



# International Crisis Behaviors Event Data

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# Project Overview:

## Gulf of Sidra Crisis 1986

A full-scale foreign policy crisis for Libya was triggered by the implementation of the 20 March announcement, that is, **the entry into the Gulf of Syrte of three U.S. naval vessels on 24 March**. Libya, perceiving this act as a grave threat to its territorial integrity, **fired two Soviet-made SAM-5 missiles on U.S. carrier-based planes**, causing no damage. **U.S. planes then attacked a Libyan missile ship and a corvette, as well as mounting raids on the radar installations of Libyan batteries at Syrte...**

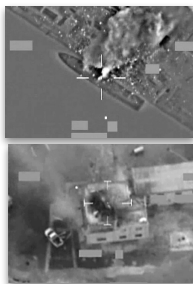
Move 1



Move 2



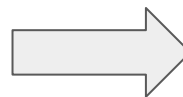
Move 3



Move 4



Move 5



♖f3 ♜c6

♙b5 a6

♙xc6 dxc6

d3 ♜b4+

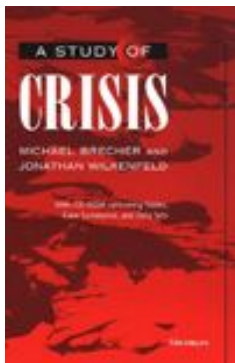
♖c3 ♜f6

0-0 ♜xc3

# Project Motivations

- Crises requires nuance
  - Deterrence Theory vs. Spiral Model
- Cross-crisis analysis
  - fight familiarity bias
  - Khong “Analogies at War”
- Text to Data process
  - Specially tailored
  - Efficient

# Data Collection



Source: Corpus of 476 qualitative narratives of historical crises

Brecher and Wilkenfeld 2000  
Brecher, Wilkenfeld, Beardsley,  
James, Quinn 2017



## Ontology of actors, actions, and details

## CBC Coding Interface V1.0 (Beta)

Type the Chrome or Safari browser address below if boxes are provided, increase screen resolution or zoom out (if applicable minus). Best with a mouse. Save before exit. Screen turns off title. Hover over questions for coding tips. Click and backspace to delete an answer.

**Instructions:** Start by following the codebook [Codebook V1.0](#), then skim some worked examples then familiarize yourself with the practice question sections below. When you're ready to start, enter your email address and pick a username.

Your Email (Save Progress)  Select a Class (Go to Search)  Start Coding  Save Progress

example: 198 CUBAN MISSILES

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### CBCU - CUBAN MISSILES

Any Event?							
Background							
Any Event?							
Background							
Any Event?							
Background							
Any Event?							
Context							

- There were three crisis actors in the most ominous of all East/West crises, the United States, Cuba, and the Soviet Union.
- The crisis lasted from 16 October to 20 November 1962.
- Pre-crisis After the 1961 Bay of Pigs abortive invasion, Cuba became one of the central issues of U.S. foreign policy; the U.S. viewed Cuba as a potential source of communist-oriented subversive activities in Latin America.
- When the U.S. discovered the presence of Soviet military personnel in Cuba on 7 September 1962 it called up 150,000 reservists.

4.1

☒ Significant restrictions, often without notice (e.g. cruise control, safety belts, ...)  
☐ Very Hot Event  
☐ Indistinctness  
☐ 7 September 1962  
☐ Complicity Confirmed

Previous ID?

Cognition ID?

About an Event Discussed?

U.S.: X

Soviet Union? X

Cuba in Sequence

Initiator?

Respondent?

Kind of Interaction?

Specific Description(s)

USRU: X

Cuba: X

Evaluative (Power Display like Forces, Hardball/Talk: ...)

Disruptive to Resp.: X

Possible?

Force Size?

Dynamics?

Unit?

Location?

Change in Territory?

Location?

Location? (Yes)

Name (Relevant)

Hundreds

Lands?

Threats?

Target

No Clear Change

Identity?

Cuba

Kind of Event?

Timing of Event to Narrative?

Duration of Event?

Date or Period of Event?

Your Confidence?

4.2

☒ Kind of Event?  
 CBCU placed at action (attack, move, discuss, etc. relevant)

☐ Timing of Event to Narrative?  
 How does event fit into story?

☐ Duration of Event?  
 Days on Page

☐ Date or Period of Event?  
 Type on Page

☐ Your Confidence?  
 How confident are you?

