Human vs Machine Hands-on

Contents

In this lab, you'll explore different ways of collaborating with AI while solving a coding challenge.

Ways of Working

Choose one of the following collaboration modes:

Slave of the Machine (Full AI-Controlled)

You are not allowed to write any code yourself. You may only give instructions to the AI, and the AI must generate all code.

You may provide code examples, but only as guidance to the AI.

Human in Control (Limited AI Assistance)

You may use AI, but only through copy-paste interactions, and only for:

- Setting up scaffolding or boilerplate to get started quickly
- Converting tests from the `KATA.md` into executable code

Cooperation (Human + AI Partnership)

You can use AI freely in any way you like. Try to leverage it as much as possible while still contributing actively yourself.

Goal of the Workshop

Learn to evaluate, experience, and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using AI for coding.

Preparation

Before the workshop:

- Set up a project in your preferred language, including unit test support.
- Form a group and select your way of working.
- Continue reading the instructions below.

Workshop Instructions

Each group will implement the challenge described in `KATA.md`.

Keep the following in mind:

- The kata is intentionally challenging.
- You probably won't complete it — you might not even get close — and that's totally fine. Focus on learning, not finishing.
- Throughout the session, I'll pause you at times to reflect, ask questions, and discuss.
- At the end, we'll wrap up and reflect on what we've learned.
- I may ask a few participants to share their code with the group.

Summary of Rules

Mode	Can You Write Code?	How Can AI Be Used?
Slave of the Machine	No — only instructions to AI	AI writes all code
Human in Control	Yes	Limited AI use: scaffolding, test transformation
Cooperation	Yes	Use AI in any way — as much as possible