



# Analysis Seminar

## Unraveling Secrets in Numbers: The German Tank Problem and Statistical Intelligence

By  
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**Abstract:** In the context of World War II, the German Tank Problem presents a unique challenge—estimating the total number of items in a population based on limited information. This predicament holds profound implications for military strategy, supply chain management, and beyond.

This seminar will dissect the intricacies of the German Tank Problem and its significance in statistical analysis. We will delve into the ingenious methods developed to deduce the total production of German tanks using captured serial numbers, illuminating the remarkable intersection of mathematics and wartime intelligence. The following figures underscore the success of statistical estimation compared to intelligence service predictions:

Month	Statistical estimate	Intelligence estimate	German records
June 1940	169	1000	122
June 1941	244	1550	271
August 1942	327	1550	342

**Date:** Wednesday, November 22, 2023

**Time:** 13:45 – 14:45

**Place:** Mathematics Seminar Room, SA – 141