At the Hokkaido Workshop I presented recent progress on the Density Matrix Expansion, a tool that allows to derive an energy density functional from microscopic internucleon interactions. The talk was well-received and led to interesting discussions with the participants. Participation at this workshop gave me furthermore the chance to interact with numerous experts on alpha-cluster models. A topic interesting to me because of my work on effective field theories on short-range interactions. My experience was very good and has led to interesting insights and several ideas for new projects. I furthermore was able to make important new contacts which will help me in the realization of various other future projects.