

Tall ship “*Pamir*” was a four-masted barque built at Hamburg in 1905 to carry ore and bulk cargo across the oceans.

She was the last commercial sailing ship to round Cape Horn, in 1949.

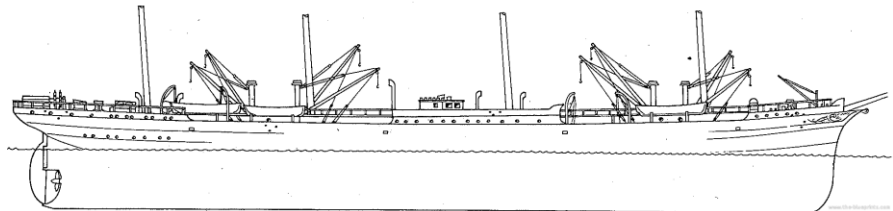
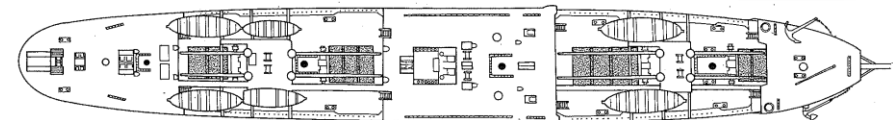
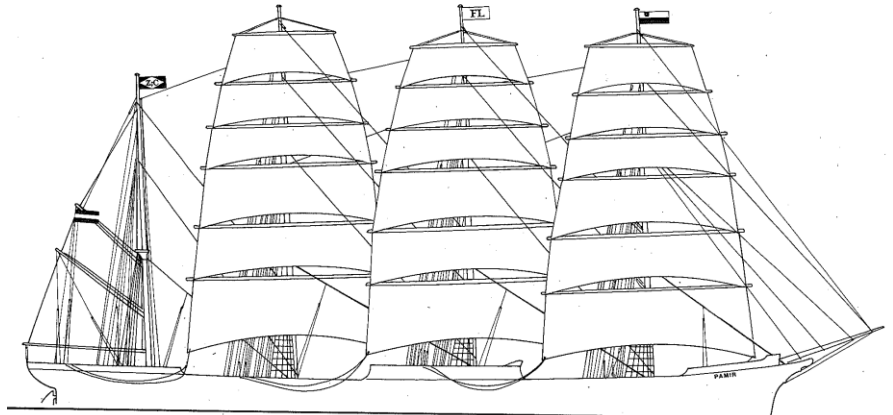
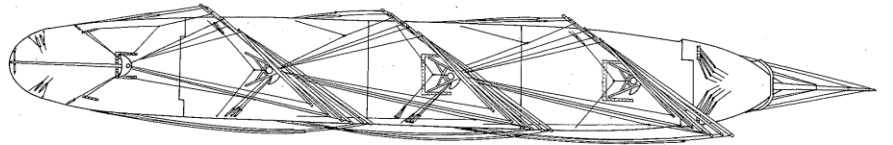
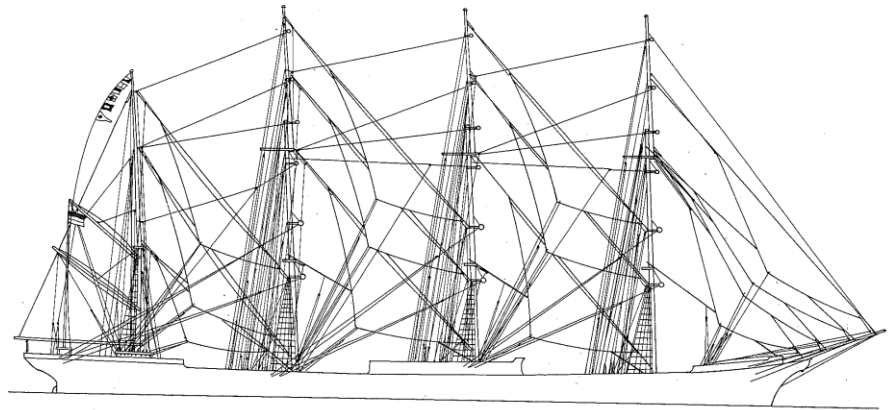
On 21 September 1957, she was caught in Hurricane Carrie on her way back from Argentina and sank off the Azores, with only six survivors rescued after an extensive search.

