

OSGeo Survey on Large Language Models

Who Else ²

1st of September, 2026

Motivation

Why?

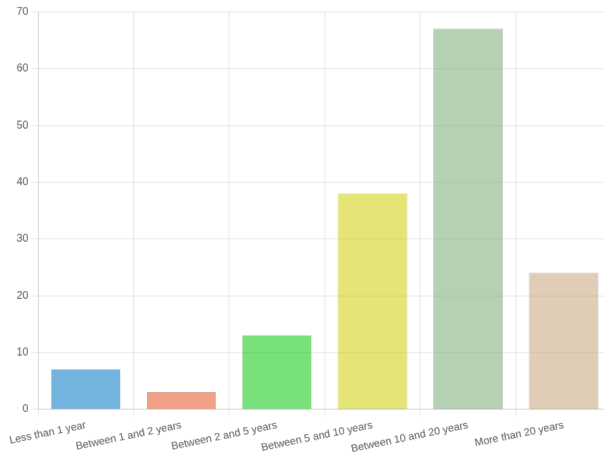
- Online discussion heating up:
 - LLM contributions forbidden or greatly curtailed;
 - Surge of low quality contributions and bug reports;
 - Push from (comercial) source forges.
- Copyright quagmire.
- Software is now a heavily-regulated industry:
 - CRA, NIS2, DSA, AIA, ...;
 - EU legislation usually leads other jurisdictions (e.g. GDPR);
 - Two years ago hardly anything was in place.

Goals

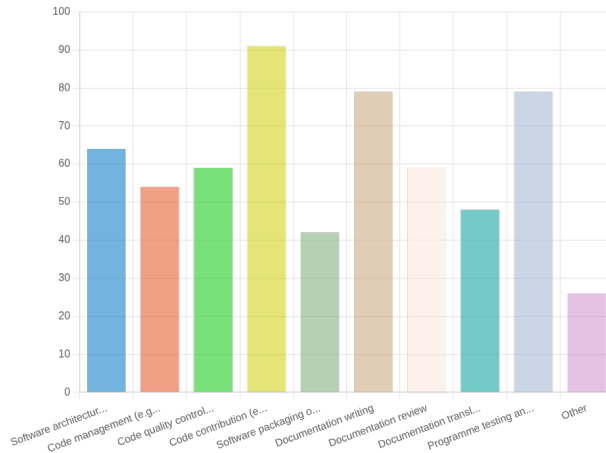
- Understand if/how charter members use LLMs.
- What impact do they have on charter members' work?
- What is the impact on OSGeo projects?
- How are OSGeo projects adapting/reacting to LLMs?

Respondents profile

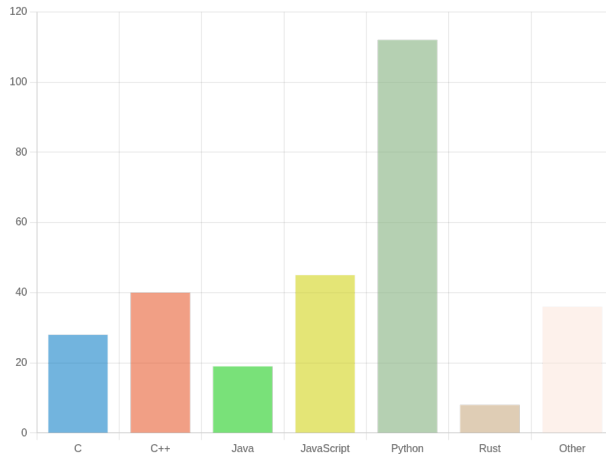
For how long have you contributed to OSGeo projects?



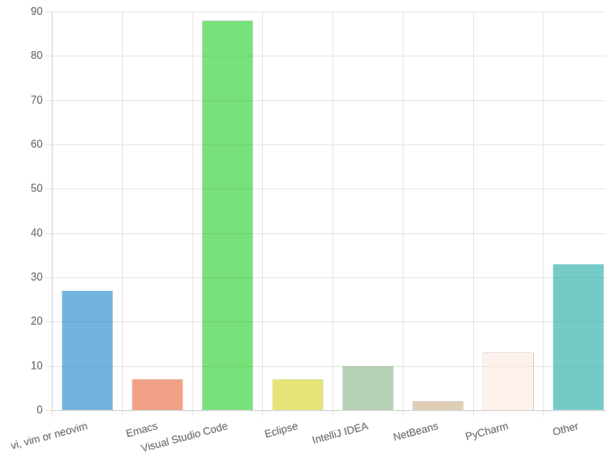
Which activities do you perform in OSGeo projects?



