

COS 326

Database Systems

Lecture 14

NoSQL databases – Neo4j (2)

(Ref: Notes)

Thursday 8 September 2016

(Wednesday timetable)

Admin matters (1)

Schedule changes:

Week	Date	Day	Topic
8	6 Sept	Tues	L13: NoSQL databases (Neo4j) Presentation: Essay topic 4
	7 Sept	Wed	UP Spring Day
	8 Sept	Thurs	Wednesday timetable L14: NoSQL databases (Neo4j) Presentation: Essay topic 5
	9 Sept	Fri	Practical 6: MongoDB
9	13 Sept	Tues	L15: NoSQL databases (Neo4j) Presentation: Essay topic 6
	14 Sept	Wed	Class Test 2: XML and NoSQL DBs L16: NoSQL databases (Neo4j)
	16 Sept	Fri	Practical 7: Neo4j tutorial

Admin matters (2)

Schedule changes:

Week	Date	Day	Topic
10	20 Sept	Tues	L15: NoSQL databases (Neo4j) Presentation: Essay topic 7
	21 Sept	Wed	L16: NoSQL databases (Neo4j) Presentation: Essay topics 8 & 9
	22 Sept	Thurs	Semester Test (evening)
	23 Sept	Fri	<i>Practical 7: Neo4j</i>
11	27 Sept	Tues	L19: Data Analytics: big data
	28 Sept	Wed	L20: Data Analytics: big data Presentation: Essay topic 1
	30 Sept	Fri	<i>No prac:</i>

Outline

1. RECAP: Neo4j DB enviroment

2. Neo4j CRUD operations

a. WRITE clauses

b. READ clauses

c. AGGREGATION clauses

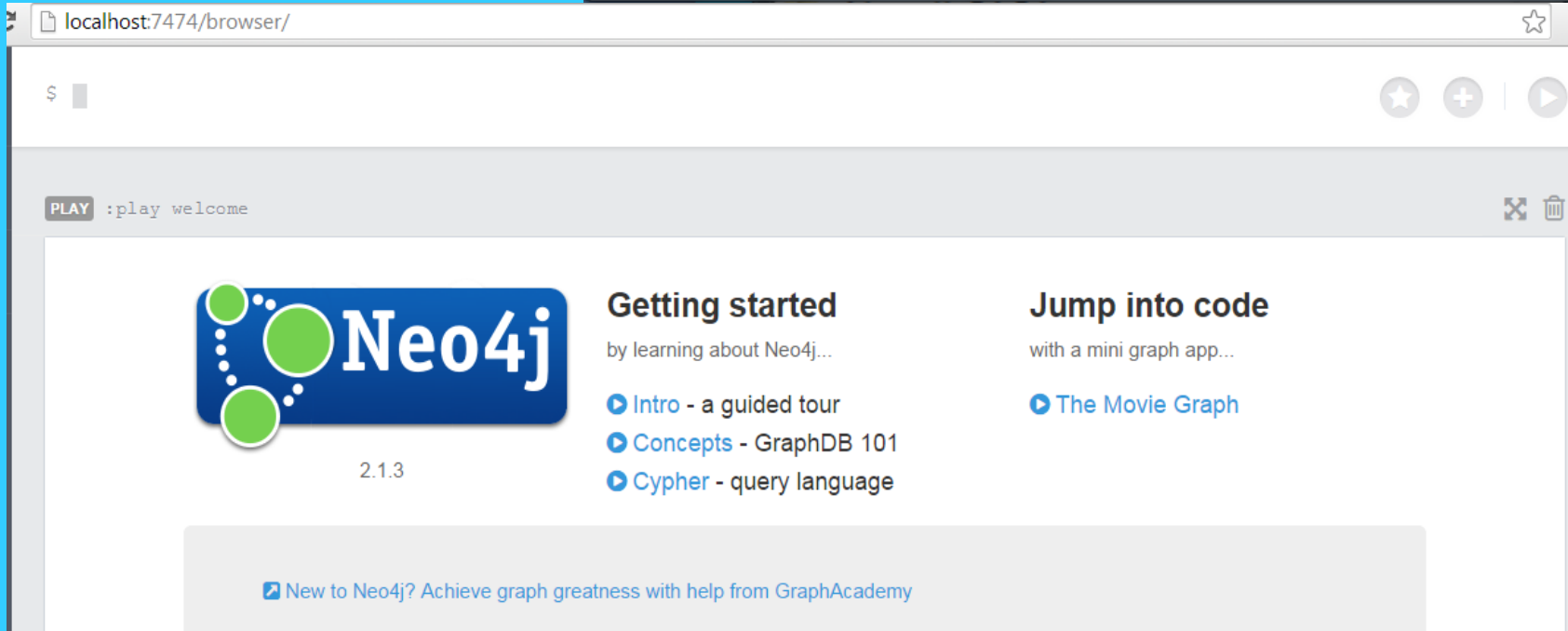
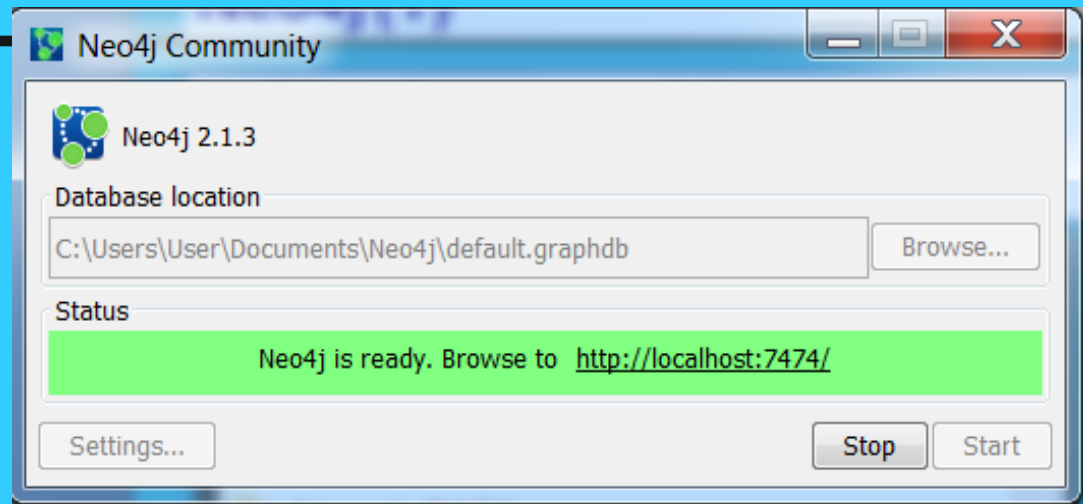
Reference: Neo4j 2.1.3 manual (documentation)

