

Highlights from the roundtable discussion, August 2025

7 findings on AI in software development

The 5-10% Power User Phenomenon

Only 5-10% have become AI power users, while the majority either underutilize or avoid tools altogether

Junior Developer Paradox

Juniors are more open to AI but risk skipping foundational learning, while seniors resist but gain the most when they adopt

Code generation is only 1/3 of AI productivity gains

Most think AI's value is generating code, but debugging and quality analysis matter more

Example: Shopify's Radical AI Culture

Shopify's radical AI culture move: "Every new feature must include AI in some way" - from nice-to-have to mandatory

Transparency Beats Performance

Users want to see what AI is doing - transparency increases trust more than perfect results

The Wrong Tool Problem

Companies misuse GenAI tools where deterministic logic is needed - knowing when NOT to use AI matters

Post-Bubble Transformation

The bubble may burst, but what follows will be transformative" - like a web boom, hype fades, but structural changes remain

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