

# Fibonacci Heap

By: Michael Wood

# Computational Problem

- Data Structure designed to optimize operations on Priority Queues
- Problems it was designed to solve:
  - Dijkstra's Algorithm
  - Prim's Algorithm

# Background Information



Created by Micheal  
Freedman & Robert Tarjan  
in 1984

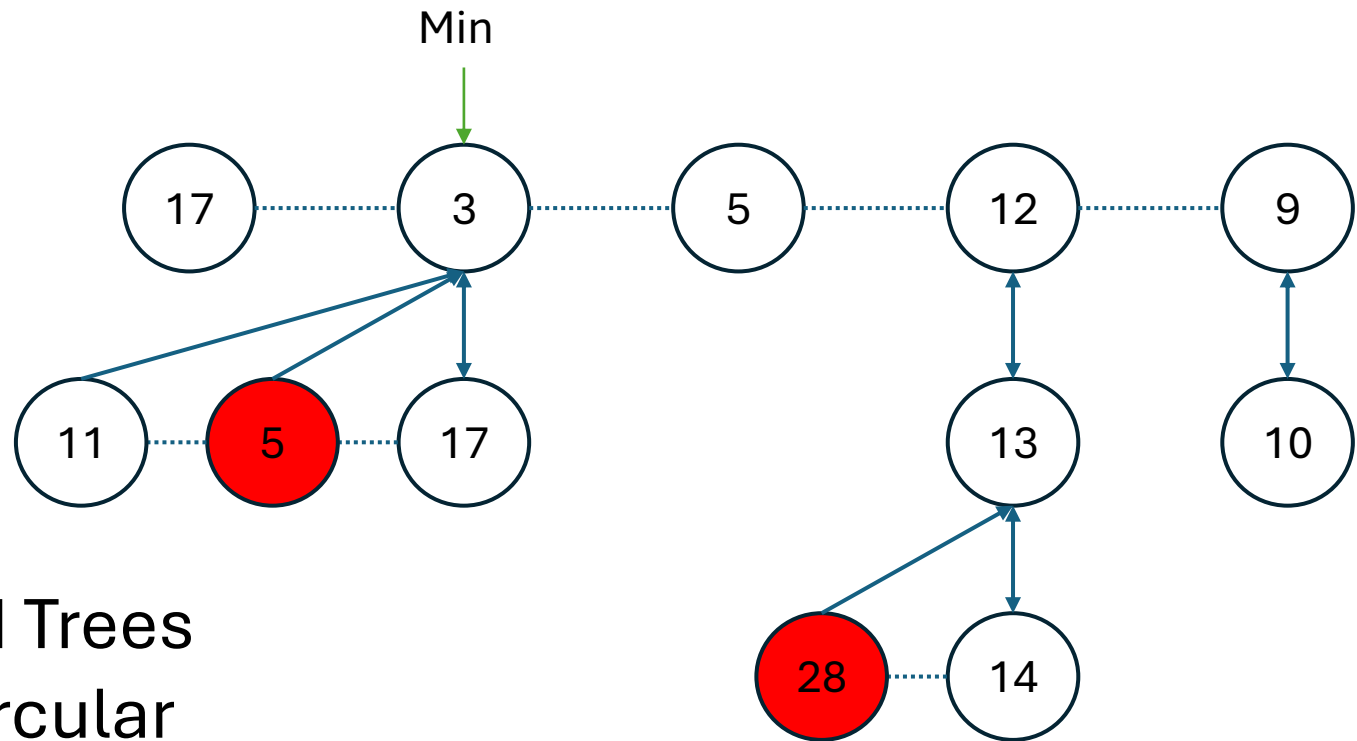
Function	Fibonacci Heap	Binomial Heap	Binary Heap
Insert	$O(1)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$
Find-min	$O(1)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(1)$
Extract- Min	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$
Decrease- key	$O(1)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$
Union	$O(1)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(n)$

\*Amortized except for  
Binary heap

# Example Fibonacci Heap

## Key Operations:

- Insert
- Extract-Min
- Decrease-Key
- Union

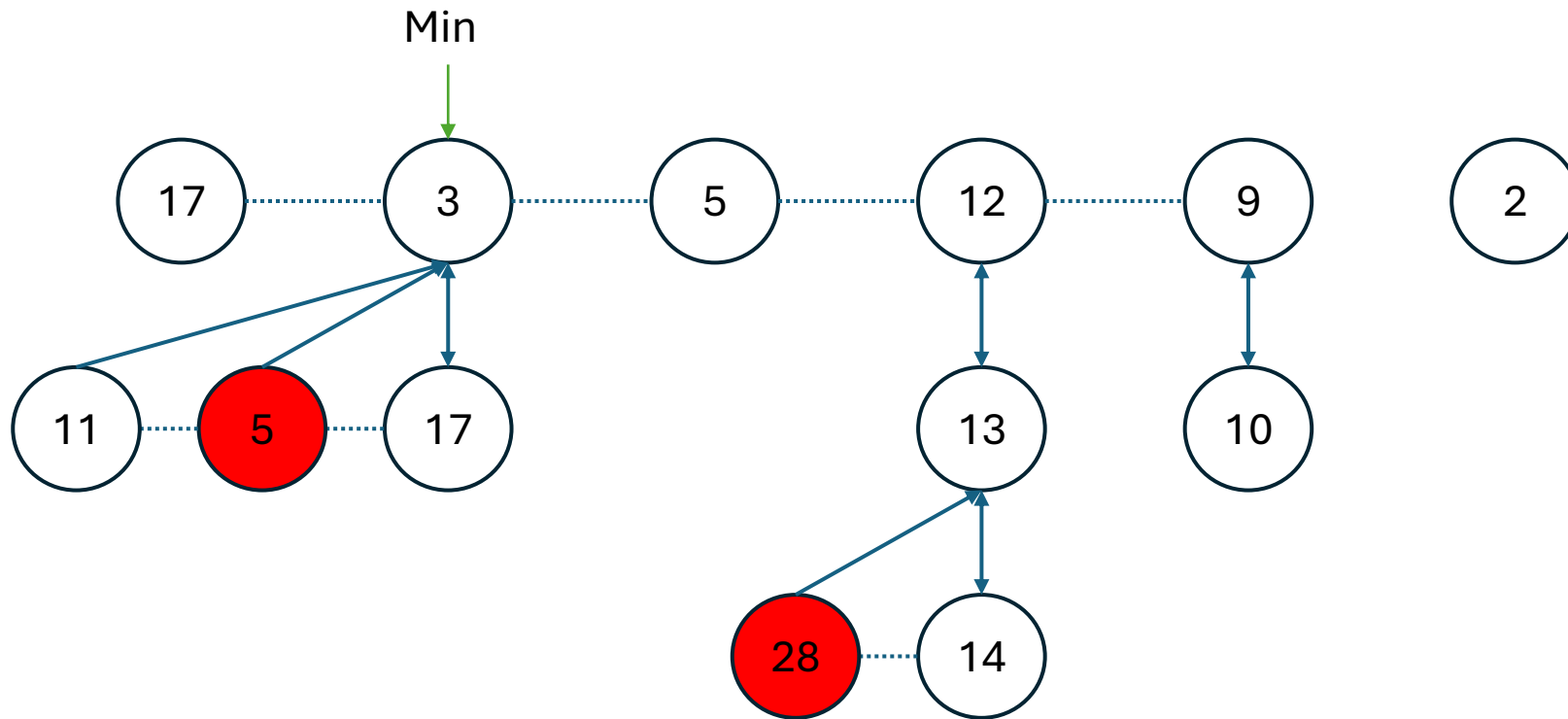


## Collection of Heap Ordered Trees

- Nodes structured in a circular doubly linked list
- Lazy Consolidation

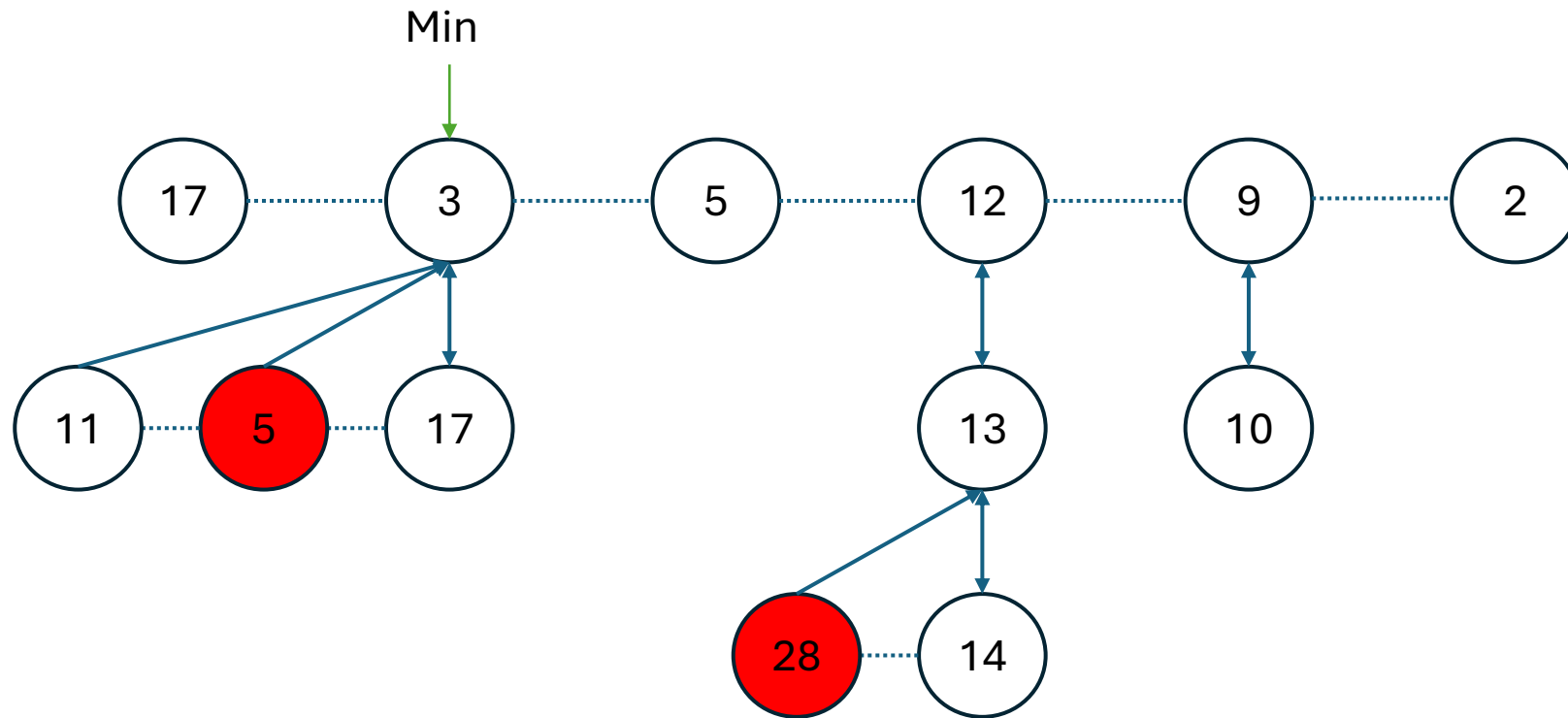
# Insert : $O(1)$

- Simply add node to the root list
- Update min if needed



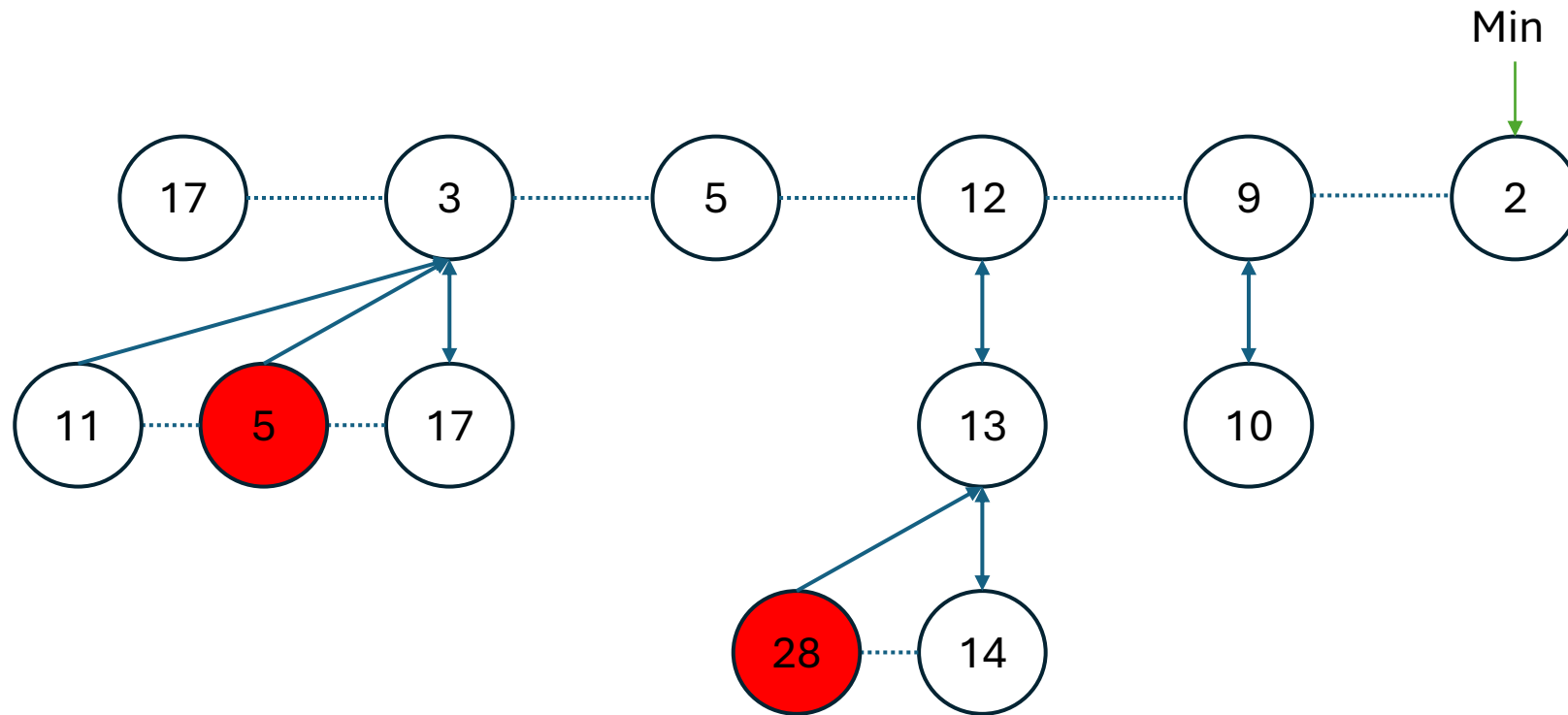
# Insert : $O(1)$

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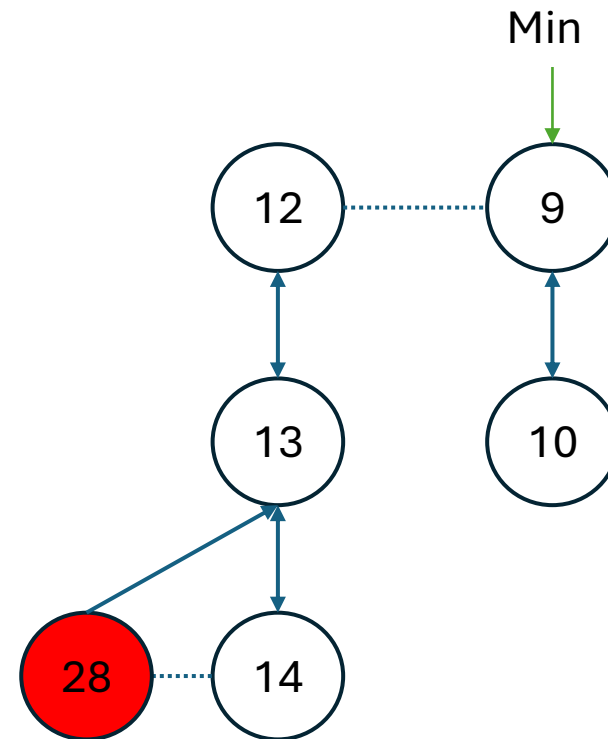
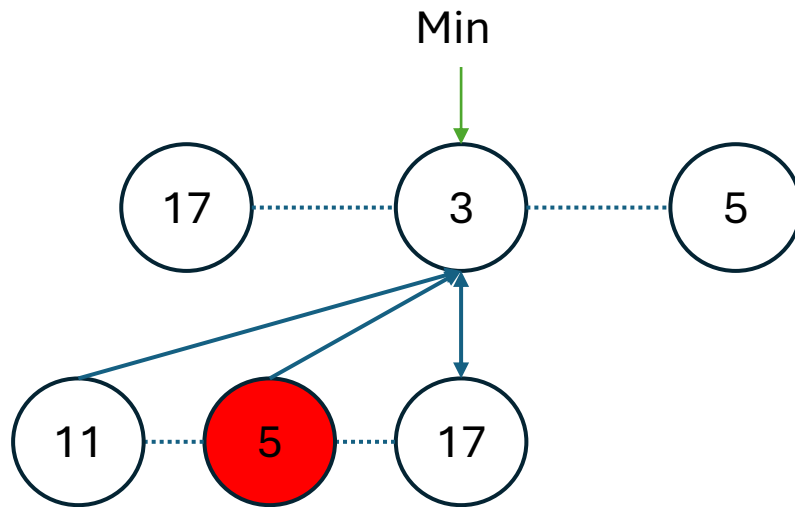
# Insert : $O(1)$

- Simply add node to the root list
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# Union : $O(1)$