She was said to be the victim of inclement weather.





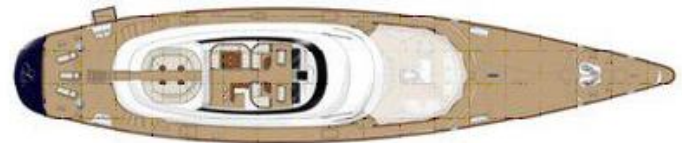
Tall ship “*Pamir*” was one of the largest commercial sailing ships at the time.



Pleasure sailboat “*Bayesian*” was a sloop/cutter built at Viareggio in 2008 for the leisure of wealthy individuals. She was refitted in 2016.

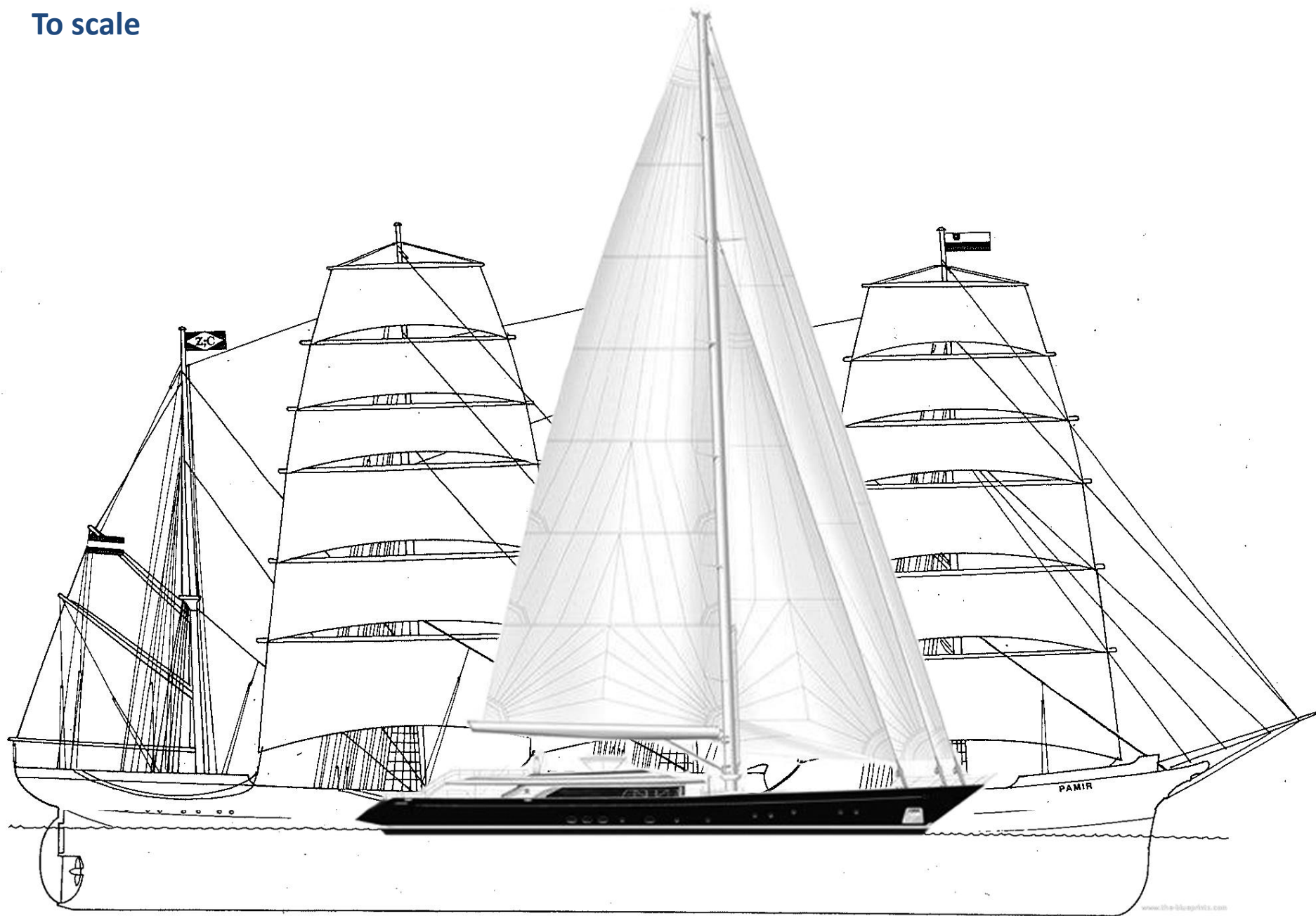
On 19 August 2024, she was reportedly caught in a waterspout and sank just off Porticello in northwestern Sicily, with fifteen survivors out of twenty-two present on the boat (12 passengers and 10 crew members).

