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Delete node and it's relationships (if it has any) in Neo4j

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I'm trying to execute following query:

1 `MATCH (movie:Movie {title:"test"})-[r]-() DELETE movie, r`

to delete a :Movie node and all it's relationships. It's all good, except if the query doesn't have any relationships, it fails to MATCH the movie. I've tried with OPTIONAL MATCH, but no luck.

I'm looking for a way to DELETE a movie node no matter if it has or hasn't any relationships, but if it has, to DELETE them as well.

neo4j cypher

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asked Apr 4 at 8:43



Srdjan Marjanovic
38 ● 4

1 Answer

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There's `OPTIONAL MATCH`:

4 `MATCH (movie:Movie {title:"test"})
OPTIONAL MATCH (movie)-[r]-()
DELETE movie, r`

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answered Apr 4 at 8:51



Stefan Armbruster
23.1k ● 2 ● 28 ● 51

Yap, that's it! Thank you a lot, sir! – Srdjan Marjanovic Apr 4 at 9:03

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B *I*        

asked 4 months ago

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