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*Research Articles: Behavioral/Cognitive*

## **The Lifespan Trajectory of the Encoding-Retrieval flip. A Multi-modal Examination of Medial Parietal Cortex Contributions to Episodic Memory**

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1 The Lifespan Trajectory of the Encoding-Retrieval flip. A  
2 Multi-modal Examination of Medial Parietal Cortex  
3 Contributions to Episodic Memory

4  
5 Running title: E/R flip development

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32 **Abstract**

33 The formation of episodic memories is associated with deactivation during encoding and  
34 activation during retrieval in the posteromedial cortices (PMC). We hypothesized that the  
35 encoding-retrieval flip (E/R flip) is a critical component of episodic memory across the life  
36 span, as structural and metabolic changes in the PMC coincide with the fine tuning of the  
37 episodic memory system in development and the reductions of memory performance in aging.  
38 The aims of the present study were first to describe life-span trajectories of PMC encoding  
39 and retrieval activity in 270 human participants (167 females) from 6-80 years. Second, to  
40 construct a model for episodic memory development, where contributions from brain activity,  
41 cortical thickness, and structural connectivity are accounted for. We found that modulation of  
42 neural activity in response to memory encoding and retrieval demands was not fully  
43 developed until adolescence, and decreased from adulthood. The magnitude of the E/R flip  
44 was related to source memory, and 55 % of the age-related variance in source memory  
45 performance during childhood and adolescence could be accounted for by the E/R flip,  
46 cortical thickness and mean diffusivity together. However, only cortical thickness and the E/R  
47 flip provided unique contributions to explain memory performance. The results suggest that  
48 neural dynamics in the PMC is related to the development of episodic memory during  
49 childhood and adolescence. The similar trajectories of the E/R flip and episodic memory  
50 emergence and decline through development and aging further suggests that a life-long  
51 relationship exists.

52

53 **Significance statement**

54 Modulation of neural activity in the posteromedial cortices (PMC) in response to memory  
55 encoding and retrieval demands (E/R flip) does not reach its peak until adolescence, and  
56 decreases from adulthood through old age. The magnitude of the E/R flip is related to source  
57 memory, and 55% of the age-related variance in source memory performance during  
58 childhood and adolescence can be accounted for by the E/R flip and brain structure together.  
59 The results suggest that neural dynamics in the PMC is related to the development of episodic  
60 memory function during childhood and adolescence, and the similar trajectories of the E/R  
61 flip and episodic memory performance, through development and aging, suggests that a life-  
62 long relationship exists.

## 63 **Introduction**

64 The posteromedial cortex (PMC) deactivates during successful episodic memory encoding  
65 (Daselaar et al., 2004) and activates during successful retrieval (Wagner et al., 2005; Daselaar  
66 et al., 2009a). This reversal of functional response is likely critical for memory and has been  
67 dubbed the encoding/retrieval flip (E/R flip) (Vannini et al., 2010; Huijbers et al., 2012; 2013;  
68 Gilmore et al., 2015). Interestingly, PMC is among the regions that undergo the most rapid  
69 structural (Brown and Jernigan, 2012; Tamnes et al., 2013; Amlien et al., 2016) and metabolic  
70 (Blüml et al., 2013; Degnan et al., 2014) changes during late childhood and adolescence,  
71 coinciding with episodic memory development (Ofen et al., 2007; Ghetti and Bunge, 2012).  
72 An intriguing question is whether improvement in the ability to dynamically regulate PMC  
73 activity during encoding and retrieval can account for developmental gains in memory. The  
74 aims of the present study were first to test life-span trajectories of PMC encoding and  
75 retrieval activity, and then to construct a model for episodic memory development where the  
76 contributions from brain activity patterns, cortical thickness (CT), and structural connectivity  
77 are accounted for.

78 PMC encoding deactivation and retrieval activation for remembered items was first reported  
79 more than 15 years ago (Otten and Rugg, 2001; Wagner and Davachi, 2001; Lundstrom et al.,  
80 2003; Daselaar et al., 2004; Wagner et al., 2005; Daselaar et al., 2009a; Duarte et al., 2010),  
81 see Kim (2011; 2013) for reviews. Studies examining the E/R flip directly are few (Vannini et  
82 al., 2010; W Huijbers, 2012; Gilmore et al., 2015), and we are aware of one study examining  
83 the E/R flip in aging (Vannini et al., 2013), showing that the magnitude of functional  
84 modulation in PMC declines with age and is related to memory performance.

85 While the role of the PMC in memory and the mechanisms behind the E/R flip are not fully  
86 understood, the function of the PMC is often linked to the default mode network (DMN). The  
87 DMN may support mental processes that are inwardly oriented and occur spontaneously  
88 during rest. The network deactivates when attention is directed towards external stimuli or  
89 during an active task (Raichle et al., 2001; Buckner et al., 2008). Deactivation of PMC during  
90 encoding may thus be interpreted as a result of attending to external stimuli and actively  
91 encoding information. Increased retrieval activation may on the other hand reflect the process  
92 of orienting towards internal representations of stored memories. The DMN has been  
93 identified in infants (Gao, 2009), but the organization of functional connectivity in the brain  
94 still undergoes changes during development (Supekar et al., 2009; Power et al., 2010).  
95 Deactivation of the PMC during episodic memory encoding is less pronounced in children  
96 than in adults. It is however unknown whether the lack of disengagement reflects reduced  
97 functional modulation, or if children show the same range of modulation between encoding  
98 and retrieval as adults, with less deactivation, but increased activation during retrieval (Chai  
99 et al., 2014).

100 In the present study, we tested patterns of functional modulation of activity in the PMC  
101 between encoding and retrieval of episodic memories during development and aging, in  
102 participants from 6 to 80 years old. We hypothesized a protracted development of modulation  
103 of PMC activity evidenced by an increased E/R flip, with subsequent reductions in aging,  
104 causing children and older adults to show similar PMC activity patterns. Further, we  
105 hypothesized that CT and structural connectivity both would be positively related to the  
106 magnitude of the E/R flip and source memory performance in childhood and adolescence, and  
107 that a multi-modal model would explain a substantial amount of the age-related variance in  
108 source memory development. An extended sample (6-80 years) was used to describe the

109 lifespan trajectories of the E/R flip and the question of whether the pattern seen in children  
110 mirrors the reductions reported in aging, while the multi-modal analyses were restricted to the  
111 developmental subsample with complete multi-modal data (6-30 years).

112

## 113 **Materials and Methods**

### 114 **Participants**

115 The full sample included in the analyses counted 270 participants from 6 to 80 years. The  
116 participant pool consisted of newly recruited participants, as well as participants recruited  
117 from existing studies coordinated from the Center for Lifespan Changes in Brain and  
118 Cognition (LCBC) at the Department of Psychology, University of Oslo, Norway (The  
119 Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Neurocognitive Study (MOBA)/ Neurocognitive  
120 Development/ Cognition and Plasticity Through the Life-span). The research project was  
121 approved by the Regional Ethical Committee of South Norway, and all participants age > 12  
122 gave written informed consent, while participants age < 12 gave oral informed consent to  
123 participate in the study. For all participants aged < 18, written informed consent was also  
124 obtained from their guardians. The participants had no history of neurological or psychiatric  
125 disorders, chronic illness, learning disabilities, or use of medicines known to affect nervous  
126 system functioning. They were also right-handed, spoke Norwegian fluently and had normal  
127 or corrected to normal hearing and vision. All participants were rewarded for their  
128 participation with cash or gift cards, and the 13 participants recruited through the MOBA  
129 study also with gifts (toys). 340 participants were considered for inclusion in the study. 38  
130 participants were selected for a delayed memory test, and were thus excluded from the full  
131 sample. 11 participants were excluded because of various problems during MR-acquisition  
132 leading to invalid or un-analyzable data (relative movement during fMRI exceeding 1.5 mm,  
133 missing trials, sound problems during task, operator error during scan, etc.), 15 were excluded  
134 because they remembered less than 10 % of the items with source memory, or had more than  
135 50 % false alarms or misses. 5 participants were excluded for neuroactive medication or  
136 alcohol intake, and one participant was excluded because of incidental MR-findings on the

137 radiological exam. After exclusions, the developmental subsample consisted of 105  
138 participants eligible for fMRI analyses with ages ranging from 6 to 30 years ( $M = 19.45$ ,  $SD =$   
139  $5.72$ , 61 females), out of which 90 participants had the full set of data and were included in  
140 the multimodal and SEM analyses. The sample of healthy older participants consisted of 165  
141 participants, aged 30-80 years ( $M = 55.80$ ,  $SD = 12.27$ , 106 females). The full sample entered  
142 in the analyses thus consisted of 270 participants ( $M = 41.66$ ,  $SD = 20.48$ , females = 167)  
143 who had undergone the complete MR-scanning procedure. Task-fMRI data from 72 of the  
144 young and 143 of the older participants have previously been used in studies with non-  
145 overlapping research questions (Sneve et al., 2015; Vidal-Piñeiro et al., 2017).

#### 146 **Memory task and procedure**

147 The participants were scanned using fMRI during both encoding and retrieval while  
148 performing an incidental memory task (Sneve et al., 2015). The stimulus material for the  
149 memory task consisted of 100 line drawings depicting common objects, accompanied by one  
150 of two questions asking if the participants could either lift or eat the object. The item-  
151 question-combinations (ICQs) were locked, in such a fashion that all objects had one specific  
152 question associated with it. For example, the drawing of a wheelchair always had the question  
153 “Can you eat it?” associated with it. During the encoding phase, two runs with 50 objects each  
154 were presented for the participants. Each run started with a period of 11s recording baseline  
155 activity, during which a fixation cross was presented. This baseline activity recording was  
156 also repeated in the middle and at the end of each run. Every encoding trial started with a  
157 recorded female voice asking the participant the Norwegian equivalent of one of two  
158 questions: “Can you lift it?” or “Can you eat it?”. One second after the question onset, a line  
159 drawing appeared on screen. The participant responded to the question by pressing a button  
160 with the index finger on either the left or right response grip, according to instructions on

161 screen. The hand used to produce a “yes” response was counterbalanced between participants.  
162 After a response window of two seconds, the line drawing was replaced by a fixation cross  
163 which remained on screen during the interstimulus interval (ITI), which varied randomly  
164 between 1-7 seconds with an exponential distribution over 4 discrete intervals (mean duration  
165 2.98 s SD=2.49s). The jittering of stimulus onsets facilitated later disentangling of fMRI data  
166 reflecting different encoding conditions (Ollinger et al., 2001; Serences, 2004).

167 When the encoding session was over, the participants were taken out of the scanner, and were  
168 seated in a waiting area for about 1 hour until the next scan session. The participants were not  
169 explicitly instructed to remember the stimuli, and were not informed of the memory test until  
170 just before the first test trial. The test runs were also performed during fMRI in the same  
171 scanner. Test trials started with the pre-recorded female voice asking (question 1): “Have you  
172 seen this before?” A picture of the item then appeared on screen, and the participant  
173 responded by pressing the response grip button corresponding to “yes” or “no”. If the  
174 participant responded “no” or did not respond within two seconds, the current trial was  
175 aborted and the experiment continued with the next trial. If the participant answered “yes (I  
176 have seen this item before)”, a follow-up question was presented (question 2): “Do you  
177 remember what you were supposed to do with it?” Again, if the participant answered “no”,  
178 the current trial was aborted, and the experiment proceeded with the next trial. If the  
179 participant answered that (s)he remembered what (s)he was supposed to do with the item, a  
180 follow-up question was presented (question 3): “What were you supposed to do with it?”  
181 Here, the participant was given a two-alternative forced choice between the actions presented  
182 during the encoding phase. For statistical analyses, test trial responses were classified as  
183 follows: (1) recognition (correct “yes” response to question 1), (2) source memory (correct  
184 “yes” response to question 1 and 2 and correct response to question 3); or (3) miss (incorrect

185 “no” response to question 1). Note that the specific questions asked during scanning were  
186 simplified to fit within the temporal limits of the paradigm, but that all participants were  
187 instructed in detail before the test session that the questions pertained to the item-action  
188 evaluation performed at encoding.

