

# Results for the STIR Survey 2012

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Summary by Kris Thielemans, Algorithms and Software Consulting Ltd.

This version of the summary corrects a mistake in the analysis of the “interest in new features” question.

## Procedure

The STIR survey was held between 27 January and 20 February 2012. It was announced on the three STIR mailing lists, but also on the SimSET and GATE user lists and to the members of the PET/MR EU COST action.

The survey was conducted using the LimeSurvey (open-source) software as hosted on the Sourceforge website. The survey was anonymous but users were given an option to add their name at the end (roughly half did).

## Participant info

There were 49 responses. A few of these said that they were representing others as well. In the final analysis, their responses were duplicated accordingly (after checking if this was reasonable, and adjusting in a few cases after contacting the relevant people if possible). This brought the **total number of answers to 67**. As a comparison, on 8 March 2012 the stir-users mailing list had 242 members, the developer’s list had 77 members and the stir-announce list had 208 members<sup>1</sup>.

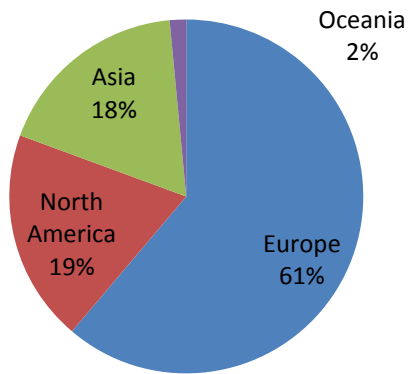
All answers in this summary are expressed as percentage of responses (i.e. a fraction of 67).

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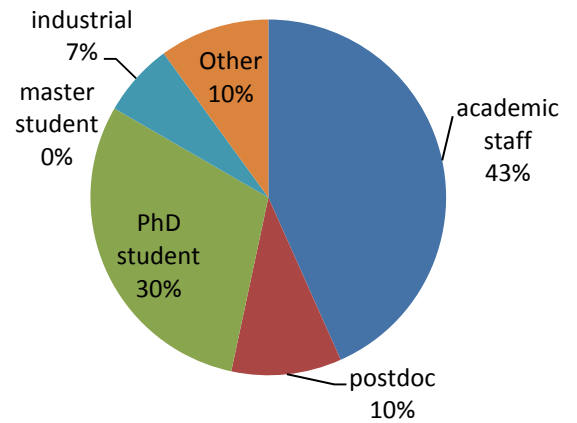
<sup>1</sup> The mailman software automatically removes email addresses that bounce back.

