

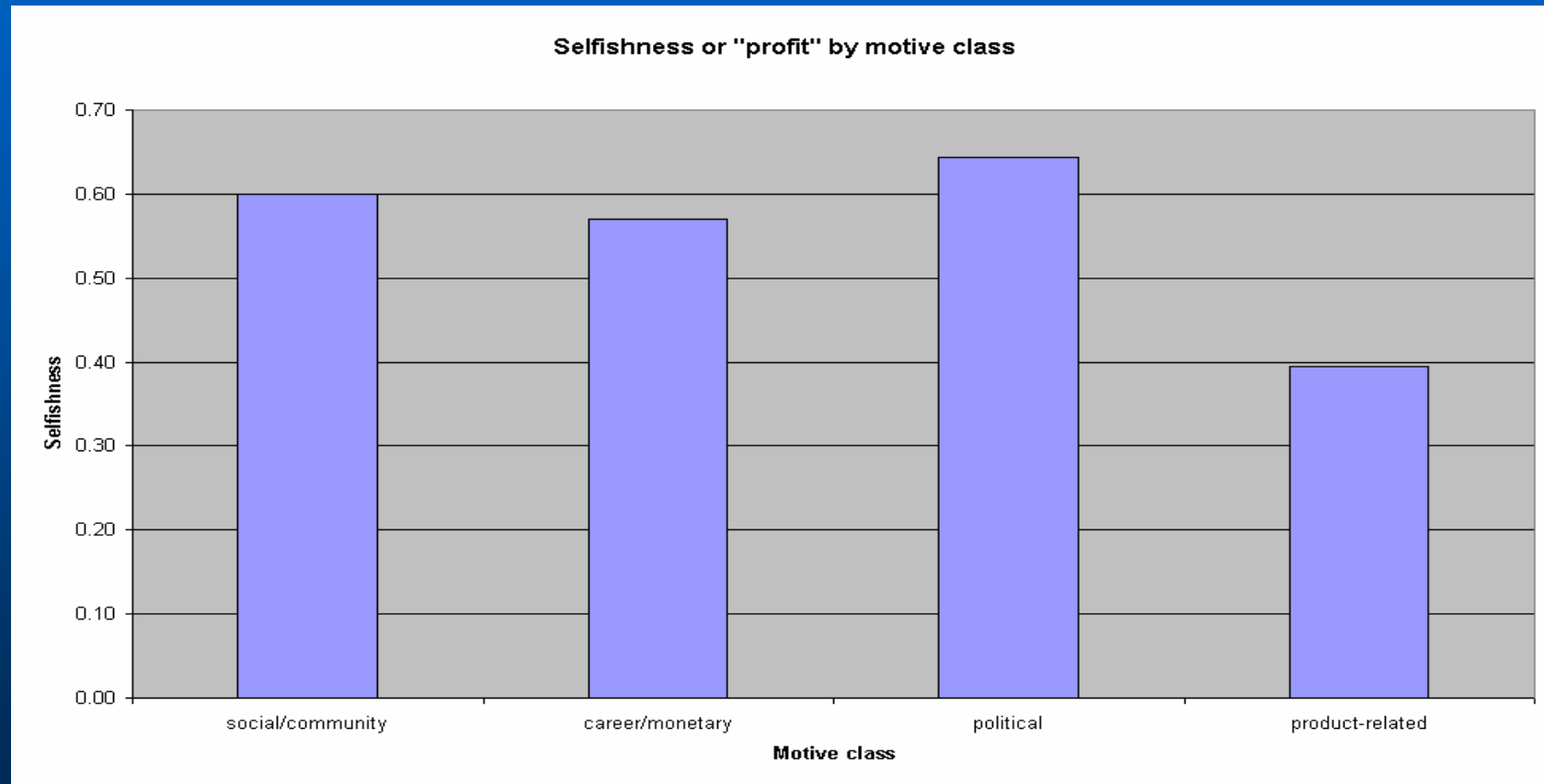
Understanding Free Software Developers: Findings from the FLOSS Study