189 All visual stimuli (~10 visual degrees in diameter) were presented on an NNL 32” LCD  
190 Monitor at a resolution of 1920 × 1080 pixels (NordicNeuroLab, Bergen, Norway), positioned  
191 176 cm from the mirror attached to the coil. Participants responded using the ResponseGrip  
192 system (NordicNeuroLab, Bergen, Norway) and were shown a response feedback indicator on  
193 the screen. Auditory stimuli were presented to the participants through headphones.

#### 194 **MRI data acquisition**

##### 195 *fMRI*

196 A 3T Siemens Skyra system (Siemens Medical Systems, Erlangen, Germany) with a 24-  
197 channel Siemens head coil was used to acquire all MR images during the memory task. Two  
198 fMRI runs were acquired during encoding, and four were acquired during retrieval, all with  
199 the same parameters: 43 transversally oriented gapless slices were recorded using a BOLD-  
200 sensitive T2\*-weighted echo planar image (EPI) sequence (repetition time (TR) = 2390 ms,  
201 echo time (TE) = 30 ms, flip angle = 90°, voxel size = 3×3×3mm, field of view (FOV) = 224  
202 × 224 mm, interleaved acquisition (GRAPPA acceleration factor = 2). Three dummy volumes  
203 were collected at the start of each run, to avoid T1 saturation effects in the analyzed data.  
204 Each encoding run consisted of 131 volumes, while the length of the retrieval runs varied  
205 dependent on the participants’ responses, as negative answers to any of the first two questions  
206 ended the trial. A standard double-echo gradient-echo field map sequence was acquired for  
207 distortion correction of the EPI images.

208 ***Diffusion tensor imaging***

209 A single-shot twice-refocused spin-echo echo planar imaging (EPI) with 64 directions was  
210 acquired with the following parameters: TR = 9300 ms, TE = 87 ms, b-value = 1000 s/mm<sup>2</sup>,  
211 voxel size = 2.0 × 2.0 × 2.0 mm, slice spacing = 2.6 mm, FOV = 256, matrix size = 128 × 130  
212 × 70, 1 non-diffusion-weighted (b = 0) image. In order to correct for eddy current-induced  
213 image distortions, 1 b<sub>0</sub>-weighted image was acquired with the reverse phase encoding, but  
214 otherwise identical acquisition parameters. These images were obtained on the same 3T  
215 magnet as the fMRI images. The participants recruited through MOBA already had recorded  
216 DTI scans with 32 directions acquired on a 1.5 T Siemens Avanto scanner (Siemens Medical  
217 Solutions) using a 12-channel head coil with the following parameters: TR = 8200 ms,  
218 TE = 81 ms, b-value = 700 s/mm<sup>2</sup>, voxel size = 2.0 x 2.0 x 2.0 mm, field of view = 128,  
219 matrix size = 128 × 128 × 64, number of b<sub>0</sub> images = 5, GRAPPA acceleration factor = 2.  
220 One adolescent and four adults did not have adequate DTI images, and were thus excluded  
221 from the DTI analyses.

222 ***sMRI***

223 One sagittal T1-weighted MPRAGE volume consisting of 176 sagittally oriented slices was  
224 obtained using a turbo field echo pulse sequence (TR = 2300 ms, TE = 2.98 ms, flip angle =  
225 8°, voxel size = 1 × 1 × 1 mm, FOV = 256 × 256 mm). For the youngest children, integrated  
226 parallel acquisition techniques (iPAT) was used, acquiring multiple T1 scans within a short  
227 scan time, enabling us to discard scans with residual movement and average the scans with  
228 sufficient quality. Previous studies have shown that accelerated imaging does not introduce  
229 measurement bias in surface-based measures when using FreeSurfer for image analysis,  
230 compared with a standard MPRAGE protocol with otherwise identical voxel dimensions and  
231 sequence parameters (Wonderlick et al., 2009), which is in accordance with our own analyses.

232 Several other MRI volumes were recorded during the session, not related to the current  
233 experiment, including sequences intended for and examined by a radiologist to rule out and  
234 medically follow-up any neuroradiological findings in the sample. Total scanning times were  
235 approximately 58 minutes for the encoding session, and 45 minutes for the retrieval session,  
236 depending on the participants' responses. The youngest children in the MOBA sample spent  
237 less time in the scanner during the encoding (~ 25 min) and retrieval (~45 min) fMRI tasks, as  
238 the non-task based MRI sequences were recorded in a separate session. The DTI images for  
239 these eight participants were collected on average 100.62 days in advance of the fMRI  
240 session.

## 241 **Image analysis**

### 242 *fMRI preprocessing*

243 Preprocessing of the functional image data was performed using a combination of the  
244 FreeSurfer 5.3 Functional Analysis Stream tools (<http://freesurfer.net/fswiki/FsFast>) and  
245 components from the FSL toolbox (<http://fsl.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl/>). All functional images were  
246 first corrected for distortions caused by b0 inhomogeneities in EPI scans (FSL  
247 PRELUDE/FUGUE; <http://fsl.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl/>), before the images were motion corrected,  
248 slice timing corrected to the middle of a volume's TR, intensity normalized, and registered to  
249 the same participants' anatomical volumes using FSL's fMRI Expert Analysis Tools (FEAT).

250 As both children and elderly participants who typically exhibit more head motion during  
251 scanning were included in the study, care was taken to address head motion. Relative frame  
252 wise displacement estimated by MCFLIRT, averaged across all included participants and runs  
253 was .081 mm. The motion distribution followed a U-shaped trajectory relative to age, with the  
254 expected pattern of increased relative motion at the extremes of the age range (Figure1).

255 [Insert Figure 1 here]

256 We used a machine learning approach, FMRIB's ICA-based X-noiseifier (FIX), to clean  
257 motion-related noise and other artifacts from the fMRI data using a trained multi-level  
258 hierarchical classifier (Griffanti et al., 2014; Salimi-Khorshidi et al., 2014). This approach  
259 consists of several steps: First the preprocessed data was decomposed into multiple  
260 components using MELODIC (Beckmann and Smith, 2004). We then manually classified the  
261 components for a subset of the participants (16), and labeled each component as signal or  
262 noise. A set of over 180 temporal and spatial features was extracted, and the classifier (an  
263 ensemble learning classifier combining k-NN, decision trees and support vector machines)  
264 was trained on the manually labeled data set. This enabling learning of the relevant spatial and  
265 temporal features needed for building a robust model. We tested the performance of the model  
266 on our training data by performing leave-one-out accuracy tests with varying thresholds  
267 (Table 1). We set the threshold at a conservative 5, where 10 out of the 16 participants in the  
268 training set had 100% true positive rate in the leave-one-out tests. When we examined the  
269 discrepancies between the manually labeled components and the components automatically  
270 labeled by FIX, we found discrepancies only in the high numbered ICA components, meaning  
271 the discrepancies were present only in components explaining miniscule amounts of the  
272 variance in the data. The classifier was applied on the complete data set with the selected  
273 threshold, and the noise-components (40% average) were regressed from the preprocessed  
274 data in addition to 24 motion confound regressors (high pass filtered at 100s).

275 *[Insert Table 1 around here]*

276

277 Before further fMRI analyses commenced, the 4D functional data sets were resampled to a  
278 common template ('fsaverage') using the surface-based inter-participant registrations created

279 during the previous cortical reconstruction.

280 *fMRI analyses*

281 A first-level general linear model (GLM) was set up for each run, consisting of 3 main  
282 regressors of interest during encoding (source memory, recognition, miss) + 1 regressor of no  
283 interest (trials without a response). 5 main regressor of interest during retrieval (source  
284 memory, recognition, miss, correct rejection, false Alarm) + 3 regressors of no interest (no  
285 response to question 1, no response to question 2, no response to question 3). The regressors  
286 were modelled as events with onsets and durations corresponding to the item presentation  
287 period (2s), and convolved with a two-gamma canonical hemodynamic response function  
288 (HRF). In addition to the task-regressors and their temporal derivatives, estimated motion  
289 correction parameters and a set of polynomials (up to the second degree) were included in the  
290 GLM as nuisance regressors. The model and the data were processed through a high-pass  
291 filter with a cutoff at 0.01 Hz. Temporal autocorrelations (AR(1)) in the residuals were  
292 corrected using a pre-whitening approach.

293 Parameter estimates for the contrast between fMRI activity of items that were subsequently  
294 remembered with full source information vs. implicit baseline fMRI activity, and full source  
295 memory vs. misses were calculated for each participant and brought to the group-level, both  
296 for activity during encoding, and during retrieval. Statistical significance was tested at each  
297 vertex on the cortical surface using GLMs and a weighted least squares approach, treating  
298 participants as random effects and weighting them by the inverse of their first-level noise  
299 variance (Thirion et al., 2007). Group statistical maps were FDR corrected at  $p < .05$ .

300 ***Defining the E/R flip ROI***

301 The E/R flip has been defined as the conjunction between successful encoding/retrieval  
302 activity contrasted with baseline activity (Vannini et al., 2013), but has also been defined by  
303 contrasting memory success with misses, so called difference memory (DM) (Daselaar et al.,  
304 2009b). The different approaches may lead to different regions being identified as ROIs, and  
305 we therefore explored both approaches. In order to identify the overlap between areas that  
306 deactivate during successful encoding and activate during successful retrieval, we performed  
307 conjunction analyses (Nichols et al., 2005) for the source memory vs. baseline contrast, first  
308 using the young adults only (18-30 years,  $n = 55$ ), then the complete development sample (6-  
309 30 years,  $n = 115$ ), and for the complete lifespan sample (6-80 years,  $n = 270$ ). We repeated  
310 the analyses for the source memory vs. miss (DM) contrast using the young adults group. The  
311 statistical estimates for the contrasts were false discovery rate (FDR) corrected at  $P \leq .05$ .  
312 Conjunction analyses were then performed on the resulting statistical maps, resulting in maps  
313 including only the vertices that were both significantly deactivated (compared to baseline, or  
314 compared to miss in the DM contrast) during encoding and activated during retrieval, i.e.  
315 areas displaying an encoding retrieval flip.

316 The ROIs defined using both the baseline and DM approaches were created using the young  
317 adults, and were found to be restricted to the medial PMC. These ROIs were used as masks in  
318 further analyses. We extracted the average encoding and retrieval parameter estimates for all  
319 conditions separately (source memory, recognition, misses, correct rejections (retrieval only),  
320 false alarms (retrieval only)) for all participants. In addition to the surface-based analyses,  
321 average signal during encoding and retrieval was also extracted from the left and right  
322 hippocampi, automatically segmented by FreeSurfer at the individual level (Fischl et al.,  
323 2002).

324 ***DTI pre-processing***

325 The b0 images were also collected with reversed phase-encode blips, resulting in pairs of  
326 images with distortions going in opposite directions. From these pairs we estimated the  
327 susceptibility-induced off-resonance field using a method similar to what is described in  
328 (Andersson et al., 2003) as implemented in FSL (Smith et al., 2004). We then applied the  
329 estimate of the susceptibility induced off-resonance field with the eddy tool (Andersson and  
330 Sotiropoulos, 2016), which was also used to correct eddy-current induced distortions and  
331 subject head movement, and aligned all images to the first image in the series. Finally, we  
332 rotated the bvecs in accordance with the image alignments performed in the previous steps  
333 (Jenkinson et al., 2002; Leemans and Jones, 2009).

