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Robberies in UFC?

Did the judges botch the scorecards?
Let's prove them with data!

[Github Link](#)





What's going on with the scorecard?

- ▶ If you're a fight fan like me, you've probably uttered the **question** above -- quite frequently.
- ▶ We've seen judges' **decisions** going the wrong way, waaay too many times.
- ▶ The thing is -- while we do say that the judges are wrong -- can we **prove** it with **data**?
- ▶ Let's find out!

Content

Let's discuss the following items in order!



Dataset

How do we set up the UFC fight **data**?



Dashboard

What sort of **visuals** will help?

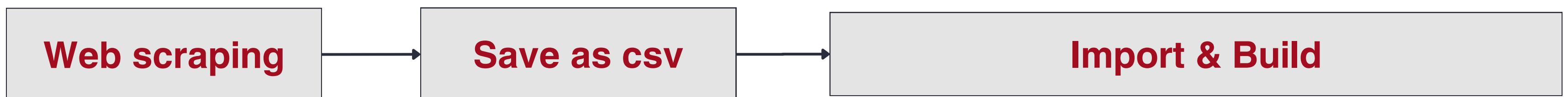


Analysis

Can we **prove** the robberies?

Dataset

Here's how we set up the data!



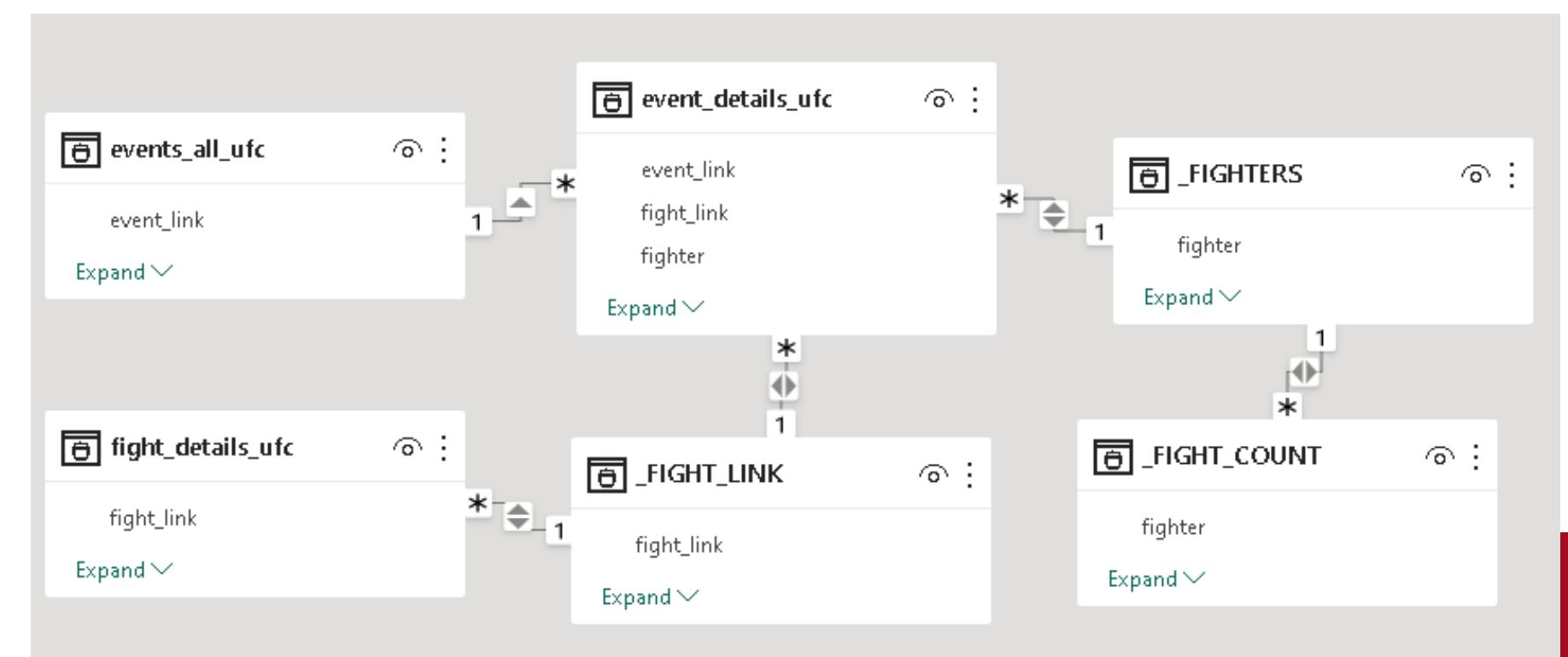
Scrape event and fight info from **UFCstats** website using Python **BeautifulSoup**

Tables acquired:

- events_all
- event_details
- fight_details

Load data into **Pandas DataFrame**, save as a **csv** file

Import the csv files into **Power BI** & build the **relationship** among the tables

