Mobile Cellular Communications (5G)

I. Objectives

The objectives of this laboratory are:

- Identify configuration parameters required for the different components
- Understand the main procedures present in a mobile cellular at the control and data planes

II. Duration

This laboratory should last 2h30.

III. Used tools

This laboratory will use:

- a) A 5G Core opensource implementation: Free5GC
- b) A gNB and UE opensource implementation: UERANSIM
- c) A VirtualBox VM with both components already installed in the laboratory PCs
- d) Wireshark also installed in the laboratory PCs

The VM is also available via SSH at port 2222 for user 'ubuntu' (e.g. 'ssh -p 222 ubuntu@localhost', from the hosting machine); password is 'ubuntu' for users 'ubuntu' and root

IV. Network diagram

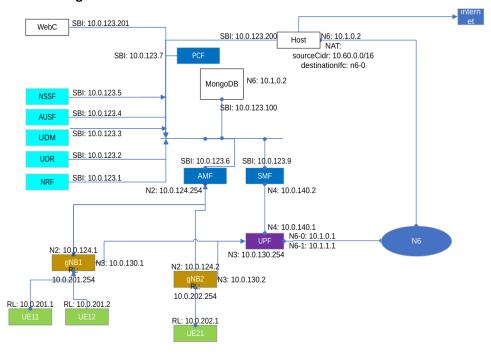


Figure 1: Network diagram

Notes:

- 1. A *hosts* file has been added to Wireshark (*/root/.config/wireshark*) for IP addresses resolution so that you can better interpret the messages exchange (see file contents in annex at the end).
- 2. The MongoDB component serves as persistent data repository for the other components while the network is running.

3. With UERANSIM, the 5G-NR radio interface ('Radio Link') is emulated over UDP between the UEs and the gNB they are connected to.

V. Procedure

Linux Namespaces are used to have each 5GC Network Funtion (NF) running inside its own namespace (see ref [konrad]). This allows the usage of Wireshark to capture traffic packets exchange with the NF, on any of its interfaces (see next fig.).

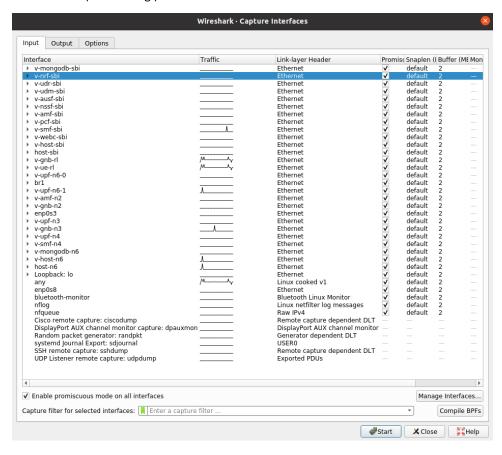


Figure 2: Logical interfaces as seen in Wireshark

1. Configurations analysis

- 1) Analyse the configuration files in the list below, located in folder ~/5GLab/netns5g/config (you may open them with the File Manager) and search for the listed configuration parameters.
 - a. Files:
 - i. 5G Core: amdcfg.yaml, smfcfg.yaml, upfcfg.yaml
 - ii. 5G RAN: free5gc-gnb1.yaml, free5gc-gnb2.yaml
 - iii. 5G UEs:
 - free5gc-ue11.yaml
 - free5gc-ue12-sl1.yaml, free5gc-ue12-sl2.yaml
 - free5gc-ue21.yaml

b. Parameters:

- i. MCC and MNC
- ii. NR Cell Identities and TACs
- iii. Supported slices at gNB1 and gNB2
- iv. Supported DNN
- v. List of SUPIs (UE11, UE12 and UE21)

2. 5GC start

- 1) Open a terminal window
- Change to directory (~5GLab/netns5g) containing the scripts needed to setup and run the 5G environment
- 3) Initialize environment (create the namespaces and the virtual interfaces)
 - ~/5GLab/netns5G\$ sudo ./5Gsetup.sh
- 4) Check created namespaces and connecting links
 - ~/5GLab/netns5G\$ *sudo ip netns* lists created namespaces
 - ~/5GLab/netns5G\$ sudo ip link lists created links
- 5) Start a Wireshark capture in the interface 'br1' (this will capture all the traffic; you can start other Wireshark instances at specific interfaces, e.g. 'v-amf-sbi')
- 6) Start the 5G Core (free5gc)
 - ~/5GLab/netns5G\$ sudo ./5Gstart.sh

At this point 5G Core Network Functions have started, each in its own namespace. Observe the logs and comment the order by which 5G Core components have been started.

