

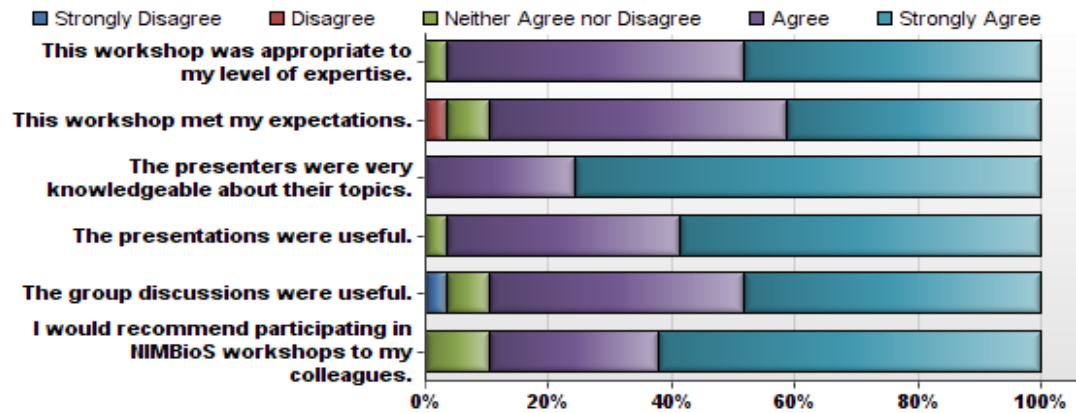


Evaluation Summary Report
Workshop: *Heart Rhythm Disorders*

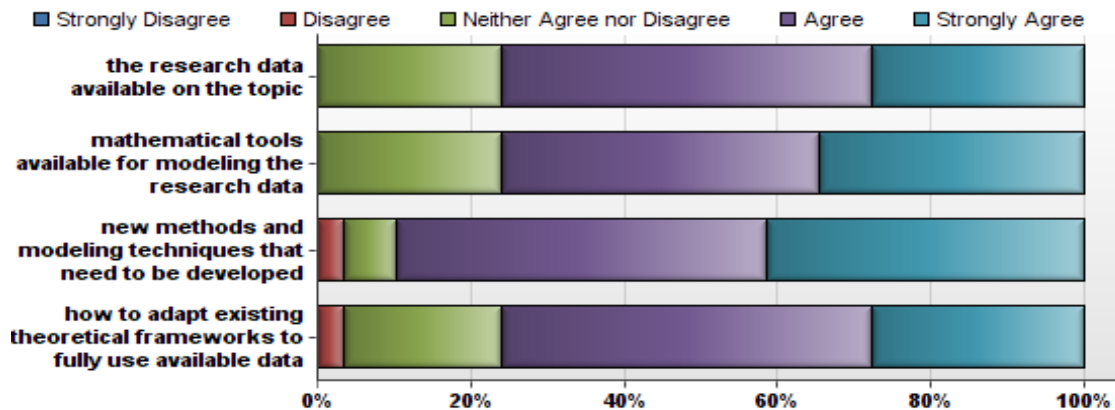
December 3-5, 2014

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1. Please check the appropriate box to indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about this workshop:



2. As a result of participating in this workshop, I have a better understanding of:



3. What do you feel was the most useful aspect of the workshop?

Small venue where discussions could take place. Very convenient.

The format of informal discussion groups with a common focus.

Meeting experts in multidisciplinary fields

Getting people together and hearing some of the latest research advances (sadly we did not have enough of this as there were so few talks).

The variety of topics and the high level of participants' background, as well as discussions

The variety of points of view and the various aspects of the issues.

Discussing ideas in small groups (the big group discussions were a bit too unfocused, I thought)

The working group discussion with the experts to define future research collaborations

The presentations and the discussions following presentations.

The organization and the level of the participants.

Personally meet people with whom I was interested in getting in touch and see how some lines of different work to what I am currently doing are developed.

The participants have almost the common research interests, exchange ideas are very useful for their future research directions.

Being able to personally meet outstanding researchers in the field.

I found that the group discussion was the most useful aspect of the workshop.

Discussing with members from different majors makes me open.

Hard to tell as I'm a bit of an outsider in this workshop. For me the most useful aspect was a few things I picked up from the presentations.