Recap: Neo4j graph database

Client / server.

connection URL:

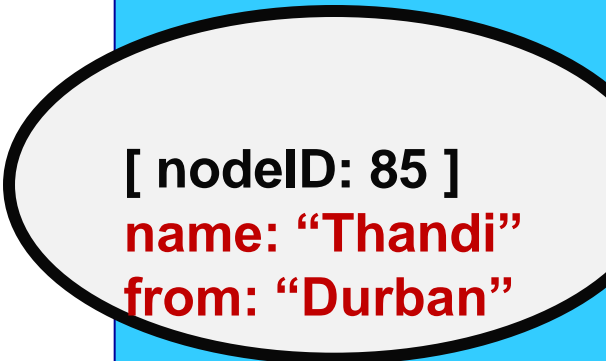
<http://localhost:7474>



Recap: Neo4j Cypher query language

Cypher: Neo4j's graph query language

- purpose built for working with graph data.
- uses patterns to describe graph data
- uses familiar SQL-like clauses
- is declarative (like SQL) i.e. describes what to do, not how to do it
- **A Neo4j graph consists of:**
 - **Nodes** which store data as **Properties**
 - **Properties** are simple **key/value** pairs e.g.
name: "Thandi" from: "Durban"
 - **Plus optional components:**
 - **Constraints & indexes**
 - **System assigns unique node IDs**

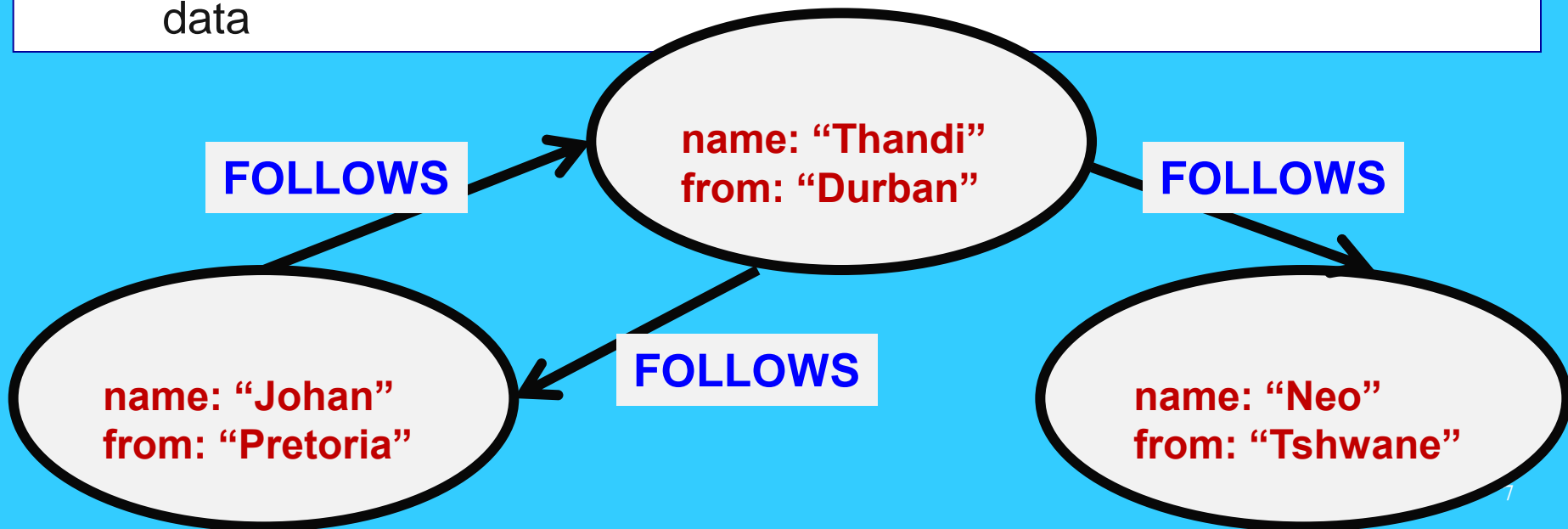


[nodeID: 85]
name: "Thandi"
from: "Durban"

