



The Organized Mind

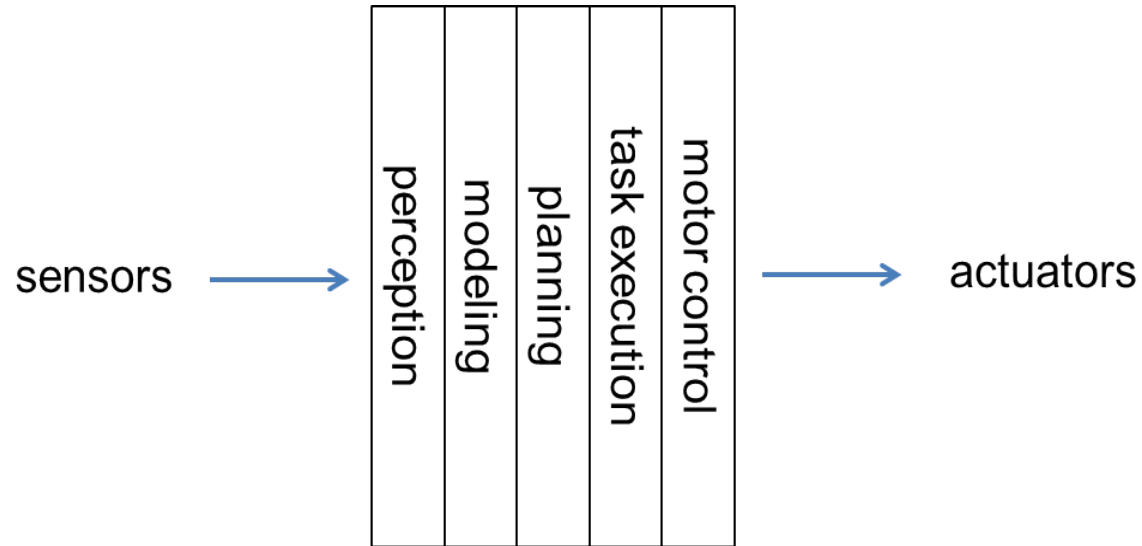
Consciousness in
10 minutes and 12 slides

