

Model-Based Aligner Combination Using Dual Decomposition

John DeNero and Klaus Macherey
Google Research

Task: Combine predictions of two directional alignment models

Approach: Search for maximal assignment in a graphical model

Method:

Motivation:

Result:

Task: Combine predictions of two directional alignment models

Approach: Search for maximal assignment in a graphical model

Method: Dual decomposition inference

Motivation: Globally optimal upon convergence

Result:

Task: Combine predictions of two directional alignment models

Approach: Search for maximal assignment in a graphical model

Method: Dual decomposition inference

Motivation: Globally optimal upon convergence

Result: Convergence is rare, but method yields empirical benefit

e : How are you ?

f : 你 好 吗 ?
[you] [good] [*interrogative particle*]



$$P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a}|\mathbf{e})$$

HMM-Based Generative Alignment Model



e : How are you ?

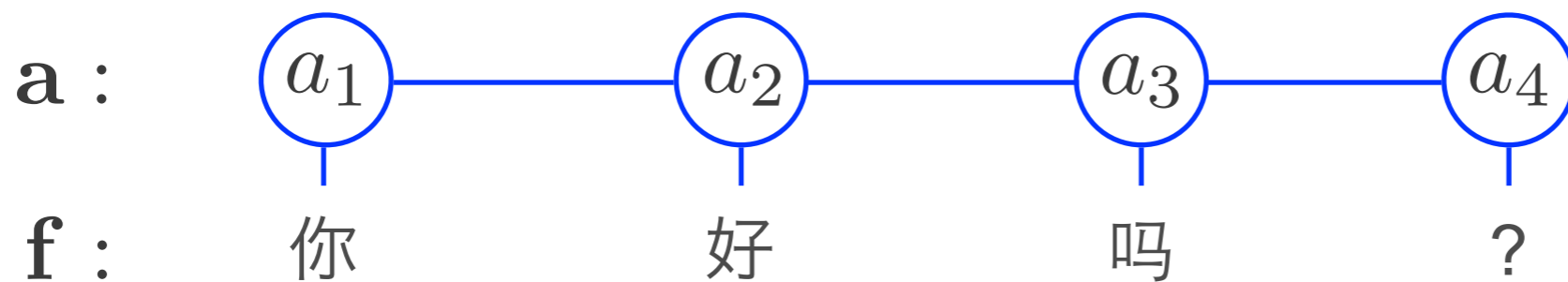


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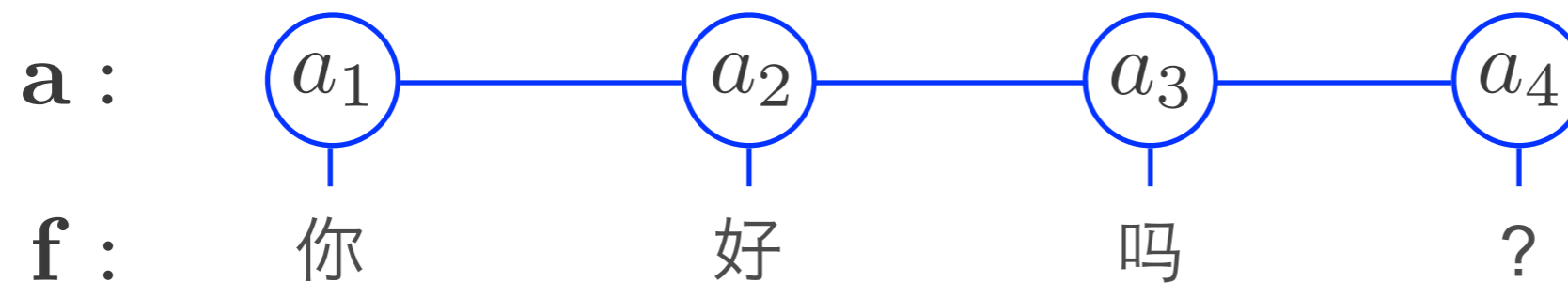


$$P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e}) = \prod_{j=1}^{|\mathbf{f}|} P(a_j | a_{j-1}) \cdot P(f_j | e_{a_j})$$

(Vogel et al., 1996)

HMM-Based Generative Alignment Model

e : How are you ?
values : 1 2 3 4

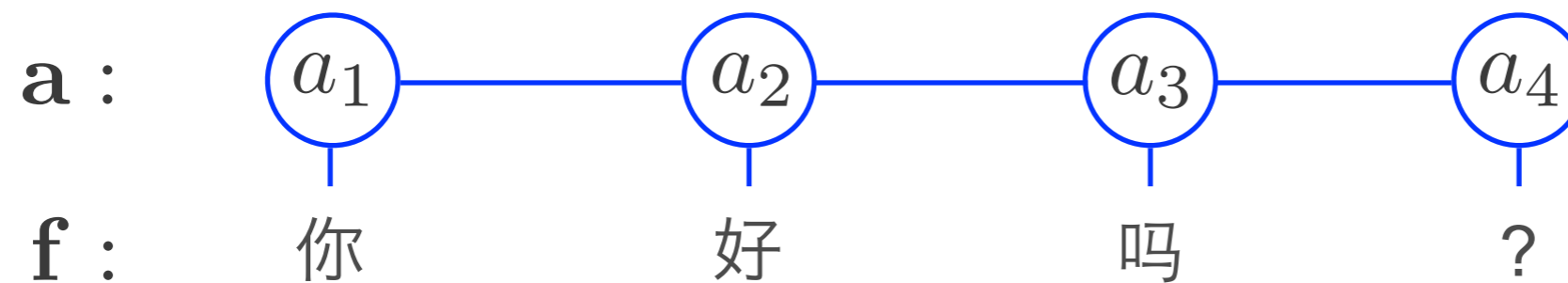


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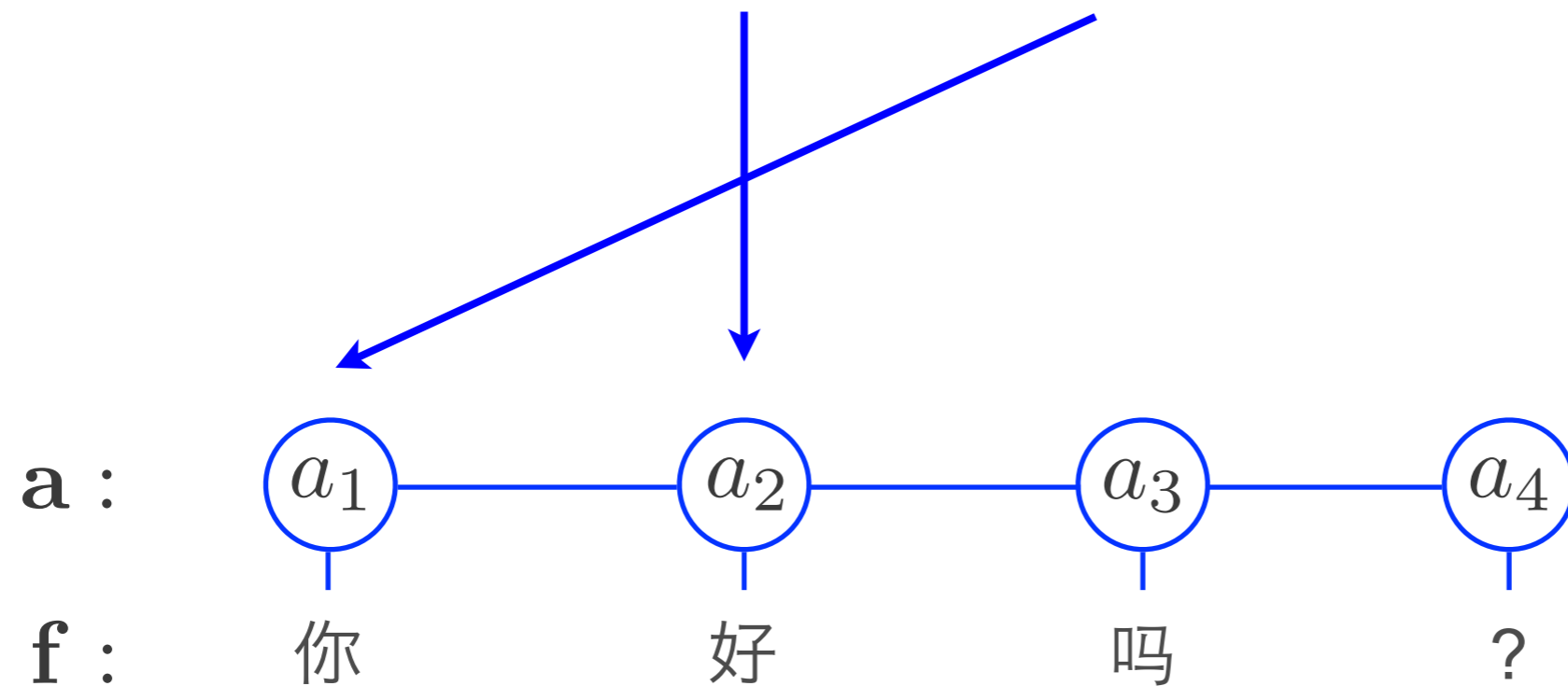


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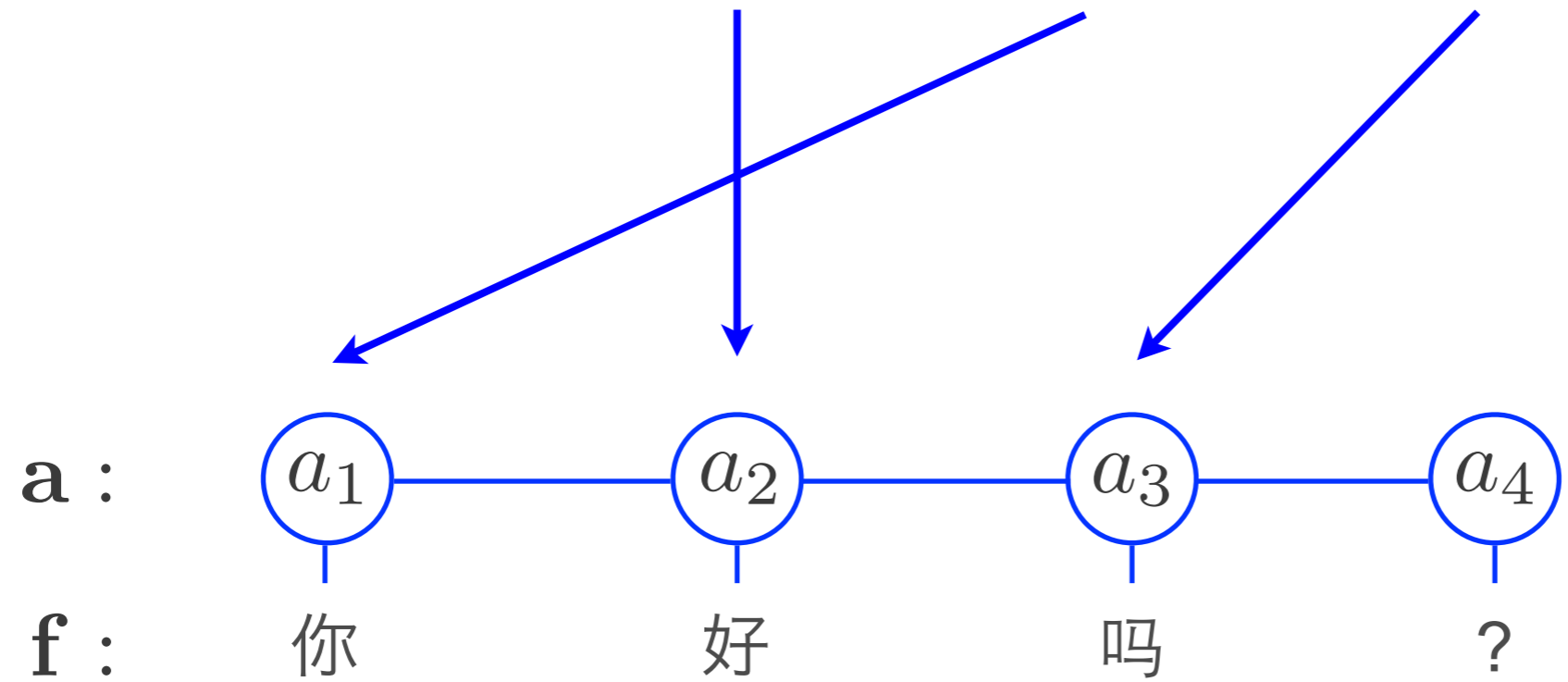


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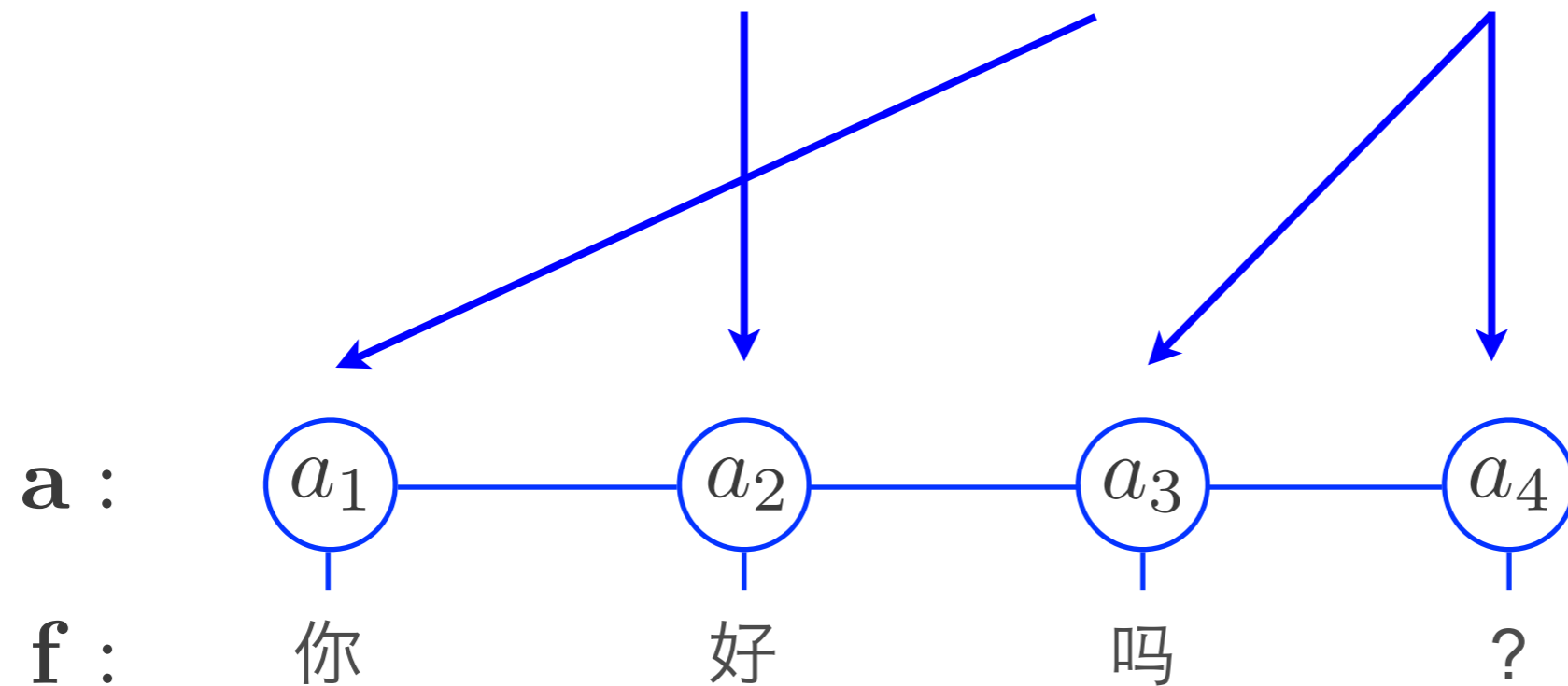


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HMM-Based Generative Alignment Model

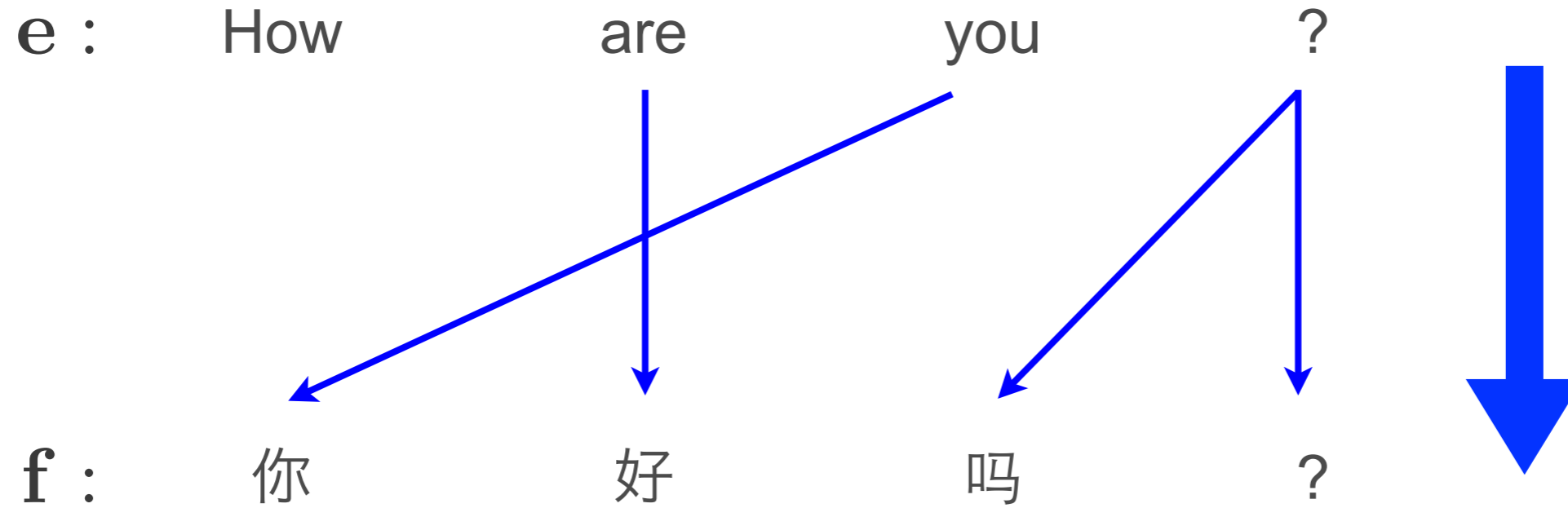
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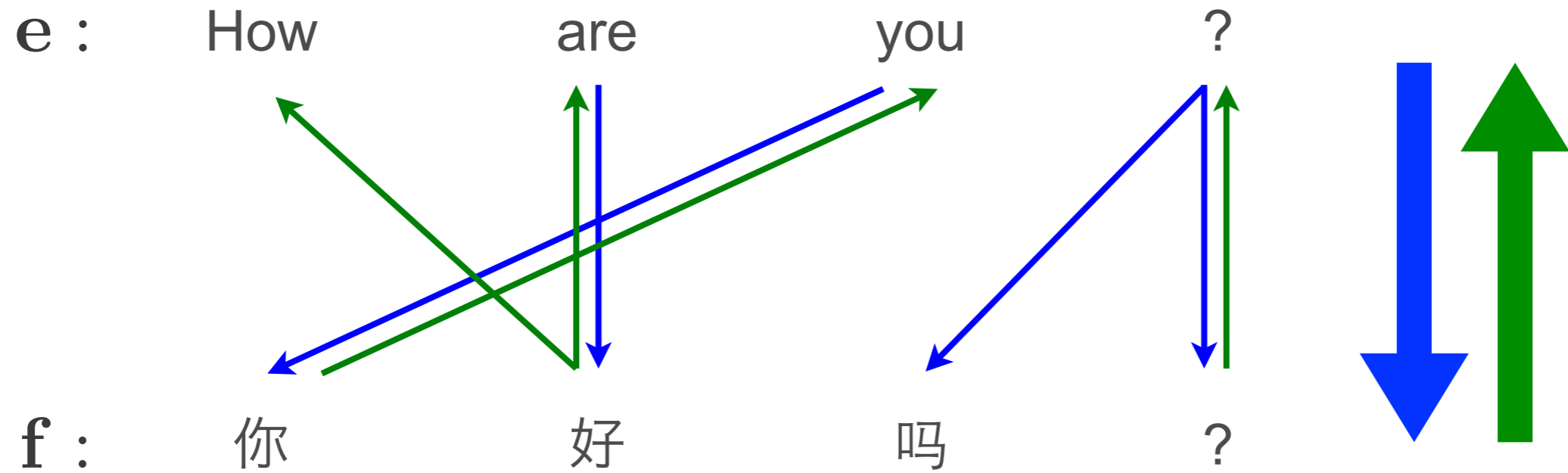
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Heuristic Approaches to Aligner Combination



$$P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a}|\mathbf{e})$$

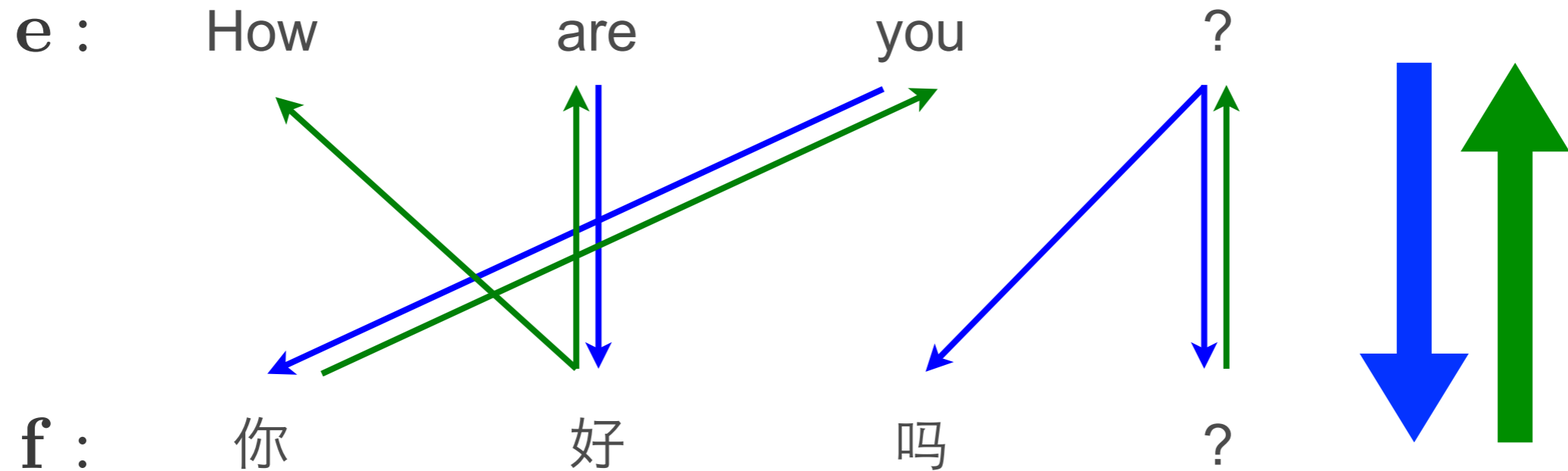
Heuristic Approaches to Aligner Combination



