Recent literary scholarship has seen a shift of interest away from questions of attribution. Yet these questions remain urgent and important for any historical study of writing, and have been given a powerful new impetus by advances in statistical studies of language and the coming on line of large databases of texts in machine-searchable form. The present book is the first comprehensive survey of the field from a literary perspective to appear for forty years. It covers both traditional and computer based approaches to attribution, and evaluates each in respect of their potentialities and limitations. It revisits a number of famous controversies, including those concerning the authorship of the Homeric poems, books from the Old and New Testaments, and the plays of Shakespeare. Written with wit as well as erudition, Attributing Authorship: An Introduction will make this intriguing field accessible for students and scholars alike.

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ATTRIBUTING AUTHORSHIP

An Introduction

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### Abbreviations

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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>BSANZ Bulletin</td>
<td>Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand Bulletin</td>
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<td>CHum</td>
<td>Computers and the Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLC</td>
<td>Literary and Linguistic Computing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLR</td>
<td>Modern Language Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NQ</td>
<td>Notes and Queries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMLA</td>
<td>Papers of the Modern Language Association of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB</td>
<td>Studies in Bibliography</td>
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<td>TLS</td>
<td>Times Literary Supplement</td>
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