

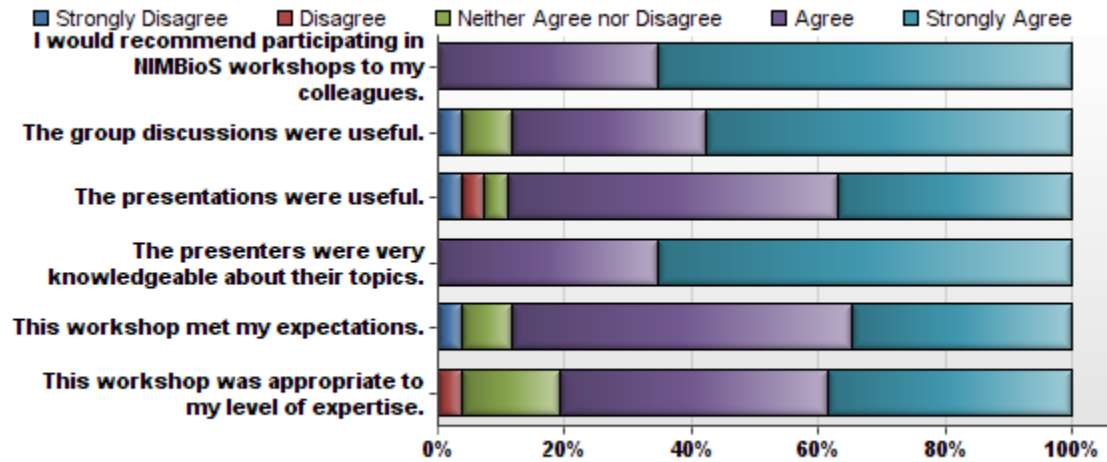


Evaluation Summary Report
Workshop: *Lymphoid Cells in Acute
Inflammation*

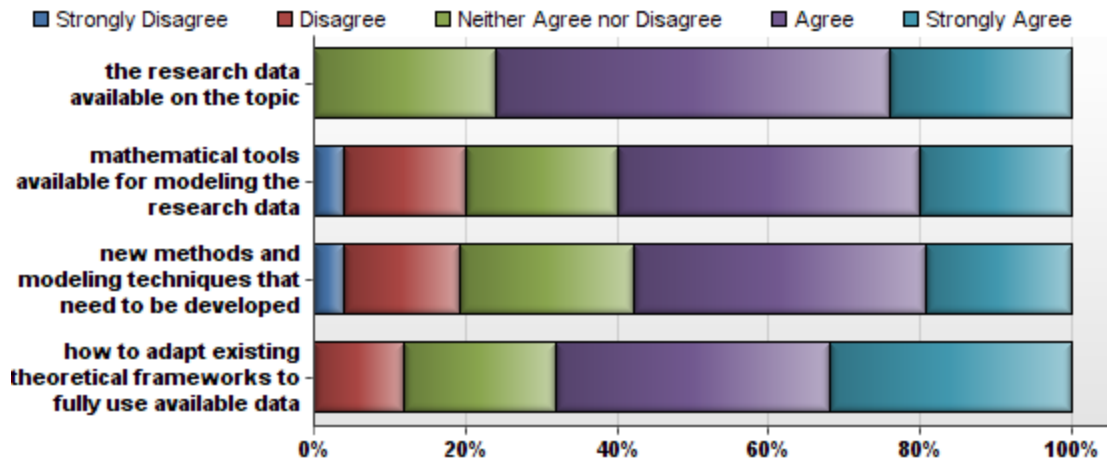
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Please check the appropriate box to indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about this workshop:



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



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

Collaboration

The workshop facilitated conversation between experimentalists and computational modelers. It was very useful to see and participate in this communication process because it demonstrated what the challenges are in finding a common language and how they can be overcome.

Just being in an environment in which we could communicate with the participants gave me a better sense of where the current research is.

It helped me learn the rudimentary language of computational modeling, and provided some examples of productive interactions between clinicians or experimental biologists and computational scientists

The talks and breakout sessions

Assembling a group with diverse backgrounds and forcing us to interact with each other. This worked to improve communication and turn inward and reconsider our own dogmas.

The potential to contribute to a long-term Working Group if one develops as a result of this gathering.

I thought that the most useful aspects were the keynote addresses. I think the small groups were useful too but could use more guidance.

