



DIE UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI
NAPOLI FEDERICO II

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ITU AI/ML in 5G

Challenge

webinar

series

TOWARD EFFECTIVE NETWORK TRAFFIC ANALYTICS OF MOBILE APPS VIA DEEP LEARNING

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OUTLINE

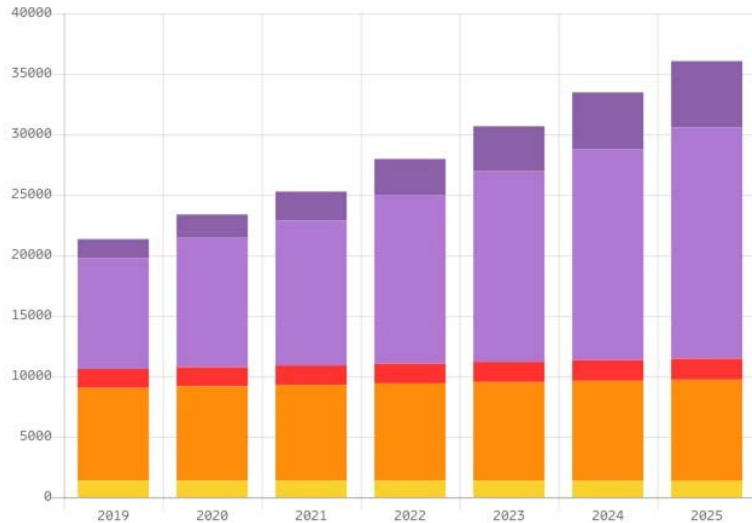
- **Mobile** Traffic and **Traffic Classification/ Prediction (TC/ TP)**
- **Multi-Classification** Approaches for Mobile TC
- Mobile TC using **Deep Learning (DL)**
- **The use of Multimodal-DL** and **Improvements**
- **Multipurpose TC** via Multitask DL
- Reproducibility and **Dataset Quality**
- **Mobile App TP**: A first shot
- **Take-Home** Messages

MOBILE TRAFFIC GROWTH

Massive usage of handheld devices has significantly changed the traffic

- traversing home and enterprise networks
- connecting contents and services over the Internet

Wide-Area IoT Short-Range IoT PC/Laptop/Tablet Mobile phones Fixed phones



Source: *Ericsson* Mobility Report,
Jun. 2020




Source: *Qsco* 2019 VNI Global IP Traffic Forecast
2017-2020

MOBILE TRAFFIC CLASSIFICATION



What is flowing through my (mobile) network?

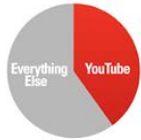
Need for *associating* flows (or other classification objects) with the mobile apps that generate them and *predicting* their behaviour 



Tik Tok

is #11 worldwide downstream usage and almost **1.5%** of worldwide mobile traffic

Facebook properties account for over



YouTube is **35%** of worldwide mobile traffic



Snapchat

#2

is application worldwide by overall mobile bandwidth usage

More than **80%** of users still use **Unencrypted HTTP** at least once a month 



Source: *Sandvine*,

The Mobile Internet Phenomena Report, 2019 & 2020

MOBILE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS: MAIN DRIVERS

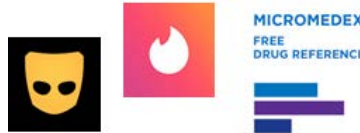
Classification of mobile traffic
provides valuable information for

- Advertisers
- Insurance companies
- Security agencies
- Infrastructure Operators

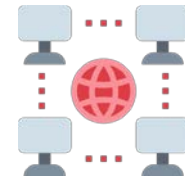
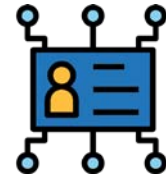


But also **raises privacy issues**

- Context-sensitive apps
- Bring your own device policy
- Indiscriminate surveillance



Profiling



Monitoring

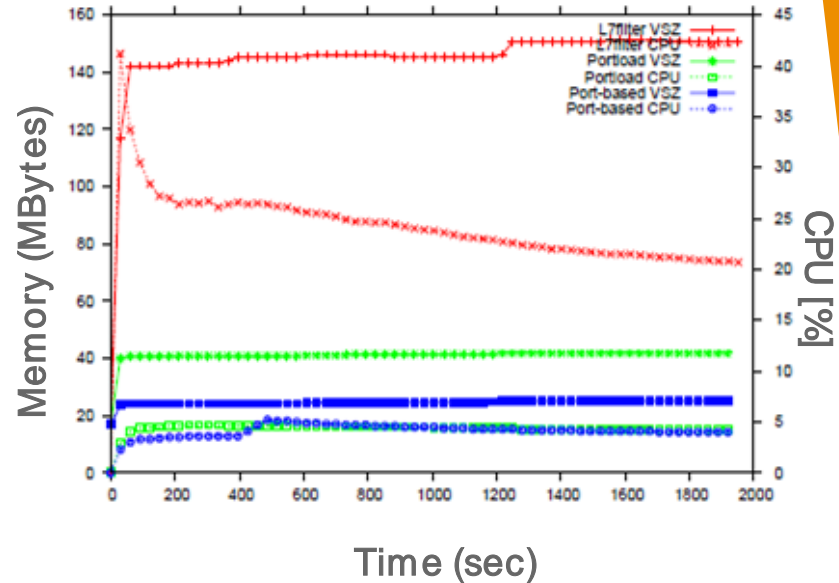
& Mgt

EARLY DAYS OF TC: PORT+DPI

- PortLoad* (fast & privacy-friendly):
 - needs the 1st packet only (with direction)
 - uses fixed fields (protocol)
 - uses few data (fixed values in fixed positions, such as port inspection)

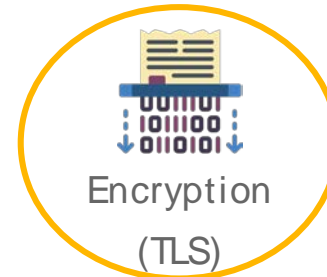
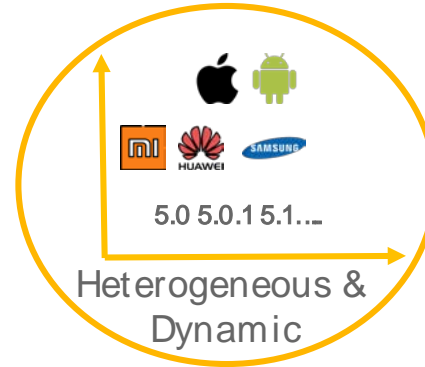
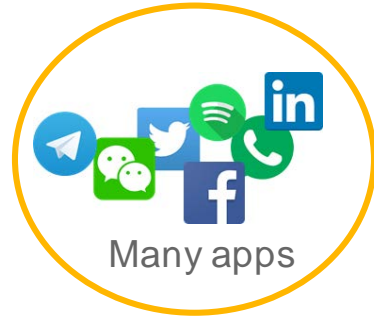
Classifier	Accuracy on applications	
	sessions	bytes
<i>PortLoad</i>	74.24%	97.83%
Port-based	19.57%	25.12%

*Patent No.: NA2010A000011



Classifier	Mean Time	Mean Time	Variance
	(μsec)	(vs Port-based)	(μsec^2)
Port-based	2.48	1.0	0.88
<i>PortLoad</i>	6.99	2.8	11.15
L7-Filter	211.4	85.2	47057.88

MOBILE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS: MAIN CHALLENGES



TRAFFIC CLASSIFICATION: FEATURE DESIGN

Statistical
features

Feature
Extractor

- PL-IAT sequences
- PL-IAT histograms
- PL-IAT transition probabilities
- Other features (packet ratio, etc.)

ML
Algorithm

Machine Learning
Classifiers

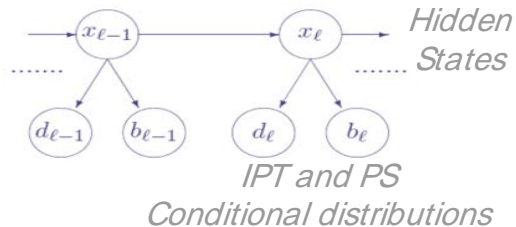
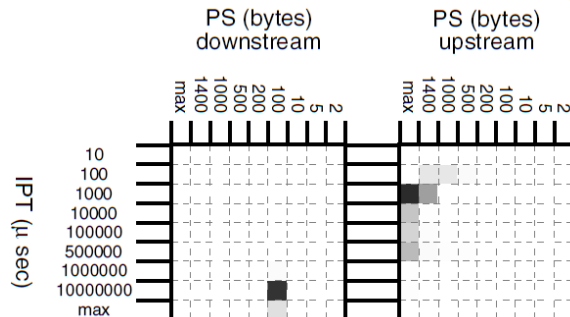
- k-NN / K-dimensional trees
- SVM
- Bayesian Approaches

PS1

PS2

...

PSK

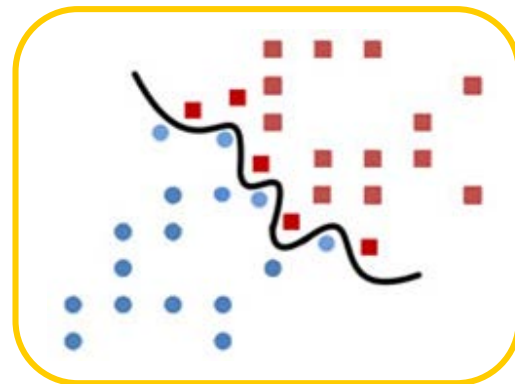
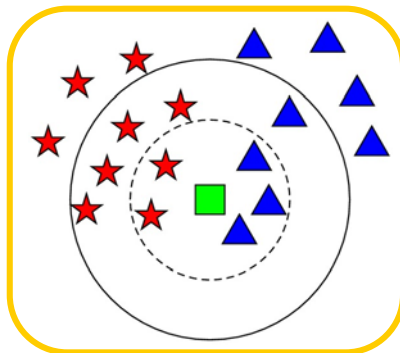


TRAFFIC CLASSIFICATION: FEATURE DESIGN

Statistical features

Feature
Extractor

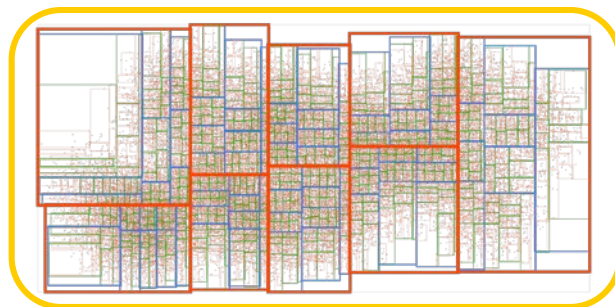
- PL-IAT sequences
- PL-IAT histograms
- PL-IAT transition probabilities
- Other features (packet ratio, etc.)



ML Algorithm

Machine Learning Classifiers

- k-NN / K-dimensional trees
- SVM
- Bayesian Approaches



TAKING THE BEST FROM EACH STATE-OF-THE-ART CLASSIFIER

Objective

Improve
Mobile TC
Performance



How?

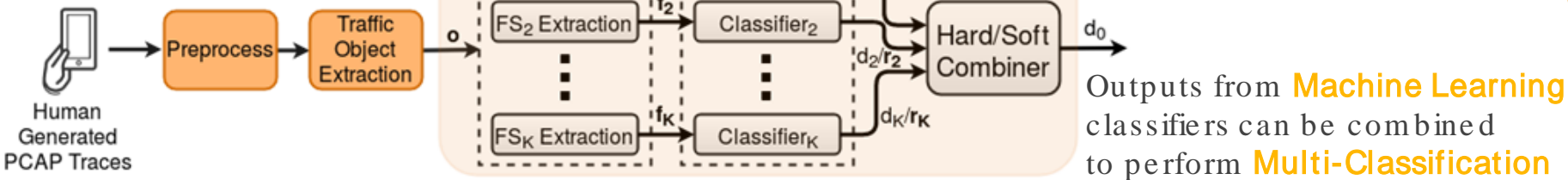


Select promising
classification
algorithms and
related features from
state-of-the-art



Design a MCS that
takes the best
classifiers and adopt
state-of-the-art
combining techniques

Multi-Classification System (MCS)



DATASET DESCRIPTION



DL classifiers are compared on three datasets of **real-user traffic** and labeling each trace with the generating app **run separately**



Android

- Multi-class
- Collected by a mobile solutions provider
- Apr. 2015 – Jan. 2017
- 49 apps
- 77.5k biflows



iOS

- Multi-class
- Collected by a mobile solutions provider
- Jul. 2014 – Jan. 2017
- 45 apps
- 40.5k biflows




FB/FBM

- Binary
- Collected @ ARCLAB FII
- > 100 users
- May. 2017 – Mar. 2018
- Facebook (FB) & FB Messenger (FBM)
- 17.0k FB biflows (62%)
- 10.5k FBM biflows (38%)

