

CS395T
Reinforcement Learning:
Theory and Practice
Fall 2004

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Week4a: Tuesday, September 21st

Good Afternoon Colleagues

- Are there any questions?

Some more on Chapter 3

- Consider the week 0 environment
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- What if it's discounted?
- What if it's continuing?

Value Functions

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- Exercise 3.17

This Chapter

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- Why is it called dynamic programming?

Student Discussion

- Susan on the Gambler's Problem (p. 101)

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- Email discussion linked to the book web page

Existence/Convergence guarantees

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- Exercises 4.1, 4.2

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- Policy evaluation converges under the same conditions (p. 91)
- Exercises 4.1, 4.2
- Policy improvement theorem:
$$\forall s, Q^\pi(s, \pi'(s)) \geq V^\pi(s) \Rightarrow \forall s, V^{\pi'}(s) \geq V^\pi(s)$$

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 - Next: no model and no bootstrapping
 - Then: no model, but bootstrapping