Author's response to reviews

Title: Computer-assisted Lip Diagnosis on Traditional Chinese Medicine Using Multi-class Support Vector Machines

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Reply to your comments

Dear Puebla Editor,

According to your opinions, the manuscript was modified, and uploads them to BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

At page 5 modified” Our research group [8-9] present some preliminary lip classify results based on SVM, in which some features of lips color in HSI color space were extracted to classify lip colors.” And at page 17 added “Authors’ contributions” in my manuscript

Specific reply:

- We feel that the study is better suited to our Technical Advance article category, could you let us know whether you agree to change the article type to technical Advance (http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmccomplementalternmed/authors/instructions/technicaladvance).

Yes. We agree that.

- We note that the manuscript is very similar in scope to the publication below:


  [Automatic classification of lip color based on SVM in traditional Chinese medicine inspection].


  We also note that this article is not cited, could you please clarify why this related publication has not been cited and discussed in your manuscript and provide some details as to how the current study relates and advanced on that previous publication?

The work in the paper appeared in “Sheng Wu Yi Xue Gong Cheng Xue Za Zhi. 2011 Feb; 28(1):7-11.” is similar to cited reference [8] “Lip color classification based on support vector machine and histogram” in this manuscript. So we did not cite it repetitively. The difference between this manuscript and the paper
includes three aspects: 1) image features; 2) classified method; 3) research aim.

Aforementioned paper firstly extracts nine features of lips color in HSI color space. Then, five different experiments are conducted according to different combinations of these features. By comparing the results of these experiments, the mean value is considered as one of the most important features for classifying the lips color. This work just completes an elementary experiment on lip color classification.

This manuscript extracted more than eighty features to construct classifier based on SVM. Meanwhile, Feature subset selection is performed using Support Vector Machine (SVM) with recursive feature elimination. So, the total accuracy of the classifier arrives to 83%.

Several images display faces from the participants, could you please confirm with us that you have obtained consent for publication by those displayed in the images? If this is the case, please include a statement to this effect under the Methods section of the manuscript.

Yes. We have obtained consent from the participants whose face image is display in this manuscript.

Authors’ contributions - Please include an Authors’ contributions section after the Competing interests. For the Authors’ contributions we suggest the following kind of format (please use initials to refer to each author’s contribution): AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Authors’ contribution is described as follow:

FL, XL and XZ conceived the idea and designed the research. FL, YW and XL acquired and processed the data. FL, ZX, XL and GL performed the research and analyzed the results. FL, XZ, ZX and XL wrote the paper. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.