

# Construction of typhoon disaster knowledge graph based on graph database Neo4j

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**Abstract:** The typhoon knowledge graph can correlate various kinds of information in the typhoon data, conduct overall and related analysis, and finally provide effective assistance for typhoon prevention and post-disaster protection. The data of typhoon landing in China from 2000 to 2015 were selected to build a typhoon knowledge graph based on Neo4j graph database platform. The typhoon knowledge graph can be used to understand the occurrence of historical typhoons and obtain the distribution of typhoon data in time and space.

**Key Words:** Typhoon disaster, Knowledge Graph, Neo4j

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Typhoon is a severely destructive weather system. The number of typhoons that land in China is about 7 each year, and each time they cause loss of life and property [1]. In order to reduce damage caused by typhoon, it is necessary to analyze various typhoons information to understand the impact of typhoon disasters. However, with the advent of the dig data age, the amount of typhoon data is burgeoning. Moreover, the loose organization brings great challenges to the knowledge interconnection in the big data environment [2]. Knowledge graph [3] can organize knowledge in an orderly manner with its powerful semantic processing ability and open interconnection ability. Knowledge graph is able to integrate various related entities and concepts in the form of nodes and edges, and build entity-relationship networks in the form of graphs [2]. Knowledge graph can organize knowledge more orderly and organically, and realize intelligent acquisition and management of knowledge.

Neo4j is a graph database optimized for storing graph node, attributes, and edges [4]. It also is a database that supports massive data relational operations. Many researchers use Neo4j to build knowledge graphs: film knowledge graph [5], protein knowledge graph [6], Asian music knowledge graph [7] etc. In this paper, Neo4j is selected to construct the typhoon knowledge graph.

With the constructed typhoon knowledge graph in this paper, the number and intensity of typhoons that occurred in the

history of a certain location, or the landing conditions of typhoon that occurred at the same time can be known. The constructed typhoon knowledge graph also can be used to summarize the general rules, and understand which locations are often affected by typhoon disasters or in which time periods.

## 2 BASIC KNOWLEDGE

### 2.1 Typhoon disaster

Typhoon is a low-pressure vortex that occurs on the tropical or subtropical ocean surface. It is a powerful and deep tropical weather system. Typhoons are common in summer and autumn, and their intensity is divided into multiple levels according to the central wind speed.

According to the “Grade of tropical cyclones” (GBT19201-2006) issued by China Meteorological Administration in 2006. Tropical cyclones are divided into six levels based on the maximum wind speed near the center. According to the “Basic Situation of National Disasters in China in 2018” [8] issued by the Ministry of Emergency Management and the Office of the National Disaster Reduction Committee: in 2018, a total of 10 typhoons made landfall in mainland China, and the number of typhoons in 2018 is 3 more than the average number in previous years. It is a rare situation throughout the history that three typhoons, such as “Abi”, “Capricorn”, and “Rumbia”, landed in East China one month in succession and penetrated inland to affect North China, Northeast China and other places. The “Rumbia” Typhoon was the most severe typhoon in 2018, which caused severe rainstorms and floods in Shandong, Henan, Anhui, and Jiangsu provinces. The “Mangosteen”

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This work is supported by the Development Program of China (2018YFB1004600 and 2017YFC1503000), and the National Nature Science Foundation of China(41701594 and 41871302).



CNN编号	中文名称	英文名称	登陆地点	登陆时间	登陆强度	登陆强度
4505	---	---	广东省江门市江海区	1945年7月7日	10级, 25m/s, 965hPa	8级, 20m/s, 965hPa
4513	---	---	广东省江门市江海区	1945年7月10日	13级, 41m/s, 965hPa	8级, 20m/s, 965hPa
4515	---	---	广东省江门市江海区	1945年7月12日	12级, 35m/s, 970hPa	12级, 35m/s, 970hPa
4518	---	---	福建省福州市马尾区	1945年7月12日	14级, 35m/s, 965hPa	14级, 41m/s, 965hPa
4517	---	---	福建省福州市马尾区	1945年7月12日	14级, 40m/s, 965hPa	14级, 40m/s, 965hPa
4519	---	---	福建省福州市马尾区	1945年7月12日	10级, 25m/s, 965hPa	10级, 25m/s, 965hPa
4520	---	---	福建省福州市马尾区	1945年7月12日	14级, 40m/s, 965hPa	14级, 40m/s, 965hPa
4526	---	---	广东省江门市江海区	1945年7月12日	17级, 61m/s, 965hPa	14级, 40m/s, 965hPa