## General user information

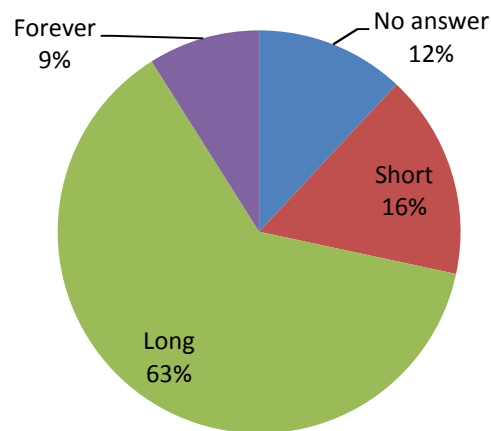
### Location



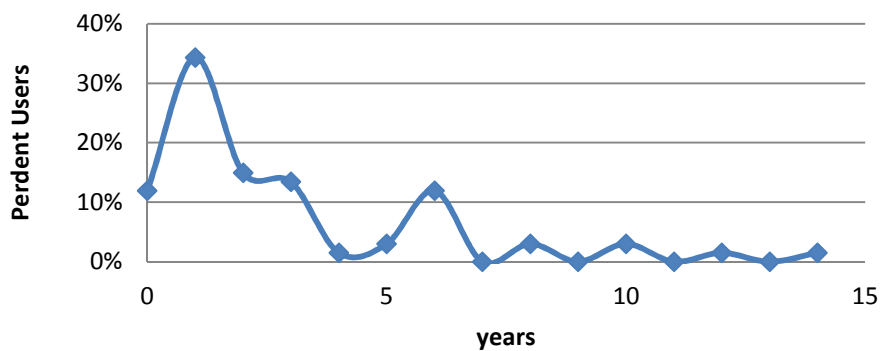
### Main position



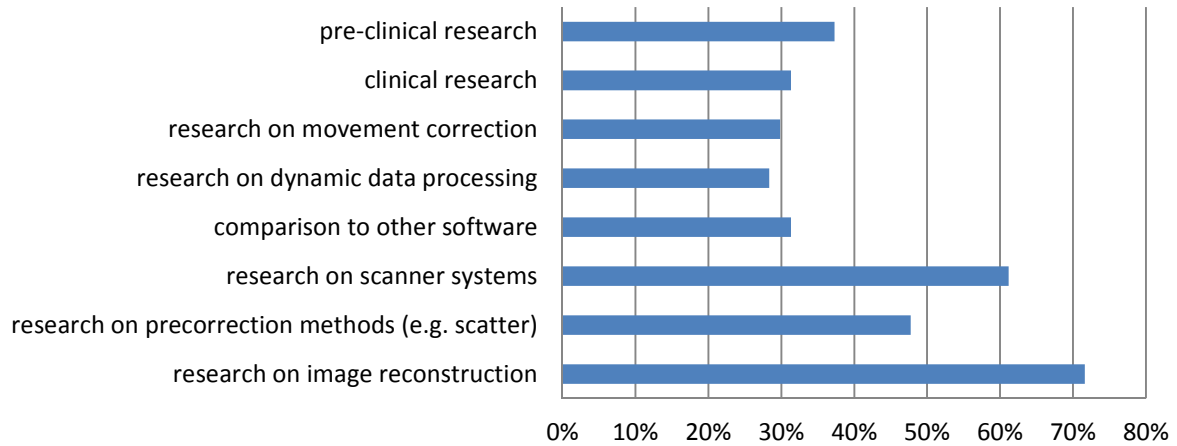
### How long do you plan to use STIR?



