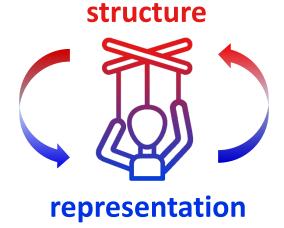


Véronique Gendner - Information Design Full Stack

database structuring

programming script writing

web applications



digital documents

data analysis

personal information system

Genealogy with different graph technologies for data collection & visualization

NODES 2022 - 17th November 2022

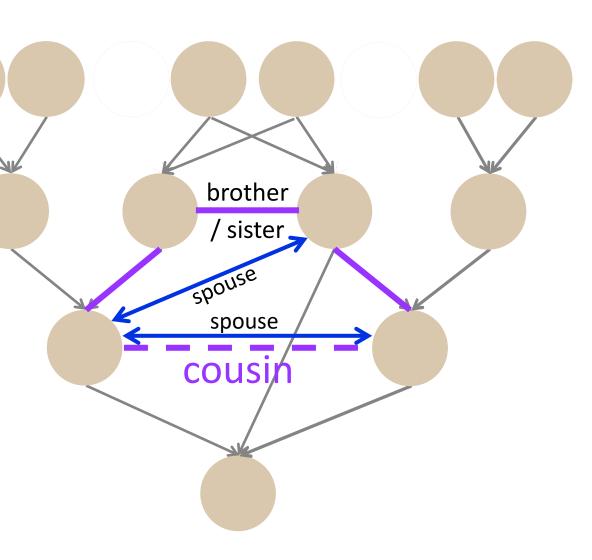
Collecting and structuring information

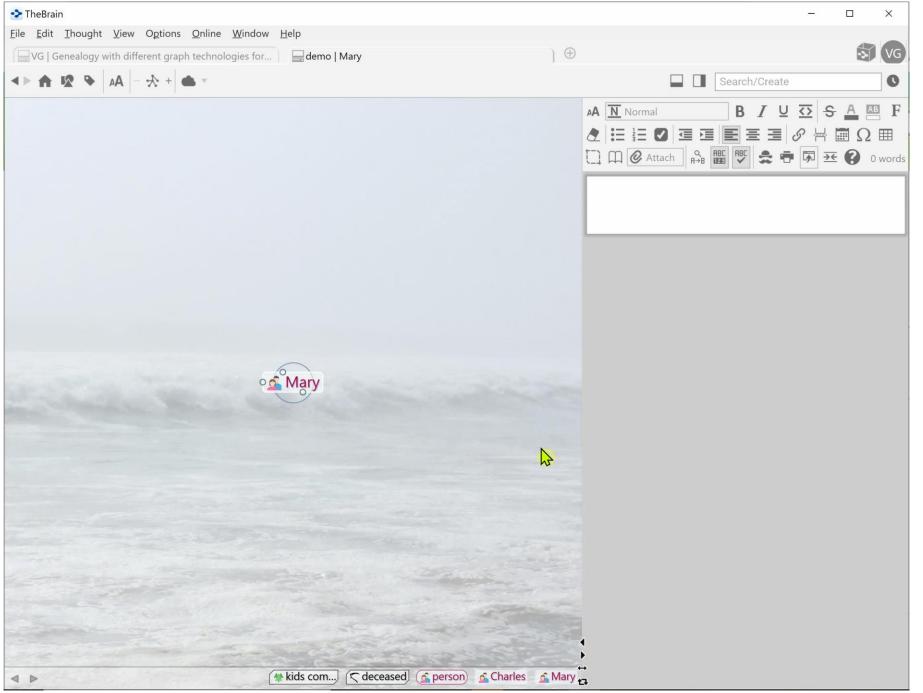
Marie Weasley born in 1749

Birth certificate

-> born 29 December 1749









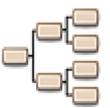


Good:

- Excellent **UI for data collection**: easy drag&drop of documents and links
- Easy to structure incoming information without having to follow a strictly formal order (table, hierarchy). Collect as it comes, according to user's agenda.
- **Several search strategies**: instant search (go anywhere in the graph), browsing relations (follow relations), by lists (exhaustive check)
- Good for node local display around a node

Limits:

- Difficult to get the big picture, to take stock of what has been done and what can be explored further
- **Difficult to visualize distant relations**: visualization enables specific cognitive skill that help put things in relation, hence giving them their symbolic place, which helps understanding
 - NB: visualizing how thing relate is part of the understanding process for any subject you want to learn