Rishab Aiyer Ghosh

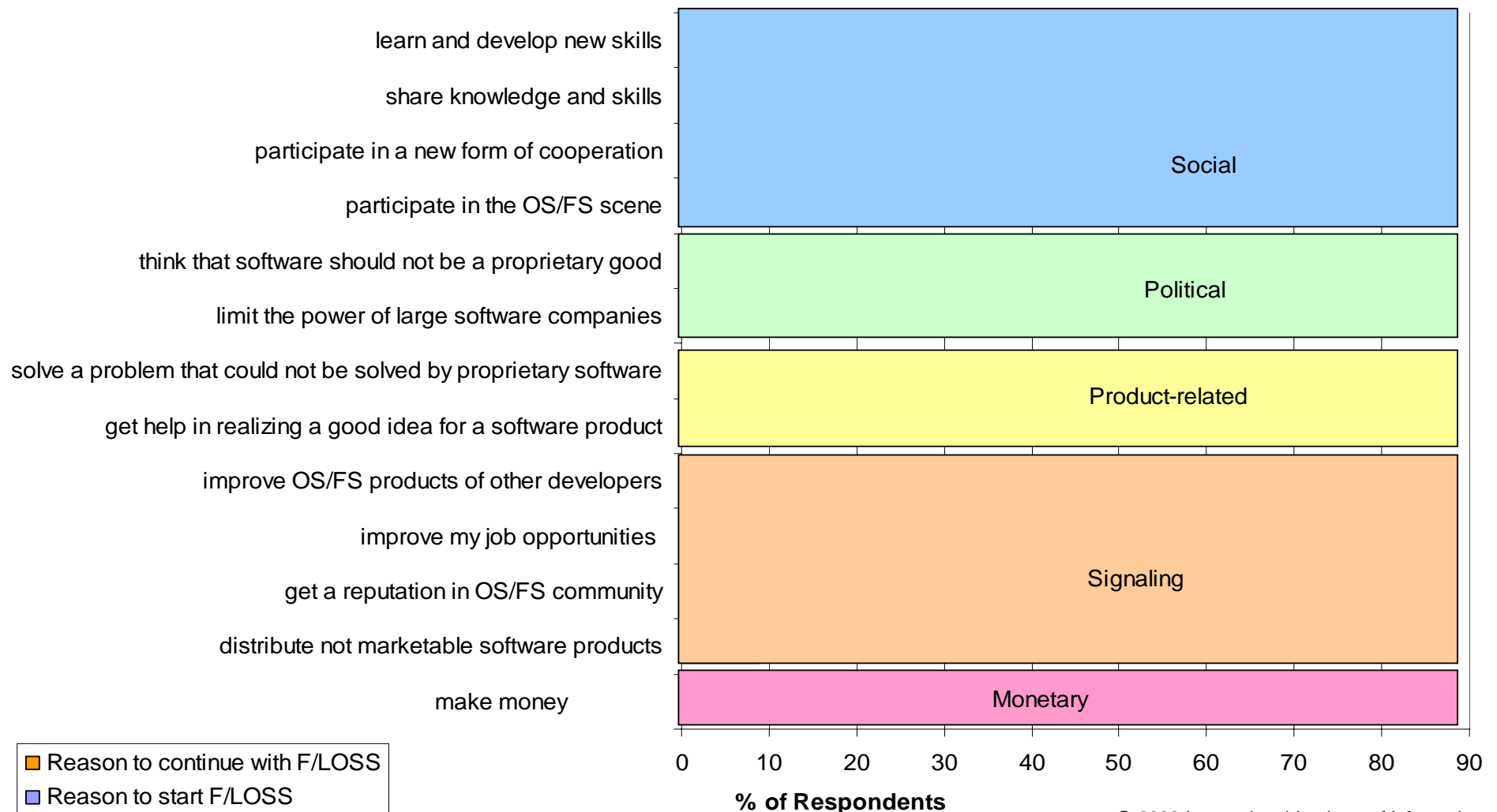
HBS/MIT conference, June 19, 2003

MERIT/Infonomics, University of Maastricht

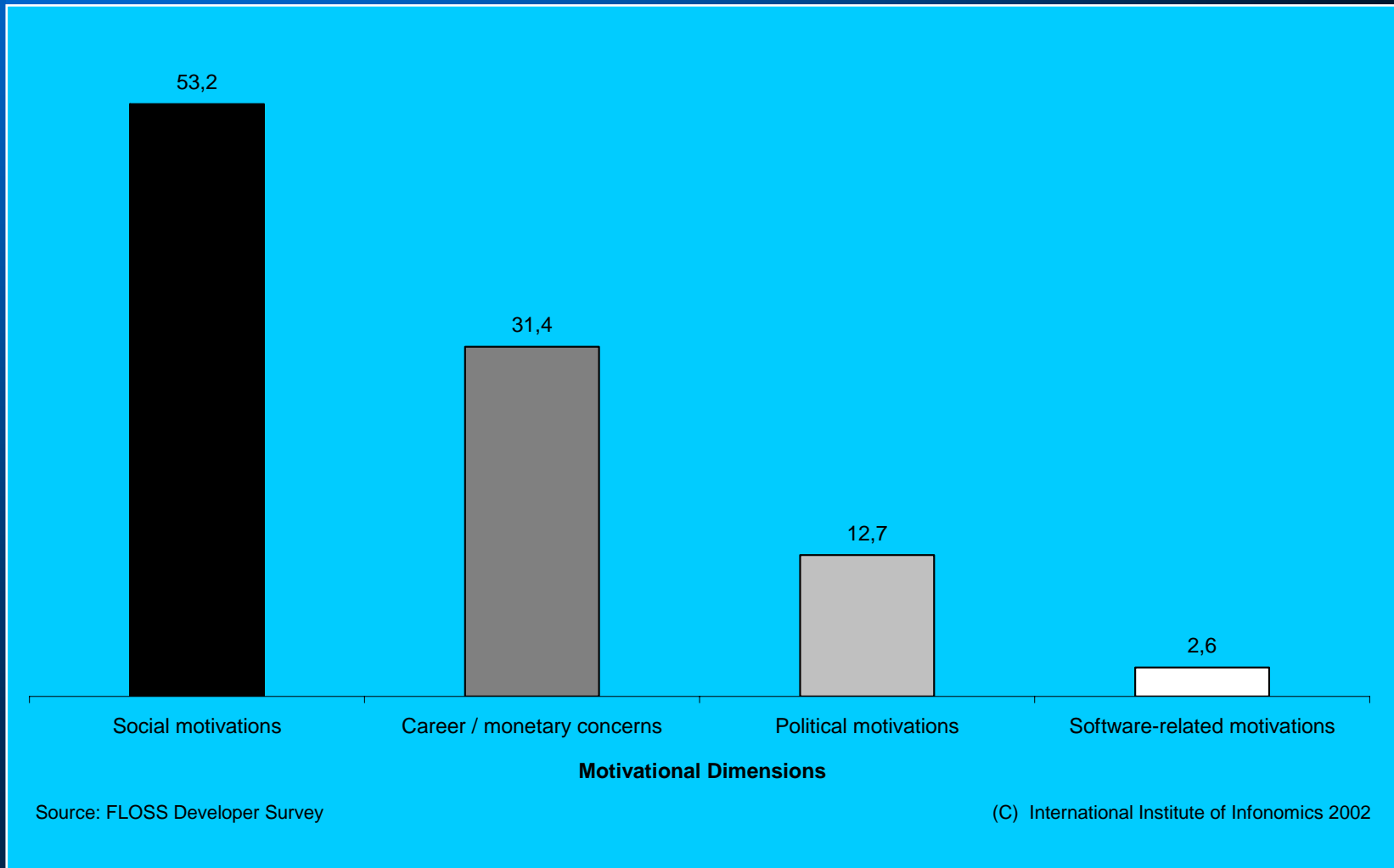
Altruism? Not really



Reasons to start and to continue FLOSS development



Types of motives



Monetary motives

“Do you earn money from [FLOSS], directly or indirectly?”

% of Respondents



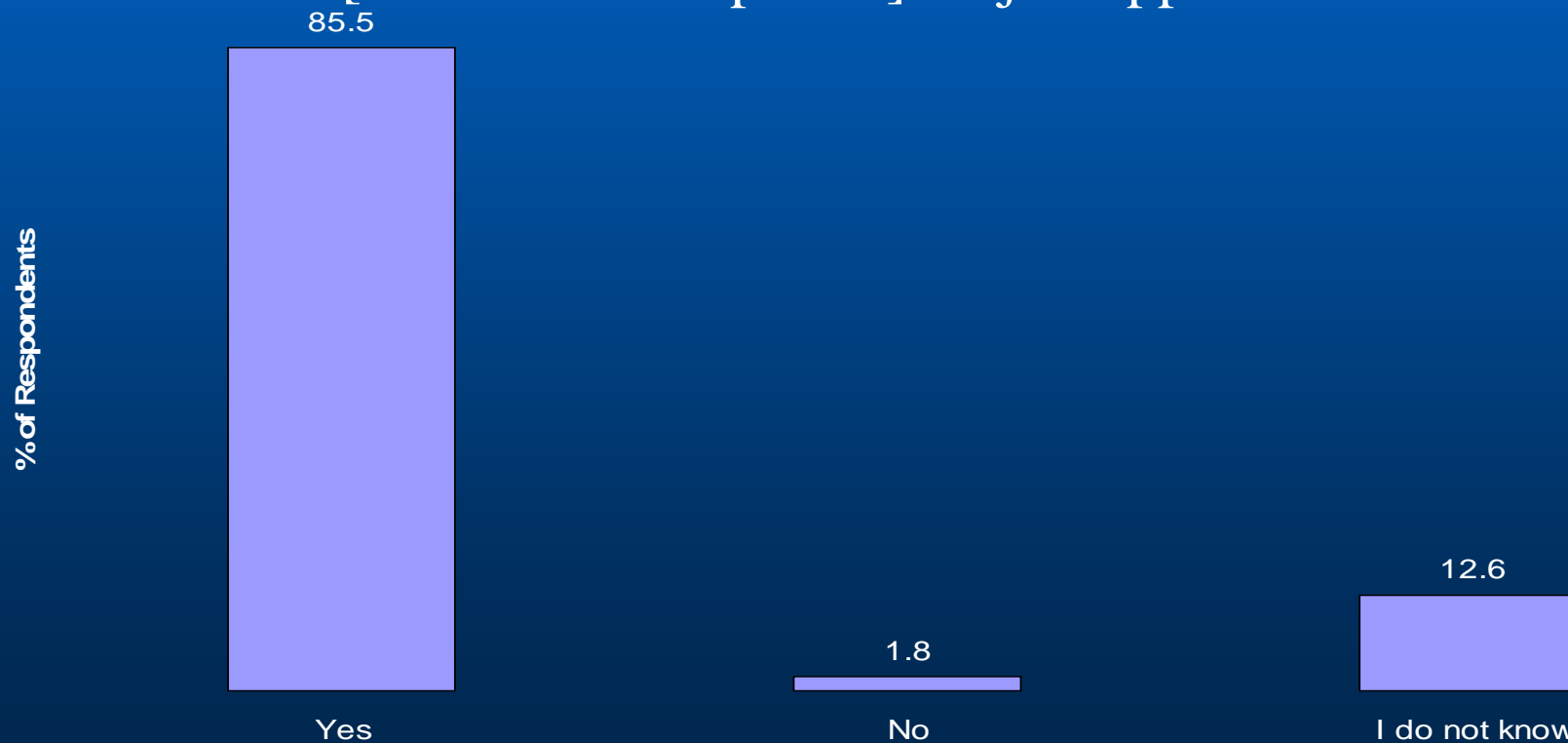
Monetary motives

"To make money is a ...

