

e-Smart 

# Security-by-Contract for Open Multi-Application Smart Cards

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UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI TRENTO



**gemalto**  
security to be free

# Plan of the talk

- Motivations
- Java Card
- The Security-by-Contract solution
- Technical obstacles for prototype implementation
- The implementation highlights
- Conclusions

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# Open multi-application cards II

- One card can host multiple applications
- Applications are coming from different providers
- Applications can be installed or removed
- Applications can interact on the card to provide a given service

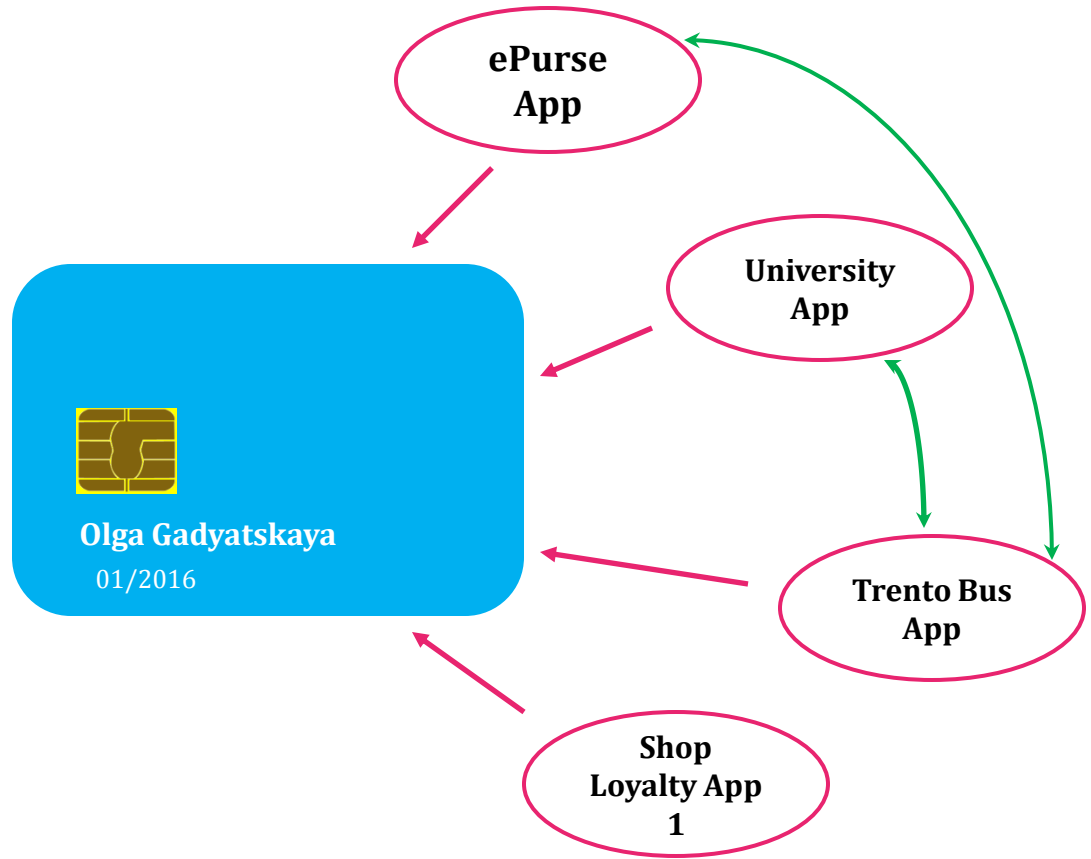
*How to ensure their interactions are authorized?*

