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# Challenges, Potentials and Perspectives of Information Management in Ship Management

Tanker Operator Conference, Hamburg, 17.09.2013

Ole John, Fraunhofer CML

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# Agenda

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Introduction

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Challenges

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Potentials and Perspectives

# Agenda

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Introduction

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Challenges

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Potentials and Perspectives

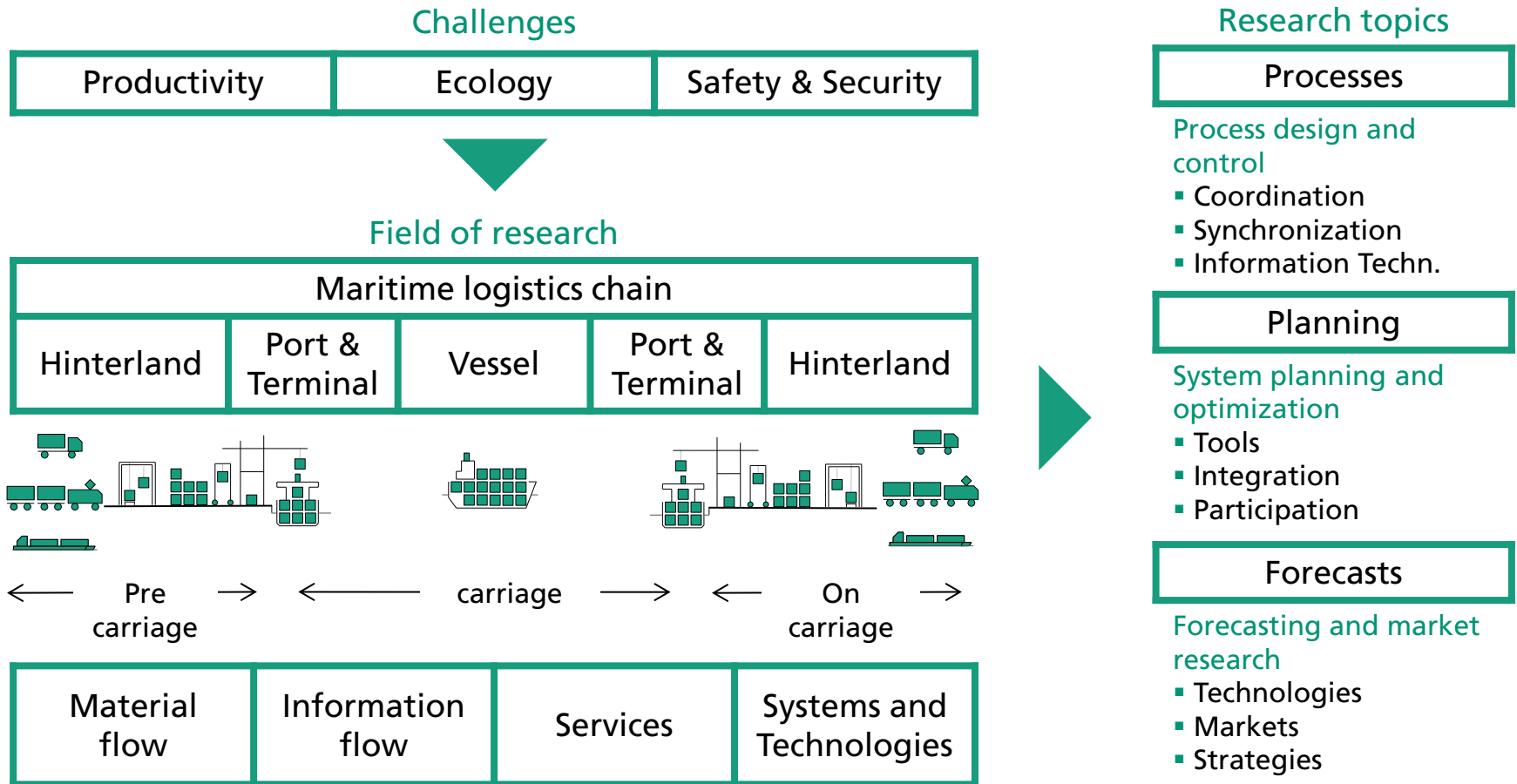
# Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

- Largest organization for applied research in Europe
- Contract research for direct benefit of business and in the interest of the society
  - 2/3 of research revenue is derived from contracts with industry and from publicly financed research
  - 1/3 is contributed by German federal and state governments in the form of institutional funding
- 80+ research institutions
- 22 000 employees
- 1,9 billion Euro (2012) research budget



# Fraunhofer Center for Maritime Logistics and Services

## Logistics innovations within the maritime industry



# Decision making requires information



“Shipping is complex business. Scheduling, network operations, intermodal transit, equipment availability, customs, ancient maritime laws, labyrinthine documentation, hurricanes, earthquakes, piracy, war, fluctuating oil prices, insurance premiums, canal tolls...”

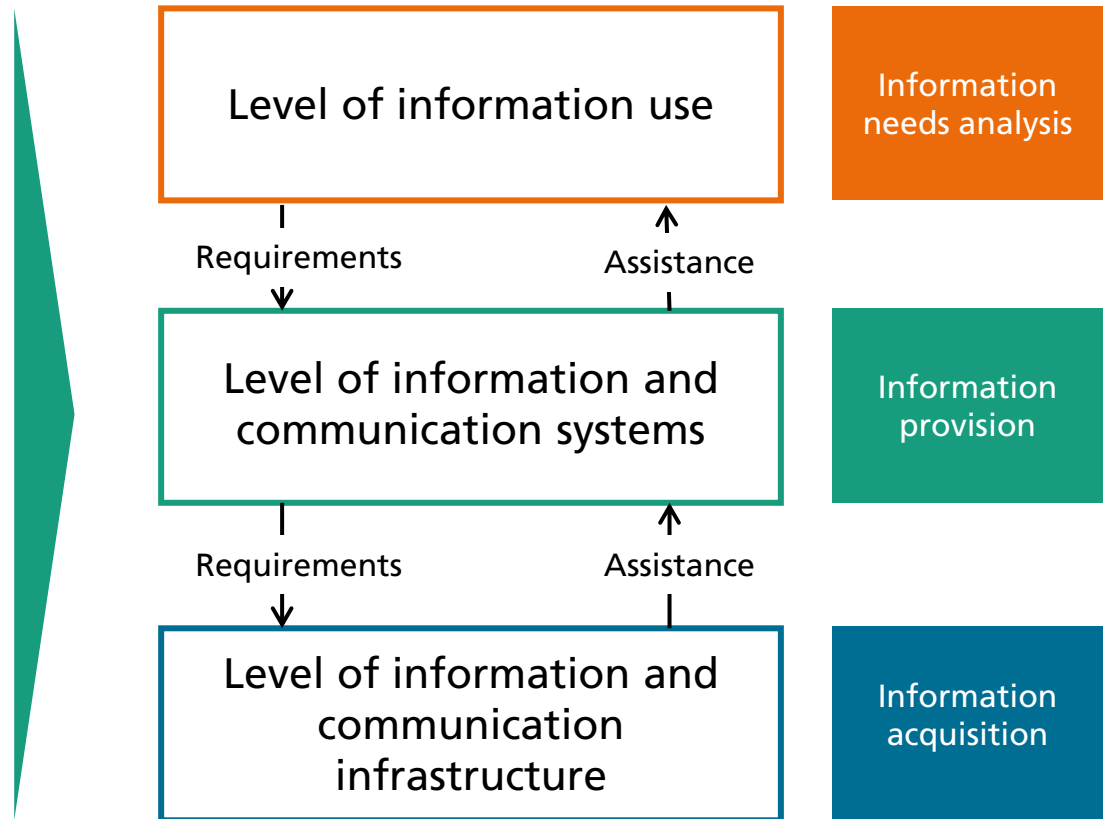
Eivind Kolding, Maersk Line CEO

Maersk’s Need for Change Manifesto, June 2011

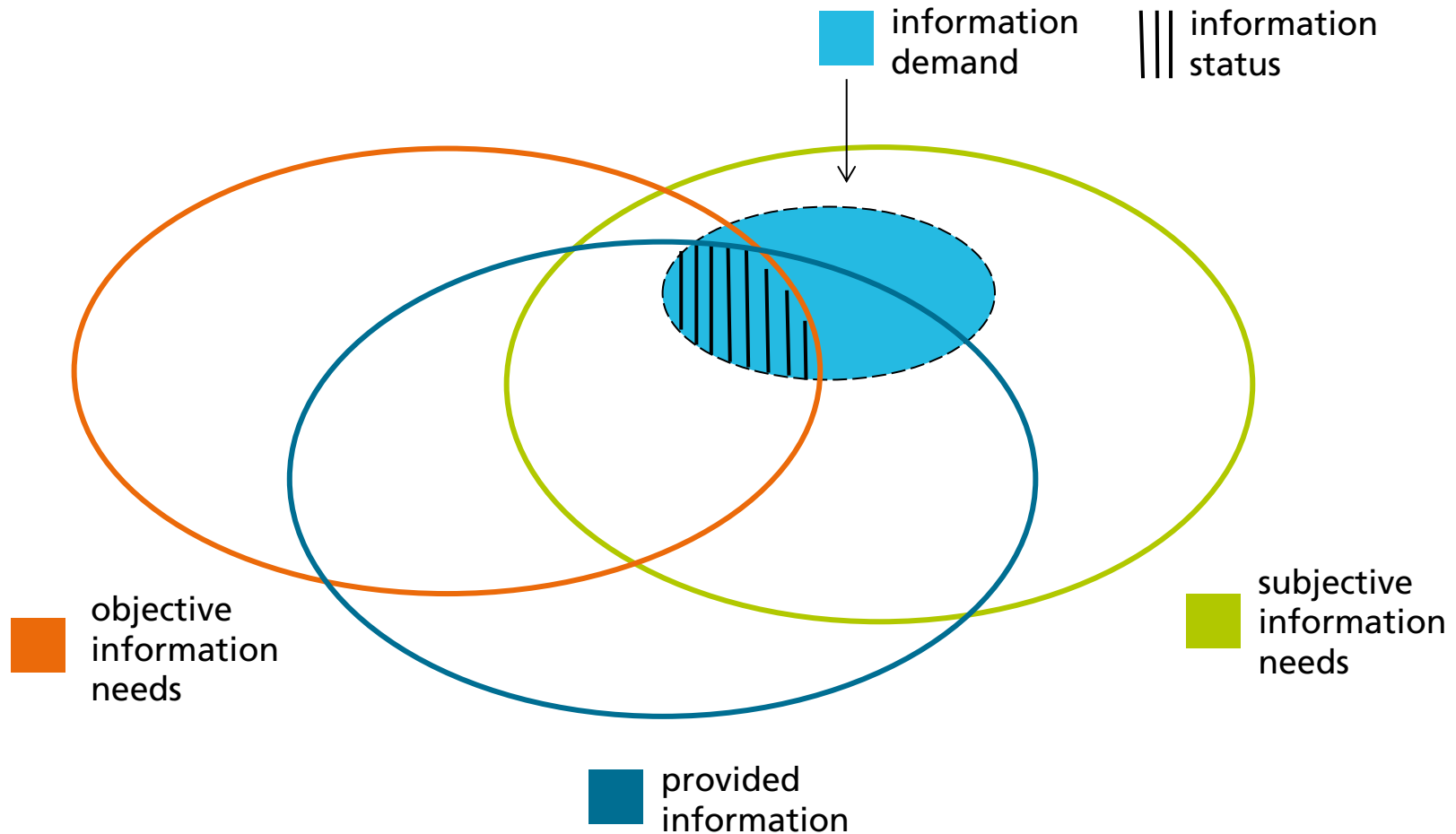
# The underlying challenge of decision making is the acquisition of information

## Information management

“Information management is the economic *planning, purchasing, converting, distribution* and *allocation* of information as resource for *preparation* and *support* of decisions as well as the design of the necessary *framework requirements* (Voß 2011).”