## Coding Interface

Unit of Analysis = Sentence  
Up to 3 events per Sentence

# Columns

## THOUGHT

1. think\_actor1
2. think\_sentence\_events
3. thinkkind

1. icb\_survey\_version
2. email
3. lastviewed
4. crisis
5. crisno
6. crisno\_sentno
7. section
8. sentence
9. sentence\_events
10. sentence\_number
11. sentencenumber
12. sentence\_number\_int
13. event\_number
14. event\_number\_int
15. event\_type
16. date

1. raterconfidence
2. raterconfidence\_reason
3. raterconfidence\_reason\_survey

## ACTION

1. do\_actor1
2. do\_actor2
3. do\_duration
4. do\_interact\_kind
5. do\_kind
6. do\_timing
7. do\_timing\_reorder
8. act\_cooperative
9. act\_descalate
10. act\_escalate
11. act\_uncooperative
12. interact\_decreasecoop
13. interact\_descalate
14. interact\_domains
15. interact\_escalate
16. interact\_fatalities
17. interact\_forces
18. interact\_geoscope
19. interact\_increasecoop
20. interact\_location
21. interact\_location\_other
22. interact\_territory
23. interact\_units

## SPEECH

1. say\_actor1
2. say\_actor2
3. sayintkind
4. sayintkind\_react
5. consequence
6. condition
7. condition\_act\_cooperative
8. condition\_act\_descalate
9. condition\_act\_escalate
10. condition\_act\_uncooperative
11. condition\_do\_actor1
12. condition\_do\_actor2
13. condition\_do\_interact\_kind
14. condition\_do\_kind
15. condition\_interact\_decreasecoop
16. condition\_interact\_descalate
17. condition\_interact\_domains
18. condition\_interact\_escalate
19. condition\_interact\_fatalities
20. condition\_interact\_forces
21. condition\_interact\_geoscope
22. condition\_interact\_increasecoop
23. condition\_interact\_location
24. condition\_interact\_location\_other
25. condition\_interact\_territory
26. condition\_interact\_units

Table 10: Cognitive Events

Coding.	Description
Alert - Start of crisis	Actor perceived the start of a crisis or thought that a crisis had now begun.
Alert - End of crisis	Actor perceived the end of a crisis or thought that a crisis had now ended.
Wishes - Desire	The actor wishes that something would occur.
Wishes - Fear	The actor is concerned that something would occur.
Evaluation - Victory	The actor perceived a victory in the crisis for their side.
Evaluation - Defeat	The actor perceived a defeat in the crisis for their side.
Aims - Territory	The actor had an interest about a territorial goal.
Aims - Policy	Actor had a thought about a policy it hopes is carried out or not carried out.
Aims - Regime or government change	The actor had an interest in another country's government changing.
Aims - Preemption	The actor had an interest in taking action before another actor takes action. This can be military preemption as well as any broader preemptive act.
Awareness - Discover fact	The actor was made aware of something happening in the world.
Awareness - Become convinced	The actor confirmed that something was or was not true.

Table 9: Escalatory Interaction Events

Coding	Description
Preparation - Raise in alert	The actor increased the state of readiness of its armed forces. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Preparation - Mobilization	The actor prepared military forces for conflict. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Preparation - Fortify	The actor strengthened or built up their military forces. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Preparation - Exercise	The actor engaged in military training or practice. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Preparation - Weapons test	The actor engaged in testing weaponry to determine weapon effectiveness. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Maneuver - Deployment to area	Troops were moved from one location to another in preparation for battle or work. Deployment to an area is distinct from engaging in direct combat with enemy forces. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Maneuver - Show of force	The actor demonstrated its military capacity as a warning or to intimidate. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Maneuver - Blockade	The actor restricted the target's movement, mobility, or access outside of direct combat. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Maneuver - Border Violation	The actor threatened the target's territorial sovereignty or control. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.

Combat - Battle/clash	The actor engaged in conflict with the target. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Combat - Attack	The actor initiated conflict with the target. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Combat - Invasion/occupation	The actor entered with the intention of taking over some area of the target's territory. This is distinct from a speech act declaring an intent or desire to invade and instead only includes the actual invasion itself.
Combat - Bombard	The actor bombed the target. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Strategic - Declaration of war	The actor declared war against its target for the first time. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Strategic - Join ongoing war	The actor joined an ongoing war between other parties. The 'receiver' in this instance is the enemy/opponents of the actor.
Strategic - Continuation of previous fighting	Fighting picked back up or re-emerged. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Autonomy - Assert Political Control Over	The actor reasserted control over a territory where it previously had strong control (ie a colonial power). This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Autonomy - Annex	The actor annexed a portion of its territory by giving up its claim of sovereignty. This occurred as part of an interaction with another actor.
Autonomy - Assert Autonomy Against	The actor reasserted its sovereignty and internal control vis-a-vis the target/recipient



Interaction Decrease Cooperation; off book codings

# Data Cleaning

- Actions
- Actors
- Dates

**value**  
<chr>

maltreatment and confiscation of property of salvadoran refugees in honduras  
march into goa as a peaceful mass invasion  
nk propaganda broadcasts  
nonintervention in indochina  
oas sanctions  
oil prospecting near greece  
other sanctions  
overthrow  
peace talks fail  
persona non grata

Dates: Machine Readable vs. Not So Much

13 october 1981	1981-10-13
19 february 1987	1987-02-19
17 june 1976	1976-06-17
end of 1975	1975-MM-DD
march 1993	1993-03-19
beginning as far as back as at least 1962	1962-MM-DD
mid or late december 2015	2015-12-20
18 march 1921	1921-03-18
13 january	YYYY-01-13
august 17, 1947	1947-08-17

26 or 27 june 1940  
end of february  
sometime between 25 and 31 december 1978  
sometime between 2 november 1949 and 27 december 1949  
sometime between 10 july 1951 and 15 july 1951  
early 1970s to 1991  
march 14-15 1939  
25 or 26 august 1940  
13 fedurary  
february 1945, before 24 february

