

# **First- and Second-order Expectation Semirings** with Applications to **Minimum-Risk Training on Translation Forests**

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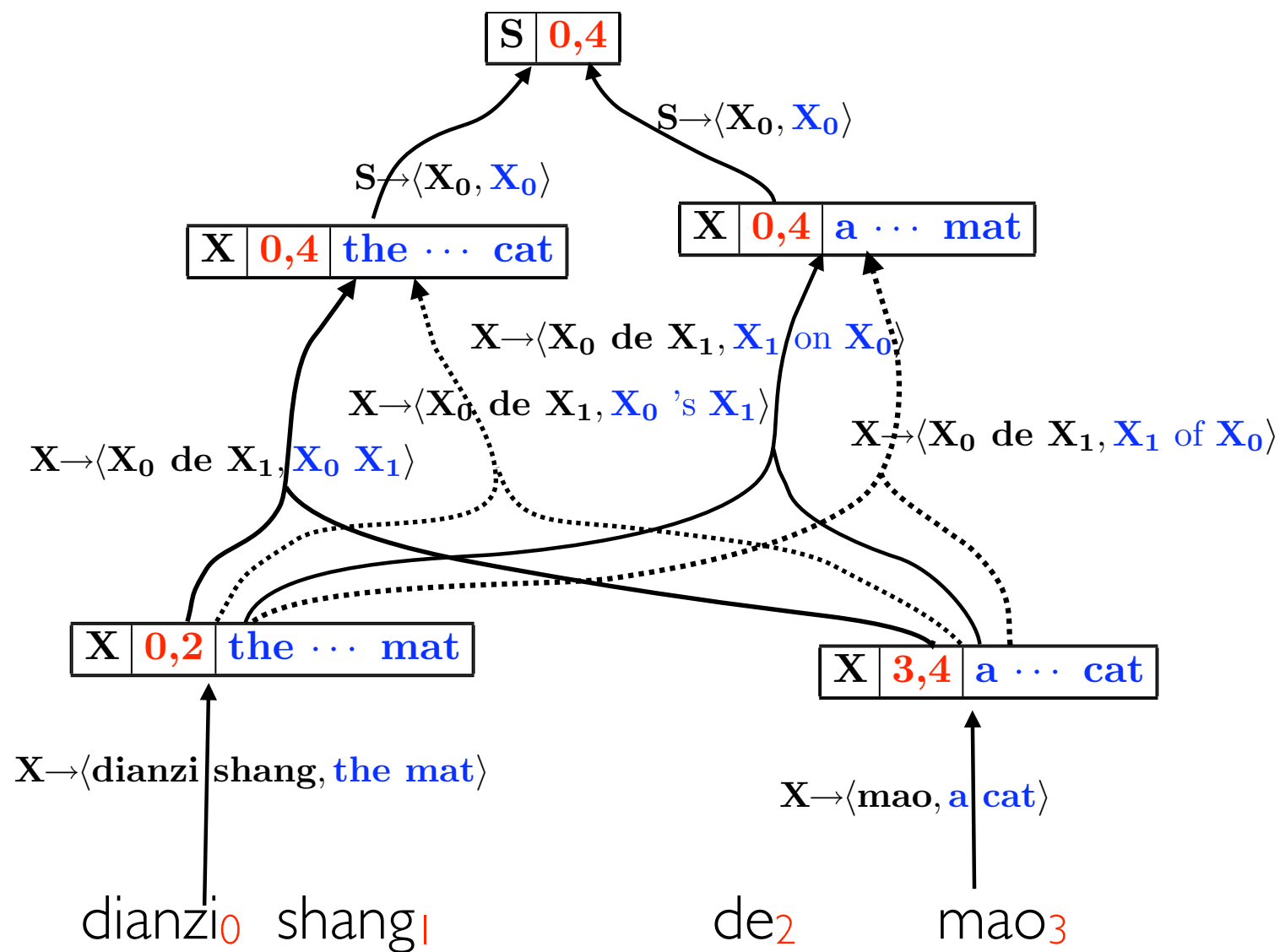


dianzi shang de mao

the cat

on the mat

# hypergraph



Joshua

dianzi shang de mao

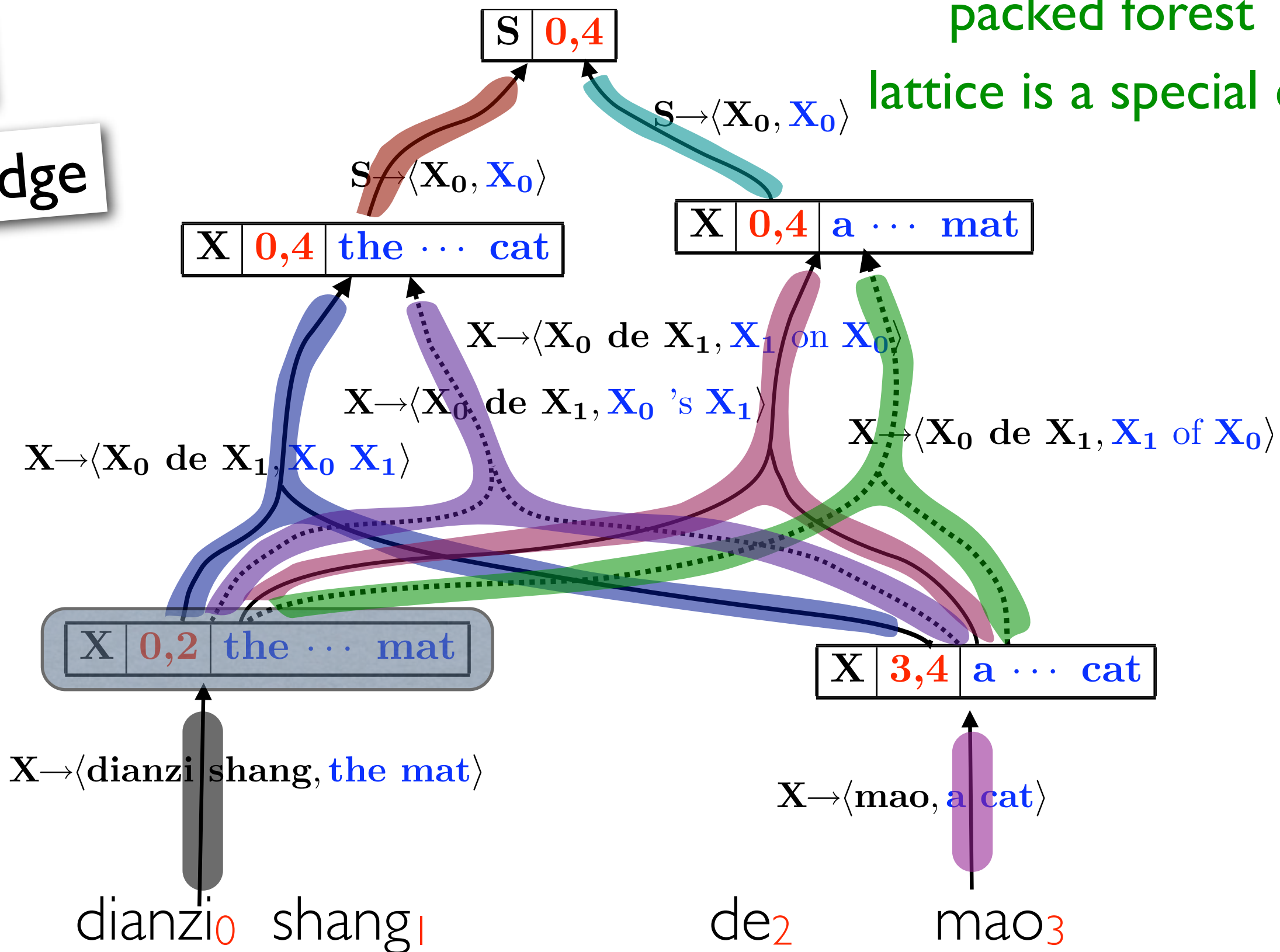
# A hypergraph is a compact data structure to encode exponentially many trees.

node

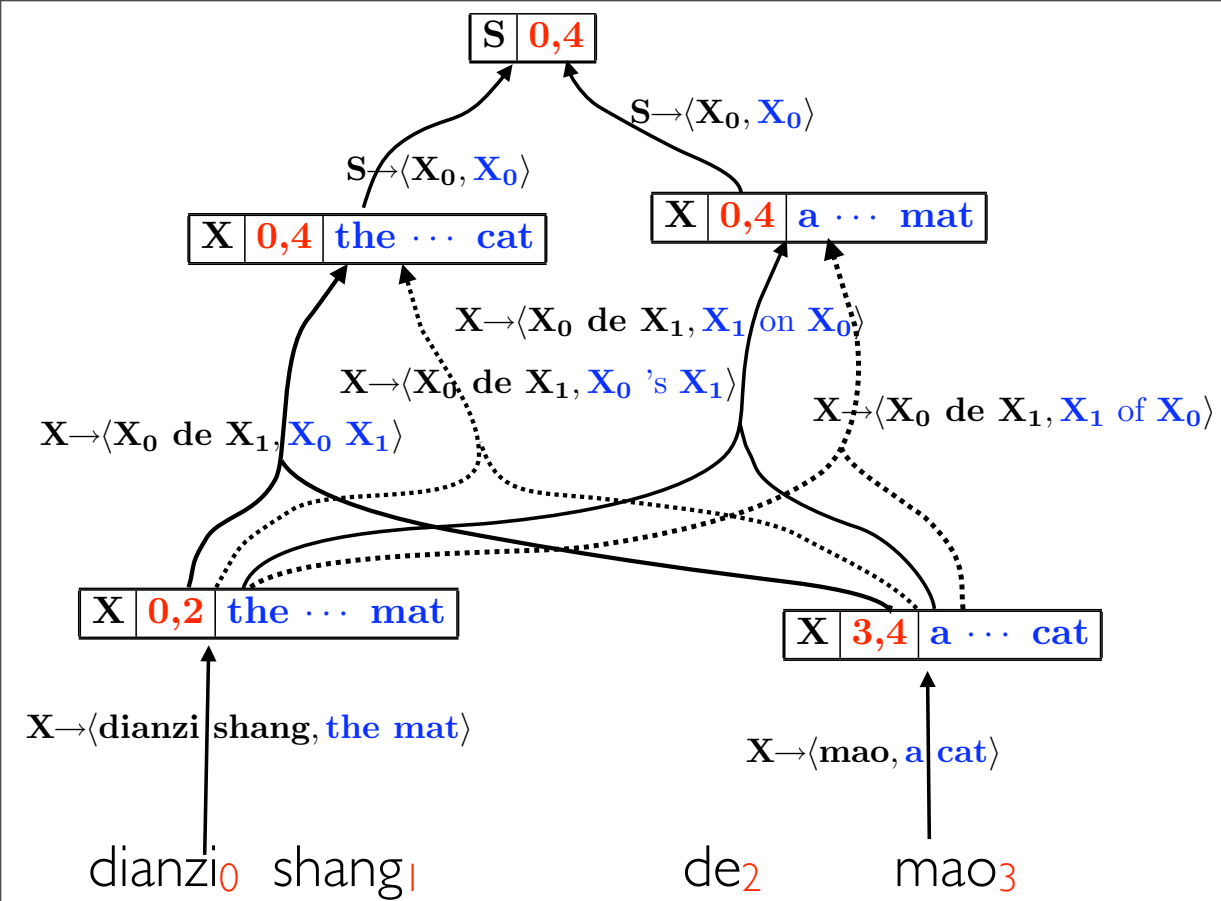
packed forest

lattice is a special case

hyperedge

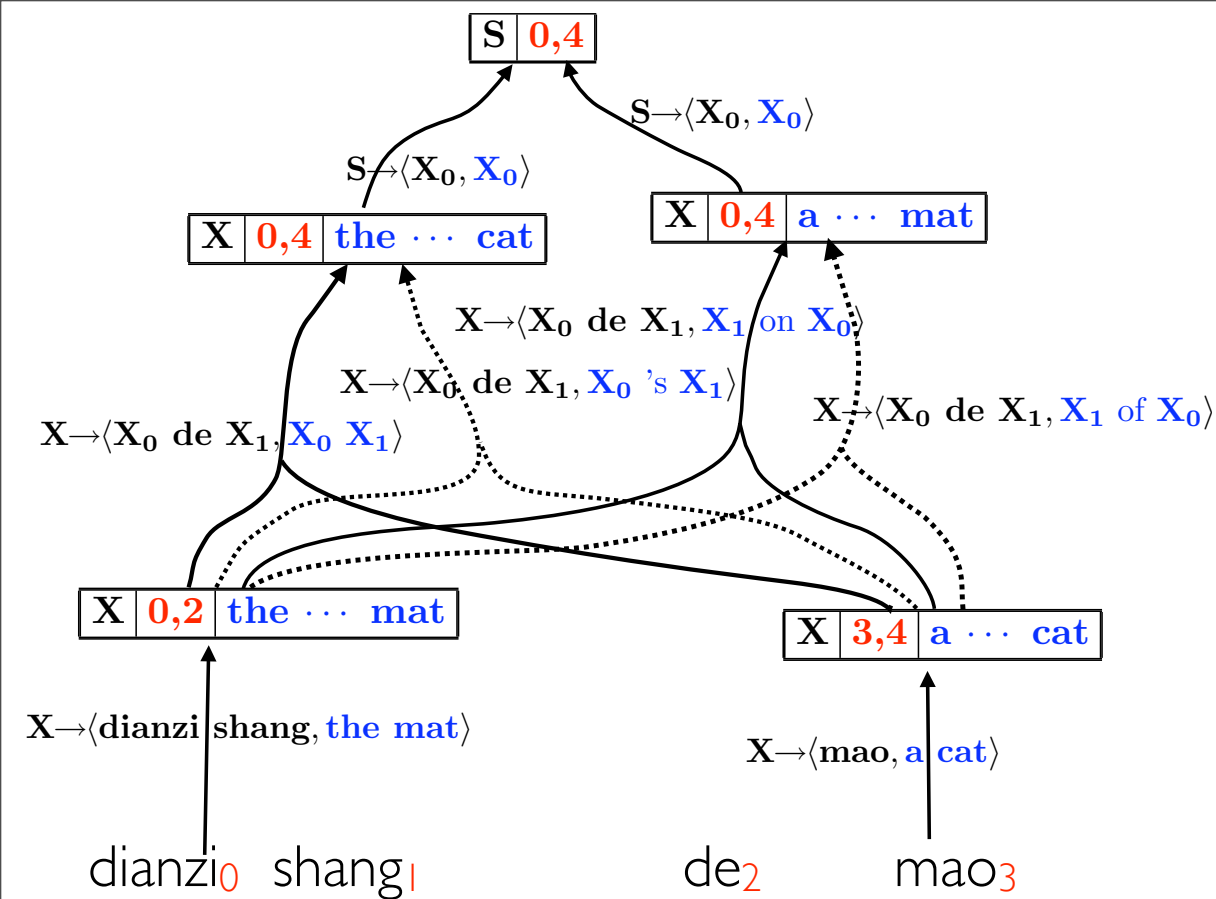


# How many trees?

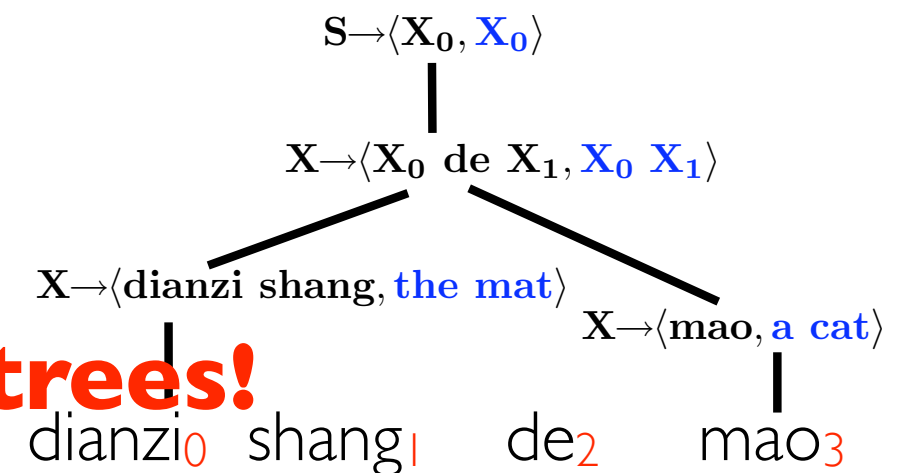


# How many trees?

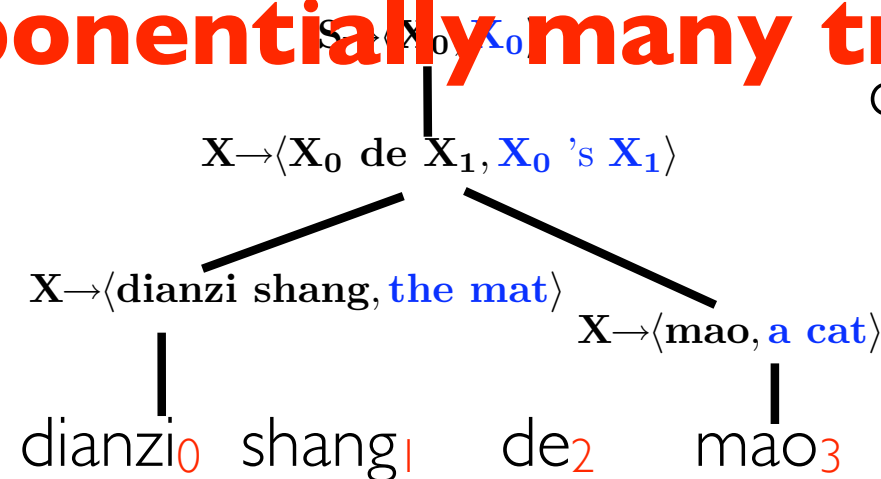
four 😊



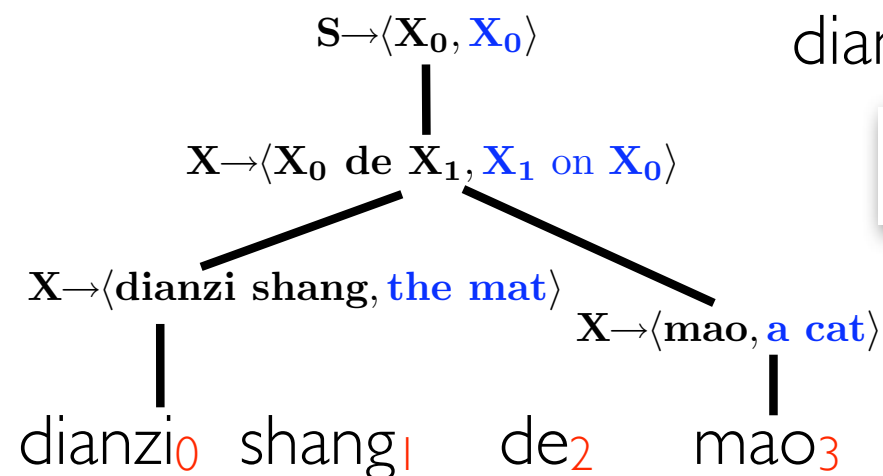
**In general, exponentially many trees!**



