

Statistical Aspects to Technology Transition & its Impact on War-Fighting Capabilities World Wide

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Abstract

This paper attempts to analyse the statistical aspects of the transitions in technology that have permeated the world's battlefields. In the analysis, the distinct impact of improvements in the field of electronics and communications as well as the shrinkages in form-factors leading to increased lethality of ammunitions has been dwelt upon. The initial part of this paper brings out the background that built a base for proliferation of high-end technology in the western world. What is it that impacts the mind of a military decision maker is elaborated in the strategist's dilemma where the domains that impinge the conflict 'space' are elaborated. Emphasis on the technological growth and its implications has been elaborated upon in detail here. Case studies delving into the net-centric actions in various theatres of conflict-across time and conflict zones – have been analysed at length in the next section. Having been the pioneers in deployment of technology driven capabilities, the metrics governing the actions of the American Forces have been analysed. This portion of the analysis has been strictly kept chronological with a view to bring out the advantages that accrued with the techno-cultural force transformation that the US forces steadily embarked upon. The study would be incomplete without a countervailing study of the employment of some of the tenets of equally 'successful' adversaries. Accordingly, a brief look at the Chinese concept completes the case studies. Lest the analysis leave the discerning reader with the idea that all is hunky-dory, the article concludes with a discussion on some of the counterviews, as expressed by subject matter experts.

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