Building a recommendation engine with Neo4j and Clojure

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Introducing our data set...





meetup.com's recommendations

People in this Meetup are also in:						New Meetup Group: Agile without Borders					
	Data & Analytics Innovation & Entrepreneursh ip	ay: Join 190 R Users at "LondonR Meeting (and Workshop)"			-	Meetup <info@meetup.com> Unsubscribe to me 🐨</info@meetup.com>			21 Nov (4 days a		
		LondonR <info@meetup.com> Unsubscribe to me</info@meetup.com>		າງ 15:40 (15 hou				Meetu			
	1,167 Members	167 Members Events in this message LondonR Meeting (and Workshop) Mon 30 Nov 2015 14:30 – 22:00 (WET)				Agile without Borders					
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Cassandra	1,635 Members	LondonR Meeting	(and Worksho THURSDAY, NOVEMB	DP) ER 26			Ornaniza	ч ру эг			
• •	5,558 New technologists	Monday, November 30, 2015 2:30 PM Balls Brothers	6:30 PM KNIME U Anom	ser Group UK aly Detection in Predi	icti	ive					
	Meteor London 1,596	London	3 KNIMErs going					+1			
A	Meteorites London Ajax User Group 1,407 Software Engineers	John Van Praag "R in my main coding language. looking to gain deeper understa	6:30 PM Spark Lor 11th S Big Da 120 Mem	ndon park London Meetup - ata Week London bers going	- pa	art of					

Making recommendations

- Several different types
 - groups to join
 - topics to follow
 - events to attend
- As a user of meetup.com trying to find groups to join and events to attend

Making recommendations



Content based filtering

Recommend items based on what users have liked in the past

Collaborative filtering
 Predict what users like based on the similarity of their behaviors, activities and preferences to others

Content based filtering



- 1. Collect item characteristics
- 2. Find similar items
- 3. Recommend similar items

e.g. similar movie genres

Collaborative filtering



- 1. Collect user behaviour
- 2. Find similar users
- 3. Recommend behaviour taken by similar users

e.g. people with similar musical tastes

Find similar groups to Neo4j



What makes groups similar?



We're about: Data Mining · New Technology · Web Development · Data Visualization · Data Analytics · Open Source · Cloud Computing · Graph Databases · Big Data · NoSQL · Neo4j · Database Development · Java · Computer programming



We're about: Open Source · Technology · Web Development · Computer programming · Agile Project Management · Java · Software Development



We're about: Big Data Analytics · Artificial Intelligence · Computer programming · Big Data · Computer Science · Natural Language Processing · Machine Learning · Data Analytics · Data Visualization · Data Mining · Data Science · Algorithms · Deep Learning · neural networks

Data Science London

We're about: Data Science · Machine Learning · Predictive Analytics · Data Mining · Big Data · Artificial Intelligence · Statistical Computing · Applied Statistics · Data Analytics · Open Source · Web Analytics · Text Analytics · Natural Language Processing · Hadoop · NoSQL

BIG DATA DEBATE

We're about: BigData · Intellectual Discussion · Big Data · Debate · New Technology · Data Analytics · Data Visualization · Online Marketing · Database Development · Information Architecture · Information Science · Freedom · Cloud Computing · Business Strategy · Internet Professionals



extract

We're about: Marketing · Data · Software Development · New Technology · Web Technology · Business Intelligence · Cloud Computing · Business Strategy · Big Data · Machine Learning · Data Analytics · Data Visualization · Data Mining · Data Science · Big Data Analytics

Find similar groups to Neo4j



Nodes





Relationships





Labels





Properties





Find similar groups to Neo4j



Match a pattern in the graph

MATCH (group:Group)-[:HAS_TOPIC]->(t)<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
WHERE group.name = "Neo4j - London User Group"
RETURN otherGroup.name,
 COUNT(t) AS topicsInCommon,
 COLLECT(t.name) AS topics
ORDER BY topicsInCommon DESC, otherGroup.name
LIMIT 10</pre>



Anchor pattern in the graph



How does Neo4j use indexes?

Indexes are **only** used to find the starting points for queries.



Relational

Use index scans to look up rows in tables and join them with rows from other tables

Use indexes to find the starting points for a query.

