



澳門大學
UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU
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Towards building artificial social intelligence (ASI) with mentalising ability: Two preliminary studies

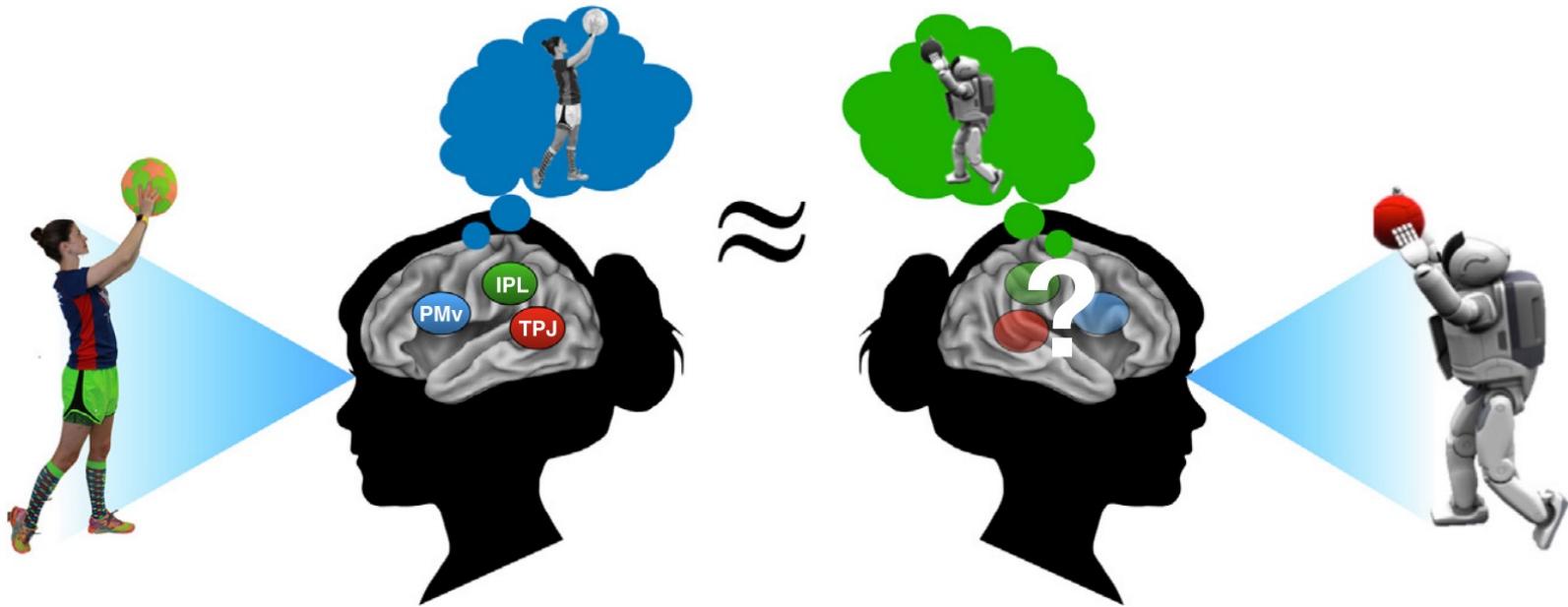
基于心智化能力的人工智能体构建初探

Presenter: Zhaoning Li 李肇宁

Invited Talk at NCC Lab & AND Lab Joint Workshop

Prologue

Machines with **artificial social intelligence (ASI)** are designed to either detect and respond to **social signals** in the environment or detect and respond to signals in the environment in a way that is **perceived as social by human users**, or some combination of these two possibilities¹.

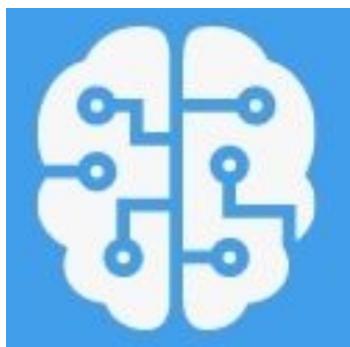


(Adapted from Cross & Ramsey, 2021)

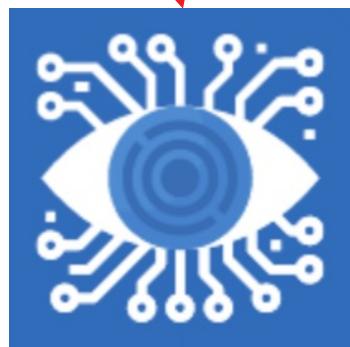
1. Cross, E. S., & Ramsey, R. (2021). Mind meets machine: Towards a cognitive science of human–machine interactions. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 25, 200–212.

Prologue

Machines with **artificial social intelligence (ASI)** are designed to either detect and respond to **social signals** in the environment or detect and respond to signals in the environment in a way that is **perceived as social by human users**, or some combination of these two possibilities¹.



**Artificial Narrow
Intelligence (ANI)**



**Explainable Artificial
Intelligence (XAI)**



**Artificial General
Intelligence (AGI)**

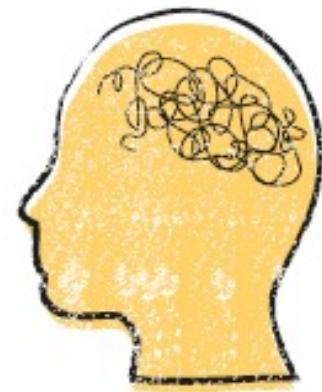
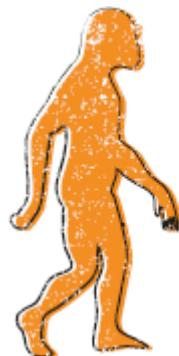
(Adapted from machine-desk.com and slidesalad.com)

1. Cross, E. S., & Ramsey, R. (2021). Mind meets machine: Towards a cognitive science of human–machine interactions. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 25, 200–212.

Prologue

We've been through 2.5 million years of **human evolution** since our **first hominid ancestors**. Our **brain size** has **tripled** since the first hominids, to cope with communication, tool-use, and love ².

