

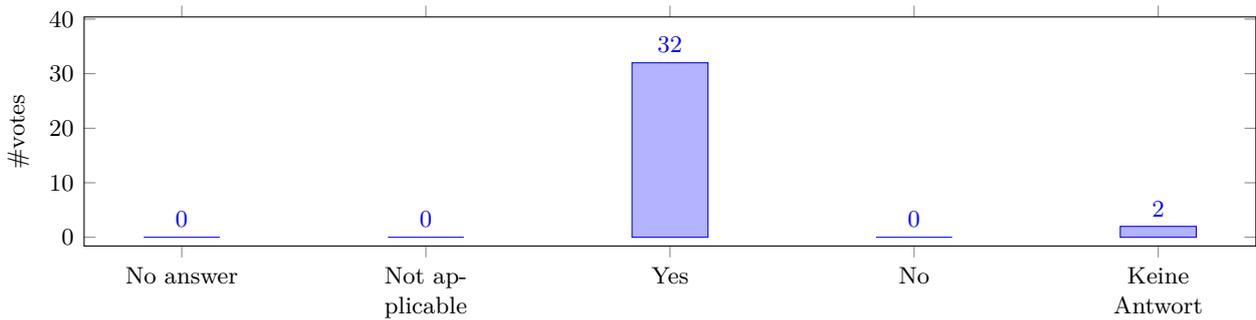
Veranstaltung: Lecture Evaluation Winter Term 2025 2026 MA-INF 1108 Introduction to High Performance Computing	Semester: WS 25/26
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Ergebnis der Online-Umfrage. Anzahl der Teilnehmenden: 34.

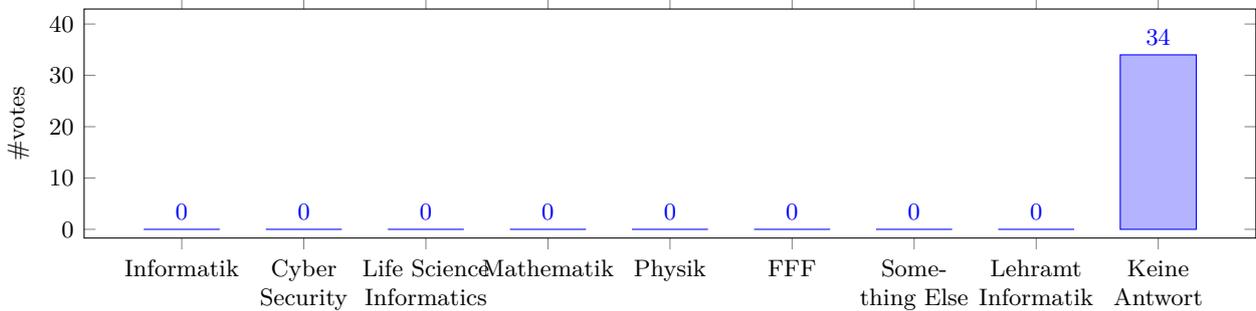
Die Umfrage fand in den Tagen nach der Veranstaltung statt.

1 Demographic data

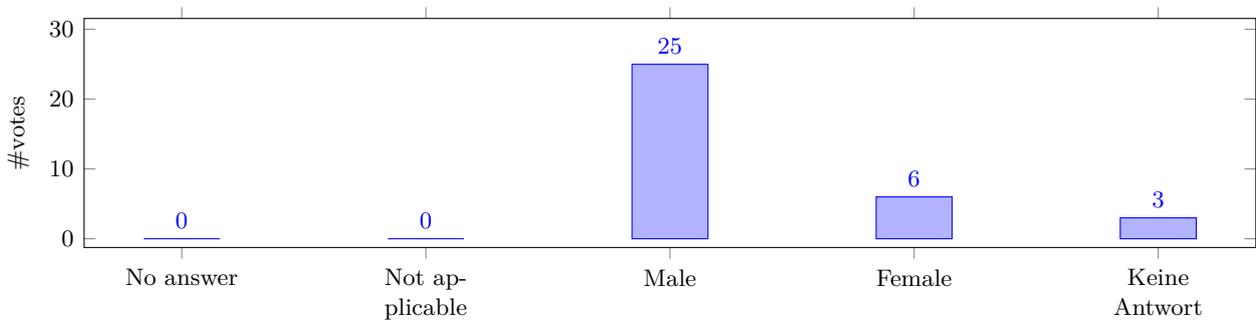
1.1 Is this your first time taking the module?



1.2 Which subject(s) are you studying?

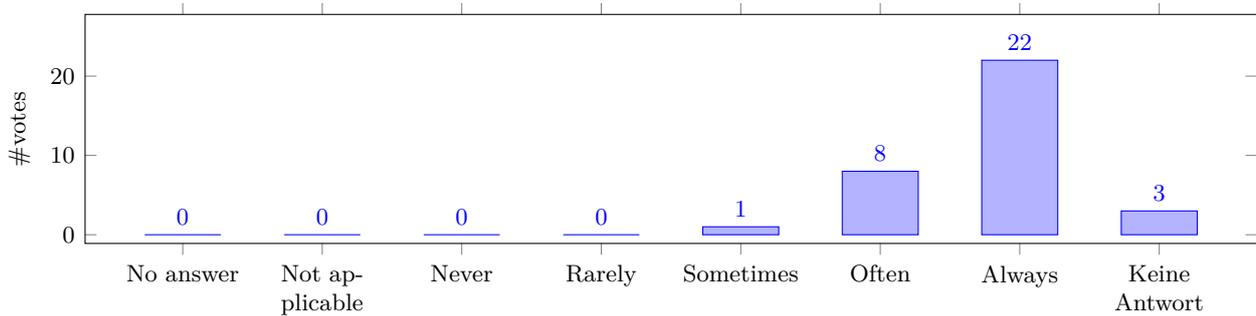


1.3 Which of these genders describes you best?

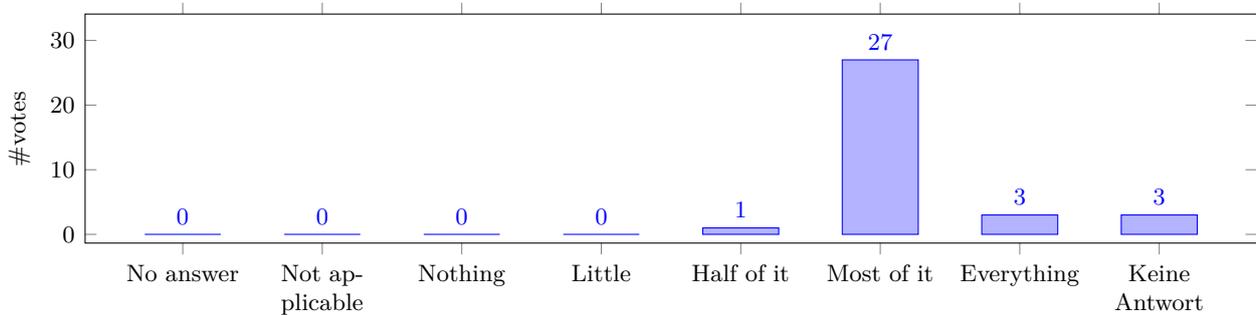


2 Lecture

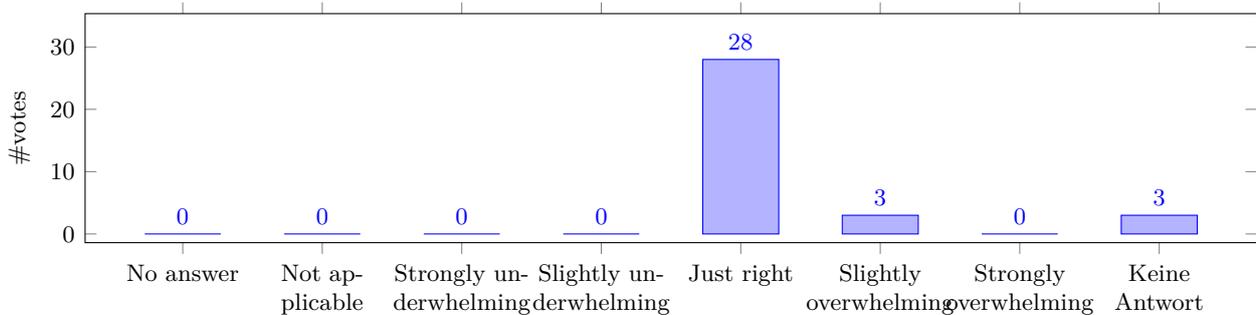
2.1 How often did you attend the lecture?



