

# What's new in VOResource 1.2?

Markus Demleitner

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## What's new in VOResource 1.2

- *altIdentifier* almost everywhere
- You can have DOIs instead of bibcodes in content/source now
- Your subjects shall be lowercase-with-dashes
- Please use SPDX rights URIs
- Ah: no funny referenceURLs, either.

I'll not say any more on the funny referenceURLs here; the change was a consequence of trouble when exporting our records to something DataCite-based and does not concern any existing record, because we have manually asked everyone concerned to fix their records.

## altIdentifier almost everywhere

In VOResource 1.1, Resource and creator got *altIdentifier* element children.

But then: we want DOIs for the *relatedResource* (e.g., DerivedFrom some non-VO resource).

But: *relatedResource* is a *vr:ResourceName*.

Derive a new Type or change *vr:ResourceName*?

## Changing ResourceName

Other *vr:ResourceName*-typed VOResource elements include:

- contributor (orcid!)
- facility (VocInVO URI?)
- instrument (VocInVO URI?)
- managingOrg (Wikidata URI?)
- name (orcid!)
- publisher (Wikidata URI?)

For most of these, having non-VO identifiers at least seems plausible. So, let's add an @altIdentifier to *vr:ResourceName*.

## An Attribute?

Making `altIdentifier` an attribute limits it to one alternate Identifier.

Against that, VOResource 1.1 `altIdentifiers` on `Resource` and `creator` were elements: You could have multiple of them.

Why an attribute rather than an element?

- Partly aesthetic: We don't have mixed content in VOResource anywhere else
- Partly practical: 1:1 relationships make everything simpler; for instance, it'll just be extra columns in RegTAP.
- Partly pragmatic: 1:1 seemed enough for all we can foresee.

In a pinch, you could mostly use multiple container elements.

## And `creator/@altIdentifier`?

`creator/name` is a `vr:ResourceName`, too.

Hence, there are now two ways to specify `altIdentifiers` for creators.

Almost nobody has used `creator/altIdentifier` yet. So, let's deprecate it.

## DOIs as Sources

`vr:Source` (which gives an article the data "is for") has a `@format` attribute.

For that, we only had `bibcode` as a value.

Now, you can also write `doi`. Please update your link generators!

Annoying question: DOI form? Upstream DOI now wants their resolver baked in (<http://doi.org/10.whatever>). In `altIdentifier`, we used the URI form (`doi:10.whatever`).

Current proposal: No prefixing at all (as with `bibcode`), i.e., "10.whatever".

We will have an internal consistency problem regardless of what we do: If we write `doi:10.whatever`, we will be consistent with `altIdentifier` but not with `bibcode`-valued sources. With the current proposal, we will be inconsistent between `bibcode`- and `doi`-valued sources. If we bake in the resolver (which I consider an odious practice), we are inconsistent with both. I tried to pick the least evil.

## UAT Subjects

The original reason for VOResource 1.2: `content/subject` SHOULD now use UAT terms in the form of fragment identifiers for <http://www.g-vo.org/rdf/uat>.

That's stuff like `amorphous-irregular-galaxies`.

Please update your resource records!

As to the rationale, see [Demleitner and Frey \(2022\)](#).

## SPDX License URIs

Since VOResource 1.1, we had *rights/@rightsURI* to machine-readably declare legal usage constraints.

To enable queries like “only give me CC-BY and CC0 data”, we need a common set of URIs so everyone uses the same string for a given licence.

That’s now SPDX; pick your URI from <https://spdx.org/licenses/>.

If you ask me: <https://spdx.org/licenses/CC0-1.0.html> is all you need.

## Go Forth...

... and implement!

The more “reference usage” we have for PR, the less likely it is that we have missed something.

Thanks!

## References

Demleitner, M. and Frey, K. (2022), ‘Adopting the UAT as an IVOA vocabulary Version 1.0’, IVOA Endorsed Note 22 July 2022. doi:[10.5479/ADS/bib/2022ivoa.spec.0722D](https://doi.org/10.5479/ADS/bib/2022ivoa.spec.0722D), <https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2022ivoa.spec.0722D>.