

Transition Kernels, Markov Chains Markov Decision Processes

Algebraic Graph Theory

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Sarah Li
Yue Yu
Shahriar Talebi

Spring 2022 - Dan Calderone

Probabilistic Transitions

Graph:

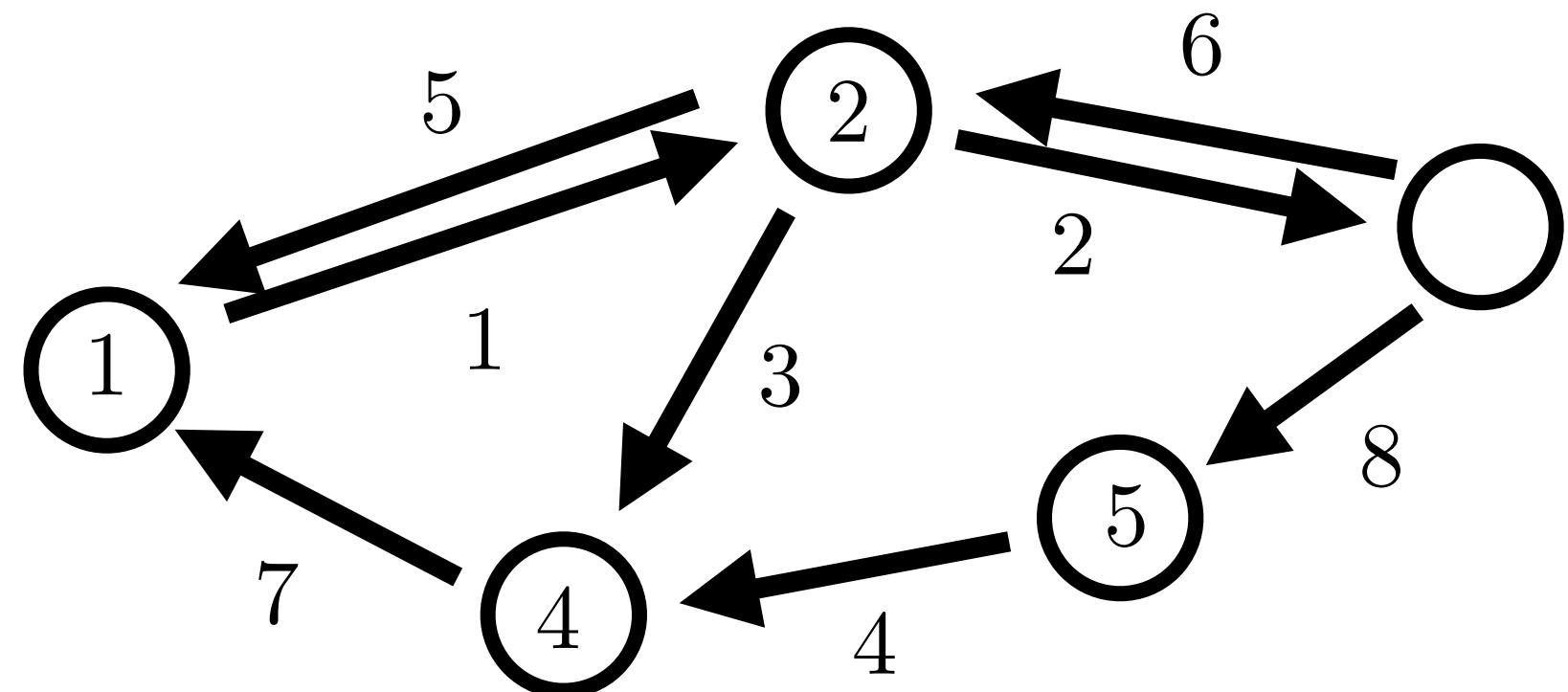
$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}) \quad \begin{array}{ll} \text{Vertices} & v \in \mathcal{V} \\ \text{Edges} & e \in \mathcal{E} \quad e = (v, v') \end{array}$$

Incidence Matrices $E \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{E}|}$ $E = E_{\text{in}} - E_{\text{out}}$

$$[E]_{ve} = \begin{cases} -1 & ; \text{ if } e \text{ out of } v \\ 1 & ; \text{ if } e \text{ into } v \\ 0 & ; \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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Probabilistic Transitions

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Vertices

$$v \in \mathcal{V}$$

States

$$s \in \mathcal{S}$$

$$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S}$$

Edges

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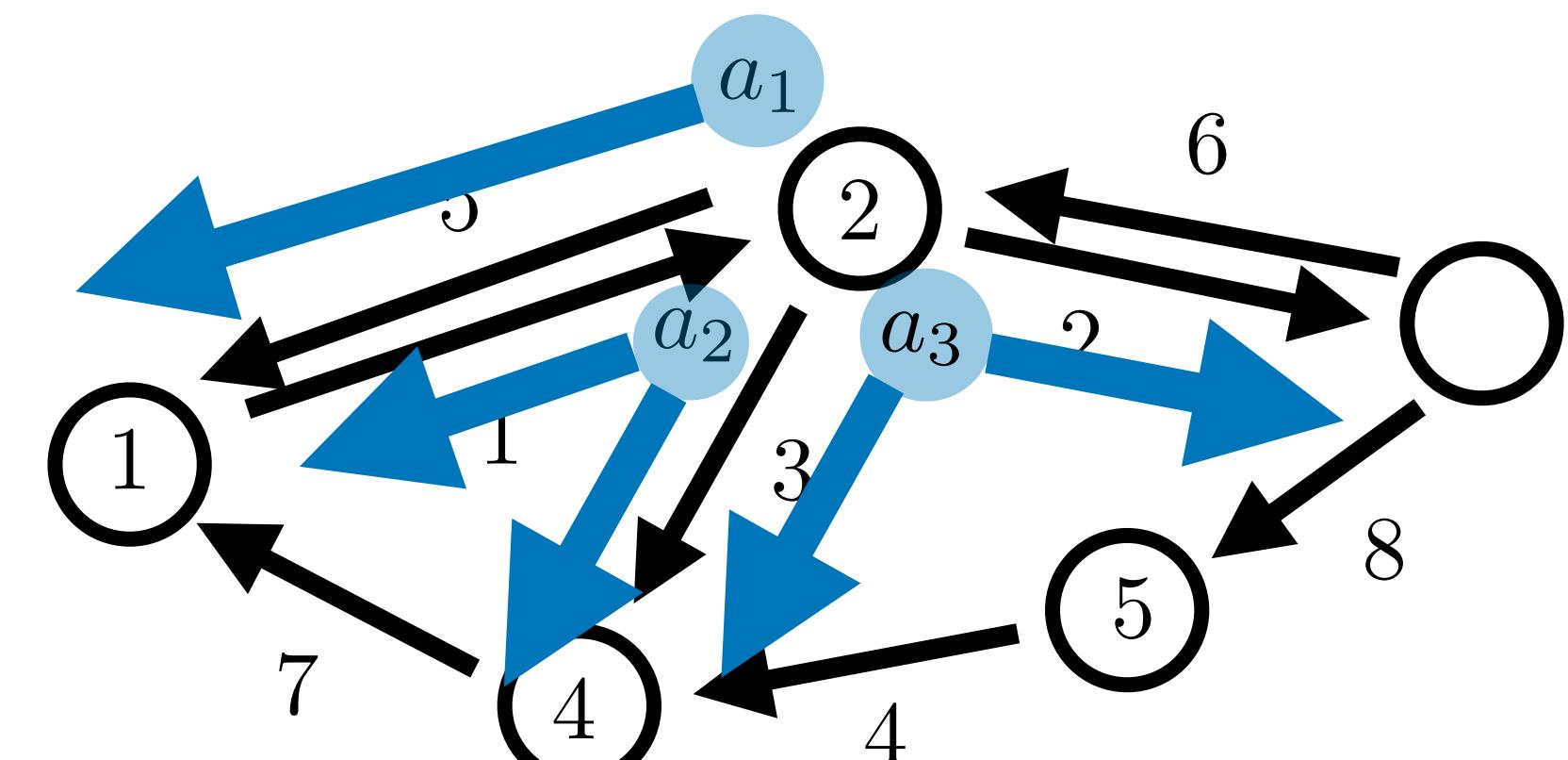
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Markov Decision Process

Actions $a \in \mathcal{A}$ total actions $\mathcal{A} = \cup_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \mathcal{A}_s$

$a \in \mathcal{A}_s$ actions from ea. state

For each action: $\text{Prob}(s'|s, a)$ Probability of transitioning to state s' from state s



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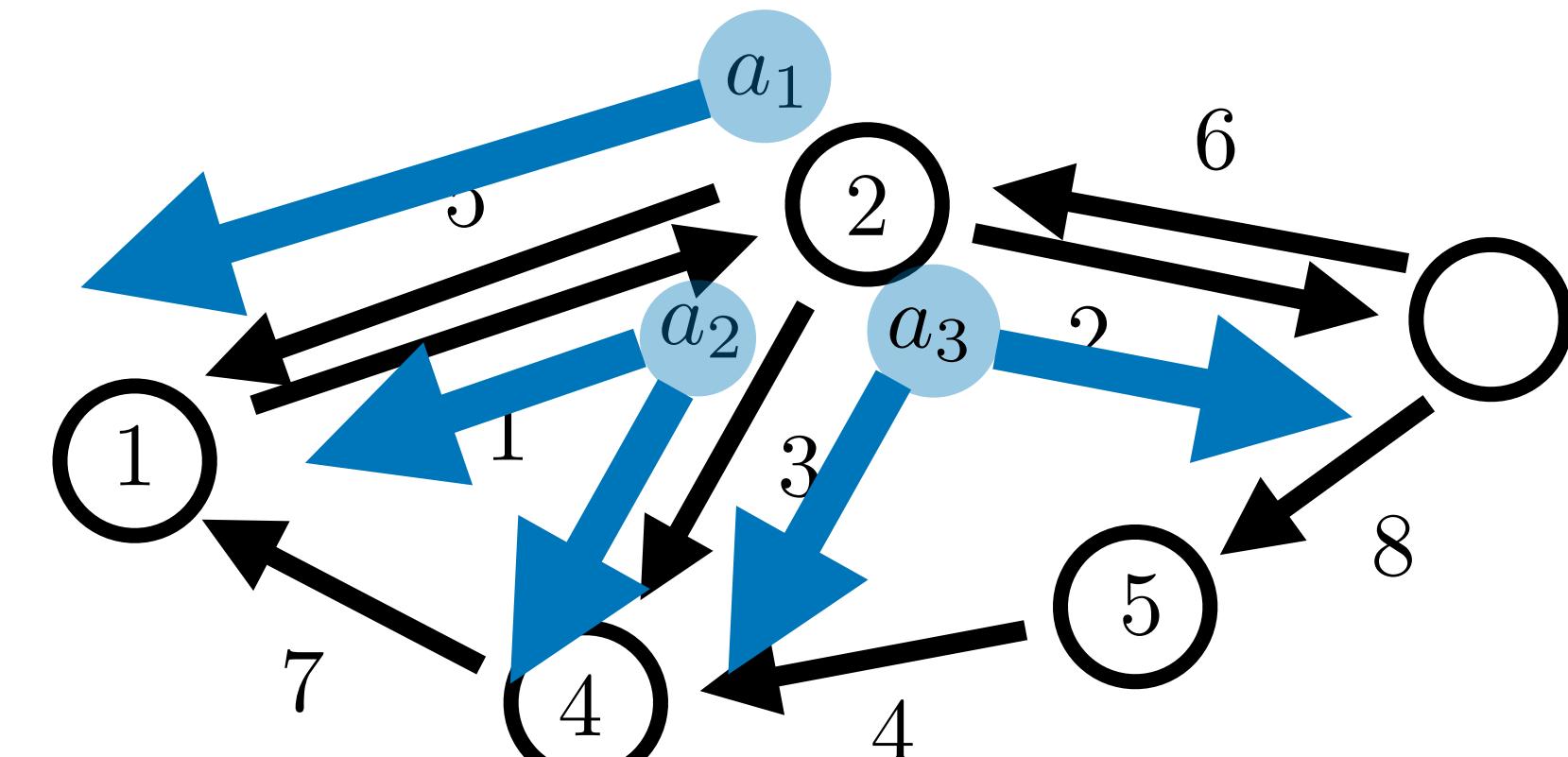
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Transition Kernel

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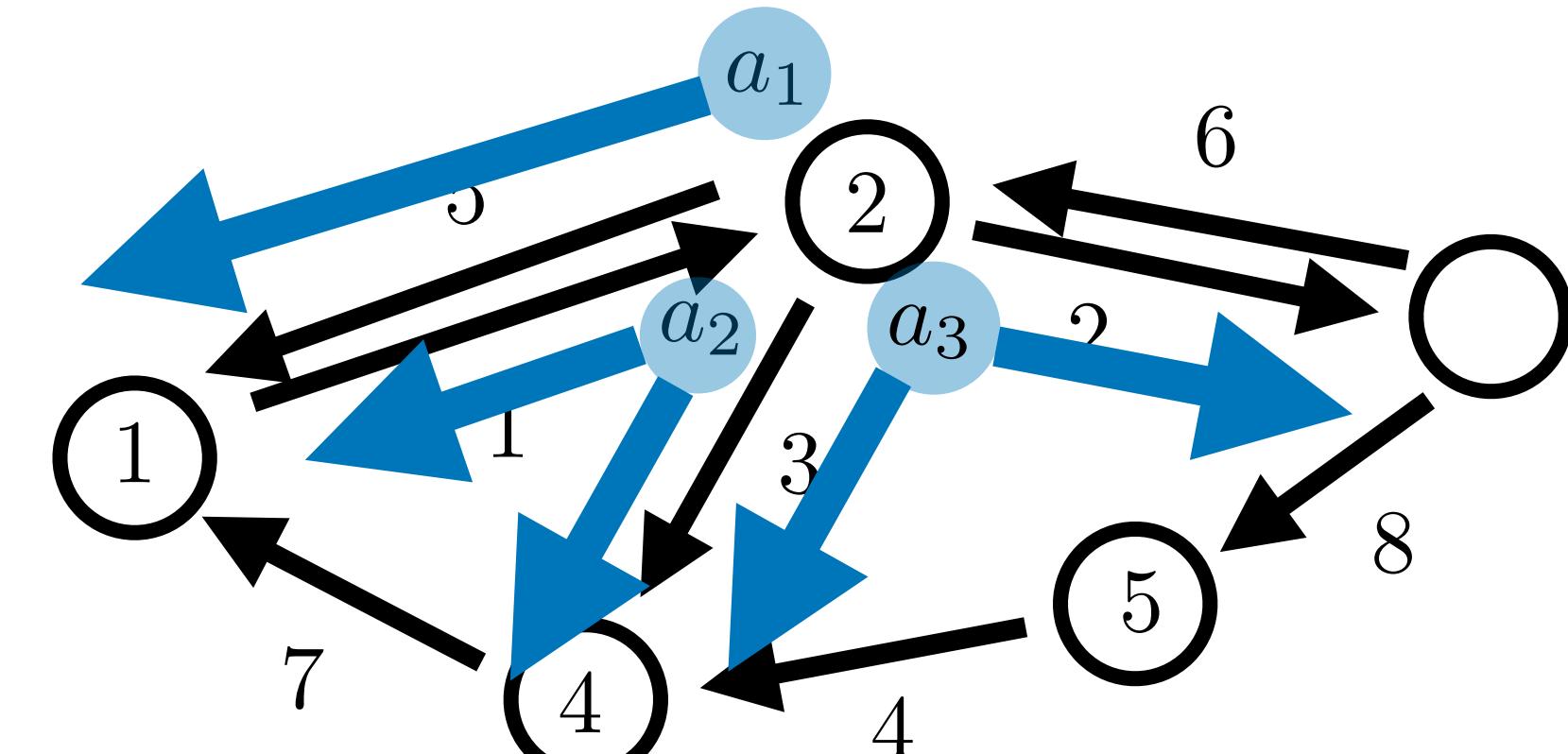
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...action to state

...action to edge

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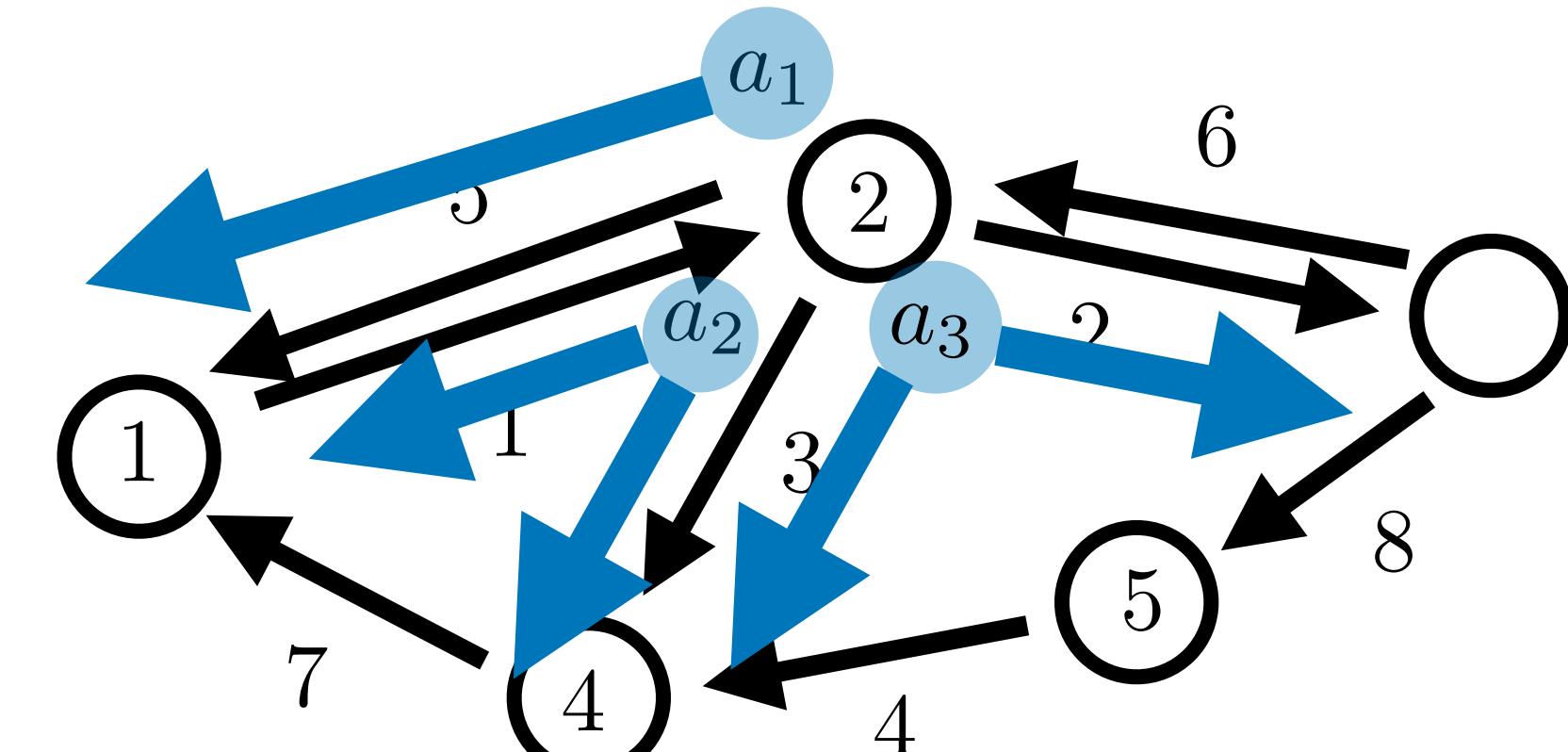
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Mass conservation

$$[E_{\mathcal{A}} - P]x = [E_{\text{out}} - E_{\text{in}}]Wx = 0$$

...action to state

...action to edge

Policy

Graph:

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Incidence Matrices

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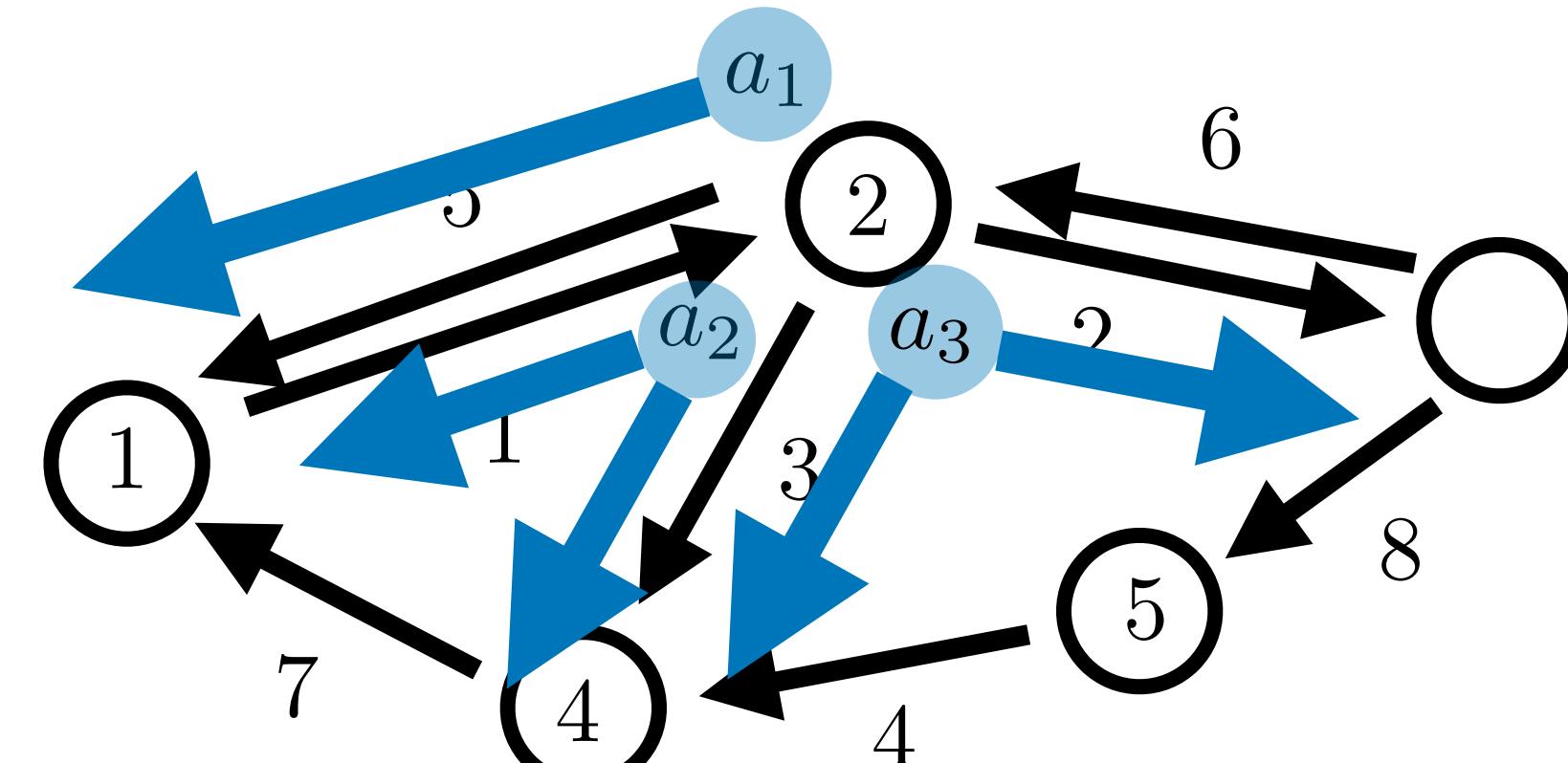
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$$x \in \mathbb{R}^{|J|}$$

mass distribution on state-action pairs

$$x = \Pi z$$

$$y \in \mathbb{R}^{|Y|}$$

mass distribution on edges

$$y = Wx$$

$$z \in \mathbb{R}^{|t|}$$

mass distribution on states

$$z = E_{\text{out}} y = E_A x$$

Mass conservation with source-sink

$$[\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{A}} - P]x = [\mathcal{E}_{\text{out}} - \mathcal{E}_{\text{in}}]Wx = S$$

Policy

Graph:

$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$$

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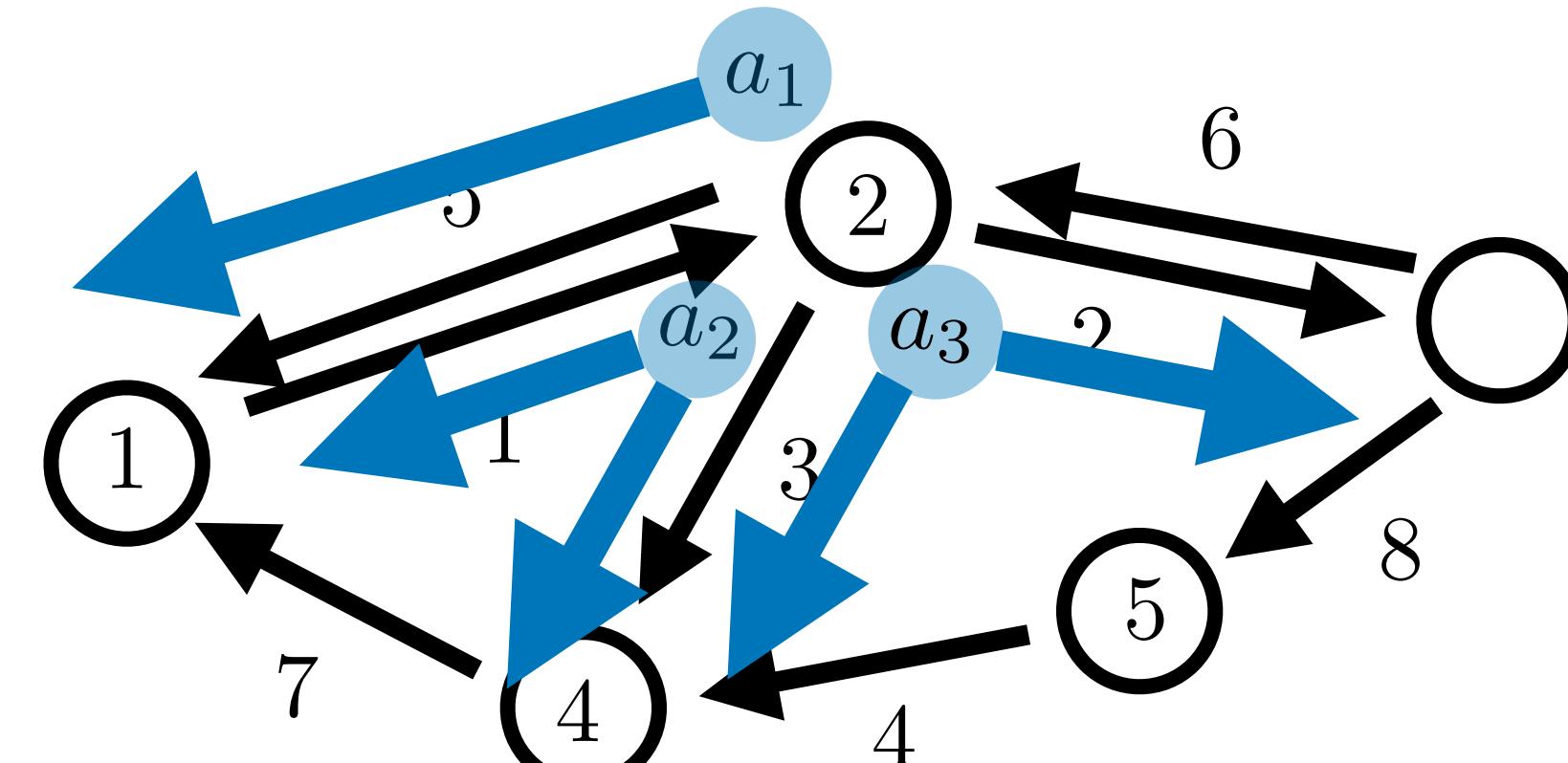
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Policy
probability of
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conditioned
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Policy

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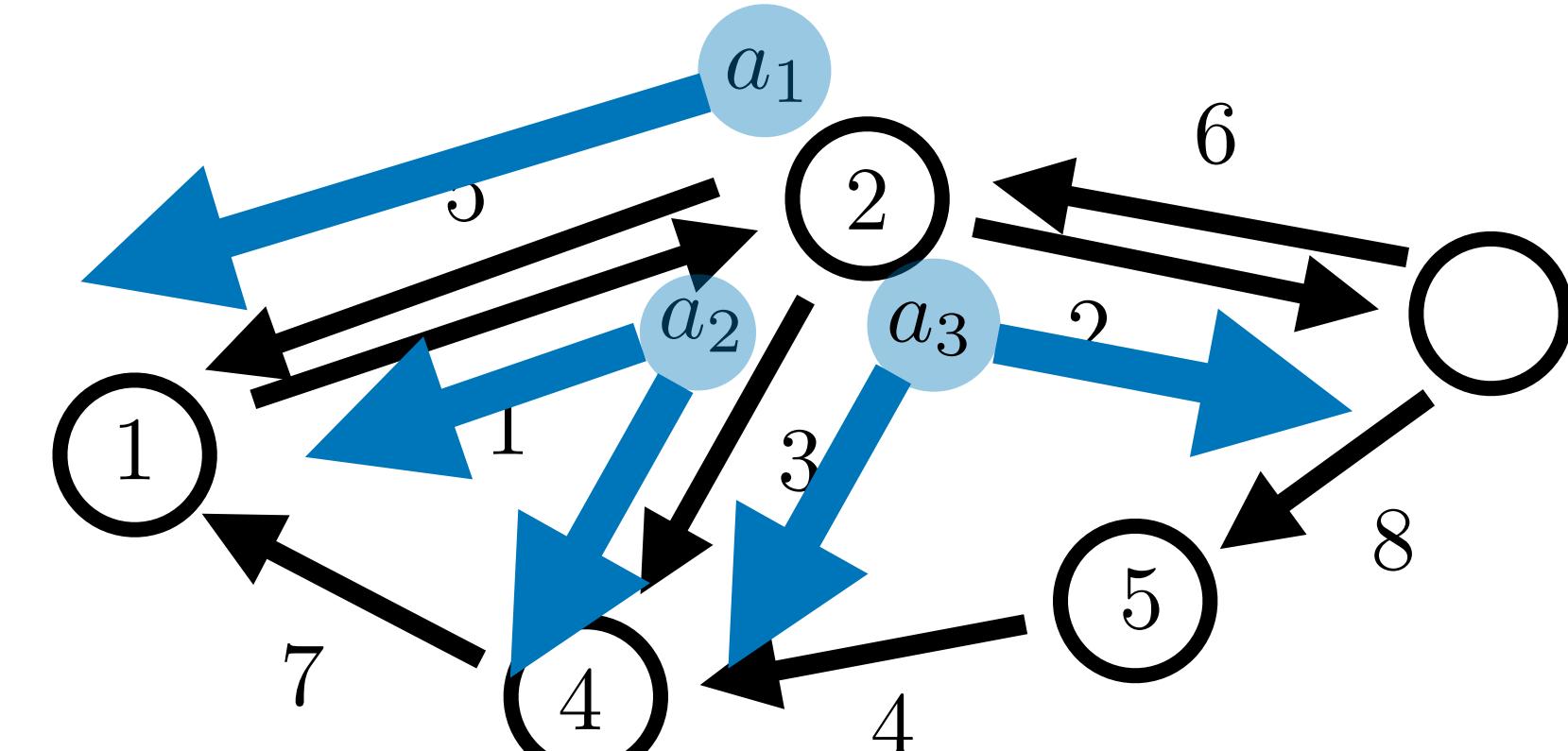
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Mass conservation with source-sink

$$E_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad W = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Policy $\Pi = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Markov Matrix

$$M = P\Pi = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Policy

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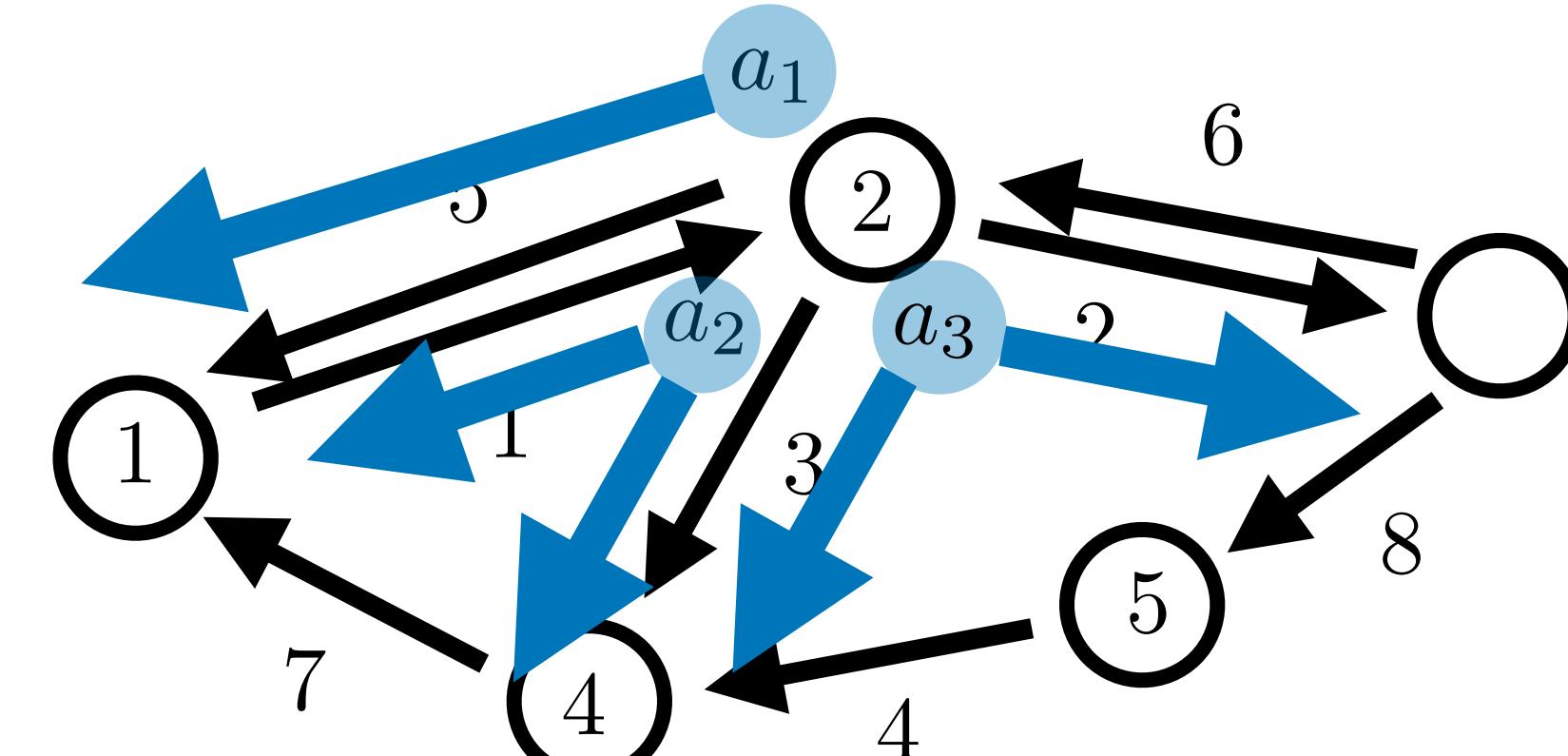
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Markov Matrix

$$\text{also...} \quad N = \Pi P \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{A}| \times |\mathcal{A}|}$$

Policy

Graph:

$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$$

Incidence Matrices

ces	$v \in \mathcal{V}$	States	$s \in \mathcal{S}$	$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S}$
ges	$e \in \mathcal{E}$		$e = (v, v')$	

Incidence Matrices $E \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{E}|}$ $E = E_{\text{in}} - E_{\text{out}}$

$$[E]_{ve} = \begin{cases} -1 & ; \text{ if } e \text{ out of } v \\ 1 & ; \text{ if } e \text{ into } v \\ 0 & ; \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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For each action: $\text{Prob}(s'|s, a)$ Probability of transitioning to state s' from state s

Transition Kernel

$$[E_{\mathcal{A}}]_{sa} = \begin{cases} 1 & ; \text{ if } a \in \mathcal{A}_s \\ 0 & ; \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

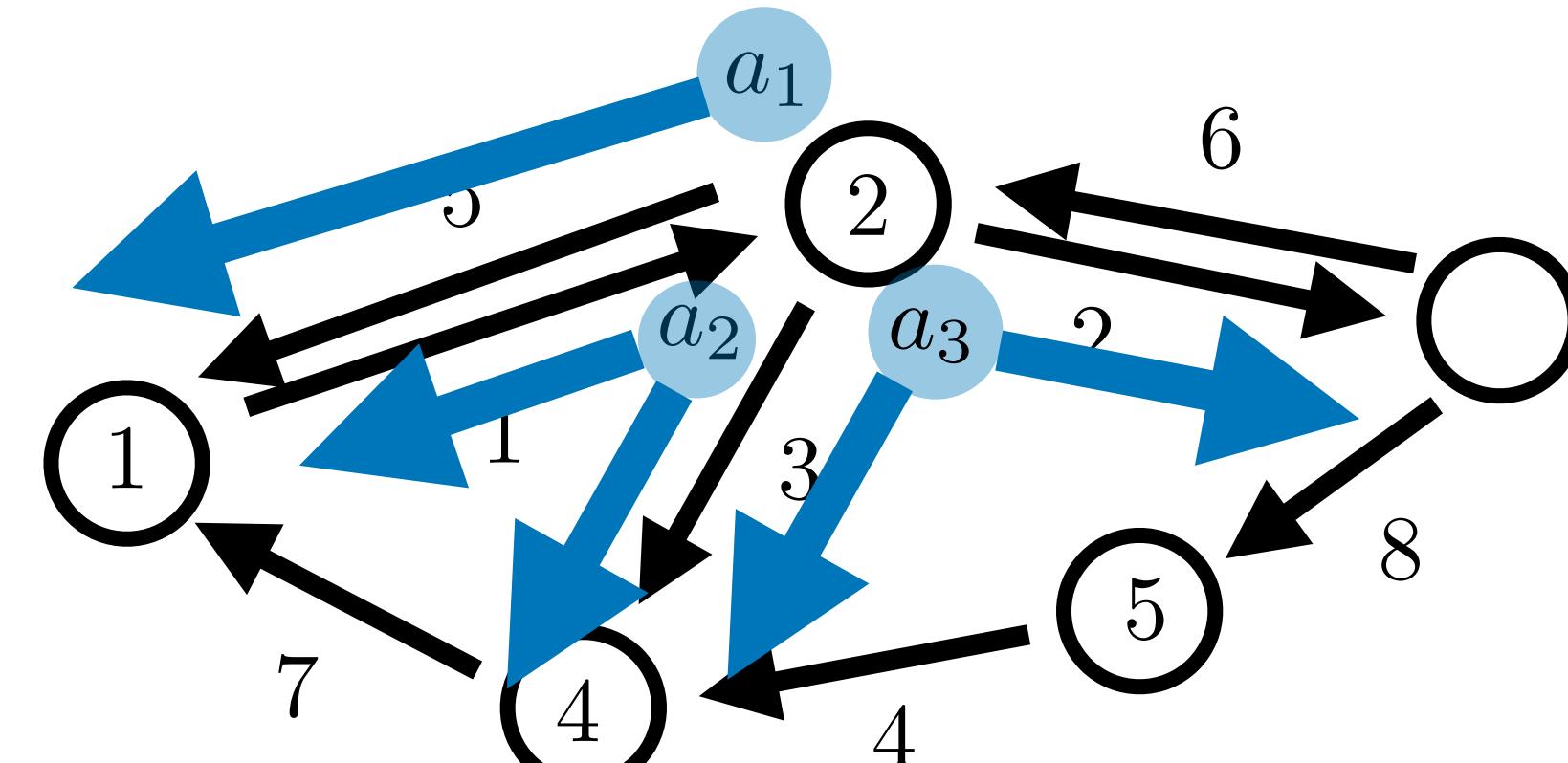
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$$x \in \mathbb{R}^{|s|}$$

