



## White matter abnormalities in schizophrenia patients with tardive dyskinesia: A diffusion tensor image study

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### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received 16 December 2008

Received in revised form 5 February 2009

Accepted 5 February 2009

Available online 3 March 2009

#### Keywords:

White matter

Schizophrenia

Tardive dyskinesia

### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** Tardive dyskinesia (TD) is a severe side effect of antipsychotics. While increasing evidence suggests that damaged brain microcircuitry of white matter (WM) is responsible for the clinical symptoms in schizophrenia, no reports of WM abnormality associated with TD were noted.

**Method:** Brain white matter abnormalities were investigated among 20 schizophrenia patients with TD (Schizophrenia with TD group), 20 age-, gender-, and handedness-matched schizophrenic patients without TD (Schizophrenia without TD group), and 20 matched healthy subjects with magnetic resonance imaging and diffusion tensor imaging analysis. Voxel-wise analysis was used to compare fractional anisotropy (FA) maps of the white matter following intersubject registration to Talairach space. Clinical ratings included the Positive and Negative Symptoms Scale (PANSS), Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale (AIMS), and the Simpson-Angus Scale (SAS).

**Results:** The study subjects were 75% female with average of  $40.1 \pm 9.8$  years. The Schizophrenia with TD group had significantly higher PANSS total scores ( $p = 0.024$ ), PANSS negative score ( $p = 0.001$ ), SAS ( $p < 0.001$ ) and AIMS ( $p < 0.001$ ) scores; and demonstrated more widespread FA decreases than the Schizophrenia without TD group, especially over the inferior frontal gyrus, temporal sublobar extranuclear WM (around the basal ganglion), parietal precuneus gyrus WM (around somatosensory cortex), and medial frontal gyrus WM (around dorsolateral prefrontal cortex). The AIMS ( $p < 0.01$ ) and SAS ( $p < 0.01$ ) score positively correlated with decreased FA over these areas, and PANSS negative score positively correlated with FA decrease over medial frontal gyrus WM ( $p < 0.01$ ).

**Conclusions:** More widespread abnormality of white matter was noted among schizophrenia patients than those without, especially involved cortico-basal ganglion circuits with clinical symptom correlation of involuntary movements and negative symptoms. Further studies with larger sample size are required to validate the findings.

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## 1. Introduction

Tardive dyskinesia (TD), a severe and disabling side effect of antipsychotics, is characterized by late-onset, repetitive, involuntary choreiform movements, tics and grimaces of the orofacial muscles, and dyskinesia of the distal limbs, paraspinal muscles, and diaphragm (Miller et al., 2005). Schizophrenic patients with TD have an unusually high incidence of cognitive impairment and negative symptoms (Berry et al., 2007). These symptoms frequently continue and may become permanent even after antipsychotics are discontinued (Bai et al., 2003). A recent report showed that the annualized incidence of TD was 5.5% with first-generation antipsychotics, and 3.9% with second-generation antipsychotics (Correll and Schenk, 2008). This incidence of TD with atypical antipsychotics was higher than expected, and underscores the fact that TD is still a significant clinical problem (Chouinard, 2006).

It has been hypothesized that schizophrenic patients with TD have more neurodevelopmental disturbances, particularly minor physical anomalies in association with cognitive dysfunction and cerebral abnormalities (Waddington et al., 1995). Researchers have sought evidence of structural neuropathological alterations related to TD using several neuronimaging techniques. First, using CT, Bartels et al. found patients with TD were with significantly greater width of the third ventricle, greater bicaudate distance, smaller areas of caudate nucleus head and lenticular nucleus, compared with age- and sex-matched controls. They suggested that structural abnormalities, primarily in the basal ganglia system, are present in TD patients (Bartels and Themelis, 1983). Ueyama et al. also found a low density rate in the basal nucleus of a group of TD patients, which was significantly higher than that of non-TD patients (Ueyama et al., 1993). Similarly, Gold et al. found patients with TD had significantly smaller ventricular-brain ratios (VBRs) than controls, and suggested that the abnormal movements of TD may result from specific dysfunction within the motor circuits of the basal ganglia (Gold et al., 1991). Dalgalarondo et al. also found that caudate left area reduction and left temporal sulci enlargement were the most important parameters that discriminated patients with TD from non-TD patients. In that study, caudate left area reduction and left temporal sulci enlargement correlated significantly with cumulative duration of psychiatric hospitalizations only among patients with TD. Dalgalarondo et al. concluded that structural abnormalities in the caudate nucleus and temporal lobes of patients with TD were related to longer treatment with antipsychotics (Dalgalarondo and Gattaz, 1994).

Similar findings have been reported with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Bartzokis et al. found that schizophrenia patients with TD had significantly shortened left caudate T2 relaxation times, compared to patients without TD. They suggested that T2 relaxation time shortening in the basal ganglia may be helpful for predicting the risk for TD (Bartzokis et al., 1990). In another study, the volumes of the caudate nuclei of patients with TD were significantly smaller than those of patients without TD and normal controls (Mion et al., 1991). Granholm et al. also showed that increased severity of TD was associated with shortened caudate T2 relaxation time, and motor-learning scores correlated with caudate T2 relaxation time (Granholm et al., 1993). However,

other MRI studies showed negative results. Elkashef et al. reported that schizophrenic patients had significantly larger right and left globus pallidus and right putamen volumes than did comparison subjects; but without significant differences in the volume of these structures between patients with and without persistent TD (Elkashef et al., 1994). In a study by Buckley et al., schizophrenic patients showed prolonged T2 relaxation times in the right putamen and globus pallidus than did control subjects, but no significant difference in T2 values was found between patients with and without TD (Buckley et al., 1995). In Harvey's study, neither significant differences in T1 relaxation time of the basal ganglia (putamen, globus pallidus and the head of the caudate) were found between schizophrenic patients with and without TD (Harvey et al., 1991). Thus, the result of neuronimaging for TD is still controversial, and the specific pathophysiologic processes underlying movement disorders are still not completely understood (Casey, 2004).

Increasing evidence suggests that a disturbance in connections between different brain regions, rather than abnormalities within the separate regions themselves, is responsible for the clinical symptoms and cognitive dysfunctions observed in schizophrenia (Volkow et al., 1988). Impaired neuropsychological performance and related functional imaging and electrophysiological findings in patients with schizophrenia are considered as expressions of disturbed functional connectivity of microcircuits throughout the brain (Stephan et al., 2006), and most frequently reported for the frontotemporal, frontoparietal, corticothalamic, inter-hemispheric, and corticocerebellar circuits (Hanson and Gottesman, 2005; Winterer and Weinberger, 2004). This disturbed connectivity is related to alterations in the numbers, distribution, and ultrastructural integrity of oligodendrocytes of white matter (Hanson and Gottesman, 2005). Postmortem studies also identified abnormalities in the myelin sheath (Uranova et al., 2004), oligodendroglia (Hof et al., 2003), and interstitial neurons (Akbarian et al., 1996) in schizophrenic patients compared with healthy volunteers. Thus, new attention is turning to white matter (WM) fiber tracts, which subserve anatomical connections between distant, as well as proximal, regions of the brain (Kubicki et al., 2007).

Diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) is a useful tool for examining and quantifying the microstructure of WM, and provides information about its integrity by exploring water molecular anisotropy within each MRI voxel (Garver et al., 2007). In coherent fiber structure, diffusion of water is greater parallel to, rather than perpendicular to, axonal tracts and is termed "anisotropy." In general, water molecules are more restricted perpendicularly, and the anisotropy is high, with greater WM integrity. Fractional anisotropy (FA) is a normalized DTI index ranging from 0 (completely random) to 1 (completely unidirectional) (Lim and Helpert, 2002). Previous DTI studies have shown that schizophrenia is associated with significant FA reduction in the frontal thalamic cerebellar circuit (Okugawa et al., 2006), the left internal capsule, the left-hemisphere WM of posterior superior temporal gyrus (Szeszko et al., 2005), corpus callosum (Agartz et al., 2001) and middle cerebellar peduncle (Okugawa et al., 2005). The results supported that damaged brain microcircuitry might contribute to the pathophysiology of schizophrenia. However,

**Table 1**

Comparison of characteristics between TD, schizophrenia, and normal control groups.

