

# *Storage & Indexing in Modern Databases*

ECS 165A – Winter 2026

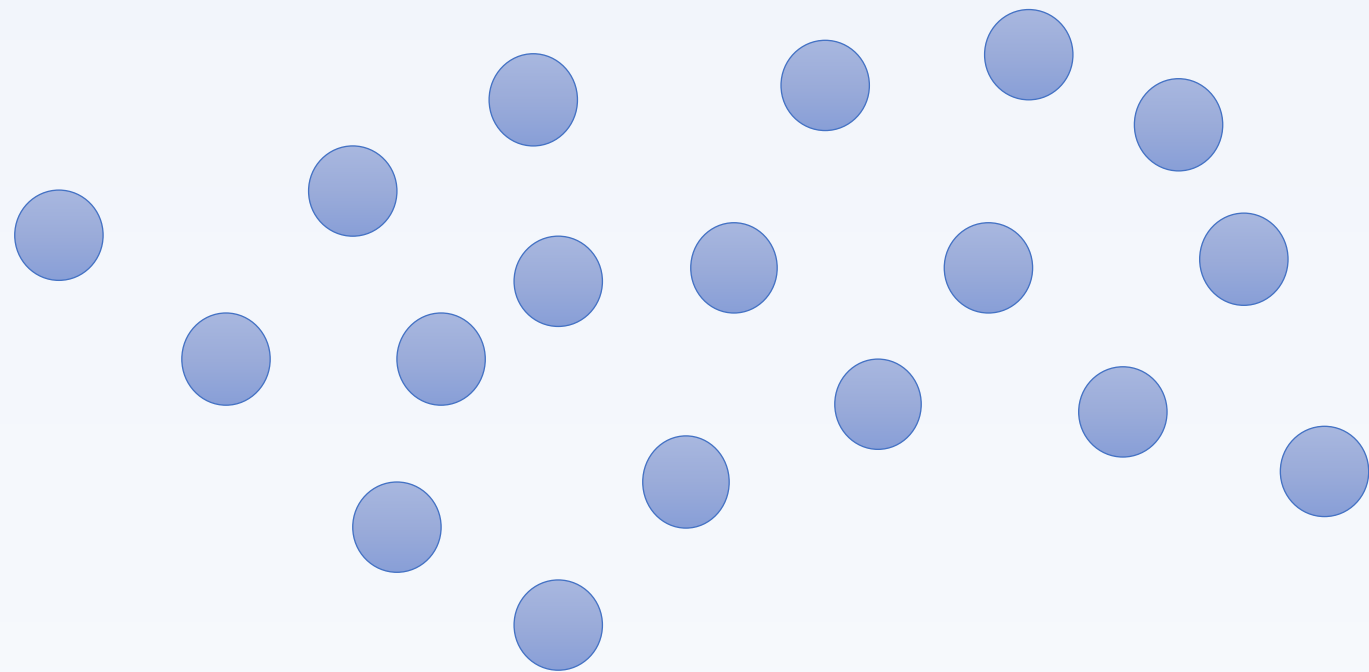


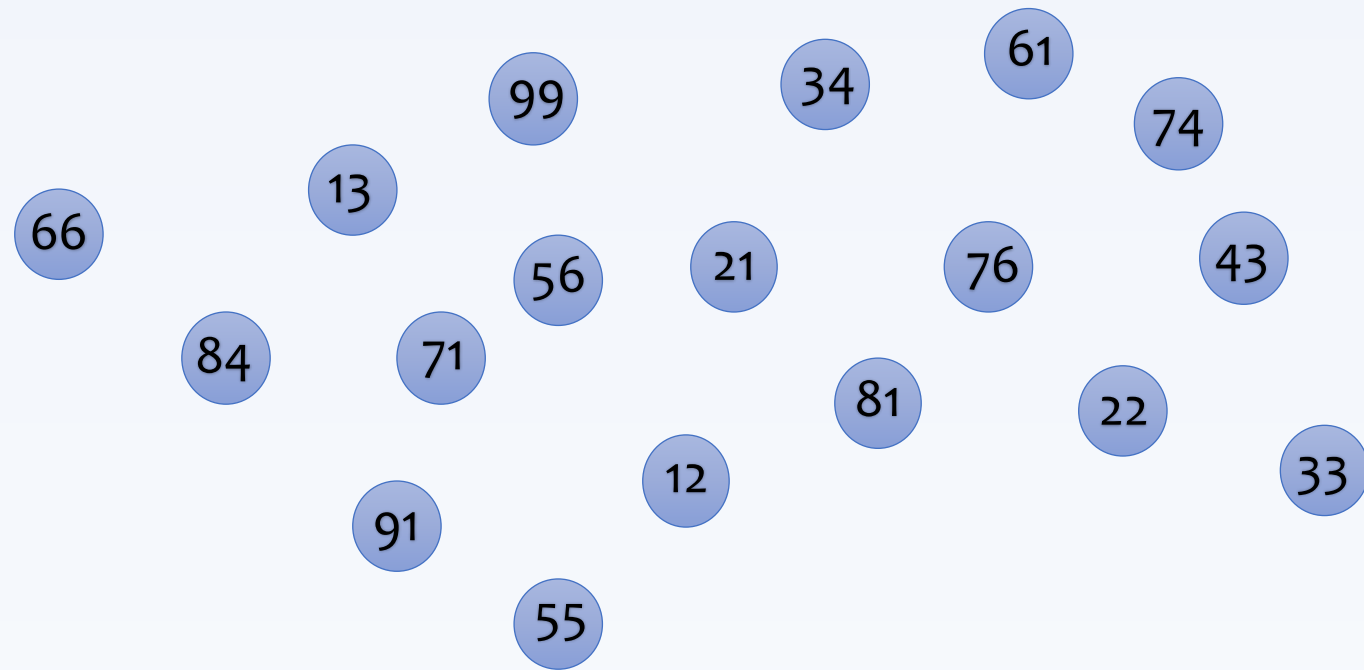
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Department of Computer Science

