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12 Attorneys for Plaintiff,  
 Meta Platforms Inc

13  
 14 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
 15 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
 16 **SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

17 META PLATFORMS INC., a Delaware  
 18 corporation,

19 Plaintiff,

20 v.

21 OCTOPUS DATA, INC.,

22 Defendant.

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLAINT; DEMAND FOR  
 JURY TRIAL**

23  
 24  
 25 Plaintiff Meta Platforms, Inc. (“Meta”) alleges the following:  
 26  
 27  
 28

**INTRODUCTION**

1  
2 1. Since at least March 25, 2015, and continuing to the present, Defendant Octopus  
3 Data Inc., (“Octopus”) has operated an unlawful service called Octoparse, which was designed to  
4 improperly collect or “scrape” user account profiles and other information from various websites,  
5 including Amazon, eBay, Twitter, Yelp, Google, Target, Walmart, Indeed, LinkedIn, Facebook and  
6 Instagram.

7  
8 2. Defendant’s service used and offered multiple products to scrape data. *First*,  
9 Defendant offered to scrape data directly from various websites on behalf of its customers (the  
10 “Scraping Service”). *Second*, Defendant developed and distributed software designed to scrape  
11 data from any website, including Facebook and Instagram, using a customer’s self-compromised  
12 account (the “Scraping Software”). Defendant’s Scraping Software was capable of scraping any  
13 data accessible to a logged in Facebook and Instagram user. And Defendant designed the  
14 “premium” Scraping Software to launch scraping campaigns from Defendant’s computer network  
15 and infrastructure. *Finally*, Defendant claimed to use and distribute technologies to avoid being  
16 detected and blocked by Meta and other websites they scraped.

17  
18 3. Defendant’s conduct was not authorized by Meta and it violates Meta’s and  
19 Instagram’s terms and policies, and federal and California law. Accordingly, Meta seeks damages  
20 and injunctive relief to stop Defendant’s use of its platform and products in violation of its terms  
21 and policies.

**PARTIES**

22  
23  
24 4. Plaintiff Meta is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in  
25 Menlo Park, California. Meta operates, among other products, Facebook and Instagram.

26 5. Defendant Octopus was incorporated in California on or about January 12, 2015,  
27 with its principal place of business in Diamond Bar, California. Defendant operates through the  
28

1 website [octoparse.com](https://octoparse.com). Ex.1. As of August 9, 2020, Yusheng Li and Ting Li are the Chief  
2 Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer of Octopus, respectively. Ex. 2. According to  
3 its website, Defendant encouraged the use of the Scraping Software to “fetch all types of social  
4 media data across major players like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Flickr....” Ex. 3.  
5 And Defendant promoted the Scraping Software as a way to “quickly scrape web data without  
6 coding.” Ex. 4. As of January 6, 2022, Defendant claimed that it had one million customers using  
7 its Scraping Services. Ex. 5.

9 6. Octopus is a U.S. subsidiary of Shenzhen Vision Information Technology Co., Ltd.,  
10 also known as Shenzhen Skieer Information Technology Co. Ltd (“SVIT”). SVIT is located in  
11 Shenzhen, China. Liu Baoqiang, also known as Keven Liu, is the founder and CEO of SVIT.  
12 SVIT’s website, [skieer.com](https://skieer.com), describes SVIT as a “national high-tech enterprise that aims to build  
13 a big data platform and is committed to providing big data software and industry solutions.” *Id.*  
14 SVIT was named a “national high-tech enterprise” by China’s Ministry of Science and Technology  
15 in November 2015.

17 7. On or about March 25, 2015, SVIT’s CEO, Keven Liu, registered the [octoparse.com](https://octoparse.com)  
18 domain under the name Liu Bao Qiang using Alibaba Cloud Computing (Beijing) Co., Ltd. Ex. 6.  
19 By March 21, 2018, the registration was anonymized using privacy guard and information about  
20 the registrant was no longer publicly available. Ex. 7.

22 8. SVIT’s CEO promoted the Scraping Software on Facebook through his personal  
23 Facebook account. Several Octopus employees or those acting on its behalf created user accounts  
24 on Facebook to also promote the Scraping Software on Facebook.

### 25 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

26 9. The Court has federal question jurisdiction over the federal causes of action alleged  
27 in this Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331.  
28

1 10. The Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law causes of action alleged  
2 in the Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 because these claims arise out of the same nucleus  
3 of operative facts as Facebook’s federal claim.

