BrightnESS²

Bringing Together a Neutron Ecosystem for Sustainable Science with ESS

H2020-INFRADEV-3-2018-1

Grant Agreement Number: 823867

Deliverable Report

D2.3 Report on User Needs

BrightnESS² is funded by the European Union Framework
Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020,
under grant agreement 823867

Cover image: Twenty word clouds based on country-specific neutron vocabulary, projected on the flags of country-members of ENSA (described in the last paragraph of Chapter 7).

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1. Project Deliverable Information Sheet

BrightnESS^2 Project	Project Ref. No. 823867	
	Project Title: BrightnESS^2 – Bringing Together a Neutron Ecosystem for Sustainable Science with ESS	
	Project Website: brightness.esss.se	
	Deliverable No.: D2.3 Report on User Needs	
	Deliverable Type: report	
	Dissemination Level:	Contractual Delivery Date: 31.08.2020
		Revised Delivery Date: 31.10.2020
		Actual Delivery Date: 17.12.2020
	EC Project Officer: René Martins	

2. Document Control Sheet

Document	Title: D2.3 Report on User Needs	
	Version: 2.0	
	Available at: tbd	
	Files: 1	
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3. List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence
API	Application Program Interface
ENSA	European Neutron Scattering Association
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
ESS	European Spallation Source
LDA	Latent Dirichlet Allocation
NLP	Natural Language Processing
TUDelft	Technische Universiteit Delft

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5. Executive Summary

This report summarizes the main findings of an analysis and survey of the broader neutron-science community in Europe, designed to determine their future needs for the ESS and the European infrastructure of neutron sources, as described in Task 2.2 of the Brightness² Work Package 2.

Background. The community of scientists using neutrons in their research is broad and diverse, ranging from biologists and engineers to researchers in material science, magnetism and fundamental physics. For most of these users, neutron-based experiments complement studies with other complementary techniques. Taking into account this high level of diversity, we chose to adopt a two-step process to assess the needs of the European science community for new neutron-based methods. First, we evaluated in an extensive literature analysis the geographical distribution of the neutron-science community across Europe and the main topics of their published works. Second, based on the findings of this analysis, we designed a detailed survey, tailored to the individual countries of the recipients, in order to assess their previous experience and future needs in the context of neutron experimentation.

Target group analysed and surveyed. The 'neutron community' surveyed is represented by the European Neutron Scattering Association (ENSA) and their 20 European national delegates in the association (representing Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom). The delegates sent a web survey to around 4000 recipients, of whom 450 provided a response.

Methodology. We developed a novel approach based on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to describe the neutron-science community. We analysed the published work of neutron scientists since 1956, making extensive use of Natural Language Processing (NLP). The AI analysis provided new insight into our community, the European neutron facilities, and the Brightness² consortium. At the same time, it served as the starting point of the survey, providing recipients with a broad and original overview of their field before requesting their input.

Key findings. A central finding of our survey is that the great scientific diversity of researches who use neutrons for their research is reflected in the wish that facilities complement their infrastructure with a broad range of supporting service, to enable users to fully exploit the excellent instrumentation provided. The experiments at neutron facility are typically undertaken by a multidisciplinary team with broad expertise, which benefits from the unique properties of neutrons in combination with other experimental methods, computer modelling and theory. We found that many neutron scientists request an improvement at the stages before and after the experiment, which are often areas that are under-resourced. The European neutron facilities are asked to complement their excellent infrastructure with improvements in the areas experiment optimization, access modes, neutron-facility staffing, as well as software and analysis. Such improvements in training and use, prior to the experiment as well as for data analysis, are also likely to attract more industrial applications of neutron science. For the neutron facilities these findings mean that their users will directly benefit from further strengthening dedicated local support services by instrument scientists as well as from investments in, for example, instrumentation for 'operando' operation, remote access, and increased scientific-computing capabilities.

A second theme that transpired from the responses is the need for multiple sources that can operate in synergy with ESS and the critical threat posed by the reduced availability of neutron sources to the European science leadership in this field. This is a longstanding concern in the community of neutron users in Europe, and affects the scope of experiments that can be conducted — which should cover the full range for standard, screening and test measurements to frontier exploratory research — as well as aspects of teaching and training.

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6. Introduction

Task 2.2 of Brightness² is summarized as "assessing the needs of the European science community for new neutron-based methods". This scientific community is strongly affected by the current and future changes to the neutron landscape, as described in the ESRFI report. The European Neutron Scattering Association (ENSA) represents the community and leads the execution of Task 2.2.

The unique properties of neutrons and the professional developments at neutron facilities have resulted in a very broad field of science that benefits from neutron scattering. Neutron science involves research in fundamental interactions in sub-atomic particles, in magnetism, solid-state and soft-matter physics, and chemistry, as well as in biology and engineering applications. With the goal of visualizing what neutron science is and how it develops over time, we developed AI algorithms to search and categorize published work since 1956, thus covering the many scientific communities that benefit from neutrons.

This rather broad group of scientists across Europe was approached through their national ENSA delegates in a web survey tailored specifically to the country of the recipient. The web survey itself started with a summary of the AI analysis of published work in that particular country, serving as a seeding point for assessing current scientific use of neutrons and future needs.

ENSA is leading this work package, but as it holds no (single) office in a country, the execution of the project is centred at the Technische Universiteit Delft (NL), the affiliation of the vice-chair of ENSA, Dr. Lambert van Eijck. Dr. Evgenii Velichko is data scientist employed by TU Delft on this Brightness² project. Together with the chair, Prof. Henrik Rønnow, they are in close collaboration with the Brightness² consortium members and its Steering Board. The communication with the European neutron-scientist community is organized through the 20 ENSA delegates who interact with their respective national (European) scientific communities. Although the computing work related the AI analysis is performed at TU Delft, the national delegates in ENSA are strongly involved in the whole processes of WP2.2, with more than 10 ENSA meetings held to deliver this Report.

This Report builds on the Intermediate Report D2.3a, which was submitted as a deliverable to Brightness² in August 2020. The Intermediate Report detailed how we use AI and Natural Language Processing (NLP) to describe the neutron-science community through their scientific output by analysing the corpus of published work. This approach enables a 'visualization' of the broad and diverse community of neutron scientists. The analysis also served as a starting point for the web-based country-specific survey sent to the community through their national delegates. The current Report focusses on future needs for neutron science, as expressed by the community and their national delegates in ENSA.

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7. Artificial Intelligence analysis of published work

Considering the large number of publications on the research performed at neutron facilities, the task of staying abreast of the scientific and technological developments becomes increasingly challenging, even for experts in a particular field. Rapid developments in AI, however, facilitate multiple steps in the research process. Natural Language Processing in particular — a branch of AI that deals with the interaction between computers and humans — can scientists the tools to delegate part of the routine tasks related to handling unstructured data, such as reading large volumes of research publications to extract information relevant for their research. In order to accomplish the task of defining and reporting the needs of European neutron scientists, we developed a two-step approach. First, we analysed the published research performed with neutron-based techniques. At this step our goal was to gain insight into the most common research topics benefiting from neutron experiments. At this stage, correlations between the research topics and specific neutron techniques were established. The results of this analysis were subsequently used as an input for the preparation of the survey, which was sent out to the European neutron scientists at the second step.

In order to ascertain representability of the data used for the NLP analysis, we chose the Scopus database (scopus.com) as one of the most inclusive collections of scientific publications[1] with a user-friendly API. For accessing the database we used a Python-based API wrapper[2]. Retrieval of metadata for all the publications from institutions related to neutron research has yielded about 1.3 million results, among which about 50,000 contained the word "neutron" either in the title or in the abstract. A closer examinaton of the meta-data of the 'neutron publications' revealed a subset of entries related to, e.g., neutron stars and particle physics, which are not relevant in the context of our analysis. In order to consolidate the data basis used, all publications containing the terms 'tokamak', 'lhc', 'stellar', 'neutron star', 'gravitational' and 'blanket' were filtered out. The thus-filtered metadata set contained about 46,000 entries and was further utilized for a topic modelling by NLP.

An unsupervised machine-learning technique based on Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)[3] was used to retrieve a typical set of topics frequently appearing in the 'neutron publications'. Unsupervised machine learning is a powerful technique allowing humans to delegate large time-consuming classification tasks to computers without providing much preliminary information. However, there are some drawbacks to this technique. First, the number of topics for classification needs be set beforehand. The number has to be chosen carefully, as the algorithm will always satisfy this criterion, sometimes at a cost of quality of the result. Second, the classification criteria used by the learning algorithm are not always easy to identify *a posteriori* from the classification results. In case of topic modelling and text-classification tasks, these drawbacks might lead to the algorithm merging some of the under-represented non-related topics into one topic, due to a small number of requested topics,

[1] A. Martín-Martín, E. Orduna-Malea, M. Thelwall, E. Delgado López-Cózar, Google Scholar, Web of Science, and Scopus: A systematic comparison of citations in 252 subject categories, J. Informetr. 12 (2018) 1160–1177. doi:10.1016/j.joi.2018.09.002.

[2] M.E. Rose, J.R. Kitchin, pybliometrics: Scriptable bibliometrics using a Python interface to Scopus, SoftwareX. 10 (2019) 100263. doi:10.1016/j.softx.2019.100263.

[3] M.D. Hoffman, D.M. Blei, F. Bach, Online learning for Latent Dirichlet Allocation, Adv. Neural Inf. Process. Syst. 23 24th Annu. Conf. Neural Inf. Process. Syst. 2010, NIPS 2010. (2010) 1–9.

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or, to split some of the over-represented topics into smaller bits due to a high number of requested topics. Therefore, it is common to perform the modelling with several numbers of topics and pick the most meaningful number based on an expert analysis of the result. In order to make the topic modelling results easily accessible to a wide group of neutron scientists, we created interactive topics visualisation tools using an established LDA method[4].

The outcome of this analysis then served as a starting point for the survey, which presented the analysis at the national level for each of the ENSA member countries. Through the delegates of each contry, the tailored surveys were then sent to the communities as web-based surveys with statistical information about research performed with the help of neutrons in Europe as a whole, and in the individual European country. Each page of the web survey contained a word-cloud representation of the most relevant terms for the publications from the target country (see the title page for examples), an interactive tool for the description of the topics found and statistical country-related results of our analysis. These pages set the stage for the survey of the European neutron scientists' needs. Moreover, the direct involvement of the national delegates in the interactions with their communities renders the request 'more personalized', while being in full compliance with GDPR rules.

8. Statistics and NLP analysis

In order to focus our research on the European neutron scientists, our dataset was divided into two categories: publications written with at least one European (co-)author (in the following referred to as "European publications") and publications written without any European (co-)authors ("non-European publications"). For some basic statistics, we compared the two publications categories, while for further analysis we focussed on the former one.

The statistical analysis of the metadata shows a clear increasing trend in the number of neutron publications per year, with most publications including at least one European (co-)author (Fig. 1). The first significant increase of the number of European publications above non-European ones appears around 1967. This could be related to the foundation of the Institut Laue–Langevin. However, there might be other direct and indirect causes for this phenomenon. Another important trend is an increase in the average number of (co-)authors per neutron publication (Fig. 2). We interpret this trend as an indication of an increasing complexity of research performed involving neutrons, as the scientific field that benefits from neutrons broadens with time and increasingly multidisciplinary synergetic science emerges. Noticeably, the European publications tend to have more (co-)authors on average than non-European ones and this tendency seems to hold since around 2004 (Fig. 2).

[4] C. Sievert, K. Shirley, LDAvis: A method for visualizing and interpreting topics, (2015) 63–70. doi:10.3115/v1/w14-3110.

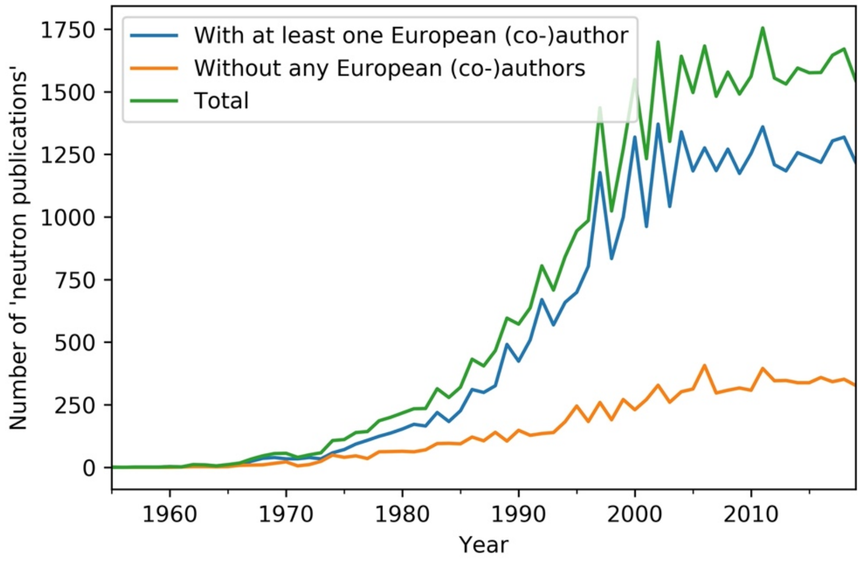

Figure 1: The increase in the number of 'neutron publications' per year, as derived from the corpus of collected publications.

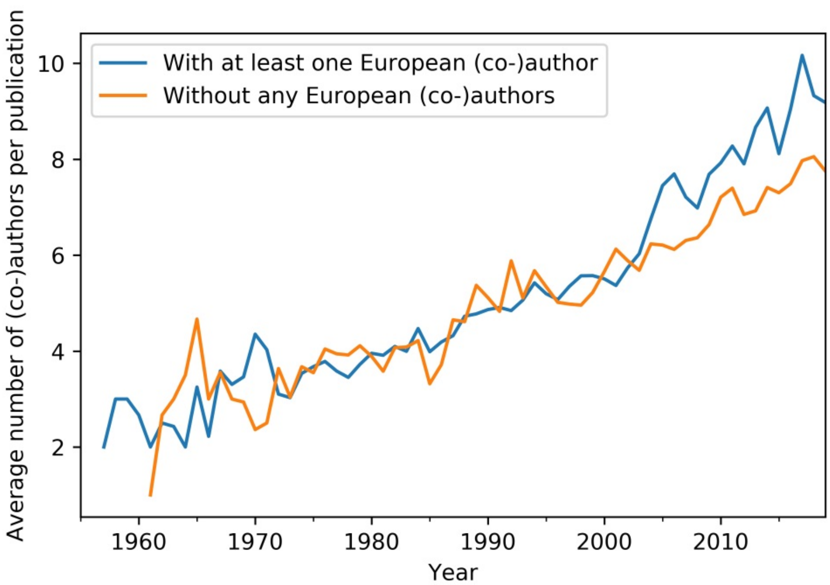

Figure 2: Increase in the number of authors per publication per year.

The entire dataset of "neutron" metadata was used for training our NLP topic-modelling algorithm. The algorithm categorizes the corpus of publications into a pre-defined number of topics, where each topic is defined by the vocabulary of the publications and the assignment of a single publication is done using a probability distribution over the topics.

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8.1. Outcome of the NLP analysis

In order to examine the topic-resolving power of the algorithm, the modelling was performed with pre-defined numbers of topics: 3, 7 and 11. The resulting graphical representations of topics found by the algorithm are shown in Fig. 3a–c and the interactive web-version is accessible at Footnote [5]. The visualisation tool for this analysis is introduced in Appendix 1.

When imposing the discrimination into three topics, the corpus of published work is very well resolved into three well-separated 'islands', corresponding to what could be termed as containers: "1– hard matter", "2 – soft matter" and "3 – instrumentation", respectively (Fig. 3a). Increasing the number of topics to seven also yields a well-resolved and meaningful set of topics, namely, "1 – magnetism", "2 – instrumentation", "3 – fundamental science", "4 – protein dynamics", "5 – surfaces and interfaces", "6 – soft matter", and "7 – biomembranes" (Fig. 3b). A further increase in the number of topics to eleven leads to more ambiguity in topic definition (Fig. 3c). As a result of this analysis, a model with seven topics was chosen for further classification of the publication dataset.

