



Performance Pressure and Syntactic Economy in Nigerian ESL Social Media Discourse

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ABSTRACT

Background: Rapid social media interaction encourages linguistic economy, but syntactic reduction in multilingual English as a Second Language (ESL) context may reflect either grammatical difficulty or adaptation to digital communication.

Objective: This study examines how performance pressure, interactional immediacy, routinisation, and multilingual resources relate to syntactic economy in Nigerian ESL social media discourse.

Method: A qualitative discourse-analytic design was adopted to examine naturally occurring WhatsApp and Facebook interactions among undergraduates of Ebonyi State University. From a corpus of 360 samples collected across the university's four campuses between May 2025 and May 2026, 28 excerpts were purposively selected and analysed using an adapted Leipzig-style, three-layer presentation.

Results: The findings reveal context-dependent syntactic reduction, economical interactional responses, routinised expressions, and compressed Nigerian Pidgin constructions. These patterns are associated with contextual recoverability, interactional immediacy, frequency of use, and multilingual language practices.

Conclusion: Syntactic economy in Nigerian digital ESL discourse cannot be explained solely in terms of grammatical deficiency. Many reduced forms are contextually functional, grammatically licensed, conventionalised, or traceable to Nigerian Pidgin.

Unique Contribution: The study shifts attention from predominantly orthographic accounts of Nigerian social media language to the syntactic and psycholinguistic dimensions of digital language production.

Key Recommendation: ESL pedagogy should distinguish contextually motivated digital language reduction from genuine grammatical difficulties while strengthening learners' awareness of formal and informal registers.

Keywords: digital discourse; performance pressure; psycholinguistics; syntactic economy; Nigerian ESL



INTRODUCTION

Digital communication has altered the conditions under which language is produced. WhatsApp and Facebook interactions are written but frequently display the immediacy, contextual dependence, and limited planning associated with conversation (Crystal, 2001; Herring, 2001). Users consequently employ ellipsis, fragments, abbreviated responses, and other forms of linguistic economy. For second-language users, these practices raise an important question: does reduced digital syntax indicate limited grammatical competence, or does it sometimes represent adaptation to the demands of rapid interaction?

A psycholinguistic perspective is useful in addressing this question. Language production involves conceptualisation, formulation, articulation, and monitoring (Levelt, 1989). Rapid digital interaction may constrain the time available for formulation and revision as users simultaneously process preceding messages and prepare responses. The present study uses performance pressure to describe these interactional conditions and syntactic economy for the use of reduced overt structure where sufficient meaning remains recoverable from context. These concepts are interpretative rather than experimentally measured variables.

Frequency may reinforce such economy. Repeated linguistic experience increases the accessibility of familiar forms (Ellis, 2002), while digital interaction repeatedly exposes users to short expressions and conversational routines. Nigerian forms such as *Abeg*, *No wahala*, *We move*, and *E choke* may consequently function as readily available resources for interaction. Their recurrence, however, cannot by itself demonstrate cognitive automatisisation.

Nigeria's multilingual environment further complicates the relationship between reduction and competence. English coexists with Nigerian Pidgin and numerous indigenous languages, and online users routinely draw on these resources. Constructions containing *dey*, *wan*, *abeg*, or *no mind*, for example, should not automatically be analysed as defective English when they instantiate established Nigerian Pidgin structures. Conversely, multilingualism should not be invoked to explain every nonstandard form. The grammatical and discourse status of individual constructions must be established from the evidence.

This distinction is important because Nigerian studies of social media language have concentrated considerably on abbreviations, spelling, textism, writing ability, and departures from Standard English. Such research is valuable for understanding possible effects on formal writing, but it provides less explanation of how syntactic reduction functions within digital interaction itself. A construction may be inappropriate in an academic essay while remaining structurally interpretable and pragmatically effective in a WhatsApp exchange.

The present study therefore examines performance pressure and syntactic economy in Nigerian ESL social media discourse using naturally occurring WhatsApp and Facebook interactions among Nigerian undergraduates. It investigates how interactional immediacy and performance pressure relate to reduced syntactic production, how recurrent expressions facilitate economical communication, and how multilingual resources participate in this process. Rather than treating reduced digital forms uniformly as either errors or deliberate strategies, the study distinguishes



contextual ellipsis, grammatically licensed reduction, routinised expressions, Nigerian Pidgin structures, and possible Standard English instability.

