

# Lecture 4: Sequence Models I

Alan Ritter

(many slides from Greg Durrett, Dan Klein, Vivek Srikumar, Chris Manning, Yoav Artzi)

# This Lecture

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- ▶ Sequence modeling
- ▶ HMMs for POS tagging
- ▶ HMM parameter estimation
- ▶ Viterbi, forward-backward

# Linguistic Structures

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- ▶ Language is tree-structured

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*I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks*

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# Linguistic Structures

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*I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks*

The diagram illustrates the tree structure of the sentence "I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks" using arcs. A long orange arc connects the word "I" to the word "chopsticks", indicating a global dependency. Below this, two black arcs show local dependencies: one from "ate" to "the" and another from "spaghetti" to "with".

*I ate the spaghetti with meatballs*

# Linguistic Structures

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- ▶ Language is tree-structured



*I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks*

The diagram illustrates the tree structure of the sentence "I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks". It features four curved arrows above the text, representing syntactic dependencies. From left to right: a small black arrow from "I" to "ate"; a black arrow from "ate" to "the"; a long orange arrow from "the" to "chopsticks", indicating a long-distance dependency; and a black arrow from "chopsticks" to "spaghetti".



*I ate the spaghetti with meatballs*

The diagram illustrates the tree structure of the sentence "I ate the spaghetti with meatballs". It features four curved arrows above the text, representing syntactic dependencies. From left to right: a small black arrow from "I" to "ate"; a black arrow from "ate" to "the"; an orange arrow from "the" to "meatballs", indicating a long-distance dependency; and a black arrow from "meatballs" to "spaghetti".

# Linguistic Structures

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*I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks*

The diagram illustrates a shallow syntactic analysis for the sentence "I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks". It uses arcs to show the hierarchical structure of the sentence. A long orange arc connects the word "I" to the word "with", indicating a subject-verb relationship. A black arc connects "ate" to "chopsticks", indicating an object-verb relationship. A black arc connects "the" to "spaghetti", indicating a determiner-noun relationship. A black arc connects "spaghetti" to "with", indicating a noun-preposition relationship. A black arc connects "with" to "chopsticks", indicating a preposition-object relationship.



*I ate the spaghetti with meatballs*

The diagram illustrates a shallow syntactic analysis for the sentence "I ate the spaghetti with meatballs". It uses arcs to show the hierarchical structure of the sentence. A long orange arc connects the word "I" to the word "with", indicating a subject-verb relationship. A black arc connects "ate" to "meatballs", indicating an object-verb relationship. A black arc connects "the" to "spaghetti", indicating a determiner-noun relationship. A black arc connects "spaghetti" to "with", indicating a noun-preposition relationship. A black arc connects "with" to "meatballs", indicating a preposition-object relationship.

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*I ate the spaghetti with meatballs*

- ▶ Understanding syntax fundamentally requires trees — the sentences have the same shallow analysis

PRP VBZ DT NN IN NNS  
*I ate the spaghetti with chopsticks*

PRP VBZ DT NN IN NNS  
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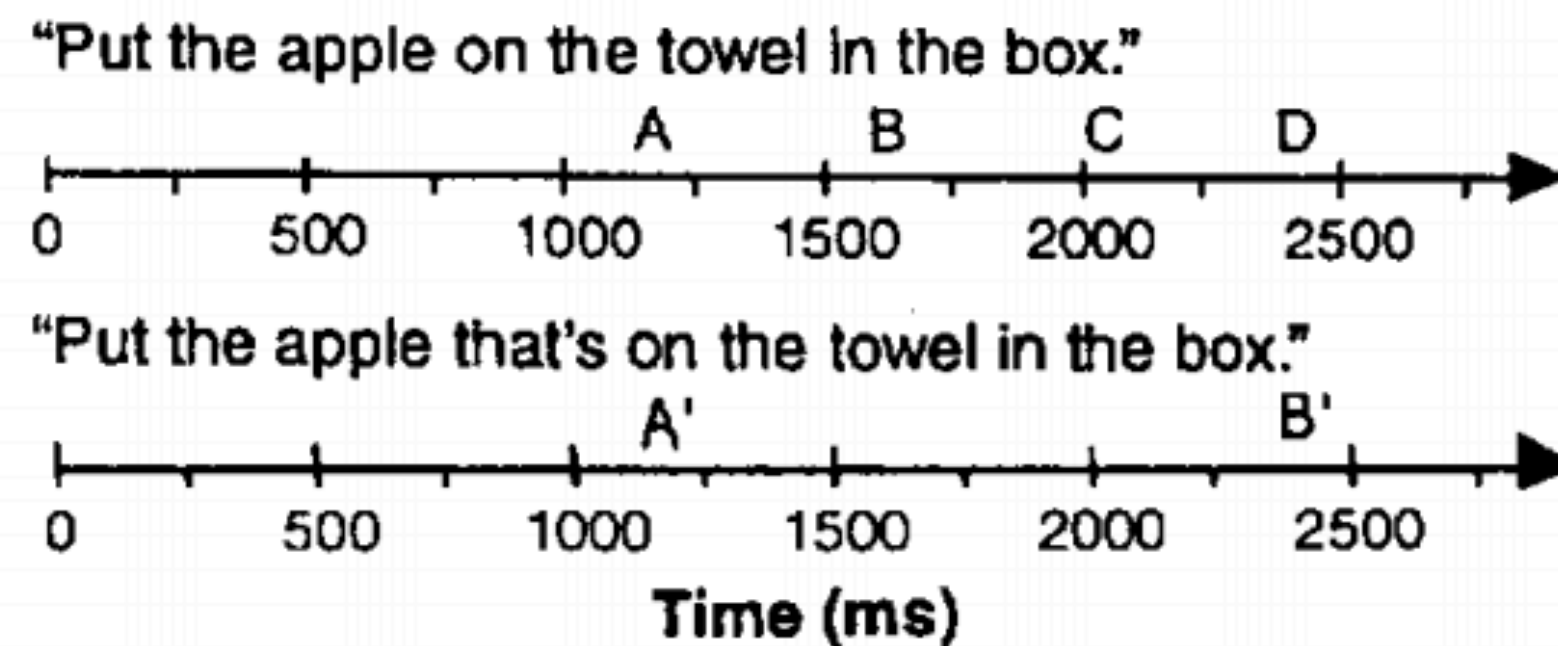
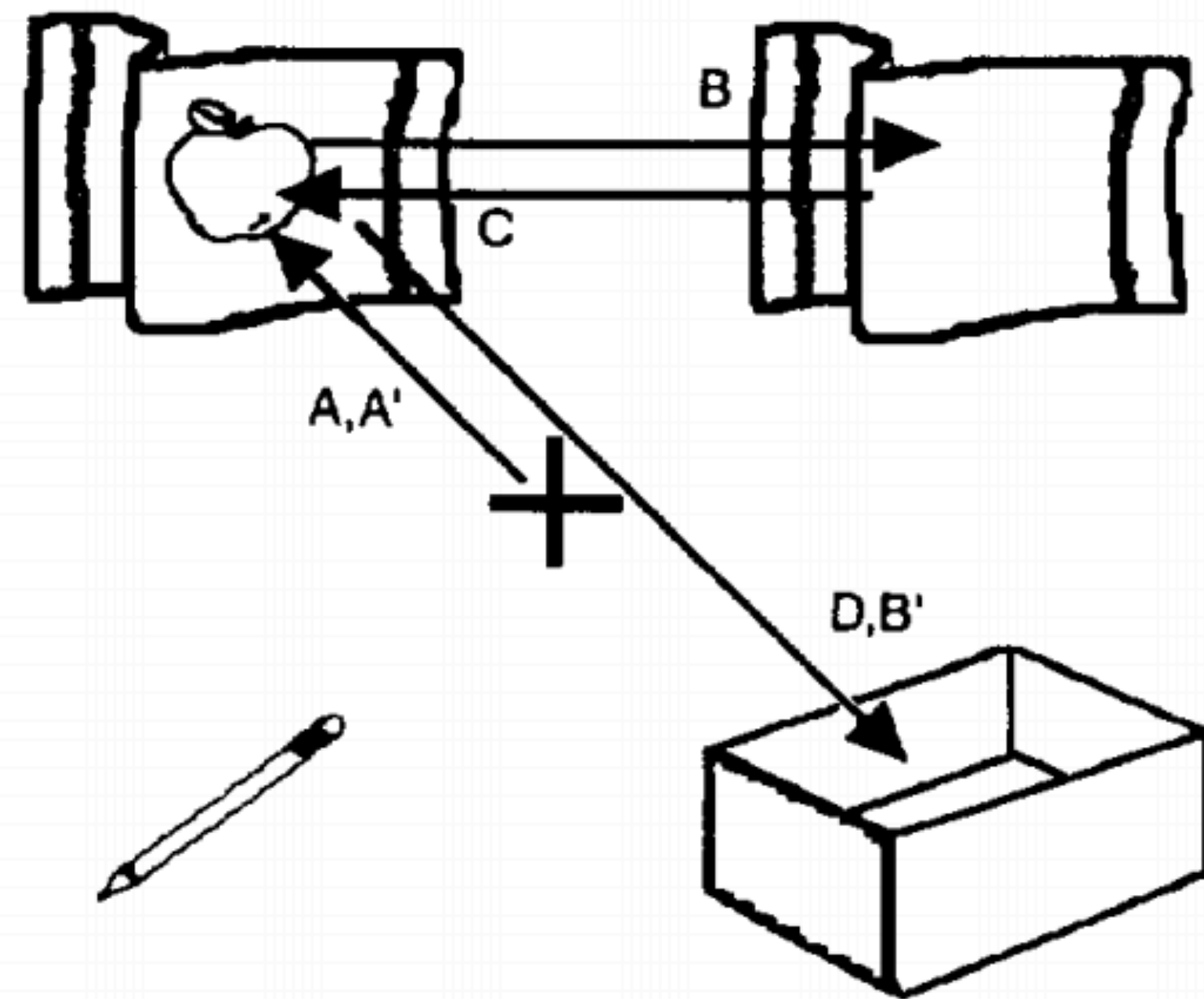
# Linguistic Structures

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- ▶ Language is sequentially structured: interpreted in an online way

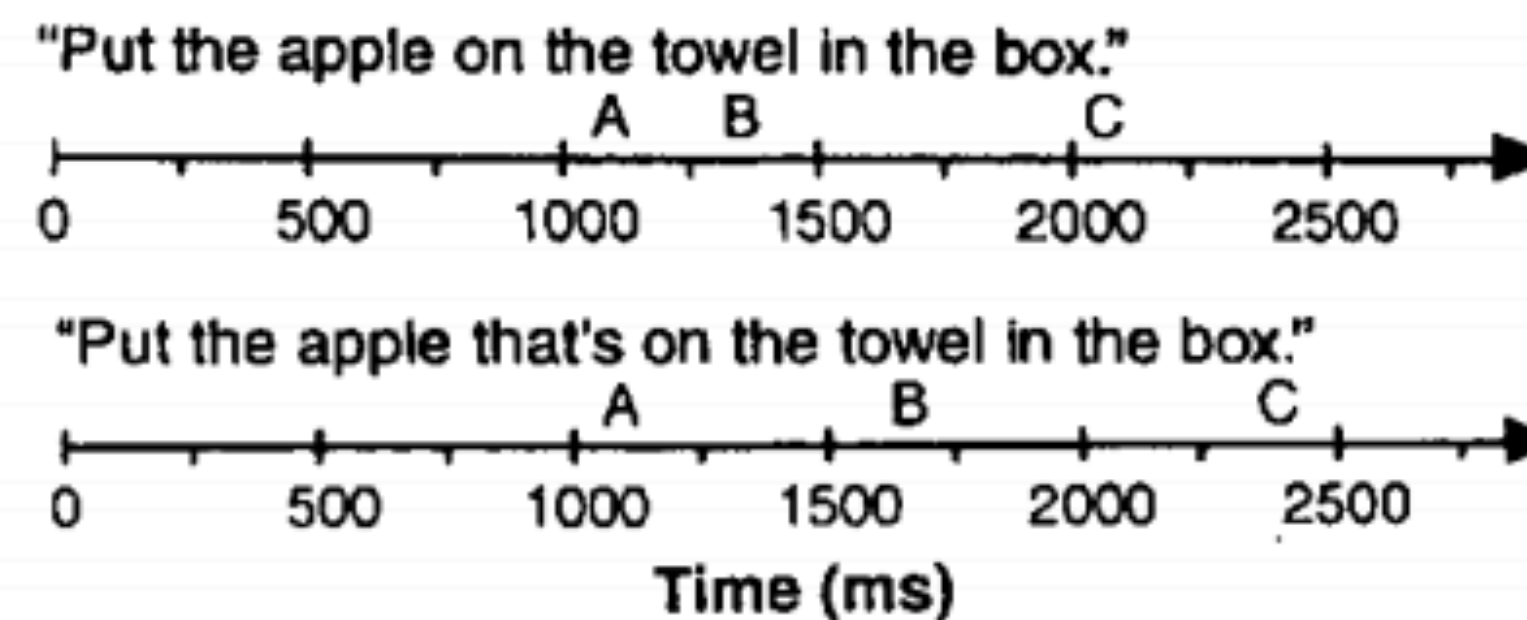
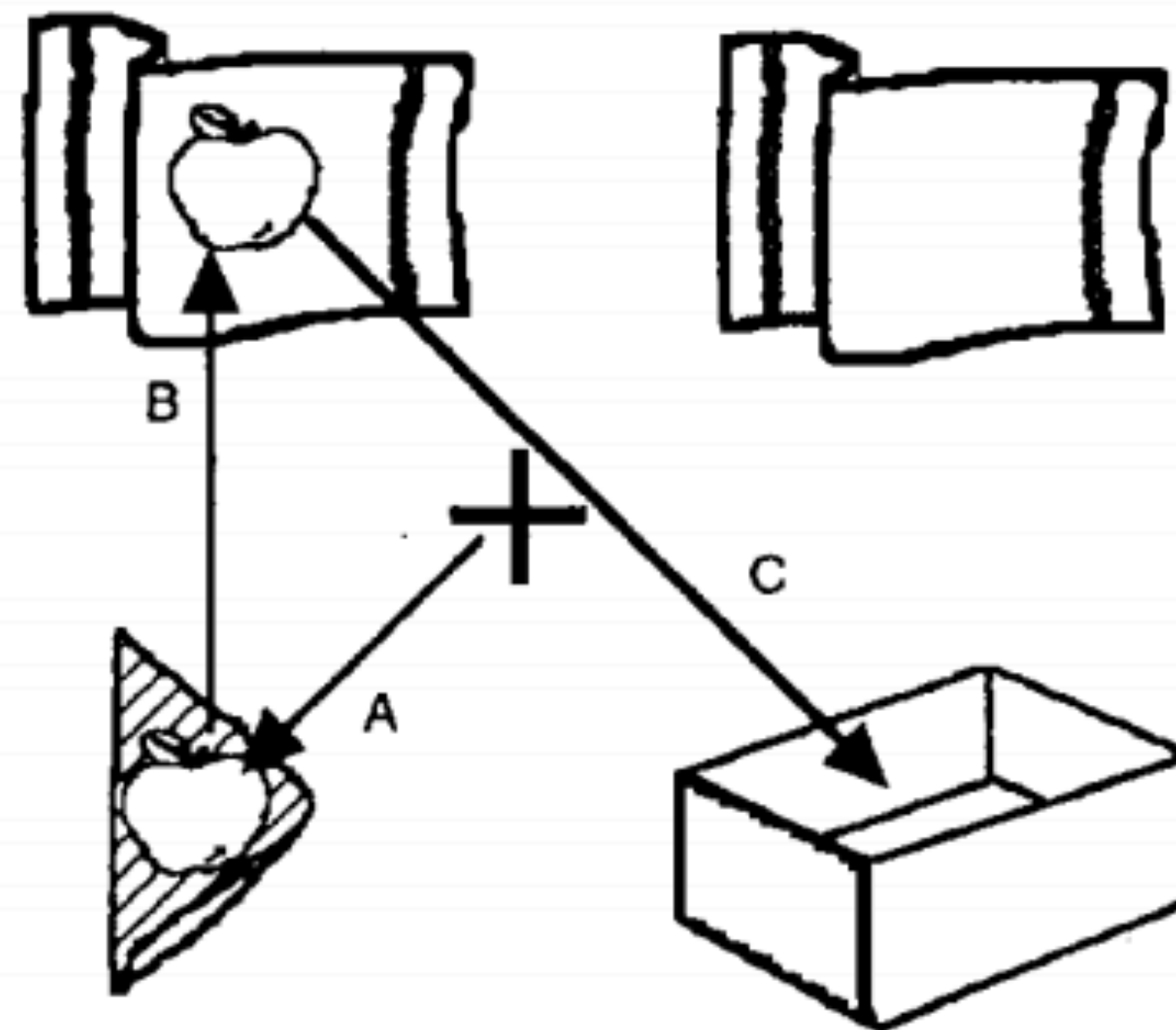
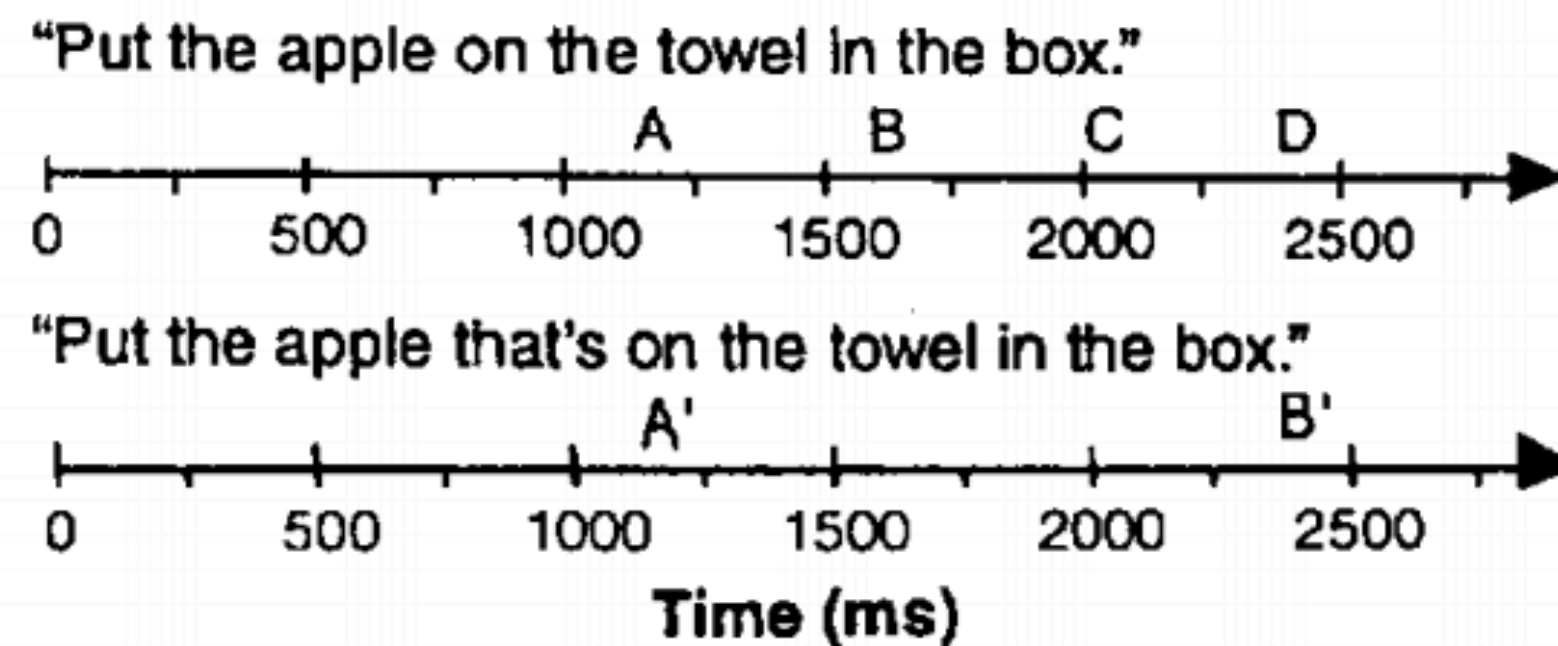
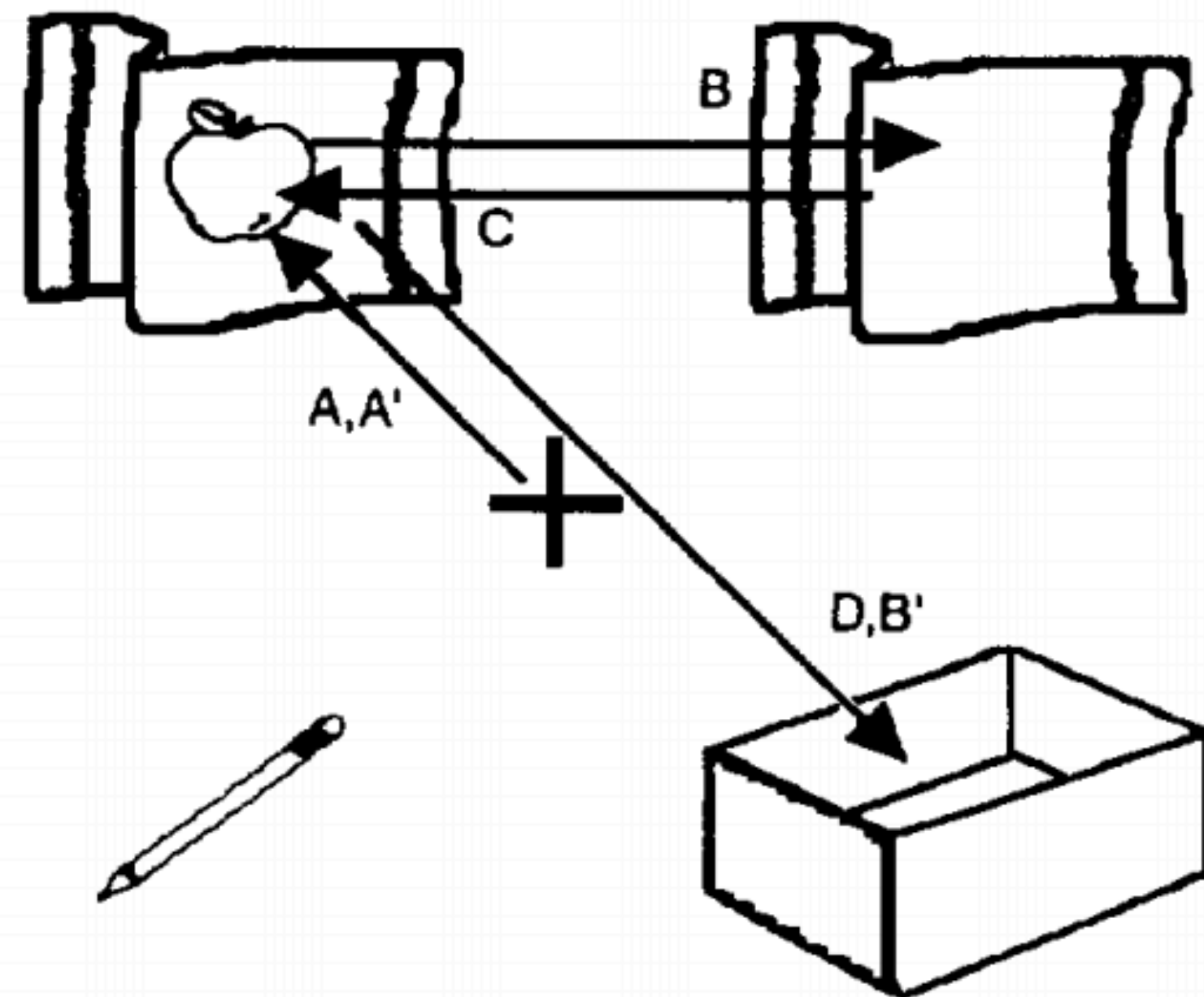
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# Linguistic Structures

- Language is sequentially structured: interpreted in an online way



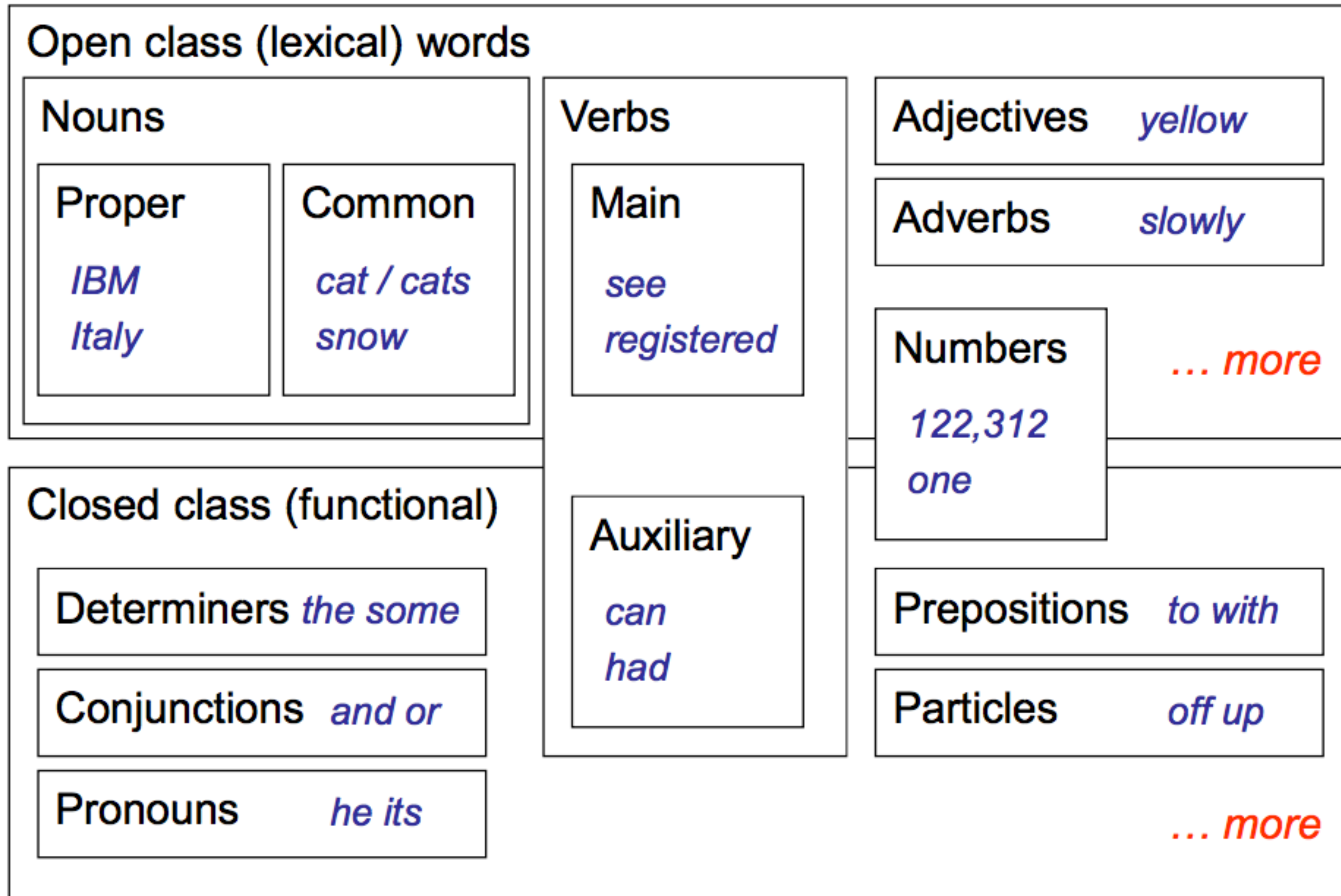
# POS Tagging

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- ▶ What tags are out there?

*Ghana 's ambassador should have set up the big meeting in DC yesterday .*

# POS Tagging



# POS Tagging

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*Fed raises interest rates 0.5 percent*

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*Fed raises interest rates 0.5 percent*

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increase interest  
rates 0.5%



# POS Tagging

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VBD

VBN

NNP

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# POS Tagging

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NNP NNS NN

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- ▶ Other paths are also plausible but even more semantically weird...
- ▶ What governs the correct choice? Word + context
  - ▶ Word identity: most words have  $\leq 2$  tags, many have one (*percent*, *the*)
  - ▶ Context: nouns start sentences, nouns follow verbs, etc.