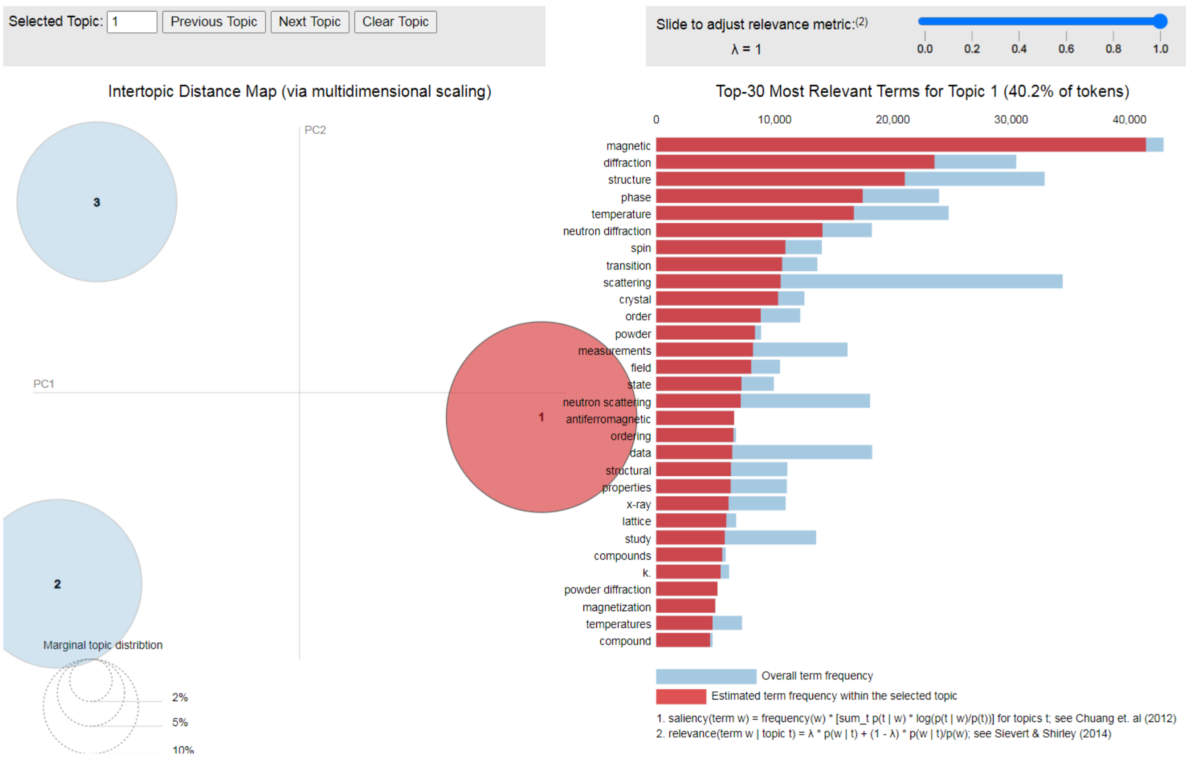

Figure 3(a): Graphical representation of topic models obtained with the LDA machine learning algorithm for three topics

5 https://ensa.tudelft.nl/topics/3topics.html, https://ensa.tudelft.nl/topics/7topics.html, https://ensa.tudelft.nl/topics/11topics.html

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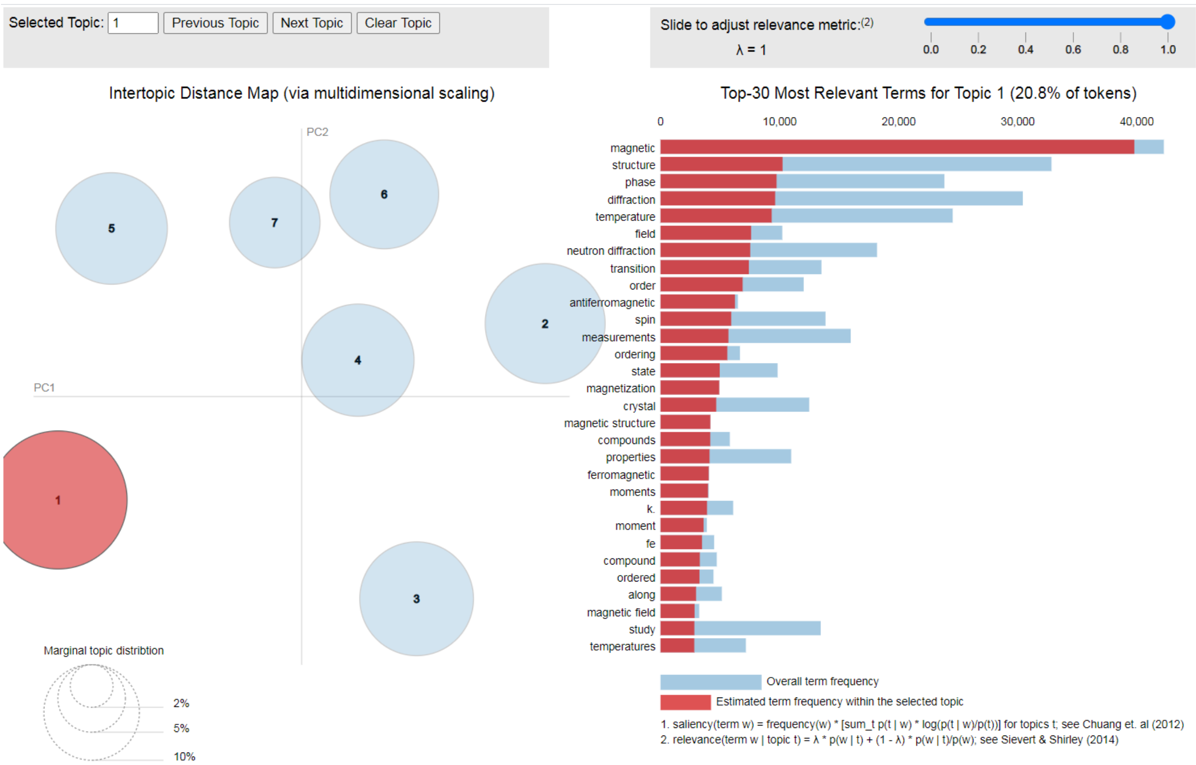

Figure 3(b): Graphical representation of topic models obtained with the LDA machine learning algorithm for seven topics

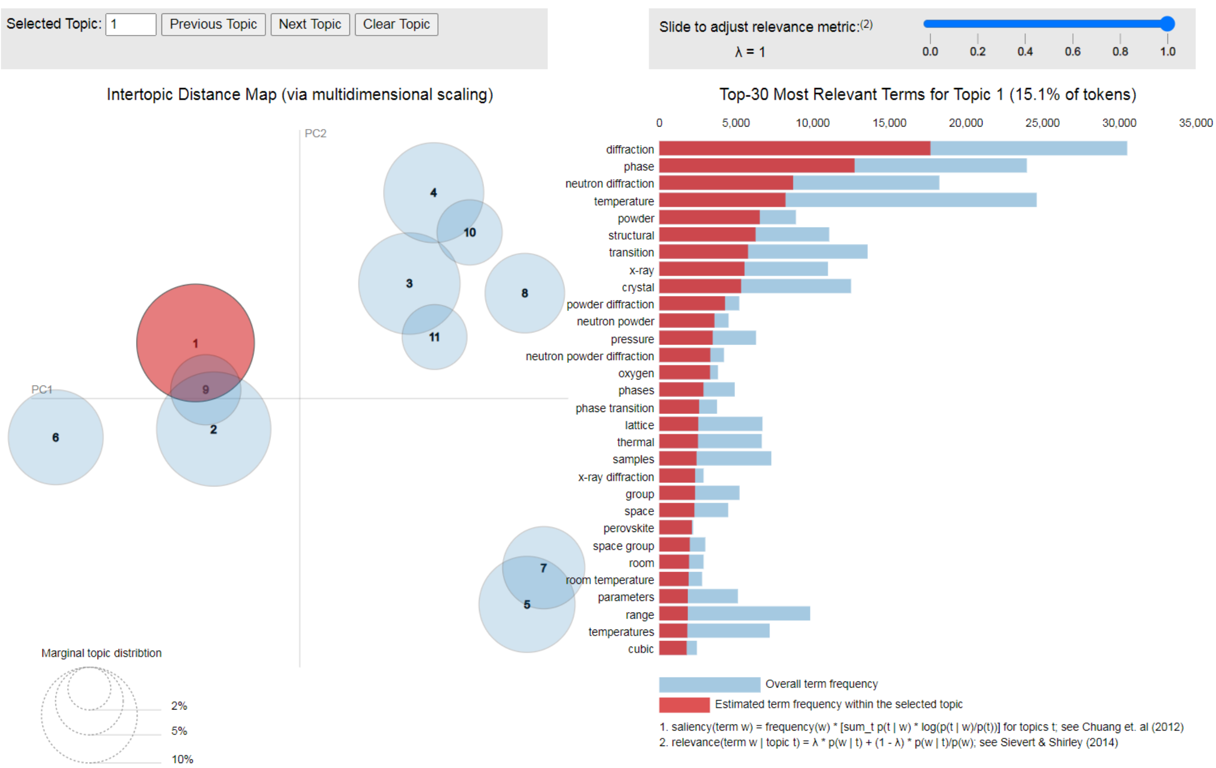

Figure 3(c): Graphical representation of topic models obtained with the LDA machine learning algorithm for eleven topics. Numbered bubbles on the left represent individual topics with the one highlighted in red being currently selected (see Footnote 6 for interactive versions). The bar chart on the right represents the frequency of the most-relevant terms (in blue for the entire corpus and in red for the selected topic. The slider in the upper right corner allows adjusting the relevance metric for a selection of terms to be shown (0.0: the terms specific for this particular topic, not appearing in the rest of the corpus; 1.0: the most frequent terms in the entire corpus).

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By condensing each topic into one or two ‘container words’ for naming purposes, the terms included in it pointed us to specific materials, properties and phenomena that are being investigated within the topic, as well as experimental and modelling techniques used in such research. For example, topic “1 – magnetism” contains not only “magnetic structure”, “magnetic phase diagram” and “magnetic order”, but also “rare-earth elements”, “multiferroics”, “susceptibility measurements”, “magnetoresistance”, “Mössbauer spectroscopy”, “neutron diffraction”, and “inelastic neutron scattering”. Appendix 2 contains lists of the most topic-specific terms for each of the topics.

After naming the seven topics using the ‘container words’, the next step was to categorize the entire corpus of published work by classification according to the chosen seven-topic model, yielding a percentage distribution of all entries among the topics. A pie chart, representing the topic distribution of European publications over the entire timeframe of our dataset, from 1956 to 1 July 2020, as well as a bar chart for steps of five years are shown in Fig. 4. The pie chart shows a nearly equal distribution over the topics, with a slightly larger fraction of magnetism-related research and slightly smaller fraction of biomembrane-related research. From the bar chart, on the other hand, one can clearly see a decreasing role of the magnetism-related research over the past 15 years and a growing fraction of the instrumentation-related research since 1995. One could read from this bar chart that the science done with neutrons over the past 70 years has become less fundamental and more applied, with the increasing fractions of research related to biology and material science.

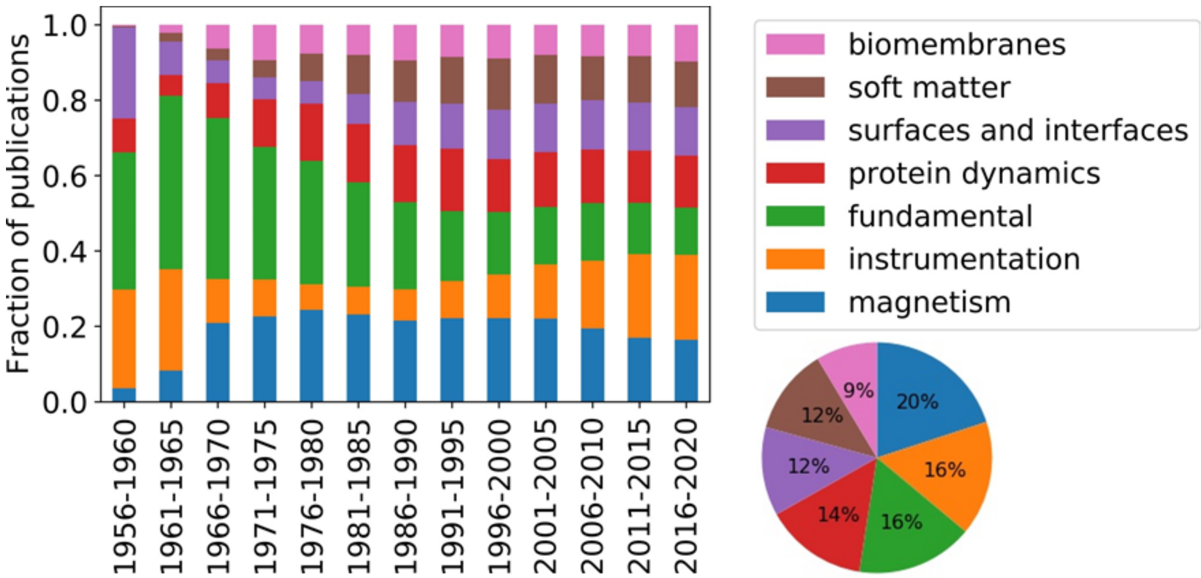

Figure 4: Topic distribution of the ‘neutron publications’ with at least one European (co-)author. The pie chart corresponds to the distribution of topics over the entire time span (1956–2020) of the dataset. The bar diagram shows the evolution of the topic distribution in steps of 5 years.

Individual expertise of each of the European countries was be estimated by selecting only the publications with at least one (co-)author from the given country. Figure 5 shows pie charts for the 20 European countries that are a member of ENSA. It is evident that different countries have different topics prevailing among their publications. These differences most likely originate from the differences in established neutron science in these countries.

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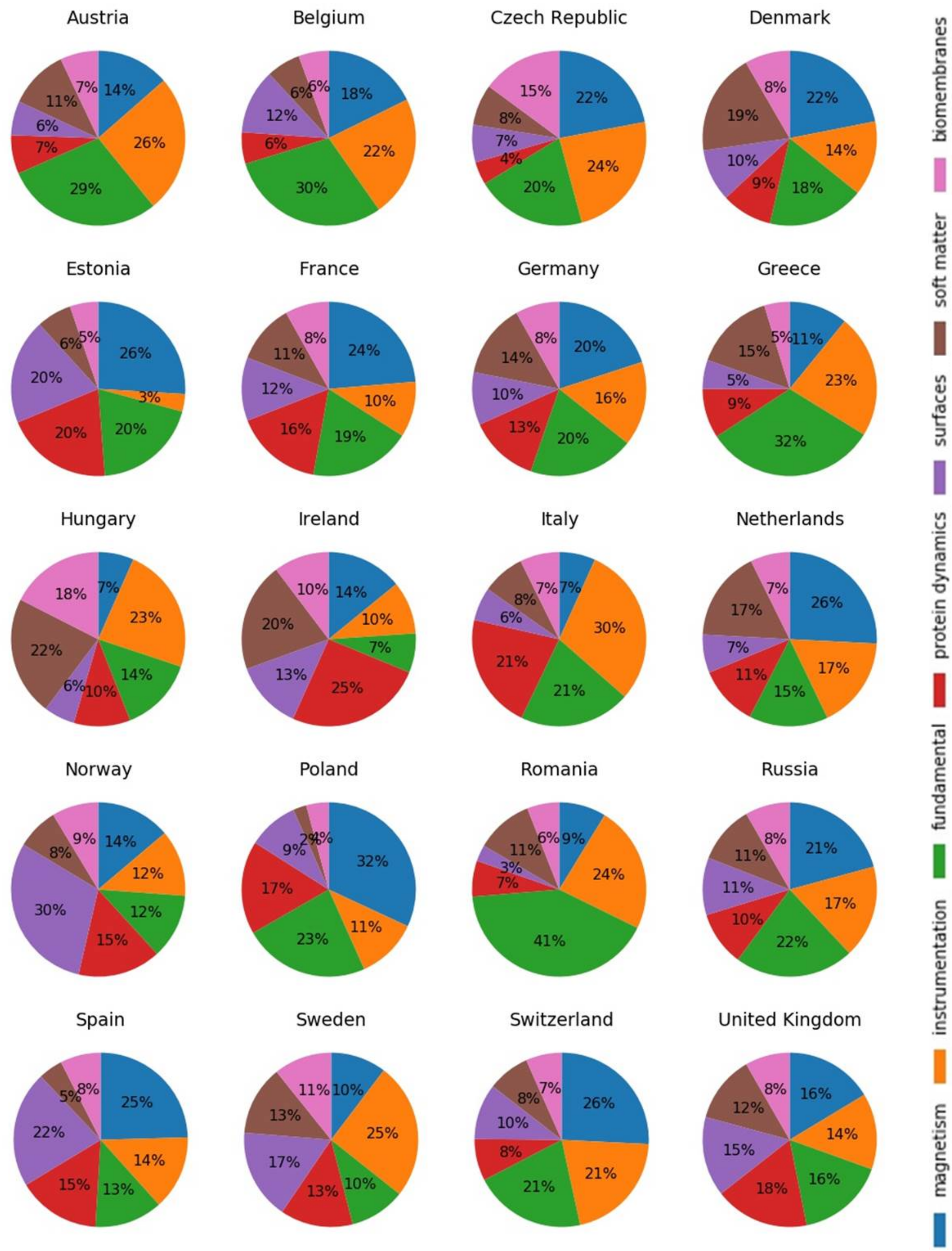

Figure 5: Pie charts of the distribution over seven topics for the 20 European country members of ENSA (the topic "Surfaces" represents "Surfaces and Interfaces").

In addition to providing the relative topic distribution for each country, the analysis also allowed us to project the topics onto the map of Europe. For this purpose, we identified, for each topic, the authors (at their affiliation) who have at least produced one publication. The figures in Appendix 3 show where authors (at their affiliation) are located for each of these topics. What transpires from these 'heat maps' is that the neutron community is well spread, geographically, over Europe and that many nations or regions are well represented in each of the topics, although one can discern regional variations. In reference to Fig. 1, we present in Fig. 6 an impression of how the growth of neutron science is directly related to the growing community geographically, as "neutron science spreads over the continent".

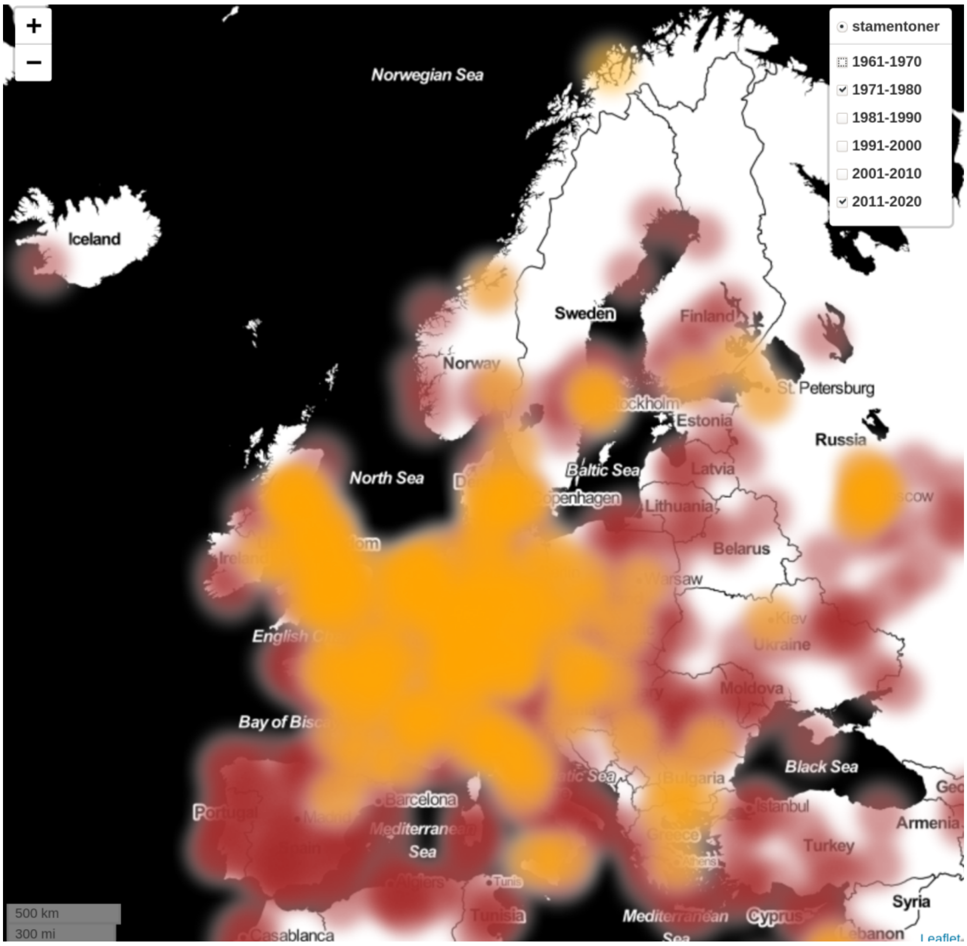

Figure 6: 'Heat map' of neutron scientists in Europe for the entirety of all topics, in the time span 2011–2020 (Bordeaux-red) and in the time span 1971–1980 (yellow/orange). The map is not corrected for population density. See footnote[6] for an online interactive version.

