

**W200 - Project 2 - Aug 2017**  
**GLOBAL TERRORISM 1970-2016**

**Veronika Nuretdinova, Majid Al Zein**

**Dataset:** The Global Terrorism Database (GTD) includes information on >170K cases of terrorist attacks around the world in 1970-2016 period. The database is maintained by researchers at the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START).

**Link:** <https://www.kaggle.com/START-UMD/gtd/downloads/gtd.zip>

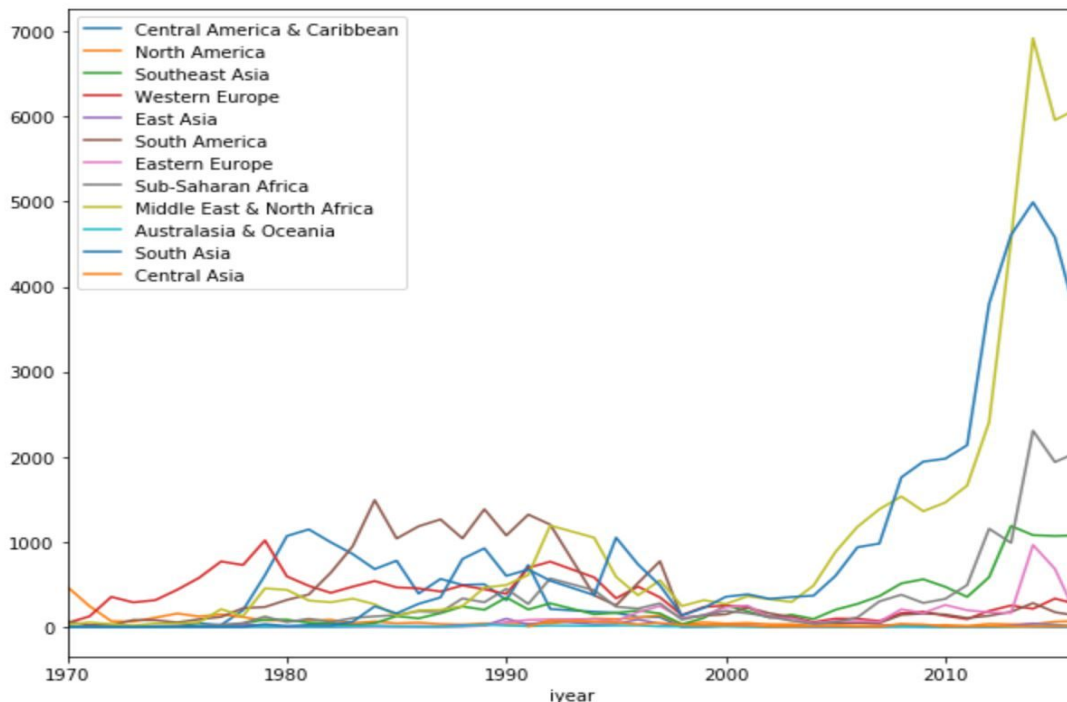
**Dataset structure:**

The dataset contains ~170k entries with 135 columns, describing:

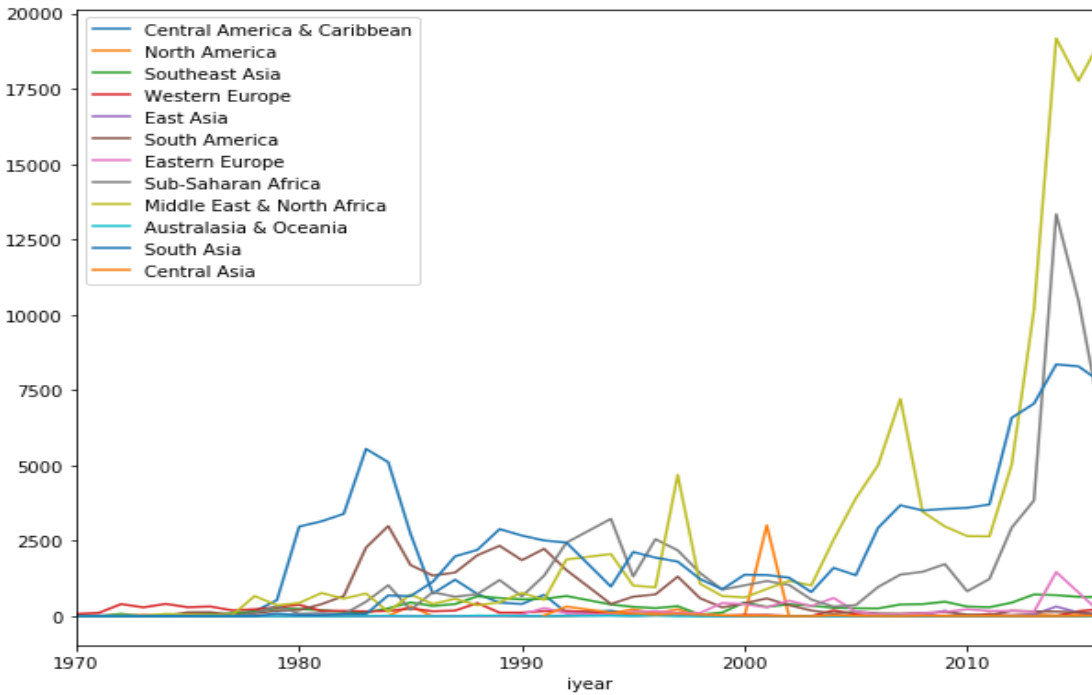
- time of the attack ("iyear", "imonth", "iday"),
- location ("region\_txt", "country\_txt", "city"),
- type of attack ("attacktype1", "attacktype1\_txt")
- weapon used ("weaptype1", "weaptype1\_txt", "weapsubtype1")
- # of victims ("nkill", "nwound")