- 7) Stop the capture and identify the involved protocols
- 8) Identify the dialogs (suggestion: apply the following display filter: "!ip.addr==10.0.123.1 and !ip.addr==10.0.123.100 and !ip.addr==10.0.123.101 and !arp")

3. gNBs start

- 1) Open a (new) terminal window/tab
- 2) (re)Start Wireshark and start capturing in interface br1
 - \$ sudo wireshark
 - Capture → Options → select 'br1'
- 3) From the same directory, start the first gNB (gNB1)
 - ~/5GLab/netns5G\$./GNB1start.yaml

```
ubuntu@ubuntu-VirtualBox: ~/SGLab/netns5g$ ./GNB1start.sh
[sudo] password for ubuntu:
UERANSIM v3.2.6
[2022-11-07 22:23:42.303] [sctp] [info] Trying to establish SCTP connection... (10.0.124.254:38412)
[2022-11-07 22:23:42.303] [sctp] [info] SCTP connection established (10.0.124.254:38412)
[2022-11-07 22:23:42.303] [sctp] [debug] SCTP association setup ascId[9]
[2022-11-07 22:23:42.304] [ngap] [debug] SCTP association setup ascId[9]
[2022-11-07 22:23:42.305] [ngap] [debug] NG Setup Response received
[2022-11-07 22:23:42.305] [ngap] [info] NG Setup procedure is successful
```

- 4) In the live Wireshark capture observe/note the following (suggestion: filter the displayed packets by SCTP and NGAP protocols: "sctp or ngap"):
 - a. The SCTP connection setup and later the exchanged heartbeats
 - b. Identify by the IP addresses the involved entities
 - c. Detail to the maximum extent, in the Packet Details window, the NGsetupRequest and NGsetupResponse messages
 - d. Confirm observed values with the ones obtained from the configuration files analysis
- 5) Start the second gNB (gNB2)
 - ~/5GLab/netns5G\$./GNB2start.yaml
- 6) In the live Wireshark compare the new *NGsetupRequest* and *NGsetupResponse* messages with previous ones (gBN1)
- 7) Observe the logs in the screen and logfiles in: ~/5GLab/netns5g/logs

4. UE creation, registration and default PDU creation

- 1) Open the Free5GC Web Console from the web browser:
 - a. http://10.0.123.201:5000
 - b. credentials: 'admin'/'free5gc'
- 2) Create the 3 UEs from the table below ('New Subscriber'; see screen capture in the Annexes):

	UE11	UE12	UE21
PLMN ID (MCC/MNC)	00101	00101	00101
SUPI (IMSI)	001010000000011	001010000000012	001010000000021
SST/SD	1/010203	1/010203 (sl1)	1/010203
		2/112233 (sl2)	
DNN	internet	internet	internet
UL/DL AMBR	10/20 Mbps	100/200 Mbps	1/2 Mbps
5QI	9	9	9
Note	Will connect to gNB1	Will connect to gNB1	Will connect to gNB2

In the Free5GC "New Subscriber" form, delete the second appearing S-NSSAI (Single Network Slice Selection Assistance Information) and the second DNN ('internet2')

Only change fields in the table; you may search and interpret the other parameters.

