COST Action CA16218
Action Title: NANOSCALE COHERENT HYBRID DEVICES FOR SUPERCONDUCTING QUANTUM TECHNOLOGIES

Minutes Management Committee Meeting GP4
6th of November, 2020 (Remote meeting - via Zoom)

1. Welcome to participants

The meeting starts at 11h30. The Chair of the Action, Hermann Suderow opens the meeting and welcomes all participants. This is an exceptional online MC meeting forced by the confinement circumstances affecting all European countries due to the coronavirus outbreak.

2. Verification of the presence of two-thirds of the Participating COST Countries or, if applicable, a quorum

36 participants are present in the meeting. More than 2/3 of the country representatives of the Action attended this 4th Management Committee meeting. Therefore, the quorum was achieved. The decisions taken during the meeting and the issues discussed are reported in these minutes and will be sent to all MC members for approval.

3. Adoption of agenda

The meeting participants agreed to adopt the meeting agenda sent by the Action Grant Holder via email on the 4th of November, 2020, where the main points for discussion were also highlighted.

There were no pending issues from last meeting.

4. Update from the Action Chair and Grant Holder

a) **Status of Action:** Start and end dates of Action. Information about recent discussion with the Scientific officer: Possibility to extend the project duration by 6 months (until April, 2022). Formal request will be sent in February 2021. Decision will be taken by March 2021.

CSO approval: 23/06/2017	GP 1: 1 Nov 2017 – 30 April 2018
Start of Action: 18/10/2017	GP 2: 1 May 2018 – 30 April 2019
End of Action: 18/10/2021	GP 3: 1 May 2019 – 30 April 2020
Duration: 4 years	GP 4: 1 May 2020 – 30 April 2021
Parties: 36	GP 5: 1 May 2021 – 30 Sept 2021

b) Action budget status

After discussion with the scientific officer at COST, the Chair informs that:

- There is a significant risk for underspending in this grant period (until 30 April 2021) due to the absence of large in-person meetings.
- Not just remote, but also budgeted activities are needed to guarantee enough support from COST to end the Action, once in-person meetings become possible again after the pandemic.
- The Action will be extended at most for six months, thus until April 2022. The proposal should be submitted to COST March 2021.

Several MC members comment on these issues.

Following the discussion, the Chair proposes:

- That the next meeting shall be organized, as planned, the week starting the 22nd of March in Slovakia. The most probable situation of the pandemics will likely force the celebration of a hybrid meeting, with Slovakian and close-by colleagues attending the meeting and others joining online.
- That we make extensive use of STSM, as this instrument is not so touched by the pandemics, given that it is an individual action.
- That we open the possibility that the Action funds open access publications and proposes a committee to select publications, based on the achievement of the objectives of the Action. The proposed committee members are: Annica Black-Schaffer, Chual Li, Simon Bending and Szabolcs Csonka (all accept the role).
- That we promote remote meetings as far as possible.

The proposals are accepted by the MC.

c) Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) and ITC conference Grants: review of completed reports and new applications

The STSM committee has granted two STSMs during this period, one to a female going to Madrid, one of a male going to Sweden. The discussion about promoting the STSM continues and the MC agrees to promote the use of this instrument as far as possible. The Chair acknowledges the work of the STSM committee.

Regarding the ITC conference grants, the question is raised by Pertti Hakonen whether registration fees to an online conference could be considered within the ITC grant scheme. The answer to this point was not clear during the meeting (see note added by the Chair at the end of these minutes).

d) Dissemination actions – Open Access Publications

Open Access Publications are, at present, an interesting instrument as well. The point is raised whether rules for online publications are that at least 3 members (=countries) should be on the author list. If the latter is indeed the case, it will be quite difficult to comply and these will therefore not be related to STSM (if a publication is obtained from an STSM, then only 2 partners will be involved, not 3). Such publications would really make sense in the framework of the Action, more than publications obtained within usual collaborations. The Chair and Grant Holder will transmit the request to modify COST Vademecum to our science officer.

Brigitte Leridon, MC member representing France proposes to create another video for promoting the Action

to a general audience. The Chair of the action reminds that a video was recently developed and is published both in the Action webpage as well as in its Youtube Channel (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zuiC41B7yHw&t=3s), but that the Action is of course open to further proposals. The Chair of the Action also reminds that efforts have also been taken in the past few months to improve the "web-positioning" of the webpage (this was the only "to be improved" point mentioned in the evaluation report from the first half of the project).

5. Implementation of COST policies on:

a) Promotion of gender balance and Early Career Investigators (ECI)

b) Inclusiveness and Excellence (see below list of Inclusiveness Target Countries)

The Chair remarks the need to monitor carefully the gender balance and early career investigators support of the Action. The Chair informs about the outcome in the STSM of this period. Further discussion will be made in the next meeting.

6. Follow-up of MoU objectives: progress report of working groups

The Chair reminded the Action objectives and WGs based on the Memorandum of Understanding as well as the management structure.

