Graph Algorithms in Practice

The approach we take to graph analysis evolves as we become more familiar with the behavior of different algorithms on specific datasets. In this chapter, we'll run through several examples to give you a better feeling for how to tackle large-scale graph data analysis using datasets from Yelp and the US Department of Transportation. We'll walk through Yelp data analysis in Neo4j that includes a general overview of the data, combining algorithms to make trip recommendations, and mining user and business data for consulting. In Spark, we'll look into US airline data to understand traffic patterns and delays as well as how airports are connected by different airlines.

Because pathfinding algorithms are straightforward, our examples will use these centrality and community detection algorithms:

- PageRank to find influential Yelp reviewers and then correlate their ratings for specific hotels
- Betweenness Centrality to uncover reviewers connected to multiple groups and then extract their preferences
- Label Propagation with a projection to create supercategories of similar Yelp businesses
- Degree Centrality to quickly identify airport hubs in the US transport dataset
- Strongly Connected Components to look at clusters of airport routes in the US

Analyzing Yelp Data with Neo4j

Yelp helps people find local businesses based on reviews, preferences, and recommendations. Over 180 million reviews had been written on the platform as of the end of

2018. Since 2013, Yelp has run the Yelp Dataset challenge, a competition that encourages people to explore and research Yelp's open dataset.

As of Round 12 (conducted in 2018) of the challenge, the open dataset contained:

- Over 7 million reviews plus tips
- Over 1.5 million users and 280,000 pictures
- Over 188,000 businesses with 1.4 million attributes
- 10 metropolitan areas

Since its launch, the dataset has become popular, with hundreds of academic papers written using this material. The Yelp dataset represents real data that is very well structured and highly interconnected. It's a great showcase for graph algorithms that you can also download and explore.

Yelp Social Network

As well as writing and reading reviews about businesses, users of Yelp form a social network. Users can send friend requests to other users they've come across while browsing Yelp.com, or they can connect their address books or Facebook graphs.

The Yelp dataset also includes a social network. Figure 7-1 is a screen capture of the Friends section of Mark's Yelp profile.

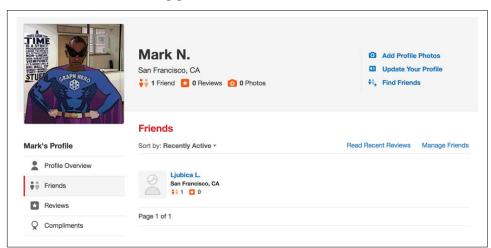


Figure 7-1. Mark's Yelp profile

Apart from the fact that Mark needs a few more friends, we're ready to start. To illustrate how we might analyze Yelp data in Neo4j, we'll use a scenario where we work for a travel information business. We'll first explore the Yelp data, and then look at how

to help people plan trips with our app. We will walk through finding good recommendations for places to stay and things to do in major cities like Las Vegas.

Another part of our business scenario will involve consulting to travel-destination businesses. In one example we'll help hotels identify influential visitors and then businesses that they should target for cross-promotion programs.

Data Import

There are many different methods for importing data into Neo4j, including the Import tool, the LOAD CSV command that we've seen in earlier chapters, and Neo4j drivers.

For the Yelp dataset we need to do a one-off import of a large amount of data, so the Import tool is the best choice. See "Neo4j Bulk Data Import and Yelp" on page 225 for more details.

Graph Model

The Yelp data is represented in a graph model as shown in Figure 7-2.

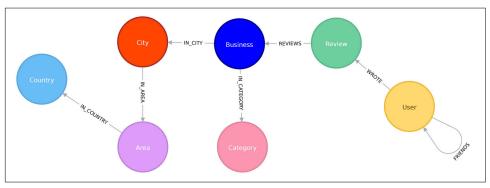


Figure 7-2. The Yelp graph model

Our graph contains User labeled nodes, which have FRIENDS relationships with other Users. Users also write Reviews and tips about Businesses. All of the metadata is stored as properties of nodes, except for business categories, which are represented by separate Category nodes. For location data we've extracted City, Area, and Country attributes into the subgraph. In other use cases it might make sense to extract other attributes to nodes such as dates, or collapse nodes to relationships such as reviews.

The Yelp dataset also includes user tips and photos, but we won't use those in our example.

A Quick Overview of the Yelp Data

Once we have the data loaded in Neo4j, we'll execute some exploratory queries. We'll ask how many nodes are in each category or what types of relations exist, to get a feel for the Yelp data. Previously we've shown Cypher queries for our Neo4j examples, but we might be executing these from another programming language. As Python is the go-to language for data scientists, we'll use Neo4j's Python driver in this section when we want to connect the results to other libraries from the Python ecosystem. If we just want to show the result of a query we'll use Cypher directly.

We'll also show how to combine Neo4j with the popular pandas library, which is effective for data wrangling outside of the database. We'll see how to use the tabulate library to prettify the results we get from pandas, and how to create visual representations of data using matplotlib.

We'll also be using Neo4j's APOC library of procedures to help us write even more powerful Cypher queries. There's more information about APOC in "APOC and Other Neo4j Tools" on page 228.

Let's first install the Python libraries:

pip install neo4j-driver tabulate pandas matplotlib

Once we've done that we'll import those libraries:

```
from neo4j.v1 import GraphDatabase
import pandas as pd
from tabulate import tabulate
```

Importing matplotlib can be fiddly on macOS, but the following lines should do the trick:

```
import matplotlib
matplotlib.use('TkAgg')
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

If you're running on another operating system, the middle line may not be required. Now let's create an instance of the Neo4j driver pointing at a local Neo4j database:

```
driver = GraphDatabase.driver("bolt://localhost", auth=("neo4j", "neo"))
```



You'll need to update the initialization of the driver to use your own host and credentials.

To get started, let's look at some general numbers for nodes and relationships. The following code calculates the cardinalities of node labels (i.e., counts the number of nodes for each label) in the database:

```
result = {"label": [], "count": []}
with driver.session() as session:
    labels = [row["label"] for row in session.run("CALL db.labels()")]
    for label in labels:
        query = f"MATCH (:`{label}`) RETURN count(*) as count"
        count = session.run(query).single()["count"]
        result["label"].append(label)
        result["count"].append(count)
df = pd.DataFrame(data=result)
print(tabulate(df.sort_values("count"), headers='keys',
                              tablefmt='psql', showindex=False))
```

If we run that code we'll see how many nodes we have for each label:

label	count
Country	17
Area	54
City	1093
Category	1293
Business	174567
User	1326101
Review	5261669

We could also create a visual representation of the cardinalities, with the following code:

```
plt.style.use('fivethirtyeight')
ax = df.plot(kind='bar', x='label', y='count', legend=None)
ax.xaxis.set_label_text("")
plt.yscale("log")
plt.xticks(rotation=45)
plt.tight layout()
plt.show()
```

We can see the chart that gets generated by this code in Figure 7-3. Note that this chart is using log scale.

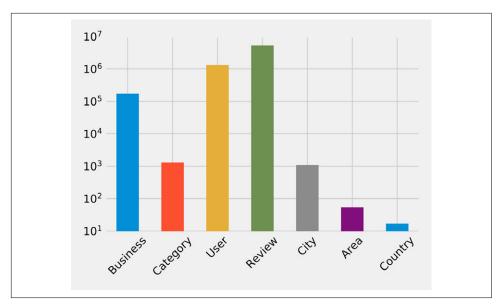


Figure 7-3. The number of nodes for each label category

Similarly, we can calculate the cardinalities of relationships:

If we run that code we'll see the number of each type of relationship:

relType	count
IN_COUNTRY	54
IN_AREA	1154
IN_CITY	174566
IN_CATEGORY	667527
WROTE	5261669
REVIEWS	5261669
FRIENDS	10645356

We can see a chart of the cardinalities in Figure 7-4. As with the node cardinalities chart, this chart is using log scale.

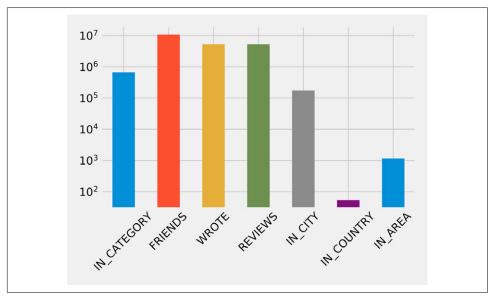


Figure 7-4. The number of relationships by relationship type

These queries shouldn't reveal anything surprising, but they're useful to get a feel for what's in the data. This also serves as a quick check that the data imported correctly.

We assume Yelp has many hotel reviews, but it makes sense to check before we focus on that sector. We can find out how many hotel businesses are in that data and how many reviews they have by running the following query:

```
MATCH (category:Category {name: "Hotels"})
RETURN size((category)<-[:IN_CATEGORY]-()) AS businesses,</pre>
       size((:Review)-[:REVIEWS]->(:Business)-[:IN_CATEGORY]->
                                   (category)) AS reviews
```

Here's the result:

businesses	reviews
2683	183759

We have many businesses to work with, and a lot of reviews! In the next section we'll explore the data further with our business scenario.

Trip Planning App

To add well-liked recommendations to our app, we start by finding the most-rated hotels as a heuristic for popular choices for reservations. We can add how well they've been rated to understand the actual experience. To see the 10 most-reviewed hotels and plot their rating distributions, we use the following code:

```
# Find the 10 hotels with the most reviews
query = """
MATCH (review:Review)-[:REVIEWS]->(business:Business),
      (business)-[:IN CATEGORY]->(category:Category {name: $category}),
      (business)-[:IN CITY]->(:City {name: $city})
RETURN business.name AS business, collect(review.stars) AS allReviews
ORDER BY size(allReviews) DESC
LIMIT 10
fig = plt.figure()
fig.set_size_inches(10.5, 14.5)
fig.subplots_adjust(hspace=0.4, wspace=0.4)
with driver.session() as session:
    params = { "city": "Las Vegas", "category": "Hotels"}
    result = session.run(query, params)
    for index, row in enumerate(result):
        business = row["business"]
        stars = pd.Series(row["allReviews"])
        total = stars.count()
        average stars = stars.mean().round(2)
        # Calculate the star distribution
        stars_histogram = stars.value_counts().sort_index()
        stars_histogram /= float(stars_histogram.sum())
        # Plot a bar chart showing the distribution of star ratings
        ax = fig.add_subplot(5, 2, index+1)
        stars_histogram.plot(kind="bar", legend=None, color="darkblue",
                             title=f"{business}\nAve:
                                     {average_stars}, Total: {total}")
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

We've constrained by city and category to focus on Las Vegas hotels. We run that code we get the chart in Figure 7-5. Note that the x-axis represents the hotel's star rating and the y-axis represents the overall percentage of each rating.

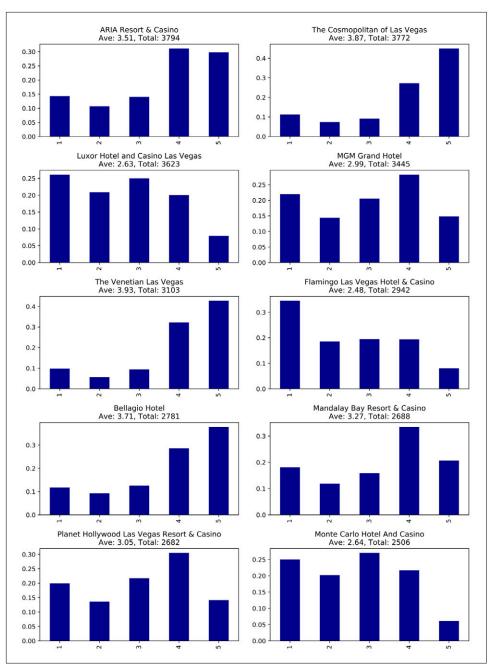


Figure 7-5. The 10 most-reviewed hotels, with the number of stars on the x-axis and their overall rating percentage on the y-axis

These hotels have lots of reviews, far more than anyone would be likely to read. It would be better to show our users the content from the most relevant reviews and make them more prominent on our app. To do this analysis, we'll move from basic graph exploration to using graph algorithms.

Finding influential hotel reviewers

One way we can decide which reviews to post is by ordering reviews based on the influence of the reviewer on Yelp. We'll run the PageRank algorithm over the projected graph of all users that have reviewed at least three hotels. Remember from earlier chapters that a projection can help filter out inessential information as well as add relationship data (sometimes inferred). We'll use Yelp's friend graph (introduced in "Yelp Social Network" on page 146) as the relationships between users. The PageRank algorithm will uncover those reviewers with more sway over more users, even if they are not direct friends.



If two people are Yelp friends there are two FRIENDS relationships between them. For example, if A and B are friends there will be a FRIENDS relationship from A to B and another from B to A.

We need to write a query that projects a subgraph of users with more than three reviews and then executes the PageRank algorithm over that projected subgraph.

It's easier to understand how the subgraph projection works with a small example. Figure 7-6 shows a graph of three mutual friends—Mark, Arya, and Praveena. Mark and Praveena have both reviewed three hotels and will be part of the projected graph. Arya, on the other hand, has only reviewed one hotel and will therefore be excluded from the projection.

