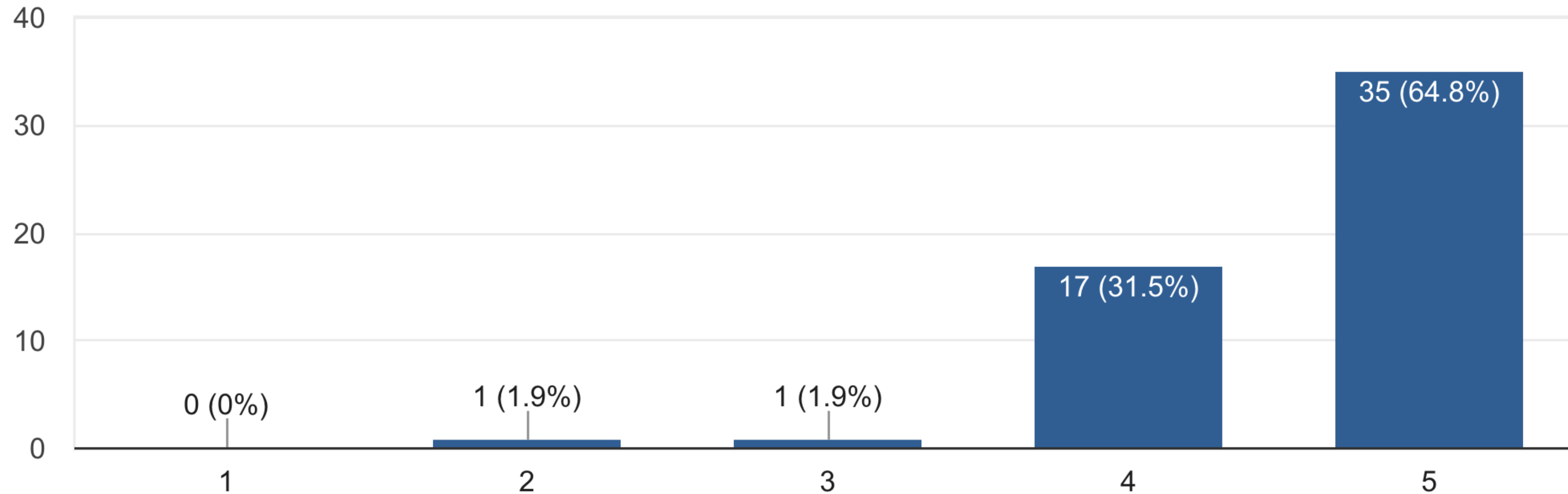# ROOT Workshop Survey

Axel Naumann, Godparents' Meeting, 2018-10-10

ROOT Workshop Survey

- Solicited feedback soon after the workshop

- Email sent to everyone registered

  - ROOT team members did not fill it in
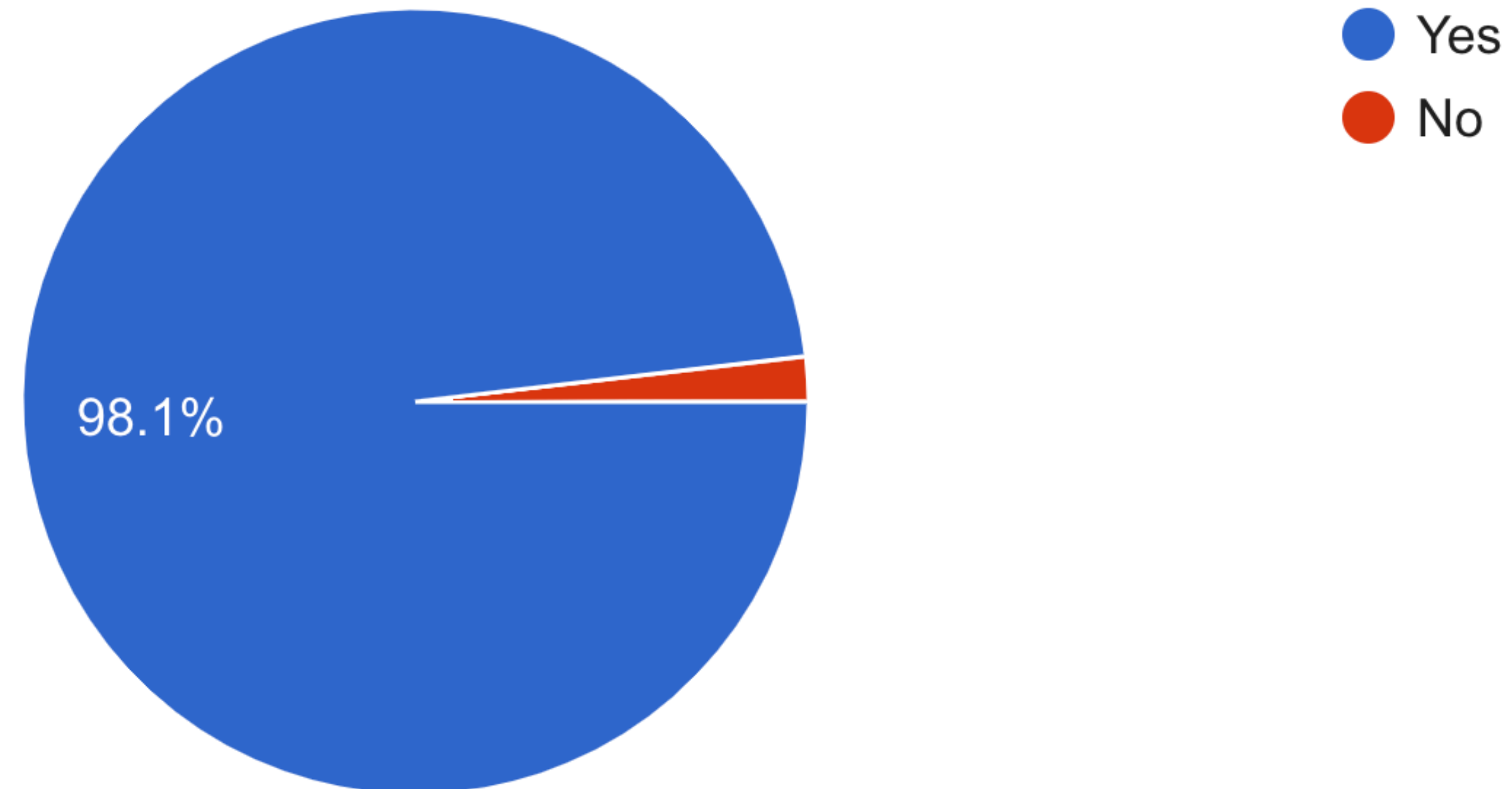
