DUNE Computing May Training - Survey's results

Communication

How was the communication about and during the training?
27 responses

- N/A
- Not good at all
- Somewhat okay
- Good
- Perfect
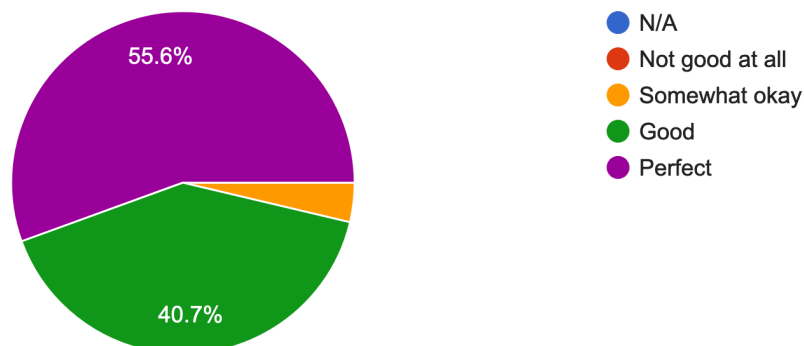
Your thoughts and suggestions regarding the communication

- I really enjoyed the way it was organised. I never felt off even for a small time even though I was quite busy with some other stuff.
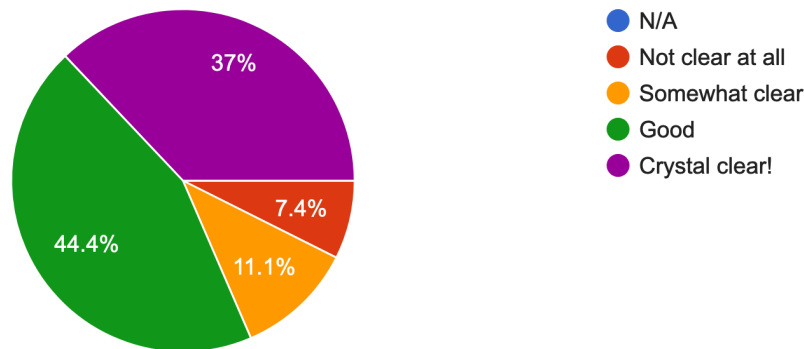
- I think the setup part should have been released at least a week earlier. As someone who is completely new to programming it was extremely overwhelming.
- Appreciated the remainder! Slack would be another (additional ?) great option
- Vocabulary was difficult to follow and sometimes not explained
- Communication was perfect. Updates were given before time so that we could practice beforehand.
- It was fantastic
- I think it worked very well.
- Announcements, reminders, emails, posts on various channels, etc are good.
- I thought that the open document was perfect for posting questions and interacting with other attendees
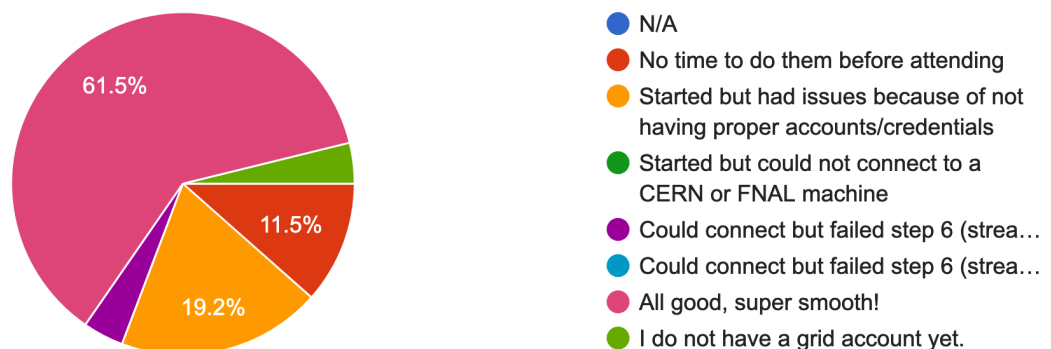
On the "mission setup"

How were the instructions?
27 responses

- N/A
- Not clear at all
- Somewhat clear
- Good
- Crystal clear!