# POS Tagging

<b>CC</b>	conjunction, coordinating	and both but either or
<b>CD</b>	numeral, cardinal	mid-1890 nine-thirty 0.5 one
<b>DT</b>	determiner	a all an every no that the
<b>EX</b>	existential there	there
<b>FW</b>	foreign word	gemeinschaft hund ich jeux
<b>IN</b>	preposition or conjunction, subordinating	among whether out on by if
<b>JJ</b>	adjective or numeral, ordinal	third ill-mannered regrettable
<b>JJR</b>	adjective, comparative	braver cheaper taller
<b>JJS</b>	adjective, superlative	bravest cheapest tallest
<b>MD</b>	modal auxiliary	can may might will would
<b>NN</b>	noun, common, singular or mass	cabbage thermostat investment subhumanity
<b>NNP</b>	noun, proper, singular	Motown Cougar Yvette Liverpool
<b>NNPS</b>	noun, proper, plural	Americans Materials States
<b>NNS</b>	noun, common, plural	undergraduates bric-a-brac averages
<b>POS</b>	genitive marker	's
<b>PRP</b>	pronoun, personal	hers himself it we them
<b>PRP\$</b>	pronoun, possessive	her his mine my our ours their thy your
<b>RB</b>	adverb	occasionally maddeningly adventurously
<b>RBR</b>	adverb, comparative	further gloomier heavier less-perfectly
<b>RBS</b>	adverb, superlative	best biggest nearest worst
<b>RP</b>	particle	aboard away back by on open through
<b>TO</b>	"to" as preposition or infinitive marker	to
<b>UH</b>	interjection	huh howdy uh whammo shucks heck
<b>VB</b>	verb, base form	ask bring fire see take
<b>VBD</b>	verb, past tense	pleaded swiped registered saw
<b>VBG</b>	verb, present participle or gerund	stirring focusing approaching erasing
<b>VBN</b>	verb, past participle	dilapidated imitated reunified unsettled
<b>VBP</b>	verb, present tense, not 3rd person singular	twist appear comprise mold postpone
<b>VBZ</b>	verb, present tense, 3rd person singular	bases reconstructs marks uses
<b>WDT</b>	WH-determiner	that what whatever which whichever
<b>WP</b>	WH-pronoun	that what whatever which who whom
<b>WP\$</b>	WH-pronoun, possessive	whose
<b>WRB</b>	Wh-adverb	however whenever where why

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- ▶ Text-to-speech: *record, lead*
- ▶ Preprocessing step for syntactic parsers
- ▶ Domain-independent disambiguation for other tasks
- ▶ (Very) shallow information extraction

# Sequence Models

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- ▶ POS tagging:  $\mathbf{x}$  is a sequence of words,  $\mathbf{y}$  is a sequence of tags
- ▶ Today: generative models  $P(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ ; discriminative models next time

# Hidden Markov Models

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- ▶ Input  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$     Output  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$
- ▶ Model the sequence of  $y$  as a Markov process (dynamics model)

# Hidden Markov Models

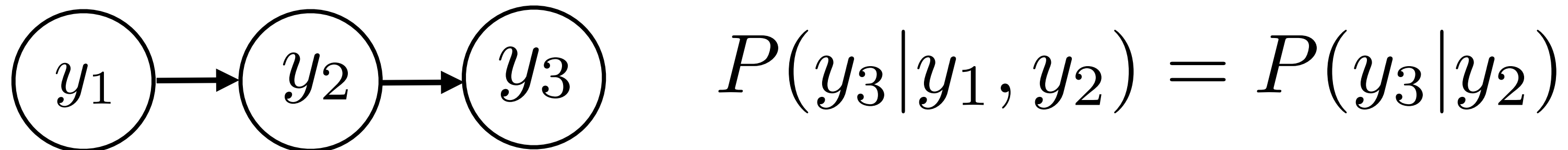
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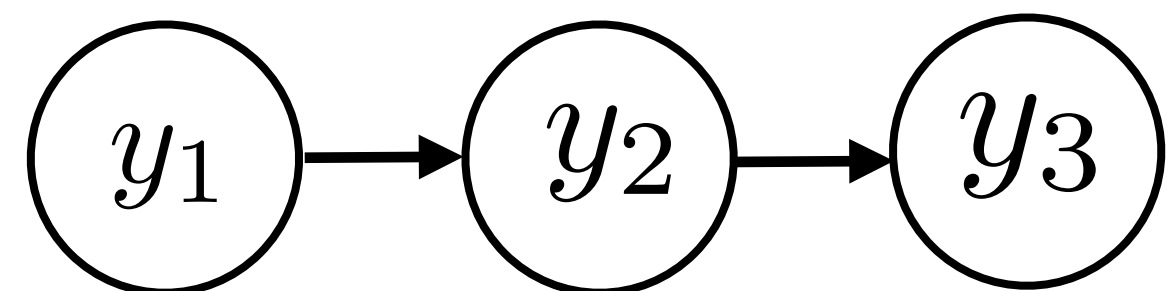
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A diagram showing three circles labeled  $y_1$ ,  $y_2$ , and  $y_3$  arranged horizontally. An arrow points from  $y_1$  to  $y_2$ , and another arrow points from  $y_2$  to  $y_3$ .

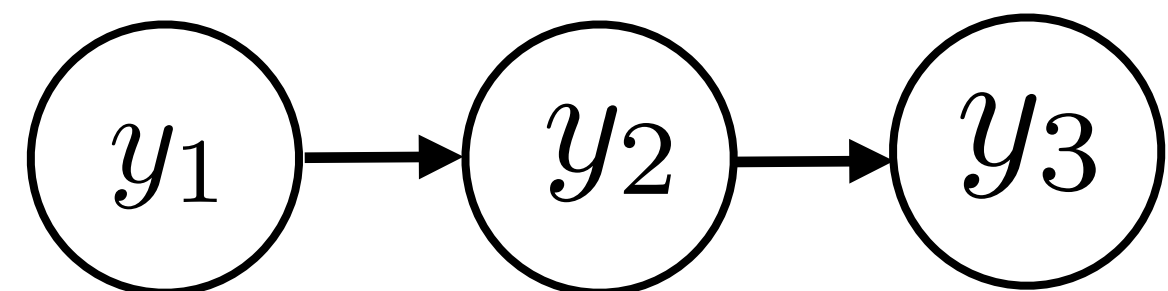
$$P(y_3|y_1, y_2) = P(y_3|y_2)$$

- ▶ Lots of mathematical theory about how Markov chains behave

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- ▶ Lots of mathematical theory about how Markov chains behave
- ▶ If  $y$  are tags, this roughly corresponds to assuming that the next tag only depends on the current tag, not anything before

# Hidden Markov Models

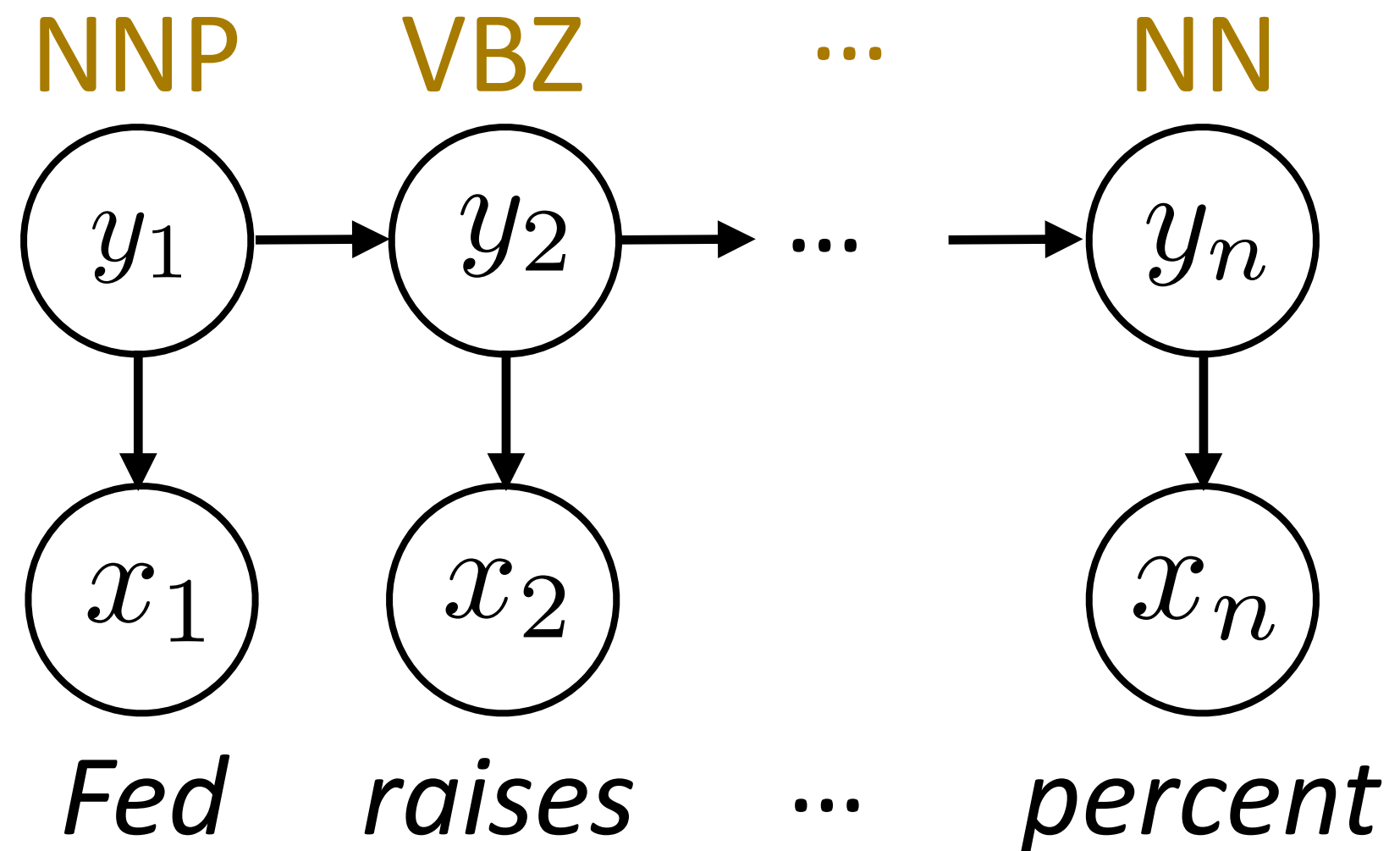
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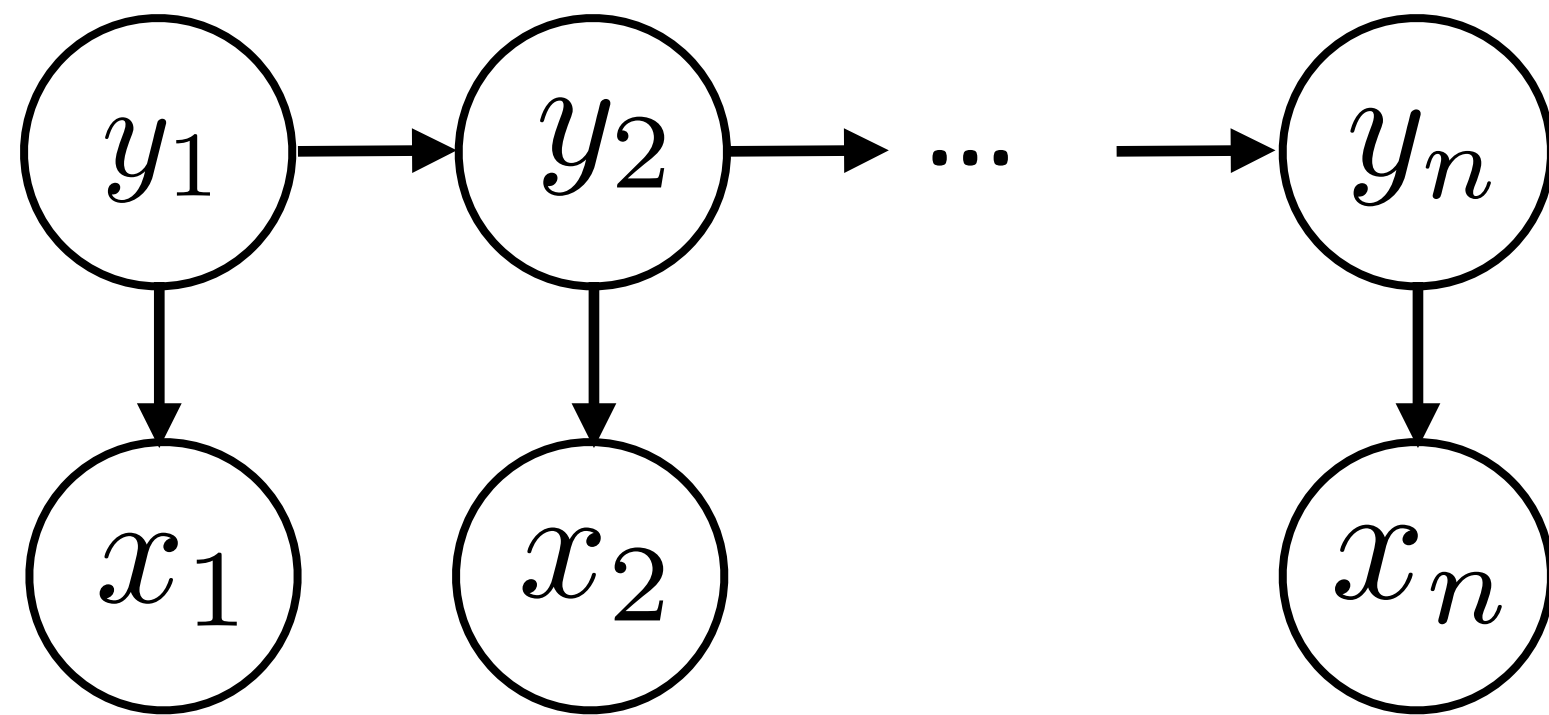
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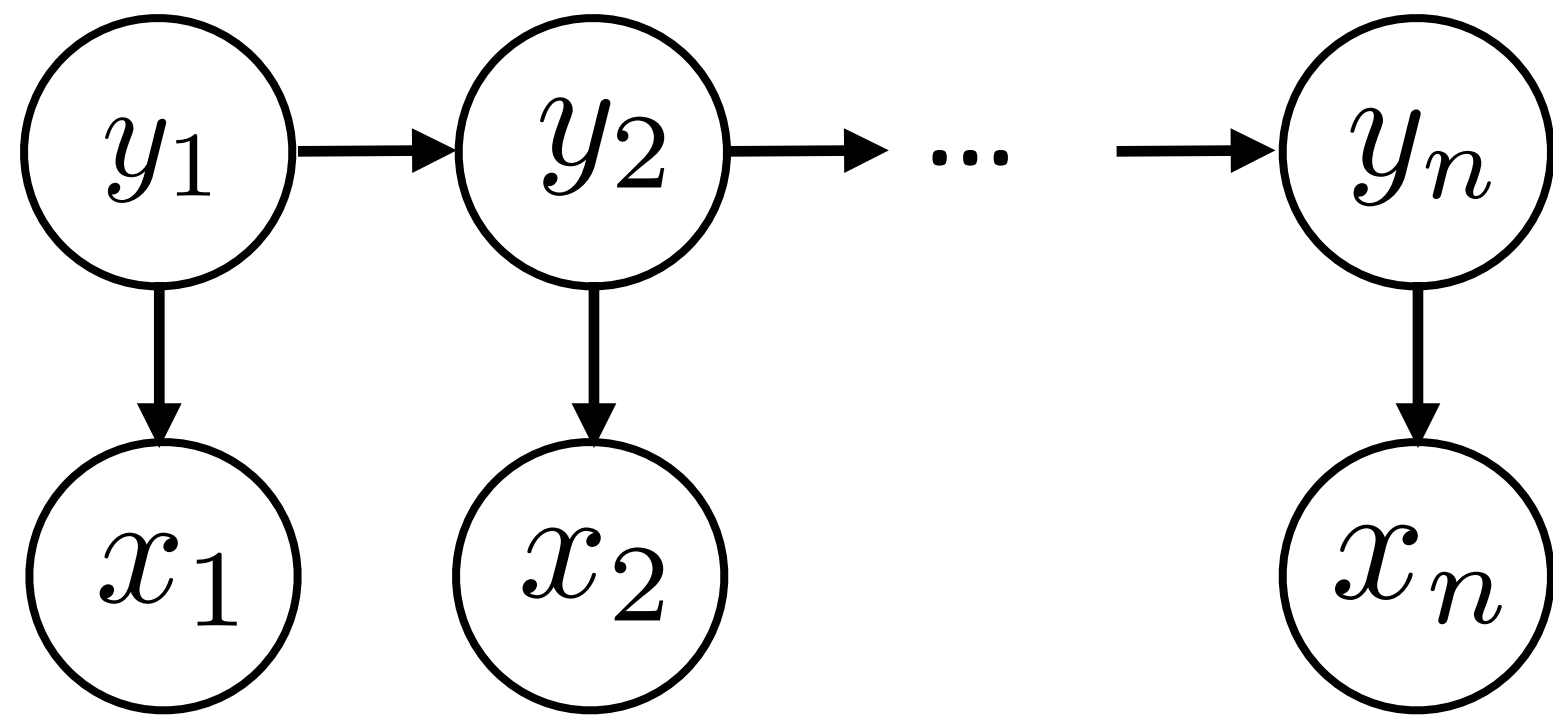
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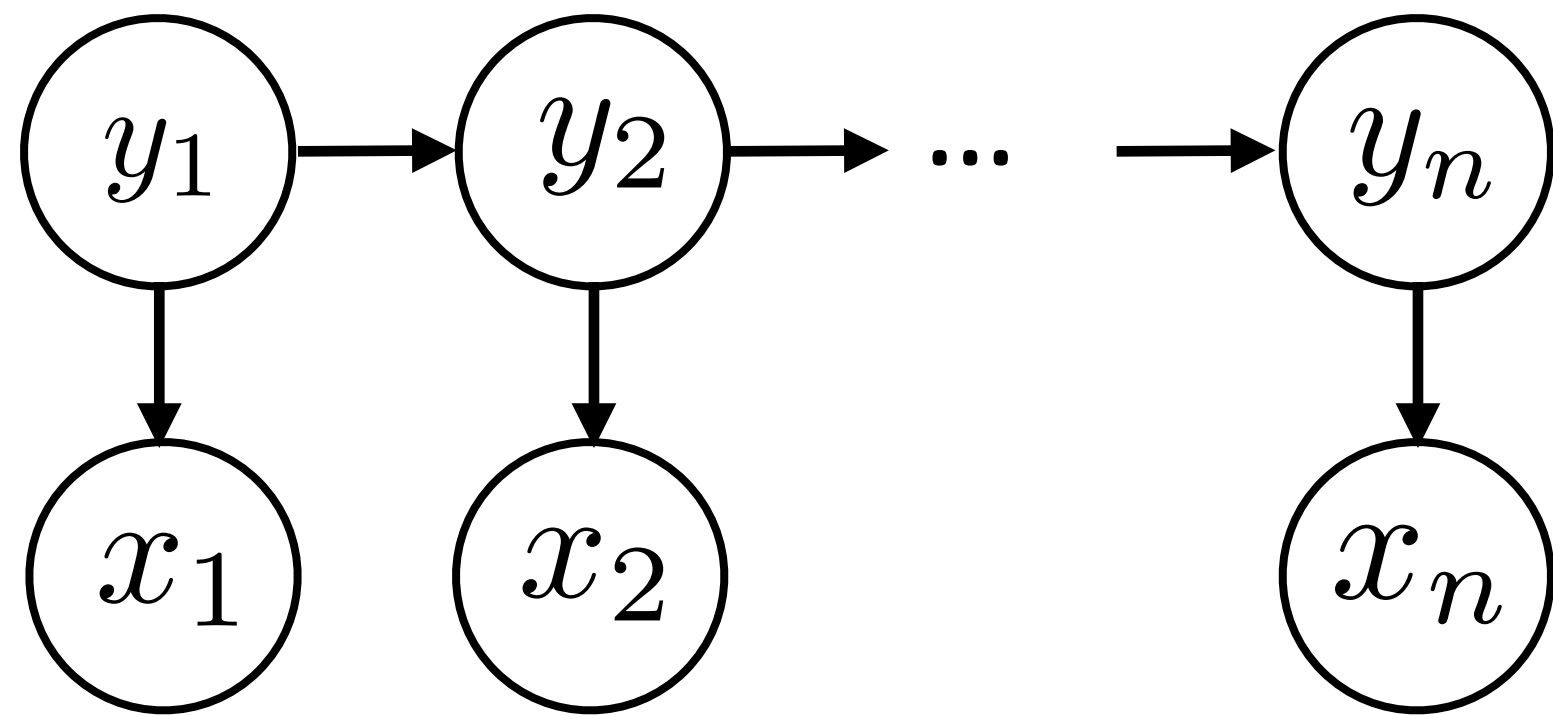


$$P(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = P(y_1) \prod_{i=2}^n P(y_i | y_{i-1}) \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | y_i)$$

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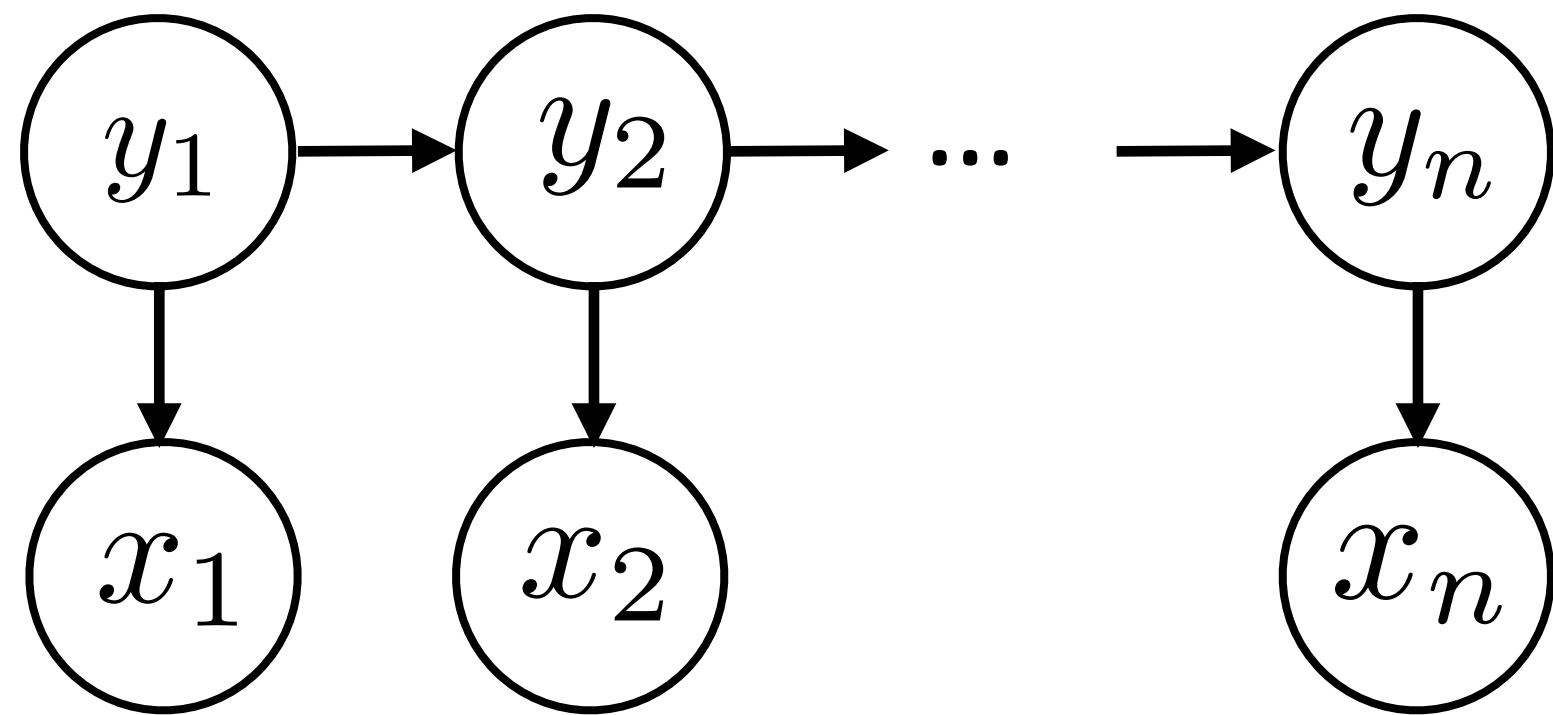


$$P(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{P(y_1)}_{\text{Initial distribution}} \prod_{i=2}^n P(y_i | y_{i-1}) \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | y_i)$$

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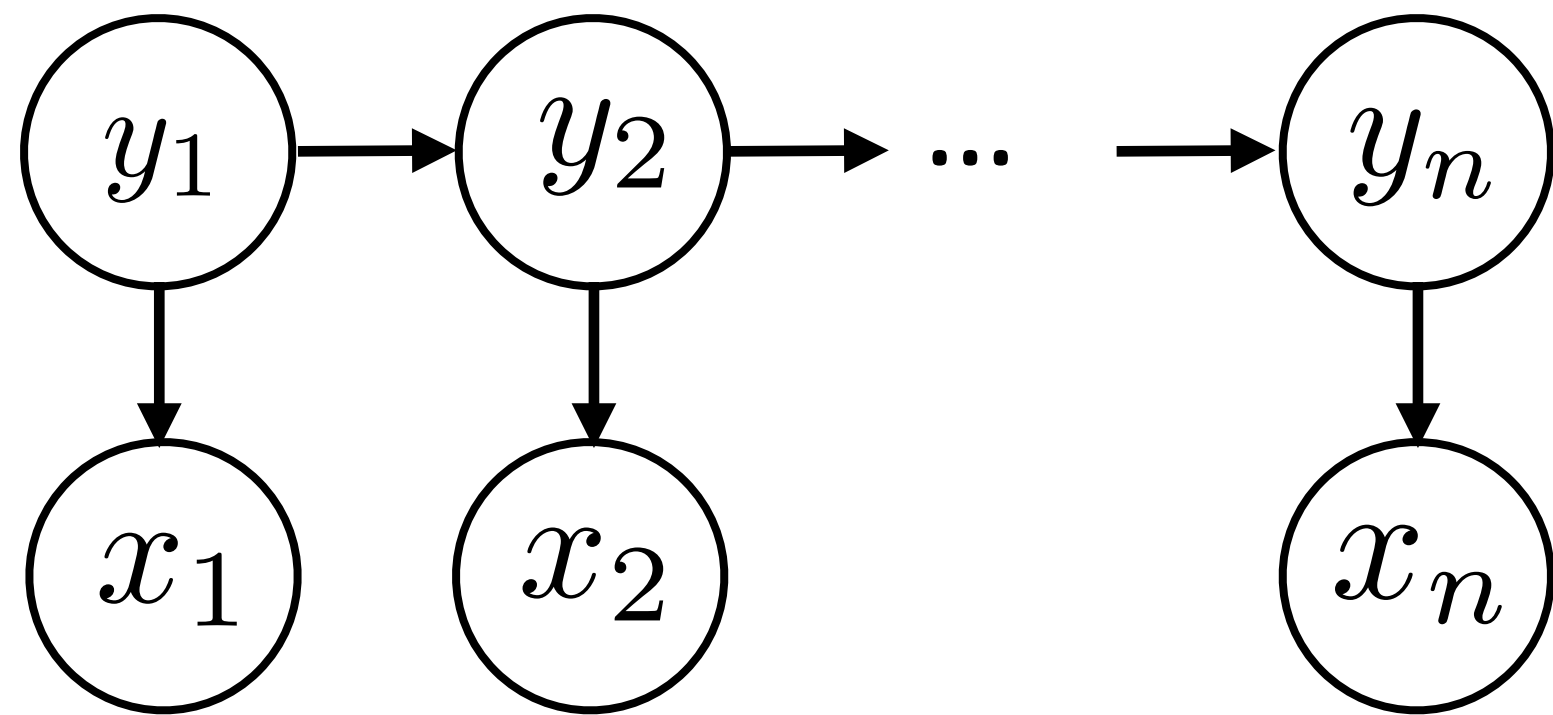
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Initial                      Transition  
distribution              probabilities