# The alignment of information needs and provided information is already challenging for one sub-area in ship management



# Agenda

1

Einführung

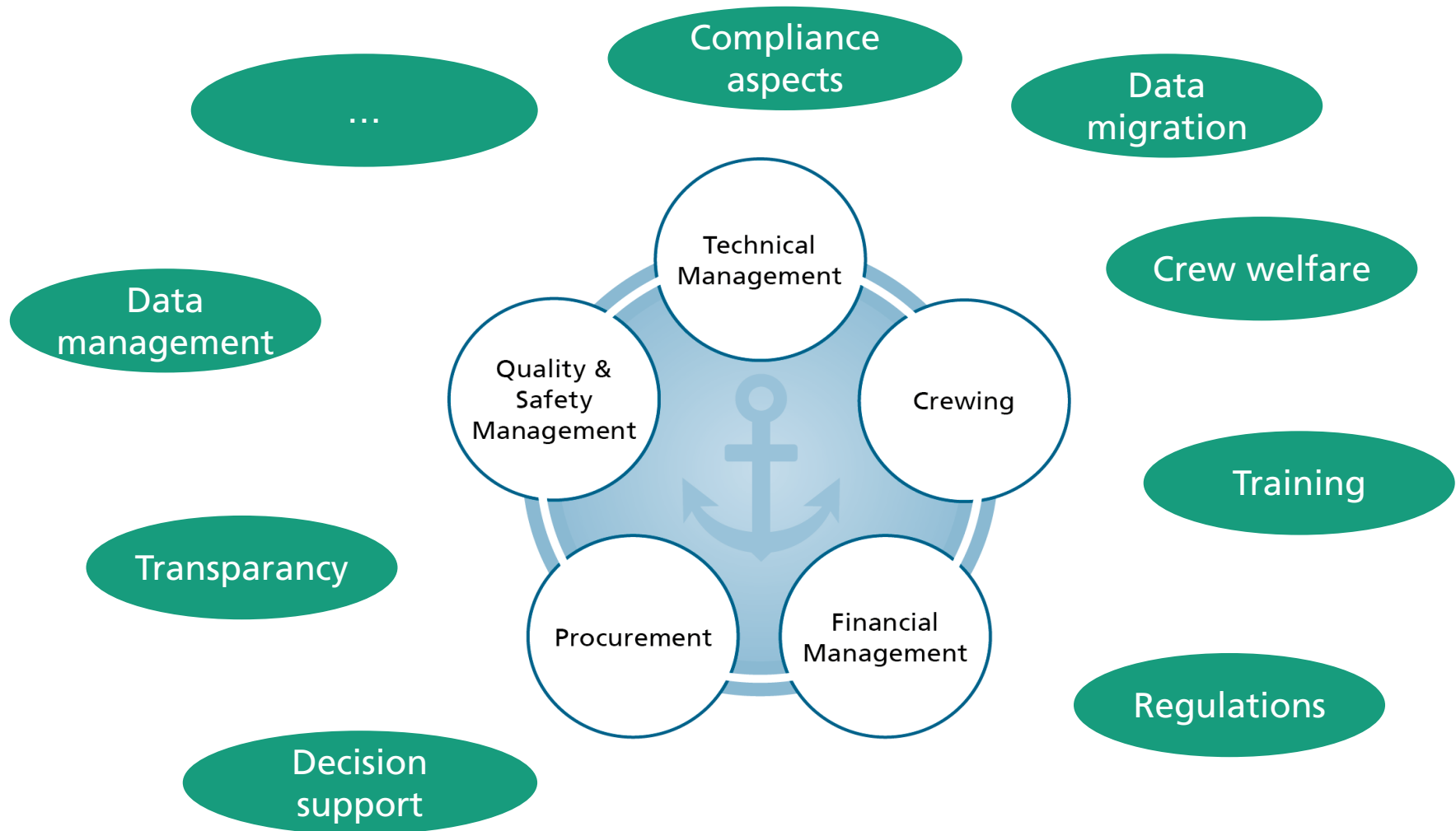
2

Challenges

3

Potentials and Perspectives

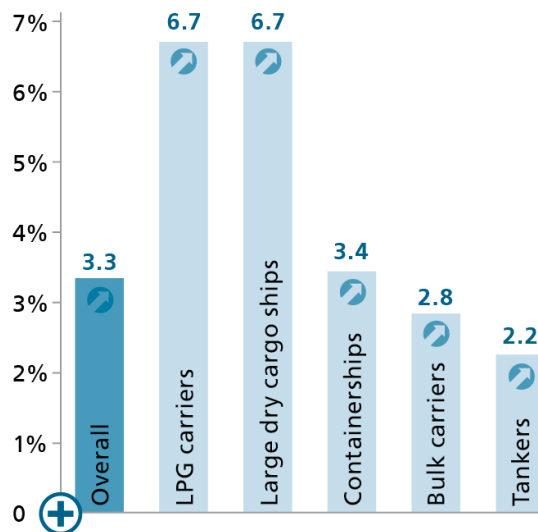
## Challenge 1: Diversity of Tasks



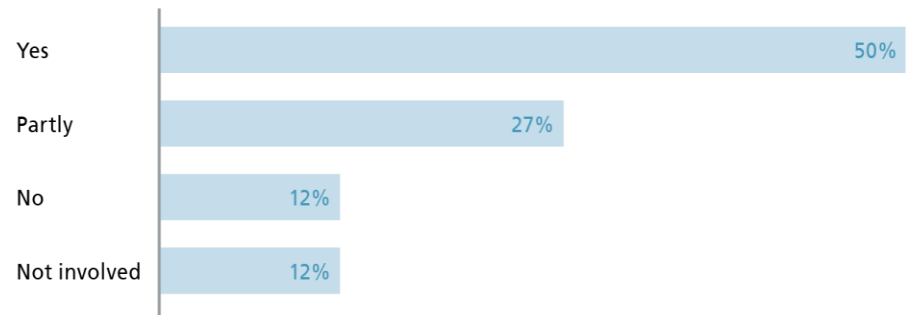
# Challenge 2: Market challenges

Market pressure increases the willingness to embrace change

Increase of total shipping operating costs (%)



Are you actively changing your organizational processes or approaches to master the current market?



# Study – Best Practice Ship Management 2013 (BSPM 2013)

## ■ Objectives:

- Gather best practices in the different areas of ship management: (1) Crewing, (2) Technical Management, (3) Financial Management, (4) Quality & Safety Management, (5) Procurement.

## ■ Tasks:

- Analysis of status quo by interviewing decision makers on a global scale
- Interviews have been backed up by the expertise of GL and CML

## ■ Outcome:

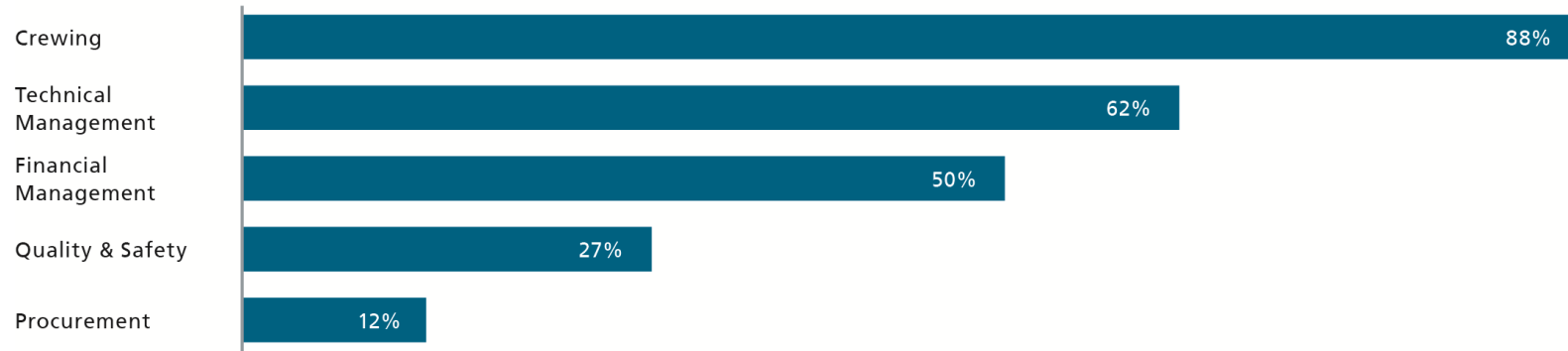
- Best practice ideas and best practice examples of ship managers worldwide.

