

Draft Indian Standard

Smart Cities - Data Exchange Framework: Part 1 Reference Architecture

(First Revision)

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BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

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May 2019

CONTENTS

1. SCOPE	8
2. REFERENCES	9
2.1. Normative References	9
3. TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS	11
3.1. Conventions used in the Document	11
3.1.1 Provider	11
3.1.2 Resource Server	11
3.1.3 Consumer	11
3.1.4 App	11
3.1.5 Provider App	11
3.1.6 Data Exchange Framework	11
3.1.7 Consent	11
3.1.8 Certificate Authority	12
3.1.9 Personally Identifiable Information	12
3.1.10 PII Principal	12
3.1.11 Authorization Token	12
3.1.12 Catalogue	12
3.1.13 Resource Item	12
3.1.14 DX Authorization Service	12
3.1.15 DX Catalogue Service	12
3.1.16 DX Adaptor	13
3.1.17 DX Administrator	13
4. DATA EXCHANGE REFERENCE ARCHITECTURE	14
4.1. System Design Principles	14
4.2. Entities and their Responsibilities	15
4.3. High Level Architecture	17
4.4. Establishing Identities of Participants	19

4.5. Data Exchange Services	19
4.5.1. Catalogue Service	20
4.5.1.1. Catalogue Interface	20
4.5.2. Authorization Service	21
4.5.2.1. Goals and Non-Goals	21
4.5.2.2. Functionalities	22
4.5.2.3. Actors in the Authorization flow	22
5. SECURITY AND PRIVACY	24
5.1. Security requirements	24
5.2. Privacy requirements	25
5.3. Authentication and consent	25
5.4. Authorization Policies	26
5.4.1. Policy labels	27
5.4.2. Identity	28
5.5. Audit Considerations	30
5.6. Reliability Considerations	30
6. DX Catalogue	31
6.1. Catalogue Information Model	31
6.1.1. Role of JSON-LD and JSON-schema	33
6.2. DX Core Attribute Types	34
6.2.1. Property	34
6.2.2. Relationship	35
6.2.3. GeoProperty	35
6.2.4. TimeProperty	36
6.2.5. QuantitativeProperty	36
6.3. DX Common Attributes	37
6.4. Base schemas, data models and API objects	38
6.4.1. Base schemas	38
6.4.2. Data Models	39
6.4.2.1. Compact representation of attributes	40
6.4.3. Access Objects	40

6.4.4. Relationship between various catalogue objects	41
7. INTERACTION SCENARIOS	48
7.1. Provider Registration	49
7.2. Create and manage metadata of resources	49
7.3. Discover Data	51
7.4. Request Consent and Access Data	52
7.6. Revoke Consent	54
8. Annex 1: Examples of catalogue objects	55
9. Bibliography	62

FOREWORD

[Formal Clauses will be added later].

INTRODUCTION

Data empowerment is the key aspect of any Smart City implementation in order to harness the maximum value from the enormous data cities generate. The current smart city implementations are unable to satisfy this need efficiently, due to the proprietary and ad-hoc nature of the interfaces and their implementations. Hence it is difficult to develop next generation AI/ML based applications for providing new solutions and services at scale, in the current framework. The Data Exchange Framework as discussed in this document aims to address this gap, **by creating a reference architecture (part 1) and interface specifications (part 2)** for interconnecting various IT systems of different government departments as well as external organizations.

The data exchange will provide two key services and an optional service:

- A **catalogue service** which will host a catalogue of meta-information about the various data sets, with information about the custodian of the data, data model for the data, the API endpoints, API methods etc.
- An **authorization service** that will enable a data custodian (one who is responsible for the data) to regulate access to their data sets.
- An optional **resource access service** which will allow a standardized way to access resources.

Security and Privacy will be incorporated by design in this architecture. This framework should simplify the life of the data custodian as well as the application developer.

The data exchange framework will enable new applications to emerge, that can take advantage of data from different IT Systems, to provide novel services. For example, a Woman's safety index can calculate the live safety index of any street, combining data from smart streetlights, video analytics from traffic cameras, data from police database along with analysis of land use. Such an index can be used by trip planning apps to allow for determining safe routes or used by city or police to plan on patrolling.

By defining the reference architecture and specifying the interfaces and data models, the data exchange framework standards will enable a whole new ecosystem of application developers to provide new, data driven, solutions and services. Additionally, adopting the data exchange framework nationally, will enable economies of scale for the developers and will allow same applications to run across the country. For data custodians – the data exchange framework will allow a simple way to expose, give consent, audit and track their data usage.

1. SCOPE

This Indian Standard (Part 1) describes the reference architecture for the data exchange framework, interfaces of data exchange components and the use cases that are enabled in this ecosystem. It also describes the responsibilities of various stakeholders and their interactions with other stakeholders in the system.

The Standard (Part 1) also describes the high level architecture of the following three main components of the data exchange services:

- a) Catalogue service that provides framework to manage meta-information about resources,
- b) Authorization service, that manages authorization to access the resources
- c) Resource Access Service, that provides a standardized way to access resources.

A more detailed specification and the API definitions for the data exchange framework is described in part 2.

2. REFERENCES

The standards given below contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of these standards.

2.1. Normative References

The following referenced documents are necessary for the application of the present document.

- [1] IETF RFC 2818: "HTTP Over TLS". Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2818>
- [2] IETF RFC 3986: "Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax". Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3986>
- [3] IETF RFC 5246: "The Transport Layer Security (TLS) Protocol Version 1.2". Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5246>
- [4] IETF RFC 6749: The OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework. Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6749>
- [5] IETF RFC 7231: "Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP/1.1): Semantics and Content". Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7231>
- [6] IETF RFC 7232: "Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP/1.1): Conditional Requests". Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7232>
- [7] IETF RFC 7946: "The GeoJSON Format". Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7946>
- [8] IETF RFC 8259: "The JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) Data Interchange Format". Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc8259>
- [9] ISO 8601: 2004: "Data elements and interchange formats -- Information interchange -- Representation of dates and times". Available at http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue_detail?csnumber=40874
- [10] ISO/IEC 19464: Information technology — Advanced Message Queuing Protocol (AMQP) v1.0 specification. Available at https://standards.iso.org/ittf/PubliclyAvailableStandards/c064955_ISO_IEC_19464_2014.zip
- [11] ISO/IEC 29100:2011(en) Information technology — Security techniques — Privacy framework. Available at <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:std:iso-iec:29100:ed-1:v1:en>
- [12] OASIS : MQTT 5.0, OASIS Standard. Available at <https://docs.oasis-open.org/mqtt/mqtt/v5.0/mqtt-v5.0.html>
- [13] Open Geospatial Consortium Inc. OGC 06-103r4: "OpenGIS® Implementation Standard for Geographic information - Simple feature access - Part 1: Common architecture". Available at https://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact_id=25355
- [14] TRADE/CEFACT/2005/24 Recommendation No. 20 - Units of Measure used in International Trade. Available at https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/recommendations/rec20/rec20_rev3_Annex3e.pdf

3. TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions shall apply.

The following Conventions are used in the Document:

- a) The key terminologies use `consolas` font type and `dark cornflower blue 3` color encoding.
- b) The `lowerCamelCase` is used in attribute naming. For nouns, `UpperCamelCase` is used.

3.1 Definitions

3.1.1 Provider

`Provider` is a **Legal Entity**: Human (possibly delegated by an Organization), Organization or an organizational role that has responsibility to provide authorization to use resources.

3.1.2 Resource Server

`Resource Server` is a **Service**: Serves resources to authorized Apps/Consumers.

3.1.3 Consumer

`Consumer` is a **Legal Entity**: Human or Organization or an organizational Role that consumes a resource via a web or mobile `App`. Autonomous systems may also act as a `Consumer` on behalf of a legal entity.

3.1.4 App

`App` is an **Application**: Software (like a mobile app, web app, device app or server app), that uses resources to provide a service or experience to the `Consumer`.

3.1.5 Provider App

`ProviderApp` is an **Application**: An `App` that enables a `Provider` to manage the meta-data and access control in the data exchange, for the resources they are responsible for.

3.1.6 Data Exchange Framework

`Data Exchange Framework` is a **Service**: Hosts and manages meta-data about resources and manages authorization for accessing the resources.

3.1.7 Consent

Consent : **Provider's** freely given, specific and informed agreement to the accessing and processing of specific resources in their responsibility.

3.1.8 Certificate Authority

Certificate Authority : An entity which provides digital identities to participants of DX in the form of digital certificates.

3.1.9 Personally Identifiable Information

Personally Identifiable Information : Any information that (a) can be used to identify the PII principal to whom such information relates, or (b) is or might be directly or indirectly linked to a PII principal

Note 1 to entry: To determine whether a PII principal is identifiable, account should be taken of all the means which can reasonably be used by the privacy stakeholder holding the data, or by any other party, to identify that natural person.

3.1.10 PII Principal

PII Principal : Natural person to whom the personally identifiable information (PII) relates

Note 1 to entry: Depending on the jurisdiction and the particular data protection and privacy legislation, the synonym "data subject" can also be used instead of the term "PII principal".

3.1.11 Authorization Token

Authorization Token : A machine-readable token that allows a consumer to get access to a **Provider's** data. The authorization token is requested by a consumer for a set of resources, and is generated by an authorization service after running consent rules of a **Provider**. The **Authorization Token** is to be presented to a **Resource Server** by a consumer while requesting for data. All **Authorization Tokens** shall have a valid expiration time.

3.1.12 Catalogue

Catalogue : A registry of meta-data about the resources in the data exchange available for consumption.

3.1.13 Resource Item

resource-item : An entry in the **Catalogue** that describes the meta-information of the resource that is hosted in an associated **Resource Server**

3.1.14 DX Authorization Service

DX Authorization Service : Authorization Service of the data exchange

3.1.15 DX Catalogue Service

DX Catalogue Service : Catalogue Service of the data exchange

3.1.16 DX Adaptor

DX Adapter : Adapter service in front of a non-DX compliant Resource Server

3.1.17 DX Administrator

DX Administrator is a **Legal Entity**: Responsible for administering, managing and running the data exchange

3.2 Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
DX	Data Exchange
XML	eXtensible Markup Language
JSON	Javascript Object Notation
API	Application Programming Interface
PII	Personally Identifiable Information
CA	Certificate Authority
RS	Resource Server
AS	Authorization Service
TLS	Transport Level Security
CSR	Certificate Signing Request
CCA	Controller of Certifying Authorities

4. DATA EXCHANGE REFERENCE ARCHITECTURE

The [Data Exchange Framework](#) is a set of services that enables consumption of resources (like data) by a [Consumer](#) from one or more [Resource Servers](#), based on explicit [Consent](#) obtained from the [Provider](#) of the resources.

4.1. System Design Principles

The reference architecture and design described in this Standard is based on the following principles:

1. **Technology Agnostic:** A system is said to be technology agnostic if its design is neutral to applications, programming languages, and platforms. The aim of DX is to be technology agnostic to provide seamless and secure flow of electronic data between different stakeholders.
2. **Reliability and Scaling:** Reliability is the probability of failure-free software operation for a specified period of time in a specified environment. DX systems shall be designed in a way that failure of one system should affect other systems minimally. Systems must also be designed to recover quickly from failures. The design should also allow for scaling individual systems when necessary.
3. **Privacy by Design:** Privacy by design is an approach where privacy is taken into account in the design and engineering aspects from early on. The data exchange implementation defines the data sharing mechanisms, based on Electronic Consent and results in a non-repudiable audit trail. The [Provider](#) of the data resources controls the consent to access the resources. Hence the [Provider](#) shall ensure that [PII](#) of [PII principals](#) are dealt with as per the laws of the land [b.1,b.2]. The data exchange will also maintain the privacy of consumers and all other actors who interact with the exchange based on international standards [11].
4. **Security by Design:** Secure by design indicates that a software system has been designed from the ground up to be secure. The software and systems in the DX shall be secure by design. There shall be end-to-end security of data (PKI, Digital Certificates, tamper detection) and it shall be network agnostic and data centric.
5. **Consumer Centric:** [Consumer](#) experience and ease of use are critical to successfully deliver various services in an ecosystem. The DX should take into account the various stakeholder responsibilities and mechanisms to simplify interactions and ease the access to data and services for consumers.
6. **Consent Driven:** A consent-driven architecture is one where data is shared with a data consumer only if data provider explicitly provides consent. In such a system, data providers must be provided with enough information about the consumer to make the consent decision. Mechanisms for dynamic discovery, empowerment of the [Provider](#) in accordance with the consent architecture proposed in [b.2] shall be incorporated to enhance trust and ensure data privacy.
7. **Open APIs for interoperability:** Systems should have standardized programmatic interfaces (Open APIs) for sharing and accessing digital resources easily. The data

exchange specification shall define standard APIs to promote interoperability and deliver services that are designed to work with any device, form factor or network.

8. **Transparency through Data** : Transparency in city operations can be achieved through access to Open Data [b.3]. Access to such open data will enable high-quality analytics, accurate fraud detection, shorter cycles for system improvement and, most importantly, high responsiveness to consumer's needs. The DX shall allow cities to adopt this model of transparency by providing options to host Open Data through Open APIs.