37%
7.4%
11.1%
44.4%

Have you experienced issues following the instructions?
26 responses

- N/A
- No time to do them before attending
- Started but had issues because of not having proper accounts/credentials
- Started but could not connect to a CERN or FNAL machine
- Could connect but failed step 6 (strea…
- Could connect but failed step 6 (strea…
- All good, super smooth!
- I do not have a grid account yet.

61.5%
11.5%
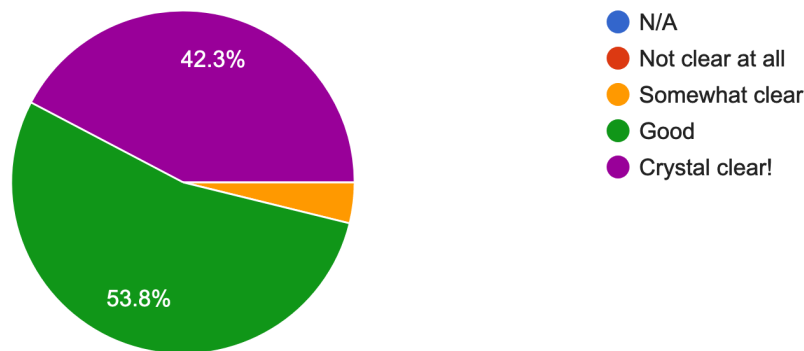19.2%

Your thoughts on the Mission setup

- Excellent
- Like I said earlier, I think things should start rolling much earlier.
- Excellent, crystal clear.

- I think maybe a video tutorial on this would be helpful as I am completely new to much of this, especially the terminal.
- I wish there was a video that went step-by-step to explain how to complete the Mission setup. I have very little background with computing, so I was even unclear what to do with the text file for my processing system... Poor job should be simple enough for someone who has never done this before.
- I was able to do the mission set up smoothly. No issues in that.
- Was extremely well explained. Easy to follow for someone who has no clue.
- It was that some reference material had been provided.
- It was good
- I already knew the basics of LArSoft and did some of the preparation so it worked for me.
- It is good to emphasize why the "mission setup" is important and why we should do it. It should be possible to follow the lecture even if the "mission setup" could not be done before.

On Storage Spaces and Data Management

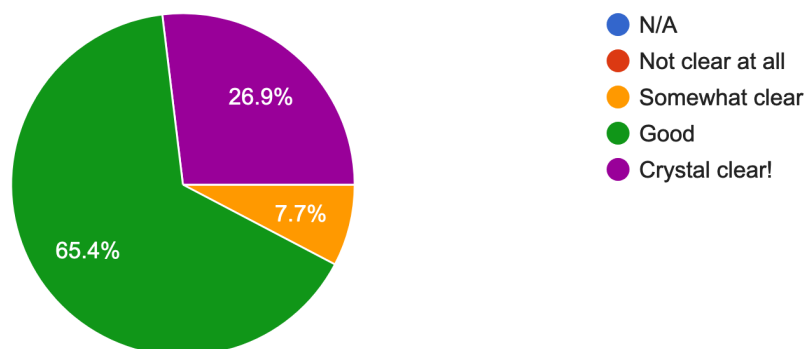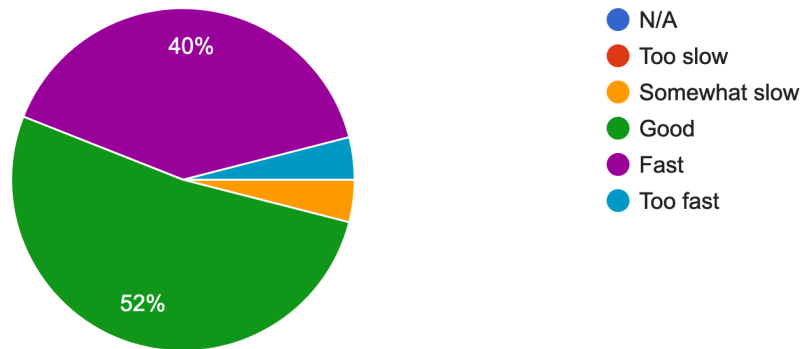How were the instructions on the training website?
26 responses

- N/A
- Not clear at all
- Somewhat clear
- Good
- Crystal clear!

