

Notes on

Chapter 5: Assessing evidential strength with the likelihood ratio

Marcello Di Bello and Rafal Urbaniak

1 paper: “Likelihood Ratio as Weight of Forensic Evidence: A Closer Look” by Lund and Iyer

It is relevant for our work in three ways:

- 1) The authors show the LR varies depending on priors in virtually any realistic case of forensic identification evidence. So I think we might need to revise some of the claims we make in the chapter on likelihood ratios.
- 2) They also argue that likelihood ratios are dependent on specific modelling assumptions and so they cannot be given alone, but in a range of possible values paired with modelling assumptions, against claims made by Taroni etc. I am wondering whether Rafal’s approach to “weight of evidence” can capture some of the observations they make about the need to take into account modeling assumptions.
- 3) They give two realistic examples of forensic identification evidence – glass evidence and fingerprints – which are quite instructive and described with sophistication. I think we would benefit from incorporating their examples somewhere.