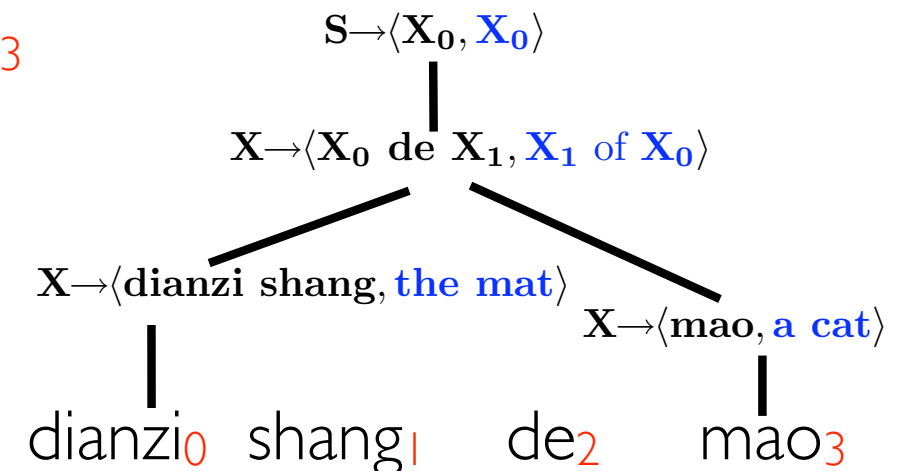
the mat a cat



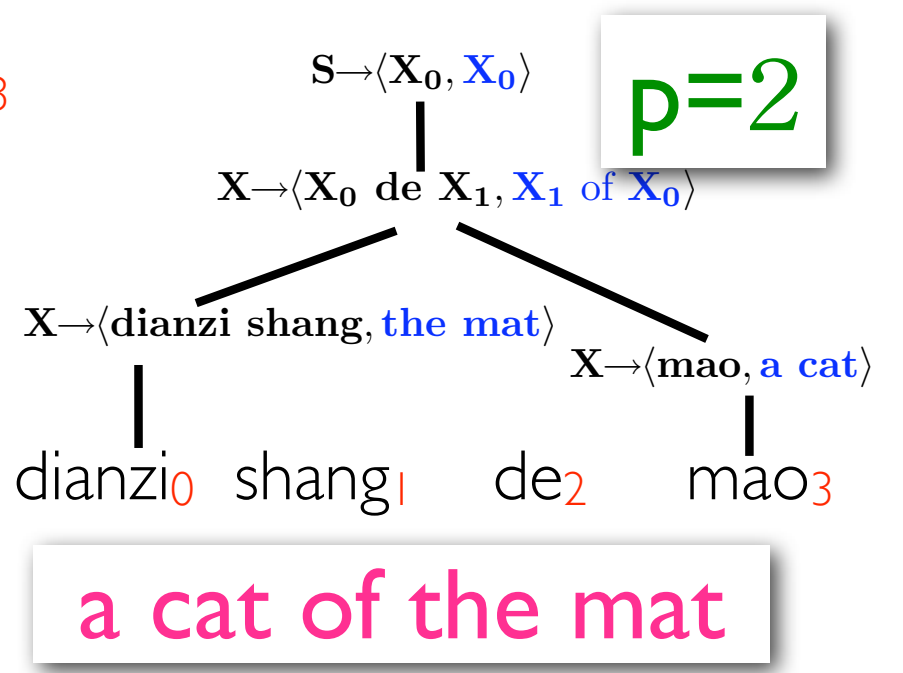
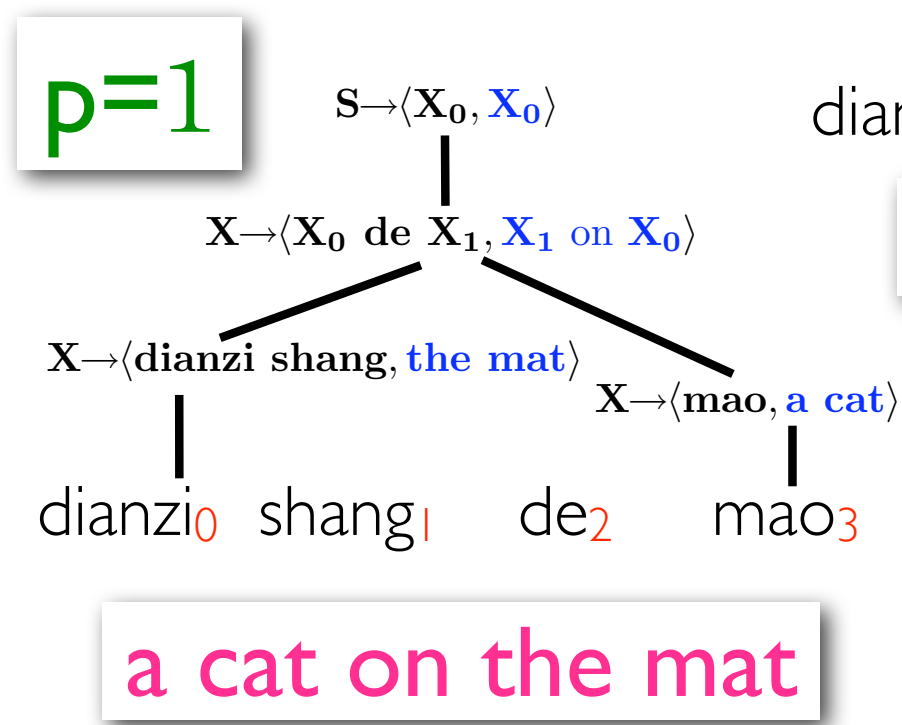
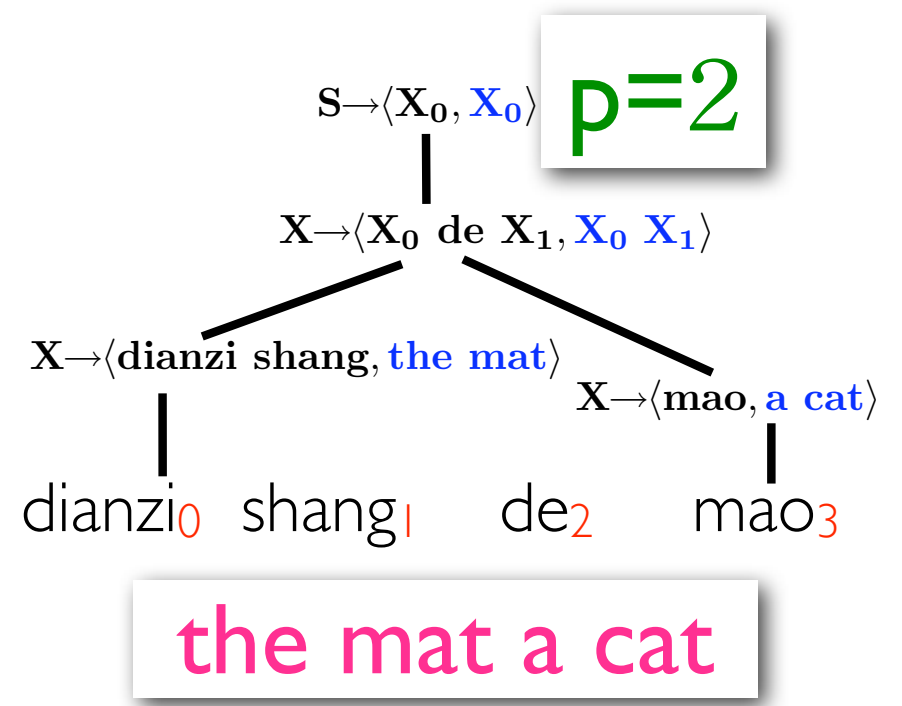
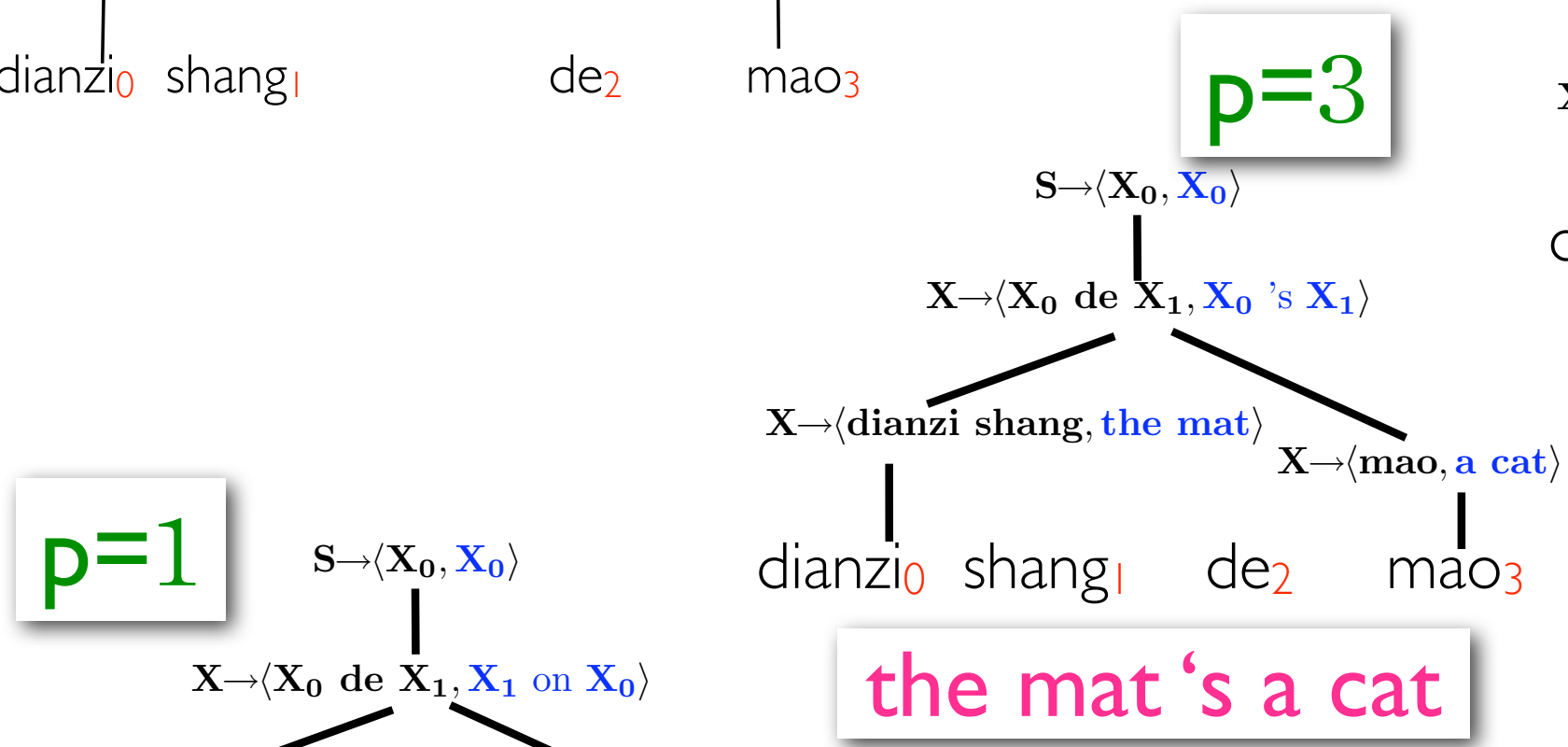
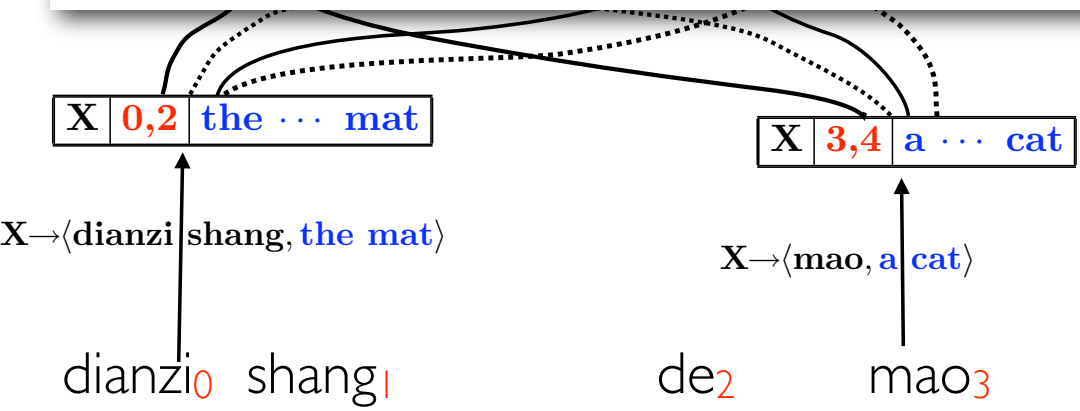
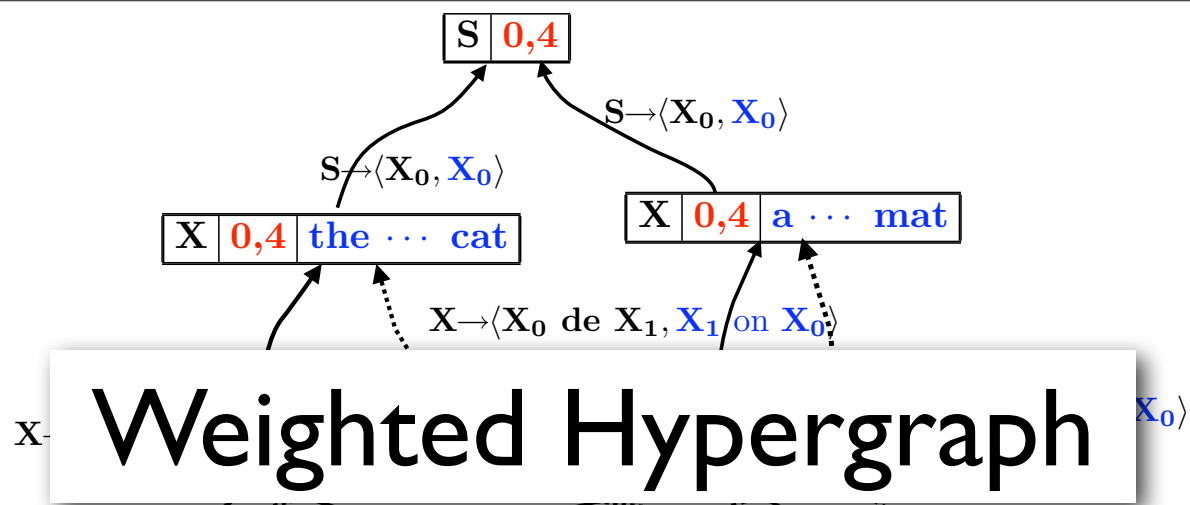
the mat's a cat



a cat on the mat

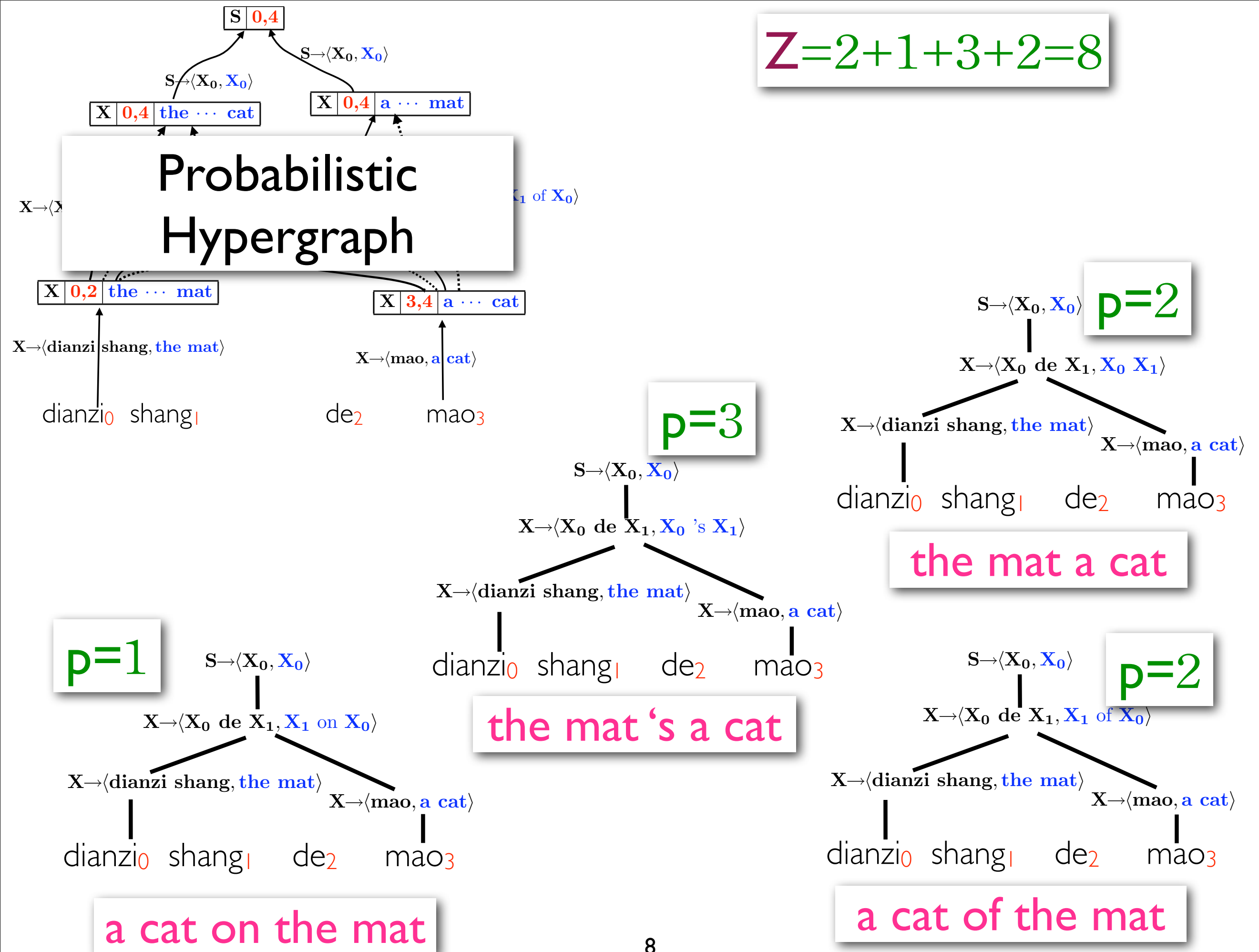


a cat of the mat



$$Z=2+1+3+2=8$$

# Probabilistic Hypergraph



$$Z=2+1+3+2=8$$

The hypergraph defines a probability distribution over **trees**!

