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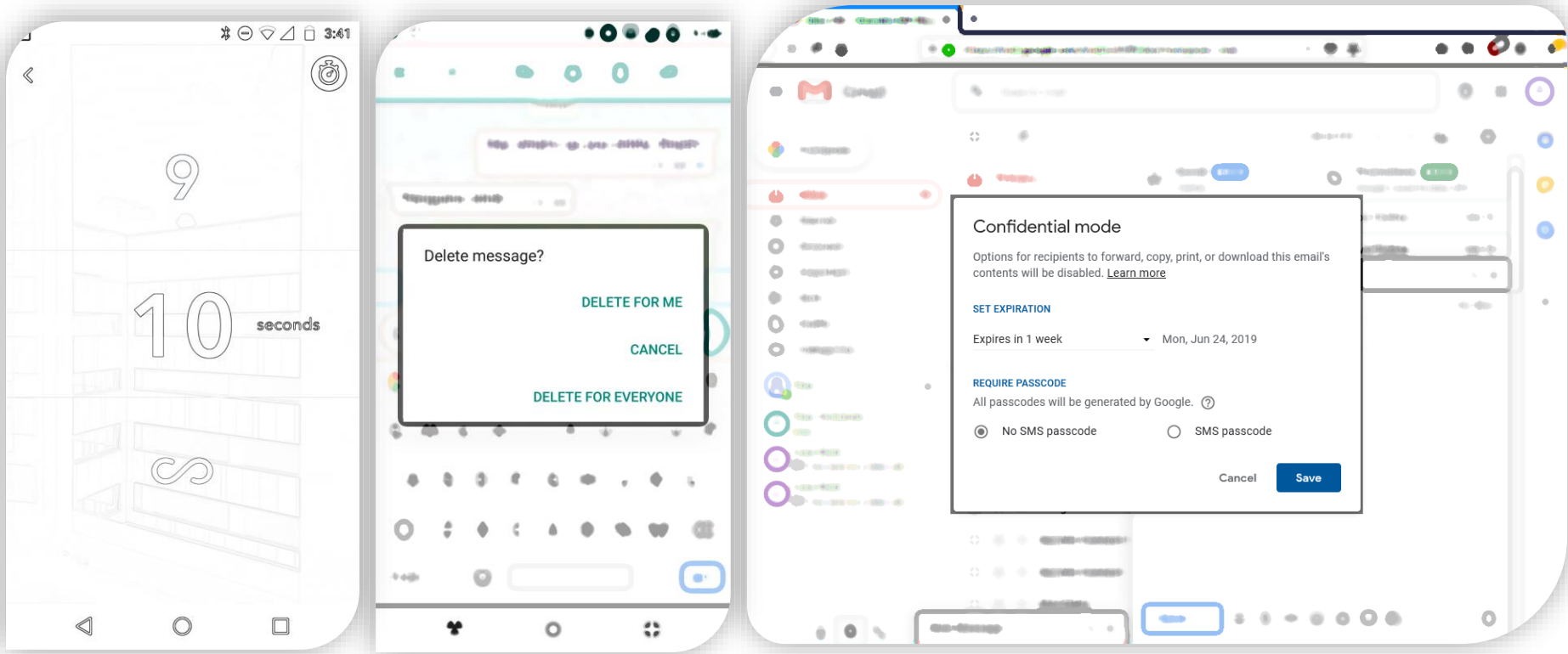
## TOWARDS CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS FOR REVOCATION OF ONLINE DATA

IFIP SEC 2019, Lisbon, Portugal, 25 June 2019

Theodor Schnitzler, Markus Dürmuth  
Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Christina Pöpper  
New York University Abu Dhabi