The scientists at their affiliations as shown above are involved in more than half of the publications available in the corpus. The accounting of their individual or even national contributions to these topics is not evident, because countries have different conventions of inclusion of scientists in the authors list for publications. Even within different fields of science, such conventions vary. The weight of contributing to a publication can also depend on the position of the author in the author list. Therefore, we present in Fig. 7 the distribution of publications over the European countries by assigning each publication to a specific country if the publication contains one or more affiliation from that country.

[6] https://ensa.tudelft.nl/map/evolution.html

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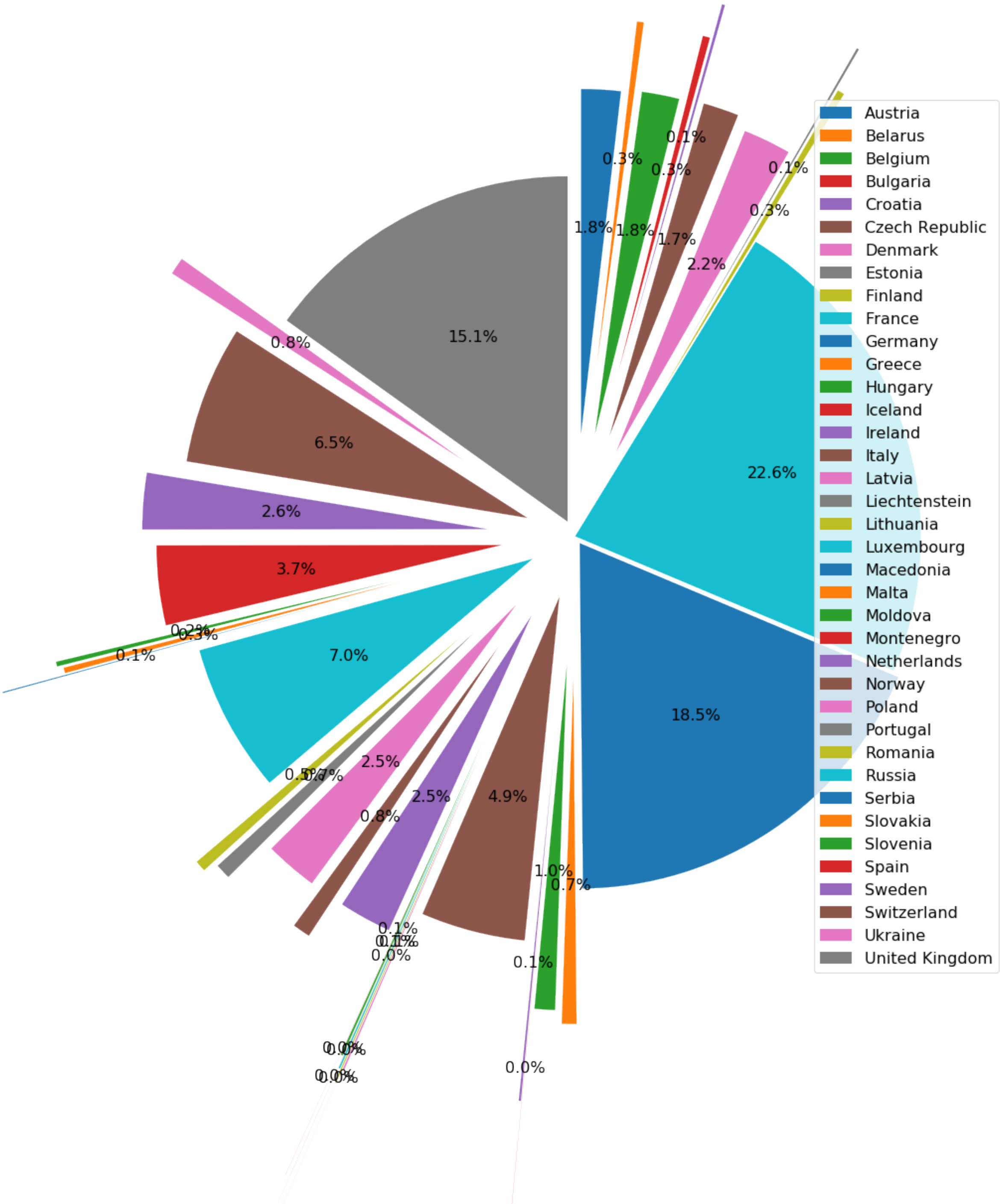

Figure 7: Pie chart of the publication distribution over all European countries. In the legend the colour coding starts with blue for Austria; in the pie chart, the pie fraction of Austria starts at the '12h position' of the circle and proceeds 'clockwise'. The precentages indicated in the pie chart stand for the (linear) angular fraction of publications that a given country was involved in, within the corpus of European publications. With ENSA's 20 delegates, it represents 96.6% of all published neutron science in Europe.

9. Future needs of the neutron science community

The NLP analysis of published 'neutron science' served as the starting point of the survey. The community uses neutrons among other techniques in their daily science and one can assume a typical respondent to our survey will not have a complete overview of neutron science in her/his country. We therefore designed our approach so that the recipients first received original — and hopefully intriguing — information tailored to their country, before starting the survey. We then invited respondents to provide feedback related to our analysis, and proceeded with asking them about their experience and future needs.

The survey was designed as a country-specific and password-protected on-line web form. This allowed the national ENSA delegates to address their communities. The web survey was sent at the beginning of September 2020 by the 20 national ENSA delegates to around 4000 recipients. 450 responses were received and analysed by ENSA. The questions of the online survey are summarized in Appendix 4.

9.1. Statistics of the survey responses

To find cross-correlations in the pool of answers from the 450 respondents to a survey of more than 30 questions, we combine here bar-chart statistics with word clouds. As the survey also inquired about person-specific aspects related to the career stage and neutron methods used, we apply word clouds to show cross-correlation (or lack thereof) in the responses. Therefore, it is necessary to condense the survey questions (consisting of one or more sentences) to single "word tags" (see Appendix 5 for details). As an example, the question "*At which stage are you in your scientific career?*" is tagged "who_stage_career", which appears in Fig. 8 and many of the word clouds.

First, we identified the career stage of the survey responders, depicted in Fig. 8. The largest group of responders is formed by professors and group leaders (194), followed by permanent staff members (130), postdocs (61) and PhD candidates (44). With only two responses, the students form the smallest group of the responders. The group "other", represented by 18 responders, included mostly scientists working outside of academic institutions, either in industry or consultancies, and retired scientists.

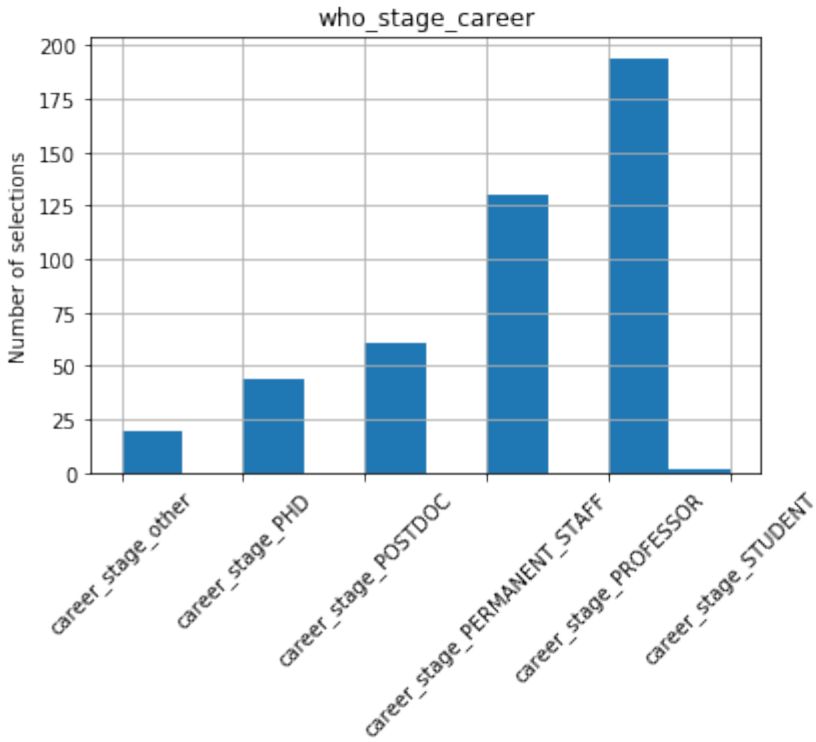

Figure 8: Distribution of respondents' career stage.

9.1.1. Explanation of the word cloud as a visualization tool of survey answers

The word clouds enable to 'project' the pool of answers onto imaginary axes such as "Career Stage", "Method" and "ESS Instrument". Although word clouds are not quantitative, they help to identify which are the most important terms that appear in any of the three projections that we chose. As such, the word cloud is set to a limit of 50 terms. Each of the terms that can be found in a word cloud consists of one **lower_case** word that represents a question from the survey (see Appendix 5), combined with a second **_UPPERCASE** answer to that question.

The position of any of the 50 terms is random, the size of the font of each term reflects the importance of the term. For instance, in the word cloud below (Fig. 9), "Demographics of PhD candidates", the most prevalent term is "career_stage_PhD". The next-largest term in the word cloud shows that these PhD students usually do not (yet) have any collaboration with industry ("who_industry_collaboration_NO").

Below the responses are presented as 'projection onto Career Stage' in 9.1.2 and as 'projection onto Method' in 9.1.3. Within these paragraphs, for each selection (being a tick mark on the imaginary projection axis) two-word clouds display the responses unique to that selection. The word cloud on the left-hand side shows the (dominant) responses to questions in 14.2 and the word cloud on the right-hand side shows the (dominant) responses to questions in 14.3 and 14.4, related to future needs.

The projection onto the imaginary axis "ESS Instrument" has overlap with the below "(Experimental) Method" projection; therefore, these word clouds are placed in Appendix 6.

9.1.2. Word-cloud interpretation of the survey responses concerning "Career Stage"

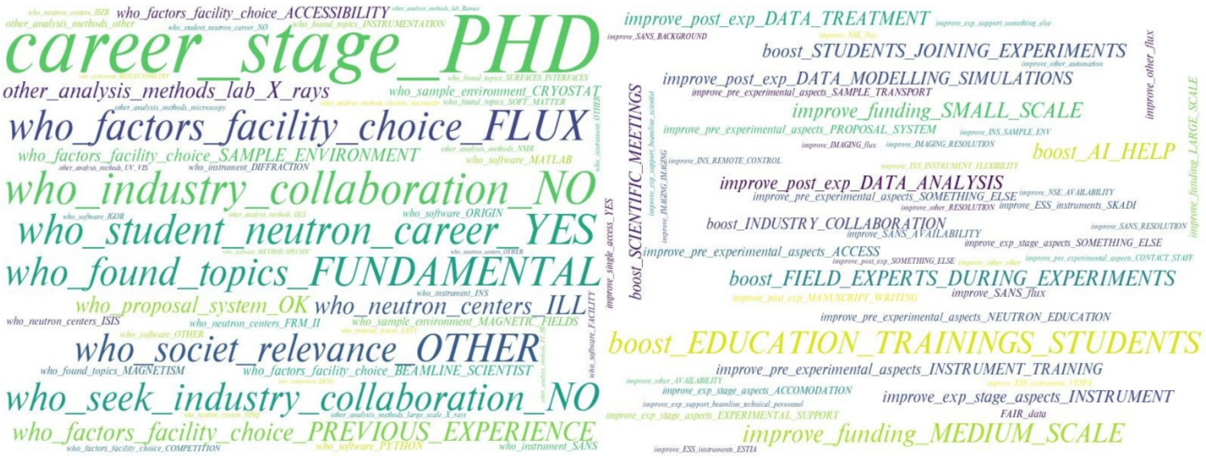

Figure 9: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of PhD candidates who responded to the survey (44/450)

As can be seen from the left word cloud (questions about experience up to now), the most frequent answers are "Flux is the main factor in choosing the facility for experiment", "no collaboration with industry", "interested in the career in neutrons", "among the found topics, the fundamental is the most relevant to my research", "could not associate my research with any of the societal relevance fields of the Horizon Europe", and "not seeking any collaboration with industry." We interpreted these answers as follows: Most of the PhD candidates who answered our survey are enthusiastic about neutron science and would like to continue with it in the future. However, their projects are mostly in the field of fundamental science and they do not see how their science could be related to industrial applications, or any of the fields rated to societal challenges as defined within Horizon Europe.

From the word cloud on the right (questions about the improvements required to facilitate the progress of the science with neutrons), we can see that the main requirement is "education and trainings in neutron science for students", followed by "medium scale funding," "presence of students and field experts during the experiments," "help of AI during the experiment," and "post-experimental data treatment, data analysis and data modelling and simulations." We interpret these results as follows: Most of the PhD candidates feel that they do not have enough knowledge for the neutron experiments they perform. It includes the experiments itself, as well as post-experimental data interpretation. As a main solution to this problem, they see more possibilities for education and trainings in neutron science. Alternative solutions they see in the presence of experts in their field of science, from whom they could learn on the go. They also assume that the problem could be helped if students could join neutron experiments and learn from it even during their undergraduate programme. In this way, they would be much better prepared for the experiments during their PhD projects.

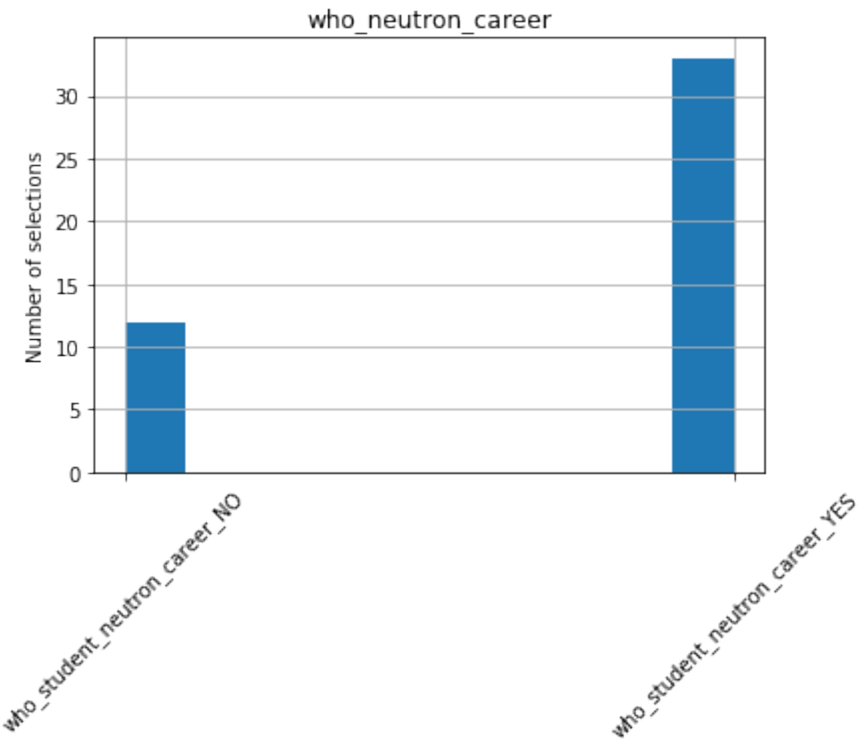

Figure 10: Young scientists see the great potential of neutron scattering as a main tool to develop their research programmes.

Figure 11: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of professors and group leaders who responded to survey (194/450)

From the word clouds for professors and group leaders we can see that the largest terms in the word cloud on the left are “who_neutron_centers_ILL,” “who_factors_facility_choice_FLUX,” and ”other_analysis_methods_lab_X_rays.” We interpret these results as follows: Most of the professors use X-rays as well as neutrons for their science and as they are mostly interested in the neutron flux when choosing a neutron source, they mostly go for experiments at ILL, as it provides the highest flux of neutrons.

From the improvement requirements word cloud on the right we can see that the most-required improvements by the professors are medium- and small-scale funding schemes that would allow them to cover expenses for performing neutron experiments and fund PhD projects related to neutron science. The second group of required improvements lies in neutron-specific education and training for students and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments.

Figure 12: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of postdocs who responded to survey (61/450)

From the word clouds for postdocs, first of all we can see that they give much more diverse answers on the 'who' type of questions (there are no outstanding answers in the left word cloud, apart from "career_stage_POSTDOC"). We can see that they choose a facility either based on the presence of a specific sample environment, neutron flux, or their previous experience at that facility. Most of them use either neutron diffraction or SANS for their research.

On the required improvements, on the other hand, they are much more consistent. Medium- and small-scale funding seems to be the most important improvement factors for them. These factors are followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and post-experimental data analysis and treatment.

Figure 13: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of permanent staff members who responded to survey (130/450)

From the word clouds for permanent staff members, first we can see that they too give diverse answers on the 'who' type of questions (there are no outstanding answers in the left word cloud apart from "career_stage_PERMANENT_STAFF"). They do not have problems with the current proposal system and often perform their experiments at ILL. They choose a facility based on the availability of a specific sample environment, their previous experience, neutron flux, or a beamline scientist.

On the side of required improvements, on the other hand, they are much more consistent. Medium- and small-scale funding seems to be the most important improvement factors for them. These factors are followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and post-experimental data analysis and treatment.

Figure 14: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of "other" career group who responded to survey (19/450)

As we noticed earlier, the “other” career group is formed mostly by scientists working in industry and retired scientists. This group seem to perform most of their experiments either at ILL or ISIS. They mostly use neutron diffraction for their experiments, and they could not identify a field of societal relevance related to their research.

Their most required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The ‘funding’ group of improvements is followed by the requirement for improvements in scientific meetings and industrial collaboration.

9.1.3. Word-cloud interpretation of the survey responses concerning "Methods"

Figure 15: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using neutron diffraction (258/450)

From the answers of scientists who use neutron diffraction we reached the following interpretation: Most of their experiments are performed at ILL, FRM-II and ISIS. Their facility choice is mostly defined by the presence of a specific sample environment, flux and previous experience at that facility. The most often used sample environment by the group is cryostat and among other analysis methods not based on neutrons they mostly use laboratory-scale X-ray techniques.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The 'funding' group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments.

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Figure 16: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using SANS (215/450)

From the word clouds for the group using SANS techniques we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL, followed by FRM-II and ISIS.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The 'funding' group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments. The third group of required improvements is related to post-experiment data treatment, analysis, modelling, and simulations.

Figure 17: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using QENS (123/450)

From the word clouds for the group using QENS techniques we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL, followed by FRM-II and ISIS.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The ‘funding’ group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments. The third group of required improvements is related to post-experimental data treatment, analysis, modelling, and simulations.

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Figure 18: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using imaging (64/450)

From the word clouds for the group using neutron imaging techniques we can see that they perform most of their experiments at FRM-II, followed by ILL, SINQ and HZB. In addition to QENS they often use neutron diffraction and SANS techniques.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The 'funding' group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments. The third group of required improvements is related to post-experimental data treatment, analysis, modelling, and simulations.