The number of talks is very reasonable that each talk is long enough so the speaker can give enough background information to the audience. Discussions are very interesting and helpful. Dinner/lunch together certainly helps get to know each other

The opportunity to meet experts and discuss the most relevant problems in the field. And also as a modeler, I got a chance to discuss work with experimentalists/clinicians to better understand the challenges they face.

Getting together researchers from all around the world to discuss specific issues: helped gain a global perspective of the problem at hand and understand its depth

Bringing together people with a broad enough range of backgrounds and expertise, who at the same time have common interests and goals.

The group discussions. It was very helpful to have dedicated time to discuss the state of research and possible new projects with a relatively large group of experts. Similar discussions at conferences are usually not as in-depth, or involve fewer people.

Cross-disciplinary interactions

The discussions were interesting.

I found talking to people close to the clinical applications of what I'm doing particularly useful. Hopefully, these discussions will help me guide my research towards more clinically useful topics.

4. What would you change about the workshop?

Have a few more talks. Shorten the talks.

The structure. More talks with longer discussion periods reacting to the talks and abbreviate or eliminate the very long unfocused discussion groups; there didn't seem to be any goals for them and so it was unclear what was supposed to happen or what we were supposed to get out of it. Also, the way the talks were selected seemed strange. All of the organizers got to give talks. Outside that only a small number did--and only one woman--yet one person gave two talks. It did not seem balanced at all. Also there were several sub-themes within the workshop that were only peripherally related. It made it difficult to have a larger focus.

I would have liked to see a broader range of presentations (too many were on a particular, small, topic (alternans))

I would have preferred to receive the workshop program a week before.

I would add more presentations and some basic presentations that are meant to present the mathematical tools commonly employed in the field. For example, most presentations employed dynamical system stability analysis techniques, which many participants were not familiar with.

To search for new knowledge and new partnerships.

Know more advance the program of activities to have the opportunity to make concrete proposals for participation. In particular, to expose the support needs to establish collaborations.

I suggest that the discussion groups should be made smaller.

I knew some useful mechanism behind our doctor's daily work.

Make it one more day long. Also keep the group discussions a little more organized and focused.

Restructure the schedule: add a few more lectures to get to know more about the work done globally by different researchers. The lectures also were the best stimuli for the discussion sessions.

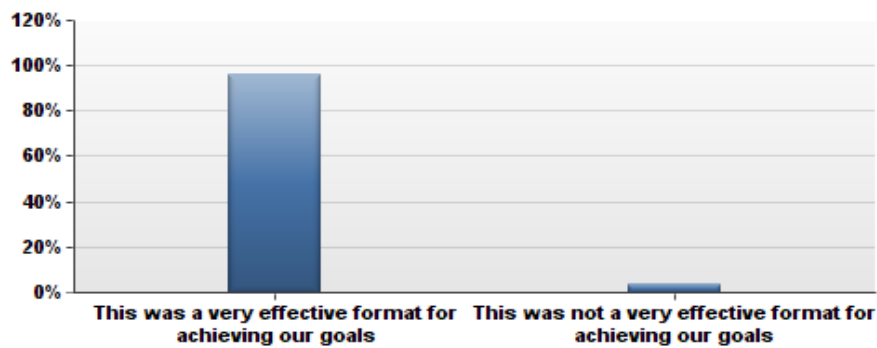
The topics that were presented by the speakers could have been more balanced.

The organization of the discussions could be improved, though I'm not sure what kinds of changes would help the most. On the first day, the participants seemed reluctant to split into groups -- it was very difficult to choose among the proposed tracks, since many of us were interested in more than one area. The organizers' plan of having representatives report back on the discussions the next day appeared to alleviate this concern somewhat. Holding a discussion with the entire population of attendees was also difficult, since there was a tendency to break down into side conversations, each involving a few people. Maybe planning out a larger number of discussion topics could help with this.

Bring in more clinically oriented people

Have it last a longer period of time.

