



Share VDE - Backend

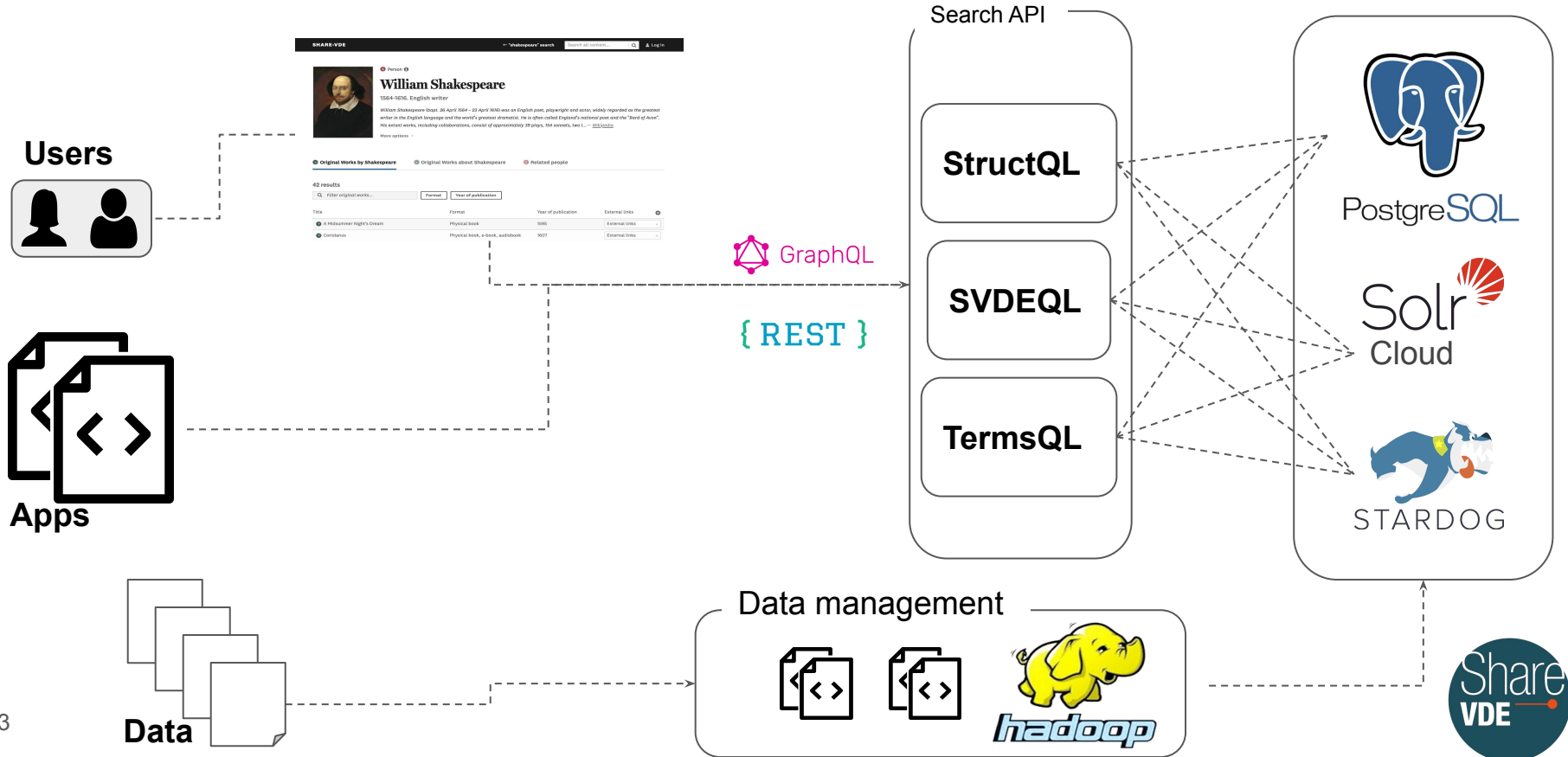
Andrea Gazzarini

www.share-vde.org
info@share-vde.org

Overview



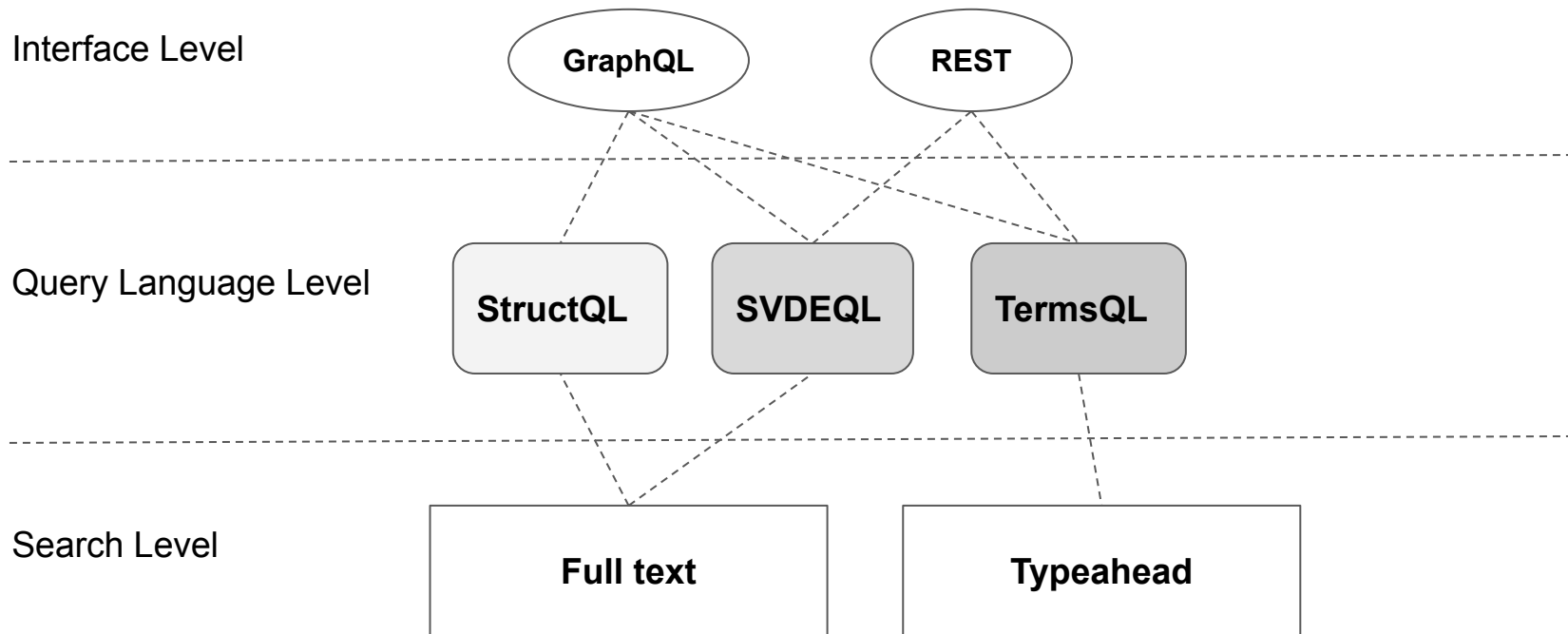
Search API: Overview



How can we interact with API?



Query Languages

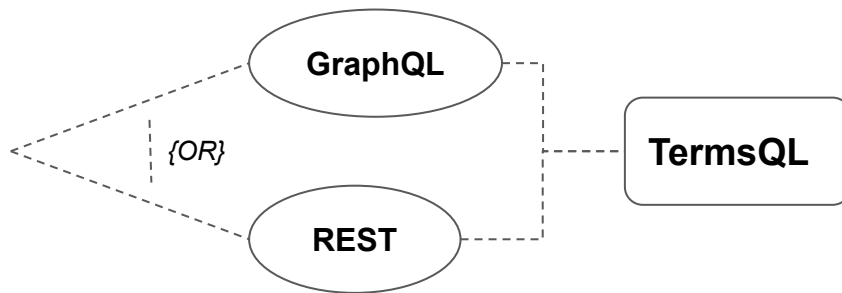


TermsQL

- Available in **GraphQL** and **REST** endpoints
- It **isn't a query language** itself
- The **query string** is composed only by **terms**
- When used, it triggers a **typeahead** search (see [here](#) for a detailed functional description)
- The response contains
 - matching entities with highlighting snippets
 - (optionally*) a “correctlySpelled” flag which indicates if some correction has been applied to the original terms
 - (optionally*) matching entities in other languages

