

# Neo4j and Spring Data

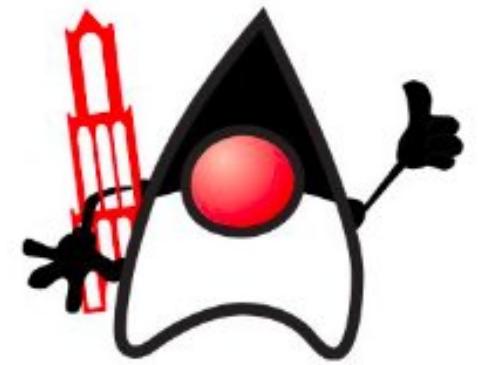
Going from relational databases to databases with  
relations

Michael Simons, [@rotnroll666](#)



# Agenda

- About Neo4j
- My „business“ domain
- Getting data into Neo4j
- Some options to access Neo4j on the JVM
- Spring Data Neo4j
- Some advanced queries



# About Neo4j

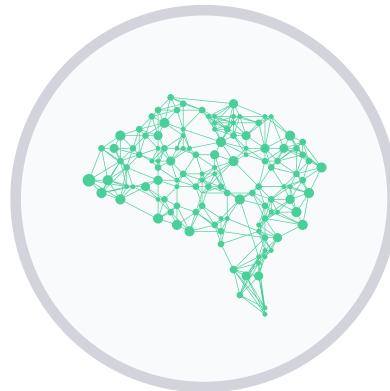


# Neo4j

- Neo4j is *the #1 platform for connected data.*
- Neo4j powers the *next generation* of applications and analytics
- Prominent use cases are found in areas like machine learning, personalized recommendations, fraud detection, data governance and more.



# Neo4j



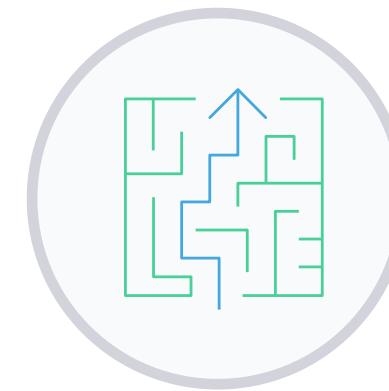
## Mindset

“Graph Thinking” is all about considering connections in data as important as the data itself.



## Native Graph Platform

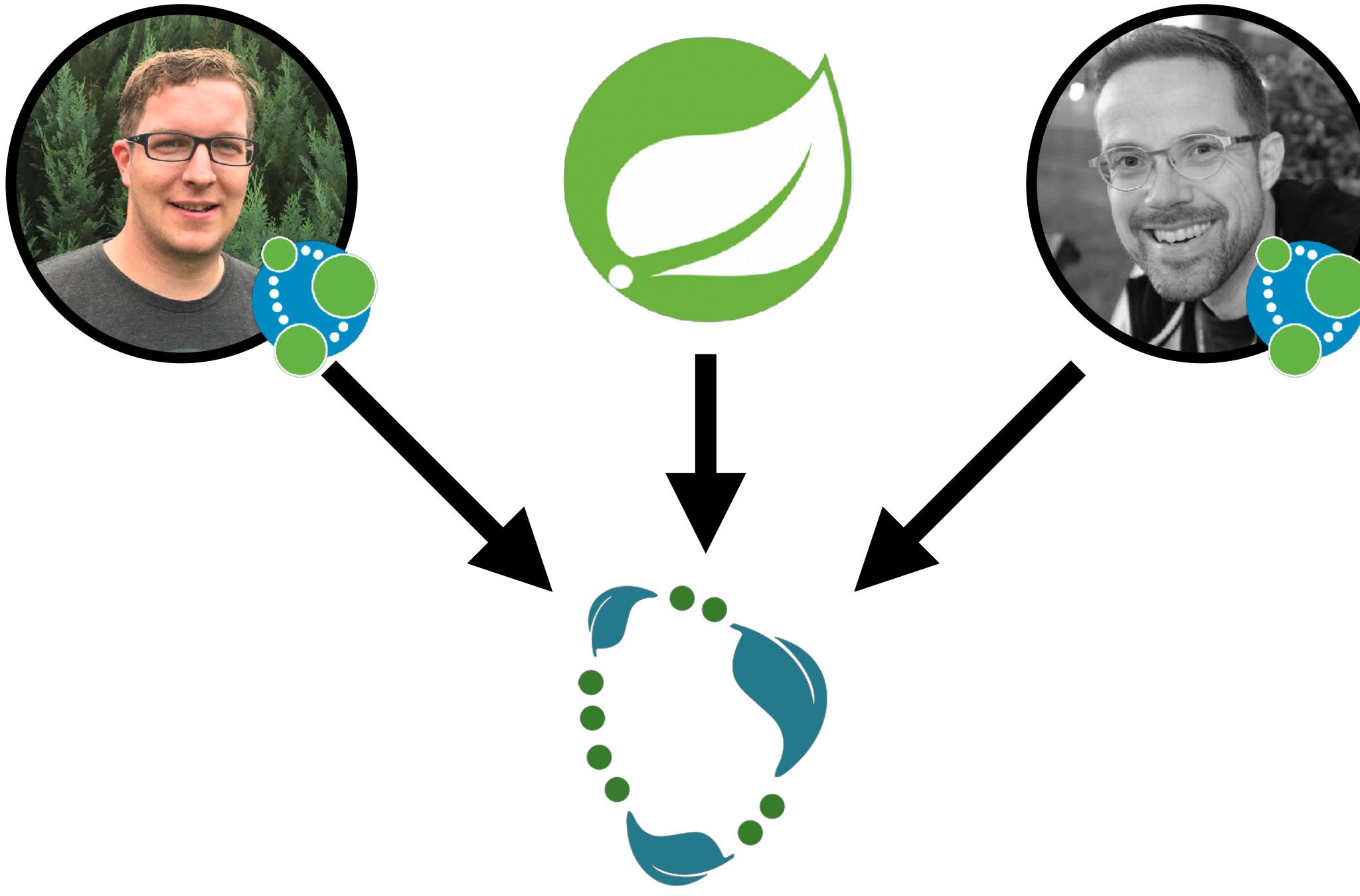
Neo4j is an internet-scale, native graph database which executes connected workloads faster than any other database management system.



## Ecosystem

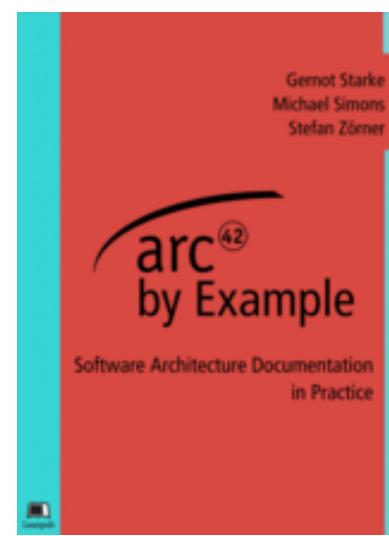
Neo4j Professional Services  
300+ partners  
47,000 group members  
61,000 trained engineers  
3.5M downloads

# Spring Data and Neo4j



# About me

- Neo4j since July 2018
- Java Champion
- Co-Founder and current lead of Java User Group **EuregJUG**
- Author (**Spring Boot 2** und **Arc42 by example**)