In cooperation with

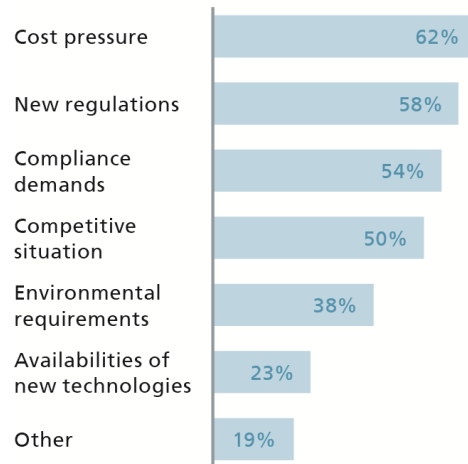


# BPSM 2013 – Main Challenges and Reasons

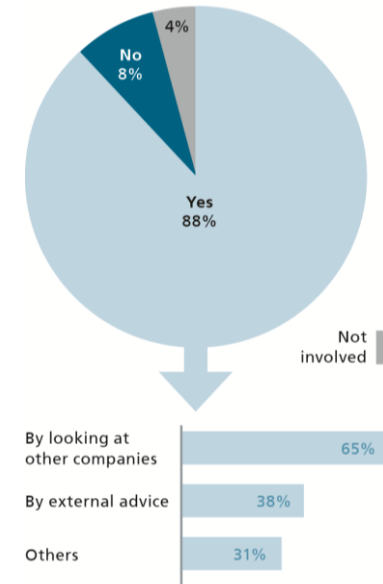
## Main Challenges



## Reasons

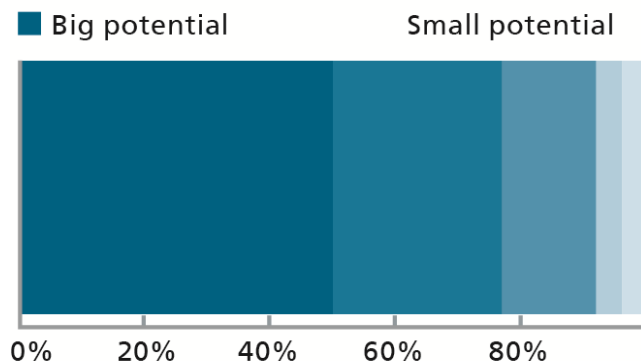


## Examples

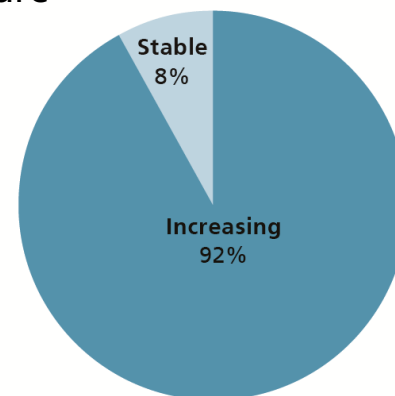


# BPSM 2013 - Expectations regarding the role of ICT in implementing best practice

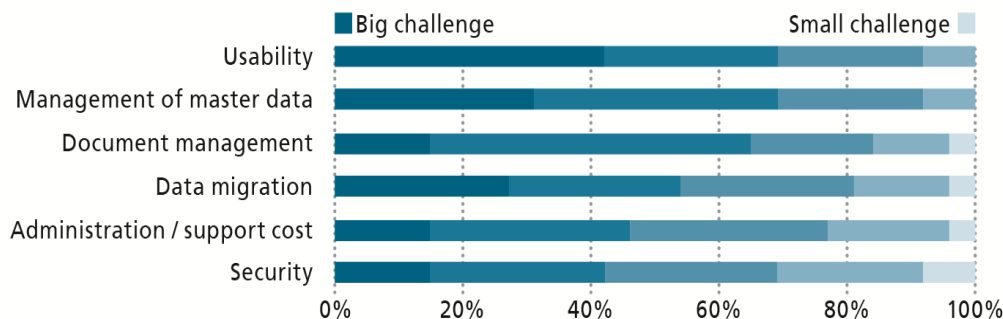
Role of ICT today



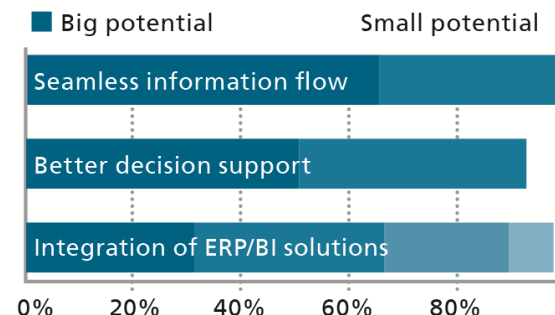
Role of ICT in future



Main Challenges



Main Opportunities

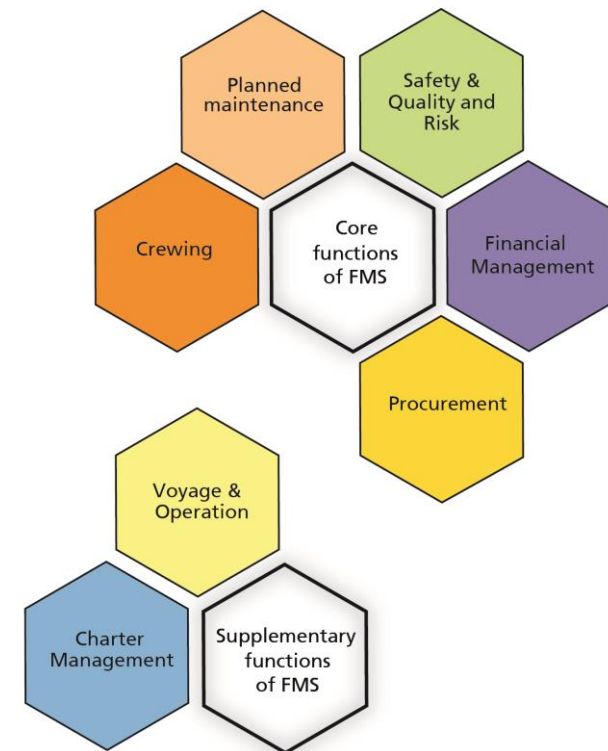


# Challenge 3: Variety of systems

Rapidly growing number of media  
and types of information systems

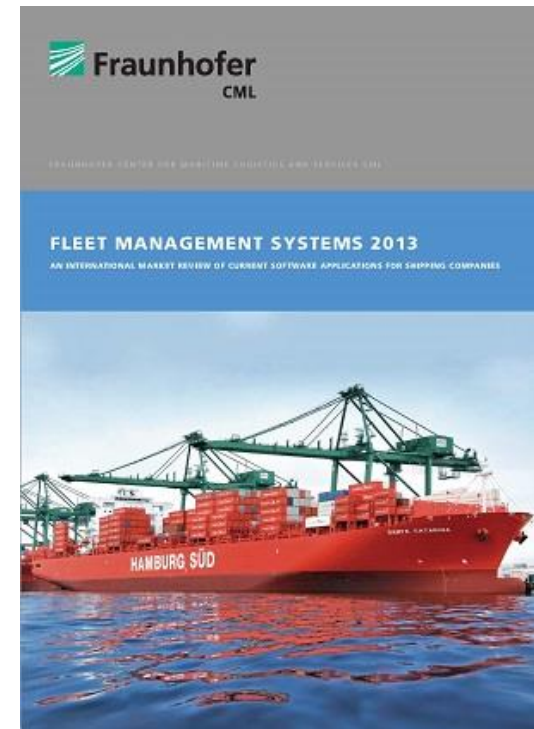


Core Modules of Fleet  
Management Systems



# Study - Fleet management systems 2013

- Objectives:
  - Provide an overview about fleet management systems and their functions
- Tasks:
  - Enhance transparency and collect information about producers, systems and their functions
  - Identification of software systems and modules
- Outcome:
  - Extensive product overview
  - Market trends



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# Agenda

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Introduction

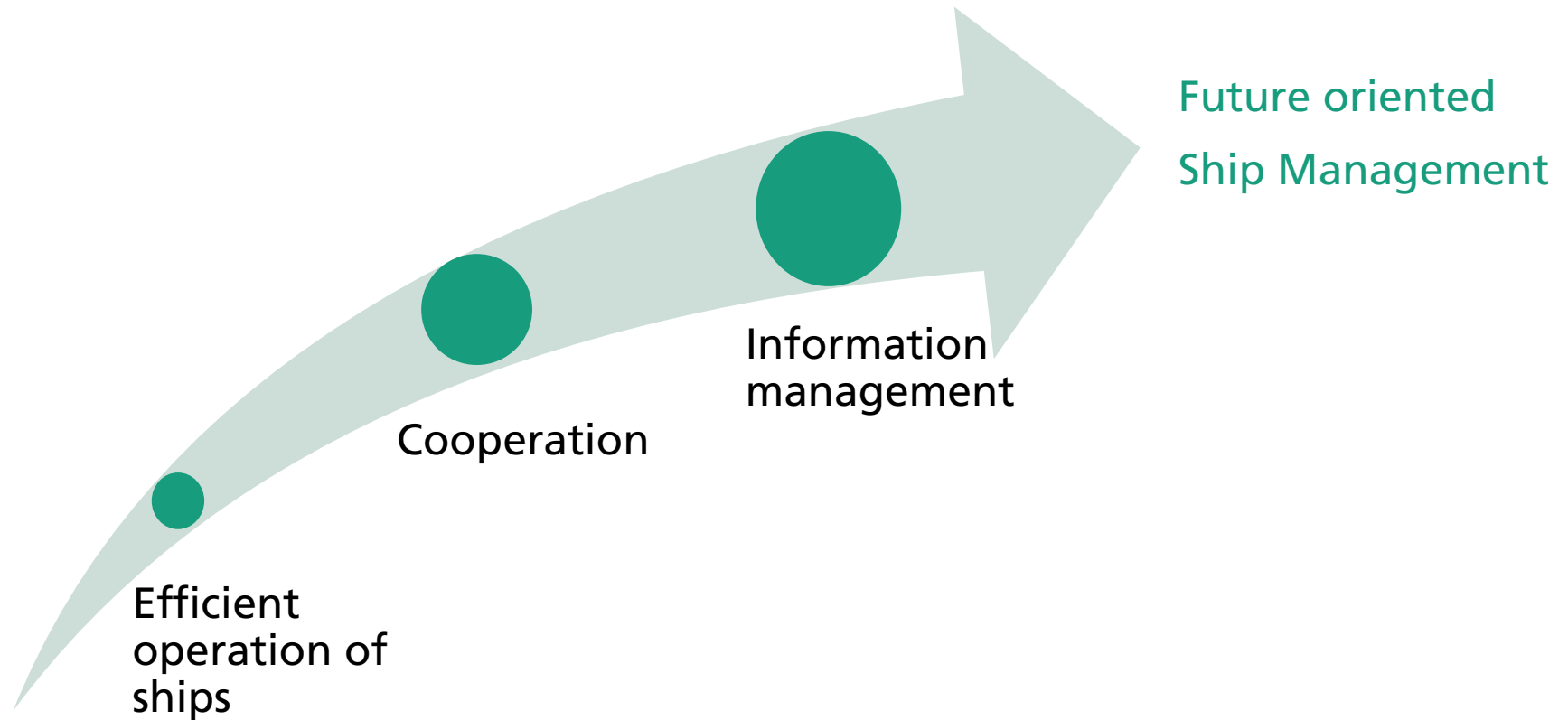
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Challenges

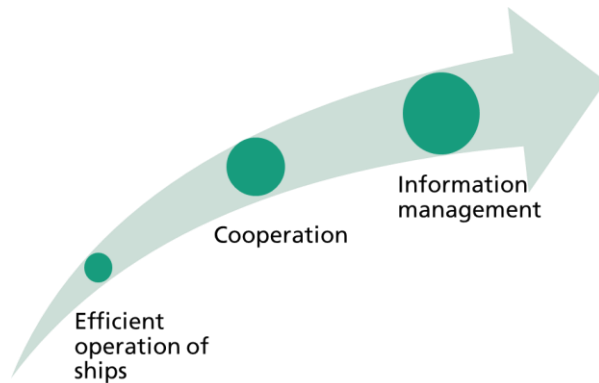
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Potentials and Perspectives

# Potentials and Perspectives

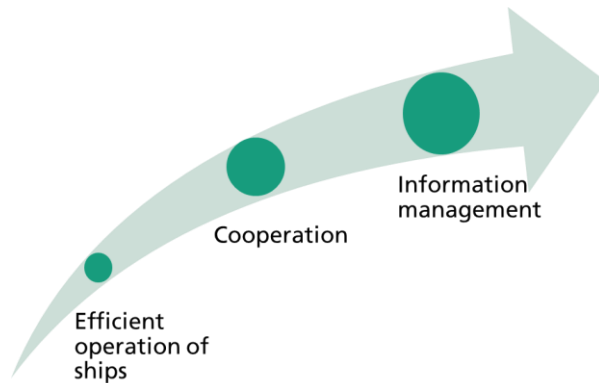


# Potential 1: Efficient operation of ships



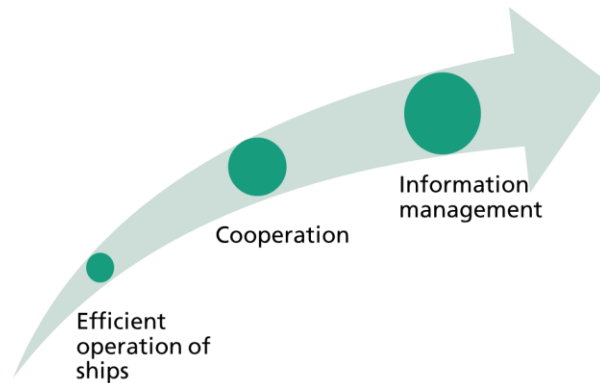
- Procedural:  
Condition Based Monitoring (CBM)  
Lifecycle Management (LCM)
- Operativ:  
Slow Steaming  
Weather Routing
- Technical:  
Ship Design

# Potential 2: Cooperation



- E-Commerce (E-Marketplace)
- Standards (Data Formats)
- Single Window

# Potential 3: Information management



- Use of various information systems
- Control of global information tide
- Using of relevant information for **decision support**