The group discussions were extremely useful.

The keynote talks were by far the most useful aspect of the workshop. They were interesting and quite beneficial.

Interaction & discussion between experts from different disciplines - helped with collaboration development & more importantly, helped bridge the gap in understanding between members of different disciplines. It brought people together who would not otherwise have the opportunity interact for discussion of research efforts.

The chance for experimentalists and computational scientists to meet in person and discuss how to approach biological problems together.

Discussion time with the other participants. It was useful to have extended conversations with clinicians, biologists and mathematicians all in the same room.

I think we did a great job outlining some future research directions, especially on where laboratory studies can inform modeling efforts. I also very much liked the emphasis more generally on ways to bridge empiricists and theoreticians.

The opportunity to be around senior researchers in math, biology and clinical work as a graduate student in setting for this workshop was really enlightening and motivating.

Learning about the open issues.

Meeting others doing work in mathematical immunology

Networking and discussions

The coming together of both experimental and computational scientists

Topical gatherings. More didactics would have helped me feel less overwhelmed.

Multidisciplinary interaction and sharing of thoughts and ideas

Small, very diverse group, productive discussions, stress-free atmosphere

Collegiality and close interaction among participants

What would you change about the workshop?

I enjoyed the open discussion groups; however, I think a little more guidance would have been useful. Perhaps a more concrete set of goals and the necessary steps. Rather than separating people into groups based on expertise, I think it would have been nice to rather have groups that were approximately 1/3 modelers, 1/3 data, and 1/3 clinical.

Start with the mixed groups.

Participation by a commercial entity (Immunetrics) was a bit awkward. I see potential advantages of including industry but in this case there was a lack of integration between the Immunetrics representative and the rest of the group.

I wouldn't have a small group of mathematical modelers. They should be dispersed to the other groups with the information presented in some modified form to the other small groups.

I think I would add a little more pre-planning between the organizers and the small group discussion leaders.

Maybe splitting into smaller groups at times with one or 2 people from each of the three specialties.

The group discussions were poorly organized with little focus. In my view, 1.5 days were wasted.

Perhaps lengthen by a day or two more. To allow the initial discussions the time to develop into more concrete collaborations.

A little more focused questions, and specifics developed beforehand as to what we might be able to accomplish.

The initial presentations could have been a little more focused on t-cell information.

Day 1 presentations should focus more on providing a basic language for laboratory studies and modeling studies. Presentations were very specific, and as a modeler I walked away from these talks without an improved knowledge of the basics of the inflammatory response. I'm sure laboratory biologists felt the same way about general modeling frameworks.

More direction in the break-out groups.

Additional time for describing how we would model a real data set -- a case study to illustrate the process

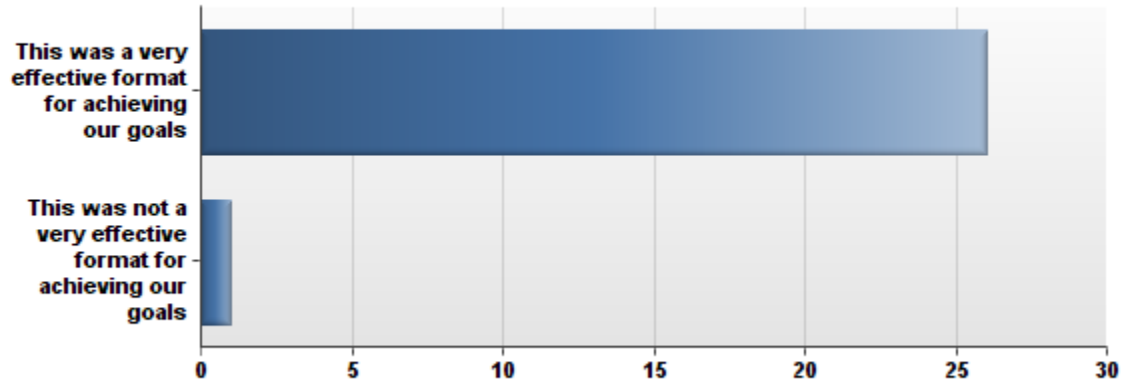
More small group discussions

Have some suggested readings available prior to the workshop

More didactics. More framework.

