

**Codebook for the Militarized Interstate Dispute Location (MIDLOC) Data, v 1.0
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Overview

The Militarized Interstate Dispute Location (MIDLOC) dataset details the precise geographic onset location of Militarized Interstate Disputes (MIDs) in the post-Napoleonic era (from 1816-2001), complementing the Correlates of War (COW) Project's considerable empirical data collection. The MIDLOC data offer a single point location to represent the *onset* of each individual MID between 1816 and 1992. For the period 1993-2001, the data are more detailed, identifying a single point location for each individual incident within each individual MID. Following common convention, latitude and longitude point coordinates are recorded for each observation. Latitude is measured as the angular distance, in decimalized degrees (DD), of a point north or south of the equator. Similarly, longitude is measured as the angular distance, in decimalized degrees (DD), of a point east or west of the Prime (Greenwich) Meridian.

There are a total of 3865 individual MIDLOC records. This is comprised of recorded onset locations for 2240 of 2332 independent MIDs from the MID 3.0 dataset—96% data coverage. 1939 of these 2240 took place between 1816 and 1992 and 301 between 1993 and 2001. A total of just 92 MIDs remain without a recorded onset location. In addition to the MID-level data detailed, this dataset also includes incident-level location data for the period 1993-2001. There are 2122 incident-level records that comprise the 301 MIDs during this period. 196 of these 2122 records currently contain missing values. Of these, however, only 3 are missing locations for the onset incident within the MID.

Citation

In any papers or publications that utilize this data set, users are asked to give the version number and cite the article of record for the data set, as follows:

Bibliography Entry: Braithwaite, Alex. "MIDLOC: Introducing the Militarized Interstate Dispute Location Dataset." Conditionally accepted for publication at *Journal of Peace Research*.

Data

The data are distributed in a flat text, comma-separated-variable (.csv) file. All text variables (MID21Location, MIDLOClocation) are enclosed in quotation marks. By default under Microsoft Windows, .csv files will open in Microsoft Excel. But the file may be opened in any program that reads text. In the statistical analysis program Stata, the file may be easily loaded using the command "insheet using MIDLOC_1.0.csv".

Variables in MIDLOC_1.0.csv

Variable Name	Variable Description
DispNum	MID dispute number
IncidNum	MID incident number
StYear	Start year of dispute/incident
StMon	Start month of dispute/incident
StDay	Start day of dispute/incident
MID21Location	Text comment on location of dispute or incident provided by coders of MID 2.1/MID 3.0 projects
MIDLOClocation	Most precise known location from which MIDLOC observation is coded
Longitude	Longitude in decimalized degrees
Latitude	Latitude in decimalized degrees
Precision	Indicator of geographic precision/resolution of coded location 1 = point representation of a known point location (e.g., conflict located in town, city, base X) 2 = point representation of a location of proximity (e.g., conflict located close to town, city, base X) 3 = point representation of a sub-national unit/polygon (e.g., conflict located within region, district, area X) 4 = point representation of a location along a line (e.g., conflict located on border, river, road X) 5 = point representation of a large/national polygon (e.g., conflict located in country, sea, ocean X) 7 = no known location/ location missing
Onset	0 = incident occurred subsequent to onset of MID 1 = first known (i.e., onset) incident of MID
Version	Version 1.0 of MIDLOC dataset

Descriptive Statistics for MIDLOC_1.0.csv

Variable Name	Number of Observations	Mean Value	Standard Deviation	Minimum Value	Maximum Value	Missing Value
DispNum	4153	3180.445	1242.906	2	4344	-9
IncidNum	4153	3180468	1242924	2001	4344001	-9
StYear	4153	1971.557	38.15599	1816	2001	-9
StMon	4153	6.357332	3.473119	1	12	-9
StDay	4153	13.03997	11.01634	-9	31	-9
Longitude	4153	-668.6354	2547.323	-9999	76	-9999
Latitude	4153	-662.9013	2549.421	-9999	177.4833	-9999
Precision	4153	3.523718	1.591457	1	7	-9
Onset	4153	0.5615218	0.4962604	0	1	-9
Version	4153	1	0	1	1	-9