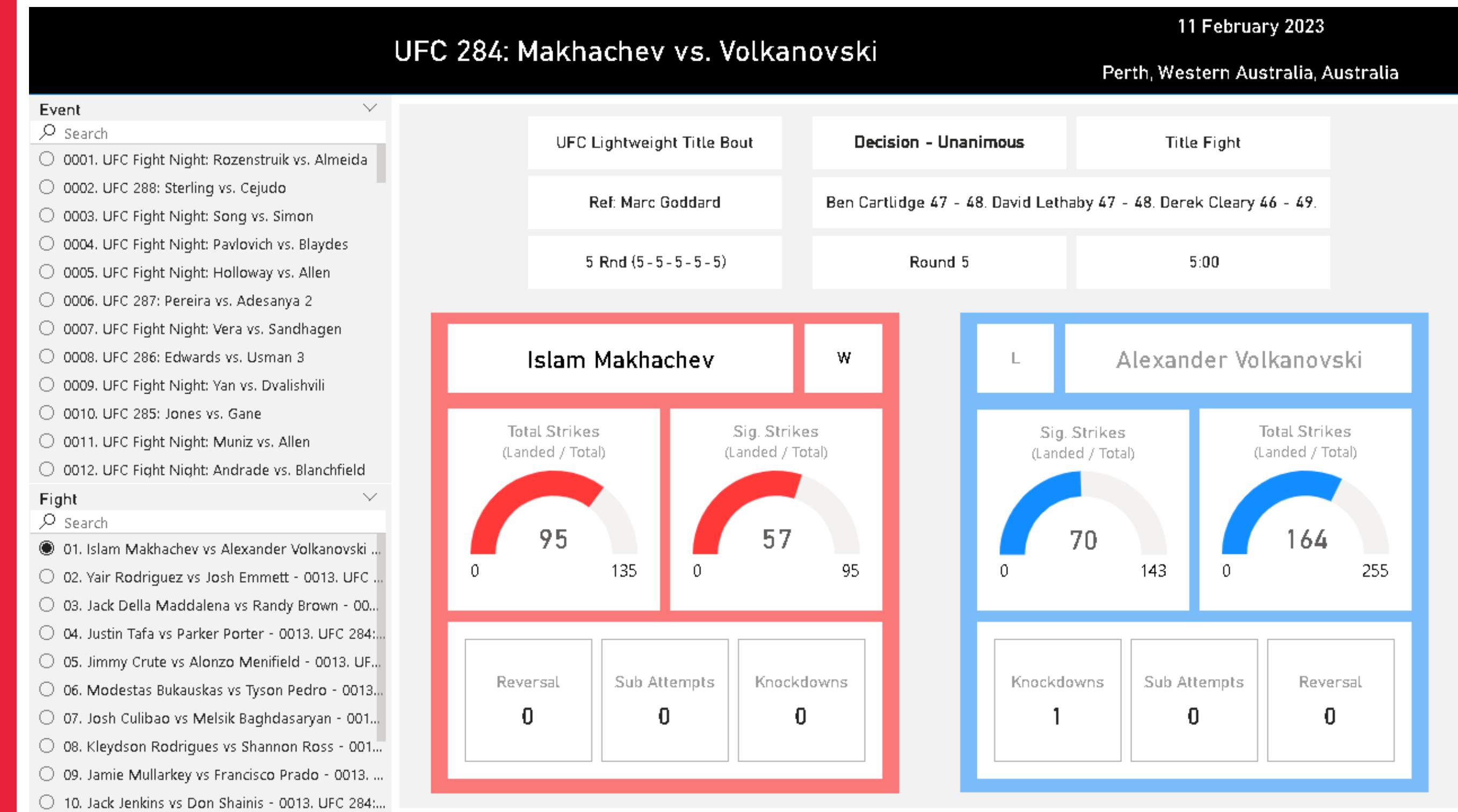


Visuals

Fight Overview

This page allows you to see the overview of a particular fight from an event.

However, fights are scored per rounds. As such, this page only gives you a summary of the whole fight and provides inadequate information for analysis.



Visuals

Round by Round

This page breaks down the fight stats per round.

We now have quite the thorough display of the data per round, ready to be analyzed.

P.S. Note that we only have the judges' totals from the scorecard -- not the scores per round.

