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Large-scale Meta-analysis Suggests Low Regional Modularity in Lateral Frontal Cortex

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Abstract

Extensive fMRI study of human lateral frontal cortex (LFC) has yet to yield a consensus mapping between discrete anatomy and psychological states, partly due to the difficulty of inferring mental states from brain activity. Despite this, there have been few large-scale efforts to map the full range of psychological states across the entirety of LFC. Here, we used a data-driven approach to generate a comprehensive functional-anatomical mapping of LFC from 11 406 neuroimaging studies. We identified putatively separable LFC regions on the basis of whole-brain co-activation, revealing 14 clusters organized into 3 whole-brain networks. Next, we generated functional preference profiles by using multivariate classification to identify the psychological states that best predicted activity within each cluster. We observed large functional differences between networks, suggesting brain networks support distinct modes of processing. Within each network, however, we observed relatively low functional specificity, suggesting discrete psychological states are not strongly localized to individual regions; instead, our results are consistent with the view that individual LFC regions work as part of distributed networks to give rise to flexible behavior. Collectively, our results provide a comprehensive synthesis of a diverse neuroimaging literature using relatively unbiased data-driven methods.

Key words: informatics, multivariate, neuroinformatics, prefrontal

Introduction

Decades of research have suggested lateral frontal cortex (LFC) plays a critical role in the execution of flexible, goal-directed behavior (Miller and Cohen 2001), enabling the navigation of complex, rapidly changing environments, pursuit of distant goals in the face of various obstacles, planning for future events, and the communication of complex ideas using language. Although extensive work has identified putatively separable psychological processes critical for flexible behavior (Miyake et al. 2000), the spatial organization of such processes across LFC remains actively debated.

Much progress has been made in understanding the LFC's topographical organization by identifying putatively separable subregions on the basis of properties that constrain information processing. For instance, discrete regions have been proposed based on differences in microstructural properties; e.g., cytoarchitecture (Petrides 2005), and anatomical (Sallet et al. 2013; Neubert et al. 2015; Orr et al. 2015) and resting-state functional connectivity (Kim et al. 2010; Goulas et al. 2012). Although these studies have carefully characterized regional distinctions within LFC, it is unclear to what extent the boundaries derived from such methods correspond to the

organization of brain activity observed during behavior (Eickhoff et al. 2007).

A fruitful complementary approach is the application of quantitative meta-analysis of functional MRI (fMRI) studies in order to robustly map the functional correlates of behavioral phenotypes across LFC. Such meta-analyses help overcome the low power observed in individual studies and produce more precise spatial maps of psychological states that activate LFC, such as working memory (Wager and Smith 2003; Nee et al. 2013), inhibition (Nee et al. 2007), switching (Wager et al. 2004; Derrfuss et al. 2005), language (Binder et al. 2009), mentalizing (Gilbert et al. 2006), and self-referential processing (Denny et al. 2012). However, due to the manual effort required to compile activation patterns across studies, and because most researchers are interested in a particular psychological domain, existing meta-analyses are generally restricted to particular LFC subregions or a subset of psychological processes.

This relatively narrow scope necessarily limits the impact of most existing meta-analyses for 2 reasons. First, extensive evidence suggests discrete cognitive processes are supported by the coordinated activity of brain regions organized into distributed, whole-brain networks (Medaglia et al. 2015; Petersen and Sporns 2015; Bzdok et al. 2016). Nonetheless, distinct cognitive roles have also been attributed to individual regions within the same network, such as “switching” to inferior frontal junction (IFJ; Derrfuss et al. 2005) and “inhibition” to the right inferior frontal gyrus (rIFG; Nee et al. 2007). Hence, in order to establish the extent to which regions within the same network support common or distinct cognitive processes, it is critical to interpret the functional associations of individual regions across a broader anatomical scope that spans various networks in LFC.

Second, it is notoriously difficult to infer mental function from brain activity, the so-called problem of “reverse inference” (Poldrack 2006). Determining the relative specificity with which a particular task activates a given region requires the ability to quantify the likelihood of activation in that region across a wide range of potential tasks. This problem is particularly acute in brain regions that activate frequently across a broad range of tasks. Hence, the fact that LFC appears to be involved in a broad range of tasks—putatively due to its critical role in guiding flexible behavior (Miller and Cohen 2001; Dosenbach et al. 2006; Duncan 2010)—implies that this area may be particularly difficult to associate with specific mental operations (Nelson et al. 2010).

Here we address these issues by creating a comprehensive mapping between data-derived semantic topics representing psychological states and LFC topography using Neurosynth (Yarkoni et al. 2011), a framework for large-scale fMRI meta-analysis composed of nearly 11 500 studies. First, we used a data-driven method that exploits the observation that functionally related regions co-activate across studies (Toro et al. 2008; Kober and Wager 2010; Wager et al. 2015; De La Vega et al. 2016; Eickhoff et al. 2016; Pauli et al. 2016) to cluster voxels into putatively separable subregions. We applied clustering at 2 spatial scales, identifying 3 distinct whole-brain networks in LFC composed of several smaller subregions with dissociable co-activation patterns. We then characterized the functional associations of these resulting regions using multivariate classification, contrasting studies that activated each region with those that did not, resulting in functional preference profiles for each LFC subregion. Collectively, our results provide a relatively broad and unbiased perspective on the functional organization of LFC, revealing distinct functional profiles for each network, but relatively low functional specialization for each region within those networks.

Materials and Methods

Dataset

We analyzed version 0.6 of the Neurosynth database (Yarkoni et al. 2011), a repository of 11 406 fMRI studies and over 410 000 activation peaks that span the full range of the published neuroimaging literature. Each observation contains the peak activations for all contrasts reported in a study’s table as well as the frequency of all of the words in the article abstract. A heuristic but relatively accurate approach is used to detect and convert reported coordinates to the standard MNI space. As such, all activations and subsequent analyses are in MNI152 coordinate space.

Software and Results Availability

Analyses were performed using the core Neurosynth python tools (<https://github.com/neurosynth/neurosynth>) and the scikit-learn Python package (Pedregosa et al. 2011) was used for all machine learning algorithms. Code and data to replicate these analyses on any given brain region at any desired spatial granularity are available as a set of IPython Notebooks (<https://github.com/adelavega/neurosynth-lfc>). The final clustering results and a priori LFC mask may also be obtained from this repository.

LFC Mask

To select clusters from whole-brain clustering solutions in LFC, we defined a spatial mask using various criteria (see Supplementary Fig. 1). First, we included voxels with a greater than 30% chance of falling in the frontal lobes according to the Montreal Neurological Institute structural probabilistic atlas and excluded medial voxels within 14 mm of the midline. To focus on LFC, we excluded voxels that were exclusively located on the orbital surface—ensuring to include lateral orbitofrontal voxels—by removing voxels in the superior and medial orbital gyri according to the AAL atlas and voxels with a greater than 30% probability of falling in “Frontal Operculum Cortex” in the Harvard-Oxford atlas. Finally, we also excluded far ventral voxels of OFC ($Z < -14$ mm) that were not excluded using anatomical atlases.

Co-activation Clustering

Next, we clustered individual gray-matter cortical voxels across the whole-brain based on their meta-analytic co-activation with the whole-brain across studies in the database (Fig. 1a). In order to avoid potentially biased or arbitrary cluster boundaries, we clustered the whole cortex and selected clusters for further analysis that fell within an anatomically defined LFC mask. Critically, we did not mask out voxels that were slightly outside of our mask—we either included or excluded entire clusters. This was particularly important for clusters near the edge of our LFC mask—as functional boundaries may not conform to anatomical boundaries—and at coarse clustering solutions—given the well-established finding that several whole-brain networks extend into LFC (Yeo et al. 2011). For whole-cortex clustering, we excluded voxels with less than 30% probability of falling in gray matter according to the Harvard-Oxford anatomical atlas and those with very low activation in the database (less than 100 studies per voxel). In general, Neurosynth’s activation mask (derived from the standard MNI152 template distributed with FSL) highly corresponded with probabilistic locations of cerebral cortex, with the

