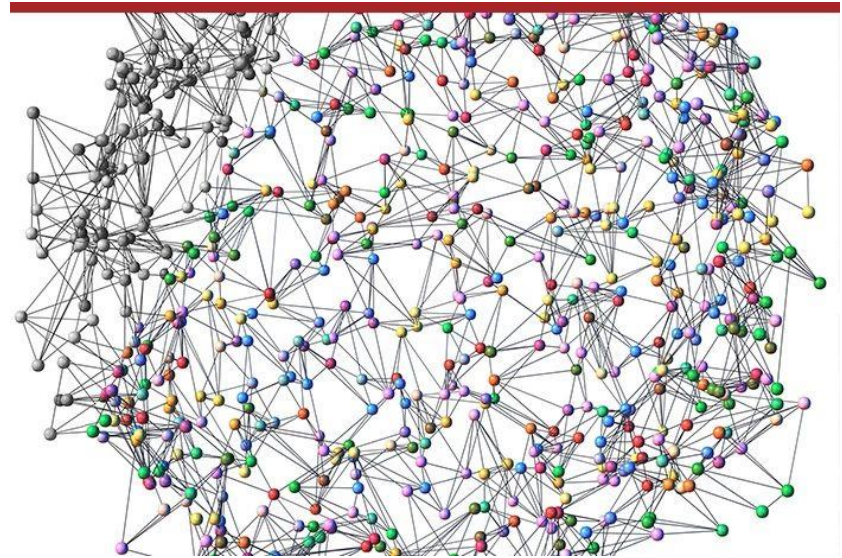
# Methods for Autonomous ship safety

- The autonomous ship is a complex software-intensive system with many interacting sub-systems → **System-theoretic methods are suitable**
- **STPA** is better than FRAM for the software-intensive systems such as autonomous ships
- STPA is an iterative process suitable for **new systems**
- STPA started from the space engineering systems and is currently applied to the modern systems of different transportation industries
- The maritime industry is slow in applying STPA. For autonomous ships few applications to isolated systems (such as Dynamic Positioning system)

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# System-theoretic methods are suitable for modern systems

- Recently based on systems theory for complexity
- Proactive
- Focus > on component interactions
- Safety > reliability
- Safety > an emergent property



