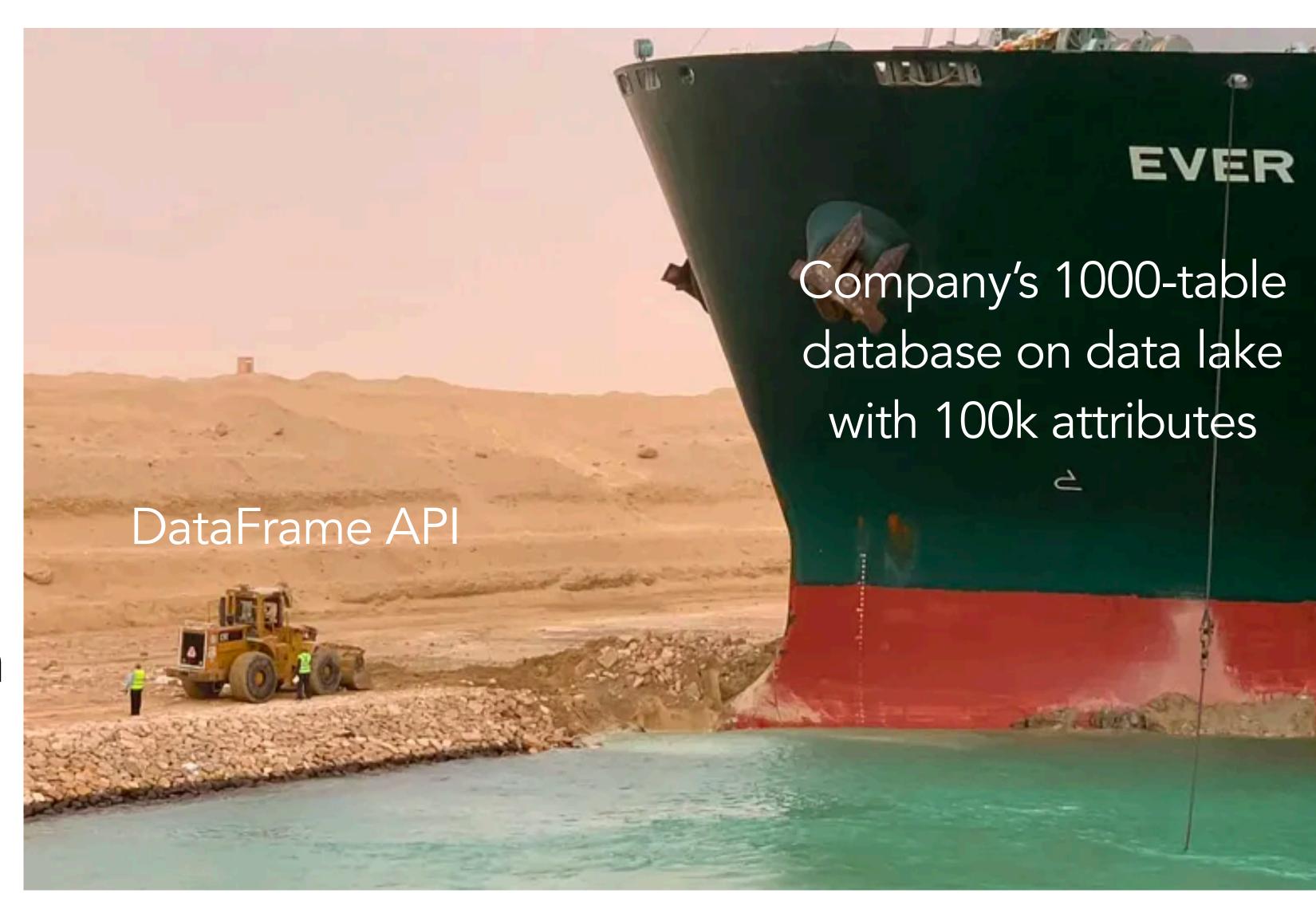
DSC 204a Scalable Data Systems

- Haojian Jin



Where are we in the class?

Foundations of Data Systems (2 weeks)

 Digital representation of Data → Computer Organization → Memory hierarchy → Process → Storage

Scaling Distributed Systems (3 weeks)

• Cloud → Network → Distributed storage → Parallelism → Partition and replication

Data Processing and Programming model (5 weeks)

Data Models evolution → Data encoding evolution → IO & Unix Pipes →
 Batch processing (MapReduce) → Stream processing (Spark)

Today's topic: Data Model Evolutions & Query language

- Overview
- PIA (Distributed systems review)

PA2

- Overview
 - PA.
 - PAO: Memory hierarchy (Dask).
 - PA1: Parallelism (Dask).
 - PA2: Data processing (Spark).
 - Lectures:
 - Foundations of DataSys (Data, Network, OS)
 - Scaling Distributed systems
 - Programming Interfaces

Plan in the next few weeks

- Data models & query language
 - relational model
 - document model
 - graph model
- Encoding & Evolution
 - Json, XML, Protobuf
- Data Flow
 - REST and RPC
 - Message-passing data flow

Plan in the next few weeks

- Batch processing
 - Unix pipes
 - MapReduce
- Stream processing
 - Spark
- Emerging topics

Today's topic: Data Model Evolutions & Query language

- Object-relational mismatch
- ID v.s. Strings
- Many-to-many v.s. one-to-many
- Hierarchical/network/relational model
- Query languages

Overview

- Data models:
 - •not only on how the **software is written**, but also on how **we** (human) think about the problem that we are solving.
- Most applications are built by layering one data model on top of another.
- For each layer, the key question is:
 - •how is it represented in terms of the next-lower layer?
 - each layer hides the complexity of the layers below it by providing a clean data model.

Overview

- General-purpose data models for data storage and querying
 - Relational DB: IBM DB2, MS SQL Server, PostgreSQL
 - Document DB: MongoDB, RethinkDB, CouchDB, Espresso
 - Graph-based DB: Neo4j, Titan, InfiniteGraph

Relational Model

- Data is organized into relations (called tables in SQL), where each relation is an unordered collection of tuples (rows in SQL).
- The goal of the relational model was to hide that implementation detail behind a cleaner interface.
- Optimization opportunities => Better performance!

The Birth of NoSQL (Not Only SQL | Document Model)

- A need for **greater scalability** than relational databases can easily achieve, including very large datasets or very high write throughput
- A widespread preference for **free and open source** software over commercial database products
- Specialized query operations that are not well supported by the relational model
- Frustration with the restrictiveness of relational schemas, and a desire for a more dynamic and expressive data model

Relational Model Versus Document Model

Polyglot persistence: It therefore seems likely that in the foreseeable future, relational databases will continue to be used alongside a broad variety of nonrelational datastores

The Object-relational Mismatch

- If data is stored in relational tables, an awkward translation layer is required between the objects in the application code and the database model of tables, rows, and columns.
- The disconnect between the models is sometimes called an impedance mismatch.

http://www.linkedin.com/in/williamhgates



Bill Gates

Greater Seattle Area | Philanthropy

Summary

Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Chairman, Microsoft Corporation. Voracious reader. Avid traveler. Active blogger.

