

# Decentralized Identifiers (DIDs)

Markus Sabadello

Danube Tech, Decentralized Identity Foundation,  
Sovrin Foundation, W3C CCG, OASIS XDI TC



<https://danubetech.com/>

sec4dev – Vienna, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019





*"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."*

## Digital Identity



Internet Identity Workshop



Self-Sovereign Identity

*“The central problem of the future is, how do we return control of our identities to the people themselves?”*

*- Edward Snowden*



**PERKINS**coie  
COUNSEL TO GREAT COMPANIES

*“DLT is generally well-suited to serve as the underlying technology for SSI because it offers a way to create a single source of identity that can be trusted by everyone, that is completely portable, but that no one entity owns or controls.”*



**UBS**

*“...we think self-sovereign [identity] solutions are likely to be the standard against which other platforms will need to be held.”*



**Craig Newmark**  
Founder, Craigslist

*“I’d like to use [blockchain] for verifiable identity.”*

**DANUBE**  
TECH GMBH 

# Decentralized Identifiers (DIDs)

- Self-sovereign identifiers for individuals, organizations, things.
- Decentralized, persistent, cryptographically verifiable, dereference-able identifiers.
- Registered in blockchain or other decentralized network (ledger-agnostic).
- Created and managed by identity controller via wallet application.

**did:sov:3k9dg356wdcj5gf2k9bw8kfg7a**



# DID Methods

- Different DID “methods”:

`did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw`

`did:btcr:xz35-jzv2-qqs2-9wjt`

`did:v1:test:nym:3AEJTDMSxDDQpyUftjuoeZ2Bazp4Bswj1ce7FJGybCUu`

`did:uport:2omWsSGspY7zhxaG6uHyoGtcYxoGeeohQXz`

`did:erc725:ropsten:2F2B37C890824242Cb9B0FE5614fA2221B79901E`

- DID methods need a method specification.
- Define method-specific syntax.
- Define method-specific CRUD operations:
  - Create, Read (Resolve), Update, Delete (Revoke)

Method	DID Prefix
Sovrin	<code>did:sov:</code>
Veres One	<code>did:v1:</code>
uPort	<code>did:uport:</code>
Bitcoin	<code>did:btcr:</code>
Blockstack	<code>did:stack:</code>
ERC725	<code>did:erc725:</code>
IPFS	<code>did:ipid:</code>

# DID Resolution

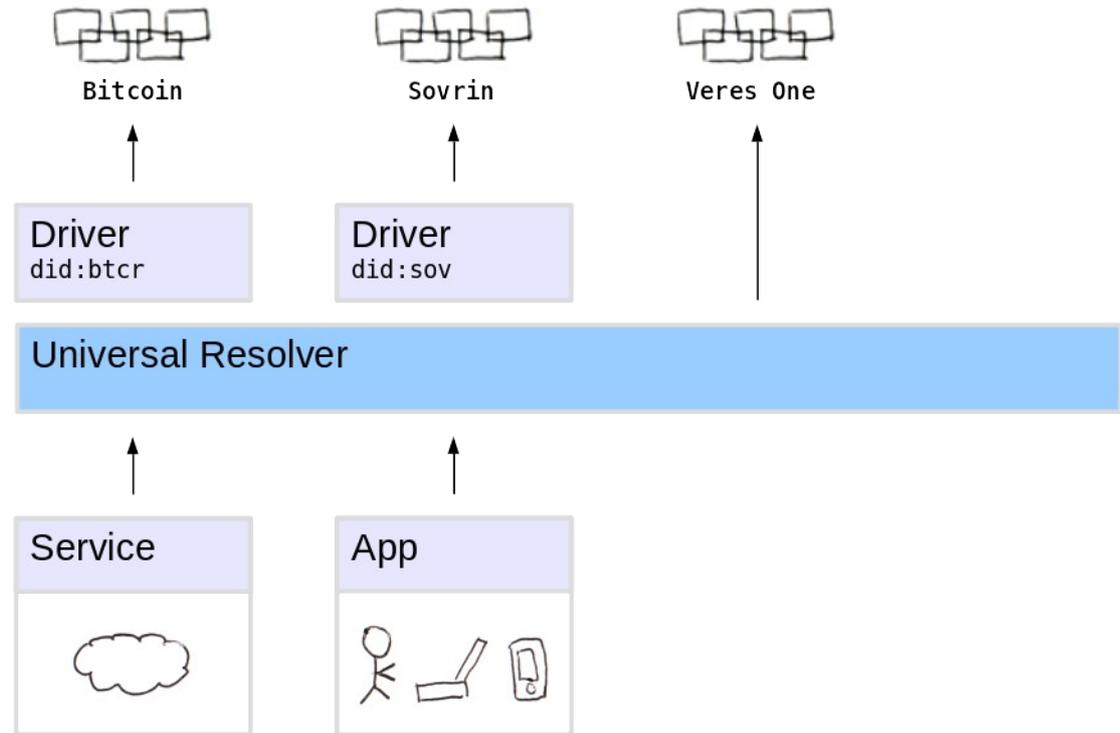
- DID Resolution: DID → DID Document
  - Set of public keys
  - Set of service endpoints
  - Authentication methods
  - Timestamps, proofs
  - Other identifier metadata
- May be dynamically constructed rather than actually stored in this form.
- Can support resolution parameters.
- Can return resolution metadata.