Because no experimental measures of processing were employed, the study does not claim direct access to the cognitive processes underlying individual messages. Its contribution is instead to provide a psycholinguistically informed account of observable syntactic behaviour and thereby offer a more differentiated explanation of economy in Nigerian digital ESL communication.

PREVIOUS STUDIES

Digital Discourse, Syntactic Economy and Multilingualism

Digital discourse occupies an intermediate communicative space between conventional writing and conversation. Crystal (2001) and Herring (2001) show that computer-mediated communication combines written form with interactional features associated with spoken discourse, including immediacy, contextual dependence, and reduced elaboration. Thurlow and Brown (2003) similarly found extensive abbreviation and linguistic economy in young people's text messaging, arguing that such practices should not automatically be interpreted as linguistic decline. Although their study predates contemporary social media, its central insight remains relevant: digital forms are partly shaped by the communicative conditions under which they are produced.

Psycholinguistic and usage-based perspectives help explain why such economy may occur. Levelt's (1989) model treats language production as involving conceptualisation, formulation, articulation, and monitoring, processes that may operate under considerable interactional pressure in rapid online exchanges. Ellis (2002), from a usage-based perspective, further demonstrates that frequency affects language processing, making recurrent patterns increasingly accessible. Applied to digital communication, these perspectives suggest that immediacy and repeated exposure may favour reduced and familiar expressions. The present study treats these as theoretically motivated interpretations, however, since naturally occurring textual data cannot directly demonstrate processing load or automatisation.

Multilingualism adds another dimension. Digital environments enable users to draw flexibly on different linguistic resources (Androutsopoulos, 2014). Boudjemaa and Mouhadjer (2022), for example, found extensive hybrid practices involving Arabic, French, English, and other resources among Algerian Facebook users. Comparable considerations are especially relevant to Nigeria, where English coexists with Nigerian Pidgin and numerous indigenous languages. Nigerian Pidgin has systematic grammatical resources for tense-aspect, negation, predication, and clause structure (Faraclas, 1996). Forms involving *dey*, *wan*, *no*, and related items must therefore be distinguished from unsuccessful attempts to construct Standard English sentences.

Together, these studies establish economy, contextual dependence, frequency, and multilingualism as important dimensions of digital communication. They provide less direct explanation, however, of how these factors interact in the syntactic production of Nigerian ESL social media users.



Previous Nigerian Studies

Nigerian research has established a relationship between social media practices and students' language use, although much of the literature concentrates on writing outcomes rather than syntax. Omoera et al. (2018), studying undergraduates at Ambrose Alli University, found that social networking practices could influence students' writing abilities. Akerele and Adegbenro (2020) similarly examined the relationship between Facebook, WhatsApp and Imo use and undergraduates' composition skills. Both studies demonstrate the educational relevance of social media but provide limited explanation of the internal syntactic organisation of naturally occurring digital messages.

Other studies concentrate more directly on digital forms. Oreoluwa and Omotayo (2022), using questionnaire data and observations of WhatsApp interactions among University of Ibadan students, identified extensive textism, although their principal concern was abbreviated textual conventions rather than syntactic production. Ngulube and Stanley (2023) reported spelling, punctuation, concord, code-mixing, and code-switching in Nigerian undergraduates' social media messages and emphasised their departures from Standard Written English. While such an approach is appropriate for examining formal-language consequences, it risks treating structurally different phenomena under the general category of deviation.

Research has also approached Nigerian digital discourse from broader educational and pragmatic perspectives. Michael-Olomu and Uzobo (2023) examined social media use in relation to reading, writing culture, and academic performance, while Owojecho (2021) analysed Nigerian COVID-19 WhatsApp messages from a speech-act and Gricean perspective. These studies confirm that Nigerian social media discourse is educationally and linguistically significant, but neither focuses primarily on syntactic economy under conditions of online production.

Overall, Nigerian studies have generated substantial evidence on textism, writing ability, nonstandard usage, multilingual practices, and pragmatic functions. What remains less developed is a syntactically focused account of naturally occurring digital expressions that distinguishes grammatical instability from contextual reduction, grammatically licensed economy, routinised discourse forms, and Nigerian Pidgin structures.

