

# Easy Social Feeds with the Migrate API

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# Intros

## Tom Mount

- Technology Lead, Eastern Standard
- Closet geek
- Hobbies include bass guitar and rec football year-round
- Email: [tomm@easternstandard.com](mailto:tomm@easternstandard.com)

## Eastern Standard

- Philadelphia-based marketing and technology agency
- Collaborative dev team
- We're hiring!



# What do our customers need?



# Quick Demo

The screenshot displays the Penn Biden Center homepage. At the top, there are two navigation tabs: "changing world" and "strengthening our alliances". Below these is the Twitter handle "@PennBiden" and a "FOLLOW US" button. The main content area features a single tweet from the account. The tweet text reads: "Today is Holocaust Remembrance Day--a day to renew our sacred vow: 'Never again' #HolocaustMemorialDay Photo: Vice President Biden &...". The tweet includes a photo of Vice President Joe Biden and another person standing outdoors near a body of water. To the right of the tweet is a retweet from @CFR\_org, which says: "RT @CFR\_org: 'I think we should be on the offensive in making it clear exactly what we know Russia and/or Putin, in particular, is doing...'". This retweet includes a photo of Joe Biden speaking at a podium. At the bottom of the tweet area are navigation arrows. Below the tweet is a dark blue banner with the text "News & Insights" and a small image of a galaxy.

Penn Biden Center (<https://pennbidencenter.global.upenn.edu>) homepage showing single Twitter feed

# Quick Demo

The screenshot shows the configuration panel for a 'Social Media Feed' component. It includes fields for 'Display Username' (set to '@PennBiden'), 'FOLLOW US LINK \*' (URL: 'https://twitter.com/intent/user?screen\_name=PennBiden'), and 'SOCIAL MEDIA FEED' settings (View: 'Social Media Feed', Display: 'Twitter Feed').

PBC Homepage Component

The screenshot shows the 'Content' list interface. It features a table with columns for Title, Content type, Author, Status, Updated, and Operations. The table contains three entries, each with an 'Edit' button.

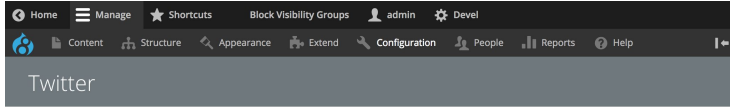
Title	Content type	Author	Status	Updated	Operations
<input type="checkbox"/> Yesterday, we were excited to welcome our first group of @PennINDC students and young alumni to visit our new #PBC offices. @joebiden encouraged them to get involved and stay engaged in public life. Thanks to everyone who came out! <a href="https://t.co/9VQh3J93B8">https://t.co/9VQh3J93B8</a>	Social Migration: Twitter Item	Anonymous (not verified)	Published	01/24/2018 -16:54	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> RT @CCR_org: Thanks, @joebiden and @mikercarpenter, for joining us today. Watch the discussion or read the transcript at <a href="https://t.co/legag8h...">https://t.co/legag8h...</a>	Social Migration: Twitter Item	Anonymous (not verified)	Published	01/23/2018 -16:10	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> "The major issue right now is helping Ukraine succeed internally. If they don't succeed in fighting corruption and establishing the rule of law, then it's a lost cause." @mikercarpenter @Akieve	Social Migration: Twitter Item	Anonymous (not verified)	Published	01/23/2018 -14:06	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>

PBC content list showing created nodes

The screenshot shows the editing interface for a content node. It includes a rich text editor at the top, followed by various metadata fields such as 'Title', 'Content type', 'Author', 'Status', and 'Updated'. There are also 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom.

PBC content editing of individual node

# Quick Demo

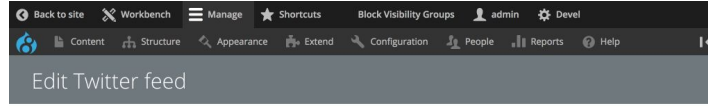


Facebook Instagram Twitter

Home > Administration > Configuration > Social Migration

[Add Twitter feed](#) [Run All Migrations](#) [Roll Back All Migrations](#)

Property Name	Feed Name	Cron Enabled/Disabled	Status	Operations
pennbiden	Penn Biden Center Twitter Feed	Enabled	Idle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Edit</li><li>Delete</li><li>Run</li><li>Roll Back</li><li>Reset Status</li></ul>



## Edit Twitter feed

Home > Administration > Configuration > Social Migration > Twitter

**Feed Name \***  
Penn Biden Center Twitter Feed Machine name: penn\_global\_dev\_twitter\_feed  
The human-readable name of this Twitter feed.

