Dyadic MID Codebook—Version 3.0[1]
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1. **Introduction**

This is an entirely modified, corrected, and updated version of the dyadic Militarized Interstate Disputes (MID) dataset version 2.0. The new dataset includes several important modifications compared to the previous version. These include the following:

1. *It is now a directed dyadic dataset.* Each MID is listed twice: once with sides A and B (here listed as STATEA and STATEB, respectively) being the same as in the MID 4.0 dataset (www.correlatesofwar.org), and once with the states reversed. Of course all variables that pertain to state A in the original MID dataset are modified when dyad AB becomes dyad BA (for example, if the role of STATEA is primary initiator in the original MID dataset) and dyad AB becomes dyad BA, then the role of state B in this reversed order will still be that of primary initiator; likewise if state A won the MID in the original dataset, then when the dyad becomes BA state B will now be designated as winner).

2. *Each MID has a record for every dyad year over which it extended.* If a MID had two states on side A and three states on side B and it lasted for three years (involving all participants), then it will have (2 × 3) dyads × 3 years = 18 records. The DURINDX variable will index the year for each dyad.

3. *Many changes in the MID data are due to a change in the coding of dyadic war cases.* As discussed below, we have re-defined war outbreak and war termination in a dyadic context. A dyadic war breaks out when the first battle takes place between the dyad members such that it satisfies the state participation rule of the COW data. Likewise, the end date of a dyadic war is the end date of the last battle between the armed forces of the dyad members.

4. *The dataset was cleaned for some errors.* A number of users (as well as our team), pointed out some errors in the dataset. We have gone through those as well as other inconsistencies and cleaned the data. This does not mean there are no errors; we encourage users to send us any comments they have.
5. *It is updated up to 2010.* Following the release of MID 4.0, we have updated the dataset to the same time-span. Since it is a dyadic MID it may have broken several existing MIDs into new MIDs. Therefore we have a variable linking each of our MIDs to the MID 4.0 dispute number.
6. *It is modified to include proposed changes in the original MID 4.0 dataset.* These changes were proposed by a group of researchers at the University of Alabama, including Douglas Gibler, Erin Little, and Steven Miller. These changes were checked and approved by the MID team at Penn State University (including Glenn Palmer and Mike Kenwick). We specify for each record whether it has been changed from the previous version, and the type of change made.

As was the case with previous dyadic MID versions, this version builds almost entirely on the MID 4.0 dataset. When coding the dyadic MIDs, we made every effort to maintain consistency with the MID coding rules. However, there are a few differences between the two dataset. Almost all of these differences are due to the conversion of multilateral MIDs into dyadic MIDs. We document all of these cases in the MIDCOMMENTS file.

Following is the variable list and origin of the variables. MID4.2 is the original value of the variable in the MID 4.01 version; DYDMID3.0 means that this variable has been changed in the Dyadic MID 3.0 File. MID codebooks are available at: www.correlatesofwar.org.

Problems. There are quite a few problems in some of the variables and disputes that we were unable to resolve at the present time. I enclose a file of the problems we detected. This file Problems.xls lists the disputes with their associated problems. There are numerous other problems we have probably not detected and we encourage you to send us any observations and critiques you have or any errors you detect in the dataset. In addition, if anyone has any information (preferably the original code sheets) for the disputes listed in the **PROBLEMS.XLS** file, please send us mail.

Final word of caution. As with any kind of dataset, and given the historical and geopolitical scope of the MID dataset, problems, errors, omissions, and other queries are bound to exist. Data development is an interactive process. We encourage users of this dataset to: (a) look and feel the data, (b) examine them critically, (c) use with caution, and (d) report any issues and problems that they find. We—at our end—promise to look at these things and fix the data if necessary. As always, we are committed to transparency of data development and freedom of use of these data.

Important Changes in War Coding.

An interstate war is defined as a series of sustained battles between the armed forces of two or more states that results in a total of 1,000 battle-deaths. For a state to be considered a participant in war it has to meet one of two criteria.

