

# Physical database design

CMT220  
Databases & Modelling

Cardiff School of **Computer Science & Informatics**

<http://www.cs.cf.ac.uk>

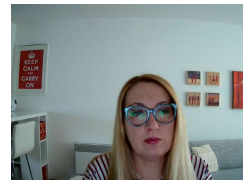


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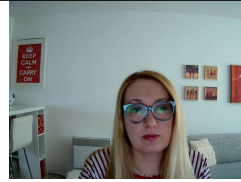
## Lecture

- in the last few lectures, we looked into database design issues
- in particular, we studied functional dependencies and normalisation
- in this lecture we consider a range of issues concerning physical database design, i.e. issues concerning database performance



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## Physical database design



- physical database design involves:
  - translating a logical design (tables) into a technical specification for storing and retrieving data
  - creating a design that will provide adequate performance and ensure database integrity and security
  - optimising both processing and space, but processing efficiency is usually more important
- it is about making decisions, not just implementation
  - the decisions made at this stage will have a major impact on data accessibility, response time, etc.

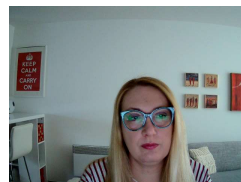


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## Data type

- selecting a data type for an attribute so that it
  - minimises storage space
  - represents all possible values
  - improves data integrity
  - supports all data manipulations



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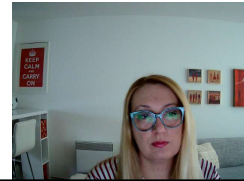
## Data coding

- an attribute with a limited number of possible values can be translated into a code

| Product# | Description | Finish |
|----------|-------------|--------|
| P1       | chair       | C      |
| P2       | desk        | A      |
| P3       | table       | C      |
| ...      | ...         | ...    |

| Code | Value |
|------|-------|
| A    | birch |
| B    | maple |
| C    | oak   |

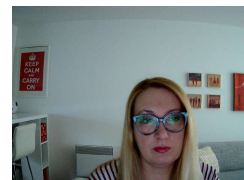
- data coding is good for query performance and storage



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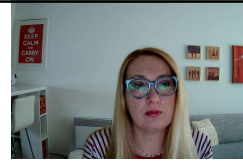
## Indexing

- the relational model says that order does not matter
- from a practical point of view (e.g. finding information fast), order is very important
- indexes are to do with "ordering" data



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# Analogy



## Index

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>A</b>   | Dial type 4, 12                    |
| About cordless telephones 51                       | Directory 17                       |
| Advanced operation 17                              | DSL filter 5                       |
| Answer an external call during an intercom call 15 | <b>E</b>                           |
| Answering system operation 27                      | Edit an entry in the directory 20  |
|  | Edit handset name 11               |
| <b>B</b>   | <b>F</b>                           |
| Basic operation 14                                 | FCC, AGTA and IC regulations 53    |
| Battery 9, 38                                      | Find handset 16                    |
| <b>C</b>   | <b>H</b>                           |
| Call log 22, 37                                    | Handset display screen messages 36 |
| Call waiting 14                                    | Handset layout 6                   |
| Chart of characters 18                             | <b>I</b>                           |
| <b>D</b>   | Important safety instructions 39   |
| Date and time 8                                    | Index 56-57                        |
| Delete from redial 26                              | Installation 1                     |
| Delete from the call log 24                        | Install handset battery 2          |
| Delete from the directory 20                       | Intercom call 15                   |
| Delete your announcement 32                        | Internet 4                         |
| Desk/table bracket installation 4                  |                                    |
| Dial a number from redial 26                       |                                    |

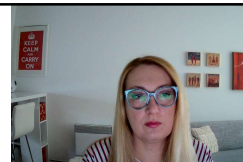


- book index is an **ordered list** of headings and associated pointers to pages where useful material relating to that heading is mentioned
- we do not have to read the whole book **page by page** in order to find specific information
- instead, using an index we can **jump** straight to the relevant page