**jQAssistant**

First contact to Neo4j through

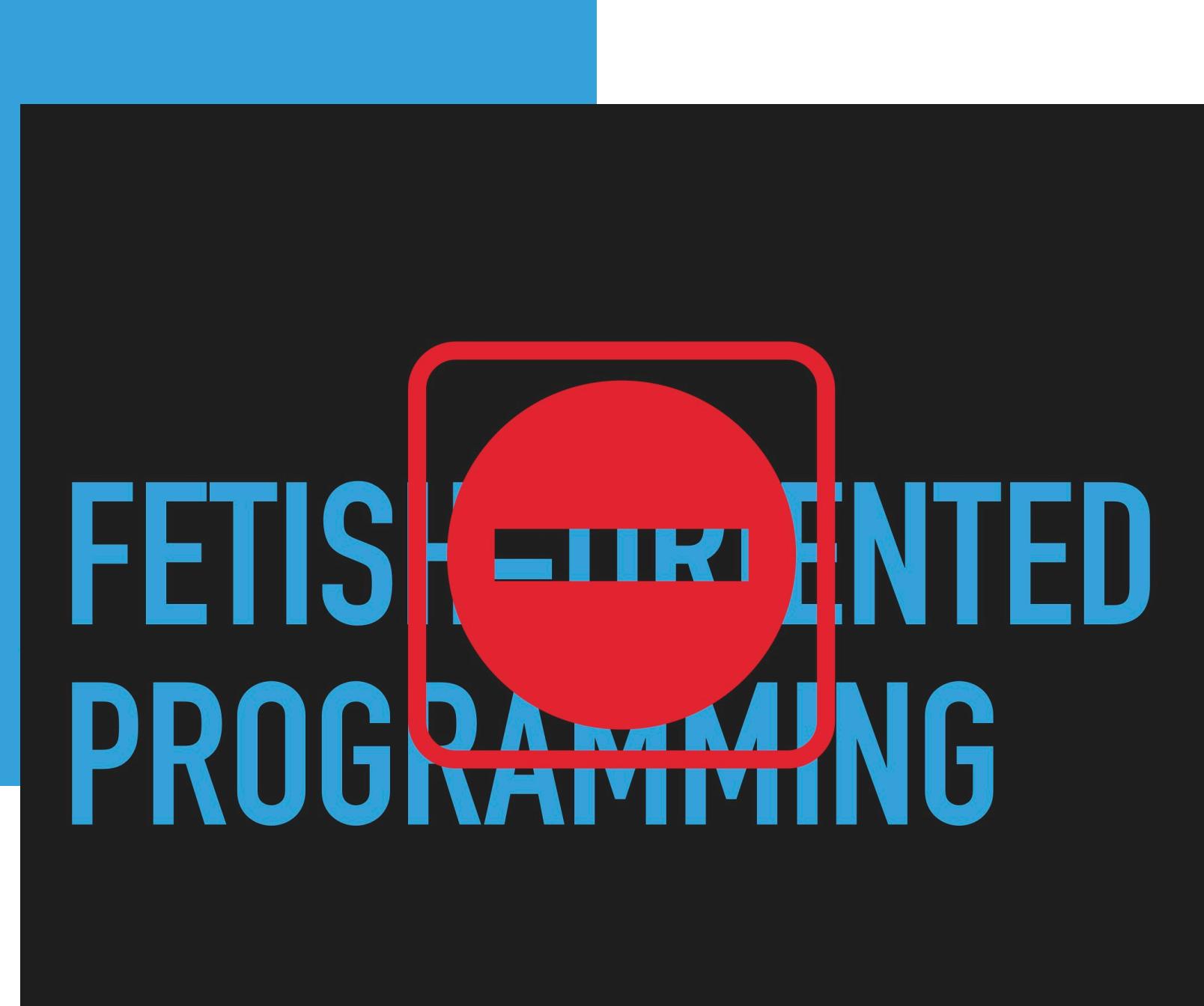


[Michis milage](#)[Bikes](#)[Milages](#)[Gallery](#)[Tracks](#)[Location](#)[About](#)

# 30.12.2018 #festive500 2018 - Ronde van Nederland biking



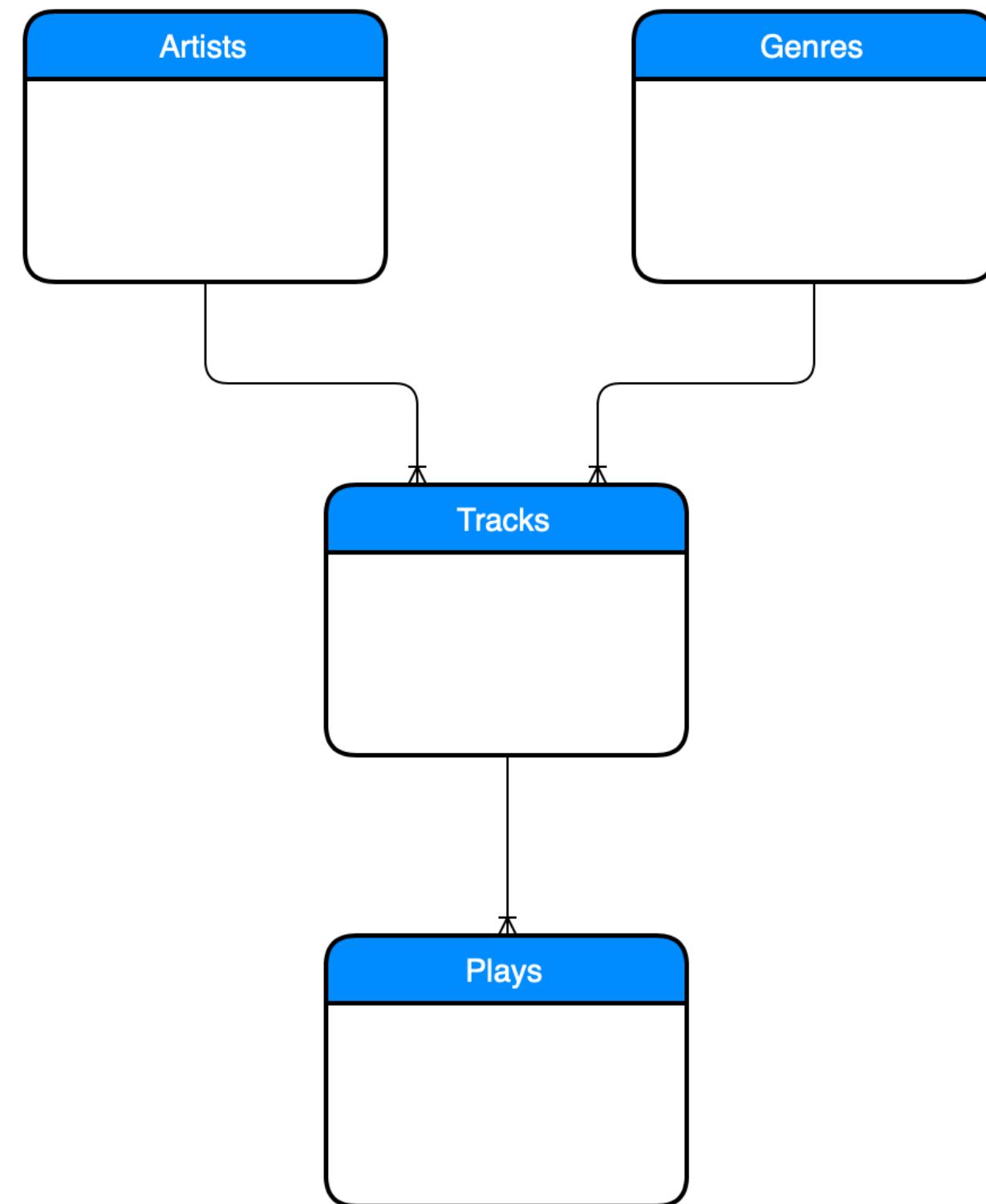
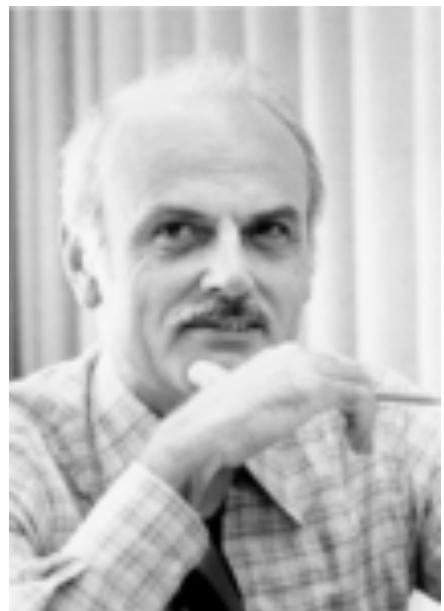
# Known for