the distribution is parameterized by  $\Theta$

# Probabilistic Hypergraph

$$p=2/8$$

$$p=3/8$$

$$p=1/8$$

$$p=2/8$$

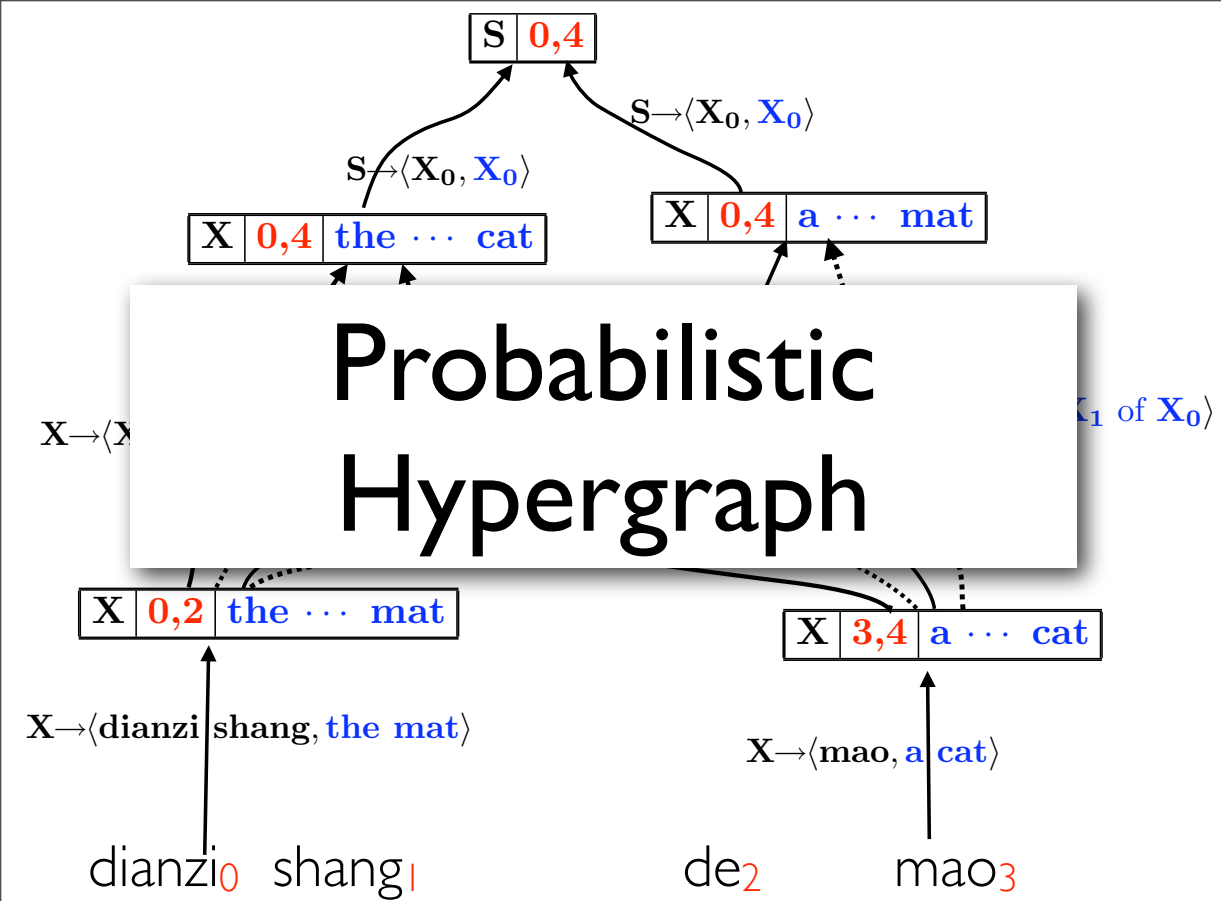
the mat a cat

the mat 's a cat

a cat on the mat

a cat of the mat

# Probabilistic Hypergraph



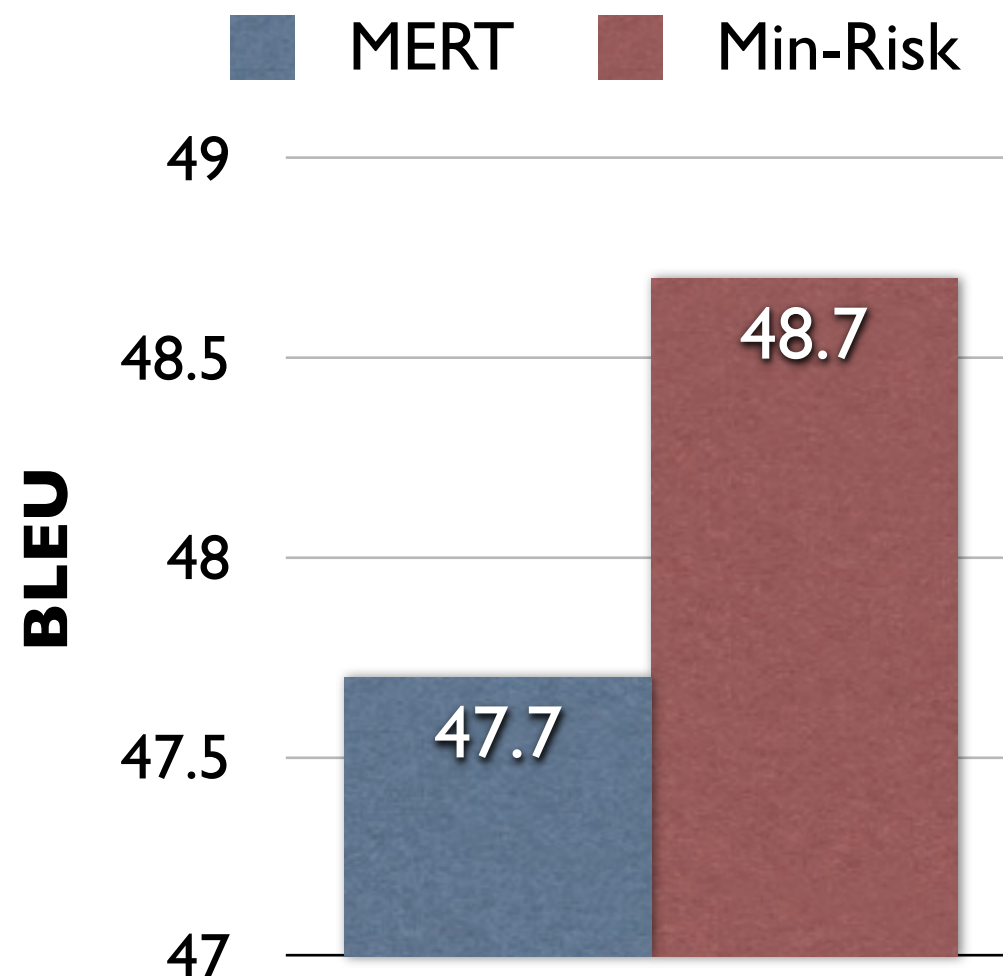
Entropy?

Bayes Risk?

# Minimum Risk Training on Translation Forests

Finding optimal parameters:

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmin} \text{Risk}(P_\theta) - \text{Temperature} \times \text{Entropy}(P_\theta)$$

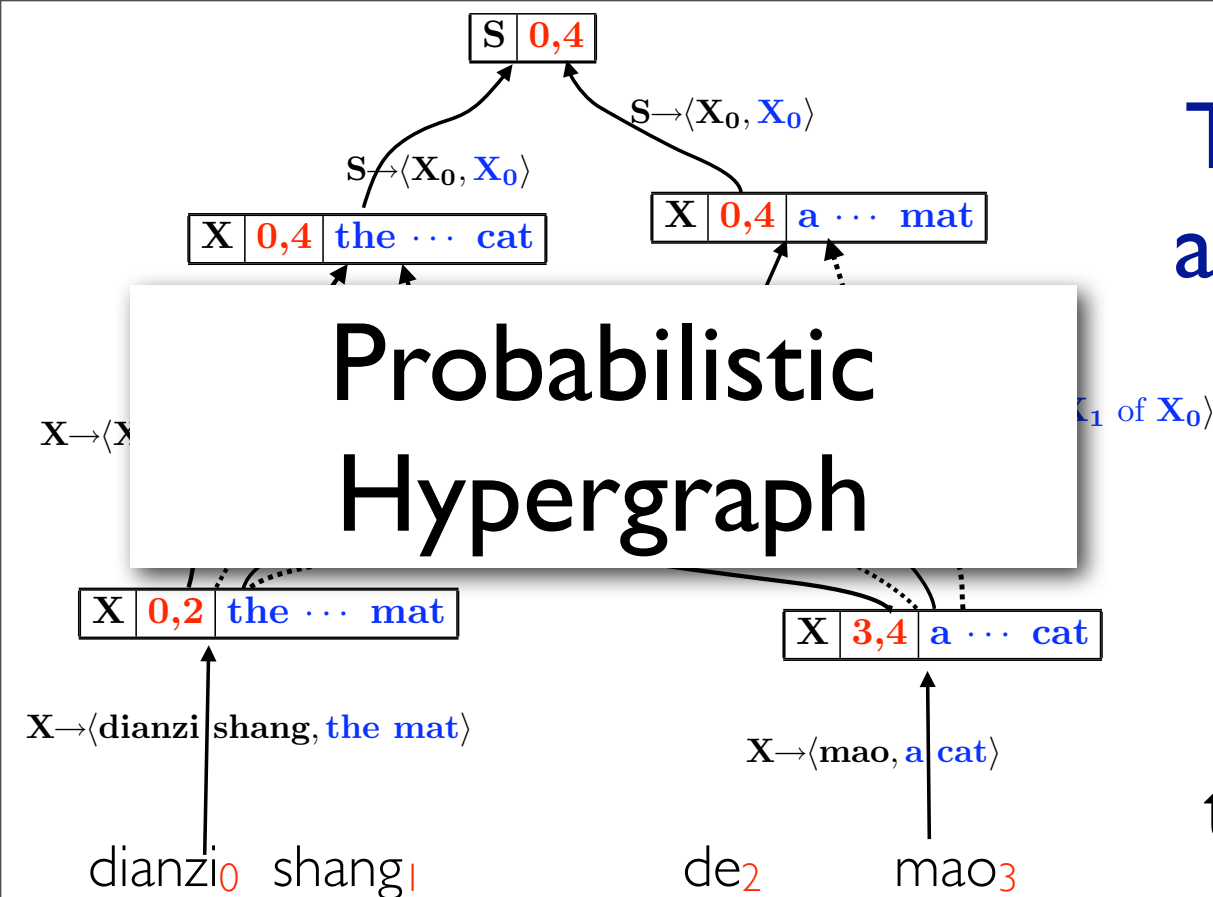


BLEU scores on an IWSLT Chinese-English test set

This work provides a unified, elegant, and efficient framework in computing all of these!

useful in applying machine learning techniques into machine translation

# Probabilistic Hypergraph



- First-order quantities:

- expectation
- entropy
- Bayes risk
- cross-entropy
- KL divergence
- feature expectations
- first-order gradient of  $Z$

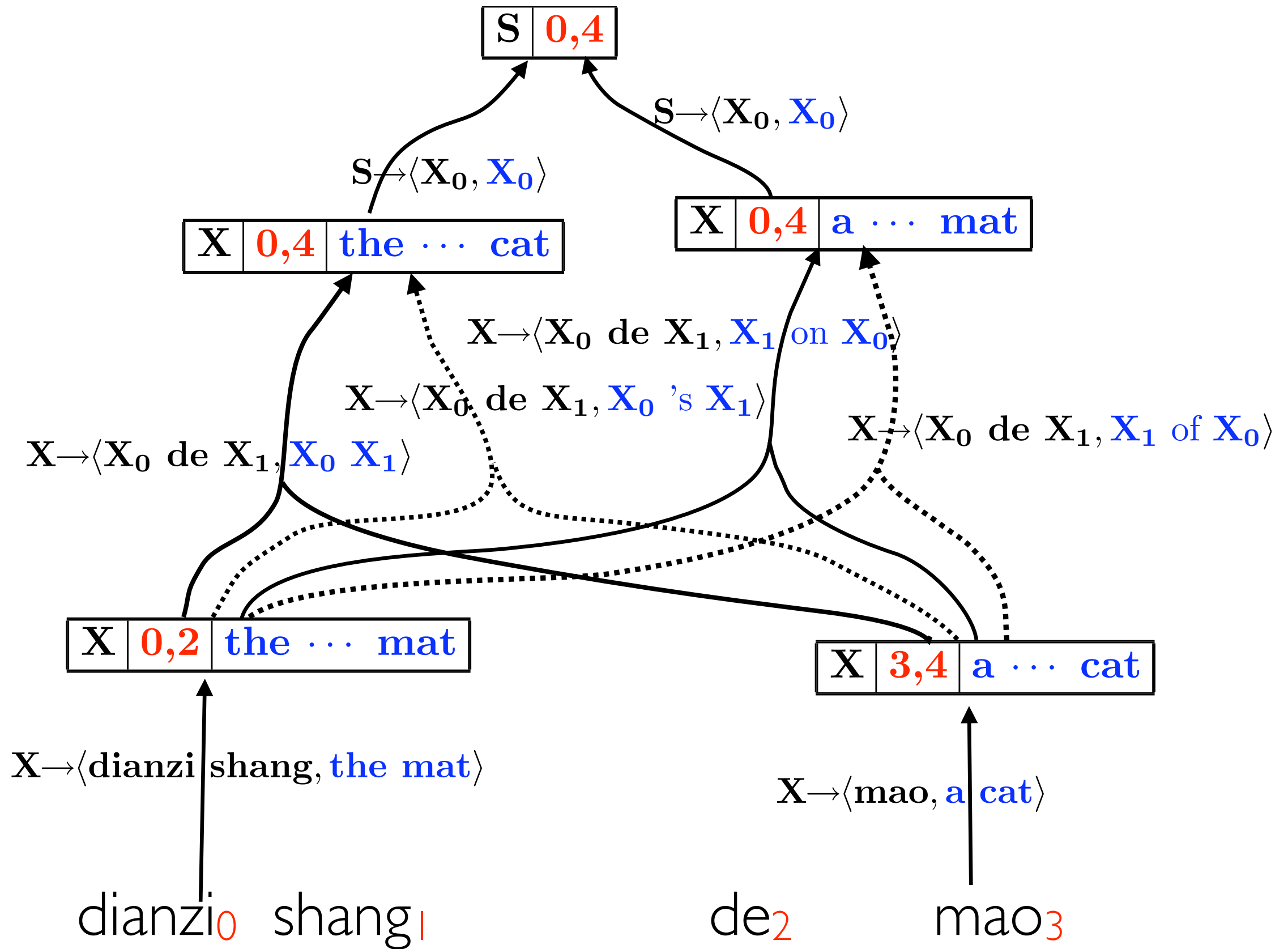
- Second-order quantities:

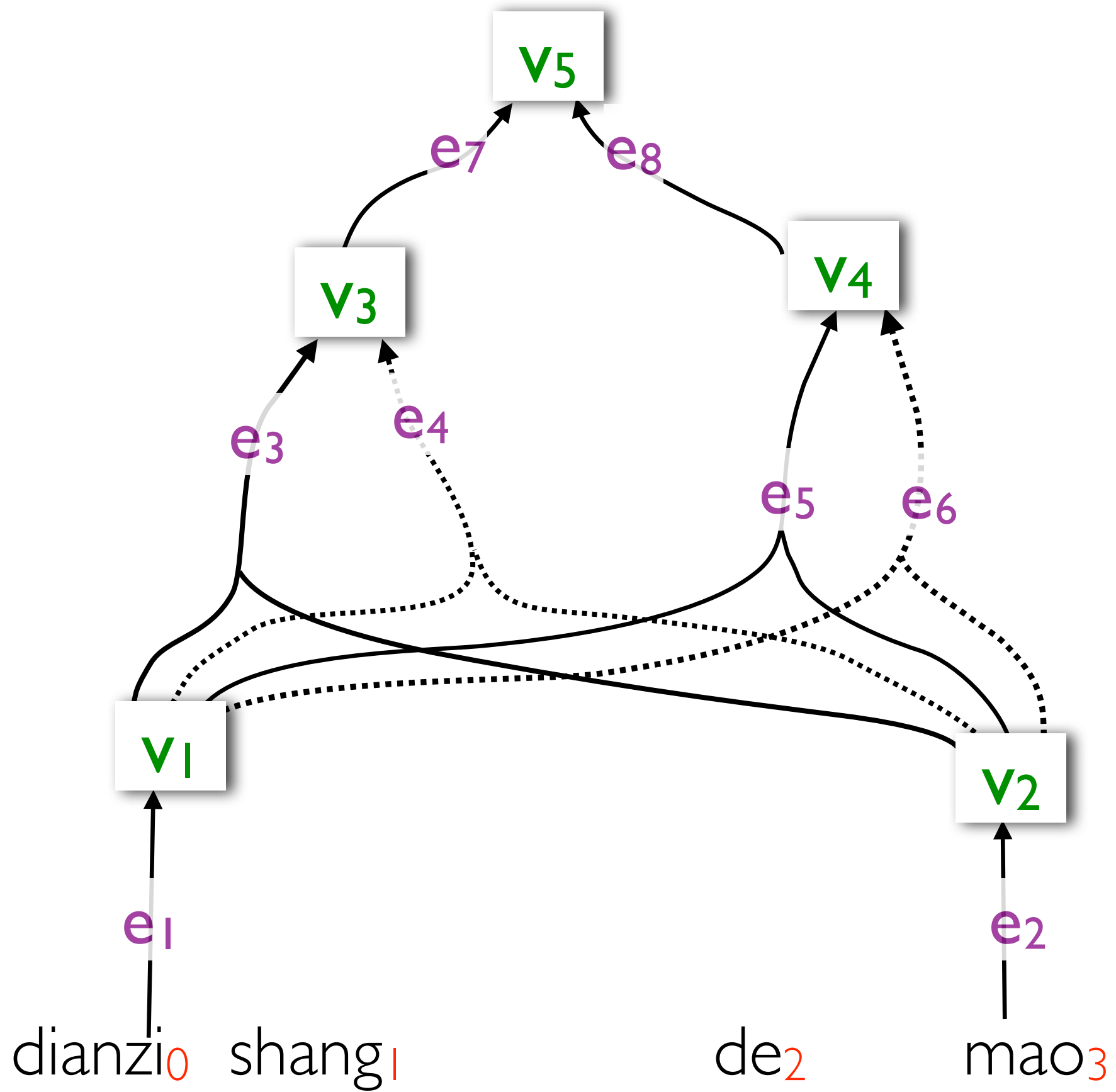
- Expectation over product
- interaction between features
- Hessian matrix of  $Z$
- second-order gradient descent
- gradient of expectation
  - gradient of entropy or Bayes risk

