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Special Issue: Moscovitch Festschrift

**Temporal lobe contribution to perceptual function:  
A tale of three patient groups**

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**ABSTRACT**

There has been growing recognition of the contribution of medial and anterior temporal lobe structures to non-mnemonic functions, such as perception. To evaluate the nature of this contribution, we contrast the perceptual performance of three patient groups, all of whom have a perturbation of these temporal lobe structures. Specifically, we compare the profile of patients with focal hippocampal (HC) lesions, those with more extensive lesions to the medial temporal lobe (MTL) that include HC and perirhinal cortex (PrC), and those with congenital prosopagnosia (CP), whose deficit has been attributed to the disconnection of the anterior temporal lobe from more posterior structures. All participants completed a range of ‘oddity’ tasks in which, on each trial, they determined which of four visual stimuli in a display was the ‘odd-one-out’. There were five stimulus categories including faces, scenes, objects (high and low ambiguity) and squares of different sizes. Comparisons were conducted separately for the HC, MTL and CP groups against their matched control groups and then the group data were compared to each other directly. The group profiles were easily differentiable. Whereas the HC group stood out for its difficulty in discriminating scenes and the CP group stood out for its disproportionate difficulty in discriminating faces with milder effects for scenes and high ambiguity objects, the MTL group evinced a more general discrimination deficit for faces, scenes and high ambiguity objects. The group differences highlight distinct profiles for each of the three groups and distinguish the signature perceptual impairments following more extended temporal lobe alterations.

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4 In the recent reconsideration of the role of the hippocampus and neocortex, Moscovitch and  
5 colleagues (Moscovitch, Cabeza, Winocur, & Nadel, 2016) note that the medial temporal lobe  
6 structures play a role in non-mnemonic functions, such as perception, problem solving, decision-  
7 making and language. Here, we address this exact issue, specifically with respect to perception, and  
8 we dedicate this paper to Morris Moscovitch in recognition of his profound contribution to science,  
9 to his students and to his colleagues.  
10

## 11 12 13 **Introduction**

14  
15 Theories regarding the role of the medial portions of the temporal lobe have undergone substantial  
16 revision in the last few years. Whereas it has been well established that the medial temporal lobe  
17 (MTL), which comprises the hippocampus, and the entorhinal, perirhinal and parahippocampal  
18 cortices, plays a critical role in memory functioning, there is growing consideration of additional  
19 roles for these structures, particularly in relation to visual perception. Specifically, it has been  
20 claimed that the role of the MTL extends beyond the domain of long-term declarative memory to  
21 encompass a role in perception, with the hippocampus (HC) and perirhinal cortex (PrC) contributing  
22 to spatial and object perception, respectively [for review, see (Bussey & Saksida, 2005; Graham,  
23 Barens, & Lee, 2010; Lee, Yeung, & Barens, 2012; Moscovitch et al., 2016)].  
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35 That these MTL structures are involved in complex perception is perhaps not surprising  
36 (Murray & Wise, 2010). First, many theories argue that because the PrC is at the apex of the ventral  
37 visual processing stream, it can form highly specific representations that disambiguate similar objects  
38 in both perceptual and mnemonic tasks (Murray & Bussey, 1999). Second, some of these regions,  
39 including the PrC, receive a convergence of information from modality-specific (unimodal) cortical  
40 fields across several sensory domains, as well as inputs from polymodal regions (Carmichael & Price,  
41 1995; Friedman, Murray, O'Neill, & Mishkin, 1986; Suzuki & Amaral, 1994). Last, in addition to  
42 receiving visual inputs from area TE, the PrC has strong reciprocal connections with the hippocampal  
43 formation, amygdala, and prefrontal cortex (Furtak, Wei, Agster, & Burwell, 2007), and data from  
44 recent investigations have indicated that the hippocampus (HC) also contributes to processes beyond  
45 memory. In particular, with respect to visual perception, it has been demonstrated that the HC and the  
46 PrC are necessary for accurate perceptual discrimination of conjunctive scene and object/face stimuli,  
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4 respectively, as revealed by neuropsychological investigations (Barens et al., 2005b; Graham et al.,  
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6 2006; Lee, Barens, & Graham, 2005; Lee, Buckley, et al., 2005; Lee, Bussey, et al., 2005). Humans  
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8 with lesions affecting HC or MTL (the latter defined as damage encompassing both the HC and PrC)  
9  
10 also are impaired at perceptual tasks: in one study, visual discrimination was evaluated in individuals  
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12 with lesions to HC or with more extensive lesions to MTL (Lee, Bussey, et al., 2005). Whereas the HC  
13  
14 patients were significantly poorer at discriminating scenes than other stimulus classes (e.g. faces,  
15  
16 objects, color), patients with MTL lesions were significantly impaired at discriminating most classes,  
17  
18 with the exception of color.  
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21  
22 Empirical findings to support an MTL contribution to perception also come from studies  
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24 conducted with non-human primates, as well as structural and functional neuroimaging studies with  
25  
26 humans. For example, lesions to PrC in monkeys give rise to a deficit in face and object discrimination  
27  
28 when the animals matched stimuli from different versus the same viewpoint (Buckley, Booth, Rolls, &  
29  
30 Gaffan, 2001; Bussey, Saksida, & Murray, 2003). Functional MRI studies show activation of MTL  
31  
32 during perception using tasks similar to those employed in the neuropsychological studies alluded to  
33  
34 above, with differential recruitment of the HC and PrC for scene and object/face discriminations,  
35  
36 respectively (Barens, Henson, Lee, & Graham, 2010; Erez, Cusack, Kendall, & Barens, 2015;  
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38 Hodgetts et al., 2015; Lee, Scahill, & Graham, 2008; Mundy, Downing, Dwyer, Honey, & Graham,  
39  
40 2013; Mundy, Downing, & Graham, 2012; O'Neil, Cate, & Kohler, 2009). Emerging investigations  
41  
42 using diffusion MRI also reveal similar functional dissociations; using the same tasks as above, inter-  
43  
44 individual differences in scene and face perceptual discrimination accuracy was associated with inter-  
45  
46 individual variability in two white matter tracts connected to the HC and PrC, respectively (Hodgetts  
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48 et al., 2015; Postans et al., 2014).  
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53 The finding that the MTL is engaged in perceptual tasks has been accounted for within a  
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55 computational framework termed the 'representational hierarchical model' (Saksida & Bussey, 2010)  
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57 (Cowell, 2012). Specifically, the claim is that more caudal inferotemporal cortical regions (e.g., V4,  
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59 TE/TEO) process simple features or basic object stimuli, while more rostral regions, including the  
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4 PrC, process more complex conjunctions of stimulus features that mediate both object perception and  
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6 memory. This computational account argues further that conjunctive representations, such as those  
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8 required for discriminating between exemplars with many overlapping features, are implemented in  
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10 these anterior/medial temporal structures (Graham et al., 2010; Murray, Bussey, & Saksida, 2007;  
11  
12 Saksida & Bussey, 2010). By contrast, discriminating between visual exemplars with minimal  
13  
14 featural overlap can be supported by retrieval of lower-level features dependent upon posterior visual  
15  
16 cortical regions (Mundy et al., 2012). Empirical data consistent with this model also comes from  
17  
18 studies of human and non-human primates demonstrating that damage to PrC results in an  
19  
20 impairment in discriminating objects, especially when features composing the objects are ambiguous  
21  
22 (the same feature appeared in multiple objects) rather than non-ambiguous (each feature is unique to  
23  
24 each object) (Barens, Groen, et al., 2012; Bussey et al., 2003; Lee, Bussey, et al., 2005).  
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29         Thus, the claim is that the PrC is responsible for storing and processing representations of  
30  
31 complex, feature conjunctive object stimuli and binding together these complex features within  
32  
33 individual objects (see also (Barens et al., 2005b; Bussey & Saksida, 2002; Bussey, Saksida, &  
34  
35 Murray, 2002; Erez et al., 2015)). The HC, too, is thought to play a role in binding conjunctions of  
36  
37 features but, rather than binding features within an object, the proposed role of the HC is to bind  
38  
39 relational information about objects and their context or spatial location or relations among the  
40  
41 constituent elements of experience (Lee, Buckley, et al., 2005; Mitchell, Johnson, Raye, &  
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43 D'Esposito, 2000; Ranganath, Cohen, Dam, & D'Esposito, 2004; Slotnick, 2010), even over  
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45 extremely short delays (Burgess, Maguire, & O'Keefe, 2002; Hannula, Tranel, & Cohen, 2006;  
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47 Olsen, Moses, Riggs, & Ryan, 2012).  
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### 53 *Congenital prosopagnosia*

