

D²MDM²: A Brain-Inspired Deep Network Based on DDM Decision-Making Mechanism for Remote Sensing Change Detection

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Abstract

Remote sensing change detection (RSCD) aims to identify changed regions in bitemporal images. However, conventional one-step modeling suffers from performance degradation caused by imaging temporal differences (e.g., illumination disturbances, seasonal variations). To address this issue, we formulate the problem as an “adversarial attack and defense” paradigm. Then, instead of traditional adversarial training, we propose a brain-inspired deep network based on the **drift diffusion model (DDM)** decision-making mechanism for RSCD, which is rooted in cognitive neuroscience. By simulating brain decision processes, the network enhances model robustness significantly. Specifically, we design the multi-stage reasoning unit to simulate DDM’s **iterative evidence generation**, stochastic representation unit with reparameterization sampling to model **stochastic diffusion** in decision-making, decision aggregation unit to replicate DDM’s **evidence accumulation**, and loss-guided unit with multi-loss joint constraints to simulate **directional drift**. Experimental results verify the model’s superior performance on multiple datasets and their perturbed versions.

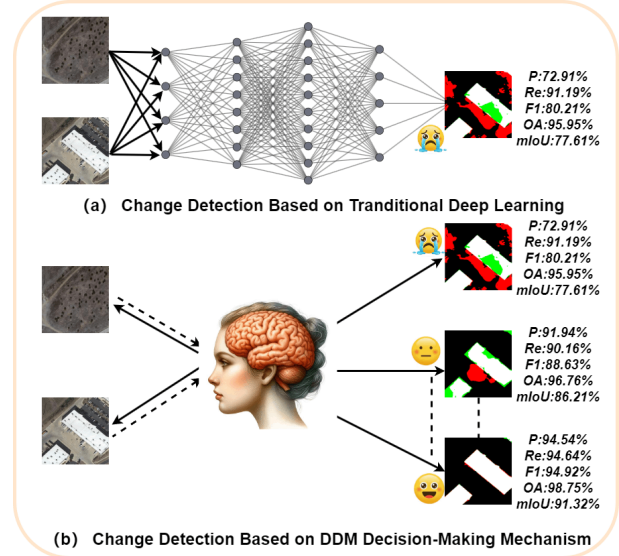


Figure 1: Different frameworks for RSCD. (a) Traditional deep learning network: perform one-step modeling on bitemporal images to complete change detection. (b) DDM decision-making deep learning network: complete the change detection on bitemporal image based on the brain-inspired mechanism in a multi-stage manner.

1 Introduction

RSCD has become a research hotspot with advancing imaging technologies. By comparing bitemporal images of same region [Chen *et al.*, 2023], RSCD identifies surface transformations to support urban planning and environmental protection [Gu *et al.*, 2025; Wang *et al.*, 2025b; Zhao *et al.*, 2025]. However, precisely controlling imaging conditions (e.g., illumination, climate) remains challenging, as cross-acquisition variations often introduce substantial detection noise.

Existing RSCD methodologies are primarily categorized into traditional [Xu *et al.*, 2025] and deep learning [Wang *et al.*, 2025a] approaches. Traditional methods rely on manually designed features and expert-led hyperparameter tuning. They suffer from restricted representation capabilities

and weak generalization. In contrast, deep learning has become the dominant paradigm [Wang *et al.*, 2023]. CNN-based frameworks [Zheng *et al.*, 2021; Zhang *et al.*, 2022] (e.g., FCN, U-Net) are widely used but are often limited by narrow receptive fields; Transformers have been introduced to capture global contextual information [Lin *et al.*, 2025; Bernhard *et al.*, 2023; Hills *et al.*, 2024]; Mamba-based models achieve superior spatiotemporal modeling efficiency through unique selective scanning mechanisms [Feng *et al.*, 2025; Zhang *et al.*, 2026; He *et al.*, 2025]; and DDPMs (Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models) offer a novel technical path by modeling complex data distributions through iterative diffusion and denoising processes [Dai *et al.*, 2025; Vinholi *et al.*, 2024; Li *et al.*, 2024]. However, deep learning models often struggle with environmental disturbances like illumination fluctuations, which shift data distributions and degrade performance. These unpredictable variations can be

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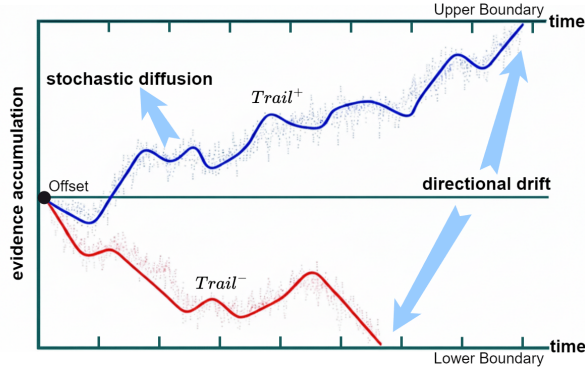


Figure 2: Schematica diagram of the drift-diffusion model (DDM)

framed as adversarial attacks on the CD. Consequently, bolstering robustness through an adversarial defense perspective offers a promising solution [Hung-Quang *et al.*, 2024].