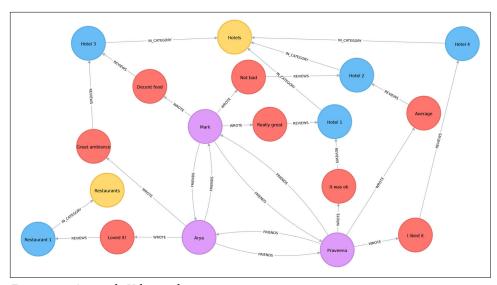


Figure 7-6. A sample Yelp graph

Our projected graph will only include Mark and Praveena, as shown in Figure 7-7.

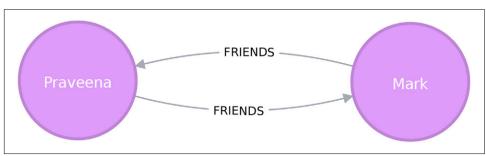


Figure 7-7. Our sample projected graph

Now that we've seen how graph projections work, let's move forward. The following query executes the PageRank algorithm over our projected graph and stores the result in the hotelPageRank property on each node:

```
CALL algo.pageRank(
  'MATCH (u:User)-[:WROTE]->()-[:REVIEWS]->()-[:IN_CATEGORY]->
                               (:Category {name: $category})
  WITH u, count(*) AS reviews
  WHERE reviews >= $cutOff
  RETURN id(u) AS id',
  'MATCH (u1:User)-[:WROTE]->()-[:REVIEWS]->()-[:IN_CATEGORY]->
                                (:Category {name: $category})
  MATCH (u1)-[:FRIENDS]->(u2)
  RETURN id(u1) AS source, id(u2) AS target',
```

```
{graph: "cypher", write: true, writeProperty: "hotelPageRank",
params: {category: "Hotels", cutOff: 3}}
```

You might have noticed that we didn't set the damping factor or maximum iteration limit discussed in Chapter 5. If not explicitly set, Neo4j defaults to a 0.85 damping factor with maxIterations set to 20'.

Now let's look at the distribution of the PageRank values so we'll know how to filter our data:

```
MATCH (u:User)
WHERE exists(u.hotelPageRank)
RETURN count(u.hotelPageRank) AS count,
       avg(u.hotelPageRank) AS ave.
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.5) AS `50%`,
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.75) AS `75%`,
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.90) AS `90%`,
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.95) AS `95%`,
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.99) AS `99%`,
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.999) AS `99.9%`,
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.9999) AS `99.99%`;
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 0.99999) AS `99.999%`,
       percentileDisc(u.hotelPageRank, 1) AS `100%`
```

If we run that query we'll get this output:

count	ave	50%	75%	90%	95%	99%	99.9%	99.99%	99.999%	100%
1326101	0.1614898	0.15	0.15	0.157497	0.181875	0.330081	1.649511	6.825738	15.27376	22.98046

To interpret this percentile table, the 90% value of 0.157497 means that 90% of users had a lower PageRank score. 99.99% reflects the influence rank for the top 0.0001% reviewers and 100% is simply the highest PageRank score.

It's interesting that 90% of our users have a score of under 0.16, which is close to the overall average—and only marginally more than the 0.15 that they are initialized with by the PageRank algorithm. It seems like this data reflects a power-law distribution with a few very influential reviewers.

Because we're interested in finding only the most influential users, we'll write a query that only finds users with a PageRank score in the top 0.001% of all users. The following query finds reviewers with a PageRank score higher than 1.64951 (notice that's the 99.9% group):

```
// Only find users that have a hotelPageRank score in the top 0.001% of users
MATCH (u:User)
WHERE u.hotelPageRank > 1.64951
// Find the top 10 of those users
WITH u ORDER BY u.hotelPageRank DESC
```

LIMIT 10

```
RETURN u.name AS name,
      u.hotelPageRank AS pageRank,
       size((u)-[:WROTE]->()-[:REVIEWS]->()-[:IN CATEGORY]->
            (:Category {name: "Hotels"})) AS hotelReviews,
       size((u)-[:WROTE]->()) AS totalReviews,
       size((u)-[:FRIENDS]-()) AS friends
```

If we run that query we'll get the results seen here:

name	pageRank	hotelReviews	totalReviews	friends
Phil	17.361242	15	134	8154
Philip	16.871013	21	620	9634
Carol	12.416060999999997	6	119	6218
Misti	12.239516000000004	19	730	6230
Joseph	12.003887499999998	5	32	6596
Michael	11.460049	13	51	6572
J	11.431505999999997	103	1322	6498
Abby	11.376136999999998	9	82	7922
Erica	10.993773	6	15	7071
Randy	10.748785999999999	21	125	7846

These results show us that Phil is the most credible reviewer, although he hasn't reviewed many hotels. He's likely connected to some very influential people, but if we wanted a stream of new reviews, his profile wouldn't be the best selection. Philip has a slightly lower score, but has the most friends and has written five times more reviews than Phil. While I has written the most reviews of all and has a reasonable number of friends, J's PageRank score isn't the highest—but it's still in the top 10. For our app we choose to highlight hotel reviews from Phil, Philip, and J to give us the right mix of influencers and number of reviews.

Now that we've improved our in-app recommendations with relevant reviews, let's turn to the other side of our business: consulting.

Travel Business Consulting

As part of our consulting service, hotels subscribe to be alerted when an influential visitor writes about their stay so they can take any necessary action. First, we'll look at ratings of the Bellagio, sorted by the most influential reviewers:

```
query = """\
MATCH (b:Business {name: $hotel})
MATCH (b)<-[:REVIEWS]-(review)<-[:WROTE]-(user)
WHERE exists(user.hotelPageRank)
RETURN user.name AS name,
```

```
user.hotelPageRank AS pageRank,
      review.stars AS stars
with driver.session() as session:
   params = { "hotel": "Bellagio Hotel" }
   df = pd.DataFrame([dict(record) for record in session.run(query, params)])
   df = df.round(2)
   df = df[["name", "pageRank", "stars"]]
top_reviews = df.sort_values(by=["pageRank"], ascending=False).head(10)
print(tabulate(top_reviews, headers='keys', tablefmt='psql', showindex=False))
```

If we run that code we'll get this output:

name	pageRank	stars
Misti	12.239516000000004	5
Michael	11.460049	4
J	11.431505999999997	5
Erica	10.993773	4
Christine	10.740770499999998	4
Jeremy	9.576763499999998	5
Connie	9.118103499999998	5
Joyce	7.621449000000001	4
Henry	7.299146	5
Flora	6.7570075	4

Note that these results are different from our previous table of the best hotel reviewers. That's because here we are only looking at reviewers that have rated the Bellagio.

Things are looking good for the hotel customer service team at the Bellagio—the top 10 influencers all give their hotel good rankings. They may want to encourage these people to visit again and share their experiences.