Demographic variables	TD (n = 20)	Schizophrenia (n = 20)	Normal control (n = 20)	Significance
Age (years)	41.5/10.1	40.5/9.3	41.2/10.1	N.S. <sup>a</sup>
Gender (male/female)	5/15	5/15	5/15	N.S.
Handedness (left/right)	0/20	0/20	0/20	N.S.
Age of onset (years)	25.8/6.7	29.5/9.6	–	N.S.
Duration of illness (years)	15.0/7.2	10.6/9.3	–	N.S.
Antipsychotic (atypical/conventional)	15/5	18/2	–	N.S.
Antipsychotic (CPZ equivalent dose)	428.0/234.3	430.0/213.6	–	N.S.
PANSS				
Total	63.4/11.2	54.8/13.7	–	p = 0.024
Positive	14.1/4.3	12.6/4.9	–	N.S.
Negative	18.0/4.2	13.0/4.2	–	p = 0.001
General	31.6/4.8	26.9/6.6	–	p = 0.027
AIMS				
Total	10.4/5.6	0.1/0.3	–	p < 0.001
Orofacial	6.4/3.6	0.1/0.2	–	p < 0.001
Extremities	4.2/2.4	0.0/0.0	–	p < 0.001
SAS	6.6/4.5	0.1/0.4	–	p < 0.001

The variables are demonstrated as means/std.

<sup>a</sup> N.S., nonsignificant.

although many reports have shown abnormal WM among schizophrenia patients, none has investigated WM abnormality among patients with TD, who had involuntary movement and unusually high incidence of negative symptoms (Berry et al., 2007). Previous report showed progressive decrement in frontal lobe white matter volume were associated with greater negative symptom severity (Ho et al., 2003).

We designed the study to investigate WM abnormalities in patients with TD using DTI among 20 schizophrenia patients with TD (Schizophrenia with TD group), 20 age-, gender- and handedness-matched schizophrenic patients without TD (Schizophrenia without TD group), and 20 matched healthy subjects. We hypothesized that more prominent reduction in

FA will be found in schizophrenic patients with TD for white matter circuit involved in movement control and negative symptoms.

## 2. Methods

### 2.1. Patients

The study was conducted in a Medical Center, Taipei Veterans General hospital in Taiwan. The study subjects were enrolled from patients in psychiatric department outpatient clinic and Day care unit. Twenty schizophrenia (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fourth edition, or

**Table 2**

Areas with significantly decreased FA values in schizophrenia patients (N = 40) compared with normal controls (N = 20).

Cluster size (voxels)	Coordinates of the most significant voxel			t-score	Anatomical location	Nearest GM <sup>a</sup>
	x	y	z			
<i>Right hemisphere</i>						
171	32	–30	48	5.58	Parietal sub-cortical WM <sup>b</sup>	Precentral gyrus
514	10	12	46	3.80	Cingulate gyrus WM	
80	44	–2	24	3.40	Frontal sub-cortical WM	Inferior frontal gyrus
110	44	–66	14	3.24	Middle temporal, middle occipital gyrus WM	
89	6	–4	–2	4.22	Midbrain, extra-nuclear WM	Hypothalamus
143	12	54	–4	4.28	Medial, superior frontal gyrus WM	
1283	40	–40	–6	6.24	Temporal sub-cortical WM	Parahippocampal gyrus, clausrum
68	24	–6	–8	4.22	Sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM	Lateral globus pallidus
<i>Left hemisphere</i>						
53	–42	–46	30	3.62	Parietal supramarginal gyrus WM	
105	–10	32	28	3.74	Medial frontal gyrus WM	Cingulate gyrus
158	–14	–42	20	3.25	Corpus callosum	
303	–28	–58	20	3.75	Temporal sub-cortical WM	Middle temporal gyrus
50	–34	32	–4	3.91	Inferior frontal gyrus WM	
102	–12	46	–6	4.41	Medial, superior frontal gyrus WM	
2251	–22	–6	–8	5.36	Sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM	Lateral globus pallidus
58	–26	22	–18	4.00	Inferior frontal gyrus WM	Subcallosum gyrus
538	–12	–58	–46	4.41	Cerebellum tonsil and dentate	

Statistical criteria: p-value &lt; 0.005, cluster size &gt; 50 voxels.

<sup>a</sup> GM: gray matter.<sup>b</sup> WM: white matter.

DSM-IV, criteria) patients with TD (Schizophrenia with TD group), 20 schizophrenia patients without TD (Schizophrenia without TD group), and 20 matched healthy subjects (normal control group) were recruited for the study. These three groups were matched for age, gender ratio and handedness. Schooler and Kane's Research Diagnostic Criteria were used to define TD: (1) moderate abnormal involuntary movement in one or more body areas, or (2) mild involuntary movements in two or more areas (Schooler and Kane, 1982). The healthy control subjects were interviewed using the Mini-International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI) to confirm no previous history of neurologic or psychiatric illness, and all

had normal brain structure confirmed by MRI scans. Subjects were excluded if they had other Axis I psychiatric diagnosis, serious neurologic or endocrine disorders, any medical condition or treatment known to affect the brain, alcohol/substance misuse related disorders, or mental retardation defined according to DSM-IV criteria. The clinical ratings included the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale (PANSS) (Kay et al., 1987) for severity of psychopathology, the Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale (AIMS) (Munetz and Benjamin, 1988) for TD, and the Simpson-Angus Scale (SAS) (Simpson and Angus, 1970), for extrapyramidal side effects. The clinical ratings were performed by Dr. Bai, who has years

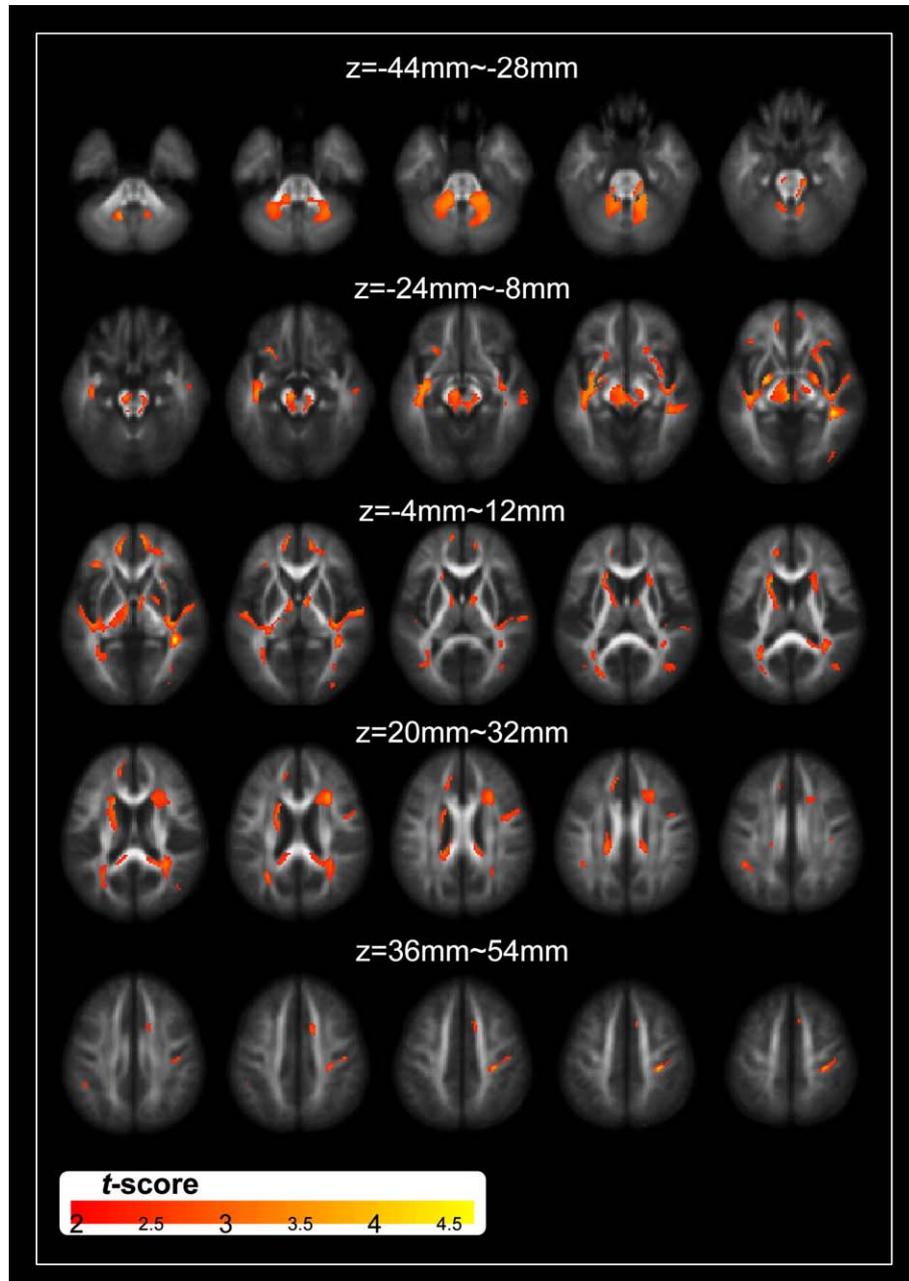


Fig. 1. Comparison of fractional anisotropy (FA) between schizophrenia patients ( $N=40$ ) and normal control ( $N=20$ ).