334 ***DTI analyses***

335 In order to analyze the structural connectivity of the PMC, we used Tract Based Spatial  
336 Statistics (TBSS) available under FSL. First, the preprocessed, eddy-current, movement, and  
337 susceptibility-field corrected data were used as the input to the standard TBSS processing  
338 stream (FSL; <http://www.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl>). A tensor model was first to the preprocessed  
339 diffusion data using FDT. The data was then aligned into a common space before the mean  
340 FA image was created and thinned to create a mean alignment-invariant skeleton, which  
341 represents the centers of all tracts common to the group (Rueckert et al., 1999; Smith, 2002;  
342 Smith et al., 2004; 2006; Andersson and Jenkinson, 2007; Andersson et al., 2007). We then  
343 projected the fractional anisotropy (FA) and mean diffusivity (MD) data for each individual  
344 onto this skeleton, and performed whole-brain voxel-wise analyses on the FA and MD values,  
345 and the interaction term between age and source memory. Permutation-based nonparametric  
346 cluster inference (Randomise, a part of the FSL software suite) was used, controlling for  
347 scanner, sex, age and source memory. Sex was included as a covariate of no interest in the

348 analyses, as sex differences in white matter microstructure has been reported (Inano et al.,  
349 2011, Kanaan et al., 2011, Rathee et al., 2016). Five thousand permutations were performed,  
350 and the results were corrected for multiple comparisons across space by threshold-free cluster  
351 enhancement (Smith and Nichols, 2009; Winkler et al., 2014). The threshold level for a  
352 significant difference was set at  $P < .05$  (corrected). Since we also previously have observed  
353 larger age-differences in PMC in this age-span for MD compared to FA (Tamnes et al., 2010),  
354 and we found no significant effects of FA after statistical corrections were performed, MD  
355 was chosen as the DTI measure of interest. We thus collected the average MD values from the  
356 regions of the TBSS-skeleton displaying a significant age-source memory interaction, and  
357 saved the residuals after regressing on scanner type and estimated movement. This corrected  
358 measure was entered as the DTI measure in the multi-modal analyses.

359 The rationale for adding the microstructural measure was to investigate whether structural  
360 connectivity measures added to the contributions of the PMC E/R flip in explaining age  
361 differences in source memory. We used a data-driven approach for defining the DTI ROI. We  
362 believe this approach, unbiased by anatomical constraints, is in line with keeping consistency  
363 across analyses and modalities through the paper. While the regions that emerged as structural  
364 ROIs are not directly overlapping with the PMC ROI, this does not exclude that a relationship  
365 between the regions exists, and variations in e.g. WM microstructure in regions different from  
366 where one finds the E/R flip could be relevant for episodic memory.

### 367 *sMRI pre-processing*

368 FreeSurfer 5.3 was used for the cortical- and volumetric reconstruction of the T1-weighted  
369 structural data (<http://freesurfer.net>). The processing steps include motion correction and  
370 averaging (Reuter et al., 2010), removal of non-brain tissue (Segonne et al., 2004), automated  
371 Talairach transformation and intensity correction (Sled et al., 1998). Intensity and continuity

372 information from the 3D volume are used in segmentation and deformation procedures to  
373 reconstruct a gray/white and gray/cerebrospinal fluid boundary throughout the brain (Dale et  
374 al., 1999; Fischl et al., 2002; 2004b). Cortical surfaces then undergo inflation, registration to a  
375 spherical atlas, and identification of gyral and sulcal regions (Fischl et al., 2004a; Desikan et  
376 al., 2006). Subcortical white matter and deep gray matter volumetric structures were  
377 segmented, yielding volumetric measurements of the hippocampi (Fischl et al., 2002). While  
378 there have been concerns that the hippocampal volume estimations from FreeSurfer differ  
379 from manual segmentations (Wenger et al., 2014), associations between FreeSurfer estimated  
380 volumes and manually estimated volumes are satisfactory (Schoemaker et al. 2016), and ICV-  
381 adjusted age-trajectories are near identical (Schmidt et al., 2018). An experienced operator  
382 manually inspected individual surfaces and segmentations for accuracy. Minor corrections  
383 were needed for eight participants, mainly due to suboptimal skullstrip leading to inaccurate  
384 pial surfaces, including manual edits of the brainmask for six participants, and adding  
385 intensity normalization control points for two participants.

### 386 *sMRI analyses*

387 Thickness maps were smoothed at FWHM 15mm prior to analyses. We assessed the  
388 interaction between age and source memory on CT, with FreeSurfer's `mri_glmfit`, using a  
389 general linear model approach, controlling for the effect of **sex** and the linear age and source  
390 memory terms. We also tested for main effects of source memory on CT, controlling for sex.  
391 We did include sex as a covariate in the ROI analyses, as sex is associated with differences in  
392 brain structure (Raznahan et al., 2011), studies using FreeSurfer do however rarely detect sex  
393 differences in mean CT or trajectories of CT development (Fjell et al., 2009, Tamnes et al.,  
394 2010, Amlien et al., 2016). The analyses were performed across all vertices, and the results  
395 were thresholded using pre-cached Monte Carlo simulation with a cluster-forming-threshold

396 of  $p < .01$ , and Bonferroni adjusted for analyses across both hemispheres. Average CT of all  
397 vertices overlapping with the age-source memory interaction cluster was used as the CT  
398 measure in the following analyses. We thus consider CT to be a marker for structural  
399 development in this age-range. The interpretation of CT in ROI-based analyses does also  
400 arguably make more neuroanatomical sense than surface area, and CT / BOLD activity  
401 correlations have also been reported elsewhere (Rasser et al., 2005; Hegarty et al., 2012; Joshi  
402 et al., 2016). We thus chose to use CT measures in the following analyses.

### 403 **Statistical analyses**

404 Polynomial regression analyses were performed to examine the continuous relationship  
405 between behavior data (source memory, recognition, misses, false alarms, and d-prime) and  
406 age. Similar analyses were performed on the E/R flip, and signal extracted from the PMC  
407 during encoding and retrieval separately, and for left and right hippocampi, both for encoding  
408 and retrieval BOLD activity and for intracranial volume (ICV) corrected residuals of  
409 hippocampus volume. ICV was calculated by use of an atlas normalization procedure  
410 described by Buckner et al. (2004).

411 To examine how much of the variance in source memory the combined multimodal measures  
412 were able to explain, source memory, age, E/R flip, MD and CT were entered in a path  
413 analysis based on structural equation modelling (SEM) (Amos, version 22). We wanted to test  
414 the hypothesis that source memory performance differences are mediated through a greater  
415 range of activity in the PMC region during encoding and retrieval, which in turn is dependent  
416 on structural brain maturation. We also repeated the SEM modelling where we replaced the  
417 E/R flip variable, and instead entered both the PMC Encoding and retrieval variables  
418 separately. Direct and indirect effects were calculated. Indirect effects are calculated as the  
419 product of the partial path weights from the predictor variable to the indicator variable

420 through other variables in the model. Indirect effects were only calculated for significant  
 421 paths. Browne and Cudeck (1992) has suggested RMSEA < 0.08 to be indicative of a  
 422 reasonable error of approximation, and that RMSEA < 0.05 would indicate a close fit, and  
 423 models with values > 0.1 should not be employed. We thus employed the moderately  
 424 conservative threshold of RMSEA < 0.05 for determining adequate model fit.

425 Finally, we estimated the proportion of age-related variance in source memory shared with  
 426 E/R flip, MD and CT, by using the formula:  $\frac{r_{A-C}^2 - r_{A-C-Bk}^2}{r_{A-C}^2}$ , where each  $k$ th brain marker ( $Bk$ )  
 427 was partialled from the correlation between age (A) and source memory (C) (Hedden et al.,  
 428 2016). In order to estimate the proportion of unique age-related variance shared with each  
 429 brain marker (B), we computed partial correlation analyses using the formula:

430  $\frac{r_{A-C-B \in k}^2 - r_{A-C-B \in k}^2}{r_{A-C}^2}$  where  $B \in k$  is the set of all brain markers (E/R flip, CT and MD), and

431  $B \in !k$  is all brain markers excluding the  $k$ th marker. This procedure was repeated with  
 432 encoding and retrieval activity entered separately.

## 433 **Results**

### 434 **Behavioral results**

435 Demographics and task performance on the memory retrieval task performed during fMRI is  
 436 presented in Table 2.

437 *[Insert Table 2 around here]*

438 Plots of behavior measures tested against age are shown in Figure 2. Source memory  
 439 performance was related to age with the age trajectory forming an inverted U-shaped

440 function. The cubic regression was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .135$ ,  $F[3,266] = 14.97$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  
441  $y = 0.215 + 0.0264x - 5.62 \times 10^{-4}x^2 + 3.28 \times 10^{-6}x^3$ ), and significantly better than  
442 the linear and quadratic models. Recognition was also related to age forming an inverted U-  
443 shaped function, the quadratic regression was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .037$ ,  $F[2,267] = 6.109$ ,  $p =$   
444  $.003$ ,  $y = 0.695 + 4.24 \times 10^{-3}x - 5.77 \times 10^{-6}x^2$ ), and also significantly better than the  
445 linear model. The number of recognition misses was not significantly related to age, whether  
446 a linear, quadratic or cubic model was employed (linear model,  $R^{2\text{adj}} < .000$ ,  $F[1,268] = .938$ ,  
447  $p = .334$ ,  $y = 0.205 + 2.99 \times 10^{-4}x$ ). Number of false alarms was related to age, and the  
448 cubic regression was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .071$ ,  $F[3,266] = 7.899$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  
449  $y = 0.0998 - 5.36 \times 10^{-3}x + 1.39 \times 10^{-4}x^2 - 9.62 \times 10^{-7}x^3$ ), with a U-shaped  
450 function, with a decrease towards the end of the age-range. The cubic model was significantly  
451 better than both the linear and quadratic models. d-prime was significantly related to age with  
452 an inverted U-shaped function, and the quadratic regression model was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} =$   
453  $.123$ ,  $F[2,267] = 19.87$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $y = 2.47 + 0.0104x - 2.35 \times 10^{-4}x^2$ ), and significantly  
454 better than the linear model.

455 *[Insert Figure 2 around here]*

## 456 **fMRI results**

### 457 *Identification of the encoding-retrieval flip*

458 Only the vertices showing both significant (FDR-corrected) deactivation during successful  
459 source memory encoding, and activation during retrieval compared to baseline were classified  
460 as flipping voxels in the conjunction analysis. This is a stricter criterion than contrasting  
461 encoding deactivations with retrieval activations alone. We initially defined the E/R flip using

462 the young adult group alone. The rationale for this was that if the children, as hypothesized,  
463 showed either reduced encoding deactivations, or reduced retrieval activations, we would risk  
464 not being able to identify a region displaying the E/R flip. The conjunction analysis was  
465 performed based on group statistical maps, resulting in a map of vertices significantly  
466 deactivated during source memory encoding and significantly activated during source  
467 memory retrieval (Figure 3). The conjunction analysis left us with three regions where the  
468 E/R flip was evident, namely a cluster in the PMC bilaterally, and a posterior lateral parietal  
469 region in the left hemisphere only. The activity pattern we discovered in the posterior ventral  
470 parietal region is a region that has previously been shown to exhibit the same E/R flip pattern  
471 also found in PMC (Daselaar et al., 2009a; Gilmore et al., 2015). The PMC was defined as the  
472 region of interest a priori based on previous studies (Huijbers et al., 2012; 2013; Vannini et al.,  
473 2013; Gilmore et al., 2015), and we thus created labels of the overlap between PCM encoding  
474 deactivation and retrieval activation in the two hemispheres separately and brought these  
475 ROIs to further analyses. Individual parameter estimates were extracted from the contrast  
476 between source memory and baseline, both for encoding and retrieval. The mean signal from  
477 the left and right PMC was extracted for both sessions, and the E/R flip was defined as the  
478 resulting difference between encoding and retrieval parameter estimates, averaged across left  
479 and right PMC. Maps of significant activation or deactivation during encoding or retrieval are  
480 presented in Figure 4.

