

Comparisons of Glutamate in the Brains of Alzheimer's Disease Mice Under Chemical Exchange Saturation Transfer Imaging Based on Machine Learning Analysis

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Chemical exchange saturation transfer (CEST) is one of the molecular magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) techniques that indirectly measures low-concentration metabolite or free protein signals that are difficult to detect by conventional MRI techniques. We applied CEST to Alzheimer's disease (AD) and analyzed both region of interest (ROI) and pixel dimensions. Through the analysis of the ROI dimension, we found that the content of glutamate in the brains of AD mice was higher than that of normal mice of the same age. In the pixel-dimensional analysis, we obtained a map of the distribution of glutamate in the mouse brain. According to the experimental data of this study, we designed an algorithm framework based on data migration and used Resnet neural network to classify the glutamate distribution images of AD mice, with an accuracy rate of 75.6%. We evaluate the possibility of glutamate imaging as a biomarker for AD detection for the first time, with important implications for the detection and treatment of AD.

Keywords: CEST, Alzheimer's disease, MRI, glutamate, Resnet, SVM

INTRODUCTION

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a neurodegenerative disease with insidious onset and progressive development. Its clinical features include memory impairment, aphasia, and executive dysfunction, among others. Currently, although pathological biopsy is widely used in practice, there is still no gold standard detection method for dementia in AD. The typical pathological features are senile plaques formed by the deposition of β -amyloid (amyloid- β , A β) and neurofibrillary tangles composed of hyperphosphorylated tau protein and a large number of neuronal apoptosis (Barage and Sonawane, 2015; Jayedi et al., 2019). In clinical practice, diagnosis also includes exclusion methods and related clinical neuropsychological scale methods (Arvanitakis et al., 2019). There is no effective cure for AD in clinical practice currently. Therefore, finding biomarkers that can be used to objectively assess AD progression and disease staging is of great clinical significance.

Glutamate Brains of Alzheimer's Disease in Mice

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), as a non-radiation, multiparameter imaging method, is widely used in the study of neurological diseases. Chemical exchange saturation transfer (CEST) appears as a novel MRI contrast mechanism, which has been widely used in studies of cerebral ischemia (Wang et al., 2015), glioma (Zaiss et al., 2015, 2017), tissue pH quantification (Robert et al., 2011) and nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) Value (Zhang et al., 2015). Traditional MRI obtains tissue imaging by detecting the distribution of hydrogen proton content, but it cannot detect the signal of a specified macromolecule. The CEST technology uses a pre-saturation pulse with a specific Gaussian distribution to fully pre-saturate the hydrogen protons of a specific substance in the tissue. The saturated hydrogen protons in the macromolecules chemically exchange with the hydrogen protons in the free water, resulting in a decrease in the signal of the latter, and the reduced signal amount difference can indirectly reflect the content distribution of specific macromolecular substances. CEST can calculate the asymmetric magnetization transfer ratio asymmetry (MTRasym) through the asymmetric analysis formula, which can quantitatively analyze the concentration of the test substance and the progression of related diseases (Jones et al., 2013).

Chemical exchange saturation transfer technology has been successfully applied in research in the medical field due to its non-invasive and quantitative detection characteristics (Harris Robert et al., 2018). In 2014, Li et al. (2015) at Beijing Hospital first applied amide proton transfer (APT) imaging to a study of Parkinson's patients and found that the CEST signal of endogenous amide protons is helpful for the diagnosis of Parkinson's. In further research, APT showed the potential to be superior to DTI in terms of PD progression grading. These studies show the great potential of CEST technology in the field of medicine. This article aims to study the application of CEST in AD mouse models, focusing on exploring the differences in AD mouse models at different development stages. In addition, to weaken the influence of environmental factors such as the uneven magnetic field, the CEST image is corrected by the water saturation offset reference (WASSR) to obtain a more accurate mouse model brain image.

As one of the basic tasks of computer vision, image classification is widely used in the field of medical image processing. The mouse brain glutamate distribution images obtained in this experiment can also be used as the source data for image classification for classification tasks. Support Vector Machine (SVM) is a binary classification model based on statistical learning theory, which is widely used for its solid theoretical foundation and many excellent characteristics. Cortes and Vapnik (1995) proposed a human body recognition algorithm based on the histogram of gradients (HOG) combined with SVM to achieve high accuracy classification. Traditional image classification algorithms need to manually design and extract features. They perform well in simple classification tasks, but they are not always satisfactory in complex classification tasks. With the advent of the era of intelligent information, deep learning came into being. The convolutional neural network is a neural network model that has been widely used in recent years. In terms of image classification, more and more excellent

TABLE 1 | Number of mice used.

	Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Wild Type (WT)		
2 month	4	5		
4 month	10	11		
7 month	3	2		
12 month	4	10		

networks have also been proposed, such as the original Lecun Network (LeNet), Alex Network (AlexNet), Visual Geometry Group Network (VggNe; Karen and Zisserman, 2015) (VggNet), Google's diffusion network (Gomez et al., 2014) (Inception Network, InceptionNet), and Residual Network (He et al., 2016) (Residual Network, Resnet). The accuracy of image classification by a convolutional neural network is continuously improving, even exceeding the human level. This article verifies the potential of glutamate as a biomarker for AD detection in the framework of SVM and Resnet. Based on analyzing the MTRasym values, we designed a data migration algorithm based on the age of the month to provide a deep learning framework with raw data with stronger classification capabilities.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Experimental Design

All MRI experiments were performed in a 30-cm bore 9.4 T magnet (Bruker BioSpec 94/30, Billerica, MA, United States). MRI images were acquired using a 72 mm quadrature volume resonator as a transmitter and a cryoprobe as a receiver. The CEST experiments were performed with the 2D RARE sequence with TR/TE = 1200 ms/4 ms and a RARE factor = 16. The saturation pulse amplitude is 5 uT and the saturation offset sweeps were from -5 to 5 ppm with 0.25 ppm increments. The matrix size is 100×100 and the FOV is 16 mm \times 16 mm. The slice thickness is 2 mm. A water saturation shift referencing





(WASSR) method was applied to correct the B_0 map (Kim et al., 2009). The saturation pulse amplitude is 0.5 uT and the saturation offset sweeps were from -1.5 to 1.5 ppm with 0.125 ppm increments for WASSR. The MTRasym and Amide-CEST contrast map was calculated after B_0 correction using Matlab (MathWorks, MA, United States) (Dou et al., 2019).

We divided AD and WT mice by age, and the number of mice in each group was recorded in **Table 1**.

Region of Interest Selection in the Mouse Brain

We selected five representative areas of the mouse brain for key analysis, which are the Cortex, corpus callosum, hippocampus, caudate, subiculum. The specific positions are presented in **Figure 1** in order from top to bottom.

Data Analysis

Calculation of Magnetization Transfer Ratio Asymmetry

In the CEST analysis process, one of the most important parameters commonly is the magnetic transfer ratio asymmetry (MTRasym), which can also be called CEST asymmetry (Meng et al., 2021). It's expressed by the following formula:

$$MTR_{asym} \left(\Delta w \right) = \frac{S\left(-\Delta w \right) - S\left(\Delta w \right)}{S_0} \# \tag{1}$$

Where w is the analyzed offset frequency, S(-w) and S(w) refer to the signal strength on the positive and negative sides of the Z spectrum, and S0 is the unsaturated signal strength.

B₀ Unevenness Correction

To eliminate the influence of B0 field inhomogeneity, it is necessary to perform shimming correction on CEST MRI. We obtain the position of the center frequency through the WASSR map and then offset the CEST data accordingly to obtain the corrected CEST data (Debnath et al., 2020). **Figure 2** shows the deviation of CEST data after correcting by WASSR data for the same mouse. Abscissa distance between the two lowest points is the offset value of the center frequency.

Chemical Exchange Saturation Transfer Analysis of Region of Interest Dimensions

Based on the above method, we analyzed the experimental data in two dimensions: region of interest (ROI)-based and pixel-based. First, we analyze the regional mean value of the selected ROIs, and obtain the MTRasym mean value map of 5 ROIs in the mouse brain. The frequency ranges from -2,000 to +2,000 Hz, where



Age Type	2 month		4 month		7 month		12 month	
	AD	WT	AD	WT	AD	WT	AD	wт
ROI1	0.02162	0.01768	0.02195	0.01419	0.0317	0.0254	0.03232	0.0273
ROI2	0.02178	0.01368	0.02016	0.01266	0.0313	0.02442	0.03044	0.02767
ROI3	0.02227	0.01704	0.02011	0.01573	0.03461	0.02376	0.0313	0.0286
ROI4	0.02478	0.01326	0.02013	0.01517	0.03805	0.03434	0.03171	0.02545
ROI5	0.01743	0.01042	0.01511	0.01511	0.03186	0.02833	0.02998	0.01972

TABLE 2 The glutamic acid content of each ROI at different months of age.

