



# Ageing in Place: A Multi-Sensor System for Home-Based Enablement of People with Dementia

*Dr Louise Hopper, Rachael Joyce, Dr Eamonn Newman,  
Prof. Alan Smeaton, & Dr. Kate Irving  
Dublin City University (DCU), Ireland*

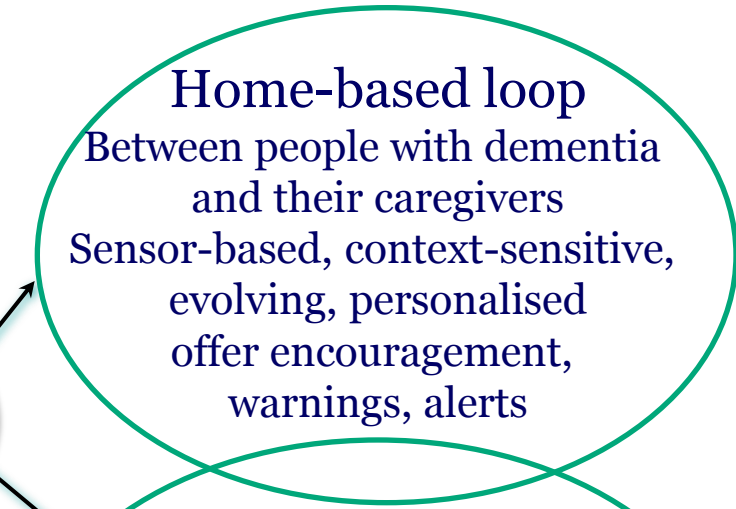


# The Dem@Care Project

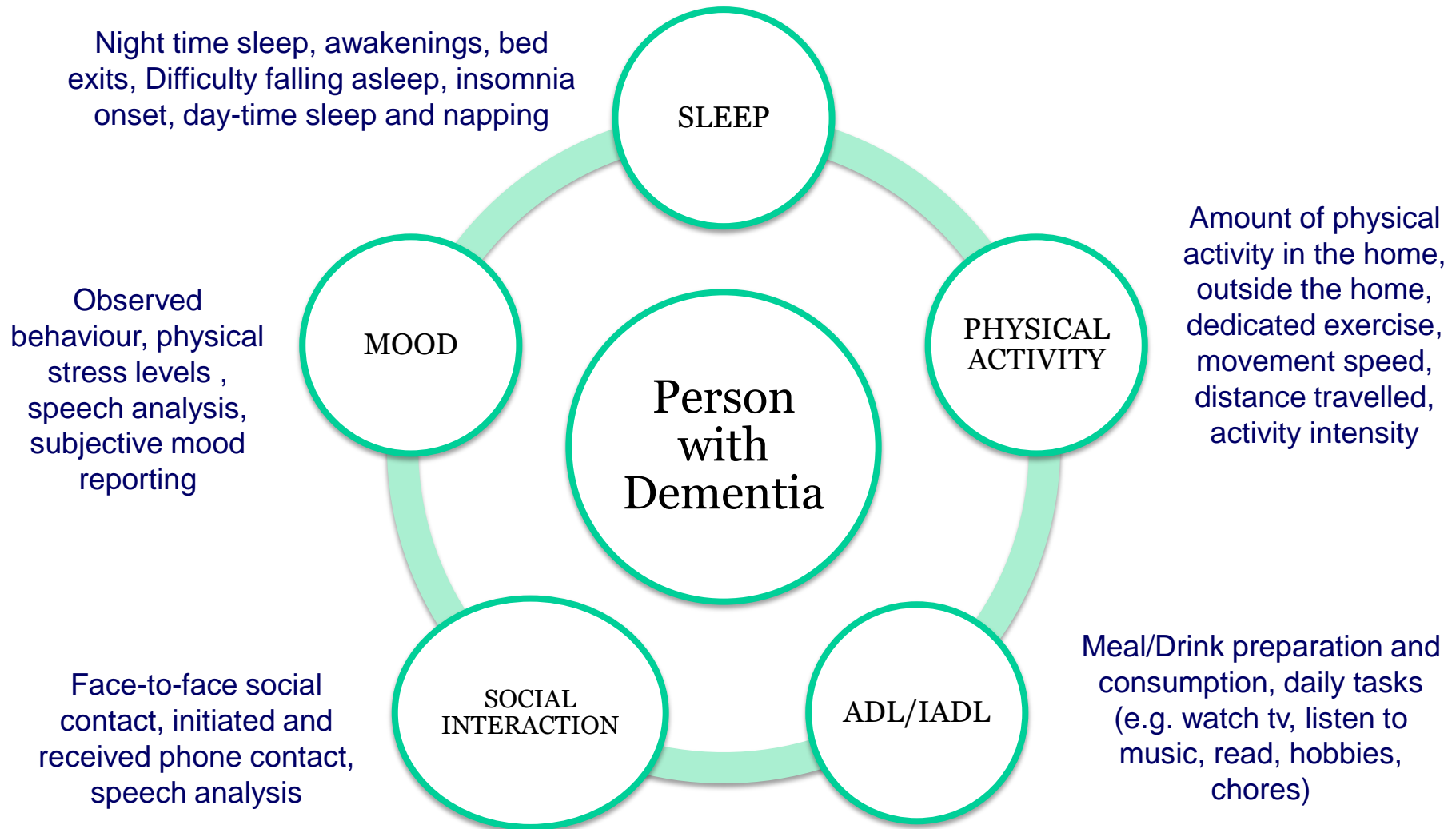
3 Themes

3 scenarios

2 loops of care



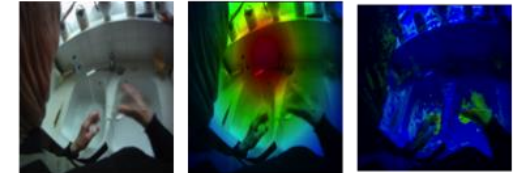
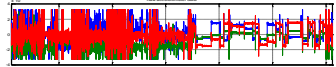
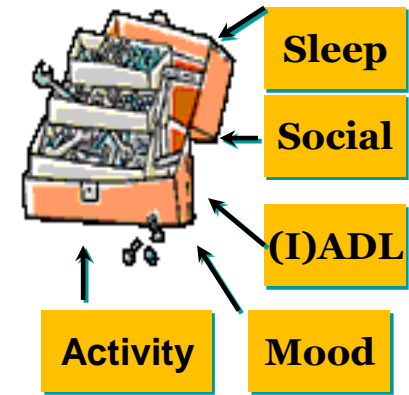
# Data Collection in Five Domains



# Dem@Home: Aims and Methodology

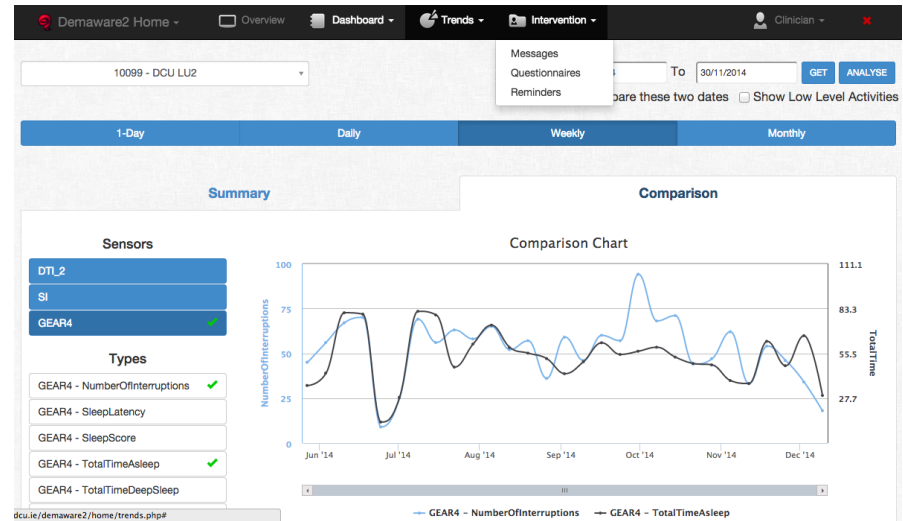
- Research Questions
  - Is the system acceptable in the home, is it non-intrusive, and useful to people with dementia and their families?
  - Can the system optimise the functional status of the person with dementia as operationalised in the 5 domains?
  - How autonomous and independent is the person with dementia and can the deployment of this system support this autonomy?
  
- Multiple case study design - person centred using a toolbox approach
  - Initial assessment of acceptability and usability (n=5 dyads)
  - Lead User participants (n=2 in Dublin; n=3 in Thessaloniki; 7-20 months in duration)
  - Intervention participants (n=5 in Dublin; 3-4 months in duration)

# Dem@Home Sensor Toolbox



# The Dem@Home System

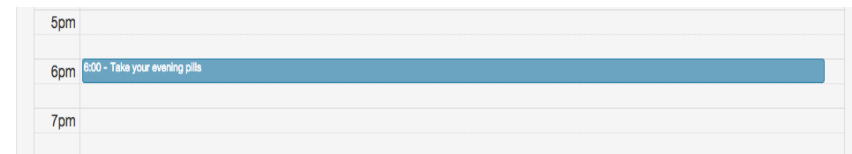
- Clinician is able to monitor
  - Sensors recordings
  - Analysis results (e.g. completed activities) from the current or previous dates/periods
  
- Person with dementia and the carer are able to read messages-prompts-advice that come from
  - The System
  - Clinician



Q1. I feel tense or wound up...  
 Please click on the appropriate answer. You should hear a click when you do so.