Nodes and Relationships (1)

Relationships: Connect nodes in the graph

- The real power of a graph database e.g. Neo4j is in connected data.
- Relationships describe how the records are related. e.g. the **FOLLOWS** relationship
 - Thandi FOLLOWS Neo and Johan
 - Johan FOLLOWS Thandi
- Relationships **always** have direction & a type & form patterns of data



Nodes and Relationships (2)

- **Relationship properties**

- Store information shared by two nodes.
- In a property graph, **relationships** are **data records** that can also contain properties. e.g.
 - Thandi **FOLLOWS** Neo since 2009
 - Thandi **FOLLOWS** Johan since 2012
 - Johan **FOLLOWS** Thandi since 2010



CRUD operations: WRITING clauses

- Writing clauses (ch. 11, pages 160-181)

Writing clause	Definition
CREATE	Creating graph elements: nodes, relationships, constraints
MERGE	a combination of MATCH and CREATE that additionally allows you to specify what happens if the data was matched or created.
SET	for updating labels on nodes and properties on nodes and relationships
DELETE	Deleting graph elements: nodes and relationships
REMOVE	for removing properties and labels from graph elements
FOREACH	use for updating commands on elements in a collection: a path, or a collection created by aggregation.
CREATE UNIQUE	Create unique nodes. Create node if missing. If the pattern described needs a node, and it can't be matched, a new node will be created.

CRUD operations: CREATE (1)

A CREATE clause can create **many nodes and relationships** at once.

CREATE

```
( psT:Person { name: "Thandi", from: "Durban", hobby: "singing" } ),  
( psJ:Person { name: "Johan", from: "Pretoria", hobby: "surfing" } ),  
( psN:Person { name: "Neo", from: "Tshwane", hobby: "soccer" } ),  
( psT)-[:FOLLOWS { since: 2012 } ]->(psJ ),  
( psT)-[:FOLLOWS { since: 2009 } ]->(psN ),  
( psJ)-[:FOLLOWS { since: 2010 } ]->(psT )
```



CRUD operations: CREATE (2)

A CREATE clause can create a **constraint** and an **index**

CREATE CONSTRAINT ON (psn: Person)

ASSERT psn.name IS UNIQUE

Note: adding the unique constraint will add an index on that property

Alternatively: **CREATE INDEX ON : Person(name);**

```
CYPHER CREATE CONSTRAINT ON ( psn: Person) ASSERT psn.name IS UNIQUE;
```

✓ Added 1 constraint, returned 0 rows in 1140 ms



CRUD operations: SET

for **updating labels** on nodes and **properties** on **nodes** & **relationships**

MATCH (psT)

WHERE psT.name = "Thandi" **SET** psT.age = 20 **RETURN** psT

BUT for relationships:

MATCH (psN), (psT)

WHERE psN.name = "Neo" AND psT.name = "Thandi"

CREATE (psN)-[:FOLLOWS { since: 2014 }]->(psT)



CRUD operations: MERGE

either matches existing node and binds it, or creates new node and binds it. (Can use only ON CREATE or only ON MATCH or both)

```
MERGE                ( psT:Person { name: "Thandi"} )  
ON CREATE SET psT.name = "Thandi", psT.from = "Durban",  
                psT.hobby = "singing", psT.age = 21  
ON MATCH SET   psT.age = 21  
RETURN         psT
```