Research Gap

Three gaps are therefore relevant. First, Nigerian research has concentrated more heavily on orthography, textism, writing outcomes, and general deviations than on the syntax of digital interaction. Second, reduced forms are often assessed against Standard Written English without sufficiently determining whether they result from ellipsis, discourse dependence, conversational grammar, or Nigerian Pidgin. Third, the relationship between these structures and psycholinguistically relevant conditions such as immediacy, monitoring, frequency, and routinisation remains underexplored in naturally occurring Nigerian ESL discourse.

The present study addresses these gaps by analysing WhatsApp and Facebook expressions at the morphosyntactic and discourse levels and interpreting their economy in relation to performance pressure, interactional immediacy, frequency, and multilingual language use.



This is substantially leaner while retaining the literature needed to defend the study. Importantly, I have not reduced the Nigerian empirical literature to token citations: the revised section still reviews six Nigerian studies and identifies the particular limitation of each group of studies. The original review itself shows that these studies predominantly address writing, textism, general deviations, educational outcomes, or pragmatics rather than the specific syntactic-production problem pursued here.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The study adopted a qualitative discourse-analytic design informed by psycholinguistics and computer-mediated discourse analysis. The design enabled the study to identify and interpret recurring patterns of syntactic economy in naturally occurring digital interaction. Psycholinguistic concepts such as performance pressure, processing economy, routinisation, and reduced monitoring were used to interpret observable linguistic patterns rather than as directly measured cognitive variables.

Study Context and Corpus

The data comprised naturally occurring WhatsApp and Facebook interactions produced by undergraduate students of Ebonyi State University, Nigeria. Data were collected from May 2025 to May 2026 across the University's four campuses: College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS), Presco, Ishieke, and the Main Campus/Permanent Site. The corpus consisted of 360 digital interactional samples drawn from academic discussions, interpersonal exchanges, requests, emotional reactions, advisory exchanges, and informal conversations.

WhatsApp and Facebook were selected because their interactive environments permit relatively spontaneous written exchanges. Naturally occurring interactions were preferred to elicited data in order to preserve the contexts in which syntactic reduction and related forms occurred.

Sampling and Data Collection

Purposive sampling was used to select 28 excerpts from the 360-sample corpus for detailed analysis. Selection was based on the presence of features relevant to the study, particularly reduced clause structure, context-dependent omission, abbreviated interactional responses, recurrent formulaic expressions, and economical constructions involving English and Nigerian Pidgin. The selected excerpts represented the major recurring patterns identified in the corpus rather than their statistical distribution.

Consent was obtained from participants, who were informed that the interactions would be used for academic research and that participation was voluntary. Names, telephone numbers, usernames, profile information, and other identifying details were removed to preserve privacy and confidentiality.



DATA PRESENTATION

Analysis proceeded from the larger corpus to the selected excerpts. The 360 samples were first examined for recurring forms relevant to syntactic economy and performance pressure. The 28 selected excerpts were subsequently interpreted within their conversational contexts to establish their meanings and interactional functions. Attention was given to overt and contextually recoverable grammatical material, clause reduction, ellipsis, interactional compression, formulaic expressions, and Nigerian Pidgin structures.

The excerpts were presented through an adapted Leipzig-style three-layer convention. The first layer reproduces the original digital expression, the second provides its relevant morphosyntactic breakdown, and the third gives its contextually intended Standard English interpretation. The third layer serves as an analytical reference rather than a correction of the original expression, allowing reduced material and structural contrasts to be made explicit without treating Nigerian Pidgin constructions as defective English.

The resulting patterns were organised under four analytical themes: performance pressure and reduced syntactic monitoring; interactional immediacy and conversational economy; frequency and routinisation; and processing economy in multilingual online production.

Analytical Scope and Trustworthiness

The corpus and selected excerpts were repeatedly examined within their conversational contexts to maintain consistency of interpretation. Particular attention was given to distinguishing contextual reduction and grammatically licensed structures from established Nigerian Pidgin constructions.

Because cognitive processing was not experimentally measured, the study does not claim that particular forms necessarily required less processing effort or were automatically retrieved. Psycholinguistic concepts are used to provide theoretically informed explanations of recurrent linguistic patterns, while conclusions remain grounded in the observable digital data.