**UC DAVIS**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

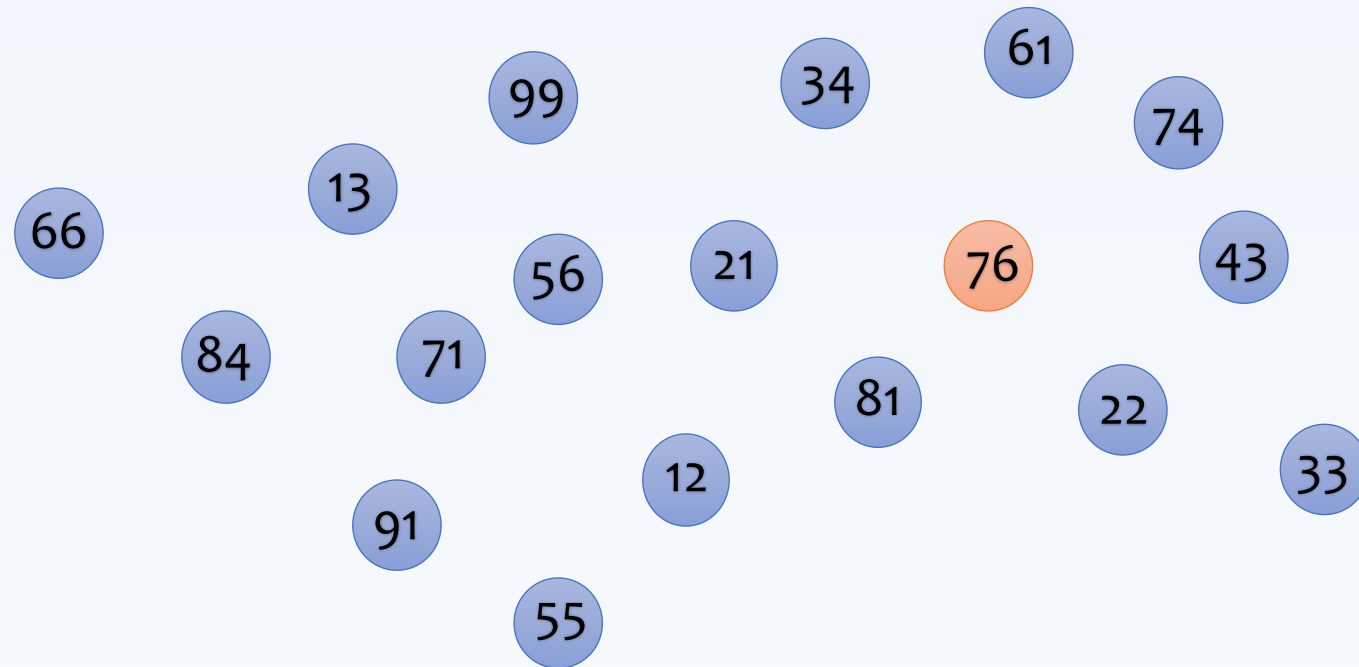


**How to quickly search for the desired information?**

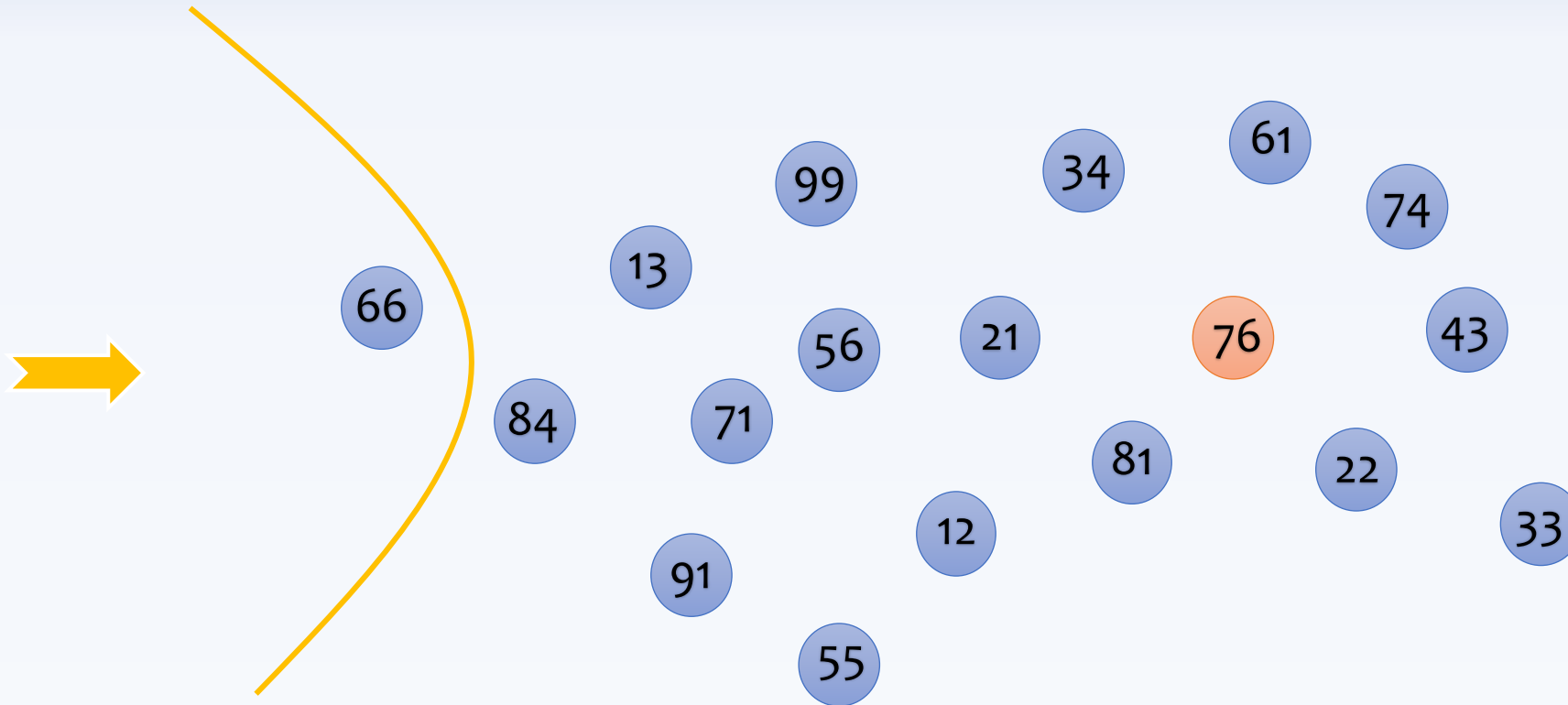




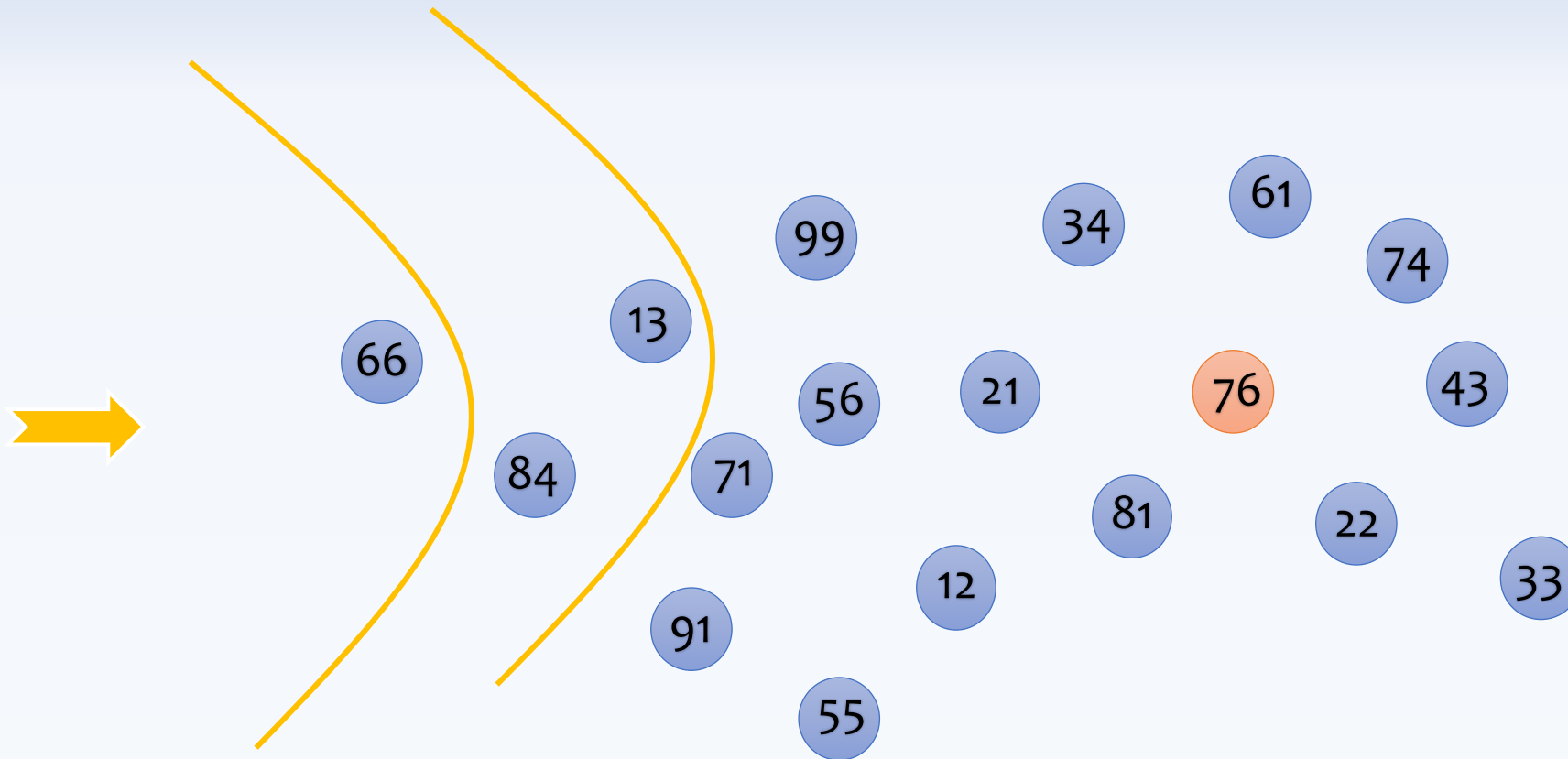
## Searching for 76



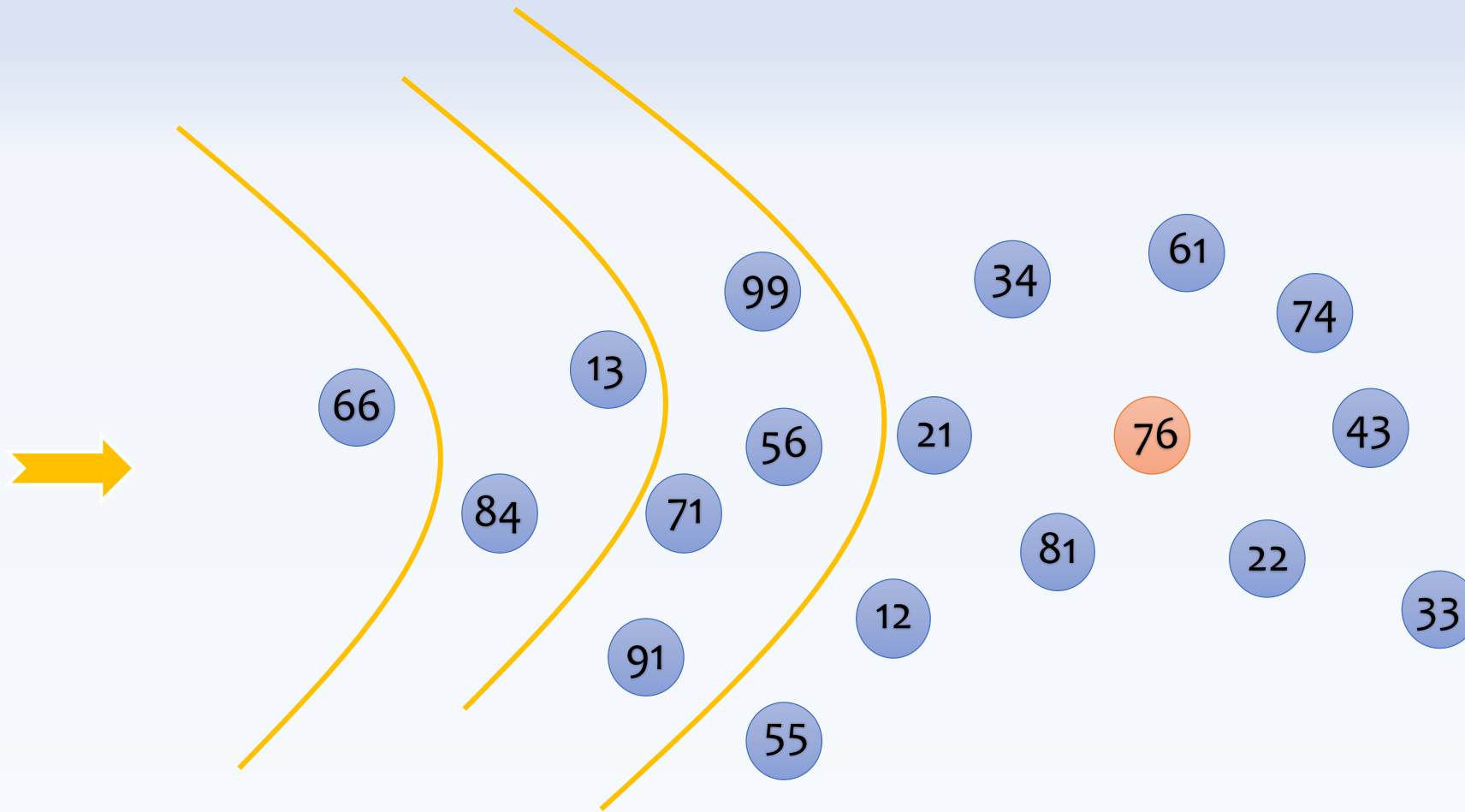
## Searching for 76



## Searching for 76

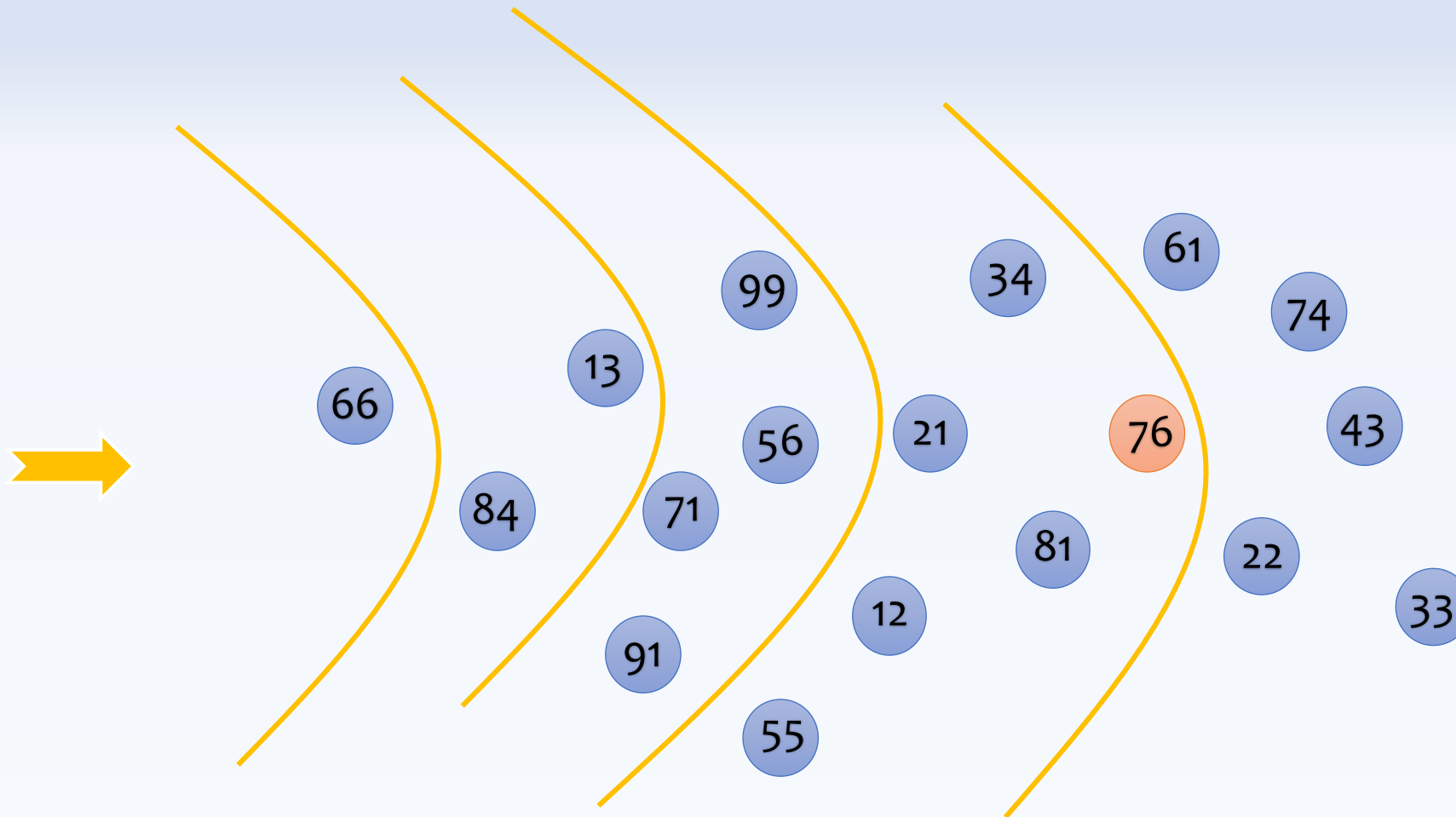


## Searching for 76

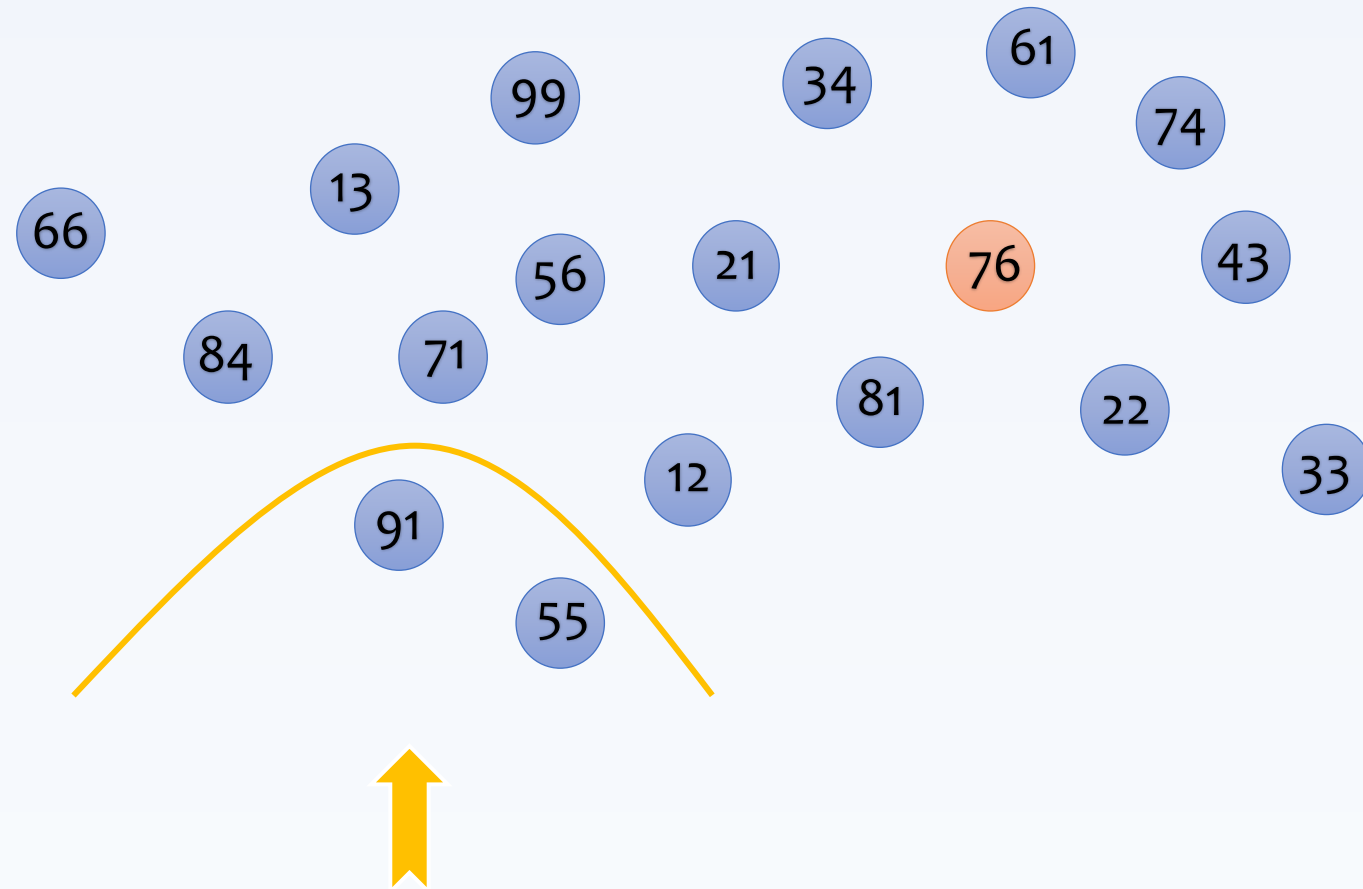




