



# Visite HCERES ERL Empenn U1228

Pierre Maurel, MCF UR1



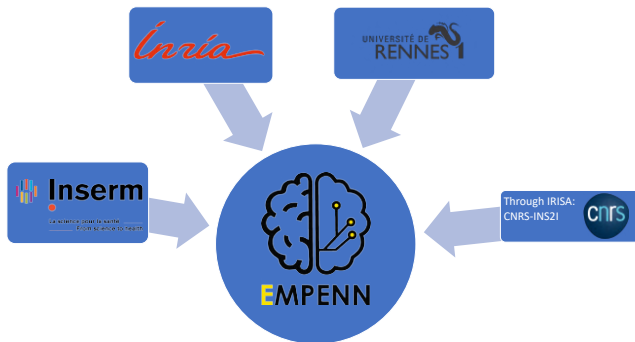
**EMPENN**

12/03/2021



Empenn's presentation

# Empenn ERL U1228



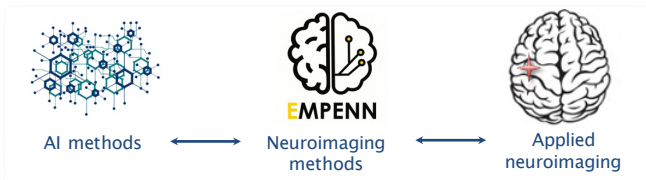
- 2006 → creation of VisAGeS U746, Christian Barillot
- 2017 → ERL U1228 (evaluation HCERES/Inserm)
- 2019 → Empenn (evaluation Inria)

Localization : Inria/IRISA center and CHU Pontchaillou, Neurinfo platform

↔ *presentation E. Caruyer*

# Empenn Research Objectives

Better understand and treat the brain under **typical** and **pathological** conditions with **brain imaging** & **AI methods**



- **Major Challenges**

- Models and algorithms to reconstruct, analyze and transform
- Mass of data to store, distribute and “semantize”

- **Pathologies**: Multiple Sclerosis, Psychiatry, Neuropediatrics, Stroke, Parkinsonian Disorders, Dementia

# Empenn Research Objectives

- **Researches** in medical imaging, neuroinformatics, population cohorts
- **Detection and development** of imaging biomarkers for brain diseases
- **Translating** this research to clinical practice and clinical neuroscience

## Contributions & Skills

- Model Inference
- Statistical Analysis & Modeling
- Machine Learning
- Neuroinformatics
- Image acquisition (sequence development, optimization and evaluation)
- Data fusion
- Image processing
- Brain computer interface
- Neurology, Radiology, Rehabilitation

# Members of the team (February 2021)

## ● Researcher/Teacher-Researcher

- Isabelle Bonan, PU-PH (UR1-CHU), **HDR**
- Emmanuel Caruyer, CR CNRS
- Julie Coloigner, CR CNRS
- Olivier Commowick, CR INRIA, **HDR**
- Claire Cury, CR Inria
- Gilles Edan, PU-PH (UR1-CHU), **HDR**
- Jean-Christophe Ferré (UR1-CHU), **HDR**
- Jean-Yves Gauvrit, PU-PH (UR1-CHU), **HDR**
- Camille Maumet, CR Inria
- Pierre Maurel, MCF UR1

## ● Administrative Assistant (INRIA/IRISA)

- Armelle Mozziconacci, CNRS

## ● Neurinfo platform

- Élise Bannier, IR CHU Rennes
- Isabelle Corouge, IR UR1

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- Isabelle Corouge, IR UR1

## ● Associated Faculty Members

- Pierre-Yves Jonin, Neuropsychologist (CHU)
- Gabriel Robert MCU-PH (UR1-CH G.Régnier)
- Anne Kerbrat, Neurologist (CHU)

## ● Postdoctoral researchers

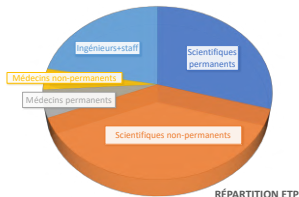
- Francesca Galassi
- Lou Scotto Di Covella
- Renaud Hédouin

## ● PhD Students

- Mathis Fleury
- Stéphanie Leplaideur
- Xavier Rolland
- Raphaël Truffet
- Giovanna Orrù
- Thomas Durantel
- Jean-Charles Roy

## ● Engineers

- Benoît Combès
- Quentin Duché
- Michael Kain
- Julien Louis
- Florent Leray
- Rémi Adon
- Arthur Masson



