

# Mobile Privacy in 2025

**Dr. Ravishankar Borgaonkar**

Kaitiaki Labs LLP & University of Oxford

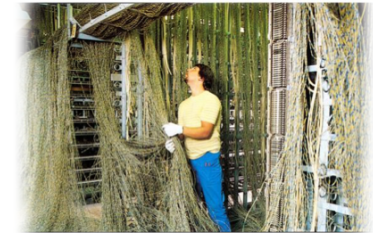
21 September 2017

# Outline

- Cellular Networks
- 1G to 4G – architecture
- 1G to 4G - vulnerabilities
- 5G architecture
- 5G vision 2025
- Security challenges

# Magic of Cellular Networks

- First demonstration in 1877 – Stockholm, Sweden
- “Telephone is the instrument of Devil” \*\*
- Innovations - wireline (1877) to wireless (2017)
- Foundation – **seamless connectivity and low latency**
- Features - quality of service & availability



\*\* & Figure Source- Ericsson History

# 1G Networks to 4G

- No authentication & encryption
- Heavy devices
- No roaming – international calls



- Authentication & encryption
- Smart devices
- Roaming and high speed Internet

1G

4G

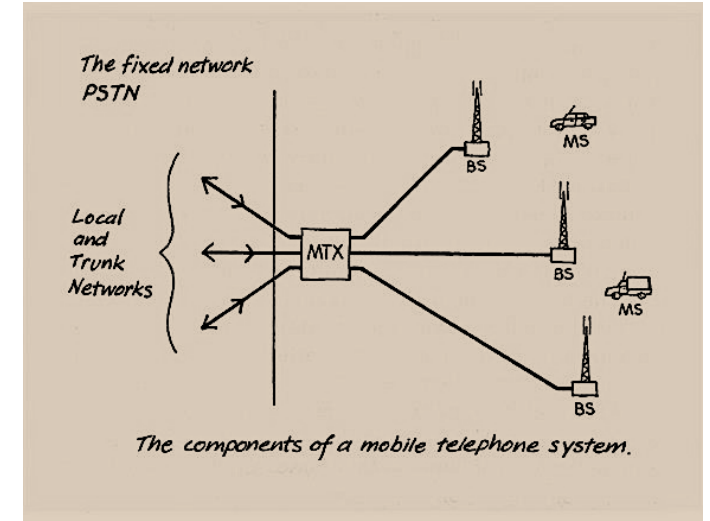


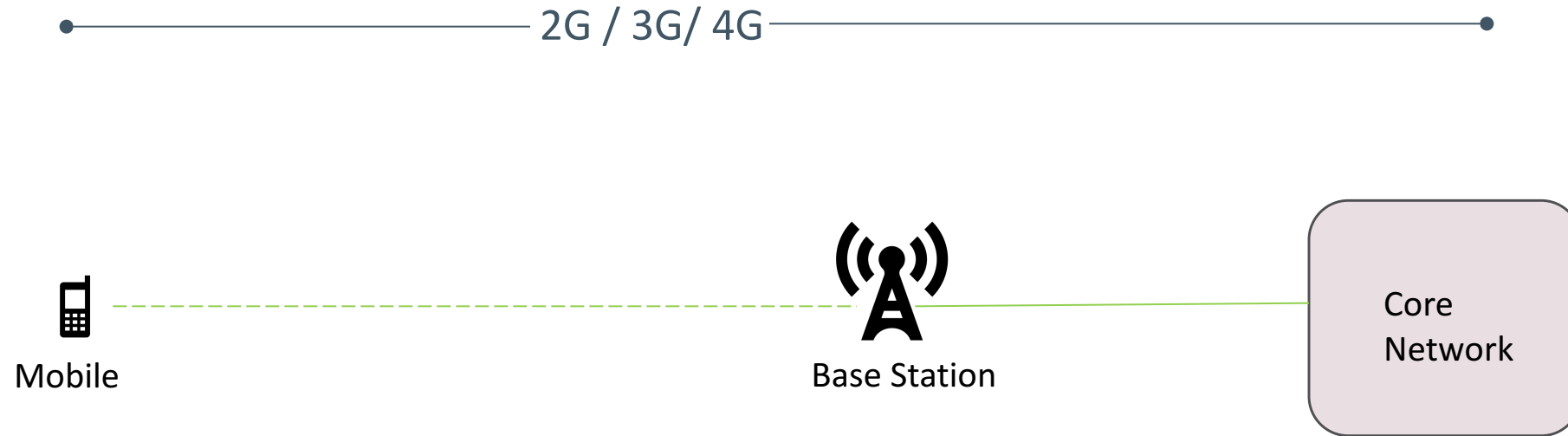
figure- Ericsson History

# Design Stakeholders

- Cellular network providers
- End-user equipment vendors
- Standard organizations
- Infrastructure & support services
- Over-The-Top services