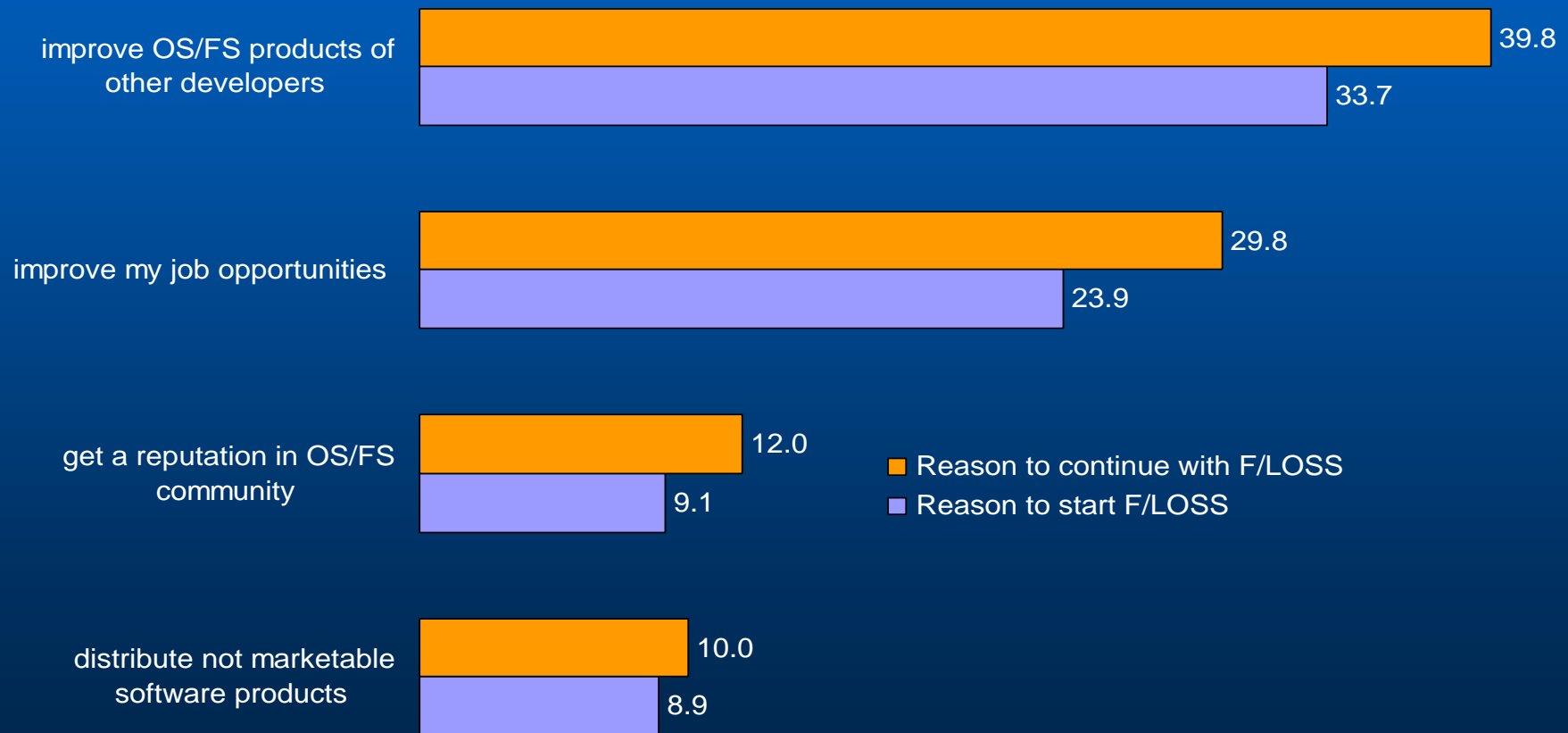


Signalling Effects

“Do you think there is a positive impact of experience in [FLOSS development] on job opportunities?”



Signalling Effects



% of Respondents

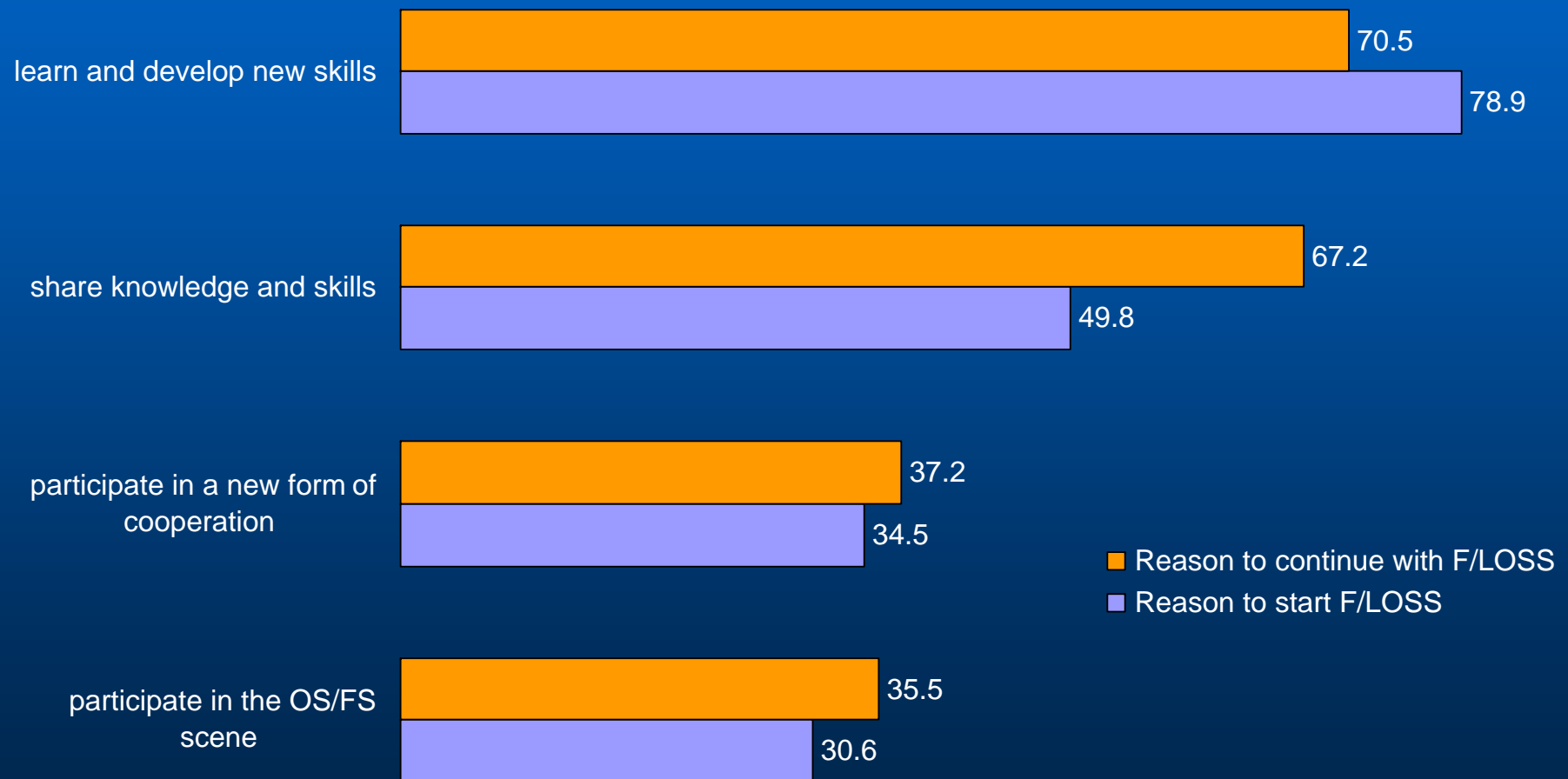
Expectations of other developers

"What Do You Expect from Other OS/FS Developers?"