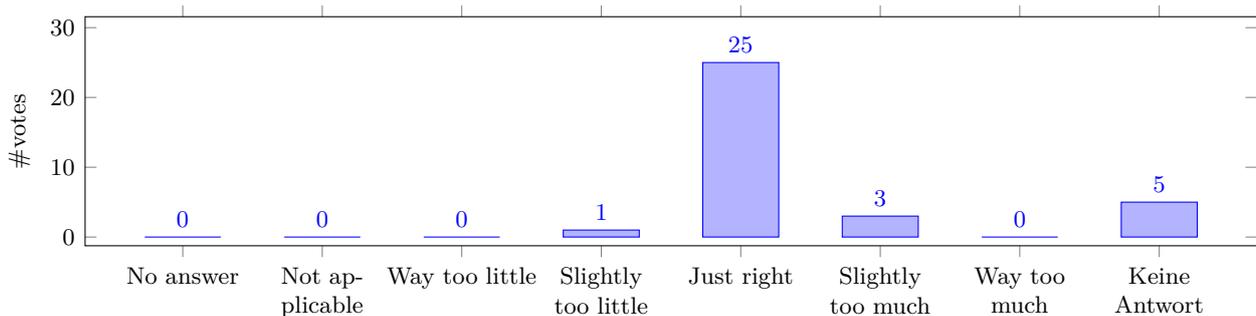
2.2 How much did you understand during the lecture?



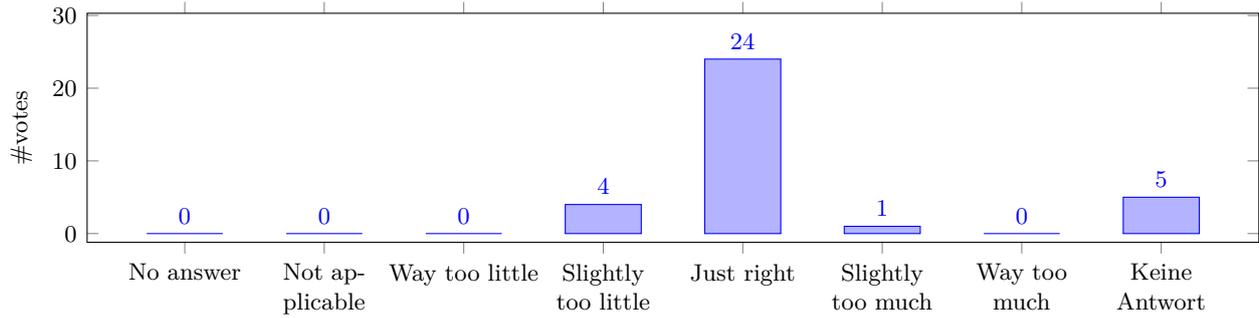
2.3 How did you perceive the level of difficulty of the topics covered?



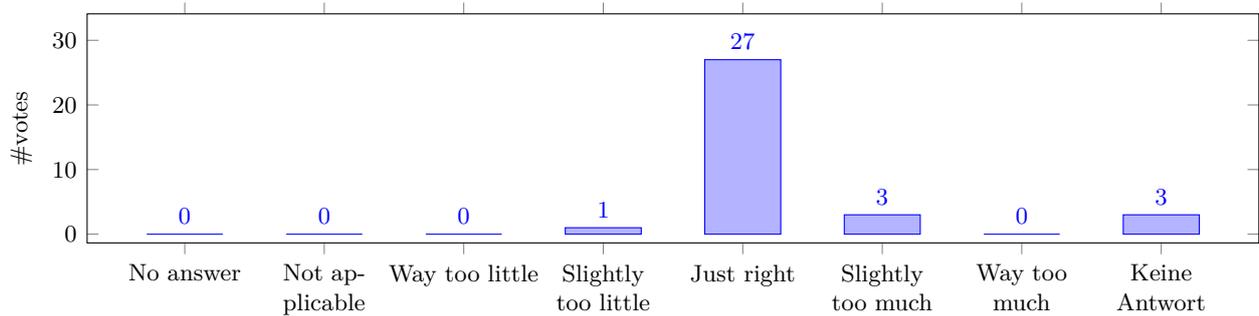
2.4 How detailed were the topics explained?



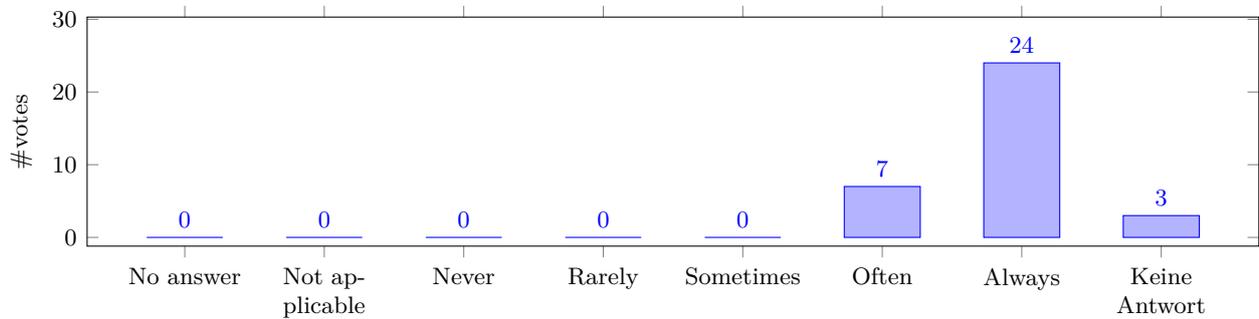
2.5 To what extent were topics illustrated with examples?



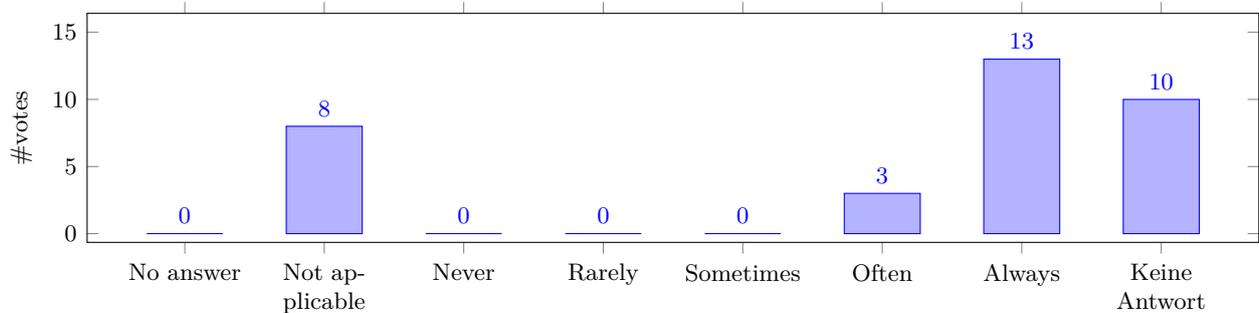
2.6 The interactivity in the lecture was...



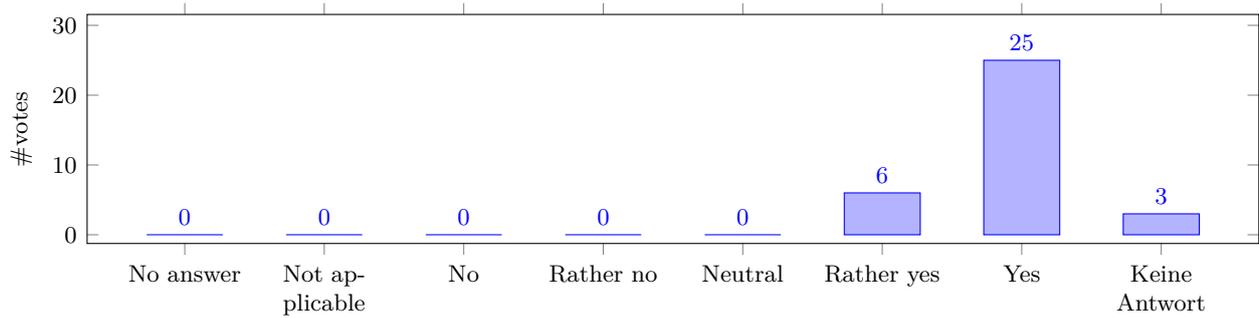
2.7 Did the lecturer respond to questions satisfactorily and comprehensibly?