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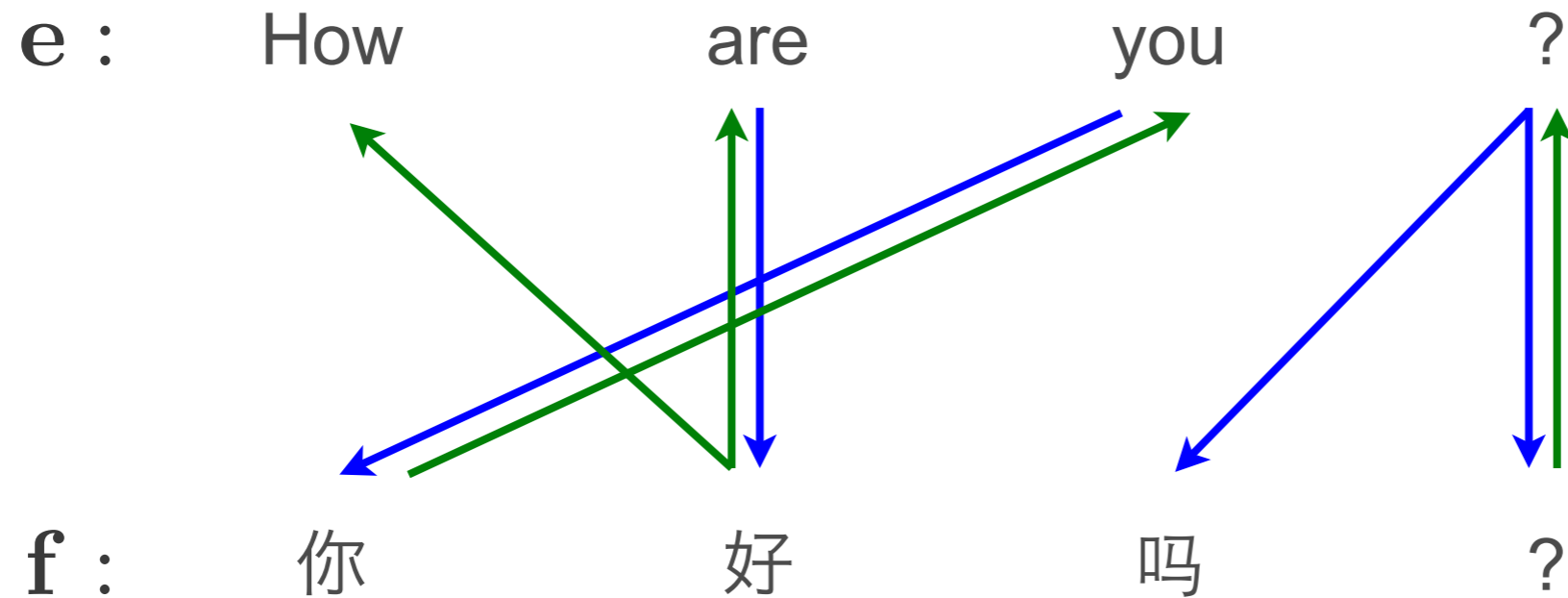
$$P(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{b}|\mathbf{f})$$

Heuristic Approaches to Aligner Combination



$$\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \max_{\mathbf{a}} P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e}) \quad \hat{\mathbf{b}} = \max_{\mathbf{b}} P(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{b} | \mathbf{f})$$

Heuristic Approaches to Aligner Combination



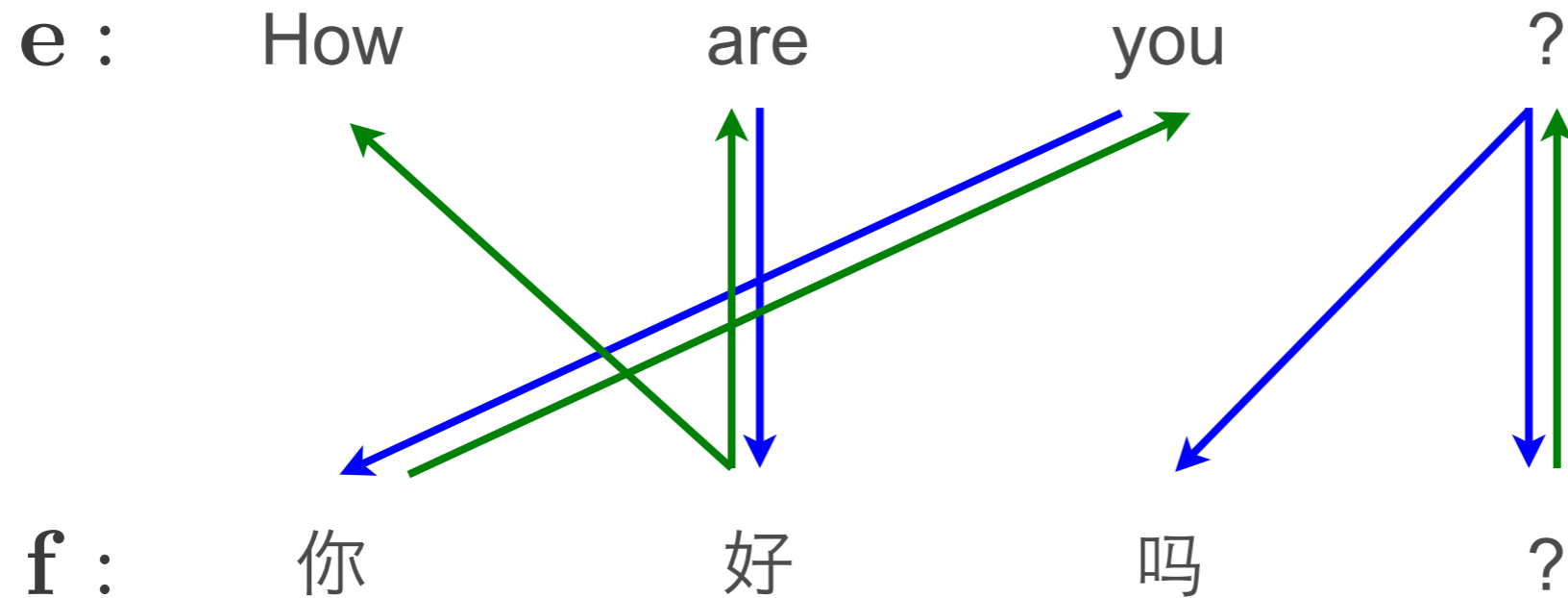
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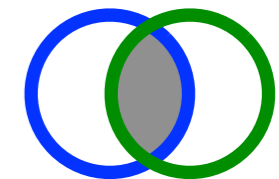
$$\text{symm}(\hat{\mathbf{a}}, \hat{\mathbf{b}})$$

(Och et al., 1999)

Heuristic Approaches to Aligner Combination



Heuristic symmetrization:



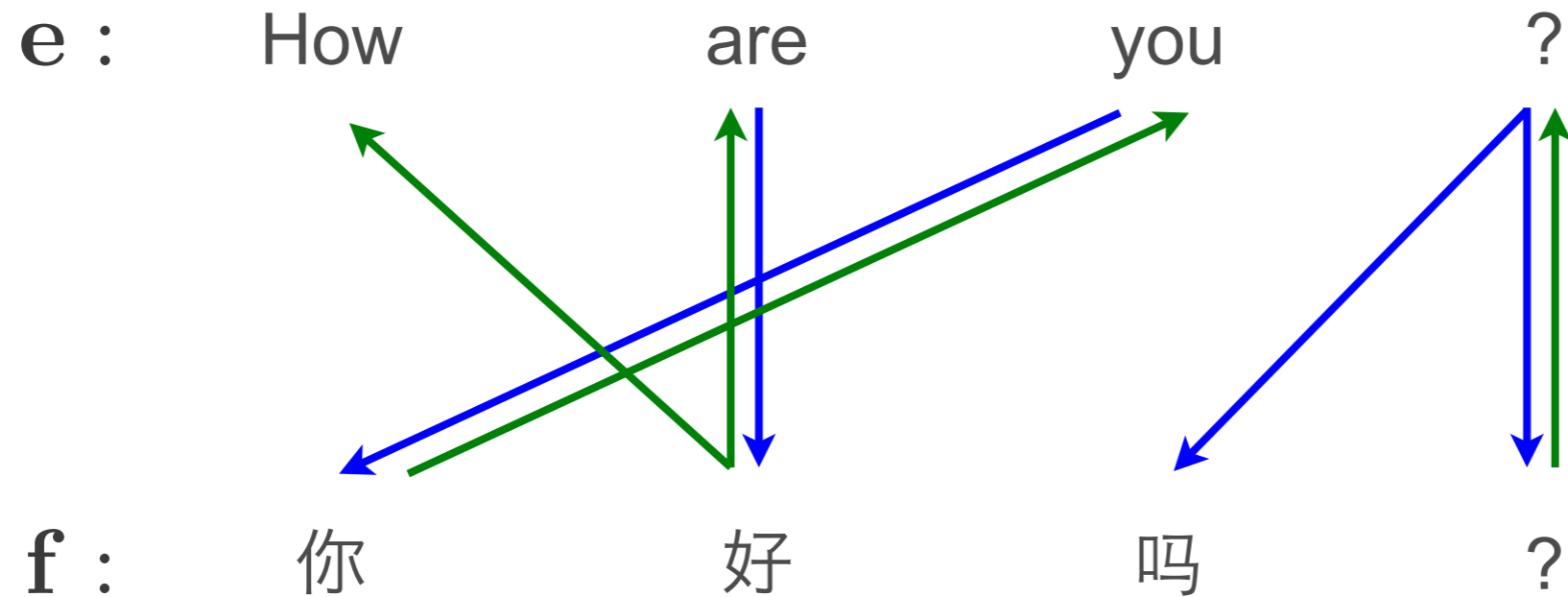
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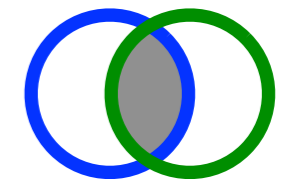
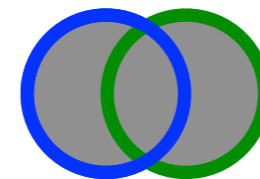
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Heuristic Approaches to Aligner Combination



Heuristic symmetrization:



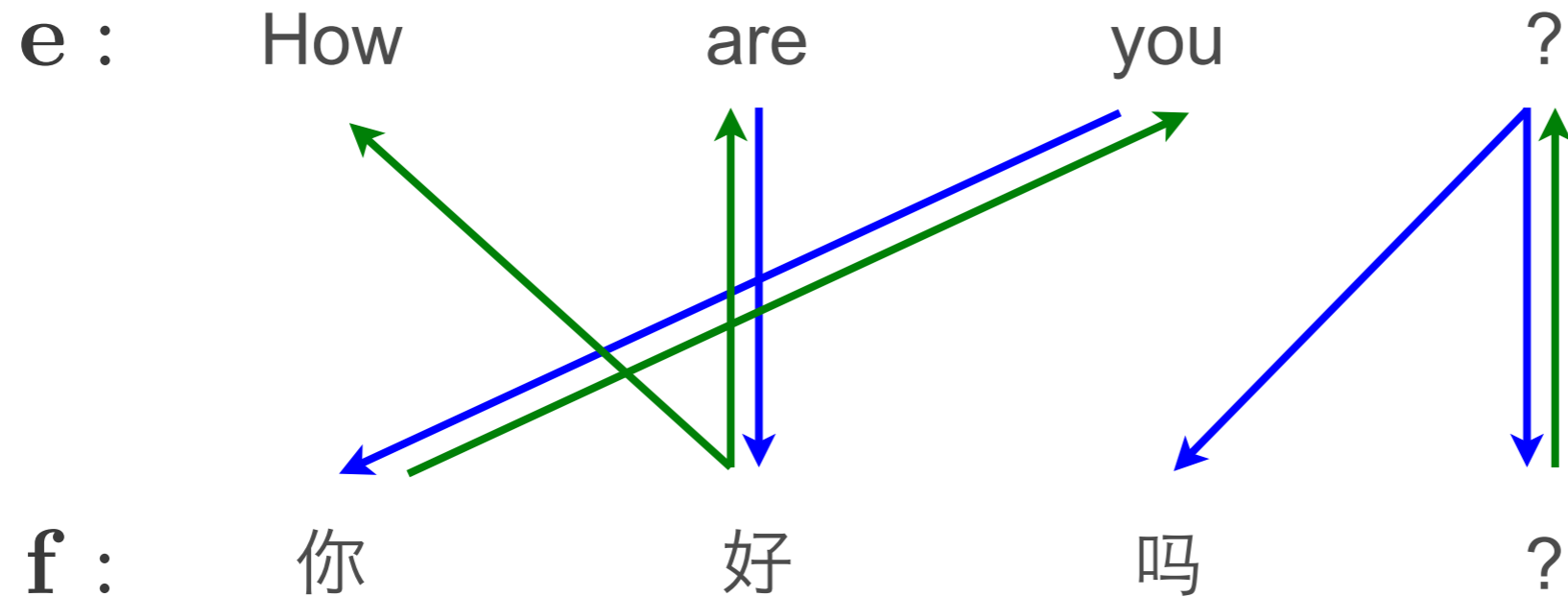
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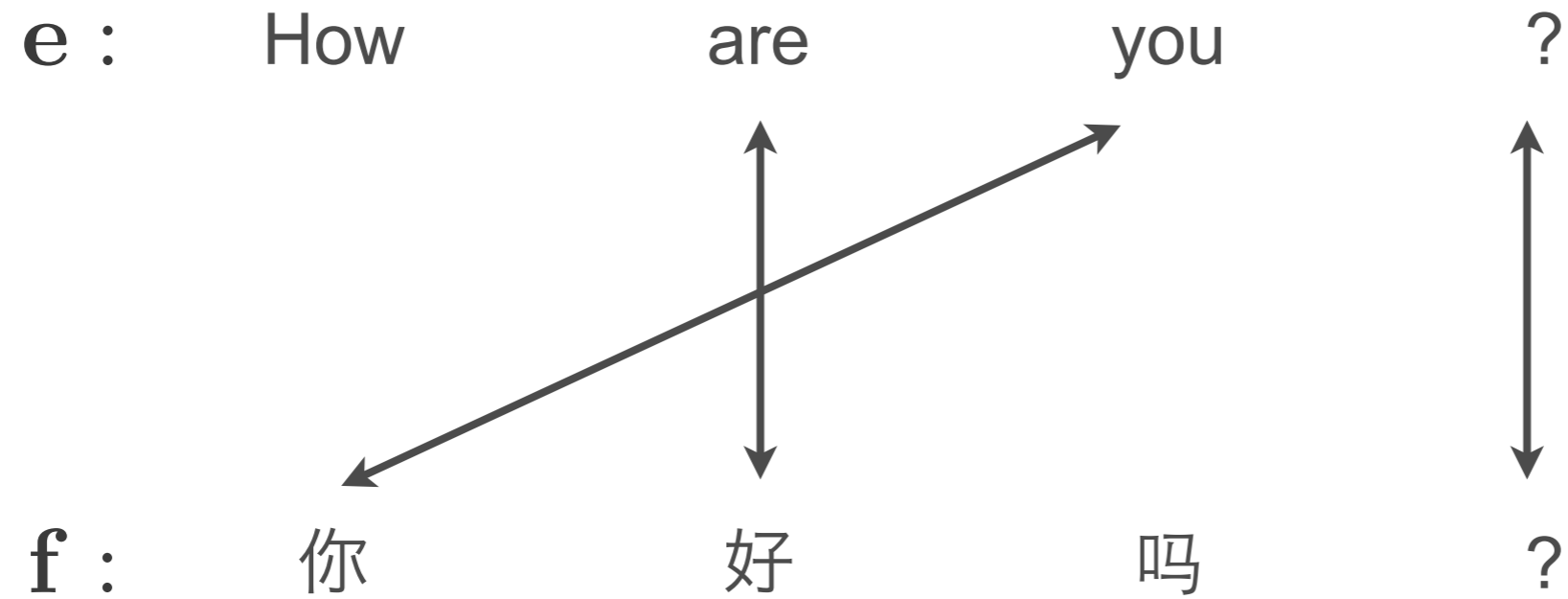
A Joint Objective for Combination



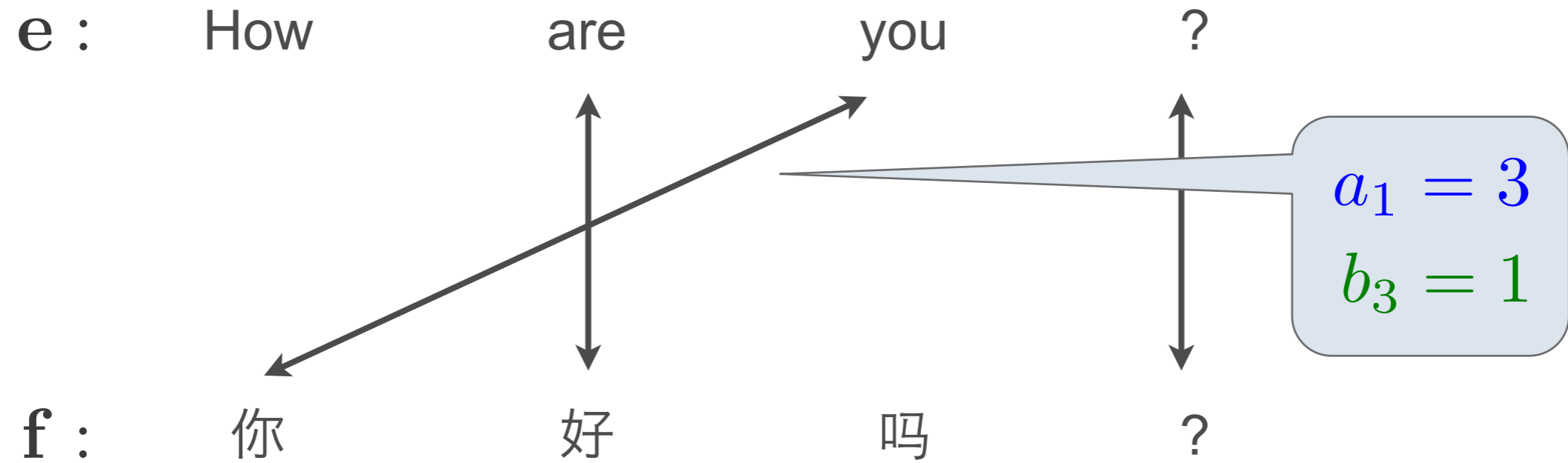
e : How are you ?