- 54 responses, about 50%!

"Did you like it?"

- 96% "above average"

"Would you recommend other people to come to the next ROOT workshop?"


- Resounding "yes, this is useful"
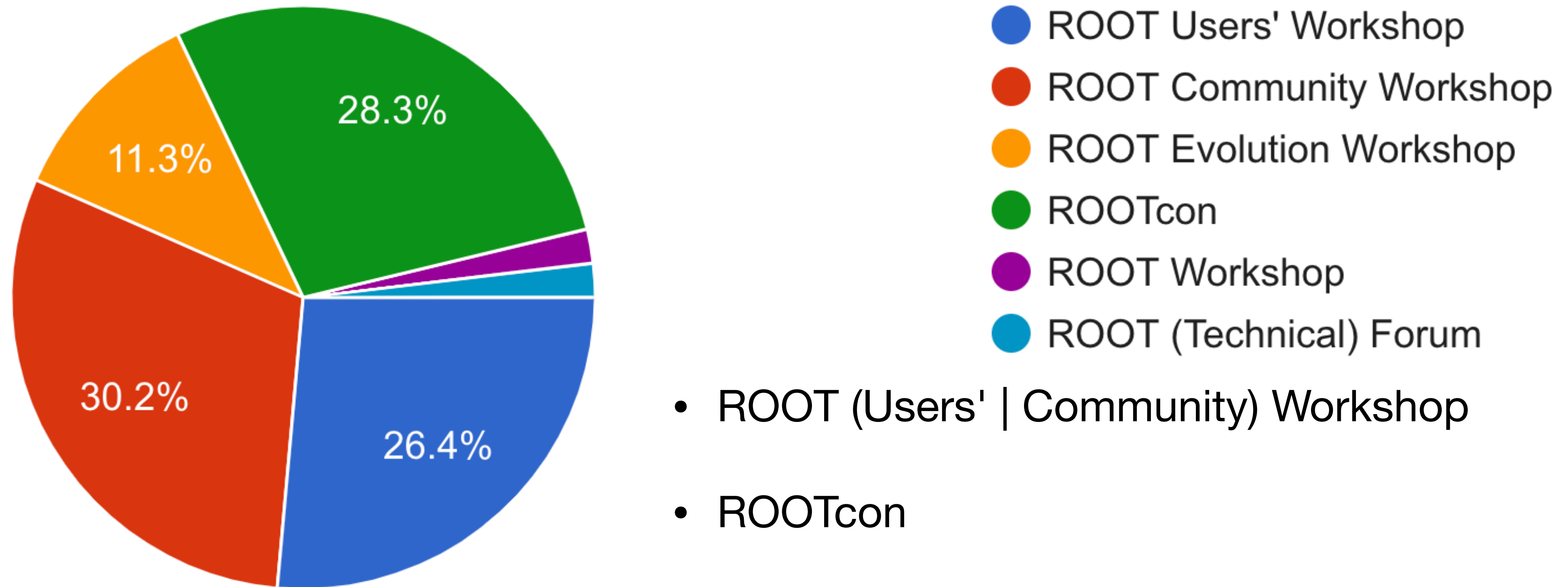
"What at the workshop did you like most?"

