

ITUEvents

Demonstration of machine learning function  
orchestrator (MLFO) via reference implementations  
(ITU-ML5G-PS-024)

Shagufta Henna, LYIT, 31 July 2020

ITU  
**AI/ML in 5G**  
Challenge

*Applying machine learning in  
communication networks*

ai5gchallenge@itu.int

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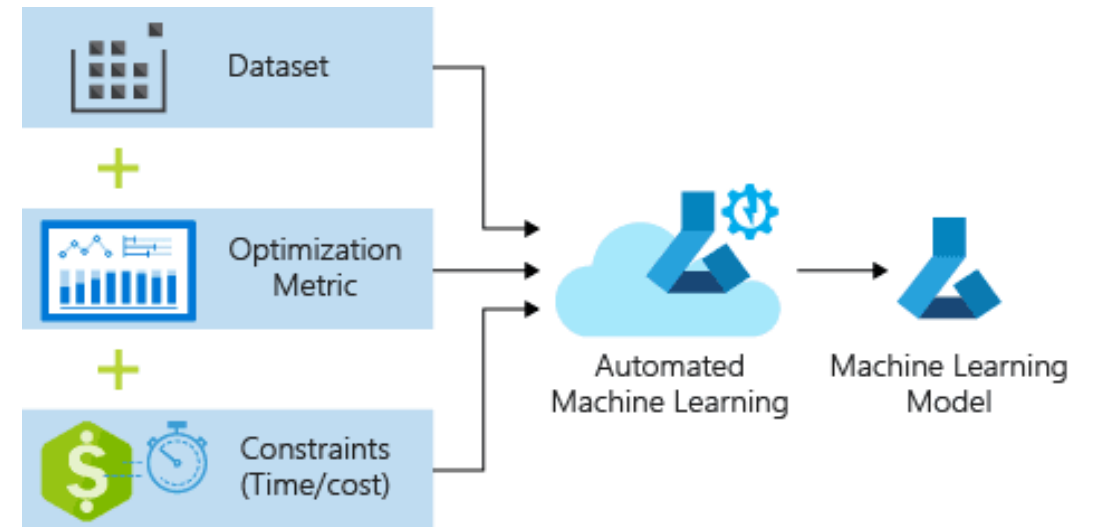


# Agenda

- Background
- Functionalities of MLFO
- MLFO Architecture
- Specific concepts: Sequence Diagrams
- Reference Implementation challenge
- Evaluation Criteria
- Participation & Submission Guidelines
- Timeline

# Background

- Most network operators rely on data scientists to create a ML pipeline
- This ML pipeline if not managed and orchestrated appropriately is subject to bottleneck



# Background (Cont..)

Specifically, MLFO addresses the following challenges:

- [b-ITU-T Y.ML-IMT2020-Use-Cases] envisages different ML frameworks/ libraries

Example: training of deep learning, tree-based, and linear models require three different ML frameworks

Example: different big data handling tools and libraries, e.g., messaging brokers, data processing engines, etc.

- ML pipeline using these tools/libraries is time-consuming and requires a set of specialized skills



# Background (Cont..)

- Compatibility issues for **integration of [b-ITU T FG-ML5G-I-151] [ML5G-I-203], and [ITU-T Y.3174]** need repetitive/complex code
- Lack of standardized ML orchestration mechanism:
  - complex/expensive ML pipelines
  - handover issues, e.g., bottleneck
  - production issues, e.g., glue code, hidden-dependencies, feedback loops, and pipeline nets
- Other challenges for ML pipeline include:
  - ML model update, chaining, monitoring, evaluation, pipeline splitting, model deployment, and management & coordination of multiple ML pipeline instances across the network

# Background (Cont..)

- Uber, Netflix, Google, Facebook, and Airbnb: in-house ML orchestration platforms
- Cloud service providers, e.g., Amazon and Google: ML pipeline orchestration services
  - Do not address requirements of diverse use cases [b-ITU-T Y.ML-IMT2020-Use-Cases]
  - Do not offer integration with [ML5G-I-203], [b-ITU T FG-ML5G-I-151], and [ITU-T Y.3174] frameworks
- In-house ML orchestration: significant investments & no actual benefits within an industry setting.



# MLFO Functionalities

Functionalities of the MLFO:

- MLFO can monitor & manage ML pipeline
- Policy-based ML pipeline deployment
- Optimal placement of ML pipeline nodes in the network
- Intent-based specification
- Standard representation & interoperable integration of data handling [ITU-T Y.3174], [b-ML5G-I-148], and ML marketplaces [ITU-T Y.ML-IMT2020-MP]
- Chaining/split of ML pipeline nodes, selection of ML models, monitoring model performance, reselection and update
- Like NFVO, MLFO decouples ML functions from the underlying network

NOTE- This reduces ML pipeline operational costs with accelerated new offerings



# Requirements for MLFO

High-level requirements of MLFO:

1. Model Management
2. Data Management
3. ML Pipeline Management
4. Closed Loop System
5. Intent and Policy Management
6. Communication Management





