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**EXPANDING THE FRONTIERS OF SPACE ASTRONOMY**

# Towards VOTable 1.5

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IVOA Interop – Northern Spring 2023

# Why now?

Clarify semantics of specifying MIN/MAX VALUES for array FIELDs

```
<FIELD name="fluxes" datatype="float" arraysize="30" unit="Jy">
    <VALUES><MIN value="0"/><MAX value="1e-4"/></VALUES>
</FIELD>
```

Not a huge deal, but

- When we've agreed on a useful change to the standard, let's make the update.
- Last update (v1.4) introduced in 2019 (https://www.ivoa.net/documents/VOTable/20191021/)
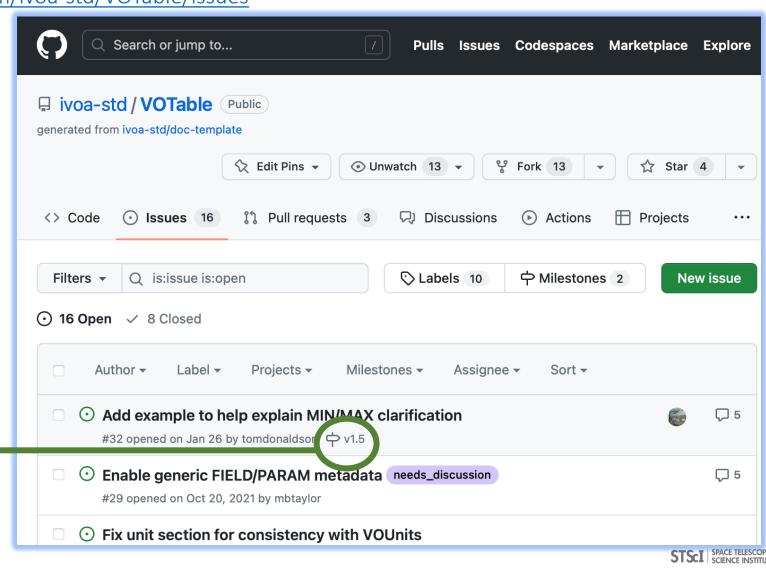
# What (else) to change?

See github issues: https://github.com/ivoa-std/VOTable/issues

- Comment on existing issues

- Create new ones

- Note
  - No changes needed for MIVOT
    https://www.ivoa.net/documents/MIVOT/

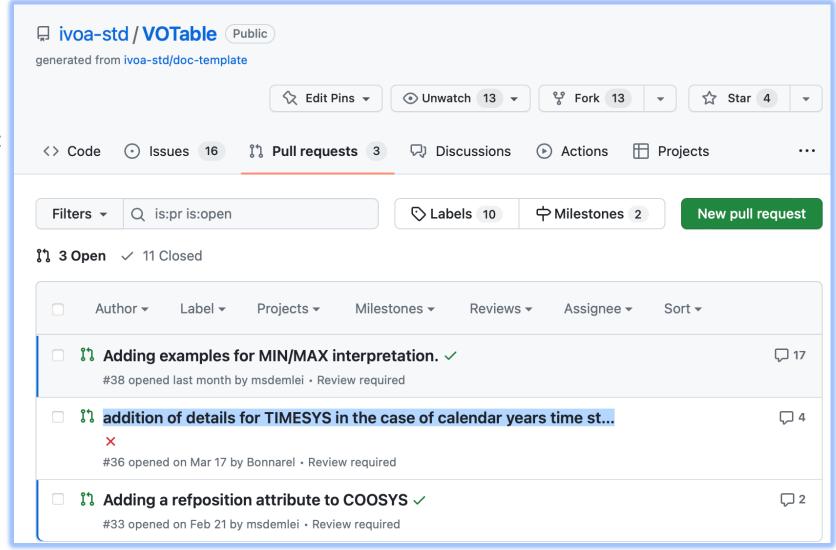- V1.5 label indicates it might be done in this next version

# How to propose a change

Create a github pull request

- Document editing guidance:
  - https://www.ivoa.net/documents/Notes/IVOATexDoc/index.html