Experience

Co-chair • Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation 2000 – Present

Co-founder, Chairman • Microsoft 1975 – Present

Education

Harvard University 1973 – 1975

Lakeside School, Seattle

Contact Info

Blog: thegatesnotes.com

Twitter: @BillGates

users table first_name user_id last_name summary Bill Co-chair of ... blogger. 251 Gates region_id industry_id photo_id 57817532 • us:91 131 • industries table regions table industry_name id id region_name Greater Boston Area Financial Services us:7 43 Greater Seattle Area Construction us:91 48 131 Philanthropy positions table id user_id job_title organization Bill & Melinda Gates F... 458 251 Co-chair Co-founder, Microsoft 457 251 Chairman education table user_id school_name end id start 807 251 1973 1975 Harvard University Lakeside School, NULL NULL 806 251 Seattle contact_info table user_id id url type

155

156

251

4 251

blog

twitter

http://thegatesnotes.com

http://twitter.com/BillGates

The Object-relational Mismatch

- Traditional SQL model (prior to SQL:1999): the most common normalized representation is to put positions, education, and contact information in separate tables, with a **foreign key reference** to the users table.
- Later versions of the SQL standard added support for **structured datatypes and XML data**; this allowed multi-valued data to be stored within a single row, with support for querying and indexing inside those documents.
- A third option is to encode jobs, education, and contact info as a **JSON** or **XML document**, store it on a text column in the database, and let the application interpret its structure and content.

```
"user_id": 251,
"first_name": "Bill",
"last_name": "Gates",
"summary": "Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates... Active blogger.",
"region_id": "us:91",
"industry_id": 131,
"photo_url": "/p/7/000/253/05b/308dd6e.jpg",
"positions": [
 {"job_title": "Co-chair", "organization": "Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation"},
 {"job_title": "Co-founder, Chairman", "organization": "Microsoft"}
"education": [
 {"school_name": "Harvard University", "start": 1973, "end": 1975},
 {"school_name": "Lakeside School, Seattle", "start": null, "end": null}
"contact_info": {
  "blog": "http://thegatesnotes.com",
  "twitter": "http://twitter.com/BillGates"
```

Locality

- The JSON representation has better locality than the multi-table schema.
- If you want to fetch a profile in the relational example, you need to either perform multiple queries or perform a messy multiway join between the users table and its subordinate tables.
- In the JSON representation, all the relevant information is in one place, and one query is sufficient.

Today's topic: Data Model Evolutions & Query language

- Object-relational mismatch
- ID v.s. Strings
- Many-to-many v.s. one-to-many
- Hierarchical/network/relational model
- Query languages

plain-text vs standardized lists for region/industrial

```
"user_id":
              251,
"first_name": "Bill",
"last_name": "Gates",
               "Co chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates... Active blogger.",
              "us:91",
"region_id":
"industry_id": 131,
 pnoto_urt: "/p///000/255/05b/308dd6e.jpg",
"positions": [
  {"job_title": "Co-chair", "organization": "Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation"},
  {"job_title": "Co-founder, Chairman", "organization": "Microsoft"}
"education": [
  {"school_name": "Harvard University", "start": 1973, "end": 1975},
  {"school_name": "Lakeside School, Seattle", "start": null, "end": null}
"contact_info": {
  "blog": "http://thegatesnotes.com",
  "twitter": "http://twitter.com/BillGates"
```

Standardized lists for region/industrial vs plain-text

- + Consistent style and spelling across profiles
- + Avoiding ambiguity (e.g., if there are several cities with the same name)
- + Ease of updating the name is stored in only one place, so it is easy to update across the board if it ever needs to be changed (e.g., change of a city name due to political events)
- + Localization support when the site is translated into other languages, the standardized lists can be localized, so the region and industry can be displayed in the viewer's language
- + Better search e.g., a search for philanthropists in the state of Washington can match this profile, because the list of regions can encode the fact that Seattle is in Washington (which is not apparent from the string "Greater Seattle Area")

Standardized lists for region/industrial vs plain-text

- + When you store the text directly, you are duplicating the humanmeaningful information in every record that uses it.
- + The advantage of using an ID is that because it has no meaning to humans, it never needs to change
- + Removing such duplication is the key idea behind **normalization** in databases.
- More complex data model
- Hard to debug
 - A small project?
 - Normalization v.s. Denormalization?

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- Query languages

Many-to-one and Many-to-Many Relationships

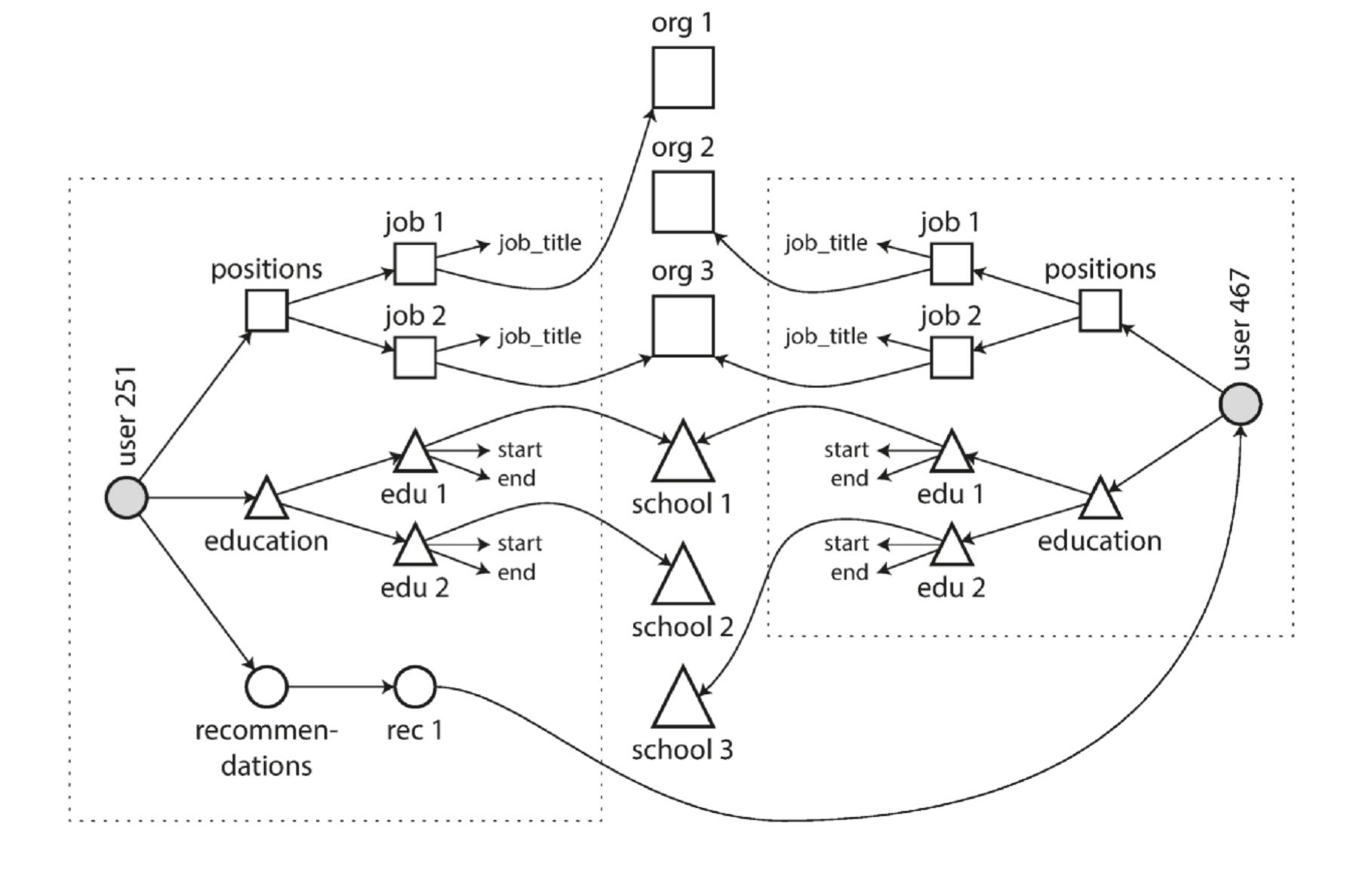


Co-chair

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

2000 - Present (13 years)





The data within each dotted rectangle can be grouped into one document, but the references to organizations, schools, and other users need to be represented as references, and require joins when queried.