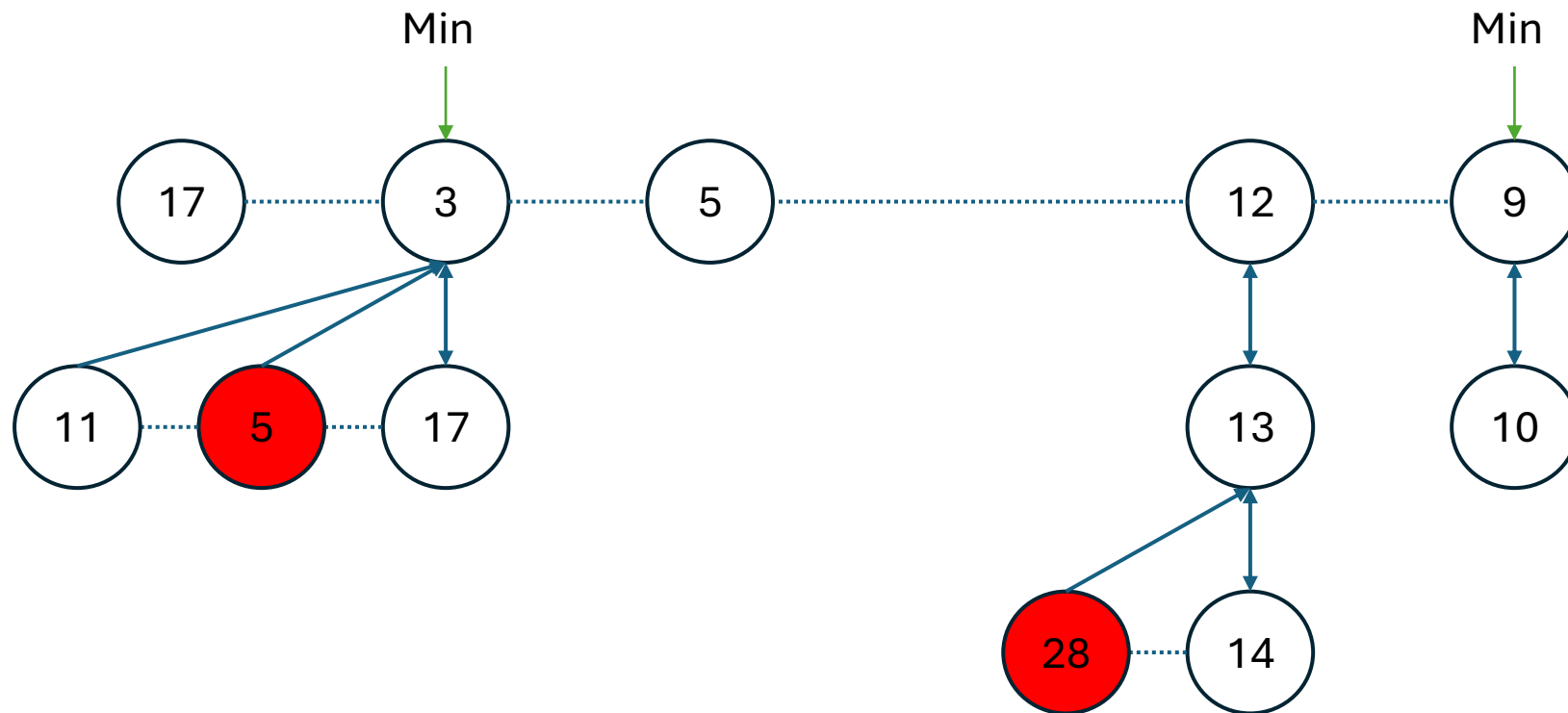
- Combine root lists
- Update min





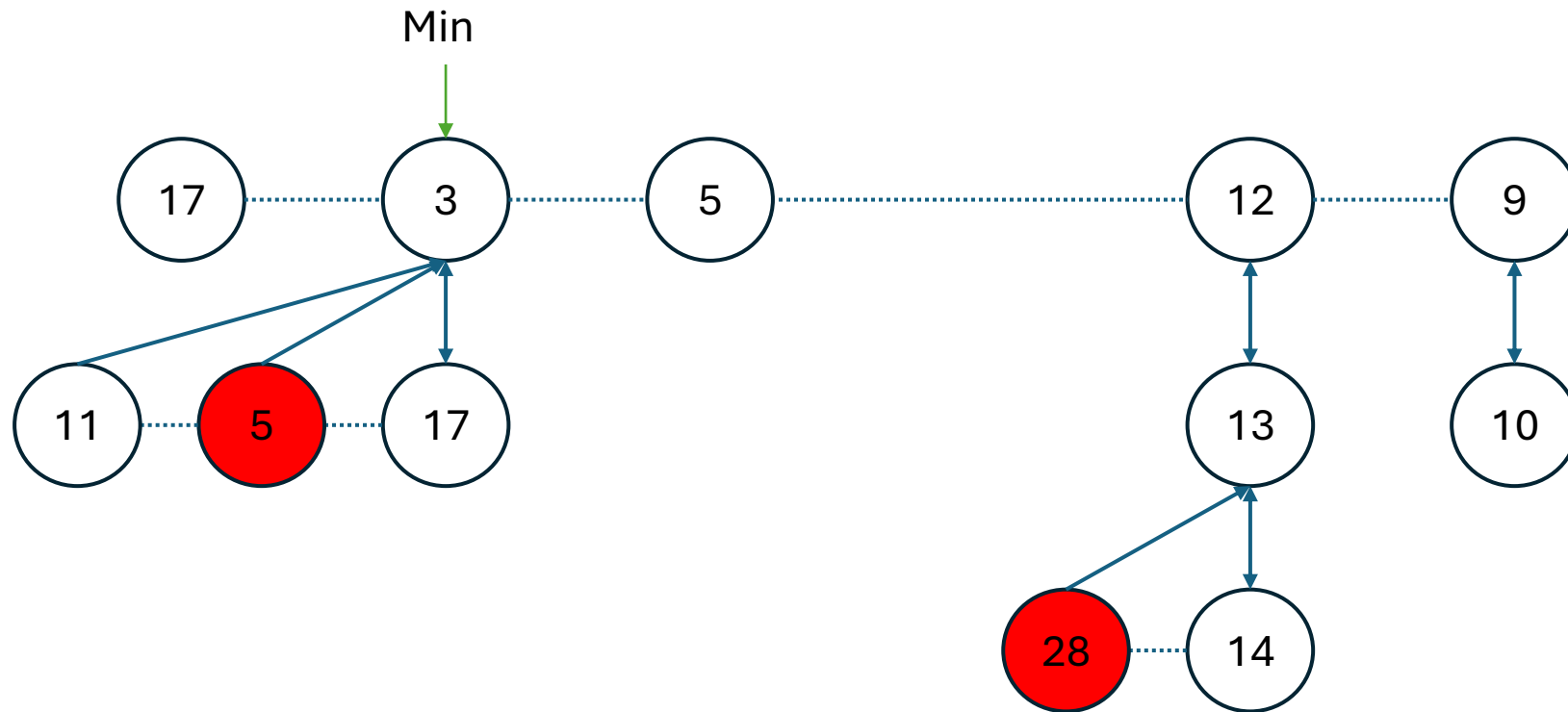
# Union : $O(1)$

- Combine root lists
- Update min



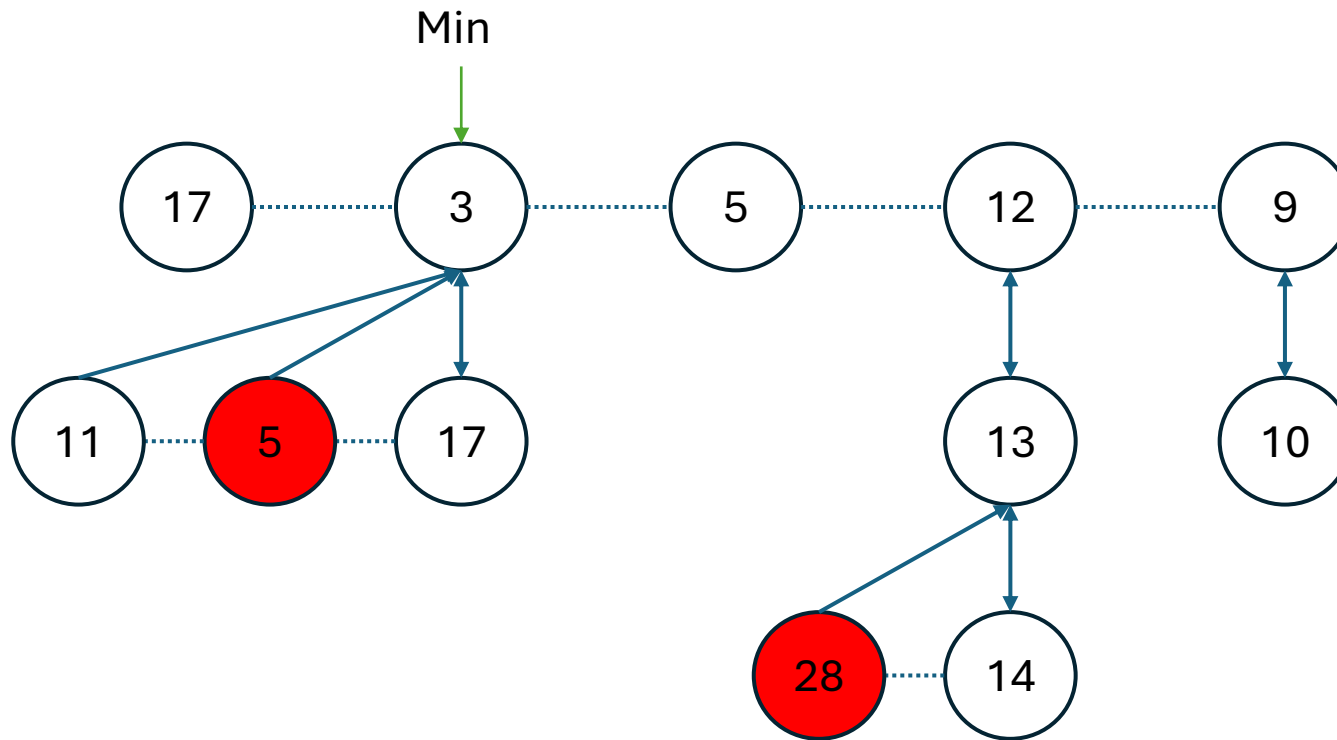
# Union : $O(1)$

- Combine root lists
- Update min

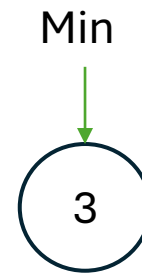


# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

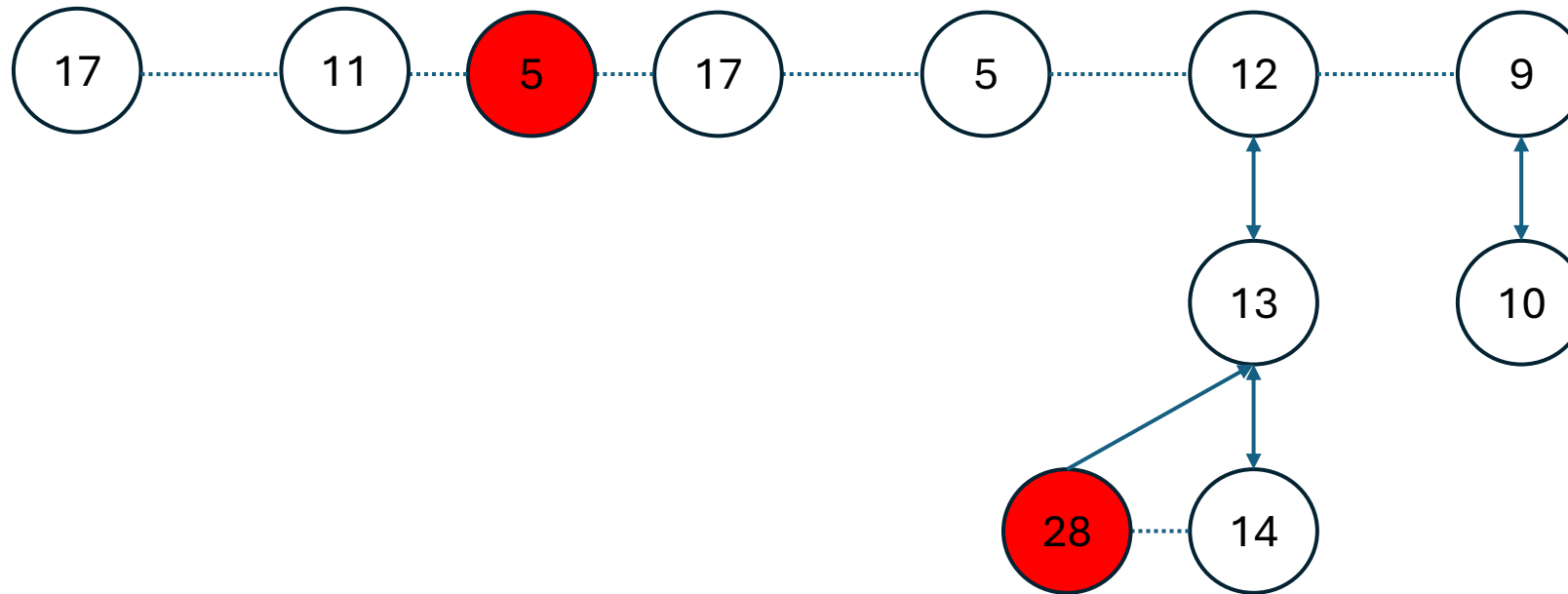
- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
- Consolidate trees so that no two trees have the same degree



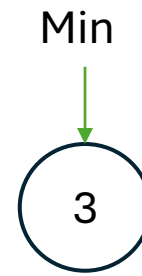
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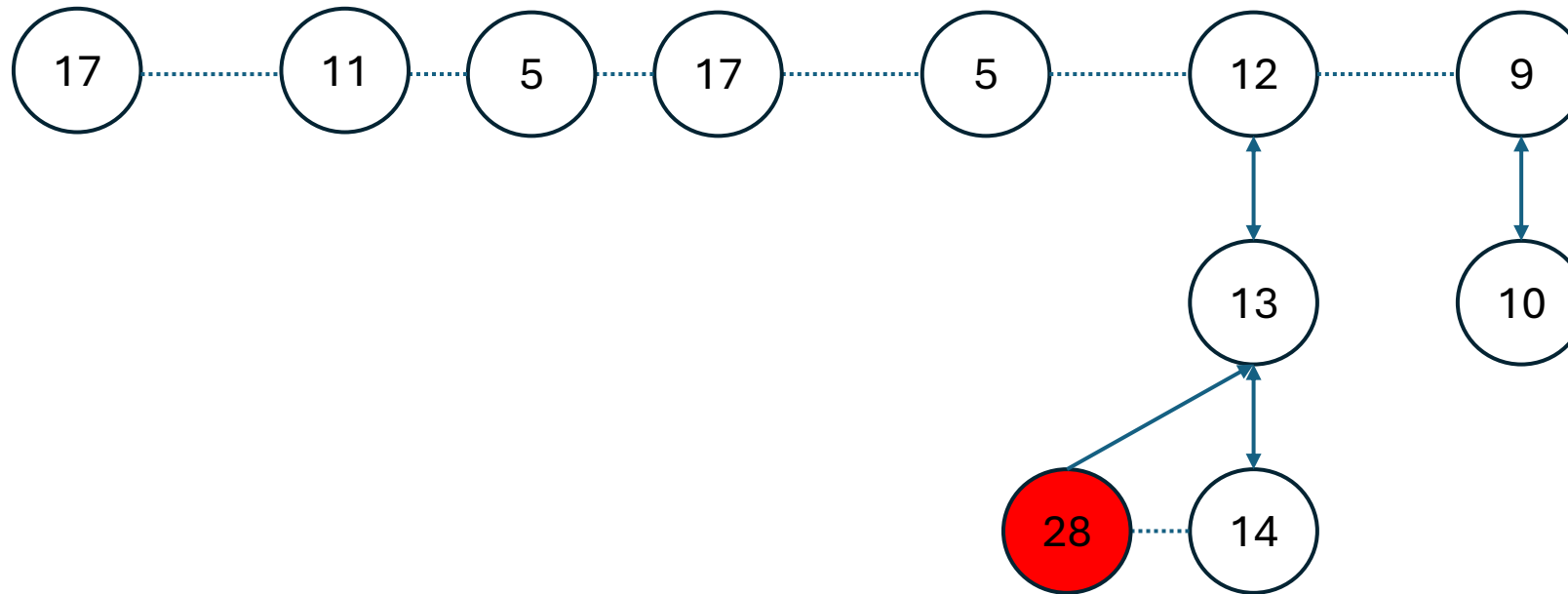
- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
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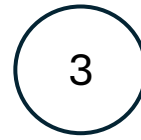
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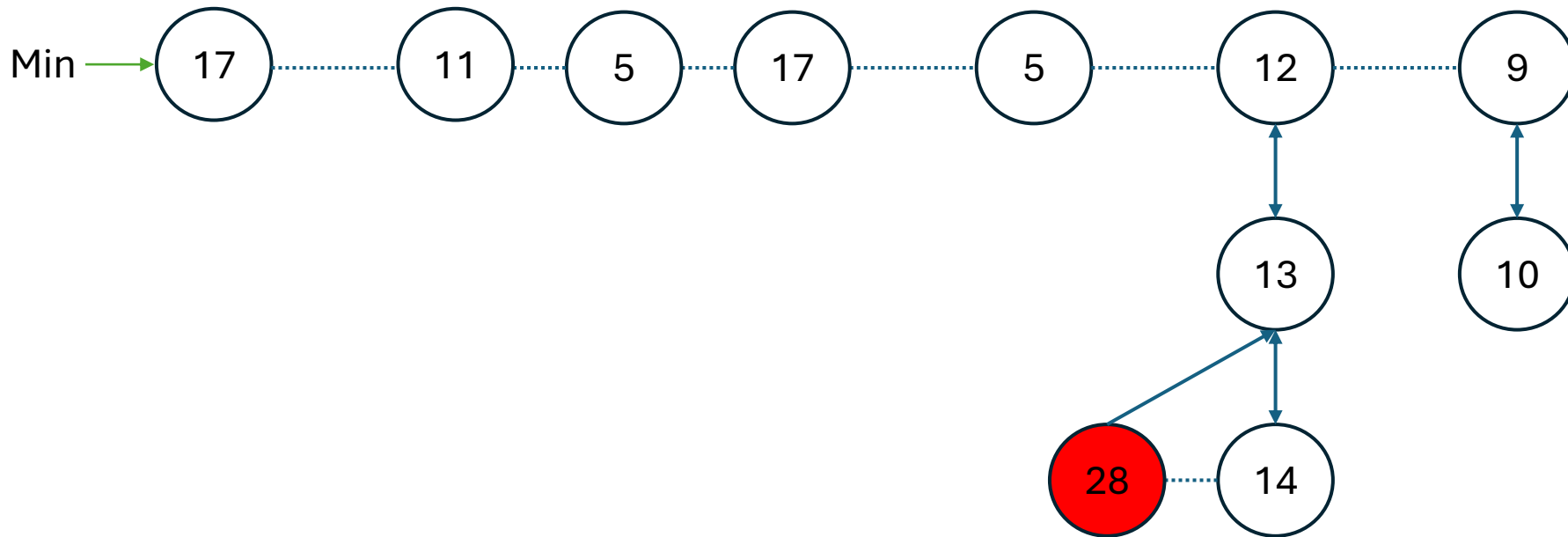
- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
  - Unmark any new root nodes if needed
  - Set min to a node in the root list



# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$



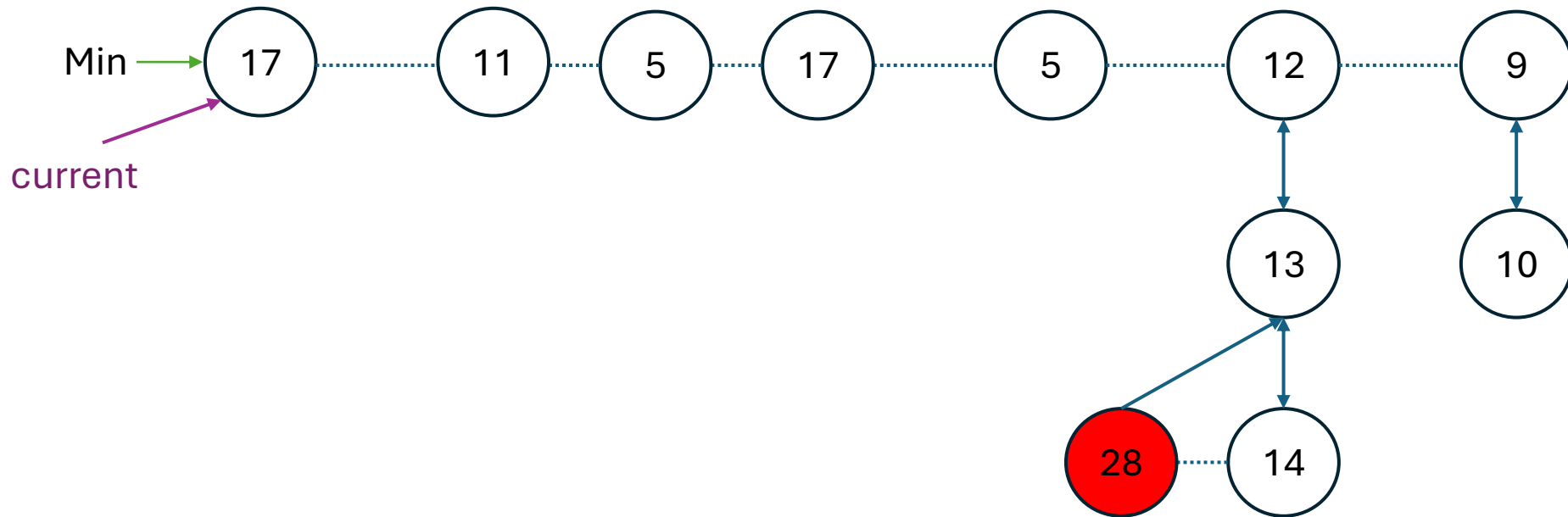
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# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

3

- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
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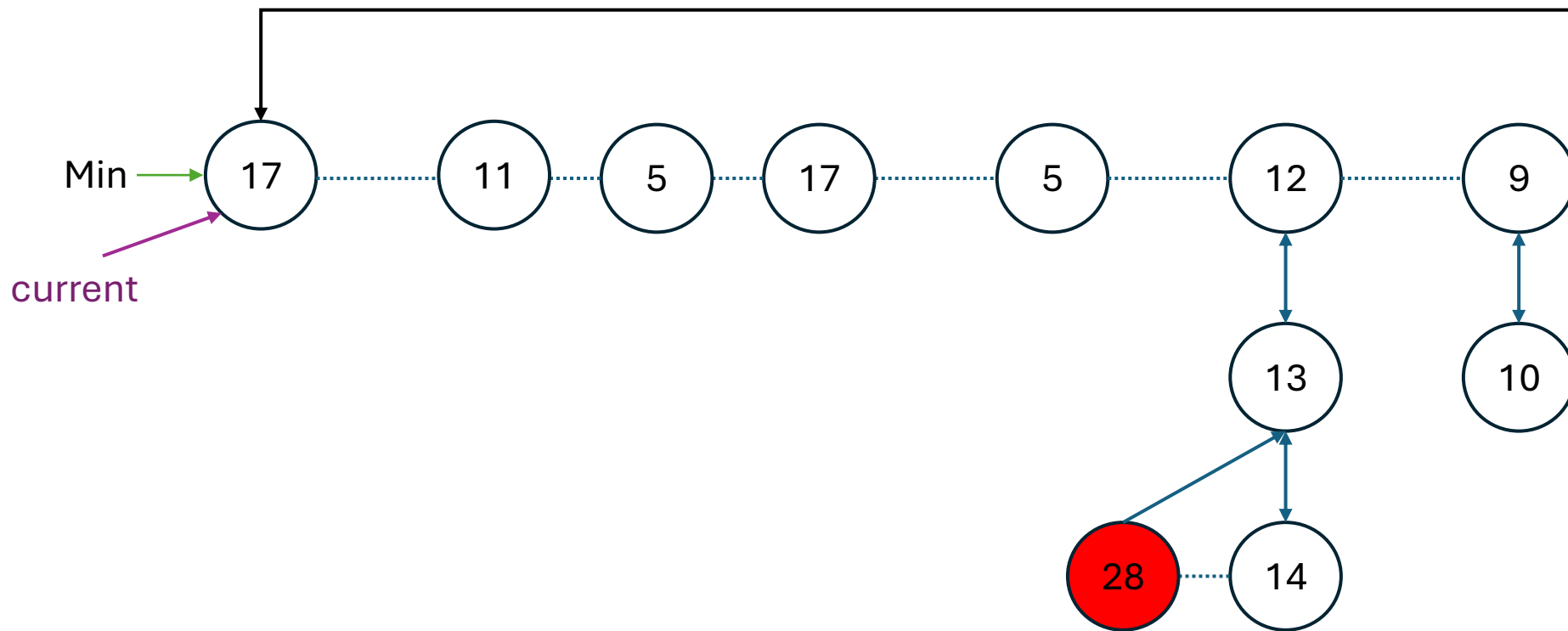


# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

3

- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
- Consolidate trees so that no two trees have the same degree

degree			
0	1	2	3



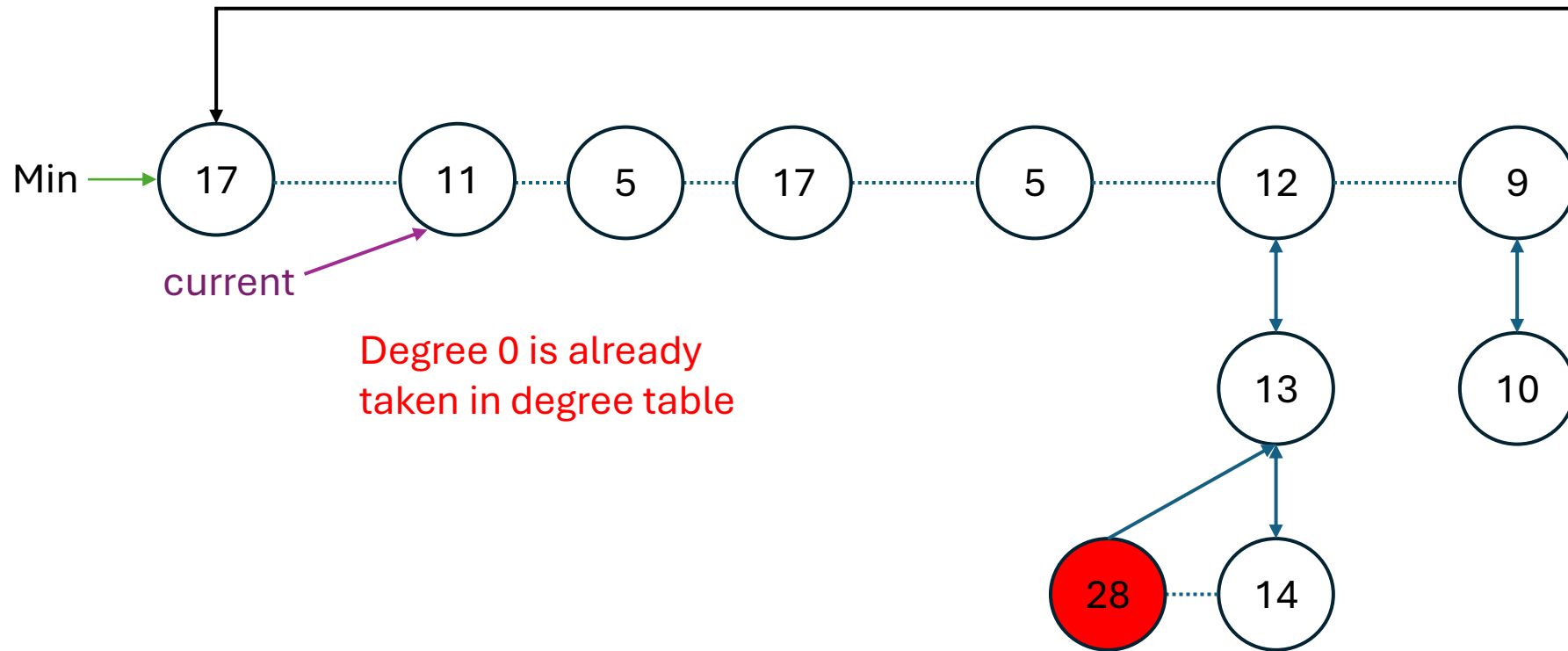


# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

3

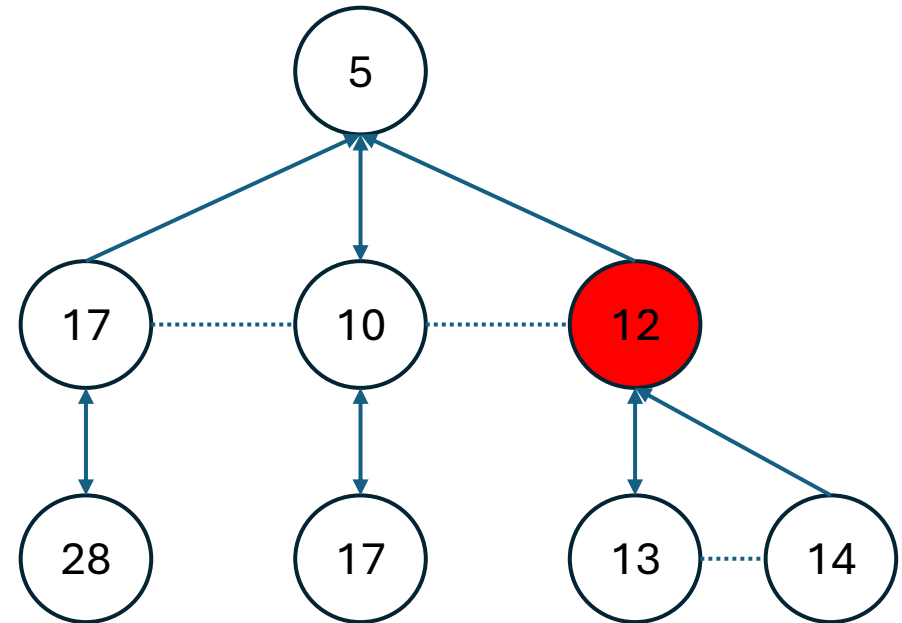
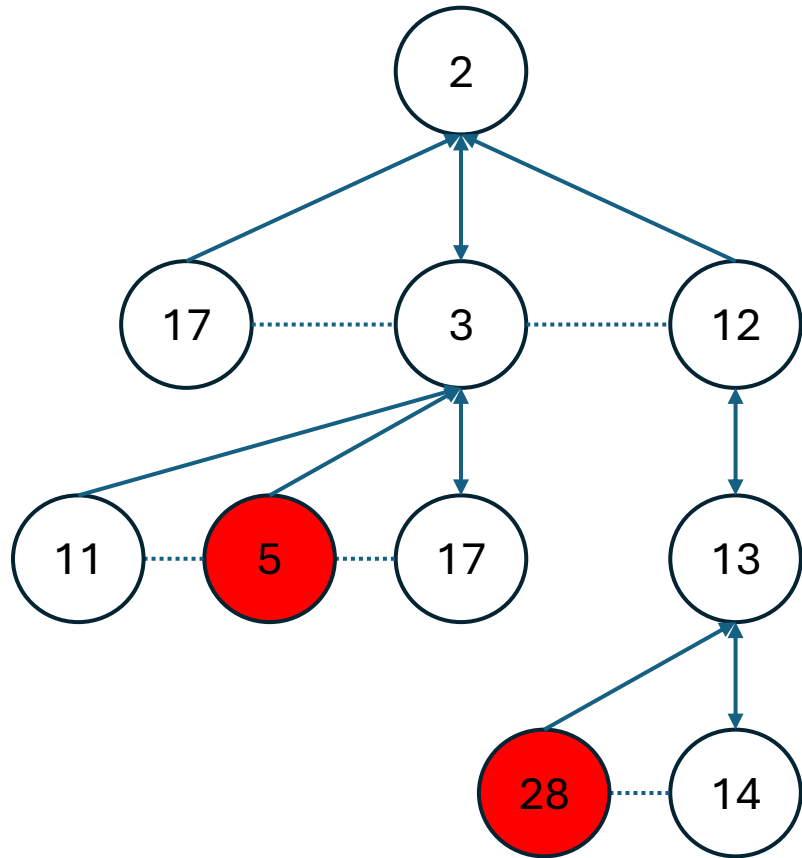
- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
- Consolidate trees so that no two trees have the same degree

degree			
0	1	2	3



# Link

- Larger node becomes a child of the smaller node



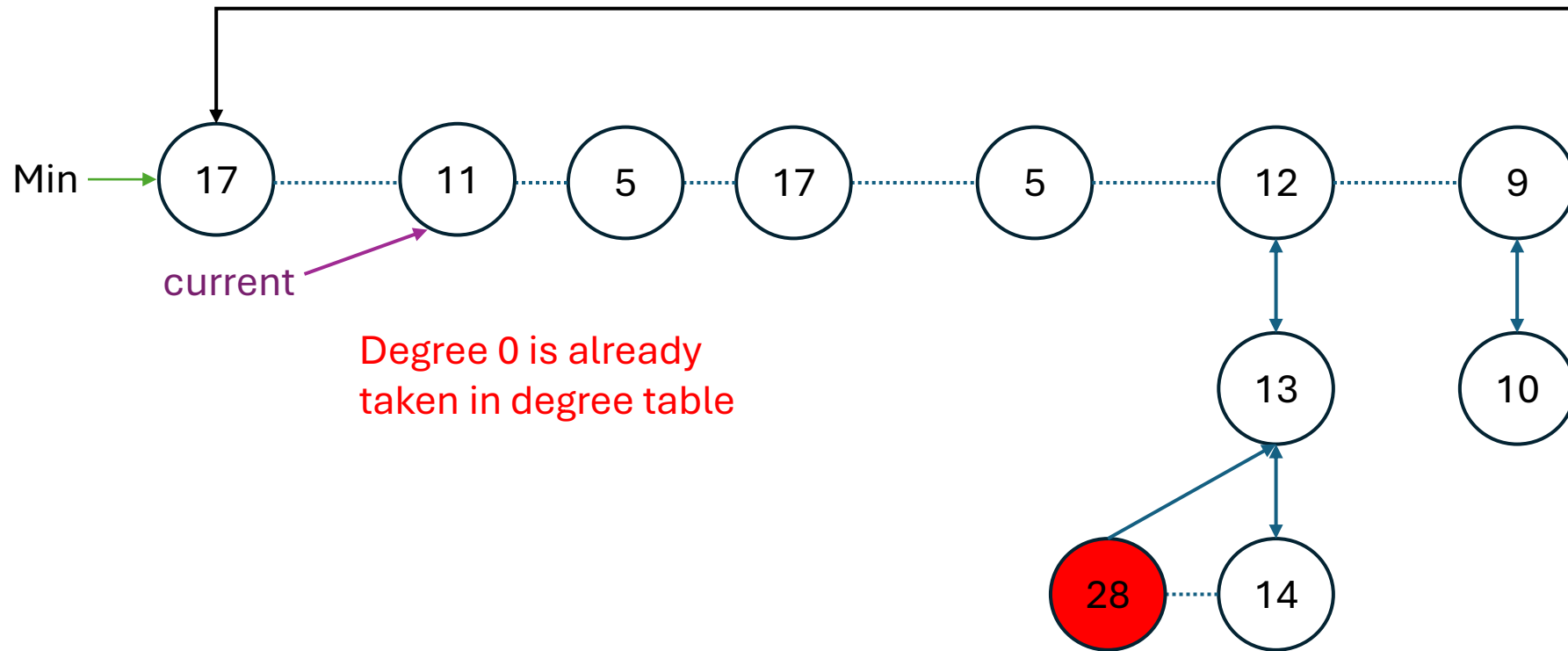


# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

3

- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
- Consolidate trees so that no two trees have the same degree

degree			
0	1	2	3

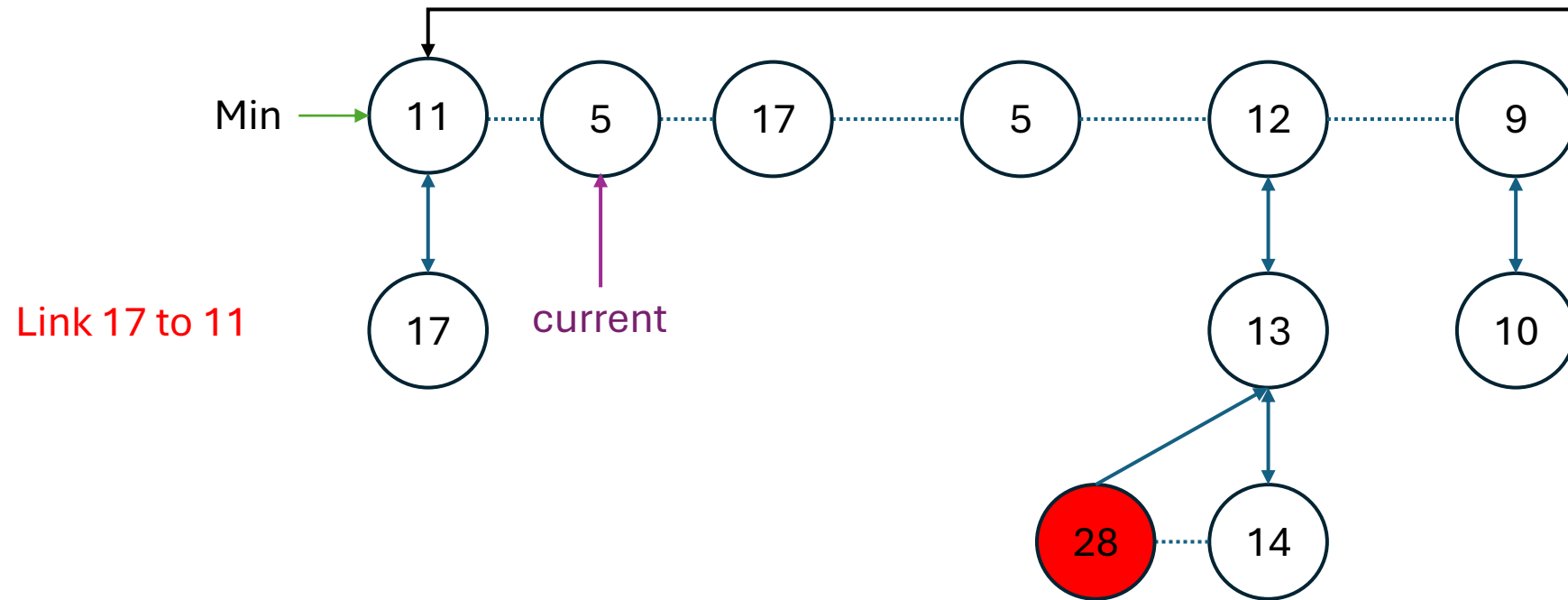


# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

3

- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
- Consolidate trees so that no two trees have the same degree