How were the talks of the speakers?
26 responses

- N/A
- Not clear at all
- Somewhat clear
- Good
- Crystal clear!

How was the pace?

25 responses

Legend:
- N/A
- Too slow
- Somewhat slow
- Good
- Fast
- Too fast

Pie chart: 40% Fast, 52% Good

How was the support on the live doc?

26 responses

Legend:
- N/A
- Not good at all
- Somewhat ok
- Good
- Really good!

Pie chart: 76.9% Really good!, 7.7% N/A, 15.4% Good
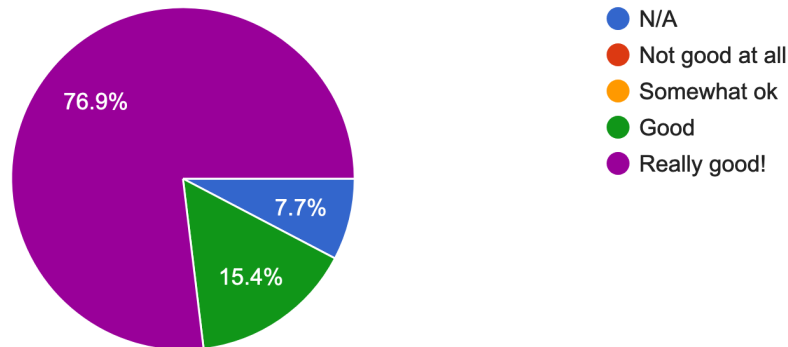
Your thoughts on the part Storage Space and Data Management

- I really liked this part, I haven't been introduced to the different storage spaces so thoroughly before. Covered all the important tools in the data management, and the links for further exploration are really useful
- Storage space and data management class was good. But it was difficult to follow later in the class.
- Good, some speakers were too fast and some too slow. Especially if you do not have multiple screens to open zoom, google docs,... all at the same time. (Some speakers were/sounded demotivated)
- It would be good to integrate these sections a bit better, there was some overlap. Also to make it more of a unified lab with exercises that are building to be needed in the analysis section of the tutorial
- I learned new things, and I will plan to read these pages again, hopefully after the DUNE Collaboration meeting.
- Perhaps in the announcement add instructions how to apply for a grid account.

Lecture: Introduction art/LArSoft

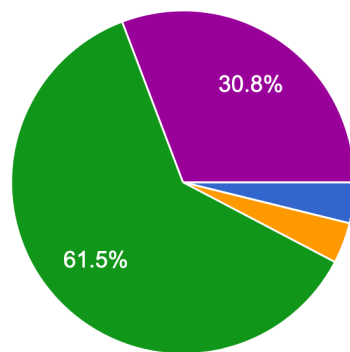## How were the instructions on the training website?
26 responses
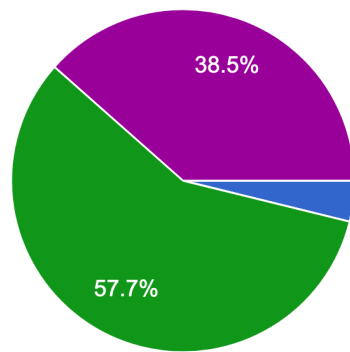
- N/A
- Not clear at all
- Somewhat clear
- Good
- Crystal clear!

