

# ONLINE VERIFICATION



# AGENDA

---

- Principles of Verification
- Basics
- Demos
  - Search Twitter
  - Searching Facebook
  - Searching YouTube
- Advanced (Case Studies)

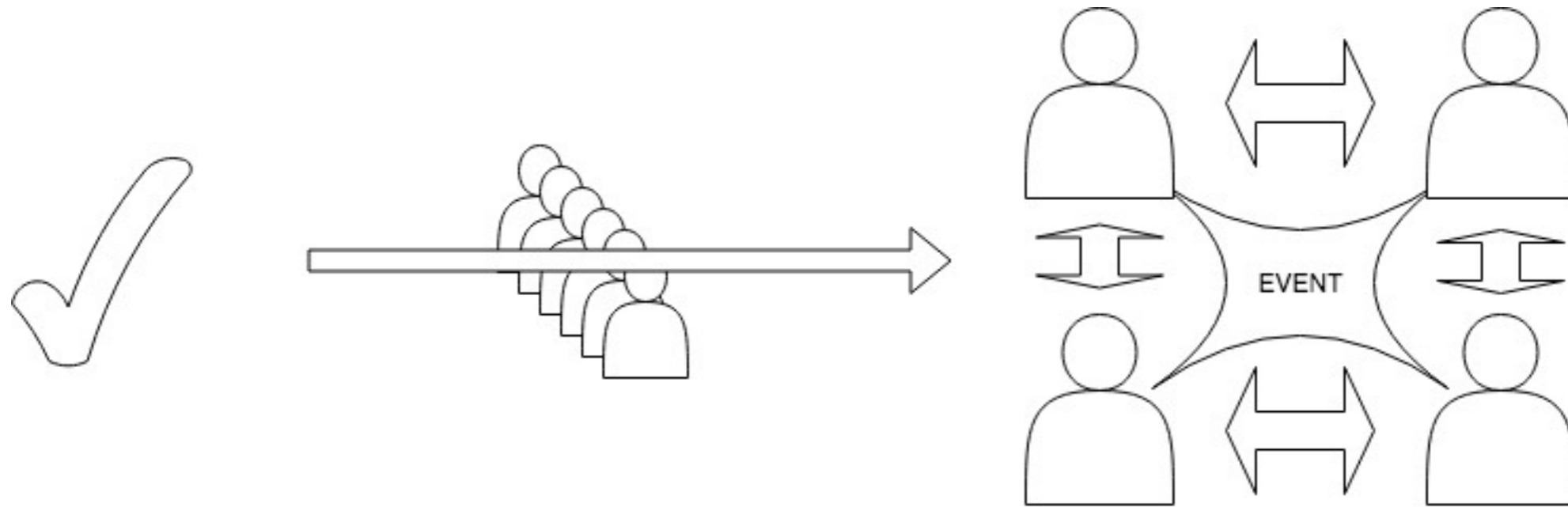
# PRINCIPLES OF VERIFICATION

---

- Every real-world event creates data
- Data is easily shared, copied and distributed
- The internet collapses space and time
- Time + Distance = Distortion
- Verification
  - Authorship & Provenance
  - Basis of knowledge
  - Content evaluation