% of Respondents

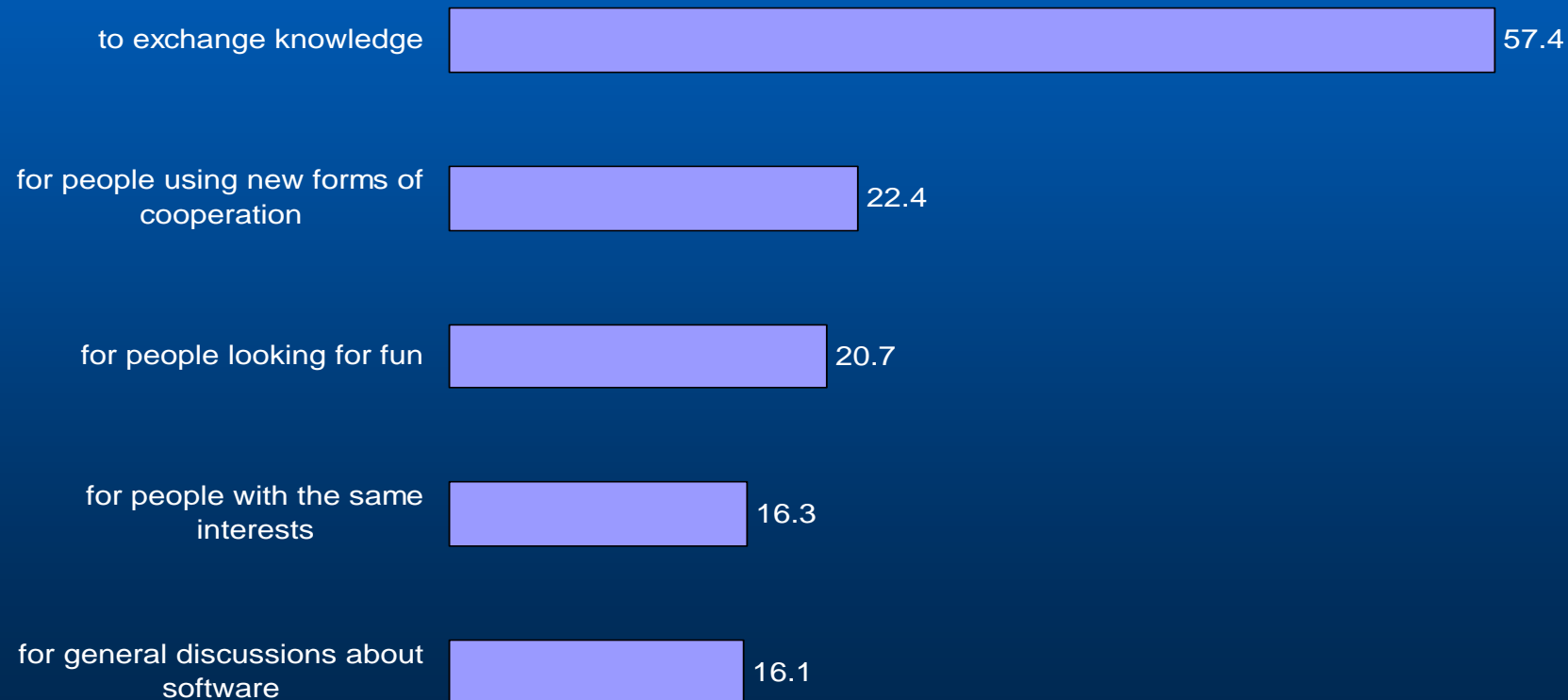
Social Motivations



% of Respondents

Social Functions of the FLOSS Community

“FLOSS Community is a Forum...”



% of Respondents

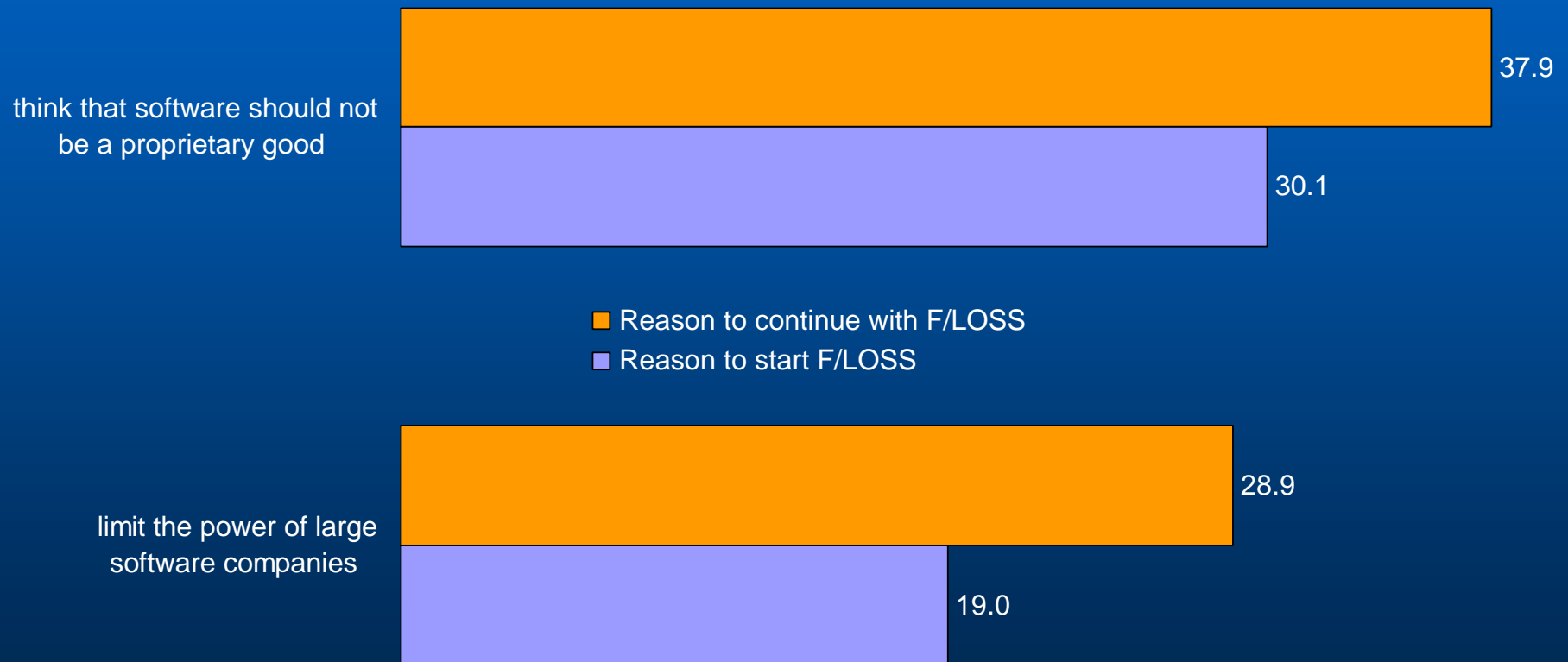
Expectations of other developers

"What Do You Expect from Other OS/FS Developers?"