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mass distribution on state-action pairs

mass distribution on edges

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$$x = \Pi z$$

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Mass conservation with source-sink

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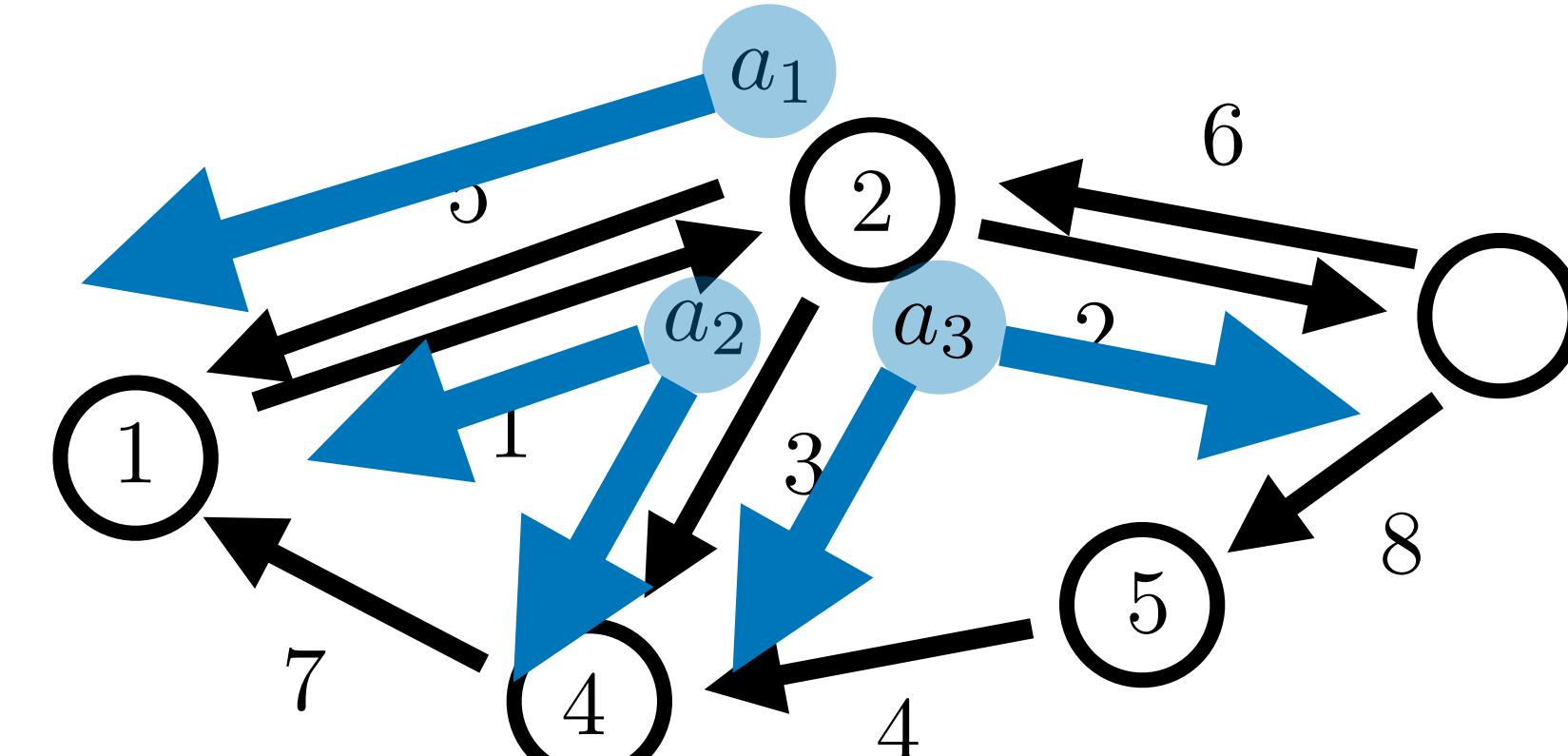
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$$E_{\mathcal{A}} = E_{\text{out}} W$$

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$$I = E_{\mathcal{A}} \Pi$$

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Column Stochastic
positive & sum to 1

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{1}^T E_{\text{out}} &= \mathbf{1}^T & \mathbf{1}^T E_{\mathcal{A}} &= \mathbf{1}^T & \mathbf{1}^T W &= \mathbf{1}^T & \mathbf{1}^T \Pi &= \mathbf{1}^T \\ \mathbf{1}^T E_{\text{in}} &= \mathbf{1}^T & \mathbf{1}^T P &= \mathbf{1}^T & & & \mathbf{1}^T M &= \mathbf{1}^T \end{aligned}$$

Transition Kernel

Graph:

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Vertices

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Policy

$$P \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{A}|}$$

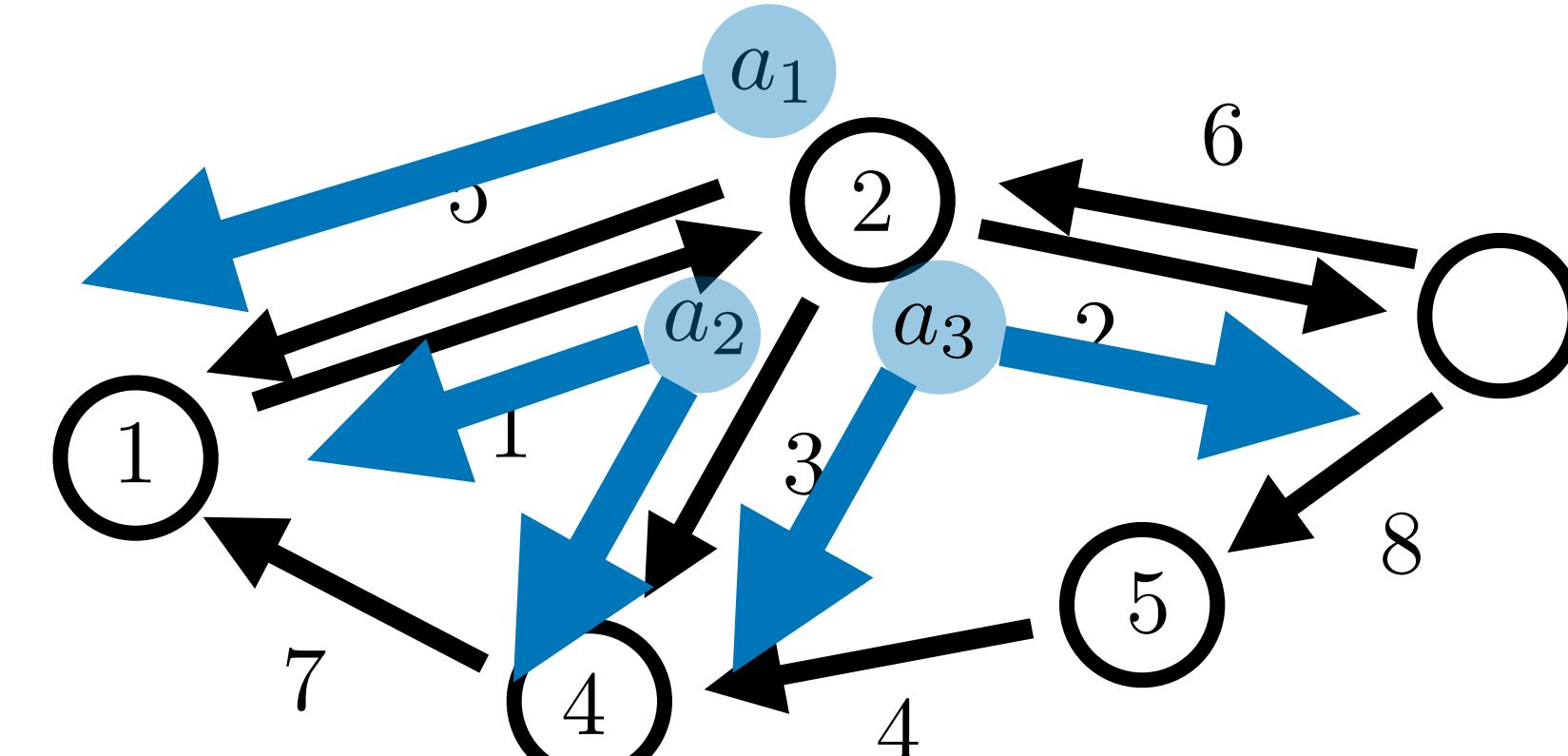
$$W \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{E}| \times |\mathcal{A}|}$$

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Mass conservation with source-sink

Transition Kernel Laplacian

...specific weighted graph Laplacian

$$L_P = (E_{\mathcal{A}} - P)(E_{\mathcal{A}} - P)^T = EWW^TE^T$$

Markov Chains

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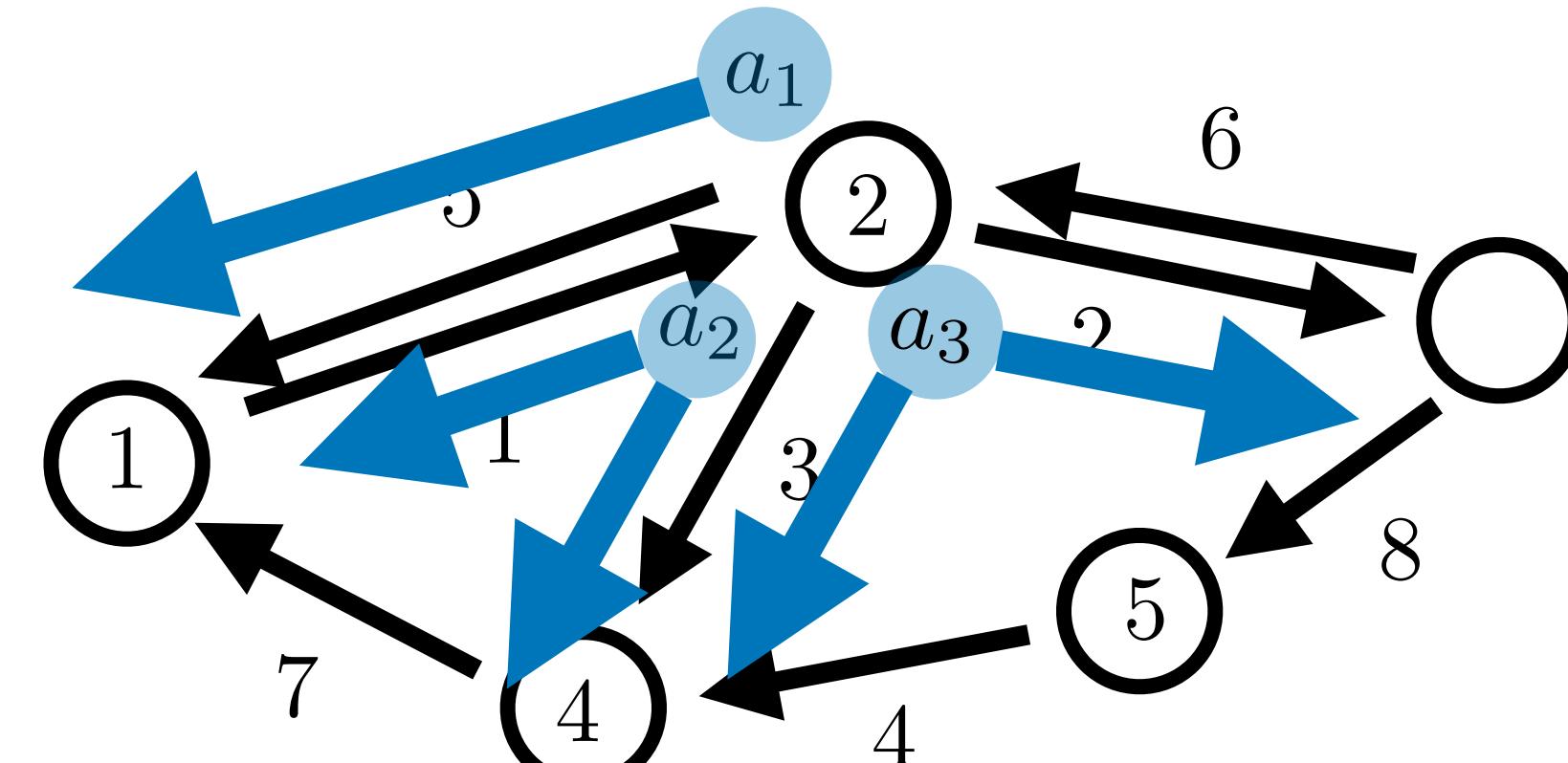
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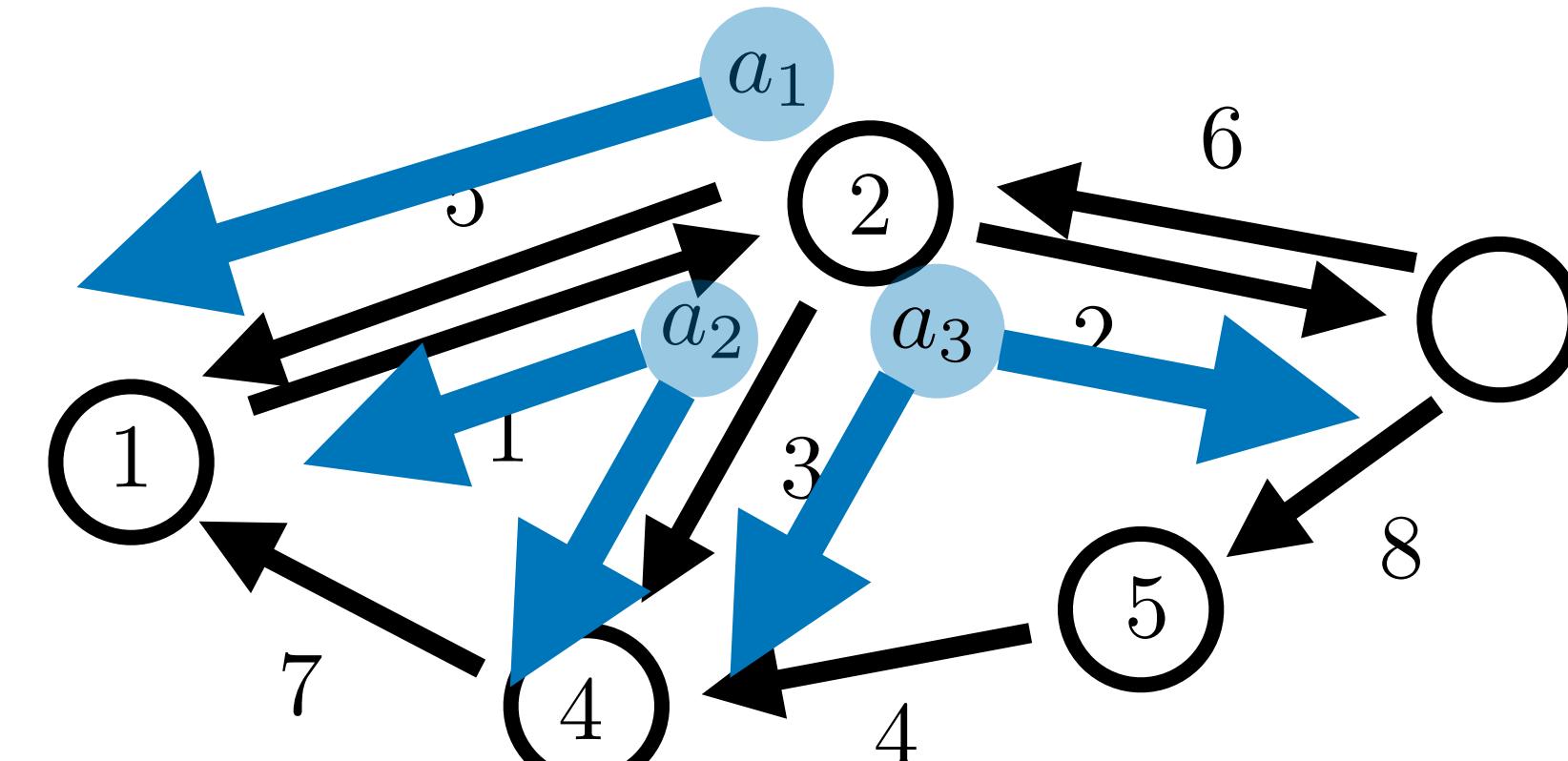
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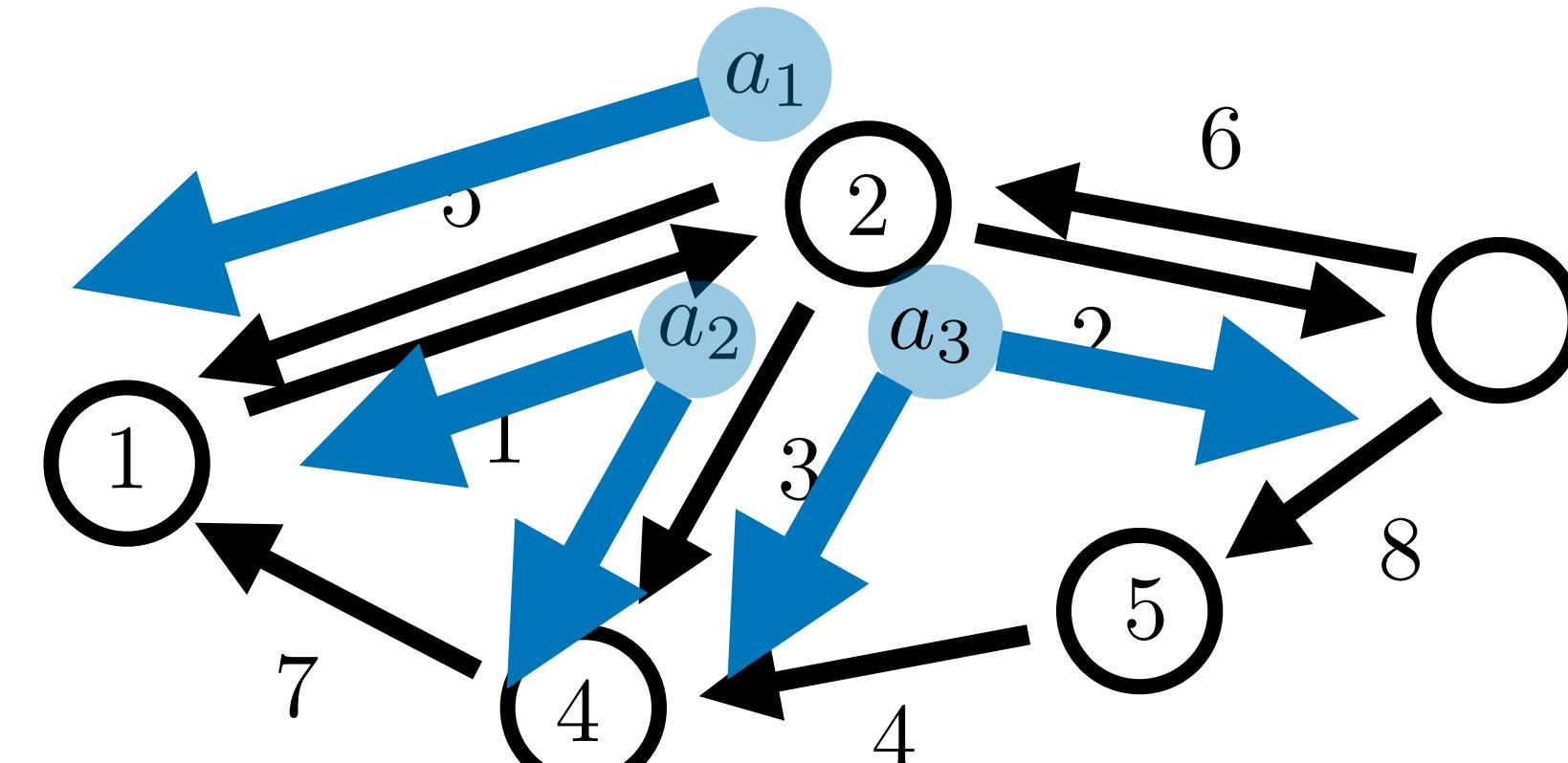
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Update equation

