

# Inspecting Privacy in Electronic Services

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April 2015



# Outline

- Introduction
- Methodologies
- Approach
- Privacy Modeling Concepts
- A Logic Based Modeling Framework for Analyzing Privacy
- Conclusions
- Questions

# Introduction

Complex Electronic Services



Ever wondered what  
companies know about you?



... Max Schrems, an Austrian student, did!

Now he sues Facebook for their data practices on the personal data they collected about him.

A popular game platform from the late 70's until the early 90's



... evolved to multi-service platforms offering social gaming experience



## *SHARE Epic Moments* **Show Off Your Greatness**

Why keep your successes to yourself? Immortalise your favourite gaming triumphs and share them with your friends instantly at the tap of a button.



Last Revised: April, 2011

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... Non-transparent data handling practice declarations

## Who is “who”?

### WHO WE SHARE WITH:

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... and what is “who” doing with your data ?

We do not control our affiliates’ or third parties’ use of your information after we share it, but we use reasonable efforts to obtain our affiliates’ and third parties’ agreement to protect the confidentiality, security, and integrity of any personal information we share with them or that we permit them to collect directly. If consumers do not want their personal information made available to others in these ways, they should not provide their personal information to us.

... but do you realize what is declared?

... and what the consequences are  
concerning your privacy?

Many people do not !

A woman with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a green jacket, is speaking at a blue podium. The podium features the European Commission logo (EC) and the European Union flag. Behind her is a large blue backdrop with the text "Data Protection Reform" in white, and "25 January 2012" below it. The backdrop also features the European Commission logo and the European Union flag. The background is decorated with a circuit board pattern.

# Data Protection Reform

25 January 2012

European Commission

The upcoming EU General Data Protection Regulation protects the privacy of EU citizens by means of different data protection principles.

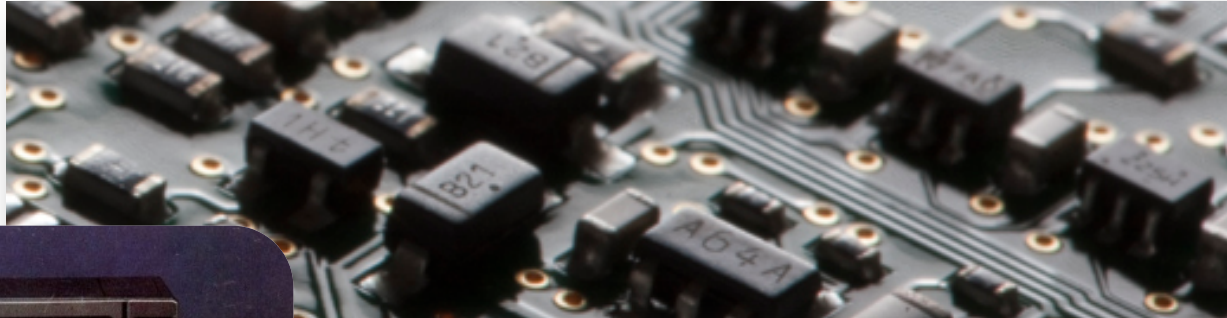


Privacy is not a mere afterthought, but privacy safeguards must be built into all steps of the design process from the earliest design stage, i.e. **privacy by design**



Obligation of data controllers to comply with regulations and to demonstrate this compliance and to implement mechanisms that ensure this compliance, i.e. **service provider accountability**

In the past, only functionality had to be considered during game development. Developers were able to handle this.

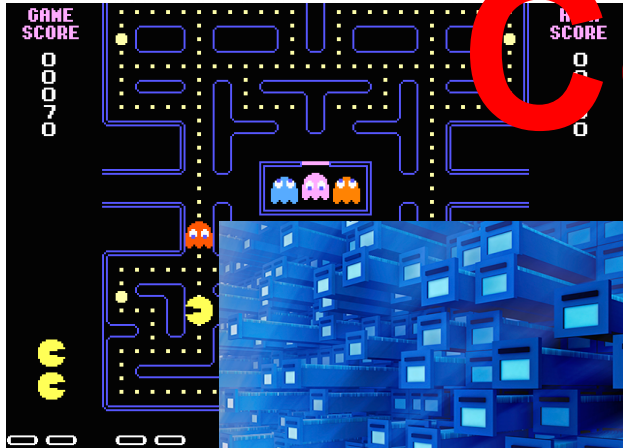


```
00000000 push    ebp
00000001 mov     ebp, esp
00000003 movzx  ecx, [ebp+arg_0]
00000007 pop     ebp
00000008 movzx  dx, cl
0000000C lea    eax, [edx+edx]
0000000F add    eax, edx
00000011 shl   eax, 2
00000014 add    eax, edx
00000016 shr   eax, 8
00000019 sub    cl, al
0000001B shr   cl, 1
0000001D add    al, cl
0000001F shr   al, 5
00000022 movzx  eax, al
00000025 retn
```