Graph





Inline the anchoring



MATCH (group:Group {name: "Neo4j - London User Group"})
 -[:HAS_TOPIC]->(t)<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
RETURN otherGroup.name,
 COUNT(t) AS topicsInCommon,
 COLLECT(t.name) AS topics
ORDER BY topicsInCommon DESC, otherGroup.name
LIMIT 10</pre>



Create projection of results

MATCH (group:Group {name: "Neo4j - London User Group"})
 -[:HAS_TOPIC]->(t)<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
RETURN otherGroup.name,
 COUNT(t) AS topicsInCommon,
 COLLECT(t.name) AS topics
ORDER BY topicsInCommon DESC, otherGroup.name
LIMIT 10</pre>



Find similar groups to Neo4j

S MATCH (group:Group {name: "Neo4j - London User Group"}) -[:HAS_TOPIC]->(topic)<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup) RETURN otherGroup.name, COUNT(topic) AS to 🛓 🖡 🖉										
Rows	otherGroup.name	topicsInCommon	topics							
	Python for Quant Finance	8	[New Technology, Cloud Computing, Big Data, Data Analytics, Data Visualization, Computer programming, Open Source, Data Mining]							
Code	Closed scaling group	7 [Cloud Computing, Web Development, Big Data, Computer programming, Java, Open Source, NoSQL]								
	Couchbase London	ondon 7 [Cloud Computing, Big Data, Database Development, Data Analytics, Open Source, NoSQL, Data Mining]								
	London PostgreSQL Meetup Group 7 [New Technology, Cloud Computing, Web Development, Big Data, Database Development, Open Source, NoSQL]									
	Business, Analytics and Data Science	7	[New Technology, Big Data, Data Analytics, Data Visualization, Computer programming, Open Source, Data Mining]							
	Analytics.Club London 7 [Cloud Computing, Big Data, Data Analytics, Data Visualization, Open Source, NoSQL, Data Mining]									
	Hadoop Users Group UK 7 [Cloud Computing, Big Data, Data Analytics, Java, Open Source, NoSQL, Data Mining]									
	London NoSQL 6 [New Technology, Cloud Computing, Web Development, Big Data, Open Source, NoSQL]									
	Data Science & Business Analytics London 6 [Big Data, Data Analytics, Data Visualization, Open Source, NoSQL, Data Mining] Meetup 6 [Big Data, Data Analytics, Data Visualization, Open Source, NoSQL, Data Mining]									
	Big Data Week London Meetup 6 [Big Data, Data Analytics, Data Visualization, Open Source, NoSQL, Data Mining]									
	Returned 10 rows in 22 ms.									

Neo4j <3 Clojure

Neocons

An idiomatic, feature rich Clojure client for Neo4J REST API

Get Started! »

Read doc guides »

Join the mailing list » Cor

Contribute » Current Version - 2.0.1

[clojurewerkz/neocons "3.1.0"]

Connect to Neo4j



(:require

[clojurewerkz.neocons.rest :as nr])

(def conn

(nr/connect

"http://neo4j:password@localhost:7474/db/data/"))

Find meetups by topic



(:require [clojurewerkz.neocons.rest.cypher :as cy]
 [clojure.walk :as walk]))

(def query "MATCH (group:Group)-[:HAS_TOPIC]->(:Topic {name: {topic}}) RETURN group LIMIT 5")

(->> (cy/tquery conn query {:topic "<Insert topic here>"})
walk/keywordize-keys
(map #(-> % :group :data)))

Find Clojure meetups



(->> (cy/tquery conn query {:topic "Clojure"})
walk/keywordize-keys
(map #(-> % :group :data)))

({:created 1384181724000, :rating 4, :name "London Functional Programmers", :id "11057352", :urlname "London-Functionals"}

{:created 1231235336000, :rating 4, :name "OpenSource & Agile Community Events", :id "1350857", :urlname "skillsmatter"})

Find Neo4j meetups



(->> (cy/tquery conn query {:topic "Neo4j"})
walk/keywordize-keys
(map #(-> % :group :data)))

({:created 1306977843000, :rating 4, :name "Neo4j - London User Group", :id "1954021", :urlname "graphdb-london"}

{:created 1440455142000, :rating 0, :name "London Data
Visualization", :id "18864999", :urlname "London-DataVisualization"})

Building a Clojure web app





Luminus is a Clojure micro-framework based on a set of lightweight libraries. It aims to provide a robust, scalable, and easy to use platform. With Luminus you can focus on developing your app the way you want without any distractions.

Clojure Web Development Made Simple



Get started in seconds using Leiningen.