2.5
million $\times 3$

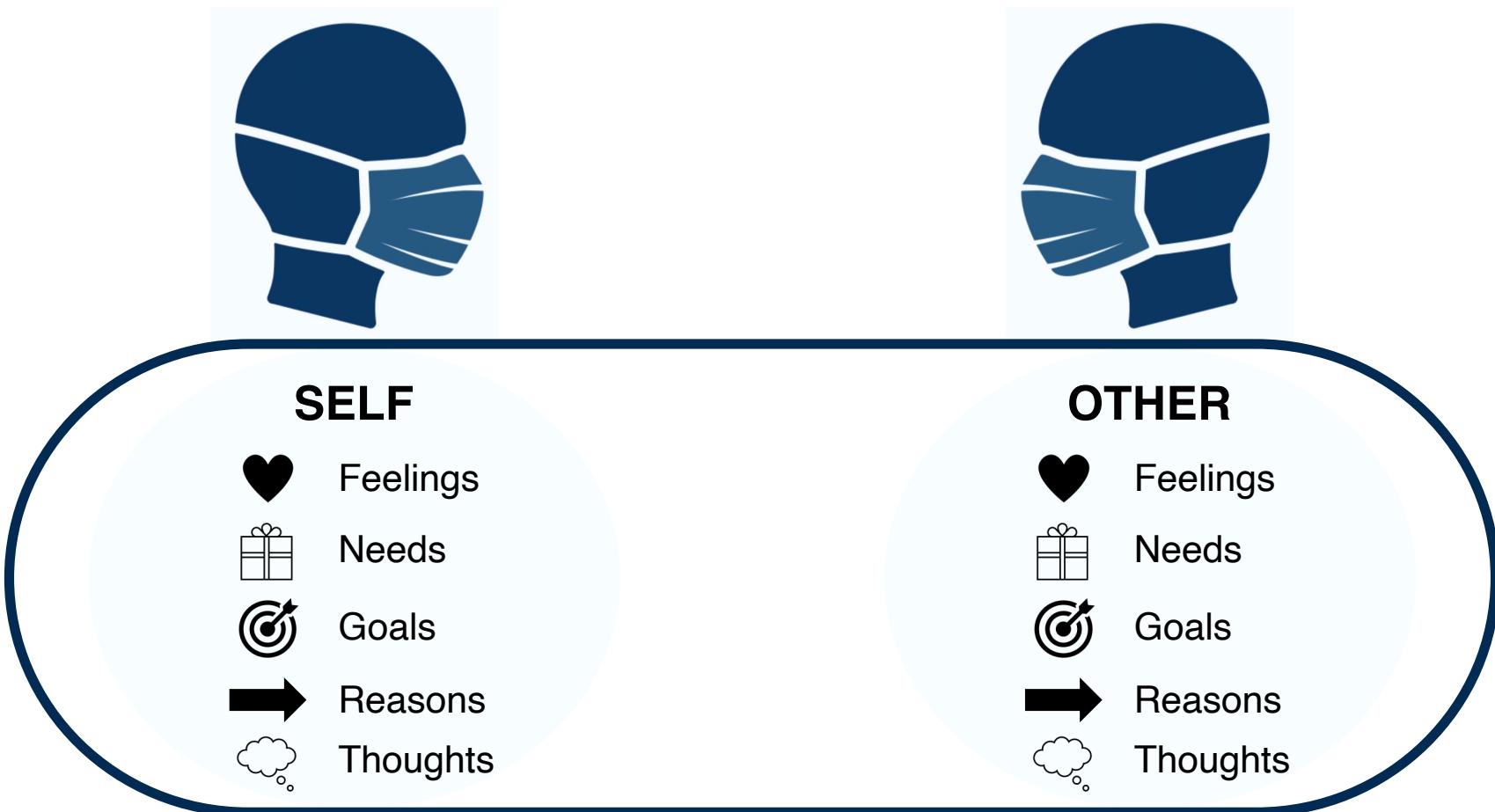


(Adapted from Becker-Phelps, 2016)

2. Becker-Phelps, L. (2016). *Love: The psychology of attraction*. DK.

Prologue

Mentalising ability is a pivotal and fundamental component of human social intelligence.



(Adapted from BioRender.com)

Towards human-compatible autonomous car: A study of nonverbal Turing test in automated driving with affective transition modelling

Background

Autonomous cars (AC) have the potential to increase road safety, as they can react faster than human drivers and are not subject to human errors.

Despite the potential benefits, there is no large-scale deployment of autonomous cars yet.

Existing literature has highlighted that the acceptance of the AC will increase if it drives in a human-like manner.

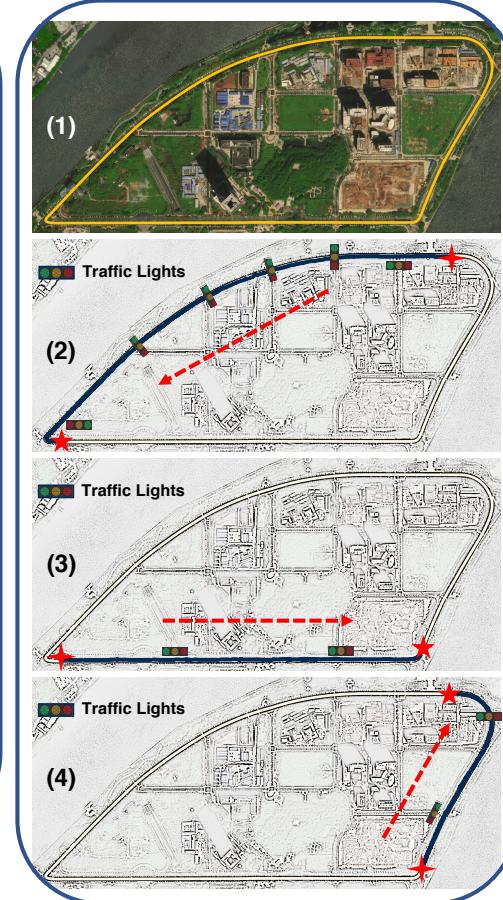
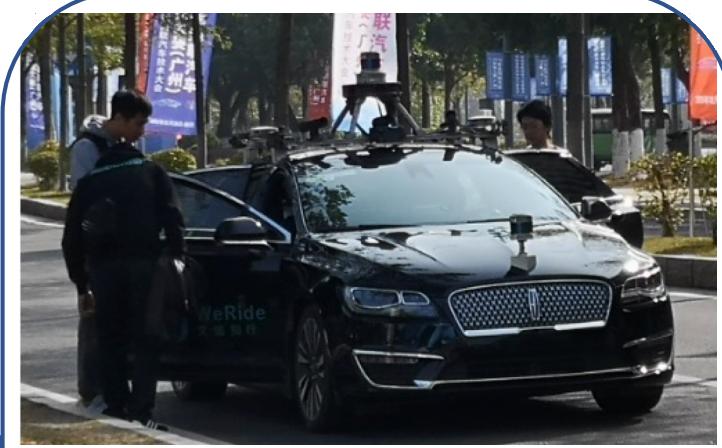
Al-Shihabi & Mourant, 2001; Al-Shihabi & Mourant, 2003; Gu et al., 2017; Hecker et al., 2019; Sun et al., 2020.

However, literature presents no human-subject research focusing on passengers in a natural environment that examines whether the AC should behave in a human-like manner.

Research question

How to offer naturalistic experiences from a passenger's seat perspective to measure the people's acceptance of ACs?

The nonverbal Turing test of automated driving



How do human passengers choose?



Choice behaviour → $B = f(P, E)$

The diagram illustrates the formula $B = f(P, E)$. On the left, the text "Choice behaviour" is followed by a right-pointing arrow. To the right of the arrow is the mathematical expression $B = f(P, E)$. Below this expression are two labels: "Passenger" on the left and "Driving environment" on the right. Two arrows point from these labels towards the function f , indicating that both factors influence the choice behavior B .



Kurt Lewin, 1936

(Adapted from Wikipedia)

How do human passengers choose: SDT-AT (PLM)

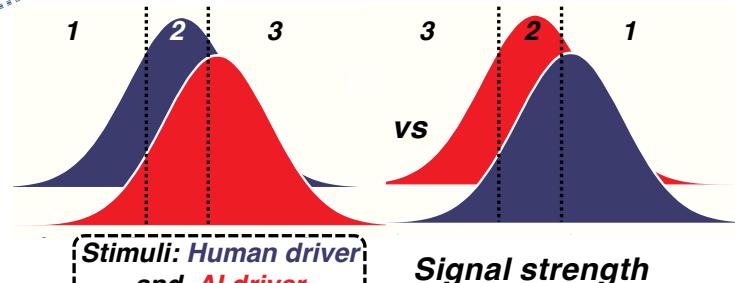
A. Participant data



Post-stage:
Response
Safety and comfort
DES-IV
Mixed feelings

B. Signal detection theory

Unlikely (1) / somewhat likely (2) / very likely (3)
to be driven by the AI driver



Stimuli: Human driver
and AI driver

Signal strength



较强烈快乐
Enjoyment (3/4)

Pre-trained
language
models



较强烈兴趣 Interest (3/4)

较轻微惊奇 Surprise (2/4)

一点也没有恐惧 Fear (1/4)

一点也没有紧张
Tension (1/4)

较强烈满意
Satisfaction (3/4)

过红绿灯时停车较急促。
The car stopped more
quickly at traffic lights.

D. Transformation

Feature
extraction

Transformed
vector

Global
pooling

Whitening
and
dimensionality
reduction



C. Affective transition



Pre-study baseline
vector



Distance
measures



Post-stage vector

Results of the computational models

Comparison on the Outer Loop Cross-Validation of Nested-LOOCV with Baselines

(a) Evaluation results on the first stage.

Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR	-0.1844	0.1312	0.1283	0.0988	0.1761	-0.0082	-0.0453	0.0390	0.0744
KNN	0.1998	0.0616	-0.0069	0.2043*	0.3045**	-0.0509	0.0804	0.0596	0.0591
SVC	-0.0902	0.0781	-0.0222	0.0832	0.1928	-0.0016	0.0326	-0.0314	0.0065
RF	0.1323	0.0971	0.0181	0.0925	0.2354*	0.0591	-0.0252	0.0773	0.1126
XGBoost	0.1322	0.3034**	-0.1130	0.2262*	0.2614*	-0.0122	0.0621	0.1896	0.1181
MLP	0.3153**	0.3654**	0.2479*	0.1256	0.0516	0.0679	0.0097	0.1567	0.0873

Baselines	<i>None</i>	SDT-AT	<i>AA+MF</i>	<i>AA</i>	PA+MF	<i>PA</i>	<i>NA+MF</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>MF</i>
Random	0.0015	Original	-0.3985	-0.3552	-0.2580	0.1738	-0.3397	0.0828	0.0990
Probability	-0.0010	PLM (wv)	0.4511***	0.4152***	0.4092***	0.3939***	0.4064***	0.1359	0.3030**
Golden	0.1491	PLM (tf)	0.4113***	0.4639****	0.4768****	0.3939***	0.3484**	0.1842	0.3738**

Results of the computational models

Comparison on the Outer Loop Cross-Validation of Nested-LOOCV with Baselines

(a) Evaluation results on the first stage.

Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR	-0.1844	0.1312	0.1283	0.0988	0.1761	-0.0082	-0.0453	0.0390	0.0744

(b) Evaluation results on the second stage.

	Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
XG	MLR	0.2752*	0.1524	-0.2298	0.1539	0.2095*	-0.1659	0.0205	0.1947	-0.1728
M	KNN	0.2013*	0.2467*	-0.0567	0.0371	0.3523**	-0.2845	-0.1138	-0.1385	-0.0053
Bas	SVC	0.2258*	0.1915	0.1163	0.1284	0.0915	-0.1747	-0.1508	0.0836	-0.2366
Rai	RF	0.1541	0.3911***	-0.0122	0.0700	0.2136*	-0.0916	0.0672	0.1767	-0.3972
Prok	XGBoost	0.0934	0.2847**	-0.2574	0.0397	0.3560**	-0.0450	-0.1472	-0.2216	-0.1332
Gc	MLP	-0.0038	0.1463	-0.2474	0.0853	0.4813****	-0.0308	-0.2472	-0.2060	-0.2274
	Baselines	<i>None</i>	SDT-AT	<i>AA+MF</i>	<i>AA</i>	<i>PA+MF</i>	PA	<i>NA+MF</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>MF</i>
Random	0.0097	Original	0.1750	0.2409*	0.1539	0.1912	0.1865	-0.0105	0.1824	
Probability	-0.0020	PLM (wv)	0.4569****	0.4195***	0.4402***	0.4635****	0.3167**	0.1703	0.4276***	
Golden	0.0394	PLM (tf)	0.4375***	0.4173***	0.4545****	0.4739****	0.3528**	0.2636*	0.3578**	

Results of the computational models

Comparison on the Outer Loop Cross-Validation of Nested-LOOCV with Baselines

(a) Evaluation results on the first stage.

Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR	-0.1844	0.1312	0.1283	0.0988	0.1761	-0.0082	-0.0453	0.0390	0.0744

(b) Evaluation results on the second stage.

Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR	0.2752*	0.1524	-0.2298	0.1539	0.2095*	-0.1659	0.0205	0.1947	-0.1728

(c) Evaluation results on the third stage.

	Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
Rai	MLR	0.2154*	0.3482**	0.2852*	0.0593	-0.0535	0.0076	0.3994***	0.3294**	0.3954***
Prot	KNN	0.1763	0.2289*	0.1951	0.1779	0.0384	0.2147*	0.4034***	0.3311**	0.3369**
XGI	SVC	0.4706****	0.3086**	0.2050	0.2393*	0.0671	0.1114	0.2278*	0.1002	0.2197*
Gc	RF	0.0553	0.3739**	0.2307*	-0.1087	0.1919	0.0203	0.3481**	0.3729**	0.2369*
M	XGBoost	0.0896	0.4084***	0.2747*	-0.1074	0.1474	0.0813	0.3895***	0.4127***	0.3041**
Base	MLP	0.2142*	0.1700	0.2706*	0.1835	0.0368	0.1321	0.3501**	0.2982**	0.3658**
	Baselines	<i>None</i>	SDT-AT	<i>AA+MF</i>	<i>AA</i>	<i>PA+MF</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>NA+MF</i>	<i>NA</i>	MF
	Random	-0.0013	Original	0.1490	0.2019	0.1978	-0.0258	0.4037***	0.4245***	0.1104
	Probability	-0.0022	PLM (wv)	0.4861****	0.4556***	0.4624***	0.4322***	0.4419***	0.4256***	0.5615****
	Golden	0.3168**	PLM (tf)	0.4807****	0.4974****	0.4654****	0.4570***	0.4769****	0.4429***	0.5422***

Results of the computational models

Comparison on the Outer Loop Cross-Validation of Nested-LOOCV with Baselines

(a) Evaluation results on the first stage.

Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR	-0.1844	0.1312	0.1283	0.0988	0.1761	-0.0082	-0.0453	0.0390	0.0744

(b) Evaluation results on the second stage.

Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR	0.2752*	0.1524	-0.2298	0.1539	0.2095*	-0.1659	0.0205	0.1947	-0.1728

(c) Evaluation results on the third stage.

Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR	0.2154*	0.3482**	0.2852*	0.0593	-0.0535	0.0076	0.3994***	0.3294**	0.3954***
KNN	0.1762	0.2280*	0.1051	0.1770	0.0284	0.2147*	0.1024***	0.2211**	0.2260**

(d) Evaluation results on all stages.

	Baselines	<i>AA</i>	<i>AA_{pre}</i>	<i>AA_{post}</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>PA_{pre}</i>	<i>PA_{post}</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA_{pre}</i>	<i>NA_{post}</i>
MLR		0.0573	0.1516*	0.0749	0.0543	0.1264*	0.0988	0.0931	0.1160	0.0520
KNN		0.0461	0.1263*	0.1196*	0.0138	0.0839	0.1654**	0.0558	0.1921**	0.0715
SVC		0.1658**	0.2296***	-0.0531	0.1381*	0.0998	0.0157	0.1441*	0.2198***	0.0391
RF		0.1129	0.1382*	0.0604	0.0845	0.0411	0.0721	0.0161	0.0470	0.1568*
XGBoost		0.1216*	0.1977**	0.0560	0.1624*	0.1008	0.0301	0.1639*	0.1603*	0.1588*
MLP		0.1050	0.0391	0.1262*	-0.0222	0.0914	0.0119	0.1475*	0.2035**	0.0764
Baselines	None	SDT-AT	AA+MF	AA	PA+MF	PA	NA+MF	NA	MF	
Random	-0.0001	Original	0.1850**	0.1816**	0.0326	0.1416*	-0.1204	0.1685**	0.0570	
Probability	-0.0027	PLM (wv)	0.2704***	0.2452***	0.2447***	0.2331***	0.2866****	0.1871**	0.5093****	
Golden	0.1764**	PLM (tf)	0.2837****	0.2879****	0.2734****	0.2878****	0.4178****	0.2004**	0.4641****	

**Every individual makes a difference:
A trinity derived from linking individual
brain morphometry, connectivity and
mentalising ability**

Background

Considering the multifaceted nature of mentalising ability ³, little research has focused on characterising individual differences in different mentalising components ⁴.

