Review of: "Fornix and Uncinate Fasciculus Support Metacognition-Driven Cognitive Offloading"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript is well-written, but a few comments need to be addressed before publication:

Discussion section: “we resorted to an anatomical neuroimaging technique, diffusion tensor imaging (DTI), in a study with 34 participants to examine the neural basis of metacognition-driven cognitive offloading. Our results demonstrated that the fractional anisotropy (FA) of the fornix positively correlated with the bias towards using external reminders over internal memory. The FA of the left uncinate fasciculus (UF) negatively correlated with deviations from optimal reminder use. We did not only replicate previous findings that the bias in setting up reminders is predicted by under-confidence in correctly executing delayed intentions with internal memory (e.g. Gilbert et al.[17]), but also found that this correlation was moderated by the FA of the right superior longitudinal fasciculus (SLF). We additionally found that the FA of the left cingulum bundle and the bilateral SLF negatively correlated with the confidence prediction on one’s own task performance.”

I encourage the authors to provide a brief overview of the results, rather than providing an abstract of the whole study, including methods (number of participants), in the first paragraph of the discussion section.

Discussion section: rather than providing a general statement “involvement of a frontoparietal network,” the authors should emphasize what the DTI markers measured actually mean?

Although the authors have used bootstrapping methods to increase the robustness of the results, the minimal sample size is still a major pitfall of this study. Therefore, the authors should be more cautious in drawing conclusions based on such a small sample size of participants.