% of Respondents

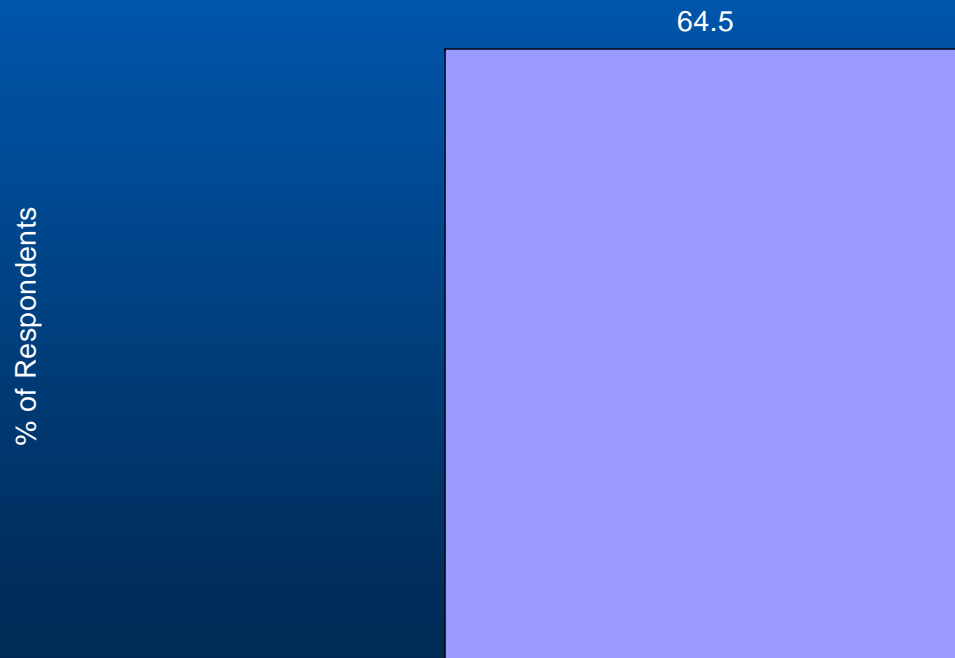
Political Motivations



% of Respondents

Politics as a function of the FLOSS community

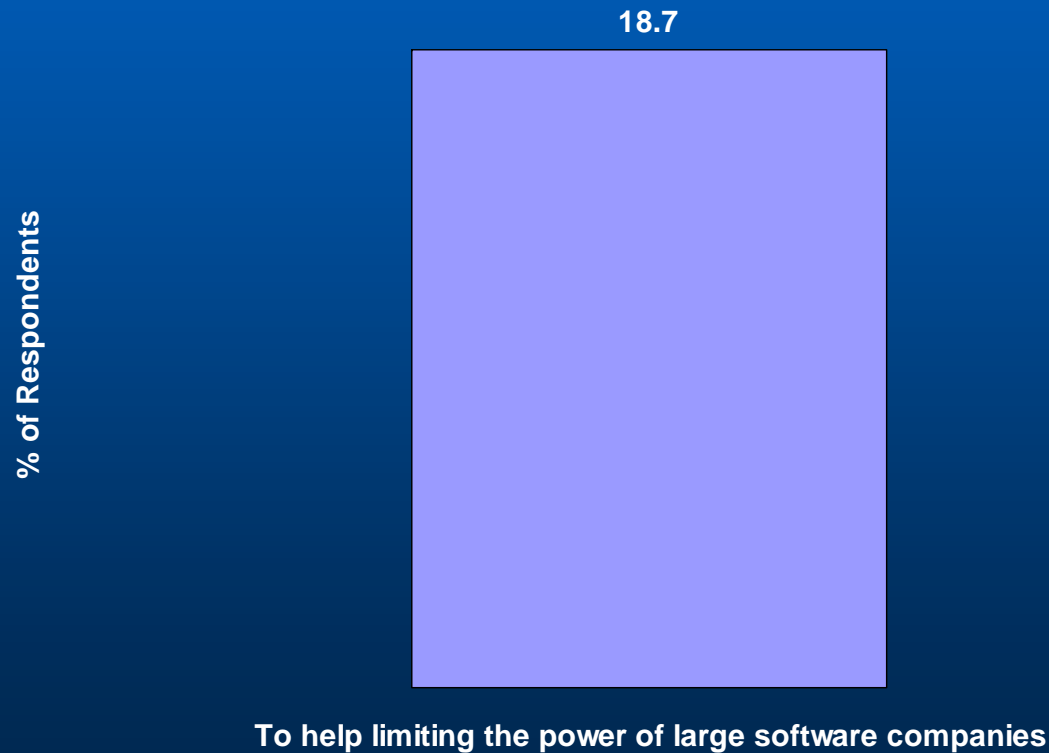
“FLOSS Community is a Forum...”



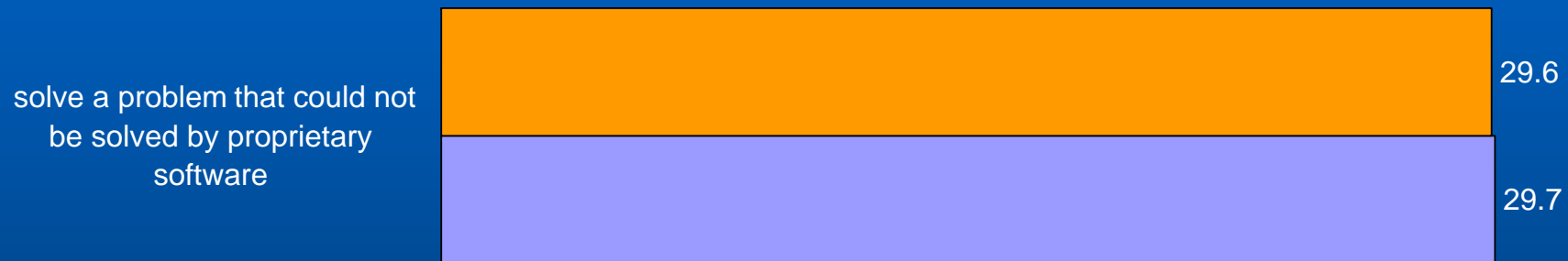
that enables more freedom in software development

Expectations of other developers

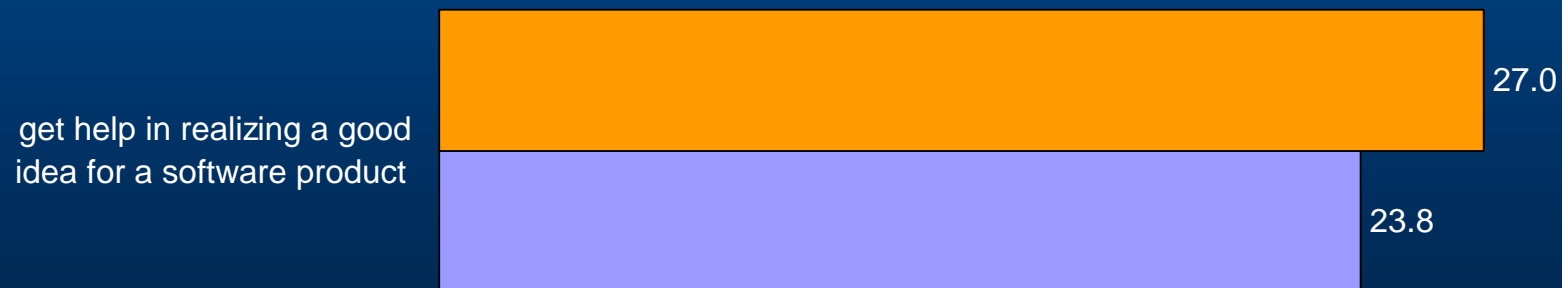
"What Do You Expect from Other OS/FS Developers?"



