

Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (CCA1): Integration of Connectionist Elements into a Symbolic Framework

Howard Schneider
Sheppard Clinic North, Toronto, Canada

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Joint VR Track October 10-11, 2020

****TEMPORARY NOTE -- REMOVE THIS SLIDE BEFORE PRESENTATION****

DUE TO CHANGES IN CONFERENCE FORMAT IN 2020 THESE SLIDES TO BE
PRESENTED VIA JOINT VIRTUAL REALITY TRACK OCT 10-11/2020

MATERIAL BELOW CAN BE PRESENTED IN SESSION 15 MINUTES – 60 MINUTES
MATERIAL PRESENTED WILL BE ADJUSTED TO TIME ALLOCATION

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Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (“CCA1”)

- Why do work on this subject? ←
- Why yet another cognitive architecture?
- What is the CCA1?

The problem: The Neural Symbolic Gap



- **Neural Network** – phenomenal image processing and reinforcement learning
- **Child** – phenomenal causal learning with few examples (eg, Gopnik)



**“panda”
57.7% confidence**

+



=



**“gibbon”
99.3 % confidence**

Goodfellow,I.J., Shlens,J. and Szegedy,C. (Google Mountainview), Explaining and Harnessing Adversarial Examples, ICLR 2015.

It's still a Panda – and the 3 year old boy would know this!!
(and.... 3 year old only needs 1 or 2 photos for training, not 1000s)





Deep Learning Neural Network

Pattern Recognition
→Recognize the World

Need 1000's examples for learning

3 Year Old Human Child

Model Building +also Pattern Recognition
→Explain the World

A few examples enough

Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (“CCA1”)

- Why do work on this subject?
- Why yet another cognitive architecture? ←
- What is the CCA1?

1 slide primer: “What is a Cognitive Architecture?”

a theory about structure/functioning of
<biological> mind

+

formalized enough to be basis of a
computer program

Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (CCA1)

- Mesoscopic brain inspired cognitive architecture – good balance of low/mid level and high level components and features
- One pragmatic solution to the neural-symbolic problem

Inspiration from other Cognitive Architectures

- ACT-R – central procedural module through limited capacity controls peripheral modules
- ART – attentional vs orienting system
- CLARION – connectionist + rule induction
- Recommendation Arch – limit information handling resources
- SOAR – procedural/reinforcement learning, semantic learning, episodic learning

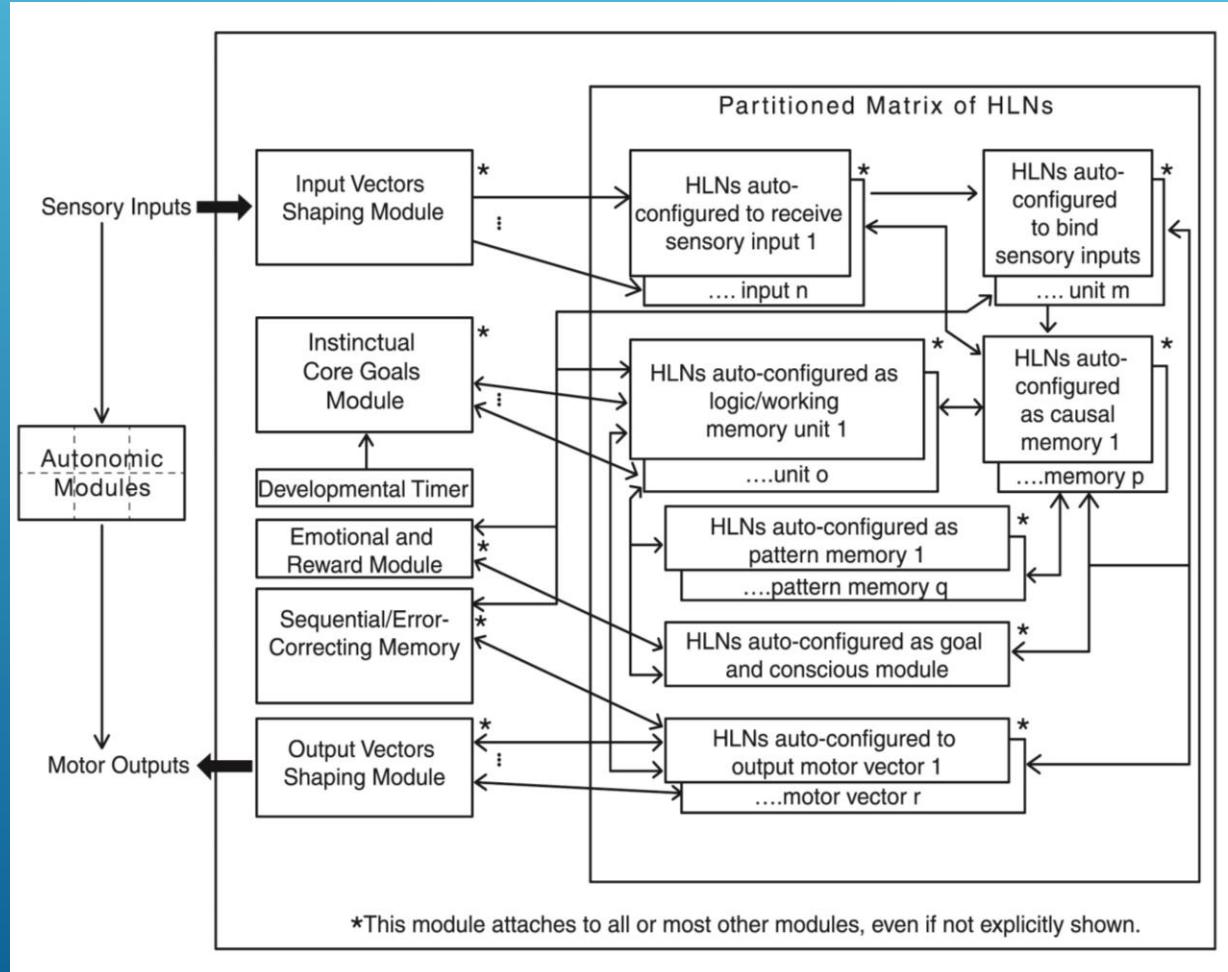
Why do this work? -- Hopes for the CCA1:

1. Technology producing functional behavior
(subsymbolic operation)
2. Technology producing AGI
(causal symbolic operation)
3. AGI: simple human to superintelligence
levels
4. Useful insight into mesoscopic brain
function and pathology

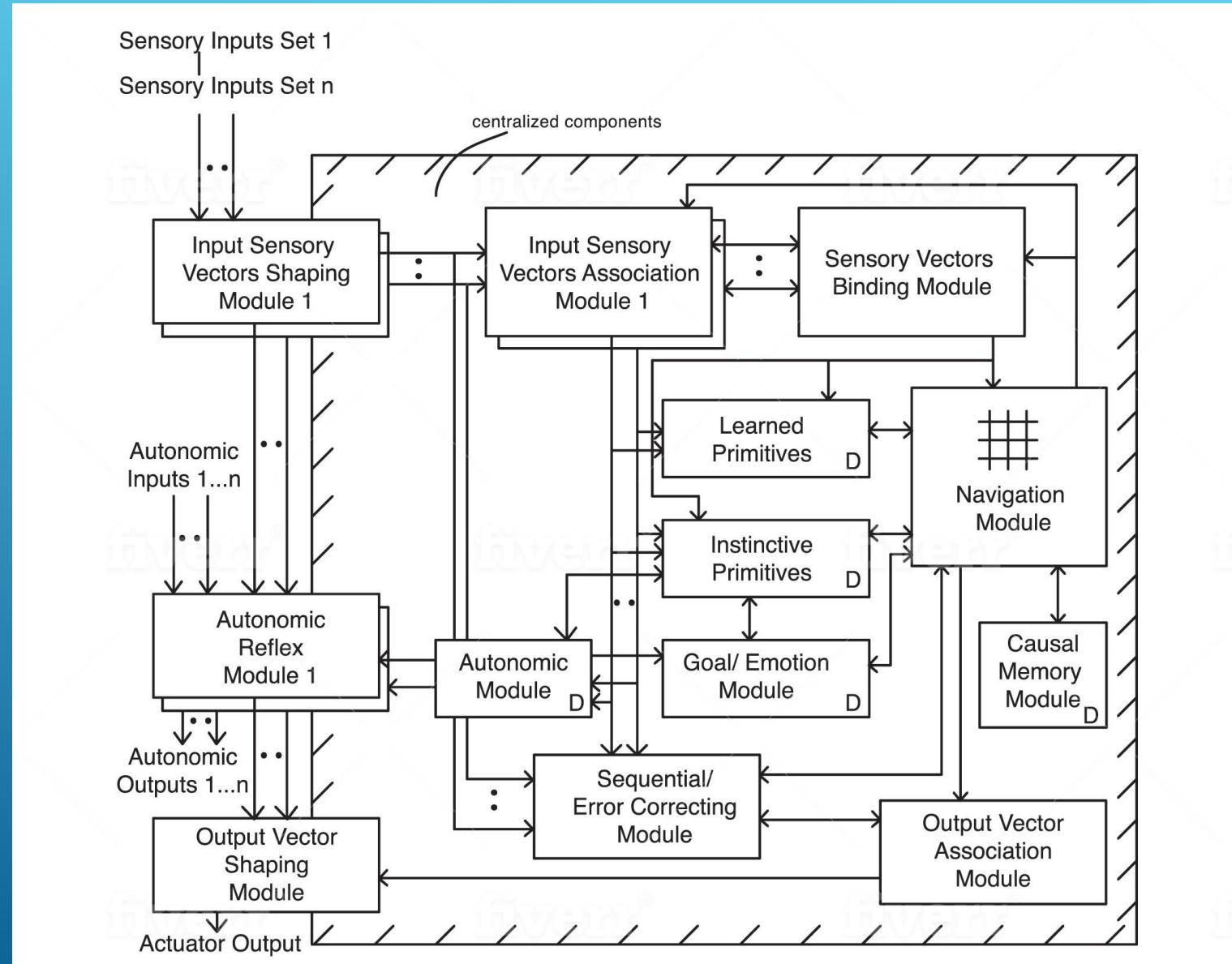
Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (“CCA1”)

- Why yet another cognitive architecture?
- Why do work on this subject?
- What is the CCA1? ←

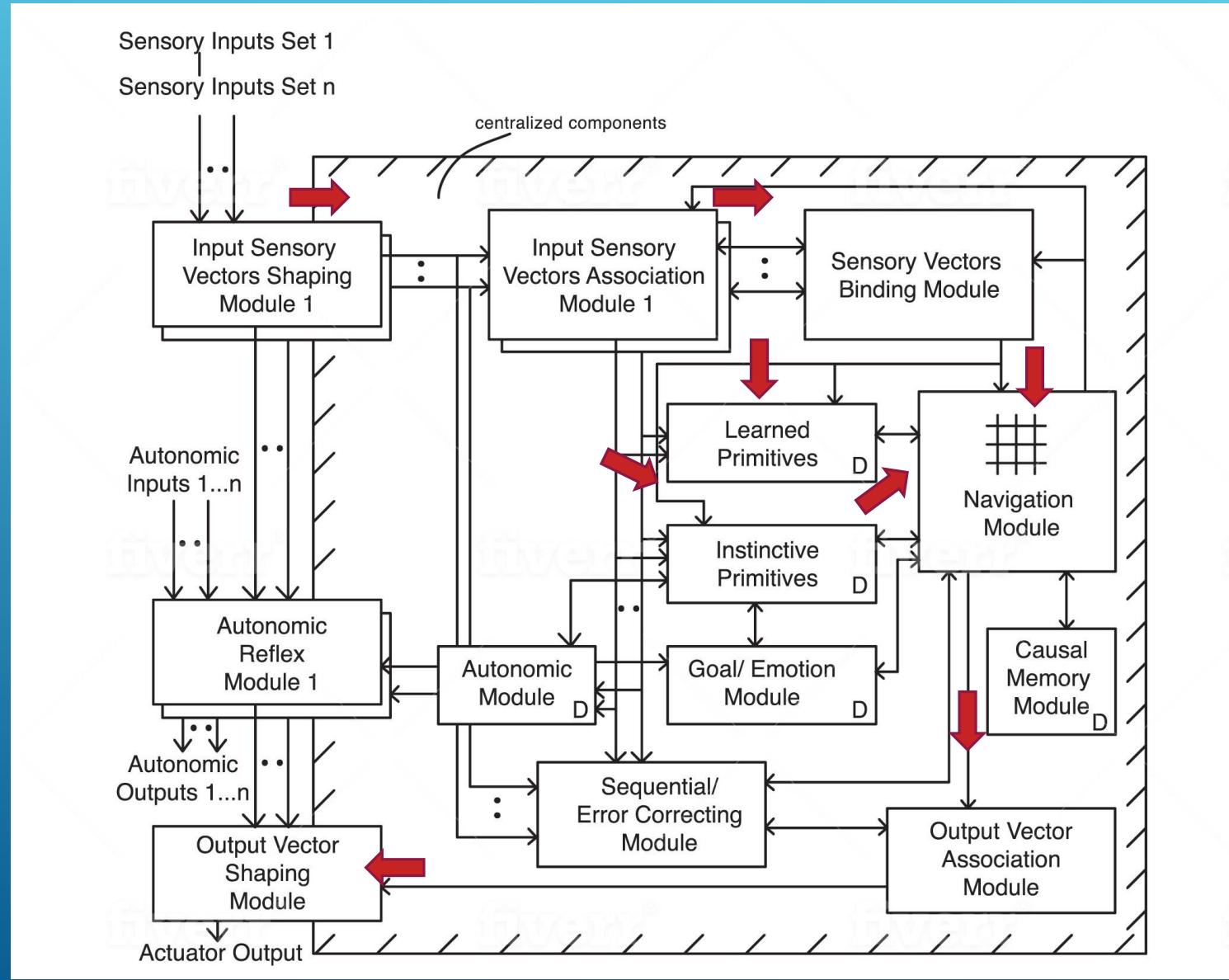
Derived from my previous work on the Meaningful-Based Cognitive Architecture



Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (CCA1)



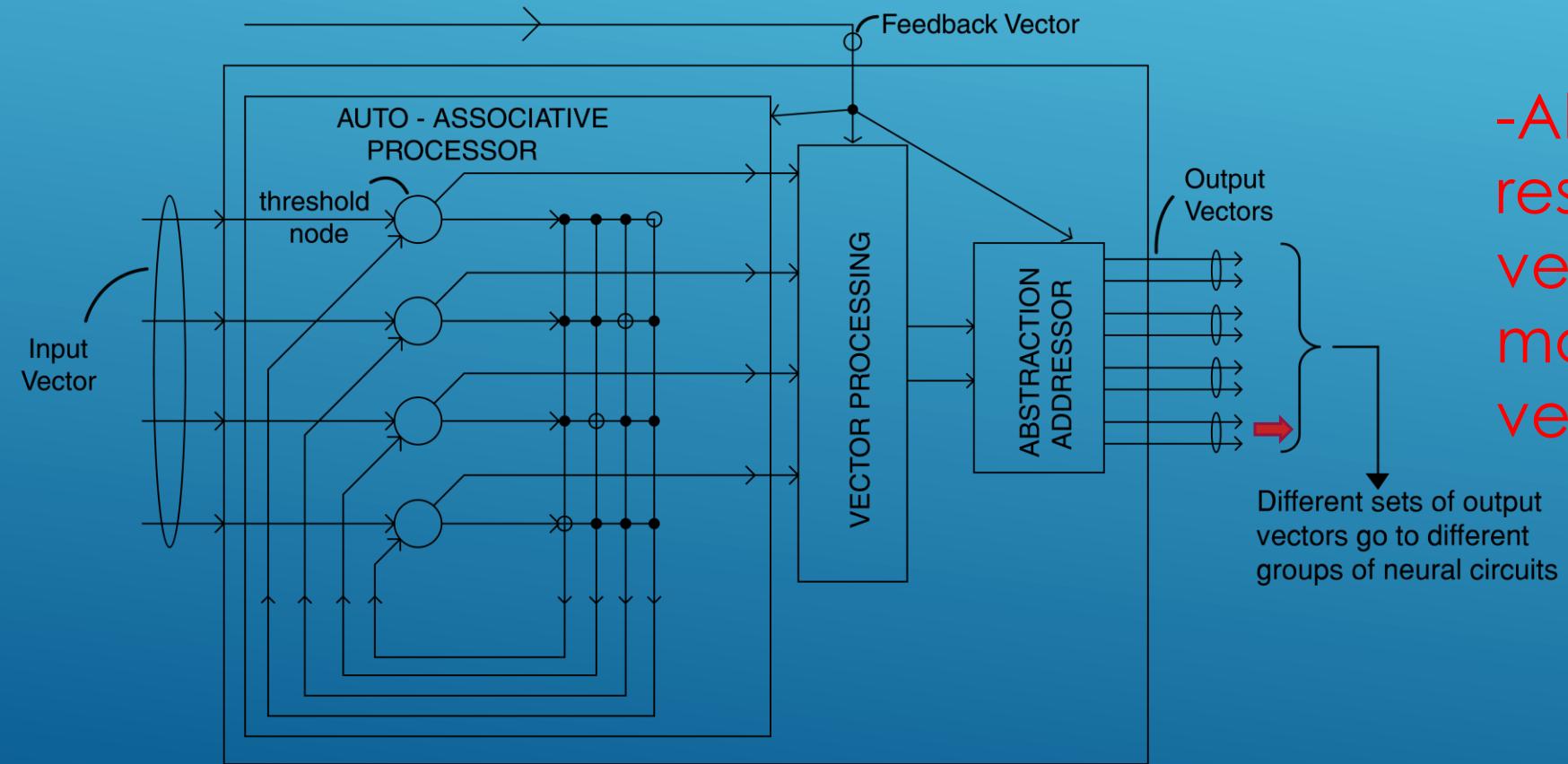
Sensory Inputs -> Association Modules & Binding
-> Navigation Module -> Output Process -> Motor Outputs