Many-to-one and Many-to-Many Relationships

- Normalizing this data requires many-to-one relationships, which don't fit nicely into the document model.
- Organizations and schools as entities: In the previous description, organization (the company where the user worked) and school_name (where they studied) are just strings. Perhaps they should be references to entities instead?
- Recommendations: one user can write a recommendation for another user. The recommendation is shown on the résumé of the user who was recommended, together with the name and photo of the user making the recommendation. If the recommender updates their photo, any recommendations they have written need to reflect the new photo.

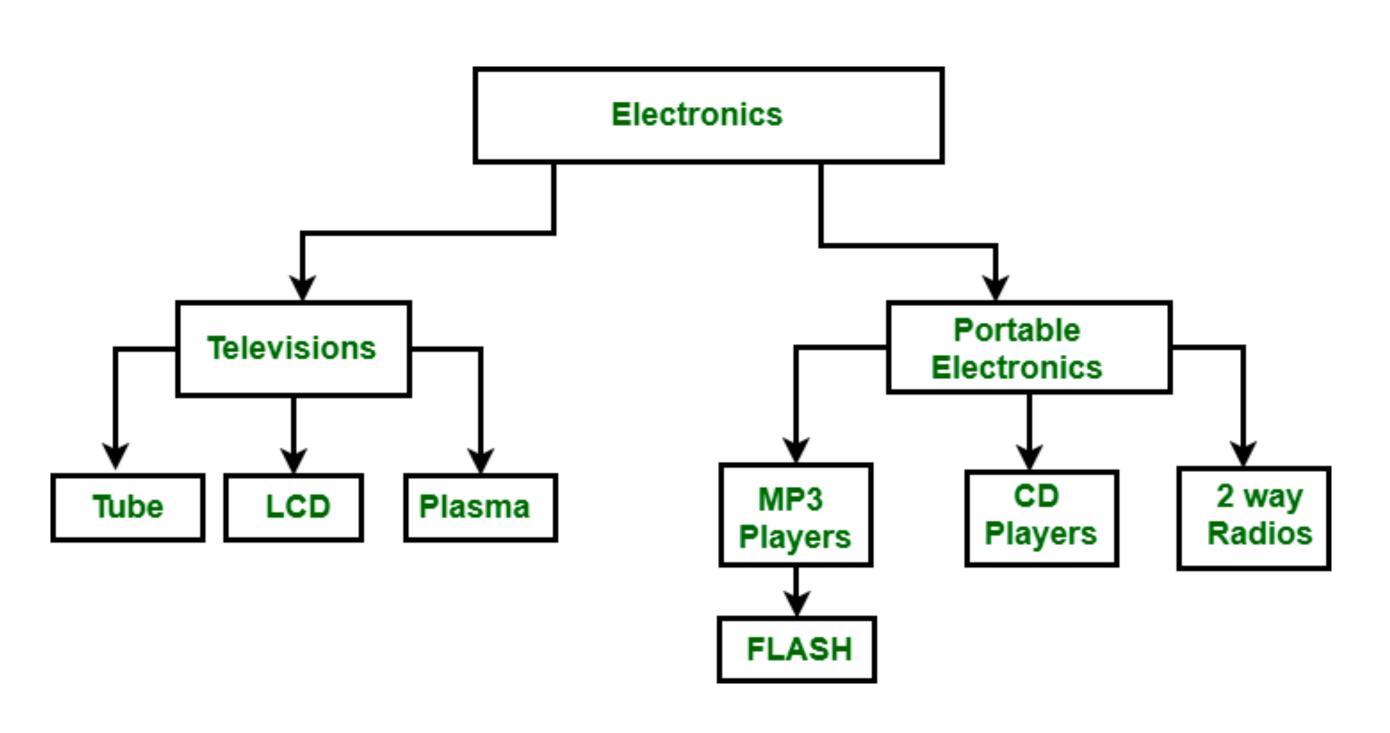
Today's topic: Data Model Evolutions & Query language

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- Many-to-many v.s. one-to-many
- Hierarchical/network/relational data model
- Declarative | imperative query languages

Are Document Databases Repeating History?

While many-to-many relationships and joins are routinely used in relational databases, document databases and NoSQL reopened the debate on how best to represent such relationships in a database.

Hierarchical data model



- every record has exactly one parent
- Worked well for oneto-many
 relationships
- Hard for many-tomany relationships
- Not support join.

Network Model

- A record could have multiple parents.
- The links between records in the network model were not foreign keys, but more like pointers in a programming language.
- The only way of accessing a record was to follow a path from a root record along these chains of links. This was called an access path.
- Good for limited hardware capabilities in the 1970.
- Querying and updating are complicated and inflexible.
 - A side effect to too much freedom.

The Relational Model

- Lay out all the data in the open: a relation (table) is simply a collection of tuples (rows).
- The query optimizer automatically decides which parts of the query to execute in which order, and which indexes to use.
- If you want to query your data in new ways, you can just declare a new index, and queries will automatically use whichever indexes are most appropriate.
- The relational model thus made it much easier to add new features to applications.
- You only need to build a query optimizer once, and then all applications that use the database can benefit from it.

Relationships

- One to many: e.g., Positions, education, contact_info.
 - Document databases ~ the hierarchical model: storing nested records.
- Many to many: e.g., Organizations
- Many to one: e.g., five students are finishing one project.
 - The related item is referenced by a unique identifier, which is called a foreign key in the relational model and a document reference in the document model. That identifier is resolved at read time by using a join or follow-up queries.

Which data model leads to simpler application code?

- If the data in your application has a document-like structure -> good idea to use a document model.
 - A tree of one-to-many relationships.
 - Entire tree needs to read at once.
 - \bullet Partitioning (shredding) has a cost => can lead to cumbersome schemas.
- Limitation:
 - Cannot refer directly to a nested item (However, as long as documents are not too deeply nested, that is not usually a problem.)
 - The poor support for joins in document databases (depending on the application)
 - many-to-many relationships

Schema flexibility in the document model

Most document databases, and the JSON support in relational databases, do not enforce any schema on the data in documents.

Schema-on-read (Document) is similar to dynamic (runtime) type checking in programming languages.

```
if (user && user.name && !user.first_name) {
    // Documents written before Dec 8, 2013 don't have first_name
    user.first_name = user.name.split(" ")[0];
}
```

Schema flexibility in the document model

Schema-on-write (Relational) is similar to static (compile-time) type checking.

Schema changes have a bad reputation of being slow and requiring downtime. => Not that bad.

Set to its default of NULL and fill it in at read time, like it would with a document database.

```
ALTER TABLE users ADD COLUMN first_name text;

UPDATE users SET first_name = split_part(name, ' ', 1); -- PostgreSQL

UPDATE users SET first_name = substring_index(name, ' ', 1); -- MySQL
```

Data locality for queries

• If your application often needs to access the entire document, there is a performance advantage to this **storage locality**. The idea of grouping related data together for locality is not limited to the document model.

Convergence of document and relational databases

- It seems that relational and document databases are becoming more similar over time, and that is a good thing: the data models complement each other.
- A hybrid of the relational and document models is a good route for databases to take in the future.

