Understanding the technical landscape for ORCID adoption in the arts and humanities communities.

We're asking members of the Academia and Beyond Arts and Humanities task force to fill in a short survey, to help the project team establish a 'baseline' understanding of the current state of the art in ORCID adoption in these disciplines. Our first step is to examine the availability and coverage of ORCID integrations.

We use Technology Readiness levels to determine the depth and capabilities of an ORCID integration in a system, platform, or service. Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) are an established, well-understood method for assessing the maturity of a technology. Per Wikipedia, "The use of TRLs enables consistent, uniform discussions of technical maturity across different types of technology."[1] The model was invented at NASA in the 1980s and is now used globally. Using a model that is explicitly designed to create consistent assessments will enable comparisons across disciplines and sectors, and help us to create our landscape analysis.

TRLs go from 1 (totally new and untested idea) to 9 (in production and generally used). For our purposes, the lowest levels are not helpful, as ORCID is a proven, widely-used technology, built on standards and widely-adopted coding languages. This means that no ORCID integration should be starting from absolute zero. Instead, TRL 5, which sits at the development stage, should be the minimum level of maturity. Most new or very early stage ORCID integrations will sit at this level in the TRL maturity framework.

The NASA-defined levels are not always easy to discern, and have a degree of overlap. To eliminate ambiguity, for our purposes we are focusing on alternate levels (TRLs 5, 7 and 9), which reduces overlap and enables cleaner, clearer classifications.

> **Technology readiness (from emergence at TRL 5 to established general use at TRL9):**
> - TRL 5: *An emerging service that demonstrably works, but is undeployed, incomplete or not yet ready for use for other reasons.*
> - TRL 7: *A service that is live and available but still in the prototype/beta stages.*
> - TRL 9: *An operationally proven live service in general use.*

The ORCID team will map the various systems that you describe to TRLs, and we will use a survey to gather the information we need from you to start this work. We hope that this brief outline of the framework we're using helps you to complete the survey, and clarifies the rationale for our approach.

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[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technology_readiness_level