# PRINCIPLES OF VERIFICATION: DATA FLOWS & CHALLENGES

---

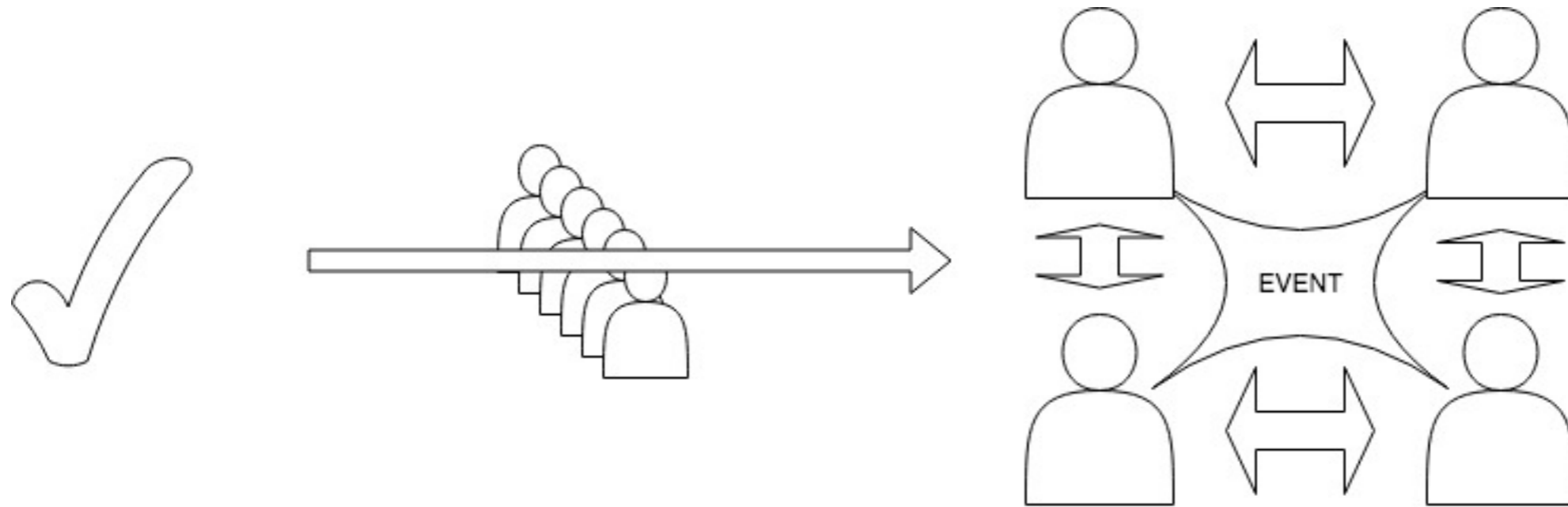


- Repetition <>
- Distortion <><>
- Misrepresentation (deliberate) <><><>



# PRINCIPLES OF VERIFICATION: DATA FLOWS & CHALLENGES

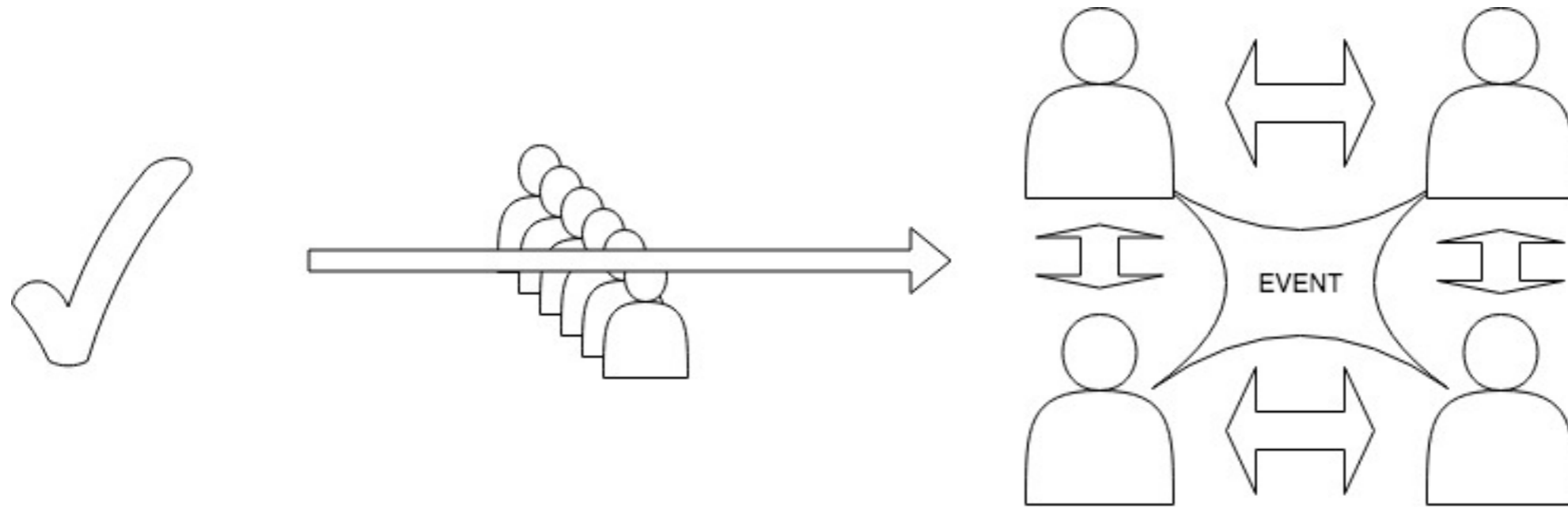
---



- Example 1: A Birthday Party
- Example 2: An Explosion

# PRINCIPLES OF VERIFICATION: METHODOLOGIES

---

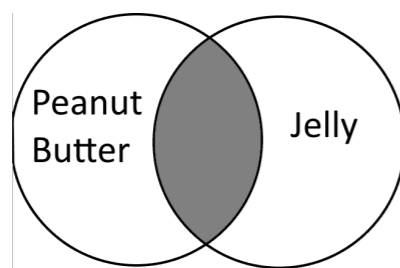


- Keyword searches
- Source-based searches
- Geographic searches
- Source evaluation
- Image-based searches

# FINDING INFORMATION

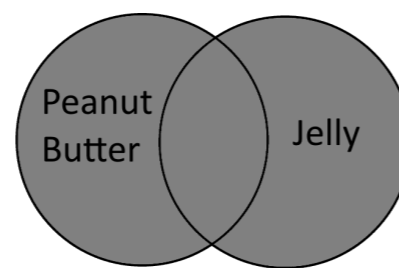
---

- Keywords
  - Search in the relevant language
  - Use search operators



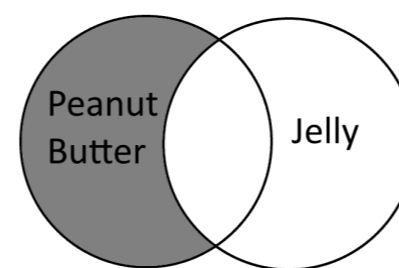
**AND**

Using AND, this search would only retrieve results with Peanut Butter and Jelly.



