The change of V(A) implies that the first episode terminates on the left. I'll explain this reason. First, transitions between states **except terminal states** cause no change of V(S). Thus, we can focus on only transitions to terminal states in the episode. Transitions to the **right** terminal state affect not V(A) but V(E). Therefore, transitions to the **left** one lower V(A). Concretely,

$$V'(A) \leftarrow V(A) - \alpha (R + V(L) - V(A))$$

= 0.5 + 0.1 \cdot (0 + 0 - 0.5)
= 0.45

6-6

• DP Approach

Since this problem gives environment's dynamics and need no policy, we can use DP approach. DP approach calculate acculate value functions by value iteration. (but need some calculation cost)

• Mathematical Approach

We can also use probablistic math. More specifically, we use the fact that V(S) corresponds to probability of terminating on the Right from state $S.(\stackrel{.}{=} P_S(R))$ For example, Let's calculate V(E).

$$V(E) = P_E(R) = 1 - P_E(L)$$

$$= 1 - P_E(D) \cdot P_D(L)$$

$$= 1 - P_E(D) \cdot [P_D(C) \cdot P_C(L) + P_D(E) \cdot P_E(L)]$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - P_E(L) &= 1 - P_E(D) \cdot [P_D(C) \cdot P_C(L) + P_D(E) \cdot P_E(L)] \\ P_E(L) &= P_E(D) \cdot [P_D(C) \cdot P_C(L) + P_D(E) \cdot P_E(L)] \\ P_E(L) &= 0.5 \cdot [0.5 \cdot 0.5 + 0.5 \cdot P_E(L)] \ (\because P_C(L) = 0.5) \\ 6P_E(L) &= 1 \\ P_E(L) &= 1/6 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$V(E) = 5/6$$

Likewise, we can calculate other state value.