38.5%
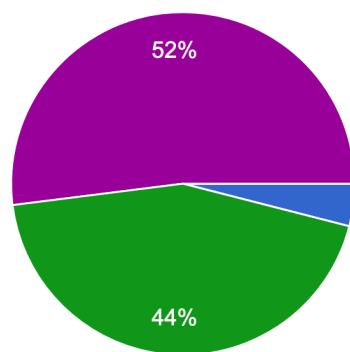57.7%

How were the talks of the speakers?
26 responses

- N/A
- Not clear at all
- Somewhat clear
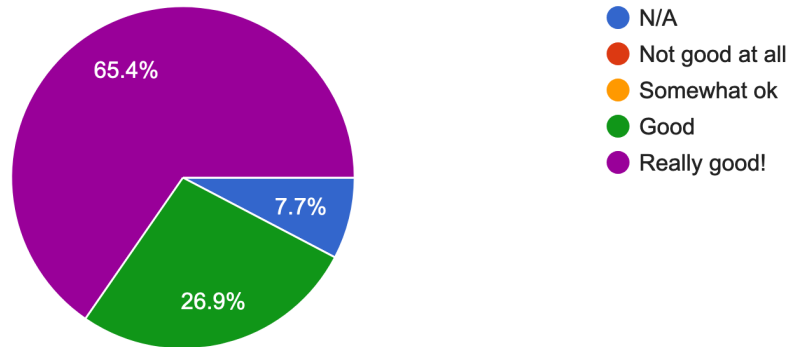- Good
- Crystal clear!

30.8%
61.5%

How was the pace?
25 responses

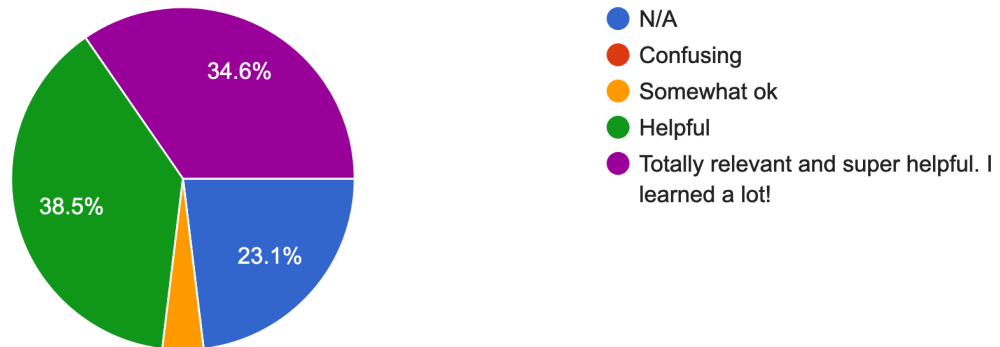
- N/A
- Too slow
- Somewhat slow
- Good
- Fast
- Too fast

52%
44%

How was the support on the live doc?
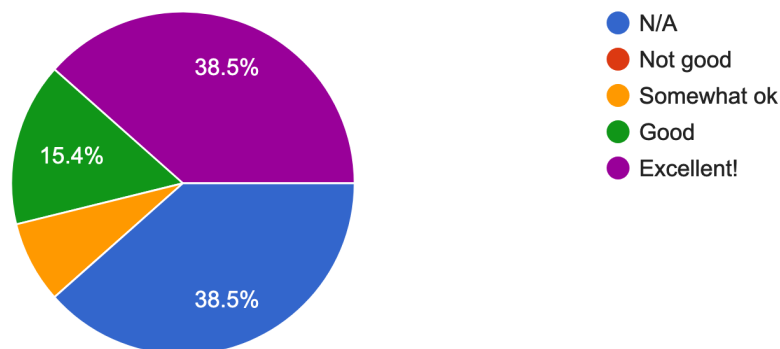26 responses

Legend:
- N/A
- Not good at all
- Somewhat ok
- Good
- Really good!

65.4%
7.7%
26.9%

How was the follow-up lesson (sent as asynchronous tutorial) "How to modify a LArSoft module"?
26 responses

Legend:
- N/A
- Confusing
- Somewhat ok
- Helpful
- Totally relevant and super helpful. I learned a lot!

34.6%
23.1%
38.5%

How were the videos (YouTube links)?
26 responses

Legend:
- N/A
- Not good
- Somewhat ok
- Good
- Excellent!