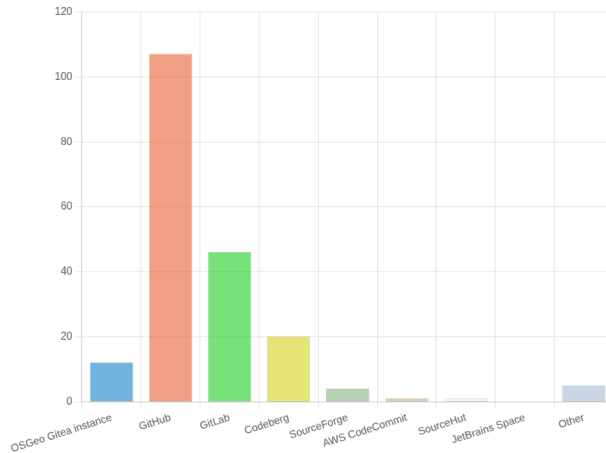
On which programming languages do you work?



Which IDE (Integrated Development Environment) do you use?

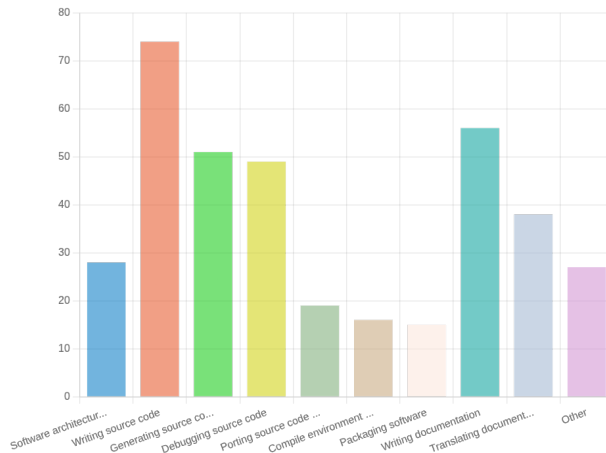


With which code forges do you work?

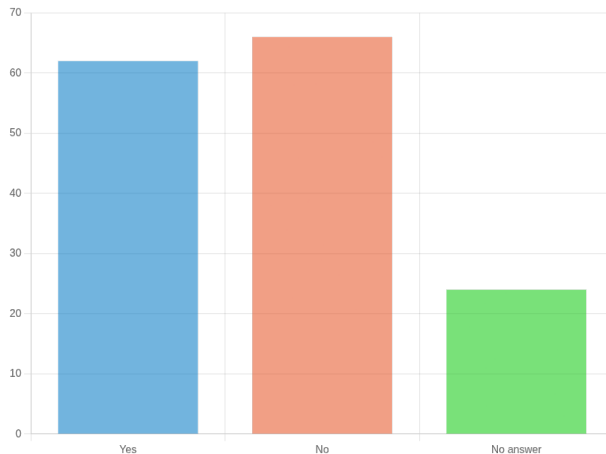


LLMs in individual work

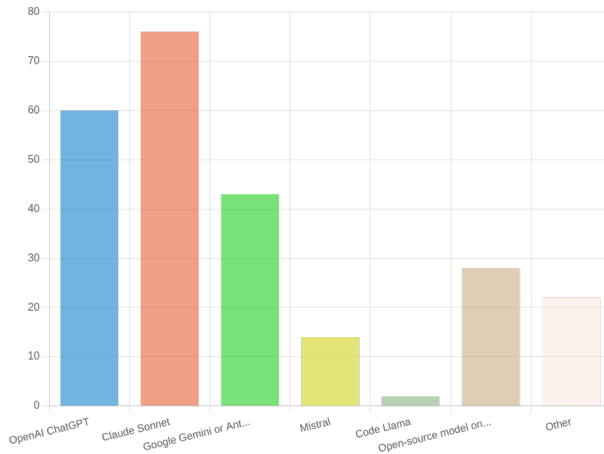
Do you use LLMs to aid you when contributing to OSGeo projects? On which tasks?