UFC 284: Makhachev vs. Volkanovski

11 February 2023

Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5



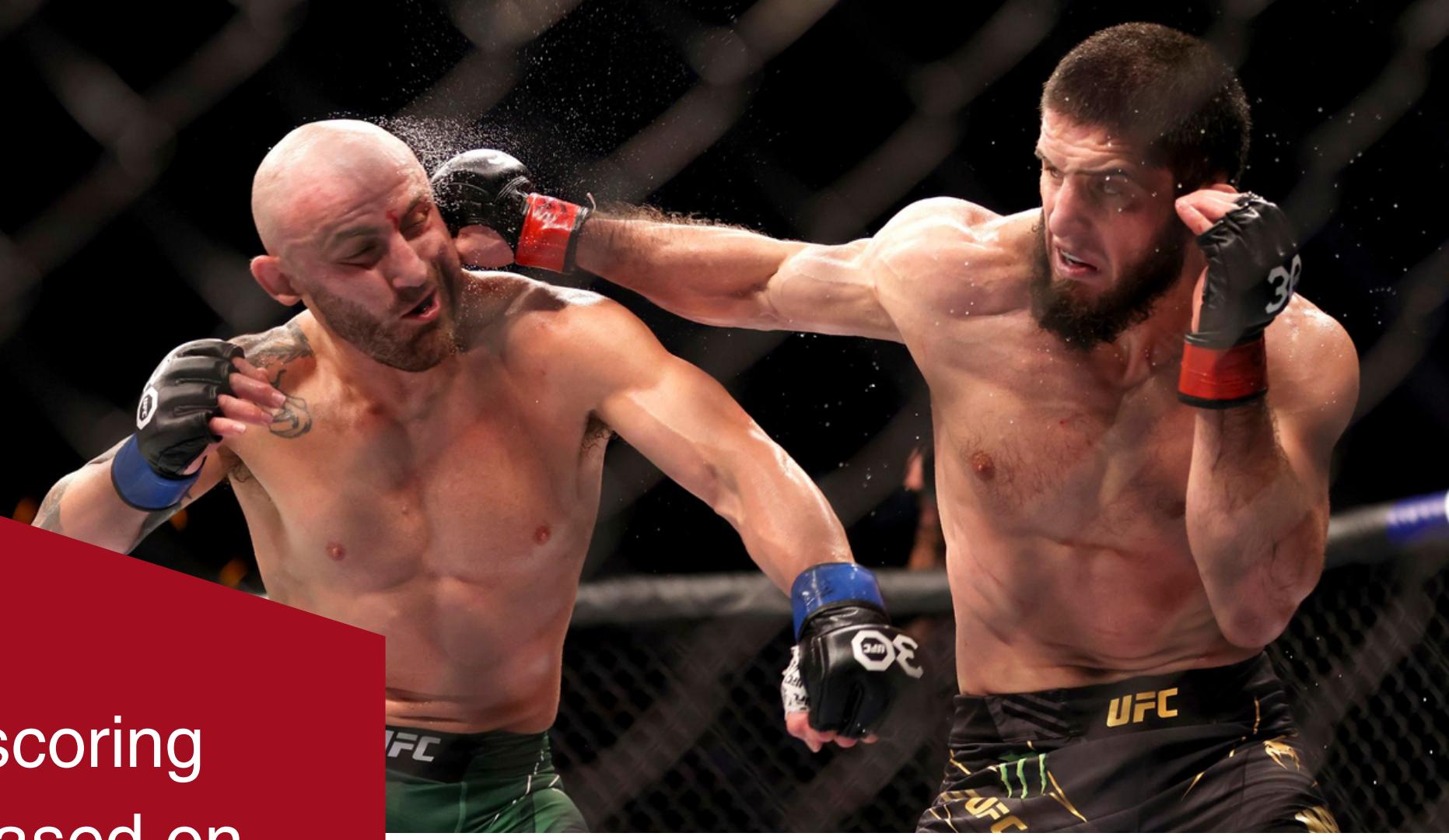
UFC 284

LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

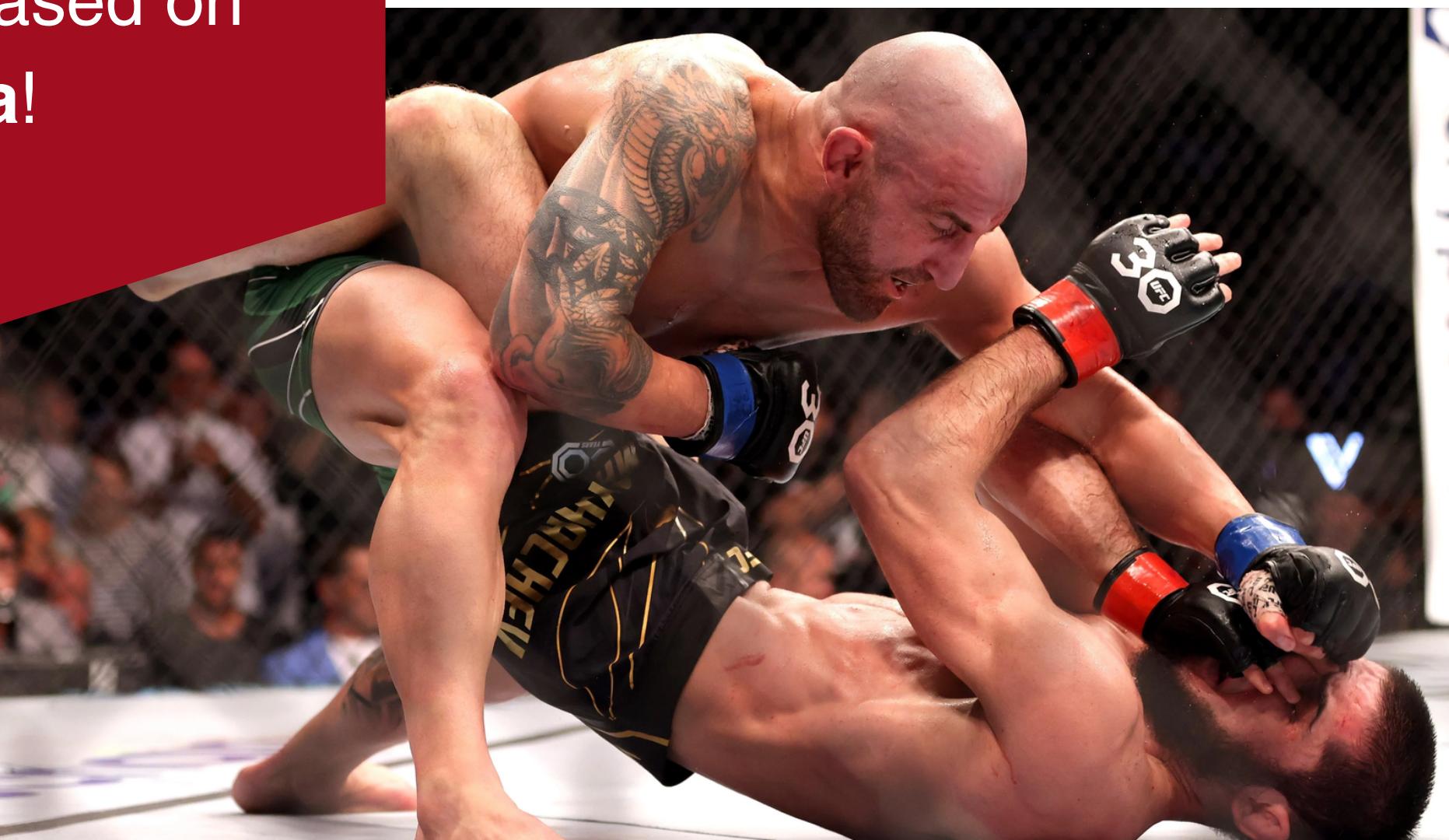
23-1

C MAKHACHEV *VS* C VOLKANOVSKI