# Coder Agreement

BERLIN BLOCKADE, s15: “The response by the Western powers, on 26 June 1948, was to step up the airlift to Berlin, which had begun two months earlier, and to continue with plans for the rehabilitation of Germany as part of Western Europe

## Four Coders

1. US, UK, and France undertaking (a) an escalatory air blockade against USSR and (b) a cooperative meeting and economic, military, and political support between US, UK, and France on one side and Germany on the other
2. US, UK, and France provide cooperative humanitarian, military, and unspecified aid
3. US, UK, and France providing humanitarian aid to Berlin
4. US, UK, and France providing humanitarian aid to USSR and West Germany

# Data Summary of ICB Event Data

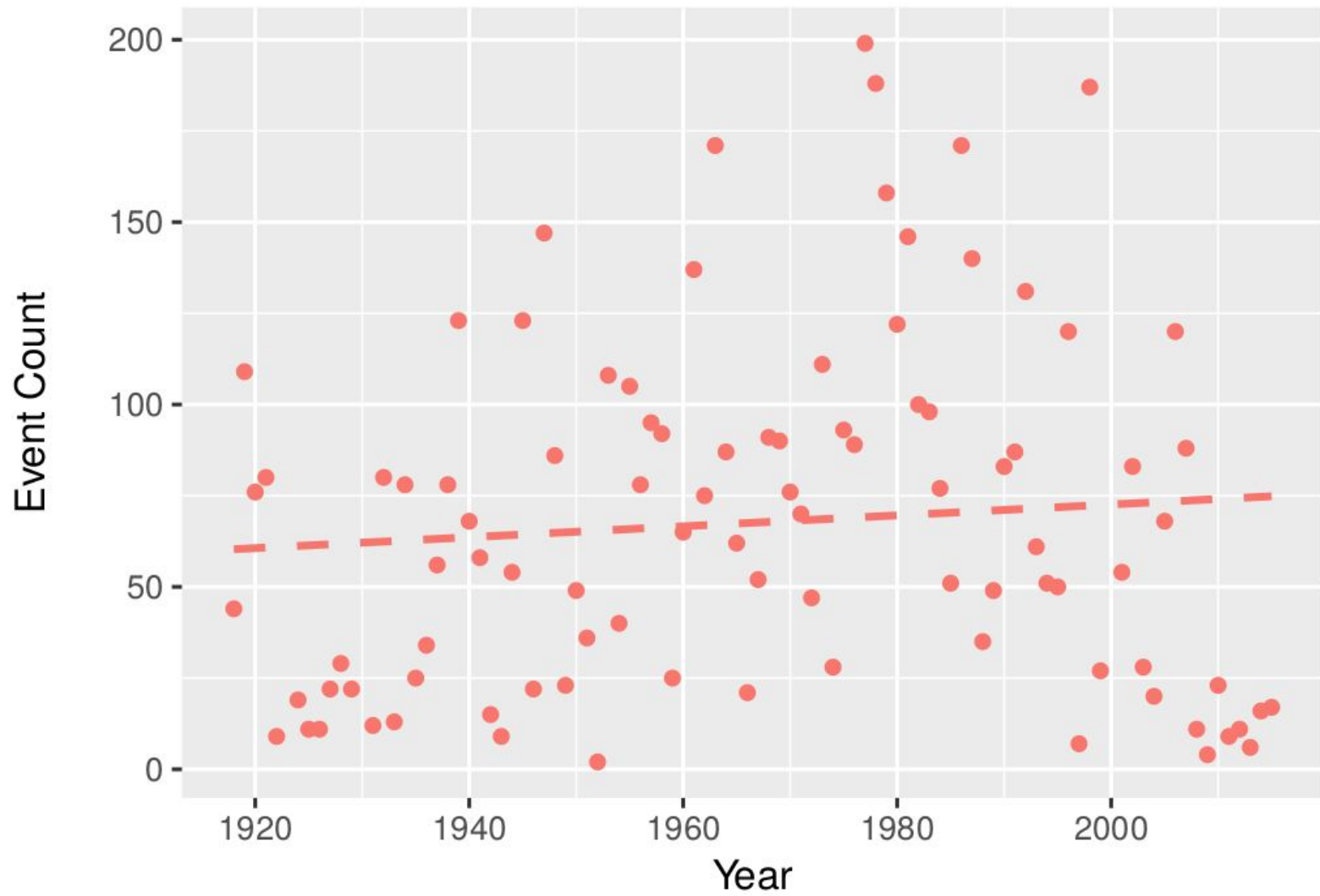
- 37,509 Events
- 6,427 with multicode agreement
  - 14 per crisis . . .