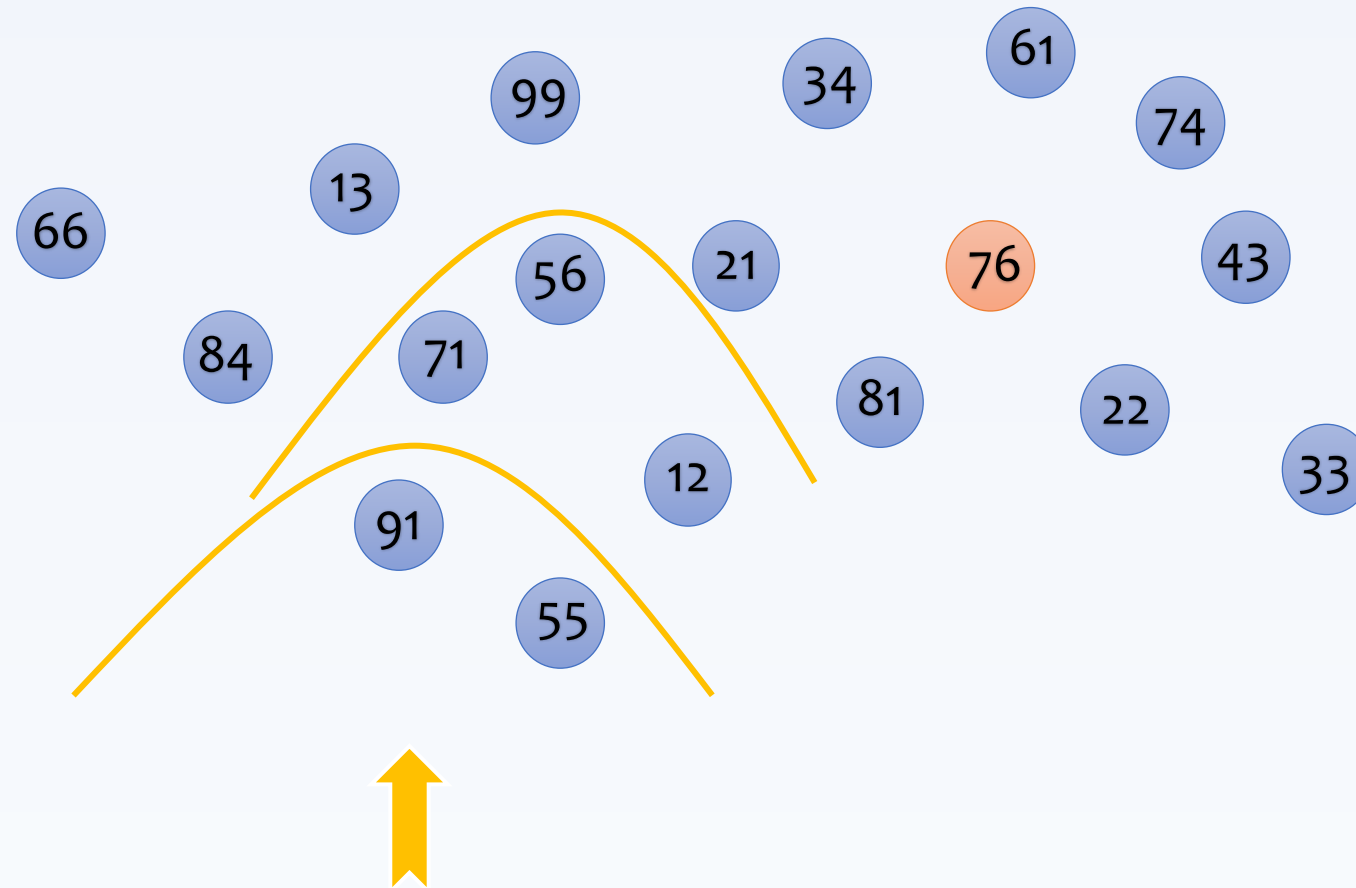
## Searching for 76



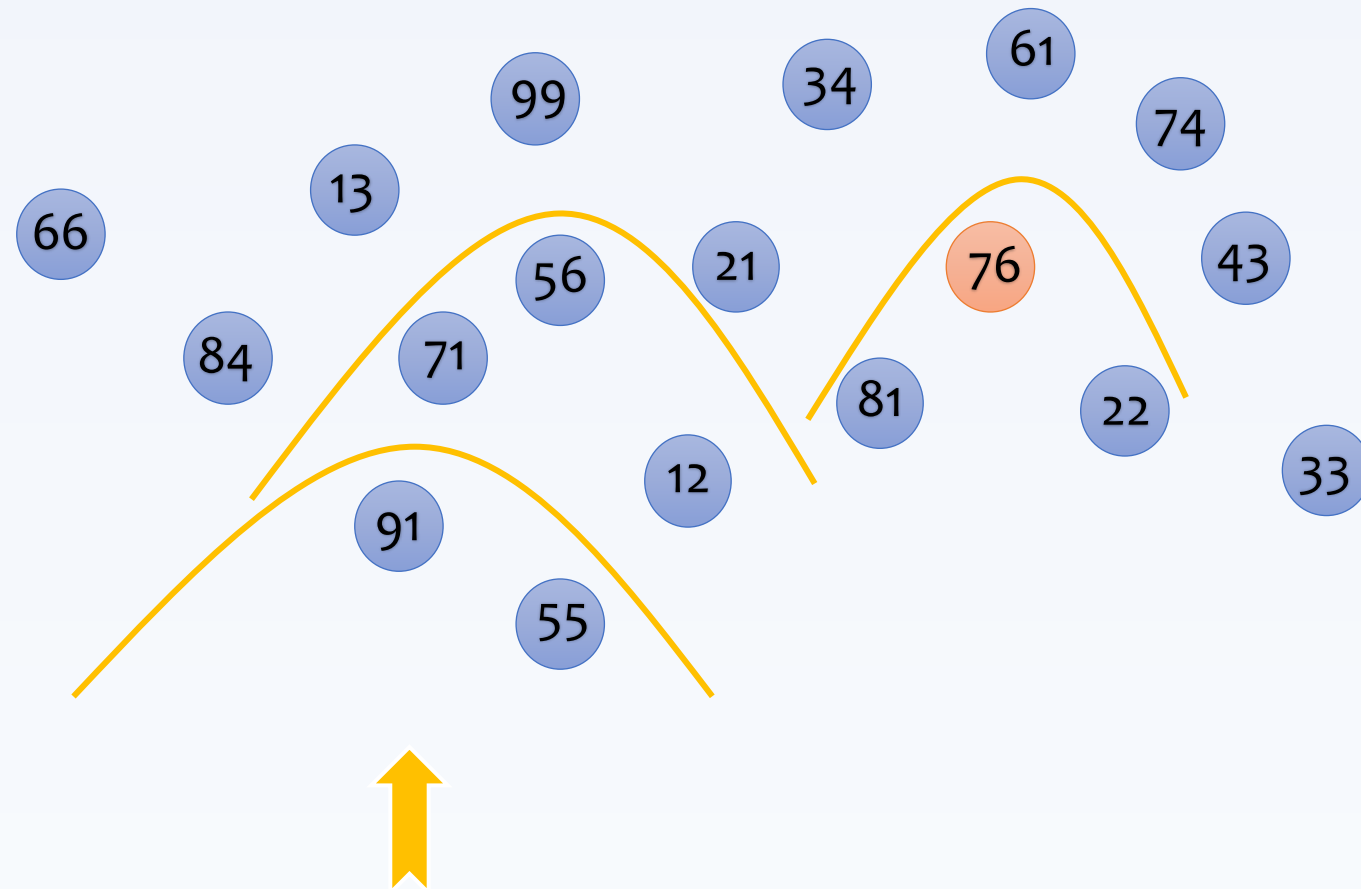
## Searching for 76



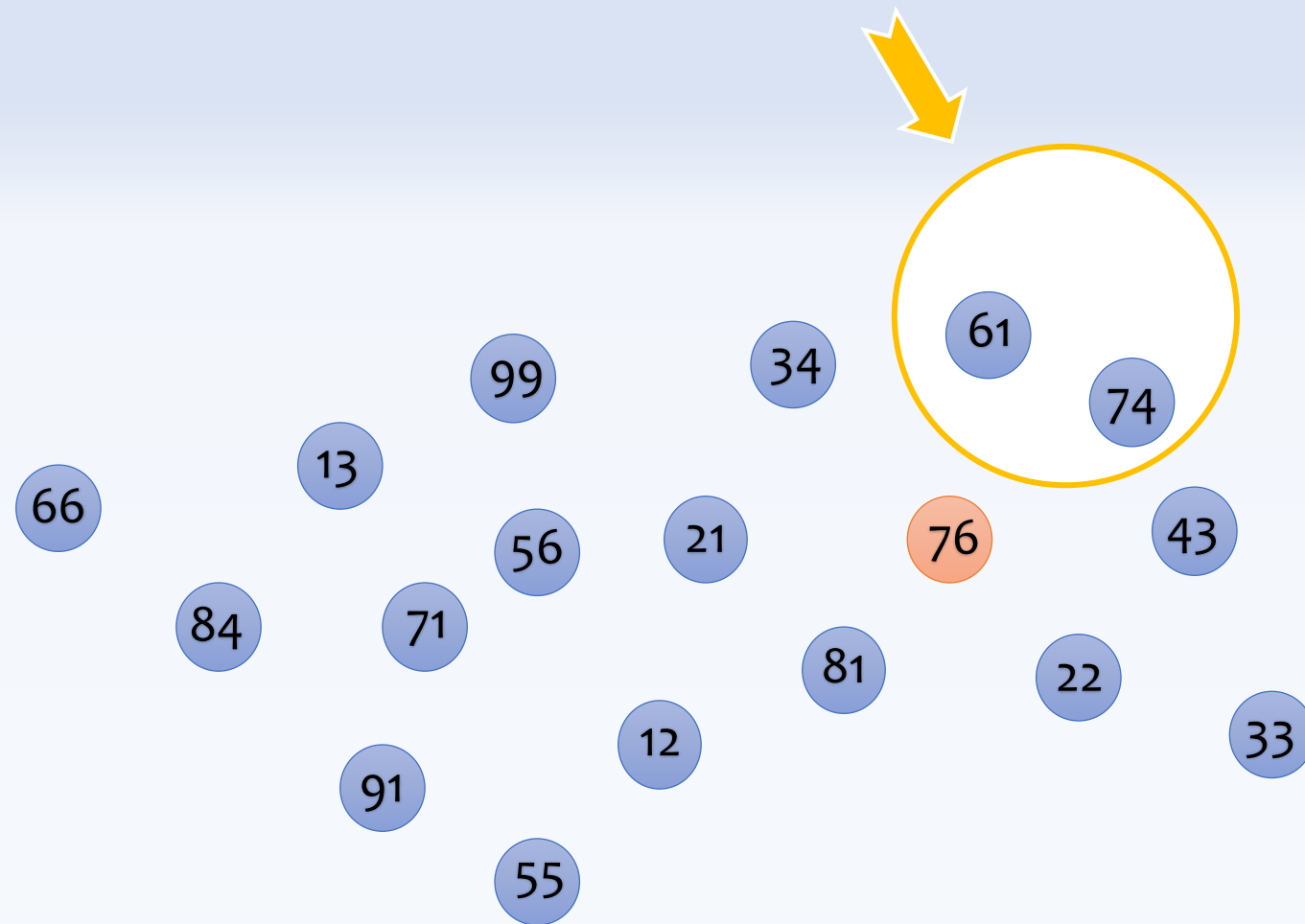
## Searching for 76



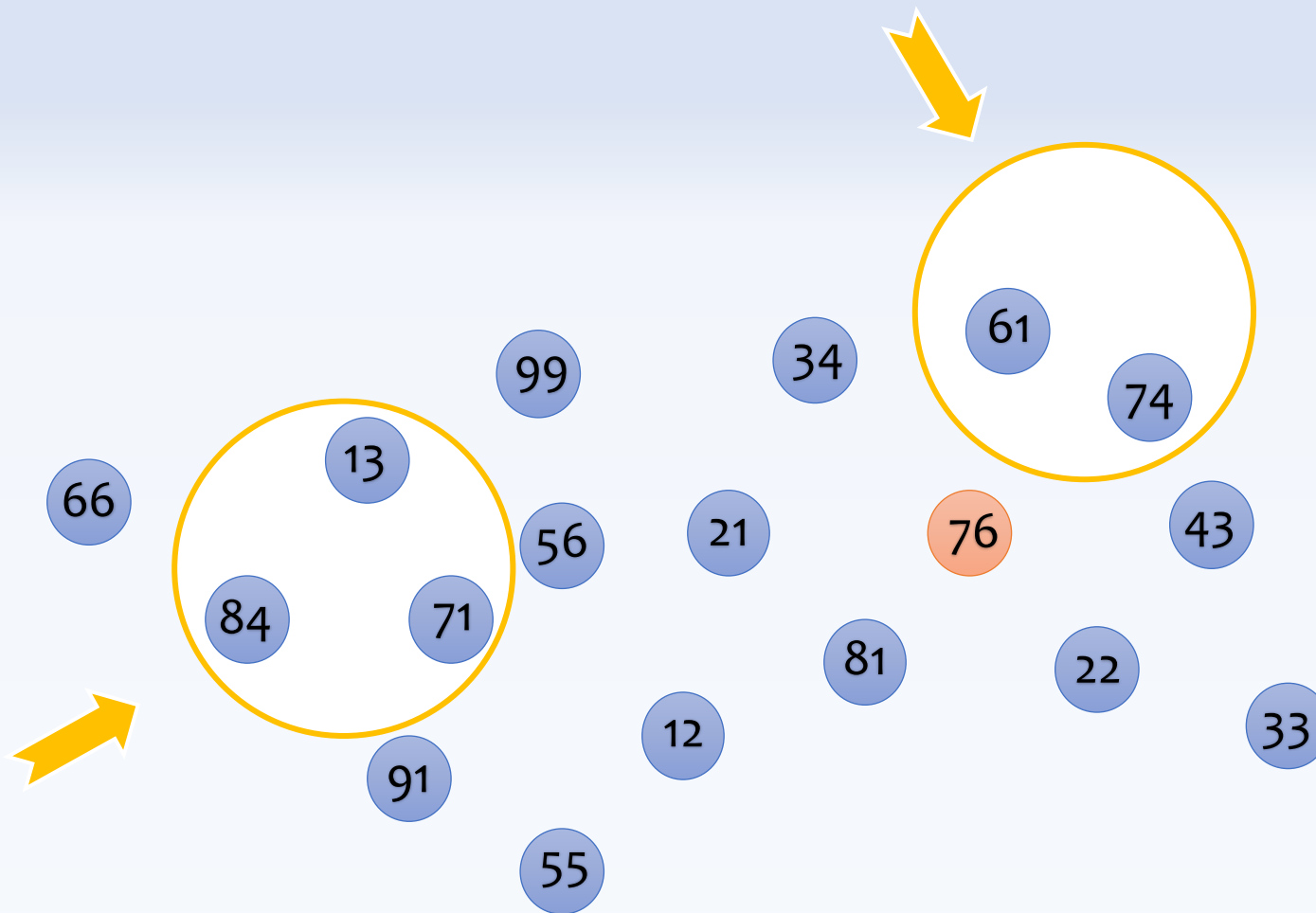
## Searching for 76



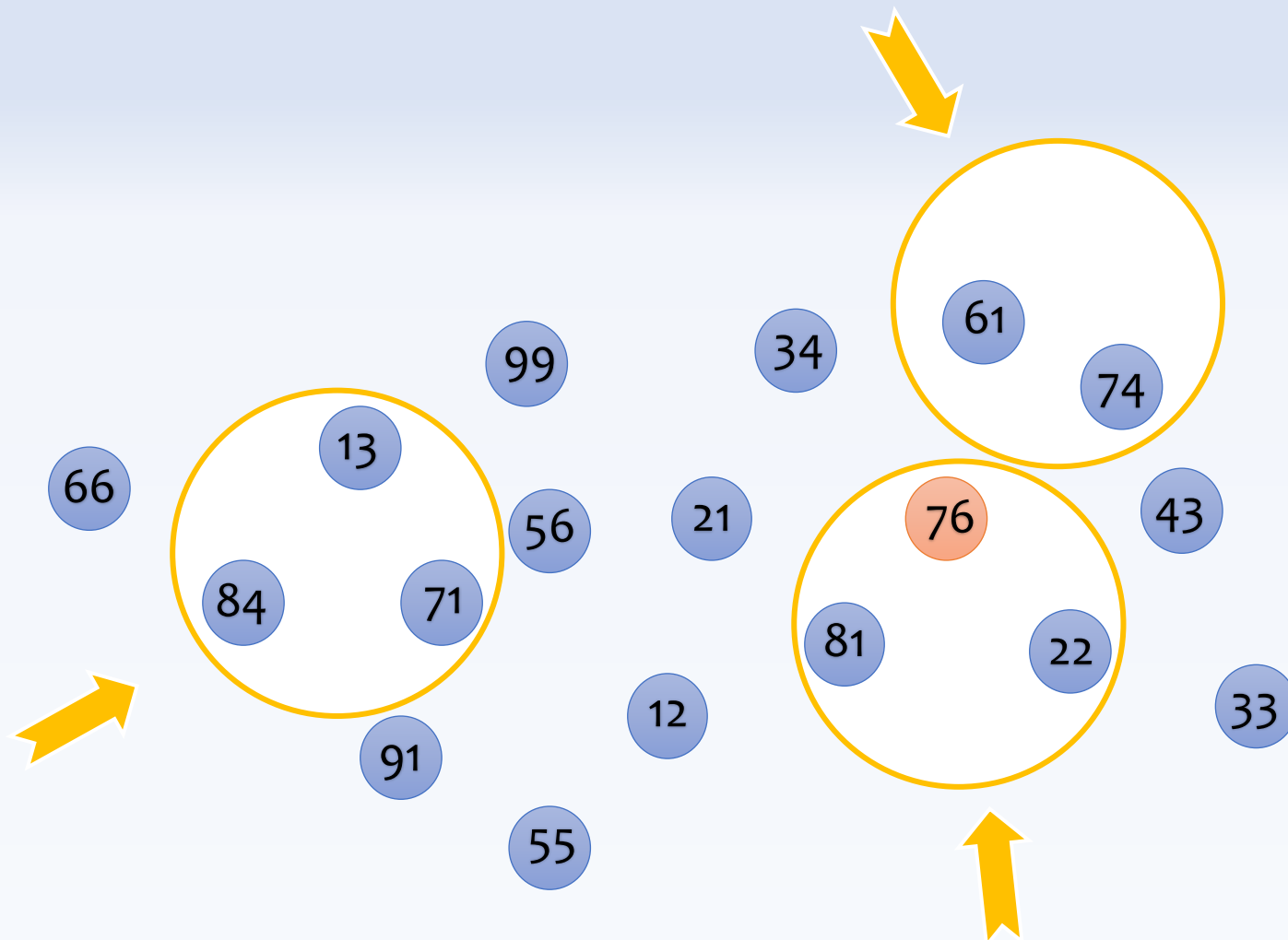
Searching for 76



Searching for 76



Searching for 76



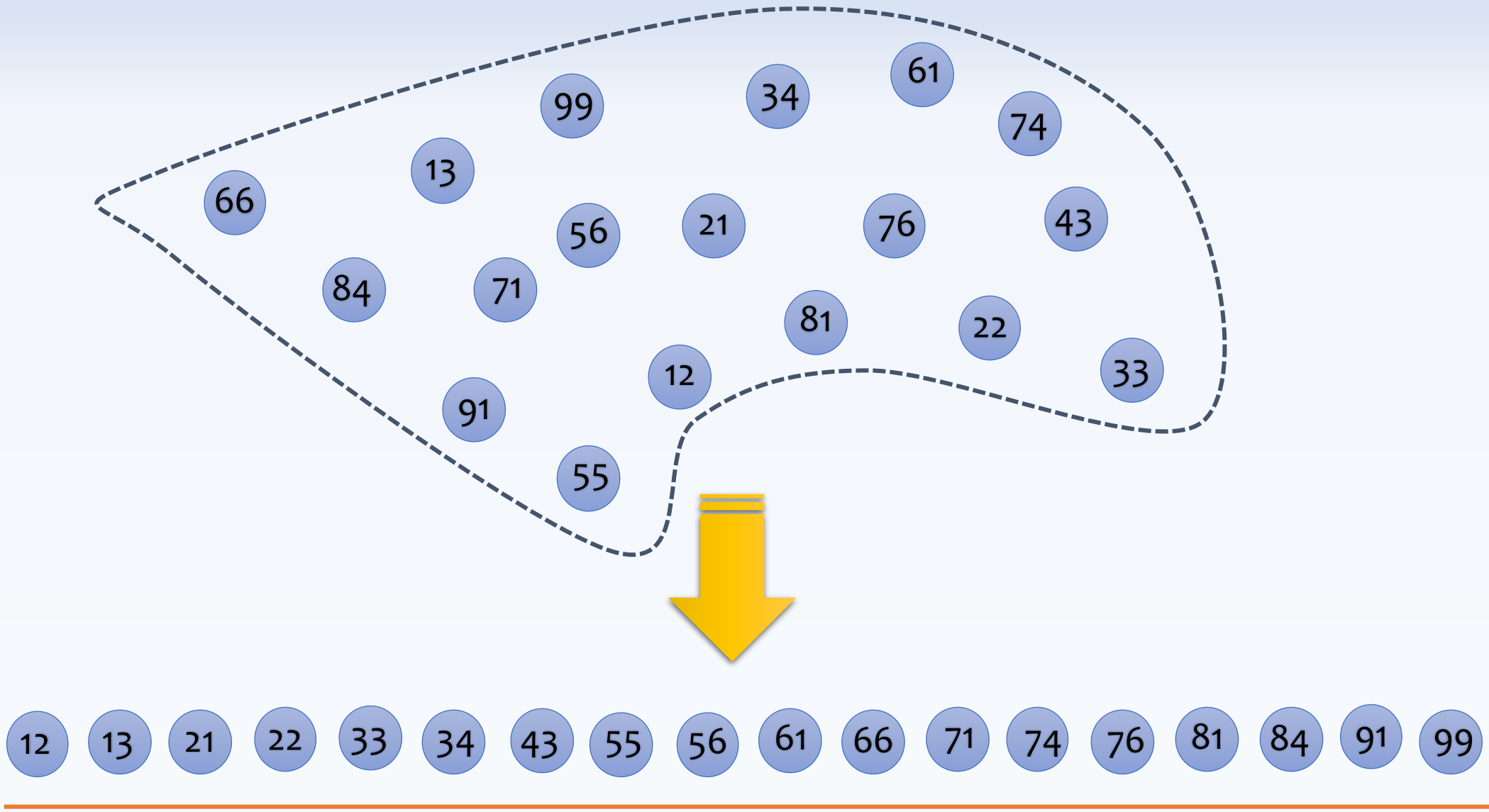
## Searching for 44?

(what-if the value does not exist)  
(could we have an early termination?)