# 1. Model Management

**ML learning  
mechanisms**

**Training  
mechanisms**

**ML pipeline  
deployment**

**Publish ML  
profile**

**Automated  
testing**

**ML pipeline  
chaining**

**Model  
evaluation**

**Operations on  
ML functions**

## 2. Data Management

**Data collection**

**Data preprocessing**

**Configuration**

**Manage metadata**

**Associate data models**

**Synchronization**

**Data model mapping**

**Manage data storage**

### 3. ML Pipeline Management

**Create  
ML pipeline**

**Orchestrate  
ML pipeline  
nodes**

**Delete  
ML pipeline**

**Modify  
ML pipeline**

## 4. Closed Loop System

**Monitor/Optimize**

**Energy efficient  
operation**

**Resilient  
operation**

**Handle  
metering events**

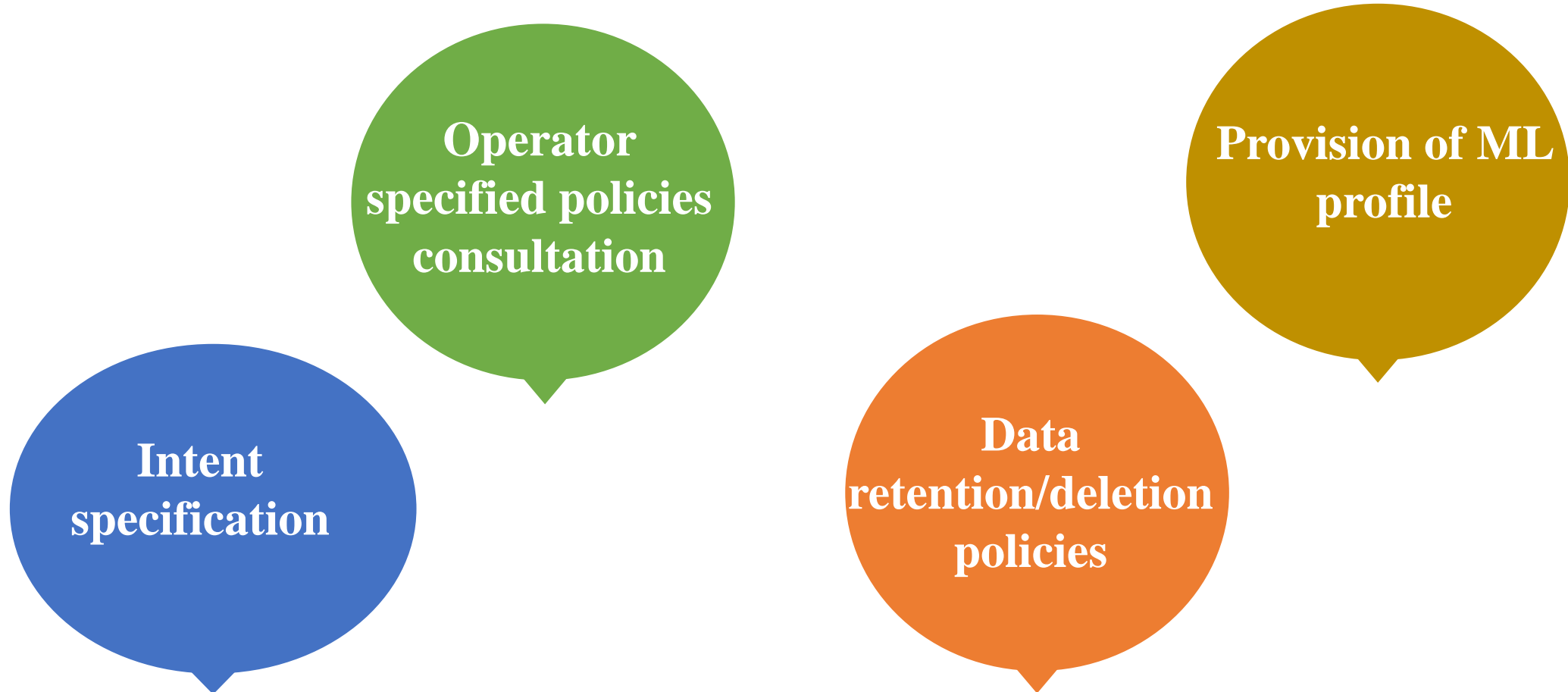
**Security &  
privacy**

**Manage &  
orchestrate  
resources**

**Model  
evaluation in  
sandbox**

**ML pipeline  
overhead**

## 5. Intent and Policy Management



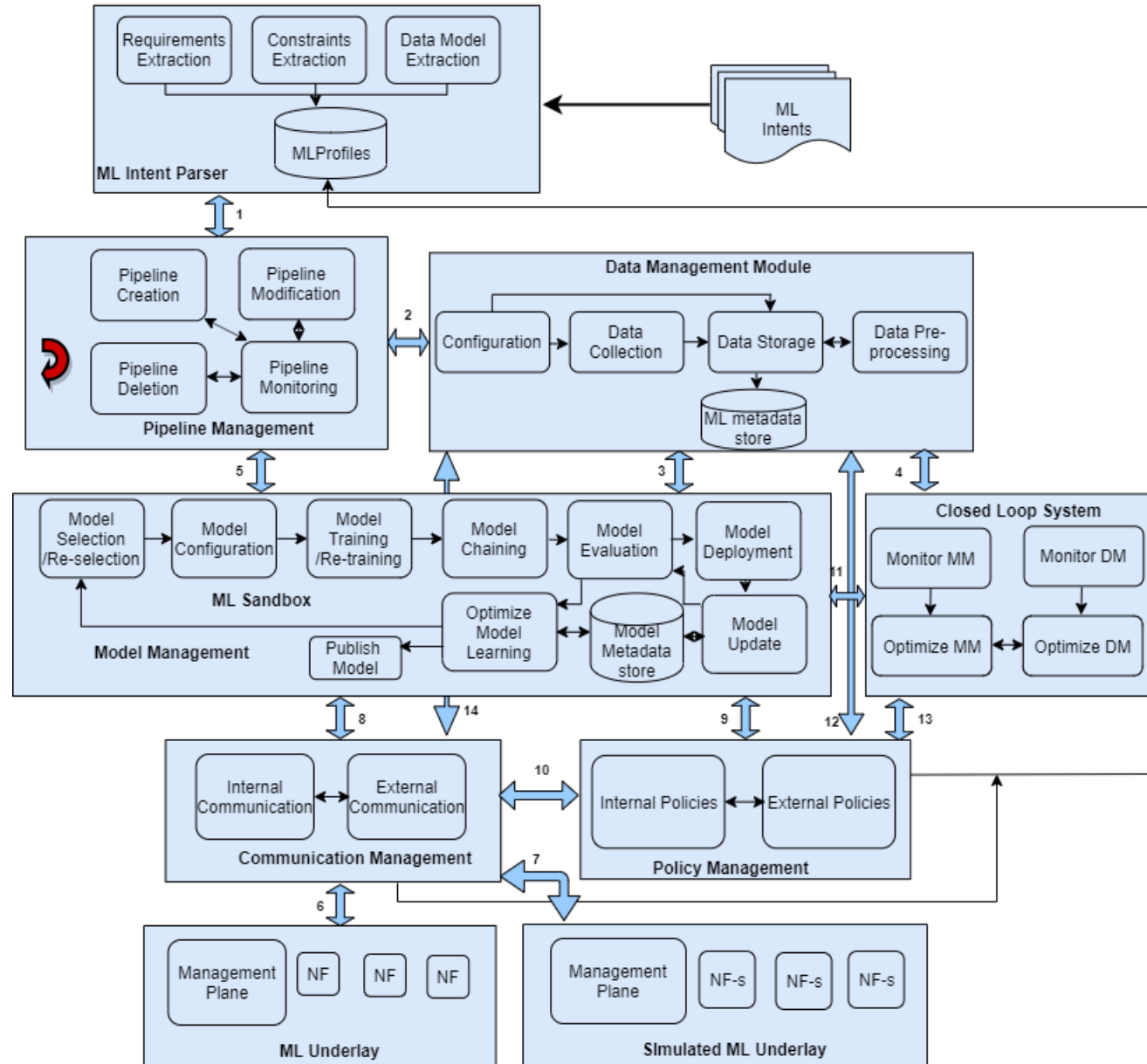
## 6. Communication Management

Specialized data  
formats &  
protocols

Technology  
specific  
interfaces

Interoperable  
knowledge  
transfer

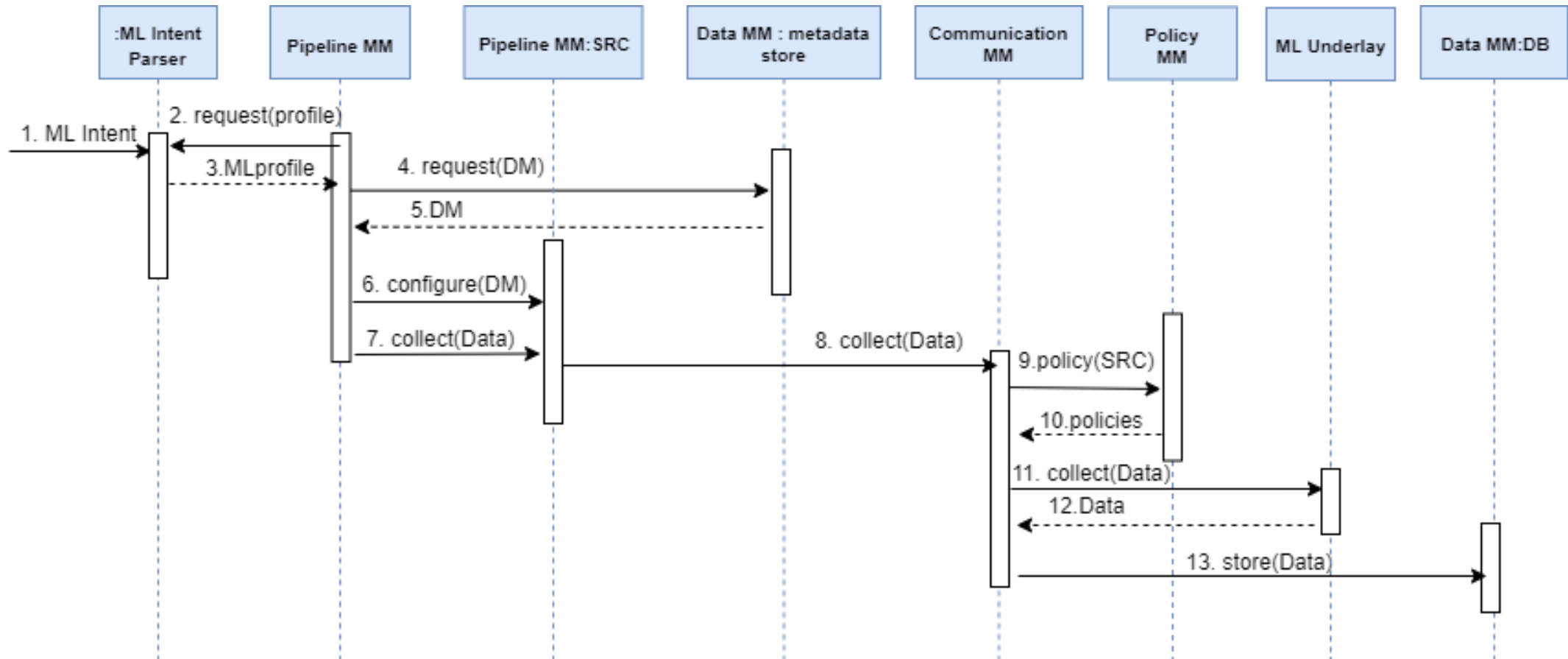
Subscription of  
trained models



- : Simulated Network Functions
- : Data Management Module
- : Model Management Module