# The challenge

## **The card has to verify that the policies of all applets are satisfied**

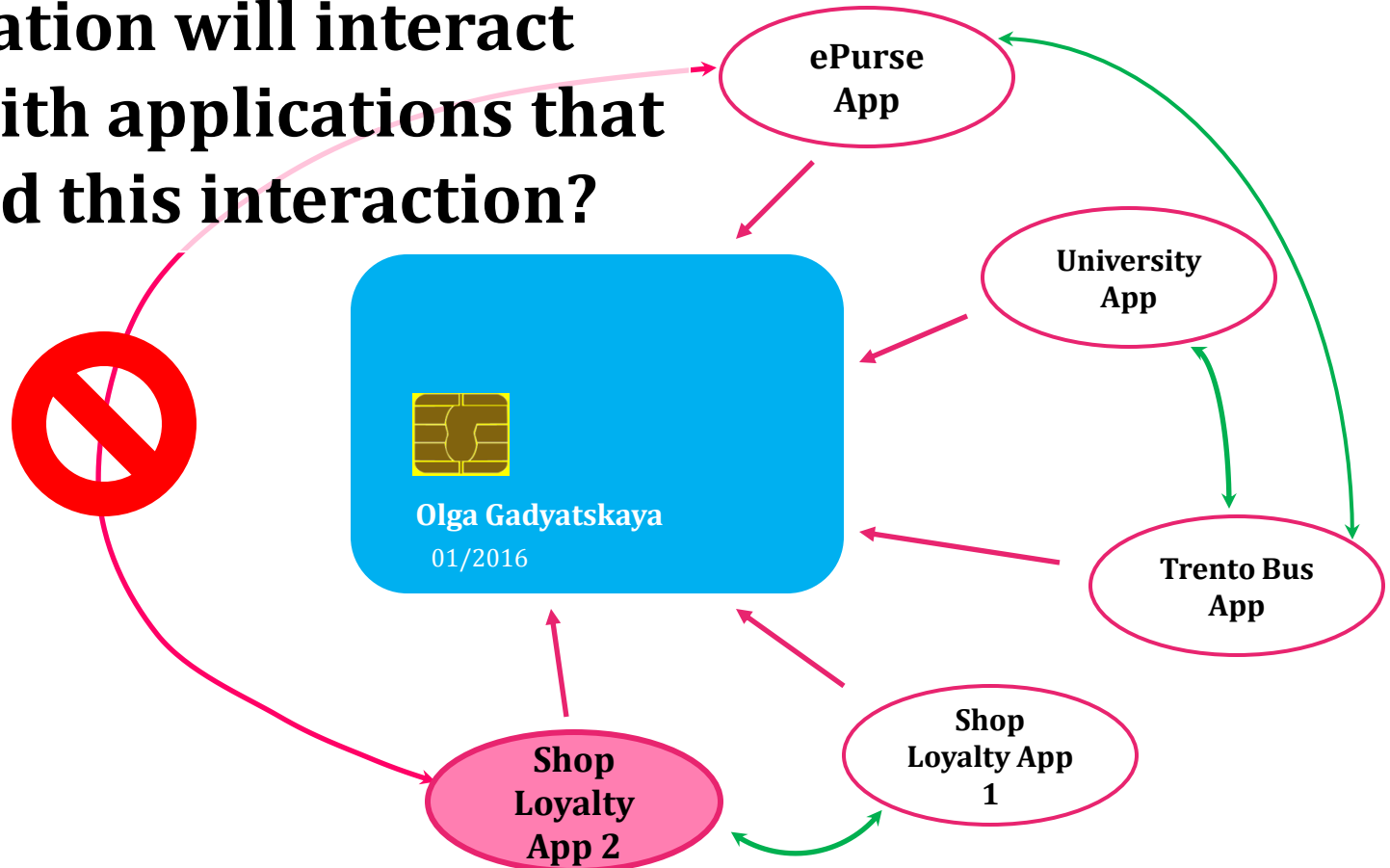
- set of applications to run on card is unknown initially
- evolution occurs unexpectedly
- each application has its own policy on interactions
- approach must work for a smart card:
  - run-time monitoring is not possible
  - algorithms have to be small and fast

# An example



# An example

How to ensure that new application will interact only with applications that allowed this interaction?