Bold values indicate mean glutamate content of AD mice and WT mice was equal in ROI5 in 4-month-old mice.

1,200 Hz represents the content of glutamic acid (Zhou et al., 2018). The mice were divided into four groups of 2, 4, 7, and 12 month according to their age, including different numbers of AD mouse models and wide-type (WT) mice as controls.

Comparisons Between Groups Alzheimer's Disease and Wide-Type

We grouped the mice by AD and WT, and calculated MTRasym for each mouse: processed the CEST data into a smooth B_0 curve by Lorentzen Fitting, corrected the center frequency with the WASSR data, and then obtained the MTRasym image by calculating the asymmetry of the Z spectrum. For each ROI, we calculated the mean value of MTRasym of mice in different month groups. Some of the results of ROI 4 are presented in **Figure 3** below as an example.

It can be observed from the figure that the B_0 data shows a big difference after the calculation of MTRasym. Among them, the overall values of AD mice in different month groups are mostly higher than those in the WT group, and the place of 1,200 Hz that reflects the glutamate content also meets this rule. We take the value at 1,200 Hz and organize it into **Table 2** as follows:

Through the quantitative analysis of glutamate content, we know that, except for the two groups of equal values of ROI5 in the 4 month group, all other values meet the higher trend of the AD group. From the overall data in the table, the level of AD mice in the 2 and 4 month groups was maintained above 0.02, and the level in the WT group was between 0.01 and 0.02; the levels of AD mice in the 7 and 12 month groups were maintained above 0.03, and the level in the WT group was maintained at 0.02 ~ 0.03.

Comparisons of Different Month-of-Age Groups

Starting from the AD group of mice, we grouped all AD mouse models by month, shown in **Figure 4**. Observation from the MTRasym chart shows that the values at 3 ppm in the 2 and 4 month groups are lower than the values of 7 and 12 month to varying degrees. But the difference between the 2 month group and the 4 month group is not big, and the same is true between the 7 and 12 month groups.

Starting from the WT group of mice, all WT mouse models are grouped by months of age, and the same pattern can be found by observing the MTRasym diagram: that is, the glutamate content of mice of older age (7 month, 12 month) is higher than that of younger age (2 month, 4 month) mice, and the difference inside the older age groups and the younger age groups is not obvious.



In summary, we can conclude: as the months of age increase, the glutamate content will gradually increase and the span between 4 and 7 month is more obvious. This rule can rule out the influence of AD symptoms. Therefore, we cannot detect whether there is AD disease by the fixed value of glutamate content alone, but should also be combined with the months of age to evaluate. This finding also brings challenges to the classification experiments later in this article.

Chemical Exchange Saturation Transfer Image of Alzheimer's Disease Mouse in Pixel Dimension

The above analysis is based on 5 ROIs manually selected. Given the trend that the content of glutamate in the mouse brain gradually increases with the development of AD, we believe that glutamate has the potential to be used as a biomarker for AD detection. In further research, we propose to improve the accuracy of the analysis, extending the analysis from the mean value of ROI to the analysis based on the pixel dimension: treat each pixel as a separate ROI and perform the same Magnetization transfer ratio asymmetry calculation on each ROI to obtain the glutamate distribution map of the whole mouse brain. Representative images taken from 12 month group of mice are presented in **Figure 5** below.

With the increase of months of age, the Glu images of mice in the AD group and the control group showed a certain degree of an upward trend. At the same time, comparing the AD group mice with the WT group mice of the same month old, it can be found that the glutamate content of the AD group is slightly higher than that of the WT group, which is consistent with the conclusion we obtained in the analysis based on ROI, namely AD disease comes with varying degrees of increase in glutamate content.