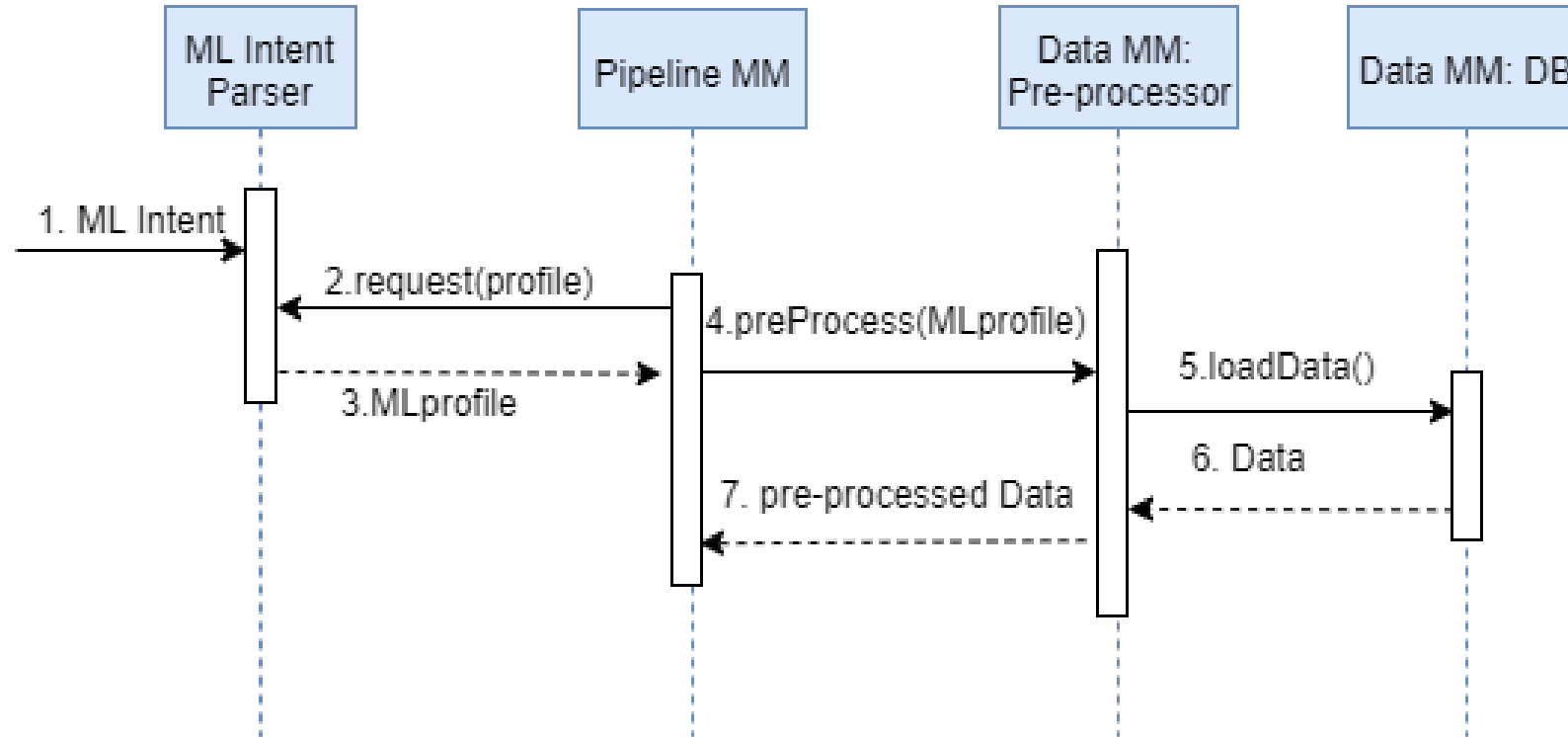


# Specific concepts: Data Collection

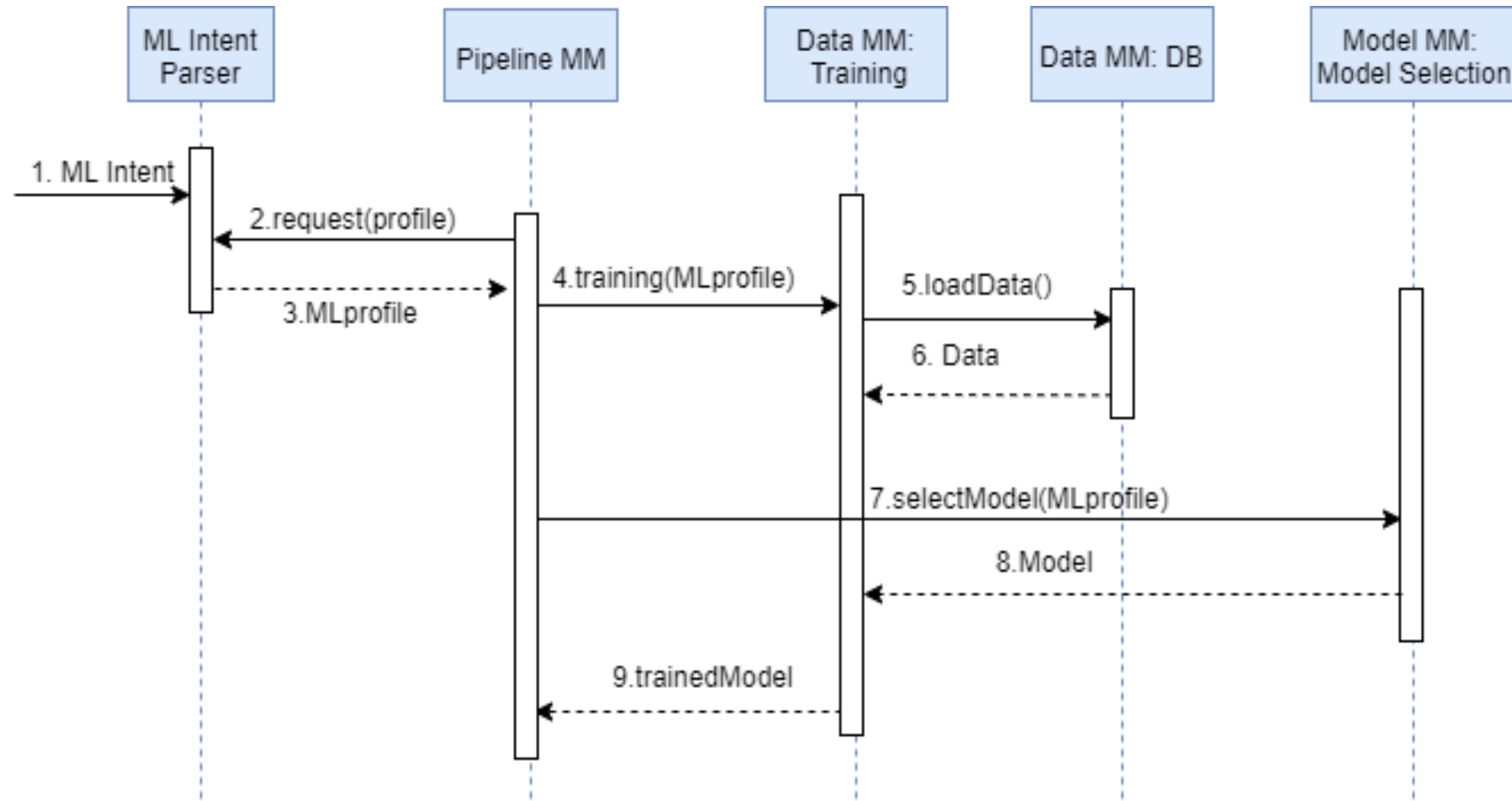




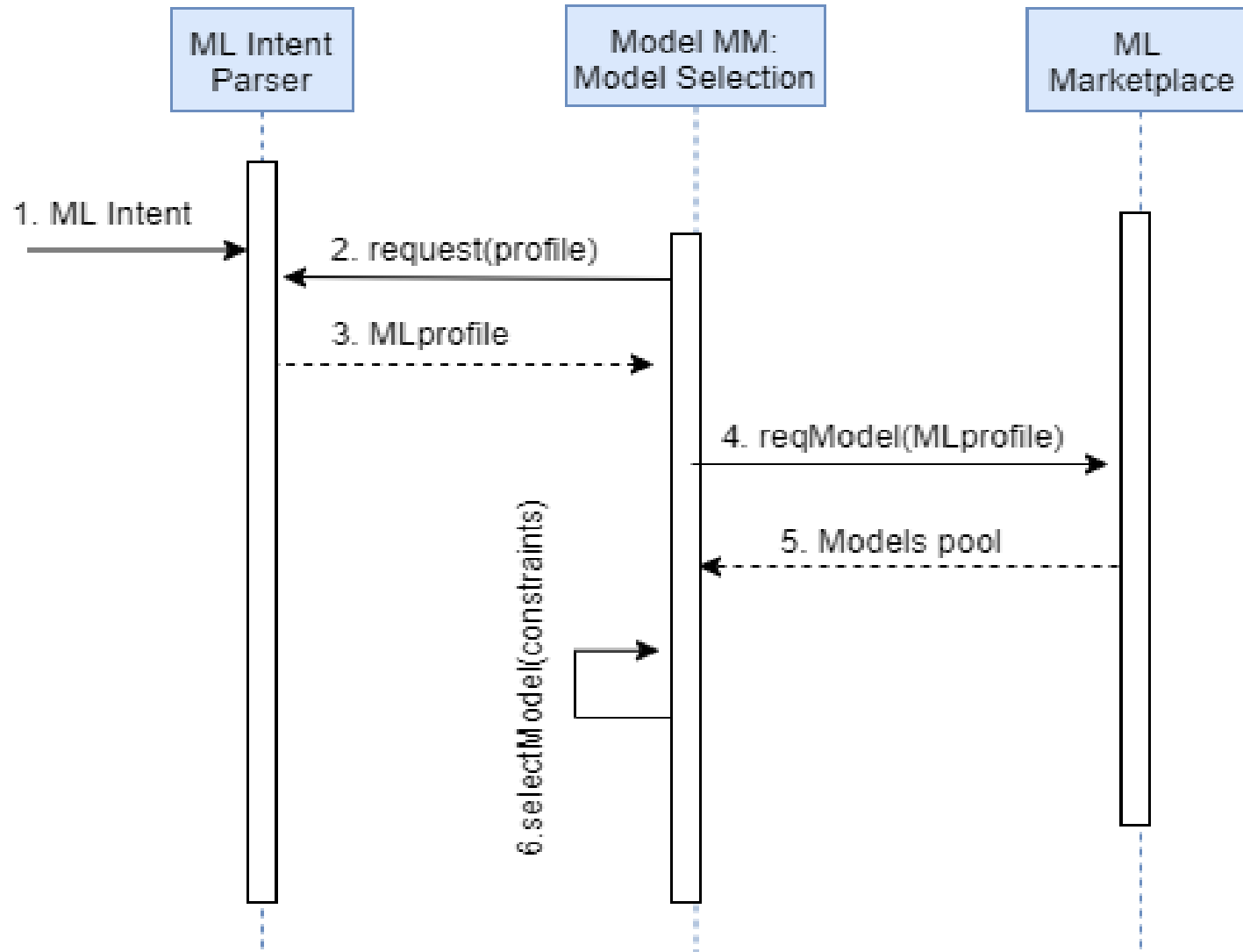
# Specific concepts: Data Pre-processing