- Most of the time
- A lot of the time
- From time to time, occasionally
- Not at all

**NEXT** >



# Dublin Case Study: Recruitment Protocol

- Person living at home with early dementia - family caregiver
  - Initial semi-structured functional assessment interview
  - Lead user from October 2013 – involved in co-design process
  - Large longitudinal dataset but some data analysed retrospectively

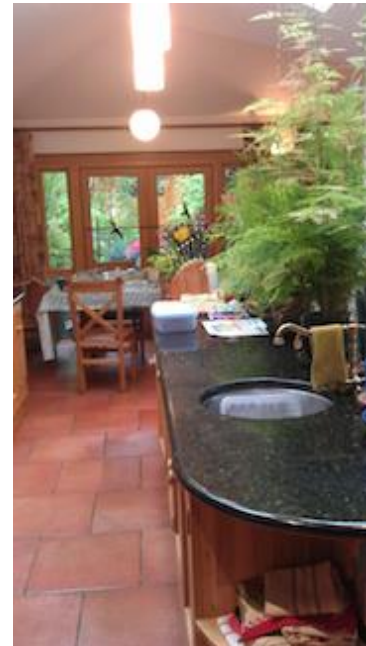
Sleep	PSQI, Epworth Sleepiness Scale, Insomnia Severity Index, Morningness - Eveningness Questionnaire, Scale of Older Adult's Routine
Physical Activity	Rapid Assessment of Physical Activity, Physical Activity Scale for the Elderly
Eating / IADL	Bristol ADL Scale (proxy), Everyday Competence Questionnaire, Mini-Nutritional Assessment
Mood	Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)
Social Interaction	Lubben Social Network Scale, De Jong Loneliness Scale
Other	Quality of Life (Qol-AD), Carer-Qol, HADS, RSS



# Dublin Case Study: Sean and Catriona

(pseudonyms)

- Sean (Age 58) and Catriona are married and live with Sean's mother in their own home outside Dublin. They have two dogs.
- Sean was a carpenter and Catriona works 4 days a week in administration.
- At the start of the study, Sean was just post-diagnosis.
- Sean is active and independent and has comorbid epilepsy, which is being successfully managed pharmaceutically.
- Sean's mother was not aware of his diagnosis.