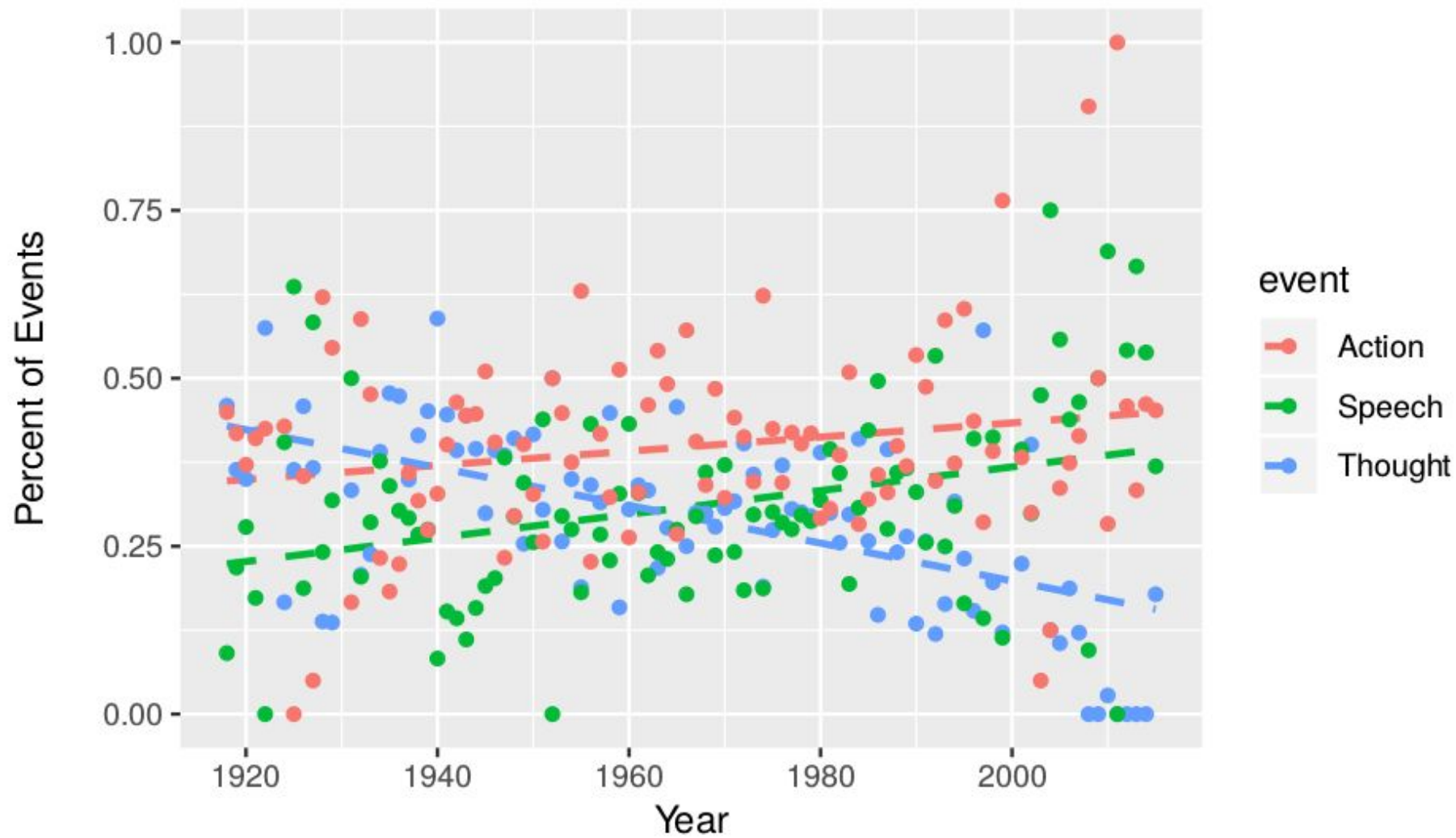
Table 1: Count of Events by Type and Category

Event.Type	Event.Category	Count
speak	speak	2041
think	think	1630
action	cooperative	1129
action	deescalate	146
action	escalate	1155
action	uncooperative	326