# Hidden Markov Models

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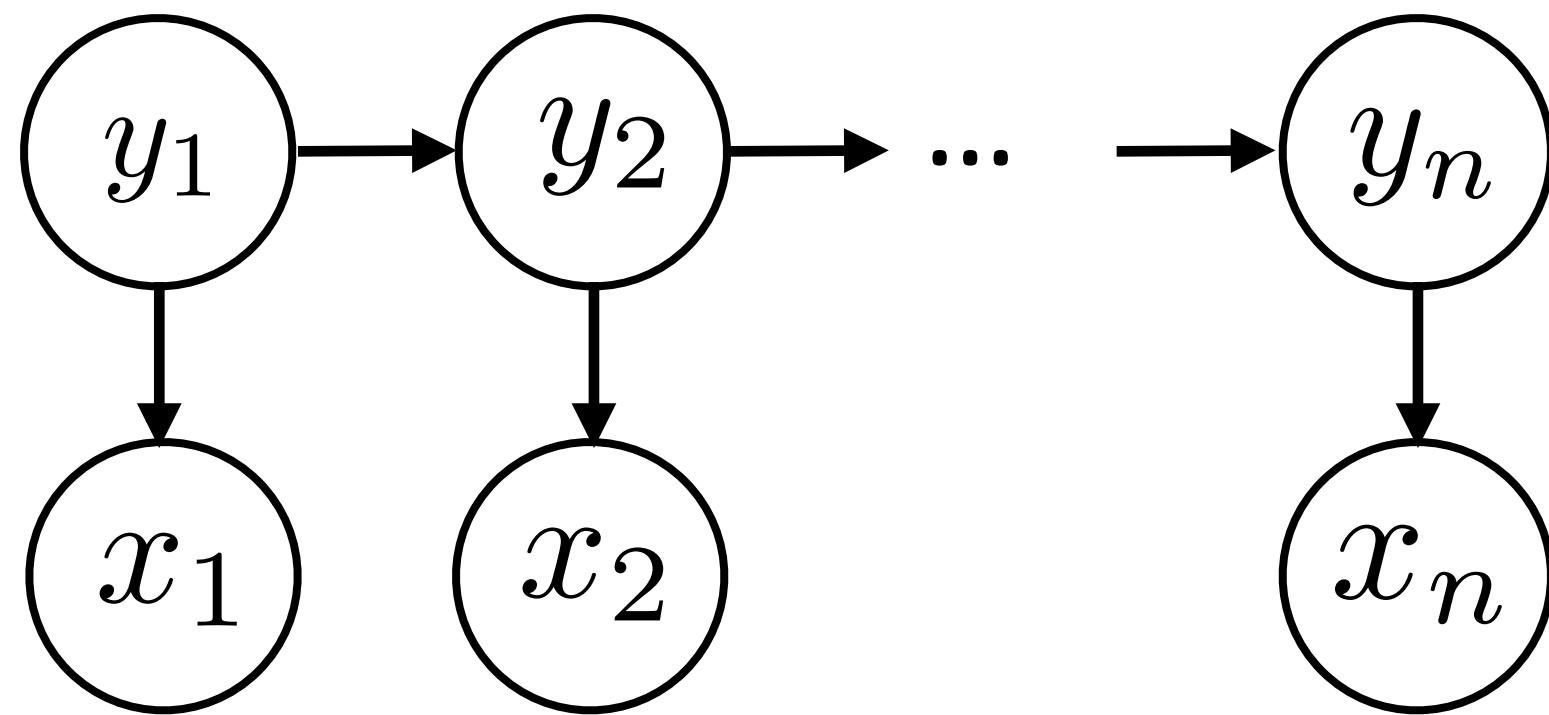
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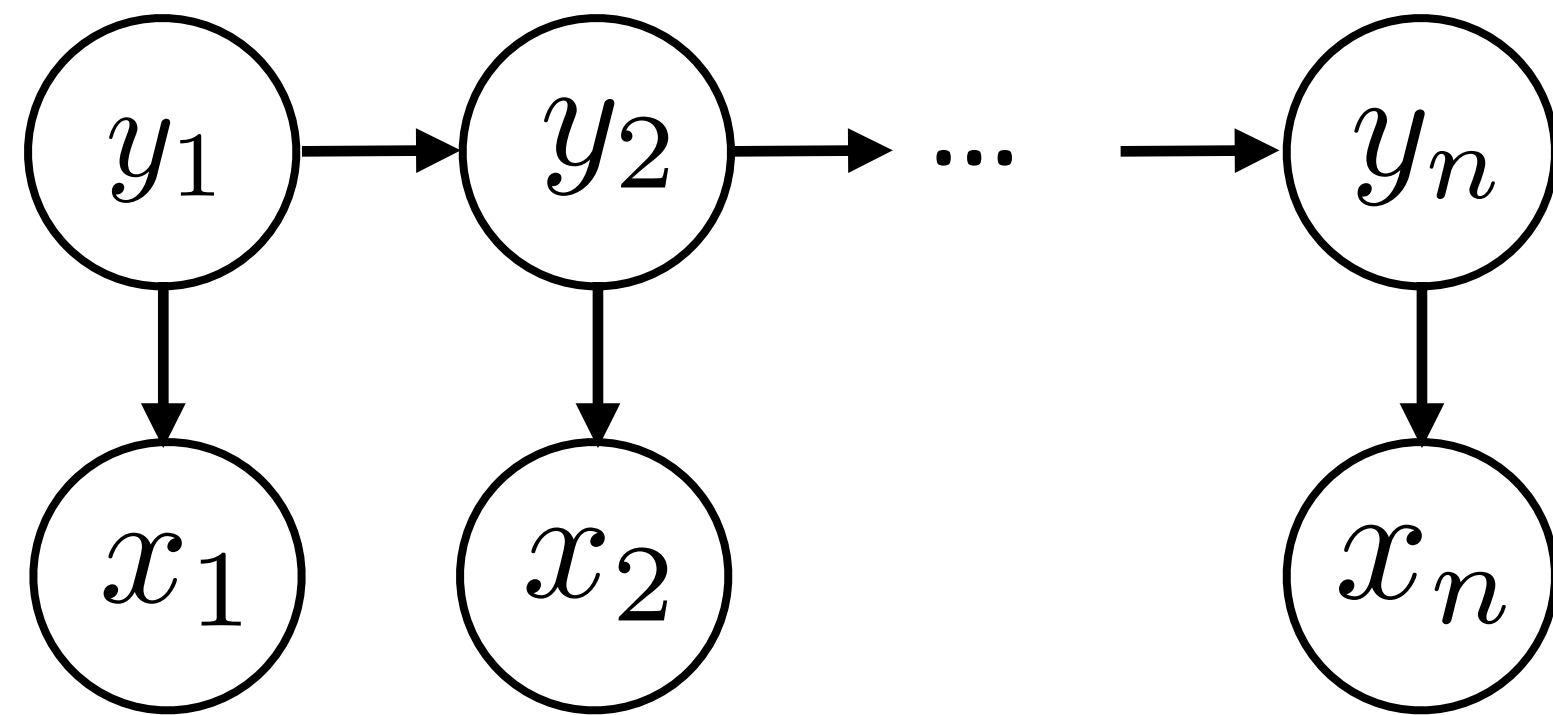


► Observation ( $x$ ) depends only on current state ( $y$ )

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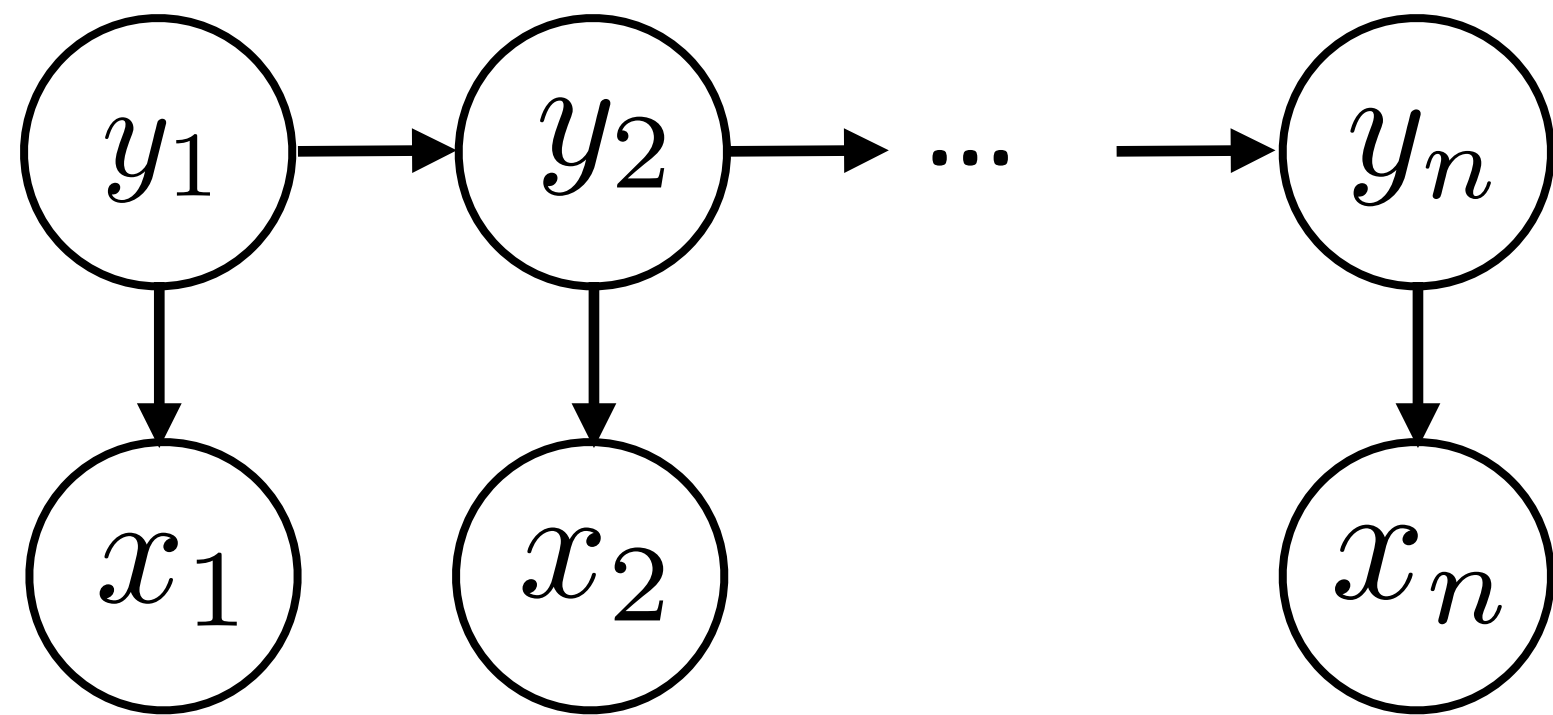


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- Observation ( $x$ ) depends only on current state ( $y$ )
- Multinomials: tag  $x$  tag transitions, tag  $x$  word emissions
- $P(x|y)$  is a distribution over all words in the vocabulary — not a distribution over features (but could be!)

# Transitions in POS Tagging

- Dynamics model  $P(y_1) \prod_{i=2}^n P(y_i | y_{i-1})$

VBD                      VB  
VBN VBZ              VBP      VBZ  
NNP NNS      NN      NNS CD NN .  
*Fed raises interest rates 0.5 percent .*

NNP - proper noun, singular  
VBZ - verb, 3rd ps. sing. present  
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- ▶  $P(y_2 = \text{VBZ} | y_1 = \text{NNP})$  likely because verb often follows noun

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- ▶  $P(y_2 = \text{VBZ} | y_1 = \text{NNP})$  likely because verb often follows noun
- ▶  $P(y_3 = \text{NN} | y_2 = \text{VBZ})$  direct object follows verb, other verb rarely follows past tense verb (main verbs can follow modals though!)

# Estimating Transitions

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NNP VBZ NN NNS CD NN .  
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- ▶  $P(\text{tag} \mid \text{NN})$

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- ▶ Similar to Naive Bayes estimation: maximum likelihood solution = normalized counts (with smoothing) read off supervised data
- ▶  $P(\text{tag} \mid \text{NN}) = (0.5 ., 0.5 \text{ NNS})$

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$\hat{P}$  = empirical distribution (read off from data)

# Emissions in POS Tagging

---

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NNP VBZ NN NNS CD NN

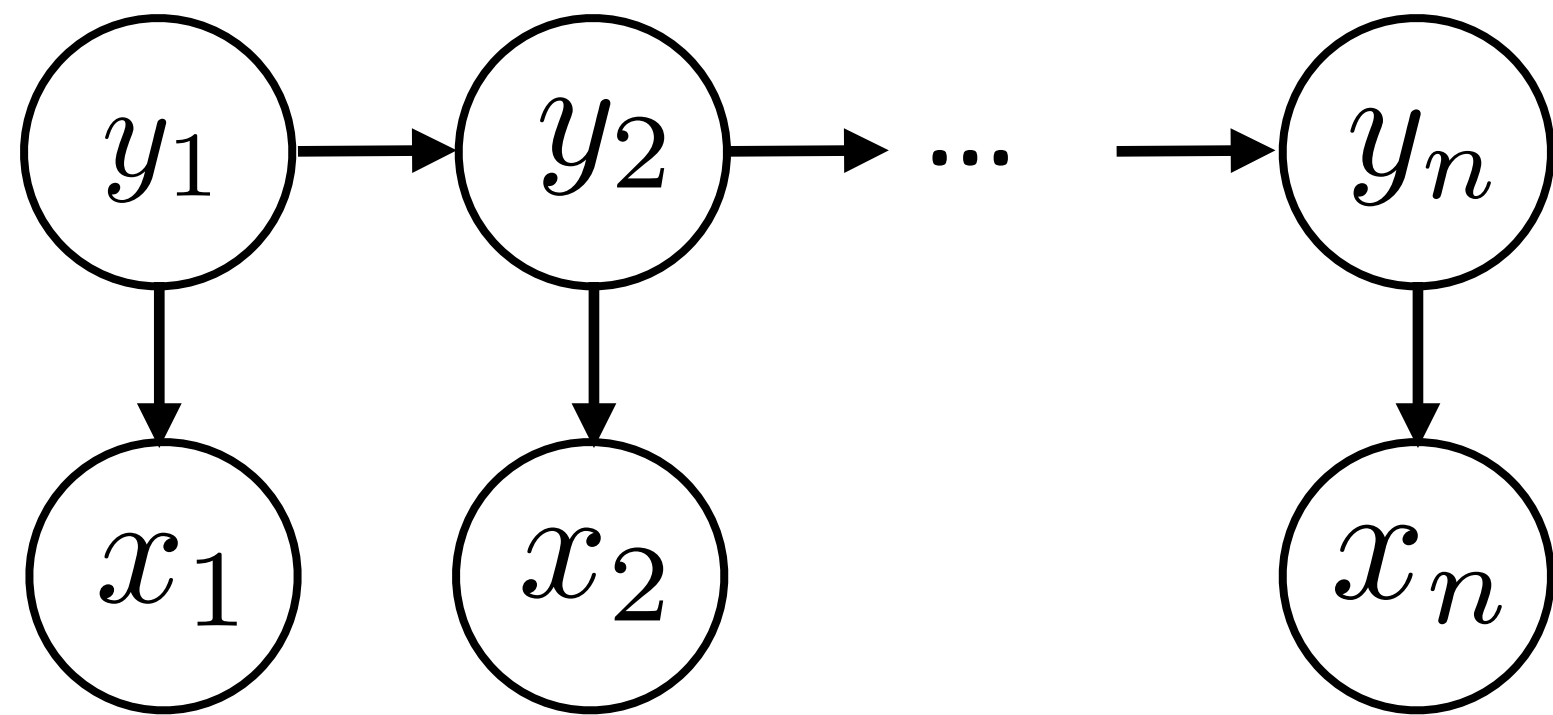
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- ▶  $P(\text{word} \mid \text{tag})$  can be a log-linear model — we'll see this in a few lectures

# Inference in HMMs

---

► Input  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$       Output  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$

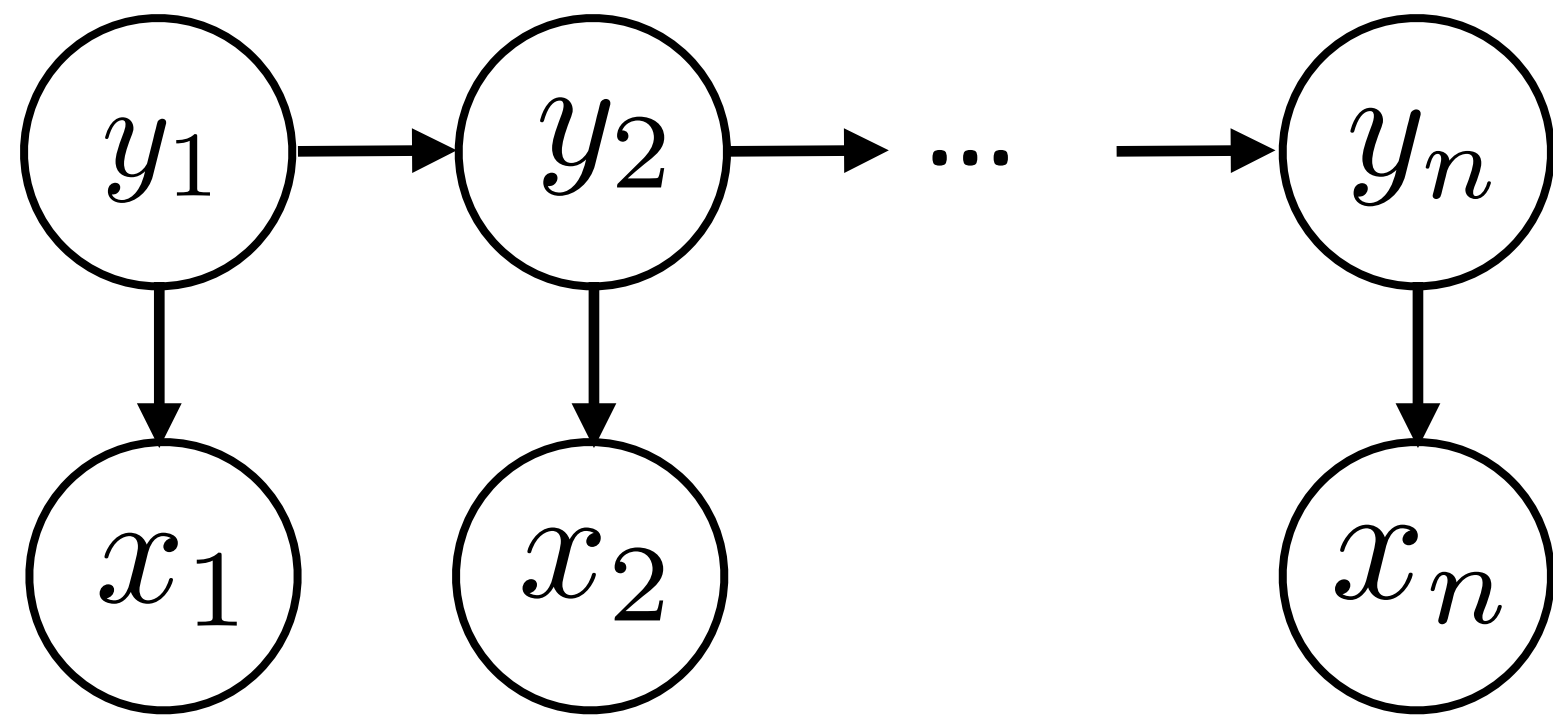


$$P(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = P(y_1) \prod_{i=2}^n P(y_i | y_{i-1}) \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | y_i)$$

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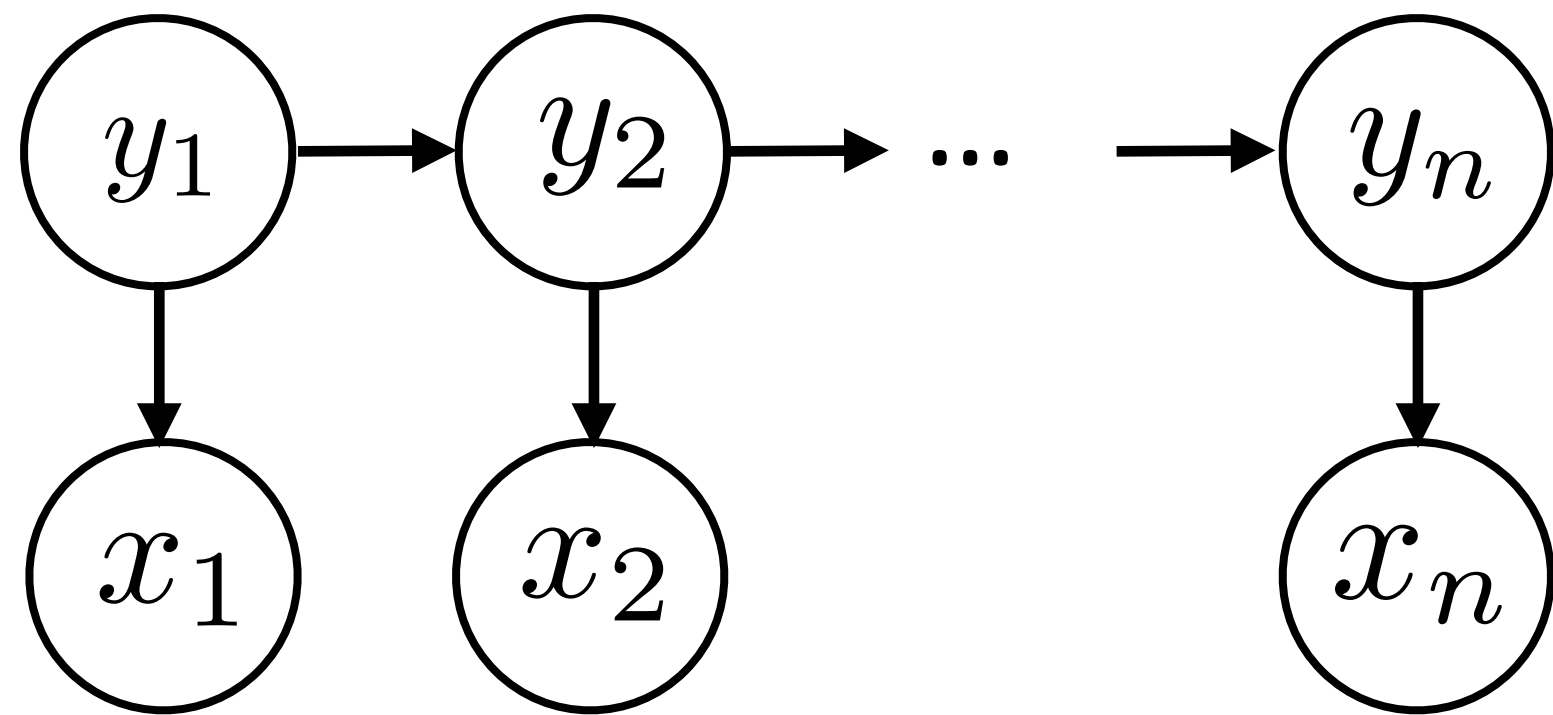
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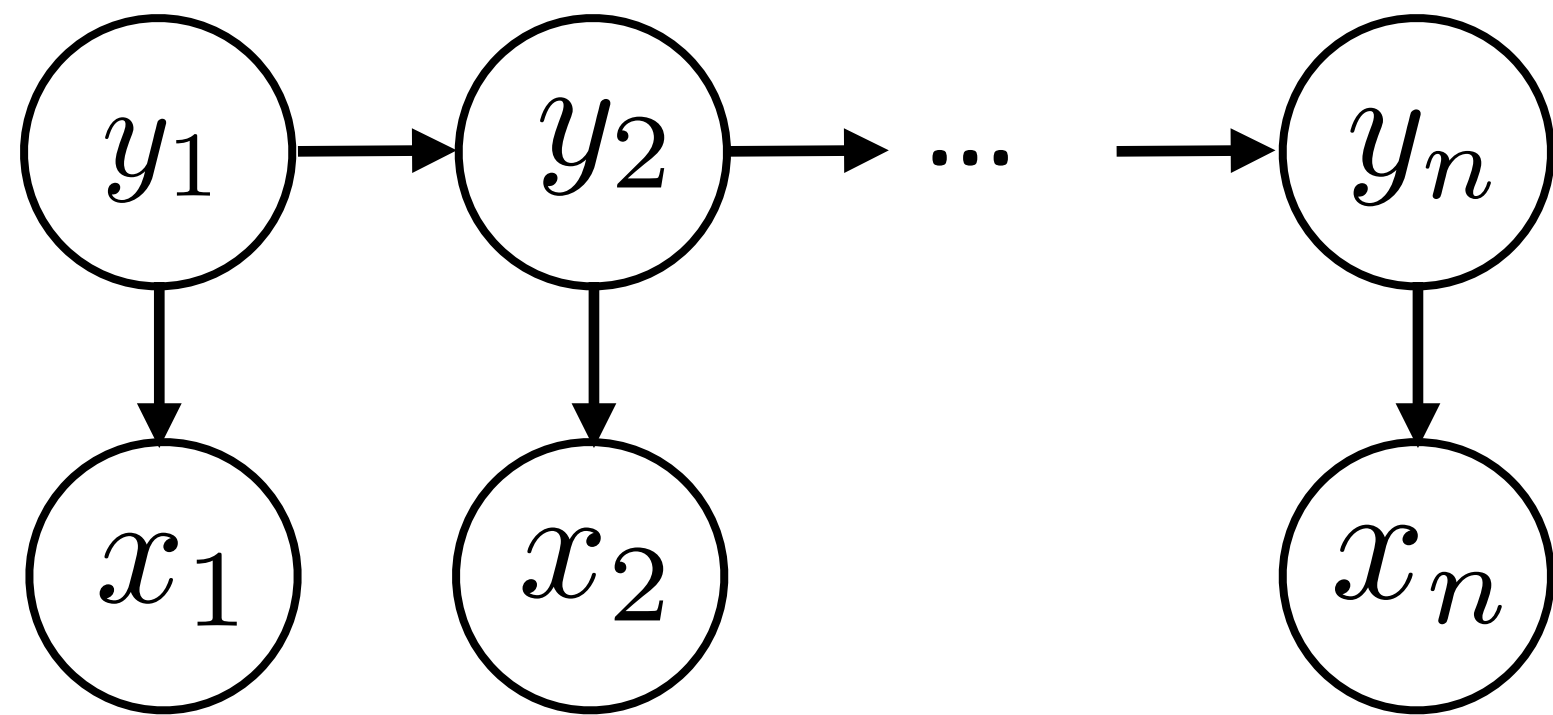
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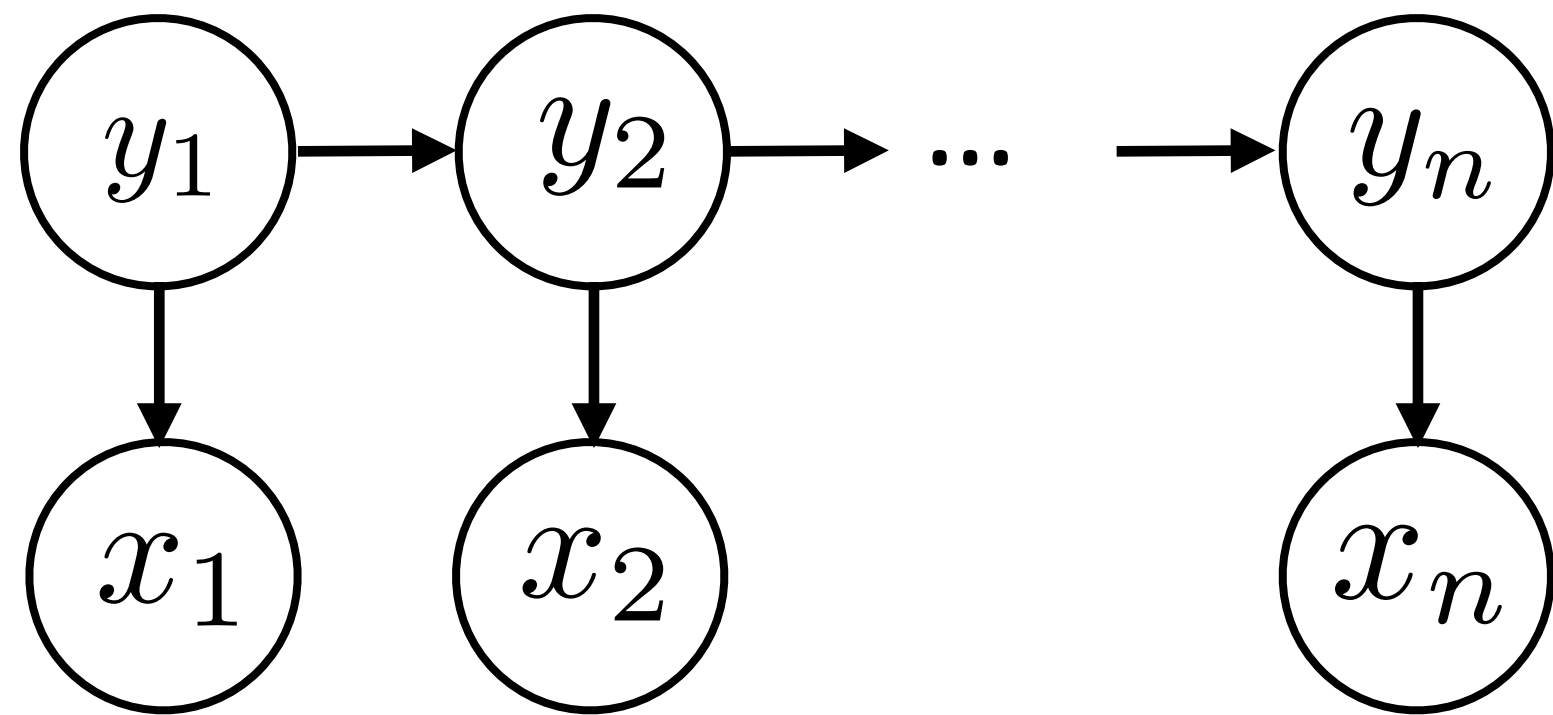


