

Database Systems I

CMPT 354 Summer 2024

Zhengjie Miao

Announcements (Wed. July 10)

- Update on Exam I solution
 - Grades will also be updated
- Makeup OH slots
 - Thu. July 11, 12:45pm - 1:30pm @TASC I 9407
 - Fri. July 12, 11:15am - 12:00pm @TASC I 9407

Examples of using indexes

- `SELECT * FROM User WHERE name = 'Bart';`
- How is the query processed?
- Without an index on *User.name*: must scan the entire table if we store *User* as a flat file of unordered rows
- With index: go “directly” to rows with name= 'Bart '

Examples of using indexes

- ```
SELECT * FROM User, Member
WHERE User.uid = Member.uid AND Member.gid = 'cks';
```
- How to find relevant *Member* rows directly?
  - With an index on *Member.gid* or (*gid, uid*):
- For each relevant *Member* row, how to directly look up *User* rows with matching *uid*?
  - With an index on *User.uid*
  - Without it: for each *Member* row, scan the entire *User* table for matching *uid*
    - Sorting could help

# Indexes

- An **index** is an auxiliary persistent data structure
  - Search tree (e.g., B<sup>+</sup>-tree), lookup table (e.g., hash table), etc.
- Creating and dropping indexes in SQL:
  - **CREATE [UNIQUE] INDEX *indexname* ON *tablename*(*columnname*<sub>1</sub>, ..., *columnname*<sub>*n*</sub>);**
    - With UNIQUE, the DBMS will also enforce that {*columnname*<sub>1</sub>, ..., *columnname*<sub>*n*</sub>} is a key of *tablename*
  - **DROP INDEX *indexname*;** You will not have to create indices on these columns after using the unique keyword.
  - Typically, the DBMS will automatically create indexes for PRIMARY KEY and UNIQUE constraint declarations
- Can have many indexes for one table

# Indexes

- An index on  $R.A$  can speed up accesses of the form
  - $R.A = value$
  - $R.A > value$  (sometimes; depending on the index type)
- An index on  $(R.A_1, \dots, R.A_n)$  can speed up
  - $R.A_1 = value_1 \wedge \dots \wedge R.A_n = value_n$
  - $(R.A_1, \dots, R.A_n) > (value_1, \dots, value_n)$  (again depends)
- Ordering of index columns is important—is an index on  $(R.A, R.B)$  equivalent to one on  $(R.B, R.A)$ ?

For the first case, if you access the A column it can be obtained easily. However, if you access the B column, accessing the data will not be as fast.
- How about an index on  $R.A$  plus another on  $R.B$ ?

If you are checking that  $R.A$  equals some value and  $R.B$  equals another value, then you can have separate indices.

Ask professor to go over the difference of using separate vs joined indices

# Choosing indexes to create

More indexes = better performance?

- Indexes take space
- Indexes need to be maintained when data is updated
- Indexes have one more level of indirection
- Optimal index selection depends on both query and update workload and the size of tables
  - Automatic index selection is now featured in some commercial DBMS

Automatic index problem is common

# Choosing indexes to create

- Make some attribute K a search key if the WHERE clause contains:
  - An exact match on K
  - A range predicate on K
  - A join on K



# The index selection problem 1

- Your workload is

Since name will have less duplication, the indices will serve more for optimizing the query

100000 queries

```
SELECT uid
FROM User
WHERE name = ?
```

Age will have at most 100 values. So having a index of that would not be as beneficial compared to name

100000 queries

```
SELECT uid
FROM User
WHERE age = ?
```

**Which one is better?**

- A. Index on name
- B. Index on age

# The index selection problem 2

- Your workload is

100000 queries

```
SELECT uid
FROM User
WHERE name = ?
```

100000 queries

```
SELECT uid
FROM User
WHERE name = ? AND age > ?
```

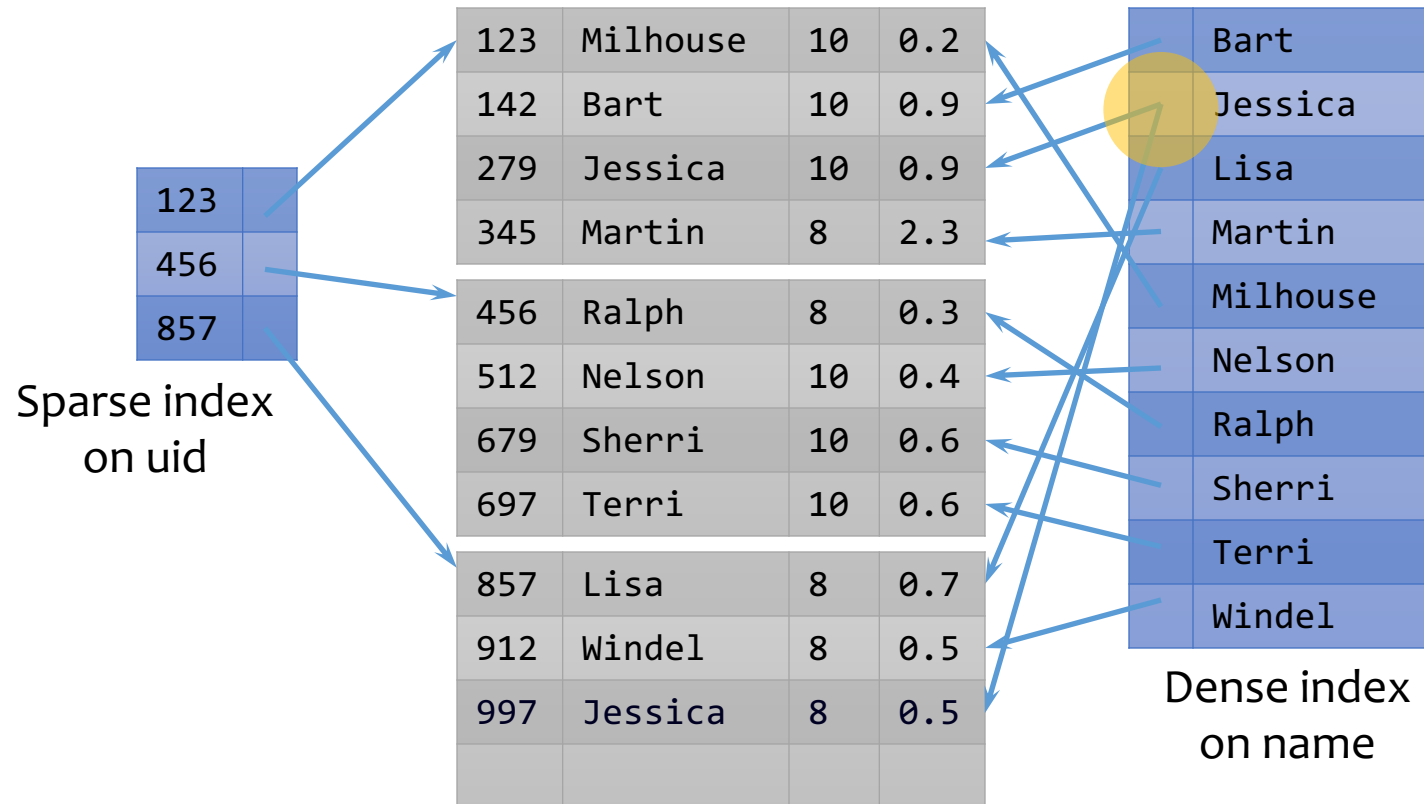
For the first query, the first index is  
better to allow you quick access to the names

**Which one is better?**

- A. Index on (name, age)
- B. Index on (age, name)

# Dense and sparse indexes

- **Dense**: one index entry for each search key value
  - One entry may “point” to multiple records (e.g., two users named Jessica)
- **Sparse**: one index entry for each block
  - Records must be **clustered** according to the search key