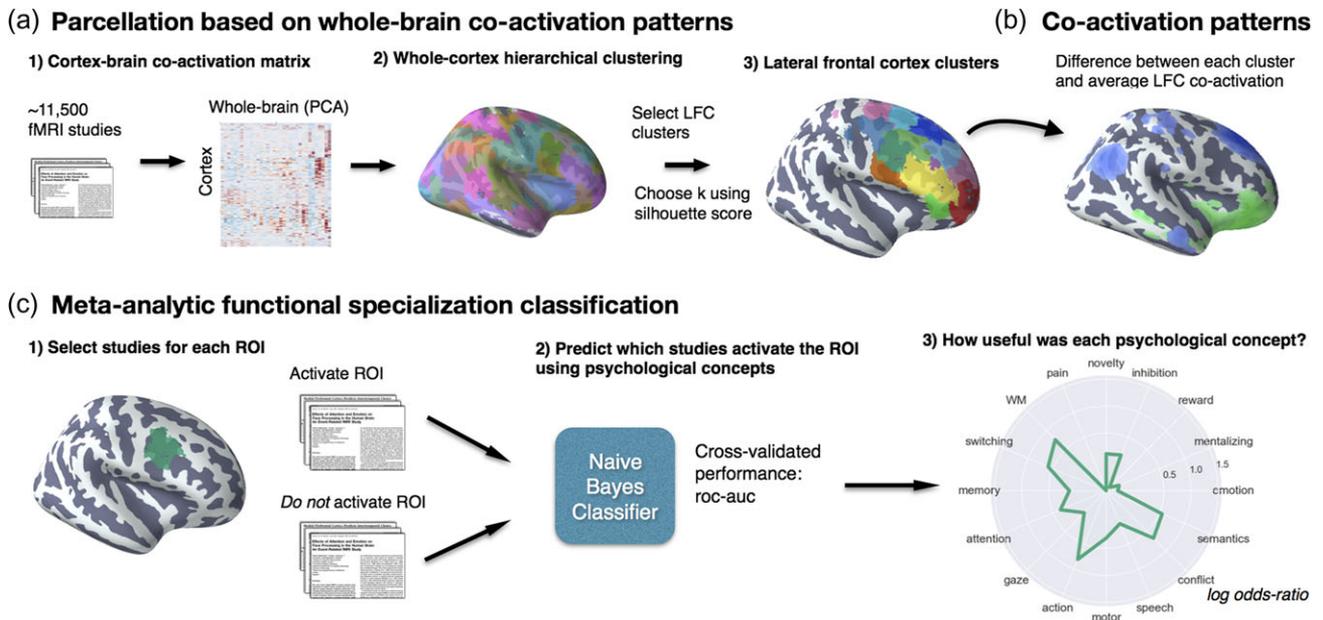


Figure 1. Methods overview. (a) We calculated co-activation across studies between every cortical voxel and the rest of the brain, including subcortex. We then applied Ward hierarchical clustering to obtain whole-brain clustering results. We chose 2 spatial scales to focus on using the silhouette method (Kober et al. 2008; Pauli et al. 2016) and selected clusters in LFC from the whole-brain clustering solutions. (b) We contrasted the whole-brain co-activation of each cluster with LFC at large, identifying voxels across the brain that showed differential co-activation. (c) We generated functional preference profiles for each cluster by determining which latent psychological topics (Blei et al. 2003) best predicted the cluster's activation across studies in the database.

exception of portions of dorsal precentral gyrus—which showed relatively infrequent activation.

We calculated the co-activation between each cortical voxel and every other voxel in the brain (including subcortex) by determining how correlated their activity was across studies. Activation in each voxel is represented as a binary vector of length 11406 (the number of studies); a value of 1 indicated that the voxel fell within 10 mm of an activation focus reported in a particular study, and a value of 0 indicated that it did not.

Next, we performed a standard data-reduction step in order to manage the computational complexity of clustering the entire brain. Correlating the activation of every cortical voxel with every other voxel in the brain would result in a very large matrix (112358 cortical voxels \times 171534 whole-brain voxels) that would be computationally prohibitive to cluster. Thus, we opted to apply principal components analysis (PCA) to the 171534 whole-brain spatial dimensions in order to compress their variance into 100 components (the precise choice of number of components does not materially affect the reported results). Importantly, this data-reduction step made it feasible to cluster the entire brain rather than only voxels within our a priori LFC mask. Next, we computed the Pearson correlation distance (the inverse of Pearson correlation) between every voxel in the LFC mask with each whole-brain PCA component, resulting in a matrix that described the frequency with which each cortical voxel co-activated with the rest of the brain.

As an additional pre-processing step, we standardized each cortical voxel's co-activation with other brain voxels to ensure clustering would be driven by relative differences in whole-brain co-activation and not the overall activation rate of each voxel. That is, if 2 voxels co-activated with similar voxels across the brain, we should consider them to be relatively similar even if 1 of those voxels activates more frequently (and thus has slightly stronger correlations with all voxels). This adjustment was particularly important, as preliminary analyses indicated that

regions with very high rates of activation (e.g., pre-SMA/mid-cingulate cortex [MCC]) more readily clustered into multiple clusters with few voxels, reflecting base rates in activation, although differences in their functional associations were minimal. Indeed, preliminary analyses confirmed that standardizing the co-activation matrix alleviated this concern. At $k = 70$, the mean activation rate of each cluster showed no correlation with voxel size when Z-scoring was used ($r = 0.05$), as compared to when the raw co-activation matrix was used ($r = -0.65$) at $k = 70$. Additionally, the range of cluster sizes was compressed, resulting in more evenly sized clusters; cluster sizes ranged from 352 to 4546 voxels using the raw activation, compared to a range of 560 to 2862 voxels using standardized co-activation.

We applied hierarchical clustering with Ward's linkage to the normalized co-activation matrix, resulting in a whole-brain linkage matrix. Ward's clustering was selected as this algorithm is recommended as a good compromise between accuracy (e.g., fit to data) and reproducibility for clustering fMRI data (Thirion et al. 2014). However, this clustering algorithm is seldom used for whole-brain clustering because the computational time increases cubically [$\Theta(N^3)$] as a function of samples. We employed the fastcluster algorithm (Müllner 2013)—a package of libraries that enable efficient hierarchical clustering [$\Theta(N^2)$]
—to achieve whole-brain clustering.

Since the optimality of a given clustering depends in large part on investigators' goals, the preferred level of analysis, and the nature and dimensionality of the available data, identifying the "correct" number of clusters is arguably an intractable problem (Eickhoff et al. 2015). However, in order to attempt to objectively guide the choice of number, we selected viable solutions using the silhouette score—a measure of within-cluster cohesion. Crucially, as we were specifically interested in the fit of the clustering to LFC, we only calculated the silhouette score with respect to voxels within our LFC mask. The silhouette coefficient was defined as $(b - a) / \max(a, b)$, where a is the mean intra-cluster

Euclidian distance and b is the distance between a sample and the nearest cluster of which the sample is not a part. Solutions that minimized the average Euclidian distance between voxels within each cluster received a greater score. Once having chosen 2 spatial scales, we extracted flat LFC clusters with a substantial percentage of voxels within our a priori LFC mask. We varied the percentage of voxels within our LFC mask required to include a region across granularities with the objective maximizing coverage in LFC without including extraneous clusters with little presence in LFC. We arrived at 12% of voxels in a cluster within LFC at $k = 5$ and 75% of voxels at $k = 70$.

To understand the anatomical correspondence of the resulting clusters, we consulted a variety of anatomical and cytoarchitectonic atlases. To locate each cluster anatomically, we used the probabilistic Harvard-Oxford atlas (H-O) that is packaged with FSL. We also visually compared the location of our clusters to the Petrides' (2005) and Jülich micro-anatomical atlases included in FSL (Eickhoff et al. 2007). Regions were assigned names in accordance to Brodmann areas (BAs) whenever clusters were sufficiently small to correspond to a single area (e.g., "cluster 9/46v"). Clusters were given functional names when they spanned multiple cytoarchitectonic areas (e.g., IFJ) or multiple clusters spanned a single cytoarchitectonic area (e.g., PMd and PMv). Note that although names were assigned to ease the discussion of these regions, we do not make strong claims of correspondence between functionally and anatomically defined regions, as we observed several discrepancies throughout LFC.

Co-activation Profiles

Next, we analyzed the differences in whole-brain co-activation between the resulting clusters (Fig. 1b) in order to understand the patterns of co-activation that differentiates these clusters. To highlight differences between clusters, we contrasted the co-activation of each cluster to the mean co-activation of the entire LFC. To do so, we performed a meta-analytic contrast between studies that activated a given cluster, and studies that activated a LFC mask composed of all clusters. The resulting images identify voxels with a greater probability of co-activating with the cluster of interest than with LFC on average. For example, voxels in blue in Figure 5b indicate voxels that are

active more frequently in studies in which cluster "9" is active than in studies in which other LFC on average is active. We calculated P-values for each voxel using a 2-way chi-square test between the 2 sets of studies and thresholded the co-activation images using the False Discovery Rate (FDR) ($q < 0.01$). The resulting images were binarized for display purposes and visualized using the pysurfer Python library (<https://pysurfer.github.io/>).