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# Index



- an index on an attribute (or a set of attributes) of a table is a data structure that makes it efficient to access values of the attribute

| Index  |            | Table          |                 |                   |              |        |
|--------|------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|
| Index  |            | Employee Table |                 |                   |              |        |
| Dept # | Pointer    | Record #       | Social Security | Employee Name     | Phone        | Dept # |
| 10002  | Record 101 | Record 1       | 708-88-9639     | Bailey Workman    | 555-555-9878 | 10002  |
| 10003  | Record 273 | Record 2       | 030-74-8520     | Patricia Spencer  | 555-555-6321 | 10002  |
| 10004  | Record 33  | Record 3       | 020-87-8952     | Jeanette Williams | 555-555-7785 | 10003  |
| 10005  | Record 5   | Record 4       | 000-56-9636     | Timothy James     | 555-555-1479 | 10004  |
| 10006  | Record 576 | Record 5       | 000-56-9636     | Nicole Kaupp      | 555-555-0036 | 10005  |
| 10007  | Record 11  |                |                 |                   |              |        |
| 10008  | Record 460 |                |                 |                   |              |        |
| 10009  | Record 33  |                |                 |                   |              |        |
| 1010   | Record 411 |                |                 |                   |              |        |

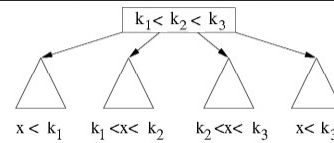
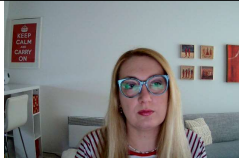
The Index is Accessed and the Pointer is Used To Locate The Actual Record in the Table



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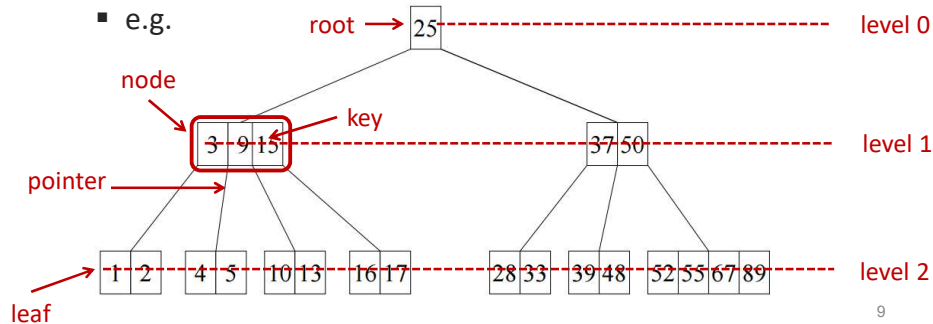
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## B-tree



- a widely used indexing structure
- B-tree is a self-balancing tree that keeps data sorted and allows searches, sequential access, insertions and deletions in logarithmic time

▪ e.g.



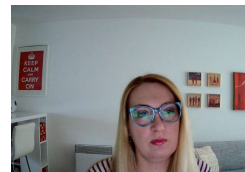
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## B-tree of order $m$

1. all leaf nodes are at the same level
2. each internal node has at least  $\lceil m/2 \rceil$  and at most  $m$  children
3. each leaf node has at least  $\lceil m/2 \rceil$  and at most  $(m - 1)$  keys
4. each node with  $j$  children has got  $(j - 1)$  keys
5. the root is either a leaf or has at least 2 children

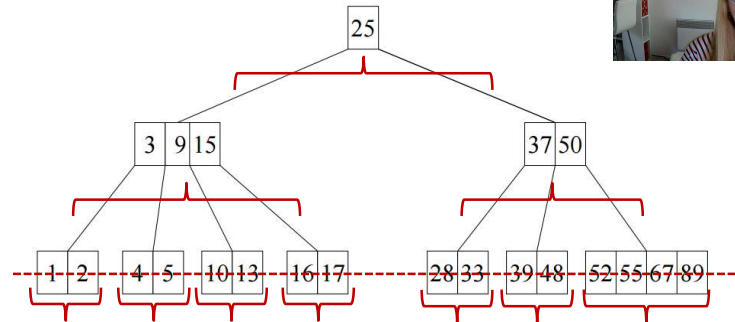
The **ceiling function**  $\lceil x \rceil$  of a real number  $x$  is the smallest integer that is not smaller than  $x$ , e.g.  $\lceil 3.14 \rceil = 4$ .