# Secure Cellular Communication



Authentication

Availability

Confidentiality

Integrity

Are we secured?

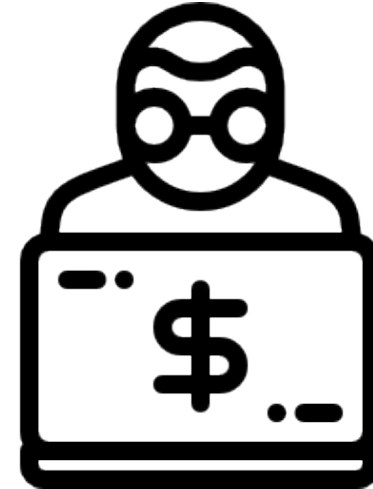
# Privacy Assets

- Device information
  - IMEI, identities etc.
  - Location data
  - Sensitive data ( for example user health info)
- Personal information
  - IMEI,IMSI, phone number etc.
  - SMS and call/Internet data
  - Location data



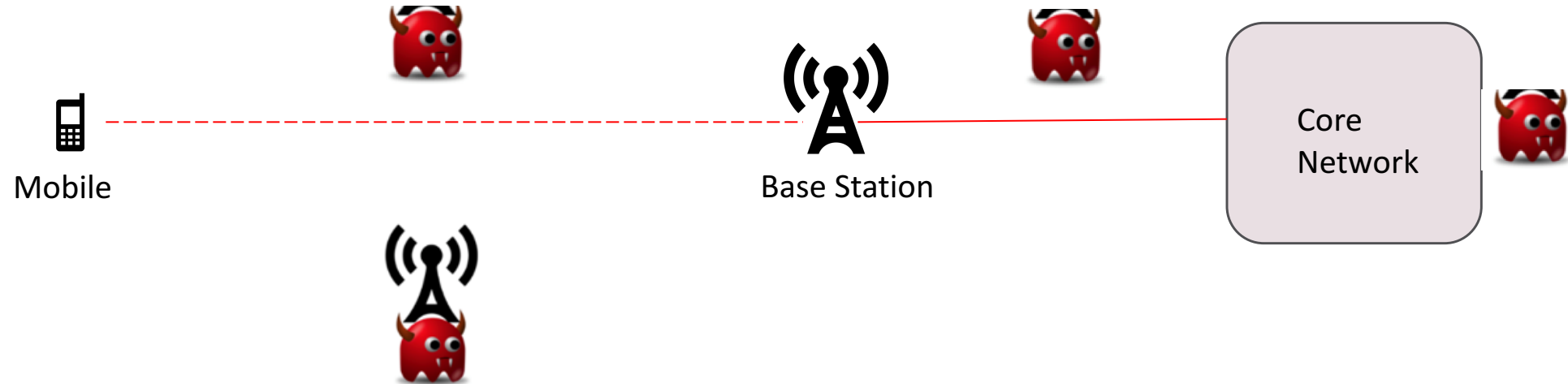
# Attackers

- Fraudsters
- Cyber criminals
- Insider threats
- Cyber warfare actors (arguable)