- 3) Restart the Wireshark, keeping the capture in the same interface ('br1')
- 4) Start the first UE (UE11)
 - ~/5GLab/netns5G\$./UE11start.yaml

```
UBUNTUBUNTU-VIrtualBox:-/SCLab/netns5g$ ./UE11start.sh

UBRANSIM v3.2.6
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.666] [nas] [info] UE switches to state [MM-DEREGISTERED/PLMN-SEARCH]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.666] [ror [debug] New signal detected for cell[1], total [1] cells in coverage
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.666] [ror [debug] New signal detected for cell[1], total [1] cells in coverage
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.667] [ror [dino] Selected plnn[001/01] tac[1] category[SUITBBLE]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.667] [ror [dino] UE switches to state [MM-DEREGISTERED/PS]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.667] [nas] [dino] UE switches to state [MM-DEREGISTERED/PS]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.667] [nas] [debug] Intitial registration required due to [MM-DEREG-NORMAL-SERVICE]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.667] [nas] [debug] Intitial Registration required due to [MM-DEREG-NORMAL-SERVICE]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.667] [nas] [debug] Sanding Intitial Registration
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.668] [ror [ (info] UE switches to state [MM-REGISTER-INITIATED]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.668] [ror [ (info] UE switches to state [RM-DEREGISTER-INITIATED]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.668] [ror [ (info] UE switches to state [RRC-CONNECTED]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.668] [ror [ (info] UE switches to state [RRC-CONNECTED]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.668] [ror [ (info] UE switches to state [RRC-CONNECTED]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.668] [nas] [debug] Sanding for the integrity [2] chipering[0]
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.768] [nas] [debug] Sanding Registration accept received
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.768] [nas] [debug] Searchty Mode Command received
[2022:11-07 22:24:37.768] [
```

5) Observe the creation of the TUN interface ('uesimtun0'); in a new terminal window, you can check the creation of this interface in namespace 'ue11'; note its IP address

~/5GLab/netns5G\$ sudo ip netns exec ue11 ip addr

This interface will be used to exchange the traffic via the 5G network.

- Order the Wireshark capture by 'Protocol' and list the relevant protocols
- 6) Apply a Display Filter to see just NGAP, SCTP and PFCP protocols ("ngap or pfcp or sctp")
 - a. Identify the involved 5G control functions (IP addresses are already translated to the functional entity interface, according to the diagram above); identify the dialogs UE-AMF, AMF-SMF, SMF-UPF and their sequence
 - b. Observe the sequence of exchanged messages, looking into their details in the Packet Details window (see, for instance, the 'PFCP Session Establishment Request' and compare with message 'PFCP Session Modification Request')
 - c. You may filter the display of messages by protocol and pair of entities, filtering the protocol and their IP addresses (e.g. for HTTP2 between AMF and AUSF: "ip.addr==10.0.123.4 and ip.addr==10.0.123.6) and http2")

5. Connectivity

- 1) Start a Wireshark capture in the interface 'upf-n3' and another capture in the interface 'upf-n6-0'
- 2) Apply a Display Filter to see protocols GTP and ICMP
- 3) In a terminal window, start a ping to 8.8.8.8 from UE11

~/5GLab/netns5G\$ sudo ip netns exec ue11 ping 8.8.8.8 -I uesimtun0

- 4) Analyse, in the Wireshark Packet Details, the GTP encapsulation
 - Observe the Tunnel Endpoint IDentifier (TEID) in both directions of the communication
- 5) In a new Terminal Window/Tab Start UE12 ~/5GLab/netns5G\$./UE12start-sl1.yaml

(check the contents of file ./config/free5gc-ue12-sl1.yaml)

- 6) Make a ping from UE11 to UE12
 - Analyse the observed GTP packets
- 7) In a new Terminal Window/Tab Start UE21

~/5GLab/netns5G\$./UE12start-sl1.yaml

(check the contents of file ./config/free5gc-ue21.yaml)

8) Make a ping from UE11 to UE21 and observe the exchanged packets at the UPF

6. QoS

- 1) Open a new terminal window
- 2) Start an iperf3 server at the DNN

\$ iperf3 -s

3) Check the TUN interface name and assigned IP address

\$ sudo ip netns exec ue11 ip addr

4) Start an iperf3 client at UE11 towards the server instance and register the achieved bandwidth in the UL and DL directions

\$ sudo ip netns exec ue11 iperf3 -c 10.1.0.2 -B <ue11 IP address> -- uplink

\$ sudo ip netns exec ue11 iperf3 -c 10.1.0.2 -R -B <ue11 IP address> -- downlink

5) Stop UE11 (Ctrl-C) and, in the Free5GC Subscribers interface change to 1/2Mbps (UL/DL)

Alternatively, you can skip this step and execute next two steps with the other UEs, making the necessary adjustments in the iperf3 client command line in step 7.4