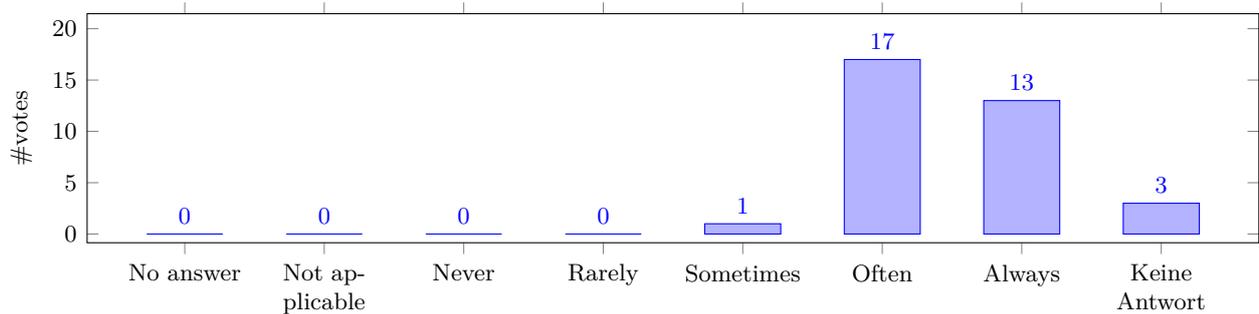
2.8 Was the lecturer available for questions etc. outside the lecture?



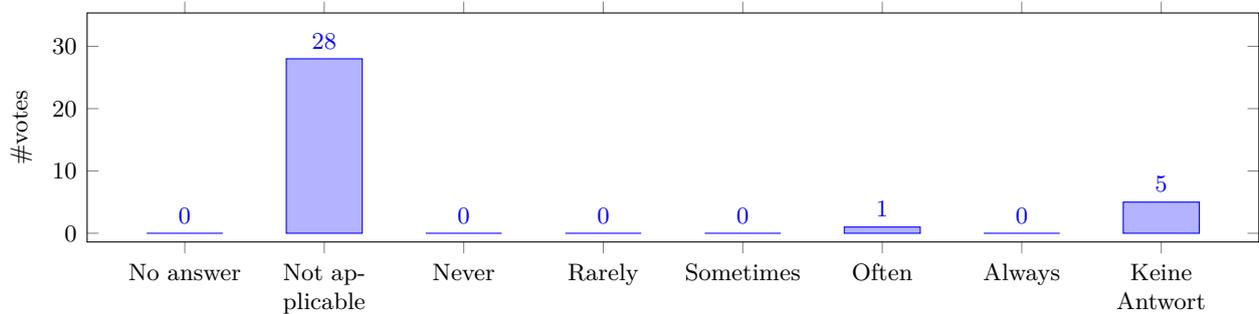
2.9 Did you get along well with the lecturer's presentation style (speaking speed, ...)?



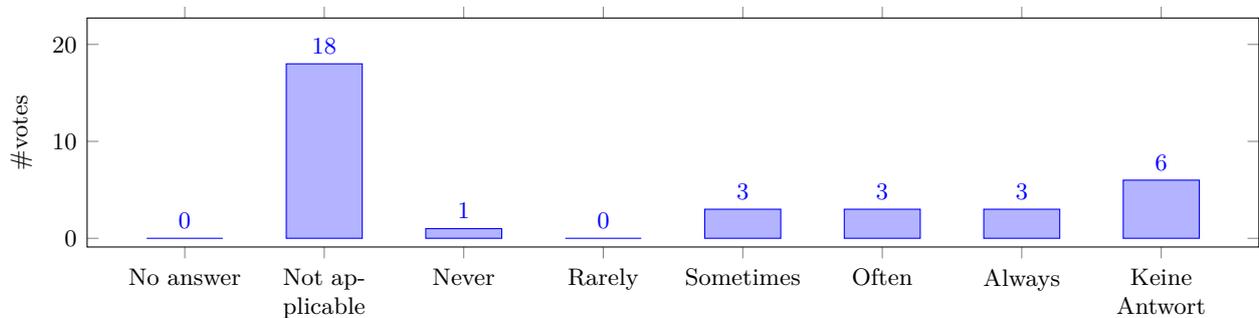
2.10 Were the slides helpful?



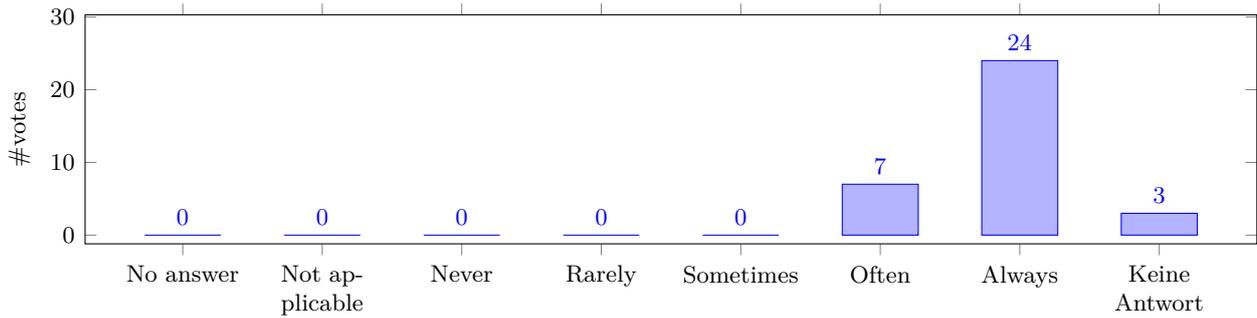
2.11 Was the script helpful?