# DATA REVOCATION APPLICATIONS



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# DATA REVOCATION RESEARCH

## Encrypted Publishing

- Encrypt data symmetrically
- Publish ciphertext and key retrieval information



## Cumbersome Data Access

- Extract and retrieve key information
- Decrypt data

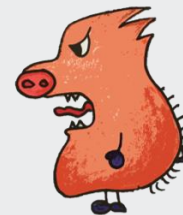


## Key Storage Infrastructures

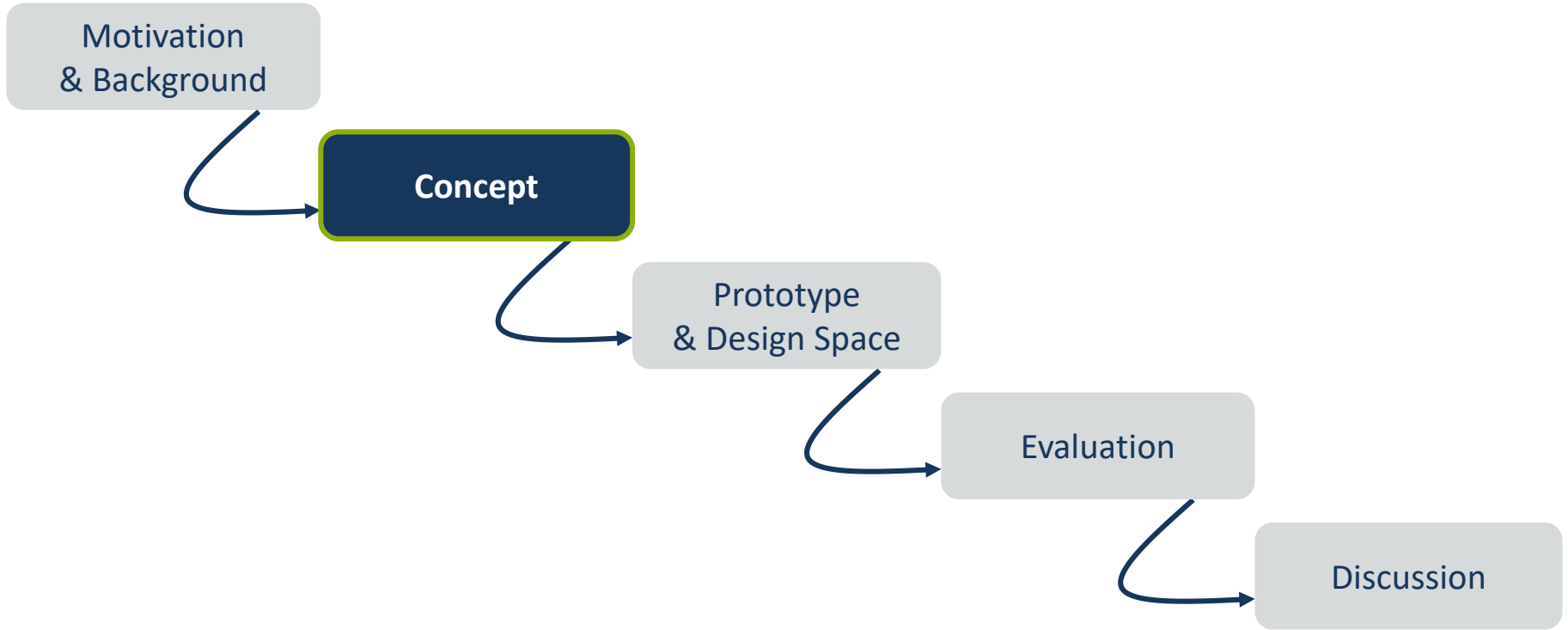
- Centralized servers that only return keys under specific circumstances
- Distribute key in publicly accessible ever-changing infrastructure (e.g. DHT, DNS)

## Possible Attacks

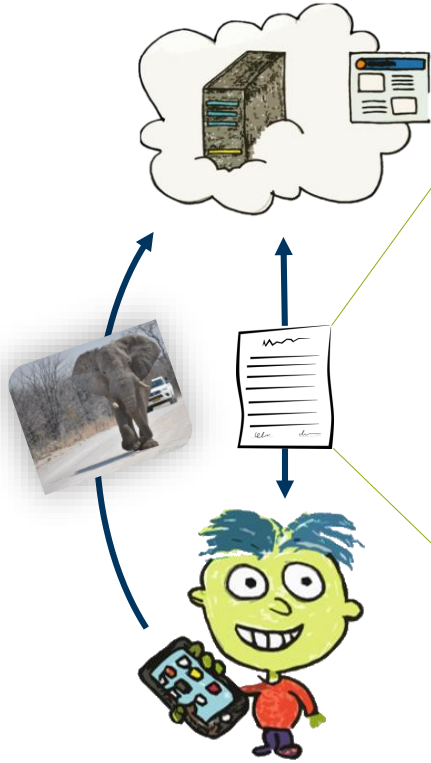
- Store / copy data when decrypted
- Proactively collect decryption keys