481 *[Insert Figure3 and 4 around here]*

#### 482 ***E/R flip and source memory***

483 E/R flip activity was related to source memory performance and the linear regression equation  
484 was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .016$ ,  $F[1,268] = 5.407$ ,  $p = .021$ ), and the relationship between E/R  
485 flip and source memory was positive.

486 *E/R flip and age*

487 E/R flip activity was related to age, and the cubic regression was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .074$ ,  
488  $F[3,266] = 8.166, p < .001, y = 0.0926 + 0.012x - 3.16 \times 10^{-4}x^2 + 2.18 \times 10^{-6}x^3$ ),  
489 and the model fit of the cubic regression was trending towards fitting significantly better than  
490 the quadratic and linear models (Sig F change = .059). In order to determine how the age  
491 effects of the E/R flip were driven by age-related encoding and retrieval activity patterns, we  
492 performed additional regression analyses on the subcomponents of the E/R flip measure. E/R  
493 flip ROI activity during encoding was related to age, and the cubic regression was significant  
494 ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .051, F[3,266] = 5.789, p < .001, y = 0.135 - 0.017x + 4.06 \times 10^{-4}x^2 - 2.93 \times$   
495  $10^{-6}x^3$ ). The model fit of the cubic regression was significantly better than the quadratic and  
496 linear models. E/R flip ROI activity during retrieval was also related to age, but here only the  
497 linear regression was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .028, F[1,268] = 8.632, p = .004$ ,  
498  $y = 0.18 - 0.00103x$ ).

499 *[Insert Figure 5 around here]*

500 E/R flip fMRI activity was characterized by a pattern that was mirrored between development  
501 and aging (Figure 5), with increases in E/R flip until adolescence, and monotonous reductions  
502 until old age. The magnitude of the reductions through age were such that the 70-80 year olds  
503 showed E/R flip and encoding activity almost at the level of the children.

504 *Hippocampus age trajectories*

505 Supplementary regression analyses were performed on the BOLD signal in bilateral  
506 hippocampus and age (Figure 6). Activity in the right Hippocampus during recall was  
507 positively related to retrieval success and the cubic regression was significant ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .031$ ,  
508  $F[3,266] = 3.86, p = .010, y = 0.803 + 0.8x - 2.761x^2 + 2.071x^3$ ). Hippocampus

509 activity during both encoding and retrieval was significantly related to age. For encoding, the  
 510 cubic regression was significant for right hippocampus ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .031$ ,  $F[3,266] = 3.874$ ,  $p =$   
 511  $.009$ ,  $y = 0.104 - 0.00511x + 0.000115x^2 - 8.05 \times 10^{-7}x^3$ ), and for retrieval, left ( $R^{2\text{adj}}$   
 512  $= .012$ ,  $F[3,266] = 13.43$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $y = 0.204 - 0.0155x + 0.000394x^2 - 2.92 \times$   
 513  $10^{-6}x^3$ ), and right Hippocampus ( $R^{2\text{adj}} = .010$ ,  $F[3,266] = 11.5$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  
 514  $y = 0.175 - 0.0133x + 0.000334x^2 - 2.45 \times 10^{-6}x^3$ ). The model fit of the cubic  
 515 regressions were significantly better than the quadratic and linear models. The shape of the  
 516 regression function showed a slight initial decrease with little change through middle age,  
 517 before another dip in old age.

518 Hippocampus volume (ICV residuals) followed an inverted U-trajectory through the lifespan  
 519 (Figure 7), and the quadratic regression was significant (Left:  $R^{2\text{adj}} = .27$ ,  $F[2,252] = 47.74$ ,  $p$   
 520  $< .001$ ,  $y = -0.322 + 0.0543x - 0.000893x^2$ ; Right:  $R^{2\text{adj}} = .24$ ,  $F[2,252] = 40.2$ ,  $p <$   
 521  $.001$ ,  $y = -0.101 + 0.0406x - 0.000729x^2$ ). ICV corrected Hippocampus volumes  
 522 (residuals) were significantly related to source memory (Left:  $R^2 = .042$ ,  $p < .001$ ; Right:  $R^2 =$   
 523  $.027$ ,  $p = .009$ ), but when corrected for the linear and quadratic age terms, the relationship  
 524 was not significant (Left:  $p = .655$ ; Right:  $p = .998$ ). Both the fMRI and volumetric results are  
 525 consistent with earlier reports on lifespan changes in hippocampus volume and activity (Van  
 526 Petten, 2004; Østby et al., 2009; Walhovd et al., 2011; Wierenga et al., 2014a).

527 *[Insert Figure 6 and 7 around here]*

### 528 *Alternative E/R flip ROI*

529 We tested different approaches for defining the E/R flip ROI. First, we generated the E/R flip  
 530 ROIs using a DM approach (contrasting source memory with misses). The resulting ROIs are

531 shown in Figure 8 (top left). In line with previous literature, we found that the ROIs extended  
532 spatially over a larger area than the implicit baseline approach (Figure 8, middle left). The  
533 spatially more restricted E/R flip ROI defined using the baseline contrast was almost  
534 completely overlapped by the DM ROI. Comparing lifespan trajectories of the E/R flip based  
535 on the two different strategies (Figure 8, top right) we found that they yielded similar overall  
536 patterns, but with a longer apparent increase in E/R flip magnitude with the larger DM based  
537 ROI. Baseline vs. DM approaches are discussed in-depth in a review paper by Gilmore et al.  
538 (2015), who defines the E/R flip as “a regional BOLD response pattern in which the direction  
539 of evoked activity, relative to resting baseline, flips between encoding and retrieval.”  
540 Following Gilmore et al. (2015), the baseline defined ROI was used for all other analyses.

541 Further, as alternatives to define the E/R flip ROI based on the young adults only, we ran  
542 additional analyses defining the E/R flip ROI using both the full development sample (6-30  
543 years,  $n = 105$ ), and the complete lifespan sample (6-80 years,  $n = 270$ ). The resulting ROIs  
544 can be seen in Figure 8, bottom row. The main findings were progressively larger ROIs as we  
545 increased sample size and age range in both directions. While this pattern can be influenced  
546 by different activity patterns in development and aging, differences in statistical power  
547 between analyses may also affect the size of the ROIs.

548 Given that the ROI based on the young adults included almost only vertices common to the  
549 ROIs defined based on the alternative samples, and our hypothesis that the ability to modulate  
550 activity in the PMC is not yet fully developed in children and may be reduced in aging,  
551 further analyses were based on the ROI defined in the young adults sample (18-30 years).

552 *[Insert Figure 8 around here]*

553 **Multi-modal Development Model**

554 In order to quantify the influence of E/R flip and brain structure on memory development, we  
555 constructed a model containing structural measures relevant to memory development, in  
556 addition to age, source memory, and E/R flip. We extracted CT and MD measures from the  
557 brain regions showing significant interaction with age, i.e. the regions where the relationship  
558 between the brain measures and source memory were not constant across age.

559 *Cortical Thickness*

560 CT was extracted from a posterior cluster which remained significant after correcting for  
561 multiple comparisons, encompassing cuneus and calcarine sulcus (Figure 9, top). The  
562 interaction was positive, meaning the source memory - CT relationship increased with age.  
563 Thickness in this ROI correlated negatively with age ( $r = -.45, p < .001$ ), source memory ( $r =$   
564  $-.26, p = .013$ ), and E/R flip ( $r = -.22, p = .038$ ) in the developmental subsample (Table 3). As  
565 background information, we also tested the effect of source memory on CT, vertex-wise  
566 across the cortical surfaces. A main effect of source memory on CT was found in two left  
567 hemisphere clusters when controlling for the effect of **sex**, one cluster encompassing lingual  
568 gyrus, and one cluster on the border of precuneus, isthmus cingulate, and posterior cingulate  
569 cortex (Figure 9, bottom).

570 *Mean Diffusivity*

571 MD was extracted from a region in the left medial temporal lobe, left longitudinal fasciculus,  
572 and corticospinal tract, where the age-source memory interaction analysis revealed increased  
573 source memory - MD relation with age (Figure 10). MD did not correlate significantly with  
574 any other variable of interest in the developmental subsample (Table 3), and there were no  
575 main effects of source memory on MD that remained significant after correcting for multiple  
576 comparisons.

577 [Insert Figure 9 and 10 around here]

578 In order to estimate the proportion of age variance in source memory that could be accounted  
579 for by the individual brain measures, a series of partial correlations were conducted (Table 4).  
580 E/R flip, MD and CT together accounted for 55.0 % of the age-related variance in source  
581 memory performance. Of this, 8.1 % of the age-related variance in source memory was  
582 uniquely accounted for by the E/R flip, 0.4 % by MD and 28.9 % by CT, while the rest was  
583 accounted for by more than one of the measures together. E/R flip shared 24.5 % of its age-  
584 related variance with the other measures, MD 6.0 %, and CT 44.7 %. An identical analysis,  
585 with the PMC Encoding and retrieval variables entered separately as in SEM C, resulted in an  
586 overall reduction in the age-related variance in source memory (26.6%) we were able to  
587 account for. Part of the reduction could likely be explained by variance suppression effects on  
588 the age-source memory relationship by encoding/retrieval activation, indicated by negative  
589 shared variance (Encoding: -15.2%, Retrieval: -11.3%).

590 Aiming to separate the age-related variance in source memory that could be explained by each  
591 of the functional and structural measures (Figure 11), we performed path analyses (Figure  
592 12). Age was entered as the only exogenous variable, source memory was the endogenous  
593 variable, and E/R flip, MD, and CT were entered as mediating variables. Directional paths  
594 were drawn from age to all other variables, to source memory from all other variables, and to  
595 E/R flip from all other variables except source memory. We revised the initial model (Figure  
596 12A) in iterations, trimming the arrow with lowest critical ratio until only significant  
597 relationships ( $p < .05$ ) remained. In the final model (Figure 12B), source memory was related  
598 to age ( $\beta = 0.28$ , 95% CI: .068 ~ .494) and E/R flip ( $\beta = 0.24$ , 95% CI: .030 ~ .459). CT was  
599 also related to age ( $\beta = -0.45$ , 95% CI: -.604 ~ -.252) and E/R flip ( $\beta = -0.22$ , 95% CI: -.412 ~  
600 -.012). Age exerted a small indirect effect on source memory through CT and E/R flip ( $\beta =$

601 0.024, 95% CI: .002 ~ .086). The final model yielded a satisfactory fit to the data with a root  
602 mean square error of approximation (RMSEA) value of .048 (PCLOSE = .376, relative chi-  
603 square = 1.21, CFI = .989, NFI = .943).

