

# OS Fingerprinting and Tethering Detection in Mobile Networks

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Joint work:

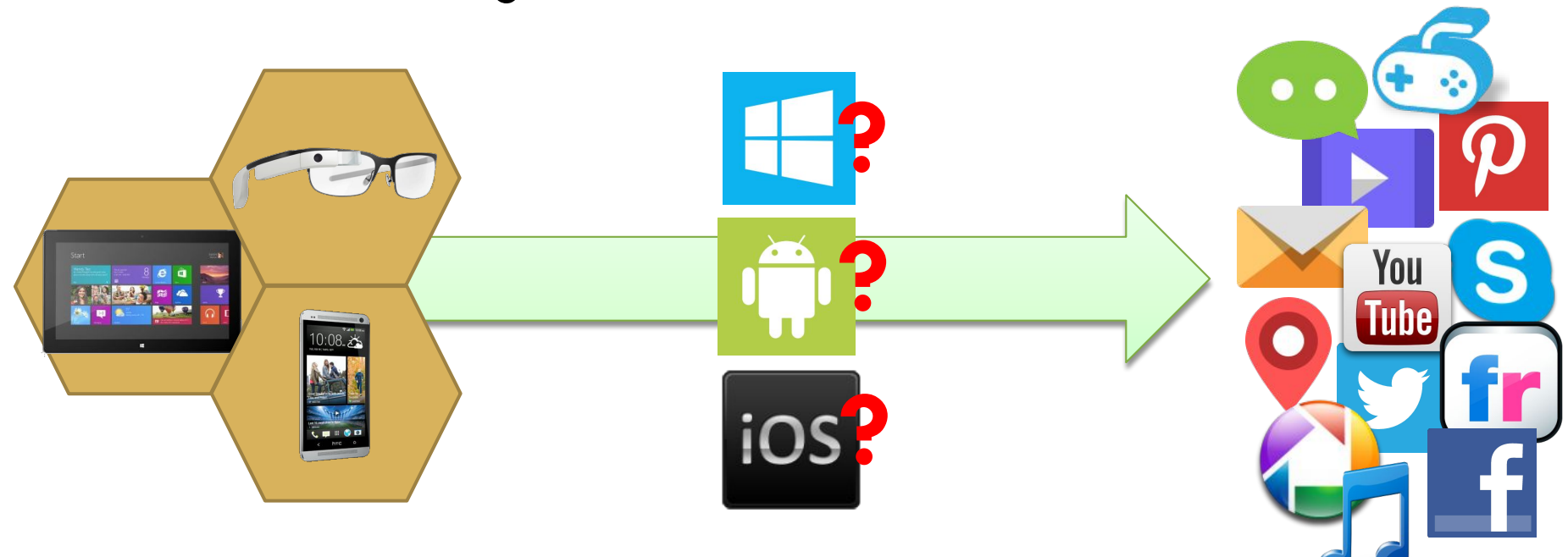
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# Mobile OS Fingerprinting

## □ Problem statement

- Infer what operating system a device is running by analyzing the packets it's generating.
- Tethering detection: identify mobile devices which are sharing the Internet access



# Importance

- Tethering detection
  - Billing for shared access in mobile networks
- Security
  - Policy enforcement in enterprise networks



# Existing Works

## Application

- HTTP user agent [POf], DHCP options [Satori]

## Transport

- TCP handshake, timeout, MTU, flags, init seq. number [POf, NMap, VEYSET02, PAM04, RAID03], TCP Timestamp [INFOCOM99, IMW02]

## Network

- IP TTL, ID, dest address [POf, PAM04]

## Link

- 802.11 MAC fields, SSID, frame size [MOBICOM07]

# Limitation of Existing Works

- Existing works focus on the Internet traffic
- Mobile networks impose new challenges:
  - Dynamic frequency due to power saving
    - Clock skew, boot time estimation, ...
  - Short connections
    - TCP flavors, initial sequence number, ...
  - Features might have changed in mobile OSes
    - TCP MTU, IP flags, ...

# Approach

- Identify features to fingerprint mobile device OSes
- Detect tethering
  - **Clock frequency stability**, boot time estimation
  - IP Time-to-Live, ID Monotonicity
  - TCP timestamp option, **window size scale option, timestamp monotonicity**
- Combine multiple features
- Quantify the performance
  - Individual and combined features
  - OS fingerprinting and tethering detection

# Dataset

## □ Lab trace

### □ 56 mobile user traces

#### ■ 14 Android phones and tablets traces

- Samsung Galaxy S5, HTC Ones, HTC Inspire phones, Google Nexus 10 tablet

#### ■ 10 iOS traces

- iPhone 4s, iPhone5s, iPad 2, iPod Touch
- iOS 5.1.1, iOS 6.1

#### ■ 32 Windows laptops traces

- running Windows XP or Windows 7

### □ Each capture lasts 10~30 minutes

# Other Datasets

Trace	Time	Duration	# IPs
Lab Trace	Oct. 2013	2 hours	56
SIGCOMM08 Trace	Aug. 2008	1 day	223
OSDI06 trace	Nov. 2006	1 day	292