2.12 Were additional materials for the lecture (lecture videos, wiki, ...) helpful?

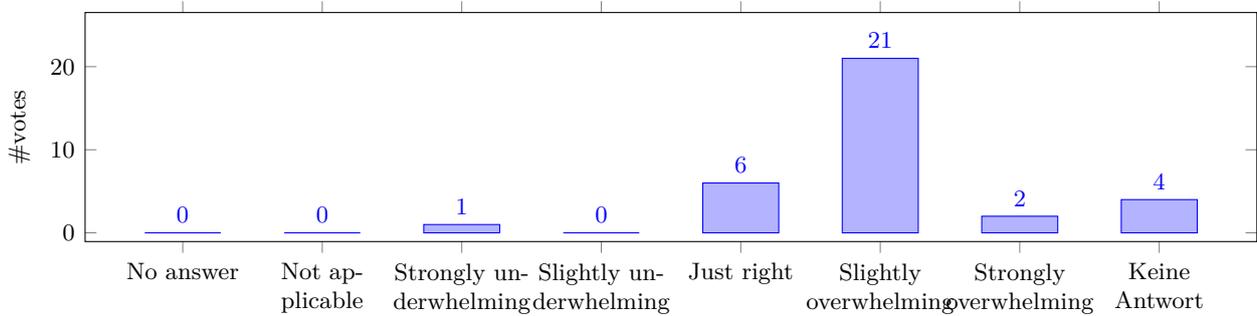


2.13 Were the lecture materials made available on time?

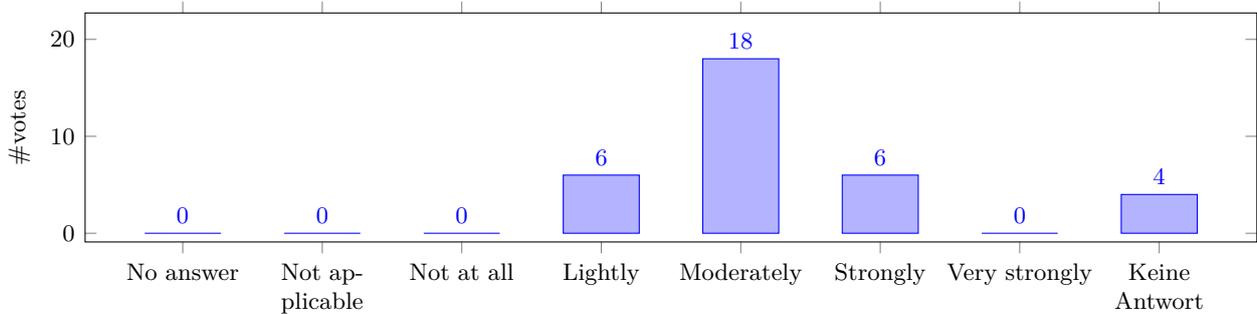


3 Exercise sheets

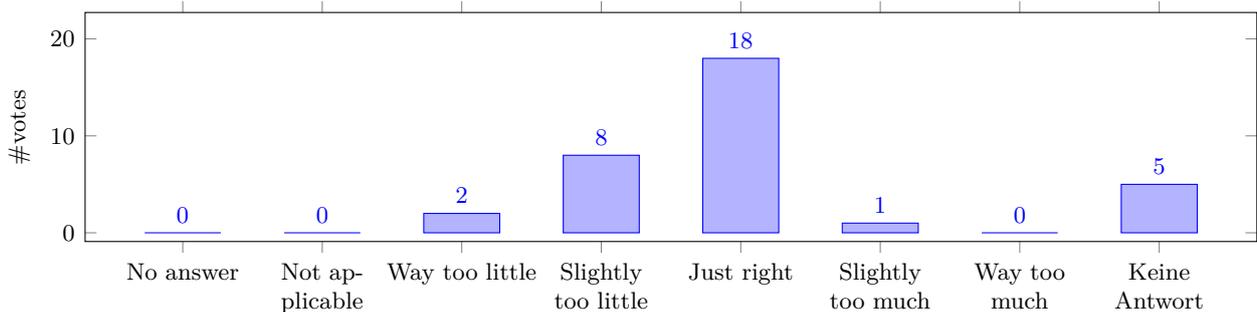
3.1 How did you perceive the level of difficulty of the exercise sheets?



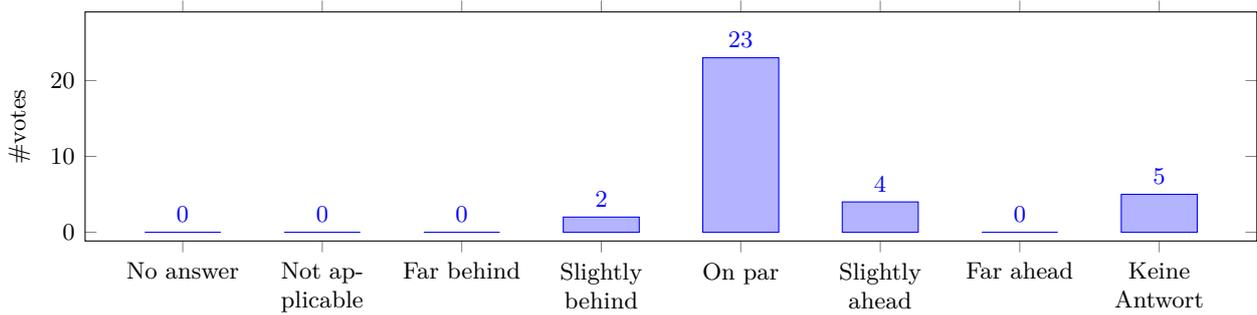
3.2 The difficulty of the exercise sheets varied...



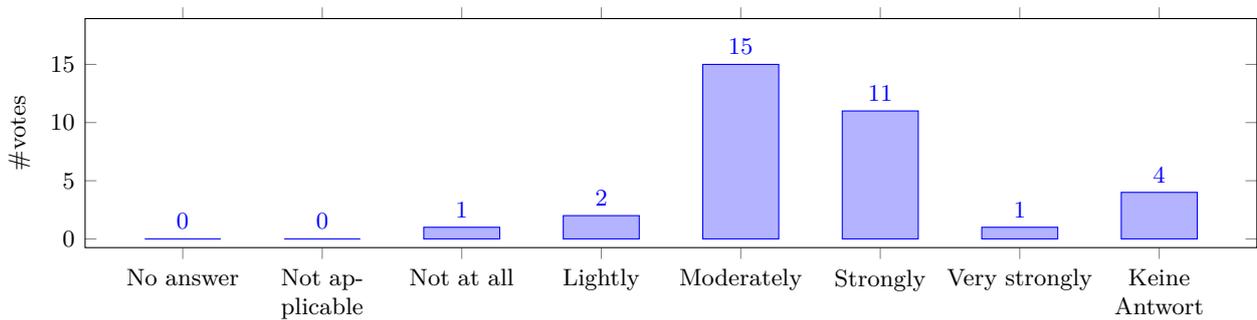
3.3 How much time was allowed between publication and submission/discussion of the exercise sheets?



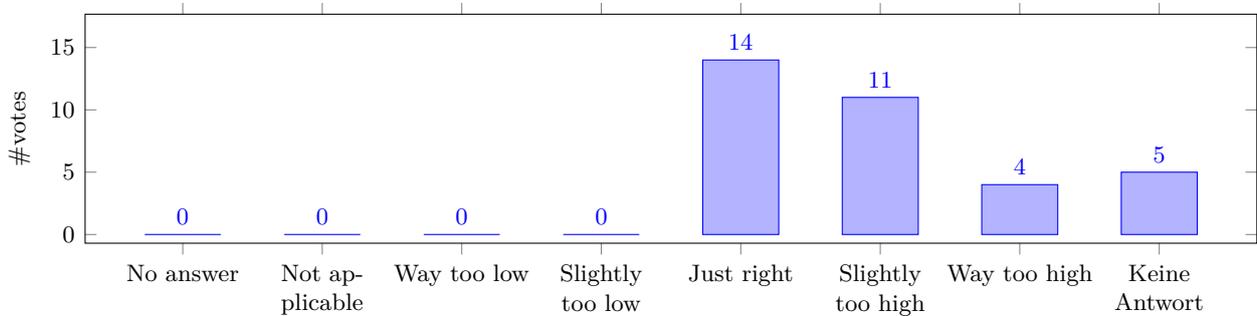
3.4 Did the exercise sheets fit in with the lecture regarding the time schedule? The lecture was...