6) (Re)start UE11

~/5GLab/netns5G\$./UE11start.sh

7) Repeat the measurements above and compare the results

7. Change configuration files

- 1) Stop UE12 (Ctrl-C)
- 2) Go to the Free5GC WebConsole and change UE12 parameters to

a. SSD: 2

b. SD: 112233

3) Restart UE2 with the same configuration file and check the results

~/5GLab/netns5G\$./UE12start-sl1.yaml

4) Restart UE2 with a new configuration file and check the results

~/5GLab/netns5G\$./UE12start-sl2.yaml

(check the contents of file ./config/free5gc-ue12-sl2.yaml)

- 5) Make a ping from UE11 to UE12, now in different slices and observe the exchanged packets at the UPF; Is there connectivity? Why?
- 6) Make a ping from UE12 to 8.8.8.8; Is there connectivity? Why?

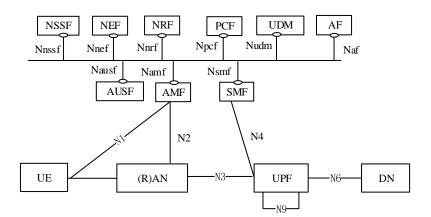
8. Stop and reset the environment

- 1) Stop the gNB nodes (Ctrl-C), the UEs, and the 5G Core
- 2) Wait for final processes to close (this takes some seconds, ending with "NRF terminated")
- 3) Delete the namespaces

~/5GLab/netns5G\$ sudo ./5Gcleanup.sh

Anexes

A. 5G System architecture



B. Example procedure

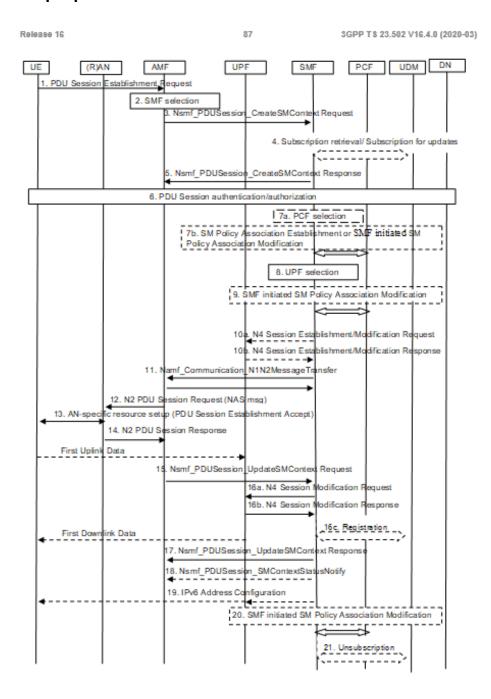
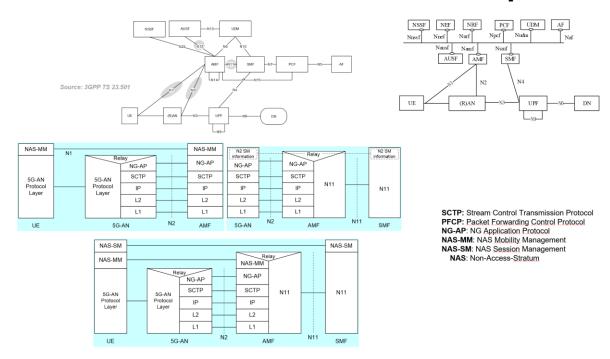


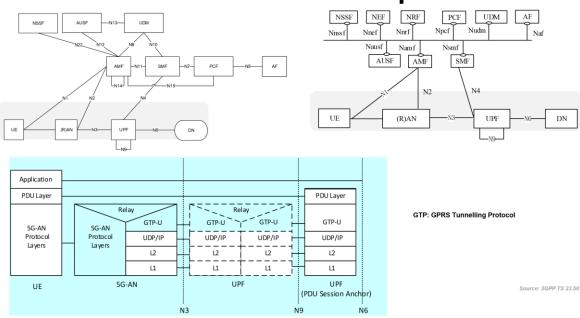
Figure 4.3.2.2.1-1: UE-requested PDU Session Establishment for non-roaming and roaming with local breakout

