

Lecture 2: Markov Decision Processes

└ Markov Processes

└ Markov Property

State Transition Matrix

For a Markov state s and successor state s' , the *state transition probability* is defined by

$$\mathcal{P}_{ss'} = \mathbb{P}[S_{t+1} = s' \mid S_t = s]$$

State transition matrix \mathcal{P} defines transition probabilities from all states s to all successor states s' ,

$$\mathcal{P} = \begin{matrix} & \text{to} \\ \text{from} & \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{P}_{11} & \dots & \mathcal{P}_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \\ \mathcal{P}_{n1} & \dots & \mathcal{P}_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

where each row of the matrix sums to 1.