**Initial exploration:**

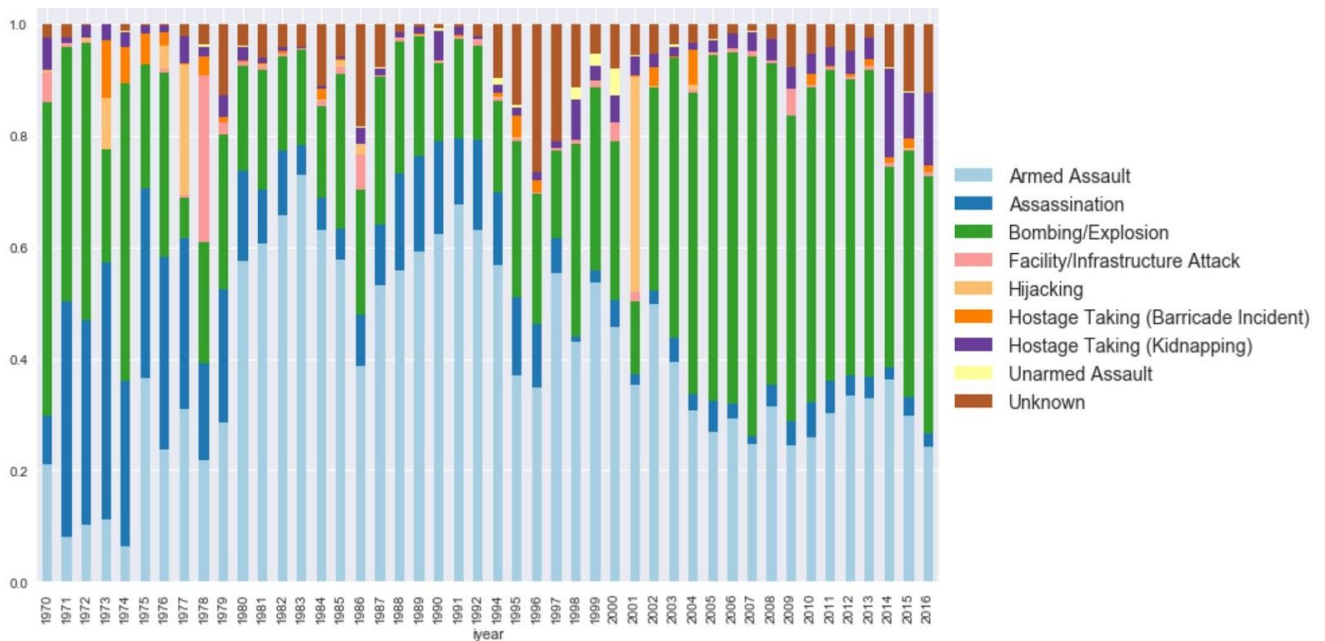
- **Total # of terrorism attacks by regions:** we can observe significant increase of overall # of attacks since mid-2000s, mainly in ME&NA, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa



- **Total # of victims of attacks:** in 1980th there used to be large number of victims in Central America. Now, the highest #s of victims are in ME&NA, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia



- **% of victims split by attack types:** we can see that less % victims now die from armed assault, but higher from bombing/explosives, also % of kidnapped victims has increased recently



**What we plan to cover in the final report:**

Identify terrorism trends over 1970-2016, including:

1. How the total # of terrorist attacks changed over the period
2. How the location of terrorist attacks changed
3. How the methods of terrorism changed
4. Did the attacks become more massive in terms of # of victims in recent years compared to 1970th
5. How did the terrorist attacks changed by target (infrastructure, military, citizen)
6. Who is the most active terrorist group per period/years
7. How many terrorist were captured /sentence/killed vs. still at large per attack
8. Suicide attacks vs. non suicide
9. International vs. local terrorism
10. BONUS:
  - a. Cross reference terrorist attacks with holidays in the U.S.