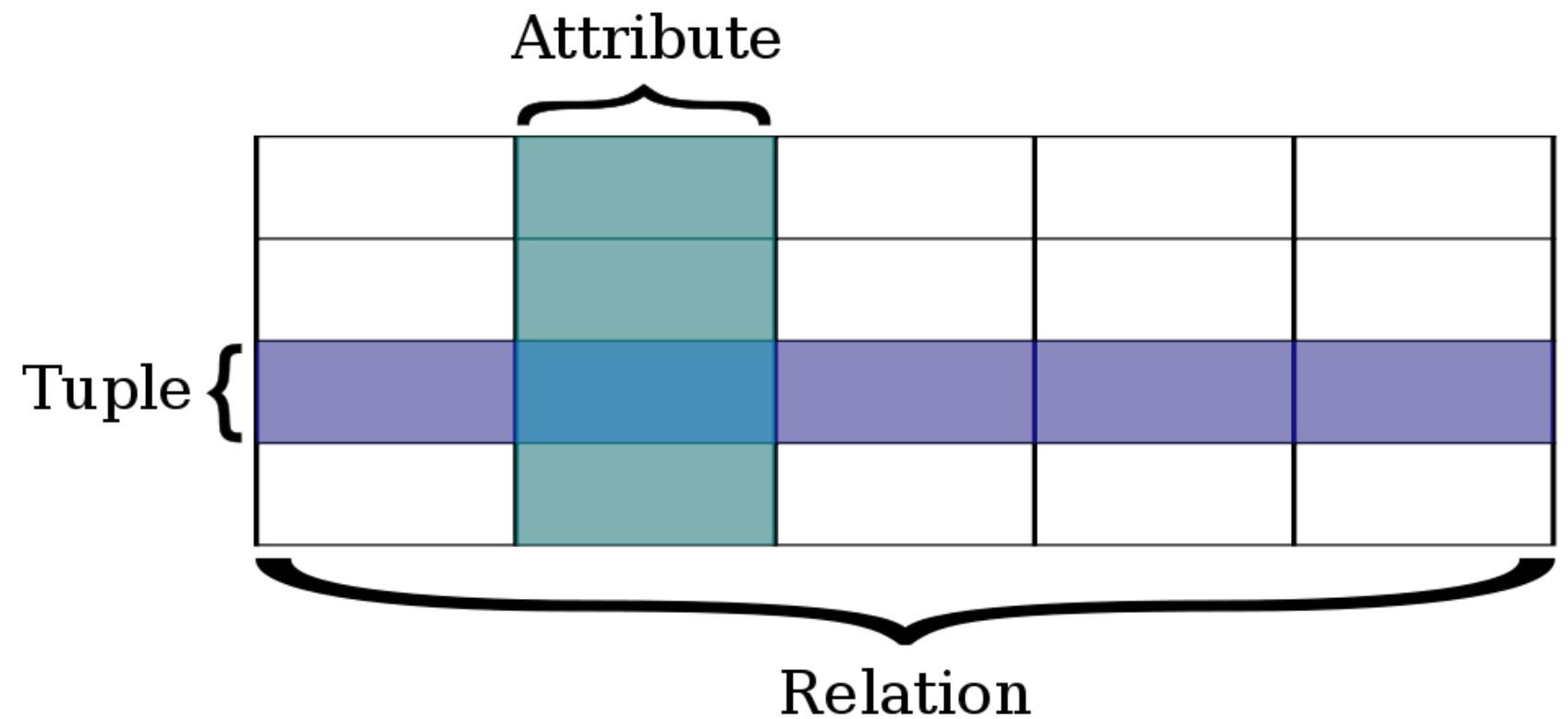
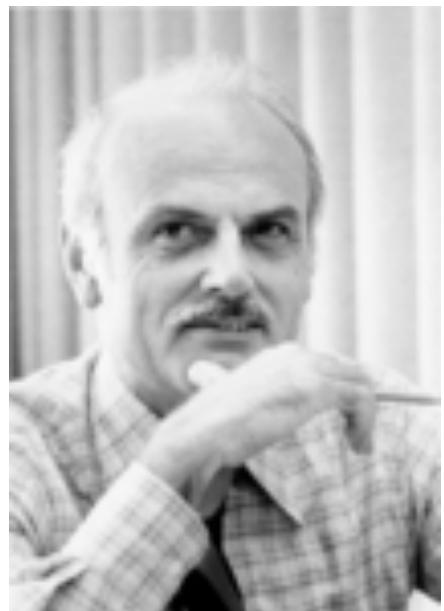
# My „business” domain



# Tracking musical data



# Tracking musical data



# Logical vs physical model

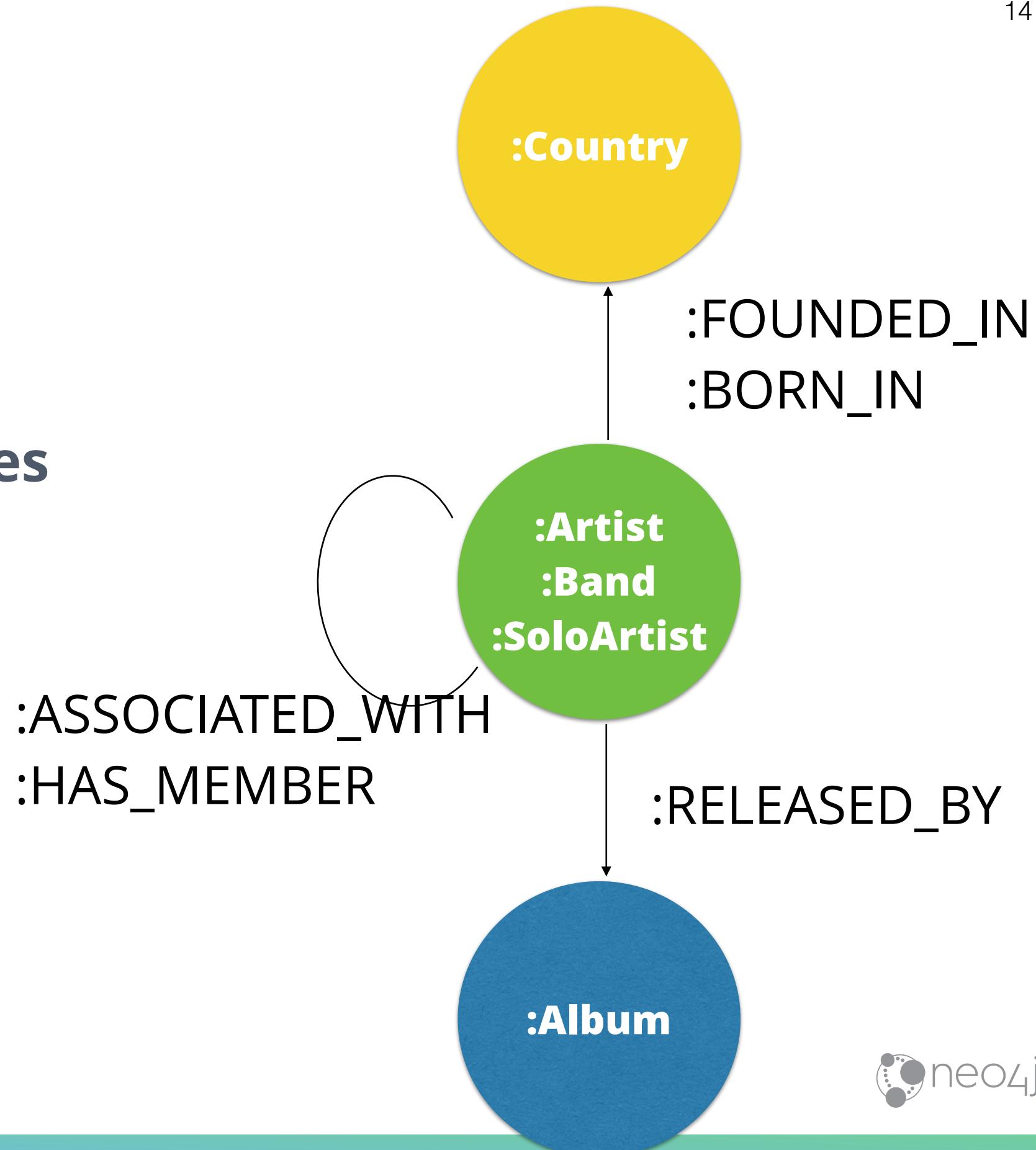


- Logical model designed as ER diagram
- Then normalized
  - All about being free of redundancies
  - UNF (Unnormalized)
  - 1NF: Atomic
  - 2NF: + No partial dependencies
  - 3NF: + No transitive dependencies