<https://bigzinbigapple.com/f/can-complex-systems-collapse>

Examples: STPA, FRAM

# Recommendations related to capacity building for autonomous ships

**Before**



# The traditional safety measures of the maritime industry are inadequate for autonomous ships

- Formal Safety Assessment (FSA) for new design
- FSA adopted in 2002



<https://www.imo.org>

# STPA is the most suitable method for Autonomous ships

- New design
- Complex
- Software-intensive
- Transportation system



<http://emergence.libs.uga.edu/?q=node/11>



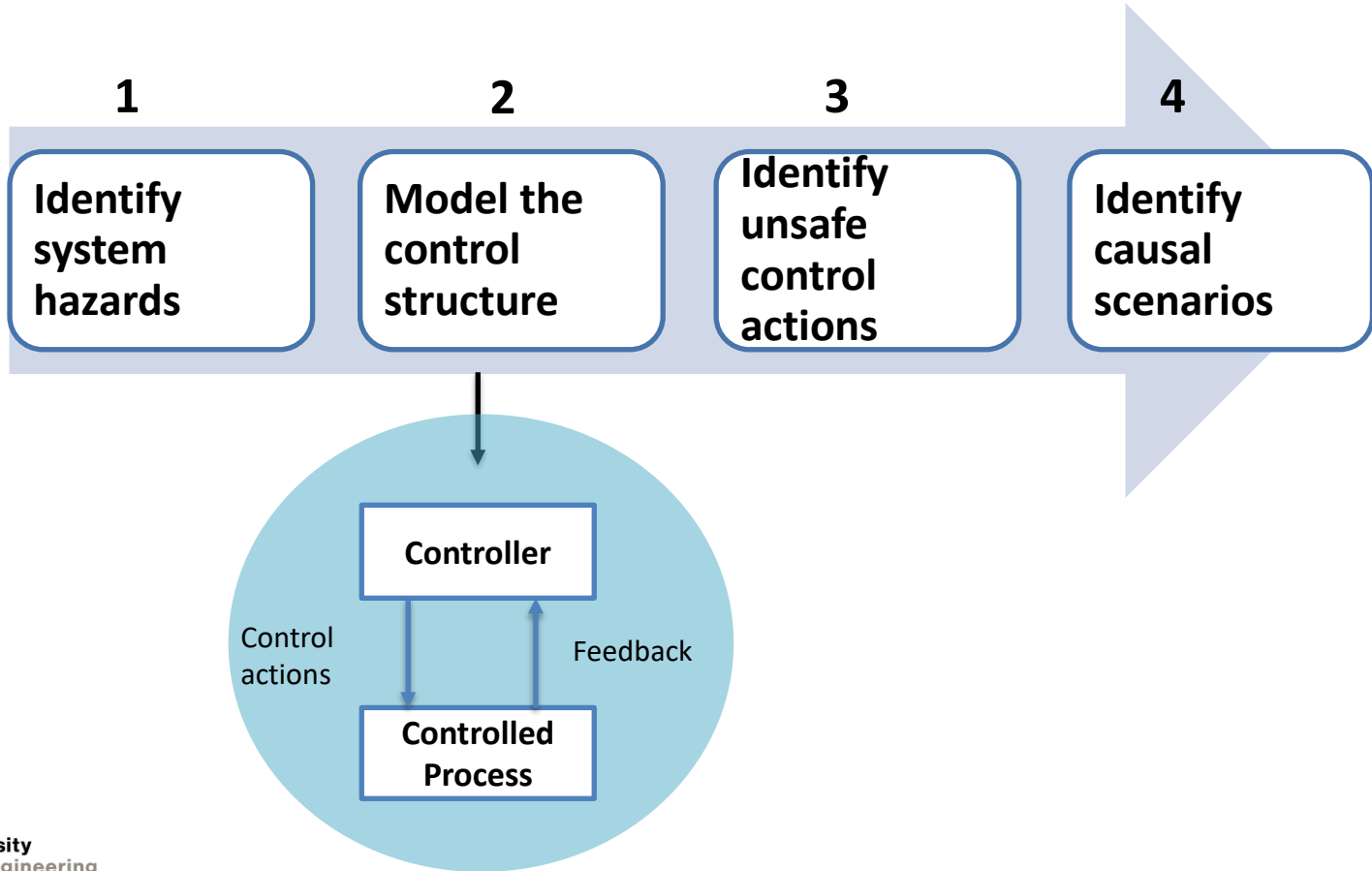
# STPA process

- A system should be modelled as hierarchical control loops, where every controller enforces the safety constraints on the controlled process behavior
- A system model is a functional model that does not focus on the technical design
- Accidents are caused by unsafe controls that violate the safety constraints