(defroutes home-routes (GET "/" [] (home-page)))

Define route









```
(defroutes home-routes
  (GET "/" [] (home-page)))
(defn home-page []
  (layout/render
    "home.html" { :suggested-groups (suggested-groups logged-in-user)
                                                                       ted-events)}))
                  :suggested-e
                                   Execute Cypher query against Neo4j
                                   and do post processing of the result
(defn suggested-groups [name]
  (let [result (cypher/execute queries/suggested-groups {:name name})]
    (->> result
         (map #(assoc % :score (scoring/score-row %)))
         (sort-by :score >)
         (take 12))))
```



```
(defroutes home-routes
  (GET "/" [] (home-page)))
```

```
(defn suggested-groups [name]
  (let [result (cypher/execute queries/suggested-groups {:name name})]
      (->> result
        (map #(assoc % :score (scoring/score-row %)))
        (sort-by :score >)
        (take 12))))
```

Suggested groups

Suggested Groups

Analytics Network

8 topics / 994 members / 6 recent events 286.65657821991084

PyData London Meetup

7 topics / 2651 members / 3 recent events 286.1046685975722

Women Who Code London

4 topics / 2287 members / 11 recent events 283.88029437568923

Python for Quant Finance

10 topics / 1166 members / 3 recent events 282.558303354221

PHP London

5 topics / 4415 members / 3 recent events 280.3796114161744

Learn Software Development

5 topics / 977 members / 8 recent events 279.6404781692217

DataKind UK

10 topics / 1746 members / 2 recent events 276.03450587463783

FREE Marketing, Analytics & Digital Skills in London

3 topics / 5491 members / 25 recent events 275.17068435438404

West London Hack Night

5 topics / 943 members / 4 recent events 274.4717650232895

London Ajax User Group

4 topics / 1433 members / 3 recent events 270.9970989549757

London Internet Startups

3 topics / 1359 members / 17 recent events 270,90907447488087

Meteor London

5 topics / 1673 members / 2 recent events 266.8676279564873



```
MATCH (member:Member {name: {name}})-[:INTERESTED_IN]->()<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
WHERE NOT (member)-[:MEMBER_OF]->(otherGroup)
```

```
WITH otherGroup,
COUNT(*) AS topics,
SIZE((otherGroup)<-[:MEMBER_OF]-()) AS numberOfMembers</pre>
```

```
OPTIONAL MATCH (otherGroup)-[:HOSTED_EVENT]->(event)
WHERE (timestamp() - 90*24*60*60*1000 ) < event.time < timestamp()</pre>
```

```
MATCH (member:Member {name: {name}})-[:INTERESTED_IN]->()<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
WHERE NOT (member)-[:MEMBER_OF]->(otherGroup)
Find groups that
```

```
WITH otherGroup,
COUNT(*) AS topics,
SIZE((otherGroup)<-[:MEMBER_OF]-()) AS numberOfMembers
```

```
OPTIONAL MATCH (otherGroup)-[:HOSTED_EVENT]->(event)
WHERE (timestamp() - 90*24*60*60*1000 ) < event.time < timestamp()</pre>
```

```
MATCH (member:Member {name: {name}})-[:INTERESTED_IN]->()<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
WHERE NOT (member)-[:MEMBER_OF]->(otherGroup)
Filter out the ones
```

```
WITH otherGroup,

COUNT(*) AS topics,

SIZE((otherGroup)<-[:MEMBER_OF]-()) AS numberOfMembers
```

```
OPTIONAL MATCH (otherGroup)-[:HOSTED_EVENT]->(event)
WHERE (timestamp() - 90*24*60*60*1000 ) < event.time < timestamp()</pre>
```

```
MATCH (member:Member {name: {name}})-[:INTERESTED_IN]->()<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
WHERE NOT (member)-[:MEMBER OF]->(otherGroup)
```

Collect some metrics to

```
WITH otherGroup,

COUNT(*) AS topics,

SIZE((otherGroup)<-[:MEMBER_OF]-()) AS numberOfMembers

COUNT(*) AS topics,

COUNT(*) AS topics,

SIZE((otherGroup)<-[:MEMBER_OF]-()) AS numberOfMembers
```

```
OPTIONAL MATCH (otherGroup)-[:HOSTED_EVENT]->(event)
WHERE (timestamp() - 90*24*60*60*1000 ) < event.time < timestamp()</pre>
```

```
MATCH (member:Member {name: {name}})-[:INTERESTED_IN]->()<-[:HAS_TOPIC]-(otherGroup)
WHERE NOT (member)-[:MEMBER_OF]->(otherGroup)
```

```
WITH otherGroup,
COUNT(*) AS topics,
SIZE((otherGroup)<-[:MEMBER_OF]-()) AS numberOfMembers
```

