

# A tool for specifying and validating software liability

- VERIMAG, Grenoble, France
- Eduardo Mazza
  - Marie-Laure Potet

# Outline

- Context
- Approach
- Study Case
- Specifications
  - Entities
  - Logs
- Properties
- Responsibility
- Future Work
- Conclusions

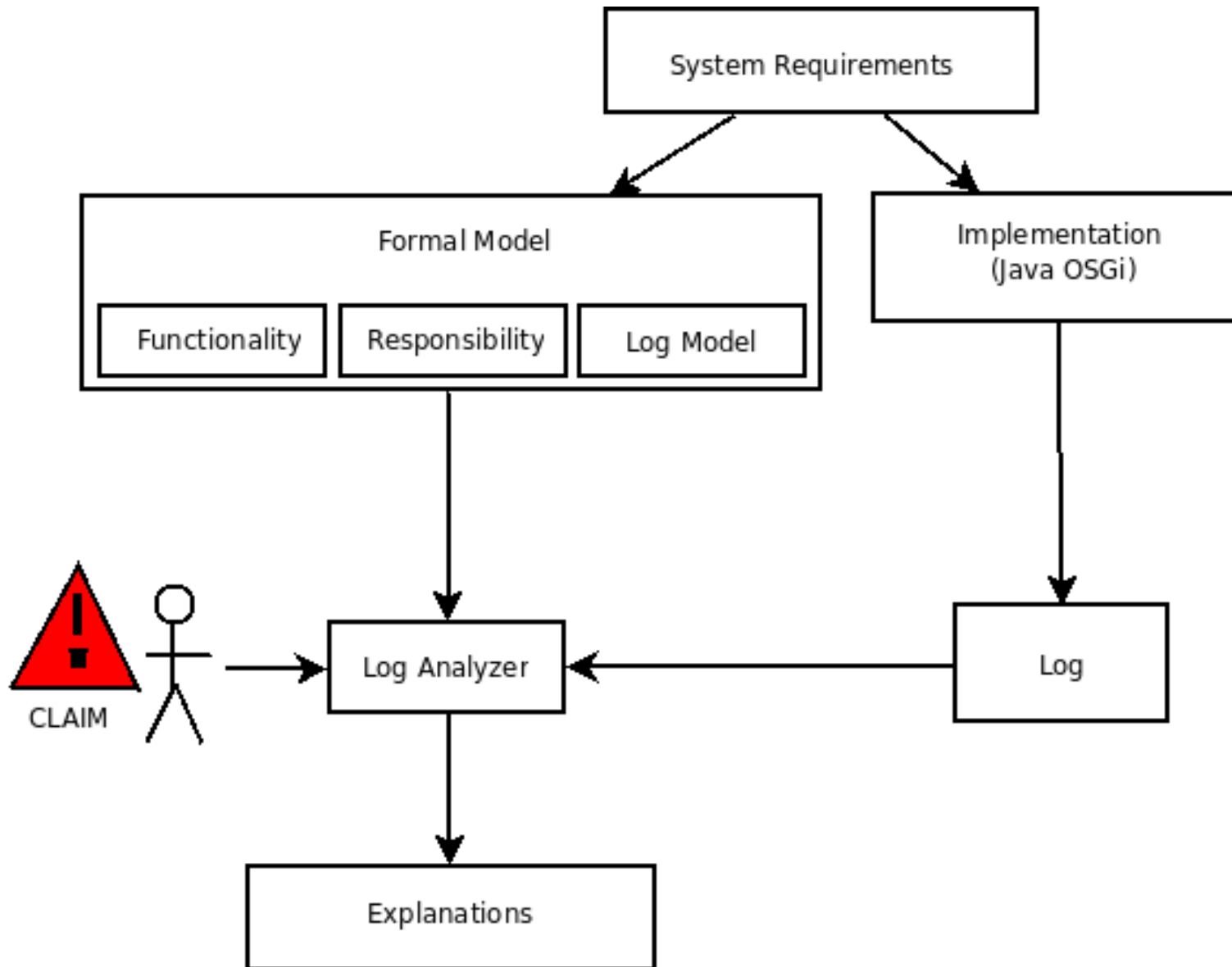
# LISE: Liability Issues in Software Engineering

- Context
  - **Multidisciplinary group**
    - Lawyers and Engineers that search to produce a valid solution for legal dispute resolutions based on digital evidences
  - **Liability**
    - With system more complex is important to know who is responsible
      - Example: system that use open-source or third party components
  - **Digital evidences**
    - What can be legally used as digital evidence? How to formalize it?
  - **Contract** made between legal parts
    - The main object of LISE
    - it should contains agreements about **liability** and **digital evidences**