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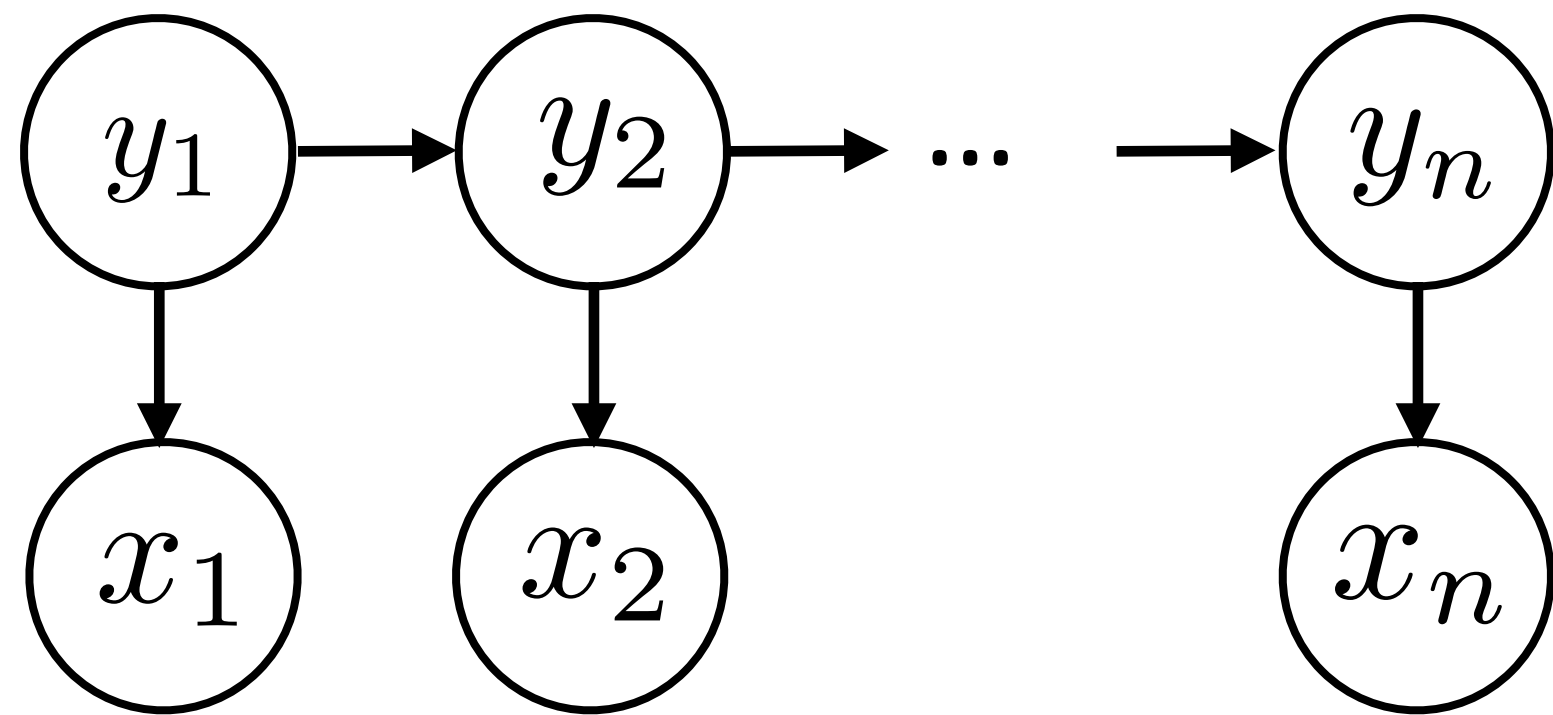


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- ▶ Exponentially many possible  $\mathbf{y}$  here!
- ▶ Solution: dynamic programming (possible because of **Markov structure!**)
  - ▶ Many neural sequence models depend on entire previous tag sequence, need to use approximations like beam search

# Viterbi Algorithm

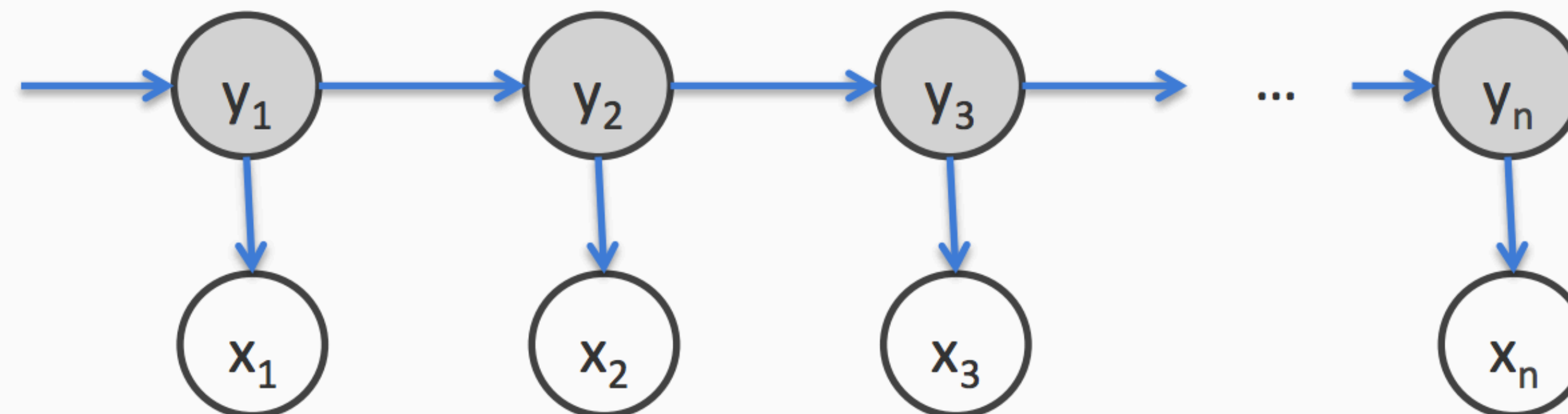
$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = P(y_1) \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} P(y_{i+1}|y_i) \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i|y_i)$$

$$\max_{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n} P(y_n|y_{n-1})P(x_n|y_n) \cdots P(y_2|y_1)P(x_2|y_2)P(y_1)P(x_1|y_1)$$

Transition probabilities

Emission probabilities

Initial probability

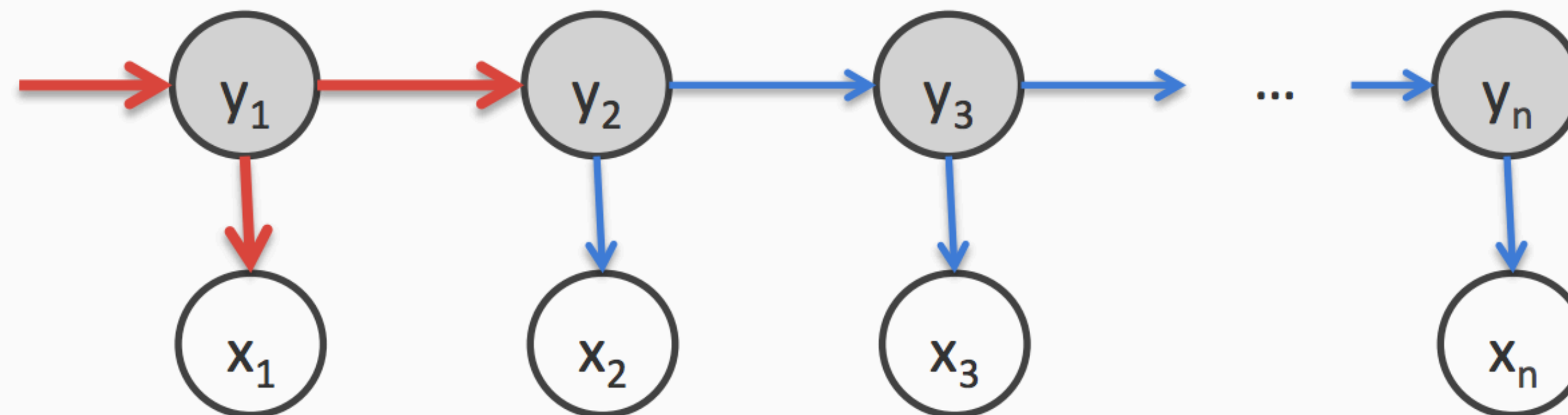


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The only terms that depend on  $y_1$



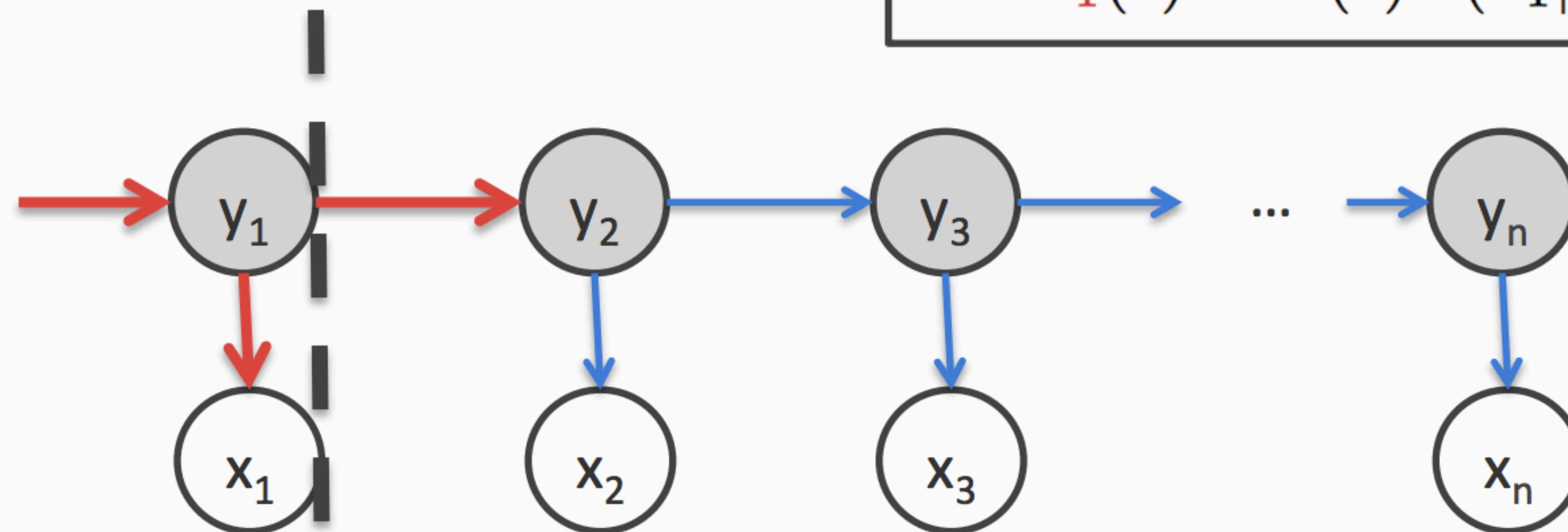
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Abstract away the score for all decisions till here into **score**

$$\text{score}_1(s) = P(s)P(x_1|s)$$



# Viterbi Algorithm

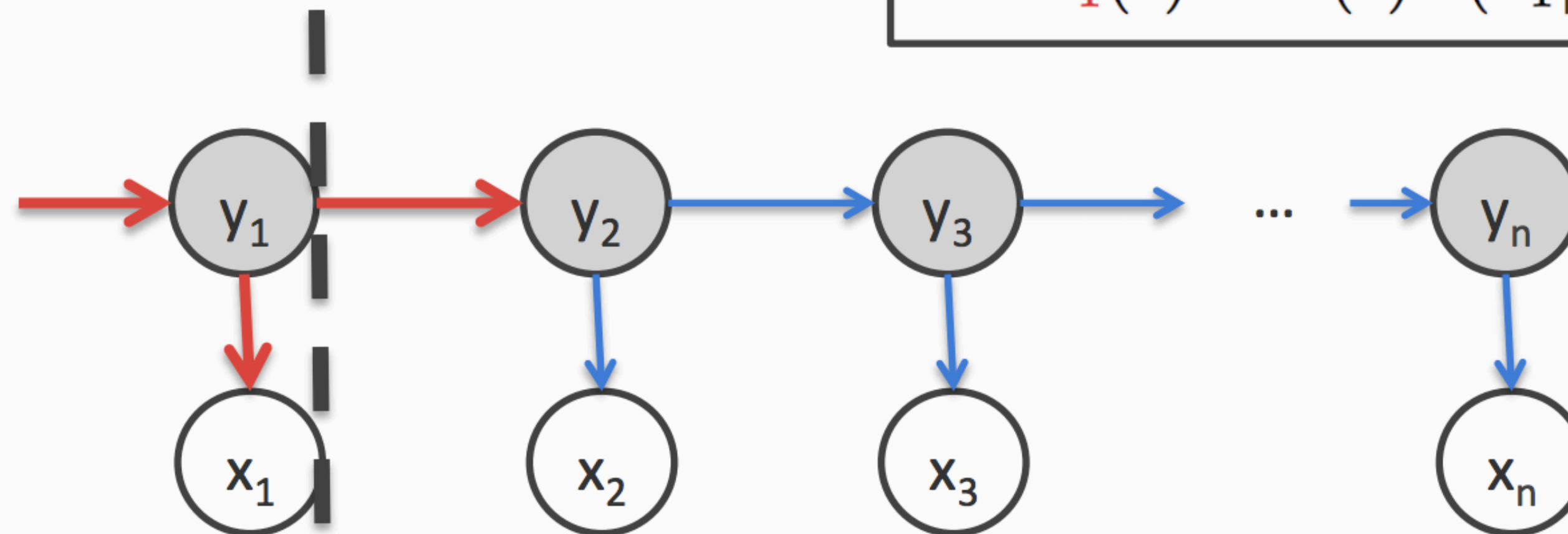
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best (partial) score for  
a sequence ending in state  $s$

Abstract away the score for all  
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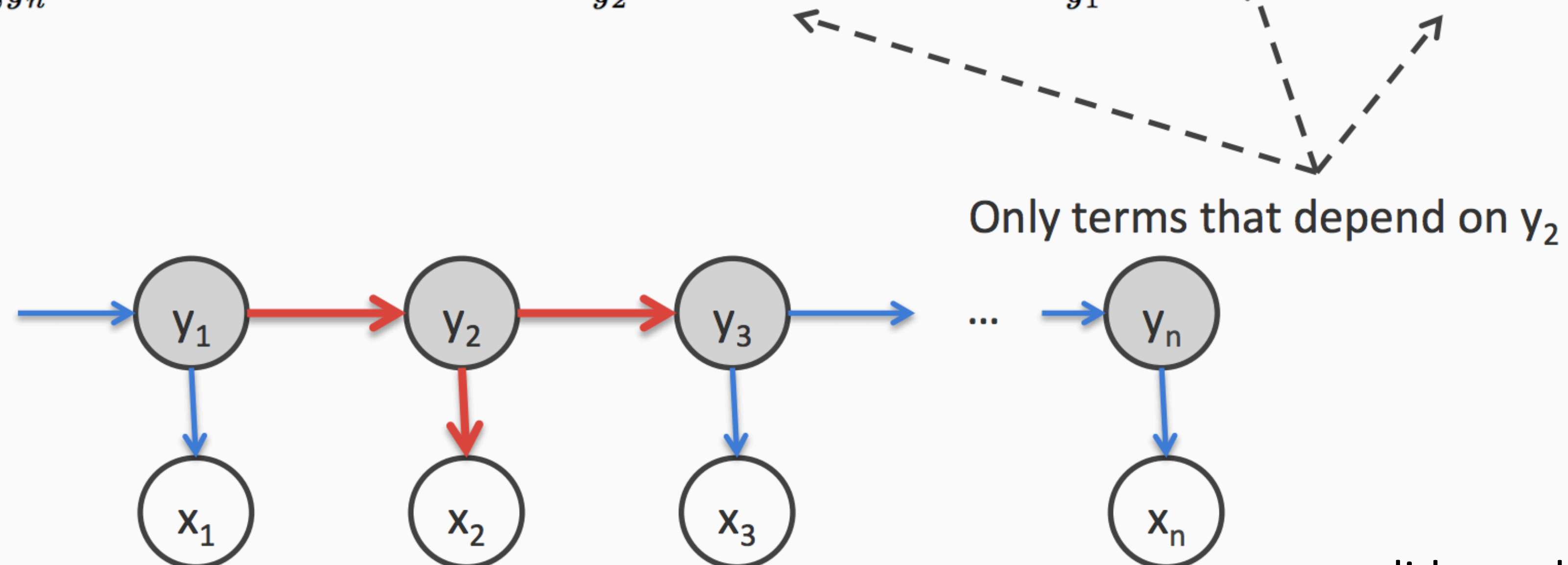
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# Viterbi Algorithm

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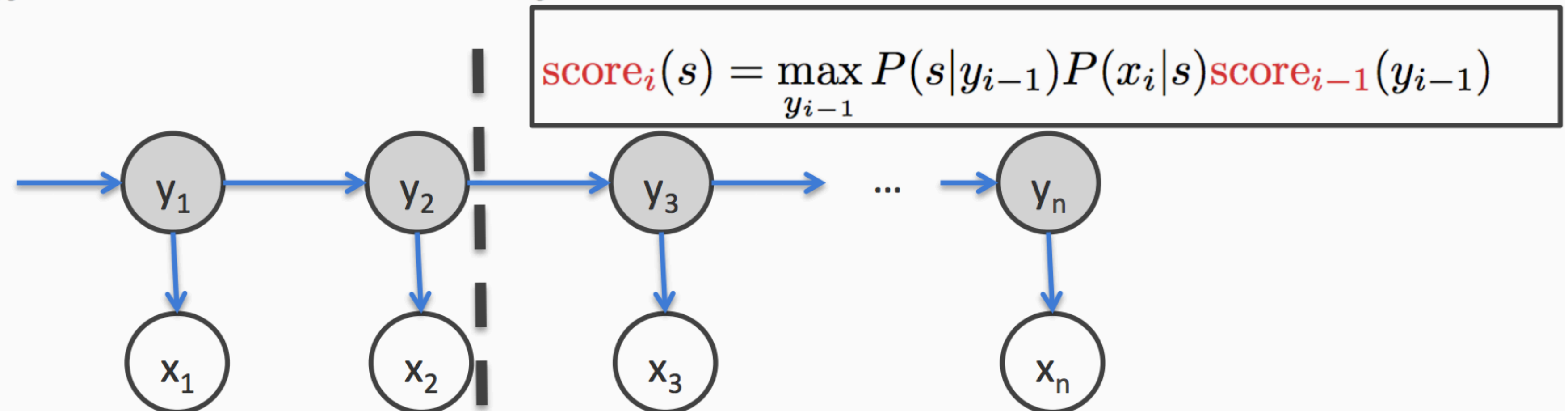
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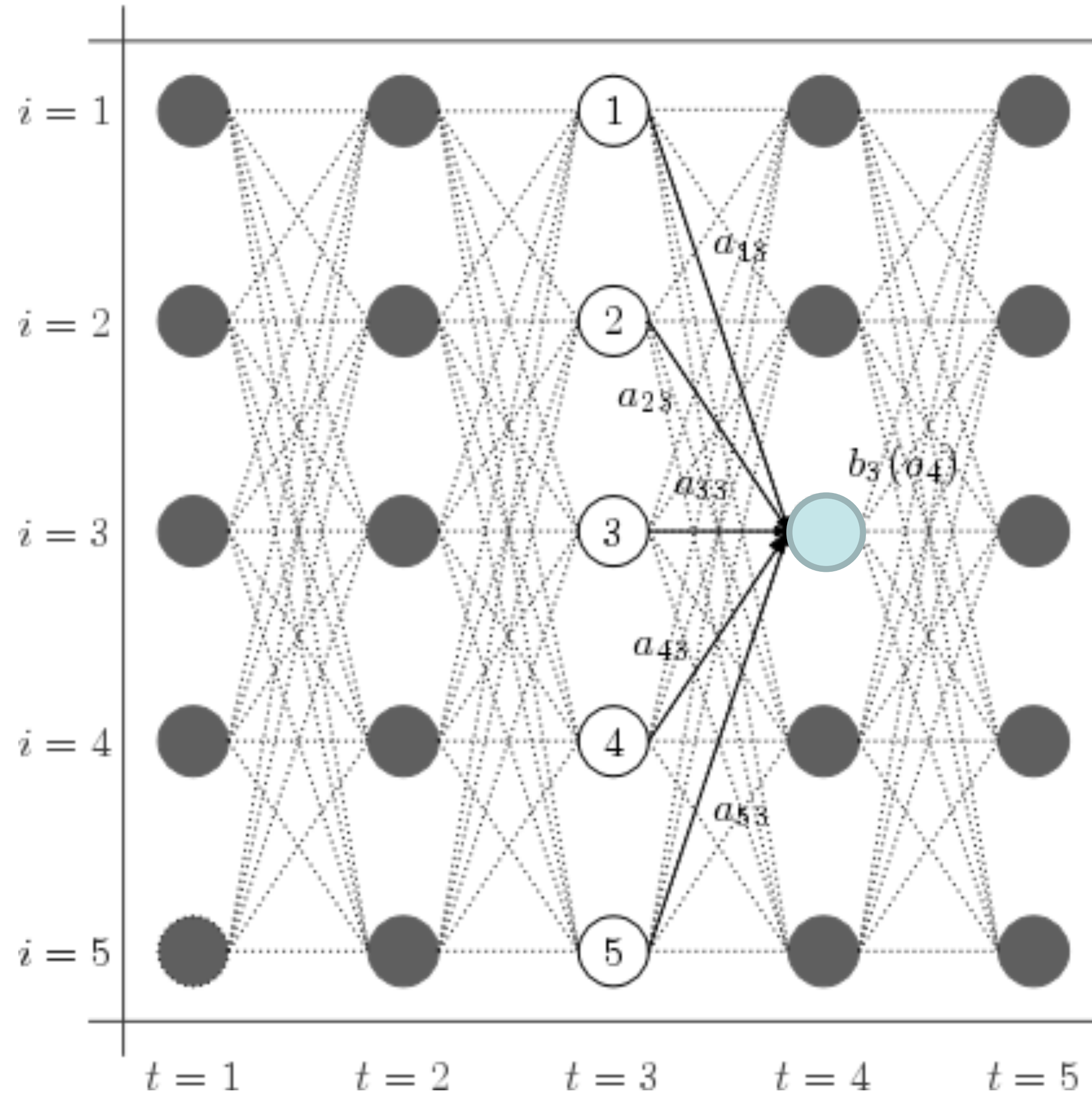
$$= \max_{y_3, \dots, y_n} P(y_n|y_{n-1})P(x_n|y_n) \cdots \max_{y_2} P(y_3|y_2)P(x_3|y_3) \text{score}_2(y_2)$$



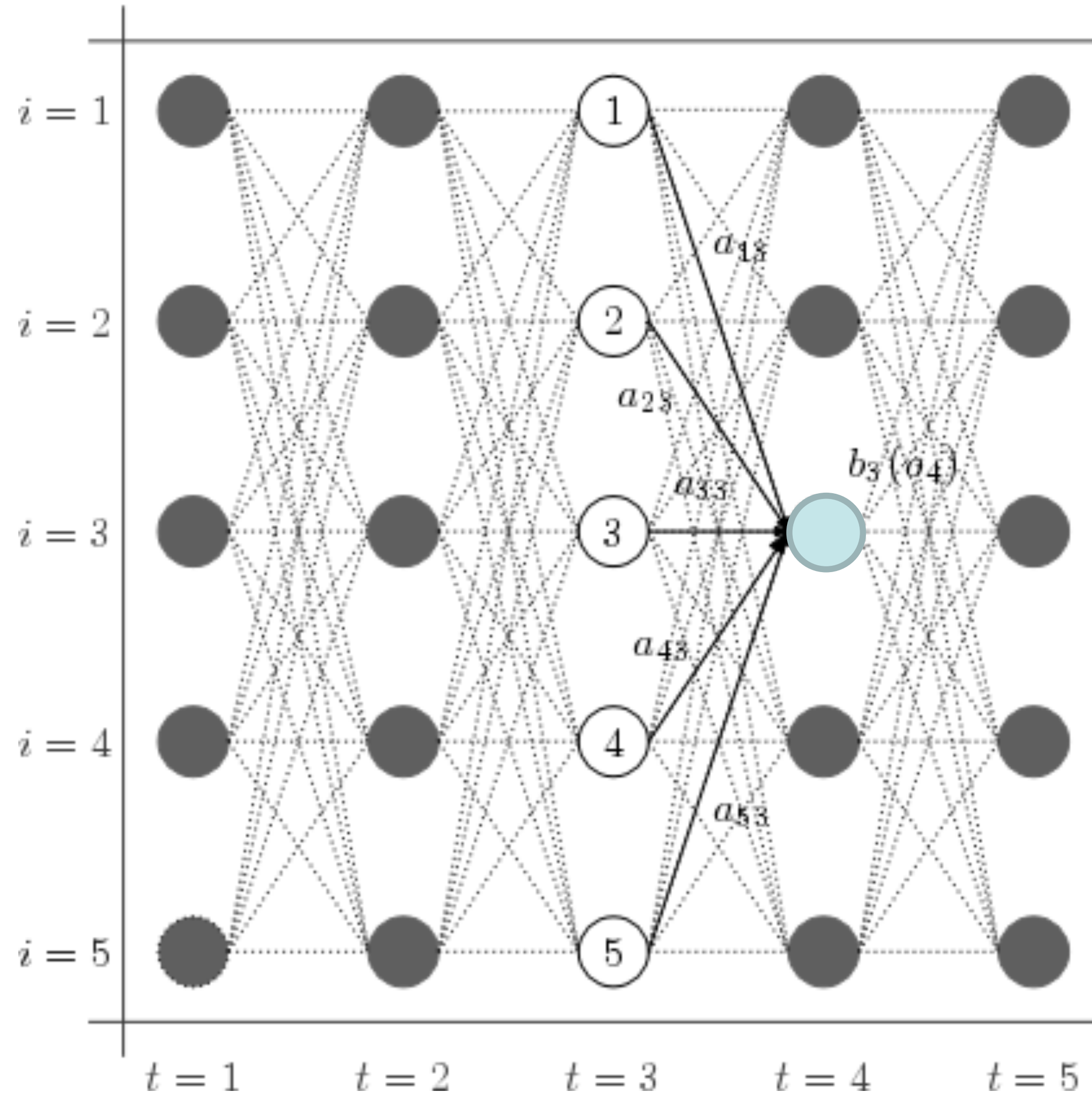
Abstract away the score for all decisions till here into **score**

slide credit: Vivek Srikumar

# Viterbi Algorithm



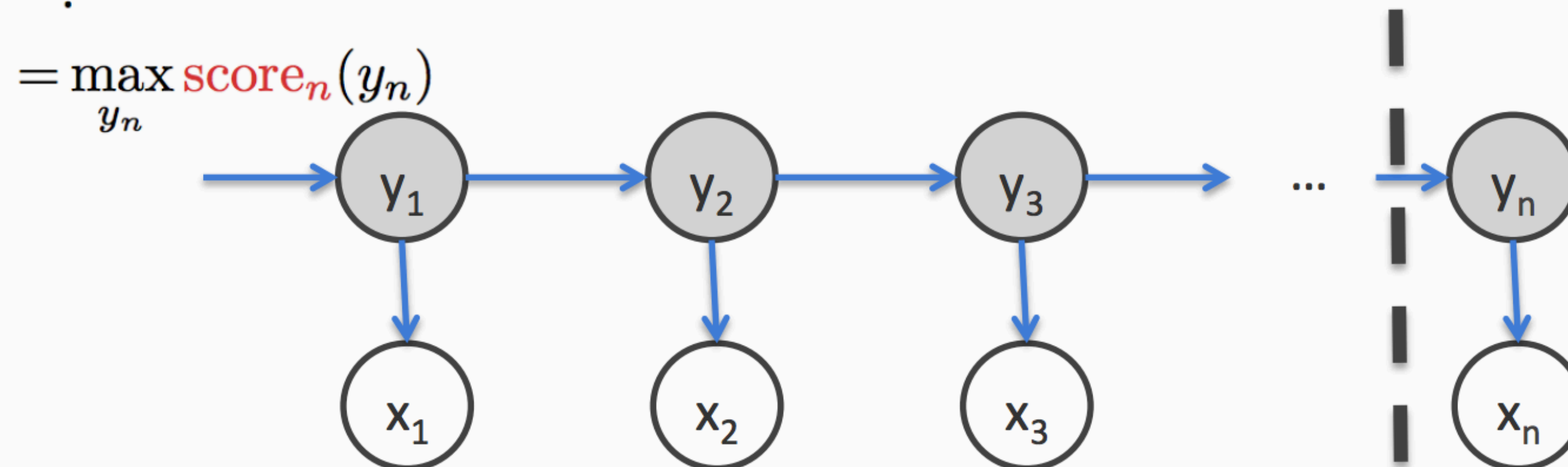
# Viterbi Algorithm



- “Think about” all possible immediate prior state values. Everything before that has already been accounted for by earlier stages.