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Column stochastic

$$\mathbf{1}^T M = \mathbf{1}^T$$

...left eigenvector

Steady-state (state) distribution

$$z = Mz$$

...corresponding right eigenvector

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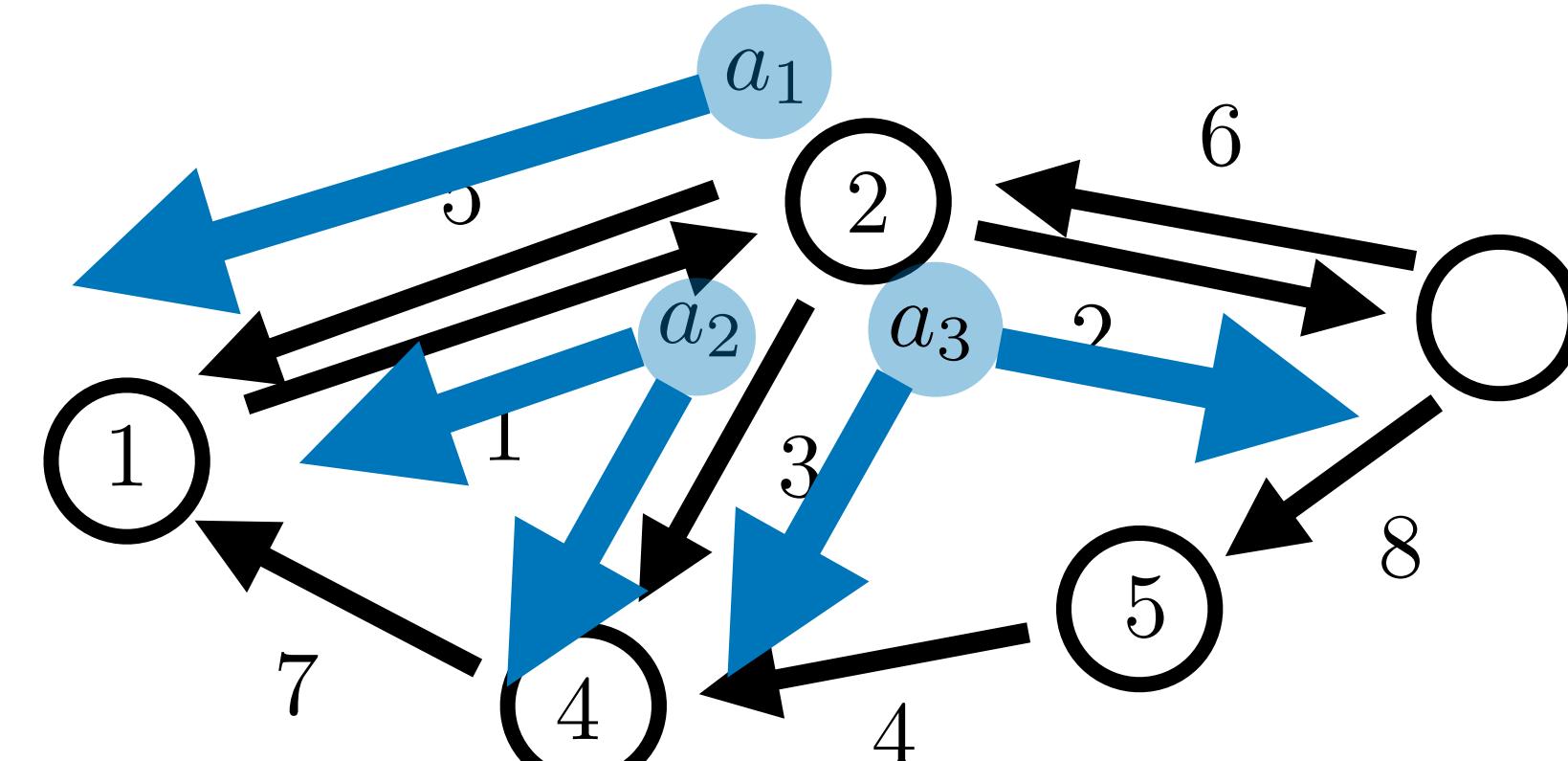
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Mass conservation with source-sink

Markov Chain Evolution

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Column stochastic

$$\mathbf{1}^T M = \mathbf{1}^T$$

...left eigenvector

Steady-state (state) distribution

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$$[I - M]z = [E_{\mathcal{A}} - P]\Pi z = [E_{\mathcal{A}} - P]x = 0$$