Today's topic: Data Model Evolutions & Query language

- Object-relational mismatch
- ID v.s. Strings
- Many-to-many v.s. one-to-many
- Hierarchical/network/relational data model
- Declarative | imperative query languages

Query Languages for Data

- An **imperative** language tells the computer to perform certain operations in a certain order.
- In a **declarative** query language, like SQL or relational algebra, you just specify the pattern of the data you want—what conditions the results must meet, and how you want the data to be transformed —but not **how** to achieve that goal.
- SQL is a **declarative** query language, whereas IMS and CODASYL queried the database using **imperative** code.

Query Languages for Data

```
function getSharks() {
   var sharks = [];
   for (var i = 0; i < animals.length; i++) {
       if (animals[i].family === "Sharks") {
            sharks.push(animals[i]);
       }
   }
   return sharks;
}</pre>
```

declarative

SELECT * FROM animals WHERE family = 'Sharks'; ■ imperative

More examples

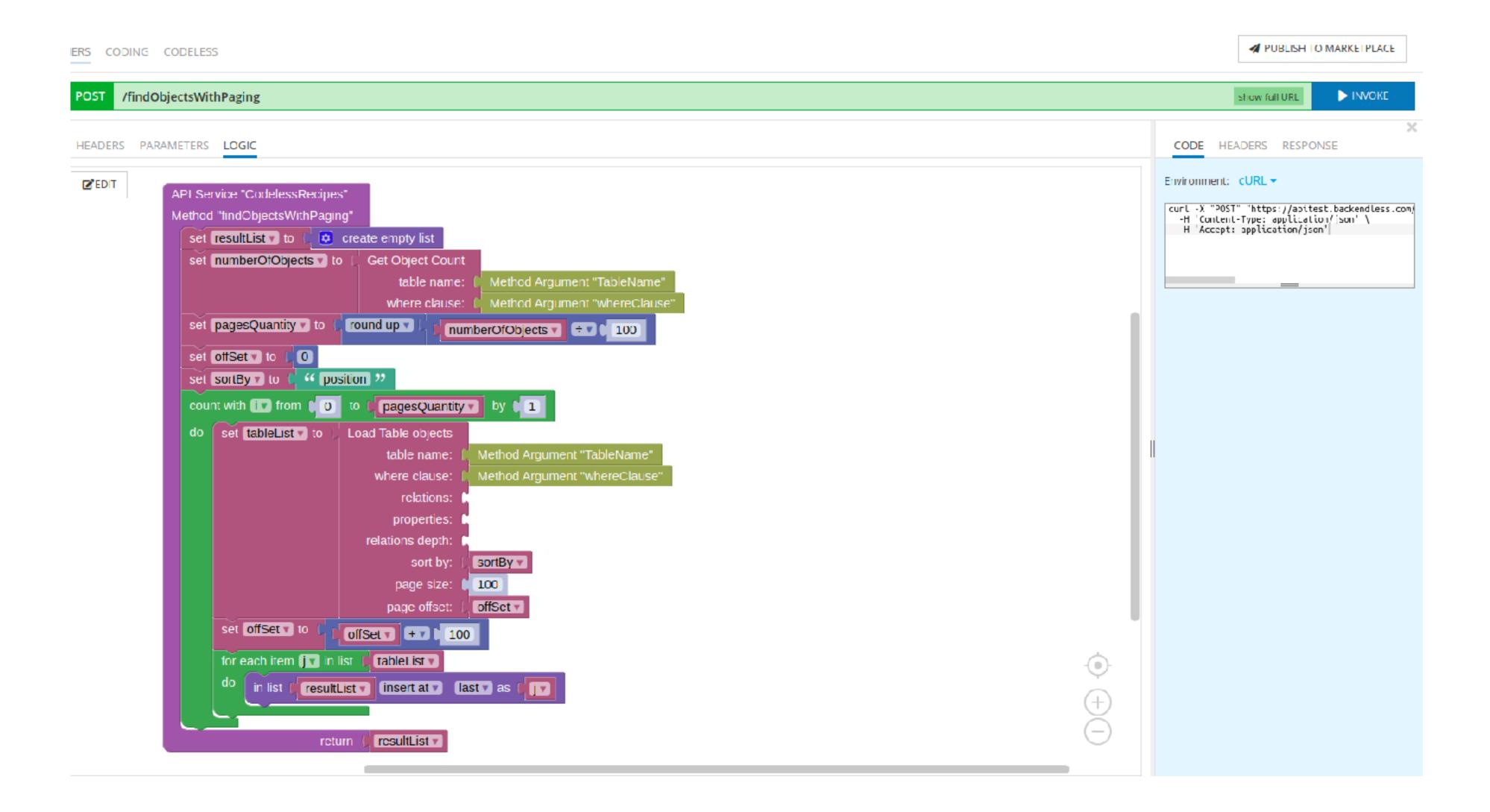
```
<l
  class="selected"> 1
    Sharks
    <l
      Great White Shark
      Tiger Shark
      Hammerhead Shark
    <
    Whales
    <l
      Blue Whale
      Humpback Whale
      Fin Whale
```

```
li.selected > p {
       background-color: blue;
var liElements = document.getElementsByTagName("li");
for (var i = 0; i < liElements.length; i++) {</pre>
   if (liElements[i].className === "selected") {
       var children = liElements[i].childNodes;
       for (var j = 0; j < children.length; j++) {</pre>
           var child = children[j];
           if (child.nodeType === Node.ELEMENT_NODE && child.tagName === "P") {
               child.setAttribute("style", "background-color: blue");
```