The **integer part**  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  of a real number  $x$  is the largest integer  $y$  such that  $|y| \leq |x|$ , e.g.  $\lfloor 3.14 \rfloor = 3$ .



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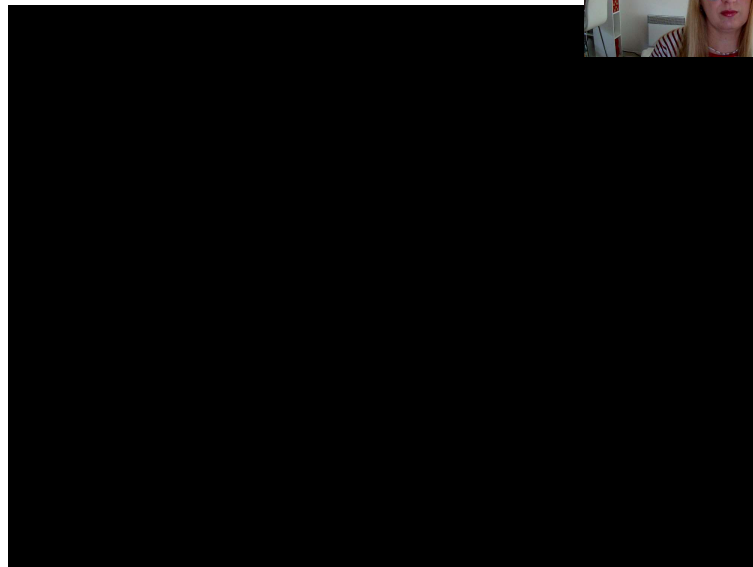
## Example: B-tree of order 5



1. all leaf nodes are at the same level
2. each internal node has at least 3 and at most 5 children
3. each leaf node has at least 2 and at most 4 keys
4. each node with  $j$  children has got  $(j - 1)$  keys
5. the root is either a leaf or has at least 2 children

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## Example: B-tree of order 3



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## Search in a B-tree

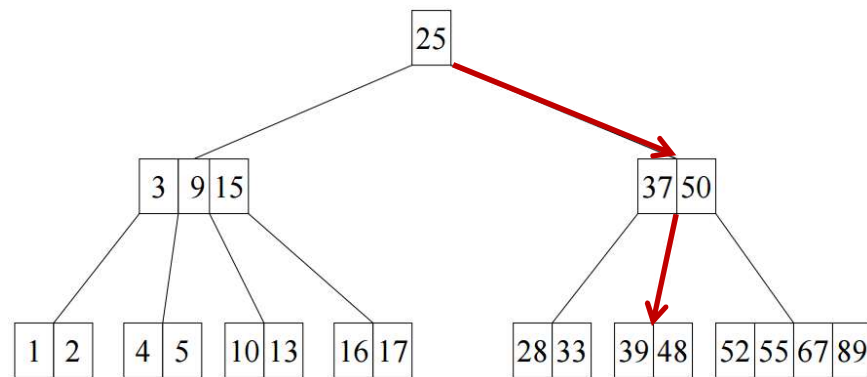
- the search for a record with key  $x$  as a recursive function  $\text{search}(\text{node}, x)$
- if node is null, return null // not found!
- otherwise, iterate through records  $(k_1, r_1) \dots, (k_m, r_m)$  of the node
  - if  $x = k_i$ , then return  $r_i$  // found it!
  - if  $x < k_i$ , then  $\text{search}(\text{child}_i, x)$  // search left sub-tree
  - if  $k_i < x$ , then  $\text{search}(\text{child}_{i+1}, x)$  // search right sub-tree



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## Example: find 40

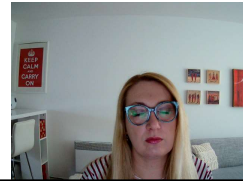


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## Inserting into a B-tree

- search the B-tree to find the node where the item is to be inserted
- if the node is not full, then insert the item into the node and maintain order
- if the node is full, then it has to be split