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Figure 19: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using reflectometry (115/450)

From the word clouds for the group using neutron reflectometry techniques we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL, followed by FRM-II and ISIS. In addition to neutron reflectometry they often use SANS techniques.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The funding group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments. The third group of required improvements is related to post-experimental data treatment, analysis, modelling, and simulations.

Figure 20: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using inelastic neutron scattering (162/450)

From the word clouds for the group using inelastic neutron scattering techniques we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL, followed by ISIS and FRM-II. In addition to inelastic neutron scattering they often use neutron diffraction.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The 'funding' group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments. The third group of required improvements is related to post-experimental data treatment, analysis, modelling, and simulations.

Figure 21: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using inelastic neutron spin-echo (97/450)

From the word clouds for the group using neutron spin-echo spectroscopy we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL or FRM-II, followed by ISIS and HZB. In addition to neutron spin-echo they often use SANS techniques.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The ‘funding’ group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments. The third group of required improvements is related to post-experimental data treatment, analysis, modelling, and simulations.

Figure 22: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the group using an instrument other than named above (49/450)

From the word clouds for the group using an instrument other than named above we can see that they are mostly motivated by neutron flux when choosing a facility for their experiments. Among the topics identified by our NLP publications analysis they indicated mostly instrumentation, or fundamental. They perform most of their experiments at ILL, followed by FRM-II.

Their most-required improvements include medium- and small-scale funding for their research. The 'funding' group of improvements is followed by the neutron-specific education and trainings for students, presence of the field experts during their experiments, and the possibility for students to join neutron experiments. They are also particularly interested in the improvements of the instrumental parameters at the experimental stage of their research.

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9.1.4. Improvements requested at the level of "facility"

Among the facility-related improvements, most of the respondents would like to see the improvements at the post-experimental stage of their research (182 responses), followed by improvements during the experiment (161 responses) and pre-experimental stage (132 responses).

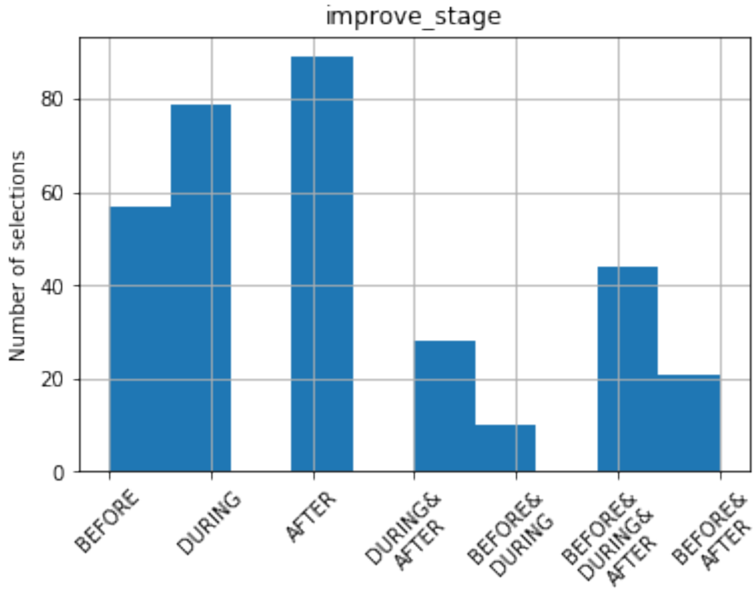

Figure 23: A distribution of answers to the question about the research stage which requires improvements, the possible options being "before", "during", "after" and combinations thereof.

During the pre-experimental stage, the most-required improvement is instrument-related training (57 responses), followed by facility access options (47 responses), education in neutron science (39 responses), proposal system (33 responses), contact with the facility staff (33 responses) and sample transport to the beamline (32 responses).
During the experimental stage, the most-required improvement is instrument-related (103 responses), followed by the improvements in the experimental support (61 responses), and accommodation (28 responses).
During the post-experimental stage, the most-required improvement is in the experimental data analysis (123 responses) followed by data treatment (112 responses), data modelling and simulations (101 response), with very little demand for improvements in user meetings (13 responses) and manuscript writing (8 responses).

9.2. ENSA interpretation of community response on future needs

For nearly every question that was posed in the survey, the respondents had an opportunity to elaborate on their choice or selection. Such 'text field' answers were interpreted by the ENSA delegates and will be summarized in the following.

9.2.1. Complementary sources

The survey responses directly reflected the by far greatest concern expressed regularly by today's European neutron users, the threat of much-reduced neutron-beamtime availability over the coming

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decade[7], severely limiting the scope for standard, screening, test or exploratory measurements, as well as for teaching purposes, and with the inevitable consequence that there will be a loss of European science leadership in this area. The community is already suffering the consequences of the 2019 closures of three national neutron scattering facilities in France, Germany, and Norway. The users are seeking reassurance that their current long-term research projects involving neutron scattering will not be jeopardized in a few years' time by the loss of available neutron beamtime and are calling for an ongoing (and increased) support and augmentation of the existing ILL and ISIS facilities, in tandem with the development of a network of smaller neutron facilities that can operate in synergy with ESS.

At full-power operation, fully commissioned ESS instruments will deliver one to two orders of magnitude higher data-collection rates at equal resolution than the highest-intensity neutron scattering instruments in existence worldwide today. This will be achieved by combining at ESS highest neutron-source brightness with most advanced instrument design. Such new capabilities in data rates will lead to breakthroughs, for example, in the study of new phenomena with very weak signals, of new materials that are only available in very small quantities, and of broad parametric domains. These are cases where with the neutron intensities of current instruments, experiments would require beamtimes of several months or more. By contrast, in studies that require less than a few days beamtime today, ESS will offer little time-saving advantage, as there is always an incompressible logistic time need in any experiment, such as alignment, changing sample parameters, controls and — not least — evaluating the best next steps. ESS capabilities will open up new qualitative opportunities, but will not increase dramatically the number of currently feasible studies one instrument can deliver within a given period of time. ESS beamtime at full operation with the originally planned 22 public ESS instruments (i.e., some 10 years from now) will amount to about 4500 beam days per year, which corresponds to 0.5 days per year per neutron user in Europe on average. In order to serve this community and respond to the broad need for neutron-probe results, a top-of-the-line facility needs to be complemented by a synergetic broad network of national and regional neutron sources. This alone will facilitate focusing on the most intensity demanding phenomena that wait to be discovered. This synergy is the key to the success for both sides: ESS would not be able to explore unique challenges if it would have to serve too many users all the time. On the other hand, the exploratory progress at the top facilities brings up questions and whole fields of interest that can be perfectly handled by smaller or much smaller neutron sources. For example, exciting new opportunities offered by novel materials in very small initial quantities will call for very high intensity instruments to be first discovered, but their practical interest hinges on their availability in higher quantities, which at the same time opens up opportunities to study these materials more widely, for broad scientific and practical needs, at less intense neutron sources.

9.2.2. Neutron facility staffing

A second recurring theme in the survey responses was that the neutron scientists need increased levels of expert support from the neutron facilities, not only for running the neutron instrument during an experiment but also for preparing advanced experiments including, e.g., in-situ sample environments or complex data analysis. This need is reflected as well in the finding of the NLP analysis that the average number of authors on articles containing neutron science is increasing. The research is becoming increasingly complex, requiring multiple complementary techniques. As the total number of

[7] https://www.esfri.eu/neutron-landscape-group

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neutron-using scientists increases, especially the number of scientists who are not neutron-science experts increase, there is an increasing need for expert support from the facilities, in particular from instrument scientists.

Currently most facilities operate in a system where each instrument has 1-2 instrument scientists whose main role is to guarantee the technical performances of the instruments, conduct experiments in the most effective way, and upgrade the techniques to respond to the needs of the community. Increasing the number of experts at facilities would allow having specialists in several fields with enough time to offer not only high-level technical support, but to continue the collaboration with users to the data treatment and interpretation. In some cases, this can be crucial to enable the final publication of the data, mainly for users who are not neutron-science experts. Moreover, ensuring this extended collaboration is probably the best way to open the use of neutron techniques to a wider community as well as to find the means for educating new users or future specialists. It is also the best way to generate a greater return of value for the investments puts into ESS. In the same vein, the important movement towards making data FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable) and providing it to the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), to enable re-use of data for increasing the impact of science funding, will open up new opportunities but will also require additional resources for scientific computing and data management.

9.2.3. Neutron data software/analysis

From the survey responses concerning the 'dream scenario' for future experiments, data analysis has an important role. The users see potential for better use of the experimental data in the way the measured results are handled. In general, there is a remarkable need for suitable, well-documented, and user-friendly analysis packages, accompanied by the clear wish that the facilities take responsibility to provide and maintain such packages. The latter would also satisfy the tendency to ask for common/standardized sets of analysis tools, usable for data from all facilities. Often this request is related to simultaneous wishes for modelling and simulation tools, which includes comparison of data with calculations as well as virtual instruments for preparing the experiments.

A part of the community expressed a wish for analysis software having enough capability for a publication-quality data visualisation without further programming. Personal help with data analysis by instrument staff and possible use of AI for on-the-fly data analysis have been mentioned as well.

9.2.4. Facility access system

The survey responses touched upon several aspects of the neutron access systems, which have also been discussed among stakeholders over the past years. These can roughly be grouped into i) types of access, ii) proposal system functions, iii) international access. The biannual peer-reviewed proposal rounds through which the majority of beamtime is currently distributed, ensure reasonably fair distribution of beamtime, but may result in delays in individual science projects. It might benefit the future neutron scientists if, e.g., the top 50% proposals could be accepted by a standing committee on a rolling basis without six-months delays. Most facilities offer a variety of other access modes, including rapid, mail-in programme, collaborating research group, and proprietary paid access for industry. Especially with the massively increased count rates expected at ESS, it would be interesting to explore providing more neutron access in the form of rapid/mail-in/sequential access types, which would however require additional hardware and software provisions for increased automation in experiments, and likely would also require increased staffing at the facilities. Many neutron scientists are frustrated by the access restrictions to international facilities based on which countries are contributing financially to these facilities. While such restrictions are natural consequences of the complex challenge of funding neutron facilities, they impact individual scientists and science programmes in ways beyond their control. It would greatly benefit neutron scientists if solutions were found to avoid such nationality barriers, for instance by accounting neutron funding in the broader scheme of international collaborations.

9.2.5. Neutron experiment optimization

A common concern of neutron users is what we refer to here as 'experiment optimization': preliminary and/or parallel testing on samples to be investigated in a given neutron-scattering experiment, together with the optimal use of available or user-provided sample environments for the experiment itself.

Standard laboratory-based sample characterisation is naturally the departure point, but coordination/synchronisation between advanced characterisation techniques based on other large-scale facilities (e.g., synchrotron sources) is often difficult. While the physical proximity of different large-scale facilities is indeed in place in several European science parks (including ILL and ESRF in Grenoble, SLS and SINQ at the Paul Scherrer Institute, and Max IV and ESS in Lund), the possibility of joint proposals between the facilities is limited. The accompanying schemes are not widely known among the European neutron user community. The PSB (Partnership for Structural Biology) SAXS/SANS platform run jointly by the ILL and ESRF and the SLS/SINQ scheme at the Paul Scherrer Institute are two such examples, each limited to a particular scattering technique (or indeed scientific field).

It would be worthwhile to assess the experiences of users and user groups that have benefited from the NFFA (Nanoscience Foundries and Fine Analysis) programme (nffa.eu) that provided access to laboratory and large-scale facilities in such a way as to make optimal use of complementary techniques on the same samples. From those scientists, important input can be gained about the added value of having access to different facilities based on a single proposal.

LINXS (Lund Institute for Advanced Neutron and X-ray Science) should be a fertile ground for promoting a far more general and flexible scheme of X-ray–neutron joint proposals and raising awareness of such schemes among both the neutron and X-ray user communities. Similar partnerships with advanced NMR or microscopy platforms could and should be envisaged. The implementation of two-technique experimental beamtimes should be significantly aided by the generalization of the Block Allocation Group (BAG) neutron beamtimes.

The second aspect of 'experiment optimization' is the availability and optimisation of sample environments at the neutron scattering beamlines. Very often users discover problems/limitations of the available sample environment, while the neutron experiment is already running, leading naturally to (sometimes significant) beamtime loss. For non-standard sample environments, be it facility-provided or user-provided, a testing stage (prior to neutron beamtime) seems to be essential and should be officially integrated into the experiment, together with the availability of experimental space and the necessary technical staff. To some extent the problem could already be alleviated by providing still more specific and detailed information (such as blueprints of sample holders, pictures of magnet configurations or power supplies) about the available sample space and environments on the website of the beamline, so that instrument scientists do not have to repeat this information time and again. Such detailed pictures of possible sample configurations (perhaps even with interactive pictures allowing panning and zooming) would be useful especially for new and inexperienced users, who are not familiar with technical terms used at the beamline. Needless to say, with the current number of staff dedicated to each neutron beamline, accompanying an additional experimental team for an 'off-beam' set-up of the sample environment is not realistic. Within the SINE2020 programme (www.sine2020.eu) a significant number of e-learning modules on neutron scattering experiments was developed. It should be encouraged to draw the attention to the existing e-tools and to stimulate further development, with the goal of letting users doing simulations of the experiments that they intend to perform, so that they can discover practical and configurational issues well before the actual beamtime.

9.2.6. Neutron science and industry

Over the past decade, the neutron facilities across Europe have undergone major improvements and additions to their instrument suites with some instruments now more explicitly targeted towards industrial applications. The community's expression of involvement with industry is seen in the ESS Instruments 'projections' of the BEER and ODIN word clouds (see Appendix 6), and also in the corresponding projections for several other ESS Instruments (NMX, ESTIA, HEIMDAL, VESPA, LoKi). There is a wish for better education of students and better data treatment and/or analysis software, which will also enhance industry involvement, as this typically requires a more extensive resources in staffing 'during and after' the experimental campaign. Together with the dedicated instrumentation for engineering purposes, industry will direct benefit from such improvements in 'user friendliness' for their R&D, in particular if the modes of access to neutron facilities also provide the required flexibility. It may be noted too that the boost in neutron-facility instrument performance across Europe has been made possible by industrial partners who have collaborated to deliver components at all stages, from particle accelerators to data-visualization tools.

10. Possibilities for future applications of the analysis tools developed for this project

The analysis tools developed for this project can be applied for future investigations of the development trends in the research and research communities in Europe and in the world. One of the potential applications of the network analysis of the neutron scientists could be to catalyse research collaborations. One could think about an online tool for finding a 'path' between oneself and the research group working on a topic of interest, or using a specific analytical technique. It could also facilitate the growth of the European and national neutron-scattering communities.

Another application could be in discovering the emerging research topics and predicting their future developments. Some of the highly influential publications could be identified at the early stage by faster citation dynamics with respect to the average across the field. Such analysis could also serve to establish connections between specific policies applied in science on the European or national level and the changes in trend developments in a specific research field influenced by such a policy.

It should be noted that the developed approach is not specific to neutron science and could be easily transferred to any scientific field.

11. Appendix 1: Visualization tool for NLP analysis

Figure 24 is an explanation of the graphical representation of the 3-topics NLP analysis. The corpus of publications is converted to a multi-dimensional space where each publication is a single vector, with its vocabulary as vector components. The NLP analysis groups the publications (here into 3 topics) according to similarity in the vector components. To visualize the multi-dimensional space with only 2D graphics, the publications are projected onto a Principle Components diagram, indicated with **PC1 and PC2**. Each of the topics is depicted as separate **circles** with the relative distance between the circles expressing how distinct the topics are, and the circle radius expressing the relative weight of the topic in the corpus. If one selects one of these circles (in the interactive version of these graphics accessible at footnote [8]), the **30 *most salient terms*** appear on the right half of the graphics, describing the "content" of the topic. Human intelligence is needed to (e.g.) replace topic "3" in the NLP algorithm numbering with topic (or container) "instrumentation", after inspection of these **30 terms**. The collection of 30 terms depends on the choice of the **relevance metric**: set to 0 (zero), the 30 terms are shown which are unique to the chosen topic. By selecting non-zero values on the **relevance metric slide bar** the 30 terms will be shown that also appear with some fraction in other topics. The fraction itself can be read from the horizontal bar plot to the right of the term; it is the ratio "red / blue". By then selecting any single term, the left PC diagram will show how the selected term appears in all the different topics. The interactive web-version of these graphics are very helpful to grasp the idea behind the visualization.

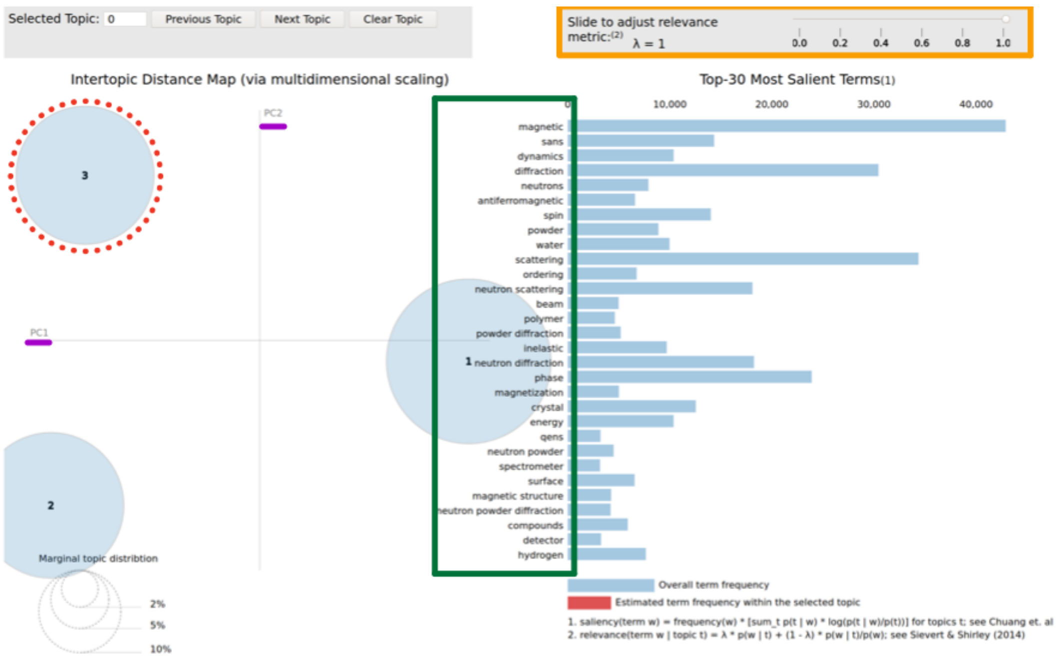

Figure 24: Visualization in 2D of multi-dimensional clustering of the publication corpus into topics (here 3). The Principle Component (PC) axes of the 2D representation are underlined in purple, the topic size and 'distinctness' in the 2D plot (red dashed line circle), the group of NLP terms (green box), here related to topic 1, and the Relevance Metric slide bar in the orange box.