# OUTLINE



# OVERVIEW

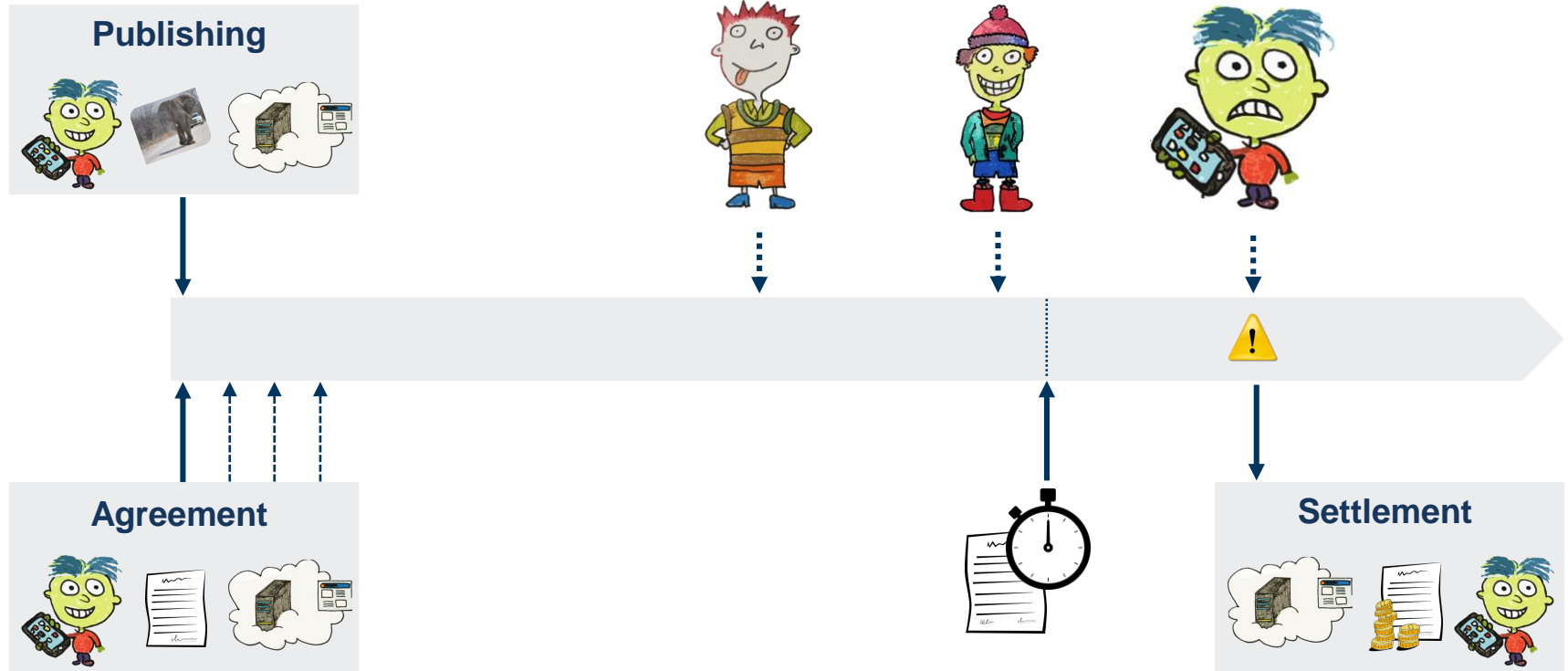


## A G R E E M E N T

**Provider P** will take appropriate measures that the **data d** of **User U** will become unavailable by **time t** or **event e**. Failure to adhere will be subject to **penalty p**.



# TIMELINE



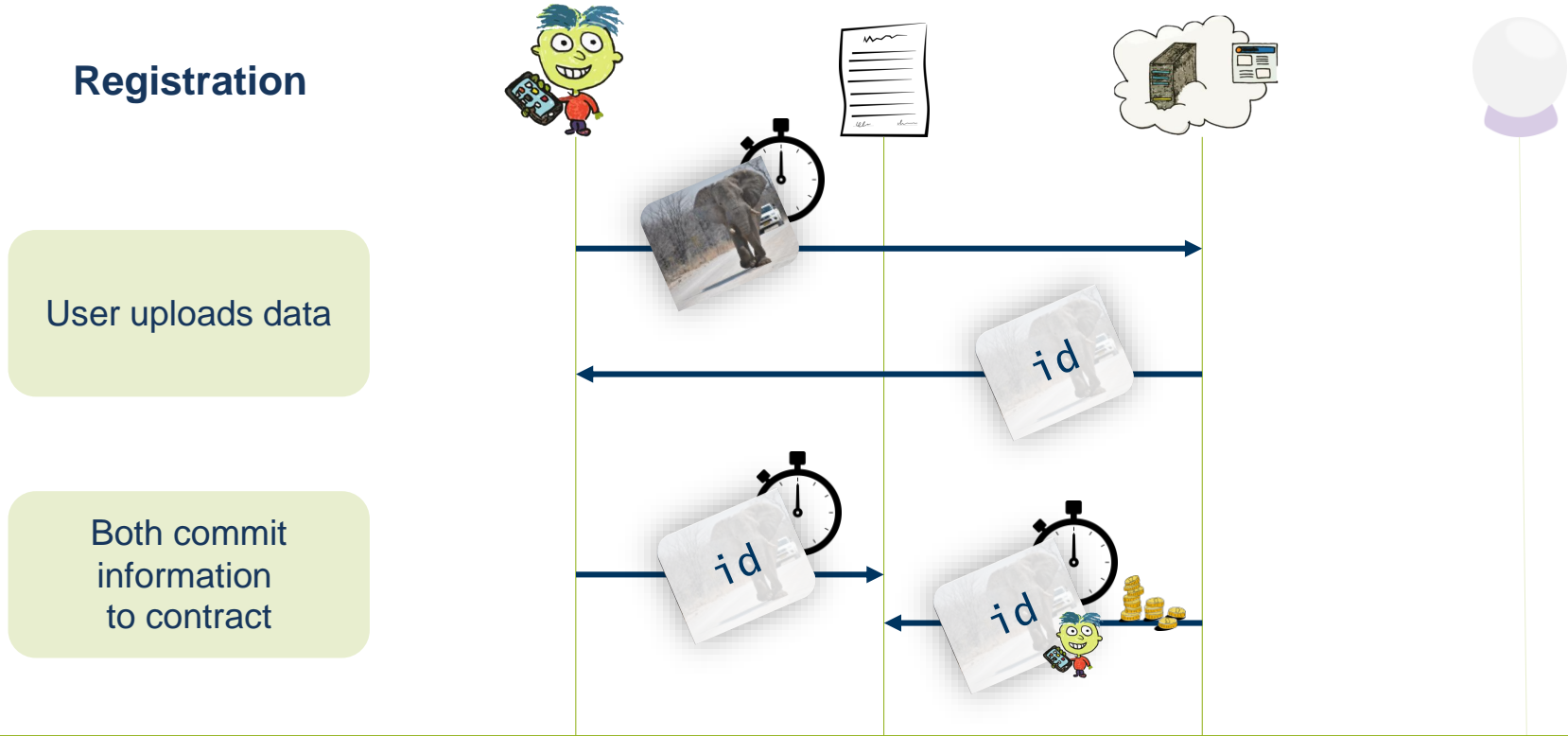
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# SMART CONTRACTS