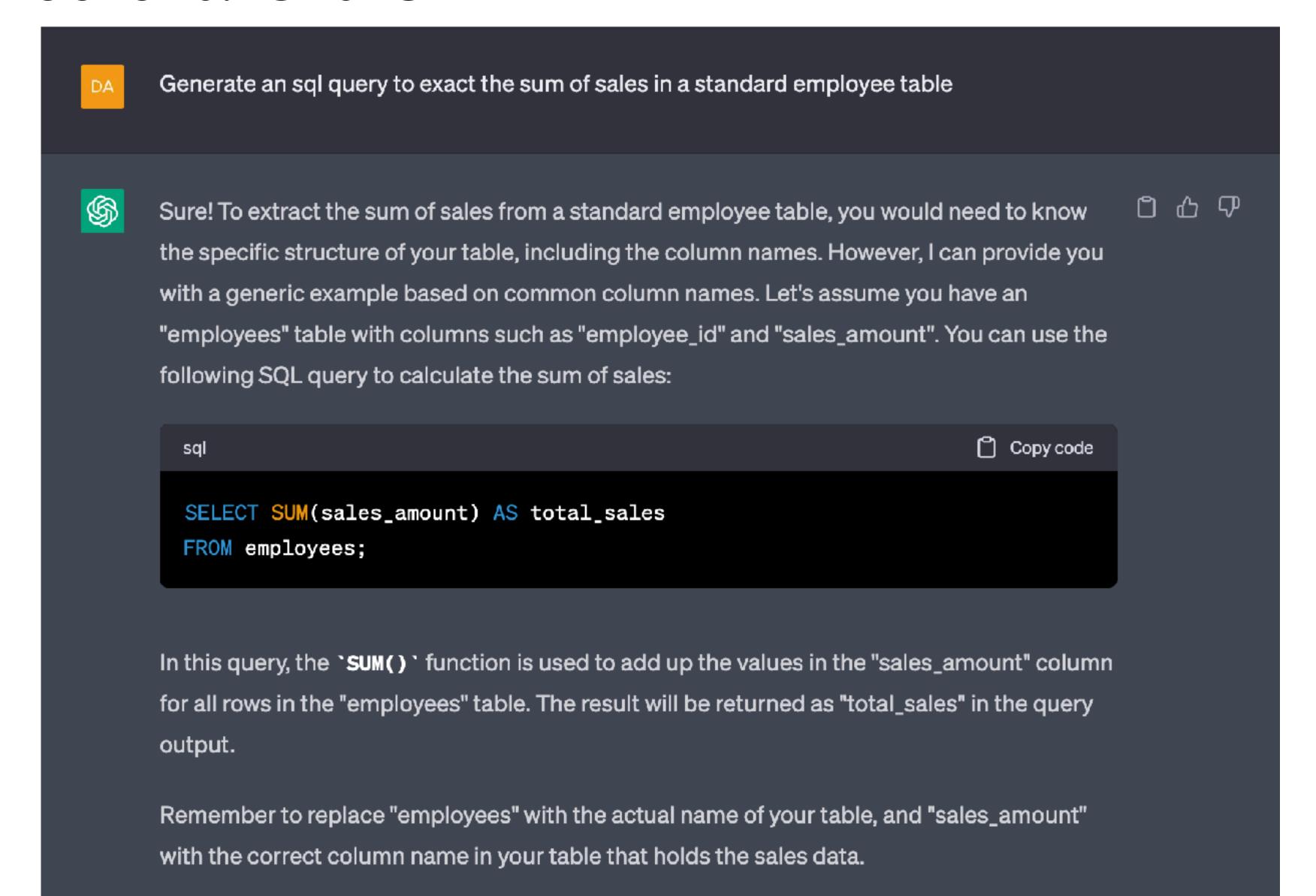
Tradeoffs

- Declarative
 - More concise, easier to maintain
 - Performance optimization, parallel execution
 - Simple APIs, Hide low-level details
 - Hard to debug, limited degree of freedom
- Imperative
 - Easier to debug
 - More degree of freedom
 - Require more expertises

Future directions: Codeless

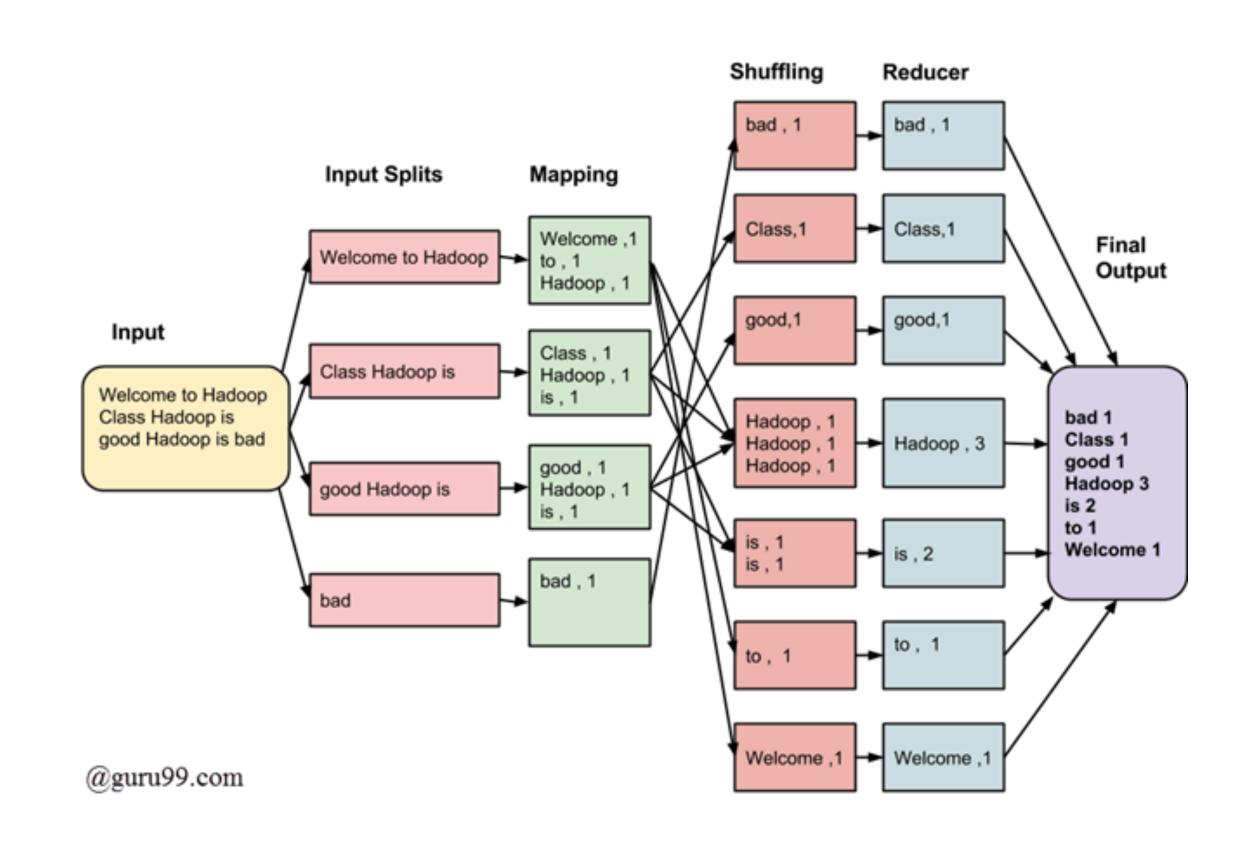


Future directions: ChatGPT



Query Languages for Data: MapReduce Querying

```
db.observations.mapReduce(
    function map() { ②
       var year = this.observationTimestamp.getFullYear();
       var month = this.observationTimestamp.getMonth() + 1;
       emit(year + "-" + month, this.numAnimals); ③
    },
    function reduce(key, values) { ④
       return Array.sum(values); ⑤
    },
    {
       query: { family: "Sharks" },
       out: "monthlySharkReport" ⑥
    }
};
```



Query Languages for Data: MapReduce Querying

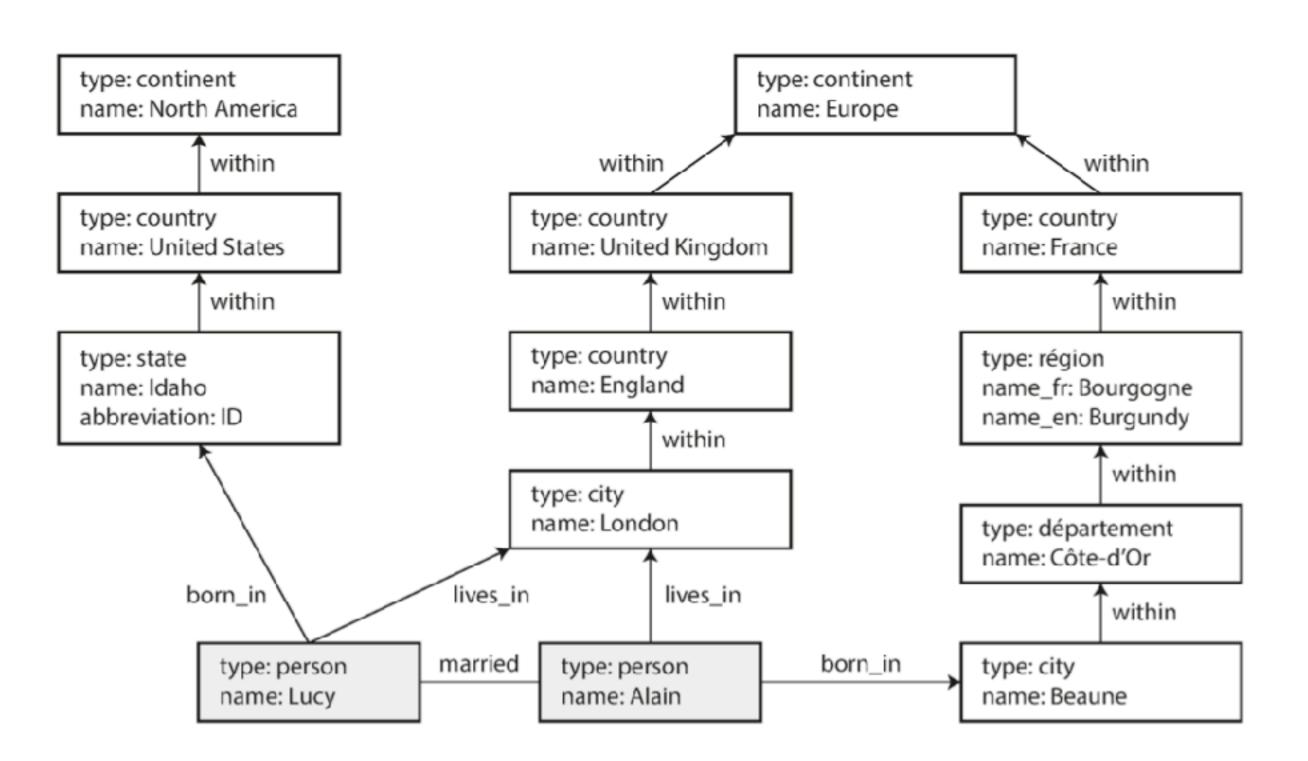
- MapReduce is a programming model for processing large amounts of data in bulk across many machines, popularized by Google.
- MapReduce is neither a declarative query language nor a fully imperative query API, but somewhere in between