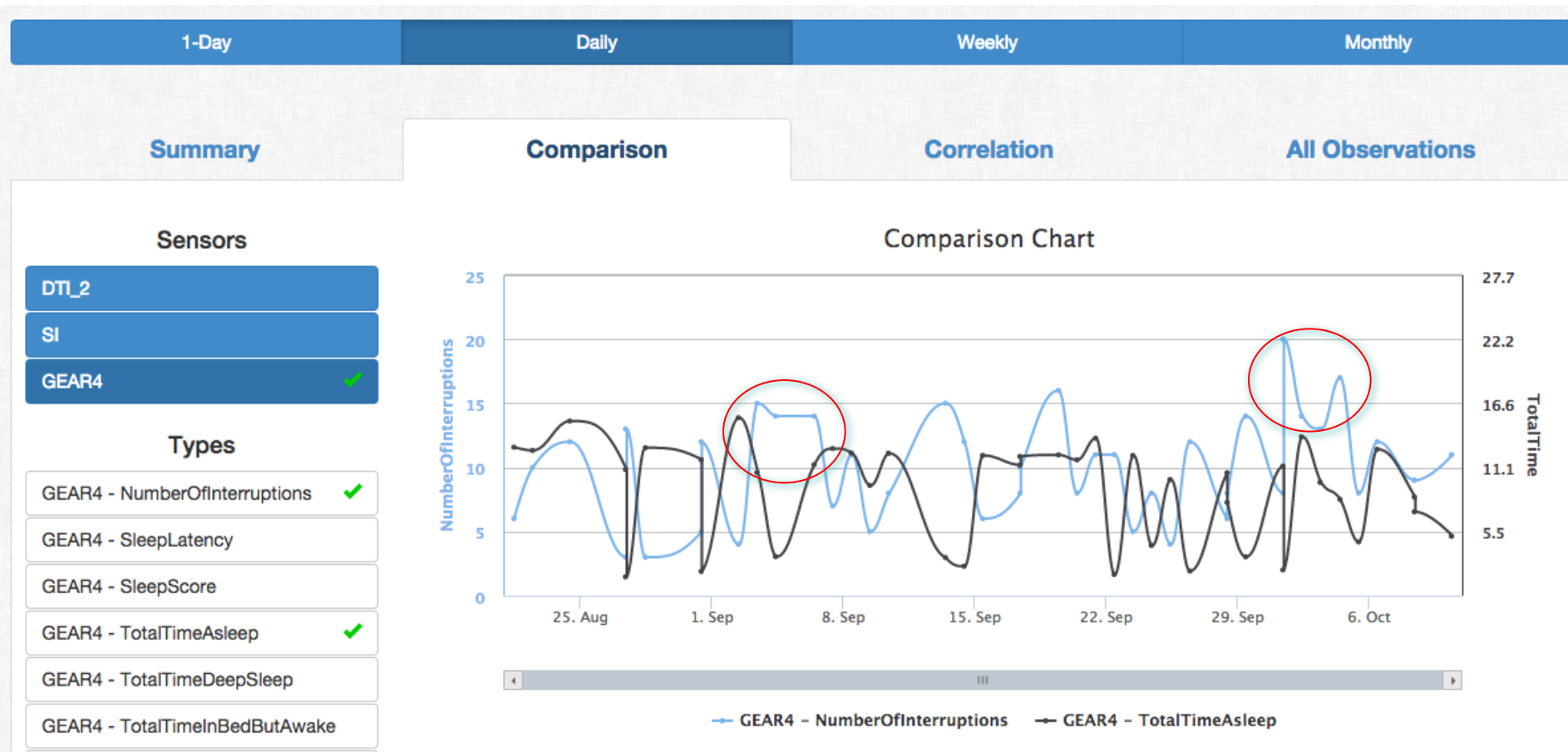


# Dublin Case Study: Baseline Assessment

Domain	Needs	Sensors
<b>Sleep</b>	PSQI score of 6 (sleep pathology) Duration and latency good; disturbance, efficiency, overall quality poor	Gear4 Sleep Clock DTI-2 Actigraphy
<b>ADL / IADL</b>	General eating, cooking and chores are good, but some tasks may need support (e.g. using the CD Player)	Wearable video Ambient video
<b>Physical activity</b>	No issues detected, although Sean indicated interest in having support in this area	DTI-2 Actigraphy
<b>Social Interaction</b>	No issues detected, although both felt there may be a benefit from support in this area	Periodic psychometric measures
<b>Mood</b>	No issues detected	Periodic psychometric Measures
<b>Other Measures*</b>	Qol-AD (PwD) = 42; Qol-AD (Carer) = 34 Carer-Qol = 5; HADS (A) = 19, (D) = 12; RSS (ED) = 20, (SD) = 15. (NF) = 0	Periodic psychometric Measures