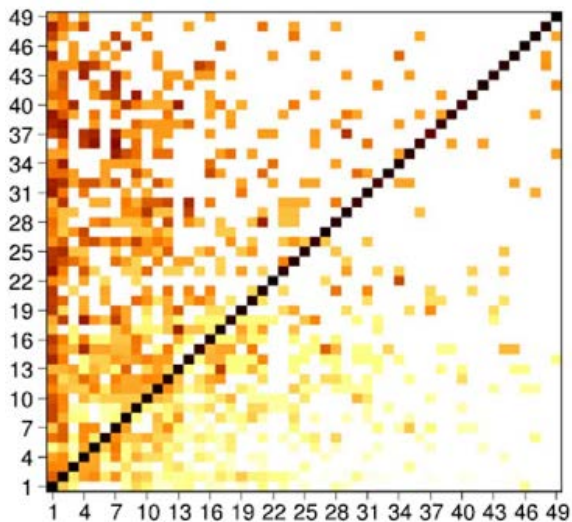
MCS TRAFFIC CLASSIFICATION: PERFORMANCE



 49 apps	Accuracy [%]	Precision [%]	Recall [%]	F-Measure [%]
Oracle	87.6	N/ D	83.6	N/ D
Best Soft Combiner (KL- weights)	79.2	80.6	73.6	83.7
Best Hard Combiner (Naive Bayes)	75.0	77.4	69.7	75.7
Best Classifier (Random Forest)	72.8	74.7	64.1	72.3



MCS TRAFFIC CLASSIFICATION: PERFORMANCE

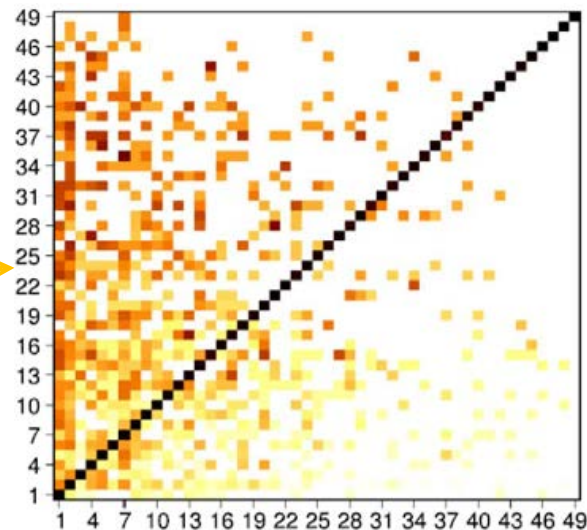


Best base classifier: *Tay_RF*

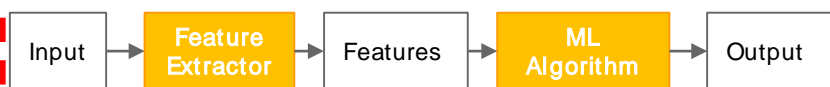
- Accuracy: 72.8
- F-measure: 72.3

Best combiner: *KL-Weights*

- Accuracy: 79.2
- F-measure: 83.7



BEYOND MACHINE LEARNING (ML) TRAFFIC CLASSIFIERS



Traditional ML flow

Standard ML

relies on domain-expert driven handcrafted features

- Time-consuming process
- Unsuitable to automation
- Rapidly outdated



Difficulty to design **accurate** and **up-to-date** mobile traffic classifier



Deep Learning flow

Deep Learning (DL)

allows to train classifiers directly from input data

- Automatic hierarchical feature extraction
- Reduced preprocessing effort



Stepping stone toward the achievement of **high performance** in mobile TC



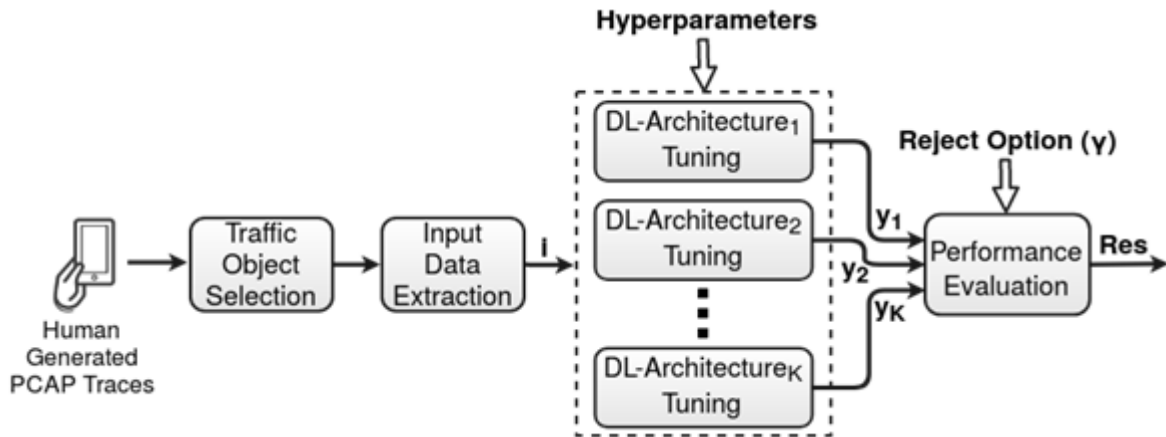
MOBILE TC USING DL: RESEARCH GOAL

Naïve adoption of DL techniques to mobile TC may imply **misleading** design choices and lead to **biased** conclusions



We propose the **design** of DL-based mobile traffic classifiers resorting on a **systematic framework** expressly developed for their comparison

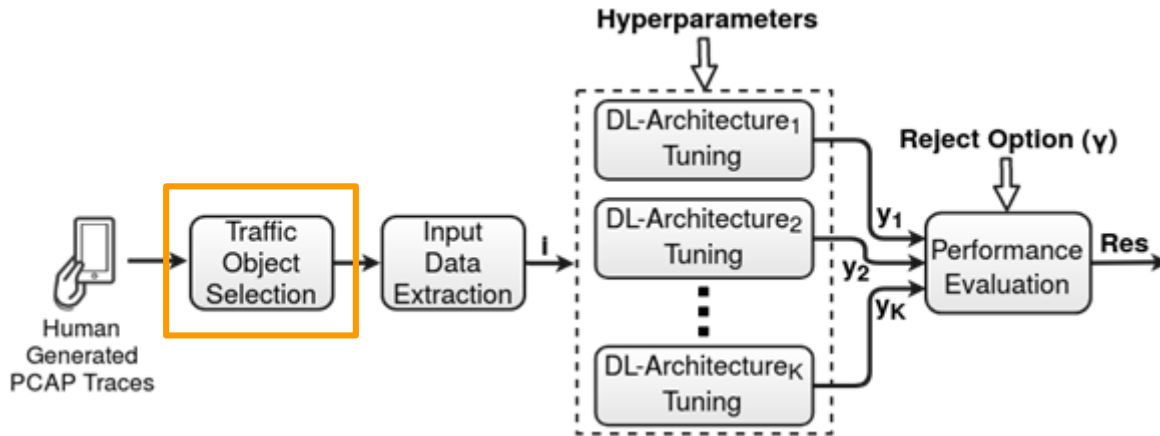
DEFINING DL-BASED TC WORKFLOW



The proposed framework dissects the TC problem from **different viewpoints**

- **TC object** adopted
- Type and amount of **input data** fed to the DL classifier
- **DL architecture** employed
- Required set of **performance measures**

WHICH TRAFFIC OBJECT?

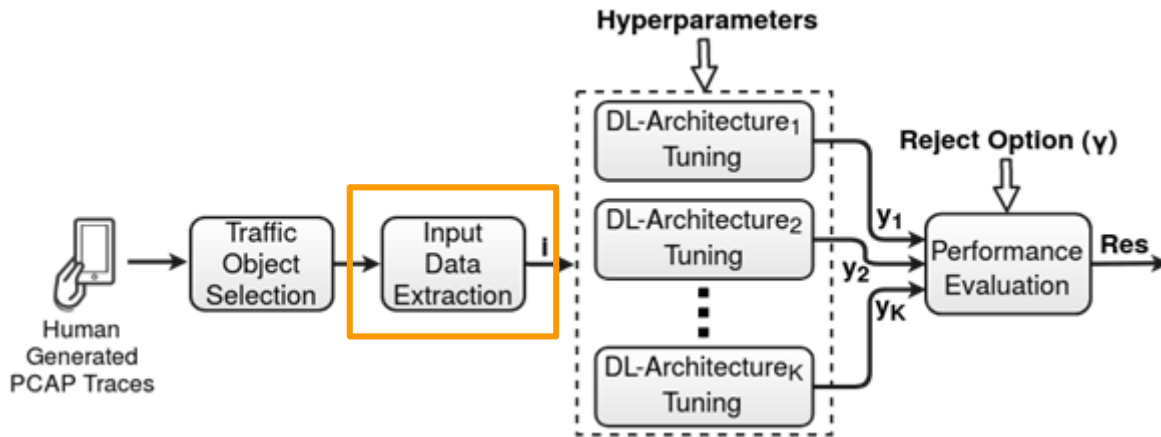


The definition of a specific TC object determines how the traffic is segmented into multiple discrete traffic units

The majority of works approaching TC using DL considered

- Flows
- **Biflows**

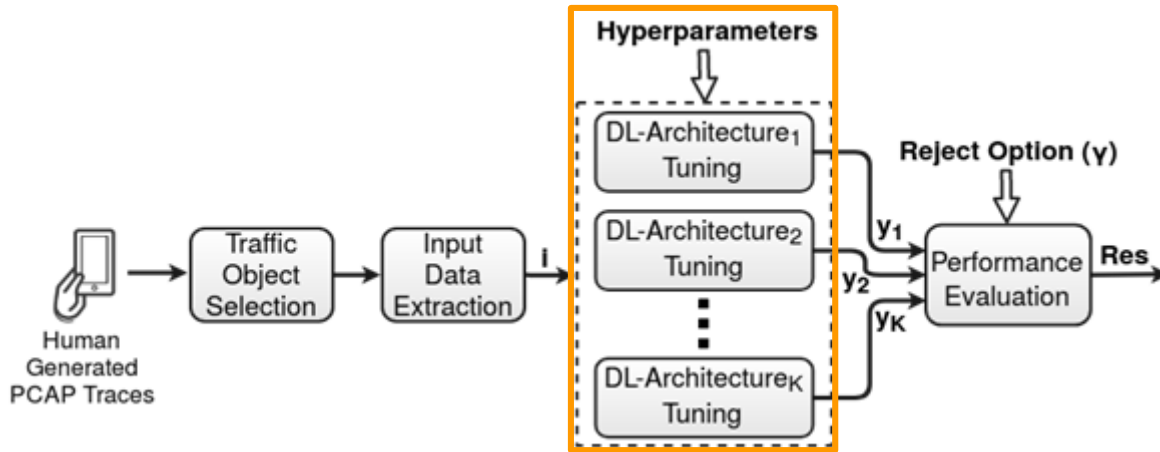
WHICH & HOW MUCH INPUT DATA?



There is **no feature extraction**, only need to provide the input

- First N bytes of TC-object payload $[N \times 1] \rightarrow$ **L7-N**
First 784/ 1000 bytes of L7 payload of each biflow
- First N bytes of TC-object raw data $[N \times 1] \rightarrow$ **ALL-N**
First 784/ 1000 bytes of PCAP raw data of each biflow
- Informative fields of first N_p packets $[20 \times 6] \rightarrow$ **MAT**
(1) Source port, (2) Destination port, (3) Payload length,
(4) TCP window size, (5) Inter-arrival time, (6) Packet direction

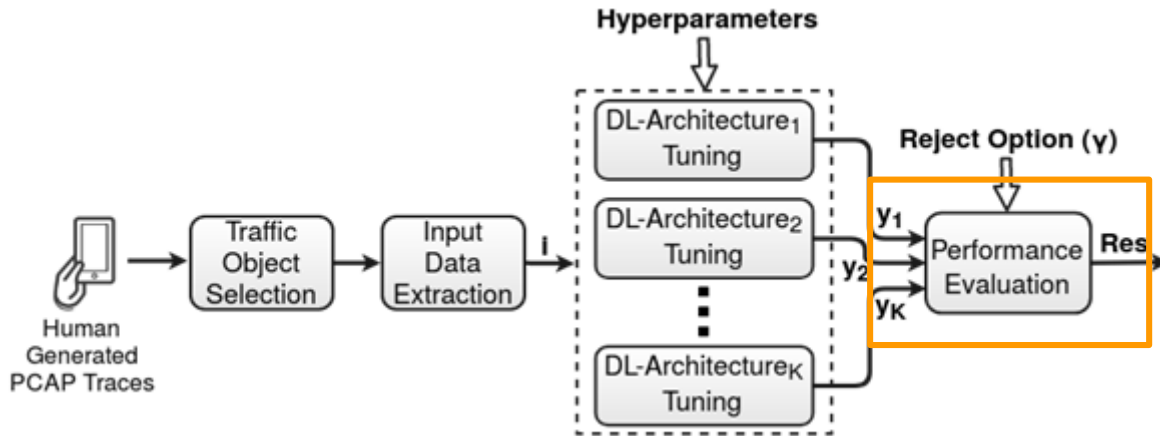
WHICH DL ARCHITECTURE?