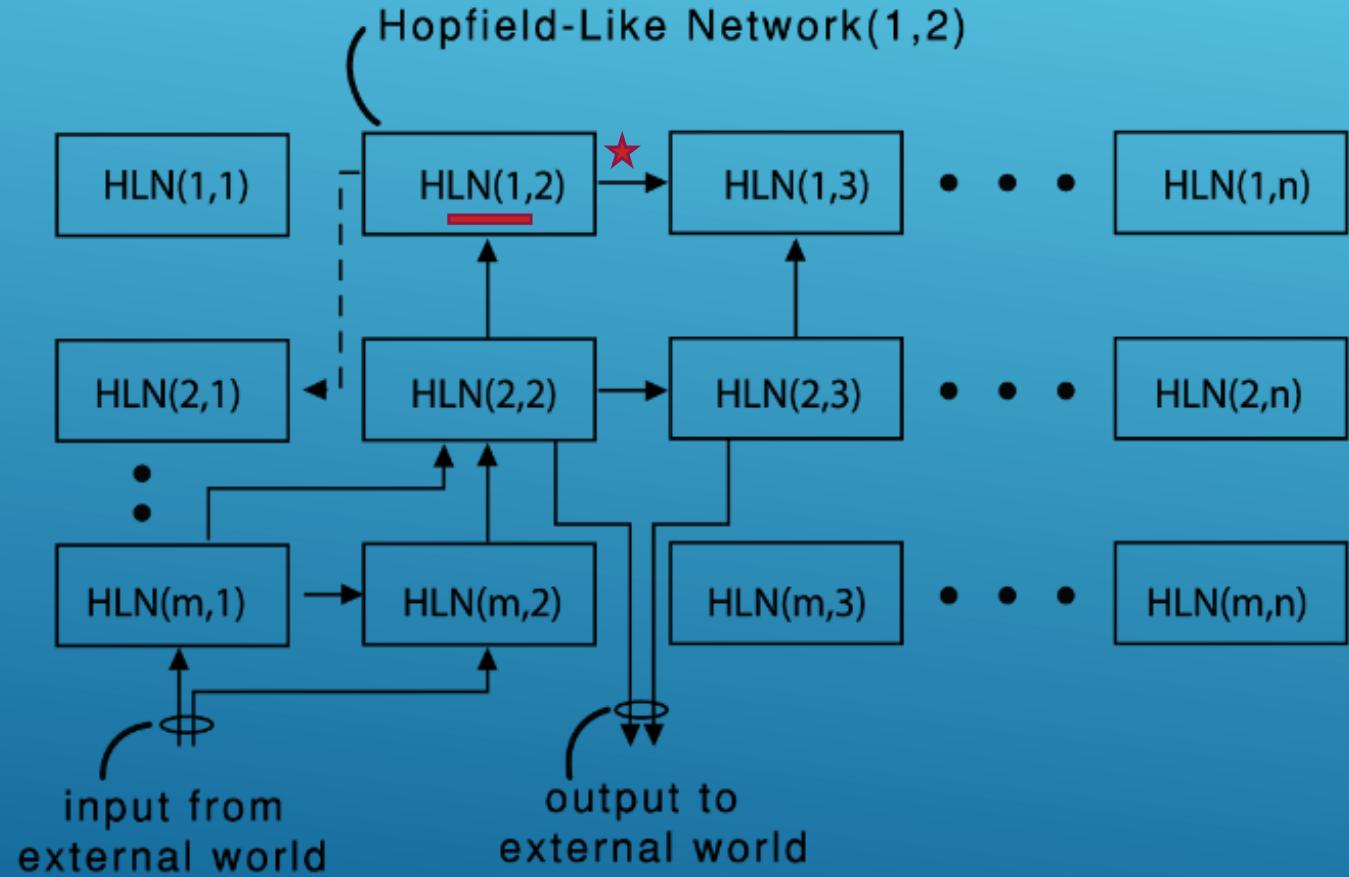
Basic Unit: Hopfield-like Network ('HLN')

-Auto-Associative Processor is a pattern recognizer

-Abstraction addressor in response to the feedback vector, decides which of many possible output vectors to use



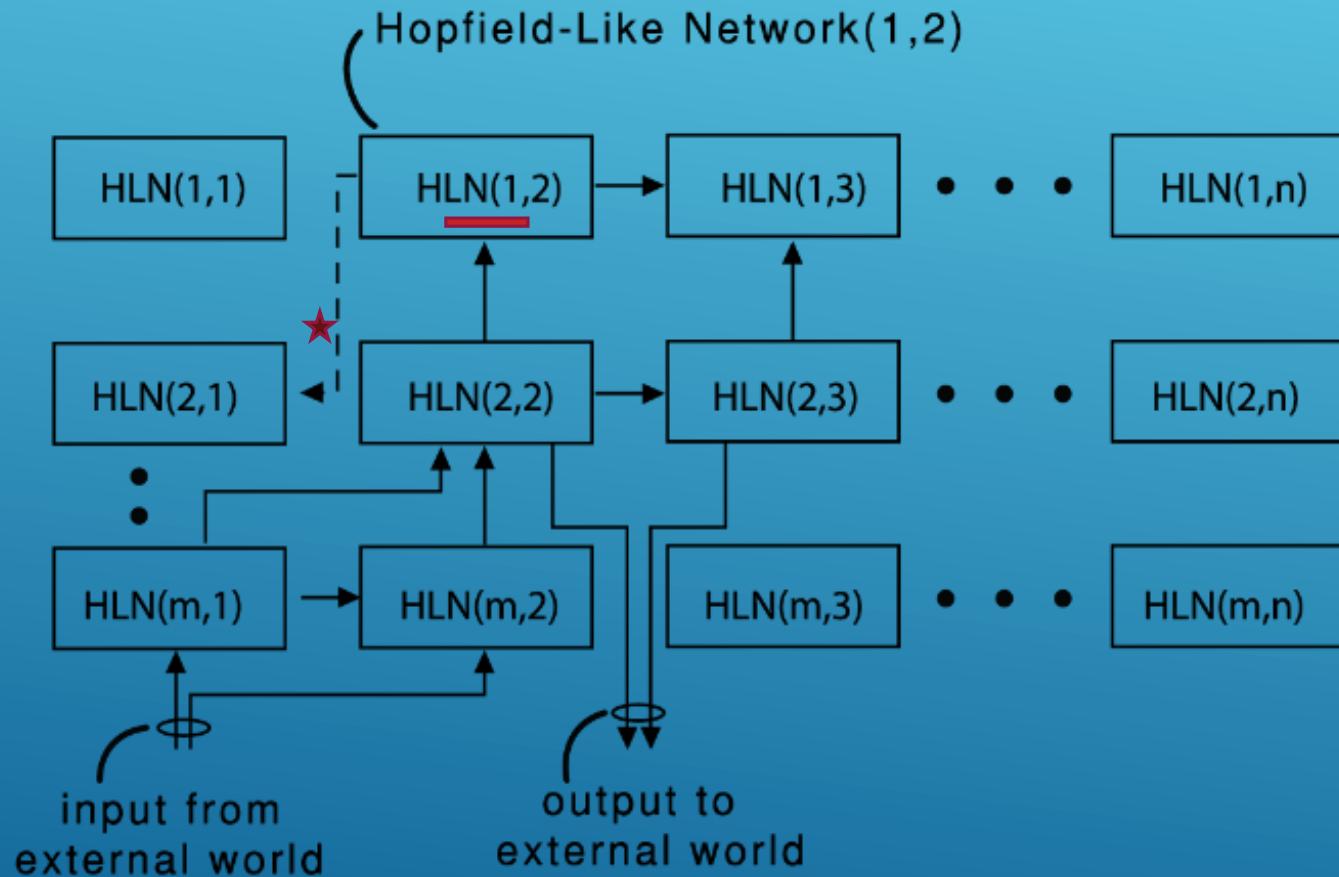
Weights between HLNs ← extreme rapid reconfigurations



← **HLN(1,2)** attaches to both
HLN(1,3) and **HLN(2,1)**

Which HLN do we connect to other HLN?

→ **Try to Maximize Meaningfulness**



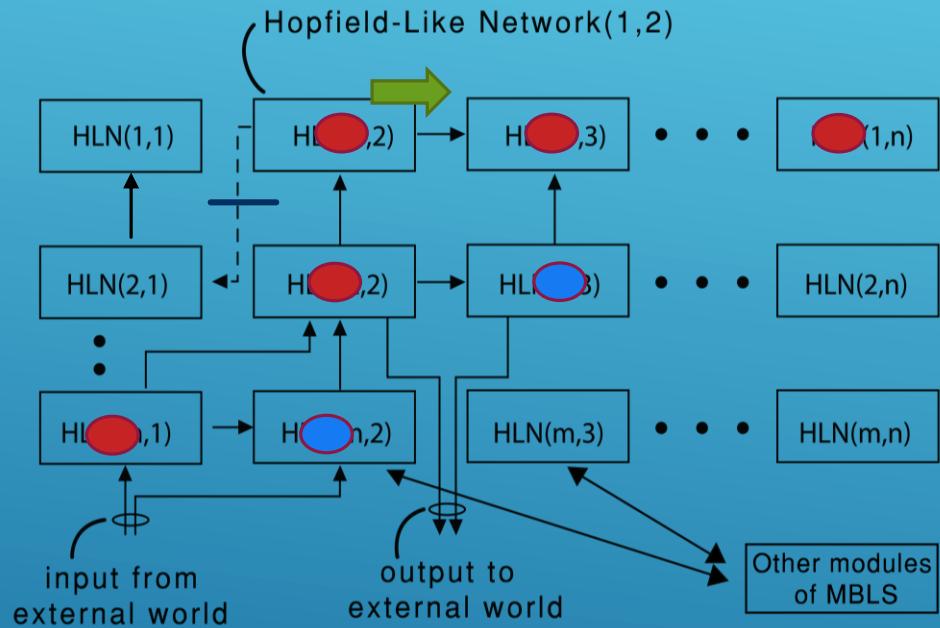
What is *Meaningfulness* ?

$$H = -\sum_i P(x_i) \log_2 P(x_i) \quad \leftarrow \text{Shannon entropy}$$

$$M = 1/H \quad \leftarrow \text{Meaningfulness}$$

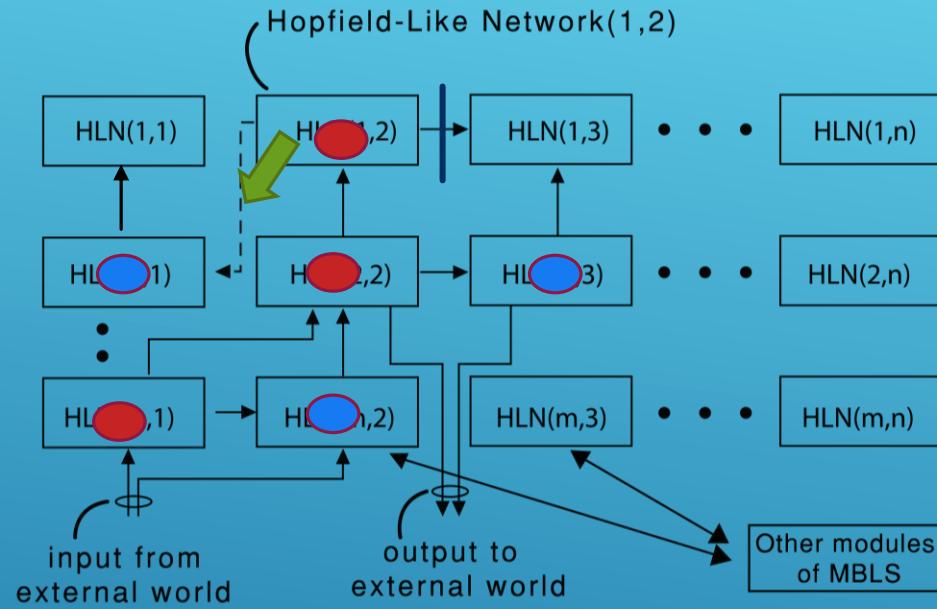
Unfair coin: Tails, Tails, Heads, Tails, Tails, Tails
Therefore, low entropy, high meaningfulness

Meaningfulness – via Shannon Entropy



Reconfiguration A

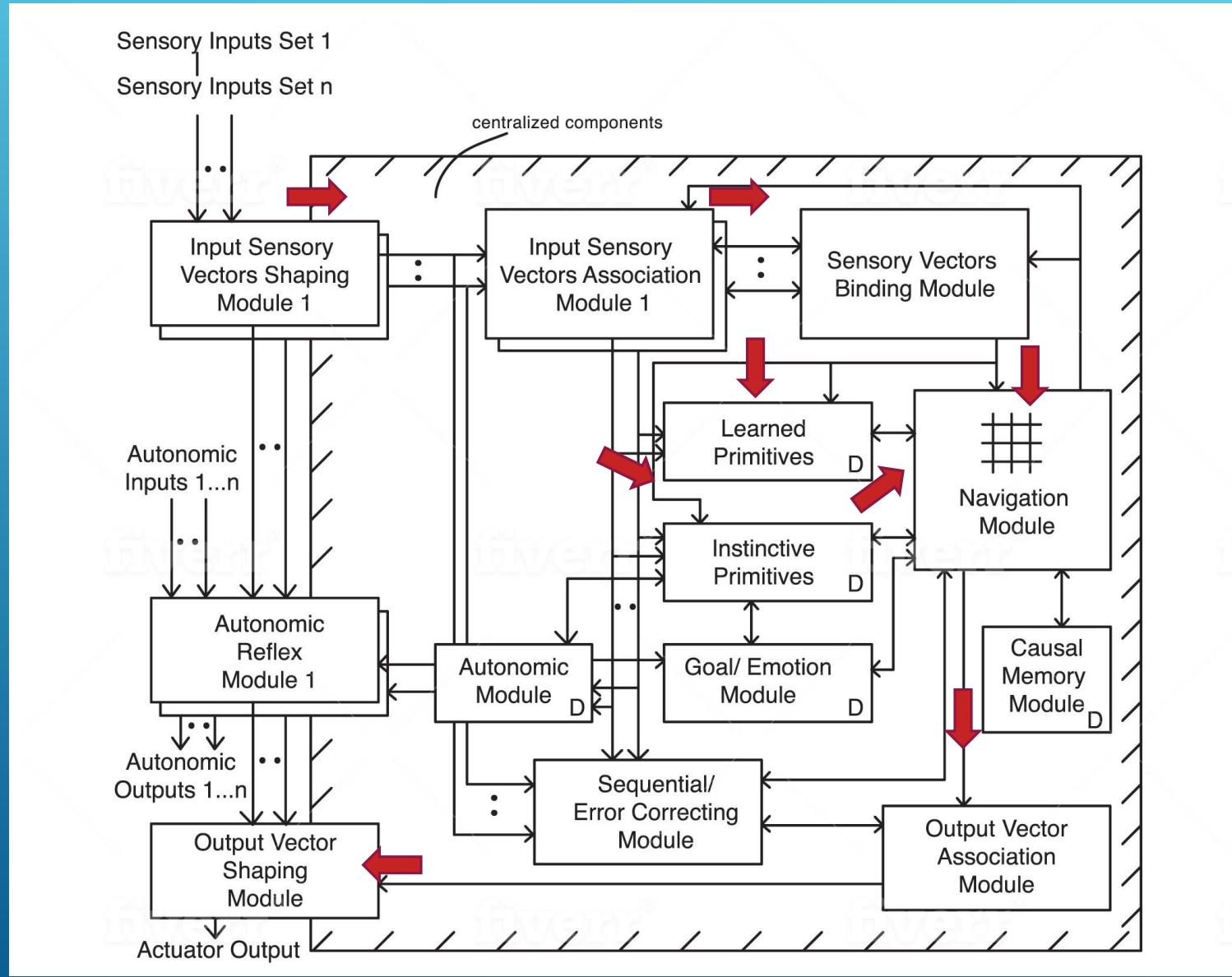
5 HLN 'On', 2 HLN 'Off' vs.
 $p(\text{ON})=5/7, p(\text{OFF})=2/7$ vs.
 $H=0.86 \rightarrow M=1.2$
(via Counting: 5 on