- For help:
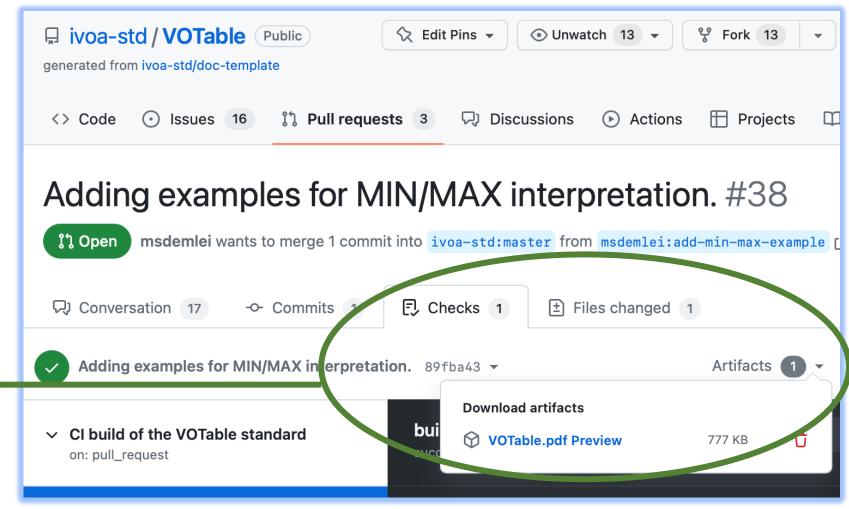  - IVOA Slack - #github-help
  - Contact me!

# Give feedback on proposed changes

Comment on open pull requests in github.
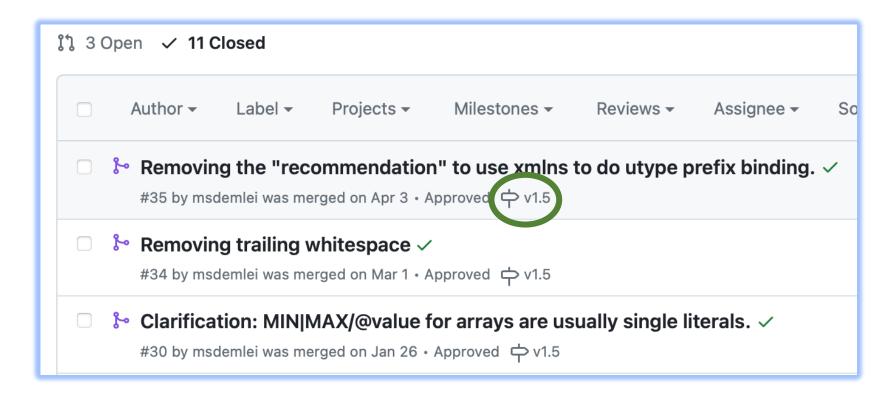
- https://github.com/ivoa-std/VOTable/pulls

- "Checks" tab provides a pdf including the proposed change



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# Give feedback on proposed changes (2)

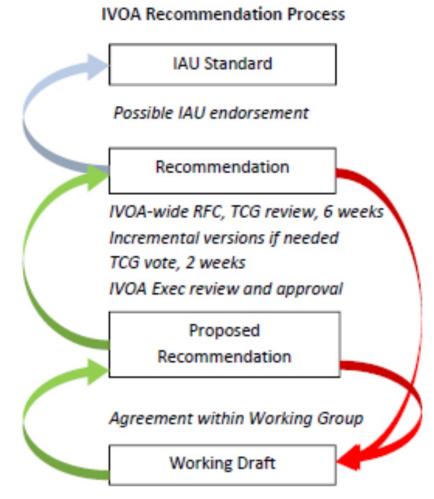But wait!  Some proposed changes have already been closed (merged).

# Give feedback on proposed changes (3)

Applications Working Group publishes a working draft

- Announced on mailing list
  - Subscribe at http://mail.ivoa.net/mailman/listinfo/apps
- Make comments on the mailing list (apps@ivoa.net)
  - Archive of past discussions at http://mail.ivoa.net/mailman/listinfo/apps
- Create new pull requests to make modifications based on the discussion
  - Usually the author of the original change, but can be anyone
- WD updated periodically until consensus reached

**IVOA Recommendation Process**

| IAU Standard |

*Possible IAU endorsement*

| Recommendation |

*IVOA-wide RFC, TCG review, 6 weeks*
*Incremental versions if needed*
*TCG vote, 2 weeks*
*IVOA Exec review and approval*

| Proposed Recommendation |

*Agreement within Working Group*

| Working Draft |

https://www.ivoa.net/documents/DocStd/20170517/

# Timeline

## May, 2023

- Merge existing PRs after comments addressed
- Publish first Working Draft

## Summer, 2023

- Review and merge new PRs, if any.
- Release new Working Drafts as needed
- Validator and Astropy updates

## Northern Fall Interop, 2023

- Create Proposed Recommendation (prior to Interop)
- Discuss at Interop

## Late 2023

- PR review
- TCG voting ➔ Recommendation!