

Neo4j and Cypher Query Language Introduction

An introduction to the neuPrint data model and writing custom Cypher queries.

See Graph Data Model on neuPrint Explorer for the complete data model. Cypher documentation can be found here: <https://neo4j.com/docs/cypher-manual/current/>.

Neo4j is a graph database

Nodes are entities in the graph

- Can hold properties

- Can be tagged with labels

Relationships are connections between nodes

- Have a type, direction, start and end node

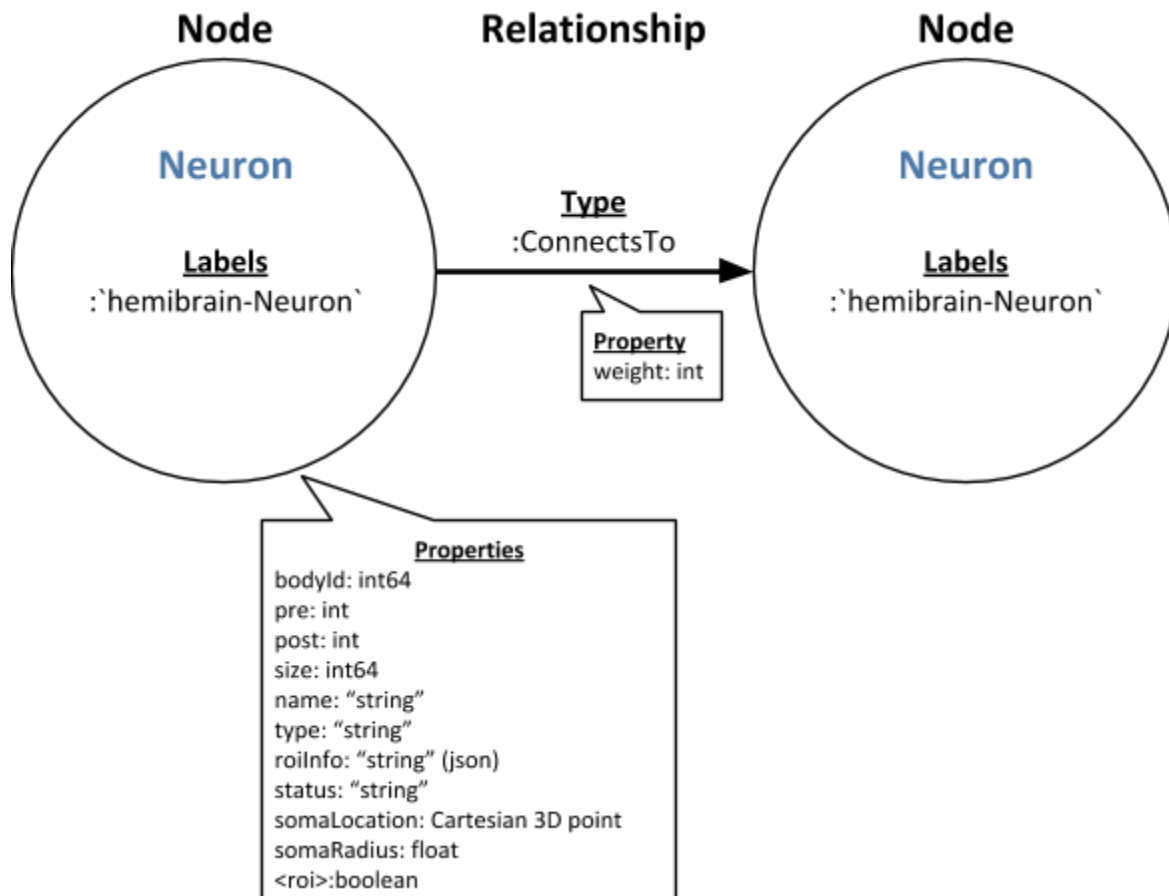
- Can hold properties

Properties are key-value pairs

- Ex. Key = bodyId, Value = 5813063587

Neuron nodes connect to other **Neuron** nodes

Neuron nodes hold neuron properties (body Id, name, status, etc.)



Cypher Query Language (CQL) is Neo4j's query language

Clauses

MATCH - search the data with specified pattern

WHERE - add contents to queries

RETURN - define what to include in query result set

EXAMPLE QUERIES

Returns number of presynaptic (n.pre) and postsynaptic (n.post) sites on a neuron (n)

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`{bodyId:5813063587})

RETURN n.pre, n.post

Returns body ID, number of presynaptic (n.pre), and postsynaptic (n.post) sites for a list of neurons

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`)

WHERE n.bodyId IN [5813063587, 514850616]

RETURN n.bodyId, n.pre, n.post

Returns output body IDs and weight of connections for a neuron (n)

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`{bodyId:5813063587})-[w:ConnectsTo]->(output)

RETURN output.bodyId, w.weight

Returns input body IDs and weight of connections for a neuron (n) ordered by weight (w)

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`{bodyId:5813063587})<-[w:ConnectsTo]-(input)