## Registration



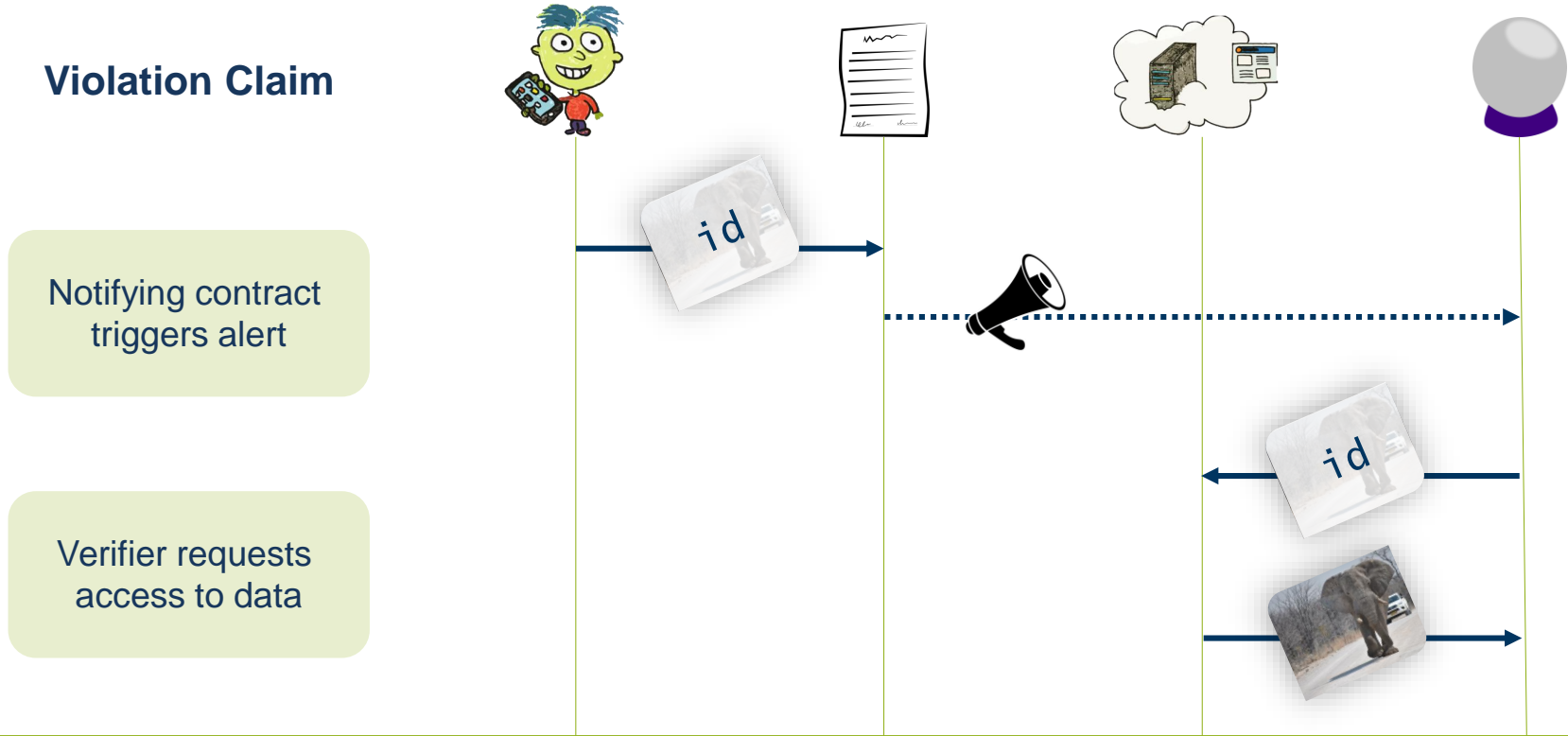
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# SMART CONTRACTS

## Violation Claim



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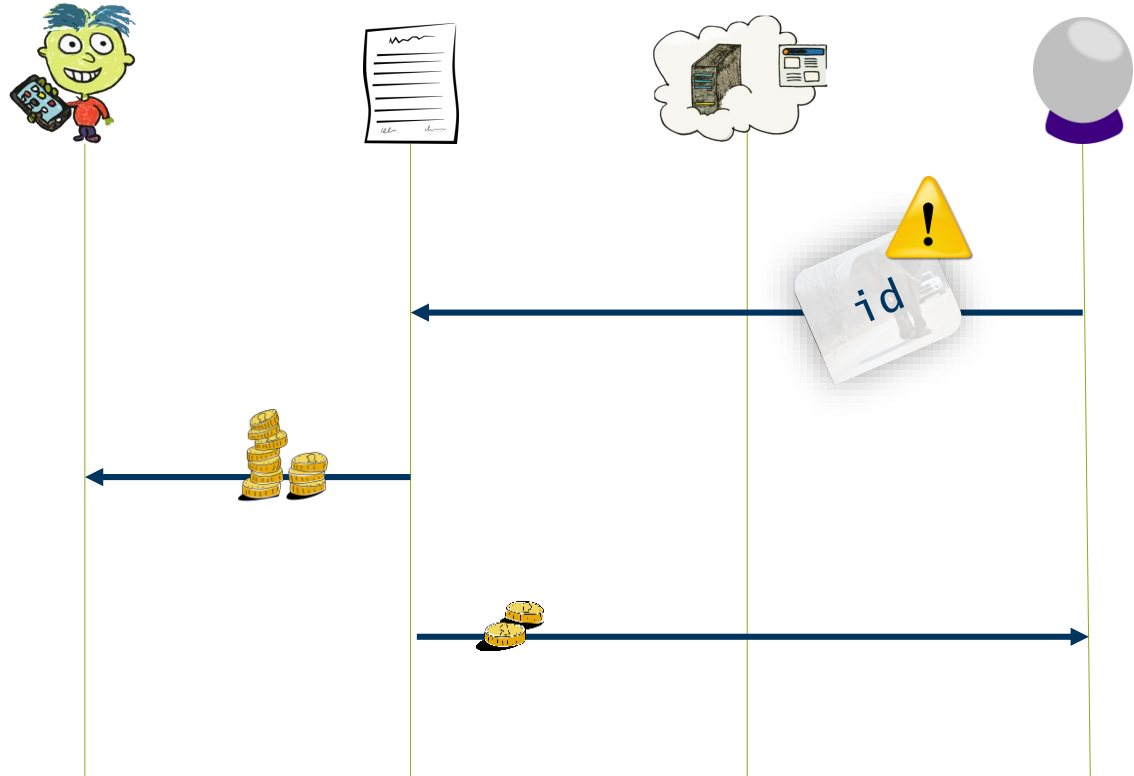