4 11. Defendant had multiple Facebook accounts and thereby agreed to Meta’s Terms of  
5 Service and Commercial Terms (collectively “Meta’s Terms”). The Court has personal jurisdiction  
6 over Defendant because Meta’s Terms contain a forum selection clause that requires this complaint  
7 be resolved exclusively in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California or a state  
8 court located in San Mateo County, and that Defendants submit to the personal jurisdiction of either  
9 of those courts.

11 12. Defendant had multiple Instagram accounts and thereby agreed to the Instagram  
12 Terms of Use. The Instagram Terms of Use contain a forum selection clause that requires this  
13 complaint be resolved by this Court, and that Defendant submit to the personal jurisdiction of this  
14 Court.

16 13. Additionally, the Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it  
17 knowingly directed and targeted its conduct at California and at Meta, which has its principal place  
18 of business in California. Defendant is also incorporated in California and is located in Diamond  
19 Bar, California.

21 14. By agreeing to the forum selection clause in Meta’s Terms and Instagram’s Terms  
22 of Use, Defendant agreed that this Court is the proper venue for this matter.

23 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

24 **A. Background on Facebook and Instagram**

25 15. Facebook is a social networking website and mobile application operated by Meta  
26 that enables its users to create their own personal profiles and connect with each other on their  
27  
28

1 personal computers and mobile devices. As of March 31, 2022, Facebook daily active users  
2 averaged 1.96 billion and monthly active users averaged 2.94 billion.

3 16. Instagram is a photo and video sharing service and mobile application. Instagram  
4 users can upload photos and videos to Instagram and share them with others. They can also view  
5 and comment on photos and videos shared by others on Instagram.

6  
7 17. To create a Facebook or Instagram account, Meta requires each user to register with  
8 a unique username and password. Registered users can create user profiles and include information  
9 about themselves, including their email address, phone numbers, and date of birth. Registered  
10 Facebook users can make connections on Facebook by becoming “friends” with other Facebook  
11 users and Instagram users can “follow” other Instagram users.

12 18. Meta provides Facebook and Instagram users control over how to customize their  
13 profiles and how much personal information to include in their profiles. In addition, Facebook and  
14 Instagram privacy settings provide users with control over how much information is viewable  
15 publicly, to other Facebook and Instagram users, or to the users’ friends and followers.

16  
17 **B. Meta and Instagram Terms and Policies**

18 19. All Facebook users must agree to Meta’s Terms of Service (available at  
19 <https://www.facebook.com/terms.php>) (“Meta Terms”) and other rules that govern access to and  
20 use of Facebook (collectively “Meta Terms and Policies”).

21  
22 20. Everyone who uses Instagram agrees to Instagram’s Terms of Use (“Instagram  
23 Terms”) and to other rules that govern access to and use of Instagram, including Instagram’s  
24 Community Guidelines and Platform Policy (collectively, “Instagram Terms and Policies”).

25 21. Section 3.3 of the Meta Terms provide that its users “own the intellectual property  
26 rights (things like copyright or trademarks) in any such content that [they] create and share on  
27 Facebook and other Meta Company Products [they] use.”  
28

1 22. Instagram’s Terms also provide that Instagram users have content that is “covered  
2 by intellectual property rights (like photos and videos) . . . .”

3 23. Instagram’s Terms and Section 3.2.1 of the Meta Terms prohibits users from  
4 “do[ing] . . . anything unlawful, misleading, [ ] or fraudulent” or facilitate or support others in doing  
5 so.  
6

7 24. Section 3.2.3 of the Meta Terms prohibits “access[ing] or collect[ing] data from  
8 [Facebook] Products using automated means (without our permission) or attempt[ing] to access  
9 data you don’t have permission to access.” The Instagram Terms also prohibit (a) “access[ing] or  
10 collect[ing] in unauthorized ways . . . [including] collecting information in an automated way  
11 without our express permission;” and (b) “violat[ing] someone else’s rights, including intellectual  
12 property rights.”  
13

14 25. Section 4 of the Meta Terms provides that Meta has intellectual property rights in  
15 various images, designs, videos, and sounds created by Meta, and retains its rights in its shared  
16 protected material.

17 26. Instagram’s Terms also state that Instagram provides “content covered by  
18 intellectual property rights that we have and make available” and “retain all rights to our content.”

19 **C. Background on Scraping**

20 27. Scraping is a form of data collection that relies on unauthorized automation for the  
21 purpose of extracting data from a website or app.  
22

23 28. To combat scraping and other abuse, Meta proactively uses a combination of  
24 technological measures designed to control access to Facebook and Instagram and to detect and  
25 disrupt scraping at different stages.