# Decision support through relevant Information



## 1. Reactive Preparation

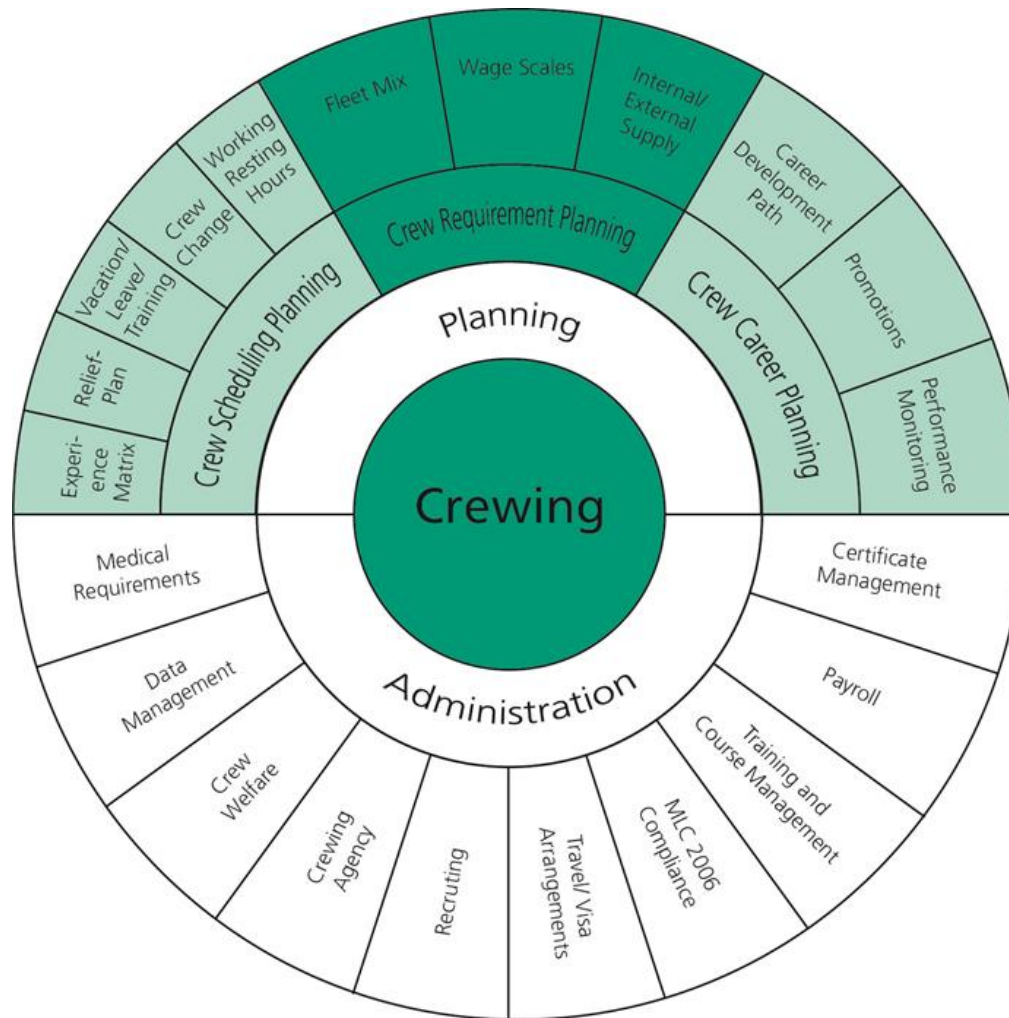
- Target-oriented records
- Meaningful analyses of past data



## 2. Active support

- Supply of planning functions and
- Prediction models

# Decision support: (1) crew requirement planning



# Major goal of crew requirement planning is to align crew demand generated by the (future) fleet with crew supply

## DEMAND

How many seafarers needed to fulfill safe operations 24h / 365d?

depends on

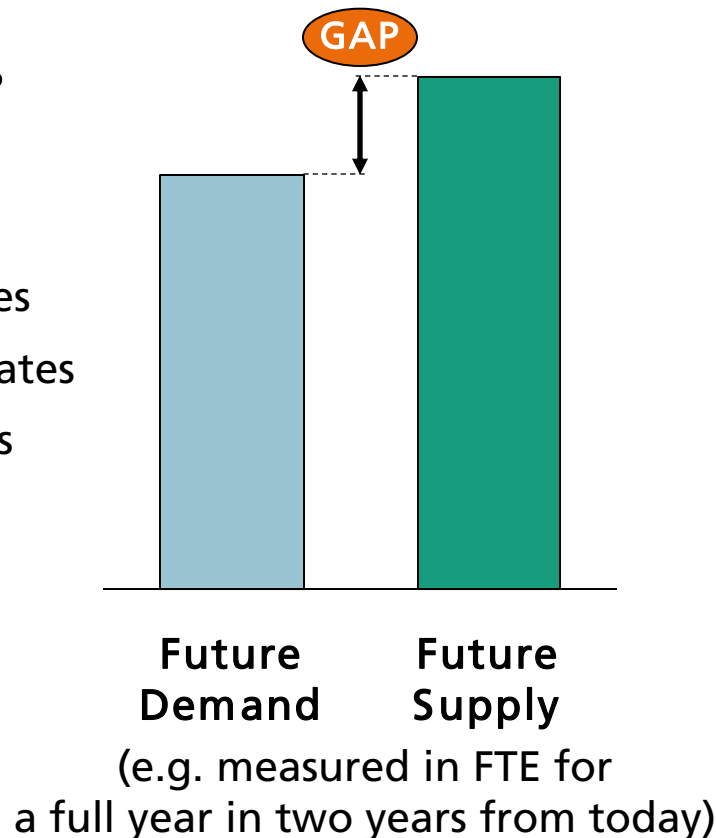
- number of ships
- ship classes / ship types
- safe manning certificates
- leave time allowances
- sick leave
- process / planning inefficiencies
- ...

## SUPPLY

How many seafarers will be available on the company roster?

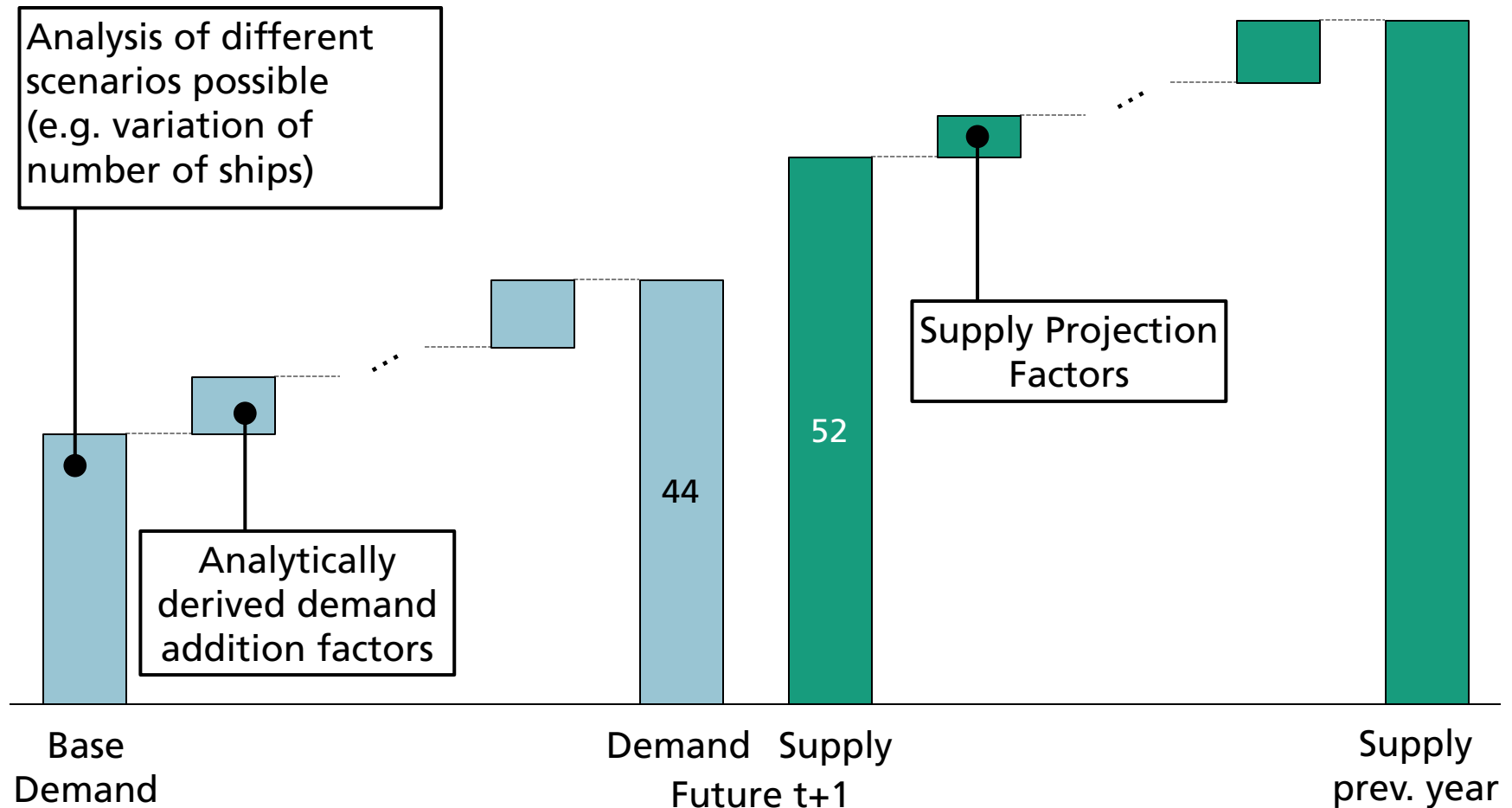
depends on

- current seafarer base
- promotions
- fluctuations
- ...

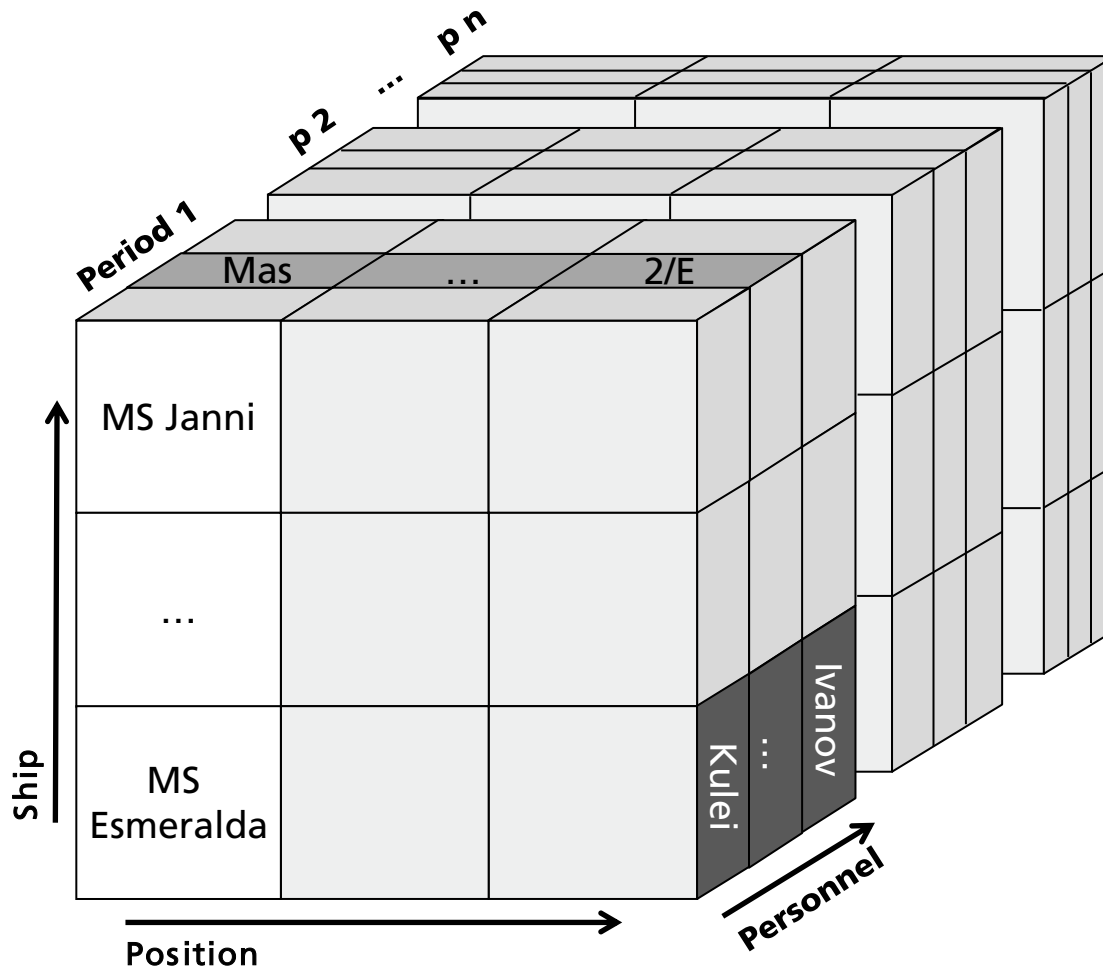


# CMLs analytical approach based on demand analysis and supply projection

EXAMPLE: Master, Eastern-European Tariff, Tanker, Class XY



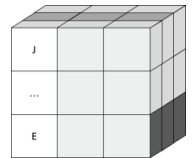
# Crew Requirement Planning Cube used to allow analysis and planning on any granularity level