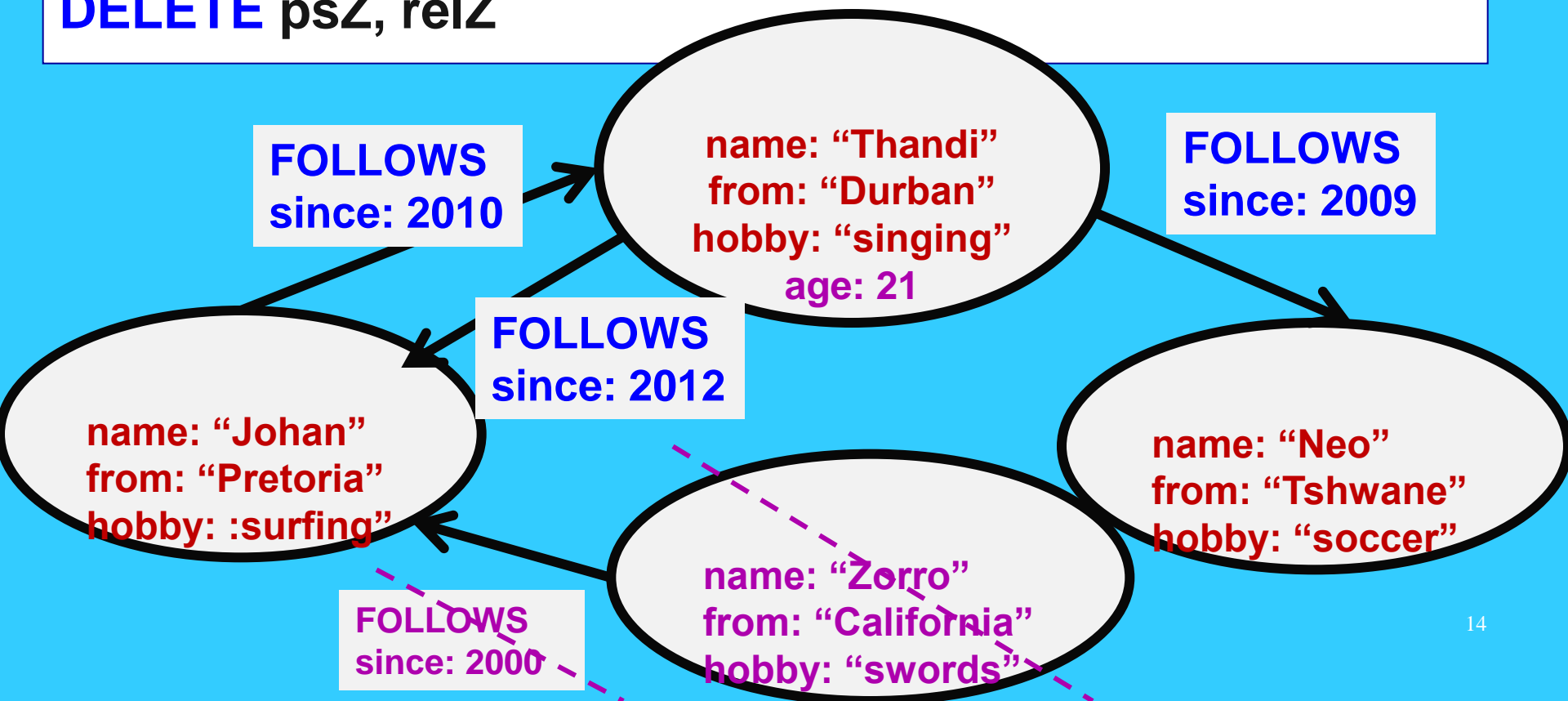


CRUD operations: DELETE (1)

- **Deleting graph elements: nodes and relationships**
- e.g. Delete a node and connected relationships

MATCH (psZ:Person {name: "Zorro"})-[relZ]-()

DELETE psZ, relZ



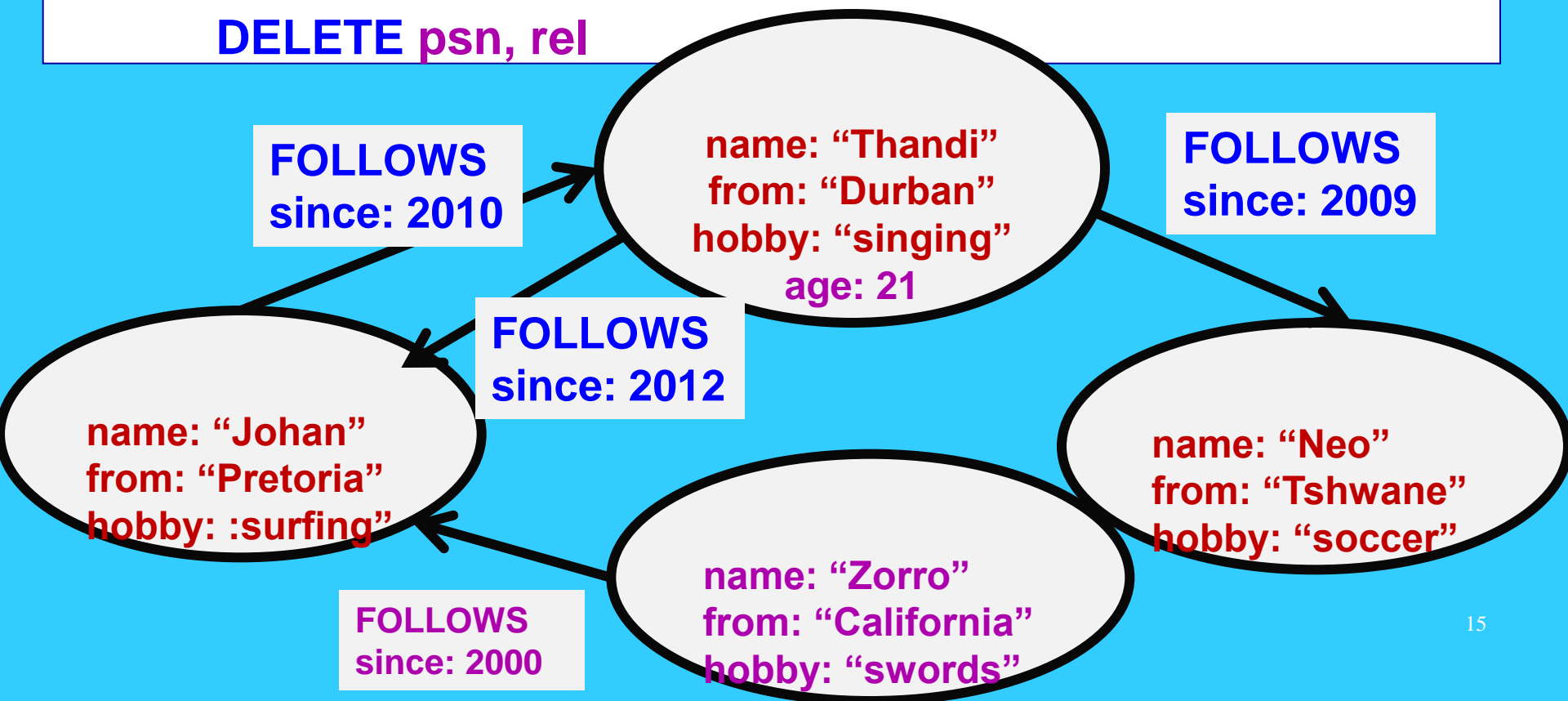
CRUD operations: DELETE (2)