Today, system design is multi-disciplinary and requires expert-knowledge



**Complex**







Need for computer-aided tools supporting the design of complex services.

# Methodologies

A State-of-the-Art of Privacy  
Modeling Approaches

## Privacy Requirement Engineering – identifying privacy requirements

- Threat models
  - STRIDE/DREAD (Microsoft) – Data flow diagram
  - CORAS
- Misuse cases – use cases
- Attack trees
- Problem frames

## Quantitative approaches: metrics → measuring degree of anonymity

- Anonymity networks
  - Anonymity sets
  - Information theoretic approaches – entropy based
- Databases
  - $k$ -anonymity →  $l$ -anonymity →  $t$ -closeness
- Statistical databases:
  - Differential privacy → focus on used query algorithm

## Quantitative Approaches

- **Policy-agnostic programming:** verification of program code compliance with privacy policies
  - E.g. Jeeves, Hoare logic
- **Logic based modeling approaches:**
  - Conflict detection between privacy policies of entities in multi-tier systems
    - E.g. Facebook apps
  - Conflict detection between privacy policies and privacy regulatory frameworks
  - Protocol verification
  - Reasoning on impact of architectural design decisions
  - Privacy analysis at application level
  - Compliance verification of high-level architectural privacy requirements with underlying privacy properties of used protocols.
- **Markov chains:**
  - Verification if data collection serves certain goals
- **Process Algebras:** Applied  $\pi$ -calculus - ProVerif
  - Automated privacy analysis for protocols based on PETs
    - E.g. e-voting system, e-auction system, electrical vehicle charging
- **Multi-paradigm:**
  - Designing controlled anonymous applications using ABCs.