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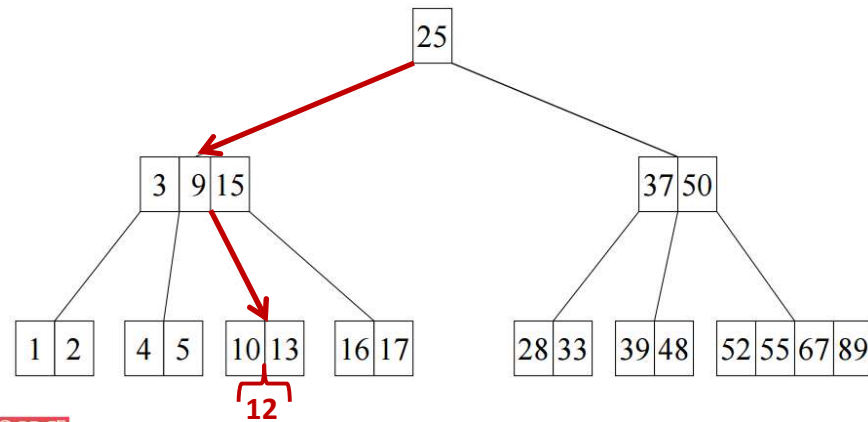
## Inserting into a B-tree



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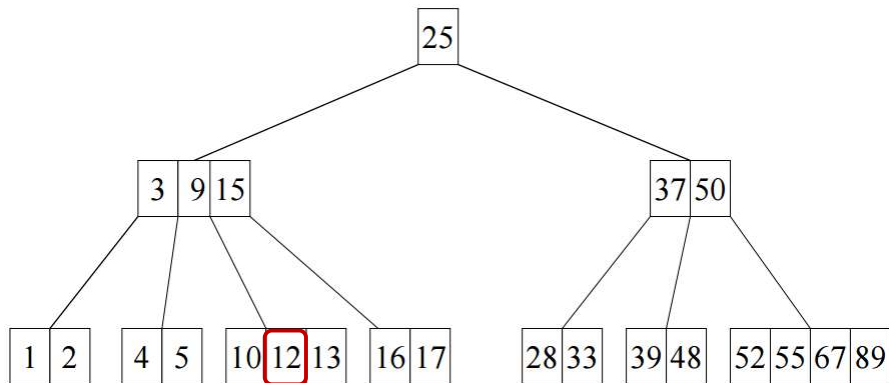
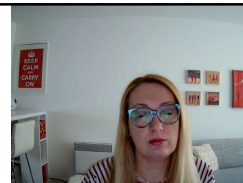
## Example: insert 12



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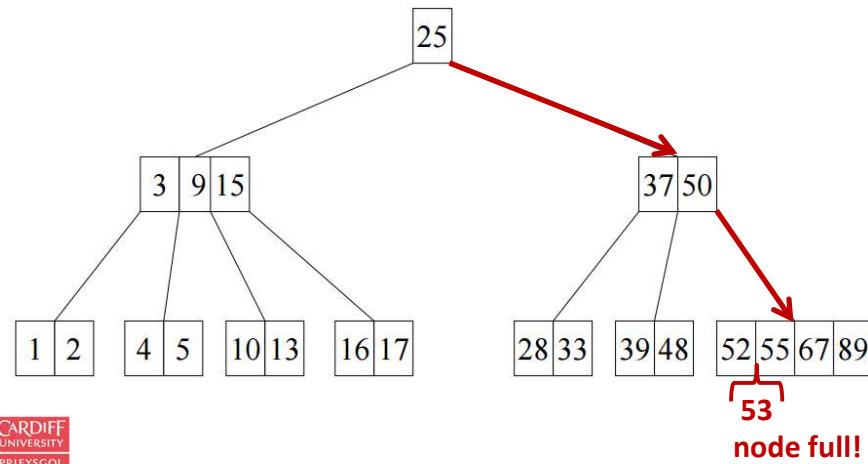
## Example: insert 12



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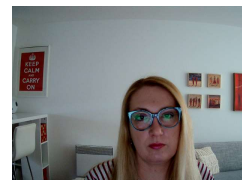
## Example: insert 53