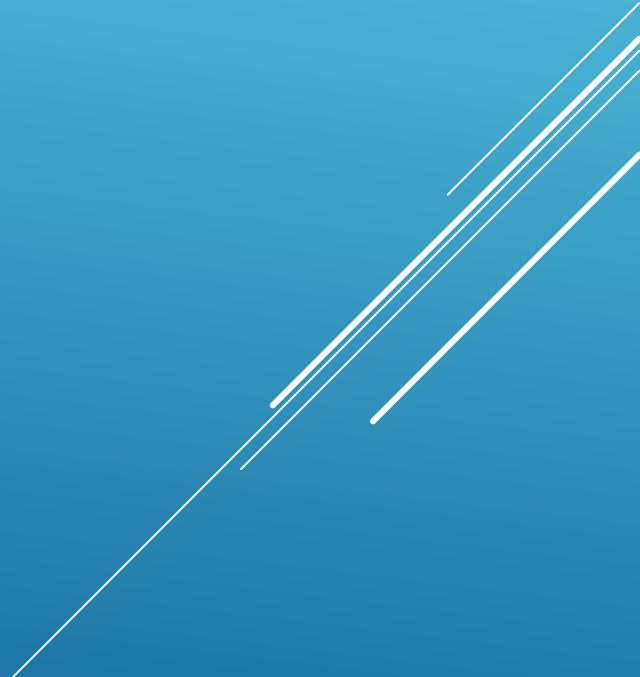
Reconfiguration B

3 HLN 'On', 3 HLN 'Off' vs.
 $p(\text{ON})=3/6, p(\text{OFF})=3/6$ vs.
 $H=1.0 \rightarrow M=1.0$
via Counting: 3 on)

CCA1 – Let's see some examples how it works.....



Hiker lost in the woods.....



Robot goes to the forest to save the hiker....



← Robot

← Controlled by an CCA1

As convenience, I will say: "**CCA1**"
“CCA1” = Robot + CCA1

Choose pre-causal functioning of CCA1

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Please choose type of "hippocampus"/"brain" which, of course, only loosely approximates the biological equivalent:

1. Lamprey hippocampal/brain analogue
 2. Fish hippocampal/telencephalon analogue
 3. Reptile hippocampal/pallium analogue 
 4. Mammalian hippocampus - note: meaningfulness, precausal
 5. Human hippocampus - note: meaningfulness plus full causal features
 6. Augmented Human level 1 - simultaneous multiple navigational threads
 7. Augmented Human level 2 - algorithm center in each navigational module
- Please make a selection: ■

CCA1 must navigate to the lost hiker's square

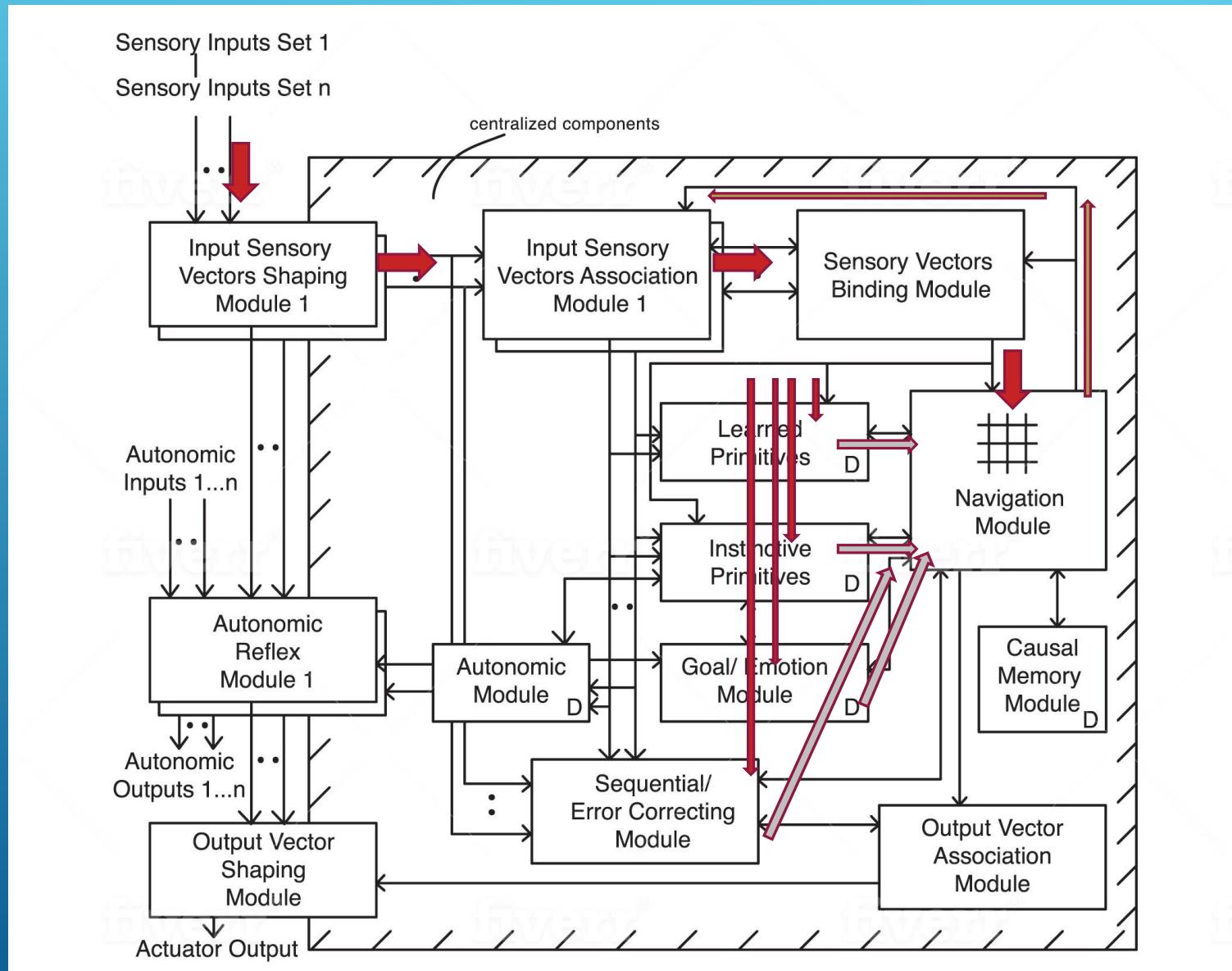
0:~ Command Prompt - cca1_2020

hiker position set to: 4 2

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		CCA1 *		forest		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE
EDGE		lake		forest		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

CCA1 – perception....

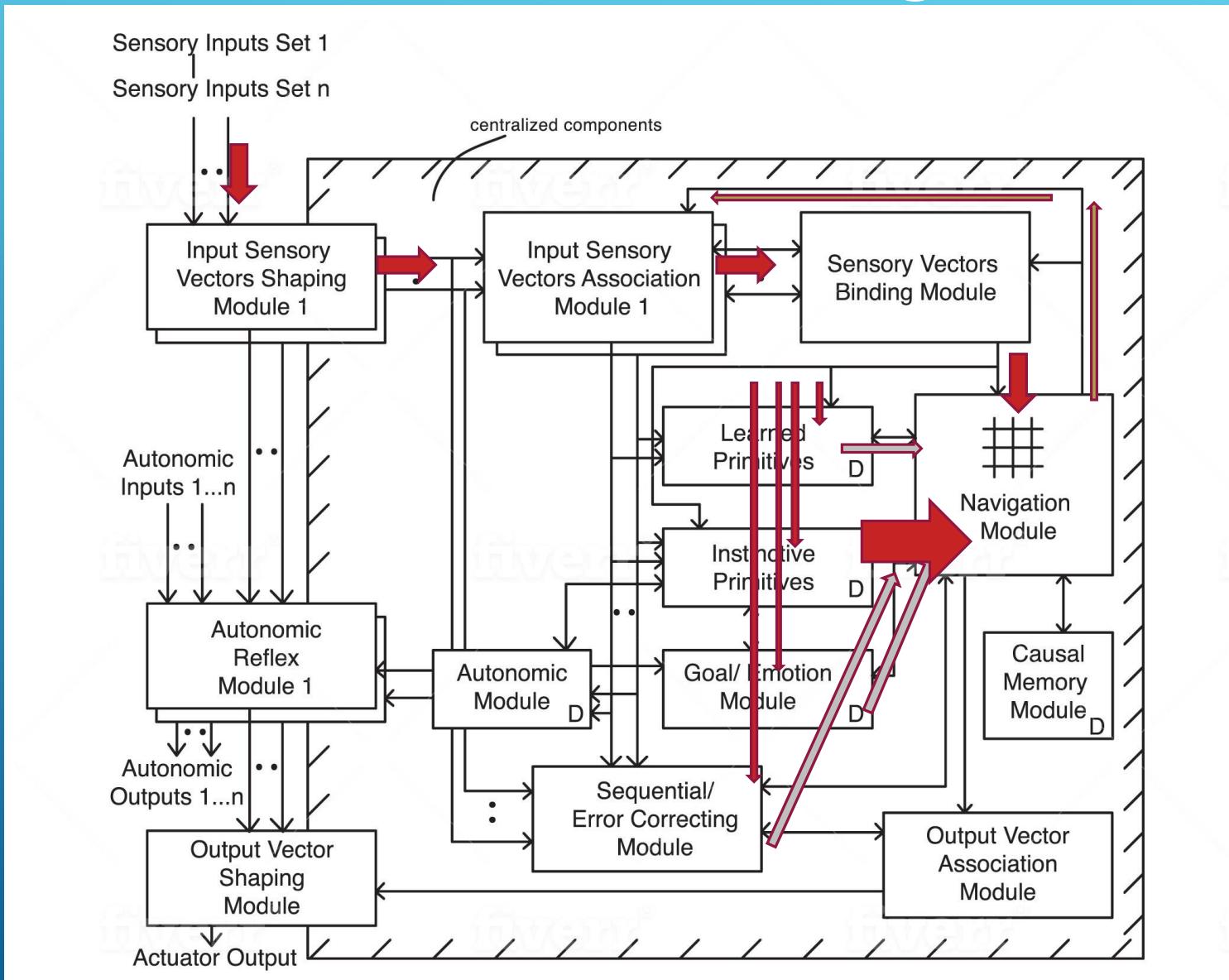


CCA1 builds up internal map from perceptions (and processing) in N, E, S, W directions

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

EDGE		EDGE								EDGE	
EDGE		explored*		forest							
		lake									
EDGE										EDGE	

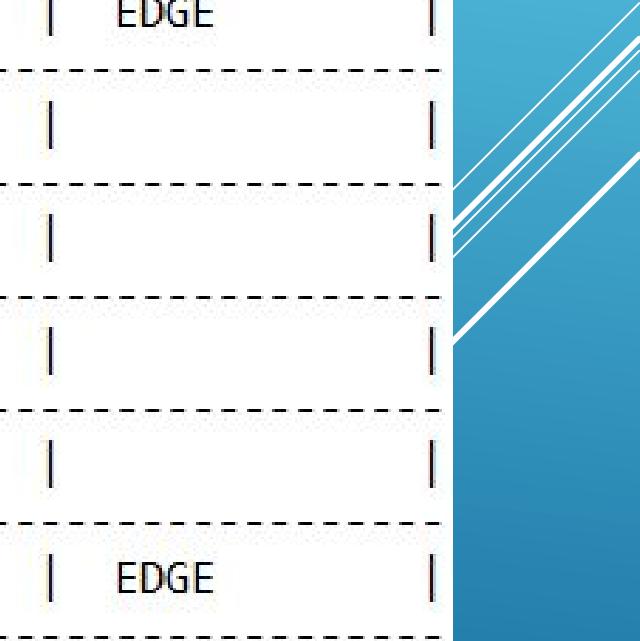
Lake (deep water) – Instinctive Primitive – do not go Forest – Instinctive Primitive – no signal



CCA1 builds up internal map from perceptions (and processing) in N, E, S, W directions

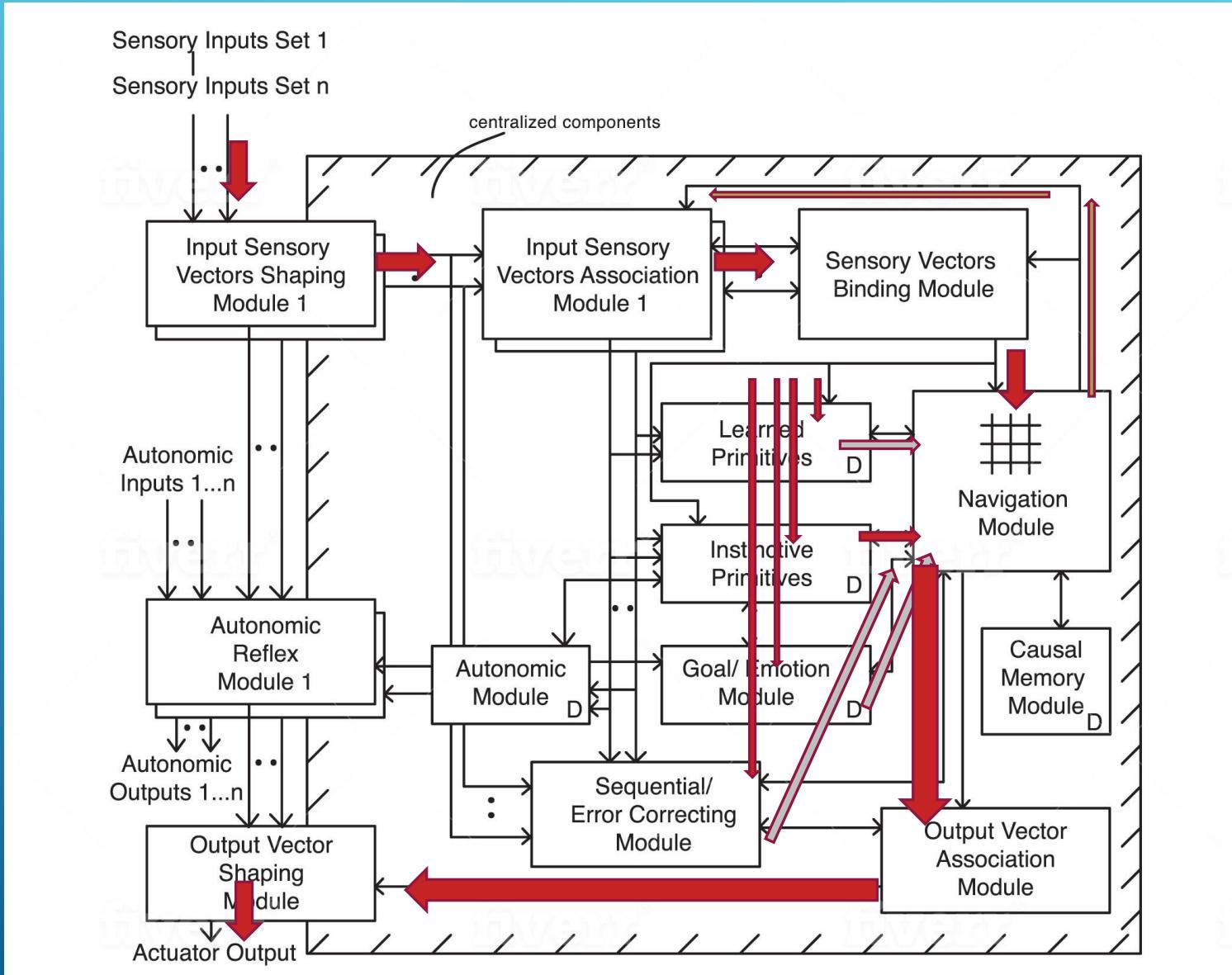
Command Prompt - cca1_2020

EDGE		EDGE								EDGE	
EDGE		explored*		forest							
		lake									
EDGE										EDGE	





