

Reflections on STI 2021

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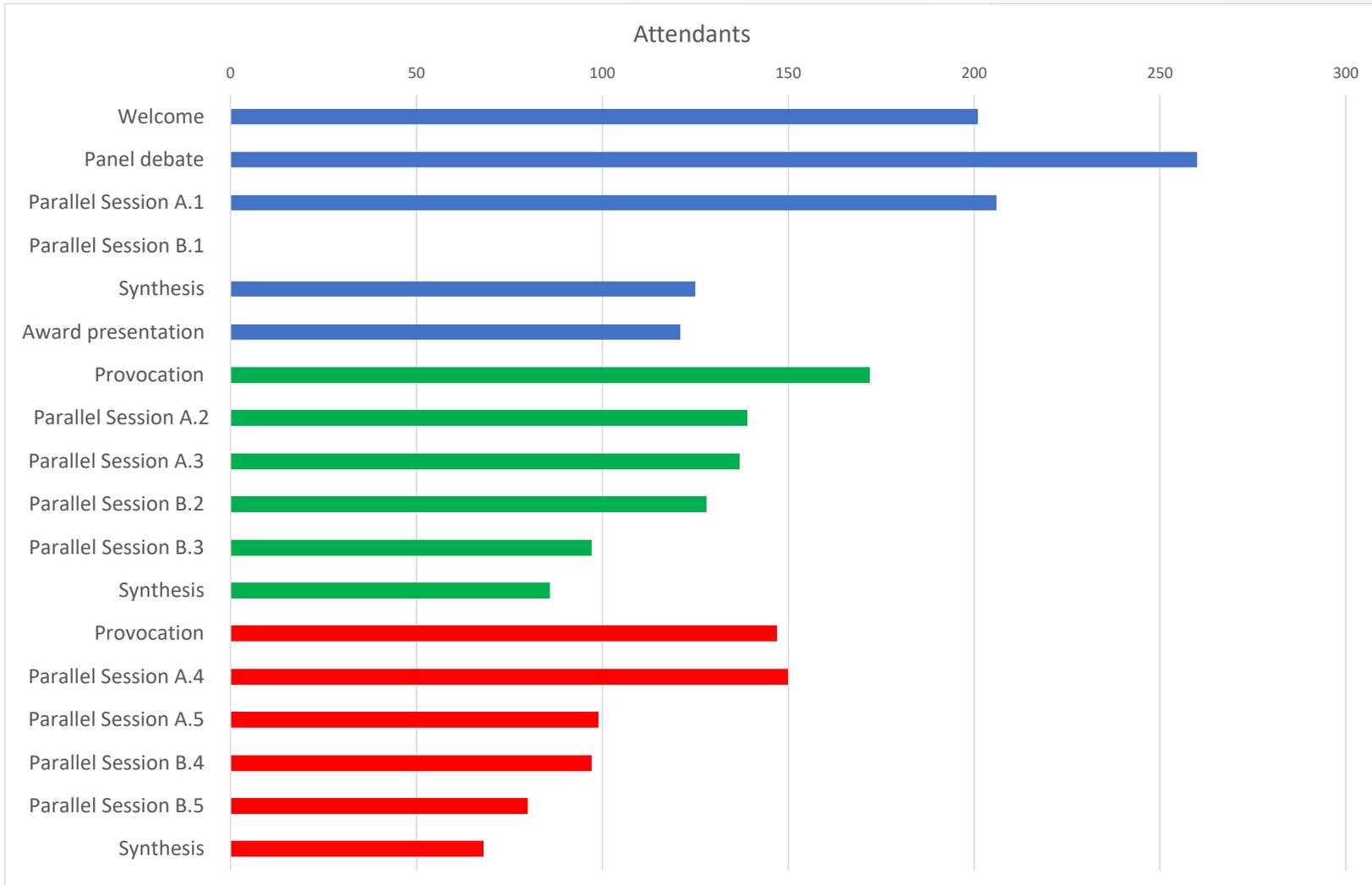
Theresa made the inventory, she was kind enough to allow me the use of that material for this meeting