4.2. Entities and their Responsibilities

Table 1 outlines the roles and responsibilities of the various entities involved in the data exchange ecosystem.

Table 1: Entities and their responsibilities

Entity	Responsibilities
Provider	Manages DX Catalogue entries for resources owned. Provides data for resources owned. Manages access control list to authorize Consumers.
Consumer	Request Consent for secured data-set from appropriate provider. Secure access token received to prevent any misuse.
Data Exchange	Hosts and manages meta-data about resources and manages authorization for those.
Resource Server	Serves Provider's resources to authorized clients.
App	Consumer's application, that consumes resources on behalf of consumers.
Authorization Service	Provides Authorization tokens to consumers of a DX if the consumers are authorized to. It also validates an Authorization token, when requested by a resource server.
Certificate Authority	Provides Digital Certificates. Their trust can be traced to the Root Certificate Authorities.
Provider App	Helper application used by Providers to manage interactions with the data exchange.
App Developer	An organisation or an individual developing applications that consume, produce or manage resources.

Data Exchange Provider	Operates the data exchange.
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4.3. High Level Architecture

The Data Exchange (DX) framework consists of entities described in Table 1. The entities interact using interfaces as shown in Figure 1.

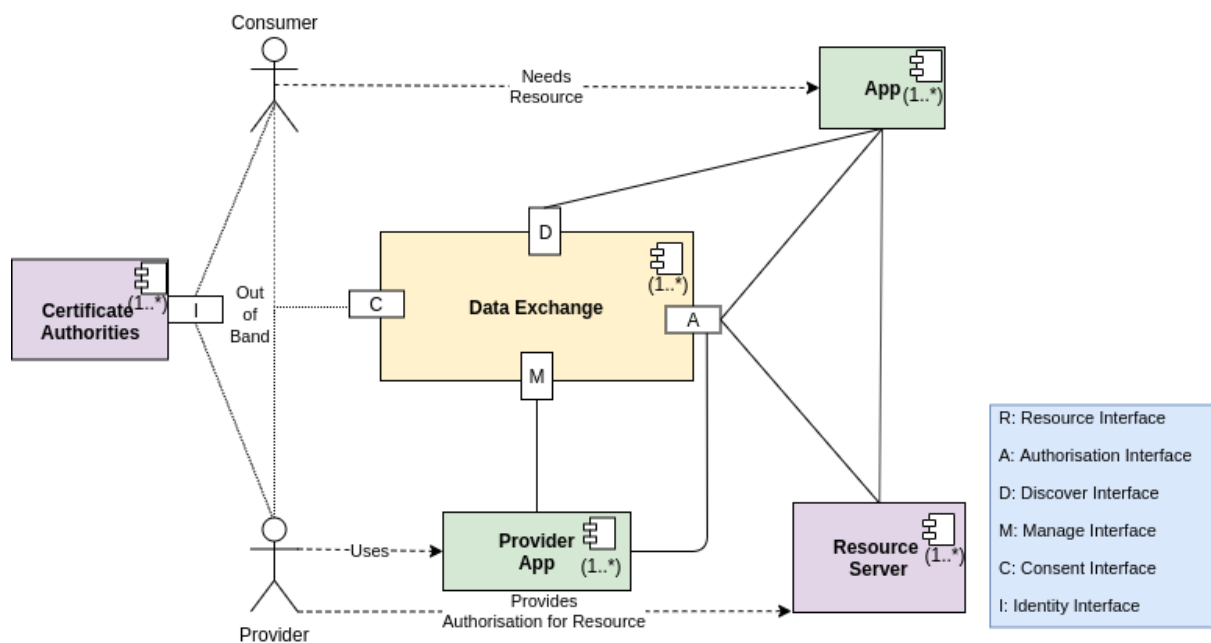


Figure 1: Data Exchange Architecture

The **Data Exchange** comprises the following interfaces:

- Resource Interface
- Authorization Interface
- Discover Interface
- Manage Interface
- Consent Interface
- Identity Interface

Resources, managed by a **Provider**, are hosted on one or more **Resource Servers**, and are made available for consumption to entities via a description of its meta-information (like its format, Provider, etc.), through a catalogue in the **Data Exchange**. The **Catalogue** is both human readable as well as machine-readable.

The **Provider** registers and manages the meta-data of its resources and their associated access control policies via the management interface of the data exchange. The **Provider** may use a helper application, like the **ProviderApp**. The meta-data of each resource should help an app developer to ease the consumption of resources in order to create useful applications for **Consumers**.

The **App** can register with the **Data Exchange** to get notified about any changes to the meta-data of the resources of interest to the **Consumer**. The **App** obtains consent to consume the resources via the authorization interface by obtaining an **Authorization Token**.

Any request to a provider's resource by a Consumer App will be checked against the existing access control policies in . If no decision can be made, the **Data Exchange** will coordinate between the **Provider** and the **Consumer** to complete a consent transaction and generate the **Authorization Token**. The **Authorization Token** will be used to update the access control policy for those resources. The **Authorization Token** will be logged by the system to ensure auditability of the consent flows. The coordination between the **Provider** and **Consumer** is done outside the scope of this specification and can be built using any of the available messaging technologies like SMS/OTP/EMAIL etc. The data licensing terms and conditions will also be outside the scope of this specification. However reference to license may be provided in the meta-data for the resource.

In order to provide for a better consumer experience, the **App Developer** may also enter into a resource licensing agreement with the **Provider**. In this case, the **Consumer** can be shielded from having to get consent separately, as long as the **App Developer** and the **App** adhere to the licensing terms and conditions of the **Provider**.

The set of interfaces for this data exchange framework are listed below:

Table 2: Data Exchange Interfaces and functionalities

Interface	Functionality	Remarks
Manage	Create, Update, Delete, List, Search and View the items in the catalogue. Create, Update, Delete and View access control policies. List and View information about consumers.	Interface for the Provider to manage the resource meta-info and access-control policies.
Discover	List, Search, View and Count items in the catalogue	Search can use complex queries and filters involving Geo, Time and other Attributes
Authorization	Request, Grant, Revoke, Introspect Access Tokens for resources.	Federated, OAuth [4] style authorization flows.
Resource	Get Latest Data, Search for resources, Get Status, Get Counts, Subscribe, Update Subscription, Unsubscribe.	Retrieve latest data and search for resources using complex queries and filters. Search can be on Geo, Time and other Attributes.

	<p>Playback of live and archived media streams, download media files. Stop, Pause and Stop playback.</p> <p>GIS resources access.</p> <p>Service resources access.</p>	
Identity	Get Identities	This interface connects with external identity management systems. Defining this will be out of scope for this standard currently.
Consent	Get consent from Provider	This interface enables Consumer to get Providers information to request Consent for accessing protected, private or confidential data. Since it involves interactions with Humans - it is not defined as part of this standard currently. SMS/Phone/Mail etc can be used. Note that in case of embedded PII , Provider has responsibility to get consent from PII Principals ,

These interfaces are specified in detail in Part 2 of this standard.

There are no deployment restrictions imposed by the DX. Data exchange using the said reference architecture and the associated interface specifications, can be deployed in multiple different ways and DX does not favour or impose any specific deployment model.

4.4. Establishing Identities of Participants

The identities of the **Providers**, **App Developers** **shall** be established via X.509 certificates. The identity of **Consumers** **may** be established via X.509 Certificates or ID tokens (OpenID Connect, SAML 2.0 or industry standards). The provisioning and management of these certificates or Tokens will be outside the scope of this standard.

4.5. Data Exchange Services

The two main services provided by the Data Exchange (DX) are the catalogue service, that allows management and search of meta-data about resources, and the Authorization service

that manages authorization to access the resources. These are described in detail in 4.5.1 and 4.5.2.

4.5.1. Catalogue Service

On a high level the DX catalogue service enables the following:

- **Discovery of data resources:** By providing various search mechanisms to discover the resources of interest.
 - For example, geo-based search, text search on meta-information, attribute search with a given value etc.
- **Ease of consumption of data:** By providing links to **data models** that describe various attributes of the given resource. This facilitates data interoperability and easy integration into various applications.
 - Data-models may contain description of data types, units, value constraints, text descriptions, semantic context etc. for the data associated with a given resource. Further, the data-models may contain other meta-information about the resource which may not directly pertain to the data from the resource. For example, the location of a fixed sensor, device models etc.
- **Semantic modelling of meta-information:** By using linked data to provide semantic contexts for the attributes describing meta-information. This leads to improved machine readability, interpretability, operational interoperability and enables vocabulary reuse from other data-model stores and taxonomies.
- **Ease of access to data from a resource:** By providing formal descriptions of how to access the data from a resource.
 - For example, API objects to describe REST based resources etc.

At the core, DX catalogue is a store of *meta-information* associated with the data assets/resources available with the data exchange. A meta-information object may be related to another meta-information object by providing explicit references to one another. Further, using concepts of linked-data¹, semantic grounding is provided for the attributes contained in the meta-information objects. The DX catalogue, built on top of the meta-information store, provides powerful search capabilities to discover resources of interest and their associated meta-information (e.g., data models, api objects etc.). Additionally, the DX catalogue provides services to build and maintain the meta-information store in a consistent and collaborative fashion.

Details of catalogue information model and various catalogue objects are provided in Section 6.

4.5.1.1. Catalogue Interface

DX catalogue exposes services via a set of APIs built on top of the meta-information store. The APIs can be broadly categorised into two sets:

¹ <https://www.w3.org/DesignIssues/LinkedData>

- **Search** APIs to discover resource items of interest. The catalogue supports the following search methods:
 - Geo-spatial search: Discover items in a given geo-spatial bound (applicable to items containing geo-spatial attributes)
 - Attribute search: Discover items with a given value for a given attribute
 - Text search: Discover items that contain matching words in a set of textual attributes (e.g., text descriptions etc.)
- **Management** APIs to create, update and delete items.

The details of catalogue APIs are provided in part 2 of this standard.

4.5.2. Authorization Service

4.5.2.1. Goals and Non-Goals

The main goal of DX framework is to enable seamless sharing of resources while respecting ownership, privacy and compliance requirements. DX achieves this by defining a set of open standards for authorization, data classification, and policy authoring, and providing sample implementations according to these standards. The standards enable data providers and application developers to target a consistent set of APIs for authoring policies and accessing data across smart city platforms. When DX is used for sharing sensitive or **PII**, the standards ensure that **PII principals** retain control over data shared on the platform in accordance with the strongest privacy regulations.

The authorization service in DX is designed to reduce barriers for adoption. In particular, resource providers should be able to start sharing resources with authorized entities with minimal effort. Towards this end, DX will support mechanisms for plugging existing non-DX complaint resource and authorization servers into the DX ecosystem with simple extensions. The authorization service also supports a simple-to-understand data classification framework and policy authoring tools to help **Providers** migrate to the DX framework.

The following aspects of resource sharing are out of scope of DX authorization service.

- Data collection mechanisms: DX does not mandate how data is collected from edge devices and transferred to the resource server.
- Enforcement of policy mechanisms: DX does not currently provide mechanisms for enforcing policies such as data retention. Data providers are expected to enforce policies through other means such as legal agreements. However, the DX framework shall support technologies such as trusted execution environments for policy enforcement at the time of data use.
- Compliance requirements: DX does not mandate that policies meet specific compliance requirements. It is the responsibility of the **Provider** to ensure that the policy they define meets the required compliance requirements and laws. For example, DX does not mandate that a data provider only share information for which consent for sharing has been obtained.

- Information leakage: DX is not responsible for any leakage of information that may occur through sharing. **Providers** are expected to ensure that data is appropriately sanitized e.g. via anonymization.
- It is outside the scope of DX to prescribe, what the consumer ought to do with the received data, post the retention period set by the provider. It is expected that the consumer disposes off the data in accordance with the policy requirements set by the provider, any legal agreement entered into with the provider or any regulatory framework governing the data.^[DR(1)]

4.5.2.2. Functionalities

The authorization service in DX **shall** support the following functionalities.

- **Registration.** A resource provider should be able to register itself with the DX authorization service using X.509 certificates.
- **Resource Access Policy Management.** A registered resource provider should be able to register resources to be shared in the DX catalog service, and enable the DX authorization server to authorize access to resources on behalf of the provider. Resources **may** be associated with scopes and policies that define the set of resource attributes a consumer can access.
- **Resource Access Authorization:** A consumer application uses the information in the catalog to request access from a DX compliant resource server. The resource server in conjunction with the DX authorization server determines if the consumer should be granted data access. Once authorization has been obtained, subsequent requests for data access may be serviced entirely by the resource server.

4.5.2.3. Actors in the Authorization flow

The main actors of the architecture are:

- **Provider:** Data providers setup access control policies for resources they are serving via the policy interface exposed by the DX authorization server.
- **Consumer Application:** The consumer application requests access to data from the resource server on behalf of the consumer. Consumers are expected to obtain X.509 certificates from a Certificate Authority trusted by the DX. The trusted CAs shall include certificate authorities licensed by Controller of Certifying Authorities, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India. The DX may also accept certificates from other trusted CAs.
- **Resource server:** The resource server hosts resources (data and services). It grants access to resources after validating tokens issued by the DX authorization server or the provider's own authorization server. If the resource server is DX/UMA 2.0 compliant and the request does not include a valid access token, the resource server initiates a DX/UMA 2.0 complaint authorization protocol involving the DX authorization server and the consumer application.