- Presentations ("diverse", "speakers were all well prepared"), explicitly highlighting industry talks ("broadened my view on programming and career paths")

- Discussions ("interaction"), also with developers; "ability to find all relevant people from the ROOT universe in one place"

- Being exposed to upcoming features

- General atmosphere: "constructive", "friendly", "pragmatic", "concrete", "interesting", "helpful"

- location, food

"Duration: 3.5 or 4 days is..."

• About 4 days it is.
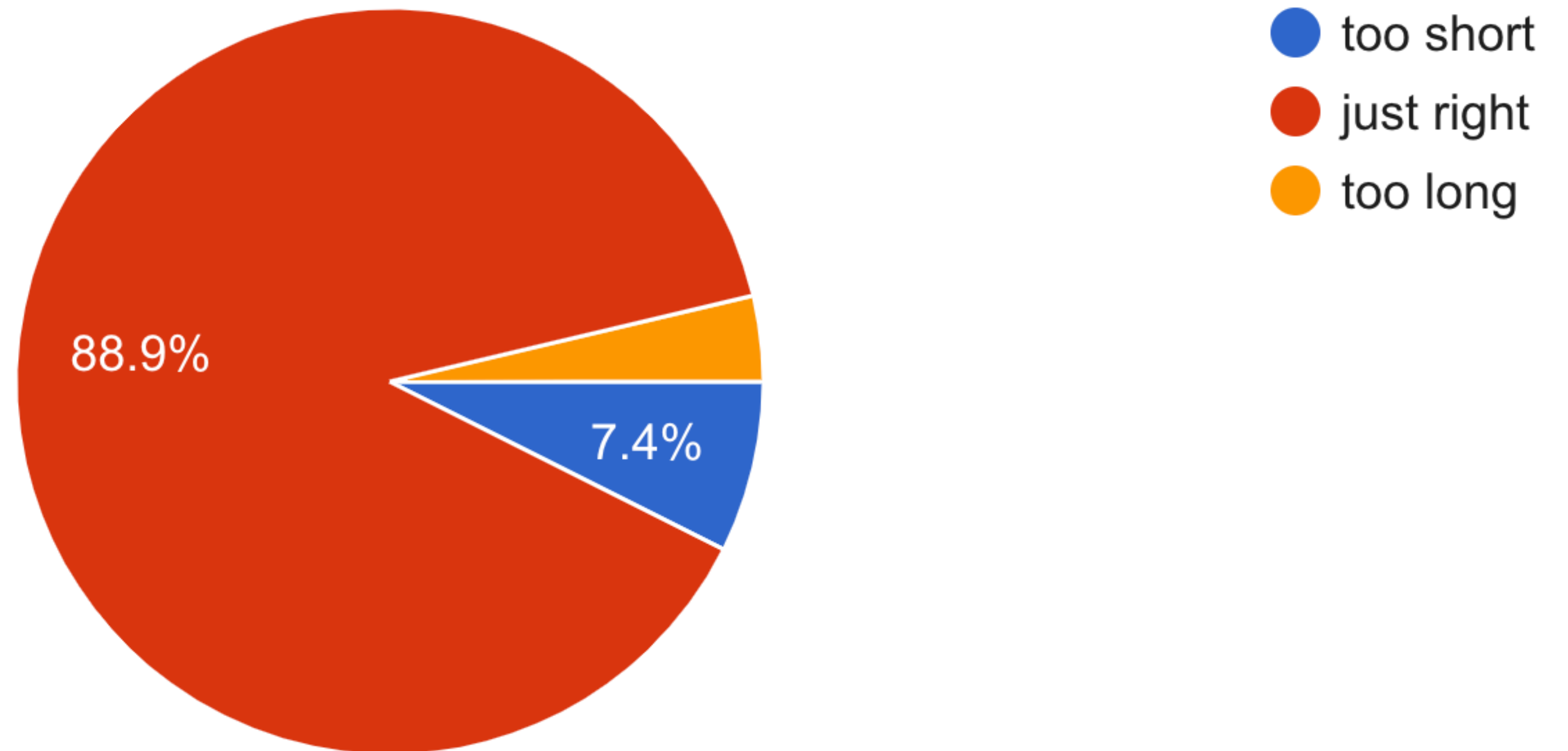
"Given what we did, what would have been a better name for this event?"