DL classifiers are trained to minimize categorical cross-entropy

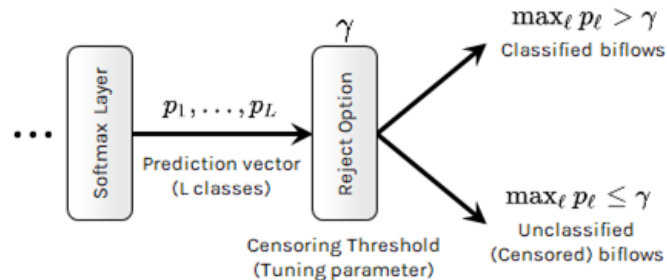
- Stacked AutoEncoder (SAE) fed with L7-1000 [1]
- Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)
 - **1D-CNN** fed with L7-784 and ALL-784 [2]
 - **2D-CNN** fed with L7-784, ALL-784 [3], and MAT [4]
- Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) fed with MAT [4]
- Hybrid DLarchitecture (LSTM + 2D-CNN) fed with MAT [4]

HOW TO EVALUATE PERFORMANCE?

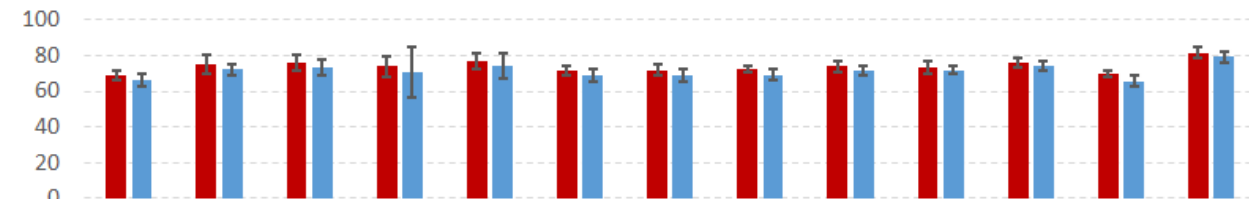
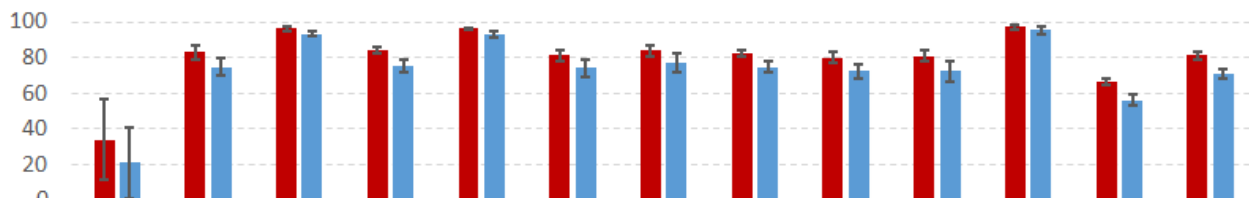
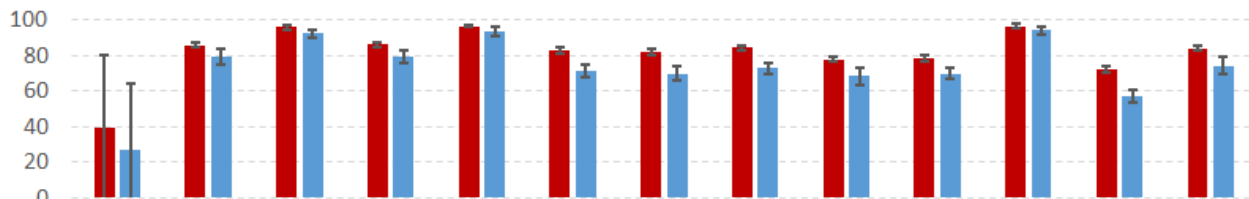


Comparison of DL classifiers for mobile TC benefits from a **comprehensive performance evaluation framework** based on a *stratified 10-fold validation*

- Accuracy
- Macro F-measure
- Top-K accuracy
- Confusion Matrix



THE BIGGER PICTURE ON PERFORMANCE

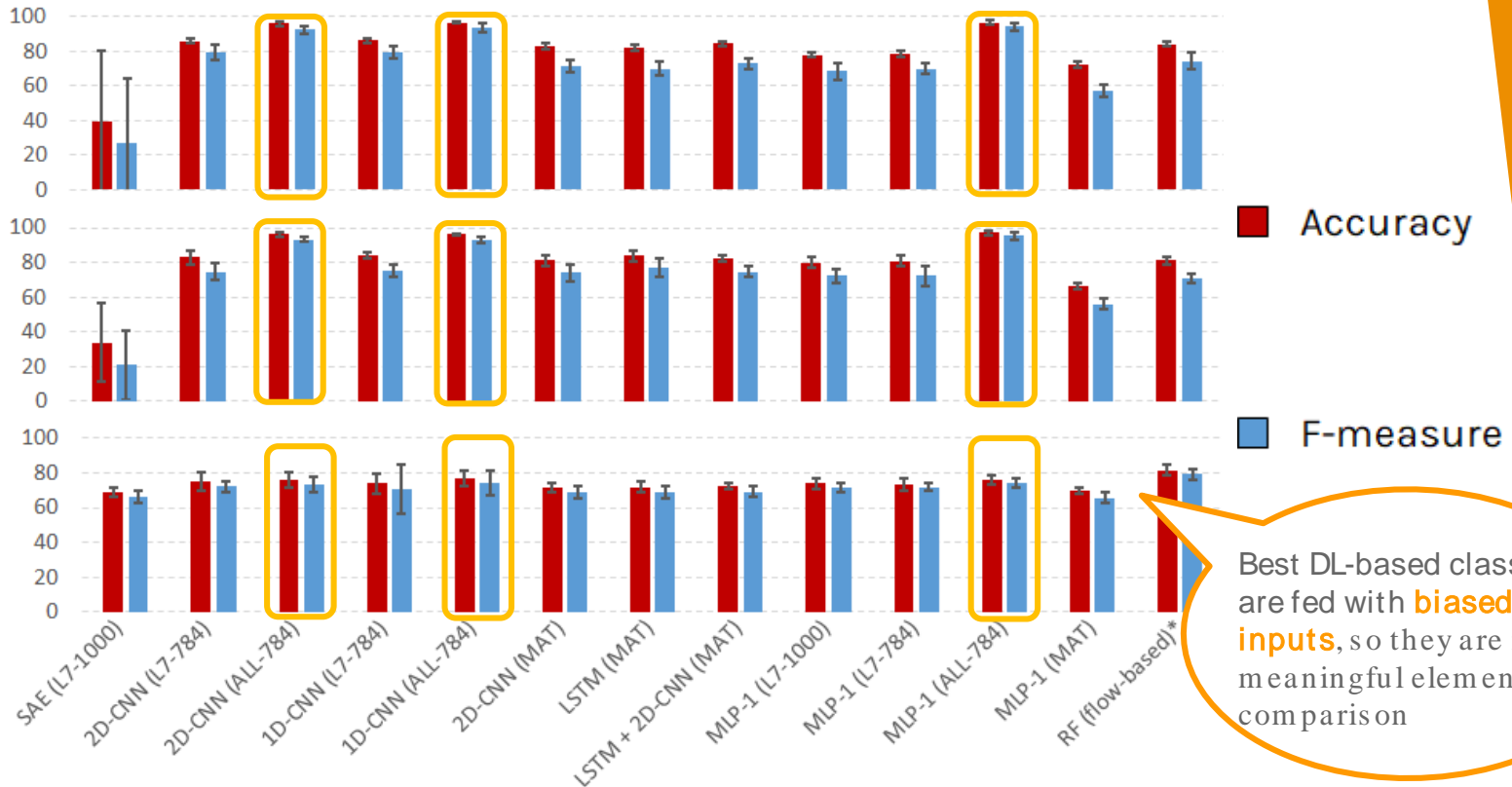


■ Accuracy

■ F-measure

*Taylor et al., "Appscanner: Automatic fingerprinting of smartphone apps from encrypted network traffic"

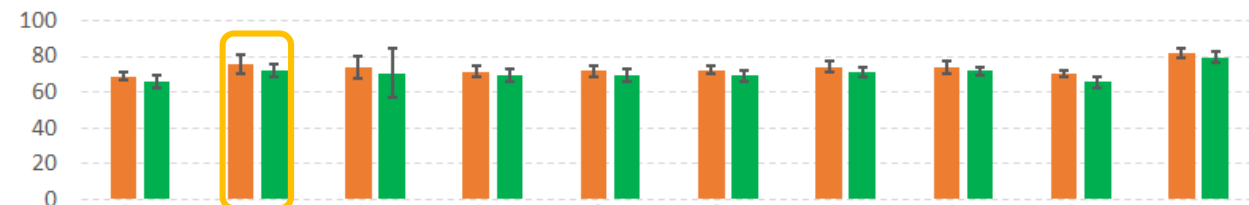
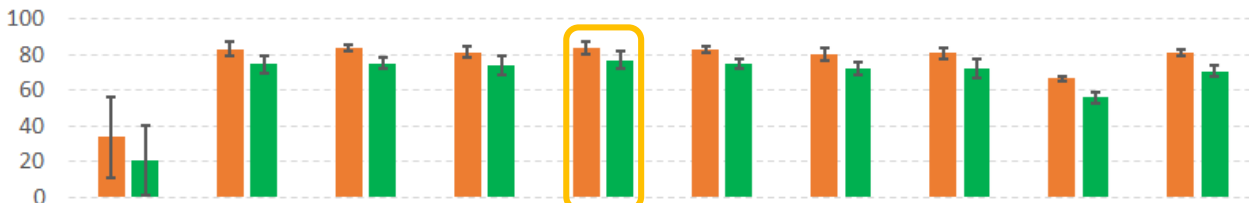
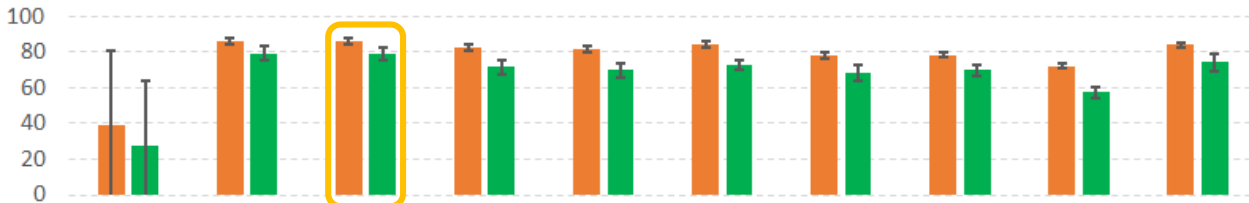
DON'T TRUST EVERY INPUT DATA



Best DL-based classifiers are fed with **biased inputs**, so they are not meaningful elements of comparison

*Taylor et al., "Appscanner: Automatic fingerprinting of smartphone apps from encrypted network traffic"

CAN PERFORMANCE BE IMPROVED W.R.T. BASELINE CLASSIFIER?

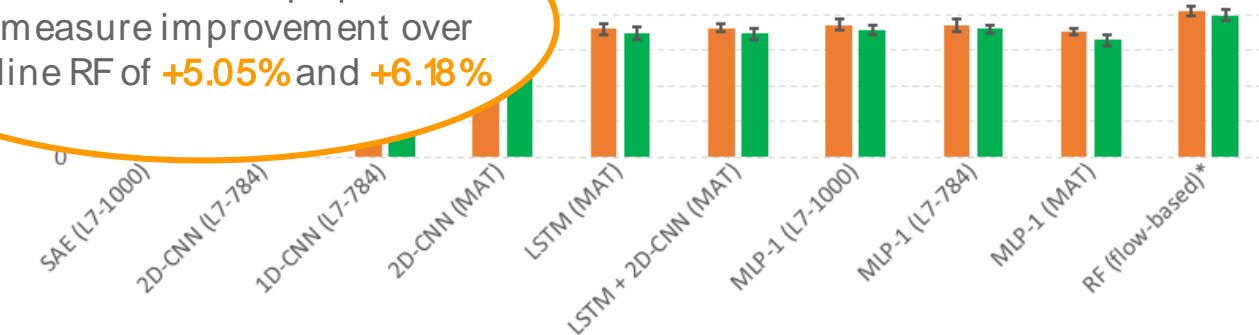
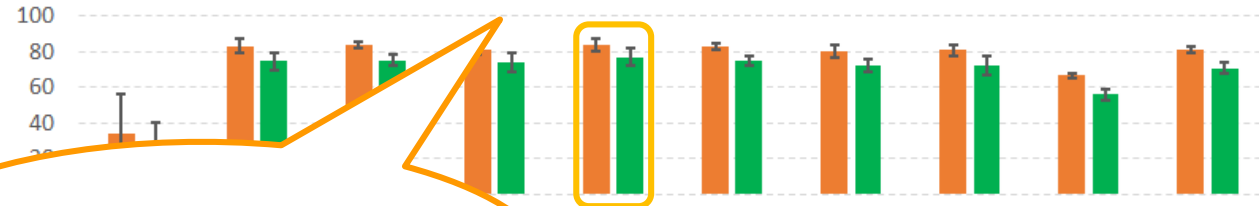
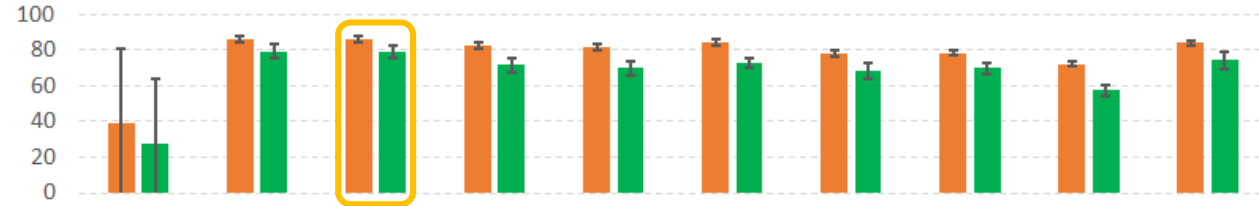


Accuracy

F-measure

*Taylor et al., "Appscanner: Automatic fingerprinting of smartphone apps from encrypted network traffic"

CAN PERFORMANCE BE IMPROVED W.R.T. BASELINE CLASSIFIER?