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55         In the last several years, an account, which is not that dissimilar from the binding account  
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57 offered above for MTL structures, has been offered to explain the perceptual difficulties in individuals  
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59 with congenital prosopagnosia. Congenital prosopagnosia (CP) refers to the impairment in face  
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4 recognition that is evident despite the individual having intact sensory and intellectual functions  
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6 (Avidan, Tanzer, & Behrmann, 2011; Behrmann & Avidan, 2005; Behrmann, Avidan, Marotta, &  
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8 Kimchi, 2005b; Bentin, Deouell, & Soroker, 1999; Dobel, Bolte, Aicher, & Schweinberger, 2007;  
9  
10 Duchaine, Germine, & Nakayama, 2007; Le Grand et al., 2006) and in the absence of any neurological  
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12 abnormality as evident on conventional MRI (no lesion, no other neurological explanation). Previous  
13  
14 studies have revealed normal BOLD activation in CP in the posterior regions usually associated with  
15  
16 face recognition, including the fusiform face area (FFA), occipital face area (OFA) and superior  
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18 temporal sulcus (STS) (Avidan & Behrmann, 2009; Avidan, Hasson, Malach, & Behrmann, 2005;  
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20 DeGutis, Bentin, Robertson, & D'Esposito, 2007; Hasson, Avidan, Deouell, Bentin, & Malach, 2003)  
21  
22 (but see (Bentin, Degutis, D'Esposito, & Robertson, 2007; Furl, Garrido, Dolan, Driver, & Duchaine,  
23  
24 2011; Hadjikhani & de Gelder, 2002; Minnebusch, Suchan, Koster, & Daum, 2009)), suggesting that  
25  
26 prosopagnosia results from compromised connectivity between these more posterior structures and  
27  
28 more anterior structures which are also engaged in face individuation, including in the anterior  
29  
30 temporal lobe (for example, (Kriegeskorte, Formisano, Sorger, & Goebel, 2007; Rajimehr, Young, &  
31  
32 Tootell, 2009; Simmons, Reddish, Bellgowan, & Martin, 2010)). The deficit in CP, then, is thought to  
33  
34 arise from a disconnection of the anterior temporal lobe from other caudal regions. Evidence favoring  
35  
36 this account is gleaned from structural imaging studies of CP showing reduced integrity of white  
37  
38 matter fiber tracts projecting through the core face-selective regions to the anterior temporal lobe, but  
39  
40 intact tracts in other regions (Thomas et al., 2009), as well as reduced volume in the anterior temporal  
41  
42 cortex (Behrmann, Avidan, Gao, & Black, 2007; Bentin et al., 1999) (but see (Song et al., 2015)).  
43  
44 Also, consistent with the idea of a disconnection, recent fMRI data have shown that, relative to  
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46 controls, activation in the anterior temporal lobe (ATL) is reduced in CP as is functional connectivity  
47  
48 between the ATL and posterior regions such as FFA, OFA and STS (but not with the amygdala so not  
49  
50 all anterior structures are affected (Avidan et al., 2014)). In CP, the dissociation between the ATL and  
51  
52 posterior regions was evident under task-related conditions as well as under resting- state conditions  
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54 i.e., in the absence of visual stimulation (for converging results in healthy individuals, see also (O'Neil,  
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4 Hutchison, McLean, & Kohler, 2014)). Interestingly, a breakdown in the connectivity between more  
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6 posterior fusiform and more anterior temporal and frontal lobe structures has also been implicated as  
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8 the pathogenesis of primary progressive prosopagnosia (Grossi et al., 2014), offering additional  
9  
10 evidence for this disconnection account.  
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13       Of particular relevance to the current paper, the coordinates for the face-selective ATL  
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15 identified in both the imaging studies of CP and of normal observers are very close to those  
16  
17 demarcated as being the site of PrC, reflecting the anatomical complexity of the ATL and the difficulty  
18  
19 in segregating regions and determining borders (Bonner & Price, 2013). Table 1 below shows the  
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21 Talairach coordinates (mean of the x, y and z coordinates) gleaned from a selective overview of some  
22  
23 existing studies of the region labeled as ATL and some of the studies of the region labeled as PrC. As  
24  
25 evident from this table, although the two regions may diverge somewhat in the z-coordinates, the x-  
26  
27 coordinates appear to overlap and the y-coordinates are rather close, as well, suggesting that these  
28  
29 structures may be referenced interchangeably, at least in some studies. This anatomical proximity  
30  
31 raises a question about whether the sites of altered function in the MTL patients described above  
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33 (primarily from PrC damage) and that of the ATL in CP (primarily from disconnection) might be  
34  
35 referring to a similar neural mechanism and locus. Further convergence between CP and MTL amnesia  
36  
37 is provided by an investigation that reported impaired long-term memory for faces in individuals with  
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39 one subtype of CP (Stollhoff, Jost, Elze, & Kennerknecht, 2011), revealing a potential mnemonic  
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41 component in CP, as well (although, unsurprisingly, poor encoding of a face might result in long term  
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43 memory deficits).  
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49       In addition to the possible anatomical overlap, there is also overlap in the explanation offered  
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51 to account for the neuropsychological patterns in the different patient groups: the same  
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53 computational alteration offered for the MTL cases, a deficit in combining features into more  
54  
55 complex and unique patterns (see representational hierarchical account described above), has been  
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57 offered for the deficit in face recognition in CP. Furthermore, given their extensive feature overlap,  
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59 faces are the paradigmatic stimulus class (like the ambiguous objects used previously) that would  
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4 engage these high-level visual MTL structures according to representational hierarchical accounts. In  
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6 an assessment of the effect of the impact of reduced network connectivity (as in CP) on face  
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8 perception, Stollhoff et al. (2011) trained a neural network model to represent face images with two  
9  
10 different algorithms: When a predisposition towards decreased network connectivity was  
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12 implemented in the model, it resulted in a featural representation of faces with no opportunity for  
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14 deriving conjunctions or higher-order statistics of the input, akin to the proposed mechanism  
15  
16 underlying CP. In contrast, when the network was trained for optimal information encoding, it led to  
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18 holistic representation and integration of the features across the whole face. The notion that CP  
19  
20 results from the failure to derive higher-order conjunctions has been widely proposed and there are  
21  
22 considerable empirical data to support this claim (Barton, 2008; de Gelder & Rouw, 2000). The  
23  
24 account pivots on the notion that, because all faces differ only slightly in the shape and size of facial  
25  
26 features, which are arranged in the same top-heavy configurations, the spatial relations among these  
27  
28 features are particularly important for facial identity individuation (for a review, see (Maurer, Grand,  
29  
30 & Mondloch, 2002; Richler & Gauthier, 2014)), and it is these spatial relations (second order  
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32 statistics, for example) that are derived across the circuit from more posterior to more anterior  
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34 regions, like the ATL, in CP.  
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#### 42 *A tale of three patient groups<sup>1</sup>*

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44         Given the similarity in structural etiology, namely the proximity of the site of neural  
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46 alteration in CP and in the other patient groups, MTL and HC, and their apparently similar functional  
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48 etiology, namely a deficit in computing higher-order configurations, here, we sought to compare the  
49  
50 behavioral profile of these three groups to evaluate whether a unique signature of perceptual  
51  
52 impairment can be uncovered for each group. The more direct contrast is between the MTL and CP  
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58 <sup>1</sup> We refer to CP individuals as ‘patients’ for convenience and to contrast them with the matched controls but  
59 they do not have any lesion or obvious neurological deficit.  
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4 (ATL) groups, rather than against the HC group per se, but we include the HC group as a control  
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6 group because any difference between the HC and MTL group allows us to localize deficits in the  
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8 MTL group to regions outside the HC (i.e. to the PrC more specifically). To explore this issue, we  
9  
10 use a series of carefully controlled experimental manipulations, obtaining data from discrimination  
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12 tasks using a wide variety of stimuli.  
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## 15 16 17 **2. Methods**

### 18 19 *2.1 Participants*

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21 Three groups of patients (MTL, HC and CP), all of who have a deficit ascribed to the more  
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23 anterior/medial temporal lobe, participated in this study. Data from three different groups of control  
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25 participants, matched to each of the patient groups, were also obtained. There were no significant  
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27 differences in terms of age or education between each of the patient groups and their matched control  
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29 groups (all  $p > .05$ ).  
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35 *MTL and HC groups and controls:* The four MTL and three HC patients and their matched control  
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37 participants have participated in previous studies [for example, (Barens, Gaffan, & Graham, 2007;  
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39 Graham et al., 2006; Lee, Buckley, et al., 2005; Lee & Rudebeck, 2010a)] and the data from those  
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41 studies are presented here as a direct contrast with the newly acquired data from CP individuals and  
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43 their controls. The MTL and HC individuals were recruited from the Memory Clinics at  
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45 Addenbrooke's and Southampton General Hospitals, UK.  
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49 Structural MRI scans of the MTL and HC patients have been evaluated using qualitative visual  
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51 rating methods (Barens et al., 2005b; Lee, Buckley, et al., 2005) and, where possible, detailed  
52  
53 quantitative volumetrics (Barens, Ngo, Hung, & Peterson, 2012; Lee & Rudebeck, 2010a). To  
54  
55 summarise these findings, the HC patients possessed bilateral lesions restricted to the hippocampus,  
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57 with the exception of one patient who had additional, slight damage to the ATL and parahippocampal  
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59 gyrus (Barens et al., 2005b). In contrast, the MTL patients possessed broader bilateral damage  
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4 affecting the HC and PrC, as well as the amygdala, parahippocampal cortex, ATL, and anterior lateral  
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6 temporal and fusiform cortices. Notably, imaging investigations in one of the HC and MTL patients  
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8 have revealed seemingly intact extrastriate visual areas (i.e. FFA, lateral occipital cortex (LOC) and  
9  
10 parahippocampal place area (PPA)) and an analysis of functional connectivity of resting state networks  
11  
12 concluded that there were no obvious findings involving posterior occipital or posterior temporal  
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14 regions, which could explain their discrimination deficits (Lee & Rudebeck, 2010a; Rudebeck,  
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16 Filippini, & Lee, 2013).

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20 The sensory and basic perceptual skills of all these individuals were within normal limits, as  
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22 determined by their performance on the VOSP subtests (Warrington & James, 1991). The cognitive  
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24 abilities of these two groups of patients, quantified with a series of standardized neuropsychological  
25  
26 tests, have been described in detail elsewhere (e.g., (Lee, Bussey, et al., 2005)). In short, these tests  
27  
28 revealed deficits in episodic memory and recall-based memory measures although to a differential  
29  
30 degree in the two groups. The MTL group was more impaired on episodic and semantic memory  
31  
32 tasks than the HC group (Lee et al., 2005). Visuospatial performance was also within the normal  
33  
34 range for both groups (although the MTL group performed numerically more poorly than the HC  
35  
36 group on the Benton Facial Recognition Test). The MTL but not the HC group also showed a slight  
37  
38 semantic memory deficit. The investigation with the MTL and HC individuals received ethical  
39  
40 approval from the Cambridge and Southampton Health Authority Local Research Ethics Committees  
41  
42 (UK).

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46 The MTL group comprised three patients (one female, mean age 67.7yrs; mean education  
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48 11.7yrs). Two of patients had viral encephalitis and the third suffered traumatic cerebral bleeding.  
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50 Eleven elderly healthy subjects (mean age 66.4 years; mean education 12.1 years) were matched to  
51  
52 the MTL patients.

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56 The HC group consisted of four patients (three female; mean age 47.8yrs; mean education  
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58 15yrs). Two of the four patients had suffered from viral encephalitis, one had anoxia due to status  
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4 epilepticus and one experienced carbon monoxide poisoning. Ten middle aged healthy older adults  
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6 (age 47.0 years; education 13.2 years) were matched to the HC group.  
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10 *CP group and controls:* Six native English-speaking individuals (five females; mean age 44.5 years;  
11  
12 mean education 14.6 years) diagnosed with CP were included in this group (Table 2). Most of these  
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14 individuals, with the exception of SC, have participated in previous studies, and additional details  
15  
16 regarding their face recognition deficits can be found in these publications (for example, (Avidan et  
17  
18 al., 2014; Collins, Dundas, & Behrmann, under review; Nishimura, Doyle, & Behrmann, 2010)). The  
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20 sensory and basic perceptual skills of all these individuals were within normal limits, as determined  
21  
22 by their performance on the VOSP subtests, although the Silhouette subtest was not included in these  
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24 evaluations (Warrington & James, 1991). Twelve participants, matched individually on age, gender,  
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26 and handedness served as controls for the CP individuals. All were right handed, as assessed by  
27  
28 Edinburgh Handedness Inventory (Oldfield, 1971), except for SC and his controls (see Table 2). All  
29  
30 participants had normal or corrected-to-normal vision and had no history of neurological or  
31  
32 psychiatric disorder or injury. They were compensated \$10 per hour. The investigation of the CP  
33  
34 individuals and their controls was approved by the Institutional Review Board of Carnegie Mellon  
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36 University.  
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## 44 *2.2. Stimuli and Paradigm*