**OR**

Using OR, this search would retrieve results with peanut butter, with jelly, and with both.



**NOT**

Using NOT, this search would retrieve results with peanut butter, and exclude those with jelly or PB with jelly.

- Build up a source list
- Use tools & complex search strings

# WORKING WITH IMAGES

---

- Images
  - Reverse image searching
    - Limits of reverse image searching
    - Cheats
  - Tools
    - Search engines
    - TinEye

# TWITTER

---

- Basic orientation
- Search queries
- Advanced search function

# YOUTUBE

---

- Basic orientation
- Search queries
- Advanced search function

# FACEBOOK

---

- Basic orientation
- Search queries
- Advanced search function

# EXAMPLE — DAMASCUS, 21 AUGUST 2013

---













# DELUGE OF VIDEOS, FEW SPECIFICS

---

- First reports of attack @ 02:30 local time
- 150+ videos; 50+ uploaders
- Posted to accounts with affiliations/history across wide area
- Similar symptoms
- No location specifics
- Hundreds of victims

facebook Search for people, places and things Storyful Newsroom Feed Friends Home

**Coordinating Zamalka**  
35,715 likes · 2,535 talking about this

Community organization  
To connect with coordinating Zamalka: [Sanafre2011@gmail.com](mailto:Sanafre2011@gmail.com) [Zamfree@gmail.com](mailto:Zamfree@gmail.com)

13 September

**Coordinating Zamalka**  
13 September

Among the believers are men who what their covenant with God. Some of them died and some are still waiting they changed any change. Mohammed Fouad Barghnie (Abu Hisham Elzaimkani) Mujahid relief to Jinnah inside D martyr ... Bezeal

See translation

Like · Comment · Share  
273 people like this.

Write a comment...

Coordinating Zamalka: Café Ataqut's  
Like · Reply · 3 · September 14 at 02:08

Amemar Zamalka God bless you, my brother, you O'Allah heck Betrouh you burned my God and your I started without Maroon. Sabay to سائلين agent him on the father and all the martyr's swear by the Lord to the throne of saty forget: impossible to forget brother owns God Ataqut's Zamalka Schudo and AGC and God curse Jaank See Translation  
Like · Reply · 7 · 13 September at 23:20 via mobile

OF Zamalka shared coordination a link · 10 hours ago

Haasam awareness too - witness how he and his family survived the massacre of the major chemical # Zamalka  
Video Link: <http://youtu.be/bzuffaQv3G0>  
See translation

Haasam awareness too - witness how he and his family survived the massacre of the major chemical # Zamalka  
Like · Comment · Share  
59 people like this.

OF Zamalka shared coordination a link · 3 hours ago

<http://akbhar.alaam.tv/news/post/2013/abu-hisham-great-revolution-race-sacrifices>

News Now | Abu Hisham: great revolution - Race sacrifices  
akbhar-alaam.tv

Like · Comment · Share  
27 people like this.

Write a comment...

Wasil Nough D Rahma  
See Translation  
Like · Reply · about an hour ago via mobile

Abu Ahmed Elzaimkany of God's mercy be upon you, O Abu Hisham  
See Translation  
Like · Reply · 2 hours ago

facebook Search for people, places and things Storyful Newsroom Feed Friends Home

**City coordinating Medmah Sham - Syrian Revolution in Damascus**  
38,563 likes · 1,894 talking about this

Community  
To communicate via e-mail: [mosadameah.revolution.news@gmail.com](mailto:mosadameah.revolution.news@gmail.com)

13 September

**City coordinating Medmah Sham - Syrian Revolution in Damascus**  
13 September

Medmah\_Sham... I was a little girl does not mastered if writing poetry... The art appeals to the free people of conscience in the world... I ask God to urge you to victory and save your children and your family from the clutches / / of hunger post / / girl Medmah

See translation

Like · Comment · Share  
67 people like this.

Write a comment...

Hani Atallah Suffice agent of God, see God freed you and improves your patience and your grief finale  
See Translation  
Like · Reply · 1 · 12 minutes ago via mobile

the IC&F فرقة IC&F  
See Translation  
Like · Reply · 1 · 27 minutes ago via mobile

City coordinating Medmah Sham - Syrian Revolution in Damascus  
2 hours ago

This increases the system Assad: criminality # Alanzbazi because it was still international protection  
See translation

facebook Search for people, places and things Storyful Newsroom Feed Friends Home

**EinTarma Coordinating**  
15,582 likes · 1,177 talking about this

Media / News / Publishing  
Coordinating the team of Ein Tarma in East Gouta concerned publish news and events in the town.

15 September

**EinTarma Coordinating**  
15 September

Coordinating the team of Ein Tarma in East Gouta concerned publish news and events in the town.

Like · Comment · Share  
6 people like this.

Write a comment...