C. 5G Protocol stacks

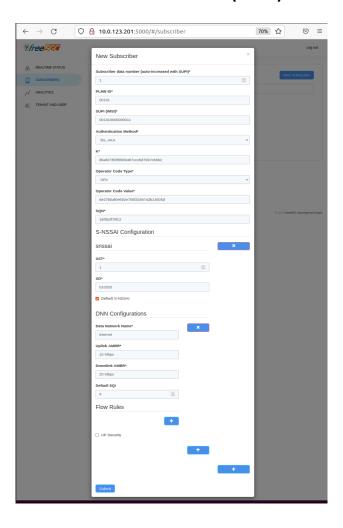
Protocol stacks - control plane



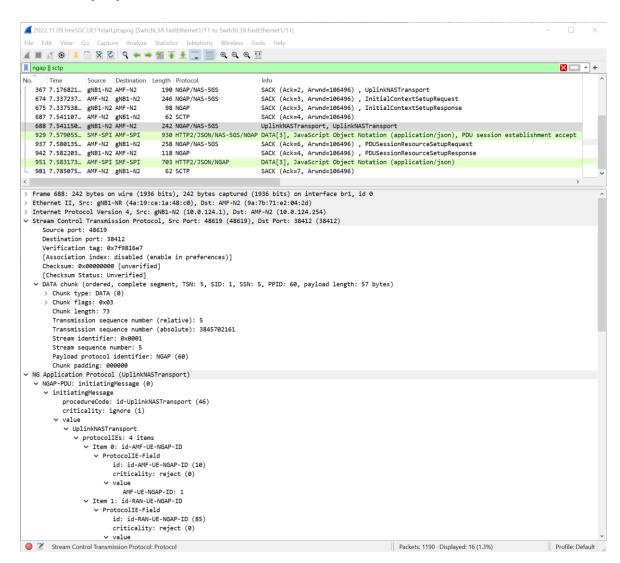
Protocol stacks - user plane



D. Free5GC New Subscriber creation form (UE11)



E. Example of capture with Wireshark, with addresses resolution and display filter



```
Frame 937: 258 bytes on wire (2064 bits), 258 bytes captured (2064 bits) on interface br1, id 0 Ethernet II, Src: AMF-N2 (9a:7b:71:e2:04:2d), Dst: gNB1-NR (4a:19:ce:1a:48:c0)
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: AMF-N2 (10.0.124.254), Dst: gNB1-N2 (10.0.124.1)
Stream Control Transmission Protocol, Src Port: 38412 (38412), Dst Port: 48619 (48619)
NG Application Protocol (PDUSessionResourceSetupRequest)

→ NGAP-PDU: initiatingMessage (0)

                     NGMY-PUU: initiating/message (e)

vinitiating/message
procedureCode: id-PDUSessionResourceSetup (29)
criticality: reject (0)

value

> PDUSessionResourceSetupRequest

✓ protocolIEs: 4 items
✓ Item 0: id-AMF-UE-NGAP-ID
                                                                   ✓ ProtocolIE-Field
id: id-AMF-UE-NGAP-ID (10)
criticality: reject (0)
                                                           value

AMF-UE-NGAP-ID: 1

V Item 1: id-RAN-UE-NGAP-ID
                                                                      ProtocolIE-Field
  id: id-RAN-UE-NGAP-ID (85)
  criticality: reject (0)
                                                            value
RAN-UE-NGAP-ID: 1

✓ Item 2: id-PDUSessionResourceSetupListSUReq

    ProtocolIE-Field
    id: id-PDUSessionResourceSetupListSUReq (74)
    criticality: reject (0)

→ PDUSessionResourceSetupListSUReq: 1 item
                                                                                                 ∨ Item 0

→ PDUSessionResourceSetupItemSUReq

                                                                                                                  PDUSessionResourceSetupItemSUReq
pDUSessionRD: 1

> pDUSessionNaS-PDU: 7e82cad24c2a627e06680108432e0101c211000901000631310101ff090606001406000a...

> Non-Access-Stratum 565 (NAS)PDU

> Security protected NAS 565 message

Extended protocol discriminator: 5G mobility management messages (126)

0000 ... = Spare Half Octet: 0

... 0010 = Security headen type: Integrity protected and ciphered (2)

Message authentication code: 0xcad24c2a

Sequence number: 2
                                                                                                                                                          Sequence number: 2
                                                                                                                                              Encrypted data

✓ s-NSSAI

                                                                                                                     $57: 01
$57: 01
$59: 010203

pDUSessionResourceSetupRequestTransfer: 000004008200090c01312d0020989680008b000a01f00a0082fe00000001008600010000...

PDUSessionResourceSetupRequestTransfer

→ protocolIEs: 4 items

▼ Item 0: id-PDUSessionAggregateMaximumBitRate

                                                                                                                                                            Them 8: 10-POSSESSIONAGEREGATEMAXIMUMDITRATE

v ProtocolTE-Field

id: id-PDUSessionAggregateMaximumBitRate (130)

criticality: reject (0)

y value

y PDUSessionAggregateMaximumBitRate

y PDUSessionAggregateMaximumBitRate

y value

y PDUSessionAggregateMaximumBitRate

y value

y PDUSessionAggregateMaximumBitRate