# Outline

- Semiring-weighted Inside Algorithm
  - counting semiring (Goodman, 1999)
  - expectation semirings (Eisner, 2002)
  - second-order expectation semirings (new)
- Applications of the Semirings (new)
- Speed-up with Inside-outside (new)
- Minimum Risk Training over **Forests** (new)

# Semiring-weighted Inside Algorithm





# What is a Semiring?

$$\langle K, \oplus, \otimes \rangle$$

a **set** with **plus** and **times** operations

# Compute the Number of Derivation Trees

Counting semiring: **ordinary integers**

Inside algorithm:

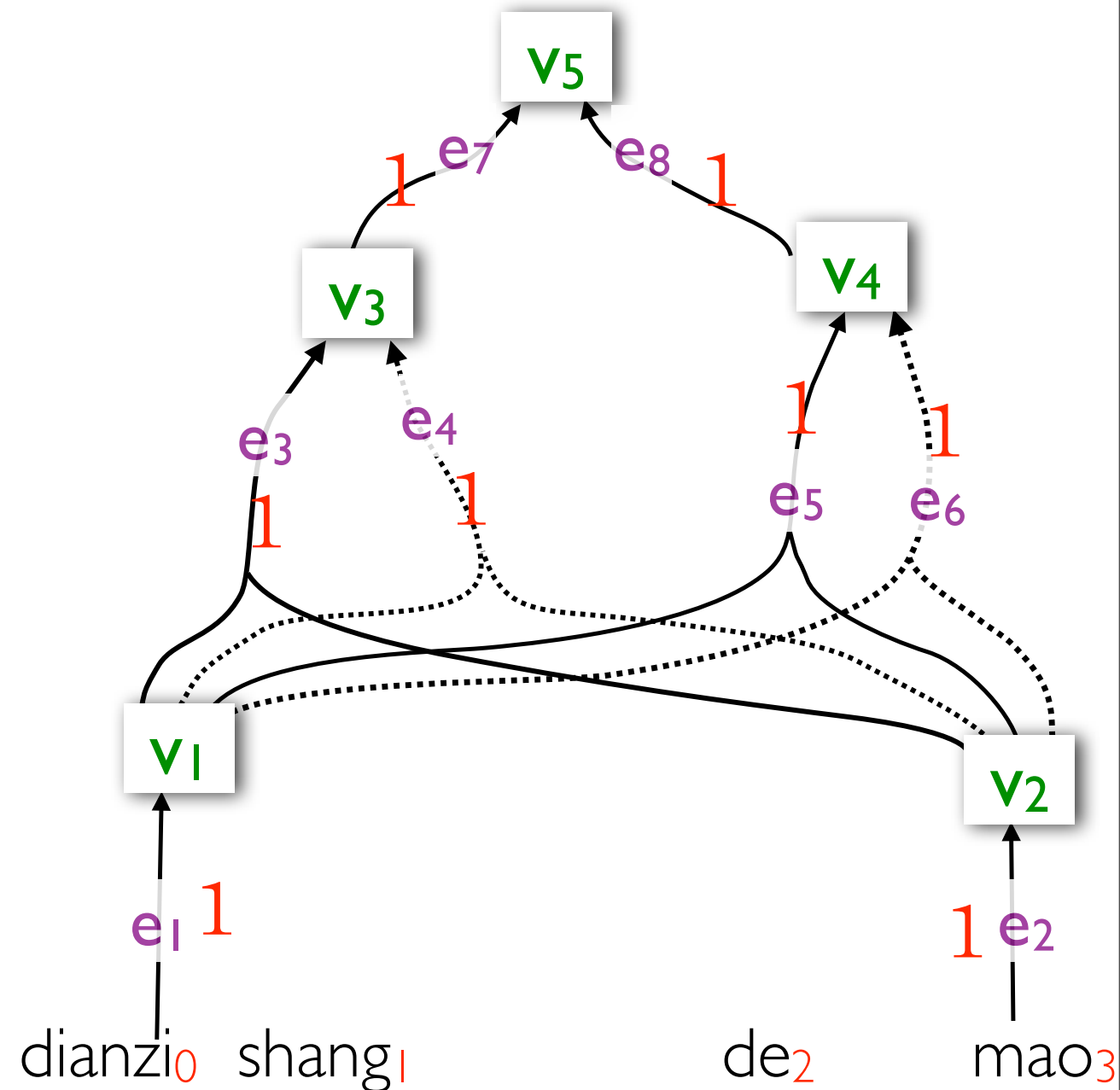
Inputs:

- a hypergraph
- a weight for each hyperedge

Output:  $k(\text{root})$

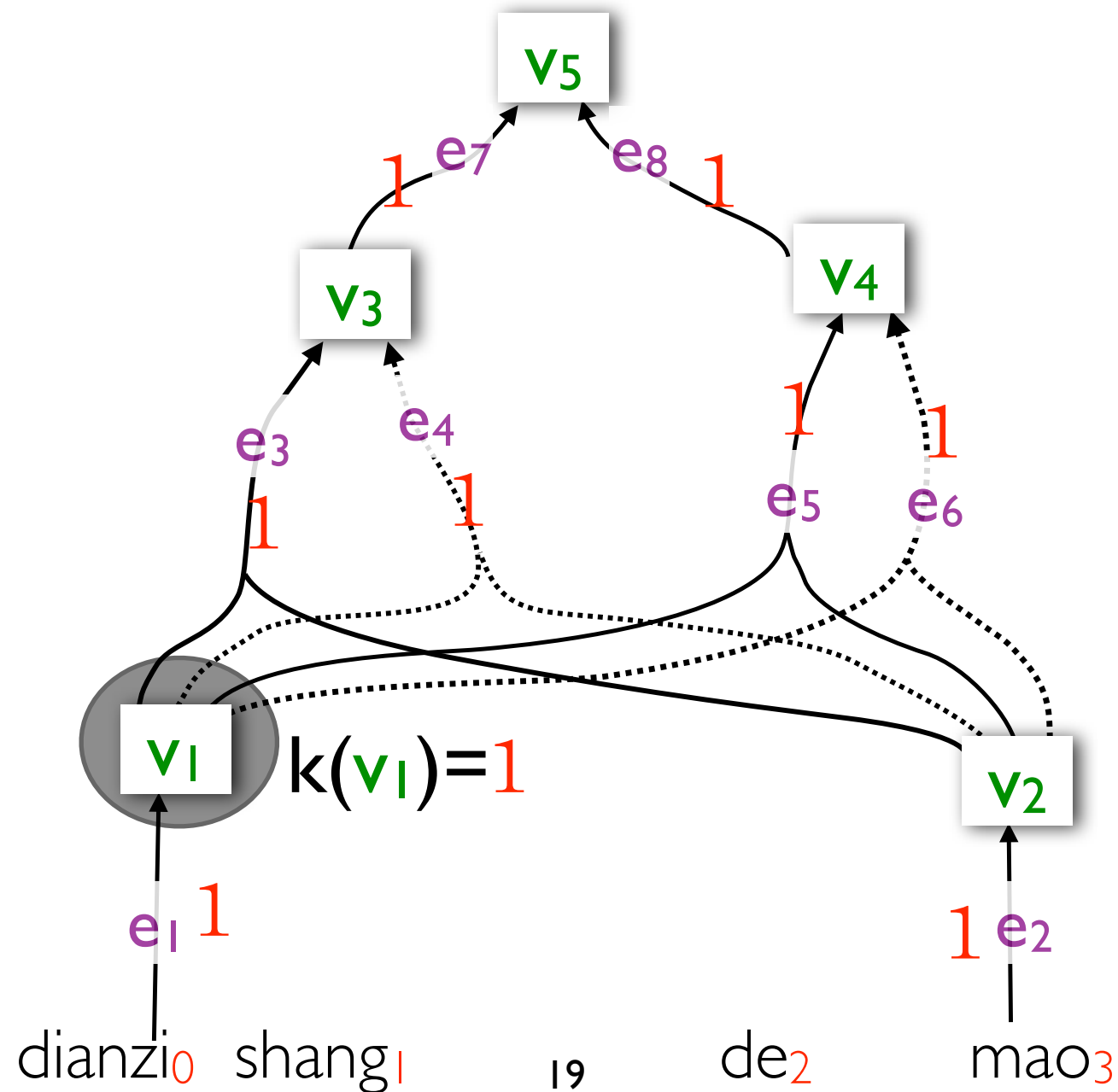
Complexity:

$O(\text{size of the hypergraph})$



$$k(v_i) = k(e_i)$$

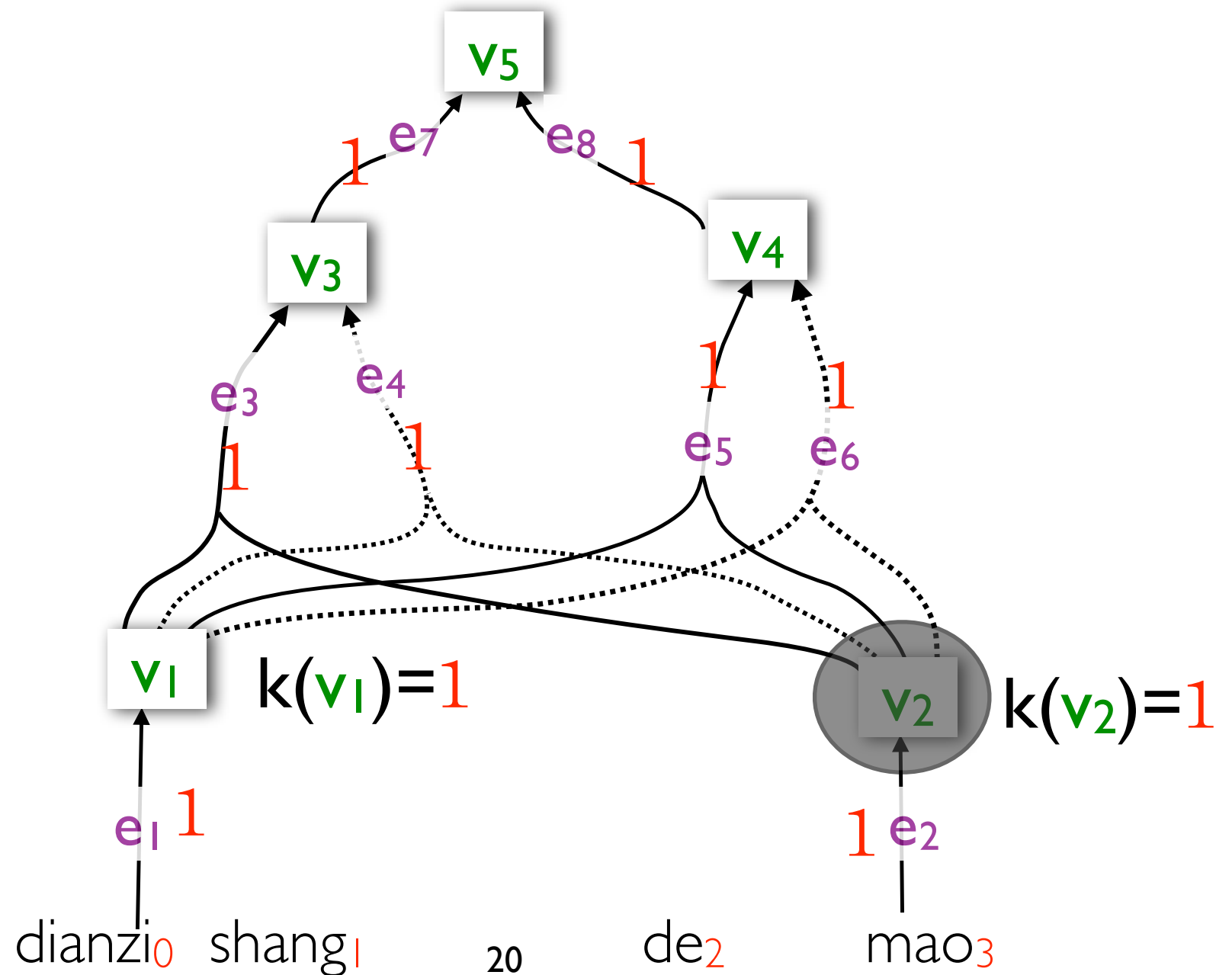
**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees



$$k(\mathbf{v}_1) = k(\mathbf{e}_1)$$

$$k(\mathbf{v}_2) = k(\mathbf{e}_2)$$

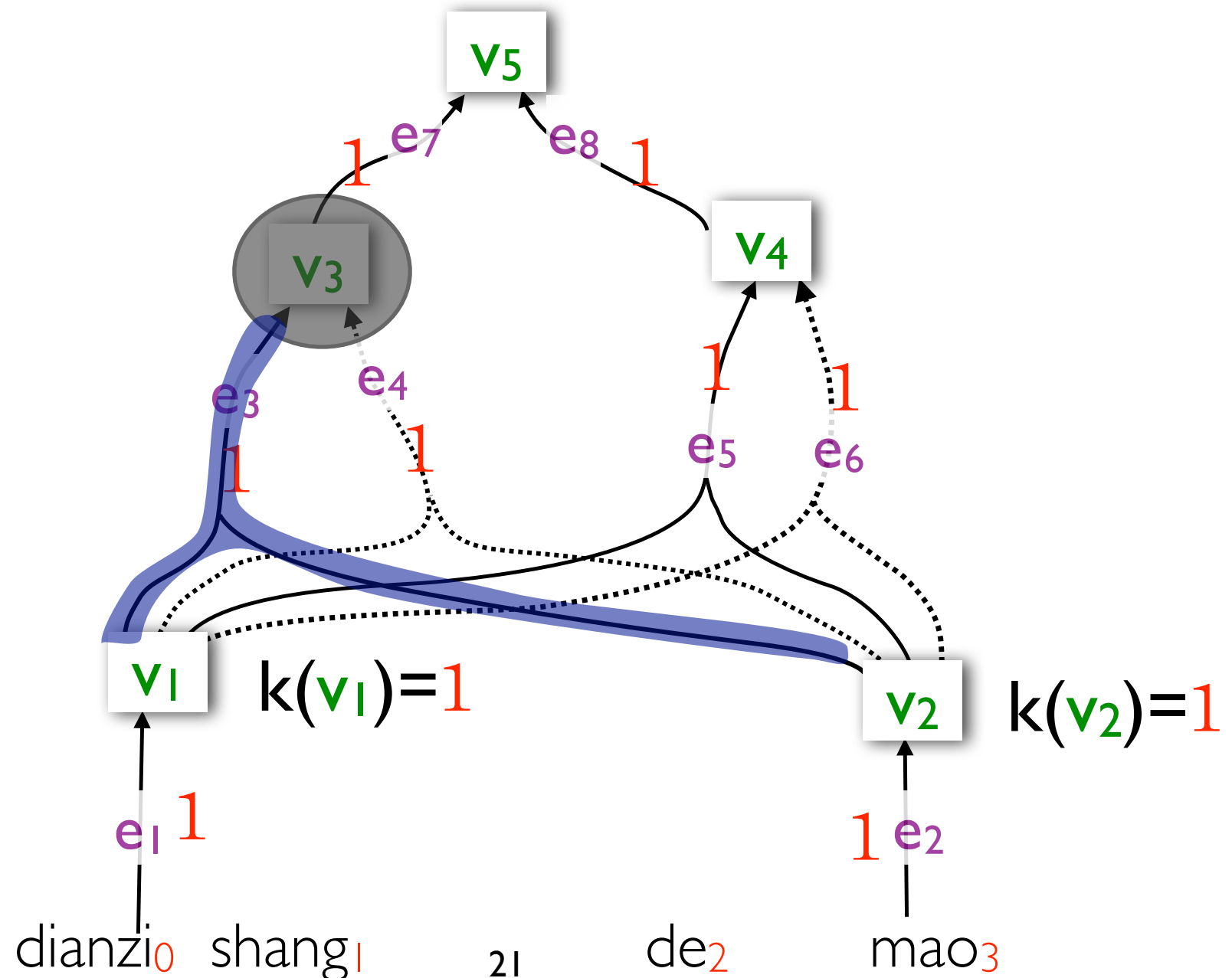
**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees



# Compute $k(v_3)$ : the weight at node $v_3$

Hyperedge  $e_3$ :  $k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) = 1 \otimes 1 \otimes 1 = 1$