Existing adversarial training [Cho *et al.*, 2023] often lack adaptability and thus fail to meet these practical. To address this critical limitation, we draw inspiration from the human brain, which is the only intelligent system endowed with innate robustness. As illustrated in Figure 1, traditional methods typically adopt one-step modeling to directly generate outputs. In contrast, the brain-inspired decision mechanism facilitates a coarse-to-fine detection process, a pattern consistently corroborated by cognitive neuroscience [Pla, 2010].

Inspired by this, this paper proposes a brain-inspired deep network based on DDM decision-making mechanism for RSCD. Firstly, U-Net performs multi-scale decomposition of input difference features, with the results fed into multi-stage reasoning unit; iterative updating of decision prior features enhances change region localization in a multi-stage progressive manner. Secondly, posterior probability is learned from bitemporal images and labels to train a prior distribution generator; random sampling from the prior distribution and fusion of decision features lay the foundation for modeling random diffusion characteristics. Thirdly, multi-stage generated decision maps are sequentially input into decision aggregation unit to deeply mine temporal correlations and achieve brain-inspired evidence accumulation. Finally, multi-loss directional guidance from the loss-guided unit drives the model to accurately focus on real change regions. The main contributions of this paper are as follows:

- Aiming at the impact of dynamic and uncertain illumination interference on RSCD, we treat it as adversarial attacks; adopting the brain-inspired mechanism of DDM significantly enhances model robustness.
- A multi-stage reasoning unit is designed to simulate the iterative evidence generation of DDM, and a stochastic representation unit to introduce randomness via reparameterization sampling, which jointly model brain-inspired stochastic diffusion.
- Leveraging DDM-based brain-inspired evidence accumulation, decision aggregation unit mines temporal correlations of multi-stage decision maps, with loss-guided unit incorporated to model DDM directional drift.

2 Relation Work

2.1 Drift Diffusion Model (DDM)

In neural learning, the DDM characterizes the brain’s response patterns under noisy inputs. Perceptual decision-making research [Yang and Shadlen, 2007] has leveraged random dot motion experiments to reveal these neural mechanisms, while subsequent studies [Ratcliff and McKoon, 2008] have used the DDM to quantify correlations between accuracy, reaction time, evidence accumulation rate, and decision thresholds. Beyond the prefrontal-parietal network, similar accumulation patterns identified in brain regions like the basal ganglia [Wang *et al.*, 2024] confirm that evidence accumulation is a universal cerebral decision mechanism. As illustrated in Figure 2, the accumulation trajectory is governed by two core components: directional drift, representing a systematic bias throughout the process, and random diffusion, denoting instantaneous, directionless noise perturbations. A decision is triggered when the accumulated evidence crosses a predefined threshold, with the duration from stimulus onset to threshold crossing defining the response time.

2.2 Distributed Sampling Learning

Distributed sampling learning refers to extracting features from a given or learned data distribution for model training. Through rational sampling, sample features that are representative of the overall data distribution can be obtained, facilitating model to learn the intrinsic patterns of the data. Among these techniques, reparameterization sampling represents the sampling process as a combination of deterministic function and noise variable, enabling sampling from complex probability distributions and efficient gradient computation simultaneously [Wu *et al.*, 2024]. During deep learning training, sampling from the learned data distribution for model optimization can significantly reduce reliance on feature extraction operators such as convolution and self-attention, as well as cut down on computational resource requirements. Meanwhile, the randomness introduced by sampling can enrich feature diversity, thereby effectively enhancing the generalization and stability of the model [Yu *et al.*, 2025].

3 Method

Figure 3 illustrates the overall architecture of our proposed network, i.e., D²MDM². Notably, the DDM encompasses three core characteristics, namely stochastic diffusion, evidence accumulation and directional drift. To simulate brain-like decision-making process, several interconnected modules are constructed in the subsequent sections.

3.1 Multi-stage Reasoning Unit (MRU)

In DDM, evidence is generated iteratively and updated dynamically over multiple time steps. Inspired by the human visual system and DDM, this paper proposes MRU. This module aims to continuously revise decision prior features via a series of small-scale guidance factors across multiple stages, simulating the evidence iterative generation process of DDM.

We employ a U-Net backbone to extract multi-scale bitemporal features. Specifically, the second-largest scale output