- **Deleting graph elements: nodes and relationships**
- e.g. Delete all nodes and connected relationships

MATCH (psn:Person)

OPTIONAL MATCH (psn)-[rel]- () //equiv to outer join

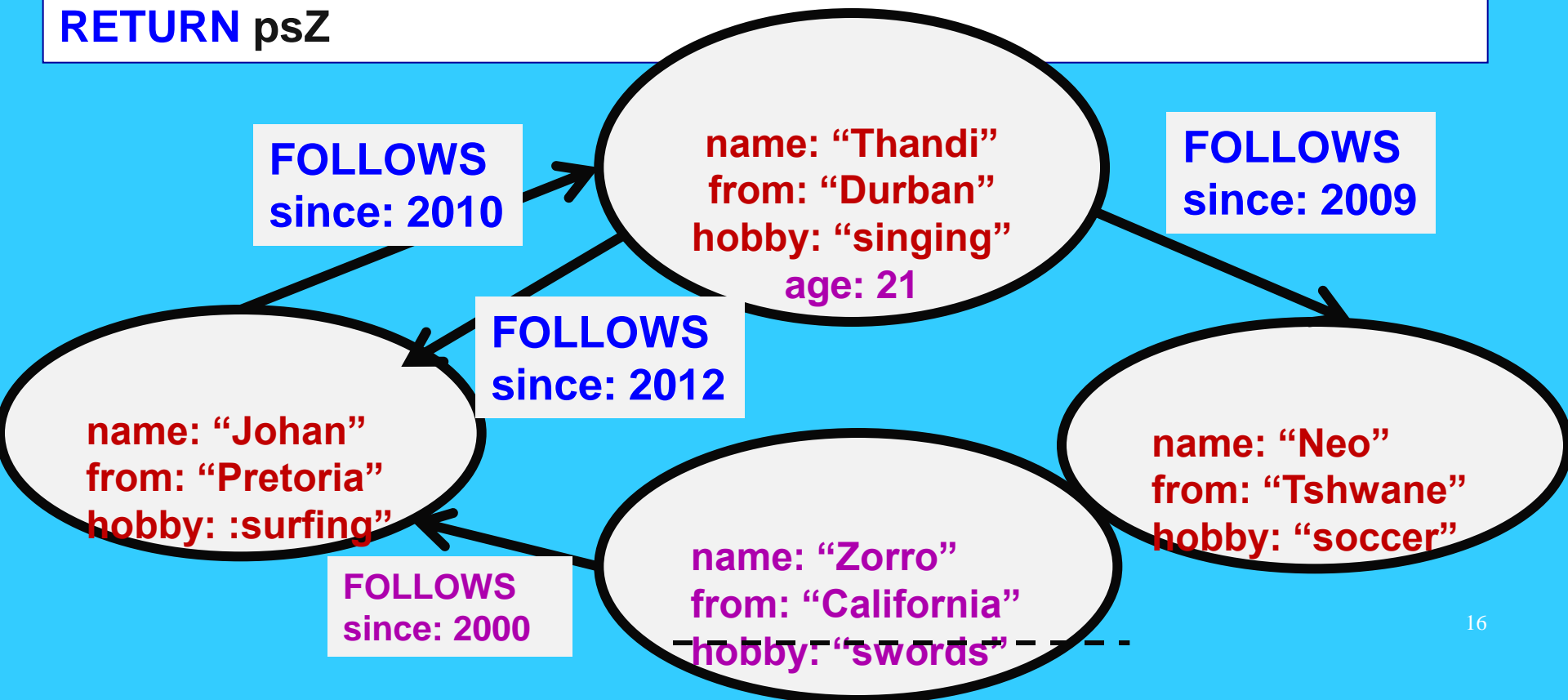
DELETE psn, rel



CRUD operations: REMOVE

- for removing **properties** and labels from graph elements (nodes & relationships) e.g.

```
MATCH ( psZ:Person) WHERE psZ.name = "Zorro"  
REMOVE psZ.hobby  
RETURN psZ
```