Product-related Motivations



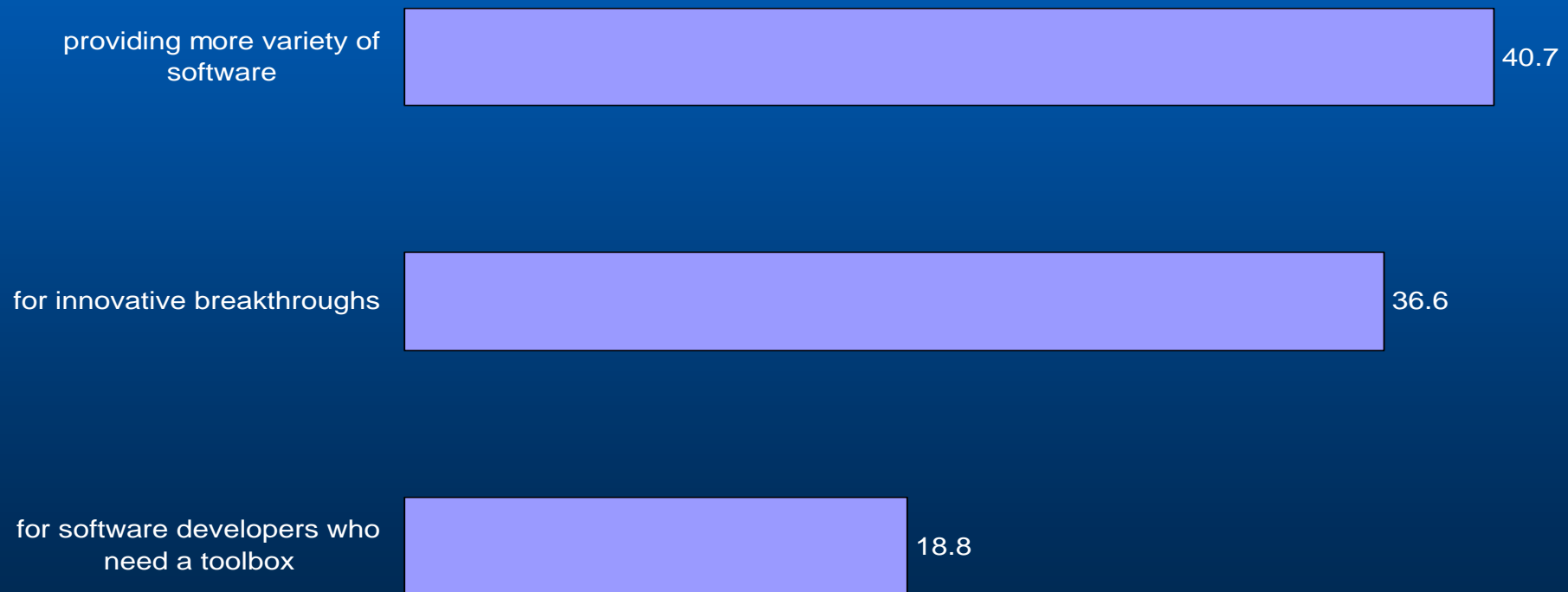
Reason to continue with F/LOSS
Reason to start F/LOSS



% of Respondents

Product-related functions of the FLOSS community

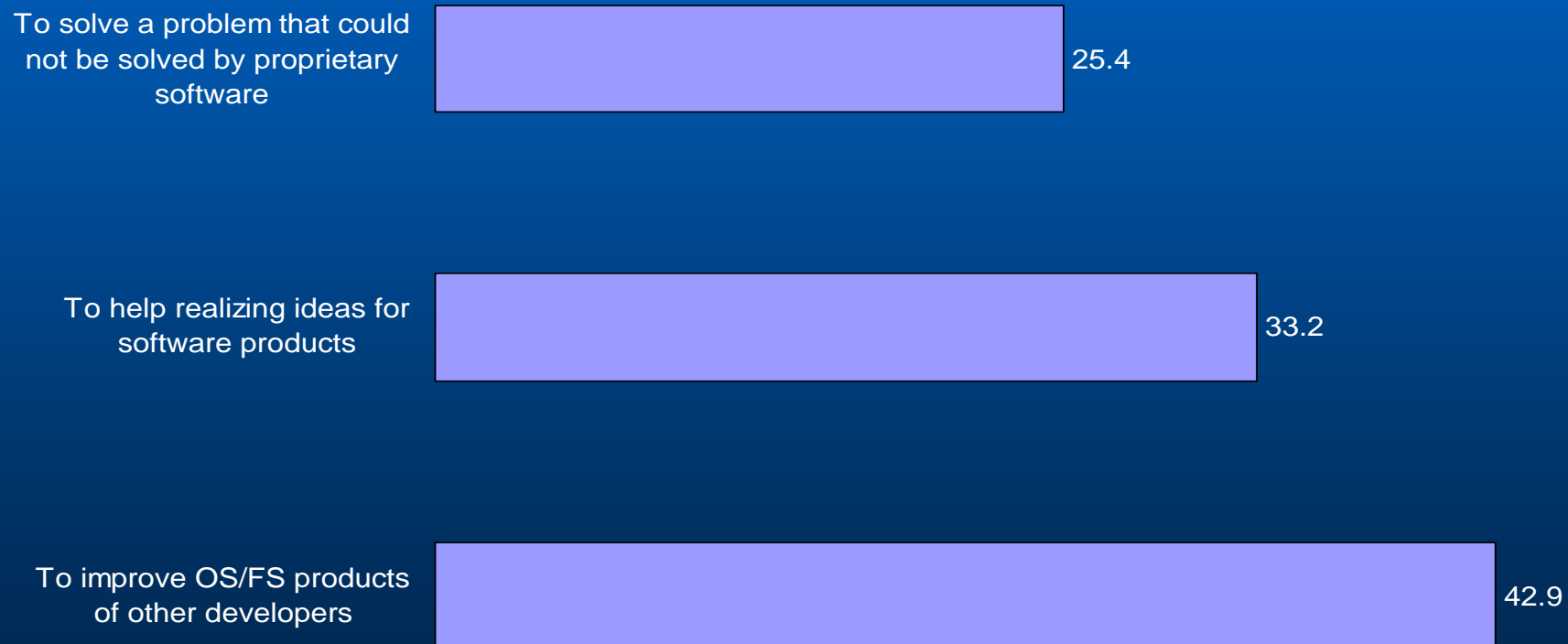
“FLOSS Community is a Forum...”