- Example DID Document:

```
{
  "@context": "https://w3id.org/did/v1",
  "id": "did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw",
  "publicKey": [
    {
      "id": "did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw#key-1",
      "type": "Ed25519VerificationKey2018",
      "publicKeyBase58": "H3C2AVvLMv6gmMnam3uVAjZpfkcJCwDmqPV"
    }
  ],
  "service": {
    "type": "hub",
    "serviceEndpoint":
      "https://azure.microsoft.com/hub/did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3H"
  },
  "authentication": {
    "type": "Ed25519SignatureAuthentication2018",
    "publicKey": [
      "did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw#key-1"
    ]
  }
}
```

# DID Universal Resolver

- Looks up (“resolves”) DID to its DID Document.
- Provides a universal API that works with all DID methods.
- Uses a set of configurable “drivers” that know how to connect to the target system.
- <https://uniresolver.io/>



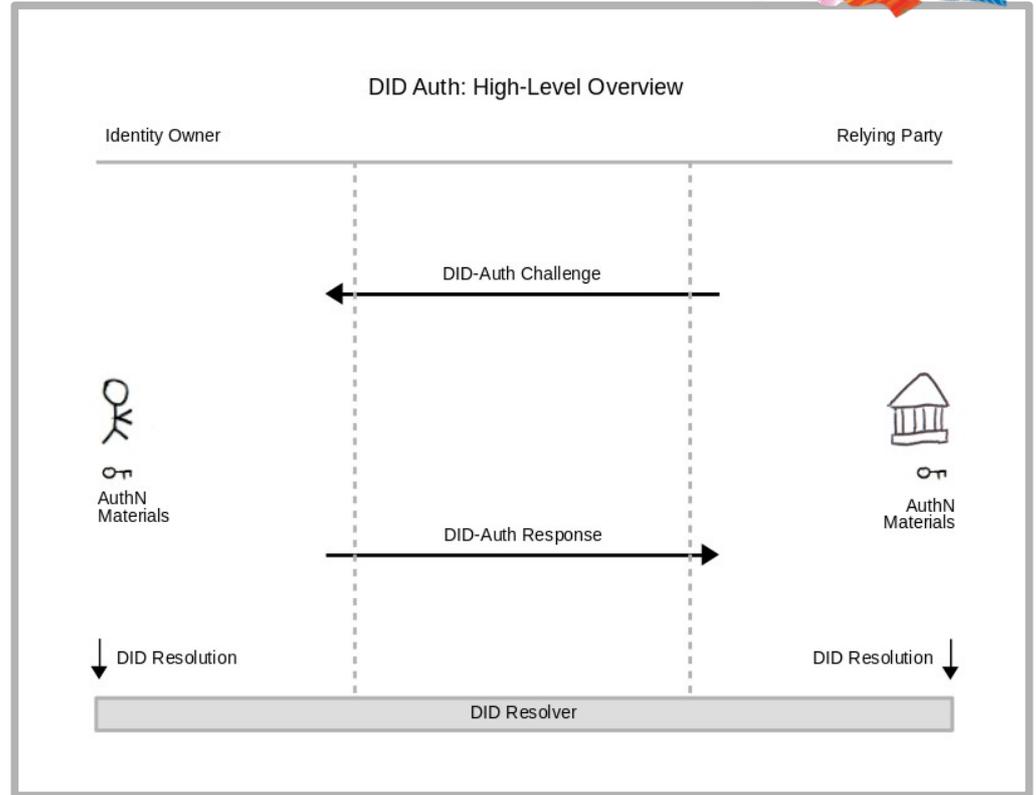
# DID Auth

- Identity owner interacts with a relying party.
- Prove control of a DID using a cryptographic challenge/response protocol.
- Prove that “I am me”.
- Different architectures and scenarios.