Check if the group is active

```
OPTIONAL MATCH (otherGroup)-[:HOSTED_EVENT]->(event)
WHERE (timestamp() - 90*24*60*60*1000 ) < event.time < timestamp()
```

```
RETURN otherGroup, topics , numberOfMembers, COUNT(event) AS recentEvents
```

(defn log2 [n] (/ (Math/log n) (Math/log 2)))

```
(defn score [minimum maximum eighty raw]
 (if (< raw minimum)
      0
      (let [alpha (/ (log2 5) eighty)
           exp (Math/exp (* (- alpha) raw))]
           (* maximum (- 1 exp)))))
```

(defn score-item [{minimum :minimum maximum :maximum eighty :eighty n :n}]
 (score minimum maximum eighty n))

```
(defn score-row [row]
  (let [topics {:n (-> row :topics) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 5}
      members {:n (-> row :numberOfMembers) :minimum 50 :maximum 100 :eighty 1000}
      events {:n (-> row :recentEvents) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 3}]
      (reduce #(+ %1 (score-item %2)) 0 [topics members events])))
```

(defn log2 [n] (/ (Math/log n) (Math/log 2)))

```
(defn score [minimum maximum eighty raw]
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      (let [alpha (/ (log2 5) eighty)
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           exp (Math/exp (* (- alpha) raw))]
           (* maximum (- 1 exp)))))
```

<pre>(defn score-item [{minimu (score minimum maximum</pre>	Take in raw scores for number of topics, members	<pre>{ :topics 3 :numberOfMembers 932</pre>					
(defn score-row [row]	and recent events	<pre>:recentEvents 3 }</pre>					
(let [topics {:n (-> row :topics) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 5}							
<pre>members {:n (-> row :numberOfMembers) :minimum 50 :maximum 100 :eighty 100</pre>							
<pre>events {:n (-> row :recentEvents) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 3}]</pre>							
(reduce #(+ %I (Score-Item %Z)) & [topics members events])))							

(defn log2 [n] (/ (Math/log n) (Math/log 2)))

```
(defn score [minimum maximum eighty raw]
  (if (< raw minimum)</pre>
    0
    (let [alpha (/ (log2 5) eighty)
          exp (Math/exp (* (- alpha) raw))]
      (* maximum (- 1 exp)))))
(defn score-item [{minimum :minimum mage
                                                           hty :eighty n :n}]
                                         Apply a weighting
  (score minimum maximum eighty n))
                                          to each of those
                                            properties
(defn score-row [row]
 (let [topics {:n (-> row :topics) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 5})
        members {:n (-> row :numberOfMembers) :minimum 50 :maximum 100 :eighty 1000}
```

```
events {:n (-> row :recentEvents) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 3}]
(reduce #(+ %1 (score-item %2)) 0 [topics members events])))
```

(defn log2 [n] (/ (Math/log n) (Math/log 2)))

```
(defn score [minimum maximum eighty raw]
 (if (< raw minimum)
     0
     (let [alpha (/ (log2 5) eighty)
            exp (Math/exp (* (- alpha) raw))]
        (* maximum (- 1 exp)))))
```

Apply an exponential (Pareto) function to the curve so that high scores don't dominate too much.

(defn score-item [{minimum :minimum maximum :maximum eighty :eighty n :n}]
 (score minimum maximum eighty n))

```
(defn score-row [row]
  (let [topics {:n (-> row :topics) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 5}
      members {:n (-> row :numberOfMembers) :minimum 50 :maximum 100 :eighty 1000}
      events {:n (-> row :recentEvents) :minimum 1 :maximum 100 :eighty 3}]
      (reduce #(+ %1 (score-item %2)) 0 [topics members events])))
```



100%

Effort

Scoring the recommendation



(reduce #(+ %1 (score-item %2)) 0 [topics members events])))

What about events?

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

2:30 <u>₽м</u> ⊘ Yes	LondonR LondonR Meeting (and Workshop) 209 R Users going
9:00 <u>am</u>	OpenSource & Agile Community Events CSM Course: Advanced Certified ScrumMaster Course by Martine Devos 5 OpenSource and Agile developers going
10:00 <u>am</u>	OpenSource & Agile Community Events iOSCon 2015 - The Conference for iOS and Swift Developers 9 OpenSource and Agile developers going
7:00 <u>pm</u>	Cleanweb London COP21 Cleanweb and the Climate 62 Members going

Modeling events



There's an **implicit** FRIENDS relationship between people who attended the same events. Let's make it **explicit**.



