

URI Template

`draft-gregorio-uritemplate`

`http://www.example.com/users/{userid}`

`http://www.example.org/products/{upc}/buyers?page={page_num}`

Why?

- Ability to express how to create a URI given a template is useful:
 - For documentation
 - For frameworks
 - For link-based protocols
- Encourages linking - loose coupling
- Avoids impinging on server's control of URLs

A diagram illustrating a template variable in a URL. At the top, a yellow speech bubble contains the word "template". A black arrow points from this bubble down to a URL. The URL is divided into two parts: "http://login.example.org/login?back={return-uri}" and "http://auth.example.com/userauth;{return-uri}"; the second part is underlined. A yellow lightning bolt shape points from the "variable" part of the URL to a yellow speech bubble at the bottom containing the word "variable".

template

`http://login.example.org/login?back={return-uri}`

`http://auth.example.com/userauth;{return-uri}`

variable

Levels and Expression Types

- URI syntax is potentially complex
- Don't want to require template processors to support that complexity by default
- “levels” of conformance for increasing complexity
- Higher levels have more expressivity
- E.g., expanding query parameters

{?x,y,empty}

?x=1024&y=768&empty=

Moving Forward

- Started in 2006, discussed on uri@w3.org list
- Implementations in ~9 languages
- Is a “side project” for everyone
- Latest revisions by Roy Fielding
- Spec is fairly polished; imperative is to get something stable to encourage implementation / reuse
- APPSAWG?