Ain Tarma coordinating : Damascus : EinTarma Coordinating  
59 minutes ago

Like · Comment · Share  
6 people like this.

Write a comment...

Ain Tarma coordinating : Damascus : EinTarma Coordinating  
2 hours ago

قد يكون لشهدا قويا لكن الله ابقى  
ايها الزحف... عرفنا انجح ان المدمرات وان كنت مع الله فهو يعلم ماذا  
لك يهدمك خطف خطف جيشه ان اقول انسان ان كنت مع الله ان اذ  
فرع الله سبحانه وتعالى فلا يا صلاح المولى ان الله ينجح ان عمل  
ولا يعقل يستعين بأشياء... ان الله يهدى قدر برحمة الله تعالى ان الله  
الاجرة... ان الله ان الله ان الله تعالى ان الله تعالى ان الله تعالى  
وقال تعالى: ﴿وَمَنْ يَرْجُ الْكَافِرَ مَن يَرْجُ الْكَافِرَ مَن يَرْجُ الْكَافِرَ﴾

Like · Comment · Share  
29 people like this.

Write a comment...

Friend  
Likes coordinating Ain Tarma : Damascus : EinTarma Coordinating

Invite Your Friends to Like this Page  
Type a friend's name

Louise Tierney  
Chris Cervellera  
Mike Bowler

Coordinating Zamalka  
Community organisation  
Like

Arabic channel Al Arabiya  
5 friends also like this.

Observers - France 24  
19 Show



August 21, 2013

Damascus Chemical Weapons Attack

Zamlka reports bombing of 'the city' with 'toxic substances', but gives no further geographical information.

0226

0235

Jobar reports 'chemical shell' hit Zaynia, Ein Tarma.

Ein Tarma reports people in Zaynia suffocating after being 'bombed with toxic substances'

0245

0313

Ein Tarma gives location of incident as "between Ein Tarma and Zamalka".

10/8/18

August 21, 2013

# Alleged Damascus Chemical Weapons Attack

First reports of chemical attack start appearing in surrounding areas. Erbin posts images, then videos of casualties. Ein Tarma re-shares and identifies them as being from Ein Tarma.