0. It must suffer at least 100 battle-deaths.

1. It must deploy at least 1,000 troops in battle-related activities.

The original COW datasets (Singer and Small 1972; Small and Singer 1982; Sarkees and Wayman 2007), however, employed rather ad hoc decisions about start and end dates of wars. In many of these cases, wars are started when the first battle breaks out, and war end when battles end. However, in quite a few cases, wars start with a declaration of war, and end with some form of treaty (cease-fire, peace treaty). The number of cases where start and end date criteria are inconsistent is quite substantial. This is true even with the general war datasets that include multilateral wars, and the participant datasets. We provide several examples in Maoz *et al* (2017).

In the current version of the dyadic MID dataset, we decided to employ consistent coding rules for war start and end dates. These rules are particularly germane to dyadic engagements. Accordingly, we define a dyadic war as a series of battles between the armed forces of *two* states (*that is battles in which the armed forces of these two states directly confront each other*) that result in a total of 1,000 or battle deaths across both states. So, a dyadic war must satisfy the dyadic intensity and lethality criteria for the dyad. We define, however, the start and end dates of a dyadic war as follows:

1. A dyadic war starts on the first day of the first battle in which both states meet the minimum state participation criterion.
2. A dyadic war ends on the last day of the last battle in which both states meet the minimum state participation criterion.

Note that declarations of war are MID codable incidents but they are not wars. Likewise, a peace treaty, or a cease-fire agreement may take place long after hostilities have ended. Consider the following example.

In disno #258 (dyindex #258.016) we have a U.S.-Germany conflict. The MID starts with a declaration of war by Germany on the U.S. on December 11, 1941. This is the only militarized incident between these states in 1941. In 1942, there are several naval clashes between these two states, but none of which meets the war participation criteria. The first battle between the U.S. and German troops takes place in the Tunisian campaign on February 19, 1943 (see all wars report with sources therein). So in this case, the MID is listed as having a declaration of war in 1941, clash(es) in 1942, and war in 1943-45. This example illustrates the way we treated wars in the DYMID 3.0 dataset.

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
DISNO	Dispute Number	MID4.2	—	
STATEA	COW Number of state A in dyad	MID4.2	—	
NAMEA	Abbreviated name of state A in dyad	MID4.2	—	
STATEB	COW Number of state B in dyad	MID4.2	—	
NAMEB	Abbreviated name of state B in dyad	MID4.2	—	
STRTDAY	Start day of dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	—	Adjusted for dyad. Start day indicates the actual start day of the dyadic dispute. **When precise start day is missing (-9 in MID4.2 files), I assigned the first day of the month**
STRTMNTH	Start month of dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	—	Same as above (no missing values)
STRTYR	Start year of dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	—	Same as above (no missing values)
YEAR	Year of dispute	DYDMID3.0	—	Year dispute is underway. Cumulates for multiyear disputes (i.e., a MID that started

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
				in 1821 and ended in 1823 contains three records, one for 1821, one for 1822, and one for 1823), start dates and end dates are the same for all three records of the MID
ENDDAY	End day of MID	DYDMID3.0	—	Adjusted for dyad. End day indicates the actual end day of the dyadic dispute. When precise start day is missing (-9 in MID4.2 files), I assigned the last day of the month
ENDMNTH	End month of MID	DYDMID3.0	—	Same as above (no missing values)
ENDYEAR	End year of MID	DYDMID3.0	—	Same as above (no missing values)
OUTCOME	Outcome of dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	1. Victory for State A 2. Victory for state B 3. Yield by State A 4. Yield by State B 5. Stalemate 6. Compromise 7. Released (for seizures) 8. Unclear -9 Missing	Changed to reflect the actual dyadic outcome. Listed only for last year of dispute. **Note:** Category 9 in MID 4.01 (Join Interstate War) does not exist in a dyadic context. The outcome is the outcome of the dyadic war.