Navigation to the East (to the forest square)



CCA1 moves East into ‘forest’ square

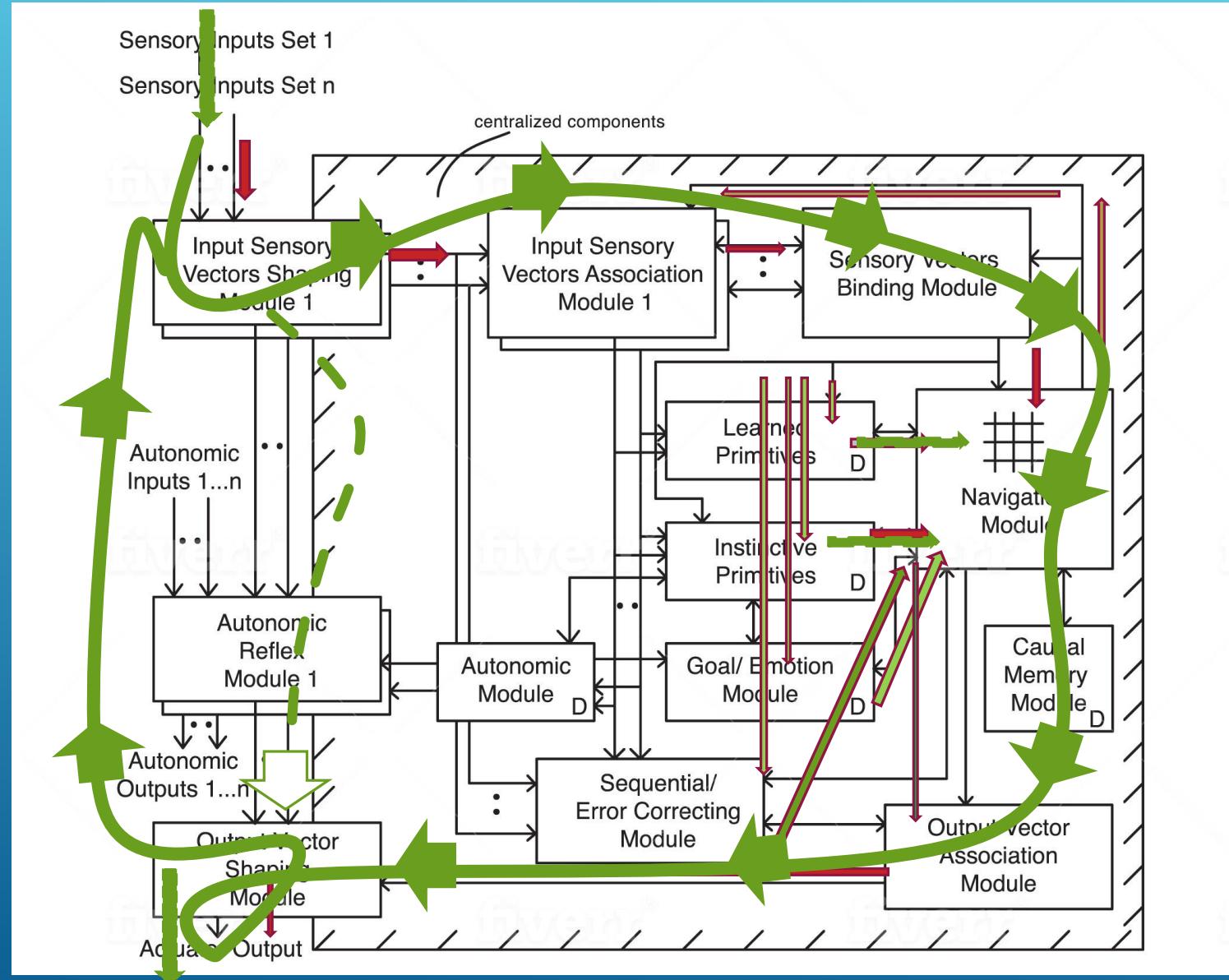
C:\> Command Prompt - cca1_2020

CCA1 moved from (1, 1) 1,2

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest	 CCA1 *		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		lake		forest		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

“Processing Cycles” repeat over and over again



No Special Central Controlling Stored Program

No computer-like clock circuitry centrally controlling CCA1

Vectors propagated from circuit to circuit, and then the cycle is repeated

CCA1 must navigate to the lost hiker's square

0:~ Command Prompt - cca1_2020

hiker position set to: 4 2

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

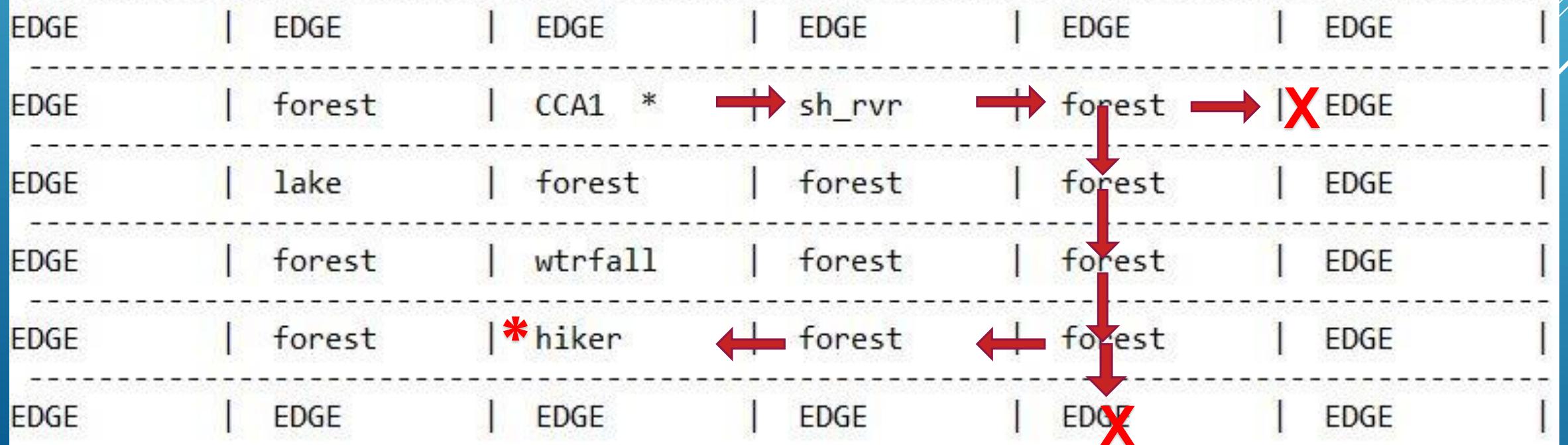
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		CCA1 *		forest		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE
EDGE		lake		forest		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

CCA1 eventually navigates to the hiker square, and rescues the lost hiker

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

CCA1 moved from (1, 1) 1,2

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)



Start new CCA1 simulation....

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

hiker position set to: 4 2

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

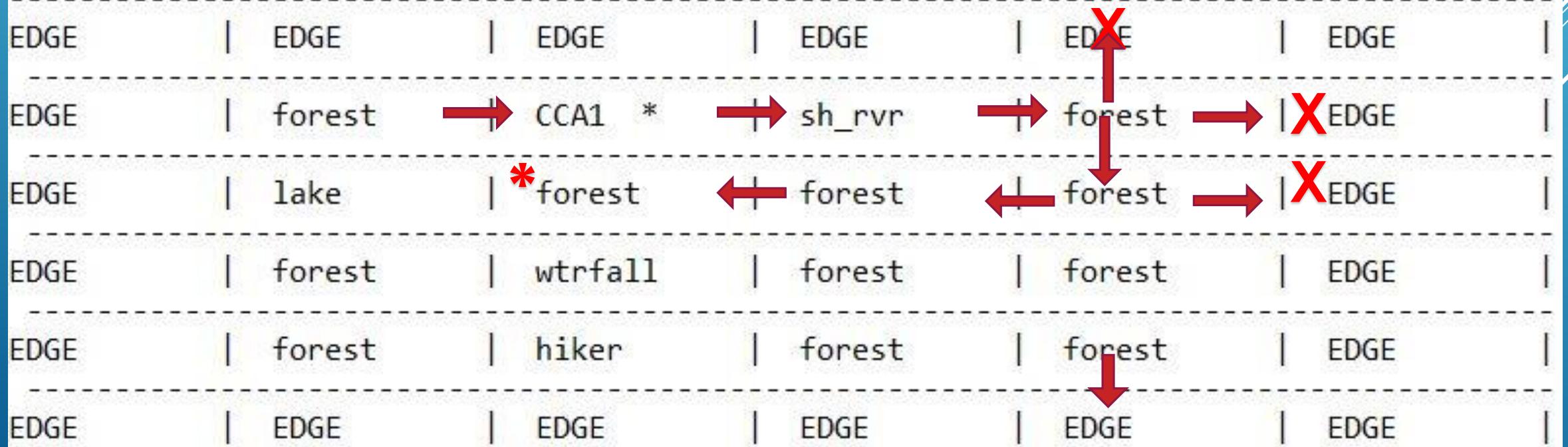
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		CCA1 *		forest		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE
EDGE		lake		forest		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

CCA1 moves to north of the waterfall square....

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

CCA1 moved from (1, 1) 1,2

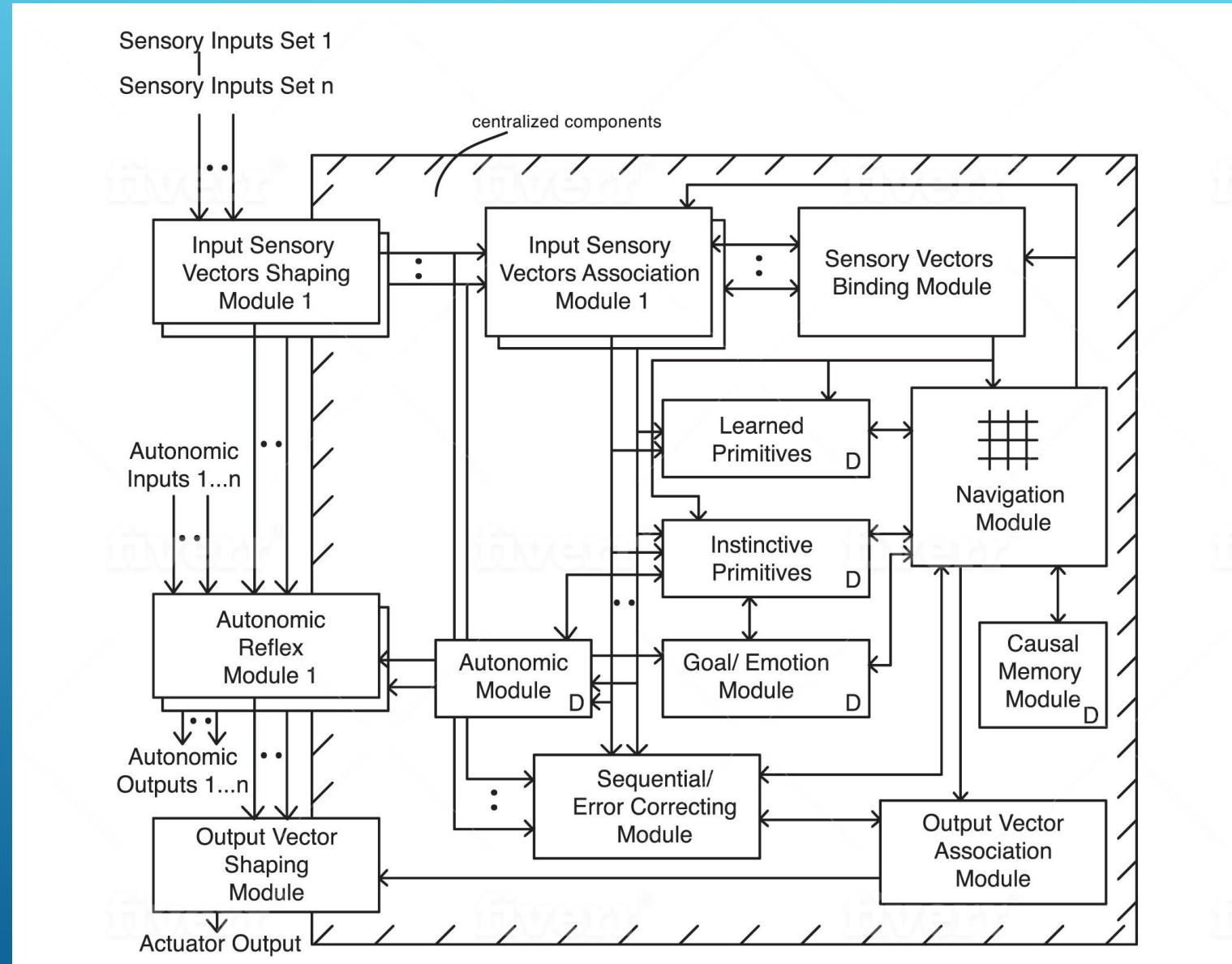
Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)



CCA1 has moved north of the waterfall square...

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)						
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		forest		sh_rvr
EDGE		lake		CCA1 *		forest
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (CCA1)



Goal/Emotion Module favors trying W & S to find the lost hiker

Instinctive Primitives rejects move W to lake

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		forest		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE
EDGE		lake	X←	CCA1 *		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

S – sees fast noisy river (does not see cliff part)
Able to cross shallow rivers, so moves South

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		forest		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE
EDGE		lake		CCA1 *		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall	↓	forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

CCA1 moves S (south) and is swept off cliff of waterfall and is damaged – mission ends

Associative Learning Occurs

- Repair damaged CCA1
- Next day it goes out into the forest on another mission
- Sees fast flowing river with much noise
- Triggers in Goal/Emotion Module and Learned Primitives Module not to go there
- Makes another choice for direction of move

-New Simulation

-Use full causal features of architecture

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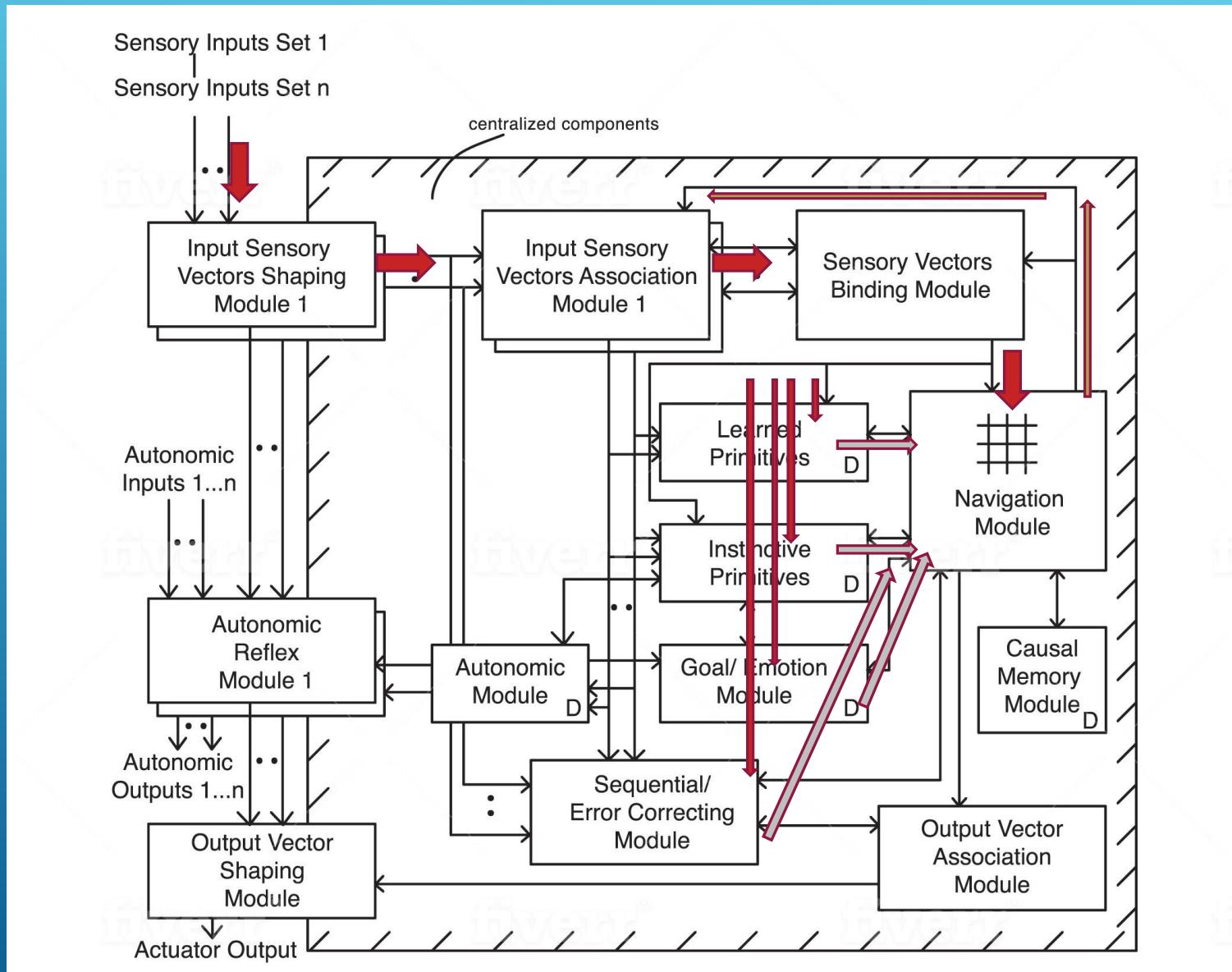
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EDGE		lake			forest		forest		forest		EDGE		
EDGE		forest			wtrfall			forest		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		forest			hiker			forest		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		EDGE			EDGE			EDGE		EDGE		EDGE	