Steady-state (state-action) distribution

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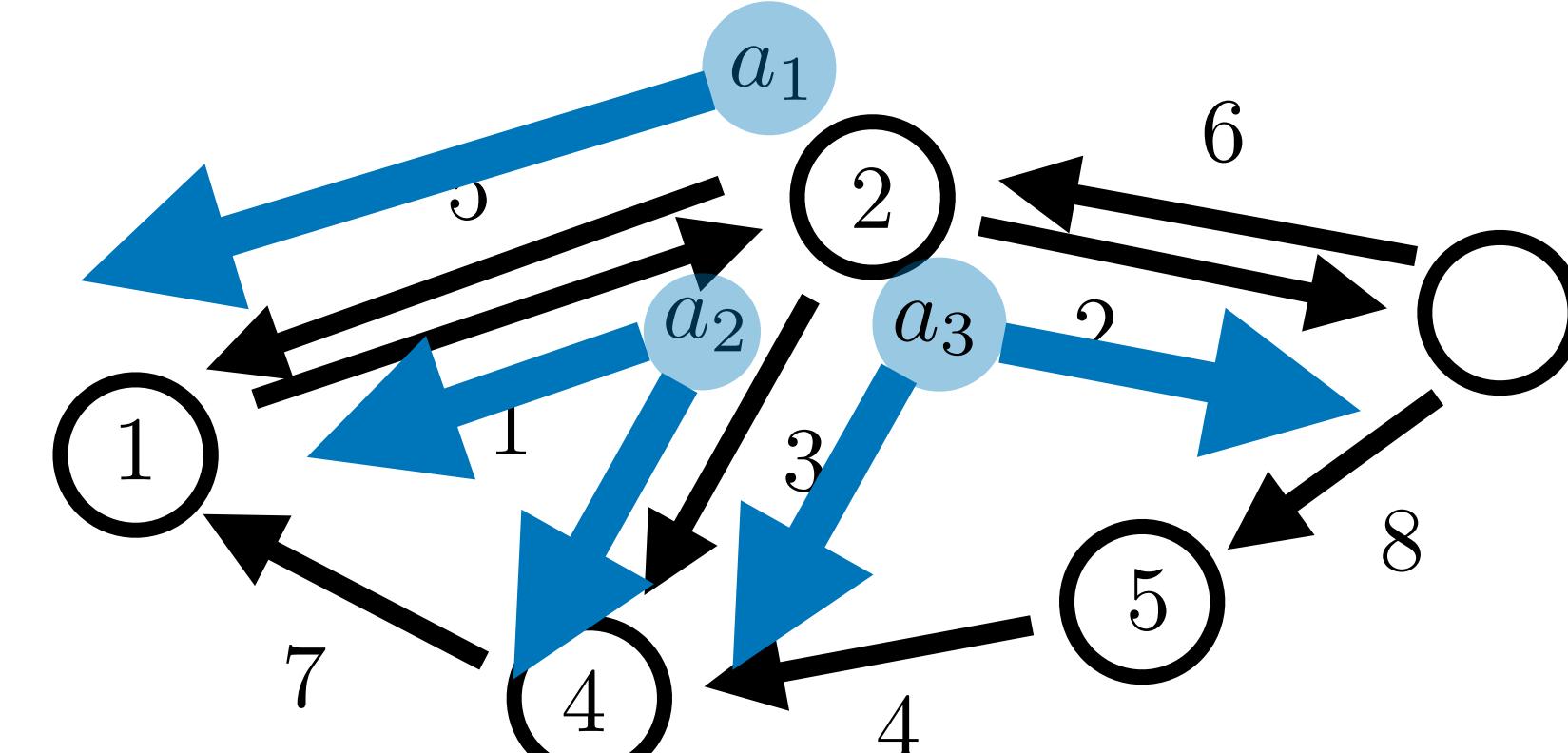
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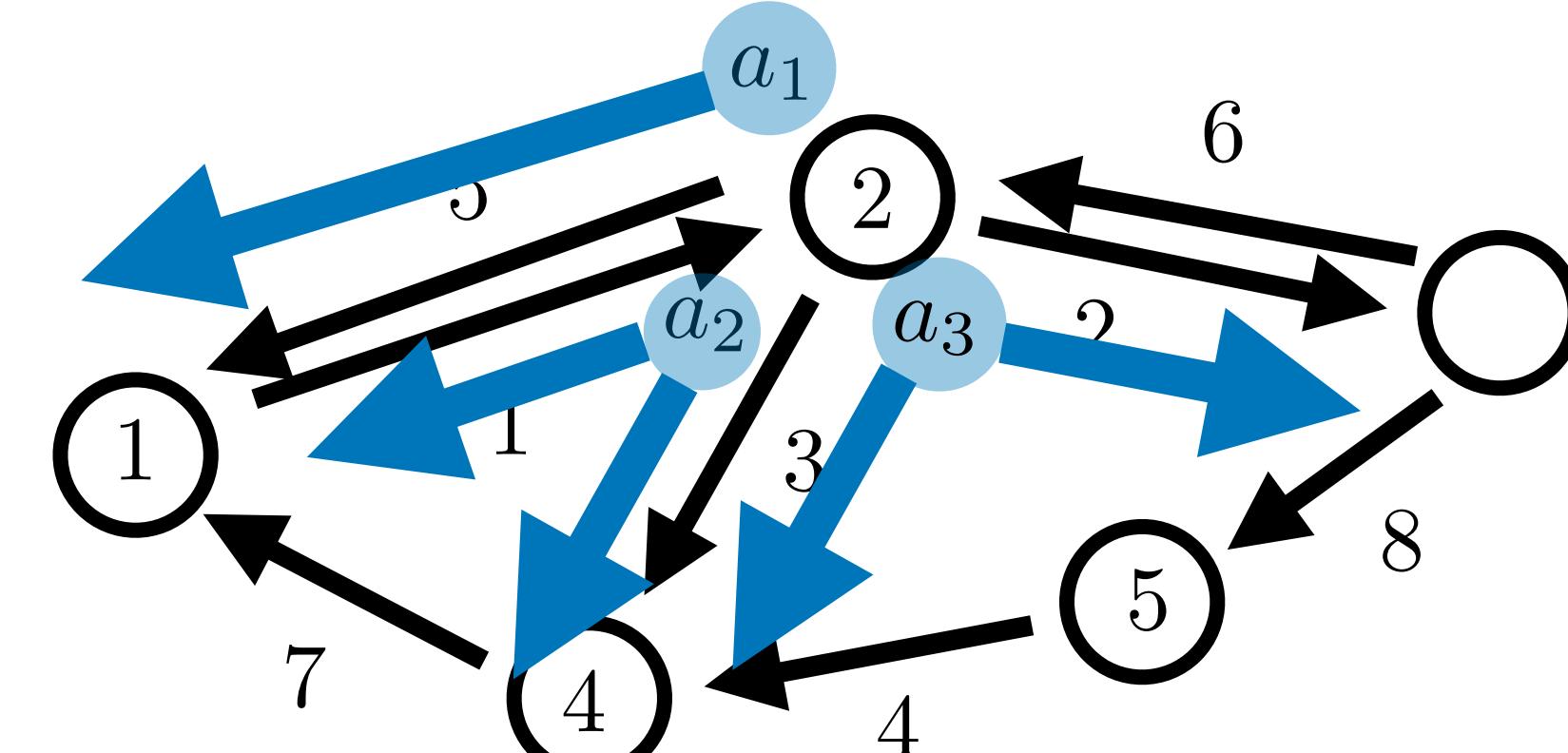
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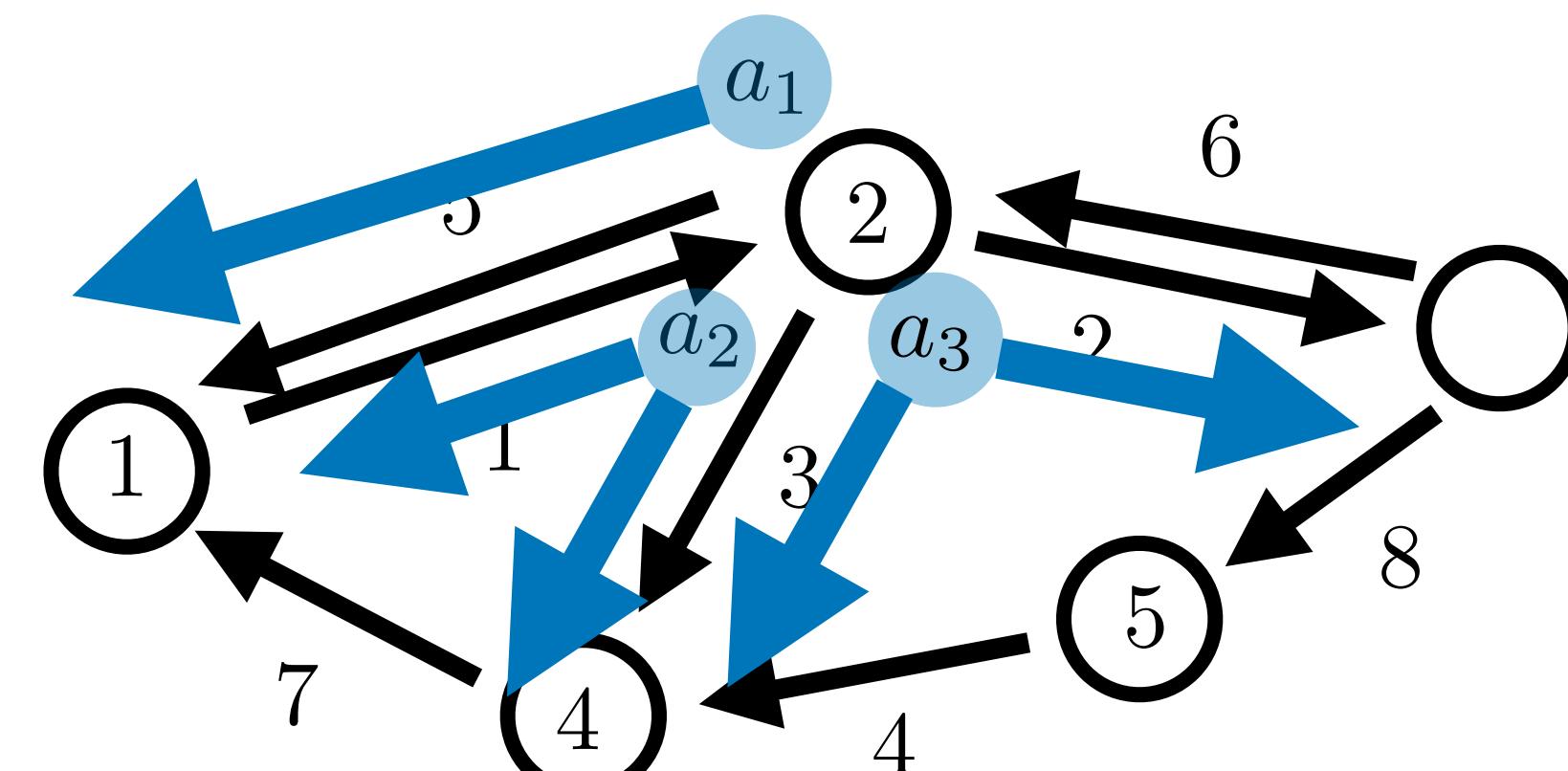
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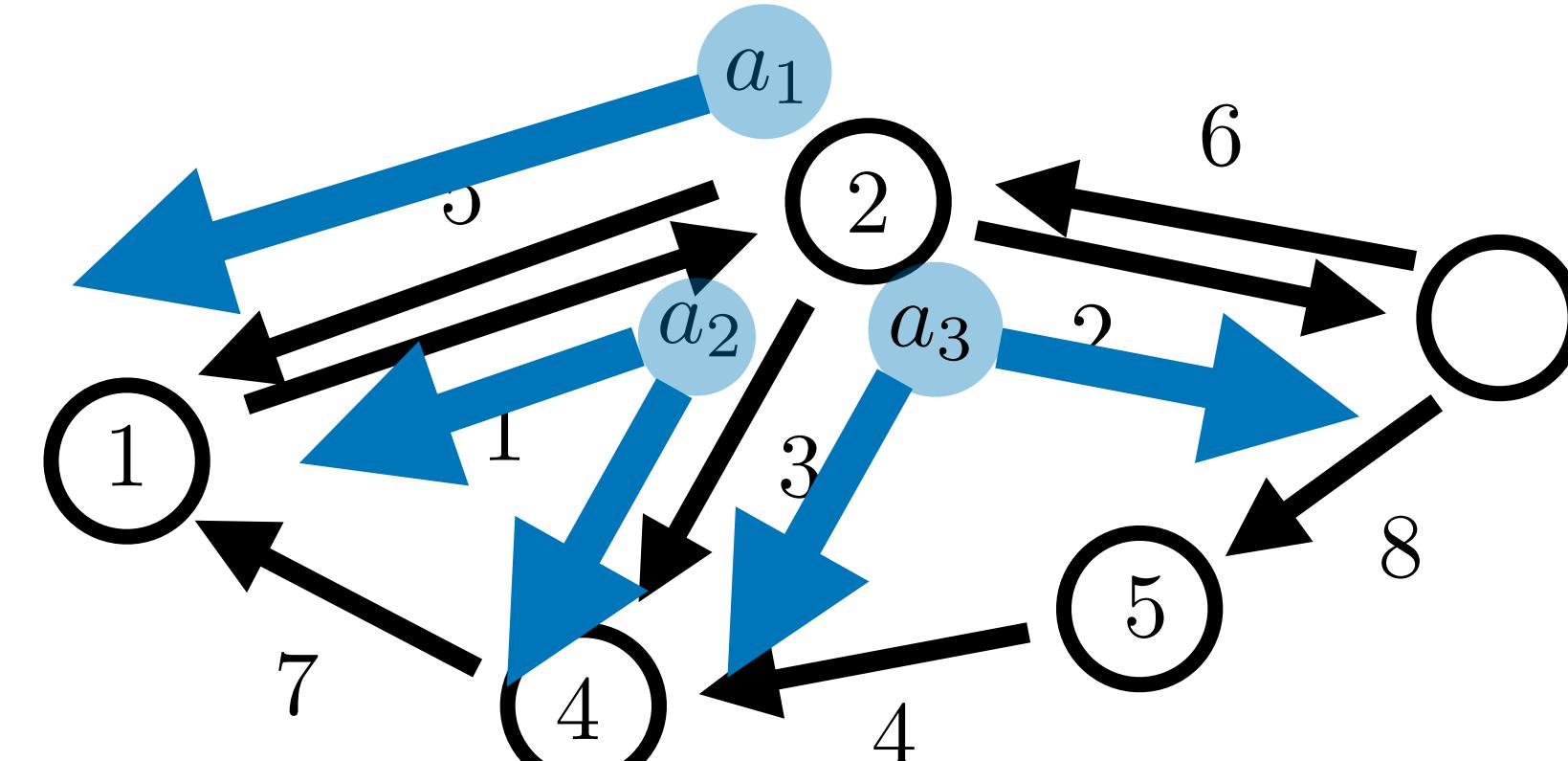
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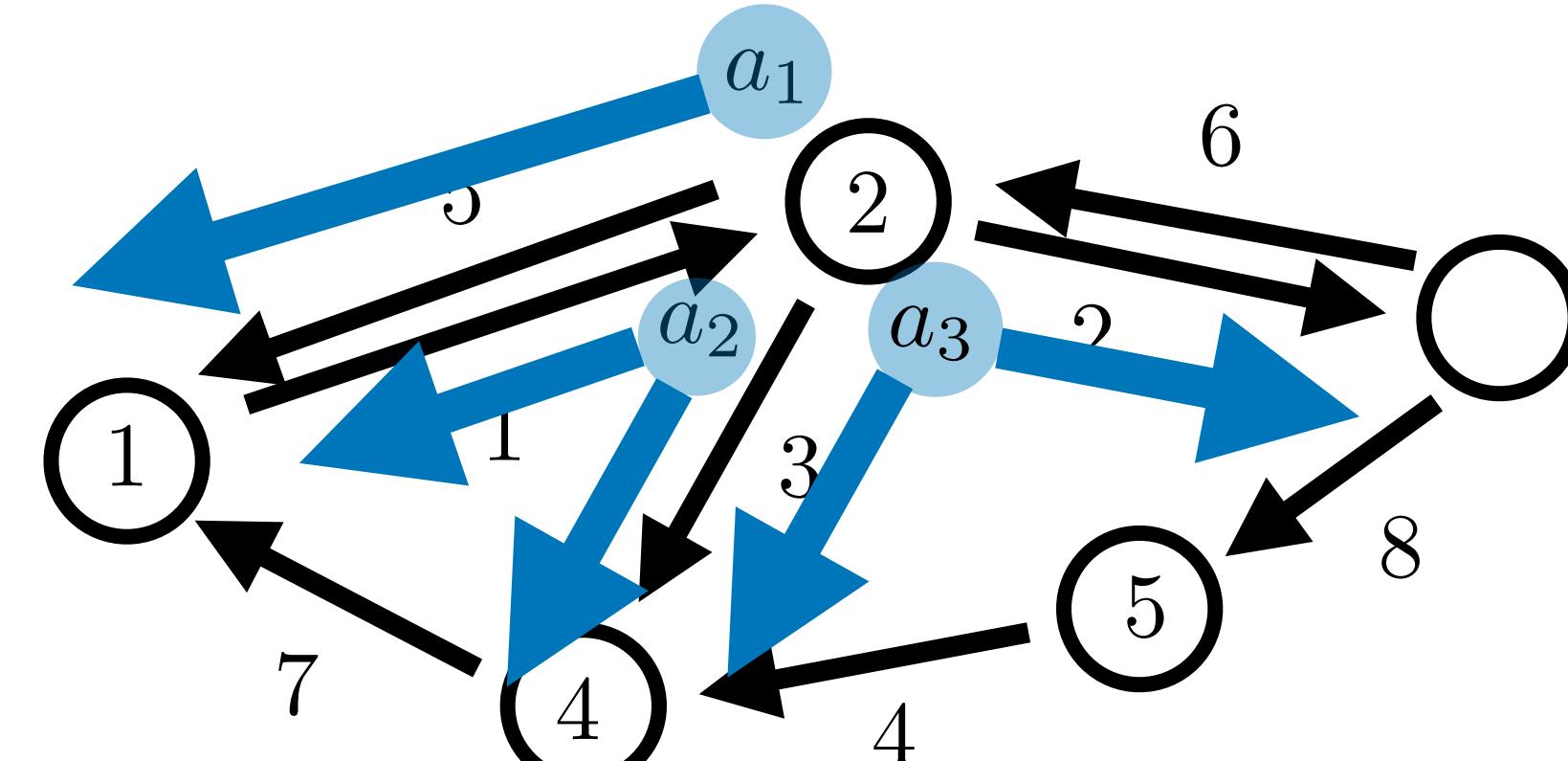
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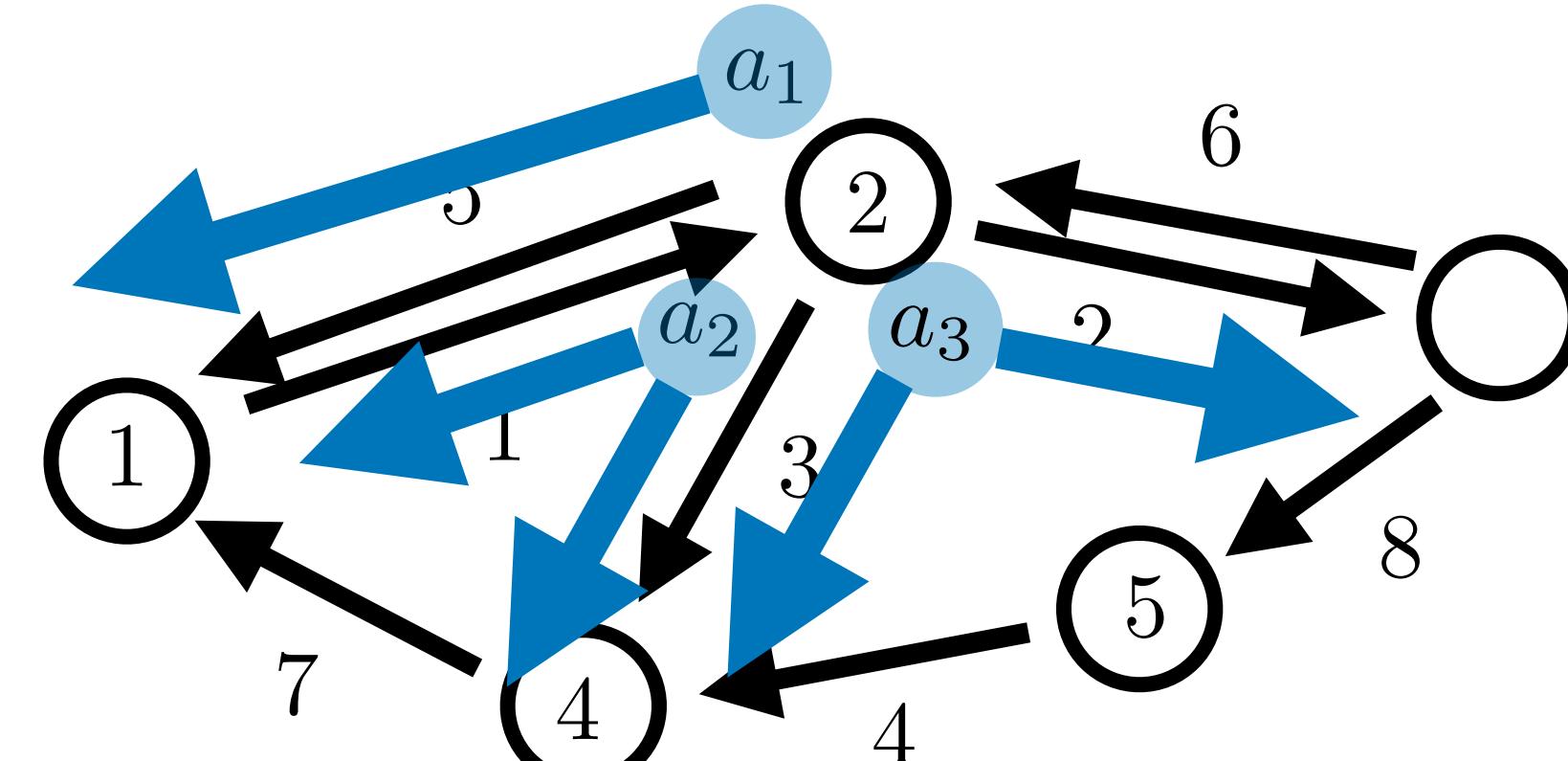
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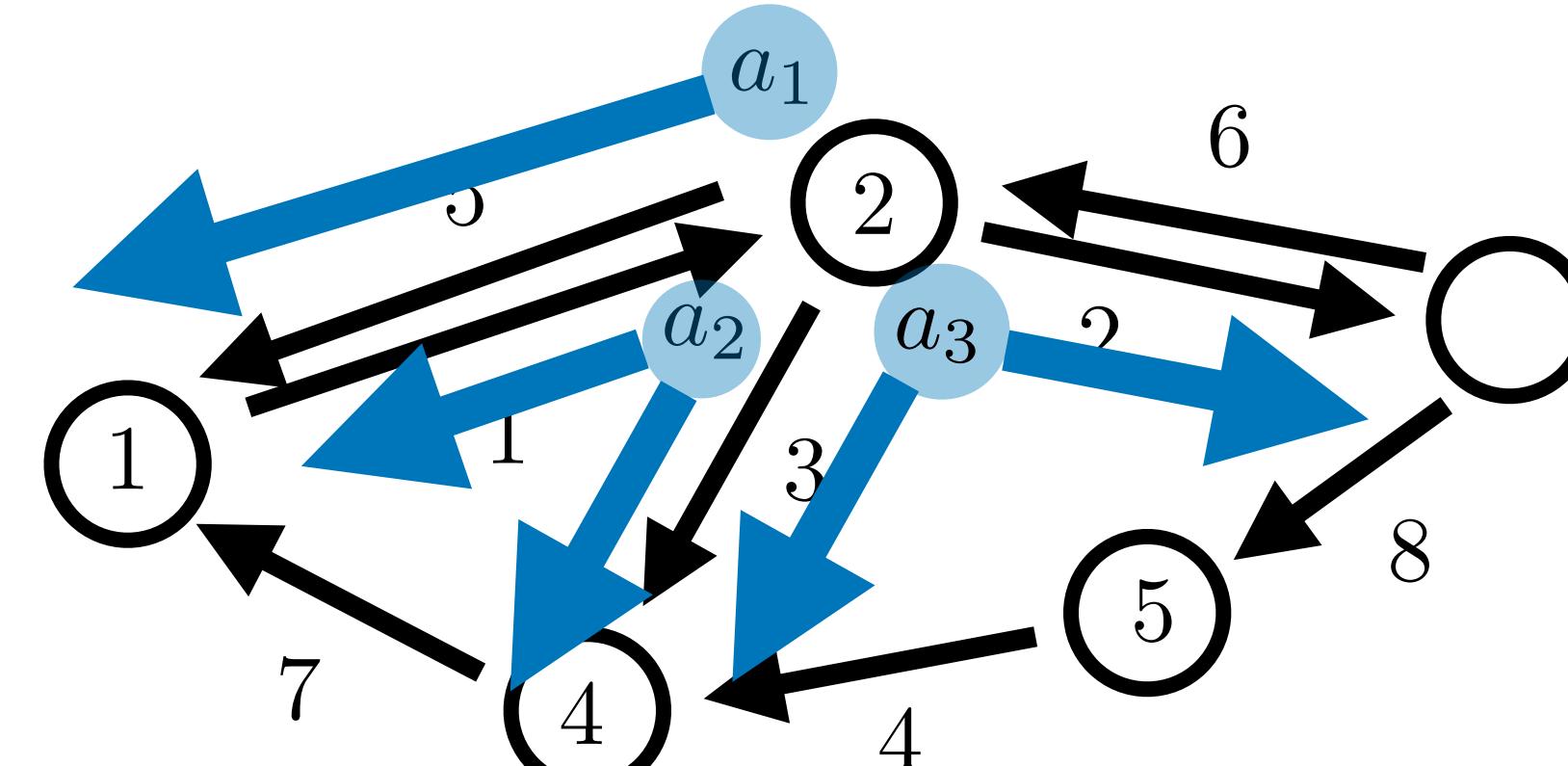
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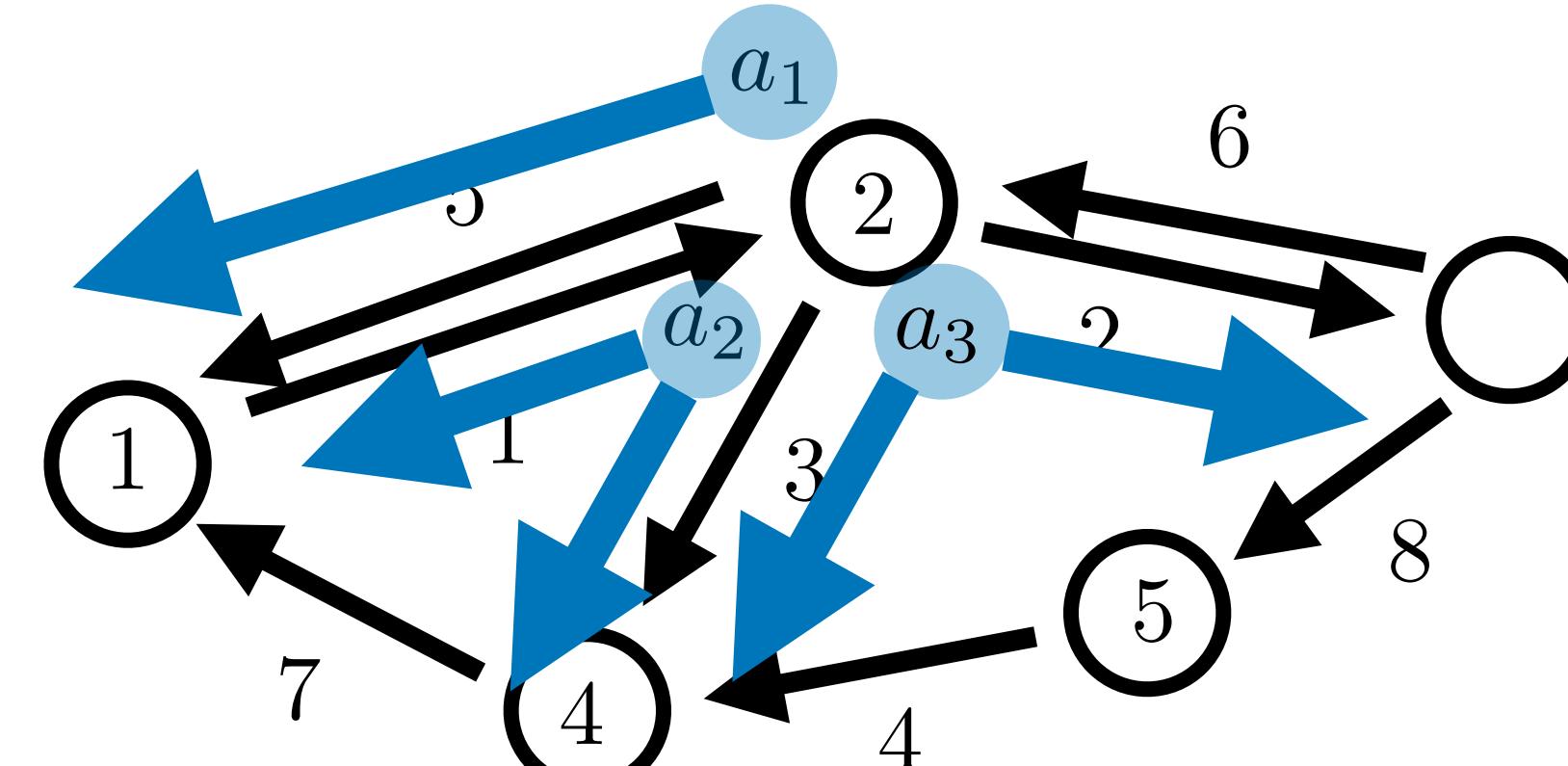