Application of Machine Learning in Glutamate Distribution Images

The purpose of this article is to explore the potential of glutamate as a biomarker for AD detection. Therefore, for unknown MRI data, how to detect the presence of AD has become a critical question. We present the MTRasym data in the form of images, and the color of the pixel points represents the glutamate content of the location. We consider applying machine learning domain knowledge to the research of this article, that is, to detect whether a mouse with an unknown MRI image suffers from AD symptoms through image two classification.

Support Vector Machine Pattern Classification

Support vector machines is a supervised machine learning model that maps the feature vector of an instance to some points in the space (Niu et al., 2021). The purpose of SVM is to draw a line to "best" distinguish these two types of points, so that if there are new points in the future, this line can also make a good classification. SVM is suitable for small and medium-sized data samples, to solve non-linear, high-dimensional classification problems. SVM was first proposed by Vladimir N. Vapnik and Alexey Ya. Chervonenkis in 1963. The current version (soft margin) was proposed by Corinna Cortes and Vapnik in 1993 and published in 1995 (Díaz-González et al., 2021). Before the advent of deep learning (2012), SVM was considered the most



successful and best performing algorithm in machine learning in the past ten years.

Principle of the Experiment

The key of SVM to achieve two classifications is to find the optimal decision boundary, which should be as far away from the data point as possible (Maldonado et al., 2021). That is to say, in the sample space W, we need to find the hyperplane of the optimal solution to maximize the distance M from any point x in the space to the hyperplane. Set M as the objective function, then

$$\mathbf{M} = \frac{\left|\mathbf{w}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}\right|}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} \tag{2}$$





FIGURE 7 | (A) Before data migration. (B) After data migration. Comparison of a sample in the 2 month-WT group before and after data migration.

Inp	ut: CEST.mat, WASSR.mat, ROIAnalyze.mat
Ou	tput: Glutamic acid distribution image in mouse brain, GluMTRasym.mat;
Rea	ad in ROIAnalyze data
Ca	Iculate the mean values of the AD group and WT group of the low-age group(2m,4m) and
the	high-age group(7m,12m) respectively and save them in avg.mat
Ca	Iculate the difference between the advanced and young mice in the group AD and WT
(Al	D_avg、WT_avg、AD_ROI1-5、WT_ROI1-5)
For	wassr, cest in dataset:
	Read in wassr data for SNR threshold filtering
	Each effective value, automatically draw a single pixel ROI and save it in a mask file
	Use wassr to estimate the BO unevenness map and record it as BOmap.mat
	Read in cest data and correct it through B0map
	Calculate the value of MTRasym for each ROI (a single pixel is regarded as an ROI, a tota
of	10000)
	Take out the value of 1200Hz in each ROI and assign it to GluMTRasym
End	
For	GluMTRasym in youngGroup:
	Read in GluMTRasym data
	Take out the effective value and add AD_avg
	Draw ROI1-5, add AD_ROI1-5, WT_ROI1-5 offset processing respectively
	Output image of glutamate distribution in mouse whole brain
End	d de la constante de

FIGURE 8 | Algorithm about data offset for glutamate image.

For any sample that is linearly separable, the available formula is:

$$w^{T}x_{i} + b \ge +1, \quad y_{i} = +1$$

 $w^{T}x_{i} + b \le -1, \quad y_{i} = -1$ (3)

The optimal classifier can be obtained by Lagrangian multiplier method:

$$f(x) = sgn(\langle w^*, x \rangle + b)$$
(4)

When the linear classification hyperplane of the training data cannot be obtained, the input vector (sample) can be mapped to the high-dimensional feature space by selecting a non-linear function (Mojdeh et al., 2021), and the optimal classification

hyperplane can be established in the high-dimensional feature space (Sonobe et al., 2019; Yeboah et al., 2020).

Experimental Results

There are a total of 48 data sets in this experiment, including 20 images of AD mice and 28 images of mice in the WT group. We divide 30% of the data as the test set and 70% of the data as the training set. The accuracy of the test set is 66%. It can be seen from the experimental results that the MRI images of the mouse brain in the AD and WT groups have a certain classification accuracy, but due to the small number of data sets and the limitations of the SVM algorithm itself, the classification accuracy needs to be improved. Therefore, we consider using deep learning for classification below.

TABLE 3 | Confusion matrix.