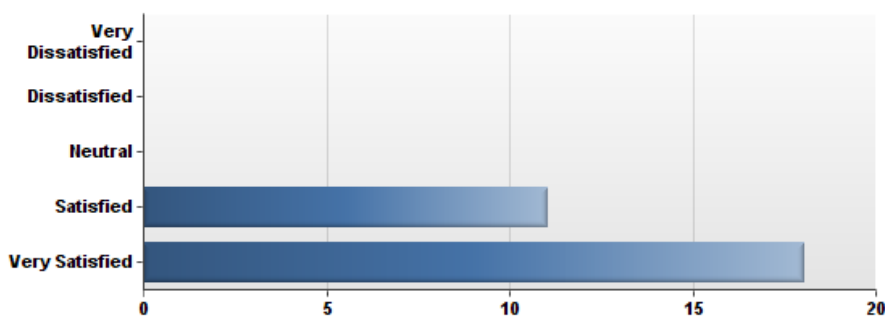
5. How do you feel about the format of the workshop?



6. The workshop format would have been more effective if:

More talks with longer discussion, eliminate or greatly shorten the unfocused discussion groups.

7. How satisfied were you with the opportunities provided during workshop presentations and discussions to ask questions and/or make comments?

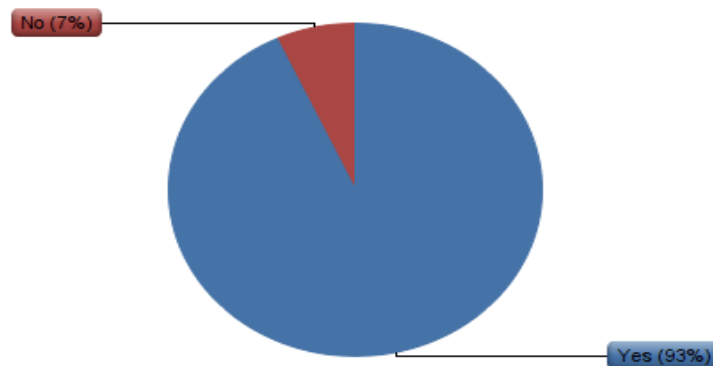


8. Please indicate any suggestions you have for facilitating communication among participants during the workshop:

More time for discussion after talks would have been nice, and more talks would have let more people talk about their research and thus led to more offline conversations.

Always make time for questions at the end of a talk.

9. Do you feel participating in the workshop helped you better understand the research going on in disciplines other than your own on the workshop's topic?



10. Comments:

It is already a highly interdisciplinary area so I already regularly interact with people in a variety of disciplines. It was not anything new from the workshop.

I had a more accurate overview of the state of the art and the challenges of modeling

The group discussions will contribute to our further developments

I have been very interested in participating in other workshops of this type and would like to participate as an organizer in any of them

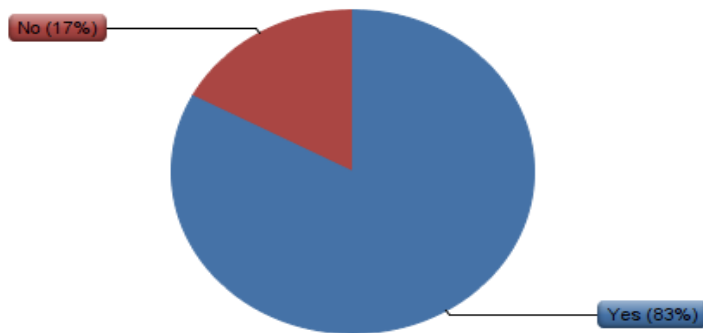
The meeting strongly concentrated on a sub discipline of which I was little aware.

It was nice to have people from the areas that were both close and relatively far from my own research interests. This gave us an opportunity to discuss a broad range of topics and nucleate new research ideas of both specific and general kind.

The workshop gave me a chance to learn more about the interests of researchers, including clinicians and representatives from industry, who work outside my area (mathematical modeling).

It was a good idea to have experts in different fields present at the workshop. It helped with touching base on different areas.

11. Do you feel the workshop made adequate progress toward finding a common language across disciplines for research on the workshop's topic?



12. Comments:

The variety of topics made discussions more interesting and raised new questions for future research

It would be better to improve more exchange with the clinicians

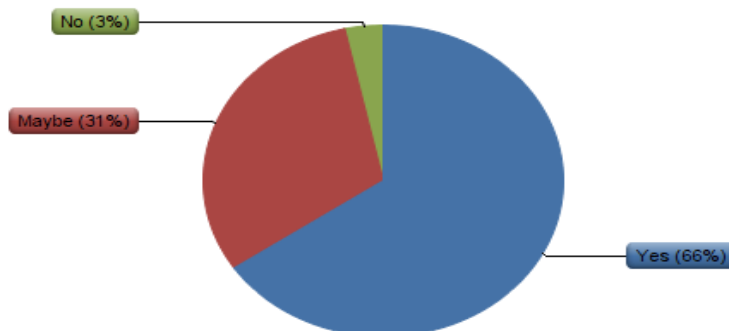
For me the workshop represented an opportunity to meet other specialists in related areas that complement the research I do. The workshop was an opportunity to establish contact and schedule an immediate collaboration. I hope to organize a small workshop with some of them in 2015.