25-1



Let's try scoring
this fight based on
data!

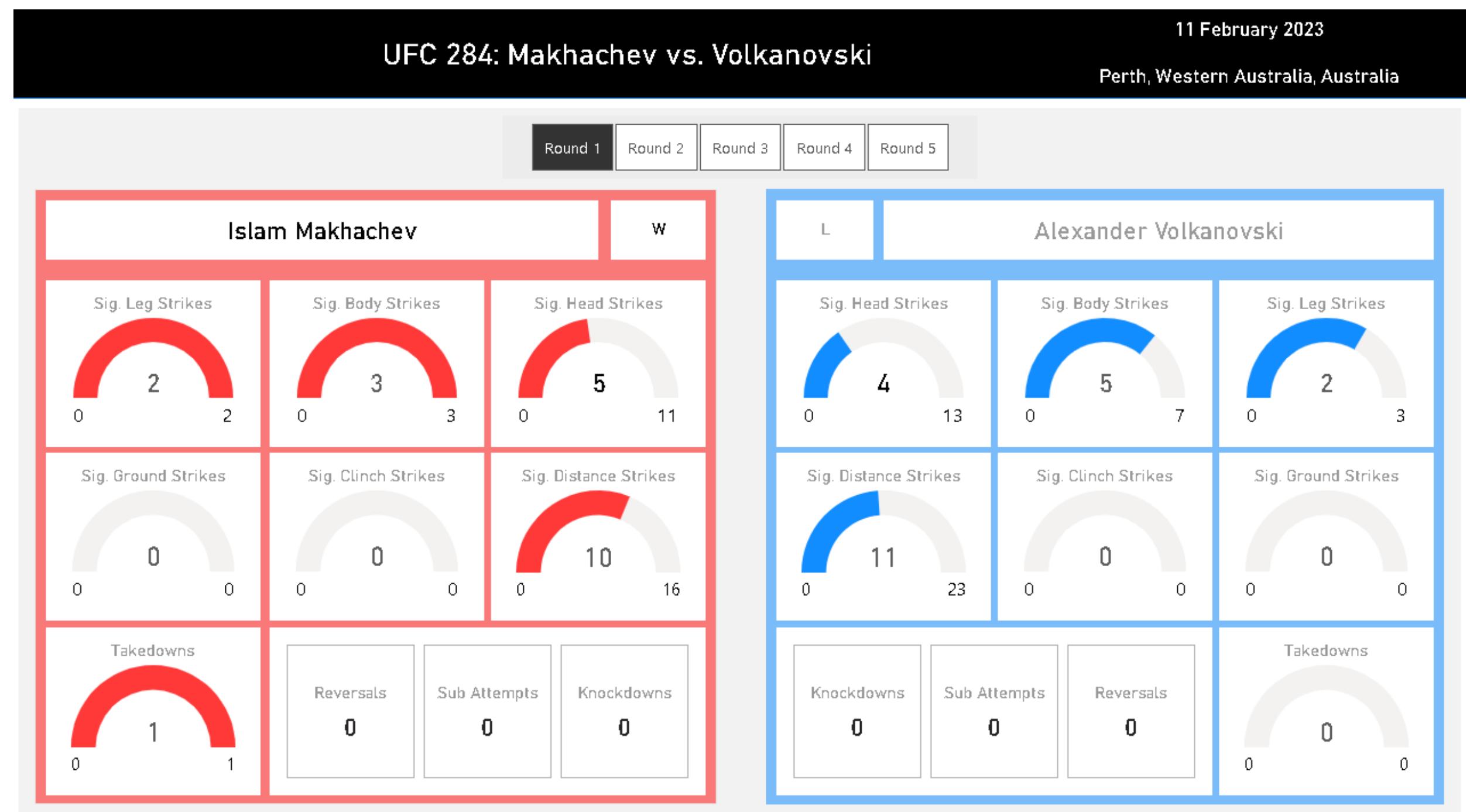


Analysis

Round 1

Both Makhachev and Volk scored the same number of significant distance strikes, so I believe the takedown and the back control are the difference maker for **Makhachev**.