# Dense versus sparse indexes

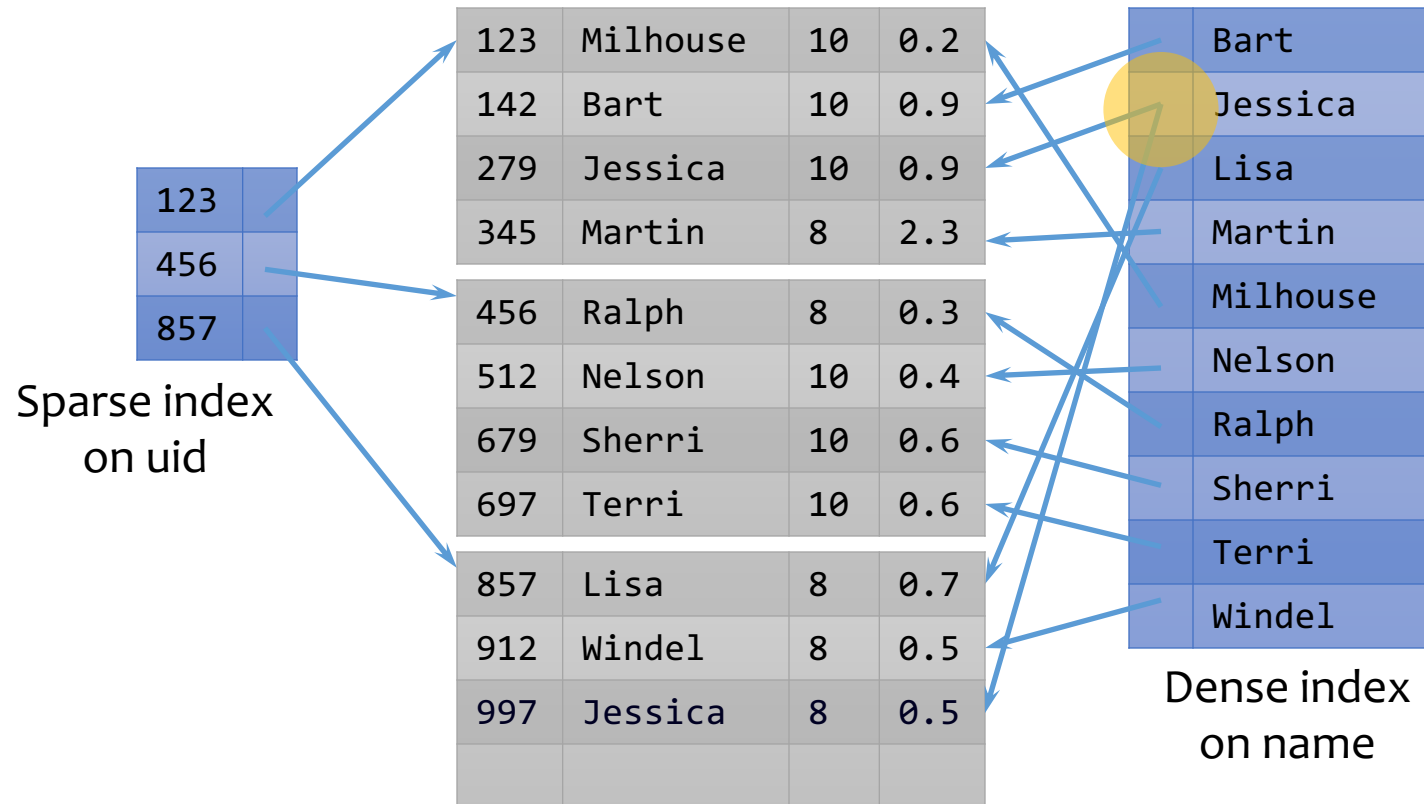
- Index size
  - Sparse index is smaller One entry corresponds to one block
- Requirement on records
  - Records must be clustered for sparse index
- Lookup
  - Sparse index is smaller and may fit in memory
  - Dense index can directly tell if a record exists
- Update
  - Easier for sparse index

# Primary and secondary indexes

- **Primary index**
  - Created for the **primary key** of a table
  - Records are usually clustered by the primary key
  - Can be sparse
- **Secondary index**
  - Usually dense
- In SQL
  - PRIMARY KEY declaration automatically creates a primary index, UNIQUE key automatically creates a secondary index
  - Additional secondary index can be created on non-key attribute(s) too
    - `CREATE INDEX UserPopIndex ON User(pop);`

# What if the index is too big as well?

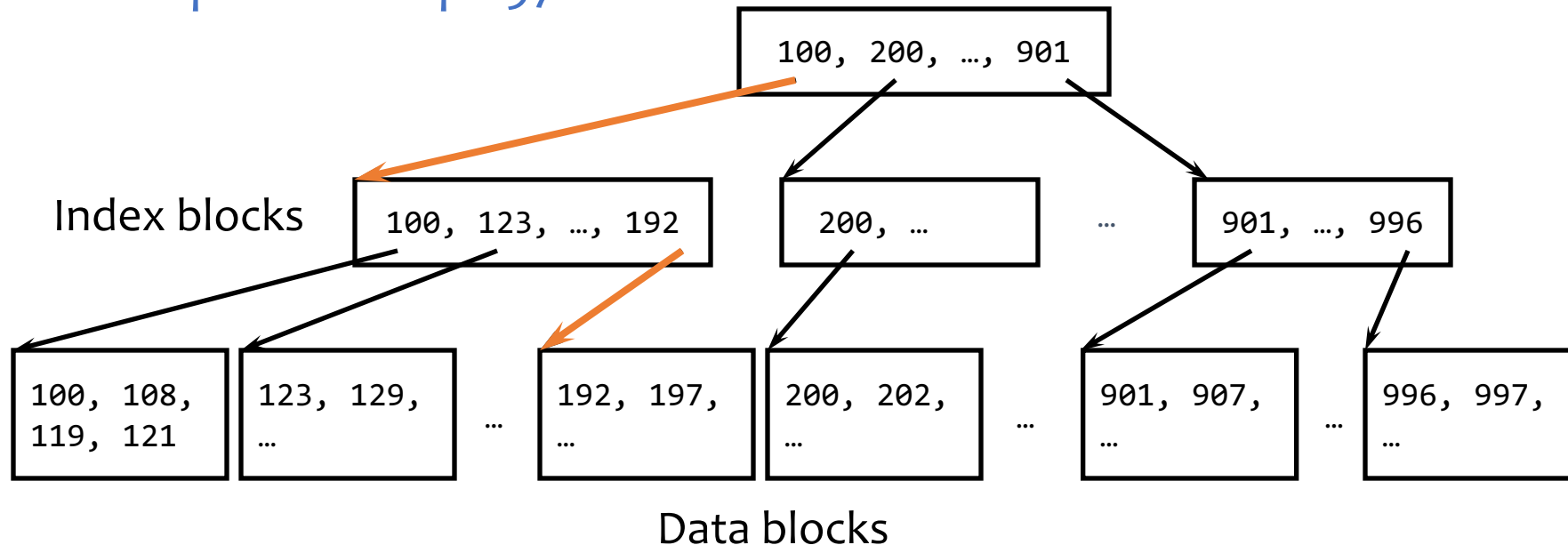
- Put a another (sparse) index on top of that!



# ISAM

- What if an index is still too big?
  - Put a another (sparse) index on top of that!
  - **ISAM** (Index Sequential Access Method), more or less