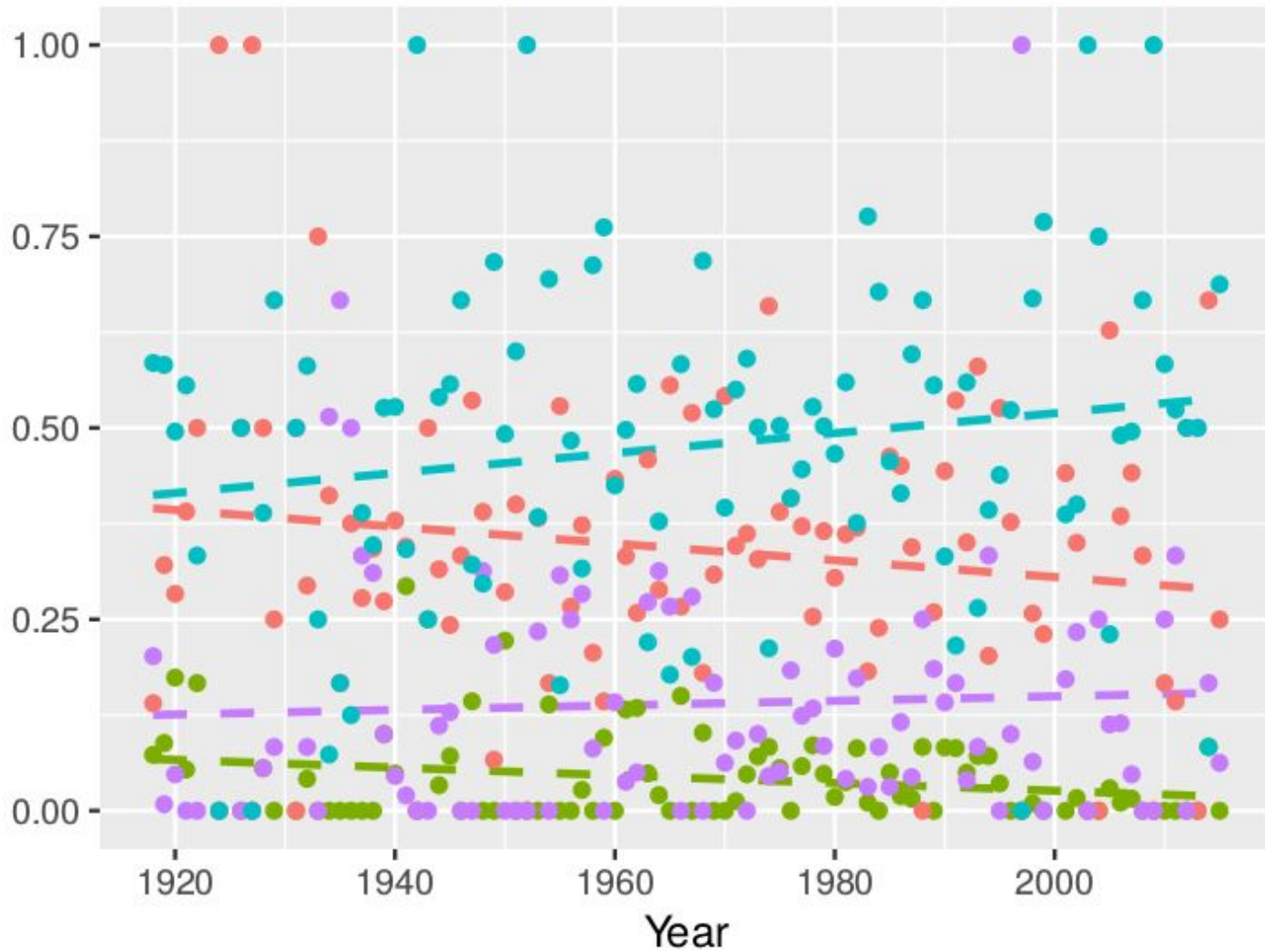
Table 2: 10 Most Common Specific Events

Event Category	Specific Event	Count
think	start of crisis	720
think	end of crisis	686
speak	appeal	494
cooperative	mediation	317
cooperative	meeting	314
speak	disapprove	288
escalate	attack	274
speak	accuse	266
speak	reject	262
escalate	deployment to area	188





Percent of Actions



event

- Coop
- Deesc
- Esc
- Uncoop

# Event Makeup by Crisis Feature

## Principal Crisis Management Technique

Management	Thought	Speech	Action	Deesc	Coop	Uncoop	Esc
Negotiation	30%	38%	32%	3%	42%	15%	40%
Mediation	29%	45%	26%	0%	58%	0%	42%
Multiple no violence	34%	32%	34%	3%	33%	16%	48%
Non-military pressure	30%	32%	39%	0%	38%	38%	25%
Non-violent military	37%	31%	33%	5%	34%	15%	47%
Multiple with violence	27%	30%	43%	4%	39%	10%	47%
Violence	33%	23%	44%	6%	24%	13%	57%