# Specific objective for VERIMAG

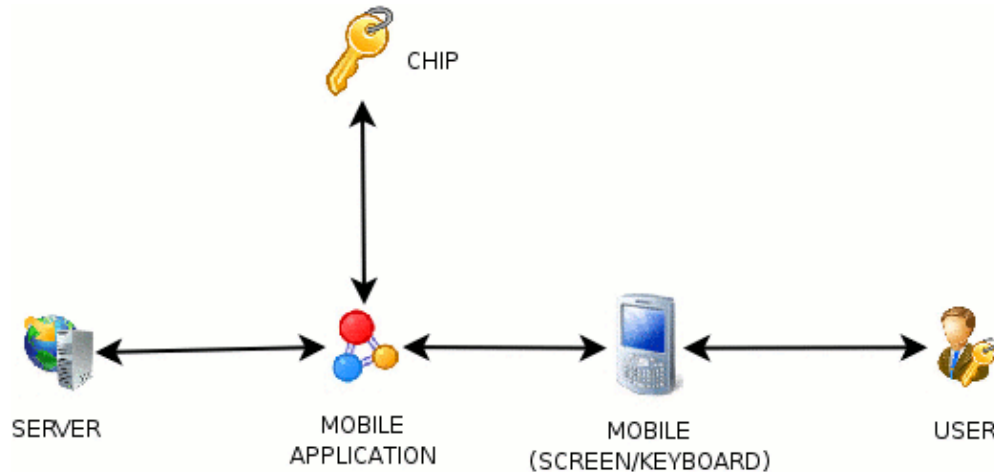
- Propose a language for formally describe the **liability** of legal parts in contracts
- Formal specification of **logs** as digital evidences
- Define a **log analyzer**, to determine the responsibility, based on the log, when an error occurs
- Approach:
  - Use of B to:
    - Define contract elements
    - Define the log analyzer
  - Creation of a tool for verification/validation of liability situations
  - The log can never be corrupted – the information registered corresponds exactly what it happened