Uwe Saint-Mont

Isolated System

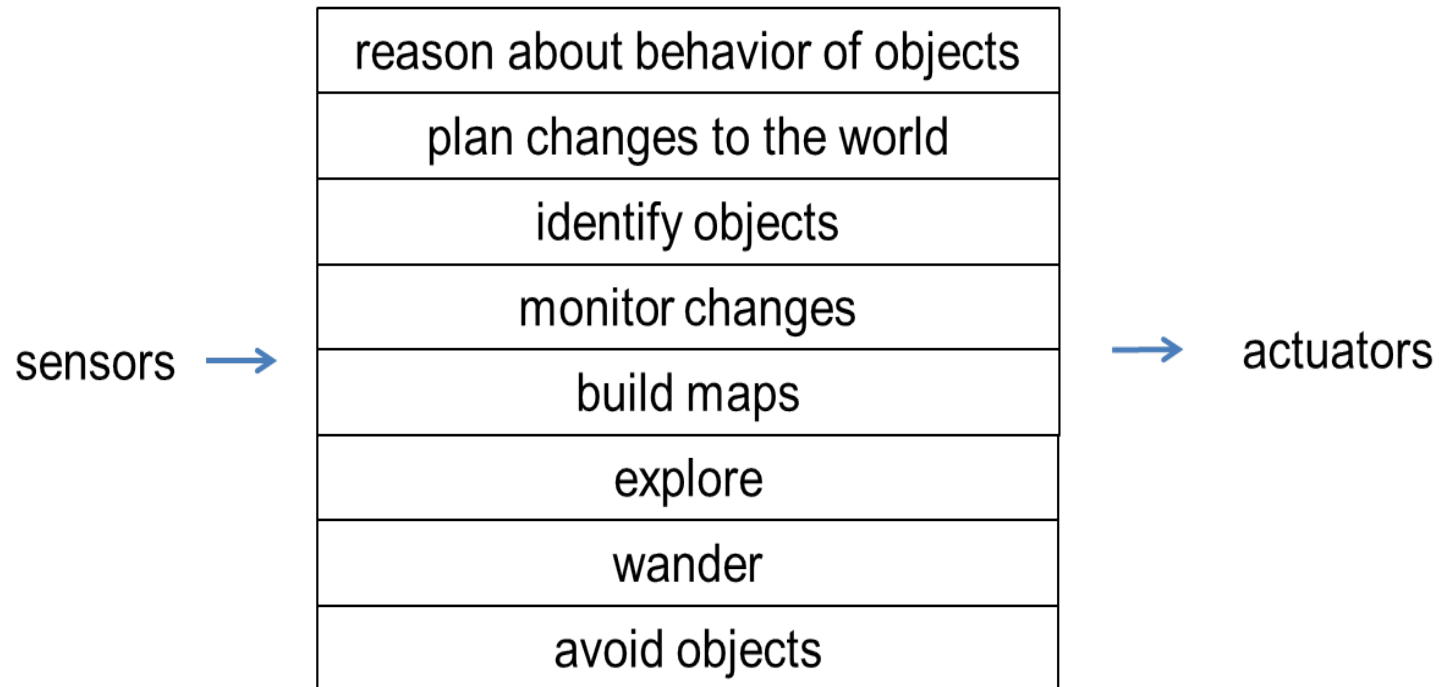


Linear Information Processing

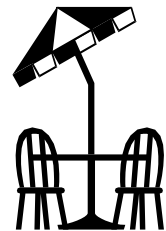
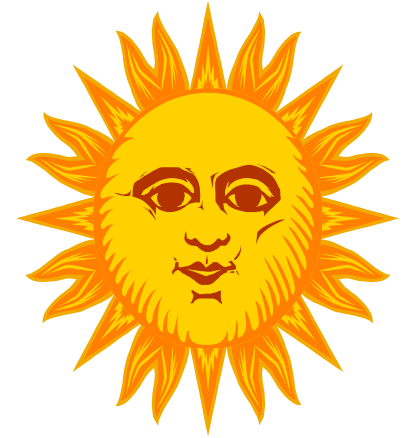
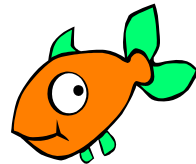
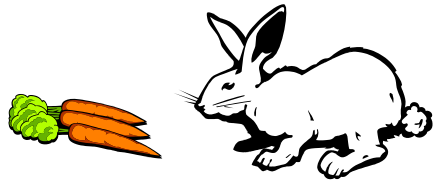