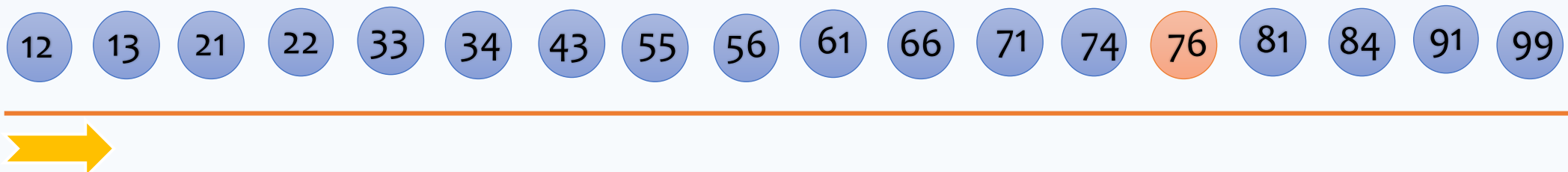




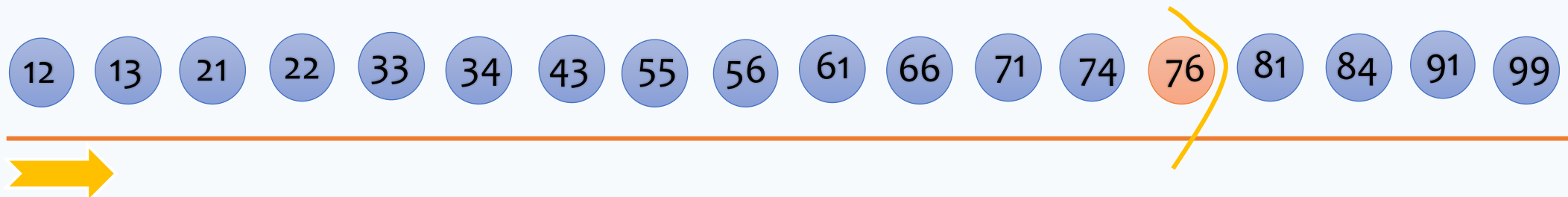
**Could we impose an order to improve the search?**



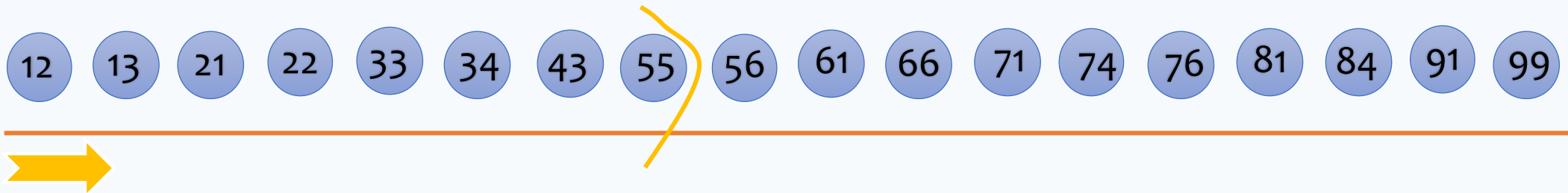
## Searching for 76



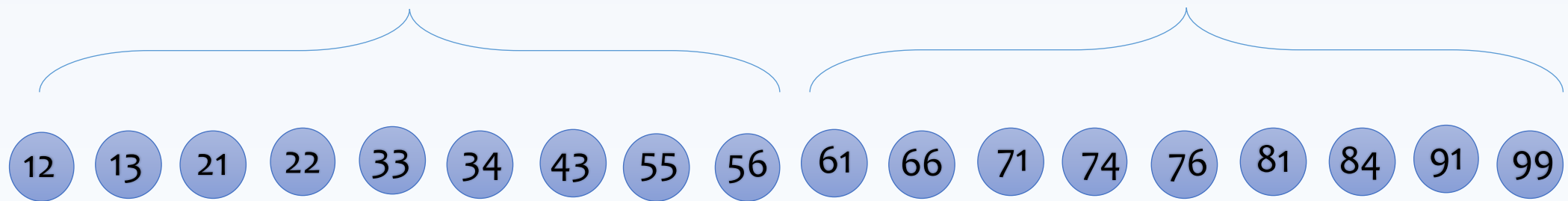
## Searching for 76

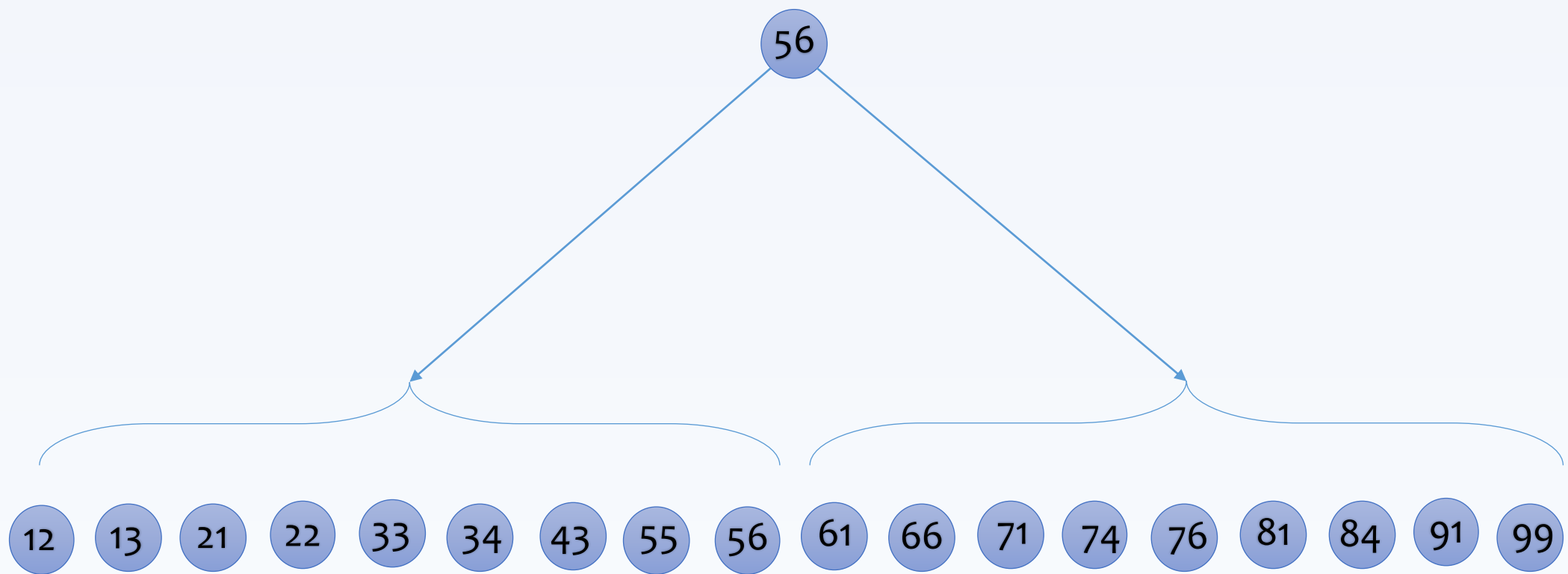


**Searching for 44?**  
**(could we have an early termination?)**



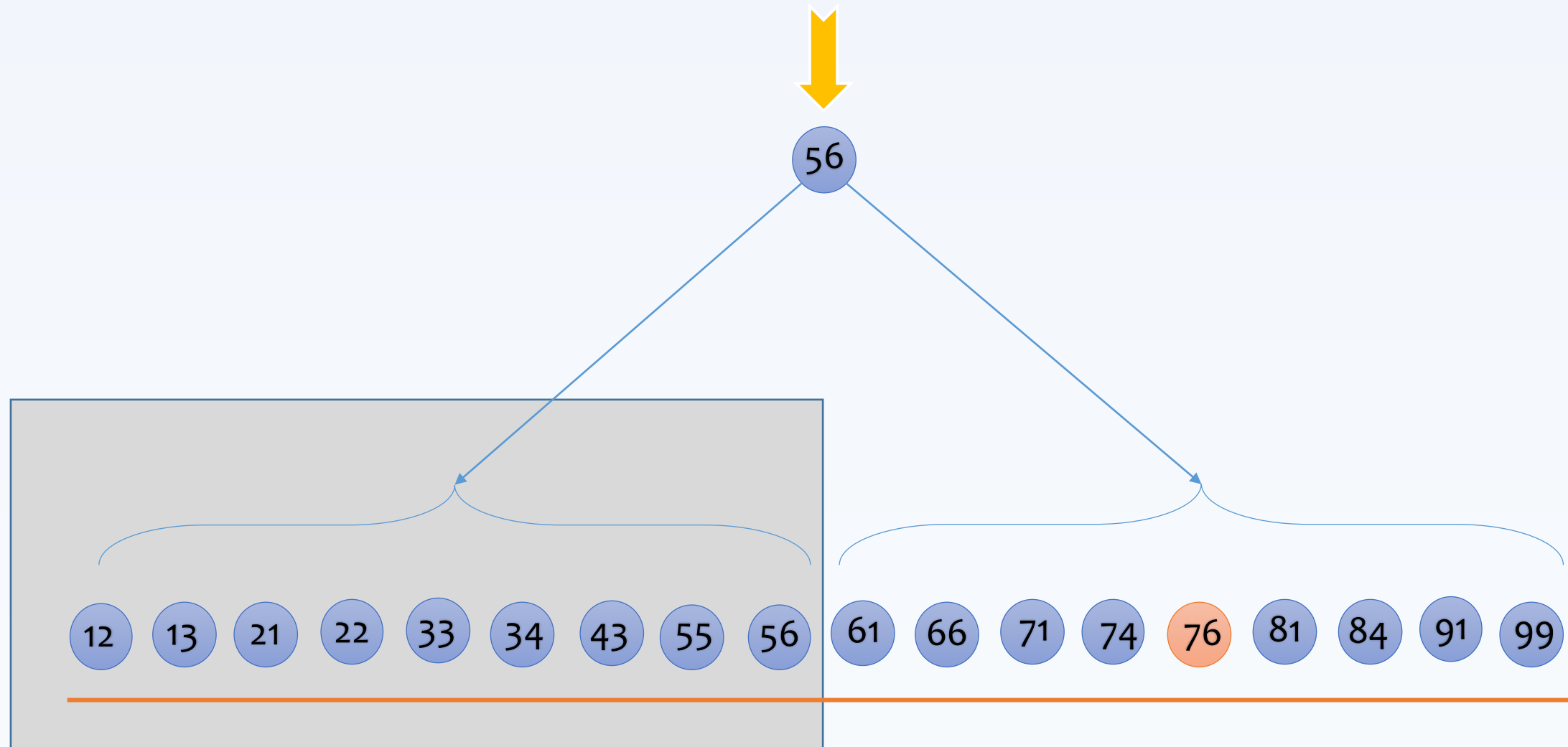
**Could we impose a structure to further improve the search?**