[8] https://ensa.tudelft.nl/topics/3topics.html, https://ensa.tudelft.nl/topics/7topics.html, https://ensa.tudelft.nl/topics/11topics.html

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12. Appendix 2: Topic/container naming from NLP

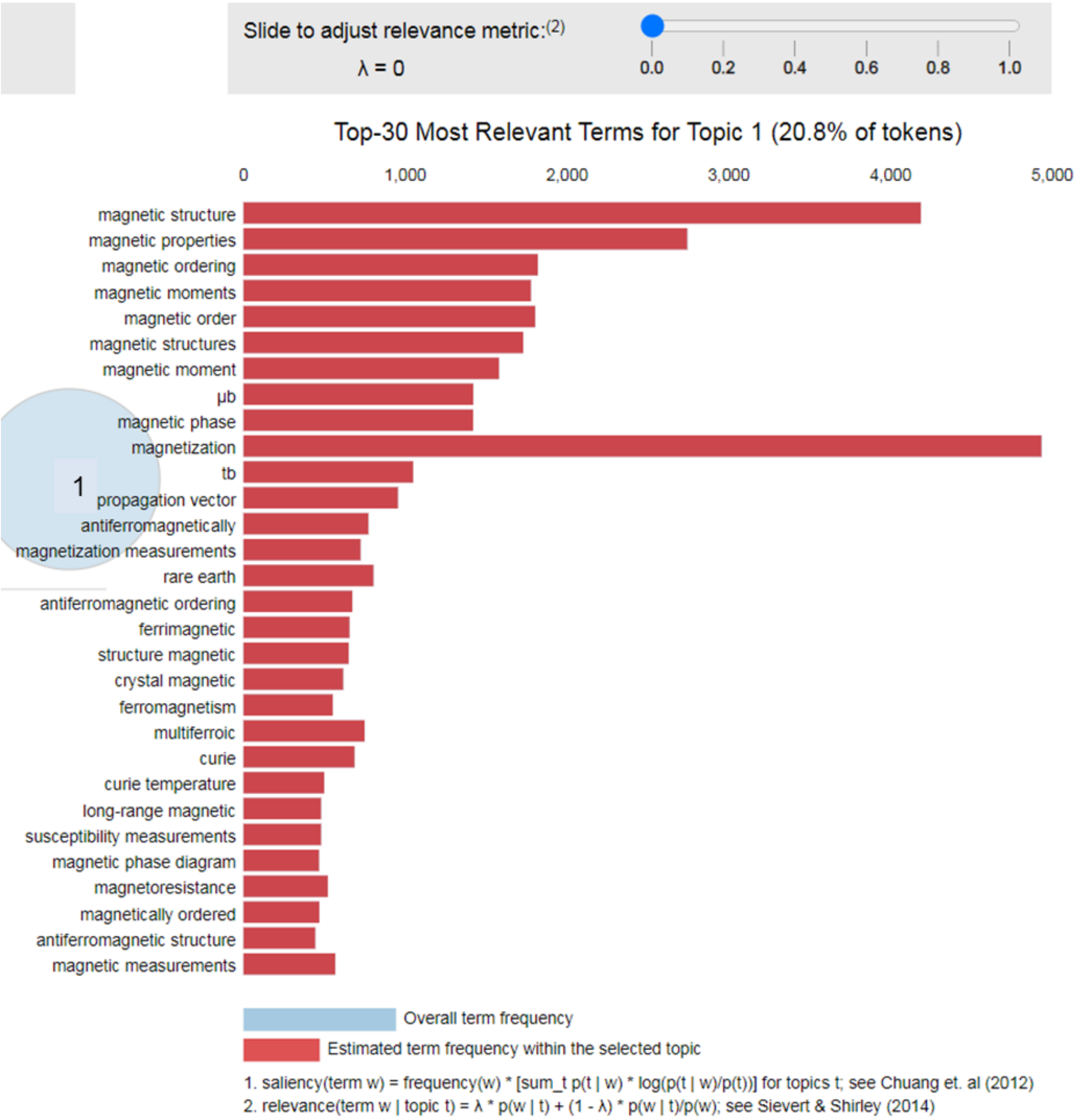

Figure 25: Top 30 most relevant terms for topic 1 out of 7

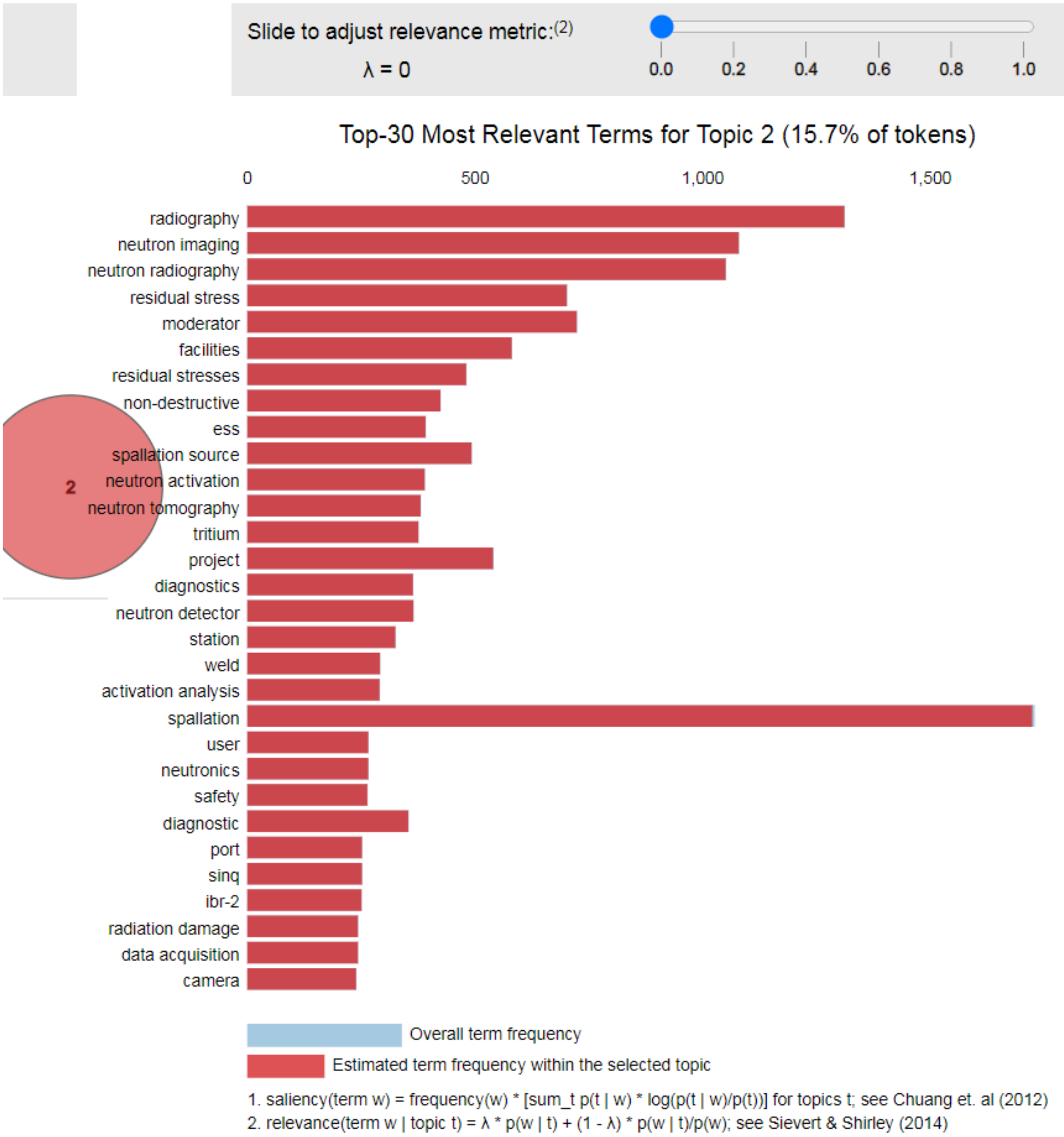

Figure 26: Top 30 most relevant terms for topic 2 out of 7

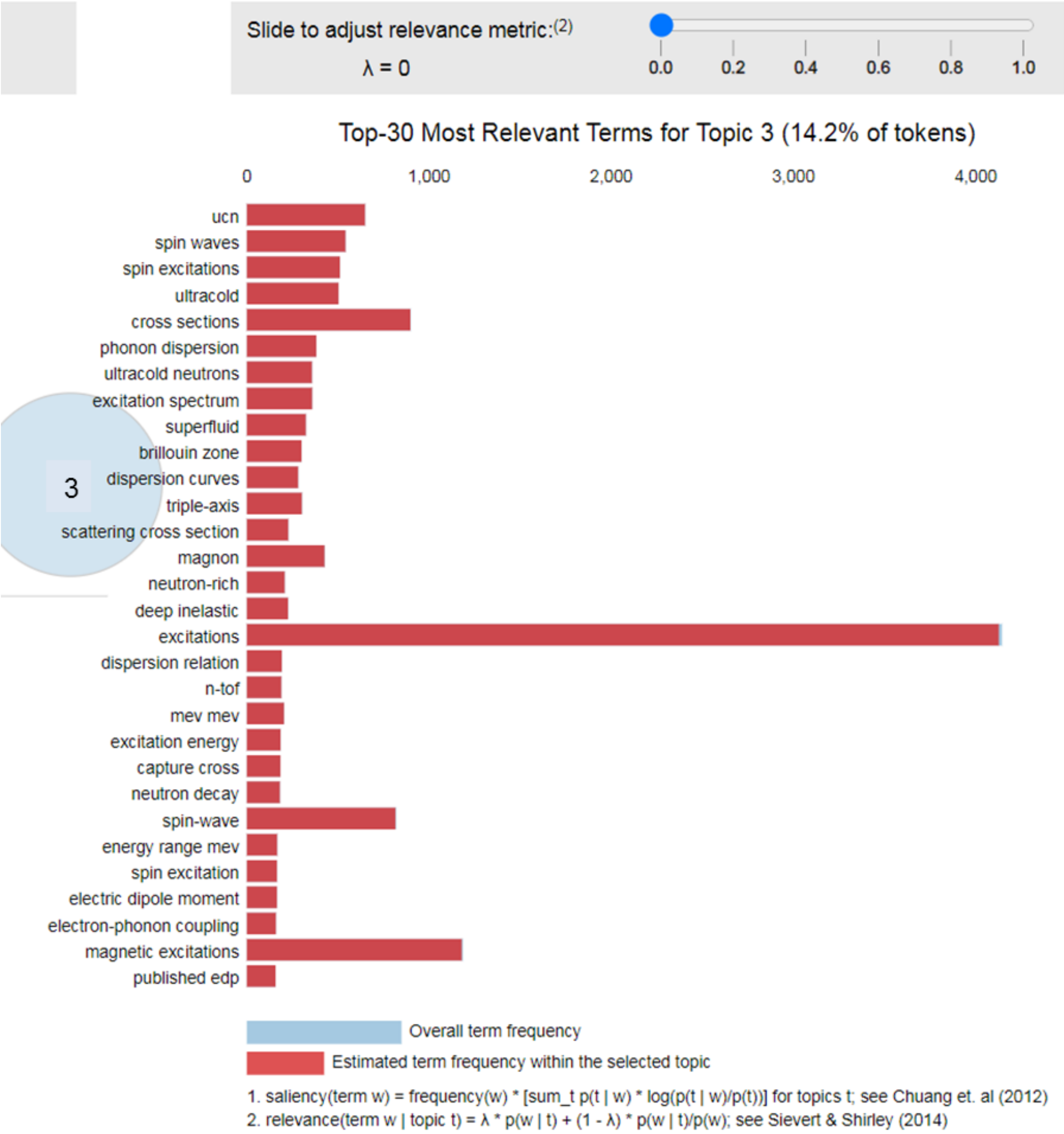

Figure 27: Top 30 most relevant terms for topic 3 out of 7

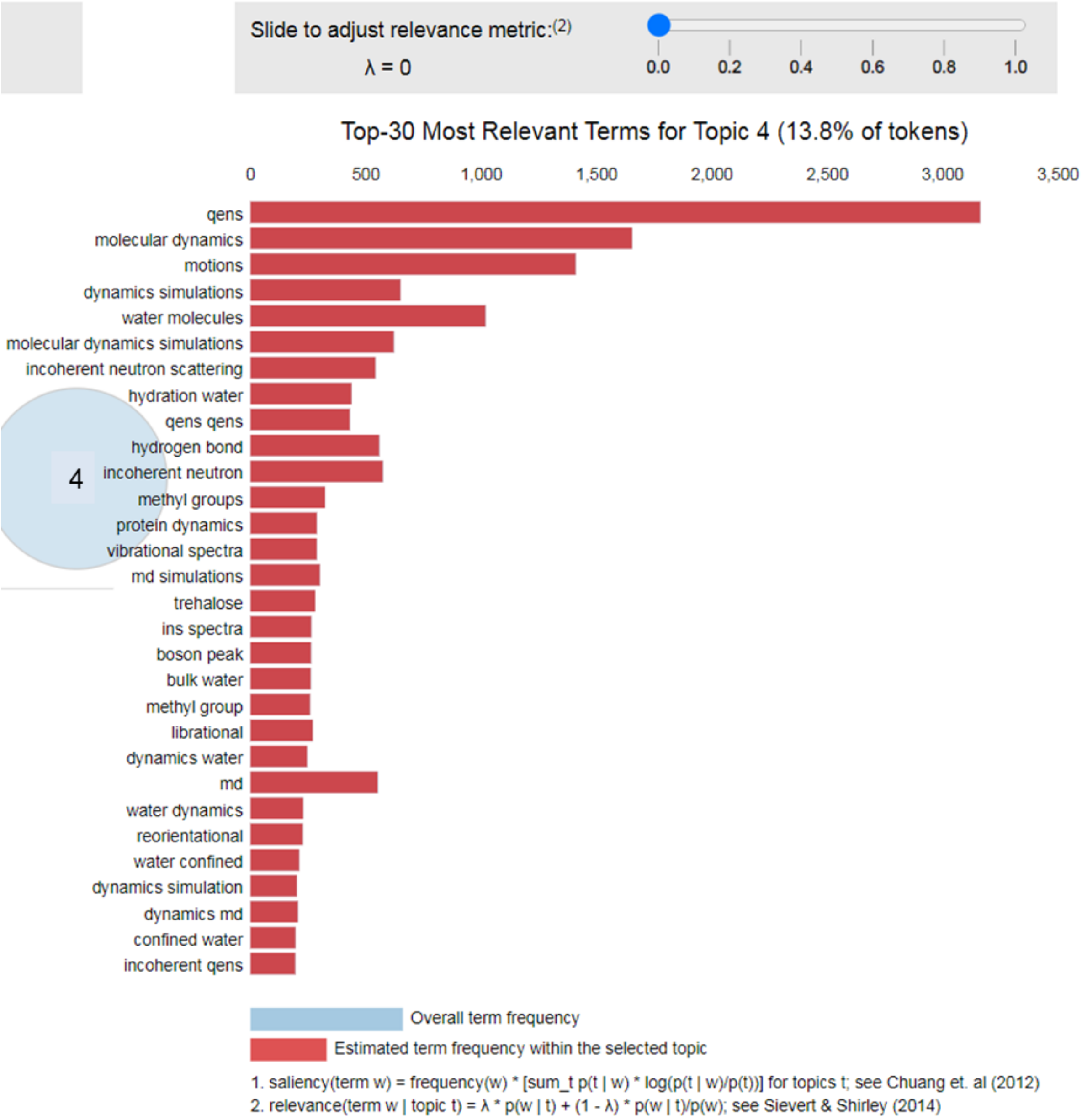

Figure 28: Top 30 most relevant terms for topic 4 out of 7

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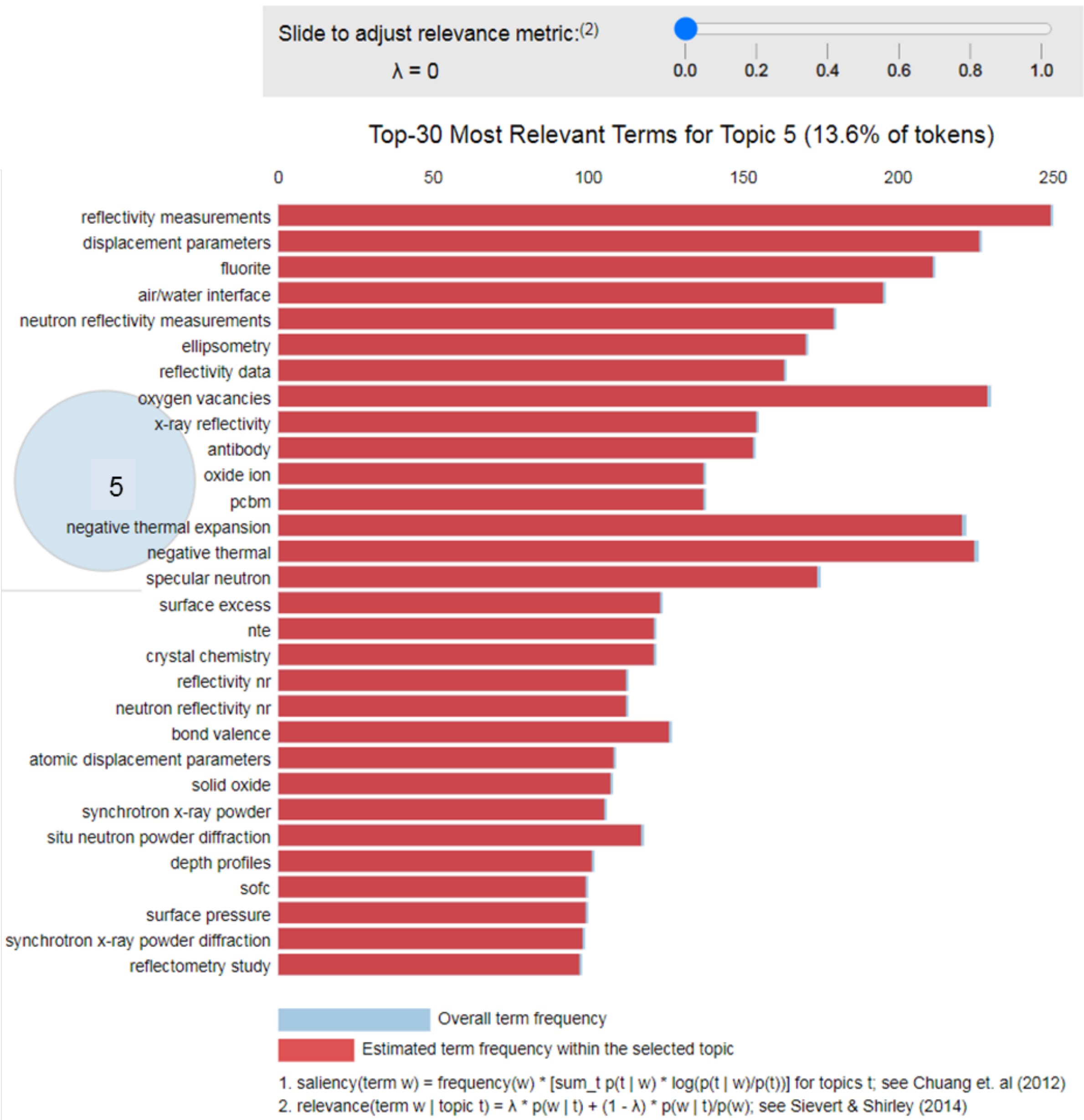

