

Attachments

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What is an Attachment?

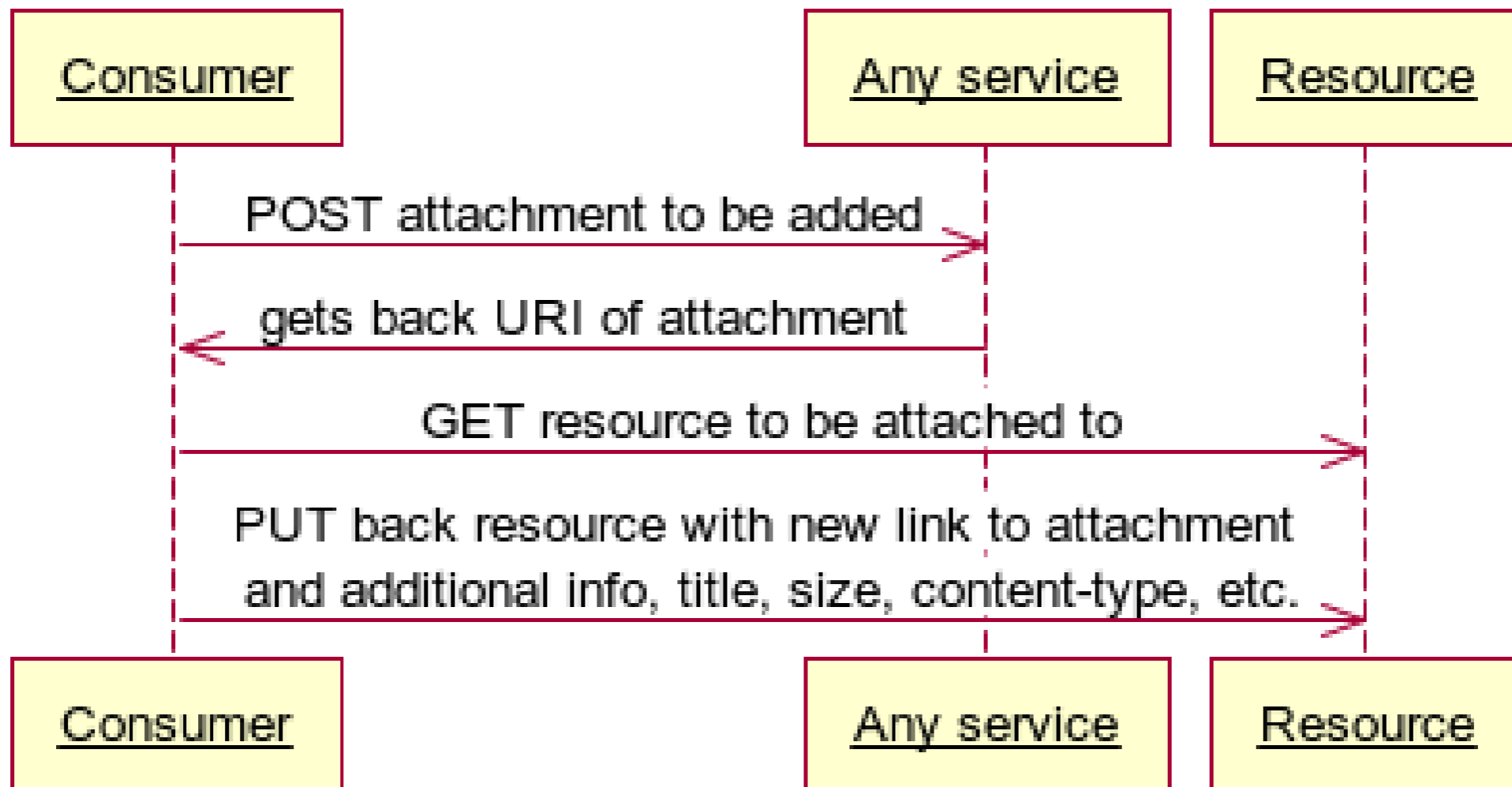
- A resource that is attached to another resource to add information but that is not really needed for any other purpose.
- For example:
 - A screen-shot attached to a Change Request
 - A presentation file attached to a Requirement

How should attachments work?

