Quantitative Assessment of Stress Adaptation of Experimental Animals to Field Exposure Based on the Entropy Approach

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ABSTRACT

Aim and Objective: This article reveals the work which was devoted to studying the changes in corneal tissues and stress adaptation of laboratory rats with different resistance to the effects of a rotating electric field with 10 and 20 days of exposure. The adaptation of laboratory animals to the effect of a rotating electric field leads to new energy-informational levels in the structure of corneal tissues in the form of subsystems of survival, which are revealed using multifractal parameters.

Method: The limiting adaptability of an animal with a stable psychotype is higher than that of an unstable or ambivalent animal. Estimates of the limits of stress resistance of rats with different psychotype to the influence of an electric field were obtained.

Result: Three mechanisms of adaptation of the structure of corneal tissues under the influence of a field on an animal concerning the sign of the health of the functioning of the organism "norm of chaos" were revealed: - an acute stress state, as in an equilibrium unstable state with increased reproduction of entropy ($\Delta H > 0$), due to additional energy costs for maintaining the equilibrium of the system (informational entropy D1 is higher than the "norm of chaos"); - Adaptation without signs of pathology as in a non-equilibrium steady state $\Delta H = 0$ (informational entropy D1 is close to the "norm of randomness"); - chronic, i.e. stable nonequilibrium state $\Delta H < 0$ (informational entropy D1 is lower than the "norm of chaos").

Key Words: Adaptation, Multifractal ordering, Entropy, Information system, Self-organization, Stress state, Mathematical model

INTRODUCTION

The work is related to the development of methods and algorithms for recognizing structural changes in tissues in various physiological and pathological conditions on raster images of corneal sections, including for determining the response to stress in keratoconus.¹ At the present stage, the structures of functional systems have been identified and studied in biomedical research. At the same time, the question of the presence of system-forming factors, based on which the characteristics of the relationships of order, self-organization and chaos are formed, remains open. Traditional methods of studying the adaptive characteristics of animals for several reasons have low accuracy and do not take into account the nature and trend of changes in the state of the body. An approach based on entropy methods of mathematical modelling of information systems of biological objects is promising for integrated assessment of the state of the biosystem, which al-

lows us to assess the impact of external factors on changes in entropy indicators and provides a quantitative characteristic of the adaptation process.² Critical indicators of multifractal sets and a universal algorithm for self-organization of adaptation structures are used as indicators of the structure's adaptability to changes in the external factor.^{2,3}

The integral regulation of the system based on the principles of cooperation is explained, among other things, by the phenomenon of homeostasis, which provides (with a certain "norm of randomness") a change of control modes. The analysis of synergetic processes is based on the mechanisms of chaotic dynamics of the organism.⁴ To study complex biological systems, we use methods of chaos theory and synergetics which allow us to reveal and analyze the mechanisms of stress adaptation of experimental animals subjected to prolonged exposure to a rotating electric field.⁵ The results of the study of the effect of a rotating electric

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field on the reproductive system of female rats indicate structural changes in the placenta, fetal development delay, and an increase in the frequency of embryonic mortality, which indicates the influence of regulatory systems and compensatory capabilities of the animal on the adaptive capacity of internal organs.⁶

For a quantitative description of the structure of the image of corneal tissues, multifractal (informational) elements are used, which characterize the processes of structural changes that occur under the influence of stress (electric field).

Obtaining estimates of stress adaptation of laboratory animals based on multifractal parameters of the corneal tissue image structure under the influence of an electric field, taking into account the dynamics of information entropy. We aimed for the development of the mathematical model “Information system of corneal tissue structure, to study of the adaptive capacity of corneal tissues of laboratory animals based on the control and controlling parameters of the order of formation of a mathematical model and research of the mathematical model “Information system of the structure of corneal tissues” taking into account the stability of animals.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A bitmap image of the fractal objects have limited size $r \times c$ where r is the number of rows, a c - is the number of columns, and the minimum cell is the image pixel, x_{ij} , $i = \overline{1, r}$ and $j = \overline{1, c}$, which characterizes the grayscale from 0 to 255, where 0 means black and 255 means white. We use a modified method for calculating generalized fractal dimensions which assumes the presence of two types of pixels below:

$$y_{ij}(\Gamma) = \begin{cases} 0, & x_{ij} \notin \Gamma \\ 1, & x_{ij} \in \Gamma \end{cases}, i = \overline{1, r}, j = \overline{1, c}$$

where $\Gamma = [\gamma_1, \gamma_2]$ – the threshold brightness level, $\Gamma \subset [0, 255]$

We will divide the image under study into square cells with side δ , which will vary from 3 to 50 pixels.