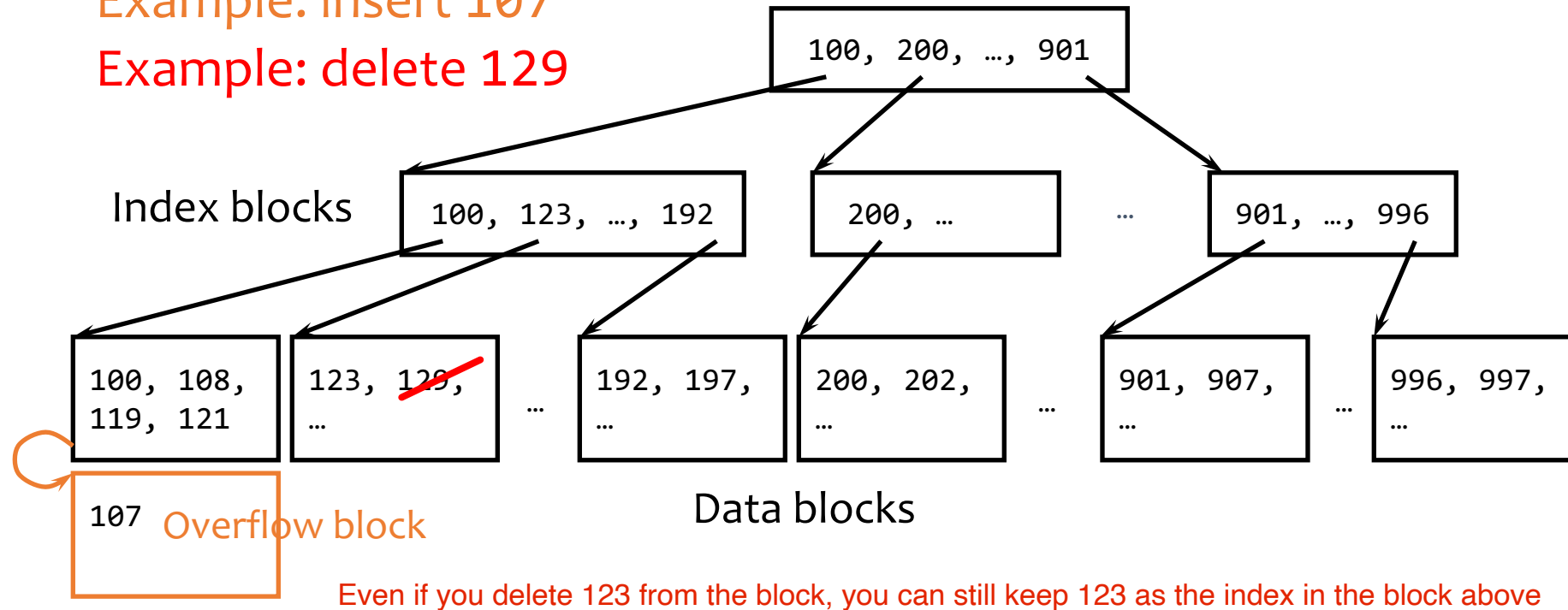
Example: look up 197



# Updates with ISAM

Example: insert 107

Example: delete 129



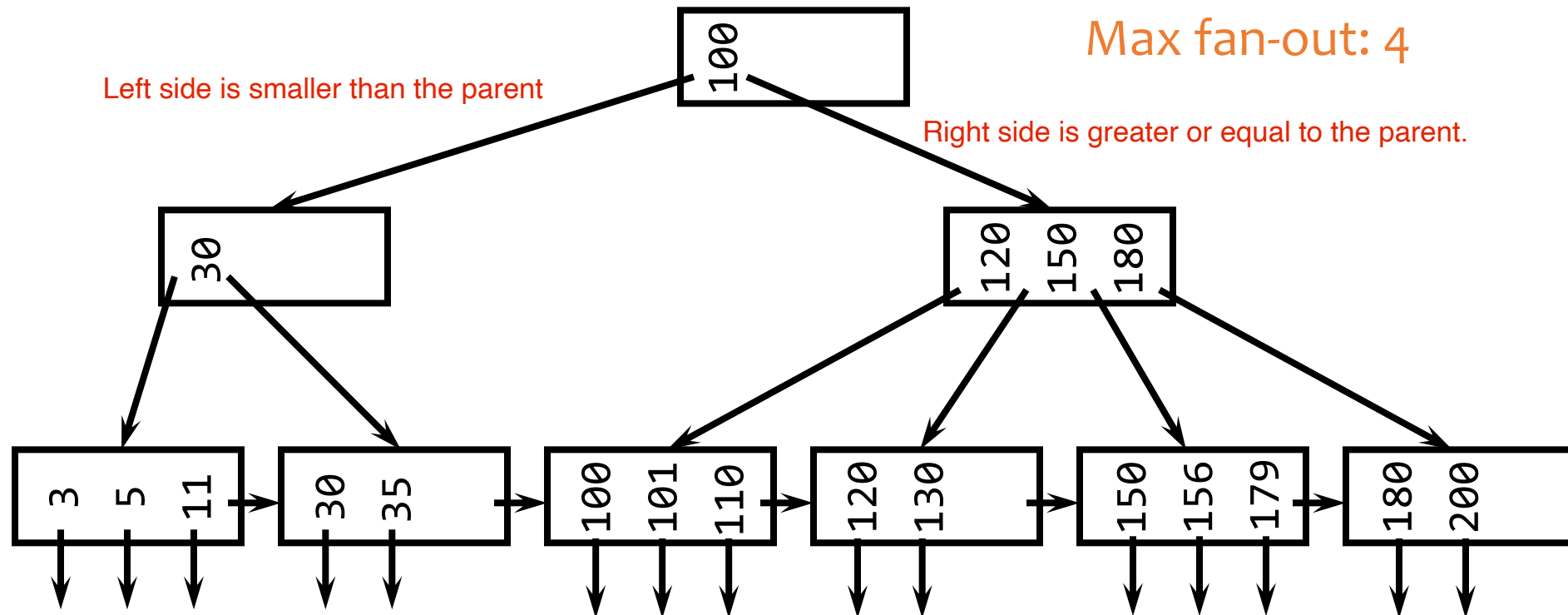
- Overflow chains and empty data blocks degrade performance
  - Worst case: most records go into one long chain, so lookups require scanning all data!



# B<sup>+</sup>-tree

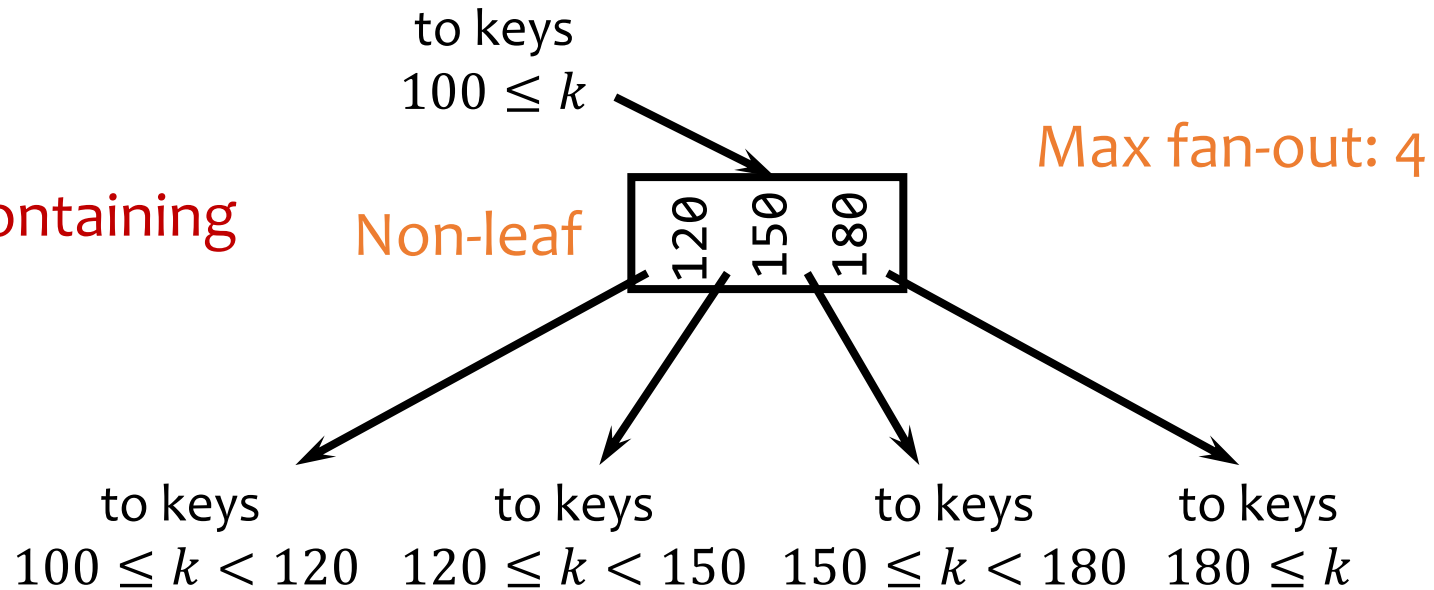
B+ tree is not perfectly balanced, but has a measure of self balancing which allows it to perform operations efficiently.

- A hierarchy of nodes with intervals
- **Balanced** (more or less): good performance guarantee
- **Disk-based**: one node per block; large fan-out



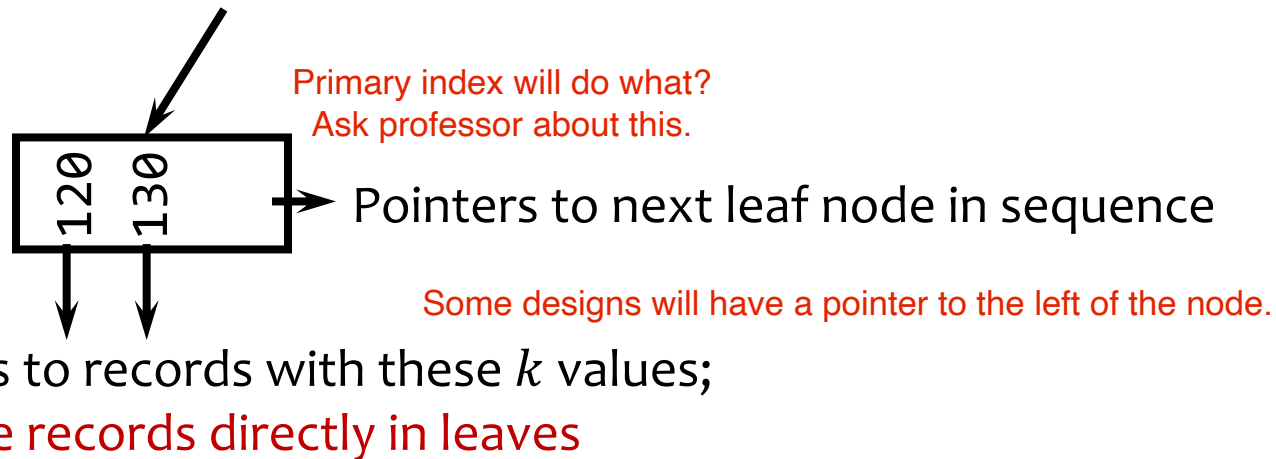
# Sample B<sup>+</sup>-tree nodes

Index Nodes Containing  
Index entries



Leaves are linked

Leaf



# B<sup>+</sup>-tree balancing properties

- Height constraint: all leaves at the same lowest level
- Fan-out constraint: all nodes at least half full (except root)