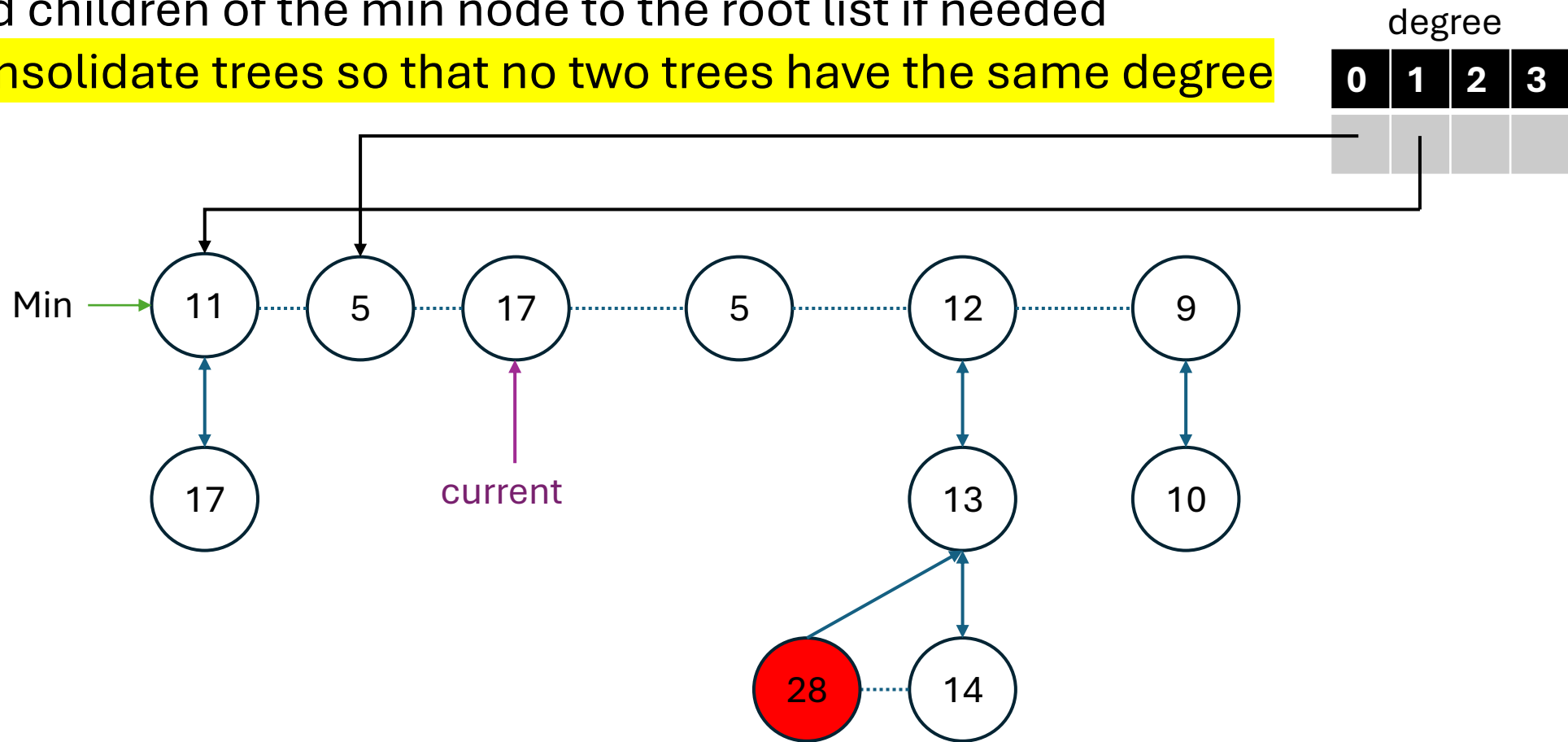
degree			
0	1	2	3



# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

3

- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
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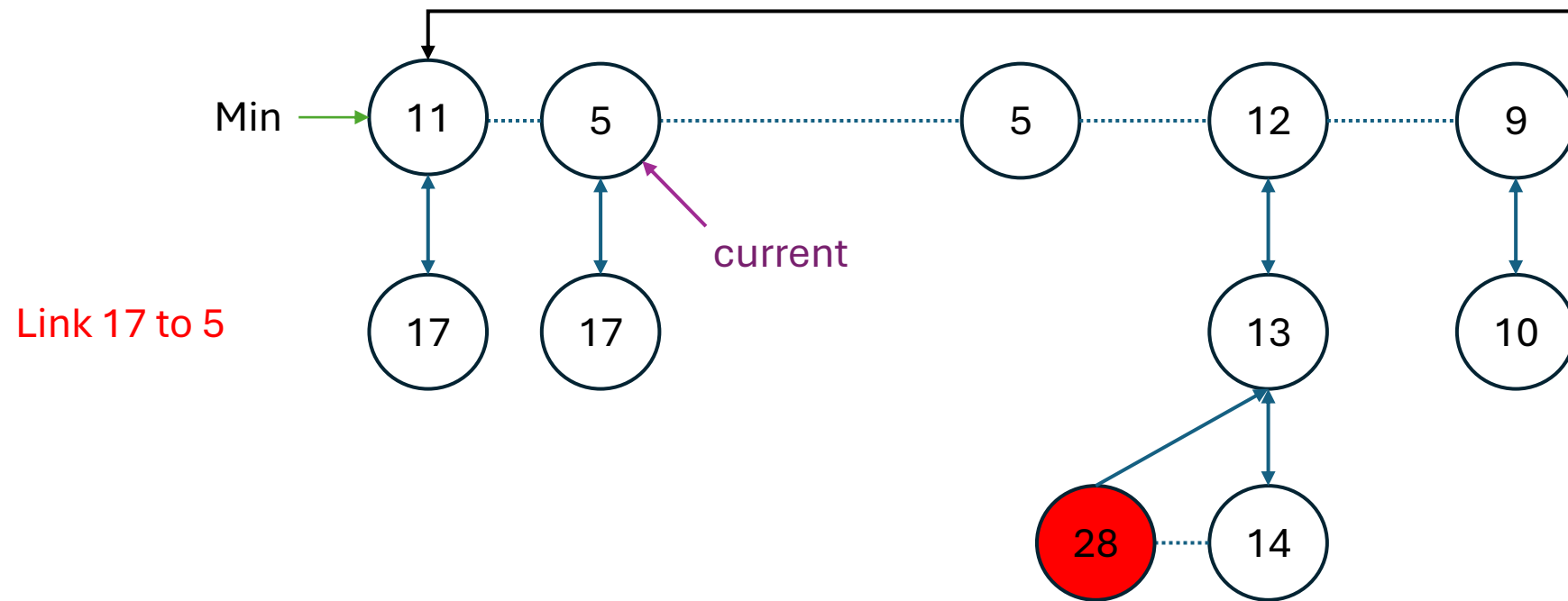


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- Consolidate trees so that no two trees have the same degree