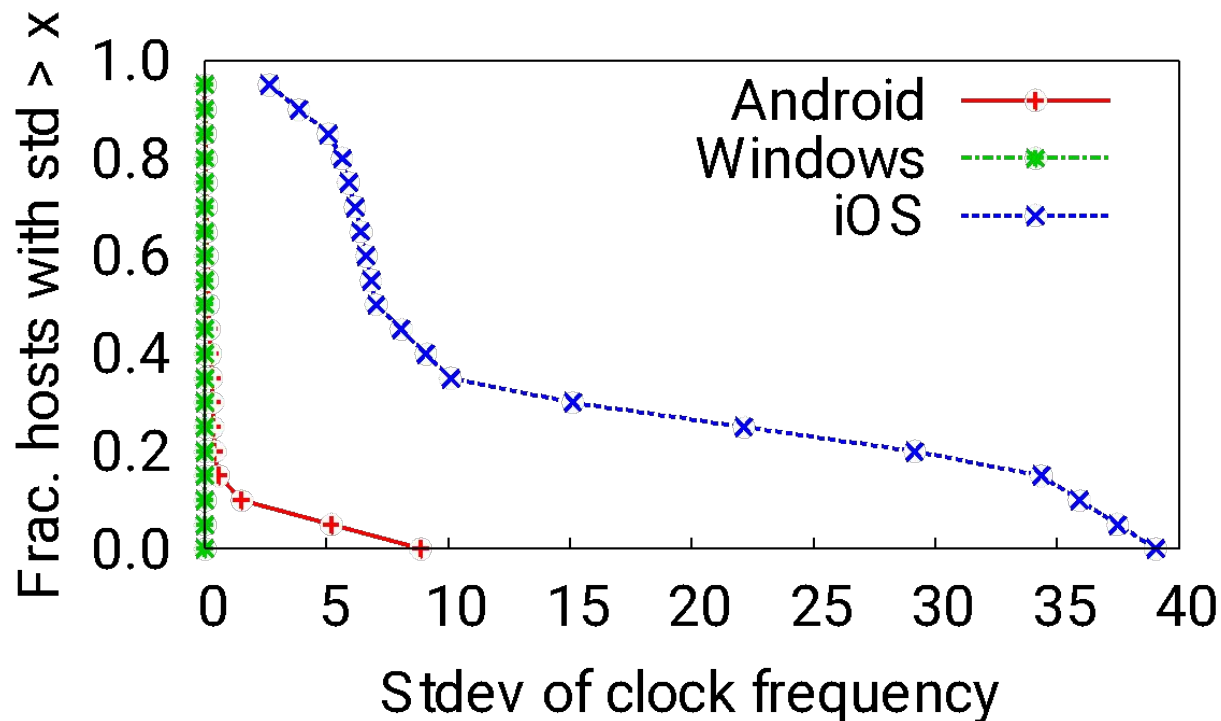


# Features

## □ Clock Frequency

$$freq = \frac{timestamp_i - timestamp_1}{rcv\_time_i - rcv\_time_1}$$

- The
  - but
- High clock frequency std. suggests iOS**