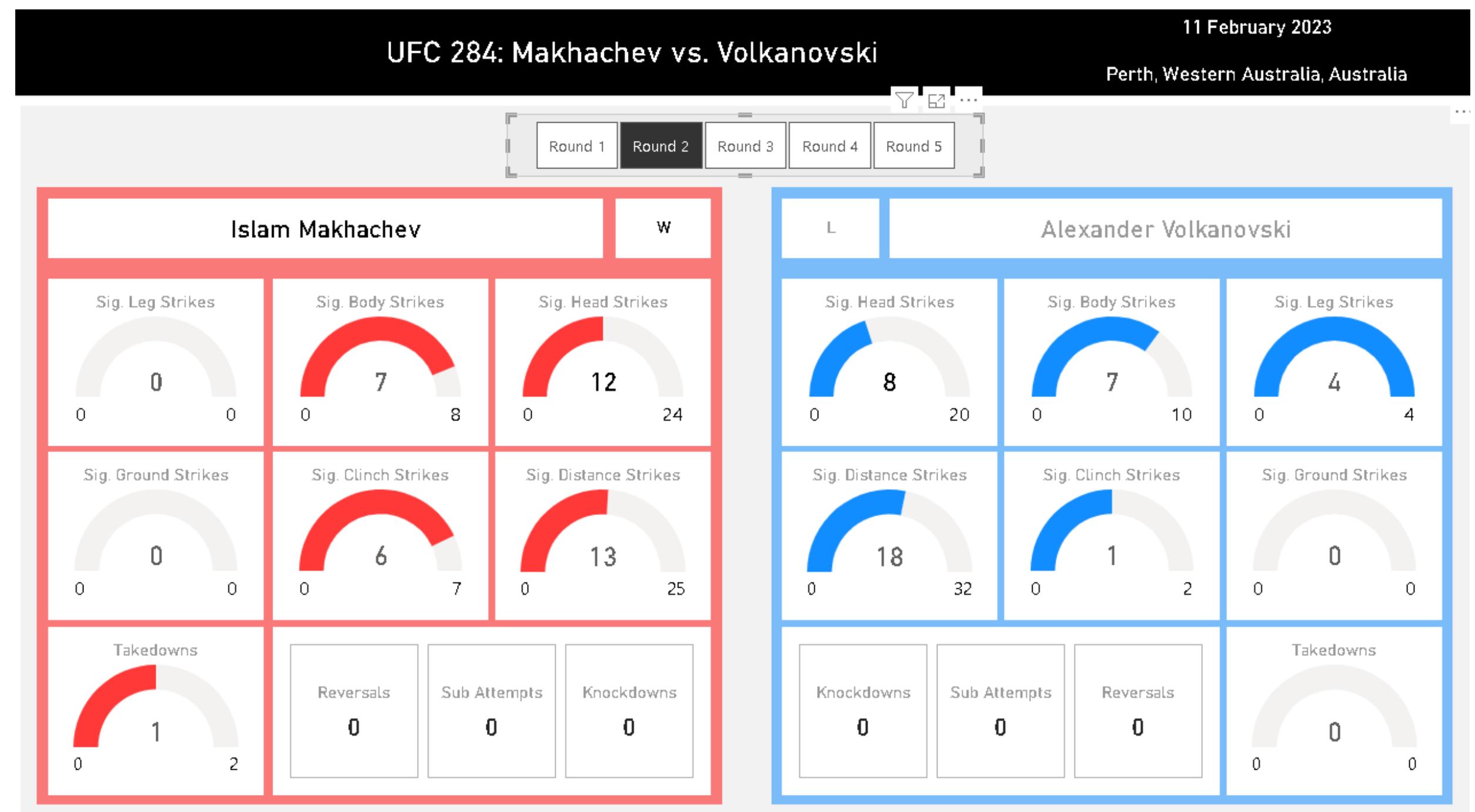
PS. I just realized this data has no ground control time saDGE



Analysis

Round 2

This round was super close, both from the data and from actually watching the fight. In the fight, both landed pretty good shots. There was actually not much control time from the takedown. A 50-50 to me.