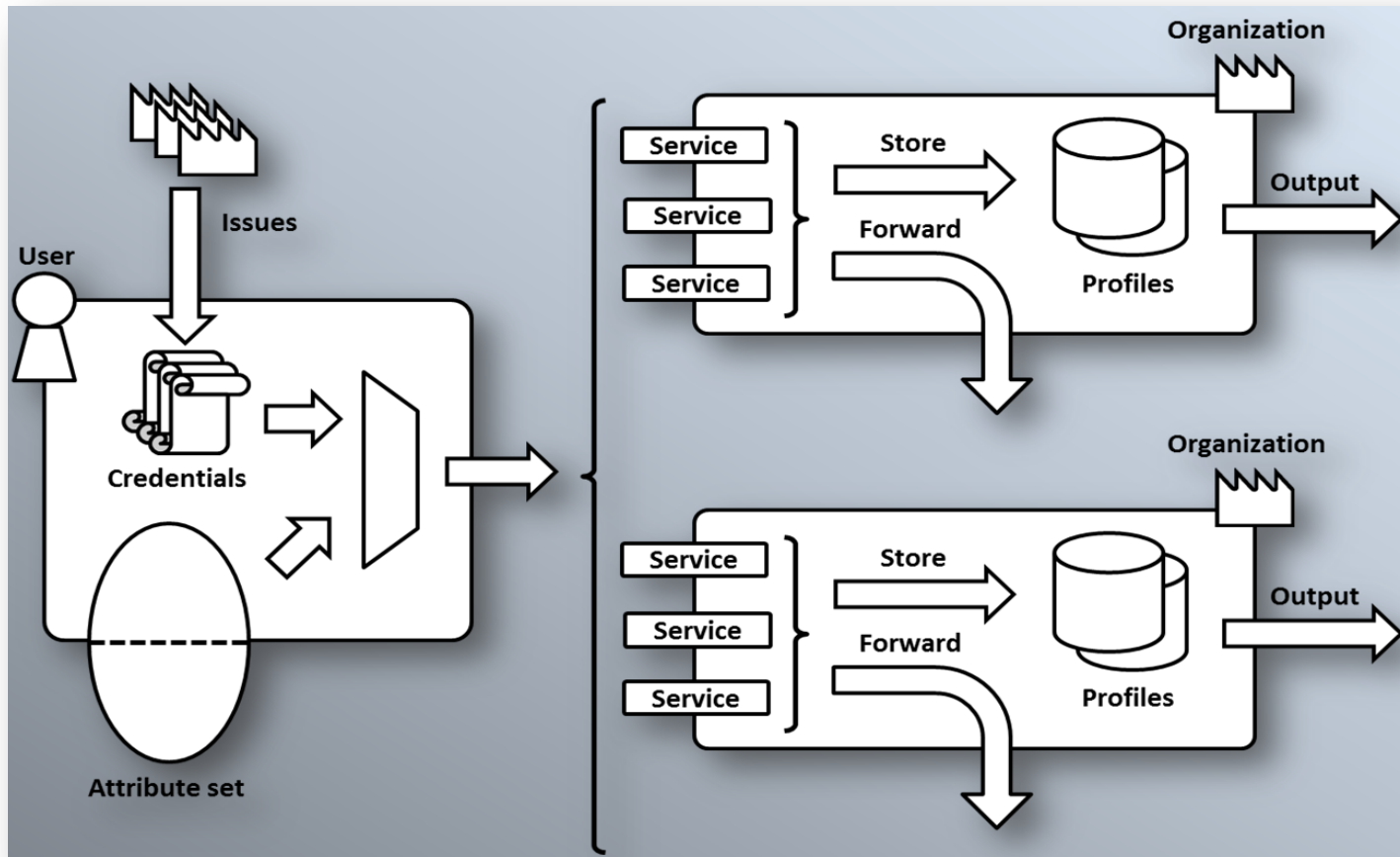
# Approach

A Logic Based Privacy Modeling  
Approach



A logic based modeling approach is used for the privacy analysis based on **user profiles** built from formal models representing the service under consideration. The feedback must be useful for **system designers** and **end-users** as well.

# Privacy Modeling Concepts



# Conceptual model of a composite service



# Modeling properties of authentication technologies

X.509 Certificates



Calypso cards



Idemix

U-Prove



E.g. access to a service is only permitted if individual is older than 18y



Revealed attributes:

DoB, First name, Surname, SSN, Address, Gender, Card SN, ...

Idemix



Revealed attributes:

e.g. DoB

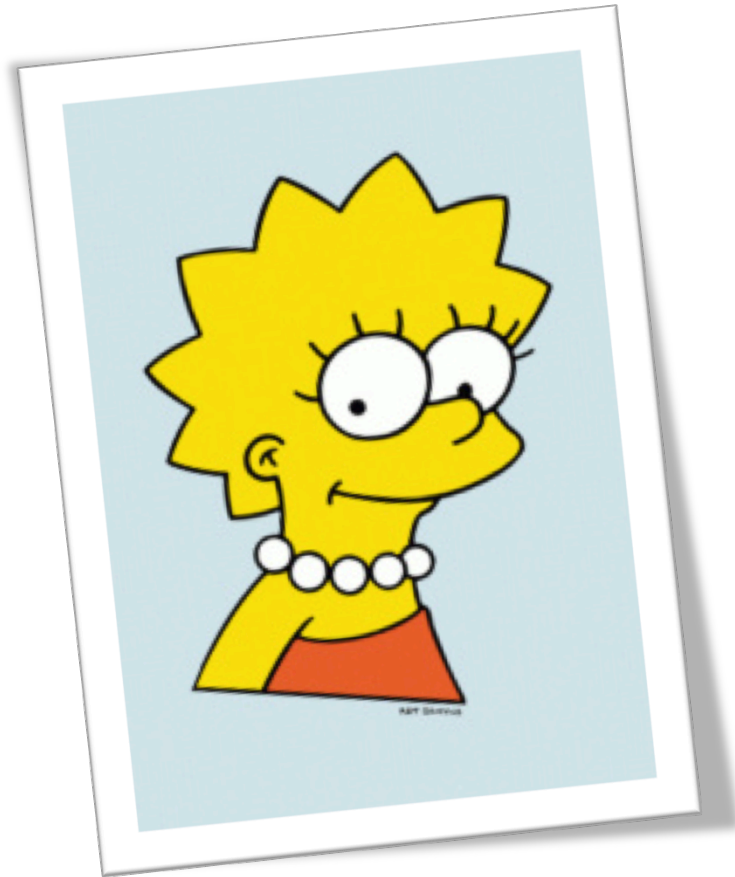
e.g. Age > 18

e.g. 20 < Age < 25

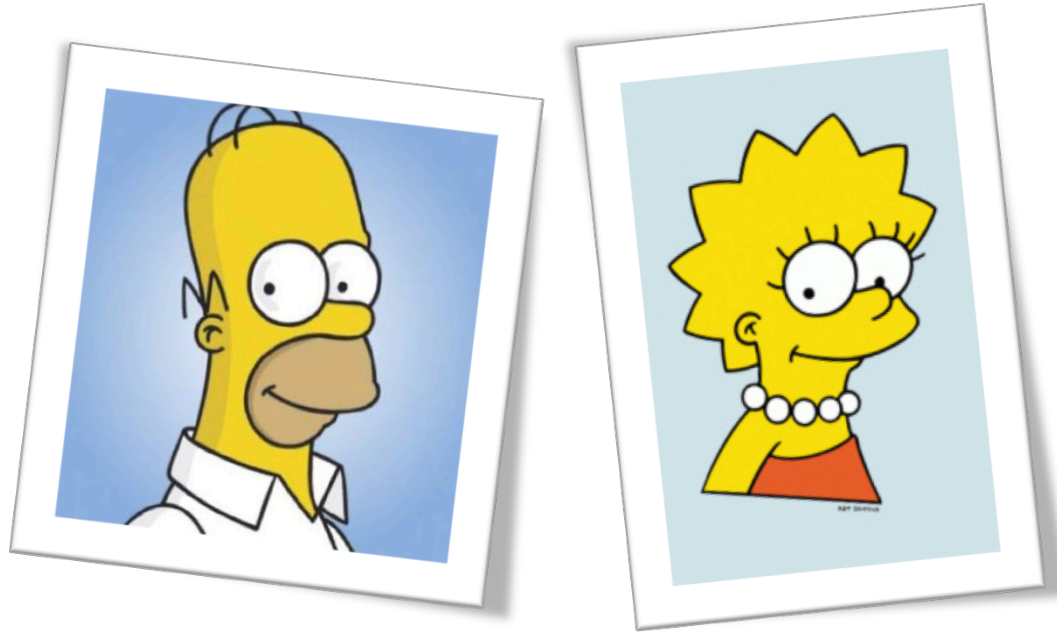
# Different types of users → Different trust perceptions



He just don't care about his privacy,  
he trusts everybody



She cares about her privacy, only trusts  
companies with a good reputation



Trust perceptions are modeled in terms of storage and data forwarding (i.e. distribution)

An organization part of the **set of storage/distribution trusted organizations**, only stores/forwards the attributes that are declared in storage/distribution policy, else the organization is supposed to store/distribute all attributes it can collect.

# Modeling identifiers linkable to an individual

**Pseudonymous:** group of attributes referring to individual without actual revealing his identity

e.g. e-mail address

e.g. username,

e.g. browser fingerprint, i.e. a unique combination of attributes representing browser configuration

**Identity:** group of attributes *sufficiently* revealing identity of an individual

e.g. first name, surname and address (in case of Homer)

e.g. first name, surname (in case of Lisa)

# A Logic Based Modeling Framework for Analyzing Privacy

# System Independent Model

Vocabulary  
(Concepts)

Behavior

Inference Rules



## User Model

Trust Perception

### Initial State

Credentials

Profiles

## Identifiability Model

Identities

Pseudonyms

## System Model

Organizations

Services

### Service Policies

Access  
Control

Storage

Distribution

Output



Logic Component



Conclusions

Input Model



# Logic Component

## Properties

- Declarative logic programming system
- Knowledge base system
- Intuitive modeling using predicate logic
- IDP language: FO logic enriched with types, aggregate, inductive definitions, partial functions
- Supports reasoning on incomplete knowledge
- Supports modular programming
- Integrated Lua