**Self-self mentalisation
(SS, meta-cognition)**



**Self-other mentalisation
(SO, perspective-taking)**



**Other-self mentalisation
(OS)**

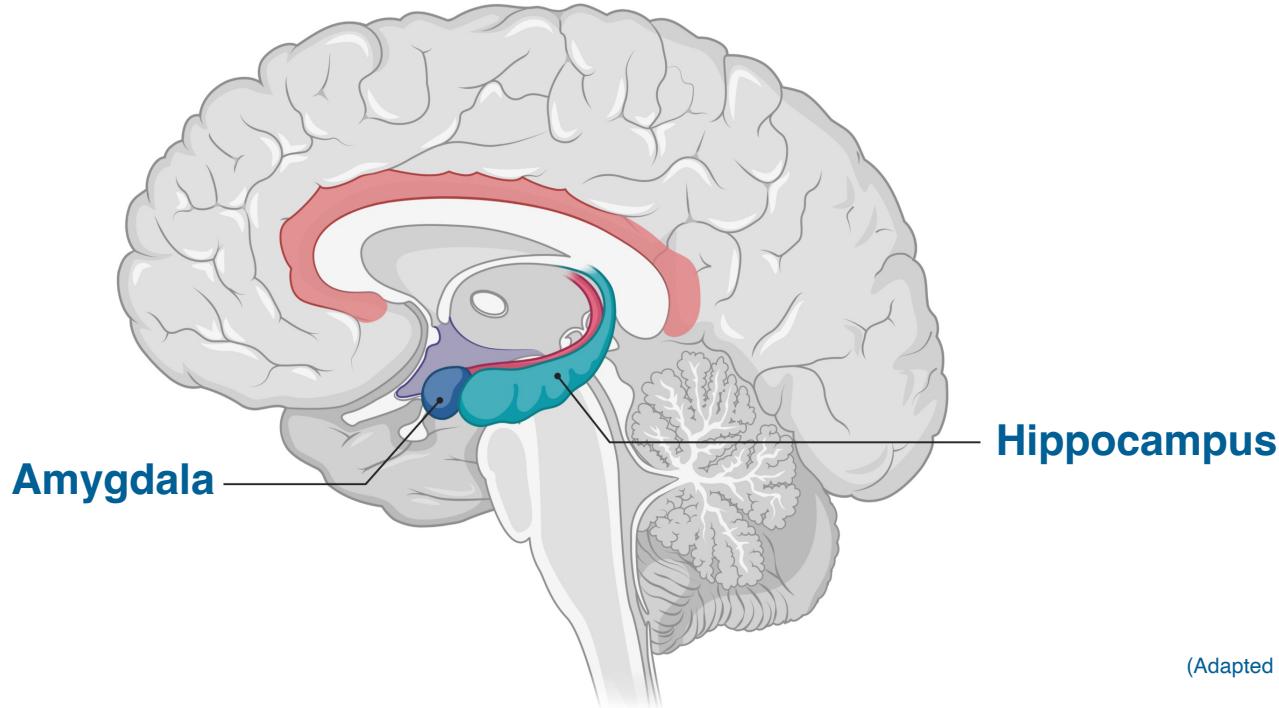


(Adapted from BioRender.com)

3. Wu, H., Liu, X., Hagan, C. C., & Mobbs, D. (2020b). Mentalising during social interaction: A four component model. *Cortex*, 126, 242–252.
4. Wu, H., Fung, B. J., & Mobbs, D. (2022). Mentalising during social interaction: The development and validation of the interactive mentalising questionnaire. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12.

Background

And even less research has been devoted to investigating how the variance in the structural and functional patterns of the amygdala and hippocampus, two vital subcortical regions of the ‘social brain’^{5, 6}, are related to inter-individual variability in mentalising ability.



(Adapted from BioRender.com)

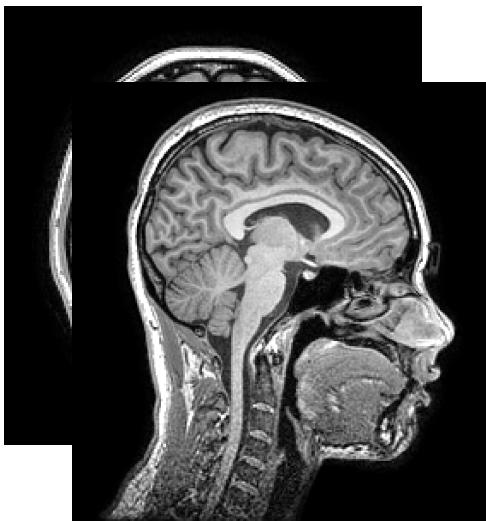
5. Bickart, K. C., Dickerson, B. C., & Barrett, L. F. (2014). The amygdala as a hub in brain networks that support social life. *Neuropsychologia*, 63, 235–248.
6. Montagrin, A., Saiote, C., & Schiller, D. (2018). The social hippocampus. *Hippocampus*, 28, 672–679.

Research question

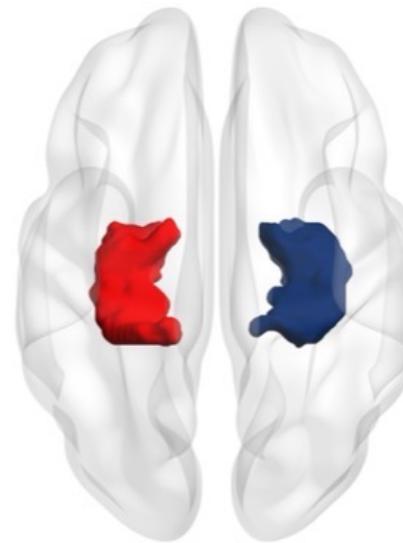
Whether inter-individual variability in the structural or functional patterns of the above two brain regions is associated with that in different mentalising components?

MMS: Surface-based multivariate morphometry statistics

(a)



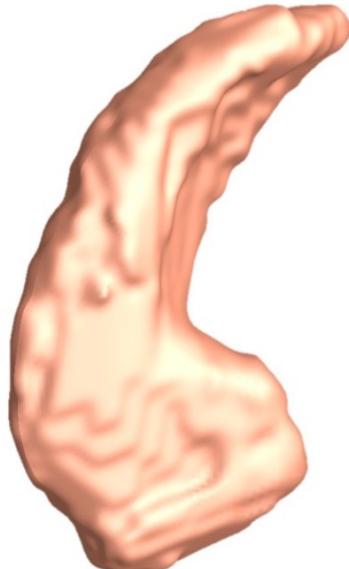
(b)



Processing
pipeline
of
hippocampal
morphometry
data

T1-weighted MRI scans

(c)

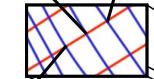


Smoothed surface

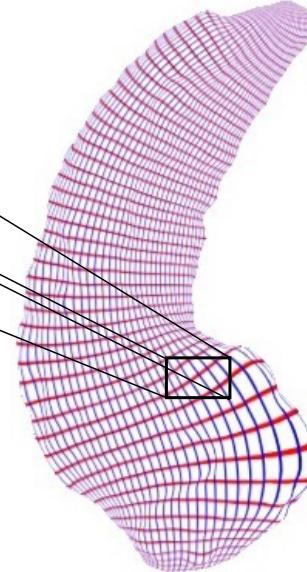
Hippocampal segmentation

(d)

$$\begin{Bmatrix} RD \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \\ \vdots \end{Bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{Bmatrix} RD \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \end{Bmatrix} \text{--- mTBM}$$

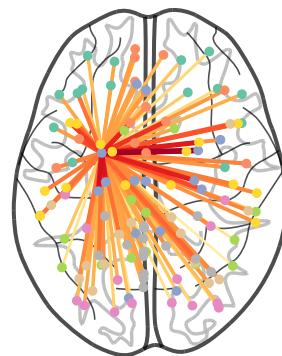
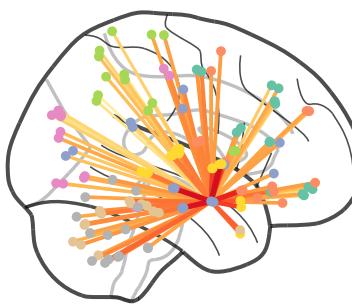
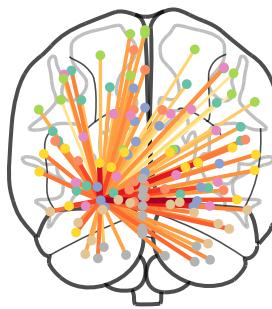