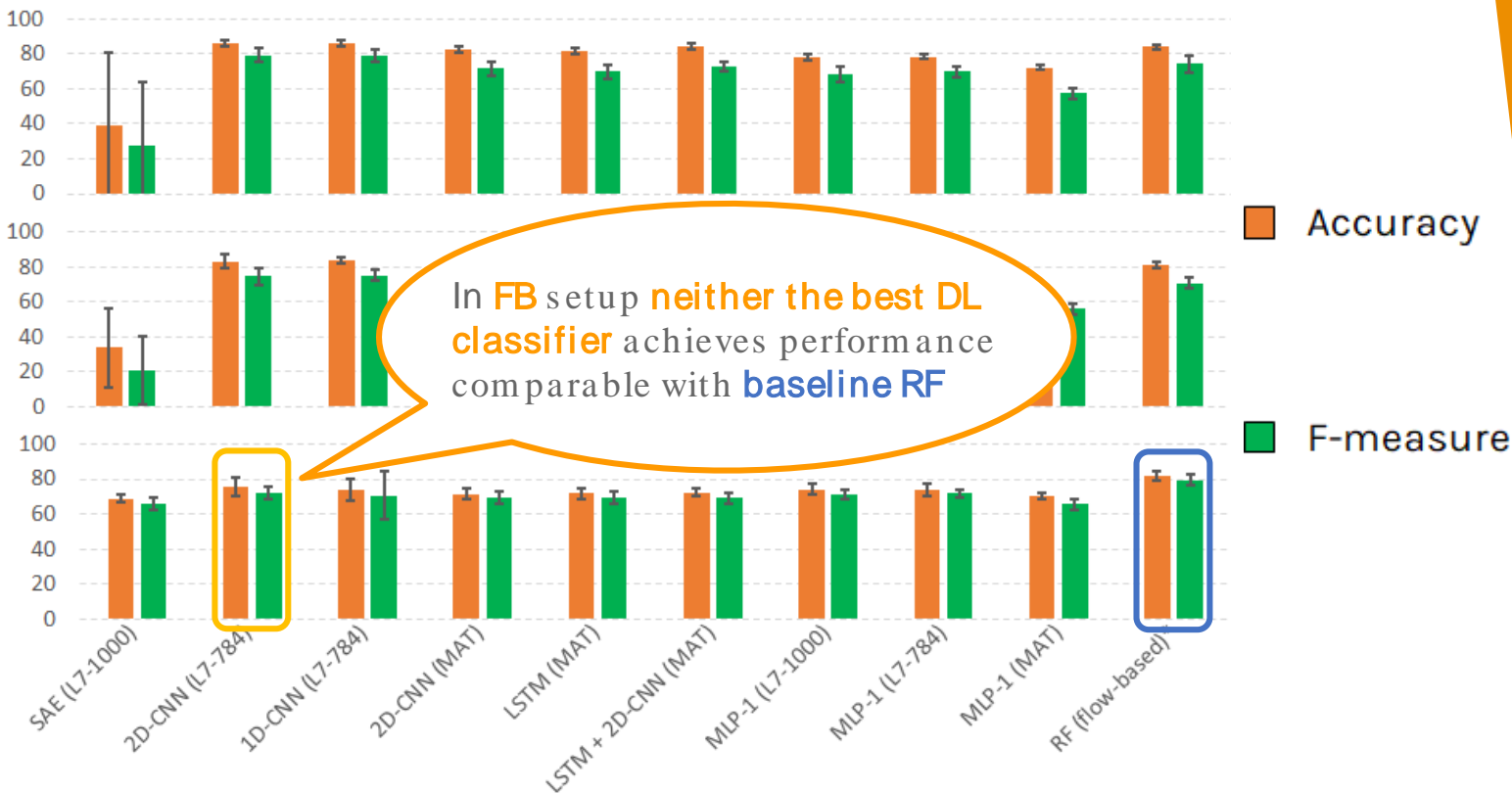
Accuracy

F-measure

Android and iOS setups present an F-measure improvement over baseline RF of +5.05% and +6.18%

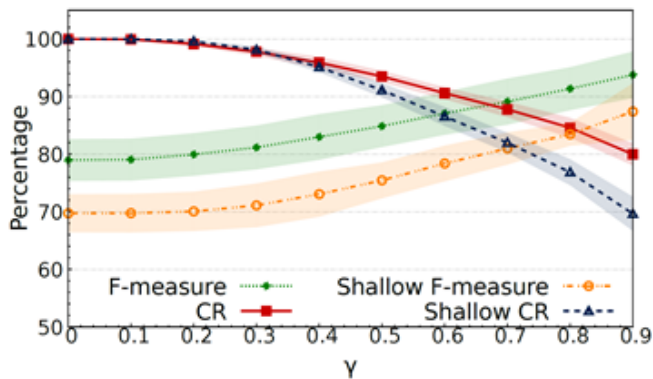
*Taylor et al., "Appscanner: Automatic fingerprinting of smartphone apps from encrypted network traffic"

CAN PERFORMANCE BE IMPROVED W.R.T. BASELINE CLASSIFIER?

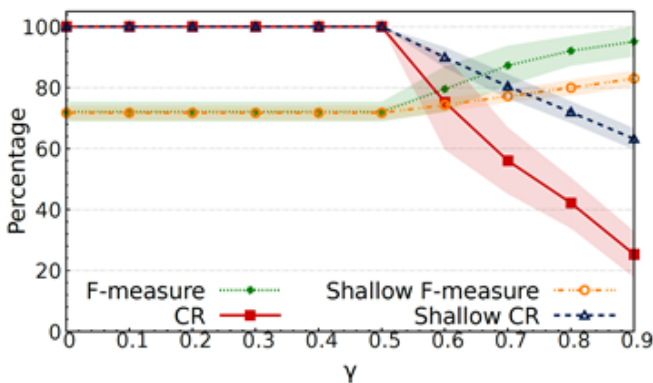


NO NEED TO CLASSIFY ALL THE INSTANCES: REJECT OPTION

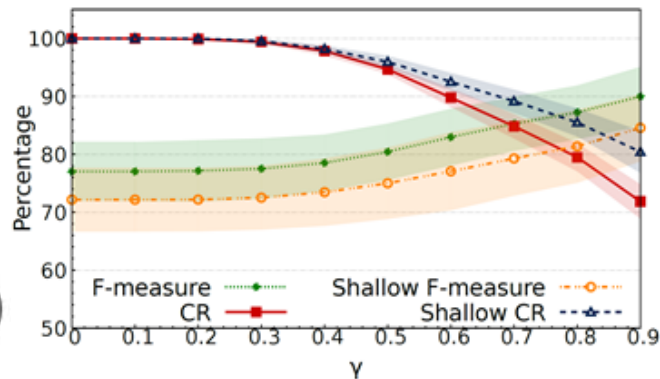
1 1D-CNN (L7-784)



2 2D-CNN (L7-784)



2 LSTM (MAT)



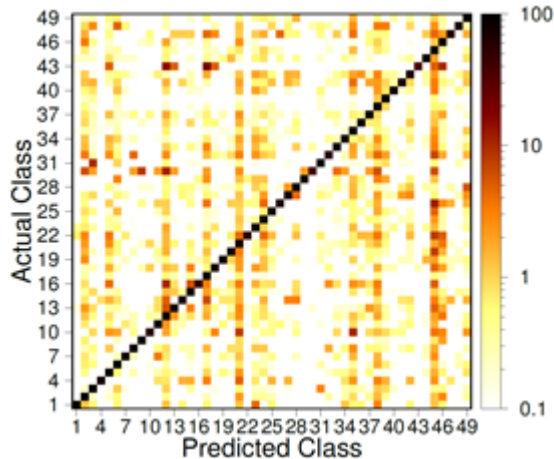
Performance improvement with a negligible ratio of unclassified samples evident only for multi-class datasets

To achieve **> 84% F-measure**, rejected

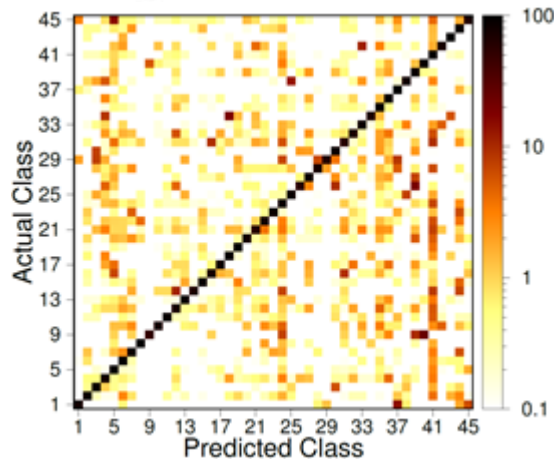
- **10%** of flows for Android and iOS
- **40%** of flows for FB/FBM

GOING DEEP: CONFUSION MATRICES

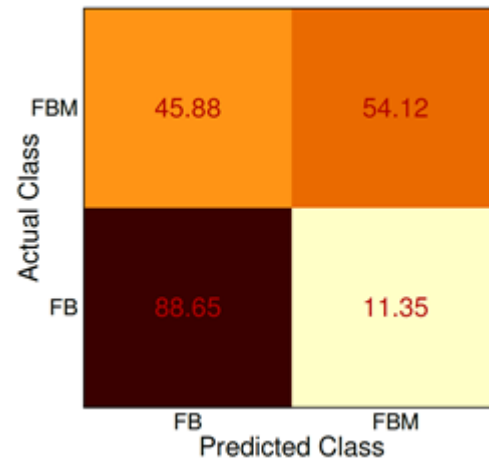
1  1D-CNN (L7-784)



2  LSTM (MAT)



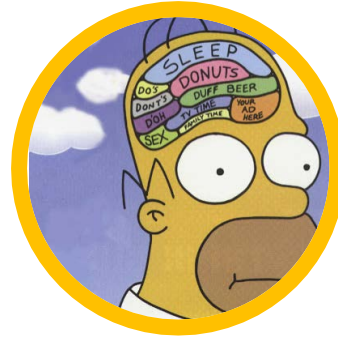
3  2D-CNN (L7-784)



1D-CNN (L7-784) and LSTM achieve almost-uniform error patterns

2D-CNN (L7-784) entails a prediction imbalance toward FB app as a consequence of the higher number of samples in the dataset

SOME THOUGHTS

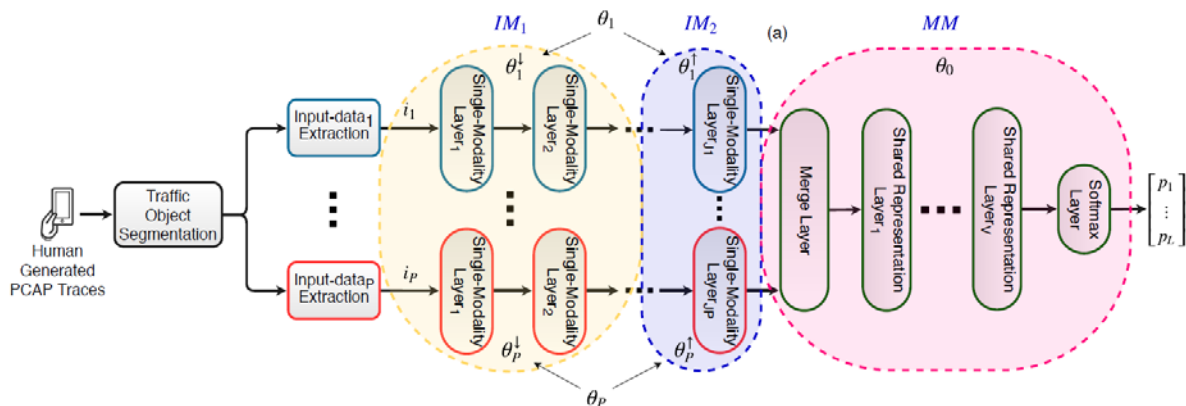


- Existing proposals only exploited one kind of traffic “modality”
- Many of the architectures proposed were ad-hoc
- In some cases, the class imbalance effect is strong