**Property Name \***  
pennbiden  
The account name for the property to retrieve, eg. <https://twitter.com/MyAccountName>.

**Tweet Count \***  
10  
The number of items to fetch per call.

**Client ID \***  
  
The Client ID value from the Twitter app created for this account.

**Client Secret \***  
  
The Client Secret value from the Twitter app created for this account.

- Automatically publish on import**  
Check this box to mark all imported content as "published" immediately on import.
- Use Extended Tweet mode**  
Check this box to use the Twitter API's "Extended Tweet" mode. Unless this is a legacy migration this option should be checked.
- Enable Automatic Feed Import**  
Check this box to enable automatic import of this feed. If unchecked, the feed can still be manually imported but will not automatically import.

PBC list of Twitter migrations

PBC editing Twitter migration



# What is the Migrate API?



# What is the Migrate API?

- Provides a Drupal-specific implementation of the ETL (**E**xtract, **T**ransform, **L**oad) process.
  - *Extract*: pull data into a system
  - *Transform*: manipulate the data, or use the data to manipulate some other data
  - *Load*: Save the manipulated data somewhere else for use later or by another system
- This is a very synchronous process - *transforming* doesn't happen until data is *extracted*, and *loading* can't happen until the *transform* phase has completed.
- This is also not a real-time process; data is periodically retrieved and cached for later.
- At its simplest, **the Migrate API provides a way of importing structured data from some source, processing it, and saving it somewhere else.**





# What is the Migrate API?

- The API uses slightly different terms:

<b>ETL Term</b>	<b>Migrate API Term</b>
Extract	Source
Transform	Process
Load	Destination

- Each of these API terms matches a *plugin* for the API.
- The plugin configures the pipeline for each step of the process.

# What is the Migrate API?

- Core Source Plugins
  - Embedded Data Source: data that is included in the YAML configuration file
  - SQL data source: pull information from a database (but you have to roll the plugin yourself)

**And that's it! There aren't many options for configuring source data in the core module.**



# What is the Migrate API?

- Core Process Plugins (not a complete list\*)
  - Concat: allows multiple pieces of source data to be concatenated into one string
  - Default Value: allows the use of static text
  - Entity Exists: looks up an entity based on source data and returns the entity ID
  - Format Date: uses Drupal's `DateTimePlus` class to convert dates between formats
  - Static Map: converts incoming source data to a different value
  - Subprocess/Iterator: processes structured data through its own pipeline

**Important to note:** in most cases, multiple process plugins can be called on a single piece of source data. The output from one plugin is automatically piped to the input of the next plugin.

\* There are plenty of additional process plugins available; see <https://www.drupal.org/docs/8/api/migrate-api/migrate-process-plugins/list-of-core-process-plugins> for a complete list.



# What is the Migrate API?

- Core Destination Plugins
  - Config: places data into YAML config files
  - Entity: stores data in entities (the type of entity can be configured)

As with source plugins, there aren't many destination options defined in the core module.



# What is the Migrate API?

**With all the plugins available, what can we do with what we're given out-of-the-box?**

- Specify structured data manually (in YAML format only!), or pull in SQL data if we have time to write a custom plugin for our specific situation.
- Manipulate that data a bunch of different ways.
- Store the results in nodes.

**Based on what we know about how the API works, what kinds of things *should* we be able to do?**

- It might be cool to grab structured XML or JSON data off the underlying filesystem.
- Maybe we could grab that kind of data from another website instead?
- What if we could do something really crazy, like consume a third-party REST API, maybe from some really complex data source like Facebook, manipulate *that* data, then store that content in nodes?



# Extending the Migrate API



# Extending the Migrate API

The `migrate_plus` module contains a collection of additional plugins for the *source*, *process*, and *destination* phases of the API.

## Source Plugins

- URL: using Drupal's `GuzzleHttp` client, allows the use of a URL as a data source
- File/HTTP Data Fetchers
- JSON/XML/SOAP Data Parsers
- Basic/Digest/OAuth2 Authentication

## Process Plugins

- Entity Lookup/Generate: finds (or creates) entities based on source data
- Merge: merge several source fields into one
- StrReplace: modifies strings
- Skip On Value: bypasses processing on certain values

## Destination Plugins

- Table: allows for storing data in any database table, even if it's not registered with Drupal's Schema API

# Extending the Migrate API

As an added bonus, the `migrate_plus` module makes two key changes to the Migrate API:

- Migrations as entities: now migrations can be managed as Drupal entities, exported as YAML files, etc.
- Migration Groups:
  - Allows migrations to be batched together and run as a group.
  - Allows migrations to share a base configuration, which can be omitted or overridden in individual migrations.