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46 Participants completed an ‘oddity’ task in which, on a single trial, four stimuli were displayed  
47  
48 simultaneously and the participants were required to indicate the odd-one-out, with stimuli presented  
49  
50 until a response is made. This experiment was run separately with five different stimulus types (Fig  
51  
52 1a-e). Two of the oddity tasks served as control tasks that could be solved on the basis of a single  
53  
54 feature and were not dependent on the PrC (Barense et al., 2007; Barense et al., 2010; Lee et al.,  
55  
56 2008): one involved size judgements (Figure 1a) and the other involved low ambiguity objects  
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58 (Figure 1b), with the tasks designed to be as difficult as those tasks that rely on PrC function. The  
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4 remaining three tasks, faces, high ambiguity objects and scenes all involved highly similar exemplars  
5  
6 and engaged the need to discriminate between complex perceptual conjunctions. Note that the trial  
7  
8 unique nature of the task meant that the requirement for explicit long-term memory was minimal;  
9  
10 similarly, the influences of trans-saccadic and working memory on such tasks have been previously  
11  
12 studied and do not seem to influence reported patterns of impairment (Erez, Lee, & Barense, 2013;  
13  
14 Lee & Rudebeck, 2010a, 2010b). Of note, as mentioned above, stimuli were present on the screen  
15  
16 until response and thus any deficit we observe is not attributable to mnemonic function. We also  
17  
18 elected not to use the same-view faces from (Lee et al., 2006; Lee, Buckley, et al., 2005). Although  
19  
20 matching faces presented in the same viewpoint might be solved on the basis of elemental features,  
21  
22 observers might potentially try to solve the match based on configural information (which appears to  
23  
24 be a default for faces; (Richler & Gauthier, 2014)) and so including this task might have confounded  
25  
26 the interpretation of the results. Additionally, because of the relatively extensive amount of testing  
27  
28 and time constraints, we chose the size and low ambiguity objects to be “purer” non-configural  
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30 control tasks.  
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### 38 *2.2.1 Faces (from Lee, Buckley et al., 2005)*

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40 Four images of human faces were presented for each trial (Figure 1c). A set of 20 unfamiliar male  
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42 faces (all Caucasian aged 20-40 years) with short hair, no facial hair or spectacles was used and each  
43  
44 face could appear in six different views: face looking directly ahead, face upwards (head tilted back),  
45  
46 face downwards (head titled down), face looking 45° to the left, face looking 45° to the right, face  
47  
48 looking up and 45° to the right, face looking up and 45° to the left. On each trial, three versions of the  
49  
50 same face identity (all in different viewpoints) appeared along with one with a different face identity  
51  
52 (in yet a different viewpoint). Each face was presented only once in each block of trials, and across  
53  
54 31 trials, each face was always randomly paired with another face.  
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### 60 *2.2.2 Scenes (from Lee, Buckley et al., 2005)*

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4 Four images of virtual reality scenes were presented for each trial on a grey background (256 levels  
5 of grey, 460 x 370 pixels (see Figure 1d). A set of 62 scenes created using commercially available  
6 computer game (Deus Ex, Ion Storm L. P., Austin, TX) and a free software editor (Deus Ex Software  
7 Development Kit v112f) was used for each scene and for each of these stimuli, four different  
8 viewpoints were captured. On each trial (of 31 trials), three images of the same scene, albeit from  
9 different viewpoints, were shown with one image of a different view of another relatively similar  
10 scene.  
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### 22 *2.2.3 High and low ambiguity familiar objects (from Barensse et al., 2007):*

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24 Four images of objects common to everyday life were presented in each trial, and each photograph  
25 was taken from four different non-specific orientations. Objects were collected from the Hemera  
26 Photo-Objects Image Collection (Volumes 1–3) and there were two different conditions: high  
27 ambiguity and low ambiguity (Fig. 1b and e). Within a low ambiguity trial, the two objects were from  
28 the same overall category (e.g., stereos) but the two objects were easily differentiated on the basis of  
29 a single, obvious feature. By contrast, within a high ambiguity trial, the two objects shared a high  
30 number of overlapping features. Furthermore, the stimulus types were matched across the low and  
31 high ambiguity conditions (e.g., there was a high and a low trial comprised of cars, a high and a low  
32 trial comprised of stereos, etc). Trials were blocked depending on the level of ambiguity and there  
33 were 35 trials of each type.  
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### 49 *2.2.4 Size (from Barensse et al., 2007):*

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51 This task was designed to be as difficult as the high ambiguity object discrimination task but could  
52 be solved on the basis of a single feature alone and did not require the processing of complex  
53 conjunctions of object features. Four black squares were presented on each trial (see Figure 1a), with  
54 three squares of identical size and the fourth either smaller or larger. The squares' positions were  
55 jittered slightly so that the edges did not line up along vertical or horizontal planes. The length of  
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4 each side was randomly varied from 6 to 247 pixels. The size difference varied between 9 and 15  
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6 pixels and the size of each square was trial-unique. On each trial of 35 trials, either three identical  
7  
8 smaller squares were shown with one larger square or three identical larger squares were shown with  
9  
10 one smaller square.  
11

### 15 2.2.5 Procedure

17 The experiments were programmed using E-Prime software (Psychology Software Tools Inc.,  
18  
19 Pittsburgh, PA). Practice trials were administered first and feedback was provided.  
20  
21

22 All tasks were based on an oddity paradigm in which the participants were instructed to  
23  
24 select the “odd-one-out” from an array of simultaneously presented stimuli as quickly and as  
25  
26 accurately as possible (Barens et al., 2007; Buckley et al., 2001; Lee, Buckley, et al., 2005). In all  
27  
28 tasks, participants viewed a display consisting of four items in two rows of two, with one of the four  
29  
30 stimuli differing from the others. On each trial, the position of the odd-one-out was randomized.  
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32 During the experiment, no feedback was given. Both accuracy and response time were recorded.  
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38 *MTL, HC and their controls:* The patients were tested in their own homes, and control  
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40 subjects were tested at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit by Barens and/or Lee. All tests  
41  
42 were computerized tasks and were conducted on a 15 inch SVGA LCD touchscreen at 1024 × 768  
43  
44 resolution. A single trial was displayed on a computer screen. During the test, the response consisted  
45  
46 of touching any item, which resulted in the offset of the stimulus display and the onset of the next  
47  
48 trial. The face and scene conditions were completed approximately 3 years before the object and size  
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50 conditions, with the different conditions within each session counterbalanced across participants.  
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55 *CP and their controls:* All individuals were tested at Carnegie Mellon University and run on  
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57 a laptop Dell Latitude E6430 with a 14 inch screen. Responses were collected by participants’  
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59 clicking a mouse over the odd stimulus. The computer screen was split into four quarters, and a  
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4 correct response was recorded when a subject clicked anywhere in the quarter that contained the  
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6 correct response. This resulted in the offset of the stimulus display and the onset of the next trial. The  
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8 five conditions were completed in one session and the order was counterbalanced across participants.  
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### 10 11 12 13 **3. Results:** 14

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16 The results section is broken down into two major sections. The first set of analyses compares the  
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18 performance of the patients relative to their own control groups. This analysis is important as the  
19  
20 control groups were designed to be matched specifically to each of the patient samples. Furthermore,  
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22 because there were some differences in the acquisition of the data (for example, the MTL and HCs  
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24 and their controls responded via touch screen, and the CPs and their controls via mouse), a direct  
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26 comparison of patients and controls under the same acquisition scenario is critical. The patient  
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28 groups were compared to their matched controls on accuracy of performance as well as on reaction  
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30 time (RT). Also, because individuals with CP have been shown to trade speed against accuracy  
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32 (Behrmann, Avidan, Marotta, & Kimchi, 2005a), we also analysed performance in terms of inverse  
33  
34 efficiency (IE). Inverse efficiency is equal to the mean RT divided by the proportion of correct  
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36 responses, calculated separately for each condition and each participant. Lower values on this  
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38 measure indicate better performance (Akhtar & Enns, 1989; Townsend & Ashby, 1983). Note that  
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40 because our primary interest is in the interactions between group x condition (i.e., whether there were  
41  
42 differences between patients and controls on particular oddity tasks), we focus on the interactions  
43  
44 primarily. We report main effects of group where they exist but do not report differences across  
45  
46 conditions (it is unsurprising if performance on the low ambiguity object task is easier than the other  
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48 tasks, for example). The second set of analyses directly pits the three groups of patients against each  
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50 other using z-scores. By using z-scores and deriving the deviation in performance relative to the  
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4 appropriately matched control mean, we are equating the comparison across the three patient groups  
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6 and controlling for the differences in data acquisition<sup>2</sup>.  
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10 *a. Patients groups versus tailored control groups*

11 Because the accuracy findings from the MTL and HC groups have been reported previously  
12 (Barense et al., 2007; Lee, Buckley et al., 2005), we start with these two groups and essentially  
13  
14 duplicate these published findings. New to this paper, we analysed the RT data obtained in these  
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16 patients. For each group, a repeated measures Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was conducted with  
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18 group (patients vs. controls) as a between-subjects factor and task (faces, scenes, high object, low  
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20 object, size) as a within-subjects factor.  
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27 *MTL group versus controls*