*STPA hazard analysis steps (Leveson, 2011)*

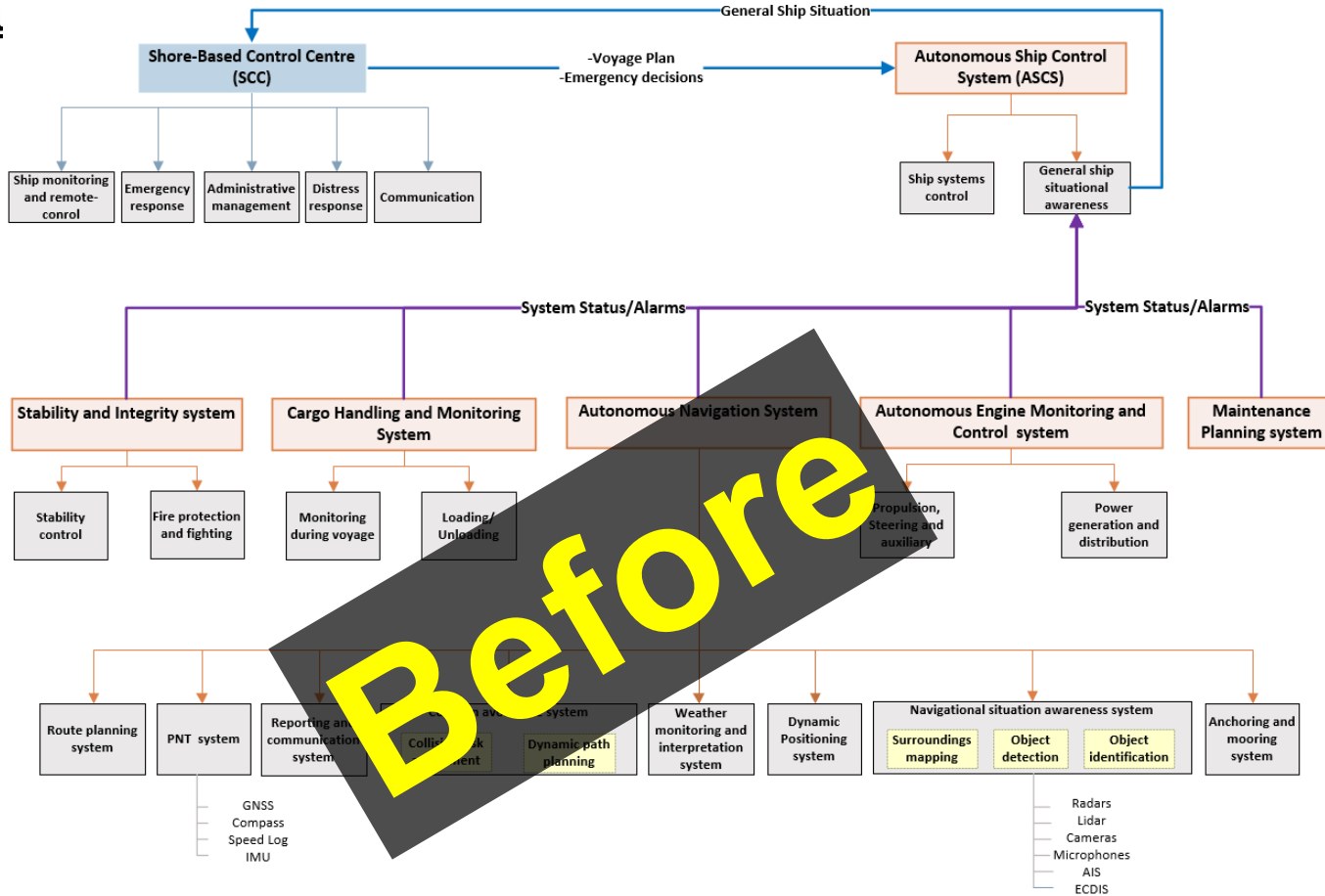


# STPA consists of applying four main steps

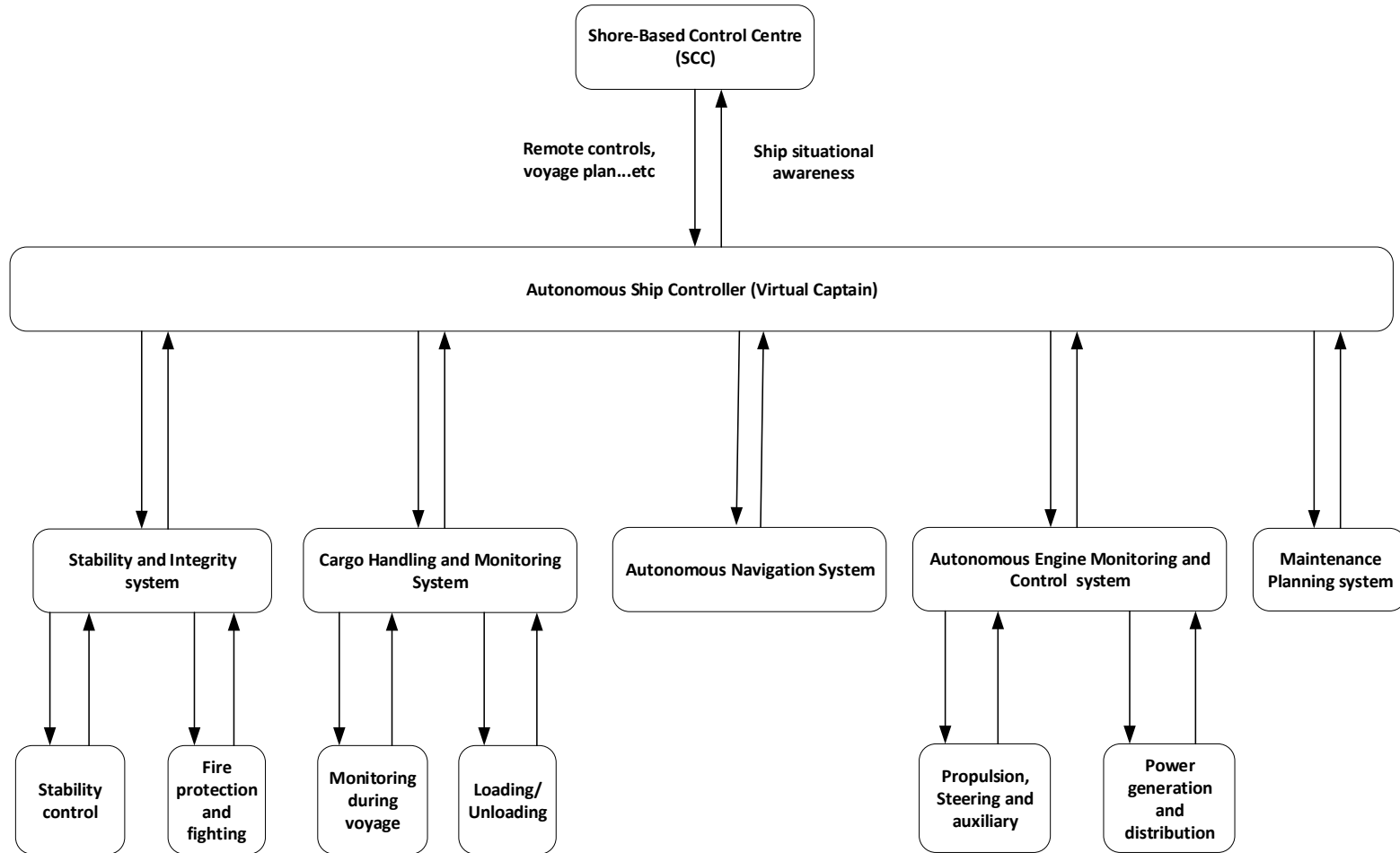


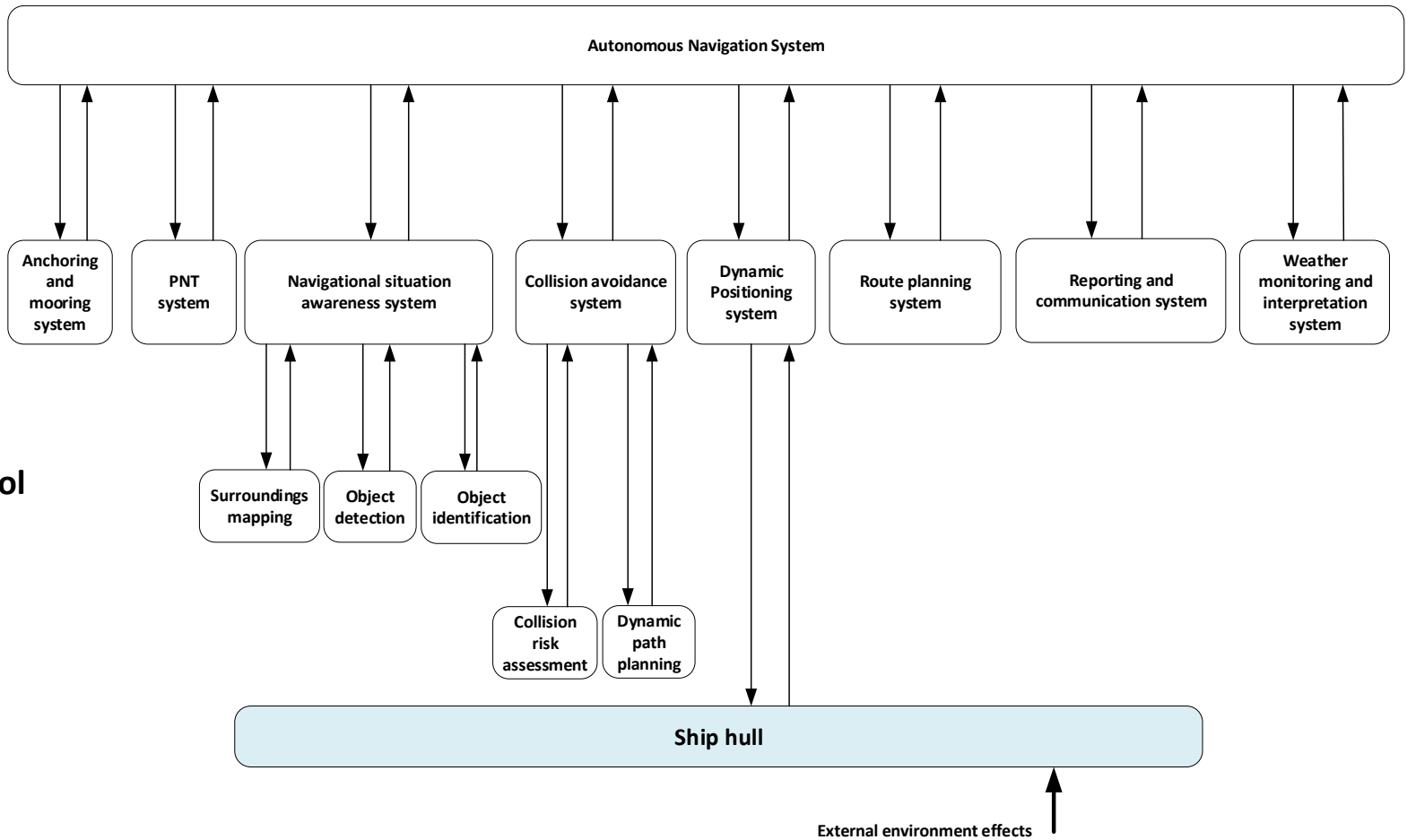
# Safety control

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## Safety control structure (Level1)





**Safety control structure (Level2)**

# Many data for Situational Awareness

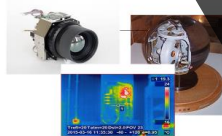


Shore-Based Control Centre

Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) for Positioning, Navigation and Timing, INMARSAT for satellite communication and distress messages