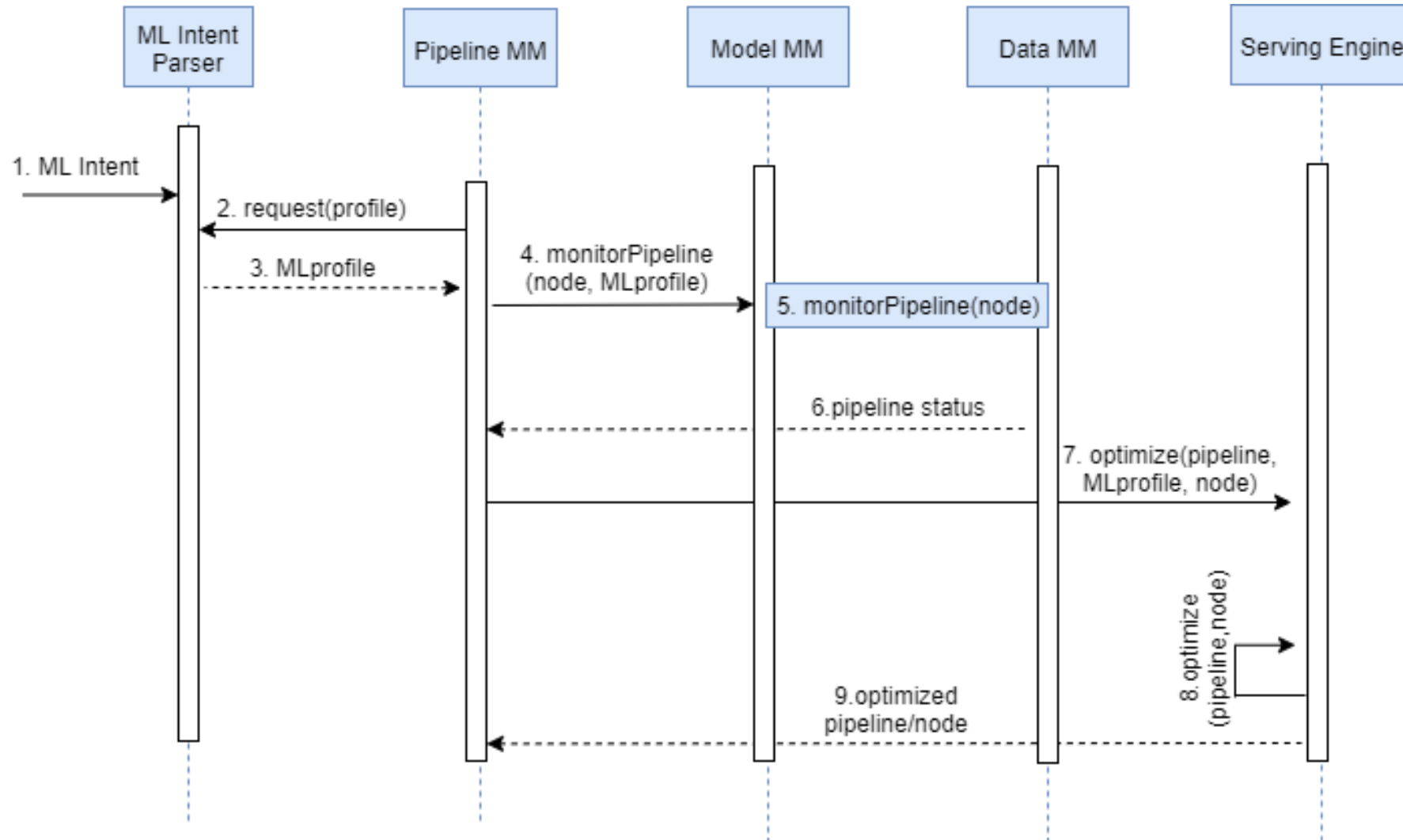
# Specific concepts: Model Training



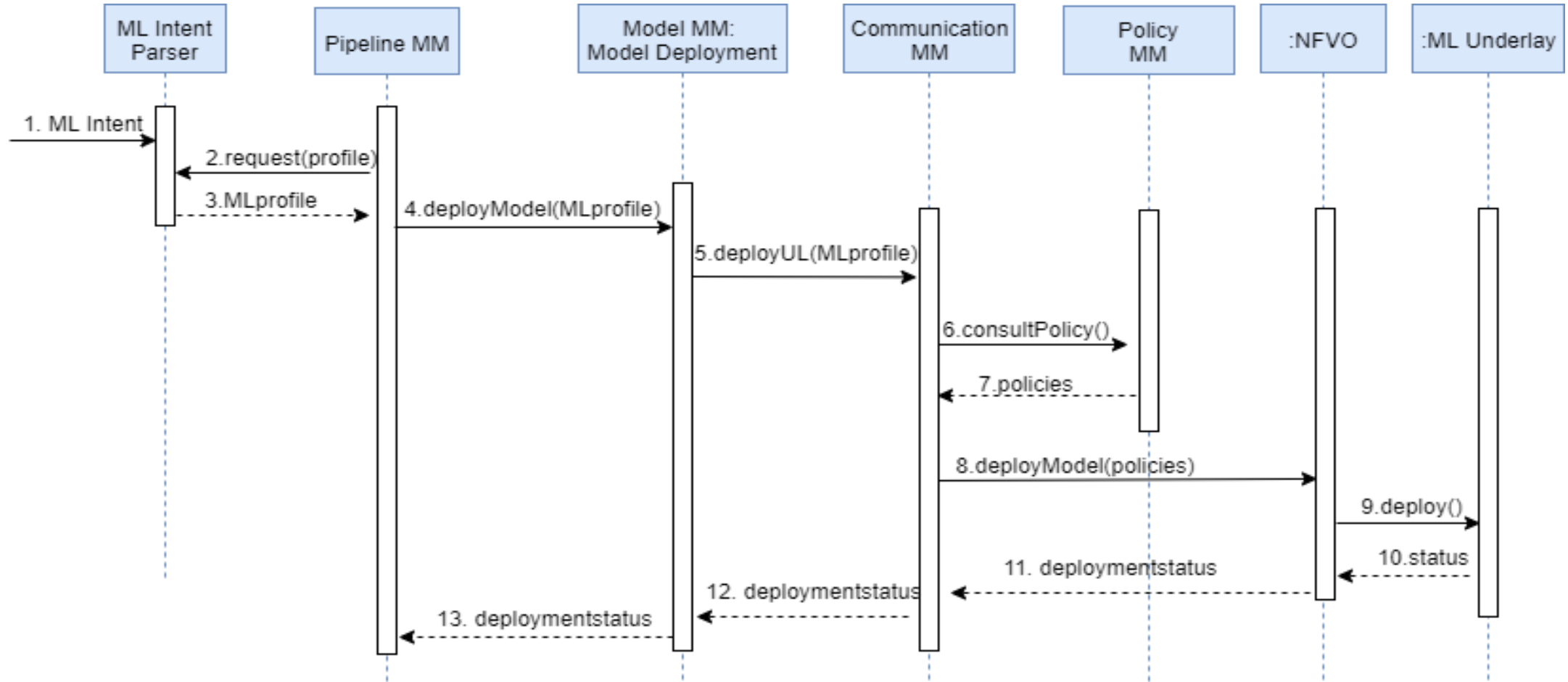
# Specific concepts: Model Selection



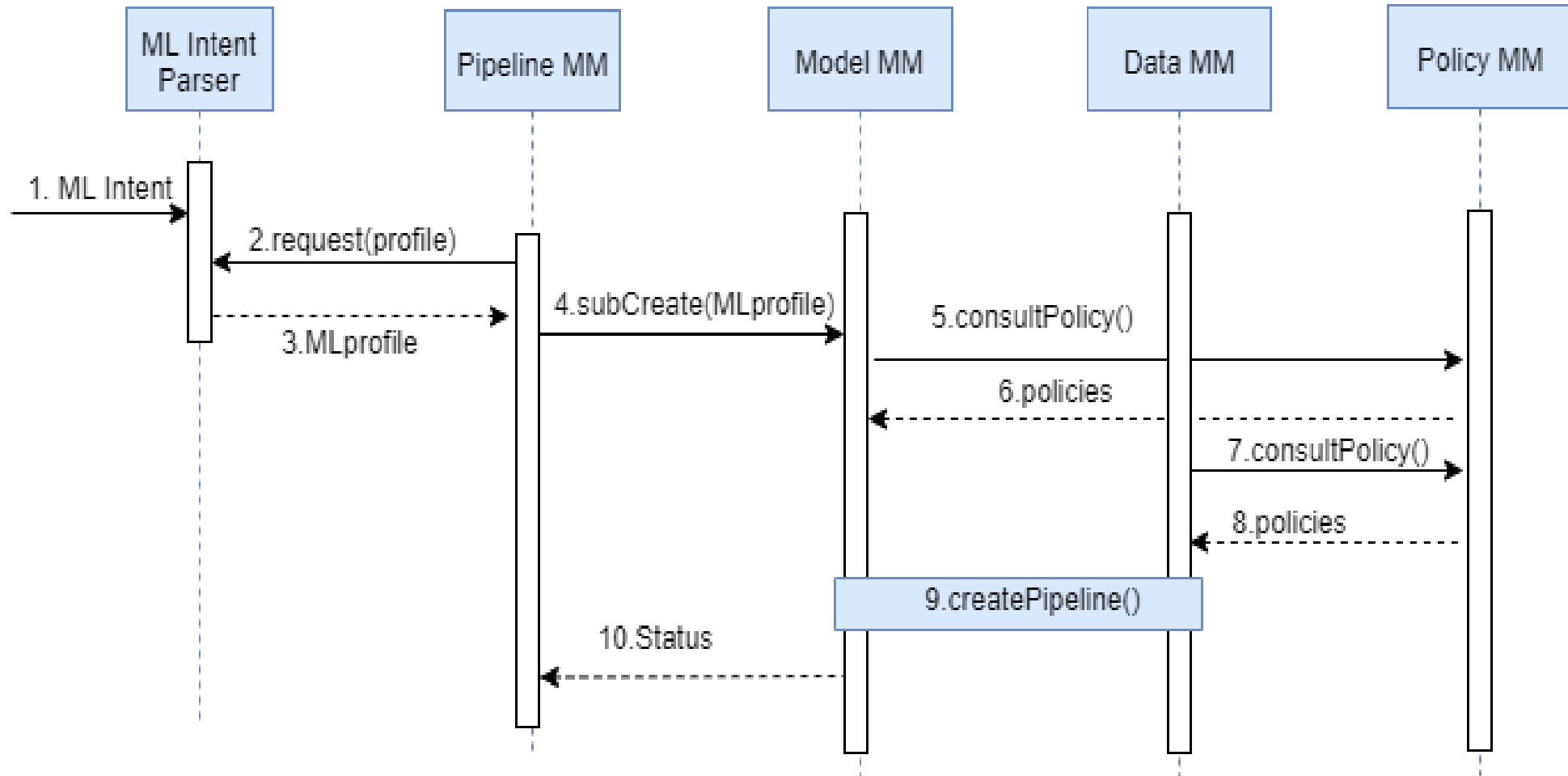
