



cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COST Office
Avenue Louise 149
1050 Brussels, Belgium
t: +32 (0)2 533 3800
f: +32 (0)2 533 3890
office@cost.eu

www.cost.eu

Budapest, 26th September 2014

Subject | Minutes of the Third Management Committee Meeting of COST Action TD1207 “Mathematical Optimization in the decision Support Systems for Efficient and Robust Energy Network”

*Budapest University of Technology and Economics
26th September 2014 – from 8.30 till 10.00*

1. Welcome to participants

Action Chair welcomes the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda is approved.

3. Approval of minutes and matters arising of last meeting

The minutes of the last MC meeting were already approved.

4. Update from the Action Chair

During the second budget year there will be four meetings. Two of these meetings are devoted to the WGs activities.

The first WG meeting is devoted to WG1-2 activities and is taking place in Budapest, the second WG meeting will take place in Paris on the 27th October 2014 and will be on Validation and Software (WG3-4).

A PhD school, mainly dedicated to Phd students and young researchers, will take place in Tilburg (NL) at the beginning of March 2014. The largest event will be organized in Seville at the end of March 2014.

During the first day of the WG1-2 a round table has been organized and has been very fruitful. Action chair underlines that there is no strict subdivision of activities between working groups because all the activities are interrelated. Nevertheless, it is expected that the WGs will since year 2 start to act also independently and the two meetings (Budapest and Paris) organized this year are very promising in this direction.

a. Status of Action, including participating countries

There are 26 countries involved in the COST TD1207 Action.

The COST framework allows to make small meetings and the Action Chair is satisfied on how the activities are developed.

Action Chair says that having new countries involved in the Action is good but it could be more difficult to ensure the 2/3 of representative countries in the MC meeting. However, the Action Chair is satisfied with the participation in the meetings.



New partners are accepted by including them in the Action and in the general mailing list. If a participant who asks to become part of the Action comes from a country that have signed the MoU, the procedure is fast and simple.

Two applications arrived from Macedonia and from Bulgaria. In the latter case, the person who has expressed the interest to be involved in the Action has little background in optimization and it is not clear how much she is involved in research. The MC members suggest asking her to provide sufficient support from Bulgaria. Action Chair asks the MC members to provide contacts with Bulgarian colleagues who can be put in touch with the Bulgarian applicant who has asked to be part of the COST Action. A contact is established through the Bosnia MC representative.

b. Action budget status

The budget is the weak point of the Action because the EU did not send the final part of instalment of the first year, and no money has been sent for year 2. Action Chair points out the changes in the organization structure within COST might be the issue but recalls that the policy should be to reimburse the participants after 60 days the meeting takes place and this policy might be affected by these delays.

c. STSM status and new applications

Dr Boglárka G.-Tóth has been nominated STSM coordinator. This year there have been already few STSMs. Two/three people will be paid to go to the Seville doctoral program, so a part of the budget is allocated there. However, there is money to finance other STSMs and everybody should spread the word about that.

5. Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers (ESR)

In the first year of the Action many students have travelled around thanks to the COST Action and several papers have been issued. Grants will be given first of all to younger students (ESRs). Women are currently very well represented within the Action.

6. Annual Progress Conference (preparation and/or feedback from DC)

The Annual Progress Conference was held in Kosice Slovakia. Trans Domain Actions are assigned to the main domains and are treated as being part of that domain. The Cost Action TD1207 has been assigned to the ICT domain. During the conference feedbacks from the status of the COST Action are provided.

The Cost Action TD1207 has been officially assigned to a Science Officer (different from the ICT officer), Dr. Giuseppe Lugano, with whom the Chair of the Action is regularly communicating. During the Annual Conference, the Action Chair has met the scientific rapporteur who seemed happy with the activities organized within the Action.

7. Follow-up of MoU objectives

a. Progress report of working groups

The WG meetings provide the participants the possibility to meet during small events for which part of the budget is allocated to invite the speakers or people interested to give talks.

The conference in Seville is the last event for the second year. There is budget for local organization, for speakers and there will be an MC meeting.

Action Chair communicates that for the participants who want to participate in the conference and stay longer after the MC meeting there is the possibility to ask for additional funds. Additional funds will be available because the budget allocated to the MC meetings is usually larger than that effectively used because less of the participants who are invited are indeed coming.

8. Spin-off projects within H2020

A committee for the development of applications to H2020 proposals was created during the second MC meeting. The COST Action TD1207 cannot participate as a partner but the possibility to create new consortia that apply to EU proposal is encouraged.





Prof. Laureano Escudero will explain his idea for a long-term strategy for Mathematical Optimization during his presentation in the afternoon and a possible call for proposals could be in the framework of ENC21.

MC participants note that the Action is a good starting point to create a strong consortium for a H2020 proposal.

Antonio Frangioni is in charge of starting to creation of the consortium to work on the proposal and to coordinate the efforts.

9. Scientific planning

a. Scientific strategy

In the second year of the Action, the wiki will become an instrument that participants will update independently by including their work, inputs and data. During the first day of the WG meeting of Budapest, the structure of the wiki page has been discussed especially from the point of view of the methodology. In the current format there is the need for contribution for writing short pages on methods at the wikipedia level. Students are encouraged to write a description of one page on one the problems related to energy optimization.

b. Action Budget Planning

The budget of the second year has been approved. Because the participation to the MC meeting is not so extensive some money will last at the end of the budget year and should be quickly used to support more STSMs.

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

Action Chair asks the MC members to talk to him about possible locations for the next meetings to be organized. For instance, Turkey could be a good place where to organize the next meeting, possibly in conjunction with another event.

d. Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)

Action Chair reminds that the MC decided to publish a short article in a journal by EU Research that is advertising research in the connection with industry and institutions. The first draft is already available. EU Research will come up with a revision with the article. The wiki itself is a dissemination activity.

e. Website and launch of the Wikipages activity

The website should be placed under another domain. This is mandatory and ZIB will take care of the change of the domain. The MC suggests to have the site registered in a domain as long as possible. The suggestion is to name the website www.energy-optimization.eu.

Anything that can fit under the cost umbrella should be included in the COST website.

10. Location and date of next meeting

The next MC meeting will be in Seville.

11. Closing

The meeting closes at 10.10.