

Enriching Property Graphs with Relationship

Suppose we are creating a large graph database that contains information about payments between companies. A graph database analyst might start off modeling the payments as shown in Figure 1, which expresses who paid whom. (All graph figures in this article were produced using Gruff, a tool for visualizing graph databases, operating over the AllegroGraph graph database system.)



Figure 1: A Graph of a Payment

This seems straightforward enough. Now suppose that we want to record more information about payments, such as the amount of the payment, the means of payment (direct debit, e-check, wire, etc.), the date and time when the payment occurred, and so forth. A traditional property graph approach places these properties on the edge that connects the payor and payee nodes, as shown in Figure 2.

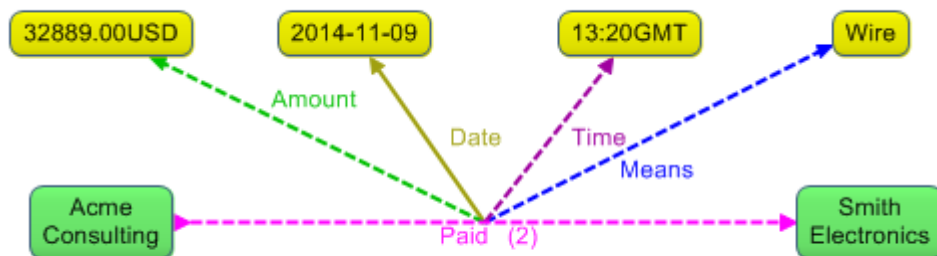


Figure 2: Attaching Properties to an Edge

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