## Introduction to DID Auth

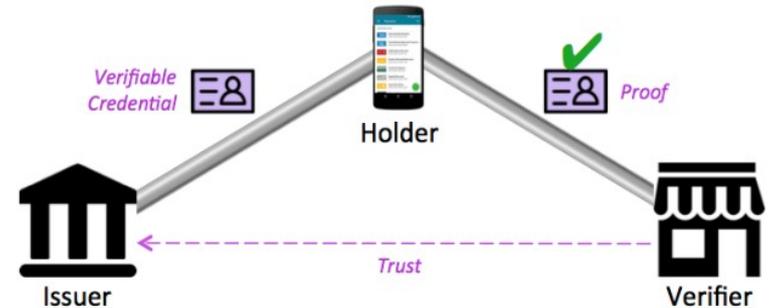
*A White Paper from Rebooting the Web of Trust VI*

by Markus Sabadello, Kyle Den Hartog, Christian Lundkvist, Cedric Franz, Alberto Elias, Andrew Hughes, John Jordan, and Dmitri Zagidulin



# Verifiable Claims

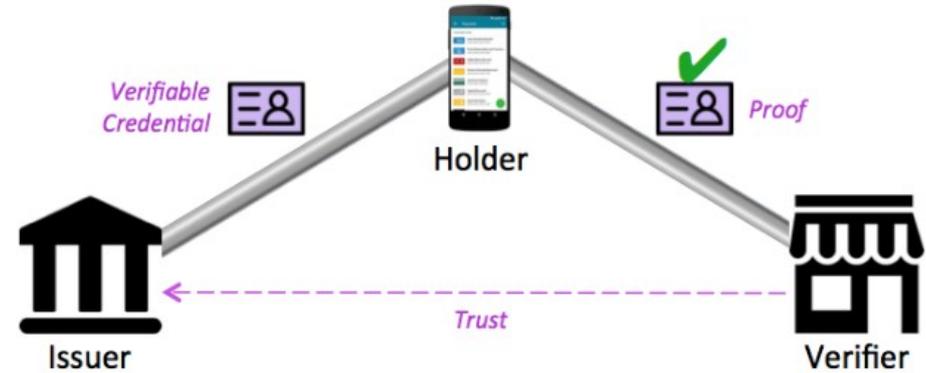
- Identity data, that is “attested” by a trusted party instead of “self-asserted”.
- Cryptographically verifiable.
- Semantic statements expressed in JSON-LD / RDF, e.g.:
  - Post attests: I live in 1170 Vienna.
  - University attests: I have a diploma in Computer Science.
  - Bank attests: My credit score is sufficient for a given transaction.
  - Government attests: My name and birthday are ...
- “Trust Framework” for legal and business rules.



