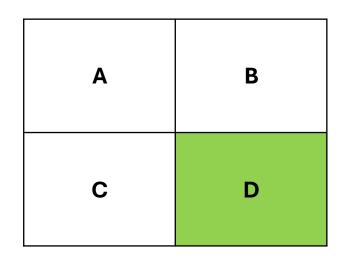
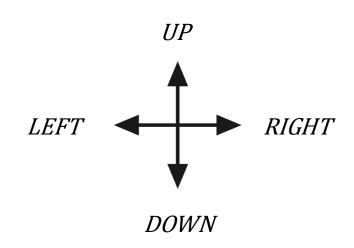
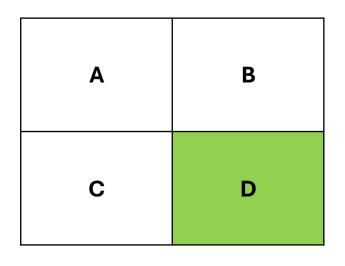
Example: 2x2 Gridworld

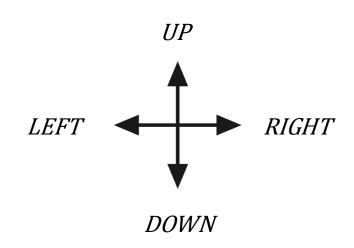




- States S = (A, B, C, D)
- Actions A = (UP, DOWN, LEFT, RIGHT)
- Policy $\mathcal{P} = \text{From every state}$, choose each action with probability 0.25
- Reward ($\mathcal{R} = -1$) per step
- Discount Factor ($\gamma = 1$)

Example: 2x2 Gridworld

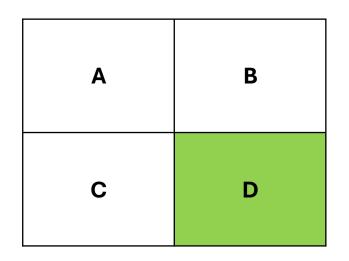


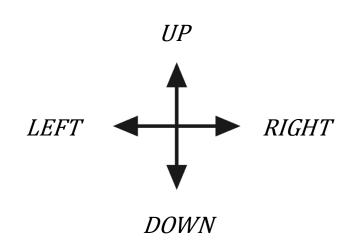


- Undiscounted MDP ($\gamma = 1$)
- Non-terminal states (A,B,C)
- Terminal State (D)
- Agent follows a uniform random policy

$$\pi(\text{up} \mid \cdot) = \pi(\text{left} \mid \cdot) = \pi(\text{down} \mid \cdot) = \pi(\text{right} \mid \cdot) = 0.25$$

Example: 2x2 Gridworld

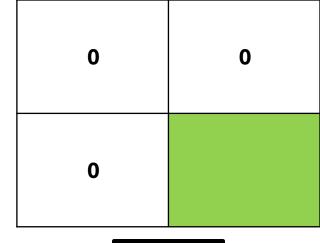




Rules:

- From each state, actions move you in that direction if possible, otherwise you stay in the same square.
- Reward is -1 until the terminal state is reached.
- The goal is to reach state D which gives 0 reward and ends the episode.

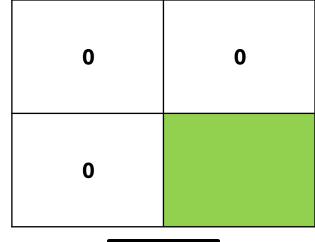
	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
А	0		
В	0		
С	0		



$$k = 0$$

Initially, we set the value functions $v_k(s)$ of all states to ${\sf zero}$

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0		
В	0		
С	0		

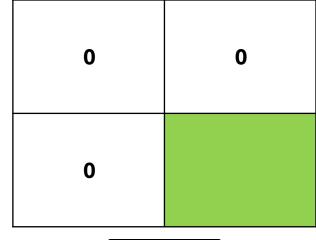


k = 0

We then use the **Bellman equation** to update the value function $v_k(s)$ of all states at each k iteration.

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0		
В	0		
С	0		

$$v_{k+1}(s) = \sum_{a} \pi(a \mid s)[r(s, a) + \gamma v_k(s')]$$



$$k = 0$$

$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))]$$

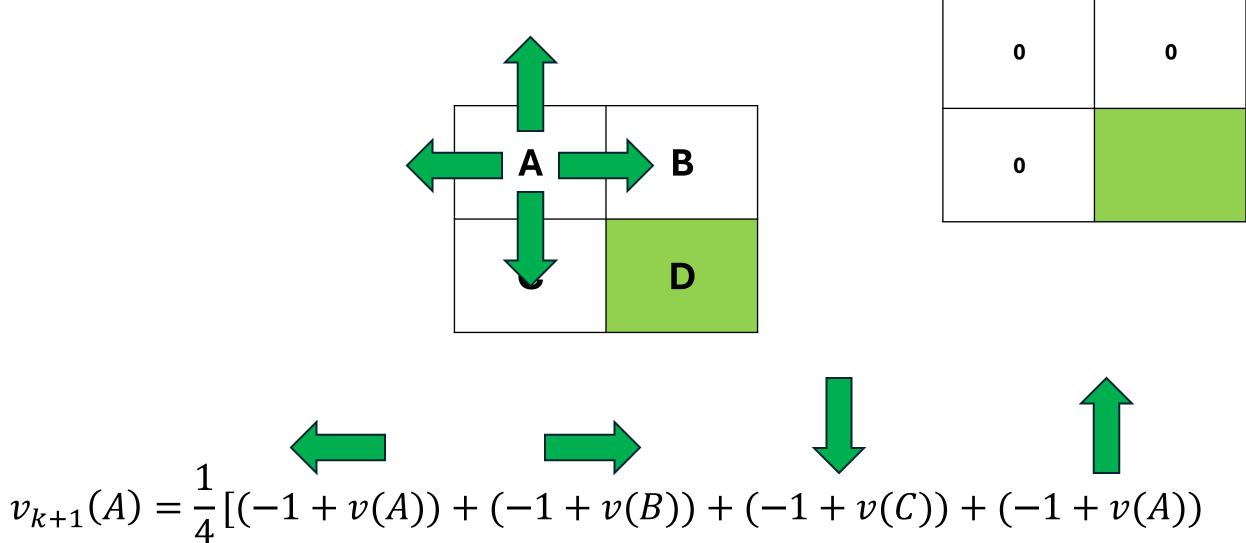
Using the Bellman equation, we get this

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0		
В	0		
С	0		

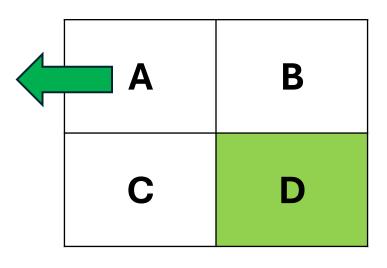
$$v_{k+1}(s) = \sum_{a} \pi(a \mid s)[r(s, a) + \gamma v_k(s')]$$