Topic Modeling

Although term-based meta-analysis maps in Neurosynth closely resemble the results of manual meta-analyses of the same concepts, there is a high degree of redundancy between terms (e.g., "episodes" and "episodic"), as well as potential ambiguity as to the meaning of an individual word out of context (e.g., "memory" can indicate working memory or episodic memory). To remedy this problem, we employed a reduced semantic representation of the latent conceptual structure underlying the neuroimaging literature: a set of 60 topics derived using latent dirichlet allocation topic modeling (Blei et al. 2003). This procedure was identical to that used in a previous study (Poldrack et al. 2012), except for the use of a smaller number of topics and a larger, more recent version of the Neurosynth database. The generative topic model derives 60 independent topics from the co-occurrence of all words in the abstracts of fMRI studies in the database. Each topic loads onto individual words to a varying extent, facilitating the interpretation of topics; for example, a working memory topic loads highest on the words "memory, WM, load", while an episodic memory topic loads on "memory, retrieval, events". Note that both topics highly load on the word "memory", but the meaning of this word is disambiguated because it is contextualized by other words that strongly load onto that topic. Although the set of topics included 25 topics representing non-psychological phenomena—such as the nature of the subject population (e.g., gender, special populations) and methods (e.g., words such as "images", "voxels")—these topics were not explicitly excluded as they were rarely the strongest loading topics for any region. For all of our results, we focus on a set of 16 topics that strongly loaded onto LFC clusters (Table 1). These topics were obtained by determining the 2 strongest loading topics for each region.

Table 1 Topics most strongly associated with lateral frontal regions; Eight strongest loading words for each topic are listed in descending order of association strength

Topic name	Top words
Action	Action actions motor goal mirror planning imitation execution
Attention	Attention attentional visual spatial search location orienting target
Conflict	Conflict interference incongruent stroop congruent selection competition color
Emotion	Emotional emotion regulation affective pictures emotions arousal affect
Gaze	Eye gaze eyes movements saccades target saccade visual
Inhibition	Inhibition inhibitory stop motor sustained nogo transient suppression
Memory	Memory retrieval encoding recognition episodic items recall words
Mentalizing	Social empathy moral person judgments mentalizing mental mind
Motor	Motor movement movements sensorimotor finger somatosensory sensory force
Novelty	Target targets novelty oddball distractor distractors deception mismatch
Pain	Pain stimulation somatosensory painful intensity sensory chronic noxious
Reward	Reward sleep anticipation monetary rewards motivation incentive loss
Semantics	Semantic words word lexical verbs abstract meaning verb
Speech	Speech auditory sounds sound perception voice acoustic listening
Switching	Switching rule executive switch rules flexibility shifting aggression
WM	Memory working wm load verbal maintenance delay encoding

Meta-analytic Functional Preference Profiles

We generated functional preference profiles by determining which psychological topics best predicted each cluster's activity across fMRI studies (Fig. 1c). First, we selected 2 sets of studies: studies that activated a given cluster—defined as activating at least 5% of voxels in the cluster—and studies that did not—defined as activating no voxels in the cluster. For each cluster, we trained a naive Bayes classifier to discriminate these 2 sets of studies based on the loading of psychological topics onto individual studies. We chose naive Bayes because 1) we have previously had success applying this algorithm to Neurosynth data (Yarkoni et al. 2011); 2) these algorithms perform well on many types of data, 3) they require almost no tuning of parameters to achieve a high level of performance; and 4) they produce highly interpretable solutions, in contrast to many other machine learning approaches (e.g., support vector machines or decision tree forests).

We trained models to predict whether or not fMRI studies activated each cluster, given the semantic content of the studies. In other words, if we know which psychological topics are mentioned in a study how well can we predict whether the study activates a specific region? We used 4-fold cross-validation for testing and calculated the mean score across all folds as the final measure of performance. We scored our models using the area under the curve of the receiver operating characteristic (AUC-ROC)—a summary metric of classification performance that takes into account both sensitivity and specificity. AUC-ROC was chosen because this measure is not detrimentally affected by unbalanced data (Jeni et al. 2013), which was important because each region varied in the ratio of studies that activated it to the studies that did not.

To generate functional preference profiles, we extracted from the naive Bayes models the log odds ratio (LOR) of a topic being present in active studies versus inactive studies. The LOR was defined, for each region, as the log of the ratio between the probability of a given topic in active studies and the probability

of the topic in inactive studies, for each region. LOR values above 0 indicate that a psychological topic is predictive of activation of a given region. To determine the statistical significance of these associations, we permuted the class labels and extracted the LOR for each topic 1000 times. This resulted in a null distribution of LOR for each topic and each cluster. Using this null distribution, we calculated P-values for each pairwise relationship between psychological concepts and regions, and reported associations significant after controlling for multiple comparisons using FDR with $q < 0.01$. Finally, to determine if certain topics showed greater preference for one cluster versus another, we conducted exploratory, post hoc comparisons by determining if the 95% confidence intervals (CIs) of the LOR of a specific topic for a one region overlapped with the 95% CI of the same topic in another region. We generated CIs using bootstrapping, sampling with replacement and recalculating log odds ratios for each region 1000 times. A full reference figure of the loadings between topic and regions, including CIs, is available in Supplementary Figure 4. A full reference of the CIs of each associations is available in the online repository, along with code to generate such CIs for any given region.

Results

Hierarchical Clustering of LFC

We identified spatially dissociable regions on the basis of shared co-activation profiles with the rest of the brain (Toro et al. 2008; Kober and Wager 2010; Wager et al. 2015; De La Vega et al. 2016; Pauli et al. 2016), an approach that exploits the likelihood of a voxel co-activating with other voxels across studies in the meta-analytic database. To identify whole-brain networks spanning beyond LFC, we applied hierarchical clustering to the whole cortex and selected clusters within LFC mask for further analysis (Fig. 2b). In order to map structure to function across various spatial scales, we extracted 4–100 whole-brain clusters and evaluated their quality using the silhouette score,

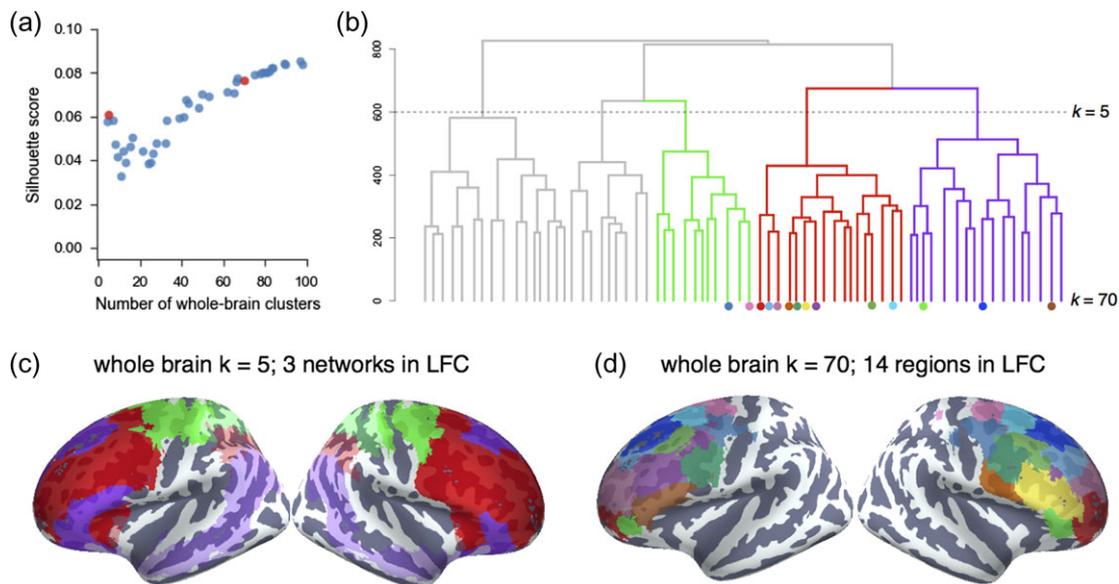


Figure 2. Whole-cortex co-activation-based hierarchical clustering reveals 3 networks in lateral cluster that fractionate into constituent subregions. (a) The silhouette score, a measure of intra-cluster cohesion, was used to select 2 spatial scales: 5 and 70 whole-brain clusters. (b) Whole-brain hierarchical clustering dendrogram. Color-coded branches correspond to 3 of 5 whole-brain networks in LFC and color-coded nodes correspond to 14 LFC regions from 70 whole-brain clusters. (c) Clusters at $k = 5$ revealed 3 clusters in LFC resembling large-scale brain networks: “fronto-parietal” (red), “default” (purple), and “somatosensory-motor” (green). (d) Clusters at $k = 70$ revealed 14 clusters with 75% of their voxels in LFC.

a measure of intra-cluster cohesion (Kober et al. 2008; Pauli et al. 2016) (Fig. 2a). Given the intractable nature of choosing the “correct” number of clusters (Eickhoff et al. 2015) and the lack of a single dominant solution in our data, we focused on 2 well spaced granularities, 5 and 70 whole-brain clusters, avoiding low quality solutions (i.e., 7–38 clusters). Importantly, we do not argue that the solutions we selected are in any way privileged, nor did we aim to match the scale of previous parcellations; rather, we simply chose 2 spatial scales for subsequent analysis with distinct vantage points into the hierarchical organization of LFC.