Are there any influential guests who haven't had such a good experience? We can run the following code to find the guests with the highest PageRank that rated their experience with fewer than four stars:

```
query = """\
MATCH (b:Business {name: $hotel})
MATCH (b)<-[:REVIEWS]-(review)<-[:WROTE]-(user)
WHERE exists(user.hotelPageRank) AND review.stars < $goodRating
RETURN user.name AS name,
       user.hotelPageRank AS pageRank,
       review.stars AS stars
.....
```

```
with driver.session() as session:
    params = { "hotel": "Bellagio Hotel", "goodRating": 4 }
    df = pd.DataFrame([dict(record) for record in session.run(query, params)])
    df = df.round(2)
    df = df[["name", "pageRank", "stars"]]
top_reviews = df.sort_values(by=["pageRank"], ascending=False).head(10)
print(tabulate(top_reviews, headers='keys', tablefmt='psql', showindex=False))
```

If we run that code we'll get the following results:

name	pageRank	stars
Chris	5.84	3
Lorrie	4.95	2
Dani	3.47	1
Victor	3.35	3
Francine	2.93	3
Rex	2.79	2
Jon	2.55	3
Rachel	2.47	3
Leslie	2.46	2
Benay	2.46	3

Our highest-ranked users giving the Bellagio lower ratings, Chris and Lorrie, are amongst the top 1,000 most influential users (as per the results of our earlier query), so perhaps a personal outreach is warranted. Also, because many reviewers write during their stay, real-time alerts about influencers may facilitate even more positive interactions.

Bellagio cross-promotion

After we helped them find influential reviewers, the Bellagio has now asked us to help identify other businesses for cross-promotion with help from well-connected customers. In our scenario, we recommend that they increase their customer base by attracting new guests from different types of communities as a greenfield opportunity. We can use the Betweenness Centrality algorithm that we discussed earlier to work out which Bellagio reviewers are not only well connected across the whole Yelp network, but might also act as a bridge between different groups.

We're only interested in finding influencers in Las Vegas, so we'll first tag those users:

```
MATCH (u:User)
WHERE exists((u)-[:WROTE]->()-[:REVIEWS]->()-[:IN CITY]->
                              (:City {name: "Las Vegas"}))
SET u:LasVegas
```

It would take a long time to run the Betweenness Centrality algorithm over our Las Vegas users, so instead we'll use the RA-Brandes variant. This algorithm calculates a betweenness score by sampling nodes and only exploring shortest paths to a certain depth.

After some experimentation, we improved results with a few parameters set differently than the default values. We'll use shortest paths of up to 4 hops (maxDepth of 4) and sample 20% of the nodes (probability of 0.2). Note that increasing the number of hops and nodes will generally increase the accuracy, but at the cost of more time to compute the results. For any particular problem, the optimal parameters typically require testing to identify the point of diminishing returns.

The following query will execute the algorithm and store the result in the between property:

```
CALL algo.betweenness.sampled('LasVegas', 'FRIENDS',
    {write: true, writeProperty: "between", maxDepth: 4, probability: 0.2})
```

Before we use these scores in our queries, let's write a quick exploratory query to see how the scores are distributed:

If we run that query we'll see the following output:

count	ave	50 %	75%	90%	95%	99%	99.9%	99.99%	99.999%	100%
506028	320538.6014	0	10005	318944	1001655	4436409	34854988	214080923	621434012	1998032952

Half of our users have a score of 0, meaning they are not well connected at all. The top 1 percentile (99% column) are on at least 4 million shortest paths between our set of 500,000 users. Considered together, we know that most of our users are poorly connected, but a few exert a lot of control over information; this is a classic behavior of small-world networks.

We can find out who our superconnectors are by running the following query:

```
MATCH(u:User)-[:WROTE]->()-[:REVIEWS]->(:Business {name:"Bellagio Hotel"})
WHERE exists(u.between)
RETURN u.name AS user,
       toInteger(u.between) AS betweenness,
      u.hotelPageRank AS pageRank,
       size((u)-[:WROTE]->()-[:REVIEWS]->()-[:IN_CATEGORY]->
                             (:Category {name: "Hotels"}))
       AS hotelReviews
ORDER BY u.between DESC
LIMIT 10
```

The output is as follows:

user	betweenness	pageRank	hotelReviews
Misti	841707563	12.239516000000004	19
Christine	236269693	10.740770499999998	16
Erica	235806844	10.993773	6
Mike	215534452	NULL	2
J	192155233	11.431505999999997	103
Michael	161335816	5.105143	31
Jeremy	160312436	9.576763499999998	6
Michael	139960910	11.460049	13
Chris	136697785	5.838922499999999	5
Connie	133372418	9.118103499999998	7

We see some of the same people here that we saw earlier in our PageRank query, with Mike being an interesting exception. He was excluded from that calculation because he hasn't reviewed enough hotels (three was the cutoff), but it seems like he's quite well connected in the world of Las Vegas Yelp users.

In an effort to reach a wider variety of customers, we'll look at other preferences these "connectors" display to see what we should promote. Many of these users have also reviewed restaurants, so we write the following query to find out which ones they like best:

```
// Find the top 50 users who have reviewed the Bellagio
MATCH (u:User)-[:WROTE]->()-[:REVIEWS]->(:Business {name:"Bellagio Hotel"})
WHERE u.between > 4436409
WITH u ORDER BY u.between DESC LIMIT 50
// Find the restaurants those users have reviewed in Las Vegas
MATCH (u)-[:WROTE]->(review)-[:REVIEWS]-(business)
WHERE (business)-[:IN_CATEGORY]->(:Category {name: "Restaurants"})
      (business)-[:IN_CITY]->(:City {name: "Las Vegas"})
// Only include restaurants that have more than 3 reviews by these users
WITH business, avg(review.stars) AS averageReview, count(*) AS numberOfReviews
```

```
WHERE numberOfReviews >= 3
RETURN business.name AS business, averageReview, numberOfReviews
ORDER BY averageReview DESC, numberOfReviews DESC
```

This query finds our top 50 influential connectors, and finds the top 10 Las Vegas restaurants where at least 30f them have rated the restaurant. If we run it, we'll see the output shown here:

business	averageReview	numberOfReviews
Jean Georges Steakhouse	5.0	6
Sushi House Goyemon	5.0	6
Art of Flavors	5.0	4
é by José Andrés	5.0	4
Parma By Chef Marc	5.0	4
Yonaka Modern Japanese	5.0	4
Kabuto	5.0	4
Harvest by Roy Ellamar	5.0	3
Portofino by Chef Michael LaPlaca	5.0	3
Montesano's Eateria	5.0	3

We can now recommend that the Bellagio run a joint promotion with these restaurants to attract new guests from groups they might not typically reach. Superconnectors who rate the Bellagio well become our proxy for estimating which restaurants might catch the eye of new types of target visitors.

Now that we have helped the Bellagio reach new groups, we're going to see how we can use community detection to further improve our app.

