

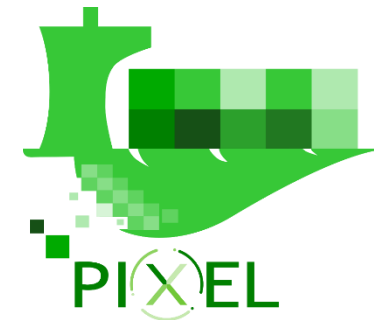
# Leveraging IoT and prediction techniques to monitor COVID-19 restrictions in port terminals



IEEE 7th World Forum on  
Internet of Things

14 June 2021 – 31 July 2021

Rafael VAÑO, Ignacio LACALLE,  
Benjamín MOLINA, Carlos E. PALAU



Rafael Vaño

Researcher

Universitat Politècnica de València

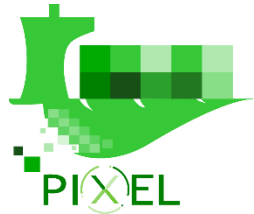
# Introduction

- Ports are essential nodes in the multi-modal supply chain
- COVID-19 restrictions on ports → limit the density of workers in specific areas to a certain threshold
- Internet of Things promises to be the solution for most monitoring requirements in maritime port services sector:
  - Provides minimization and affordability of the technology
  - Increments the volume of information available

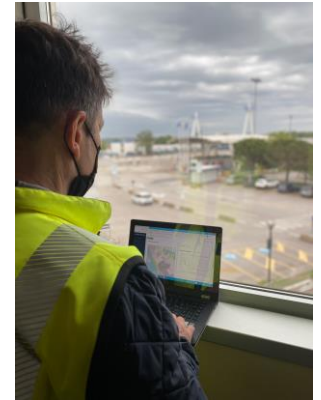


- **Main objective:** propose a monitoring tool running over an IoT-based architecture for helping maritime ports address density of workers restriction in terminal areas.

# How this paper has advanced the state of the art



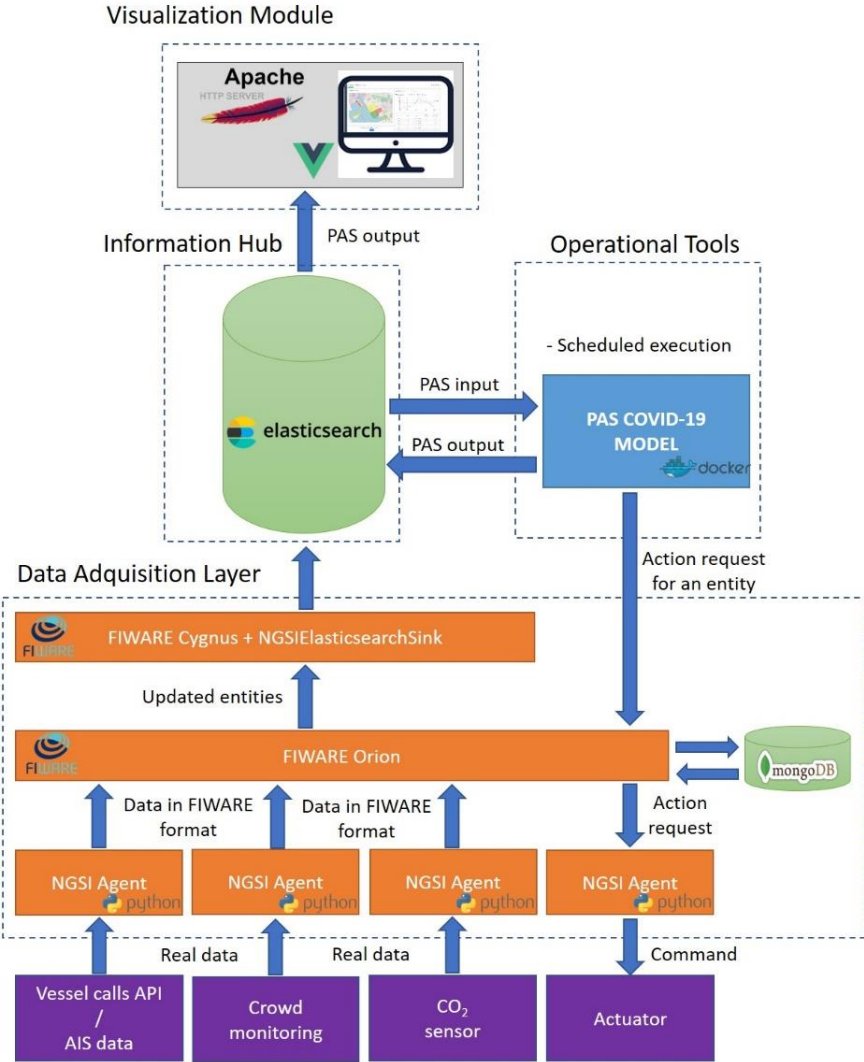
- Tackling the concept of “National Single Windows” (NSW) building on a robust existing IoT solution (PIXEL)
- Implementing the principles of flexibility, scalability, and adaptability to diverse IoT scenarios
- Innovative, timely, early adoption of the PIXEL infrastructure while the project is still alive.
- First tool a port manager to know in advance how many workers are expected to occupy one area of the terminal during a particular work shift based on a terminal-operations simulator upon defined supply chains.
- There has not been discovered a prognosis tool based on the logistics activity schedule to forecast a situation surpassing density of population threshold.
- Additionally, previous proposals cannot guarantee a non-invasive, plug-and-play deployment



