

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: Start Neo4j Desktop to create a new project. Click “Add Graph”. You can either create a local graph or connect to a remote graph. Here we show you how to create a local graph. Click “Create a Local Graph”. Then give the graph name and set the password. Click “Create” to create a new graph.

Step 4: 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

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
```

An easy way to find the path “/path/to/.Neo4jDesktop/.../data/databases/” is to start the graph after **step3**. Once the server is started, click on Manage -> Open Folder to get this path.

Step 5: Edit the following configuration file:

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

You can find this file by clicking on Manage -> Settings.

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 6: 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 page¹.

For the example try:

MATCH (people:Actor) RETURN people LIMIT 10

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

¹ 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

Graph

Table

Text

Code

*(20)

Actor(10)

Person(10)

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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