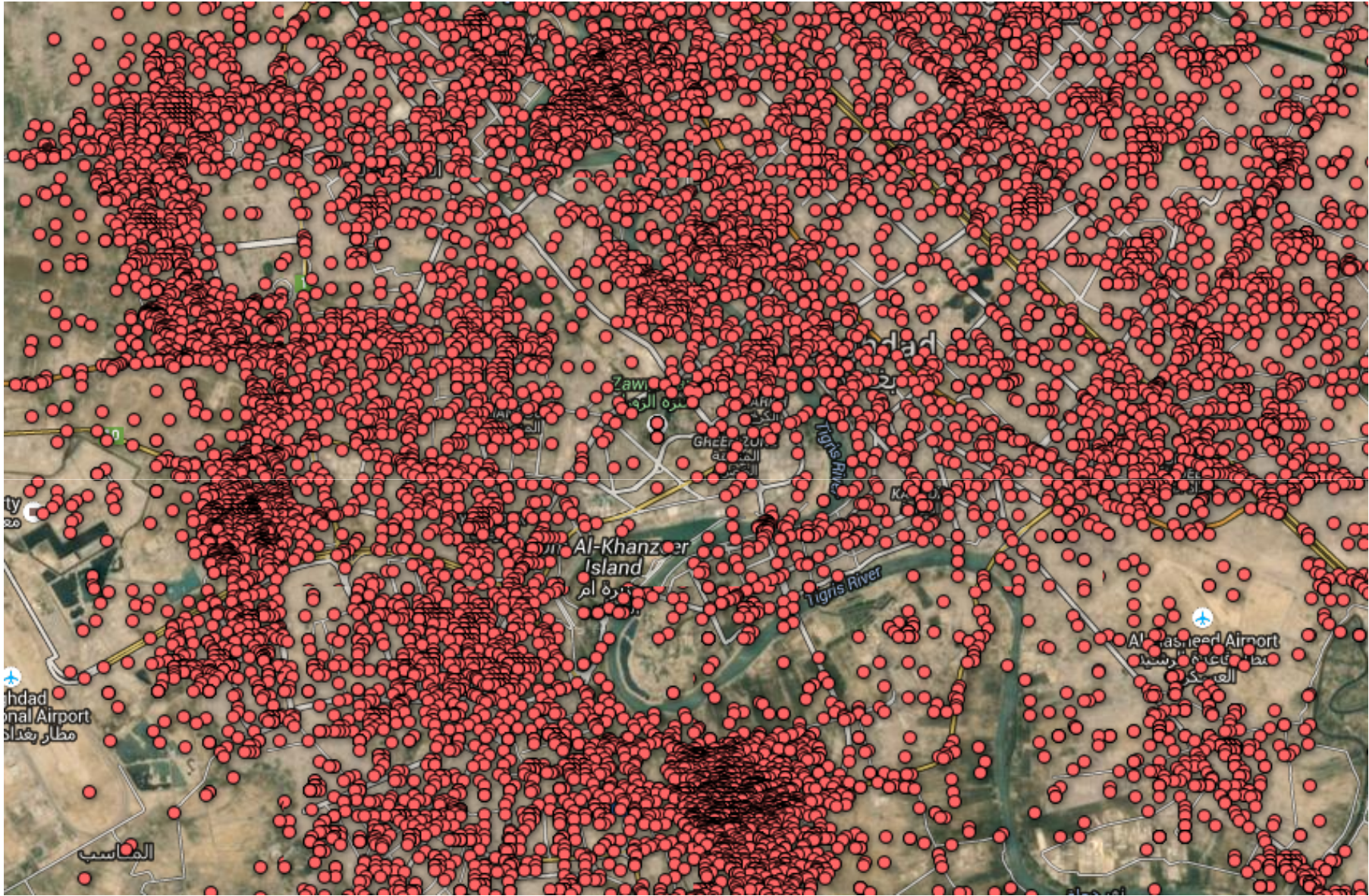


Two Perspectives on Civilian Fatalities in the 2003 Iraq War

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IBC vs. Pentagon's Iraq War Logs

▶ IBC

- ▶ UK NGO
- ▶ **Media**, Iraqi government, morgues
- ▶ Violent civilian deaths from beginning up to now

▶ Iraq War Logs

- ▶ Pentagon's archives
- ▶ Leaked by Wikileaks in 2010 (Manning and Assange): "A scoop of the century"
- ▶ Violent deaths between 2004 and 2009 (except May 2004 and March 2009)

▶ Similarities

- ▶ Incident-based records (see picture)
- ▶ Persistency

▶ Behavioural differences between US military authorities and media



IBC vs. Pentagon's Iraq War Logs cont.