# Proposed architecture

Powered by  


 orion



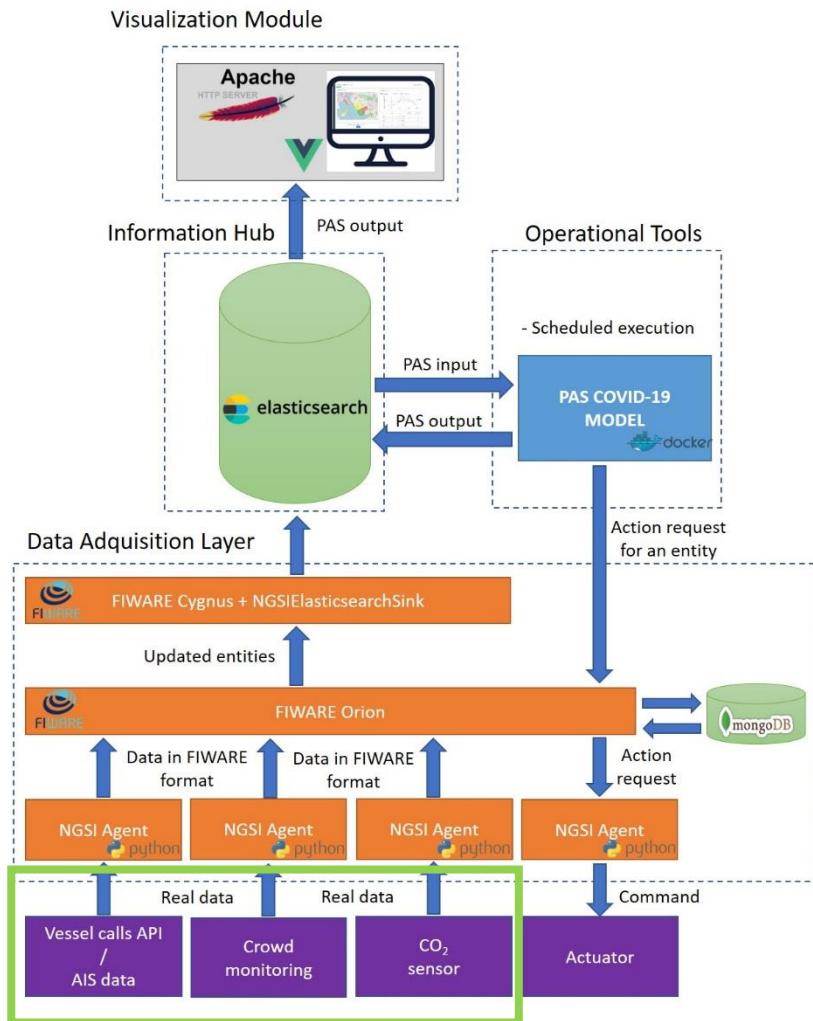
 Vue.js

  
docker

 APACHE kafka®  elasticsearch

  
PIXEL

# Proposed architecture: data provisioning



- Acquisition of heterogenous data from dispersed sources:



**CO<sub>2</sub> pollution:** social distancing implies a reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions → CO<sub>2</sub> sensors

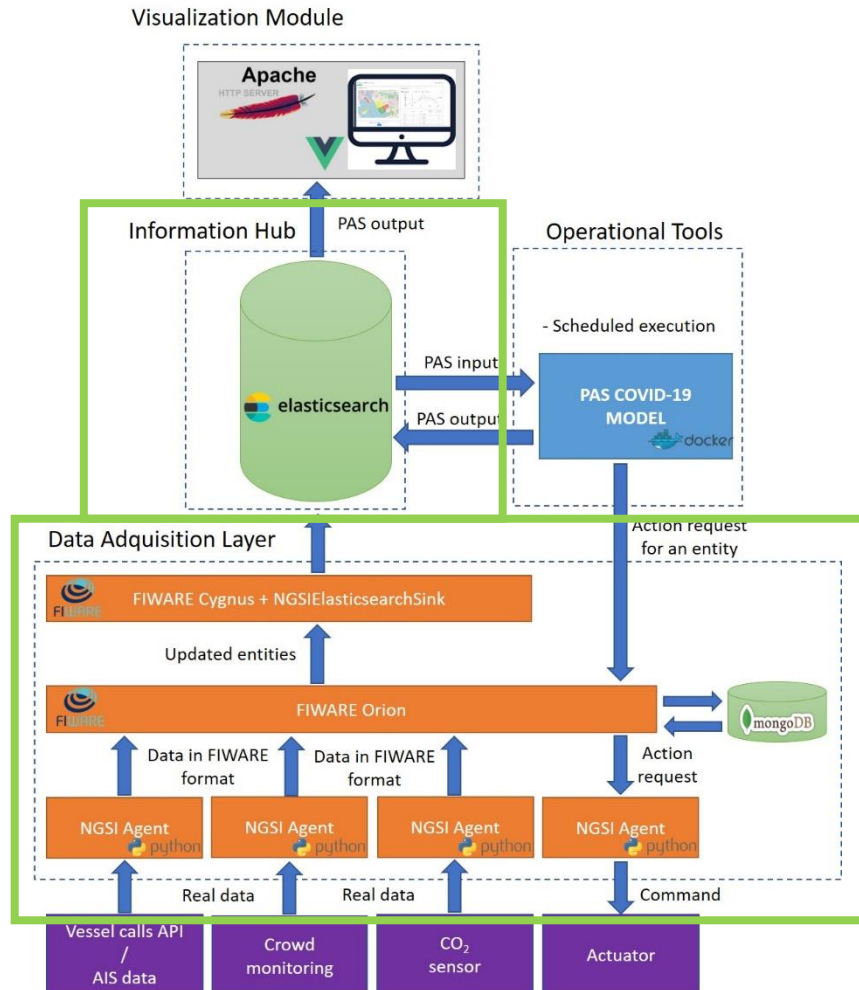
**Vessel calls:** needed for running the proposed tool