Jobar reports 15 chemical 'shells' used in alleged attack

0315

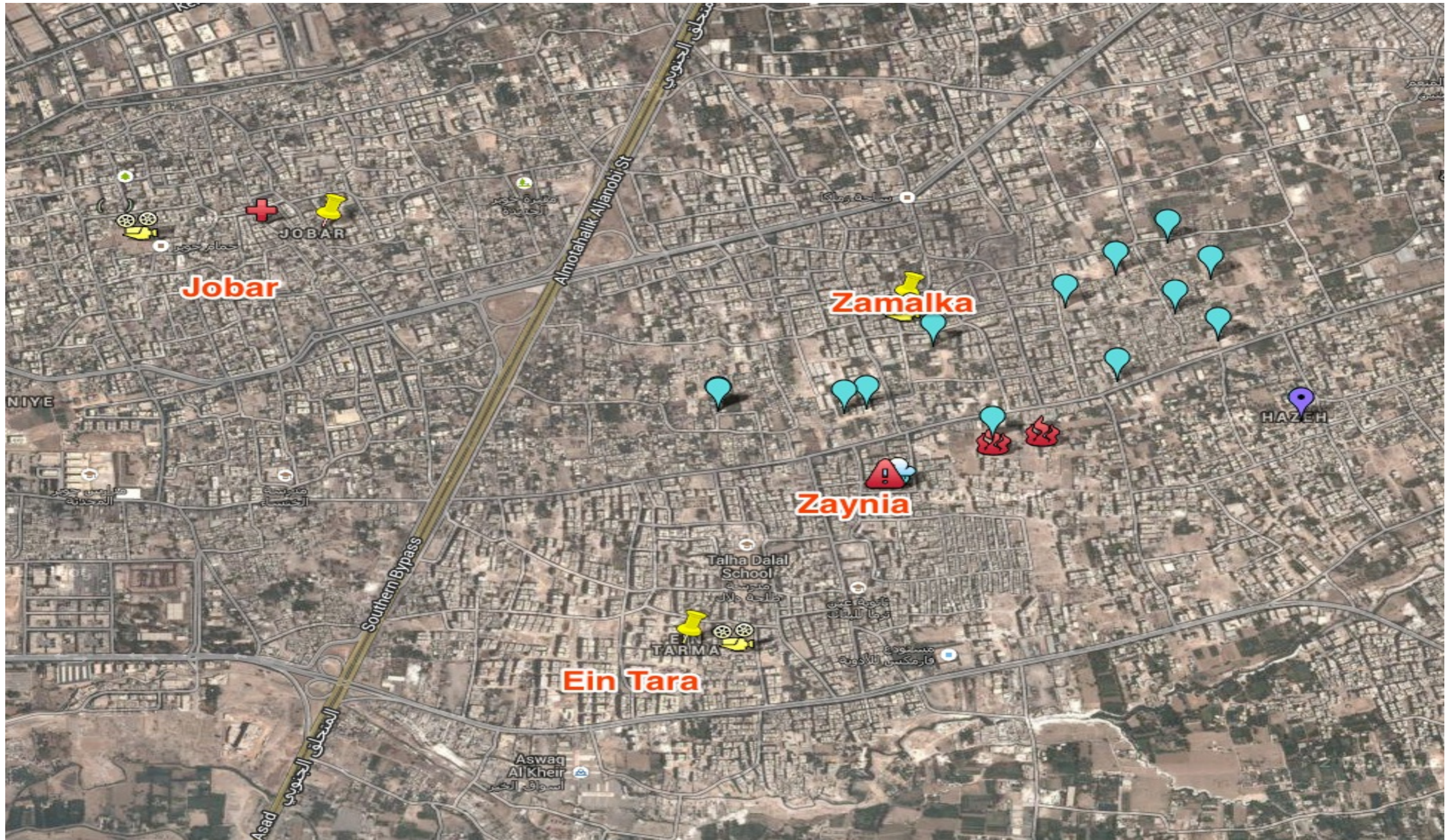
0352

From 0400

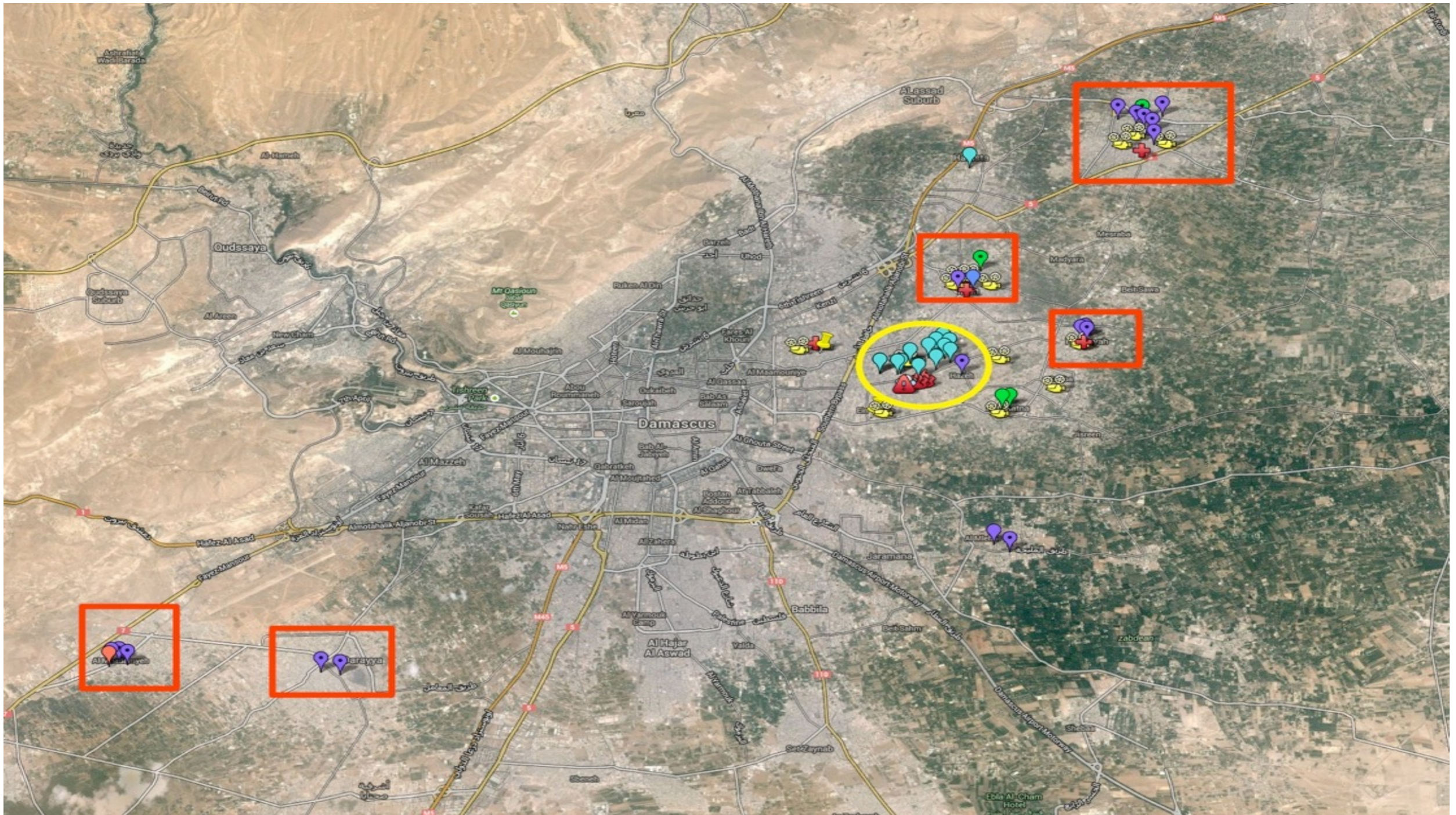
Ein Tarma reports cause of suffocation was ground-to-ground chemical rocket "between Ein Tarma and Zamalka".