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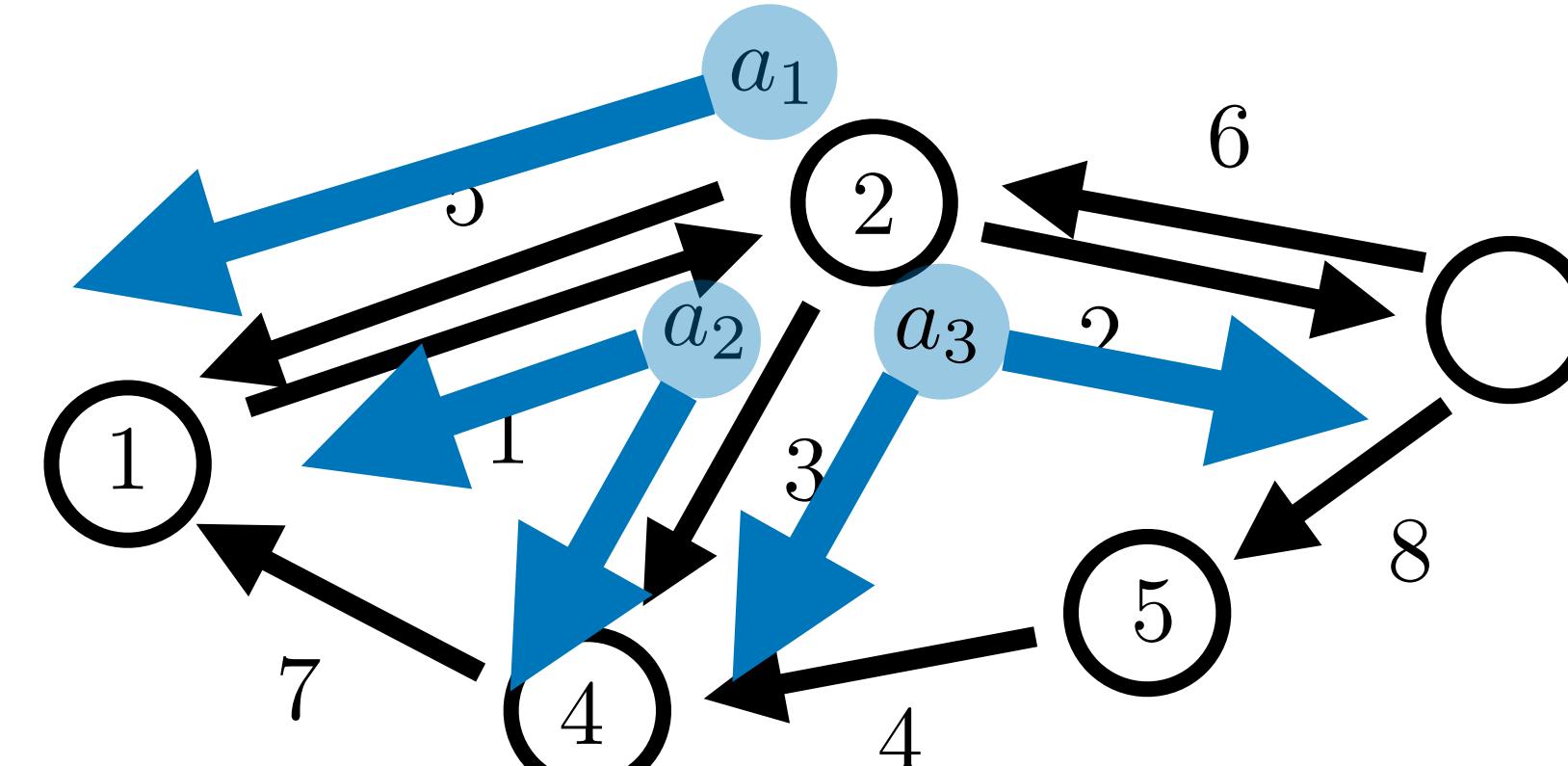
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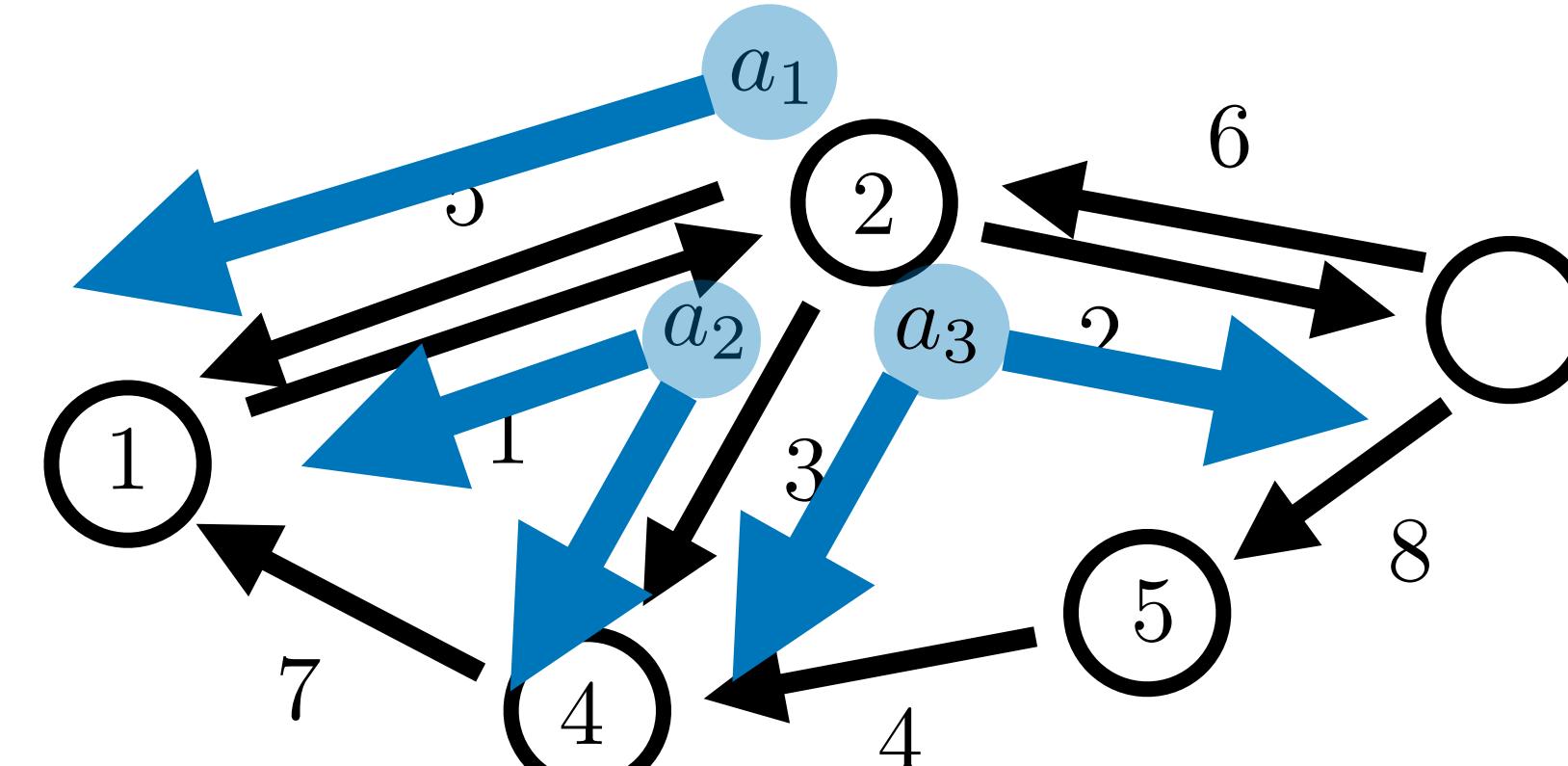
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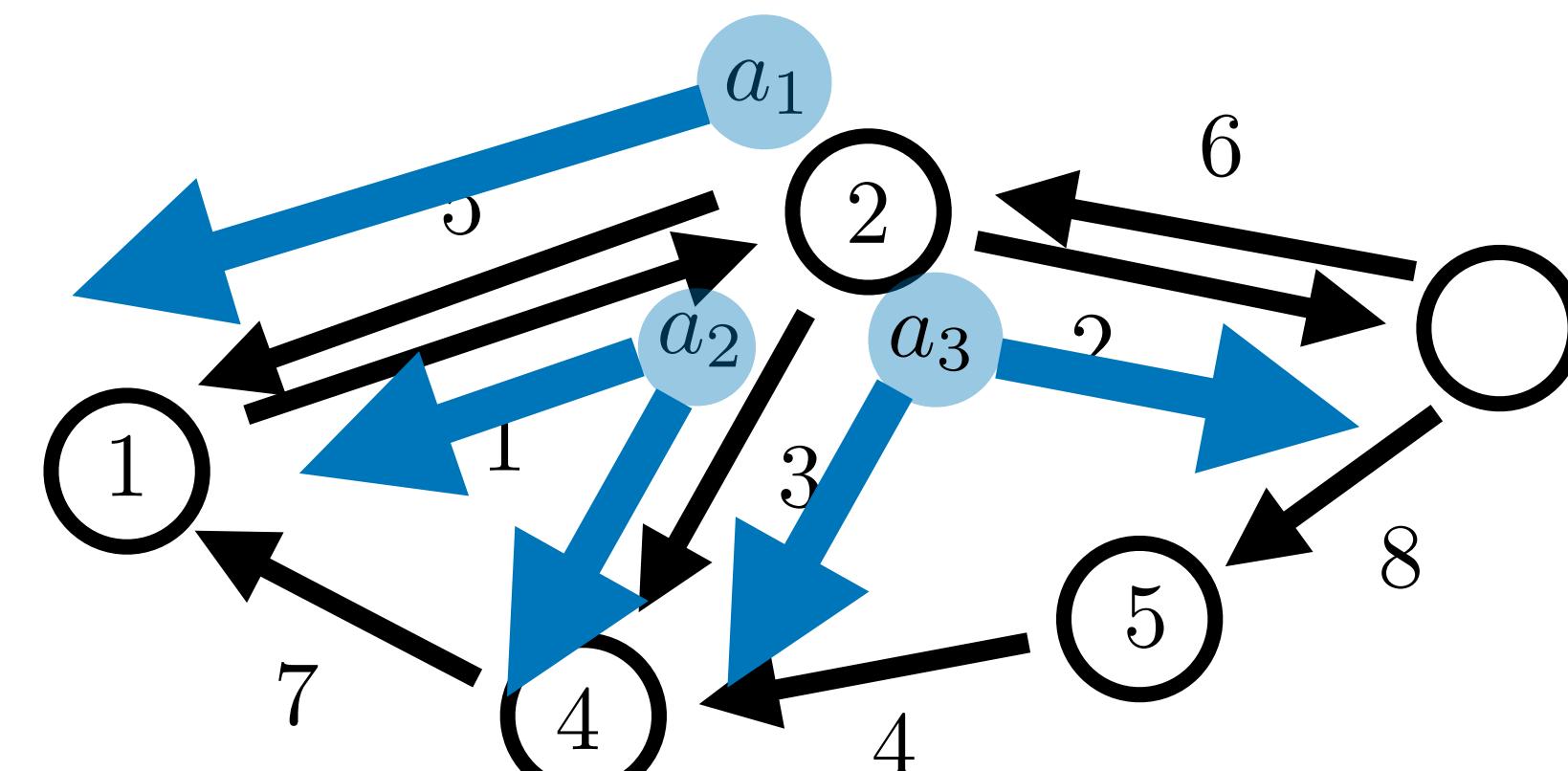
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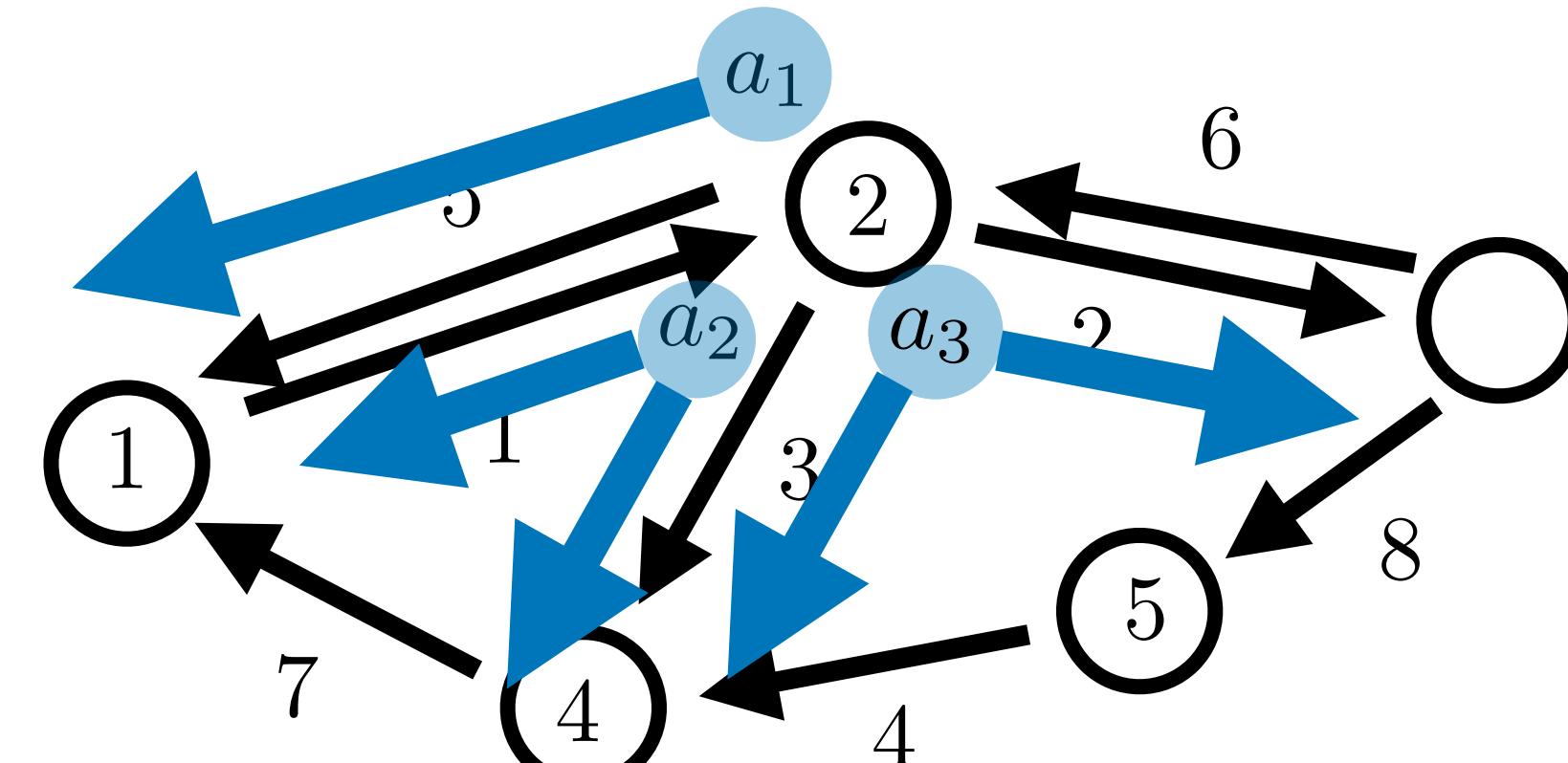
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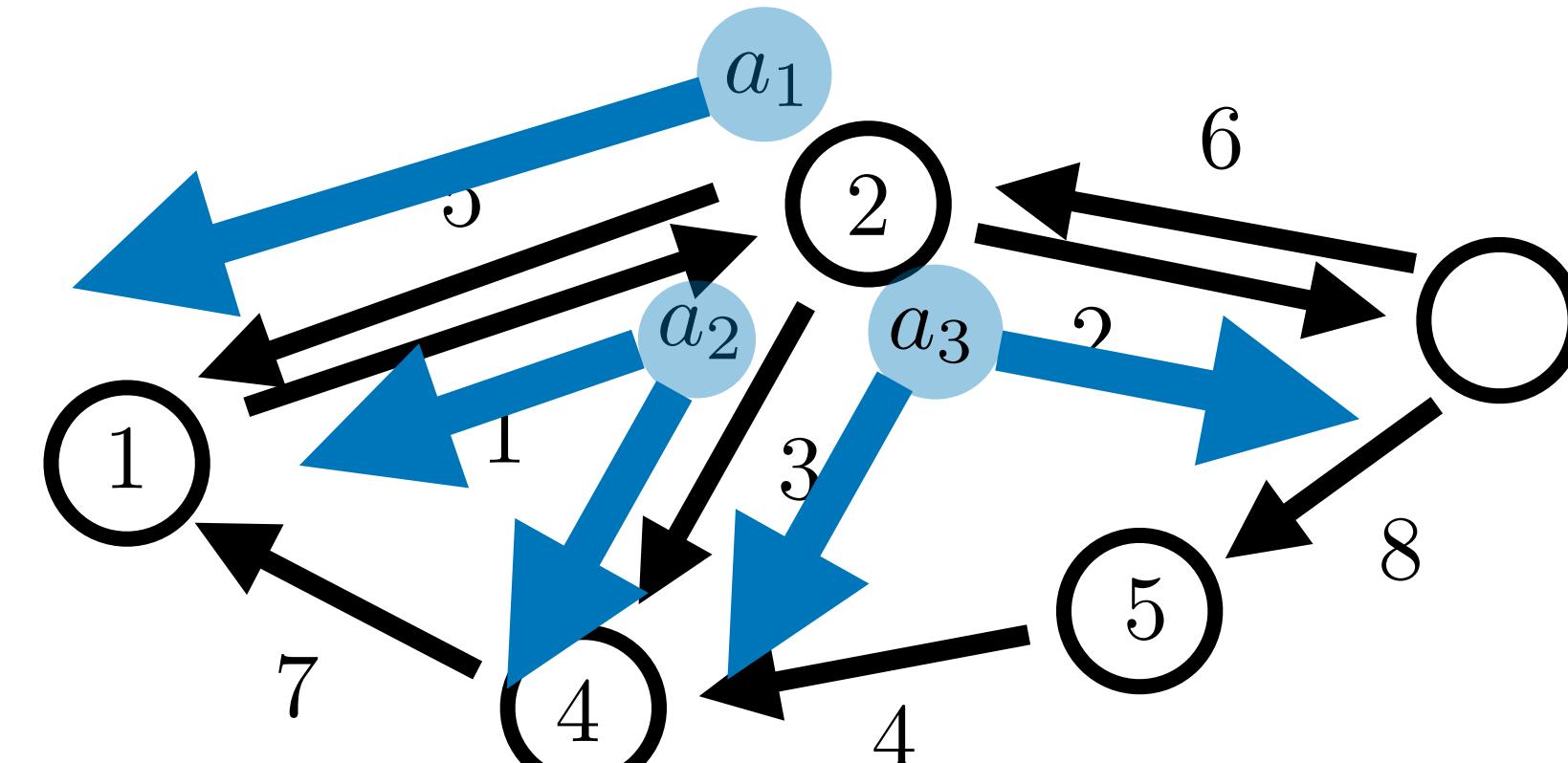
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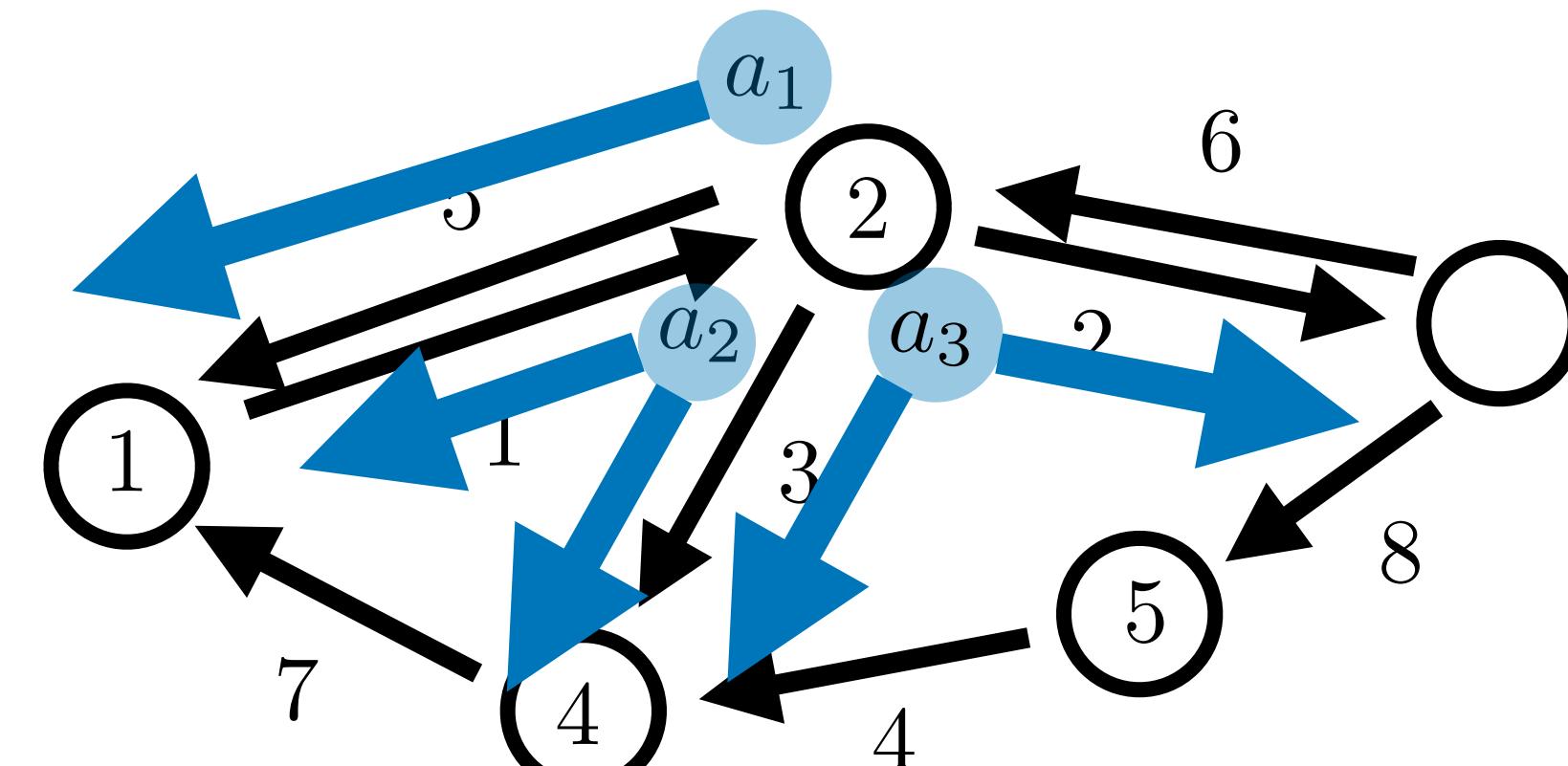
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$$\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{A}| \times |\mathcal{S}|}$$