**Table 3**

Pearson correlation coefficients between clinical rating scores and FA values of clusters derived from the comparison of TD and schizophrenia groups.

	PANSS			AIMS			SAS total
	Positive	Negative	Total	Total	Orofacial	Extremities	
<i>Right hemisphere</i>							
Parietal sub-cortical WM around precentral gyrus	-0.129	-0.105	-0.159	0.002	-0.027	0.046	-0.128
Cingulate gyrus	-0.041	-0.227	-0.111	-0.247	-0.275	-0.106	-0.319
Frontal sub-cortical WM around inferior frontal gyrus	0.022	-0.025	-0.006	-0.062	-0.067	-0.032	-0.028
Middle temporal and middle occipital gyrus WM	0.200	-0.008	0.079	-0.172	-0.172	-0.066	-0.176
Midbrain, extra-nuclear WM around hypothalamus	0.081	-0.152	0.018	-0.037	-0.107	0.120	-0.015
Medial, superior frontal gyrus WM	-0.049	-0.243	-0.136	-0.115	-0.115	-0.083	-0.141
Temporal sub-cortical WM around parahippocampal gyrus, clausrum	-0.009	0.342	-0.207	-0.427	-0.409	-0.342	-0.289
Sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM around lateral globus pallidus	0.019	-0.145	-0.014	-0.052	-0.081	-0.058	-0.030
<i>Left hemisphere</i>							
Parietal supramarginal gyrus WM	-0.143	-0.221	-0.214	-0.258	-0.267	-0.207	-0.315
Medial frontal gyrus WM around cingulate gyrus	-0.197	-0.516 <sup>a</sup>	-0.345	-0.490	-0.475	-0.383	-0.344
Corpus callosum	0.188	-0.192	0.056	-0.313	-0.289	-0.287	-0.228
Temporal sub-cortical WM around middle temporal gyrus	0.173	-0.251	-0.001	-0.359	-0.320	-0.286	-0.327
Inferior frontal gyrus WM	0.017	-0.201	-0.029	-0.325	-0.278	-0.360	-0.171
Medial, superior frontal gyrus WM	-0.097	-0.298	-0.232	-0.213	-0.177	-0.176	-0.111
Sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM around lateral globus pallidus	0.076	-0.211	-0.040	-0.153	-0.163	-0.162	-0.086
Inferior frontal gyrus WM around subcallosum gyrus	0.011	-0.307	-0.154	-0.411	-0.406	-0.248	-0.397
Cerebellum tonsil and dentate	0.057	-0.129	-0.016	-0.064	-0.074	-0.092	-0.040

Blom transformation was performed on the clinical rating scores except PANSS (positive, negative, and total) before the Pearson correlation coefficient analysis.

<sup>a</sup> Statistically significant, corrected *p*-value < 0.05.

of experience using abnormal involuntary movement rating scales (AIMS) ratings for TD (Lin et al., 2008; Mo et al., 2007; Bai et al., 2003, 2005; Liou et al., 2005, 2006a,b, 2007; Chen et al., 2001). All procedures were approved by the institutional review board of Taipei Veterans General Hospital. Written informed consent was obtained from all subjects.

## 2.2. MRI procedures

All MR examinations were performed on a 1.5 T MR system (Excite II; GE Medical Systems, Milwaukee, Wis., USA) equipped with an 8-channel head coil in TPE-VGH. To diminish motion artifact generated during the scan, the subject's head was immobilized with cushions inside the coil after the alignment. One hundred twenty-four contiguous axial T1-weighted (T1W) images (slice thickness = 1.5 mm) were acquired parallel to the

anterior–posterior commissure (AC–PC) through the whole head by applying a three-dimensional fluid-attenuated inversion-recovery fast spoiled-gradient recalled echo (FLAIR-FSPGR) acquisition sequence (TR = 8.548 ms, TE = 1.836 ms, TI = 400 ms, flip angle = 15°, field of view = 26 × 26 cm, matrix size = 256 × 256) to aid the localization of FA differences.

Fourteen diffusion tensor imaging volumes were obtained for each subject, including thirteen volumes with diffusion gradients applied along thirteen non-collinear directions ( $b = 900 \text{ s/mm}^2$ ) and one volume without diffusion weighting ( $b = 0$ ). In the consideration of total brain coverage, each volume consisted of 70 contiguous axial slices (slice thickness = 2.2 mm) acquired parallel to the AC–PC by using a single shot spin-echo echo planar imaging (EPI) sequence (TR = 17,000 ms, TE = 68.9 ms, number of excitation = 6, field of view = 26 cm<sup>2</sup>, matrix size = 128 × 128). The total scanning

**Table 4**Areas with significantly decreased FA values in schizophrenia without TD group ( $N = 20$ ) compared with normal controls ( $N = 20$ ).

Cluster size (voxels)	Coordinates of the most significant voxel			<i>t</i> -score	Anatomical location	Nearest GM <sup>a</sup>
	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>			
<i>Right hemisphere</i>						
270	32	-30	50	4.47	Parietal postcentral gyrus WM <sup>b</sup>	
183	28	-52	32	3.75	Frontal sub-gyral WM	Cingulate gyrus, insula
90	34	-20	-4	4.00	Temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM	Middle temporal gyrus
52	40	-40	-6	4.35	External capsule	Putamen
51	24	-8	-8	3.90	Temporal sub-cortical WM	Fusiform gyrus
					Temporal Sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM	Amygdala
<i>Left hemisphere</i>						
1306	-4	-14	-6	4.25	Brain stem	Mid-brain, pons
325	-12	-48	-34	3.85	Cerebellar tonsil	
242	-22	-6	-8	4.71	Temporal sub-cortical WM	Fusiform gyrus, Globus pallidus

Statistical criteria: *p*-value < 0.005, cluster size > 50 voxels.<sup>a</sup> GM: gray matter.<sup>b</sup> WM: white matter.

time to collect the entire T1-weighted and diffusion-weighted images took approximately 32 min for each subject.

### 2.3. Imaging processing

The FA maps for each subject were computed by using in-house program and registered to the ICBM 152 template (Montreal Neurological Institute) which was derived from 152 normal subjects and approximated the Talairach space by three steps. First, concerning reducing the error term resulted from image registration and bias in template selection, a specific customized group template was created in the study.

