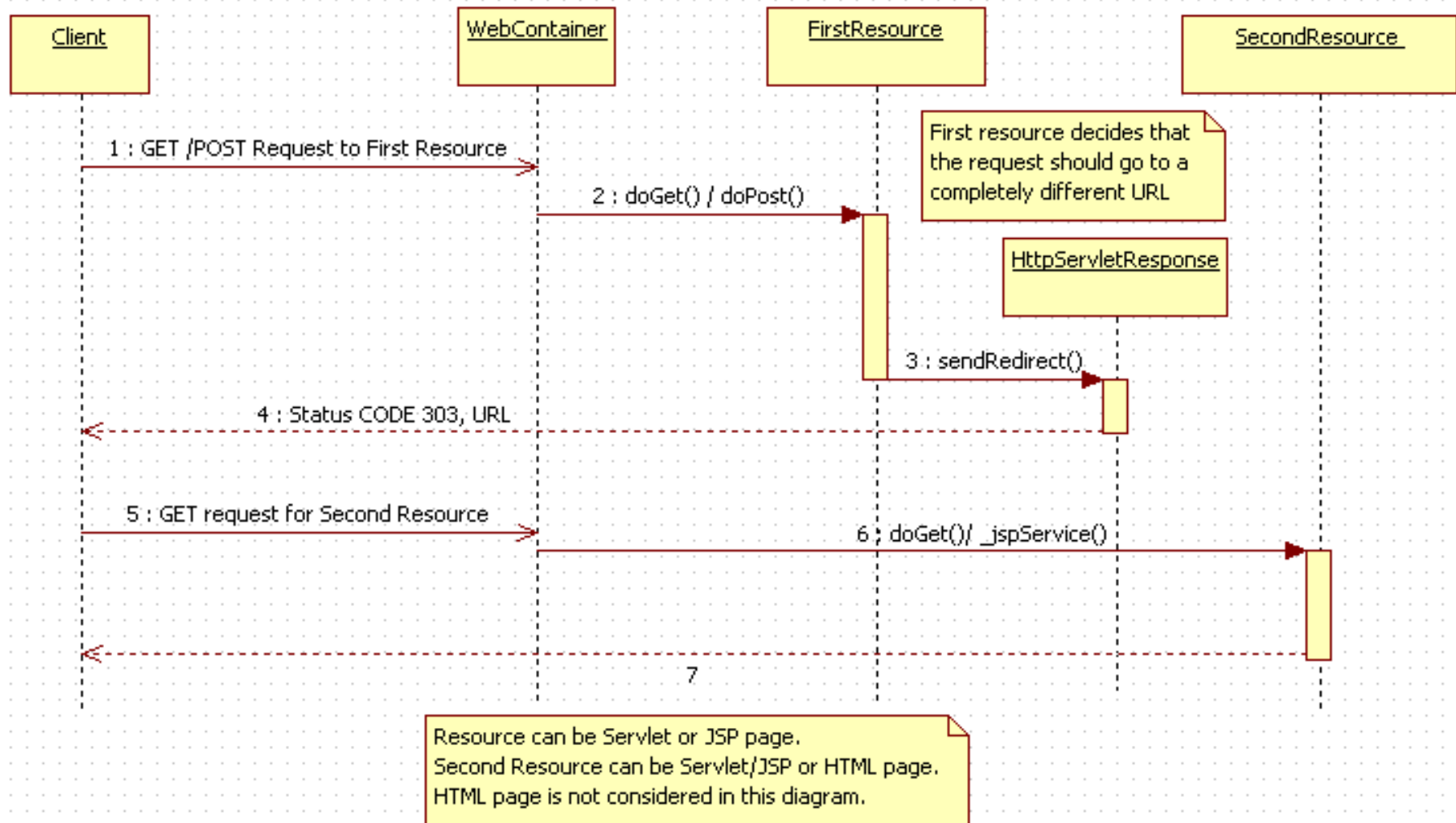# Servlet Request Dispatcher

Objectives

- List the use of Request Dispatcher- forward and include

- Difference between Client side redirection and Server side redirection

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Redirection

- Client-Side Redirection

  - Redirection done by the web browser

  - Use response.sendRedirect(String URL)

