



Stop Generating AI PRs

Build a Career by Solving Open Source
Problems with FOSSASIA



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AI Changed the Game

AI can generate:



Code



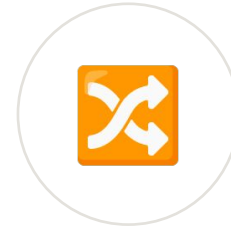
Tests



Documentation



Refactoring

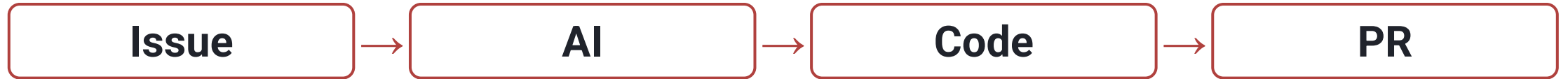


Pull Requests

What becomes valuable when everyone can generate code?

The Problem With AI PRs

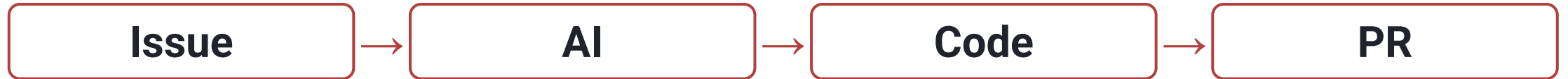
Bad workflow



- ✗ Doesn't solve the actual problem
- ✗ Too many unnecessary changes
- ✗ Doesn't follow project conventions
- ✗ Poorly tested
- ✗ More work for maintainers

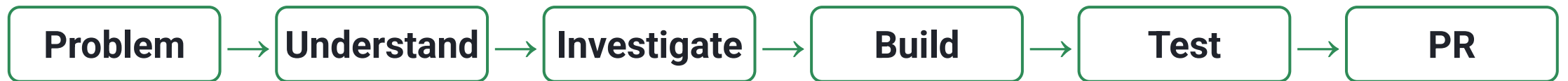
The Problem With AI PRs

Bad workflow

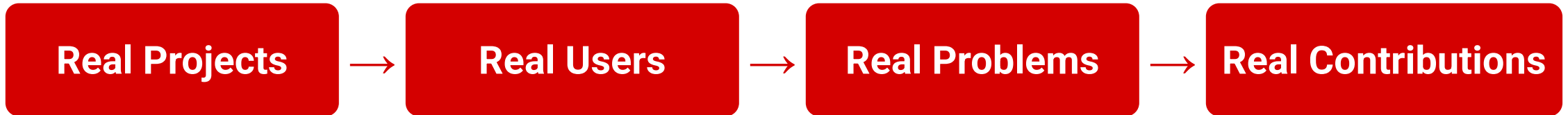


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Good workflow



Open Source Is a Place to Learn by Doing



About FOSSASIA

6,800+

GitHub Members

Google Summer of Code
(GSoC) mentoring
organization since 2012

30+

Pull Requests Daily

900+ pull requests in the last
30 days, with over 70%
merged

274K+

GitHub Stars

Across 187 public
repositories



Top organizations in India among top 256 active Github contributors

committers.top



Organizations

Rank	Organization	Members
1.	fossasia	19
2.	eddiehubcommunity	15
3.	design-and-code	8
4.	github-craftwork	7
5.	nvidiagameworks	7
6.	collective	6
7.	hackclub	6
8.	devs-dungeon	6
9.	fnplus	5
10.	webxdao	5

Where to Start: FOSSASIA Projects



Eventyay

Event platform



Visdom

AI Visualization
tools



Scrum Helper

Dev workflow
extension



LED badges

Open hardware



ePaper badges

Low-power
displays



Flutter apps

Mobile



Voxbento

Multilingual AI tech



Loungemesh

Spatial video collab

AI Is a Tool, Not Your Developer

AI can help you:



Understand

Explain unfamiliar
code



Explore

Compare possible
solutions



Build

Generate
implementation



Test

Create test cases

But: You own the decision.

Project Context for AI: AGENTS.md



FOSSASIA projects ship an AGENTS.md alongside contribution guides — conventions, test commands, and architectural context written for AI tools, not just humans.

The result: AI-assisted changes that actually match the codebase's conventions, instead of generic, out-of-place code.

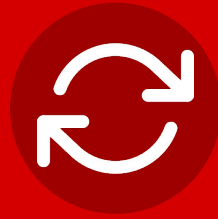
```
AGENTS.md

# Project context for AI agents

setup: pip install -r requirements.txt
test:  pytest tests/ -v
lint:  ruff check .

conventions:
  - follow existing service-layer pattern
  - all endpoints need integration tests
  - update CHANGELOG.md for user-facing changes

scope: keep PRs focused on one issue
```



AI isn't the problem.

Low-effort use of it is.

Using AI with enough project understanding to deliver focused,
tested, useful work.



Two Ways to Use AI on the Same Issue

Low-effort AI PR

- Whole feature generated from the issue title alone
- No tests, or tests that only assert the mock
- PR description is a summary of the diff, not the reasoning
- Contributor can't answer review questions about their own code

Focused, tested contribution

- Scoped to one issue, using AGENTS.md conventions
- AI drafts, contributor reviews and tightens the diff
- Tests cover the actual behavior change
- PR description explains the "why," not just the "what"

What Maintainers Actually Look For



Technical judgment

Can you make a reasonable call when the docs don't cover it?



Independence

Can you move a task forward without hand-holding?



Reliability

Do you follow through, or does the PR go stale after review comments?



Useful contribution

Does this change genuinely reduce work for the next person?

The Pathway

From first issue to paid work



Contributors who show judgment, independence, and reliability on real FOSSASIA projects build a track record maintainers vouch for.



Your First Contribution

- 1 Choose ONE project
- 2 Read the documentation
- 3 Set it up
- 4 Find a small problem
- 5 Reproduce it
- 6 Understand it
- 7 Use AI
- 8 Test
- 9 Submit

Start small. Finish something.



Key Takeaways



Identify and solve real problems, not invented ones



Use AI responsibly — without creating maintainer overhead



Project context (AGENTS.md) makes AI-assisted work useful



Maintainers reward judgment, independence, and reliability



A good open source track record is a career pathway



Start Today

Pick one FOSSASIA project. Check the README or CONTRIBUTING.md. Set it up locally. Find one well-scoped issue. Open a pull request.



`github.com/fossasia`

foss
asia

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