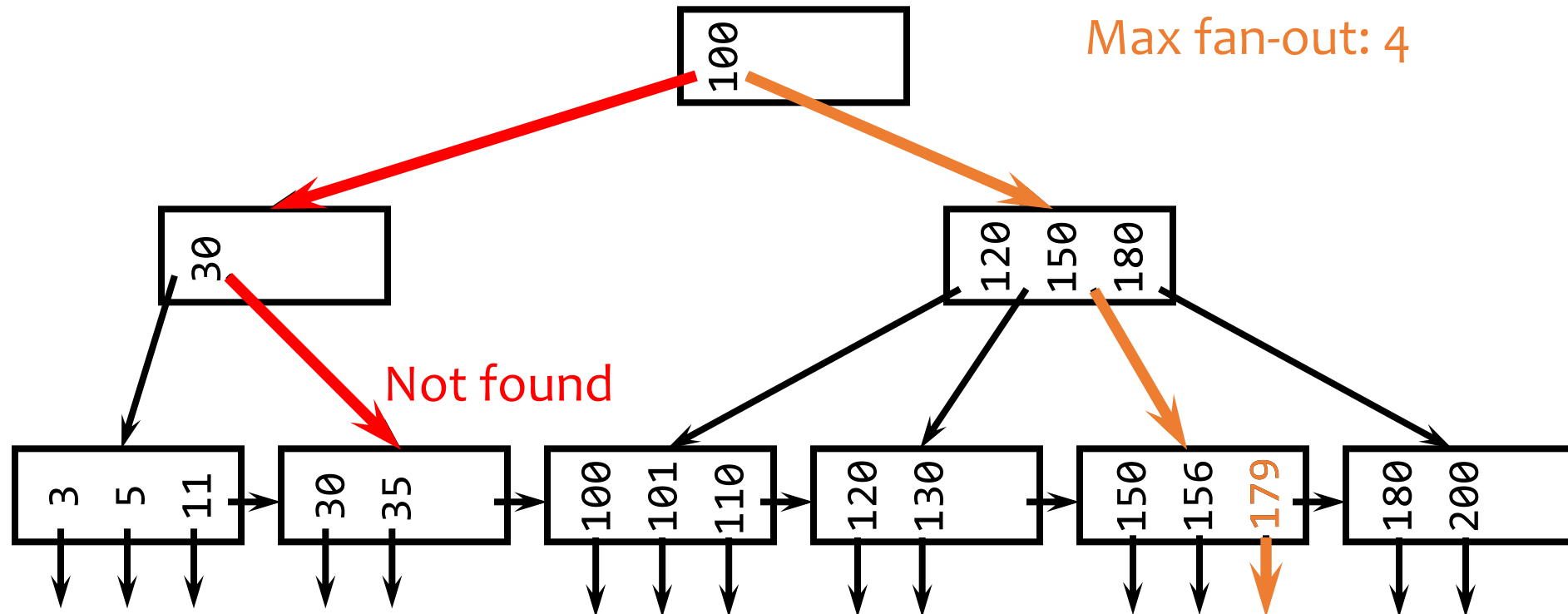
Prevents nodes from having few elements.

|          | Max #<br>pointers | Max #<br>keys | Min #<br>active pointers | Min #<br>keys           |
|----------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Non-leaf | $f$               | $f - 1$       | $\lceil f/2 \rceil$      | $\lceil f/2 \rceil - 1$ |
| Root     | $f$               | $f - 1$       | 2                        | 1                       |
| Leaf     | $f$               | $f - 1$       | $\lfloor f/2 \rfloor$    | $\lfloor f/2 \rfloor$   |

# Lookups

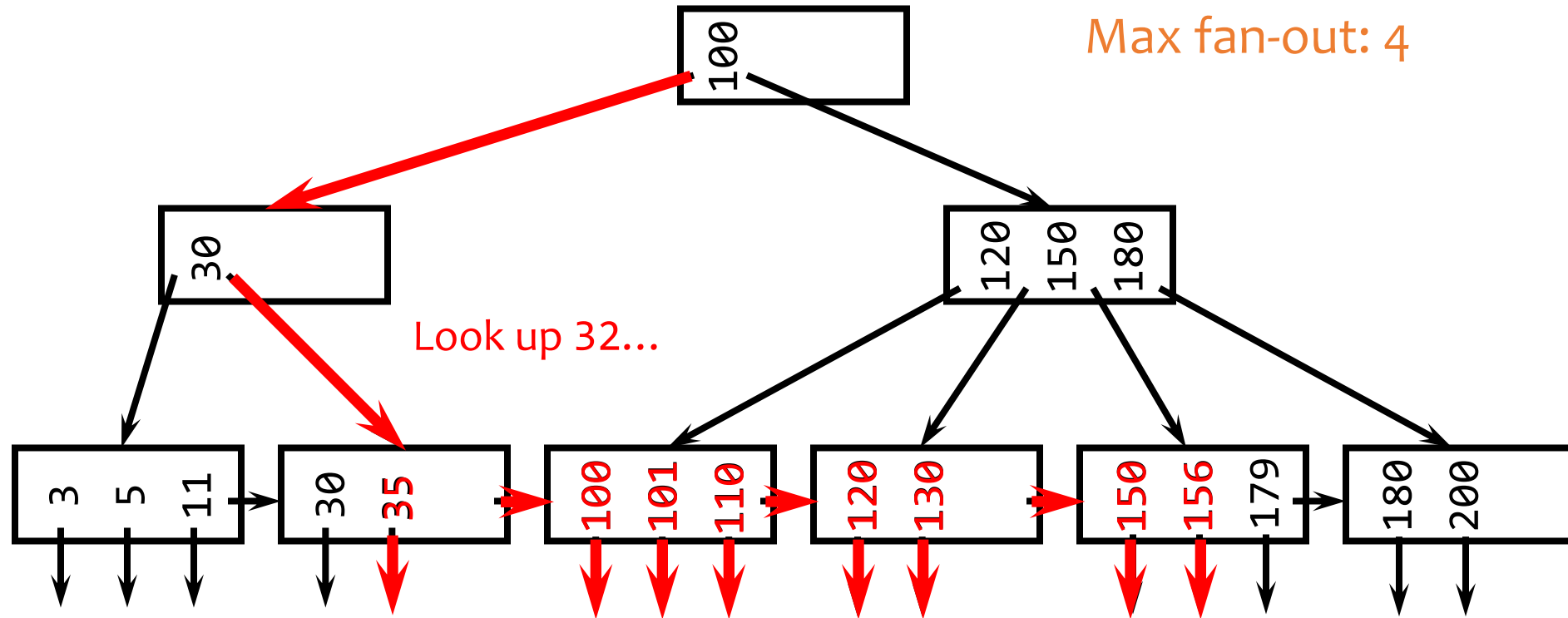
Every pointer is looking at the next block, so you need to store the next block in memory.