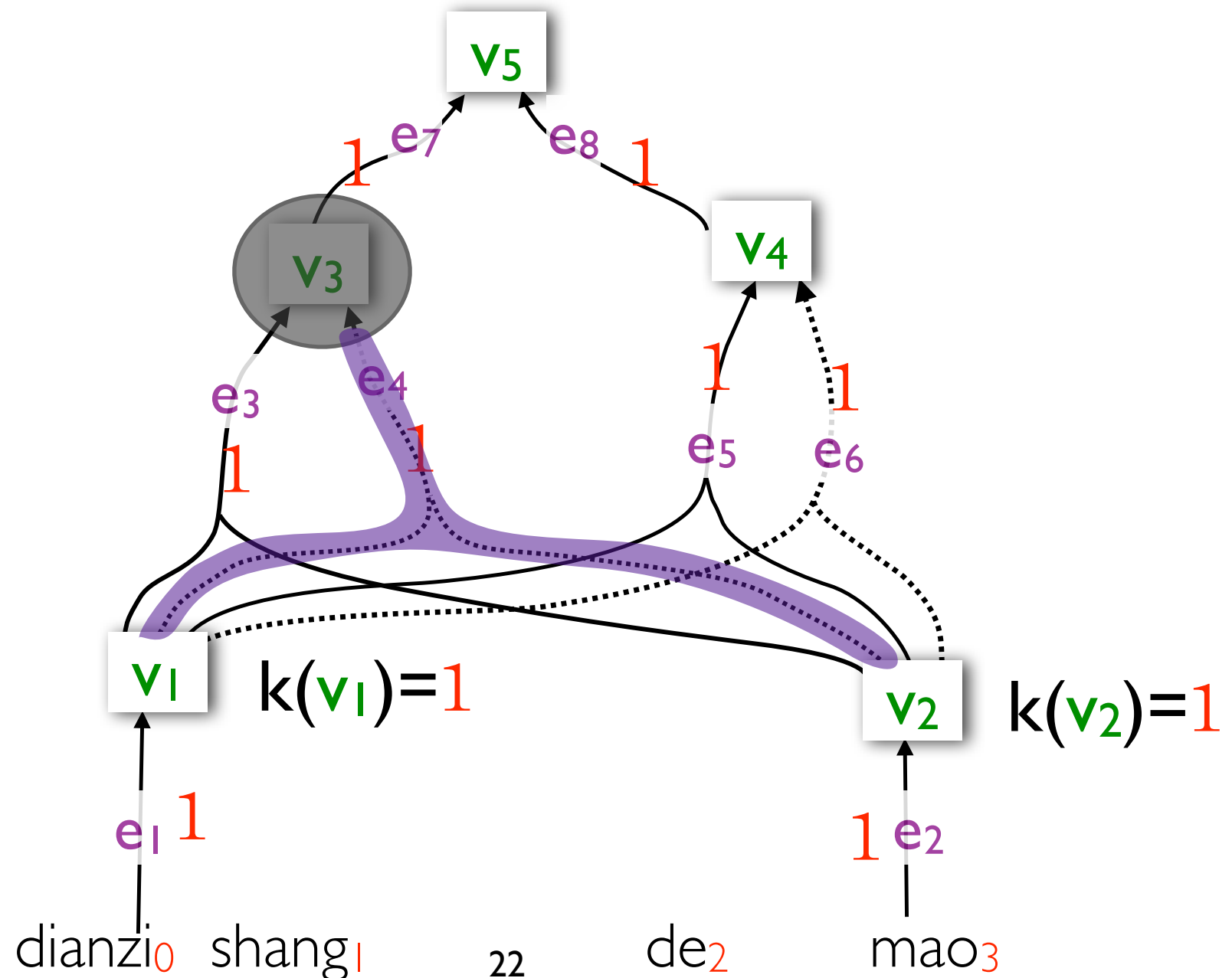
**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees



# Compute $k(v_3)$ : the weight at node $v_3$

Hyperedge  $e_4$ :  $k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) = 1 \otimes 1 \otimes 1 = 1$

**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees

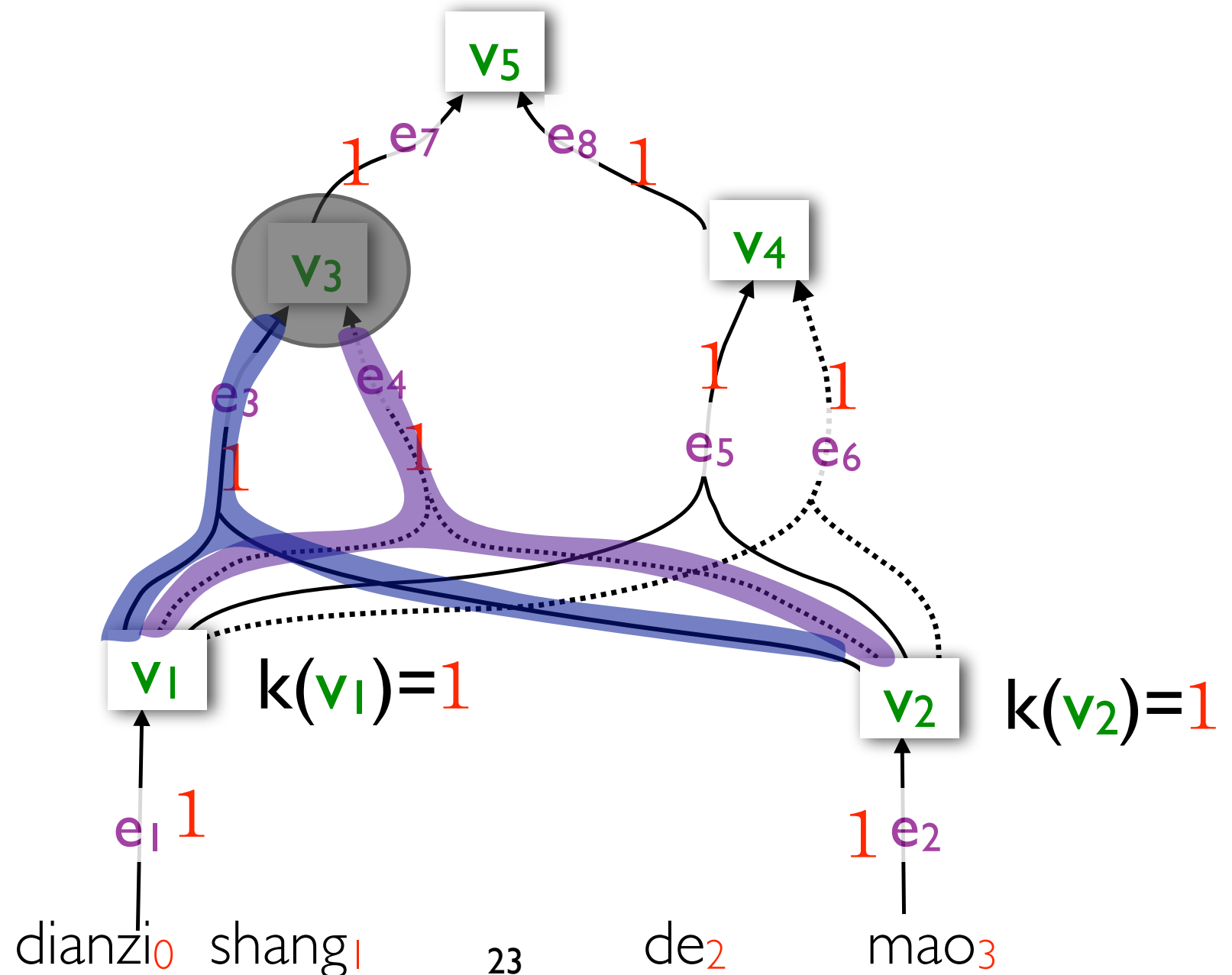


# Compute $k(v_3)$ : the weight at node $v_3$

Hyperedge  $e_3$ :  $k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) = 1$

Hyperedge  $e_4$ :  $k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) = 1$

**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees

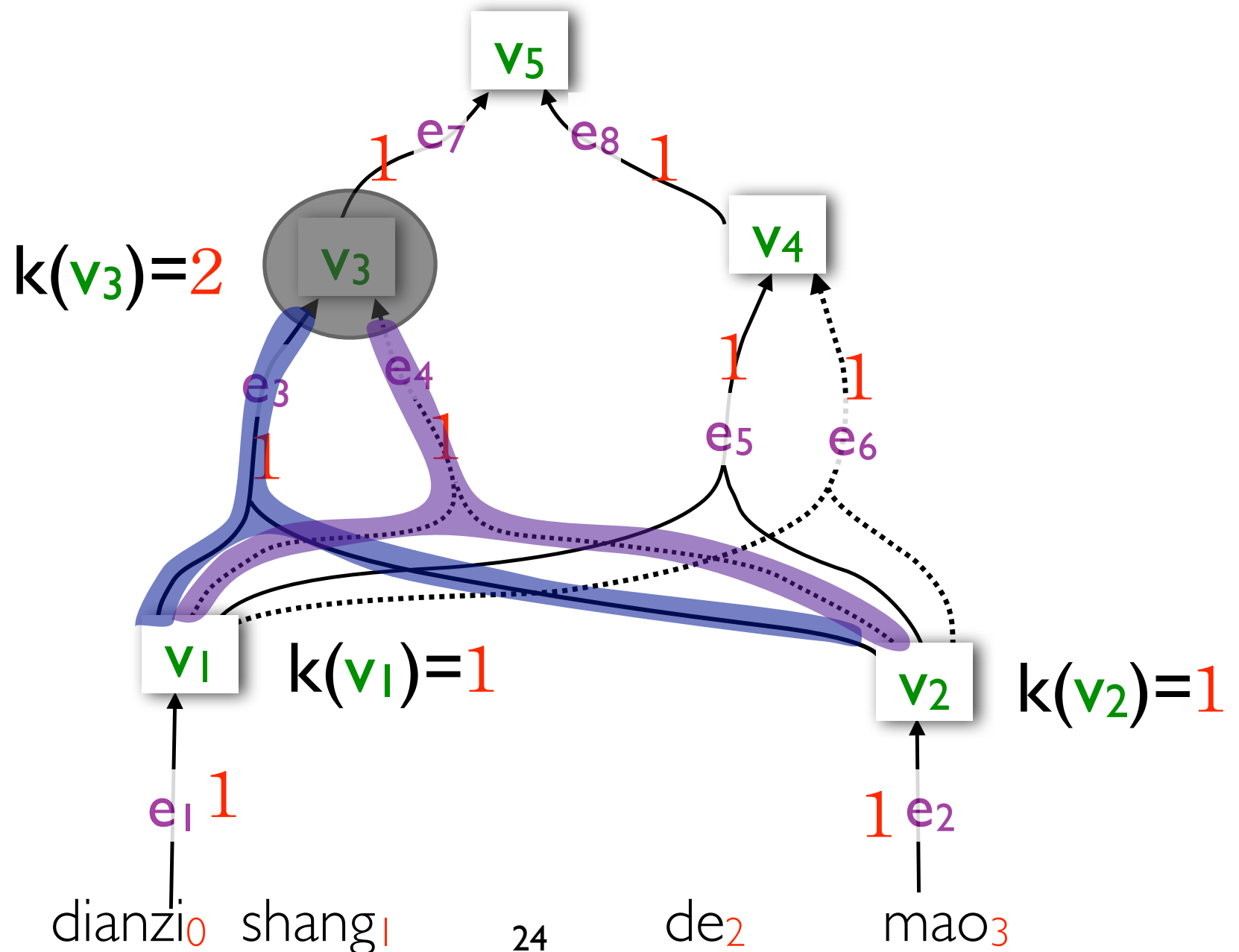


# Compute $k(v_3)$ : the weight at node $v_3$

$$k(v_3) = k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) \oplus k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$1 \oplus 1 = 2$$

**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees



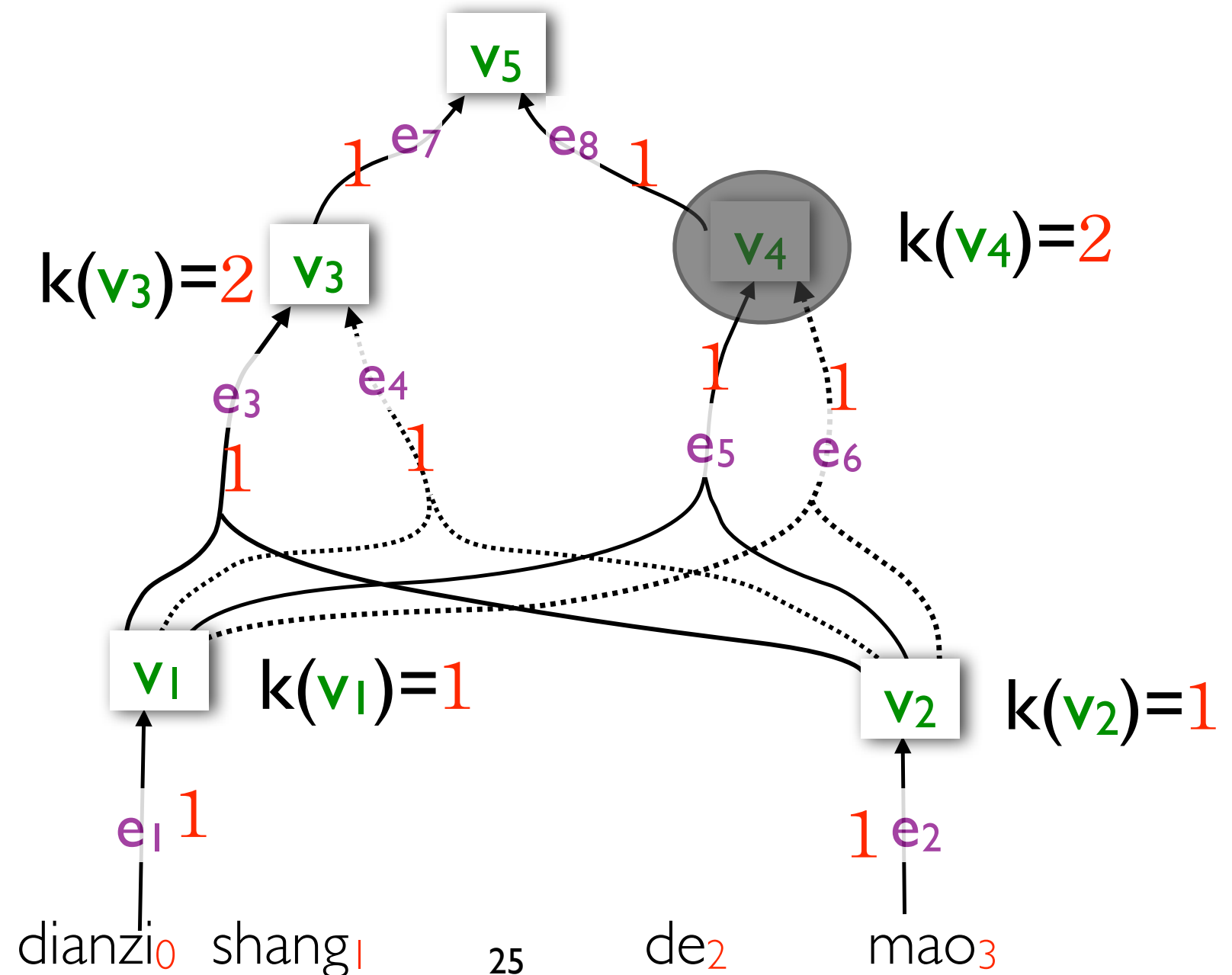
$$k(v_1) = k(e_1)$$

$$k(v_2) = k(e_2)$$

$$k(v_3) = k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_4) = k(e_5) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_6) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees



$$k(v_1) = k(e_1)$$

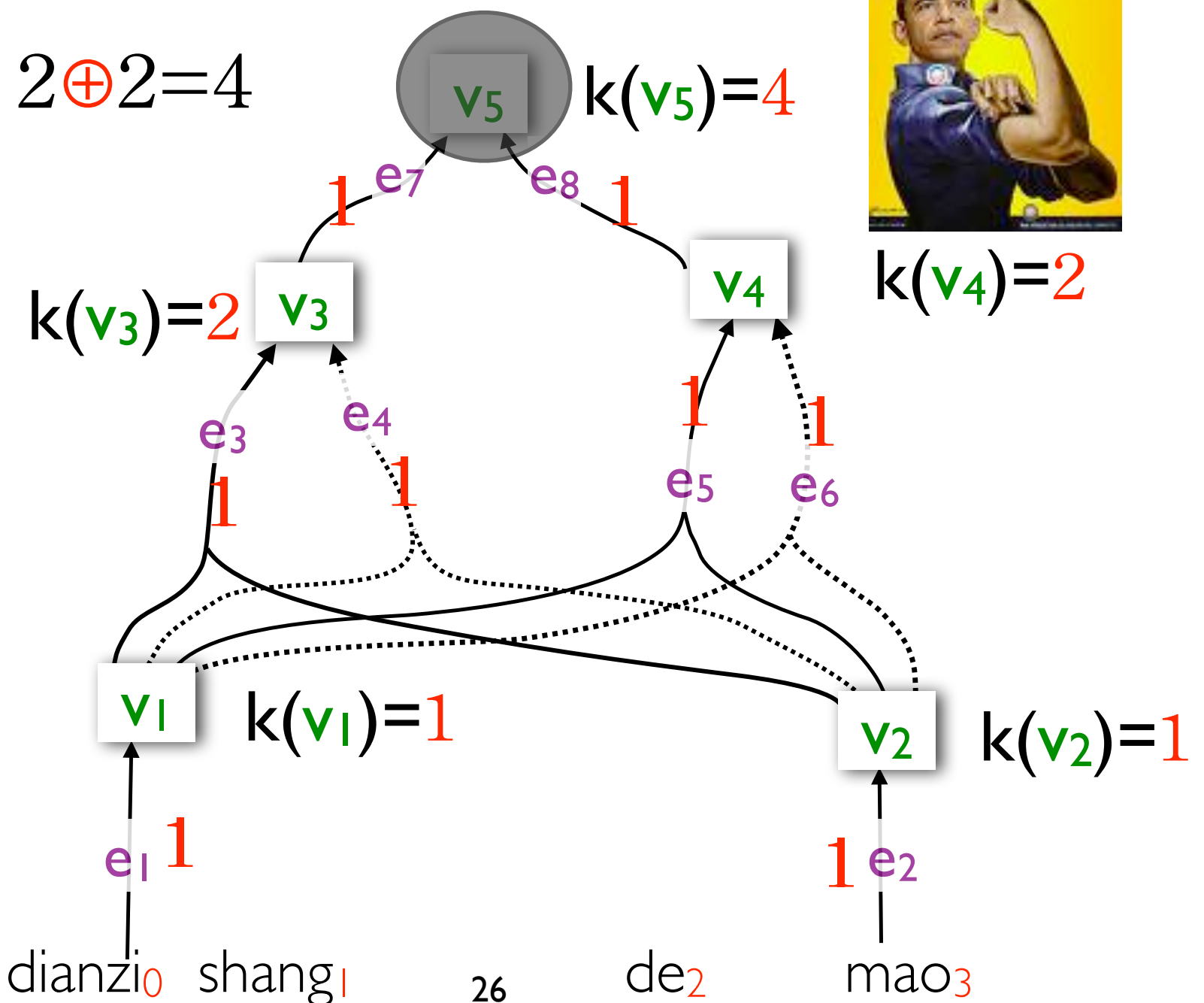
$$k(v_2) = k(e_2)$$

$$k(v_3) = k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_4) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_4) = k(e_5) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_6) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_5) = k(e_7) \otimes k(v_3) \oplus k(e_8) \otimes k(v_4)$$