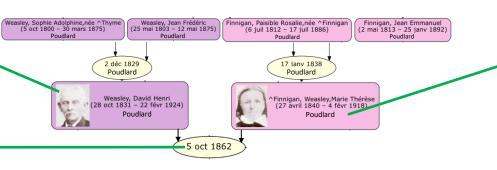


Gramps visualization



picture for visual identification

date and place of marriage



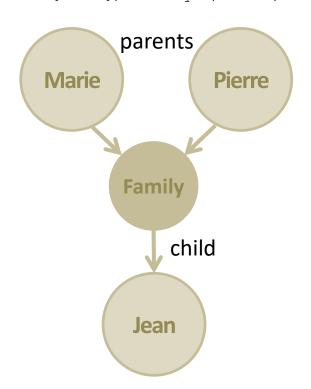
dates and places of birth and death



Gramps import formats

Persons, with gender, dates and places of birth and death

```
Person, "Surname", "Firstname", "gender", "Birthdate", "Birthplace", "Deathdate", "Deathplace"
[I1970], "Weasley", "Marie", "feminin", "16 nov 1836", "Paris", "30 oct 1912", "Paris"
[I1974], "Weasley", "Pierre", "masculin", "3 juin 1939", "Strasbourg", "11 fév 2015", ""
[I2786], "Weasley", "Jean", "masculin", "13 mars 1963", "Strasbourg", "", ""
```



Family, with marriage date and place

marriage, "father", "mother", "date", "place" [F1652],"[I1974]","[I1970]","22 oct 1917","Paris"

Children

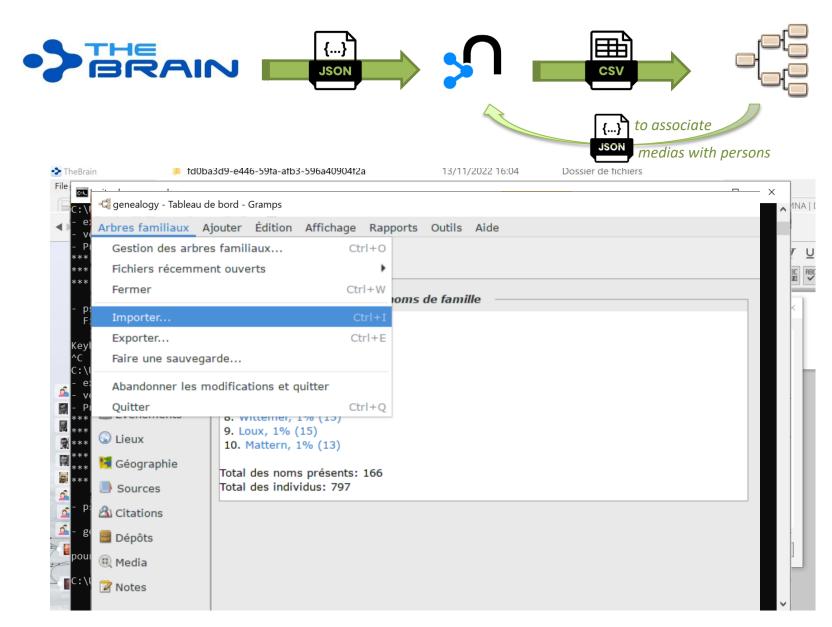
Family, Child [F1652],[I2786]