33 people (26 ETP)

# Evolution of the workforce

	Misc.	INSERM	INRIA	CNRS	U.Rennes 1	Evolution 2015 → 2020
Permanent Researchers			+2/-1	-1/+1	+1	+2
Associated Faculty	-1				-3/+3	-1
Engineers	-1/+1		-4/+4			=
Post-Doc.			-1/+2		+1	+2
Doc.	-3/+2		-4/+1	+1	+3	=

**Total: +3**

- 2017: Camille Maumet, CR Inria & Isabelle Bonan, PU-PH UR1/CHU
- 2018: Julie Coloigner, CR CNRS
- Nov. 2020: Claire Cury, CR Inria
- Leaving: Sylvain Prima, CR Inria & Christian Barillot, DR CNRS
- Expected arrivals, 2022: Gabriel Robert MCU-PH in psychiatry & Anne Kerbrat MCU-PH in neurology



# Local Research Ecosystem

## ● CHU

→ **Neurinfo platform**

→ EA 4712 « Comportement et noyaux gris centraux »

*psychiatry*

→ clinical investigation unit CIC-P1414 INSERM

*multiple sclerosis*

## ● IRISA/Inria center

→ PANAMA, LACODAM, DIVERSE

*machine learning*

→ HYBRID, RAINBOW

*human-machine interfaces / robotics*

→ DYLISS, GENSCALE

*omics*

## ● UR1's research poles: double affiliation (and two doctoral schools)

→ "Mathématique-Numérique" (IETR, IRISA, IRMAR, IFOTON, LTSI, EMPENN, M2S)

→ "Biologie-Santé" (BRM, COSS, ETHOS, IGDR, IRSET, MICMAC, NUMECAN, LTSI, EMPENN, M2S)

Scientific report

# Publications

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	mid-2020	Total period
PhD & HdR Thesis	1	1	2	3	4	2	13
Journal	29	32	24	27	27	16	135
Conference Proceedings	16	7	11	28	32	2	96
Book & Book Chapter		2			1	1	4

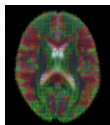
- main journals: Neuroimage, Frontiers, Medical Image Analysis, J.MRI/MRM, Brain, PloS ONE, Nature
- main conferences: MICCAI, ISBI, ISMRM, OHBM, SPIE-MI

# 1) Medical image computing in neuroimaging

to identify complex **imaging biomarkers** → **image acquisition**, **image processing** (quality control, quality enhancement), **image analysis**

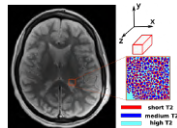
## ● Diffusion

- distortion correction: block-matching registration (Hedouin et al., 2017), spinal cord images (Snoussi et al., 2019)
- microstructure imaging: multi-compartment models (Stamm et al., 2016), novel sampling schemes (Truffet, Barillot, and Caruyer, 2019)



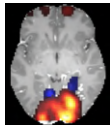
## ● Relaxometry

- new multi-compartment model from T2 relaxometry & optimization technique to identify tissue types in a voxel (Chatterjee et al., 2018b)



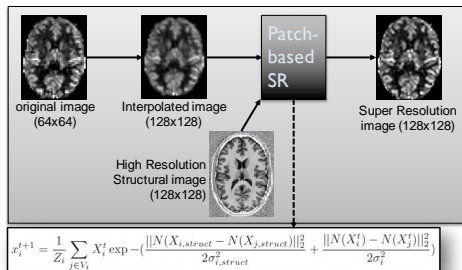
## ● Perfusion

- detection of perfusion abnormalities (Maumet et al., 2016)
- ASL super-resolution (Meurée et al., 2019) 🔍



# Patch-based Super-Resolution for ASL MRI

- **Context** → Cédric Meurée's PhD thesis (CIFRE Siemens)
- **Motivations**
  - Obtain well detailed cerebral blood flow or perfusion maps
  - Reduce the influence of partial volume effects
- **Contributions** (Meurée et al., 2019)
  - Adaptation of a super-resolution approach to **Arterial Spin Labeling** images
  - **Increases the images dimensions** using information from a high resolution structural image, without increasing the acquisition time



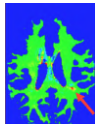
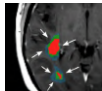
- Inclusion into MR ASL Perfusion Analysis Siemens' prototype

## 2) Applications to neuroradiology and neurological disorders

→ diagnosis, follow-up and treatment of a range of neurological disorders.