- DX Adapter:** The DX Adapter is an optional entity that sits in front of a non-DX compliant resource server. It handles resource access requests from the consumer application on behalf of the resource server. If the resource server is not DX compliant, the Adapter initiates a DX/UMA 2.0 compliant authorization protocol involving the DX authorization server and the consumer application.
- DX Authorization Server (DX AS):** The DX authorization server is a DX/UMA 2.0 complaint auth server that can be configured to control access to resources on behalf of the **Provider**. It exposes policy, permissions, grant and token introspection endpoints.

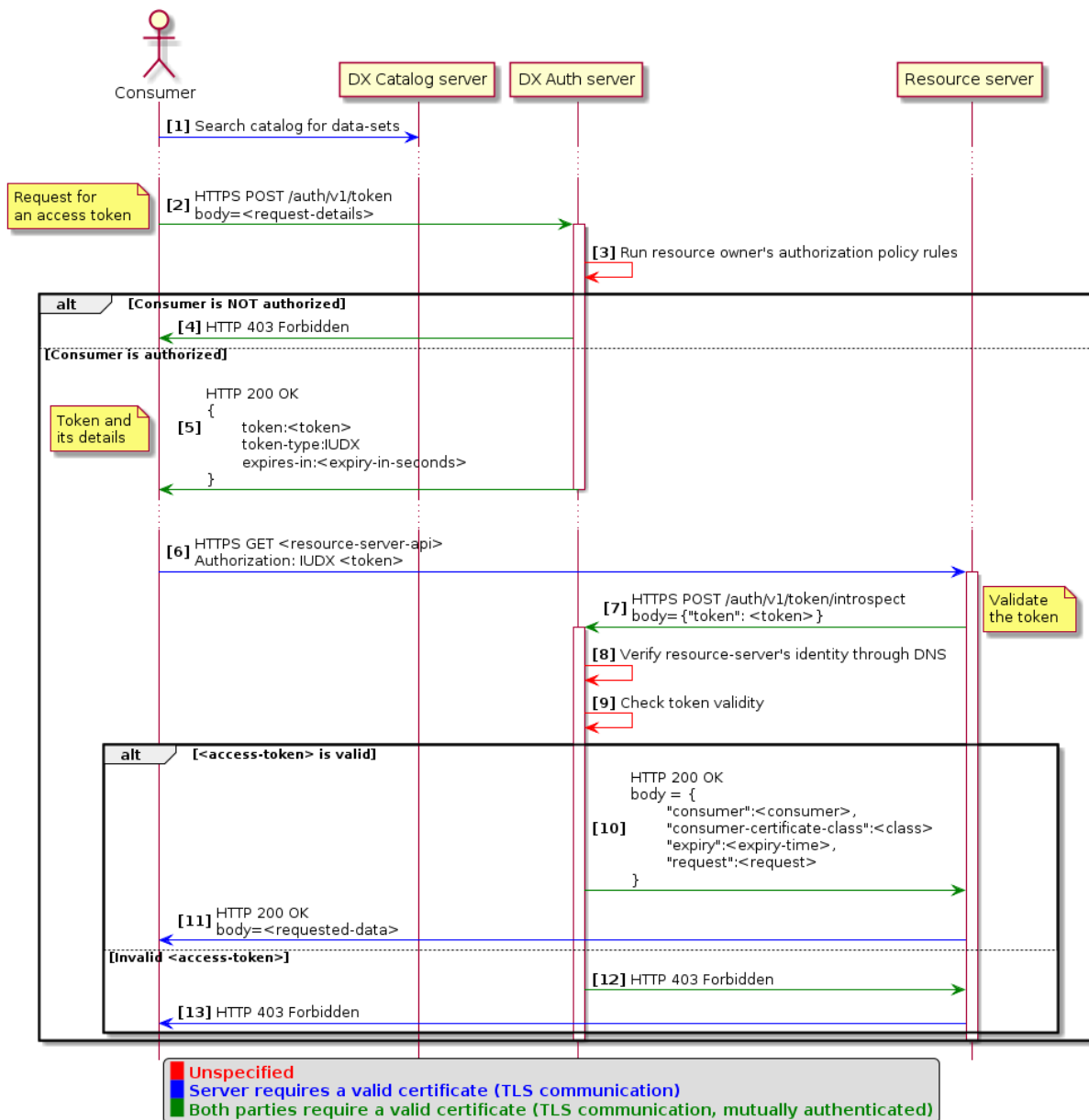


Figure 2: Authorization Flow

5. SECURITY AND PRIVACY

This section elaborates on the prerequisites for maintaining security and privacy in the data exchange architecture. It details the means by which authentication, consent and identity is established. The manner in which Authorization policies are to be created by the **Provider** is also detailed. Privacy requirements in particular shall adhere to the laws of the land [b.1].

5.1. Security requirements

- All participants **shall** use TLS [1][3] to connect with DX.
- The DX **shall** accept client side TLS certificates issued by a list of trusted CAs.
- The list of trusted CAs **shall** be decided by the DX and **shall** be communicated to DX participants.
- Security Techniques and best practices specified in [b.4][b.5][b.6][b.7][b.8][b.9][b.10][b.11][b.12][b.13][b.14][b.15] **may** be followed.

5.2. Privacy requirements

- All **resource-items** **shall** be tagged as either "public", "protected", "private", or "confidential".
- The protocols used to access resources **shall** always use secure protocols based on TLS.
- The **Authorization Token** **shall** be sent through a secure and encrypted channel.
- The **Authorization Token** **shall** contain the authorization server and consumer ID for which the token belongs to. For example:
 - `auth.iudx.org.in/user@domain.com/1802a84d157ff4d113150aeca8bdacee`

The following aspects of data sharing are not in scope of DX.

- Data collection. DX does not mandate how data is collected from edge devices and transferred to the resource server.
- Enforcement of policies through technical means. DX does not currently provide mechanisms for enforcing policies such as data retention. Data providers are expected to enforce policies through other means such as legal agreements. However, the DX framework permits the use of technologies such as trusted execution environments for policy enforcement at the time of data use.
- DX does not mandate that policies meet specific compliance requirements. It is the responsibility of the data provider to ensure that the policy they define meets the required compliance requirements and laws. For example, DX does not mandate that a data provider only share information for which consent for sharing has been obtained.

- DX is not responsible for any leakage of information that may occur through data sharing. Data providers are expected to ensure that data is appropriately sanitized e.g. via anonymization.
- DX is not responsible for the correctness of the data sharing policy rules of a provider. The providers shall ensure that their data policy rules match their organization's policies; and go through the review process, be vetted by concerned parties, and tested before applying.

5.3. Authentication and consent

- All **Providers** shall use certificates from **CA** or recognized certificate authorities to connect with DX.
- The certificates shall be validated by authorization service and be checked against certificate revocation lists or OCSP.
- All **Providers** shall be able to manage the access control list of their resources using their valid digital certificates.
- Catalog security: (i) Only people with proper authorization shall be able to create, update and delete entries in the catalog. (ii) The entries in the catalog are linked to the DN of a user's certificate. Thus, only the original owner shall be able to modify their own entry.
- Consent history: Consent history data is to be considered private and is only available to the Provider of the resource. Consent history shall be available to DX for audit purposes.

5.4. Authorization Policies

DX shall enable **Providers** to associate a policy with every **resource-item** in the catalog. The policy should govern who has access to the resource described by the item and how entities with access should handle storage of resource's data. Associating policy with attributes within a resource is currently not supported. This is because the resource is accessed at object granularity in DX. In order to associate policies at a finer granularity, providers may define views over underlying raw data, and associate a policy with every view.

A policy **P** is a pair of the form **(C, A)**, where :

- 1) **C** defines the set of consumers that are authorized for resource access. **C** may be defined in a policy language such as XACML or Aperture. A consumer is any entity such as an individual, organization, an organizational role, or a trusted execution environment that has been issued a certificate or token by a trusted CA.
- 2) **A** is a list of attribute-value pairs which defines requirements on consumers who have access to data.

Table 3: Authorization policy attributes and values.

Attribute key	Description	Possible values
Authorization protocol and policy	Specifies protocol that a consumer shall use to request access from a resource server	None, OAuth/UMA, OAuth/UMA + XACML Policy, Token/DX + Aperture policy language
Data locality	Specifies requirements on where a consumer is allowed to store data after getting access	Country, State, Organization (Service-based access), None
Data retention	Specifies requirements on how long consumers may retain data	Fixed period, Up to a certain event or date, None
Data storage	Specifies in what form a consumer may store data	Encrypted (using adequately protected keys), Encrypted (using keys owned by data owner), Any
Data usage	Specifies requirements on the purpose for which data is used.	Privacy preserving computation, Anonymization, Computation certified by a third party, Any
Data audit	Specifies audit requirements on data that the consumer shall satisfy	Audit accesses along with time and duration of access, None

This list is not exhaustive. For example, the policy framework does not capture requirements around ownership of data. Further additions to the list of attributes or attribute values may be made over time while maintaining backward compatibility.

5.4.1. Policy labels

In order to simplify the process of authoring policies, we define a set of policy labels that capture commonly used policy specifications. The policy labels are only normative and may evolve over time.

Table 4: Some standard policy Labels

Labels → Meaning v	Public	Protected	Private	Confidential
Nature of data	Information	Contains	May contain	May contain

	which can be made available to the public. It shall not contain any personally identifiable information	anonymized information	personally identifiable information	personally identifiable information and/or other data that is confidential within the organization
Authorization protocol and policy	None	Requires authorization using DX/UMA, no custom auth policy	Requires authorization using DX/UMA, custom auth policy specified in a policy language	Requires authorization using DX/UMA, custom auth policy specified in a policy language
Consent	None	Provider	Requires consent of owners	Requires consent of owners
Data locality	None	None	Configurable or as per regulatory framework	Only service based access
Data retention	None	None	Configurable or as per regulatory framework	NA
Data storage	Any	Any	Encrypted	NA
Data usage	Any	License	Licensed with legal framework	Licensed with legal framework
Data audit	None	Random audit	Needs audit	Needs audit
Data Monetization	Not to be monetized	Provider's decision	Provider's decision	NA

5.4.2. Identity

The identities of the [providers](#) and [consumers](#) accessing private data must be clearly established using digital certificates, whereas [consumers](#) accessing public data could be anonymous.

Identity of providers/consumers of data in DX is through:

1. Certificates
2. Tokens

DX **shall** accept TLS connections using certificates from any licensed CA in India (certified by the CCA). Also, DX **may** issue certificates to users based on their email IDs. DX **may** host a certificate authority (CA) which will grant certificates to:

1. Resource servers
2. Individuals / App developers
3. Organizations
4. Data officers of an organization
5. Employees of an organization

Individuals, app developers, or employees of an organization who wish to access protected private, or confidential data **shall** require a valid certificate.

Individuals and App developers **shall** send a certificate signing request (CSR) as an attachment in an email to the [DX Certificate Authority](#) with subject "*Certificate request*". The CA will validate the CSR and will respond back with a certificate.

Organizations **shall** send a certificate signing request (CSR) as an attachment in an email from their organization domain to [DX Certificate Authority](#). The CA will validate the CSR and will respond back with a certificate. The certificate provided to organization can only be used to grant certificates to employees of the organization. Thus, the domain name of the organization shall match with the e-mail of the employee for whom the certificate is granted.

For organizations to be able to request certificates from CA, they **shall** register themselves with CA (this **may** be through an online form). All registered organizations' domain names **shall** be added to a white-list; and DX **shall** only accept certificate requests from organizations in the white-list.

Organizations while generating a certificate **may** add more details about the employee such as: organization, organization unit, first name, last name, role of the employee, state, city, etc.

Employees of an organization may send a certificate signing request (CSR) as an attachment in an email to [DX Certificate Authority](#). The organization that will act as a sub-CA or a registration-authority will validate the CSR and will respond back with a certificate. The scripts to grant certificates **may** be provided by the DX to organizations.

DX Certificate Authority **shall** issue 5 classes of certificates:

- Class 1: Which **shall** be issued to resource servers for validating tokens.
- Class 2: Which **shall** be issued to individuals or employees of an organization (which are registered and whitelisted with the DX). This certificate is expected to be used to access protected data.
- Class 3: Which can be issued to employees and data-officers of an organization (which are registered and whitelisted with the DX). Such employees **shall** have access rights to upload and manage [resource-items](#) in the catalogue of the DX. This certificate **shall** be used to create/manage catalog items.
- Class 4: Which is to be issued to trusted employees of an organization (which are registered and whitelisted with the DX). This certificate is expected to be used to access protected and private data.
- Class 5: Which is to be issued to trusted employees of an organization (which are registered and whitelisted with the DX). This certificate is expected to be used to access protected, private, and confidential data.

5.5. Audit Considerations

All Interfaces **shall** make statistics available and log all events to allow audit of interactions.