# Extending the Migrate API

You can also build your own plugins. I created two *process* plugins for my `social_migration` module:

- Coalesce: takes a list of inputs and returns the first non-empty value in the list.
- Permalink: creates a Twitter permalink given the account name and a tweet ID.



# Case Study: Importing Facebook Content



# Case Study: Importing Facebook Content

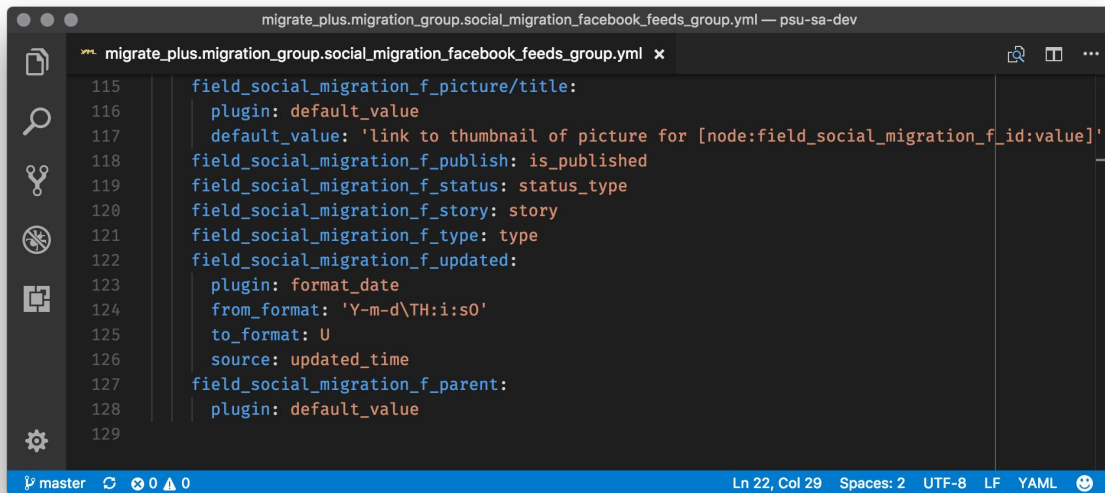
1. Create a Drupal content type to hold all the information you want to import.
2. Configure *source* to use `url` source plugin with `http` data fetcher and `oauth2` authentication.
  - a. Primary source is the Graph API url and includes the desired fields.
  - b. `oauth2` plugin must be configured with API key from Facebook Developer.
  - c. `oauth2` plugin handles getting the token and applying it to the main call to the Graph API.
3. List all of the necessary fields within the *source* configuration.
4. Identify and configure an ID field in the data source to assist in caching.
5. Configure *process* plugin to assign *source* keys to the field names used in the content type, manipulating the data where necessary (e.g., truncating message value to 255 characters for the title field, converting the date to Drupal's required format, adding descriptions to image URLs, etc.). Use the `default_value` plugin to set the node type and publishing status.
6. Set the *destination* plugin to `entity:node` to save the content as a node.

# Case Study: Importing Facebook Content

```
migrate_plus.migration_group.social_migration_facebook_feeds_group.yml — psu-sa-dev
migrate_plus.migration_group.social_migration_facebook_feeds_group.yml x
5 id: social_migration_facebook_feeds_group
6 label: 'Social Migration: Facebook Feeds'
7 description: 'Group containing all the standard configuration to support a
8 source_type: Facebook
9 module: null
10 shared_configuration:
11   langcode: en
12   source:
13     plugin: url
14     data_fetcher_plugin: http
15     headers: { }
16     authentication:
17       plugin: oauth2
18       base_uri: 'https://graph.facebook.com/v2.10'
19       token_url: '/oauth/access_token'
20       grant_type: client_credentials
21       auth_location: body
22     data_parser_plugin: json
23     item_selector: data
24     fields:-
70     ids:-
73 process:
74   title:
75     -
76     plugin: coalesce
77     source:
78     - message
79     - description
80     default_value: '(no message or description)'
81   -
82   plugin: substr
83   start: 0
84   length: 254
```

- `url` source plugin
- `http` data fetcher plugin
- `oauth2` authentication plugin
- Since this is a shared configuration, the actual api keys for individual migrations do NOT appear here. They are supplied in the individual migrations.
- Pipeline of plugins for the title field: `coalesce` with a default value, followed by `substr` to reduce the result to 254 characters.

