

OID	PURL	Handles	UUID	XRI	LSID
Not a URI.	A PURL is a URL, and so can be considered a URI. PURLs are usually assigned only to digital objects that are locatable on the WWW.				
Not a URL. Does not support use as a locator.	A PURL is a URL, but has no specific or proprietary syntax for the naming part of the URL.				

<p>Can be expressed as a URN by prepending "urn:oid:".</p>	<p>A PURL can become a URN by attaching the requisite URN: path prefix and adding a naming authority (/org/oclc) in front of the name (/purl/keith/home),as in URN:/org/oclc/purl/keith/home.</p>				
<p>User takes on all responsibility for managing a namespace. There is no batch mechanism for creating root namespaces.</p>	<p>PURLs can be created by <i>registered users</i> who may belong to <i>groups</i>, and who are therefore included on <i>access lists</i> with the rights to read, write and/or maintain PURLs and PURL domains, on a given PURL Server. PURLs can also be modified (by submitting a PURL of type <i>clone</i>), searched, validated, or rendered null (causing a history page to be returned noting the deprecation of a PURL) by registered users.</p>				
<p>See above.</p>	<p>PURLs can be batch created and modified by registered users by submitting an XML document from an input schema using the RELAX NG syntax. Batch operations are not available for searching or rendering PURLs null.</p>				

<p>There are several informal, best-effort registries.</p>	<p>The registration of a PURL is done by a given PURL Resolver.</p>	<p>The interoperable network of distributed handle resolver servers (also known as the Proxy Server System) are linked through a Global Resolver (which is one logical entity though physically decentralised and mirrored). Users of Handle System technology obtain a handle prefix created in the Global Handle Registry". The Global Handle Registry maintains and resolves the prefixes of locally-maintained handle services. Any local handle service can, therefore, resolve any handle through the Global Resolver.</p>			
<p>Lookup.</p>	<p>A PURL Resolver should be able to allow the creation, validation, modification, searching and rendering a PURL "null" (not deleting) within its database.</p>				

Yes.	<p>PURLs use the URL syntax for the name portion of the ID, with some exceptions. Allowed and not allowed characters are described on the PURL FAQ: http://purl.oclc.org/docs/faq.html.</p>	<p>Handles (identifiers) are passed by a client, as a query of the naming authority/prefix, to the Handle System's Global Handle Registry (GHR). The GHR responds by sending the client the location information for the relevant Local Handle Service (which may consist of multiple servers in multiple sites); a query is then sent to the relevant server within the Local Handle Service. The Local Handle Service returns the information needed to acquire the resource, e.g., a URL which can then be turned into an HTTP re-direct. (Note: if the client already has information on the appropriate LHS to query, the initial query to GHR is omitted)</p>			
No difference.	<p>Glacier Photo collection: http://purl.org/5060D4/glacier_photos/, (a partial redirect that allows the PURL http://purl.org/5060D4/glacier_photos/{photo_id} to resolve to any glacier photo so long as NSIDC maintains the practice of embedding the {photo_id} in the photo URL following the current pattern). This mechanism made it unnecessary to create PURLs for each photo in the Glacier Photo collection.</p>				

No infrastructure.	This appears to be XML because of the dependency of the batch processes upon submission of an XML (RELAXNG) document.				
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No.	<p>There are 2 concepts that could be used for this purpose: <i>sub-domains</i> under top-level domains (akin to a hierarchy of files), and <i>partial re-directs</i> . A partial redirect is a special-purpose PURL that acts like a domain. A regular domain has no associated URL. It is just part of a local name. While a partial redirect has a URL associated with it, that URL is not guaranteed (or even expected) to reference an actual resource. The URL associated with a partial redirect may only be a prefix common to the complete URLs of multiple resources, organized as the data creator or curator sees fit.</p>				

Mostly used for registering organizations and names in protocols.	Besides the OCLC PURL Server, the most notable PURL Server is run by the Government Printing Office of the U.S.				
No.	No.				
Yes.	No.				
No.	Only within the restrictions associated with the URL syntax and the added restrictions mandated by the PURL syntax for the name part of the PURL structure. Hierarchy can be imposed by use of sub-domains and partial redirects.l				

Not specified.	It's possible to modify a PURL by changing the underlying location of a resource; the PURL itself should remain unchanged.				
Substantial costs in building the necessary infrastructure.	No charge for PURL creation or maintenance.				
User assumes all responsibility; there is no central infrastructure.	If the choice is made to create one DOI at a time, the only requirement is to be able to define & differentiate what is to be uniquely (and separately) identified. Batch creation or modification of PURLs would require knowledge about how to interpret an XML schema and create an instance of it in RELAX NG.				
No.	Theoretically, a PURL could be used to locate any type of object accessible via the WWW.				