5.6. Reliability Considerations

The systems shall be designed to be highly available, scalable using a distributed architecture for vertical and horizontal scale, and high on performance. Where :

Reliability is defined as the ability of a device or a system to perform its intended function under given conditions of use for a specified period of time or number of cycles.

Availability is defined as the property of being accessible and usable upon demand by an authorized entity.

Scalability is defined as the property of a system to handle a growing amount of work / load by adding resources to the system.

The APIs shall have high uptime and a public API Status Page shall be provided by the Authorization Service Provider, Catalogue Service Provider and the Resource Server that reports the same for each of the endpoints (along with other open data like average

response time, latency, etc). Furthermore, these shall also implement the Heartbeat API for reporting their system uptime in real-time.

This section explains how the various failure scenarios that shall be handled :

- Failure to notify **Provider**

In this scenario, when the **AS** or **RS** is not able to notify the **Provider** on the status of the consent flow or data flow, a mechanism has to be put in place to notify the **Provider** at a later stage. This can be achieved by reinitiating the notification message to the **Provider** or by providing the **Provider** an option to check the status through an application, or by providing a list of all consent flows and data flows (with status) in the application.

- Response from **AS** does not reach the **Consumer**.

In this scenario, when the response sent by **AS** does not reach the **Consumer**, the latter should have a mechanism provided by **AS** to initiate a request to know the status of the consent flows.

- Response from **Catalogue service** does not reach **Consumer**

In this scenario, when the response sent by **catalogue service** does not reach the **Consumer**, the **Consumer** should have a mechanism provided by **catalogue service** to initiate a request to know the status of catalogue services.

- **RS** is not available to **Consumer**:

In this scenario, when **RS** is not available to **Consumer**, **Consumer** may have a mechanism to re-initiate the request to **RS**.

6. DX Catalogue

6.1. Catalogue Information Model

Conceptually, the catalogue is a collection of **items** with each **item** containing a set of meta-information **attributes** along with their **values**. Each **item** belongs to an **itemType** which serves to categorise the type of meta-information contained in it. Each **itemType** is associated with a 'schema' which defines a mandatory set of attributes an **item** shall contain. Other than the mandatory set of attributes, an **item** may contain additional custom attributes to augment its information content. DX catalogue supports the following

itemTypes (see Table 5): 'resourceItem', 'resourceServer', 'provider', 'resourceServerGroup' and 'catalogueItem'.

Each attribute in an **item** belongs to one of the attribute types chosen from a pre-defined set referred to as DX **core attribute** types. A **core attribute** type provides semantic context for an attribute and also defines the syntactic structure of that attribute. The syntactic structure is designed to be extensible such that additional information fields may be included apart from the minimal set of fields defined for a given **core attribute** type. DX catalogue supports the following **core attribute** types: 'Property', 'Relationship', 'GeoProperty', 'QuantitativeProperty' and 'TimeProperty'.

The catalogue **items** are *linked data* objects. The mandatory attributes, and preferably the custom attributes as well, of an **item** are mapped to discoverable **universal resource identifiers**. That is, the attributes are provided with a *context*. The context for a given attribute may contain information on how the attribute should be interpreted. An attribute may contain linkages, using linked data primitives, to other attributes from other vocabularies/taxonomies thereby leading to further enhancement in its interpretability by machines (and humans). Further, different attributes from various **items** can point to the same resource identifier which provides a simple mechanism to harmonise semantically similar yet syntactically different attributes contained in different **items**.

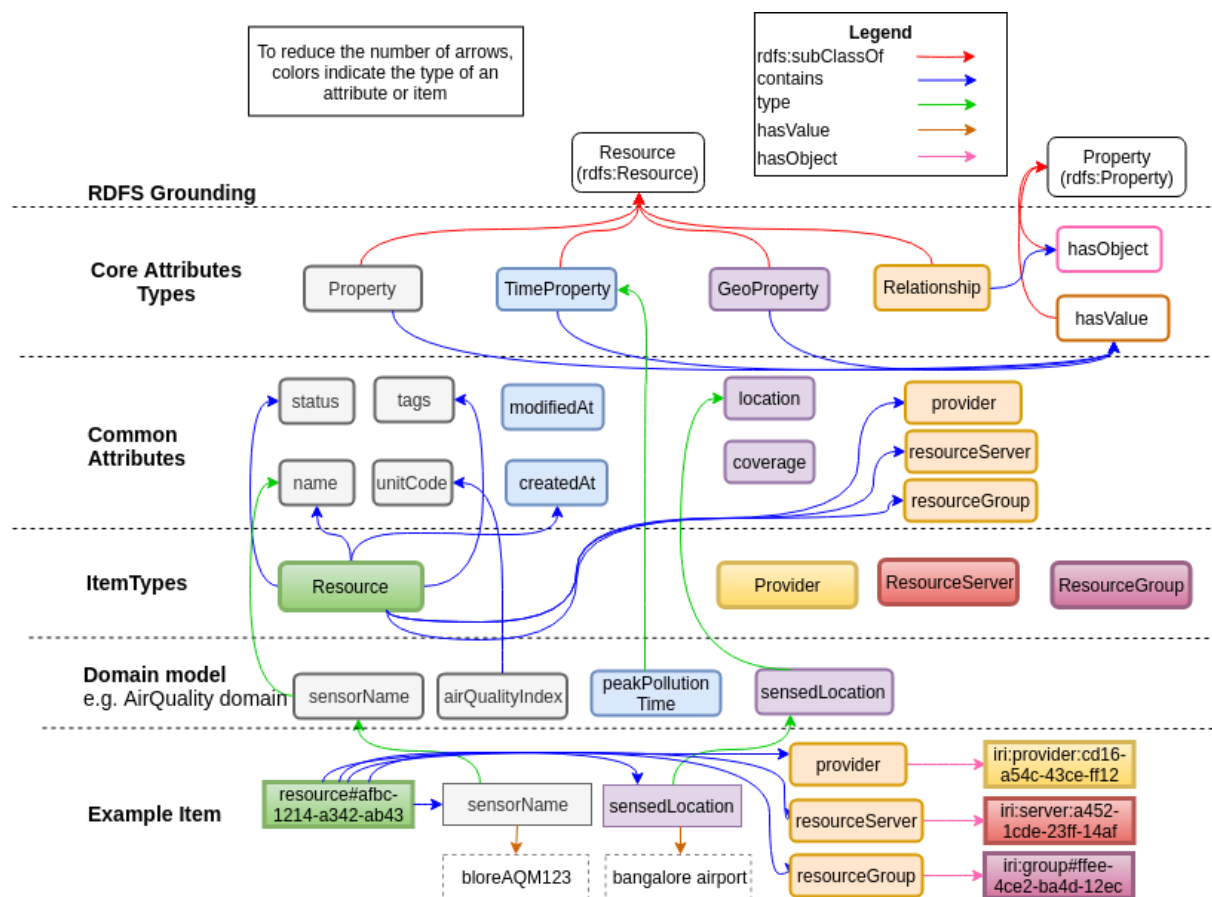


Figure 3 : DX Catalogue information model

Figure 3 summarizes the catalogue information model. The base layer consists of **core attribute** types. An attribute will, in general, have a 'type' and 'value' and may have other meta-properties associated with it to additionally describe the attribute. 'type' identifies the **core attribute** type and shall have one of the following values: 'Property', 'Relationship', 'GeoProperty', 'QuantitativeProperty' and 'TimeProperty'. 'value' contains the values assigned to the attribute and it may range from simple objects, like strings or numbers, to complex objects, like, 'GeoJSON' [7] objects etc. DX **core attribute** types are described in Section 6.2.

Common attributes, which necessarily extend one of the **core attribute** types, serve to give specific meaning and interpretation to an attribute value. For example, 'location', which is of type 'GeoProperty', is used to specifically represent a geo-spatial point with just one set of latitude and longitude coordinates. Similarly, 'createdAt' is of type 'TimeProperty' which is used to represent the time [9] when a given catalog **item** is created. **Common attributes** have been defined to capture commonly used concepts across DX catalogue **items**. Further, all the mandatory attributes contained in various catalogue **items** necessarily come from the **common attribute** set.

An **itemType** is used to describe and give a semantic interpretation to a collective set of attributes contained in an **item**. For example, an **item** of type 'resourceItem' is used to describe meta-information associated with an DX **Resource**, like, how to access data from this resource, links to the **data model** used to describe data from this resource, discovery tags associated with this resource, information about the **Provider** of this data (who can authorize access) etc. Similarly, a 'provider' **item** captures information about **Provider** entity. As mentioned before, each **itemType** specifies a set of mandatory attributes to be included in any **item** of this **itemType** and these attributes necessarily belong to the **common attribute** set.

A **data model** describes meta-information attributes and their syntactic structure for a given application domain. The catalogue framework allows, using the concepts of linked data, reuse of attributes from other domain specific vocabularies. Note that defining a specific **data model** is out of scope for the catalogue specifications. However, for consistency purpose, attributes defined in **data models** should follow the same general set of rules, specified later, as are followed for DX meta-information attributes. The intent here is to specify a robust framework that allows specification, reuse and building consensus for domain specific data models.

6.1.1. Role of JSON-LD and JSON-schema

DX catalogue is based on **JSON-LD**² and **JSON-schema**³. JSON-LD framework is used to provide linked data encodings to the attributes in the catalogue **items**. The context

² <https://json-ld.org/>

³ <https://json-schema.org/>

mappings link attributes to vocabulary (or ontology) of interest which provides additional meaning and context to it. DX catalogue uses JSON [8] schema framework for representational purposes. In particular, JSON schema is used for describing and validating the structure of catalogue `items`.

All the catalogue `items` are JSON-LD documents and necessarily need to include “@context” field, which contains JSON-LD context, that maps attributes to IRIs (Internationalized Resource Identifiers as described in [RFC3987]⁴) providing unambiguous identification of these attributes. DX will necessarily provide context for DX core attribute types and DX common attributes. For additional attributes, it is recommended that the provider of these items should use context from DX vocabulary and/or from existing vocabularies, e.g., schema.org, GeoJSON-LD, etc.

JSON schemas are used to specify the structure of catalogue `items`. Each `itemType` has an associated JSON schema which is used to define the syntactic structure of an `item` belonging to this `itemType`. The schemas for all `itemTypes` is collectively referred to as `base schemas`.

JSON-schemas are also used to specify the domain specific `data models`. `Data models` describe attributes that contain meta-information about a data resource.

In addition, the JSON schema ‘definitions’ and/or ‘properties’ which are dereferenceable JSON pointers, and hence valid IRI links, can also be used to provide IRI references to be used in “@id” or “@type” fields from within the JSON-LD objects.

The `base schemas` and `data models` are not stored as catalogue items. However, a repository of `base schemas` and `data models` will be available to DX catalogue implementations.

6.2. DX Core Attribute Types

DX `core attribute` types represent a minimal set of types/classes to which various meta-information attributes belong to. Each `core attribute` has a well defined structure which is extensible to allow for additional information fields to be included for a given attribute. Since every attribute belongs to one of the core types, it imposes a partially known structure on various attributes, especially the ones that are not a part of DX `common attribute` set. Also, such an explicit categorisation allows for targeted operations on relevant `core attribute` types, e.g., geo-spatial search, time-based searches etc.

DX Catalogue information model supports the following `core attribute` types: **Property, Relationship, GeoProperty, TimeProperty, QuantitativeProperty.**

6.2.1. Property

An attribute of type ‘Property’ is a JSON object whose key is the attribute name, which is mapped to an IRI using “@context” field of the item containing the attribute, and whose value is a JSON-LD object that includes the following keys:

⁴ <https://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3987.txt>

- “type”
 - Type “string” set to a fixed value “Property”
- “value”
 - Type “string”, “number”, “array” OR “object”⁵
- Any other attribute of [core attribute](#) types
- **Mandatory fields:** “type”, “value”

‘Property’ attribute is most general of the core-attribute types. In fact, as can be seen later, GeoProperty, TimeProperty and QuantitativeProperty are specializations of ‘Property’ that impose some additional structure on “value” field.

6.2.2. Relationship

An attribute of type ‘Relationship’ is a JSON object whose key is the attribute name, which is mapped to an IRI using “@context” field of the item containing the attribute, and whose value is a JSON-LD object that includes the following keys:

- “type”
 - Type “string” set to a fixed value “Relationship”
- “value”
 - Type “string” OR “array of strings”
 - Format: URI [2]
- Any other attribute belonging to [core attribute](#) types
- **Mandatory fields:** “type”, “value”

‘Relationship’ attribute is useful to establish relationships amongst different catalogue objects. It can point to other items in the catalogue as well as external objects to which the items refer to, e.g., data models, base schemas, API objects, etc.

6.2.3. GeoProperty

An attribute of type ‘GeoProperty’ is a JSON object whose key is the attribute name, which is mapped to an IRI using “@context” field of the item containing the attribute, and whose value is a JSON-LD object that includes the following keys:

- “type”
 - Type “string” set to a fixed value “GeoProperty”
- “value”
 - Type: ‘object’ that includes one of the following
 - An ‘object’ with key “geometry” whose value is a GeoJSON object. The [item](#) should include the GeoJSON-LD context that maps the GeoJSON object keys to appropriate IRIs.
 - An ‘object’ with key “address” whose value is of type “string”
- Any other attribute belonging to [core attribute](#) types
- **Mandatory fields:** “type”, “value”

⁵ In case the values takes by “value” is a JSON object, then it is assumed to be a JSON-LD node object and it is assumed that its context is either explicitly provided or the keys used are already mapped via the catalogue item context.