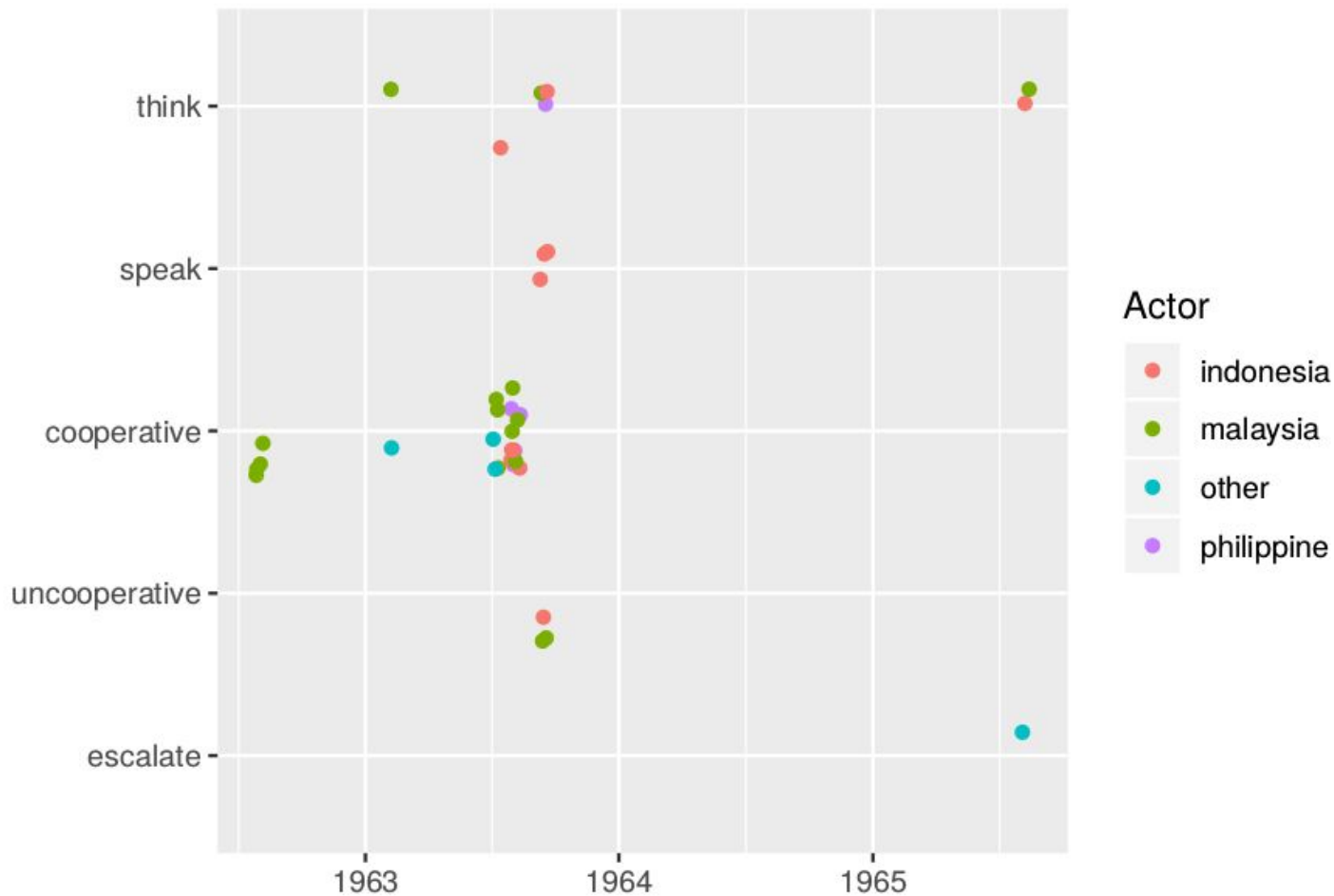
# Event Makeup by Crisis Feature

## Satisfaction of Crisis Actors with the Conclusion

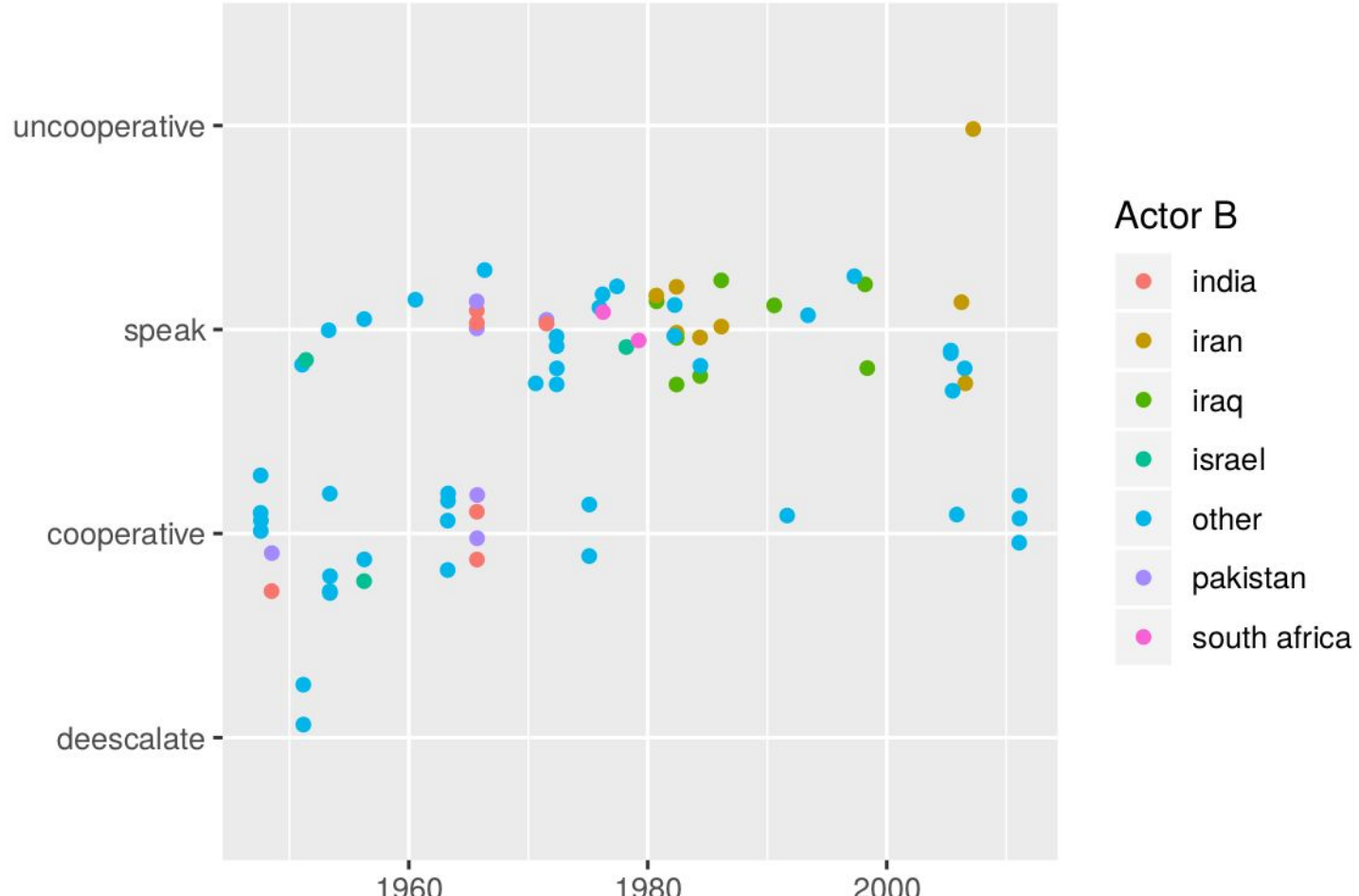
Satisfaction	Thought	Speech	Action	Deesc	Coop	Uncoop	Esc
All sat	28%	29%	44%	3%	41%	10%	45%
Mostly sat	34%	25%	41%	8%	33%	13%	46%
mixed	32%	32%	36%	4%	36%	16%	44%
Mostly dissat	31%	27%	43%	8%	29%	13%	50%
All dissat	26%	31%	43%	1%	36%	8%	55%
Single-actor	30%	32%	38%	4%	27%	13%	56%
No adversarial	48%	25%	26%	10%	36%	17%	38%