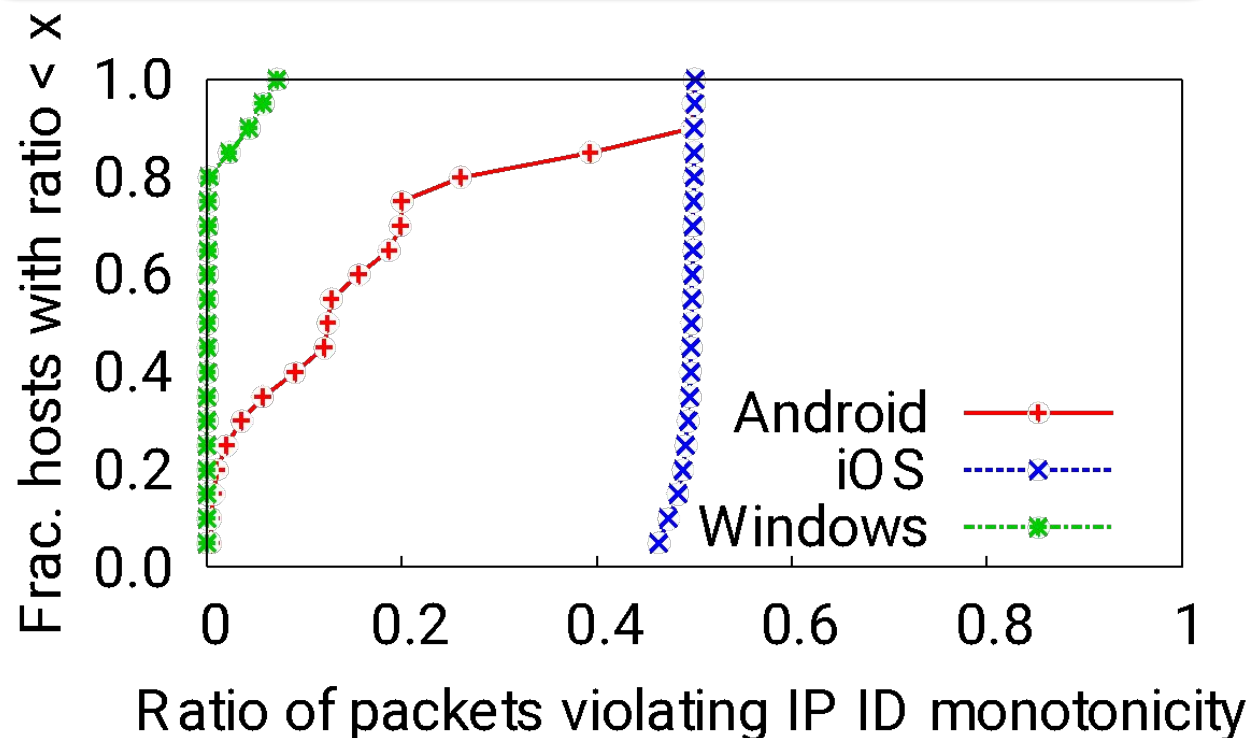


# Features

## IP ID Monotonicity

Windows

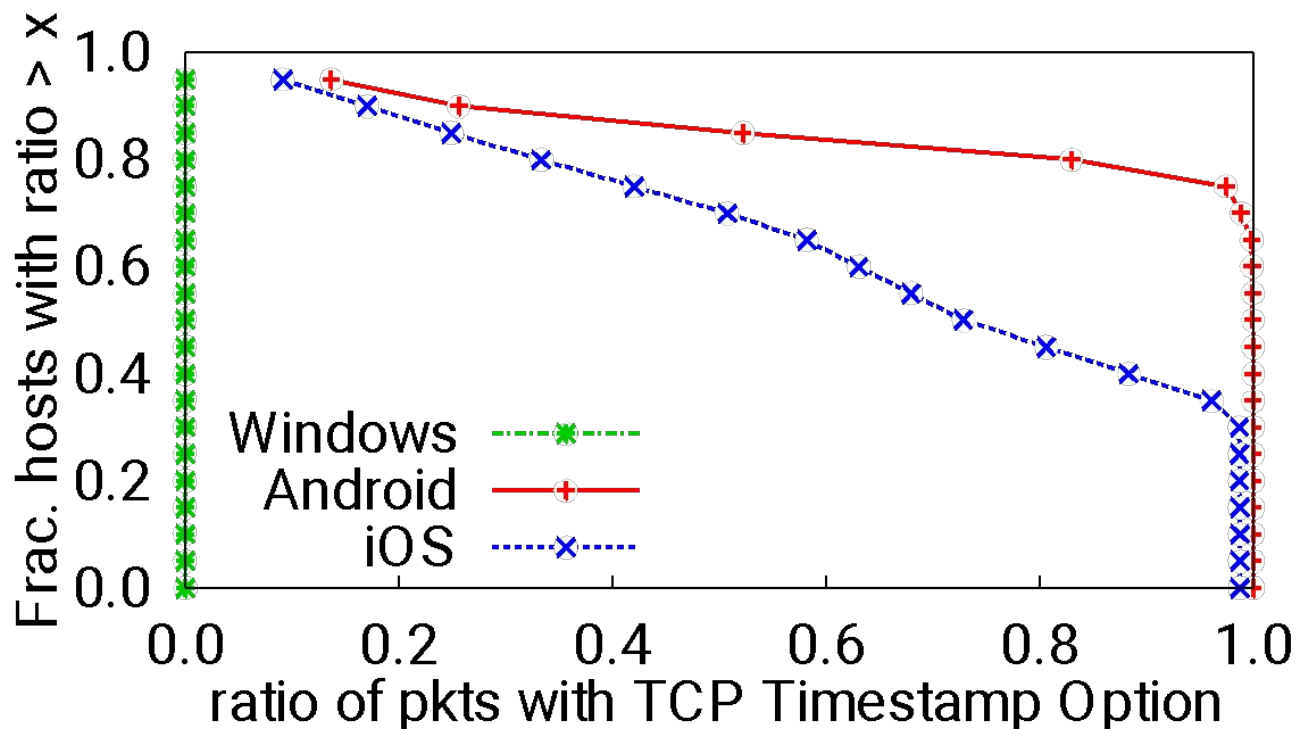
**High violation ratio suggests iOS;**  
**low violation ratio suggests Windows.**