## Hierarchic Aggregationlevels

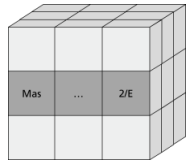
### Dimension Ship

- Ship
- Ship Class
- Ship Typ
- Ship Management Pool



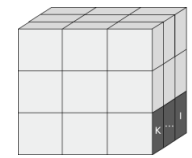
### Dimension Position

- Position



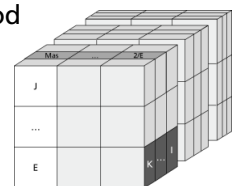
### Dimension Person

- Nationality/  
Wage Scale
- Permanent/  
Non permanent contract
- Rank
- Ship Class



### Dimension Period

- Days
- Months
- Quarter
- Year

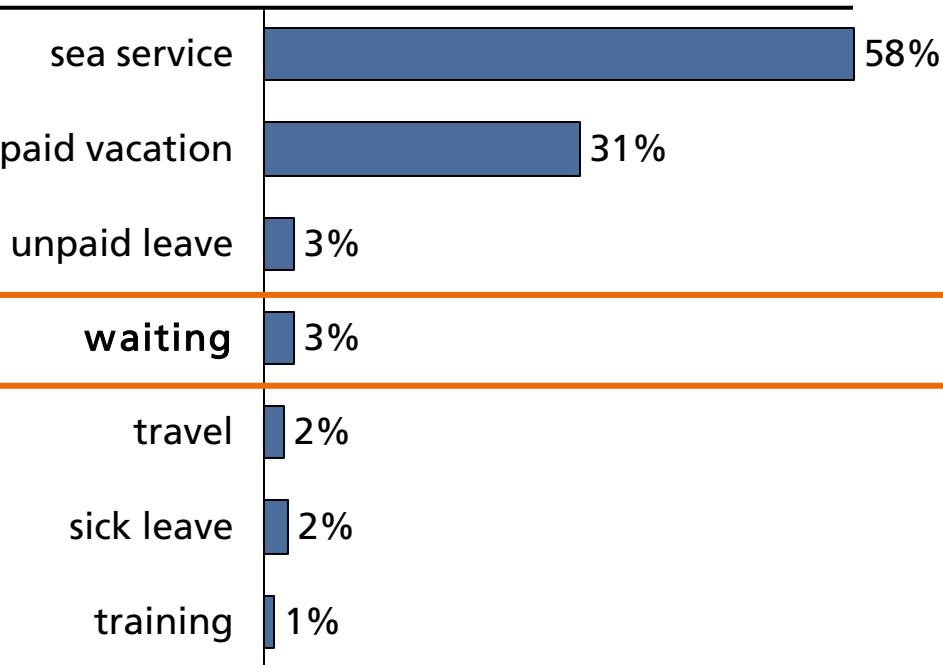


# Analytical approach can disclose efficiency potentials already in the analysis phase

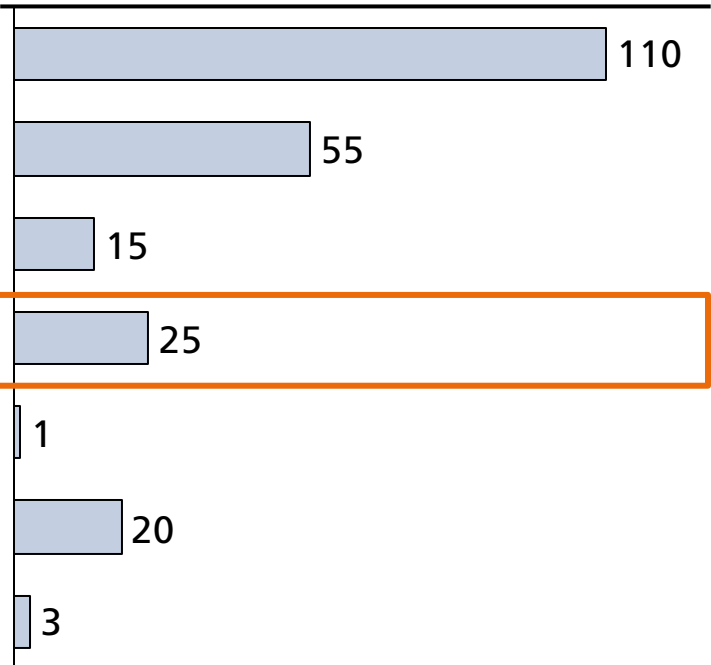
DISGUISED  
EXAMPLE

## Activity Analysis of existing seafarers

Share of time spent with activity [%]

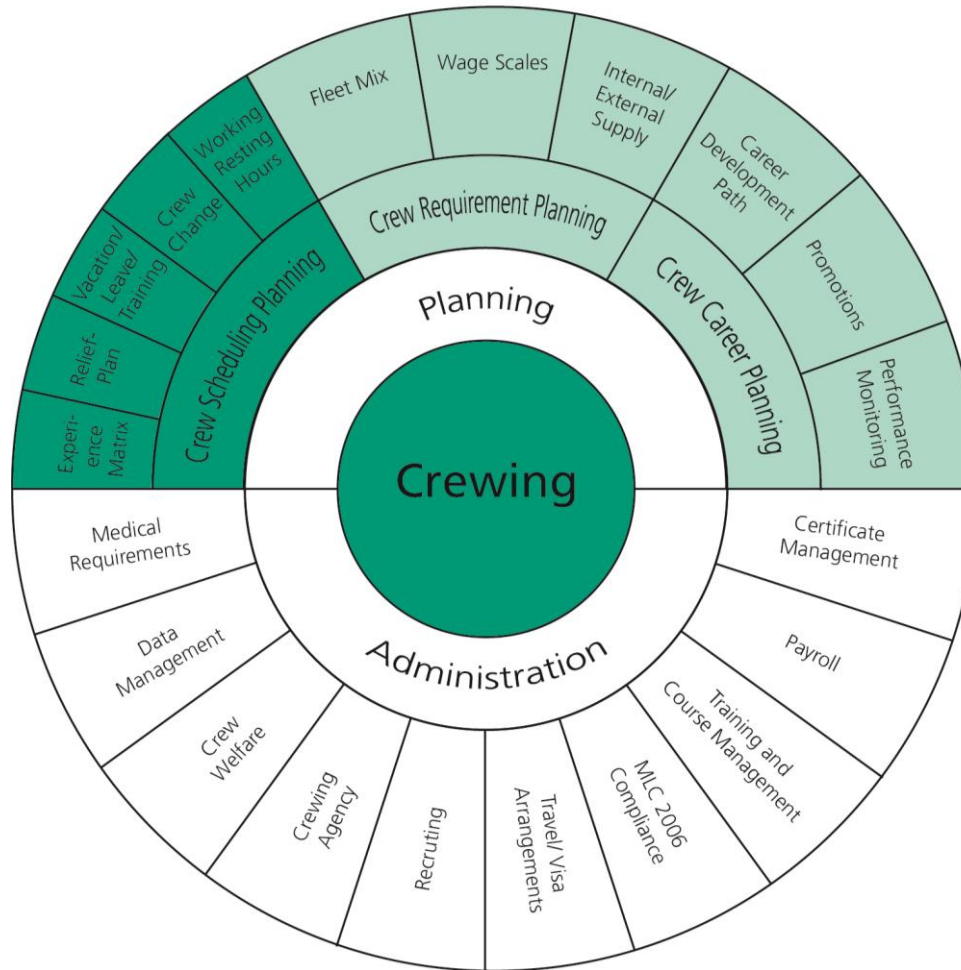


average duration per activity [days]



- Process inefficiencies could be discovered through data analysis
- Decomposing activities allows for benchmarking (int./ext.) to quantify potential

# Decision support: (2) crew scheduling planning



# Project EIS – Excellence Initiative Ship Management

- Goal: Development of an industry solution for ship management
- Funding: EFRE (EU, Hamburg)
- Period: 2/2012 – 8/2014 (30 Monate)



Reference Client



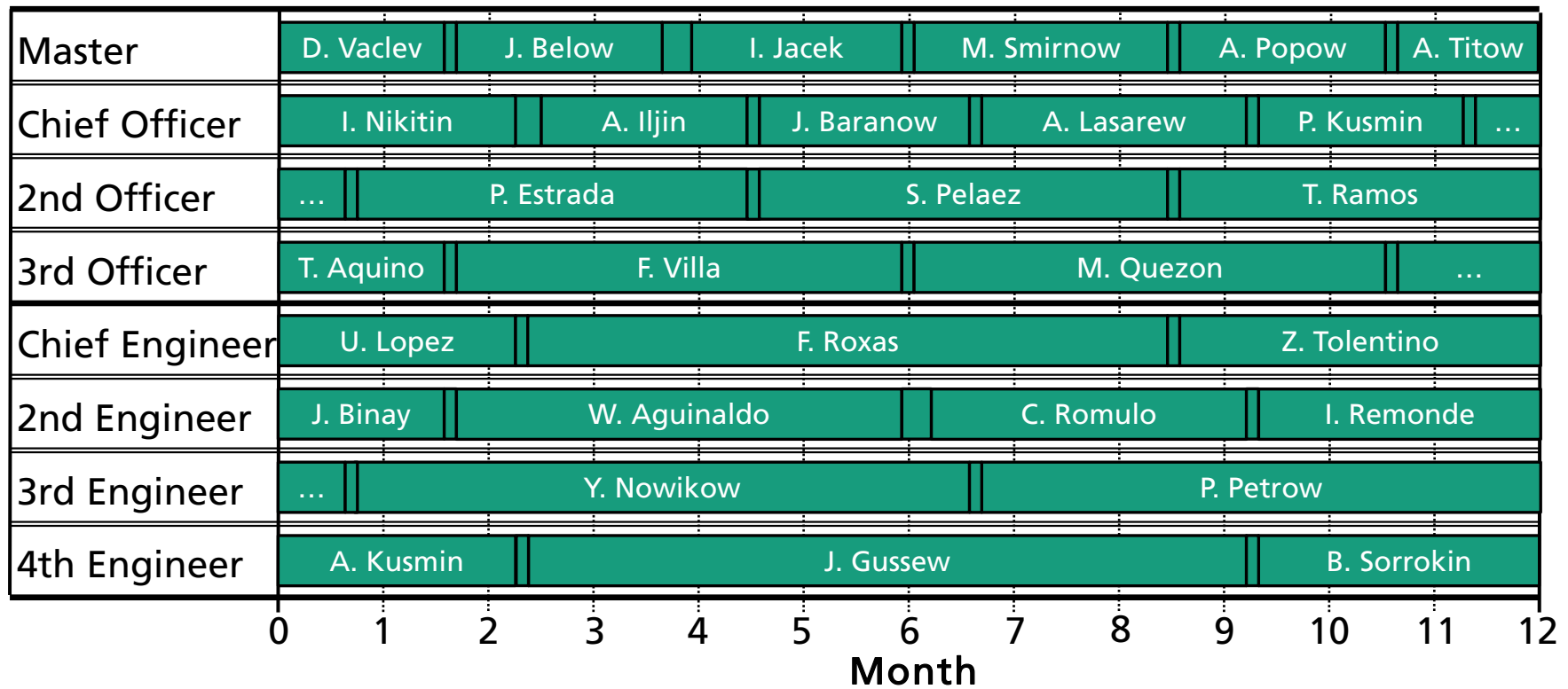
Associated partner



# Output of crew scheduling in ship management

→ For every position on every ship: Assignment of seafarers for a specific time period