- SELECT \* FROM R WHERE  $k = 179$ ;
- SELECT \* FROM R WHERE  $k = 32$ ;



# Range query

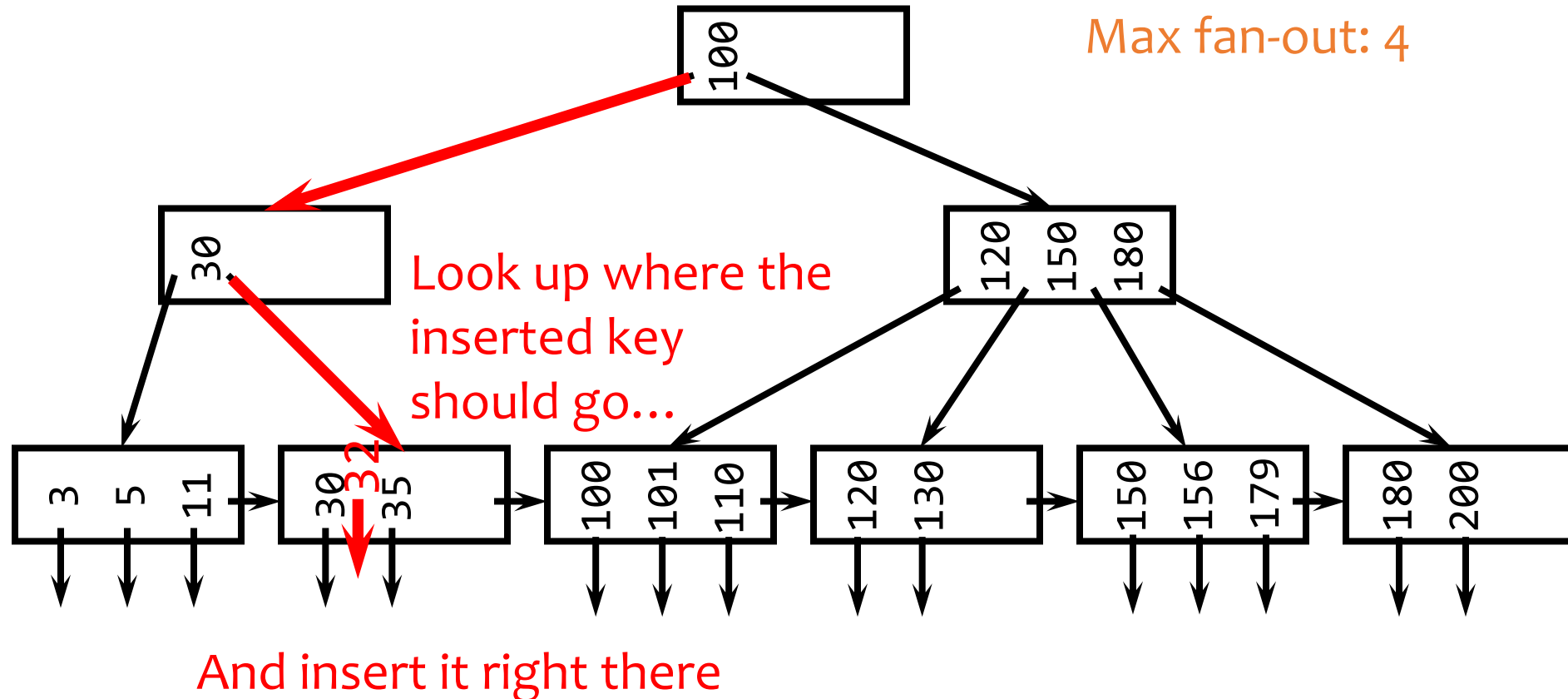
- `SELECT * FROM R WHERE  $k > 32$  AND  $k < 179$ ;`



Start at the lower bound and then navigate the leaves until the constraint is no longer satisfied

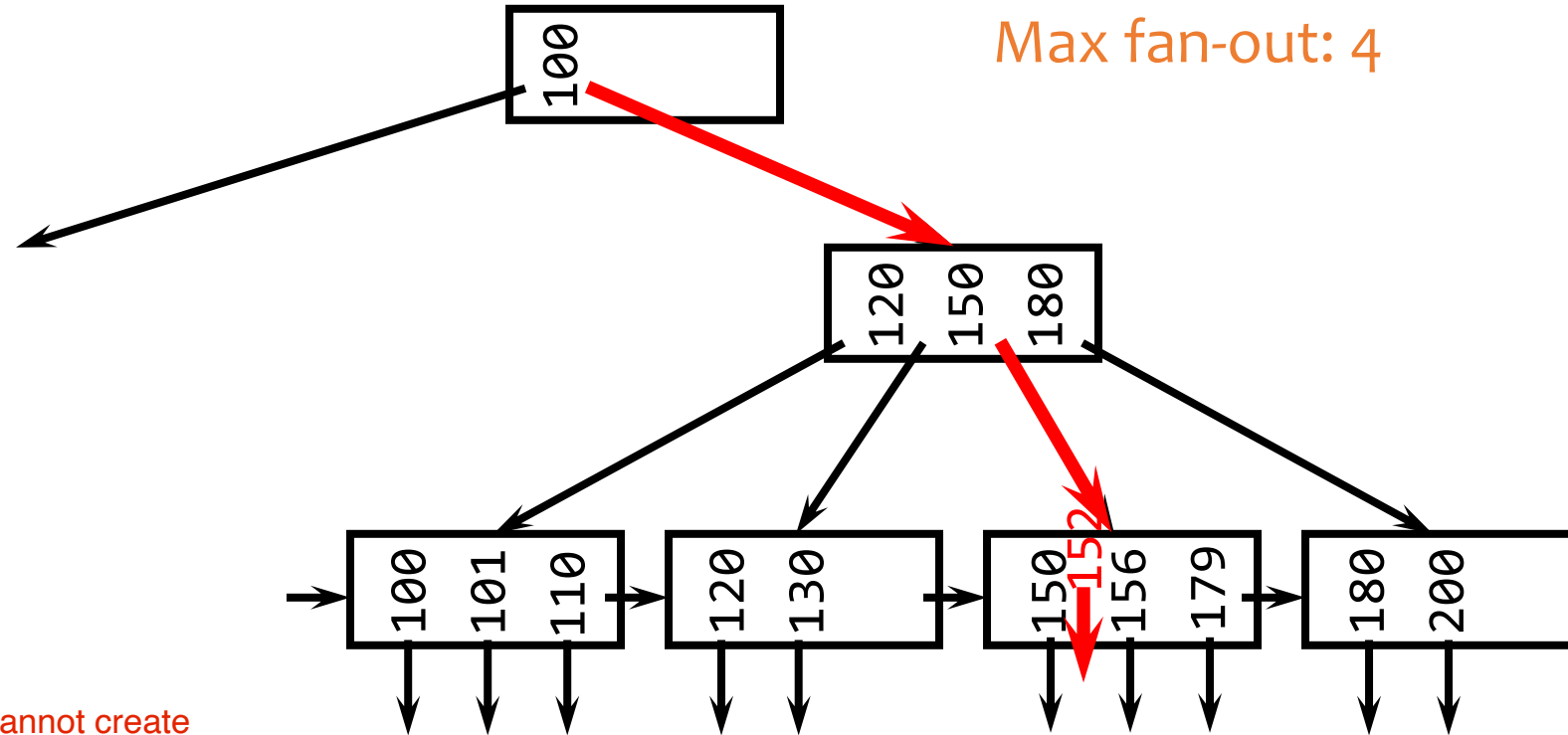
# Insertion

- Insert a record with search key value 32



# Another insertion example

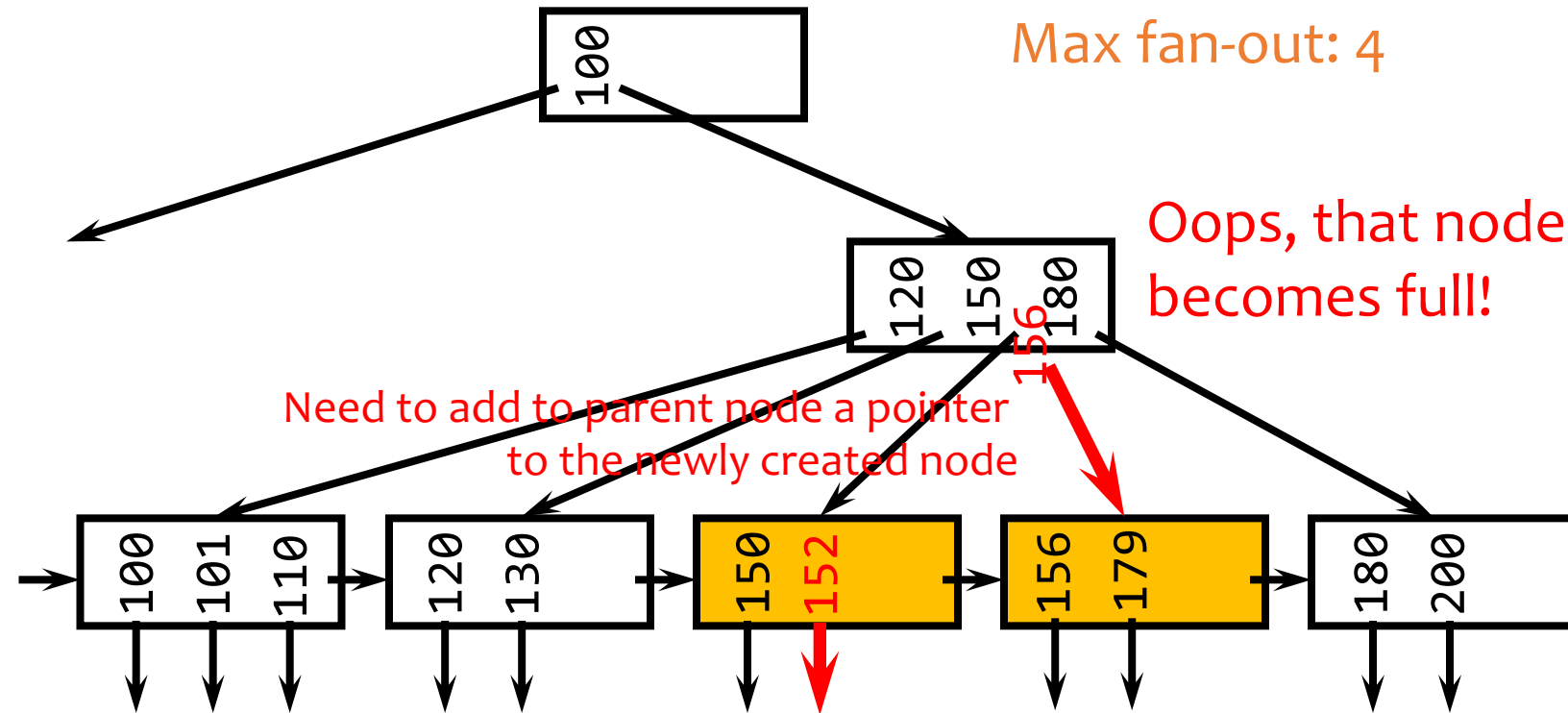
- Insert a record with search key value 152



Differing from the ISAM method, we cannot create another block since that will invalidate the properties the tree must comply with

Oops, node is already full!