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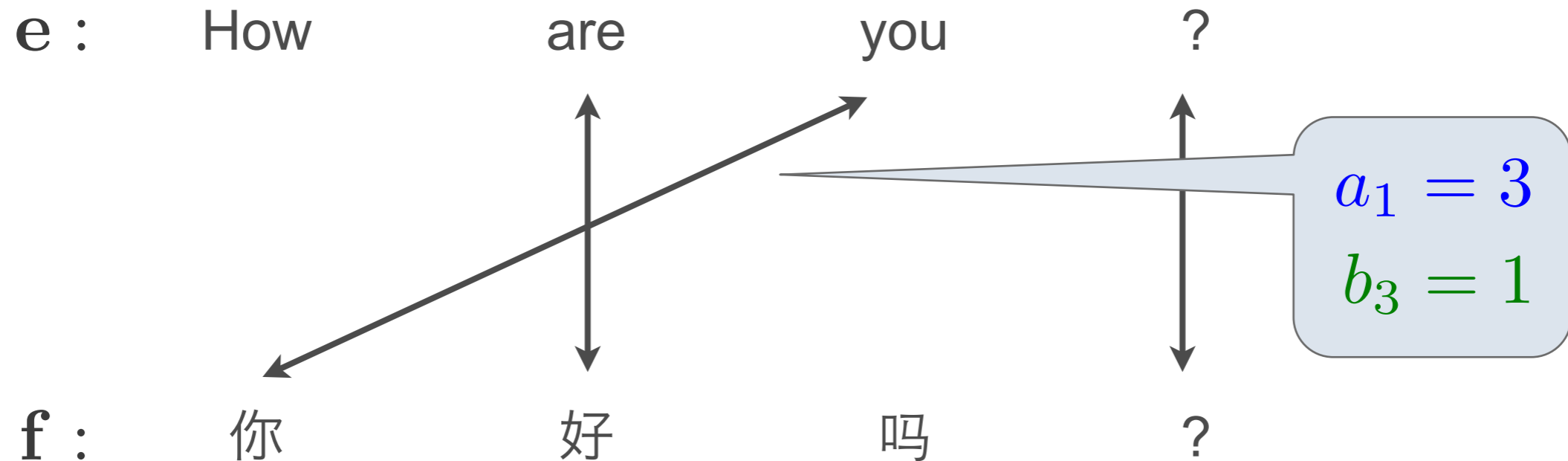
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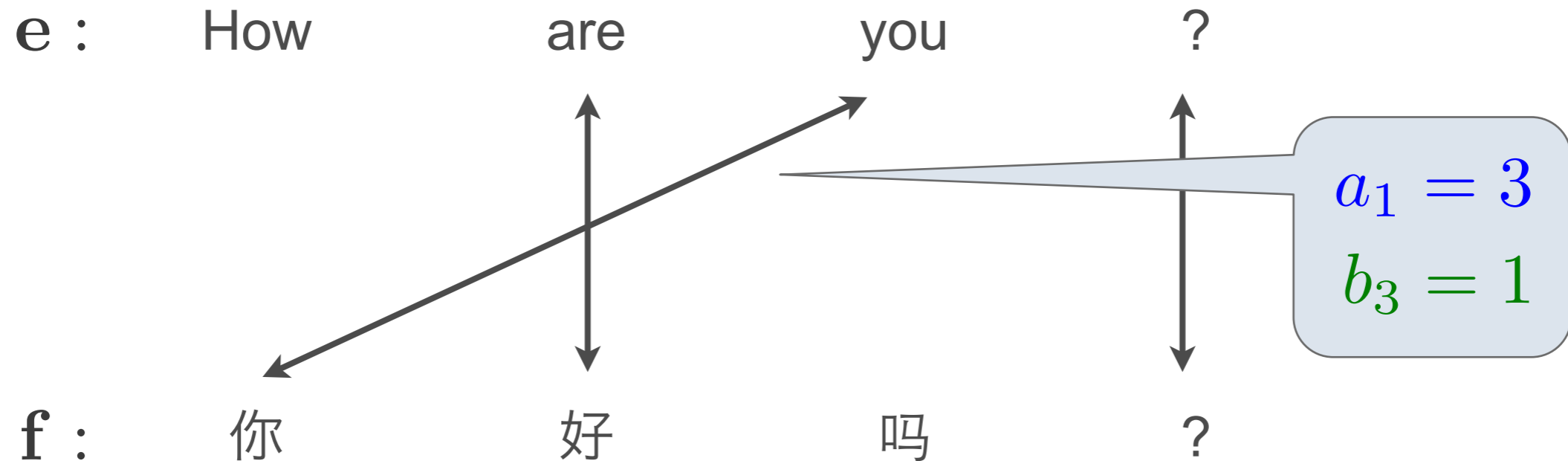


A Joint Objective for Combination



Proposal : $\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \max_{\mathbf{a}} \left[P_{\mathbf{e} \rightarrow \mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e}) \cdot P_{\mathbf{f} \rightarrow \mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{e}, \text{inv}(\mathbf{a}) | \mathbf{f}) \right]$

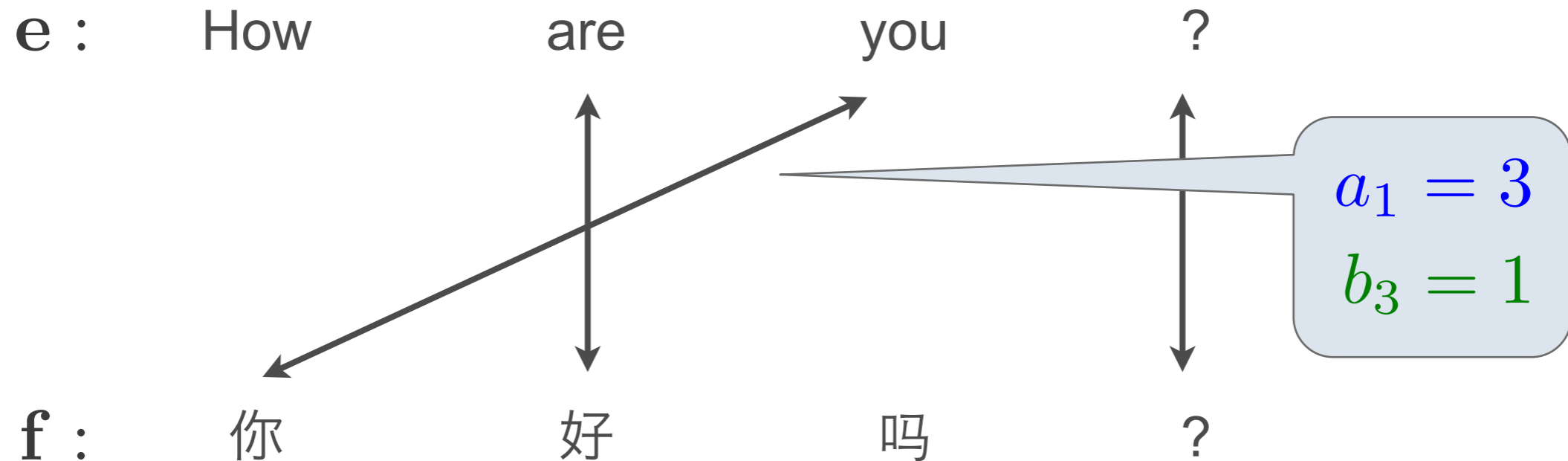
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Issues :

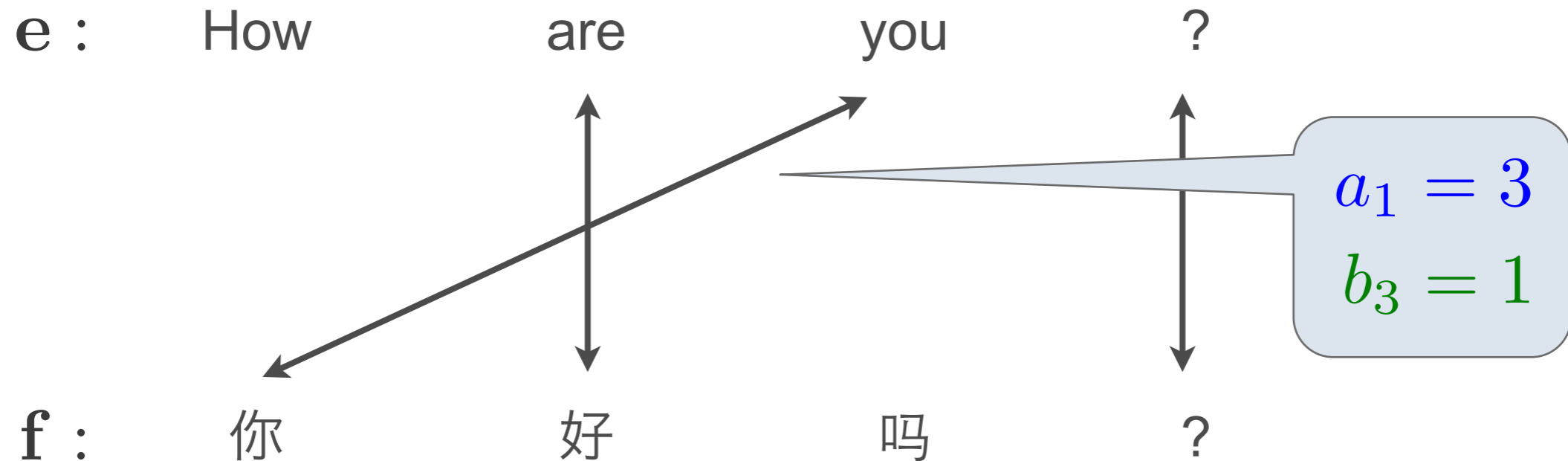
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Issues : One-to-one

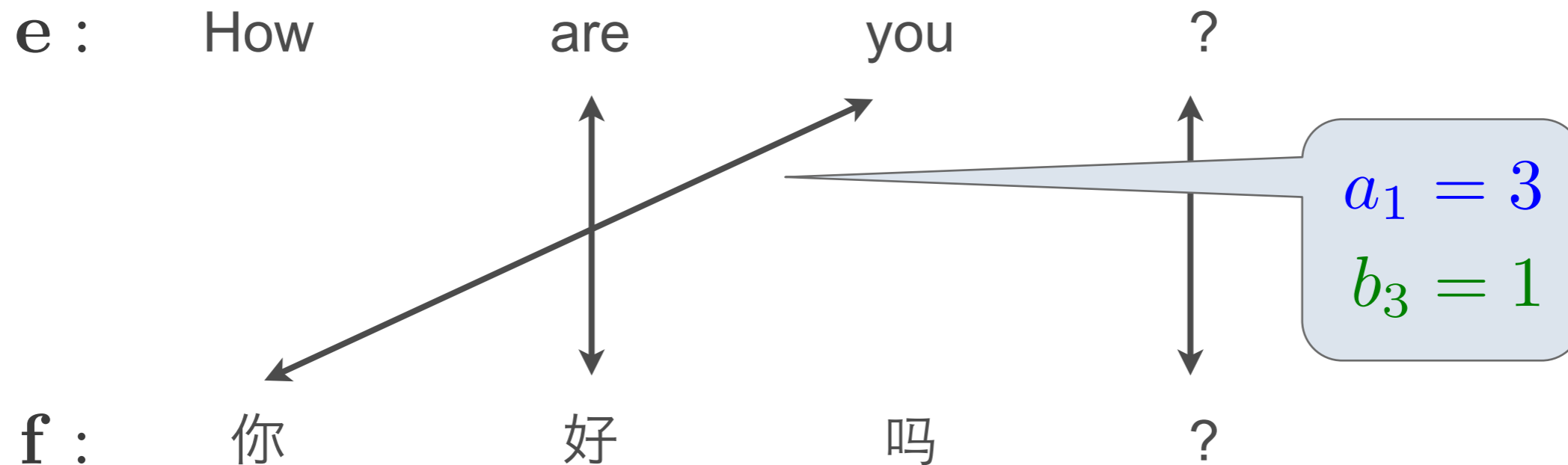
A Joint Objective for Combination



Proposal : $\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \max_{\mathbf{a}} \left[\underset{\mathbf{e} \rightarrow \mathbf{f}}{P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e})} \cdot \underset{\mathbf{f} \rightarrow \mathbf{e}}{P(\mathbf{e}, \text{inv}(\mathbf{a}) | \mathbf{f})} \right]$

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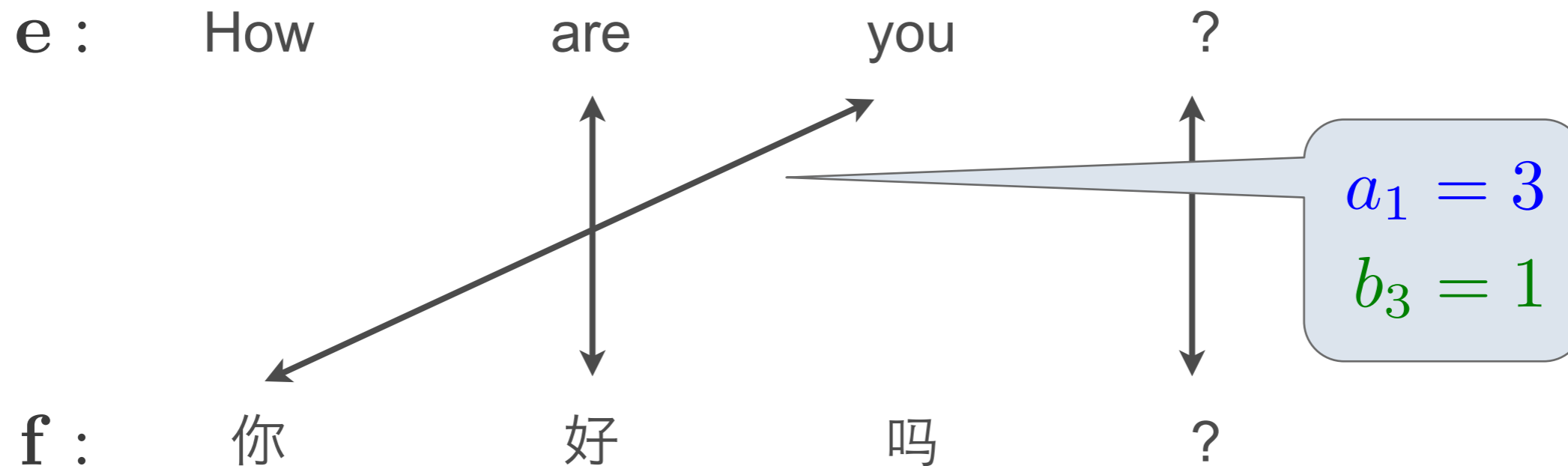
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Issues : One-to-one Hard inference

A Joint Objective for Combination



Proposal : $\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \max_{\mathbf{a}} \left[\underset{\mathbf{e} \rightarrow \mathbf{f}}{P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e})} \cdot \underset{\mathbf{f} \rightarrow \mathbf{e}}{P(\mathbf{e}, \text{inv}(\mathbf{a}) | \mathbf{f})} \right]$

Issues : One-to-one Hard inference

Combination as a Graphical Model



Probability of complete assignment \propto product of node and edge potentials

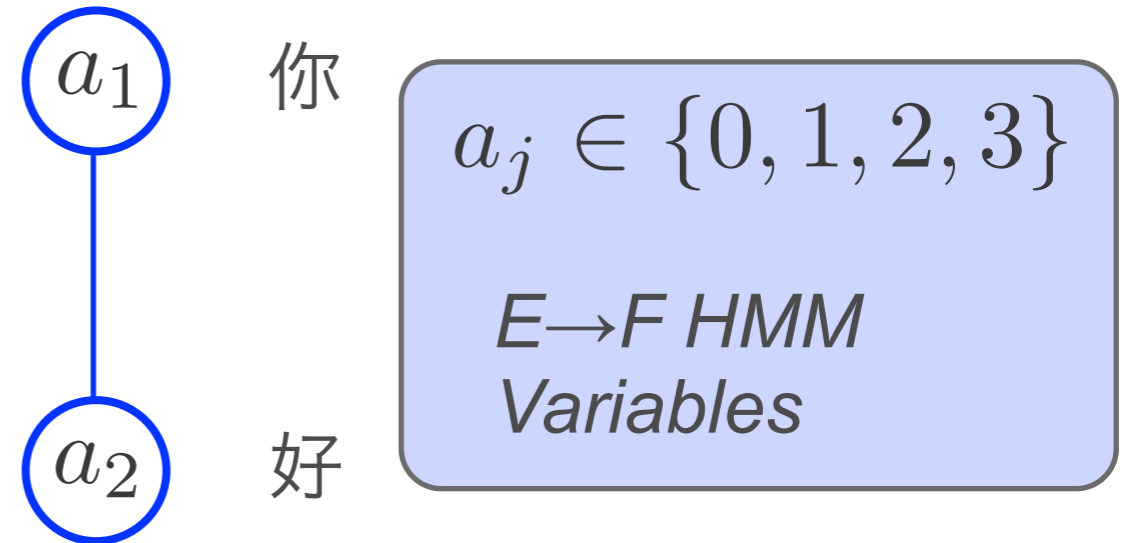
你

好

How are you

Combination as a Graphical Model

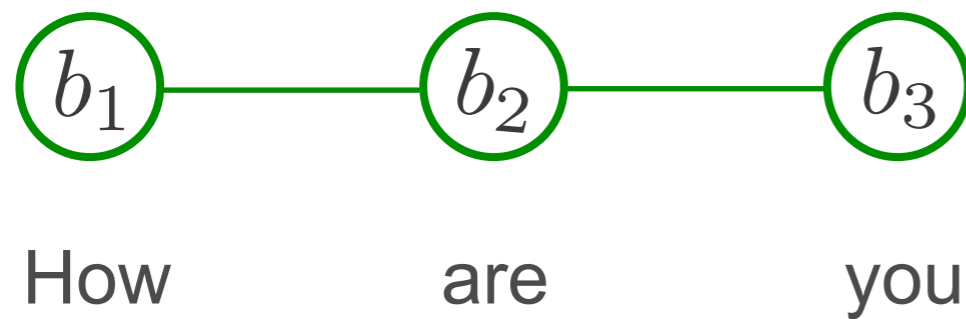
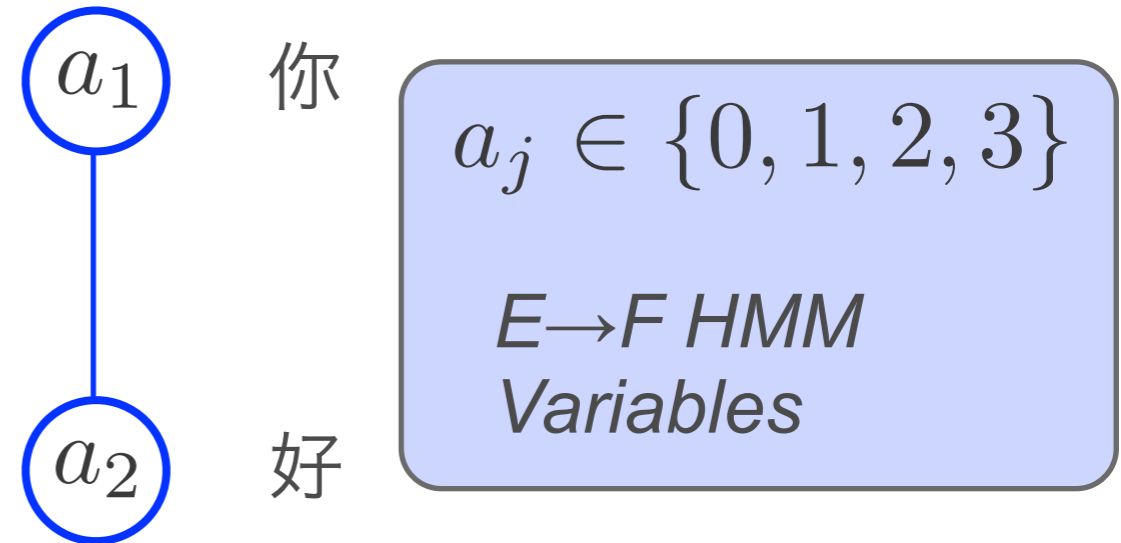
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How are you

Combination as a Graphical Model

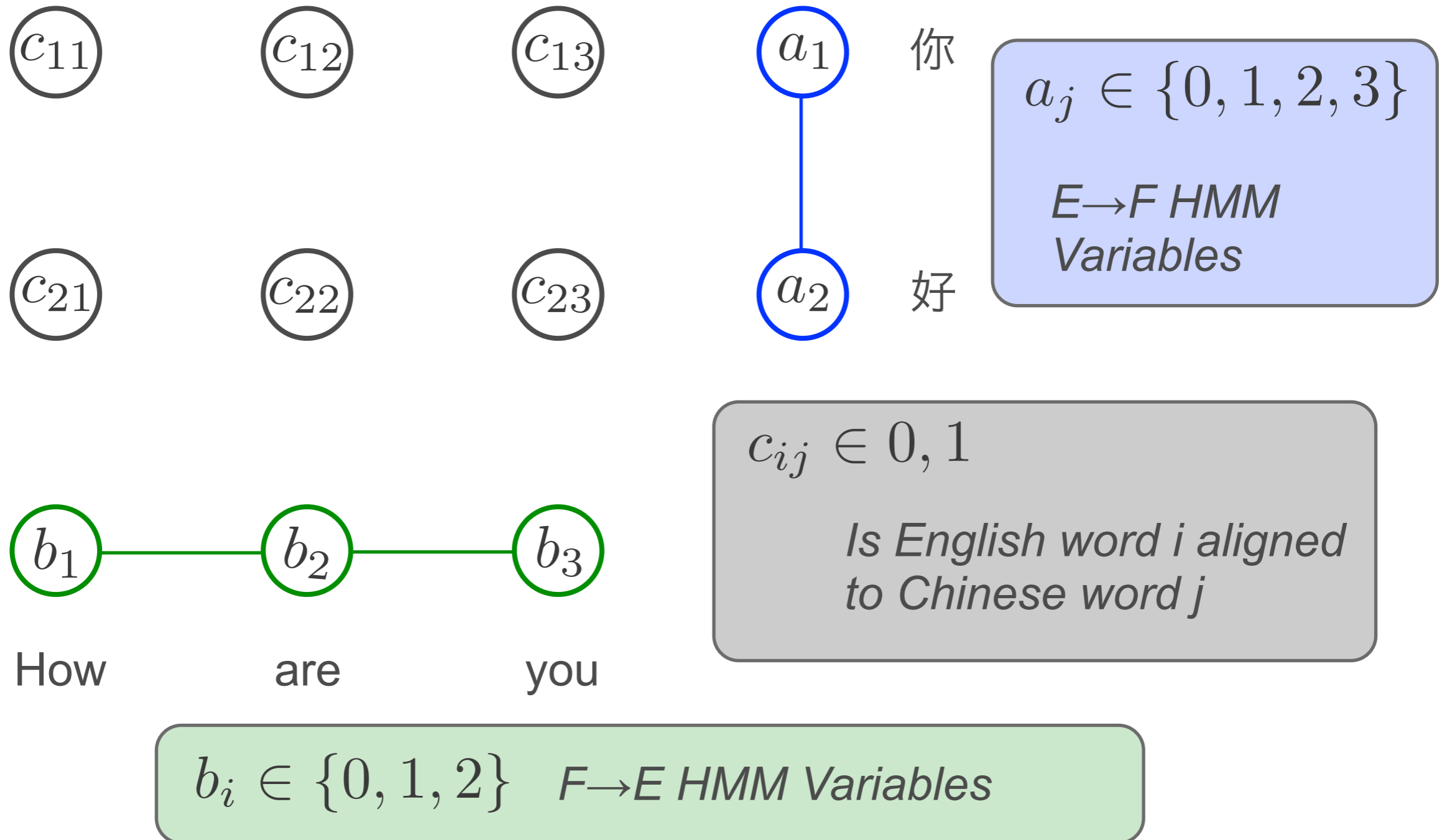
Probability of complete assignment \propto product of node and edge potentials