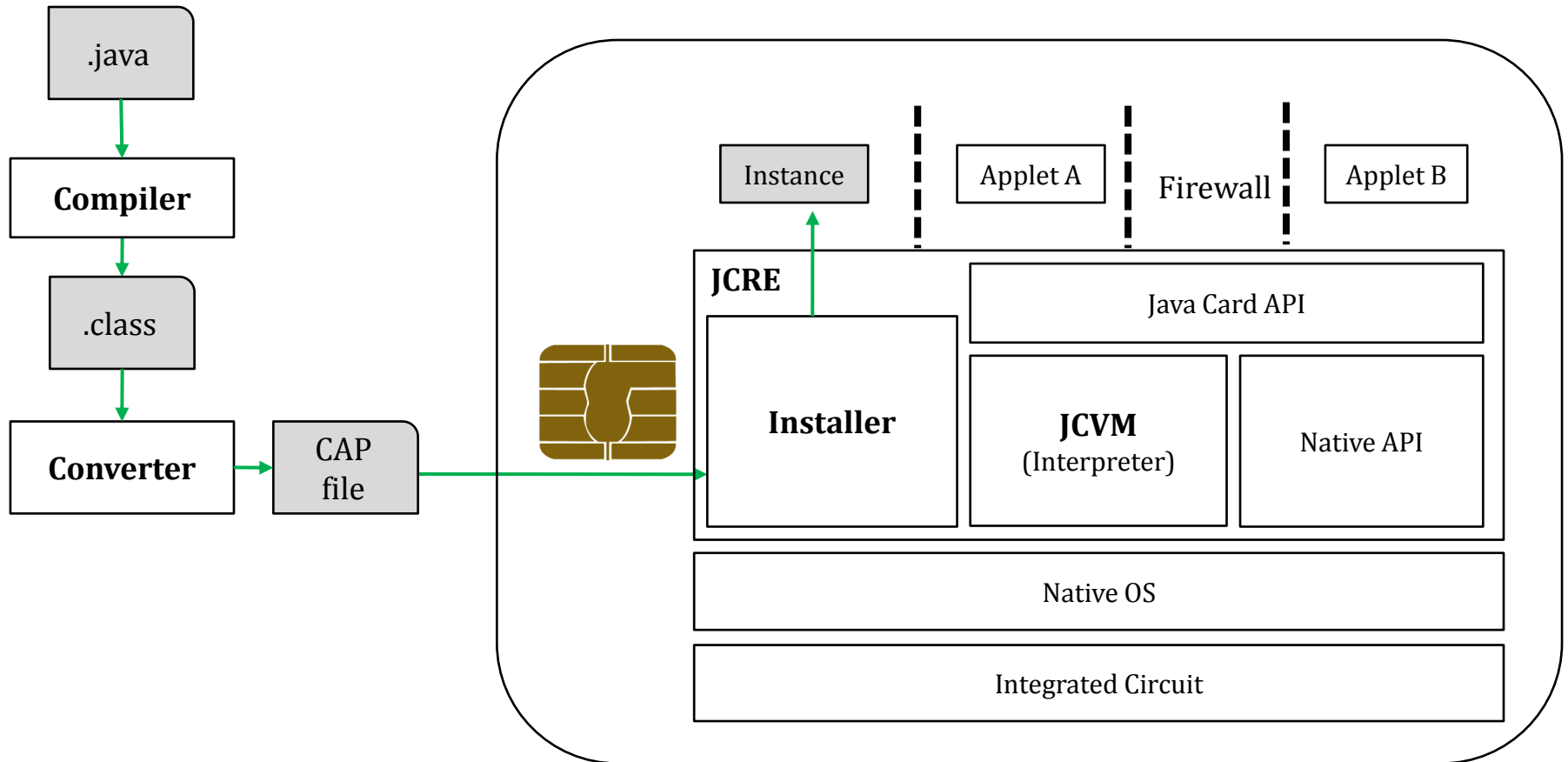




# Plan of the talk

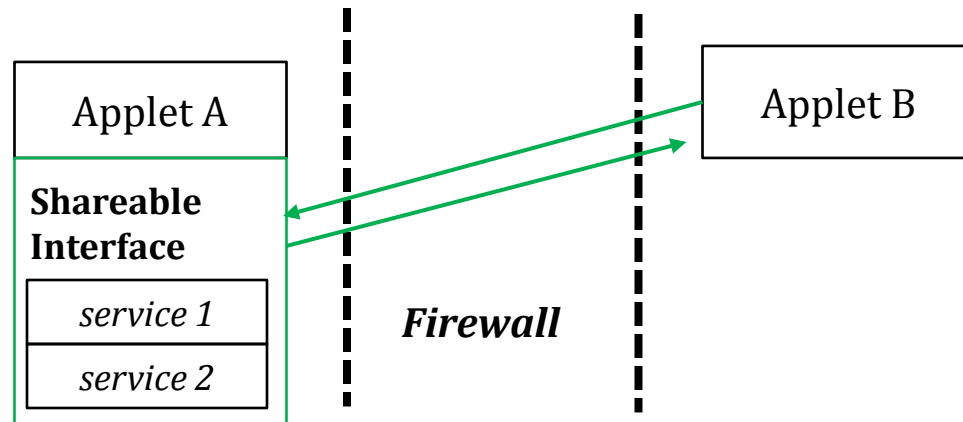
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# Loading process on Java Card 2.x.x



# Application interactions on Java Card

Run-time



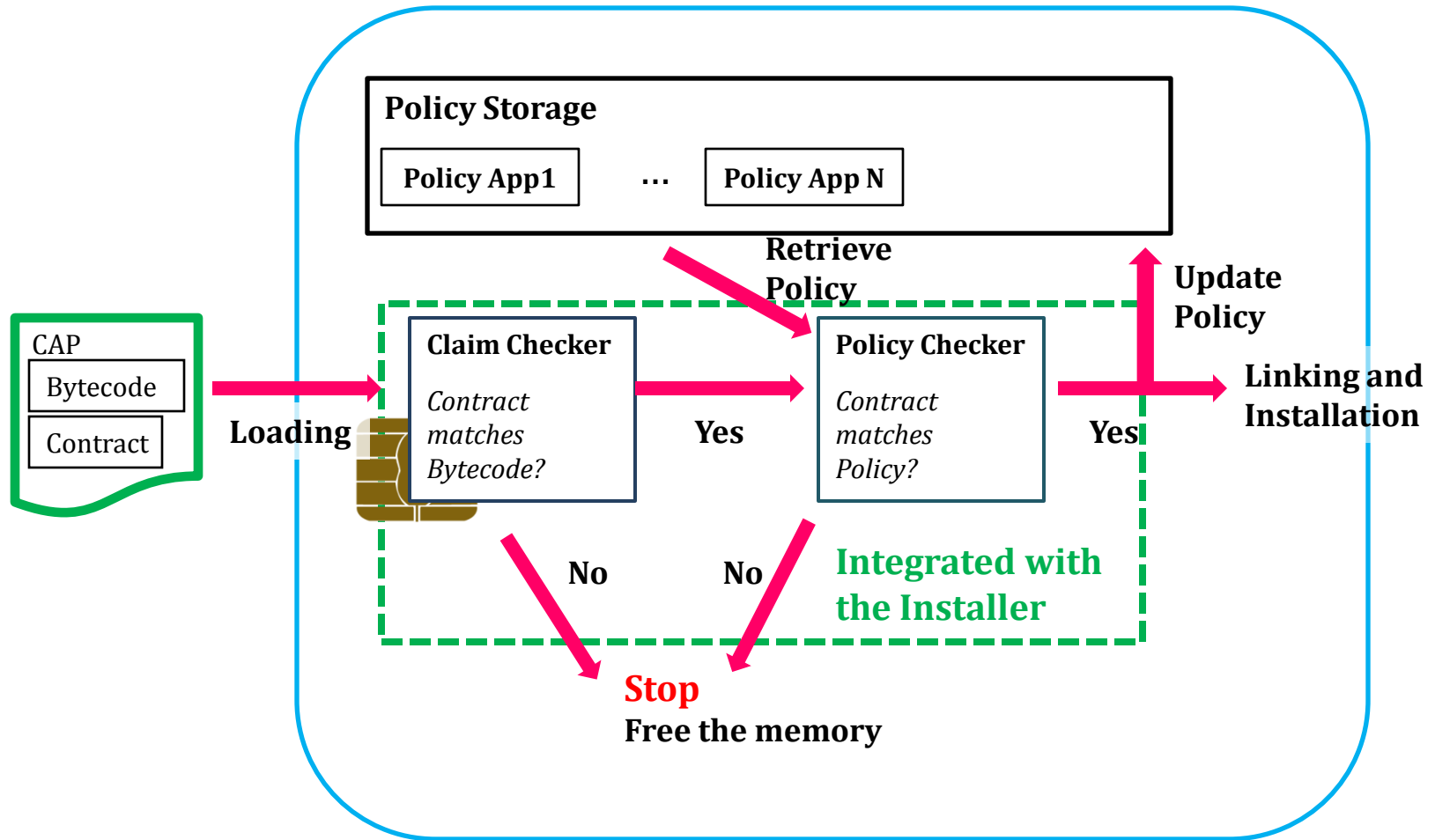
# Why the current architecture does not work?