The screenshot shows a search interface with a dropdown menu. The search bar contains the text 'any person'. Below the search bar, there are radio buttons for 'Agent type' with options: 'Any type', 'Person' (selected), 'Family', 'Organization', and 'Conference'. Below the radio buttons, there is a search bar with the text 'William Shakespeare'. Below the search bar, there is a list of results:

- Person William Shakespeare (English playwright and poet)
- Person Peter Shakespeare Doe (American visual artist)
- Person John Collins (Danish-American journalist)
- Person Maus Biruulien Shakespeare



SVDEQL / StructQL

- **Simple:** we don't want to build another query language
- **Dedicated grammar** for expressing and validating the “advanced search” syntax
- **Easy and human-readable** way to express an **information need**
- **Communication protocol** between **frontend** and **backend**
- Could be potentially **exposed** to **advanced users** in the future
- Only a “**format**” difference between the two query languages

The screenshot shows the SHARE-VDE search interface. At the top, there's a header with 'SHARE-VDE' and a 'Log In' button. Below the header, there's a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search for a person for whom'. To the right of the search bar is a 'Simple search' button. Below the search bar, there are two rows of search criteria. The first row has a dropdown menu for 'name', a dropdown menu for 'contains', and a text input field containing 'Pastorius'. The second row has a dropdown menu for 'birth date', a dropdown menu for 'is in a range', and two text input fields for 'from: 1942' and 'to: 1956'. To the right of each row are buttons for 'and', 'delete', and 'add'.

=

*people whose name contains Pastorius
AND birth date is in range from 1942 to 1956*

StructQL vs SVDEQL

StructQL

- Only available in the GraphQL endpoint
- JSON-like structure
- Grammar enforced by GraphQL schema

Example

```
{
  q: [
    { name : {p: CONTAINS, o: "Carroll"}, op:AND },
    { name : {p: CONTAINS, o: "Lewis"}}
  ]
}
```

SVDEQL

- Available in the GraphQL and REST endpoints
- Pseudo-natural syntax
- Grammar enforced by JAVACC