# Approach



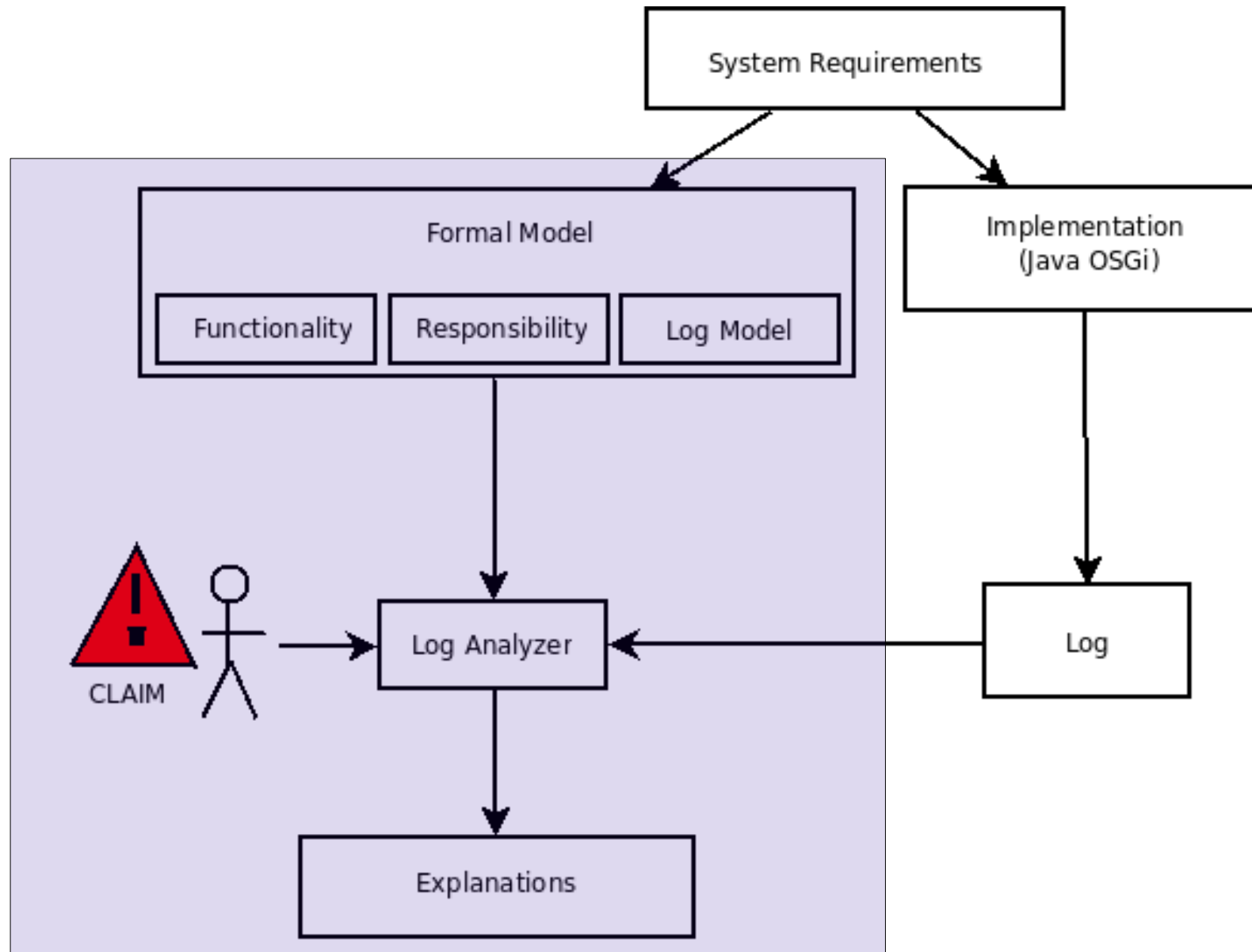
# Study case

- Signature system in mobile



- Examples of problems:
  - User alleges that he has never signed any document
  - User alleges that he has signed a document different from the one in server

# Approach (use of Event B)



# B to help define the formal