

- Facebook unveiled something called the Open Graph protocol (OGP) back in April 2010.
- OGP is a mechanism that enables developers to make any web page an object in Facebook's Social Graph by injecting some RDFa metadata into the page.

Example



Figure 2-5. An IMDb page featuring an implementation of OGP for The Rock

Implementation of OGP

XHTML document that uses namespaces looks something like this:

```
<html xmlns:og="http://ogp.me/ns#">
<head>
<title>The Rock (1996)</title>
<meta property="og:title" content="The
Rock" />
<meta property="og:type" content="movie"
/>
<meta property="og:url"
content="http://www.imdb.com/title/tto11
```

Implementation

At its core, querying the Graph API for Open Graph objects is incredibly simple:

For example, fetching the URL:

`http://graph.facebook.com/http://www.imdb.com/title/tto117500` in your web browser would return this response:

```
{
  "id": "114324145263104",
  "name": "The Rock (1996)",
  "picture": "http://profile.ak.fbcdn.net/hprofile-ak-snc4/hs344.snc4/...jpg",
  "link": "http://www.imdb.com/title/tto117500/",
  "category": "Movie",
  "description": "Directed by Michael Bay. With Sean Connery, ...",
  "likes" : 3
}
```


Implementation

- you explicitly request additional metadata for an object in the page by appending the query string parameter `metadata=1` to the request. Here is a sample response for the query:

<https://graph.facebook.com/114324145263104?metadata=1>

Implementation

```
metadata": {  
  "connections": {  
    "feed":  
      "http://graph.facebook.com/http://www.imdb  
        .com/title/...",  
    "posts":  
      "http://graph.facebook.com/http://www.imdb  
        .com/title/...",  
    "tagged":  
      "http://graph.facebook.com/http://www.imdb  
        .com/title/...",  
  }  
}
```

ANALYZING SOCIAL GRAPH CONNECTIONS

Introduction

- An official Python SDK for the Graph API is a community fork of that repository previously maintained by Facebook and can be installed using:
`pip install facebook-sdk`

Implementation Methods

Few key methods from the GraphAPI class that you need to know about in order to use the Graph API to fetch data:

1-get_object(self, id, **args)

Example usage: `get_object("me", metadata=1)`

2-get_objects(self, id, **args)

```
Example usage: get_objects(["me", "some_other_id"],
                           metadata=1)
```

```
3-get_connections(self, id, connection_name, **args)
```

Example usage: `get_connections("me", "friends", metadata=1)`

4-request(self, path, args=None, post_args=None)

```
Example usage: request("search", {"q": "social web", "type":  
"page"})
```


Example 2-2. Querying the Graph API with Python

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```
import facebook # pip install facebook-sdk
import json
```

```
# A helper function to pretty-print Python objects as JSON
def pp(o):
    print json.dumps(o, indent=1)
```

```
# Create a connection to the Graph API with your access token
g = facebook.GraphAPI(ACCESS_TOKEN)
```

Example

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```
# Execute a few sample queries
print '-----'
print 'Me'
print '-----'
pp(g.get_object('me'))
print
print '-----'
print 'My Friends'
print '-----'
pp(g.get_connections('me', 'friends'))
print
print '-----'
print 'Social Web'
print '-----'
pp(g.request("search", {'q': 'social web', 'type': 'page'}))
to query for information about you, information about your friends, and the term
social web.
```

Sample Output

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```
-----
Me
-----
{
  "last_name": "Russell",
  "relationship_status": "Married",
  "locale": "en_US",
  "hometown": {
    "id": "104012476300889",
    "name": "Princeton, West Virginia"
  },
  "quotes": "The only easy day was yesterday.",
  "facebook_places_lived": [
    {
      "id": "104012476300889",
      "name": "Princeton, West Virginia"
    }
  ]
}
```

Sample Output

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```
-----
My Friends
-----
{
  "paging": {
    "next":
      "https://graph.facebook.com/644382747/friends?
      ...",
  },
  "data": [
    {
      "name": "Bas Russell",
      "id": "6224364"
    }
  ]
}
```

Sample Output

Social Web

```
{
  "paging": {
    "next": "https://graph.facebook.com/search?q=social+web&type=page...",
  },
  "data": [
    {
      "category": "Book",
      "name": "Mining the Social Web",
      "id": "146803958708175"
    },
    {
      "category": "Internet/software",
      "name": "Social & Web Marketing",
      "id": "172427156148334"
    }
  ]
}
```

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ANALYZING FACEBOOK PAGES

Introduction

- Facebook started out as more of a pure social networking site.
- It quickly adapted to take advantage of the market needs.
- Fast-forward a few years, and now businesses, clubs, books, and many other kinds of nonperson entities have Facebook pages with a fan base.
- Facebook pages are a powerful tool for businesses to engage their customers, and Facebook has gone to some lengths to provide tools that allow Facebook page administrators to understand their fans.

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