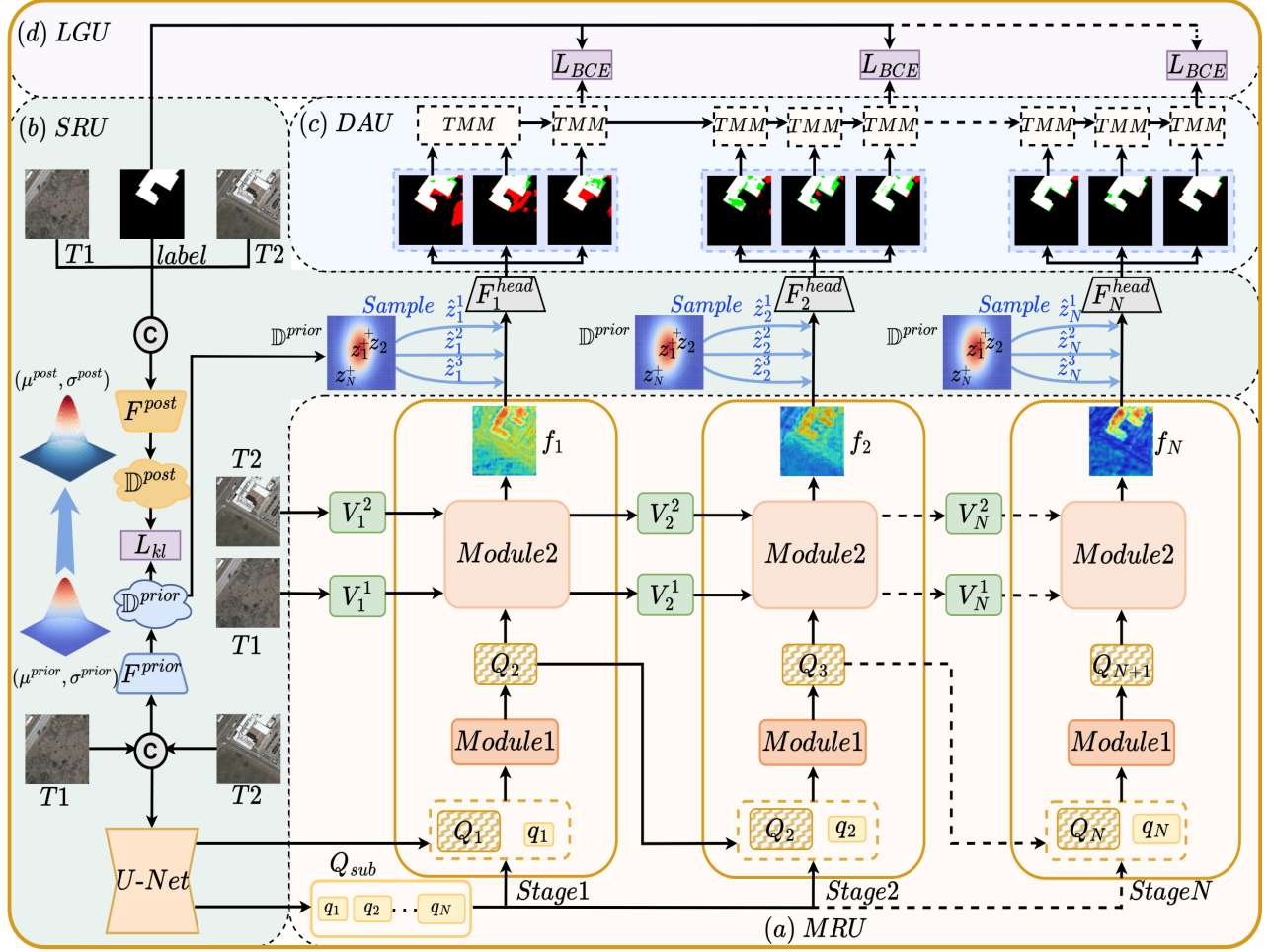


Figure 3: A Brain-Inspired Deep Network based on DDM Decision-Making Mechanism for RSCD. (a) Multi-stage reasoning unit (MRU): mimicking the iterative evidence generation of DDM; (b) Stochastic representation unit (SRU): simulating stochastic diffusion; (c) Decision aggregation unit (DAU): replicating evidence accumulation; (d) Loss-guided unit (LGU): emulating directional drift of DDM.

is designated as the initial decision prior $Q_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{\frac{H}{2} \times \frac{W}{2} \times C}$, while the remaining smaller-scale features constitute a guidance factor set $Q_{sub} = \{q_1, \dots, q_N\}$. These guidance factors provide scale-specific discriminative cues to iteratively update and refine the decision prior. MRU operates through N stages. Each stage comprises guidance update and decision feature generation module, as illustrated in Figure 3.

Guidance Update Module. This module refines decision prior Q_i by leveraging guidance factor q_i , as illustrated in Figure 4. Through an attention mechanism, the module integrates multi-scale discriminative features to produce updated decision prior Q_{i+1} . The operation is formulated as:

$$A_i^{q \rightarrow Q} = \text{SoftMax} \left((Q_i W_1^Q) \otimes (q_i W_2^q) / \sqrt{C} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$Q_{i+1} = \text{MLP} \left(A_i^{q \rightarrow Q} \otimes (Q_i W_3^Q) \right) + Q_i \quad (2)$$

Where $A_i^{q \rightarrow Q}$ denotes the attention weight, W_1^Q , W_2^q , and W_3^Q are learnable projection layers, and $\otimes$ denotes the matrix multiplication.

Decision Feature Generation Module. This module incorporates the updated decision prior Q_{i+1} into the bitemporal features, as illustrated in Figure 4. Leveraging a guided attention mechanism, it augments feature representations to explicitly distill and characterize change-discriminative information, ultimately yielding stage-specific decision feature f_i .