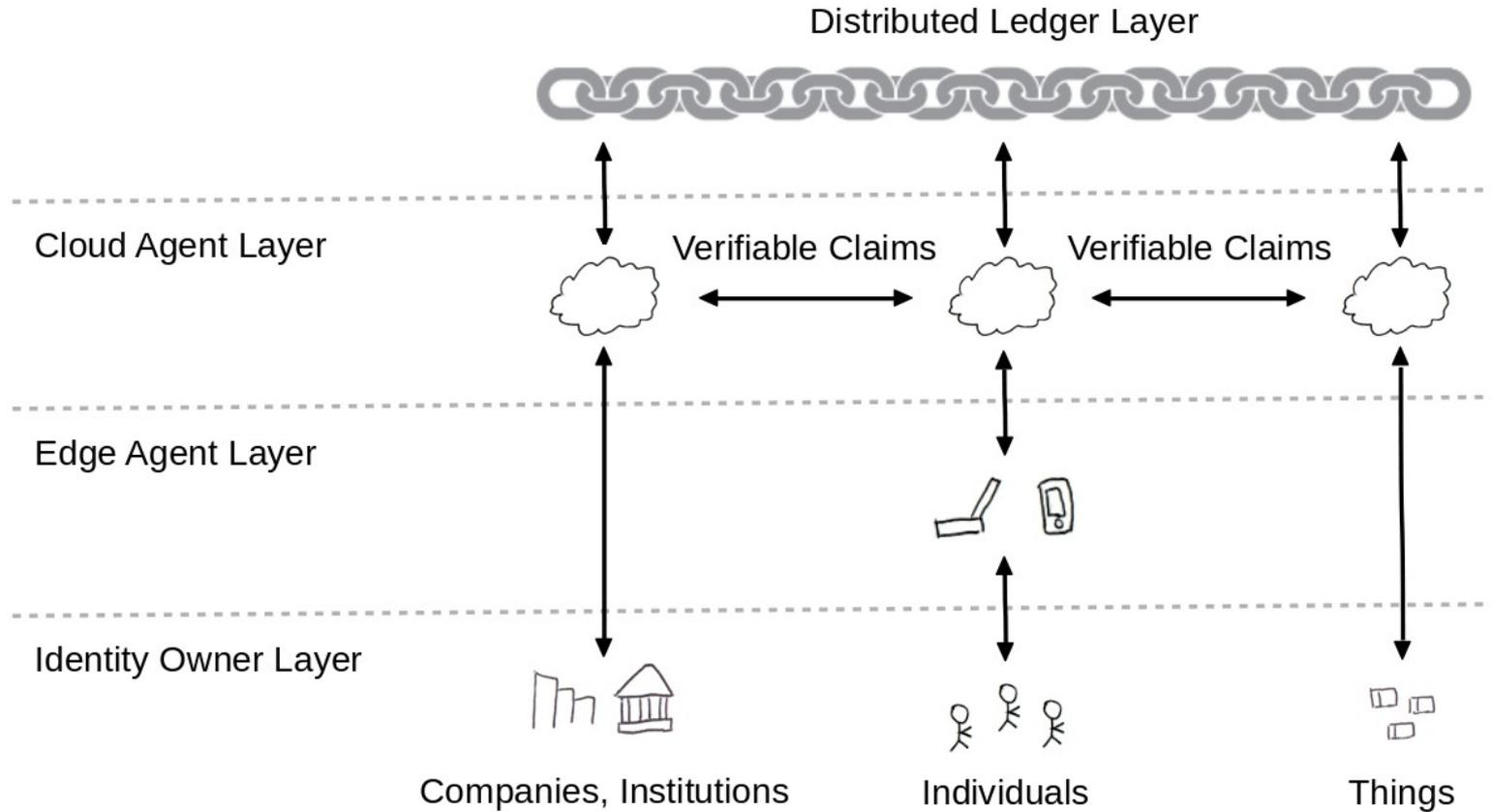
# Verifiable Claims

## ■ Example:

```
{
  "@context": "https://w3id.org/credentials/v1",
  "id": "did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw/credentials/1",
  "type": ["Credential", "NameCredential"],
  "issuer": "did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw",
  "issued": "2018-05-01",
  "claim": {
    "id": "did:btc:r:x6lj-wzvr-qqr-v-m80w",
    "name": "Markus Sabadello",
    "address": "..."
  },
  "proof": {
    "type": "RsaSignature2018",
    "created": "2017-06-18T21:19:10Z",
    "creator": "did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw#key-1",
    "nonce": "c0ae1c8e-c7e7-469f-b252-86e6a0e7387e",
    "signatureValue": "BavEll0/I1zpYw8XNi1bgVg/sCne04Jugez8RwDg/+
      MCRVpj0boDoe4SxxKjkC0vKiCHGDvc4krqi6Z1n0UfqzxGfmatCuFibcC1wps
      PRdW+gGsutPTLzvueMwmFhwYmfIFpbBu95t501+rSLHIEuuJM/+PXR9Cky6Ed
      +W3JT24="
  }
}
```