▶ IBC

- ▶ Only civilians (non-combatants)
- ▶ **Minimum** and maximum
- ▶ Police in non-paramilitary roles (i.e., traffic police)

▶ Iraq War Logs

- ▶ **Civilians** : Civilians
- ▶ **Host Nation**: Iraqi security forces (police)
- ▶ **Enemy**: Insurgents and anti-coalition forces
- ▶ Friendly: Coalition forces

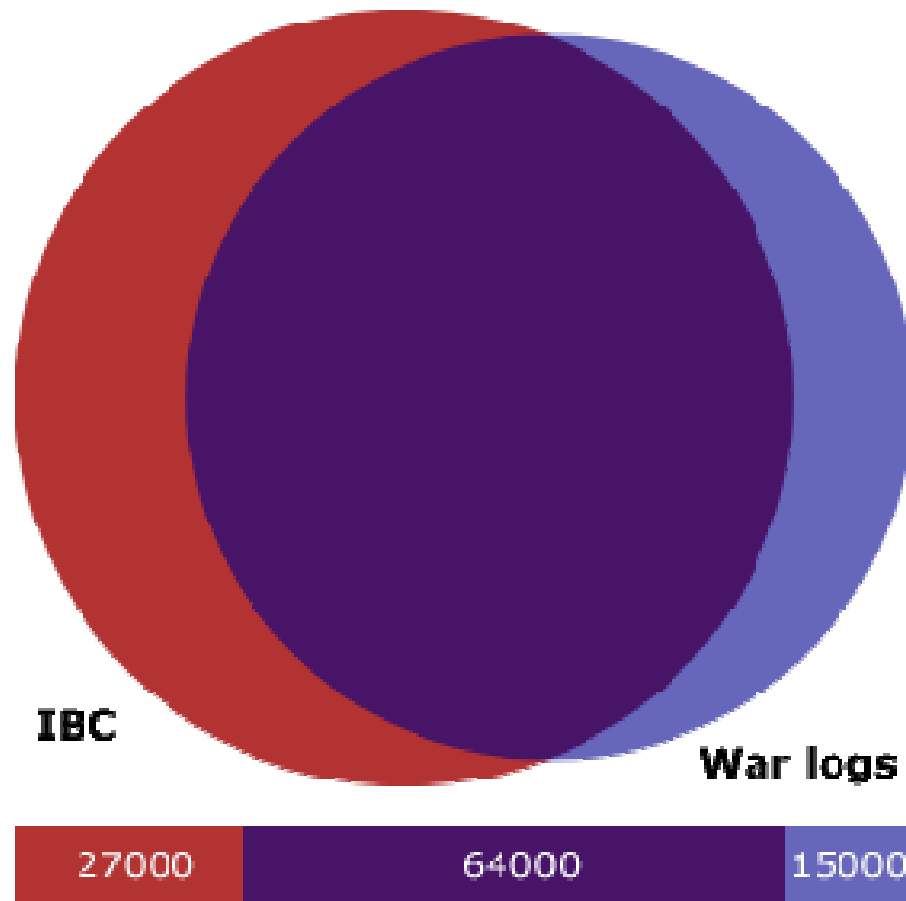


IBC vs. Pentagon's Iraq War Logs cont.

Data	Pentagon's War Logs				IBC Dataset	
Categories	Civilian	Host nation	Enemy	Civilian + Host nation	Minimum	Maximum
Number of deaths (Baghdad)	66,081 (56%)	15,196 (33%)	23,984 (27%)	81,277 (52%)	85,132 (54%)	92,027 (54%)
Number of incidents	34,009	8,064	9,417	42,073	21,865	22,108
Deaths per incidents	1.94	1.88	2.55	1.93	3.89	4.16
Duration	70 months during 2004-2009 (except May 2004 and Mar 2009)					