First, we propose a reverse softmax (re-softmax) that can suppress the weights of similar regions and amplify the responses of differential regions. The formula is shown as:

$$\text{re-SoftMax}(x) = \text{SoftMax}(-x) \quad (3)$$

Second, this paper adopts a bidirectional interaction mechanism to balance feature transfer and current decision-making demands. The decision prior feature Q_{i+1} is interacted with the stage-specific bitemporal features V_i^k ($k \in \{1, 2\}$), generating the state update features V_{i+1}^k for transfer and the projection features V_i^k for decision reasoning, respectively. The detailed process is as follows:

$$A_{i+1}^k = \text{SoftMax} \left((Q_{i+1} W_1^Q) \otimes (V_i^k W_2^{\hat{V}}) / \sqrt{C} \right) \quad (4)$$

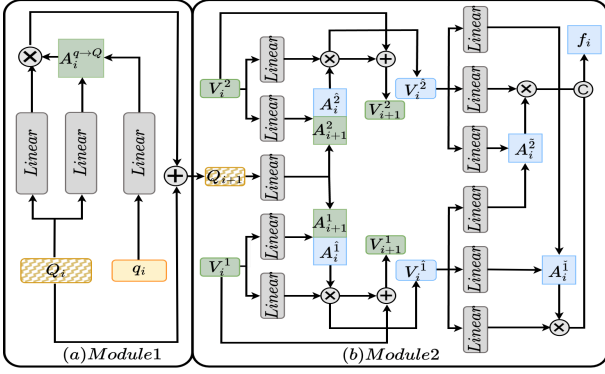


Figure 4: (a) Module 1: Guidance update module. (b) Module 2: Decision feature generation module.

$$V_{i+1}^k = MLP \left(A_{i+1}^k \otimes (V_i^k W_3^{\hat{V}}) \right) + V_i^k \quad (5)$$

$$A_i^{\hat{k}} = re-SoftMax \left((Q_{i+1} W_1^{\hat{Q}}) \otimes (V_i^k W_2^{\hat{V}}) / \sqrt{C} \right) \quad (6)$$

$$V_i^{\hat{k}} = MLP \left(A_i^{\hat{k}} \otimes (V_i^k W_3^{\hat{V}}) \right) \quad (7)$$

Notably, to enhance parameter efficiency, the forward and reverse attention components share a unified set of weight matrices $W_1^{\hat{Q}}$, $W_2^{\hat{V}}$ and $W_3^{\hat{V}}$.

Finally, a cross reverse attention mechanism is introduced to capture the differential information between the stage-specific bitemporal features $V_i^{\hat{1}}$ and $V_i^{\hat{2}}$ and generate the final decision feature f_i . The formula is as follows:

$$f_i = re-SoftMax \left((V_i^{\hat{1}} W_1^{\hat{V}}) \otimes (V_i^{\hat{2}} W_2^{\hat{V}}) / \sqrt{C} \right) \otimes (V_i^{\hat{2}} W_3^{\hat{V}}) \\ + re-SoftMax \left((V_i^{\hat{2}} W_1^{\hat{V}}) \otimes (V_i^{\hat{1}} W_2^{\hat{V}}) / \sqrt{C} \right) \otimes (V_i^{\hat{1}} W_3^{\hat{V}}) \quad (8)$$

3.2 Stochastic Representation Unit (SRU)

In DDM, stochastic diffusion denotes the continuous noise injected during evidence accumulation, resulting in stochastic walk trajectories that drive decision variability. To simulate this mechanism, we propose SRU. Its integration with MRU enables the model to capture the inherent uncertainty and fluctuations during the decision-making process.

First, the concatenation map X derived from the dual-temporal images $T_1, T_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times 3}$ is fed into a prior network parameterized by ω to generate a prior distribution $\mathbb{D}^{prior}(X)$. Moreover, this prior distribution is modeled as an axis-aligned multivariate Gaussian distribution, denoted as $\mathcal{N}(\mu^{prior}, \sigma^{prior})$, where the mean and variance are obtained as follows:

$$\mu^{prior}, \log \sigma^{prior} = F^{prior}(X, \omega) \quad (9)$$

Where F^{prior} denotes a learnable generator for the prior distribution, as illustrated in Figure 3.

Additionally, to generate posterior distribution, we feed original images T_1, T_2 and label Y into posterior network parameterized by weights v , thereby learning posterior distribution $\mathbb{D}^{post}(T_1, T_2, Y)$, denoted as $\mathcal{N}(\mu^{post}, \sigma^{post})$. The mean and variance are obtained as follows:

$$\mu^{post}, \log \sigma^{post} = F^{post}(T_1, T_2, Y, v) \quad (10)$$

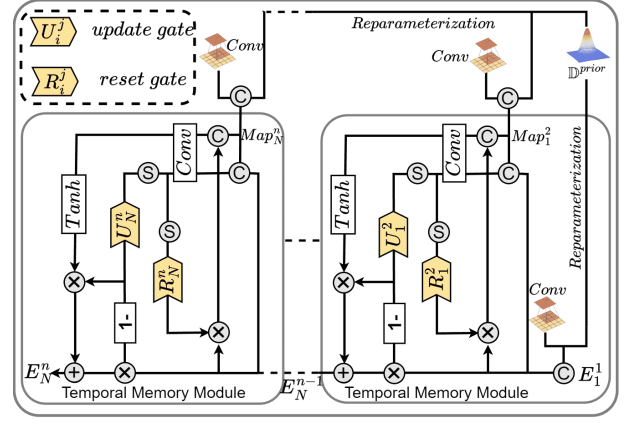


Figure 5: Decision aggregation unit.