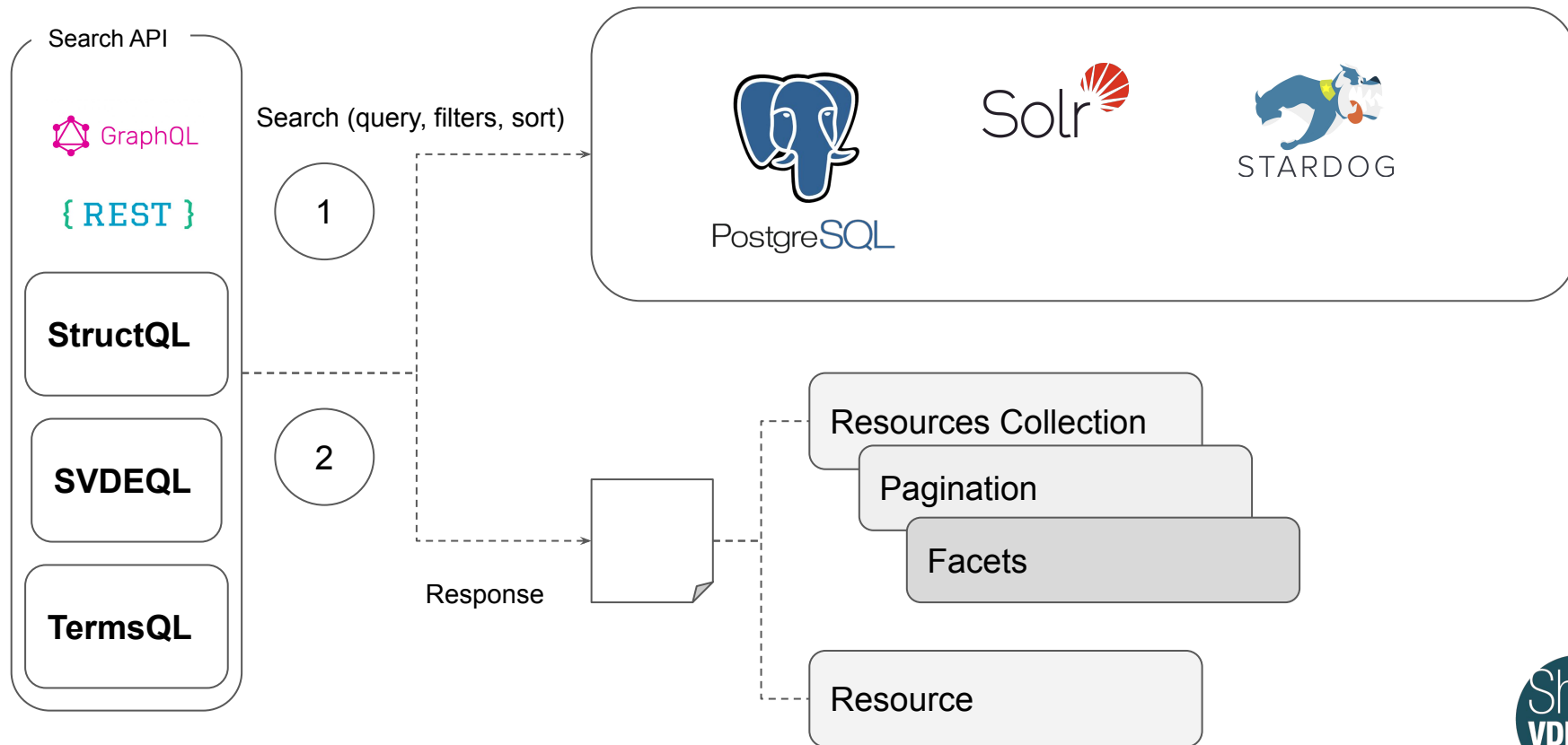
Example

agents whose
name contains *Carroll* **AND**
name contains *Lewis*

What do we get in output?



Hybrid Response: Realtime and Near Realtime

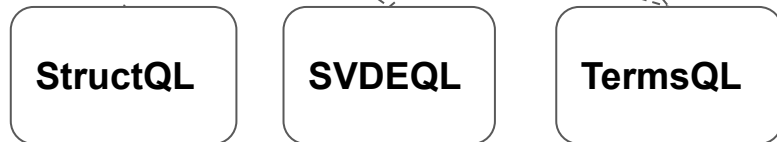


Query Languages

Interface Level



Query Language Level



Search Level



RESTFul API

- **Hypermedia As The Engine Of Application State (HATEOAS)**
- Share VDE resources provide information dynamically through **hypermedia**
- client actions are **discovered** within **resource representations** returned from the server
- **linked resources are expressed through URIs**, in dedicated sections of the resource representation
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HATEOAS>

RESTFul API: Resource (Person)

```
{
  "heading": "Carroll, Lewis",
  ...
  "_links": {
    "self": [
      { "href": "https://share-vde.org/people/201" },
      { "href": "https://share-vde.org/agents/201" },
      { "href": "http://isni.org/isni/000000012137136X", "type": "ISNI" },
      { "href": "https://viaf.org/viaf/66462036", "type": "VIAF" }
    ],
    "photo": { "href": "https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/lc_1863.jpg" },
    "birth_place": { "href": "https://share-vde.org/places/7295222" }
  },
  "alternate_headings": [ "Dodgson, Charles Lutwidge", "Karol, Luis" ],
  "birth_date": 1832,
  "death_date": 1898
}
```