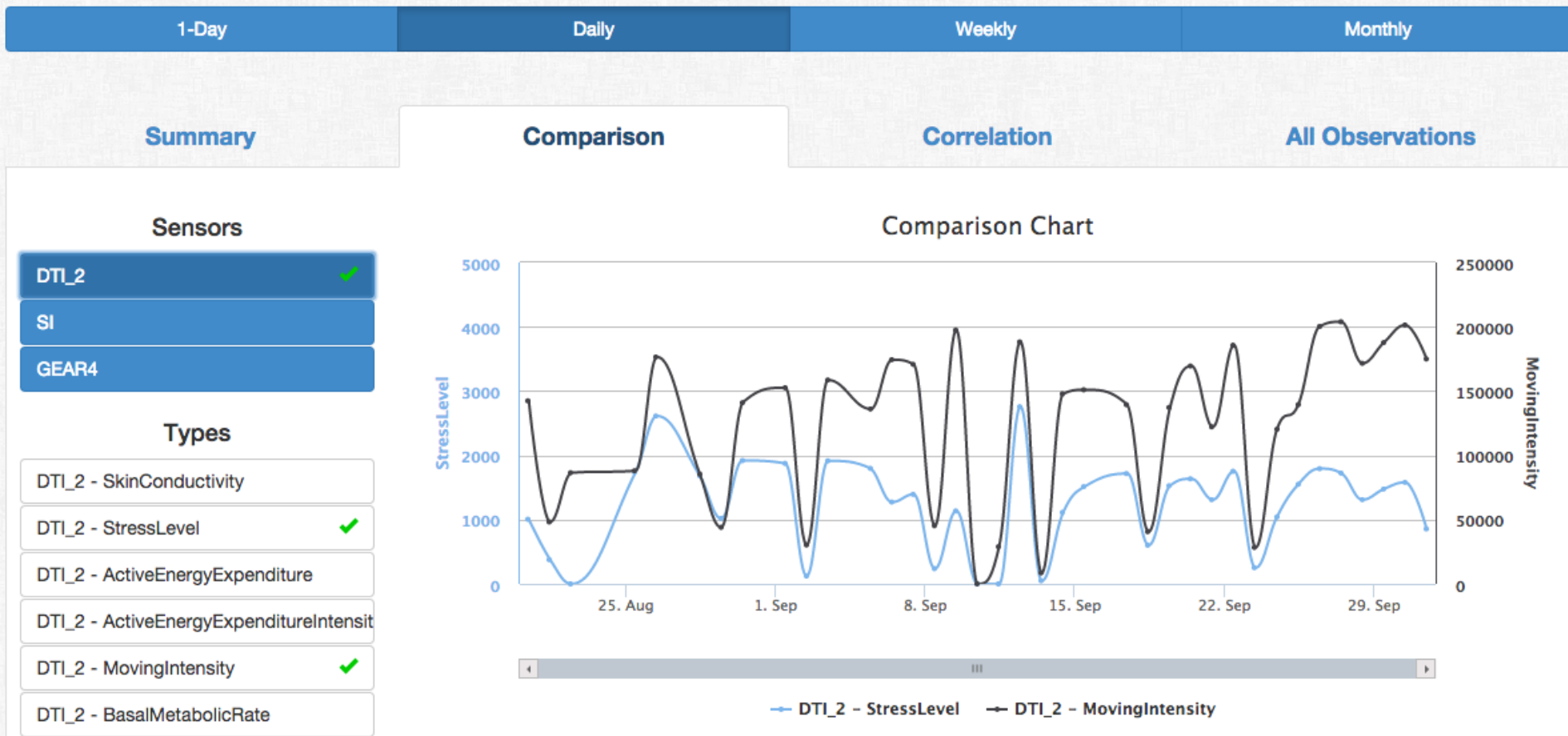
# Dublin Case Study: Sleep

- 556 days deployment; 436 days of usable data
- Some disruption in sleep duration and sleep interruptions evident on a day to day basis but very stable patterns over time
- Clear periodicity – higher interruptions on week day mornings



# Dublin Case Study: Physical Activity

- 556 days deployment; 330 days of usable data
- Within day variation in activities (more active in the mornings)
- Stress levels generally match activity levels (some exceptions)

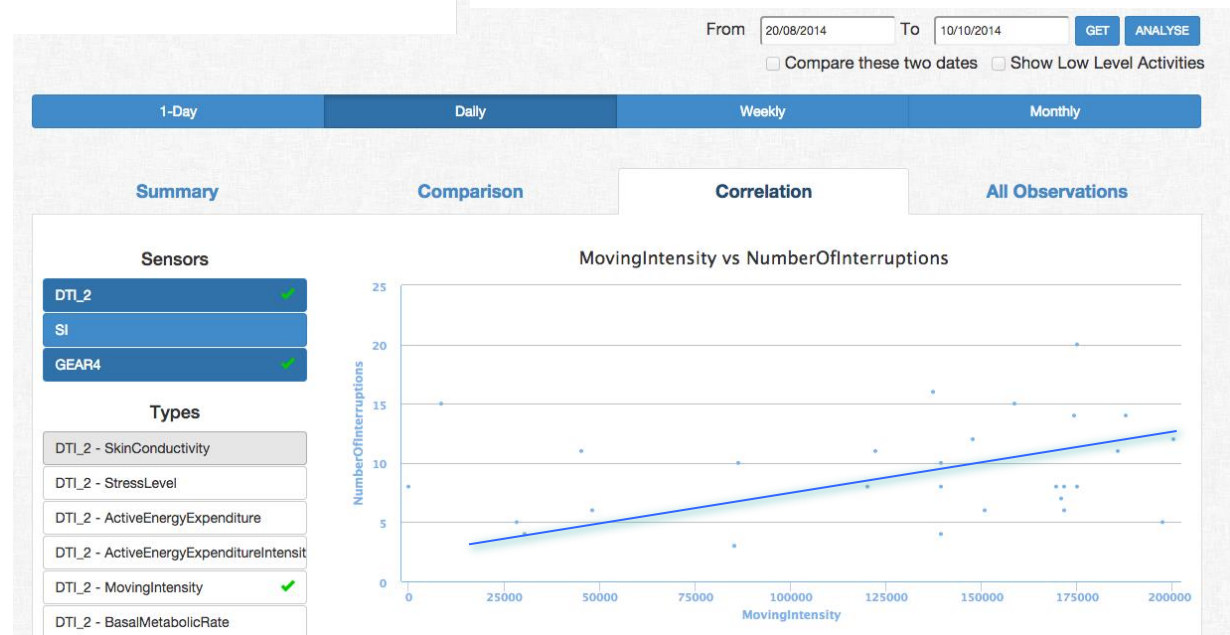


# Comparisons and Correlations



- Compare any measure with any other (daily, weekly, monthly)
- Interactive labels allow
  - easy highlighting of one data series
  - Quick switch off/on functionality

- Correlate any two variables for any length of time (e.g. Moving intensity and sleep interruptions)
- Some improvements required