# Viterbi Algorithm

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) &= P(y_1) \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} P(y_{i+1}|y_i) \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i|y_i) \\
 \max_{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n} P(y_n|y_{n-1})P(x_n|y_n) \cdots P(y_2|y_1)P(x_2|y_2)P(y_1)P(x_1|y_1) \\
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 &= \max_{y_3, \dots, y_n} P(y_n|y_{n-1})P(x_n|y_n) \cdots \max_{y_2} P(y_3|y_2)P(x_3|y_3) \text{score}_2(y_2) \\
 &\vdots
 \end{aligned}$$



Abstract away the score for all decisions till here into **score**

# Viterbi Algorithm

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$$\text{score}_1(s) = P(s)P(x_1|s)$$

$$\text{score}_i(s) = \max_{y_{i-1}} P(s|y_{i-1})P(x_i|s) \text{score}_{i-1}(y_{i-1})$$

# Viterbi Algorithm

1. **Initial:** For each state  $s$ , calculate

$$\text{score}_1(s) = P(s)P(x_1|s) = \pi_s B_{x_1,s}$$

2. **Recurrence:** For  $i = 2$  to  $n$ , for every state  $s$ , calculate

$$\text{score}_i(s) = \max_{y_{i-1}} P(s|y_{i-1})P(x_i|s)\text{score}_{i-1}(y_{i-1})$$

$$= \max_{y_{i-1}} A_{y_{i-1},s} B_{s,x_i} \text{score}_{i-1}(y_{i-1})$$

3. **Final state:** calculate

$$\max_{\mathbf{y}} P(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}|\pi, A, B) = \max_s \text{score}_n(s)$$

$\pi$ : Initial probabilities

A: Transitions

B: Emissions

This only calculates the max. To get final answer (*argmax*),

- keep track of which state corresponds to the max at each step
- build the answer using these back pointers

# Forward-Backward Algorithm

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# Forward-Backward Algorithm

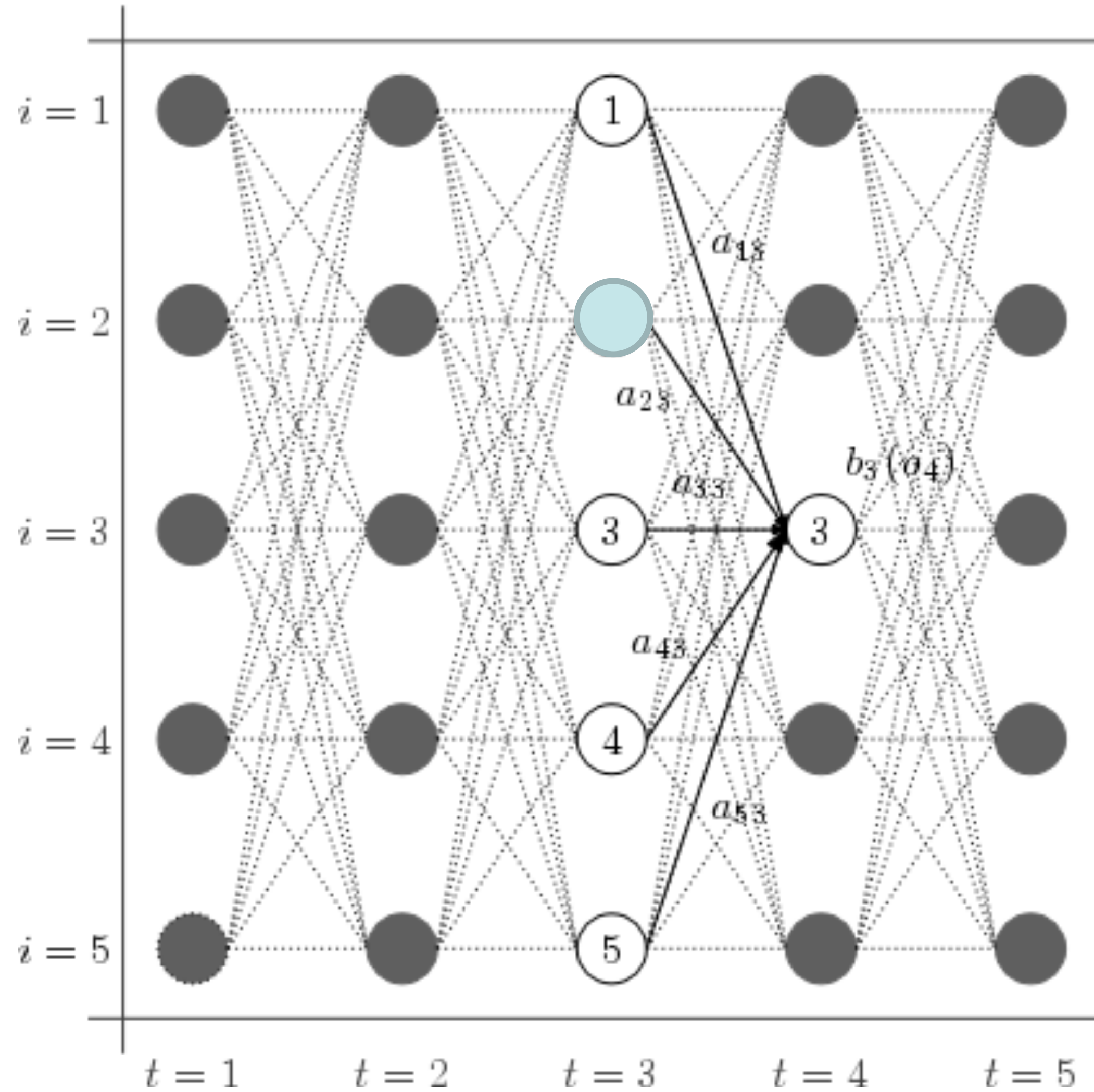
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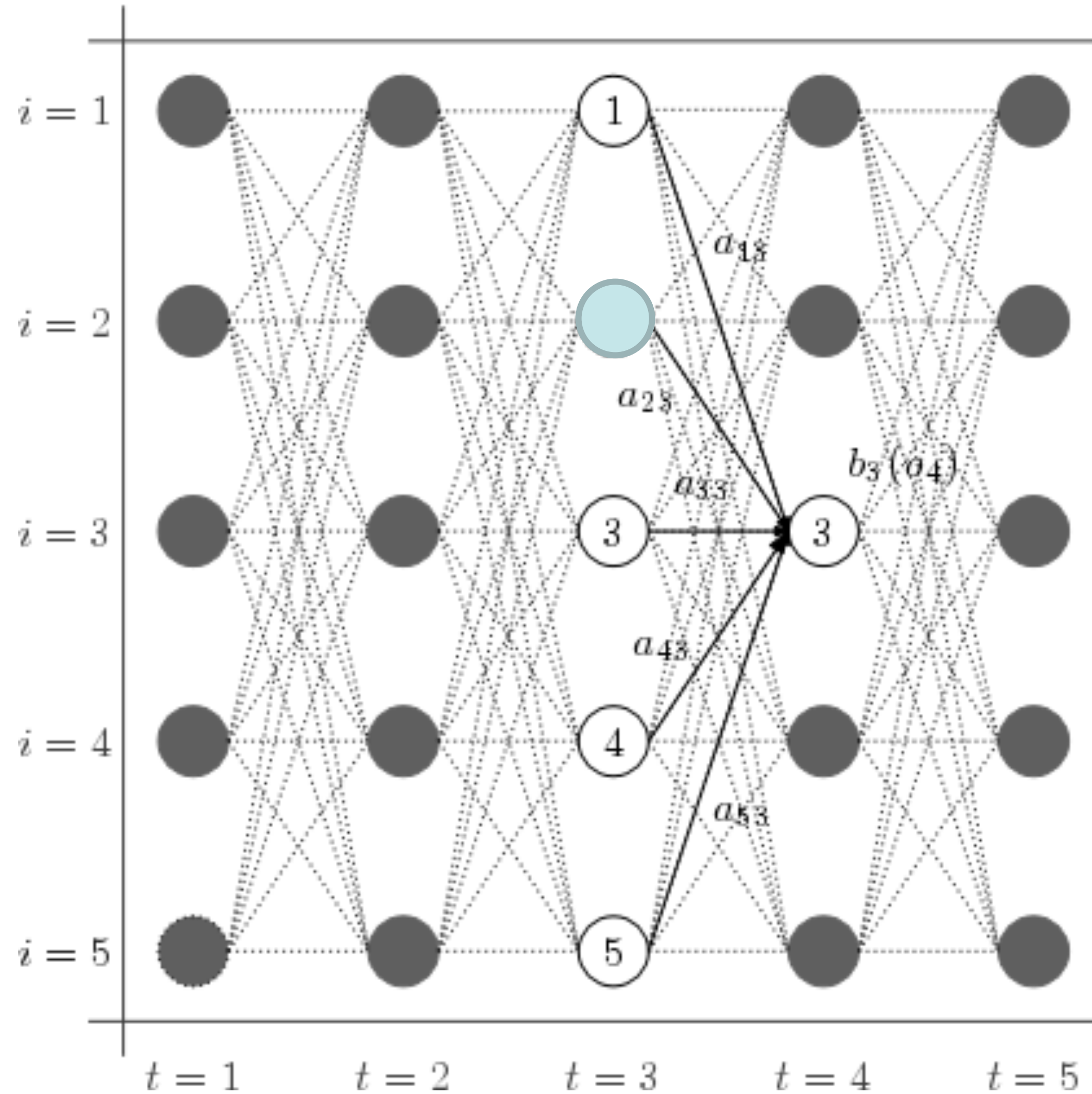
- ▶ What did Viterbi compute?  $P(\mathbf{y}_{\max} | \mathbf{x}) = \max_{y_1, \dots, y_n} P(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x})$
- ▶ Can compute marginals with dynamic programming as well using an algorithm called forward-backward

# Forward-Backward Algorithm

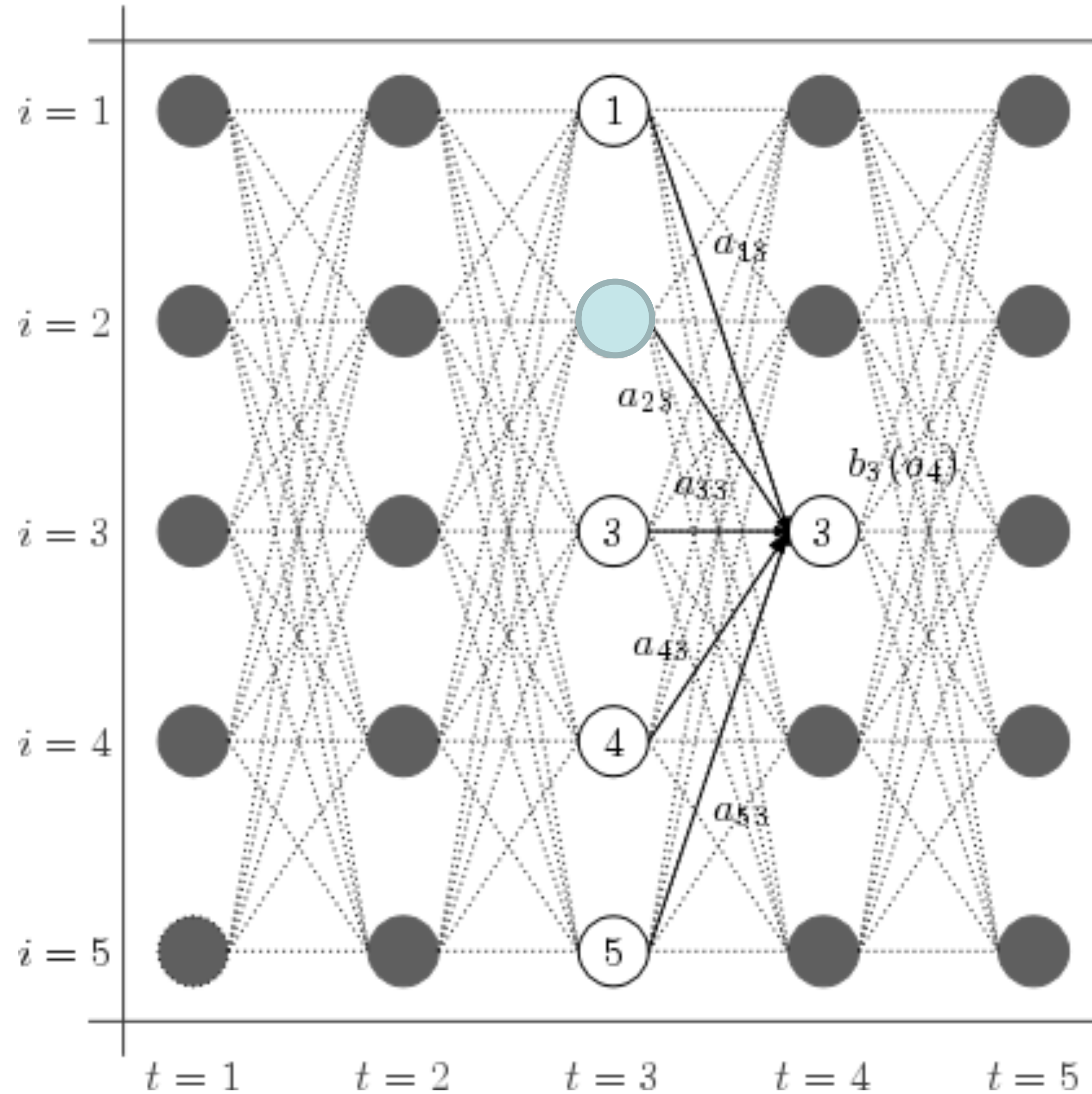


# Forward-Backward Algorithm

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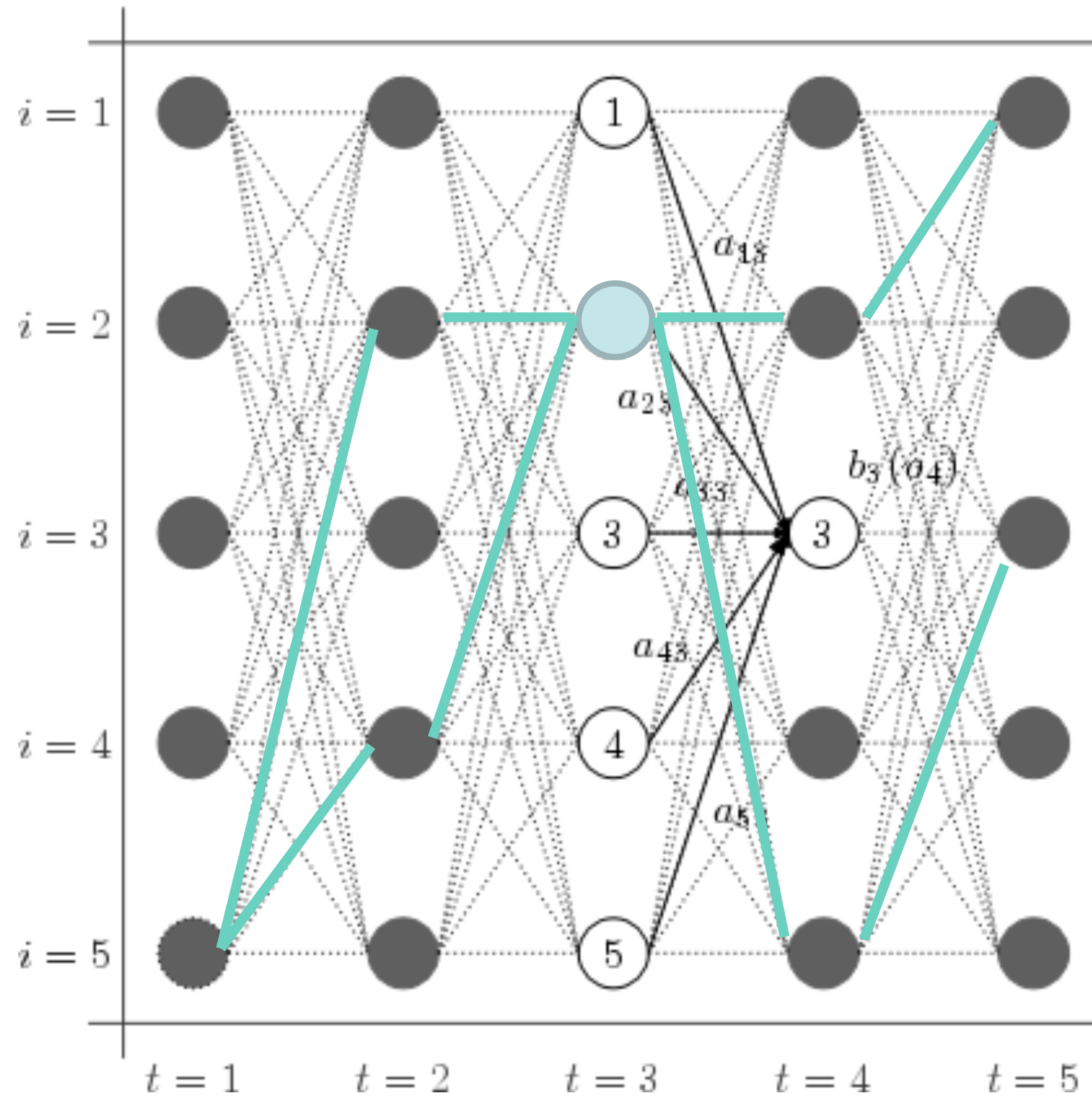
$$P(y_3 = 2 | \mathbf{x}) =$$

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[illegible]

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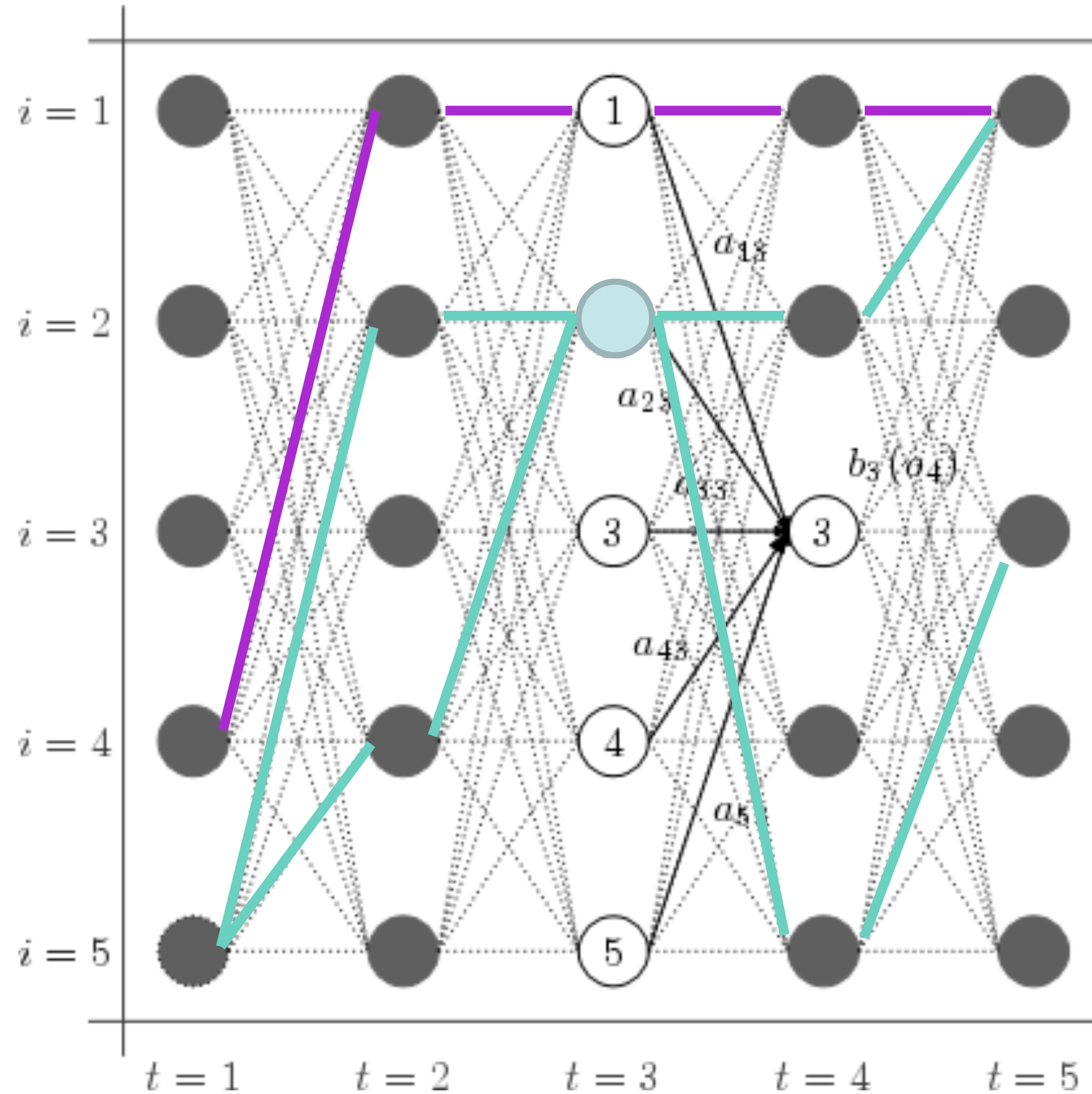
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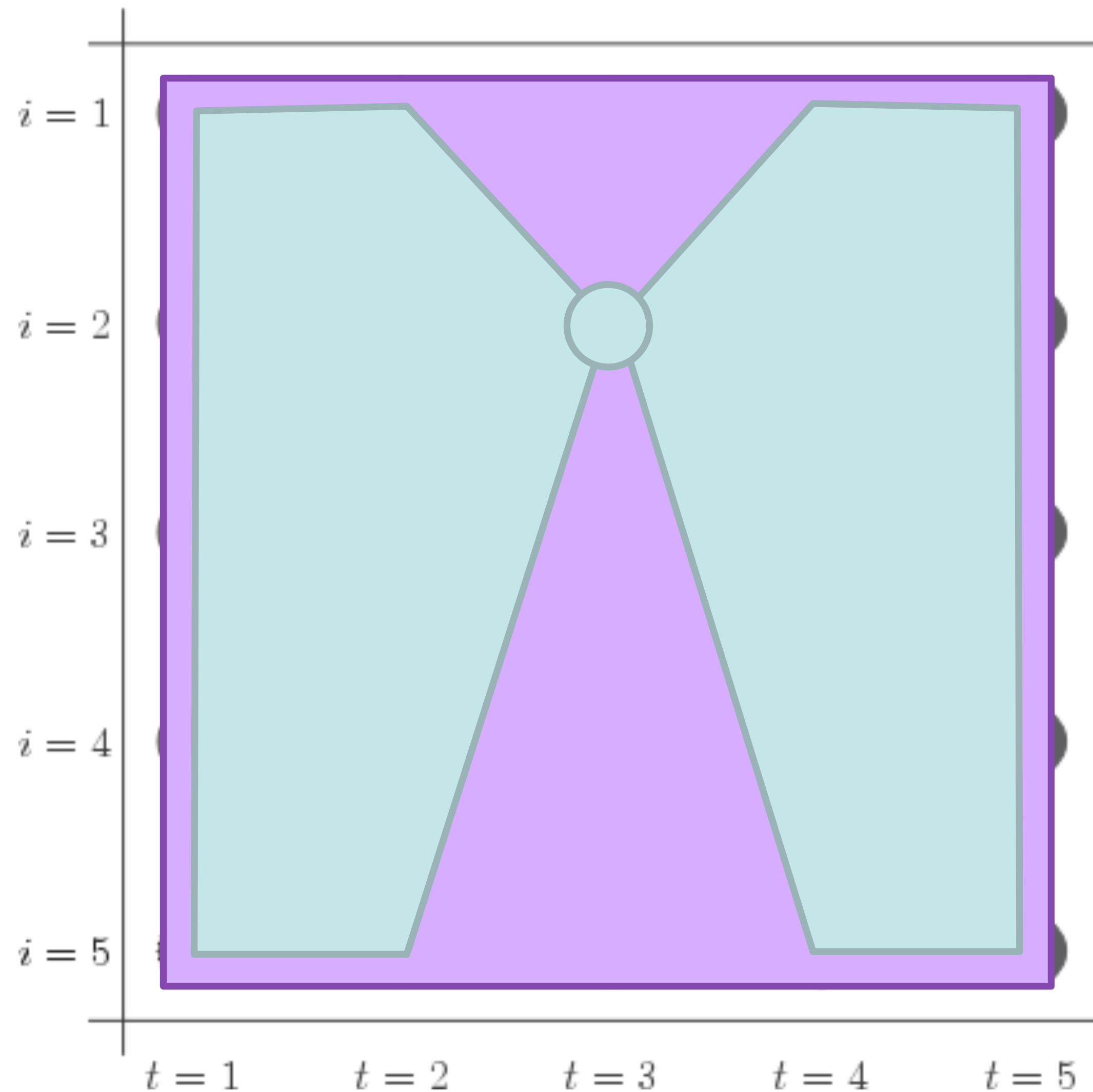
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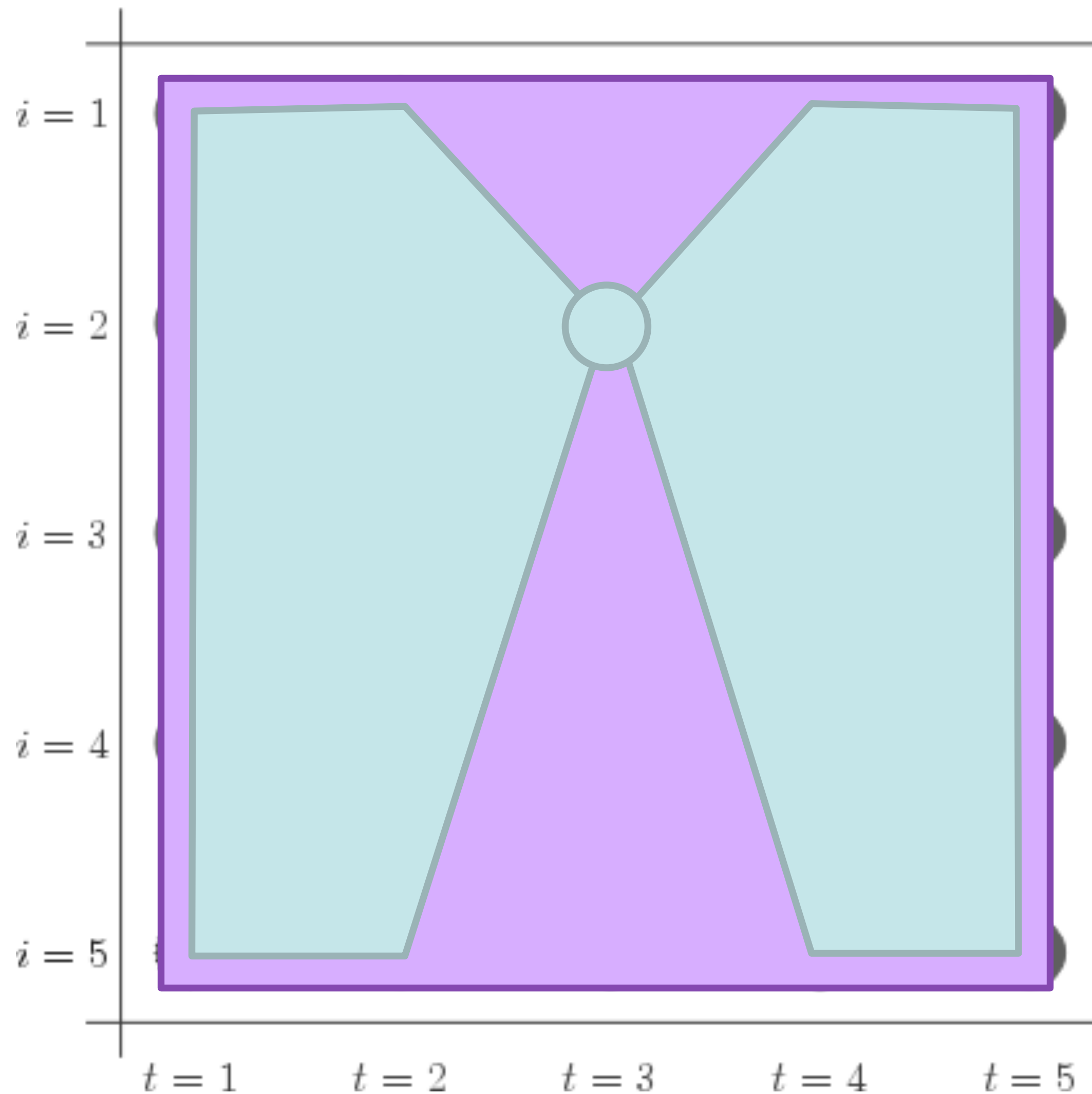
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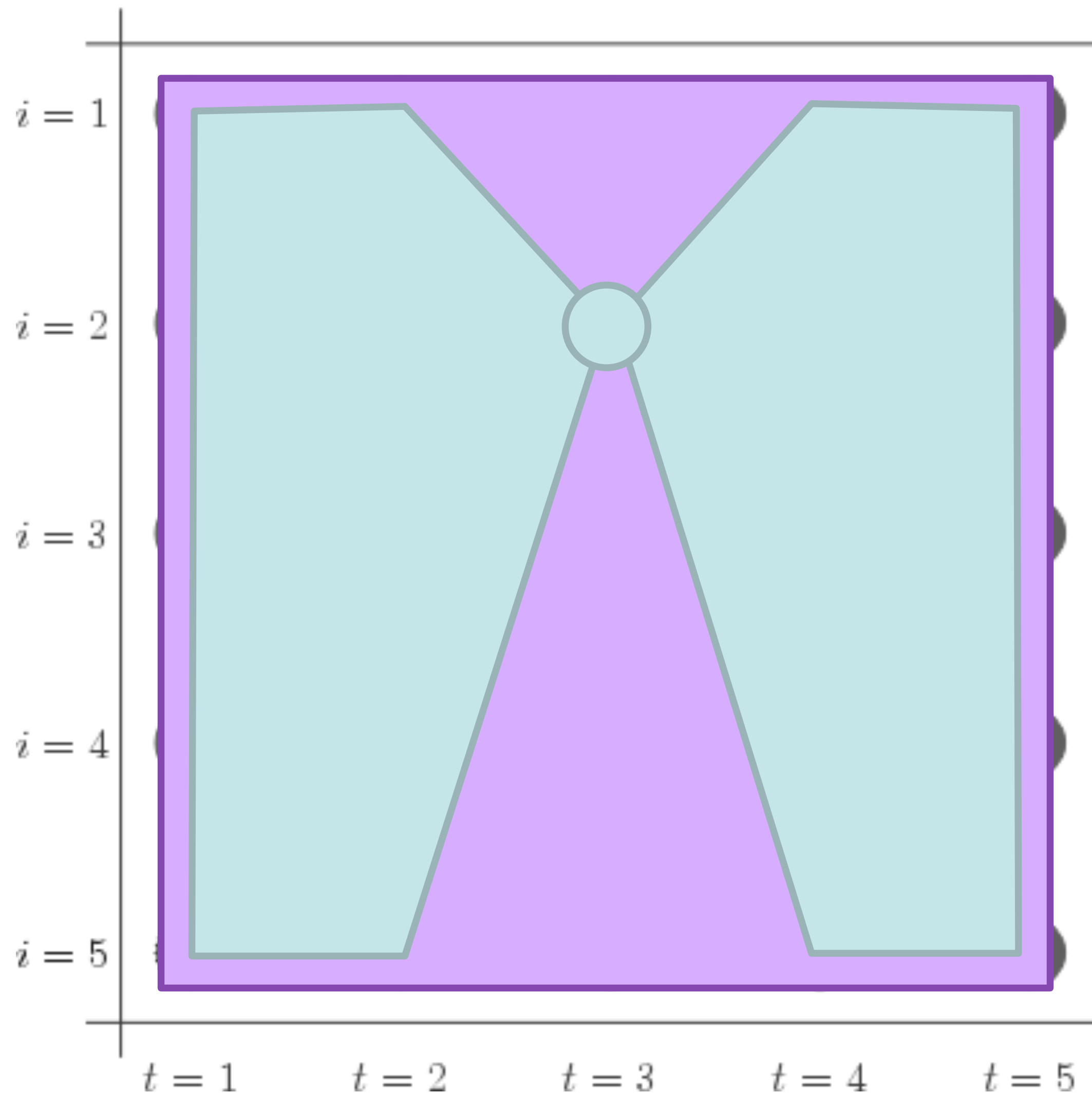