$$2 \oplus 2 = 4$$



**Bottom-up**  
process in  
computing the  
number of trees

$$k(v_1) = k(e_1)$$

$$k(v_2) = k(e_2)$$

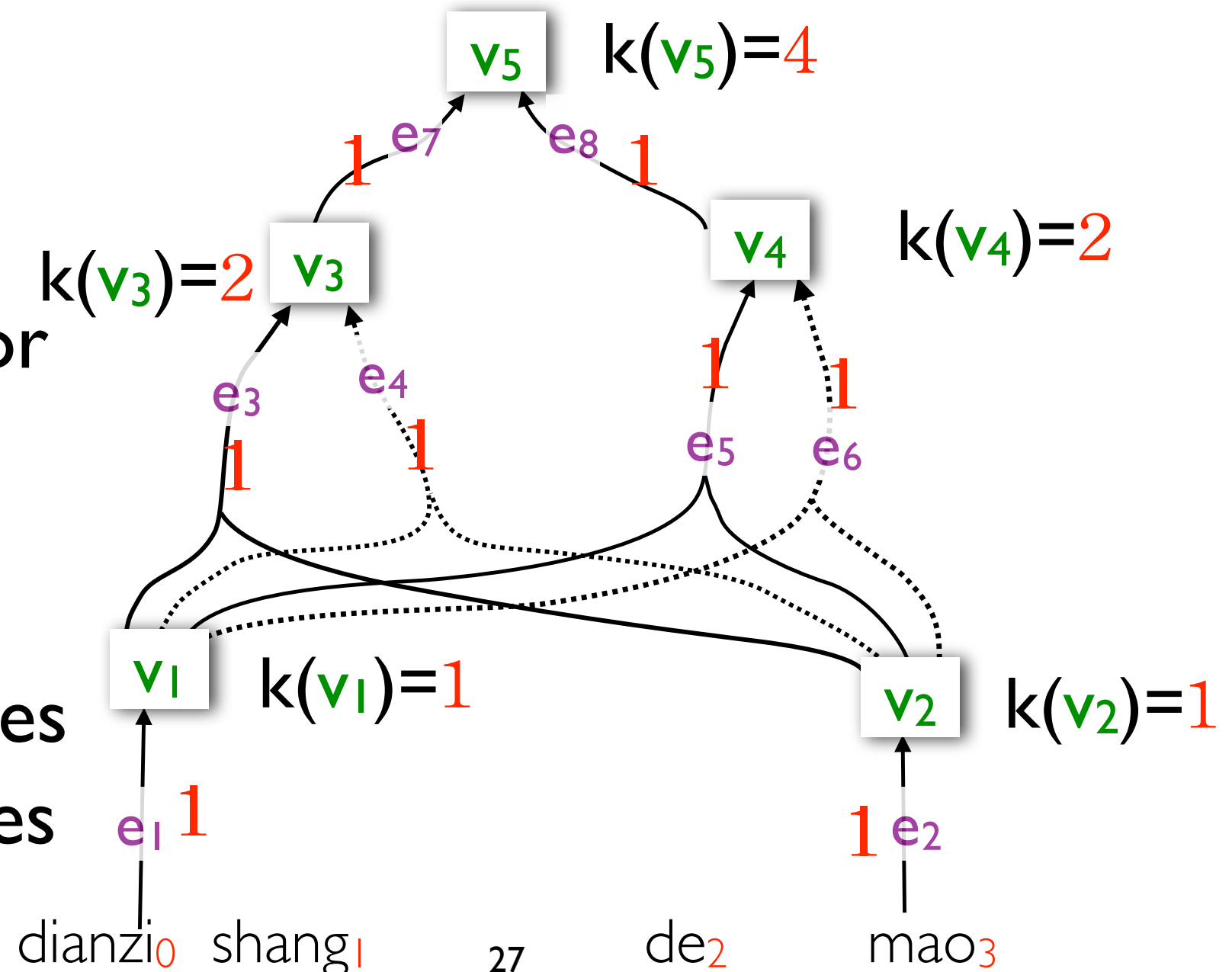
$$k(v_3) = k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_4) = k(e_5) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_6) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_5) = k(e_7) \otimes k(v_3) \oplus k(e_8) \otimes k(v_4)$$

## Summary:

- **input:** a weight for each edge
- **output:** a weight for each node
- $\oplus$  is used at nodes
- $\otimes$  is used at edges



$$k(v_1) = k(e_1)$$

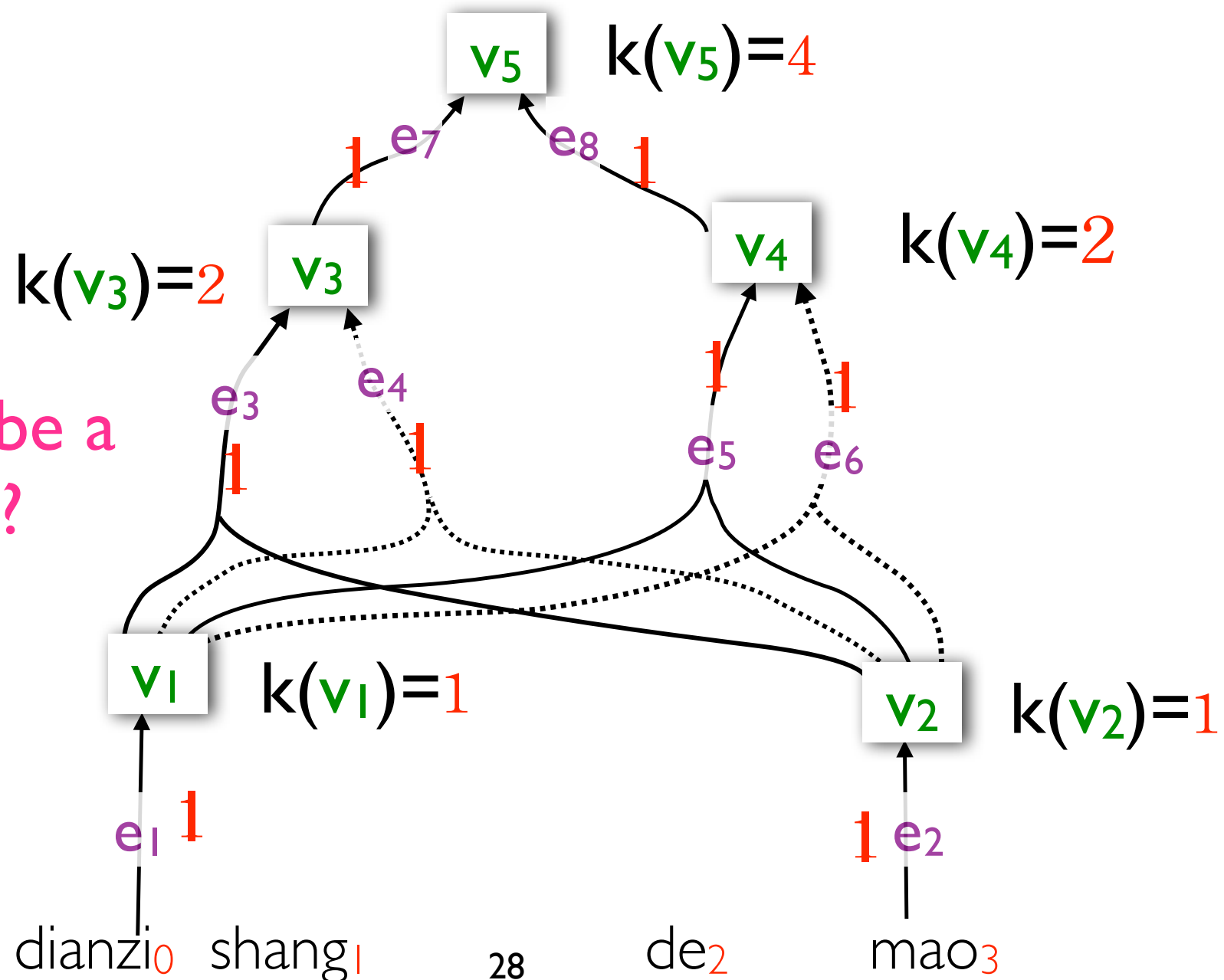
$$k(v_2) = k(e_2)$$

$$k(v_3) = k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_4) = k(e_5) \otimes k(v_1) \oplus k(e_6) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_5) = k(e_7) \otimes k(v_3) \oplus k(e_8) \otimes k(v_4)$$

Does it have to be a single integer?



$$k(v_1) = k(e_1)$$

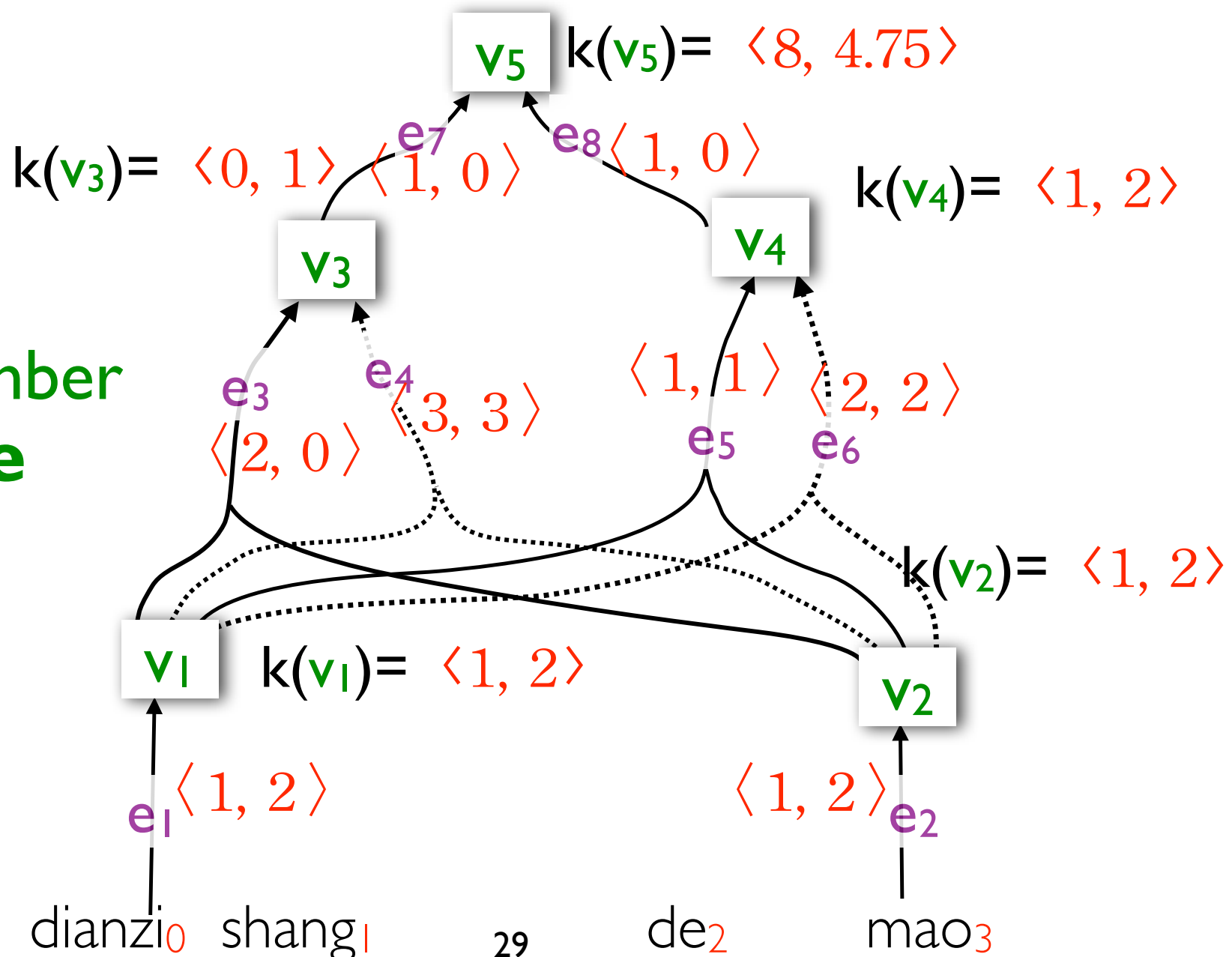
$$k(v_2) = k(e_2)$$

$$k(v_3) = k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) \oplus k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_4) = k(e_5) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) \oplus k(e_6) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_5) = k(e_7) \otimes k(v_3) \oplus k(e_8) \otimes k(v_4)$$

A semiring member  
is a **2-tuple**



$$k(v_1) = k(e_1)$$

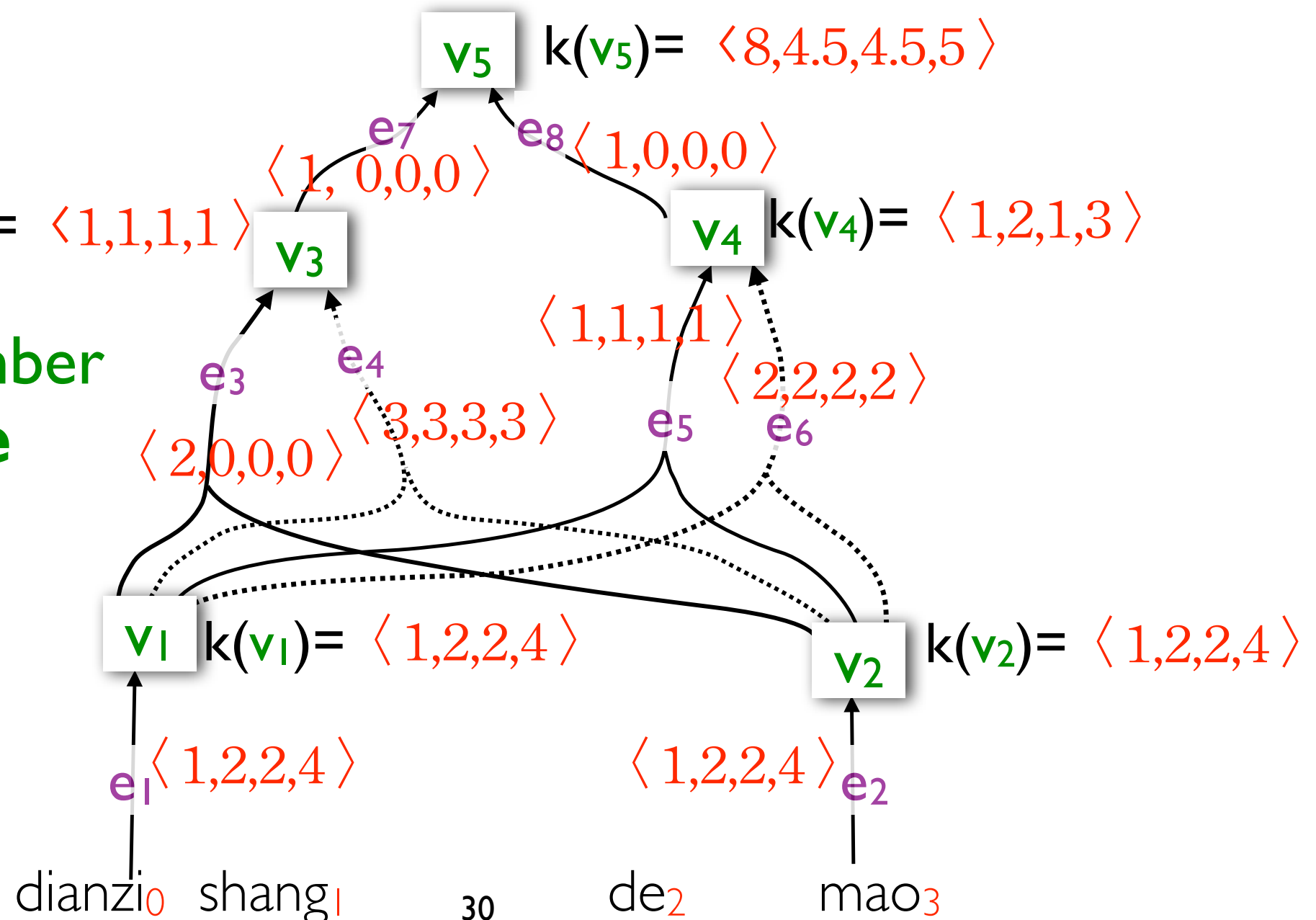
$$k(v_2) = k(e_2)$$

$$k(v_3) = k(e_3) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) \oplus k(e_4) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_4) = k(e_5) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2) \oplus k(e_6) \otimes k(v_1) \otimes k(v_2)$$

$$k(v_5) = k(e_7) \otimes k(v_3) \oplus k(e_8) \otimes k(v_4)$$

A semiring member  
is a **4-tuple**



Why do we want to work on **tuples**?

expectation semiring

second-order expectation semiring

useful for  
**parameter estimation**  
at **training** time

Goodman (1999) defines many other  
semirings useful at “**testing**” time

# First- and Second-order Expectation Semirings

## First-order:

(Eisner, 2002)

- each member is a 2-tuple:  $\langle p, r \rangle$

|                                                             |                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| $\langle p_1, r_1 \rangle \otimes \langle p_2, r_2 \rangle$ | $\langle p_1 p_2, p_1 r_2 + p_2 r_1 \rangle$ |
| $\langle p_1, r_1 \rangle \oplus \langle p_2, r_2 \rangle$  | $\langle p_1 + p_2, r_1 + r_2 \rangle$       |

## Second-order:

- each member is a 4-tuple:  $\langle p, r, s, t \rangle$

|                                                                                 |                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $\langle p_1, r_1, s_1, t_1 \rangle \otimes \langle p_2, r_2, s_2, t_2 \rangle$ | $\langle p_1 p_2, p_1 r_2 + p_2 r_1, p_1 s_2 + p_2 s_1, p_1 t_2 + p_2 t_1 + r_1 s_2 + r_2 s_1 \rangle$ |
| $\langle p_1, r_1, s_1, t_1 \rangle \oplus \langle p_2, r_2, s_2, t_2 \rangle$  | $\langle p_1 + p_2, r_1 + r_2, s_1 + s_2, t_1 + t_2 \rangle$                                           |

# First- and Second-order Expectation Semirings

## First-order:

- each member is a 2-tuple:  $\langle p, r \rangle$

|                                                             |                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| $\langle p_1, r_1 \rangle \otimes \langle p_2, r_2 \rangle$ | $\langle p_1 p_2, p_1 r_2 + p_2 r_1 \rangle$ |
| $\langle p_1, r_1 \rangle \oplus \langle p_2, r_2 \rangle$  | $\langle p_1 + p_2, r_1 + r_2 \rangle$       |

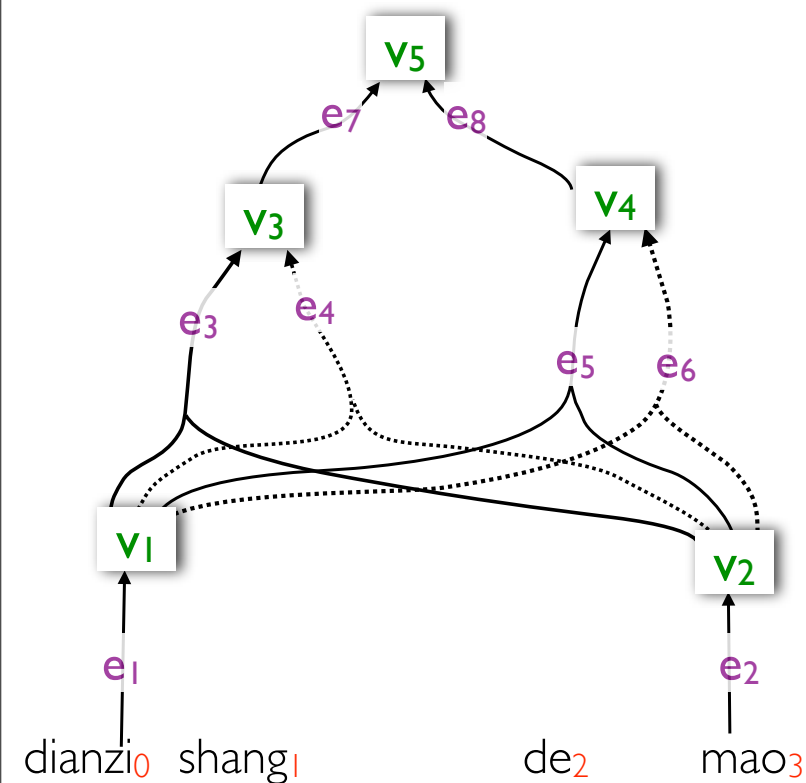
What does p, r, s, or t mean?