Fig 2. The raw data of the typhoon

When importing data in batches in Neo4j, it can only use CSV files to import data, so the collected typhoon attributes of the typhoon needs to be converted into CSV table data first. Then, the selected typhoon attributes were converted into CSV table data, as in Figure 3.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	4	启德	Kai-tak	台湾省台北市	2000年7月12日	12级, 35m/s, 965hPa	11级, 30m/s, 960hPa
2	4	启德	Kai-tak	上海市崇明区	2000年7月10日	12级, 35m/s, 965hPa	11级, 30m/s, 960hPa
3	4	启德	Kai-tak	辽宁省丹东市	2000年7月11日	12级, 35m/s, 965hPa	11级, 30m/s, 960hPa
4	8	杰拉华	Jelawat	浙江省宁波市	2000年8月16日	14级, 45m/s, 965hPa	12级, 35m/s, 970hPa
5	10	碧利斯	Bilis	福建省泉州市	2000年8月16日	16级, 55m/s, 930hPa	14级, 45m/s, 930hPa
6	13	玛莉亚	Maria	广东省汕尾市	2000年9月1日	10级, 28m/s, 980hPa	10级, 28m/s, 980hPa
7	16	悟空	Wukong	海南省陵水黎族自治县	2000年9月13日	13级, 40m/s, 960hPa	13级, 40m/s, 960hPa
8	102	飞燕	Chebi	福建省福州市	2001年6月13日	13级, 40m/s, 960hPa	12级, 35m/s, 970hPa
9	103	榴莲	Durian	广东省钦州市	2001年7月12日	12级, 35m/s, 970hPa	12级, 35m/s, 970hPa
10	104	尤特	Utor	广东省汕头市	2001年7月12日	12级, 35m/s, 965hPa	11级, 30m/s, 960hPa
11	105	潭美	Trani	台湾省台北市	2001年7月12日	8级, 20m/s, 995hPa	8级, 20m/s, 995hPa
12	107	玉兔	Yutu	广东省茂名市	2001年7月26日	12级, 33m/s, 975hPa	12级, 33m/s, 975hPa
13	108	桃芝	Toraji	福建省漳州市	2001年7月26日	13级, 40m/s, 965hPa	13级, 40m/s, 965hPa
14	109	桃芝	Toraji	福建省漳州市	2001年7月26日	13级, 40m/s, 965hPa	13级, 40m/s, 965hPa
15	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
16	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
17	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
18	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
19	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
20	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
21	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
22	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa
23	114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级, 20m/s, 985hPa	8级, 18m/s, 990hPa

Fig 3. The CSV table data of the selected typhoon attributes.

As shown in Figure 3, there are null values in the CSV table. These null values appear when the data is converted to a CSV table because there is a one-to-many relationship in this typhoon data. Since importing null values into Neo4j will report an error, these null values need to be filled by Excel's own fill function.

Next, the magnitude of the data was modified to be easy to count, and the peak intensity was divided into wind speed, air pressure and wind level.

Finally, the data of the dataset used in this paper are, number, Chinese name, English name, landing location, landing time, wind level, wind speed, air pressure and typhoon type, as in Figure 4.