Graph-Like Data Models

- If your application has mostly one-to-many relationships or no relationships between records, the document model is appropriate.
- A graph consists of two kinds of objects: vertices and edges.
- Social graphs: Vertices are people, and edges indicate which people know each other.
- The web graph: Vertices are web pages, and edges indicate HTML links to other pages.
- Road or rail networks: Vertices are junctions, and edges represent the roads or railway lines between them.

Graph-structured data

- Many graph-like algorithms
- Different types of query languages
- Imperative and declarative
- Will discuss more later.



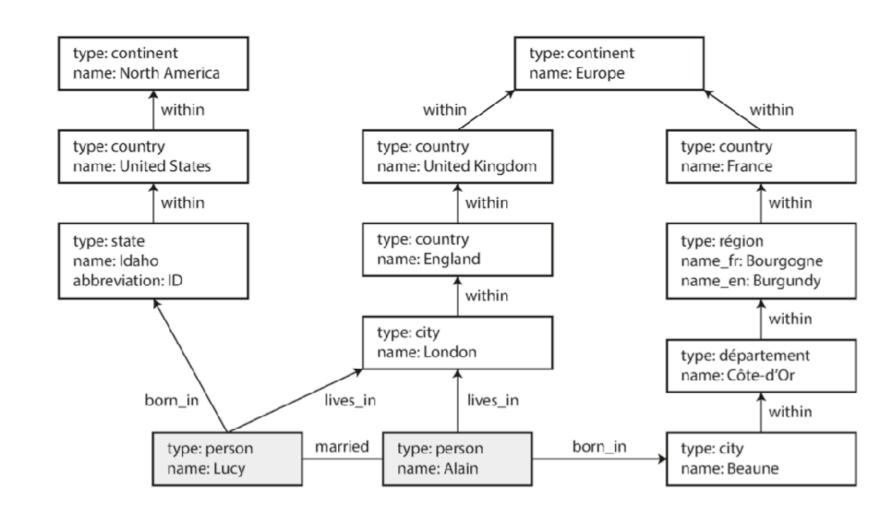
Graph-Like Data Models: Property Graphs

Each vertex consists of:

- A unique identifier
- A set of outgoing edges
- A set of incoming edges
- A collection of properties (key-value pairs)

Each edge consists of:

- A unique identifier
- The vertex at which the edge starts (the tail vertex)
- The vertex at which the edge ends (the head vertex)
- A label to describe the kind of relationship between the two vertices
- A collection of properties (key-value pairs)



Property Graphs

- Think of it as two tables: one for vertices and one for edges.
- Any vertex can have an edge connecting it with any other vertex. There is **no schema** that restricts which kinds of things can or cannot be associated.
- Given any vertex, you can efficiently find both its incoming and its outgoing edges, and thus **traverse** the graph—i.e., follow a path through a chain of vertices —both forward and backward.
- By using different labels for different kinds of relationships, you can store several different kinds of information in a single graph, while still maintaining a clean data model.

Property Graphs

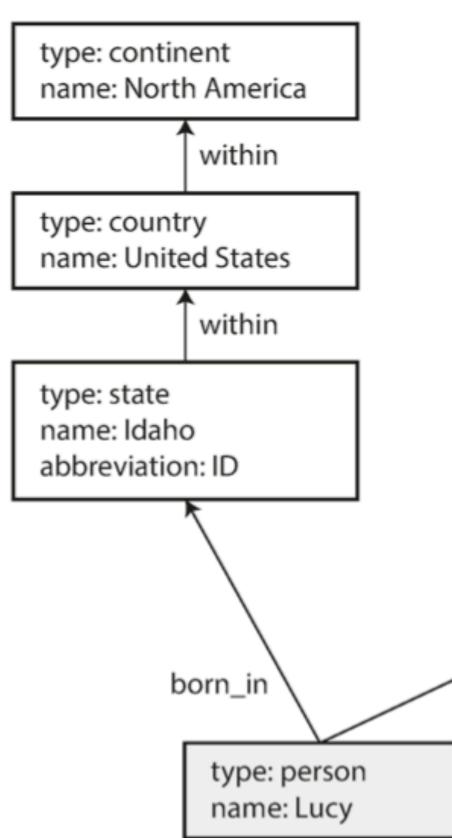
- Flexibility for data modeling
 - US (Counties, States), France (departments, regions), ... (Province)
 - Compare it with the document model and relational model?
- Extensibility
 - Add new properties
 - Add new types of facts

The Cypher Query Language (Neo4j)

Cypher is a declarative query language for property graphs, created for the graph database.

CREATE

```
(NAmerica:Location {name:'North America', type:'continent'}),
(USA:Location {name:'United States', type:'country' }),
(Idaho:Location {name:'Idaho', type:'state' }),
(Lucy:Person {name:'Lucy' }),
(Idaho) -[:WITHIN]-> (USA) -[:WITHIN]-> (NAmerica),
(Lucy) -[:BORN_IN]-> (Idaho)
```



The Cypher Query Language

find people who emigrated from the US to Europe

```
MATCH
  (person) -[:BORN_IN]-> () -[:WITHIN*0..]-> (us:Location {name:'United States'}),
  (person) -[:LIVES_IN]-> () -[:WITHIN*0..]-> (eu:Location {name:'Europe'})

RETURN person.name
```

- Multiple ways to execute the query.
 - Person first.
 - Location first.
 - Edge first.