Attributes of type 'GeoProperty' are used to include geo-spatial information in catalogue items.

6.2.4. TimeProperty

An attribute of type 'TimeProperty' is a JSON object whose key is the attribute name, which is mapped to an IRI using "@context" field of the item containing the attribute, and whose value is a JSON-LD object that includes the following keys:

- "type"
 - Type "string" set to a fixed value "TimeProperty"
- "value"
 - Type "string"
 - Format: date-time in W3C format (default)
- Any other attribute belonging to [core attribute](#) types
- **Mandatory fields:** "type", "value"

Attributes of type 'TimeProperty' are used to include time information in catalogue items.

6.2.5. QuantitativeProperty

An attribute of type 'QuantitativeProperty' is a JSON object whose key is the attribute name, which is mapped to an IRI using "@context" field of the item containing the attribute, and whose value is a JSON-LD object that includes the following keys:

- "type"
 - Type "string" set to a fixed value "QuantitativeProperty"
- "value"
 - Type "number" or "array of numbers"⁶
- "unitCode"
 - Type "string"
 - Denote the units of measurement (<https://schema.org/unitCode>)
- "unitText"
 - Type "string"
 - Additional textual description for the units of measurement [14]. Very useful when unitCode is not available for the quantity of interest. (<https://schema.org/unitText>)
- "minValue"
 - Type "number"
 - Lower numeric limit of the described quantitative property (<https://schema.org/minValue>)
- "maxValue"
 - Type "number"
 - Upper numeric limit of the described quantitative property (<https://schema.org/maxValue>)
- Any other attribute belonging to [core-attribute](#) types

⁶ A numeric quantity represented as a string is acceptable. Any non-numeric characters in the string will not be accepted.

- **Mandatory fields:** “type”, “value”

Attributes of type ‘QuantitativeProperty’ are useful to represent observed or measured quantities.

In terms of property graph model the following (non-normative) mappings could be made:

- Each of the **core attribute** types can be perceived as sub-class of ‘[rdfs:Resource](#)’⁷.
- The field “value” maps (via JSON-LD mappings) to ‘hasValue’ which is of type ‘[rdfs:Property](#)’⁸
- The field “object” maps (via JSON-LD mappings) to ‘hasObject’ which is of type ‘[rdfs:Property](#)’

The DX catalogue **core attribute** types are similar to the core meta-model in NGS-LD⁹, a recent data exchange standard by ETSI ISG CIM, which incorporates the linked data concepts in the data served by **Resource Servers**. In particular, ‘Property’ and ‘Relationship’ objects are similar between DX catalogue and NGS-LD core meta-model. Further, the core-attributes ‘GeoProperty’ and ‘TimeProperty’ are also in consonance to concepts defined in the NGS-LD common meta model.

6.3. DX Common Attributes

DX **common attributes** define commonly used concepts in DX catalogue **items**. All the **common attributes** belong to one of the **core attribute** types and thus follow the structure of the parent attribute type. Informally, the **common attribute** definition adapts the **core attribute** type to a specific concept that is being modelled. For example, although ‘location’ and ‘coverageArea’ are both of type ‘GeoProperty’ these are modelling different geo-spatial scenarios [13]. Whereas, ‘location’ represents a point by restricting the ‘geometry’ object to be of type ‘GeoJSON point’, ‘coverageArea’ represents a geo-spatial region by restricting the ‘geometry’ object to be of type ‘GeoJSON polygon’.

The syntactic structure for **common attributes** is defined using JSON schemas. As mentioned before, the attribute definitions from within the JSON schema document may be used as the corresponding IRI link for the linked data context.

Table 6 lists down all the common attributes defined within DX catalogue.

6.4. Base schemas, data models and API objects

6.4.1. Base schemas

As mentioned before, each catalogue **item** belongs to an **itemType**. Further, all **itemTypes** have associated schemas, collectively referred to as **base schemas**, which describe the syntactic structure of the **items** belonging to the respective **itemTypes**. The **base schemas** are represented using **JSON-schemas**. A **base schema** specifies the

⁷ https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-schema/#ch_resource

⁸ https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-schema/#ch_property

⁹ https://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_gs/CIM/001_099/009/01.01.01_60/gs_CIM009v010101p.pdf

template of a given *item* which includes: specifying the set of common attributes used in an *item*, specifying a set of mandatory attributes, specifying constraints (if any) on additional attributes etc.

By specifying a set of mandatory attributes *base schemas* ensure a level of uniformity in the information contained in an *item* of a given *itemType*. For example, for every 'resourceItem', a mandatory 'tags' field is useful to search for resources of interest. At the same time the flexibility of including additional attributes allows for including specific information in an *item* that may be hard to generalise.

Representing *base schemas* as JSON-schemas brings into play the powerful validation framework that can be leveraged to validate *items* at the time of creation or updation of items into the catalogue store.

With regards to any additional attribute included in any *item*, it is recommended that the general guidelines be followed:

- It should belong to one of the *core attribute* types.
- Context for the new attribute, i.e., IRI mapping and "@type" definitions, should be added to the *item* context. Also, as mentioned before, if the 'value' of the new attribute is a JSON-object and it needs to be treated as an LD object, then its context should be provided.

The catalogue contains the following *item* types:

Table 5: Item types in a DX catalogue

<i>itemType</i>	Description
resourceItem	Contains meta-information associated with a data resource.
resourceServer	Contains information about a <i>Resource server</i> .
resourceServerGroup	Contains information about a resource server group ¹⁰ .
provider	Contains information about the DX <i>Provider</i> entity
catalogueItem	Contains information about the "catalogue" instance. For example, instance id, end points, Provider etc.

Table 7 lists down the set of mandatory attributes for each of the above *itemType*¹¹. Also see Section 6.4.4. for a discussion on the relationship between various catalogue *itemTypes* and other catalogue objects.

6.4.2. Data Models

¹⁰ A resource group defines a grouping of resources within same *Resource server* and share the same *data model*. See Section 6.4.4. for more details.

¹¹ Also refer to the DX Github repo (<https://github.com/iudx/iudx-ld>) for latest releases of base schemas and *data models*.

The **data model** object contains description of domain specific attributes associated with a resource. These can include attributes that describe the data from resource, also referred to as *data-attributes*, as well as attributes that describe other meta-information related to the resource. As an example, let the data from a temperature sensor be available in JSON format and contain keys “temperature” and “time-stamp”. The **data model** corresponding to this sensor shall contain schemas for attributes “temperature” and “time-stamp” along with optional textual descriptions about these attributes. Further, the **data model** may also include attributes, like, location of sensor, make and model of sensor etc. which do not directly describing the data and yet contain important meta-information related to the resource.

JSON schema is used to represent **data models** in DX catalogue. The attributes contained in the **data model**, in a fashion similar to DX **common attributes**, shall belong to one of the core attribute types. Also, wherever applicable, **data model** attributes should use attribute definitions from the DX **common attribute** set.

Data models improves understanding and interoperability of data from a given resource. Further since JSON schema framework is used to represent **data models**, these can also be used for validation purposes by data consuming applications.

In DX catalogue framework the **data model**, which is a JSON schema document, also plays a role in enabling linked data. The JSON-LD “@context” field containing the context for all the data model attributes is included in the **data model**. This will enable easy conversion of JSON data from resource server into a JSON-LD data. All that is required is to add an “@context” field in the JSON data from the resource containing a reference to the corresponding **data model**.

Note that by adding “@context” field the data model serves dual purpose: It can be referred to as a valid JSON-LD context document and all fields outside “@context” will be ignored. Similarly, it remains a valid JSON schema document and when used as a schema document, say for validation purposes, all non JSON schema fields will be ignored.

The idea of adding “@context” is further extended in the following way: The **data models** may include some ‘non JSON schema attributes’ in the schema and a JSON-LD context is provided for these attributes. The JSON-LD parser will expand these to their corresponding IRIs thereby providing the consuming applications with additional context about a given data attribute. This leads to improved human and machine interpretability of these attributes and eventually a better understanding of data itself.

The **data models** are not stored as catalogue items. However, a repository of base schemas and **data models** will be available to DX catalogue implementations.

6.4.2.1. Compact representation of attributes

As mentioned above, the **data models** include data attributes which belong to one of the **core attribute** types. It may not always be possible (and even preferable) to send data according to the template required by the associated core type. For these scenarios, a compact representation is supported where the data attribute and its ‘value’ are represented as a simple key-value pair (thus, excluding the explicit mention of fields ‘type’ and ‘value’). However, one can easily get the ‘type’ of this attribute using the JSON-LD context mappings and/or by examining the **data model** corresponding to this data resource.

6.4.3. Access Objects

The `access object` formally describes the methods of accessing data from (and interacting with) the resource. For example, an open-API object¹² can be used to describe API end-points, query parameters, request and response bodies for a REST API (HTTP [5][6]) based access. Reference for such objects can be included in catalogue resource `items` to ease the process of accessing data from a given resources or a set of resources. Other such formal descriptions, e.g., async API objects¹³ for MQTT [12] or AMQP [10] messaging based resources etc. can also be included in the resource items.

An interesting aspect is that in some `access objects`, e.g., API object, the request/response bodies may be described using JSON-schema references. For such `access objects`, it is recommended that the `access object` refer to the corresponding `data model` (which is a JSON-schema) to describe attributes in the request/response bodies.

The `access objects` are not stored as catalogue items.

¹² <https://swagger.io/docs/specification/about/>

¹³ <https://www.asyncapi.com/>

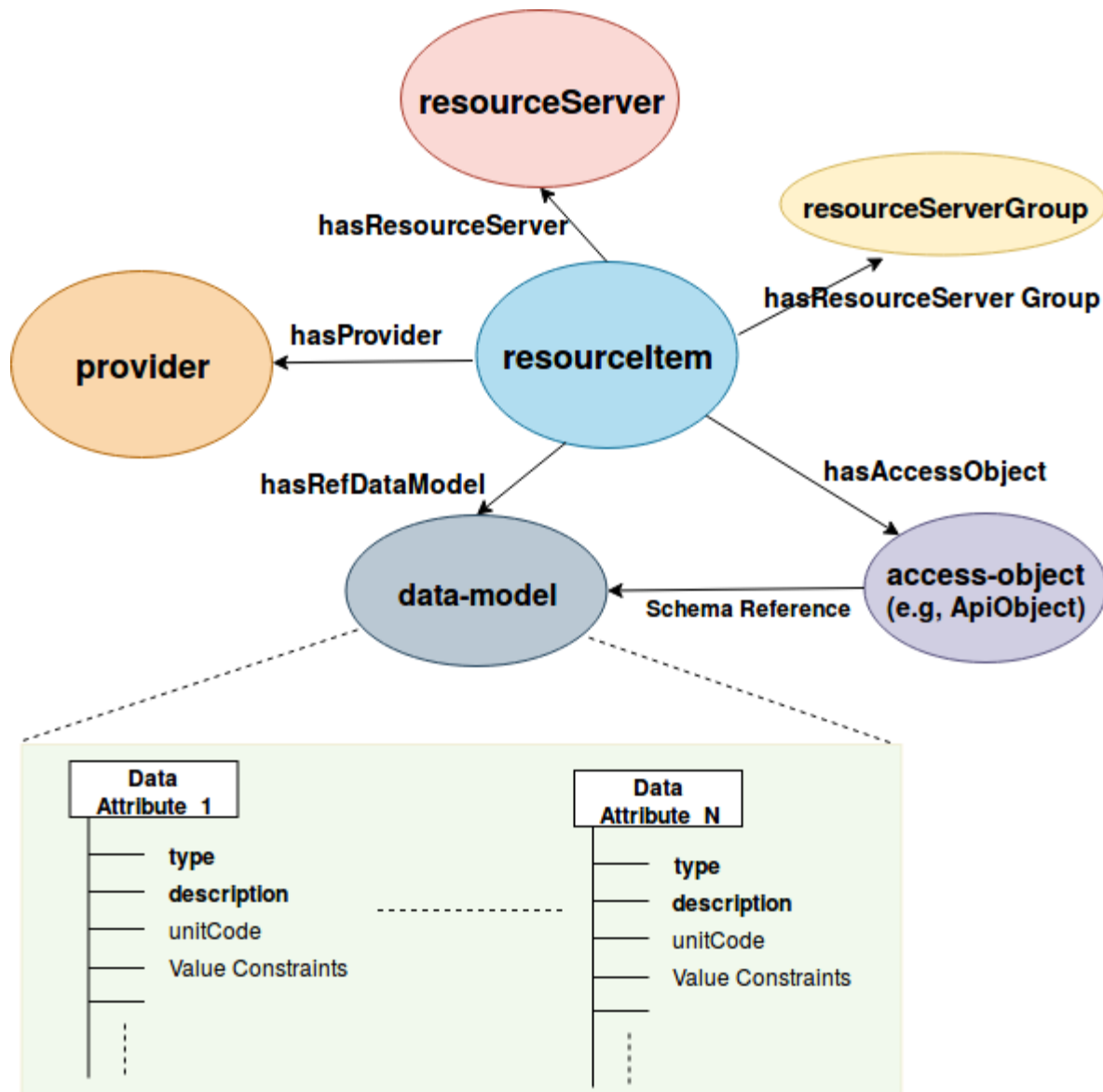


Figure 4: Relationship of “resourceItem” with other *itemTypes*

6.4.4. Relationship between various catalogue objects

Figure 4 summarizes the relationship between various DX catalogue objects.