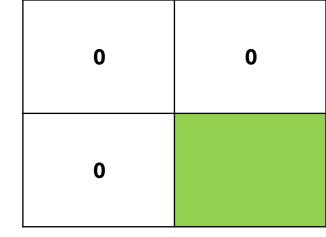
$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4}[(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))$$

Let us this break down. To update the value function of **state A**, we get the sum of the immediate reward plus the value function of the next state for all possible actions from state A.



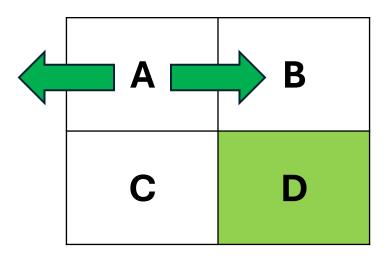
Let us this break down. To update the value function of **state A**, we get the sum of the immediate reward plus the value function of the next state for all possible actions from **state A**.

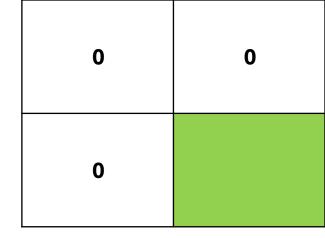




$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))$$

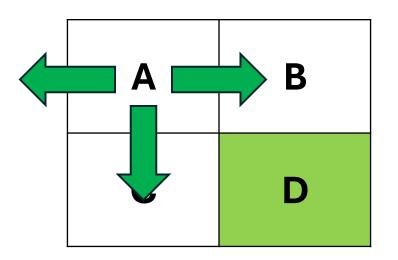
First term: When we go **LEFT**, we stay in **state A** and we will get a reward of -1 plus the value function of **state A**.

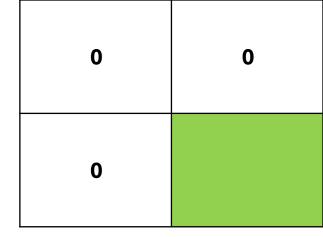




$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))]$$

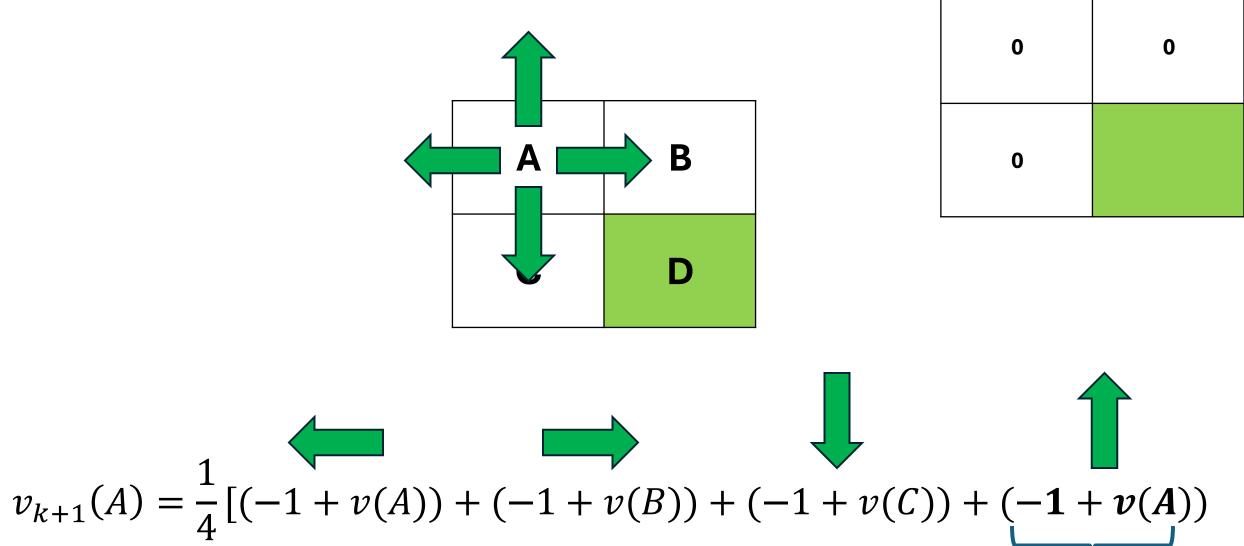
Second term: When we go **RIGHT**, we go to **state B** and we will get a reward of -1 plus the value function of **state B**.



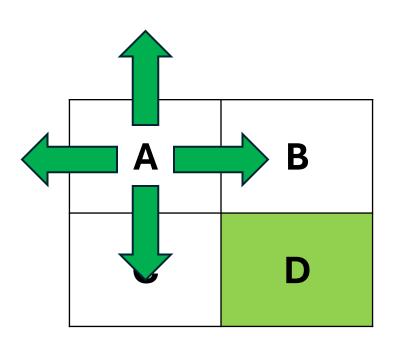


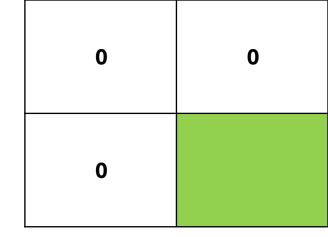
$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))]$$

Third term: When we go **DOWN**, we go to **state C** and we will get a reward of -1 plus the value function of **state A**.