I can't speak for the experimentalists, but it helped me, as a theorist, to better understand and appreciate the experimental side of the problem and some of the practical issues.

The attendees that I interacted with appeared to share enough common terminology to allow us to communicate reasonably well across disciplines. While finding a common language didn't appear to be one of our central workshop activities, there were some bridges being built; for example, I noticed that the speakers took time to answer questions to help clarify unfamiliar terms for outsiders.

Yes it did. Although, it would have been better if the workshop spanned a longer period.

13. Do you feel that the exchange of ideas that took place during the workshop will influence your future research?



14. Comments:

Honestly, I didn't really think the format was so helpful for exchange of ideas. The scheduled discussion groups seemed forced and it seemed like the discussions after talks would be cut off so that we could go have unguided and unfocused discussions in groups. I don't think that was particularly helpful. It would be better to have longer discussion periods after talks and more talks in general.

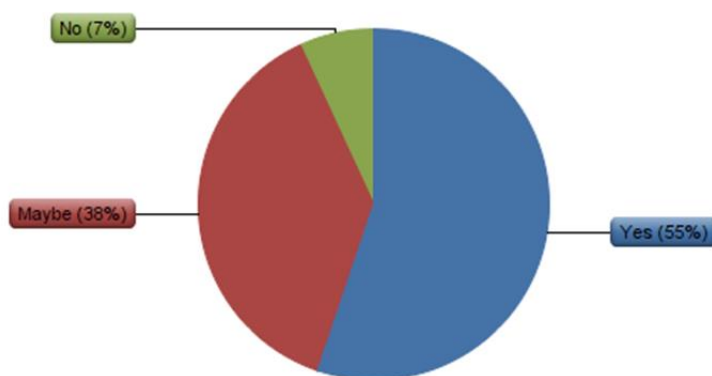
Maybe some new works can be developed, especially around T wave alternans

Some interesting ideas about cardiac alternans will be included in our future research papers

Although my current research is on the modeling of mechanisms of generation of arrhythmias caused by Brugada syndrome, have seen a variety of new problems related alternans are very important and interesting to me. I would like to share with some of the colleagues involved some of the most sophisticated techniques from the mathematical point of view that can be used to study the models that appear in the study of electrical activity in the heart and what was not discussed in the workshop.

The discussions during the workshop both shaped some of my current research and generated new ideas for future research.

15. Did you develop plans for collaborative research with other workshop participants with whom you had not previously collaborated?



16. Comments:

Nothing concrete.

Maybe some ideas about action potential modeling and multivariate ECG analysis

We'll plan a short time collaborative meeting in Puebla, México with Flavio Fenton and Alena Talkachova on May 2015

I am particularly interested in working with Favio Fenton, Alain Karma, Elena Tolkacheva and Roman Gregoriev and I talked to them about it

As I mentioned in one of my previous comments. It would have made it easier to foster collaboration if the workshop had lasted more than 3 days.

17. Please use this space for any additional comments:

I enjoyed participating in the workshop. It was a very rewarding experience.

There were many great things about the workshop, and I appreciate being able to participate. I just felt like the format hindered rather than facilitated the exchange of ideas.

I believe the workshop was very successful in terms of fostering collaboration and promoting discussion.

Thanks to the organizers for their efforts and especially to NIMBioS for making it possible.

I didn't find the Wordpress site especially useful, and I'm not sure that we made effective use of it.

It was a really excellent experience. Congratulations

It was a great experience participating in this workshop and I think that I have established contacts will be very helpful for my research and that of other participants in the foreseeable future. I have been very motivated to participate in future versions of these workshops of NIMBioS

Overall, an excellent workshop!

Overall, the workshop was great. NIMBioS organization and accommodations were stellar. I would have loved for the workshop to span 4 or 5 days (this would have helped with fostering collaborations). Overall it was great.