



AI Warfare

AI systems are playing a key role in the Iran war. But the question that remains unanswered is who's to blame for mistakes.

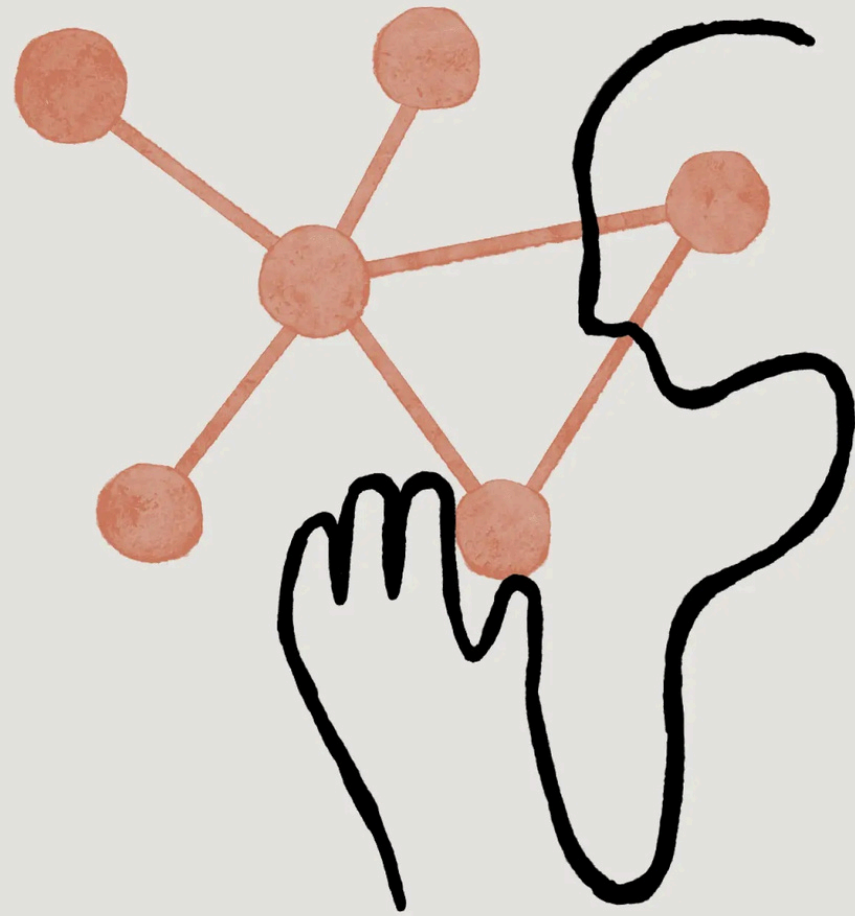
As an essay in The Guardian says, "...the most consequential targeting decisions in modern warfare are made by systems that cannot explain themselves, supplied by companies that answer to no one, in conflicts that generate no accountability and no reckoning. That is not a failure of the system. That is the system."

GPS Glitches

Intelligence experts believe Iran may have used a Chinese satellite navigation system rivalling GPS to target military assets in the Middle East.

On the other hand, UAE's public transport, delivery riders and commuters grappled with issues of scrambled satellite navigation systems during the Iran war amid GPS jamming to make access to navigation systems impossible and GPS spoofing to disguise sensitive locations.





Standoff

There was a months-long dispute between the US Department of Defense and Anthropic over use of Claude. Anthropic resisted Pentagon pressure to loosen safeguards, which prevent AI usage for mass domestic surveillance and fully autonomous lethal weapons without oversight. The US officially deemed Anthropic "a supply chain risk", and the AI company moved towards challenging the decision in court. Competitor OpenAI then entered into an agreement with the US military.

"Slopaganda"

There's also an AI-fuelled propaganda boom aka "slopaganda" driven by the Iran war. It refers to viral irreverent AI content and memes that are cheap to generate, easy to share and is trying to win the battle of perception. Case in point are the AI Lego videos that promote Iran's POV, while the US has Trump's AI images depicting himself as the Pope. Last year, the White House was using video game memes to recruit for ICE.





AI Poisoning

China's Ministry of State Security has highlighted "AI poisoning" as a threat. In such attacks, malicious data disguised as normal samples is injected into the AI model training data, weakening performance and reducing accuracy.

AI Defence Ecosystem

Ukraine is building an AI-driven defence ecosystem as over 200 companies are involved in developing drone technologies, its Defense Ministry said recently. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy recently spoke of how Ukraine had captured a Russian position using an unmanned robot ground force. The offensive was done using drones and a grid-based robotic system platform.



Plugging Loopholes

In 2025, Denmark launched an investigation after discovering that a Chinese supplier of electric buses had remote access for software updates and diagnostics to the vehicles' control systems. The security loophole enabled hundreds of Chinese-made electric buses to be remotely deactivated.