% of Respondents

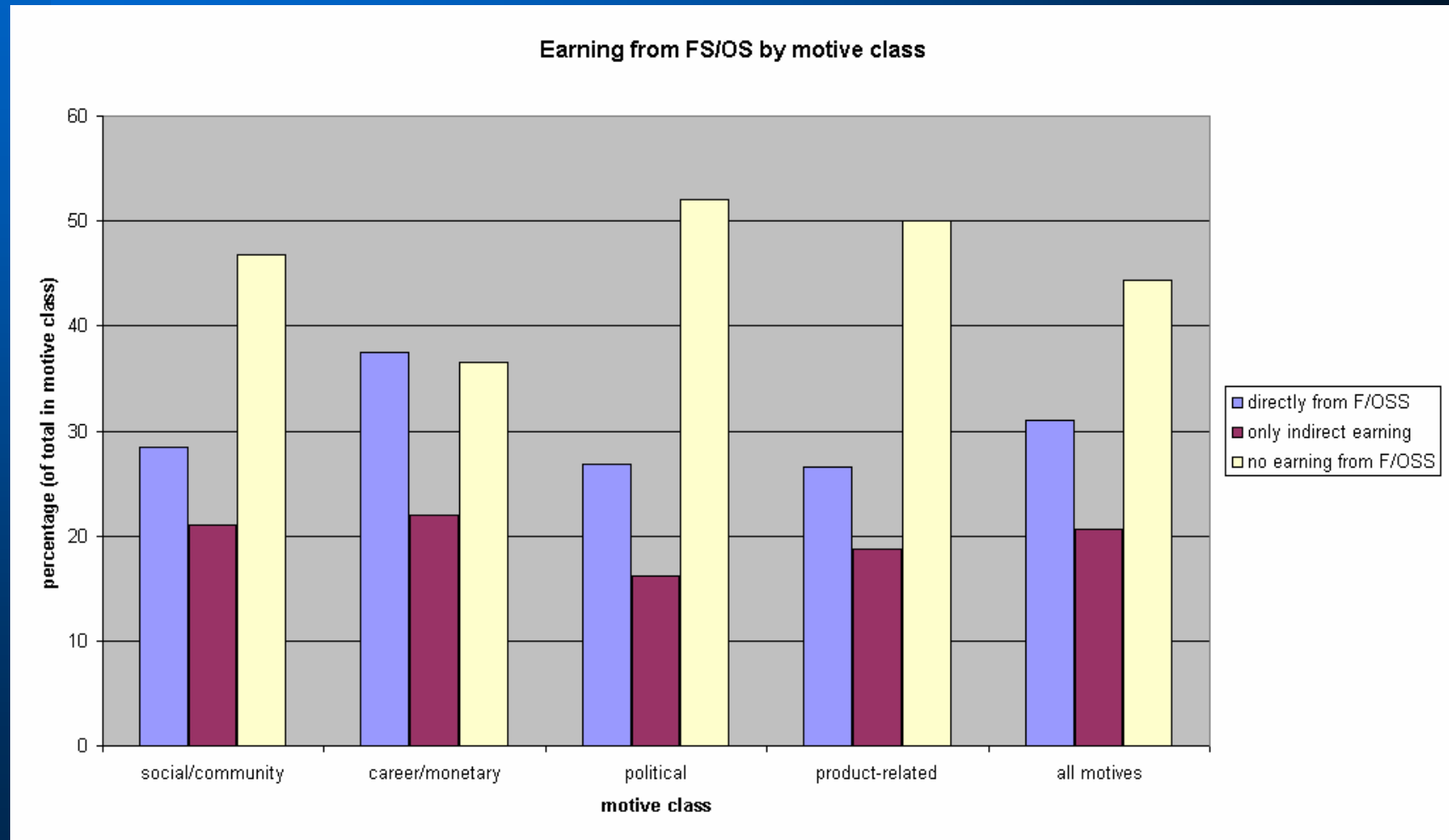
Expectations of other developers

"What Do You Expect from Other OS/FS Developers?"