# Self-Sovereign Identity Technology



Verifiable Credentials



DKMS, DID Auth

Hubs, Agents, XDI



Yadis, XRI, XRD, XRDS,  
JRD, Webfinger

W3C Web Payments CG



OASIS XDI TC



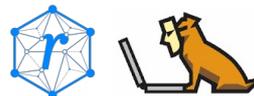
DIDs: W3C Credentials CG  
v0.11 Draft Community Report



DIDs: W3C DID WG  
Charter now being written



Rebooting-the-Web-of-Trust  
Internet Identity Workshop



DID registered  
prov. URI scheme



DID method specs



W3C JSON-LD 1.1



W3C Cryptographic Suites

RFC 7517: JWK



# Thank You

- **Internet Identity Workshop!** – April 30 2019 - May 2 2019, Mountain View, US
  - <https://www.internetidentityworkshop.com/>
- **W3C Credentials Community Group!**
  - <https://w3c-ccg.github.io/>
- **Decentralized Identity Foundation!**
  - <https://identity.foundation/>
- <https://danubetech.com/> – [markus@danubetech.com](mailto:markus@danubetech.com)



# Extra Slides

# DID Universal Resolver

## ■ Example Driver Configuration:

```
{
  "pattern": "^(did:btcr:.+)$",
  "image": "universalresolver/driver-did-btcr",
  "tag": "latest",
  "testIdentifiers": [
    "did:btcr:xz35-jzv2-qqs2-9wjt",
    "did:btcr:x705-jzv2-qqaz-7vuz",
    "did:btcr:xkrn-xzcr-qqlv-j6sl"
  ],
  "env": {
    "uniresolver_driver_did_btcr_bitcoinConnection":
      "blockcypherapi",
    "uniresolver_driver_did_btcr_rpcUrlMainnet":
      "http://user:pass@localhost:8332/",
    "uniresolver_driver_did_btcr_rpcUrlTestnet":
      "http://user:pass@localhost:18332/"
  }
}
```



## Driver Environment Variables

The driver recognizes the following environment variables:

### `uniresolver_driver_did_btcr_bitcoinConnection`

- Specifies how the driver interacts with the Bitcoin blockchain.
- Possible values:
  - `bitcoind` : Connects to a [bitcoind](#) instance via JSON-RPC
  - `btcd` : Connects to a [btcd](#) instance via JSON-RPC
  - `bitcoinj` : Connects to Bitcoin using a local [bitcoinj](#) client
  - `blockcypherapi` : Connects to [BlockCypher's API](#)
- Default value: `blockcypherapi`

### `uniresolver_driver_did_btcr_rpcUrlMainnet`

- Specifies the JSON-RPC URL of a bitcoind/btcd instance running on Mainnet.
- Default value: `http://user:pass@localhost:8332/`

### `uniresolver_driver_did_btcr_rpcUrlTestnet`

- Specifies the JSON-RPC URL of a bitcoind/btcd instance running on Testnet.
- Default value: `http://user:pass@localhost:18332/`

# DID Resolution: Input

- Additional input parameters:

- Select specific resource in the DID Document by ID, e.g.

`did:sov:WRfXPg8dantKVubE3HX8pw#key-1`

- Select public key by type, e.g.

`Ed25519VerificationKey2018`

- Select authentication method by type, e.g.

`Ed25519SignatureAuthentication2018`

- Select service by type, e.g.

`SocialWebInboxService`

- Select service by name, e.g.

`did:example:123456789abcdefghi;xdi`

- Request specific version of DID Document, e.g. by version number, or by timestamp.
- Request specific caching behavior, e.g. force fresh DID resolution.

# DID Resolution: Output

## ■ Resolver Metadata:

- Which driver was used?
- Duration of the resolution process?
- Versioning information about the DID Document
- Caching information about the DID Document

## ■ Method Metadata:

- Sovrin: State proofs from the ledger
- Bitcoin: Was a full node used, or an external blockchain explorer?
- Bitcoin: Transaction number and number of confirmations?
- Bitcoin: Mainnet or Testnet?

did

RESULT

DID DOCUMENT

**RESOLVER METADATA**

METHOD METADATA

## Other Topics:

### ■ Versioning:

- Input parameter to request specific version of DID Document, e.g. by version number, or by timestamp.
- DID Document can contain version number or timestamp of last update.