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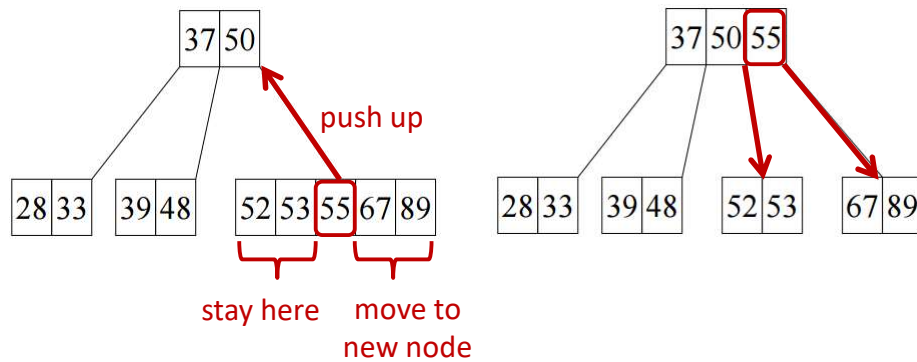
## Splitting a node

1. find **middle value** of old keys in the node and the new key, e.g. 52, 53, **55**, 67, 89
2. keep records with keys **smaller** than middle (e.g. 52, 53) in the **old node**
3. put records with keys **greater** than middle (e.g. 67, 89) in the **new node**
4. push **middle** record (e.g. 55) **up** into parent node



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## Splitting a node



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## Inserting into a B-tree

- if pushing the middle record up into parent node makes it full (**overflow**), then split the parent node and push its middle record upwards
- continue doing this until either:
  - some space is found in an ancestor node, or
  - a new root node is created

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## Deleting from a B-tree



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## Deleting from a B-tree

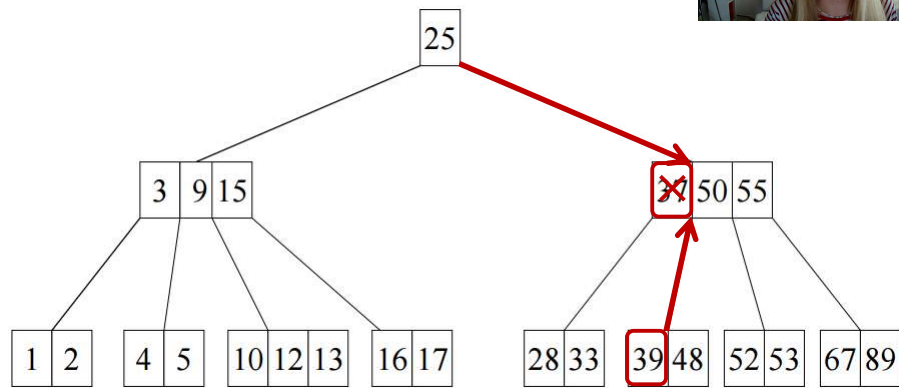
1. search the B-tree to find the node where the item is to be deleted
2. delete the key and replace it by its in-order successor, which will be found in a leaf node
3. remove successor from its leaf node
  - this may cause **underflow** (fewer than  $\lceil m/2 \rceil$  records in the node)
  - depending on how many records the sibling has, this is fixed either by **fusion** or by **transfer**



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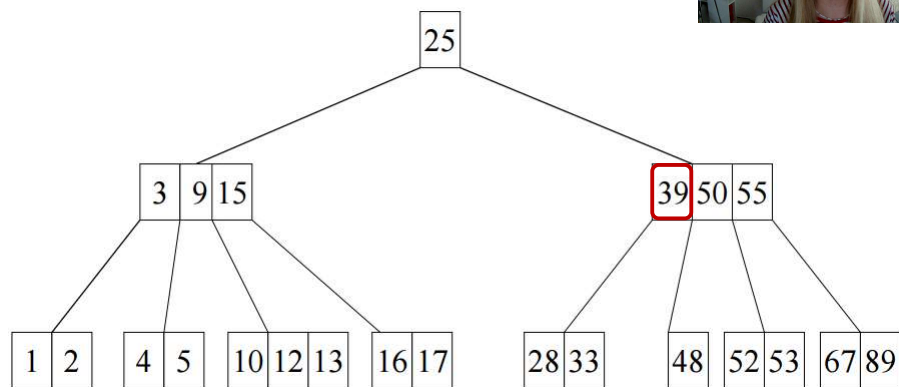
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### Example: delete 37