The number of single pixels is calculated in each “non-empty” cell:

$$M_k = \sum_{i=r(k)}^{r(k)+\delta-1} \sum_{j=c(k)}^{c(k)+\delta-1} y_j(\Gamma), k = \overline{1, N(\delta)},$$

where $r(k)$ and $c(k)$ are the number of the row and column of the pixel where the k -th cell starts, respectively.

Calculating the number of individual pixels in the image:

$$M = \sum_{k=1}^{N(\delta)} M_k$$

Determining the “population” of the k -th cell:

$$p_k = \frac{M_k}{M}, k = \overline{1, N(\delta)}.$$

The normalization condition must be met:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{N(\delta)} p_k = \sum_{k=1}^{N(\delta)} \frac{M_k}{M} = 1$$

The moment of the p_k^q -nd order determines the D_q value corresponding to the degree of resolution of the multifractal set:

$$Z(q, \delta) = \sum_{k=1}^{N(\delta)} p_k^q$$

Here $q \in (-\infty, \infty)$. In the literature, the minimum and maximum sparsity are limited to considering D_{+40} and D_{-40} .

For integer values q (-40, -39, ..., 39, 40), discrete values $D_{q, \delta}$ depending on the cell size δ :

$$D_{q, \delta} = \begin{cases} \frac{\ln \sum_{k=1}^{N(\delta)} p_k^q(\delta)}{(1-q) \ln \delta}, & q \neq 1 \\ \frac{\ln \left(\sum_{k=1}^{N(\delta)} p_k(\delta) \times \ln p_k(\delta) \right)}{\ln \delta}, & q = 1 \end{cases}$$

The method of parameterization of structures discussed above is universal and can be used to study disordered structures of any nature.⁷ Adaptation of regulatory systems and compensatory capabilities of an animal with different stress resistance can control the adaptive capacity of internal organs and change the structure of corneal tissues of the animal. Using the “open field” technique at the Department of “Normal physiology” of the Izhevsk state medical Academy, animals were divided into three psychotype: (1) stable, (2) unstable and (3) ambivalent.

Experiments were performed with 10- and 20-day exposures. After exposure to the rotating electromagnetic field, the cornea of the eye was taken and fixed following the requirements of histological studies. Optical images of histological sections of the cornea of experimental animals with different psychotypes of behaviour exposed to a rotating electric field for ten and twenty days were studied at 10x and 20x lens magnification.

Installation of a vortex electric field (Figure 1), consists of a transformer, two pairs of electrodes, a capacitor, and a resistor. The voltage between the electrodes 1 and 2 was used as a reference voltage, relative to the reference voltage, a phase shift voltage ($\alpha = 45^\circ$) was formed with the help of a phase-shifting chain, which was fed to the electrodes 3 and 4. In the space between the electrodes, the superposition of two

orthogonal fields, the amplitude values of which were 30.5 V/m and 75.9 V/m, respectively, formed an electromagnetic field that changed according to the sinusoidal law with a frequency of 50 Hz. The power supply of the plant was carried out from the AC network with a voltage of 220V. (Puchkov, 1986).

Figure 1: Schematic diagram of an experimental installation.