# Specific concepts: Optimization Flow



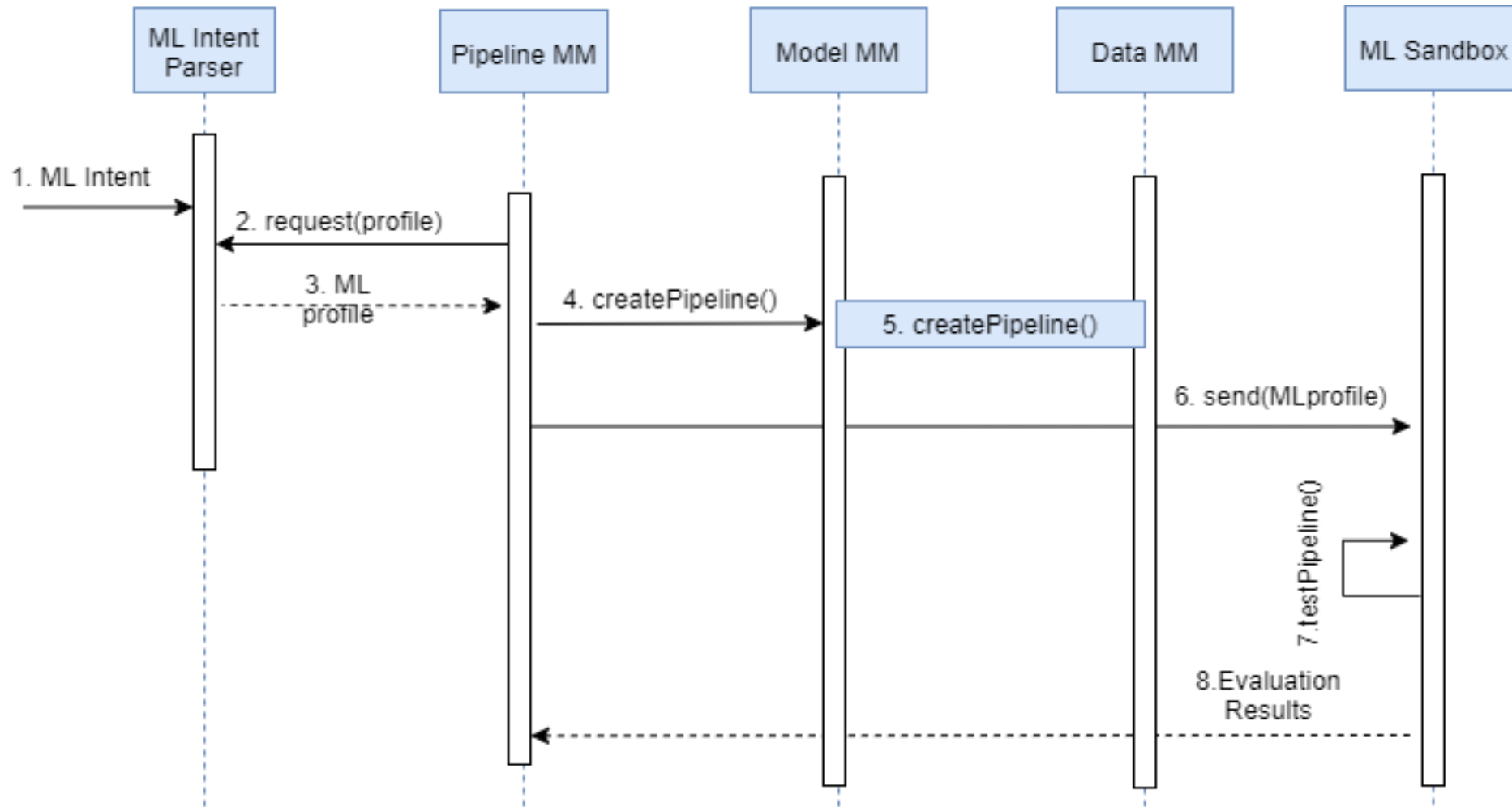
# Specific concepts: Model Deployment



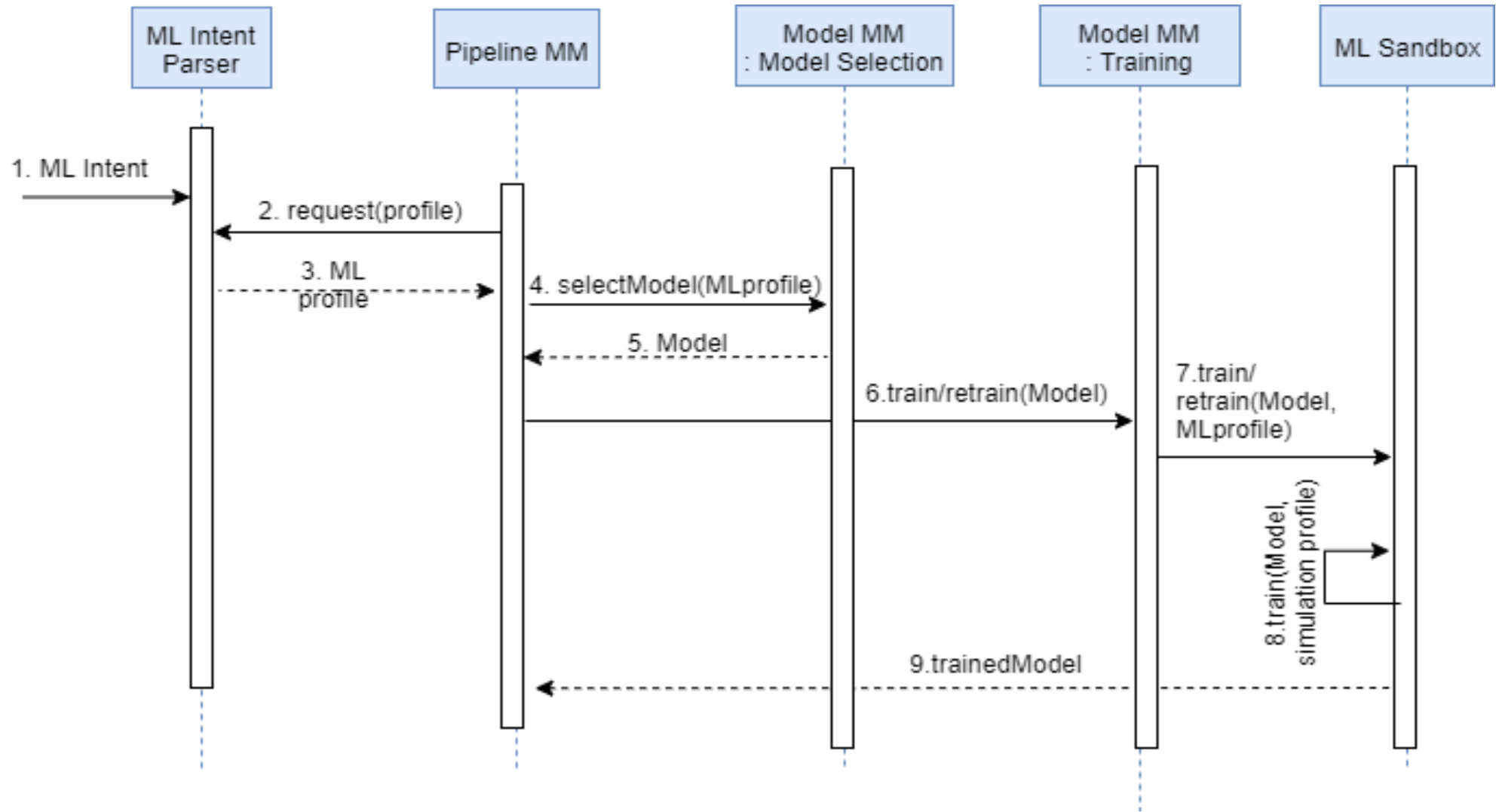