Figure 29: Top 30 most relevant terms for topic 5 out of 7

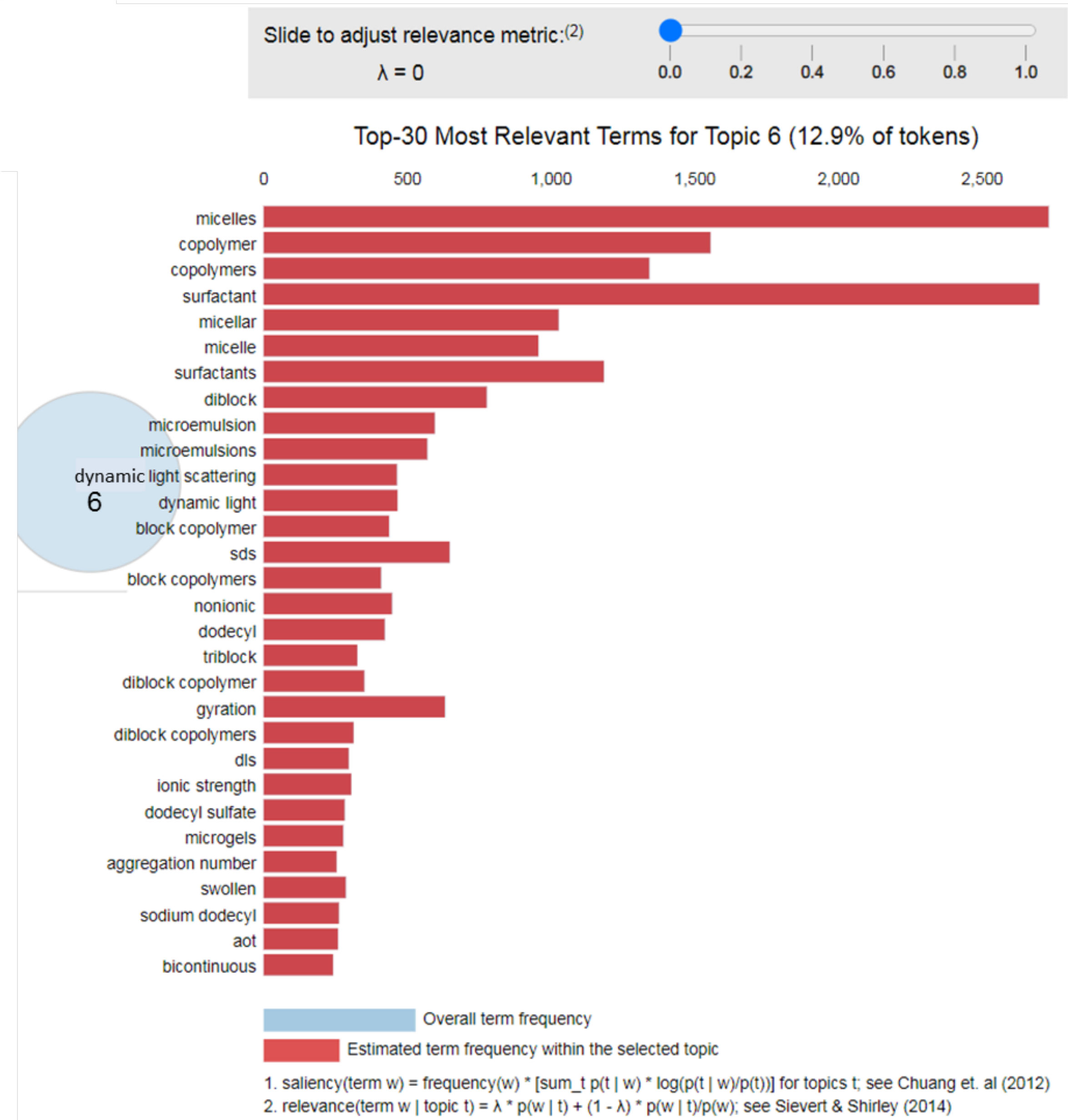

Figure 30: Top 30 most relevant terms for topic 6 out of 7

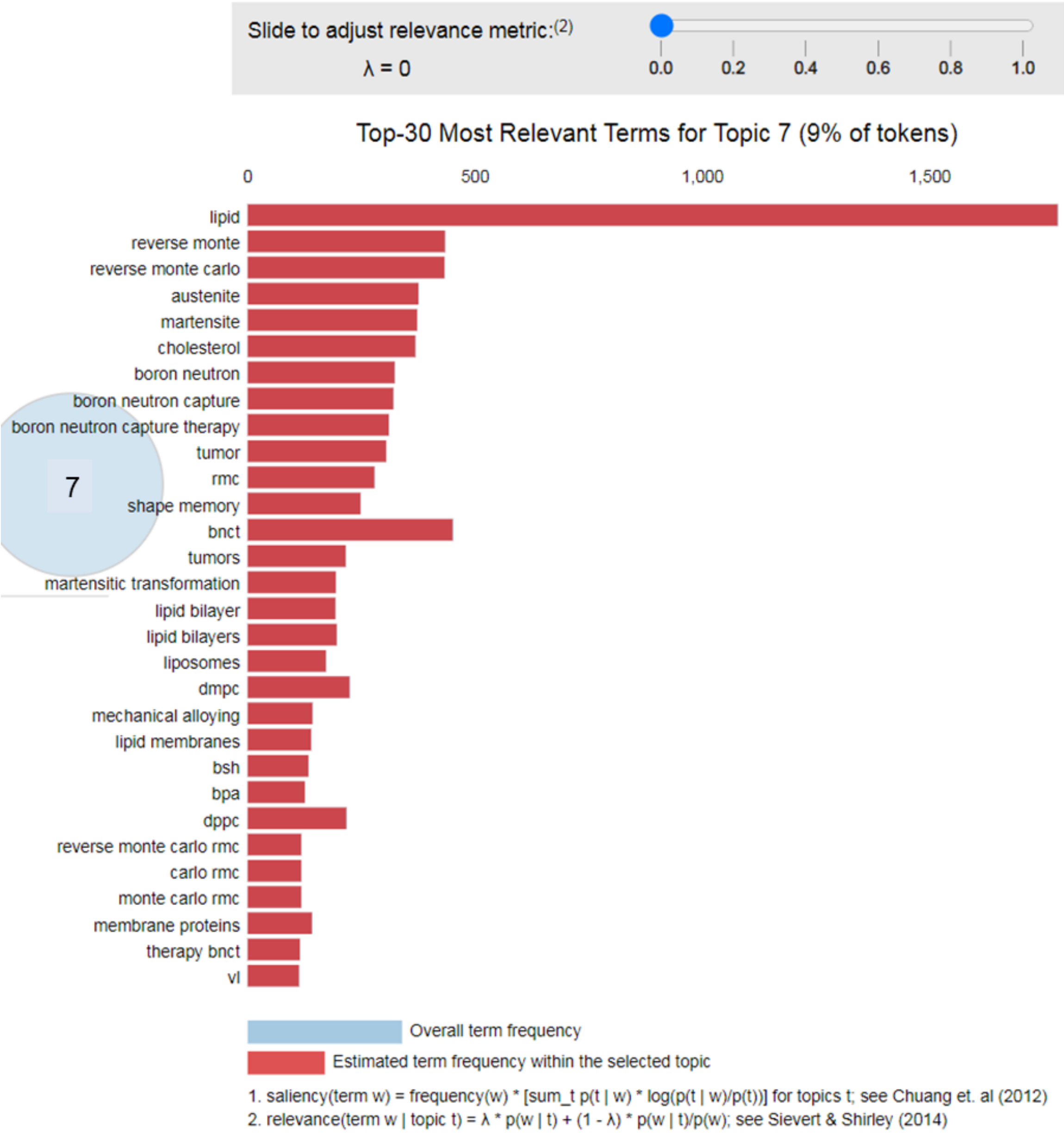

Figure 31: Top 30 most relevant terms for topic 7 out of 7

Table 1: Detailed descriptions of the topics/containers found in our NLP analysis.

	Container name	NLP terms relevant to container	NLP container methods
1	Magnetism	Magnetic structure, magnetic properties, magnetic ordering, magnetic moments, magnetic phase, magnetization, propagation vector, AF/FM ordering, rare earth, ferrimagnetic, crystal, multiferroic, Curie temperature, long-range, magnetic phase diagram, magnetoresistance, Neel temperature, magnetic field, incommensurate, compounds, transition, spin state, along.	Magnetization, susceptibility measurements, Mossbauer, temperature, neutron diffraction.
2	Instrumentation	Neutron radiography, residual stress, moderator, facilities, non-destructive, ESS, spallation source, neutron activation, neutron tomography, tritium, project, diagnostics, neutron detector, station, weld, activation analysis, user, neutronics, safety, port, radiation damage, data acquisition, camera, reactor, instrument, design, operation, diffractometer, research, neutron flux, guide, monochromator, pulse, beam, target, performance, neutrons, neutron irradiation, cold neutron, materials, development, method, analysis, data, nuclear, thermal, energy.	
3	Fundamental	spin waves, spin excitation, cross section, phonon dispersion, super fluid, Brillouin zone, dispersion curves, magnon, neutron-rich, excitations, meV, capture, decay, electric dipole moment, electron-phonon coupling, phonon, magnetic excitations, nuclei, quantum, gap, spin dynamics, energies, momentum, spectrum, resonance, fission, fluctuations, model, mode, data, temperature, magnetic.	UCN, Triple axis, deep-inelastic, neutron-TOF, neutron inelastic scattering.
4	Protein Dynamics	Molecular dynamics, motions, water molecules, hydration water, hydrogen bond, methyl groups, protein dynamics, vibrational spectra, trehalose, boson peak, bulk water, librational, reorientational, confined water, vibrational, translational, intermolecular, self-	QENS, MD simulations, incoherent neutron scattering, INS, vibrational spectroscopy, Raman.

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		diffusion, diffusion, molecules, glass transition, ice, relaxation, protein, liquids, density, time, structure, transition, model.	
5	Surfaces & Interfaces	Displacement parameters, fluorite, air/water interface, oxygen vacancies, antibody, oxygen ion, negative thermal expansion, specular, surface excess, crystal chemistry, bond valence, solid oxide, depth profiles, solid oxide fuel cell, surface pressure, electrochemical, impedance, antibody, thin films, vacancies, Lithium, octahedral, conductivity, crystal structure, space group, perovskite, cation, layer, phase, site, atoms.	Reflectivity measurements, ellipsometry, X-ray reflectometry, synchrotron XRD, in-situ neutron powder diffraction, Rietveld refinement.
6	Soft Matter	Micelles, copolymer, surfactant, diblock, microemulsion, non-ionic, dodecyl sulfate, triblock, gyration, ionic strength, microgels, aggregation number, swollen, dicontinuous, blends, molecular weight, collodial, fractal, self-assembly, aggregates, nanoparticles, contrast variation, pH, concentration, solution, solvent, shear, chain, aqueous, surface, structure, phase.	DLS, SANS, SAXS.
7	Biomembranes	Lipid, austenite, martensite, cholesterol, boron neutron capture therapy, tumor, shape memory, martensitic transformation, lipid bilayer, liposomes, mechanical alloying, membrane proteins, precipitates, phospholipid, milling, vortex lattice, membrane, grain, nanocrystalline, alloy, nanocrystalline, glasses, amorphous, vortex, deformation, strain, grain, microstructure, steel, structure, texture, phases, formation, lattice.	Reverse Monte Carlo, neutron diffraction, in-situ, X-ray, SANS.

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13. Appendix 3: Geographic distribution of authors according to topics

Figures 32-39 show as 'heat maps' where authors (at their affiliation) are located for each of the topics discussed in Sec. 8.1. Inherently, these heat maps are strongly biased by population density (e.g., the Netherlands have a particularly high density) and interpretation of the results require a certain level of zoom-in, which is only available in the online interactive versions of the maps[9]. Nevertheless, the *non-interactive* maps do demonstrate where the science is performed for each topic. The 'heat map' shows the density of scientists (at their affiliation) and not the number of publications they produced in the topic.

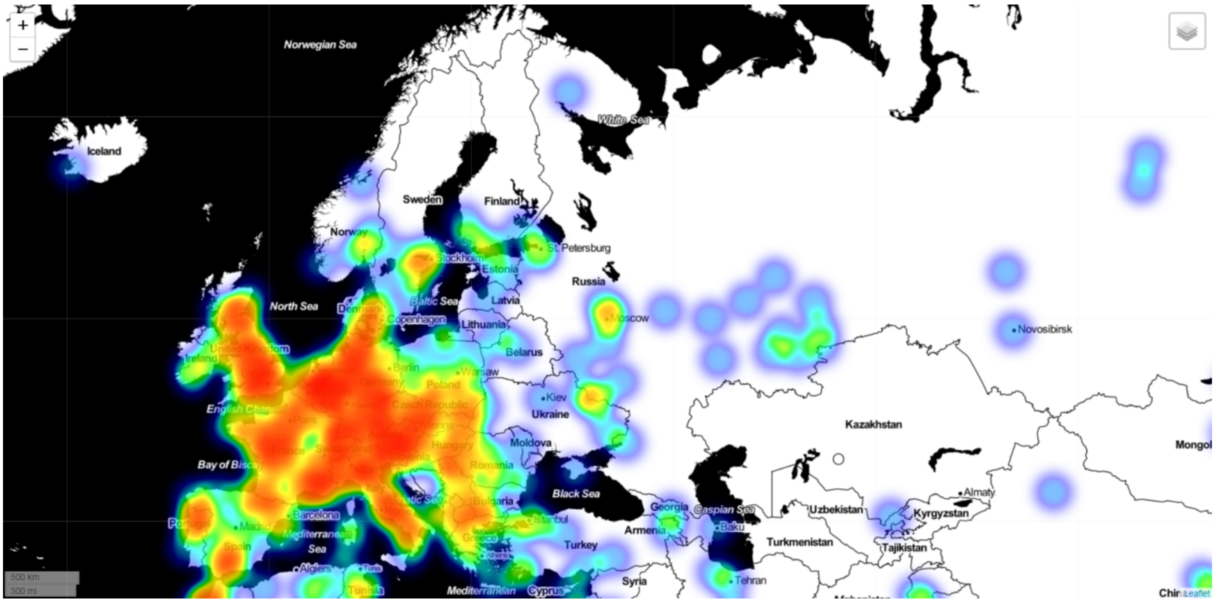

Figure 32: 'Heat map' for the NLP container "Magnetism". The colour map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

[9] https://ensa.tudelft.nl/map/neutron_all_topics_map.html

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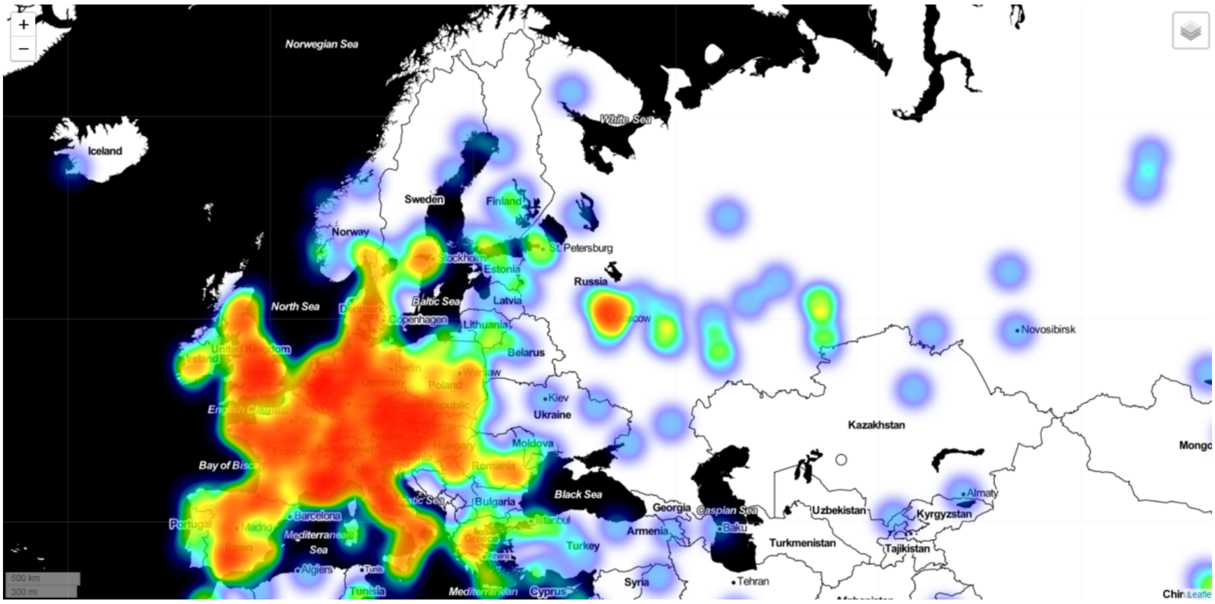

Figure 33: 'Heat map' for the NLP container "Instrumentation". The color map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