604 We finally created a SEM where we instead of the E/R flip variable entered both PMC  
605 Encoding and retrieval variables separately, with arrows from age to all variables, from MD  
606 and CT to all other variables but age, and from PMC encoding and retrieval to source  
607 memory, with an additional arrow from PMC encoding to PMC retrieval. Using identical  
608 procedures for model trimming as for the E/R flip analyses, the final model (Figure 12C)  
609 showed that retrieval activity is most directly related to source memory, and encoding activity  
610 was indirectly related to source memory through its relationship with retrieval. Age was  
611 directly related to source memory ( $\beta = 0.32$ , 95% CI: .107 ~ .505), encoding ( $\beta = -0.22$ , 95%  
612 CI: -.414 ~ -.007), and CT ( $\beta = -0.45$ , 95% CI: -.604 ~ -.252), and there were small indirect  
613 effects of age on source memory through the encoding / retrieval path ( $\beta = -0.03$ ), and through  
614 the CT-retrieval path ( $\beta = -0.03$ ). Encoding was directly related to retrieval ( $\beta = .41$ , 95% CI:  
615 .217 ~ .557), and indirectly to source memory through retrieval ( $\beta = .15$ , 95% CI: .060 ~  
616 .259). CT was directly related to retrieval ( $\beta = -0.20$ , 95% CI: -.372 ~ -.010), and indirectly to  
617 source memory through retrieval ( $\beta = -0.075$ , 95% CI: -.174 ~ -.011). The final iteration of  
618 this model did also provide a good fit to the data with a root mean square error of  
619 approximation (RMSEA) value of 0 (PCLOSE = .969, relative chi-square = .266, CFI = 1,  
620 NFI = .99).

621 [Insert Figure 11 and 12 around here]

622 **Discussion**

623 The ability to recall episodic memories is dependent on the dynamic range of neural activity  
624 in the PMC, and the interplay between neural processes occurring during encoding and  
625 retrieval (Daselaar et al., 2009a; Vannini et al., 2010; W Huijbers, 2012; Huijbers et al.,  
626 2013). Here we demonstrate that efficient functional modulation of the PMC is not yet fully  
627 developed in pre-adolescent children. The combination of age, E/R flip, CT and MD  
628 explained 17 % of the variance in source memory performance, but more than 50 % of the  
629 age-related performance differences. These age-related differences indicate that the functional  
630 development of the PMC and related brain regions is important for the emergence of the  
631 ability to encode and recollect episodic memories.

632 Young adults and adolescents deactivated the PMC during successful source memory  
633 encoding, but this deactivation was absent in children. The lack of deactivations in children is  
634 consistent with Chai et al. (2014), who reported less encoding-related deactivation in posterior  
635 parietal DMN in children compared to older participants. The deactivations already seen in  
636 adolescents indicate that emergence of the ability to modulate PMC activity during memory  
637 operations is likely a central feature of brain development ongoing at this age.

638 Activity in the PMC shares many similarities with the rest of the DMN, and deactivations  
639 may reflect attention orientated outward, i.e. attending to external stimuli in the encoding task  
640 (Huijbers et al., 2012). Deactivation of the DMN during encoding, possibly in order to  
641 allocate cognitive resources to task-oriented processes, is associated with better subsequent  
642 memory performance (Kim, 2011). Activation of the DMN occurs when attention is oriented  
643 inwards towards one's own mental processes, and is associated with successful retrieval of  
644 episodic memories (Kim et al., 2010). Likely, the ability of the PMC to dynamically toggle

645 between deactivation and activation is important to the development of source memory, in  
646 addition to activation/deactivation strength alone. An intriguing question is if the neural  
647 processes occurring in the PMC during encoding and retrieval reflect fundamentally different  
648 tasks served by the same cortical area, seen as bi-polar activation patterns, or rather reflect  
649 varying intensity of a unitary task or process.

#### 650 *E/R flip through the life-span*

651 Reductions in E/R flip have been demonstrated in aging (Vannini et al., 2013), and we add to  
652 this by showing the E/R flip trajectory through the lifespan. E/R flip trajectory steeply rose  
653 with age until early adulthood, before it declined monotonously through the rest of life. The  
654 encoding deactivations in the PMC seemed to follow a similar pattern, but peaking later. The  
655 70-80 year old participants displayed similar levels of encoding deactivations as children.  
656 While tempting to assume that age-related differences in development (apparent increase) and  
657 aging (apparent decrease) reflect similar mechanisms, we do not know what causes the  
658 differences in BOLD responses with age. We need targeted studies focusing on the exact  
659 cognitive and neural mechanisms underlying PMC activity modulation, as well as better  
660 knowledge about possible age-effects on neurovascular coupling. For instance, changes in  
661 factors such as cerebral blood flow, volume and oxygen consumption may influence this  
662 relationship. Different mechanisms may also be active through different phases of life  
663 (D'Esposito et al., 2003). Nevertheless, the E/R flip was related to source memory  
664 performance across the sample, also when controlling for age, indicating that modulation of  
665 activity in this region is relevant for the ability to form and retrieve episodic memories.

#### 666 *PMC as a network hub*

667 The age-related functional differences in the PMC might be related to its communication with  
668 other regions and networks, not only local properties of the region. The PMC shows

669 connectivity with DMN nodes (Cauda et al., 2010), but also to other intrinsically connected  
670 networks, including task-positive fronto-parietal networks which show the opposite activity  
671 patterns to the DMN (Fox et al., 2005). The PMC has wide structural connections (Hagmann  
672 et al., 2008), and the resting state connectivity has been shown to correspond with structural  
673 connectivity measured by DTI (Greicius et al., 2009; Gordon et al., 2011; Horn et al., 2014).  
674 Assuming that PMC flexibility during encoding and retrieval is related to network interactions  
675 with other DMN nodes, we hypothesized that WM microstructure would relate to E/R flip and  
676 source memory performance. While we found a significant interaction between source  
677 memory and age on the structural connectivity measures (MD) in left SLF and left temporal  
678 lobe region, MD in this region was related to retrieval activity and E/R flip on a trend level  
679 only ( $p \sim .10$ ) and not to source memory.

#### 680 *A multi-modal imaging model of episodic memory development*

681 CT contributed indirectly to source memory performance through the E/R flip, and CT was  
682 heavily influenced by age. Consistent with prior reports that consistently show maturation of  
683 CT as thinning of the cortex (Brown and Jernigan, 2012; Mutlu et al., 2013; Nguyen et al.,  
684 2013; Burgaleta et al., 2014; Zielinski et al., 2014; Wierenga et al., 2014b) we evinced  
685 reduction in cortical thickness with advanced age. Hence, in addition to age, both cortical  
686 thickness in a sensory region associated with the memory task, and modulation of activity in  
687 the PMC, accounted for parts of the variance in source memory attributed to age. The source  
688 memory – thickness correlation in early visual cortices was significantly larger in young  
689 participants than in older participants. Retrieval of episodic components depends on re-  
690 activation of respective sensory regions that were active during encoding (Nyberg et al.,  
691 2000). The memory task presumably involved mental imagery, and the interaction of age and

692 source memory performance may reflect maturation of cortical regions needed for successful  
693 encoding and retrieval of visual episodic memories.

694 E/R flip, MD and CT shared some age-related variance in source memory, but only E/R flip  
695 and CT explained unique parts of the variance, 8.1 % and 28.9 % respectively. Decomposing  
696 the E/R flip into encoding and retrieval activity showed that modulation of activity between  
697 encoding and retrieval may provide a unique contribution to explain the age-source memory  
698 development, more so than the separate measures alone. In similar analyses in an aging  
699 sample, Hedden et al. (2016) also reported absence of unique contributions from DTI to age-  
700 related variance in episodic memory. Instead of using apriori defined global brain measures  
701 employed by Hedden and colleagues, we used measures tailored to the study, i.e. extracted  
702 from regions where the relationship with source memory changed with age. While we  
703 expected this to increase specificity to source memory for MD, we did not detect a significant  
704 relationship. The DTI data for the youngest children were however collected in advance of the  
705 fMRI data, which may contribute as a limitation to the null findings. Nonetheless, when  
706 combined in the present study, neuroimaging measures explain a major part of episodic  
707 memory development in this age-range.

#### 708 *Limitations and future directions*

709 Although the sample size is 270, only 21 children were aged 14 years or younger, which  
710 limits the precision in estimating age-trajectories of the youngest part of the sample. Also,  
711 head motion is related to age and can potentially influence the results (Figure 1), even if  
712 precautions are taken at several stages in the analyses. The study design is cross-sectional, and  
713 the results represent age-differences. Interpretation of brain-behavior relationships in periods  
714 of brain development may pose challenges, not least when structure and connectivity is  
715 considered in addition to brain activity alone (McCormick et al., 2017). The participants in

716 the study were healthy and cognitively fit. Selection bias (for example withdrawal- and  
717 survivor bias) and the cross-sectional design may have led to underestimation of the decline  
718 with age, particularly in older parts of the sample (see Nyberg et al. (2010)). A longitudinal  
719 replication attempt would be highly useful to estimate the size of cohort-effects and other  
720 limitations of the study design.

721 The method for defining E/R flip resulted in small ROIs, located on the edge of DMN nodes,  
722 and the parietal memory network. These are neuroanatomically and functionally distinct  
723 regions, and both anatomical variations and differences in parameters used for defining the  
724 ROIs, may affect the overlap between ROIs and networks with possibly opposing activity  
725 patterns. Worth noting is that the E/R flip possibly occurs on border regions between  
726 functionally distinct networks, and the behavior reflected as E/R flip may represent  
727 interaction or integration of activity in anatomically adjacent networks.

728 Future studies should aim to decompose the E/R flip further, to gain better understanding of  
729 the E/R flip function in relation to functional and structural brain networks.

### 730 ***Conclusion***

731 The present results show that pre-adolescence children show less modulation of neural  
732 activity in the PMC during encoding and retrieval operations. The E/R flip does not reach its  
733 peak until adolescence, and decreases from adulthood through old age. Increase in the  
734 dynamic modulation of PMC activity appeared to continue into adulthood, and then declined  
735 monotonously. Ultimately, between 70 and 80 years, a child-like pattern of PMC modulation  
736 was observed. A multi-modal model could account for more than half of the age-related  
737 improvements in episodic memory performance in children and adolescents. The findings  
738 suggest a role of PMC in both emergence and decline of episodic memory.



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995 **Figure legends**

996 Figure 1. Estimated relative motion across all runs, for all included participants. Fit line using  
997 R's loess function with 1.3 span, and standard error marked as shaded area.

998 Figure 2. Scatterplots showing the relationships between age and (left to right): Source  
999 memory, recognition memory, recognition misses, false alarms, and d-prime score, from 6 to  
1000 80 years. Fit line using R's loess function with 1.3 span, and standard error marked as shaded  
1001 area.

1002 Figure 3. Conjunction analysis results based on 55 young adult participants (18.6-30.4 years).  
1003 Top row: Areas shown in blue are significantly deactivated during successful source memory  
1004 encoding. Bottom row: Areas shown in red are significantly activated during successful  
1005 source memory retrieval. Middle row: Green areas represent the area of overlap: The  
1006 Encoding/Retrieval Flip. Significant areas are FDR corrected at  $p < .05$ .

1007 Figure 4. Areas showing significant source memory success activation contrasted with  
1008 baseline shown in warm colors, deactivations in cool colors, during encoding (top), and  
1009 retrieval (bottom). Only vertices significant after FDR correction at the  $p < .05$  level are  
1010 shown.

1011 Figure 5. From left to right: E/R flip by Source memory, E/R flip by age, encoding activity in  
1012 the E/R flip ROI by age, retrieval activity in the E/R flip ROI by age. Fit line using R's loess  
1013 function with 1.3 span, and standard error marked as shaded area.

1014 Figure 6. Hippocampus BOLD activity (parameter estimates) during encoding and retrieval.  
1015 Fit line using R's loess function with 1.3 span, and standard error marked as shaded area.