This involved spatially normalizing each structural MR images to the ICBM 152 template. The optimum 12-parameter affine transformation was used in this step. All the normalized T1W images were then averaged and smoothed with an isotropic 8-mm full-width at half maximum (FWHM) Gaussian kernel, and the customized template was created. Second, non-diffusion weighted ( $b=0$ ) images of an individual subject were co-registered to their T1W images based on normalized mutual information as the cost function. The registration parameters were subsequently applied on the FA maps which are inherently registered to other diffusion-weighted images during the acquisition. In addition, these FA maps were skull-

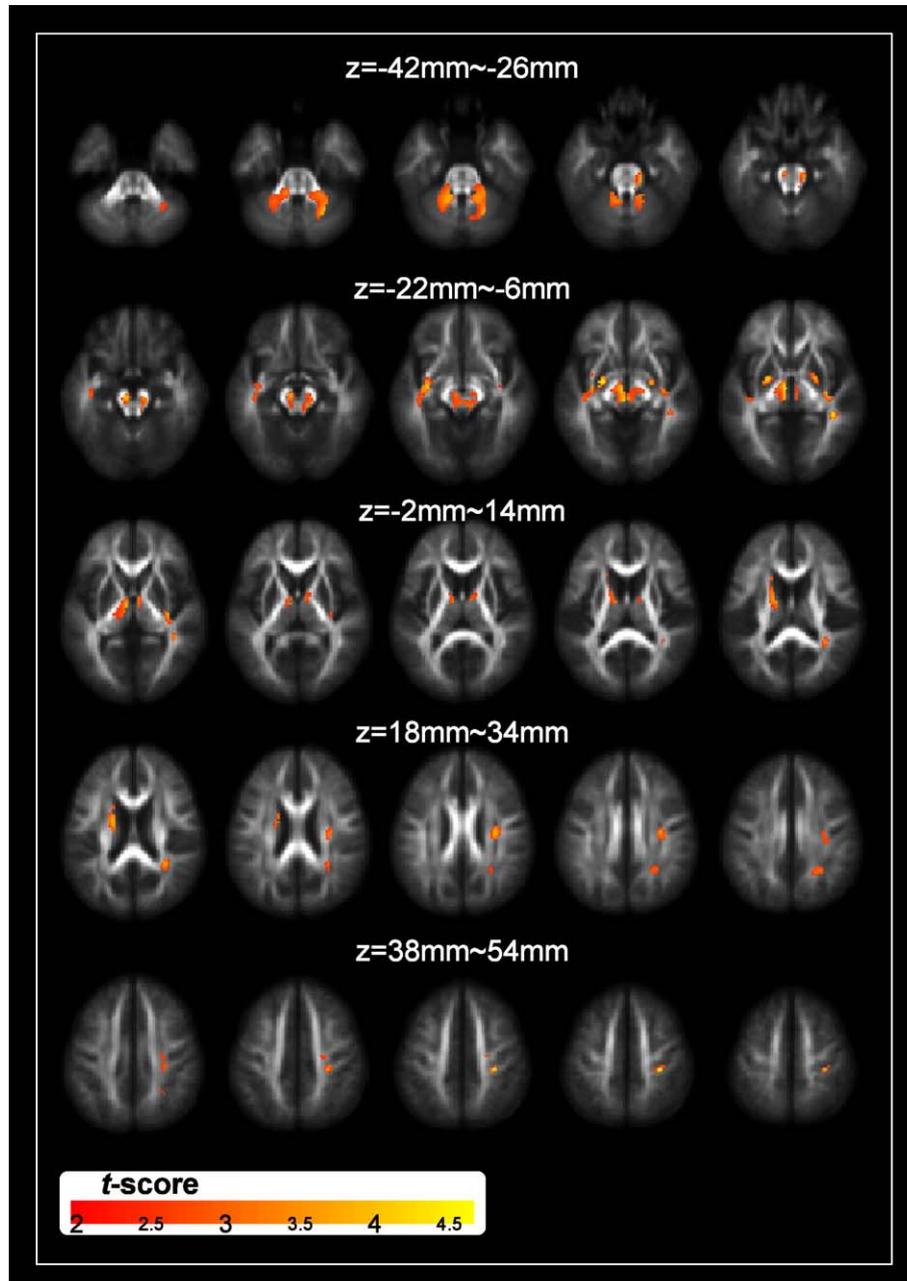


Fig. 2. Comparison of fractional anisotropy (FA) between Schizophrenia without TD group ( $N=20$ ) and normal control ( $N=20$ ).

stripped to remove non-brain tissue and background noise by utilizing Brain Extraction Tool (BET) compiled in FSL library 3.3 (Oxford Centre for Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Brain, Oxford University, Oxford, UK). Third, all the 60 T1W scans were transformed to the same stereotactic space as the customized template image by applying an affine transformation with 12 degrees of freedom together with a series of non-linear warps characterized by a set of  $7 \times 8 \times 7$  basis functions. The transformation parameters derived from this step were also applied to the FA maps, thus the FA maps were effectively registered to the MNI space.

Since DTI was sensitive to the alterations in white matter (WM), a customized WM mask threshold at 0.4 was used for statistical mapping analysis as an explicit mask, which would ensure the statistical comparisons focusing on the WM tissues. All the image processing including images registration, spatial normalization, customized template creation, segmentation, and voxel-wise statistical comparisons were manipulated using Statistical Parametric Mapping 2 (SPM2) (Wellcome Department of Cognitive Neurology, London, UK) in MATLAB6.5 (MathWorks, MA).

#### 2.4. Statistical analyses

1. Descriptive statistics, means, SDs, and percentages were used for continuous variables and categorical variables, respectively. A voxel-based one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) on WM area was performed with SPM2 to investigate the FA differences among the groups. First, we compared the differences in FA maps between the 40 schizophrenia patients (with and without TD) and the normal control group. Second, we compared the differences in FA maps among the three groups: 1. Schizophrenia without TD group/normal control group, 2. Schizophrenia with TD group/normal control group; and 3. Schizophrenia without TD group/Schizophrenia with TD group. To control the factors of age at onset of illness, duration of illness, and antipsychotic

chlorpromazine (CPZ) equivalent dose, the voxel-based multiple analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was performed with SPM2 to investigate the FA differences between patients groups. In post-hoc tests, six contrasts were used to detect where each voxel had a higher or lower fractional anisotropy when comparing each two of the three groups. FA differences were deemed to be significant at the individual voxel level when  $p$ -value less than 0.005 and extended cluster size more than 50 voxels. Furthermore, we investigate the relationships between the clinical rating scales and the mean FA values of clusters derived from the comparison between groups with Blom transformation. Pearson's correlation coefficient tests were performed with SPSS 13.0 (SPSS Inc, Chicago; IL, USA). The  $p$ -value less than 0.01 was deemed as significant linear correlation between two independent variables.

### 3. Results

The study subjects were 20 schizophrenia patients with TD (Schizophrenia with TD group), 20 age-gender- and all right-handedness matched schizophrenia patients without TD (Schizophrenia without TD group), and 20 healthy subjects (normal control group). No significant difference in the age at onset of illness, duration of illness, antipsychotic chlorpromazine (CPZ) equivalent dose, or class of antipsychotics were noted between the Schizophrenia with and without TD groups (Table 1). All patients received only one antipsychotic. The use of antipsychotics for patients in Schizophrenia with TD group were Clozapine ( $n=4$ ), Aripiprazole ( $n=3$ ), Risperidone ( $n=7$ ), Haloperidol ( $n=1$ ), Olanzapine ( $n=1$ ), Flunarizine ( $n=1$ ), Flupenthixol ( $n=1$ ), Chlorpromazine ( $n=1$ ), and Sulpiril ( $n=1$ ). The use of antipsychotics for patients in Schizophrenia without TD group were Sertindole ( $n=1$ ), Ziprasidone ( $n=2$ ), Risperidone ( $n=3$ ), Aripiprazole ( $n=9$ ), Flunarizine ( $n=1$ ), Clozapine ( $n=2$ ), Haloperidol ( $n=1$ ) and Olanzapine ( $n=1$ ). The TD group had significantly higher PANSS total scores ( $p=0.024$ ), negative ( $p=0.001$ ) and

**Table 5**

Areas with significantly decreased FA values in Schizophrenia with TD group ( $N=20$ ) compared with normal controls ( $N=20$ ).

Cluster size (voxels)	Coordinates of the most significant voxel			$t$ -score	Anatomical location	Nearest GM <sup>a</sup>
	$x$	$y$	$z$			
<i>Right hemisphere</i>						
1805	40	-40	-6	7.03	Temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM (basal ganglia) <sup>b</sup>	Caudate tail
567	28	20	22	4.71	Temporal sub-cortical WM	Fusiform gyrus
567	8	-44	-34	4.03	External capsule	Caudate nuclear
					Brain stem	Mid-brain, pons
					Cerebellum dentate, tonsil	
201	12	54	-4	4.28	Frontal sub-gyral WM	Anterior cingulate gyrus
					Medial, Superior frontal gyrus	
143	32	-30	48	5.25	Parietal postcentral gyrus WM	
103	2	-2	-4	4.68	Sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM	Lateral globus pallidus
<i>Left hemisphere</i>						
2935	-38	-18	-18	5.42	Temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM (basal ganglia)	Putamen, caudate tail
457	-10	32	28	4.98	Frontal cingulate gyrus WM	
413	-10	-42	-38	3.78	Cerebellum Tonsil	
104	-42	-48	30	3.97	Parietal supramarginal gyrus WM	
99	-32	32	-4	4.60	Middle, inferior frontal gyrus WM	

Statistical criteria:  $p$ -value < 0.005, cluster size > 50 voxels.