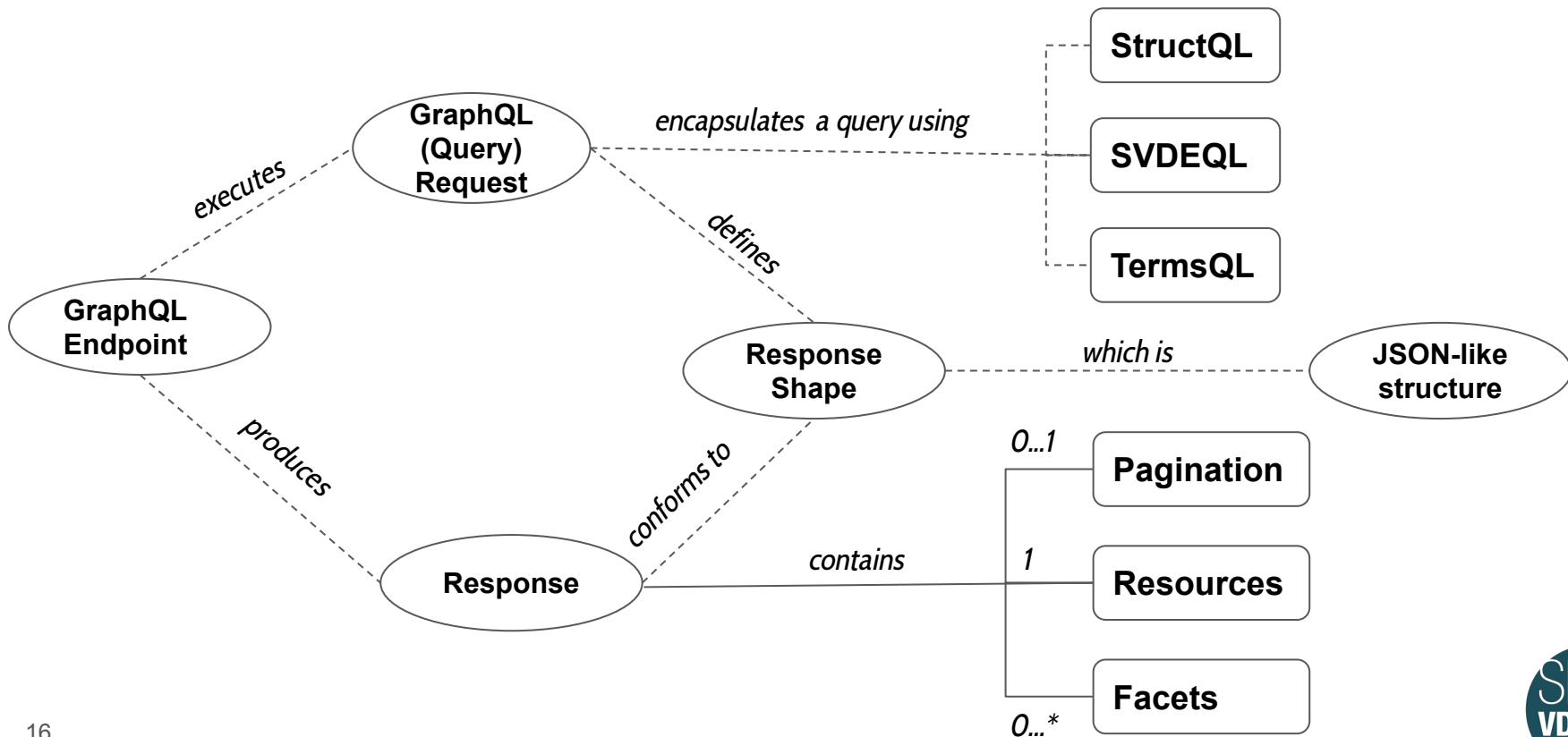
RESTFul API: Collection (People)

```
{
  "_embedded": {
    "agentList": [
      {
        "heading": "Carroll, Lewis",
        "_links": {
          ...
        },
      },
      {
        "heading": "Dodgson, Campbell",
        "alternate_headings": [ "Dodgson, C." ],
        "birth_date": 1867,
        "death_date": 1948
      },
      ...
    ]
  }
}
```