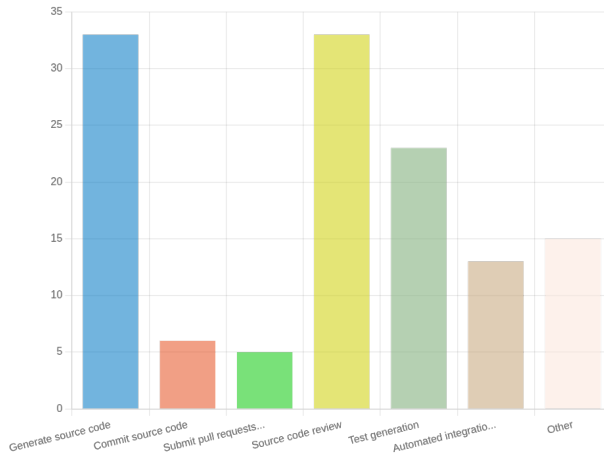
Do you use a LLM integrated with your IDE (Integrated Development Environment)?



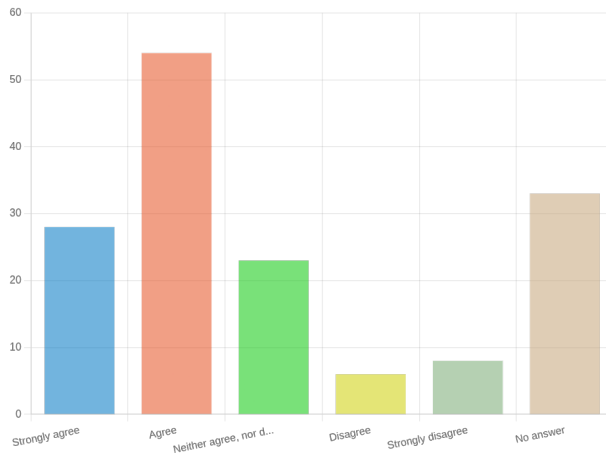
Which LLM providers do you use in your work?



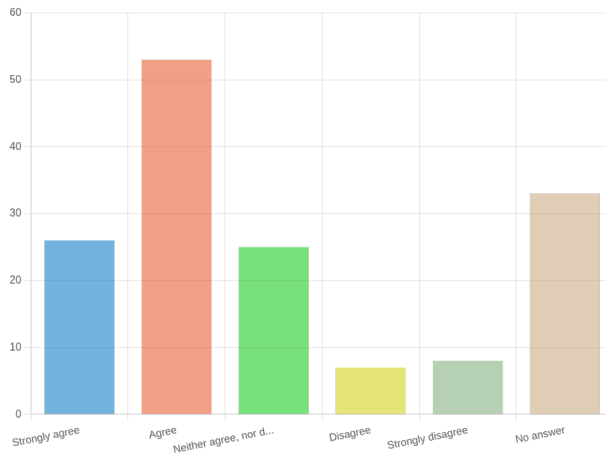
Do you use a code forge integrated LLM? For which tasks?



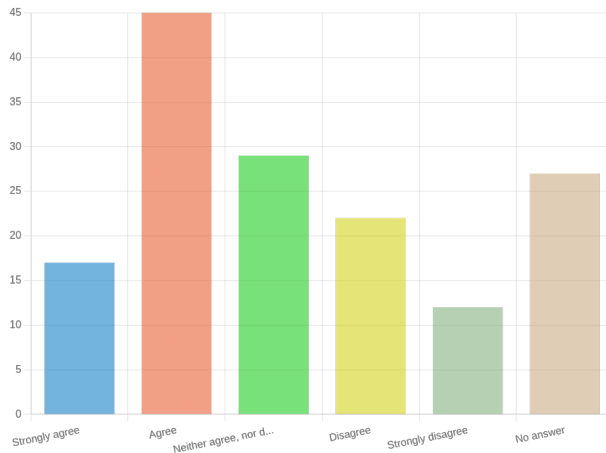
If you are a programmer, would you say LLMs have increased your coding productivity?



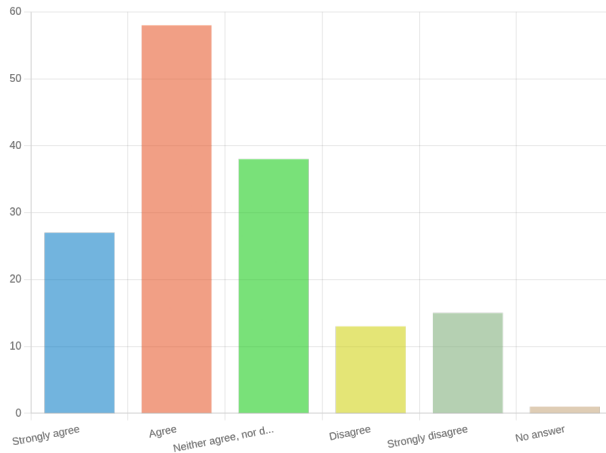
If you are a programmer, would you say LLMs have made debugging easier?