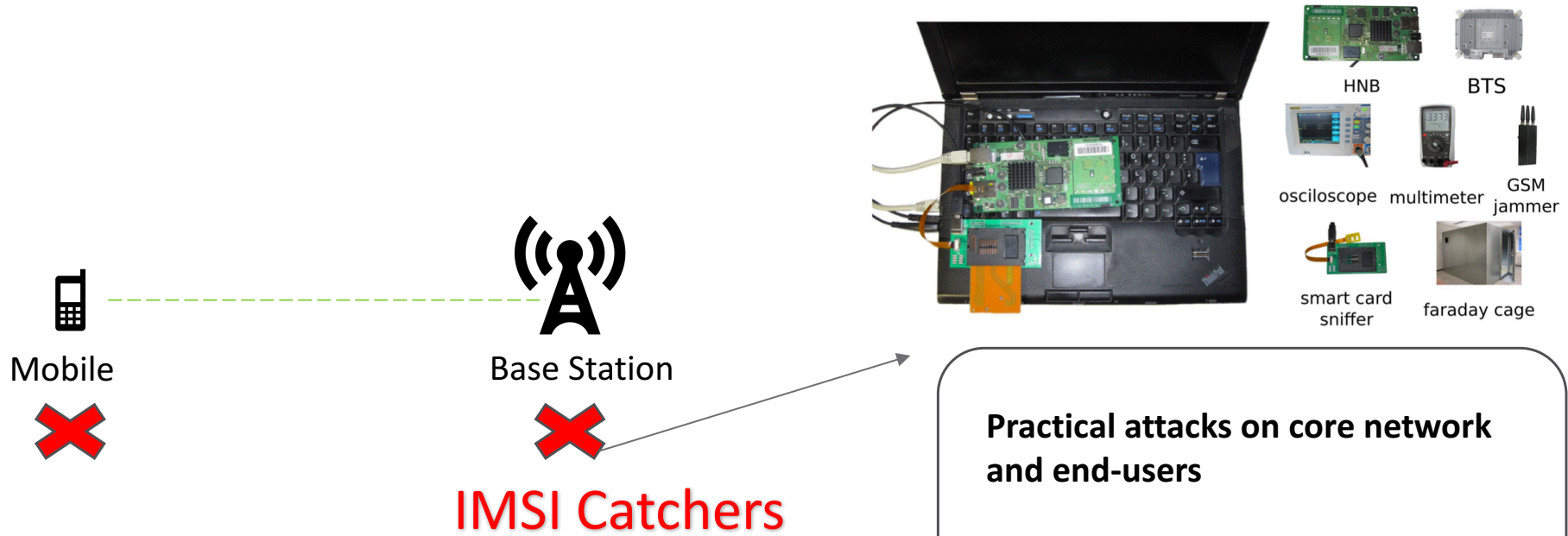




# Threats and Attacker Model



# Vulnerabilities & Attacks



## Attacks against 3 operating systems

- Baseband, (U)SIM & Android vulnerabilities

## Practical attacks on core network and end-users

- architecture issues and risks

# Standards & Regulations

# Cellular Security Standards

- Standardization bodies
  - 3GPP (3rd Generation Partnership Project)
  - ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute)
  - GSMA (GSM Association)
  - ITU (International Telecommunication Union)
- Mandatory security and privacy requirements
- International and national regulations (use of encryption, data retention)



## **Sprint**

Subscriber Information: 10 years

Call History: 18 months. Bill reprint form 7-10 years, pre-pay accounts only 18 months regardless.

Tower Locations as they related to Call History: 18 months

SMS Content: Not Available

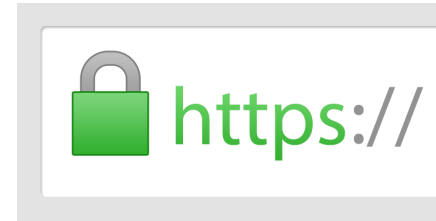
Tower Dumps: 18 months

Range to Tower (RTT) Data: 14-90 days. The technician advised that after 14 days, certain detail in these records is purged, but the remainder is kept for up to 90 days.

# Standards & Deployment Issues

## Security Indicators on Mobile

- Padlock symbol for HTTPS



- Have you seen during mobile call lately?