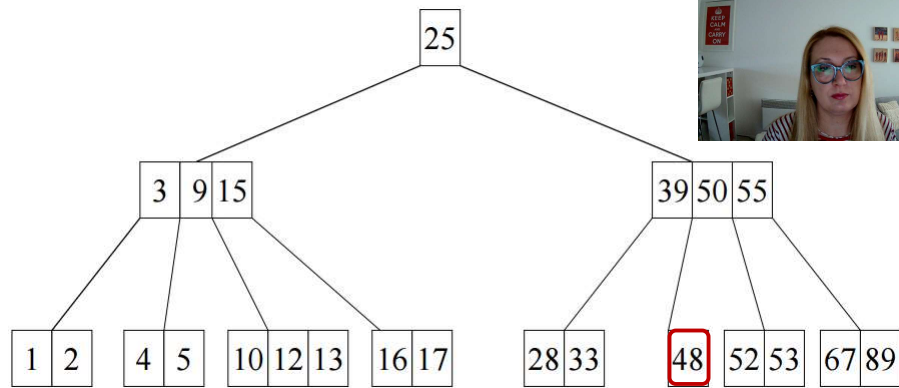
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### Example: delete 37 – replace by 39



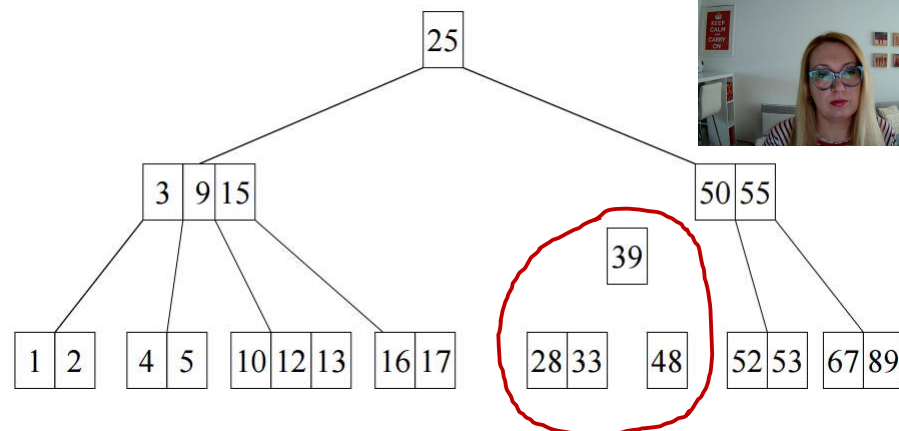
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### Example: delete 37 – fix underflow (fusion)



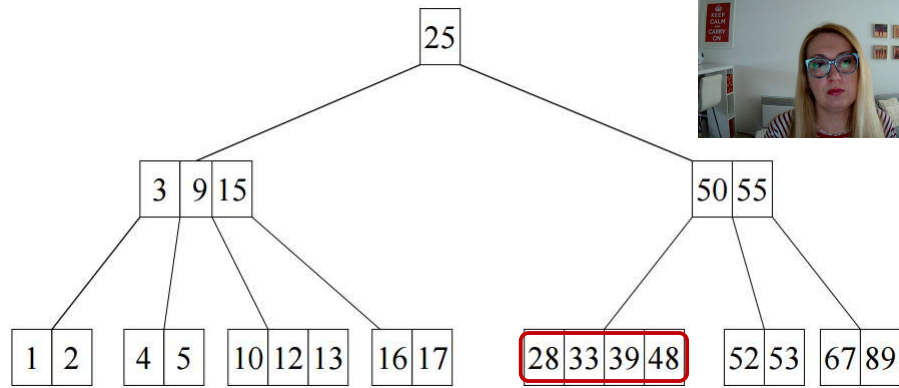
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### Example: delete 37 – fix underflow (fusion)