# Features

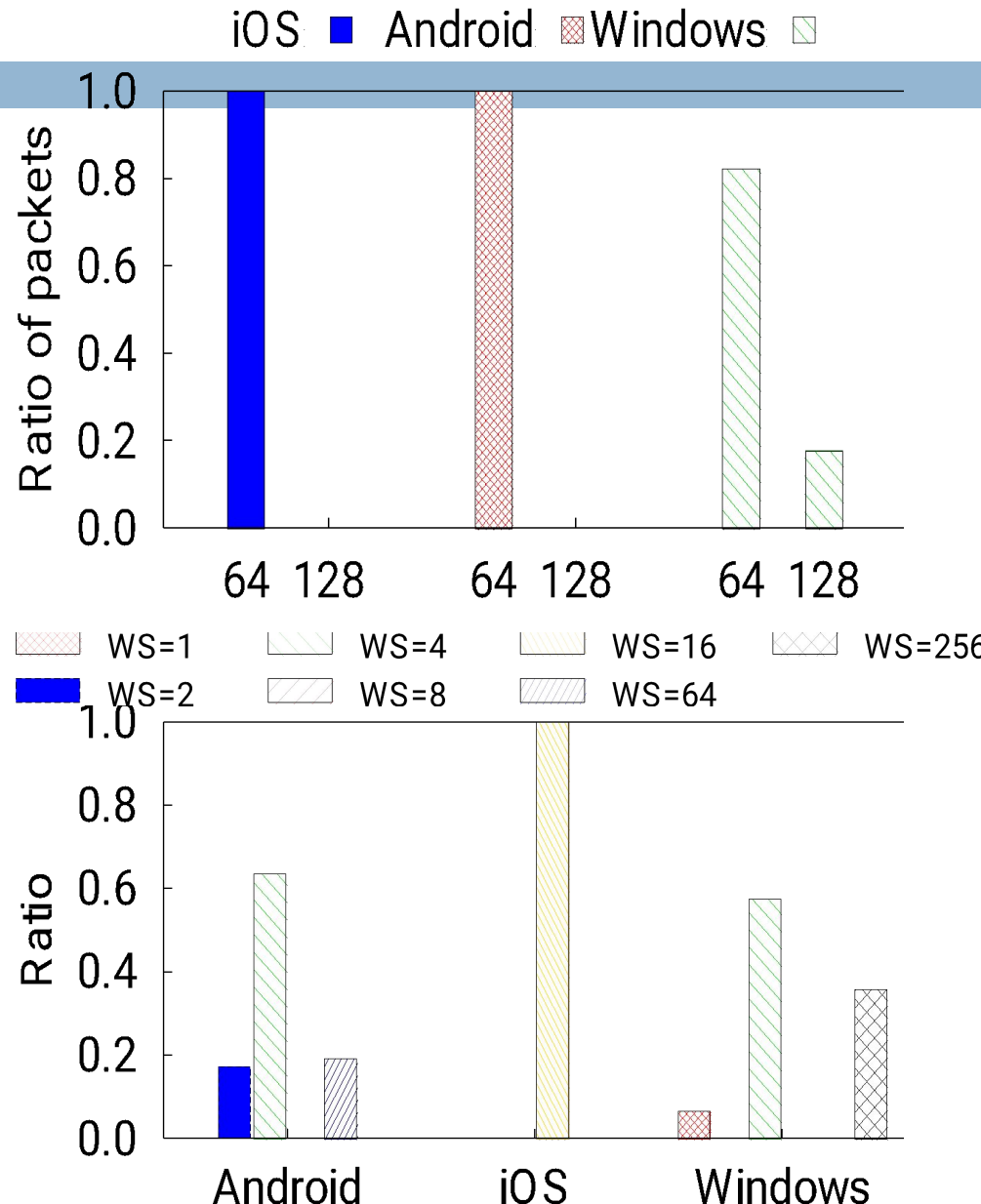
## □ TCP Timestamp Option

**Low ratio of TCP TS option suggests Windows.**



# Features

- IP Time-To-Live
- TCP Window Size Scale Option
- Boot time estimation



# Combining Features

- **No single feature** works in all scenarios
- **Naïve Bayes classifier**

Probability of  
being  $OS_x$

Probability of finding  
feature  $f_i$  in  $OS_x$ 's traffic

Probability of finding  
feature  $f_i$  in all traffic

# Tethering Detection

- Apply the same technique for tethering detection.
- Features which identify mobile devices
  - IP Time-To-Live
  - TCP timestamp monotonicity
  - Clock frequency
  - Boot time estimation
  - Multiple OSes

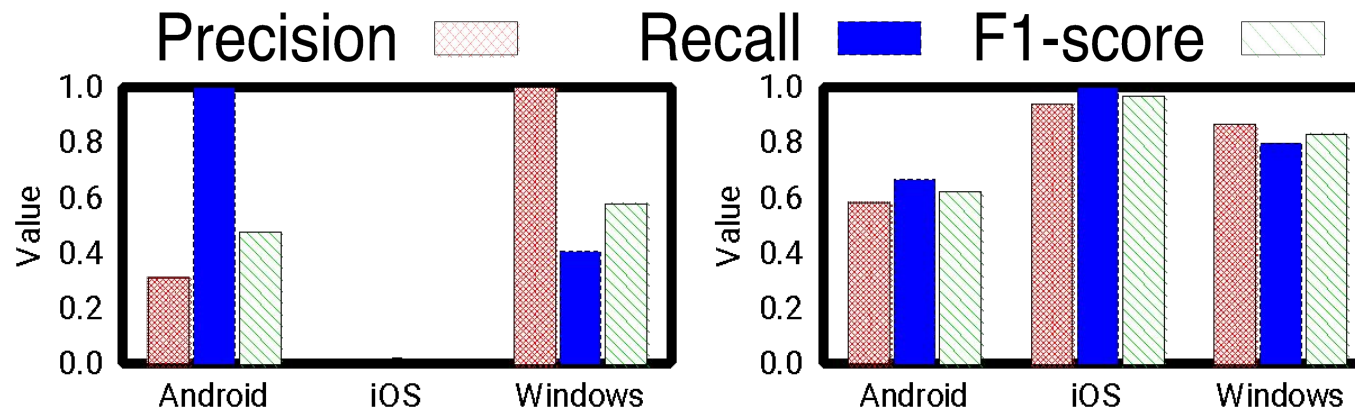
# Evaluation – Single Feature

**No single feature identifies all OSes accurately.**

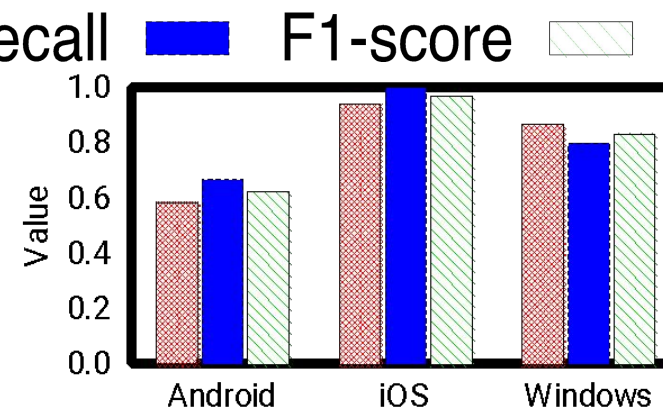
$$\text{precision} = \frac{tp}{tp + fp}$$