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29 As confirmation of the previous findings (see Figure 2), there was a significant group x condition  
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31 interaction for the MTL analysis with accuracy as the dependent measure, ( $F_{4, 40}=4.6, p<.004$ ), and  
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33 pairwise t-tests (all at  $p<.05$ ) revealed that the MTL group performed significantly less accurately  
34  
35 than the matched controls for face, scene and high ambiguity objects, but not for low ambiguity  
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37 objects or size. The MTL group's accuracy was also higher on the low ambiguity and size conditions  
38  
39 than on any of the other three oddity tasks ( $p<.01$  for pairwise comparisons). Unsurprisingly, the  
40  
41 MTL group were less accurate overall than the controls, [Group ( $F_{1,10}=50.2, p<.000$ )]. The same  
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43 ANOVA with RT or with IE as the dependent measure revealed no significant differences between  
44  
45 the MTL and control groups (RT: condition x group ( $F_{4,40}=.265, p>.8$ ); IE: condition x group  
46  
47 ( $F_{4,40}=1.54, p>.2$ )). Even though some of the pairwise comparisons on IE appear to differ, this is  
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49 unsurprising given the accuracy differences and so we do not focus on these findings any further.  
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58 <sup>2</sup> One of the CP individuals (KE) did not complete the low ambiguity task and one HC, EB, did not complete  
59 high or low ambiguity objects or size. For these individuals, we have inserted the mean of the sample into the  
60 empty cell to facilitate the analyses but this does not change the mean or the SD of the group.  
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4 *HC versus control group*  
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6 The same ANOVA performed on the accuracy data from the HC group and their controls also  
7 revealed a significant interaction of group x condition ( $F(4, 36)=4.6, p<.04$ ) (see Figure 3a). Pairwise  
8 t-tests revealed a significant difference between the groups only on the scene oddity task, and the HC  
9 group's performance on the scene task was also significantly poorer than the accuracy on any of the  
10 other tasks (pairwise t-tests  $p<.01$ ). Overall, the HC group performed more poorly than their matched  
11 controls, [Group ( $F(1,9)=7.4, p<.04$ )].  
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19 There were also significant interactions between group x condition in RT, ( $F(4,36)=2.6, p=.048$ )  
20 (see Figure 3b), and in IE, ( $F(4,36)=4.4, p=.005$ ) (see Figure 3c). Based on posthoc t-tests  
21 (Bonferroni correction,  $p<.01$ ), in RT, the HC group performed more slowly than their controls on  
22 scenes and on faces. In IE, performance was poor relative to the controls only on the scene task  
23 (Bonferroni correction,  $p<.01$ ), and, performance on the scene task was significantly poorer than  
24 their performance on the other tasks.  
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35 *CP versus controls*  
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37 The ANOVA with accuracy as the dependent measure and the CP group and controls revealed a  
38 group x condition interaction, [( $F(4, 60)=3.9, p<.007$ )], although no main effect of group was observed  
39 ( $F>1$ ) (see Figure 4a). As revealed by posthoc t-tests (Bonferroni correction  $p<.01$ ), the CP group  
40 was significantly less accurate than the controls in face discrimination.  
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46 There was also a significant interaction between group x condition in RT, ( $F(4, 60)=3.2,$   
47  $p<.02$ ), as well as a main effect of group ( $F(1, 15)=6.1, p=.03$ ) (see Figure 4b). Pairwise t-tests (again  
48  $p<.01$ ) revealed significantly slower performance on faces and scenes, with a similar trend for high  
49 ambiguity objects, and, within the CP group, RT was significantly slowed on all three conditions,  
50 albeit to a greater degree for faces and scenes, compared with low ambiguity objects and size.  
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57 Finally, the same ANOVA but with IE as the dependent measure also revealed a group x condition  
58 interaction ( $F(4, 60)=4.2, p<.005$ ), as well as a main effect of group ( $F(1, 15)=5.7, p=.03$ ). As evident in  
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4 Figure 4c, the CPs performed significantly more poorly than their controls on face and scene oddity  
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6 and marginally more poorly ( $p=.08$ ) on high object ambiguity oddity, as well.  
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11 *Single subject data*  
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13 Because the groups are small and the data from a single individual carries substantial weight  
14  
15 in the analysis, we also examined the data from every patient individually. To this end, we adopted  
16  
17 the single-case statistical method (Crawford & Garthwaite, 2004) and compared each individual  
18  
19 patient's score against the matched control group mean and SD on accuracy (see Figure 5).  
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22 For the MTL group, all individuals scored outside the normal range of performance on the  
23  
24 face task and 60% of them did so for scenes and for high ambiguity objects (and a third individual's  
25  
26 data was marginally significant at  $p=.08$ ), as well. One third of the group scored significantly outside  
27  
28 the normal range on the size oddity task. Of the HC individuals, 75% of the group scored abnormally  
29  
30 on scenes and half the group was marginally out of the normal range on low ambiguity objects. Last,  
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32 75% of the CPs scored outside the normal range on faces (and this was true when IE was used, as  
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34 well) and 30% were outside the normal range on scene, high object and low object conditions, as  
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36 well.  
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40 These findings characterize the object discrimination difficulties across the three groups of  
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42 patients. Although the findings are not absolutely identical across all dependent measures, there is  
43  
44 sufficient consistency to reveal that the profile of each group, relative to matched controls, is slightly  
45  
46 different. Whereas both the MTL and CP groups discriminate faces, scenes, and high ambiguity  
47  
48 objects poorly (although the last task/s to a relatively lesser extent in CP than in MTL and evident  
49  
50 primarily in RT and IE), the HC group shows impaired discrimination primarily on scenes. The  
51  
52 question now is whether, when pitted against each other, the groups (especially the MTL and the CP  
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54 groups) differ.  
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60 *b. Direct comparison of three patient groups*  
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4           Because there were some differences in the way the data were acquired for each group and  
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6 there are obvious differences in the composition of the three groups in biographic factors as well  
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8 (e.g., age, handedness, and gender), a direct comparison of the three patient groups seems  
9  
10 inappropriate. To establish a more equitable means of comparison, we compared the data across the  
11  
12 three groups using z-scores computed first on the basis of the accuracy data. For each participant for  
13  
14 each condition, we first calculated the accuracy z-score relative to the matched control group. We  
15  
16 then used the z-score in the repeated measures ANOVA with group (MTL, HC, CP) as the between-  
17  
18 subject factor and condition as the within-subjects factor. The rationale for this approach is that the  
19  
20 normalized scores will serve as a more legitimate way of comparing the groups to each other rather  
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22 than using the absolute dependent measures.  
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26           Figure 6 plots the average z-score for each group in accuracy. The results of the ANOVA on  
27  
28 these data revealed a significant interaction of group x condition, ( $F(8, 40)=3.2, p<.007$ ). There were  
29  
30 neither a main effect of group nor of condition, providing reassurance that the group comparison was  
31  
32 conducted with other variables equated. We then conducted pairwise t-tests across the groups for  
33  
34 each condition and report here only those comparisons that exceeded  $p<.01$ . The analysis yielded the  
35  
36 following results: the CP and MTL groups did not differ on the face, low ambiguity or size oddity  
37  
38 tasks, but for scenes and for high object ambiguity, the CP group z-score was significantly more  
39  
40 positive than that of the MTL group. The CP and HC groups did not differ on high ambiguity objects,  
41  
42 low ambiguity objects or size but the CPs z-scores were significantly more negative than those of the  
43  
44 HC for face oddity but significantly more positive for scene oddity. Last, the MTL group had  
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46 significantly more negative z-scores than the HC group for faces and high ambiguity objects but  
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48 performed as poorly as the HC group on scene oddity. The two groups performed equally well on  
49  
50 low ambiguity objects and size (both groups scores do not differ from zero).  
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55           RT was not as informative as accuracy (for example, in the MTL group), but we nevertheless  
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57 compared the three groups to each other using the z-scores in RT computed for each participant and  
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4 for each condition<sup>3</sup>. Although the interaction of group x condition, ( $F(8,40)=n.s.$ ), was not  
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6 significant, we nevertheless explored some of the pairwise comparisons especially between the two  
7  
8 key groups, the CP and MTL patients. The only significant difference was the z-scores for faces with  
9  
10 the CP group showing more positive (i.e. longer RTs for CP relative to own control group) scores  
11  
12 than the MTL group relative to their control group. There was a trend for this same effect for scenes  
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14 but it did not reach significance and no other differences reached significance.  
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20 *c. Summary of analyses*

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22 In summary, we conducted two analyses, one of which reveals the perceptual strengths and  
23  
24 weaknesses of each of the three patient groups, the MTL, HC and CP, against their matched controls,  
25  
26 and the second of which compares the patient groups against each other, having normalized their  
27  
28 scores relative to their matched control groups. In the first set of analyses, although the profiles of the  
29  
30 patients differed slightly statistically depending on the dependent measure used, the overall findings  
31  
32 demonstrated that the MTL group performed more poorly than the controls on faces, scenes and high  
33  
34 ambiguity objects. The HC group performed more poorly than the controls predominantly on scenes  
35  
36 and to a lesser extent on faces (in RT, slower than matched controls). Last, the CP group performed  
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38 more poorly than controls on faces and to a lesser extent on scenes and marginally so on high  
39  
40 ambiguity objects. Note that no patient group differed from the controls on either the low ambiguity  
41  
42 or size condition, revealing that the impairments exhibited were always to those tasks that relied on  
43  
44 more complex perceptual demands. Importantly, however, even when perceptual difficulty was  
45  
46 increased, as in the size oddity task, this alone did not suffice to elicit impairments in the patient  
47  
48 groups. Thus, the key dimension separating tasks that do and do not reveal impairment is assumed to  
49  
50 be the requirement for configural processing when featural differences (even if subtle and  
51  
52 demanding) do not suffice for the discrimination. The abnormal patterns of the MTL and HC groups  
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58 <sup>3</sup> One of the three MTL participants had an RT that exceeded 3 SDs of the other 2 individuals,  
59 resulting in a skewed group mean. For this analysis, we assigned the mean of the other 2 individuals to  
60 this third individual (winsorized) but interpret this result with caution.  
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4 have been described previously (albeit not for all dependent measures reported here) and so the novel  
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6 finding here is that the CP group are impaired on similar tasks to individuals with amnesia from  
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8 MTL damage, and although their perceptual discrimination performance is fairly widely affected  
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10 (faces, scenes, high ambiguity), performance is especially poor for the CP for faces relative to the  
11  
12 level of impairment seen in the other conditions. These findings are largely mirrored in the analysis  
13  
14 of the single subject data.  
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17         The analysis of the z-scores using the accuracy data brings the difference between the three  
18  
19 patient groups into sharp relief and highlights the differential perceptual signatures across the groups  
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21 (see Fig 6). The HC group stands out for its specific difficulty in discriminating scenes and the CP  
22  
23 group stands out for its specific difficulty in discriminating faces. The MTL group, in contrast,  
24  
25 evinces a more general discrimination deficit, performing as badly as the HC on scenes, as badly as  
26  
27 the CP on faces, and more poorly than either of the other two groups on high object ambiguity  
28  
29 oddity. The groups did not differ on their normalized accuracy for the low ambiguity objects or for  
30  
31 the size discrimination, which was notably matched for difficulty with the more complex high  
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33 ambiguity perceptual conditions. The analysis of the z-score on RT provides a slightly different  
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35 account: CPs continue to be poorest at faces (slowest RT) and trend towards slowing on scenes and  
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37 high objects too, but no other RT z-score reveals a significant difference across groups.  
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## 44 **Discussion**