- Multiple sclerosis (MS)

- prediction of the gadolinium-enhancement of lesions (Chatterjee et al., 2018a)
- correlation between nanoparticle markers and tissue damage (Kerbrat et al., 2018)
- assessment of spinal cord involvement (Chouteau et al., 2019; Combès et al., 2019; Kerbrat et al., 2020)



- Neurofeedback for rehabilitation 

# EEG-fMRI neurofeedback for brain rehabilitation 1/2

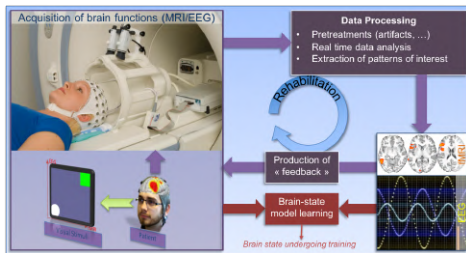


## Hemisfer project

(start: 2014)



- **Objective** → investigate the impact of hybrid EEG-fMRI neurofeedback for neuro-rehabilitation
- **Collaboration** with IRISA/Inria teams → Hybrid and Panama

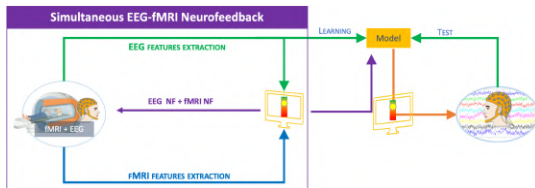


- **unique experimental and methodological framework** for joint EEG-fMRI NF (Mano et al., 2017; Perronnet et al., 2017)
- **first open-access bimodal neurofeedback dataset** (EEG and fMRI), motor imagery, 30 healthy subjects (Lioi et al., 2020)

# EEG-fMRI neurofeedback for brain rehabilitation 2/2

## A multifaceted project

- **Organization of the symposium** “Multimodal Neurofeedback: The next generation of Neurofeedback for advanced brain self-regulation” at OHBM 2019
- **A clinical study**, Dec. 2018 → first **stroke patient**, after 4 years on healthy controls
- **Methodological contributions** → EEG-informed MRI model (Cury et al., 2020)
  - Goal: Reducing the use of fMRI, while keeping the quality of bimodal neurofeedback sessions.
  - Challenge: Propose a model able to imitate bimodal neurofeedback sessions, using EEG only





### 3) Management of information in neuroimaging

Increase of **data volume and heterogeneity** → definition of **international standards**, development of **software platforms, data reuse**

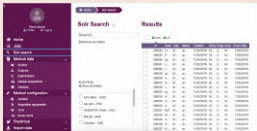
- Standards for brain imaging
  - contributors of BIDS and NIDM, bridge the gap between those two neuroimaging standards (Maumet et al., 2019)
  - collaboration with Institut du Thorax (Nantes) and Dyliss team at IRISA: data modeling in biomedical research (Cornet et al., 2020)
- Data management and processing platforms
  - challenge on multiple sclerosis lesion segmentation using a data management and processing infrastructure (Commowick et al., 2018)  
↔ *presentation O. Commowick*
  - Shanoir (Sharing NeuroImaging Resources): an open source neuroinformatics platform designed to share, archive, search and visualize neuroimaging data (Barillot et al., 2016)



# Software Development

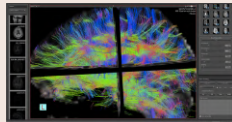
## Shanoir-NG, Sharing Neuroimaging Resources <http://shanoir.org>

- web-based software platform for medical imaging data storage and sharing
- Based on a formal ontology
- Allow upload (PACS, derived data), download (Nifti), anonymization, access control, QC control, clinical scores
- 70 centers / 200 studies / 9 000 subjects connected on Shanoir@Neurinfo



## MedInria <http://med.inria.fr>

- THE Inria medical image processing and display platform ( 6 000 download/Year)
- Development from Epione, Athena & Empenn teams (PI: O. Commowick)
- Transfer research algorithms as individual plugins and workspaces (segmentation, diffusion, registration, filtering)
- Empenn plugins: NL-Means denoising, connect to Shanoir, registration, symmetry plane, ANIMA



→ two **consortiums** are being set up (via Inria)