CRUD operations: READING clauses (1)

- Reading clauses (ch. 10, pages 131-157)

Reading clause	Definition
MATCH	The MATCH clause allows you to specify the patterns Cypher will search for in the database.
OPTIONAL MATCH	if no matches are found, OPTIONAL MATCH will use NULLs for missing parts of the pattern. OPTIONAL MATCH could be considered the Cypher equivalent of the outer join in SQL.
WHERE	WHERE is not a clause in it's own right , rather, it's part of MATCH, OPTIONAL MATCH, START and WITH. In the case of WITH and START, WHERE simply filters the results.
AGGREGATION	To calculate aggregated data, Cypher offers aggregation, much like SQL's aggregates and GROUP BY.

CRUD operations: READING clauses (2)

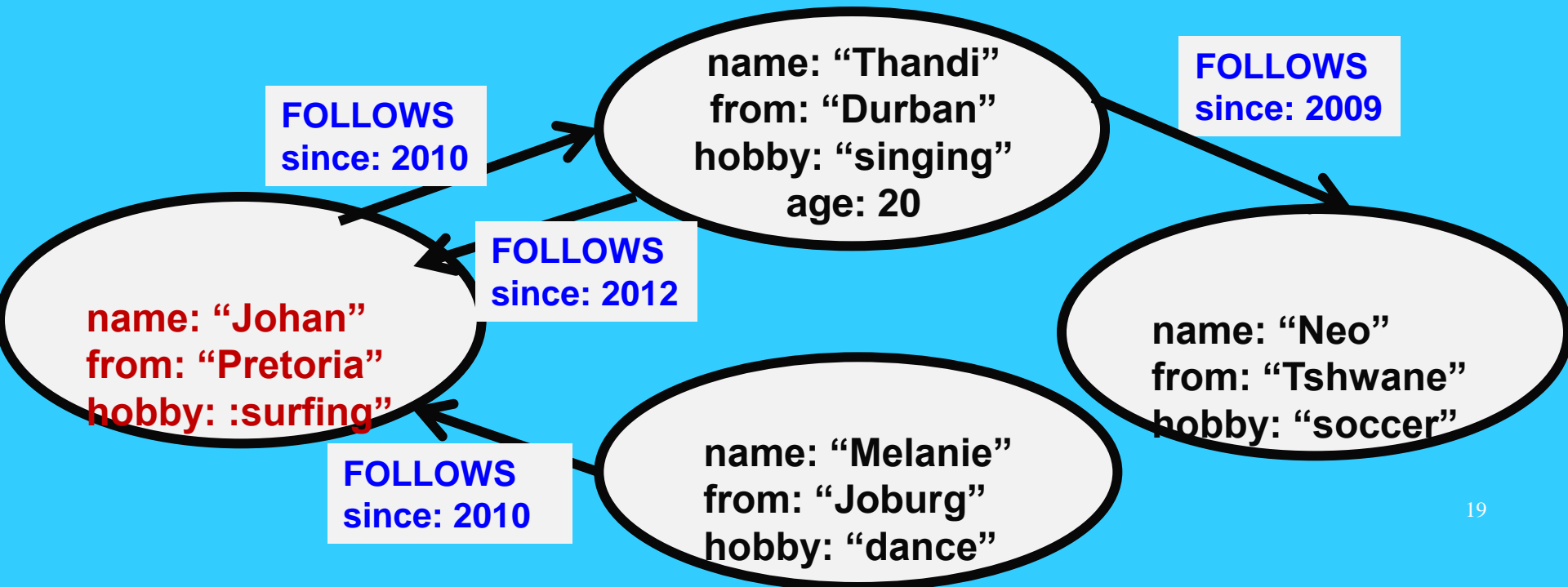
- Patterns for MATCH

Pattern	meaning
MATCH (<var>)	any node
MATCH (<var>: <label>)	a single node pattern with label <label> which will assign matches to the variable <var>
MATCH (<var1>:<label>)-[:<relationship>]-(<var2>)	
MATCH (<var1> { <key>: <value> })-->(<var2>)	
etc	

CRUD operations: MATCH

MATCH (psT:Person) RETURN psT; //returns nodes

MATCH (psT:Person) RETURN psT.name; //returns names



CRUD operations: MATCH & WHERE

specify **selection criteria** for **patterns**

e.g. show Melanie's details

MATCH (psM) **WHERE** psM.name = "Melanie"