1016 Figure 7. Hippocampus volume lifespan trajectories for bilateral hippocampi. Fit line using  
1017 R's loess function with 1.3 span, and standard error marked as shaded area.

1018 Figure 8. Comparison of different approaches used for defining the E/R flip. Top left: ER/Flip  
1019 ROI defined using the DM contrast, young adult sample. Middle left: E/R flip ROI defined  
1020 using the baseline contrast, young adult sample (ROI used in the main analyses). Top Right:  
1021 Scatterplot showing individual data points extracted from the E/R flip ROI defined using the  
1022 DM approach. The black line is fitted to the E/R flip defined using the DM approach, while  
1023 the green lines posted for reference represents the E/R flip defined using the baseline  
1024 approach. Lines are fitted using R (ggplot2, loess span = 1.3). Bottom row: E/R flip ROI  
1025 defined using different samples. Bottom left: Complete development sample, 6-30 years, n =  
1026 105. Bottom right: Complete lifespan sample, 6-80 years, n = 270.

1027 Figure 9. Multiple comparisons corrected results showing clusters with a significant source  
1028 memory - CT relation (top), and source memory age interactions (bottom). Analyses are  
1029 based on the developmental subsample with complete multimodal data.

1030 Figure 10. TFCE-corrected ( $p < .05$ ) results showing voxels where the source memory - MD  
1031 relationship differs with age. Effects are filled for readability using `tbss_fill`. Analyses based  
1032 on the developmental subsample with complete multimodal data.

1033 Figure 11. Scatterplots showing the data entered in the SEM model for source memory  
1034 development from 6 to 30 years. Left to right: Source memory, E/R flip, MD and CT. Lines  
1035 are fitted to the data using R's loess function with 1.3 span, and standard error displayed as  
1036 shaded area.

1037 Figure 12. Structural equation models. A: Initial model, B: Final model, C: Final model with  
1038 encoding and retrieval entered separately. Numbers on paths represent standardized partial  
1039 regression weights. Analyses are based on the developmental subsample with complete  
1040 multimodal data.

1041

1042

1043 **Tables**

1044 **Table 1: FIX performance**

Threshold	1	2	<b>5</b>	10	20	30	40	50
True positive (signal)	98,5	98,5	<b>97</b>	95,6	94,2	90,7	88,9	87,8
True negative (noise)	39,3	47,6	<b>57,3</b>	66,5	75,6	79,4	82,8	87,6

1045

1046 Table 1. Classification accuracy over a range of thresholds, tested using the training set  
 1047 consisting of 16 participants. The chosen threshold 5 is shown in bold.

1048 **Table 2: Demographics and behaviour performance**

	Sample		
	Development	Aging	Total
N (female/male)	105 (61/44)	165 (106/59)	270 (167/103)
Mean age (range)	19.4 (6.8–30.4)	55.8 (30.8–80.8)	41.66 (6.8-80.8)
Source Memory	53.2 % (16.4)	49.7 % (13.8)	51.1 % (14.9)
Recognition	75.7 % (11.1)	74.1 % (10.6)	74.7 % (10.8)
Misses	21.3 % (10.7)	22.4 % (10.2)	21.7 % (10.4)
False Alarms	4.5 % (5.8)	6.4 % (4.5)	5.7 % (5.1)
d' (d-prime)	2.58 (0.61)	2.27 (0.52)	2.39 (0.57)

1049

1050 Table 2. Demographics and memory performance scores for the development sample (left),  
 1051 the aging sample (middle), and the total sample (right). Range is shown for age, while the  
 1052 standard deviation is shown in the parentheses for the memory performance measures. The d-  
 1053 prime measure was derived from recognition and false alarms.

1054

1055 **Table 3: Correlation matrix**

Sex	1						
Age	-.026	1					
Src mem	.064	<b>.328</b>	1				
d-prime	.120	.106	<b>.573</b>	1			
E/R flip	-.077	.207	<b>.296</b>	<b>.409</b>	1		
MD	.088	-.153	-.097	-.141	-.172	1	
CT	-.113	<b>-.446</b>	<b>-.262</b>	-.018	<b>-.219</b>	.129	1
Motion	-.095	<b>-.599</b>	<b>-.435</b>	<b>-.234</b>	<b>-.222</b>	<b>-.344</b>	<b>-.331</b>
	Sex	Age	Src mem	d-prime	E/R flip	MD	CT

1056

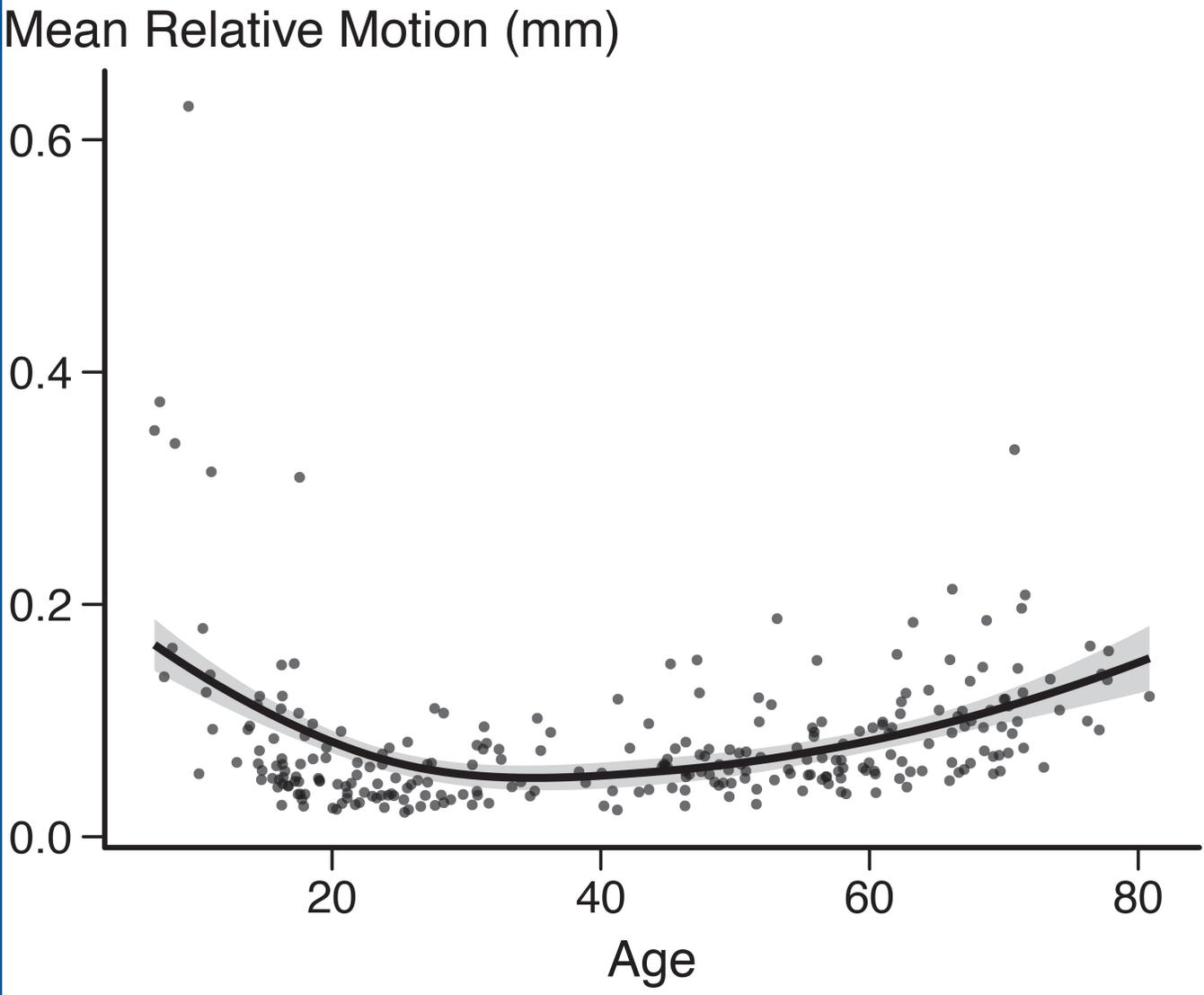
1057 Table 3. Pearson correlation matrix. Variables from top to bottom: Sex: female = 1, male = 2;  
 1058 Age; Source memory; recognition d-prime; PMC E/R flip; Corrected MD; CT. Significant  
 1059 correlations marked in bold ( $p < .05$ ). Data from the developmental subsample with complete  
 1060 multi-modal data (n=90, 6-30 years).