# SMART CONTRACTS

## Settlement

Verifier reports violation

Penalty payout



# ADVANTAGES

## Retroactive Application



- No need to determine conditions in advance
- Set-up agreement even after data publishing

## Flexible Expiration



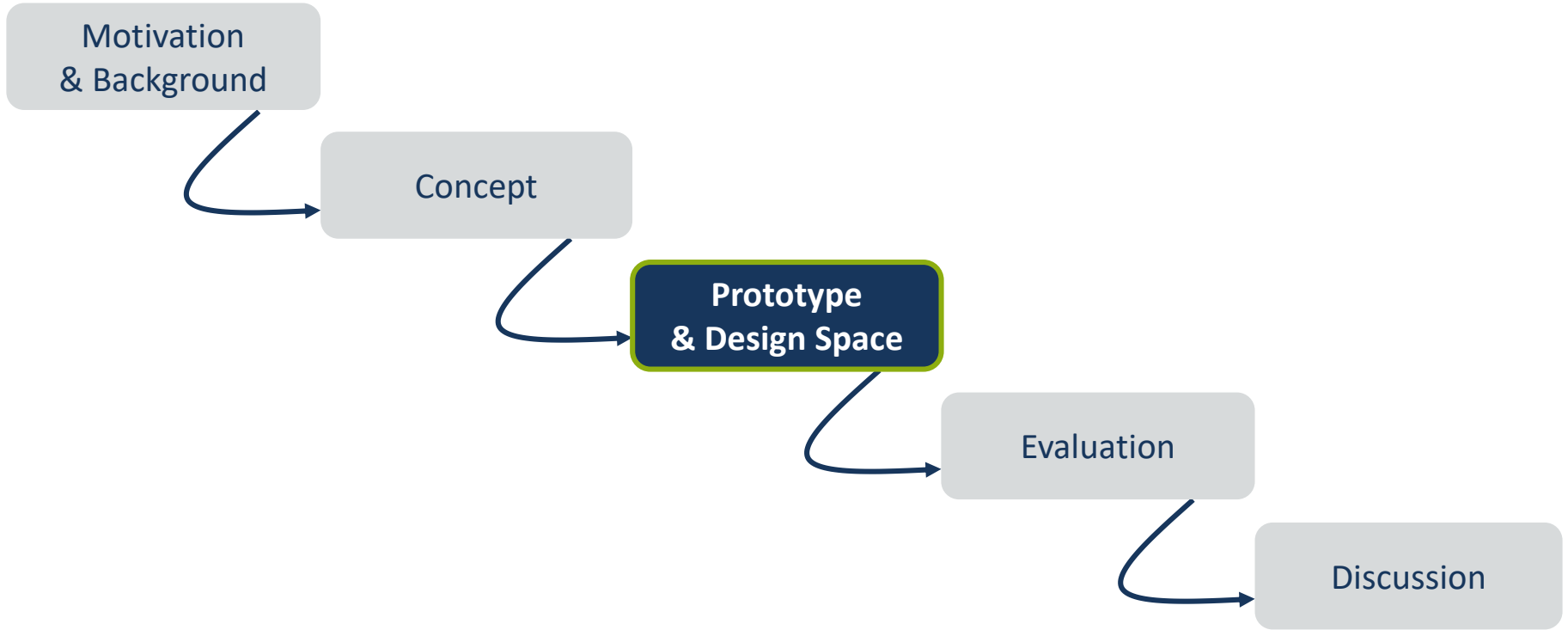
- Extending lifetime could be easily achieved
- Reducing lifetime should take into account provider's needs

## Convenient Data Access



- No additional tools or measures required
- Regular users are kept away from the process

# OUTLINE



# PROTOTYPE

## Overview

- Local Ethereum instance
- Accounts for participants
- Example Contract

## Contract Features

- Time-based expiration
- Provider-defined IDs

## What we did NOT do

- Integrate real data feed

## Participants



## Interfaces

Add Item

Verify  
Access

Claim  
Penalty

Confirm  
Item

Item Found



```
function addItem(  
  uint256 id,  
  uint256 tLeft) public{  
  ...  
}
```

# PROTOTYPE

## Contract Properties



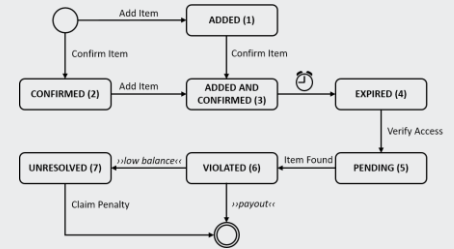
- Provider Address
- Data Feed Address
- Data Item Set
- Compensation Amount
- Financial Threshold