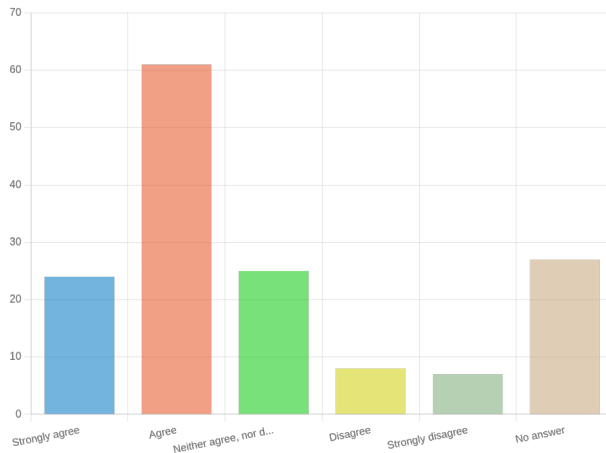
Would you say LLMs have made understanding code created by other person easier to understand?



Would you say LLMs have made code documentation easier to produce?

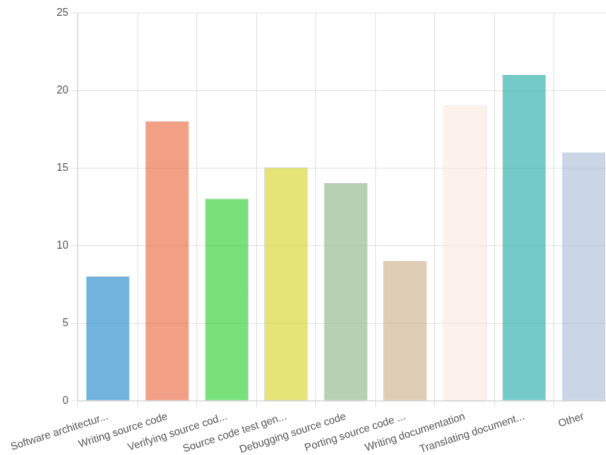


Overall, would you say LLMs have had a positive impact on your personal productivity in the context of OSGeo projects?

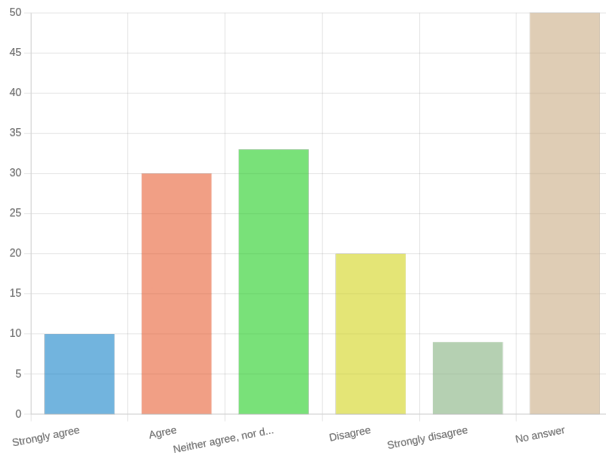


LLMs and OSGeo Projects

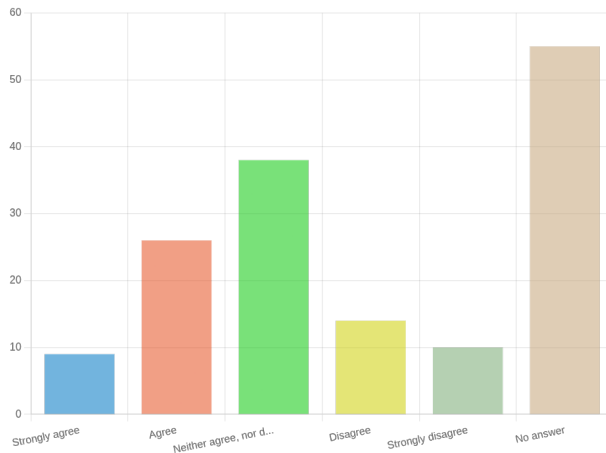
Has any of the OSGeo projects you are involved throughly adopted LLMs to automate maintenance and development?