To understand the large-scale network organization of LFC, we focus on the 5-cluster solution as this scale exhibited the greatest silhouette score of coarse network-level solutions. Three of these whole-brain network clusters were present in LFC (Fig. 2c) and showed moderate correspondence to previously described large-scale networks (Yeo et al. 2011).

The largest of the 3 clusters, which we refer to as the “fronto-parietal” network (FPN), spanned half of LFC, primarily in prefrontal cortex, and resembled Yeo et al.’s (2011) description of the FPN (dice coefficient (d) = 0.56; see Supplementary Fig. 3). Additionally, this cluster spanned medial-frontal and anterior insular aspects of the “ventral attention” network (d = 0.21). A second cluster, which we refer to as the “default” network, closely matched extensive descriptions of the “default” or “task negative” network (d = 0.62) (Andrews-Hanna 2012). The final cluster, which we refer to as the “sensorimotor” network, was located in posterior LFC and showed moderate overlap with Yeo’s “somatosensory-motor” network (d = 0.36) and, to a lesser extent, the “dorsal attention network” (d = 0.31).

Having identified large-scale networks in LFC, we sought to identify more functionally specific subregions within each network with potentially dissociable functional profiles. Although the silhouette values indicated that inter-cluster cohesion continuously increases with number of clusters, we chose to focus on a spatial scale that balanced clustering quality with psychological interpretability. Thus, we chose to focus on the 70-cluster solution, as this was the coarsest scale to result in a set of largely spatially contiguous LFC clusters. From these 70 whole-brain clusters, we identified 14 clusters within our LFC mask (Fig. 2d), hierarchically organized into the coarser large-scale networks (see Supplementary Fig. 2 for whole-brain cluster results).

To provide direct insight into the functions of the 14 LFC fine-grained clusters, we applied 2 approaches. First, we determined which voxels across the brain differentially co-activated with each cluster, revealing distinct patterns of whole-brain co-activation. Second, we used semantic data from Neurosynth to determine which latent psychological topics predict the activation of each cluster, resulting in a meta-analytic psychological preference profile for each subregion. Next, we step through these results separately for each network.

Fronto-parietal Network

The majority of LFC belonged to the frontal extent of the FPN, which further spanned portions of lateral parietal cortex (LPC), anterior insula, pre-SMA, MCC, and the precuneus. Within LFC, we identified 10 finer-grained subregions within the FPN. For purely illustrative purposes, we used the hierarchical clustering dendrogram (Fig. 2b) to identify a granularity in which these clusters formed 3 sets; at k = 24 whole-brain clusters, these 10 LFC clusters organized into 3 groups: dorsal, mid and rostral regions. Across these 3 groupings, all clusters showed robust

associations with executive functions, although we observed subtle variations in psychological preferences.

In dorsal LPFC, we identified 2 adjacent bilateral clusters (Fig. 3a). The most posterior of the 2 (“6/8”) was located anterior to the premotor cortex and extended from lateral superior frontal gyrus to the intermediate frontal sulcus of middle frontal gyrus, spanning BAs 6 and 8. This cluster overlapped with functional descriptions of the frontal eye fields (FEF)—a region important for volitional eye saccades (Paus 1996). Immediately anterior, we identified a cluster (“9/46c”) spanning caudal BA 9/46 from the intermediate frontal sulcus into caudal portions of BA 9/46 v. Notably, although cluster “9/46c” arguably extends well into “mid” LPFC, this cluster did not group with other mid-LPFC clusters until much coarser granularities, suggesting these clusters may exhibit distinct functional signatures despite their spatial proximity.

Anterior and ventral to dorsal LPFC, we identified 4 clusters spanning common definitions of “mid” lateral prefrontal cortex (Fig. 3b). The organization of clusters in this region, however, varied by hemisphere. Most dorsally, we identified a mostly left-lateralized cluster (“9/46 v”), extending from the intermediate frontal sulcus into the fundus of the inferior frontal sulcus, primarily in BA 9/46 v. Next, we identified a cluster, which we refer to as right IFG (“IFG [R]”), spanning the majority of area BA 45 in the right hemisphere. Notably, only right IFG was part of the fronto-parietal network, consistent with the observation that this region is consistently observed during goal-directed cognition. Posterior to these 2 clusters, we identified a bilateral cluster consistent with the IFJ (e.g., MNI coordinates: 48, 4, 33) (Muhle-Karbe et al. 2016), located in the fundus of caudal inferior frontal sulcus, extending into precentral, inferior frontal and middle frontal gyri. Finally, ventral to this cluster, but only in the right hemisphere, we identified a fourth cluster (“44 [R]”) located in posterior IFG, spanning BA 44 and abutting BA 6.

In “rostral” LPFC, we identified 3 bilateral clusters spanning BA 10 (Fig. 3c). These 3 clusters were organized along a ventral-dorsal axis—consistent with prior DTI and meta-analytic parcellations (Orr et al. 2015; Ray et al. 2015)—and were exclusively in LFC, consistent with cytoarchitectonic evidence of a lateral-medial distinction of the frontal pole (Bludau et al. 2014). Notably, although cluster “9/46dr” extended into Brodmann area 9/46, this cytoarchitectonic area divided into 2 distinct clusters (clusters “9/46dr” and “9/46 v”), consistent with an independent meta-analytic co-activation clustering study (Cieslik et al. 2013). Finally, the most rostral 2 clusters (“10 v” and “10d”) were exclusively located in BA 10, separated along a dorsal/ventral axis.

Meta-analytic Co-activation

To better understand functional differences between these regions, we directly contrasted the co-activation of each cluster with that of LFC as whole in order to identify voxels across the brain that differentially co-activated with each cluster (Fig. 3; right panel). We observed that most differential co-activation occurred within other cortical association cortex areas such as LPC, pre-SMA and MCC, and the insula. Across LPC, each LFC cluster co-activated most strongly with distinct areas across a gradient extending from tempo-parietal junction to the lateral parieto-occipital sulcus. For example, clusters “9/46c” and all fronto-polar clusters showed greater co-activation with parietal cortex ventral to the intraparietal sulcus. In contrast, cluster “6/