Legend:
- ● ROOT Users' Workshop
- ● ROOT Community Workshop
- ● ROOT Evolution Workshop
- ● ROOTcon
- ● ROOT Workshop
- ● ROOT (Technical) Forum

Pie chart values: 28.3%, 11.3%, 30.2%, 26.4%

- ROOT (Users' | Community) Workshop

- ROOTcon

- *"subtitle it with 'Meet the developers!'"*

"Had we offered video conferencing, would you have come to Sarajevo nevertheless?"

Yes
No
Maybe

81.5%

14.8%
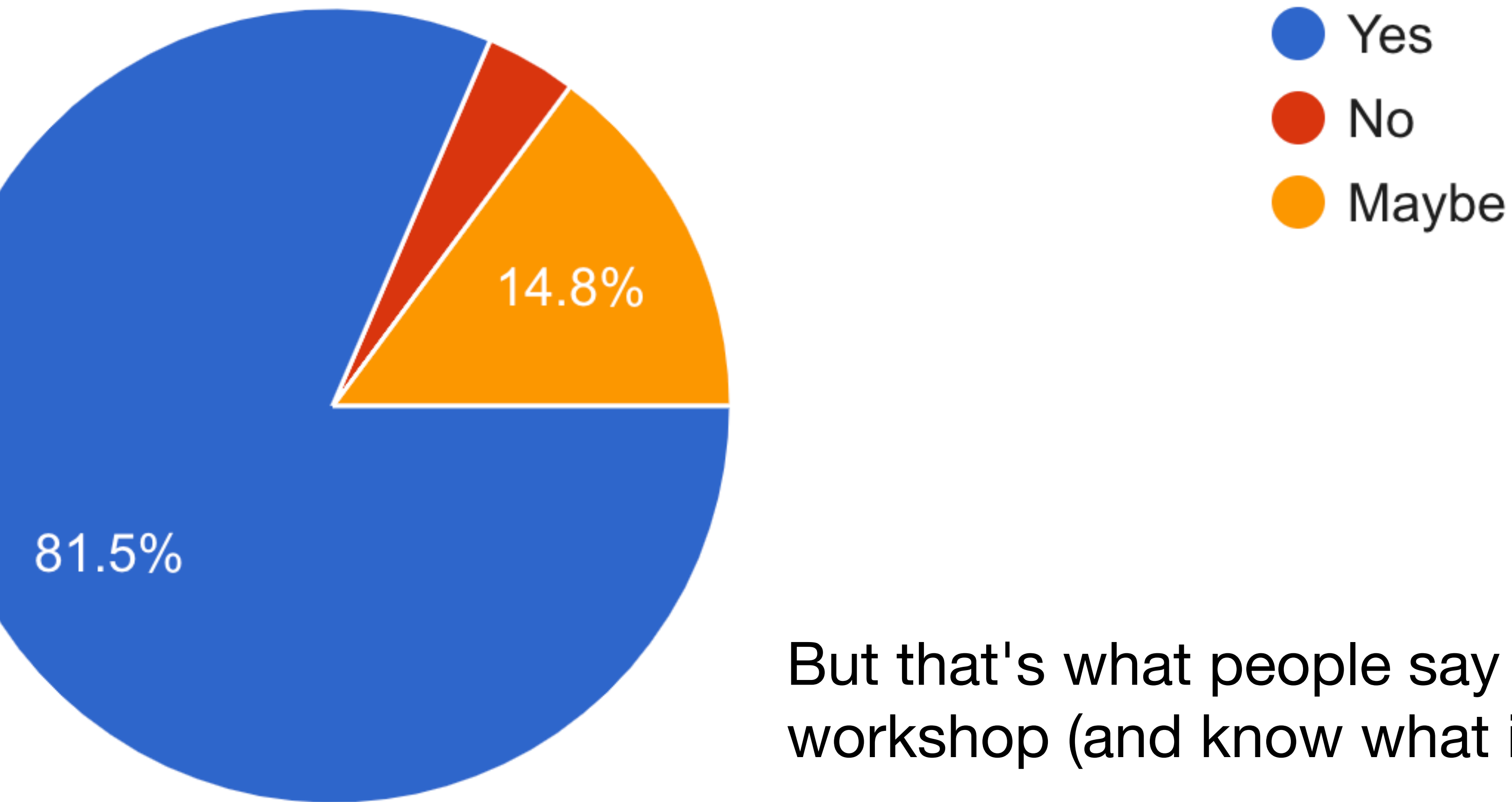
But that's what people say **after** they have attended the workshop (and know what it's like)