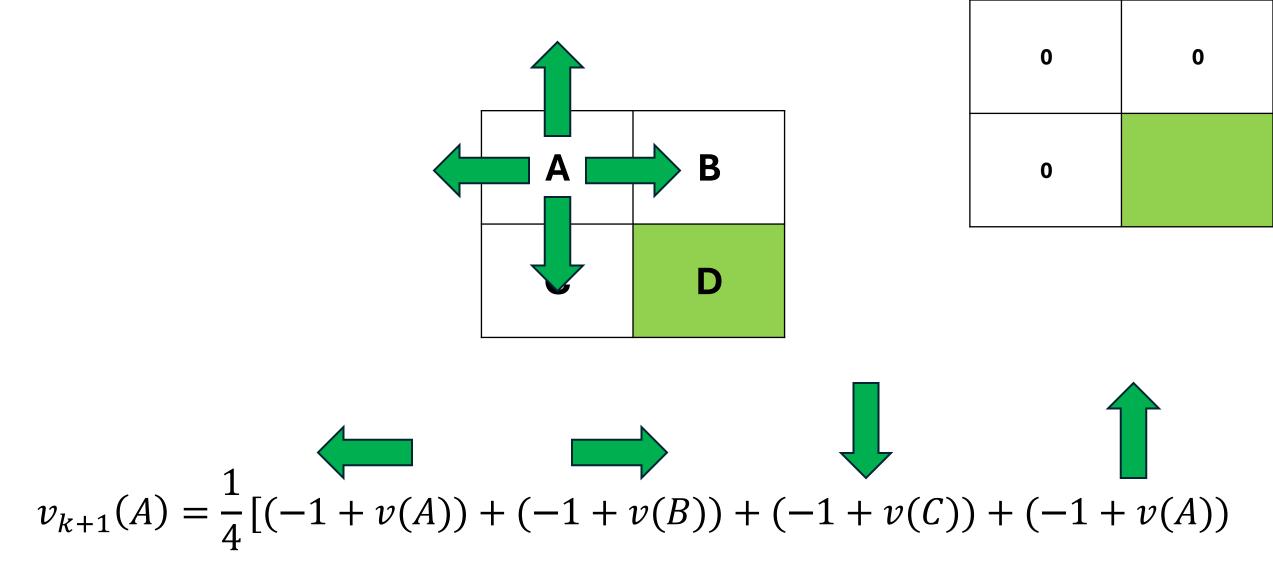
Fourth term: When we go **UP**, we stay in **state A** and we will get a reward of -1 plus the value function of **state A**.





$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))]$$

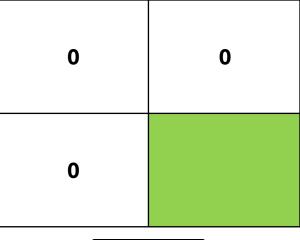
One fourth is the uniform random policy for all actions. The agent follows this policy of having a 25% probability of choosing action \mathcal{A} .



The discount factor γ is omitted because we set it to 1. If we have a different value for the discount factor, we would multiply it to each value function of the next state.

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0		
В	0		
С	0		

$$v_{k+1}(s) = \sum_{a} \pi(a \mid s)[r(s, a) + \gamma v_k(s')]$$



$$k = 1$$

$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))$$

$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0)]$$

$$v_{k+1}(A) = -1$$

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0	-1	
В	0		
С	0		



$$k = 1$$

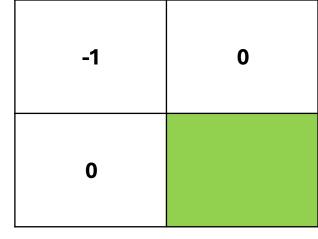
$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))]$$

$$v_{k+1}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0)]$$

$$v_{k+1}(A) = -1$$

We now store the new value function of state A

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0	-1	
В	0		
С	0		



$$k = 1$$

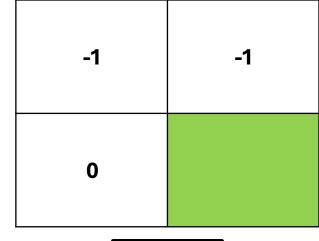
$$v_{k+1}(B) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(A)) + (-1 + v(B)) + (-1 + v(D)) + (-1 + v(B))]$$

$$v_{k+1}(B) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0) + (-1 + 0)]$$

$$v_{k+1}(B) = -1$$

We do the same process for state B

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0	-1	
В	0	-1	
С	0		



$$k = 1$$

$$v_{k+1}(C) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(D)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A))]$$

$$v_{k+1}(C) = \frac{1}{4}[(-1+0) + (-1+0) + (-1+0) + (-1+0)]$$

$$v_{k+1}(C) = -1$$

And state C

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0	-1	
В	0	-1	
С	0	-1	



$$k = 1$$

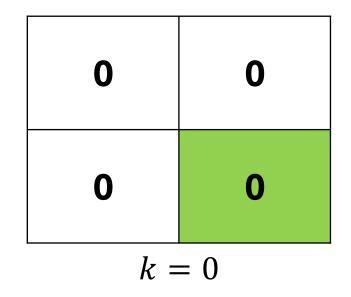
$$v_{k+1}(C) = \frac{1}{4} \left[(-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(D)) + (-1 + v(C)) + (-1 + v(A)) \right]$$

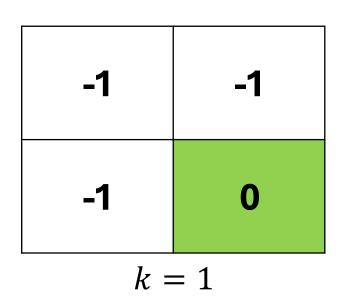
$$v_{k+1}(C) = \frac{1}{4}[(-1+0) + (-1+0) + (-1+0) + (-1+0)]$$