- Once an application is installed, it can do whatever (try to call anybody)
- So the callee must check who is calling
- The execution logic of an applet is currently interleaved with the access control logic
- **This is**
  - **not flexible**
  - **error-prone**

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# The SxC Workflow



# Contracts for applet interactions

## Contract of a package

### AppClaim

#### Provided services

<Interface token, method token>

#### Called services

<Provider package AID,  
Interface token, method token>

### AppPolicy

#### Authorizations for services access

<Interface token, method token,  
Authorized package AID>

#### Functionally necessary services

<Provider package AID,  
Interface token, method token>

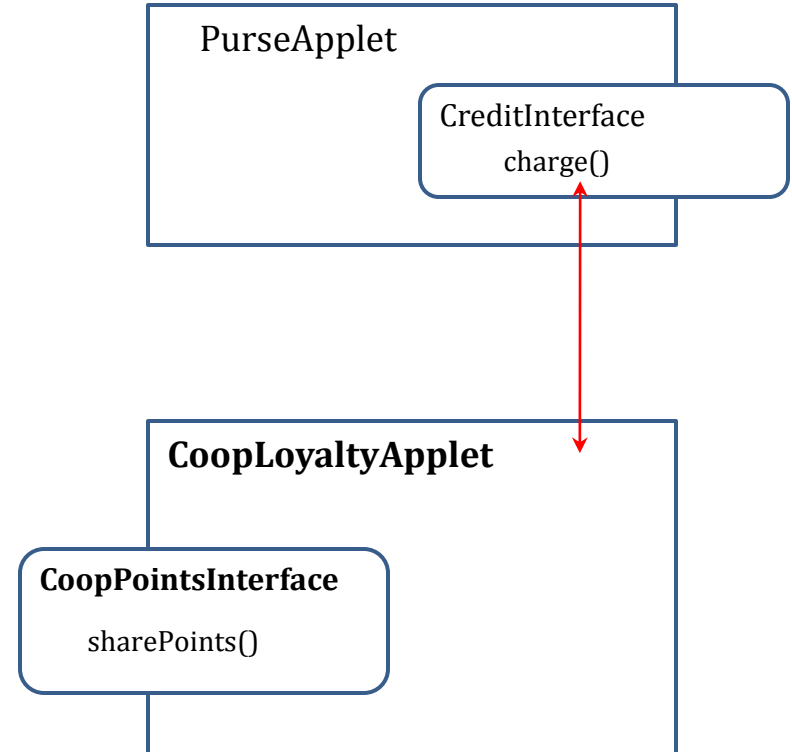
# Example of a contract

**A simple applet:** 1 provided service, which can be used by 1 applet; 1 called service

Contract of **CoopLoyaltyApplet**:

```
{ 0x0, 0x1, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x1,  
  0x0, 0x0, 0x6, 0x1, 0x2, 0x3, 0x4,  
  0x5, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x01, 0x8,  
  0x1, 0x2, 0x3, 0x4, 0x5, 0x6, 0x7,  
  0x0, 0x0, 0x1, 0x0, 0x0 }
```