model

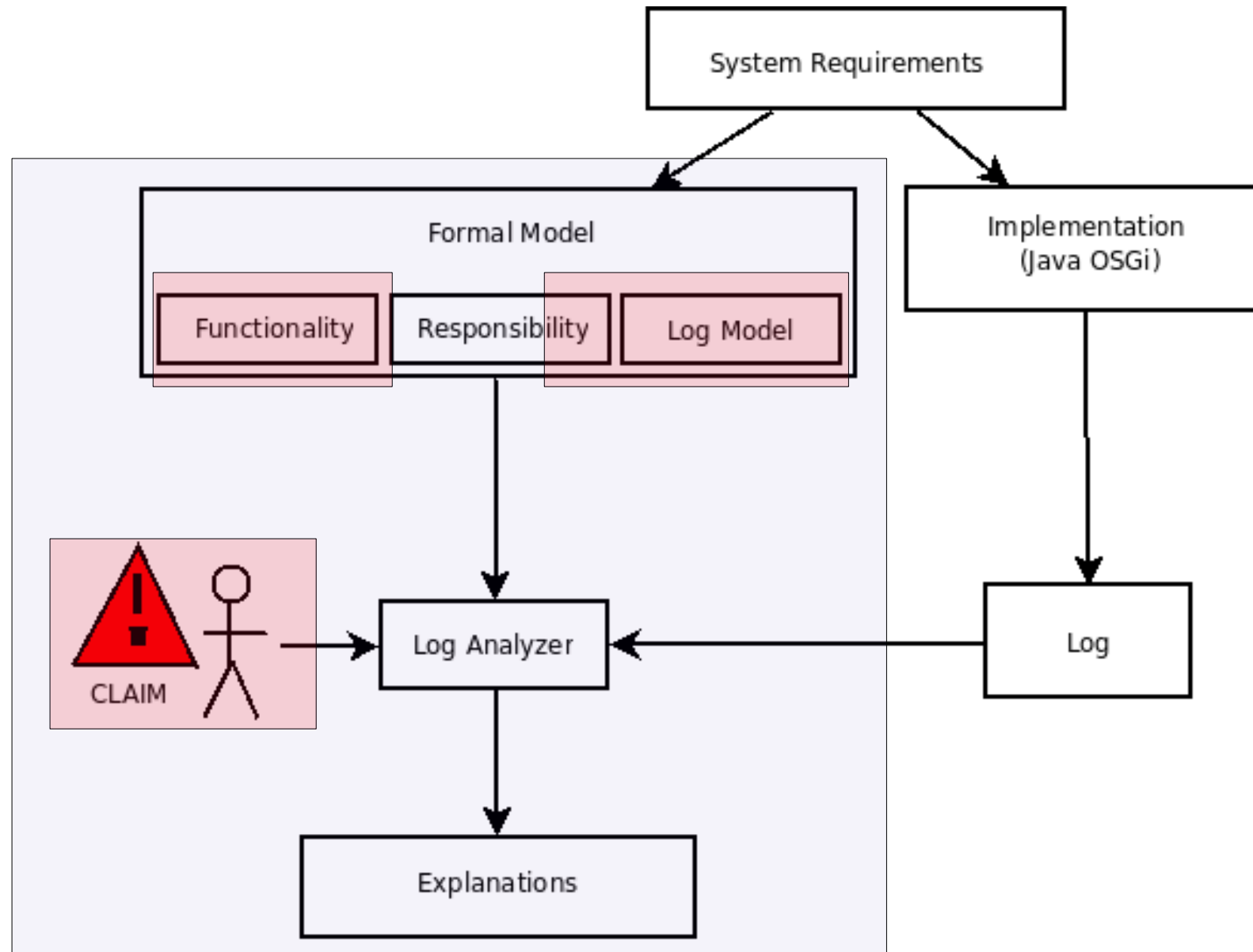
- Formal model
  - Precise log definition and correct/incorrect behavior
  - Validation by animation
- Properties verification
  - Log accuracy with behavior
  - Responsibility function “completeness”
    - Log contain the minimum information to define responsibility