## Example: Cap Roberta

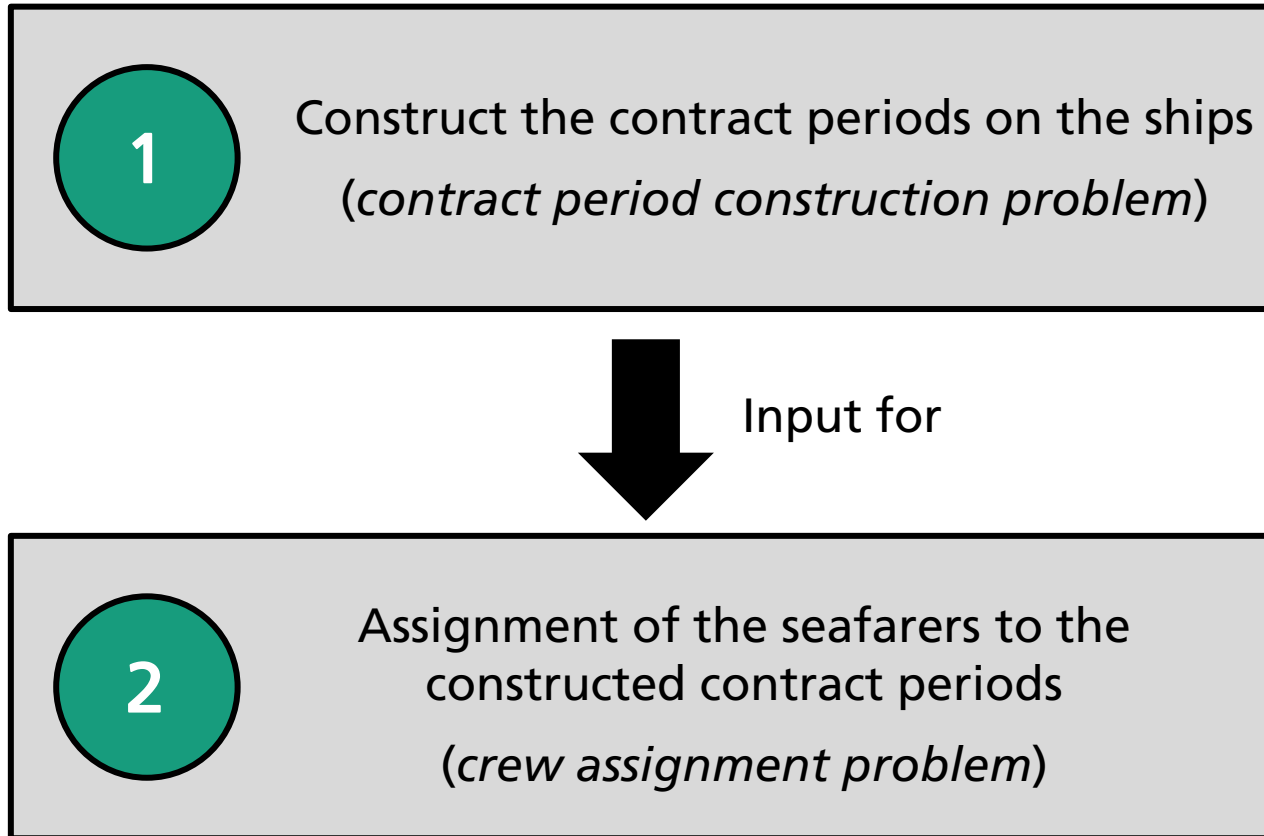


# Challenges of crew scheduling in ship management

- **Various requirements**
- **Large problem sizes**
  - Large ship managers have hundreds of ships and thousands of seafarers
- **Long term planning**
  - It is done mostly for short term
- **Less reliability of seafarers**
- **Feasibility check to manage new ships**
  - It is done mostly through a rough estimation



