Uwazi is getting ready for a new relationships schema that would allow to better describe the connection between different entities and documents.

**Simple relationships**

Let’s use a simple example of a relationship:

![Diagram of Julius Caesar and Brutus connected with a Victim label.]

In the current model, you have only a single label as option for the relationship. Let’s say you decide to use the label “Victim” as the relationship. Since “victim” has a directionality, it is ambiguous which is the victim and which is the perpetrator:

![Diagram of Julius Caesar and Brutus connected with a Victim label, indicating directionality.]

Our new approach to relationships introduces a ‘hub’ to help disambiguate this scenario. You have a ‘left’ and ‘right’ side to every connection. For simple connections, pick the side that best describes the relationship. In this case, since Julius Caesar is the victim, you would select to use the label on the ‘left’ side of the connection.

![Diagram showing the connection from Julius Caesar to Brutus with a Victim label on the left.]

This would be the view you would get if examining the relationships of entity Julius Caesar. But if you go into Brutus’ relationships, this ‘directionality’ is preserved. So you would read:

![Diagram showing the connection from Brutus to Julius Caesar with a Victim label on the right.]

For more complex descriptions of relationships, you could also use different labels for each side of the ‘hub’:

![Diagram showing the connection from Brutus to Julius Caesar with Perpetrator and Victim labels.]

Metadata-type selects will be treated as ‘right-side’ relationships. So, if you configured inside a historic character the select field: “assassin”, and inside Julius Caesar you select Brutus, it would translate into:

![Diagram showing the connection from Brutus to Julius Caesar with a Victim label on the right and an Assassin label on the left.]

**Hint:** Our relationships approach works better with nouns. If you use verbs, the readability may be ambiguous. If you select “assassinated by”, it is more difficult to discern if Brutus was the one assassinated or Caesar:

![Diagram showing the connection with Assassinated by labels on the left and right.]
Another added benefit of the hubs is that it allows multiple entities and documents to be connected to the same hub, expanding the possibilities of deep and complex connections.

For instance, if you have a document describing Julius Caesar’s assassination, you could create this relationships hub from it:

Complex relationships

With multiple hubs, you can group and isolate relationships that make sense within one context but not within the other. Let’s assume a document narrating famous assassinations in history. There, the story of Julius Caesar would be included, as well as, for example, John F. Kennedy’s. Yet, John F. Kennedy and Julius Caesar have no relationship whatsoever outside of the context of that document. So we could use multiple hubs inside the document to describe this condition:

Grouped relationships

With this grouping option we successfully connect Brutus to Julius Caesar and Oswald to Kennedy, but we do not relate Brutus to Oswald or Caesar to Kennedy, yet all have correct relationships to the document “Famous Assassinations”.