$b_i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ $F \rightarrow E$ HMM Variables

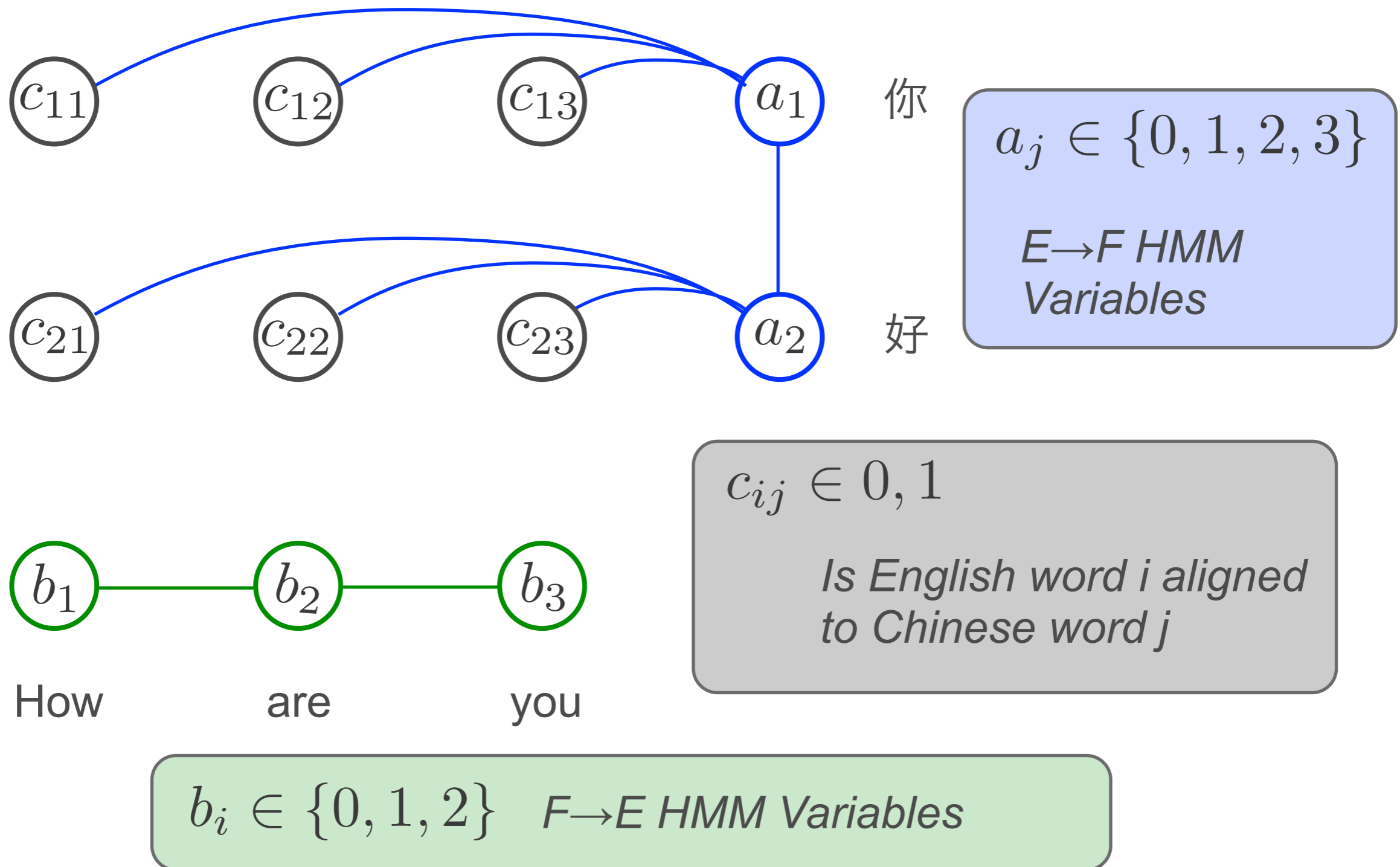
Combination as a Graphical Model

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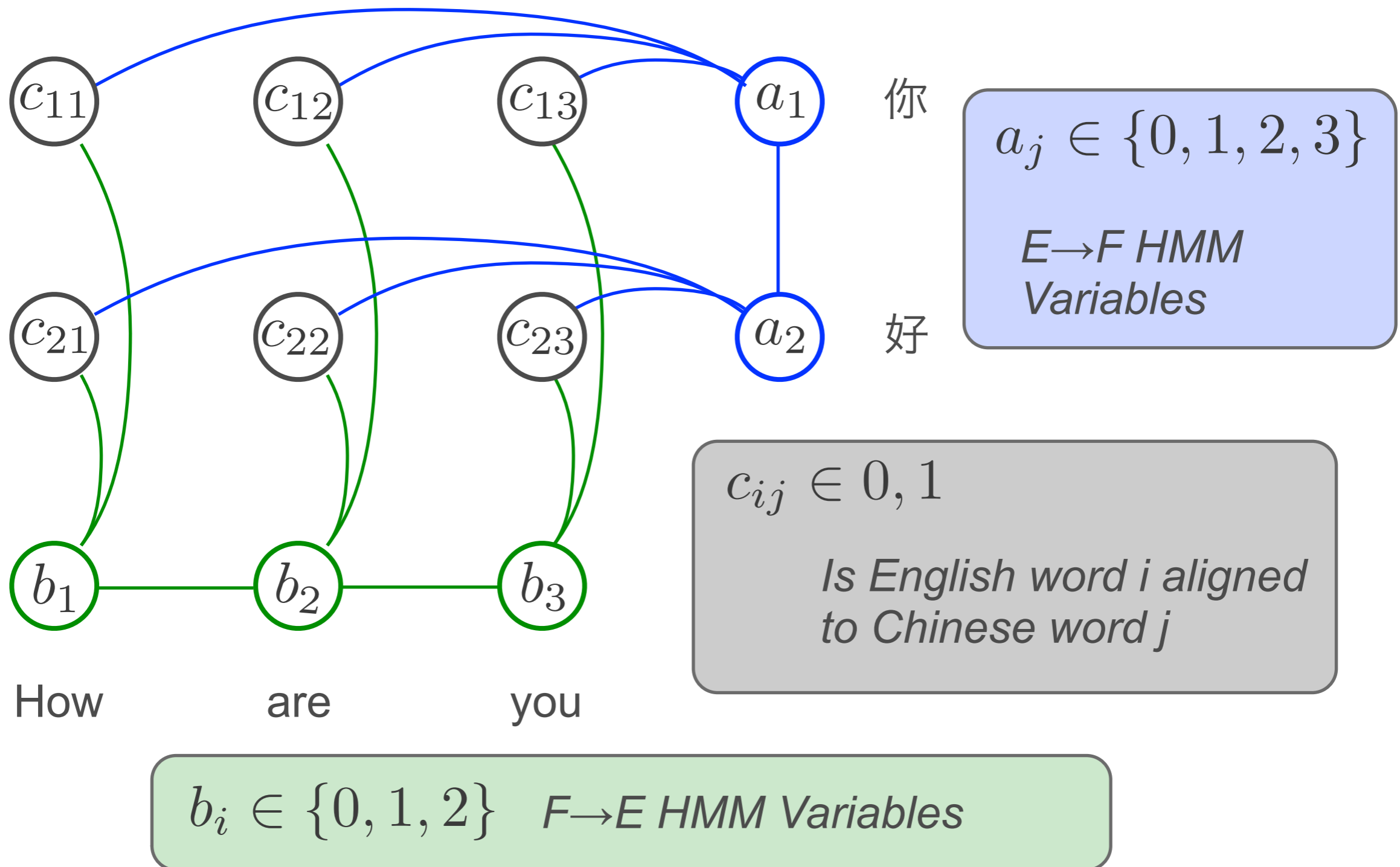
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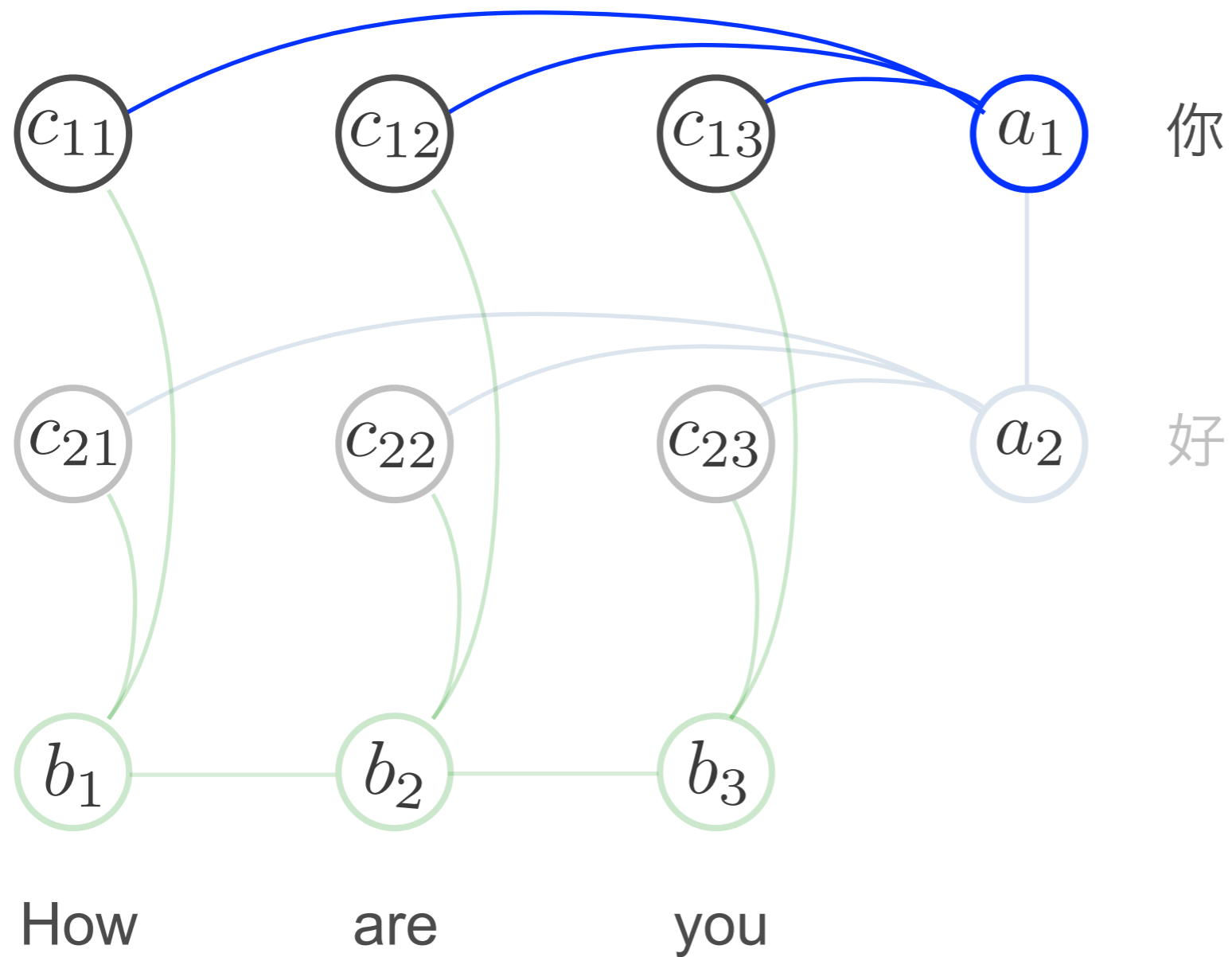


Combination as a Graphical Model

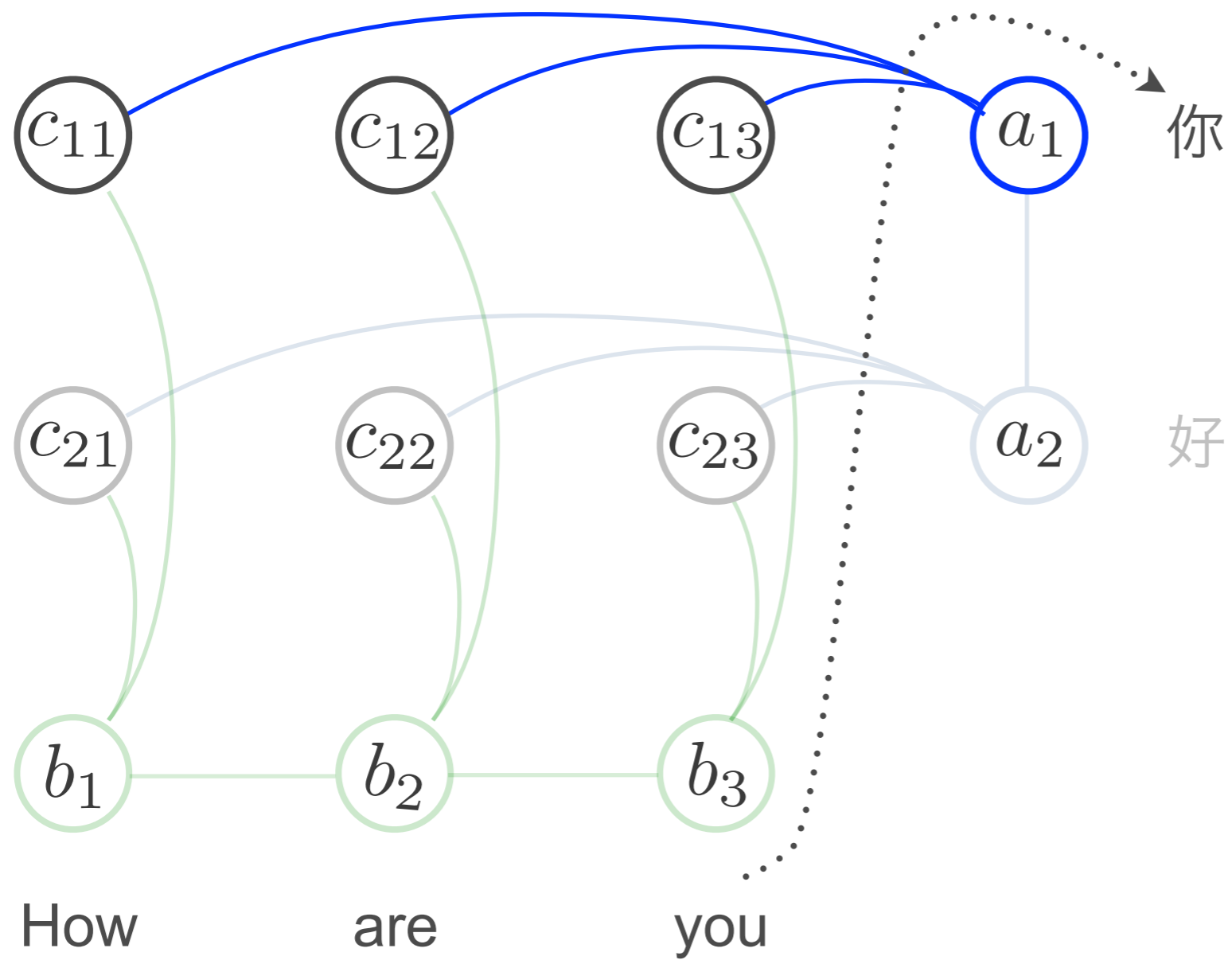
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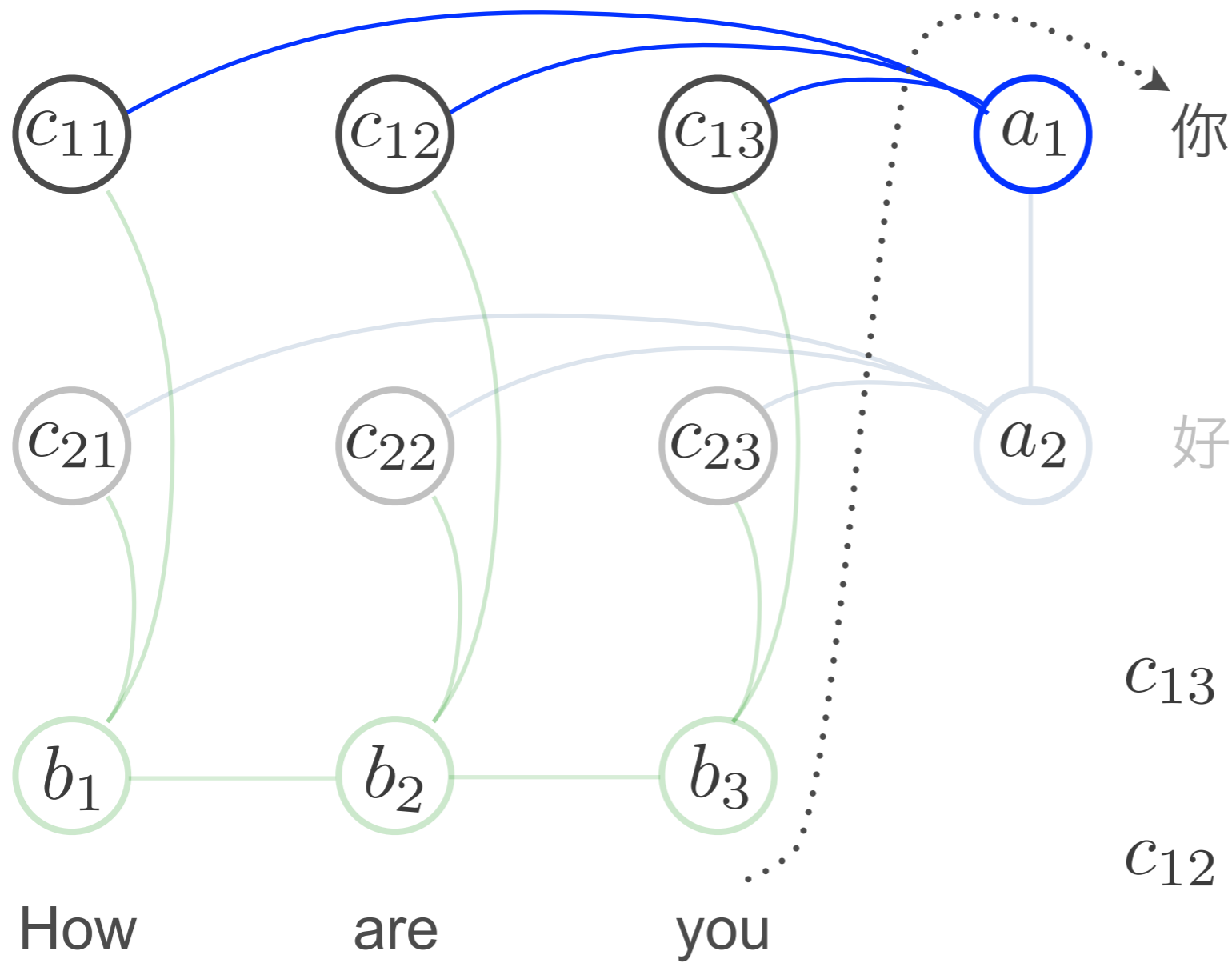
Allowing Phrasal Alignments