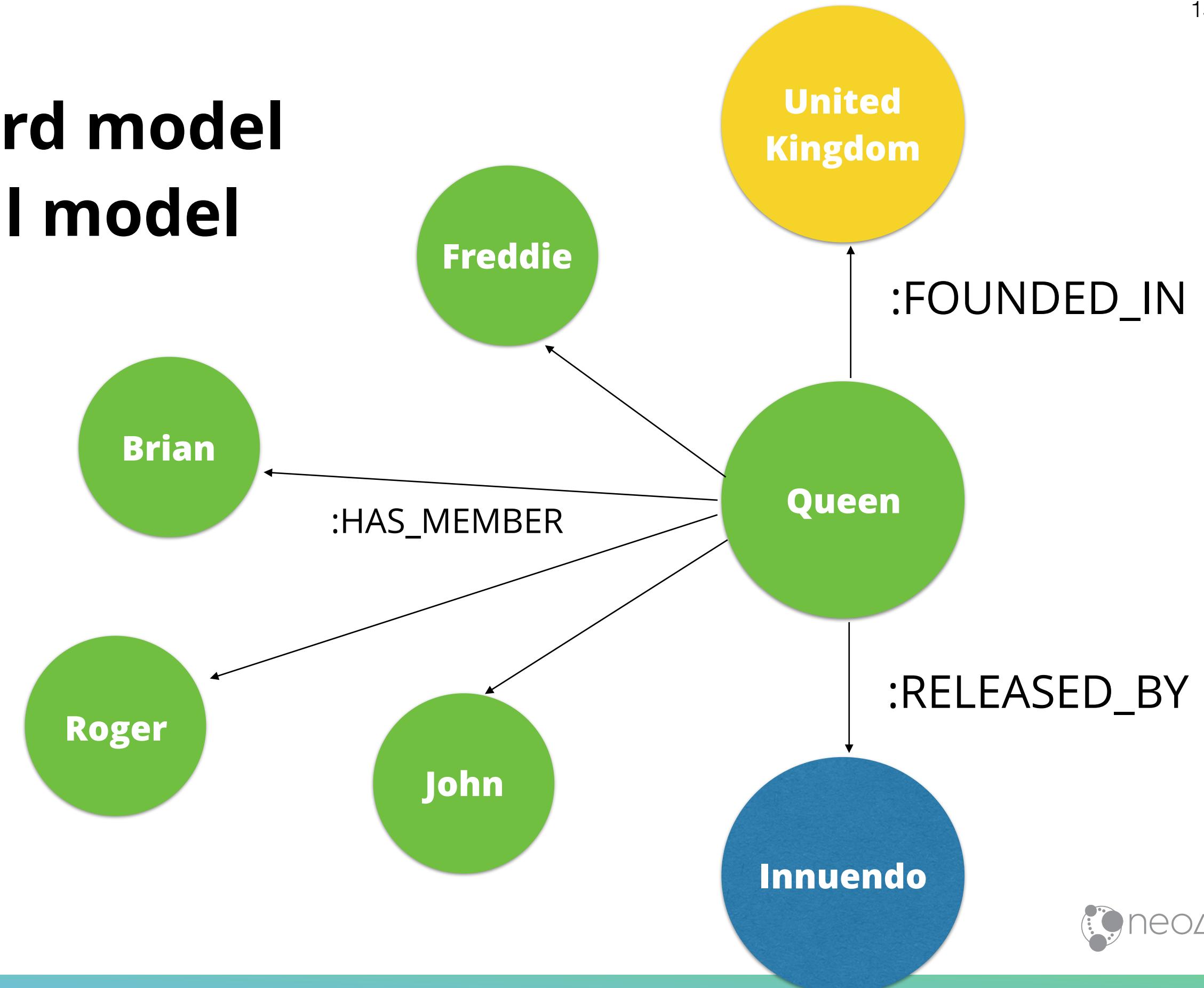
**Foreign keys between tables aren't relations!  
The tables itself and every query result are.**

# The whiteboard model IS the physical model

- Bands are **founded in** and solo artists are **born in countries**
- Sometimes Artists are **associated with** other Artists and bands **have member**
- Artists used to release **Albums**

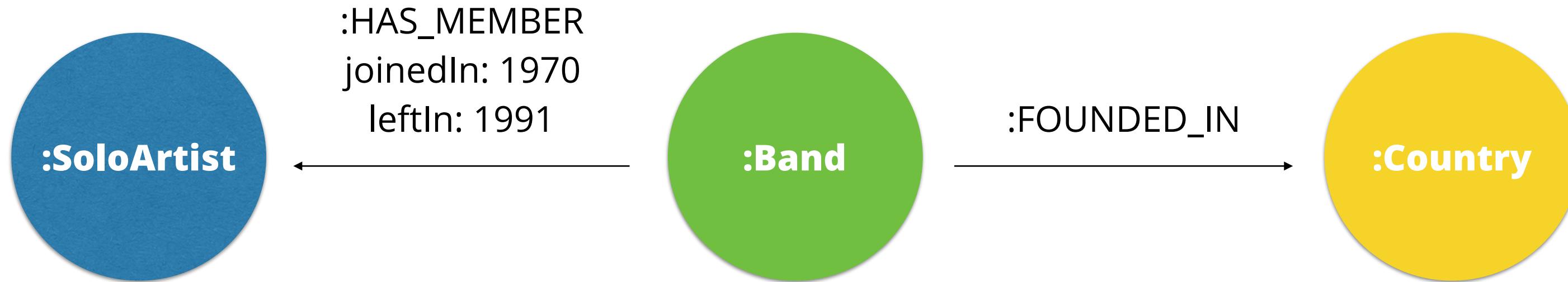


# The whiteboard model IS the physical model



# A Property Graph

Relationships connect nodes and represent actions (verbs)



name: Freddie  
role: Lead Singer

Nodes represents objects  
(Nouns)

Both nodes and relationships can have properties

# Querying

- Cypher is to Neo4j what SQL is to RDBMS:  
A declarative, powerful query language
- <https://www.opencypher.org/> / The GQL Manifesto

```
MATCH (a:Album) -[:RELEASED_BY]→ (b:Band),  
      (c) ←[:FOUNDED_IN]- (b) -[:HAS_MEMBER]→ (m) -[:BORN_IN]→ (c2)  
WHERE a.name = 'Innuendo'  
RETURN a, b, m, c, c2
```