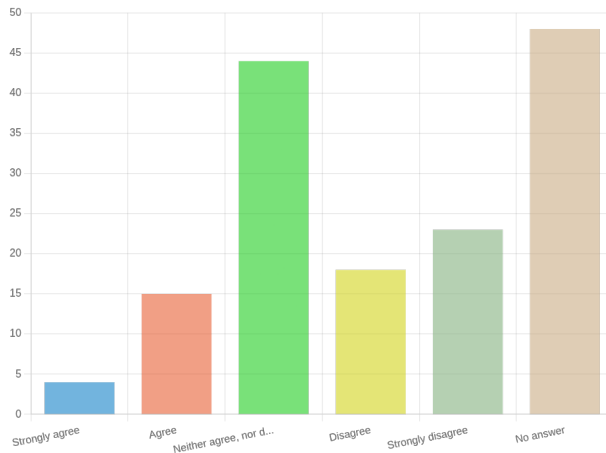
Would you say LLMs have increased productivity in the OSGeo projects you are involved in?



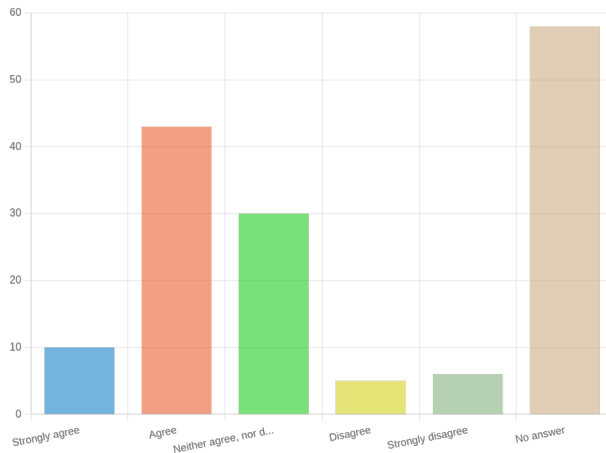
Would you say LLMs have improved the documentation process in the OSGeo projects you are involved in?



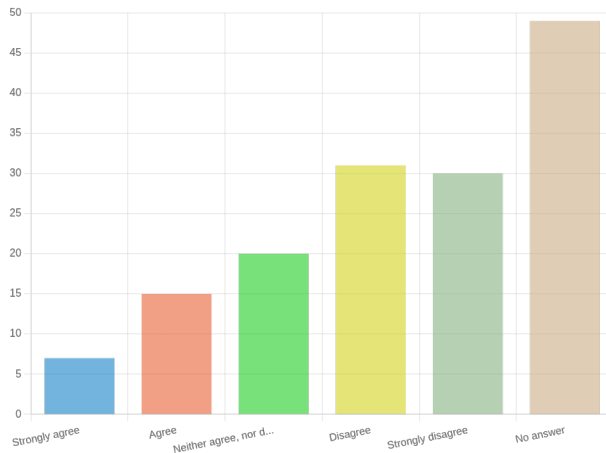
Would you say LLMs have increased the quality of source code submitted to the OSGeo projects you are involved in?



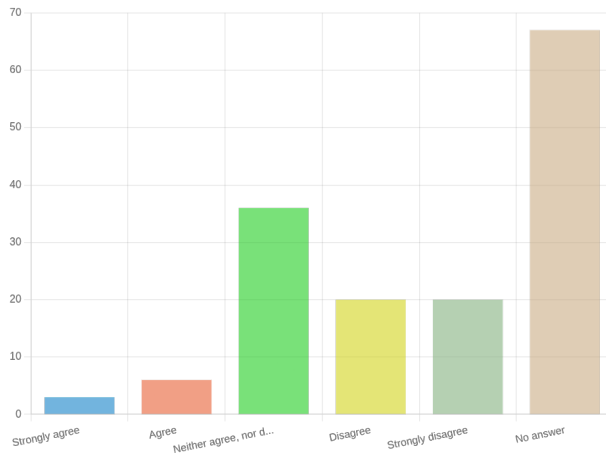
Would you say LLMs have made it easier to find security vulnerabilities in the OSGeo projects you are involved with?



