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John Aston earned his Ph.D. degree in statistics at Imperial College, University of London in 2002 and was then a National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) junior fellow at the US Census Bureau from 2002-2004. He started his career as an assistant research fellow at the Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica in 2004. From 2008, he also works at the Centre for Research in Statistical Methodology at Warwick University. His research interests include the analysis of higher-order Markovian and hidden Markovian sequences and waiting time distributions with application to human brain mapping, genetics and econometrics; Change-point analysis using hidden Markov models; Wavelet and other methods for time series and image processing especially in human brain mapping; Non-Gaussian models for the seasonal adjustment of time series; Contingency table analysis; Functional data analysis with particular application in Linguistics; Software development for econometrics in the languages Ox and Matlab; Human brain mapping software development. He is an associate editor for *Statistica Sinica* and has recently organised the *Statistica Sinica* special issue on Statistical Challenges and Advances in Brain Science.