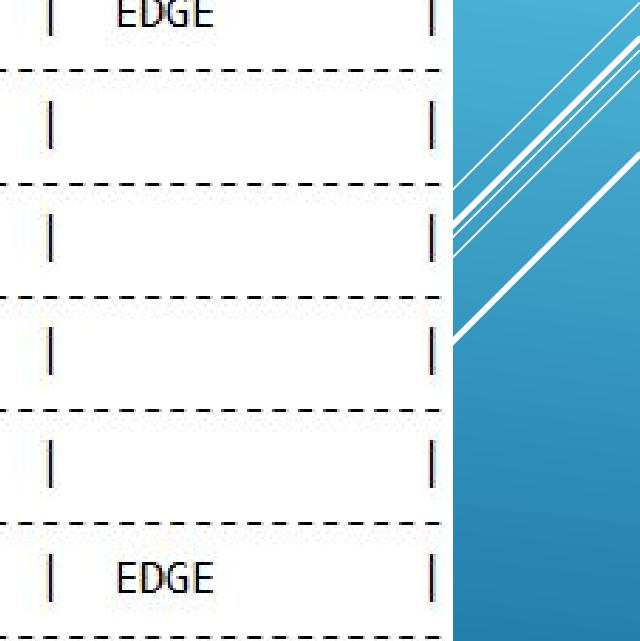
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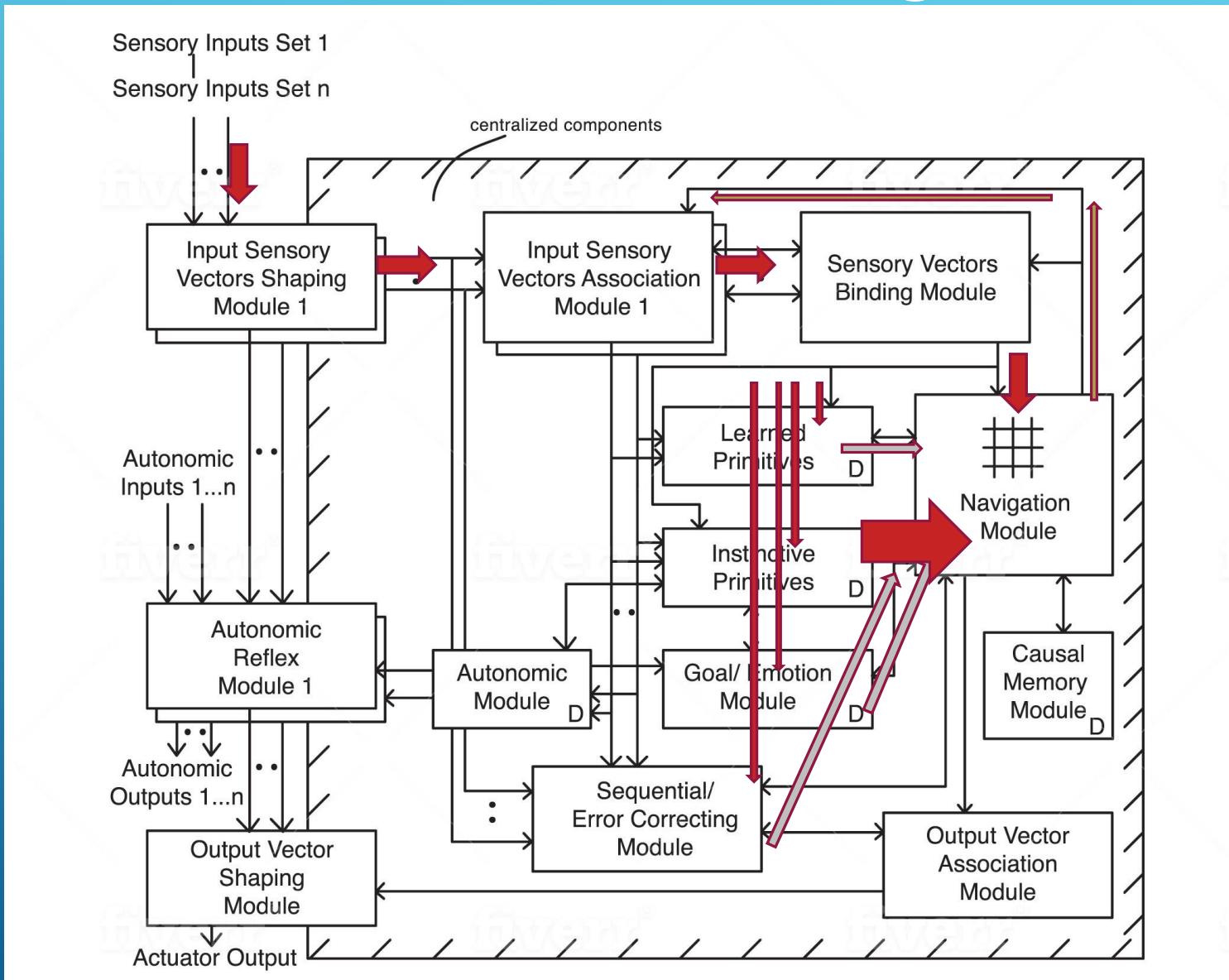
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EDGE		explored*		forest							
		lake									
EDGE										EDGE	



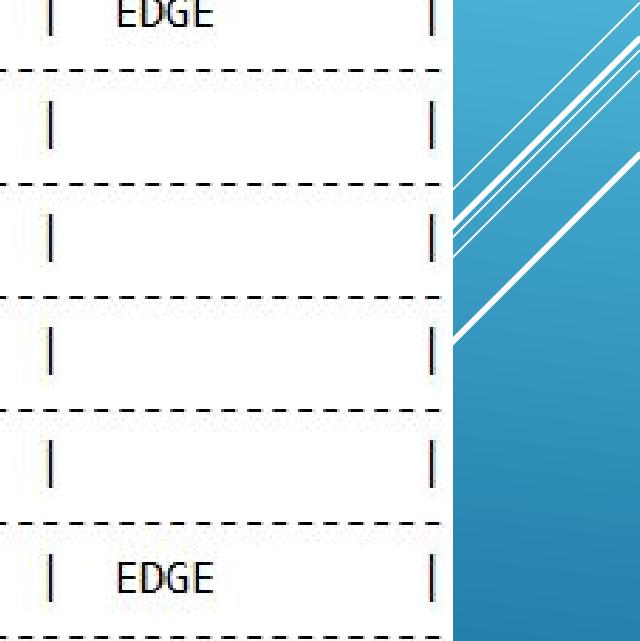
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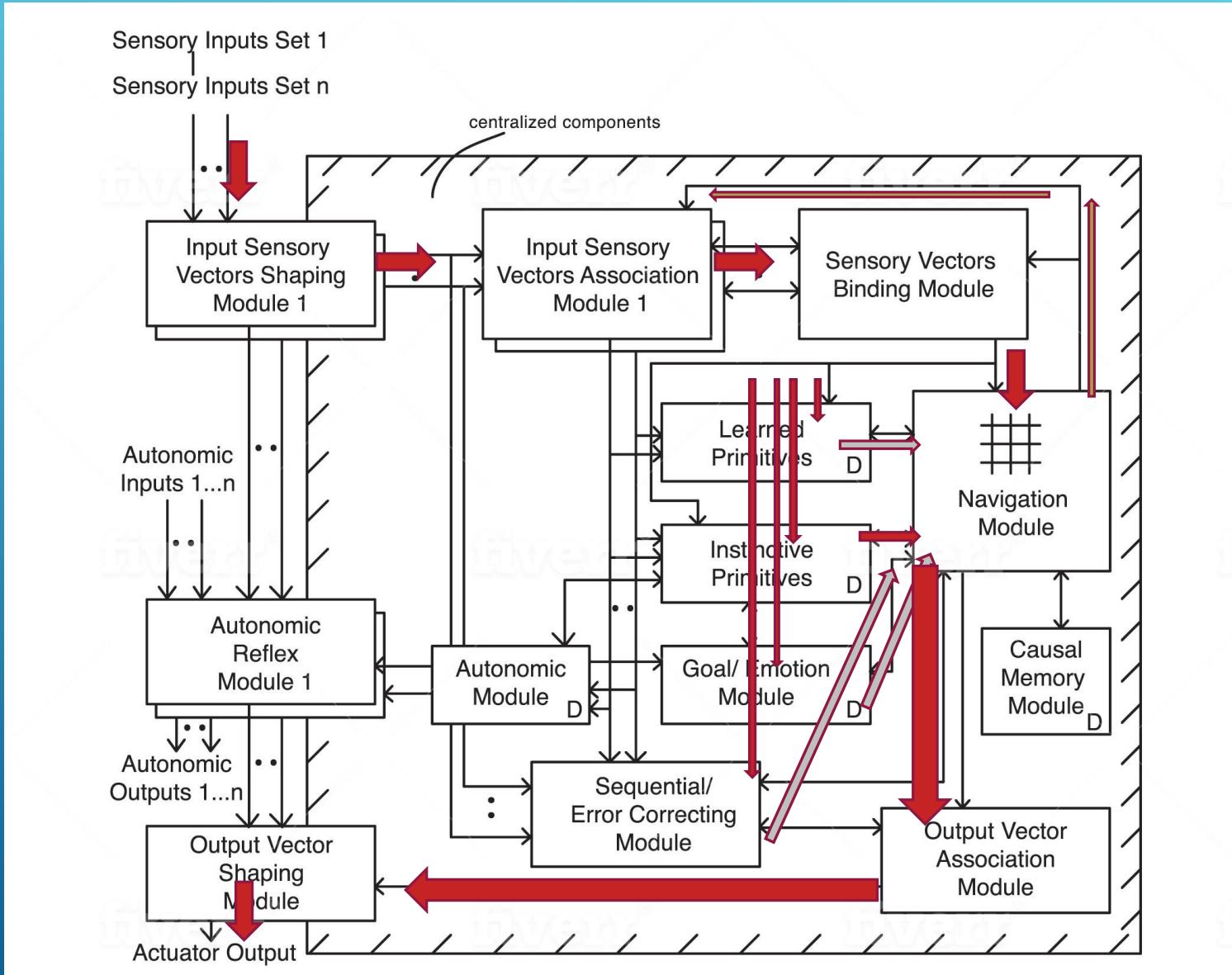
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EDGE		explored*		forest							
		lake									
EDGE										EDGE	



Navigation to the East (to the forest square)



CCA1 moves East into ‘forest’ square

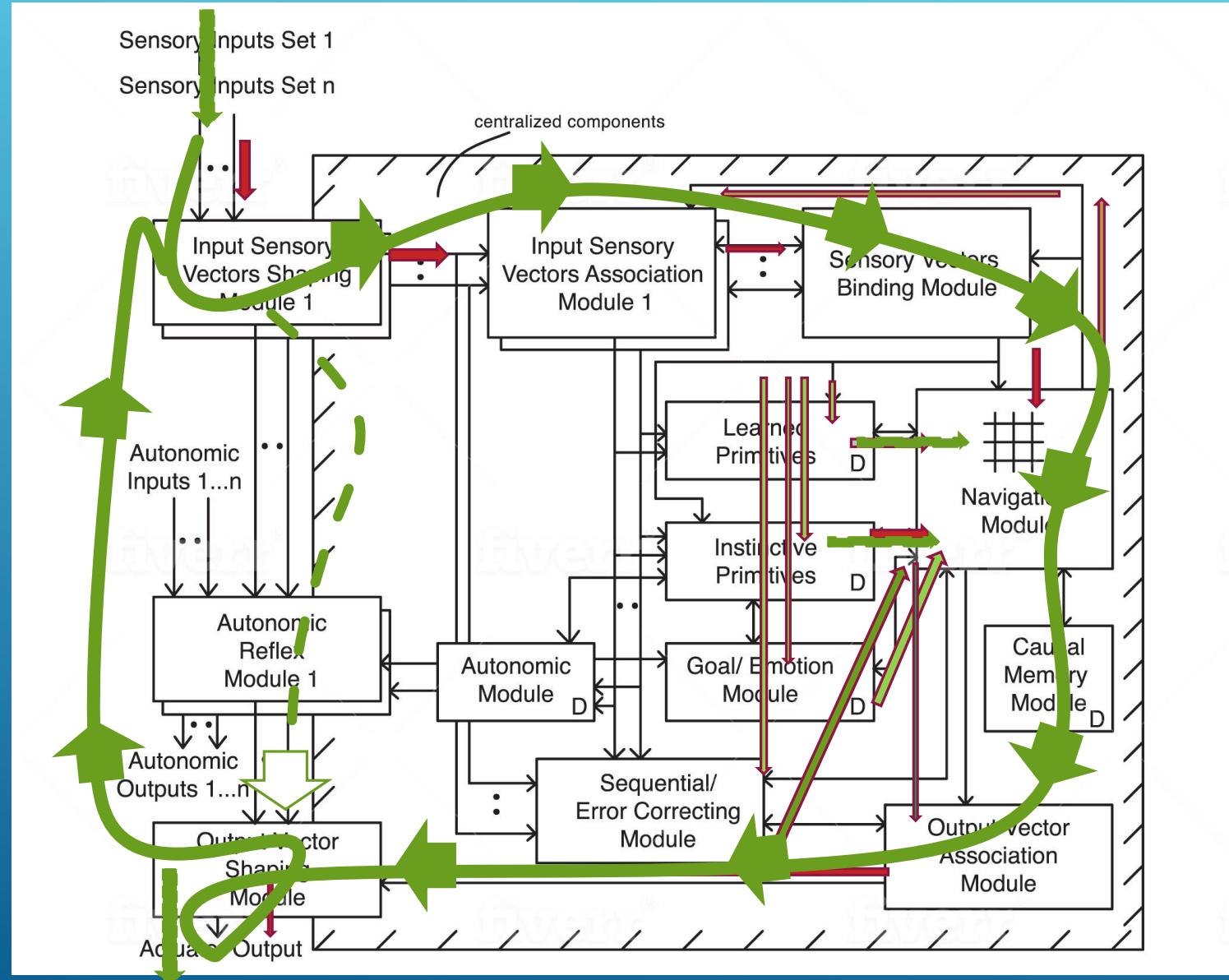
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CCA1 moved from (1, 1) 1,2

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

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EDGE		forest	 CCA1 *		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		lake		forest		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

“Processing Cycles” repeat over and over again

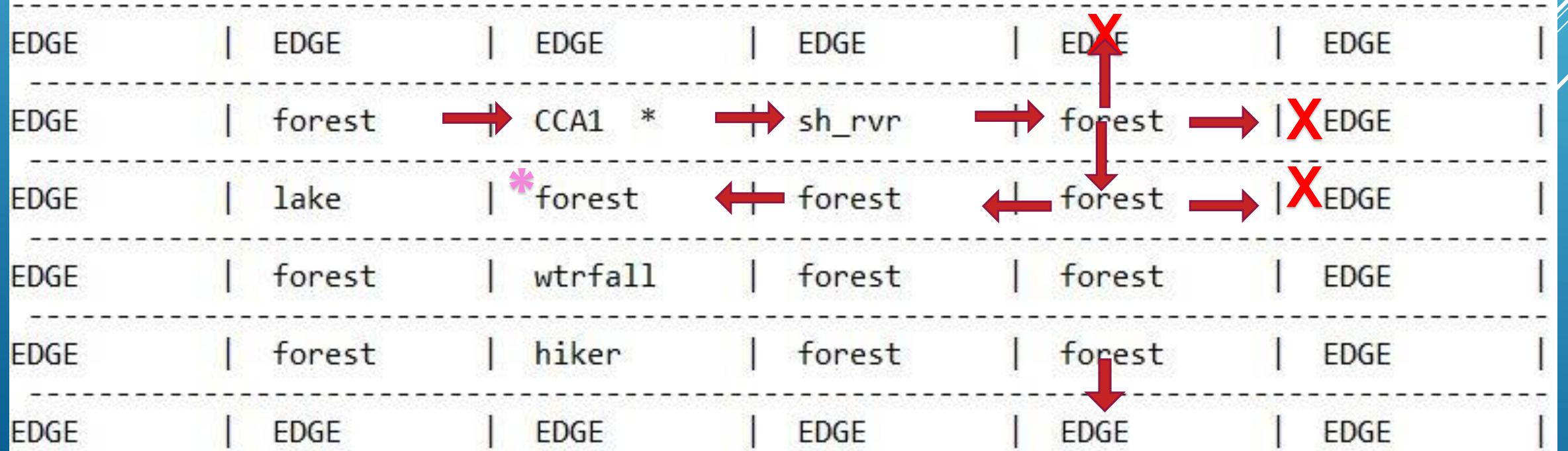


CCA1 moves to north of the waterfall square....