## Data Item Properties



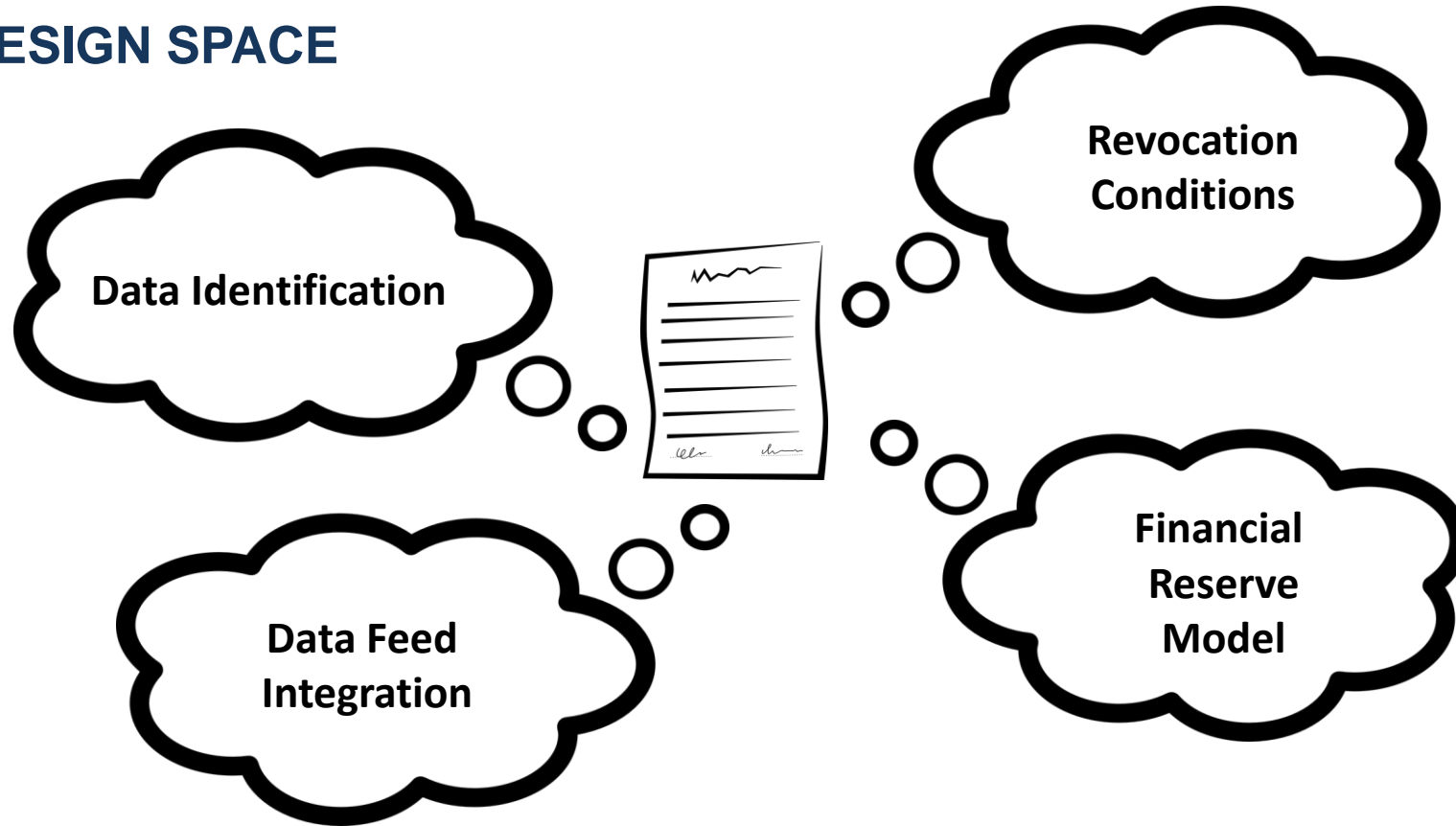
- Owner Address
- Expiration Time
- **Item State**

## Data Item States



- Created
- Expired
- Violated
- ...

# DESIGN SPACE



# DESIGN SPACE: DATA IDENTIFICATION

## Provider-defined identifiers

- `network.io/my-content-id`
- Contract bound to one specific location

## Robust hashes

- Use data to generate identifiers
- Tolerate minor data modifications
- Different data result in the same hash

## Provider Accountability

- Unclear, to what extent a provider can be held accountable for
- Malicious users re-upload data
- Multiple copies of the data on the same platform
- Data copied to different platform



# DESIGN SPACE: DATA FEEDS

## Challenges

- Incorporating real-world into cryptocurrency
- Miners do not access external resources
- Additional Third Contract Party