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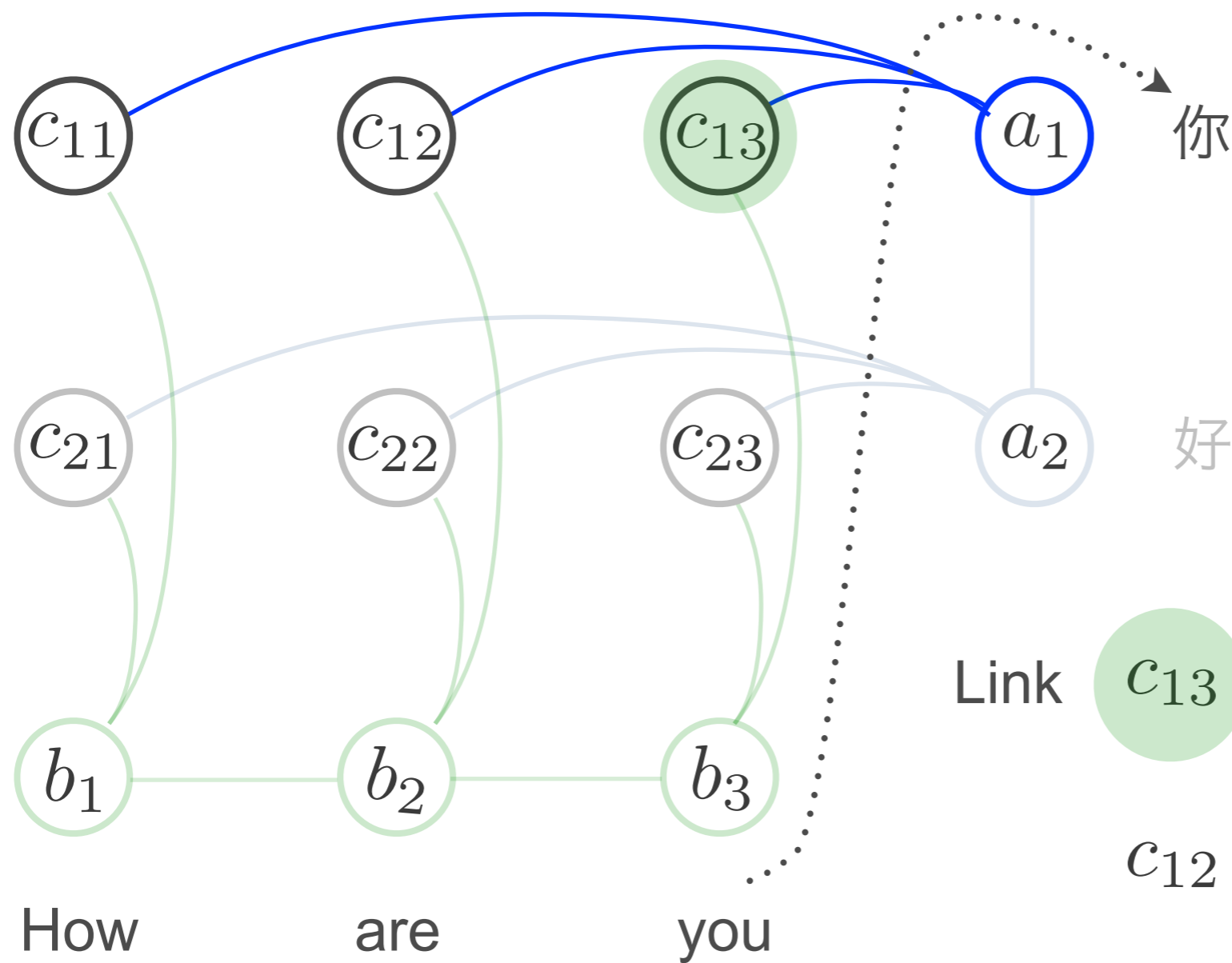


$$a_1 = 3; c =$$

$$0 \quad 1$$

c_{13}
 c_{12}
 c_{11}

Allowing Phrasal Alignments



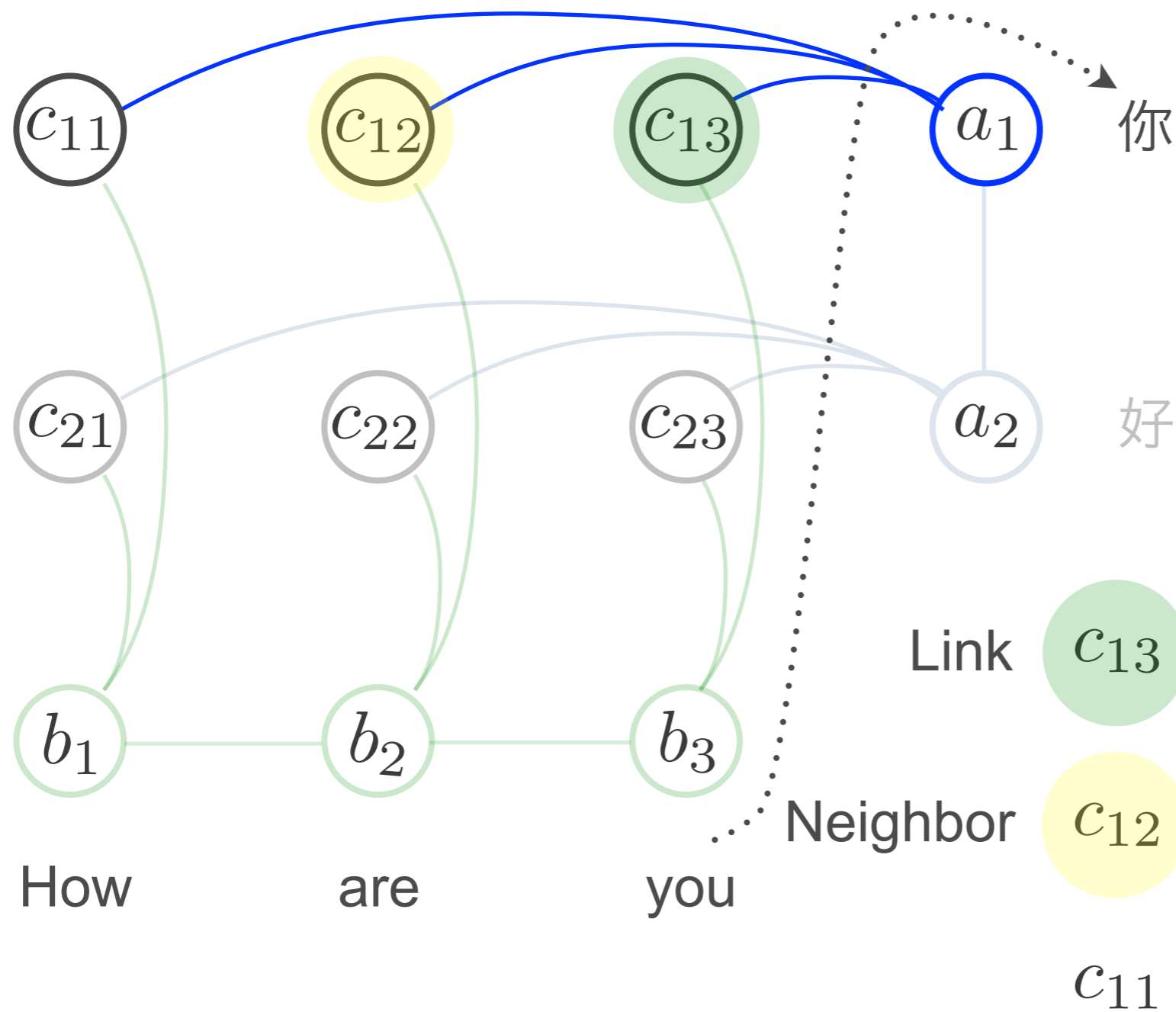
$$a_1 = 3; c =$$

$$0 \quad 1$$

- Link c_{13}
- c_{12}
- c_{11}

0	1

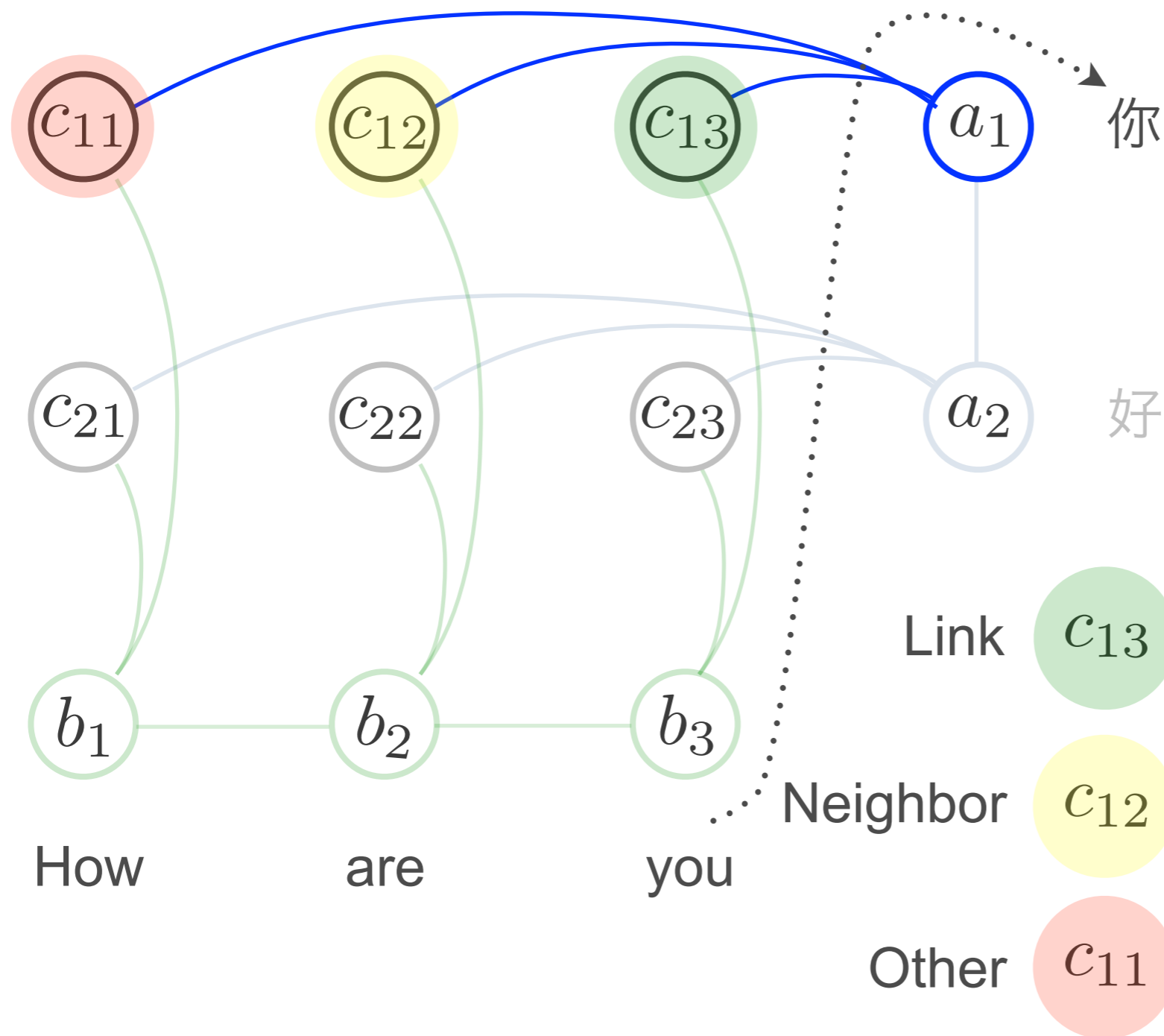
Allowing Phrasal Alignments



$$a_1 = 3; c = \begin{matrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & e^{-\alpha} \end{matrix}$$

0	1
1	$e^{-\alpha}$

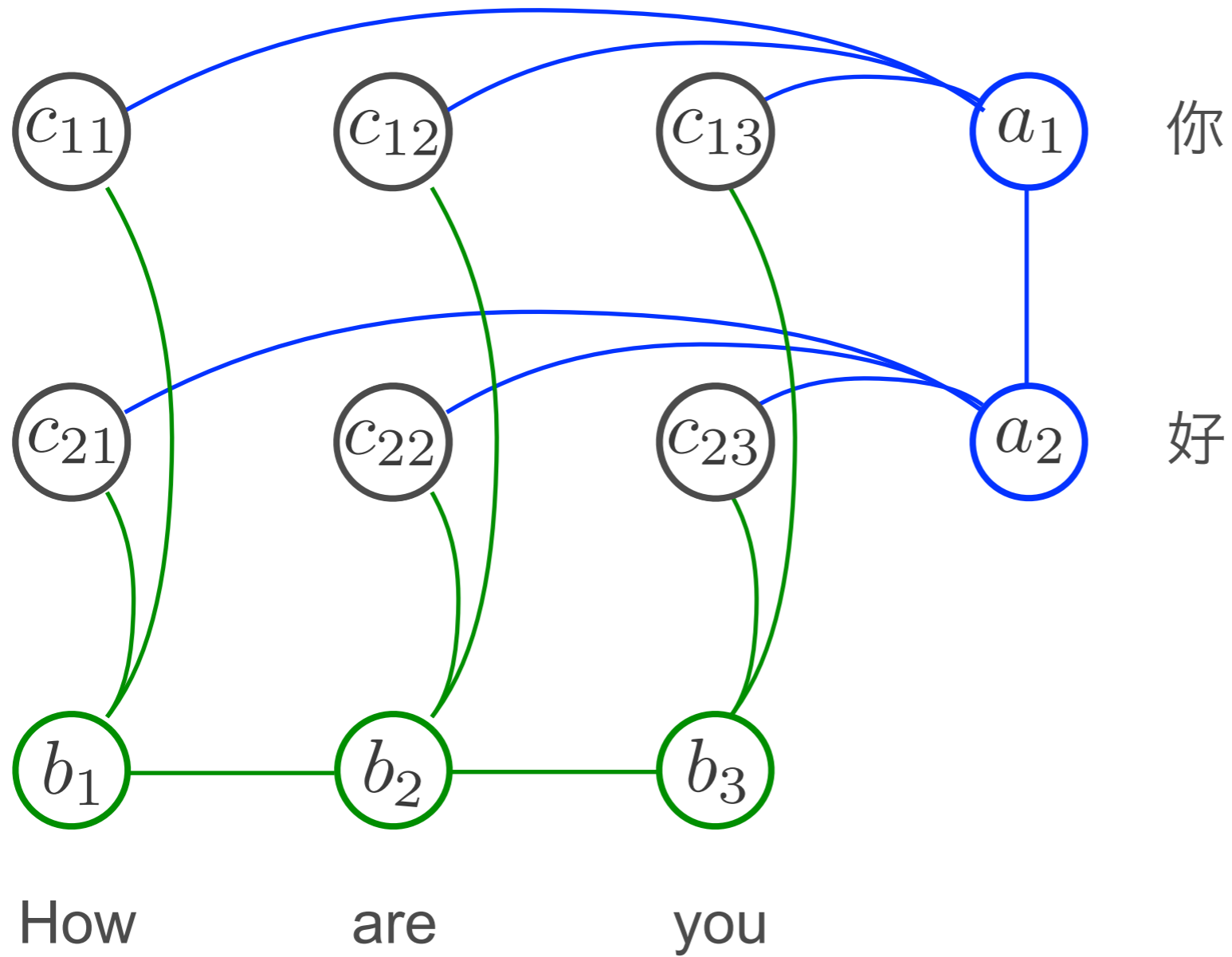
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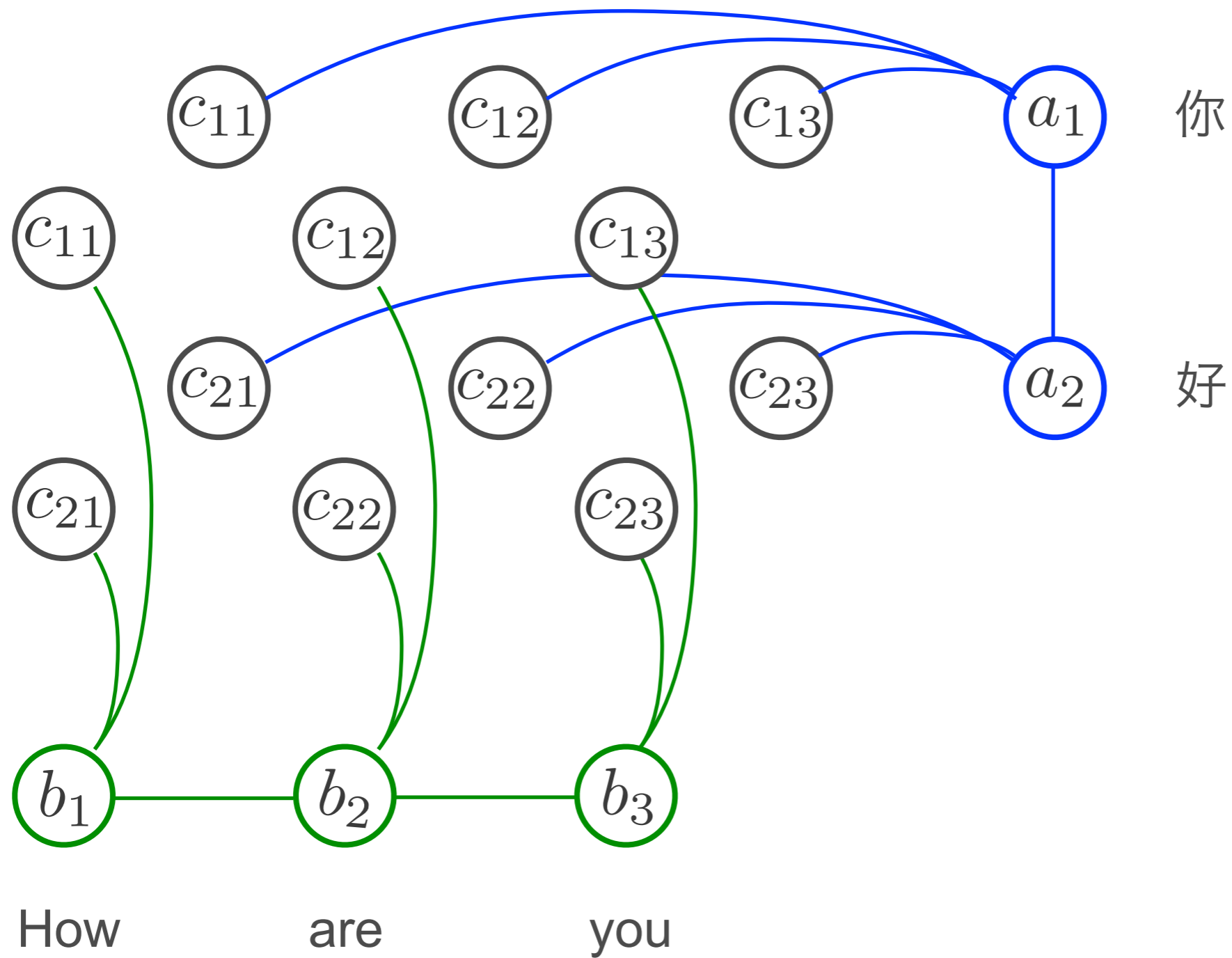
$$a_1 = 3; c = \begin{matrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{matrix}$$