# Specific concepts: ML pipeline creation



# Specific concepts: ML Pipeline Testing



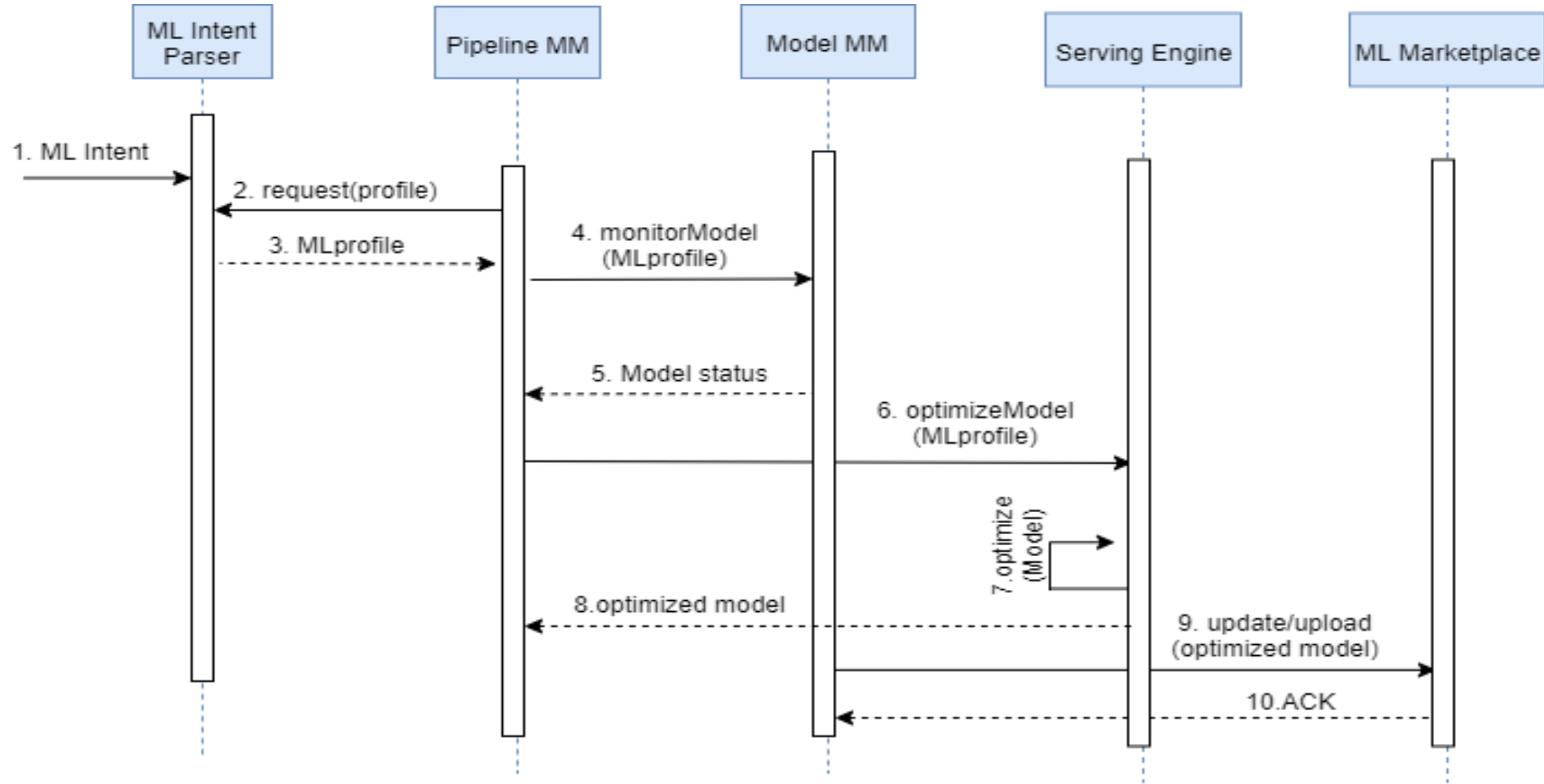
# Specific concepts: ML sandbox-assisted model training/retraining