An item of type ‘resourceItem’ is a key object around which catalogue services have been designed. It consolidates different types of meta-information associated with a resource. For example, links to the associated data model objects, links to associated API objects etc.

In addition to the attributes specified by the *base schema*, a resource item may contain additional attributes from an associated *data model*, e.g., location information of a fixed sensor or device model and manufacturer etc.

An item of type ‘resource-item’ **shall** contain a reference to an item of type ‘provider’. The provider object contains information about the provider for this resource, e.g., identity of the

Provider, description, contact information etc.. This information is needed for applications looking to get authorization to access this resource.

Similarly, an item of type 'resourceItem' **shall** contain a reference to an item of type 'resourceServer' which contains information about the **Resource server** that is hosting the resource, e.g., identity, description, name, IP address and ports etc.

Additionally, a 'resourceItem' may contain a reference to an item of type 'resourceServerGroup' which identifies the resource group within a resource server to which the resource belongs. A resource group is a grouping of resources that have the same **data model**, same **access objects** (and hence the same request/response bodies) and belong to the same **Resource server**. The concept of resource groups allow operations (e.g., get data, status etc.) to be defined on multiple resources belonging to the same group. Currently, no notion of resource groups exist across the resource servers. However, once the **data models** for certain resource groups have been standardized it can be envisioned that a resource group can have resources from different resource servers also. The 'resourceServerGroup' item contains information that is applicable to all the resources within this group and hence this information need not be included in each resource item.

Table 6 below lists down the attributes defined in the DX **common attribute** set. These attributes are used to define base schemas. Table 7 lists down the common attributes used in DX **base schemas**.

Table 6: List of DX common attributes

Field Name	Attributes	Value
id		
	type	Property
	description	id of a catalogue item
resourceId	value-type	string
	type	Property
name	description	id of the resource in the resource server
	value-type	string
createdAt	type	Property
	description	name of a catalogue item
	value-type	string

	type	TimeProperty
	description	Time when a resource/item/attribute was created
	value-type	string
modifiedAt	type	TimeProperty
	description	Time when a resource/item/attribute was modified
	value-type	string
deprecatedAt	type	TimeProperty
	description	Time when a resource/item/attribute was deprecated
	value-type	string
tags	type	Property
	description	Array of keywords describing this item facilitating item discovery.
	value-type	array
resourceType	type	Property
	description	Type of the resource (see Table 8 below)
	value-type	string
uriLink	type	Property
	description	Attribute whose value is a URI [2]
	value-type	string
itemStatus	type	Property
	description	Status of this catalogue item
	value-type	string
refBaseSchema	type	Relationship
	description	Link to the base schema for this itemType
	value-type	IRI
resourceServer	type	Relationship
	description	Link to a resourceServer item

	value-type	IRI
resourceServerGroup		
	type	Relationship
	description	Link or an array of links to resourceServerGroup items
	value-type	IRI
itemDescription		
	type	Property
	description	Text description of this item.
	value-type	string
itemType		
	type	Property
	description	DX item type
	value-type	string
refDataModel		
	type	Relationship
	description	Reference to the data model for this resource item.
	value-type	IRI
provider		
	type	Relationship
	description	Link to the provider of this resource
	value-type	IRI
statusSchema		
	type	Property
	description	Status of an item. Set to either 'active' or 'deprecated'
	value-type	string
location		
	type	GeoProperty
	description	Describes a geo-spatial location as a geoJSON point
	value-type	object
coverageRegion		
	type	GeoProperty
	description	Describes a geo-spatial region as a geoJSON polygon
	value-type	object
organizationInfo		

	type	Property
	description	Information about a given organization (contact info, email, urls etc.)
	value-type	object
authorizationServerInfo		
	type	Property
	description	Information regarding the authorization server that this item uses
	value-type	object
deviceModelInfo		
	type	Property
	description	Device model information, it's make, brand, model, url, etc
	value-type	object
accessObjectType		
	type	Property
	description	Type of access mechanism. For example, 'openAPI', 'asyncAPI', 'custom'.
	value-type	string
accessObjectURL		
	type	Property
	description	URL that points to more information about data access of this resource
	value-type	string
accessObject		
	type	Relationship
	description	Link to an object (OpenAPI 3.0 api JSON object, or a json-schema) to describe access mechanism for this data resource.
	value-type	IRI
accessObjectVariables		
	type	Property
	description	Item specific API object variables. The variables and their corresponding value for this resource item are listed as a key-value pairs in value field of this property. The json-object in the value should be treated as a simple json object and not a json-ld object.
	value-type	object

accessInformation		
	type	Property
	description	List of access mechanisms available for data associated with this catalog item
	value-type	array
dataAttributeList		
	type	Property
	description	Array of fields from the data-model which appear in the data packet. These fields are not necessarily instantiated in the resourceItem
	value-type	object

Table 7: Mandatory attributes for DX [base schemas](#)

itemType	core attributes
providerItem	id, name, tags, refBaseSchema, itemDescription, itemType
resourceItem	id, tags, refBaseSchema, resourceServer, itemDescription, refDataModel, provider, resourceServerGroup, resourceId, itemType
resourceServer	id, name, tags, refBaseSchema, itemDescription, resourceServerHTTPAccessURL(uriLink), resourceServerOrg(organizationInfo), coverageRegion, itemType
resourceServerGroup	id, name, tags, refBaseSchema, resourceServer, itemDescription, refDataModel, provider, itemType

Table 8: List of supported resource types

#	Nature of Resource	Type
1	Data set as a file	file
2	Data set as a table of records	table
3	Data as a notification (e.g alert, event)	message

4	Data as a stream of messages (e.g. sensor readings)	message Stream
5	Media stream (temporally encoded like video or audio)	media stream

7. INTERACTION SCENARIOS

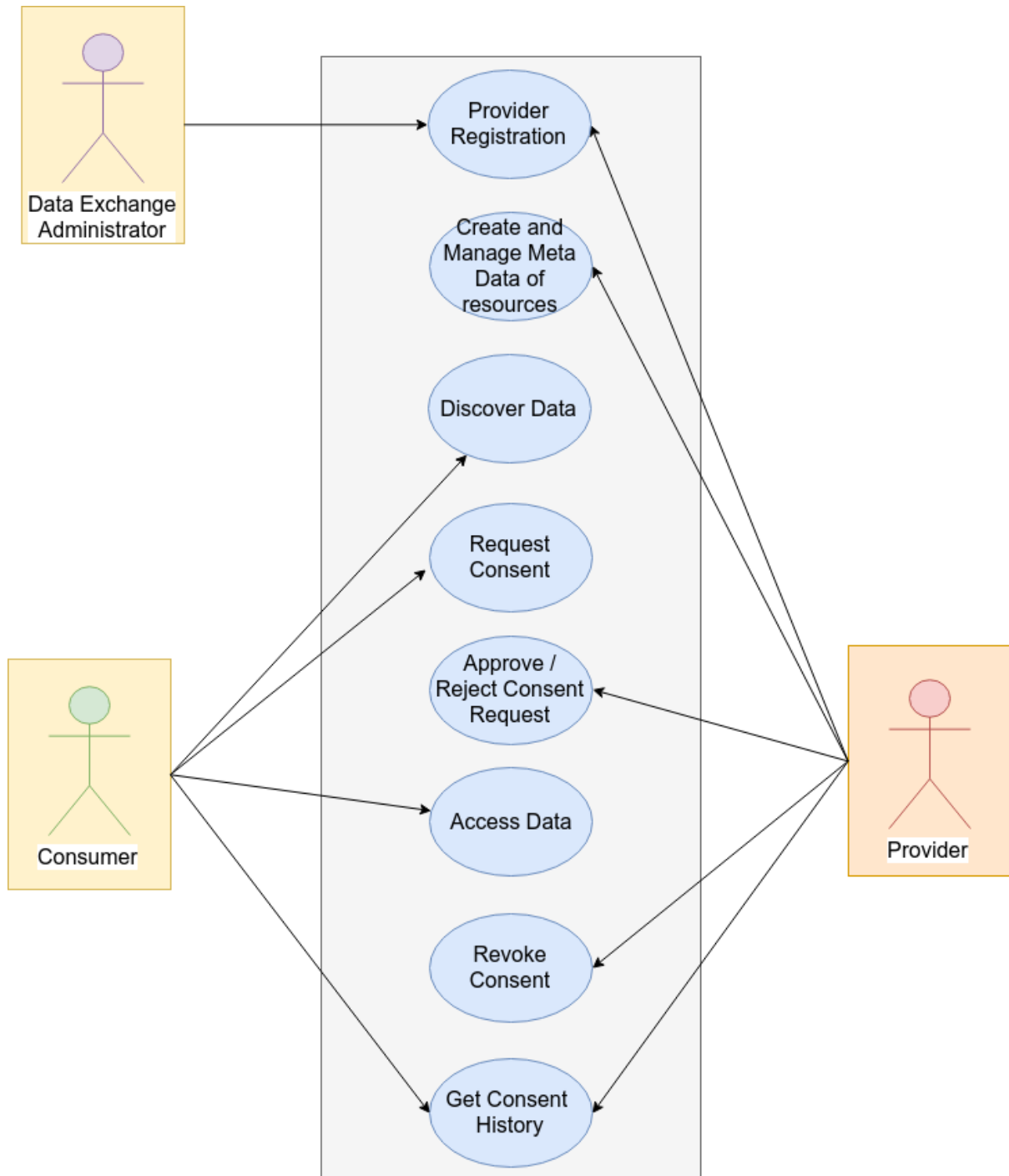


Figure 5: Basic Interaction Scenarios

The minimal set of interaction scenarios supported by the data exchange ecosystem is indicated in Figure 5. Details for each follows.

7.1. Provider Registration

The provider needs to obtain a certificate from the CA to establish identity. An example workflow is given as follows

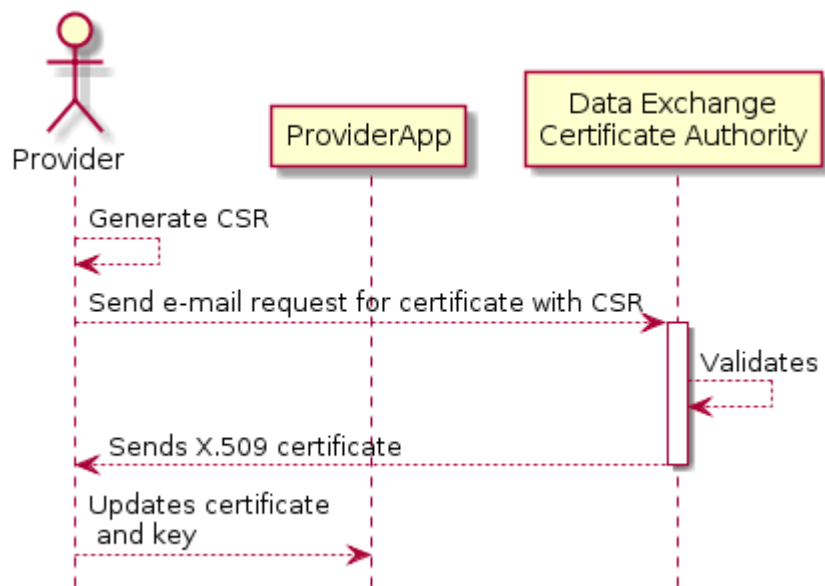


Figure 6: Provider registration flow

7.2. Create and manage metadata of resources

In this use case, a **Provider** is requesting the **Authorization Service** to allow access to use the Catalogue. Once approved, the **Provider** can create or update an entry in the catalogue.