Demo

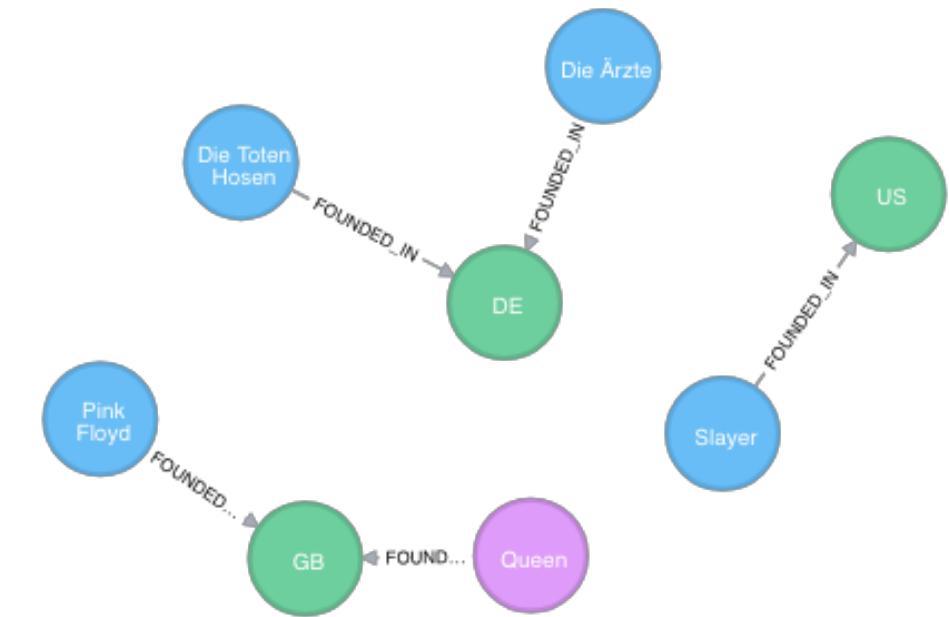


# Getting data into Neo4j



# LOAD CSV

```
Name;Founded in
Slayer;US
Die Ärzte;DE
Die Toten Hosen;DE
Pink Floyd;GB
```



```
LOAD CSV WITH HEADERS FROM 'http://localhost:8001/data/artists.csv'
AS line FIELDTERMINATOR ';
MERGE (a:Artist {name: line.Name})
MERGE (c:Country {code: line.`Founded in`})
MERGE (a) -[:FOUNDED_IN]→ (c)
RETURN *
```

# Building your own importer

```
public class StatsIntegration {  
  
    @Context public GraphDatabaseService db;  
  
    @Procedure(name = "stats.loadArtistData", mode = Mode.WRITE)  
    public void loadArtistData(  
        @Name("userName") final String userName,  
        @Name("password") final String password,  
        @Name("url") final String url) {  
  
        try (var connection = DriverManager.getConnection(url, userName, password);  
             var neoTransaction = db.beginTx()) {  
  
            DSL.using(connection)  
                .selectFrom(ARTISTS)  
                .forEach(a →  
                    db.execute("MERGE (artist:Artist {name: $artistName}) ", Map.of("artistName", a.getName()))  
                );  
            neoTransaction.success();  
        } catch (Exception e) {}  
    }  
}
```

# APOC

- Not only a guy from the movie „The Matrix“



# APOC

- Not only a guy from the movie „The Matrix“
- Also not that guy
- „A Package Of Components“ for Neo4j
- „Awesome Procedures on Cypher“



A huge set of all kinds of extension for Neo4j  
<https://neo4j-contrib.github.io/neo4j-apoc-procedures/>

# APOC

- Import / Export
- Graph refactoring
- Job management
- Graph algorithms

# apoc.load.jdbc

- Use with single tables
- Or custom SQL statements

# apoc.load.jdbc

```

WITH "jdbc:postgresql://localhost:5432/bootiful-music?user=statsdb-dev&password=dev" as url,
  "SELECT DISTINCT a.name as artist_name, t.album, g.name as genre_name, t.year
   FROM tracks t JOIN artists a ON a.id = t.artist_id JOIN genres g ON g.id = t.genre_id
   WHERE t.compilation = 'f'" as sql
CALL apoc.load.jdbc(url,sql) YIELD row
MERGE (decade:Decade {value: row.year-row.year%10})
MERGE (year:Year {value: row.year})
MERGE (year) -[:PART_OF]→ (decade)
MERGE (artist:Artist {name: row.artist_name})
MERGE (album:Album {name: row.album}) -[:RELEASED_BY]→ (artist)
MERGE (genre:Genre {name: row.genre_name})
MERGE (album) -[:HAS]→ (genre)
MERGE (album) -[:RELEASED_IN]→ (year)

```

# Demo



# Using Neo4j from the JVM



# Different endpoints

- Neo4j can run embedded in the same VM
- Has an HTTP endpoint
- Offers the binary **Bolt protocol**
  - Drivers for Java, Go, C#, Seabolt (C), Python, JavaScript

# Working directly with the driver

```
try {
    Driver driver = GraphDatabase.driver(uri, AuthTokens.basic(user, password));
    Session session = driver.session()
} {
    List<String> artistNames =
        session
            .readTransaction(tx → tx.run("MATCH (a:Artist) RETURN a", emptyMap()))
            .list(record → record.get("a").get("name").asString());
}
```



# Using Neo4j-OGM

Neo4j Object Graph Mapper (OGM)

SessionFactory

TransactionManger

Java Driver

# Using Neo4j-OGM

- Unified configuration
- Annotation based
  - Mapping between Classes and Graph Model
- Data access
  - Domain based
  - Through custom queries

```
@NodeEntity("Band")
public class BandEntity extends ArtistEntity {

    @Id @GeneratedValue
    private Long id;

    private String name;

    @Relationship("FOUNDED_IN")
    private CountryEntity foundedIn;

    @Relationship("ACTIVE_SINCE")
    private YearEntity activeSince;

    @Relationship("HAS_MEMBER")
    private List<Member> member = new ArrayList();
}
```

# Annotations

```

@RelationshipEntity("HAS_MEMBER")
public static class Member {
    @Id @GeneratedValue
    private Long memberId;

    @StartNode
    private BandEntity band;

    @EndNode
    private SoloArtistEntity artist;

    @Convert(YearConverter.class)
    private Year joinedIn;

    @Convert(YearConverter.class)
    private Year leftIn;
}

```

# Annotations



# Domain based data access

```
var artist = new BandEntity("Queen");
artist.addMember(new SoloArtistEntity("Freddie Mercury"));

var session = sessionFactory.openSession();
session.save(artist);
```

# Domain based data access

```
var queen = session.load(BandEntity.class, 4711);  
  
var allBands = session.loadAll(BandEntity.class);
```

# Domain based data access

```
session.delete(queen);
// OR
session.delete(queen, 1);

session.deleteAll(BandEntity.class);
```

# Data access with custom queries

```
var britishBands = session.query(  
    ArtistEntity.class,  
    "MATCH (b:Band) -[:FOUNDED_IN]→ (:Country {code: 'GB'})", emptyMap());  
  
Result result = session.query(  
    "MATCH (b:Artist) ←[r:RELEASED_BY]- (a:Album) -[:RELEASED_IN]→ () -  
    [:PART_OF]→ (:Decade {value: $decade})"  
    "WHERE b.name = $name" +  
    "RETURN b, r, a",  
    Map.of("decade", 1970, "name", "Queen")  
);
```

# Works with

- „Plain“ Java
- Micronaut
- Spring
- Spring Boot

# Spring Data Neo4j



# Spring Data Neo4j

- Very early Spring Data Module
  - First Version ~2010 (Emil Eifrem, Rod Johnson)
- Build on top of Neo4j-OGM
- Part of the Spring Data release trains
- Offers
  - Derived finder methods
  - Custom results and projections
  - Domain Events
- Integrated in Spring Boot

# Spring Data Neo4j

- Can be used store agnostic
- Without Cypher
- Or „Graph aware”
  - limiting the fetch size
  - Custom Cypher

# Domain based data access revised

```
interface BandRepository extends Repository<BandEntity, Long> {  
}
```

# Domain based data access revised

```
interface BandRepository extends Neo4jRepository<BandEntity, Long> {  
}
```

- CRUD Methods
  - (save, findById, delete, count)
- Supports @Depth annotation as well as depth argument

# Domain based data access revised

```
var artist = new BandEntity("Queen");
artist.addMember(new SoloArtistEntity("Freddie Mercury"));

artist = bandRepository.save(artist);
```