Multivariate morphometry statistics

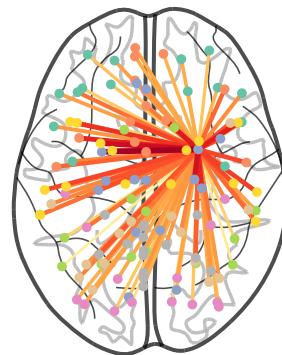
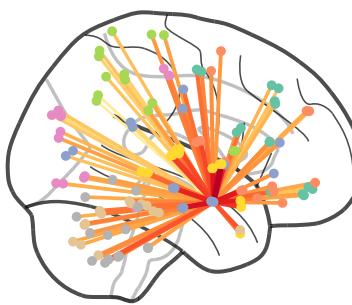
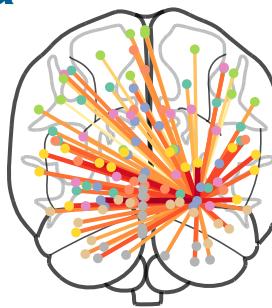
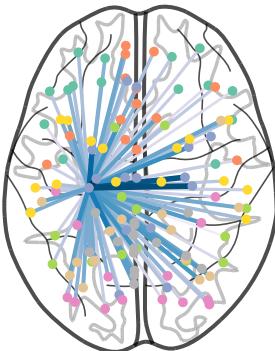
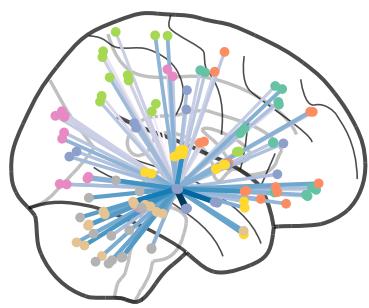
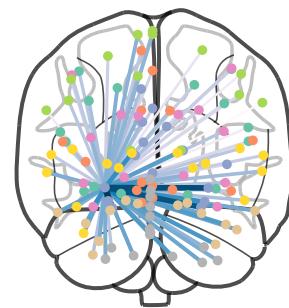
Rs-FC: Resting-state functional connectivity



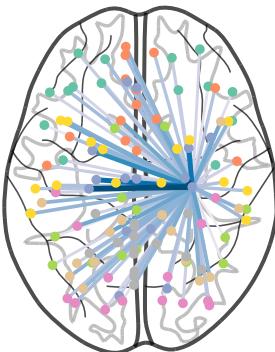
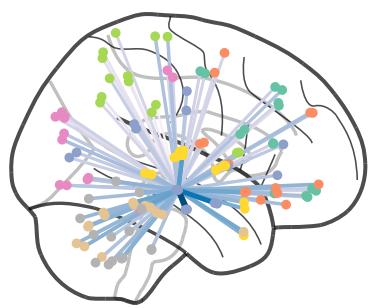
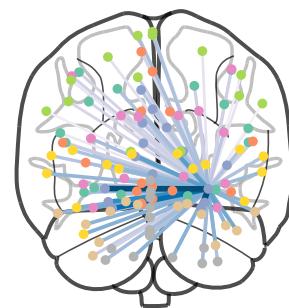
Left amygdala