y value

y PDUSessionAggregateMaximumBitRate

y PDUSe
                                                                                                                                                PDUSessionAggregateWaximumBitRate
    pDUSessionAggregateWaximumBitRateDL: 20000000bits/s
    pDUSessionAggregateWaximumBitRateUL: 10000000bits/s

VItem 1: id-UL-NGU-UP-TNLInformation
    ProtocolIE-Field
    id: id-UL-NGU-UP-TNLInformation (139)
                                                                                                                                                                             criticality: reject (0)
                                                                                                                                                                            value

V UPTransportLayerInformation: gTPTunnel (0)

v gTPTunnel

v transportLayerAddress: 0a0082fe [bit length 32, 0000 1010 0000 0000 1000 0010 1111 1110 decimal value 167805694]

TransportLayerAddress (IPv4): 10.0.130.254 (10.0.130.254)
                                                                                                                                                                                                      gTP-TEID: 00000001

✓ Item 2: id-PDUSessionType

                                                                                                                                                                 ProtocolIE-Field
id: id-PDUSessionType (134)
criticality: reject (0)

√ value

                                                                                                                                                value
    PDUSessionType: ipv4 (0)
v Item 3: id-QosFlowSetupRequestList
v ProtocolIE-FleId
    id: id-QosFlowSetupRequestList (136)
    criticality: reject (0)

√ value

→ QosFlowSetupRequestList: 1 item
                                                                                                                                                                                                 V QosFlowSetupRequestItem
qosFlowIdentifier: 9
v qosFlowLevelQosParameters
                                                                                                                                                                                                                v Item 3: id-UEAggregateMaximumBitRate
v ProtocolIE-Field
id: id-UEAggregateMaximumBitRate (110)
criticality: ignore (1)

→ UEAggregateMaximumBitRate

                                                                                                          uEAggregateMaximumBitRateDL: 2000000000bits/s
uEAggregateMaximumBitRateUL: 1000000000bits/s
Show packet bytes
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              Close Help
```

F. Hosts file

#5G Core 10.0.123.1 10.0.123.2 10.0.123.3 10.0.123.4 10.0.123.5 10.0.123.6 10.0.123.7 10.0.123.9 10.0.123.100 10.0.123.201	NRF-SBI UDR-SBI UDM-SBI AUSF-SBI NSSF-SBI AMF-SBI PCF-SBI SMF-SBI MongoDB-SBI WebConsole
10.0.124.254 10.0.124.1 10.0.124.2	AMF-N2 gNB1-N2 gNB2-N2
10.0.140.2 10.0.140.1	SMF-N4 UPF-N4
#5G dataplane 10.1.0.1 10.1.0.1	UPF-N6 Host-N6
#RAN1 10.0.201.1 10.0.201.2 10.0.201.254	UE11-NR UE12-NR gNB1-NR
#RAN2 10.0.202.1 10.0.202.254	UE11-NR gNB1-NR

G. Useful links

- Free5GC:
 - o [free5gchome] https://www.free5gc.org/
 - o [free5gcwiki] https://github.com/free5gc/free5gc/wiki
 - [konrad] https://github.com/konradkar2/netns5g
- UERANSIM:
 - o https://github.com/aligungr/UERANSIM/wiki
- 3GPP
 - o www.3gpp.org