WHAT IS NEXT? MIMETIC

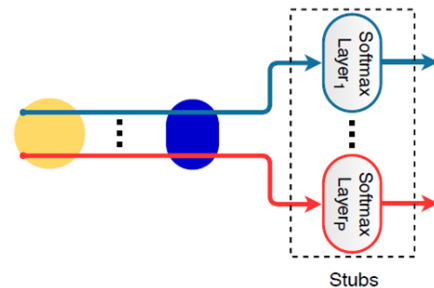
MultI-modal DL-based Mobile Traffic Classification

- Capitalization of heterogeneous of traffic data
- Capturing both **intra-** and **inter-modalities**



- Architectural Overview

(I) Pre-training



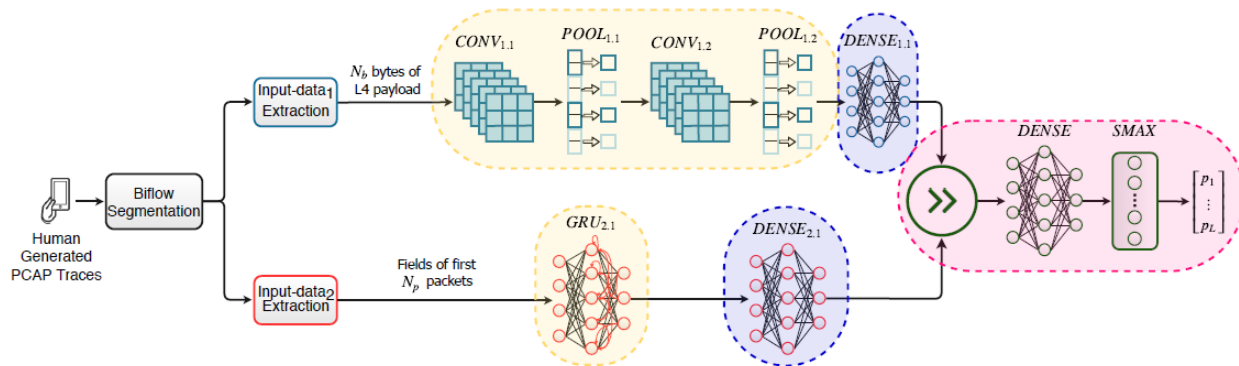
(II) Fine-tuning



WHAT IS NEXT? MIMETIC

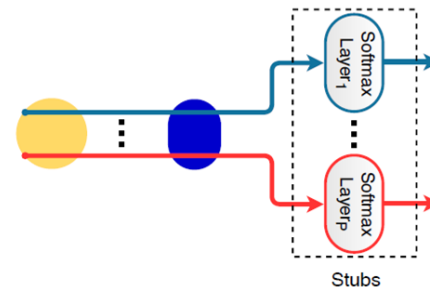
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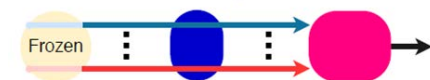


- MIMETIC Instance

(I) Pre-training



(II) Fine-tuning



* With cost-sensitive learning!

MIMETIC PERFORMANCE



FB/FBM

+1.16% G-Mean

	<i>Architecture</i>	<i>Accuracy</i>	<i>F-measure</i>	<i>G-mean</i>
	MIMETIC	79.98 (± 0.49)	79.63 (± 0.51)	79.53 (± 0.60)
<i>I</i> {	1D-CNN [99] (L7-784)	76.37 (± 0.73)	75.56 (± 1.01)	74.79 (± 1.76)
	HYBRID [96] (MAT-20)	74.26 (± 0.98)	73.23 (± 0.95)	72.18 (± 1.05)
<i>II</i> {	MLP-1 (L7-784)	74.46 (± 0.88)	73.89 (± 0.86)	73.55 (± 0.89)
	MLP-1 (MAT-20)	68.93 (± 1.32)	67.86 (± 0.94)	66.98 (± 0.75)
<i>III</i>	Tay_RF [42] (flow-based)	79.56 (± 0.62) ◆	78.73 (± 0.62) ◆	78.37 (± 0.76) ◆
<i>IV</i> {	MV	75.13 (± 0.92)	74.48 (± 1.14)	74.02 (± 1.65)
	SOA	78.86 (± 0.79) ‡	78.37 (± 1.00) ‡	78.06 (± 1.61) ‡
	TLF	74.61 (± 1.57)	73.60 (± 1.80)	72.59 (± 2.14)
	MIOB-C	+ 0.42 (± 0.65)	+ 0.90 (± 0.68)	+ 1.16 (± 0.99)
	MIOB-FT	+ 1.12 (± 0.89)	+ 1.26 (± 1.14)	+ 1.47 (± 1.84)

(MIOB-C)

Max Gain over
best Classifier

(MIOB-FT)

Max Gain over
best fusion
technique

(I) Best single-modality (III) ML state-of-the-art

(II) Shallow NN (IV) Classifier fusion

MIMETIC PERFORMANCE



+8.66% F-measure on the iOS dataset

Architecture	Android			iOS			
	Accuracy	F-measure	G-Mean	Accuracy	F-measure	G-Mean	
MIMETIC	89.49 (± 0.32)	81.51 (± 0.93)	91.96 (± 0.95)	89.14 (± 0.82)	82.99 (± 1.14)	92.25 (± 0.84)	
I {	1D-CNN [99] (L7-784)	85.70 (± 0.45) ♦	78.68 (± 1.20) ♦	86.82 (± 0.87) ♦	82.64 (± 1.63) ♦	74.34 (± 1.29) ♦	84.00 (± 1.31) ♦
	HYBRID [96] (MAT-20)	77.95 (± 0.41)	64.52 (± 1.17)	76.35 (± 1.45)	69.17 (± 0.64)	58.75 (± 0.76)	72.17 (± 0.75)
II {	MLP-1 (L7-784)	78.71 (± 0.65)	69.79 (± 1.17)	81.52 (± 1.38)	77.16 (± 0.63)	67.61 (± 1.07)	80.11 (± 0.99)
	MLP-1 (MAT-20)	64.94 (± 0.47)	48.26 (± 0.96)	63.10 (± 1.07)	54.42 (± 0.63)	40.86 (± 1.04)	57.56 (± 1.03)
III	Tay_RF [42] (flow-based)	84.78 (± 0.30)	75.49 (± 0.89)	83.86 (± 0.58)	80.77 (± 0.84)	72.39 (± 1.39)	81.88 (± 1.27)
IV {	MV	80.41 (± 0.40)	71.28 (± 0.85)	81.74 (± 0.77)	77.24 (± 0.62)	66.49 (± 0.97)	78.92 (± 0.97)
	SOA	87.08 (± 0.29) ‡	80.07 (± 0.81) ‡	87.00 (± 0.80) ‡	84.68 (± 0.55) ‡	75.94 (± 1.10) ‡	84.15 (± 0.96) ‡
	TLF	68.87 (± 1.05)	48.82 (± 1.92)	62.55 (± 1.86)	62.01 (± 0.97)	39.07 (± 1.52)	54.07 (± 1.94)
	MIOB-C	+ 3.79 (± 0.59)	+ 2.83 (± 1.66)	+ 5.14 (± 1.06)	+ 6.50 (± 2.12)	+ 8.66 (± 1.77)	+ 8.25 (± 1.72)
	MIOB-FT	+ 2.40 (± 0.48)	+ 1.44 (± 1.56)	+ 4.96 (± 1.46)	+ 4.46 (± 1.01)	+ 7.05 (± 1.43)	+ 8.10 (± 1.27)

(MIOB-C)

Max Gain over best Classifier

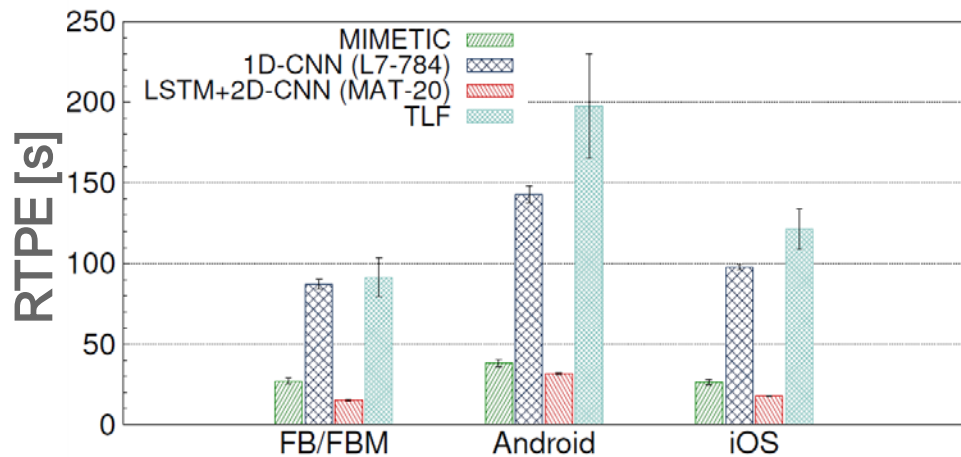
(MIOB-FT)

Max Gain over best fusion technique

(I) Best single-modality (III) ML state-of-the-art

(II) Shallow NN (IV) Classifier fusion

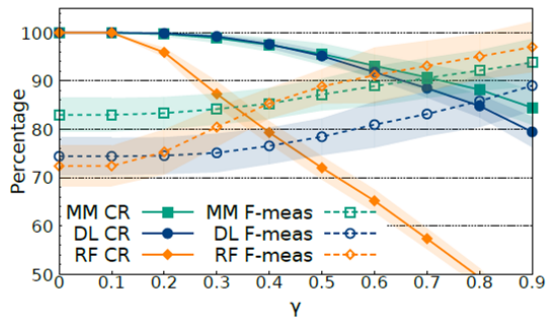
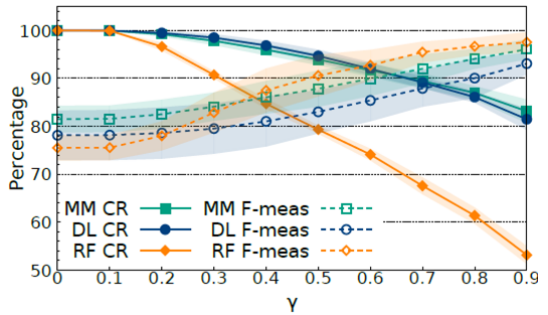
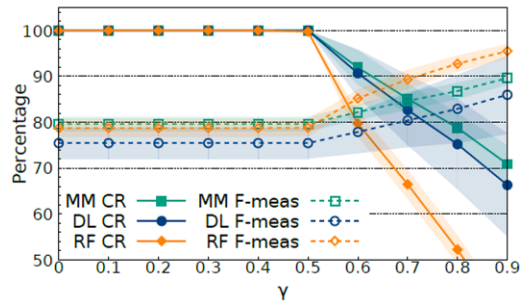
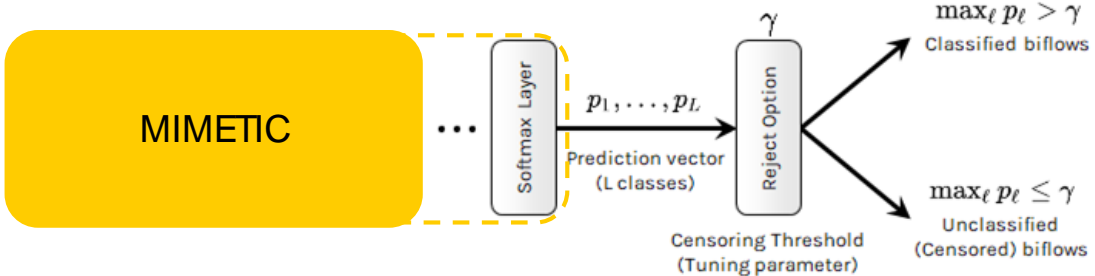
MULTIMODAL-DL HAS LOWER TRAINING COMPLEXITY