Reports and videos flow from surrounding areas of chemical attack. Most are not geographically specific. Where they are, Ein Tarma and Zamalka identified as locations hit.











# GEOLOCATION OF ALLEGED CW ROCKET

---











Image © 2013 DigitalGlobe



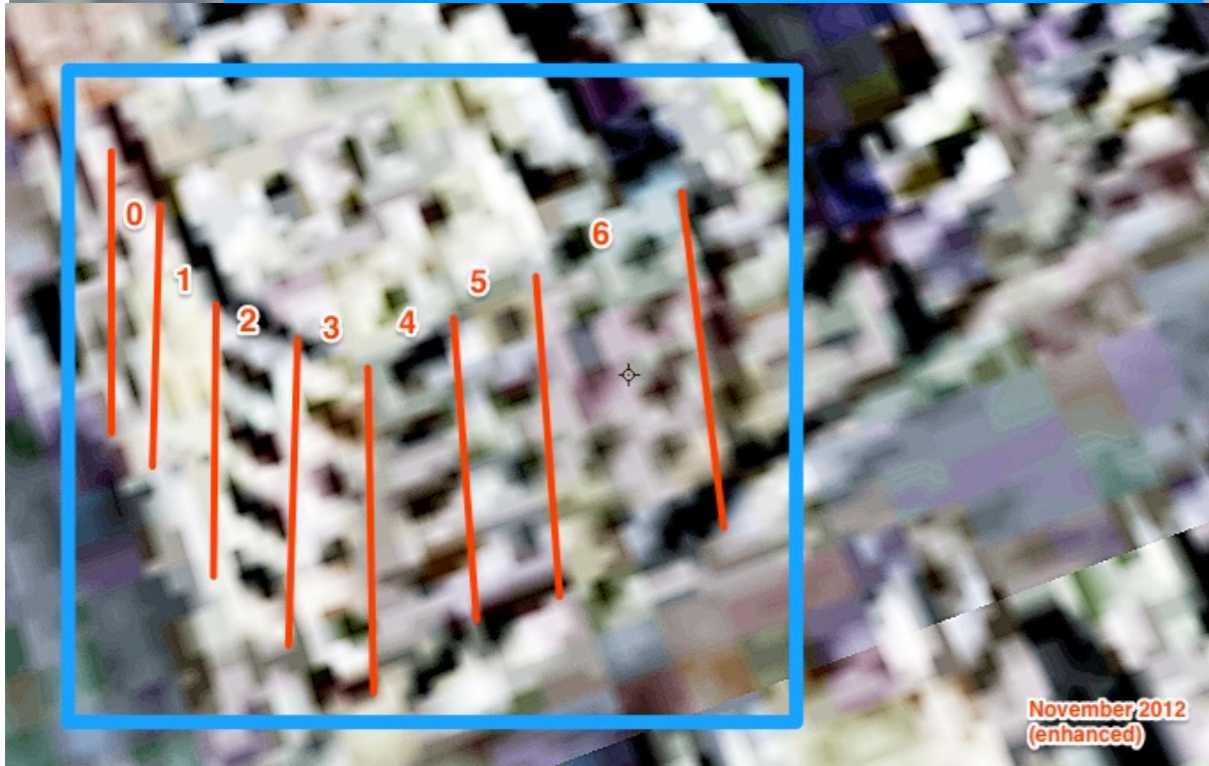
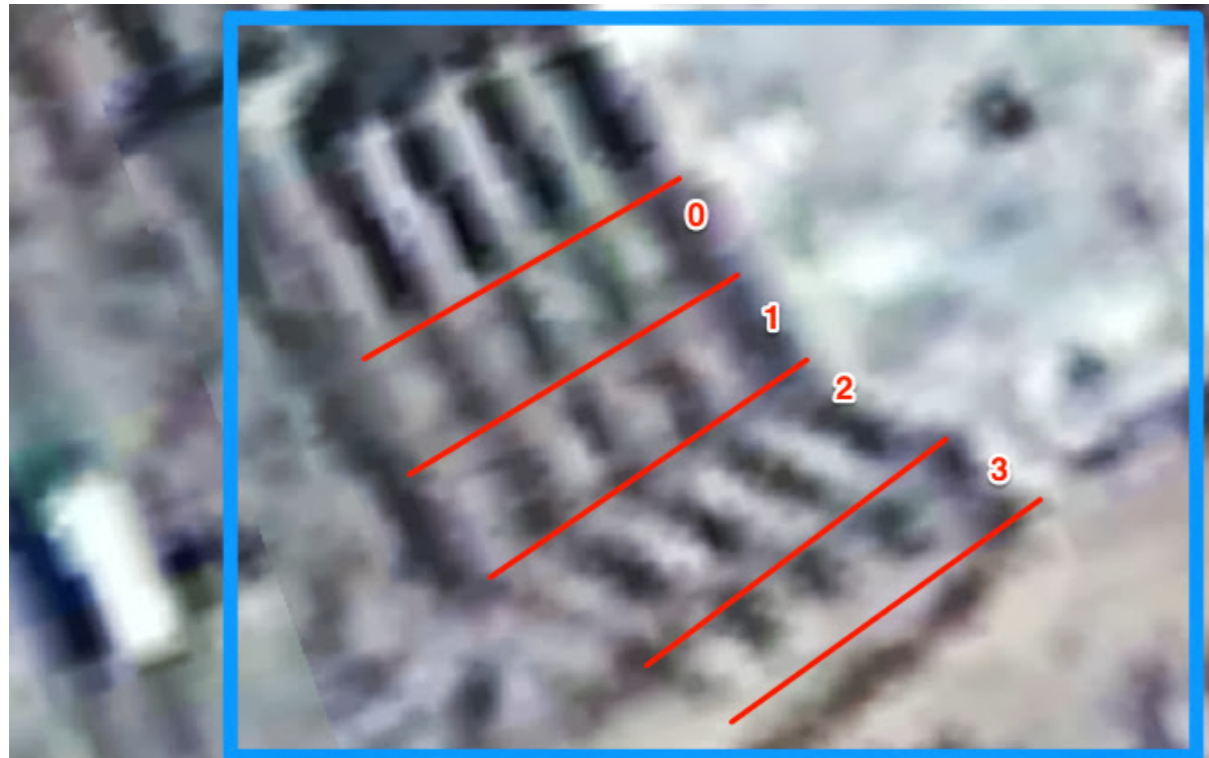