Where F^{post} denotes learnable generator for posterior distribution, as illustrated in Figure 3.

To train prior network via posterior network, we adopt Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence loss $KL(Q \parallel P) = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim Q} \left[\log \frac{Q(z)}{P(z)} \right]$ to penalize the discrepancy between posterior and prior distribution:

$$\mathcal{L}_{kl} = KL(\mathbb{D}^{prior}(X), \mathbb{D}^{post}(T_1, T_2, Y)) \quad (11)$$

Then, reparameterization sampling is leveraged to perform multiple samplings from the prior distribution, yielding sampled features $(\hat{z}_1^1, \hat{z}_1^2, \dots, \hat{z}_N^n)$ (where n denotes the number of samplings and N represents the number of stages). This not only ensures the differentiability of the sampling process but also introduces randomness into the model.

Finally, to simulate the stochastic diffusion characteristics, the sampled features $(\hat{z}_1^1, \hat{z}_1^2, \dots, \hat{z}_N^n)$ and the decision feature f_i are fed into the change detection head F_i^{head} separately to obtain the decision results. The process is as follows:

$$Map_i^j = F_i^{head} \left(\hat{z}_i^j \odot f_i \right) \quad (12)$$

Where $\odot$ denotes the feature concatenation operation, and the decision map sequence $\{Map_i^j\}$ ($i \in [1, N]$, $j \in [1, n]$) lays the foundation for subsequent evidence accumulation.

3.3 Decision Aggregation Unit (DAU)

In DDM, evidence accumulation is a dynamic process that continuously integrates task-related information until a decision threshold is reached and a choice is output. In this paper, the sequences of multiple decision maps generated at each stage exhibit significant temporal dependence, prompting us to introduce DAU to explore the evolution rules among multi-stage decision features. This design is highly consistent with evidence accumulation in terms of physical mechanism.

As illustrated in Figure 5, the previous hidden state E_i^{j-1} and the current time-step state Map_i^j are fed into the temporal memory module (TMM), yielding the activation values of the reset gate and update gate. The reset gate filters out redundant information irrelevant to the CD task, while the update gate

Method	LEVIR-CD					SECOND					SYSUCD				
	P	Re	F1	OA	mIoU	P	Re	F1	OA	mIoU	P	Re	F1	OA	mIoU
DTCDSN	72.86	<u>89.23</u>	80.22	98.56	82.75	62.03	70.92	66.17	87.23	67.43	<u>82.91</u>	70.47	76.19	89.57	74.51
BIT	92.16	70.68	80.01	98.20	82.40	69.42	64.37	<u>66.80</u>	88.72	<u>68.71</u>	80.52	72.55	76.16	89.33	74.32
Change Former	91.17	78.57	84.40	98.52	85.74	<u>74.61</u>	50.58	66.79	87.95	68.21	80.83	73.68	77.09	89.67	75.11
ICIFNet	95.70	70.12	80.94	98.32	83.12	78.21	53.96	63.86	87.79	66.61	84.60	70.70	77.03	90.06	75.36
USSF-Net	90.44	84.02	<u>87.11</u>	<u>98.73</u>	<u>87.92</u>	73.15	54.43	62.48	86.90	65.37	80.66	75.62	78.06	89.97	75.90
DMINet	<u>94.38</u>	74.08	83.01	98.46	84.68	74.18	58.50	65.41	87.63	67.30	79.17	80.66	<u>79.91</u>	<u>90.43</u>	<u>77.36</u>
Change Mamba	94.16	75.81	84.01	98.53	85.44	69.29	63.19	66.10	87.04	67.26	79.55	73.91	76.63	89.37	74.62
Ours	89.08	91.00	90.03	98.97	90.40	71.66	<u>64.91</u>	68.13	87.85	68.84	80.44	<u>79.90</u>	80.17	90.68	77.71

*All values are reported in percentage (%). Color convention: **best**, 2-nd best.

Table 1: Performance comparison of different methods across various datasets

determines the key valid information that should be retained and passed to subsequent stages. As shown in the formulas:

$$R_i^j, U_i^j = \sigma \left(\text{Split} \left(\text{Conv} \left(\text{Map}_i^j \odot E_i^{j-1} \right) \right) \right) \quad (13)$$

Where R_i^j denotes reset gate, U_i^j denotes update gate, and $\sigma(\cdot)$ represents Sigmoid activation function. Based on the filtering results of the reset gate, the weight of the hidden state E_i^{j-1} from the previous stage is adjusted; then, it is concatenated with the current time-step state Map_i^j , and the reset feature $\hat{E}_i^j$ is generated via convolution and activation functions. This feature focuses on the fusion of key decision information in current stage and valid historical evidence:

$$\hat{E}_i^j = \text{Tanh} \left(\text{Conv} \left((R_i^j \odot E_i^{j-1}) \odot \text{Map}_i^j \right) \right) \quad (14)$$

Through weight modulation of the update gate, the evidence accumulated in the previous stage and the currently generated reset feature are dynamically fused to obtain the hidden state E_i^j of the current stage, thus completing one round of evidence accumulation:

$$E_i^j = (1 - U_i^j) \odot E_i^{j-1} + U_i^j \odot \hat{E}_i^j \quad (15)$$

Here, we set $E_1^1 = \text{Map}_1^1$. Through the above temporal iterative computation, the model can gradually integrate the valid information of multi-stage decision maps and complete the brain-inspired evidence accumulation process.