The 28 selected excerpts reveal four related dimensions of syntactic economy: performance pressure and reduced syntactic monitoring; interactional immediacy and conversational economy; frequency and routinisation; and processing economy in multilingual production. The analysis distinguishes observable grammatical structure from its possible psycholinguistic interpretation; cognitive processes are therefore inferred cautiously rather than treated as directly measured.



Performance Pressure and Reduced Syntactic Monitoring

A recurrent pattern is the omission of material that remains recoverable from the immediate discourse.

- (1) **Coming now**
come.PROG now
"I am coming now."
- (2) **Done already**
done already
"It has been done already."

In (1), the subject and auxiliary are unexpressed, while (2) similarly relies on context for the omitted grammatical material. Both nevertheless remain readily interpretable within their exchanges. They exemplify contextual reduction: users retain the information necessary for interpretation while leaving predictable material unstated. Such forms are compatible with reduced formulation and monitoring under rapid interaction, although the data do not establish that cognitive process directly.

Other short expressions require a different analysis:

- (3) **Wait first**
wait first
"Wait first."
- (4) **No time. Explain now.**
no time | explain now
"There is no time. Start explaining now."
- (5) **Hold on**
hold on
"Wait."
- (6) **Later**
later
"I will respond later."
- (7) **Typing...**
type.PROG
"I am typing."

Examples (3) and (5) are grammatical imperatives and therefore do not constitute erroneous subject omission. In (4), *No time* is an elliptical expressive signalling urgency, while *Explain now* is an imperative directive. Examples (6) and (7) depend more directly on contextual recovery: *Later* functions as an economical response, while *Typing...* leaves the subject and auxiliary implicit.



The important point is that brevity does not have a single grammatical source. Some expressions involve ellipsis, some are context-dependent fragments, and others are ordinary imperatives. Their concentration in immediate exchanges nevertheless suggests that digital interaction favours minimal explicit encoding where context makes fuller formulation unnecessary. This extends observations about economy in digital communication (Thurlow & Brown, 2003) from orthographic abbreviation to clause-level reduction.

Interactional Immediacy and Conversational Economy

Some expressions achieve economy by relying heavily on preceding discourse and shared interactional knowledge:

- (8) **Me too**
1SG too
"I feel the same way."
- (9) **Same here**
same here
"I feel the same way."
- (10) **Who dey?**
who exist/PROG
"Who is there?" / "Who is around?"
- (11) **Why na?**
why DM
"Why?" / "Why is that so?"
- (12) **Omo see stress**
DM see stress
"This is stressful." / "Look at this stress."
- (13) **This life sef**
this life EMPH
"This life is difficult."

Examples (8) and (9) avoid repeating propositions already supplied by the preceding discourse. Their economy is therefore primarily interactional. Examples (10)–(13), however, also draw on Nigerian multilingual discourse. *Dey* in (10) belongs to Nigerian Pidgin grammar, while *na*, *omo*, and *sef* contribute pragmatic meanings such as emphasis, stance, surprise, or affective involvement.

These structures demonstrate that syntactic brevity can coexist with pragmatic richness. Much of their interpretation comes from discourse context and shared linguistic conventions rather than elaborate clause structure. They consequently illustrate conversational economy more adequately than grammatical deficiency.



Frequency and Routinisation

A further group consists of short, conventionalised expressions recurrent in Nigerian informal discourse:

- (14) **Abeg**
please/REQ
"Please." / "I beg you."
- (15) **E choke**
3SG choke
"It is overwhelming." / "This is impressive."
- (16) **We move**
1PL move
"We continue." / "Life goes on."
- (17) **No wahala**
NEG problem
"No problem." / "It is all right."
- (18) **God when**
God when
"God, when will this happen for me?"
- (19) **Sharp sharp**
quick REDUP
"Immediately." / "Very quickly."

These forms carry meanings considerably richer than their structural length suggests. *Abeg* functions as a request or appeal; *E choke* may express excess, amazement, or an overwhelming experience; *We move* commonly signals resilience or continuation; and *No wahala* expresses reassurance or acceptance. *God when* functions elliptically as an expression of longing or aspiration, while reduplication in *Sharp sharp* intensifies immediacy.