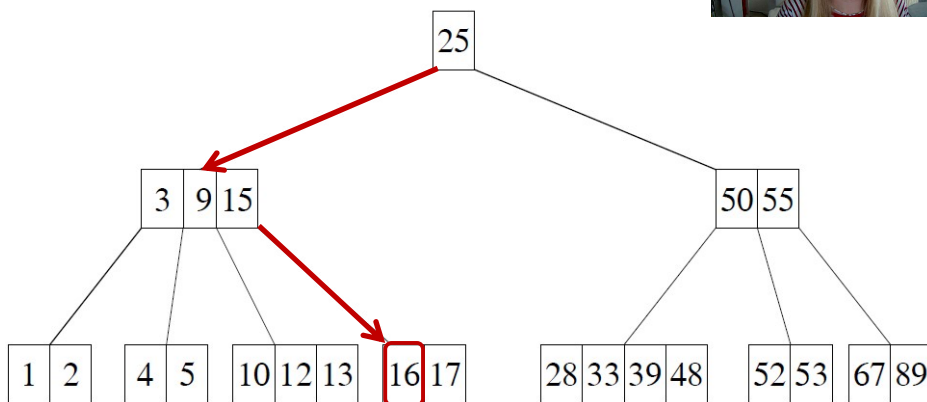
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### Example: delete 37 – fix underflow (fusion)



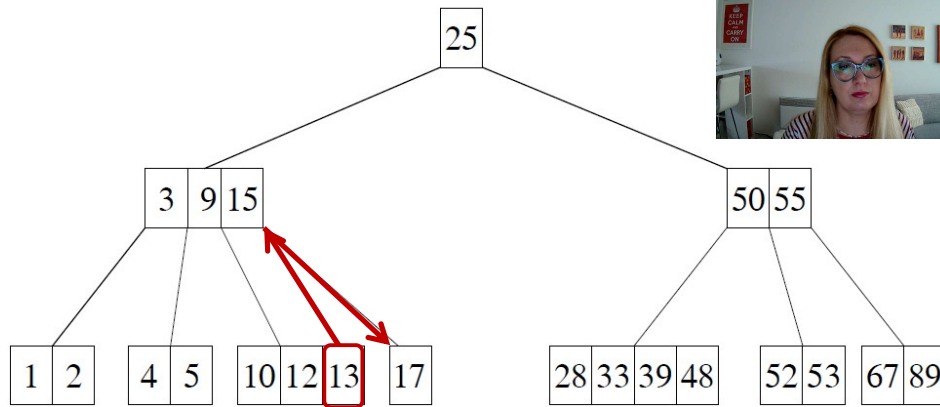
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### Example: delete 16



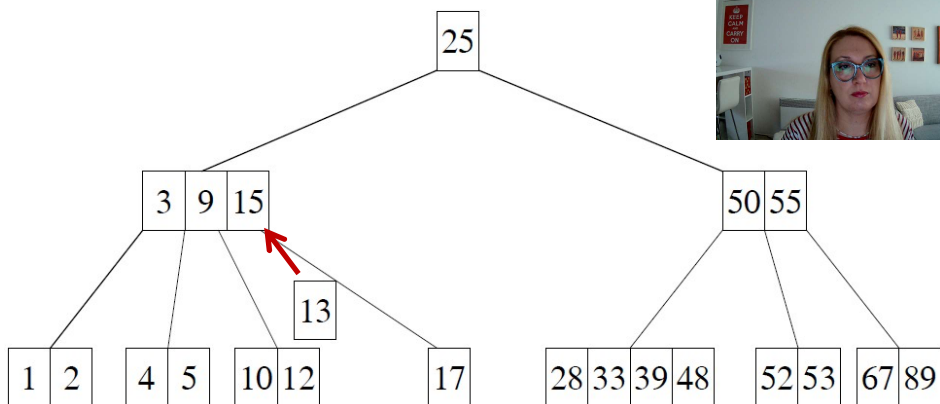
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### Example: delete 16 – fix underflow (transfer)