# Domain based data access revised

```
var artist = bandRepository.findByName("Nickelback")
artist.ifPresent(bandRepository :: delete);
```

# Derived finder methods

```
interface AlbumRepository extends Neo4jRepository<AlbumEntity, Long> {  
    Optional<AlbumEntity> findOneByName(String x);  
  
    List<AlbumEntity> findAllByNameMatchesRegex(String name);  
  
    List<AlbumEntity> findAllByNameMatchesRegex(  
        String name, Sort sort, @Depth int depth);  
  
    Optional<AlbumEntity> findOneByArtistNameAndName(  
        String artistName, String name);  
}
```

# Custom queries

```
interface AlbumRepository extends Neo4jRepository<AlbumEntity, Long> {  
    @Query(value  
        = " MATCH (album:Album) - [:CONTAINS] → (track:Track)"  
        + " MATCH p=(album) - [*1] - ()"  
        + " WHERE id(track) = $trackId"  
        + "     AND ALL(relationship IN relationships(p) "  
        + "                 WHERE type(relationship) ◇ 'CONTAINS')"  
        + " RETURN p"  
    )  
    List<AlbumEntity> findAllByTrack(Long trackId);  
}
```

# Custom results

```
@QueryResult
public class AlbumTrack {
    private Long id;
    private String name;
    private Long discNumber;
    private Long trackNumber;
}
```

# Custom results

```
interface AlbumRepository extends Neo4jRepository<AlbumEntity, Long> {  
    @Query(value  
        = " MATCH (album:Album) - [c:CONTAINS] → (track:Track) "  
        + " WHERE id(album) = $albumId"  
        + " RETURN id(track) AS id, track.name AS name, "  
        + "         c.discNumber AS discNumber, c.trackNumber AS trackNumber"  
        + " ORDER BY c.discNumber ASC, c.trackNumber ASC"  
    )  
    List<AlbumTrack> findAllAlbumTracks(Long albumId);  
}
```

# Spring Transactions

```
public class ArtistService {  
  
    @Transactional  
    public void deleteArtist(Long id) {  
  
        this.bandRepository.findById(id).ifPresent(a → {  
            session.delete(a);  
            session.query("MATCH (a:Album) WHERE size((a)-[:RELEASED_BY]→(:Artist))=0 DETACH DELETE a", emptyMap());  
            session.query("MATCH (t:Track) WHERE size((:Album)-[:CONTAINS]→(t))=0 DETACH DELETE t", emptyMap());  
        });  
    }  
}
```

# Spring Transactions

```
TransactionTemplate transactionTemplate;  
  
    return transactionTemplate.execute(t → {  
        ArtistEntity artist = this.findArtistById(artistId).get();  
  
        var oldLinks = artist.updateWikipediaLinks(newLinks);  
        session.save(artist);  
        oldLinks.forEach(session::delete);  
  
        return artist;  
    });
```

# With Spring Boot: Configuration properties and auto config

org.springframework.boot:spring-boot-starter-neo4j

```
spring.data.neo4j.username=neo4j
spring.data.neo4j.password=music
spring.data.neo4j.uri=bolt://localhost:7687

spring.data.neo4j.embedded.enabled=false
```

# With Spring Boot: Test-Slice

```
@DataNeo4jTest
@TestInstance(Lifecycle.PER_CLASS)
class CountryRepositoryTest {

    private final Session session;

    private final CountryRepository countryRepository;

    @Autowired
    CountryRepositoryTest(Session session, CountryRepository countryRepository) {
        this.session = session;
        this.countryRepository = countryRepository;
    }

    @BeforeAll
    void createTestData() {}

    @Test
    void getStatisticsForCountryShouldWork() {}
}
```

# Spring Data Neo4j: Don'ts

- Not for batch processing
- Don't abuse derived method names
  - i.e. `Optional<AlbumEntity> findOneByArtistNameAndNameAndLiveIsTrueAndReleasedInValue(String artistName, String name, long year)`
- Don't follow your Graph model blindly while modeling the domain
  - Graph model usually tailored to answer specific question
  - Domain often follows a different use-case

# Don't follow your Graph model blindly while modeling the domain

```
@NodeEntity("Artist")
public class ArtistEntity {

    private String name;

    @Relationship(
        value = "RELEASED_BY",
        direction = INCOMING)
    private List<AlbumEntity> albums;
}
```

```
@NodeEntity("Album")
public class AlbumEntity {

    @Relationship("RELEASED_BY")
    private ArtistEntity artist;

    @Relationship("CONTAINS")
    private List<TrackEntity> tracks;
}

@NodeEntity("Track")
public class TrackEntity {

    @Relationship(
        value = "CONTAINS", direction = INCOMING)
    private List<AlbumEntity> tracks;
}
```

# Better approach

```

@NodeEntity("Artist")
public class ArtistEntity {

    private String name;
}

@NodeEntity("Album")
public class AlbumEntity {

    @Relationship("RELEASED_BY")
    private ArtistEntity artist;
}

@QueryResult
public class AlbumTrack {
    private String name;
    private Long trackNumber;
}

```

```

interface AlbumRepository extends Repository<AlbumEntity, Long> {
    List<AlbumEntity> findAllByArtistNameMatchesRegex(
        String artistName,
        Sort sort);

    @Query(value =
        " MATCH (album:Album) - [c:CONTAINS] → (track:Track) "
        + " WHERE id(album) = $albumId"
        + " RETURN track.name AS name, c.trackNumber AS trackNumber"
        + " ORDER BY c.discNumber ASC, c.trackNumber ASC"
    )
    List<AlbumTrack> findAllAlbumTracks(long albumId);
}

```

# Demo



# Some advanced queries





More Cypher



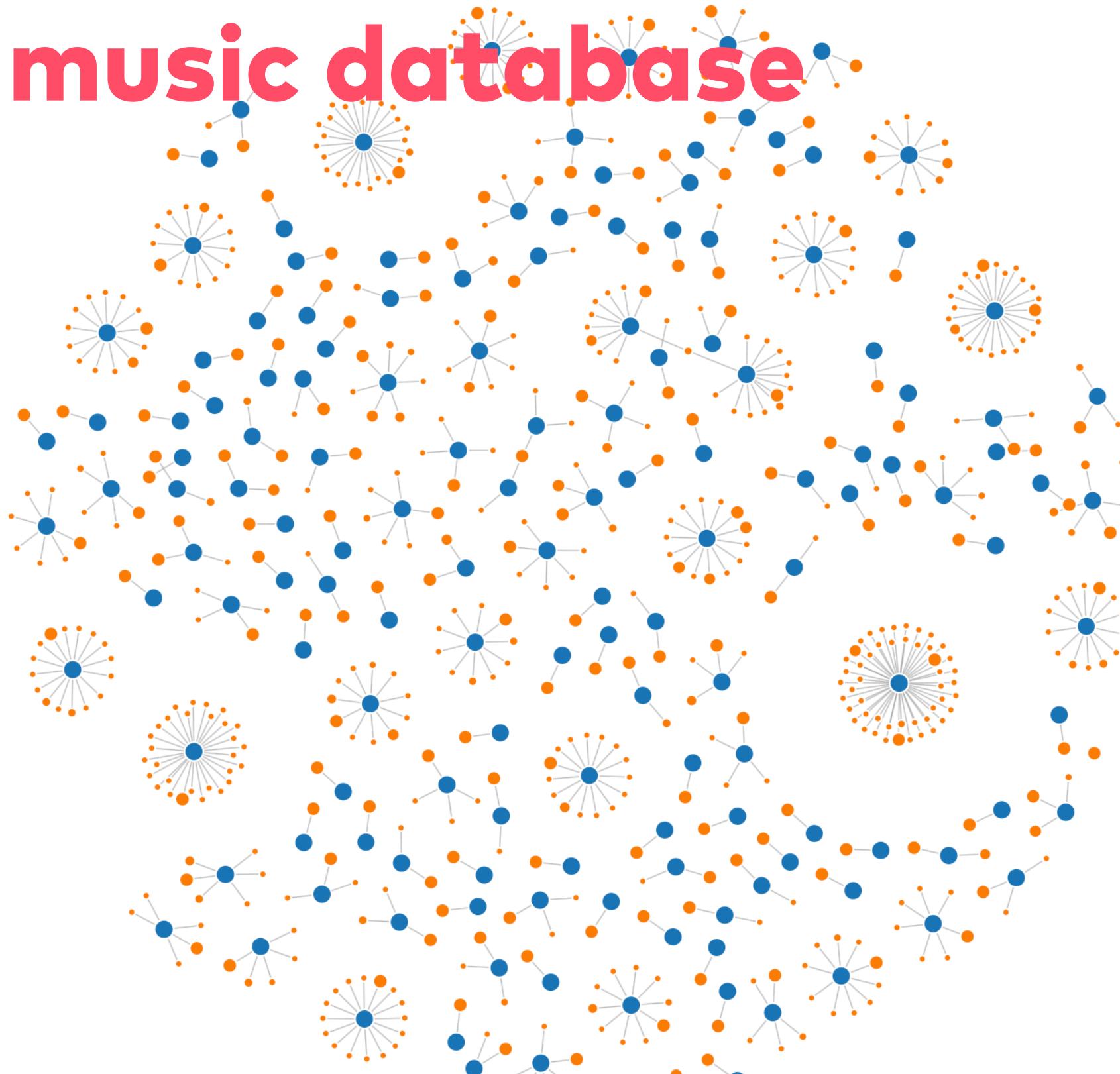
# Putting it all together.