### ■ Caching:

- Input parameter to request specific caching behavior, e.g. force fresh DID resolution.
- Controlled by DID resolver configuration, input parameters, and DID Document content (“time-to-live”).

### ■ Revocation:

- DID resolver can return an error, or a DID Document with a “revoked” flag.

### ■ Validation:

- DID resolver validates DID Documents before returning them.

### ■ Redirects:

- DID can be used as the value of `serviceEndpoint`.

```
{  
  "id": "did:btcr:x705-jzv2-qqaz-7vuz;hub",  
  "type": "HubService",  
  "serviceEndpoint": "did:btcr:xz35-jzv2-qqz2-9wjt"  
}
```

## Other Topics:

- Off-ledger DIDs (“microledgers”, “relationship state machine”):
  - DID method `did:sov:peer:` has been proposed
  - DID operations not in a public network, but between peers
- Which DID methods should a DID Resolver support?
  - DID Method Registry
- DID Names have been proposed.
- Petnames can point to DIDs.
- Domain names can point to DIDs:
  - DNS Resolution, e.g.: `_did.ssi.labs.nic.at. 300 IN URI 10 1 "did:sov:stn:r1dwAJxcoG7EPiioGMz7h"`
  - WebFinger
  - HTML code in web page

Network Working Group  
Internet-Draft  
Updates: 7553 (if approved)  
Intended status: Standards Track  
Expires: February 7, 2019

A. Mayrhofer  
D. Klesev  
nic.at GmbH  
M. Sabadello  
Danube Tech GmbH  
August 6, 2018

The Decentralized Identifier (DID) in the DNS  
draft-mayrhofer-did-dns-00

# DID Universal Registrar

- Create/update/revoke a DID and its DID Document.
- Provides a universal API that works with all DID methods.
- Uses a set of configurable “drivers” that know how to connect to the target system.
- <https://uniregistrar.io/>

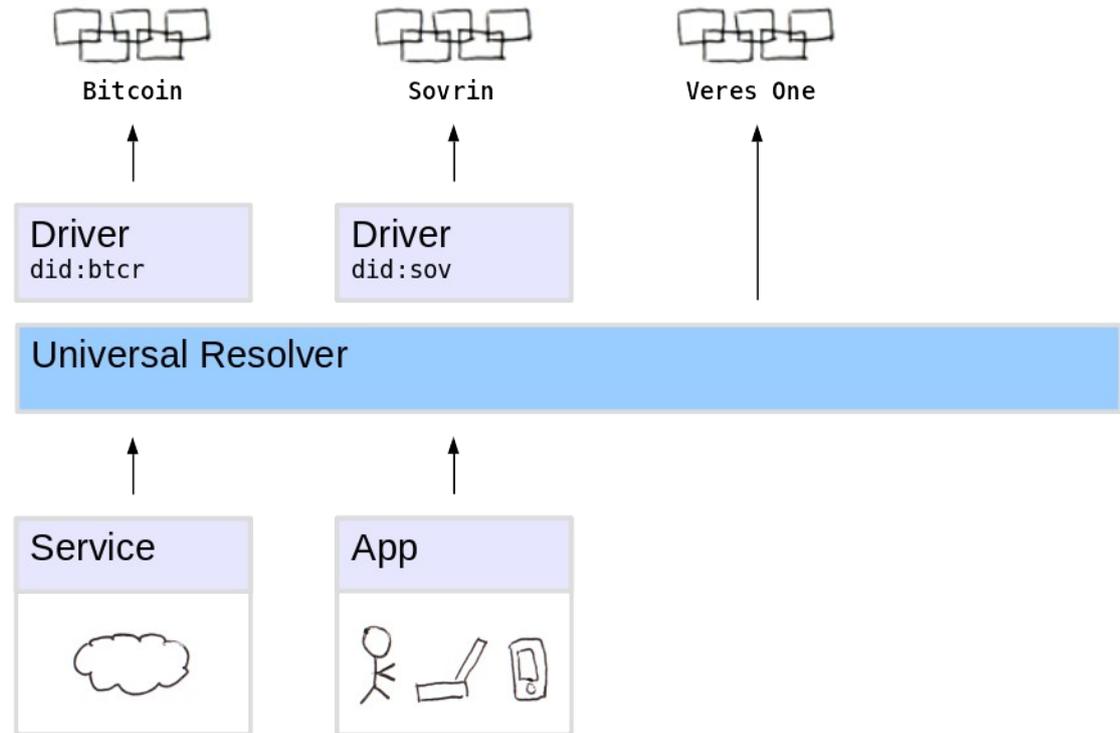
The screenshot displays the DIF Universal Registrar interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Configuration', 'did:btcr', 'did:sov', 'did:v1', and 'did:erc725'. Below this, the 'DIF Universal Registrar' logo is visible. The main content area features a 'register → did:sov' button and a 'Clear' button. Underneath, the 'OPTIONS:' section contains a JSON configuration: 

```
{  "network": "danube"}
```