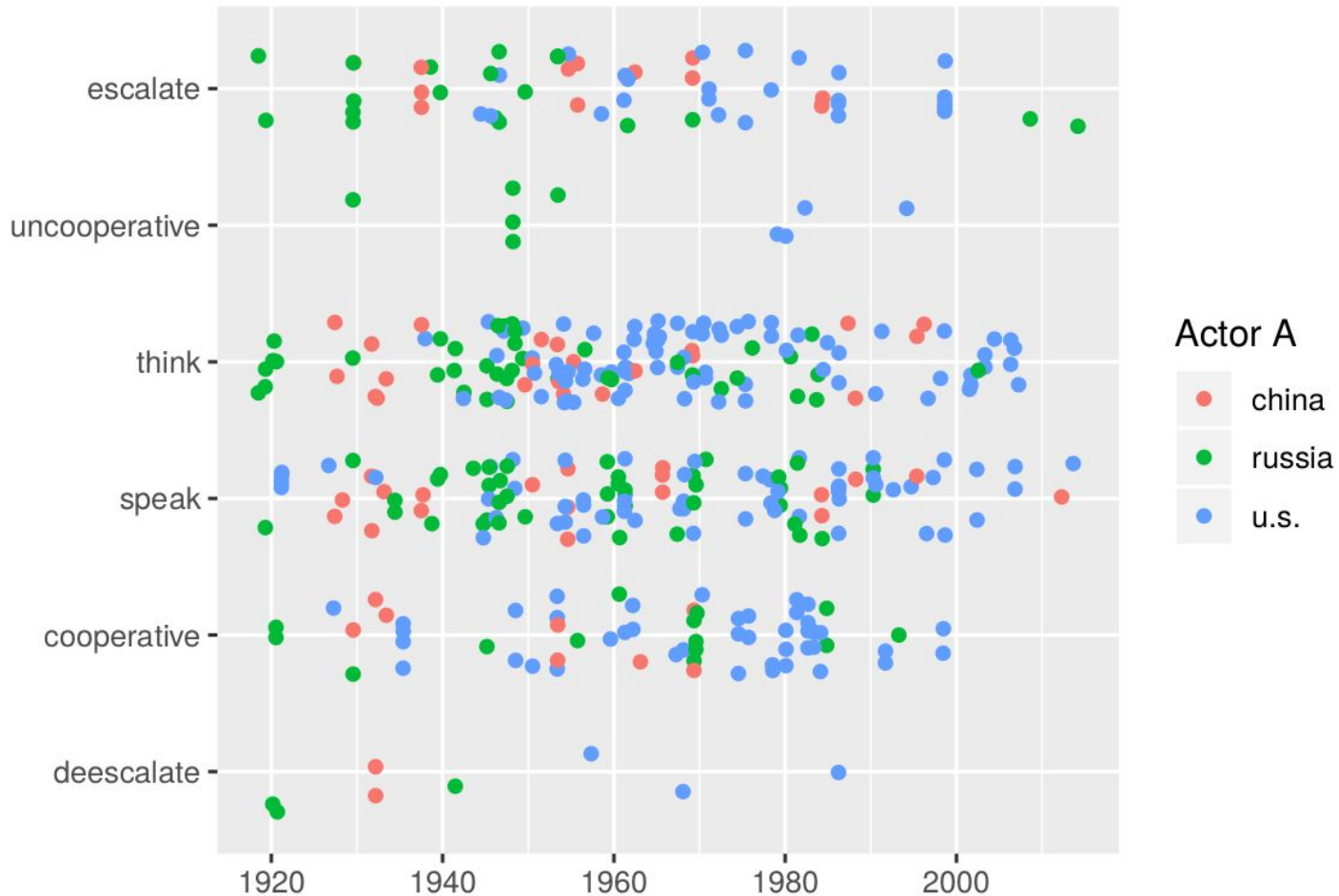
# Crisis Timeline: Malaysia Federation Crisis