26 a. Registration. Meta requires users of Facebook and Instagram to register for  
27 an account and login to the account before accessing and using the applications or websites. Meta  
28

1 monitors for the automated creation of accounts and blocks the registration of an account when the  
2 process of creating the account appears suspicious or automated or related to scraping.

3           b.     Confirmation. After registering, Meta requires Facebook and Instagram  
4 users to respond to an email or text message Meta sends to the contact information provided during  
5 registration. Meta also limits the number of user accounts that can share the same phone number  
6 or email address.

7  
8           c.     Post-Registration Monitoring for Suspicious Activity. Facebook and  
9 Instagram apply machine-learning models, using user-agent strings and other information, to detect  
10 accounts engaged in suspicious activity, such as inauthentic behavior, compromised accounts, and  
11 automated accounts after registration. If an account is flagged for suspicious activity on Facebook  
12 and Instagram, Meta may ask the user to enter a phone number, confirm a code sent to the  
13 registration email, or ask the user to respond to various technical tests or “checks,” including  
14 reCAPTCHA, to confirm that he or she is a human. Similarly, Instagram also uses machine learning  
15 and other tools to help identify accounts engaged in inauthentic activity (i.e., likes, follows, and  
16 comments). These accounts may be temporarily or permanently blocked from accessing Facebook  
17 and Instagram. For example, between January and March of 2022, Meta identified and took  
18 enforcement actions against 1.6 billion fake accounts.

19  
20           d.     Post-Registration Monitoring for Scraping. Meta also uses machine-  
21 learning models and other tools to detect and block users engaged in scraping based on use patterns  
22 that are inconsistent with a human user. Meta also identifies and blocks IP addresses known to be  
23 used to scrape data.

24  
25           e.     Rate and Data Limits. Meta employs rate and data limits to control access  
26 to certain data and prevent scraping. Rate limits cap the number of times anyone can interact with  
27 Meta computers in a given amount of time. Data limits restrict how many times certain types of  
28

1 data can be requested by a user. Once a user reaches a rate or data limit Meta will block a user's  
2 ability to access certain content. Meta blocks billions of suspected scraping actions per day across  
3 Facebook and Instagram using these measures.

4 29. Despite Meta's efforts to stop scraping and block scrapers from accessing Facebook  
5 and Instagram, data scrapers can utilize self-compromised user accounts to pose as an authenticated  
6 user, and other techniques (as described below in paragraph 49), to circumvent Meta's detection  
7 measures.  
8

9 **D. Defendant Accepted Meta's and Instagram's Terms and Policies**

10 30. At all relevant times, Defendant was bound by Meta's and Instagram's Terms and  
11 Policies.

12 31. Between November 10, 2016, and July 5, 2022, the CEO of Octopus, Yusheng Li  
13 created and controlled at least five Facebook user accounts and one Instagram account:

14 a. Defendant created a Facebook account on April 3, 2015, with the  
15 username "Li Isabel."  
16

17 b. Defendant created a Facebook account on November 10, 2016, with the  
18 username "Isabel Li."  
19

20 c. Defendant created a Facebook account on March 1, 2017, with the  
21 username "Isabel Li."  
22

23 d. Defendant created a Facebook account on September 27, 2017, with the  
24 username "Yina Huang."  
25

26 e. Defendant created a Facebook account on March 4, 2018, with the  
27 username "Isabel Li."  
28

32. Defendant created an Instagram account on July 18, 2018, with the name  
"isabellaoscar001."



1           33.     Between December 16, 2007 and July 5, 2022, the CFO of Octopus, Ting Li created  
2 and controlled at least one Facebook user account with the name Bernice Li.

3           34.     Between April 8, 2012 and July 5, 2022, the CFO of Octopus, Ting Li created and  
4 controlled at least one Instagram accounts with the name isabella\_angella.

5           35.     Between September 26, 2014 and July 5, 2022, the CEO of SVIT, Keven Liu created  
6 and controlled at least one Facebook user account with the name “Keven Liu”.

7           36.     On or about March 17, 2016, Defendant, through its employees and agents, created  
8 a Facebook user account with the name “Octoparse.”

9           37.     Between 2016 and 2021, Defendant, through its employees and agents, created and  
10 administrated five Facebook Pages, Octoparse Japan, Octoparse Español, Octoparse Français,  
11 Octoparse, and Octoparse Deutschland. The Pages were also used to promote the Octopus Scraping  
12 Services.