38.5%
15.4%
38.5%

Your thoughts on this asynchronous tutorial experience
- excellent!
- Would have been great if I could follow along, but couldn't get my tickets set up.
- I really liked the asynchronous tutorial! I really appreciated that I could go through it at my own pace and pause it whenever needed. The thing I noticed is that I did it after Day 2 computing, but some of the folders on /dune/app user space were already needed for the grid submission on Day 2 to work.
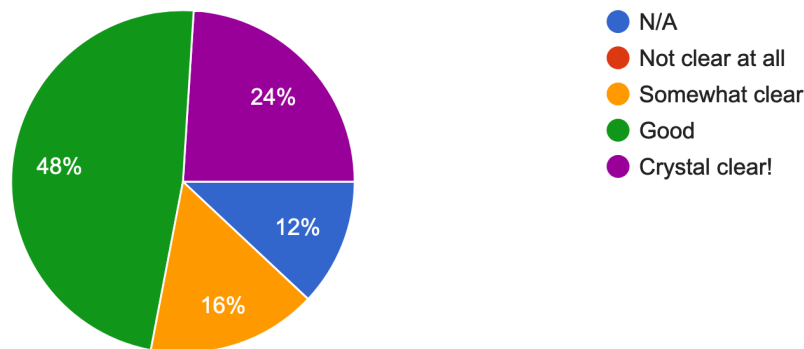
I guess that would be useful to mention/know, and it would make it a bit clearer why some of the commands during grid submission were erroring.

● Important, that one was able to do that. You only learn if you do something by yourself.
● It was very helpful.
● Tom's material was a tour de force. I did not have time to do all the exercises myself but I still learned a whole lot just by listening to him. I have been at all the tutorials since we started doing this and this was by far the best presentation we have given.
● I was able to get through it based on written instructions. Many thanks!
● It was very helpful to have the asynchronous tutorial. The steps can take different time for each person to complete and this way one can focus on the parts that are relevant, new or problematic, understand them and ask questions at the beginning of the live session.

Lecture on Grid Job Submission

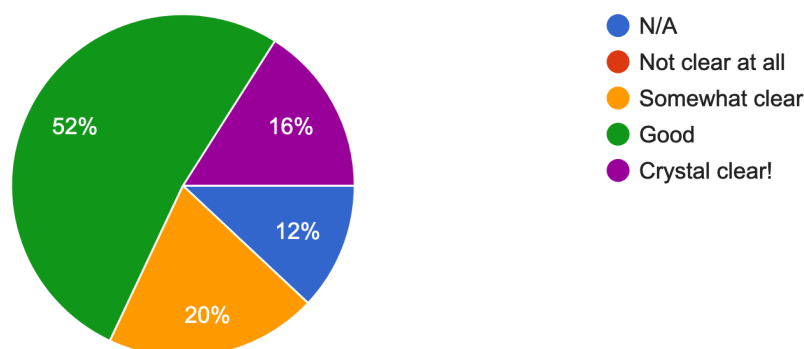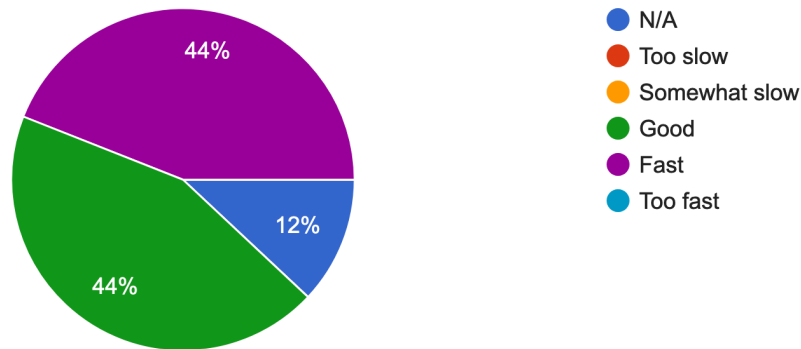How were the instructions on the training website?
25 responses

● N/A
● Not clear at all
● Somewhat clear
● Good
● Crystal clear!

How were the talks of the speakers?
25 responses

● N/A
● Not clear at all
● Somewhat clear
● Good
● Crystal clear!

How was the pace?

25 responses

- N/A
- Too slow
- Somewhat slow
- Good
- Fast
- Too fast

44% / 44% / 12%

How was the support on the live doc?