MATCH (m:Member)

```
WITH m1 LIMIT {limit}
MATCH (m)-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]->(e:Event)<-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]-(m2:Member)
WITH m, m2, COLLECT(e) AS events, COUNT(*) AS times</pre>
```

WHERE times >= 5

```
WITH m, m2, times,
     [event IN events | SIZE((event)<-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]-())] AS attendances</pre>
```

```
WITH m, m2, REDUCE(score = 0.0, a IN attendances | score + (1.0 / a)) AS score
```

```
MERGE (m)-[friendsRel:FRIENDS]-(m2)
SET friendsRel.score = row.score
```

MATCH (m:Member)

```
WITH m1 LIMIT {limit}
MATCH (m)-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]->(e:Event)<-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]-(m2:Member)</pre>
```

```
WITH m, m2, COLLECT(e) AS events, COUNT(*) AS times
WHERE times >= 5
I can only be friends with someone
if I've attended 5 or more of the
    [event IN events as them sponse: 'yes'}]-())] AS attendances
```

```
WITH m, m2, REDUCE(score = 0.0, a IN attendances | score + (1.0 / a)) AS score
```

```
MERGE (m)-[friendsRel:FRIENDS]-(m2)
SET friendsRel.score = row.score
```

MATCH (m:Member)

```
WITH m1 LIMIT {limit}
MATCH (m)-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]->(e:Event)<-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]-(m2:Member)
```

```
WITH m, m2, COLLECT(e) AS events, COUNT(*) AS times WHERE times >= 5
```

```
WITH m, m2, times,
     [event IN events | SIZE((event)<-[:RSVPD {response: 'yes'}]-())] AS attendances</pre>
```

WITH m, m2, REDUCE(score = 0.0, a IN attendances | score + (1.0 / a)) AS score

MERGE (m)-[friendsRel:FRIENDS]-(m2)
SET friendsRel.score = row.score

We create a score for the friendship based on the likelihood that we met them at an event - the more people that attended the less likely we met



PHP London

(on meetup.com)								
People	4415							
Similar groups	London Tech Meetup Meteor London	BS Congress Polish Developers in London	Drupal Dinners London Geek Girls Carrots UK					
Friends	31 M.G.Srikanthan Hammad Soomro Peter Morgan Jean-Francois Marcin Tolysz Ravi Reshmee Martin Belan JUNIOR SAYLES Andrei Ruse	Peter Arato Raul Kumar Cezar Grigore Jelena Kosakovskaja Eftar Miah James Rowlands Chris Jeffery Eddie H dharshi thiru Erika Pellegrino	Ajit Fox Reymann Vladyslav Piskunov Ben Auffarth James Churchman Marcos Santos Mircea Danila Dumitrescu Amit Enzo Martoglio					

When Clojure, When Cypher?



When Clojure, When Cypher?

- The combination work very well for data oriented programming
- Cypher works best for...
 - expressing graph patterns
 - exploring relationships in data

When Clojure, When Cypher?

- The combination work very well for data oriented programming
- Cypher works best for...
 - expressing graph patterns
 - exploring relationships in data
- Clojure is more suitable for...
 - chaining functions to be applied to data
 - Manipulating and massaging data

A different way of recommending

 Popular approaches use global number crunching e.g. item based similarity

A different way of recommending

- Popular approaches use global number crunching e.g. item based similarity
- Our approach is more personalised and makes use of local searches around the user's neighbourhood

What could we do next?



- Comments sentiment analysis
 - do people actually like the events they go to?
- Topic ontology
 - how are topics related? e.g. Neo4j, Cassandra, MongoDB are part of NoSQL
- Event similarity based on descriptions
 - use Latent Dirichlet Allocation to derive categories

What could we do next?



- Social network
 - what events do our twitter/Facebook friends attend?
- Location
 - do we favour events in a certain part of town?
- Day of the week
 - do we only go to events on certain days of the week?
 - do we go to different events on weekdays vs weekend?





That's all for today! Questions? :-)

Mark Needham @markhneedham

https://github.com/neo4j-meetups/modeling-worked-example
 https://github.com/mneedham/clojure-recommendations