$$P(y_3 = 2 | \mathbf{x}) =$$

$$\frac{\text{sum of all paths through state 2 at time 3}}{\text{sum of all paths}}$$

$$= \frac{\text{light blue shape with circle}}{\text{purple rectangle}}$$


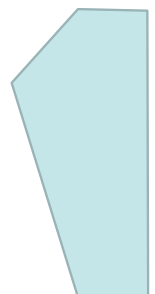
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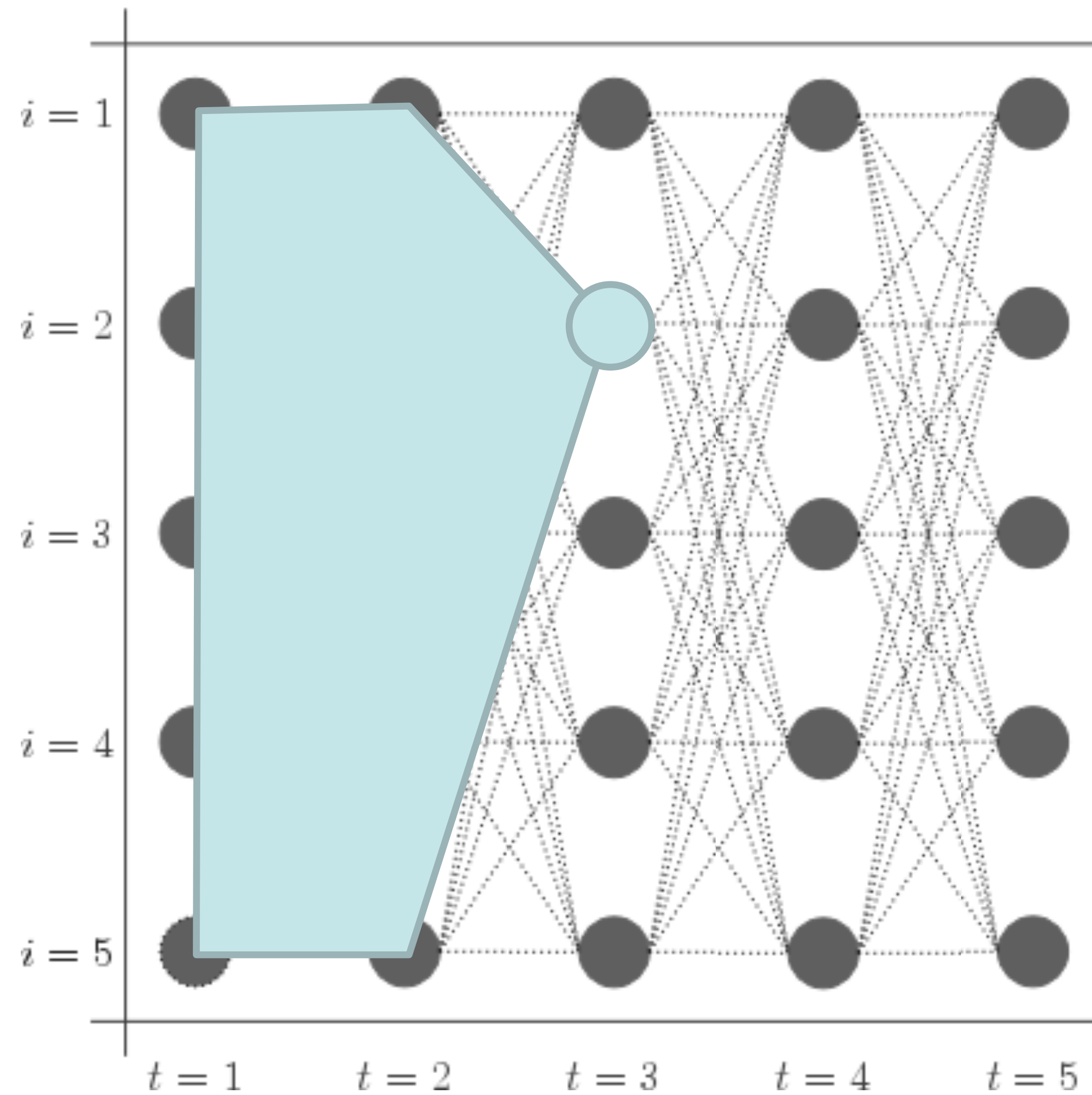
sum of all paths through state 2 at time 3  
sum of all paths

$$= \frac{\text{light blue shape}}{\text{purple shape}}$$

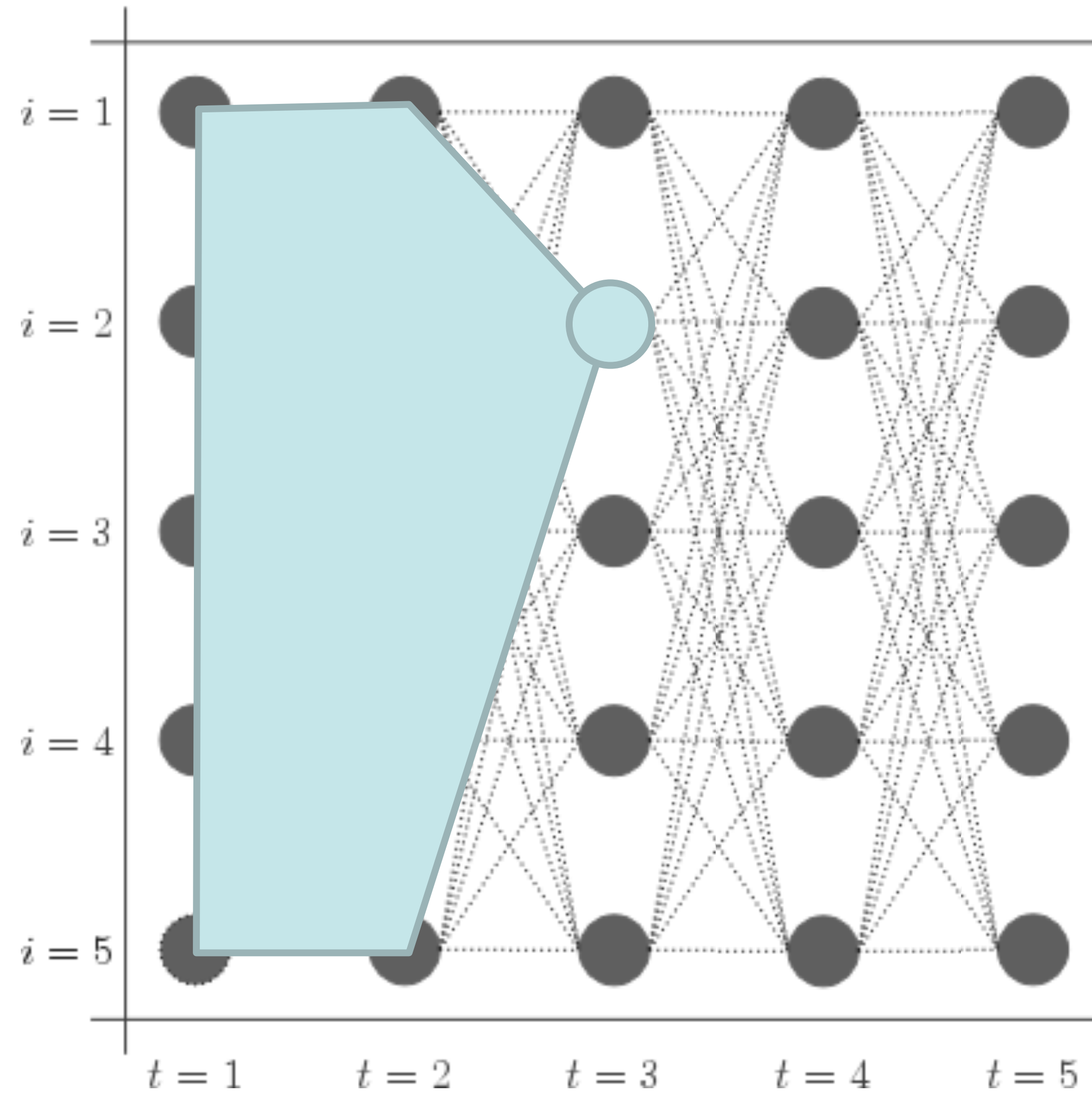
- Easiest and most flexible to do one pass to compute  and one to compute 

# Forward-Backward Algorithm

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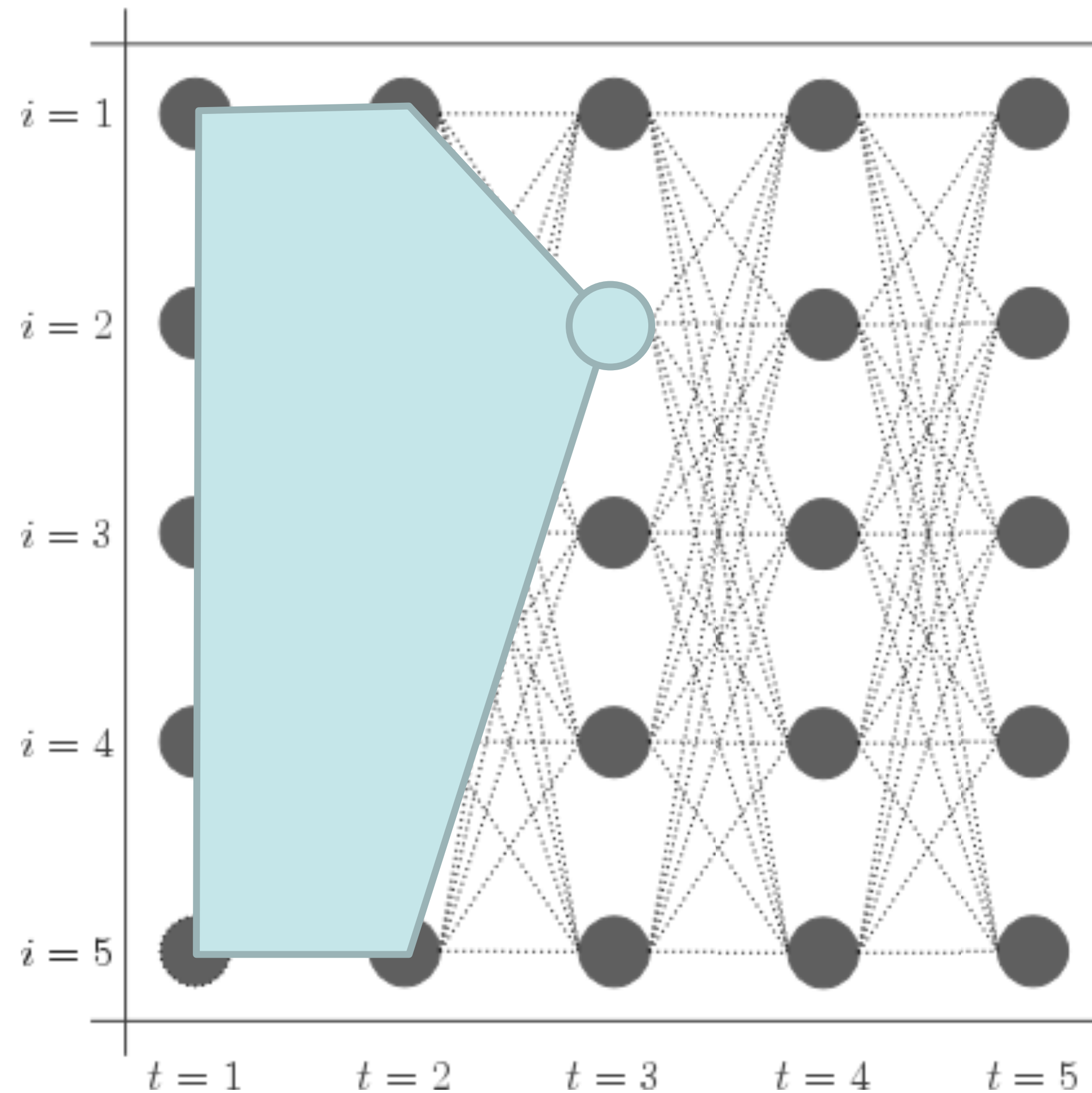


# Forward-Backward Algorithm



► Initial:

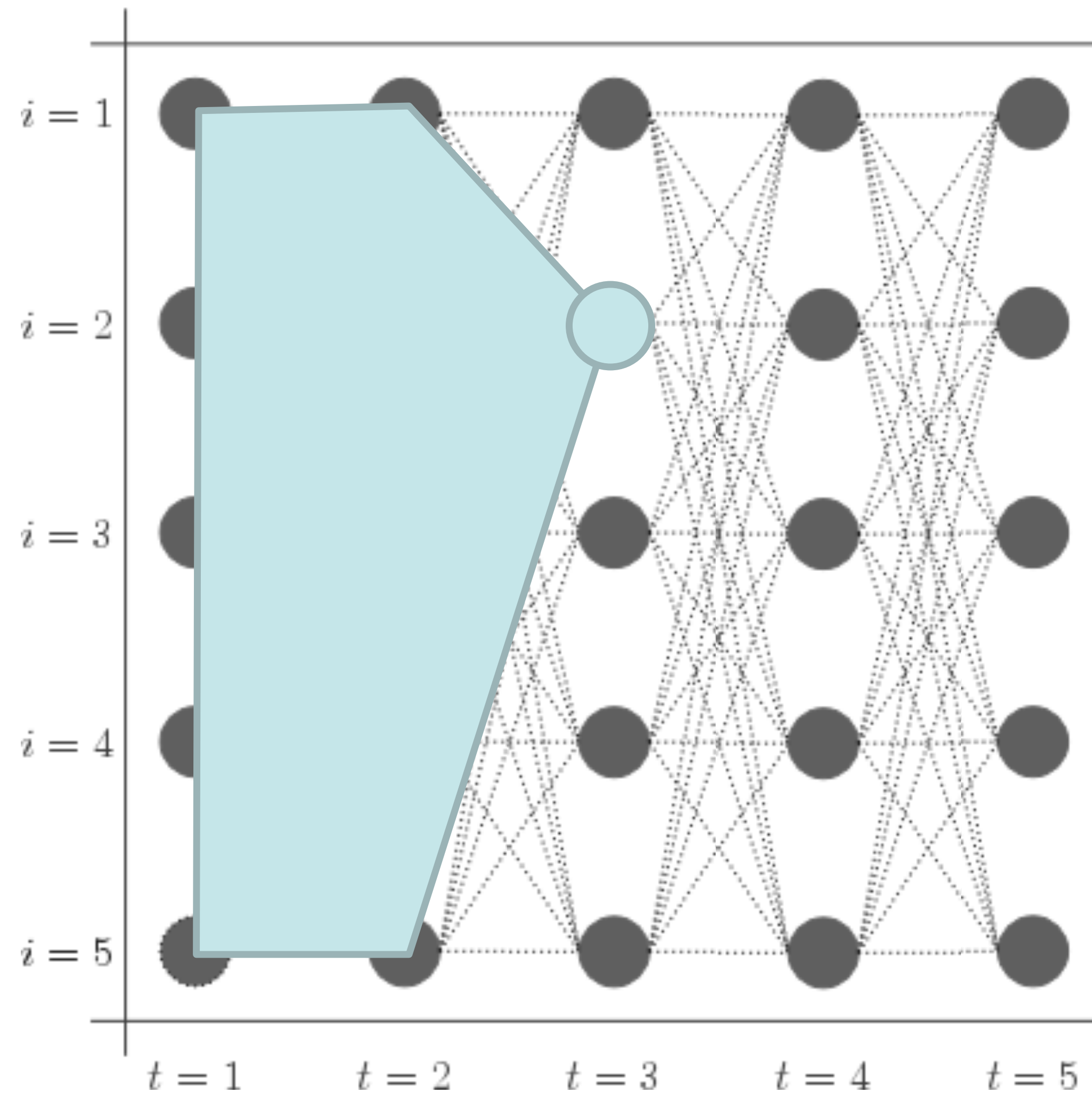
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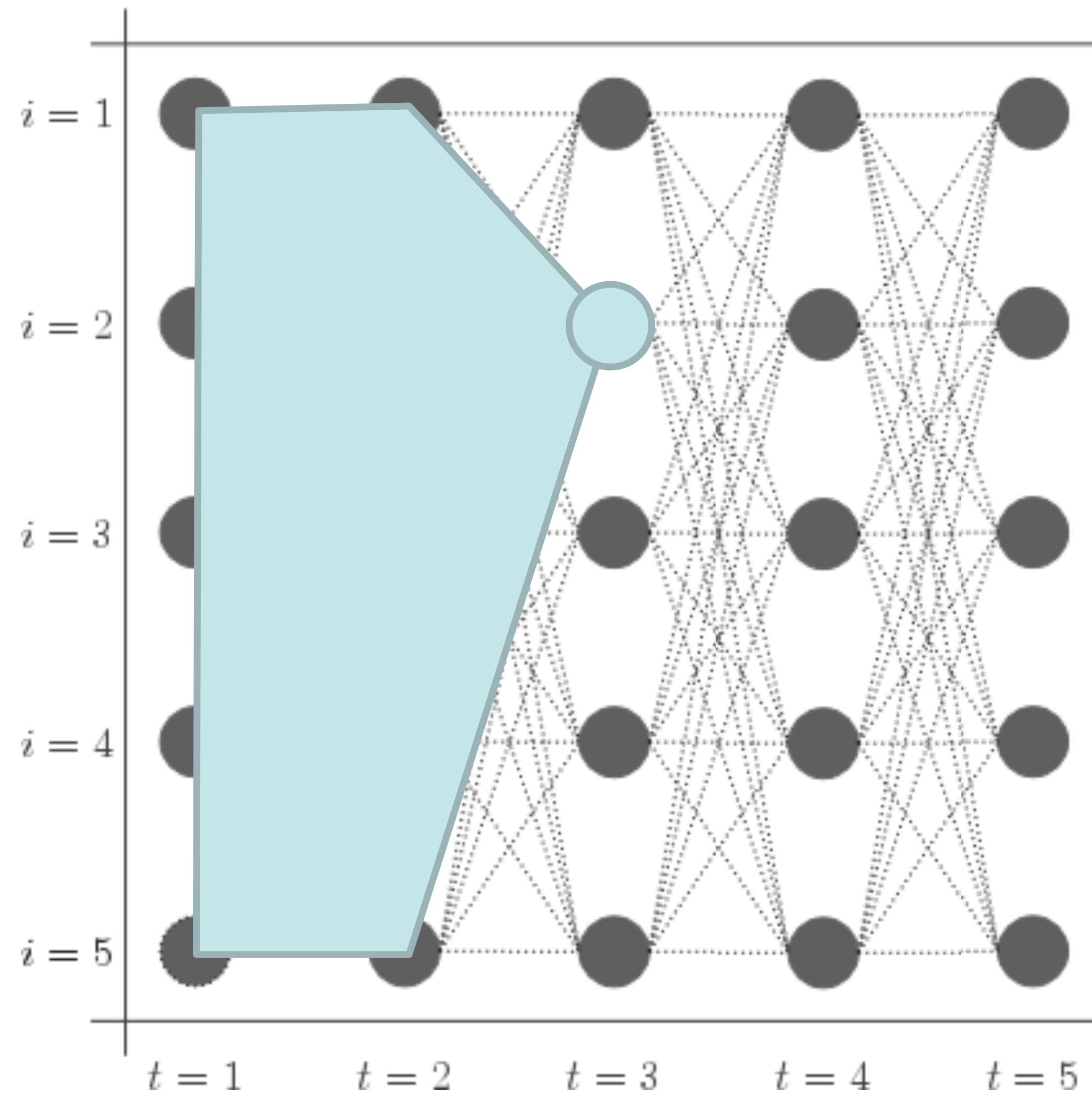


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# Forward-Backward Algorithm



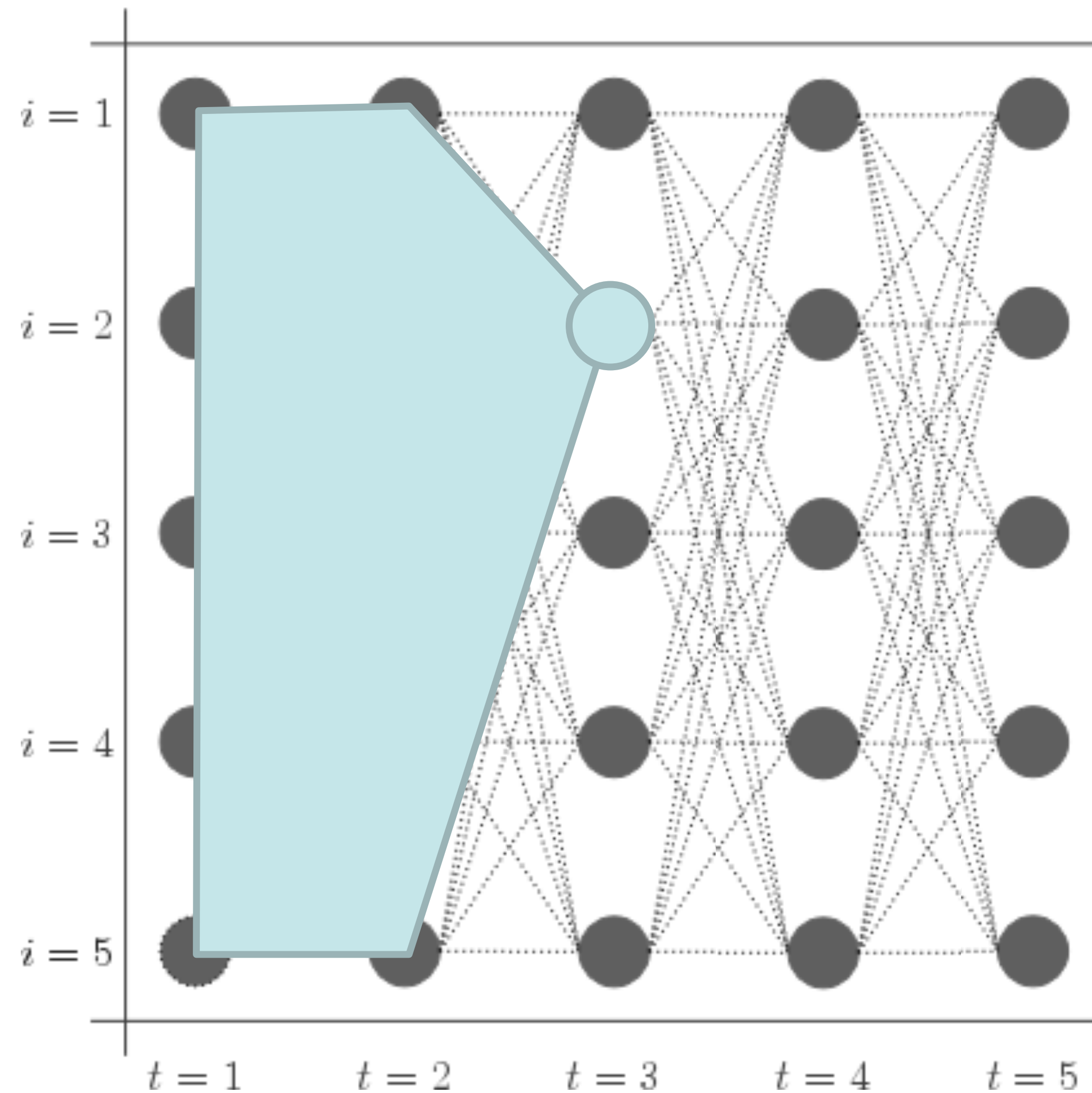
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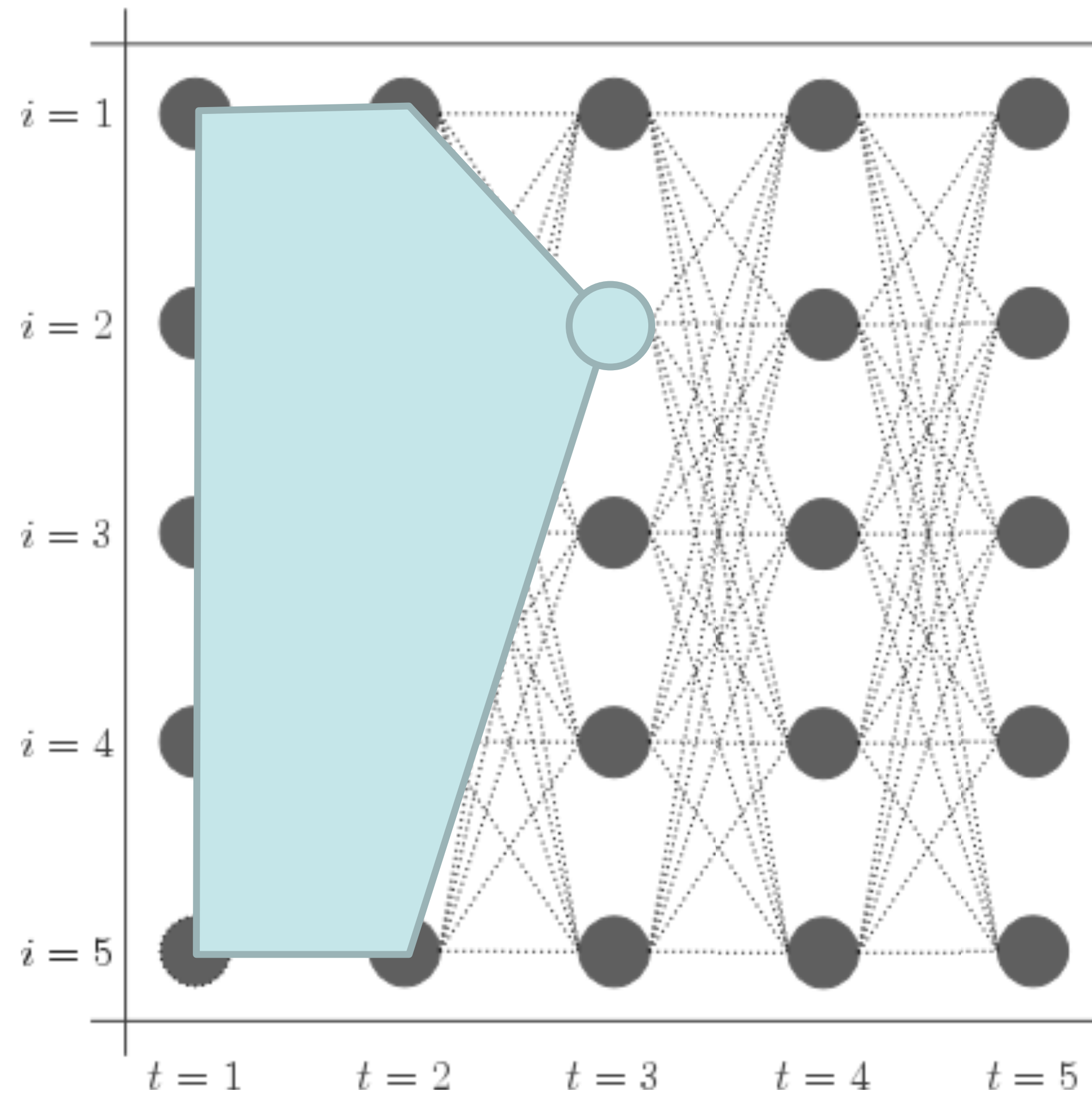
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► Same as Viterbi but summing instead of maxing!