## Structure of IDP program

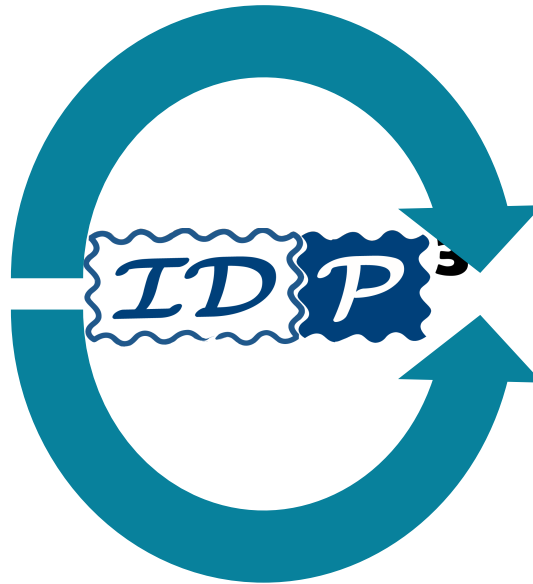
- *Vocabulary*: contains non-logic modeling symbols = types, predicates, functions
- *Theory*: set of constraint rules and definitions
- *Structure over the vocabulary*: a partial valuation of the vocabulary elements that satisfies the theory