She is said to have been the victim of inclement weather.



How did the two compare?

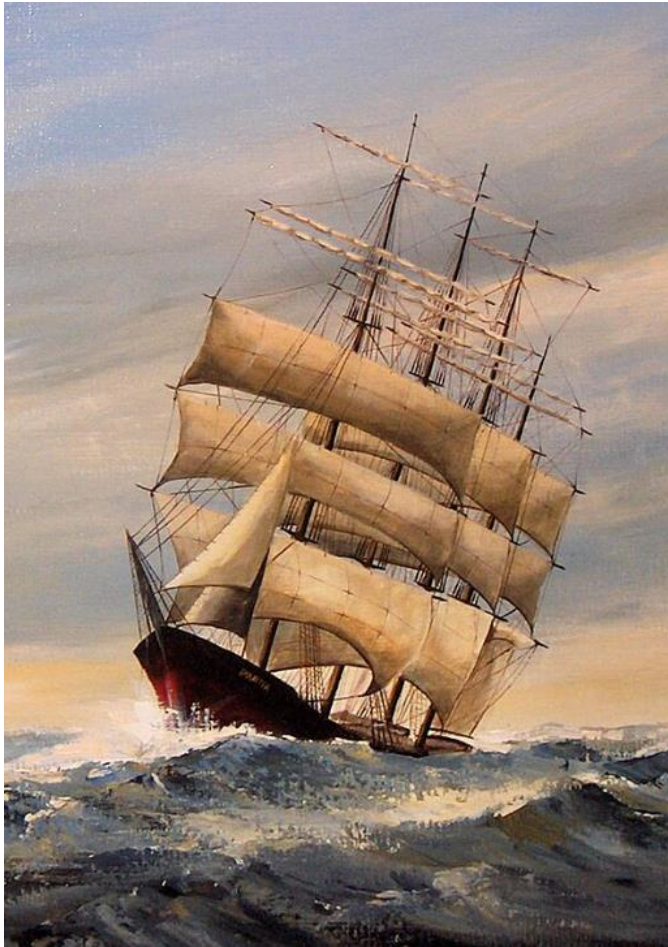
To scale



To scale



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There exist currently 32 pleasure boats with a mast taller than those of *"Pamir"*.



Rodney Lewis' M5, the largest sloop of all

To scale



To scale



The 22 floors Jackson County Courthouse
in Kansas City, Missouri



Both “*Pamir*” and “*Bayesian*” were said to be the victims of inclement weather.

It has been argued that “*Pamir*” was at the time of her loss in bad repair and suffered probably from poor seamanship, by comparison with the handling of hundreds of similar ships wrecked over the ages.

Nothing is said of the design and gargantuan dimensions of modern pleasure sailboats, which one may think are perhaps a tad immoderate ¹.

Meteorological note: for those who may be inclined to blame some anthropogenic activities for the wreckage, waterspouts are a relatively common phenomenon around the world in general and in the Mediterranean Sea in particular.

The most severe such event in the region was the twin waterspouts/tornadoes that hit northwestern Sicily in 1851 not far from Porticello, killing at least 200 victims and wrecking scores of vessels, both in port and at sea.

¹ *Words such as domineering, conceited, vain, arrogant, overbearing, and perhaps even reckless may also come to mind.*