$$\text{recall} = \frac{tp}{tp + fn}$$

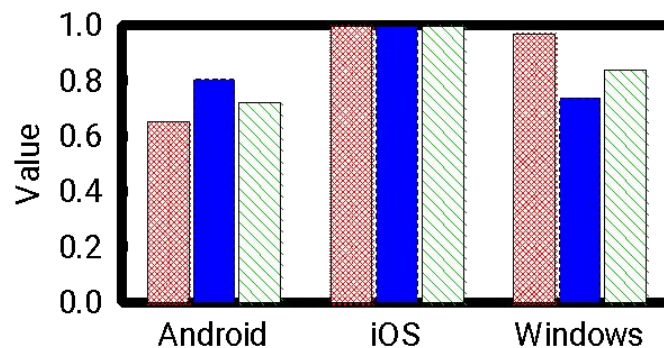
$$F1 = 2 \frac{\text{prec} \times \text{recall}}{\text{prec} + \text{recall}}$$



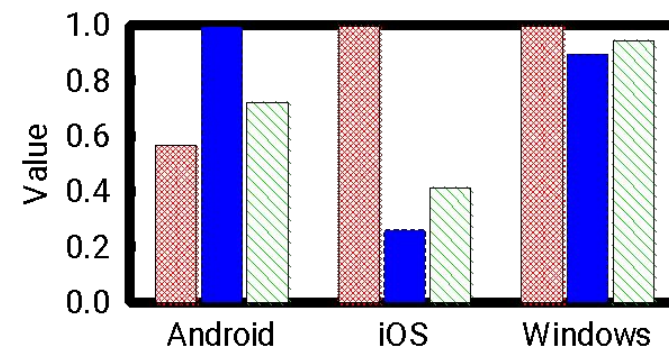
(a) TTL



(b) IP ID monotonicity



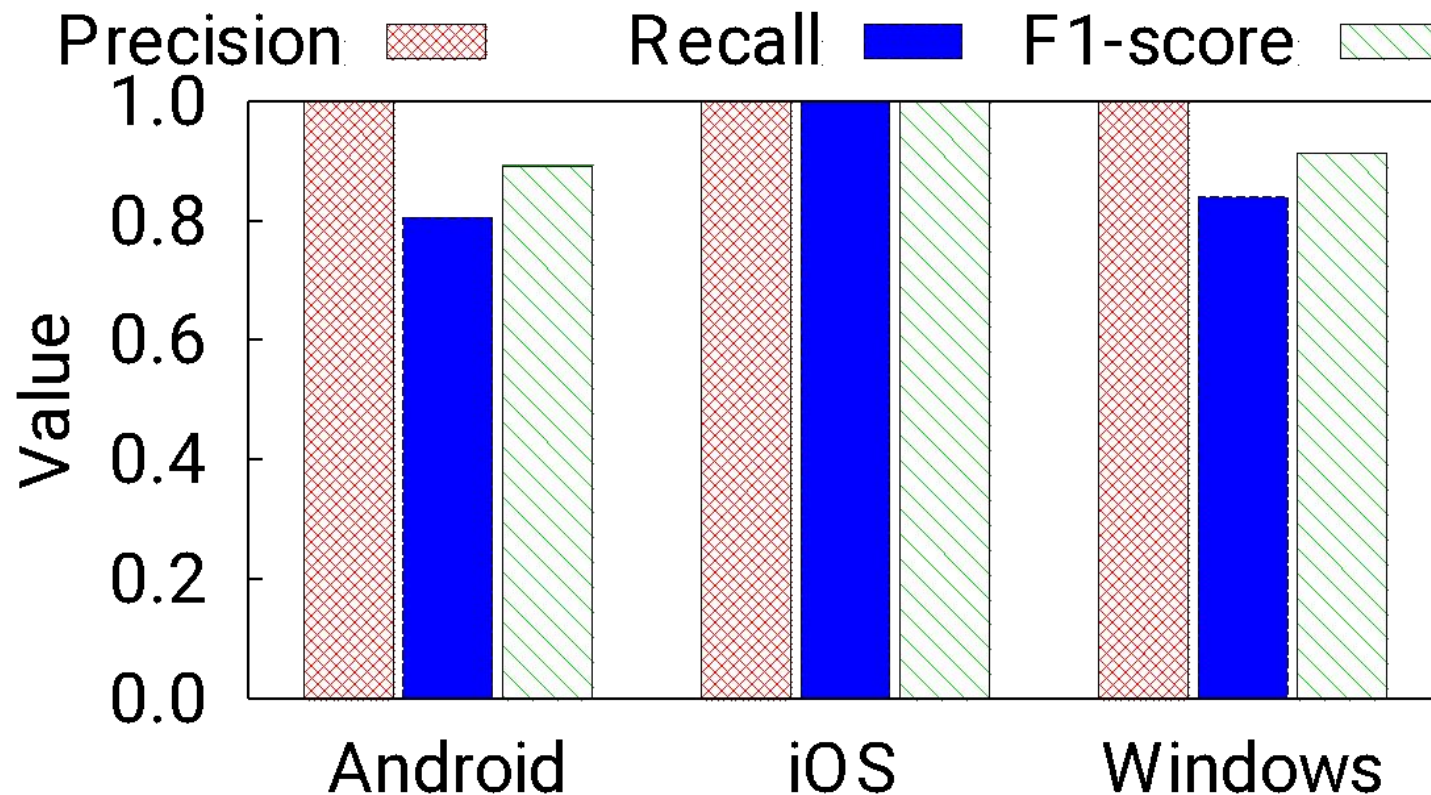
(c) TCP window scale



(d) Clock frequency stability

# Evaluation – Combining Features

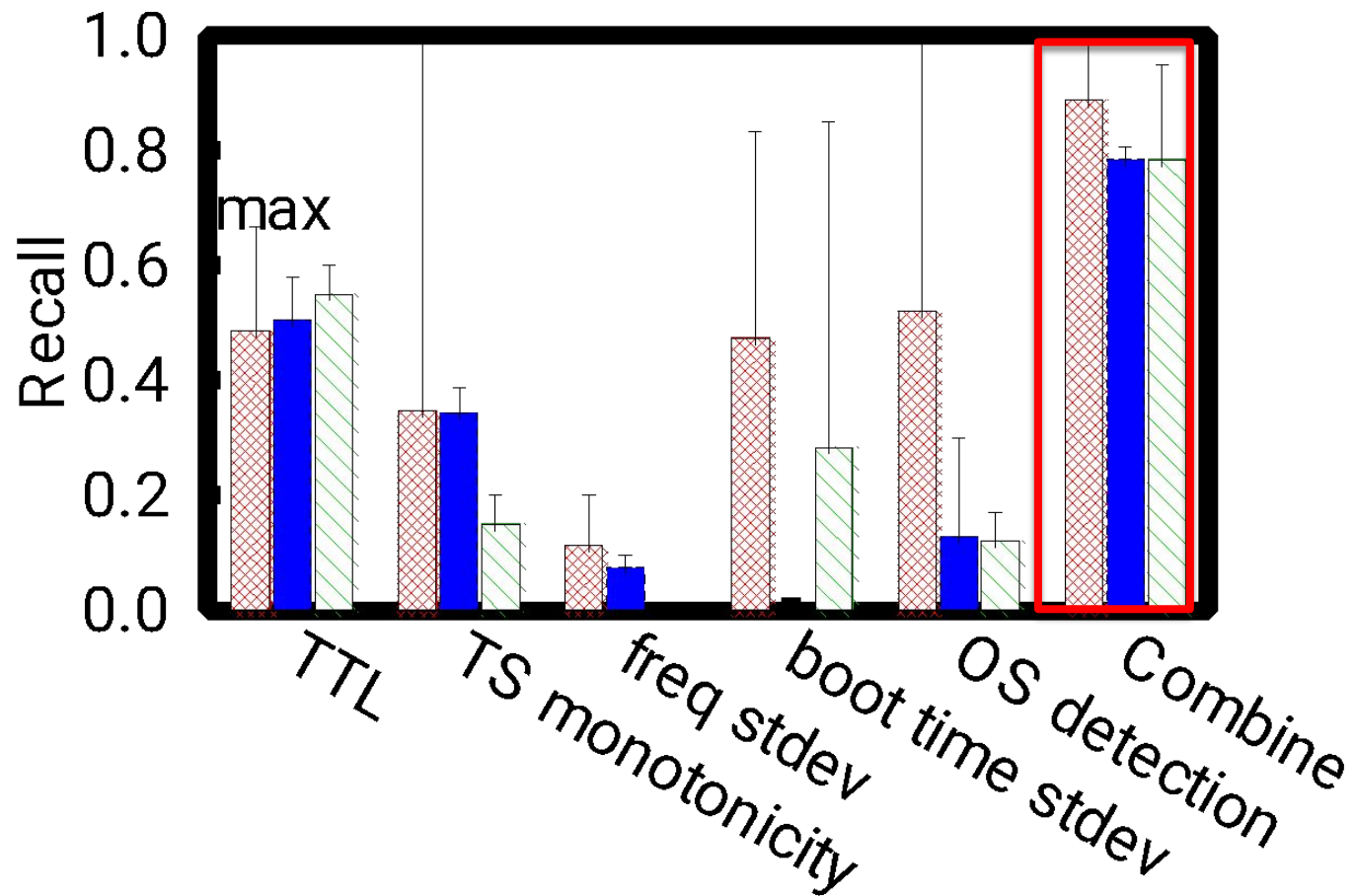
**Combining all features yields the best result.**





# Evaluation – Tethering Detection

**Combining all features also yields the best result in tethering detection.**



# Conclusion

## □ Contributions

- Identify new features for **mobile** OS fingerprinting and tethering detection
- Develop a probabilistic scheme that combines multiple features

## □ Evaluate the individual and combined features

- Combining multiple features yields the best performance
- OS fingerprinting: 100% precision, 80% recall
- Tethering detection: 79%-89% recall when targeting 80% precision

