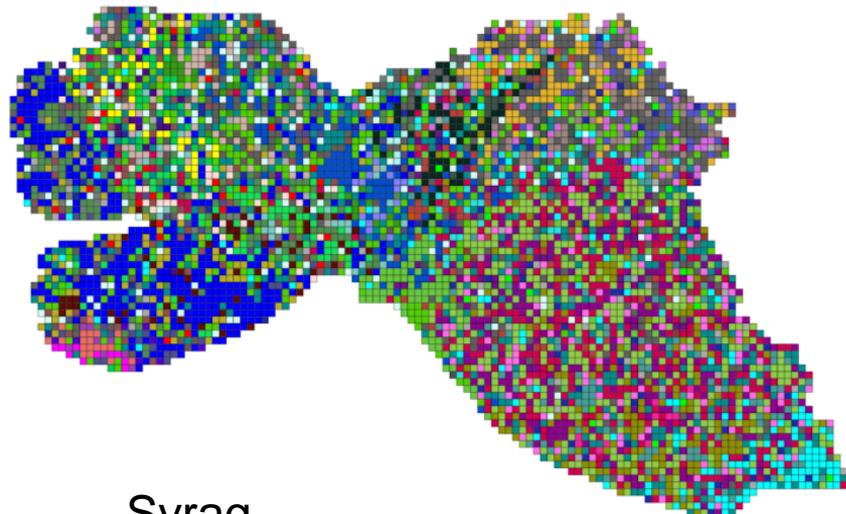
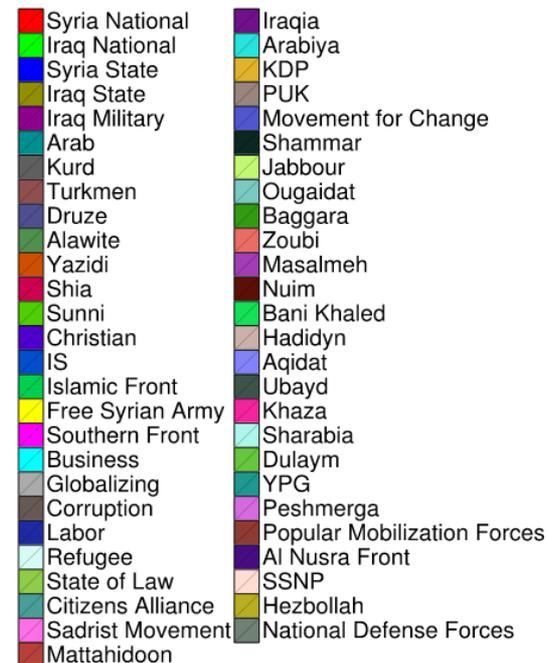


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Research Areas of Interest

- Combining accuracy of forecasting with understanding of mechanisms.
- How can computational (agent-based modeling) simulation techniques be deployed against real intelligence problems to identify mitigation opportunities, conduct reliable CoA analysis for threat mitigation and opportunity exploitation?
- For this purpose, how can islands of substantively strong social science theory be combined with real-world data and ideographic expertise on specific countries and regions?
- **How to, and who should, make targets for the dart-throwers (chimps, super-forecasters, or hybrid performers)?**
- How can computational tools contribute to the requirement for a constant flow of very large numbers of meaningful, clear, and engaging, conditional probability questions?



Qualifications and Capabilities

- Virtual Strategic Analysis and Forecasting Tool (VSAFT)
- Capacity developed as path-breaking social science application of ABM technology with a dozen years of experience with support from NSF, DARPA , ONR, HSCB, and NCTC; partnership with Lockheed-Martin, ATL in ICEWS
- ABM forecasting and analysis capability to generate thousands of n-dimensional virtual trajectories per country model
- Experimental infrastructure capable of tracking individual trajectories and measuring conditional likelihoods of hundreds of variables of potential interest
- V and V emphasis in each program; technology reported in peer-reviewed and widely cited articles in leading journals
- Performance and accolades on real-time problems posed by State, NIC, PACOM, SOCOM, and other agencies of the USG
- Demonstrated success as a provocative thinking tool for SME's



Capabilities We Wish to Build in Support of Hybrid Modeling

- Exploit forecasting and analytic capability for automated support of the production of hundreds of candidate conditional probability questions for performers to answer.
- Questions must be relevant, pass the clairvoyance test, be non-obvious, and pertain to probabilities that exceed the barely possible.
- Techniques for iterative production of large numbers of such questions be exploiting patterns across trajectories to establish outcomes as plausible but not inevitable in relation to specific antecedent conditions. For example:
 - If three months of Islamist political violence erupt in Alexandria, what is the likelihood of an Islamist takeover in Egypt within the following nine months?
 - If the King of Thailand dies, what is the likelihood of sustained political violence within the next six months?
 - If ISIS leader Baghdadi is killed, how likely is it that Raqqa will not be controlled by ISIS within six months of his death?



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