$$v_{k+1}(C) = -1$$

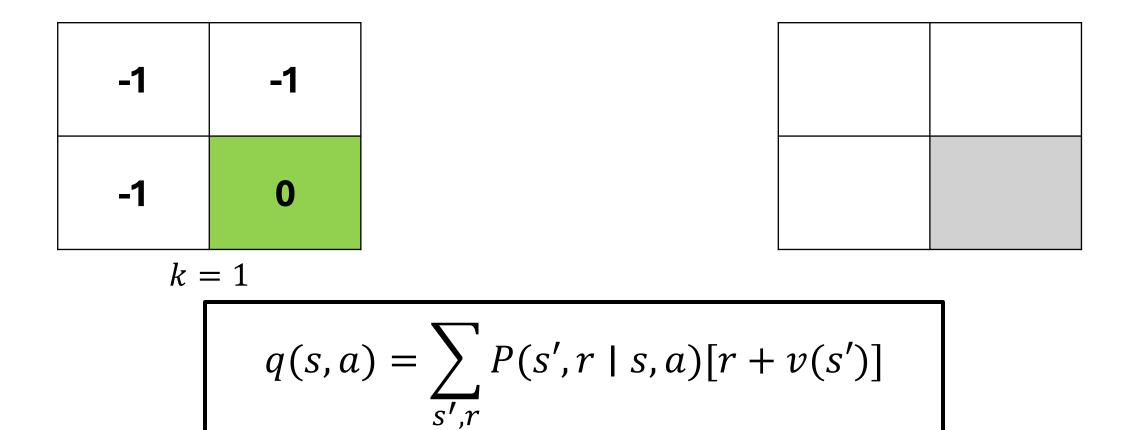
And state C



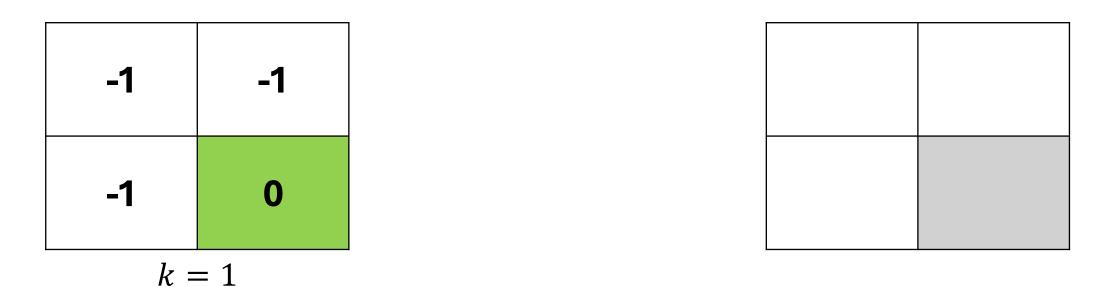




After one iteration, the value functions for **states A, B** and **C** were changed from -1 to 0.

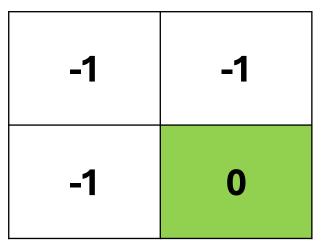


We now use the Bellman equation to compute the action-value functions for each state to improve our existing policy.



$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

Let us start computing the action-value functions of state A



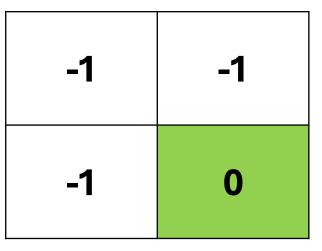
$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -1 + v(A)$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -1 + (-1)$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -2$$



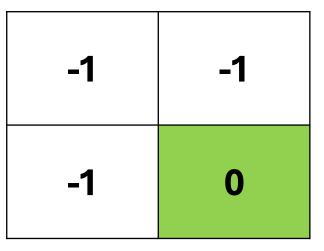
$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A,RIGHT) = -1 + v(B)$$

$$q(A,RIGHT) = -1 + (-1)$$

$$q(A,RIGHT) = -2$$



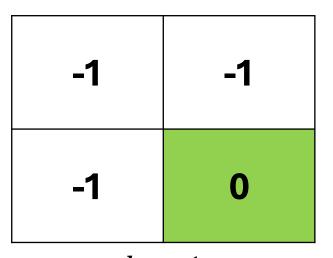
$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A,DOWN) = -1 + v(C)$$

$$q(A,DOWN) = -1 + (-1)$$

$$q(A,DOWN) = -2$$



$$k = 1$$

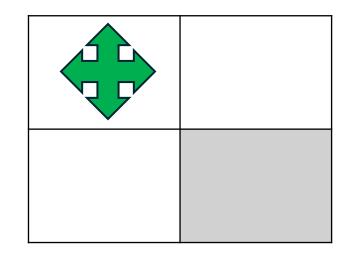
$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A, UP) = -1 + v(A)$$

 $q(A, UP) = -1 + (-1)$
 $q(A, UP) = -2$

$$q(A, UP) = -2$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -2$$



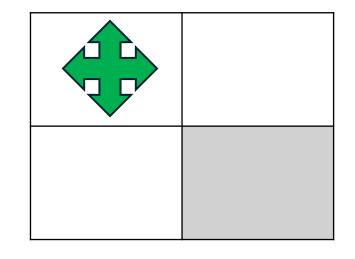
$$q(A,RIGHT) = -2$$

$$q(A, DOWN) = -2$$

We can now map the value for each action from state A

$$q(A, UP) = -2$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -2$$



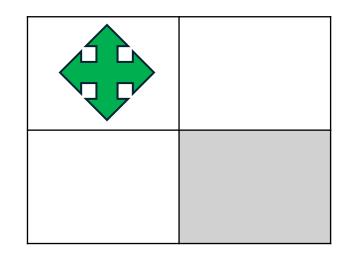
$$q(A, RIGHT) = -2$$

$$q(A, DOWN) = -2$$

This simply tells us that from **state A**, there is no best action to take because all of their values are the same.

$$q(A, UP) = -2$$

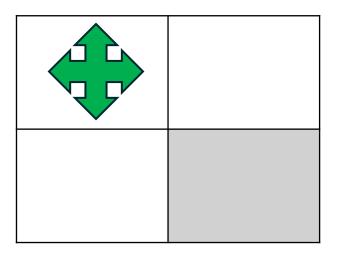
$$q(A, LEFT) = -2$$



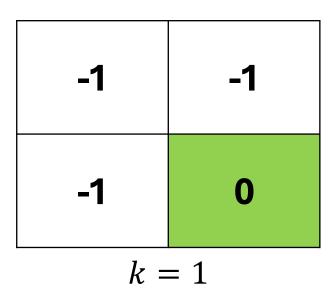
$$q(A, RIGHT) = -2$$

$$q(A, DOWN) = -2$$

Because all of the values are the same, the **policy** will also be the same for **state A**

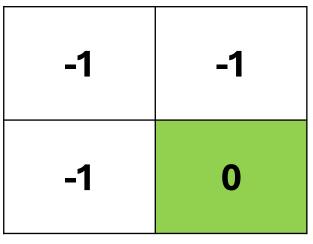


Let us now calculate the action-value functions for state B



$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

Similar to **state A**, we use the Bellman equation to compute the action-value functions for **state B**.