→ remote server (web page or REST API) or AIS



**Crowd monitoring:** real data is useful to be compared with the prediction results → smartphone based count analysis

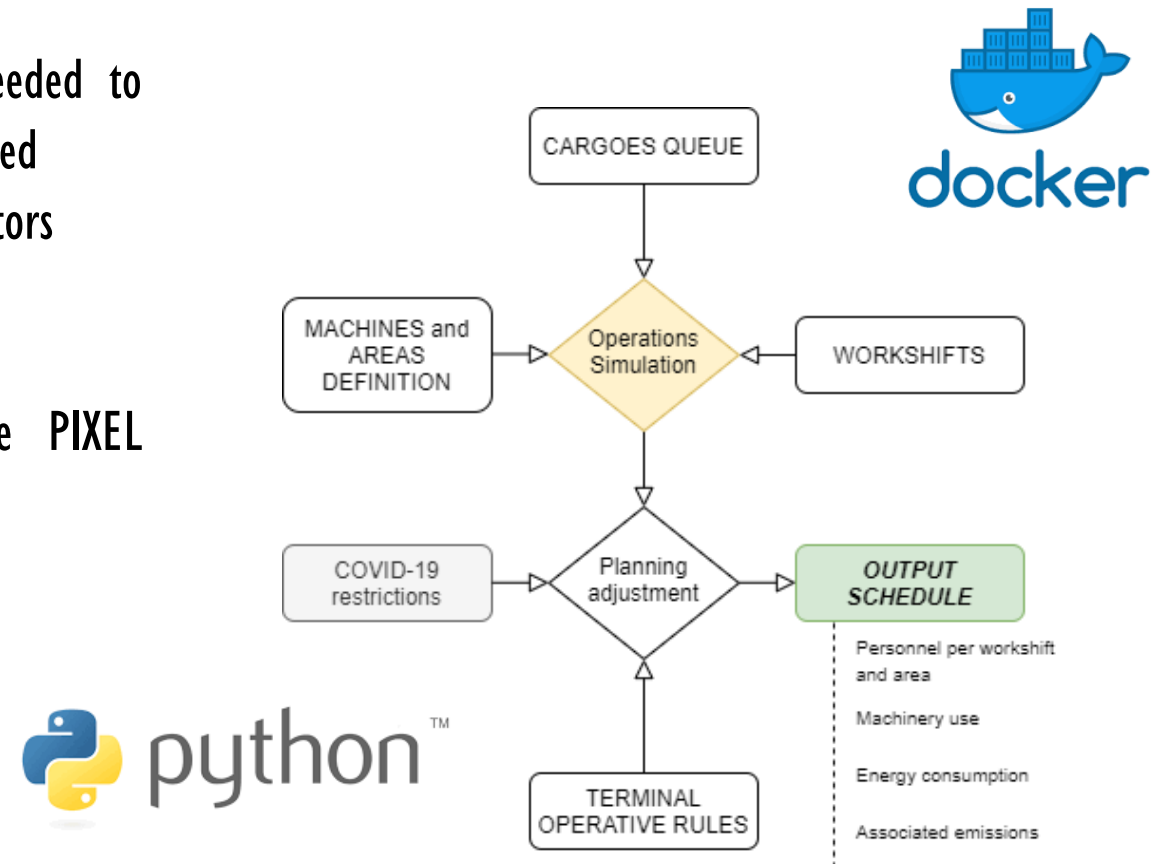
# Proposed architecture: data concentration and storage



- Data gathered via NGSI Agents (python): the only component which establishes direct communications with the physical devices.
- Common datamodel: FIWARE Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
- FIWARE Orion as a Context Broker:
  - Data aims to represent the status of the IoT system context in a concrete timestamp
  - Controls and validates the format of the received information
- FIWARE Cygnus and NGSI ElasticsearchSink to persist the data
- Powered by FIWARE
- Data storage in a centralized module: the PIXEL Information Hub
  - Elasticsearch database as core module
  - Prepared for big data, high performance and scalable

# Terminal supply chain simulation: the Port Activity Scenario model

- Models the schedule and performance of terminal operations needed to effectively operate a vessel (load/unload) and the processes involved
- Needs previous configuration (PAS forms) filled by the Port operators
- Enhanced to include the COVID-19 restrictions in its calculations
- Consists of various custom *Python* scripts
- Containerized using Docker and completely integrated in the PIXEL infrastructure
- Scheduled execution orchestrated by the PIXEL Operational Tools
- Results:
  - Workers density per area
  - Energy consumption
  - Machinery use
  - Pollutant emissions



# Usability overview

Dashboard / PIXEL COVID-19 pilot / Dashboard

Dashboard

### Complete supply chain

**Berth\_01**

- Current workers: 40
- Max workers allowed: 50
- Current load: 80%
- Density: 0.0025 workers/m<sup>2</sup>
- Energy consumption in the shift:
  - Regular\_Diesel: 158.571