0	1
1	$e^{-\alpha}$
1	0

Subproblem Decomposition

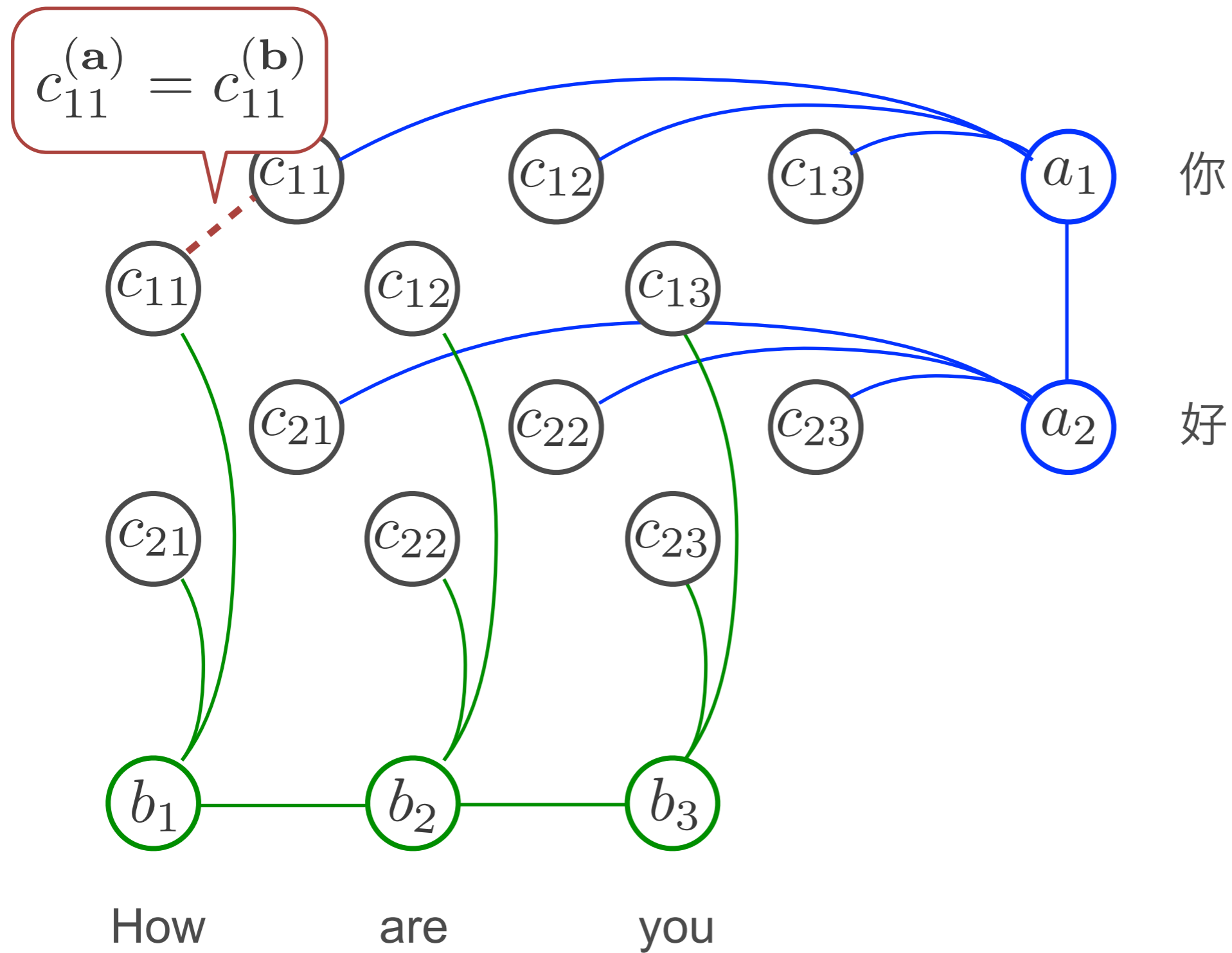


Subproblem Decomposition



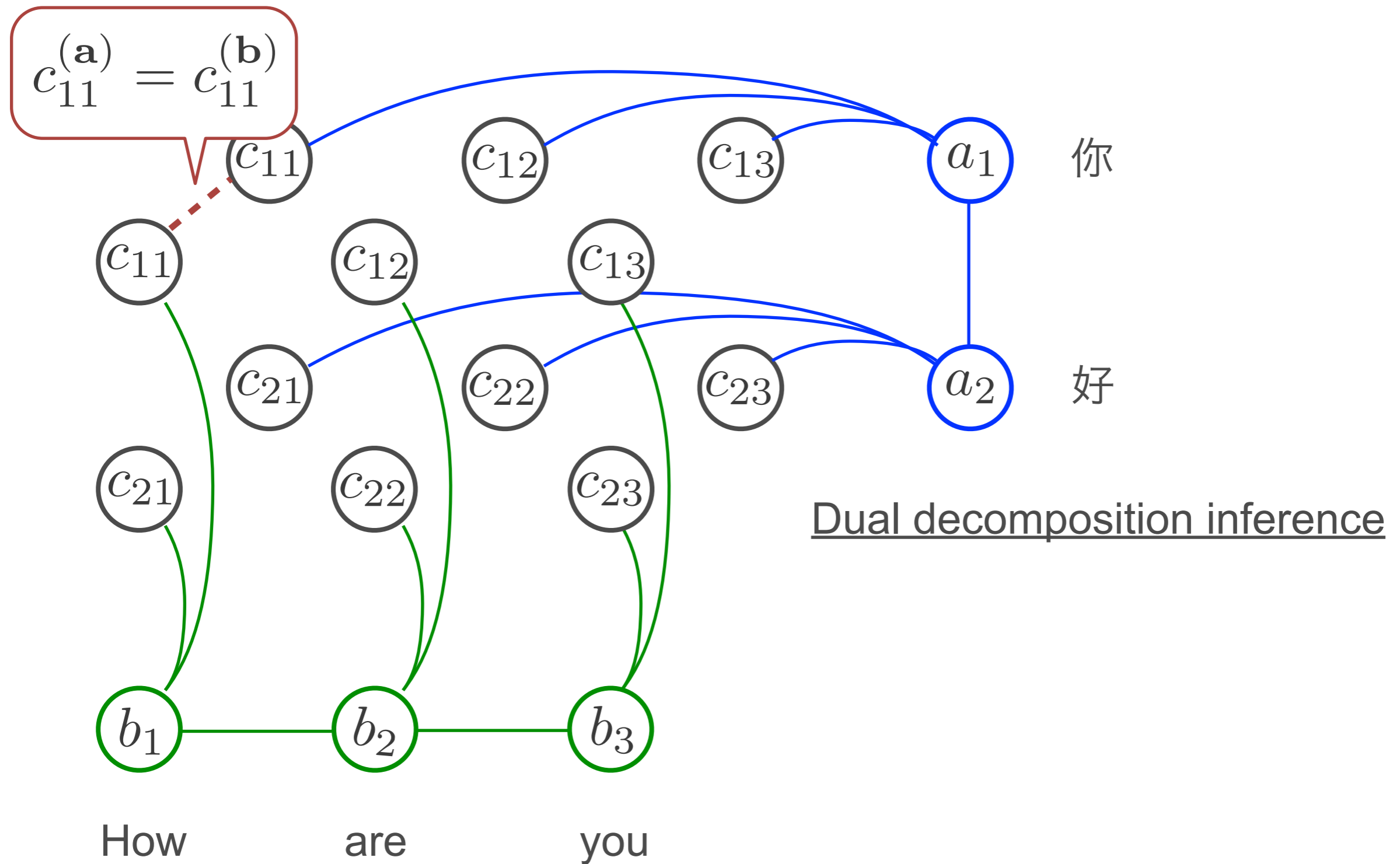
(Rush et al., 2010)

Subproblem Decomposition



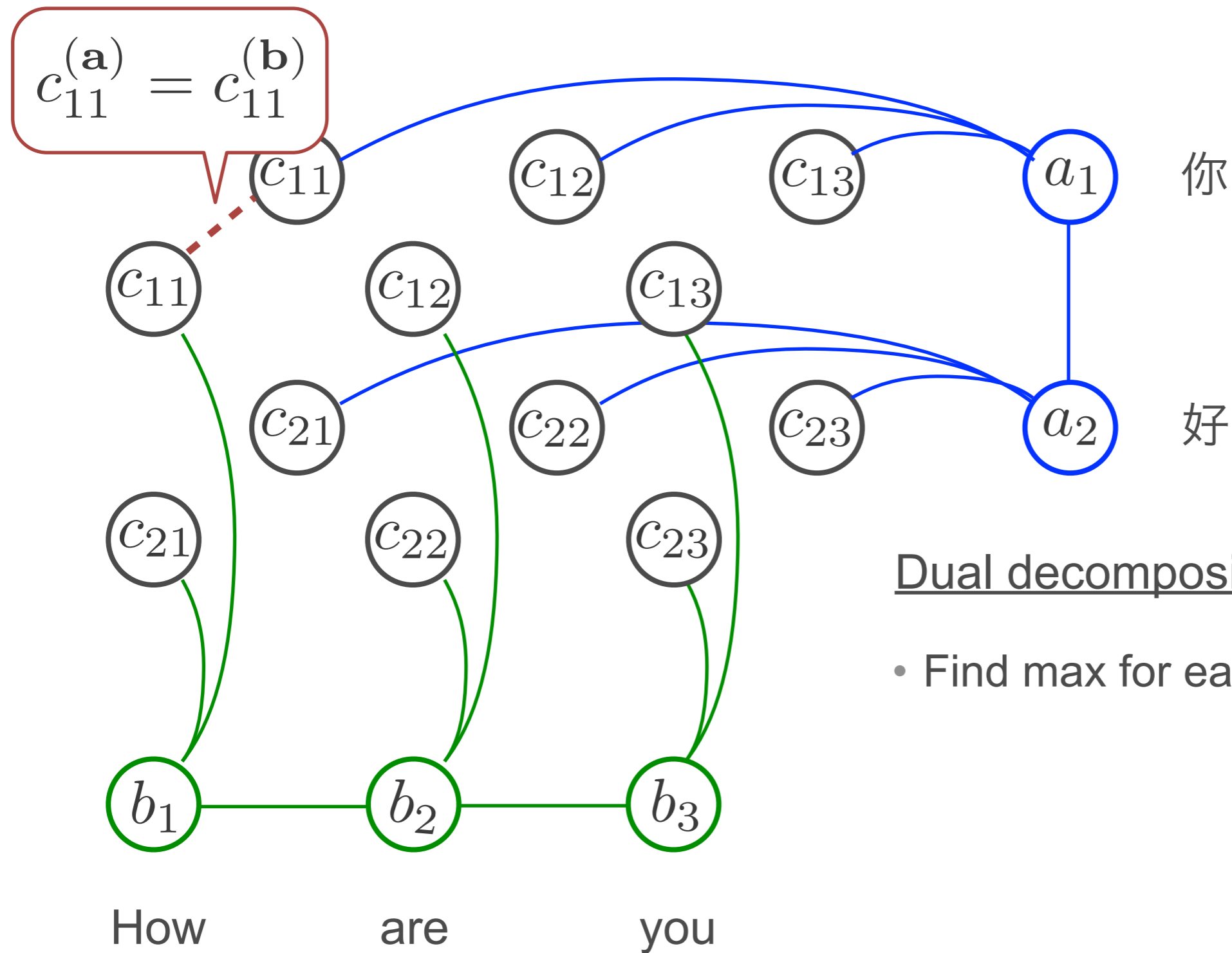
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Subproblem Decomposition

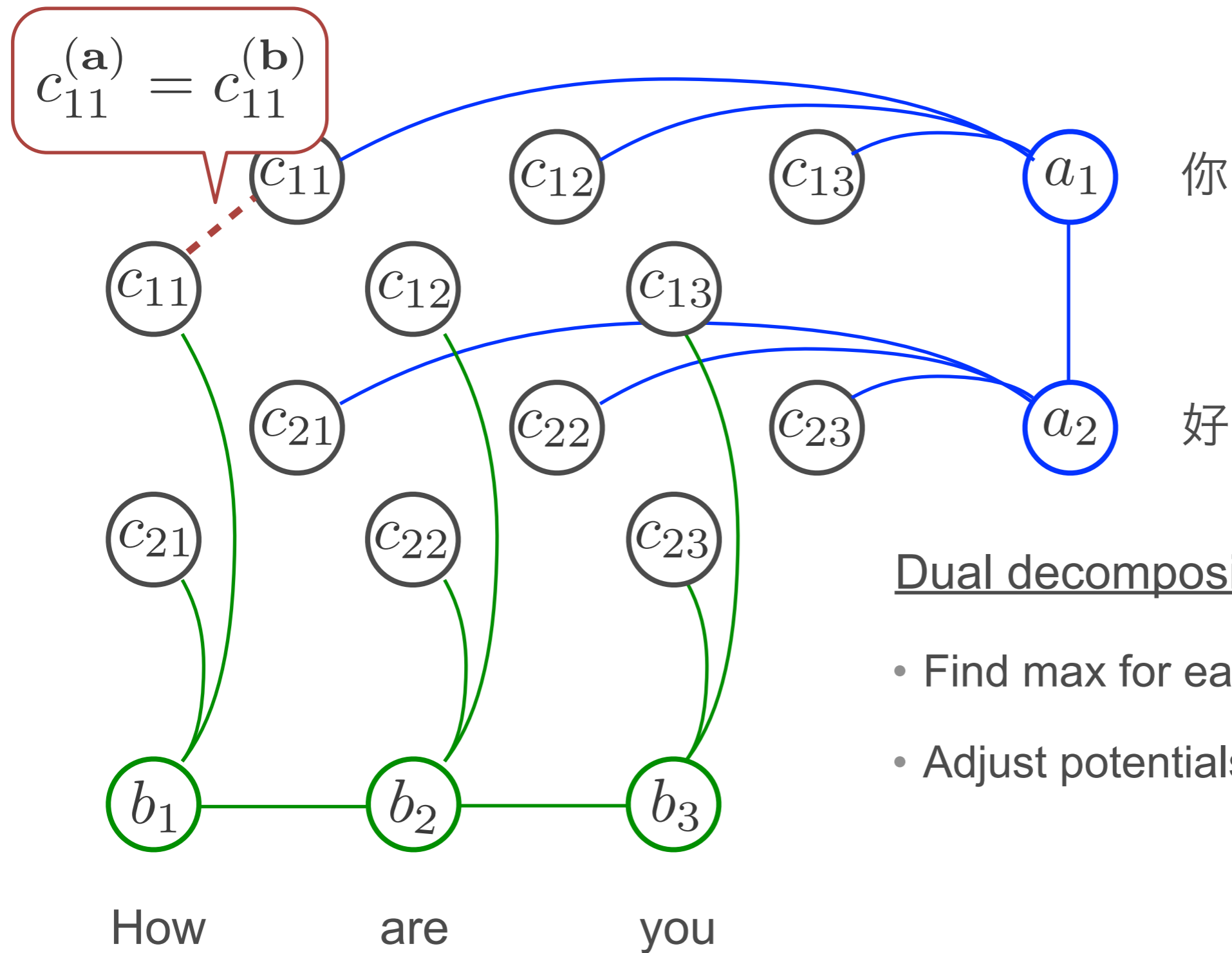


Dual decomposition inference

- Find max for each subproblem

(Rush et al., 2010)

Subproblem Decomposition

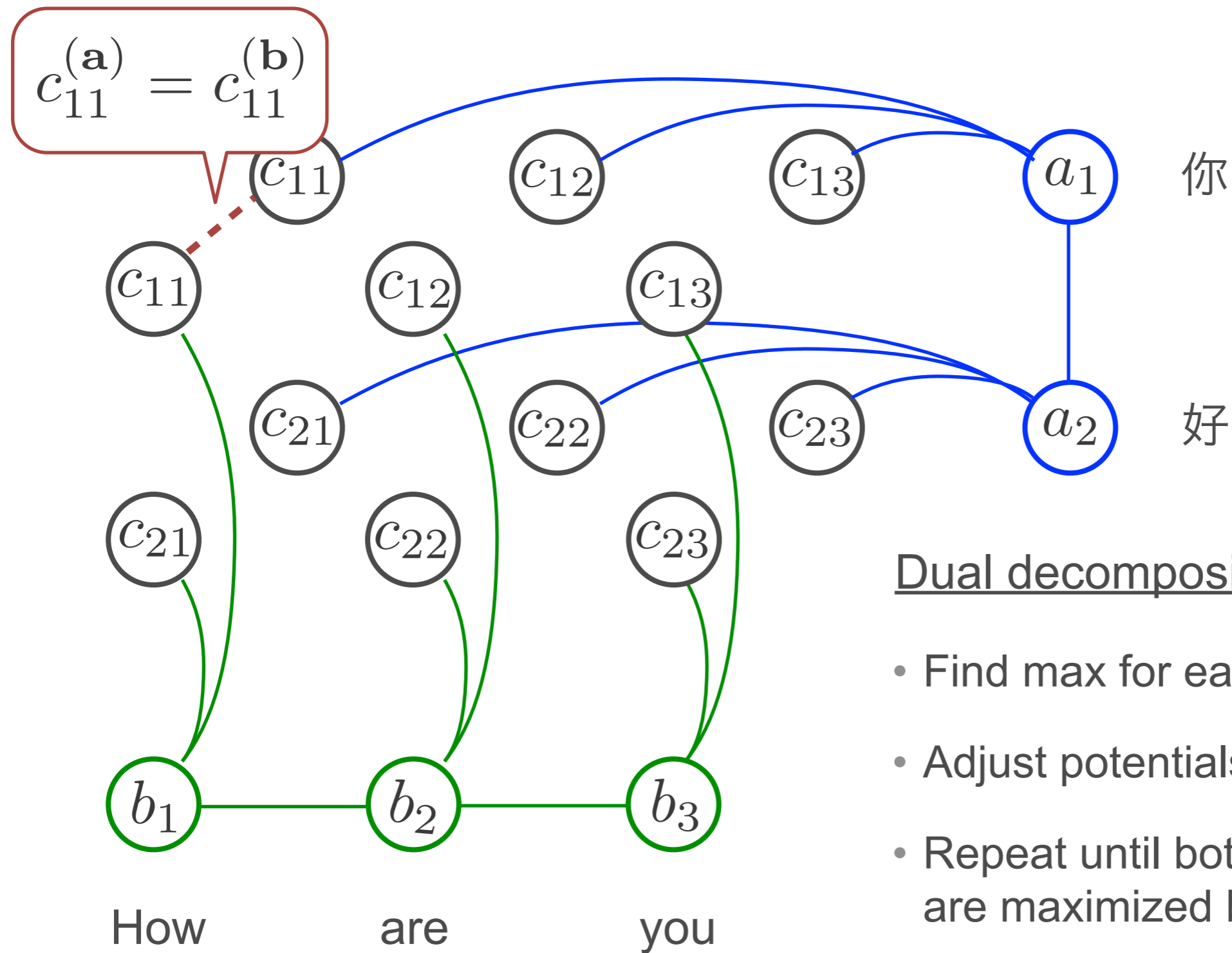


Dual decomposition inference

- Find max for each subproblem
- Adjust potentials for unequal c_{ij}

(Rush et al., 2010)

Subproblem Decomposition

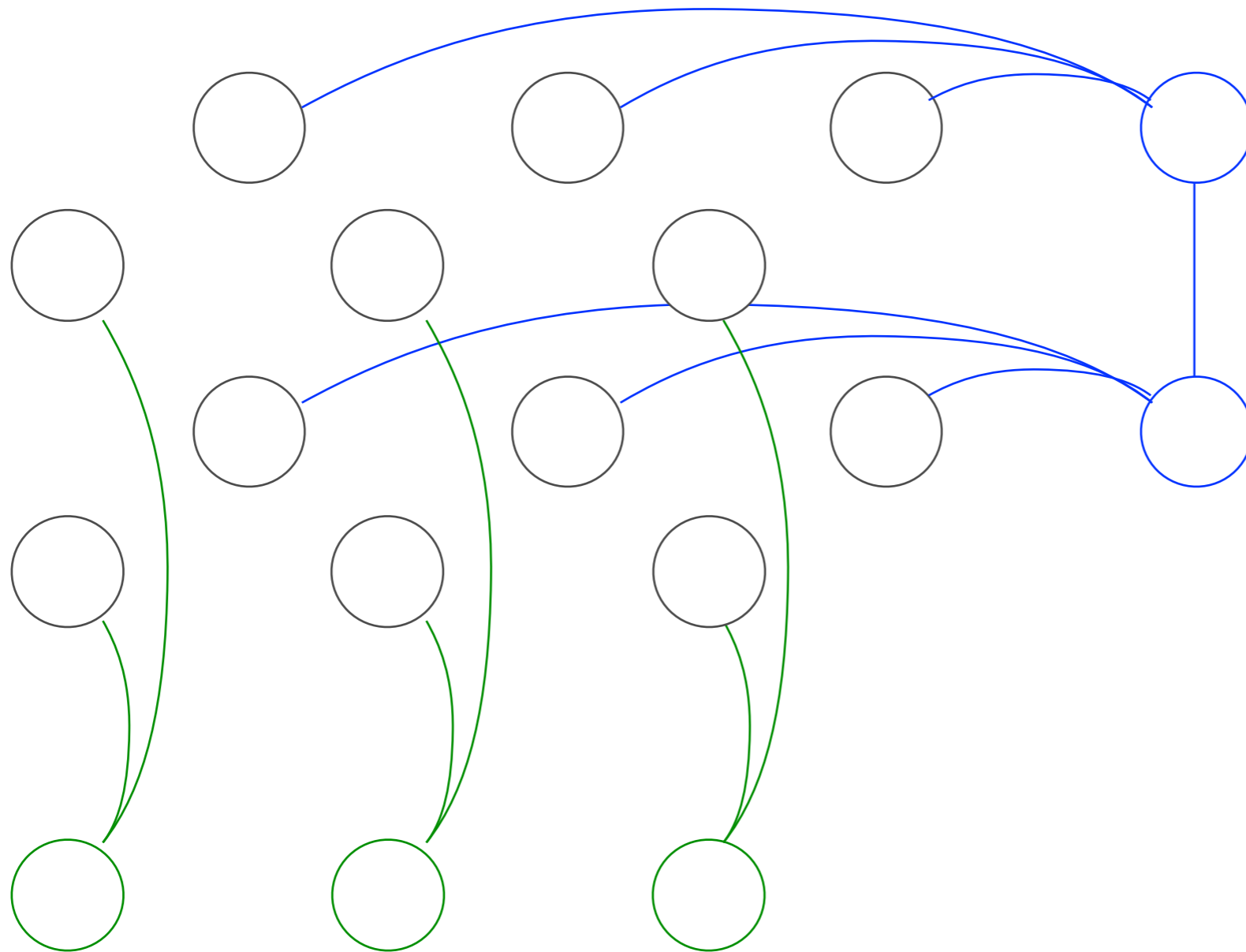


Dual decomposition inference

- Find max for each subproblem
- Adjust potentials for unequal c_{ij}
- Repeat until both subproblems are maximized by the same c

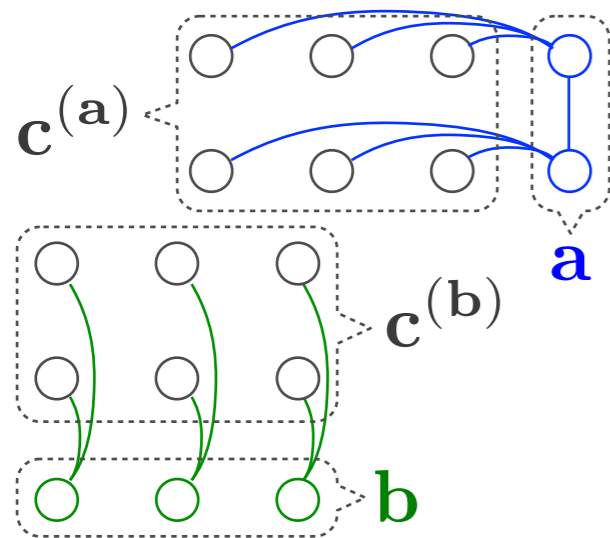
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Subproblem Decomposition