13           38.     On or about April 5, 2016, Defendant through its employees and agents, created a  
14 Facebook Group with the name Octoparse Users Club.

15           39.     Between August 4, 2017, and July 5, 2022, Defendant, through its employees and  
16 agents created and controlled two Facebook advertising accounts. Defendant used Facebook to  
17 promote Octoparse as set forth in Figure 1.  
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Figure 1: November 20, 2019 Octoparse Advertisement on Facebook



**E. Defendant Octopus’s Scraping Activity**

40. Since at least March 25, 2015, Defendant has operated the website [octoparse.com](http://octoparse.com) where it (i) sold and distributed its Scraping Software designed to scrape data from Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, and other websites; (ii) promoted scraping data from Facebook and Instagram (and any other website) for its customers; and (iii) developed, used, and distributed technologies to circumvent Meta’s technological measures designed to detect and disrupt scraping of Facebook and Instagram.

41. Defendant charged a range of prices for its Scraping Service and Software. As shown in Figure 2 below, Defendant developed and distributed a free and premium version (split between a Standard Plan and a Professional Plan) of its Scraping Software. Defendant also sold its

1 Scraping Service as part of the premium version of the Scraping Software and as a standalone  
2 product starting at \$399.

3 **Figure 2: May 24, 2021 Screenshot of Octoparse Premium Pricing & Packaging on**  
4 **octoparse.com**

The screenshot displays the Octoparse Premium Pricing & Packaging page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Product, Services, Pricing, Support, Download, Resources, Log in, and Start a Free Trial. The main heading is "Octoparse Premium Pricing & Packaging" with a sub-heading "5 Day Money Back Guarantee on All Octoparse Plans".

Four pricing plans are shown in columns:

- Free Plan:** Perfect for simple projects. Price: Free. No credit card required. Sign Up Now button.
- Standard Plan:** For small teams. Price: \$75 / Month (when billed annually) or \$89 when billed monthly. Buy Now button. Apply for Free Trial button.
- Professional Plan:** For middle-sized businesses. Price: \$209 / Month (when billed annually) or \$249 when billed monthly. Buy Now button. Apply for Free Trial button.
- Enterprise:** For business looking for a customizable data solution. Price: Contact Sales button. More Details button.

Below the plans, there are two service sections:

- Data Service:** Starting from \$399. Request a Quote button.
- Crawler Service:** Starting from \$189. Request a Quote button.

At the bottom, there is a section titled "We accept the following forms of payment" with logos for PayPal, VISA, DISCOVER NETWORK, MasterCard, AMERICAN EXPRESS, Diners Club International, and JCB. There are also buttons for "Data Service" and "Help".

May 24, 2021 at 1:37:38 PM

1                   i.           *Octoparse Scraping Software*

2           42.    To obtain and use the free or premium version of the Scraping Software, Defendant  
3 required all customers to create an account on Defendant's website octoparse.com. Defendant  
4 required customers to register using an email address and to create an Octoparse username and  
5 password. After a customer registered on Defendant's website, a customer was required to select  
6 the free or premium version of the Scraping Software and download it to their computer.  
7

8           43.    Defendant's website also enabled customers to add profile information (such as  
9 name and industry in which they worked), manage their subscriptions and purchase history with  
10 Defendant, and refer others to use Octoparse.

11           44.    After a customer downloaded the Scraping Software to their computer, the customer  
12 was required to login to their Facebook or Instagram account. Once logged in, Defendant designed  
13 the Scraping Software (free and premium versions) so that the customer only had to click on the  
14 data they wanted to scrape from Facebook and Instagram to facilitate Defendant's scraping  
15 activities. Defendant designed the free version of the Scraping Software to exfiltrate scraped data  
16 to the customer's computer. Defendant designed the premium version of the Scraping Software to  
17 exfiltrate the scraped data to servers controlled by Defendant. Defendant stored the data scraped  
18 by its premium version on its servers for a minimum of three months by default.  
19

20           45.    Defendant further facilitated scraping by allowing customers to schedule and launch  
21 scraping actions, without the customer visiting and browsing Facebook or Instagram, using IP  
22 addresses and servers controlled by Defendant. To circumvent Meta's security requirement that a  
23 user enter a username and password, Octoparse required customers to first login to Facebook and  
24 Instagram and send their user authentication information to Defendant. By doing this, the user self-  
25 compromised their Facebook and Instagram accounts. Defendant then used the user's  
26  
27  
28

1 authentication information to access Meta’s computers, while pretending to be the legitimate  
 2 Facebook or Instagram user, to make unauthorized automated requests for data.