3.5 How much did the exercise sheets help you to achieve the learning objective?

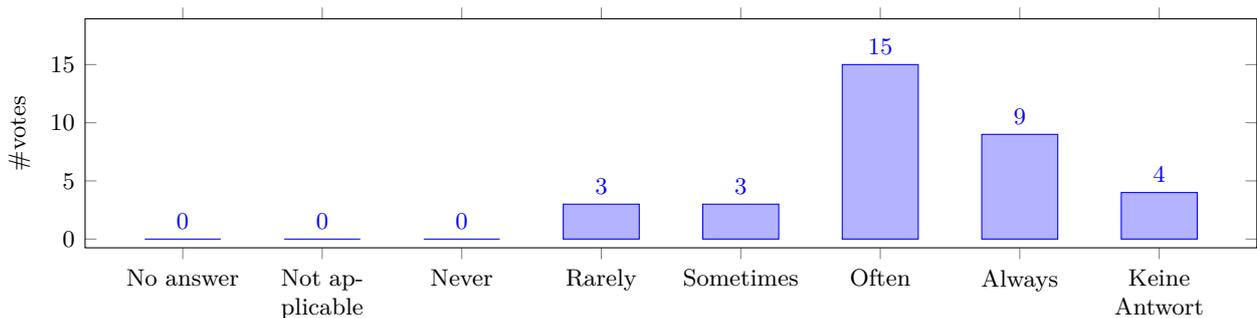


3.6 Do you think the required coursework for this module is appropriate? It is...

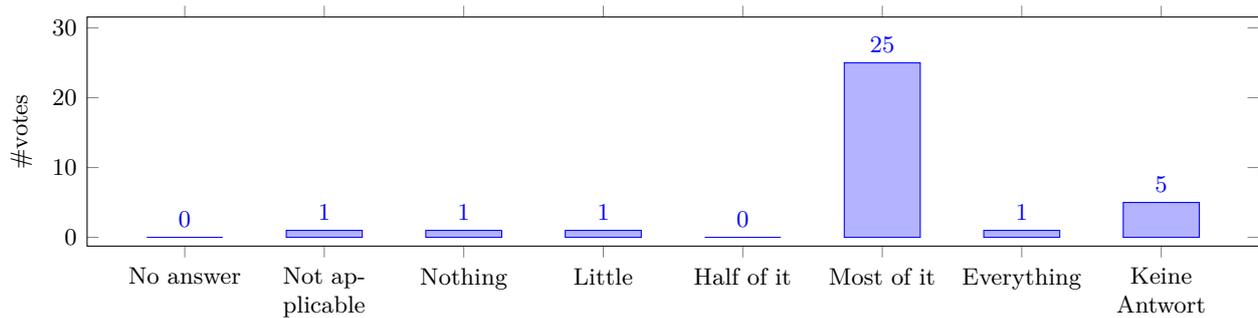


4 Exercise group

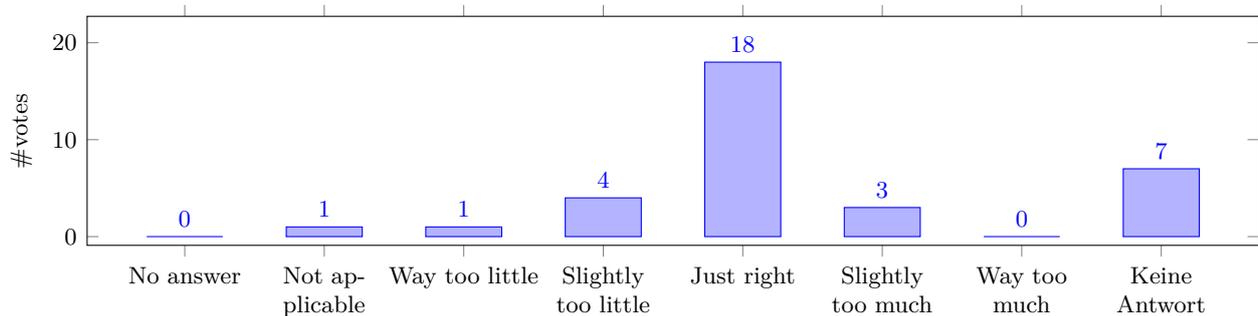
4.1 How often did you attend the exercise group?



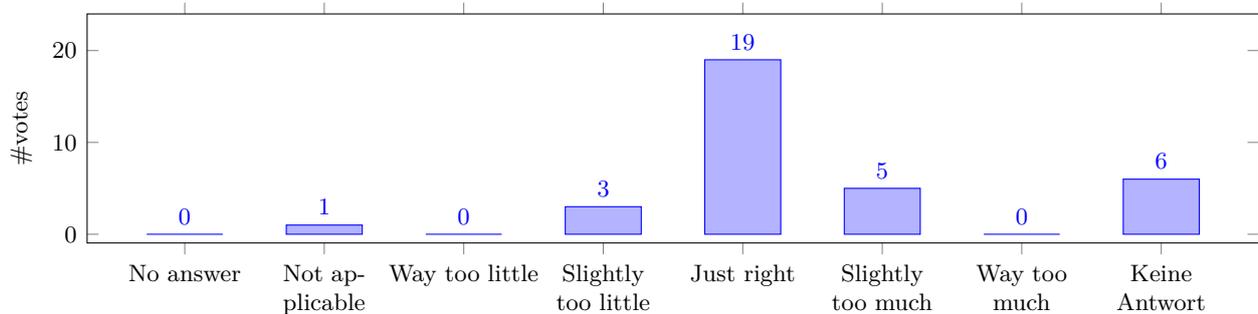
4.2 How much did you understand during the exercise group?



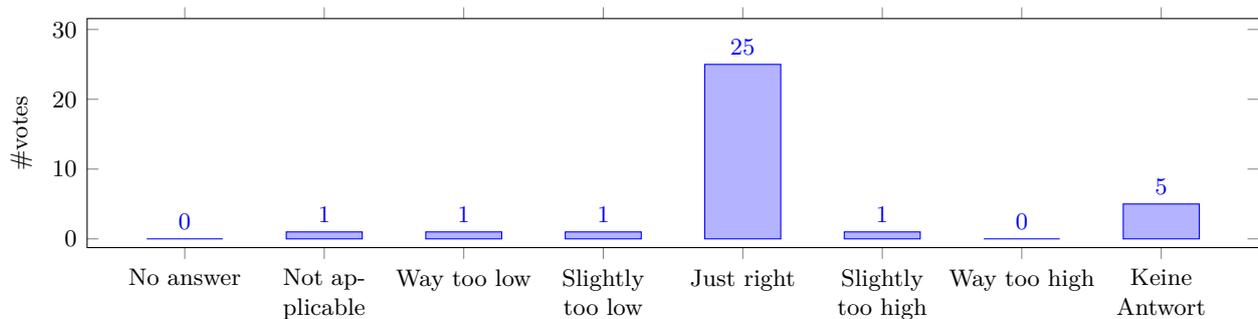
4.3 In how much detail were the topics explained?



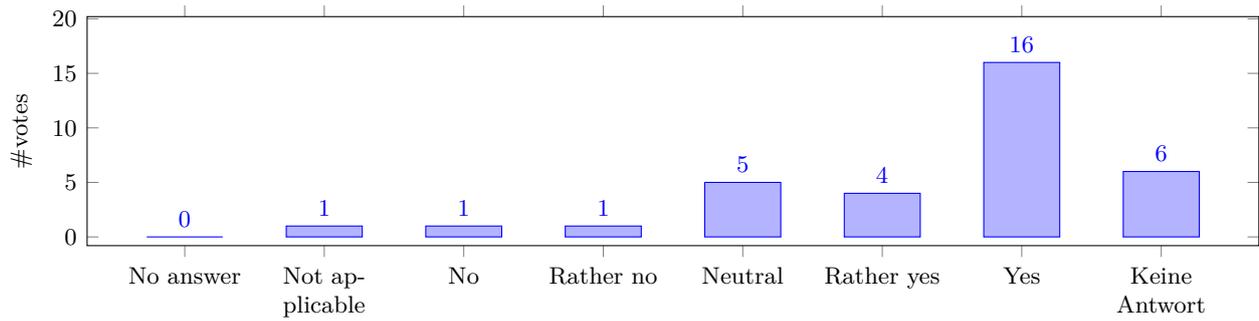
4.4 Was the time for the exercise group appropriate for the content to be discussed?



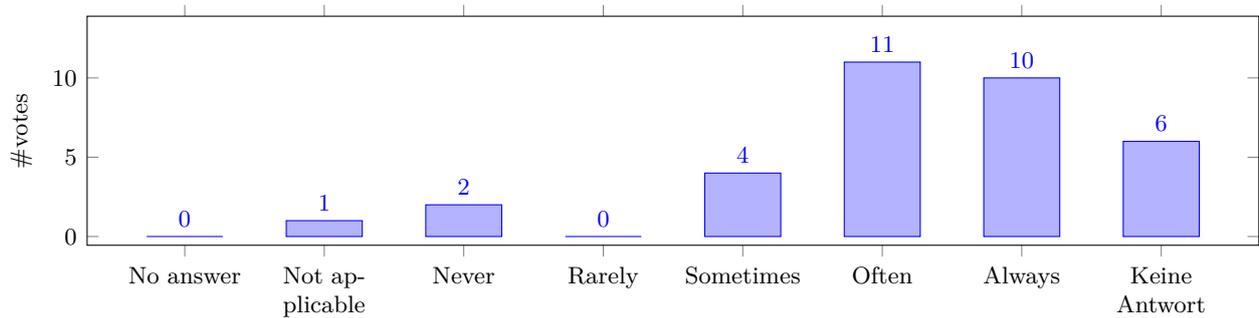
4.5 The interactivity in the exercise group was...



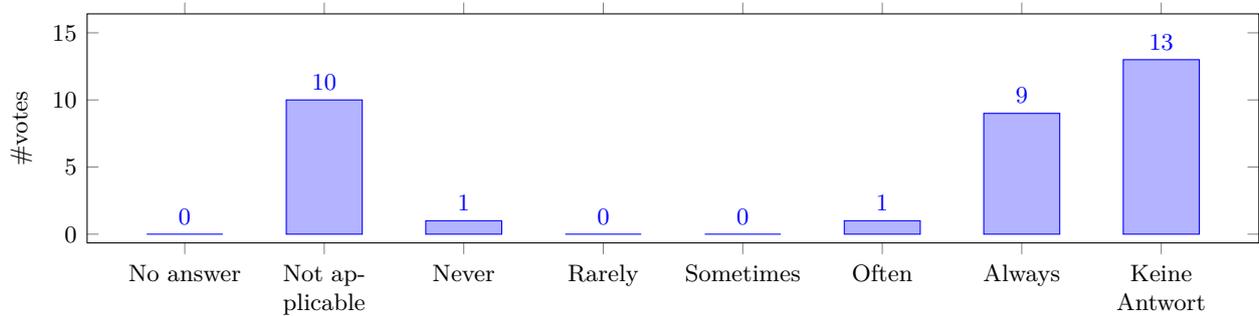
4.6 Is the tutor competent in his subject?