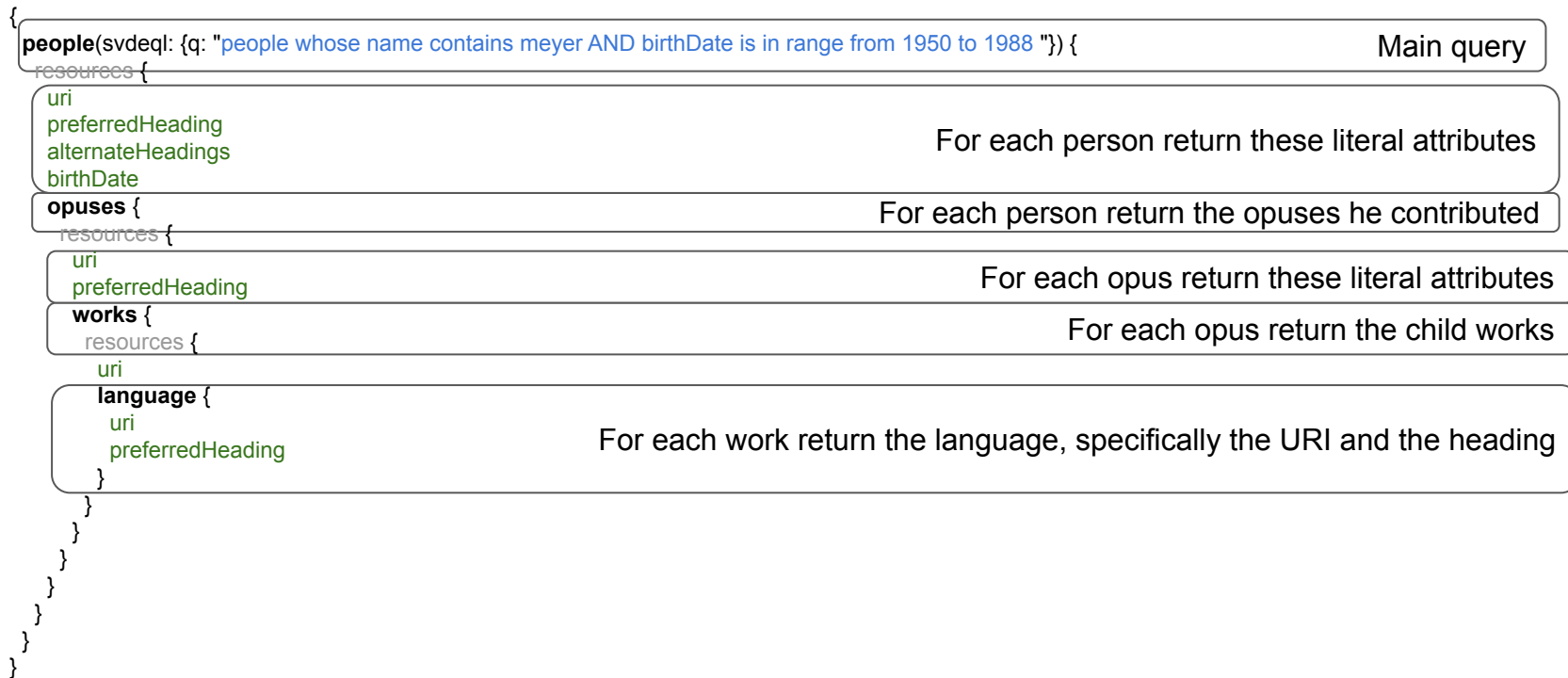
HATEOAS: Faceted Collection (Agents)

```
...
"facets": {
  "facet_fields": {
    "location": {
      { "https://share-vde.org/places//5387877": 3,
        "https://share-vde.org/places/2650225": 2,
        ...
      },
    "type": {
      "https://share-vde.org/agentTypes/Meeting": 6,
      "https://share-vde.org/agentTypes/Person": 4,
      "https://share-vde.org/agentTypes/Family": 3,
      "https://share-vde.org/agentTypes/Organisation": 1
    }
  }
}
```

GraphQL



GraphQL: Example Request



GraphQL: Example Response (extract)

```
{
  people(svdeql: {q: "people whose name contains meyer AND birthDate is in range from 1950 to 1988"}) {
    resources {
      uri
      preferredHeading
      alternateHeadings
      birthDate
      opuses {
        resources {
          uri
          preferredHeading
          works {
            resources {
              uri
              language {
                uri
                preferredHeading
              }
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Diagram illustrating the mapping of the GraphQL query to the JSON response structure:

- The query `people(svdeql: {q: "people whose name contains meyer AND birthDate is in range from 1950 to 1988"})` maps to the root `people` field.
- The `resources` field in the query maps to the `resources` array in the response.
- The `uri` field in the query maps to the `uri` field in the response.
- The `preferredHeading` field in the query maps to the `preferredHeading` field in the response.
- The `alternateHeadings` field in the query maps to the `alternateHeadings` array in the response.
- The `birthDate` field in the query maps to the `birthDate` field in the response.
- The `opuses` field in the query maps to the `opuses` field in the response.
- The `resources` field in the query maps to the `resources` array in the response.
- The `uri` field in the query maps to the `uri` field in the response.
- The `preferredHeading` field in the query maps to the `preferredHeading` field in the response.
- The `works` field in the query maps to the `works` field in the response.
- The `resources` field in the query maps to the `resources` array in the response.
- The `uri` field in the query maps to the `uri` field in the response.
- The `language` field in the query maps to the `language` field in the response.
- The `uri` field in the query maps to the `uri` field in the response.
- The `preferredHeading` field in the query maps to the `preferredHeading` field in the response.

Example JSON response structure:

```
{
  "uri": "https://share-vde.org/agents/211631289194108",
  "preferredHeading": "Meyer, Han",
  "alternateHeadings": [
    "Meyer, Valentin Johannes",
    "Meyer, Han"
  ],
  "opuses": {
    "resources": [
      {
        "uri": "https://share-vde.org/opuses/181631290147810",
        "preferredHeading": "Stad en de haven",
        "works": {
          "resources": [
            {
              "uri": "https://share-vde.org/works/181631290147812",
              "language": {
                "uri": "https://share-vde.org/languages/21631288253353",
                "preferredHeading": "Inglese"
              }
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    ]
  },
  "uri": "https://share-vde.org/opuses/961631362475595",
  "preferredHeading": "Delta urbanism",
  "works": {
    ...
  }
}
```

(other people follow)

Search Features



FullText Search

Simple (terms/phrases) Search

Barnaby Potter

All results (2501) Agents (1819) Original works (682)

Results for *Barnaby and Potter*
2501 results found

Person

Barnaby Potter
British bishop. Born in 1577. Died in 1642.

Original work

Barnaby

Advanced Search

Search for an agent of any type

Simple search

name contains the word potter and

birth / start / founding date is in a range from 1980 to 2020 and

Clear all Search

Agent results

Start year

12 results

Name	Type	Start year	End year	Location
Will Potter	Person	1980		
Chris Potter	Person	1987		

Typeahead Search

contributor is any person in any role

Agent type

☐ Any type ☒ Person ☐ Family ☐ Organization ☐ Conference

Person Search for people by name or ID

William Shakespeare (English playwright and poet)

Peter Shakespeare Doe (American visual artist)

John Collins (Danish-American journalist)

Maus Shakespeare

Exact Match Suggestions

A search which targets only entities whose headings or identifiers exactly match the query, partially or totally.

A screenshot of a search interface. At the top, a search bar contains the text 'tchaikovsky' and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar is a link that says 'Advanced Search'. Below the search bar, there is a section titled 'This publication looks similar to what you are looking for'. Inside this section, there is a card for 'Tchaikovsky' with the text 'Published in English in 1963.' and a button that says 'View the publication'. Below this section, there is a row of filters: 'All results (1149)' (highlighted with a blue border), 'Agents (212)', and 'Original works (937)'.

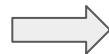
Results for *tchaikovsky*
1149 results found

Person

A screenshot of a search interface. At the top, a search bar contains the text '0000000113258500 some other term that doesn't have any full match' and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar is a link that says 'Advanced Search'. Below the search bar, there is a section titled 'This person looks similar to what you are looking for'. Inside this section, there is a card for 'Will Potter' with the text 'Born in 1980. ISNI : 0000000113258500' and a button that says 'Person view'. Below this section, there is a row of filters: 'All results (46581)' (highlighted with a blue border), 'Agents (19829)', and 'Original works (26752)'.

Results for 0000000113258500 , some , other , term , that , doesn't , have , any , full , a match
46581 results found

Original work
Mind doesn't work that way
Written by [Jerry A. Fodor](#).



```
{
  exactMatches(q: "tchaikovsky") {
    resources {
      ... (other)
    }
  }
}
```



```
{
  exactMatches(q: "0000000113258500 ...") {
    resources {
      ... (other)
    }
  }
}
```

Query Explanation

A virtual explanation entity, associated to a core entity (e.g. Agent, Opus) which provides insights about the reason why a given resource has been included in search results.

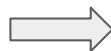
"tell me what the agent 981631362140359 has to do with the term populonia"

Request



`/meetings/981631362140359/explanation?terms=populonia`

Response



```
"meta": {  
  "aut": {  
    "type": "Role",  
    "language": "eng",  
    "label": "author"  
  }  
},  
"aut": [  
  {  
    "title": "Corsica e <b>Populonia</b>"  
  }  
],
```

"The term Populonia occurs in the title of an Opus where the Meeting contributed as an author"

which means





Virtual
Discovery
Environment

Share VDE - Backend

Thank you!

Andrea Gazzarini

www.share-vde.org
info@share-vde.org