Finding Similar Categories

LIMIT 10

While our end users are using the app to find hotels, we want to showcase other businesses they might be interested in. The Yelp dataset contains more than 1,000 categories, and it seems likely that some of those categories are similar to each other. We'll use that similarity to make in-app recommendations for new businesses that our users will likely find interesting.

Our graph model doesn't have any relationships between categories, but we can use the ideas described in "Monopartite, Bipartite, and k-Partite Graphs" on page 24 to build a category similarity graph based on how businesses categorize themselves.

For example, imagine that only one business categorizes itself under both Hotels and Historical Tours, as seen in Figure 7-8.

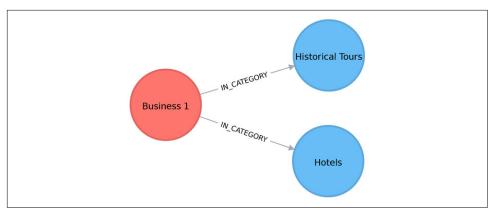


Figure 7-8. A business with two categories

This would result in a projected graph that has a link between Hotels and Historical Tours with a weight of 1, as seen in Figure 7-9.



Figure 7-9. A projected categories graph

In this case, we don't actually have to create the similarity graph—instead, we can run a community detection algorithm such as Label Propagation over a projected similarity graph. Using Label Propagation will effectively cluster businesses around the supercategory with which they have most in common:

```
CALL algo.labelPropagation.stream(
   'MATCH (c:Category) RETURN id(c) AS id',
   'MATCH (c1:Category)<-[:IN_CATEGORY]-()-[:IN_CATEGORY]->(c2:Category)
   WHERE id(c1) < id(c2)
   RETURN id(c1) AS source, id(c2) AS target, count(*) AS weight',
   {graph: "cypher"}
)
YIELD nodeId, label
MATCH (c:Category) WHERE id(c) = nodeId
MERGE (sc:SuperCategory {name: "SuperCategory-" + label})
MERGE (c)-[:IN_SUPER_CATEGORY]->(sc)
```

Let's give those supercategories a friendlier name—the name of their largest category works well here:

```
MATCH (sc:SuperCategory)<-[:IN_SUPER_CATEGORY]-(category)
WITH sc, category, size((category)<-[:IN_CATEGORY]-()) as size
ORDER BY size DESC</pre>
```

```
WITH sc, collect(category.name)[0] as biggestCategory
SET sc.friendlyName = "SuperCat" + biggestCategory
```

We can see a sample of categories and supercategories in Figure 7-10.

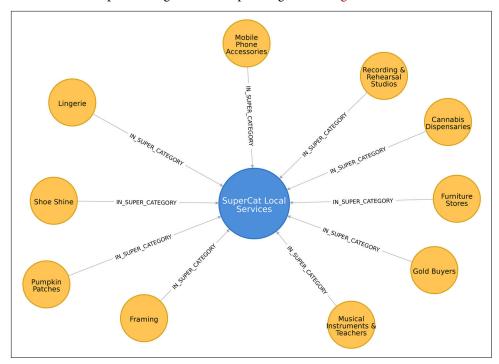


Figure 7-10. Categories and supercategories

The following query finds the most prevalent similar categories to Hotels in Las Vegas:

If we run that query we'll see the following output:

otherCategory	businesses
Tours	189
Car Rental	160

otherCategory	businesses
Limos	84
Resorts	73
Airport Shuttles	52
Taxis	35
Vacation Rentals	29
Airports	25
Airlines	23
Motorcycle Rental	19

Do these results seem odd? Obviously taxis and tours aren't hotels, but remember that this is based on self-reported categorizations. What the Label Propagation algorithm is really showing us in this similarity group are adjacent businesses and services.

Now let's find some businesses with an above-average rating in each of those categories:

```
// Find businesses in Las Vegas that have the same SuperCategory as Hotels
MATCH (hotels:Category {name: "Hotels"}),
      (hotels)-[:IN_SUPER_CATEGORY]->()<-[:IN_SUPER_CATEGORY]-</pre>
                                         (otherCategory),
      (otherCategory)<-[:IN CATEGORY]-(business)</pre>
WHERE (business)-[:IN CITY]->(:City {name: "Las Vegas"})
// Select 10 random categories and calculate the 90th percentile star rating
WITH otherCategory, count(*) AS count,
     collect(business) AS businesses,
     percentileDisc(business.averageStars, 0.9) AS p90Stars
ORDER BY rand() DESC
LIMIT 10
// Select businesses from each of those categories that have an average rating
// higher than the 90th percentile using a pattern comprehension
WITH otherCategory, [b in businesses where b.averageStars >= p90Stars]
                     AS businesses
// Select one business per category
WITH otherCategory, businesses[toInteger(rand() * size(businesses))] AS business
RETURN otherCategory.name AS otherCategory,
       business.name AS business,
       business.averageStars AS averageStars
```

In this query we use pattern comprehension for the first time. Pattern comprehension is a syntax construction for creating a list based on pattern matching. It finds a specified pattern using a MATCH clause with a WHERE clause for predicates and then yields a custom projection. This Cypher feature was added based on inspiration from GraphQL, a query language for APIs.

If we run that query we see the following result:

otherCategory	business	averageStars
Motorcycle Rental	Adrenaline Rush Slingshot Rentals	5.0
Snorkeling	Sin City Scuba	5.0
Guest Houses	Hotel Del Kacvinsky	5.0
Car Rental	The Lead Team	5.0
Food Tours	Taste BUZZ Food Tours	5.0
Airports	Signature Flight Support	5.0
Public Transportation	JetSuiteX	4.6875
Ski Resorts	Trikke Las Vegas	4.833333333333333
Town Car Service	MW Travel Vegas	4.86666666666665
Campgrounds	McWilliams Campground	3.875

We can then make real-time recommendations based on a user's immediate app behavior. For example, while users are looking at Las Vegas hotels, we can now highlight a variety of adjacent Las Vegas businesses with good ratings. We can generalize these approaches to any business category, such as restaurants or theaters, in any location.

Reader Exercises

- Can you plot how the reviews for a city's hotels vary over time?
- What about for a particular hotel or other business?
- Are there any trends (seasonal or otherwise) in popularity?
- Do the most influential reviewers connect (out-link) to only other influential reviewers?

Analyzing Airline Flight Data with Apache Spark

In this section, we'll use a different scenario to illustrate the analysis of US airport data with Spark. Imagine you're a data scientist with a considerable travel schedule and would like to dig into information about airline flights and delays. We'll first explore airport and flight information and then look deeper into delays at two specific airports. Community detection will be used to analyze routes and find the best use of our frequent flyer points.

The US Bureau of Transportation Statistics makes available a significant amount of transportation information. For our analysis, we'll use their May 2018 air travel ontime performance data, which includes flights originating and ending in the United States in that month. To add more detail about airports, such as location information, we'll also load data from a separate source, OpenFlights.

