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A BRIEF STUDY ON THE APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS IN FORENSIC SCIENCE

Hajira Taranum K. and Tanveera Sultana H.M.

Department of Mathematics, Islamiah Women's College, Vaniyambadi, Tamil Nadu -635 752, INDIA

E-mail: hajirataranum95@gmail.com, tanveerasultana4540@gmail.com

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Abstract: Forensic science is the application of science to criminal and civil laws, mainly deals with the application of the knowledge and methodology of various disciplines of science to legal matters. Mathematics is fundamental to all kinds of science and forensic science is no exception. Some of the interesting applications of Mathematics to forensic science is highlighted.

Keywords and Phrases: Forensic Science, Probability, Statistics.

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1. Introduction

Forensic science is that piece without which the puzzle of a criminal investigation is incomplete. Without the application of forensic science, criminals can never be convicted unless an eyewitness is present. Thus in a world devoid of forensic science, murderers, thieves, drug traffickers and rapists would be roaming scot-free. Certain attributes of a crime scene reveal information about the event. Thanks to mathematical models, we are able to estimate the time at which a crime was committed, identify the suspects fingerprints and analyse the pattern of bloodstains and bone fractures to reconstruct the crime scene. We will show some of the most common and simplest examples of the applications of mathematics in forensic science.