7. Scientific planning

a) Scientific strategy

a.1) Next Action. The participants agree to prepare a new proposal for a new Action in the next collection date of COST.

a.2) Book of the Action. Publishing a book is also a very interesting activity that will serve to compile and report many of the results of the action, and which will therefore contribute to leverage its impact. The Chair and Vice-chair of the Action will discuss about how to structure and organize it and will present the outcomes of these initial discussions to the rest of the members in the forthcoming MC meeting for further details.

a.3) Remote meetings. Initial discussions were held during the summer between some partners to organize webinars. J. Aarts mentions the need to have more meetings, so that young participants can present their results. A proposal for several half-day meetings will be forwarded soon to the MC by the Chair of the Action. The Chair reminds that this would only be an interim solution as the motivation of COST should be based on the in-person contact between researchers.

b) Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)

Activities other than the March meeting will be debated during the MC meeting in January 2021. A call for proposals will be disseminated among the MC members.

c) Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities).

The Chair reminds that publications acknowledging the Action are referenced in the webpage of the Action.

8. AOB

Main themes for discussion were risen in previous points.

9. Location and date of next meeting

The next online MC meeting will be held in January 2021 once the issues about the extension of the duration of the action as well as on the possibility to carry-over the unspent budget of the period are clearer.

The next physical MC meeting will be held during the meeting in Slovakia in March 2021.

10. Closing

The MC Chair thanked the participation of all the MC members and closed the MC meeting at around 12h45.

[Meeting ends]

NOTE ADDED after the meeting by the Chair of the Action:

Examination of the COST Vademecum after the meeting provides the answer to the question about funding for registration fees of remote meetings, see https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Vademecum-V8-1-May-20202.pdf, page 33, within the ITC grant scheme, “Up to a maximum of EUR 500 can be claimed for the conference fees to be incurred by the selected Grantee. Virtual conference fees can be considered eligible provided all other eligibility conditions are fulfilled.""

A few days after the meeting, we received a letter from COST Director, informing that the Grant Period has been delayed until 31 October 2021. A new MC meeting will be organized to deal with the new situation.

List of Attendants

Country	Firstname	Lastname	Position	Institution
NL	Jan	Aarts	MC Member	Leiden University
FR	Alexandre	BOUZDINE	MC Member	University Bordeaux
UK	Simon	Bending	MC Member	University of Bath
SE	Annica	Black-Schaffer	MC Member	Uppsala University
RO	Ioan Adrian	Crisan	MC Member	National Institute For Materials Physics
HU	Szabolcs	Csonka	MC Member	Budapest University of Technology and Economics
CZ	Jeroen	Custers	MC Member	Charles University
AT	Oleksandr	Dobrovolskiy	MC Substitute	University of Vienna
TR	Ercan	Ertekin	MC Substitute	Ankara University Center of Excellence for Superconductivity Research
MD	Vladimir	Fomin	MC Member	Moldova State University
ES	Irene	González	Grant Holder	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
TR	Ali	Gencer	MC Member	Ankara University Center of Excellence for Superconductivity Research
DK	Jean-Claude	Grivel	MC Substitute	Technical University of Denmark
FI	Pertti	Hakonen	MC Member	School of Science
SI	Abdou	Hassanien	MC Member	Jozef Stefan Institute
PT	Gleb	Kakazei	MC Member	University of Porto
IL	Beena	Kalisky	MC Member	Bar Ilan University
DE	Dieter	Kölle	MC Member	Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen
AT	Wolfgang	Lang	MC Member	University of Vienna, Faculty of Physics
FR	Brigitte	Leridon	MC Member	CNRS
NL	Chuan	Li	MC Member	University of Twente
SE	Floriana	lombardi	MC Member	Chalmers University of Technology
BE	Milorad	Milosevic	MC Member	Faculty of Sciences
BG	Todor	Mishonov	MC Member	Institute of Solid State Physics
EL	Evagelia	Moshopoulou	MC Member	National Center for Scientific Research "Demokritos"
CZ	Tomas	Novotny	MC Substitute	Faculty of Mathematics and Physics
ES	Anna	Palau	MC Substitute	Institut de Ciència de Materials de Barcelona (ICMAB-CSIC)

ES	Teresa	Puig	MC Member	ICMAB-CSIC
TR	Serap	Safran	MC Substitute	Ankara University
SK	Tomas	Samuely	MC Member	Institute of Experimental Physics, Slovak Academy of Sciences
SK	Peter	Samuely	MC Member	Institute of Experimental Physics, Slovak Academy of Sciences
TR	Cem	Sevik	MC Member	Eskisehir Technical University
BE	Alejandro	Silhanek	MC Member	Université de Liège
DK	Mads Peter	Soerensen	MC Member	Technical University of Denmark
ES	Hermann	Suderow	MC Chair	Universidad Autonoma de Madrid
PL	Andrzej	Zaleski	MC Member	Institute of Low Temperature and Structure Research, Polish Academy of Sciences