# 5G Networks

- 5G- Next generation cellular networks
  - Handles more data
  - Connects more devices
  - Low latency
  - More reliability
- 1-10 Gbps speed
- Driven by new use-cases, for example
  - Connected driverless cars
  - Remote surgery



# 5G Networks Characteristics

|  |                                   |             |  |                                  |                                |  |                          |                         |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | <b>Peak data rate</b>             | 1–20Gbps    |   | <b>Latency</b>                   | 1–10ms                         |   | <b>Availability</b>      | Significant enhancement |
|   | <b>User experienced data rate</b> | 10–100Mbps  |   | <b>Connection density</b>        | 10k–1m devices/km <sup>2</sup> |   | <b>Battery life</b>      | 10 years                |
|   | <b>Spectral efficiency</b>        | X1–X3       |   | <b>Network energy efficiency</b> | X1–100X                        |   | <b>Reliability</b>       | Significant enhancement |
|  | <b>Mobility</b>                   | 350–500km/h |  | <b>Area traffic capacity</b>     | 0.1–10 Mbit/s/m <sup>2</sup>   |  | <b>Position accuracy</b> | 10m–<1m                 |

# Cloud-Native 5G Architecture

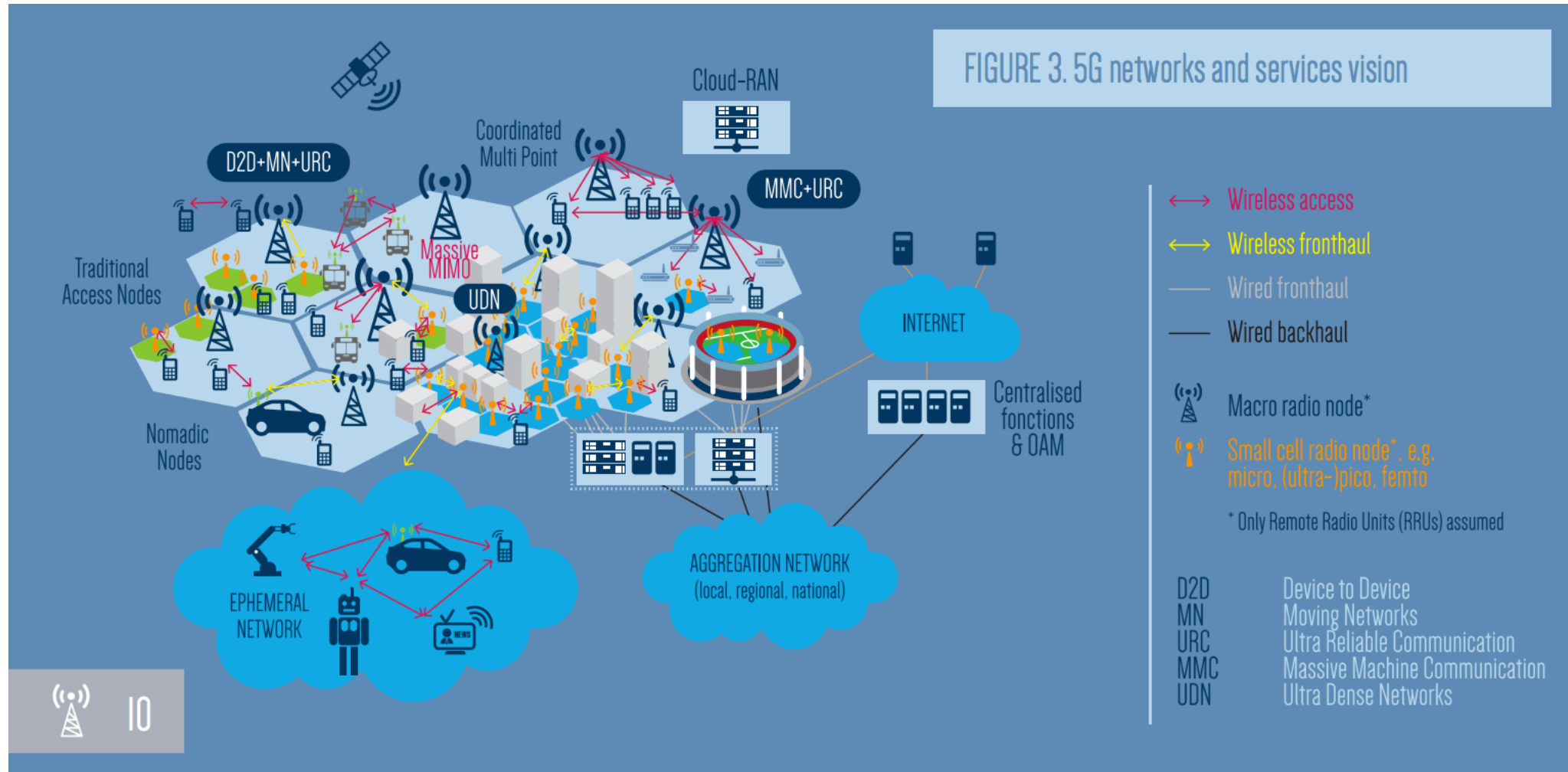
## Moving towards network softwarization and programmability