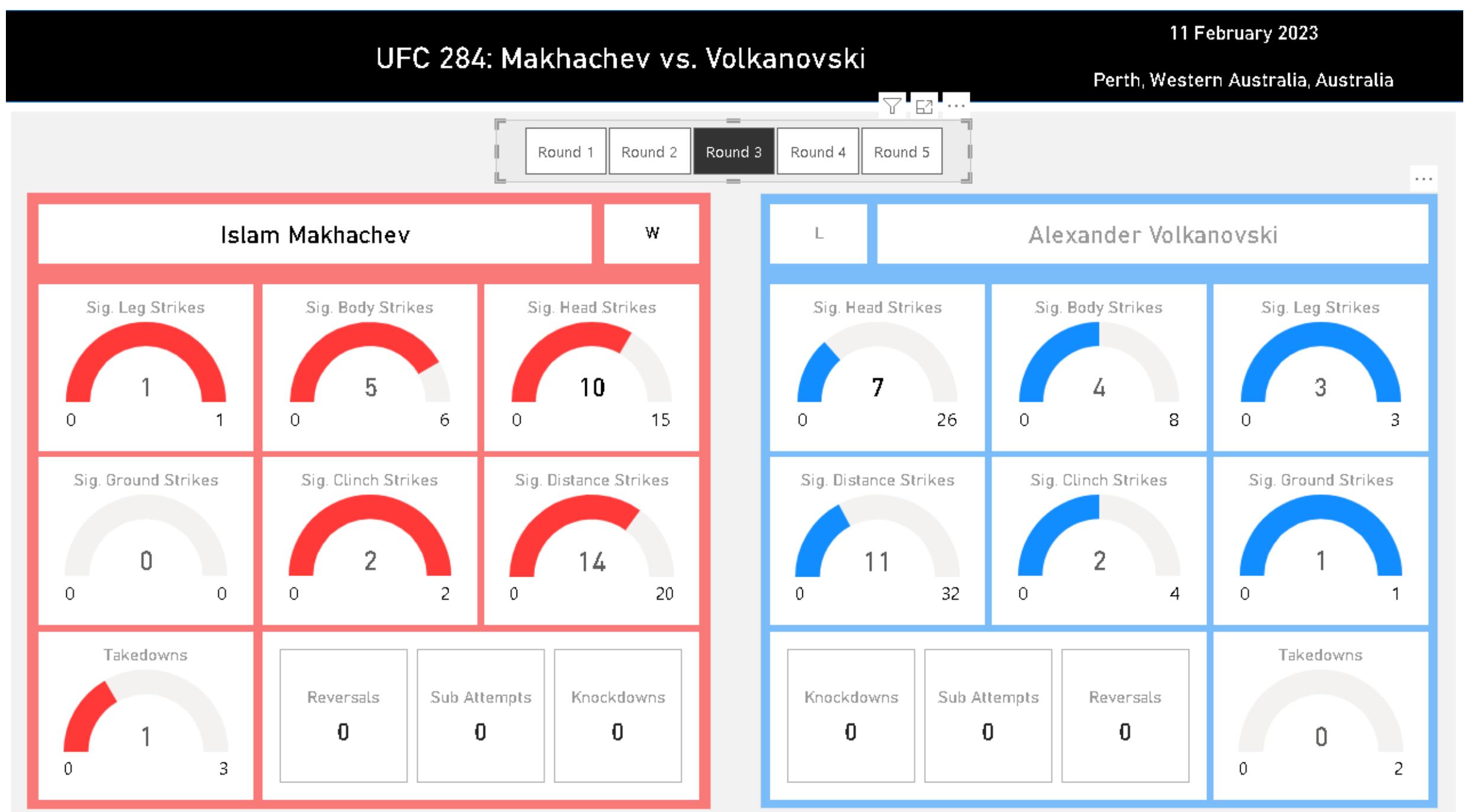


Analysis

Round 3

A swing round as well. Makhachev may have had that takedown but there was no significant control or damage done, and both landed great shots.

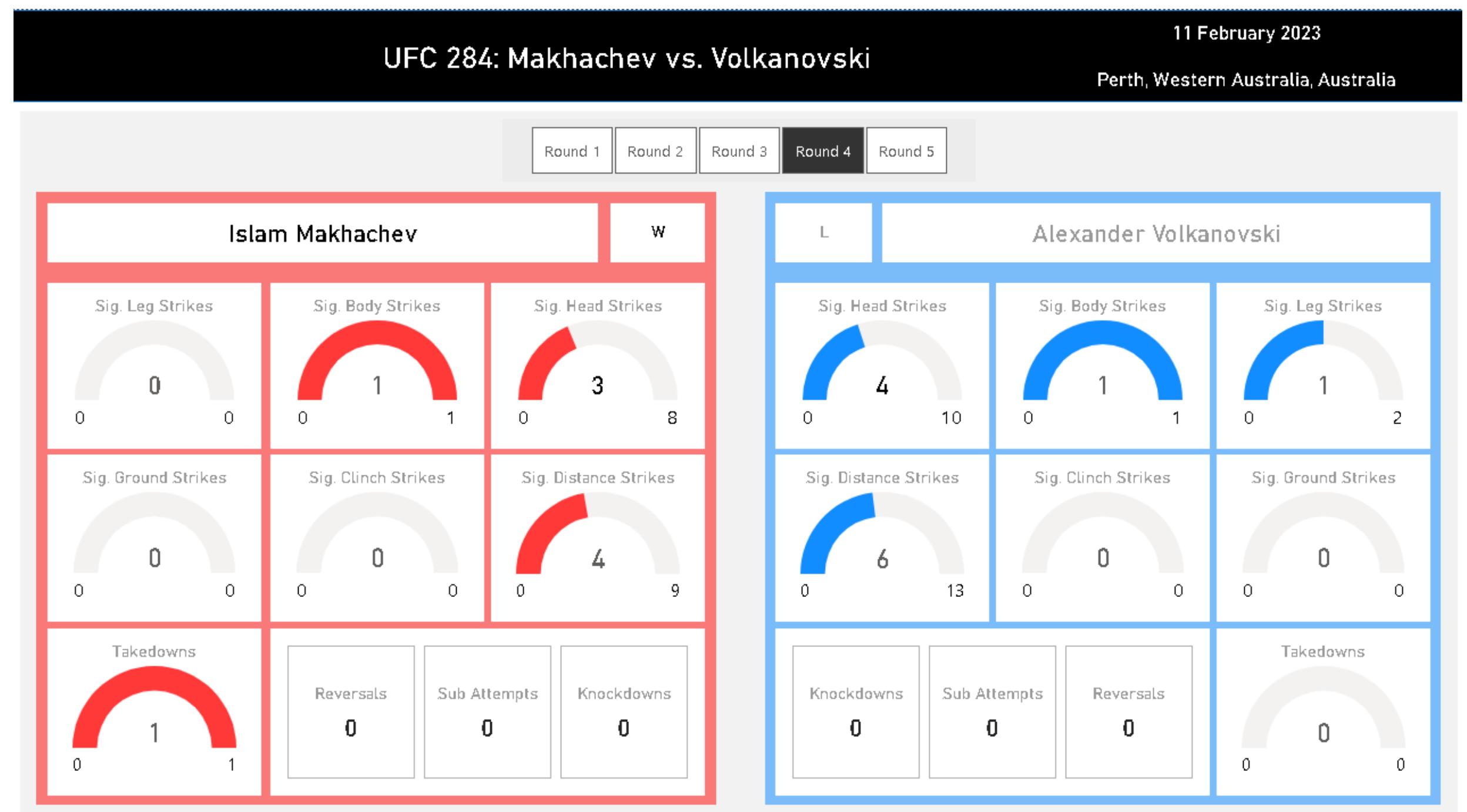
P.S. Both round 2 and 3 raise the question -- how do takedowns and takedown defense get calculated in the judges' scorecards?