When developing the mathematical model “information system of corneal tissue structure”, the multifractal parameters of the digital image are calculated, the spectra of generalized Reni dimensions ($D_q - q$) and effective structural quantitative characteristics are obtained:

–measure of disorder (hidden periodicity) $\Delta_{40} = D_{-40} - D_{+40}$ and

–measure of hidden order $K = D_1 - D_{40}$ (for positive q)

Information entropy D_1 is a measure of the organization of the structure under study, q is the control parameter $q = [-40; +40]$. With increasing parameter $K = D_1 - D_{40}$, the structure becomes more ordered, the system is pumped with information. The spectrum of information resonances Δ_{40}^* and structural dimensions d^* characterizes the Meso levels of fractals forming the investigated multifractal.^{10,14}

The moment of origin of a fractal corresponds to the indicator of its fractal dimension of boundaries D_0 , and its decay corresponds to the fractal dimension D_{-40} , their ratio determines the assessment of the structural stability of the Meso-level (a measure of adaptability).^{12,13,14} The main indicators that determine the algorithm of self-organization of structures of dynamic systems include the measure of dynamic stability Δ_p , which remains constant, and the indicator of periodic adaptive adjustment m of the structure to external influences. Roots of the generalized Golden ratio $\Delta_1 = 0.618$; $\Delta_2 = 0.465$; $\Delta_3 = 0.380$; $\Delta_4 = 0.324$; $\Delta_5 = 0.285$; $\Delta_6 = 0.255$; $\Delta_7 = 0.232$; $\Delta_8 = 0.213$ are the stability code of structures in different systems of living and inanimate nature. The transition to chaos occurs when the values of Δ_1 range from $\Delta_{imax} = 0.618$ to $\Delta_{imin} = 0.213$ (Table 1).

The main result of the mathematical model “Information system of corneal tissue structure” is to obtain a self-similarity function for describing the processes of formation of structural changes: $A_m = D_0/D_{-40} = \Delta_1^{1/m}$, which characterizes the adaptability and stability of structural Meso levels. Multifractal parameters of images of corneal tissue structures of experimental animals exposed to a rotating electric field allow us to establish dynamic stability codes based on the law of the Golden proportion for classification, diagnosis and prediction of physical condition.^{9,10,11}

Entropy and its changes indicate the quality of functioning of homeostasis and its management reserves. Any system has a certain level of organization that is extreme, known as the entropy balance level. In this case, the processes of ordering and disorganization balance each other, and the system assumes a stationary state ($\Delta H = 0$).⁸ In thermodynamic self-organization, the level of organization tends to an equilibrium state without experiencing periodic processes, while the entropy ($\Delta H > 0$) increases. With dynamic self-organization of the system, the entropy ($\Delta H \leq 0$) does not increase, and the stability of the level of organization is provided by periodic processes. The estimation of changes in the information entropy of the meso-level ΔH (di) was performed numerically, as the difference of information entropies $\Delta H(di) = D_1(d_{i+1}) - D_1(d_{i-1})$, adjacent cells with the sizes d_{i+1} and d_{i-1} .^{12,13}

DISCUSSION

The work of the mathematical model “Information system of corneal tissue structure” determines the parameters of images of corneal tissue structure in laboratory animals^{9,10} and is given below in the tables (table 1 and 2). The analysis of the effect of the time of exposure to a rotating electric field on laboratory animals is studied through changes in the structure order parameter $K_s = D_1 - D_{40}$ depending on the measure of dynamic stability Δ_1 and the measure of adaptability A_m (Figure 2). As a result, 10 and 20 days field exposure the revealed changes of the order parameter K_s and adaptability of A_m information levels of the cornea: for laboratory animal with an unstable psycho change $K_s = 0.073/0.12$ in the range of adaptability of $A_m = 0.3 \div 0.4$; for the laboratory animal with a sustainable mindset change $K_s = 0.002/0.108$ in the range of adaptability of $A_m = 0.28/0.57$.

Table 1: Information resonances ΔD , cell size d , and multifractal characteristics of structural boundaries of rat corneal tissue inhomogeneities after 10 and 20 days of exposure

index	days	psycho a type	ΔD	d pic	D_0	D_1	D_2	D_{40}	D_{-40}	$D_1 - D_{40}$
8.03.17.10	10	sustain.	1,723	50	0,800	0,665	0,631	0,557	2,279	0,108