## Requirements

- Correctness
- Time-boundness

## Trusted Execution Environments

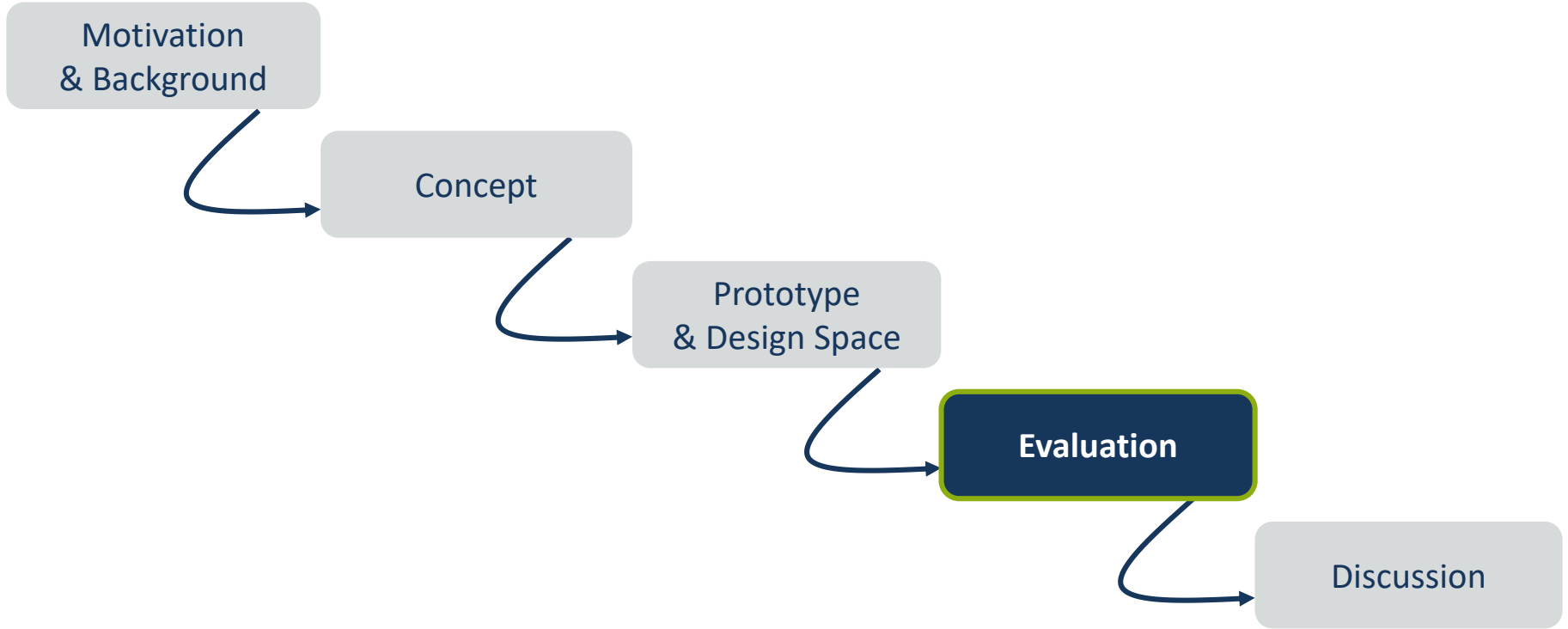
- Cryptographic attestations
- Retrieve and process data in secure enclave

## Crowd-sourcing

- Multiple individual data feeds
- Aggregate results from distributed responses
- Majority Voting



# OUTLINE



# EVALUATION: 101

## Transaction processing consumes gas

- Depends on computational complexity
- Well-defined for each EVM instruction
- Reward for miners

## Gas price

- Paid in ETH by transaction sender
- Subject to „negotiations“ between sender and miner
- Miners declare their lower bound
- Minimum:  $1.0 \times 10^{-9}$  ETH (= 1 GWei)

Opcode	Name	Gas
0x00	STOP	0
0x01	ADD	3
0x02	MUL	5
0x03	SUB	3
0x04	DIV	5



# EVALUATION: EXECUTION COST

Service	Gas	USD	Actor
Add Item	82.4k	\$0.0205	User
Confirm Item	35.1k	\$0.0087	Provider
Verify Access	28.6k	\$0.0073	User
Item Found	22.1k	\$0.0055	Data Feed
Claim Penalty	21.9k	\$0.0055	User

## Publishing one data item costs ~ 3 cents

- (if everyone complies with the contract)
- ~ 2 cents for users
- other cost only incur in case of violation
- negligible compared to compensation