3.4 Loss-Guided Unit (LGU)

The core of directional drift in DDM lies in the characteristic that decision-making process is driven by goal-oriented signals and gradually shifts toward the correct decision direction. To simulate this characteristic, this paper constructs LGU. Through phased supervision and multi-loss collaboration, it balances the stability of model training and final detection accuracy, guides model to gradually focus on real change regions, and achieves brain-like directional drift.

We adopt the Binary Cross-Entropy (BCE) loss to supervise the prediction maps. Considering the multi-stage progressive localization characteristic of our model, to fully utilize middle-layer features and avoid gradient vanishing or overfitting during training, we impose constraints on the final hidden state h_N^n of each stage, which is defined as the prediction map P^i .

The BCE loss at the $i - th$ stage is defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}_{BCE}^i = \frac{1}{H \times W} \sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{w=1}^W l_{bce} (P_{hw}^i, Y_{hw}) \quad (16)$$

Where Y_{hw} represents the pixel value of label at position (h, w) , and P_{hw}^i denotes the probability that model predicts the pixel at position (h, w) as a changed pixel in the i -th stage.

To integrate constraint effects of multiple losses, we construct a joint loss function $\mathcal{L}_T$, which is defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}_T = \lambda_1 * \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2^{i-1}} \mathcal{L}_{BCE}^i + \lambda_2 * \mathcal{L}_{kl} \quad (17)$$

This loss function ensures the training stability of each stage through multiple constraints while clarifying the model's optimization direction, which is highly consistent with the directed drift characteristic of DDM. The output of the final stage h_N^n is ultimately taken as the final CD result.

4 Experiment Setting

We evaluate our proposed D²MDM² change detector on three public change detection datasets, namely LEVIR-CD, SECOND, and SYSUCD. LEVIR-CD is a large-scale U.S. building change detection dataset with 637 ultra-high-resolution image pairs split into 256×256 sub-images for training/validation/testing. SECOND is a Chinese land cover change dataset with 4,662 aerial images cropped into sub-images and split into three sets at a 7:2:1 ratio. SYSUCD is a 3-band Hong Kong aerial dataset with 20,000 image pairs capturing diverse changes and split 6:2:2 for experiments.

The model is implemented in PyTorch and trained on a single NVIDIA GeForce RTX 4090 GPU with batch size of 16. We utilize the AdamW optimizer with an initial learning rate of 0.001 and a weight decay of 5×10^{-4} . To facilitate convergence, the learning rate follows a step decay strategy, reducing to 70% of its previous value every 20 epochs across a total of 150 training epochs. For the multi-task objective function, the loss weight hyperparameters are empirically set as $\lambda_1 = 1$ and $\lambda_2 = 1$.

For objective evaluation, this paper adopts five evaluation metrics—Precision (P), Recall (Re), F1-score (F1), Overall Accuracy (OA), and mean Intersection over Union (mIoU)—to comprehensively assess the experimental results.

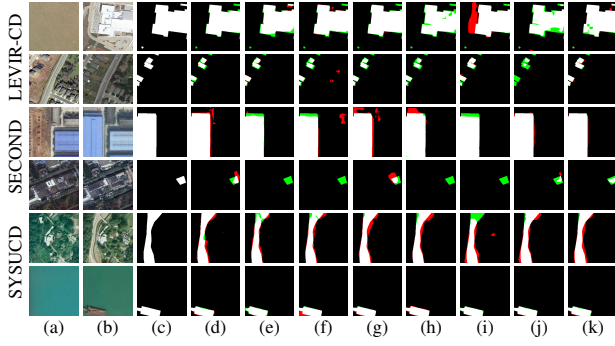


Figure 6: Qualitative results of different CD methods on LEVIR-CD, SECOND and SYSUCD datasets. (a) T1 Image, (b) T2 Image, (c) Ground Truth, (d) DTCDSN, (e) BIT, (f) Change Former, (g) ICIFNet, (h) DMINet, (i) USSFC-Net, (j) ChangeMamba, (k) Ours.