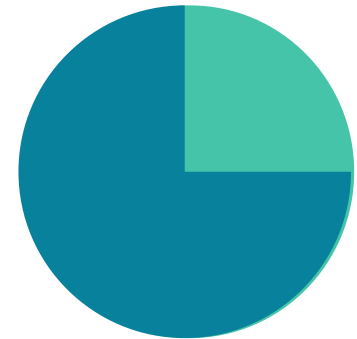
Theory:  
Generic behavior  
Inference



Input model =  
partial structure  
satisfying theory

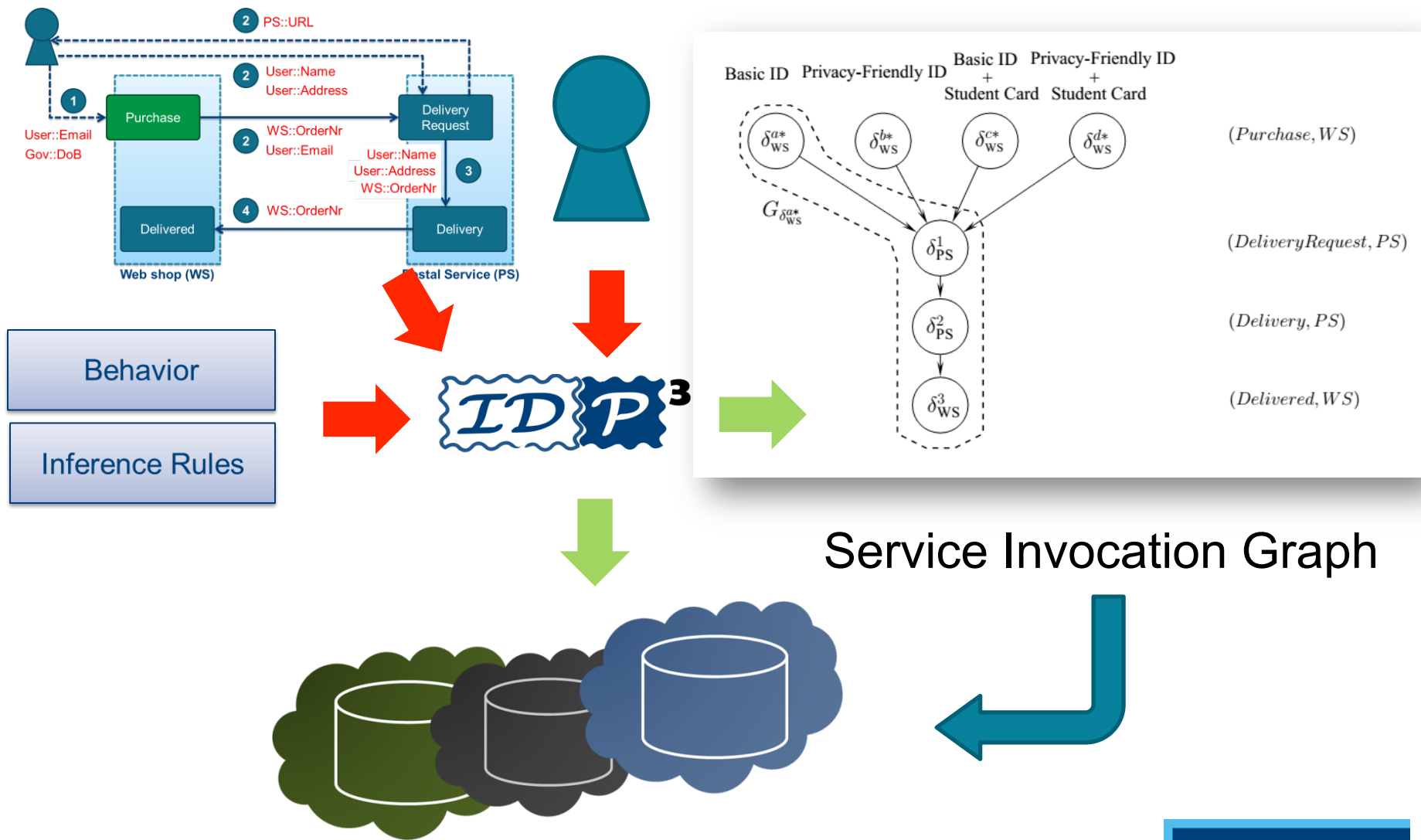


Model expansion  
= extending input  
model



Output model =  
complete structure  
satisfying theory

# Computation of User Profiles





# Feedback that can be derived from user profiles

*Query the user's anonymity level:*

→ Users is anonymous, pseudonymous, identifiable

*Query the attributes released to organizations:*

→ Detecting violations: e.g. an organization is not allowed to collect name and address

→ Verify if attributes required for the functionality can be collected by an organization

*Query the impact of collaborations between organizations:*

→ e.g. can a user be identified when organization x and y collaborate?

*Querying the required trust between organizations:*

→ e.g. Y receives name and address from X. X collects it from user's X.509 based identity card. Y must only trust the issuer of the identity card.

# Conclusions

- A qualitative modeling approach complementary to other approaches such as RE and quantitative approaches.
- Flexible approach → analyze privacy of services from different domains:
  - Travel reservation system
  - Web shop
  - Loyalty Systems
  - Ticketing systems in public transport
- Result are publicly available at:  
<https://github.com/dcroik/inspect-privacy-and-trust>

- Privacy related feedback useful for designers
  - Impact of design decisions: e.g. using X.509 certificate instead of Anonymous credential (Idemix).
  - Impact of collaborations.
  - Automated conflict detection with privacy preferences of prototypical users.
- Privacy related feedback useful for end-users
  - Anonymity level
  - Conflict detection with personal privacy preferences. E.g. commercial organizations are not permitted to collect my SSN.

- Realization Accountability:
  - <https://github.com/inferring-accountability/inferring-accountability>



# Main Publications

- Decroix, K., Butin, D., Jansen, J., Naessens, V. (2014). Inferring Accountability from Trust Perceptions. In Prakash, A. (Ed.), Shyamasundar, R. (Ed.), *Information Systems Security: Vol. 8880*. ICISS 2014. Hyderabad, 16-20 December 2014 (art.nr. 29) (pp. 69-88) Springer-Verlag.
- Decroix, K., Lapon, J., De Decker, B., Naessens, V. (2013). A Framework for Formal Reasoning about Privacy Properties based on Trust Relationships in Complex Electronic Services. In Bagchi, A. (Ed.), Ray, I. (Ed.), *Information Systems Security: Vol. 8303*. ICISS 2013. Kolkata, 16-20 December 2013 (pp. 106-120). Berlin Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag.
- Decroix, K., Lapon, J., De Decker, B., Naessens, V. (2013). A Formal Approach for Inspecting Privacy and Trust in Advanced Electronic Services. In Jürgens, J. (Ed.), Livshits, B. (Ed.), Scandariato, R. (Ed.), *Engineering Secure Software and Systems: Vol. 7781 (5)*. ESSoS. Paris, 27 February 2013 - 1 March 2013 (pp. 155-170). Berlin Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag.

# Questions