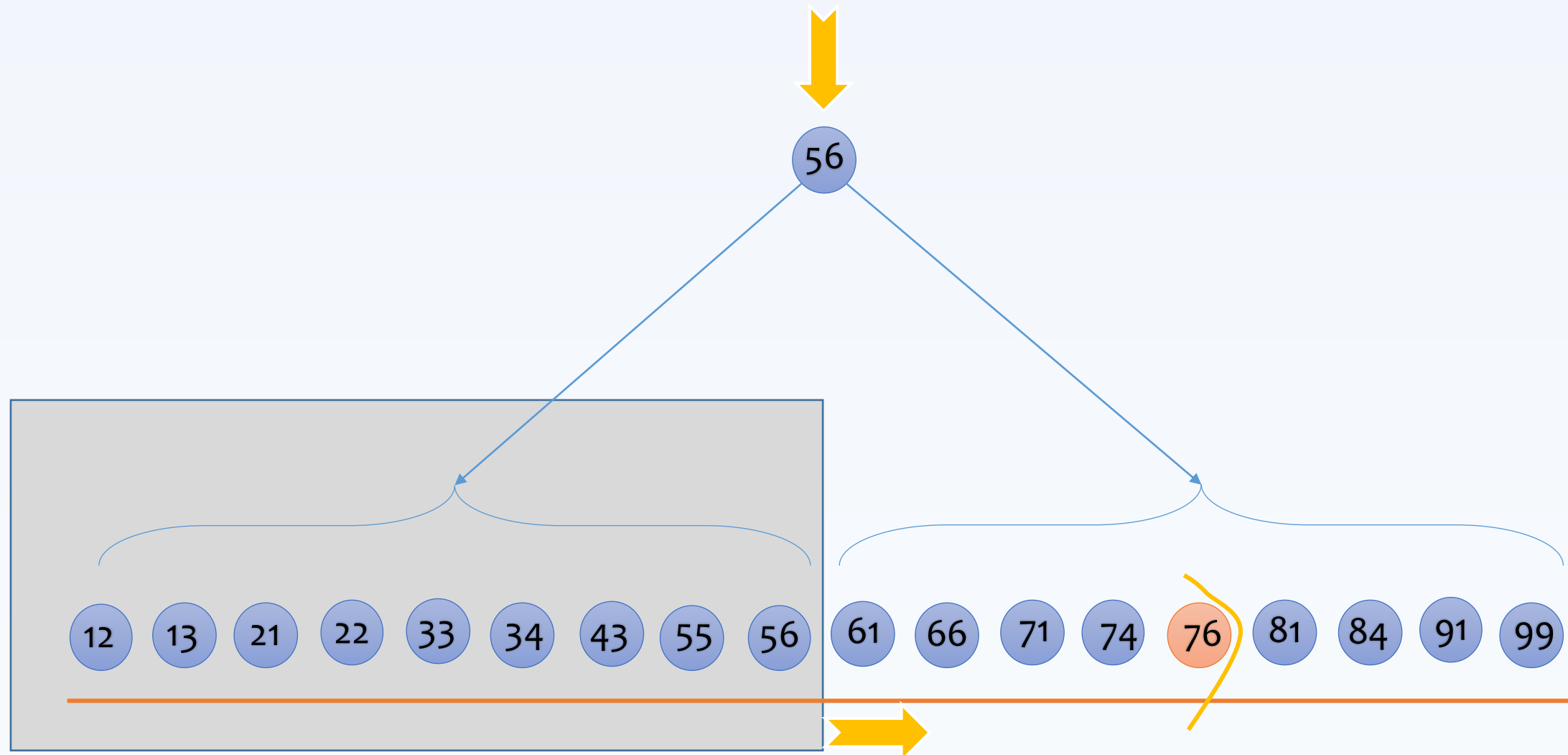


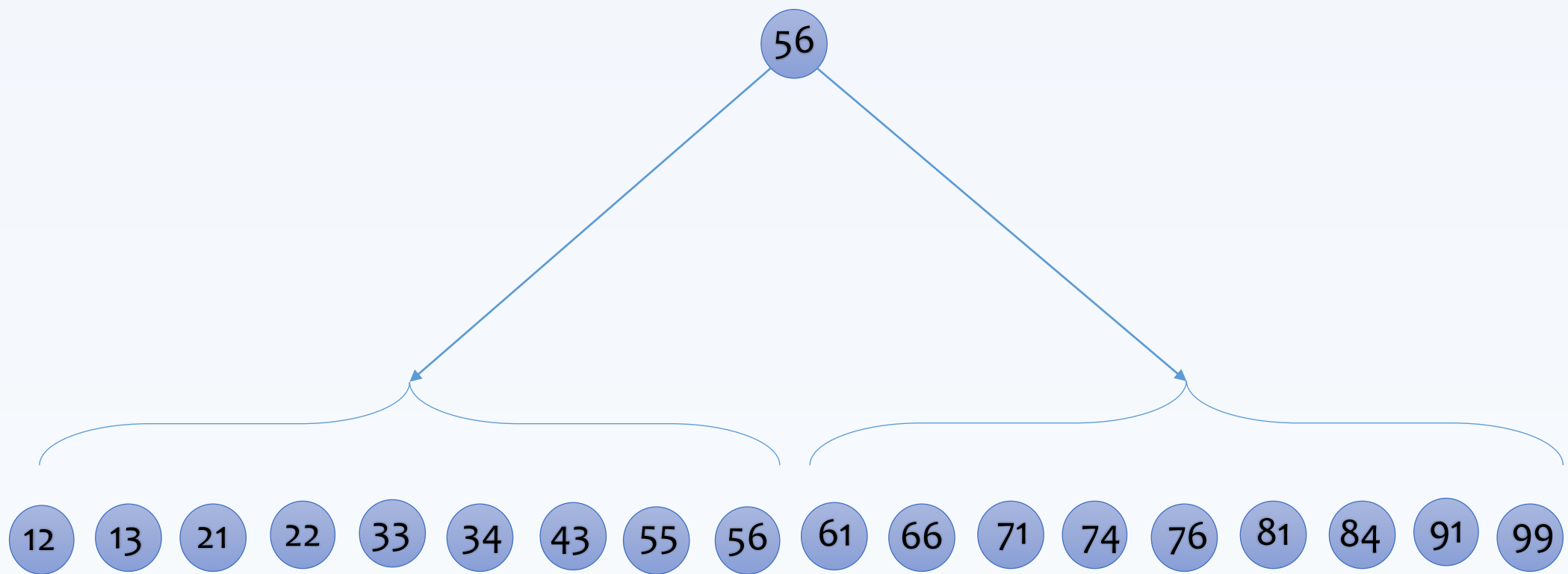


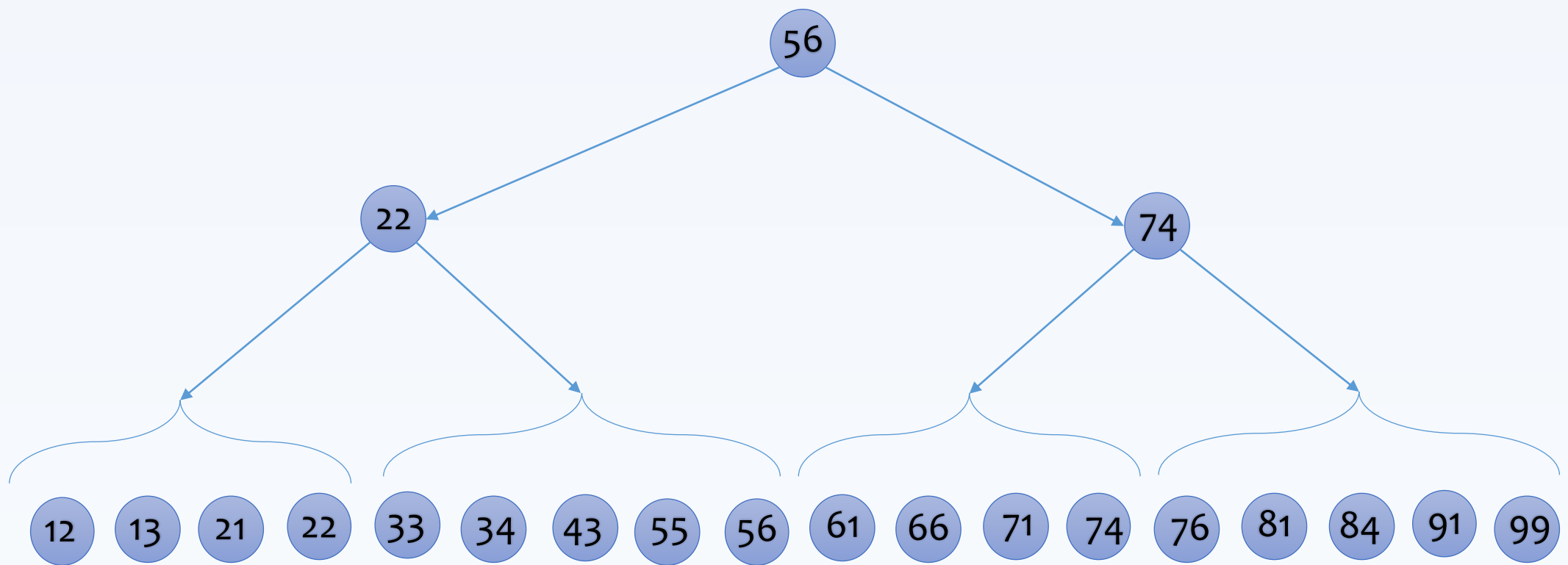
# Searching for 76



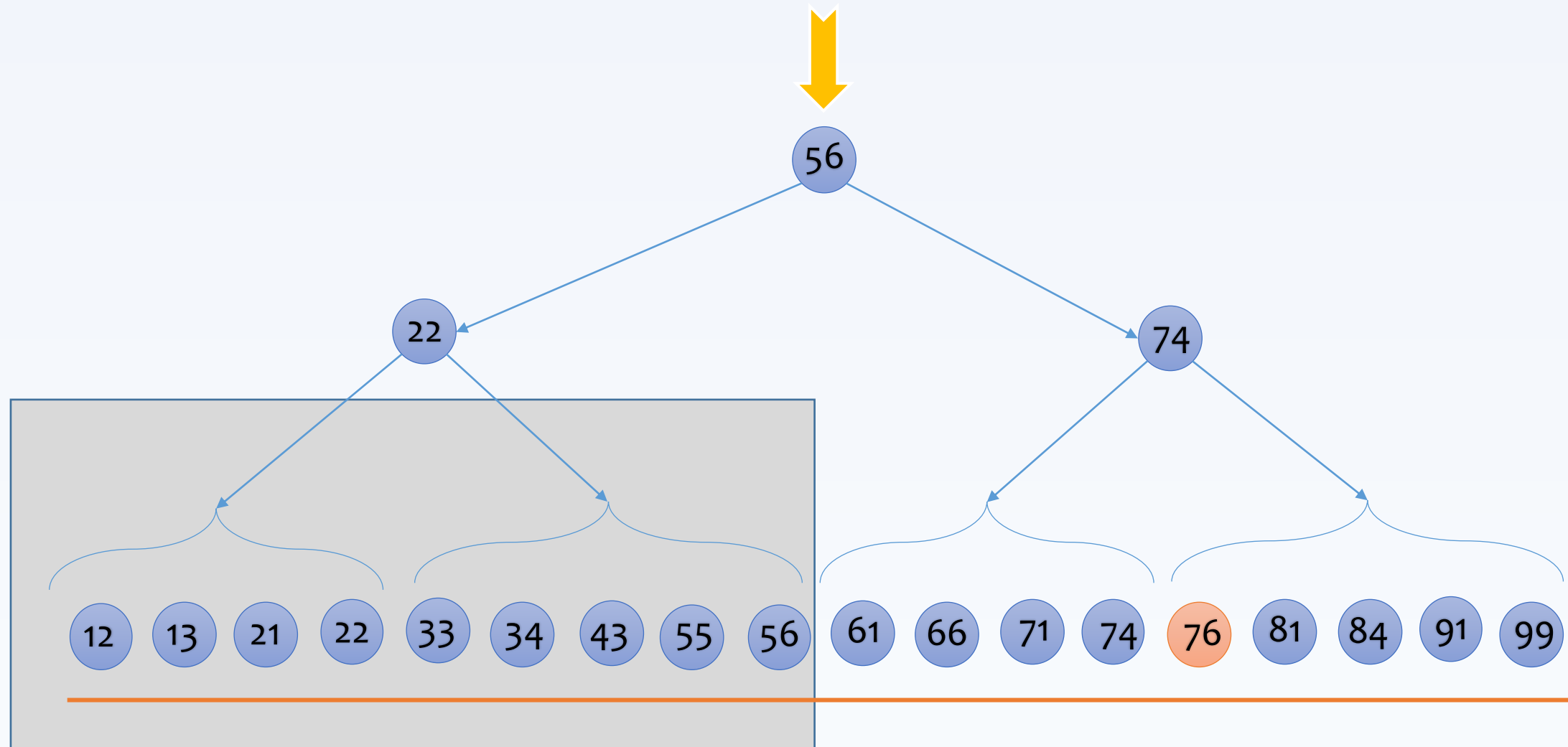
# Searching for 76



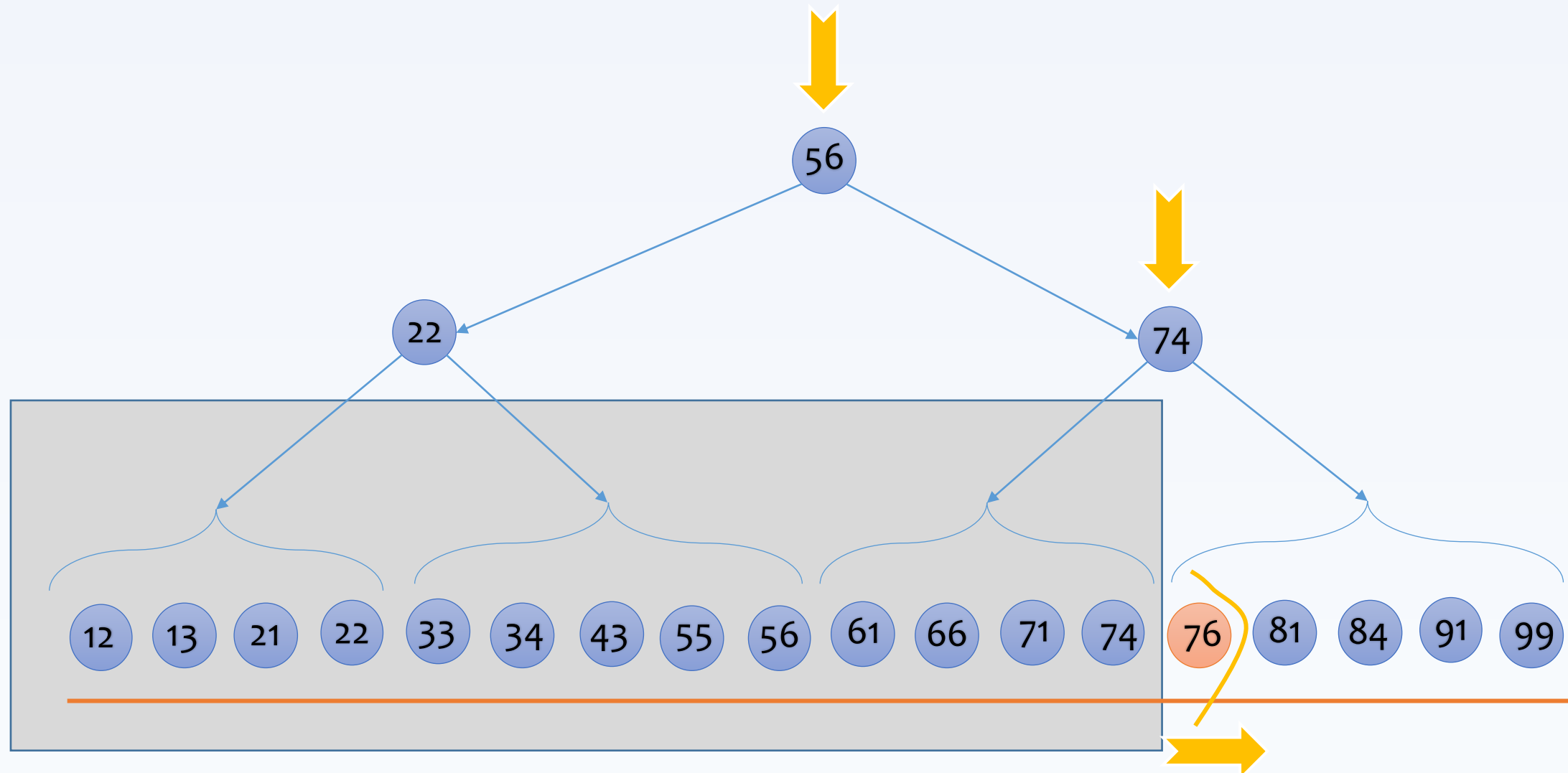




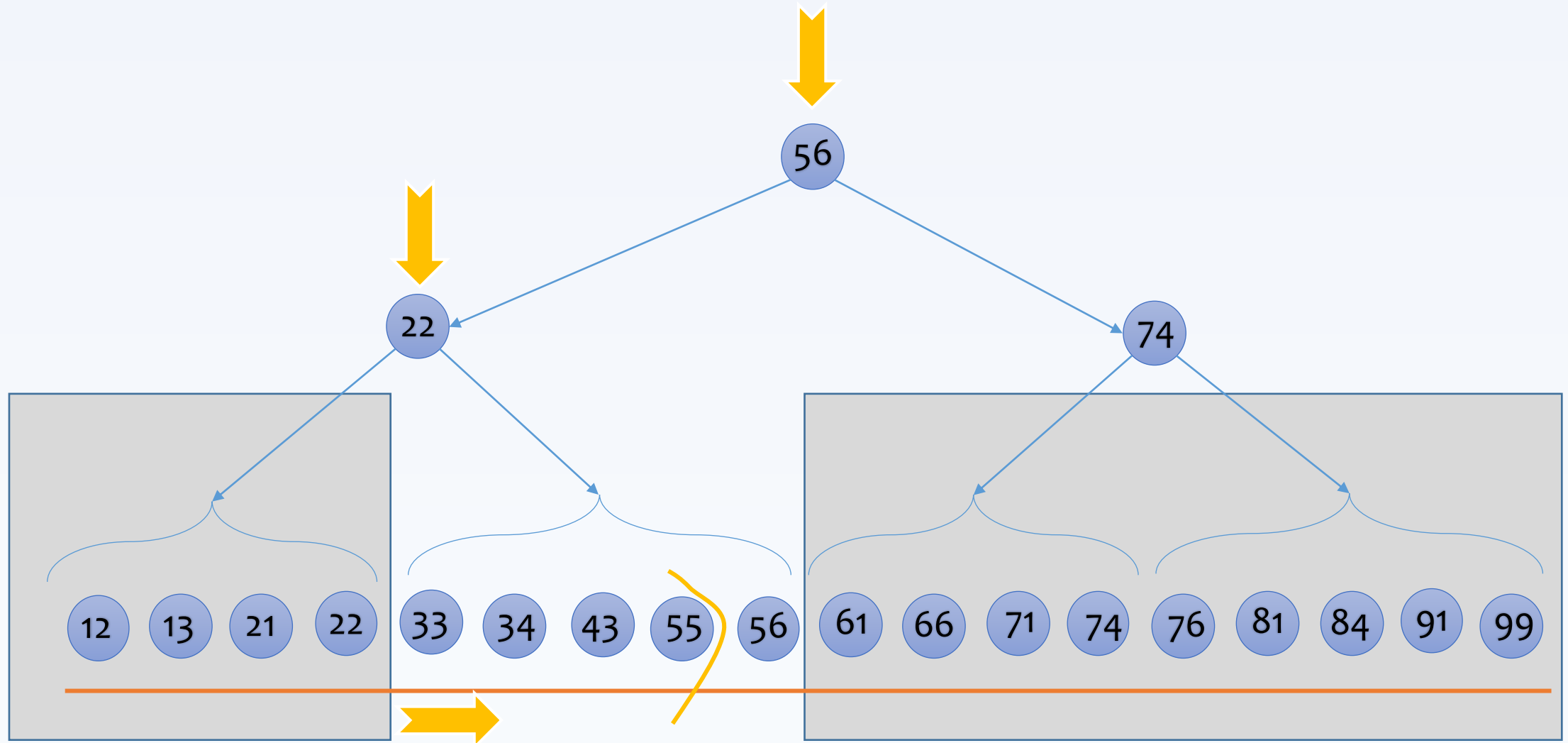
# Searching for 76



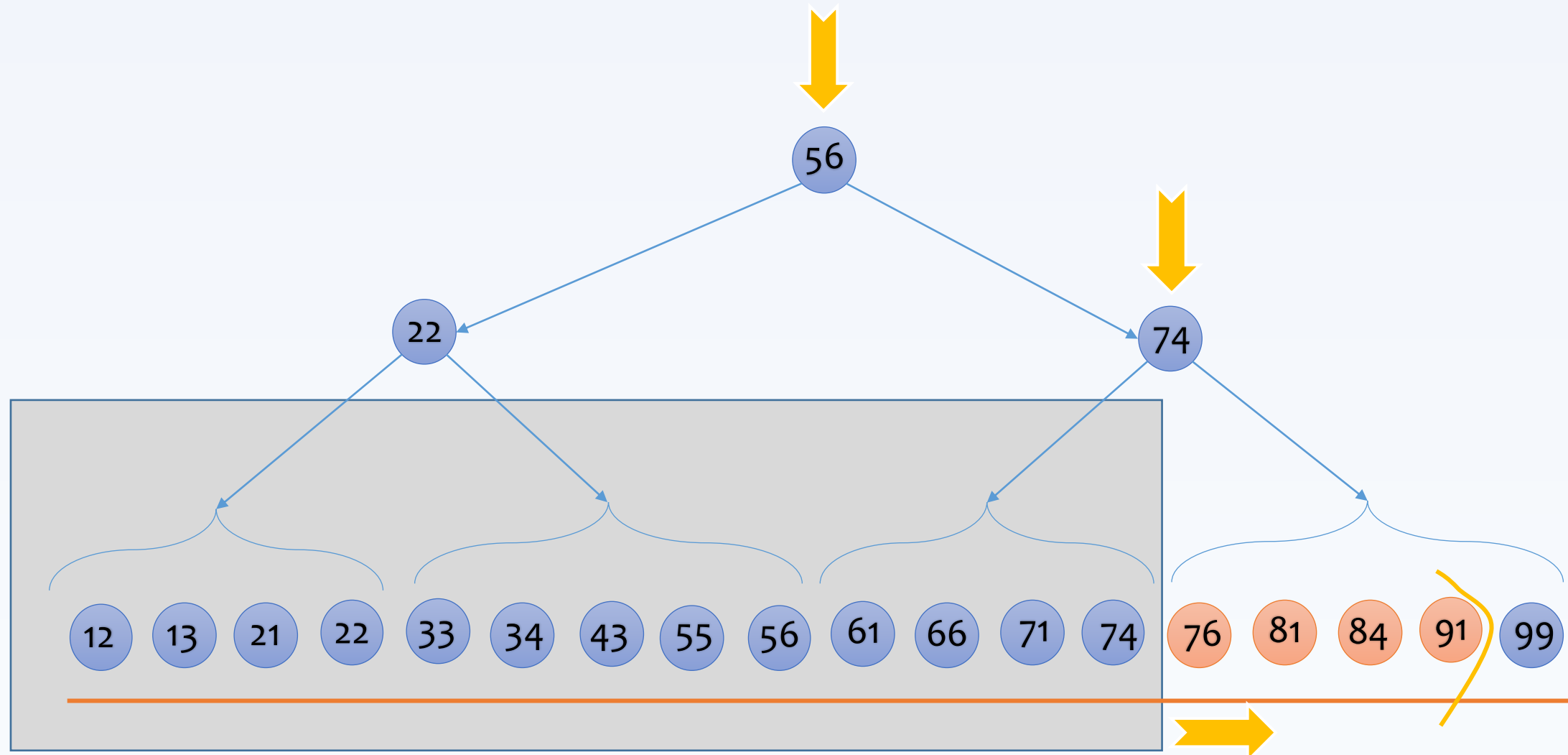
# Searching for 76



**Searching for 44?**  
(could we have an early termination?)



# Searching for 76-91





**Could we spread the data cleverly to improve the search?**

hashtable



bucket



Hashing (●) = ?

(returns a value  
between 1 to n,  
where n is the  
number of buckets)

## Inserting 81

Hashing (81) = 6



## Inserting 43

Hashing (43) = 10

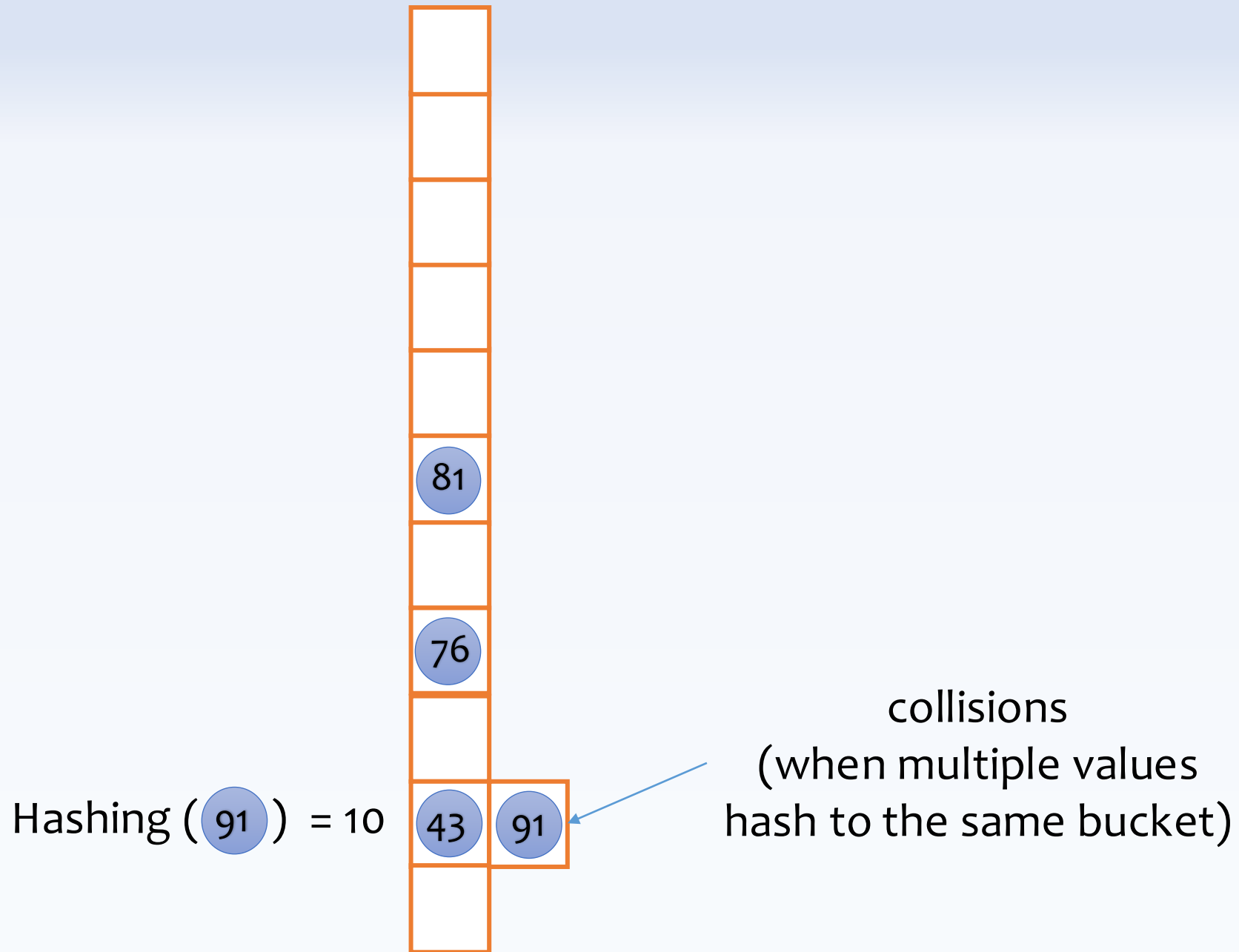


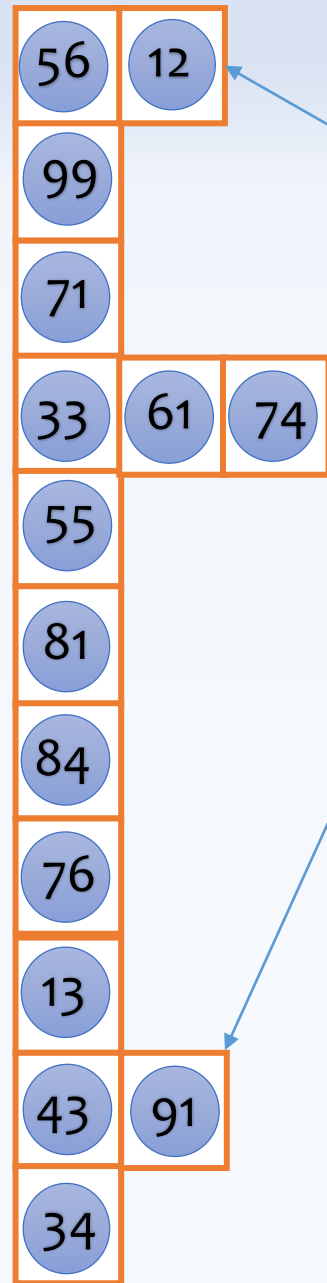
## Inserting 76

Hashing (76) = 8



## Inserting 91

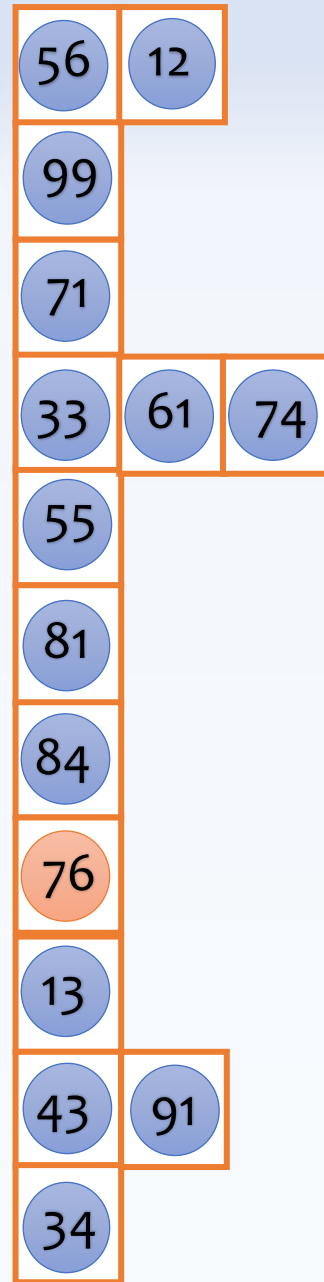




collisions  
(when multiple values  
hash to the same bucket)

## Searching for 76

(now we can have a constant lookup cost)

