

Pedro Santos, Professor Auxiliar

Faculdade de Engenharia, Universidade do Porto (FEUP)





## Wireless Sensing for Monitoring & RISC-V for Cellular RAN

## Activity Monitoring via WiFi Access Points

- Asset tracking market is valued at USD 23.42 billion in 2024, projected to grow to USD 59.64 billion by 2032<sup>1</sup>
- Improved knowledge of number and location of users allows targeted services
  - Count number of people in a museum
  - Present detailed information about artwork on display on user's smart phone
- How to inexpensively monitor rooms and locate users?
  - Already-in-place wireless infrastructure (WiFi) can be harnessed!
- Goal: monitor indoor venues and locate users or assets using WiFi
  - Using Angle-of-Arrival, Fine Timing Measurements, and other techniques
  - Significant challenges (non-Line-of-Sight, multipath); Al can assist
- What about cellular?
  - Some works perform positioning in cellular, e.g. using TDoA<sup>2</sup> using OAI
  - How to integrate position information in the 5G system?
  - Although technology is available, services of cellular positioning remain to take off

## RISC-V Platforms for Cellular RAN

- RISC-V is an instruction set architecture (ISA) free to use and implement, unlike ARM or x86.

  Projected to grow to over 16 billion chips by 2030<sup>3</sup>.
  - This opens up the market to new players that can design and market new
     General Processing (GP) and Application Specific (AS) processors.
- In turn, the 5G RAN relies on heavy computations, for which softwarization & virtualization not always meets requirements.
  - Most RAN solutions remain tied to ARM and x86. This applies to two open-source RANs,
     OAI RAN and srsRAN.
- Two-levels of integration of RISC-V platforms with 5G RAN:
  - Dedicated hardware design RISC-V programmable processors for RAN computing
    - Advantages: future-proof adaptable to 6G without having to replace hardware
  - Software-based approaches typically, customized for x86 and ARM architectures
    - Question: performance in RISC-V devices? And ENERGY-WISE?



- Industrial entities operating WiFi & 5G systems
- Industrial entities developing platforms to run 5G systems (interested in RISC-V)
- Service providers interested in exploring user (or asset) positioning
- Looking to integrate a consortium with one (or both) use-cases













Pedro Santos Email: pss@ua.pt Phone: +351 93 321 81 15

Address:

FEUP, DEEC Rua Roberto Frias s/n 4200-465 Porto, Portugal Website:

https://pmssantos.github.io/