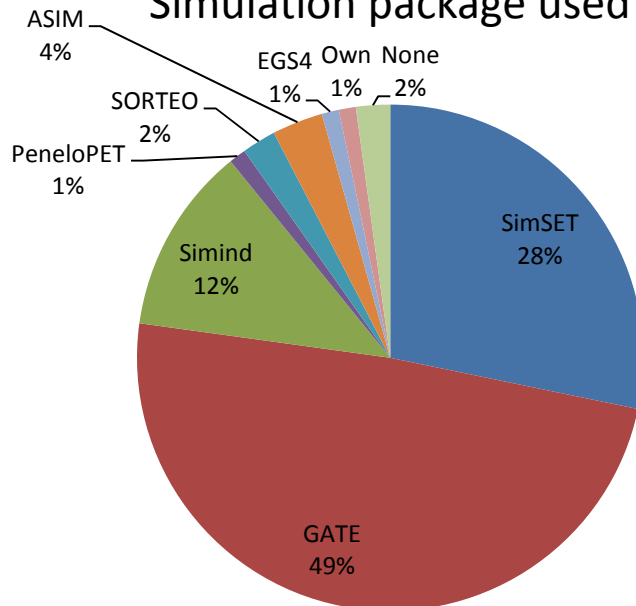
### Number of years that you used STIR



## Which purpose do you use STIR for?

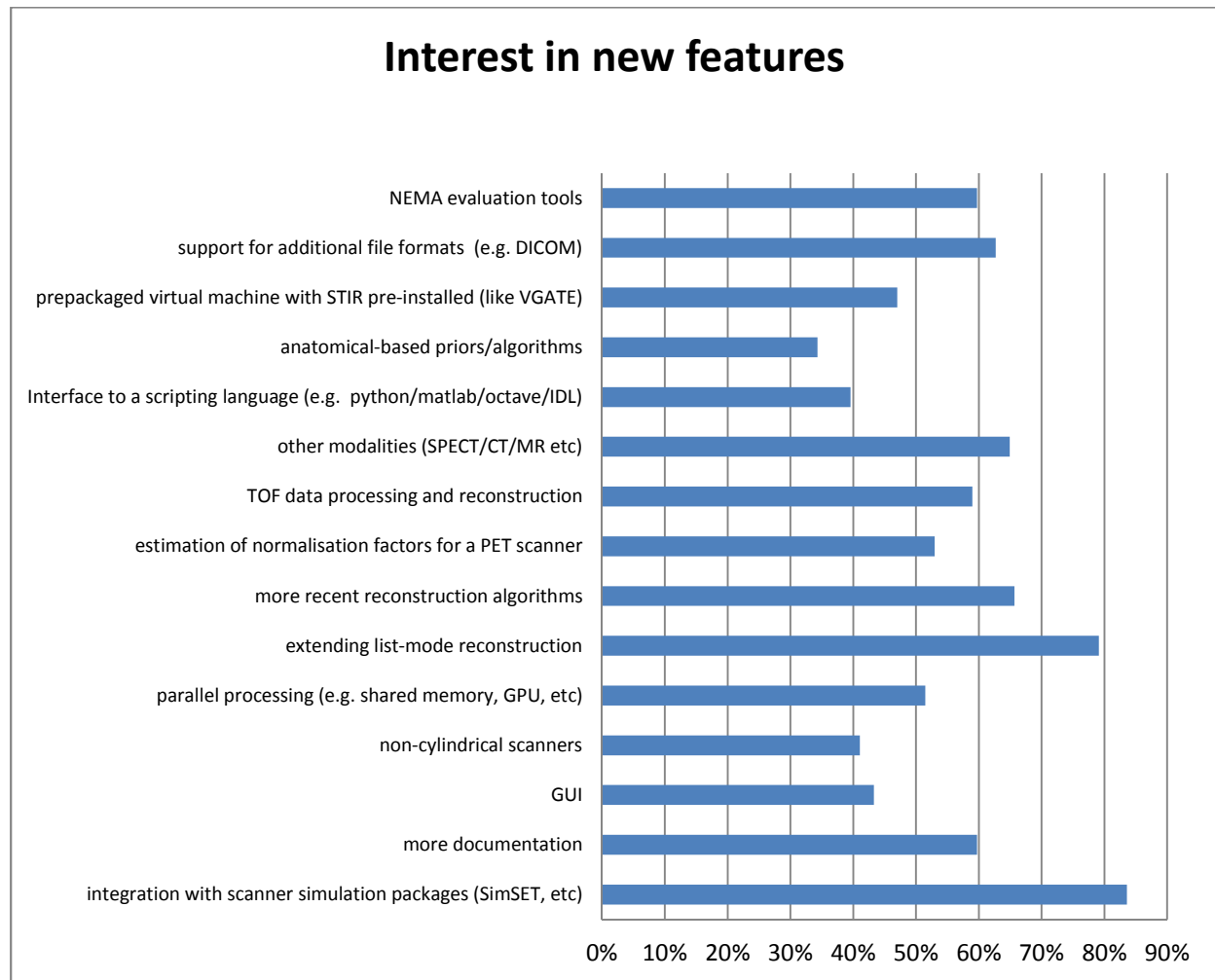


## Simulation package used



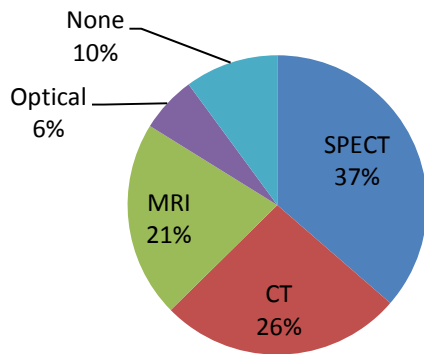
Note that ASIM was not listed as a choice in the survey, but was mentioned by some participants as "other".

## User wish-list questions



The above chart was constructed from the responses to the question “What new features would you like added to STIR?”. The participants were asked to score their interest for every item, choosing between “None”, “Low priority” and “High priority”. These were then converted to a numerical score as 0, 50% and 100% respectively. These scores were then averaged over all users. Therefore, an “interest score” of 100% would mean that all participants rated a topic as “high priority”.