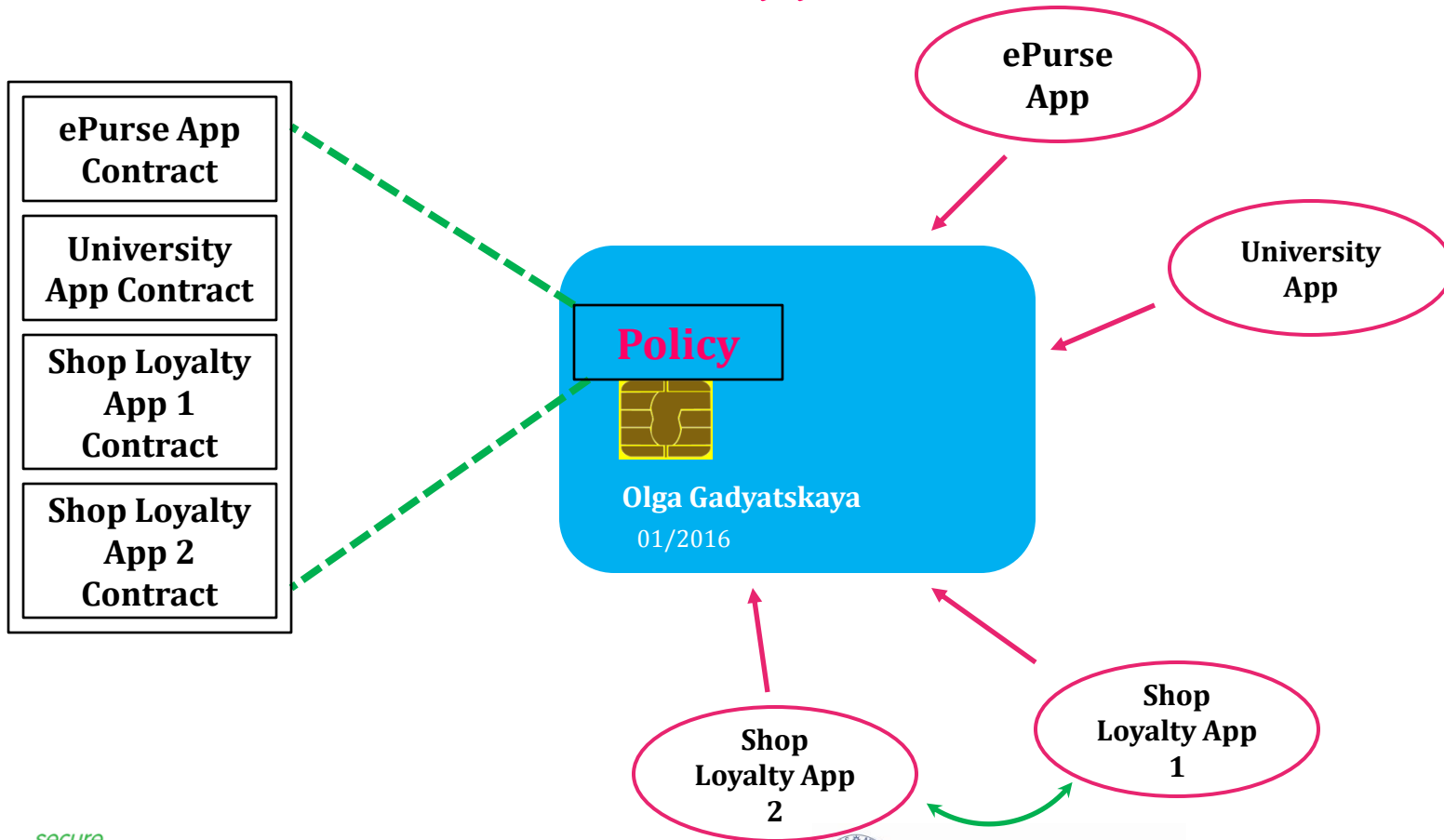
Totally **31 byte**





# Security policy of the card

*Collection of all loaded applets' contracts*



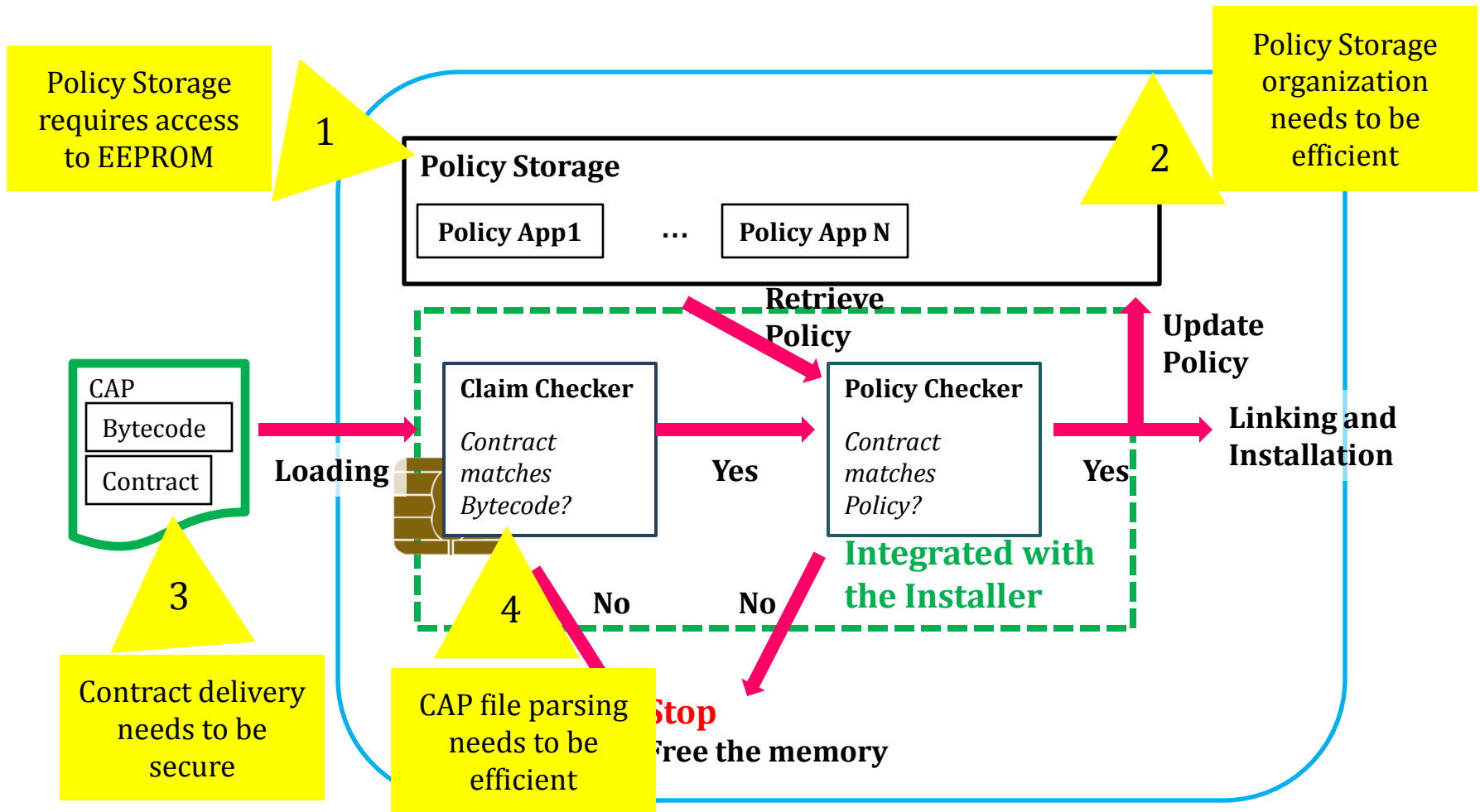
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# Implementation of the SxC framework

- We experimented the SxC approach by implementing the framework as a proof-of-concept prototype that could be integrated with an industrial card
- The requirements for the prototype:
  - The framework needs to be written in C
  - Full memory footprint of the SxC prototype occupies up to 30 KB

# Technical obstacles we have faced



# Obstacle 1: EEPROM for the Policy storage

- Only modifiable persistent memory can be used to store the policy after each evolution
- Only applet instances are entitled an access to the EEPROM
- The Claim Checker and the Policy Checker are implemented in C

## Solution:

- We implemented the Policy storage as the **Policy Applet**.
- The communication between the Policy Applet and the C components is implemented through the APDU buffer (a temporary solution)

# Obstacle 2: Policy storage optimization

- AIDs are space-consuming objects
- The algorithms need to be fast

## Solution:

- We organized the Policy storage efficiently using a fixed Policy structure and bit-vectors

# Security Policy on the card

We assume 4 loaded applets, 8 services each

## Policy on the card

Small size and  
(frequent)  
efficient  
operations

### Policy (fixed size)

All loaded contracts in an  
internal bit-arrays format

### MayCall

Possible future  
authorizations for applets  
not yet on the card

Big size and  
(rare) slow  
operations

Big size and  
(rare) slow  
operations

### Mapping

Maintains correspondence  
between on-card ID and  
AIDs

### WishList

Called services from  
applets not yet on the card

# Obstacle 3: contract delivery

- Contracts need to be embedded in CAP files

## Solution:

- We embed contracts into Custom components
- Alternative solution would be to use the Static Field component