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46 There has been growing recognition from studies of human and non-human primates that structures  
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48 in the medial temporal lobe (MTL) contribute to processes beyond memory (Graham et al., 2010;  
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50 Moscovitch et al., 2016; Murray et al., 2007; Nadel & Peterson, 2013). Previous studies that have  
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52 focused on the contribution of the MTL to perceptual function, for example, have acquired data from  
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54 patients with hippocampal (HC) or medial temporal lobe (MTL) lesions and have provided strong  
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56 evidence to support this hypothesis: HC damage leads to an impairment in perceiving (but also  
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58 learning and remembering) complex scenes whereas MTL damage, which affects both the HC and  
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4 the PrC, results in perceptual and mnemonic deficits for scenes but also for faces and for objects  
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6 (Barens et al., 2005a; Barens et al., 2010; Barens, Ngo, et al., 2012; Graham et al., 2010; Graham  
7  
8 et al., 2006; Lee, Barens, et al., 2005). Importantly, all of these patients are able to discriminate  
9  
10 objects that differ on a simple feature, such as size, even when the discrimination is taxing, ruling out  
11  
12 a basic sensory or low-level visual impairment. This result has been further substantiated by studies  
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14 using fMRI (Barens et al., 2010; Lee et al., 2008; Mundy et al., 2013), which revealed differential  
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16 recruitment of the HC and MTL/PrC for scene and face discriminations, respectively. Consistent  
17  
18 with this, macaque monkeys with lesions to PrC are impaired at visual discrimination tasks when  
19  
20 presented with arrays of similar faces and similar objects (Buckley et al., 2001; Buckley, Charles,  
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22 Browning, & Gaffan, 2004; Buckley & Gaffan, 1998). All of these findings are compatible with a  
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24 theoretical account in which, as one moves more rostral in the ventral visual cortex, structures are  
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26 increasingly engaged in deriving complex conjunctions of features that ultimately uniquely depict a  
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28 specific exemplar and allow for its differentiation from other similar exemplars.  
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33         Interestingly, in recent years, albeit in an independent domain of investigation, a similar  
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35 anatomical and functional explanation has been offered to account for the face recognition  
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37 impairment in individuals with congenital prosopagnosia (CP) (Avidan & Behrmann, 2014;  
38  
39 Stollhoff, Kennerknecht, et al., 2011). The central claim is that the disconnection between more  
40  
41 posterior visual regions (e.g. FFA and OFA) and more anterior regions such as the anterior temporal  
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43 lobe results in a deficit in face individuation and that this deficit may well be a consequence of an  
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45 impairment in deriving more holistic or configural representations. While this computational ability  
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47 is critical for faces, all of which share the same basic elements arranged in the same spatial  
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49 configuration, discriminating between homogeneous within-class exemplars in other categories may  
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51 be affected as well.  
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55         In light of this apparent overlap between these disparate neuropsychological populations  
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57 both in anatomy of the lesion and the functional etiology of the deficit, we directly compared the  
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59 performance of MTL and HC patients, on the one hand, and CP individuals, on the other, using a set  
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4 of tasks that do or do not require the conjunctive binding of features. The key findings were as  
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6 follows: whereas the HC patients were disproportionately impaired in discriminating scenes  
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8 (although RT for face discrimination was significantly slowed too) and the CP individuals were  
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10 disproportionately impaired in discriminating faces (although deficits in scene and high ambiguity  
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12 objects were also present in RT and inverse efficiency measures), the MTL patients were impaired on  
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14 all three classes that stressed feature conjunctions and this was to roughly an equivalent degree  
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16 across these three classes. All groups performed normally, relative to their matched controls, when  
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18 discriminations could be completed on the basis of a more simplistic featural difference even when  
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20 the task itself was challenging (size and low ambiguity objects). The group results were largely  
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22 mirrored in the analysis of the data from each individual patient, relative to the distribution of the  
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24 control group, and roughly the same findings were reflected in the analysis of the z-score data  
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26 (mostly in accuracy comparisons).  
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31       As evident from this summary, the scope of the recognition deficit in both the MTL and CP  
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33 groups extends beyond face processing. Although this may not be that surprising in the MTL cases  
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35 given their extensive deficit, this may, perhaps, be more surprising in the CP cases. Whether  
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37 individuals with CP are impaired on recognition of any other stimulus classes has been the topic of  
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39 ongoing debate, with some studies reporting face-specific deficits and others uncovering more  
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41 extensive impairments. To evaluate this issue more closely, Geskin and Behrmann (under review)  
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43 undertook a survey of roughly 100 published papers on CP from 1950 to the current time by searching  
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45 for ‘prosopagnosia’ on Pubmed and then narrowing the results down to those cases without acquired  
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47 lesions either early or later in life. Then, as far as possible, the profile of each CP individual was  
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49 assessed to discover whether there is statistically normal non-face recognition along with a statistically  
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51 significant impairment in face recognition (roughly akin to the analysis done on acquired forms of  
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53 agnosia; (Farah, 1991). If all dependent measures are taken into account (i.e. not only accuracy but  
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55 also RT and even inverse efficiency to account for the speed-accuracy trade-offs), there appear to be  
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57 very few cases, if any (for whom sufficient data was available for analysis), in the existing literature  
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4 who have normal object recognition and in some of these instances, there is still not quite enough  
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6 information to make the judgment definitively. In all cases, the impairment in face recognition was  
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8 more severe than that for other non-face stimuli (e.g. objects such as cars or Greebles) but many  
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10 explanations for this asymmetry have been offered including the homogeneity among face exemplars  
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12 and the heavy reliance on configural processing (for example, (Gauthier, Behrmann, & Tarr, 1999)).  
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14 The findings from the present study are compatible with the findings from the literature in that the CP  
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16 individuals, for the most part, reveal deficits in scene and object discrimination, albeit to a lesser  
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18 degree than the difficulties in face perception.  
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22 A number of important conclusions can be drawn from the results of the current investigation,  
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24 with respect to the overlap in the neural pattern and the overlap in the functional deficit (configural  
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26 coding). First, there is a marked likeness in the face performance profile in MTL and CP, suggestive of  
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28 a similarity in the underlying neural basis of the deficits. The MTL individuals have sustained clear  
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30 neurological damage (viral encephalitis or bleed secondary to trauma) that has resulted in a lesion to  
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32 the MTL region, including the PrC and more anterior ATL structures such as the temporal pole. The  
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34 ‘deficit’ in the ATL in the CP case is, on some accounts (e.g. (Avidan et al., 2014)), a result of a  
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36 disconnection between more posterior and more anterior face-selective regions including the ATL but  
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38 perhaps including the PrC, as well. The question is whether the same neural structures are affected in  
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40 both of these populations, albeit as a result of different etiologies. As we have indicated, some of the  
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42 regions classified as “ATL” might well have been classified as “PrC” had another group been doing  
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44 the labeling (see Table 1 for overlap in coordinates), reflecting the ambiguity in localizing the source  
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46 of the deficit.  
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51 Further support for the possibility that the same region/s might be implicated in the patient  
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53 groups comes from more direct fMRI studies of face perception in which the documented foci of  
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55 activity observed in ATL face-sensitive regions may include PrC as well (Harry, Umla-Runge,  
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57 Lawrence, Graham, & Downing, in press). This is well illustrated by O’Neil et al. (2013) who directly  
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59 compared activity for a face oddity task similar to the one used in the current study with activity driven  
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4 by a classic face localizer scan, and reported overlap in a region that was confirmed to be in right PrC  
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6 (defined based on boundaries provided by (Pruessner et al., 2002)). More recent MVPA-based fMRI  
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8 work from this same group has shown that face specific responses in PrC (again confirmed based on  
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10 criteria in Pruessner et al. 2002) are also present in distributed patterns that extend beyond the 'blob'  
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12 that typically shows up in univariate analyses of functional localizer data or data from recognition  
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14 memory tasks for faces (Martin, Cowell, Gribble, Wright, & Kohler, 2015), implicating a slightly  
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16 larger region that might be affected in both MTL and CP groups.  
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20         Several explanations may account for the overlap in neural correlates for the MTL and CP  
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22 individuals. One possibility is that a large swath of cortex is activated in response to faces and that  
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24 there is insufficient precision in delineating the different ROIs. Imprecision resulting from a  
25  
26 reduction in signal precision in functional imaging of the key areas is indeed of relevance here and  
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28 signal drop-out and distortion in the inferior and medial surface as well as the polar tip of the ATL  
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30 are common and especially problematic when studies use a high TE and large voxel size. Thus, the  
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32 signal may not be sufficiently precise to segregate the discrete functional subregions of ventral ATL  
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34 (Ding, Van Hoesen, Cassell, & Poremba, 2009; Wong & Gallate, 2012). FMRI studies in non-human  
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36 primates have identified somewhat variable activation loci for faces, varying from the inferior bank  
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38 of the STS on the lateral surface to the inferior surface of the ATL (Ku, Tolias, Logothetis, &  
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40 Goense, 2011). In humans, MVPA studies of facial identity using novel faces have also reported  
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42 somewhat different loci in the right ventral ATL: some studies have reported an extremely medial  
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44 peak in the uncus, possibly corresponding to perirhinal cortex (Nestor, Plaut, & Behrmann, 2011;  
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46 Von Der Heide, Skipper, & Olson, 2013) whereas in others, the activation is more closely associated  
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48 with the right ventral ATL (Kriegeskorte et al., 2007). But the activation profile may also be  
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50 somewhat contingent on the particular contrast. For example, in Von Der Heide et al. (2013), the  
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52 activation to novel faces was most similar to Nestor et al. (2011) while the activation to familiar  
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54 minus novel faces were in a similar depth plane to that reported by Kriegeskorte (2007), but slightly  
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56 more anterior (famous vs. novel faces: -32, 14, -36; best friends vs. novel faces: -47, 11, -31). Last,  
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4 the activation for the contrast of famous faces minus novel landmarks on the surface of the ATL at  
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6 left (-36, 6, -42) and right (35, 3, -42) locations (Von Der Heide et al., 2013).  
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9 Further advances in developing more fine-grained distinctions between anterior/medial  
10 temporal lobe structures will likely come from two separate approaches. One approach will address  
11 the limitations outlined above, resulting in increased precision in delineating the ROIs and acquiring  
12 better imaging acquisition protocols that offset the drop-out and artifact of scanning these anterior  
13 regions. A second avenue of progress will come from improved parcellation of the temporal pole and  
14 surrounding regions with modern neuroanatomical techniques, combined with different cellular,  
15 neurochemical, and pathological markers. Such investigations find that at least six different areas  
16 extend into the ATL, with another area being unique to the polar region (Ding et al., 2009). As noted  
17 by Ding et al. (2009), the classic anatomical concept of treating the human temporal pole as a single  
18 area (area 38) is clearly inadequate and needs re-evaluation: the classic studies on human cortical  
19 mapping were mainly based on Nissl preparations but close exploration reveals that this part of  
20 cortex is a large, heterogeneous area containing cytoarchitecturally distinct regions (Donner &  
21 Price, 2013). Additional progress is being made through studies of white matter connectivity to these  
22 temporal regions and the relationship between the fiber tracts and behavior as well as between the  
23 white matter tracts and functional activation profiles. For example, in one study combining  
24 measurements of white matter structure, functional selectivity and behavior in the same subjects, two  
25 parallel white matter tracts were uncovered, one connecting to face- and one to place-selective  
26 regions and the diffusion properties correlated with behavioral profile for face or place processing  
27 (Gomez et al., 2015). Even more pertinent are the findings from recent studies of the contribution of  
28 the inferior longitudinal fasciculus, ILF, and the fornix in perceptual discrimination tasks similar to  
29 those used here (Hodgetts et al., 2015; Postans et al., 2014). Microstructure of the fornix, a principal  
30 tract linking the HC with adjacent cortical and subcortical structures, was correlated with perceptual  
31 discriminations of scenes but not faces, and, conversely, microstructure of the ILF, the main ventral  
32 pathway to the anterior temporal lobe was correlated with perceptual discriminations of faces but not  
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of scenes. Moreover, the integrity of these pathways was associated with the BOLD response, with the ILF associated with the functional response for faces in FFA and also in the PrC (see also (Pyles, Verstynen, Schneider, & Tarr, 2013)) and fractional anisotropy measures of the fornix positively associated with HC scene de-activations. Together, these findings segregate the connectivity of the more anterior/medial temporal structures and show that these anatomical connections comprise broader networks that are dissociable in the types of stimulus representations they support. Moreover, it appears that these different regions can be dissociated (to some extent) by discrete damage. Together, the data support the claim that visual discriminations are subserved by neurocognitive networks associated with critical anterior/medial temporal lobe structures and that examining the interplay between cortical functions, anatomical connectivity, visual behaviors and the effect of selective brain damage offers insight into the nature of these widely distributed networks and their role in visual perception.

