

Collaborative Graph Data (Structure) Editing

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Helmholtz Metadata Collaboration

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www.helmholtz-metadaten.de



The Helmholtz Metadata Collaboration



54 People
working at
10 centres on
the **Road to
FAIR**



8 HMC Units at **6** host centres
Aeronautics, Space & Transport @ DLR
Earth & Environment @ Geomar
Energy @ KIT
Health @ DKFZ
Information @ FZJ
Matter @ HZB
FAIR Data Commons @ KIT & FZJ
HMC Office @ Geomar



KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Assessing and monitoring the state of FAIR data across Helmholtz
2. Facilitating connectivity of Helmholtz research data
3. Transforming (meta)data recommendations into implementations



Contemporary data

The problems:

- metadata is often optional and potentially unstructured
- data-metadata connection is usually relatively weak
- no terminology standardization
- no globally unique IDs for entities (e.g. researchers or devices)
- usually no data structure description (a.k.a. schema)
- no domain standards for (meta)data “richness”

some spreadsheet

id	intensity	duration [seconds]
...
...

some README file

This data set is about some generic measurements.

device: meterbot 2000
operator: Mel (orcid.org/xxx...)
project: ERC 1337

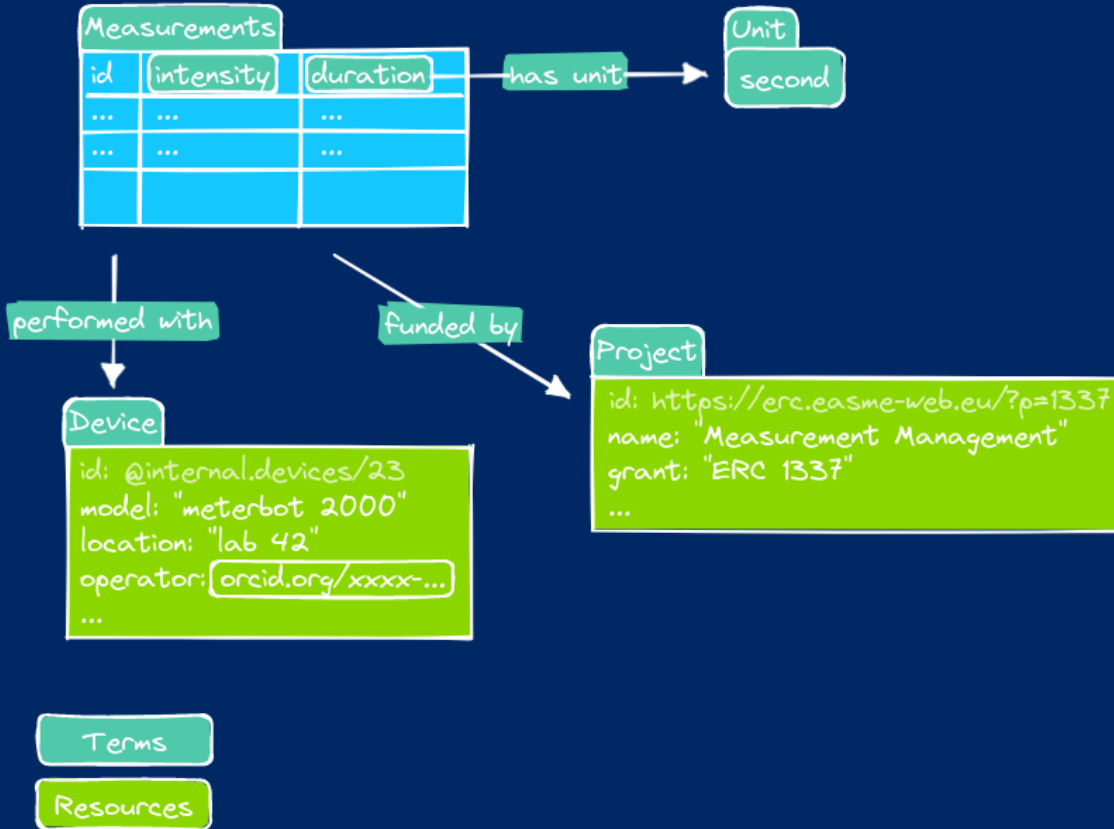
Perfectly(?) FAIR data:

A semantic graph data set

- links data and metadata
- has an explicit structure
- can easily incorporate resource Ids and metadata
- has documented terminology via ontologies