"Which additional topic should we have covered?"

- "Everything was covered."

- "more example of usage of ROOT"; "ROOT Forum"; "Best C++/python practices, training practices"; "Swan"; "Hands on experience for beginners"

- "more on algorithms, in particular ML"; "more on I/O"; "evolution of I/O and User Interfaces"

- "No graphics next time. Plotting diagrams is the most boring session."

- "Usage of ROOT in individual analysis groups"; "reports from experiments"

- "Interoperability with / in FOSS software"; "generalization of ROOT tools for outside of HEP"

- "theory of ROOT: guiding principles for development and use"

"How can we advertise the next workshop better?"

- We did well for ATLAS, people notices posters @ CERN

- Clarify intent / scope (versus "workshop")

- More aggressive ads on websites (root.cern, forum)

- Social media

- Local media

"How else can we improve the next workshop?"

- More discussion time versus talk time: "Wednesday felt very exhausting (I count 27 presentations!)"

- Podium discussion; organize small discussion groups:

  - "a big part of us were only users and felt a bit overwhelmed by the experts discussion while, during coffee breaks, I could see them all interacting and telling their experiences / problems."; "physicist instead of a programmer, so part of these presentations is not so interesting due to it being too advanced for me"

  - "This event would in this case also have been great to showcase some of the new features in ROOT6.14/7, as some might be lost on the not so advanced users."

"How else can we improve the next workshop?"

- Separate novice-level talks from experts' talks; level too high for PhD students for some presentations; "Not encourage people presenting their very first steps in the world of programming"

- Live ROOT coding; interactive parts; training ("to attract younger audience")

- "Maybe be you should organise feedback sessions of smaller size on shorter basis then few years."

- "Awards (e.g. ROOT mug)" for most active participant

"Comments"

- "great workshop, thanks for organizing!"; "I certainly had fun with this conference :)"; "Thank you for big event for our small country"

- "I really enjoyed this workshop and it was a great overview to be introduced to the recent features; some of which I didn't know were implemented or on the road map. My compliments to the organization!"

- "I learned a lot but also got the chance to meet a lot of interesting people and share many ideas."

- "it was a big pleasure having been part of it!"

- "Seeing many commenting, asking questions and providing opinions (and not often seniors) it appears the workshop goals were achieved: a community forum where even the youngest feel free to express their opinion."

- "I have already told every single students in my group to go to the next ROOT workshop."

Comments on ROOT Itself

- "ROOT7 incompatibilities will be devastating"

- "Since I have some windows users in my group, it makes my live a lot easier to tell them, just do a pip install and load the experimental data."