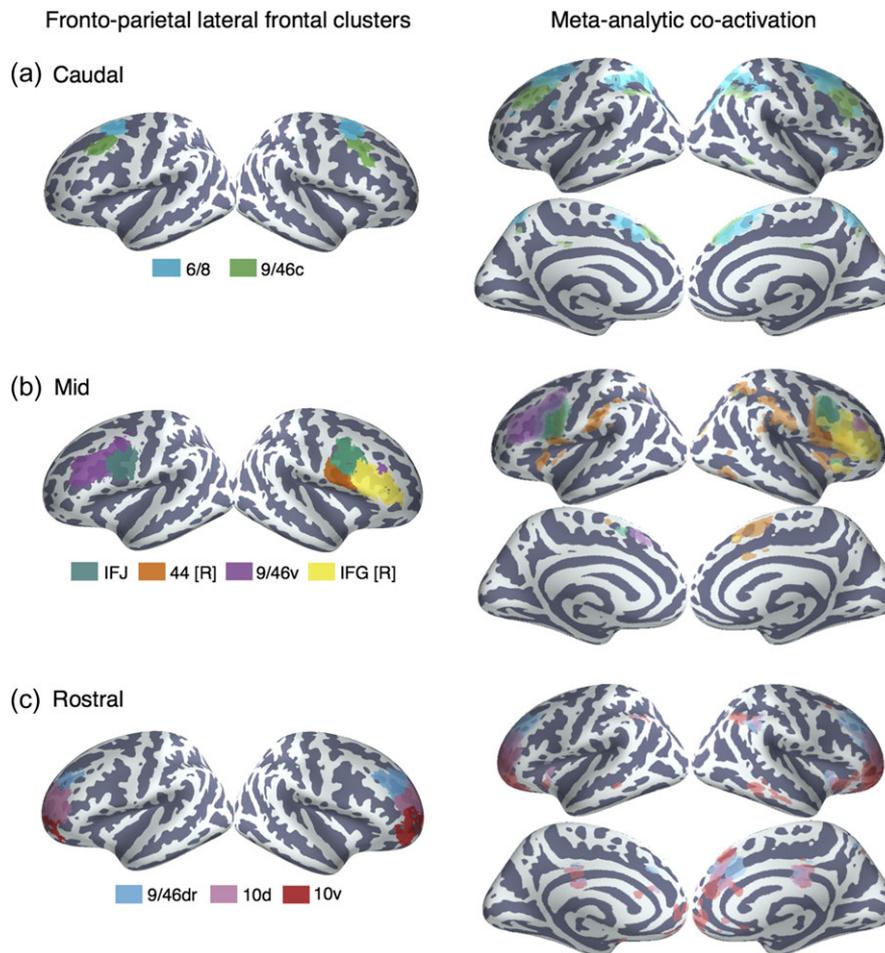


Figure 3. Anatomical location and meta-analytic contrast of lateral frontal clusters of the fronto-parietal network. Left: (a) Two clusters located in dorsal frontal cortex. (b) Four clusters located in mid-lateral prefrontal cortex. (c) Three clusters located in rostral lateral prefrontal cortex. Clusters were assigned labels corresponding to cytoarchitectonic areas (Petrides 2005) whenever possible. In cases where the region spanned multiple cytoarchitectonic areas, broader anatomical (e.g., IFJ) labels were assigned. Right: Meta-analytic co-activation contrast of fronto-parietal LFC. Colored voxels indicate significantly greater co-activation with the seed region of the same color than other lateral frontal regions in the fronto-parietal network. Images are presented using neurological convention and are corrected using FDR ($q = 0.01$).

8” and all 4 “mid” LPFC clusters showed greater co-activation within and dorsal to the intraparietal sulcus.

Similarly in medial PFC, all clusters except right IFG and “9/46dr” co-activated most strongly with slightly different portions of pre-SMA and MCC. Generally, more anterior clusters co-activated more strongly with more anterior portions of pre-SMA/MCC. For instance, “10d” co-activated most strongly with a anterior MCC while “44 [R]” co-activated most strongly with the SMA. Finally, in the insula, several LFC subregions exhibited differential co-activation with distinct sub-divisions of the insula. For example, cluster “44 [R]” co-activated most strongly with the posterior insula—an important region for pain and sensorimotor processing (Chang et al. 2013)—whereas IFJ co-activated most strongly with the dorsal anterior insula, a subregion implicated in goal-directed cognition. In contrast, area 10v showed greater co-activation with ventral anterior insula, an area implicated in affect (Chang et al. 2013).

This observation that the bulk of co-activation differences between LFC subregions of the fronto-parietal network occurred within other cortical association areas is consistent with the hypothesis that association cortex is composed of parallel interdigitated networks (Yeo et al. 2011). That is, these

findings suggest subregions of the FPN do not participate with categorically distinct sets of regions across the brain, and instead perform subtly different roles within a distributed network.

Meta-analytic Functional Preference

Next, we used a data-driven approach that surveyed a broad range of fMRI studies to quantify the degree to which distinct psychological states might be preferentially associated with different LFC clusters (Fig. 1c). We trained naïve Bayes classifiers to predict the presence or absence of activation in each LFC cluster using a set of 60 psychological topics derived by applying a standard topic modeling approach to the abstracts of articles in the Neurosynth database (Poldrack et al. 2012). We used the fitted model coefficients to quantify the strength of association between each psychological topic and the presence of activation in the corresponding LFC cluster (measured as the LOR of the probability of each topic in studies that activated a given cluster relative to the probability of the same topic in studies that did not activate the cluster). Values greater than 0 indicate that the presence of that topic in a study positively predicts

activity in a given region. We report the results of 16 psychological topics that loaded strongly onto LFC regions (Table 1) and restrict interpretation to significant associations using FDR ($q < 0.01$). In addition, whenever we comparatively discuss sets of regions, we discussed differences if the 95% CI of a given topic did not overlap between 2 regions (Supplementary Fig. 4). As the latter comparisons are post hoc and exploratory, caution in interpretation is warranted.

Consistent with a distributed role for the fronto-parietal network in goal-directed cognition, all 9 clusters were significantly associated with working memory, all clusters except “10d” and “10v” were associated with conflict, and 7 clusters were associated with switching (Fig. 4). The present results are inconsistent with focal anatomical locations for high-level executive processes; instead, these results suggest that distributed activation across fronto-parietal network supports goal-directed cognition in the face of interference and conflict (Nee and Brown 2012). Despite the relatively low modularity we observed across the fronto-parietal network, multivariate associations between individual subregions and psychological states suggest preferential functional correlates can be identified for each cluster.

Dorsal Fronto-Parietal LFC

Consistent with its co-location with the frontal eye fields, “6/8” was the only cluster significantly associated with saccadic eye movements (i.e., “gaze”) in the fronto-parietal network, and was also associated with “attention”. This pattern suggests that BA “6/8” may be important for directing attention to relevant external stimuli to support downstream information processing. However, cluster “6/8” was also significantly associated with a “working-memory” topic, consistent with a recent lesion study implicating the FEF in a causal role in working memory (Mackey et al. 2016). These results suggest this area is not merely involved in low-level saccadic eye movements, but plays an important role in higher-level cognition.

In contrast, cluster “9/46c” showed a much less distinctive functional signature, with relatively weak associations to other psychological processes outside of core EF processes and “memory”. This relatively diffuse pattern suggests BA “9/46c” may be involved in domain-general processes that span across distinct psychological states in our topic model.

Mid-Fronto-Parietal LFC

Clusters “9/46v” and “IFJ” showed similar functional profiles, exhibiting robust associations with several executive functions (e.g., “working memory”, “conflict”, “switching”) in addition to “semantics”. Cluster “9/46v” showed a particularly strong association with executive functions—exhibiting the strongest relationship across LFC with “conflict”; these results are consistent with a hypothesized role for mid-DLPFC as a seat of high-level executive processes (Petrides 2005).

These results are also consistent with the hypothesis that IFJ is involved in task-set switching (Derrfuss et al. 2005); however, given that several other LFC clusters were similarly associated with switching, it is unlikely IFJ is focally responsible for this phenomenon. Yet, IFJ showed a stronger association with low- and high-level motor function (i.e., “motor”, “action”) than other fronto-parietal LFC clusters, suggesting that IFJ is important for motoric aspects of cognitive control (De Baene et al. 2012). In contrast, cluster “44 [R]” exhibited weaker associations with executive functions and robust associations with motor