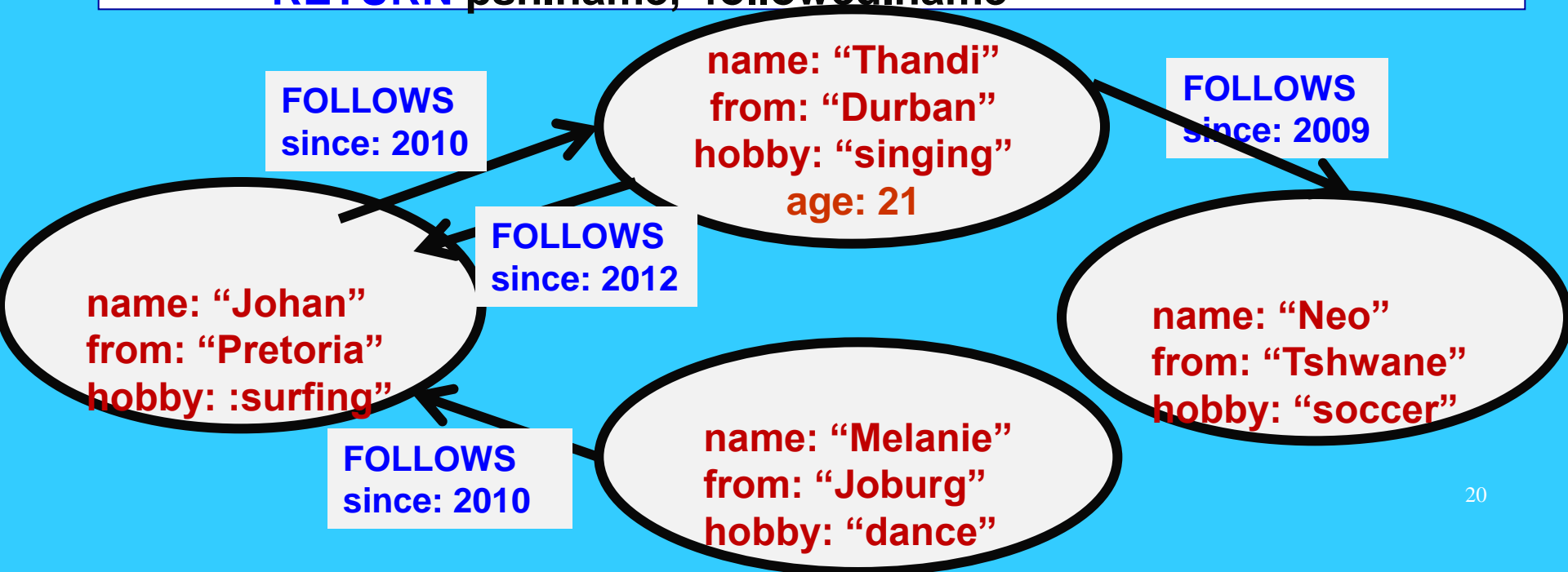
RETURN psM.name, psM.from, psM.hobby

e.g. find the people that Thandi follows

MATCH (psn:Person)-[:FOLLOWS]->(followed)

WHERE psn.name = "Thandi"

RETURN psn.name, followed.name



CRUD operations: MATCH & ORDER BY

General clauses (ch. 10, pages 115-129)

- **ORDER BY** is used to sort the output.

MATCH (psn) **RETURN** psn.name

ORDER BY psn.name

- Sorted list of names is returned



CRUD operations: AGGREGATION (1)

To calculate aggregated data, Cypher offers aggregation, much like SQL's aggregates and GROUP BY.

Aggregation function	example
'GROUP BY'	MATCH (n { name: 'A' })-->(x) RETURN n.name, count(x) <i>n.name is the grouping key, count(x) is the aggregate</i>
count	RETURN count(*)
sum	RETURN sum(n.property)
avg	RETURN avg(n.property)
stdev	RETURN stdev(n.property)
max	RETURN max(n.property)
min	RETURN min(n.property)
collect	RETURN collect(n.property)
distinct	RETURN count(DISTINCT b.eyes)

CRUD operations: AGGREGATION (2)

e.g.1 count the people that Thandi follows:

MATCH (psT {name: "Thandi"})-[:FOLLOWS]-> followed
RETURN psT.name, **count(*)** AS count_follows;