Let's load the data in Spark. As was the case in previous sections, our data is in CSV files that are available on the book's Github repository.

```
nodes = spark.read.csv("data/airports.csv", header=False)
cleaned_nodes = (nodes.select("_c1", "_c3", "_c4", "_c6", "_c7")
                 .filter("_c3 = 'United States'")
                 .withColumnRenamed("_c1", "name")
                 .withColumnRenamed("_c4", "id")s
.withColumnRenamed("_c6", "latitude")
                  .withColumnRenamed("_c7", "longitude")
                 .drop("_c3"))
cleaned_nodes = cleaned_nodes[cleaned_nodes["id"] != "\\N"]
relationships = spark.read.csv("data/188591317_T_ONTIME.csv", header=True)
cleaned relationships = (relationships
                          .select("ORIGIN", "DEST", "FL_DATE", "DEP_DELAY",
                                  "ARR_DELAY", "DISTANCE", "TAIL_NUM", "FL_NUM",
                                   "CRS_DEP_TIME", "CRS_ARR_TIME",
                                   "UNIQUE_CARRIER")
                          .withColumnRenamed("ORIGIN", "src")
                          .withColumnRenamed("DEST", "dst")
                          .withColumnRenamed("DEP_DELAY", "deptDelay")
                          .withColumnRenamed("ARR_DELAY", "arrDelay")
                          .withColumnRenamed("TAIL_NUM", "tailNumber")
                          .withColumnRenamed("FL NUM", "flightNumber")
                          .withColumnRenamed("FL_DATE", "date")
                          .withColumnRenamed("CRS_DEP_TIME", "time")
                          .withColumnRenamed("CRS_ARR_TIME", "arrivalTime")
                          .withColumnRenamed("DISTANCE", "distance")
                          .withColumnRenamed("UNIQUE CARRIER", "airline")
                          .withColumn("deptDelay",
                               F.col("deptDelay").cast(FloatType()))
                          .withColumn("arrDelay",
                               F.col("arrDelay").cast(FloatType()))
                          .withColumn("time", F.col("time").cast(IntegerType()))
                          .withColumn("arrivalTime",
                               F.col("arrivalTime").cast(IntegerType()))
                          )
g = GraphFrame(cleaned_nodes, cleaned_relationships)
```

We have to do some cleanup on the nodes because some airports don't have valid airport codes. We'll give the columns more descriptive names and convert some items into appropriate numeric types. We also need to make sure that we have columns named id, dst, and src, as this is expected by Spark's GraphFrames library.

We'll also create a separate DataFrame that maps airline codes to airline names. We'll use this later in this chapter:

Exploratory Analysis

Let's start with some exploratory analysis to see what the data looks like.

First let's see how many airports we have:

```
g.vertices.count()
1435
```

And how many connections do we have between these airports?

```
g.edges.count()
616529
```

Popular Airports

Which airports have the most departing flights? We can work out the number of outgoing flights from an airport using the Degree Centrality algorithm:

If we run that code we'll see the following output:

id	name	outDegree
ATL	Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport	33837
ORD	Chicago O'Hare International Airport	28338
DFW	Dallas Fort Worth International Airport	23765
CLT	Charlotte Douglas International Airport	20251
DEN	Denver International Airport	19836

id	name	outDegree
LAX	Los Angeles International Airport	19059
PHX	Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport	15103
SF0	San Francisco International Airport	14934
LGA	La Guardia Airport	14709
IAH	George Bush Intercontinental Houston Airport	14407

Most large US cities show up on this list—Chicago, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and New York all have popular airports. We can also create a visual representation of the outgoing flights using the following code:

The resulting chart can be seen in Figure 7-11.

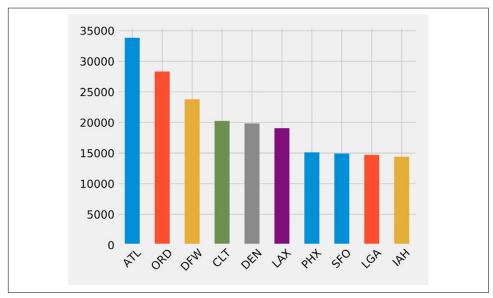


Figure 7-11. Outgoing flights by airport

It's quite striking how suddenly the number of flights drops off. Denver International Airport (DEN), the fifth most popular airport, has just over half as many outgoing fights as Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), in first place.

Delays from ORD

In our scenario, we frequently travel between the west and east coasts and want to see delays through a midpoint hub like Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD). This dataset contains flight delay data, so we can dive right in.

The following code finds the average delay of flights departing from ORD grouped by the destination airport:

Once we've calculated the average delay grouped by destination we join the resulting Spark DataFrame with a DataFrame containing all vertices, so that we can print the full name of the destination airport.

Running this code returns the 10 destinations with the worst delays:

dst	name	averageDelay	numberOfDelays
CKB	North Central West Virginia Airport	145.08	12
0GG	Kahului Airport	119.67	9
MQT	Sawyer International Airport	114.75	12
MOB	Mobile Regional Airport	102.2	10
TTN	Trenton Mercer Airport	101.18	17
AVL	Asheville Regional Airport	98.5	28
ISP	Long Island Mac Arthur Airport	94.08	13
ANC	Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport	83.74	23
BTV	Burlington International Airport	83.2	25
CMX	Houghton County Memorial Airport	79.18	17

This is interesting, but one data point really stands out: 12 flights from ORD to CKB have been delayed by more than 2 hours on average! Let's find the flights between those airports and see what's going on:

```
from expr = 'id = "ORD"'
to_expr = 'id = "CKB"'
ord_to_ckb = g.bfs(from_expr, to_expr)
ord_to_ckb = ord_to_ckb.select(
  F.col("e0.date"),
 F.col("e0.time"),
  F.col("e0.flightNumber"),
  F.col("e0.deptDelay"))
```