<sup>a</sup> GM: gray matter.

<sup>b</sup> WM: white matter.

general psychopathology scales ( $p=0.027$ ), AIMS ( $p<0.001$ ) and SAS scores ( $p<0.001$ ) (Table 1). AIMS scores were positively correlated with PANSS negative scores ( $r=0.425$ ;  $p=0.019$ ), and SAS scores ( $r=0.646$ ;  $p<0.001$ ).

First, we compared differences in FA maps between the 40 schizophrenia patients (Schizophrenia with and without TD groups combined) and the normal control group. The schizophrenia patients were with significantly wide spread lower FA than the normal control group (Table 2, Figs. 1, 5-1). The correlation between the clinical rating scales and the mean FA values of clusters derived from the comparison between schizophrenia patients and normal control group

were performed with Blom transformation. The results showed only AIMS total score was negatively correlated with FA value over temporal sub-cortical WM, and no significant correlations were noted between other clinical ratings and FA values (Table 3).

Then we compared the FA among three groups:

1. Schizophrenia without TD group and normal control group: significantly lower fractional anisotropy (FA) were noted in the temporal subcortical WM, parietal postcentral gyrus WM and frontal subgyral WM, and temporal sub-cortical WM (Table 4; Figs. 2, 5-2).

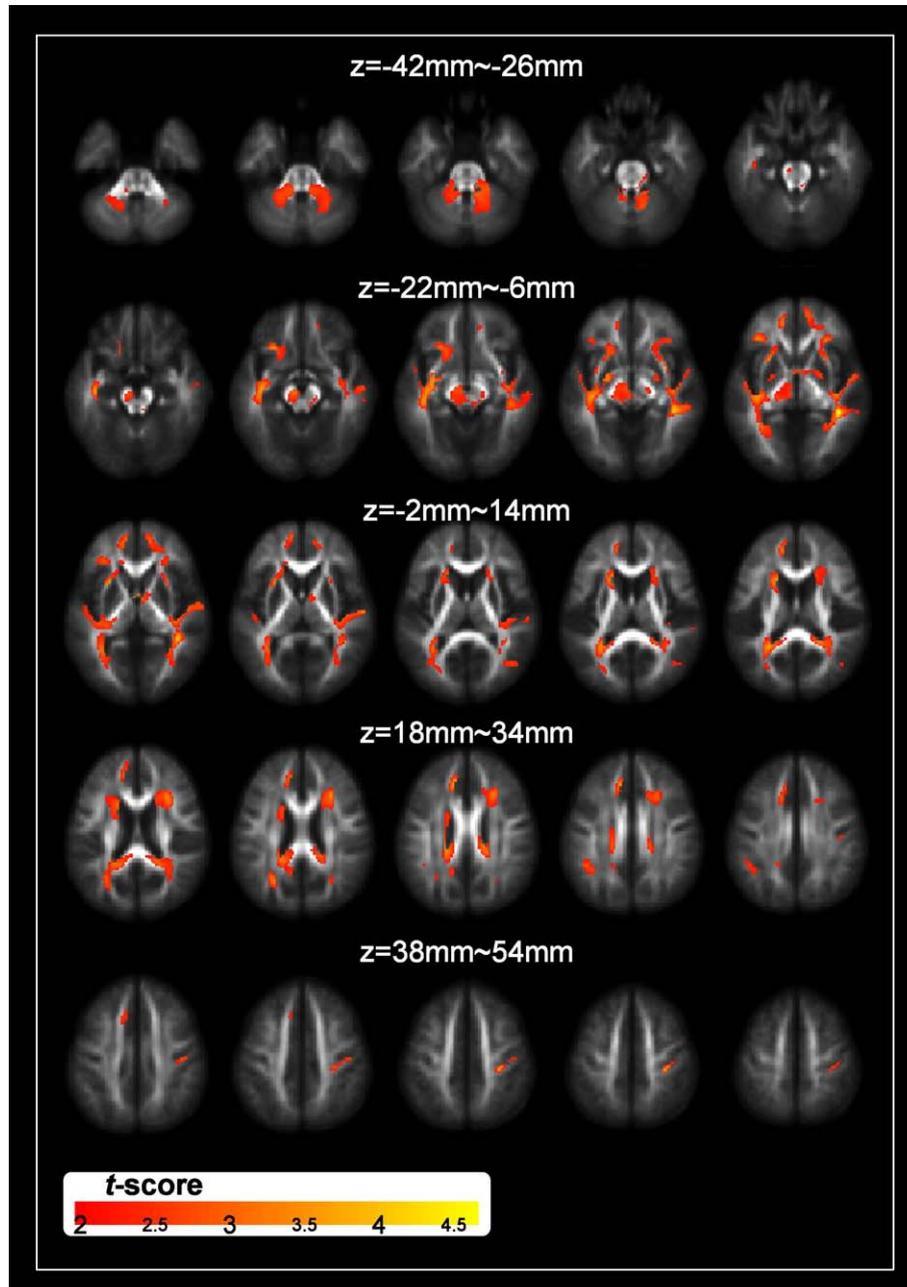


Fig. 3. Comparison of fractional anisotropy (FA) between Schizophrenia with TD group (N=20) and normal control (N=20).

2. Schizophrenia with TD group and normal control group: significantly much more widespread lower FA over temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM, parietal post-central gyrus WM, frontal cingulate gyrus WM, sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM, external capsule, and middle, inferior frontal gyrus WM (Table 5, Figs. 3, 5-3).
3. Schizophrenia with TD group and Schizophrenia without TD group: significantly lower FA over the inferior frontal gyrus and temporal sublobar extranuclear WM (around the basal ganglion), parietal precuneus gyrus WM (around somatosensory cortex), and medial frontal gyrus WM (around dorsolateral prefrontal cortex) (Table 6, Figs. 4, 5-4). The comparison was adjusted with control of age, duration of illness, and antipsychotic chlorpromazine (CPZ) equivalent dose. Then we investigated the relationships between the clinical rating scales of the 40 schizophrenia patients and these decreased FA values. The AIMS and SAS score were positively correlated with decreased FA over inferior frontal gyrus WM ( $p < 0.01$ ), temporal sublobar extranuclear WM (around basal ganglion and middle temporal gyrus) ( $p < 0.01$ ), parietal precuneus gyrus WM (around somatosensory cortex) ( $p < 0.01$ ), medial frontal gyrus WM (around dorsolateral prefrontal cortex) ( $p < 0.01$ ), and frontal sub-cortical WM ( $p < 0.01$ ). The PANSS negative score, AIMS total score and SAS score positively correlated with decreased FA over the medial frontal gyrus WM (around dorsolateral prefrontal cortex) ( $p < 0.01$ ) (Table 7; Fig. 6). The multivariate analyses showed only PANSS negative scores was the only significant factor related to FA over medial frontal gyrus WM (around dorsolateral prefrontal cortex) with control of AIMS total scores, and SAS scores.

#### 4. Discussion

Our study results showed that schizophrenia patients without TD had significantly lower FA over temporal subcortical WM, parietal postcentral gyrus WM and frontal subgyral WM compared with normal controls. The result was consistent with previous results (Okugawa et al., 2006; Szeszko et al., 2005), and supported the hypothesis that damaged brain microcircuits of WM might contribute to the

pathophysiology of schizophrenia. Our results further demonstrated that the Schizophrenia with TD group had more widespread FA decreases than schizophrenia without TD group, especially involved temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM, parietal postcentral gyrus WM, frontal cingulate gyrus WM, sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM, external capsule, and middle, inferior frontal gyrus WM. The widespread WM abnormality may be related to the more severe psychopathology of the Schizophrenia with TD group than that of the Schizophrenia without TD group, as underscored by their significantly higher PANSS total, negative and general psychopathology scores. The result was consistent with many previous reports that schizophrenia patients with TD were associated with more severe clinical psychopathology than those without TD (Miller et al., 2005; Ascher-Svanum et al., 2008; Eberhard et al., 2006; Bhatia et al., 2004; Gebhardt et al., 2008). Dyskinesia and psychopathology are in some respects related to each other (Gebhardt et al., 2008) and worsening overall psychopathology in schizophrenia is longitudinally associated with the emergence of TD (Tenback et al., 2007). Cortese et al. suggested that the positive association of the severity of dyskinesia and a psychotic syndrome indicated the neuromotor disturbances may be a core feature of schizophrenia in a substantial proportion of patients, and implicates multiple frontostriatal circuits regulating limbic and neuromotor behavior in schizophrenia (Cortese et al., 2005). Previous reports showed that brain atrophy and greater sulcal enlargement was increased in patients with TD as a result of grey matter changes (McCreadie et al., 2002). Our study is the first to show diffuse abnormality of white matter associated with TD.