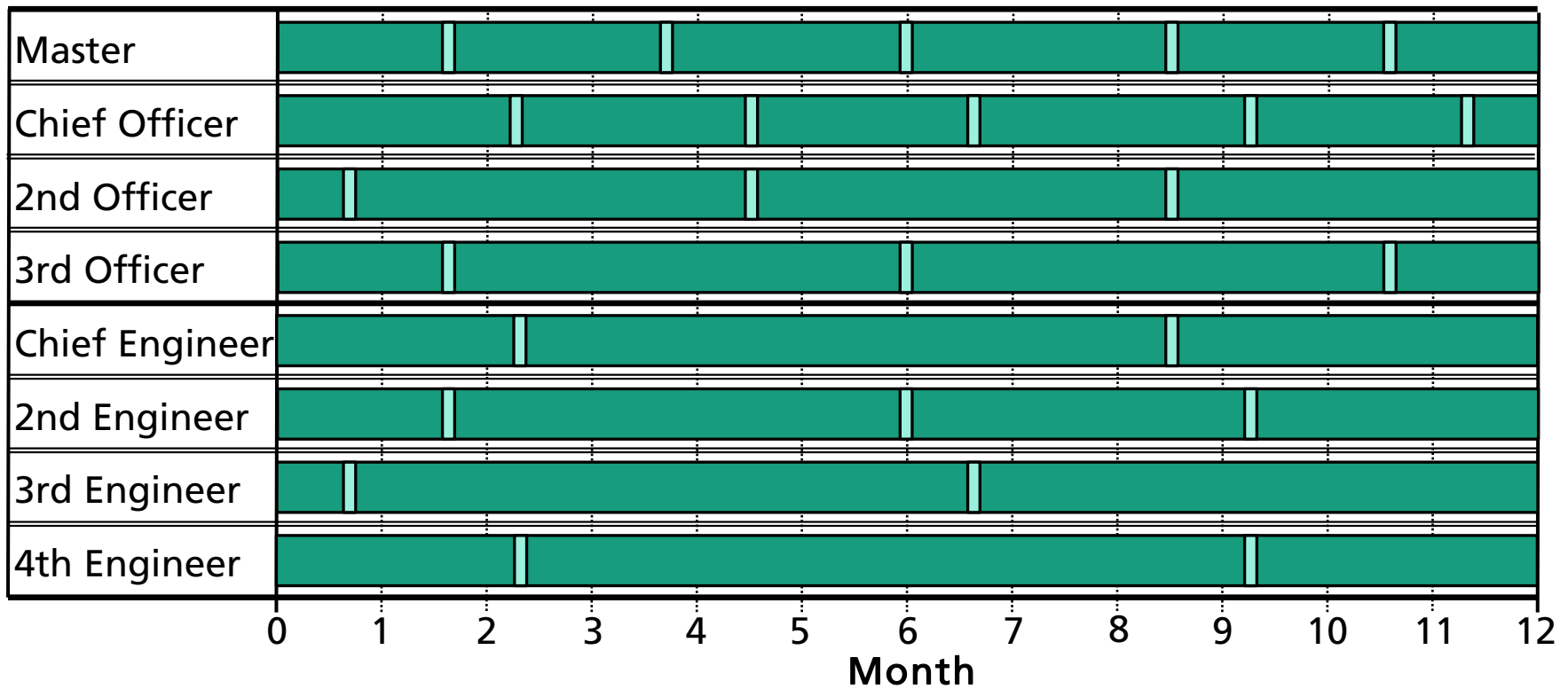
# Sequential approach



# Sequential Approach – Contract Period Construction

**1** *contract period construction*

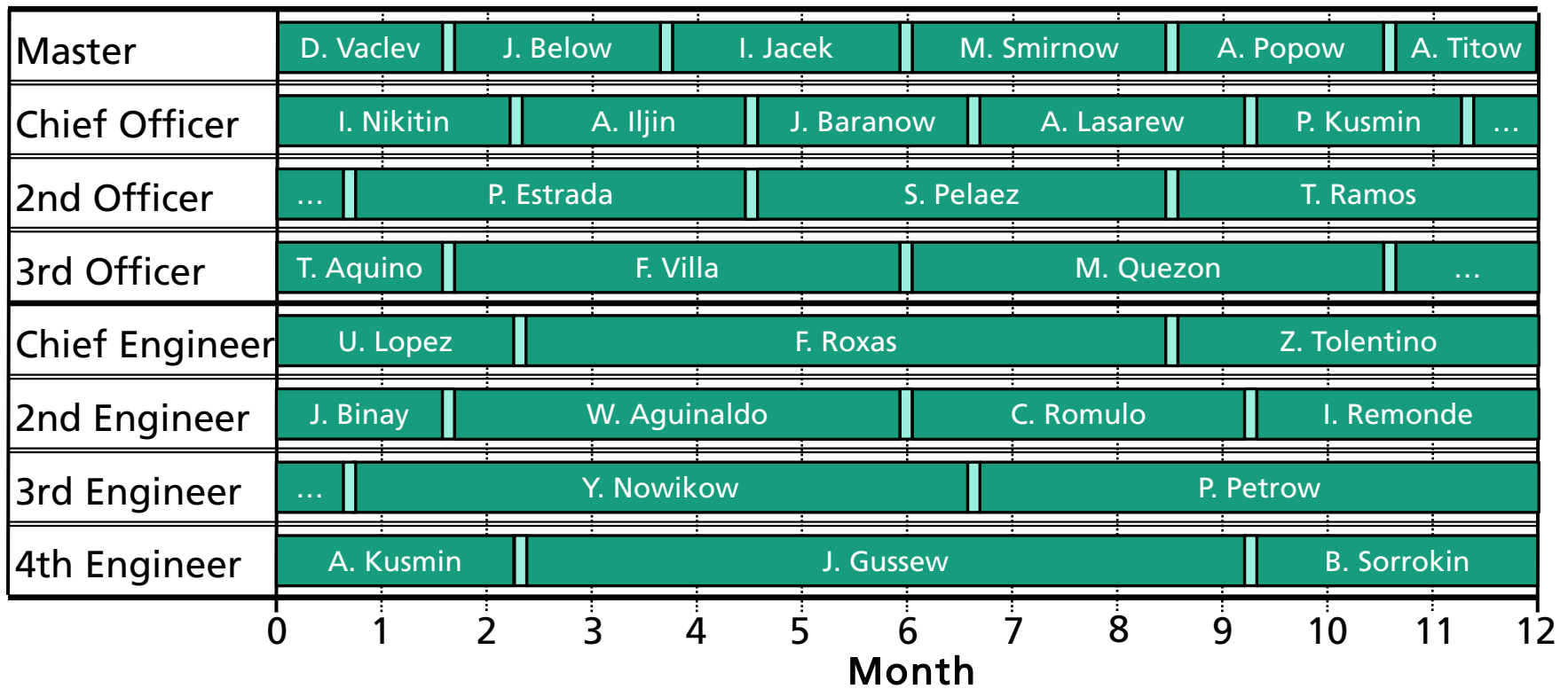
**2** *crew assignment*



# Sequential Approach – Crew assignment

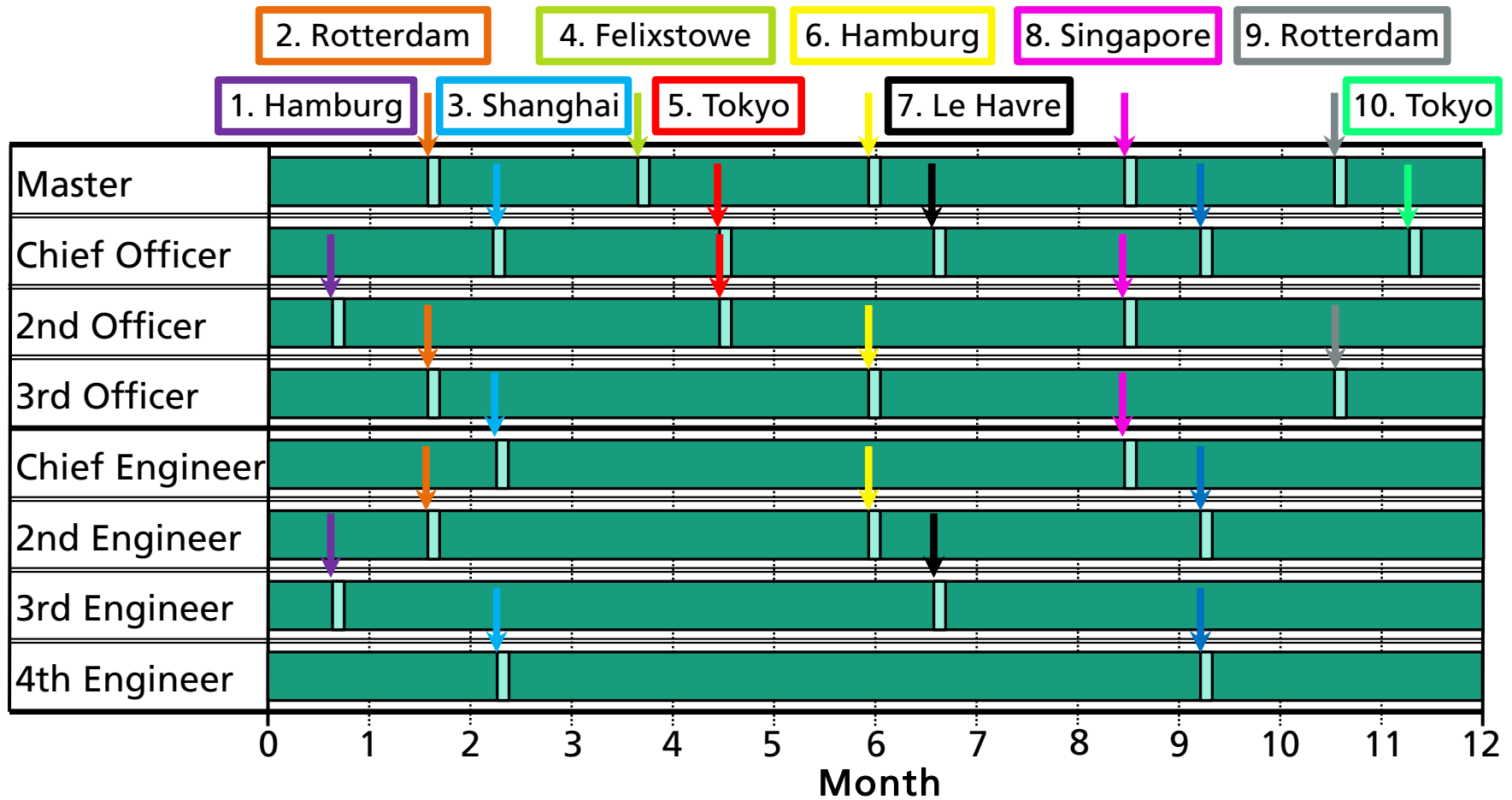
1 *contract period construction*

2 *crew assignment*



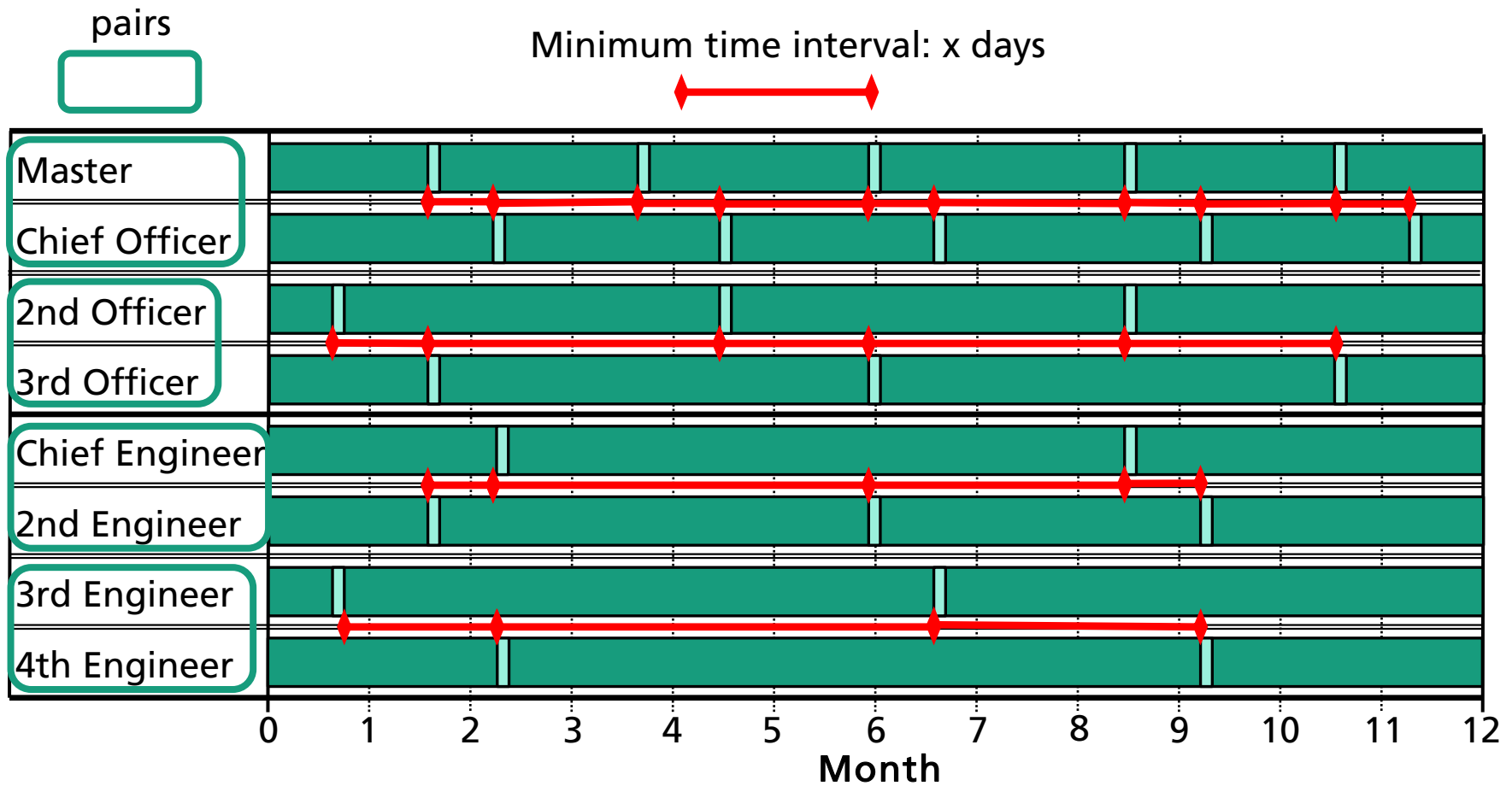
# Contract Period Construction Problem - Constraints

**Constraint 1:** A Crew Change can only be conducted in a port



# Contract Period Construction Problem - Constraints

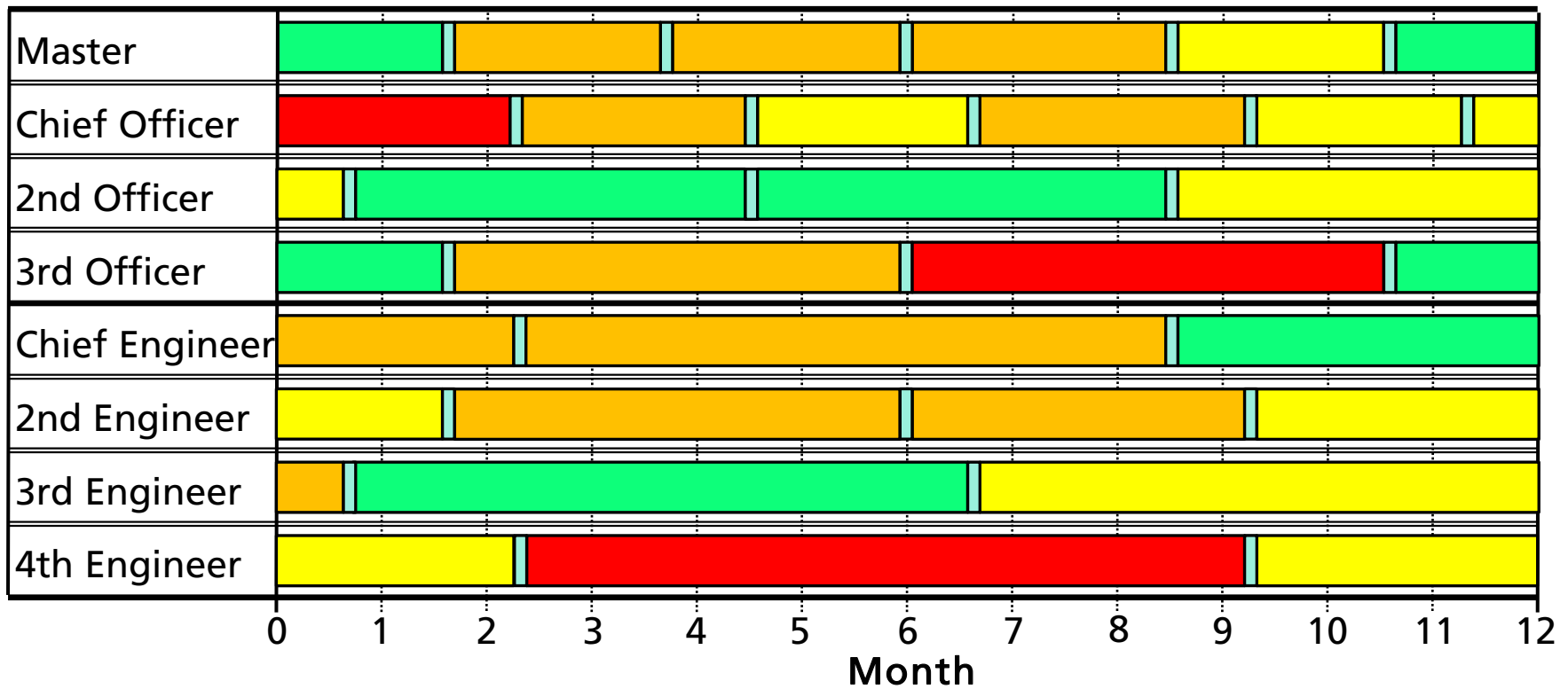
Constraint 2: Minimum time interval between some crew changes



# Contract Period Construction Problem - Constraints

## Constraint 3: Maximum deviation from a fixed contract duration

Maximum deviation: x days



# Contract Period Construction Problem

## Further possible constraints:

- The number of position changes in the same port has to be less than a maximum value.
- The number of crew changes for one ship has to be less than a maximum value.