- Attachment should be created via POST
- Attachment should have URI
- Resource should have links to its attachments
- Resource representation should include summary information about those attachments, e.g. title, size, content-type

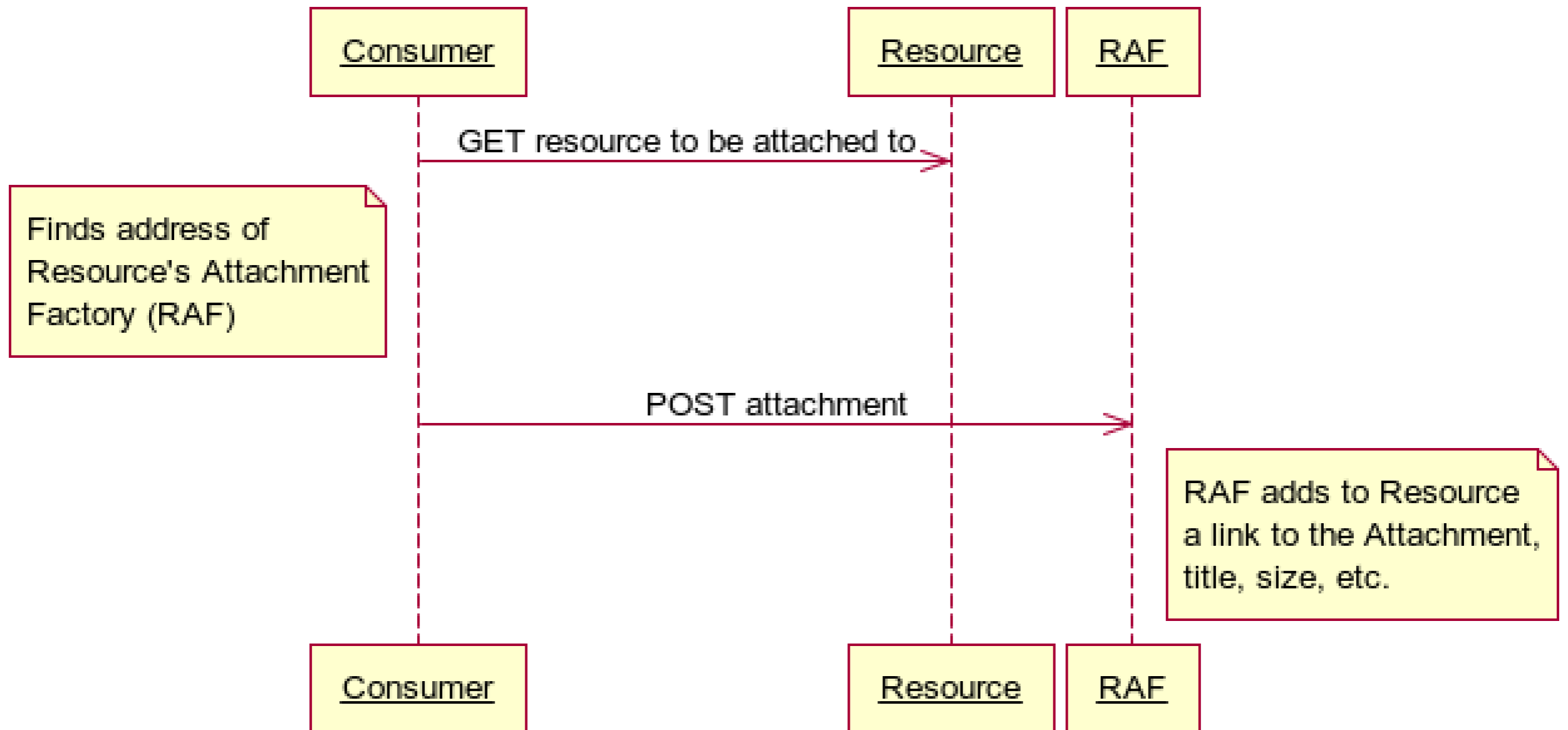
Attachments approach #1

Consumer posts attachment and is responsible for adding link to and information about the attachment to resource



Attachments approach #2

Resource Attachment Factory stores attachment, adds link, etc.