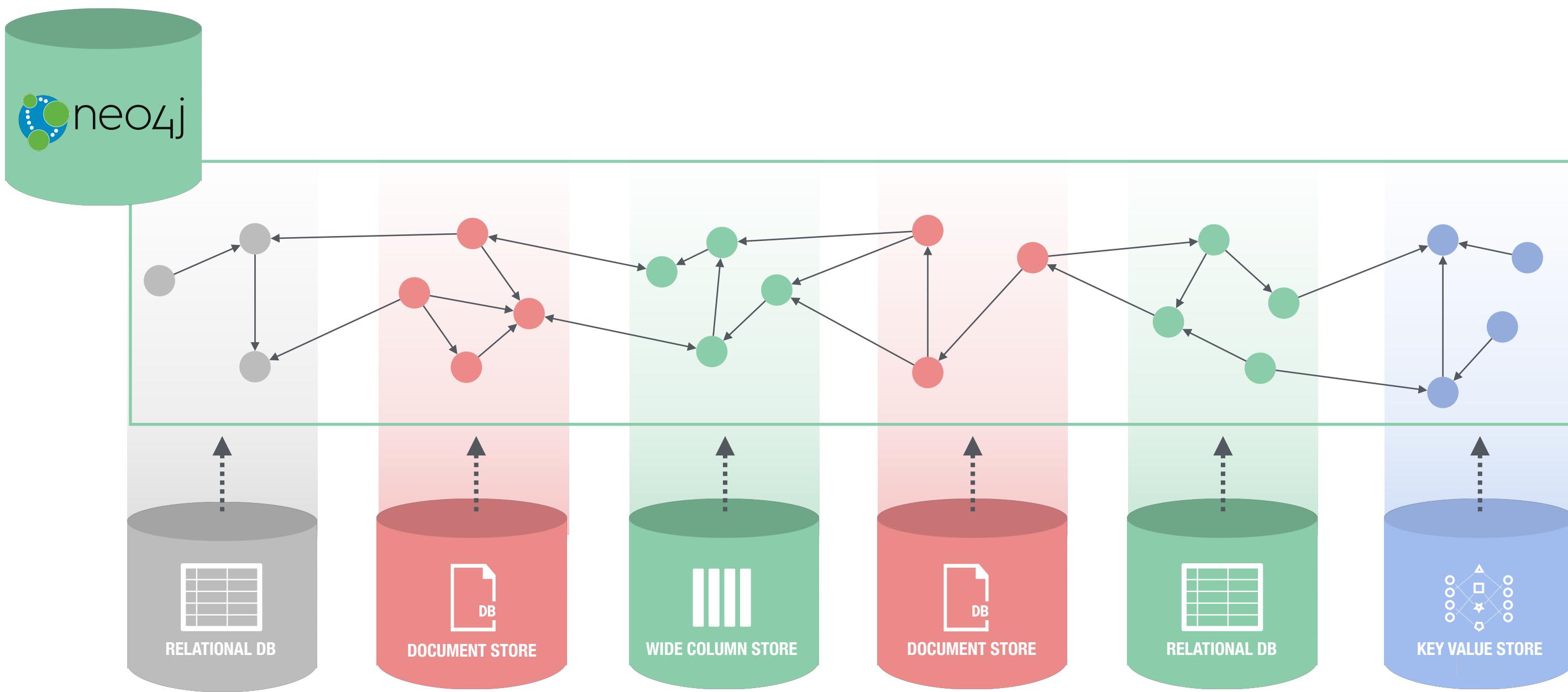


# Genre

## My personal music database

Name	Count
2010 Germany Punk Rock	1174
Rock	
2010 Germany Punk Rock	8271
1990 Germany Punk Rock	6919
2010 Germany Rock	6778
2000 United Kingdom Rock	5116
1970 United Kingdom Rock	3554
1980 United Kingdom Rock	3433
2010 United Kingdom Rock	3224
2000 United Kingdom Heavy Metal	2370
1990 United States Heavy Metal	2314