3 *ii. Octoparse Scraping Service*

4 46. In addition to its Scraping Software, Defendant offered a full-service scraping  
 5 option where Octopus employees and agents used Octopus computers, IP addresses, and other  
 6 technology to scrape data from various websites and delivered it to its customers, as shown in  
 7 Figure 3, below. Defendant presented that it could scrape data “across all major players like  
 8 Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Flickr...” Ex. 3.

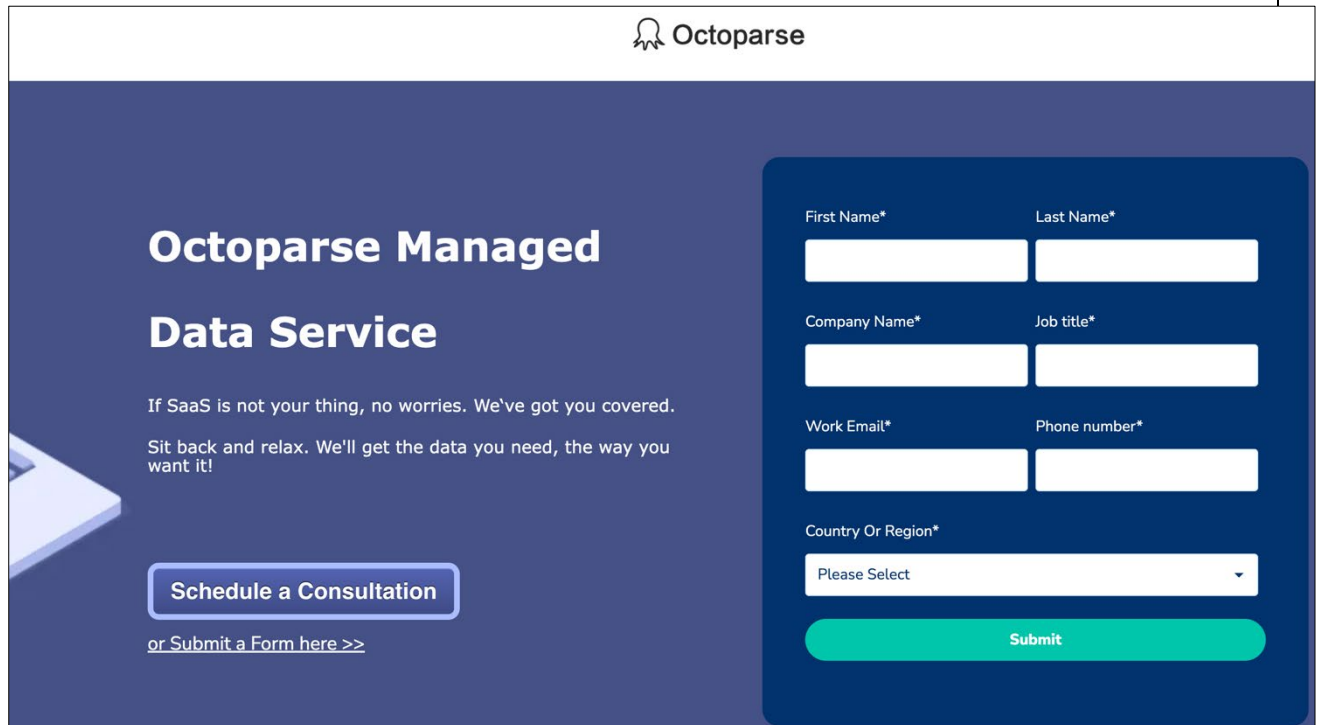
10 **Figure 3: April 5, 2022 Description of Defendant’s Scraping Service on octoparse.com**

The screenshot displays the Octoparse website's value proposition. At the top, it says "Get data effortlessly" in green. Below this, a sub-headline reads: "We get it. You want the data, not the headache. Have peace of mind with the Octoparse data extraction service." The main content is organized into four columns, each with an icon and a title:

- Quick, hassle-free** (Lightbulb icon): Flexible, and scalable. With Octoparse web scraping service, we do all the work to make sure accurate data is delivered to your team. You don't have to build or maintain. Get data within days - not weeks or months.
- Flexible, and scalable** (Cloud and server rack icon): The Octoparse data solution is ideal for projects of all sizes - one-time or recurring, from thousands of records to millions of records each day. Scale as you grow.
- Reliable, high quality data** (Shield icon): We have the experience and expertise to understand your requirements, solve any scraping issues and deliver exactly just that. No more data gaps and messy datasets.
- Usable, formatted data** (Laptop with gear icon): Ready-to-use data in Excel or CSV, or integrate with your database. Directly download via REST API. No more data gaps and messy datasets.