# Dublin Case Study: ADL / IADL

- Most successful data capture was for activities that formed a natural part of PwD's day
  - Making breakfast, tea, watering plants, feeding birds
  - Capturing specific activities like 'playing a cd' were not successful unless they took place with researcher
- Over 130 hours of data; 4.33 were manually annotated to train location, activity, and object algorithms
  - Feed birds (95.98%), Water plant (85.5%), Talk on phone (74.7%), Prepare drug box (49.7%), Breakfast (45.6%), Meal (46.98%), prepare tea (39.1%)
- Manual observation study will be carried out this summer and results will be compared with Dem@Care



# Thessaloniki Case Study - Protocol

- Person with MCI living alone at home
  - Co-morbid depression and anxiety
  - Small apartment (living room, bedroom, kitchen, office)
  - Commenced later (February 2014) – real-time intervention support

<b>Mental State</b>	<b>Emotion</b>	<b>Functional</b>
MMSE	BDI	Quality of Life
Verbal Fluency	Beck - Anxiety	IADL
Trail Making (Part B)	Anxiety Perception	FUCAS
TEA	Hamilton Test	FRSSD
RAVLT	GDS	CDR
ROCFT	NPI	
MOCA	Pittsburgh	



# Thessaloniki Case Study: Baseline

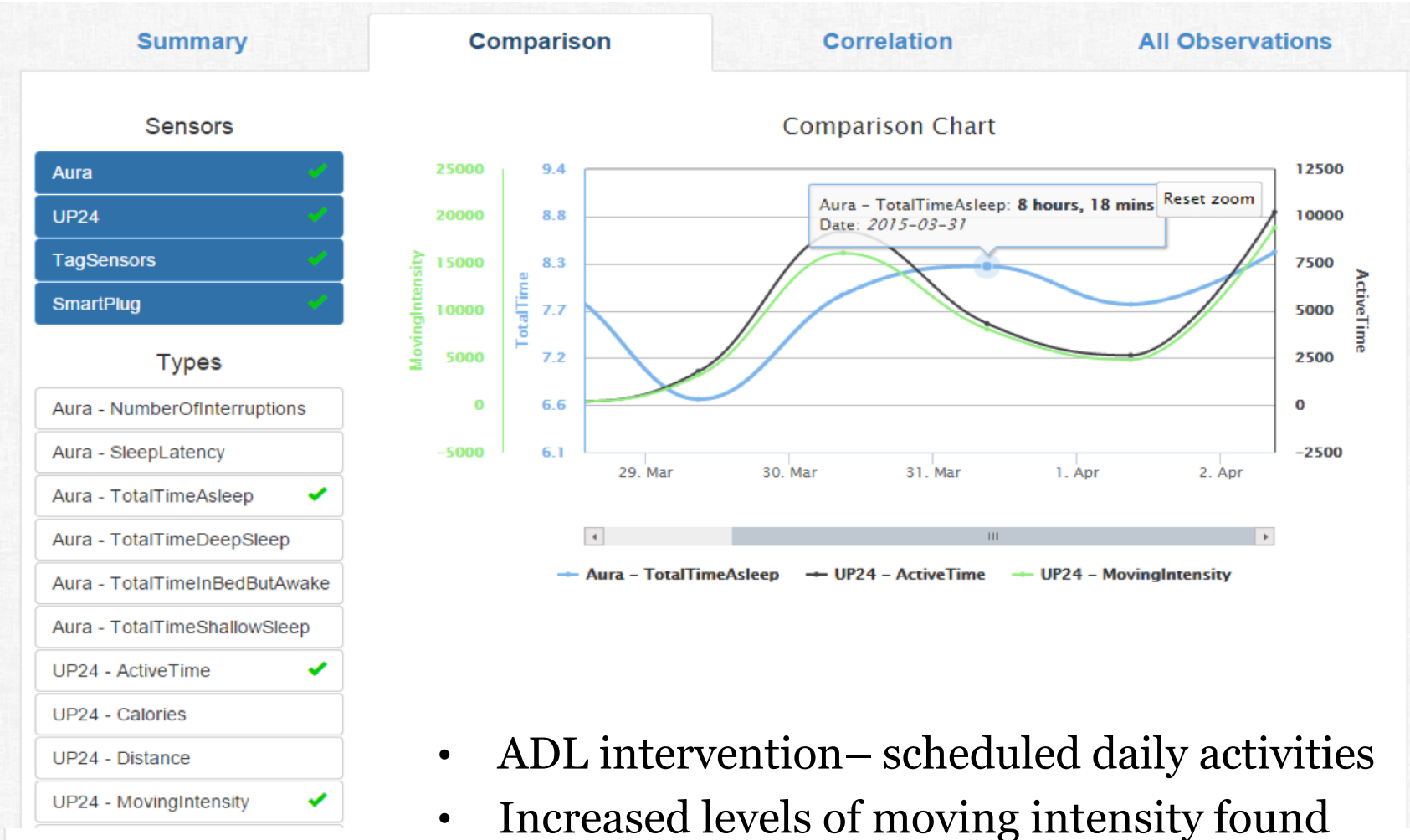
Domain	Needs	Sensors
<b>Sleep</b>	Difficulties with sleep – intermediate and general insomnia, palpitations and anxiety. Also frequent and long bathroom visits.	Sleep sensor (Aura) Actigraphy (Up24) Presence sensors (bathroom)
<b>ADL / IADL</b>	Low levels of ADL (e.g. person doesn't vacuum, iron, wash clothes)  Also monitor: cooking, washing dishes, eating, refrigerator usage, phone	Ambient video (kitchen) Presence sensor (kitchen) Plug and motion sensors (various) Water sensor (flower pot)
<b>Physical activity</b>	Low levels of physical activity - correlated with time watching TV. Also some gait and stability problems	Actigraphy (Up24) Plug sensor on TV Motion sensor (TV remote) Ambient video
<b>Social Interaction</b>	Almost no social interaction reported	Door sensor Intervention required
<b>Mood</b>	Low mood reported	Receiving intervention