While we compared the difference of FA maps between 40 schizophrenia patients (Schizophrenia patients with and without TD groups combined) and normal control, the results showed wide spread FA decreases over many clusters. And most clinical ratings were not correlated with decreased FA over these areas, except AIMS total score was correlated with decreased FA over temporal sub-cortical WM. The results indicated these identified clusters from comparison of 40 schizophrenia patients and normal control group were not specific to the circuits related to TD. So we directly compared

**Table 6**

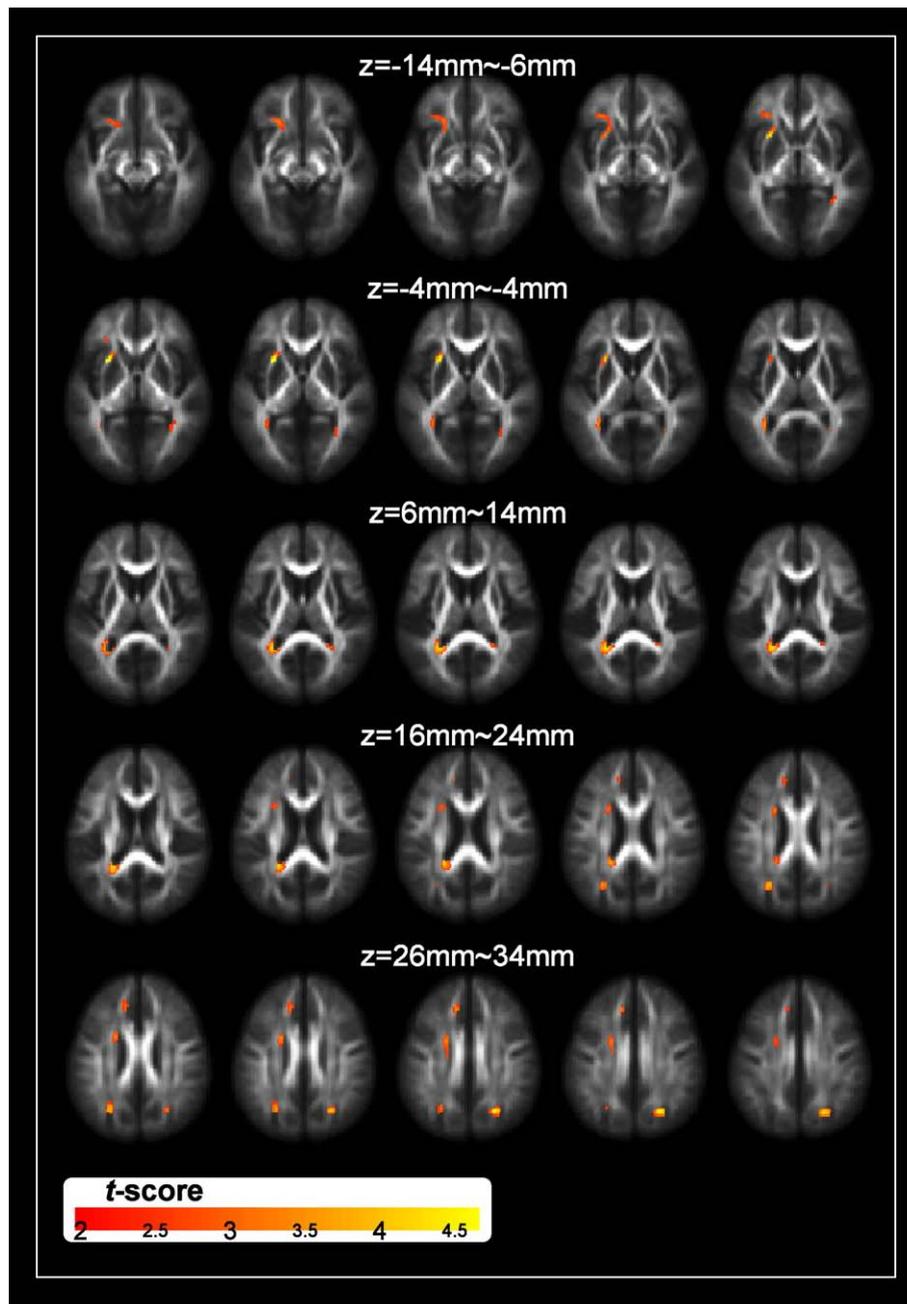
Areas with significantly decreased FA values in Schizophrenia with TD group ( $N = 20$ ) compared to Schizophrenia without TD group ( $N = 20$ ) (with control of age, duration of illness and antipsychotic chlorpromazine equivalent dose).

Cluster size (voxels)	Coordinates of the most significant voxel			t-score	Anatomical location	Nearest GM <sup>a</sup>
	x	y	z			
<i>Right hemisphere</i>						
191	34	-48	-4	4.14	Para-hippocampal gyrus WM <sup>b</sup>	
91	22	-66	30	4.02	Parietal precuneus gyrus WM	Somatosensory cortex
<i>Left hemisphere</i>						
199	-26	12	-2	5.37	Inferior frontal gyrus WM	Putamen
297	-28	-48	8	5.41	Temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM	Basal ganglia
84	-26	-64	24	4.54	Temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM	Middle temporal gyrus
89	-12	32	32	3.91	Medial frontal gyrus WM	Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex
79	-22	0	30	3.11	Frontal sub-cortical WM	

Statistical criteria:  $p$ -value  $< 0.005$ , cluster size  $> 50$  voxels.

<sup>a</sup> GM: gray matter.

<sup>b</sup> WM: white matter.



**Fig. 4.** Comparison of fractional anisotropy (FA) between Schizophrenia without TD group ( $N = 20$ ) and Schizophrenia with TD group ( $N = 20$ ).

the Schizophrenia with TD and Schizophrenia without TD groups to explore the specific dysfunctional circuits for abnormal involuntary movements. The Schizophrenia with TD group showed significantly more FA decrease over the inferior frontal gyrus (around the putamen) and temporal sublobar extranuclear WM (around the basal ganglion), parietal precuneus gyrus WM (around somatosensory cortex), and medial frontal gyrus WM (around dorsolateral prefrontal cortex). Furthermore, the AIMS and SAS scores were positively correlated with decreased FAs over almost all identified clusters. And the AIMS scores were positively

correlated with SAS scores. These results supported previous findings that neuroleptic-induced EPS is the most important risk factor for developing TD (Miller et al., 2005; McCreadie et al., 2005; Tenback et al., 2006; Ascher-Svanum et al., 2008). According to the current model of basal ganglia function, cortical information is processed in the basal ganglia nuclei, which in turn send projections back via the thalamus to the cortex (corticobasal ganglion loop) (Alexander and Crutcher, 1990). The striatum is the main entry point of cortical information to the basal ganglia, and it receives afferents from anatomically and functionally different areas of the