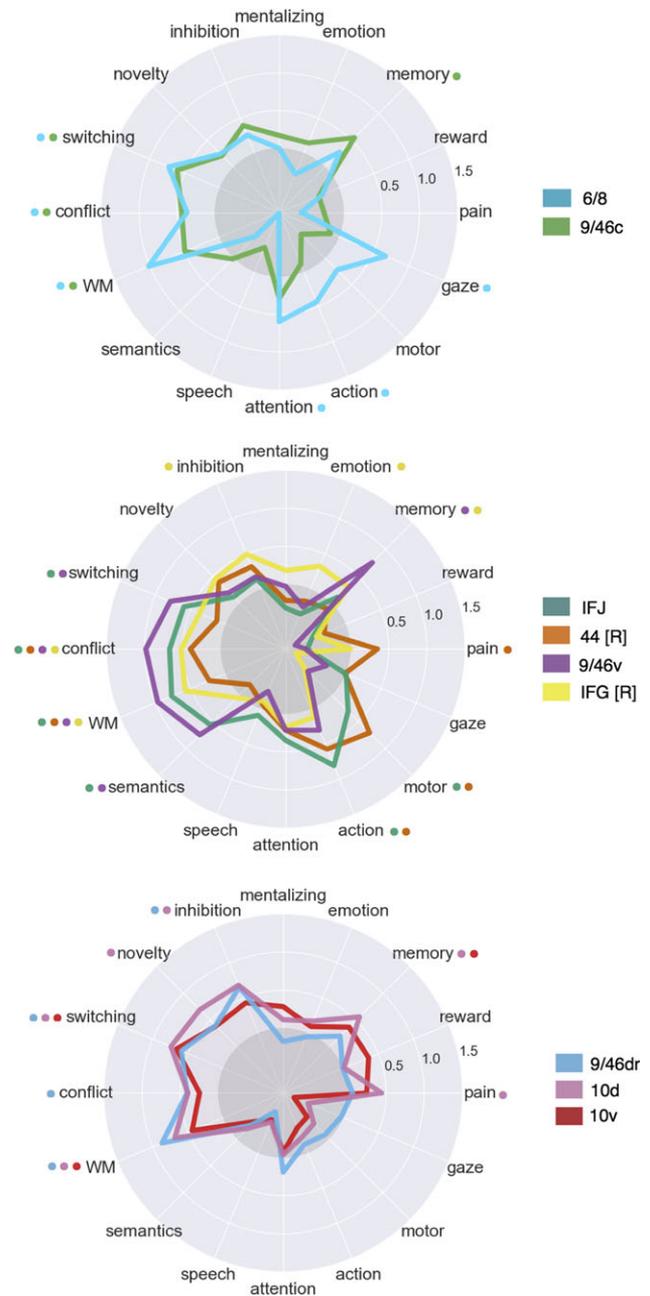


Figure 4. Meta-analytic functional preference profiles for lateral frontal regions in the fronto-parietal network. Each cluster was profiled to determine which psychological topics best predicted its activation. Each of the 3 functional groups we identified showed distinct functional profiles, although appreciable variation was observed for each individual cluster. Strength of association is measured in LOR, and permutation-based significance corrected using FDR of $q = 0.01$ is indicated next to each psychological concept by color-coded dots corresponding to each region. Negative associations are indicated by the gray circle.

function and “pain”, suggesting area this area is more involved in sensorimotor processing than high-level cognitive control.

Finally, “IFG [R]” showed a functional signature distinct to other mid-LPFC clusters, with much weaker associations with conflict, working memory and switching; instead, “IFG [R]” was associated with “inhibition”—consistent with extensive studies linking this region to inhibitory processes (Nee et al. 2013). “IFG [R]” was also associated with “emotion”, consistent with the

hypothesis that this region is crucial for effective emotion regulation and reappraisal (Wager et al. 2008; Woo et al. 2014). However, the relationship between “inhibition” and “IFG [R]” was not particularly strong or significantly greater than other fronto-parietal regions, suggesting “IFG [R]” may play a more domain-general role such as context monitoring (Chatham et al. 2012).

Rostral Fronto-Parietal LFC

Although “rostral” fronto-parietal clusters exhibited significant associations with various executive processes, these 3 clusters were characterized by weaker associations with motor function (“action”), language and “conflict”. Rather, clusters “9/46dr” and “10d” were robustly associated with “inhibition” and cluster “10d” with “novelty”. This pattern of results suggests fronto-polar LFC regions may be important for high-level monitoring and guiding of cognitive control, removed from low-level motor implementations.

Finally, the most ventral fronto-polar region, cluster “10v”, showed a more distinct pattern, exhibiting weaker associations with all executive processes but a significant association with “reward” (at a lower threshold, $q < 0.05$). This pattern is

consistent with its location near orbitofrontal cluster, and provides support for hypotheses that suggest that the ventral frontal pole may be important for representing the value of appetitive stimuli in order to effectively guide goal-directed behavior (Orr et al. 2015).

Default Network

Anatomical Correspondence

We identified 3 distinct default network clusters in LFC, consistent with previous descriptions of the default network and large-scale rs-fMRI parcellations (Fig. 5a) (Yeo et al. 2011). The first 2 clusters were positioned adjacent to each other in ventrolateral prefrontal cortex. The more anterior of the 2 (“47/12”) spanned lateral orbitofrontal cortex and IFG orbitalis bilaterally, while a more posterior and dorsal cluster spanned inferior frontal gyrus exclusively in the left hemisphere (“IFG [L]”). Finally, we identified a third cluster in dorsal LPFC consistent with BA 9 (Petrides 2005), extending from superior frontal gyrus to dorsal middle frontal gyrus across the superior frontal sulcus. This cluster has long been noted for its lack of anatomical input from lateral and medial parietal cortex (Petrides and Pandya 1984; Cavada and Goldman-Rakic 1989). Thus, despite these

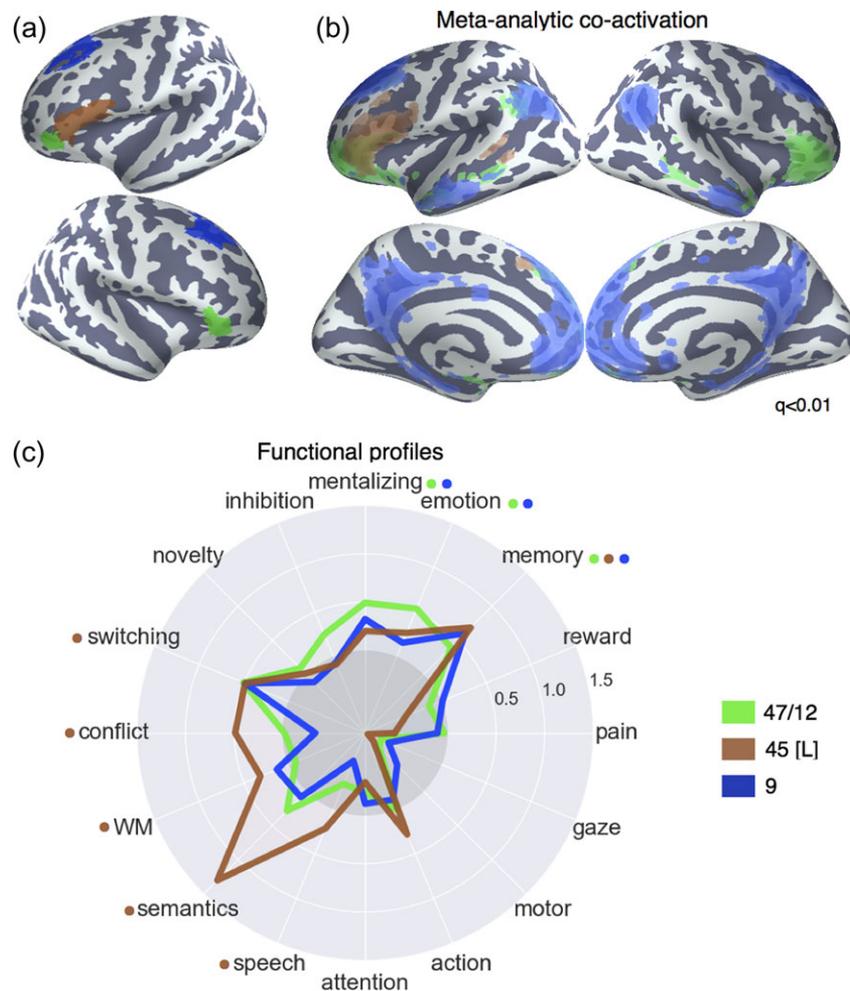


Figure 5. Lateral frontal regions of the default network. (a) Individual clusters projected onto an inflated surface. (b) Differences in co-activation between the 3 regions. Colored voxels activated more frequently in studies in the seed cluster of the same color was also active. (c) Functional preference profiles for each cluster, revealing distinct psychological signatures for each subregion. Strength of association is measured in LOR, and permutation-based significance is indicated next to each topic by color-coded dots corresponding to each region. Negative associations are indicated by the gray circle.