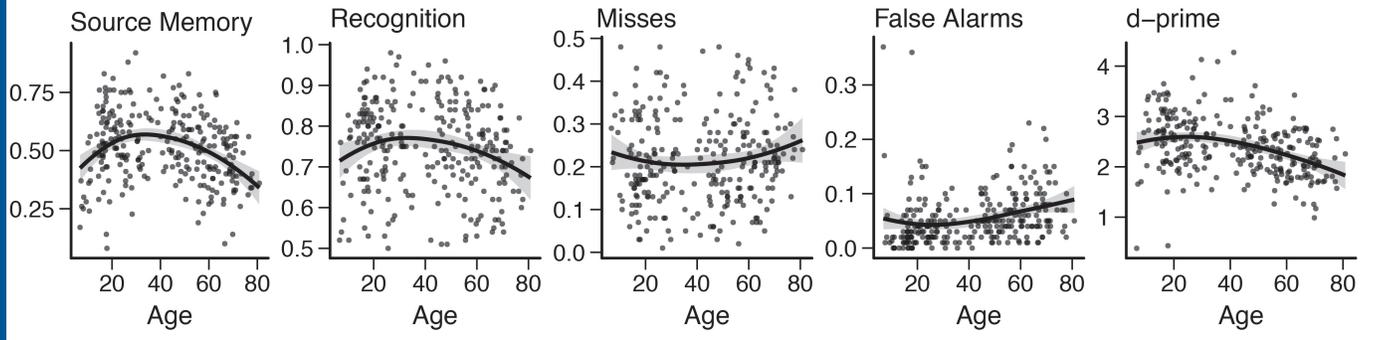
1061 **Table 4: Partial correlations**

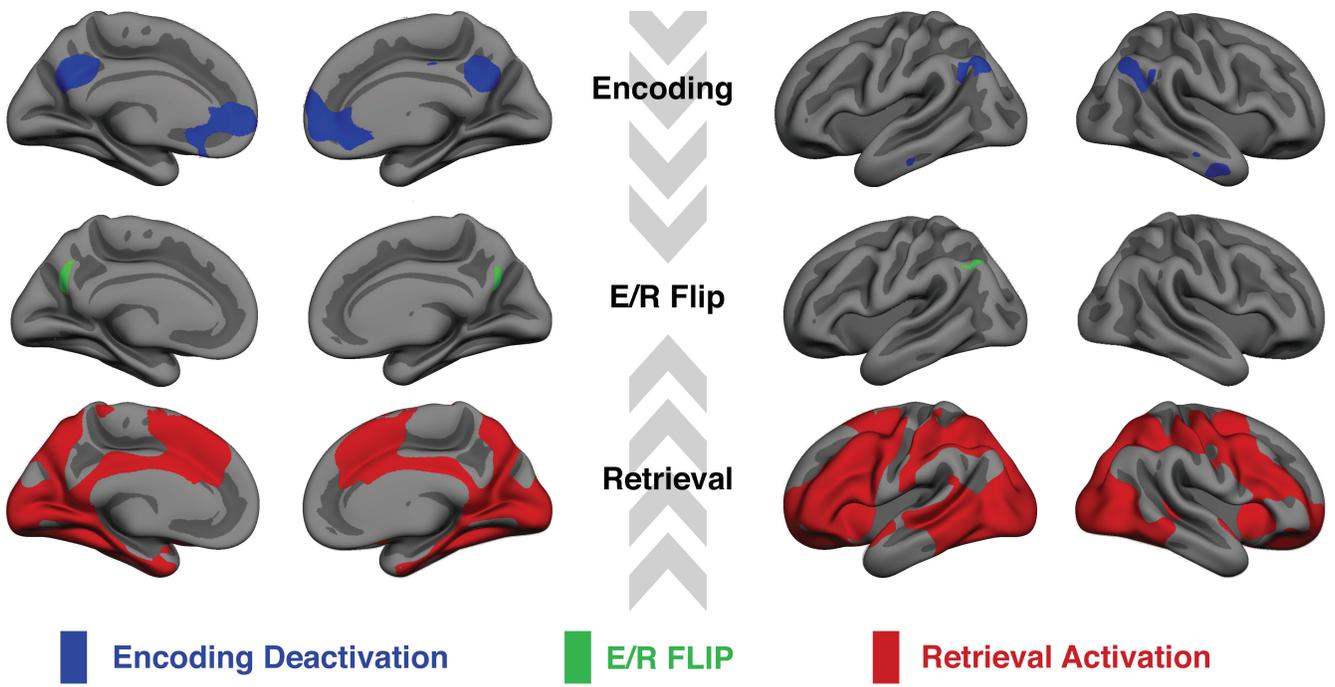
Bk	A-C	A-C · Bk	A-C · B≠k	Shared %	Unique %
FLIP	0.33	0.29	0.24	<b>24.5 %</b>	<b>8.1 %</b>
MD	0.33	0.32	0.22	<b>6.0 %</b>	<b>0.4 %</b>
CT	0.33	0.24	0.28	<b>44.7 %</b>	<b>28.9 %</b>
All brain markers (B≠k)	0.33	0.22		<b>55.0 %</b>	

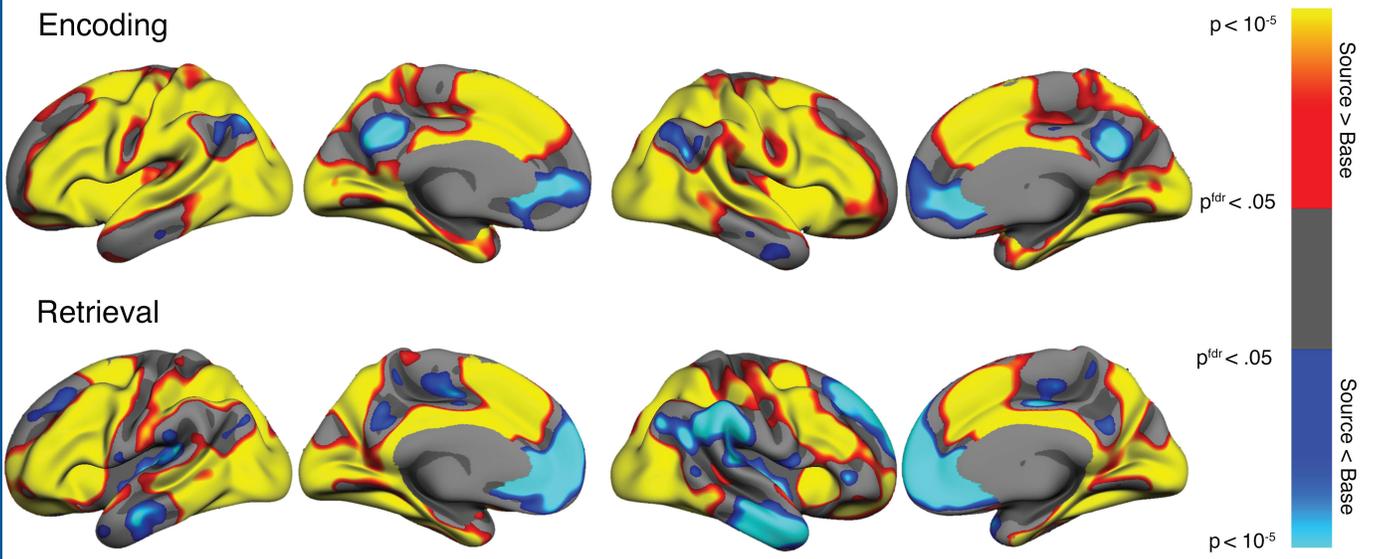
1062

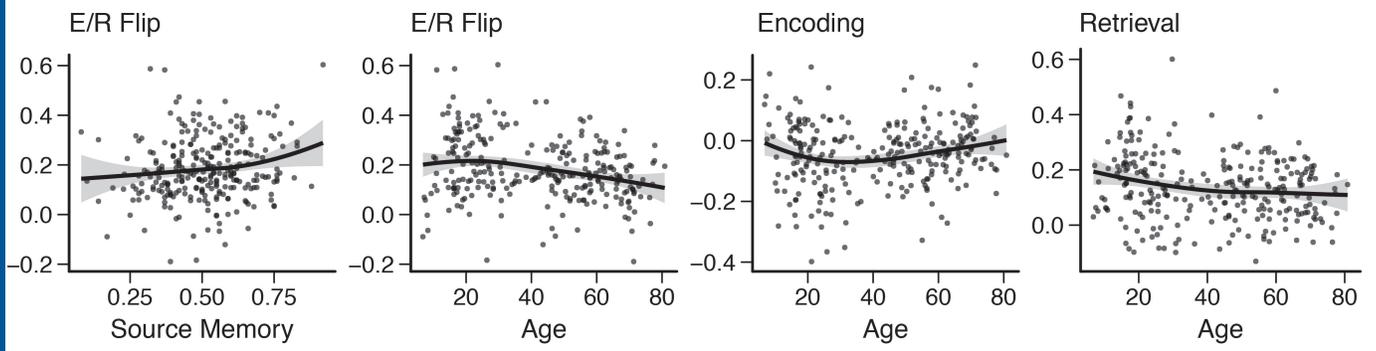
1063 Table 4. Correlations and partial correlations between age (A), Source memory (C), and brain  
 1064 markers Bk where B≠k is the set of all brain markers (E/R flip, MD and CT), and B≠k is  
 1065 all brain markers excluding the kth marker. Shared % is the percentage of variance in the age  
 1066 – source memory relationship that is shared with the brain marker. Unique % is the  
 1067 percentage of variance in the age – source memory relationship that is uniquely accounted for  
 1068 when all other brain markers have been partialled out.

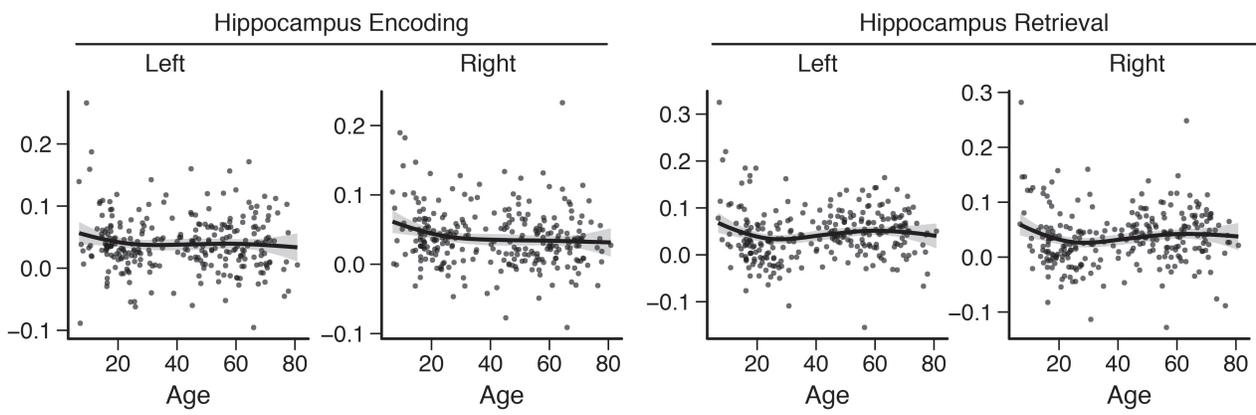




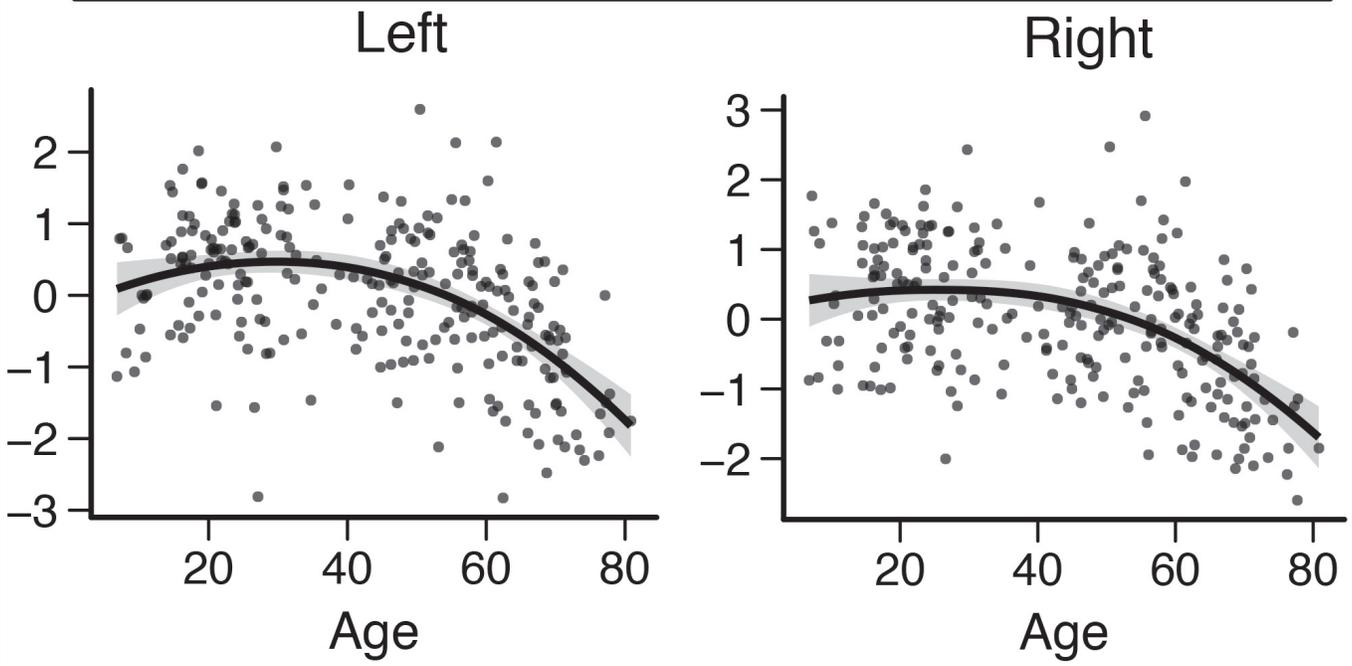




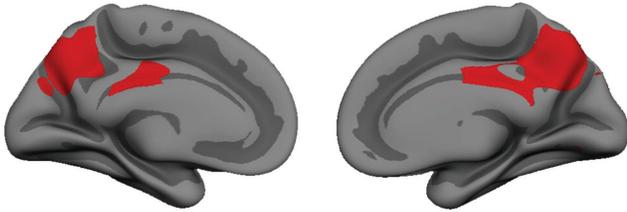




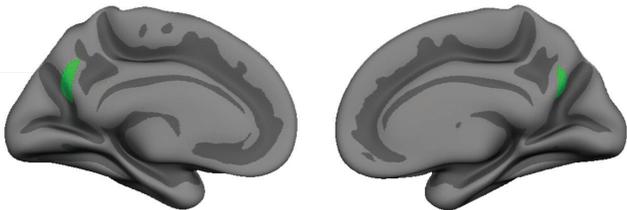
### Hippocampus Volume



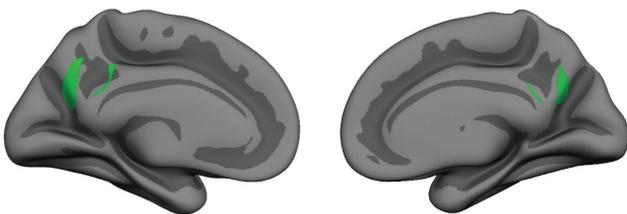
Source Memory vs. Miss  
18-30 years, n = 55