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
SETTLMNT	Settlement type of dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	1. Negotiated 2. Imposed 3. None 4. Unclear -9 Missing	Changed to reflect the actual dyadic settlement. Listed only for last year of dispute.
FATLEV	Fatality level of dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	0 None 1 1-25 deaths 2 26-100 3 101-250 4 251-500 5 501-999 6 1,000+ -9 Missing (known fat.)	Changed to reflect the actual fatality level. Listed only for last year of dispute. Use with caution.
HIGHACT	Highest military confrontation action in dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	1. None (1) 2. Threat to use force (2) 3. Threat to blockade (2) 4. Threat to occupy terr. (2) 5. Threat to declare war (2) 6. Threat to join war (2) 7. Show of troops (3) 8. Show of ships (3) 9. Show of planes (3) 10. Alert (3) 12. Mobilization (3) 13. Fortify border (3) 14. Border violation (4) 15. Blockade (4) 16. Occupation of territory (4)	Reflects highest action initiated by members of dyad toward each other. Number in parenthesis is level of hostility

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
			17. Seizure (4) 18. Clash (4) 19. Raid (4) 20. Declaration of war (4) 22. Begin interstate war (5) 23. Join interstate war (5) 24. Use CBR Weapons (5)	
HIHOST	Highest level of hostility in dyadic dispute	MID4.2	1. None 2. Threat to use force 3. Display of force 4. Use of force 5. Interstate war	
RECIP	Reciprocated dispute?	MID4.2	1: Yes 0: No	We use a different definition of this variable than the MID 4.0 dataset. A reciprocated MID is one in which the initiator cannot be identified (e.g., first incident is a clash without a clear initiator). Roles are assigned randomly. When RECIP =1 use rolea and roleb carefully.
NOINIT	Number of states on Side A	MID4.2	—	Total no of initiators in MID
NOTARG	Number of states on side B	MID4.2	—	Total no. of targets in MID
SIDEAA	State A on initiator's side?	MID4.2	1: Yes	1=side that initiated MID;

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
			0: No	adjusted for dyad
REVSTATA	State A revisionist?	MID4.2	1: Yes 0: No	Adjusted for dyad
REVTYPEA	Type of revision sought by state A	MID4.2	0. Not applicable 1. Territory 2. Policy 3. Regime/government 4. Other -9 Missing	Adjusted for dyad
FATLEVA	Level of fatality incurred by state A in dyadic dispute	MID4.2	Same as FATLEV for state A	Reflects actual dyadic dispute. Missing data. Use with caution. Listed only for last year of dyadic dispute.
HIGHMCAA	Highest MCA initiated by state A	DYDMID3.0	Same as HIGHACT for state A	Reflects actual highest-level action initiated by state A towards state B in dyadic dispute.
HIGHOSTA	Highest level of hostility reached by state A in dyadic dispute	MID4.2	Same as HIHOST for state A	Reflects actual HIHOST initiated by state A toward state B in dyadic dispute.
ORIGNATA	State A participated in the first incident of the MID	MID4.2	1: Yes 0: No	1=State A either primary initiator or primary target; 0=state A joiner (on initiator or target side)

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
SIDEAB	State B on initiator's side?	MID4.2	1: Yes 0: No	
REVSTATB	State B revisionist?	MID4.2	1: Yes 0: No	
REVTYPEB	Type of revision sought by state B	MID4.2		Same as REVTPE for state A
FATLEVB	Level of fatality incurred by state B in dyadic dispute	MID4.2	Same as FATLEVA	Same as FATLEV for state A
HIGHMCAB	Highest MCA initiated by state B	DYDMID3.0		Same as HIGHMCA for state B
HIGHOSTB	Highest level of hostility reached by state B in dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0		Same as HIGHOST for state B
ORIGNATB	State B originator (initiator) of dispute?	MID4.2	-1: Yes 0: No	
ROLEA	Role of state A in dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	1=Primary Initiator 2=Joiner on initiator side 3= Primary target 4=Joiner on target side	See problems file in this package.
ROLEB	Role of state B in dyadic dispute	DYDMID3.0	1=Primary Initiator 2=Joiner on initiator side 3=Primary target 4=Joiner on target side	