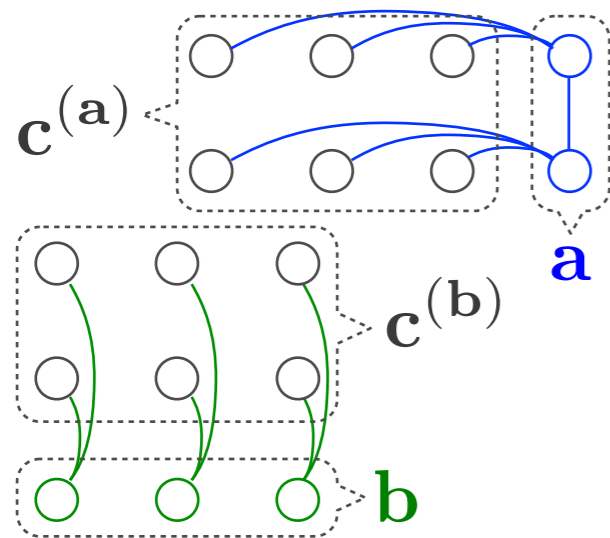


Dual Problem Derivation

Primal problem:



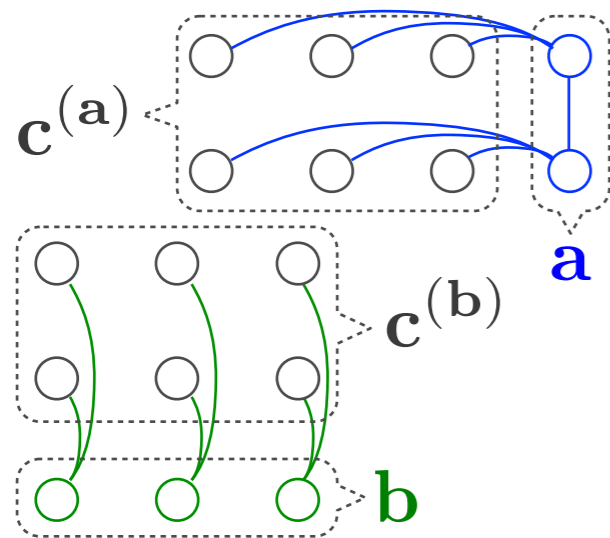
Primal problem:



$$\max_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}} f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})})$$

such that: $c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{a})} = c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{b})} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{I}$

Primal problem:

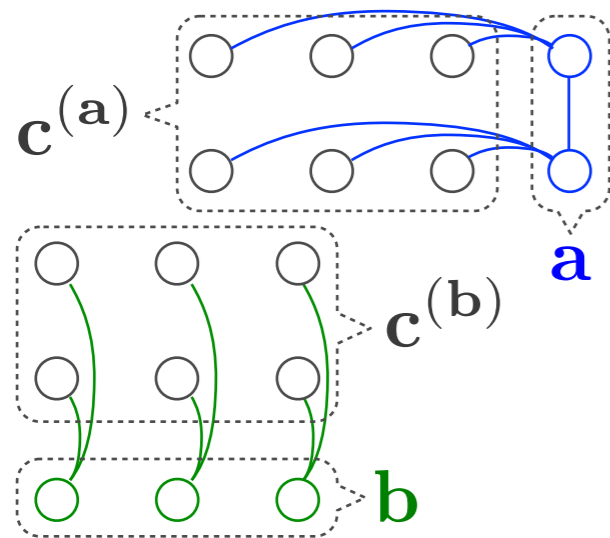


$$\log P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e})$$

$$\max_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)}} f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)})$$

$$\text{such that: } c_{ij}^{(a)} = c_{ij}^{(b)} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{I}$$

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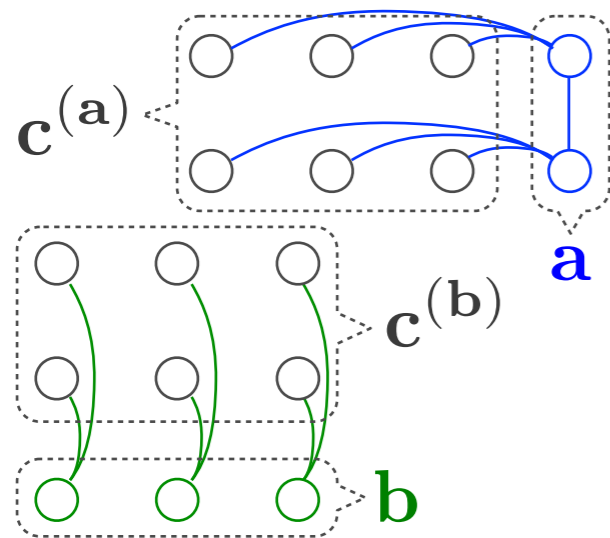
$$\log P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e})$$

$$\log P(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{b} | \mathbf{f})$$

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Primal problem:



$$\log P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e})$$

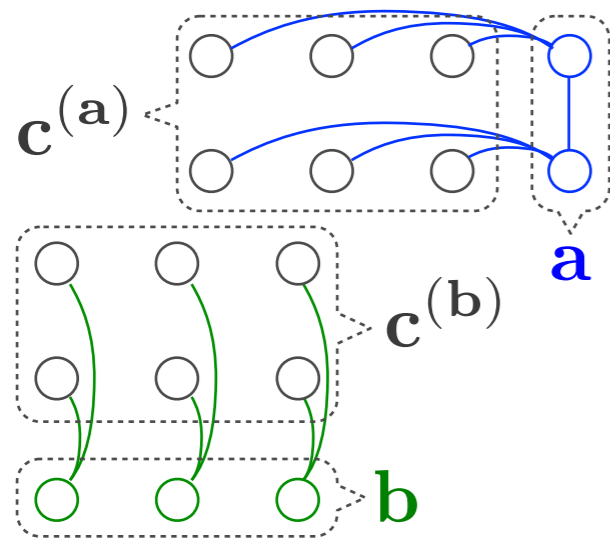
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$$\text{such that: } c_{ij}^{(a)} = c_{ij}^{(b)} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{I}$$

Lagrange relaxation:

Primal problem:



$$\log P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e})$$

$$\log P(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{b} | \mathbf{f})$$

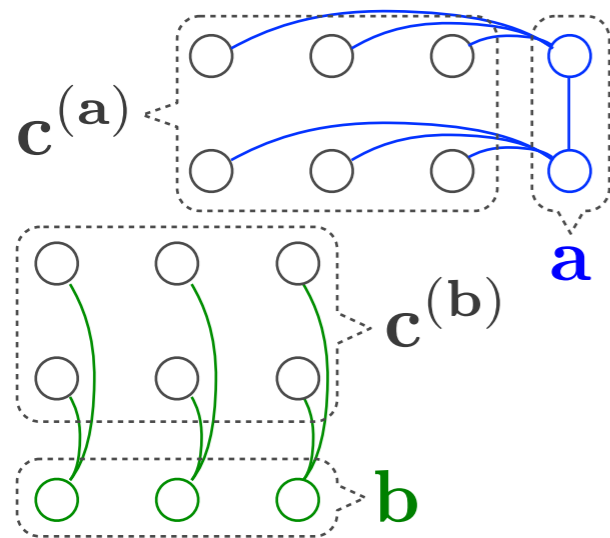
$$\max_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)}} f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)})$$

$$\text{such that: } c_{ij}^{(a)} = c_{ij}^{(b)} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{I}$$

Lagrange relaxation:

$$f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)}) + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}} u(i, j) (\mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(a)} - \mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(b)})$$

Primal problem:



$$\log P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a} | \mathbf{e})$$

$$\log P(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{b} | \mathbf{f})$$

$$\max_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)}} f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)})$$

$$\text{such that: } c_{ij}^{(a)} = c_{ij}^{(b)} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{I}$$

Lagrange relaxation:

Disagreement penalty

$$f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(a)}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(b)}) + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}} u(i, j) (\mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(a)} - \mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(b)})$$

$$f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}) + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}} u(i,j) (\mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(\mathbf{a})} - \mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(\mathbf{b})})$$

Primal problem:

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Dual Problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} \left(\max_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}} \left[f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}) + \sum_{i,j} u(i,j) c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{a})} \right] + \max_{\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}} \left[g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}) - \sum_{i,j} u(i,j) c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{b})} \right] \right)$$

Dual Problem Derivation

Primal problem: $\max_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}} \min_{\mathbf{u}}$

$$f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}) + g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}) + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}} u(i,j) (\mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(\mathbf{a})} - \mathbf{c}_{i,j}^{(\mathbf{b})})$$

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Dual Objective:

$$h(\mathbf{u}) = \left(\begin{array}{l} \max_{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}} \left[f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}) + \sum_{i,j} u(i,j) c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{a})} \right] + \\ \max_{\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}} \left[g(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}) - \sum_{i,j} u(i,j) c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{b})} \right] \end{array} \right)$$

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$$\frac{\partial h(\mathbf{u})}{\partial u(i,j)} = \widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{ij}^{(\mathbf{a})} - \widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{ij}^{(\mathbf{b})}$$

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Gradient:

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Results of optimizing each term independently

- 1: **for** $t = 1$ to max iterations **do**
- 2: $r \leftarrow \frac{1}{t}$
- 3: $\widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{a})} \leftarrow \arg \max \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{a})}) + \sum_{i,j} u(i,j) c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{a})}$
- 4: $\widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{b})} \leftarrow \arg \max \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}^{(\mathbf{b})}) - \sum_{i,j} u(i,j) c_{ij}^{(\mathbf{b})}$
- 5: **if** $\widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{a})} = \widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{b})}$ **then**
- 6: **return** $\widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{a})}$
- 7: $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \mathbf{u} + r \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{b})} - \widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{a})} \end{pmatrix}$
- 8: **return** $\text{symm} \begin{pmatrix} \widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{a})}, \widehat{\mathbf{c}}^{(\mathbf{b})} \end{pmatrix}$

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Optimality Upon Convergence



- Dual objective is **convex**
 - Dual optimum reached if **gradient descent** converges

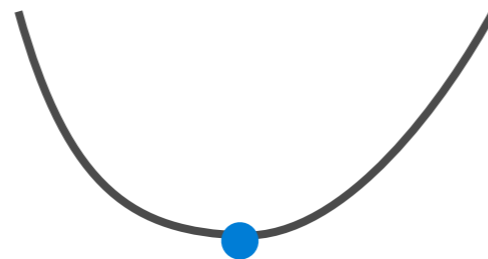
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Dramatization:



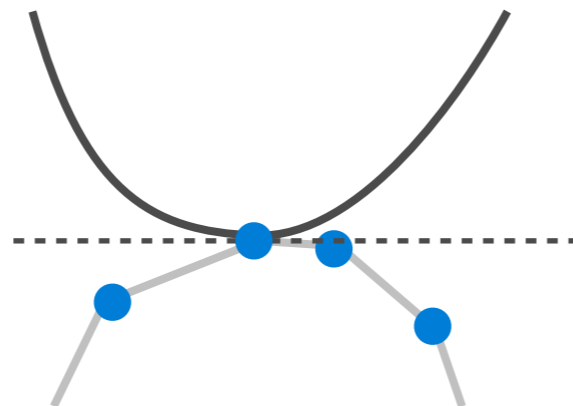
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 - Converged dual optimum is a **feasible** primal solution

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- Dual objective is **convex**
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 - Converged dual optimum is a **feasible** primal solution
- The dual optimum is an **upper bound** on the primal optimum

Dramatization:



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- HMM parameters are fixed for all experiments



Convergence and Agreement Rates



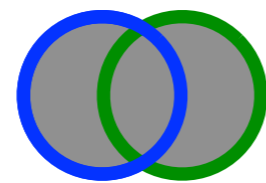
After 250 iterations, inference converges 6.2% of the time

Dual solution oscillates, implying a duality gap

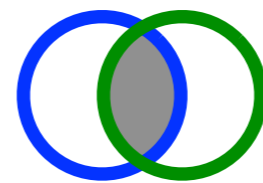
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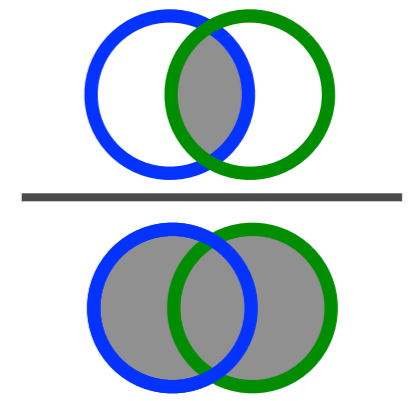
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Union Size



Intersection Size

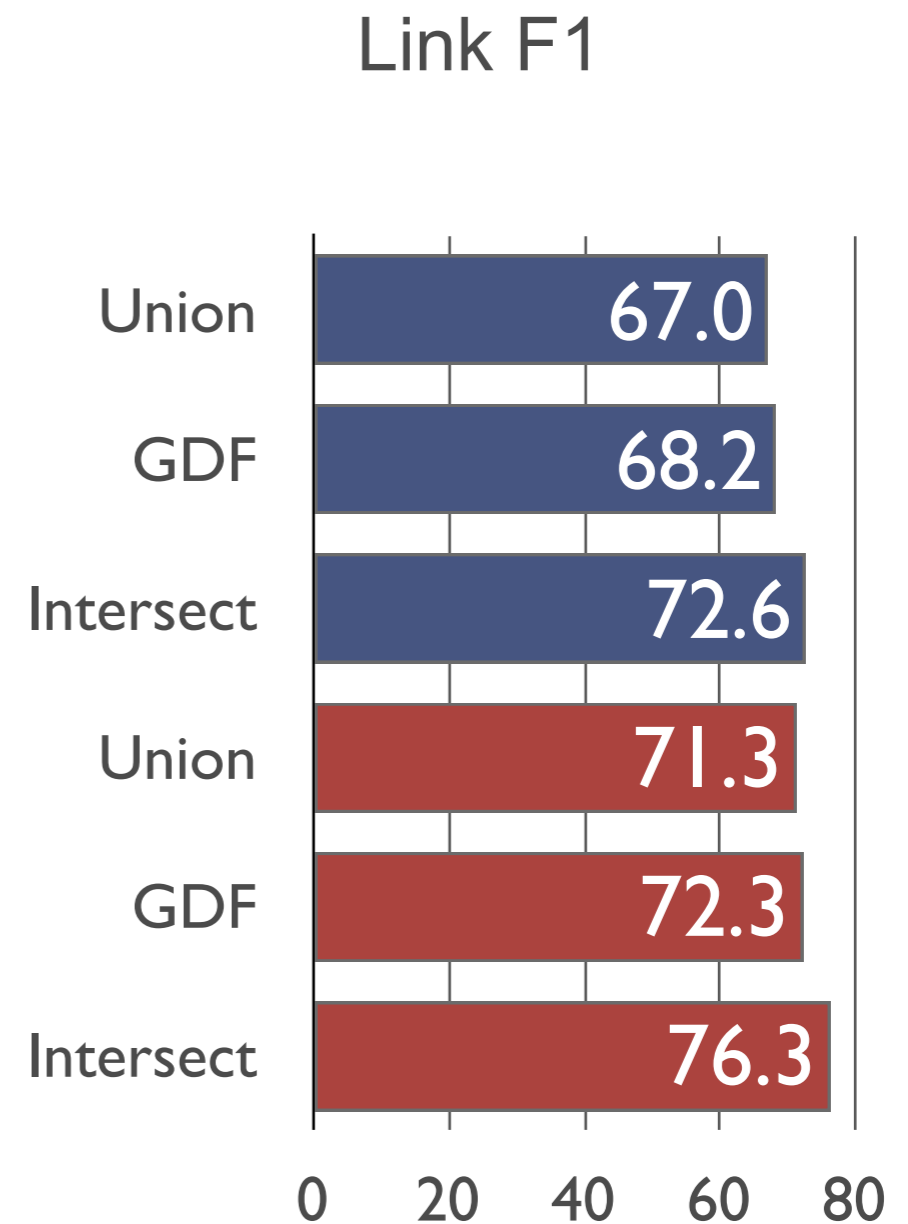
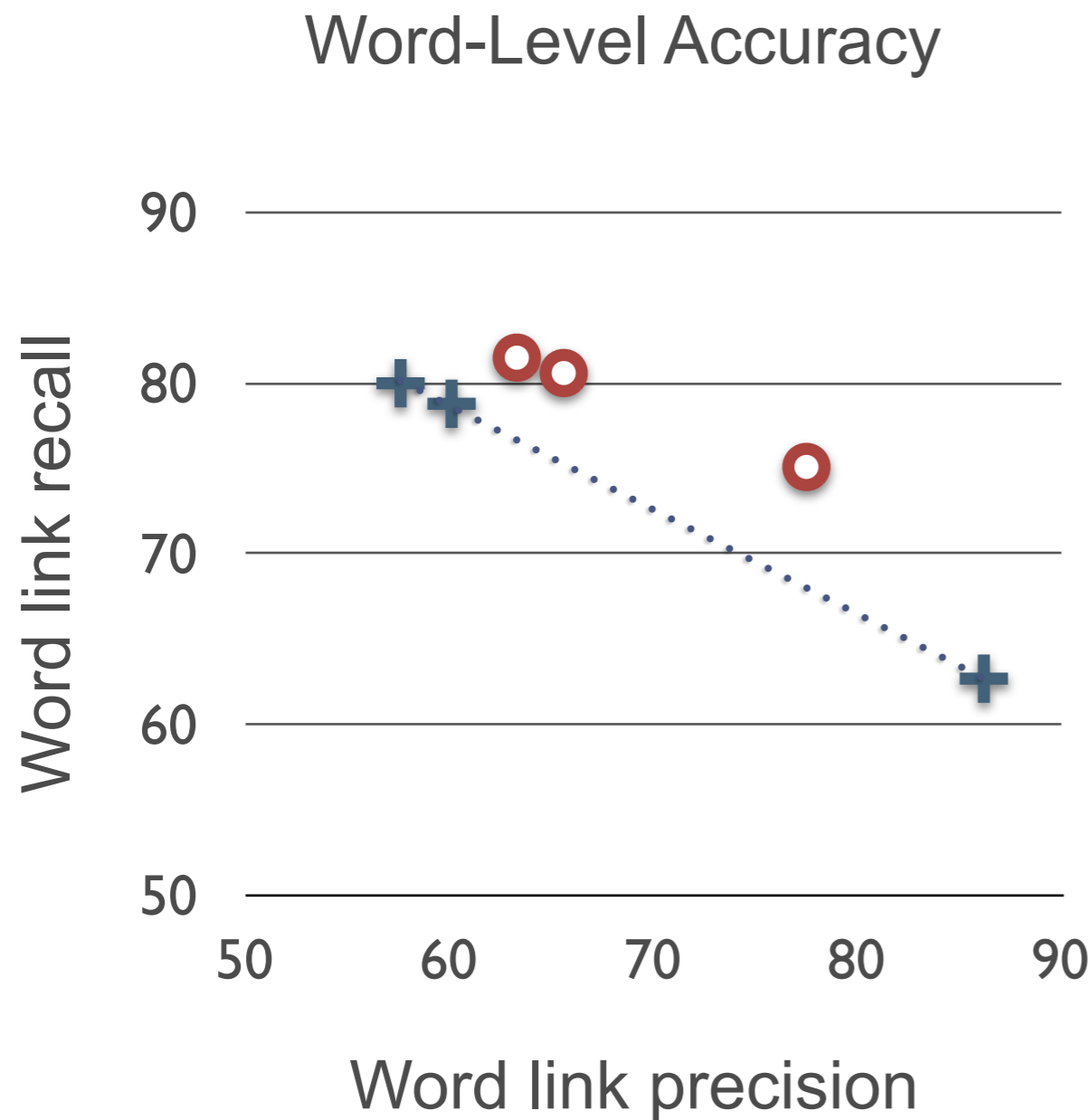