We can then plot the flights with the following code:

```
ax = (ord_to_ckb
      .sort("date")
      .toPandas()
      .plot(kind='bar', x='date', y='deptDelay', legend=None))
ax.xaxis.set_label_text("")
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

If we run that code we'll get the chart in Figure 7-12.

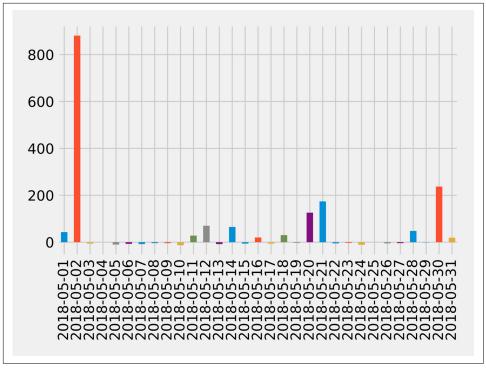


Figure 7-12. Flights from ORD to CKB

About half of the flights were delayed, but the delay of more than 14 hours on May 2, 2018, has massively skewed the average.

What if we want to find delays coming into and going out of a coastal airport? Those airports are often affected by adverse weather conditions, so we might be able to find some interesting delays.

Bad Day at SFO

Let's consider delays at an airport known for fog-related "low ceiling" issues: San Francisco International Airport (SFO). One method for analysis would be to look at *motifs*, which are recurrent subgraphs or patterns.



The equivalent to motifs in Neo4j is graph patterns, which are found using the MATCH clause or with pattern expressions in Cypher.

GraphFrames lets us search for motifs, so we can use the structure of flights as part of a query. Let's use motifs to find the most-delayed flights going into and out of SFO on May 11, 2018. The following code will find these delays:

```
motifs = (g.find("(a)-[ab]->(b); (b)-[bc]->(c)")
          .filter("""(b.id = 'SFO')) and
                  (ab.date = '2018-05-11' and bc.date = '2018-05-11') and
                  (ab.arrDelay > 30 or bc.deptDelay > 30) and
                  (ab.flightNumber = bc.flightNumber) and
                  (ab.airline = bc.airline) and
                  (ab.time < bc.time)"""))</pre>
```

The motif (a)-[ab]->(b); (b)-[bc]->(c) finds flights coming into and out from the same airport. We then filter the resulting pattern to find flights with:

- A sequence where the first flight arrives at SFO and the second flight departs from SFO
- Delays of over 30 minutes when arriving at *or* departing from SFO
- The same flight number and airline

We can then take the result and select the columns we're interested in:

```
result = (motifs.withColumn("delta", motifs.bc.deptDelay - motifs.ab.arrDelay)
          .select("ab", "bc", "delta")
          .sort("delta", ascending=False))
result.select(
   F.col("ab.src").alias("a1"),
   F.col("ab.time").alias("a1DeptTime"),
   F.col("ab.arrDelay"),
   F.col("ab.dst").alias("a2"),
   F.col("bc.time").alias("a2DeptTime"),
   F.col("bc.deptDelay"),
   F.col("bc.dst").alias("a3"),
   F.col("ab.airline"),
   F.col("ab.flightNumber"),
   F.col("delta")
).show()
```

We're also calculating the delta between the arriving and departing flights to see which delays we can truly attribute to SFO.

If we execute this code we'll get the following result:

airline	flightNumber	a1	a1DeptTime	arrDelay	a2	a2DeptTime	deptDelay	a3	delta
WN	1454	PDX	1130	-18.0	SF0	1350	178.0	BUR	196.0
00	5700	ACV	1755	-9.0	SF0	2235	64.0	RDM	73.0
UA	753	BWI	700	-3.0	SF0	1125	49.0	IAD	52.0

airline	flightNumber	a1	a1DeptTime	arrDelay	a2	a2DeptTime	deptDelay	a3	delta
UA	1900	ATL	740	40.0	SF0	1110	77.0	SAN	37.0
WN	157	BUR	1405	25.0	SF0	1600	39.0	PDX	14.0
DL	745	DTW	835	34.0	SF0	1135	44.0	DTW	10.0
WN	1783	DEN	1830	25.0	SF0	2045	33.0	BUR	8.0
WN	5789	PDX	1855	119.0	SF0	2120	117.0	DEN	-2.0
WN	1585	BUR	2025	31.0	SF0	2230	11.0	PHX	-20.0

The worst offender, WN 1454, is shown in the top row; it arrived early but departed almost three hours late. We can also see that there are some negative values in the arrDelay column; this means that the flight into SFO was early.

Also notice that some flights, such as WN 5789 and WN 1585, made up time while on the ground in SFO, as shown with a negative delta.

Interconnected Airports by Airline

Now let's say we've traveled a lot, and those frequent flyer points we're determined to use to see as many destinations as efficiently as possible are soon to expire. If we start from a specific US airport, how many different airports can we visit and come back to the starting airport using the same airline?

Let's first identify all the airlines and work out how many flights there are on each of them:

And now let's create a bar chart showing our airlines:

If we run that query we'll get the output in Figure 7-13.

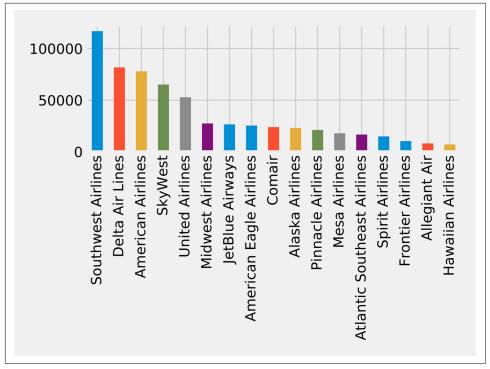


Figure 7-13. The number of flights by airline

Now let's write a function that uses the Strongly Connected Components algorithm to find airport groupings for each airline where all the airports have flights to and from all the other airports in that group:

```
def find_scc_components(g, airline):
    # Create a subgraph containing only flights on the provided airline
    airline_relationships = g.edges[g.edges.airline == airline]
    airline_graph = GraphFrame(g.vertices, airline_relationships)

# Calculate the Strongly Connected Components
scc = airline_graph.stronglyConnectedComponents(maxIter=10)

# Find the size of the biggest component and return that
return (scc
    .groupBy("component")
    .agg(F.count("id").alias("size"))
    .sort("size", ascending=False)
    .take(1)[0]["size"])
```

We can write the following code to create a DataFrame containing each airline and the number of airports of its largest strongly connected component:

```
# Calculate the largest strongly connected component for each airline
    airline scc = [(airline, find scc components(g, airline))
                   for airline in airlines.toPandas()["airline"].tolist()]
    airline scc df = spark.createDataFrame(airline scc, ['id', 'sccCount'])
   # Join the SCC DataFrame with the airlines DataFrame so that we can show
   # the number of flights an airline has alongside the number of
    # airports reachable in its biggest component
    airline_reach = (airline_scc_df
     .join(full_name_airlines, full_name_airlines.code == airline_scc_df.id)
     .select("code", "name", "flights", "sccCount")
     .sort("sccCount", ascending=False))
And now let's create a bar chart showing our airlines:
    ax = (airline_reach.toPandas()
```

```
.plot(kind='bar', x='name', y='sccCount', legend=None))
ax.xaxis.set_label_text("")
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

If we run that query we'll get the output in Figure 7-14.