S - O - R

Real Situation: Multi-Tier Systems



Real Situation: Embeddedness



Real Situation: Circular, Feedback

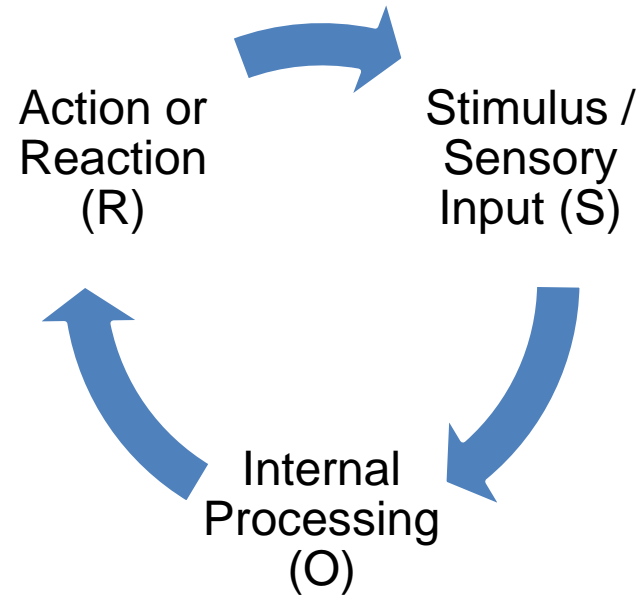
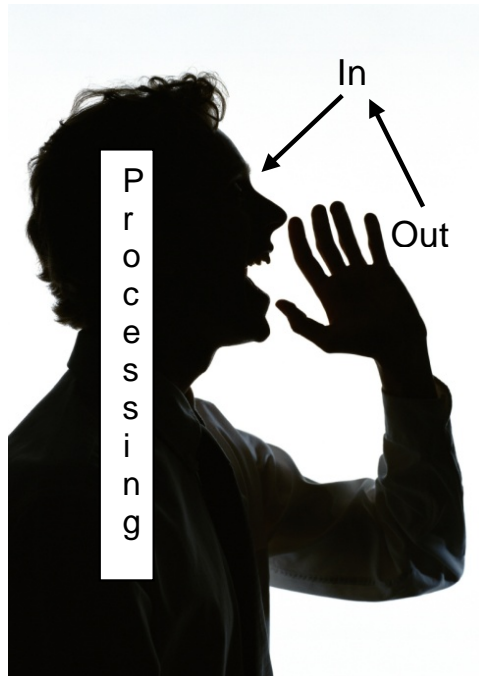
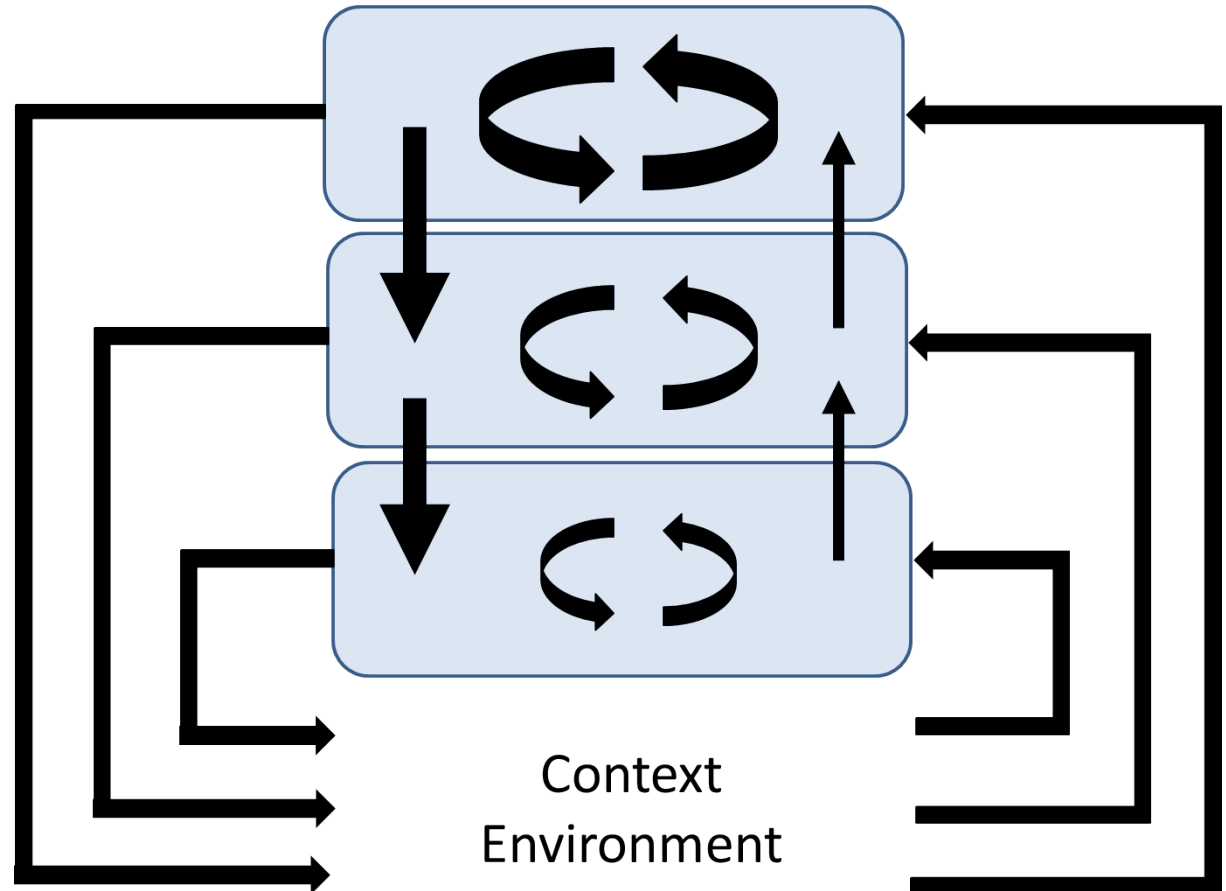


Illustration: the sensorimotor loop

“Really“ Complex Systems are

1. embedded
2. multi-tiered
3. Circular:
Equipped
with 3 kinds
of loops



Mental Organization (Biological Perspective)

Mental Layer	Processes	Building blocks	Main location	Evolutionary stage
Apex	Structured reasoning, language	Concepts	Associative areas of the cerebrum	Homo sapiens
Top	Cognitive	Cognitions of any kind, in particular, images	Cerebrum	Primates, some whales and birds
Intermediate	Emotional	Emotions, e.g., fear	Limbic system	Mammals
Basic	Reflexes	Drives, rigid procedures	Brain stem	Reptiles
Elementary	Fundamental Responses, often 0-1	Communication pathways between neurons	Neurons, and sets of neurons	Animals with nervous systems