Their recurrent and conventionalised character is consistent with the frequency effects described by Ellis (2002): familiar forms may become increasingly accessible through repeated experience. The present data, however, demonstrate conventionalisation rather than cognitive automatisisation itself; claims about retrieval speed would require experimental evidence.



Processing Economy and Multilingual Online Production

The multilingual dimension becomes especially evident where Nigerian Pidgin supplies the grammatical frame:

- (20) **My phone wan off**
my phone want off
"My phone is about to go off."
- (21) **Abeg who dey win**
please who PROG win
"Please, who is winning?"
- (22) **No mind them**
NEG mind 3PL
"Ignore them."
- (23) **God abeg ooo**
God please EMPH
"Oh God, please!"
- (24) **I tire for this life**
1SG tire PREP this life
"I am tired of this life."

In (20), *wan* contributes prospective or imminent meaning; (21) combines the request marker *abeg* with progressive *dey*; and (22) employs a Nigerian Pidgin negative imperative. Examples (23) and (24) similarly draw on Nigerian Pidgin and Nigerian interactional resources to express appeal and affective stance. These are therefore better understood as multilingual constructions than as English clauses damaged through omission.

The same interaction of economy, contextual dependence, and multilingual resources occurs in the remaining corpus examples:

- (25) **I dey come**
1SG PROG come
"I am coming."
- (26) **You don reach?**
2SG PFV arrive
"Have you arrived?"
- (27) **Make we go**
SBJV 1PL go
"Let us go."
- (28) **E no easy**
3SG NEG easy
"It is not easy."



Examples (25)–(28) make the distinction particularly clear. *Dey*, *don*, *make*, and *no* participate in established Nigerian Pidgin grammatical patterns involving aspect, directive/subjunctive meaning, and negation. Their structural economy cannot therefore be established simply by comparing their surface forms with Standard English equivalents. Rather, they demonstrate how multilingual users can select a different grammatical system for efficient informal interaction.

Across the 28 excerpts, then, syntactic economy has several sources: English ellipsis, context-dependent fragments, grammatically licensed imperatives, conventionalised expressions, and Nigerian Pidgin constructions. Superficial brevity alone cannot determine which process is involved.

DISCUSSION

The findings show that syntactic economy is a systematic feature of the digital interactions examined, but not a unitary grammatical phenomenon. Context-dependent forms such as *Coming now* and *Done already* reduce material recoverable from discourse; *Wait first* and *Hold on* exploit the naturally reduced structure of imperatives; *Me too* and *Same here* depend on preceding propositions; while expressions such as *Who dey?*, *I dey come*, and *You don reach?* draw on Nigerian Pidgin grammar. The first analytical requirement is therefore to establish what kind of structure is being reduced – or whether reduction within English has occurred at all.

This finding supports earlier accounts of digital communication as economical and context-dependent (Crystal, 2001; Herring, 2001; Thurlow & Brown, 2003), but adds a syntactic distinction often missing from studies concerned principally with spelling and abbreviation. It also qualifies Nigerian research that evaluates digital forms predominantly against Standard Written English. Ngulube and Stanley (2023), for instance, identify departures involving spelling, concord, punctuation, code-mixing, and code-switching. Such comparisons remain relevant to formal writing, but the present data show that not every nonstandard digital structure is evidence of deficient English competence.

This distinction also complements Omoera et al. (2018), Akerele and Adegbenro (2020), Oreoluwa and Omotayo (2022), and Michael-Olomu and Uzobo (2023), whose studies establish relationships among social media practices, textism, composition, and literacy behaviour. The present study shifts the analytical focus from the possible effects of social media on formal writing to the organisation of language within digital interaction itself. A construction can therefore be effective in informal interaction while remaining inappropriate in formal academic writing.

The conventionalised forms provide another dimension. Expressions such as *Abeg*, *No wahala*, *We move*, and *E choke* communicate substantial pragmatic content through little structural material. Their recurrence is compatible with Ellis's (2002) account of frequency effects, although the present qualitative evidence cannot demonstrate automatic or faster retrieval.

Finally, the Nigerian Pidgin data show why multilingualism is indispensable to the analysis. Forms involving *dey*, *don*, *wan*, *make*, and *no* cannot adequately be described as simplified Standard English when they instantiate established Nigerian Pidgin patterns (Faraclas, 1996).