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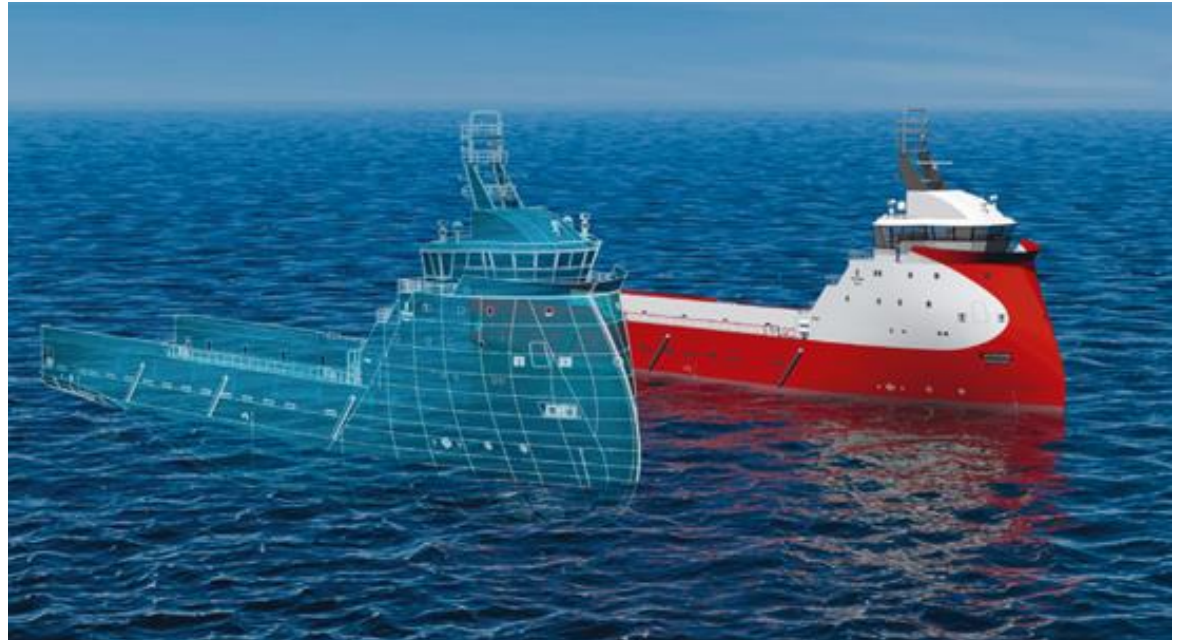
Navigation Systems (INMARSAT, Infrared Camera, Thermal Camera, Optical Camera), Sound Aiding System, Light Detection And Ranging (LIDAR), Radar, AIS data...

Radio communication, 5G mobile communication



# The operators must analyze the ship data to assess the inner capabilities for decision-making

Digital twin for the ship data

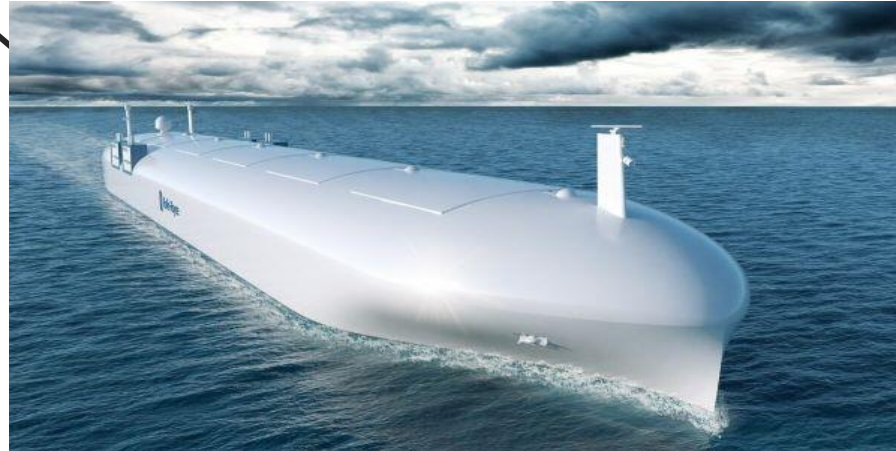


<https://www.dnvgl.com/expert-story/maritime-impact/Digital-twins-and-sensor-monitoring.html>

# Ship operators must analyze huge external data for situational awareness

Radio communication  
and INMARSAT

GNSS and AIS



<https://marpoint.gr/rolls-royce-spearheads-study-autonomous-ships/>

Electronic Charts and weather station



# Most of the unsafe control actions are related to data analysis



<https://safety4sea.com/rolls-royce-reveals-future-shore-control-centre/>

Many ships at a time

Human-machine interface

Short time for response