- Server-Side Redirection

  - Redirection done by the web container

  - In Servlet use forward(HttpServletRequest, HttpServletResponse) method of ServletRequestDispatcher

  - In JSP use <jsp:forward /> tag
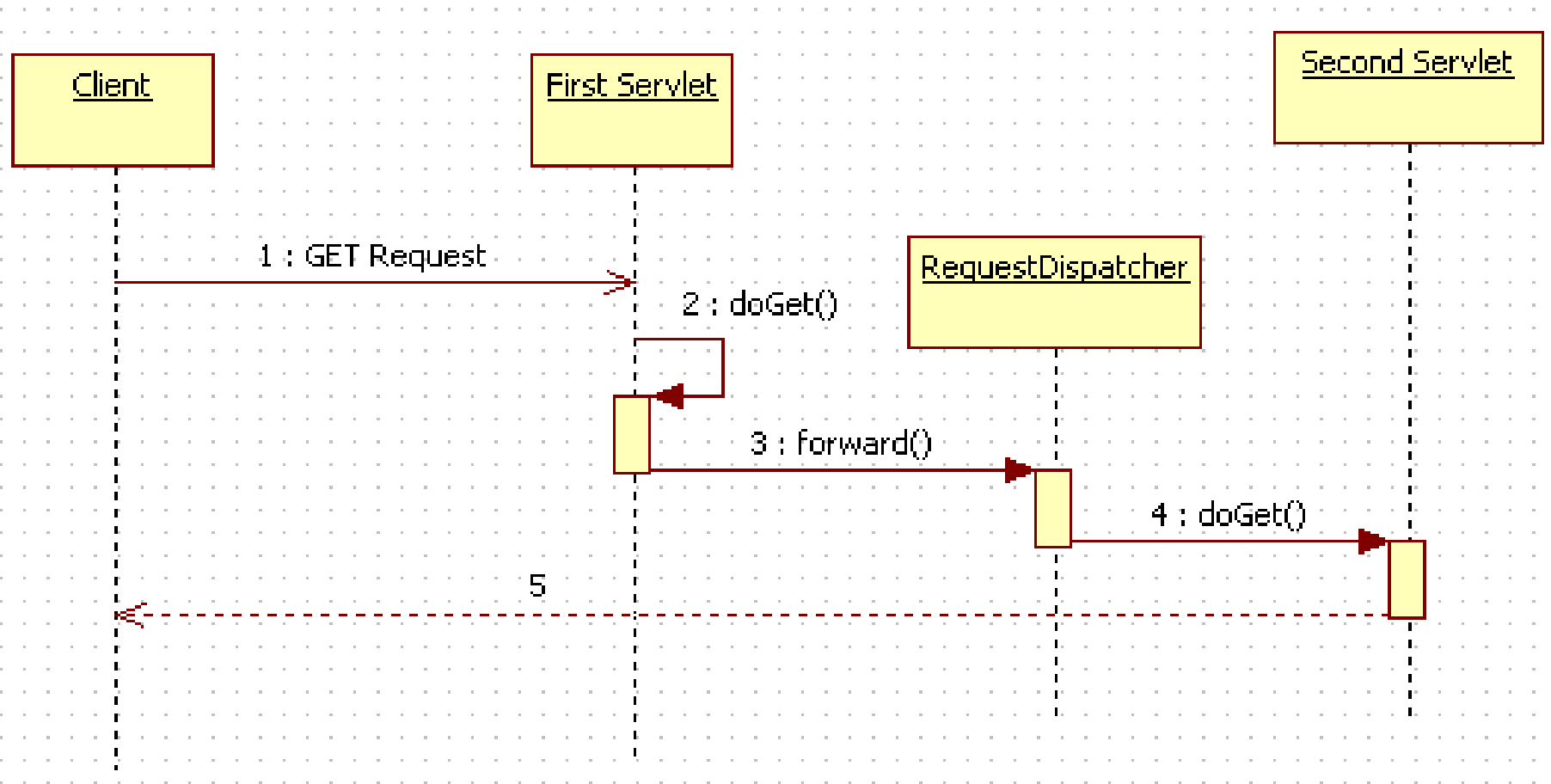
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Client Side Redirection