Digital syntactic economy therefore emerges partly from users' ability to draw on a multilingual repertoire suited to informal interaction.

Overall, the association between rapid digital interaction and reduced expression is consistent with psycholinguistic accounts of formulation and monitoring (Levelt, 1989), but performance pressure was not experimentally measured. The evidence supports the more restrained conclusion that syntactic economy is associated with the interactional conditions represented in the corpus. Nigerian digital ESL discourse contains possible departures from Standard English, but also grammatical ellipsis, conversational fragments, conventionalised routines, and Nigerian Pidgin constructions. Distinguishing these phenomena is essential before reduced online syntax is attributed to weak ESL competence.

CONCLUSION

This study examined performance pressure and syntactic economy in naturally occurring WhatsApp and Facebook interactions among Nigerian undergraduate ESL users. The findings show that reduced digital syntax has multiple sources, including contextual ellipsis, grammatically licensed reduction, interactional compression, conventionalised expressions, and Nigerian Pidgin structures.

The central finding is that structural brevity should not automatically be interpreted as evidence of deficient grammatical competence. Expressions such as *Coming now* involve contextually recoverable material; *Wait first* and *Hold on* are grammatical imperatives; *Me too* depends on preceding discourse; while forms such as *Who dey?*, *I dey come*, and *You don reach?* draw on Nigerian Pidgin grammar. Similarly, recurrent expressions such as *Abeg*, *No wahala*, *We move*, and *E choke* achieve considerable pragmatic meaning with minimal structural material.

The concentration of economical forms in immediate digital exchanges is consistent with psycholinguistic accounts of formulation, monitoring, and frequency. Since these processes were not experimentally measured, however, the study establishes an association between digital interactional conditions and syntactic economy rather than a direct causal relationship.

Overall, Nigerian ESL social media discourse should neither be treated wholesale as defective English nor romanticised as deliberate linguistic creativity. Adequate analysis requires determining whether a reduced form reflects English ellipsis, conversational grammar, conventionalisation, multilingual choice, or genuine instability in Standard English competence.

PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings support an ESL pedagogy centred on register awareness. Learners should understand that forms effective in informal WhatsApp or Facebook interaction may be inappropriate in academic and professional writing without necessarily being evidence of poor language competence. Teaching should therefore distinguish digital conventions, conversational reduction, Nigerian Pidgin structures, and genuine Standard English grammatical difficulties.



Authentic digital excerpts can also support instruction in syntax and register by allowing learners to reconstruct elliptical expressions, compare informal and formal structures, and examine how context affects grammatical choices.

Limitations and Future Research

The study is limited to 360 interactional samples collected at Ebonyi State University, with 28 purposively selected for qualitative analysis. It is also restricted to WhatsApp and Facebook and does not experimentally measure performance pressure, processing effort, or automatised. Its findings are therefore analytically explanatory rather than statistically generalisable or experimentally causal.

Future research should extend the corpus across institutions and digital platforms and quantify the distribution of the identified patterns. Experimental or mixed-method studies could further test whether time pressure increases syntactic reduction and whether recurrent digital expressions are processed or produced more rapidly than less familiar alternatives.

Ethical Clearance

Ethical consent was sought and obtained from the participants whose digital interactions provided data for the study. Participants were informed that the data would be used strictly for academic purposes and that participation was voluntary. Identifying information was removed from the dataset to protect participants' privacy and confidentiality.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no commercial, financial, or other relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

Authors' Contributions

J. A. Nwankwegu and U. J. Usulor jointly conceived and designed the study. U. J. Usulor coordinated the collection and collation of the data. Dr J. A. Nwankwegu did the analysis and interpretation of the data, while U. J. Usulor prepared the initial draft of the manuscript. Both authors critically reviewed and revised the manuscript, approved the final version, and accept responsibility for its content, originality, and integrity.



Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Disclosure

During the preparation of this manuscript, the authors used ChatGPT for brainstorming, language editing, grammatical correction, structural refinement, and improvement of readability. All AI-assisted outputs were critically reviewed, revised, and verified by the authors. The authors take full responsibility for the accuracy, originality, scholarly arguments, analysis, and integrity of the final manuscript.

Data Availability Statement

The dataset supporting the findings of this study is available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request, subject to applicable ethical and privacy considerations.

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