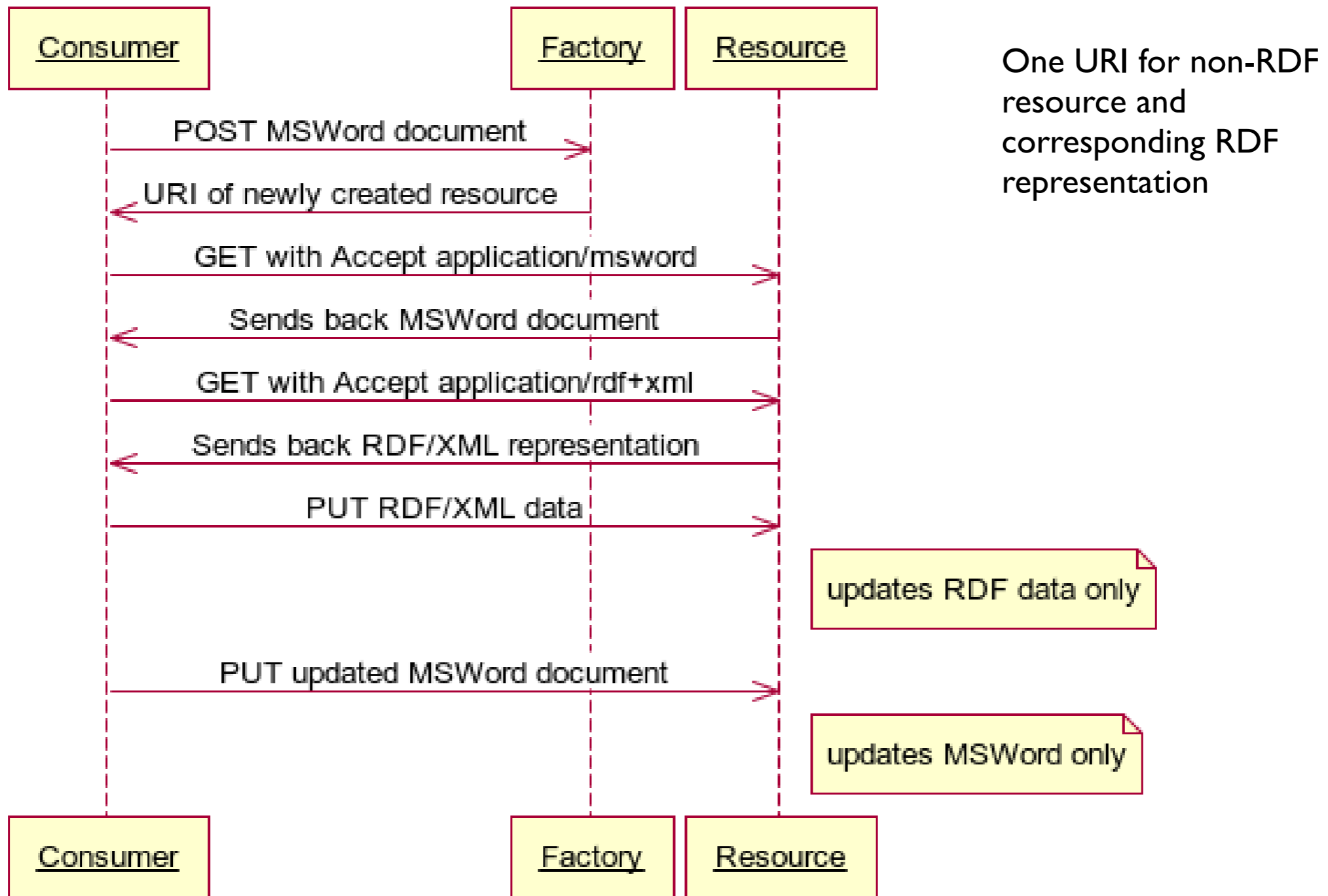
Attachment approaches: pros and cons

- Approach #1
 - Pros: simple application of existing specifications HTML and RDF, so no new specifications work is needed
 - Cons: makes consumer do all the work and trusts consumer get information right
- Approach #2
 - Pros: makes things easy for the consumer
 - Cons: requires additional specification, properties, etc.