RETURN input.bodyId, w.weight ORDER BY w.weight DESC

Returns output body IDs and weight of connections for a list of neurons

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`)-[w:ConnectsTo]->(output)

WHERE n.bodyId IN [5813063587, 514850616]

RETURN n.bodyId, output.bodyId, w.weight

Returns body IDs and connection weights of inputs that are in the EB ROI for a neuron (n)

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`{bodyId:5813063587})<-[w:ConnectsTo]-(input{`EB`:true})

RETURN input.bodyId, w.weight

Returns body IDs and connection weights of inputs that are in the EB and the FB ROIs for a neuron (n)

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`{bodyId:5813063587})<-[w:ConnectsTo]-(input) WHERE input.`EB` AND input.`FB`

RETURN input.bodyId, w.weight

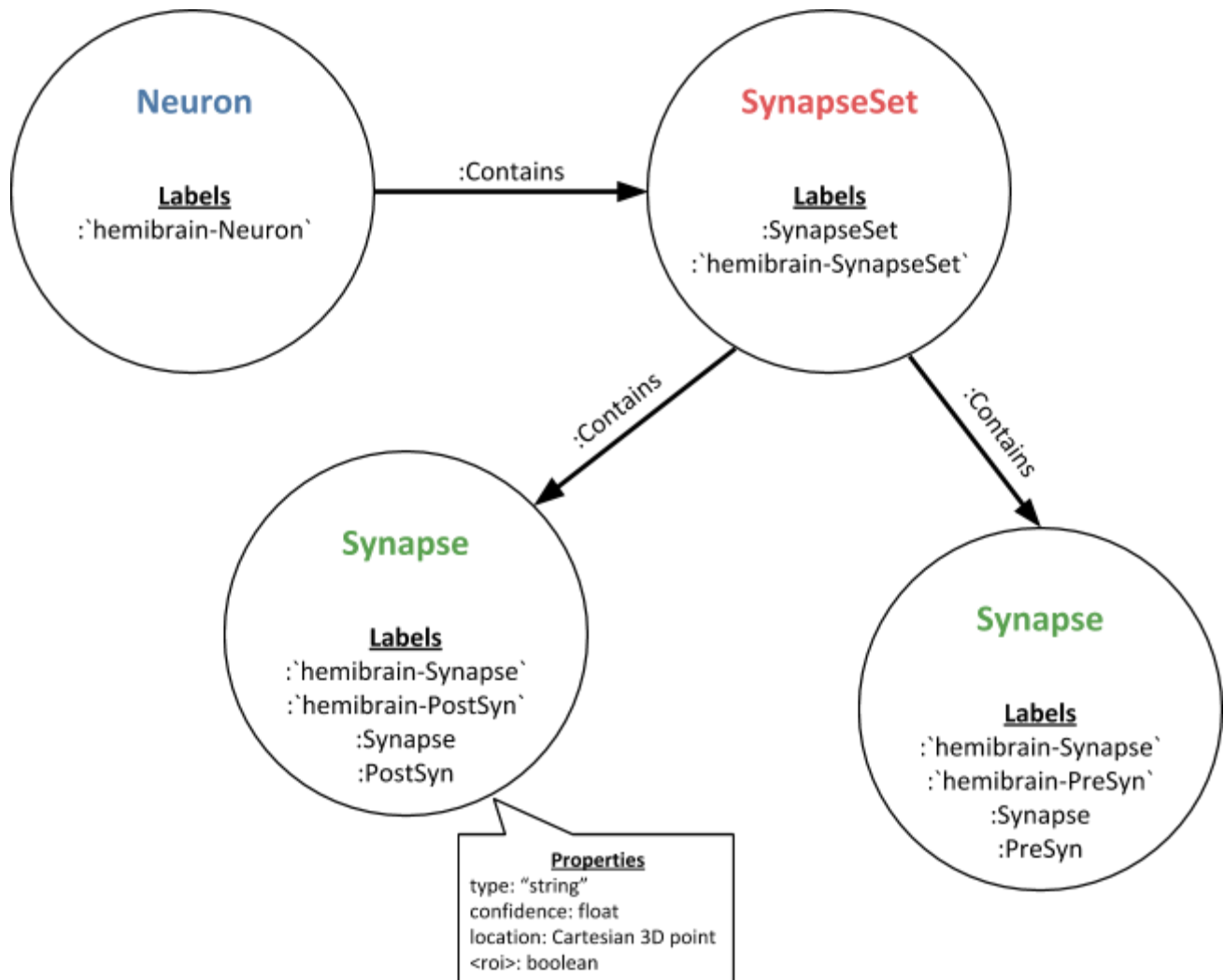
Returns all named neurons (excludes automatically generated names, which end with "")**

MATCH (n :`hemibrain-Neuron`)

WHERE NOT n.name ENDS WITH "**" **RETURN** n.bodyId, n.name

Neuron nodes contain **synapse set** nodes which contain all the **synapse** nodes for that neuron.

Synapse nodes hold synapse properties (location, roi, etc.)