# Integration of software into large-scale national projects (PIA-ANR)

- **OFSEP** → the national cohort project in MS

- Shanoir, image management solution of the cohort OFSEP HD (5000 patients)
- 1 to 2 dedicated engineers in Empenn every year



- **FLI-IAM** → the digital infrastructure of "France Life Imaging"

- C.Barillot, Scientific Chair of the Information Analysis and Management node ; M.Kain, Technical Manager; C.Maumet, now part of the COPIL
- Empenn provides data storage solution via Shanoir
- 15 engineers over the period (6 @ Empenn)

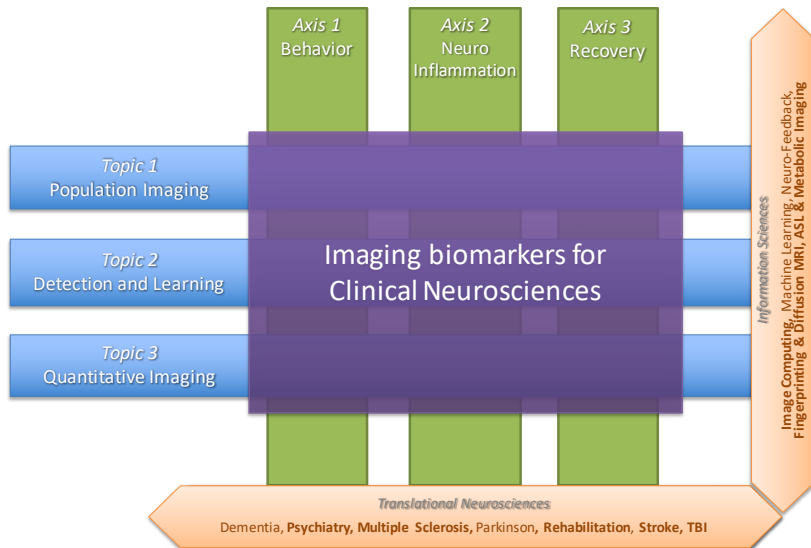


- **MUSIC** → collaborative project with b<>com, several CHUs and Biotrial

- Empenn develops and provides the image analysis solutions for the follow-up of MS patients in a clinical context (Western France clinical network)

## Five-Year Project

# Empenn Research Project

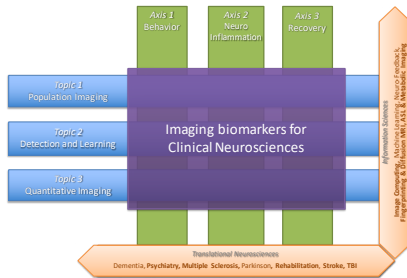


# Empenn Research Project : Basic Science

## Topic 1 : Population Imaging

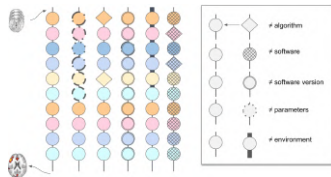
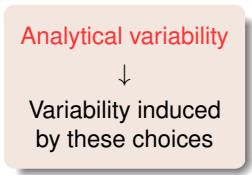
- Dedicated atlases better adapted to group of patients
- Big Data integration for management and processing of neuroimaging data
- Statistical Modeling of analytical variability, better reproducibility 🔍

*O.Commowick, G.Edan, C.Maumet*



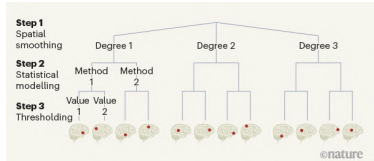
# Study of variations induced by treatment chains

- Data analysis (e.g. fMRI) is often complex and requires **many choices**



## First contributions

- Effect of the software (Bowring, Maumet, and Nichols, 2019)
- Large-scale collaboration (Botvinik-Nezer et al., 2020)



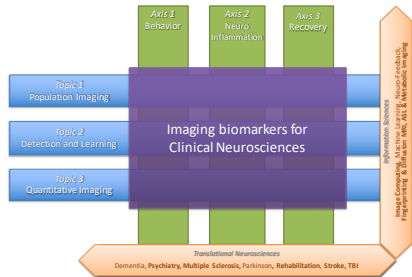
- **What was done?** Standards for neuroimaging provenance
- **How to reuse data?** Stat. methods to check compatibility & enable data reuse
- **Which pipeline is good for my dataset?** Checking pipeline assumptions & debugging