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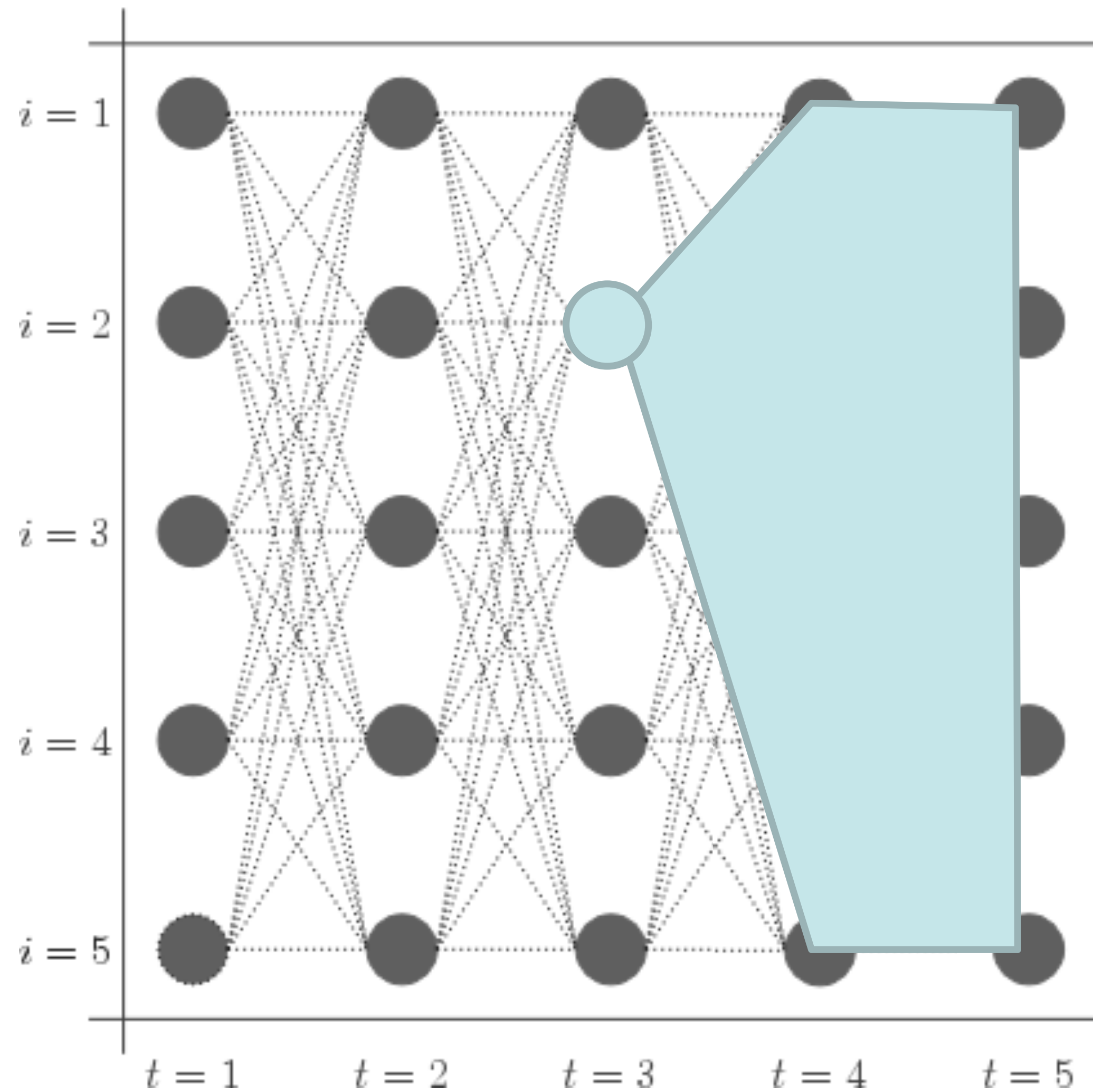
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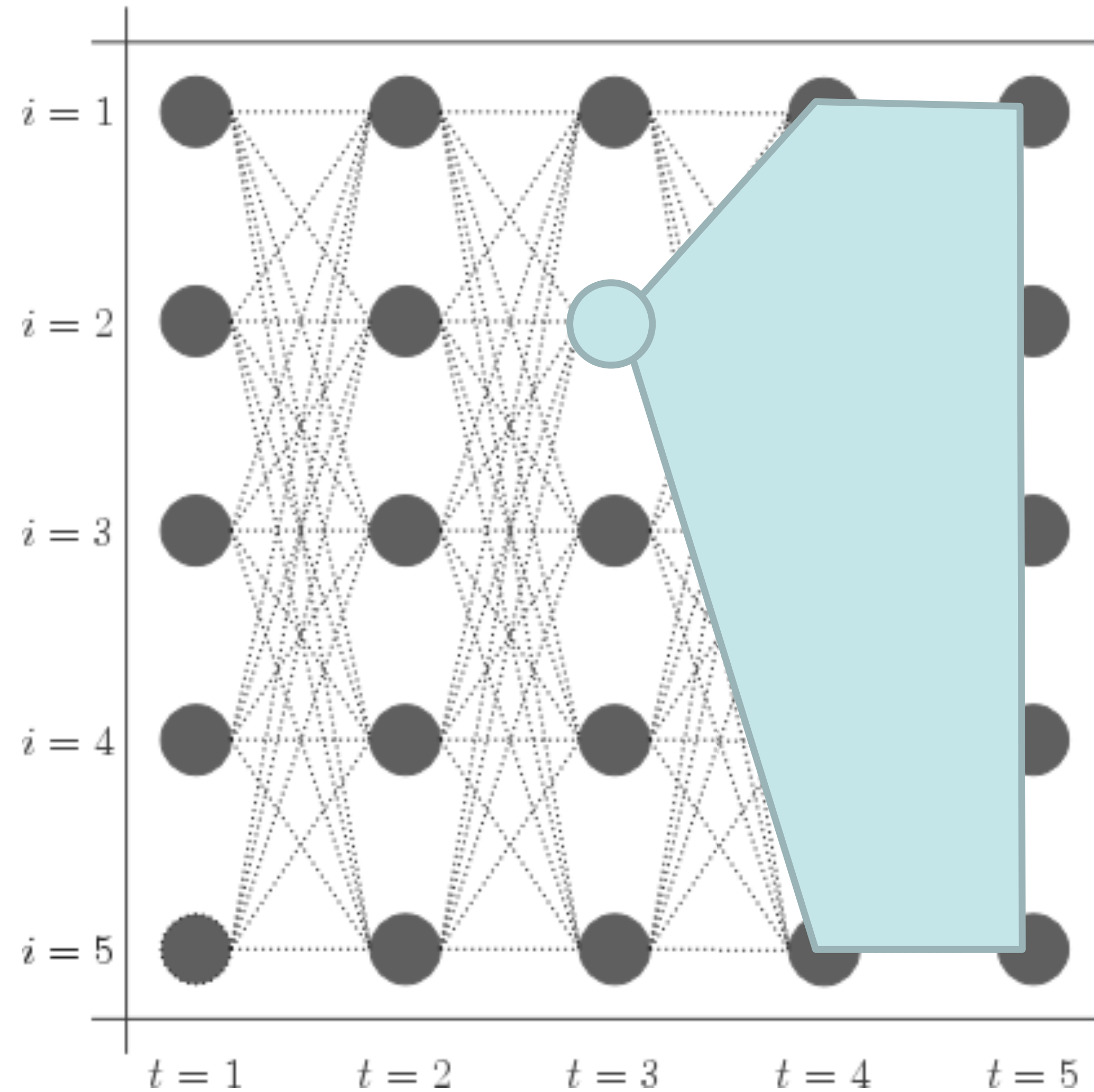
► Same as Viterbi but summing instead of maxing!

► These quantities get very small!  
Store everything as log probabilities

# Forward-Backward Algorithm

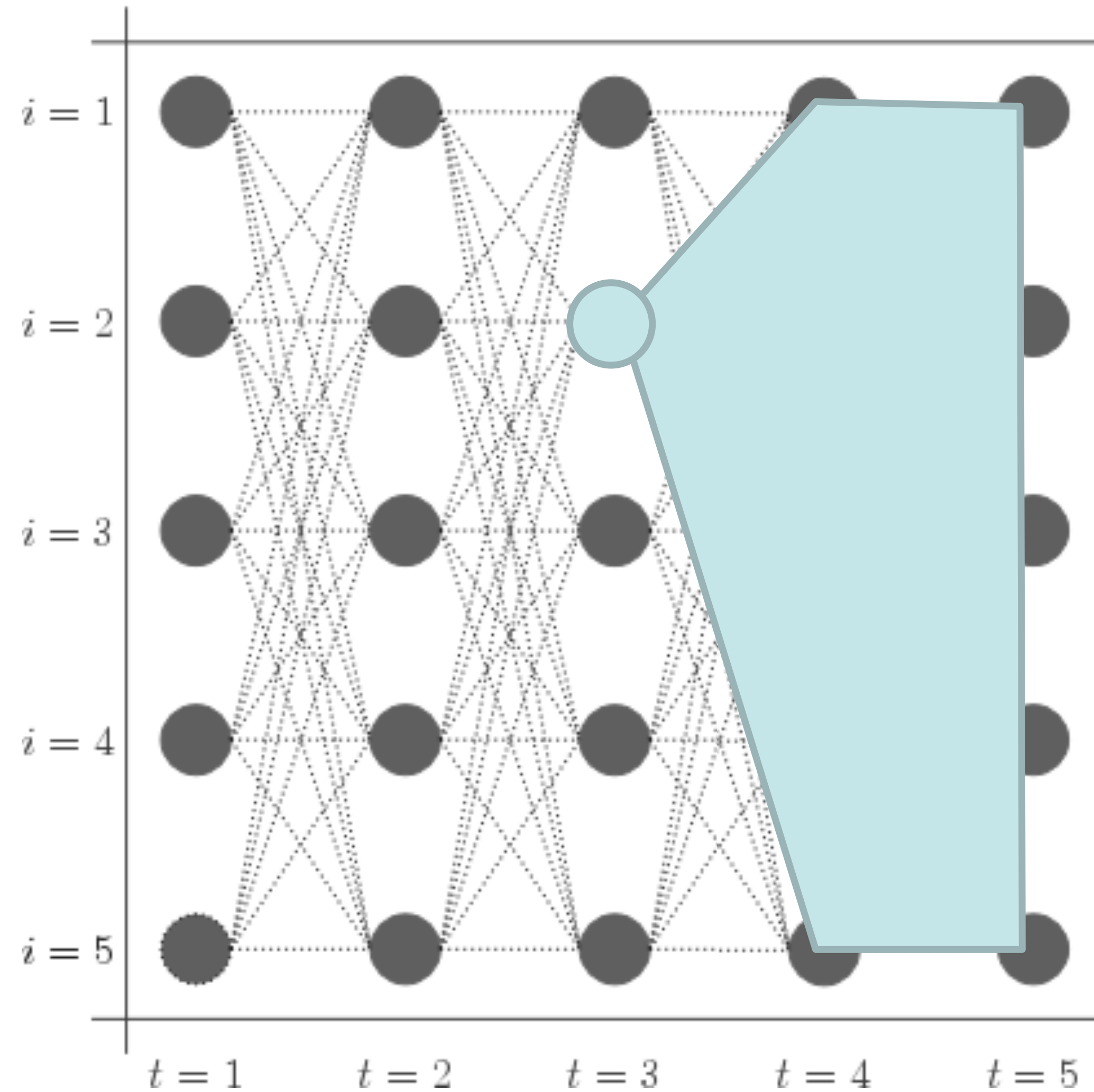


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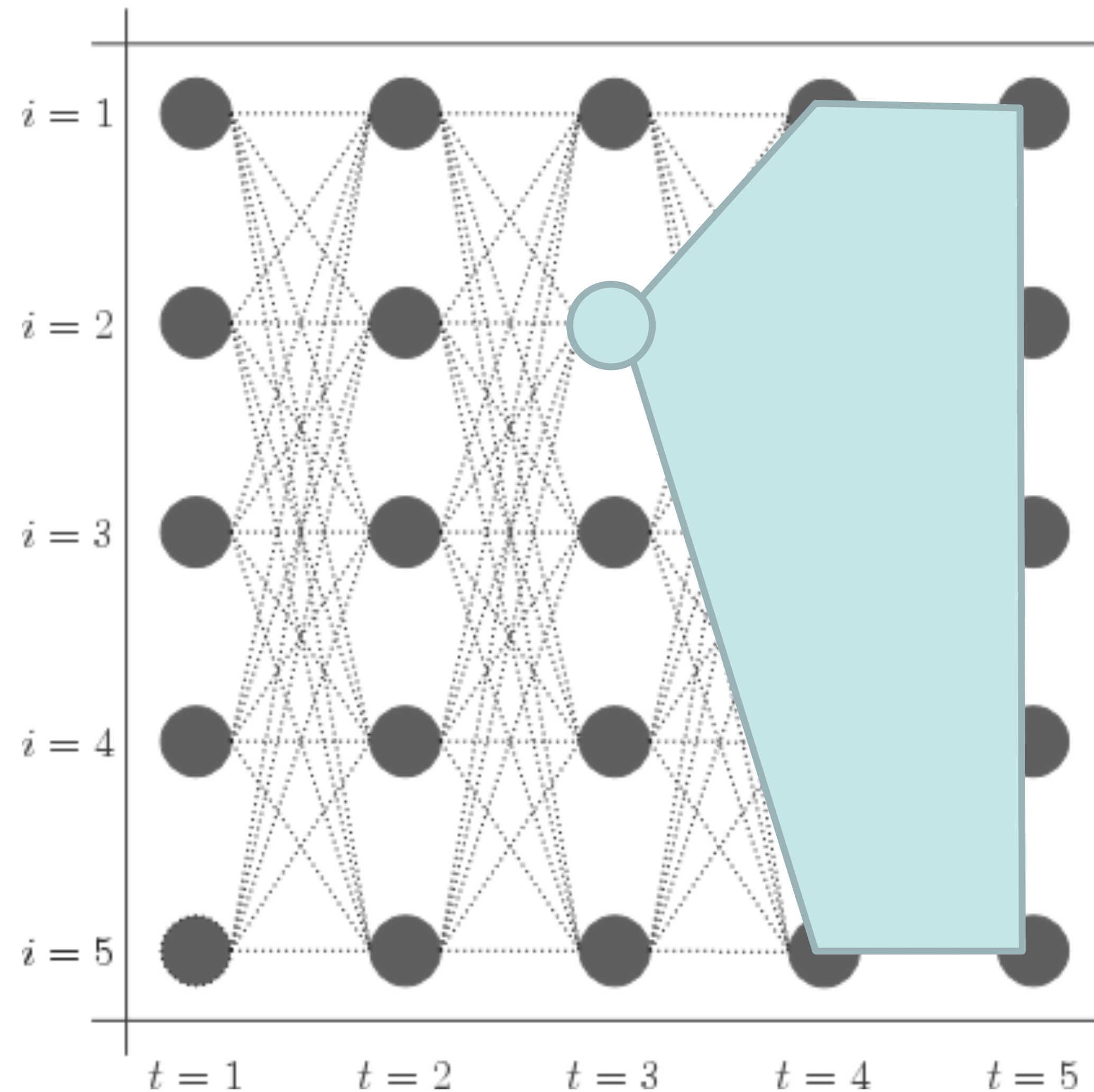
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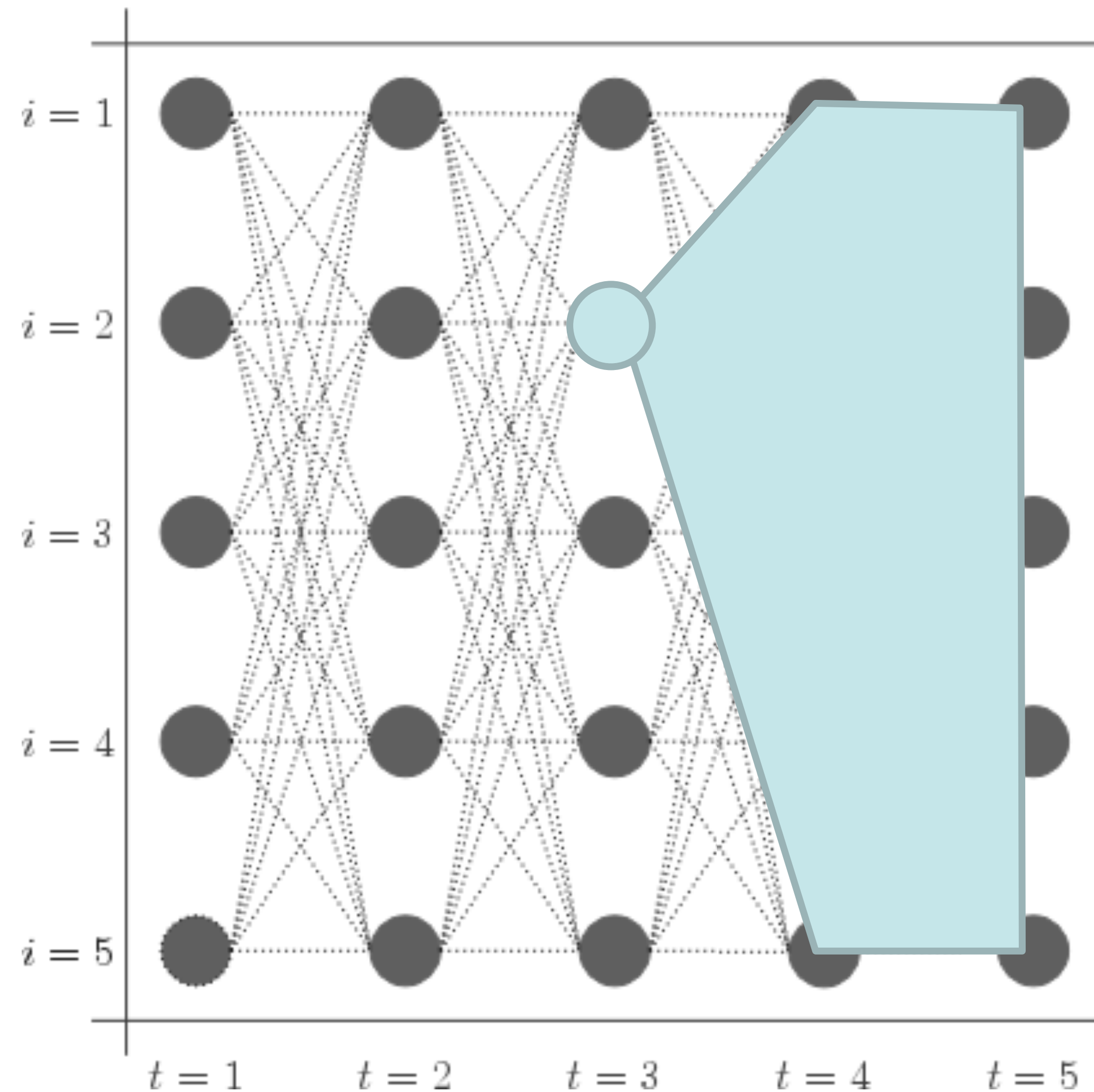


