Information and Communication Technologies
Scientific project of the University research unit CoBTeK

Missions for the CoBTeK (Cognition – Behavior Technology) unit
CoBTeK unit missions are using Information and communication techniques and most particularly imaging and video processing analytic techniques
- To develop new strategies in order to prevent help and assist elderly people
- To improve diagnostic and treatment for behavioral and cognitive symptoms in Alzheimer disease and related disorders
- To improve autonomy in the elderly

Institute Claude Pompidou – a unique place
The main objective of the Institute Claude Pompidou is the promotion of interactions between care, education, research and cultural activities in the heart of the city of Nice. This scientific project should allow an optimal interrelationship between research, new technologies and human sciences by placing the patient and his caregivers at the center of interest. This is possible by integrating in the same building the Resources and Memory Research Centre, the research unit CoBTeK, a nursing home, family associations and accommodation units. The Institute Claude Pompidou’s principal objective is to represent a model on different levels: care, research and education at all stages of Alzheimer’s disease. The Institute, located in the heart of the city of Nice, offers combined at the same place, all possible information and support for Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders.

Structures (total of 7000 m²):
- 19 places at the day care center (Alzheimer 06 family association)
- Resources & Research Memory Centre and University Research team COBTEK
- A residence for autonomy and the integration of people suffering from Alzheimer's Disease (MAIA)
- 72 beds in Nursing Home
The place of CoBTeK at the Institute Claude Pompidou

The new technologies of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are partly employed as assessment instruments as well as instruments to verify and follow up on treatment plans. Thus, ICT have a major role in dependency prevention and the adaptation of urban environments to the needs of the elderly and the preservation of their autonomy.

In order to be a leading actor in research, the Institute Claude Pompidou will house a dedicated team composed of guiding experts in the field: the CoBTeK unit for Cognition-Behavior-Technology. This unit is attached to the University of Nice Sophia Antipolis.

The implementation of an interrelationship between Information and Communication technologies required the establishment of a strong partnership between clinical and fundamental research. As the former research at the hospital, the objective is to bring “fundamental research to the patient’s bedside”, the objective of CoBTeK is to guide this fundamental research as an “algorithm” at the living places of the elderly.

The CoBTeK team includes experts from both fields: INRIA (National Institute of Research in Computer and automatic Sciences) for the fundamental research and the CMRR (Resources and Memory Research Centre) for the clinical research, in a place that is accessible to everyone: The Institute Claude Pompidou.

Finally CoBTeK have also other partners (IM2A – Paris Pitié Salpetrière, IPMC- Sophia Antipolis, Stanford University- USA, and ISIR- Paris VI).

CoBTeK goals at the Institute Claude Pompidou

Key words: Ageing, Alzheimer Disease, Behavioural disturbances – autonomy – perception & analysis techniques for behaviour

Normal aging, as well as the spectrum of neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer disease with its accompanying behavioural disturbances, can significantly impact personal autonomy and quality of life. This has major implications for our society as a whole. In this context, the utilization of and help from new technologies are being developed. It is therefore extremely important to develop high-level research into these new technologies, as well as information technology, and to experiment with how they can be adapted to and enhance the lives of the elderly.
In the Alpes-Maritimes, there is already a well-established and dynamic collaboration for Alzheimer disease research between the biological research team (IPMC) and the clinical team (CMRR), namely, the “bench-to-bedside” link.

Another important research collaboration has been established in the domain of ICT - information and communication technology (The French National Institute for Research in Computers Science & Control and INRIA). However, in contrast, a direct link between such information and communication technology and the clinical setting (CMRR) has not yet been established. Such an interaction is distinct from the biological-clinical link (“bench-to-beside”) and corresponds instead to an entirely different theme, namely, “ICT or computer-to-clinic”.

The establishment of collaboration between information/communication technology (INRIA) and the Alzheimer disease clinical setting (CMRR) requires integration into the overall context of the technological platforms within the university and hospital structure.

The partnership of INRIA and CMRR, by means of the CoBTek (for Cognition Behavior Technology), is situated within this context and one of its objectives is to foster interdisciplinary teaching within these new research areas.

The site at the Institute Claude Pompidou

The site of the CMRR and the COBTEK team has following characteristics:

- Localization: 1st floor
- Surface used for premises of the CMRR: 429.59 m² SU
- Surface used for internal circulation of the CMRR: 67.55 m² SU
- Total number of rooms: 18
CoBTeK research topics at the Institute Claude Pompidou

- "Tele Presence": Application of "Tele-Health" (validation of new solutions for the patients of the Institute Claude Pompidou, and for related remote structures)

**Activity and event recognition:** the use and semantic interpretation of dynamic scenes obtained in real-time by video/sound sensors: application of autonomy and behavioral assessment (experimentation, validation and implementation in collaboration with the STARS and INRIA research teams).

- **Virtual environment:** for prevention and treatment of behavioral symptoms and loss of autonomy (experimentation, validation and implementation in collaboration of REVES and INRIA research teams).

Today COBTeK already participate to several European and French projects in this field:
FP7: Dem@Care: [http://www.demcare.eu/](http://www.demcare.eu/)
FP7 VERVE: [http://verveconsortium.eu/](http://verveconsortium.eu/)
FP7 IN MINDD: [http://www.inmindd.eu/](http://www.inmindd.eu/)

**AZ@GAME** Alzheimer and Associated pathologies Game for Autonomy Maintenance Evaluation


**SafEE** (Safe and Easy Environment for Alzheimer’s disease)

**ANR – 13 – TECS – 0002 - 01**
Example of research done in the environmental room at the Cimiez hospital
CoBteK research area

The activity of the university team COBTEK focuses on the use of new technologies to facilitate evaluation and assistance of patients suffering from Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders. As part of the university team’s installation at the site of the Institute Claude Pompidou a set of sensors on the entire floor as well as a room dedicated to ecological assessment and virtual simulation has been developed. It is located in a designated area for researchers and allows multiplying in an even more innovative manner the patient assessment & care. This room is designed to allow the assessment of consulting subjects (prevention, diagnosis and treatment). This assessment is done directly through the execution of activities of daily living. In this room, stimulation activities using “Serious Games” or virtual reality can be programmed and practiced.

The equipment of this room consists of easily retractable furniture allowing a modular use of the space and a Barco screen for the use of “Serious Game” in virtual reality (2D/3D) mode. You can experiment a virtual visit of the CoBteK place on the following web sites:

http://www.innovation-alzheimer.fr/
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yjo3c98x50qzkxg/AABmC_NZtOU1TMKKSk8ySPxJa?n=42534563#ll-RV%20at%20the%20ICP.m4v

1 recommendations for the use of serious game available here: To view the online publication, please click here:
http://www.frontiersin.org/Journal/Abstract.aspx?s=18&name=aging_neuroscience&ART_DOI=10.3389/fnagi.2014.00054&utm_source=Email_to_authors&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=T1_11.5e1_author&utm_campaign=Email_publication&journalName=Frontiers_in_Aging_Neuroscience&id=78241