    Last, in addition to increasing precision in the empirical domain, increasing precision in the computational characterization of the instantiated function is needed too. That these anterior/medial regions all appear to play a role in deriving conjunctions of features is a rather coarse description of the functional role played by these regions in perception and memory. Also, whether similar conjunction or binding functions affect other category-sensitive regions distributed throughout the temporal and occipital lobe remains to be determined. Increasing specificity, theoretical consideration and perhaps simulations of the imputed contributions would further our understanding of this region of cortex, as well as the way in which representations may differentially support success on perceptual and mnemonic tasks.

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**Table 1: Talairach coordinates from studies showing perception-related activation in ATL or PrC**

Region: right	Study	X	Y	Z
Anterior temporal lobe	(Avidan et al., 2014)	30	0	-33
	(Kriegeskorte et al., 2007)	38	2	-38
	(Pyles et al., 2013)	37	-7	-27
	(Von Der Heide et al., 2013)	29	-5	-31
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-32.25</b>
Perirhinal cortex	(Barens et al., 2010)	39	2	-36
	(Barens, Henson, & Graham, 2011)	38	-9	30
	(O'Neil et al., 2009)	33	-4	-26
	(Hodgetts et al. 2015)	28	-16	-32
	(Lee et al. 2008)	29	-9	-18
	(Mundy et al. 2013)	28	-7	-19
	(Lee et al., 2006)	36	-16	-24
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>-8.4</b>	<b>-17.8</b>

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**Table 2: Demographic details and data from face recognition and handedness tests for the CP individuals. The columns containing the results of the Cambridge Face Memory Test (CFMT) and the Famous Faces test report the SDs of each CP relative to the matched controls.**

Group	Initials	Sex	Age	CFMT	Famous faces	Handedness
CP	WS	F	64	-1.6	0.39	80
CP	WA	F	23	-3.5	-2.9	70
CP	KE	F	67	-1.1	- 3.1	90
CP	TD	F	38	-2.2	-2.85	94
CP	SC	M	57	-1.79	-1.5	90
CP	BL	F	18	- 4.16	-4.6	12.5

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**Figure legends:**

**Figure 1: Examples display of a trial from each of the five visual discriminations tasks.** The first two (a: size, b: low ambiguity objects) conditions can be solved by a single feature distinction whereas the remaining three (c: face, d: scene, e: high ambiguity objects) demand a conjunction of features.

**Figure 2: Comparison of MTL and control group.** Mean percent accuracy (and 1 SE) for the MTL group and their control group across all five discrimination conditions. \* signifies significant differences between groups. There were no differences between the MTL and control groups on RT or IE and so we do not display those data.

**Figure 3: Comparison of HC and control group.** a. Performance of HC group and their control group across all five discrimination conditions as reflected in (a) Mean percent accuracy (and 1 SE), (b) Mean RT (and 1 SE), and (c) Mean Inverse efficiency (and 1 SE). \* signifies significant differences between groups.

**Figure 4: Comparison of CP and control group.** a. Performance of CP group and their control group across all five discrimination conditions as reflected in (a) Mean percent accuracy (and 1 SE), (b) Mean RT (and 1 SE), and (c) Mean Inverse efficiency (and 1 SE). \* signifies significant differences between groups.

**Figure 5: Single subject data.** Percentage of individual participants from the MTL, HC and CP group who fell outside the normal distribution on each experimental condition.

**Figure 6: Comparison of MTL, HC and CP groups using accuracy.** Mean accuracy z-scores (and 1 SE) for the CP, MTL and HC groups across all five discrimination conditions. A negative z-score indicates impairment.\* signifies significant differences between groups.

**Figure 7: Comparison of MTL, HC and CP groups using RT.** Mean RT z-scores (and 1 SE) for the CP, MTL and HC groups across all five discrimination conditions. A positive z-score indicates impairment. \* signifies significant differences between groups.

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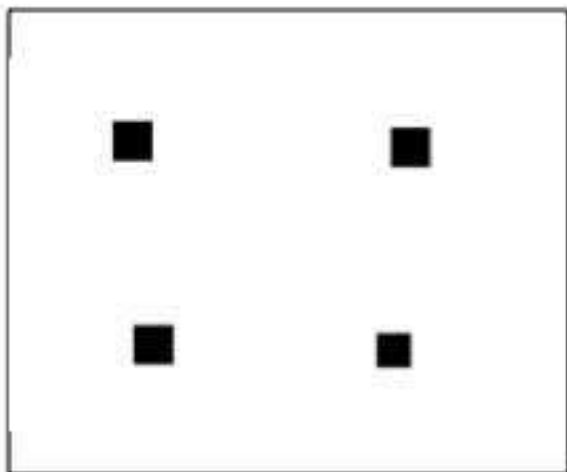
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Figure 1

a.



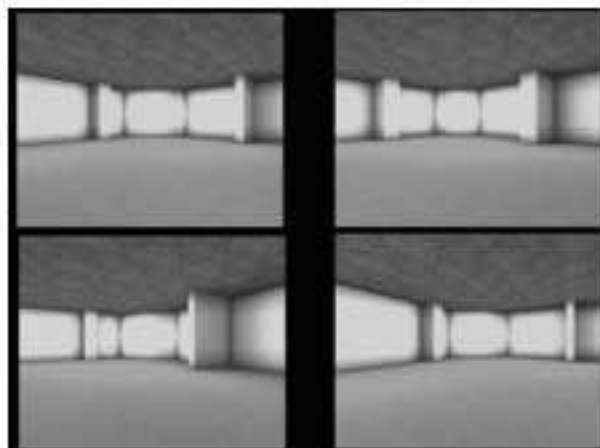
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d.