- each member is an application-dependent

|                                                                                 |                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $\langle p_1, r_1, s_1, t_1 \rangle \otimes \langle p_2, r_2, s_2, t_2 \rangle$ | $\langle p_1 p_2, p_1 r_2 + p_2 r_1, p_1 s_2 + p_2 s_1, p_1 t_2 + p_2 t_1 + r_1 s_2 + r_2 s_1 \rangle$ |
| $\langle p_1, r_1, s_1, t_1 \rangle \oplus \langle p_2, r_2, s_2, t_2 \rangle$  | $\langle p_1 + p_2, r_1 + r_2, s_1 + s_2, t_1 + t_2 \rangle$                                           |

# Applications

# Compute Quantities on a Hypergraph: a Recipe



## Three steps:

- choose a semiring

first- or second-order  
expectation semiring

- specify a weight for each edge

- run the inside algorithm

# Compute First-order Expectations

The hypergraph defines a probability distribution over trees!

expected translation length?

$$4 * 2/8 + 5 * 6/8 = 4.75$$

$$p = 2/8$$

$$p = 3/8$$

$$p = 1/8$$

$$p = 2/8$$

the mat a cat 4

the mat 's a cat 5

a cat on the mat 5

a cat of the mat 5

Compute the expected translation length  
using an expectation semiring

# Compute Expected Translation Length

- ▶ choose a semiring

expectation semiring

- ▶ specify a weight for each edge

$$k_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle p_e, p_e r_e \rangle$$

$p_e$ : transition probability or log-linear score at edge  $e$

$r_e$ : number of English words generated at edge  $e$

- ▶ run the inside algorithm

# Expectations on Hypergraphs

- Expectation over a hypergraph

$$\bar{r} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E}_p[r] = \sum_{d \in \text{HG}} p(d) r(d)$$

- the distribution  $p(d)$  is defined by the hypergraph
- $r(d)$  is a function over a derivation  $d$   
e.g., the length of the translation yielded by  $d$
- $r(d)$  is additively decomposed

$$r(d) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{e \in d} r_e$$

e.g., translation length is additively decomposed!

# Compute expectation using an expectation semiring:

$$k_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle p_e, p_e r_e \rangle$$

$p_e$ : transition probability or log-linear score at edge  $e$   
 $r_e$ ?

Entropy:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log p_e$$

Cross-entropy:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log q_e$$

Bayes risk:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{loss at edge } e$$

(Tromble et al. 2008)

Why?

entropy is an **expectation**

$$H(p) = \mathbb{E}_p[-\log p] = - \sum_{d \in \text{HG}} p(d) \log p(d)$$

$\log p(d)$  is additively decomposed!

# Compute expectation using an expectation semiring:

$$k_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle p_e, p_e r_e \rangle$$

$p_e$  : transition probability or log-linear score at edge  $e$   
 $r_e$  ?

Entropy:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log p_e$$

Cross-entropy:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log q_e$$

Bayes risk:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{loss at edge } e$$

(Tromble et al. 2008)

Why?

cross-entropy is an **expectation**

$$H(p, q) = \mathbb{E}_p(-\log q) = - \sum_{d \in \text{HG}} p(d) \log q(d)$$

$\log q(d)$  is additively decomposed!

# Compute expectation using an expectation semiring:

$$k_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle p_e, p_e r_e \rangle$$

$p_e$ : transition probability or log-linear score at edge  $e$   
 $r_e$ ?

Entropy:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log p_e$$

Cross-entropy:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log q_e$$

Bayes risk:

$$r_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{loss at edge } e$$

(Tromble et al. 2008)

Why?

Bayes risk is an **expectation**

$$H(p, q) = \mathbb{E}_p(L) = - \sum_{d \in \text{HG}} p(d) \cdot L(Y(d))$$

$L(Y(d))$  is **additively decomposed!**

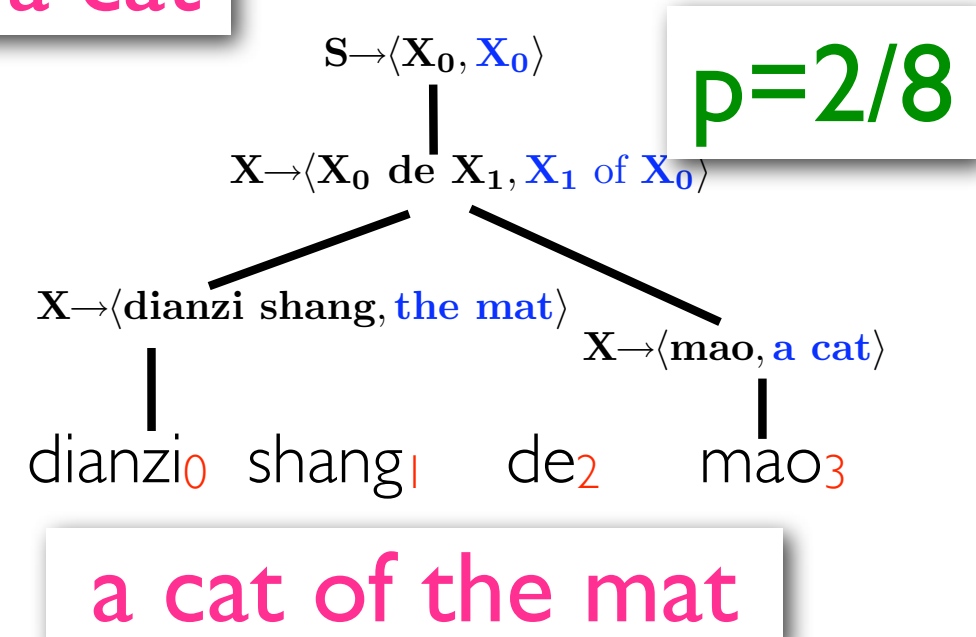
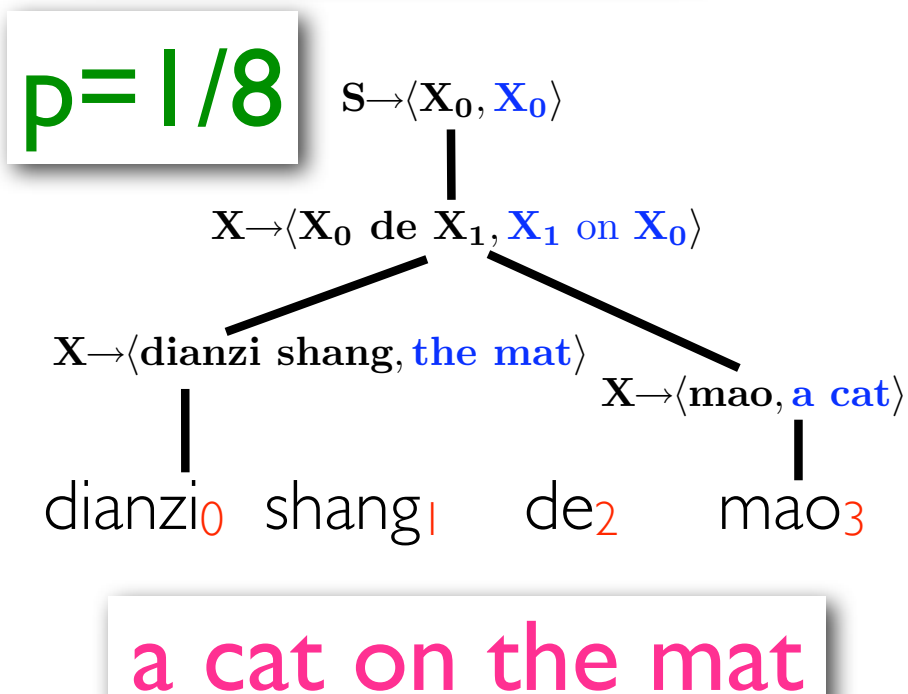
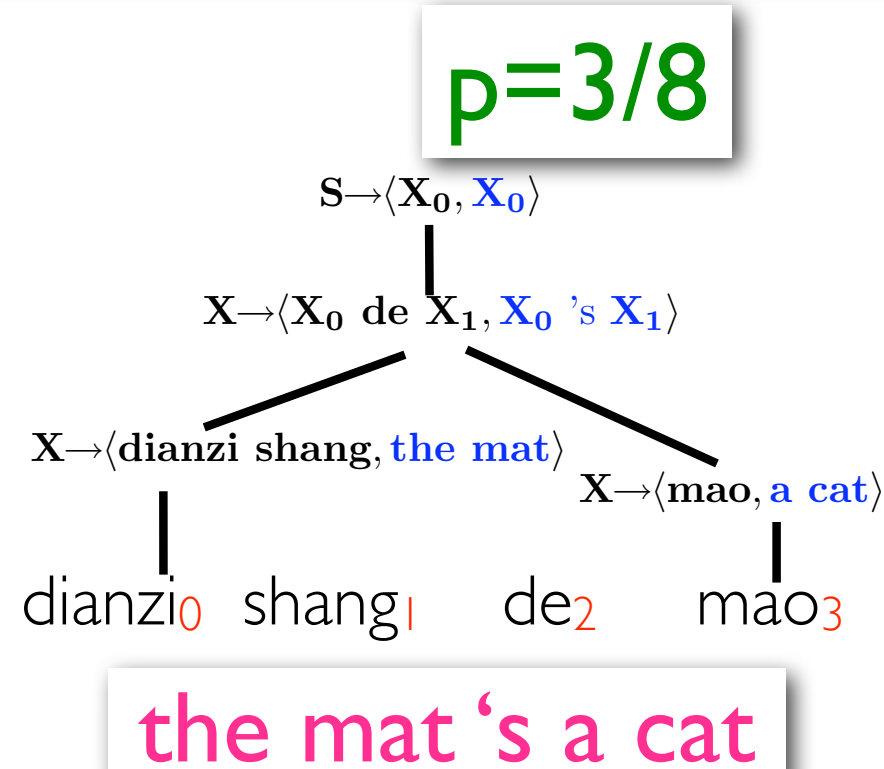
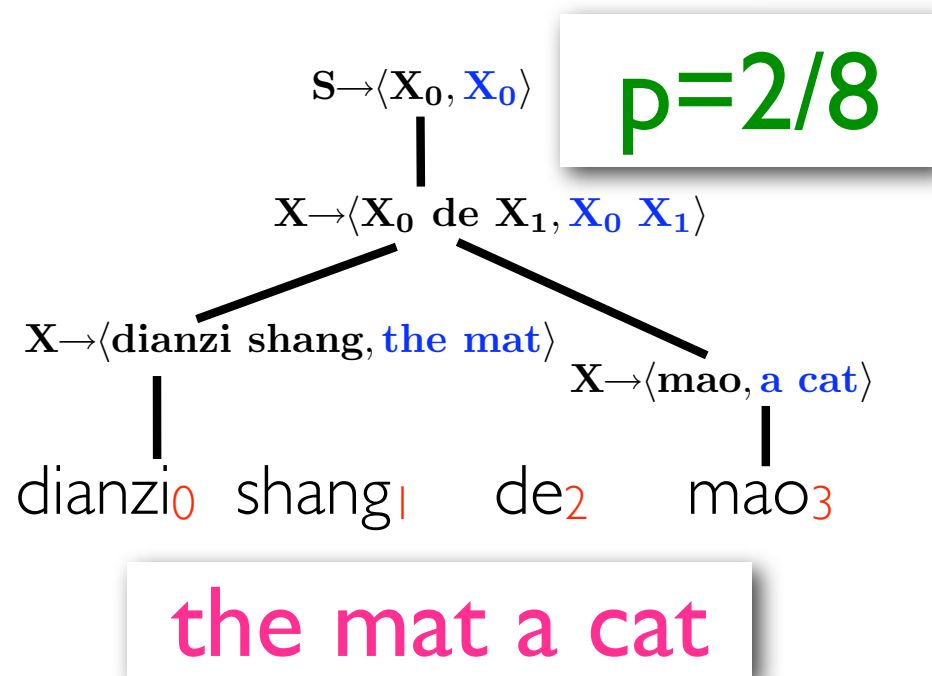
# Compute Expectations over Products

expected translation length:

4.75

variance of translation length?

$$2/8 \times (4 - 4.75)^2 + 6/8 \times (5 - 5.75)^2 \approx 0.56$$



# Compute the Variance in Translation Length

- ▶ choose a semiring

second-order expectation semiring

- ▶ specify a weight for each edge

$$k_e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle p_e, p_e r_e, p_e s_e, p_e r_e s_e \rangle$$

$p_e$ : transition probability or log-linear score at edge  $e$

$r_e = s_e$ : number of English words generated at edge  $e$

- ▶ run the inside algorithm

# Second-order Expectations on Hypergraphs

- Expectation of **products** over a hypergraph

$$\bar{t} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E}_p[r \cdot s] = \sum_{d \in \text{HG}} p(d) r(d) s(d)$$

- **r** and **s** are additively decomposed

$$r(d) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{e \in d} r_e$$

$$s(d) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{e \in d} s_e$$

**r** and **s** can be identical or different functions.

# Applications of expectation semirings: a summary

## First-order:

| Quantity             | Weight for edge $e$               | Value at root                 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Expectation          | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e \rangle$    | $\langle Z, \bar{r} \rangle$  |
| First-order gradient | $\langle p_e, \nabla p_e \rangle$ | $\langle Z, \nabla Z \rangle$ |

## Second-order:

|                         |                                                                                 |                                                        |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Covariance matrix       | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e, p_e s_e, p_e r_e s_e \rangle$                            | $\langle Z, \bar{r}, \bar{s}, \bar{t} \rangle$         |
| Hessian matrix          | $\langle p_e, \nabla p_e, \nabla p_e, \nabla^2 p_e \rangle$                     | $\langle Z, \nabla Z, \nabla Z, \nabla^2 Z \rangle$    |
| Gradient of expectation | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e, \nabla p_e, (\nabla p_e) r_e + p_e (\nabla r_e) \rangle$ | $\langle Z, \bar{r}, \nabla Z, \nabla \bar{r} \rangle$ |

$$p_e = \exp(\Phi_e \cdot \theta) \quad \nabla p_e = p_e \Phi_e$$

- ▶ choose a semiring
- ▶ define a weight for each edge
- ▶ run inside algorithm (or inside-outside for speedup)

# Applications of expectation semirings: a summary

## First-order:

| Quantity             | Weight for edge $e$               | Value at root                 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Expectation          | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e \rangle$    | $\langle Z, \bar{r} \rangle$  |
| First-order gradient | $\langle p_e, \nabla p_e \rangle$ | $\langle Z, \nabla Z \rangle$ |

## Second-order:

|                         |                                                                                 |                                                        |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Covariance matrix       | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e, p_e s_e, p_e r_e s_e \rangle$                            | $\langle Z, \bar{r}, \bar{s}, \bar{t} \rangle$         |
| Hessian matrix          | $\langle p_e, \nabla p_e, \nabla p_e, \nabla^2 p_e \rangle$                     | $\langle Z, \nabla Z, \nabla Z, \nabla^2 Z \rangle$    |
| Gradient of expectation | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e, \nabla p_e, (\nabla p_e) r_e + p_e (\nabla r_e) \rangle$ | $\langle Z, \bar{r}, \nabla Z, \nabla \bar{r} \rangle$ |

Entropy is an expectation!

- ▶ choose a semiring
- ▶ define a weight for each edge
- ▶ run inside algorithm (or inside-outside for speedup)

# Applications of expectation semirings: a summary

## First-order:

| Quantity             | Weight for edge $e$               | Value at root                 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Expectation          | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e \rangle$    | $\langle Z, \bar{r} \rangle$  |
| First-order gradient | $\langle p_e, \nabla p_e \rangle$ | $\langle Z, \nabla Z \rangle$ |

## Second-order:

|                         |                                                                                 |                                                        |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Covariance matrix       | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e, p_e s_e, p_e r_e s_e \rangle$                            | $\langle Z, \bar{r}, \bar{s}, \bar{t} \rangle$         |
| Hessian matrix          | $\langle p_e, \nabla p_e, \nabla p_e, \nabla^2 p_e \rangle$                     | $\langle Z, \nabla Z, \nabla Z, \nabla^2 Z \rangle$    |
| Gradient of expectation | $\langle p_e, p_e r_e, \nabla p_e, (\nabla p_e) r_e + p_e (\nabla r_e) \rangle$ | $\langle Z, \bar{r}, \nabla Z, \nabla \bar{r} \rangle$ |

Bayes risk is an expectation!