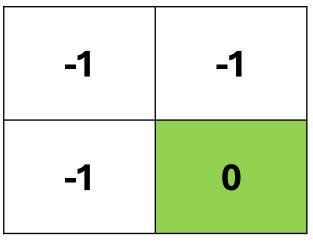
$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -1 + v(A)$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -1 + (-1)$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -2$$



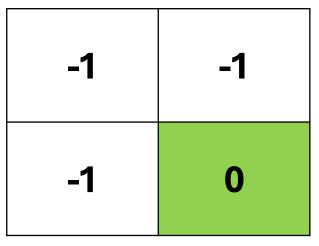
$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(B,RIGHT) = -1 + v(B)$$

$$q(B,RIGHT) = -1 + (-1)$$

$$q(B,RIGHT) = -2$$



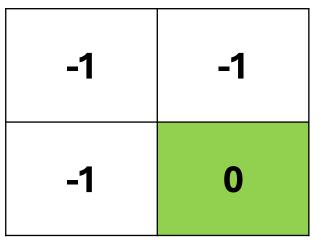
$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(B,DOWN) = -1 + v(D)$$

$$q(B,DOWN) = -1 + (0)$$

$$q(B,DOWN) = -1$$



$$k = 1$$

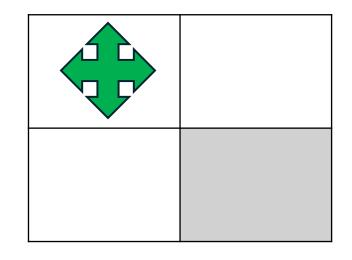
$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(B, UP) = -1 + v(B)$$

 $q(B, UP) = -1 + (-1)$
 $q(B, UP) = -2$

$$q(B, UP) = -2$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -2$$



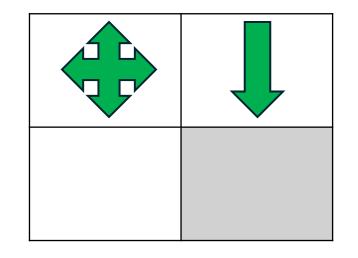
$$q(B,RIGHT) = -2$$

$$q(B, DOWN) = -1$$

We can now map the value for each action from state B

$$q(B, UP) = -2$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -2$$



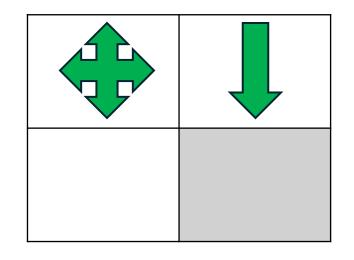
$$q(B,RIGHT) = -2$$

$$q(B, DOWN) = -1$$

This simply tells us that from **state B**, the best action to take is to go **DOWN** because going down has the highest value of all actions.

$$q(B, UP) = -2$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -2$$



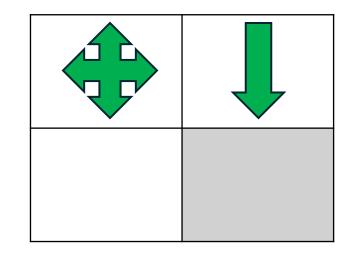
$$q(B,RIGHT) = -2$$

$$q(B, DOWN) = -1$$

Which makes sense because going **DOWN** will go to our goal which is **state D**.

$$q(B, UP) = -2$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -2$$

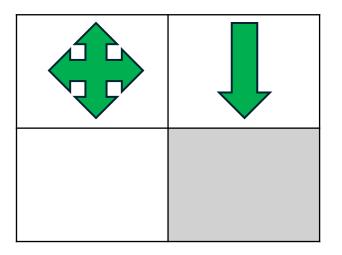


$$q(B,RIGHT) = -2$$

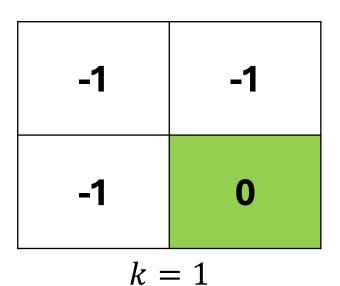
$$q(B, DOWN) = -1$$

Because of this, we can now update the policy for state B.

$$\pi(B) = \{DOWN\}$$

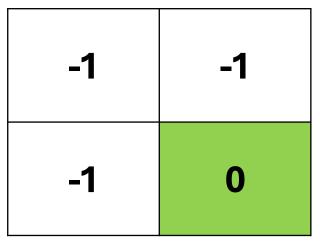


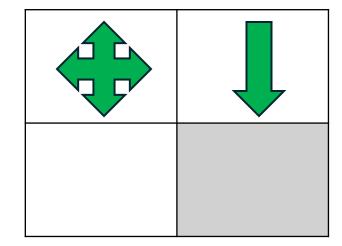
Let us now calculate the action-value functions for state C



$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

Similar to **state A** and **B**, we use the Bellman equation to compute the action-value functions for **state C**.





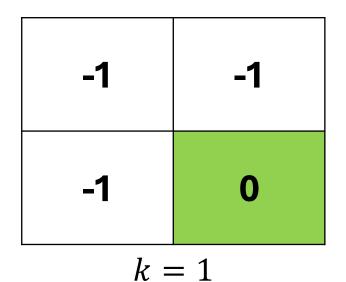
$$k = 1$$

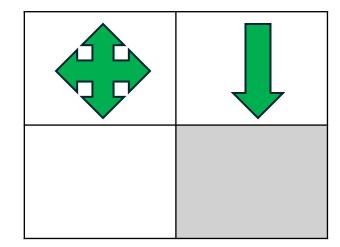
$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -1 + v(C)$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -1 + (-1)$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -2$$



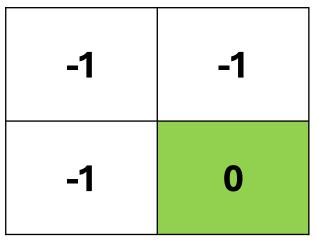


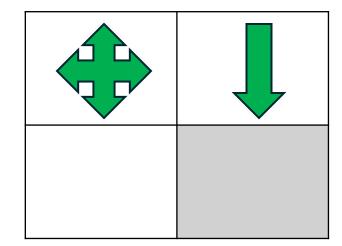
$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1 + v(D)$$