Analysis

Round 4

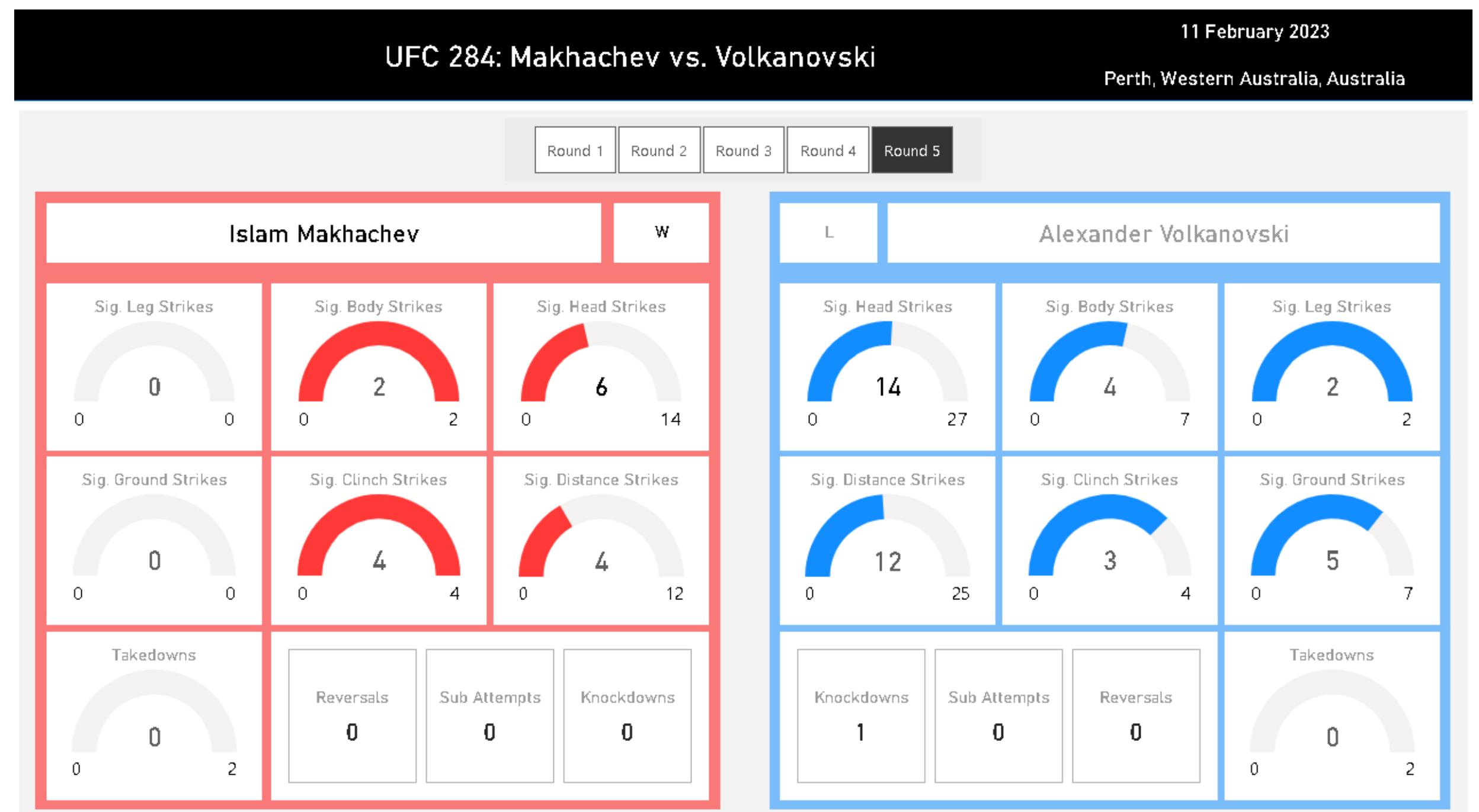
If we had data for ground control time, it would be a pretty good tell who won. Makhachev took Volk's back and controlled him the whole round. 100% this round goes to **Makhachev**.