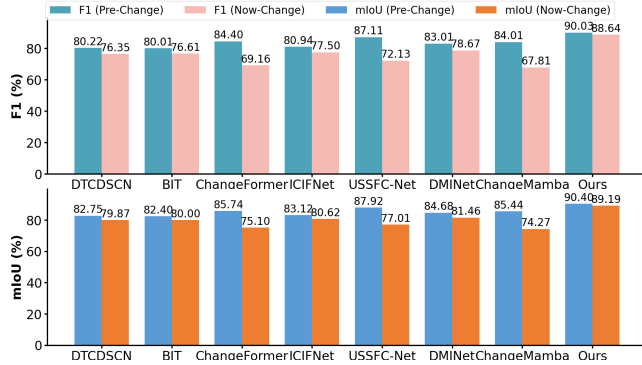


Figure 7: Indicator Changes of Local Perturbation on LEVIR-CD

5 Experiment Result

5.1 Comparison for Regular Data

To verify the effectiveness of D^2MDM^2 on RSCD, we compare it with several CD methods, including DTCDSN [Liu *et al.*, 2021], BIT [Chen *et al.*, 2022], Change Former [Bandara and Patel, 2022], ICIFNet [Feng *et al.*, 2022], USSFC-Net [Lei *et al.*, 2023], DMINet [Wu *et al.*, 2023] and Change Mamba [Chen *et al.*, 2024]. For fairness, all comparative methods are implemented using the codes released by their authors, and their respective parameters are set in accordance with the original literatures.

Objective Indicator. Table 1 presents the quantitative metrics of different models on three clean datasets without attacks. D^2MDM^2 achieves excellent performance in comprehensive metrics such as F1-score and mIoU. For instance, its F1-score reaches 90.03% on LEVIR-CD dataset. This superior performance may be attributed to the DDM-inspired brain-like decision mechanism, which is highly consistent with the human cognitive process and gradually realizes the accurate localization of changed regions.

Visual Comparison. As illustrated in Figure 6, existing methods like DMINet and ChangeMamba suffer from missed detections of small targets, while DTCDSN and BIT exhibit edge-related false alarms. Additionally, USSFC-Net yields significant false positives in large regions. In contrast,

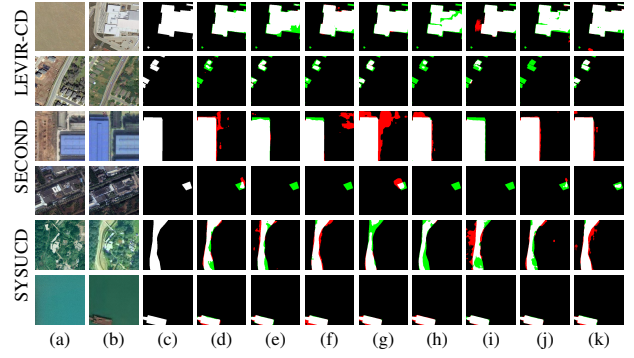


Figure 8: Qualitative results on Detection results of different CD methods on LEVIR-CD, SECOND and SYSUCD dataset with local perturbation. (a) T1 Image, (b) T2 Image, (c) Ground Truth, (d) DTCDSN, (e) BIT, (f) Change Former, (g) ICIFNet, (h) DMINet, (i) USSFC-Net, (j) ChangeMamba, (k) Ours.

MRU effectively refines decision priors via guidance factors, achieving superior qualitative results across various scales.

5.2 Comparison for Local Perturbation Data

To evaluate robustness, we constructed an illumination disturbance set by simulating real HSV color space variations. For LEVIR-CD, SECOND, and SYSUCD, the perturbation ranges were determined as $[-5.25, 12.57]$, $[4.65, 30.82]$, and $[-28.81, 29.95]$. By applying random pixel-wise adjustments within these bounds, we synthesized realistic samples that reflect unpredictable environmental dynamics.

Objective Indicator. Figure 7 presents the quantitative metrics of different models for LEVIR-CD under illumination perturbation. It can be seen that the F1 and mIoU of our model remain leading across all datasets. This is because SRU effectively simulates random perturbations caused by noise, thus greatly improving the model’s anti-interference ability.

Visual Comparison. Figure 8 evaluates performance under illumination perturbations, which significantly degrade the accuracy of baseline methods (e.g., BIT, ICIFNet, DMINet, and ChangeMamba), leading to increased false alarms and misses. In contrast, our model maintains superior target integrity and robustness. This resilience is attributed to the loss-guided unit, which simulates the directed drift process of DDM. By focusing on change-related information and suppressing irrelevant redundant information through multi-loss constraints, it further improves the accuracy of changed region localization and the reliability of results.

5.3 Ablation Experiments

DSF	P.	Re.	F1	OA	mIoU
2	73.01	88.35	79.95	97.74	82.12
3	89.08	91.00	90.03	98.97	90.40
4	94.71	78.13	<u>85.63</u>	<u>98.66</u>	86.74
5	<u>93.26</u>	77.80	84.83	98.58	86.09

Table 2: Ablation of distribution samples frequency

SRU	DAU	P.	Re.	F1	OA	mIoU
✓		92.97	79.16	85.51	98.63	86.63
	✓	94.80	76.92	84.93	98.61	86.18
✓	✓	89.08	91.00	90.03	98.97	90.40

Table 3: Ablation of module

N	P.	Re.	F1	OA	mIoU
2	88.35	89.71	89.27	98.87	89.52
3	89.08	91.00	90.03	98.97	90.40
4	92.73	80.89	86.40	98.70	87.35

Table 4: Ablation of stage number

Ablation of Distribution Sampling Frequency (DSF). To introduce controllable randomness, multiple independent samples are fused with decision features. As shown in Table 2, model performance peaks at three samples. While moderate sampling enhances adaptability to complex interferences, excessive repetitions introduce redundant information and noise, leading to overfitting and increased overhead.

