Codebook for the Militarized Interstate Dispute Data, Version 3.0
April 14, 2003

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Overview

This codebook refers to variables in two data sets, MIDA and MIDB. MIDA contains the essential attributes of each militarized interstate dispute from 1/1/1816 through 12/31/2001. MIDB describes the participants in each of those disputes.

The variables and their coding rules are generally discussed in Daniel M. Jones, Stuart A. Bremer, and J. David Singer, "Militarized Disputes, 1816-1992: Rationale Coding Rules and Empirical Patterns". *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, Vol. 15, 1996. There are some relatively minor changes in coding rules and variables that are discussed in the MID 3.0 "Associated Document." New variables are also discussed in that document.

File Format

The files are distributed as comma-separated-variable format, that is, text files in which the data fields separated by commas, with text enclosed in quotes. The first record contains field names in quotes. On most Microsoft Windows systems, this file format will open up by default in Microsoft Excel. The files may also be easily read in programs like Stata; in Stata the typical command to read the files would be:

       insheet using "MIDA_3.0.csv"

Variables in MIDA_v3.0.csv file
One record per dispute

Variable Number	Variable Name	Variable Description
1	DispNum	Dispute number
2	StDay	Start day of dispute (-9 = missing)
3	StMon	Start month of dispute
4	StYear	Start year of dispute
5	EndDay	End day of dispute (-9 = missing)
6	EndMon	End month of dispute
7	EndYear	End year of dispute
8	Outcome	Outcome of dispute: 1 Victory for side A 2 Victory for side B 3 Yield by side A 4 Yield by side B 5 Stalemate 6 Compromise 7 Released 8 Unclear 9 Joins ongoing war -9 Missing
9	Settle	Settlement of dispute: 1 Negotiated 2 Imposed 3 None 4 Unclear -9 Missing
10	Fatality	Fatality level of dispute: 0 None 1 1-25 deaths 2 26-100 deaths 3 101-250 deaths 4 251-500 deaths 5 501-999 deaths 6 > 999 deaths -9 Missing
11	FatalPre	Precise Fatalities, if known (-9 = missing)
12	MaxDur	Maximum duration of dispute
13	MinDur	Minimum duration of dispute

14	HiAct	Highest action in dispute [bracketed numbers refer to corresponding hostility level]:
		0 No militarized action [1]
		1 Threat to use force [2]
		2 Threat to blockade [2]
		3 Threat to occupy territory [2]
		4 Threat to declare war [2]
		5 Threat to use CBR weapons [2]
		6 Threat to join war
		7 Show of force [3]
		8 Alert [3]
		9 Nuclear alert [3]
		10 Mobilization [3]
		11 Fortify border [3]
		12 Border violation [3]
		13 Blockade [4]
		14 Occupation of territory [4]
		15 Seizure [4]
		16 Attack [4]
		17 Clash [4]
		18 Declaration of war [4]
		19 Use of CBR weapons [4]
		20 Begin interstate war [5]
		21 Join interstate war [5]
		-9 Missing [-9]
15	HostLev	Hostility level of dispute
		1 No militarized action
		2 Threat to use force
		3 Display of force
		4 Use of force
		5 War
16	Recip	Reciprocated dispute? (1 = yes, 0 = no)
17	NumA	Number of states on side A
18	NumB	Number of states on side B
19	Link1	Links to other disputes/wars #1 (contains dispute number [variable "DispNum"] of other dispute; links to war indicated by code "W" e.g. "167W" is link to war number 167)
20	Link2	Links to other disputes/wars #2
21	Link3	Links to other disputes/wars #3
22	Ongo2001	Ongoing after 2001?
		0 = concluded before 12/31/2001
		1=continuing as of 12/31/2001
23	Version	Version number of data set

Variables in the MIDB_v3.0.csv file

One record per participant per dispute

Variable Number	Variable Name	Variable Description
1	DispNum	Dispute number
2	StAbb	State abbreviation of participant
3	ccode	Country code / state number of participant
4	StDay	Start day of participation in dispute (-9 = missing)
5	StMon	Start month of participation in dispute
6	StYear	Start year of participation in dispute
7	EndDay	End day of participation in dispute (-9 = missing)
8	EndMon	End month of participation in dispute
9	EndYear	End year of participation in dispute
10	SideA	Side A? (1 = yes; 0 = no)
11	RevState	Revisionist state? (1 = yes; 0 = no)
12	RevType1	Revision type #1 0 Not applicable 1 Territory 2 Policy 3 Regime/government 4 Other -9 Missing
13	RevType2	Revision type #2 0 Not applicable 1 Territory 2 Policy 3 Regime/government 4 Other -9 Missing
14	Fatality	Fatality level 0 None 1 1-25 deaths 2 26-100 deaths 3 101-250 deaths 4 251-500 deaths 5 501-999 deaths 6 > 999 deaths
15	FatalPre	Precise Fatalities, if known (-9 = missing)

16	HiAct	Highest action by state in dispute [bracketed numbers refer to corresponding hostility level]:
		0 No militarized action [1]
		1 Threat to use force [2]
		2 Threat to blockade [2]
		3 Threat to occupy territory [2]
		4 Threat to declare war [2]
		5 Threat to use CBR weapons [2]
		6 Threat to join war
		7 Show of force [3]
		8 Alert [3]
		9 Nuclear alert [3]
		10 Mobilization [3]
		11 Fortify border [3]
		12 Border violation [3]
		13 Blockade [4]
		14 Occupation of territory [4]
		15 Seizure [4]
		16 Attack [4]
		17 Clash [4]
		18 Declaration of war [4]
		19 Use of CBR weapons [4]
		20 Begin interstate war [5]
		21 Join interstate war [5]
		-9 Missing [-9]
17	HostLev	Hostility level reached by state in dispute
		1 No militarized action
		2 Threat to use force
		3 Display of force
		4 Use of force
		5 War
18	Orig	Originator of dispute (1 = yes; 0 = no)
19	Version	Version number of data set