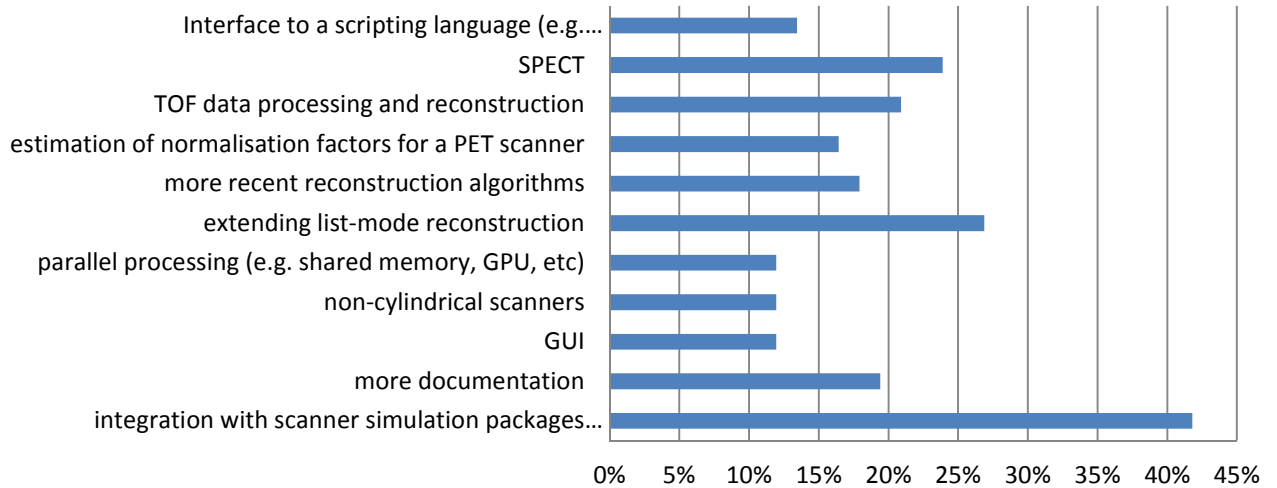
## Which modality would you like to be added to STIR?



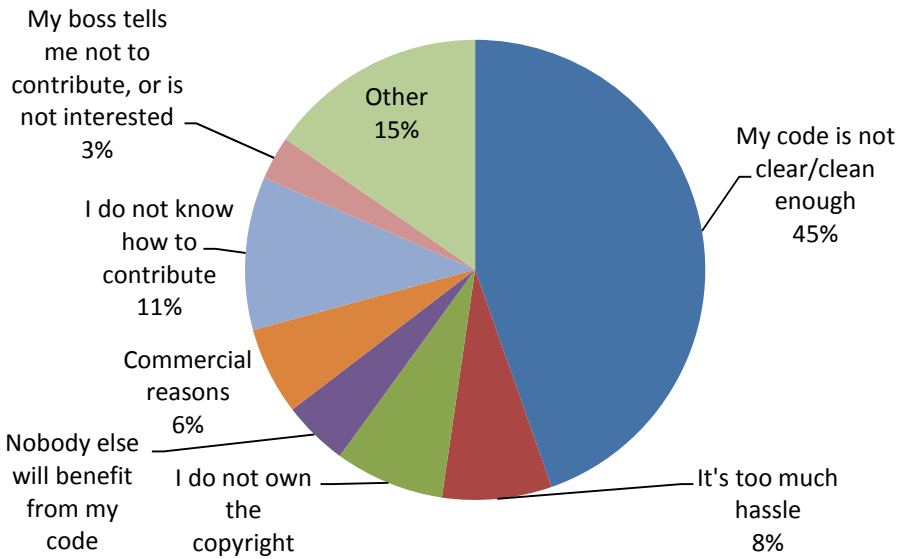
## Developer questions

**57%** answered Yes on “Did you develop, or are you considering developing software using the STIR library?” **42%** answered Yes on “Will you consider distributing this to other STIR users?”, This is **78%** of all those who said Yes on the first question.

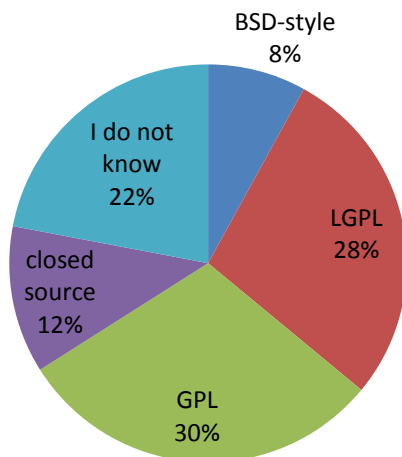
## What new features did/would you like to add to STIR



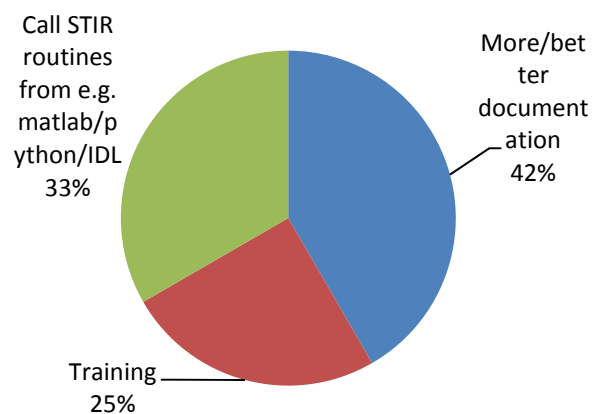
## What would (or will) stop you from contributing?