...but what about

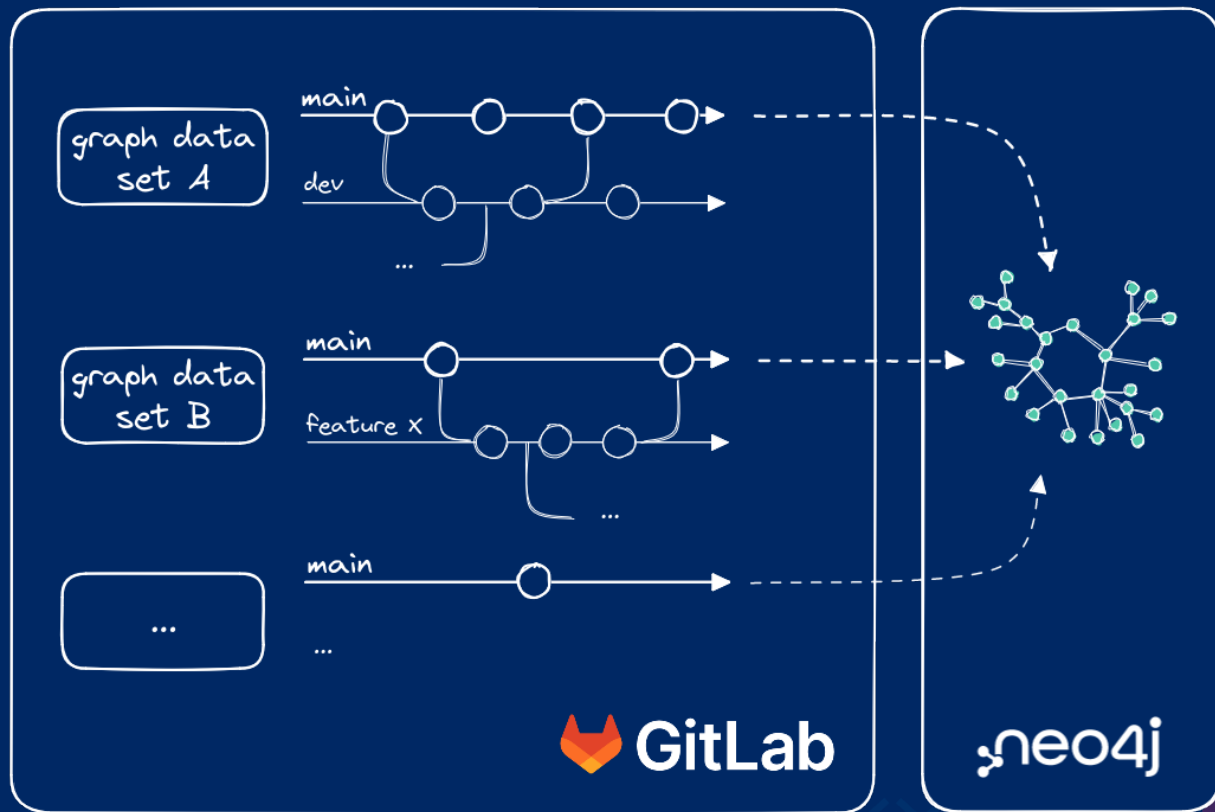
- terminology standardization,
- data structure harmonization,
- and (meta)data “richness”?



Collaborative graph data editing

via

- a graph data editor web app
- editing small “graph data sets” instead of large graphs
- collaboration on GitLab
- generating data entry forms from graph data sets
- publishing graph data sets via GitLab
- automatic, i.e. auto-complete-like suggestions during editing based on all public graph data



Software Design Challenges

1. Collaboration

- Which parts of git to show to users and how?
- Live collaboration (think of e.g. miro or mural)

2. “Auto-complete” suggestions

- So many possibilities...

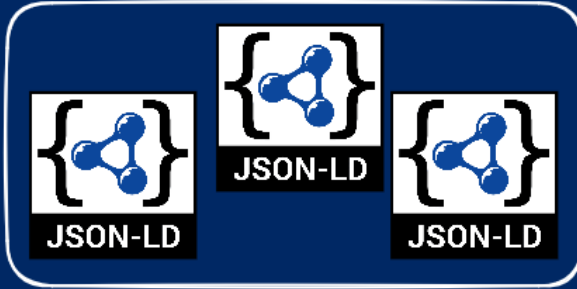
3. One global GitLab

- Which data/computing to do globally?
- On which infrastructure?



Thank you for your attention!

Supplemental slides



The tech stack

- node.js backend server
- JSON-LD graph data format
- svelteKit javaScript framework for graph editor web app
- GitLab for version control and project management
- neo4j graph database as a basis for the auto-complete feature
- docker compose for portable deployment

...on its way to FAIR...

E.g. with:

- documented terminology
- resource IDs

some spreadsheet

id	intensity	duration [seconds]
...
...

some README file

This data set is about some generic measurements.

device: meterbot 2000
operator: Mel (orcid.org/xxx...)
project: ERC 1337

Ontology X

id: <https://some.ontology/measurement>
label: Measurement
synonym: Data Collection
description: Translate an Observation of something into a value.
...

Resource Registry Y

id: <https://orcid.org/xxxxx...>
name: Melanie
position: Scientist at X Labs
publications:
- ...

Semantics:

Terms

could have unique IDs, definitions, synonyms, etc.

Resources

could have unique IDs and all kinds of other properties

Semantics/Ontologies

Ontology

```
prefix: "qudt"  
URL: <https://www.qudt.org>  
...
```



Semantics/Ontologies

- can also be edited with a graph data editor

Ontology

```
prefix: "qudt"  
URL: <https://www.qudt.org>  
...
```

Ontology

```
prefix: "ex"  
URL: <https://example.com>  
...
```