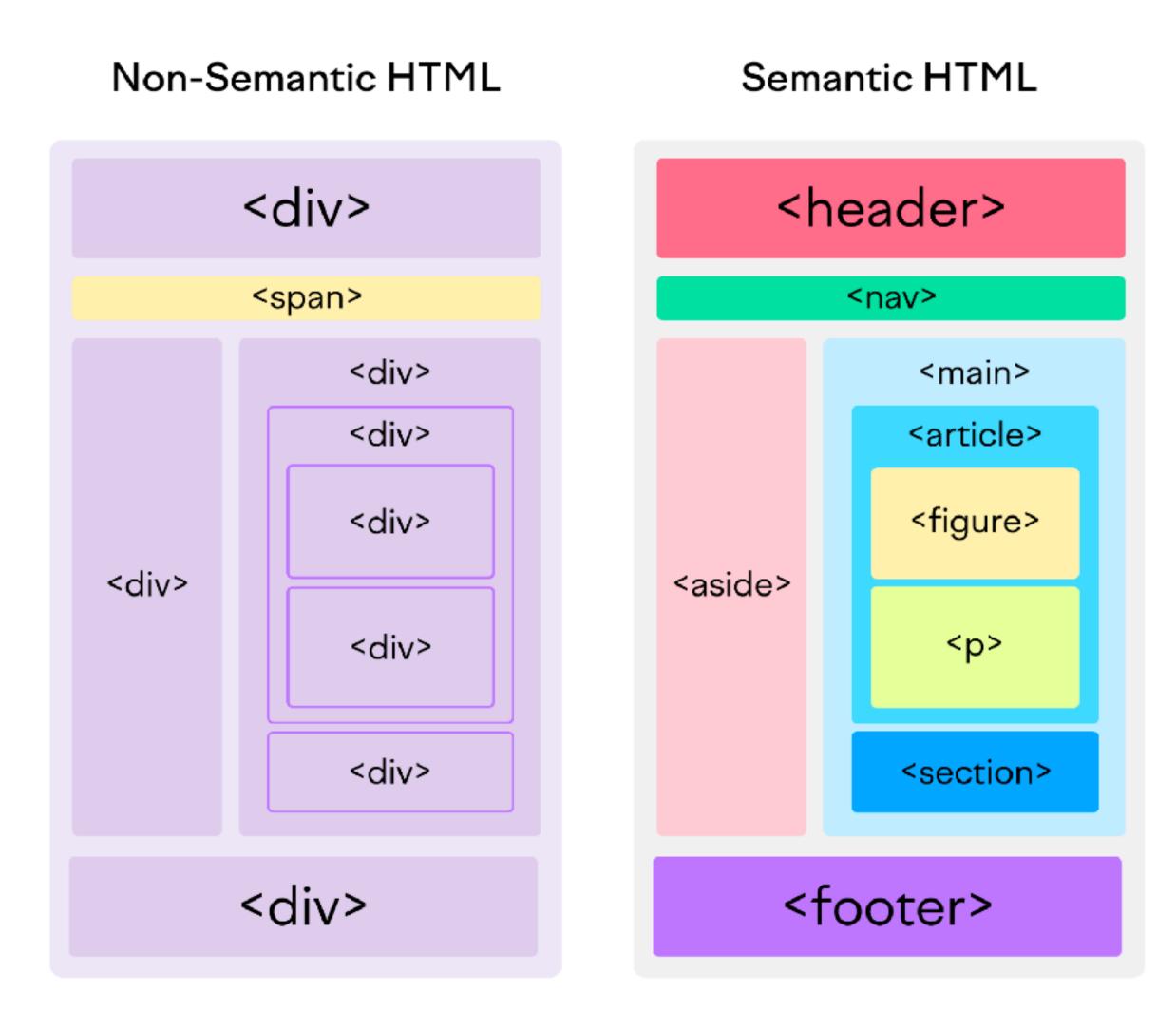
Triple-Stores and SPARQL

- triple-store model = property graph model
- In a triple-store, all information is stored in the form of very simple three-part statements: (subject, predicate, object).
 The subject of a triple is equivalent to a vertex in a graph.

```
@prefix : <urn:example:>.
_:lucy
                   :Person.
                   "Lucy".
_:lucy
           :name
_:lucy
           :bornIn _:idaho.
_:idaho
                   :Location.
_:idaho
                   "Idaho".
           :name
_:idaho
                   "state".
           :type
_:idaho
           :within _:usa.
                   :Location.
_:usa
                  "United States".
_:usa
           :name
                  "country".
_:usa
           :type
           :within _:namerica.
_:usa
                   :Location.
_:namerica a
                   "North America".
_:namerica :name
 :namerica :type
                   "continent".
```