Right amygdala

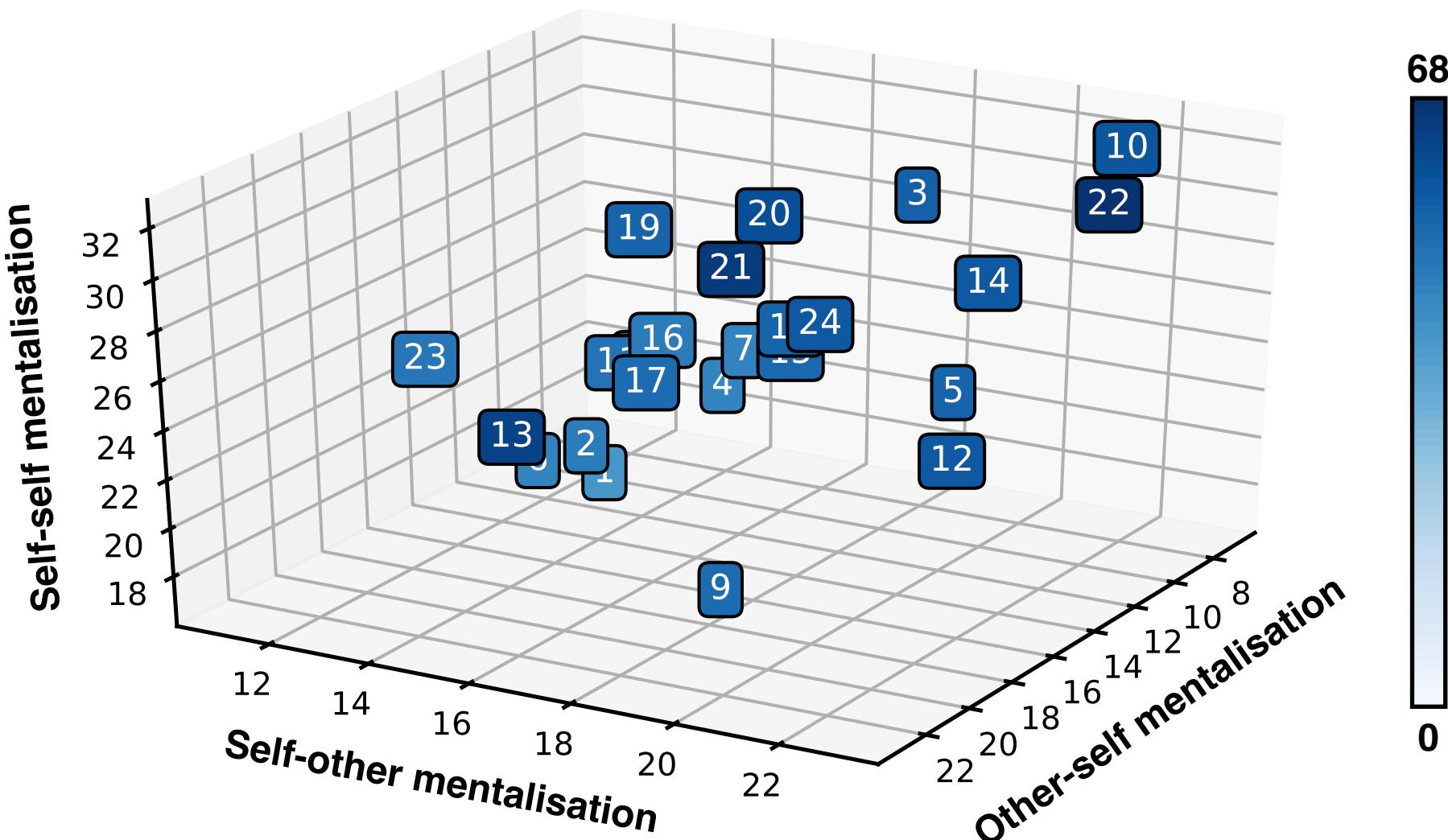


Left hippocampus



Right hippocampus

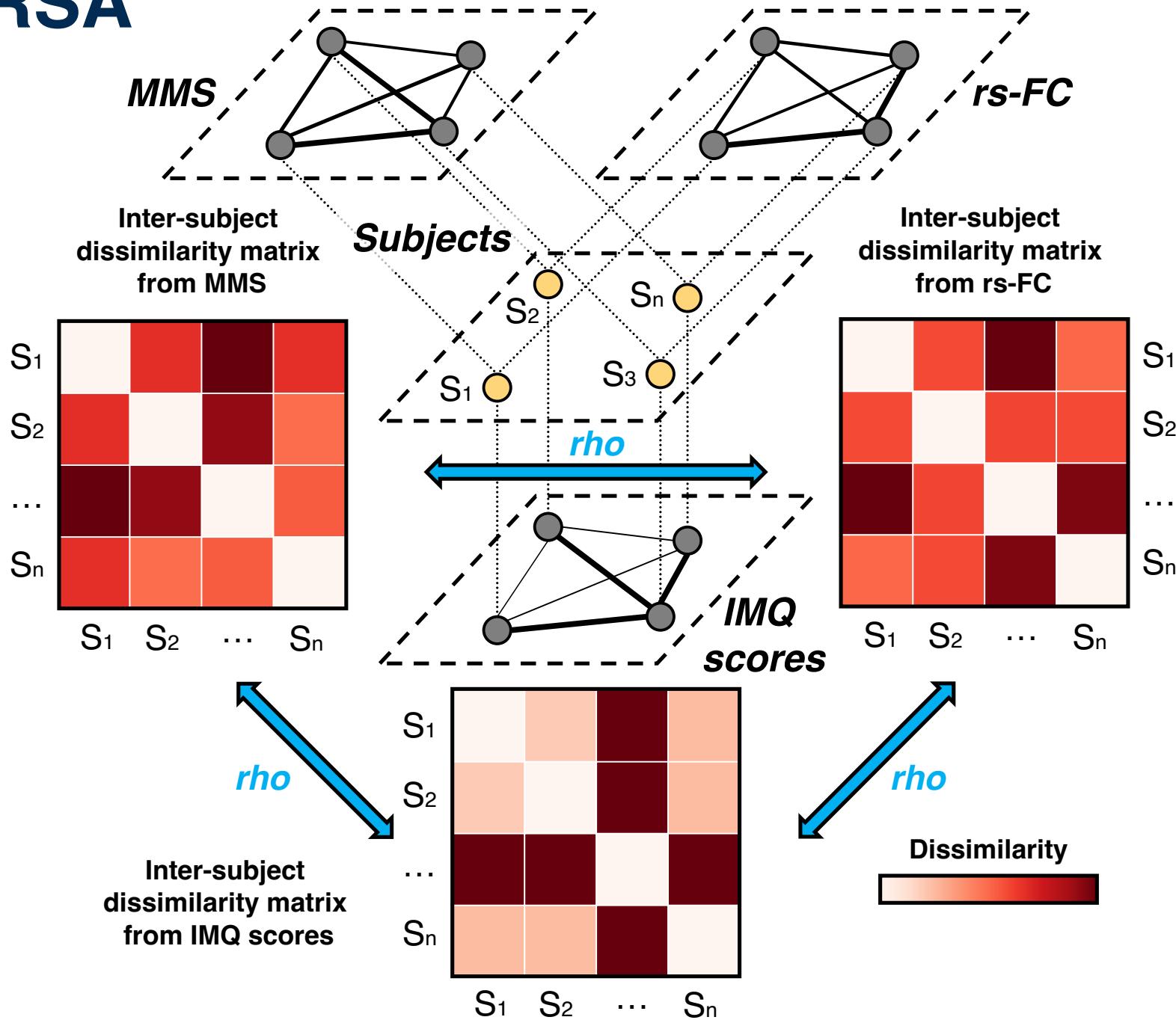
IMQ: Interactive mentalisation questionnaire ^{3, 4}



3. Wu, H., Liu, X., Hagan, C. C., & Mobbs, D. (2020b). Mentalising during social interaction: A four component model. *Cortex*, 126, 242–252.
4. Wu, H., Fung, B. J., & Mobbs, D. (2022). Mentalising during social interaction: The development and validation of the interactive mentalising questionnaire. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12.

IS-RSA: Inter-subject representational similarity analysis

IS-RSA



Hypothesis 1

We predicted that

- 1) the levels of mentalising ability would correlate positively with the dissimilarity in amygdala and hippocampal morphometry and connectivity;
- 2) dissimilarity in functional and structural patterns would positively covary with each other.

Hypothesis 1

Three distinct modalities will share one essence, i.e., there is a structure that existed in idiosyncratic patterns of brain morphometry, connectivity and mentalising ability, and we termed it as '**trinity**'.



(Adapted from Wikipedia)

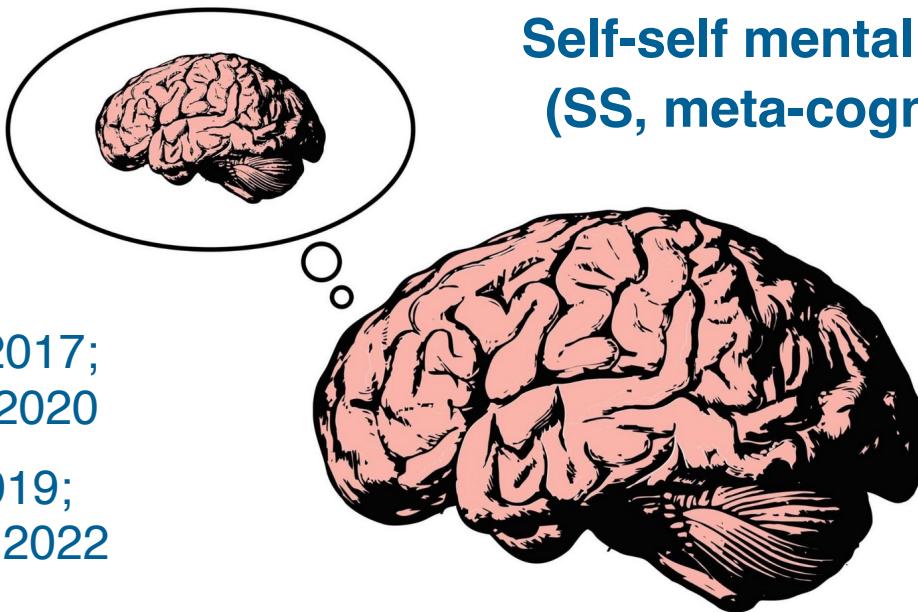
Hypothesis 2

There will be a **region-related specificity** in associations among different mentalising components and amygdala or hippocampal MMS and rs-FC.

Allen et al., 2017;
Alkan et al., 2020

Ye et al., 2019;
Zou & Kwok, 2022

**Self-self mentalisation
(SS, meta-cognition)**



(Adapted from PriMed)

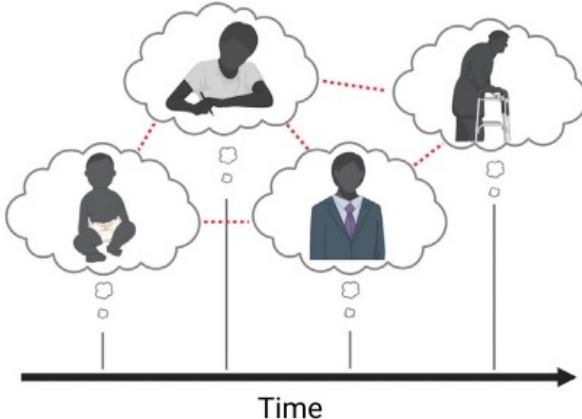
Hypothesis 2

There will be a **region-related specificity** in associations among different mentalising components and amygdala or hippocampal MMS and rs-FC.

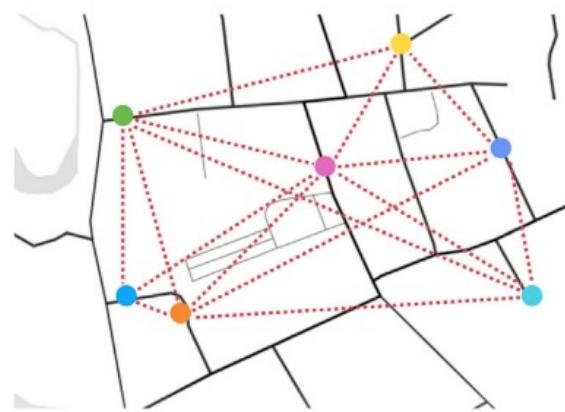
Self-other mentalisation (SO, perspective-taking)

Relational integration theory
(O'Keefe & Nadel, 1978; Rubin et al., 2014)