25 responses

- N/A
- Not good at all
- Somewhat ok
- Good
- Really good!

64% / 24% / 12%
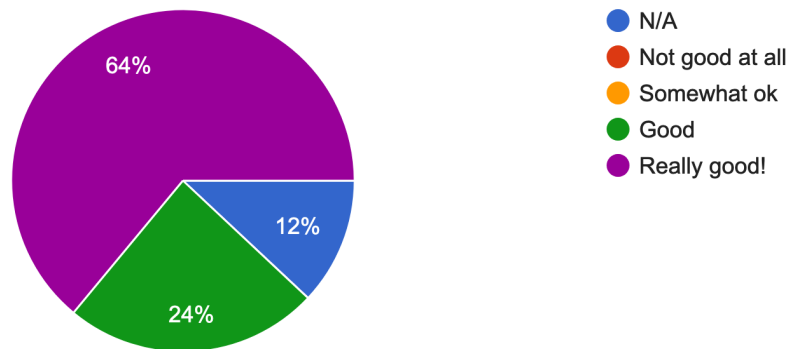
Your thoughts on the part "Grid job submission"
- Some problems with the formatting when we were copying it straight from github, like quotes and line breaks. Also previous instructions were working with the environment variables, like $USER, but grid job submission instructions just had username. I mean it's minor but it makes it a bit more comfortable.
- Need to practice and learn more about it.
- This was an important topic, thank you for covering!
- I am not sure if it is possible to follow the lecture without having a grid account at the time it is given and later follow the lecture offline after obtaining the grid account.

The quizzes

How were the quizzes
25 responses

🔵	N/A
🔴	Too difficult
🟠	Confusing
🟢	Good to learn
🟣	Awesome
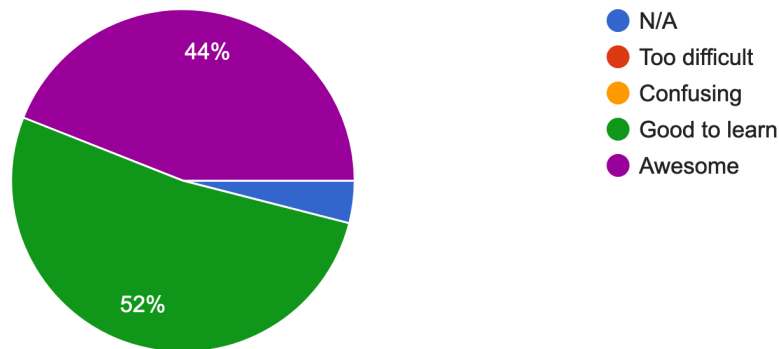
Your thoughts on the quizzes
- Really Really enjoying!!!
- I really liked them! it was nice when i got to a breakout room where people were actually coworking
- On one quiz I was wrong on almost every question. So I think they give me a baseline of where to get started on my own time.
- Questions were fine, but the wrong answer selections were too obvious so even if you didn't attend the lecture, you could still answer the questions correctly.
- Good idea. It was also very good, interesting and helpful to discuss with some participants in the breakout room.
- More quizzes in the future!
- The quizzes help to learn the presented material in a different and memorable way.

Breaks

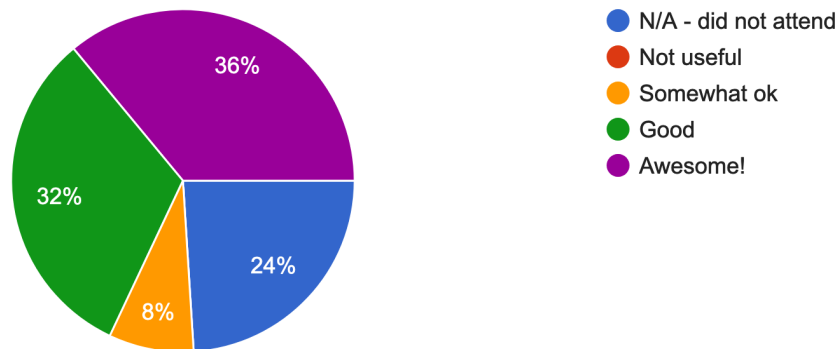## How were the breakout rooms? (during the quizzes and the breaks)
25 responses