Reporting to the ENID Board', 1st October 2021

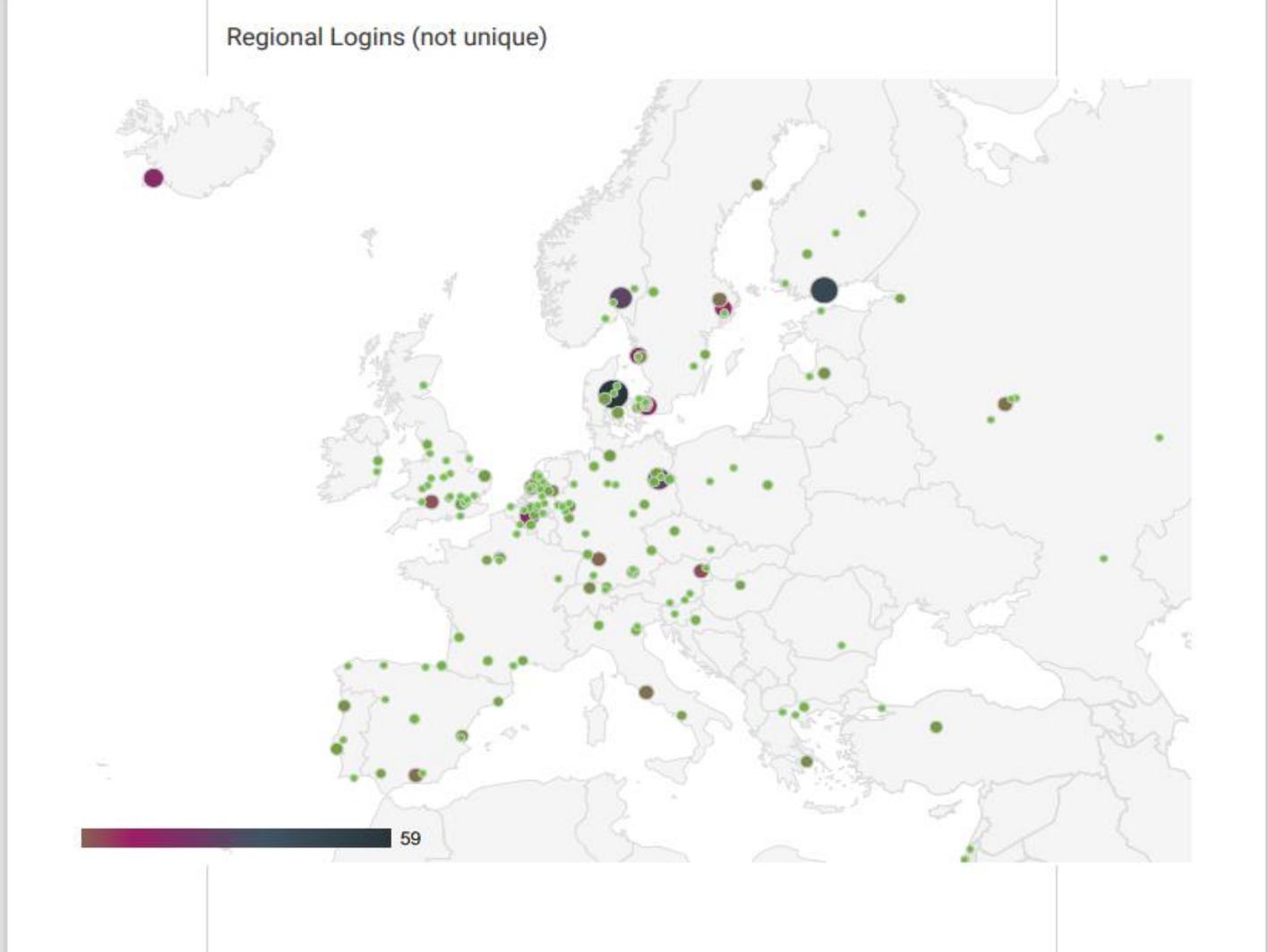


Some basic figures on participants

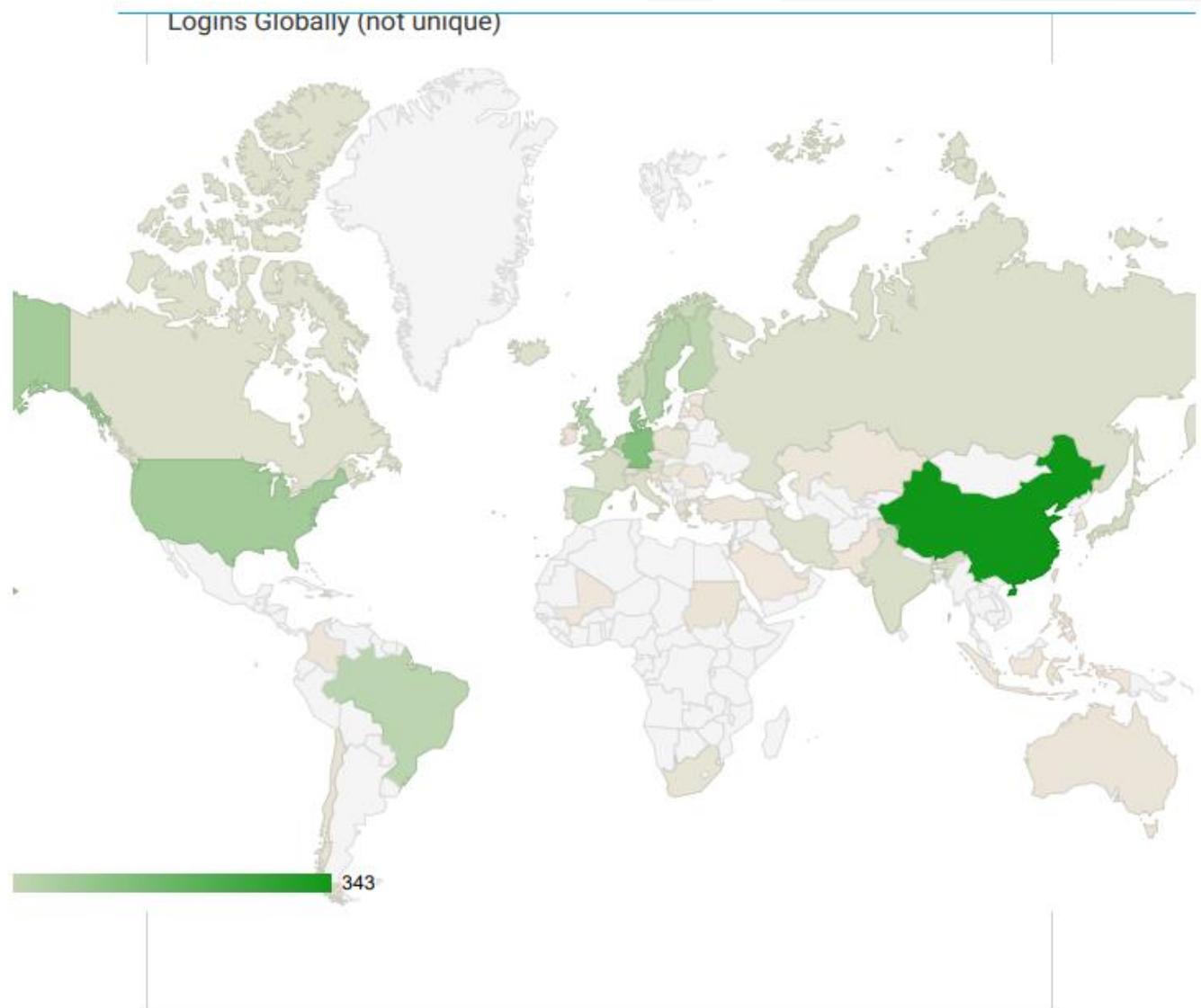
- In total 718 event participants*



Regional spreading of participants (1)



Regional spreading of participants (2)



On the MeetYoo platform

- *Overall the conference platform looked great and made for a very professional conference.*
- *The level of service and support provided by Meetyoo was great; Vyara and Lea did a great job responding to issues great and small.*
- *It was great that sessions were made available on demand and also provided to us for download, even though this was not actually part of the original agreement.*

On the MeetYoo platform: suggestions for improvement (1)

- *The platform's single-speaker view and lack of interactivity makes it less than ideal for an academic conference. It makes for a passive audience. Multispeaker-view sessions (the opening debate) was preferred to the single-speaker view in other sessions; it would also help if audience comments and questions were visible to all and not just to speakers.*
- *It was not ideal that using the sessions requires speakers and chairs to participate in training sessions. It was also cumbersome to have individual links and access passwords for speakers, and to have to collect and upload slides beforehand. This was necessary given the platform, but is unusual in our field.*

On the MeetYoo platform: suggestions for improvement (2)

- *As shadow moderators*
 - *it was stressful to not be able to speak to chairs and other speakers.*
 - *we were not able to start or stop sessions, which would have been helpful in some sessions (e.g. to make sure they started on time).*
 - *it would have been nice to be able to mute speakers not on camera, who forgot to mute themselves.*
- *Some people had issues with regards to receiving emails (which perhaps were lost in spam folders?) and/or logging in to the platform or specific sessions. It's hard to say what caused these problems, but it lead to some stress and frustration along the way.*

Some other main lessons learned/ takeaways from the conference (1)

- *The chatrooms and networking lounge, incl. coffee room were quiet. Could we have made better use of them somehow?*
- *The synthesis sessions had relatively few viewing participants but were a good way to wrap up each day.*
- *In many sessions (especially the opening plenaries), we would have liked more time for questions and comments from the audience.*
- *The social hour had few participants but was also a nice way to round off each day.*

Some other main lessons learned/ takeaways from the conference (2)

- *The overlap with the Metascience conference on Day 3 was unfortunate, but not something we could have avoided.*
- *We would have liked to see a more inclusive/heterogeneous conference, e.g. more interaction between seniors and ECRs.*
- *There were few participants from developing countries, even though it was a free, online conference. In the future, we would probably need to engage actively in networking to include people from those countries as speakers and participants.*
- *Next time we would like to ask participants when they register to indicate if they are scientists, funders, policy, librarians etc. – this was difficult to identify based on the participants' list.*