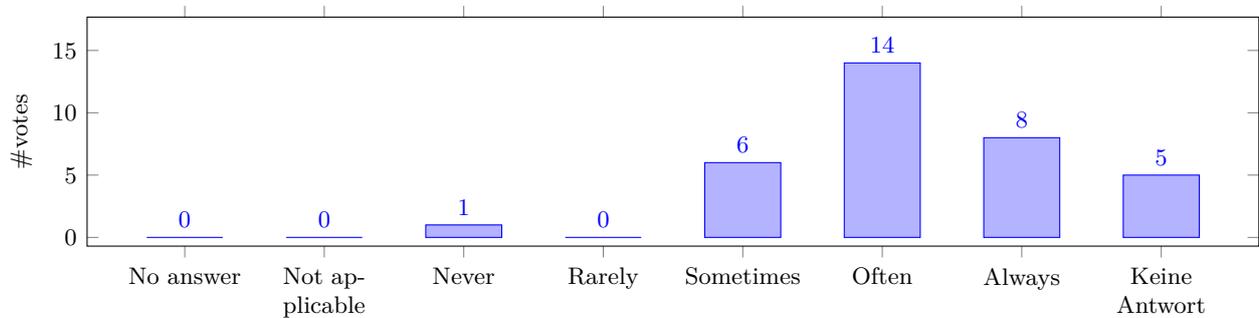
4.7 Did the tutor respond to questions satisfactorily and clearly?



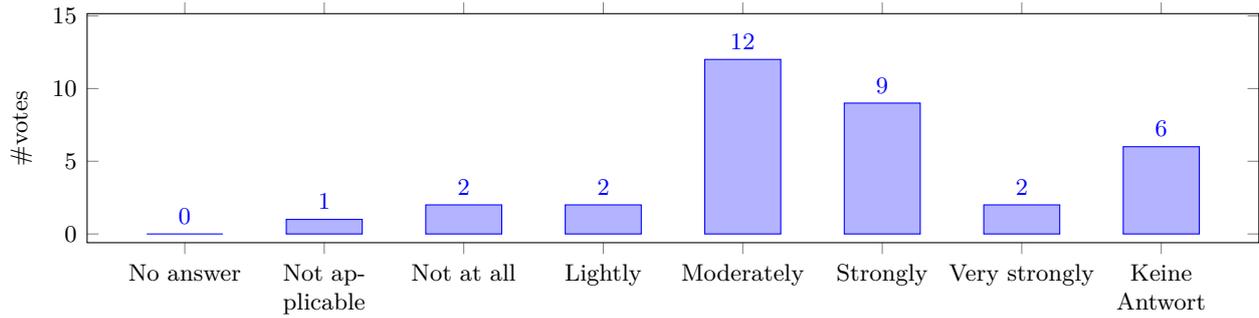
4.8 Was the tutor available for questions etc. outside of the exercise group?



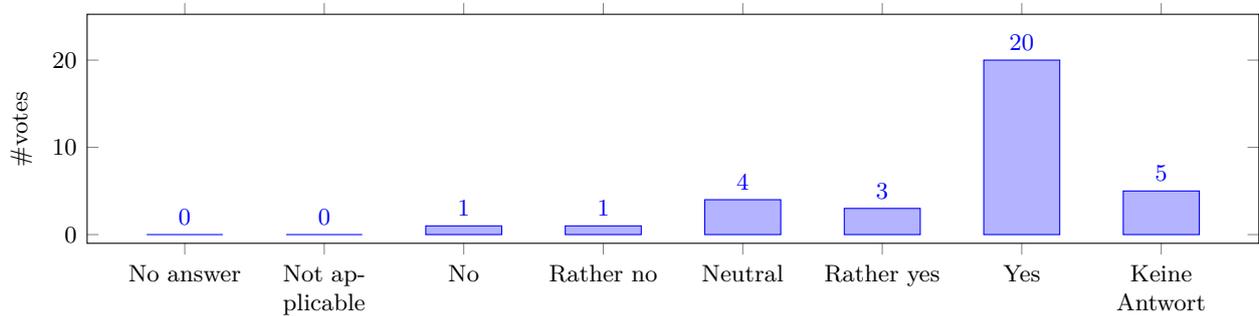
4.9 Were the tutor's corrections of exercise sheets comprehensible?



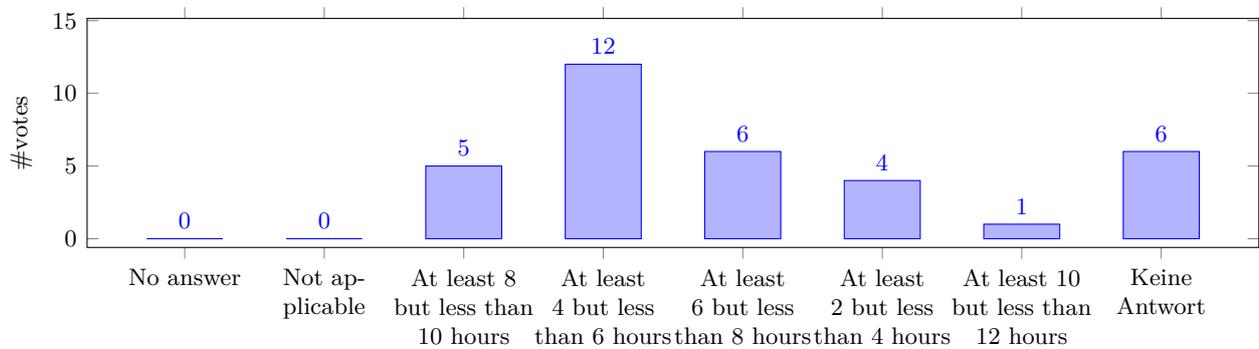
4.10 How much did the exercise group help you to achieve your learning goals?