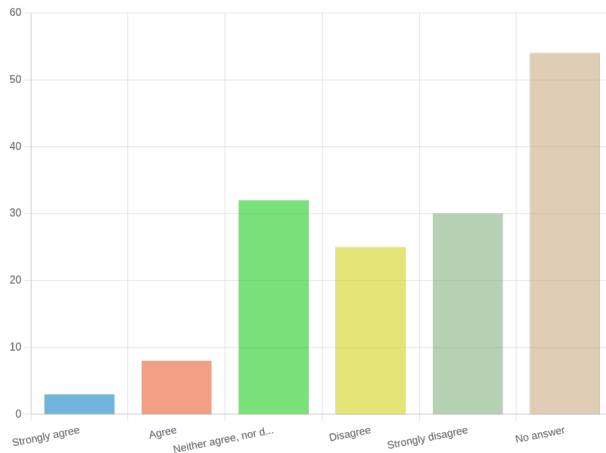
So far, would you say LLMs reduced the burden of contributions review in the OSGeo projects you are involved with?



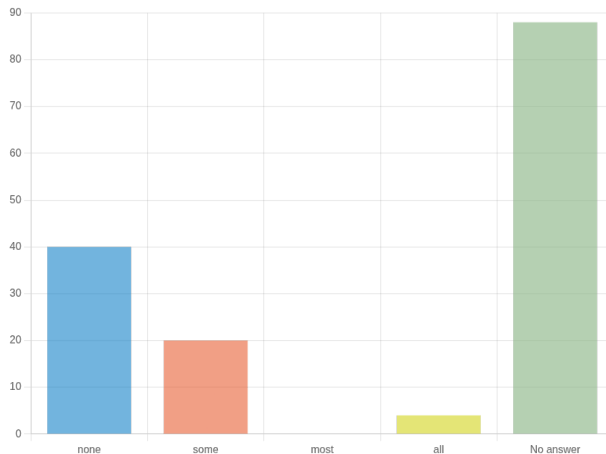
Would you agree that LLMs have improved the legal compliance (e.g Cyber-Resilience Act) in the OSGeo projects you contribute to?



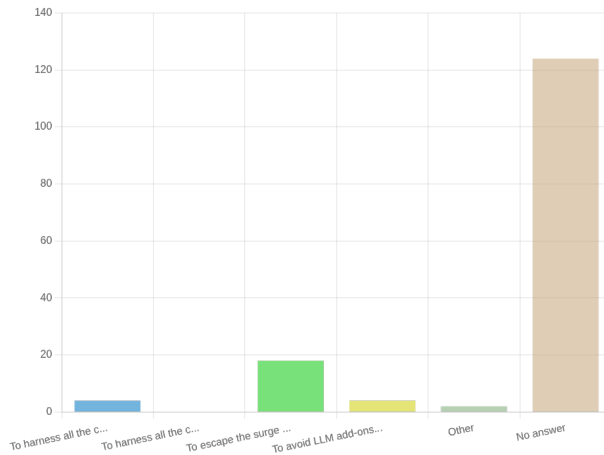
Would you agree that LLMs have helped addressing concerns regarding Copyright and Licence compatibility?



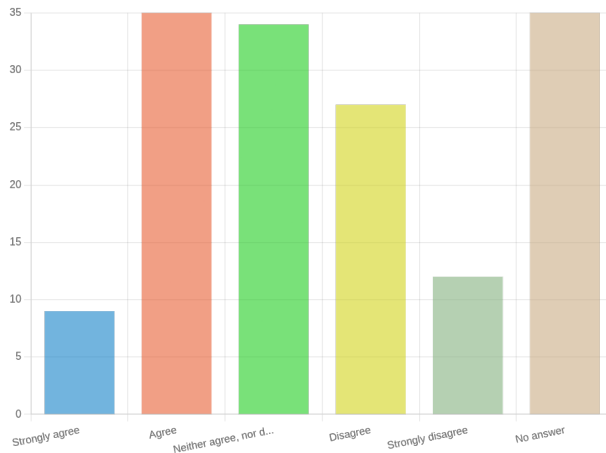
Has the emergence of LLMs lead any of the OSGeo projects you are involved in to consider moving to a different code forge?



If you answered positively to the previous question (considering moving projects to a different code forge), what are the reasons?



Overall, would you say LLMs have had a positive impact on the OSGeo projects you contribute to?



Conclusions

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- Individually a positive attitude towards LLMs:
 - increase in productivity
 - debugging
 - documentation
 - used in all development/maintenance tasks
- However, more nuanced perception on Projects:
 - unclear impact on productivity and documentation
 - degraded source code quality
 - increased burden on code reviewers
 - Copyright
- Where LLMs clearly help within Projects:
 - automation of development/maintenance tasks
 - identifying vulnerabilities
 - documentation (slightly)
- Legal matters possibly not yet fully understood.



Thank you!

cro@osgeo.org