- Radio network
- Network clouds
- SDN (Software-Defined Networks)
- NFV (Network Functions Virtualization)



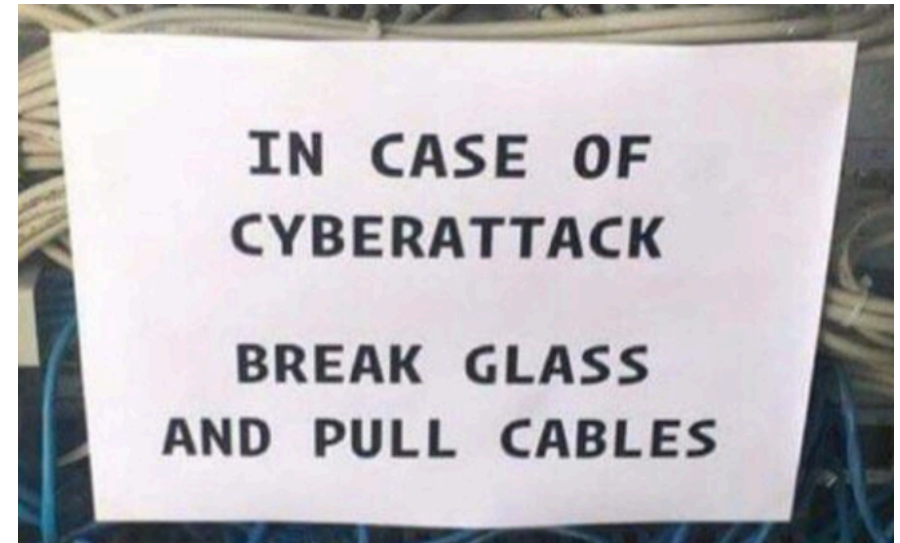


# Vision 2025 – 5G



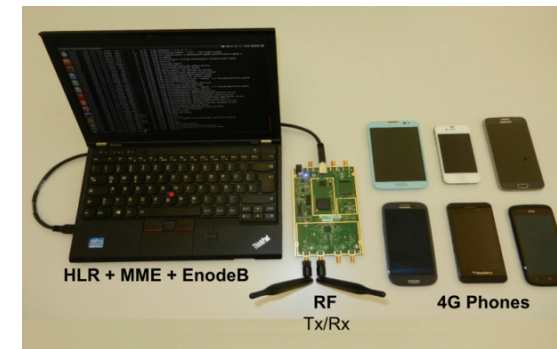
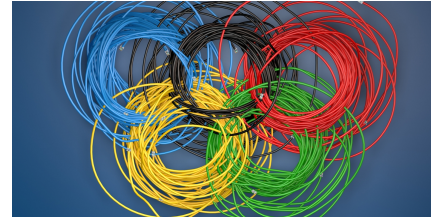
# 5G Devices in 2025?

- Non-removable USIM cards - eSIM era
- Non-removable battery
- Change cellular operator without going to a shop and USIM
- Always connected ( 5G speed > WiFi speed)
- Small cells – connected to clouds



# Current Cellular Network Issues

- Privacy engineering
- OS and Baseband software update
- Targeted attacks
- Capability to detect threats



**POSTED BY: TOR INGAR OESTERUD** 22. FEBRUARY 2016

Misinterpretation of data from another international operator lead to about 1 million Telenor customers being without mobile coverage for several hours Friday, the company said.

# 5G Privacy Challenges for 2025

- Radio interface security
  - Essential for delivery drones and self-driving connected cars
- Mandatory security measures in the network
  - Protection of cellular data in third party services (cloud)
  - Quantum safe cryptography techniques
- Regulatory framework
  - Privacy awareness and laws
  - Effective policies and enforcements
  - Data retention
- DoS attacks
- Security in SDN and NFV



Thank You.

Questions