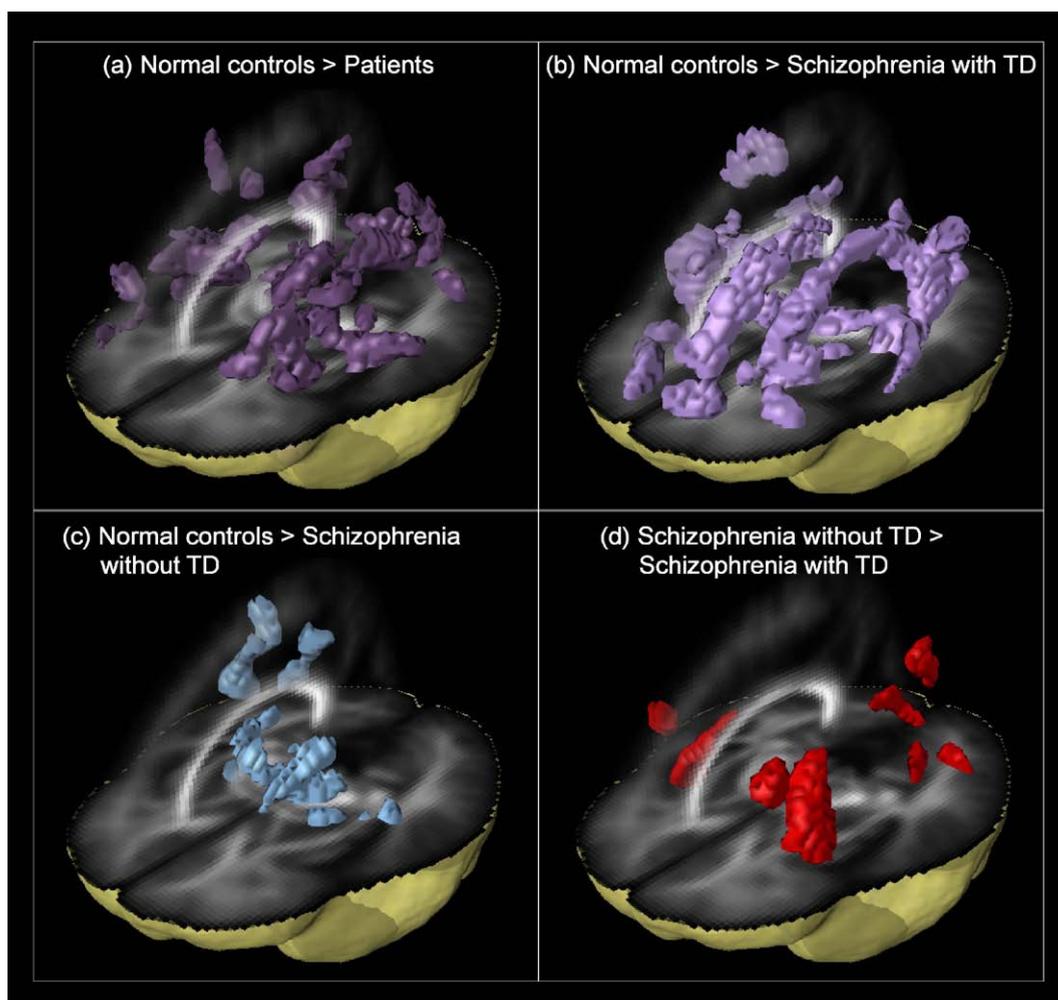


Fig. 5. 3D surface rendering of the outcome clusters superimposed on the averaged FA image.

cerebral cortex. Leh et al. used DTI tractography to reconstruct neural connections between the frontal cortex, caudate nucleus, and putamen. They found that the caudate nucleus is interconnected with the prefrontal cortex, inferior and

middle temporal gyrus, frontal eye fields, cerebellum and thalamus. The putamen is interconnected with the prefrontal cortex, primary motor area, primary somatosensory cortex, supplementary motor area, premotor area, cerebellum and

Table 7

Pearson correlation coefficients between clinical rating scores and FA values of clusters derived from the comparison of Schizophrenia with and without TD groups ( $N = 40$ ).

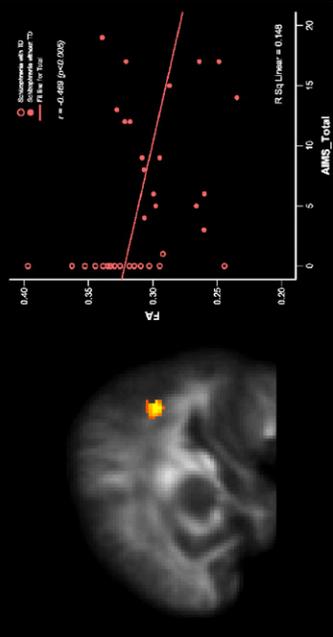
	PANSS			AIMS			SAS total
	Positive	Negative	Total	Total	Orofacial	Extremities	
<i>Right hemisphere</i>							
Parietal precuneus gyrus WM around somatosensory cortex	-0.198	-0.273	-0.236	-0.563**	-0.516**	-0.496**	-0.489**
Para-hippocampal gyrus WM	0.066	-0.121	0.015	-0.390	-0.361	-0.308	-0.298
<i>Left hemisphere</i>							
Inferior frontal gyrus WM around putamen	0.019	-0.327	-0.129	-0.510**	-0.464**	-0.423*	-0.445*
Temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM around basal ganglia	0.152	-0.144	0.083	-0.512**	-0.464**	-0.451**	-0.432*
Temporal sub-cortical, extra-nuclear WM around middle temporal gyrus	-0.004	-0.105	-0.006	-0.469**	-0.424*	-0.386	-0.340
Medial frontal gyrus WM around dorsolateral prefrontal cortex	-0.204	-0.457**	-0.316	-0.512**	-0.530**	-0.372	-0.437*
Frontal sub-cortical WM	0.117	-0.313	0.016	-0.488**	-0.484**	-0.430*	-0.375

Blom transformation was performed on all the clinical rating scores before the Pearson correlation coefficient analysis.

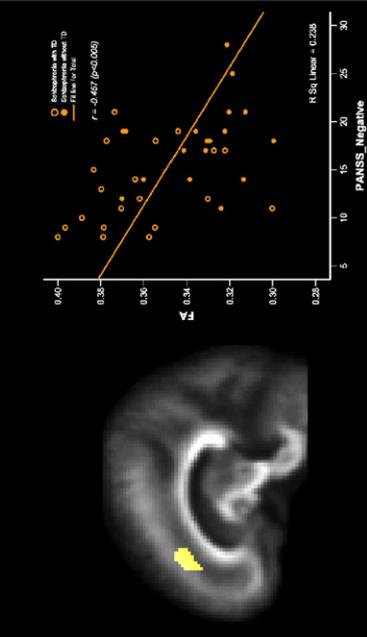
\*\* Statistically significant,  $p$ -value < 0.005.

\* Statistically significant,  $p$ -value < 0.01.

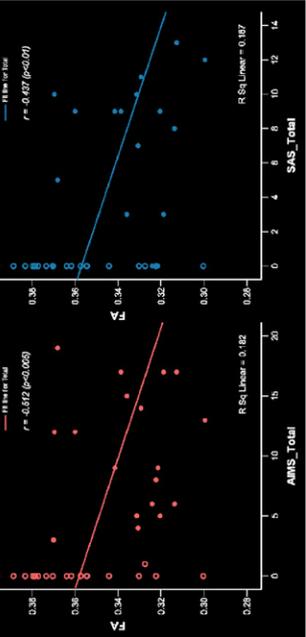
Left Temporal sub-lobar, extra-nuclear WM (Middle Temporal gyrus)



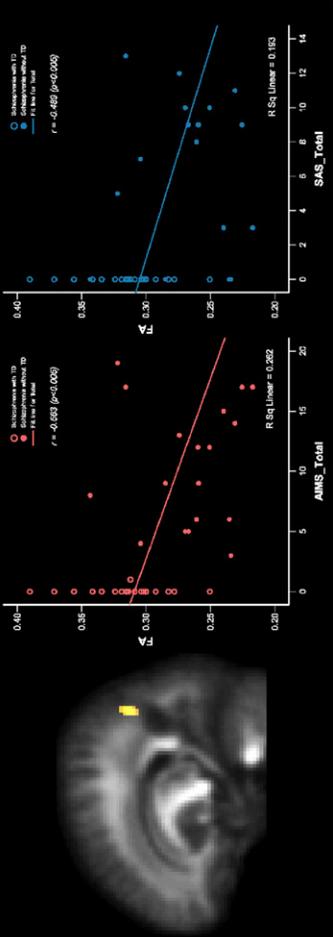
Left Medial Frontal lobe (Dorsal Lateral Prefrontal lobe)



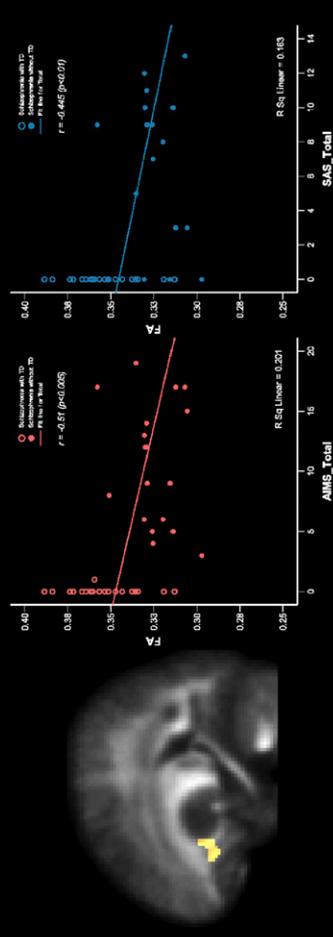
Left Medial Frontal lobe (Dorsal Lateral Prefrontal lobe)