# Node splitting

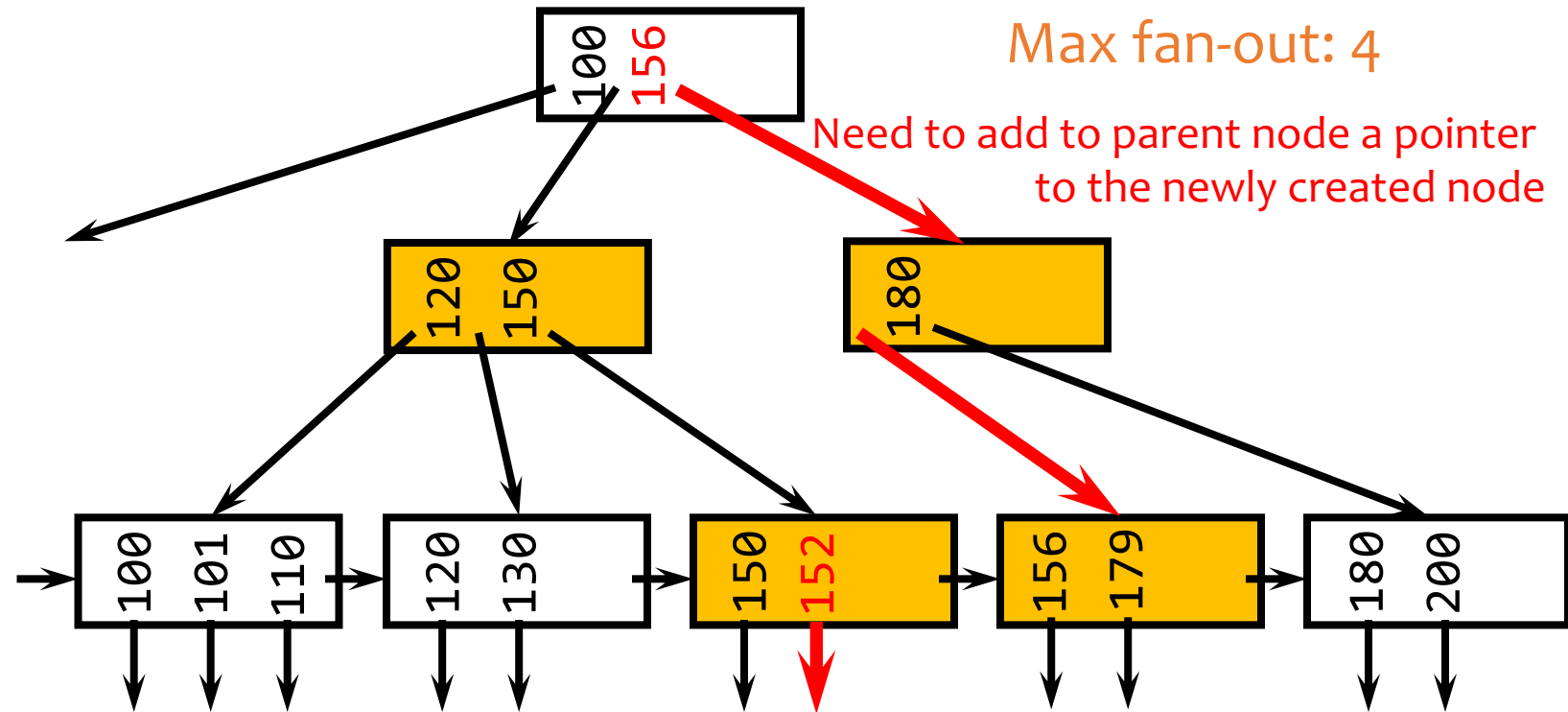


1. we “copy up” while splitting leaves – Insertion both at leaf and parent Ask the professor to go over this point
2. the value inserted at parent may *\*not\** be the new value we are inserting



# More node splitting

We “push up” while splitting non-leaves, insertion ONLY at the parent node (from the middle)  
so that we do not have a dangling pointer at non-leaves



- In the worst case, node splitting can “propagate” all the way up to the root of the tree (not illustrated here)
  - Splitting the root introduces a new root of fan-out 2 and causes the tree to grow “up” by one level

# Performance analysis

- How many I/O's are required for each operation?
  - $h$ , the **height of the tree** (more or less)
  - Plus one or two to manipulate actual records
  - Plus  $O(h)$  for reorganization (rare if  $f$  is large)
  - Minus one if we cache the root in memory
- How big is  $h$ ?
  - Roughly  **$\log_{\text{fanout}} N$** , where  $N$  is the number of records
  - B<sup>+</sup>-tree properties guarantee that fan-out is least  $f/2$  for all non-root nodes
  - Fan-out is typically large (in hundreds)—many keys and pointers can fit into one block
  - A 4-level B<sup>+</sup>-tree is enough for “typical” tables

# B<sup>+</sup>-tree in practice

- Complex reorganization for deletion often is not implemented (e.g., Oracle)
  - Leave nodes less than half full and periodically reorganize
- Most commercial DBMS use B<sup>+</sup>-tree instead of hashing-based indexes **because B<sup>+</sup>-tree handles range queries**
  - A key difference between hash and tree indexes!

# The Halloween Problem

- Story from the early days of System R...

```
UPDATE Payroll
SET salary = salary * 1.1
WHERE salary >= 100000;
```

- There is a B<sup>+</sup>-tree index on *Payroll(salary)*
  - The update never stopped (why?)
- Solutions?
  - Scan index in reverse, or
  - Before update, scan index to create a “to-do” list, or
  - During update, maintain a “done” list, or
  - Tag every row with transaction/statement id

# B<sup>+</sup>-tree versus ISAM

- ISAM is more **static**; B<sup>+</sup>-tree is more **dynamic**
- ISAM can be more compact (at least initially)
  - Fewer levels and I/O's than B<sup>+</sup>-tree A B+ tree offers performance guarantees of the form  $\log(N)$
- Overtime, ISAM may not be balanced
  - Cannot provide guaranteed performance as B<sup>+</sup>-tree does

# B<sup>+</sup>-tree versus B-tree

- B-tree: why not store records (or record pointers) in non-leaf nodes?
  - These records can be accessed with fewer I/O's
- Problems?
  - Storing more data in a node decreases fan-out and increases  $h$
  - Records in leaves require more I/O's to access
  - Vast majority of the records live in leaves!

# Beyond ISAM, B-, and B<sup>+</sup>-trees (skip)

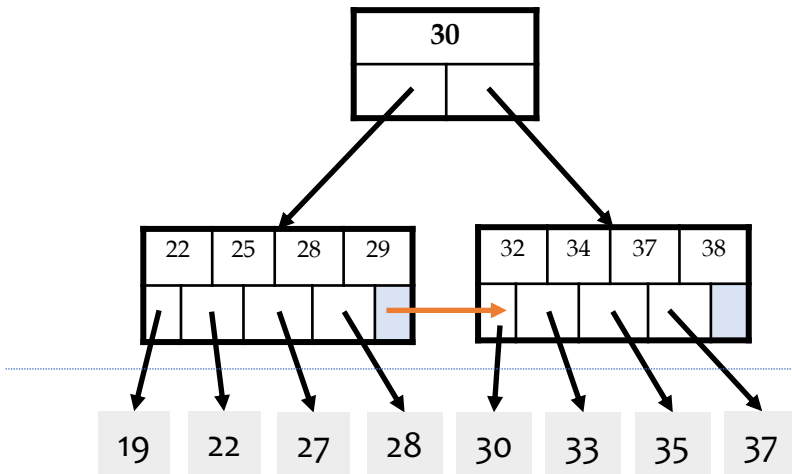
- Other tree-based indexes: R-trees, GiST, etc.
  - How about binary tree?