Semantic web

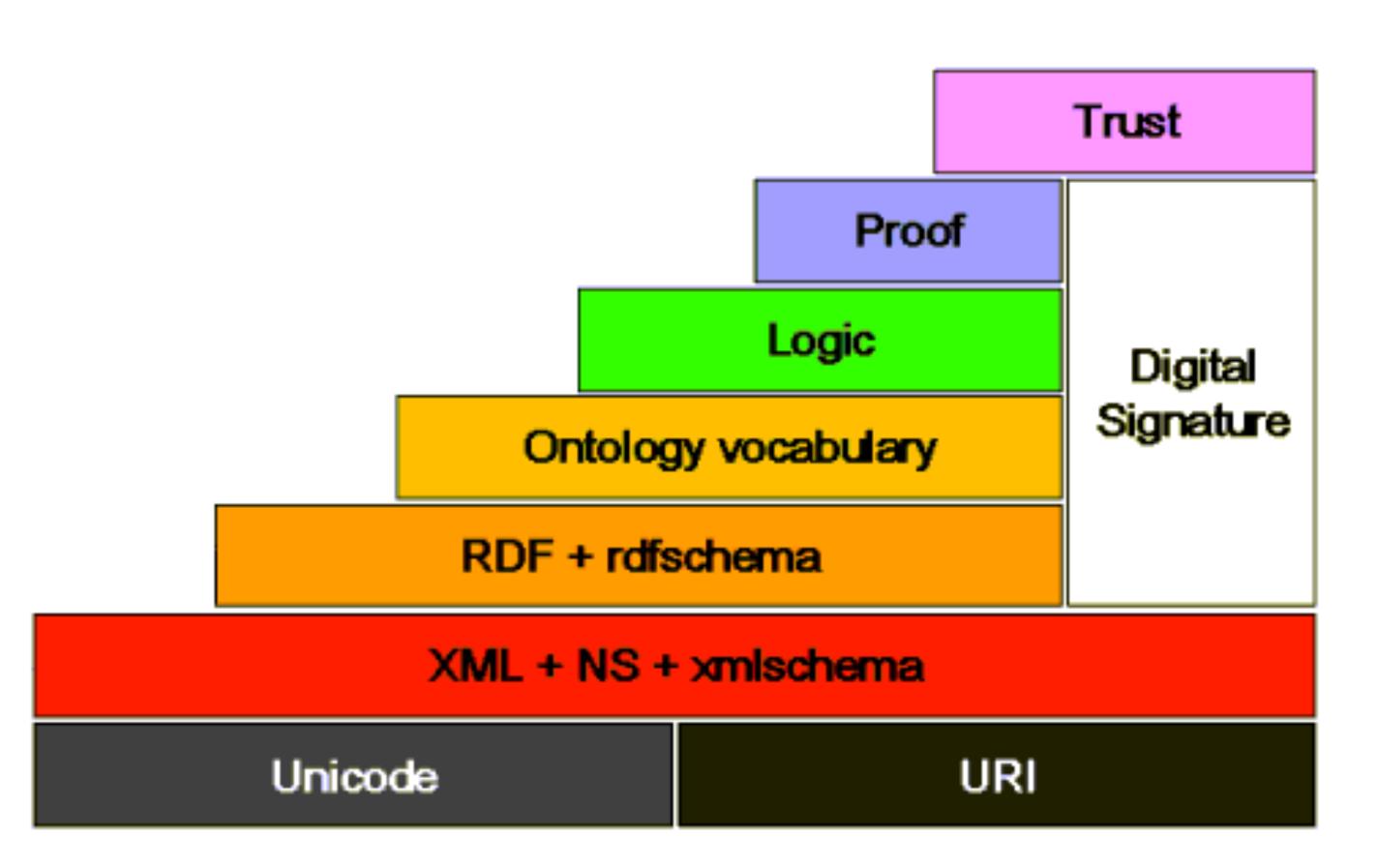
Human-readable v.s.
 machine-readable



Semantic web

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<books>
   <book>
     <author> H.M. Deitel and P.J.Deitel </author>
     <title> C++ How To Program </title>
     <publisher> Prentice Hall Publishing Co. </ publisher>
   </book>
   <book>
      <author>Jack Herrington</author>
      <title>PHP Hacks</title>
      <publisher>O'Reilly</publisher>
   </book>
</books>
                         (a)
<xsd:schema
xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema">
<xsd:element name="BOOK" type="BOOKTYPE"/>
<xsd:complexType name="BOOK_TYPE" >
<xsd:element name="AUTHOR" type="xsd:string"</pre>
      minoccurs="1" maxoccurs="unbounded"/>
<xsd:element name="TITLE" type="xsd:string"/>
<xsd:attribute name="isbn" type="xsd:string"/>
</xsd:complexType>
</xsd:schema>
```

Figure 1. (a) An XML instance, and (b) An example of XML Schema.



RDF data model

 The Resource Description Framework (RDF) was intended as a mechanism for different websites to publish data in a consistent format, allowing data from different websites to be automatically combined into a web of data—a kind of internet-wide "database of everything."

```
<rdf:RDF xmlns="urn:example:"
   xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#">
  <Location rdf:nodeID="idaho">
    <name>Idaho</name>
    <type>state</type>
    <within>
      <Location rdf:nodeID="usa">
       <name>United States</name>
        <type>country</type>
        <within>
          <Location rdf:nodeID="namerica">
           <name>North America</name>
           <type>continent</type>
         </Location>
       </within>
      </Location>
    </within>
  </Location>
 <Person rdf:nodeID="lucy">
   <name>Lucy</name>
   <bornin rdf:nodeID="idaho"/>
 </Person>
</rdf:RDF>
```

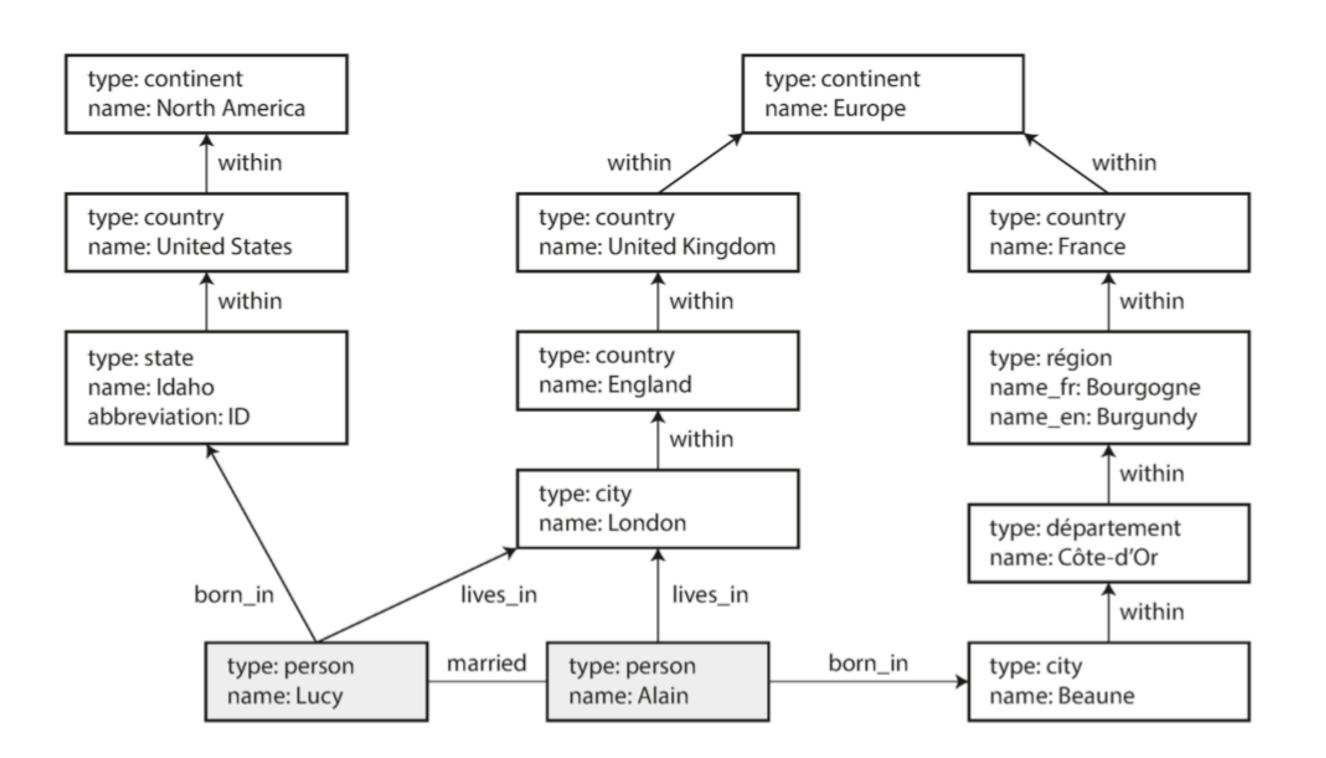
NELL (the data model remains)



SPARQL

• SPARQL is a query language for triple-stores using the RDF data model. SPARQL is a nice query language.

Property graph v.s. RDF



```
@prefix : <urn:example:>.
_:lucy
                   :Person.
_:lucy
                   "Lucy".
           :name
_:lucy
           :bornIn _:idaho.
_:idaho
                   :Location.
                   "Idaho".
_:idaho
           :name
           :type "state".
_:idaho
           :within _:usa.
_:idaho
                   :Location.
_:usa
           a
                   "United States".
           :name
_:usa
                 "country".
           :type
_:usa
           :within _:namerica.
_:usa
                   :Location.
_:namerica a
_:namerica :name
                   "North America".
_:namerica :type
                   "continent".
```

Datalog

Data model

```
name(namerica, 'North America').
                                                                                                   /* Rule 1 */
                                          within_recursive(Location, Name) :- name(Location, Name).
type(namerica, continent).
                                          within_recursive(Location, Name) :- within(Location, Via),
                                                                                                  /* Rule 2 */
name(usa, 'United States').
                                                                           within_recursive(Via, Name).
type(usa, country).
                                          migrated(Name, BornIn, LivingIn) :- name(Person, Name),
                                                                                                   /* Rule 3 */
within(usa, namerica).
                                                                           born_in(Person, BornLoc),
                                                                           within_recursive(BornLoc, BornIn),
name(idaho, 'Idaho').
                                                                           lives_in(Person, LivingLoc),
                                                                           within_recursive(LivingLoc, LivingIn).
type(idaho, state).
within(idaho, usa).
                                          ?- migrated(Who, 'United States', 'Europe').
                                          /* Who = 'Lucy'. */
name(lucy, 'Lucy').
born_in(lucy, idaho).
```

Query language

Evolution

- Datalog => SPARQL => Cypher
- Triple | RDF => Property Graphs => Document
 - More reuse.
 - More concise.
 - More flexibility.

Today's topic: Data Model Evolutions & Query language

- Object-relational mismatch
- ID v.s. Strings
- Many-to-many v.s. one-to-many
- Hierarchical/network/relational model
- Imperative & declarative Query languages