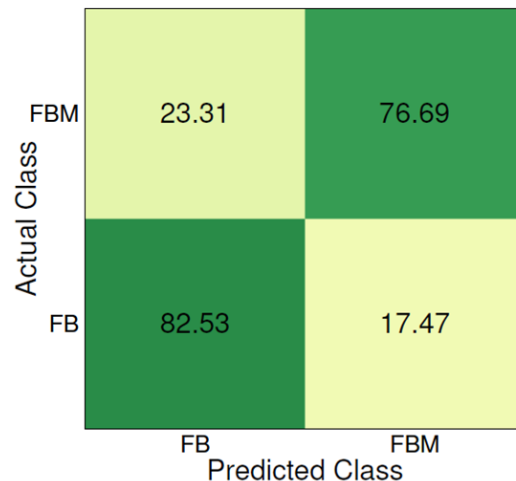
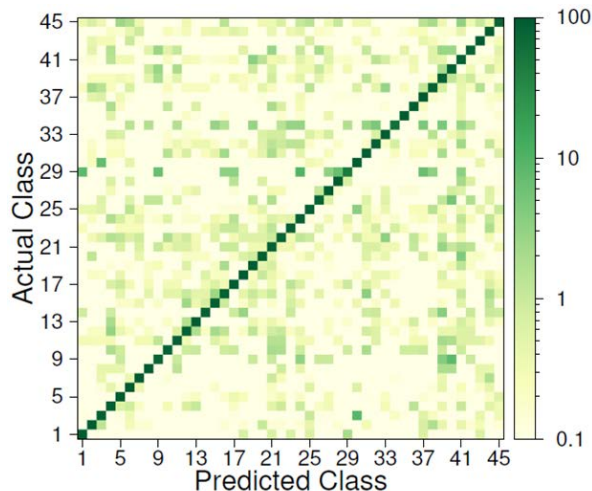
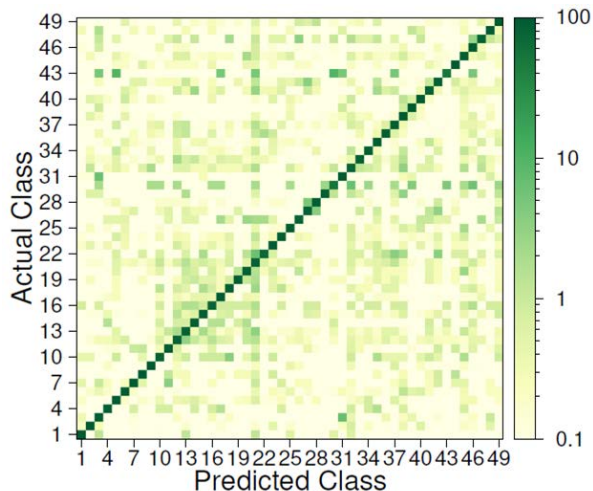
No. of parameters [Mi]	FB/ FBM	Android	iOS
MIMETIC	0.93	1.62	1.61
Best DL (1D-CNN)	5.82	5.87	5.86
LSTM+2D-CNN	0.42	0.74	0.74
DL Late Fusion (TLF)	6.24	6.61	6.60

Multimodal-DL shows an **RTPE > 3.5x lower** than its “main competitor” 1D-CNN (L7-784)

MIMETIC: FURTHER GAINS WITH CENSORING

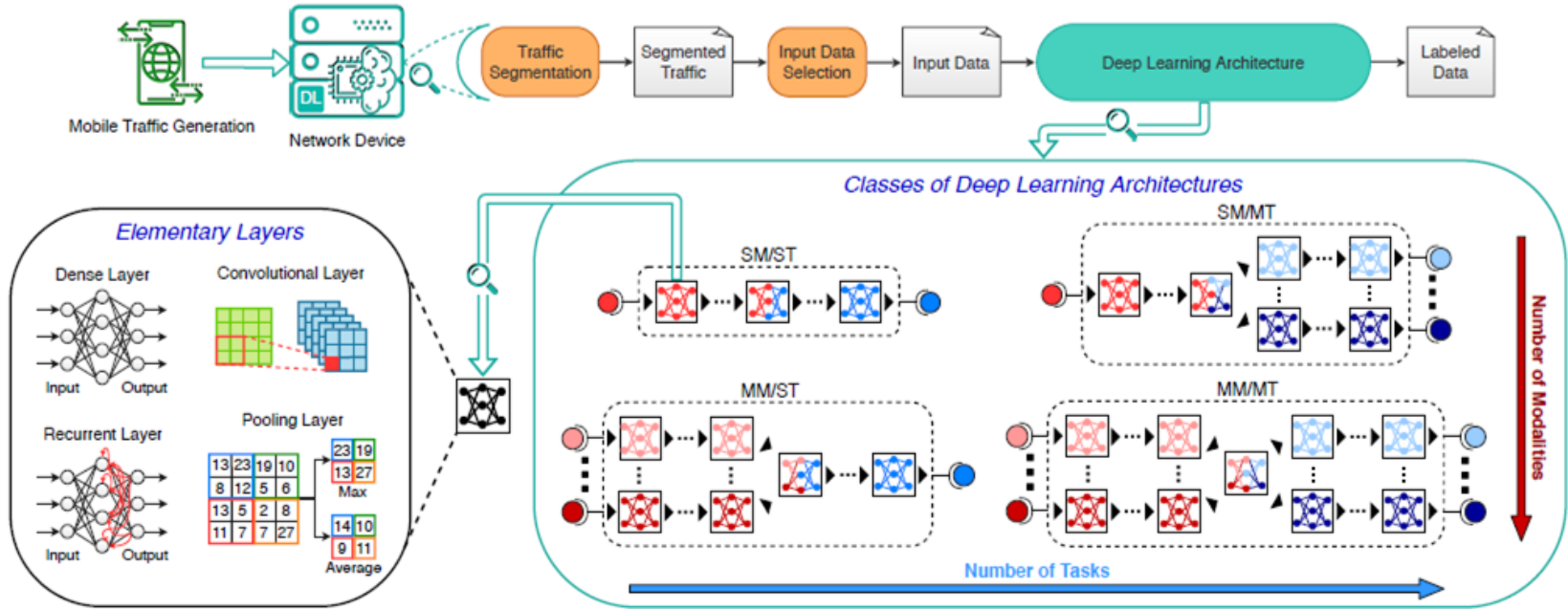


FINE-GRAINED PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT



Multimodal-DL achieves **almost-uniform error patterns**
in the three cases considered

TOWARD A GENERAL DL-BASED TC FRAMEWORK

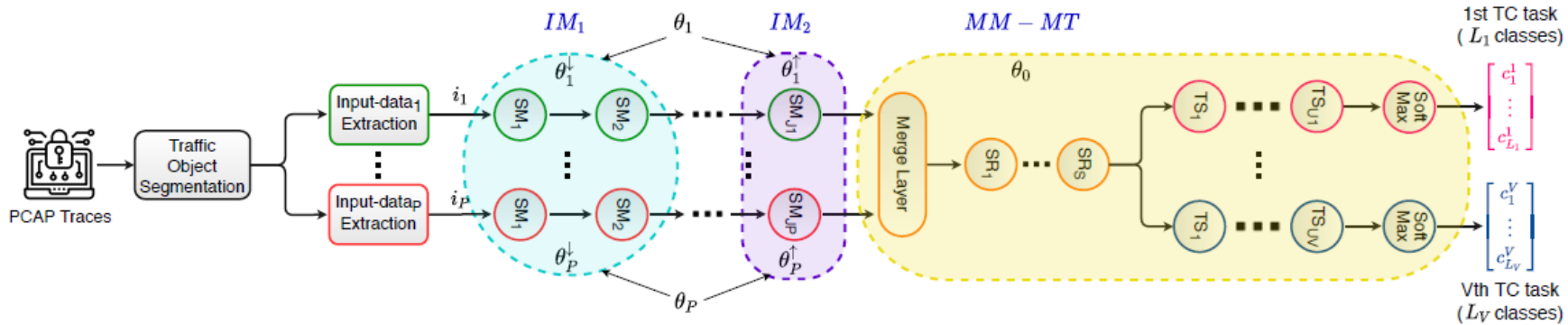


Requirement: **Multiple TC desiderata**

PUSHING FORWARD: DISTILLER

Deep Learning-based Multimodal Multitask Encrypted Traffic Classification

- Capturing both **intra-** and **inter-modalities** (multimodal)
- Able to classify according to **different views** (multitask)

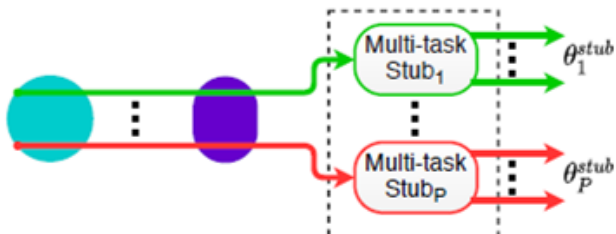


(Architectural Overview)

DISTILLER: FOCUS ON TRAINING

- M : no. of training samples
- V : no. of tasks
- P : no. of modalities

(I) Pre-training



p-th modality loss function

$$\mathcal{L}_p(\theta_p, \theta_p^{\text{stub}}) \triangleq \sum_{v=1}^V \lambda_v \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^M \text{CE}(t^v(m), c^v(m) [\theta_p, \theta_p^{\text{stub}}]) \right\}$$

(II) Fine-tuning

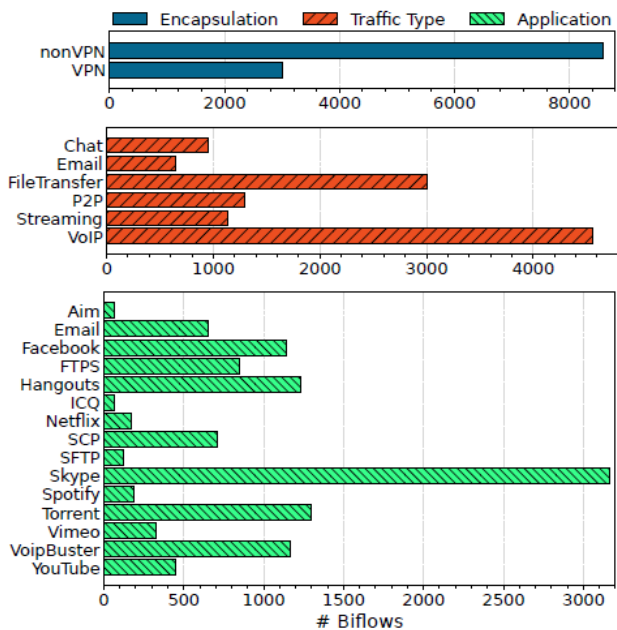


Overall loss function

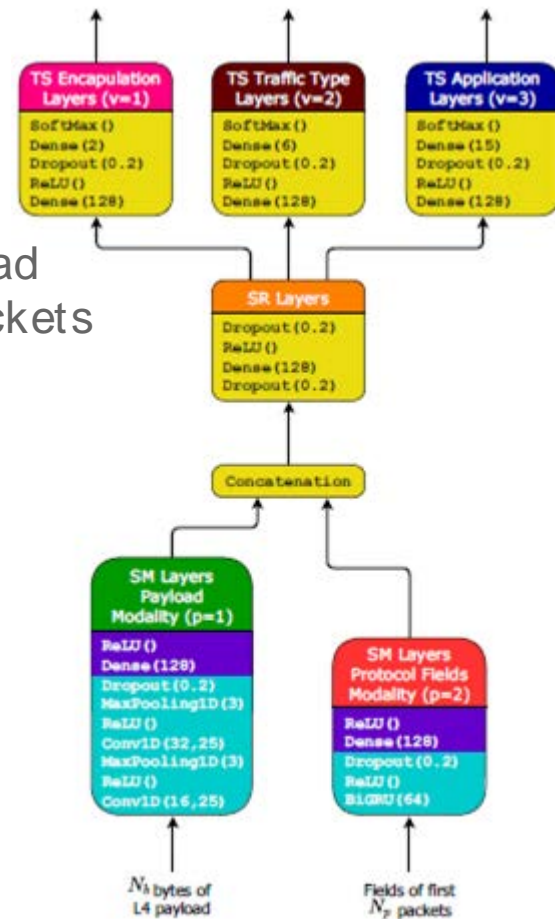
$$\mathcal{L}(\theta_{1:P}^{\uparrow}, \theta_0) \triangleq \sum_{v=1}^V \lambda_v \sum_{m=1}^M \text{CE}(t^v(m), c^v(m) [\theta_{1:P}^{\uparrow}, \theta_0])$$

DISTILLER: TAKING ONE INSTANCE

ISCX VPN-nonVPN dataset



- **P=2** Modalities
 - N_b bytes of L4 payload
 - Fields of first N_p packets
- **V=3** Tasks:
 - [2] VPN/ non-VPN
 - [6] Traffic Type (e.g. P2P, Chat)
 - [15] Applications (e.g. Hangouts)