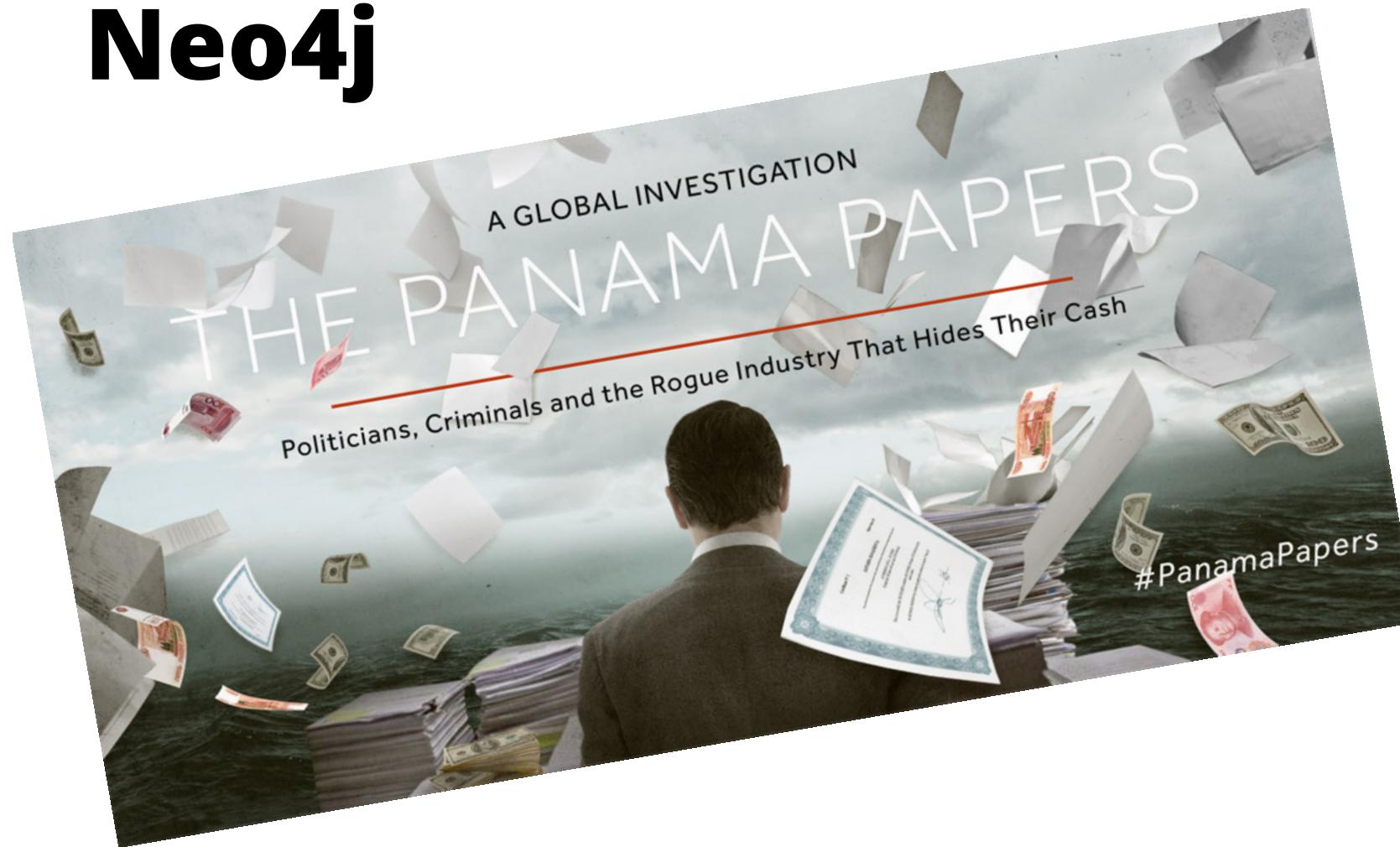


# Leveraging Cross-Silo Connections

# Real use-cases



# Neo4j



**ICIJ - International Consortium of  
Investigative Journalists**

<https://neo4j.com/blog/icij-neo4j-unravel-panama-papers/>

<https://neo4j.com/blog/analyzing-panama-papers-neo4j/>

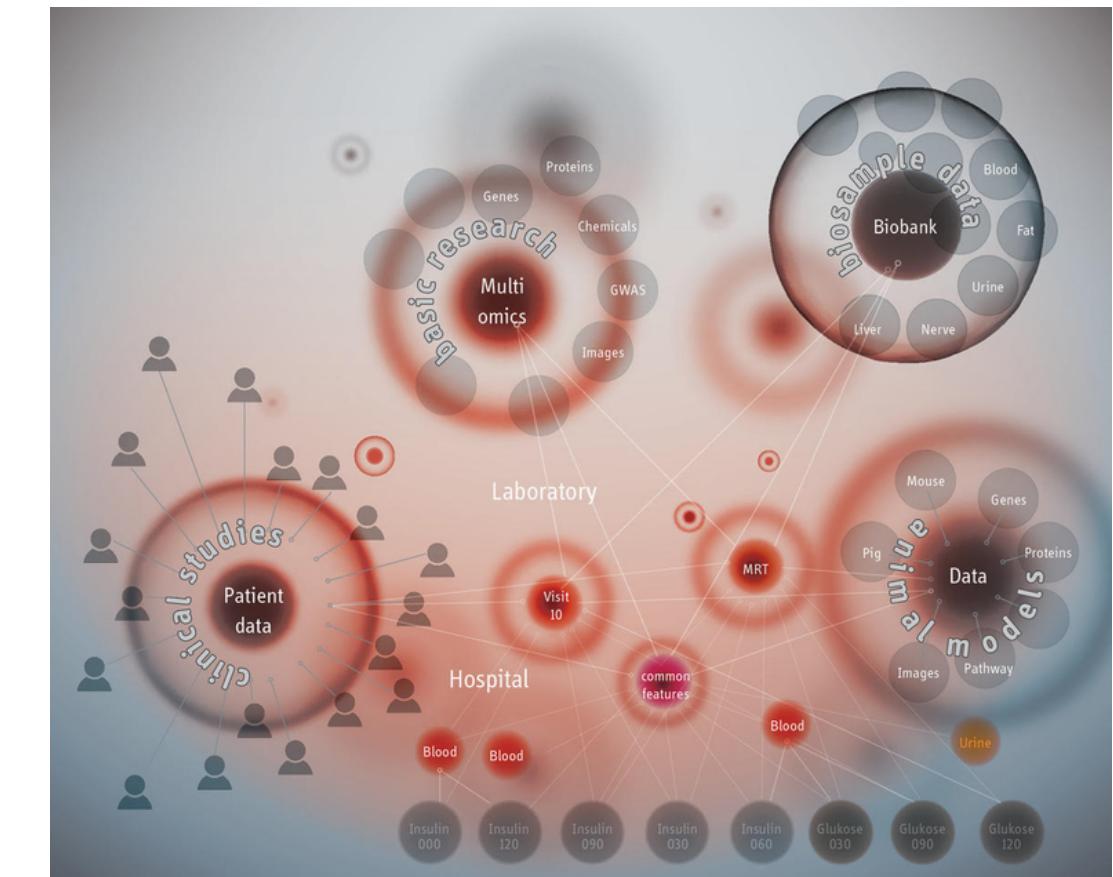
<https://neo4j.com/blog/analyzing-paradise-papers-neo4j/>



# Neo4j

„In biology or medicine, data is connected. You know that entities are connected -- they are dependent on each other. The reason why we chose graph technology and Neo4j is because all the entities are connected.“

Dr Alexander Jarasch, DZD German centre of diabetic research



<https://www.zdnet.com/article/using-graph-database-technology-to-tackle-diabetes/>



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Amsterdam  
Thursday, 14 February 2019

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## GraphTour 2019 Brings Neo4j to a City Near You

Neo4j is hitting the road to bring a full day of content-rich sessions on how graph databases are revolutionizing the modern enterprise. This one-day event will turn you into a graph expert — no matter your technical background or familiarity with graph technology.

# Neo4j

- <https://neo4j.com/download/>
  - Neo4j Desktop (Analyst centric)
  - Neo4j Server (Community and Enterprise Edition)  
Community Edition: GPLv3  
Enterprise Edition: Proprietary

# Neo4j Datasets

- <https://neo4j.com/sandbox-v2/>
  - Preconfigured instance with several different datasets
- <https://neo4j.com/graphgists/>
  - Neo4j Graph Gists, Example Models and Cypher Queries
- <https://offshoreleaks.icij.org/>
  - Data convolutes mentioned early

# My „Bootiful Music“ project

- <https://github.com/michael-simons/bootiful-music>
  - Contains docker-compose-scripts for both relational database and Neo4j Instances
- Two Spring Boot applications
  - charts: the relational part of the application
  - knowledge: the graph application
- etl: the custom Neo4j plugin
- A Micronaut demo as well

# Resources

- Demo:  
[github.com/michael-simons/bootiful-music](https://github.com/michael-simons/bootiful-music)
- A series of blog posts: From relational databases to databases with relations  
<https://info.michael-simons.eu/2018/10/11/from-relational-databases-to-databases-with-relations/>
- Slides: [speakerdeck.com/michaelsimons](https://speakerdeck.com/michaelsimons)
- Curated set of SDN / OGM tips  
<https://github.com/michael-simons/neo4j-sdn-ogm-tips>
- GraphTour 2019: <https://neo4j.com/graphtour/>
- (German) Spring Boot Book  
[@SpringBootBuch // springbootbuch.de](https://www.springbootbuch.de)



A network graph composed of numerous small, semi-transparent teal circles of varying sizes, connected by thin gray lines. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with a higher density in the center and towards the bottom right, creating a sense of a complex social or data network.

**Thank you!**



# Images

- Medical graph: DZD German centre of diabetic research
- Codd: Wikipedia
- Apoc and Cypher: Stills from the motion picture „The Matrix“
- Demo:  
<https://unsplash.com/photos/Uduc5hJX2Ew>  
[https://unsplash.com/photos/FIPc9\\_VoCj4](https://unsplash.com/photos/FIPc9_VoCj4)  
<https://unsplash.com/photos/gp8BLyaTaA0>