4.11 Did you feel comfortable in your exercise group?

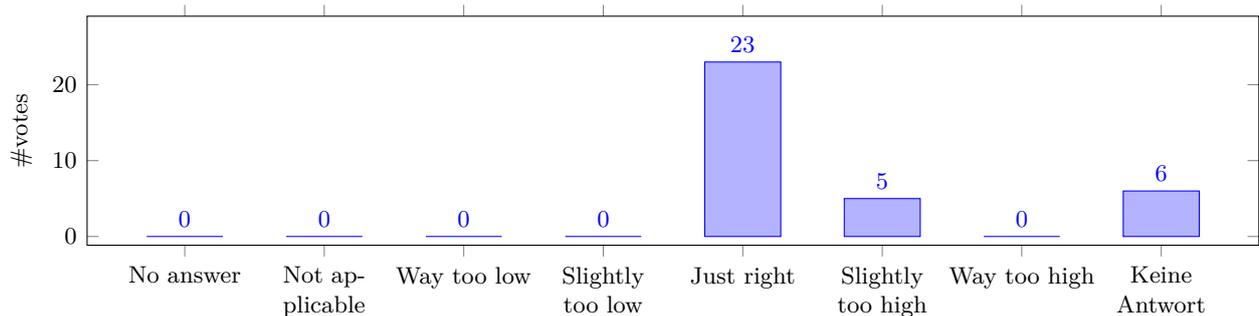


4.12 How many hours did you spend in total on exercise group and exercise sheets per week?

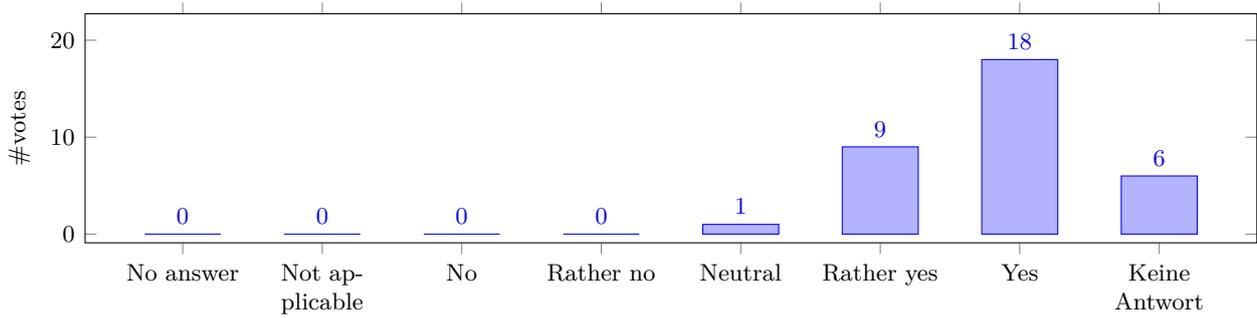


5 Module

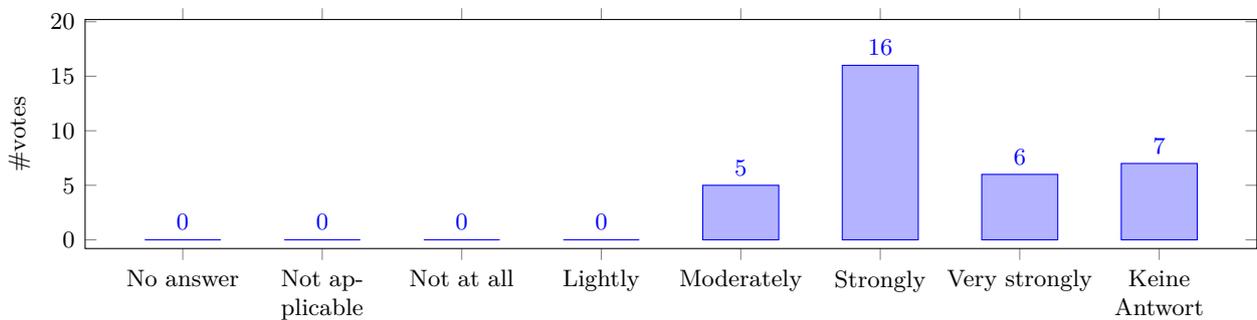
5.1 The amount of content in the module was...



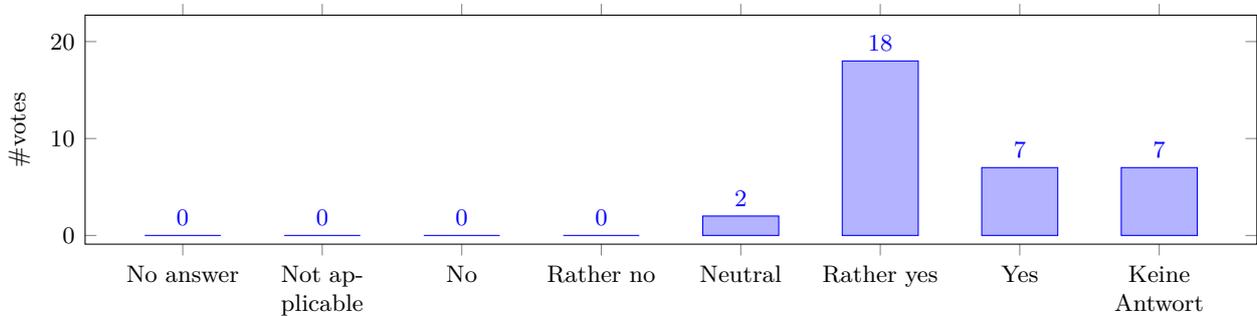
5.2 Did the structure of the module follow a clearly recognizable concept and a logical sequence?



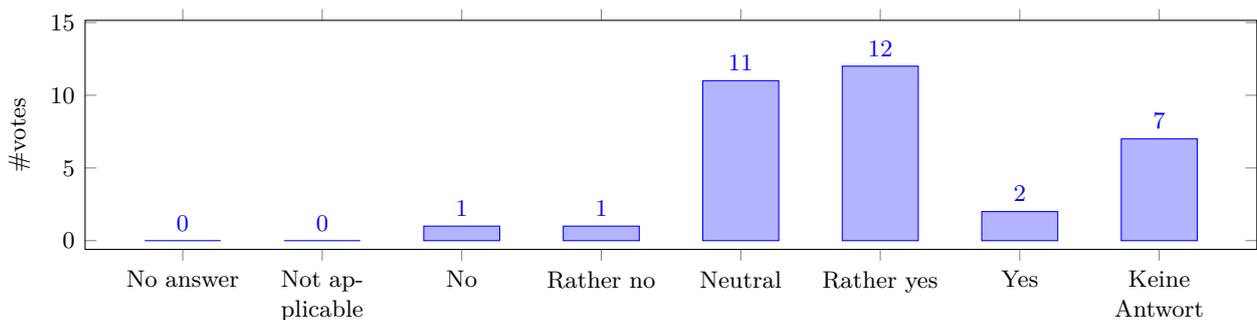
5.3 To what extent was the content of the module motivated in an overarching context (e.g. through references to research/practise)?



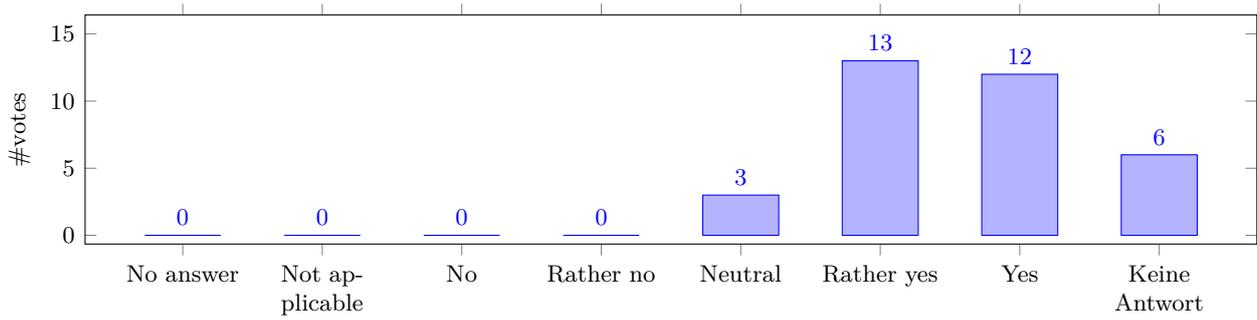
5.4 Do you think that you have achieved the learning objective of the module?



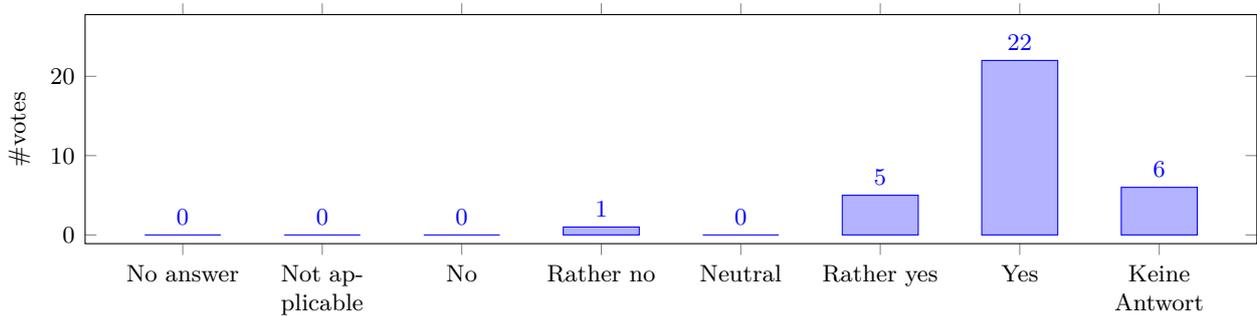
5.5 Do you feel well prepared for the exam?



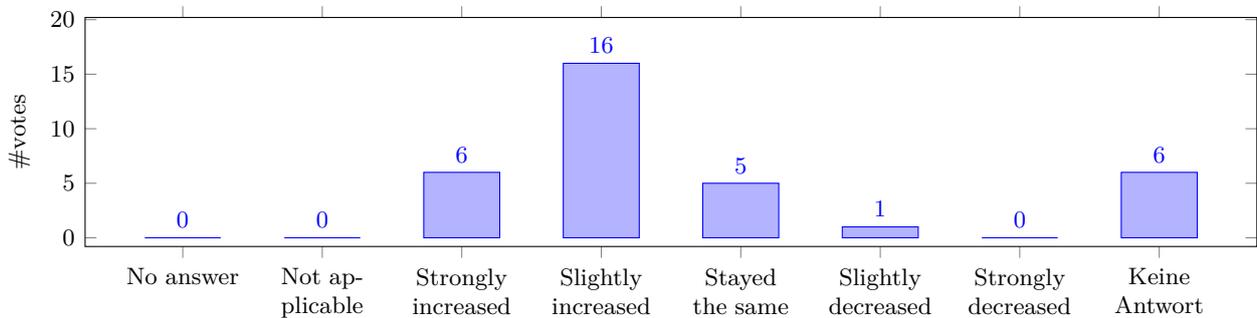
5.6 Did the module meet your expectations?



