

# POWER LAW DISTRIBUTIONS IN TERRORIST ATTACKS

Xinyue Ye, John Miller, Daniel Mabrey,

2009

## OVERVIEW

It has been claimed that the distribution of deaths in terrorist attacks follows a “power law” rather than one of the more familiar exponential family probability distributions. Such a claim, if true, would characterize terrorism as a “chaotic” phenomenon, and lead to analysis of its patterns as fractals. The accuracy of this claim is explored in ISVG datasets.

## METHODOLOGY

## FINDINGS

In progress

## FUTURE RESEARCH



INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF VIOLENT GROUPS  
300 BOSTON POST ROAD SOUTH CAMPUS HALL,  
WEST HAVEN, CT

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT  
[WWW.ISVG.ORG](http://WWW.ISVG.ORG)