1           47. As shown in Figure 4, Defendant promoted the Scraping Service by stating “Sit back  
2 and relax. We’ll get the data you need, the way you want it!” Customers who wanted to use  
3 Defendant’s Scraping Service were required to schedule a consultation with Defendant during  
4 which the customer provided the name of the website and a description of the data they wanted  
5 scraped.  
6

7           **Figure 4: April 5, 2022 Screenshot Related to Defendant's Scraping Service from**  
8           **octoparse.com**



20           48. According to Defendant’s website, Defendant would assign an account manager to  
21 work one-on-one with the customer to confirm the scraping project specifications, and Defendant  
22 could build or maintain scraped datasets for a fee.

23

24           iii. *Defendant Designed Octoparse to Avoid Detection and Technological Measures*

25           49. Defendant used, developed, manufactured, and offered to the public, scraping  
26 technology and services designed to circumvent Meta’s technological measures that control access  
27 to data on Facebook and Instagram. According to Defendant’s website,  
28

1 a. Defendant’s premium version of the Scraping Software used an “IP  
2 Rotation” service that distributed large data requests across multiple IP addresses controlled by  
3 Defendant to avoid being detected and blocked. Ex. 8.

4 b. Defendant programmed the Scraping Software to use an “auto-rotating web  
5 browser” function to avoid machine learning models that detected suspicious activity and blocked  
6 accounts. Specifically, Defendant’s website claimed that their Software could “reduce the risk of  
7 being blocked” by automatically rotating an internet browser's real user-agent with a series of fake  
8 user-agents. The user-agent is information that identifies a user’s browser, browser version, and  
9 computer operating system to a website. Ex 9. According to Defendant, “using a [single] user  
10 agent for an abnormally large number of requests will lead you to the block (sic) and to “get past  
11 the block, you should switch user-agent frequency instead of sticking to one.” *Id.*

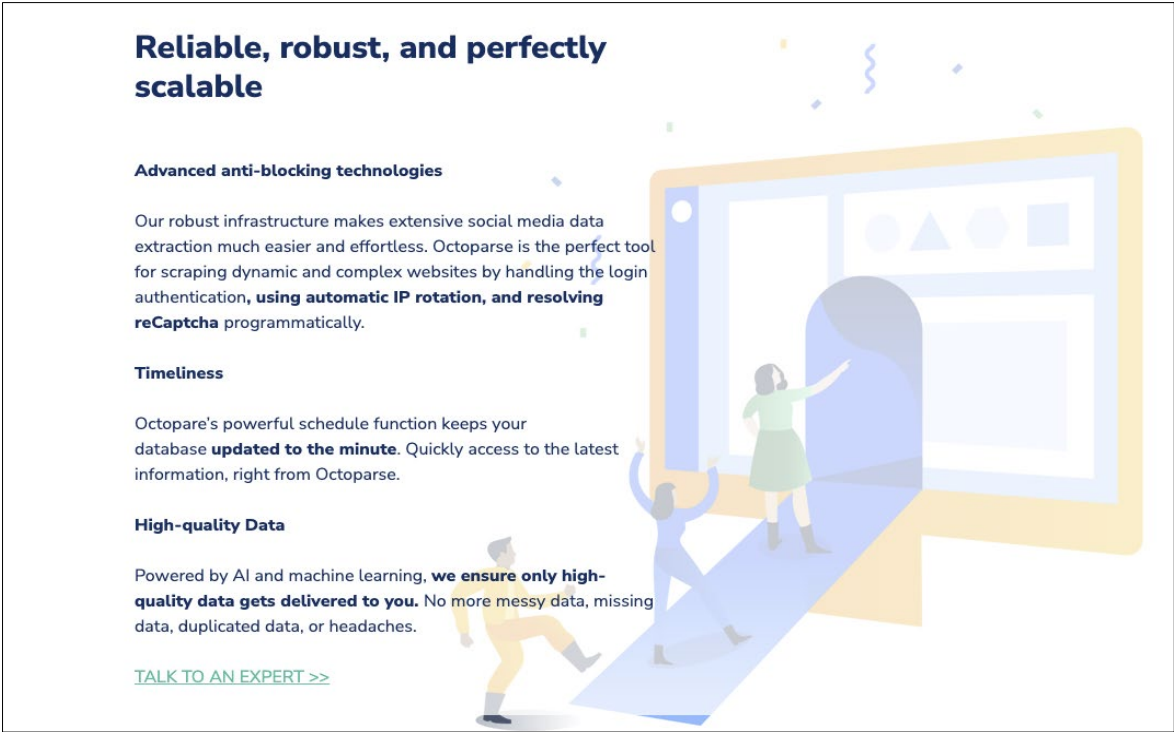
12 c. Defendant’s Scraping Service and the Scraping Software used “hundreds of  
13 cloud servers each with a unique IP address” when accessing and scraping data in order to prevent  
14 Meta from identifying and blocking Defendant’s IP addresses. Exs. 3, 8, and 9.

