Summary of "Reducing the Risks of Artificial Intelligence for Military Decision Advantage"

Militaries seek to harness artificial intelligence for decision advantage. Applications of AI will increasingly influence how political and military leaders perceive the strategic environment, weigh risks and options, and judge their adversaries. Yet AI introduces a new source of uncertainty in the likelihood and impacts of technical failures in AI systems. Such failures could interact with strategic and human factors in a crisis in ways that lead to miscalculation and escalation.

- Offensive operations incorporating or interfering with AI systems could result in unforeseen system failures and ripple effects, triggering **accidental escalation**.

- AI systems that are insecure, inadequately trained, or misapplied could undermine decision-making, leading to **inadvertent escalation**.

- Discovery of a compromise of an AI system could call into question the survivability of critical capabilities, leading to **deliberate escalation**.

There is no way to guarantee that a probabilistic AI system will behave exactly as intended. However, militaries can design both AI systems and the decision-making processes reliant upon them to reduce the likelihood, and contain the consequences, of AI failures. They can manage risks and provide assurances to the international community through a series of measures:

- Manage risks by **defining a set of required properties** for AI systems, **circumscribing the use of AI** in decision-making to preserve human judgment, and **involving senior decision-makers** in the development, testing, and evaluation processes for the systems that they will rely upon.

- Demonstrate assurances by **clarifying safeguards** on AI systems, **collaborating internationally** to develop mutually beneficial technical safeguards and best practices, and **committing to restraint** in the use of offensive operations incorporating or targeting AI systems.

For more information:

Download the report: https://cset.georgetown.edu/publication/reducing-the-risks-of-artificial-intelligence-for-military-decision-advantage/

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