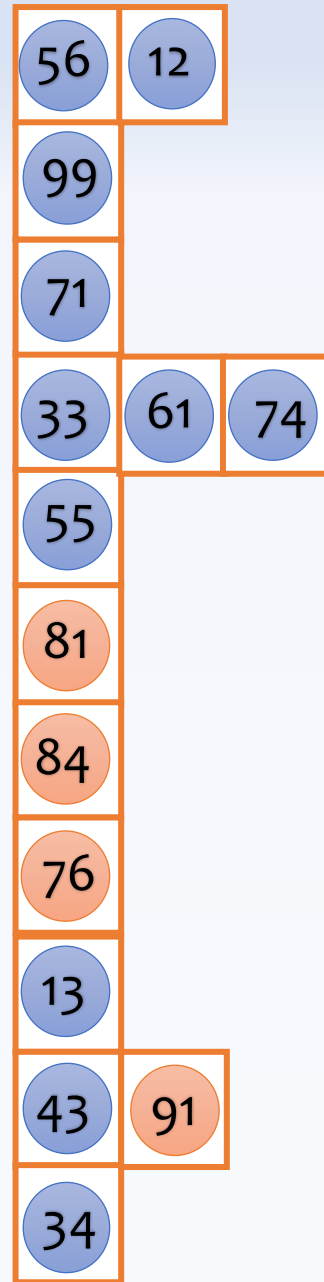


Hashing ( 76 ) = 8



**Searching for 76-91?**

**Could we instead search for  
76, 77, 78, ..., 90, 91?**



Hashing ( 76 ) = 8

Hashing ( 77 ) = 1

Hashing ( 78 ) = 3

⋮

Hashing ( 81 ) = 6

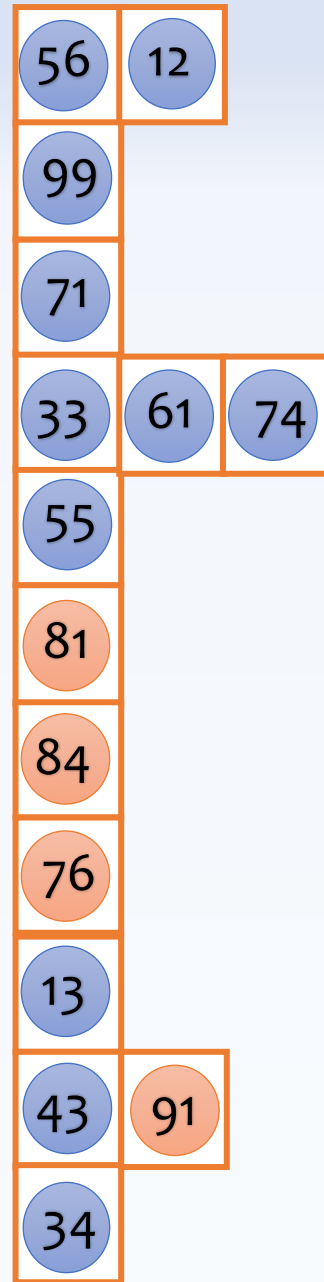
⋮

Hashing ( 84 ) = 7

⋮

Hashing ( 90 ) = 8

Hashing ( 91 ) = 10



Searching for 76-91  
**Could we instead search for  
76, 77, 78, ..., 90, 91?**

Hashing (76) = 8

Hashing (77) = 1

Hashing (78) = 3

⋮

Hashing (81) = 6

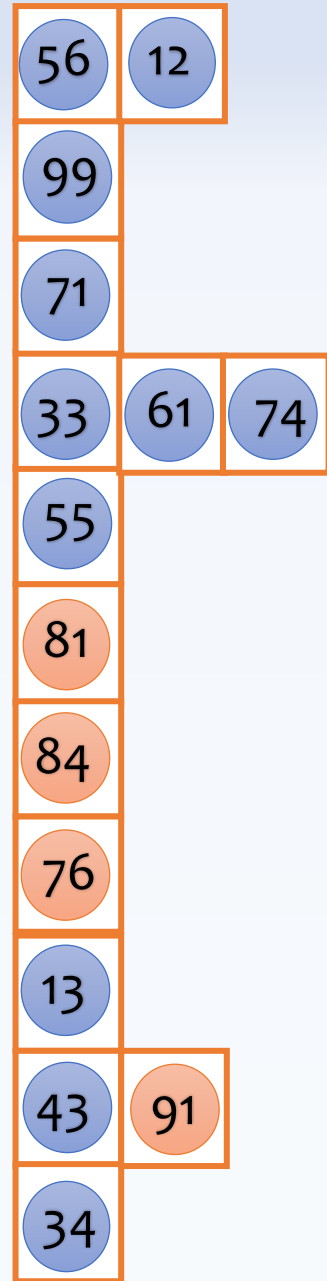
⋮

Hashing (84) = 7

⋮

Hashing (90) = 8

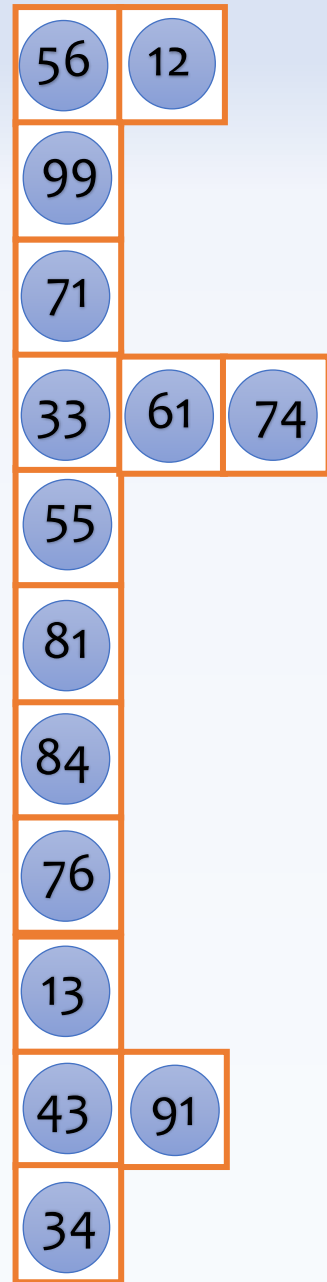
Hashing (91) = 10



Searching for 76-91

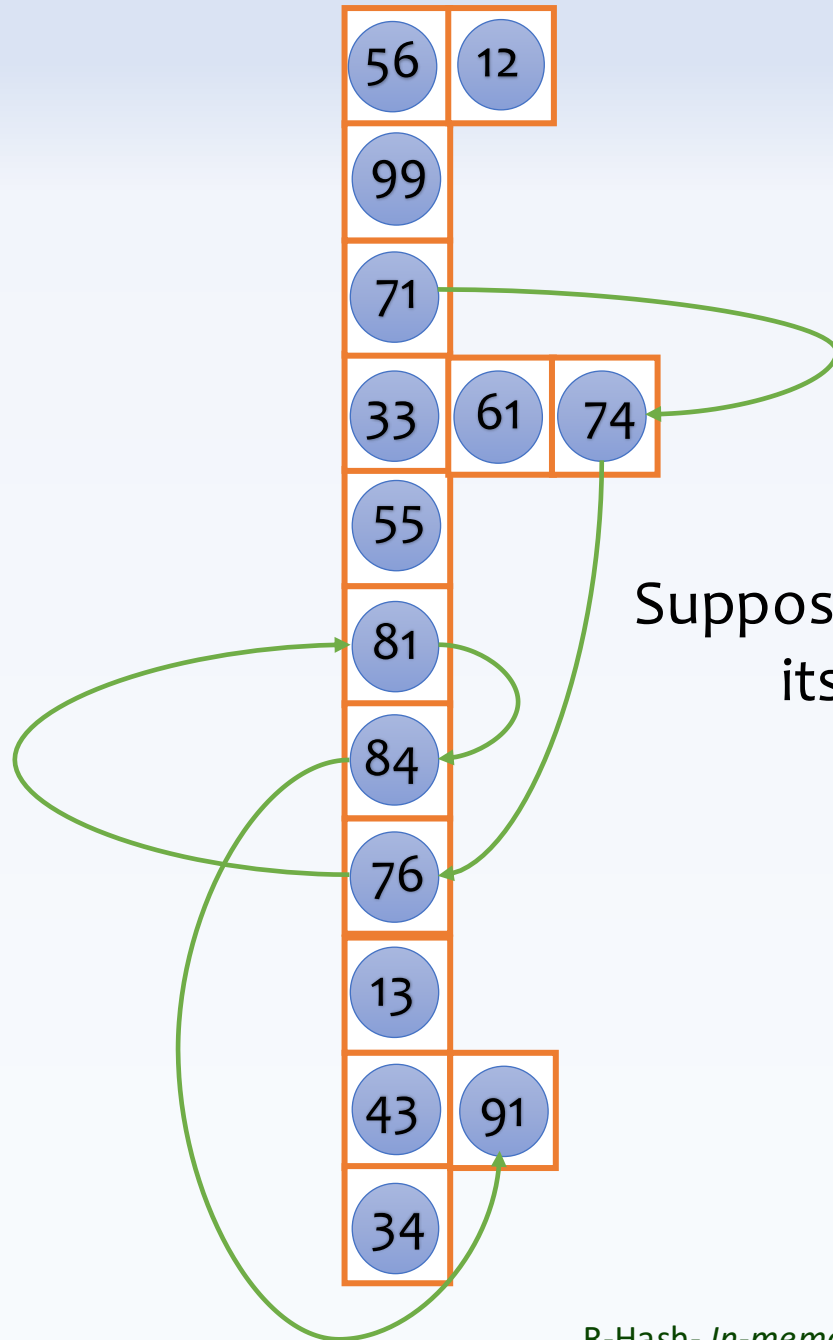
**How about 76.01, 76.02, 76.03, ...?**  
**(simply not practical)**

**Could we imagine a new design to support searching  
for a range of values efficiently?**



Let's promote a subset of values as seeds



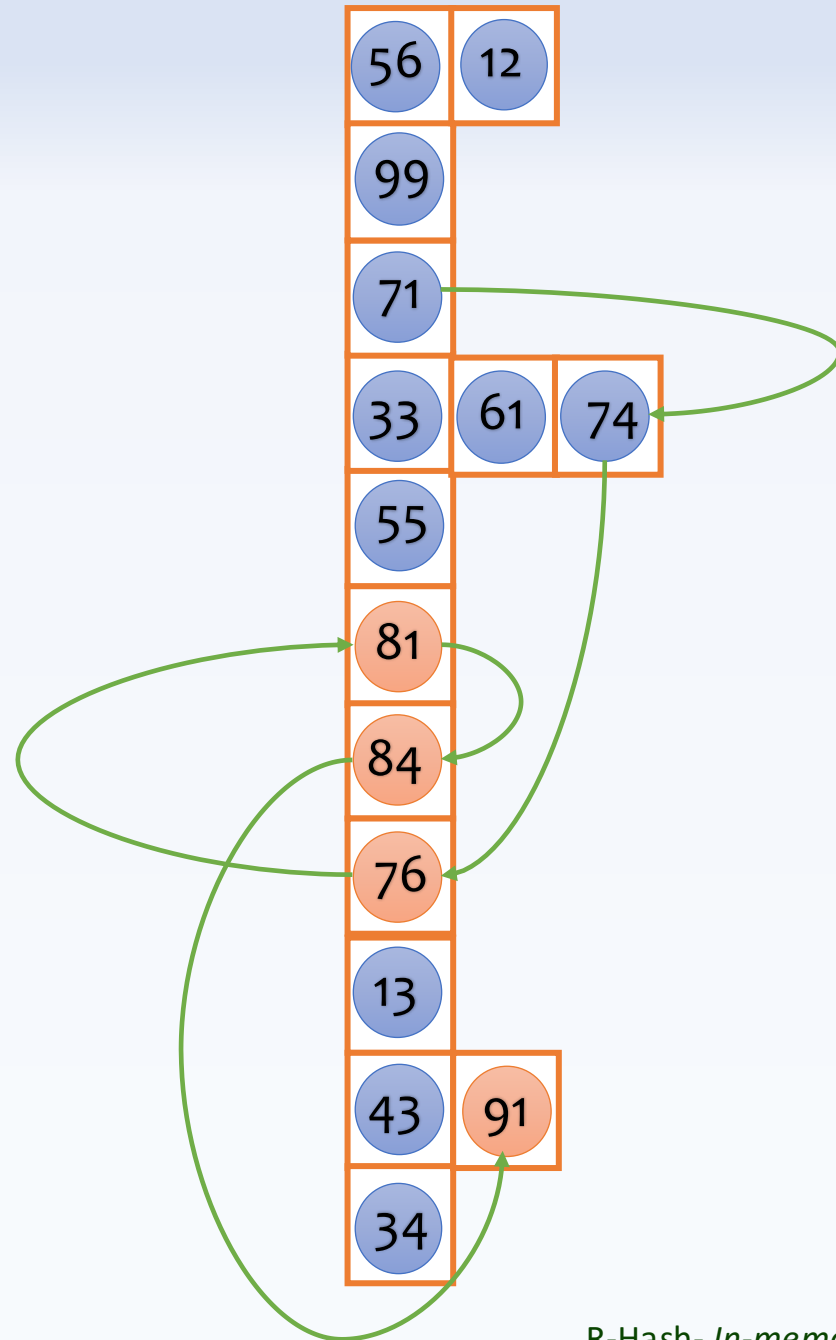


Let's promote a subset of values as seeds

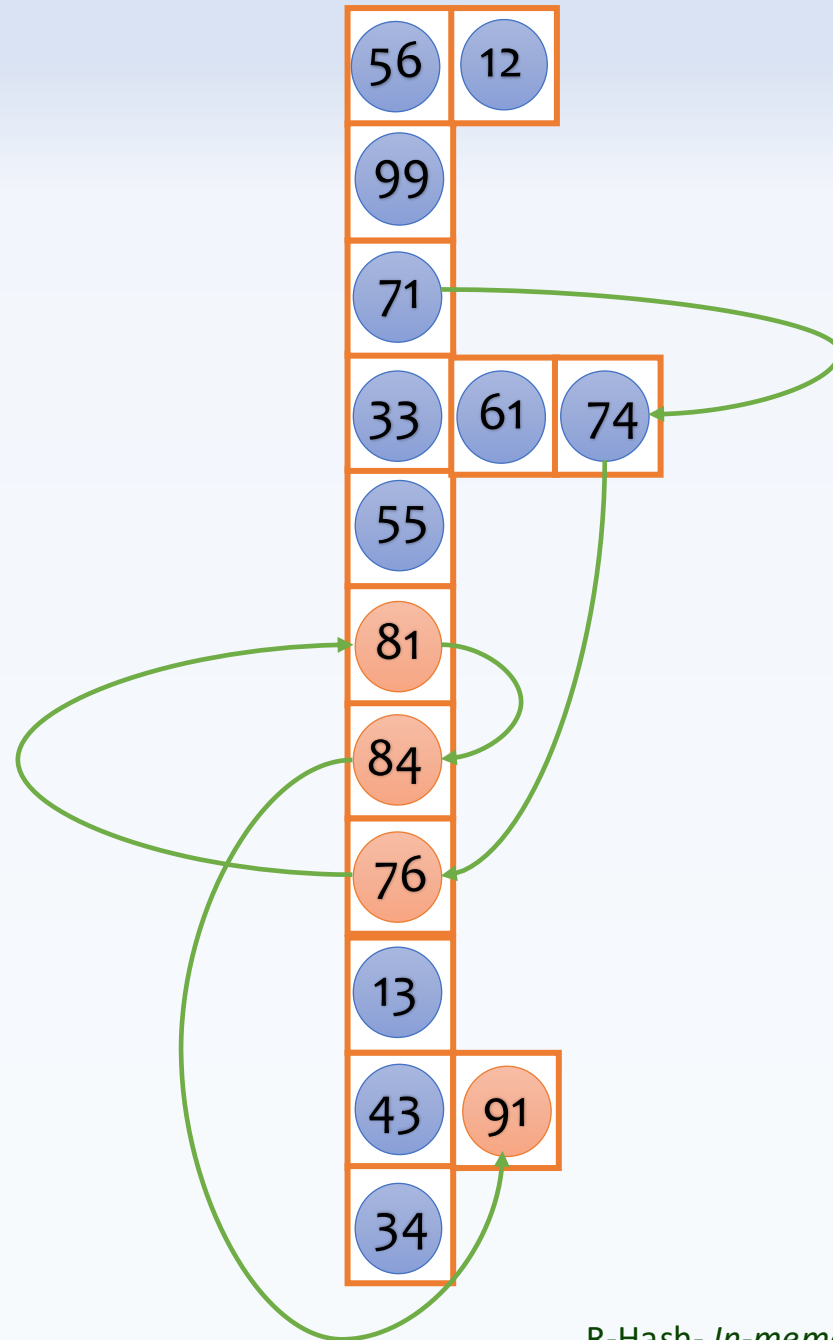


Suppose every value points to its next larger value

## Searching for 76-91



## Searching for 76-91



sorted seeds

34 71 91

Find the largest seed smaller than 76: 71



## Searching for 76-91

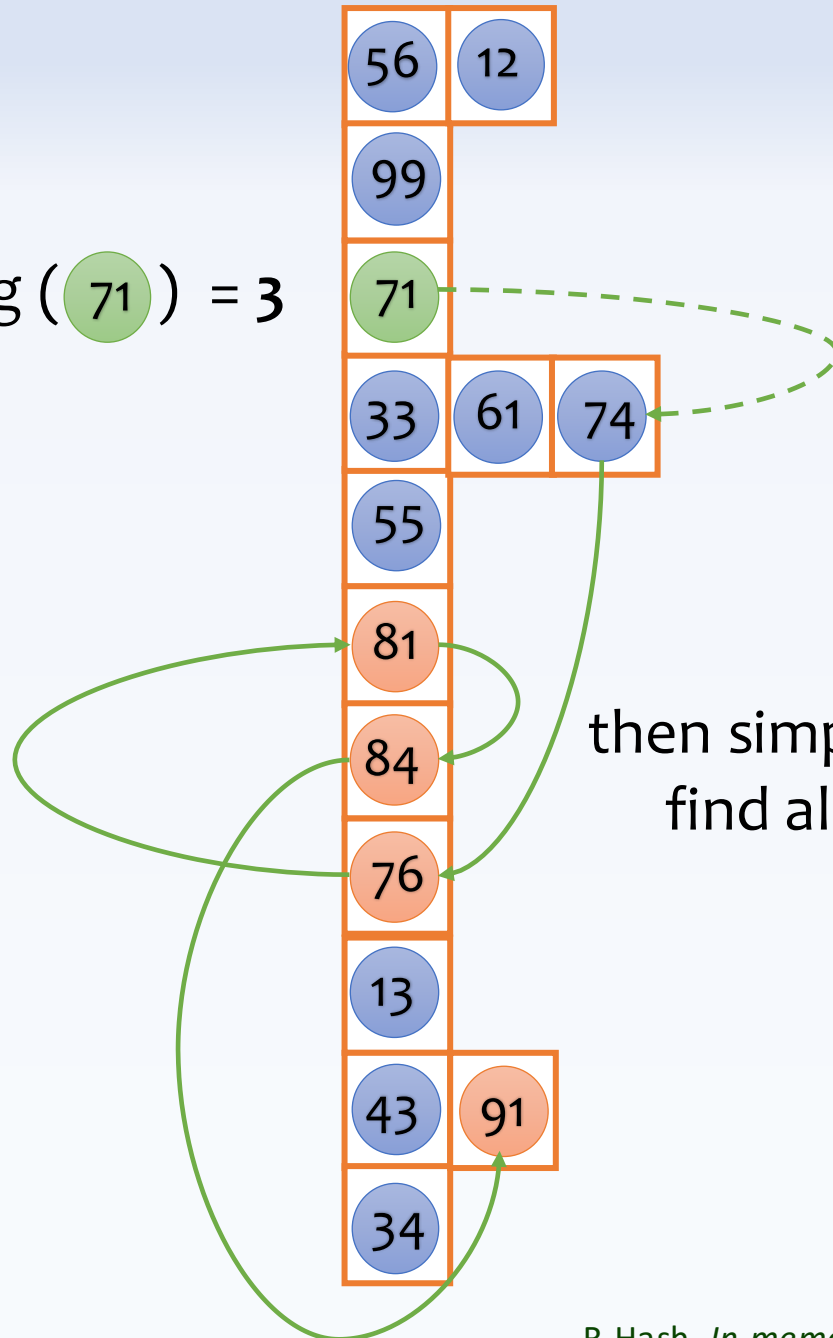
Hashing (71) = 3

sorted seeds

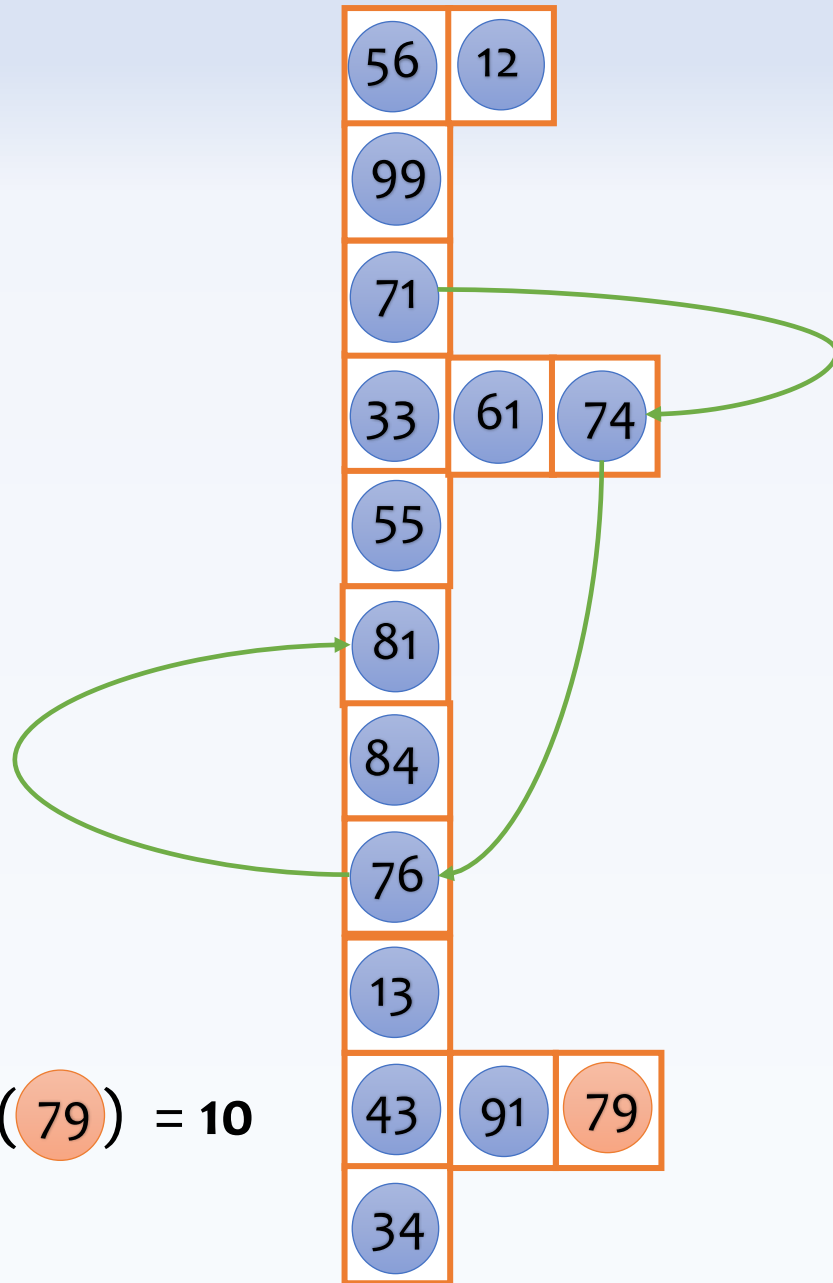
34 71 91

Find the largest seed smaller than 76: 71

then simply follow the pointers to find all values between 76-91



## Inserting 79



Hashing (79) = 10

## Inserting 79

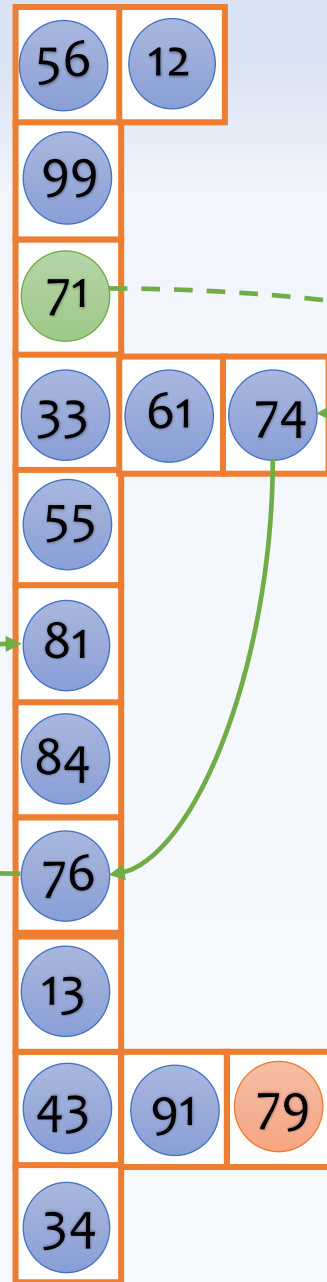
Hashing (71) = 3

sorted seeds

34 71 91

Find the largest seed smaller than 79: 71

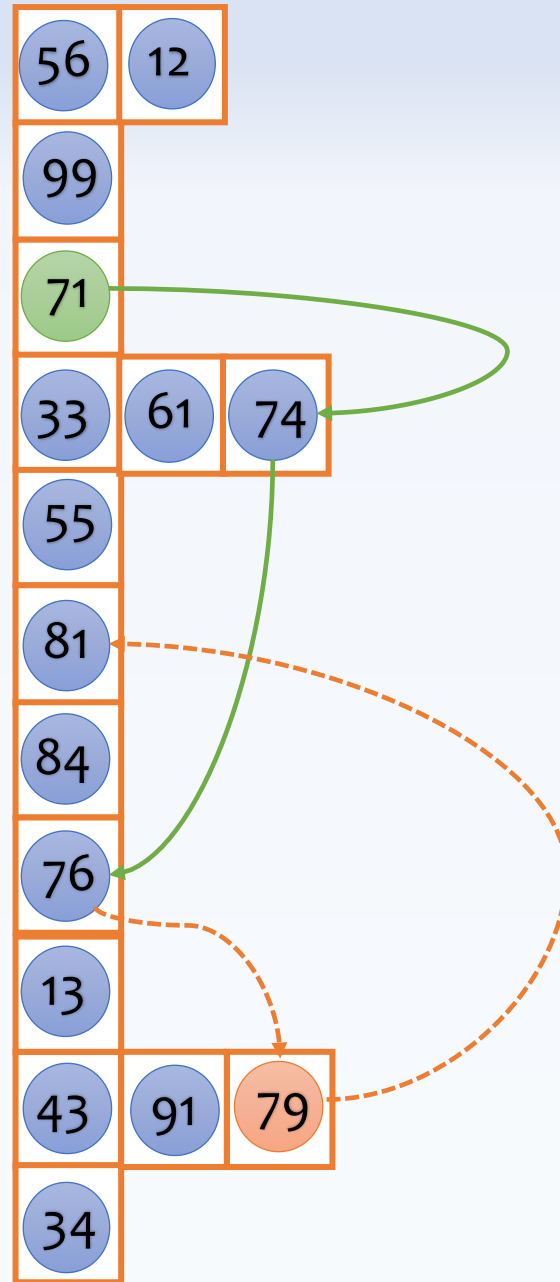
Hashing (79) = 10



## Inserting 79

Hashing (71) = 3

Hashing (79) = 10



## sorted seeds

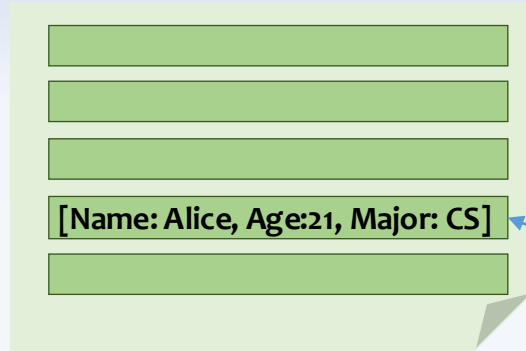
Find the largest seed smaller than 79: 71