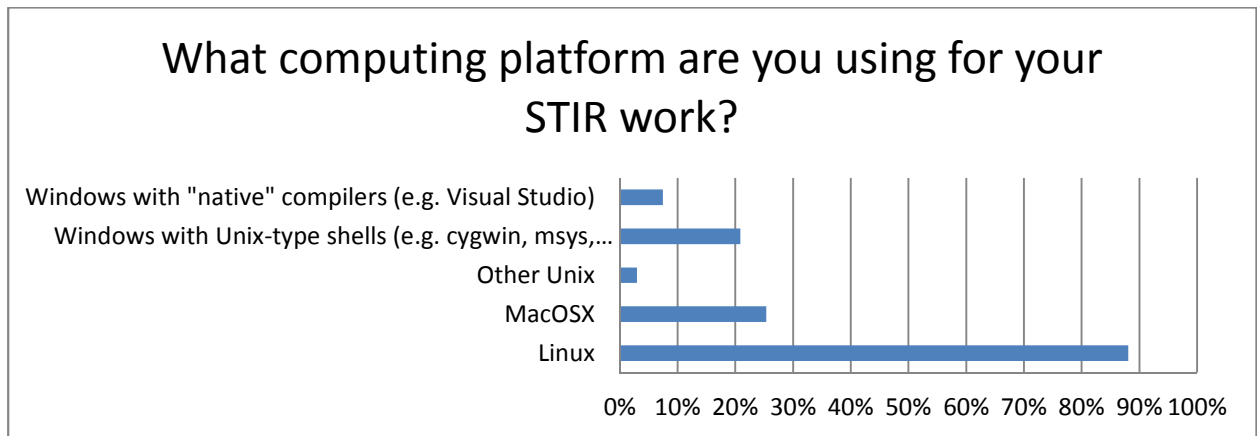
## What license would you be happy to use?



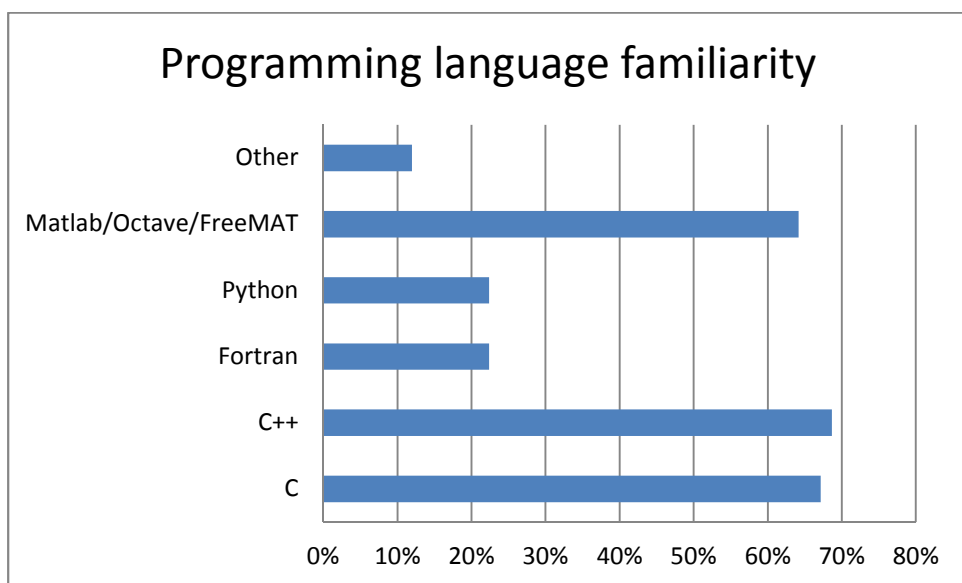
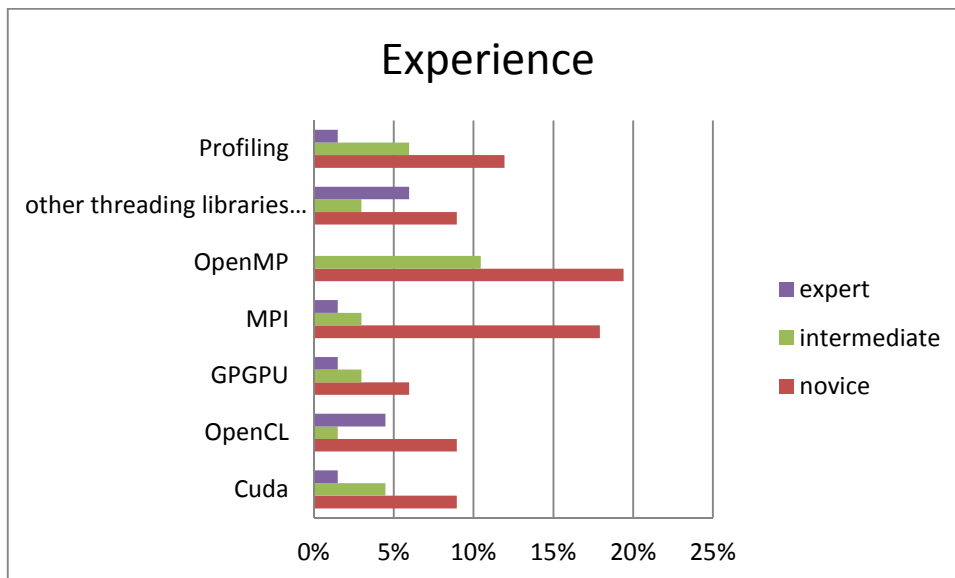
## What would make your life easier to develop in STIR?