degree			
0	1	2	3

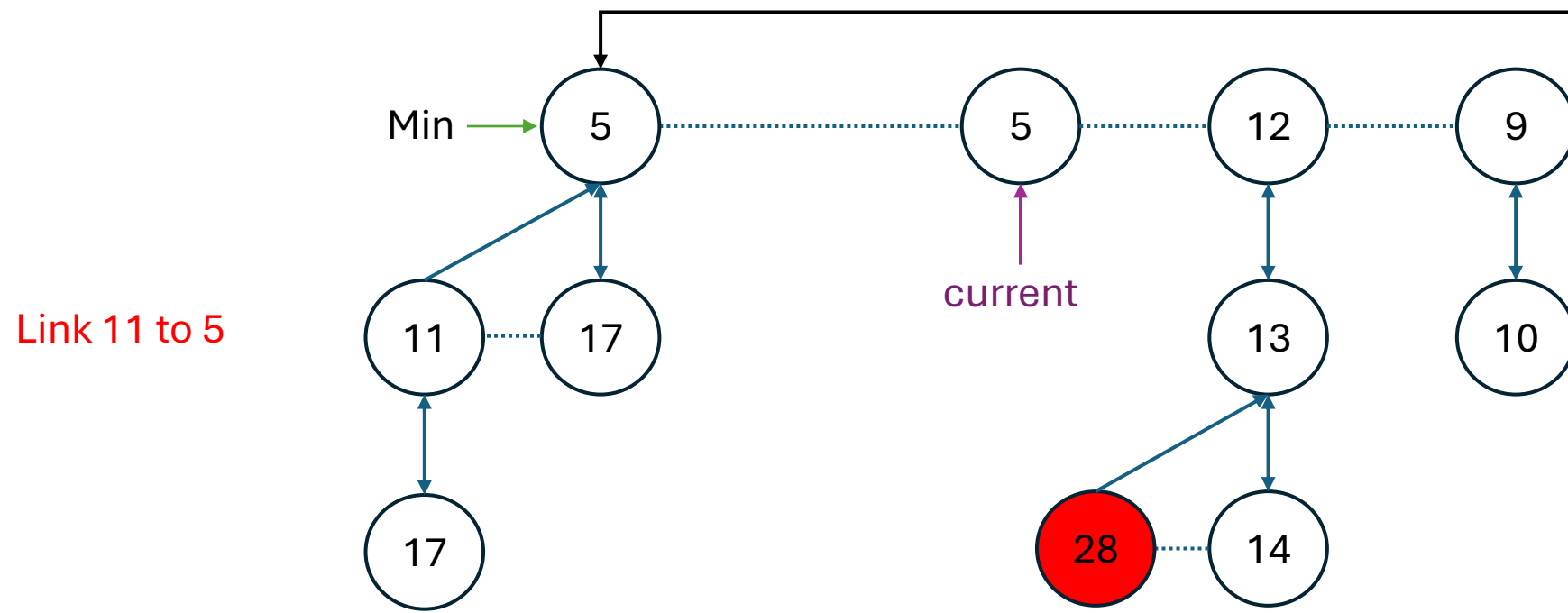


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3

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degree			
0	1	2	3

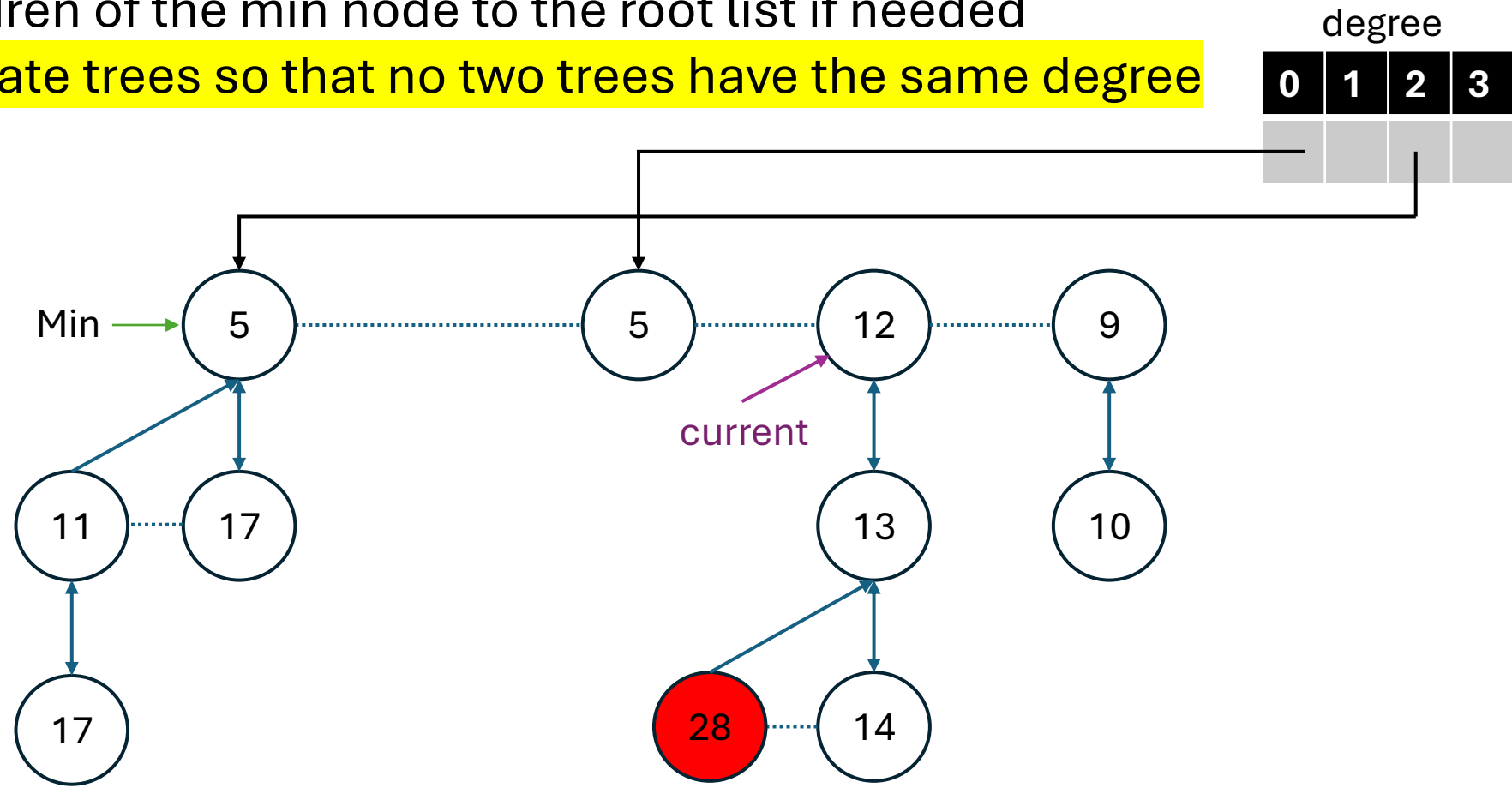




# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

3

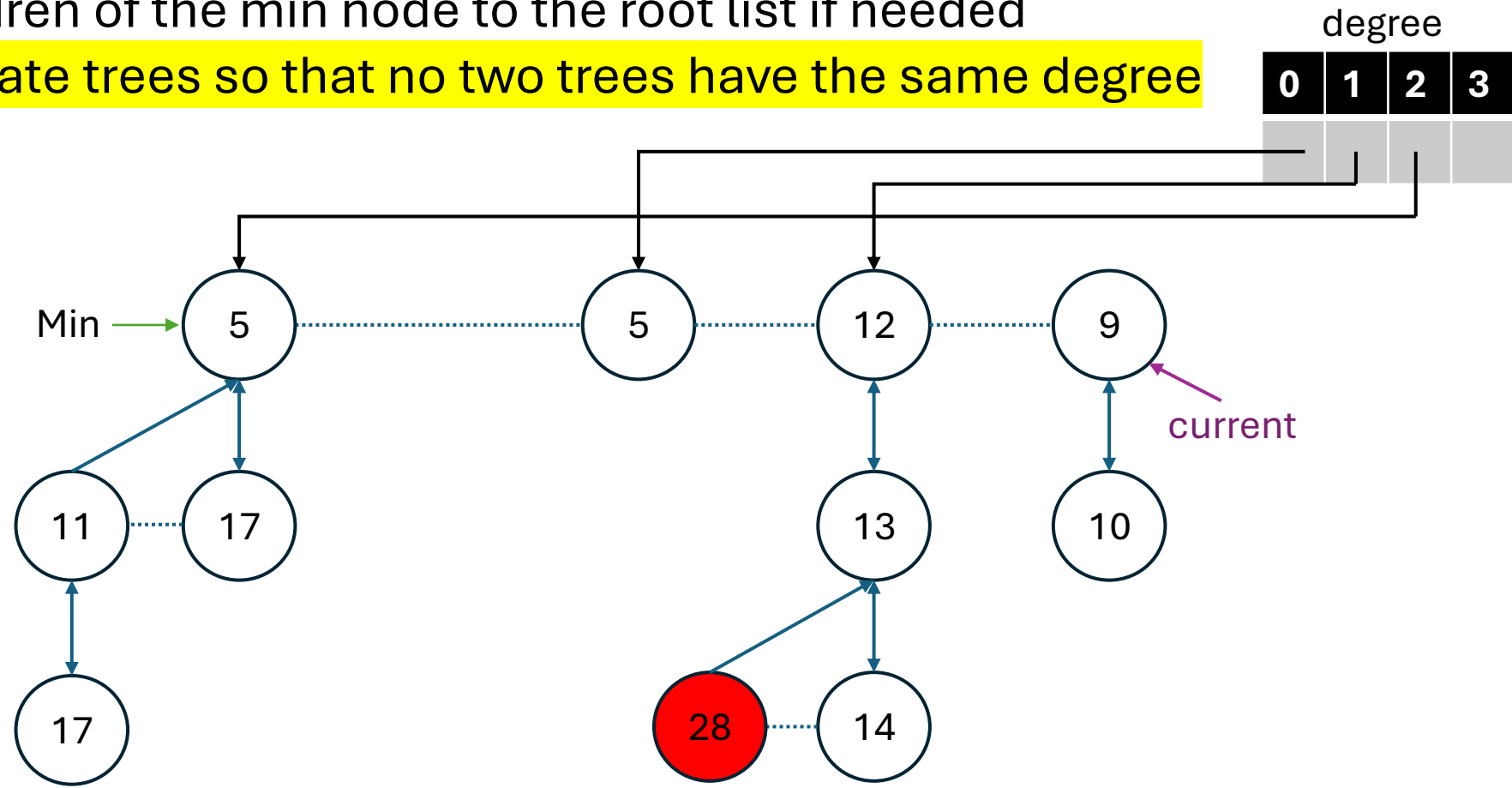
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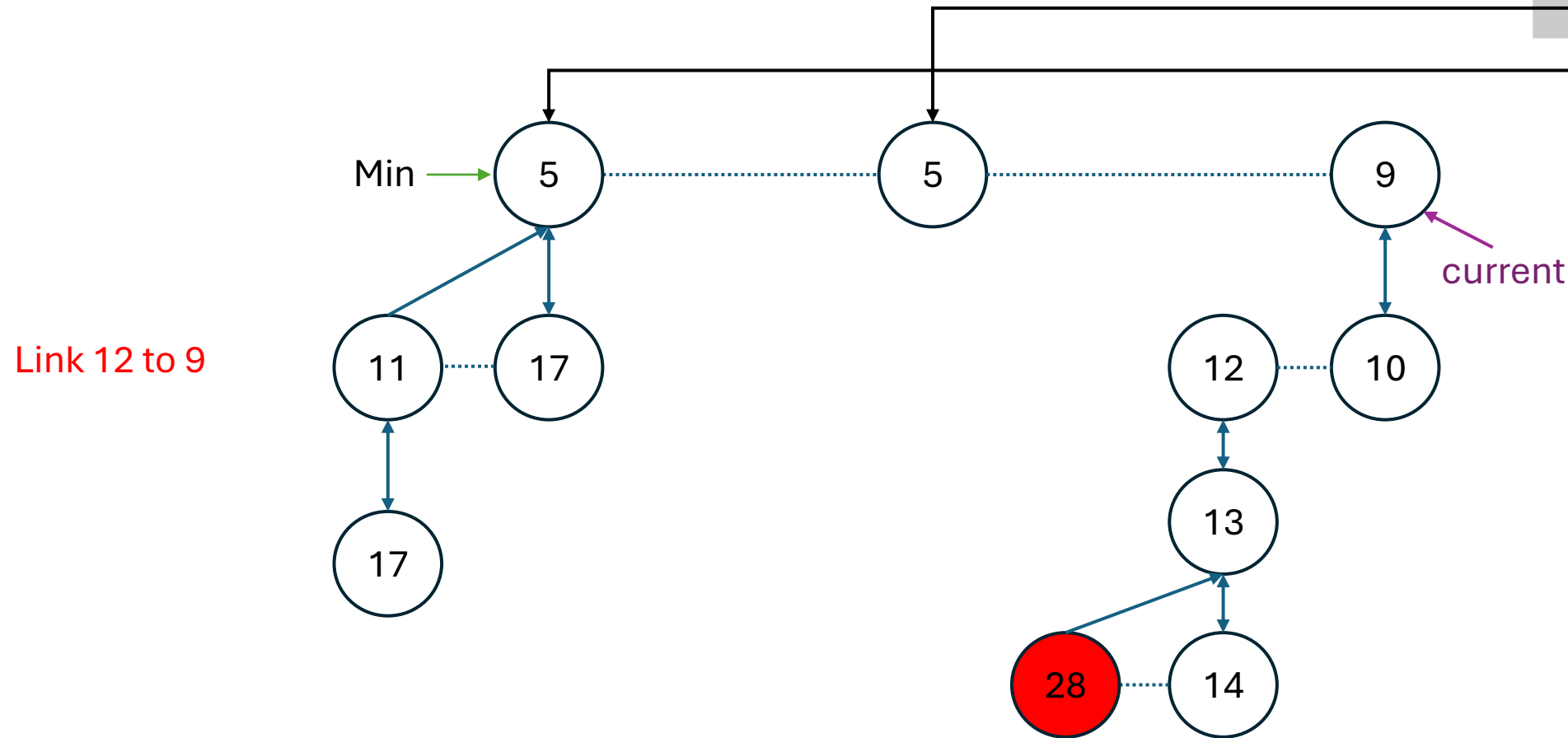


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- Add children of the min node to the root list if needed
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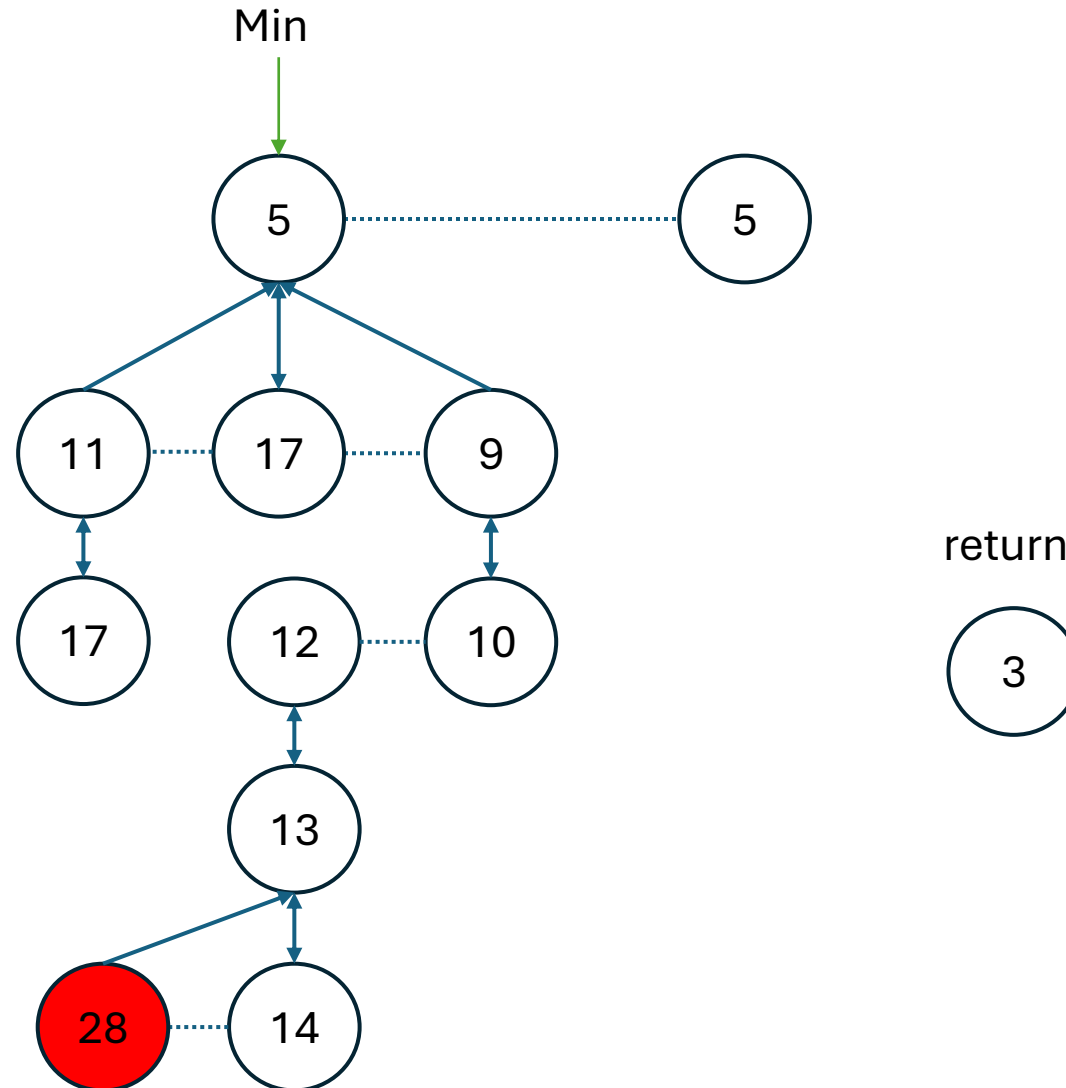
degree			
0	1	2	3





# Extract-Min : $O(\log n)$

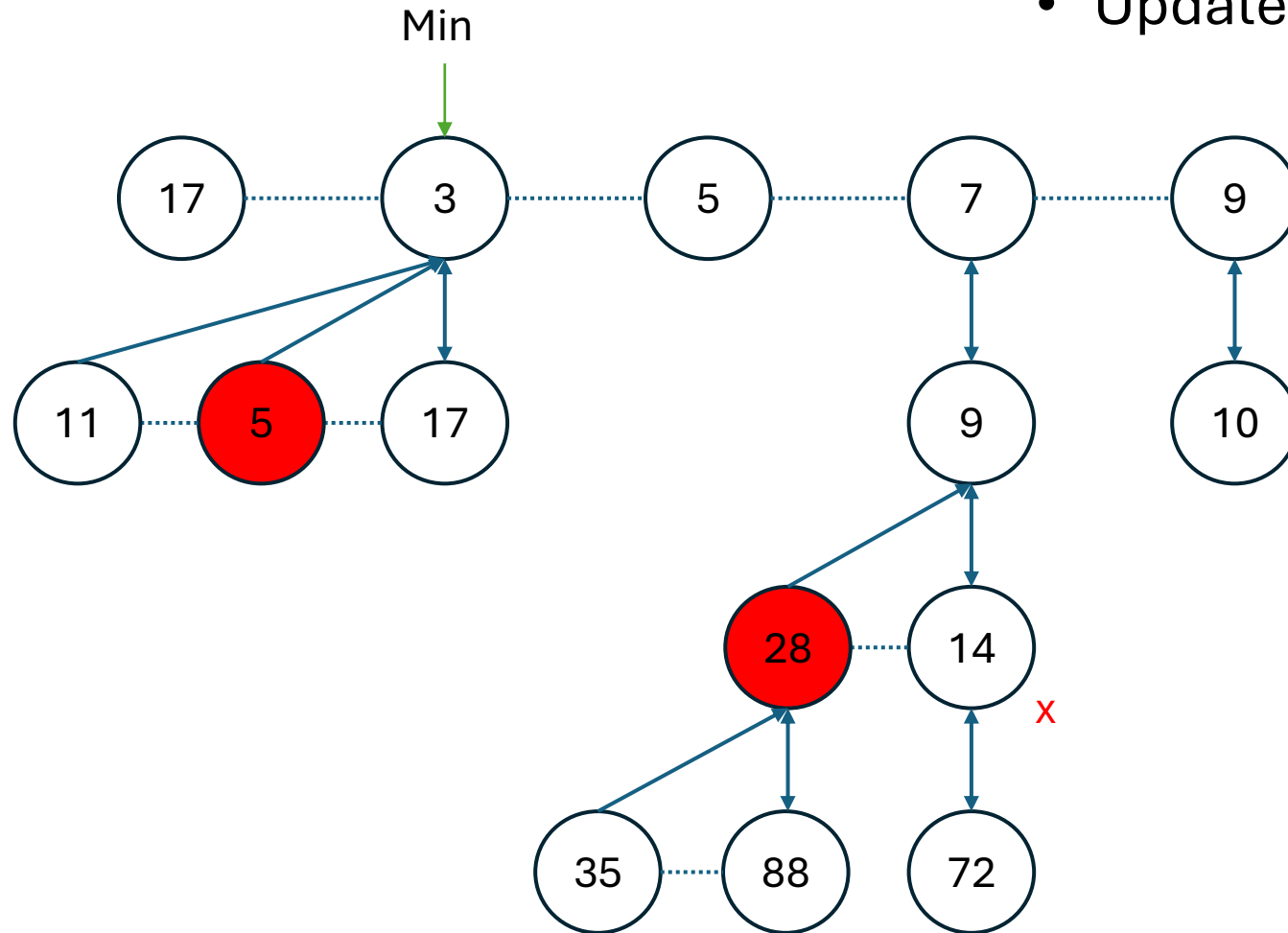
- Update min if needed



# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

## Case 1

- If heap order is not violated, just decrease key of node
- Update min if needed

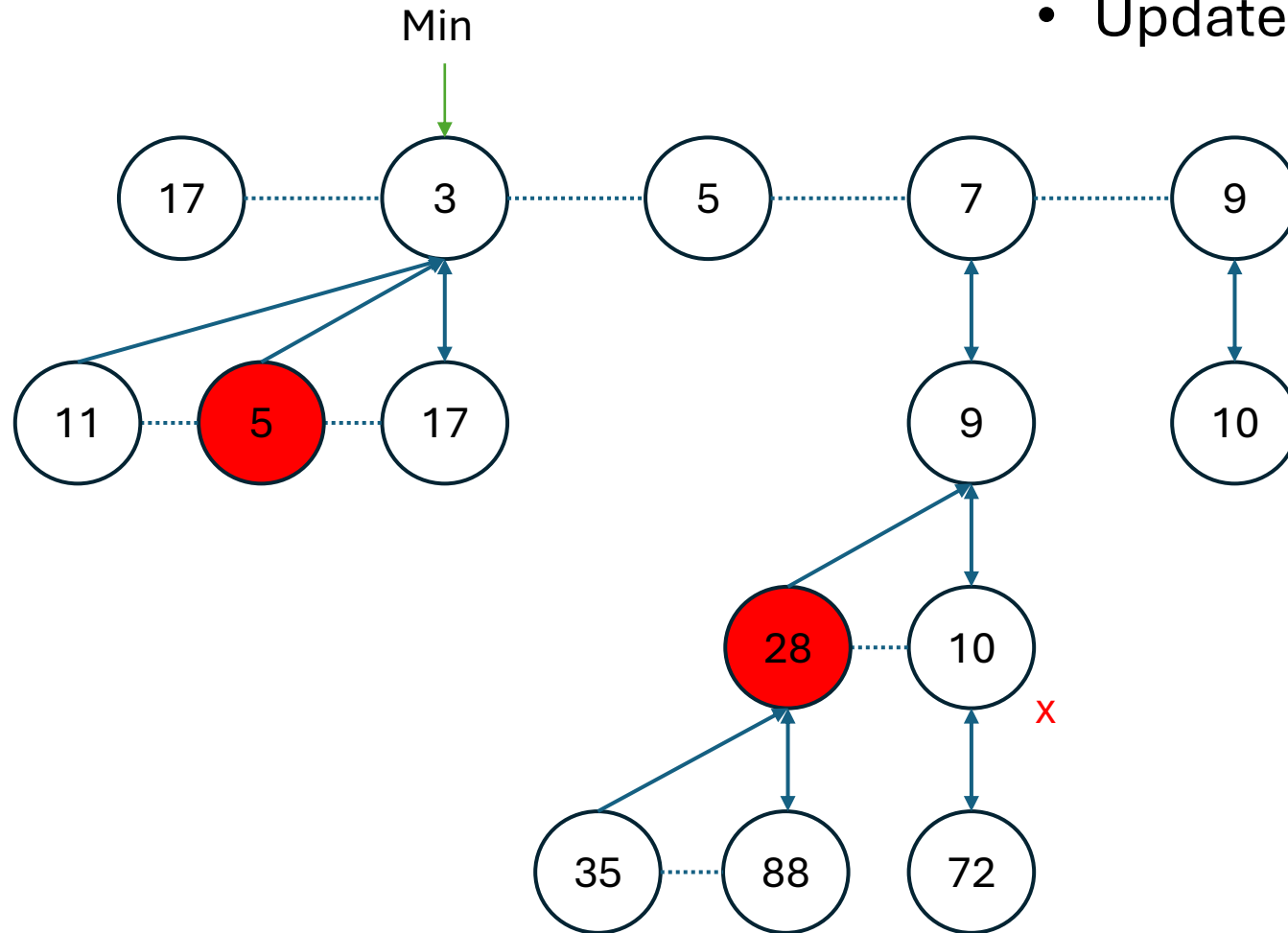


Decrease x from 14 to 10

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 1

- If heap order is not violated, just decrease key of node
- Update min if needed

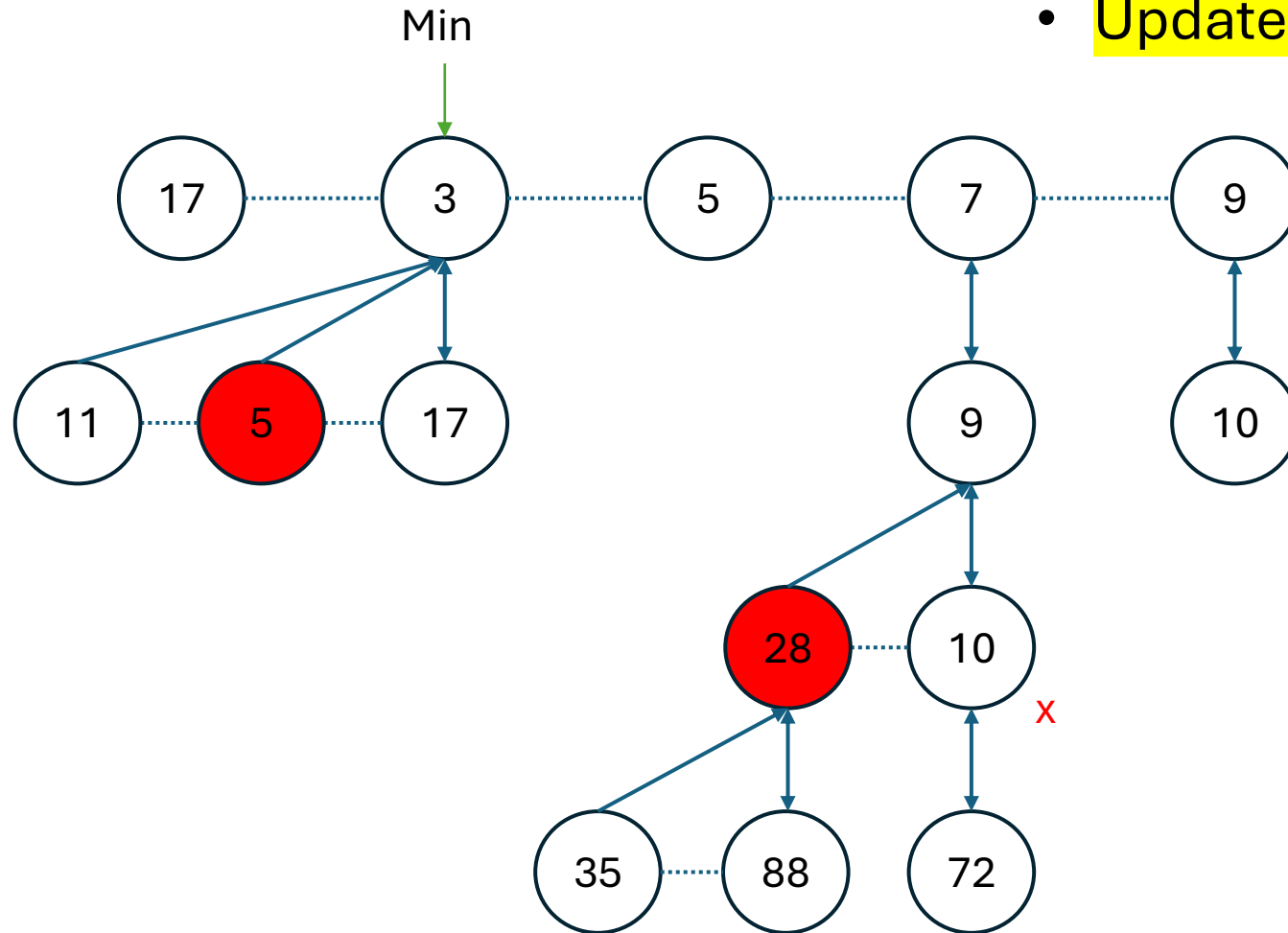


Decrease x from 14 to 10

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 1

- If heap order is not violated, just decrease key of node
- **Update min if needed**