Number	ChineseName	EnglishName	Local	Time	Level	Speed	Pressure	Belongto
4	启德	Kai-tak	台湾省台北市	2000年7月12日	12级	35m/s	965hPa	台风
4	启德	Kai-tak	浙江省台州市	2000年7月12日	12级	35m/s	965hPa	台风
4	启德	Kai-tak	上海市崇明区	2000年7月10日	12级	35m/s	965hPa	台风
4	启德	Kai-tak	辽宁省丹东市	2000年7月11日	12级	35m/s	965hPa	台风
8	杰拉华	Jelawat	浙江省宁波市	2000年8月16日	14级	45m/s	965hPa	强台风
10	碧利斯	Bilis	福建省泉州市	2000年8月16日	16级	55m/s	930hPa	超强台风
10	碧利斯	Bilis	福建省泉州市	2000年8月16日	16级	55m/s	930hPa	超强台风
13	玛莉亚	Maria	广东省汕尾市	2000年9月1日	10级	28m/s	980hPa	强热带风暴
16	悟空	Wukong	海南省陵水黎族自治县	2000年9月13日	13级	40m/s	960hPa	台风
102	飞燕	Chebi	福建省福州市	2001年6月13日	13级	40m/s	960hPa	台风
103	榴莲	Durian	广东省钦州市	2001年7月12日	12级	35m/s	970hPa	台风
103	榴莲	Durian	广东省钦州市	2001年7月12日	12级	35m/s	970hPa	台风
104	尤特	Utor	广东省汕头市	2001年7月12日	12级	35m/s	965hPa	台风
105	潭美	Trani	台湾省台北市	2001年7月12日	8级	20m/s	995hPa	热带风暴
107	玉兔	Yutu	广东省茂名市	2001年7月26日	12级	33m/s	975hPa	台风
108	桃芝	Toraji	福建省漳州市	2001年7月26日	13级	40m/s	965hPa	台风
108	桃芝	Toraji	福建省漳州市	2001年7月26日	13级	40m/s	965hPa	台风
108	桃芝	Toraji	福建省漳州市	2001年7月26日	13级	40m/s	965hPa	台风
114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级	20m/s	985hPa	热带风暴
114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级	20m/s	985hPa	热带风暴
114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级	20m/s	985hPa	热带风暴
114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级	20m/s	985hPa	热带风暴
114	菲特	Fitow	浙江省宁波市	2001年8月8日	8级	20m/s	985hPa	热带风暴

Fig 4.A part of the processed data.

When saving those data, since the data set contains Chinese, it is important to change the encoding format of the CSV file to UTF-8 at first.

### 3.2 Construct a Knowledge Graph with Neo4j

After getting the CSV table data, the typhoon knowledge graph can be constructed by Neo4j.

There are five ways to import nodes in Neo4j:

1. Cypher CREATE statement, write a CREATE statement for each piece of data. (Slow when importing data in batches)
2. The Cypher LOAD CSV statement converts the data into CSV format and reads the data through LOAD CSV. (Data can be imported in batches, but the speed will decrease when faces with more than 10 million node data)
3. The official Java API-Batch Inserter. (Only available in Java)
4. Batch Import tool written by Michael Hunger, one of the authors of Neo4j. (Neo4j must be stopped before data can be import)
5. The official Neo4j-import tool. (occupies less resources than Batch Import, but can only generate a new database, and cannot insert data into an existing database)

As the data set s less than 10 million and LOAD CSV can be used directly in the visualization window of Neo4j, the LOAD CSV was selected as the method for importing typhoon data into Neo4j.

First the node data is imported with the help of LOAD CSV from typhoon CSV table to Neo4j column by column. The number, Chinese name and English name are imported as three different attributes of the same node. In this way, different attributes can be selected to display by the node according to requirements during visualization as in Figure 5.



Fig 5. Three attributes of typhoon.

Then the landing location, landing time, wind level, wind speed, air pressure and typhoon types are imported as nodes.

The last is to import relationship. In this article, the entity type can be considered as the relationship between entities. For example, the entity type of the date is time.

Therefore, the LOAD CSV was used to establish relationship between every two columns in typhoon CSV table. The typhoon number, Chinese name and English name were selected as the center node, and let the rest of nodes to establish a relationship with it. And the relationship is artificially set between the typhoon and time to "at". In the same way, the relationship with the area is set to "occur", with the wind speed is "wind speed is", with the air pressure is "air pressure is", and set "is" between the typhoon and wind level, as well as typhoon type, as in Figure 6.





Fig 6. A typhoon and its relationships.

As shown in figure 6, Typhoon Kai-tak landed in four areas in July 2000: Taizhou City, Zhejiang Province; Dandong City, Liaoning Province; Fengxian District, Shanghai; and Hualian County, Taiwan Province. Since the speed of Kai-tak is 35m/s, the air pressure is 965hPa, according to table 1, Kai-tak is a 12 level typhoon.

### 3 Display of typhoon knowledge graph

After importing all typhoon data, the typhoon knowledge graph was created. Then the typhoon data will be selectively viewed according to our requirement.

