2) This is McDowell's *Plato Theaetus* (Oxford 1973), 169] rendering of Protagoras' basic thesis.
3) I.e. it is true for him that his theory is false for his opponents.
5) Ibid.
8) If Protagoras' famous 'Man is the measure' is not to be reduced to the trivial "What I think is hot, is hot to me".
9) Exactly what he does think the world to be is not immediately relevant.
10) What prevents Plato's refutation from being really effective is Protagoras' (perhaps illegitimate) insistence on continuing to employ the word 'true'. Plato seems to be moving towards a version of the classic Stoic refutation of the scepticism of the New Academy, to the effect that if everything is uncertain then the contention that everything is uncertain is itself uncertain. What protects Protagoras from this sort of argument is his retention of the right to say that his beliefs are true (as well as false).

**STATISTICAL TESTS AND THE EPISTULAE AD CAESAREM SENEM**

The continuing but inconclusive search for objective criteria to apply to the problems of the authenticity of the *Epistulae ad Caesarem senem* was illustrated recently in this journal by K. Thraede's modifications of Skard's statistical analysis of some aspects of the letters' language 1). The purpose of this note is to communicate the results of statistical tests carried out in an attempt to obviate the impasse to which the various historical and linguistic arguments have lead since Justus Lipsius' scepticism over Sallustian authorship was voiced in 1567 2). This approach was directly inspired by efforts in English and Greek to isolate discriminators which could be used to solve questions of disputed authorship 3). In these inquiries, the search was directed towards finding characteristics of style that were unconsciously determined and as such, would betray even the most careful imitator 4). Such stylistic traits had to be constant to a certain degree or be such that their variation could be predicted and be sufficiently individual to allow separation from the works of other authors. If it could be demonstrated that such differences between different authors were greater than any difference between texts written by the same author, then clearly it would afford a useful supplement to the more traditional approaches.

It was determined, therefore, to see if any of the procedures arising from the research in Greek and English were helpful in providing signs which could be used in separating the *Epistulae* from the Sallustian corpus. From the outset, there were uncertainties; it was not known, for example, whether there was a sufficient amount of text in the letters upon which to base any conclusive answers, though work in English had produced results from samples of less than a thousand words. It was also presupposed that an author's style would remain constant if the data were extracted from works of a similar genre.

The following Latin texts were coded upon a five-hole punched tape: Sallust *Cat.* 1-61; *Jug.* 1-77 (ed. Kurfess); *Epistulae ad Caesarem senem* (ed. Kurfess); Tacitus *Hist.* I (ed. Fisher). From this were produced figures relating to sentence length distribution, the number of times *et, -que, atque* and *ac* appeared in each sentence and the distribution of common words.

A. A sentence was arbitrarily defined as the words which fell between the following period marks: a full-stop, a semi-colon, colon, question mark and exclamation mark. The first factor to be decided was whether or not the distributions in each sample in a particular work were consistent, within generally accepted statistical limits, with the assumption that it was drawn from the same population. In other words, would the differences between them exceed those expected from the process of sampling? In both the *Cat.* and the *Jug.*, the differences between the samples were significantly greater than those expected as a result of sampling and, therefore, sentence length distribution could not be regarded as a consistent characteristic of Sallust's style; it was, in brief, an inadequate discriminator. Even though consistency in this regard was shown in Tacitus, the lack of homogeneity in Sallust ruled out its further application.

B. Similar analysis of the distribution of 'and' words revealed homogeneity in Tacitus but not in Sallust.

C. Of eighteen common words tabulated, five constituted over 1% of the words used. Of these five, only *sum, in* and *qui* (relative) showed homogeneity within each author and a significant difference between authors and so could provide a test to be applied to the letters:

(i) The figures derived from *sum* showed that neither letter could be distinguished from the genuine works of Sallust.
(ii) The same conclusion held true for the figures regarding *in*.
(iii) From the number of occurrences of *qui* one could conclude that neither letter was written by Sallust, for the distribution of *qui* in the letters was significantly different from that in