# UN Crisis Actions over time



# Great Power Crisis Actions over time



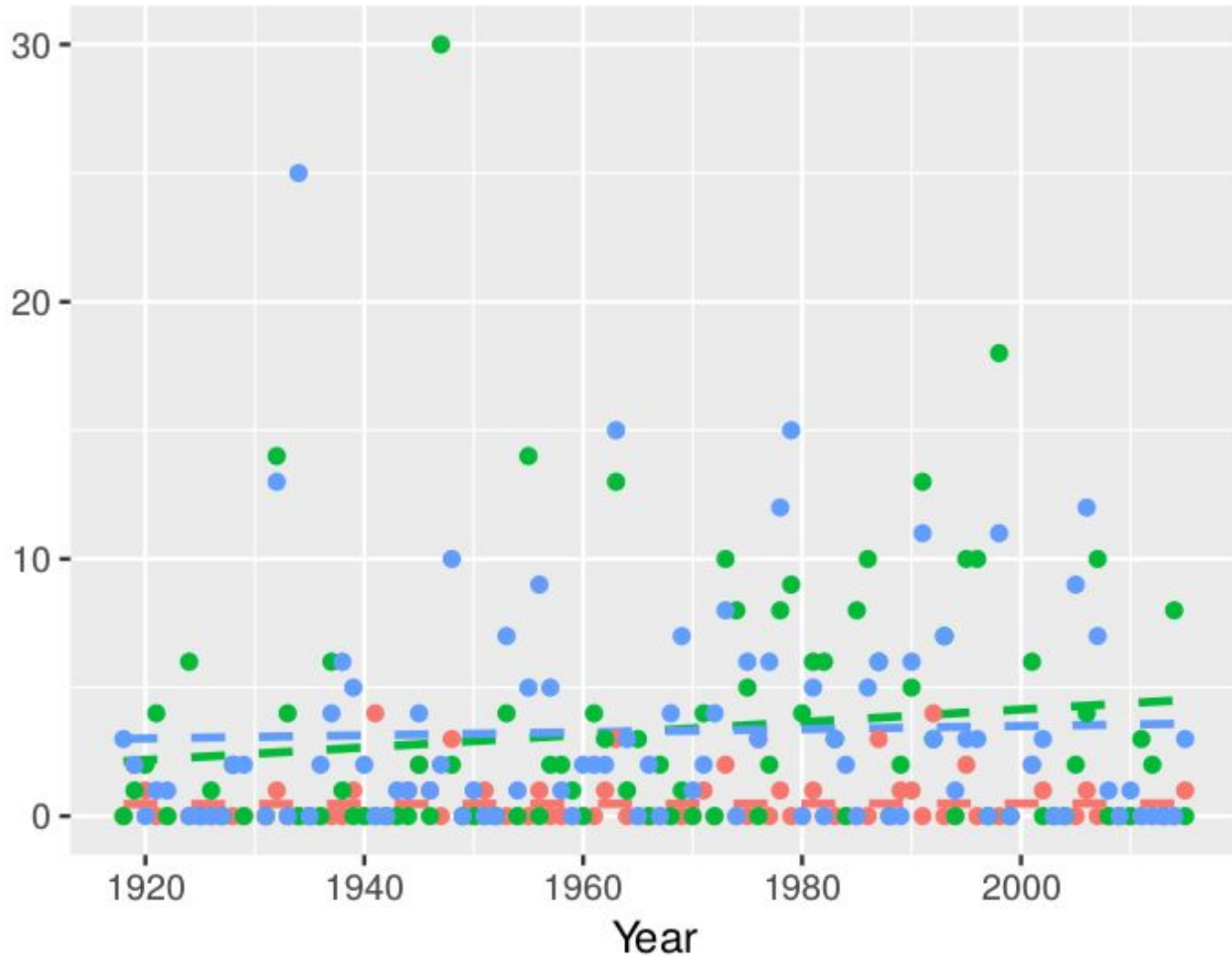
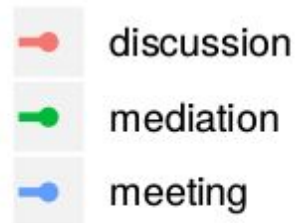
# Conclusion

- Lots of work to do
- Lots of caveats
- Lots of potential?
- Comments encouraged!
  - [TLScherer@ucsd.edu](mailto:TLScherer@ucsd.edu)

Thank you!

Event Count

event



Event Count

15

10

5

0

1920

1940

1960

1980

2000

Year

event