DISTILLER: PERFORMANCE IN THE MULTI-TASK WILD



Overall **best classifier**



Overall **best baseline**

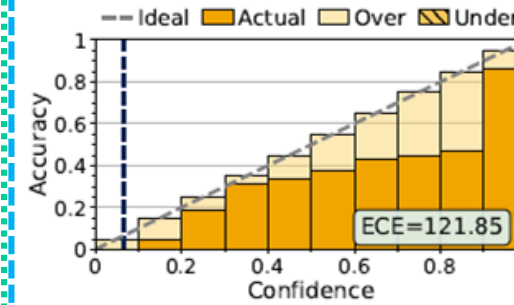
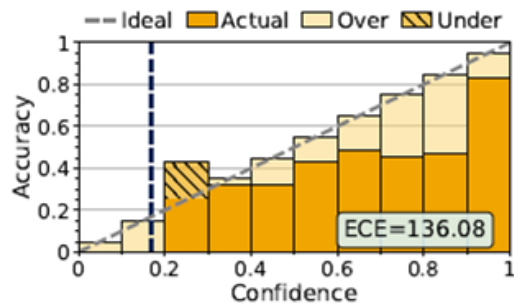
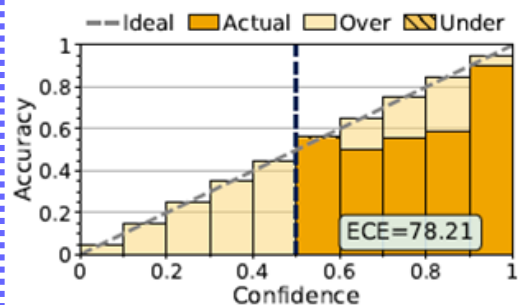
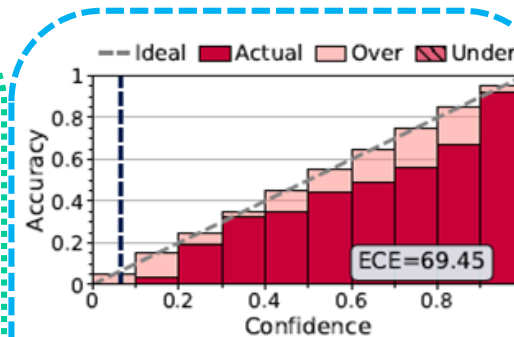
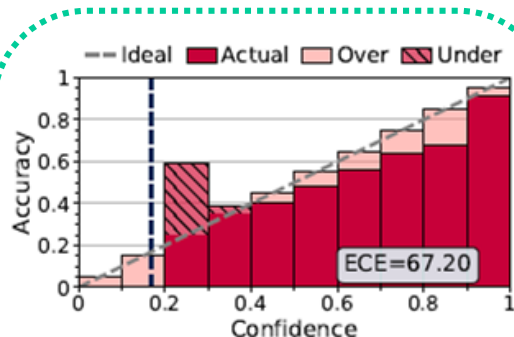
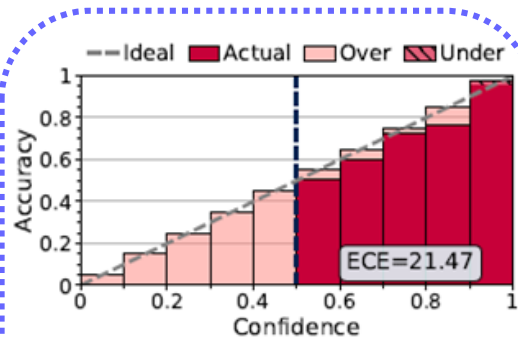
Rank	Multitask Classifier	T ₁ - Encapsulation		T ₂ - Traffic Type		T ₃ - Application		RTPE [s]
		Accuracy [%]	F-measure [%]	Accuracy [%]	F-measure [%]	Accuracy [%]	F-measure [%]	
I	DISTILLER	93.75 (± 0.73) 🏆	91.95 (± 0.67) 🏆	80.78 (± 0.95) 🏆	78.72 (± 1.05) 🏆	77.63 (± 0.66) 🏆	66.44 (± 1.76) 🏆	5.99 (± 0.13)
II	1D-CNN (PAY) [13]	87.47 (± 0.29)	83.50 (± 0.75)	73.14 (± 0.79) ↑	71.14 (± 0.87) ↑	72.73 (± 0.77) ↑	61.35 (± 1.60) ↑	13.83 (± 1.67)
III	2D-CNN (PAY) [20]	87.43 (± 0.66)	83.51 (± 0.46)	71.86 (± 0.95)	69.77 (± 0.96)	71.45 (± 1.13)	59.29 (± 2.06)	40.94 (± 3.57)
IV	MLP (PAY) [26]	86.95 (± 0.65)	82.38 (± 1.12)	70.67 (± 0.64)	68.14 (± 0.72)	69.50 (± 0.97)	56.44 (± 2.45)	2.58 (± 0.36)
V	MLP (HDR) [26]	88.71 (± 0.37) ↑	84.94 (± 0.48) ↑	68.57 (± 0.51)	65.87 (± 0.55)	63.97 (± 1.02)	51.14 (± 1.28)	2.24 (± 0.17)
VI	MLP (PAY) [22]	85.28 (± 0.66)	81.16 (± 0.55)	67.60 (± 1.10)	64.68 (± 1.36)	65.39 (± 1.06)	51.78 (± 1.31)	0.75 (± 0.10) ↑🏆
VII	HYBRID (HDR) [15]	87.11 (± 1.88)	82.82 (± 1.28)	66.00 (± 2.61)	62.40 (± 4.34)	60.17 (± 3.70)	50.49 (± 2.40)	3.34 (± 0.38)
VIII	MLP (HDR) [22]	86.53 (± 0.65)	81.55 (± 1.03)	62.86 (± 0.92)	59.43 (± 1.40)	59.34 (± 0.88)	44.20 (± 1.22)	0.79 (± 0.02)
IX	1D-CNN (HDR) [25]	82.95 (± 1.33)	76.24 (± 2.55)	59.09 (± 3.34)	54.75 (± 2.24)	56.54 (± 2.65)	40.87 (± 2.13)	1.70 (± 0.02)
DISTILLER Gain		+ 6.28 (± 0.80)	+ 8.45 (± 1.13)	+ 7.65 (± 0.20)	+ 7.58 (± 0.95)	+ 4.90 (± 0.60)	+ 5.09 (± 1.17)	- 7.84 (± 1.67)

best baseline identified

DISTILLER: ACHIEVING BETTER CALIBRATION

Distiller

Baseline



Task 1
(Encapsulation)

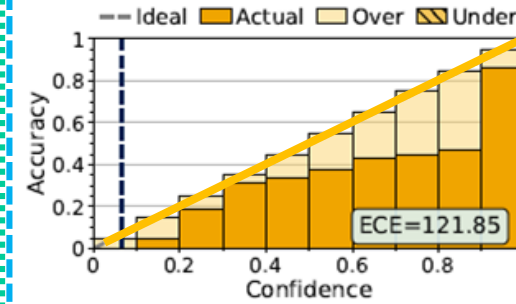
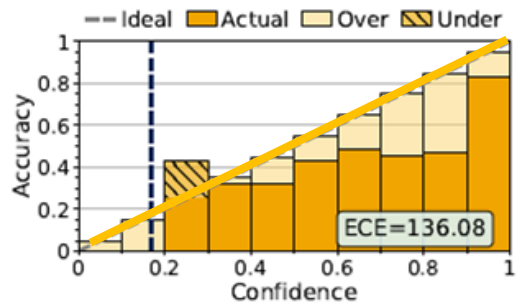
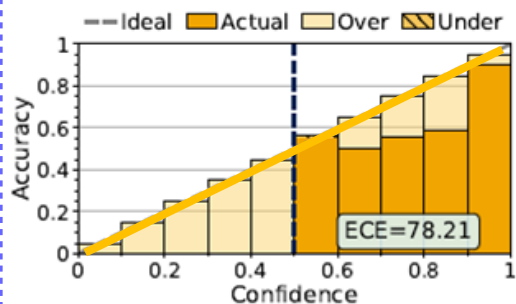
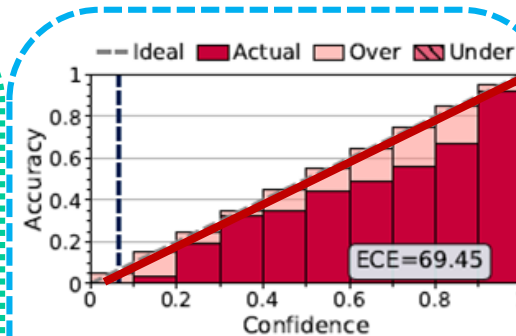
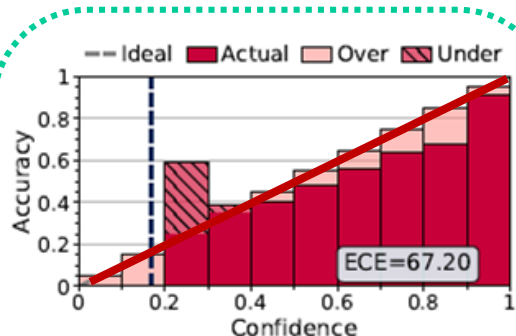
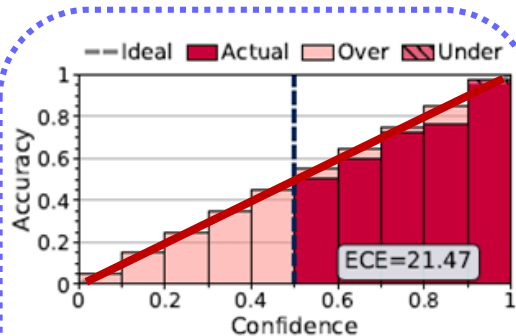
Task 2
(Traffic Type)

Task 3
Application

DISTILLER: ACHIEVING BETTER CALIBRATION

Distiller

Baseline



Task 1
(Encapsulation)

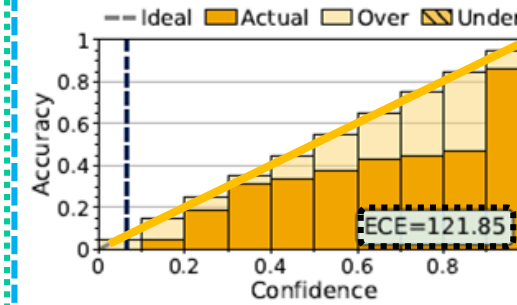
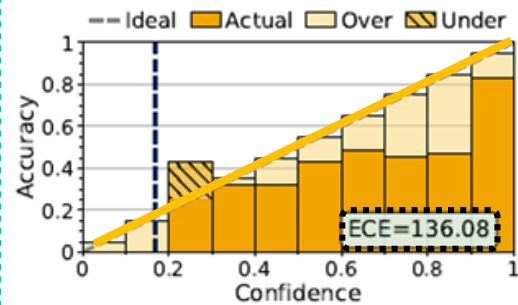
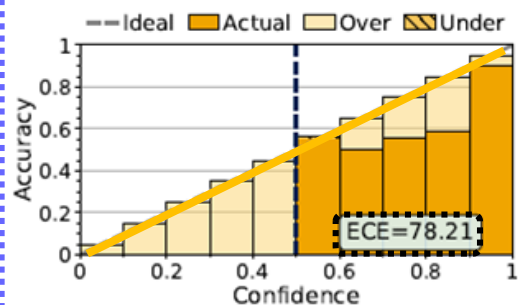
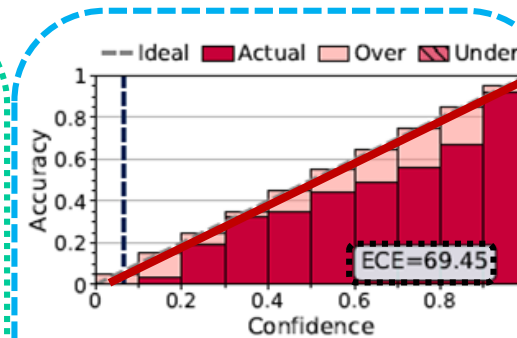
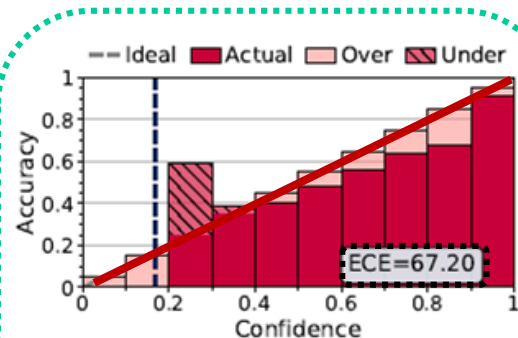
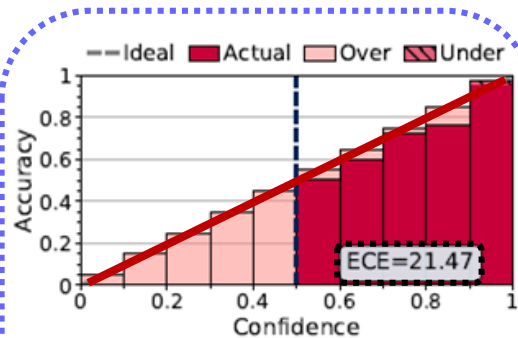
Task 2
(Traffic Type)

Task 3
Application

DISTILLER: ACHIEVING BETTER CALIBRATION

Distiller

Baseline



Task 1
(Encapsulation)

Task 2
(Traffic Type)

Task 3
Application

BENCHMARKING TC: NEED FOR **QUALIFIED DATASETS**



Data-driven TC methodologies require **reliably labeled datasets** to ensure proper design, realization, and validation



No Bots
allowed



MIRAGE

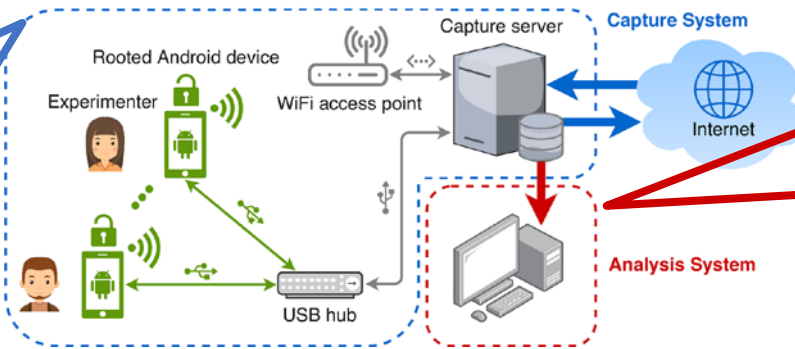
Reproducible architecture for generating **mobile-app traffic** and automatically creating the related high accurate **ground-truth**