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Figure 2

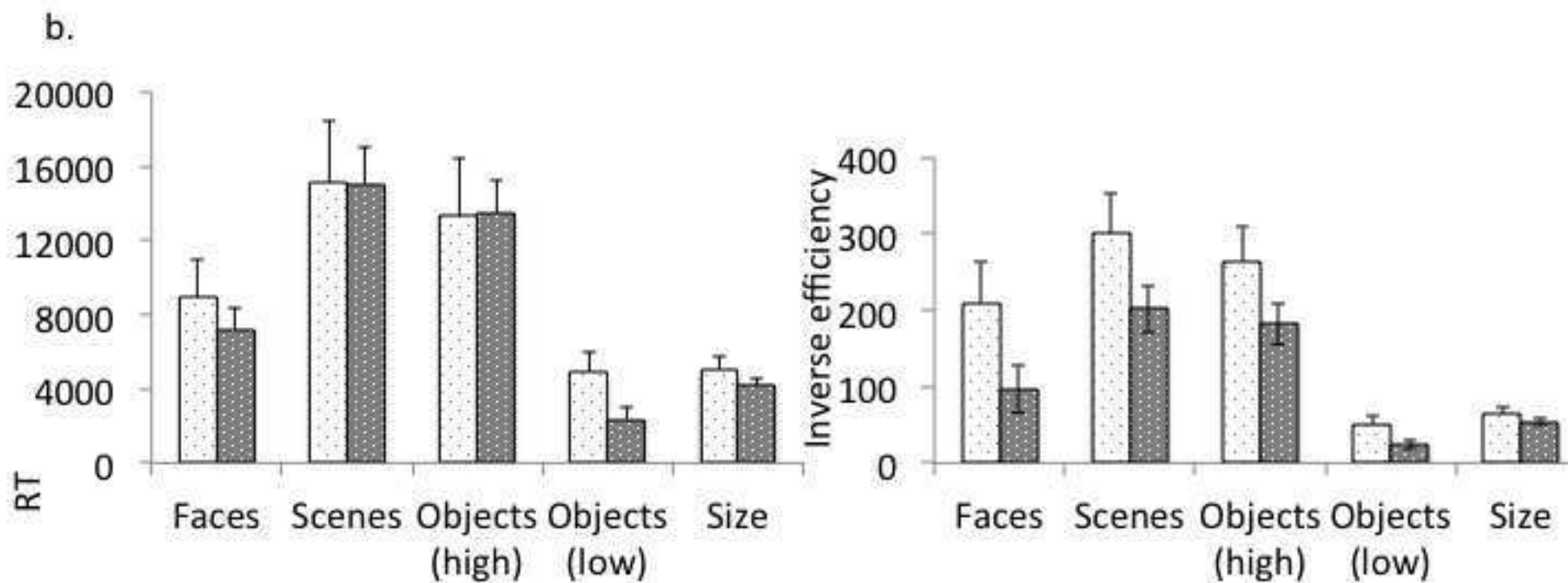
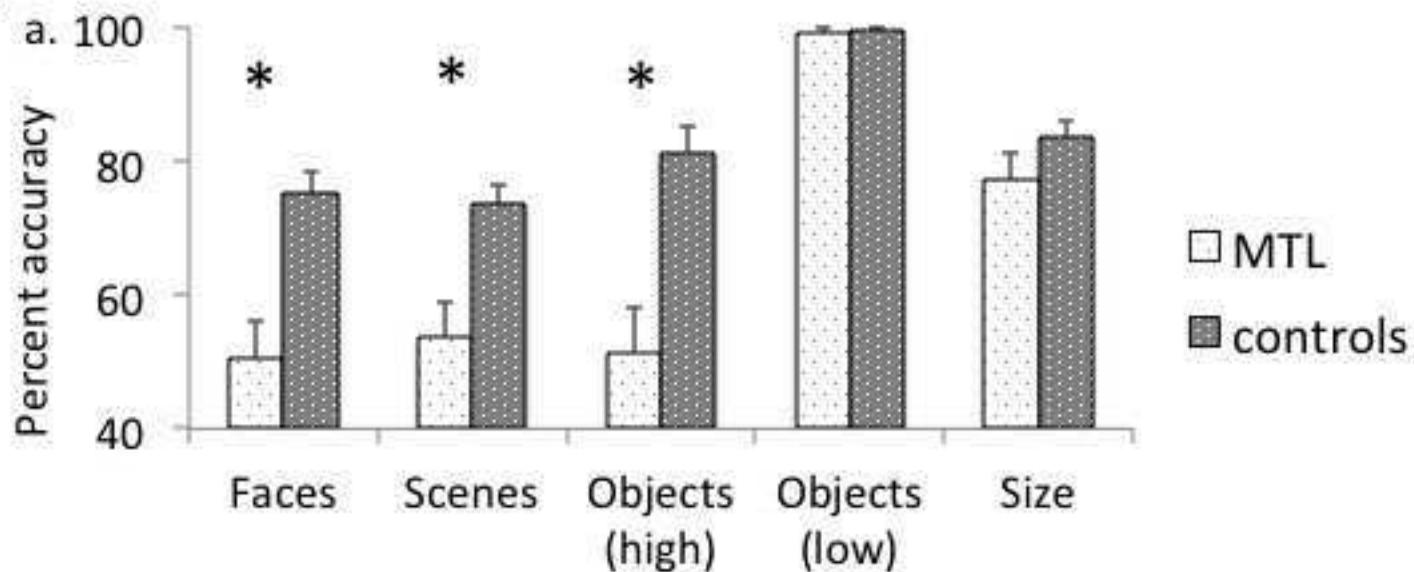
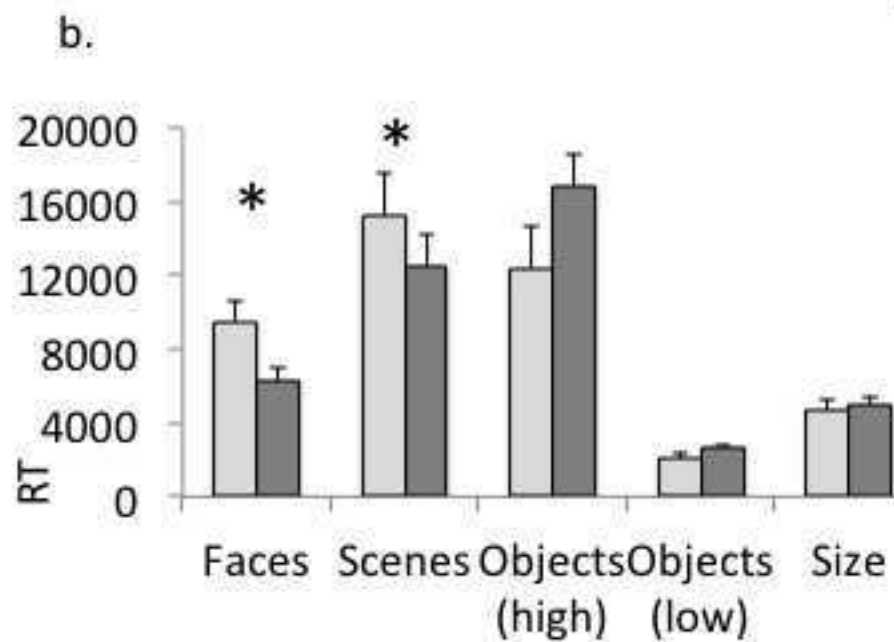
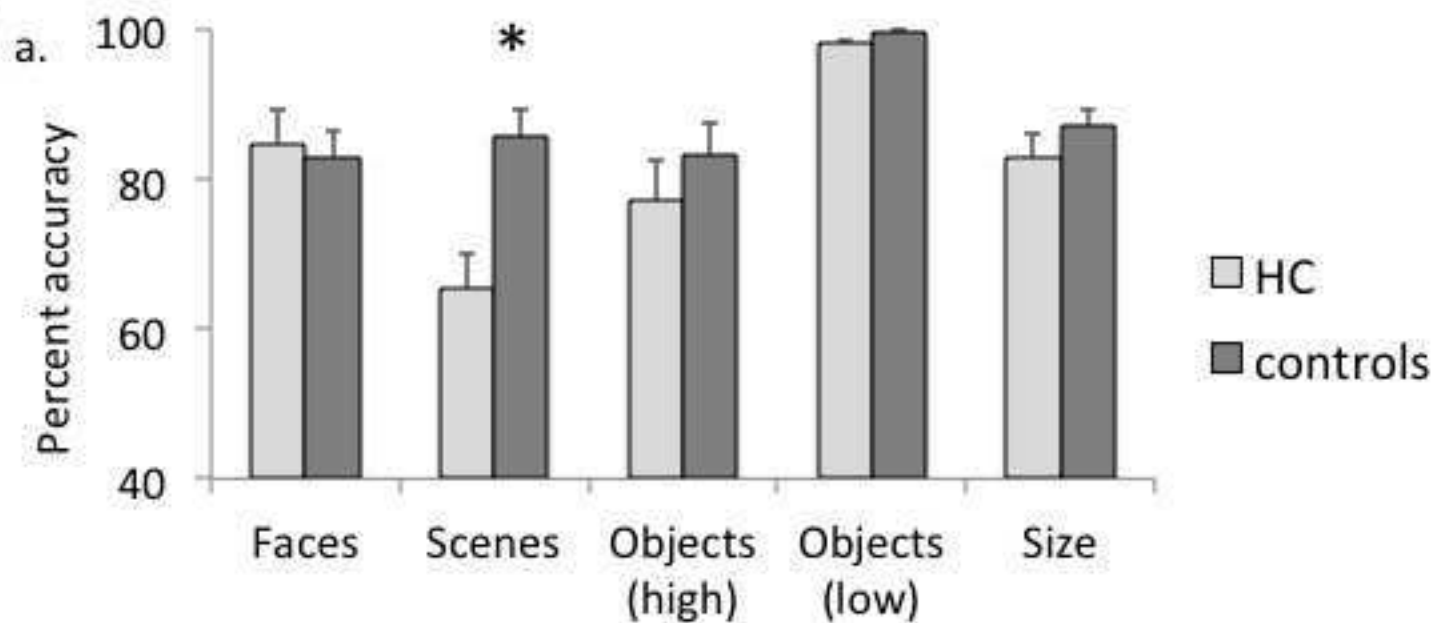
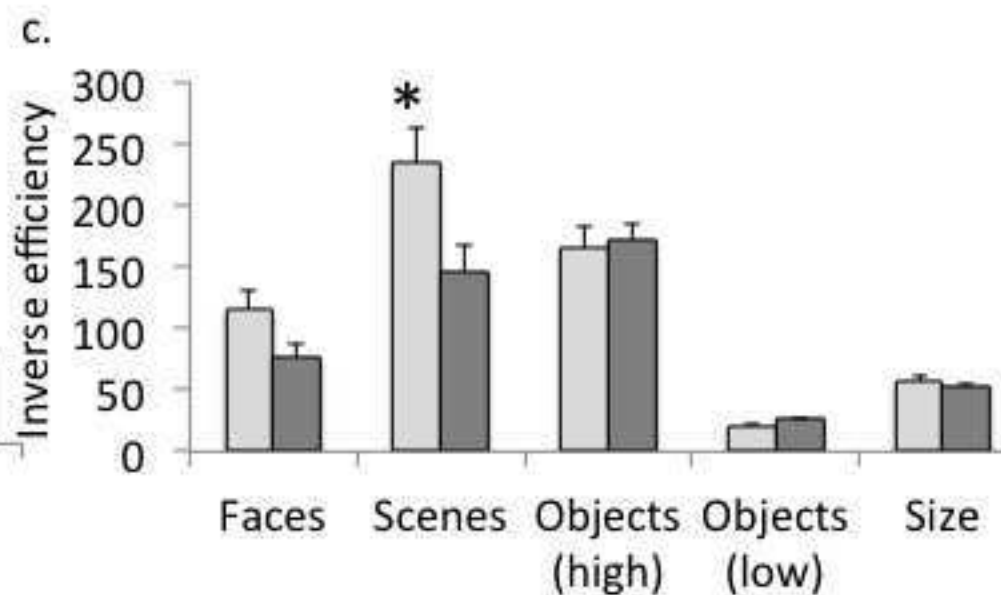


Figure 3



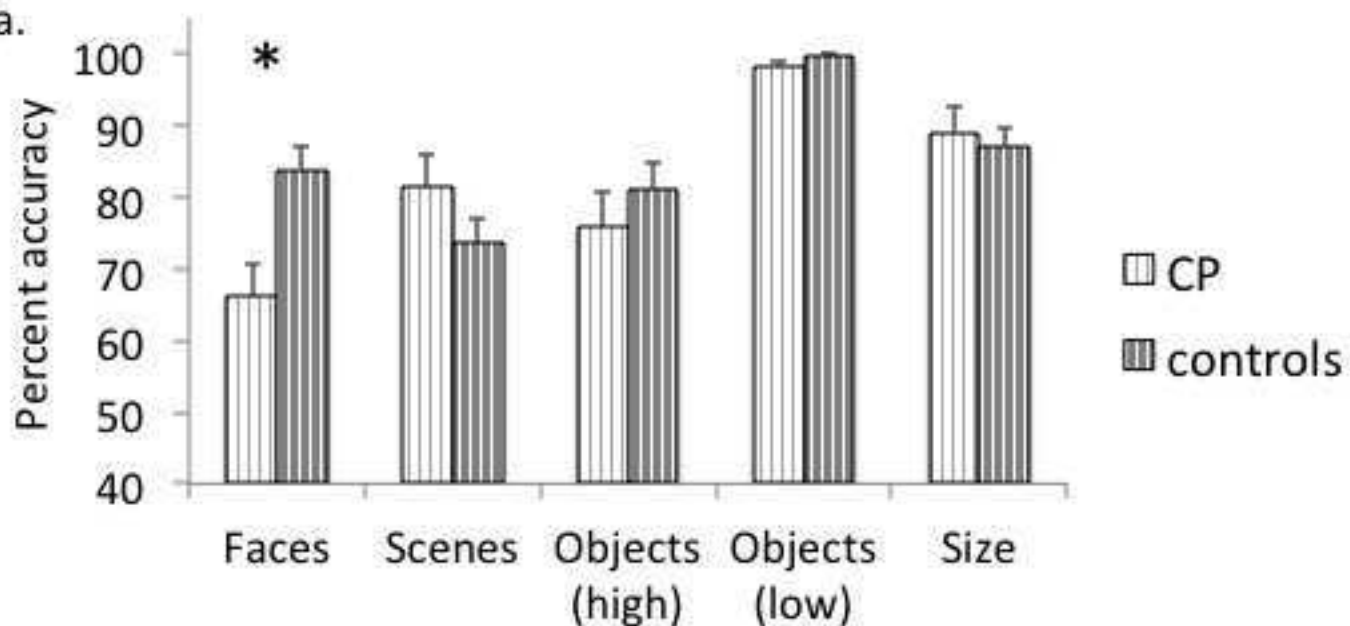
Stimulus conditions



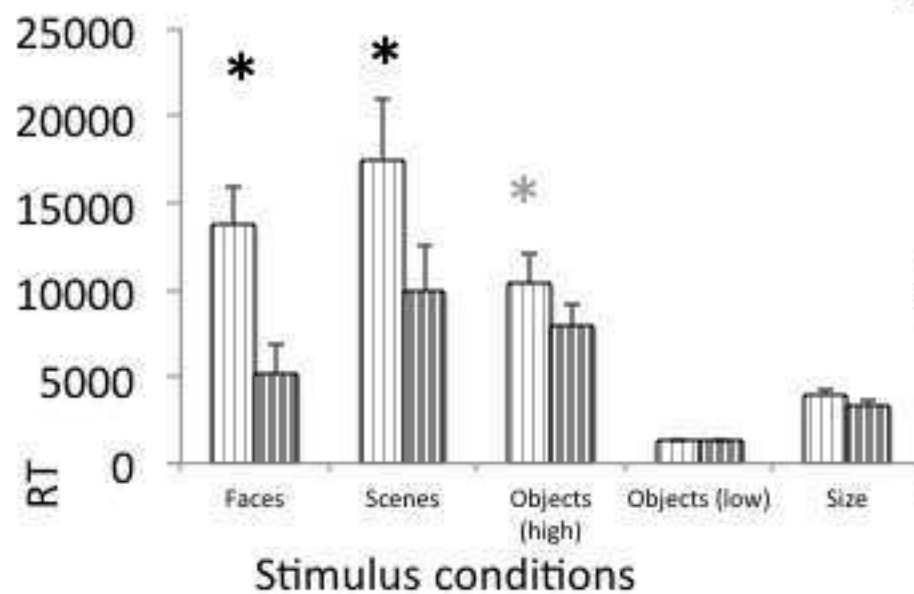
Stimulus conditions



Figure 4<sub>a.</sub>



b.