0% Command Prompt - cca1_2020

CCA1 moved from (1, 1) 1,2

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

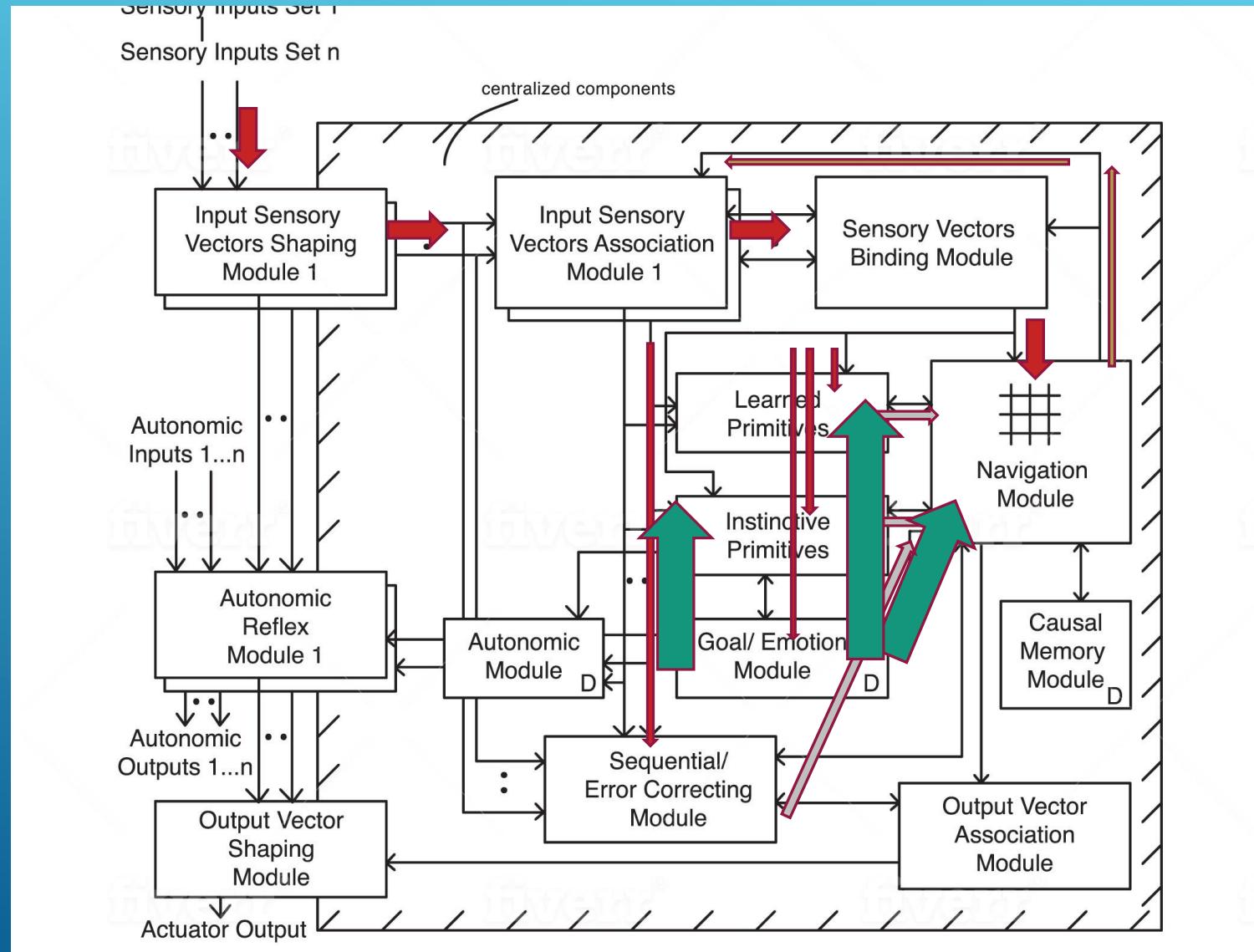


CCA1 has moved north of the waterfall square...

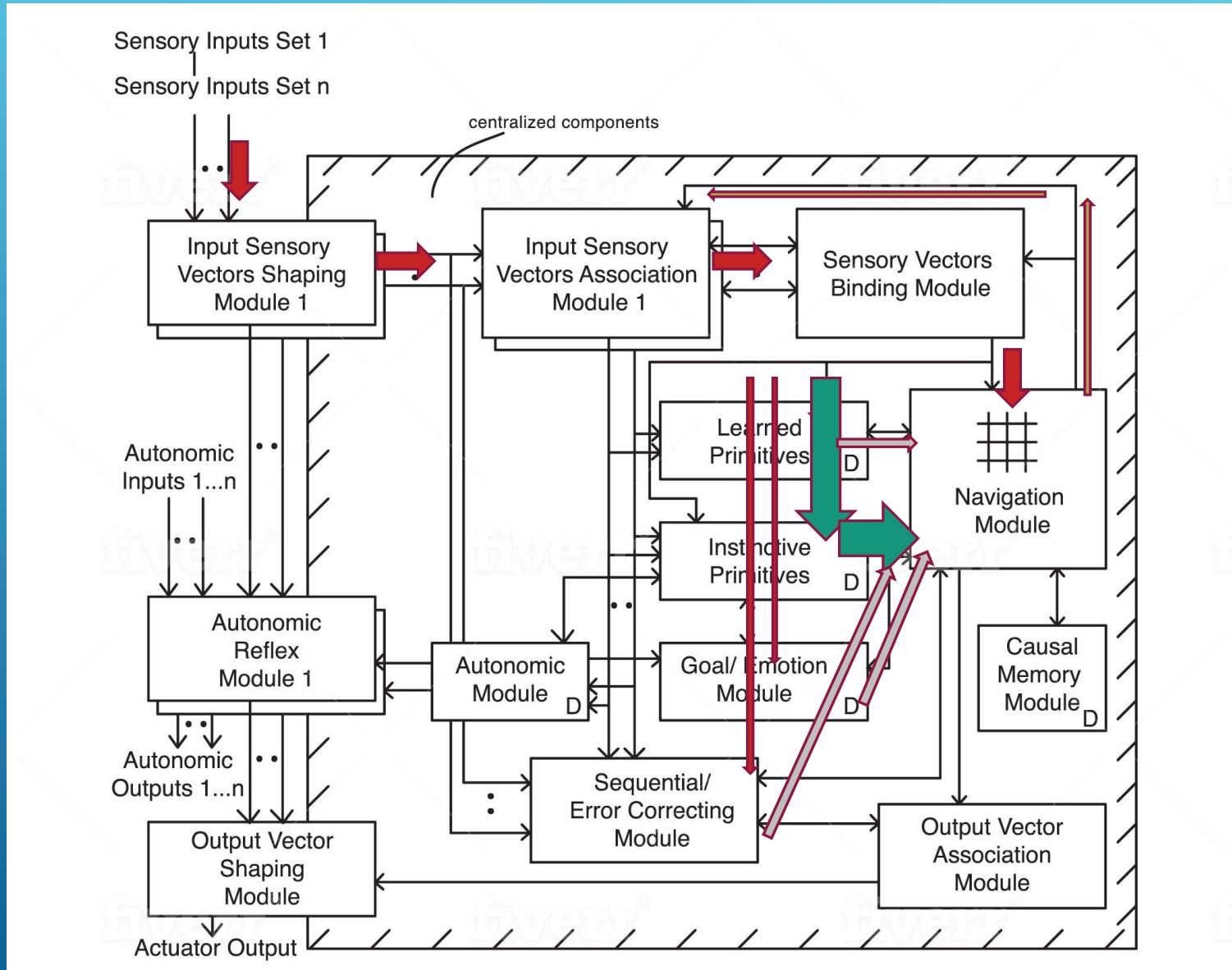
Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)						
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		forest		sh_rvr
EDGE		lake		CCA1 *		forest
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

- Goal/Emotion Module favors trying W & S
 - Ok to move W? (Then consider ok to move S?)

Goal/Emotion Module will Affect Primitives Chosen as well as operations of Navigation Module



Instinctive Primitives rejects move W to lake



Instinctive Primitives rejects move W to lake

on Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		forest		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE
EDGE		lake	X←	CCA1 *		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

S – sees fast noisy river (does not see cliff part)

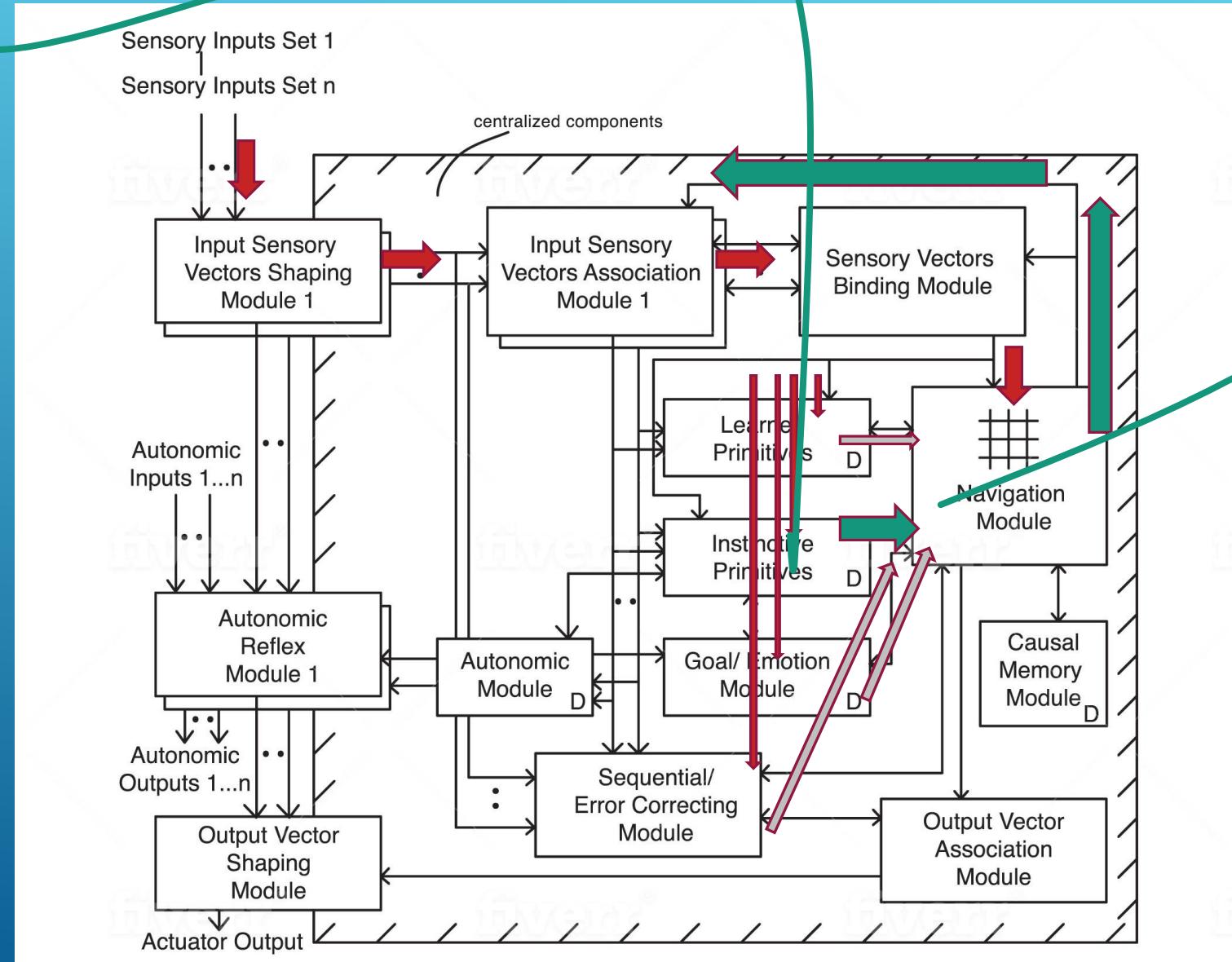
Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

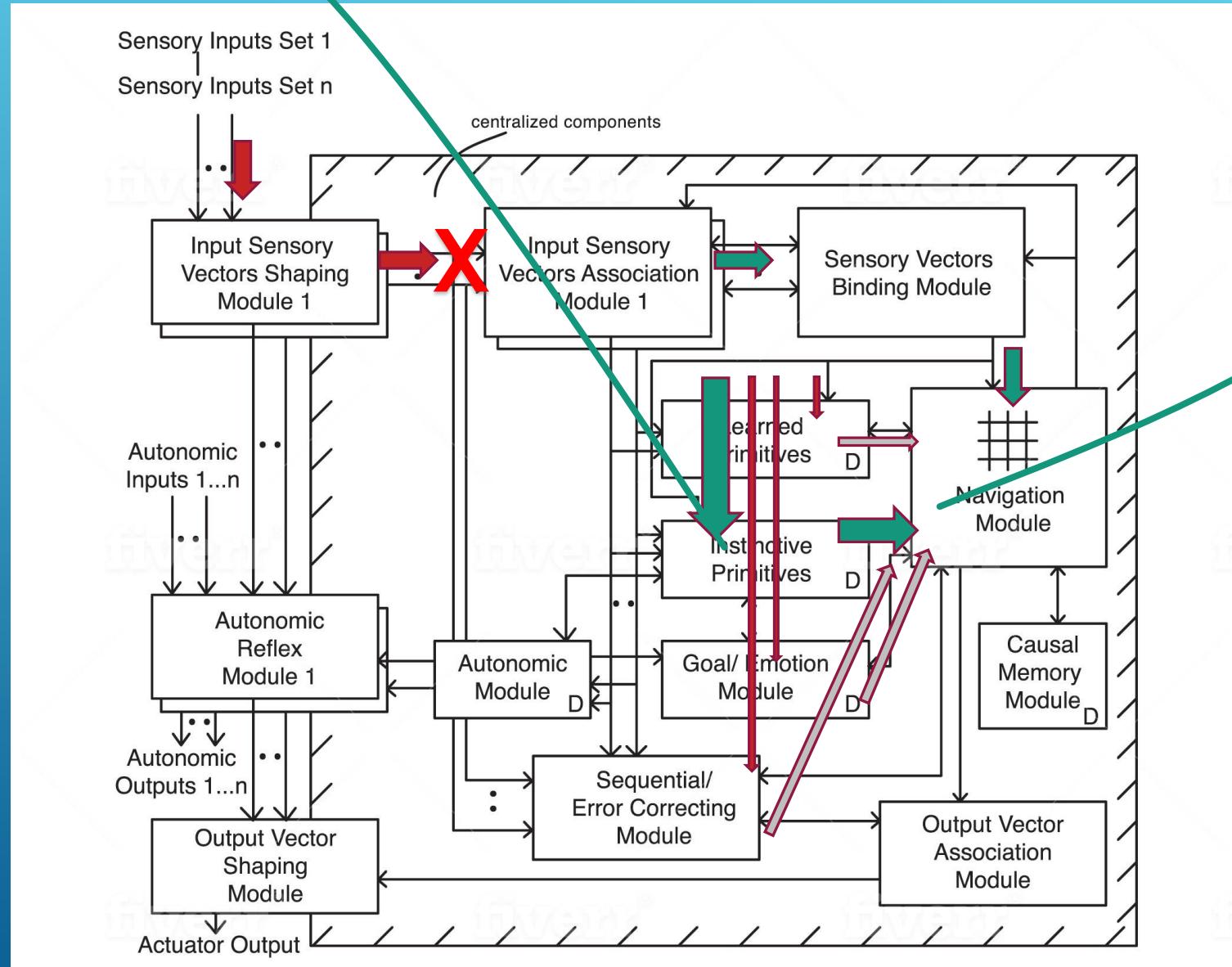
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		forest	X	sh_rvr		forest		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		lake	X	CCA1 *	X	forest		forest		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		wtrfall		forest		forest		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE		EDGE
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE

Goal Module: SW (highlighted in red)
A blue arrow points upwards from the 'sh_rvr' node to the 'Goal Module: SW'.
A red question mark arrow points downwards from the 'CCA1 *' node to the 'wtrfall' node.

