

## **DATABASE SEARCHING - TAKING DNA MIXTURES FURTHER THAN EVER BEFORE**

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Interpretation of DNA mixtures at the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR), New Zealand, was revolutionized by STRmix™ software. The software utilises a continuous model to resolve the DNA profiles of individual contributors to a mixture and can also determine likelihood ratios of possible DNA contributors to mixtures.

Furthermore, using the database searching functionality in STRmix, which allows comparison of complex mixed profiles with the New Zealand DNA Profile Databank, it has been possible to undertake more interpretation on previously un-resolvable mixed DNA profiles.

A review, two years on from the introduction of this database searching capability, has revealed the value that can be gained from the addition of this functionality to the workflow.