MIRAGE: OVERVIEW



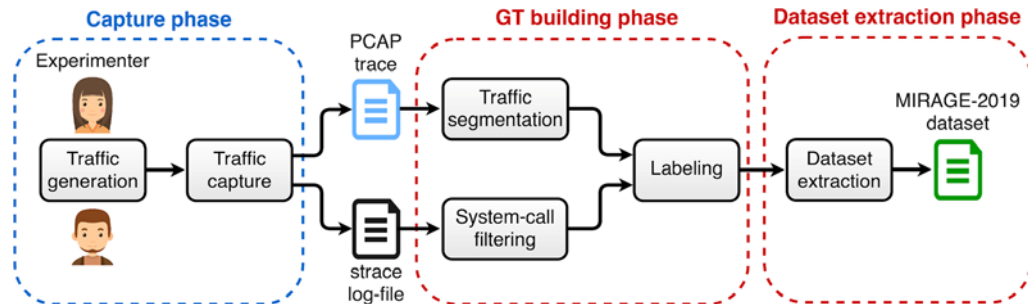
Architecture

- Provides **connectivity** to mobile devices
- Collects **network traffic** and system-call **log-files**
- Can handle **multiple devices** at the same time



- Performs the **Ground-Truth** building
- Constructs the final **mobile-app traffic** dataset
- Extracts the **MIRAGE-2019** public version

Functional overview



MIRAGE IN A NUTSHELL

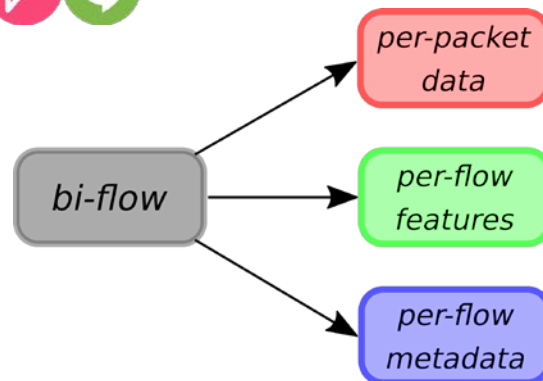


A **public human-generated** dataset for mobile traffic analysis is

- **40** Android apps (no video apps)
- **16** different categories
- **No less than 2500** bi-flows for each app
- Each bi-flow is labeled with the **Android package-name** of generating app



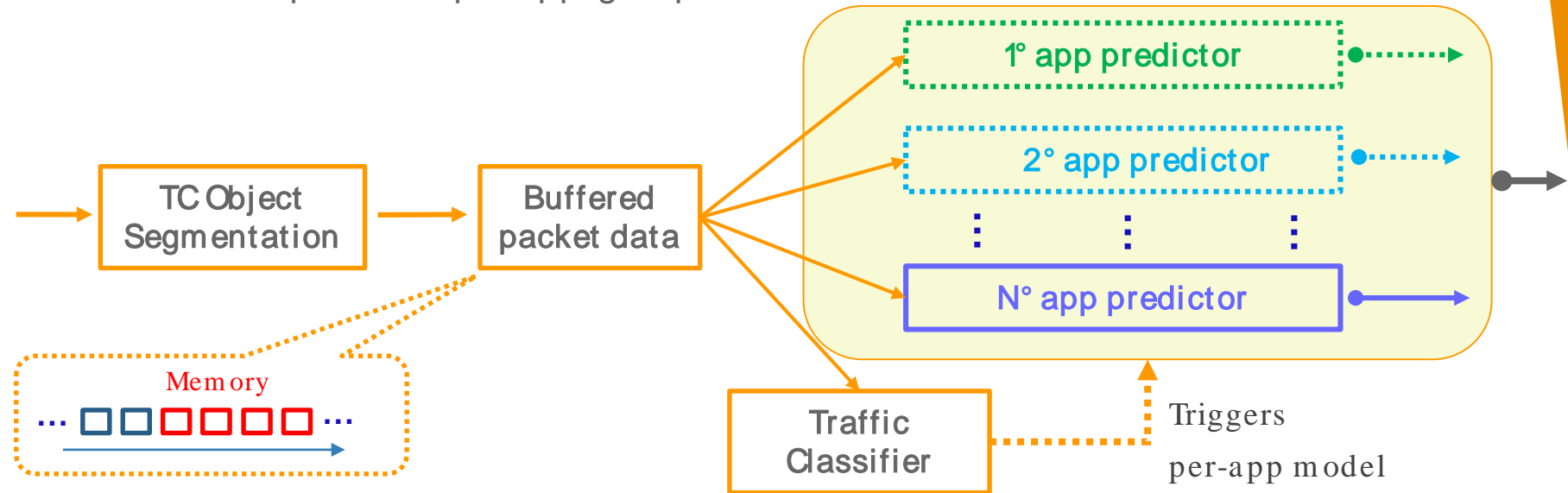
MIRAGE-2019 is released in **JSON** format with information at **different granularities**



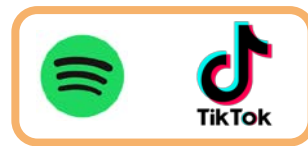
MOBILE APPS TRAFFIC PREDICTION

Need for **fine-grained** network management:

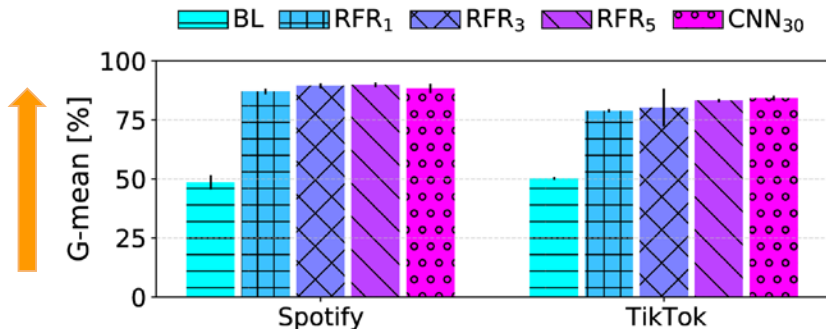
- Traffic is dynamic and of heterogeneous composition
- One predictor for all traffic is not enough
- Idea: One-predictor per app/group



MOBILE TP: INITIAL RESULTS

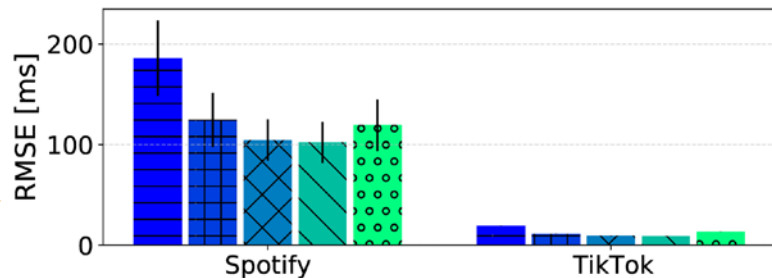


● Direction



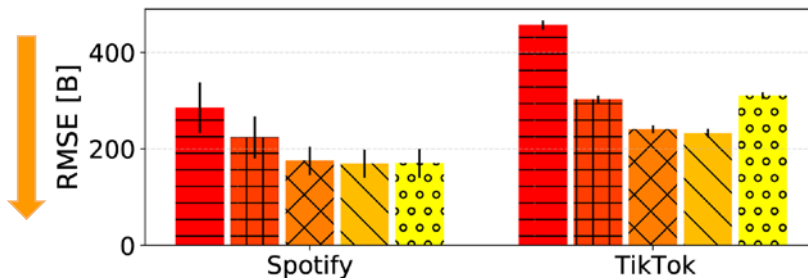
● Inter-Arrival Time

Legend: BL (Blue), RFR₁ (Blue grid), RFR₃ (Blue diagonal), RFR₅ (Teal diagonal), CNN₃₀ (Green dotted)



● Payload Length

Legend: BL (Red), RFR₁ (Orange grid), RFR₃ (Orange diagonal), RFR₅ (Yellow diagonal), CNN₃₀ (Yellow dotted)



Results come from a 10-fold cross-validation process - Values are shown as μ and σ

LESSON LEARNED AND MILESTONES



DL classifiers fed with **raw** network traffic data likely lead to **misleading performance results**



- ✓ Skim **informative** and **unbiased** information from input traffic data to DL classifiers

LESSON LEARNED AND MILESTONES



DL classifiers fed with **raw** network traffic data likely lead to **misleading performance results**

No “killer” DL architecture for mobile TC



- ✓ Skim **informative** and **unbiased** information from input traffic data to DL classifiers
- ✓ Need for advanced **hybrid DL architectures** with automatically tunable **hyper-parameters**

LESSON LEARNED AND MILESTONES



DL classifiers fed with **raw** network traffic data likely lead to **misleading performance results**

No “killer” DL architecture for mobile TC

Lack of a **comprehensive and principled approach** to DL-based classifiers applied to mobile TC



- ✓ Skim **informative** and **unbiased** information from input traffic data to DL classifiers
- ✓ Need for advanced **hybrid DL architectures** with automatically tunable **hyper-parameters**
- ✓ First attempt to the formalization of a **comprehensive performance evaluation** framework

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No “killer” DL architecture for mobile TC

Lack of a **comprehensive and principled approach** to DL-based classifiers applied to mobile TC

Lack of general architecture for solving multi-purpose TC tasks with high performance



- ✓ Skim **informative** and **unbiased** information from input traffic data to DL classifiers
- ✓ Need for advanced **hybrid DL architectures** with automatically tunable **hyper-parameters**
- ✓ First attempt to the formalization of a **comprehensive performance evaluation** framework
- ✓ A framework for the design of **Multimodal Multitask DL Traffic Classifiers**

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No “killer” DL architecture for mobile TC

Lack of a **comprehensive and principled approach** to DL-based classifiers applied to mobile TC

Lack of general architecture for solving multi-purpose TC tasks with high performance

Lack of available datasets for experimentation



- ✓ Skim **informative** and **unbiased** information from input traffic data to DL classifiers
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- ✓ First attempt to the formalization of a **comprehensive performance evaluation** framework
- ✓ A framework for the design of **Multimodal Multitask DL Traffic Classifiers**
- ✓ Proposing the **MIRAGE project**

LESSON LEARNED AND MILESTONES



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No “killer” DL architecture for mobile TC

Lack of a **comprehensive and principled approach** to DL-based classifiers applied to mobile TC

Lack of general architecture for solving multi-purpose TC tasks with high performance

Lack of available datasets for experimentation

Need for **fine-grained prediction** of mobile traffic





- ✓ Skim **informative** and **unbiased** information from input traffic data to DL classifiers
- ✓ Need for advanced **hybrid DL architectures** with automatically tunable **hyper-parameters**
- ✓ First attempt to the formalization of a **comprehensive performance evaluation** framework
- ✓ A framework for the design of **Multimodal Multitask DL Traffic Classifiers**
- ✓ Proposing the **MIRAGE project**
- ✓ Investigating **DL-based biflow-level app-tailored predictors**

ESSENTIAL REFERENCES

1. “The applications of deep learning on traffic identification”, BlackHat USA, 2015
2. “Appscanner: Automatic fingerprinting of smartphone apps from encrypted network traffic”, IEEE EuroS& P 2016
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...AND OUR REFERENCES

1. “PortLoad: taking the best of two worlds in traffic classification”, IEEE INFOCOM Workshops, 2010
2. “Multi-Classification Approaches for Classifying Mobile App Traffic”, Elsevier Journal of Network and Computer Applications, 2018
3. “Mobile Encrypted Traffic Classification Using Deep Learning: Experimental Evaluation, Lessons Learned, and Challenges”, IEEE Transactions on Network and Service Management, 2019
-  4. “MIMETIC: Mobile Encrypted Traffic Classification using Multimodal Deep Learning”, Elsevier Computer Networks, 2019 (BEST PAPER AWARD)
5. “Toward Effective Mobile Encrypted Traffic Classification through Deep Learning”, Elsevier Neurocomputing, 2020
6. “DISTILLER: Encrypted Traffic Classification via Multimodal Multitask Deep Learning”, Elsevier Journal of Network and Computer Applications, 2020 (submitted)
7. “Characterization and Prediction of Mobile-App Traffic using Markov Modeling”, IEEE Transactions on Network and Service Management, 2020 (submitted)
8. “Know your Big Data Trade-offs when Classifying Encrypted Mobile Traffic with Deep Learning”, IEEE/ ACM TMA 2019
-  9. ”MIRAGE: Mobile-app Traffic Capture and Ground-truth Creation”, 4th IEEE ICCCS 2019 (BEST PAPER AWARD)

Thank you!



Questions?

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TI • NAPOLI FEDERICO II

