

# Potential use of URIs for IP Documents

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# Problem statement

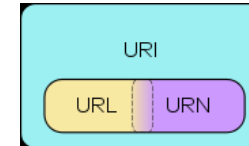
IP users expect "click" access to documents with the following attributes:

- permanent and stable names
- unambiguous unique
- authoritative
- short
- affordable
- robust, well established
- standardized world-wide
- easy retrieval
- including legacy back-file
- independent of type of document
- scalable, extensible, interoperable

→ A scheme is needed for perennial access to documents (name and location) – URIs?

# Definitions

- URI - Uniform Resource Indicator  
is the combination of *name* and *location*
- URN - Uniform Resource Name  
*a unique and standardized way of identifying an object*  
Example: [urn:isbn:0-395-36341-1](#)
- URL - Uniform Resource Locator  
*a canonical way of providing access to an object*  
Example: [http://hostname/path-to-object](#)



# Digital Object Identifier - DOI

A URI scheme adopted by publishers to provide *perennial* access to Scientific/Technical literature

**doi:10.1016/j.wpi.2009.09.001**

└──┬──┘  
scheme

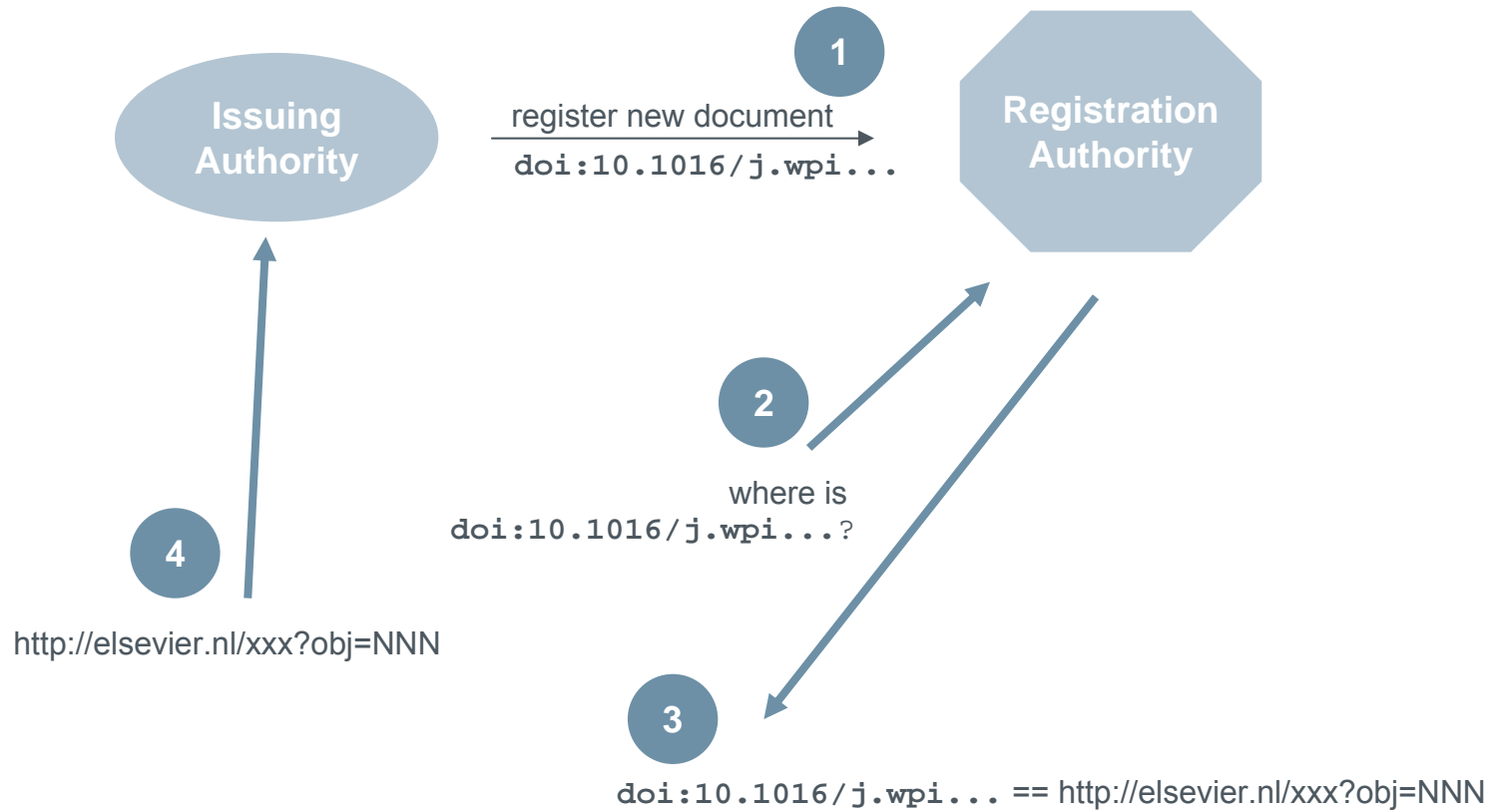
└──┬──┘  
source

└──┬──┘  
unique article ID

or

**<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.wpi.2009.09.001>**

# DOI Scheme in a nutshell



# DOI usage

- Foundation launched to develop system in 1998; first applications launched 2000
- Currently used by c. **3,000** naming authorities (assigners), e.g., 2,600 publishers, EU documents, science data sets, etc.
- Approximately 40 million DOI names assigned to date
- Via 8+ Registration Agencies (RA)
- Well established in professional information sector; best known application is [CrossRef](http://www.crossref.org) ([www.crossref.org](http://www.crossref.org))
- Becoming an ISO standard (currently at DIS stage)

# Potential for IP

- URN namespace
  - we already have standardized number schemes through ST.13 and ST.10
- DOI-like scheme seems beneficial, but many questions need an answer, for instance
  - what are the costs for National Offices?
  - who could take the role of RA?
  - what would be a realistic build-up timeline?
  - are there quantifiable benefits?