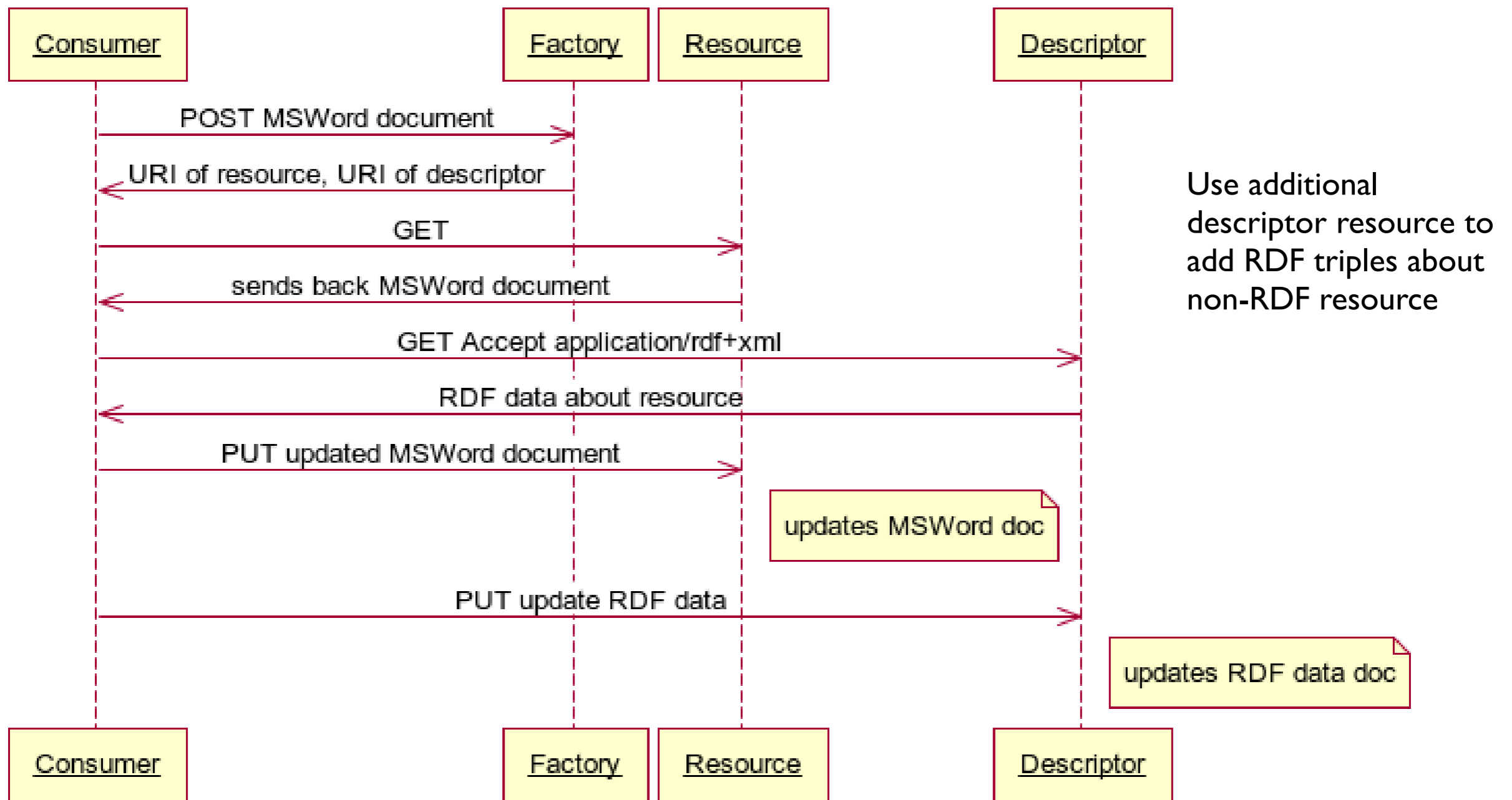
Related to Attachments

- Resources that cannot be expressed as RDF triples:
 - Images, video, audio files
 - Presentations, spreadsheets, diagrams
 - Executables, JAR files, DLLs, XML files
- How does that work?
 - Consumers should be able to create them via POST
 - Consumer should be able to get and set properties about them

Non-RDF approach #1



Non-RDF approach #2



Non-RDF approach #3

- One URI for resource
- Non-RDF data embedded in resource
- As property value, e.g. via Base64