$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1 + (0)$$

$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1$$

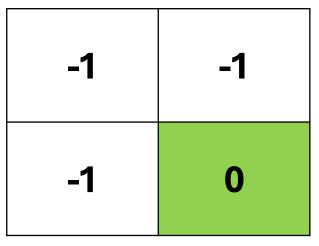


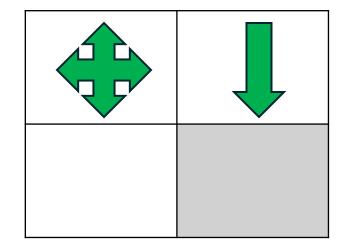


$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C,DOWN) = -1 + v(C)$$
$$q(C,DOWN) = -1 + (-1)$$
$$q(C,DOWN) = -2$$





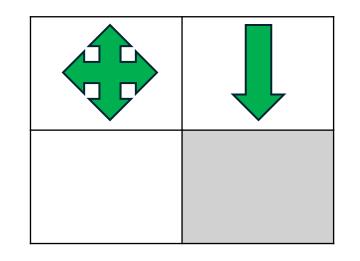
$$k = 1$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C, UP) = -1 + v(A)$$
$$q(C, UP) = -1 + (-1)$$
$$q(C, UP) = -2$$

$$q(C, UP) = -2$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -2$$



$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1$$

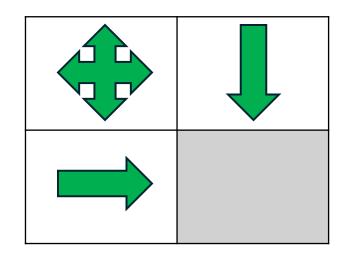
$$q(C,DOWN) = -2$$

We can now map the value for each action from state C



$$q(C, UP) = -2$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -2$$



$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1$$

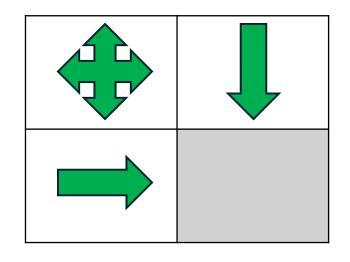
$$q(C, DOWN) = -2$$

This simply tells us that from **state C**, the best action to take is to go **RIGHT** because going right has the highest value of all actions.



$$q(C, UP) = -2$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -2$$



$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1$$

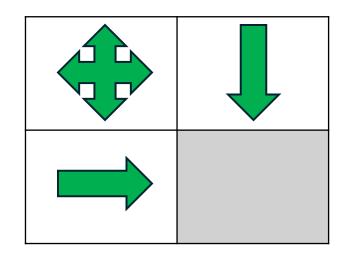
$$q(C,DOWN) = -2$$

Which makes sense because going **RIGHT** will go to our goal which is **state D**.



$$q(C, UP) = -2$$





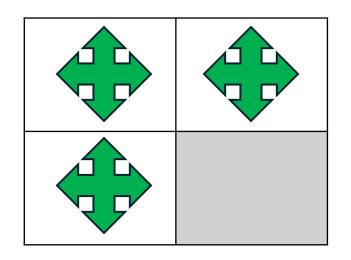
$$q(C,RIGHT) = -2$$

$$q(C, DOWN) = -1$$

Just like before, we can now update our policy for state C.

$$\pi(C) = \{RIGHT\}$$

$$k = 0$$



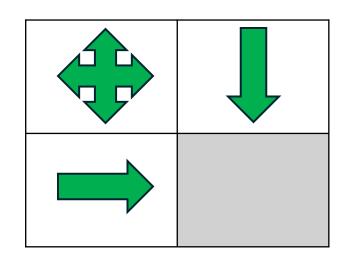
$$\pi(A) = \{LEFT, RIGHT, UP, DOWN\}$$

$$\pi(B) = \{LEFT, RIGHT, UP, DOWN\}$$

$$\pi(C) = \{LEFT, RIGHT, UP, DOWN\}$$

Initially, we started with this uniform random policy

$$k = 1$$



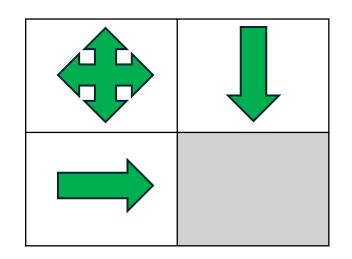
$$\pi(A) = \{LEFT, RIGHT, UP, DOWN\}$$

$$\pi(B) = \{DOWN\}$$

$$\pi(C) = \{RIGHT\}$$

After 1 iteration, we improved our previous policy.

$$k = 1$$



$$\pi(A) = \{LEFT, RIGHT, UP, DOWN\}$$

$$\pi(B) = \{DOWN\}$$

$$\pi(C) = \{RIGHT\}$$

Let us do one last iteration if we can reach convergence, or in RL terms, find the optimal policy π_*

$$-2$$

$$-1$$

$$k = 2$$

$$v_{k+2}(s) = \sum_{a} \pi(a \mid s)[r(s, a) + \gamma v_{k+1}(s')]$$

$$v_{k+2}(A) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v_{k+1}(A)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(B)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(C)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(A))$$

$$v_{k+2}(A) = \frac{1}{4}[(-1-1) + (-1-1) + (-1-1) + (-1-1)]$$

$$v_{k+2}(A) = -2$$

	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0	1	-2
В	0	-1	-1.75
С	0	-1	

$$v_{k+2}(s) = \sum_{a} \pi(a \mid s)[r(s, a) + \gamma v_{k+1}(s')]$$

k = 1

$$v_{k+2}(B) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v_{k+1}(A)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(B)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(D)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(B))$$

$$v_{k+2}(B) = \frac{1}{4}[(-1-1) + (-1-1) + (-1+0) + (-1-1)]$$

$$v_{k+2}(B) = -1.75$$

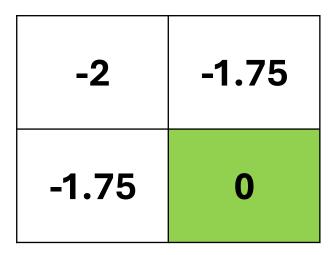
	$v_k(s)$	$v_{k+1}(s)$	$v_{k+2}(s)$
Α	0	7	-2
В	0	-1	-1.75
С	0	-1	-1.75

$$v_{k+2}(s) = \sum_{a} \pi(a \mid s)[r(s, a) + \gamma v_{k+1}(s')]$$

$$v_{k+2}(C) = \frac{1}{4} [(-1 + v_{k+1}(C)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(D)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(C)) + (-1 + v_{k+1}(A))]$$

$$v_{k+2}(C) = \frac{1}{4}[(-1-1) + (-1+0) + (-1) + (-1-1)$$

$$v_{k+2}(C) = -1.75$$



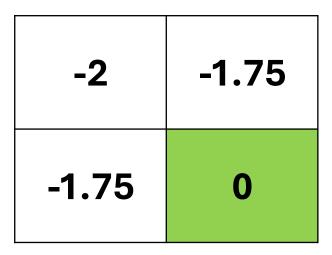
$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -1 + v(A)$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -1 + (-2)$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -3$$