Neo4j DB model

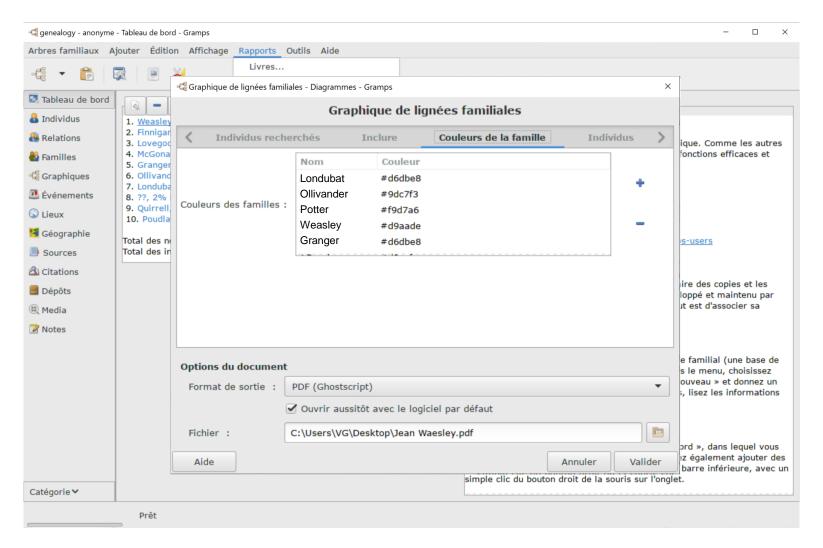
```
Name: deceased
Thoughts.json (nodes)
                                                                                                                                        tag
{"Name":"Annie", "Taglds":[], "CreationDateTime":"2022-10-24T09:21:56.1339771",
    "Id":"001397e1-ce0f-52b6-8394-d3790afce5fc", ...}
{"Name":"Pierre","Taglds":[], "CreationDateTime":"2022-10-24T09:21:56.1778733",
     "Id": "00869cdb-91c7-5398-a456-4a5d551ae26d", ...}
                                                                                                              spouse
{"Name":"Jean", "TagIds":[], "CreationDateTime":"2022-10-24T09:21:55.7606218",
                                                                                                 Marie
                                                                                                                           Pierre
    "Id":"009f02e8-a636-5b3c-822e-cd5245675c35", ...}
                                                                                                :Person
                                                                                                                           :Person
                                                                                                           family.
                                                                                                                       family
                                                                                                           Mother
                                                     Pierre
                                                                                                                       Father
                                                             deceased
                                                  personne
                                                                                                             :Family
                                                                                     type
                                                                                                mother
                                                                                                                             father
                                                                                                                  family
                                    Jean
                                                                             Name: Person
                                                                                                                  Child
Links.json
                                                                                                             822e-cd5245675c35
{"ThoughtIdA":"001397e1-ce0f-52b6-8394-d3790afce5fc","ThoughtIdB":"00869cdb-91c7-5398-a456-4a5d551ae26d",
                                                                                                              Jean
    ,"Id":"00282afc-18ff-5acf-aaba-fbc3e9a721bd","TypeId":"54a71199-35a2-5925-8e0c-4d4d7fc0b2bc", ...}
{"ThoughtIdA":"00869cdb-91c7-5398-a456-4a5d551ae26d","ThoughtIdB":"009f02e8-a636-5b3c-822e-cd5245675c35",
                                                                                                             :Person
    "...", "Id":"00282afc-18ff-5acf-aaba-fbc3e9a721bd", "TypeId":"bed27826-9e8e-550a-94cd-1b55bebf8bf0", ...
{"ThoughtIdA":"009f02e8-a636-5b3c-822e-cd5245675c35","ThoughtIdB":"001397e1-ce0f-52b6-8394-d3790afce5fc",
                                                                                                                                 atch
    ,"Id":"00282afc-18ff-5acf-aaba-fbc3e9a721bd", "TypeId":"49f10e3f-49f8-55e3-a3eb-758962c9bcc1", ...}
                                                                                                                  Location: Icon.png
  Use of graph topology to create gramps model
  match (f:Person) -[:father] -> (c:Person) <-[:mother] - (m:Person)</pre>
           merge (m) -[:familyMother] -> (:Family {Name:f.Name+" & "+m.Name}) <-[:familyFather] - (f)</pre>
```

merge (f) - [:familyChild] -> (c);

Data transfer



Generating visualizations with **Gramps**

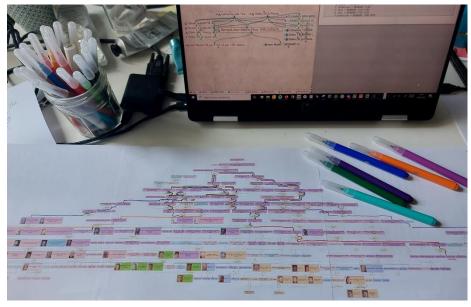


Gramps visualisation limits

- Node color according to family name:
 - Tedious to list names,
 - Only at the beginning of the name string -> pb for spouse/birth names of women
- No way to show path to common ancestor with path color

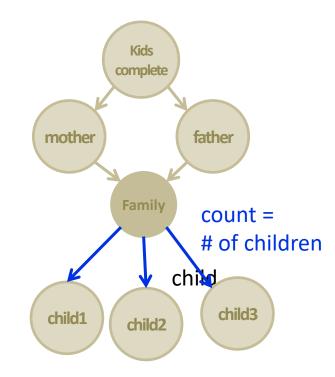
- No possibility to use cypher fine-tuned queries
 - Ignore a specific person's descendant to make another part of the graph more visible

– ...



Use of graph topology to compute new information

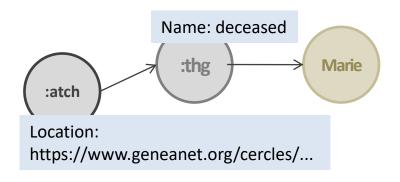
- In the Neo4j DB, cypher allows
 - for coherence checks
 - to detect missing information and manual errors
- Computation of new information
 - # of children of couples
 - How many cousin did my great grand father have?
 - # of person from father/mother side
 - All people with a certain last name in the descendancy of the first ancestor with that name?