- Low Density
- Medium Density
- High Density

Leaflet | Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors

April 21 10h 45 minutes

Without pandemic restrictions  Pandemic restrictions

Reload

### Select area

Berth 01 Workers

### Workers evolution

With COVID restrictions Without COVID restrictions

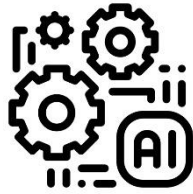
Time	With COVID restrictions	Without COVID restrictions
2021-04-20 22:00:00	40	40
2021-04-21 01:45:00	40	40
2021-04-21 05:30:00	40	40
2021-04-21 09:15:00	40	40
2021-04-21 13:00:00	20	20

Vessel	Arrival	Berth	Operation	Cargo (tonnes)	Cargo type	Avg. workers intervening	Total energy consumption (kWh)
Vessel 1	21/4/2021 0:00:00	5	unloading	2994	Cellulose	10	3,393.2
		6	unloading	2994		10	3,393.2
Vessel 2	21/4/2021 0:00:00	7	unloading	2894	Slabs	10	3,119.09
		8	unloading	2894		10	3,119.09



# Future work and research lines

- Within the scope of the PIXEL project, the Port of Monfalcone expects to use the tool before the end of 2021
- Incorporation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for:
  - Forecasting deviations in the density restriction compliance
  - Cross-relation discoveries
  - Pattern recognition
  - Long-term planning



- Inclusion of additional data sources:
  - Cameras to record the actual density of workers per area
  - Other IoT-related sources such as RFID tags or wearables
- Aggregation of functionalities to cover the control of other type of measures (crew change at vessel arrival or departure)



Thank You + Questions?



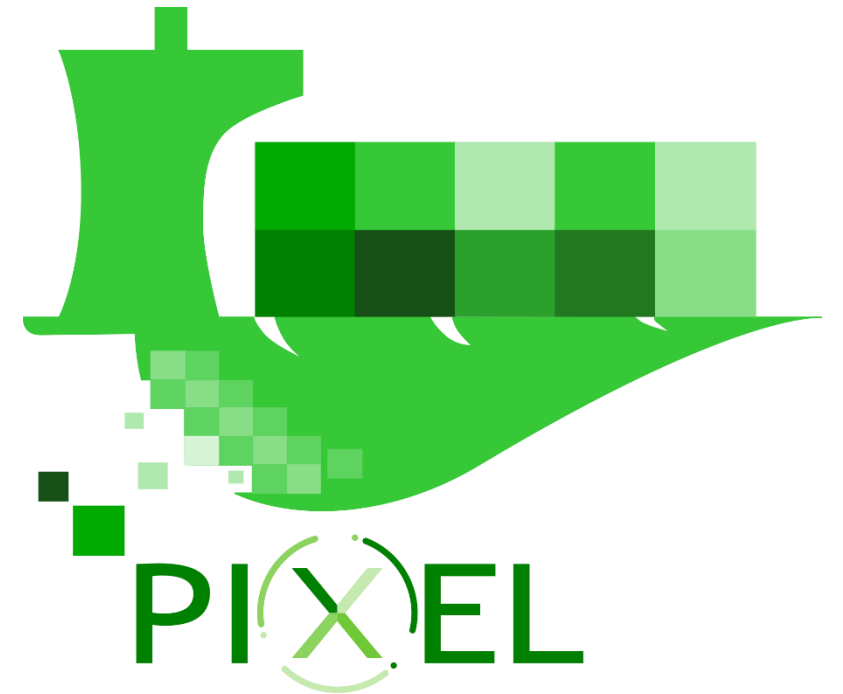
**IEEE World Forum  
on Internet of Things**

**IEEE 7th World Forum on  
Internet of Things**

**14 June 2021 – 31 July 2021**



**UNIVERSITAT  
POLITÈCNICA  
DE VALÈNCIA**



*This Communication is part of a project that has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N°769355*

**Rafael Vaño**  
Researcher  
UPV (Universitat Politècnica de València)

✉ [ravagar2@upv.es](mailto:ravagar2@upv.es) [Rafael Vaño Garcia](#)