



# Standard Identifiers

- Working Draft: <http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/WD/>

- Overview:

- 2 Components: authority ID & resource key

- Authority ID

- Must be globally unique
      - namespace controlled by a person, registry, or an organization

- 2 Formats:

- XML:

- `<Identifier>`

- `<AuthorityID>adil.ncsa.uiuc</AuthorityID>`

- `<ResourceKey>surveys/96.JC.01</ResourceKey>`

- `</Identifier>`

- URI:

- `ivo://adil.ncsa.uiuc/surveys/96.JC.01`



# Caveats

- Case-insensitive comparisons
- URI “Stop” characters: #, ?
- Identifiers are *not* location-independent
  - “organization-dependent”
  - Each mirror or version has a different identifier



# Possible Issues

- Permanence/Persistence
  - Do we need to say that...
    - a resource will only ever have one (“physical”) identifier?
    - an Identifier will never be reused to name another resource?
- Use of XML format, “ivo:”
  - Resource is registered somewhere!
    - ADEC has adopted IVO Identifier syntax for dataset *logical* identifiers **Good!**
- Standard for Logical Identifiers will be needed.
  - Based on IVOA Identifier & Registry standards
  - Plante has proposal; not necessary to consider now  
where resources can have multiple logical identifiers



# Non-issues

- Who controls/assigns authority IDs:  
registry vs. registrant
  - Policy chosen by the publishing registry!
- Content of authority ID string
  - Conventions are suggestions to encourage uniqueness
  - Choice of organization that controls authority ID



# Standardization

- Recommend graduating Working Draft to a Proposed Recommendation