Table 1: (Continued)

index	days	psycho a type	ΔD	d pic	D_0	D_1	D_2	D_{40}	D_{-40}	D_1-D_{40}
4.03.17.10	10	Non sustain.	1,574	45	0,831	0,625	0,589	0,522	2,096	0,103
			1,566	50	0,813	0,612	0,570	0,493	2,059	0,119
			0,566	10	0,686	0,663	0,655	0,641	1,206	0,022
			0,781	16	0,666	0,631	0,620	0,595	1,376	0,036
			0,846	18	0,661	0,621	0,609	0,578	1,423	0,044
			0,940	21	0,652	0,611	0,595	0,559	1,499	0,053
			0,999	23	0,641	0,596	0,581	0,543	1,542	0,047
14ГЭ10	20	sustain.	1,018	28	0,628	0,575	0,553	0,509	1,527	0,066
			1,211	31	0,633	0,573	0,551	0,503	1,714	0,07
			1,322	36	0,621	0,555	0,533	0,484	1,805	0,071
			1,462	42	0,617	0,545	0,525	0,477	1,939	0,067
			1,535	46	0,625	0,564	0,548	0,470	2,004	0,095
			1,621	49	0,582	0,510	0,491	0,440	2,061	0,070
			1,214	31	0,694	0,623	0,602	0,549	1,763	0,074
15ГЭ10	20	Non sustain.	1,374	38	0,711	0,623	0,602	0,548	1,922	0,075
			1,465	41	0,698	0,604	0,573	0,494	1,958	0,111
			1,529	45	0,701	0,598	0,576	0,517	2,046	0,081
3К10	-	Ambivalent	1,708	50	0,671	0,569	0,542	0,449	2,157	0,120
			1,811	50	0,691	0,572	0,542	0,476	2,287	0,096

The functional relation of the parameter of order K_s with the measure of adaptivity and dynamic stability is represented by extreme lines: the upper one (lines a and c) characterizes changes in the structure of the cornea of an animal with an unstable psychotype. for its energy and information levels, a positive change in entropy ($\Delta H > 0$) is noted during informa-

tion transformations; the lower one (lines b and d) characterizes changes in the structure of the cornea of an animal with a stable psychotype for its energy and information levels, a negative change in entropy ($\Delta H \leq 0$) is noted during information transformations.

Table 2: Metaphysical levels of structural stability D_0/D_{40} , measure of stability (Δi), the limit of adaptation of the system (A_m^*) to the restructuring of the structure of corneal tissues under conditions of similarity of the limit state

index	psycho a type	D_0/D_{40}	A_m	Δi	A_m^*	m	m^*	ΔH	ВЭП(days)
8.03.17.10	sustain.	0.351	0.324	0.324	0.87	1	8	+0.011	10
4.03.17.10	Non sustain.	0.397	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	+0.001	
		0.395	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	+0.003	
14ГЭ10	sustain.	0.569	0.57	0.324	0.87	2	8	-0.006	20
		0.484	0.48	0.232	0.98	2	64	-0.006	
		0.465	0.46	0.213	0.99	2	128	-0.003	
		0.435	0.46	0.213	0.99	2	128	-0.007	
		0.416	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	+0.001	
		0.411	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	-0.002	
		0.370	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	-0.001	

Table 2: (Continued)

index	psycho a type	D_o/D_{-40}	A_m	Δi	A_m^*	m	m^*	ΔH	ВЭП(days)
15ГЭ10	Non sustain.	0.344	0.324	0.324	0.87	1	8	-0.022	
		0.318	0.324	0.324	0.87	1	8	-0.002	
		0.312	0.285	0.285	0.92	1	16	+0.011	
		0.282	0.285	0.285	0.92	1	16	-0.035	
		0.394	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	+0.004	
		0.370	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	-0.009	
		0.356	0.380	0.380	0.79	1	4	+0.009	
		0.343	0.324	0.324	0.87	1	8	+0.002	
3К10	Ambivalent	0.311	0.324	0.324	0.87	1	8	+0.028	
		0.306	0.324	0.324	0.87	1	8	-0.089	control

After 10 days of field exposure to a laboratory animal, regardless of its psychotype (upper lines), a positive change in entropy indicates the establishment of an equilibrium state of structural levels due to thermodynamic self-organization. The equilibrium state of the corneal structure is limited by the measure of adaptivity $A_m = 0.3/0.4$. After 20 days field exposure in the range of adaptability of $A_m = 0.3/0.4$ observed a single transition from the top line on the bottom and bottom on the top line that is expressed by the change of the order parameter K_s energy–information levels of the structure of the cornea (tab.1,2). In the range, $A_m = 0.4/0.57$ the energy–informational levels of the corneal structure of the laboratory animal correspond to the stable psychotype ($\Delta H \leq 0$). Information transforming the image of the tissue structure of the cornea allows setting the order parameter critical energy–in-

formation level in the structure of the cornea, being the balance of entropy $\Delta H = 0$: $K_s^0 = 0.055$ –critical parameter-level structures of the cornea of the animal with a stable psycho; $K_s^0 = 0.08$ –critical parameter-level structures of the cornea of an animal with an unstable psycho.