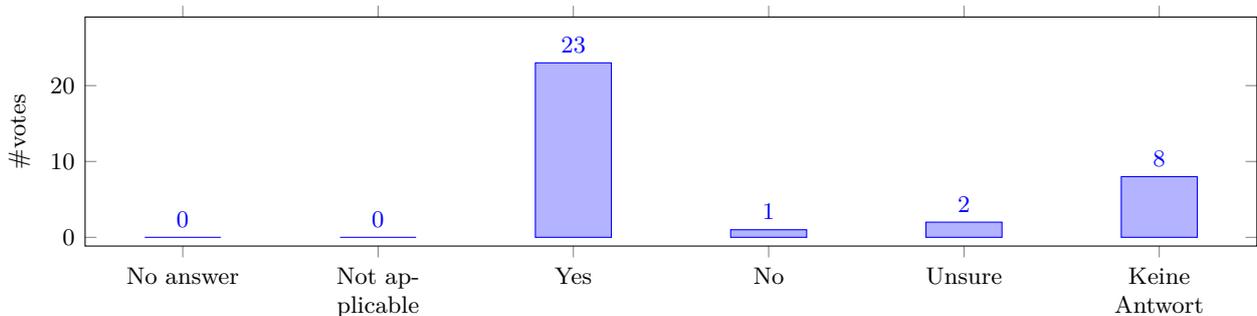
5.7 Would you recommend this module to others?



5.8 Your interest in this topic has...



5.9 Do you think the lecturer would be worthy of an award (teaching prize) for this lecture?



6 Free Text Comments

6.1 What did you like about this module?

<p>I loved the content structure and the organization of the lecture. I really enjoyed the lecturer's teaching style. I had very little background in the topic and I believe I could follow quite smoothly with the topics with relatively low effort.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- content is up-to-date- learn how to write programs/algorithms for HPC systems- actually work with HPC systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- open and friendly lecturer and tutors- well structured lecture and exercises
<p>The lecture.</p>
<p>Amazing lecture style.</p>
<p>The concrete and current examples and references to applications. Especially showing about current events and technologies and not 25 year old ones.</p>
<p>The theory was underlined by practical exercises on the supercomputer in jülich. Getting an insight in such structures is highly interesting to me and shows the practice of supercomputing. The lecture itself describes both the computing architecture in theory and in practice and the lecturer has a lot of inside knowledge and has interesting answers to occurring questions. The tutors seem to be prepared and the tutorials get supported by a phd student?/wimi? who can even give more inside knowledge in case questions occur. Another nice bonus was the visit to the supercomputer</p>
<p>The lecturerer and the possibility to have a look behind the curtain of HPC systems (access to Jülich HPC)</p>
<p>Very good atmosphere, lecturer open for questions, motivated, and open-minded/willing to make improvements.</p>
<p>The topic, the lecturer's presentation</p>
<p>The lecturer was really close to the topic! She was able to interactively respond from questions from the audience and the content was up to date according to current architectures.</p>
<p>The whole module was great.</p>
<p>Interactivity of both lecture and exercises, discussions were really helpful for understanding the topics</p>
<p>It was a good idea to split and distribute large topic blocks over the course of the entire semester so that students wouldn't grow weary of a particular topic (e. g. performance) and returning to a topic later would help refresh their memory of it.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- slides, speed, style of presentation- that the exercises are practical (-> coding and running on jureca)- that questions and comments are taken seriously and answered in depth- that for later sheets there were reference data for plotting

6.2 What did you not like about this module?

The exercise workload only made sense if you weren't taking 30(+) CPs per semester and had a lighter load for the semester. The exercises were quite time consuming. The content of the exercises however was nice if you weren't rushing to finish the assignments which in most case you were forced to if you had a life outside of this course (sorry) .

The exercise sessions and the way exercise sheets are corrected.
We need the solutions in PDF or at least for them to be discussed with slides.
Discussing stuff verbally is simply not enough.

Exercises often take up a vast amount of time to complete although not spanning a wide range of topics. I still think the topics per exercise are appropriate, it is just sometimes too much of basically the same.

i was struggling a bit with the exercises. There is a lot of software setup and even though there is a very good tutorial, one still spends a lot of time on set up and sending data from and to the supercomputer. I see, why this is necessary when one want to give practical experience.
Writing all the plots with your favourite AI is necessary to learn how to make good plots but also quite tedious after the second sheet where it is important.
Also the lecture time on late friday afternoon is quite unfortunate, especially in winter semester.

The tutors graded the sheets multiple weeks after their deadline.
Them deducting points for the same issues repeatedly in subsequent sheets was therefore rather annoying, as not every issue was directly noticeable in the exercise discussion and therefore I only was made aware of some issues after I had already handed in multiple following solutions.
Furthermore, the code given to us often had mistakes in it. Mistakes which then again lead to point deduction in the solutions. If you want us to spend time looking through the given code, then do state as such in the instructions. We are already required to work on one specific architecture that the tutors have access to, so I do not understand why the code wasn't previously tested on it.
As a whole, the whole ordeal was more of an exercise in patience, than in the lecture topics.

Exercise sheets sometimes heavy-handed.

The slides need some more work
The exercise sheets were too detailed, too few points for hard exercises, build upon guess work and upon many layers of guess work

The exercises were very tough, but very good.

Some tasks were a bit tedious to do

Working with the supercomputer was quite anxiety-inducing due to the strict time budget, but I do believe that it's valuable practical experience (and as I recall there were just particularly many students taking this class this semester so it might've turned out more strict than anticipated).

- work load of the exercise sheets varied throughout the semester, so in some weeks it was hard to finish everything in time

6.3 What could be improved in the future?

<p>There are a few ways from the top of my head that the exercises can be less intense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- they could be done in groups (even pairs would significantly help)- or just generally be made less extensive if the option of groups is not there.- or if neither of the options above, the requirement of 50% point completion could be lowered or something similar. <p>I (and other students I know) spent way too much time on the exercises of this course against my will.</p>
Exercise Sessions
<p>I would have really liked it, to also optimize some code more, and really use the coding principles given in the lecture on more examples.</p> <p>I know, that it might be quite hard with computing times, but it might be nice to optimize a small program in the end, maybe only for a fixed instance size and maybe even make a competition out of it. maybe where you can use several of the coding stuff you learned before and have to make some design decision instead of just: do 1, then do 2, then do 3.</p>
Exercise sessions
<p>Making more clear if something is relevant for the exam or not. There is some detailed information (e.g. internal buffer reordering of Haswell CPUs) that is probably™ not relevant for the exam?</p>
<p>The slides</p> <p>The exercise sheets should contain less text, More intermediate results should be provided per sheet for solving later exercises and checking one's understanding</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- allow for submission groups <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- hand out sheets a week early so time management is easier
The way it is being done is perfect

6.4 Here you have space for further comments and feedback on the module.

<p>Idk who reads this but despite my strong opinions about the exercise organization, I enjoyed the course. So if you are an organizer of this course, thanks!</p>
<p>A visit to FZ Jülich would be awesome if somehow possible. Maybe just optional for everyone interested.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Personally I would be fine without writing any HPC code and just do the performance eval etc.</p>
<p>I would rather like it, if one could form groups of 2 students. Sometimes you just have to little time in a week to finish one exercise sheet.</p> <p>This in itself would not be a problem, but one has to invest quite a bit of time on coding etc, before one can even answer the many questions that give points.</p> <p>Its not too bad, as there are bonus sheets etc, but i am still a bit afraid i will miss something, if i do not solve the exercises completely</p>

6.5 Here you have space for comments and feedback on the design of the evaluation survey.

The subject of Computer Science is missing in the beginning of the survey, although most of the students will know what is meant, you will have some confused internationals and cant differentiate between bachelor and master students. Also half of the subjects are in german language