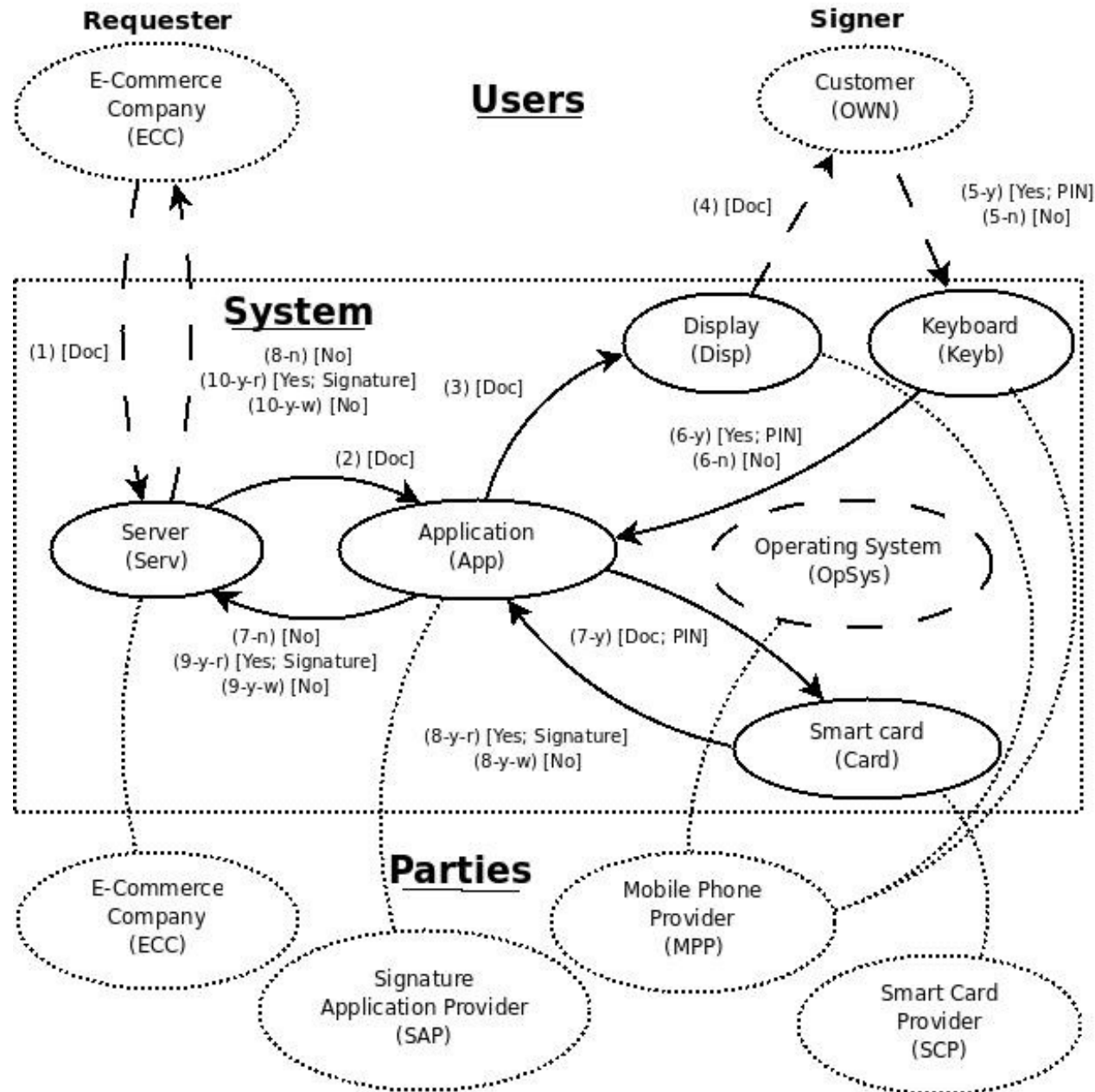
# B for specifying the log analyzer

- Log analyzer: a trusted component for legal parties
  - Formal specification
  - Proved properties
  - Take as input:
    - Claim
    - Logs
- Responsibility explanation (analyzer output)
  - Who is responsible?
  - Why is it responsible?

# Approach (today)



# Study case schema



# Entities

- Entities
  - System components (set COMP)
    - {Server, App, Card, ...}
  - Users (set USER)
    - {Costumer, ECC}
  - Legal parties (set PARTY)
    - {MPP, SAP, ...}
- Model as constants
- Liability function
  - liability:  $\text{ACTOR} \rightarrow \text{PARTY}$
  - $\text{ACTOR} = \text{COMP} \cup \text{USER}$

# Logs

- Abstract log:
  - Sequence of messages with the order that they were send/received
  - One log for each actor (ACTOR)
  - Distributed log model

$\text{alog} : \text{ACTOR} \rightarrow \text{seq}(\text{OP} \times \text{ACTOR} \times \text{ACTION} \times \text{seq}(\text{PARAMETER}))$

- $\text{OP} = \{\text{Send}, \text{Receive}\}$
- $\text{ACTION} = \{\text{SendDocument}, \dots\}$
- $\text{PARAMETER}$ : represents values transmitted

# Log Integrity Properties

- Additional information for log
  - AC: ACTOR  $\rightarrow$  ACTION
    - What are the possible actions for each actor
- Some properties that can be verified:
  - Verifying actions execution:
    - $(\text{Send}, sa, ac, pa) \in \text{alog}(ss) \Rightarrow (sa, ac) \in AC$
    - $(\text{Receive}, sa, ac, pa) \in \text{alog}(ss) \Rightarrow (ss, ac) \in AC$
  - Verifying communication errors
    - $(\text{Receive}, sa, ac, pa) \in \text{alog}(ss) \Rightarrow (\text{Send}, ss, ac, pa) \in \text{alog}(sa)$

# Log Functionality Properties

- We can define all possible logs that specify the regular system executions for each actor

Correct : (ACTOR x LOG)  $\rightarrow$  BOOL

- Function that takes as input actor and associated log and gives as output a boolean that indicates if the log belongs or not to the correct executions
- The correct behaviors are used defining the responsibility function

# Log Functionality Properties

- Regular behavior can be stated as abstract log properties
  - “Every time the user receives a document it should have later a message that says if the user sign or not the document”

$(op, ss, ShowDocument, pa) \in alog(Display)$

$\Rightarrow (op, ss, SendReponse, pa) \in alog(User)$

- “Before send the document to sign the same document should be seen by the mobile user”

$(op, ss, Sign, pa) \in alog(Card)$

$\Rightarrow (op, ss, ShowDocument, pa) \in alog(User)$



# Claims

- Basis for legal disputes
  - How can we represent them using the model and avoiding ambiguity?
  - Terminology
    - The plaintiff alleges that suffered damage because of actions (or lack of actions) by a defendant
- Claim are designed for different situations (using natural language)
  - “User complains that never signed the document” (NotSigned)  
 $\exists \text{ doc, sig (}$   
     $(\text{Receive, App, Response, [doc, sig]}) \in \text{alog(Server) } \wedge$   
     $\neg((\text{Receive, Display, Show, [doc]}) \in \text{alog(User)}$   
     $)$

# Liability

- Link between elements:
  - Log
  - Claim
  - Parties
- Written in the contract between the parts using natural language
  - Formalization using the log properties
- **IF Claim = NotSigned THEN**
  - IF NOT** Correct(App, alog(App)) **THEN**  
Resp = SAP
  - ELSE IF NOT** Correct(Card, alog(Card)) **THEN**  
Resp = SCP
  - ELSE IF NOT** Correct(Mobile, alog(Mobile)) **THEN**  
Resp = MPP

# Future work

- Animation for liability situations
- Language to express properties that are easier to write and read
  - Temporal logic elements
- Log completeness for liability verification
- Analyzer specification

# Conclusions

- How can formal methods be used in legal disputes
- Attempt to create properties that help to validate digital evidences (logs)
- What are the kind of properties that can be used for claims?