. Below the options, there are input fields for 'PUBLIC KEY:' and 'SERVICE:'. The 'PUBLIC KEY:' field has a placeholder 'publicKey' and an 'Add' button. The 'SERVICE:' field has a placeholder 'service'. At the bottom, a 'RESULT' section shows the 'DID STATE' as 'finished' (highlighted in green). Below the state, the 'IDENTIFIER:' is listed as 'did:sov:danube:KZBTgDvnPzMVwrx3trFun'.

# DID Universal Resolver

- Looks up (“resolves”) DID to its DID Document.
- Provides a universal API that works with all DID methods.
- Uses a set of configurable “drivers” that know how to connect to the target system.
- <https://uniresolver.io/>



# Sovrin

- Blockchain / DLT for Self-Sovereign Identity
- No cryptocurrency, no smart contracts
- Permissioned, public “global utility for identity”
- Used for DIDs, schemas, revocation
- Code based on Hyperledger Indy
- Governed by Sovrin Foundation



# Sovrin

- About 40 “Stewards” who operate DLT nodes
- Financial institutions, certification authorities, tech companies, law firms, NGOs, universities, etc.

## Who operates the ledger nodes?

Permissionless      Permissioned

Public

Bitcoin Ethereum	Sovrin
Hyperledger Sawtooth*	Hyperledger (Fabric, Sawtooth, Iroha) R3 Corda CU Ledger

\* in permissionless mode

Private

Who can use the ledger?



**Aalto University**  
Finland  
Aalto University is a multidisciplinary community of bold thinkers whose science and art meet technology and business.



**Amihan Global Strategist**  
Manila, Philippines  
Amihan Global Strategist is a leading ASEAN digital transformation company with expertise in Blockchain, AI, Analytics, and Cloud Native Infrastructure.



**ATB Financial**  
Alberta, Canada  
Leading financial services in Alberta with cutting edge technology like Sovrin.



**BakerHostetler**  
Ohio, USA  
An Law 100 firm providing leadership to clients in emerging and transformative technologies.



**CERTISIGN**  
As the leading and pioneer Certifying Authority in Latin America, Certisign supports several associated Certifying Authorities of different professional segments (Accountants, Lawyers, Insurance Brokers, Notaries) and organizations such as the Brazilian Bar Association and Chambers of Commerce providing identity verification services. Since 1996, the company is a reference in the Digital Identity market in the Country.



**CU Ledger**  
CU Ledger enables credit unions to enhance their digital strategy by bringing innovative distributed ledger applications to the market in order to lower costs, improve efficiencies, increase speed and provide advanced security.



**datum**  
Datum is a decentralized and distributed high performance NoSQL database backed by a blockchain ledger.



**Digicert**  
Digicert is a leading provider of scalable security solutions for a connected world.



**esatus AG**  
Germany  
Enabling Information Security for everyone and everywhere with trusted consulting services that have identity & Access as a focal point.



**Finicity**  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
Finicity enables a financial data sharing ecosystem that is secure, inclusive and innovative.



**absa**  
Africa Group Limited  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
The African financial services group that aims to be the pride of the continent, by offering a range of retail, business, corporate and investment, and wealth management solutions and ensuring a positive impact in all the countries where we operate.



**ARTIFACTS**  
Cambridge, USA  
Allowing researchers to record an irrefutable chain of records, from the earliest stages of research to the ultimate artifacts and record citizens to these artifacts in real time.



**ATTINAD**  
A product company helping its partners digitally transform their business through the use of AI, Analytics, Blockchain and Internet of Things.