Actual value	Predictive value			
	Positive class	Negative class		
Positive class	TP	FN		
Negative class	FP	TN		

Deep Learning Applications

Deep learning is to construct a deep artificial neural network by simulating the neural network system of the human brain, analyzing and interpreting the input data, and extracting the low-level features of the data into high-level features to achieve classification. Deep Convolutional Neural Network (DCNN), as one of the typical deep learning applications, has an important position in the field of image classification (Qian et al., 2020). Compared with traditional image classification algorithms that manually extract features, convolutional neural networks use convolution operations to feature input images. Extraction can effectively learn feature expression from a large number of samples, and the generalization ability of the model is stronger.

Model Selection

Deep convolutional neural networks continue making breakthroughs in image classification tasks, and the increase in network depth improves its feature extraction capabilities (Kim et al., 2018). However, as the depth of the network increases, the problem of gradient disappearance becomes more and more serious, and the optimization of the network becomes more and more difficult. Resnet's proposal realizes the improvement of the performance of image classification tasks while deepening the network (Wang et al., 2019). ResNet is composed of stacked residual blocks, and the residual block structure is shown in **Figure 6**.

In addition to the weight layer, the residual block also connects the input x directly to the output through a crosslayer connection. F(x) is the residual mapping, H(x) is the original mapping, and the residual network makes the stacked weight layers fit the residual mapping F(x) instead of the original mapping H(x), then F(x) = H(x)-x, and learning residual mapping is simpler than learning original mapping. In addition, the cross-layer connection allows the characteristics of different layers to be transferred to each other, which alleviates the problem of gradient disappearance to a certain extent.

Algorithm Design Based on Data Migration

This article is based on the Resnet-18 training model to test the difference between the MTRasym images of the AD mouse model and the WT group. In common deep learning tasks, big data is the prerequisite for research, but in many research examples, the data itself is expensive to collect or even impossible to collect (Park et al., 2020). A large number of samples can rarely be collected. In the experiments in this article, each mouse data obtained from genetic modification to breeding to the target age requires a long span of preparation. Therefore, for the study of mouse CEST images on deep learning, we cannot get thousands of data in the neural network for sufficient training, so we need to solve the specific problems of the deep learning task in the case of such a

small sample. The so-called small sample learning is to use much smaller data samples than required for deep learning to achieve the effect of close or even surpassing big data deep learning (Li et al., 2003). In other words, the methods to achieve small sample learning are mainly: let the model have prior knowledge of related tasks and make the learning effect generated by each data better.

After the network structure is determined, we need to find a solution for the small sample problem in the experiment of this article. Regarding providing prior knowledge to the model, we choose the method of transfer learning, which is to train a basic network through a large-scale public data set, and then fine-tune it on the target data set. Previous experiments have proved that ResNet18 pre-trained by ImageNet can be used as the basic network for various visual tasks. As long as the data learned is not very different from the type contained in ImageNet, this method can be guaranteed to be effective. This is also the basis for small sample learning. Experiments have proved that the basic network based on ImageNet pre-training effectively improves the accuracy of the experiment in this paper. The addition of migration learning in the ablation experiment increases the accuracy by 12%.

About increasing the learning effect produced by each CEST data, our first thought is to increase the size of the data set through image augmentation methods such as translation, rotation, and cropping. In addition, from the analysis of the average value of the ROI dimension above, the increase in months of age will also lead to an increase in glutamate content. From the analysis results, the glutamate content of AD mice in the young group represented by 2 and 4 month is maintained at around 0.022, and the WT group is maintained at about 0.015; Correspondingly, the glutamate content of the old group is represented by 7 and 12 month is around 0.032 and 0.023.

Based on this result, AD mice aged 2 month and WT mice aged 12 month did not differ much in the content of glutamate. If the experiment simply mixes all the month-age data, it is difficult to correctly classify this part of the data. Therefore, this paper proposes a data offset algorithm based on the age of the month: the calculation result of the glutamate content in the ROI dimension is programmed to calculate the scale that the data of the young group of mice should be offset, and it is applied to the data of the 2 and 4 month group of mice. The data from the 7 to 12 month groups were combined to generate the final AD mouse GluCEST MRI dataset. Then, different classification algorithms were used to perform binary classification experiments of AD and WT. The before and after effects of data offset are shown in **Figure 7**, and the algorithm flow is shown in **Figure 8**.