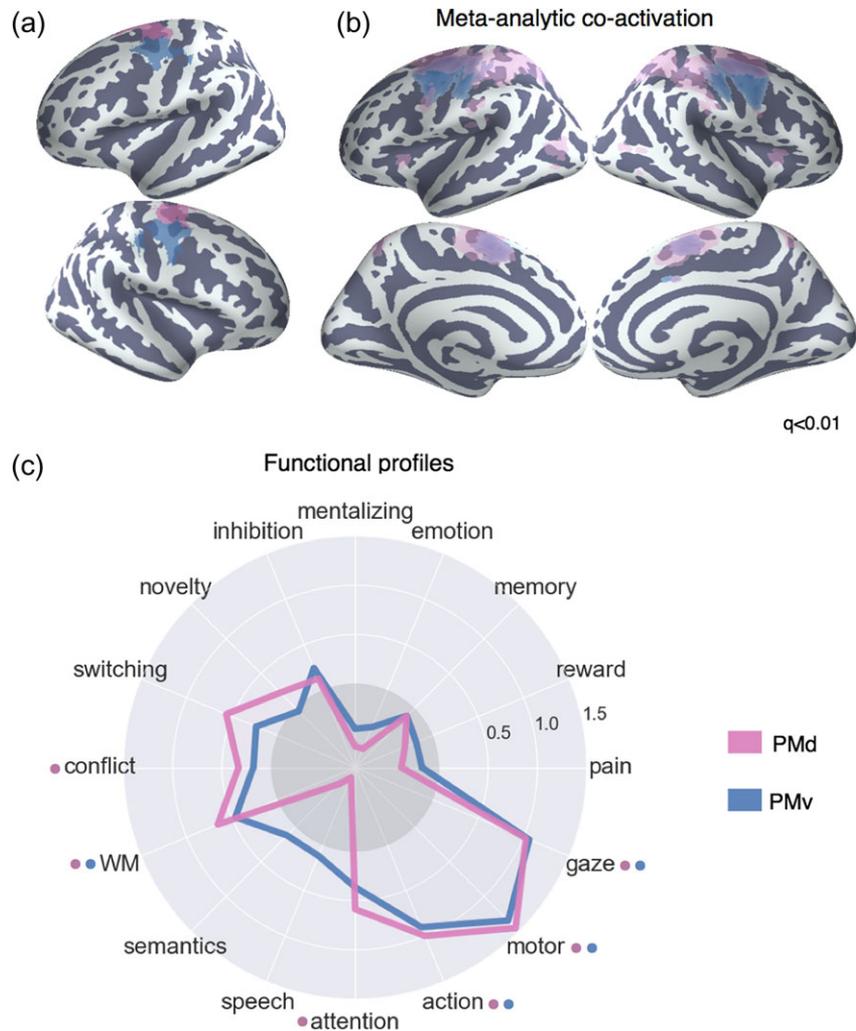


Figure 6. Meta-analysis of somatosensory clusters. (a) Clusters projected onto an inflated surface. (b) Differences in co-activation between each cluster and the rest of LFC. Colored voxels activated more frequently in studies in which the seed cluster of the same color was also active. (c) Functional preference profiles reveal distinct psychological signatures. Strength of association is measured in LOR, and permutation-based significance ($q < 0.05$) is indicated next to each topic by color-coded dots corresponding to each cluster. Negative associations are indicated by the gray circle.

cluster's close proximity to fronto-parietal clusters, we expected them to exhibit very distinct functional profiles.

Meta-analytic Co-activation

Consistent with the grouping of these clusters with the default network, clusters “47/12” and “9” co-activated much more strongly than the rest of LFC with other default network regions, such as dorsal medial PFC (mPFC), middle temporal gyrus and angular gyrus (Fig. 5b). Cluster “9” showed particularly robust co-activation with key hubs of the default network, such as anterior mPFC and posterior cingulate cortex (PCC), firmly placing this region in the default network despite its proximity to mid-DLPFC. In contrast, “IFG [L]” showed a relatively distinct pattern, showing co-activation with portions of the fronto-parietal network—such as mid-DLPFC and pre-SMA. This pattern is consistent with the fact that left IFG's contralateral homolog clustered with the fronto-parietal network and suggests this region may not be entirely dissociable from fronto-parietal clusters. Moreover, left IFG also showed stronger co-activation with posterior superior temporal sulcus—a key region implicated in semantic processing (Binder et al. 2009)

suggesting left IFG may also show a preference towards language topics.

Meta-analytic Functional Preference

In contrast to clusters in the frontal-parietal network, clusters “47/12” and “9” showed no association with any executive processes—particularly notable for cluster “9” due to its spatial proximity to mid-fronto-parietal clusters (Fig. 5c). Instead, clusters “47/12” and “9” were significantly associated with “mentalizing”, consistent with the hypothesis that these regions, as part of the dorsal medial subsystem of the default network, play an important role in conceptual processing and mentalizing (Andrews-Hanna et al. 2014).

Distinct from other default network clusters, “45 [L]” showed a significant association with various executive functions—further highlighting the distributed nature of executive processes across frontal regions. However, area “45 [L]” was not associated with inhibition, suggesting inhibition is right-lateralized to some degree (Aron et al. 2014). Furthermore, consistent with this region's co-location with Broca's area and co-activation with the superior temporal sulcus, cluster “45 [L]” was

significantly associated with “semantics” and “speech”. Importantly, although it well-known Broca’s area is important for motor function in language, we did not find any association between cluster “45 [L]” and motor topics; these results suggest Broca’s area is involved in the generation of speech motor plans, but not motor function more generally (Flinker et al. 2015). Moreover, “45 [L]” was notable for its robust association with “semantic” function—more so than any other region—consistent with the hypothesis that left IFG is a part of the brain’s “semantic” system (Binder et al. 2009).

Finally, consistent with the default network’s well-characterized involvement in memory (Andrews-Hanna et al. 2014), all 3 LFC default clusters were robustly associated with “memory” and “emotion”. This is consistent with a long line of evidence supporting the role of these regions in autobiographical, internally oriented cognition. Moreover, the left IFG is purported to play a key role in controlled memory retrieval (Badre and Wagner 2007; Snyder et al. 2011)—a hypothesis supported by the joint association between executive processes and memory in this region. However, it is also notable that “memory” was associated with many other clusters in the fronto-parietal network, suggesting memory processes are widely distributed across LFC.

Somatosensory-motor Network

We identified 2 LFC clusters in the somatosensory-motor network: dorsal and ventral lateral premotor cortex—“PMd” and “PMv”, respectively (Fig. 6a). Both clusters were located in dorsal BA 6 (Eickhoff et al. 2007), although “PMd” was slightly more anterior. As a result of its more posterior location, “PMv” included several voxels in primary motor cortex, although the cluster was primarily located in premotor cortex.

Meta-analytic Co-activation

Both PMd and PMv showed greater co-activation with nearby voxels in the primary motor and somatosensory cortices, as well as SMA—regions important for the control of movement (Fig. 6b). PMd, however, additionally showed greater co-activation with

various regions implicated in executive function, such as LPC and the anterior insula—suggesting dorsal premotor cortex may engage a broader functional network in support of the cognitive control of motor actions.

Meta-analytic Functional Preference

The functional preference profiles of both premotor clusters suggest their primary functional role is in core aspects of motor function (Fig. 6c). However, both of these the 2 clusters were also associated with higher-level motor planning (i.e., “action”) and working memory, suggesting these regions are important for higher-level motoric control. Moreover, consistent with PMd’s stronger co-activation with regions previously associated with executive function, PMd was significantly associated with “conflict” and “attention” (although not significantly more so than PMv). Thus, although these 2 premotor clusters were most strongly associated with motor function, their function is not exclusively limited to low-level processes, and may require the recruitment of higher-level psychological processes for the execution of motor plans.

Functional Distance Between Clusters

Finally, to examine the overall difference between regions, we computed the mean correlation distance between clusters on the basis meta-analytic co-activation (Fig. 7a) and functional preference profiles (Fig. 7b). Supporting the network organization of these clusters, the distance between clusters in the same network was much shorter (co-activation: $r = 0.58$, functional profiles, $r = 0.5$) than the distance between clusters in different networks (co-activation: $r = 0.7$, functional profiles, $r = 0.7$) across both modalities. However, the distance between clusters in the same network was in certain cases relatively high. For example, clusters “45 [L]” and “9” in the default network ($r = 0.77$) and “44 [R]” and “10v” in the fronto-parietal network ($r = 0.93$) exhibited large functional distances, despite belonging to the same network. Thus, although large-scale networks likely represent a fundamental organizational structure in the brain—and distinct networks tend to support

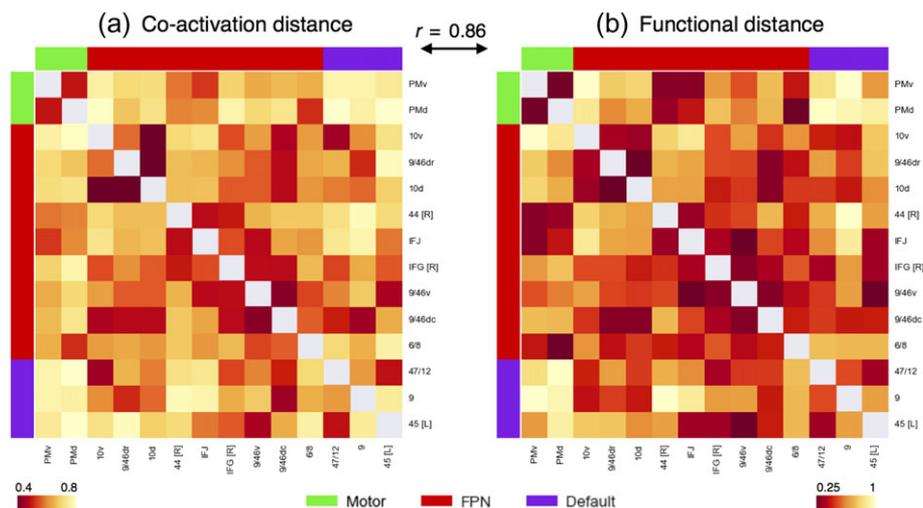


Figure 7. Co-activation and functional distance between LFC clusters. Pearson’s correlation distance between the 14 LFC clusters on the basis of meta-analytic (a) co-activation and (b) functional preference profiles. Although clusters within each network showed generally shorter distances to clusters in the same network than between networks, relatively high functional heterogeneity within each network was observed. The high similarities between these 2 distance matrices ($r = 0.86$, $P < 0.001$), suggests that the differences between regions observed in meta-analytic co-activation are generally accompanied by differences in functional preference profiles. Correlation distances range from 0 to 2, with 2 indicating perfect anti-correlation.

