

The Computer and Literary Style Introductory Essays and Studies edited by Jacob Leed (Kent State University Press, Kent, Ohio) 1966

"An Exposition of a Statistical Approach to the Federalist Dispute" by Ivor S. Francis. *pp 38-78*

p. 45 Notice that Shakespeare's poetry distribution is different from his prose distribution. There seems to be a slight but systematic change in his vocabulary when he changes from poetry to prose.

p. 46 Mosteller and Wallace in their book report ^{p. 47} briefly on their attempt to use the Mendenhall statistics to discriminate between/known papers. Unfortunately, the variation from paper to paper within an author's writings was greater than the difference between the two authors. (((Francis is here referring to the authorship of The Federalist papers - whether they were written by Hamilton or Madison.)))

Frederick Williams

p. 41 The Federalist papers were published anonymously over the pseudonym "Publius" in 1787-1788 by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison, to persuade the citizens of the State of New York to ratify the Constitution. Of the 77 essays, 900 to 3500 words in length, that appeared in newspapers, it is generally agreed that Jay wrote five: Nos. 2,3,4,5, and 64. Hamilton and Madison, as well as historians, agree upon the authorship of an additional 57 papers, 43 by Hamilton and 14 by Madison. On the other hand, they dispute the authorship of another 12 papers referred to as the "disputed papers." Finally there are three papers which will be referred to as "joint" papers - Hamilton said they were joint papers, and Madison claimed to have written them using Hamilton's notes. The issue concerning these three papers is the extent of each man's contribution.

Over the past 150 years numerous lists have been published, some claiming the disputed papers for Hamilton and some for Madison. Adair (1944a) has noted that the preference shown for each man's claim has, over the years, swung with the popularity of the man's views. The available historical evidence today is modest enough that a reasonable skeptic can maintain that it is not convincing one way or the other.

p. 66 Attending to the 12 disputed papers, we see that every set of underlying constants gives odds for all papers strongly in favor of Madison. The weakest of these are papers 55 and 56, . . .