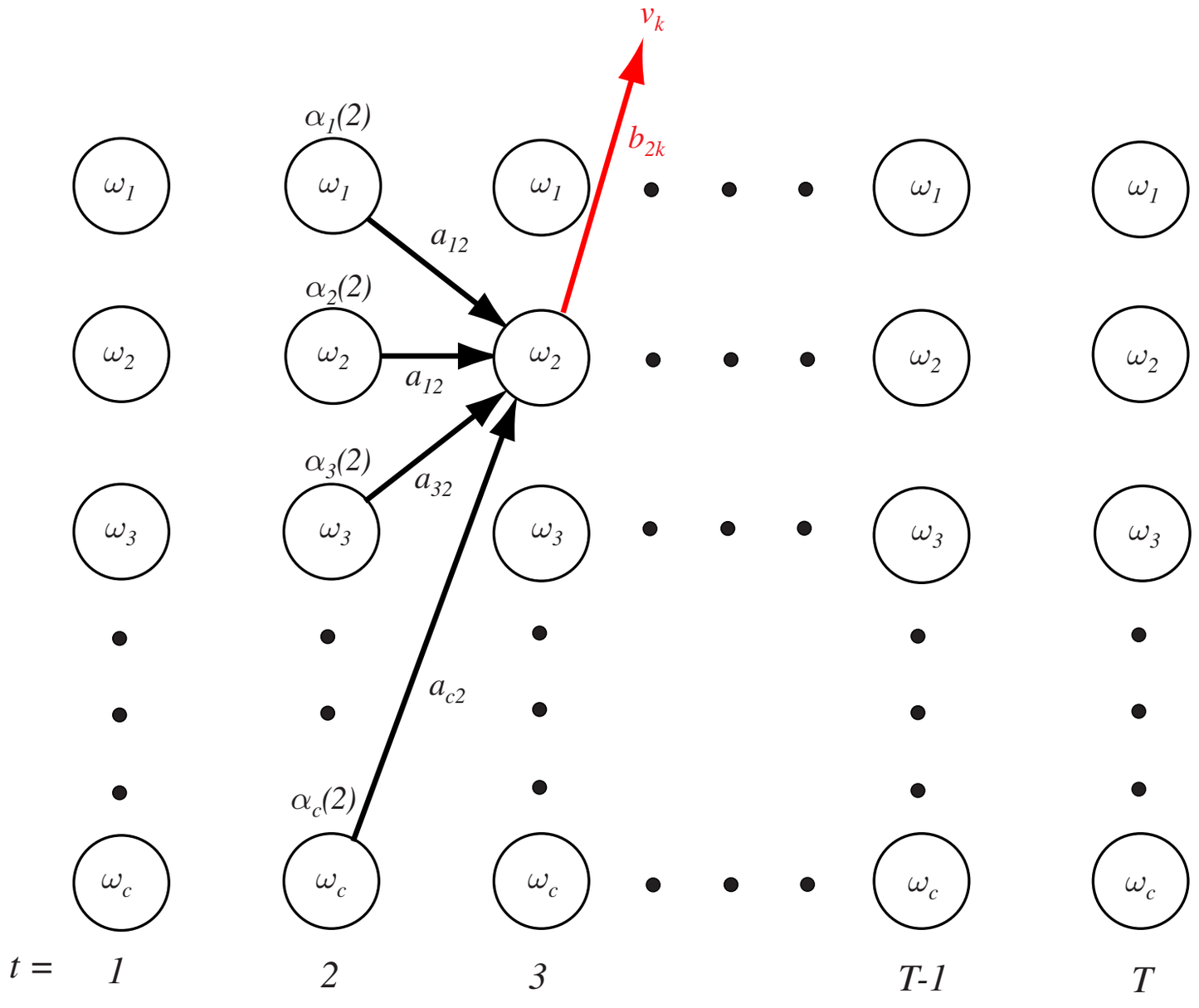

FIGURE 3.10. The computation of probabilities by the Forward algorithm can be visualized by means of a trellis—a sort of "unfolding" of the HMM through time. Suppose we seek the probability that the HMM was in state ω_2 at $t = 3$ and generated the observed visible symbol up through that step (including the observed visible symbol v_k). The probability the HMM was in state $\omega_j(t = 2)$ and generated the observed sequence through $t = 2$ is $\alpha_j(2)$ for $j = 1, 2, \ldots, c$. To find $\alpha_2(3)$ we must sum these and multiply the probability that state ω_2 emitted the observed symbol v_k. Formally, for this particular illustration we have $\alpha_2(3) = b_{2k} \sum_{j=1}^{c} \alpha_j(2) a_{j2}$. From: Richard O. Duda, Peter E. Hart, and David G. Stork, *Pattern Classification*. Copyright © 2001 by John Wiley & Sons, Inc.