- Hashing-based indexes: extensible hashing, linear hashing, etc.
- Text indexes: inverted-list index, suffix arrays, etc.
- Other tricks: bitmap index, bit-sliced index, vector database index, etc.

# Clustered vs. Unclustered Index

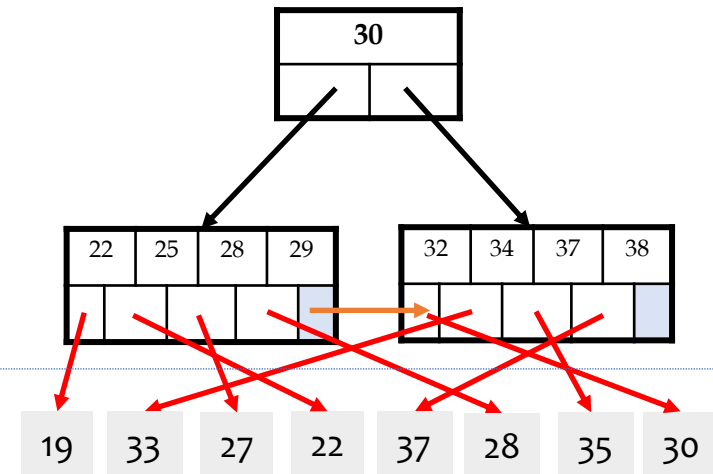
Clustered



Unclustered

Index File

Data file



How does it affect # of page accesses?

Recall that for a disk with block access, sequential IO is much faster than random IO



Data is sorted on search key

Data can be in any order

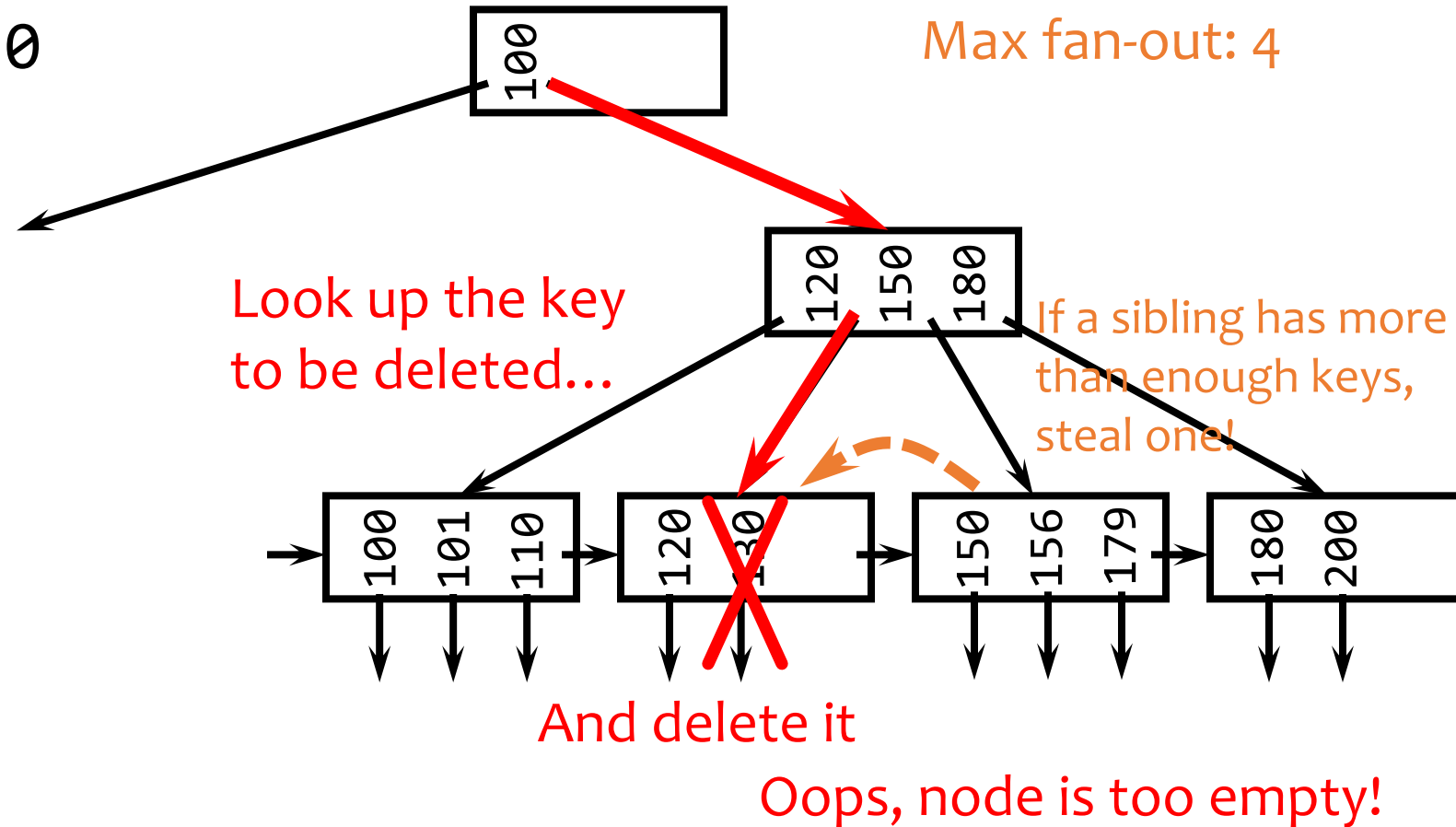
# Clustered vs. Unclustered Index

- For range search over  $n$  values:
  - 1 random IO +  $n$  sequential IO vs.  $n$  random IO
- `SELECT * FROM USER WHERE age = 50`
  - Assume 12 users with age = 50
  - Assume one data page can hold 4 User tuples
  - Suppose searching for a data entry requires 3 IOs in a B+-tree, which contain pointers to the data records (assume all matching pointers = data entries are in the same node of B+-tree)
  - What happens if the index is unclustered? (cost =  $3+12$ )
  - What happens if the index is clustered? (cost  $\leq 3 + (3 + 1)$ )