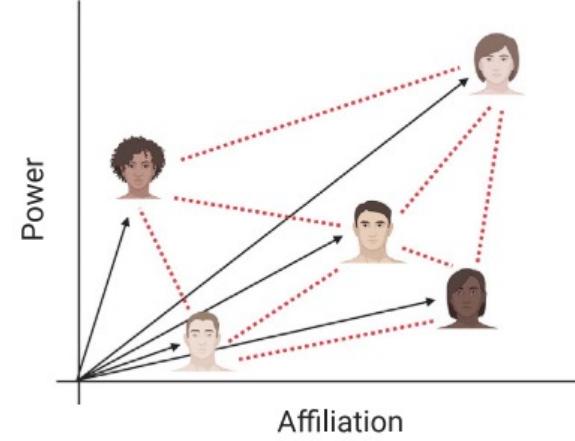
(A) Memories



(B) Physical locations



(C) Social relationships



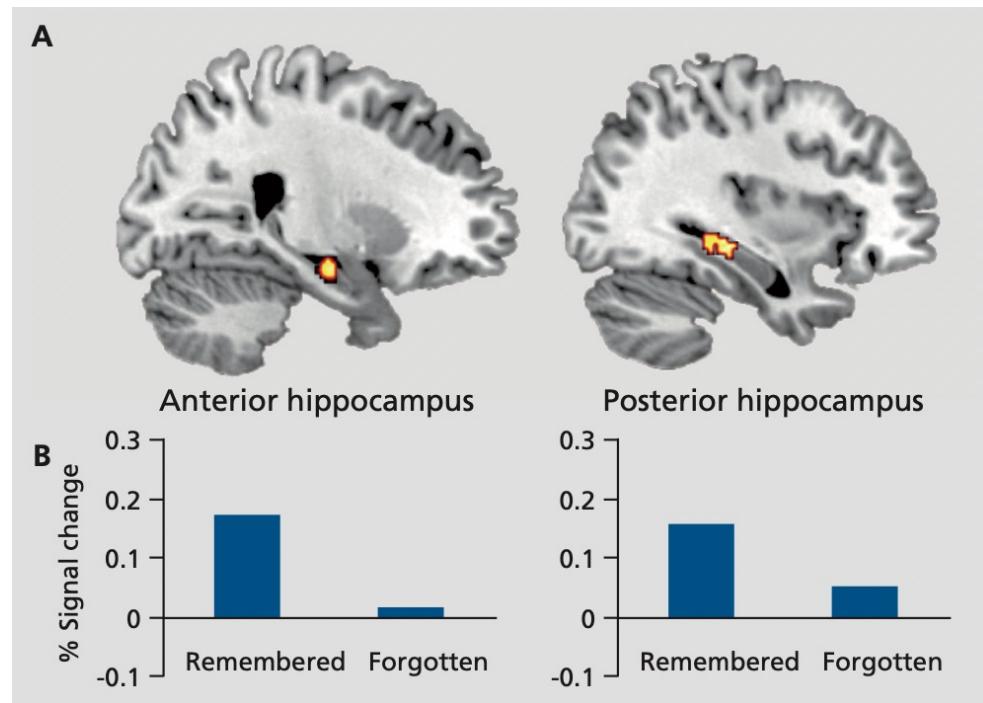
(Adapted from Banker et al., 2021)

Hypothesis 2

There will be a **region-related specificity** in associations among different mentalising components and amygdala or hippocampal MMS and rs-FC.

Self-other mentalisation (SO, perspective-taking)

Constructive memory theory
(Schacter, 2012)



Hippocampal responses to encoding simulations of future events

(Adapted from Schacter, 2012)

Hypothesis 2

There will be a **region-related specificity** in associations among different mentalising components and amygdala or hippocampal MMS and rs-FC.

Other-self mentalisation (OS, the ability to see ‘ourselves from the outside’)

Wu et al., 2022

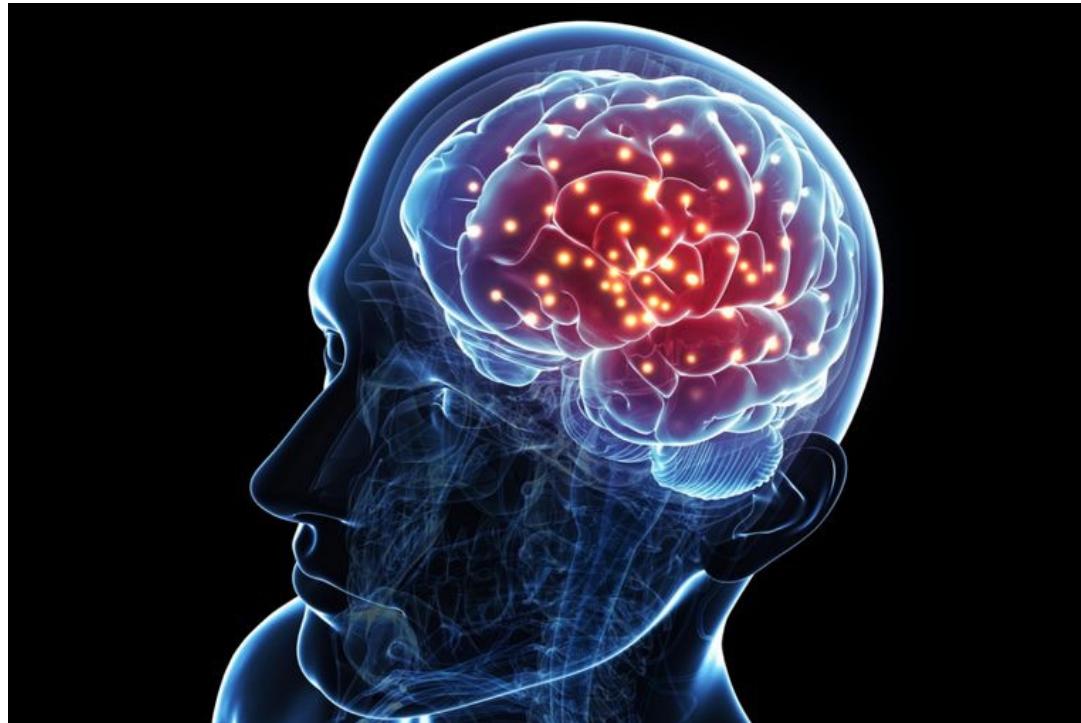
Koscik & Tranel, 2011;
Haas et al., 2015;
Santos et al., 2016;
Eskander et al., 2020



Hypothesis 3

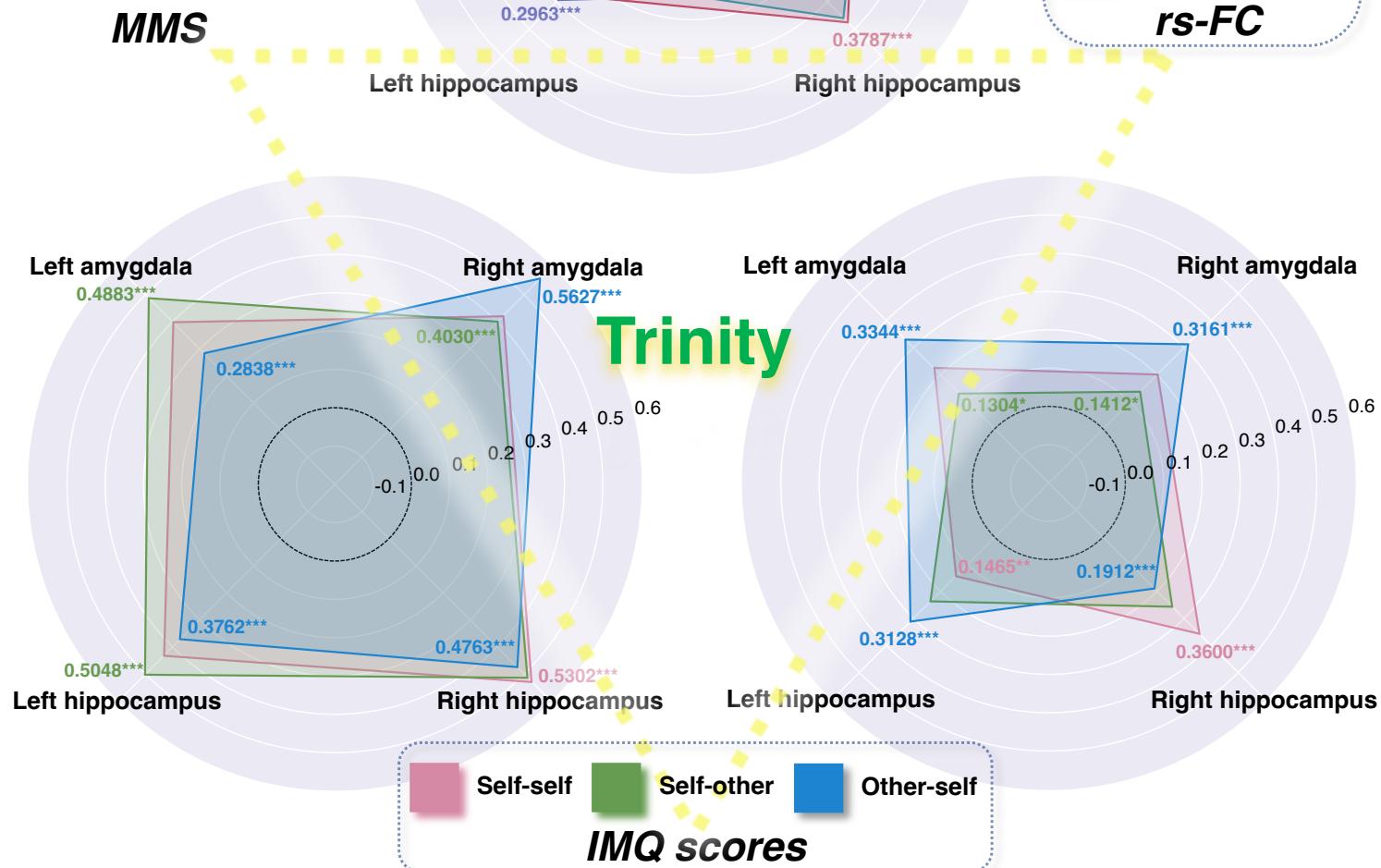
Subject pairs with **similar hippocampal MMS** will have even greater SS and SO similarity if they are also **similar in hippocampal rs-FC**.