{"water"} + {"fast flow" + "noise"} → {"water" + "push"}



{"water" + "push"} → triggers new map in Navig'nModule

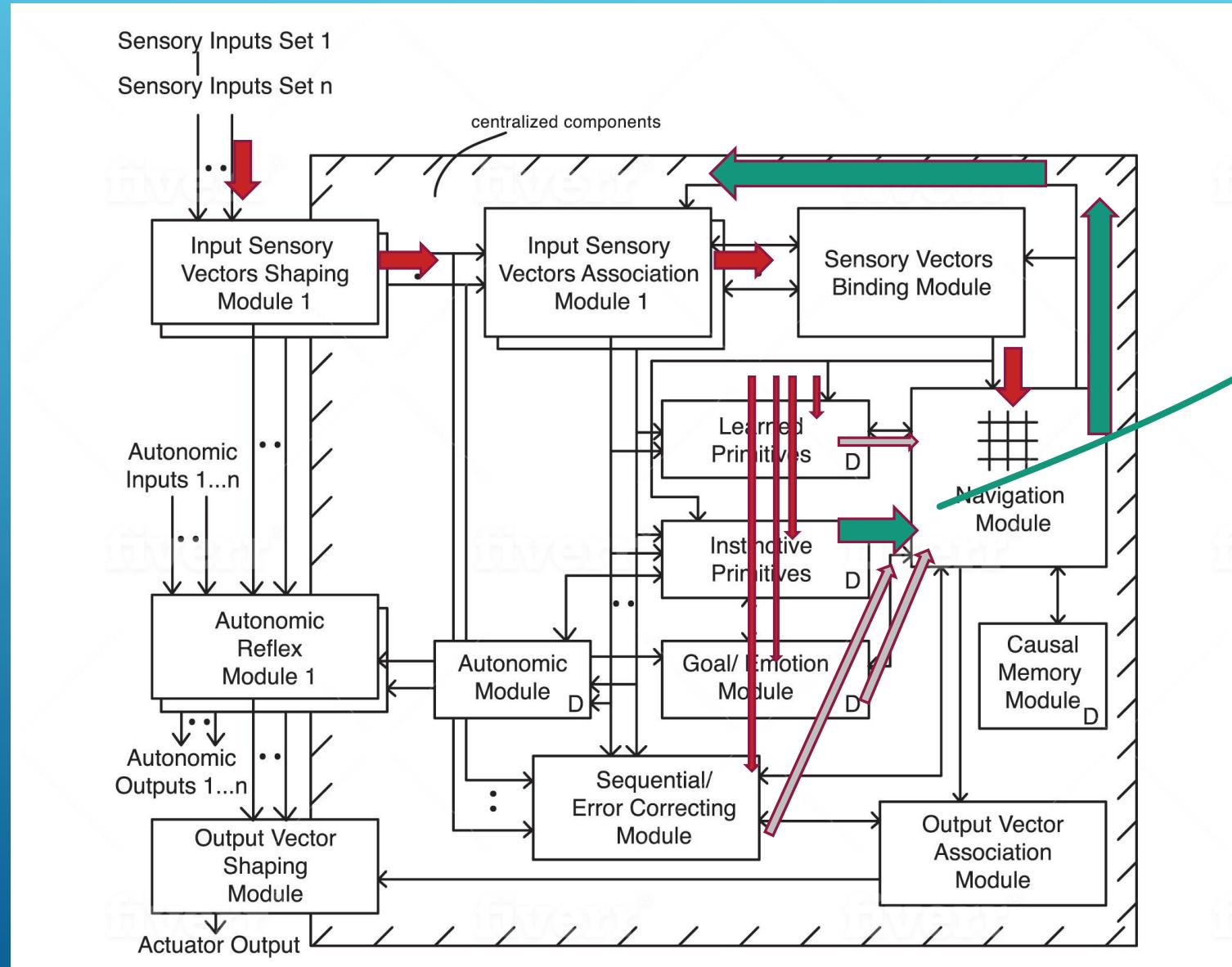


Temporary map → {"CCA1 under water"}

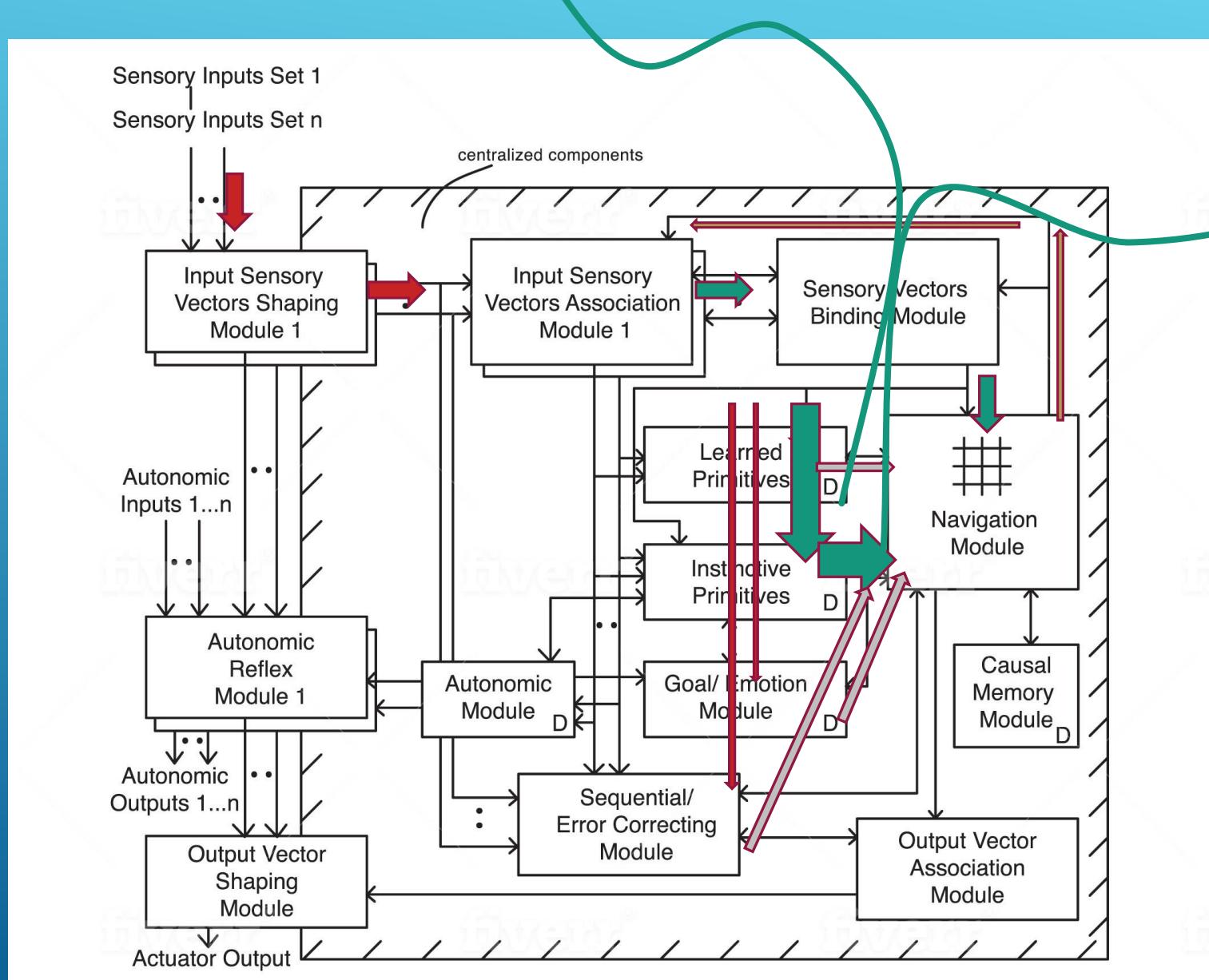
0:~ Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Internal Map From Stack

{"CCA1 under water"} is fed back to sensory input module



{"CCA1 under water"}



“do not go”
->retrieve previous temporary map
->do not go south

Do not go south – goes east even though bias from Goal Module to go south or west.

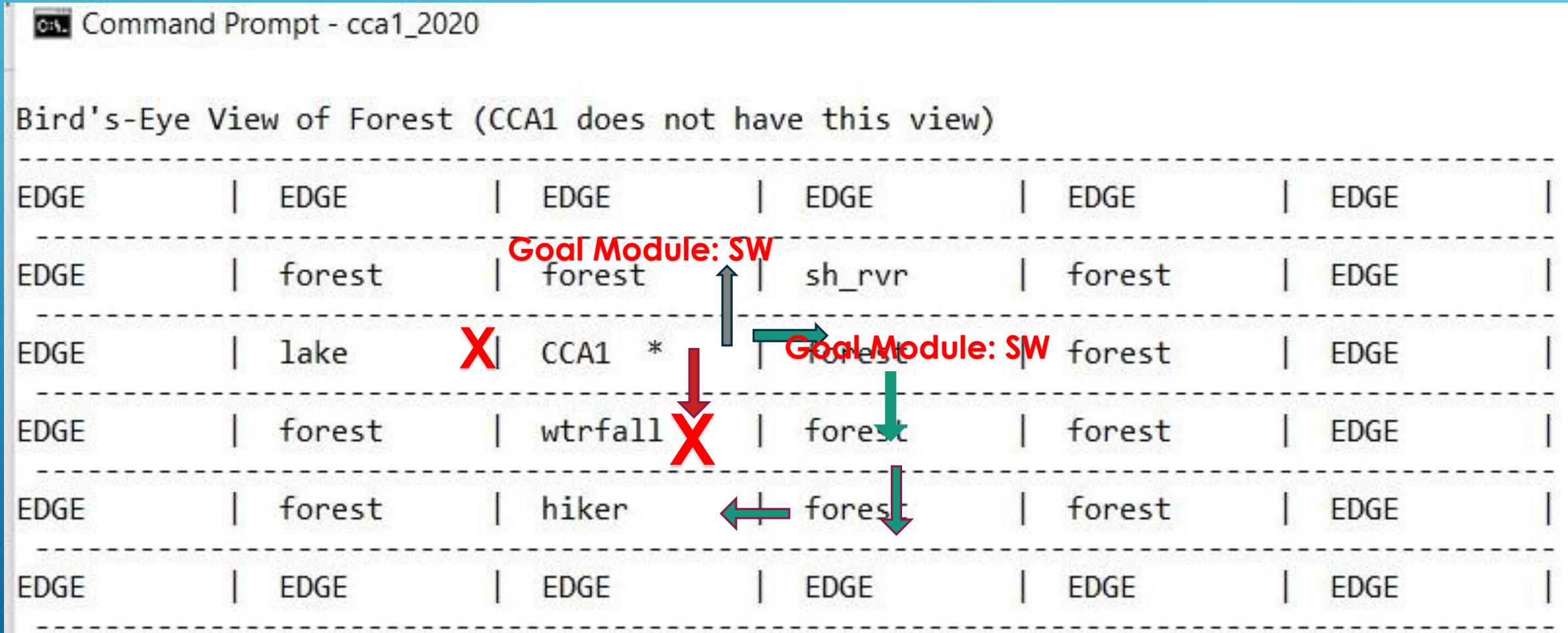
Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Bird's-Eye View of Forest (CCA1 does not have this view)

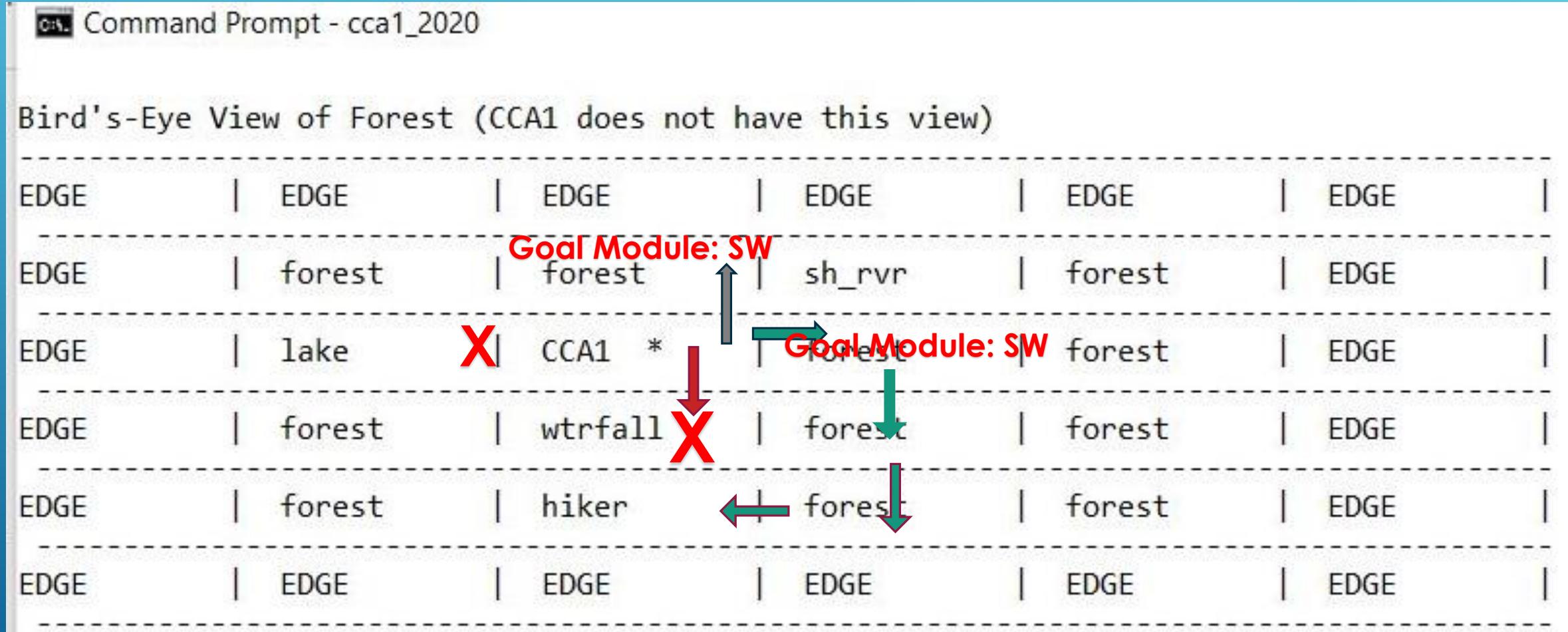
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE	
EDGE		forest		forest		sh_rvr		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		lake	X	CCA1 *		forest		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		forest		wtrfall	X	forest		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		forest		hiker		forest		forest		EDGE	
EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE		EDGE	

Goal Module: SW (Red text) is placed above the CCA1 node. A blue arrow points upwards from the CCA1 node towards the Goal Module text. A red arrow points downwards from the CCA1 node towards the wtrfall node.