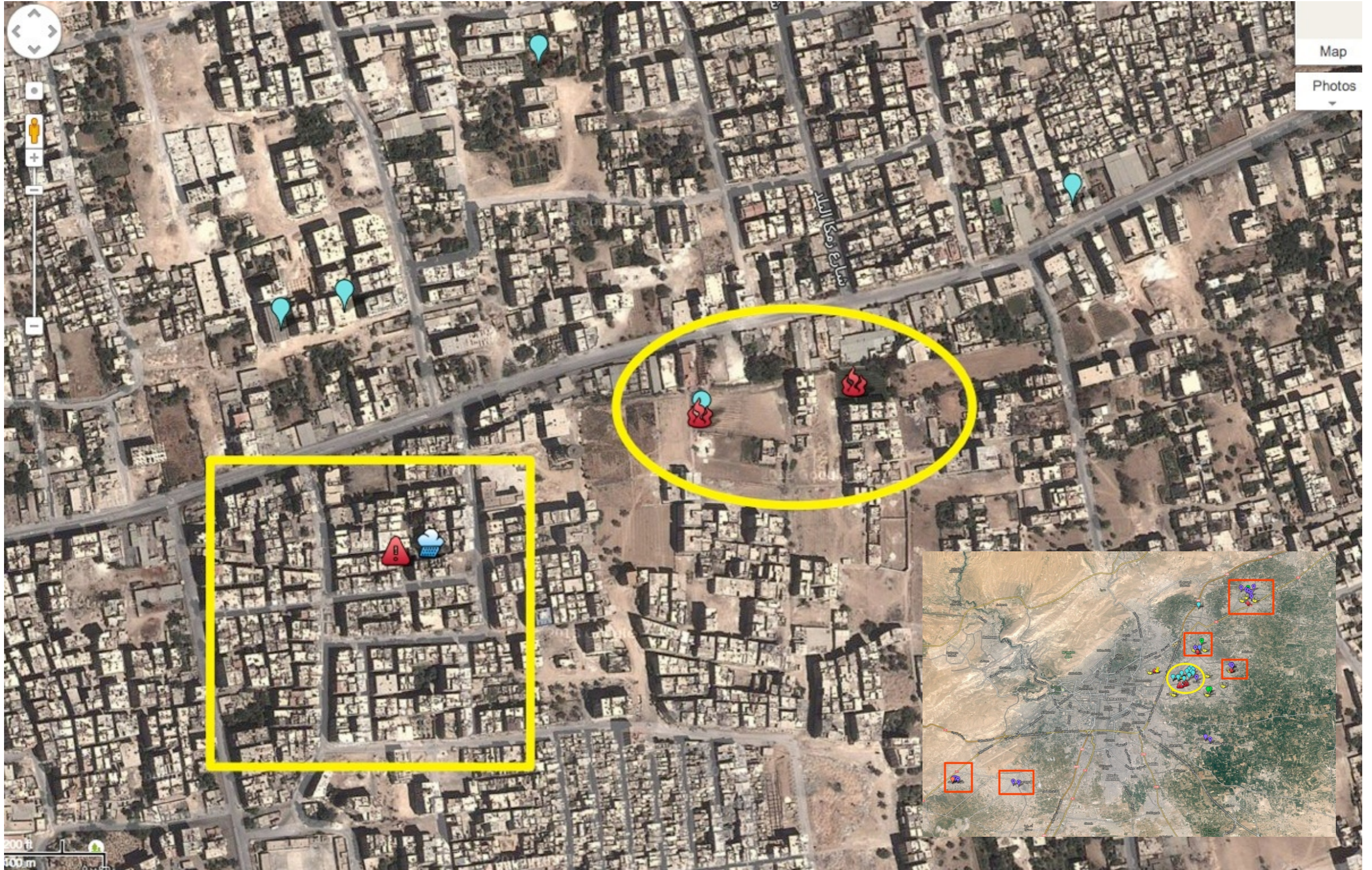






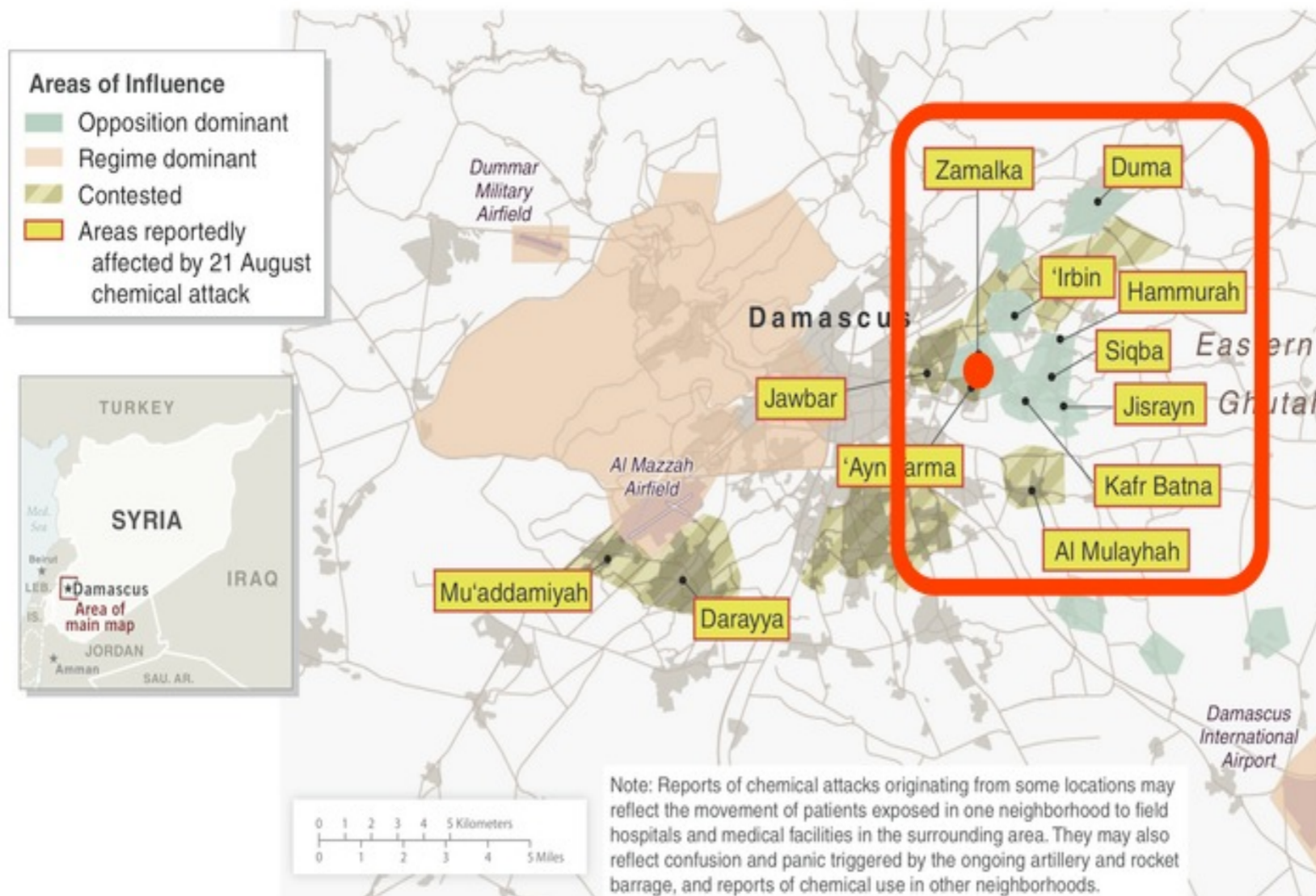








**Syria: Damascus Areas of Influence and Areas Reportedly Affected by 21 August Chemical Attack**



# PRINCIPLES

---

- There is always someone closer to the story (than you)
- Question basis of knowledge
- History, timestamps are your friends
- Linked online entities
- Leverage the “conversation”
- Automate for the win
- Google is your friend
- Know your platforms
- There is no such thing as “certainty”

# GUIDES/EXAMPLES (CLICK TEXT OR NUMBER)

---

*BBC & Co. — Cameroon*

*Forensic Architecture (Al Jinah Mosque)*

*Bellingcat (Werfalli Executions)*

*Air Wars (Civilian Harm)*

*JIT MH17 Investigation*

*NYT Visual Investigations*

*Bellingcat 1, 2, 3*

*KRO-NCRV 1 2*

*Digital Sherlocks 1*

*Julia BAYER 1*

*Julia BAYER 2*

*Daily Verification Quizzes*

*Geoguessr*

*Verification Handbook*

# A REMINDER ABOUT HUMILITY...

---