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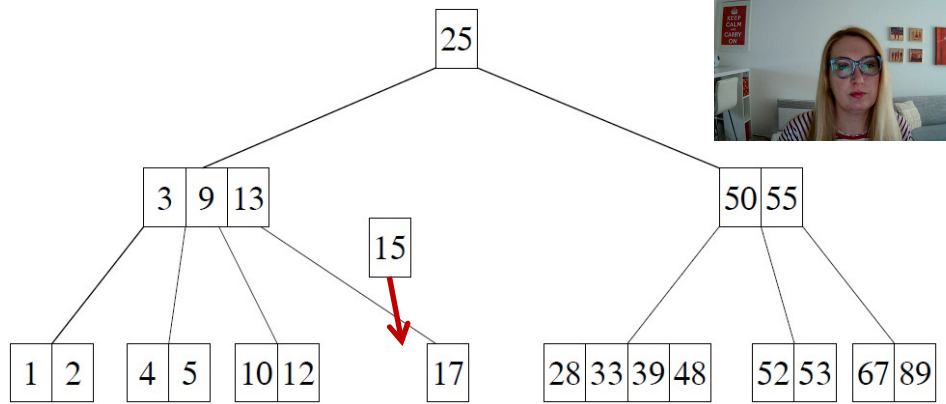
### Example: delete 16 – fix underflow (transfer)



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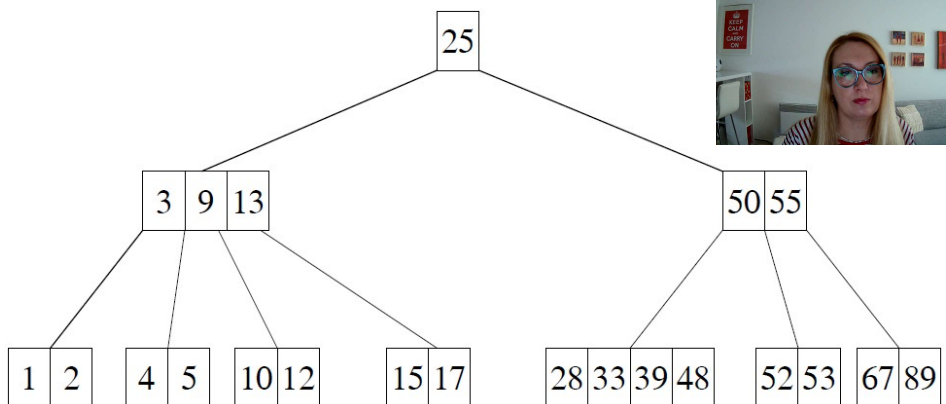


### Example: delete 16 – fix underflow (transfer)



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### Example: delete 16 – fix underflow (transfer)



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# Efficiency

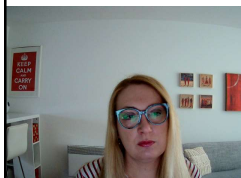
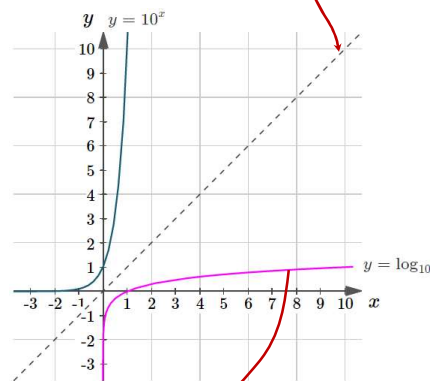


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## Efficiency of B-trees

- space complexity:  $O(n)$
- time complexity

| Operation | Average      | Worst        |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| search    | $O(\log(n))$ | $O(\log(n))$ |
| insert    | $O(\log(n))$ | $O(\log(n))$ |
| delete    | $O(\log(n))$ | $O(\log(n))$ |



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## Is a B-tree index useful?

- appropriate use of index can help data retrieval:

```
SELECT Student.S#, Module.title
FROM Student, Module
WHERE Student.S# = Module.S#
AND Student.name = 'John';
```

- assumptions:

- table Student has n tuples
- table module has m tuples
- tuples are unordered



- Q: How many comparisons do we have to perform in order to answer the query?  
(a) with or (b) without a B-tree index on S#

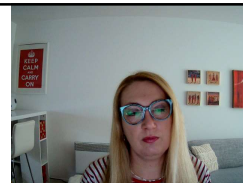


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## Conclusion

- an index file is much smaller than a table, thus more efficient to handle
- if small enough, could be kept in the main memory
- multiple indexes may be created for a single table
- an index file may be ordered, but there is no need for a table to be ordered
- if a table is updated frequently, index may not be good
- if a column contains few distinct values, then index like B-trees may not be useful



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