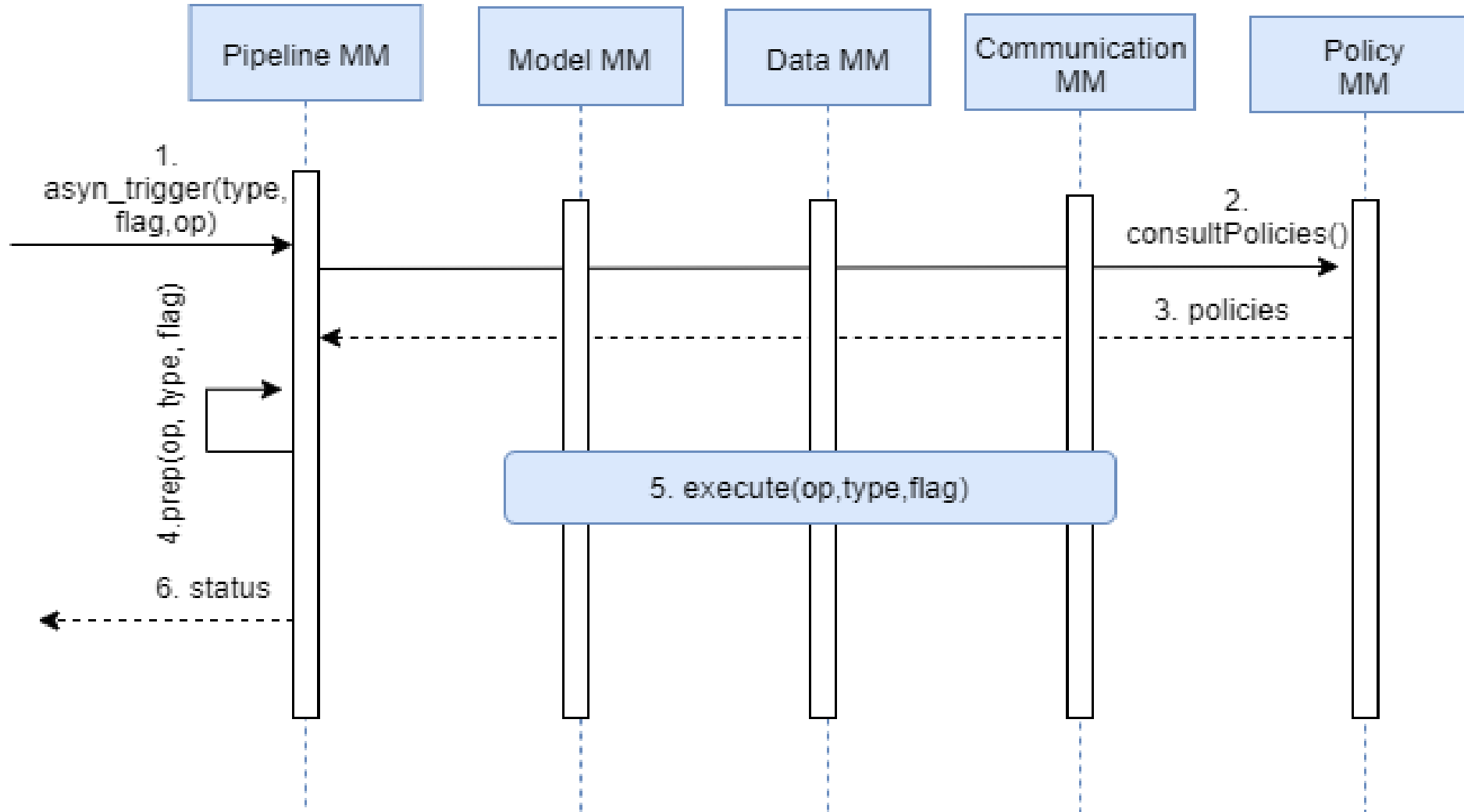


# Specific concepts: Model update in marketplace





# Specific concepts: Asynchronous operation execution



# MLFO Reference Implementation Challenge

Implementation of specific concepts including:

- Handling ML Intent from operator: a mechanism for operator specify ML use cases via the ML Intent as specified in [ITU-T Y.3172]
- Control of model management, e.g., selection, training and deployment using MLFO  
NOTE- No dataset is required for the model management implementation, only meta-data should suffice
- Interaction with ML Marketplace
- Handling of asynchronous operations
- Any other concepts as discussed earlier



# Evaluation Criteria

Our competition schedule is divided into two stages: Phase I and Phase II. These two stages need to submit different competition works.

## Phase I

Project ( full marks: 40)	Evaluation Standard
Selection of concept demo (10 marks)	1. Clarity of demo statement Traceability to ITU-T specifications. Proof of concept demo plan
Design methodology (15 marks)	1. Clarity in demo goals Use case diagram/flow chart Architecture diagram Opensource used
Test Setup & Timeline (15 marks)	1. Details of the test setup Tracing to requirements and design.
Total	40 marks

## Phase II

Project ( full mark: 60)	Evaluation Standard
Report and PPT (20 marks)	Detailed report including: i) Demo problem statement, ii) Motivation, iii) Challenges, iv) Milestones achieved, v) Methodology: system design, flow chart, vi) Results and discussion vii) Conclusion
DEMO completion (40 marks)	Demonstratable solution: PoC which maps to the MLFO specification is a must.  Points to take care: Flexibility in possible extensions, potential adaptations and integrations, complete scenario.
Total	60 marks

# Participation & Submission Guidelines

1. Create an [ITU account](#) for challenge registration
2. [Register](#) for ITU AI/ML in 5G
3. Complete the [ITU AI/ML in 5G Challenge Participants Survey](#) with **ITU-ML5G-PS-024**
4. You can work as an individual or a team of maximum 4 members
5. A **GitHub repository** should be available shortly to host the code from contestants

All the information here: <https://www.lyit.ie/LYIT-ITU-T-AI-Challenge>

# Timeline

**Registration Deadline:** 21<sup>st</sup> August 2020

**Global Round duration:** August -  
November 2020

**Phase I submission:** 20<sup>th</sup> September  
2020

**Phase II submission:** 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Evaluation:** October 30<sup>th</sup>- November 15<sup>th</sup>

**Winners (top 3) official  
announcement:** November 30<sup>th</sup>

**Awards and presentation:** December



**Thank You**

**Q&A**

ITUEvents

AI/ML in 5G Challenge: "Round table + Open house"

07 August 2020

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