# Thessaloniki Case Study: Interventions

- Suggested interventions (e.g.)
  - Physical activity at home via Smart TV every two days
  - Ballroom dance therapy twice a week
  - Psychotherapy
  - Perform a schedule of simple daily living activities: cooking, bathing, washing dishes, potting flowers, maintain social life – build motivation to participate in everyday life
  - Relaxation exercises and anxiety management techniques
  
- Dem@Home and associated sensors
  - Monitor compliance
    - *Activities according to weekly schedule*
    - *Gait improvement from physical activity/dancing*
  - Enable ongoing evaluation
    - *Sleep, physical activity and ADLs*
    - *Alter intervention is desired results not being met*

# Thessaloniki Case Study: Physical Activity



- ADL intervention– scheduled daily activities
- Increased levels of moving intensity found

# Improvements in sleep before and after

Summary

Sensors

- Aura
- UP24
- TagSensors
- SmartPlug

Types

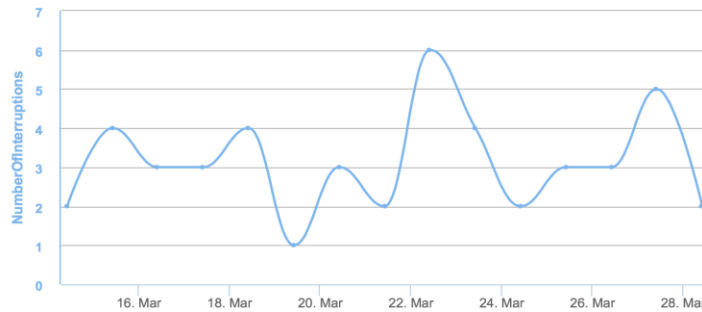
- Aura - NumberOfInterruptions
- Aura - SleepLatency
- Aura - TotalTimeAsleep
- Aura - TotalTimeDeepSleep
- Aura - TotalTimeInBedButAsleep
- Aura - TotalTimeShallowSleep
- Aura - NightSleep

Comparison

Correlation

All Observations

Comparison Chart



Summary

← Aura - NumberOfInterr

Summary

Sensors

- Aura
- UP24
- TagSensors
- SmartPlug

Types

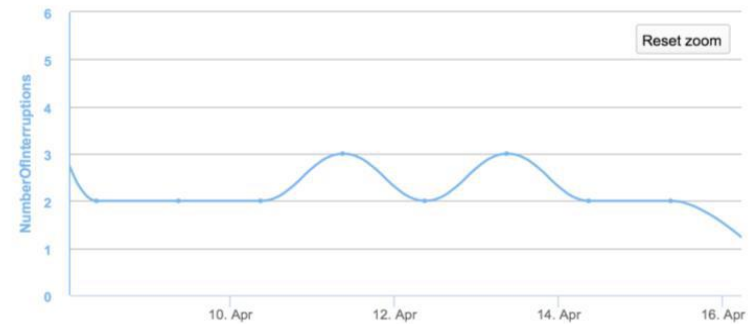
- Aura - NumberOfInterruptions
- Aura - SleepLatency
- Aura - TotalTimeAsleep
- Aura - TotalTimeDeepSleep
- Aura - TotalTimeInBedButAsleep
- Aura - TotalTimeShallowSleep
- Aura - NightSleep