# Empenn Research Project : Basic Science

**Topic 1 : Population Imaging**

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*O.Commowick, G.Edan, C.Maumet*





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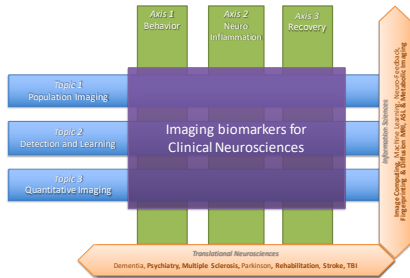
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## Topic 2 : Detection & Learning

- From population imaging to patient imaging
- Integration of machine learning for detection/characterization of pathologies in images
- Learning coupling models for multimodal data

*C.Cury, J.Coloigner, P.Maurel*



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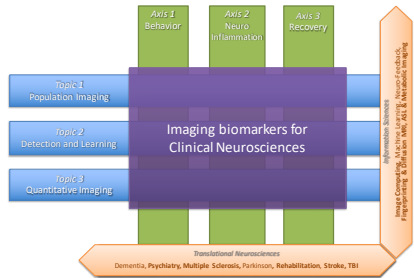
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*C.Cury, J.Coloigner, P.Maurel*



## Topic 3 : Quantitative Imaging

- Model inference in qMRI
- Multi-parametric ASL, estimating functional and resting-state ASL from standard perfusion protocols
- Multicompartment imaging (Diffusion, relaxometry) 🔍

*E.Bannier, E.Caruyer, O.Commowick, I.Corouge, J-C.Ferré, P.Maurel*

# Inria International Labs: MMINCARAV

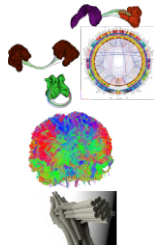
2012-2017 "Boston and Rennes, a Brain image Analysis Team" (BARBANT) with the Computational Radiology Laboratory at the Boston Children's hospital (Harvard Medical School)

## 2019 → Multimodal Microstructure-Informed Neuronal Connectivity: Acquisition, Reconstruction, Analysis and Validation

Principal Investigators → Emmanuel Caruyer, Empenn / Jean-Philippe Thiran, LTS5, EPFL

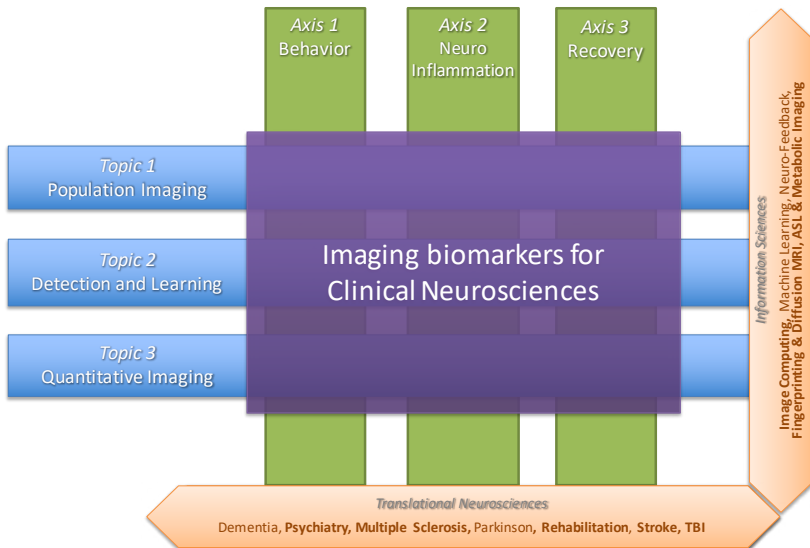
### ● Scientific objectives

- **Acquisition design** → increase sensitivity of MRI to microstructure
  - **Connectome analysis** → use graph theory to analyze multi-valued brain connectome
  - **Validation** → with the help of simulated phantoms
- 2 associate team workshops (1 in Lausanne, 1 in Rennes), 2 PhD students' visit

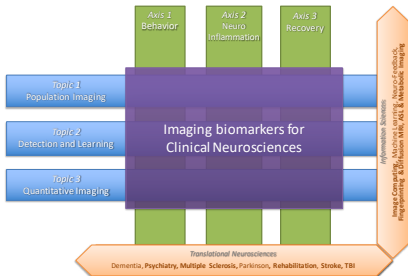


- Organization of an intl challenge at MICCAI'2021: "Diffusion-Simulated Connectivity Challenge"
- Application to Alzheimer's disease, call JPND co-Fund w/ University of Liège and DTU (Denmark)