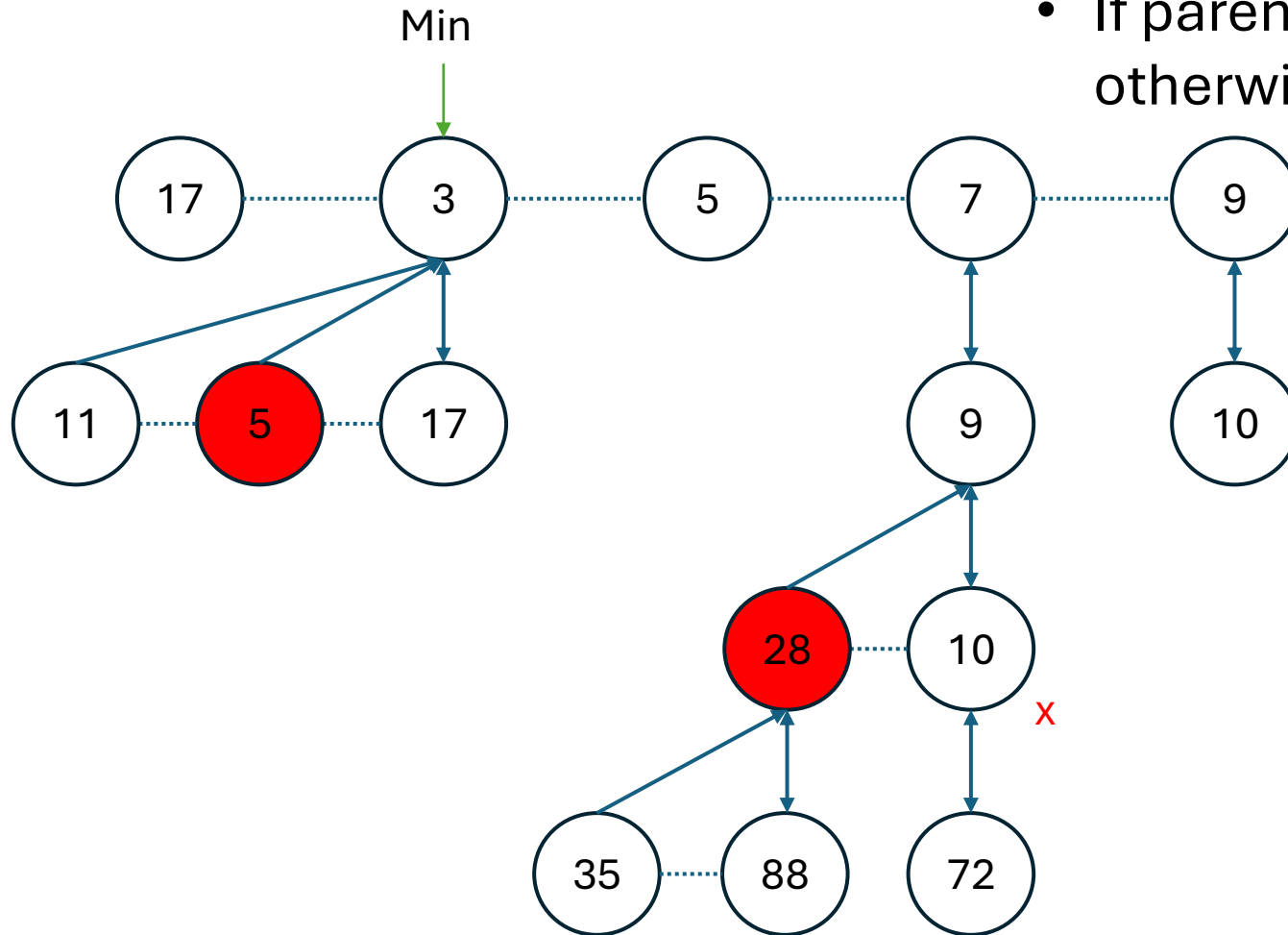
Decrease x from 14 to 10



# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

## Case 2a [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut

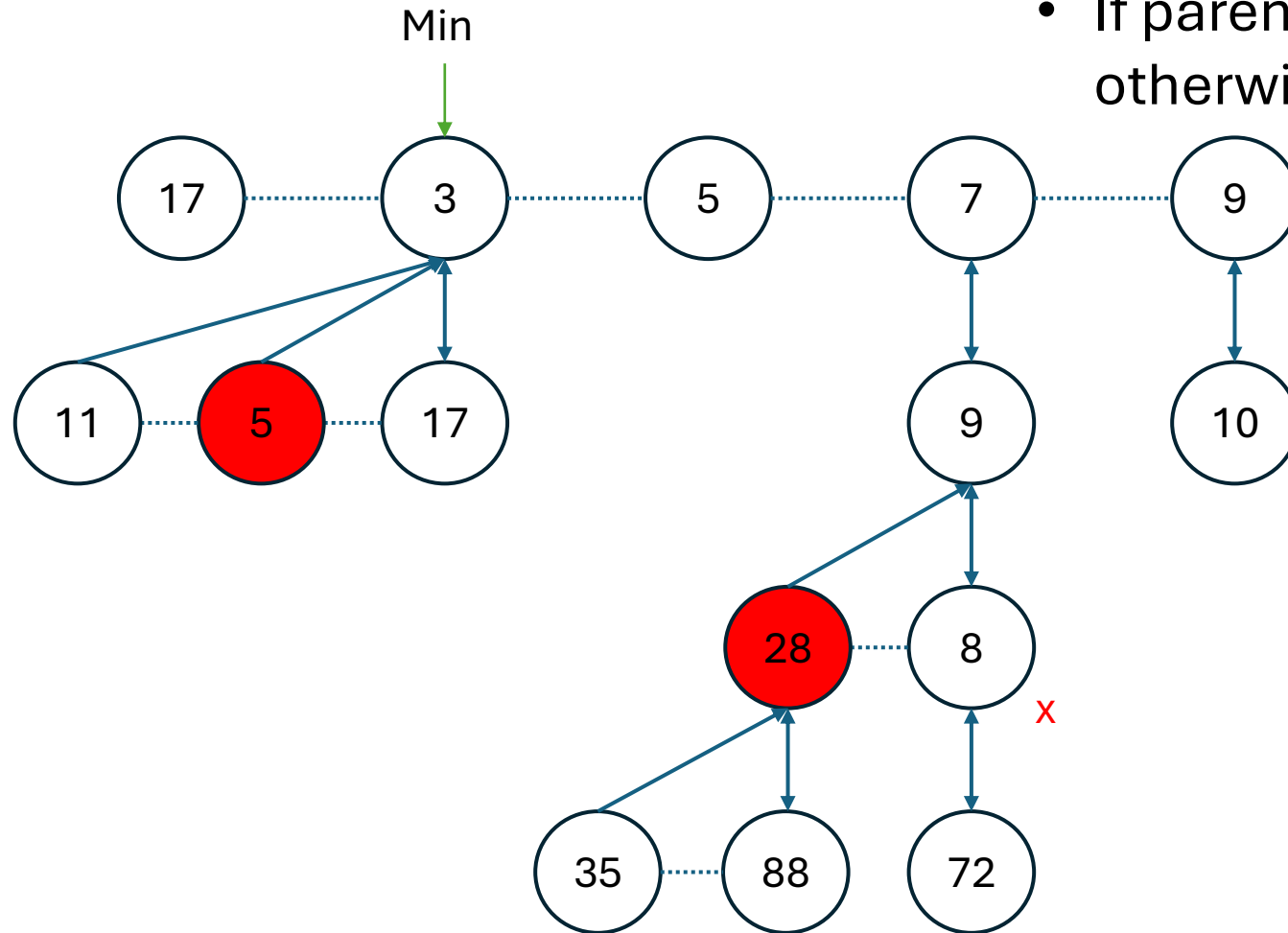


Decrease  $x$  from 10 to 8

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2a [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut

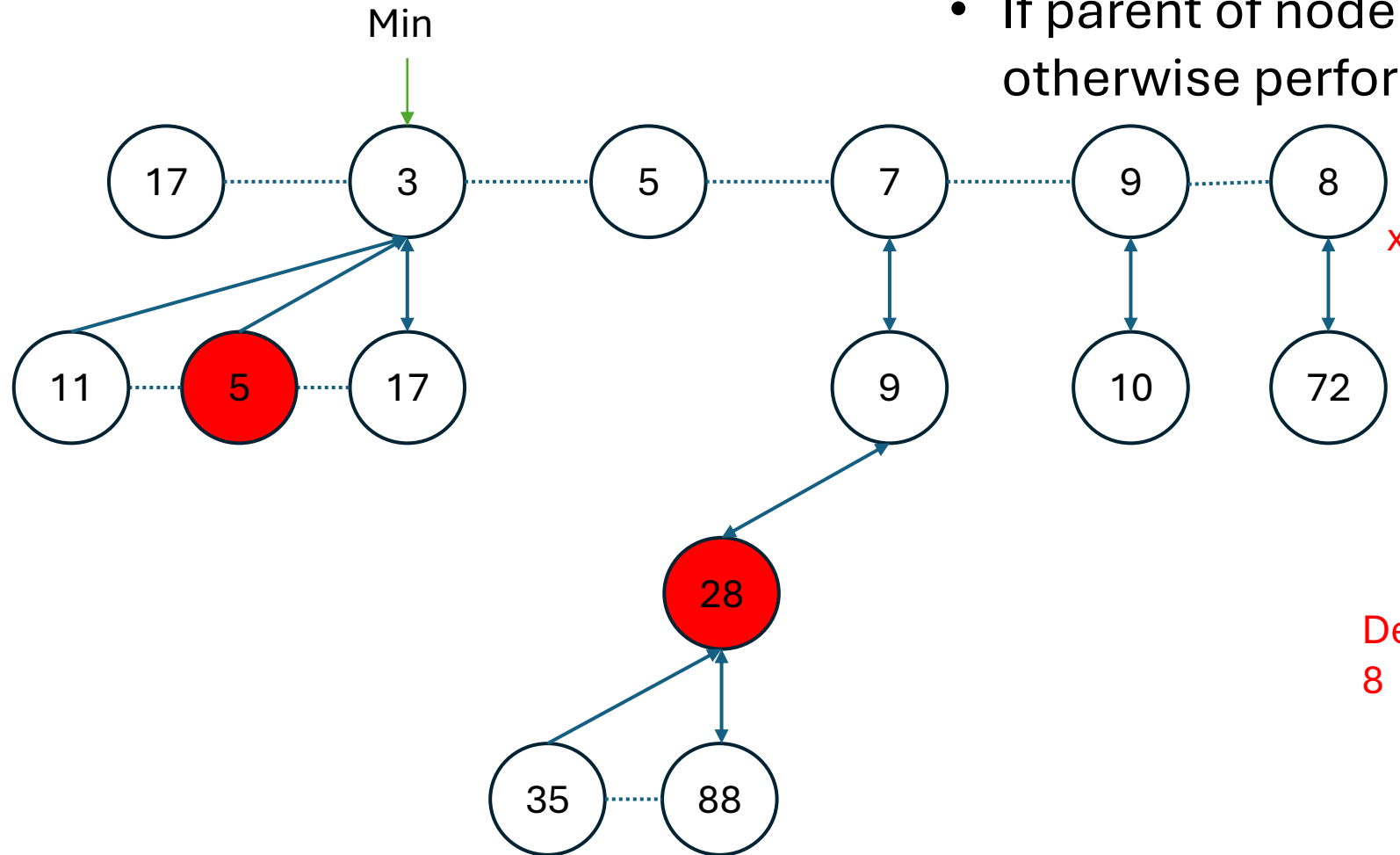


Decrease x from 10 to 8

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2a [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- **Cut node and put in root list**
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut

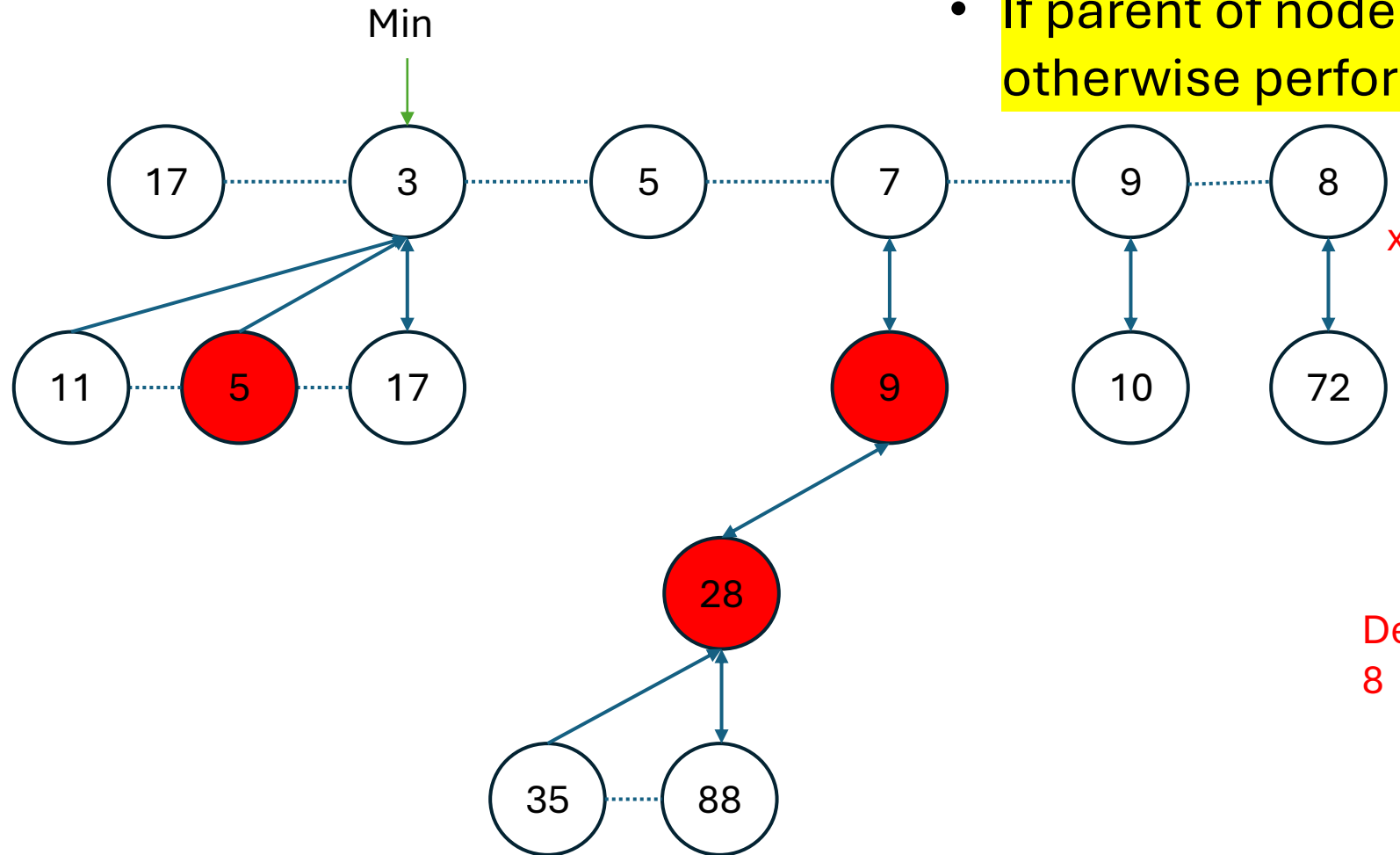


Decrease x from 10 to  
8

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2a [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut

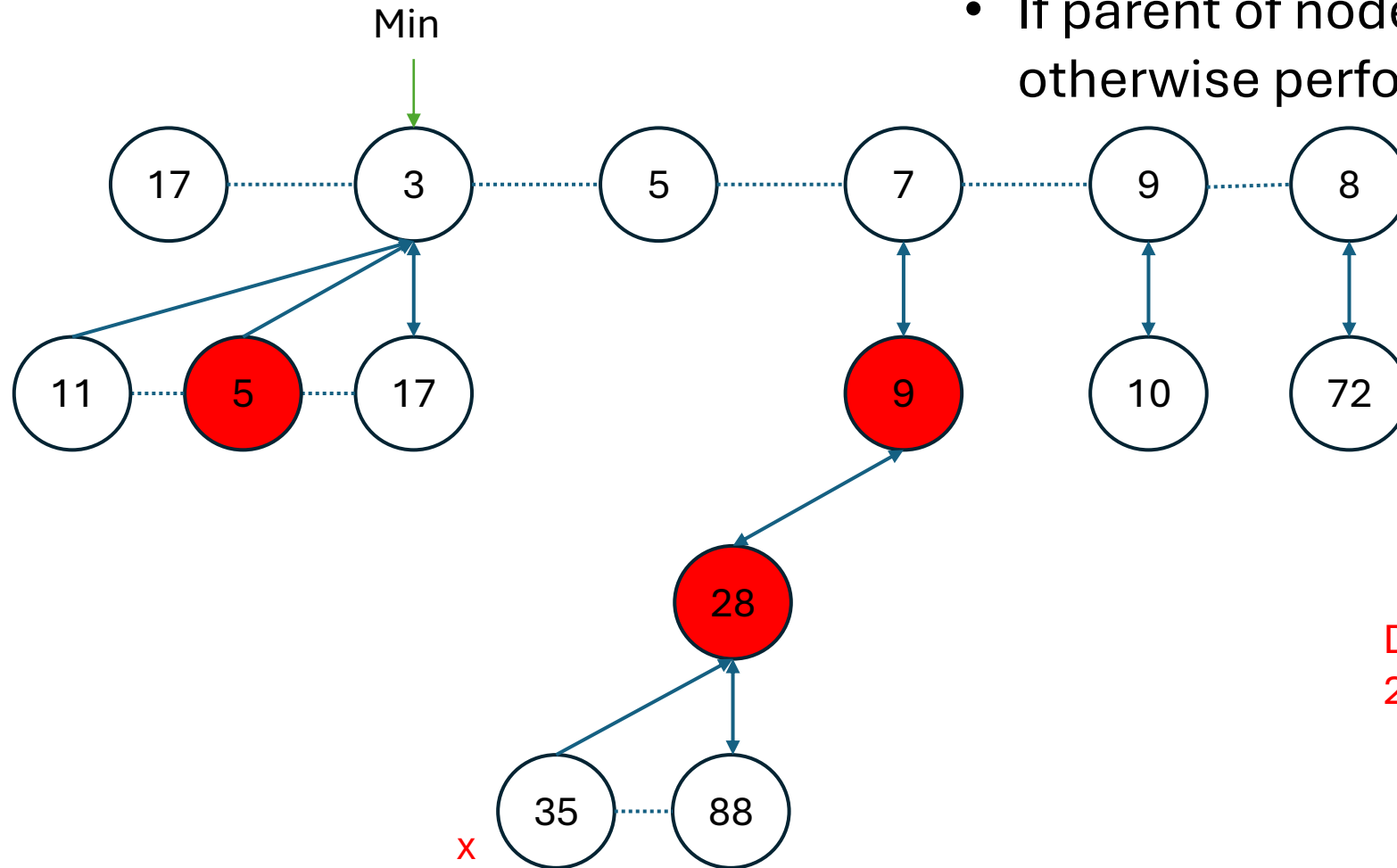


Decrease x from 10 to  
8

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2b [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut

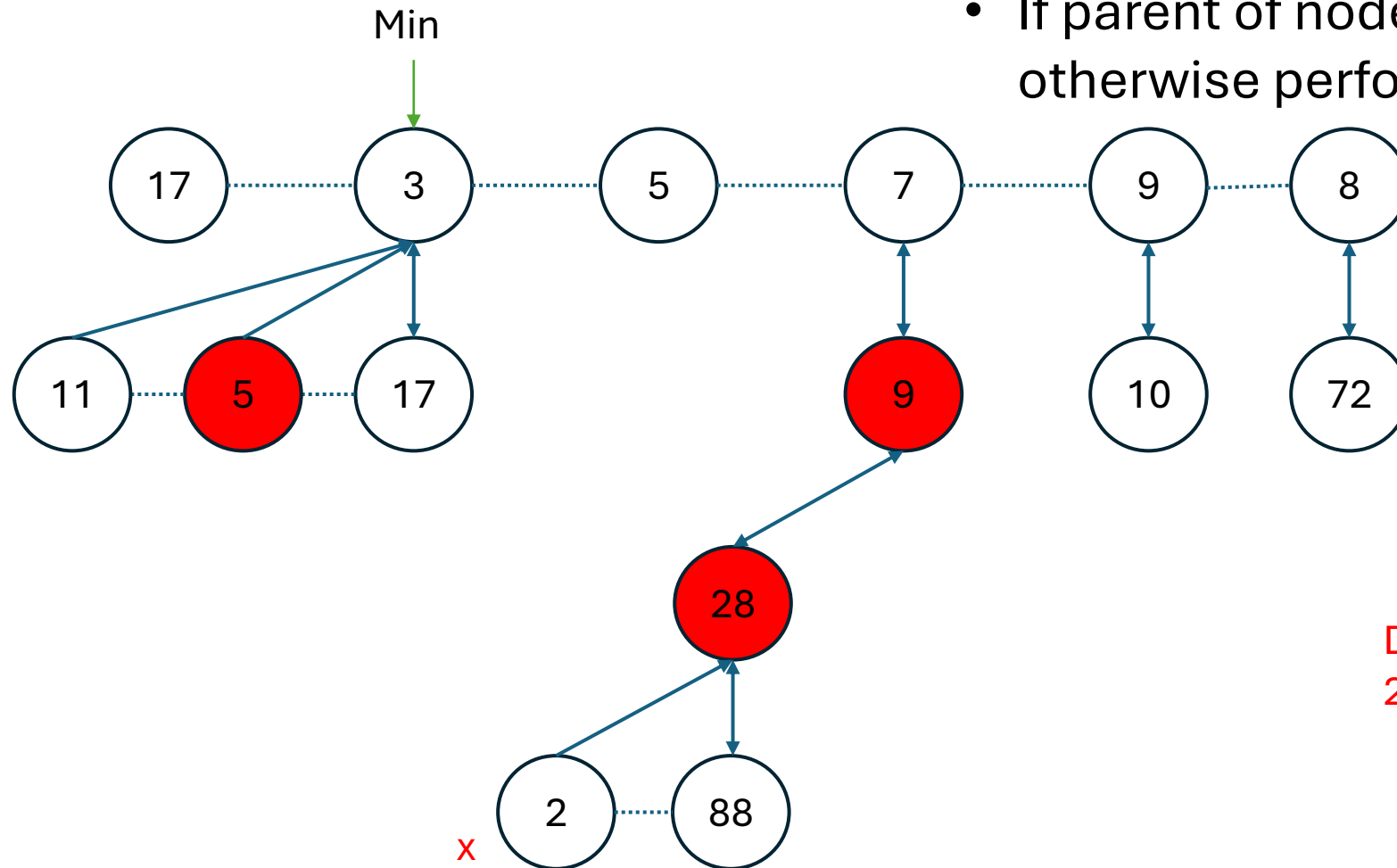


Decrease x from 35 to  
2

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2b [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut

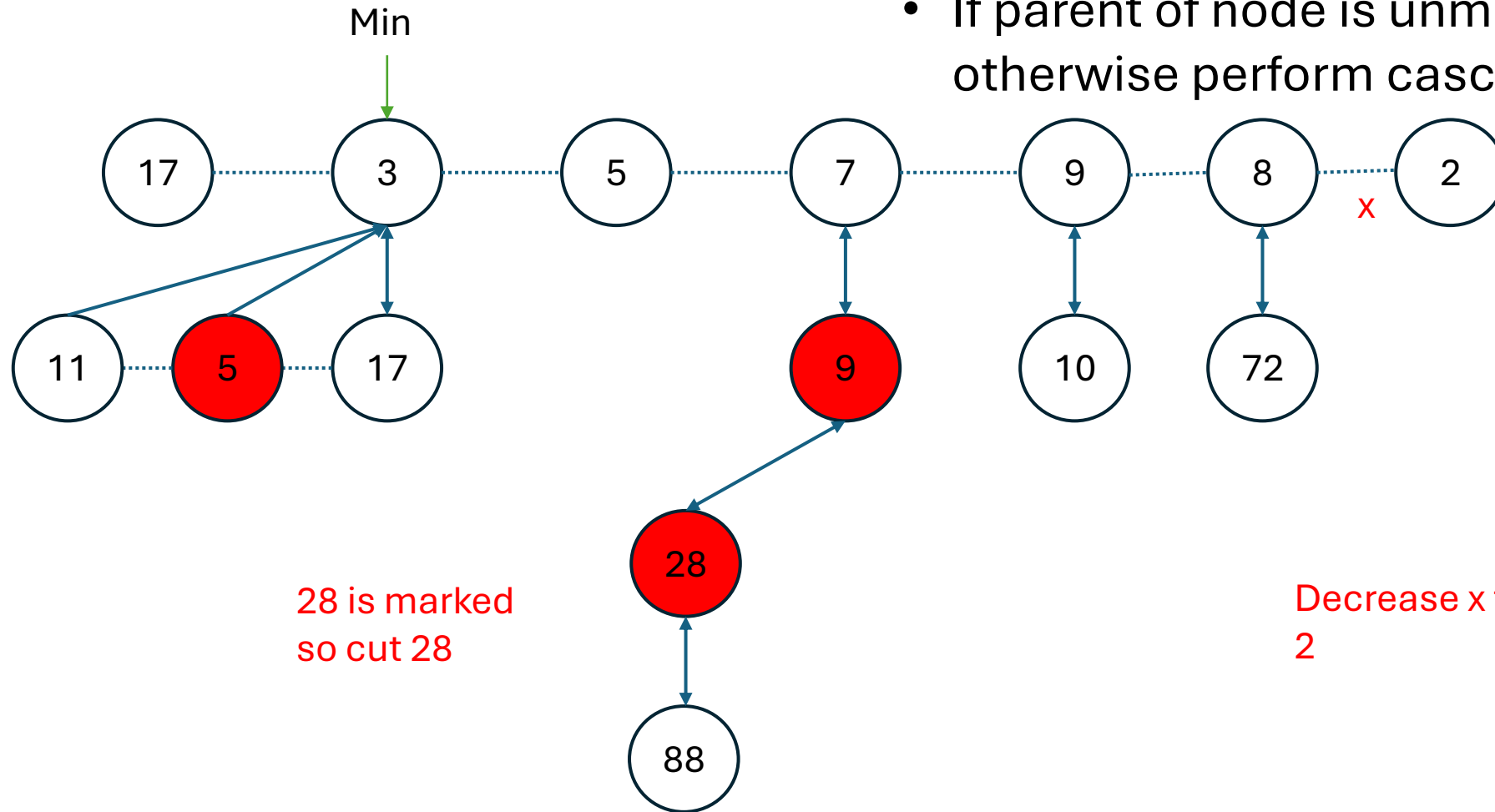


Decrease x from 35 to  
2

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2b [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- **Cut node and put in root list**
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut



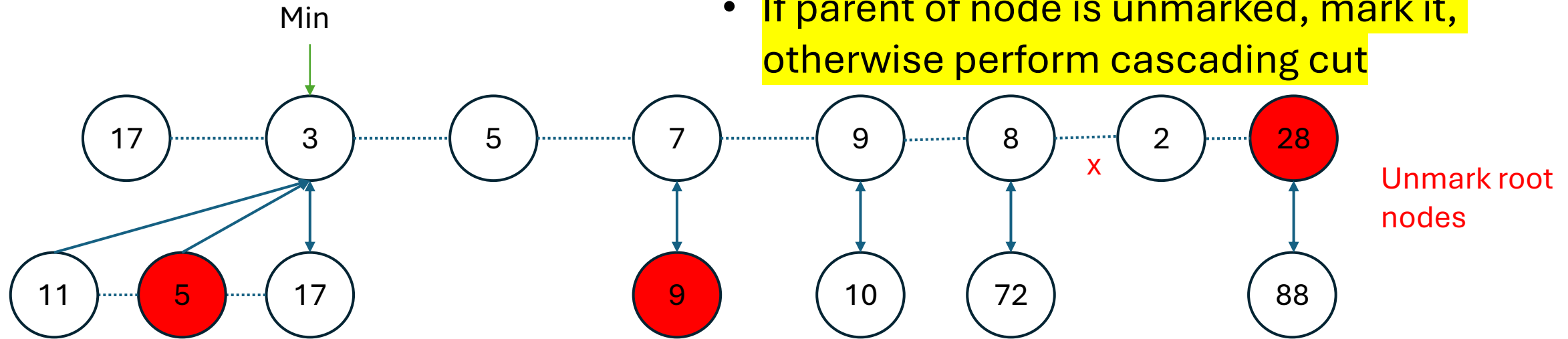
28 is marked  
so cut 28

Decrease x from 35 to  
2

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2b [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut



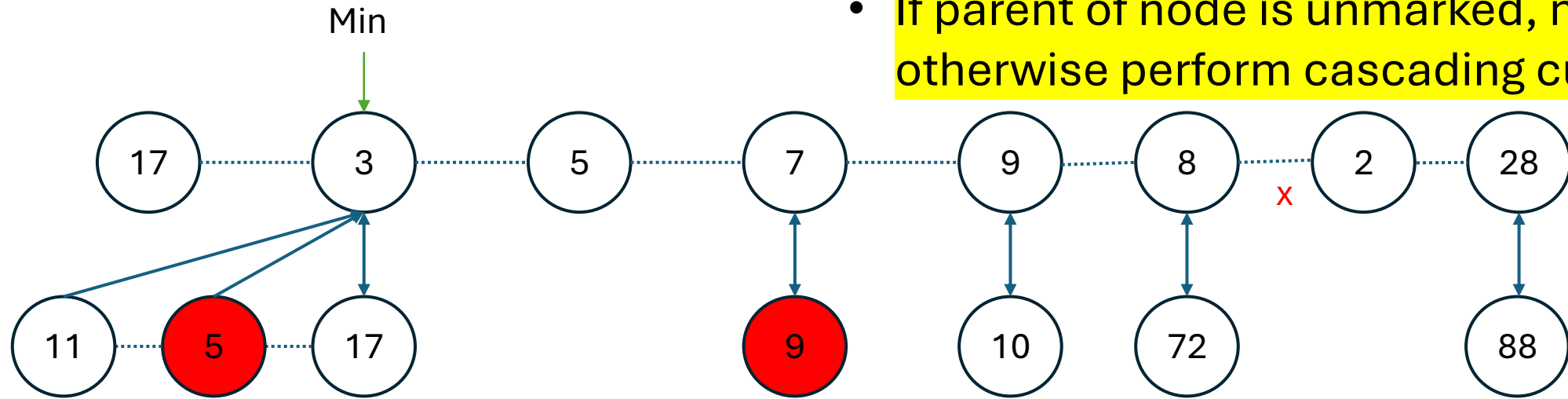
Decrease x from 35 to  
2



# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2b [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut



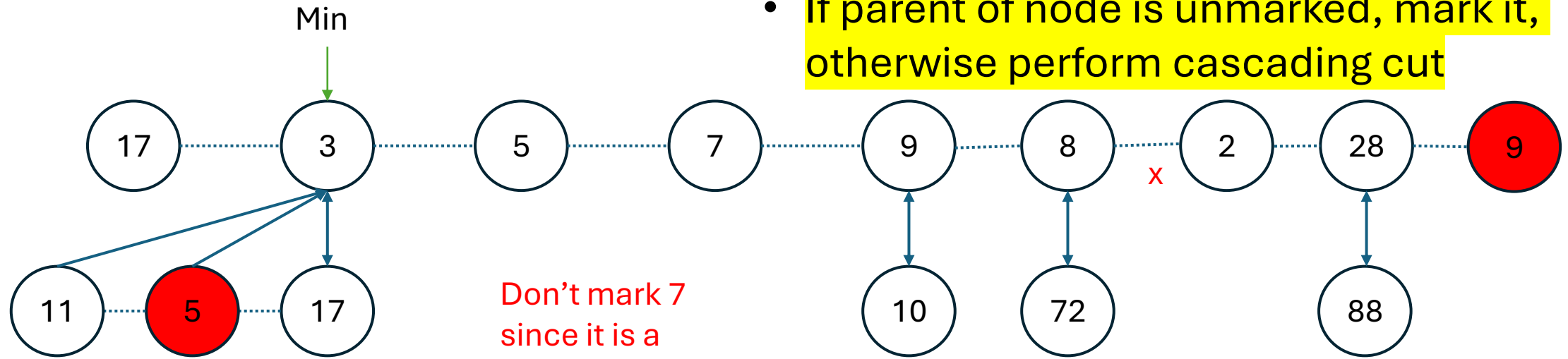
9 is marked so  
cut 9

Decrease x from 35 to  
2

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

Case 2b [Heap order violated]

- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut



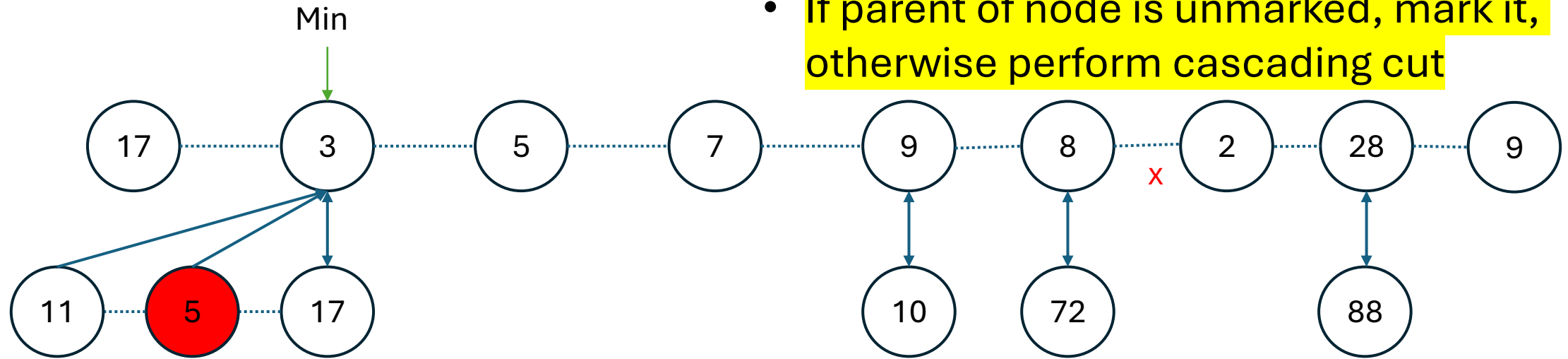
Don't mark 7  
since it is a  
root node