Continues south and then west....
and.... Rescues the lost hiker

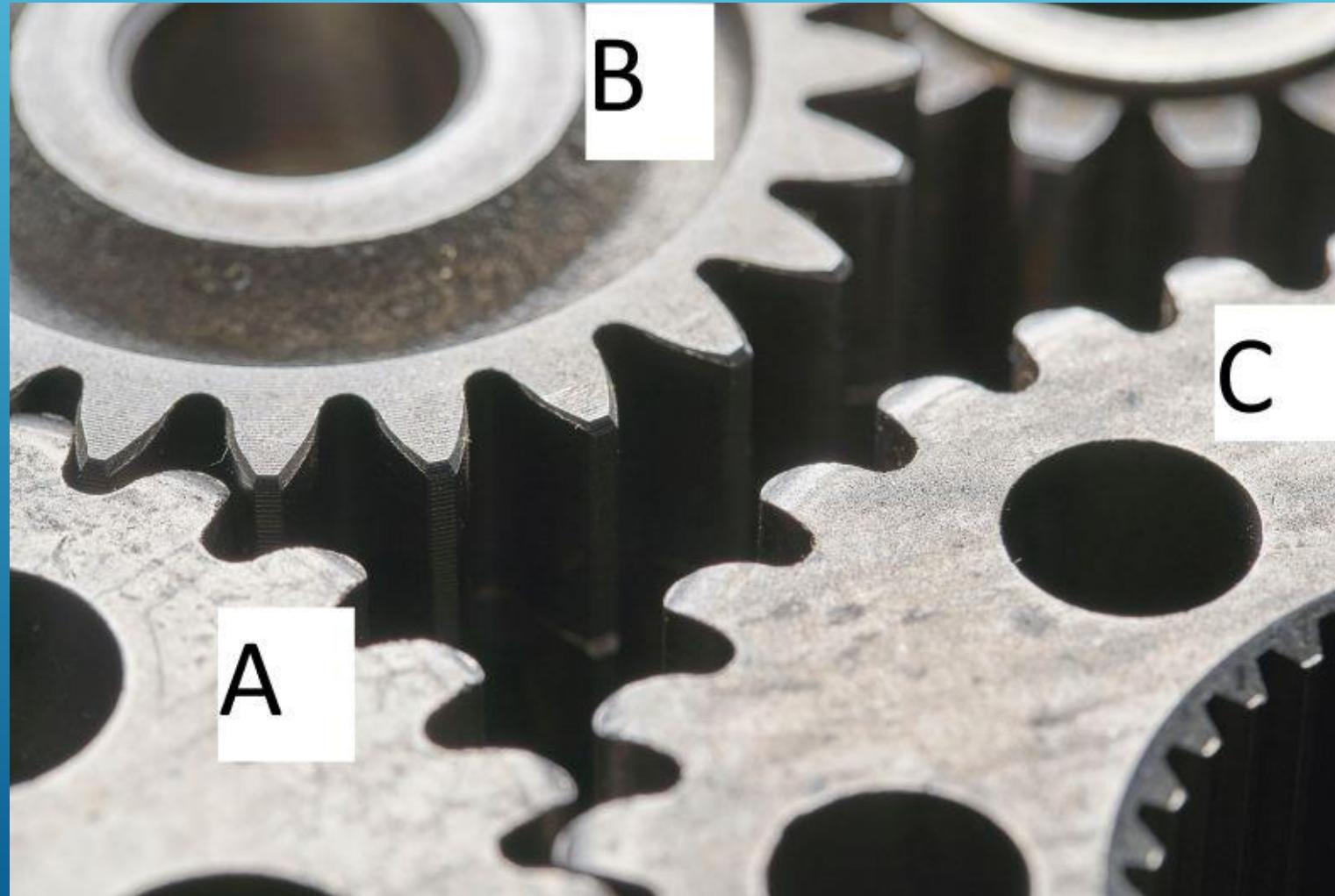


Even though CCA1 had never seen a waterfall before, **it causally avoided this danger**



- Causality emerges from the architecture of the CCA1
- No central controlling stored program other than the repeating processing cycles of the CCA1

New simulation – CCA1 is operating a machine repair robot. Inspecting a broken machine it has never seen before. If Gear C is turned, what happens to Gear B?



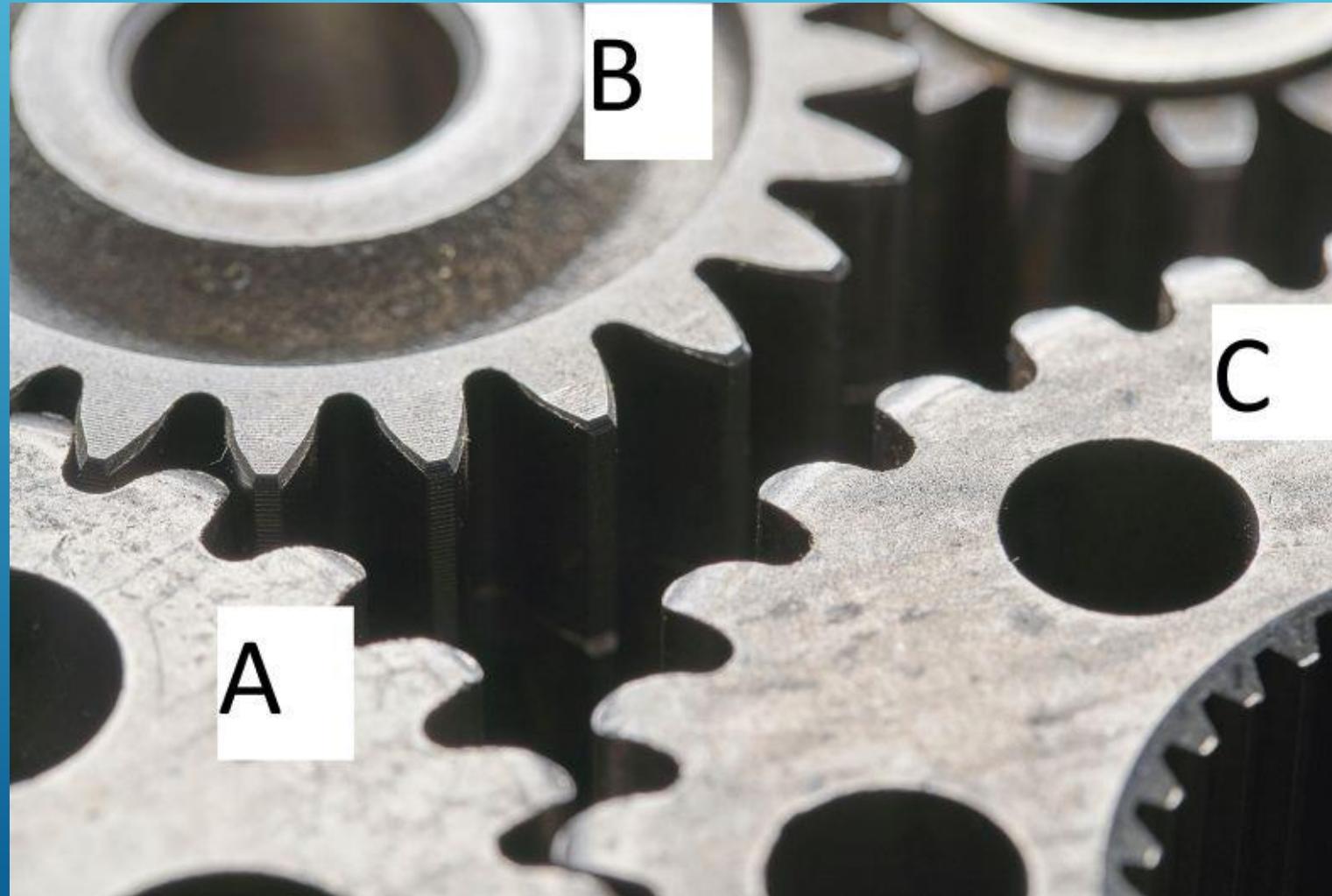
Small experiment – it pushes on (turns) Gear A and Gear B moves (turns)

Command Prompt - cca1_2020

Internal Map From Stack

air*		air		air		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air
air		A;moves		B;moves		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air
air		air		hiker		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air

New simulation – CCA1 is operating a machine repair robot. Inspecting a broken machine it has never seen before. If Gear C is turned, what happens to Gear B?



Gear C is recognized and added to create a new temporary map

Internal Map From Stack						
air*		air		air		air

air		*push		air		air

C		A;moves		B;moves		air

air		air		air		air

air		air		air		air

air		air		air		air

air		air		air		air

If push (turn) Gear C then Gear C moves (turns)
and so will its specific neighbor move (turn)

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Internal Map From Stack

air*		air		air		air		air		air
*push		air		air		air		air		air
C;moves		A;moves		air		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air
air		air		air		air		air		air

Update with previous temporary map.
New temporary map shows that if Gear C is moved (turned), then Gear B will move (turn)

Internal Map From Stack						
air*		air		air		air

*push		air		air		air

C;moves		A;moves		B;moves		air

air		air		air		air

air		air		air		air

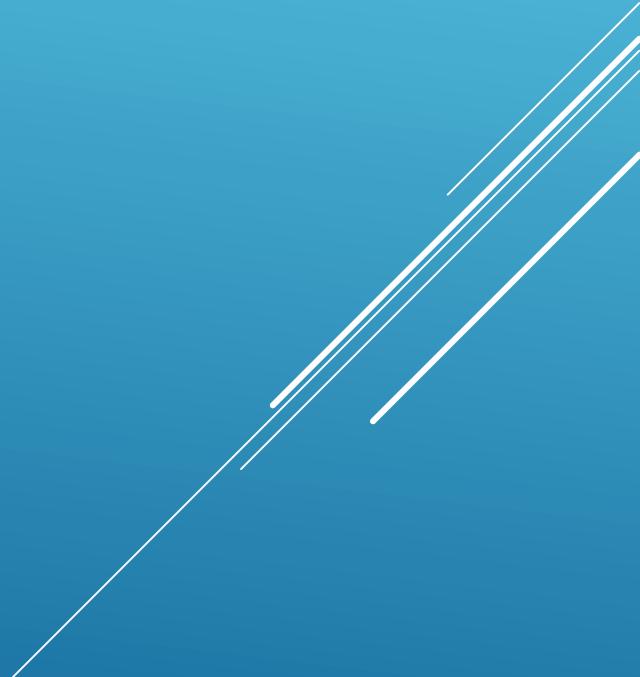
air		air		air		air

air		air		air		air

- Cannot fully repair a machine with 100's of parts by associations only (unless very common reasons for the breakdowns)
 - even if only move a few parts there are millions and millions of combinations that need to be tried and learned by association
- >simply not possible/practical

Causality allows repairing a machine
the CCA1 has never seen before.

Causality emerges from the
architecture



CCA1 allows transition from Associative Behavior (using a subset of the architecture) to Higher Cognitive Level Behavior (using the full causal features of the architecture)

Consider the ability to make analogies

eg, The previous search and rescue CCA1 robot returns from its mission in the forest (as above) and then is asked if it should spend more of its free time with Person A or Person B.

The persons are similar but Person B is more smiley but also very noisy

This is more in the realm of philosophers or poets!!

-Object A (person A) and Object B (person B) put onto a temporary map in the Navigation Center

-CCA1 decides whether it should navigate to Object B:

- Instinctive Primitives like smiling people

- However, Object B is noisy

→ thus pulls up the previous temporary map it had: the river seemed safe but made much noise also, and was considered a danger

- thus pulls up the previous temporary map it had: the river seemed safe but made much noise also, and was considered a danger
- pulls up previous map in stack → Object B is considered a danger
- fed back to sensory modules → in the next processing cycle processed and triggers in the Instinctive Primitives to stay away from Object B → Navigation Module decision to navigate to Object A → CCA1 answer to prefer Person A

Analogies and other high level cognitive processes emerge directly from the architecture of the CCA1

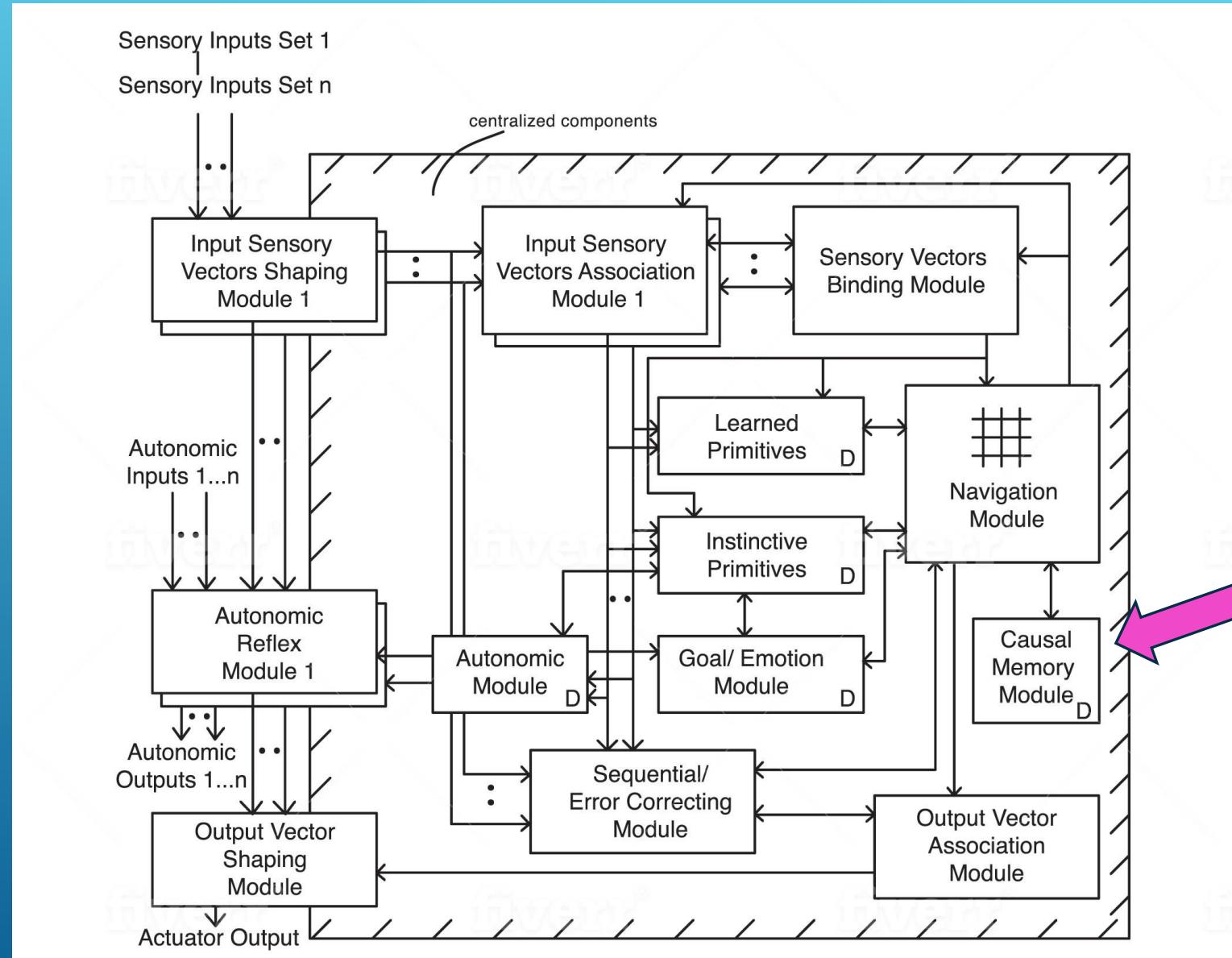
Analogies emerged without any specialized algorithm or any special central controlling program, other than the relatively simple repeating cycles of the architecture



Explainability

After being used, ‘temporary maps’ are actually stored permanently in the Causal Memory portion of the Navigation Module

Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (CCA1)



Useful to retrieve stored ‘temporary maps’ if there is a similar situation

Stored maps give an **excellent explanation** of why the CCA1 took a decision
(albeit, unable to explain non-causal sensory portion of the architecture)

CCA1 Supports Schneider Psychosis Hypothesis

Schneider –BICA 2019:

-Imperfect functioning in going from precausal to full causal behavior (more complexity, feeding partial results back to sensory modules) can result in psychotic behavior (hallucinations, delusions and reduced cognition)

CCA1 Supports Schneider Psychosis Hypothesis

- 10% of humans at some point psychosis or psychosis-like symptoms
- 0% of animals have psychosis (but have analogies of almost all other mental disorders)
- 0% of animals capable of causal behavior

CCA1 Supports Schneider Psychosis Hypothesis

CCA1, while much more straightforward than Schneider 2019 MBCA – enough complexity to allow psychosis to emerge if any of a wide variety of small malfunctions in circuitry

Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (CCA1)

- Allows causality to emerge from a system without any central controlling stored program (other than repeating sensory cycles)
- Tight integration of connectionist elements into a system capable of causal, symbolic operations

Causal Cognitive Architecture 1 (CCA1)

- High level cognitive processes emerge directly from the architecture
- Supports Schneider's psychosis hypothesis
- Provides a plausible pathway for the natural evolution of vertebrate brains
- Provides tool to explore pathways to AGI

CCA1 closes the Neural Symbolic Gap



- **Neural Network** – phenomenal image processing and reinforcement learning
- **Child** – phenomenal causal learning with few examples (eg, Gopnik)

Future Work



- ▶ Larger, more comprehensive simulation
- ▶ More formal proofs of the features of the CCA1

howard.schneider@gmail.com