

TACTICAL TERRORISM ANALYSIS: Machine Learning Meets Insurgency in Iraq

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April 25, 2006

OVERVIEW

Exploration of culpability analysis of al-Qaeda in Iraq using statistical classification and machine learning techniques as applied to the ISVG database..

METHODOLOGY

Classification and regression trees, logitboost and support vector machines were applied to Iraq bombing data (2003 – 2005).

FINDINGS

Logitboost applied to stumps achieved a 76.8% accuracy rate (al-Qaeda) while the basic tree was at 74.8% and SVM was down at 71.3%.

FUTURE RESEARCH

Further work needs to be done on the support vector machine technology, especially refinement of the parameters.



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