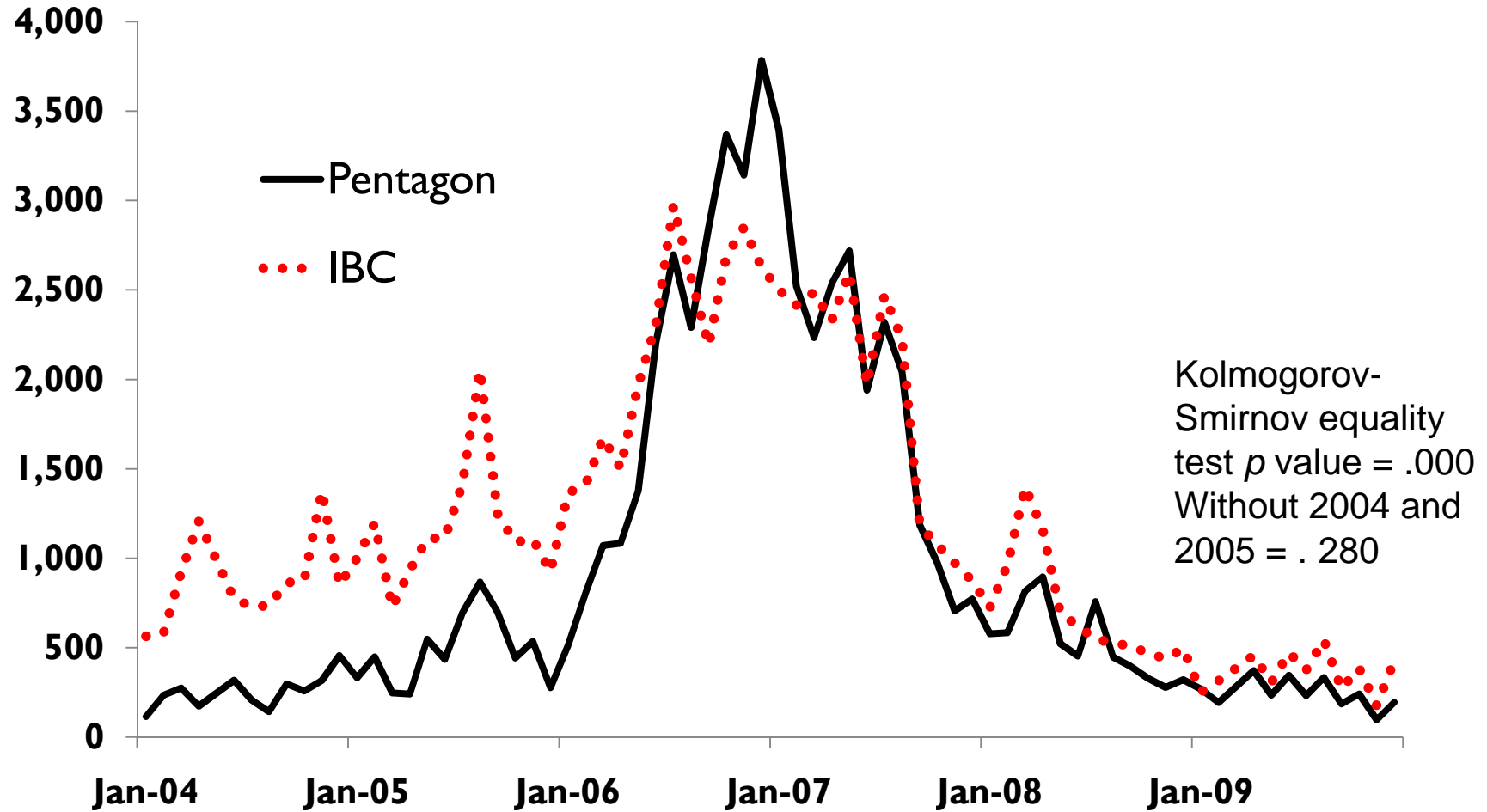


IBC vs. Pentagon's Iraq War Logs cont.