categorically different types psychological processes—our results suggest these networks are relatively heterogeneous. Finally, we also observed that the differences between regions based on meta-analytic co-activation were highly similar to those based on functional preference profiles (Pearson's correlation $r = 0.86$), suggesting that clusters that show distinct meta-analytic co-activation generally exhibit distinct functional preference profiles.

Discussion

In the present study, we applied data-driven methods to the largest meta-analytic database available to systematically map psychological states discrete clusters in LFC. Using co-activation-based hierarchical clustering, we identified 14 spatially distinct LFC clusters and used multivariate classification to generate dissociable psychological profiles for each. Importantly, we conducted our analyses broadly both with respect to anatomy—by focusing on the entirety of LFC—and function—by surveying a wide, representative range of psychological states—resulting in a relatively unbiased and comprehensive functional-anatomical mapping of LFC at various spatial scales.

At a coarse spatial scales, we observed that subregions of LFC organized into 3 functionally distinct whole-brain networks (fronto-parietal, default and sensorimotor), consistent with the view that the brain is organized into distributed networks (Power et al. 2011; Yeo et al. 2011; Petersen and Sporns 2015). Functional differences between networks were robust even between regions in close spatial proximity. For example, although all regions in the fronto-parietal network exhibited strong associations with executive functions such as “conflict” and “working memory”, cluster “9” of the default network showed no associations with any executive functions despite being positioned immediately adjacent to cluster “9/46” of the fronto-parietal network. In contrast, despite being relatively distant, clusters “9” and “47/12” of the default network were preferentially recruited by internally oriented processes such as “mentalizing”, “emotion” and all 3 default clusters were associated with “memory”—a pattern consistent with a hypothesized role of the default network in self-generated conceptual processing (Andrews-Hanna et al. 2014). Similarly, clusters in the sensorimotor network were strongly associated with motor function topics (e.g., “gaze”, “motor”, “action”) and much more weakly associated with other types of cognitive processes.

Within each network, we observed a complex many-to-many mapping between individual regions and discrete psychological states, in contrast to more modular models of brain organization (Fodor 1983; Bertolero et al. 2015). For example, we observed that “working memory” was associated with a wide range of regions extending from posterior LFC to the lateral frontal pole. This finding is consistent with the hypothesis that working memory is supported by distributed reactivation of representations (Miller and Cohen 2001; Postle 2016), rather than active maintenance in domain-specific buffers in DLPFC (Baddeley 2003). Similarly, although task-set switching has been hypothesized to preferentially recruit the IFJ (Derrfuss et al. 2005; Muhle-Karbe et al. 2016), we observed that “switching” was associated with various fronto-parietal regions extending as far anterior as the frontal pole. Collectively, this pattern of results suggests complex cognitive processes may be supported by the coordinated activity of regions across distributed networks (Medaglia et al. 2015), rather than within isolated, spatially disjoint brain regions. Indeed, recent research

suggests large-scale networks may support a wide range of distinct processes via the reconfiguration of underlying brain network units (Bzdok et al. 2016).

Importantly, although we observed relatively low functional specialization within individual regions, the present findings do not negate the idea that local neuron populations may be functionally specific. On the contrary, extensive neurophysiological data suggests association cortex contains overlapping neuron populations with distinct—and often highly specific—functional profiles (Tye and Deisseroth 2012; Kvitsiani et al. 2013; Xiu et al. 2014). However, due the relatively coarse spatial scale of fMRI measurements (which is further reduced by meta-analytic aggregation) the relatively low modularity of these clusters should not be surprising; rather, the present results are consistent with the view that regions of the scale identified here likely span various distinct neuron populations. Moreover, it is possible subtle shifts in function between nearby regions in the same network arise from gradual spatial variation in the distribution of neuron populations, rather than abrupt categorical shifts in function between regions.

Indeed, in the present study we observed substantial functional heterogeneity within each network and dissociable psychological profiles for regions within the same network. That is, although psychological states are not modularized into individual regions, the multivariate psychological profiles we generated for each region can be used to ascribe dissociable roles for each region within the broader network. For instance, although all fronto-parietal regions were associated with various core executive functions, only IFJ showed additionally robust associations with high- and low-level motor function. Thus, it is plausible that IFJ may play an important role in biasing motoric representations in support of high-level goals represented in a distributed fashion throughout the network. In contrast, area 9/46v in mid-DLPFC was the region most strongly recruited by core executive processes, but showed no associations with “lower-level” processes such as attention and motor function, suggesting this region may be more important for the maintenance of abstract representations in low-level domain-specific regions (Badre 2008).

Although the present results provide a comprehensive view into the functional organization of LFC, several challenges remain. As with any attempt to model the mapping between functional and brain structure, several simplifying assumptions were made in order to generate a parsimonious solution. First, the hierarchical clustering algorithm we used forces voxels to be grouped into discrete non-overlapping regions—an assumption that ignores the vast diversity overlapping neuronal populations within each region (Tye and Deisseroth 2012; Kvitsiani et al. 2013; Xiu et al. 2014) and does not explicitly model network dynamics (see Bzdok et al. 2016). Second, similarly to many multivariate models in this domain, we modeled the relationship between psychological topics and activity in regions using linear correlations—an assumption that ignores possible non-linear relationships.

More broadly, a difficult challenge in cognitive neuroscience is developing the appropriate psychological constructs that distinguish activity in related brain regions. Appropriately modeling the differences between nuanced psychological concepts is particularly difficult for large-scale meta-analyses, as there is no established ontology of psychological constructs, unlike in fields such as genetics (Ashburner et al. 2000). In the present study, we used a data-driven set of topics derived from the abstracts of fMRI papers to represent major psychological phenomena. Although these topics are a major improvement on

more simple term-based features, due to their data-driven nature they are likely to imperfectly capture psychological dimensions that are hypothesized to be important for differentiating regions. For example, in our set of 60 topics, only a single topic represented long-term memory function, and likely combined memory retrieval and autobiographical memory processes. Although the Neurosynth framework allows researchers to develop custom meta-analyses that can be used to test a priori predictions, the myriad of combinations in which studies can be combined is not conducive to determining the psychological dimensions that best differentiate brain activity.

The classification-based approach we employed is a step in the direction of quantifying the extent to which a given set of psychological features explains variability in brain activity. A promising future direction is to use classification-based approaches and feature engineering to find the psychological dimensions that best differentiate patterns in activity between related regions, such as regions within a network. In combination with the adoption of standardized cognitive ontologies, such as the Cognitive Atlas (Poldrack et al. 2011), such large-scale approaches should help the development of novel theories of functional brain organization. Moreover, given the limited quality of the summarized coordinate-based data in Neurosynth (Salimi-Khorshidi et al. 2009) the widespread sharing of richer statistical images in databases such as NeuroVault (Gorgolewski et al. 2015) will greatly improve the fidelity of future meta-analyses.

In the present study, we used relatively unbiased data-driven methods to comprehensively map psychological states to individual regions in LFC. These regions were organized within large-scale whole-brain networks and shared functional properties with other regions in the same network. Moreover, we found that various specific psychological processes that have been previously hypothesized to map onto individual brain regions were widely distributed throughout LFC. Yet, we identified dissociable functional profiles for each subregion, suggesting that LFC supports a wide variety of psychological states through a mixture of network-level dynamics and moderate degree of functional specialization. Collectively, our results represent a comprehensive synthesis of a large body of fMRI studies that can serve as a launching point for generating novel theories or identifying clinically relevant topographical distinctions in LFC (Bludau et al. 2015).

Supplementary Material

Supplementary data is available at *Cerebral Cortex* online.

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Notes

Conflict of Interest: None declared.

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