In a similar vein, subject pairs with **similar amygdala MMS** will have even greater OS similarity if they are also **similar in amygdala rs-FC**.



Results of IS-RSA

Three distinct modalities
shared one essence.



Results of IS-RSA

A region-related mentalising specificity emerged from the trinity.

Comb.	<i>rho</i>	Mean (95% CI)	<i>pFDR</i>
SS			
LA	0.3981	0.3677 (0.3569-0.3785)	<.001***
RA	0.4228	0.3947 (0.3861-0.4034)	<.001***
LH	0.4347	0.4127 (0.4055-0.4199)	<.001***
RH	0.5302	0.5168 (0.5051-0.5284)	<.001***
SO			
LA	0.4883	0.4607 (0.4478-0.4736)	<.001***
RA	0.4030	0.3821 (0.3751-0.3891)	<.001***
LH	0.5048	0.4678 (0.4601-0.4755)	<.001***
RH	0.5156	0.4766 (0.4657-0.4875)	<.001***
OS			
LA	0.2838	0.2890 (0.2801-0.2980)	<.001***
RA	0.5627	0.5153 (0.5051-0.5255)	<.001***
LH	0.3762	0.3548 (0.3453-0.3643)	<.001***
RH	0.4763	0.4433 (0.4321-0.4544)	<.001***

(a) Results of similarities between IMQ scores and MMS.

'LA' for left amygdala; 'RA' for right amygdala; 'LH' for left hippocampus; 'RH' for right hippocampus

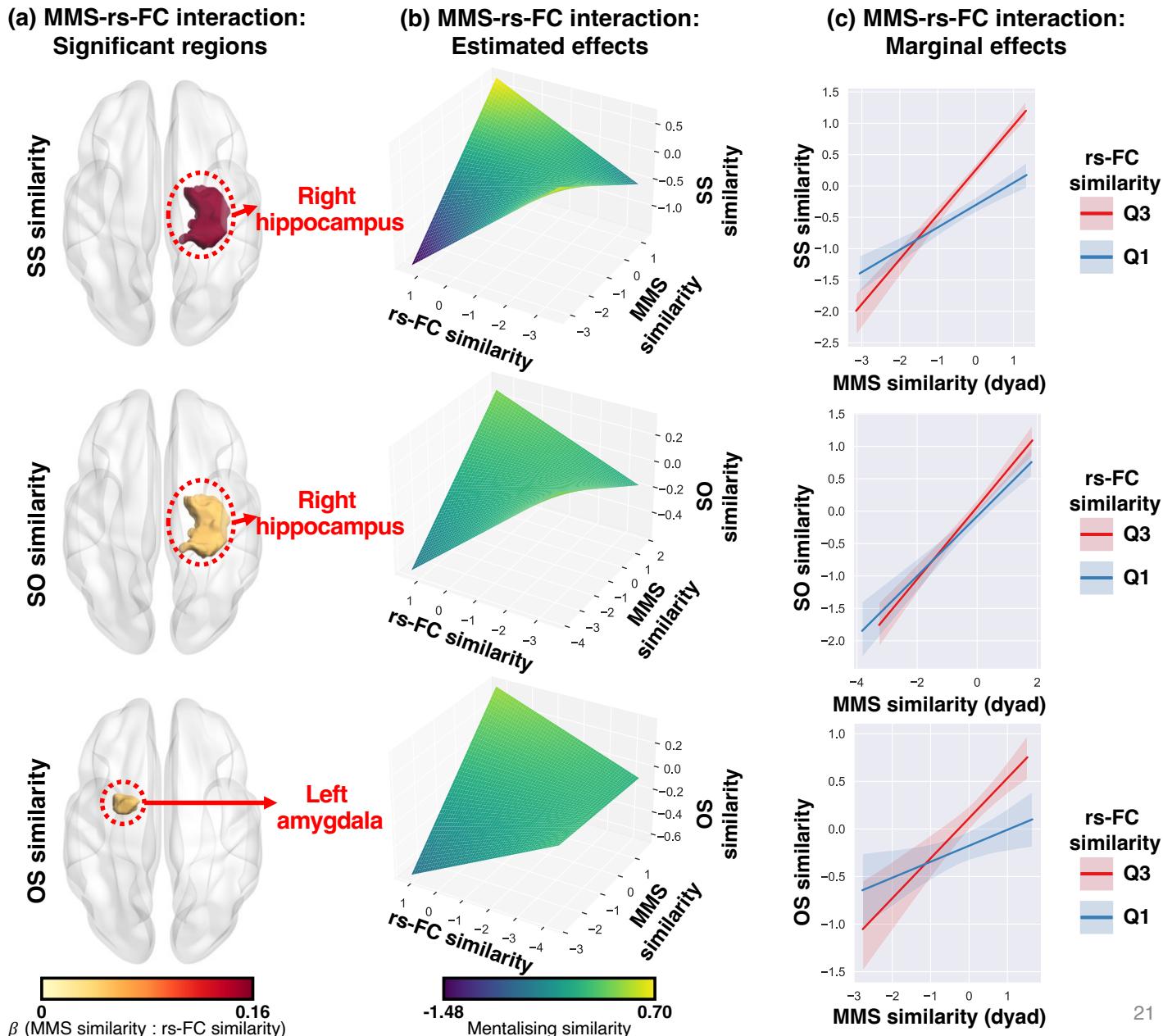
Comb.	<i>rho</i>	Mean (95% CI)	<i>pFDR</i>
SS			
LA	0.2272	0.2094 (0.1995-0.2194)	<.001***
RA	0.2025	0.1747 (0.1668-0.1826)	<.001***
LH	0.1465	0.1256 (0.1162-0.1350)	.007**
RH	0.3600	0.3434 (0.3348-0.3520)	<.001***
SO			
LA	0.1304	0.1239 (0.1169-0.1310)	.016*
RA	0.1412	0.1359 (0.1266-0.1452)	.010*
LH	0.2383	0.2254 (0.2147-0.2360)	<.001***
RH	0.2580	0.2427 (0.2347-0.2508)	<.001***
OS			
LA	0.3344	0.3164 (0.3078-0.3250)	<.001***
RA	0.3161	0.2890 (0.2788-0.2993)	<.001***
LH	0.3128	0.2861 (0.2742-0.2980)	<.001***
RH	0.1912	0.1682 (0.1538-0.1825)	<.001***

(b) Results of similarities between IMQ scores and rs-FC.

'LA' for left amygdala; 'RA' for right amygdala; 'LH' for left hippocampus; 'RH' for right hippocampus

Results of dyadic regression analysis

**Rs-FC gates the
MMS predicted
similarity in
mentalising
ability.**



Summary

1. The current work defines an integrative trinity framework that provides a testable basis for understanding individual differences in brain morphometry, connectivity and mentalising ability.
2. Our study reveals the existence of a region-related specificity: the variation of SS and SO are more related to individual differences in hippocampal MMS and rs-FC, whereas the variation of OS shows a closer link with individual differences in amygdala MMS and rs-FC.
3. Our data suggest that rs-FC gates the MMS predicted similarity in mentalising ability, revealing the intertwining role brain morphometry and connectivity play in social cognition.

Acknowledgement & contact



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The data and code used are available at
<https://github.com/andlab-um/trinity>



好奇帮

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