adjust the pointers accordingly

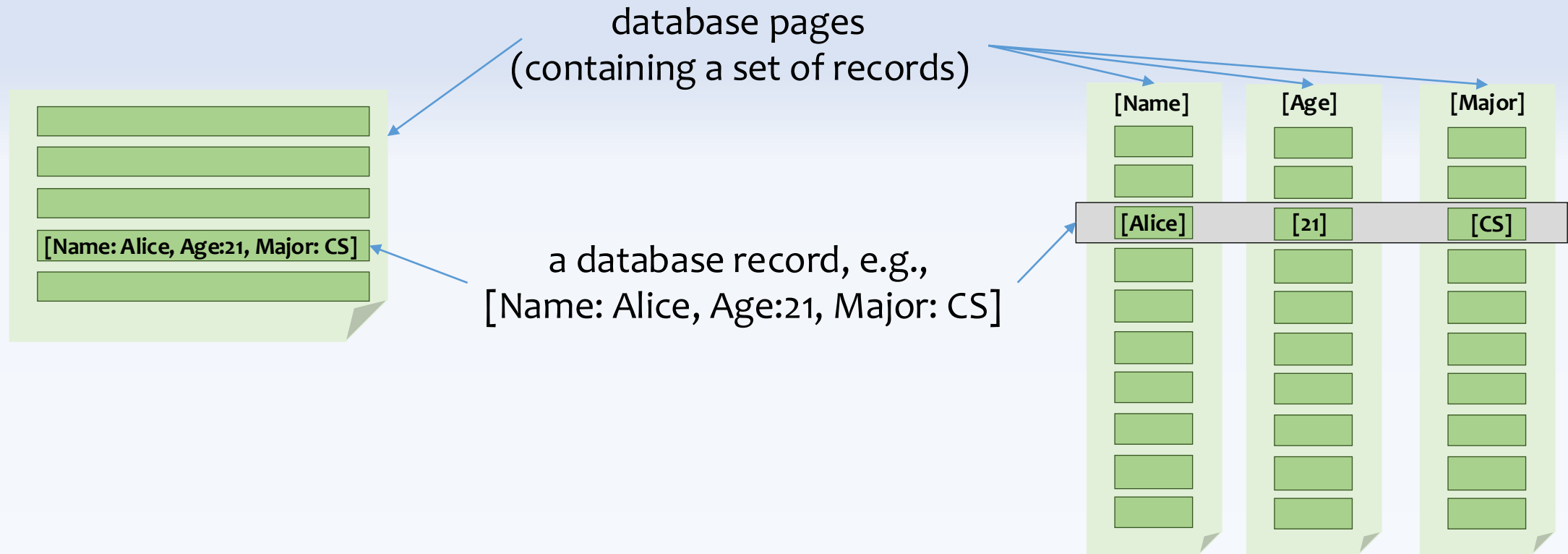
# **Database Storage Layouts**

**(how likely that we need an index for range queries?)**

database pages  
(containing a set of records)

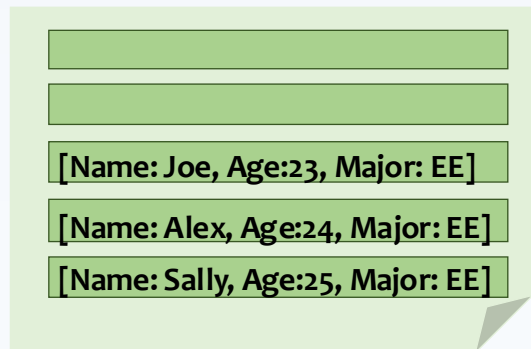
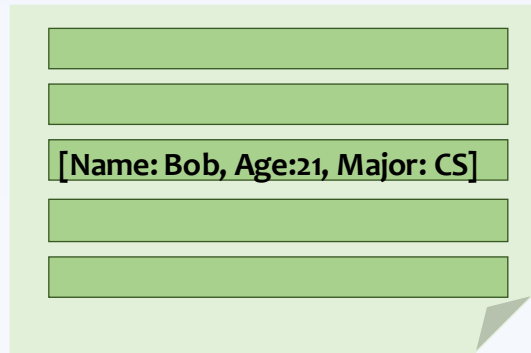
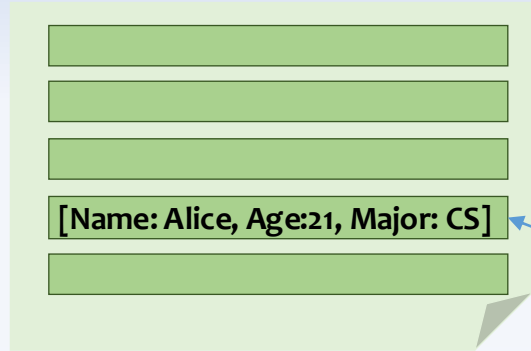


a database record, e.g.,  
[Name: Alice, Age:21, Major: CS]

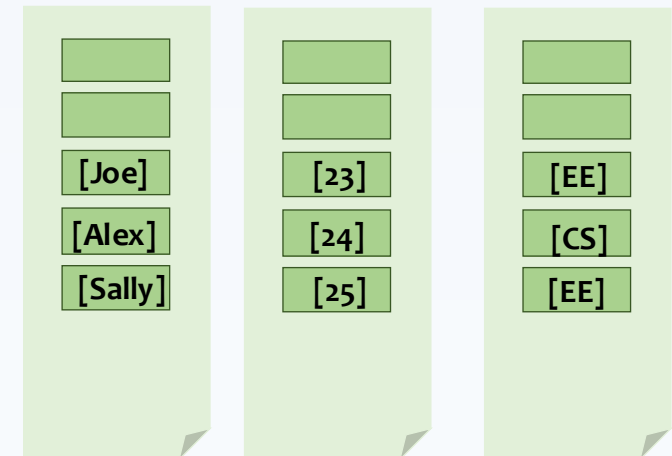
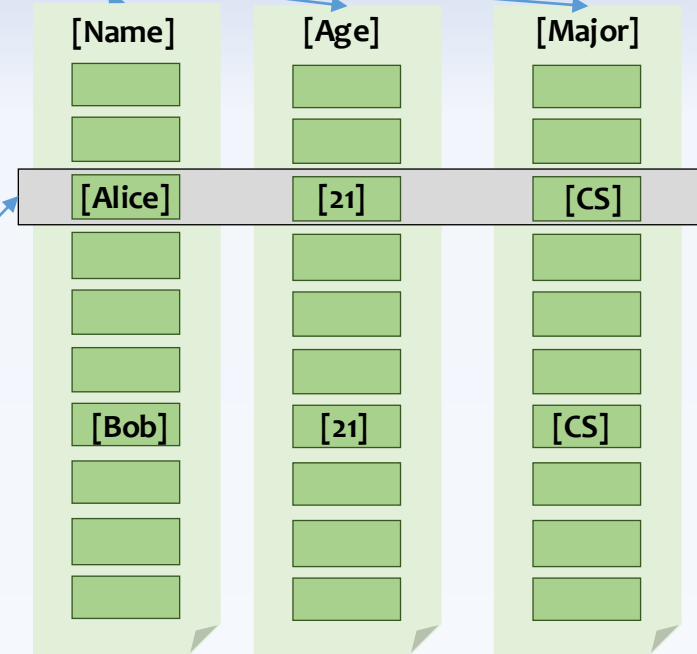


database pages  
(containing a set of records)

a database record, e.g.,  
[Name: Alice, Age:21, Major: CS]



Row-based Layout



Column-based Layout



# Searching for all students between the age of 21 to 24 (may return many students)

[Name: Alice, Age:21, Major: CS]

[Name: Bob, Age:21, Major: CS]

[Name: Joe, Age:23, Major: EE]
[Name: Alex, Age:24, Major: EE]
[Name: Sally, Age:25, Major: EE]

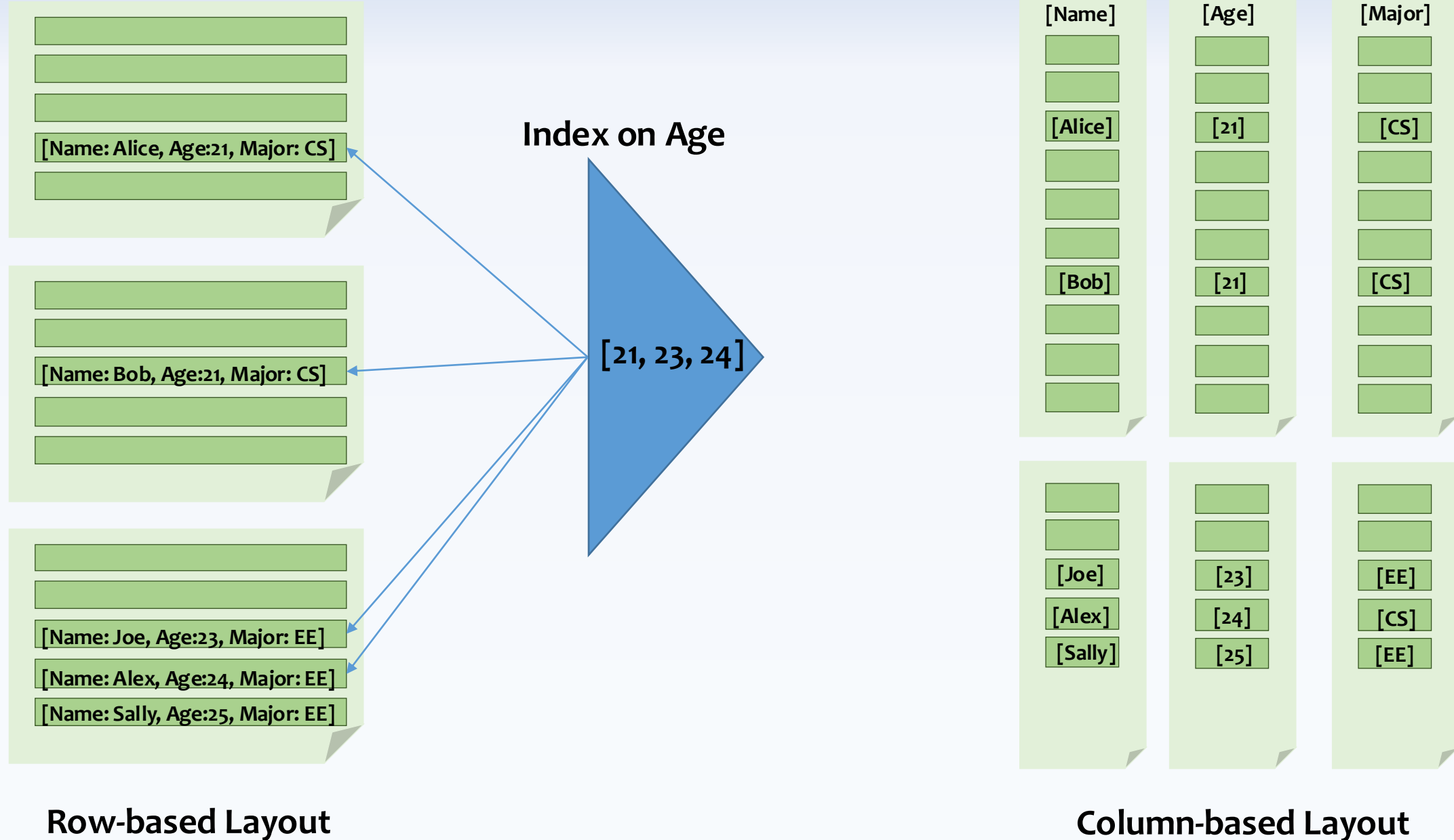
Row-based Layout

[Name]	[Age]	[Major]
[Alice]	[21]	[CS]
[Bob]	[21]	[CS]

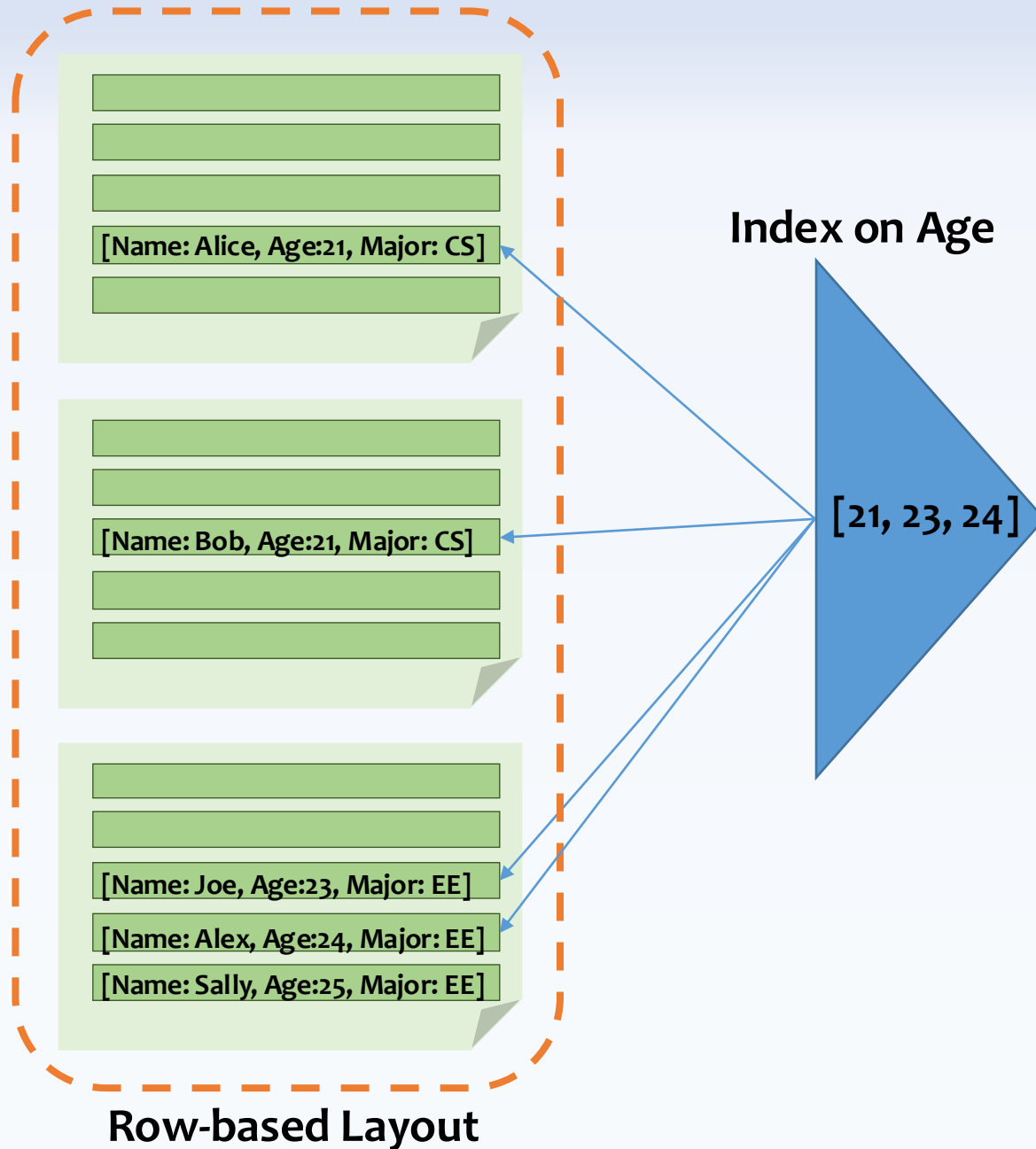
[Joe]	[23]	[EE]
[Alex]	[24]	[CS]
[Sally]	[25]	[EE]

Column-based Layout

# Searching for all students between the age of 21 to 24 (may return many students)



Searching for all students between the age of 21 to 24  
(may return many students)