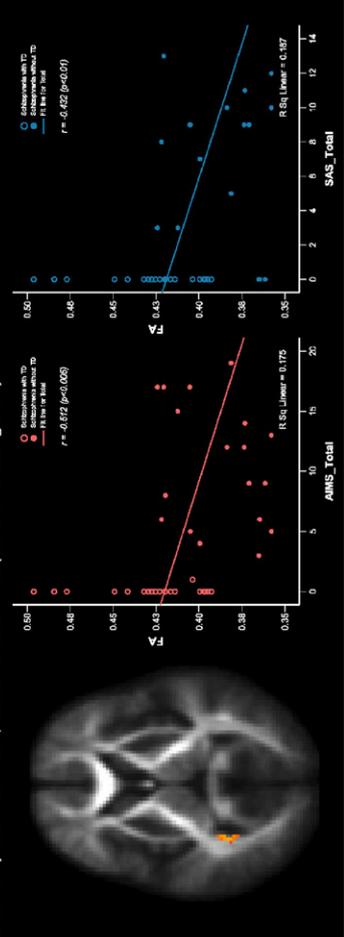
Right Parietal Precuneus (around Somatosensory area)



Left Inferior Frontal lobe (around Putamen)



Left Temporal sub-lobar, extra-nuclear WM (around Basal ganglia)



thalamus, which explained the involvement of the putamen in motor functions and movement disorders, as a 'sensorimotor circuit' (Leh et al., 2007). Electrophysiological studies have also shown many functional similarities between basal ganglia and the cortical areas to which they are connected, suggesting that a similar activation pattern may be expected in cortical and related basal ganglia areas (Schultz et al., 2000). The basal ganglion and frontal cortex (corticobasal ganglion loop) are thought to be involved in the buildup of sequential motor behavior from movement elements, as well as in goal-directed behavior, in learning related to motor and cognitive action plans, and in action-planning itself or its neuromodulation. Therefore, disruption of these corticobasal ganglion circuits could account for both the negative symptom and movement disorders (Graybiel, 1997). Our results showed that patients with TD had more widespread FA decreases, especially involving abnormality of WM around the basal ganglion and frontal cortex. This finding correlated the severity of dyskinesia and negative symptoms may support the hypotheses regarding corticobasal ganglion circuit dysfunction related to the pathophysiology of TD.

Importantly, we also found the decreased FA over medial frontal gyrus WM positively correlated with PANSS negative scores. And the AIMS scores were also positively correlated with PANSS negative scores. Schizophrenia patients with TD had been reported with an unusually high incidence of negative symptoms (Berry et al., 2007; Wonodi et al., 2005; Gebhardt et al., 2008; Chouinard, 2006; Pantelis et al., 2001). Studies examining the relationship between tardive dyskinesia, negative symptoms, and impaired cognitive function have generally found significant associations (Brown and White, 1991). Pantelis et al. suggested that tardive dyskinesia and negative symptoms are markers of compromise of the cerebral systems that mediate spatial working memory. They hypothesized candidate neural circuits include the frontal–striatal–thalamic systems, particularly those involving the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (Pantelis et al., 2001). Our result was the first image study to support their hypothesis and TD may be an epiphenomenon for the damaged brain microcircuits.

The pathophysiology of neuroleptic-induced TD remains to be fully understood. The leading hypothesis involves dopamine receptor hypersensitivity, and is supported by neuroleptic-induced EPS as the most important risk factor (Miller et al., 2005; Tenback et al., 2006). Longitudinal studies suggest that conventional antipsychotic medication may enlarge the basal ganglion (Gur et al., 1998; Shihabuddin et al., 1998; Keshavan et al., 1998). The effect of antipsychotics on neuroanatomical changes to the basal ganglion may be the result of a dopamine D1 and dopamine D2 receptor blockade, which causes activation, regeneration, and hypertrophy of striatal synaptic and/or cellular elements. Hypermetabolism of these specific brain regions are suggested to be associated with vulnerability to TD development (Szymanski et al., 1996). Significant correlations between dosages of antipsychotics and WM volume over caudate nucleus (Takase et al., 2004), and FA values over left frontal WM (Minami et al., 2003), and

middle cerebellar peduncles (Okugawa et al., 2004) have been reported in schizophrenia patients. These findings support the view that long-term antipsychotic treatment may cause volume change of basal ganglion and related abnormality of WM. Another important pathophysiologic theory of TD involves neurotoxicity (Zhang et al., 2007). Dopamine is metabolized by monoamine oxidase to dihydroxyphenylacetic acid; a byproduct of this reaction is hydrogen peroxide. Free radicals may be involved in the pathogenesis of TD. The potent antioxidants vitamin E, Vitamin B6, and piracetam have been shown to alleviate the severity of TD in randomized double-blind, placebo-controlled studies (Lerner et al., 2007; Libov et al., 2007). These studies support the neurotoxicity hypothesis. Cerebral white matter, composed of myelin-containing oligodendrocytes, is highly sensitive to excitotoxicity (Christensen et al., 2004). These lead to the possibility that antipsychotic medications might influence the pruning, disconnection, or imperfect repair of WM in such a way as to cause changes in anisotropy. Swelling of myelin and of WM, associated interference with the speed of neurotransmission through myelinated axons, and dysynchrony of information-processing by subcortical and cortical networks may be associated with development of TD.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study examining white matter integrity in schizophrenia patients with tardive dyskinesia. We suggest that misconnection of neural fibers over the basal ganglion and frontal gyrus WM may be related to the presence of TD in schizophrenia patients. However, several limitation of the study should be addressed. First, patients with TD enrolled in the study are with more severe psychopathology, and the result was consistent with many previous reports. But due to the cross-section design, it is not possible to attribute the findings of white matter change to TD per se and to separate TD from the context of the illness of schizophrenia. Second, we do not as yet know whether the abnormalities observed to date reflect a decrease in number of axons, decreased axonal diameter, thinner myelination sheaths, less coherent fibers, or more fiber crossings (Kubicki et al., 2007). Thus, the issue of cause or consequences can't be answered, and further prospective studies are required. Third, the patients in TD and schizophrenia groups were with more than 10 years of illness duration, it's difficult to get all the medical records of previous medications, including type of antipsychotics, duration, and accumulated dosages. But all of these factors may relate to the white matter changes. Fourth, most of the patients received atypical antipsychotics while being enrolled in the study, but all antipsychotics show different risk of inducing EPS and tardive dyskinesia. However, because the limited case number for each antipsychotic, it's difficult to compare the difference of FA among different antipsychotic with enough statistic power. The effects of different antipsychotics on the white matter abnormality need further larger scaled researches. Finally, generalizations from the study were limited by the small number of subjects, more large scale studies are required to validate the results.

### Role of the funding source

Funding for this study was provided by National Science Council, Taiwan and Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Taiwan; the National Science Council and Taipei Veterans General Hospital had no further role in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the paper for publication.

### Contributors

Dr. Ya Mei Bai: collect the subjects and clinical rating, wrote the protocol, conducted the analysis and wrote the article.

Mr. Kun-Hsien Chou, and Miss I-Yun Chen: conducted the MRI procedures for all subjects and analyzed the data of Diffusion Tensor Image.

Dr. Cheng-Ta Li, and Dr. Kai Chun Yang: collected the subjects, reference search and gave the idea for study design.

Dr. Yuan-Hwa Chou: gave the critical comment for the study design.

Professor Tung-Ping Su and Dr. coordinate the clinical research team, gave the critical comment for the study design and writing of the article, as the corresponding author for the clinical part.

Professor Ching-Po Lin: coordinate the Image team, all technique support, and Image data analysis, as the corresponding author for Image part. All authors contributed to and have approved the final manuscript.

### Conflict of interest

None.

### Acknowledgements

The study was supported by grants from the National Science Council, Taiwan (NSC 96-2314-B-075-009 and NSC 97-2752-B-075-001-PAE), and Taipei Veterans General Hospital (V97C1-061 and V97ER1-003).

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