15 d. Defendant designed the Scraping Software to “incorporate random clicks  
16 and mouse movements” to make the scaping activity appear to be human rather than bot activity to  
17 avoid detection and being blocked by Meta’s technological measures. *Id.*

18 e. Defendant designed the Scraping Software to access and scrape data at  
19 different or even random time intervals “to make the [access and] the scraping more human-like”  
20 in order to avoid detection and being blocked by Meta’s technological measures. *Id.*

21 f. As shown below in Figure 5, Defendant advertised that it used advanced  
22 anti-blocking tools like “handling login authentication, using automatic IP rotation, and resolving  
23 reCAPTCHA programmatically.” reCAPTCHA is a program designed to distinguish between  
24 human and automated access of a website.  
25  
26  
27  
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Figure 5: May 23, 2022 Screenshot of Defendant’s Social Media Data Solutions page on octoparse.com



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50. Defendant provided guidance on how to evade detection and anti-scraping measures used by various websites, including Meta, on a blog titled, “How to Scrape Websites Without Being Blocked in 5 Mins” and video tutorials on the Official Octoparse YouTube Channel.<sup>1</sup> Defendant’s guidance to avoid detection included the techniques described in paragraph 51 above - using a proxy server, which would conceal the user’s true IP address and altering the user’s actual user-agent string. Ex. 9.

51. Defendant provided step-by-step guidance on using the Octoparse to scrape data from Facebook and Instagram and avoid technological measures intended to prevent scraping. For example, as recently as on or about December 6, 2021, a video posted by Octoparse to its official YouTube Channel is titled, “How to scrape Facebook accounts with Octoparse” and instructs

<sup>1</sup> Located at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4VPmdteI5A>



1 viewers on how to use Octoparse Scraping Software to extract data from Facebook.<sup>2</sup> Another  
2 tutorial titled, “Scrape data from Instagram (Version 8.4)” was posted on or about November 2021  
3 to the help center on [octoparse.com](https://helpcenter.octoparse.com) and provides instructions on how to scrape data from  
4 Instagram.<sup>3</sup> Both tutorials direct customers to save their authentication information in the  
5 Octoparse Scraping Software or Meta will “block” the scraping activity.  
6

7 **F. Meta’s Enforcement Efforts**

8 52. In July 2022, Meta took various technical enforcement measures against Defendant,  
9 including disabling Facebook and Instagram accounts and Pages associated with Defendant.

10 **G. Defendant Was Unjustly Enriched and Its Unlawful Acts Have Caused Damage**  
11 **and a Loss to Meta**

12 53. Defendant’s violations of Meta’s and Instagram’s Terms and Policies have harmed  
13 Meta.

14 54. Meta suffered damages attributable to the efforts and resources it used to investigate  
15 and remediate Defendant’s conduct in an amount to be determined at trial.

16 55. Since at least March 2015, Defendant has unjustly enriched itself at Meta’s expense  
17 in an amount to be determined at trial. Meta is entitled to an accounting by Defendant and a  
18 disgorgement of all unlawful profits gained from their conduct.  
19

20 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

21 (Breach of Contract)

22 56. Meta realleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs here.  
23  
24  
25

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 <sup>2</sup> Located at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dxKTTKIBTQo>

28 <sup>3</sup> Located at <https://helpcenter.octoparse.com/hc/en-us/articles/4407753230617-Scrape-data-from-Instagram-Version-8-4->

1           57.     Since at least March 25, 2015, Defendant, through their employees and agents,  
2     created and used multiple Facebook and Instagram accounts and thereby agreed to Meta’s and  
3     Instagram’s Terms and Policies. Meta’s and Instagram’s Terms and Policies constitute an  
4     agreement between Defendant and Meta.

5  
6           58.     Meta has performed all conditions, covenants, and promises required of them in  
7     accordance with Meta’s and Instagram’s Terms and Policies.