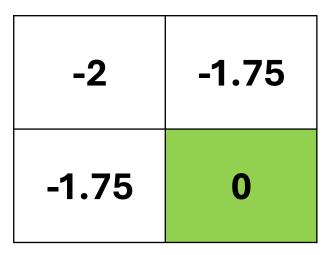


$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A,RIGHT) = -1 + v(B)$$

 $q(A,RIGHT) = -1 + (-1.75)$
 $q(A,RIGHT) = -2.75$

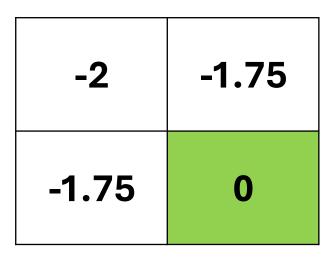


$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A, DOWN) = -1 + v(C)$$

 $q(A, DOWN) = -1 + (-1.75)$
 $q(A, DOWN) = -2.75$



$$k = 2$$

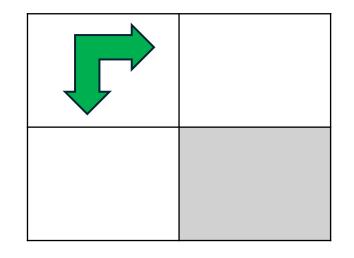
$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(A, UP) = -1 + v(A)$$

 $q(A, UP) = -1 + (-2)$
 $q(A, UP) = -3$

$$q(A, UP) = -3$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -3$$



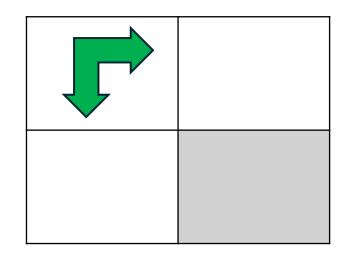
$$q(A,RIGHT) = -2.75$$

$$q(A, DOWN) = -2.75$$

We can now map the value for each action from state A

$$q(A, UP) = -3$$

$$q(A, LEFT) = -3$$



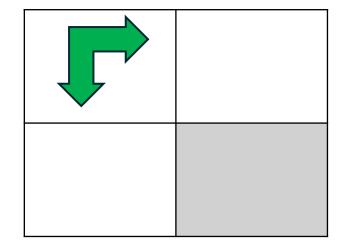
$$q(A,RIGHT) = -2.75$$

$$q(A, DOWN) = -2.75$$

And update the existing policy for state A

$$\pi(A) = \{RIGHT, DOWN\}$$





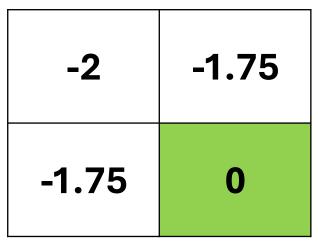
$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -1 + v(A)$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -1 + (-2)$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -3$$

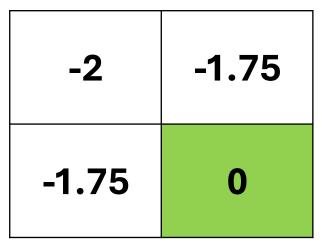


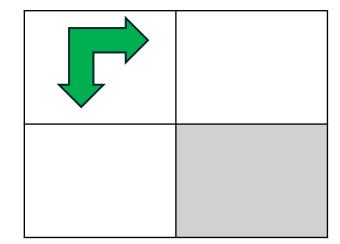
$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(B,RIGHT) = -1 + v(B)$$

 $q(B,RIGHT) = -1 + (-1.75)$
 $q(B,RIGHT) = -2.75$





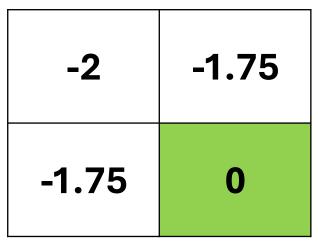
$$k = 2$$

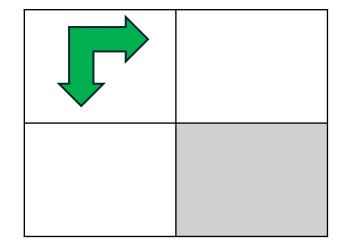
$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(B,DOWN) = -1 + v(D)$$

$$q(B,DOWN) = -1 + (0)$$

$$q(B,DOWN) = -1$$





$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

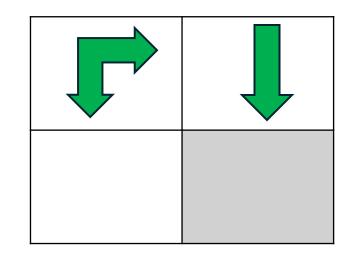
$$q(B, UP) = -1 + v(B)$$

$$q(B, UP) = -1 + (-1.75)$$

$$q(B, UP) = -2.75$$

$$q(B, UP) = -2.75$$

$$q(B, LEFT) = -3$$



$$q(B,RIGHT) = -2.75$$

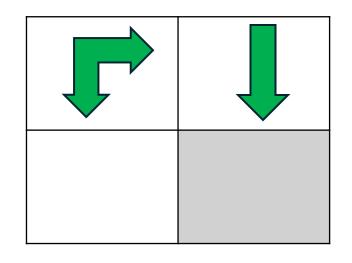
$$q(B, DOWN) = -1$$

We can now map the value for each action from state B



$$q(B, UP) = -2.75$$





$$q(B,RIGHT) = -2.75$$

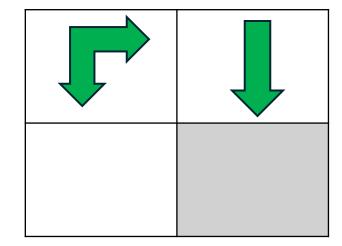
$$q(B, DOWN) = -1$$

Because **DOWN** has the highest action-value function The policy of **state B will**

not change

$$\pi(B) = \{DOWN\}$$



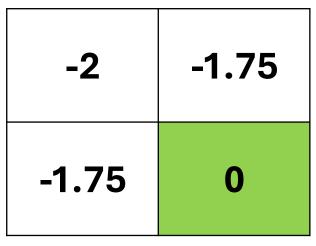


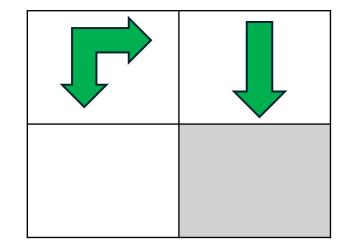
$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -1 + v(C)$$