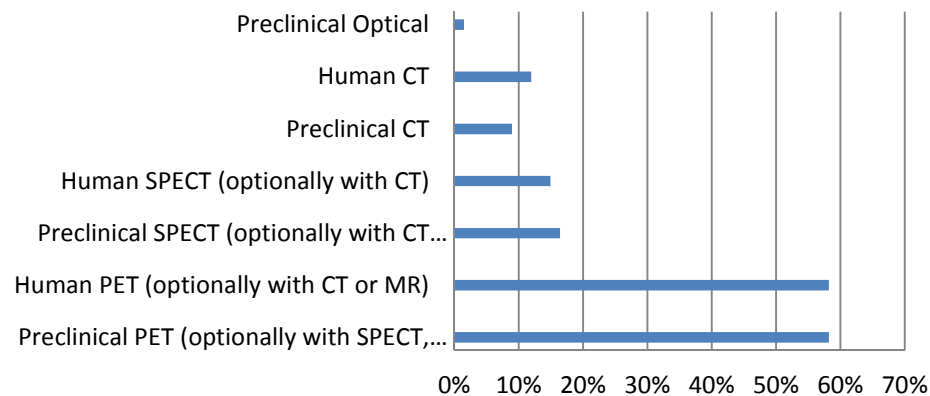
## Further info on the user base



For the above question, note that some participants used more than one platform.

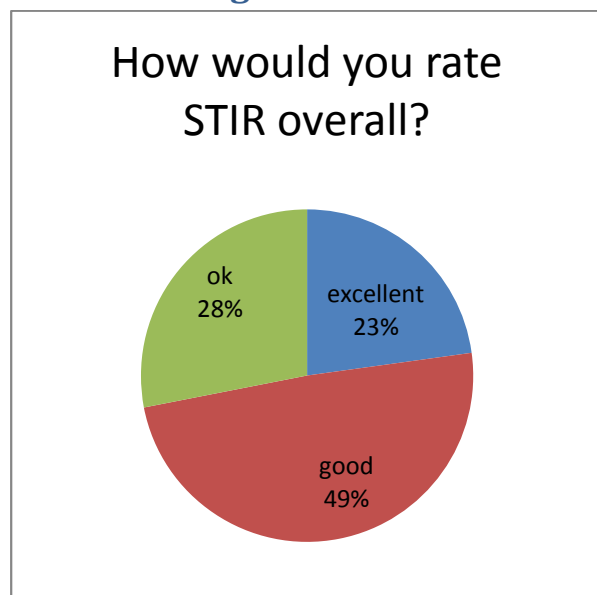


## What kind of devices would you like to use STIR for?



For human PET scanners, the responses were fairly uniform over the big manufacturers (Siemens: 13, GE: 12, Philips: 8)

## Overall rating



Luckily nobody answered “bad” but of course those wouldn’t have filled in the survey.

## Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the following people for helping in preparing and testing the survey (listed alphabetically): Brian Elston (Univ Washington), Charalampos Tsoumpas (King’s College London), Dávid Völgyes (Univ Oslo), Matthew Jacobson (Xoran Technologies), Pablo Aguiar (Fundación IDICHUS Santiago Compostela), Paul Kinahan (Univ Washington), Robert Harrison (Univ Washington).