Decrease x from 35 to  
2

# Decrease-Key : $O(1)$

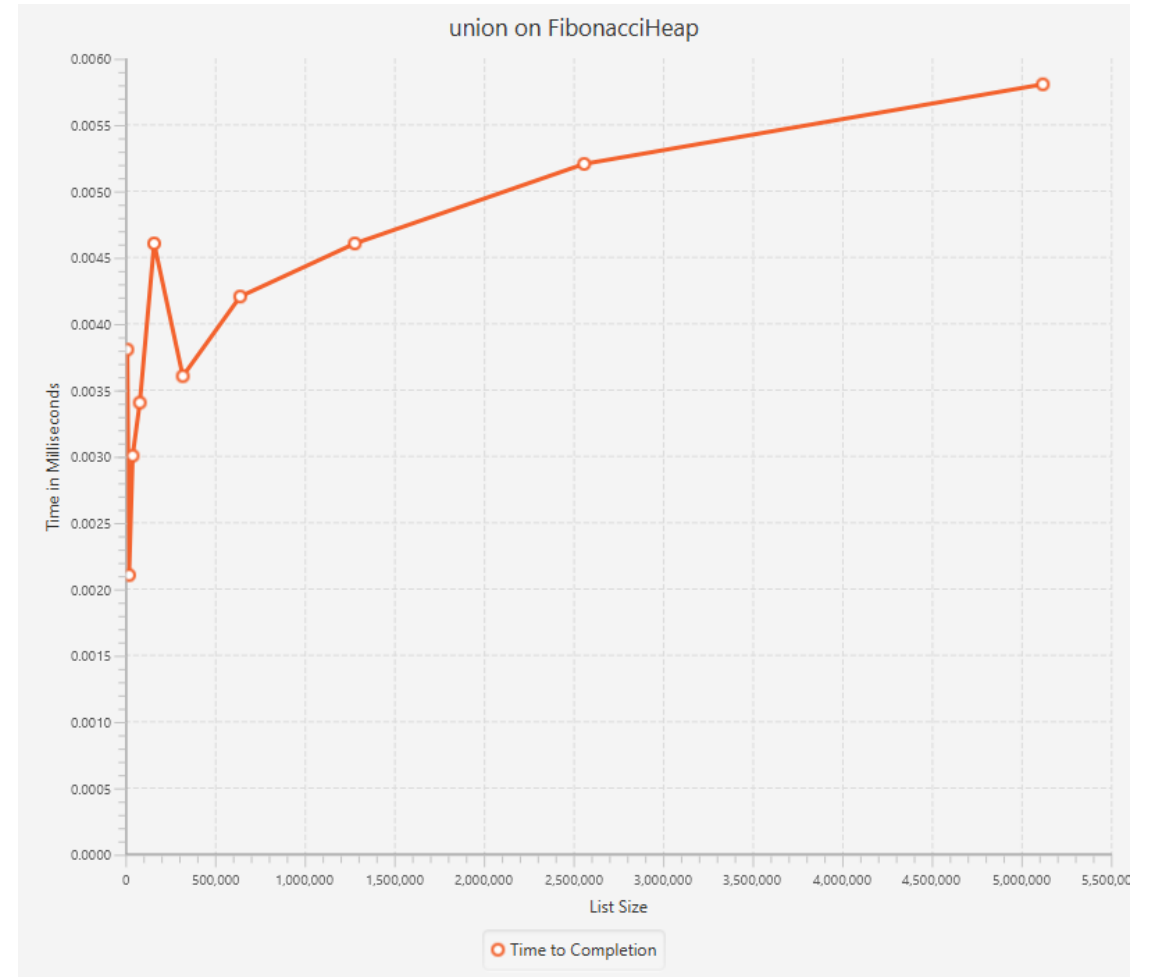
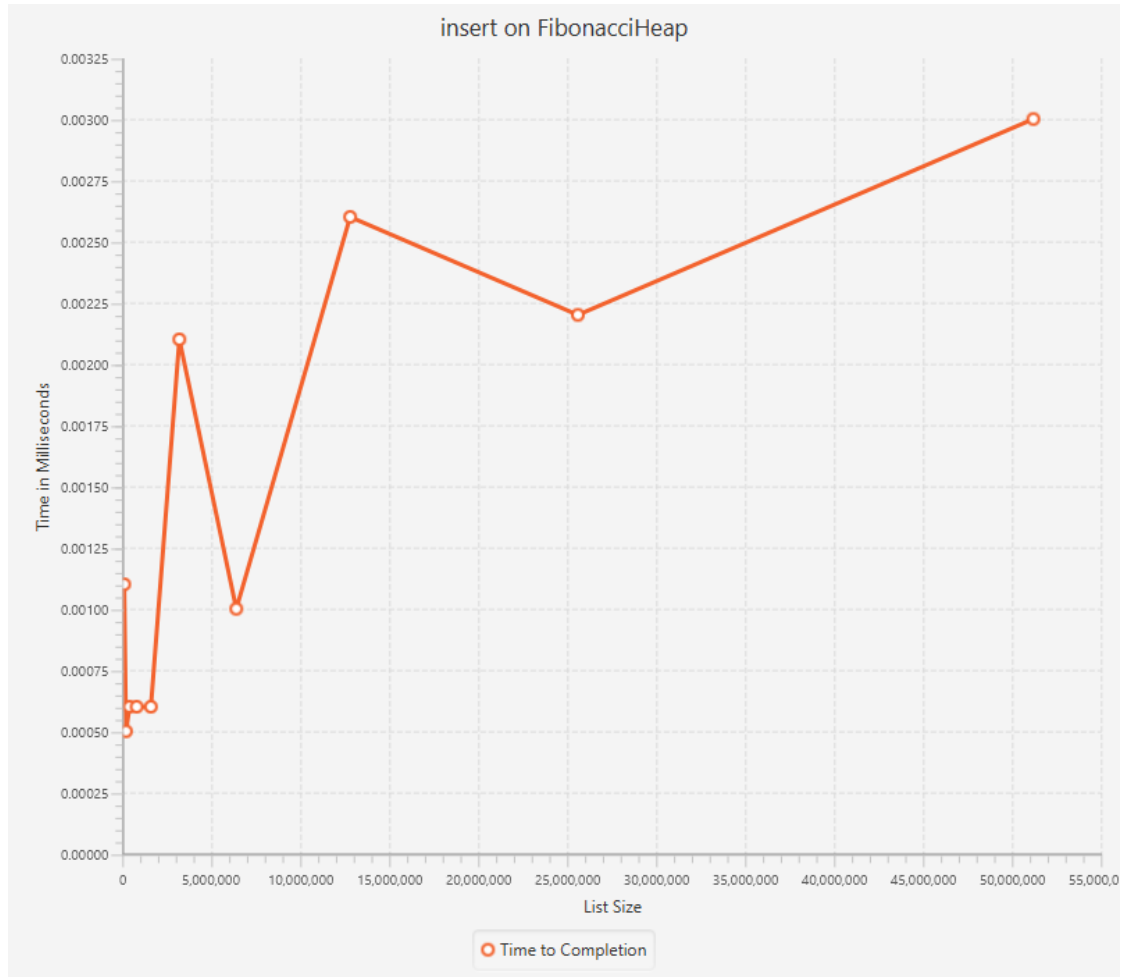
Case 2b [Heap order violated]

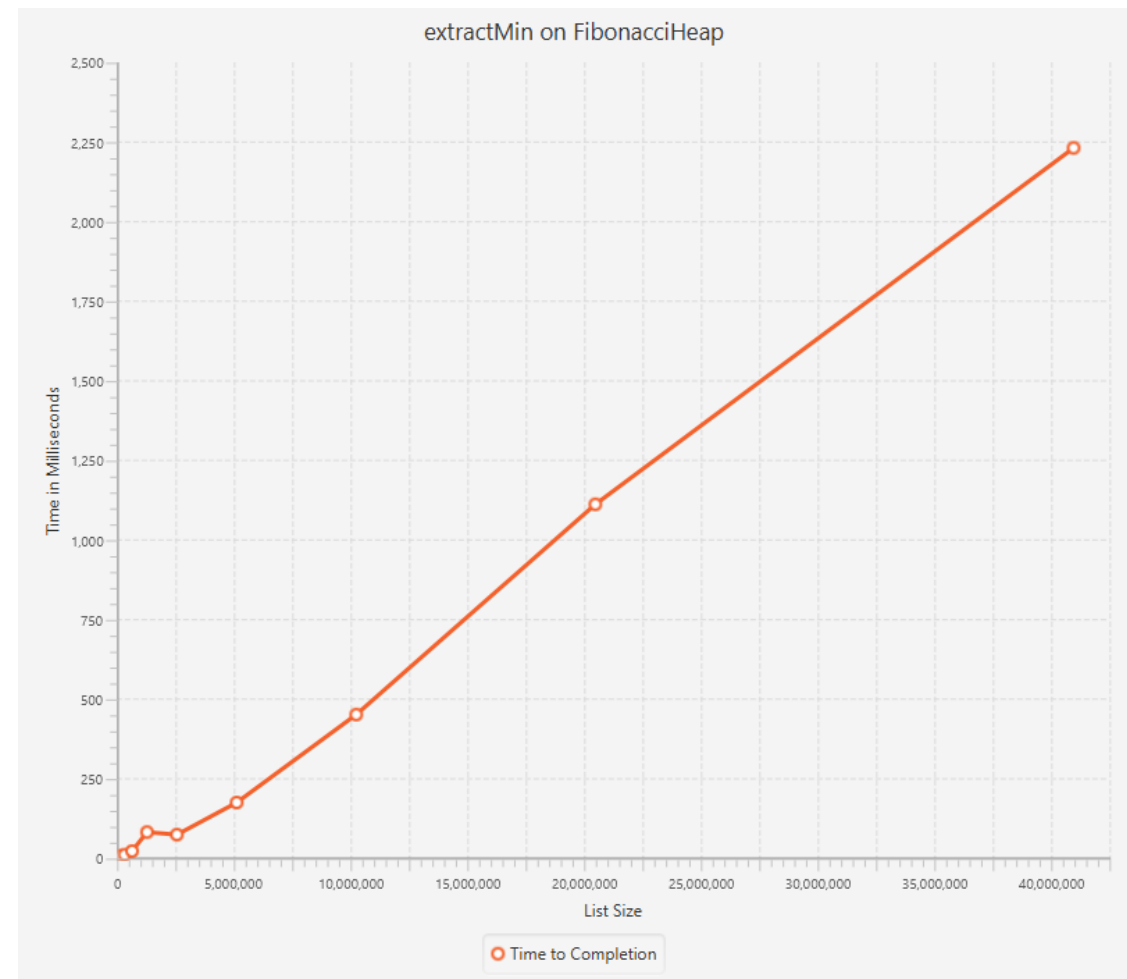
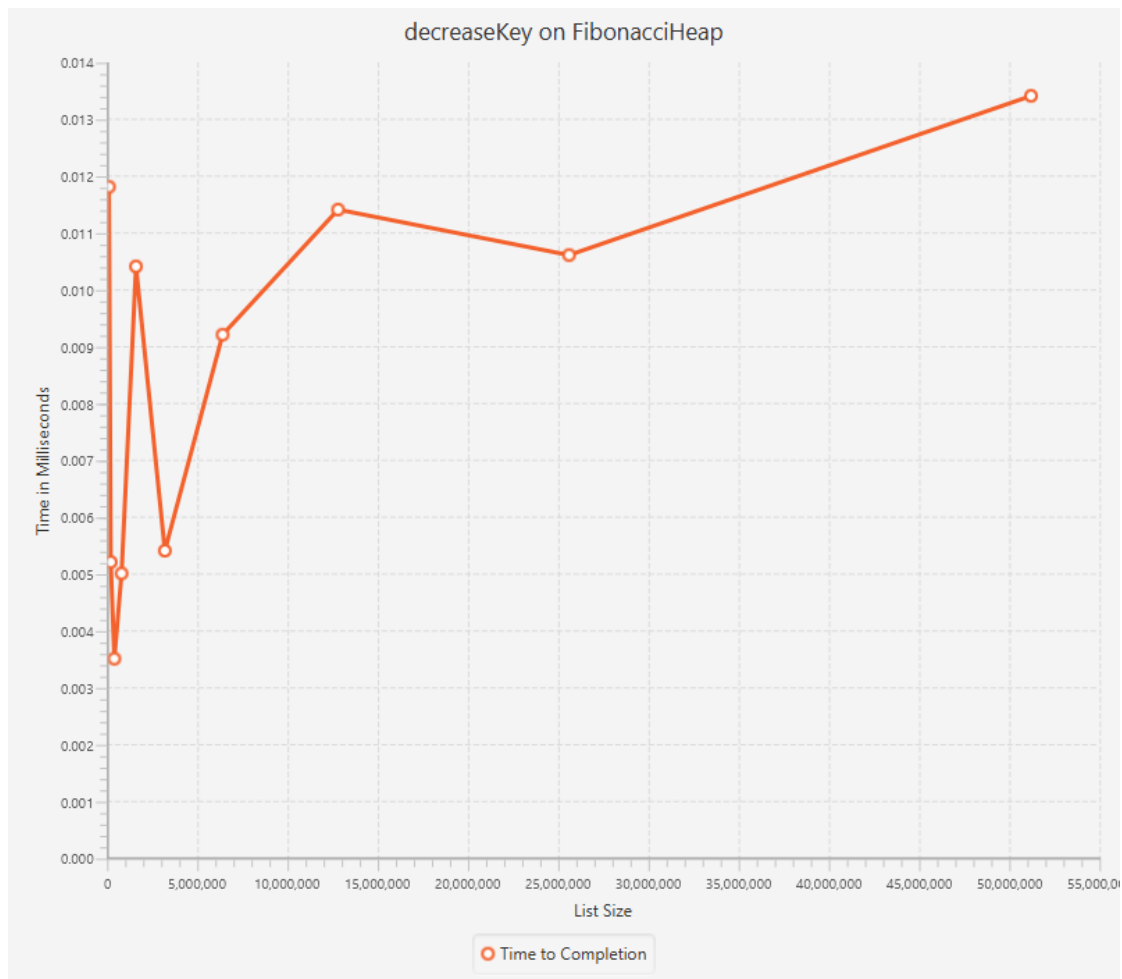
- Decrease key of node
- Cut node and put in root list
- If parent of node is unmarked, mark it, otherwise perform cascading cut



Decrease x from 35 to  
2

# Demo





# Advantages and Disadvantages

## Advantages:

- Efficient amortized time complexities for Decrease-Key, Insert, and Union
- Beneficial in graphing algorithms like Dijkstra's and Prim's because of many calls to Decrease-key

## Disadvantages:

- Very challenging to implement and no standard implementation in Java or Python
- If an application doesn't use decrease-key many times, binomial heaps or binary heaps may be more efficient due to reduced overhead

# Why is the maximum degree of a node $O(\log_{\phi} n)$

**1. Fibonacci Sequence and its Growth:** The Fibonacci sequence is defined as:

$$F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1, F_d = F_{d-1} + F_{d-2} \text{ for } d \geq 2$$

The Fibonacci numbers grow exponentially, and there is a closed-form expression for the Fibonacci numbers, called **Binet's formula**:

$$F_d = \frac{\phi^d - (1-\phi)^d}{\sqrt{5}} \text{ where } \phi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \text{ is the golden ratio}$$

For very large  $d$ , the term  $(1 - \phi)^d$  approaches 0, so the formula can be approximated as:

$$F_d \approx \frac{\phi^d}{\sqrt{5}}$$



# Why is the maximum degree of a node $O(\log_{\phi} n)$

**2. Relationship Between Degree and Fibonacci Numbers:** In a Fibonacci heap, the degree  $d$  of a node is the number of children that node has. The size of the tree rooted at a node with degree  $d$  is at least  $F_d$ , meaning that a tree with degree  $d$  has at least  $F_d$  nodes.

Therefore, for a Fibonacci heap with  $n$  nodes, the degree  $d$  of any node must satisfy:

$$F_d \leq n$$

\*See Appendix B

# Why is the maximum degree of a node $O(\log_{\phi} n)$

**3. Finding the Maximum Degree:** To determine the maximum degree  $d_{max}$  of any node in the Fibonacci heap, we want to find the largest  $d$  such that  $F_d \leq n$ . Using the approximation  $F_d \approx \frac{\phi^d}{\sqrt{5}}$ , we can solve for  $d$  as follows:

$$\frac{\phi^d}{\sqrt{5}} \leq n$$

Multiplying both sides by  $\sqrt{5}$ , we get:  $\phi^d \leq n\sqrt{5}$

Taking the log of both sides, we get:  $\log_{\phi}(\phi^d) \leq \log_{\phi} n\sqrt{5}$

Using properties of logs, we get:  $d \log_{\phi}(\phi) \leq \log_{\phi} n + \log_{\phi} \sqrt{5}$

Simplifying:  $d \leq \log_{\phi} n + O(1)$

Therefore the degree  $d$  is bounded by:  $d = O(\log_{\phi} n)$

# How Fibonacci numbers bound node degrees

Fibonacci heaps have a special structure where the size of a subtree rooted at a node with degree  $d$  is **at least**  $F_d$ , the  $d$ -th Fibonacci number.

This property arises from the way trees are merged and the rules of consolidation in Fibonacci heaps:

- When two trees of the same degree are merged, one becomes the child of the other, and their degrees increase. (Link operation)
- The consolidation process ensures that higher-degree nodes have increasingly larger subtrees. This recursive merging leads to the **Fibonacci sequence** as the minimum number of nodes in a subtree for any given degree.

The number of nodes in the tree grows exponentially as the degree increases, following the Fibonacci sequence.

# How Fibonacci numbers bound node degrees

Now consider the entire Fibonacci heap, which contains  $n$  nodes in total. No single tree in the heap can have more than  $n$  nodes.

Let's denote the degree of a node in this heap by  $d$ . Since the subtree rooted at a node with degree  $d$  must contain **at least**  $F_d$  nodes, the total number of nodes in the heap  $n$  provides an upper bound on  $F_d$ . That is:

$$F_d \leq n$$

This inequality is the direct result of the fact that  $F_d$  represents the **minimum size** of a tree of degree  $d$ , and the heap as a whole has at most  $n$  nodes.

# How Fibonacci numbers bound node degrees

This is true because:

- Each tree in the Fibonacci heap grows according to the rules of consolidation, which guarantees that the size of a tree increases at least as fast as the Fibonacci sequence.
- The degree  $d$  determines the size of the smallest possible subtree rooted at a node of that degree, which is  $F_d$ .
- Since the entire heap cannot have more nodes than  $n$ , the largest degree  $d$  must satisfy  $F_d \leq n$ .

# References

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/fibonacci-heap-set-1-introduction/>

[https://youtu.be/UkPVvP4\\_OaA?si=-Jx51D9wbU0ESvbj](https://youtu.be/UkPVvP4_OaA?si=-Jx51D9wbU0ESvbj)