Various Representations of the System

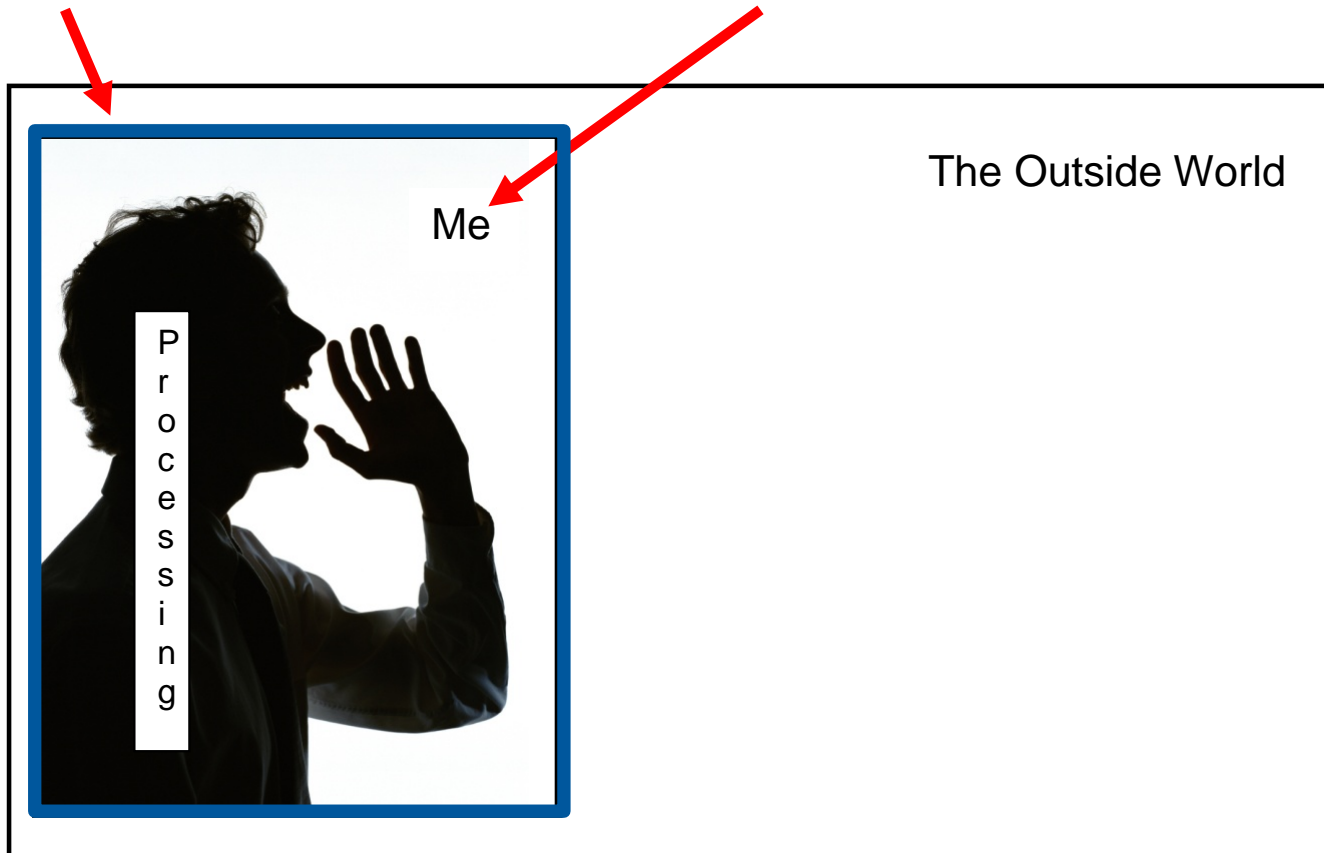
Mental Layer	Crucial Processes	Mental token for oneself (Internal Representations)
Apex	Language	Precise concept : I, combined with a stable division between one's self and anything else
Top	Cognitive	A complete " image " of the body's current state
Intermediate	Emotional	The feeling of what happens: Integrated multisensory maps
Basic	Reflexes and drives	Taking notice of one's existence
Elementary	Fundamental responses	Almost non-existent

One Integrated Representation

Mental Layer	Crucial Processes	Combined token (single representation)	Personal insight
Apex	Language	Precise concept : I, combined with a stable division between one's self and anything else	Full personal awareness and situatedness
Top	Cognitive	A complete "image" of the body's current state	Extended consciousness
Intermediate	Emotional	The feeling of what happens: Integrated multisensory maps	Core consciousness
Basic	Reflexes and drives	Taking notice of one's existence	Protoself
Elementary	Fundamental responses	Almost non-existent	None

Language is Crucial

With language comes conceptual precision:
Clear self-awareness is the result of a crisp, stable
distinction between the body concept and anything else



Reference

**Saint-Mont, Uwe (2016). Roads to Consciousness:
Crucial steps in mental development. [Submitted]**

www.philsci-archive.pitt.edu/11906/