**BIG BEST INNOVATION**  
A technology, innovation, and development leader for the financial industry.



**Cisco**  
California, USA  
Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO) is the worldwide technology leader that has been making the internet work since 1986. Our people, products, and partners help society securely connect and solve tomorrow's digital opportunity today.



**Crypto Valley**  
Building the world's leading ecosystem for blockchain and other cryptographic technologies and businesses in Switzerland.



**DANUBE**  
DANUBE Tech  
Austria  
Working on technologies in the field of digital identity and personal data, including personal clouds, semantic graphs, and blockchain identity.



**dinet FINANCIAL**  
Austria, USA  
Using Sovrin as one of the oldest and best established credit unions in the Southwest.



**Digital Bazaar**  
Virginia, USA  
Creating open and secure payments, identity and credentials for the Web. Spearheaded what is now the W3C standard for JSON-LD.



**evernym**  
Evanston, USA, USA  
Building a platform dedicated exclusively to products and services based on Sovrin decentralized identity.



**First Education Credit Union**  
Wyoming, USA  
Using Sovrin to optimize the credit union industry. Installed its first Sovrin sandbox node in mid 2016.



**consent**  
Global Consent  
South Africa  
Creating the Web of Trust through a decentralized protocol for sharing personal digital assets between trusted identities.



**InfoCert**  
Italy  
Committed to innovation in digital identity and trust services as the EU's largest trust service provider.



**iRespond**  
Birmingham, DC, USA  
Leading innovation in remote, privacy-respecting biometric identification, authentication, and data collection for health and wellness of at-risk populations.



**OAS Staff Federal Credit Union**  
Washington DC, USA  
Providing high quality, affordable financial services as a non-profit credit union.



**Phidigit**  
Utah, USA  
Providing AI, automated reasoning solutions including the *Kelby* reputation as a service (*Phidigit*) meta-platform of intelligent algorithms that continuously curate, connect, and complete interactions between entities on open identity systems such as Sovrin.



**SICPA**  
Switzerland  
A trust enabler, SICPA provides cutting-edge security into and technologies to governments and industry clients. These high tech solutions protect hardware, software and consumers through product authentication, traceability, proof of origin and tax recalculation.



**T-Label**  
Dortm, Germany  
T-Label is the research and innovation unit of Deutsche Telekom and now the Blockchain Group, which aims to experiment, utilize and develop solutions based on distributed ledger technologies.



**TNO**  
Den Haag, Netherlands  
The Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research (TNO) is an independent research organization in the Netherlands that focuses on applied science. The TNO Blockchain Lab has nodes of several public blockchains for customer projects.



**workdoy**  
Fresno, CA  
Workdoy is a leading provider of enterprise and cloud applications for finance and human resources.



**IBM**  
New York, USA  
International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) provides complete solutions through the use of advanced information technology. The Company's solutions include technologies, systems, products, services, software, and financing. IBM offers its products through its global sales and distribution organizations, as well as through a variety of third-party distributors and resellers.



**KYC Chain**  
Hong Kong  
Using distributed ledger technology to allow users to manage their digital identity securely and businesses and financial institutions to manage customer data in a reliable and easy manner.



**Perkins Cole**  
Washington DC, USA  
The world's first legal practice focused on decentralized cryptocurrencies and shared ledger technologies, and the first law firm selected as Youngest Steward of the Sovrin Foundation.



**Qy Foundation**  
Netherlands  
Giving people control over their data and facilitating them to do smart things with it.



**Royal Credit Union**  
Whitman, USA  
CUR is a leading community credit in the over \$750M asset category.



**SITA**  
SITA, the communications and IT solution provider to the air transport industry, works with nearly every airline and airport in the world and its border management solutions are used by more than 30 governments.



**SITA**  
The City of Chêne  
Geneva, Switzerland  
The City of Chêne serves as a certification authority, putting its only constituted public authority behind its digital identity credentials and other digital certificates.



**tykn**  
Netherlands  
Protecting vital record systems against permanent loss and fraud with tools that allow legal identities to be digitally built with interoperability, privacy, and trust at core design.



**Veridium**  
Boston, USA  
Provider of strong authentication using single-step multi-factor biometric authentication from a mobile device. The VeridiumE3 platform provides the ability to capture and securely store interactions as an identity credential for enterprises, healthcare organizations, financial services, law enforcement, and government agencies.