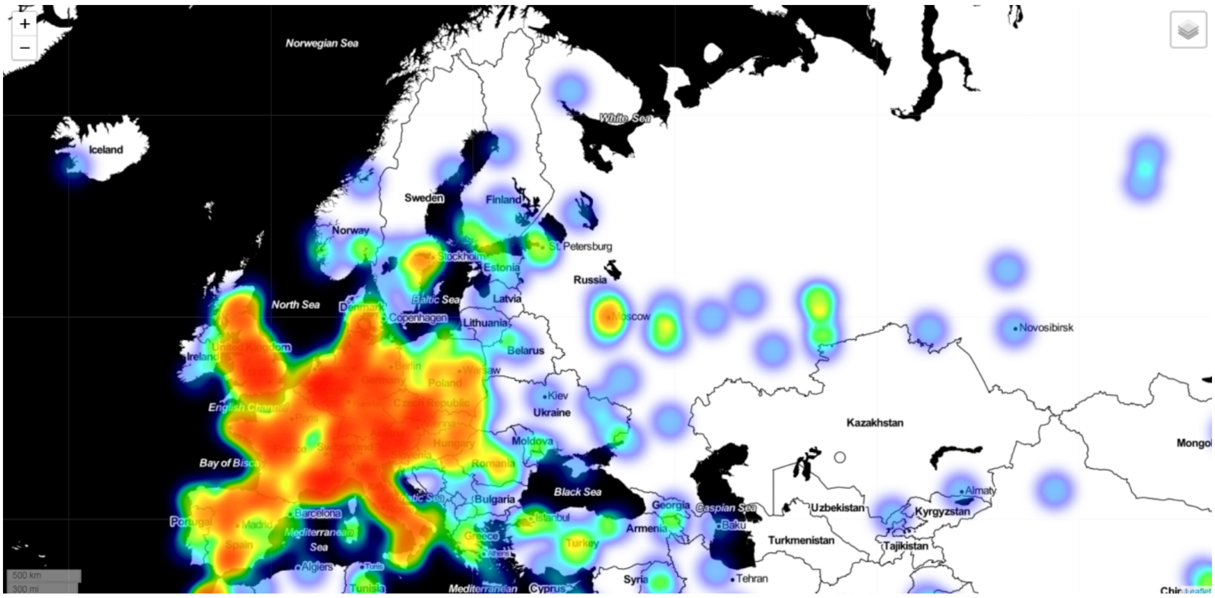

Figure 34: 'Heat map' for the NLP container "Fundamental science". The color map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

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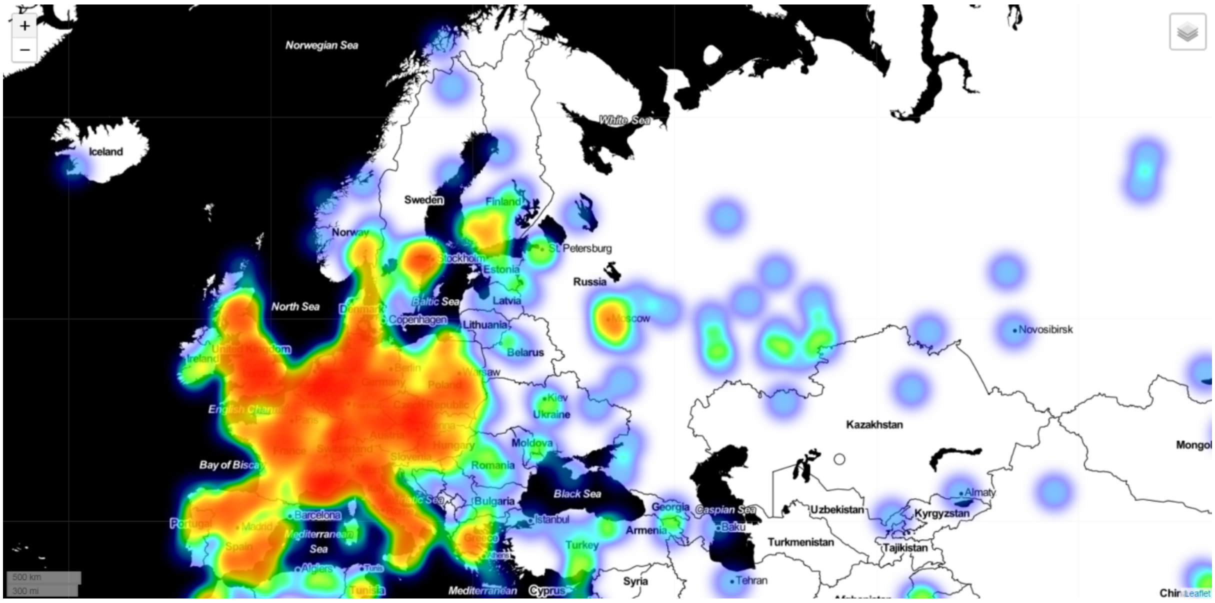

Figure 35: 'Heat map' for the NLP container "Protein dynamics". The color map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

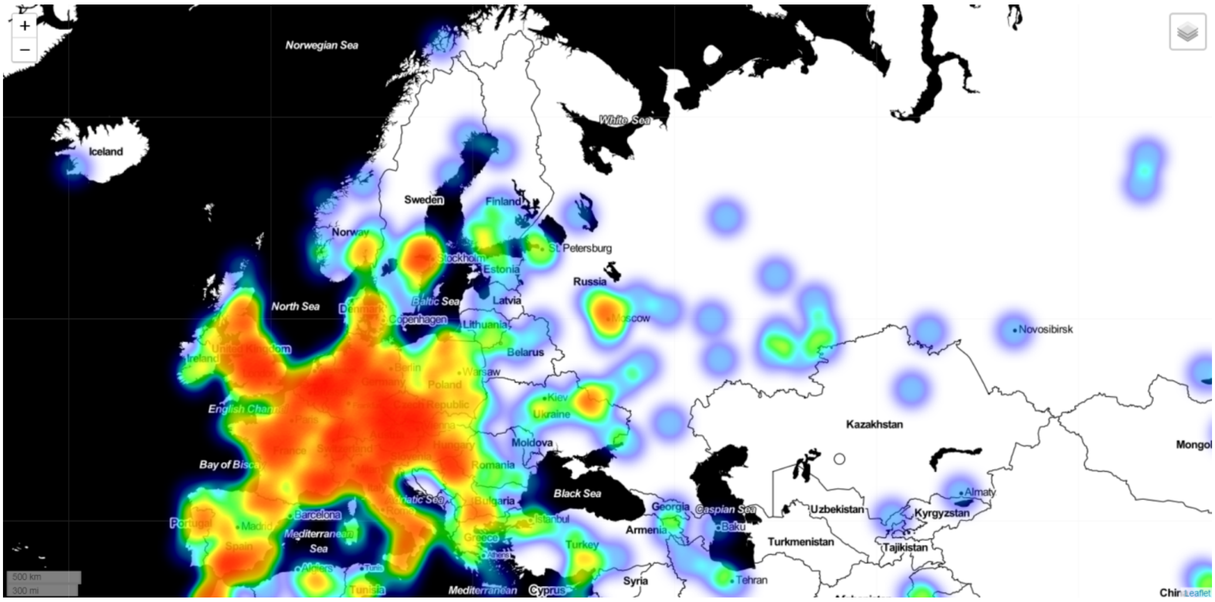

Figure 36: 'Heat map' for the NLP container "Surfaces and interfaces". The color map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

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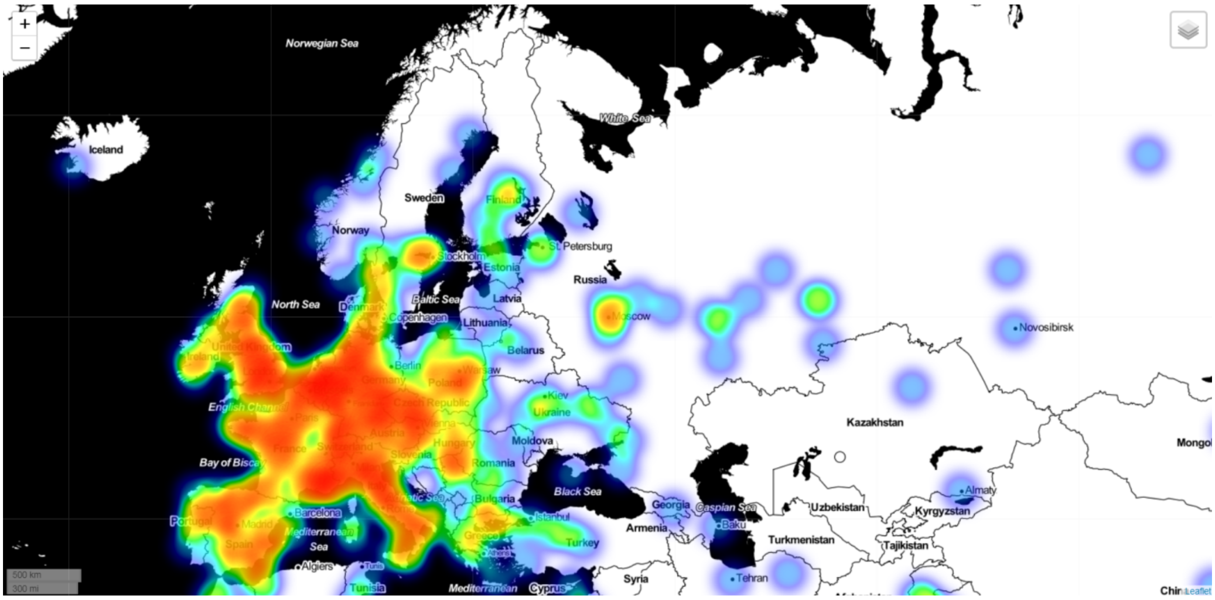

Figure 37: 'Heat map' for the NLP container "Soft matter". The color map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

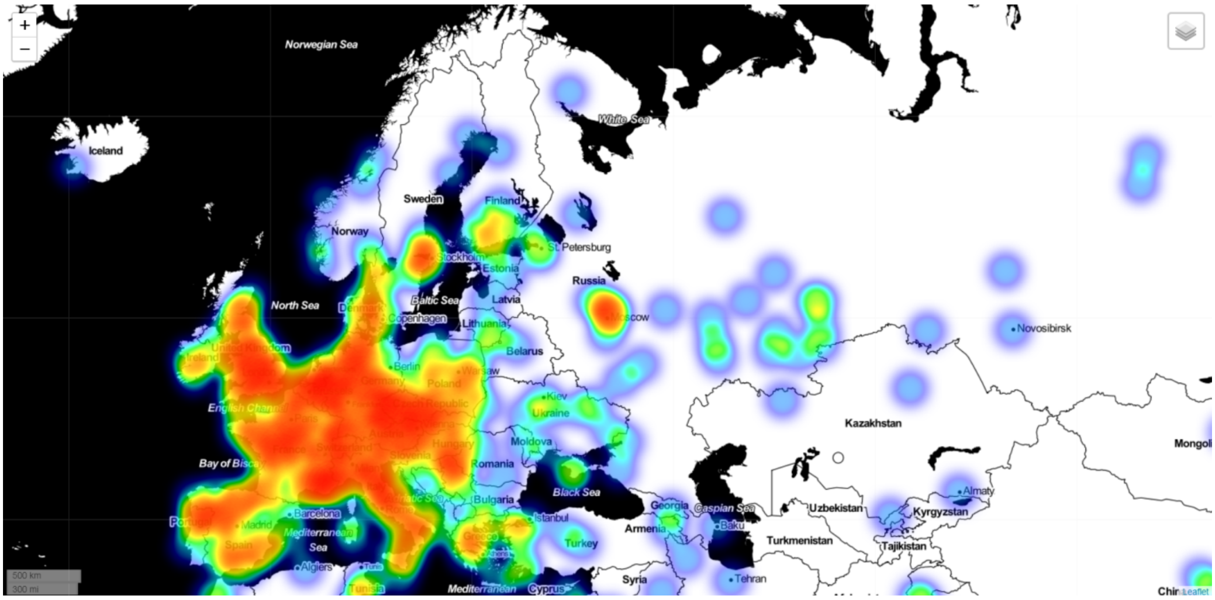

Figure 38: 'Heat map' for the NLP container "Biomembranes". The color map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

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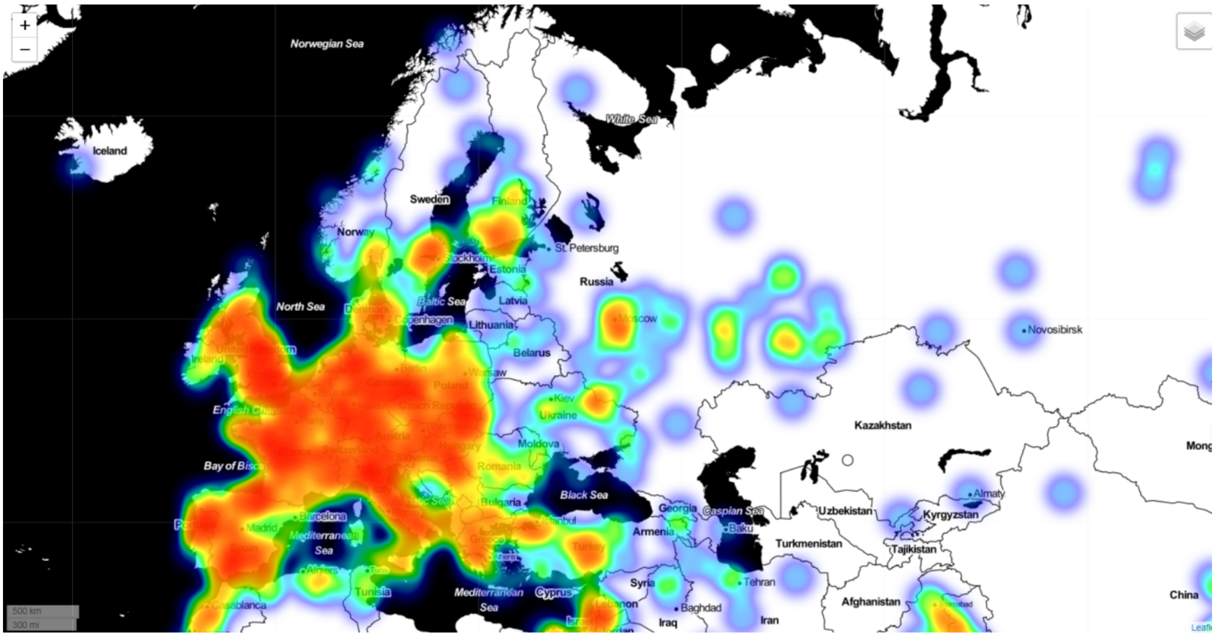

Figure 39: 'Heat map' of neutron scientists in Europe using the accumulation of all topics. The color map expresses the density using 'rainbow' colors, with purple/blue being low density and red being high density. The maps are not corrected for population density. See footnote 7 for an online interactive version, where a zoom-in will better allow to localize the communities across the continent.

14. Appendix 4: Questions in the on-line survey

Country-specific graphics and the generic questions "Can you elaborate on ….", giving the respondent the possibility to express their opinion and comment or questions, are omitted.

The lists of questions consists of either 'single choice' items (depicted as radio button / circles) or 'several answers possible' (items depicted as squares). When presenting the survey responses in the following paragraphs using bar charts, we use the term "number of selections" to describe how many respondents selected a certain option. For 'single choice/radio button' items the selection of one item rules out the other items, while for 'several answers possible/squares' the respondent could select multiple items.

Several questions were conditional, such as "How many PhD students did you introduce to neutron science". This question was not asked when the respondent is PhD student her/himself. Also, for the 'several answers possible' lists, selection of one of the items, typically induces a "Can you elaborate on …." question. Such follow-up questions are not shown below.

14.1. Do you recognize yourself in the following country specific NLP analysis?

(*referring to NLP graphics*) To make it easier to discuss these topics, we gave them some short labels ("magnetism", "instrumentation", "fundamental science", "protein dynamics", "surfaces and interfaces", "soft matter", and "biomembranes").

Sticking to these 7 topics found by AI, do you agree with the label names?

- The labels should be changed
- The labels are fine

Based on the modelled topics and publications data from Scopus database, we classified all the publications authored or co-authored by scientists from your country in the last 20 years. In the figure below you can see the distributions of the topics among the publications. A pie chart on the left represents a percentage distribution of all the publications. A bar chart on the right shows a yearly evolution of the number of publications within each of the topics.

Does the development trend in the topics for your country fit to your expectations?

- No
- Yes

Based on our analysis we were able to classify all of the neutron scientists from your country we found according to their respective topics and placed them all on the country map as a HeatMap . In the upper right corner of the map, you can choose topics of interest.

Does this Heat Map fit to your expectations, or would you expect a different distribution of neutron scientists in your country?

- It fits my expectations

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- I expected it to be different

Your opinion and any comments on our neutron publications analysis
(Criticism on the approach, interpretation, etc. Things you want to off your chest before addressing the survey.)

14.2. Your experience with neutrons until now

ENSA and Brightness2 would like to get better understanding of the scientist forming the European neutron scattering community.

Please indicate your level of expertise as a "neutron scientist"
(--scale bar 1-10---)
Selected Value: **5**
(1 = novice, 10 = expert. Expertise can be experimental, interpretation, modelling, instrument design, etc.)

At which stage are you in your scientific career?

- Student
- PhD candidate
- Postdoc
- Permanent staff member
- Professor/group leader
- Other

Which percentage of your research activity is neutron-related?
(--scale bar 1-100---)
Selected Value: **50**
Including all the time you spend starting from experimental design and including all the steps of data gatheirng, treatment, modelling and publishing.

Which of the topics found by our AI are related to your research?

- Magnetism
- Instrumentation
- Fundamental science
- Protein dynamics
- Surfaces and interfaces
- Soft matter
- Biomembranes
- None of the above

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In which of these societal relevance areas does your research fit?

- Adaptation to climate change, including societal transformation
- Cancer
- Soil health and food
- Climate-neutral and smart cities
- Healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters
- Other

In how many neutron experimental campaigns did you participate in the last 10 years?

- 1-9
- 10-19
- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50 and above

An experimental campaign is an entire chain of steps involved in the research with neutrons, starting from experimental design and writing a beam-time proposal and finishing with a publication of the result.

How would you judge whether one of your neutron experiments was successful or not?

What is your experience with the current proposal systems?

- It is easy and convenient.
- It is OK
- It requires quite some effort
- It is a pain in the neck
- Not applicable

At which neutron centers have you performed your experiments?

- ISIS - Rutherford-Appleton Laboratories, The United Kingdom
- Institut Laue-Langevin, France
- Leon Brillouin Laboratory, France
- Berlin Neutron Scattering Center, Germany
- GEMS at Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Germany
- Jülich Center for Neutron Science, Germany
- FRM-II, Germany
- Budapest Neutron Centre, Hungary
- RID, The Netherlands
- SINQ, Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI), Switzerland
- Frank Laboratory of Neutron Physics, Russia

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- St. Petersburg Neutron Physics Institute, Russia
- NIST Center for Neutron Research
- Oak Ridge Neutron Facilities (SNS/HFIR)
- Indiana University Cyclotron Facility
- ISSP Neutron Scattering Laboratory, Japan
- JAEA Research Reactors, Japan
- KENS Neutron Scattering Facility, Japan
- Hi-Flux Advanced Neutron Application Reactor, Korea
- Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, India
- Bragg Institute, ANSTO, Australia
- Other

Which instrument type(s) do you use?
- Neutron transmission (imaging)
- Diffraction
- Small Angle Neutron Scattering (SANS)
- Reflectometry
- Quasielastic neutron scattering
- Neutron spin-echo
- Inelastic neutron scattering
- Other

Which type(s) of sample environment do you use?
- Pressure
- Cryostat
- Oven
- Cryofurnace
- Magnetic fields
- Mechanical deformations
- Stopped flow cell
- Humidity chamber
- Automatic sample changer
- Electric fields
- Shear-cell
- In-situ sample stimulus
- In-situ sample analysis
- Other

What are the key factors for you when choosing where to apply for neutron beamtime?
- Neutron flux
- Beamline scientist
- Preliminary experience with the specific instrument
- Accessibility of the location (travel time from your affiliation)
- Availability of sample environment

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- Level of competition for beamtime
- Other

Per 1 day of neutron beamtime, how many days do you typically use on conceiving, preparing, analyzing and publishing the project?