Perhaps more short presentations from participants

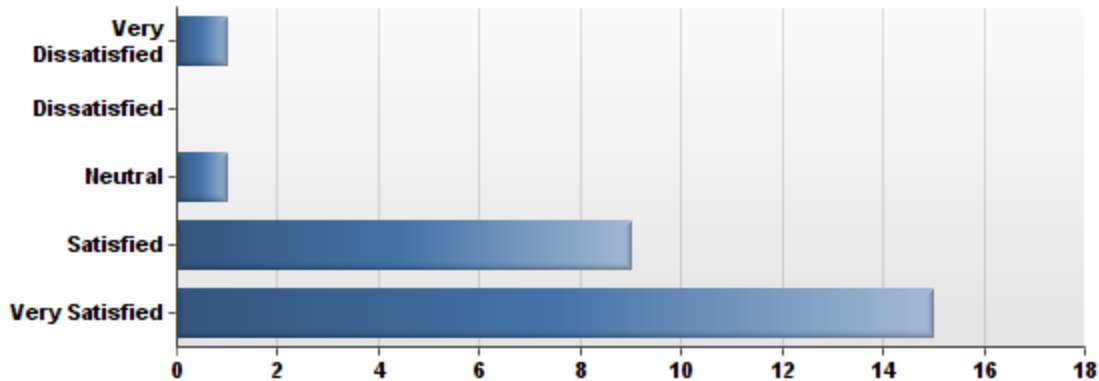
How do you feel about the format of the workshop?



The workshop format would have been more effective if:

There were more talks. The number of experts on lymphoid cells in acute inflammation (or even in just inflammation) felt low. More talks could have better framed the discussion sessions. More organization and guidance before the workshop would have been useful as well.

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

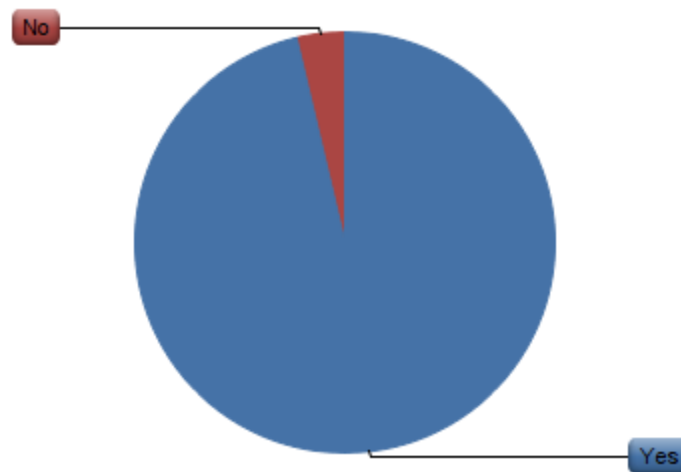


Please indicate any suggestions you have for facilitating communication among participants during the workshop:

The Basecamp approach was great.

The future goals whole group discussion at the end was a little awkward as it became clear that only a proper subset of the participants would be included.

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?



Comments:

In fact, this was an unexpected benefit of participation.

Unfortunately, outside of the three keynote talks, very little was accomplished in terms of elucidating either the biology or the mathematics associated with lymphoid cells in acute inflammation.

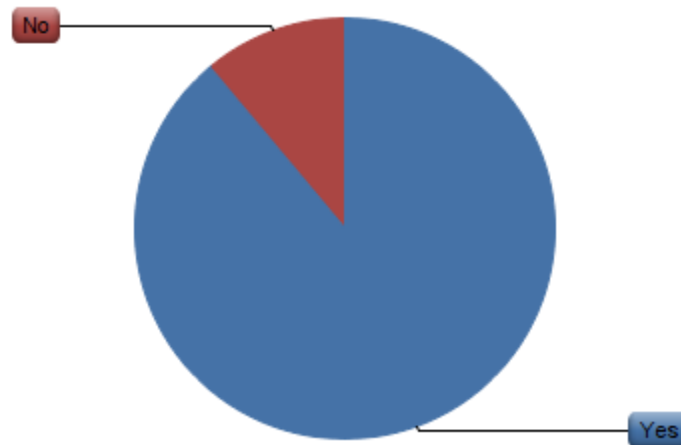
Great group discussions highlighted the disparities amongst the different disciplines - this was ideal to help focus where further collaborative efforts should be placed.

The topic was related but directly to my own area of research. It was extremely useful to know the computational tools used by others in the field.

