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# **metaextract Documentation**

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metaextract is a tool to collect metadata about a python module. For example you may have a sdist tarball from the [Python Package Index](#) and you want to know it's dependencies. metaextract can collect these dependencies. The tool was first developed in [py2pack](#) but is now its own module to be useful for others, too.



# CHAPTER 1

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## Installation

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To install metaextract from the [Python Package Index](#), simply:

```
$ pip install metaextract
```



# CHAPTER 2

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## Usage

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To extract the metadata for a python module using setup.py, do:

```
$ metaextract my-archive-file.tar.gz
```

This will print a json blob to stdout which contains i.e. `install_requires`, `extras_require` and friends extracted from the given archive file.

If you already have some source code available (i.e. a git checkout) for some project you can also run the `setup.py` file with the `metaextract distutils` command:

```
$ python setup.py --command-packages=metaextract metaextract
```

This will print the metadata as json. If you want to write the data to a file, do:

```
$ python setup.py --command-packages=metaextract metaextract -o output-file
```



# CHAPTER 3

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## API documentation

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### 3.1 The `metaextract.utils` Module

```
metaextract.utils.from_archive(archive_filename, py_interpreter='/home/docs/checkouts/readthedocs.org/user_builds/metaextract.readthedocs.org/_static/_pygments/monokai.css')  
    extract metadata from a given sdist archive file
```

#### Parameters

- **archive\_filename** – a sdist archive file
- **py\_interpreter** – The full path to the used python interpreter

**Returns** a json blob with metadata



# CHAPTER 4

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## Indices and tables

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- modindex
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