

# CS 1656 – Introduction to Data Science

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## Setup for Graph Databases: Neo4j & Cypher

**Step 1:** Install neo4j desktop for your operating system from the link provided below.

<https://neo4j.com/download/community-edition/>

After download the file, follow the “installation and launch guide” in the “[Thanks for downloading](#)” page and create a new graph.

**Step 2:** Install official neo4j python driver which allows connecting to a neo4j graph database and run cypher queries from a python program. Type in the command below to install the driver.

```
pip install neo4j-driver
```

There are other python community drivers available as well which can be found at the link below,

<https://neo4j.com/developer/python/>

**Step 3:** For this assignment, you will be using a graph database of movies found at the link below:

[http://data.cs1656.org/cineasts\\_12k\\_movies\\_50k\\_actors.zip](http://data.cs1656.org/cineasts_12k_movies_50k_actors.zip)

Extract the zip file where ever you want. The extracted directory **cineasts\_12k\_movies\_50k\_actors.db** can really go anywhere, but I put it next to the existing graph.db folder:

```
/path/to/.Neo4jDesktop/.../data/databases/ cineasts_12k_movies_50k_actors.db
```

**Step 4:** Edit the following configuration file:

```
/path/to/.Neo4jDesktop/.../conf/neo4j.conf
```

First we will switch the default database **graph.db** to our downloaded one **cineasts\_12k\_movies\_50k\_actors.db**. To do that, find the commented out the line:

```
#dbms.active_database=graph.db
```

And add the following line below it:

```
dbms.active_database=cineasts_12k_movies_50k_actors.db
```

Also, make sure that the following lines are **NOT** commented:

```
dbms.directories.import=import
```

```
dbms.security.auth_enabled=true
```

```
dbms.allow_upgrade=true
```

**Step 5:** Once the server is started, click on Manage -> Open Browser or use the URL given for HTTP port:

Now you can issue queries to the movies database from the input field at the top of this page<sup>1</sup>.

For example try:

```
MATCH (people:Actor) RETURN people LIMIT 10
```

You should see the following screen if it was a success:

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<sup>1</sup> If the browser shows an empty graph database, restart the Neo4j Desktop and the graph.

\$ MATCH (people:Actor) RETURN people LIMIT 10

\$ MATCH (people:Actor) RETURN people LIMIT 10

\*(20)Actor(10)Person(10)

Graph

Table

Text

Code

Displaying 10 nodes, 0 relationships.

\$ :play start

neo4j

**Learn about Neo4j**  
A graph experience awaits you

**Jump into code**  
Use Cypher, the graph query language

**Monitor the system**  
Keep system health and status

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