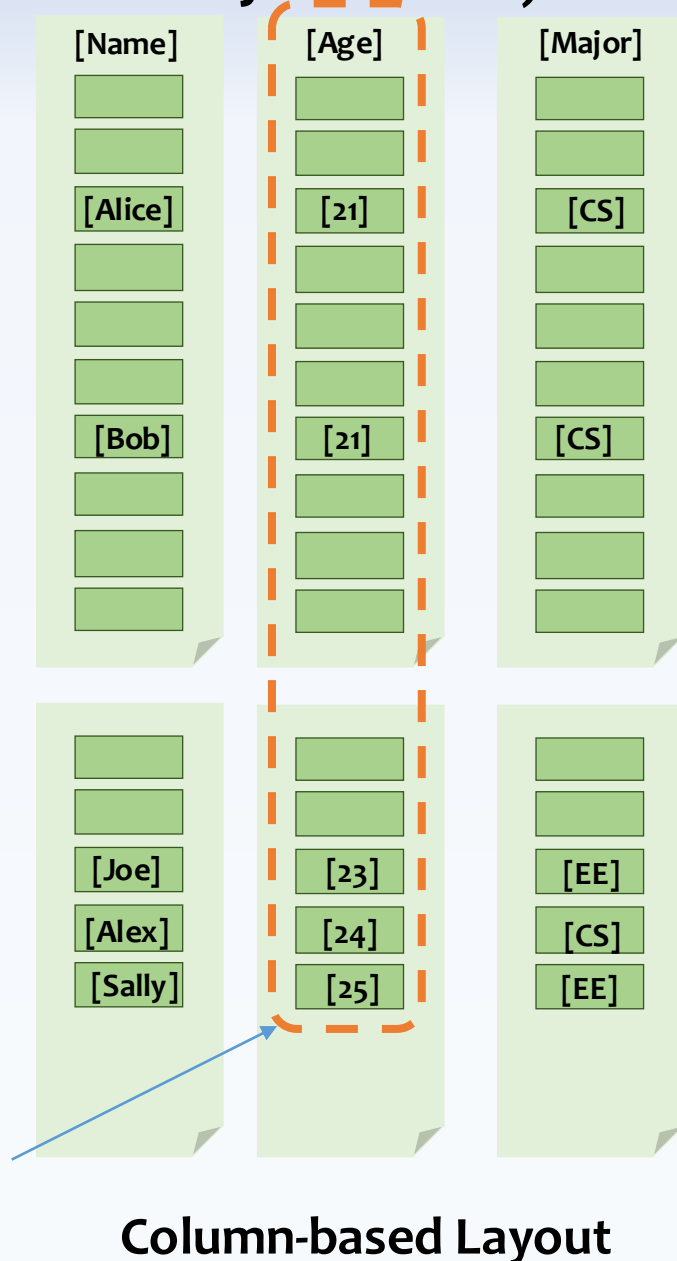
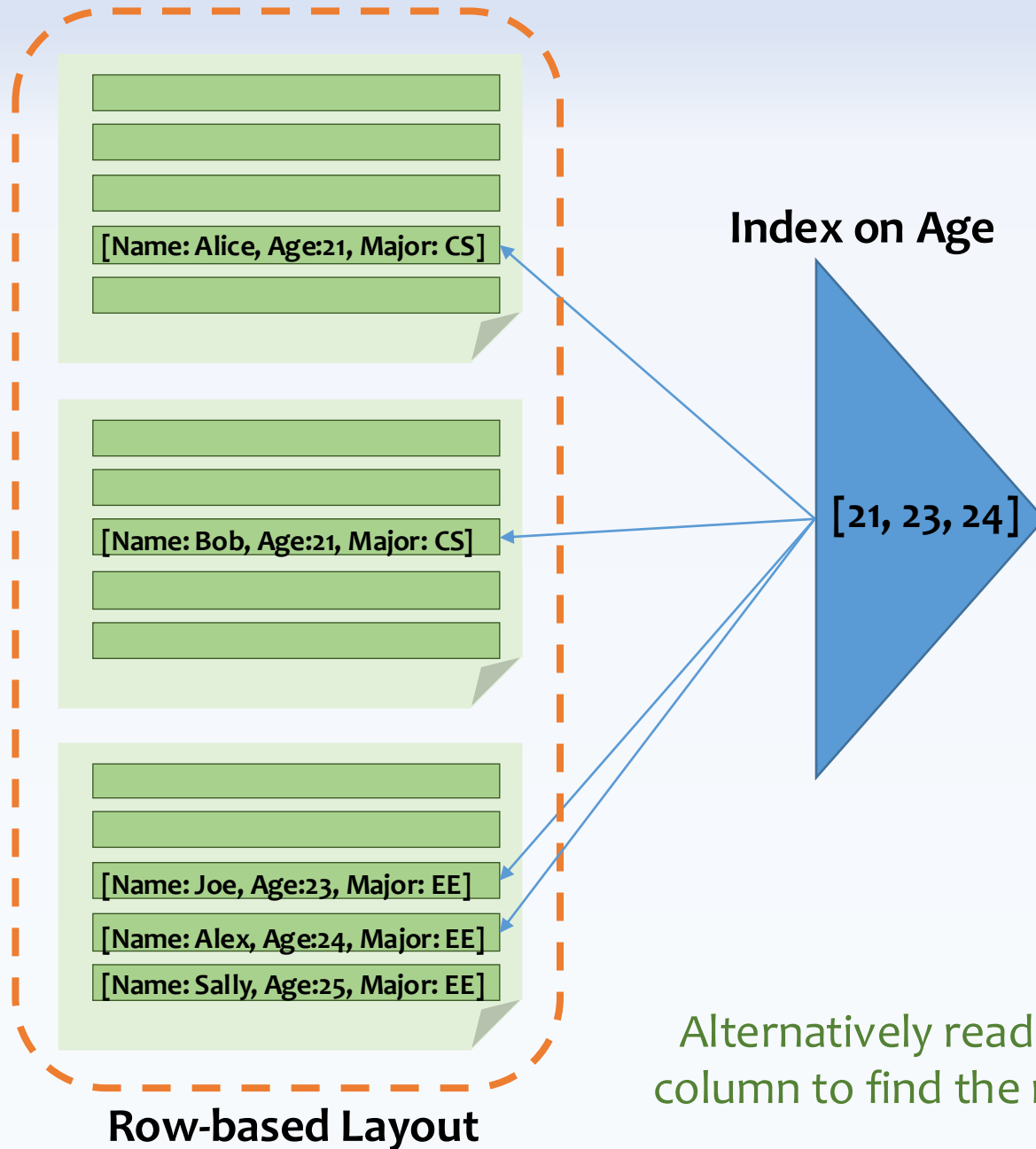
[Name]	[Age]	[Major]
[Alice]	[21]	[CS]
[Bob]	[21]	[CS]

[Joe]	[23]	[EE]
[Alex]	[24]	[CS]
[Sally]	[25]	[EE]

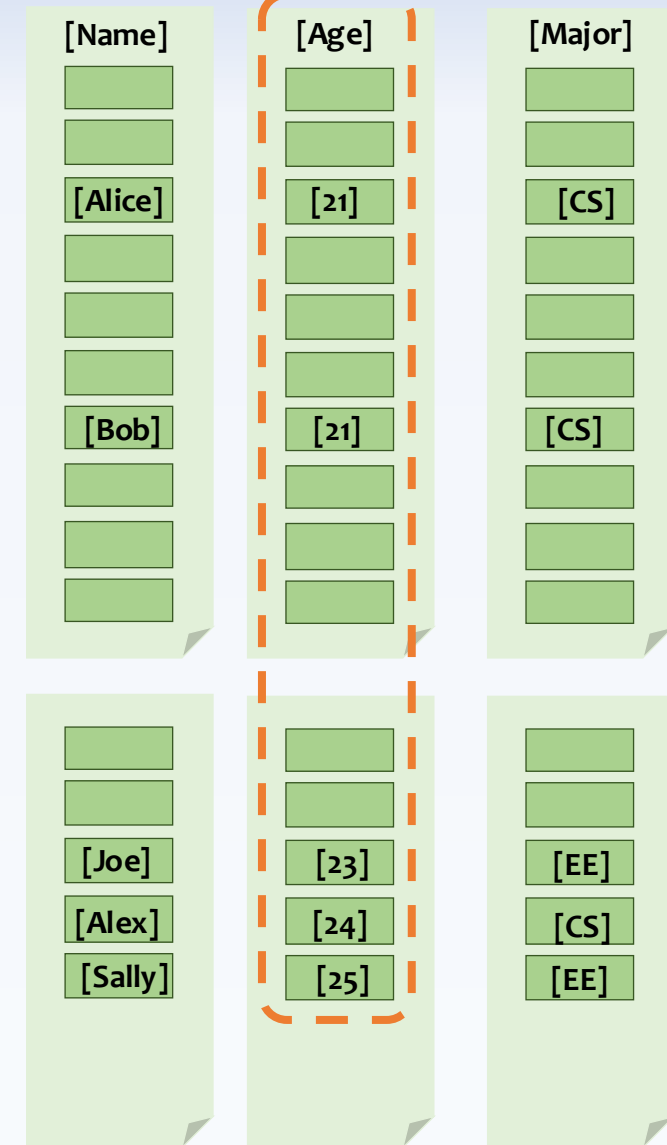
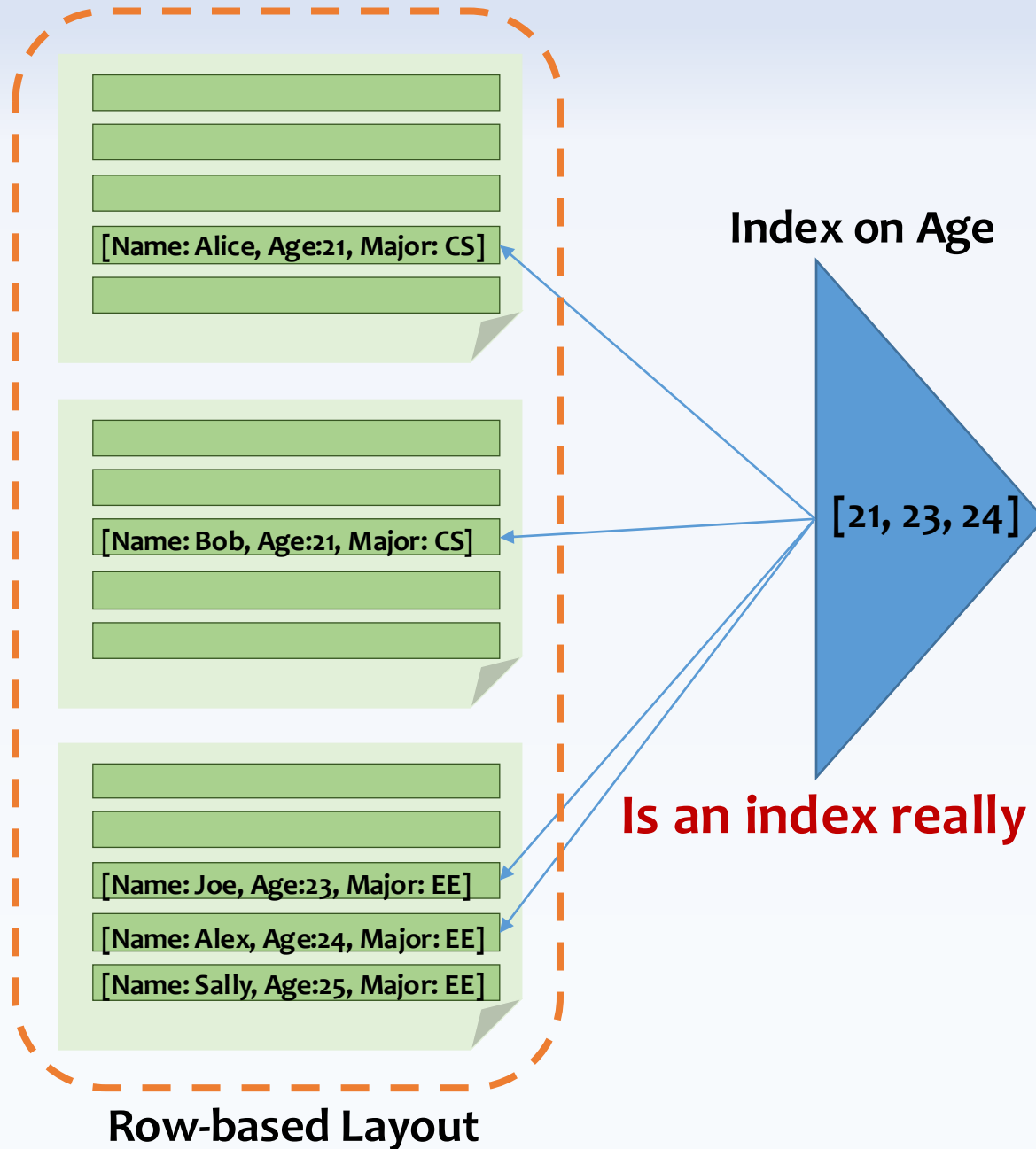
Column-based Layout

# Searching for all students between the age of 21 to 24 (may return many students)



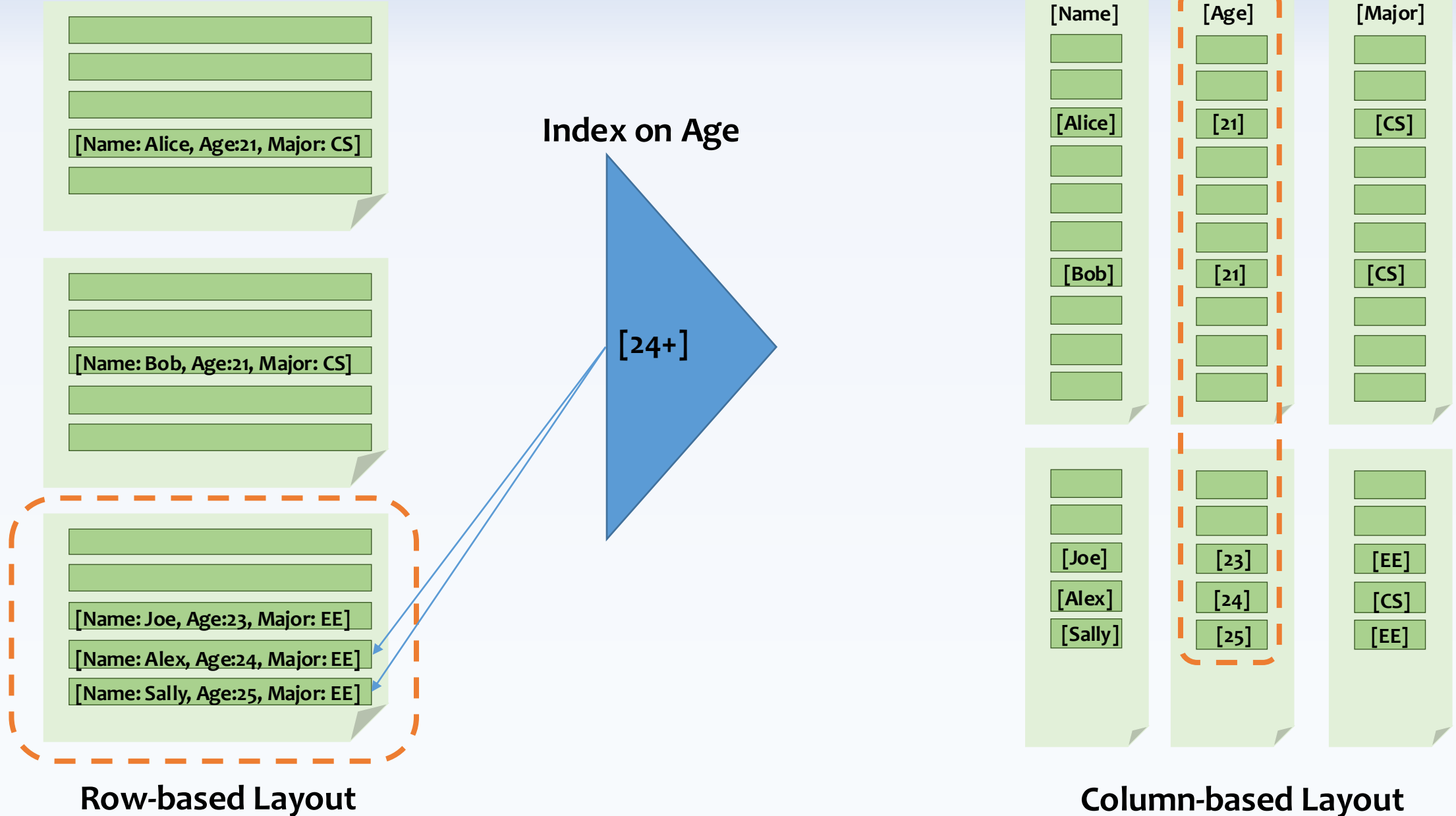
Alternatively read only the Age column to find the relevant values

# Searching for all students between the age of 21 to 24 (may return many students)

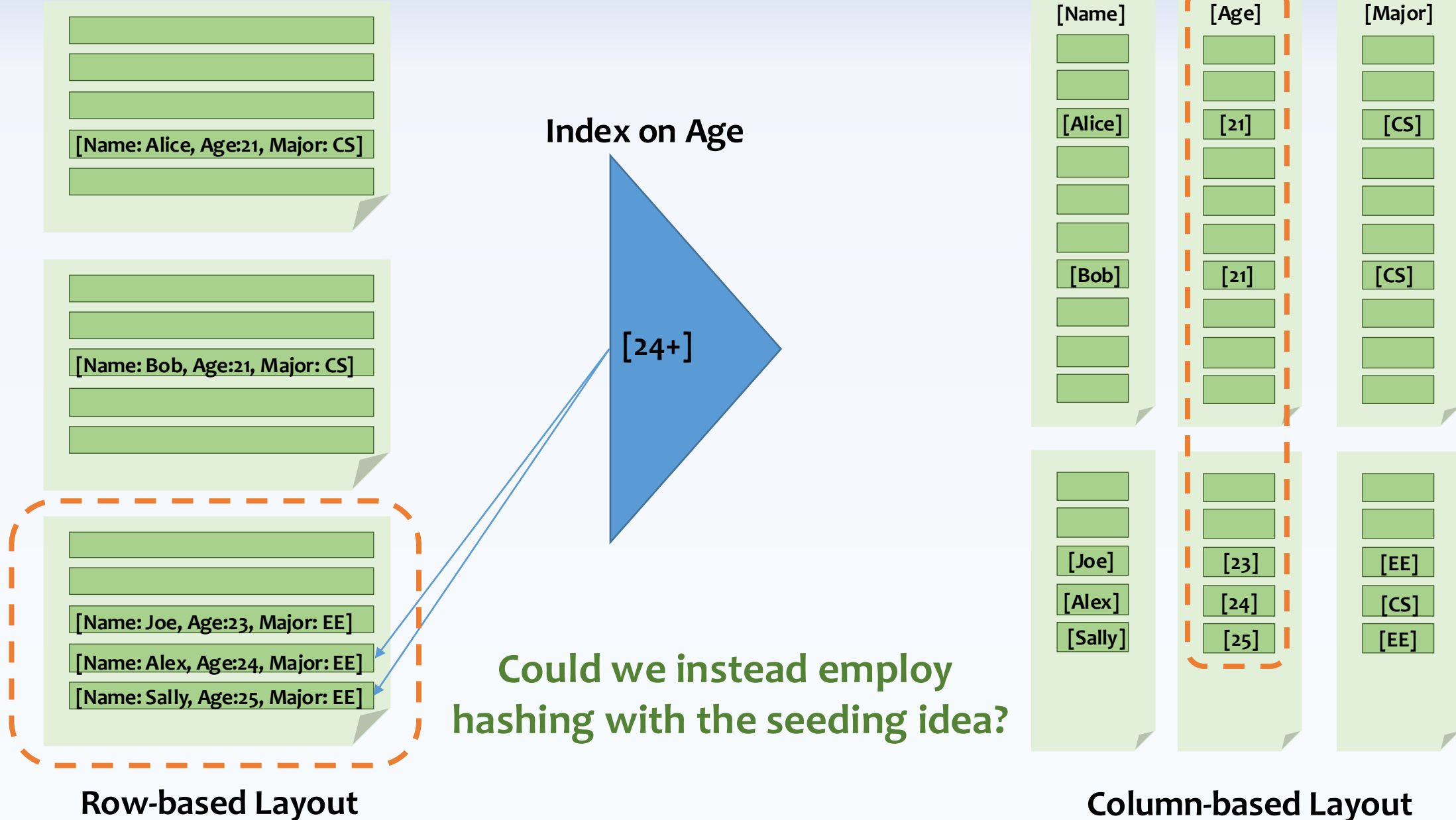


Is an index really useful here?

**Searching for all students over the age of 24  
(may return only a few students)**



Searching for all students over the age of 24  
(may return only a few students)



**Thank You  
Questions?**