RESULTS

In addition to the Resnet network introduced above, we also used different lightweight networks to do comparative experiments, showing that the results are slightly inferior to the Resnet algorithm framework of this article, which proves the effectiveness of this algorithm. In machine learning competitions for image classification, F1-score is often used as an evaluation

	Experimental method	Accuracy/%	Recall/%	F1-score/%	Precision/%
SVM	Data enhancement	71.3	80.7	75.70934211	70.4
Mobilenet	DE + Transfer learning	72.1	81.9	76.68818182	69.3
Densenet	DE + Transfer learning	76.5	85.4	80.70537369	71.5
Resnet18	DE + Transfer learning	77.8	86.5	81.91965916	73.2
Resnet18	DE + Transfer learning + Data offset	79.6	87.1	83.18128374	75.6

TABLE 4 | Results in machine learning.

Bold values indicate the model with the highest accuracy among all classification experiments.

metric. F1-score can unify the evaluation indicators, consider the values of the correct rate and the recall rate, and make a more scientific judgment on the classification results. Therefore, this method is also used in this paper to calculate the final accuracy rate. First, the confusion matrix (**Table 3**) is used to indicate whether each category is predicted correctly or incorrectly. The first letter in the predicted value of the confusion matrix indicates the correctness of the judgment (True or False), and the second letter indicates the sample prediction label (Positive or Negative), and then use the values in the confusion matrix to calculate the Accuracy, Precision, Recall, and the F1-score, the formula is as follows.

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN} \#$$
(4.1)

$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} \#$$
(4.2)

$$\operatorname{Recall} = \frac{\mathrm{TP}}{\mathrm{TP} + \mathrm{FN}} \#$$
(4.3)

$$F1 - score = \frac{2 * (Precision * Recall)}{Precision + Recall} #$$
(4.4)

The comparison results of various algorithm frameworks are presented in **Table 4**. We use the traditional method SVM for classification with an accuracy of 70.4%, and the performance of the two lightweight neural networks Mobilenet and Densenet is not much different from SVM. In contrast, Resnet achieved 73.2% accuracy under the same conditions. After adding the abovementioned month-age-based data offset algorithm, an accuracy rate of 75.6% was achieved. And the F1-socre of this scheme is also the highest at 83.18%. The experimental results demonstrate the validity of the framework established in this paper, and to a certain extent demonstrate the possibility of glutamate as a biomarker for AD disease detection.

The limitation of the classification accuracy in this experiment mainly comes from the small number of samples, and a single sample has a greater impact on the test results. In addition, from the analysis of MTRasym data, it can be seen that the content of glutamate increases with months of age. The 2 month image of the AD group and the 12 month image of the WT group may have little difference in the level of glutamate; even if we analyze the ROI glutamate level, the mean shift is adjusted by 2 month and the data of AD mice in the 7 month group, but elevated glutamate levels have not been proven to be the only definitive standard for monitoring AD symptoms in mice. Therefore, it is still challenging to establish a unified model to monitor AD in mice through machine learning. In the future, we need to continue to collect and expand the data set of cultured mouse samples, explore a better classification model that combines the information of the months of the mouse, and provide more information for the detection of glutamate as a marker for AD.

CONCLUSION

In this study, we analyzed the CEST signal of AD mice in two different dimensions through Z spectrum asymmetry, combined with water saturation offset data to correct the image, and showed the glutamate of the mice after AD changes level. We compared a variety of neural network models, chose Resnet with better effect, and designed a data migration algorithm adapted to the characteristics of the data in this article. Due to the changing nature of the glutamate content of the mouse brain based on the age and the limitations of the current model, the accuracy rate is currently as high as 76.5%. In the future, we will optimize the machine learning model based on the analysis of the small sample data and the characteristics of the data itself to improve the accuracy of model classification.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The datasets presented in this article are not readily available because the raw/processed data required to reproduce these findings cannot be shared at this time as the data also forms part of an ongoing study. Requests to access the datasets should be directed to JL, nijanice@163.com.

ETHICS STATEMENT

This study involving animal was reviewed and approved by the Tongji University Research Ethics Committee, Shanghai, China.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

JL and HJ contributed to the conception and design of the study. JZ carried out the data collection and evaluation. YL and JL performed the Algorithm design and code writing. YL, JL, HJ, and JZ wrote and revised the manuscript. All authors critically reviewed and approved the manuscript.

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