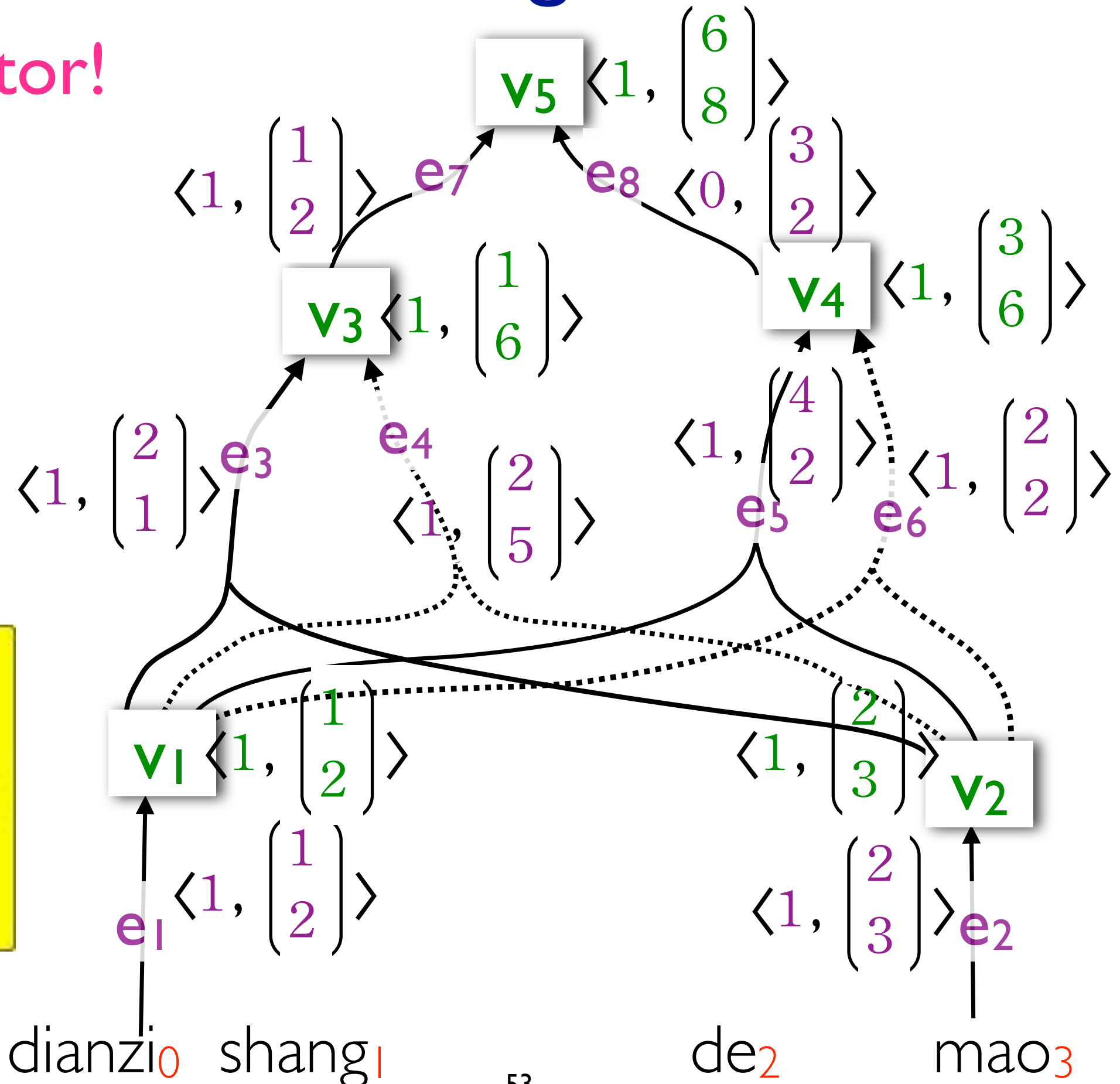
- ▶ choose a semiring
- ▶ define a weight for each edge
- ▶ run inside algorithm (or inside-outside for speedup)

# Inside-Outside Speedup

**Why is it slow?**

# Expectation Semirings with Vectors

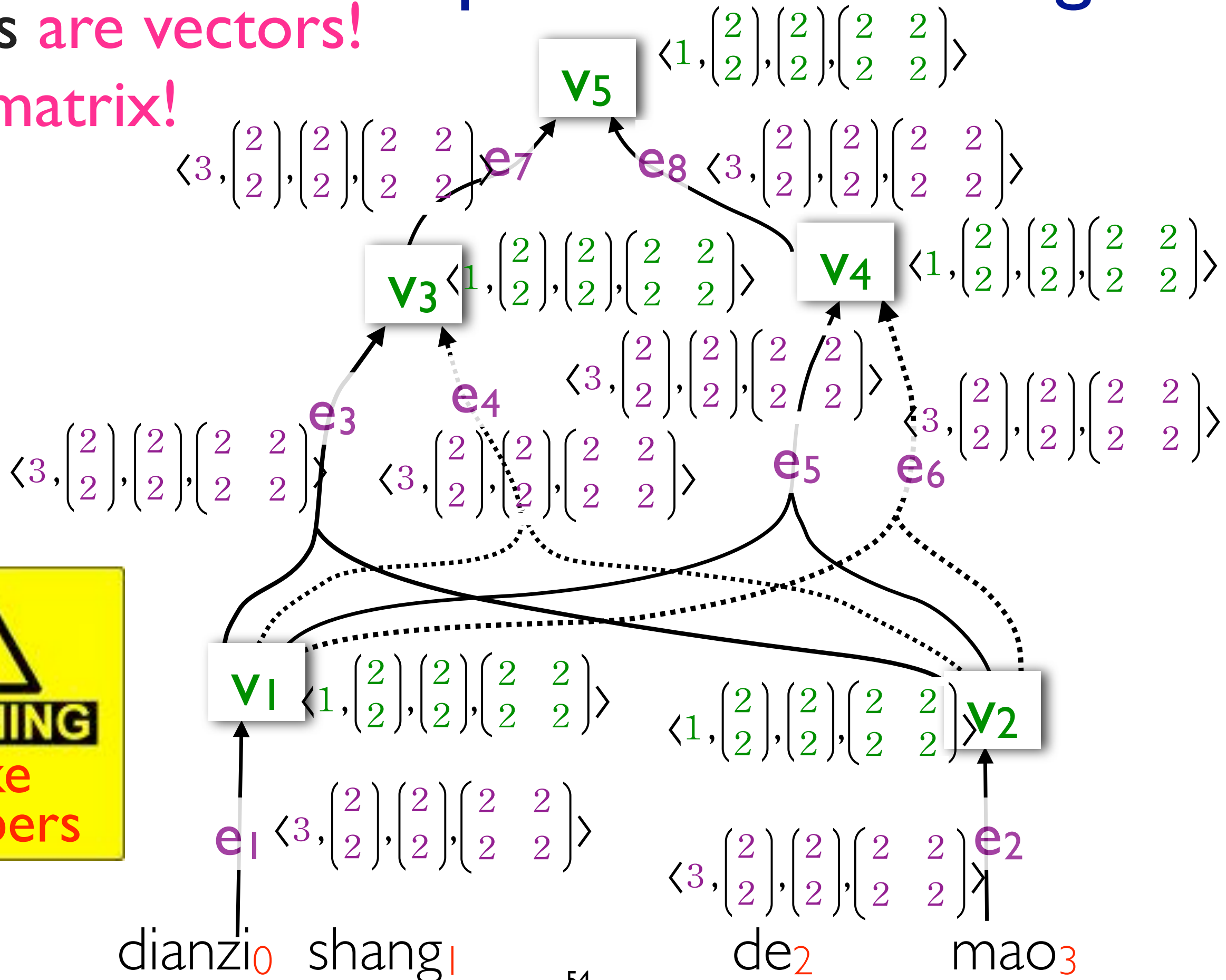
$r$  is a vector!



# Second-order Expectation Semirings

**r** and **s** are vectors!

**t** is a matrix!



# Inside-Outside Speedup



See the paper for details!



# Minimum Risk Training over Translation Forests

# Minimum Risk Training

Finding optimal parameters:

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmin} \text{Risk}(P_\theta) - \text{Temperature} \times \text{Entropy}(P_\theta)$$

- $P_\theta$  is a probability distribution over trees, parameterized by the parameters  $\theta$

# Why Minimum Risk Training?

|                      | Min-Risk                                                                            | MERT                                                                                  | CRF                                                                                   | Perceptron                                                                            | MIRA                                                                                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gradient descent     |    |    |    |    |    |
| BLEU                 |   |   |   |   |   |
| Latent variable      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oracle translation   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Model regularization |  |  |  |  |  |

# Experimental Results

- Data set: IWSLT CN-EN 2005

(Och, 2002)

(Smith and Eisner, 2006)

NEW!

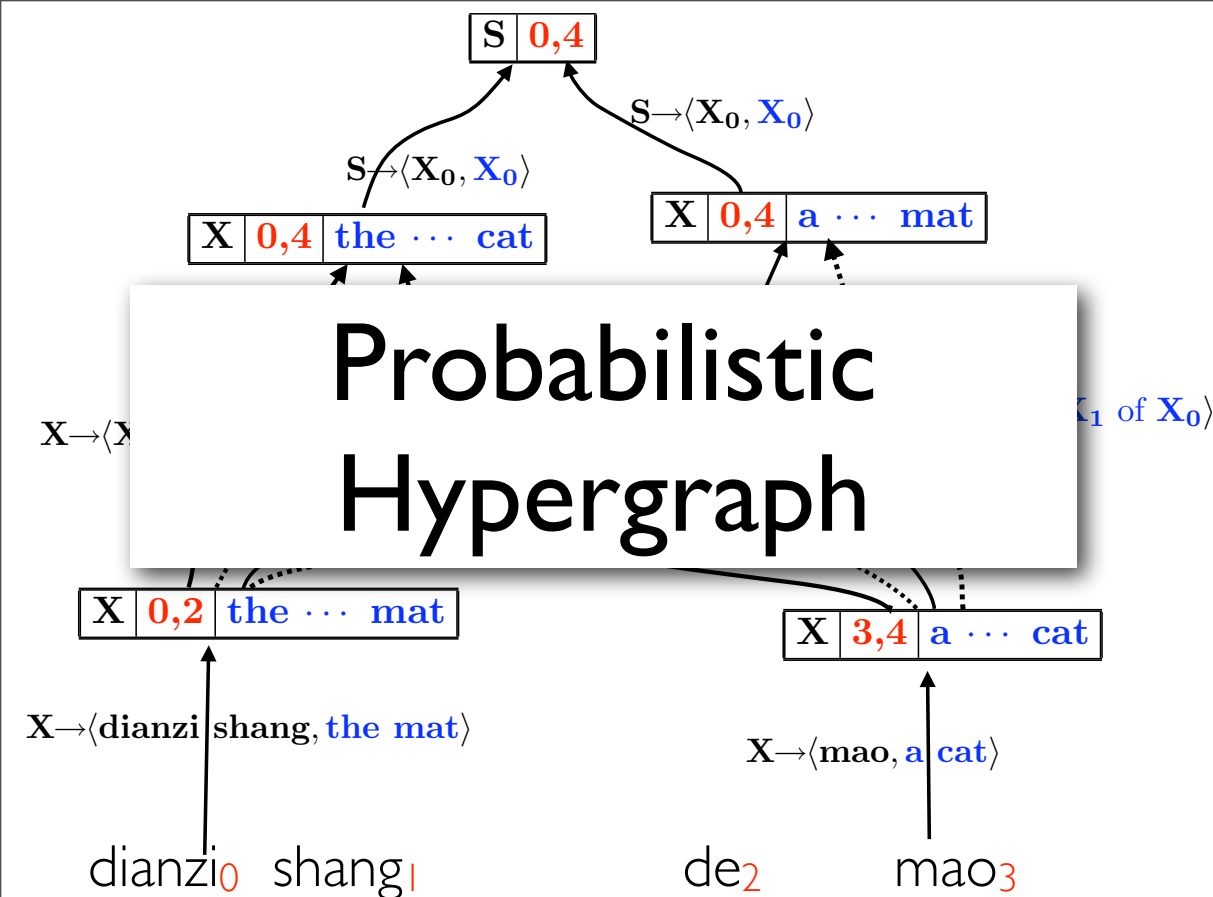
NEW!

| Training scheme        | test        |
|------------------------|-------------|
| MERT (Nbest, small)    | 47.7        |
| MR (Nbest, small)      | 47.7        |
| MR (hypergraph, small) | 48.4        |
| MR (hypergraph, large) | <b>48.7</b> |

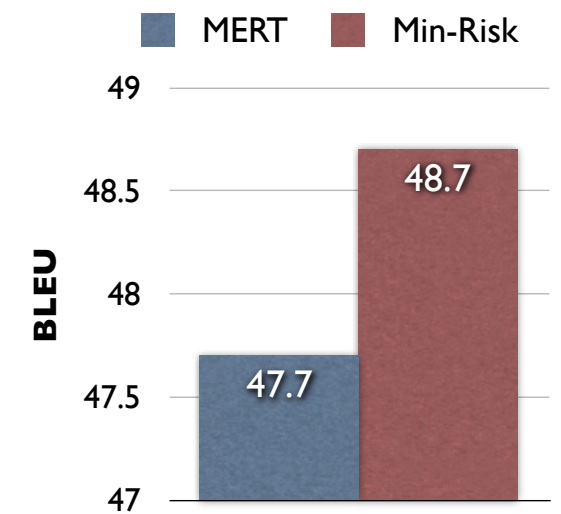
**Small:** five features as in regular MERT

**Large:** two-stage forest-reranking with **21k** additional target-side ngram features

# Summary



Improved  
BLEU score!



This work provides a unified, elegant,  
and efficient framework in computing  
all of these!

- First-order quantities:
  - expectation
  - entropy
  - cross-entropy
  - KL divergence
  - Bayes risk
  - feature expectations
  - first-order gradient of  $Z$

- Second-order quantities:
  - Covariance matrix
  - feature interaction
  - Hessian matrix of  $Z$
  - second-order gradient descent
  - gradient of expectation
    - gradient of entropy or Bayes risk

# Future: machine learning for MT

feature  
interaction

second-order  
gradient descent

.....

minimum  
risk

deterministic  
annealing

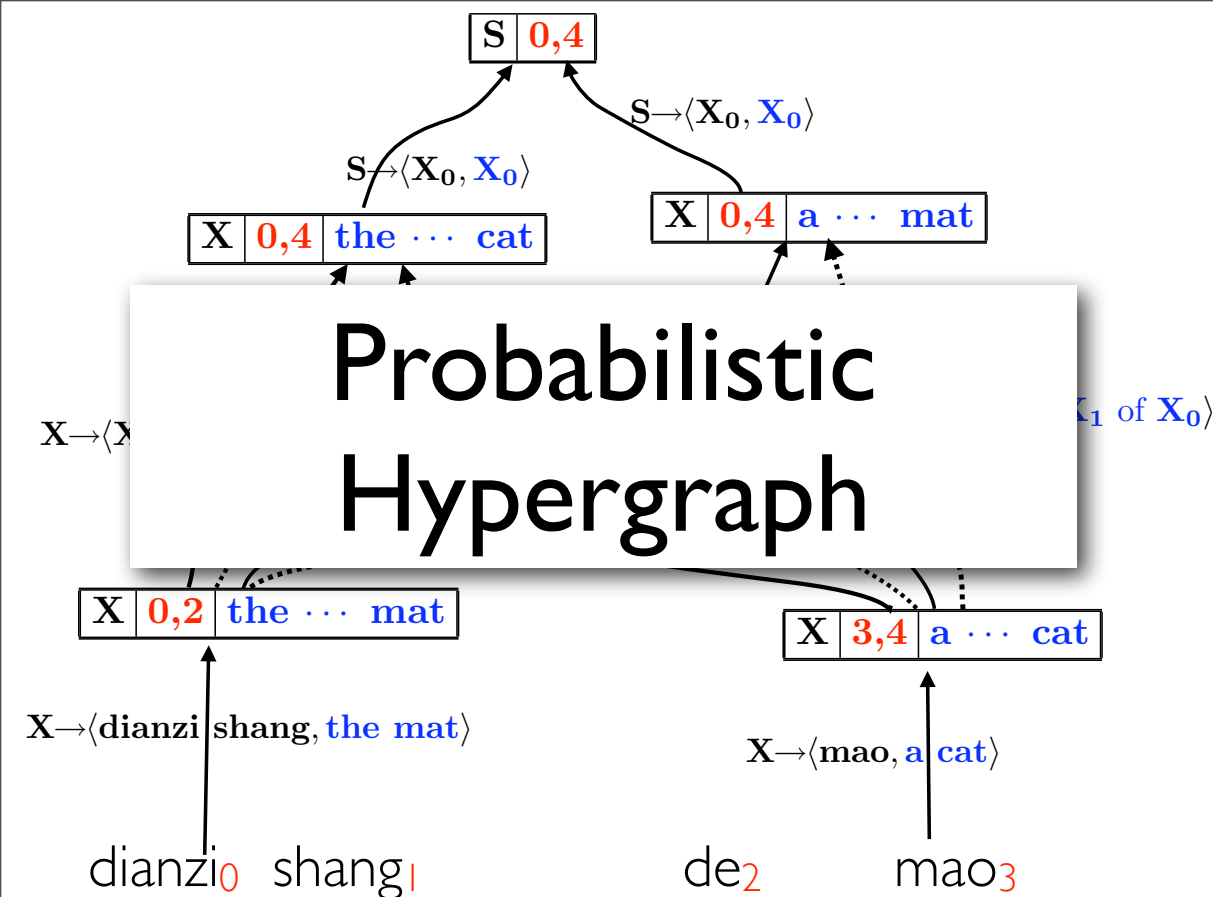
active  
learning

semi-  
supervised  
learning

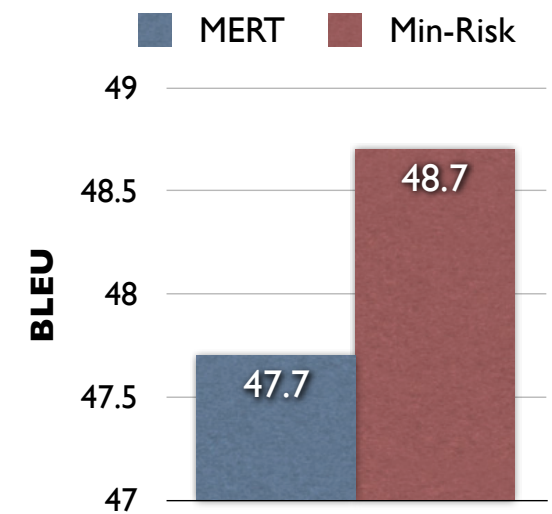
**semirings for parameter estimation**



Thank you!  
谢谢！



**Improved  
BLEU score!**



**This work provides a unified, elegant,  
and efficient framework in computing  
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- **First-order quantities:**
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- **Second-order quantities:**
  - Covariance matrix
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  - Hessian matrix of  $Z$
  - second-order gradient descent
  - gradient of expectation
    - gradient of entropy or Bayes risk