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$$[\Pi]_{as} = \begin{cases} \text{Prob}(a|s) & ; \text{ prob. of taking } a \text{ given being in } s \\ 0 & ; \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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$$E_{\mathcal{A}} = E_{\text{out}} W$$

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$$x \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$$
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Optimization of Average Rewards

$$\max_x \quad r^T x$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad [E_{\mathcal{A}} - P]x = [E_{\text{out}} - E_{\text{in}}]Wx = 0 \quad v \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$$

$$1^T x = 1, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x \geq 0 \quad \mu \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$$

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{optimal average reward}$$

Markov Decision Processes

Graph:

$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$$

Vertices	$v \in \mathcal{V}$	States	$s \in \mathcal{S}$	$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S}$
Edges	$e \in \mathcal{E}$		$e = (v, v')$	

Incidence Matrices $E \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{E}|}$ $E = E_{\text{in}} - E_{\text{out}}$

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Transition Kernel

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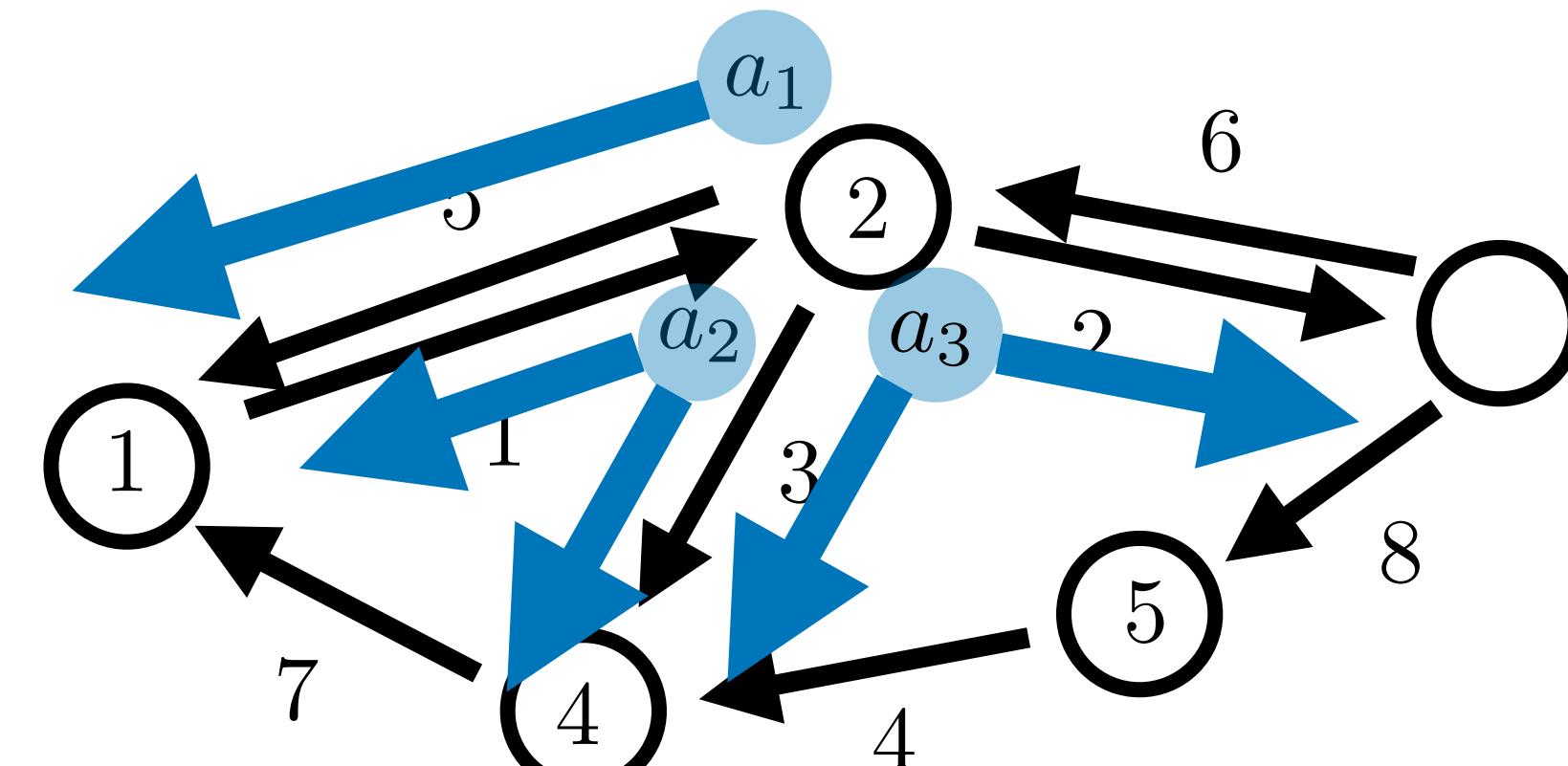
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$x = \Pi z$

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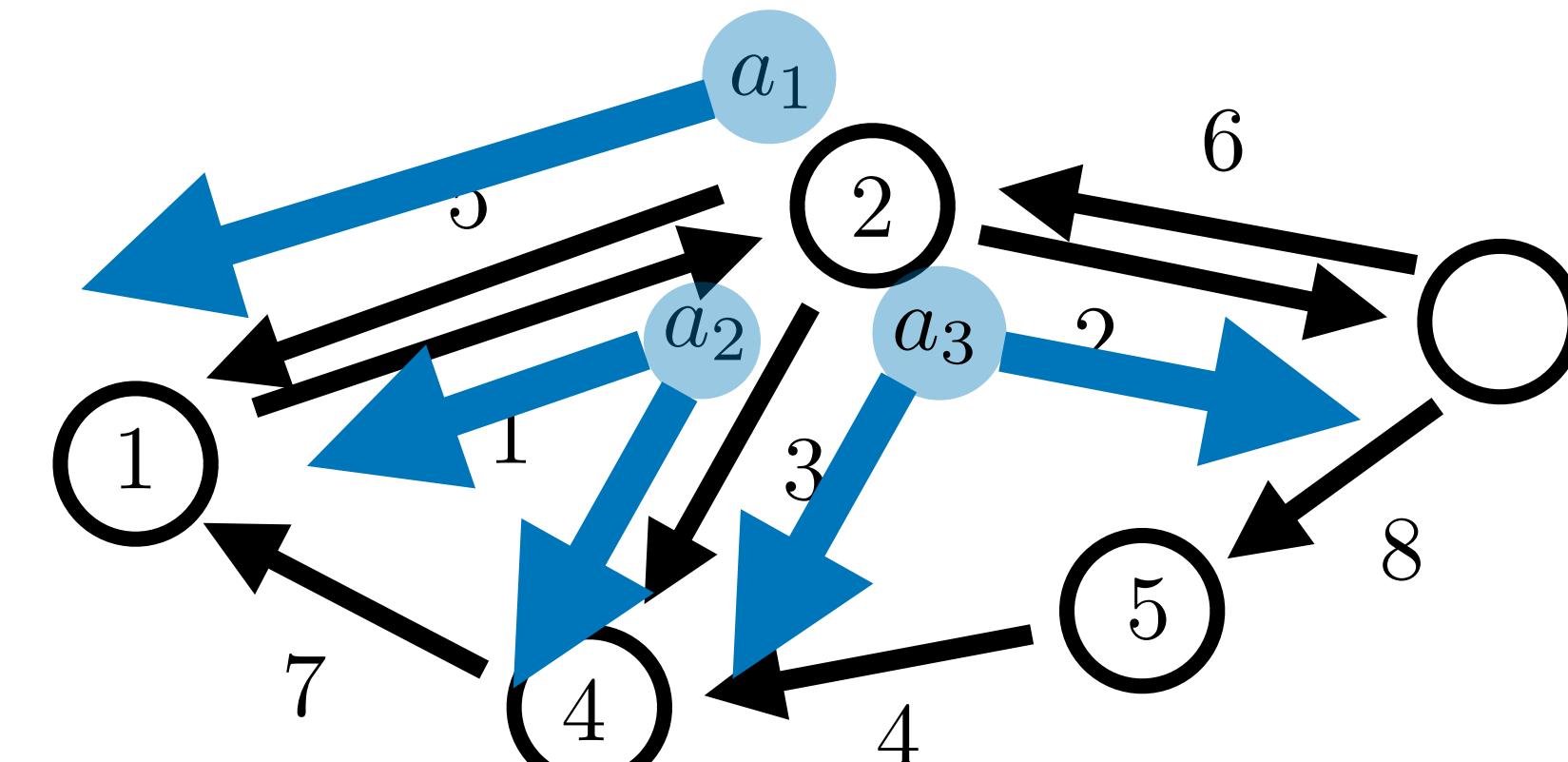
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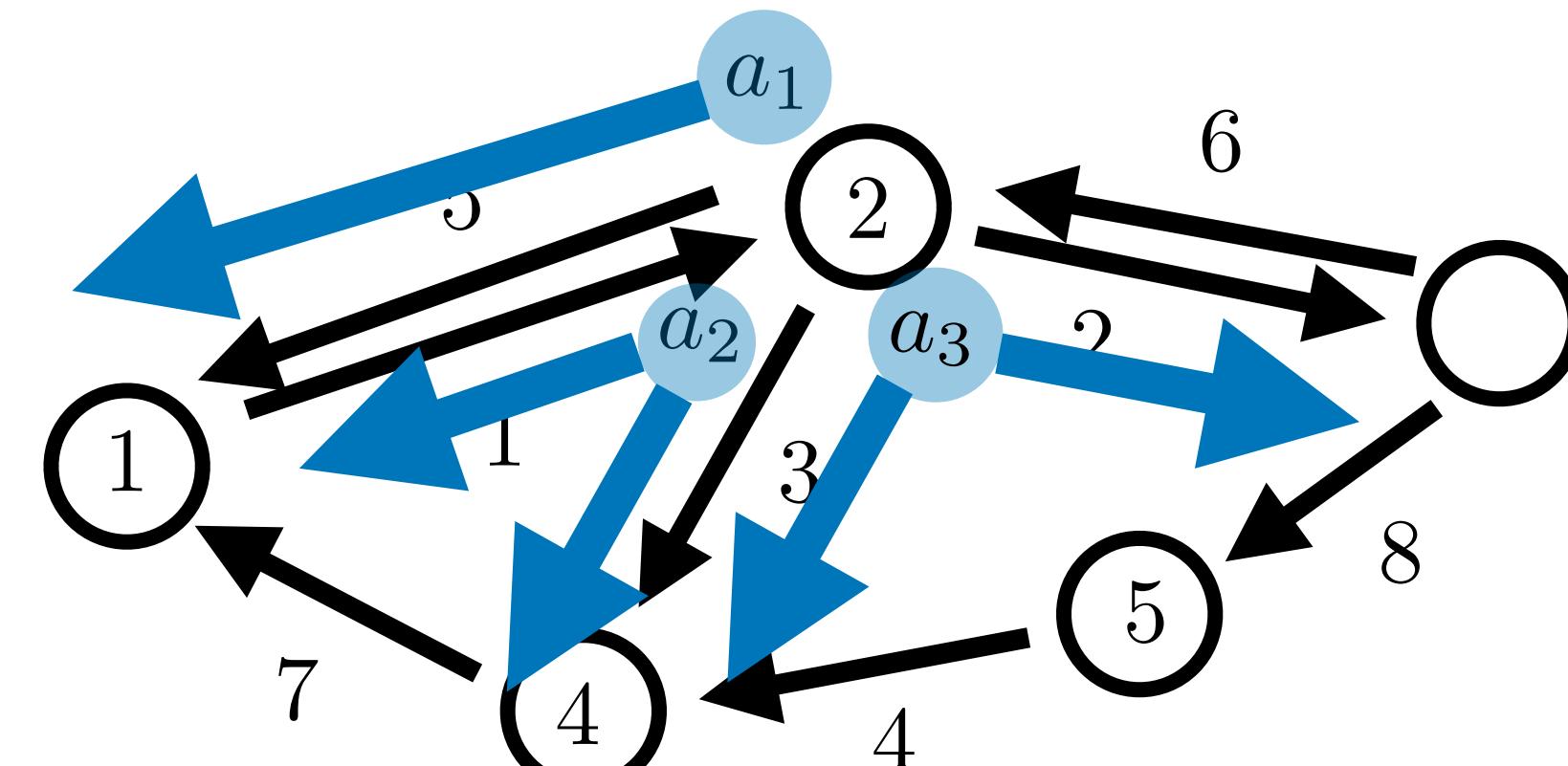
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 inefficiency of ea. action

Complementary slackness
“No inefficient action is used”

$$\mu^T x = 0$$

Markov Decision Processes

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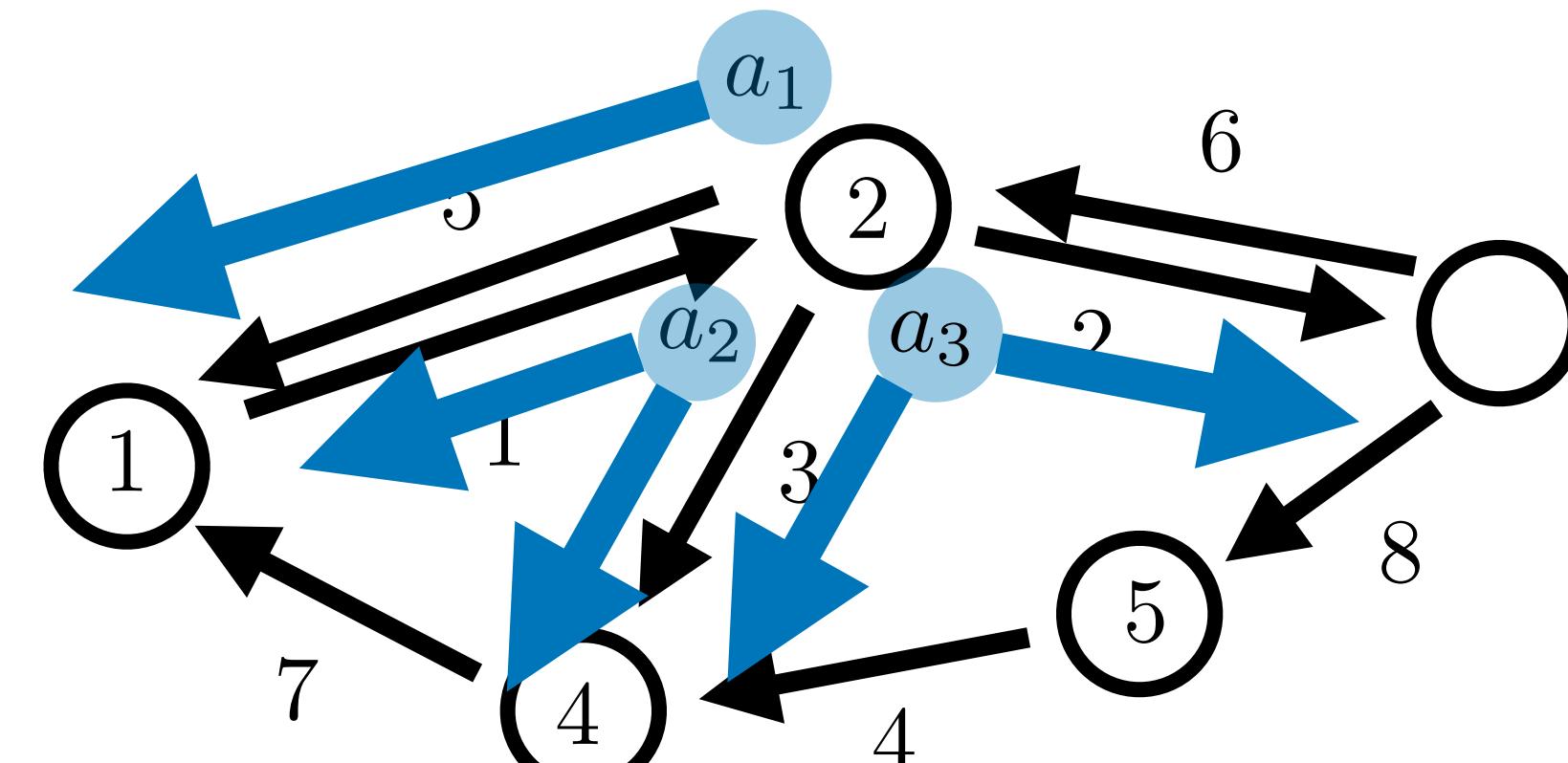
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$x = \Pi z$