Code Snippet: Client Side Redirection

```java
/*
 * read parameters userName and password
 */
String userName = request.getParameter("userName");
String password = request.getParameter("password");
/*
 * Assume userName = "James" with password="secret123"
 * is valid user credentials.
 */
if (userName.equals("James") && password.equals("secret123")) {
    /*
     * if user has entered valid credentials redirect to home.jsp
     */
    response.sendRedirect("home.jsp");
} else {
    /*
     * if user has not entered valid credentials
     * redirect him/her to login.jsp with Invalid User/Password message.
     */
    response.sendRedirect("login.jsp?message=Invalid User/Password");
}
```

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RequestDispatcher

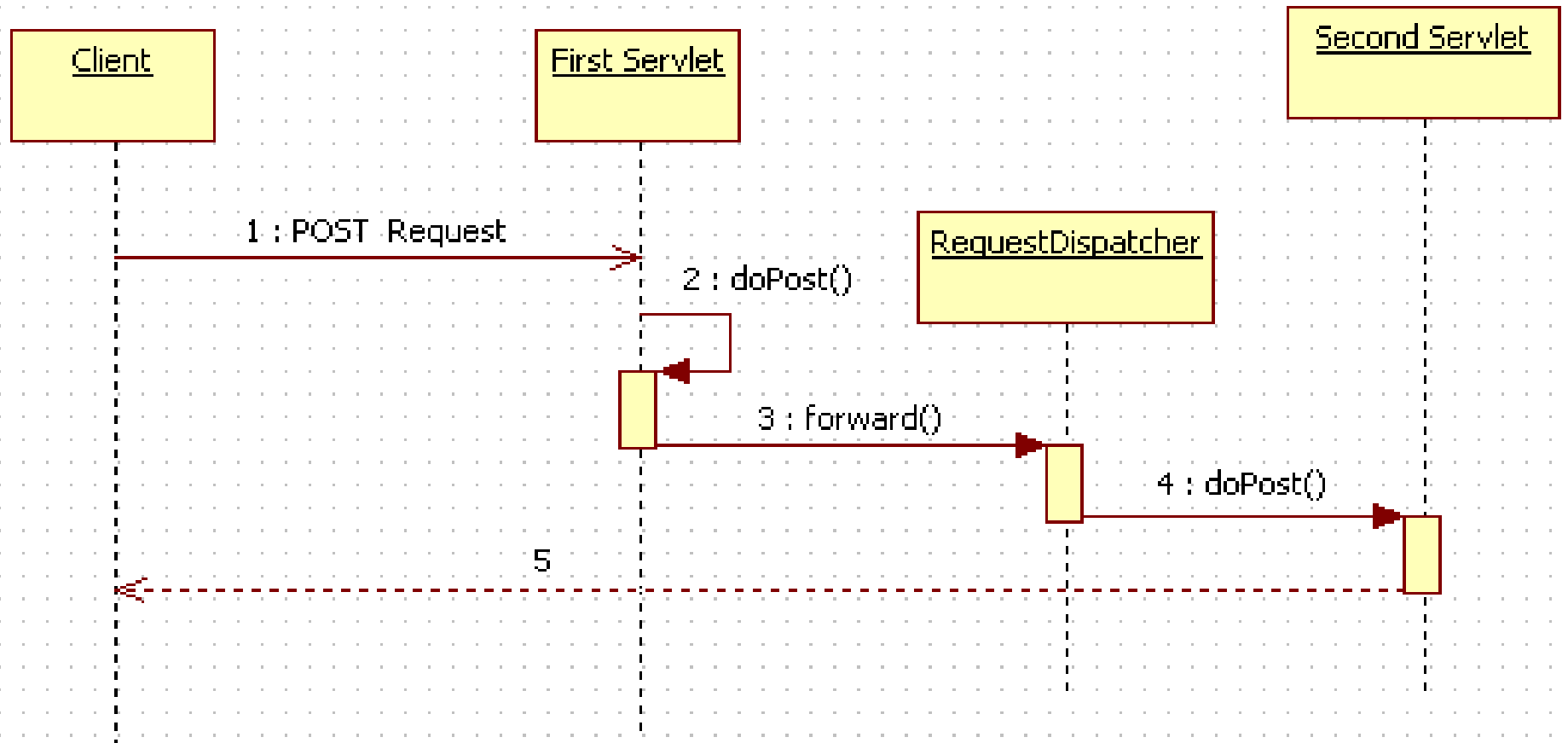- Transferring Control to another Web Component