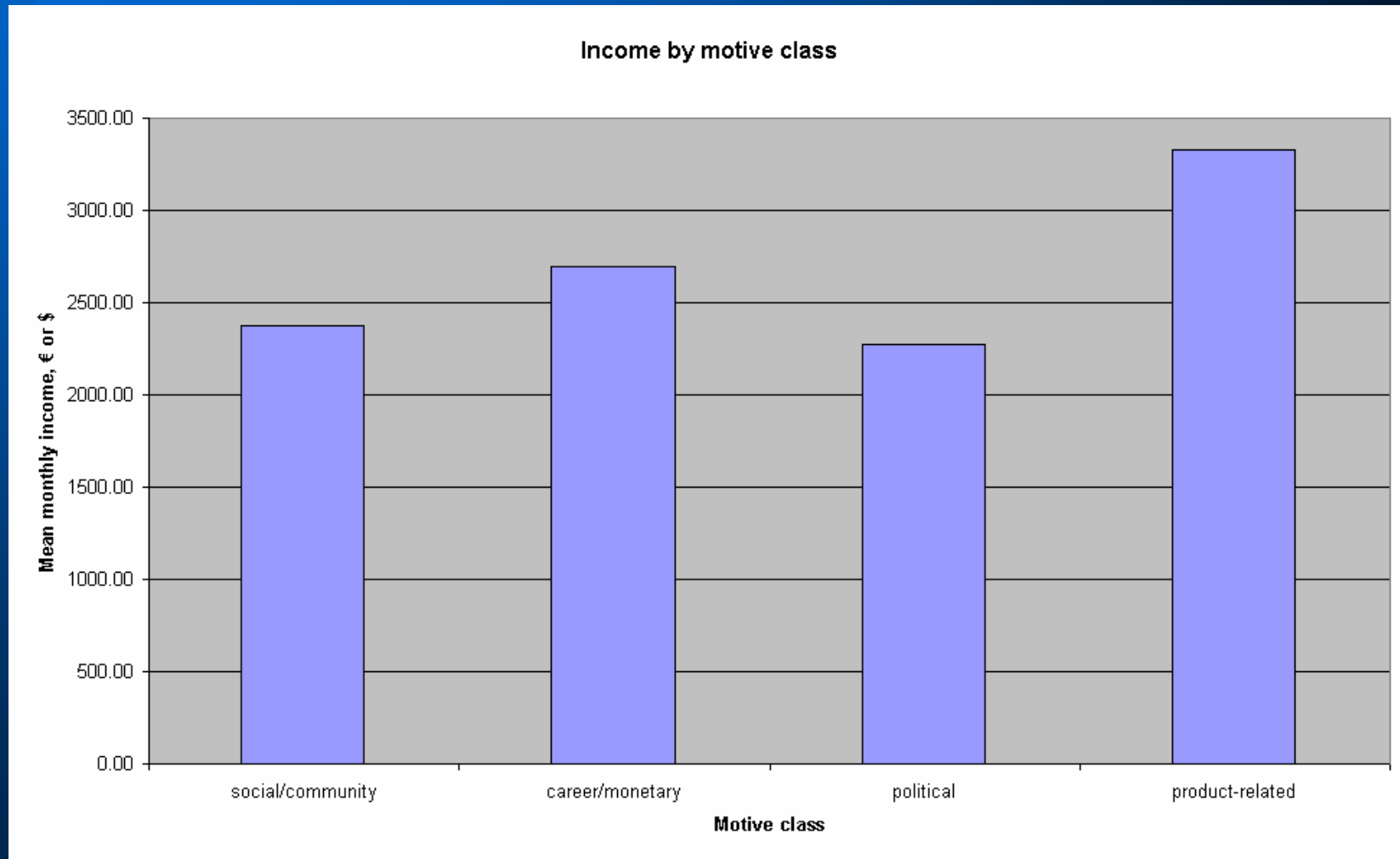


% of Respondents

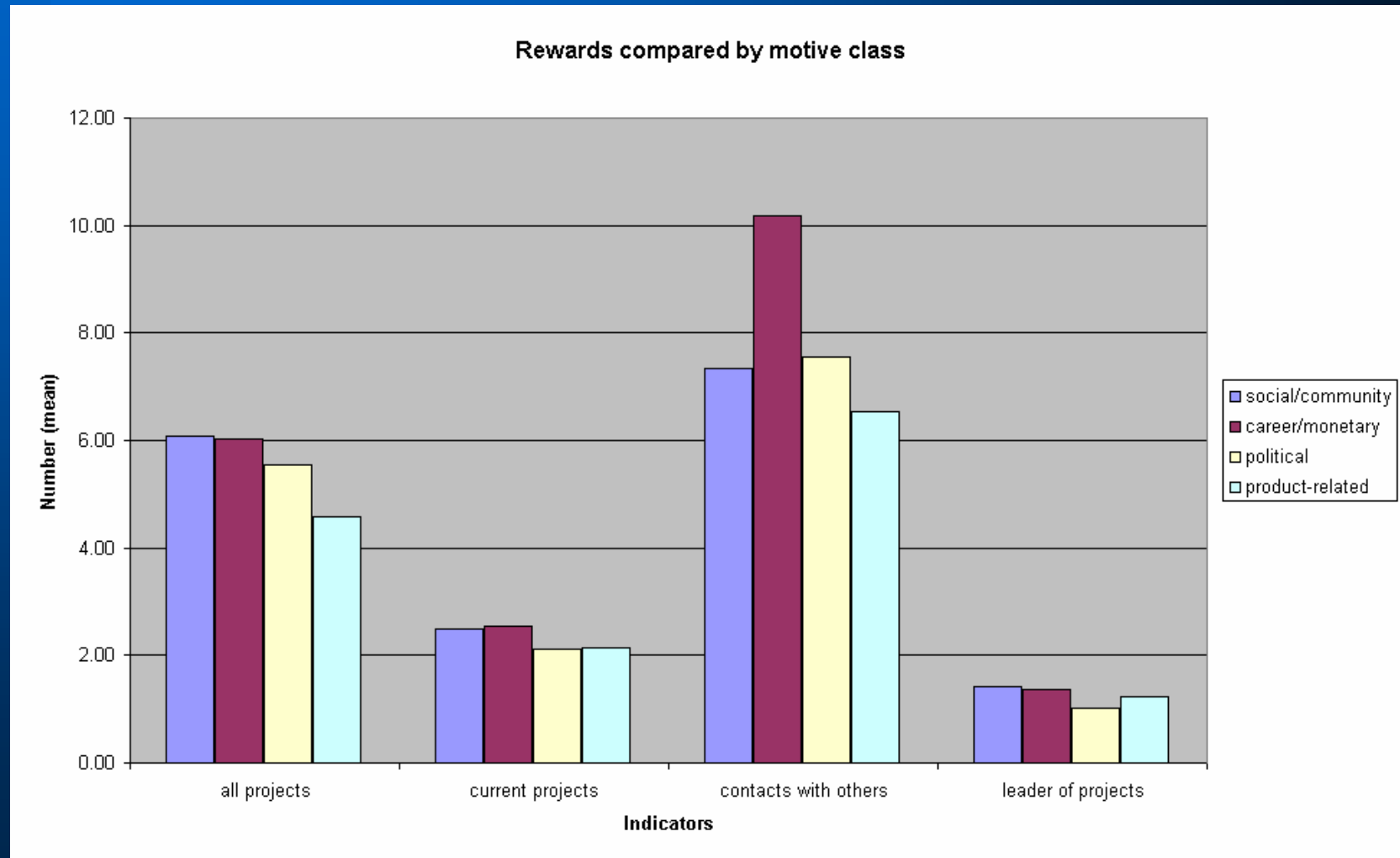
Career/monetary rewards



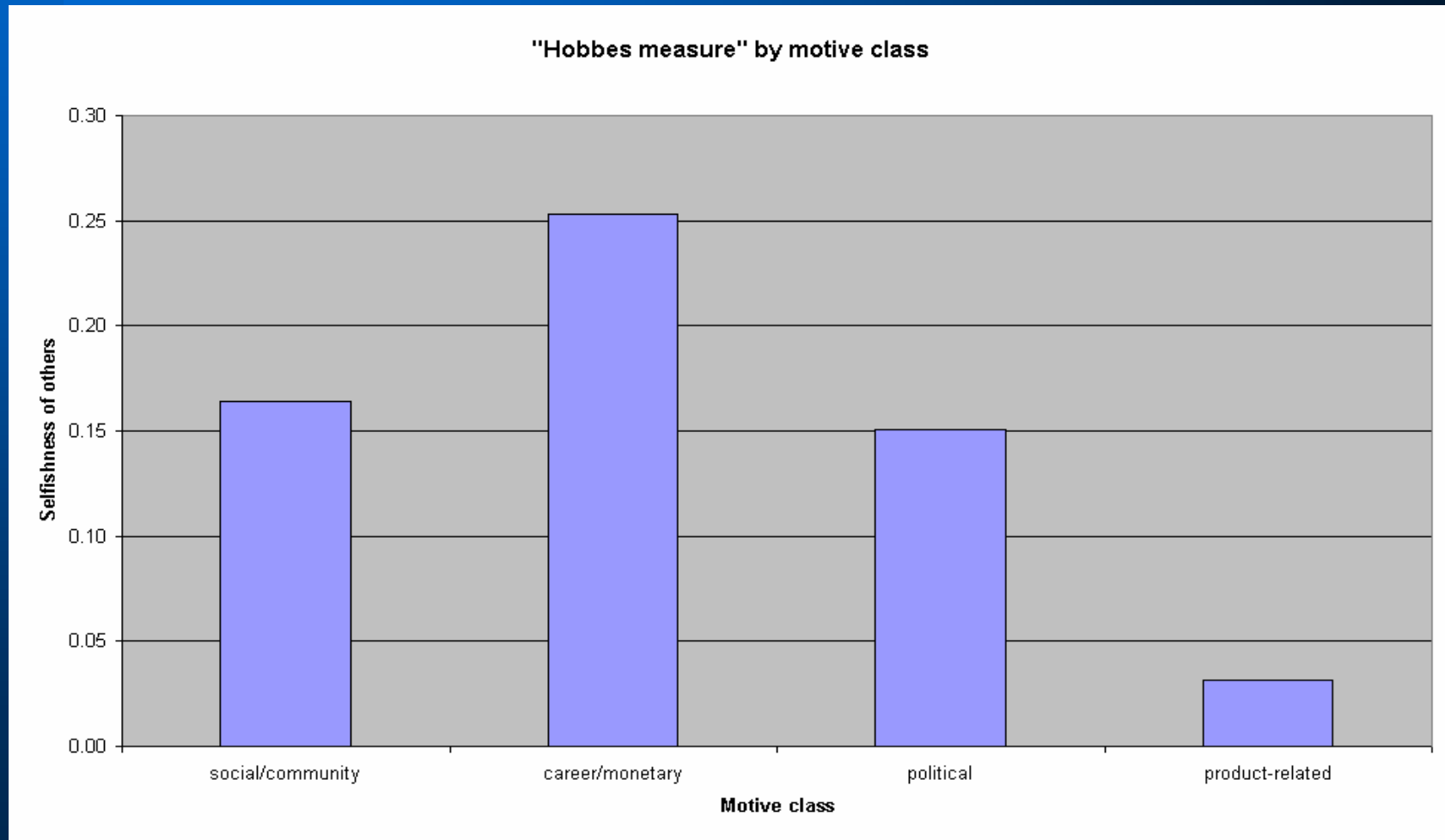
Career/monetary rewards



Social “rewards”



Social “rewards”



References

- FLOSS report:
floss.infonomics.nl/report/
- FLOSS workshop, Brussels, Oct 14:
floss.infonomics.nl/workshop/