The obtained estimates of the critical order parameters correspond to the stationary energy–information levels of the corneal structure States of laboratory animals, taking into account their psychotype, and can be used to determine the boundaries of the order parameter of the structural levels of the States of degradation(disease) $K_s > K_s^0$ and self-organization (health) $K_s \leq K_s^0$. Based on the validity of these provisions, the limits of changes in the multifractal parameters of the structure of corneal tissue images in laboratory animals were established (Table 3,4).

Figure 2: Dependence of the order parameter $K=D_1-D_{40}$ of the corneal tissue structure on the structural stability (adaptive capacity) A_m and stability Δ_i : a) $K_{s1}^0=0.12$, $A_m=0.4$ b) $K_{s1}^0=0.08$, $A_m=0.35$; C) $K_{s2}^0=0.12$, $\Delta_i=0.380$; d) $K_{s2}^0=0.08$, $\Delta_i=0.324$

Table 3: Multifractal parameters of energy-informational levels of structural adaptation of corneal tissues of laboratory animals with different psychotypes after 10 days of exposure to a rotating electric field

Parameters structures	Laboratory animal psychotype	
	Stable "disease"	Unstable "disease"
K_s	0,108	0,103÷0,119
D_0	0,8	0,813÷0,831
D_1	0,665	0,612÷0,625
D_2	0,631	0,57÷0,58
ΔD	1,723	1,566÷1,574
D_0/D_{-40}	0,35	0,4
Δ_i	0,324	0,38
A_m^*	0,87	0,79
d, pxs	50	45÷50

Based on the results of stress adaptation of laboratory animals, we can assume that the boundaries of the “norm of randomness” of information entropy D_1 of the “health” state coincide, regardless of the psychotype. Information entropy D_1 in “disease” is higher in an animal with an unstable psychotype. The obtained results showed that the synergy effects are manifested near the points of non-equilibrium phase transition, which provides self-optimization of the structure under stress. Application of the fractal approach and synergetics to the study of the structure of biological objects makes it possible to increase the information content of experimental research results.

Table 4: Multifractal parameters of energy and information levels of structural adaptation of corneal tissues of laboratory animals with different psychotypes after 20 days of exposure to a rotating electric field

Parameters structures	Laboratory animal psychotype									
	Stable					Unstable				
	"Health"					"disease"				
K_s	0,002÷0,055					0,055÷0,095				
D_0	0,641÷0,686					0,582÷0,628				
D_1	0,596÷0,663					0,51÷0,575				
D_2	0,581÷0,655					0,491÷0,553				
ΔD	0,566÷1,0					1,018÷1,621				
D_0/D_{-40}	0,416÷0,57					0,282÷0,411				
Δ_i	0,213	0,232	0,324	0,38	0,285	0,324	0,38	0,324	0,38	0,324
A_m^*	0,99	0,98	0,87	0,79	0,92	0,87	0,79	0,87	0,79	0,87
d, pxs	10÷23					28÷49				

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the developed mathematical model “information system of corneal tissue structure”, multifractal image parameters were determined that allow us to quantitatively describe the adaptive capacity of the corneal tissue structure caused by a stress reaction to the external influence of an experimental animal. In an animal with a stable psychotype, the fractal dimension of the boundaries D_0 is smaller, and the fractal dimensions D_1 , D_2 , D_{40} are higher compared to an animal with an unstable psychotype, i.e. information systems differ in the degree of randomness. After 20 days of field exposure, a new spectrum of Meso levels and dynamic stability appears in the information system of the structure of corneal tissues. At the same time, in an animal with a stable Psychotype, non-equilibrium Meso-levels with dynamic self-organization prevail (the entropy of the levels decreases $\Delta H \leq 0$).

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