Use of graph topology to extract specific information (1/2)

Extract death certificate sources :



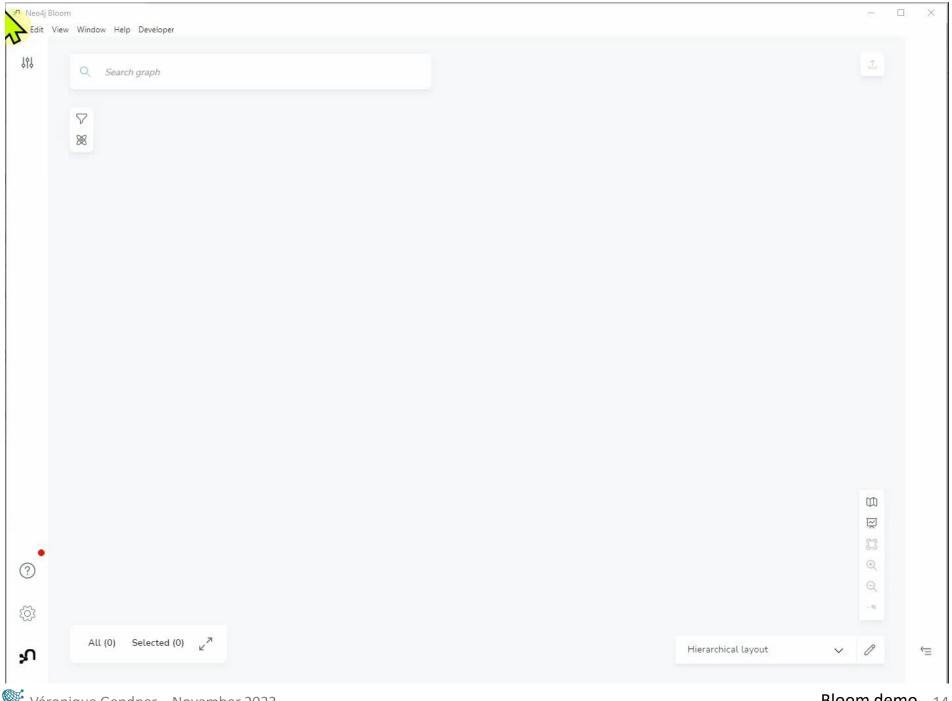


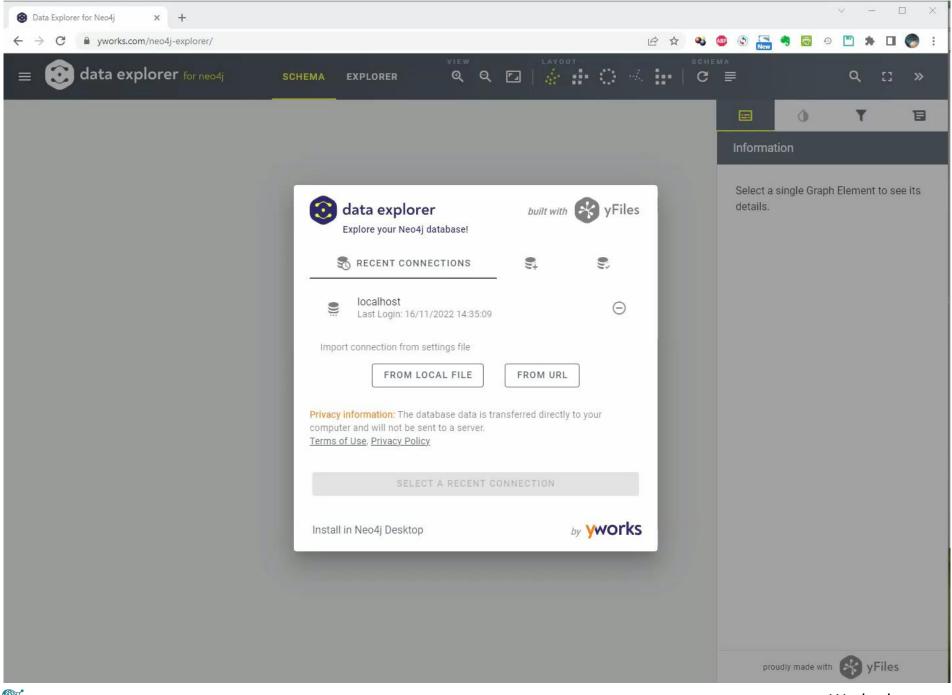


Use of graph topology to extract specific information (2/2)

Extract list of source geneanet account with many thanks to people who put archives information online!







Wrap up

With this genealogy use case, we have seen that:

- Graphs are very interesting to collect and structure information intuitively, as it comes
- Recent developments of graph technologies allow to apply automatic formatting, coherence checks and corrections on such manually structured data
- This way, you can get the best of both human thinking and machine processing combined
- Different visualization tools are best, either for local information collection and structuring, or for large over view to make sense of complex data and distant relations

Thank you for your attention!

e-tissage.net/NODES2022



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