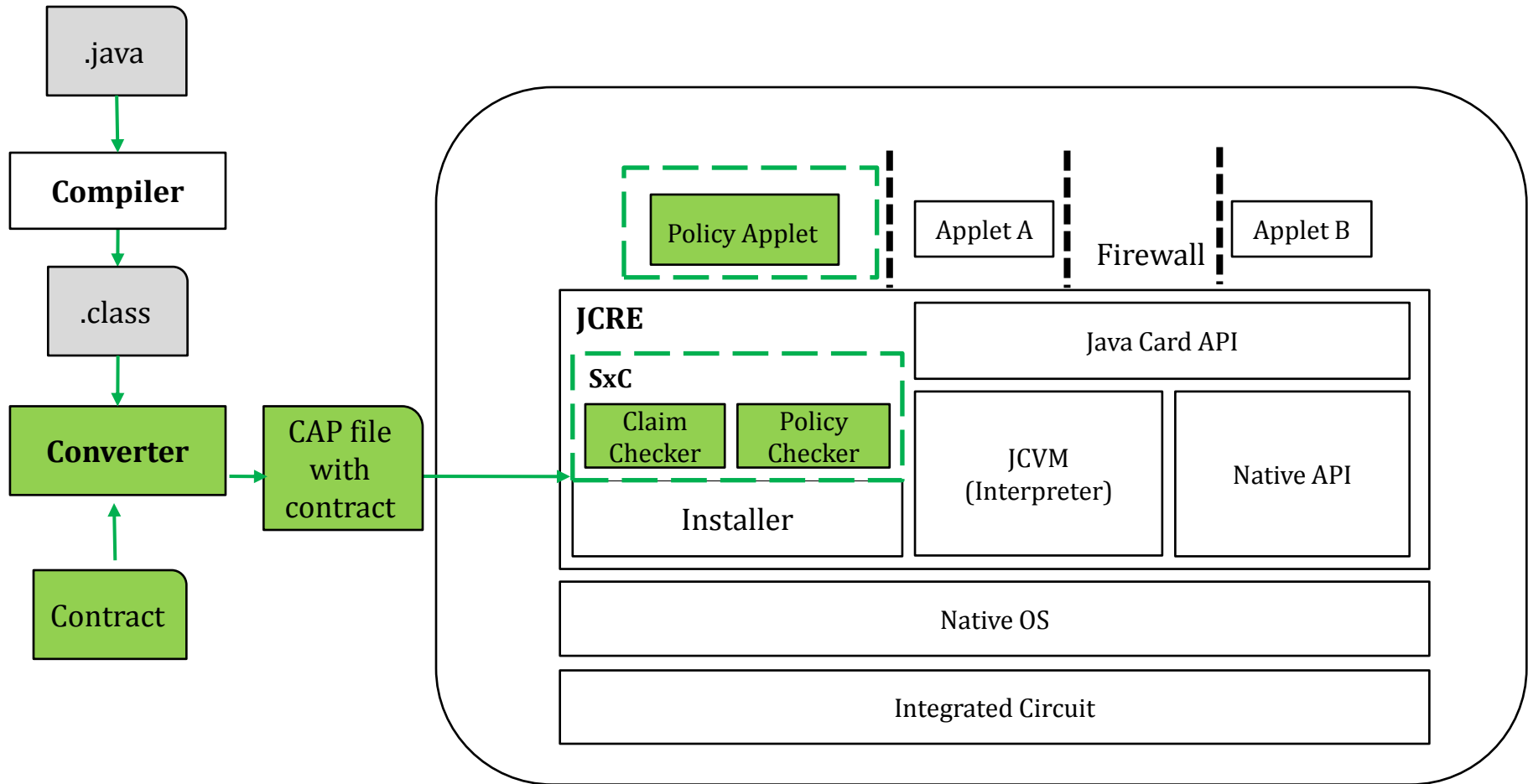
# Obstacle 4: CAP file parsing efficiency

- Preferably each component should be parsed only once
- RAM usage optimization is necessary