🔵	N/A
🔴	Useless
🟠	Somewhat ok
🟢	Good
🟣	Great to talk to people!
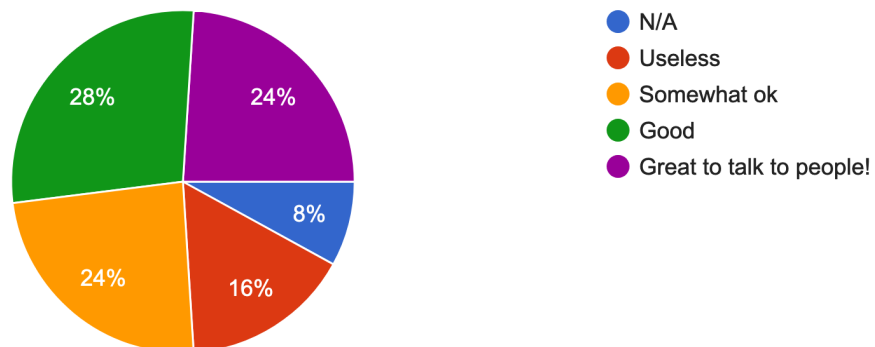
The sessions: "Expert in the Room"

How were the sessions "Expert in the Room"?
25 responses

- ● N/A - did not attend
- ● Not useful
- ● Somewhat ok
- ● Good
- ● Awesome!

36%
32%
24%
8%

Your thoughts on the format "Expert in the Room"
- I think a lot of the problems were addressed either on slack or in the live docs throughout, so I didn't really have any additional questions as I am only starting, except the VNC.. But it seemed to be useful to some other people that have more experience.
- I wish I had completed the mission setup in time to get direct help from the speakers but I think for the most part I will be able to figure the exercises out
- This was the best part, where an expert went through likely scenarios to go through.
- Helpful
- good idea!
- I would vote to use the same format if the training is given again.
- This is a good opportunity to ask questions and hear what other people are asking too.

Code-makeover

What did you think of the code-makeover sessions?
25 responses

- ● N/A
- ● Confusing
- ● Somewhat ok
- ● Good
- ● Excellent!

36%
48%
16%
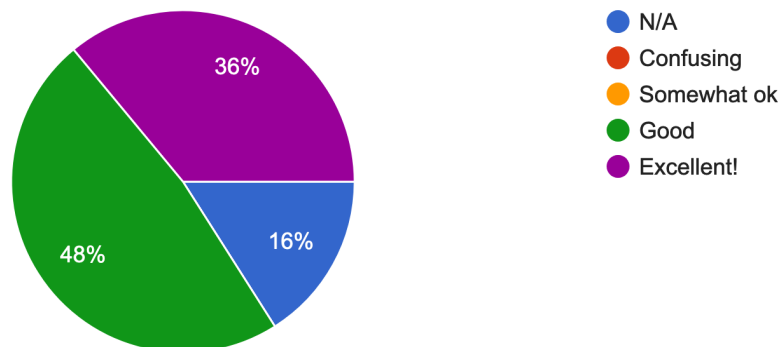
Your thoughts on the format "code-makeover"
- A nice experience!!!!
- Really useful resources for improving my work!
- I appreciated the "good" and "bad" example template.
- I couldn't attend the last session because of a conflict in my schedule.

- Important to answer questions.
- It is good to share real examples from the DUNE software suite, to share expert hints, tips and tricks.

General

How was it?

26 responses

- 🔵 Not useful at all
- 🔴 Somewhat useful
- 🟠 Useful, but have suggestions to improve
- 🟢 Good overall
- 🟣 It was really great! Learned a ton!

(Pie chart values: 46.2%, 7.7%, 38.5%)

What did you like?