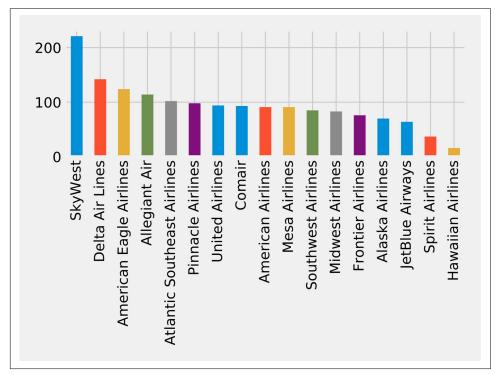


Figure 7-14. The number of reachable airports by airline

SkyWest has the largest community, with over 200 strongly connected airports. This might partially reflect its business model as an affiliate airline which operates aircraft used on flights for partner airlines. Southwest, on the other hand, has the highest number of flights but only connects around 80 airports.

Now let's say most of the frequent flyer points we have are with Delta Airlines (DL). Can we find airports that form communities within the network for that particular airline carrier?

```
airline_relationships = g.edges.filter("airline = 'DL'")
airline_graph = GraphFrame(g.vertices, airline_relationships)
clusters = airline graph.labelPropagation(maxIter=10)
(clusters
 .sort("label")
 .groupby("label")
 .agg(F.collect_list("id").alias("airports"),
      F.count("id").alias("count"))
 .sort("count", ascending=False)
 .show(truncate=70, n=10))
```

If we run that query we'll see the following output:

label	airports	count
1606317768706	[IND, ORF, ATW, RIC, TRI, XNA, ECP, AVL, JAX, SYR, BHM, GSO, MEM, C	89
1219770712067	[GEG, SLC, DTW, LAS, SEA, BOS, MSN, SNA, JFK, TVC, LIH, JAC, FLL, M	53
17179869187	[RHV]	1
25769803777	[CWT]	1
25769803776	[CDW]	1
25769803782	[KNW]	1
25769803778	[DRT]	1
25769803779	[FOK]	1
25769803781	[HVR]	1
42949672962	[GTF]	1

Most of the airports DL uses have clustered into two groups; let's drill down into those. There are too many airports to show here, so we'll just show the airports with the biggest degree (ingoing and outgoing flights). We can write the following code to calculate airport degree:

```
all flights = g.degrees.withColumnRenamed("id", "aId")
```

We'll then combine this with the airports that belong to the largest cluster:

```
(clusters
 .filter("label=1606317768706")
 .join(all_flights, all_flights.aId == result.id)
```

```
.sort("degree", ascending=False)
.select("id", "name", "degree")
.show(truncate=False))
```

If we run that query we'll get this output:

id	name	degree
DFW	Dallas Fort Worth International Airport	47514
CLT	Charlotte Douglas International Airport	40495
IAH	George Bush Intercontinental Houston Airport	28814
EWR	Newark Liberty International Airport	25131
PHL	Philadelphia International Airport	20804
BWI	Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport	18989
MDW	Chicago Midway International Airport	15178
BNA	Nashville International Airport	12455
DAL	Dallas Love Field	12084
IAD	Washington Dulles International Airport	11566
STL	Lambert St Louis International Airport	11439
HOU	William P Hobby Airport	9742
IND	Indianapolis International Airport	8543
PIT	Pittsburgh International Airport	8410
CLE	Cleveland Hopkins International Airport	8238
CMH	Port Columbus International Airport	7640
SAT	San Antonio International Airport	6532
JAX	Jacksonville International Airport	5495
BDL	Bradley International Airport	4866
RSW	Southwest Florida International Airport	4569

In Figure 7-15 we can see that this cluster is actually focused on the East Coast to the Midwest of the United States.

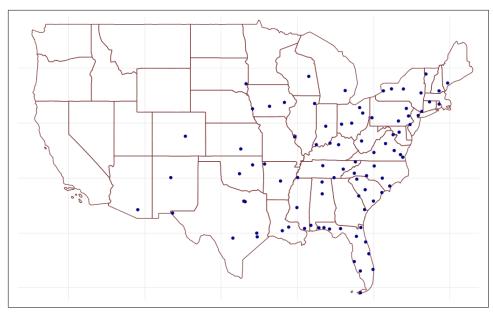


Figure 7-15. Cluster 1606317768706 airports

And now let's do the same thing with the second-largest cluster:

```
(clusters
 .filter("label=1219770712067")
 .join(all_flights, all_flights.aId == result.id)
 .sort("degree", ascending=False)
 .select("id", "name", "degree")
 .show(truncate=False))
```

If we run that query we get this output:

id	name	degree
ATL	Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport	67672
ORD	Chicago O'Hare International Airport	56681
DEN	Denver International Airport	39671
LAX	Los Angeles International Airport	38116
PHX	Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport	30206
SF0	San Francisco International Airport	29865
LGA	La Guardia Airport	29416
LAS	McCarran International Airport	27801
DTW	Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport	27477
MSP	Minneapolis-St Paul International/Wold-Chamberlain Airport	27163
BOS	General Edward Lawrence Logan International Airport	26214

id	name	degree
SEA	Seattle Tacoma International Airport	24098
MCO	Orlando International Airport	23442
JFK	John F Kennedy International Airport	22294
DCA	Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport	22244
SLC	Salt Lake City International Airport	18661
FLL	Fort Lauderdale Hollywood International Airport	16364
SAN	San Diego International Airport	15401
MIA	Miami International Airport	14869
TPA	Tampa International Airport	12509

In Figure 7-16 we can see that this cluster is apparently more hub-focused, with some additional northwestern stops along the way.

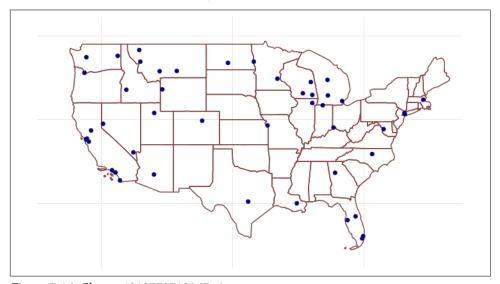


Figure 7-16. Cluster 1219770712067 airports

The code we used to generate these maps is available in the book's GitHub repository.

When checking the DL website for frequent flyer programs, we notice a use-two-get-one-free promotion. If we use our points for two flights, we get another for free—but

only if we fly within one of the two clusters! Perhaps it's a better use of our time, and certainly our points, to stay in a cluster.

Reader Exercises

- Use a Shortest Path algorithm to evaluate the number of flights from your home to the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport (BZN).
- Are there any differences if you use relationship weights?

Summary

In the last few chapters we've provided details on how key graph algorithms for path-finding, centrality, and community detection work in Apache Spark and Neo4j. In this chapter we walked through workflows that included using several algorithms in context with other tasks and analysis. We used a travel business scenario to analyze Yelp data in Neo4j and a personal air travel scenario to evaluate US airline data in Spark.

Next, we'll look at a use for graph algorithms that's becoming increasingly important: graph-enhanced machine learning.