- We have responded to the reviewers' comments in this document.
- In the revised version of the manuscript, changes are highlighted in red with track changes.

Reviewer 1

We are thankful for the reviewer's valuable additional comments.

Minor points:
1) I would suggest including references to support the definition of "metacognition" (Line 72) and the hypothesis (or perhaps assumption) that "similarity judgments involve a type of implicit metacognition"(Line 73).

We thank the reviewer for bringing this to our attention. We added references in lines 72 and 73: "Metacognition is commonly defined as the monitoring (and control) of one's own cognitive abilities (Morales et al., 2018). In the present study, we hypothesize that similarity judgments involve a type of implicit metacognition (Lau et al., 2022). When we make a similarity judgment, it reflects our own perceptual capacities."

2) It is possible to directly evaluate the significance of the null result. Authors may refer to equivalence tests (Lakens et al., 2018).
Reference:
Lakens, D., Scheel, A. M., & Isager, P. M. (2018). Equivalence testing for psychological research: A tutorial. Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science, 1(2), 259–269. https://doi.org/10.1177/2515245918770963

We appreciate the reviewer's suggestion to use an equivalence test to examine the significance of the null result. We agree that this could be a valuable addition, providing further insight into the effect when the null hypothesis is not rejected (i.e., a non-significant finding). We added the equivalence test in the "Analysis plan" section in lines 393-398:
"Furthermore, we note that if the 95% confidence interval of the group-mean z-value includes zero (i.e., a non-significant finding), we incorporate an equivalence test (Lakens et al., 2018) to further assess the significance of the null result (i.e., how confidently the effect can be considered non-significant). We assume a group-mean z-value range of -0.5 to 0.5 as the smallest effect size of interest; thus, if the 95% confidence interval falls within this range, we regard the effect to be confidently null. "