  - RequestDispatcher can be used to transfer control to another web component by invoking forward() method.

  - This mechanism is useful for multistage processing of data.

- **Including Other Resources in the Response**

  - RequestDispatcher can also be used to include another Web resource using include() method, in the response returned from a Web Component.

  - This mechanism is useful for including common contents like banner, copyright information and menus as response from all the servlets.

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RequestDispatcher's forward method

• Server Side Redirection using forward() method of RequestDispatcher.
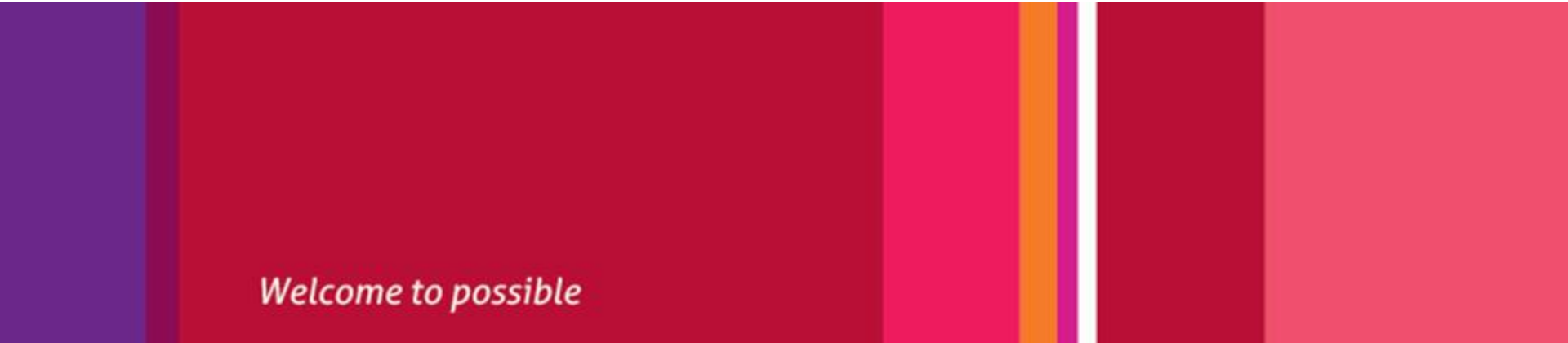
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RequestDispatcher's forward method

The method of REQUEST does not change in server side redirection.

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Code Snippet: Server Side Redirection

```java
String target = "login.jsp?message=Invalid User/Password";
/*
 * read parameters userName and password
 */
String userName = request.getParameter("userName");
String password = request.getParameter("password");
/*
 * Assume userName = "James" with password="secret123"
 * is valid user credentials.
 */
if (userName.equals("James") && password.equals("secret123")) {
    /*
     * if user has entered valid credentials redirect to home.jsp
     */
    target = "home.jsp";
}
/*
 * You can get a RequestDispatcher object from either a request or the ServletContext;
 * A request can take a relative path (that is, one that does not begin with a /),
 * but the ServletContext requires an absolute path
 */
RequestDispatcher dispatcher = request.getRequestDispatcher(target);
dispatcher.forward(request, response);
```

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