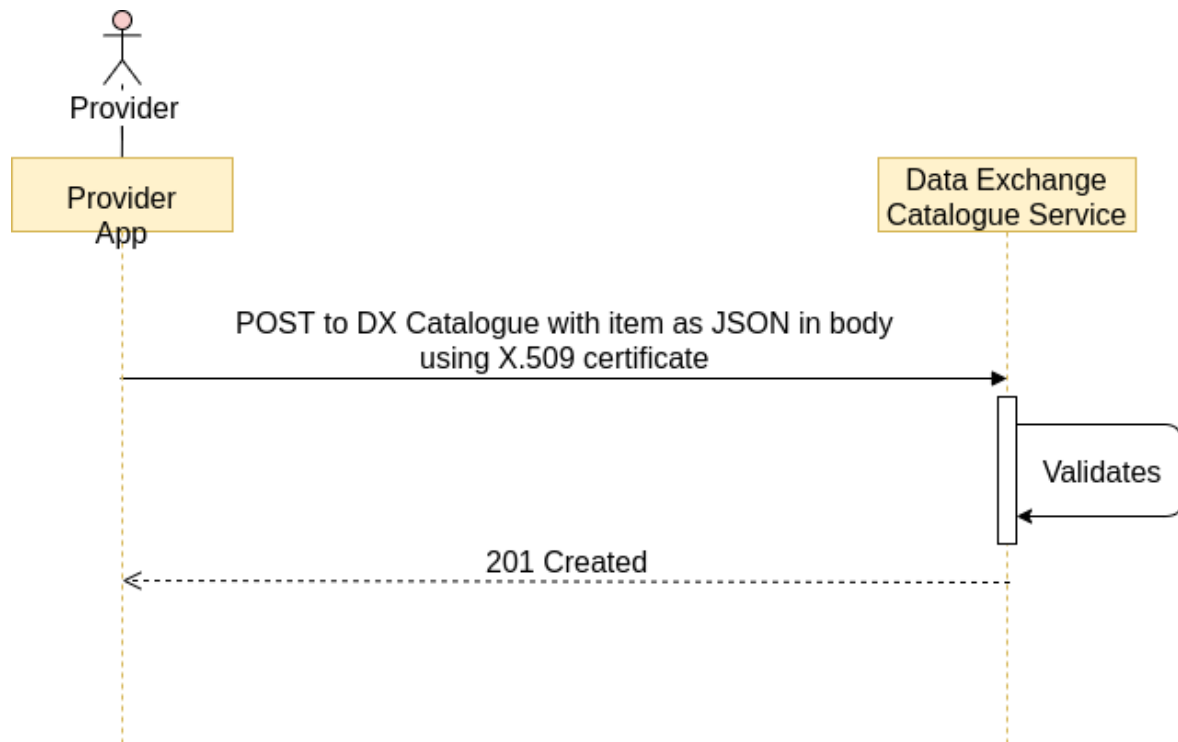


Figure 7: Resource Provider creating an item in the Catalogue

Summary	The use case allows Providers to update the catalogue
Pre-condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A valid certificate provided by a trusted CA
Actor	Provider
Post-condition	An approval is provided to perform the requested operation

If a resource is not public, then the [Provider](#) can request an [Authorization Service](#) to set policies for data access.

Summary	The use case allows Providers to set policies for their resources
Pre-condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A valid certificate provided by a trusted CA
Actor	Provider
Post-condition	A policy is set for the provider's resources.

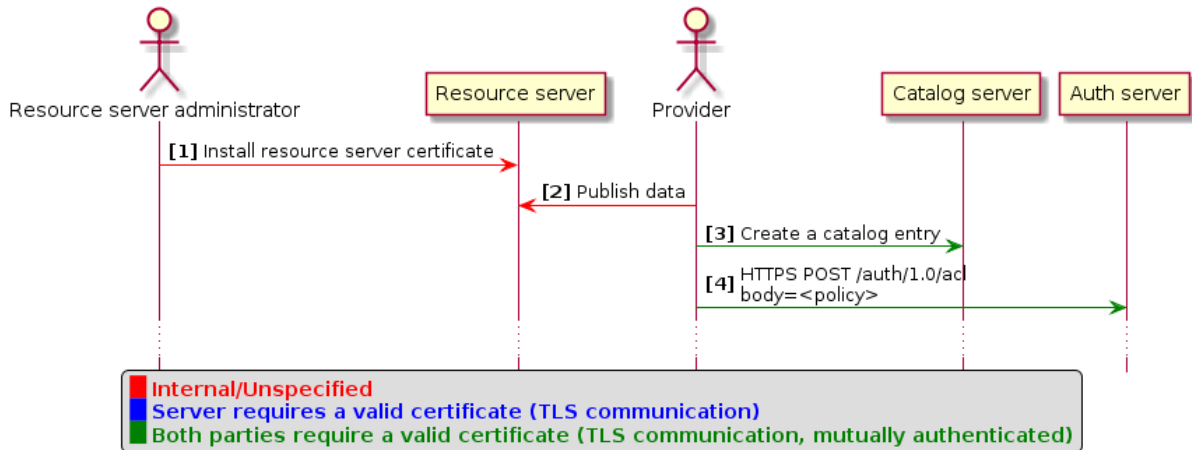


Figure 8: Setting up a permissions for a resource by the provider

7.3. Discover Data

In this use case, a **Consumer** is using the search APIs of the **Catalogue Service** to find interested entities. Once the entities are identified, a **Consumer** using **Consumer App** can request for consent and access their data.

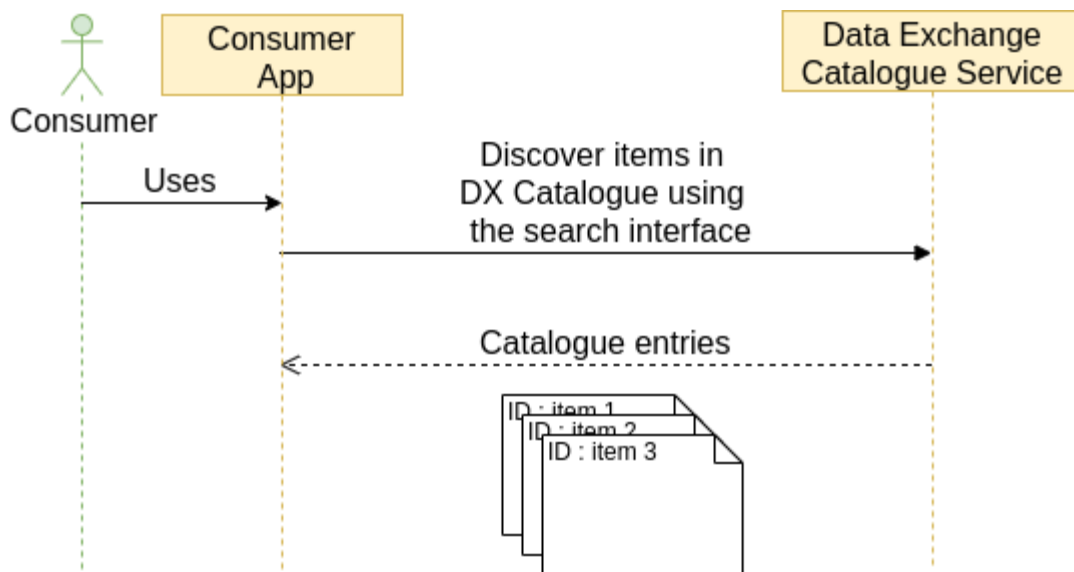


Figure 9: Consumer discovering data

Summary	This use case allows consumers to search the catalogue using
----------------	--

	customer app
Pre-condition	-
Actor	Consumer
Post-condition	A list of search hits are sent to the consumer app

7.4. Request Consent and Access Data

A consumer application can request access to data from an DX compliant resource server using any one of the supported APIs. If requested data does not require authorization i.e. does not have an authorization policy, or the request contains a valid access token, then the resource server serves the request after token validation.

If data requires authorization and the request does not contain a token, the resource server initiates authorization following a DX/UMA 2.0 compliant protocol. The protocol supports a subset of UMA 2.0 workflows.

- 1) Accept policies specified in a policy language.
- 2) Support identities based on X.509 certificates issued by DX CA (as described above)
- 3) Accept claims based on X.509 certificates issued by a set of trusted CAs
- 4) No support interactive claims gathering. All claims shall be pushed.
- 5) Include a reference to the policy object in access tokens issued

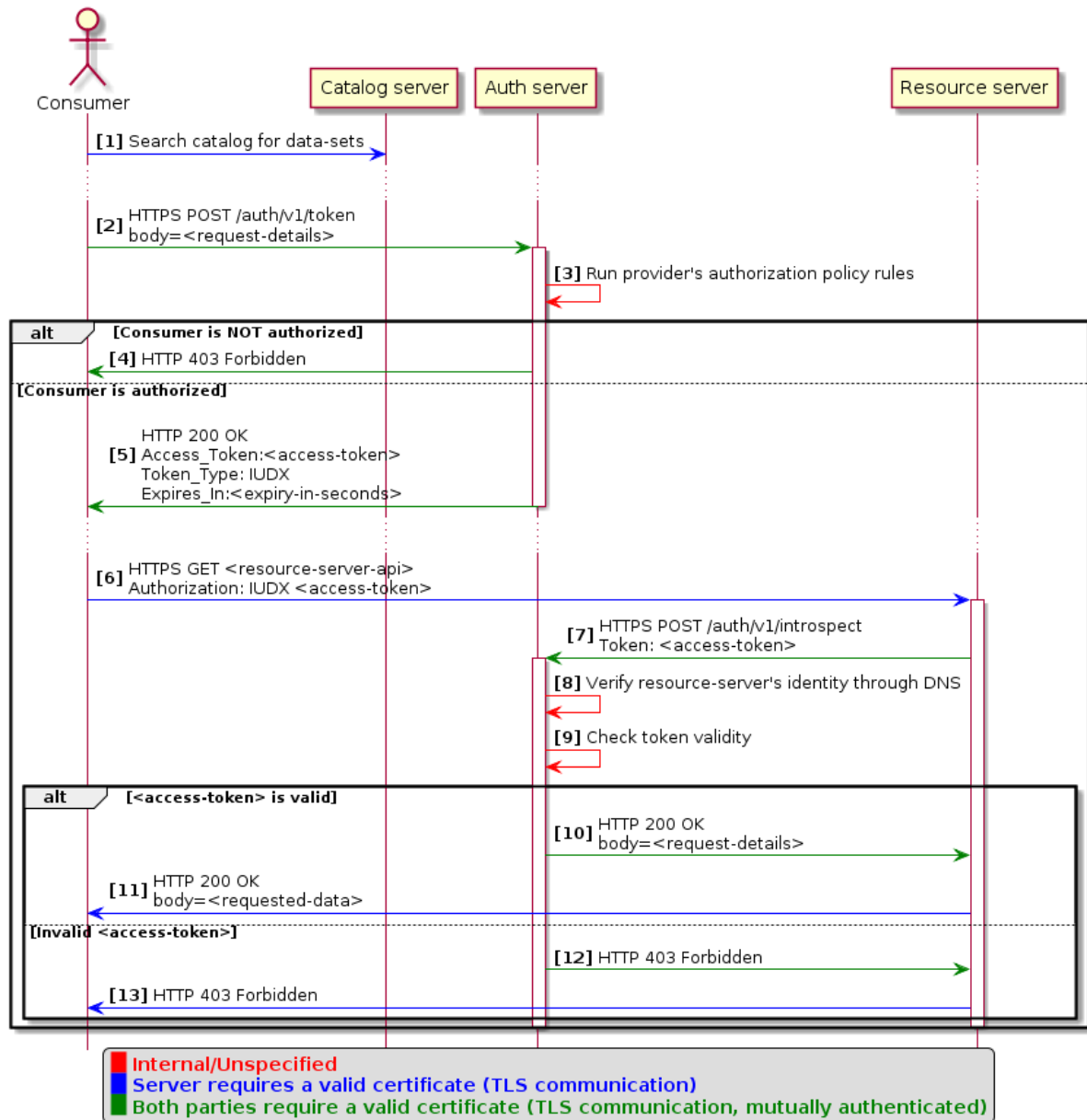


Figure 10: Consumer requesting access to a resource

Summary	This use case allows the Consumer to access the requested data
Pre-condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A valid X.509 certificate issued by a DX compliant CA
Actor	Consumer Application
Post-condition	The requested data is provided to the Consumer

7.6. Revoke Consent

A **provider** shall be able to revoke access to a particular resource by calling the /revoke API.

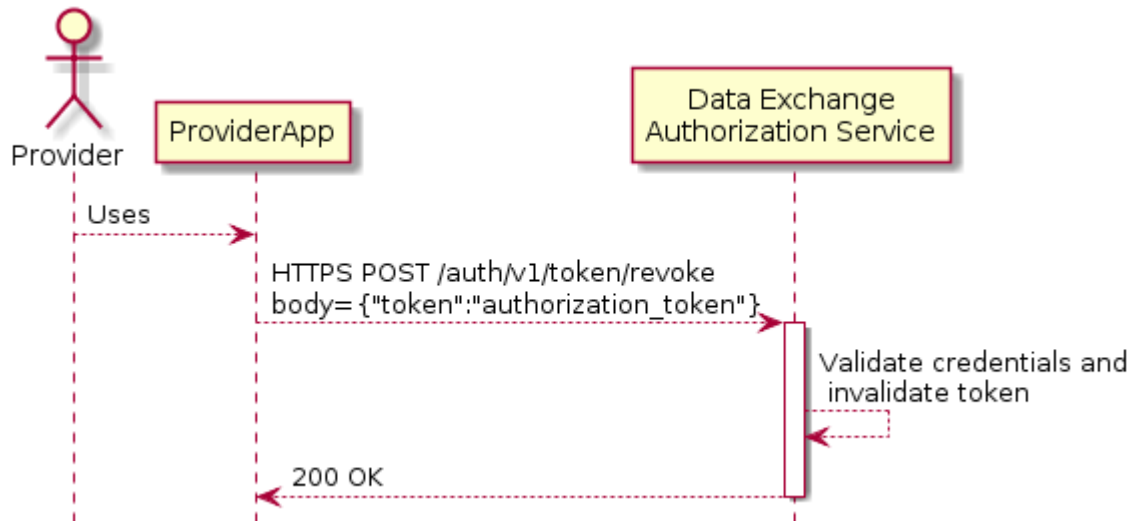


Figure 11: Revoking consent flow

Summary	This use case allows the Provider to revoke access to data
Pre-condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A valid X.509 certificate issued by a DX compliant CA
Actor	Provider Application
Post-condition	The consumer is no longer able to access the resource

Annex 1: Examples of catalogue objects

As described before, all catalogue items are JSON-LD objects and are instances of pre-defined JSON-schemas. The catalogue contains items of different `itemTypes`, each having an associated base-schema. A base-schema specifies a minimal set of mandatory meta-information attributes to be contained in the catalogue `item`. Further, a 'resourceItem' is associated with a data-model, which is a JSON schema document, and an API access object. In this annexe, we provide examples of various catalogue objects.