Ratio

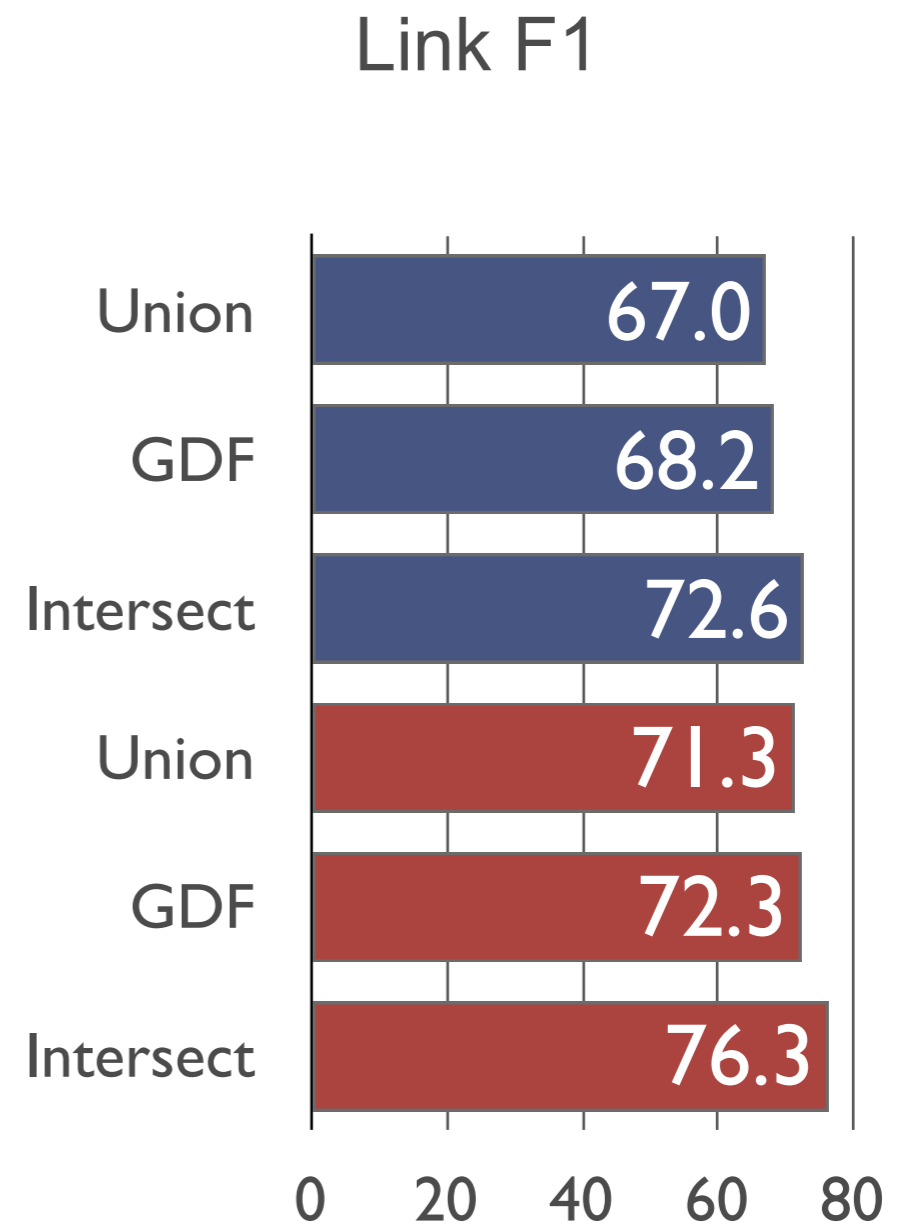
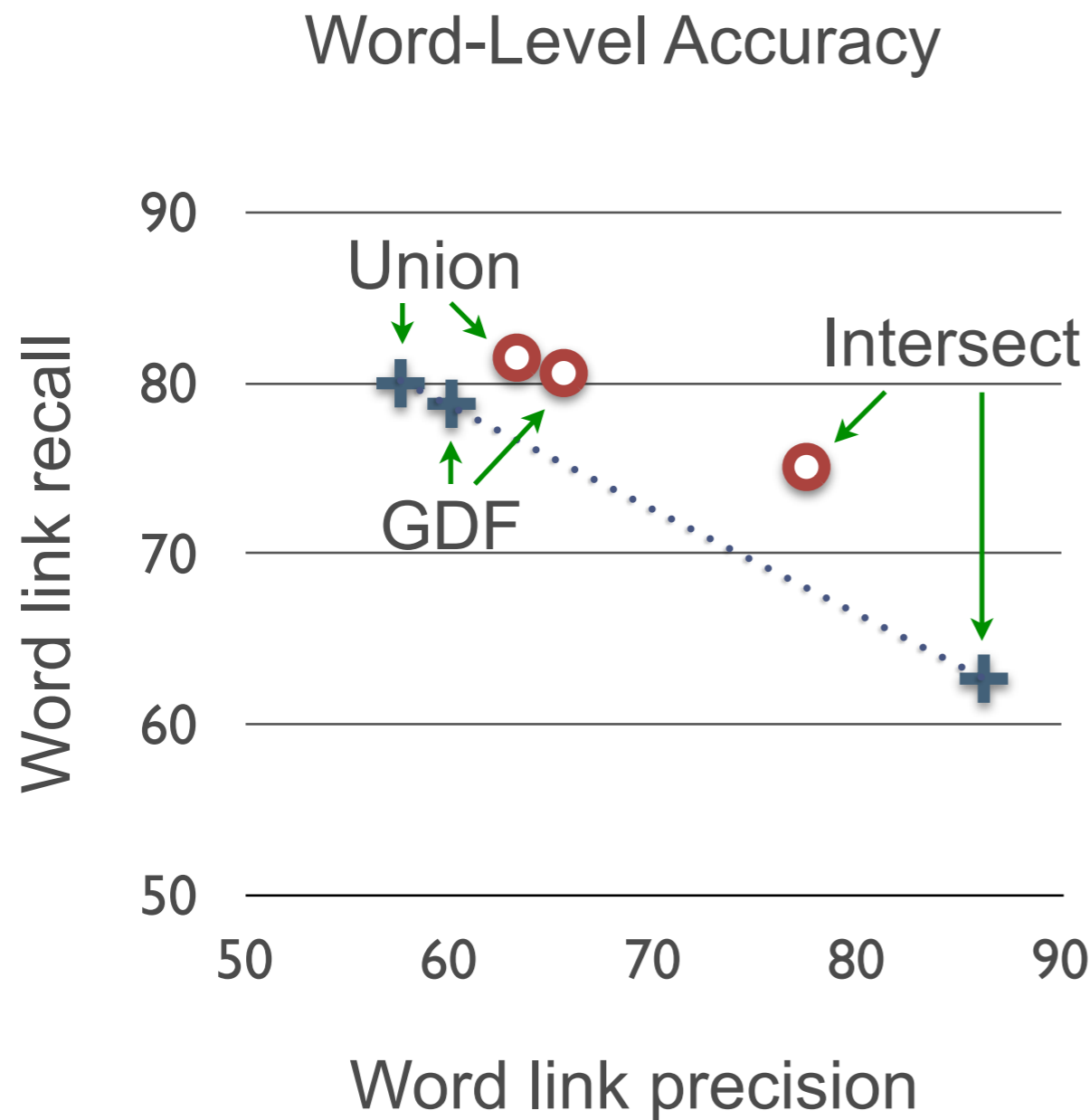
	Union Size	Intersection Size	Ratio
Independent	10,998	5,554	50.5%
Model-Based	10,262	7,620	74.3%

Alignment Error

Combination methods: + Heuristic ○ Model-Based



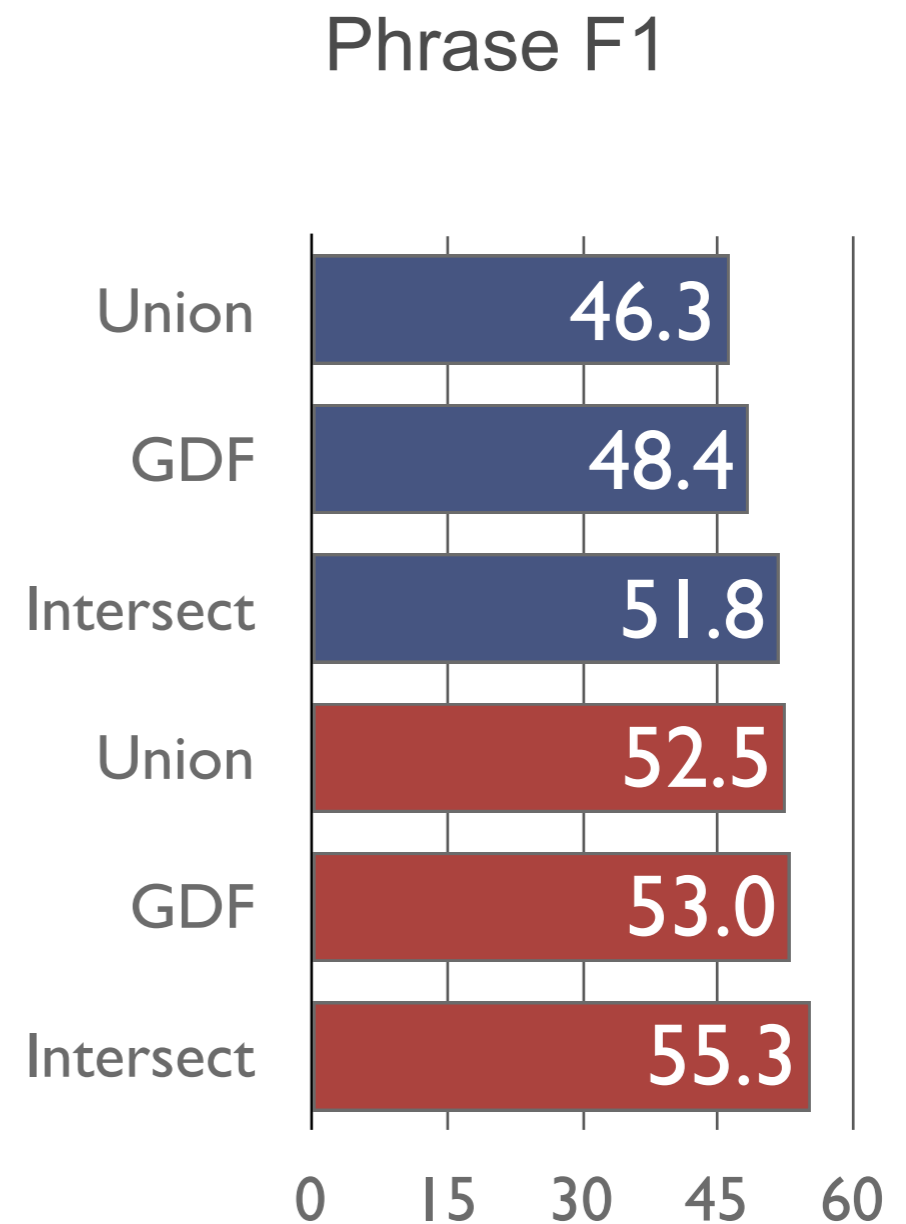
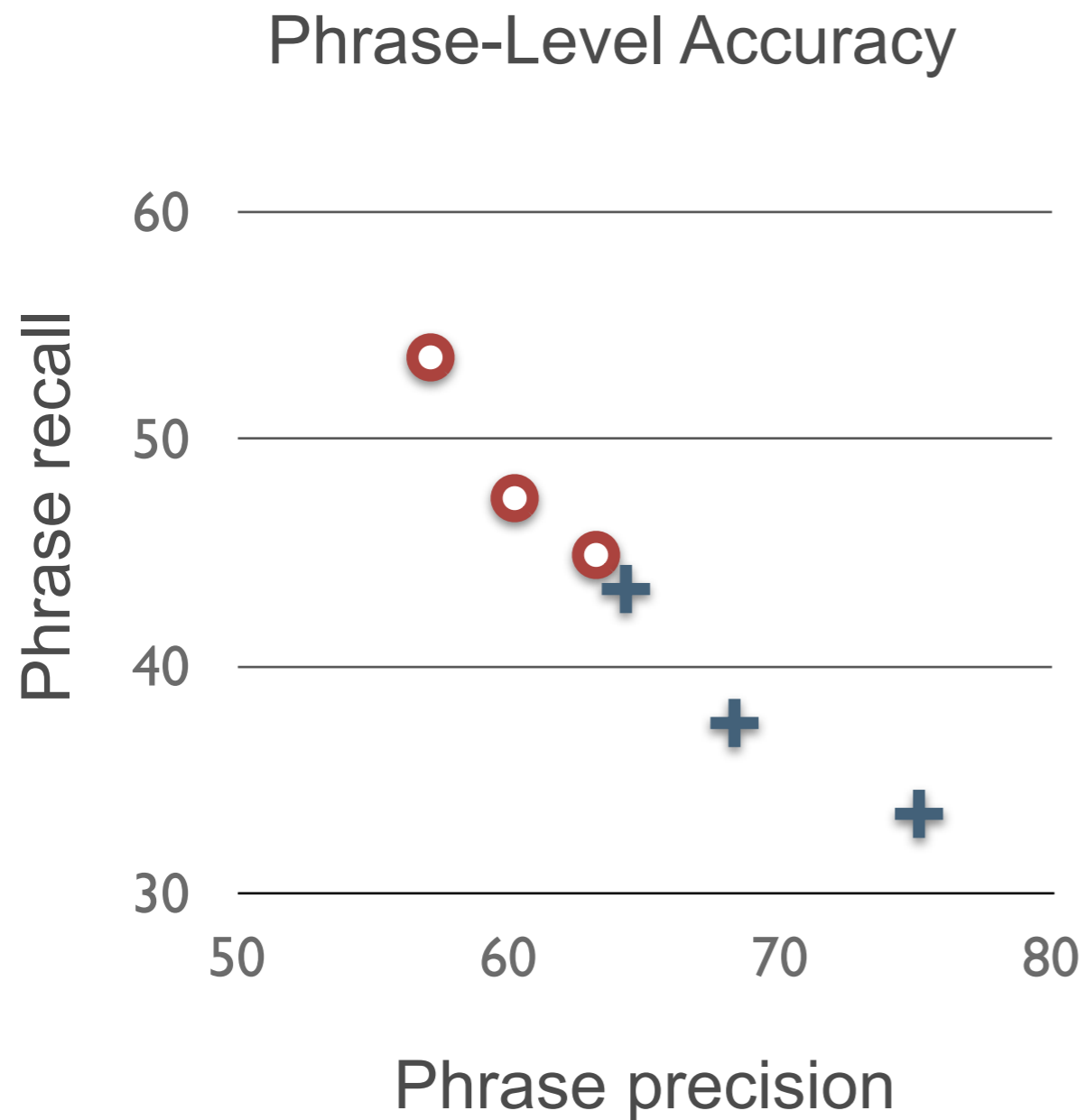
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Phrase Extraction Results



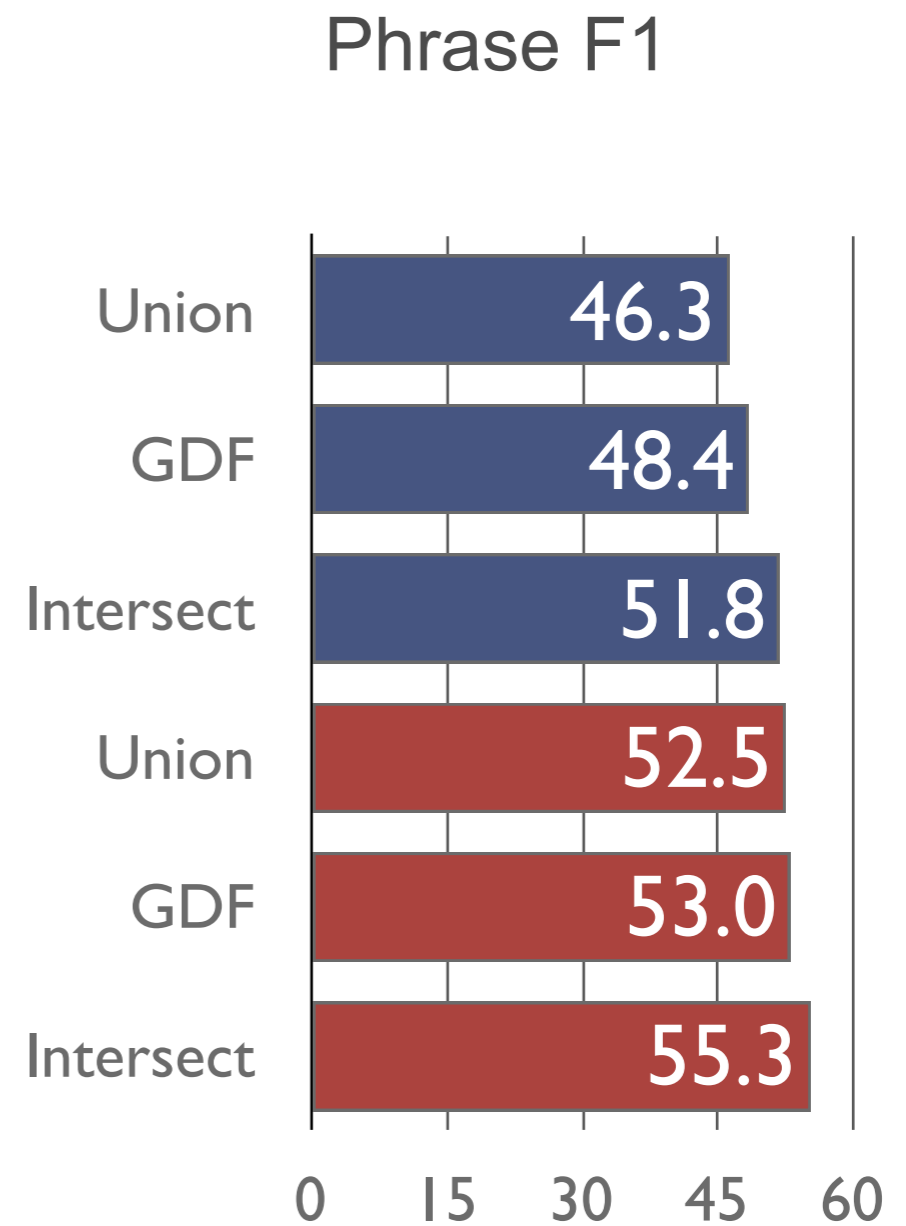
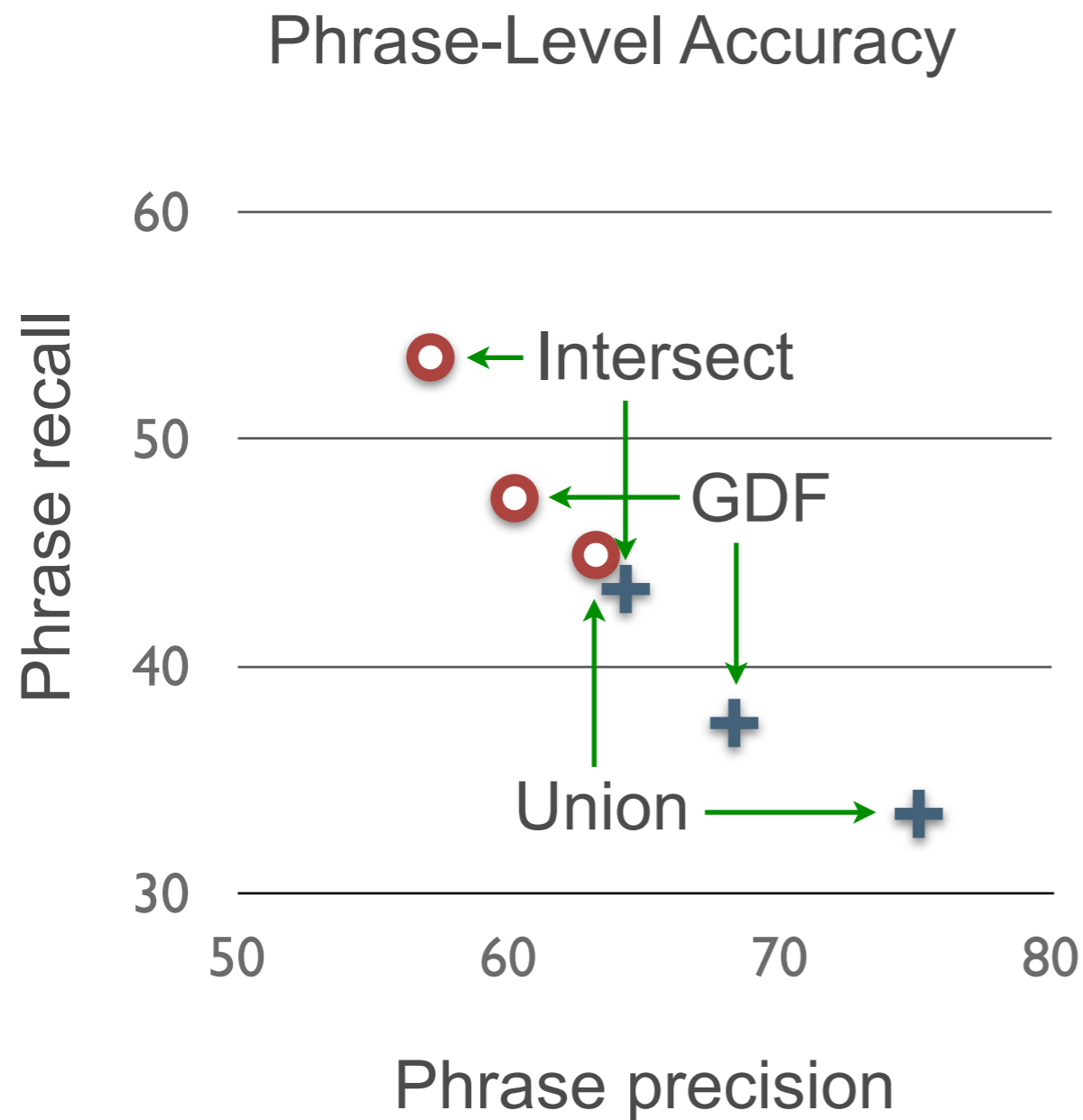
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Phrase Extraction Results



Combination methods: + Heuristic ○ Model-Based



- Google research Chinese-to-English alignment template system
- Union outperformed other symmetrization heuristics
- Model 1 & HMM each trained for 3 iterations
- Training and test examples collected from the web
- Single-reference test set commissioned from professional translators

	BLEU
Heuristic	29.59
Model-Based	29.82

Conclusion



- Extensible graphical model framework for aligner combination

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