# Empenn Research Project



# Empenn Research Project : Translational Research



## Axis 1 : Behavior

- New imaging markers of depression, combining perfusion, metabolism and microstructural information 🔍
- New mixture of molecular and micro-structural imaging markers
- New targets of neurofeedback for rehabilitation

*J.Coloigner, I.Corouge, C.Cury, J-Y. Gauvrit, G.Robert*

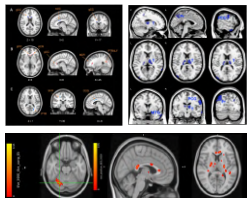
# Neuroimaging biomarkers in depression

New imaging **markers of depression**, combining **metabolism, functional** and **microstructural** information

**Objective** → improve the efficacy of diagnostic and treatment strategies.

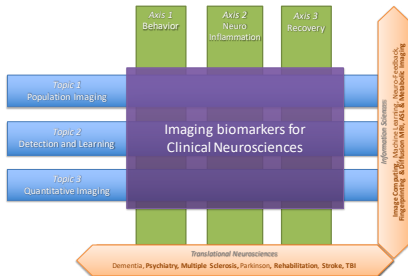
## First contributions

- White matter abnormalities in depression (Coloigner et al., 2019)
- Structural abnormalities associated with poor outcome of depression (Batail et al., 2020)
- Multimodal brain imaging connectivity analyses in depression among women (Robert et al., in press)



- National project “Fondation de France” with Inserm U1000 (Paris Descartes univ.)  
*Identify early microstructural and functional biomarkers of amygdala and its network*
- Investigation of neurofeedback rehabilitation on depression

# Empenn Research Project : Translational Research

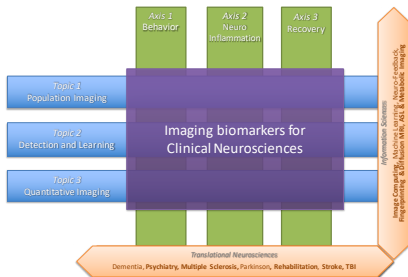


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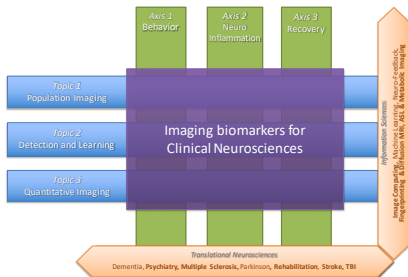
## Axis 2 : Neuroinflammation

- Integration of automatic image analysis and management for population studies
- Evaluation metrics to assess the efficacy of new drugs on the follow-up treatment of a large population of patients.
- New mixture of molecular and micro-structural imaging markers

*E.Bannier, O.Commowick, G.Edan, J-C.Ferré, A.Kerbrat*



# Empenn Research Project : Translational Research



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## Axis 3 : Recovery

- New rehabilitation protocols from multimodal neurofeedback (visual, but also haptic, auditory, . . .)
- More portable protocols (e.g. EEG-fNIRS)
- Application to stroke and depression

*I.Bonan, C.Cury, J-Y.Gauvrit, P.Maurel*

## SWOT analysis

# Empenn, in summary

## Major Strengths

- Close integration in both scientific & medical research environments
- Deep interdisciplinarity: project, staff
- Well focused on imaging biomarkers and clinical neurosciences
- Strong integration to national infrastructures / cohorts
- Complementarity between the different national partners (Inserm, Inria, CNRS) and close relations with the stakeholders (hospital, industry)

## Major Opportunities

- Participation to several "investiss. d'avenir" projects (1 LabEx, 1 IRT, 1 Infrastructure, 1 Cohort)
- Potentiality of the Neurinfo Platform to develop new cutting-edge projects
- High support of the local institutions
- Recent recruitments / Youth of the team's member
- Involvement in the local master programs to attract students, whether medical residents or engineers

## Major Weaknesses

- Lack of professorship position without clinical duties
- No Inserm permanent staff (many candidates, not interviewed but recruited at CNRS/Inria)
- Lack of tenure technical staffs

## Major Threats

- Maintaining interdisciplinary balance
- Heterogeneity of the academic culture
- Processing clinical research studies data : high demand / little funding
- Number of HDR (MathStic ED)

# Thank you for your attention



2016



2017















2018















2019

# References I

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