I was exposed to individuals who work on clinically related research as a result of this workshop.

I would have like to have had some references of papers to read prior to the workshop. This would have better prepared me for the lectures and discussions as some of the background information was unfamiliar to me.

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



Comments:

Yes, especially given the short duration and the disparity in backgrounds of the attendees.

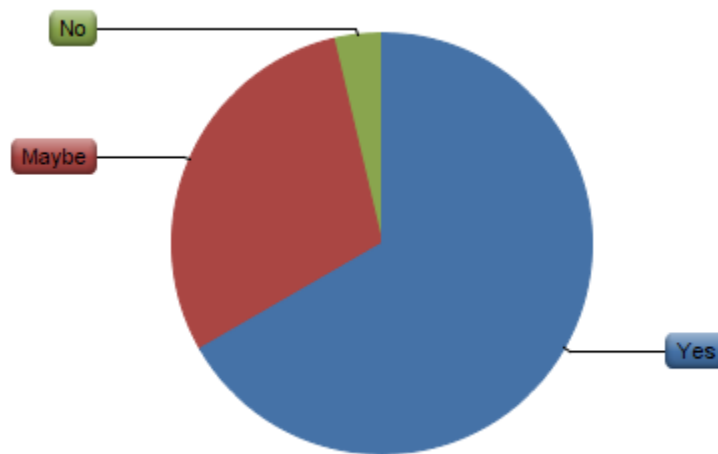
Discussions took place at an elementary and unfocused level - I don't think the discussion was deep enough to develop a common language across disciplines.

Meeting and discussing is a critical aspect to understanding each other's language, this workshop was invaluable to provide that opportunity.

The Day 1 presentations focused on quite specific aspects of the inflammatory response and mathematical modeling. Instead, it would have been more helpful for presenters to give a broader and simplified version of the inflammatory response (the biology) and for the modelers to give a broader and simplified overview of dynamical frameworks applicable to immunology (the math). This would help everybody get up to speed and using a common language.

It took a little while, but the discussions were fruitful and we were able to find a common language.

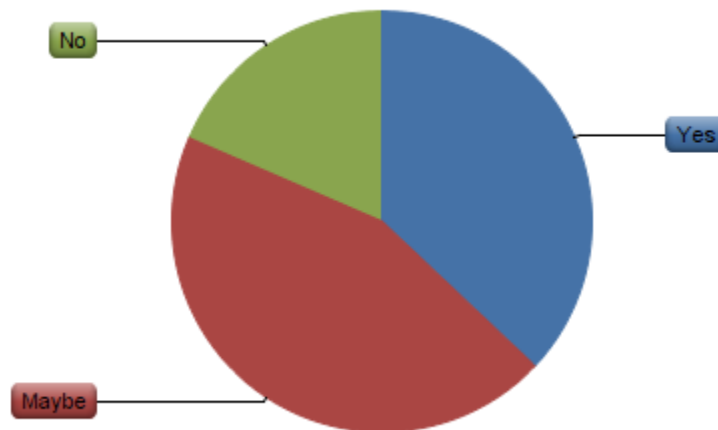
Do you feel that the exchange of ideas that took place during the workshop will influence your future research?



Comments:

The ideas at this workshop place my current research in a larger context. This will be helpful as I look for future projects as a postdoc.

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



Comments:

There is a likelihood that we will start a new collaboration.

I liked the potential for a collaborative review paper on computational immunology and data-driven approaches

Please use this space for any additional comments:

This workshop was a great experience. It was nice to participate in a different type of meeting, where discussion was very prominent. I also liked the group size, and the range of participants present. I think it was an optimal setting for developing relationships and collaborations.

Thanks for a stimulating 2 days.

Having undergraduates and graduate students participate enhances the experience for everyone and provides an outstanding opportunity for them. It would have been helpful to distribute background material (some selected papers) to everyone prior to the workshop to get everyone on the same page sooner. The organizers/ workshop leaders did a great job!

Great Workshop - thanks to NIMBioS!

The basecamp platform was surprisingly good and easy to use, and was adopted rapidly by the workshop attendees.

Thanks for helping us make our workshop a huge success. It exceeded our expectations and the NIMBioS staff and facilities had a lot to do with that. Also, the location provided a 'neutral' environment and we feel that this played a big role in facilitating cross talk between and among disciplines and more open discussion that might not have happened in environments where there may be a perceived bias.