# Thank You!

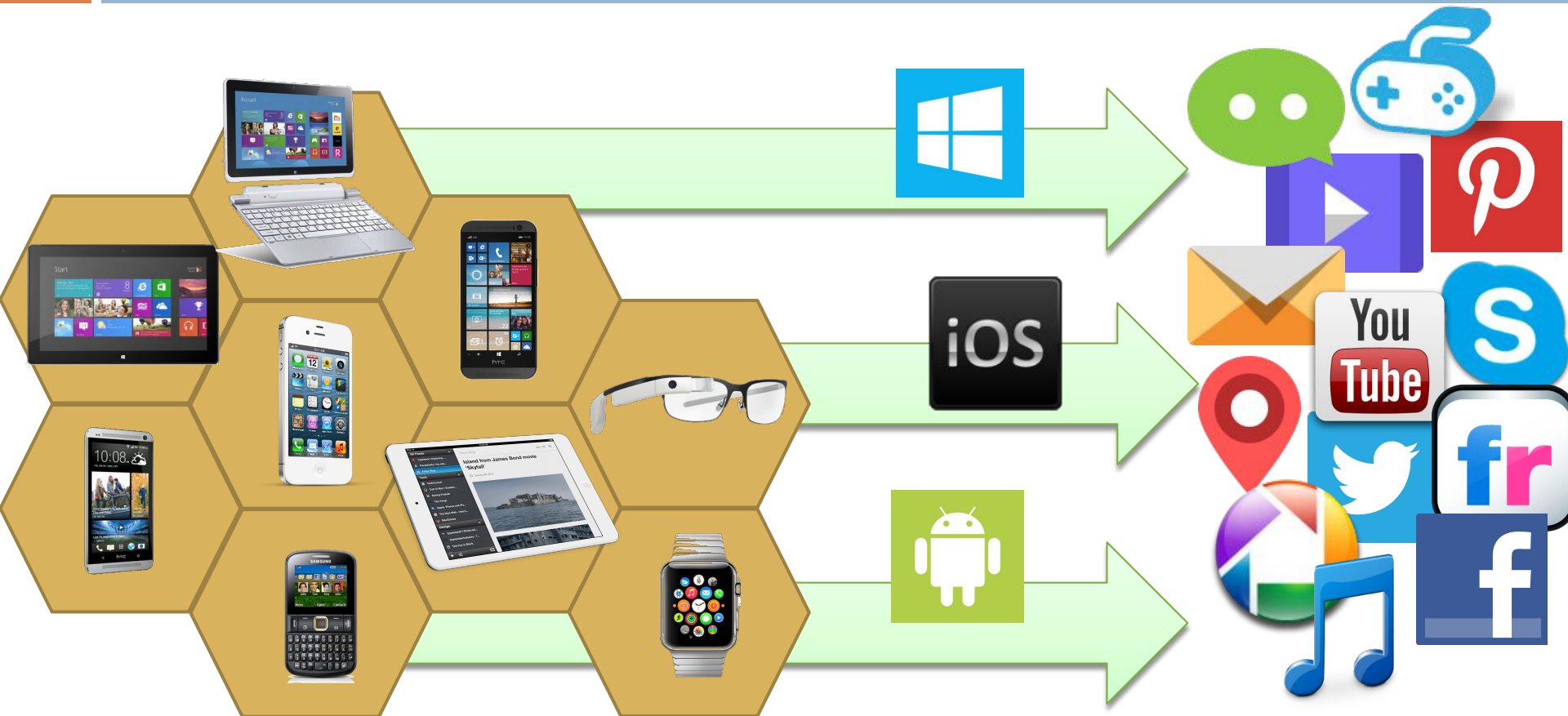
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**IMC 2014**

