INRIA

The institute for information and communication science and technologies

FRENCH NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND CONTROL

INRIA

Set up for innovation

A three-fold mission

Research: developing knowledge and technologies
Transferring technology to the economic world and promoting innovation
Sharing and disseminating knowledge: training doctoral students and sharing computer science knowledge with the general public

One project, one team

INRIA's project teams are made up of about twenty scientists working for a set period of time on a common project which is evaluated on a regular basis.

Networking

INRIA's scientists come from universities and leading higher education establishments, as wells as other research institutes such as the French national scientific research centre (CNRS). They work in close relation with industry through research contracts.

Innovation, a duty

For over 40 years, INRIA has been assisting researchers in transferring the technological advances stemming from their work to the industrial and service sectors (through research and transfer contracts, user licenses and CIFRE grants). The Institute works in partnership with large corporations, SMEs, industrial consortiums and collaborates with some twenty competitiveness clusters: AESE, Minalogic, SCS, System@tic, Images et Réseaux, Medicen, Mov'eo, i-Trans, etc.

Incubator for start-ups

Via its subsidiary INRIA-Transfert, INRIA offers its support to entrepreneurs in the field of information and communication science and technologies (ICST).

At home in Europe...

In its field, INRIA is a top-ranked player in the European competition initiated by framework research and development programs (FP6 and 7). It also pursues a dynamic policy of collaborating with universities, research centers and European industrial R&D laboratories.

...and open to the world

INRIA has partnerships with numerous academic institutions in the United States, Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East:

- It has set up 71 associated teams in partnership with research centers in 28 different countries.
- It has set up a joint laboratory (LIAMA) with the Chinese Academy of Science and has been collaborating for many years with the Poncelet laboratory in Moscow, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Centro de Modelamiento Matematico in Santiago de Chile.
- It is the main organizer of the African Conference on Research in Computer Science (CARI) held every two years in Africa.

Training, sharing and disseminating knowledge

Currently, a thousand PhD graduates as well as other students work in the research teams, in a dynamic environment, and in close relationship with the international scientific community.
Beyond the scientific world, the Institute strives to impart knowledge about computer science to the average citizen, particularly young people (through a partnership with the French Ministry of National Education).

Seven scientific priorities to meet the challenges of tomorrow:

Computer sciences, as vectors of the technological progress and economic competitiveness, are changing the world we live in... They also allow us to understand it better. Every five years, INRIA sets new scientific and technological challenges to guide its research.

From now until 2012, INRIA will be focusing its research activities in the following fields:

Modeling, between mathematics and computer science.
It allows meteorological, physical, geological or physiological phenomena to be described mathematically to help us understand them better, analyze them and be able to predict them.

Programming, at the heart of computer science.
It strives to guarantee software security and reliability, as well as solve problems of data confidentiality, authentication, protection, traceability, etc.

Communication and networks.
Beyond infrastructure concerns (protocols, distribution, rules), this consists in setting up a web of knowledge and services (intelligent web).

Interaction between real and virtual.
Man-machine interactions require software-based understanding of vision, touch, movement, natural language and voice. Robotics is also a promising field in numerous sectors.

INRIA is also supporting three main fields of expertise turned to applications and calling upon a wide-range of scientific skills (modeling, simulation, multi-scale, distributed and algorithmic computing):

Computational sciences
By combining modeling, simulation, multi-scale computing and nanotechnologies, INRIA aims to develop models in the fields of biology, agronomics and ecology and create new ways of studying ecosystems and materials.

Computational engineering
It allows to study and predict the behavior of manufactured objects (virtual prototypes) and aims to guarantee the proper operation of embedded software (validation of automatic flight systems in aircrafts, etc.).

Computational medicine
It develops models of organs to improve diagnoses and treatments for illnesses such as cancer, cardio-vascular and neurological diseases.

8 research centers turned toward Europe

1967: founding of **IRIA** in **Rocquencourt** within the scope of *Plan Calcul*

1975: a research unit is set up in **Rennes**

1979: the Institute becomes a public institution under the name **INRIA**

1983-92: 3 new research units are set up in **Sophia-Antipolis**, **Nancy** and **Grenoble**

2008: 3 research centers are set up in **Bordeaux**, **Lille** and **Saclay**

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