“Autonomous container ships? Not in my lifetime.”

February 2018
Soren Skou (age 53),
CEO of Maersk
“World's first autonomous shipping company announced in Norway”
Challenges and business potential of autonomous cargo ships

Robert Hekkenberg
Associate Professor
Delft University of Technology
Why sail autonomously??
Challenges

Why don’t we simply copy this?
Challenges

VS
Challenges
Challenges
The future (?)
The future (?)
The future (?)
Summarizing

Autonomous shipping will only happen if we can replace the functionality provided by the crew without increasing costs.

This appears to be most likely for short sea shipping. For large oceangoing ships prospects are poor.

Do we dare to introduce autonomy in confined and crowded waters?

Maybe a small crew is better than no crew.