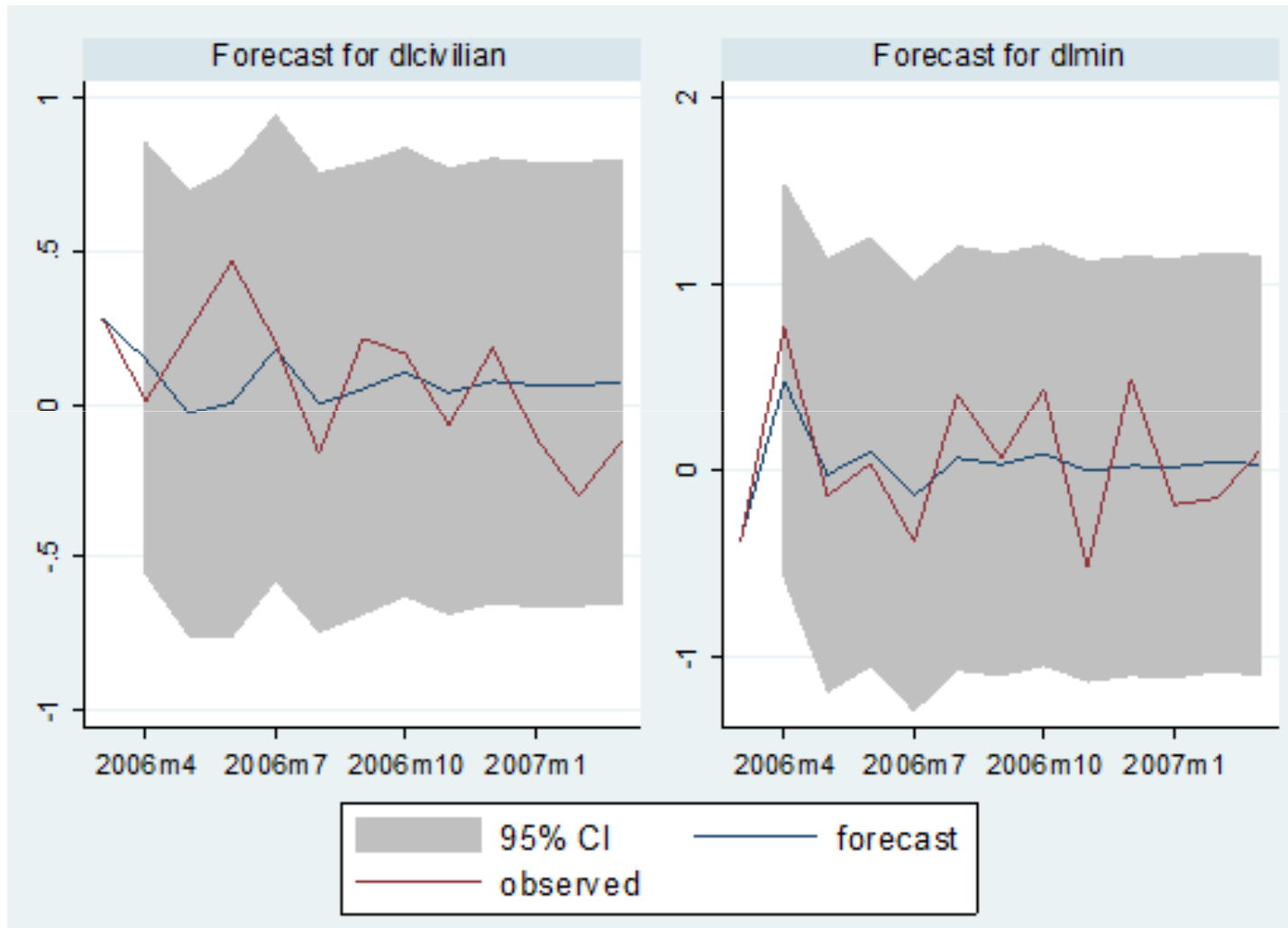


Monthly Civilian Fatalities

Monthly death toll



Forecasting with VAR



Conclusion

- ▶ Both are incomplete lists
- ▶ Both are consistent with each other if excluding 2004 and 2005
- ▶ Comparative analysis could provide a clue of significantly different standards between US military authorities and media in counting violent civilian deaths
 - ▶ Media may have inflated the number of violent deaths
 - ▶ US military authorities might have been...
 - ▶ Less attentive in counting civilian deaths at the initial period
 - ▶ Less mindful in distinguishing civilian losses out of insurgent deaths in major military offensives



Conclusion cont.

“We don’t do body counts”
-Gen Tommy Franks, 2002-

- ▶ **Political implications**
 - ▶ Precise counting is requisite
 - ▶ To enhance civilian protection
 - ▶ To understand evolutionary intensity of war
 - ▶ If IBC is closer to true number, the US seems to have failed to grasp reality in Iraq at the initial period
 - ▶ Great transparency and consistency will help military authorities
 - ▶ To understand spread of violence
 - ▶ To prevent unnecessary escalation