 $q(C, LEFT) = -1 + (-1.75)$
 $q(C, LEFT) = -2.75$





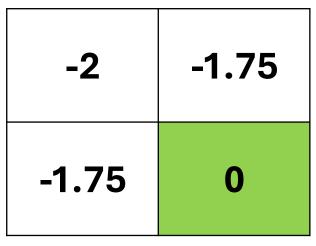
$$k = 2$$

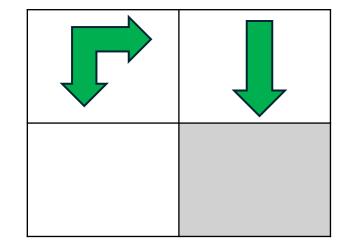
$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1 + v(D)$$

$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1 + (0)$$

$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1$$



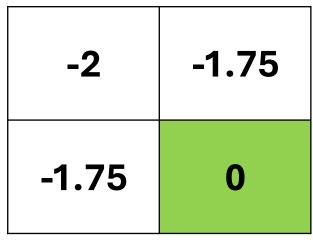


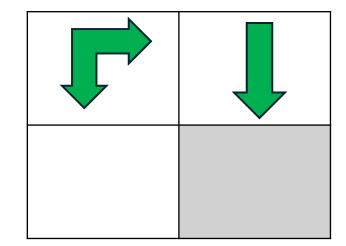
$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C,DOWN) = -1 + v(C)$$

 $q(C,DOWN) = -1 + (-1.75)$
 $q(C,DOWN) = -2.75$





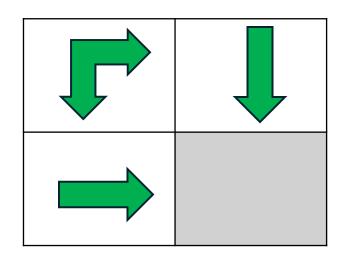
$$k = 2$$

$$q(s,a) = \sum_{s',r} P(s',r \mid s,a)[r + v(s')]$$

$$q(C, UP) = -1 + v(A)$$
$$q(C, UP) = -1 + (-2)$$
$$q(C, UP) = -3$$

$$q(C, UP) = -3$$

$$q(C, LEFT) = -2.75$$



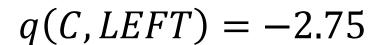
$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1$$

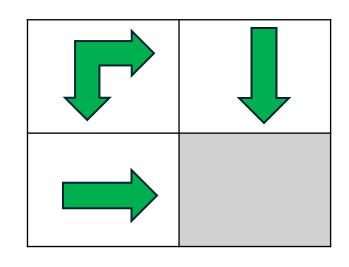
$$q(C,DOWN) = -2.75$$

We can now map the value for each action from state C and update our policy



$$q(C, UP) = -3$$





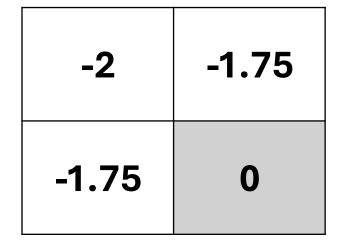
$$q(C,RIGHT) = -1$$

$$q(C,DOWN) = -2.75$$

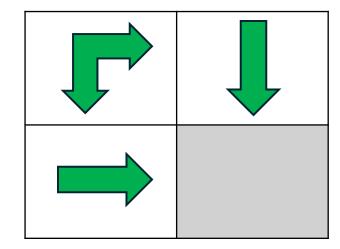
Similar to **state B**, the **policy** for **state C** will stay the same because going right has the highest action value

$$\pi(C) = \{RIGHT\}$$

k = 2



Value function v_k at time step k

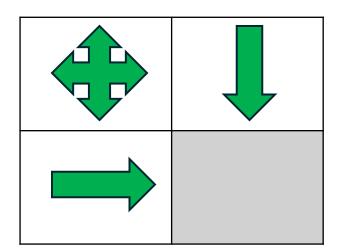


Greedy Policy with respect to v_k

After the second iteration, we can see that we achieved the optimal policy π_{\ast}

Value function v_k at time step k for the random policy

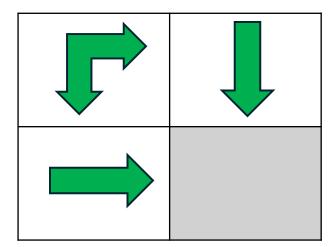
-1 -1 -1 0 Greedy Policy with respect to v_k



Value function v_k at time step k for the random policy

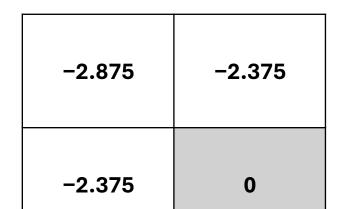
-2	-1.75
-1.75	0

Greedy Policy with respect to v_k

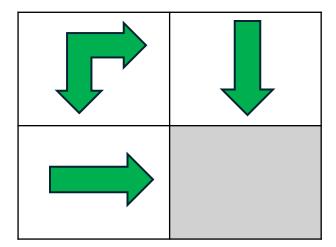


Value function 11 et time

value function v_k at time
step k for the random policy



Greedy Policy with respect to v_k



k = 3 onwards

Value function for all states at each k iteration

k = 0	0	0
	0	0

$$k = 1$$

$$-1$$

$$-1$$

$$0$$

k = 2	-2	-1.75
K — Z	-1.75	0

$$k = 3$$
 -2.375 0

Policy improvement each *k* iteration

k = 3

