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Understanding Attribution: creating equitable models in the scholarly ecosystem

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The very essence of what it means to be a scholar has experienced a fundamental shift to reflect interdisciplinary, team-based approaches to research, as well as a more purposeful engagement with the public through community engaged research and citizen science. This cultural evolution is accompanied by recent technological advancements that now enable us to capture and attribute a diversity of contributions and research outputs as never before to create equitable models in the scholarly ecosystem to better credit the thousands of contributions of varying types and intensities that are necessary to move scholarship forward. Unfortunately, little infrastructure exists to identify, aggregate, communicate, assess, and (ultimately) credit the impact of these contributions, due to technical as well as social challenges. This interactive, workshop-style session will begin to unpack some of these challenges and opportunities and outline some clear routes forward.

Review the importance of proper attribution [presentation].
Proper credit for scholarly work creates a better record and inventory of expertise and experience and sets the stage for productive and trusted collaborations.

Discuss the current attribution environment [group discussion].
Topics to be covered include: groups in the contribution/attribution environment, their work, creating an equitable environment in the scholarly ecosystem, limitations on capturing attribution

Explore attribution and credit in action [exercise].
The room is split into teams and given three or four scholarly objects (i.e. software code, data set, creative works, images, etc.). Each group will review the objects and complete a basic data model for attribution.

Model a system that captures attribution [brainstorm].
Topics to be discussed include: persistent identifiers, non-research or non-academic roles, research objects and activities to acknowledge, what does credit look like, and who would use this data, and how would they use it?