EXAMPLE QUERIES

Returns x y z location of all synapses in the (L)SPS ROI

MATCH (s:`hemibrain-Synapse`)

WHERE s.`(L)SPS`

RETURN s.location.x AS X, s.location.y AS Y, s.location.z AS Z

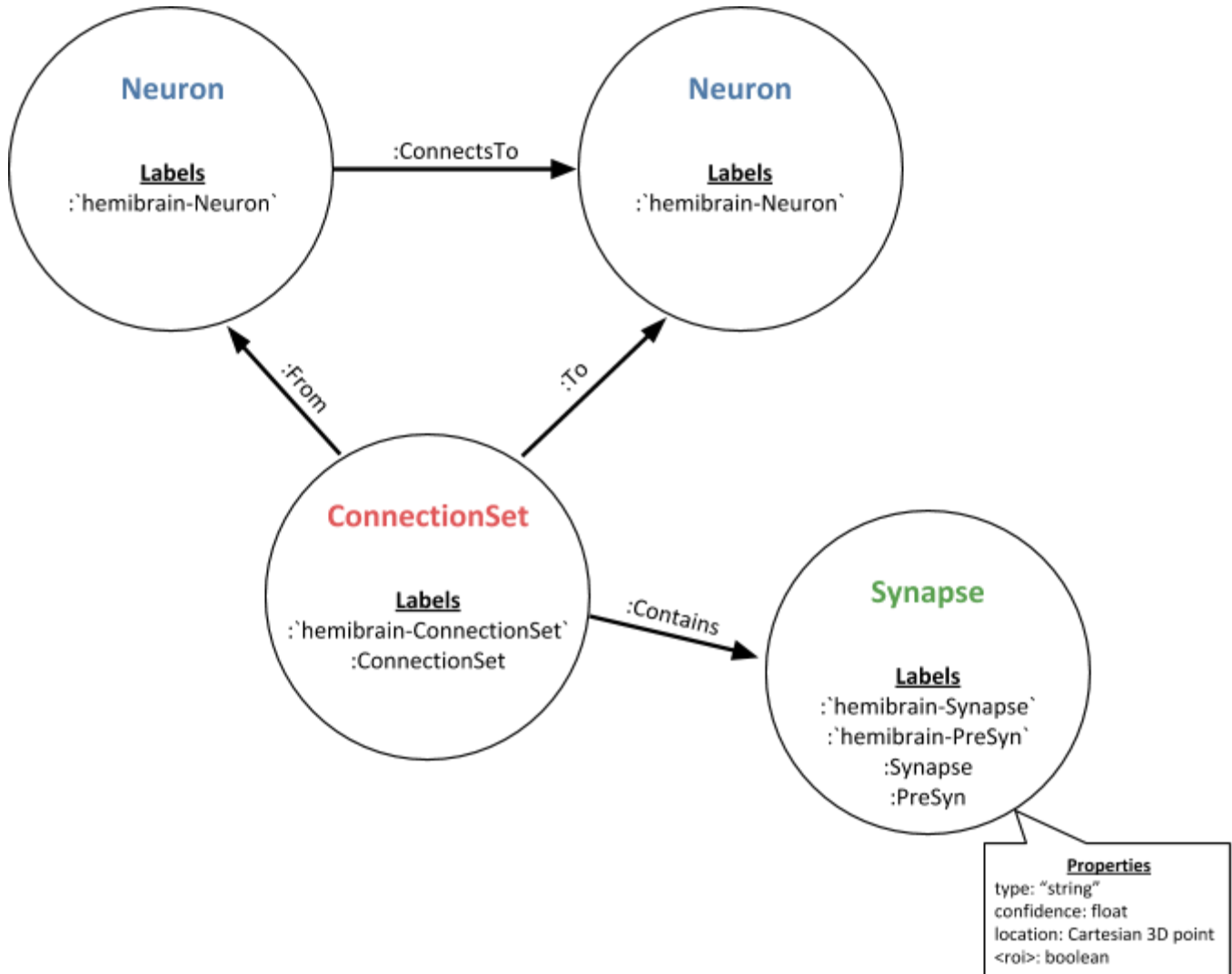
Returns type and x y z location of synapses in the FB ROI on a neuron (n)

MATCH (n:`hemibrain-Neuron`)-[:Contains]->(:SynapseSet)-[:Contains]->(s:`hemibrain-Synapse`)

WHERE n.bodyId = 541127846 AND s.FB

RETURN n.bodyId AS ID, s.type AS TYPE, s.location.x AS X, s.location.y AS Y, s.location.z AS Z

Two connecting **neuron** nodes contain a **connection set** node.
The **connection set** node contains the **synapse** nodes for that particular connection.



EXAMPLE QUERIES

Returns the number of postsynaptic densities in the AVLPI ROI involved in the connection from (m) to (n)

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MATCH (n:'hemibrain-Neuron'{bodyId:950880008})-[:ConnectsTo]->(m{bodyId:5813027276}),
(m)-[:From]-(cs:ConnectionSet)-[:To]->(n), (cs)-[:Contains]->(p:PostSyn{'AVLP':true})
RETURN count(p)
  
```