- Everything!
- I liked the basics and how to run simple things
- I really enjoyed the interactive tutorials where we worked alongside the presenter.
- The github page is amazing! The asynchronous lecture! The content in general :) also the links to additional resources were much appreciated
- I liked that the instructors did what they were explaining to us on their own terminal.
- The experts
- I learnt, LArSoft setup but of course need practice and more of its understanding. Learned small tricks while coding. Also learnt how to submit jobs. Would like to have more tutorials like this, to grasp it better.
- Talk with the different people during breaks and quizzes, learned a lot, anonymous questions!
- The youtube videos!
- To have complementary material and recorded sessions
- Tom Junk did a great job with his section, I will have to go over it a few more times to get the full meaning of everything he covered though.
- Everyone paid attention as it was interactive.
- The content was very useful and helpful. The atmosphere was motivating and pleasant.
- I really enjoyed the timely responses to questions on the open-doc.

What did you not like?

- NA
- Because of my busy schedule I was not able to do some of the stuff at proper time.
- Because I could not work with the lectures I get very lost and by third day, had no idea what was happening.

- I felt like the POMS submission tutorial lacked that interactive aspect.
- Not that I wouldn't like it, but I think perhaps the grid submission was as good as the other parts. It felt bit less organised and perhaps more attention to the scripts we are running would be useful.
- There is a lot of confusing wording I would say. This is mostly on me to learn that wording however and I suspect that many people here have more programming experience then me.
- Confusing setup for "Mission Set-up"
- Sometimes was lagging behind during the tutorials and so could not understand. Classes could have been a bit slower.
- sometimes it was too fast for me, I could not follow on the terminal and write my questions at the same time
- the breakout rooms
- Cannot complain 0:)
- Since the tutotial takes place during working hours, I might get distracted, e.g. by receiving an urgent email that takes10 seconds to respond to it.
- My kerberos account expired on the second day of training and adversely affected the rest of the training in my case.

Your suggestions for improvement?

- Begin initial steps earlier, I also suggest making the training Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- During the quizzes, the experts in the room can bounce between the breakout rooms and engage people by asking if they have questions. I was a teaching assistant for a remote class, and this worked well in getting people more engaged. Many of my quiz breakout rooms were completely silent.
- The free format of the Expert in the Room sessions might not have been working the best, could be half structured, half not. Perhaps some content on most common mistakes?
- I'm a visual learner so maybe some visual representations of the course content would help, I liked the chart Tom showed us that showed how all the software is connected.
- Fix "Mission Set-up"
- Classes could have been at a slower pace to follow them. More tutorials like these would be really helpful.
- Motivate a speaker or to a bit more.
- just give people a break instead of breakout rooms
- It would be better to structure the whole tutorial as a unified exercise with all parts building towards running a given analysis job and getting results. And if we ever get to the point where people can be in the same room for a tutorial again, better to split it up into lecture/lab parts.. it was difficult for both instructors and fellow students to know how far anyone was getting.
- provide accounts to FermiLab computing center.
- As you said, it would be useful to provide some more heads up time for asynchronous tutorial \s etc.
- Like this tutorial, it is good to keep in mind that the audience can have a wide background and be currently placed in diverse circumstances, so it is very helpful to allow for flexibility and real-time adjustments. It is good to have a moderator during the tutorial who monitors the situation and makes adjustments as appropriate.
- I really thought that the format and how the information was presented was great! I wish I could have participated more. Technical difficulties made that difficult.

Open mic: express yourself (it's completely anonymous)

- I really enjoyed this overall, but I can't help but feel as though I did not learn what I needed and am very apprehensive as to how smoothly my transition into my internship will be.
- I loved learning about how everything was organized. From the outside, this entire system seems so foreign, but the tutorials helped me become more comfortable with the computing environments we use in neutrino/HEP physics.

- It was great!! Thank you
- All in all it was good and I'm glad it was all recorded so I can go back on it. The quizzes were great as well and provided a great self assessment. I think I have more to learn about the terminal and I will probably need to pick up C. Thank you!
- If someone could contact me and help set-up my "ssh" to tackle some of the example problems that would be fantastic. My email is XXX, thanks.
- Slower pace of the class would have been easier to follow the commands. Rest everything was perfect. Googledocs was really helpful!