Comparison

Correlation

All Observations

Comparison Chart



← Aura - NumberOfInterruptions →

# Dem@Home: Key Strengths

- Objective measurement
  - Provides a different approach to the clinical assessment of a person's cognitive, functional, and emotional status in a familiar environment
  - Supports ongoing monitoring of improvement, stasis, or decline
- Individualisation of interventions and treatment plans
  - Gives immediate results about everyday activities
  - Improvements for person with MCI/dementia based on feedback and monitoring
    - *Sleep quality: Less TV watching lead to more sleep*
    - *Daily routine: Active participants in ADLs*
- Support the person with dementia with online reminders, checklists, prompts, directed practise



# Dem@Home: Key Challenges

- Recruitment difficulties unless combined with an intervention
  - Comfort with technology and ethical concerns
  - What happens when the researcher/clinician leaves?
- Initial anxiety regarding sensor use (in some cases)
  - Importance of adequate training and researcher/clinician support
  - Need to balance the idea of co-design with the difficulties introducing an incomplete system with a person with dementia
- The suitability of deploying sensors with someone in the later stages of dementia – when is too late?
- Ethical issues
  - Informed consent and third party consent
  - Privacy – sensor privacy options forgotten, safety nets needed
  - Surveillance – risk of continuous monitoring

# Conclusions

- Value of objective ongoing assessment
  - Analysis of sensor level data shows promising results although the real value of the Dem@Home system is the ability to:
    - *Triangulate data from various sensors measuring varied domains*
    - *Identify improvement, stasis, and/or deterioration over time*
  
- Supports that enable Dem@Home use
  - Easy to use sensors, data transfer, and automated feedback
    - *Caregiver is still required as primary source of support*
    - *Clinician needs to make the effort to ensure that people understand how ICT can and may not help, and that informed consent is given*
  - Importance of well-supported training periods
  - Importance of personal interaction with the clinician (or researcher)
  - Perceived benefits must be stronger than the perceived effort to use the technology

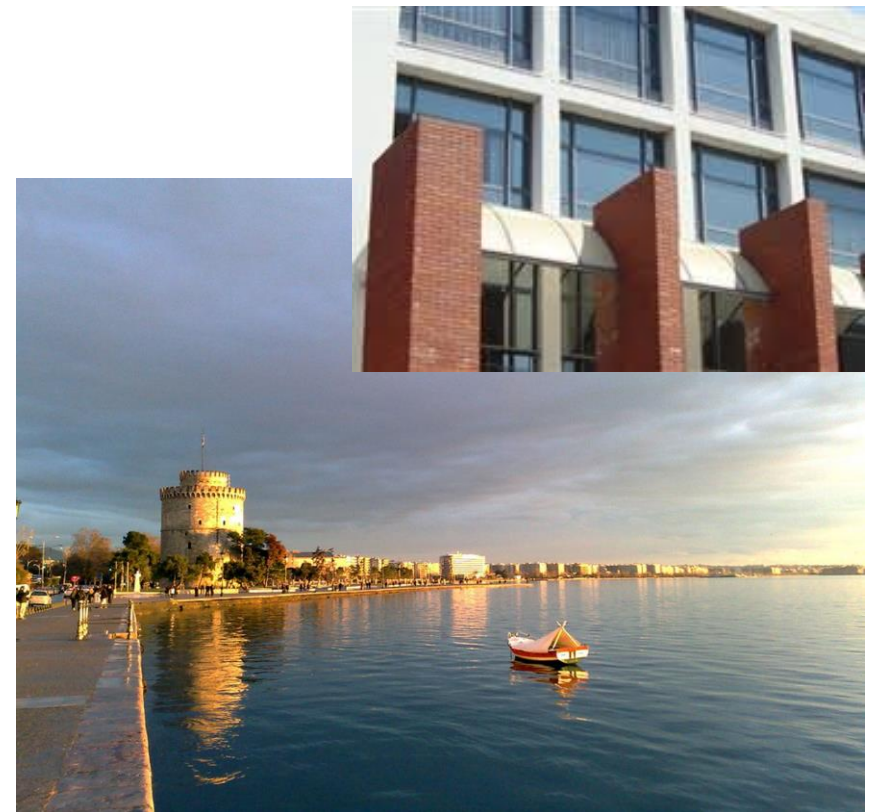
# Dem@Home – For Further Information...

DCU Dublin

CERTH Thessaloniki

[louise.hopper@dcu.ie](mailto:louise.hopper@dcu.ie)

[akarakos@iti.gr](mailto:akarakos@iti.gr)



# Thank you for your attention

## For further information:

[www.demcare.eu](http://www.demcare.eu)

[louise.hopper@dcu.ie](mailto:louise.hopper@dcu.ie)

[akarakos@iti.gr](mailto:akarakos@iti.gr)

## Funding Acknowledgement:



The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement 288199



This project is funded by the European Union

## Dem@Care Consortium partners

