

GenAI Usage in Programming Assignments

1 message

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GenAI Usage in Programming Assignments

Put your thoughts/experiences regarding GenAI usage in solving programming assignments

Your email (ns25z022@smail.iitm.ac.in) was recorded when you submitted this form.

Email ID *

ns25z022@smail.iitm.ac.in

What is the size (LOC) of the largest programming project that you have done so far in life? *

- ☐ < 1000 LOC
- ☐ 1000 - 5000 LOC
- ☐ 5000 - 10000 LOC
- ☒ > 10000 LOC

On average GenAI is able to help you with what fraction of your programming assignments? *

1 2 3 4 5

You do not use it ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ Completely

What tool(s) you prefer using? (e.g., ChatGPT, Perplexity etc.) *

Copilot, ChatGPT

Do you pay for these tools? Which ones? *

I don't pay

You use GenAI to: *

- ☐ Learn about the background required to solve the assignment
- ☐ Write code snippets/functions after writing a skeleton code yourself
- ☒ Mostly useful for debugging code
- ☐ Write entire code for you

Do you cross check the code generated whether it makes sense semantically? (apart from trivial warnings or compilation issues) *

- ☒ Yes, completely
- ☐ Yes, minimally
- ☐ No! I believe in GenAI more than myself

Are you comfortable using GenAI code as long as it works, even if you do not understand the syntax or logic? *

- ☐ Yes, completely
- ☐ Yes, mostly to get things done
- ☒ Not often
- ☐ Absolutely not!

Given that you have access to GenAI, do you start assignments late compared to the time you would have started without such tools? *

- ☒ No
- ☐ Somewhat late
- ☐ Yes, very late

How long did you take to write a working code for the current assignments (problem 1 and problem 2)? *

For problem 1, 8-10 Hours and for problem 2, approximately 10-12 hours

Do you think that your coding skills are getting weaker due to excessive use of GenAI tools? *

- ☒ Yes, very much
- ☐ Yes, moderately so
- ☐ No, not much
- ☐ Absolutely not

Apart from all the good that GenAI tools have to offer, how do you think it is harming you intellectually? What all skills are getting impacted? *

It majorly affects the problem solving ability. Instead spending time and coming up with a solution, people rely on GenAI to give them an easy way out.

Another one is memory based things, even basic syntax is forgotten sometimes. Some general snippets of code that should be on our fingertips is also not taken seriously, eg: DFS, BFS etc.

Can you suggest a way how GenAI can be integrated to your curriculum, in particular for programming assignments? How should professors and students make the best use of it?

First and the best thing to do is viva

another thing is to tell students to document all concepts for which GenAI was used

Students should be told to make some changes in the code during the viva to test the understanding.

It should be demonstrated in some way that someone with a better knowledge of what goes on in the background of code/frequently used libraries can use these tools better. A random person cannot code better than CS students even with all the GenAI powers.

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