20

# Backup Slides

# Mobile OS Fingerprinting

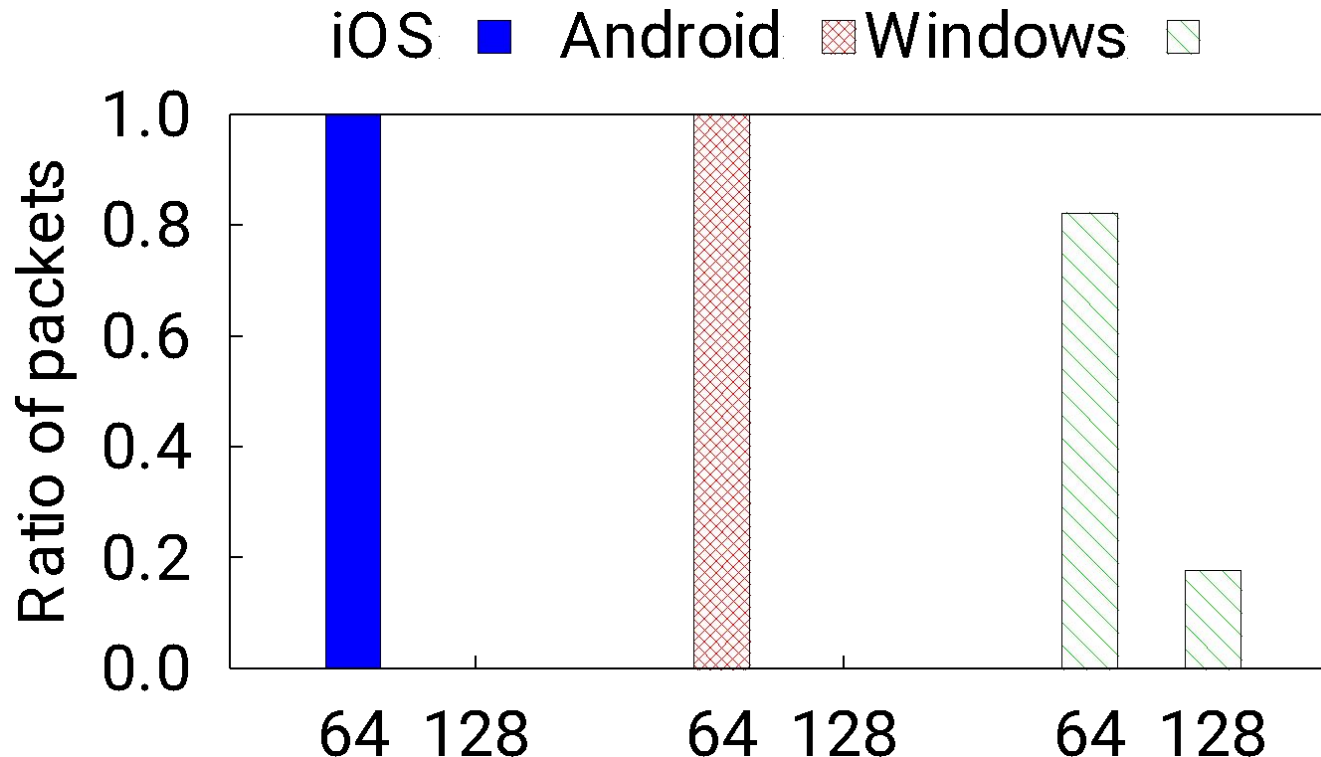


# Features

## □ IP Time-To-Live (TTL)

□ **Windows:** 64 or 128

□ **iOS and Android:** 64

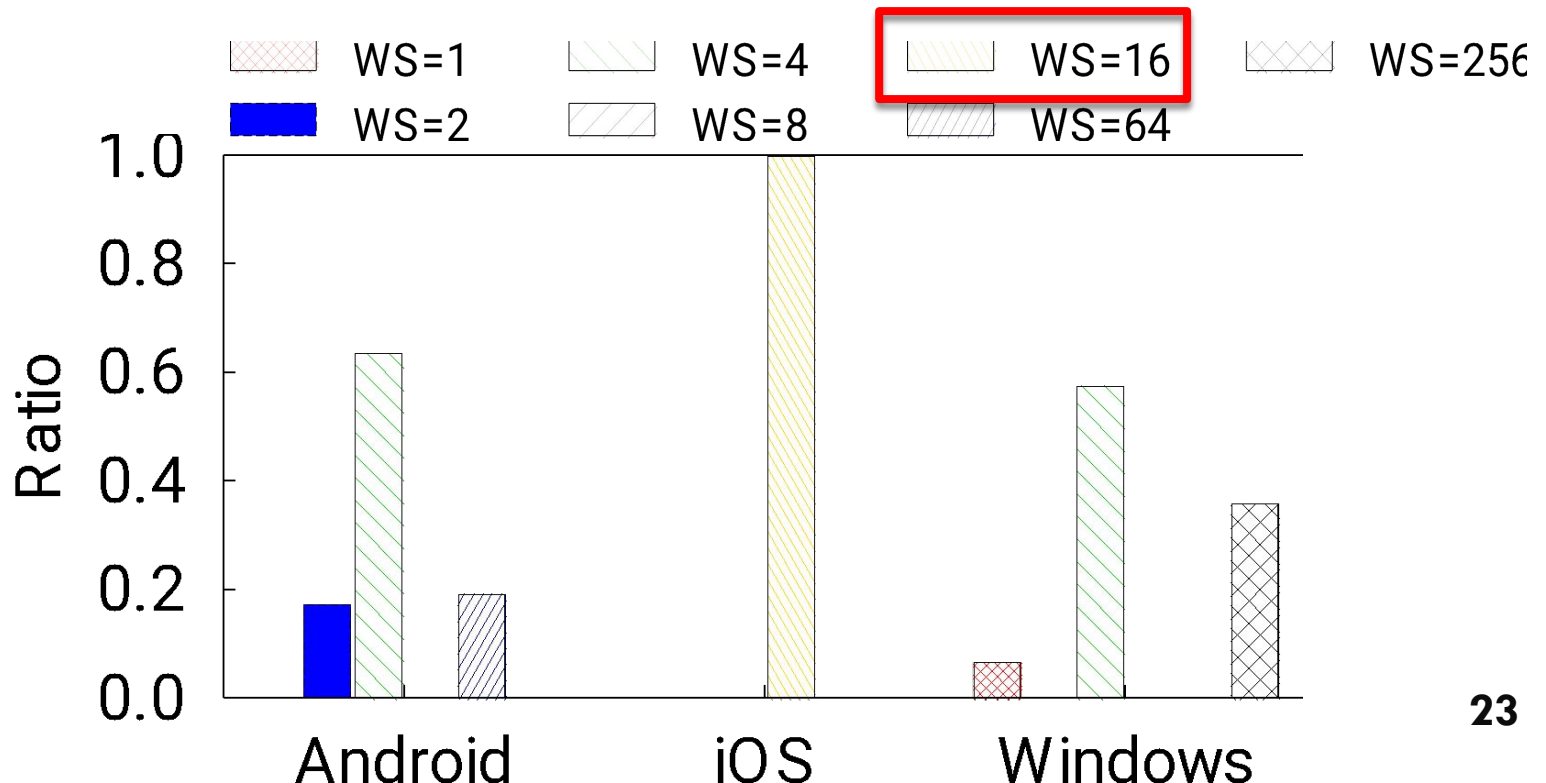


# Features

## □ TCP Window Size Scale Option

□ iOS: 16

□ Windows and Android: 2, 4, 64, or 256



# Evaluation – Comparing Classifiers

**Probability based classifier outperforms other classifiers by 5~21% in F1-score measurement.**