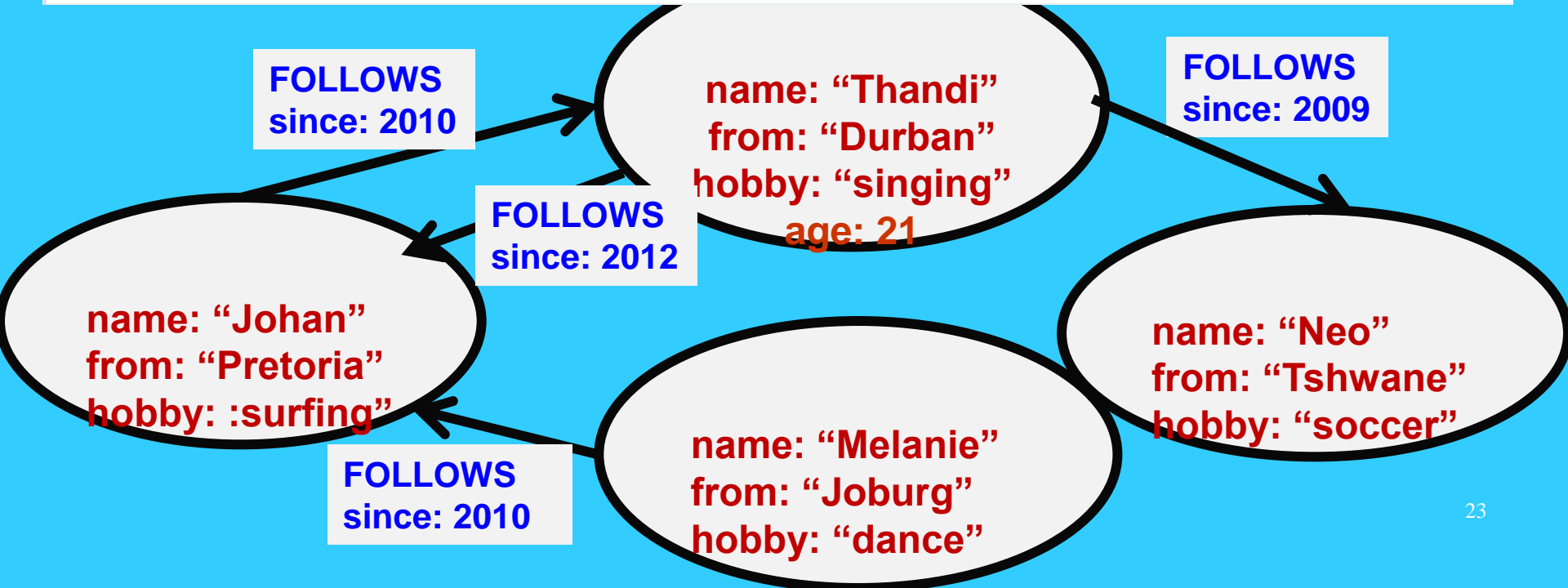
```
CYPHER MATCH (psT {name: "Thandi"} )-[:FOLLOWS]-> followed RETURN psT.name, count(*) AS count_follows;
```

psT.name

count_follows

Thandi

2

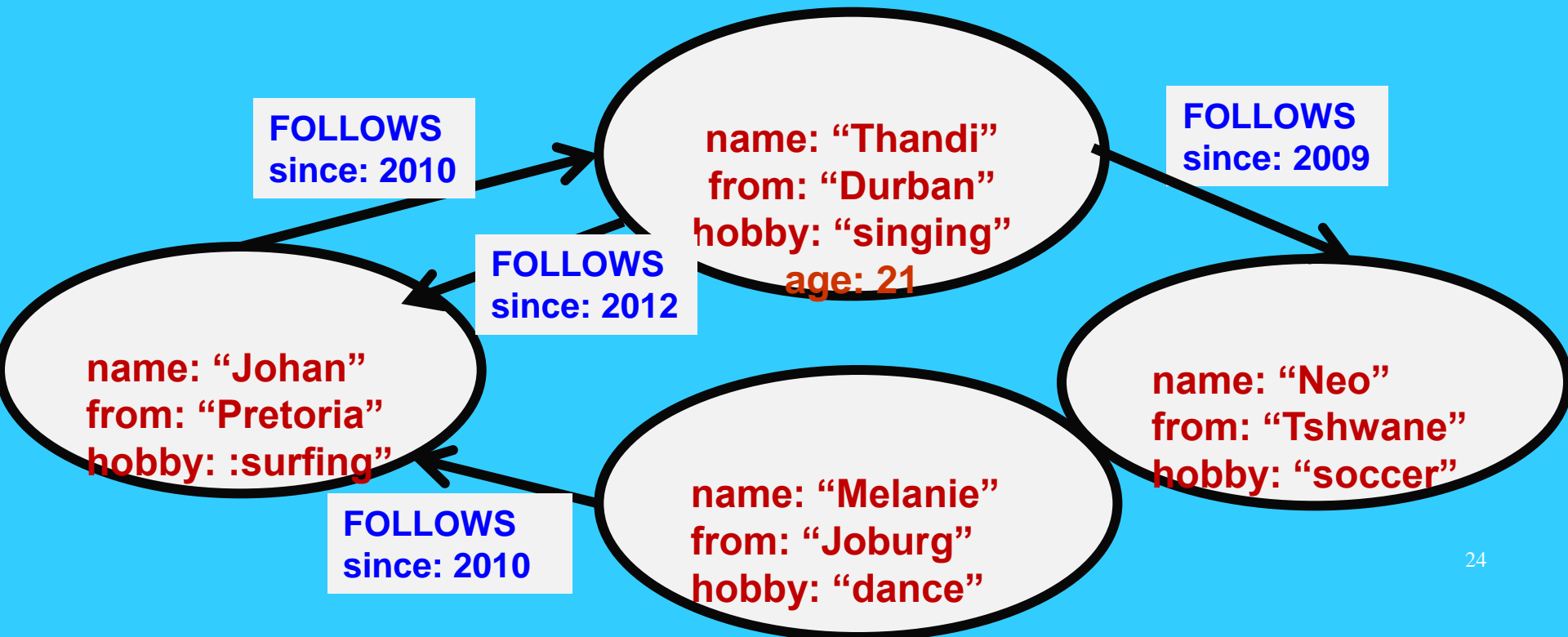


CRUD operations: AGGREGATION (3)

e.g.2 Count the number of relationships in the graph

MATCH (psn)-[relation]->()

RETURN type(relation), count(*)



Essay topic presentation

- Topic 5