# Case Study: Importing Facebook Content



```
migrate_plus.migration_group.social_migration_facebook_feeds_group.yml — psu-sa-dev
migrate_plus.migration_group.social_migration_facebook_feeds_group.yml x
115 field_social_migration_f_picture/title:
116   plugin: default_value
117   default_value: 'link to thumbnail of picture for [node:field_social_migration_f_id:value]'
118 field_social_migration_f_publish: is_published
119 field_social_migration_f_status: status_type
120 field_social_migration_f_story: story
121 field_social_migration_f_type: type
122 field_social_migration_f_updated:
123   plugin: format_date
124   from_format: 'Y-m-d\TH:i:s0'
125   to_format: U
126   source: updated_time
127 field_social_migration_f_parent:
128   plugin: default_value
129
```

- Assign values to Drupal content fields.
- Use the `format_date` plugin to transform a source date value into a different format.

# Case Study: Importing Facebook Content

```
Permalink.php — psu-sa-dev
migrate_plus_migration_group_social_migration_facebook_feeds_group.yml  Permalink.php x
1 <?php
2
3 namespace Drupal\social_migration\Plugin\migrate\process;
4
5 use Drupal\migrate\Row;
6 use Drupal\migrate\ProcessPluginBase;
7 use Drupal\migrate\MigrateExecutableInterface;
8
9 /**
10  * Create a Twitter permalink.
11  *
12  * Available configuration keys:
13  * - property_name: The property name for this user.
14  *
15  * @MigrateProcessPlugin(
16  *   id = "permalink"
17  * )
18 */
19 class Permalink extends ProcessPluginBase {
20
21     /**
22      * @inheritdoc
23      */
24     public function transform($value, MigrateExecutableInterface $migrate_executable, Row $row, $destination_property) {
25         $propertyName = $this->configuration['property_name'];
26         $id = $row->getSourceProperty('id');
27         return "https://twitter.com/${propertyName}/status/${id}";
28     }
29 }
30
31
```

- Pretty easy to create your own plugin.
- This one takes one input, `property_name`, combines it with data from the source feed (`id`), and returns a Twitter permalink.

# Case Study: Importing Facebook Content

## Some potential next steps:

1. If more than one Facebook account should be retrieved, create a migration group and use the `shared_configuration` section to store configuration that would otherwise be duplicated with each Facebook migration.
2. Add fields on the content type to store metadata about the migration process in each created node (e.g., which migration generated the node). This is a great place to use taxonomies!
3. Create a module that...
  - a. runs migrations on a cron;
  - b. allows content managers or site owners to add or remove migrations; or
  - c. specifies different permission levels so that larger organizations can control who can modify settings.

# Case Study: Importing Facebook Content

## Benefits of going this route:

1. Easy integration with Views and any sort of headless Drupal implementation you want.
2. Takes full advantage of Drupal's ability to cache content.
3. Allows non-developers to add or modify social media platforms and properties.
4. By default, the Migrate API won't re-import content that has already been imported, meaning content can be curated after it's been imported and those changes will persist.
5. Fully compatible with content management workflows (e.g., Workbench).
6. Few to no third-party library dependencies.
7. Configuration is 100% compatible with Features or Configuration Export workflows (just be careful not to commit API keys to version control).





# Further Reading



# Further Reading

- Drupal 8 Migrate API docs: <https://www.drupal.org/docs/8/api/migrate-api/migrate-api-overview>
- `migrate_plus` project page: [https://www.drupal.org/project/migrate\\_plus](https://www.drupal.org/project/migrate_plus)
- `migrate_tools` project page: [https://www.drupal.org/project/migrate\\_tools](https://www.drupal.org/project/migrate_tools) (adds Drush commands to run, roll back, and reset migrations)
- “Migrating XML in Drupal 8” by Kelsey Bentham: <https://www.palantir.net/blog/migrating-xml-drupal-8> (one of two articles I used to figure out how to get the `social_migration` module working properly)
- “Stop Waiting for Feeds Module: How to Import RSS in Drupal 8” by Campbell Vertesi: <https://ohthehugemanatee.org/blog/2017/06/07/stop-waiting-for-feeds-module-how-to-import-remote-feeds-in-drupal-8/> (the second, and probably most helpful, article as I was learning about the Migrate API)
- [Eastern Standard Concepts blog post](#) which contains some more background information I didn’t include in this session.
- The home page for the [social\\_migration module](#), now publicly available!



# Questions



