Abstract
We are entering the brave new world of the so-called Generative AI, where AI systems like DALL-E, Whisper and ChatGPT can convincingly imagine the sights, sounds and words of worlds that never quite existed or imagined by us. On one hand, these technologies can herald a Cambrian explosion in creativity--raw artistic and literary talents will no longer limit anyone's ability to weave rich virtual worlds. On the other hand, the easy creation of alternate realities can upset our current societal order--bringing severe disruption to our ability to judge truth, provenance and ownership. I will describe the origins and the status of this rapidly evolving technology and discuss some of its many implications.

This talk should be accessible to people with a variety of backgrounds.

Bio
Subbarao Kambhampati is a professor of computer science at Arizona State University. Kambhampati studies fundamental problems in planning and decision making, motivated in particular by the challenges of human-aware AI systems. He is a fellow of Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Association for Computing machinery, and was an NSF Young Investigator. He served as the president of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, a trustee of the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, the chair of AAAS Section T (Information, Communication and Computation), and a founding board member of Partnership on AI. Kambhampati’s research as well as his views on the progress and societal impacts of AI have been featured in multiple national and international media outlets. He can be followed on @rao2z.