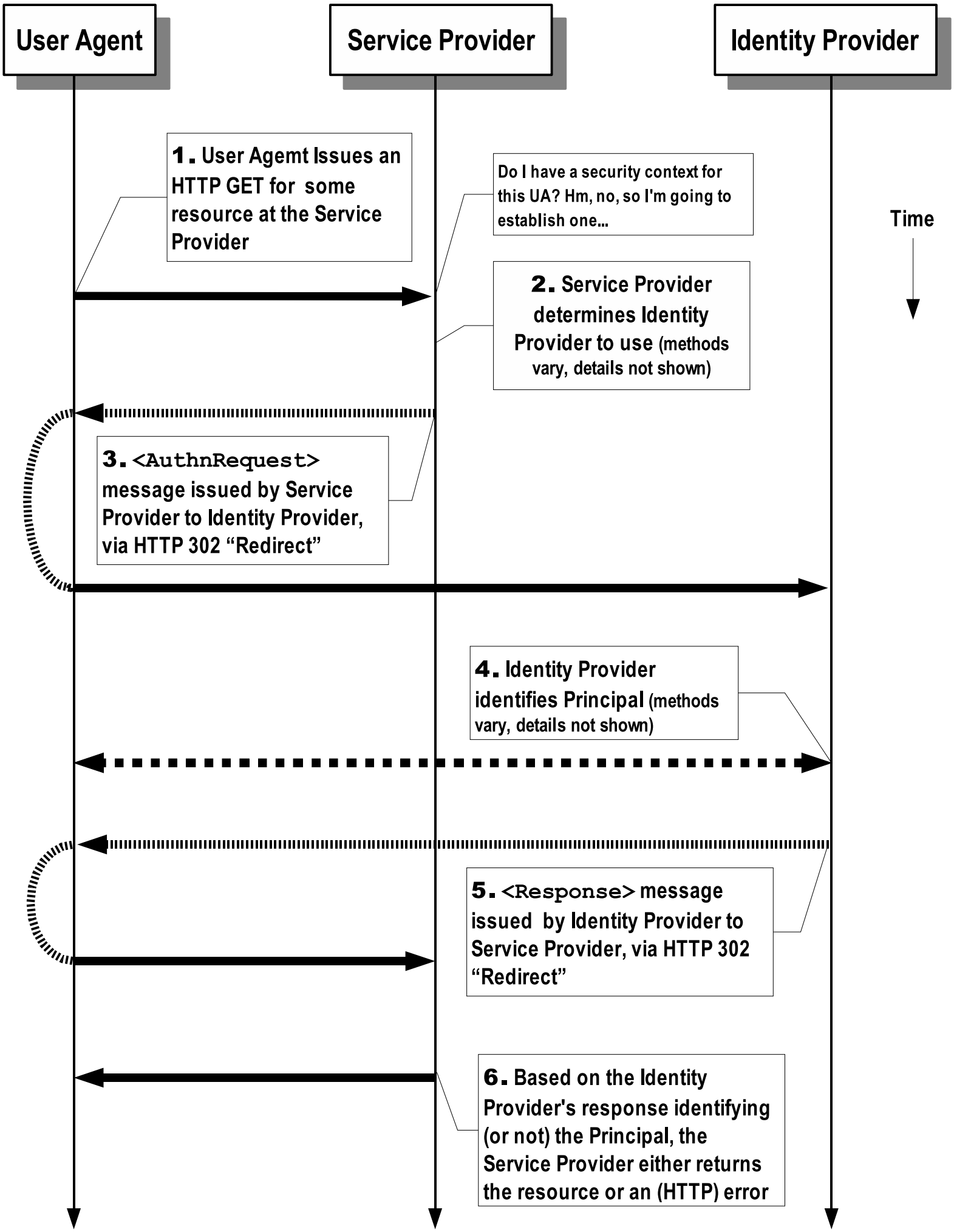
User Agent
Service Provider
Identity Provider
1. User Agemt Issues an HTTP GET for some resource at the Service Provider
Do I have a security context for this UA? Hm, no, so I'm going to establish one...
Time
2. Service Provider determines Identity Provider to use (methods vary, details not shown)
3. <AuthnRequest> message issued by Service Provider to Identity Provider, via HTTP 302 "Redirect"
4. Identity Provider identifies Principal (methods vary, details not shown)
5. <Response> message issued by Identity Provider to Service Provider, via HTTP 302 "Redirect"
6. Based on the Identity Provider's response identifying (or not) the Principal, the Service Provider either returns the resource or an (HTTP) error