#### 4.1 Typhoon at the same time

The information about typhoons occurring at the same time will be displayed in the Neo4j visualization window as in Figure 7.



Fig 7. Situation of typhoons in August 2002.

In figure 7, there were three typhoons occurred in August 2002. The Typhoons of the Kammuri and the Vongfong occurred in Guangdong Province were severe tropical storms. The air pressure was both 980hPa, but the wind speed of the Vongfong Typhoon was a bit faster than the Kammuri Typhoon. In the same month, the Sinlaku Typhoon was a severe typhoon with a wind level of 14 and landed in Wenzhou City, Zhejiang Province.

#### 4.2 Typhoon in the same location

The situation of typhoons landing in the same location will be viewed through Neo4j, so that the history of typhoon disasters in the area will be known clearly, as in Figure 8.

As shown in figure 8, six typhoons occurred in Shanwei City, Guangdong Province and two of them occurred in 2001. The strongest one of all six typhoons was the Typhoon Usagi in September 2013. It was a super typhoon with a wind level of 17, and wind speed of 60m/s. In addition, both the Typhoon Maria in September 2000 and the Typhoon Kammuri in August 2002 were severe tropical storms with

similar data. The closest typhoon in the data set was the Typhoon Linfa in July 2015 with 14 level.

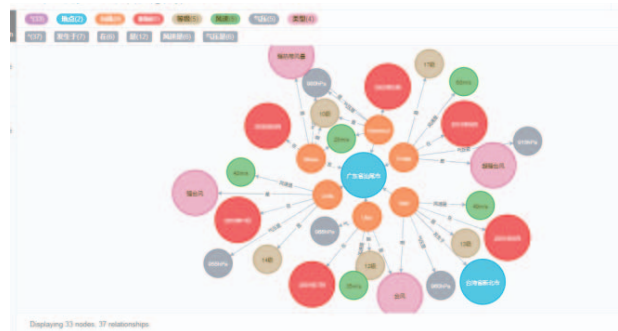


Fig 8. The Typhoons in Shanwei City, Guangdong Province.

#### 4.3 Typhoon in the same wind level

In the same way, the landing conditions of typhoons with the highest wind speed levels in previous years can be obtained, as in Figure 9.



Fig 9. Situation of typhoons with wind level 17+.

In the typhoon data, there are five typhoons with a wind level of 17+. Since the Taiwan Province and the Fujian Province have suffered three typhoons with a wind of 17, it can be inferred that the Taiwan Province and the Fujian Province have a higher probability of suffering a super typhoon than other places. As a result, it is essential to pay more attention to the disaster prevention for Taiwan Province and Fujian Province.

The typhoon knowledge graph can not only analyze the data of a single typhoon, but also use the relationship between typhoons to conduct an overall analysis. It can help to sorting and analyzing historical typhoon data from damage brought by typhoon disasters, summarize certain rules from them, and carry out a series of preventive measures. With the assistance of typhoon knowledge graph, the damage brought by a typhoon will be reduced.

### 5 CONCLUSION

In this paper, the Neo4j was used to build a typhoon knowledge graph. With the assistance of typhoon knowledge graph, it is convenient to have a comprehensive understanding of typhoon disasters in recent years. Researchers will conduct a correlation analysis of typhoon from the perspective of time and space with typhoon knowledge graph. It is helpful to prevent typhoon disasters and timely rescue typhoon-affected areas.

But there are some issues that remain to be solved:

1. The data used in this paper is not comprehensive, and lack the data in recent years, but the data set will be updated in 2020 by website (<http://www.stwc.icoc.cc>). At that time, the data set will be enriched. So the new data can directly add to the database on the existing typhoon knowledge graph.
2. Due to the lack of some information in the data before 2000, so the current typhoon knowledge graph has a small amount of data. It is definitely not as good as a knowledge graph with a large amount of data in terms of some rules.
3. The function of Neo4j is undoubtedly very powerful, but due of the limitation that it can only be imported using CSV file, it takes a lot of time in data processing.

In summary, the typhoon knowledge graph can correlate the data that originally existed in the CSV table. And Neo4j's powerful information query function can satisfy queriers' high requirements. Knowledge graph not only help to search for desire information, but also obtain related-information through the relationship between entities. It greatly cut down the users' time to search for the information and improves work efficiency.

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