## Solution:

- We use specific 255 bytes temporary buffer for storing the computation data

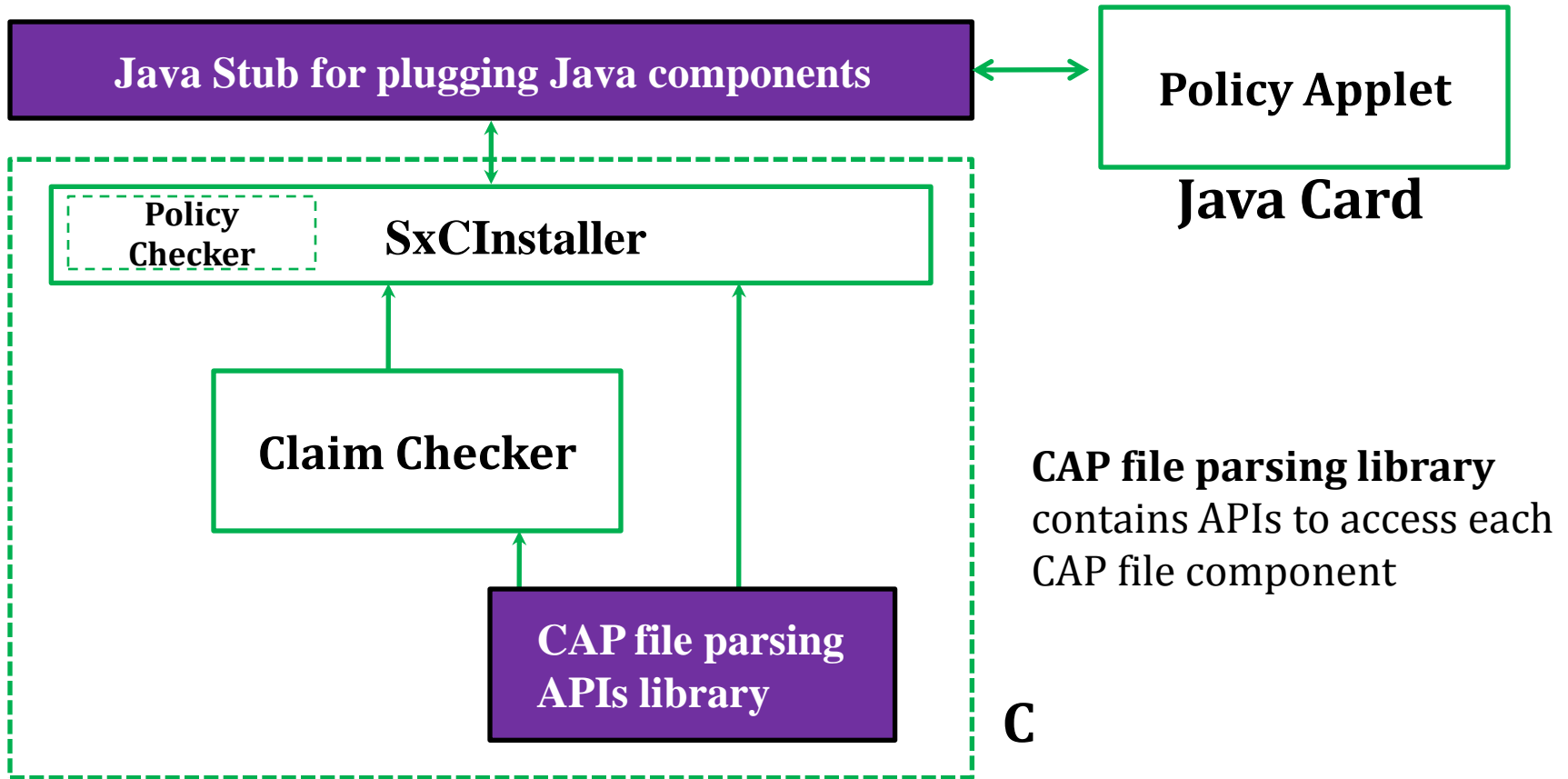
# The SxC architecture for loading



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# The SxC prototype architecture implemented on a PC simulator



# Memory footprint of the prototype

Component	Memory (bytes)		LOCs
SxCInstaller	6754 B	Object files	152
Claim Checker	6522 B		162
Policy Applet	2282 B	Occupied EEPROM	101

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# Industry-Academia validation

Or *How to validate the framework while protecting the smart card platform APIs*

- The prototype relies on the CAP file parsing library
- Thorough industrial testing with actual CAP file parsing APIs is being done

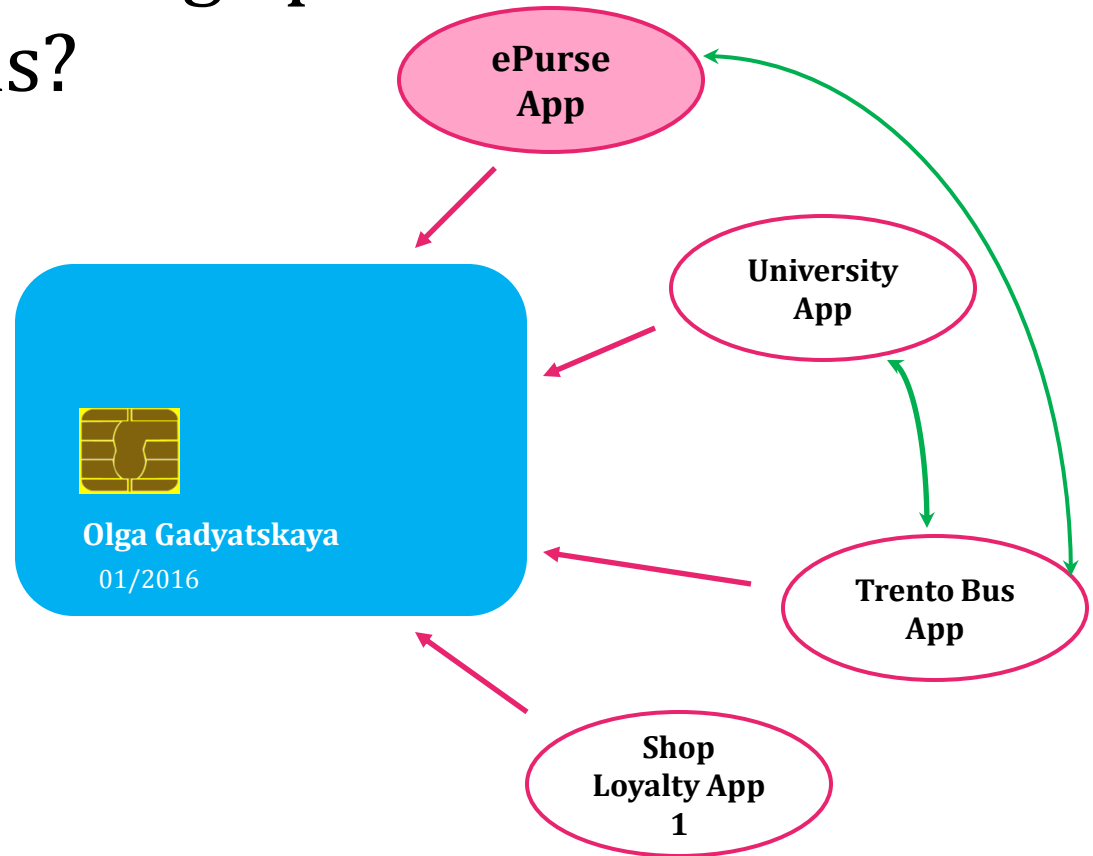
# Future work

How the card can manage possible conflicts among applications?

What if ePurse App wants to be removed and Trento Bus App relies on it?

**Alternatives:**

- ePurse is forced to stay
- Trento Bus is disabled





# Thank You!

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[www.securechange.eu](http://www.securechange.eu)