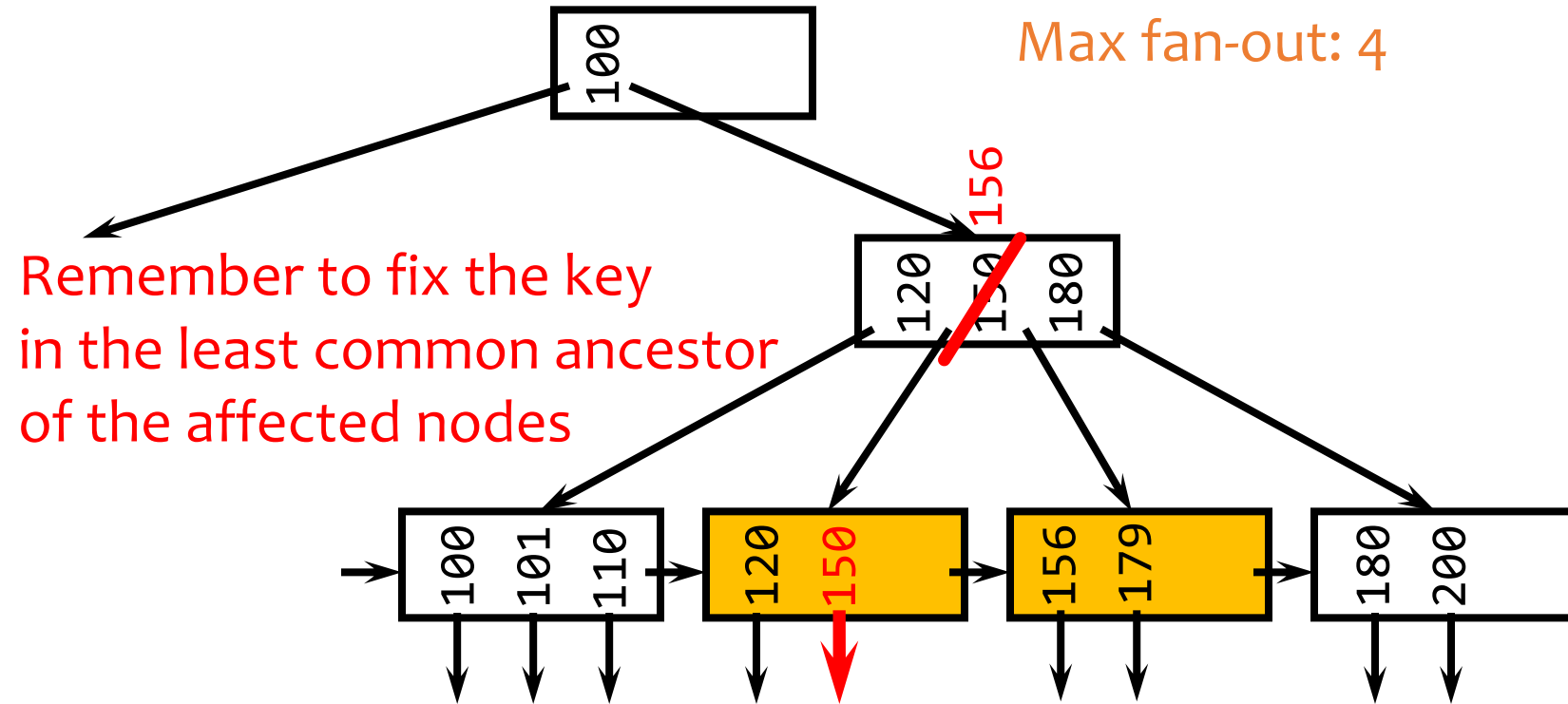
Revise these values with the professor

# Deletion (skip)

- Delete a record with search key value 130

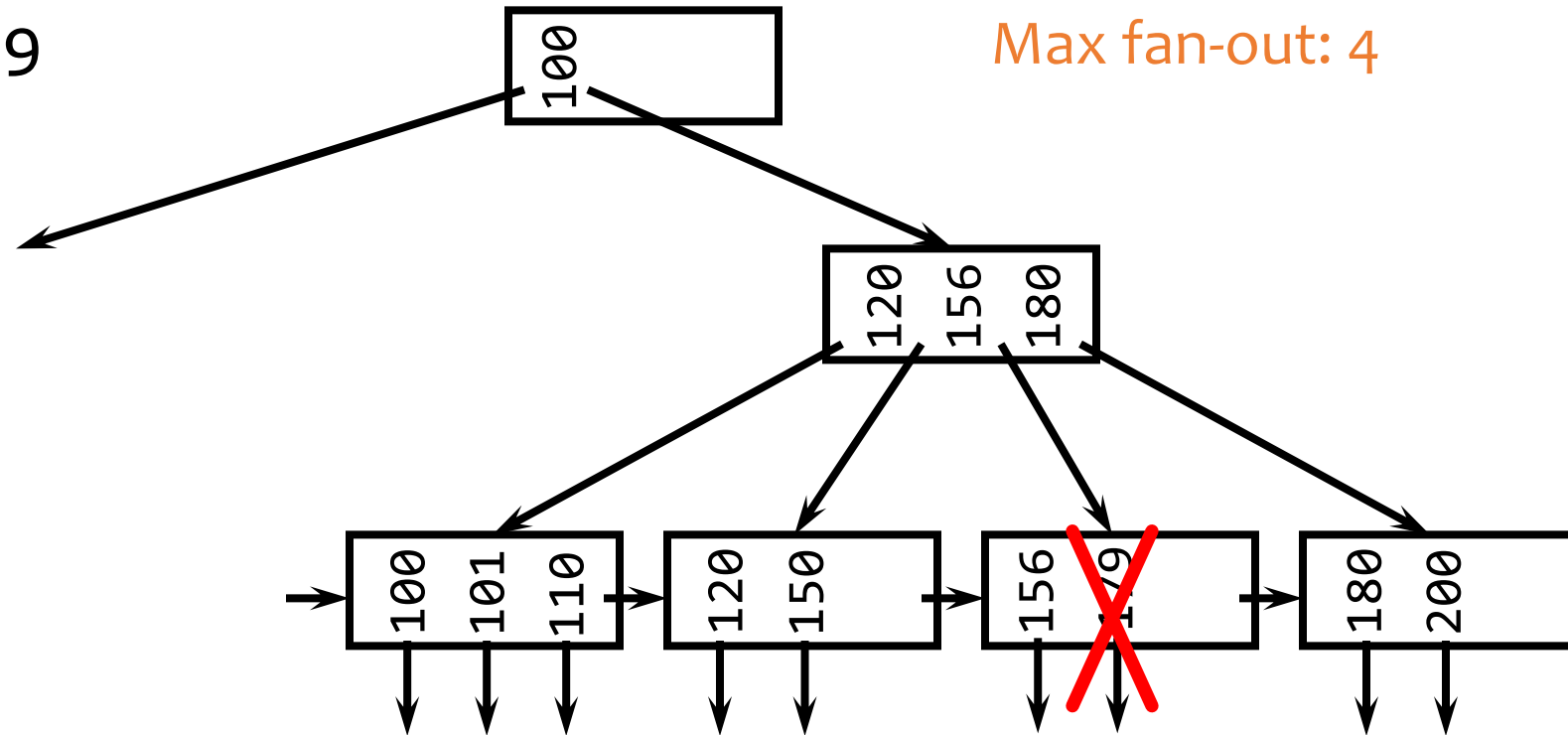


# Stealing from a sibling (skip)



# Another deletion example (skip)

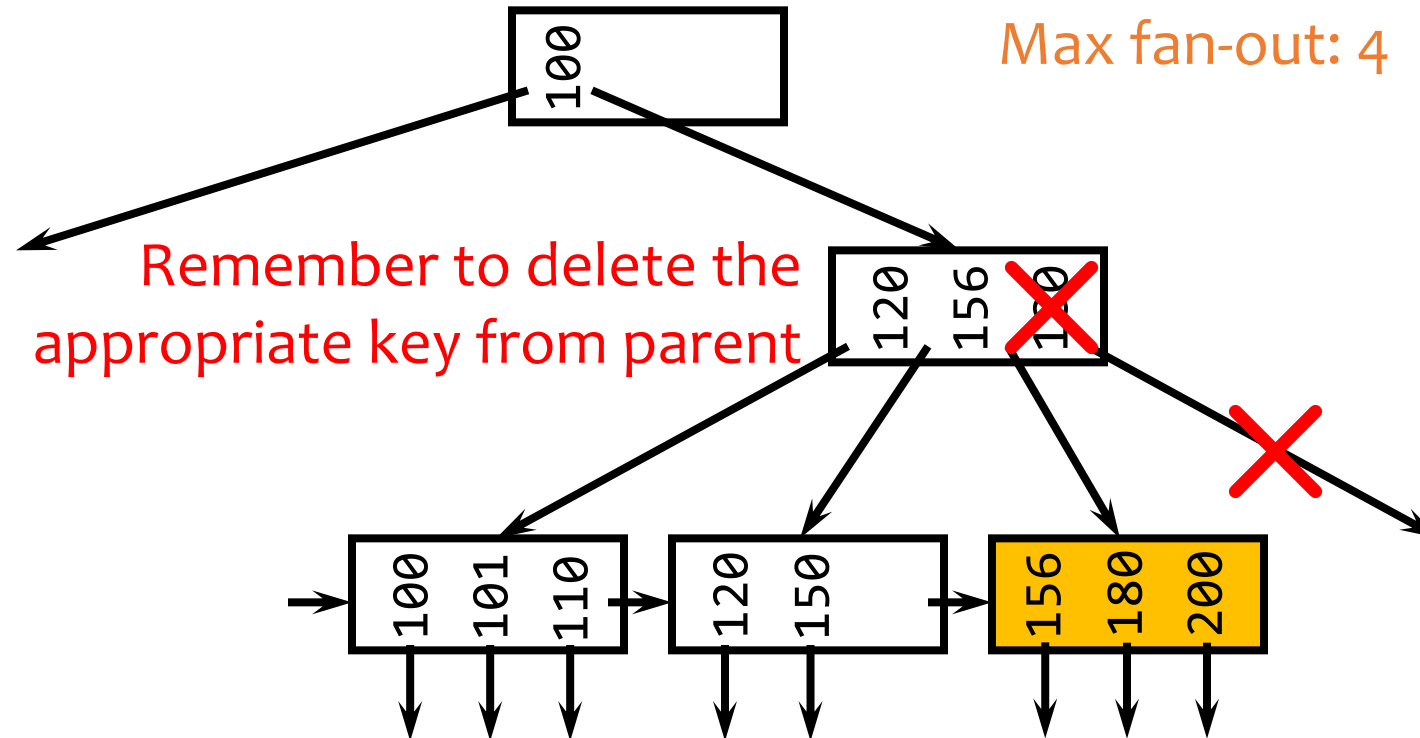
- Delete a record with search key value 179



Cannot steal from siblings

Then coalesce (merge) with a sibling!

# Coalescing (skip)



- Deletion can “propagate” all the way up to the root of the tree (not illustrated here)
  - When the root becomes empty, the tree “shrinks” by one level