Let us take an example of an `item` with 'itemType' 'resourceItem' that corresponds to data observed from a physical sensor device measuring 'CO2' and 'TEMPERATURE'.

First, we provide an example of data-model describing the domain specific attributes of the sensor device. One can create a new `data model`¹⁴ from scratch or one can reuse some existing `data models` for devices in the same domain.

<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_dataModel.json

```
{
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
  "@context": [
    "<catalogue-link>/core_context.json",
    "<catalogue-link>/common_context.json",
    "<catalogue-link>/miscSchemaOrgDefs.json",
    "<catalogue-link>/miscWOTSecurityDefs.json",
    "<catalogue-link>/geometry-schema.json",
    "<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json"
  ],
  "describes": "Environmental Sensor measuring CO2 and Temperature",
  "type": "object",
  "properties": {
    "CO2_MAX": {
      "$ref": "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/QuantitativeProperty",
      "describes": "Maximum value of CO2 for the last 24 hours",
      "symbol": "ppm",
      "unitCode": "X59",
      "unitText": "part per million (ppm)"
    },
    "LASTUPDATEDATETIME": {
      "$ref": "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/TimeProperty"
    },
    "NAME": {
      "$ref": "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/Property",
      "describes": "Name of the device."
    },
    "TEMPERATURE_MAX": {
      "$ref": "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/QuantitativeProperty",
      "describes": "Maximum value of Temperature for the last 24 hours",
      "unitCode": "CEL",
      "unitText": "degree Celsius",
      "minValue": -20,
    }
  }
}
```

¹⁴ Existing data-models can serve as examples or as a starting point for creating newer `data models`. In future, tools may be provided to ease data-model development.

```

        "maxValue": 50
      },
      "location": {
        "$ref": "<catalogue-link>/common_defs.json#/definitions/location",
        "describes": "Describes the coordinates (in GeoJSON Point type) for the installation location
of the AQM device"
      }
    }
  }
}

```

The context for attributes in the datamodel are derived from a json document mentioned in the “@context” field of the above, namely “<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json”.

<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json

```

{
  "@context": {
    "airQuality_context": "<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json#",
    "CO2_MAX": {
      "@id": "airQuality_context:CO2_MAX",
      "@type": "QuantitativeProperty"
    },
    "TEMPERATURE_MAX": {
      "@id": "airQuality_context:TEMPERATURE_MAX",
      "@type": "QuantitativeProperty"
    }
  },
  "CO2_MAX": {
    "describes": "Maximum value of CO2 for the last 24 hours"
  },
  "TEMPERATURE_MAX": {
    "describes": "Maximum value of Temperature for the last 24 hours"
  }
}

```

The above data model describes various attributes of the sensor resource, e.g., ‘NAME’ of the device, ‘location’ of the device etc. Further, for ‘TEMPERATURE_MAX’ and ‘CO2_MAX’, which are data attributes, additional information, e.g., ‘unitCode’, ‘unitText’, ‘minValue’, ‘maxValue’ etc., has been provided.

Note that the above additional information keywords, e.g., ‘unitCode’, ‘unitText’ etc., are not JSON schema keywords and will be ignored by JSON schema tools/validators. However, these keywords have been provided linked data grounding using “@context” field in the data model. If this data-model is passed through a JSON-LD parser, these keywords will expand to the IRIs provided via “@context” and will serve to provide additional context about these properties. A snippet of JSON-LD expanded object for ‘TEMPERATURE_MAX’ is shown below:

<TEMPERATURE_MAX>

```

{
.
.
  "https://<IRI for TEMPERATURE_MAX>": {
    "https://schema.org/maxValue": {
      "@type": "https://<IRI for core_defs.json>#/definitions/Property",
      "@value": 50
    },
    "https://schema.org/minValue": {
      "@type": "https://<IRI for core_defs.json>#/definitions/Property",
      "@value": -20
    },
    "https://schema.org/unitCode": {
      "@type": "https://<IRI for core_defs.json>#/definitions/Property",
      "@value": "CEL"
    },
    "https://schema.org/unitText": {
      "@type": "https://<IRI for core_defs.json>#/definitions/Property",
      "@value": "degree Celsius"
    }
  },
.
.
}

```

Note that 'maxValue' has expanded to '<https://schema.org/maxValue>'. This implies the property 'unitCode' referred to in the data schema is same as 'schema.org/maxValue'. Applications already aware of that vocabulary will find it very easy to use and interpret this attribute. The above example also illustrates how a DX catalogue is able to reuse attribute definitions from external vocabularies using "@context" keyword.

Another important aspect to note is that the "@context" field in data model also serves to provide context to the data attributes and hence may be used to convert the JSON data from the resource into JSON-LD data.

We next provide an example of the catalogue item of `itemType` 'resourceItem'. This catalogue item summarizes various types of meta-information with regards to this data resource.

exItem.json

```

{
  "@context": [
    "<catalogue-link>/ex_c02Temp_sensor/ex_sensor_dataModel.json"
  ],
  "itemDescription": "An example catalogue resource item",

```

```

"id": "urn:iudx-cat:abc/xyz/848f-4848-dxbe",
"itemType": {
  "type": "Property",
  "value": "resourceItem"
},
"tags": {
  "type": "Property",
  "value": [ "environment", "air-quality", "climate", "air", "pollution", "CO2",
"Temperature"]
},
"refBaseSchema": {
  "value": "<catalogue-link>/resourceItem_schema.json",
  "type": "Relationship"
},
"refDataModel": {
  "value": "<catalogue-link>/ex_sensor_dataModel.json",
  "type": "Relationship"
},
"resourceId": {
  "type": "Property",
  "value": "CO2_Temp_Sensor"
},
"resourceServer": {
  "value": "urn:iudx-cat:636485-945454-2a9495",
  "type": "Relationship"
},
"resourceServerGroup": {
  "value": "urn:iudx-cat:abc357-gw2554-452abc",
  "type": "Relationship"
},
"provider": {
  "value": "urn:iudx-cat:ae48f2-5c01e8-3feda9",
  "type": "Relationship"
},
"NAME": {
  "type": "Property",
  "value": "CO2_Temp_Sensor"
},
"location": {
  "type": "GeoProperty",
  "value": {
    "geometry": {
      "type": "Point",
      "coordinates": [77.5703, 13.0138]
    }
  }
},
"accessInformation": [
  {
    "accessObjectType": "OpenAPI",
    "accessObject": {
      "value": "<catalogue-link>/exApiObject_c02Temp_sensor.json",
      "type": "Relationship"
    },
    "accessObjectVariables": {
      "type": "Property",
      "value": {

```

```

        "resourceId": "CO2_Temp_Sensor"
      }
    }
  ],
  "authorizationServerInfo": {
    "type": "Property",
    "value": {
      "authServer": "http://auth.iudx.org.in",
      "authType": "iudx-auth"
    }
  },
  "createdAt": {
    "type": "TimeProperty",
    "value": "2019-02-20T10:30:06.093121"
  },
  "itemStatus": {
    "type": "Property",
    "value": "active"
  }
}

```

The base schema for this item is specified by the field 'refBaseSchema' which in this case refers to the schema for an item of type 'resourceItem'¹⁵. The above item contains all the mandatory attributes listed by the base schema. Similarly, 'refDataModel' points to the 'data-model' (described above). Note that links (attributes of type 'Relationship') are provided for the 'Provider' item (which contains information about 'Provider' entity for this item) and 'resourceServer' item (which provides information about 'resource-server' entity on which this resource is hosted).

The `item` also contains 'tags' and 'itemDescription' attributes which are very useful for discovery purposes. Another important attribute of type 'Relationship' is the 'accessObject' which refers to the API object (described below) that describes methods for accessing data from this resource. The attribute 'accessVariables' lists down the values of API variables required by the API object. Using these attributes it becomes very easy for any consuming application to access data from this resource.

We also note that the `item` contains "@context" attribute which contains mappings for all the attributes in the item. Below we provide an illustrative snippet of the JSON-LD expanded version of the attribute 'location' contained in the above `item`.

exItem context .json

```

...
"<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json#/location": {
  "@type": "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/GeoProperty",
  "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/hasValue": {
    "https://purl.org/geojson/vocab#geometry": {
      "@type": "https://purl.org/geojson/vocab#Point",
      "https://purl.org/geojson/vocab#coordinates": {

```

¹⁵ See <https://github.com/iudx/iudx-ld>


```

    "@list": [
      77.5703,
      13.0138
    ]
  }
}
}
...
}

```

We once again see, from the above expansion, vocabulary reuse (in this case GeoJSON-LD) in DX catalogue framework.

Finally, we provide an example of 'accessObject'. For this example, the data is assumed to be available through REST-APIs hosted on the 'resource-server' and hence the 'accessObject' can be an 'openapi' object as described below:

env_aqm_api.json

```

{
  "openapi": "3.0.1",
  "info": {
    "title": "TemperatureCO2Sensor",
    "version": "1.0.0"
  },
  "servers": [
    {
      "url": "https://iudx.resourceserver.org:8080/api/1.0.0/resource",
      "description": "Resource server"
    }
  ],
  "paths": {
    "/latest/aqm-temp-co2/{resourceId}": {
      "get": {
        "description": "Get the sensor message for a given resourceId",
        "responses": {
          "200": {
            "description": "Sensor Message as JSON",
            "content": {
              "application/json": {
                "schema": {
                  "$ref": "#/components/schemas/SensorPacket"
                }
              }
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  },
  "parameters": [
    {
      "name": "resourceId",

```

```

                "in": "path",
                "description": "Id of the location where sensor is deployed",
                "required": true,
                "schema": {
                    "type": "string"
                }
            }
        ]
    },
    "components": {
        "schemas": {
            "SensorPacket": {
                "description": "JSON Packet response of the API",
                "type": "object",
                "properties": {
                    "NAME": {
                        "$ref":
"<catalogue-link>ex_c02Temp_sensor/ex_sensor_dataModel.json#/properties/NAME"
                    },
                    "LASTUPDATEDATETIME": {
                        "$ref":
"<catalogue-link>ex_c02Temp_sensor/ex_sensor_dataModel.json#/properties/LASTUPDATEDATETIME"
                    },
                    "CO2_MAX": {
                        "$ref":
"<catalogue-link>ex_c02Temp_sensor/ex_sensor_dataModel.json#/properties/CO2_MAX"
                    },
                    "TEMPERATURE_MAX": {
                        "$ref":
"<catalogue-link>ex_c02Temp_sensor/ex_sensor_dataModel.json#/properties/TEMPERATURE_MAX"
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```

Note that the API object refers to the data model to describe attributes in its request-response bodies. The same API object variables, e.g. ‘NAME’ in the above example, pertaining to the individual resources should be provided via the ‘accessVariables’ attribute in the corresponding ‘resourceItem’.

A message packet of a resource coming from a resource server might point to the context for that datamodel supporting dynamic semantic interpretability, for example -

example message packet (JSON)
<pre> { "@context": "<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_dataModel.json", </pre>

```

"TEMPERATURE_MAX": 43,
"CO2_MAX" : 980,
"LASTUPDATETIME": "2019-08-14T06:10:39Z"
}

```

Including an “@context” field here which points to the previously mentioned airQuality_dataModel allows the receiver of this message to interpret the fields “TEMPERATURE_MAX”, etc without knowing apriori the kind of resource that is sending this message.

Passing this message through a JSON-LD preprocessor yields

example message packet (JSON-LD)

```

{
  "<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json#/CO2_MAX": {
    "@type": "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/QuantitativeProperty",
    "@value": 980
  },
  "<catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json#/TEMPRATURE_MAX": {
    "@type": "<catalogue-link>/core_defs.json#/definitions/QuantitativeProperty",
    "@value": 43
  }
}

```

The id of an attribute, <catalogue-link>/airQuality/airQuality_context.json#/CO2_MAX provides for semantic interpretability whereby a user/program can trace the link and understand what exactly CO2_MAX means. The @type provides “type” interpretability where the structure of the attribute can be understood.

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