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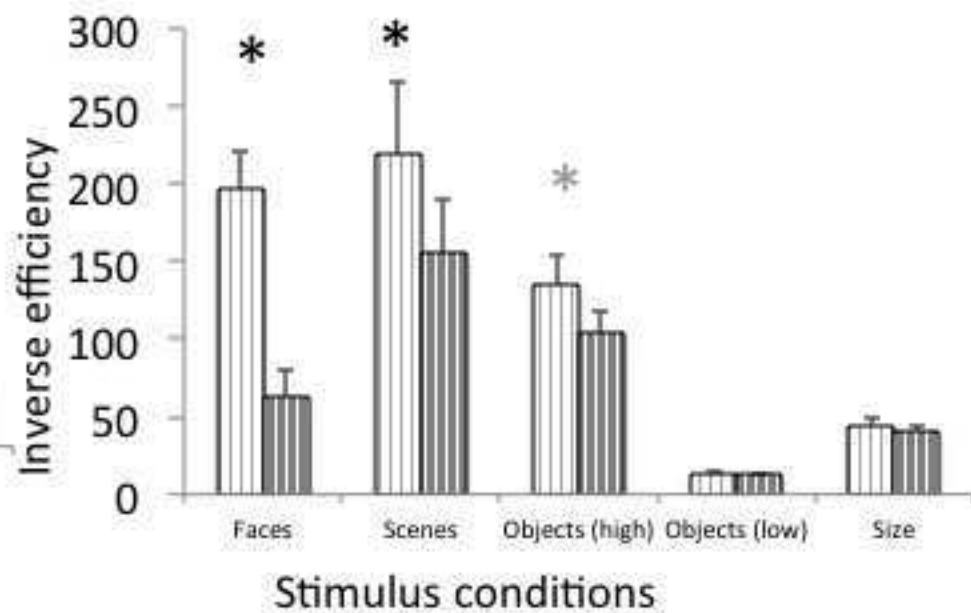


Figure 5

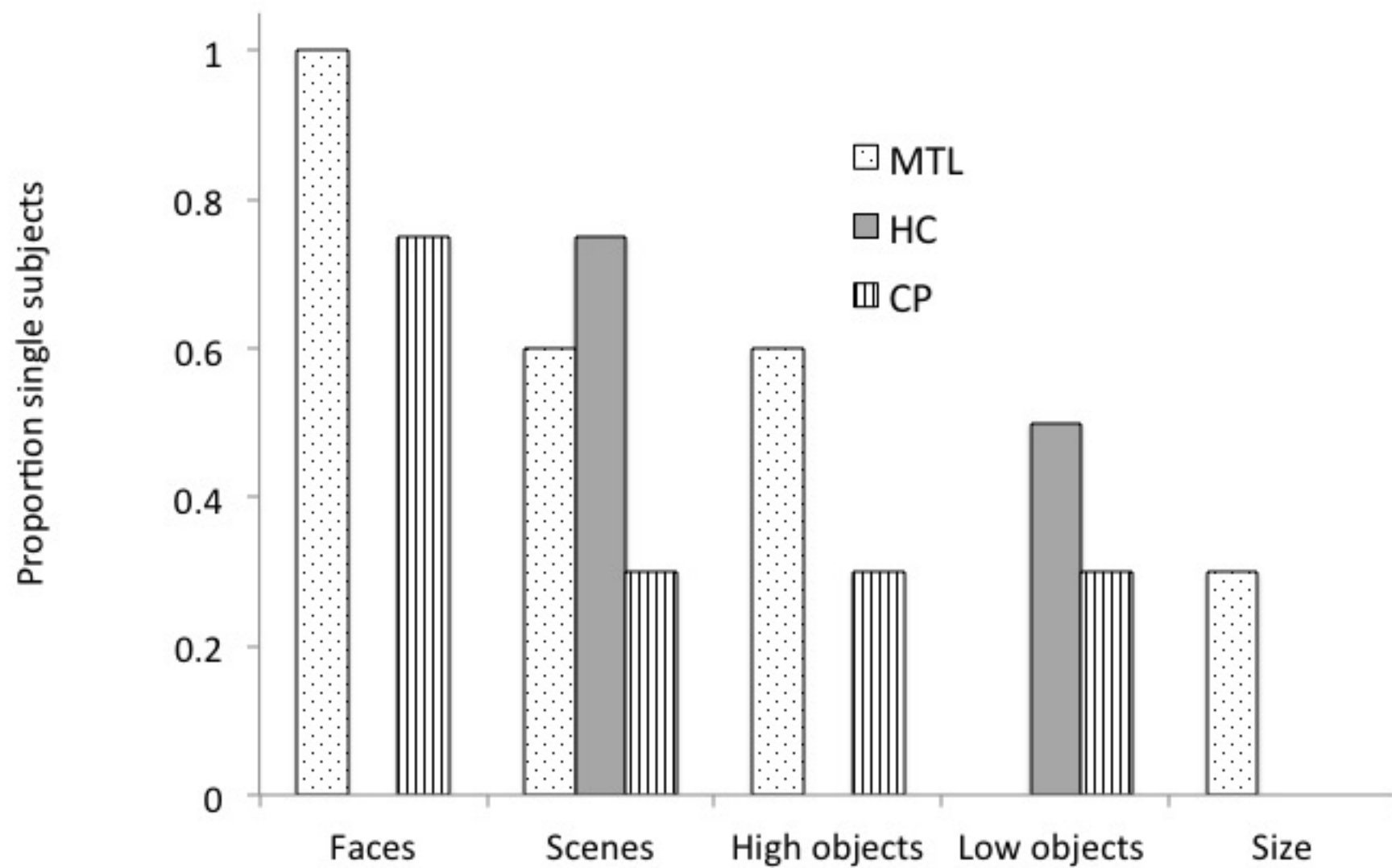


Figure 6

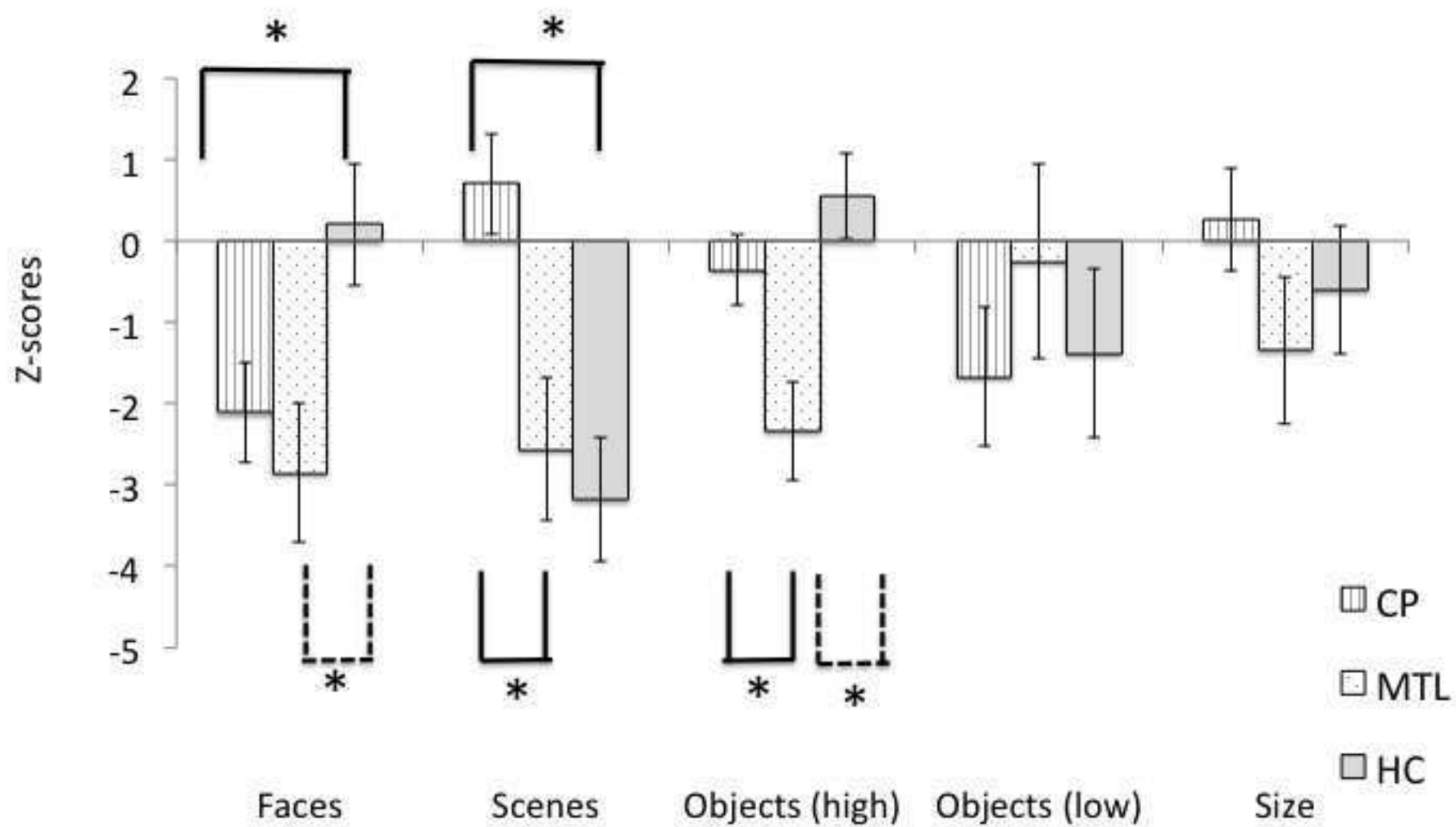


Figure 7