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Optimization of Average Rewards

$$\max_x r^T x$$

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Bellman Equation

$$v^T E_{\mathcal{A}} = r^T - \lambda 1^T + v^T P - \mu^T$$

Markov Decision Processes

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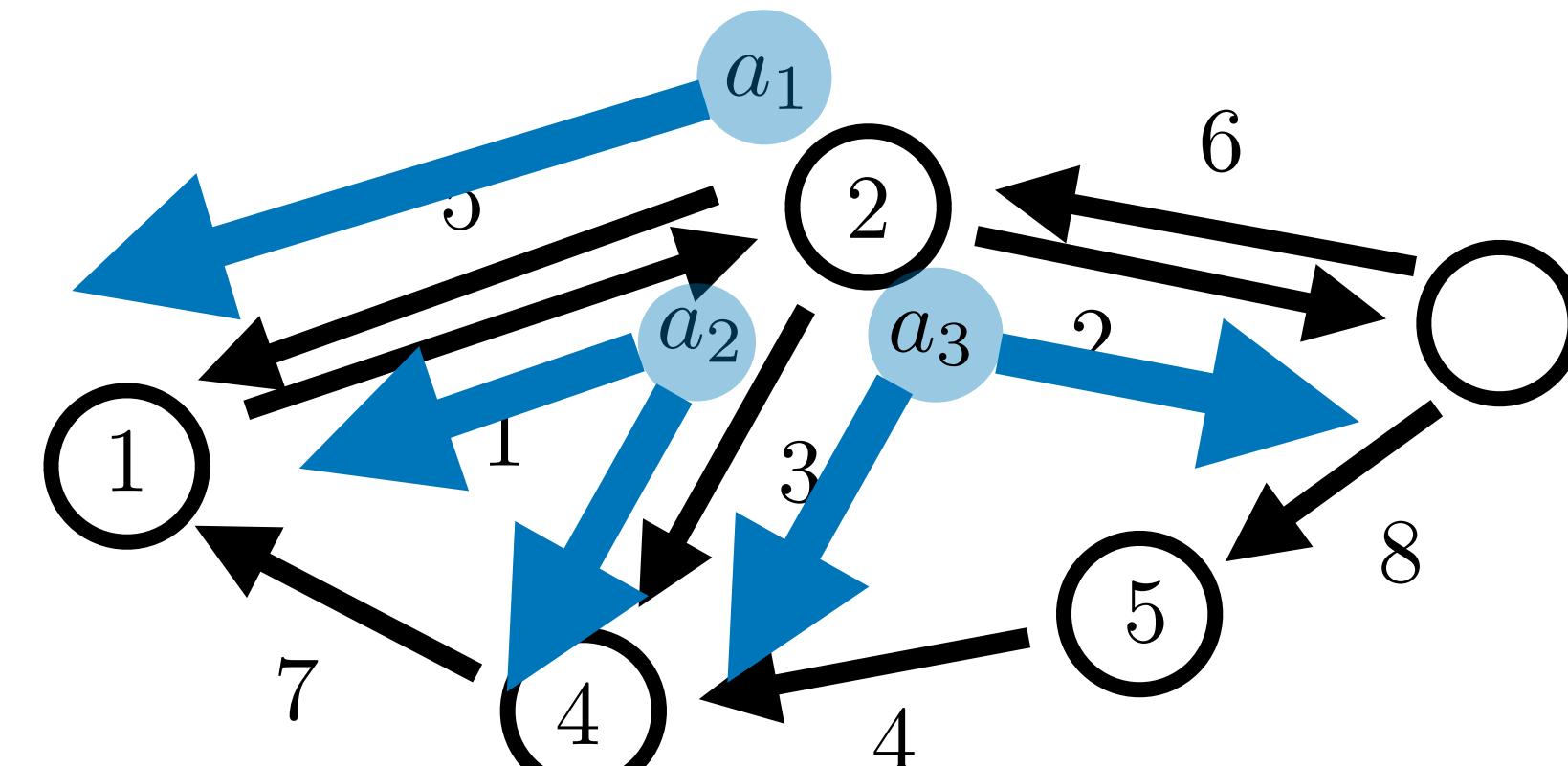
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$\mu \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$ inefficiency of ea. action

Bellman Equation

Q-value

$$v^T E_{\mathcal{A}} = r^T - \lambda \mathbf{1}^T + q^T - \mu^T$$

$$q^T = v^T P$$

Markov Decision Processes

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Transition Kernel $P \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{A}|}$ $W \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{E}| \times |\mathcal{A}|}$

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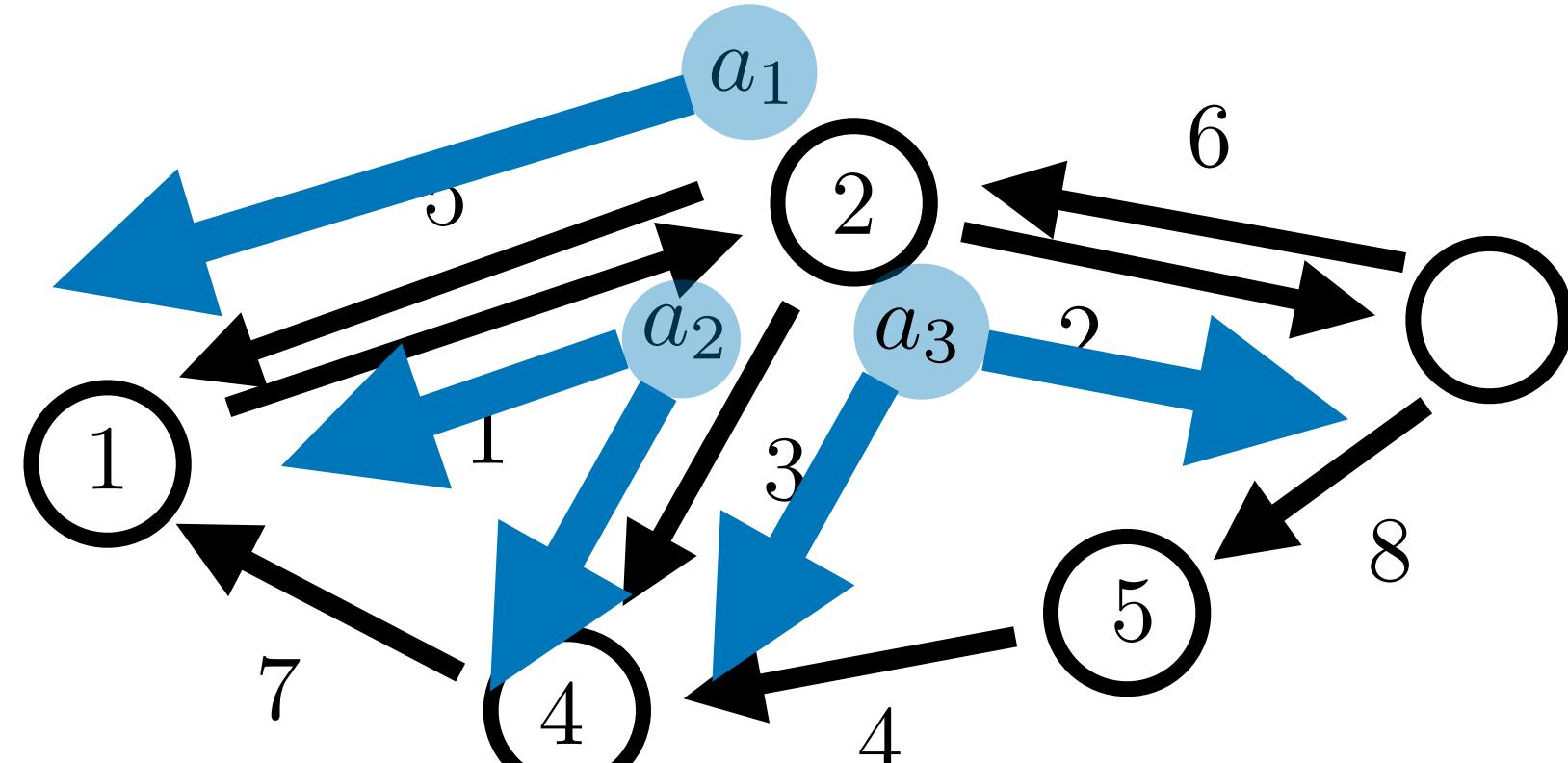
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Optimization of Discounted Rewards

$$\max_x \quad r^T x = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t r^T x_t$$

s.t. $[E_{\mathcal{A}} - \gamma P]x = [E_{\text{out}} - \gamma E_{\text{in}}]Wx = (1 - \gamma)z_0 \quad v \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$

$1^T x = 1, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$x \geq 0 \quad \mu \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$

$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ optimal average reward

$v \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$ discounted value on states

$\mu \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$ inefficiency of ea. action

Discounted Bellman Equation

$$v^T E_{\mathcal{A}} = r^T + \gamma v^T P - \mu^T$$

Markov Decision Processes

Graph:

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Transition Kernel

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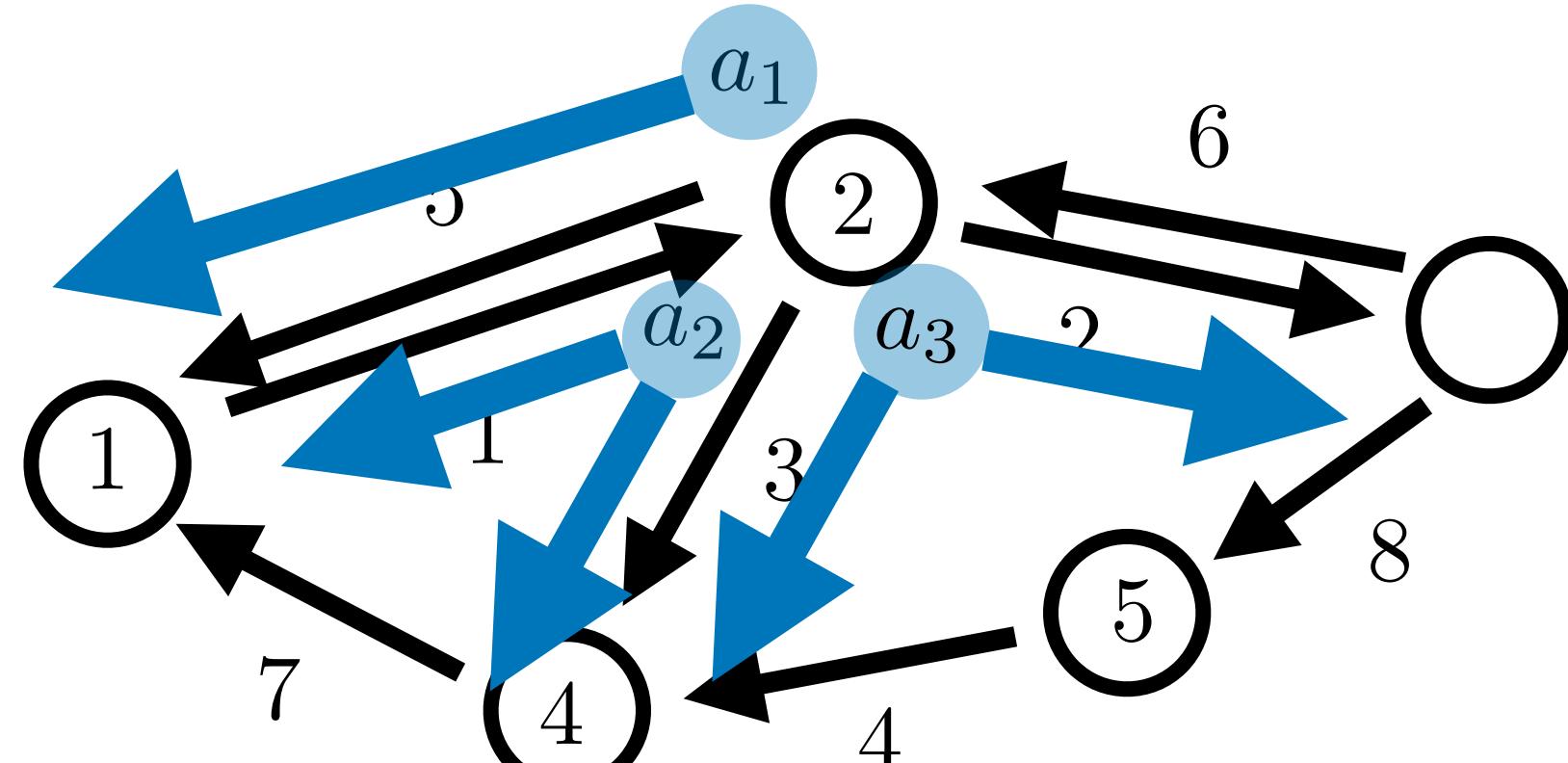
$$[P]_{s'a} = \begin{cases} \text{Prob}(s'|s, a); & \text{prob. of trans. from } s \text{ to } s' \text{ given } a \\ 0; & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$[W]_{ea} = \begin{cases} \text{Prob}(e|s, a); & \text{prob. of taking edge } e \text{ from } s \text{ given } a \\ 0; & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Policy $\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{A}| \times |\mathcal{S}|}$
 $M \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{S}|}$

$$[\Pi]_{as} = \begin{cases} \text{Prob}(a|s) & ; \text{ prob. of taking } a \text{ given being in } s \\ 0 & ; \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$[M]_{s's} = \begin{cases} \text{Prob}(s'|s) & ; \text{ prob. of trans. from } s \text{ to } s' \\ 0 & ; \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$E_{\mathcal{A}} = E_{\text{out}} W$$

$$P = E_{\text{in}} W$$

$$M = P\Pi$$

$$I = E_{\mathcal{A}} \Pi$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$ mass distribution on state-action pairs

$y \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{E}|}$ mass distribution on edges

$z \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$ mass distribution on states

$r \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$ rewards on state-actions

Optimization of Discounted Rewards

$$\max_x \quad r^T x = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t r^T x_t$$

s.t. $[E_{\mathcal{A}} - \gamma P]x = [E_{\text{out}} - \gamma E_{\text{in}}]Wx = (1 - \gamma)z_0 \quad v \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$

$1^T x = 1, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$x \geq 0 \quad \mu \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$

$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ optimal average reward

$v \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$ discounted value on states

$\mu \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$ inefficiency of ea. action

Discounted Bellman Equation

$$v^T E_{\mathcal{A}} = r^T + \gamma v^T P - \mu^T$$

Markov Decision Processes

Graph:

$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$$

Vertices	$v \in \mathcal{V}$	States	$s \in \mathcal{S}$	$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S}$
Edges	$e \in \mathcal{E}$		$e = (v, v')$	

Incidence Matrices $E \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{E}|}$ $E = E_{\text{in}} - E_{\text{out}}$

$$[E]_{ve} = \begin{cases} -1 & ; \text{ if } e \text{ out of } v \\ 1 & ; \text{ if } e \text{ into } v \\ 0 & ; \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$[E_{\text{out}}]_{ve} = \begin{cases} 1; & \text{if } e \text{ out of } v \\ 0; & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$[E_{\text{in}}]_{ve} = \begin{cases} 1; & \text{if } e \text{ into } v \\ 0; & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Markov Decision Process

Actions $a \in \mathcal{A}$ total actions $\mathcal{A} = \bigcup_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \mathcal{A}_s$

$a \in \mathcal{A}_s$ actions from ea. state

For each action: $\text{Prob}(s'|s, a)$ Probability of transitioning to state s' from state s

Transition Kernel

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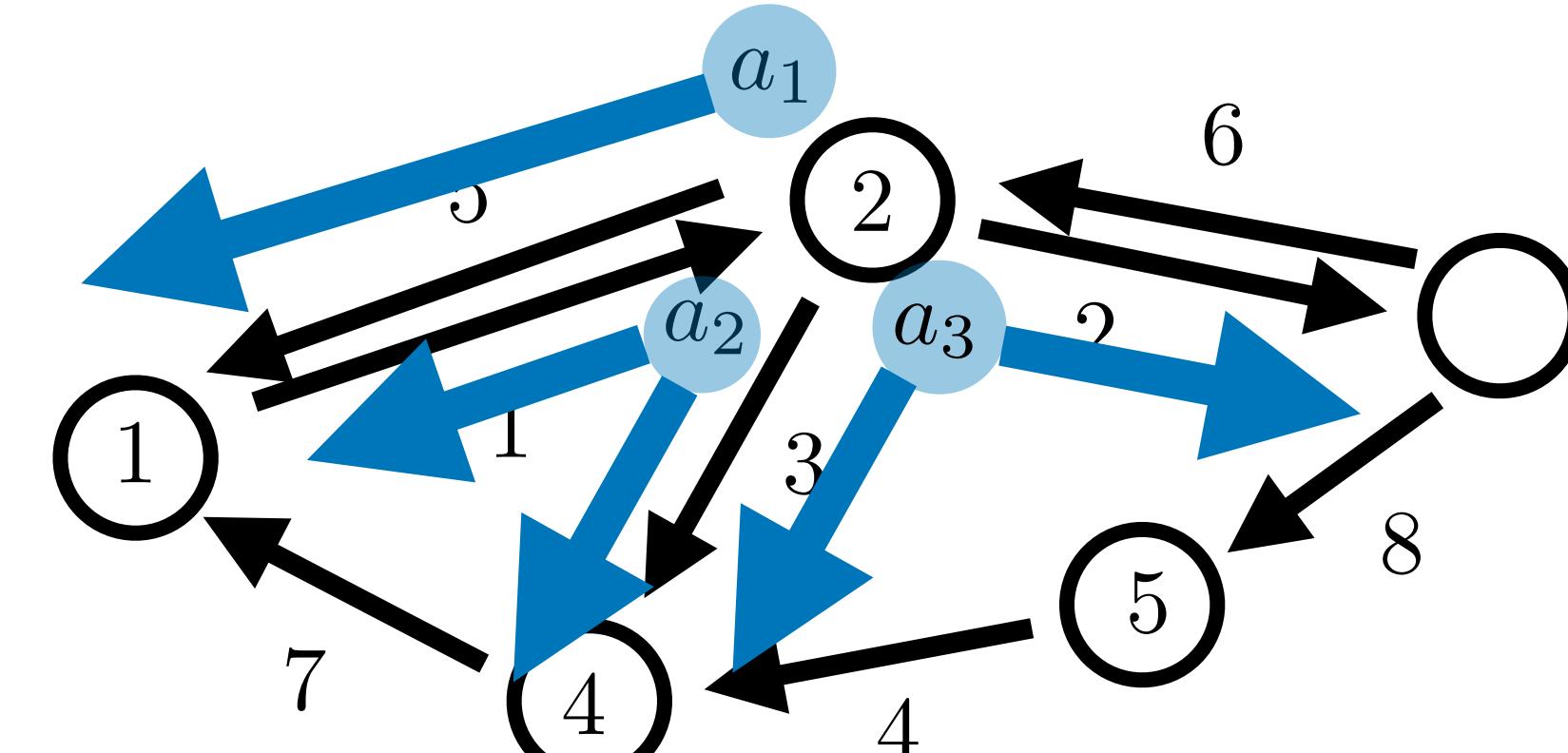
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$$y \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{E}|}$$
 mass distribution on edges

$$z \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$$
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$$r \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$$
 rewards on state-actions

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$$\lambda \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{optimal average reward}$$

$$v \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}$$
 discounted value on states

$$\mu \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$$
 inefficiency of ea. action

Discounted Bellman Equation

Discounted Q-value

$$v^T E_{\mathcal{A}} = r^T + \gamma q^T - \mu^T$$

$$q^T = v^T P$$