## Exchange Rates (June 2019)

- $10^{-9}$  ETH per Gas Unit
- \$250.00 per ETH

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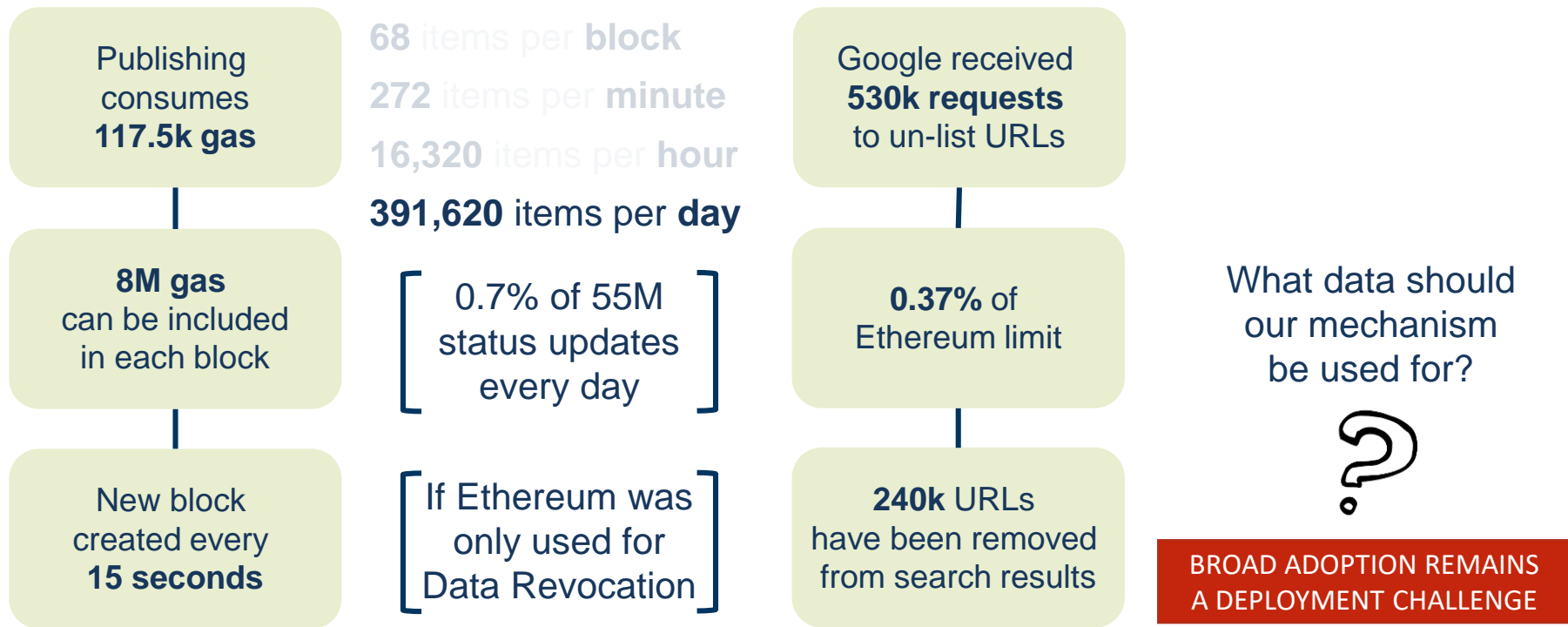
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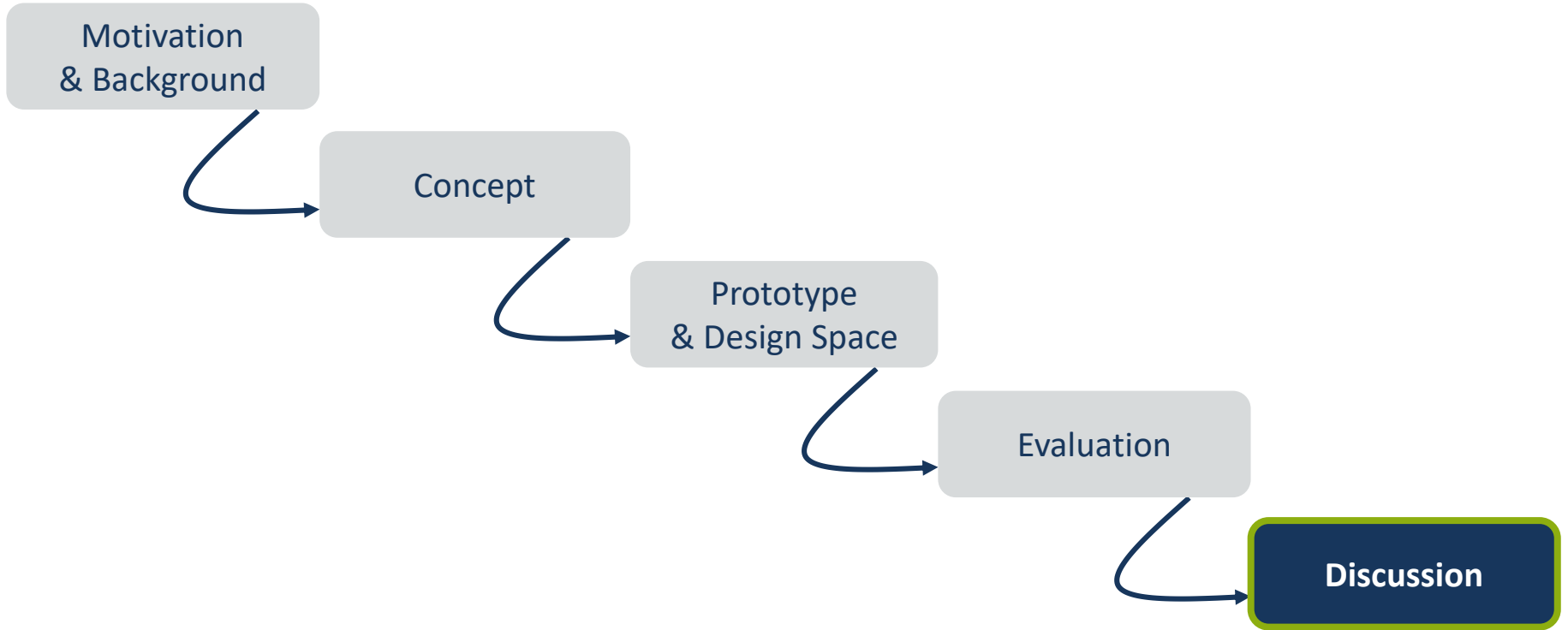
## Settlement costs another ~ 1.8 cents

- only in exceptional cases

# EVALUATION: SCALABILITY



# OUTLINE



# DISCUSSION

## Metadata Privacy



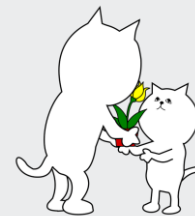
- Public database of privacy-sensitive data?
- Privacy preferences of individual users?

## Provider Participation



- Willingness to participate required
- Privacy transparency as a selling point

## Trust Requirements



- Reduce trust in provider by applying penalties
- Data feeds may still require some trust

# TAKEAWAY

## Revocation Contract



- Extend/Shift Responsibility
- Account Providers
- Concept inspired from Right to be Forgotten

## Advantages



- Retroactive Application
- Flexible Expiration
- Convenient Data Access

## From Theory to Practice



- Adoption Barriers
- Deployment Issues
- User Acceptance?



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Illustrations: Katharina Kohls