Ablation of Module. We conducted ablation studies to verify the effectiveness of the proposed modules (i.e., SRU and DAU). As shown in Table 3, SRU effectively simulates the stochastic diffusion mechanism via random sampling, while DAU implements the evidence accumulation function. Together, these elements constitute the core of the DDM framework. The results clearly demonstrate that their integration significantly enhances the model’s performance, validating the proposed brain-inspired decision-making logic.

Ablation of Stage Number. In Table 4, we analyze the impact of the number of iterative stages N . Since the effectiveness of DAU has been verified in previous experiments, N in this experiment starts from 2. It is not difficult to observe that the performance improves when N increases from 2 to 3, but decreases significantly when N exceeds 3. This may be because as the number of stages increases, extremely small-scale features emerge, making it harder for the model to learn more accurate changed regions. More experiment are provided in supplementary materials ¹.

5.4 Visualization

Visualization for Uncouple Space. To intuitively assess the CD performance, we utilize T-SNE to project changed (yellow) and unchanged (blue) pixel features onto a 2D plane. As illustrated in Figure 9, our model exhibits a significantly clearer semantic boundary and tighter feature clustering compared to existing methods. This superior feature separation aligns with our quantitative results, confirming the efficacy of the proposed brain-inspired mechanism.

Visualization for Feature Heatmap. To intuitively analyze D²MDM² mechanism, Figure 10 visualizes key features. As the stages progress [Figure 10(b-d)], decision prior features exhibit an evident transition from coarse localization to precise differentiation, while bitemporal features increasingly concentrate on change regions. Furthermore, final change

¹<https://github.com/iceking111/D2MDM2>

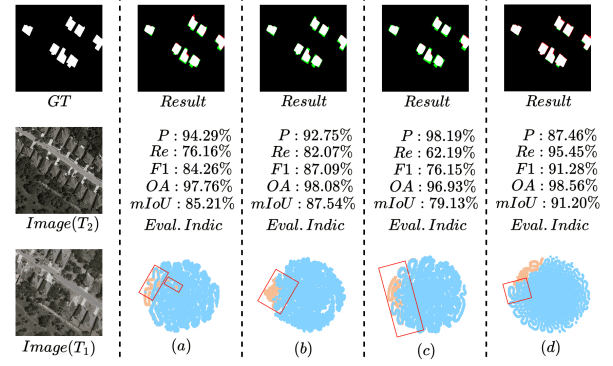


Figure 9: Some visualization examples produced by typical deep models. (a) Results of the BIT. (b) Results of the ChangeFormer. (c) Results of the ICIFNet. (d) Results of our D²MDM².

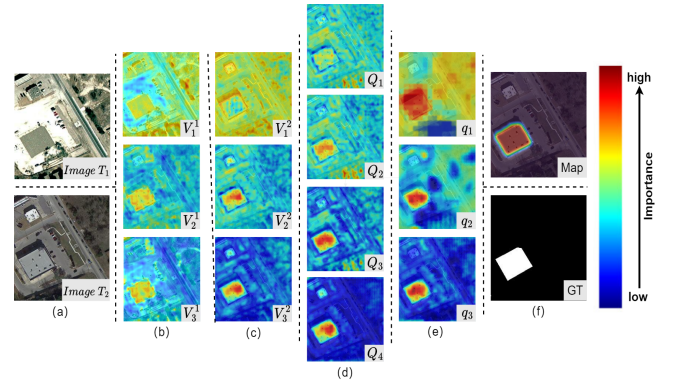


Figure 10: Visualization of key features from D²MDM². (a) Dual-phase images T_1 and T_2 ; (b) Stage-wise features V_i^1 of image T_1 ; (c) Stage-wise features V_i^2 of image T_2 ; (d) Initial decision prior features Q and their stage-wise updated results Q_i ; (e) Guidance factors q_i ; (f) Heatmaps of the change map and ground truth (GT).

heatmap [Figure 10(f)] demonstrates sharp boundaries and accurate target localization. This evolutionary process validates that brain-inspired DDM mechanism effectively refines change cues through multi-stage evidence accumulation, thereby enhancing the discriminative power of model.

6 Conclusion

In this paper, we break through the constraints of traditional one-step CD paradigms by framing illumination-induced performance degradation as an adversarial attack-and-defense problem. We propose D²MDM², a novel brain-inspired deep network that integrates DDM with cognitive neuroscience principles. By implementing MRU and the SRU, our model effectively captures the inherent uncertainty in RS environments while mimicking the human “coarse-to-fine” cognitive process. The inclusion of DAU and LGU ensure that model maintains focus on authentic change regions through directional drift modeling and evidence accumulation. Extensive evaluations on multiple datasets with complex illumination perturbations demonstrate that D²MDM² significantly outperforms several methods in both accuracy and robustness.

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