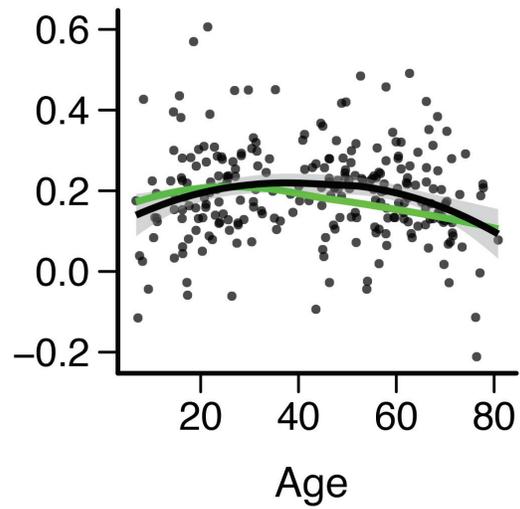
Source Memory vs. Baseline  
18-30 years, n = 55



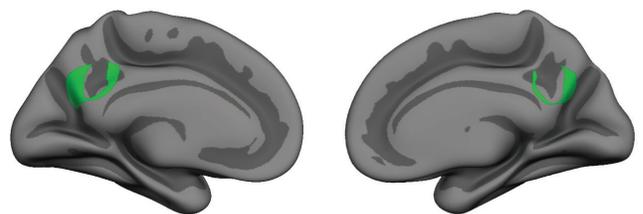
Source Memory vs. Baseline  
6-30 years, n = 115



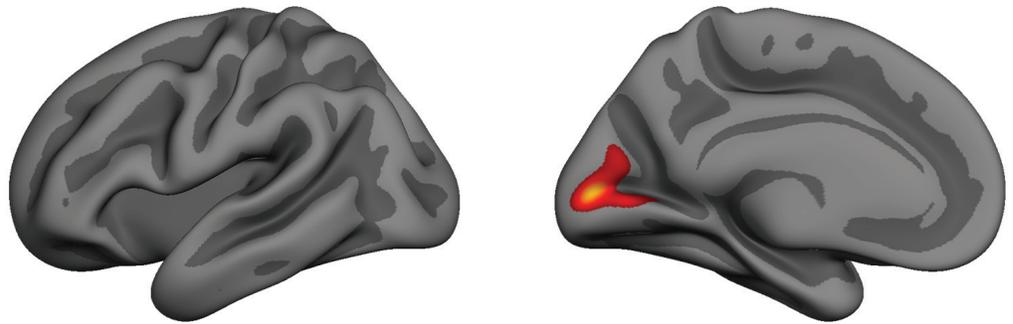
E/R FLip



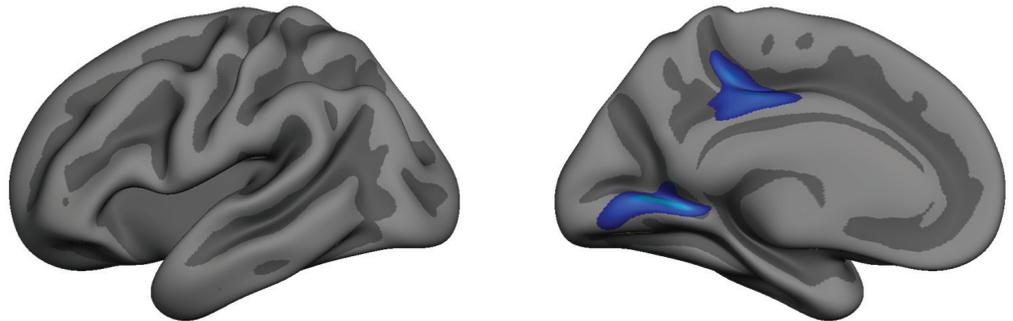
Source Memory vs. Baseline  
6-80 years, n = 270

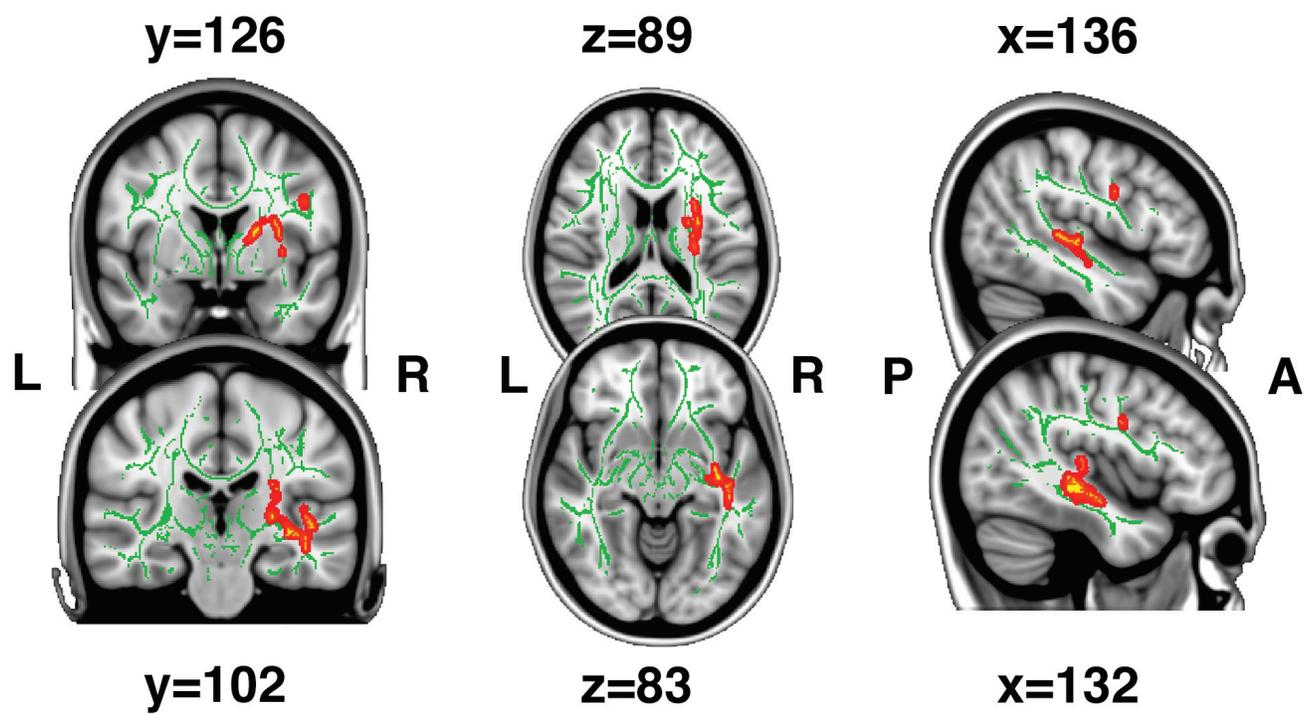


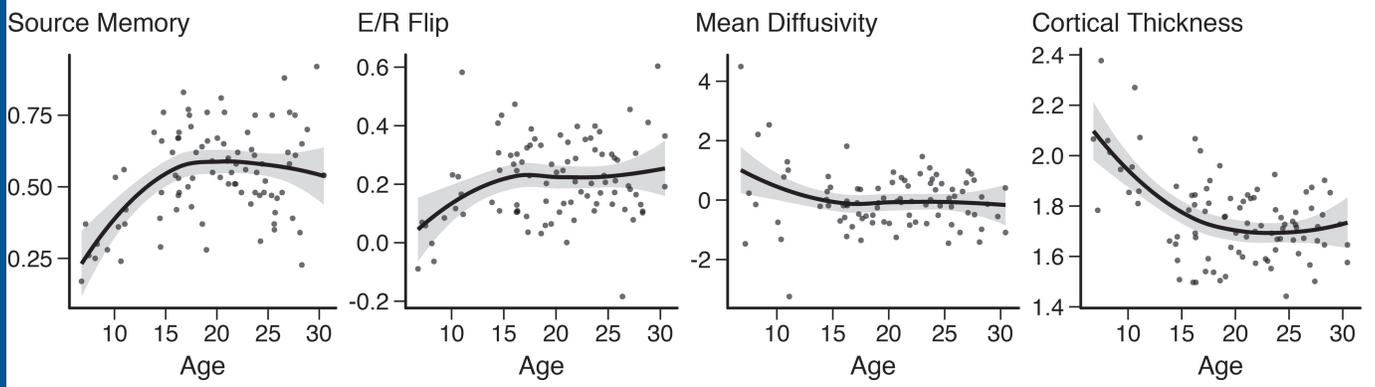
Source Memory x Age (CT)

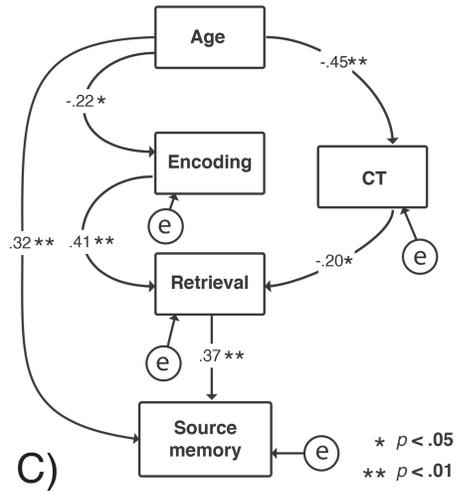
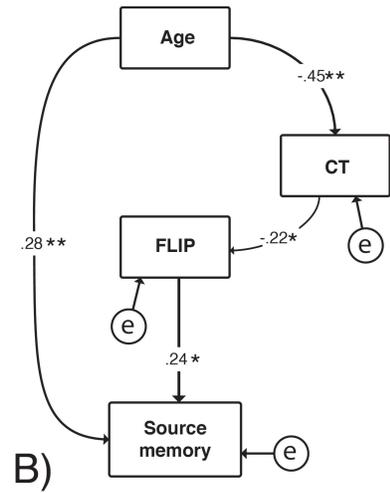
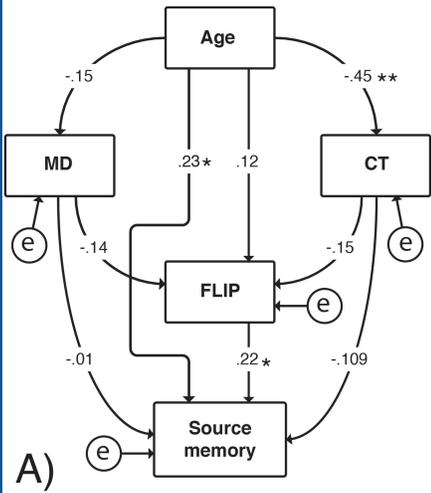


Source Memory (CT)









\*  $p < .05$   
 \*\*  $p < .01$