Comments concerning the above question.

What kind of software do you use for data analysis?
- Igor
- Matlab
- Origin
- Python
- R
- C / C++
- Facility-provided software
- Method-specific software
- Other

Do you work with industry?
- Yes, often
- Yes, sometimes
- No

Which other analysis methods do you use for your research?
- Microscopy
- Electron microscopy
- NMR
- large-scale X-rays
- lab-based X-rays
- (FT)IR
- Raman
- DLS
- UV/VIS
- Other

Do you work with other large-scale research infrastructures?
- ESRF EBS (European Synchrotron Radiation Facility Extremely Brilliant Source)
- European XFEL (European X-Ray Free-Electron Laser Facility)
- EMFL (European Magnetic Field Laboratory)
- EU-SOLARIS (European Solar Research Infrastructure for Concentrated Solar Power)
- IFMIF-DONES (International Fusion Materials Irradiation Facility - DEMO Oriented NEutron Source)

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- MYRRHA (Multi-purpose hYbrid Research Reactor for High-tech Applications)
- WindScanner (European WindScanner Facility)
- ECCSEL ERIC (European Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage Laboratory Infrastructure)
- EISCAT_3D (Next generation European Incoherent Scatter radar system)
- EMSO ERIC (European Multidisciplinary Seafloor and water-column Observatory)
- EPOS (European Plate Observing System)
- EURO-ARGO ERIC (European contribution to the international Argo Programme)
- IAGOS (In-service Aircraft for a Global Observing System)
- ICOS ERIC (Integrated Carbon Observation System)
- LifeWatch ERIC (e-Infrastructure for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research)
- ACTRIS (Aerosols, Clouds and Trace gases Research Infrastructure)
- DANUBIUS-RI (International Centre for Advanced Studies on River-Sea Systems)
- DiSSCo (Distributed System of Scientific Collections)
- eLTER (Long-Term Ecosystem Research in Europe)
- AnaEE (Infrastructure for Analysis and Experimentation on Ecosystems)
- EMPHASIS (European Infrastructure for Multi-scale Plant Phenomics and Simulation)
- EU-IBISBA (Industrial Biotechnology Innovation and Synthetic Biology Accelerator)
- ISBE (Infrastructure for System Biology Europe)
- METROFOOD-RI (Infrastructure for promoting Metrology in Food and Nutrition)
- MIRRI (Microbial Resource Research Infrastructure)
- BBMRI ERIC (Biobanking and BioMolecular Resources Research Infrastructure)
- EATRIS ERIC (European Advanced Translational Research Infrastructure in Medicine)
- ECRIN ERIC (European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network)
- ELIXIR (A distributed infrastructure for life-science information)
- EMBRC ERIC (European Marine Biological Resource Centre)
- ERINHA (European Research Infrastructure on Highly Pathogenic Agents)
- EU-OPENSCREEN ERIC (European Infrastructure of Open Screening Platforms for Chemical Biology)
- Euro-BioImaging (European Research Infrastructure for Imaging Technologies in Biological and Biomedical Sciences)
- INFRAFRONTIER (European Research Infrastructure for the generation, phenotyping, archiving and distribution of mouse disease models)
- INSTRUCT ERIC (Integrated Structural Biology Infrastructure)
- ELI (Extreme Light Infrastructure)
- FAIR (Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research)
- HL-LHC (High-Luminosity Large Hadron Collider)
- SKA (Square Kilometre Array)
- SPIRAL2 (Système de Production d'Ions Radioactifs en Ligne de 2e génération)

14.3. Your future needs (facility related)

In this block of questions, we would like to collect your thought and expectations for the future of the neutron-based experiments and the way they are organized.

At which stages of neutron-based research would you like to see improvements?

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- Before the experiment
- During the experiment
- After the experiment

Which aspects of the pre-experimental stage should be improved?

- Proposal system
- Contact with the facility staff members
- Access options
- Possibilities for sample transportation to the instrument
- Education in neutron science
- Instrument-related training
- Something else

Which aspects of the experimental stage should be improved?

- Experimental support
- Instrument-related
- Accommodation
- Something else

Which aspects of the post-experimental stage should be improved?

- Experimental data treatment support
- Experimental data analysis support
- Possibilities for data modelling and simulations
- User meetings
- Writing the manuscript
- Something else

What would be your dream scenario in regard to future neutron science?

How can the European Spallation Source (ESS) help in realizing this dream?

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14.4. Your future needs (not facility related)

Science is typically not-for-profit, but acquiring/securing funding can consume a lot of time for a scientist. Here we would like to hear your opinion on such factors that are not directly related to your neutron science, but that can have a large impact on what neutron science you can do.

I want funding schemes improved as follows:

- Small-scale (experiment-specific): [money for travel, accommodation, students joining, colleagues joining]
- Medium-scale (project-specific) [phd-candidate lifetime – 3-4 years, covering all the costs, including salary, equipment and materials]
- Large-scale (topic-specific) [inter-institutional/international/European collaboration in endeavor to solve a global challenge, neutron research presents less than 51% of the whole package]
- Other

Other things that would boost my neutron science:

- Better education/training of students
- Experts in my field at the facility, during the experiment
- AI helping me during the experiment and analyzing the data
- Students joining the experiment
- FAIR data
- Scientific meetings other than the current (workshop, conference, ad-hoc) possibilities
- Better/more collaboration with industry
- Other

What role can ENSA play to boost your future neutron science?

THANK YOU! Your input will serve (anonymously) to the Brightness2 Report on Future User Needs. ENSA will report back to the neutron community through the national ENSA delegates.

[[SUBMIT button]]

15. Appendix 5: Conversion vocabulary between the survey questions and lower_case indications for word clouds

Are you interested in a career in neutrons? : who_neutron_career
Are you seeking collaboration with industrial partners? : who_industry_seek
At which neutron centers have you performed your experiments : who_neutron_centers
At which stage are you in your scientific career? : who_stage_career

At which stages of neutron-based research would you like to see improvements? : improve_stage
Do you teach neutron science? : who_teach_neutron
Do you work with industry? : who_industry_collab
Do you work with other large-scale research infrastructures? : who_other_lsri
Does the development trend in the topics for your country fit your expectations? : who_trend_fit
Does this Heat Map fit to your expectations, or would you expect a different distribution of neutron scientists in your country? : who_heatmap_fit_to
I want funding schemes improved as follows: : improve_funding_schemes
In how many neutron experimental campaigns did you participate in the last 10 years? : who_neutron_campaigns
In which of these societal relevance areas does your research fit? : who_societ_relevance
Other things that would boost my neutron science: : improve_other_boost
What are the key factors for you when choosing where to apply for neutron beamtime? : who_factors_facility_choice
What is your experience with the current proposal systems? : who_proposal_system
What kind of software do you use for data analysis? : who_software
Which access option should be improved? : improve_access_options
Which aspects of the accommodation should be improved? : improve_accomodation_aspects
Which aspects of the experimental stage should be improved? : improve_experiment_stage_aspects
Which aspects of the pre-experimental stage should be improved? : improve_pre_experimental_stage_aspects
Which aspects of the the experimental support should be improved? : improve_experimental_support_aspects
Which aspects of the the post-experimental stage should be improved? : improve_post_experimental_stage_aspects
Which instrument type(s) do you use? : who_instrument_types
Which of the following ESS instruments do you expect to provide such improvements? : improve_ESS_instruments
Which of the topics found by our AI are related to your research? : who_found_topics
Which other analysis methods do you use for your research? : who_other_analysis_methods
Which parameters of the inelastic neutron scattering instrument require improvement? : improve_parameters_INS
Which parameters of the instrument you use require improvement? : improve_parameters_other
Which parameters of the neutron diffraction instrument require improvement? : improve_parameters_DIFFRACTION
Which parameters of the neutron spin-echo spectroscopy instrument require improvement? : improve_parameters_NSE
Which parameters of the neutron trasmission (imaging) instrument require improvement? : improve_parameters_IMAGING
Which parameters of the quasielastic neutron scattering instrument require improvement? : improve_parameters_QENS
Which parameters of the reflectometry instrument require improvement? : improve_parameters_REFLECTOMETRY

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Which parameters of the small angle neutron scattering (SANS) instrument require improvement? : improve_parameters_SANS
Which percentage of your research activity is neutron-related? : who_percentage_neutron
Which type(s) of sample environment do you use? : who_sample_environment
Would you like to have a European single access proposal system (nonspecific to an instrument, or a neutron source; beamtime can be granted at an instrument X in country Y)? : improve_single_access
Would you like to have a standard electronic logbook interchangeable between all the facilities? : improve_standard_logbook
Your level of expertise as a "neutron scientist" : who_expertise_level
Your opinion and any comments on our neutron publications analysis : who_ai_opinion

16. Appendix 6: Word-cloud interpretation of survey responses concerning "ESS instrument"

All of the instruments included in the ESS construction project were selected by survey respondents as potential providers of the improvements that the community seeks in the neutron instruments. The terms that appear in the word clouds of the different instruments are rather similar for many instruments. However, in the word clouds below one can find information per instrument about the group of scientists that selected a specific instrument (left word clouds with the answers to "who"-type of questions), as well as the kind of improvements such a group of scientists is seeking (right word clouds with the answers to "improve"-type of questions). These word clouds could be used for better understanding of the potential research done with the instruments, and for selection of the equipment of the laboratories related to the instruments. It should also be noted that in nearly all word clouds, *several* ESS instruments appear, which may be interpreted as an indication of good compatibility of the instruments for science done with the help of neutrons.

Below, the word clouds are shown per ESS instrument, with the left-side word cloud describing the survey respondents, the right-side word cloud expressing what kind of improvements these respondents seek. Each word cloud is appended with a short interpretation.

Figure 40: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents who selected T-REX for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected T-REX for their future needs we can see that they are performed most of their neutron experiments at ILL. The motivation for their facility choice is neutron flux. They are mostly using inelastic neutron scattering technique. Among the other (non-neutron) large scale research infrastructures they mostly use ESRF.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron background, sample environments, and availability of the instrument. Apart from T-REX, they are also interested in using BIFROST, MAGiC and DREAM instruments at ESS.

Figure 41: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected HEIMDAL for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected HEIMDAL for their future needs we can see that they are motivated by neutron flux when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis methods they mostly use lab- or large-scale X-ray techniques.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron background, flux, resolution, sample environment and availability of the instrument. Apart from HEIMDAL, they are also interested in using DREAM, BIFROST and MAGiC instruments at ESS.

Figure 42: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected BEER for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected BEER for their future needs we can see that they are motivated by sample environment, neutron flux, accessibility and previous experience when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis methods they mostly use lab- or large-scale X-ray techniques. They equally often perform experiments at ILL, FRM-II, ISIS and HZB. Most of these responders have occasional collaborations with industry.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron background, flux, resolution, sample environment and availability of the instrument. Apart from BEER, they are also interested in using DREAM, HEIMDAL and ODIN instruments at ESS.

Figure 43: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected CSPEC for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected CSPEC for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL. They are motivated by sample environment, neutron flux and beamline scientist when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction and inelastic neutron scattering techniques. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis methods they mostly use lab- or large-scale X-ray techniques.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron flux, resolution, sample environment and availability of the instrument. Apart from CSPEC, they are also interested in using DREAM, HEIMDAL, MIRACLES, BIFROST and T-REX instruments at ESS.

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Figure 44: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected FREIA for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected FREIA for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL. They are motivated by beamline scientist and accessibility when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron reflectometry and SANS techniques. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis methods they mostly use lab-scale X-ray techniques and dynamic light scattering. Among other (non-neutron) large scale research infrastructures they mostly use ESRF.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include sample environment and availability of the instrument. Apart from FREIA, they are also interested in using SCADI, ESTIA, MIRACLES and LoKI instruments at ESS.

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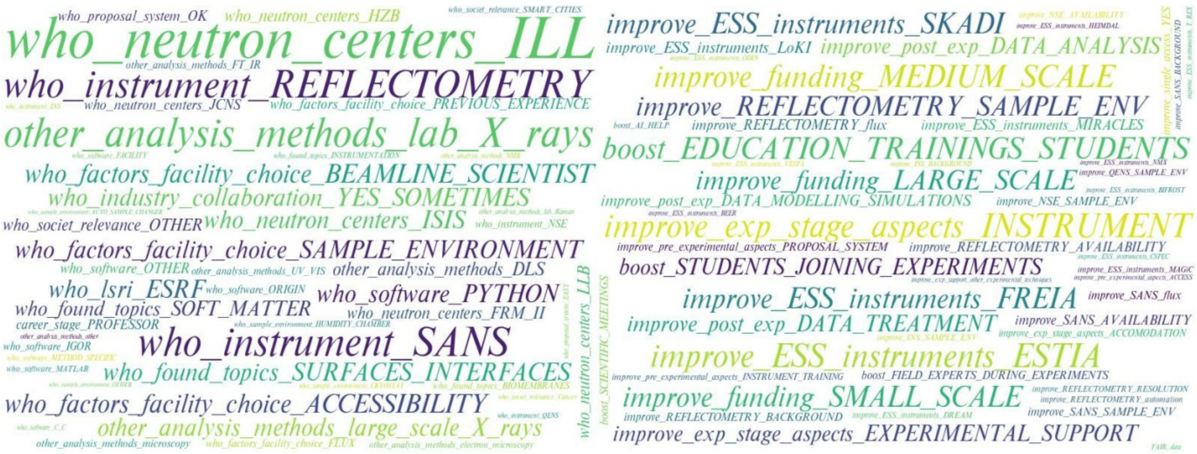

Figure 45: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected ESTIA for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected ESTIA for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL. They are motivated by sample environment, accessibility and beamline scientist when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron reflectometry and SANS techniques. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis methods they mostly use lab- or large-scale X-ray techniques.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron flux and sample environment. Apart from ESTIA, they are also interested in using FREIA and SKADI instruments at ESS.

Figure 46: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents who selected MIRACLES for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected MIRACLES for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL. They are motivated by neutron flux when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using inelastic neutron scattering technique. Among the other (non-neutron) large scale research infrastructures they usually use ESRF. Among the topics found by our NLP analysis, they identified instrumentation as the most relevant for their research.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron background and sample environment. Apart from MIRACLES, they are also interested in using FREIA, ESTIA, T-REX, LoKI and SKADI instruments at ESS.

Figure 47: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected BIFROST for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected BIFROST for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL, ISIS or HZB. They are motivated by neutron flux, beamline scientist, previous experience and accessibility when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction and inelastic neutron scattering techniques. Among the other (non-neutron) large scale research infrastructures they usually use ESRF.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron background, availability, flux, resolution and sample environment. Apart from BIFROST, they are also interested in using DREAM instrument at ESS.

Figure 48: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected NMX for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected NMX for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL or FRM-II. They are motivated by neutron flux, accessibility and beamline scientist when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction. Among the topics found by our NLP analysis, they identified instrumentation as the most relevant for their research. This group of responders has occasional collaborations with industry.
As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. Apart from NMX, they are also interested in using HEIMDAL, DREAM, and MAGiC instruments at ESS.

Figure 49: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected MAGIC for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected MAGiC for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at FRM-II and ILL. They are motivated by neutron flux, sample environment, previous experience and beamline scientist when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis methods they usually use lab-scale X-rays.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron background, flux, resolution and sample environment. Apart from MAGiC, they are also interested in using DREAM and BIFROST instruments at ESS.

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Figure 50: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected VESPA for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected VESPA for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL. They are motivated by availability of a specific sample environment, beamline scientist, previous experience and neutron flux when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using inelastic neutron scattering and neutron diffraction. Among the other (non-neutron) large scale research infrastructures they usually use ESRF. Among the topics found by our NLP analysis, they identified fundamental as the most relevant for their research.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron background, resolution, instrument flexibility and sample environment. Apart from VESPA, they are also interested in using CSPEC and MIRACLES instruments at ESS.

Figure 51: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected LOKI for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected LoKI for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL. They are motivated by neutron flux, sample environment, beamline scientist and previous experience when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using SANS technique. Among the other (non-neutron) large scale research infrastructures they usually use ESRF. Among the topics found by our NLP analysis, they identified soft matter as the most relevant for their research.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron flux, availability, sample environment and remote control of the instrument. Apart from LoKI, they are also interested in using SKADI instrument at ESS.

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Figure 52: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected SKADI for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected SKADI for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL. They are motivated by neutron flux, sample environment, beamline scientist and previous experience when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using SANS technique. Among the other (non-neutron) large scale research infrastructures they usually use ESRF. Among the topics found by our NLP analysis, they identified soft matter as the most relevant for their research.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron flux, availability, sample environment and remote control of the instrument. Apart from SKADI, they are also interested in using LoKI and ESTIA instruments at ESS.

Figure 53: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected ODIN for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected ODIN for their future needs we can see that they performed most of their experiments at HZB. They are motivated by neutron flux, sample environment, beamline scientist and previous experience when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction and imaging techniques. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis techniques they mostly use lab-scale X-rays. This group of scientists has collaborations with industry.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron flux, availability, and sample environment. Apart from ODIN, they are also interested in using SKADI and DREAM instruments at ESS.

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Figure 54: Demographics (left) and requirements for improvements (right) of the respondents that selected DREAM for their future needs

From the word clouds for the group of the respondents who selected DREAM for their future needs we can see that they perform most of their experiments at ILL, FRM-II and ISIS. They are motivated by neutron flux, sample environment, beamline scientist and accessibility when choosing a facility for their experiments. They are mostly using neutron diffraction. Among the other (non-neutron) analysis techniques they mostly use lab-scale X-rays.

As can be seen from the improvements and future needs word cloud, they are mostly interested in improvements of the instrumental parameters during the experimental stage of their research. These parameters include neutron flux, background, availability, and sample environment. Apart from DREAM, they are also interested in using HEIMDAL, BIFROST and MAGiC instruments at ESS.