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
WAR	Is this dispute a COW war dyad	DYDMID3.0	1: Yes 0: No	Adjusted to reflect actual warring dyads in multilateral disputes. **Note.** A multiyear MID that escalates into war after the MID started can be marked below the war level for the year/s before the war outbreak, and if the MID continued after the war ended, it will be marked as zero for years of MID after the end of the war.
DURINDX	Duration index	DYDMID3.0	1. First year of dispute 2. Second year of dispute…	Those who want to use only dispute outbreaks should select durindx=1
DURATION	No. of dispute days during year	DYDMID3.0		For disputes crossing a calendar year, each record reflects no. of dispute days during the present calendar year.
CUMDURAT		DYMID2.0		Cumulative number of days from the start date of the MID to the present (either the end of the year of MIDs crossing over to next year or end date—if MID ends in present year)

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
MID3Hiact	MID4.2 Highest action for dyad	MID4.2	0. No militarized action (1) 1. Threat to use force (2) 2. Threat to blockade (2) 3. Threat to occupy terr. (2) 4. Threat to declare war (2) 5. Threat to use CBR weapons (2) 6. Threat to join war (2) 7. Show of force (3) 8. Alert (3) 9. Nuclear alert (3) 10. Mobilization (3) 11. Fortify border (3) 12. Border violation (4) 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	Adjusted to reflect highest action in MID using MID4.2 coding of militarized actions
MID3HIA	MID4.2 Highest action for state A	MID4.2		Adjusted to reflect highest action of state A using MID4.2 coding of militarized actions
MID3HIB	MID4.2 Highest action for State B	MID4.2	See MID4.2 (MID level) codebook	Adjusted to reflect highest action of state B using MID4.2

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
				coding of militarized actions
DISNO4	MID 4 Dispute Number	MID4.2		
ONGO2010	Ongoing MID in 2010	MID4.2	1. MID ongoing at the end of 2010 2. MID terminated by 12/31/2010	
NEW	New dyadic MID	DYDMID3.0	3. New dyadic MID 4. Existed in DYDMID 2.0	A new MID that was added to the current version
CHANGE	A change in an existing dyadic MID	DYDMID3.0	0. No change from DYDMID 2.0 1. Dyadic MID (UC Davis) change 2. MID 4.01 (Penn State) change 3. Alabama proposed change	1. UC Davis team research change. This may be due to conversion of a multilateral MID to a dyadic format or additional research on a MID 4.01 MID. 2. Changes inserted by the Penn State team in the MID dataset 3. Proposed changes by the Alabama team and approved by Penn State
DYINDEX	A new index number unique to each dyadic MID	DYDMID3.0		All MID 4.01 cases that are strictly bilateral get the MID number (DISNO) +.001. For example, MID #100 is a bilateral MID. Therefore its DYINDEX is 100.001. In multilateral MIDs, each specific dyad gets its own ID number. For example DISNO 258 (WWII) has index numbers

Variable	Variable Label	Version	Value Labels	Comments
				going from 258.001 to 258.078, meaning that it includes 78 distinct dyads.
Change	Change from Dyadic MID 2.1	DYDMID3.0	0 = No 1 = Yes	
Changetype_1	Change from MID 4.2	DYDMID3.0	0 = None 1 = start/end day change 2 = Start/end month change 3 = Start/end year change 4 = Fatality change 5 = Fatality A/B change 6 = Highact change 7 = Outcome change 8 = Revisionist state change 9 = Revision type change 10 = New Observation 11 = Recommended drop	
Changetype_2	Change from MID 4.2	DYDMID3.0		Additional Change