Analysis

Round 5

This round goes to Volk. Makhachev gassed out and was punished by Volk. Not only did Volk controlled the octagon the whole round but he also got that knockdown and ground and pound.

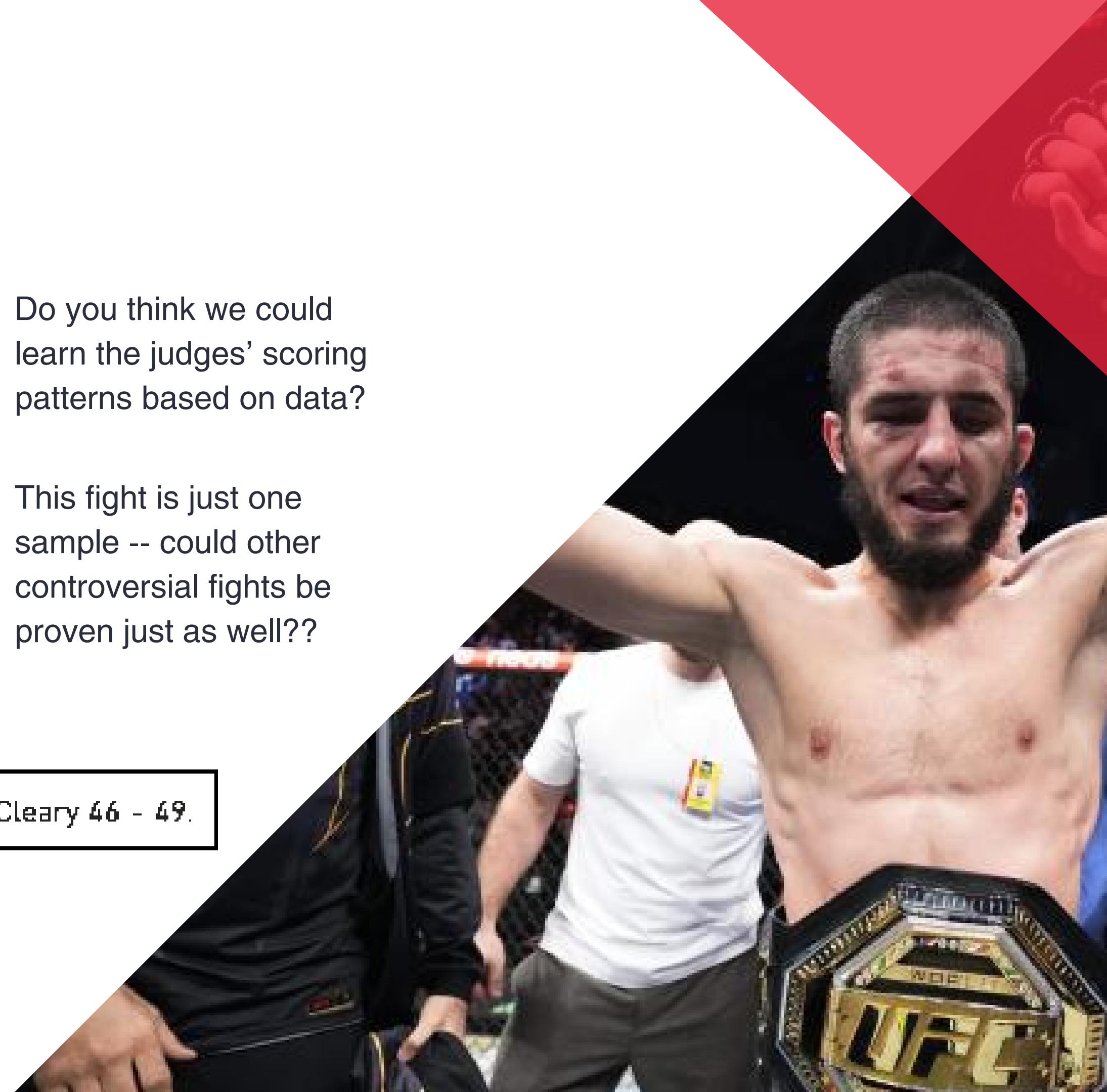


The Results?

- ▶ Round 1 ---> Makhachev
 - ▶ Round 2 ---> swing
 - ▶ Round 3 ---> swing
 - ▶ Round 4 ---> Makhachev
 - ▶ Round 5 ---> Volk
- Do you think we could learn the judges' scoring patterns based on data?
- This fight is just one sample -- could other controversial fights be proven just as well??

Ben Cartlidge 47 - 48. David Lethaby 47 - 48. Derek Cleary 46 - 49.

I guess that 46 - 49 scorecard doesn't seem too outrageous after all LOL





Conclusion

- ▶ The dashboard can be used to validate the scorecards of fights based on fight statistics.
- ▶ As data is scraped only after an event is finished, dashboard is not real-time and can only be used for past events.
- ▶ The variety of data is limited to the source of scraping, hence some missing stats

Bonus

The bonus page on the dashboard allows you to compare fighters based on X amount of fights.

You can compare fighters' statistics for your favorite dream matchup!

What other pages do you think I could make?