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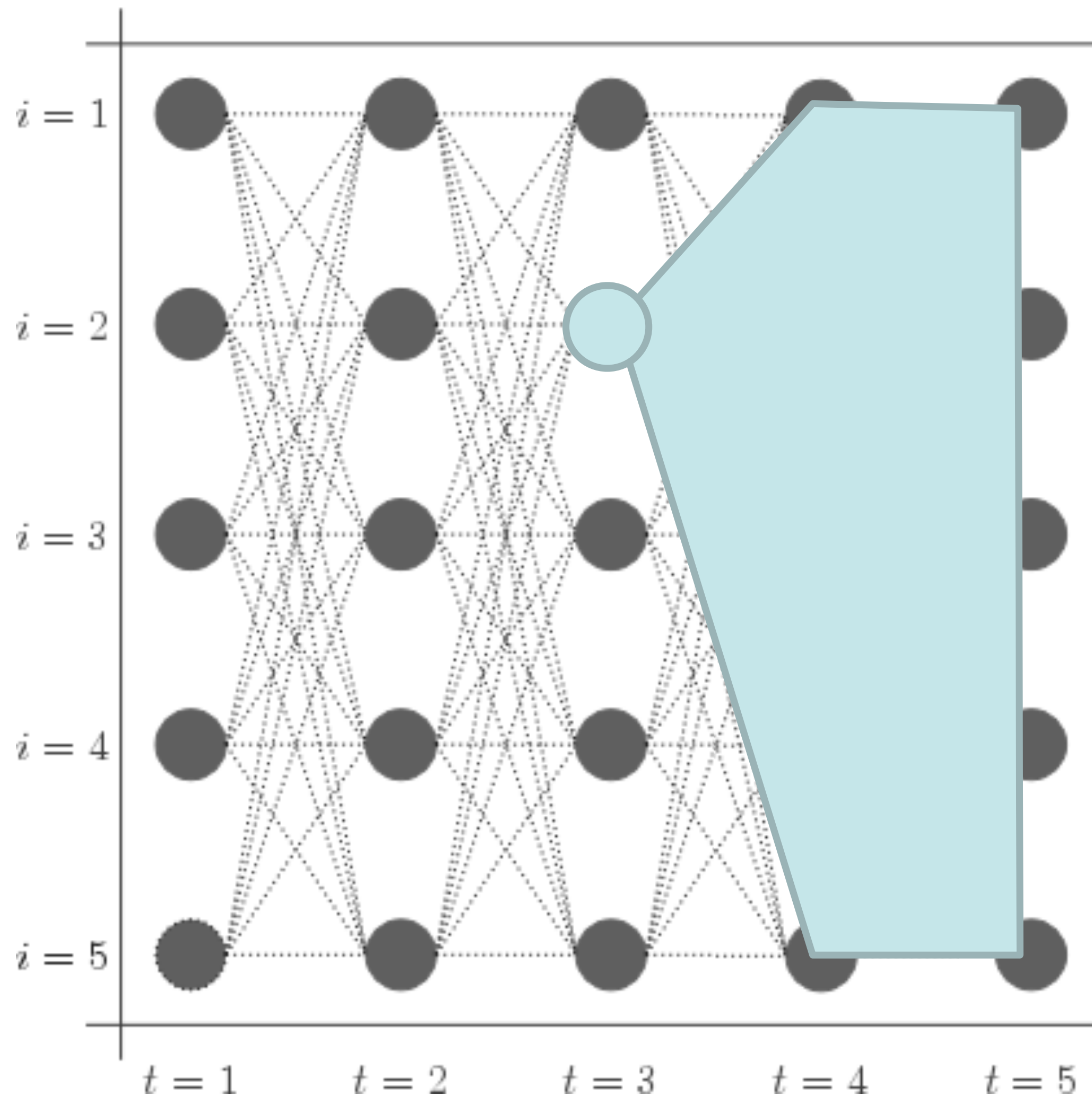
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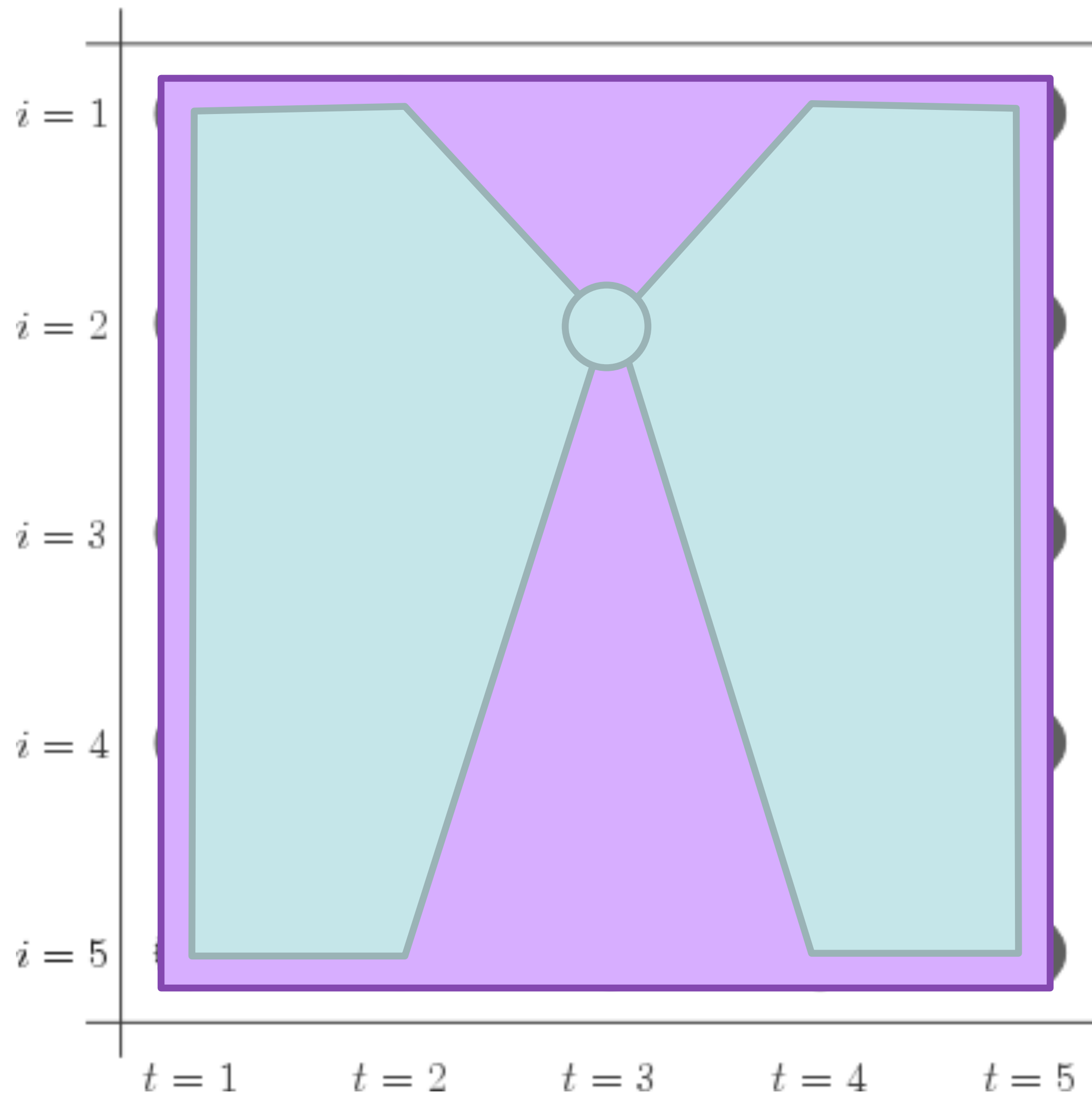
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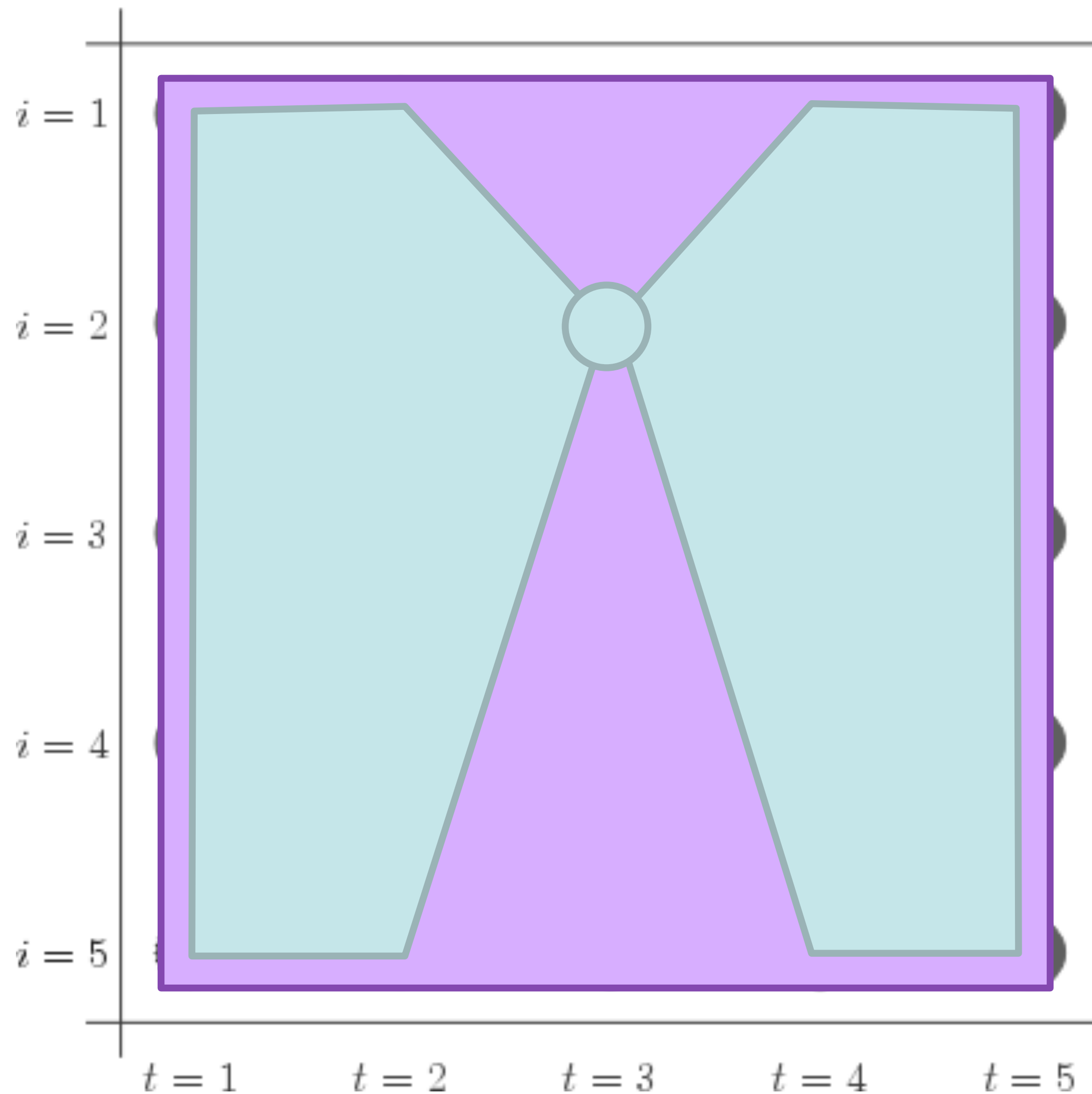
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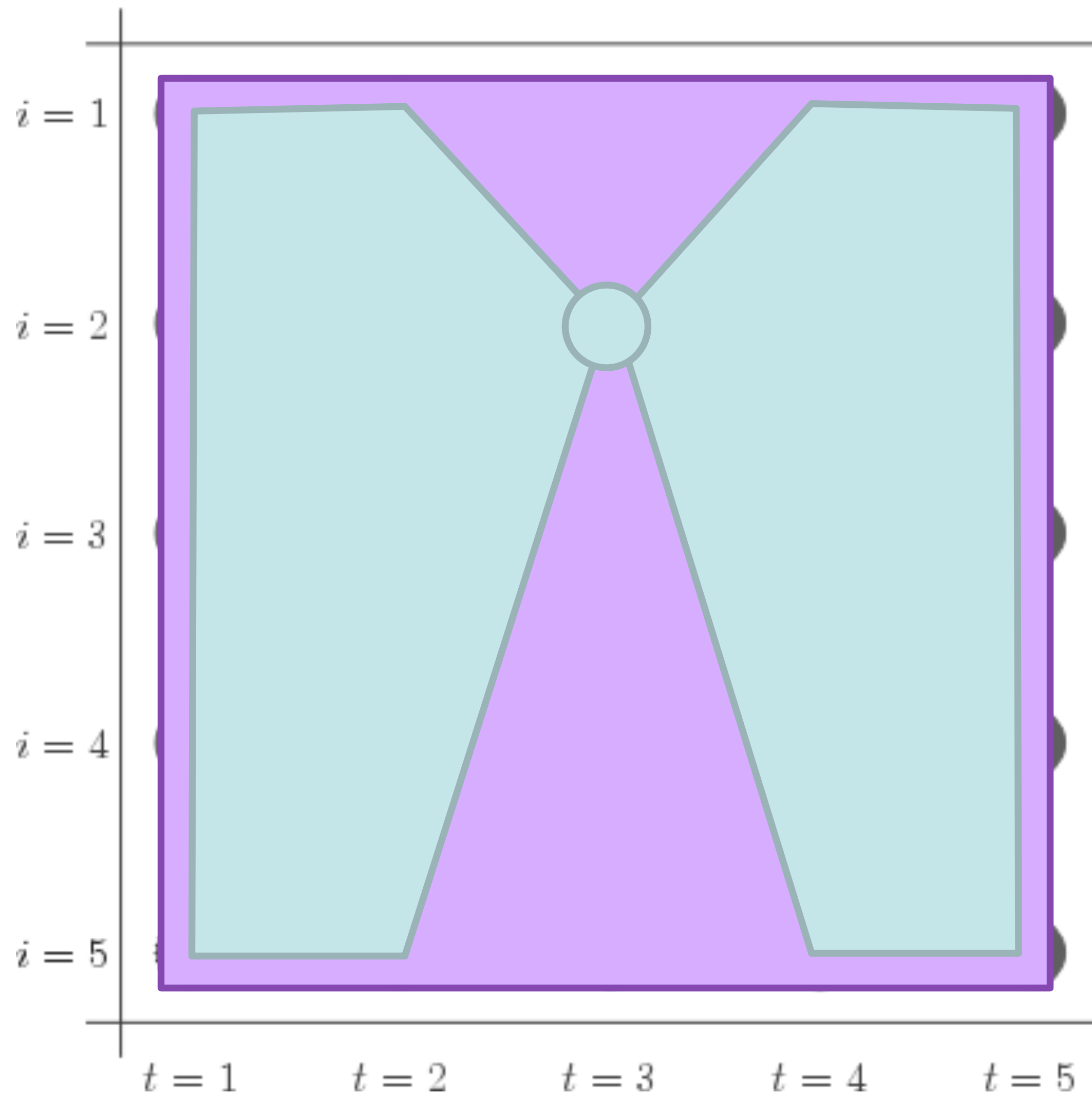
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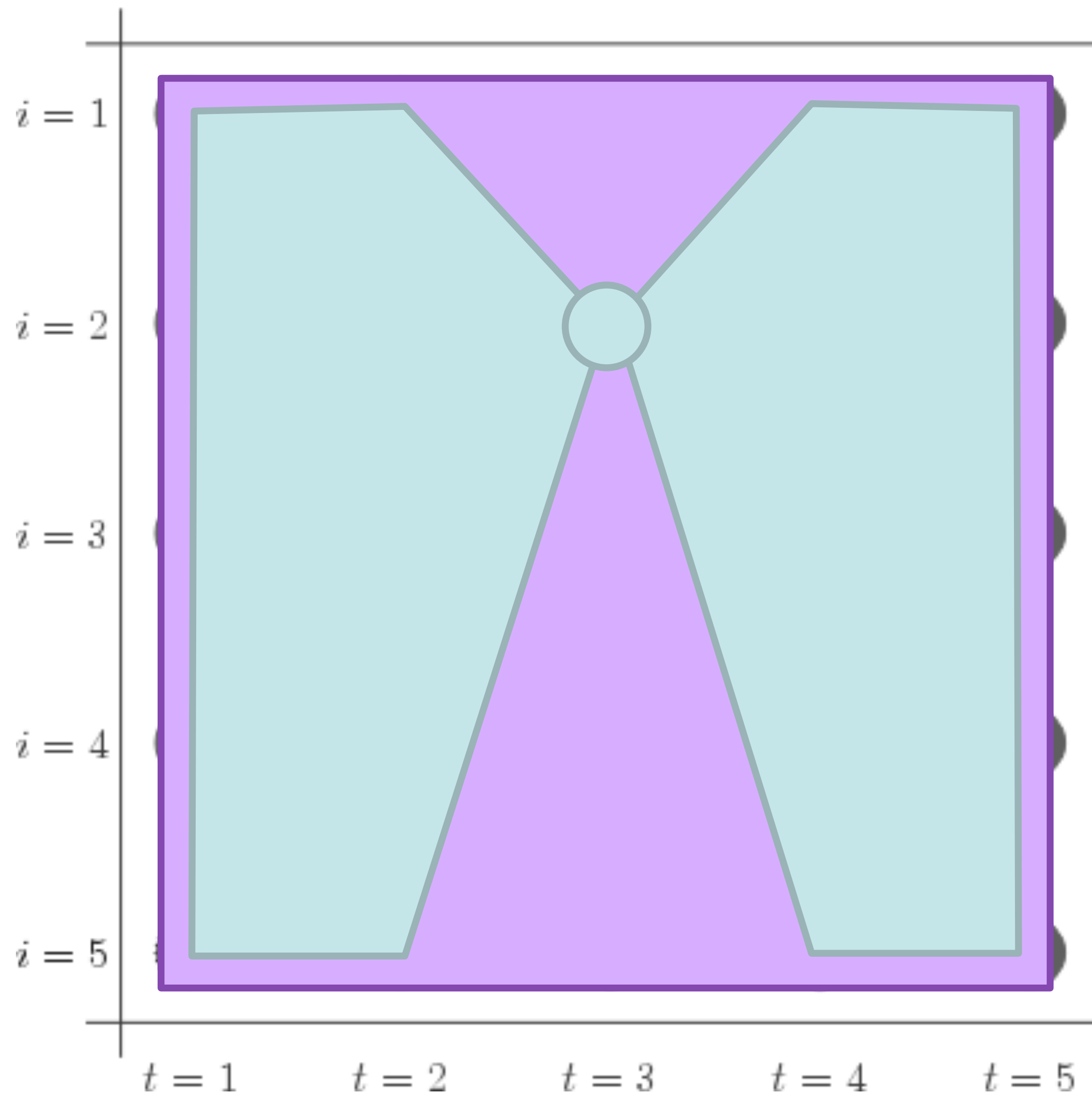
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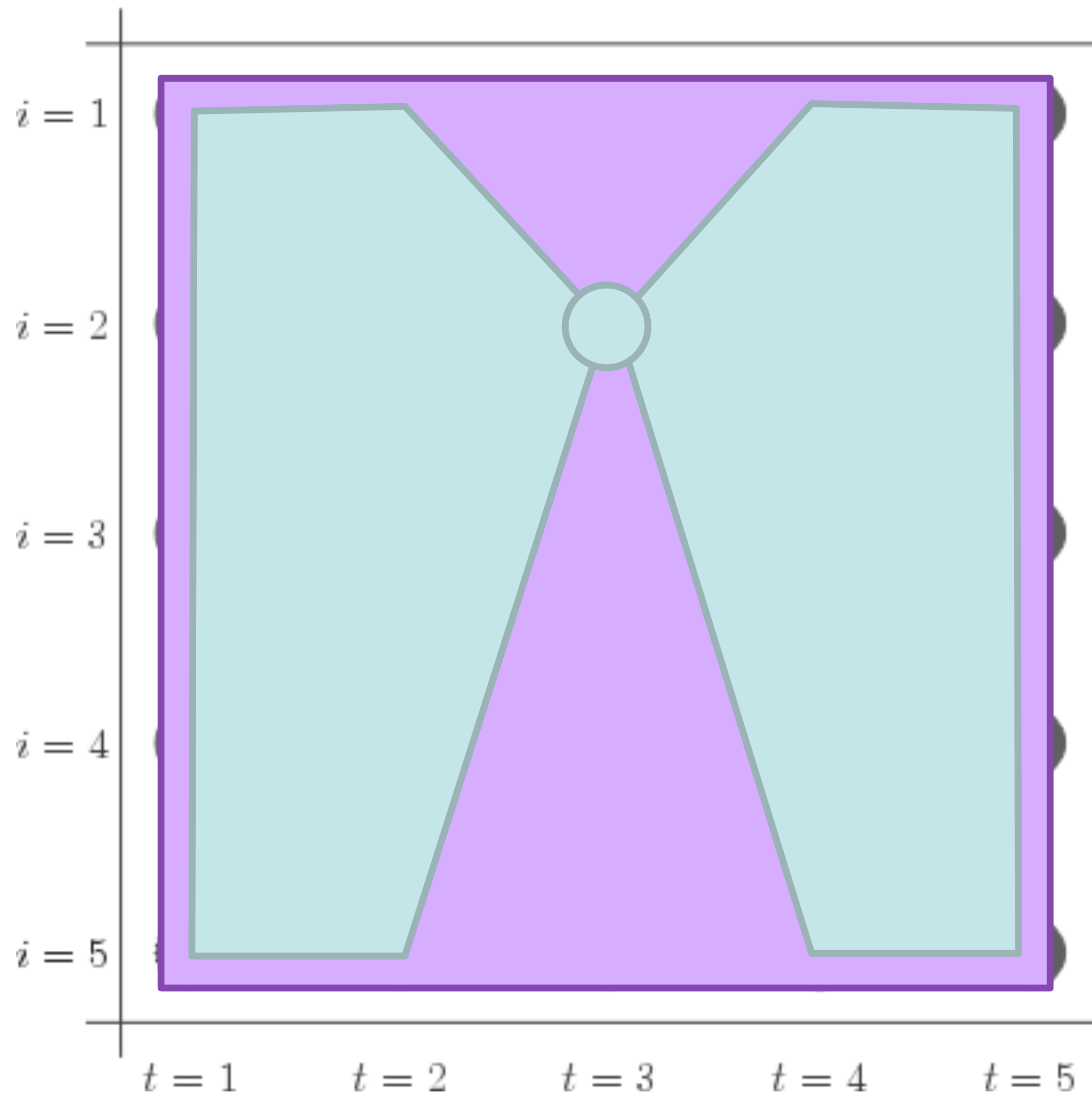
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► What is the denominator here?

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NNP VBZ NN NNS CD NN  
Fed raises interest rates 0.5 percent

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- ▶ Tradeoff between model capacity and data size — trigrams are a “sweet spot” for POS tagging

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- ▶ State-of-the-art (BiLSTM-CRFs): 97.5% / 89%+

# Errors

	JJ	NN	NNP	NNPS	RB	RP	IN	VB	VBD	VCN	VBP	Total
JJ	0	177	56	0	61	2	5	10	15	108	0	488
NN	244	0	103	0	12	1	1	29	5	6	19	525
NNP	107	106	0	132	5	0	7	5	1	2	0	427
NNPS	1	0	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142
RB	72	21	7	0	0	16	138	1	0	0	0	295
RP	0	0	0	0	39	0	65	0	0	0	0	104
IN	11	0	1	0	169	103	0	1	0	0	0	323
VB	17	64	9	0	2	0	1	0	4	7	85	189
VBD	10	5	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	143	2	166
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JJ/**NN**    NN  
*official knowledge*

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*official knowledge*

(NN NN: *tax cut, art gallery, ...*)

Slide credit: Dan Klein / Toutanova + Manning (2000)

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*official knowledge*

VBD RP/**IN** DT NN  
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(NN NN: *tax cut, art gallery, ...*)

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JJ/**NN**    NN  
*official knowledge*

VBD RP/**IN** DT NN  
*made up the story*

RB    VBD/**VCN** NNS  
*recently sold shares*

(NN NN: *tax cut, art gallery, ...*)

# Remaining Errors

---

Manning 2011 “Part-of-Speech Tagging from 97% to 100%: Is It Time for Some Linguistics?”

# Remaining Errors

---

- ▶ Lexicon gap (word not seen with that tag in training) 4.5%

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---

- ▶ Lexicon gap (word not seen with that tag in training) 4.5%
- ▶ Unknown word: 4.5%

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adjective or verbal participle? JJ / VBN?

*a \$ 10 million fourth-quarter charge against **discontinued** operations*

Manning 2011 “Part-of-Speech Tagging from 97% to 100%: Is It Time for Some Linguistics?”

# Other Languages

Language	Source	# Tags	O/O	U/U	O/U
Arabic	PADT/CoNLL07 (Hajič et al., 2004)	21	96.1	96.9	97.0
Basque	Basque3LB/CoNLL07 (Aduriz et al., 2003)	64	89.3	93.7	93.7
Bulgarian	BTB/CoNLL06 (Simov et al., 2002)	54	95.7	97.5	97.8
Catalan	CESS-ECE/CoNLL07 (Martí et al., 2007)	54	98.5	98.2	98.8
Chinese	Penn ChineseTreebank 6.0 (Palmer et al., 2007)	34	91.7	93.4	94.1
Chinese	Sinica/CoNLL07 (Chen et al., 2003)	294	87.5	91.8	92.6
Czech	PDT/CoNLL07 (Böhmová et al., 2003)	63	99.1	99.1	99.1
Danish	DDT/CoNLL06 (Kromann et al., 2003)	25	96.2	96.4	96.9
Dutch	Alpino/CoNLL06 (Van der Beek et al., 2002)	12	93.0	95.0	95.0
English	PennTreebank (Marcus et al., 1993)	45	96.7	96.8	97.7
French	FrenchTreebank (Abeillé et al., 2003)	30	96.6	96.7	97.3
German	Tiger/CoNLL06 (Brants et al., 2002)	54	97.9	98.1	98.8
German	Negra (Skut et al., 1997)	54	96.9	97.9	98.6
Greek	GDT/CoNLL07 (Prokopidis et al., 2005)	38	97.2	97.5	97.8
Hungarian	Szeged/CoNLL07 (Csendes et al., 2005)	43	94.5	95.6	95.8
Italian	ISST/CoNLL07 (Montemagni et al., 2003)	28	94.9	95.8	95.8
Japanese	Verbmobil/CoNLL06 (Kawata and Bartels, 2000)	80	98.3	98.0	99.1
Japanese	Kyoto4.0 (Kurohashi and Nagao, 1997)	42	97.4	98.7	99.3
Korean	Sejong ( <a href="http://www.sejong.or.kr">http://www.sejong.or.kr</a> )	187	96.5	97.5	98.4
Portuguese	Floresta Sintá(c)tica/CoNLL06 (Afonso et al., 2002)	22	96.9	96.8	97.4
Russian	SynTagRus-RNC (Boguslavsky et al., 2002)	11	96.8	96.8	96.8
Slovene	SDT/CoNLL06 (Džeroski et al., 2006)	29	94.7	94.6	95.3
Spanish	Ancora-Cast3LB/CoNLL06 (Civit and Martí, 2004)	47	96.3	96.3	96.9
Swedish	Talbanken05/CoNLL06 (Nivre et al., 2006)	41	93.6	94.7	95.1
Turkish	METU-Sabancı/CoNLL07 (Ofłazer et al., 2003)	31	87.5	89.1	90.2

# Other Languages

Gillick et al. 2016

Language	CRF+	CRF	BTS	BTS*
Bulgarian	97.97	97.00	97.84	97.02
Czech	98.38	98.00	98.50	98.44
Danish	95.93	95.06	95.52	92.45
German	93.08	91.99	92.87	92.34
Greek	97.72	97.21	97.39	96.64
English	95.11	94.51	93.87	94.00
Spanish	96.08	95.03	95.80	95.26
Farsi	96.59	96.25	96.82	96.76
Finnish	94.34	92.82	95.48	96.05
French	96.00	95.93	95.75	95.17
Indonesian	92.84	92.71	92.85	91.03
Italian	97.70	97.61	97.56	97.40
Swedish	96.81	96.15	95.57	93.17
AVERAGE	96.04	95.41	95.85	95.06

## Byte-to-Span

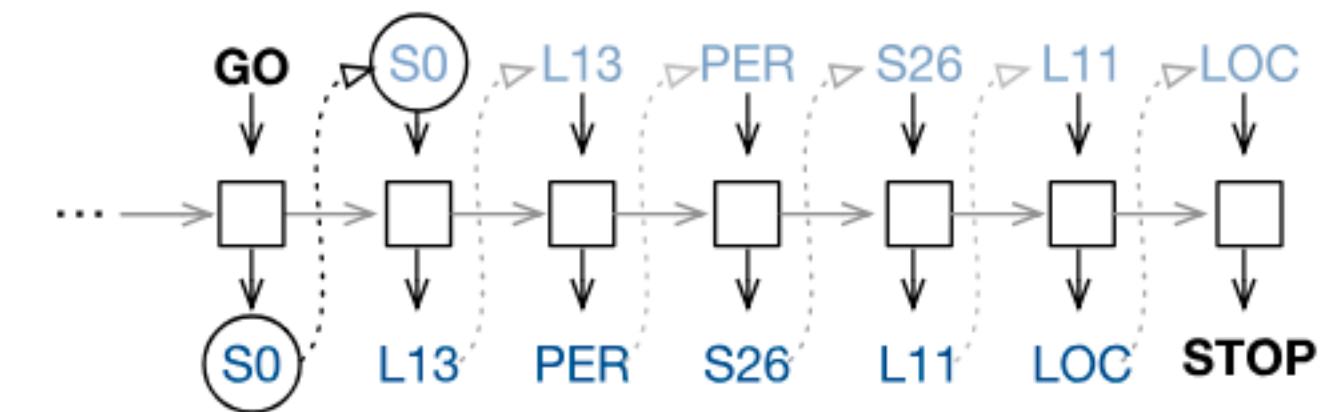
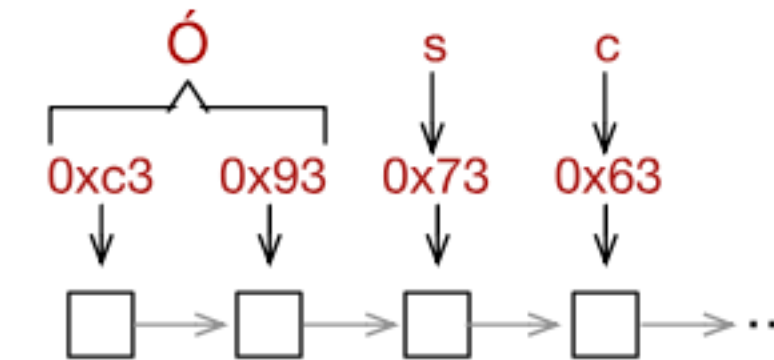
Óscar Romero was born in El Salvador.

SEGMENT



SPANS

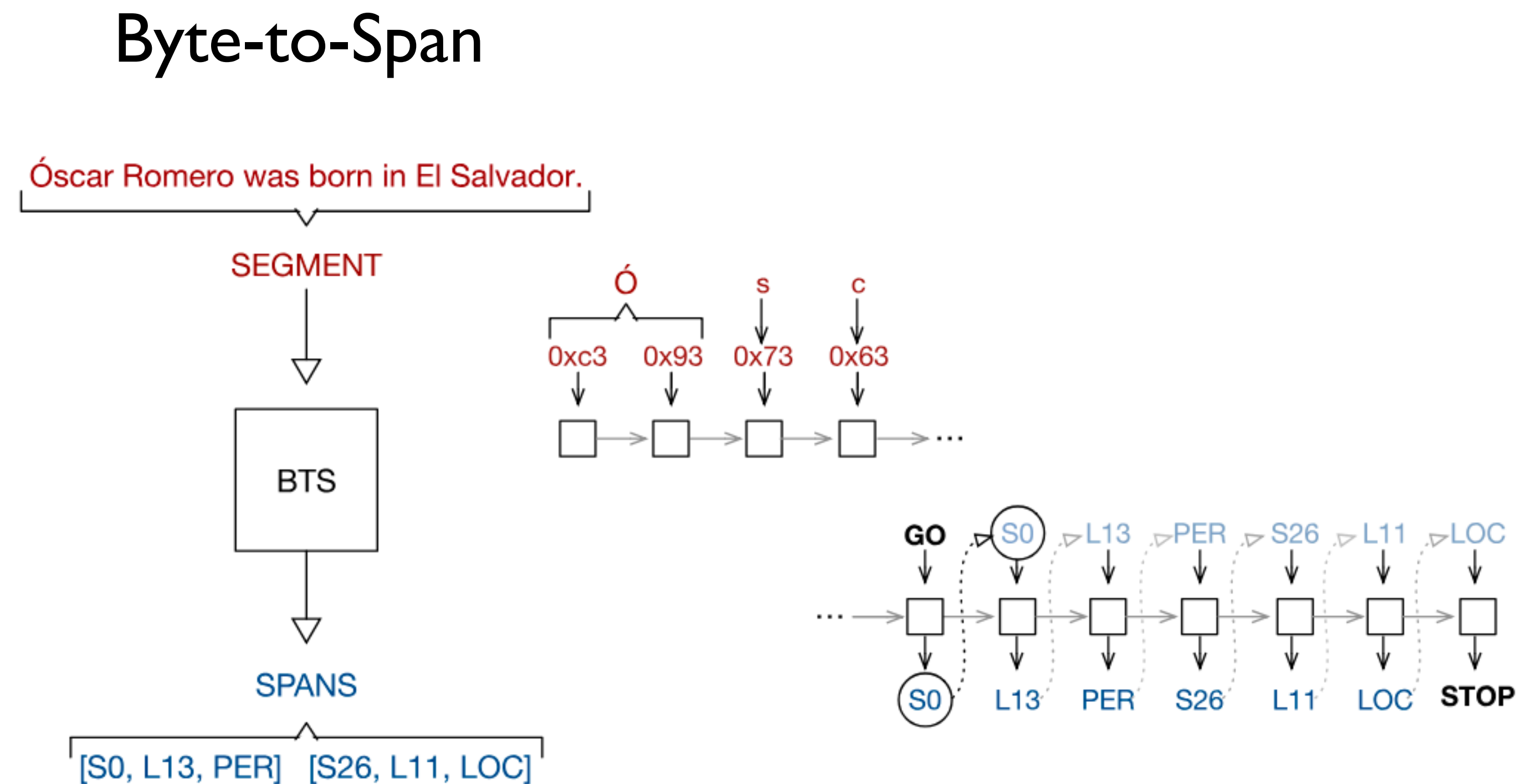
[S0, L13, PER] [S26, L11, LOC]



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- Universal POS tagset (~12 tags), cross-lingual model works as well as tuned CRF using external resources

# Next Time

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- ▶ Structured SVM for sequences

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- ▶ Named entity recognition