## Possible objective values:

- Minimize the number of crew changes (crew change fix costs)
- Minimize the deviation from the fixed contract durations

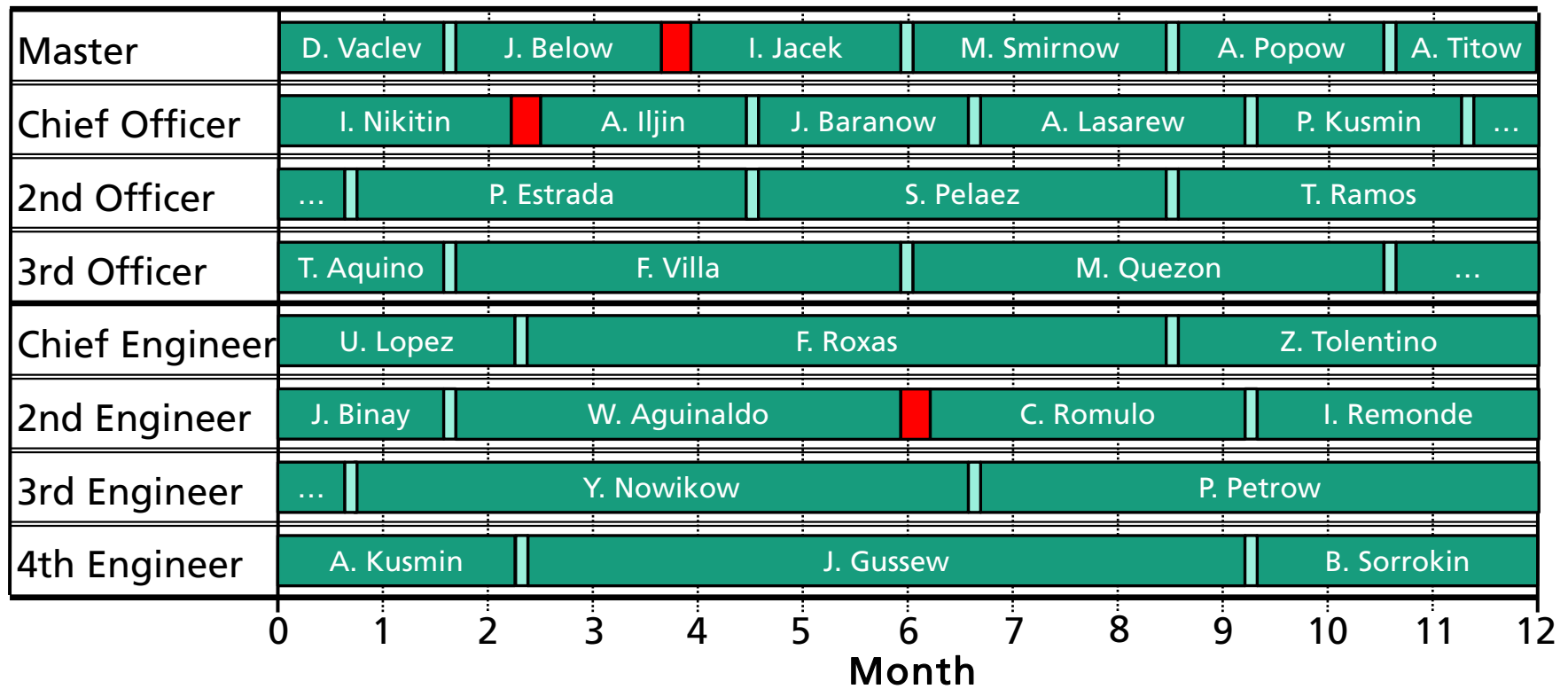


# Crew assignment - Constraints

**Constraint 1:** Extended overlap for new seafarers in rank or in the company

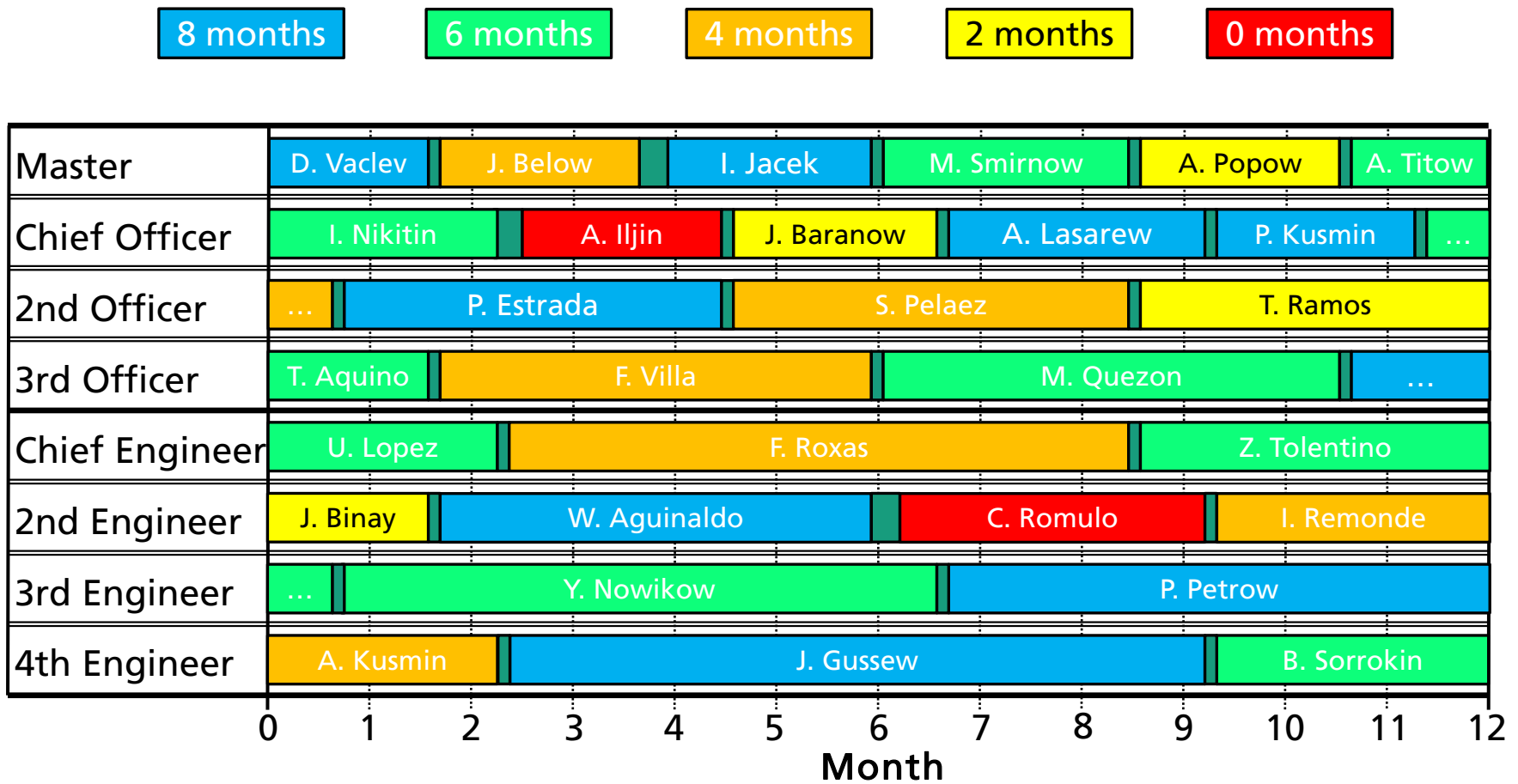
 1 day overlap

 5 days overlap



# Crew assignment - Constraints

**Constraint 2:** Minimum experience times for specific rank combinations



# Crew assignment - Constraints

## Constraint 3: Consideration of minimum and maximum leave times

Minimum leave\*



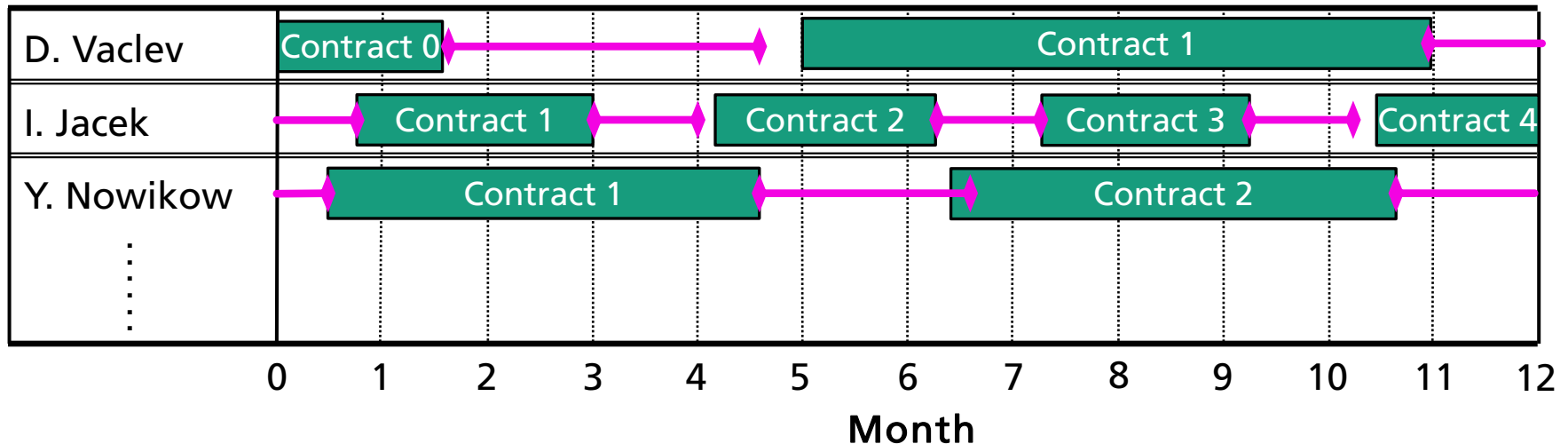
Maximum leave \*



Optimal leave \*



View of a seafarer



\* depends on the contract duration

# Crew Assignment Problem

## Further possible constraints:

- Every seafarer could be assigned only to a specific ship type (container, bulker ...)
- Earliest contract start dates of the seafarer have to be considered
- Preferred assignment of permanently employed seafarers

## Possible objective values:

- Minimize the deviation of seafarer experience times among the ships
- Minimize the deviation of real leave times from optimal leave times



# Benefits of mathematical optimization for crew scheduling

- Optimized crew scheduling for the whole fleet of ships
- Possibility to create a reliable long term plan (e.g. one year)
- Increase the reliability of the seafarers through a reliable crew schedule and vice versa
- Possibility to conduct strategic capacity planning

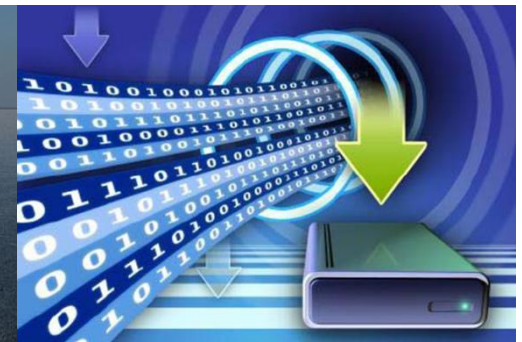


# Perspectives



**"The future is already here -  
it's just not very evenly  
distributed."**

William Gibson, 1993



# Thank you very much for your attention!

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