GenAI Usage in Programming Assignments
1 message

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

Your email (**cs22b008@smail.iitm.ac.in**) was recorded when you submitted this form.

Email ID *

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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.) *

ChatGPT, Perplexity Pro

Do you pay for these tools? Which ones? *

No

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)? *

q1 -> 8 hours, q2 -> 4 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? *

Negative impacts: lack of knowledge about syntax, laziness to code even simple things also happens sometimes. Sometimes debugging becomes frustrating if we try to debug large codes generated by GenAI.

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?

Teach students the basic syntax of commands, and then let them be comfortable with writing a skeletal code. Feed this code into a model and obtain completed code. Then students should develop habit of explaining what each code snippet does, and learn to debug. This way, even professors can ensure students are upto date with what they're coding. Also, this enables students to focus more on the ideation part - so they can come up with large modular codes. Maybe professors can even make larger assignments for the same.