8           59.     Since at least March 25, 2015, Defendant offered and sold its Scraping Software and  
9     Scraping Services on the website [octoparse.com](http://octoparse.com).

10          60.     Defendant engaged with Facebook and Instagram in unauthorized ways.

11          61.     Defendant has breached and continues to breach Instagram’s Terms and Meta Terms  
12     3.2.1, 3.2.2, and 3.2.3. Meta’s Terms prohibit (a) using automated means without Meta’s  
13     permission to scrape data from Facebook and Instagram; (b) facilitating others to scrape data from  
14     Facebook and Instagram without Meta’s permission through Octoparse; and (c) violating the  
15     intellectual property rights of others by scraping copyright protected data. Instagram’s Terms also  
16     prohibit the same conduct.

17  
18          62.     Defendant’s many breaches have caused Meta to incur damages, including  
19     investigative costs, in an amount to be proven at trial.

20  
21          63.     Meta likewise seeks injunctive relief. As a direct result of Defendant’s unlawful  
22     actions, Meta has suffered and continues to suffer irreparable harm for which there is no adequate  
23     remedy at law, and which will continue unless Defendant’s actions are enjoined.

24                   **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

25                   (Unjust Enrichment)

26          64.     Meta realleges and incorporates all paragraphs previously alleged here.  
27  
28

1           65. Defendant's acts as alleged herein constitute unjust enrichment by the Defendant at  
2 Meta's expense.

3           66. Defendant accessed and used Meta's services, platforms, and computer networks to,  
4 among other things, scrape data from Facebook and Instagram in violation of Meta's and  
5 Instagram's Terms.

6           67. Defendant received a benefit by profiting from their wrongful conduct, including  
7 from scraping data from Facebook and Instagram and facilitated the same through Octoparse. But  
8 for Defendant's wrongful and unlawful use of Facebook and Instagram, they would not have  
9 obtained such profits.  
10

11           68. Defendant's retention of the profits derived from violating Meta's and Instagram's  
12 Terms would be unjust.

13           69. Meta seeks an accounting and disgorgement of Defendant's ill-gotten profits in an  
14 amount to be determined at trial.  
15

16   **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

17   (Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA") 17 U.S.C. § 1201)

18           70. Meta realleges and incorporates all paragraphs previously alleged here.

19           71. Defendant violated 17 U.S.C. § 1201.

20           72. Meta's Facebook product is copyright protected.

21           73. Certain user generated content is also copyright protected and users grant Meta a  
22 non-exclusive, transferable, sub-licensable, royalty-free, and worldwide license to host, use,  
23 distribute, modify, run, copy, publicly perform or display, translate, and create derivative works of  
24 that content consistent with the user's privacy and application settings.  
25

26           74. Meta uses technological measures designed to detect and disrupt automaton and  
27 scraping and that also effectively control access to Meta's and users' copyright protected works,  
28

1 including requiring users to register for an account and login to the account before using those  
2 products, monitoring for the automated creation of accounts, monitoring account use patterns that  
3 are inconsistent with a human user, employing a reCAPTCHA program to distinguish between bots  
4 and human users, identifying and blocking of IP addresses of known data scrapers, disabling  
5 accounts engaged in automated activity, and setting rate and data limits.  
6

7 75. Defendant has circumvented and is circumventing technological measures that  
8 effectively control access to copyright protected works and those of its users on Facebook and  
9 Instagram and/or portions thereof.

10 76. Defendant manufactures, provides, offers to the public, or otherwise traffics in  
11 technology, products, services, devices, components, or parts thereof, that are primarily designed  
12 or produced for the purpose of circumventing technological measures and/or protection afforded  
13 by technological measures that effectively control access to copyright protected works and/or  
14 portions thereof.  
15

16 77. Defendant's Octoparse Scraping Services or parts thereof, as described above, have  
17 no or limited commercially significant purpose or use other than to circumvent technological  
18 measures that effectively control access to Meta and its user's copyrighted works and/or portions  
19 thereof in order to scrape copyright protected data from Facebook and Instagram.  
20

21 78. Meta has been and will continue to be damaged in an amount not presently known  
22 with certainty, but which will be proven at trial.

23 79. Defendant's conduct also has caused irreparable and incalculable harm and injuries  
24 to Meta, and, unless enjoined, will cause further irreparable and incalculable injury, for which Meta  
25 has no adequate remedy at law.  
26  
27  
28

1 80. Meta is entitled to the range of relief provided by 17 U.S.C. §§ 1201-1203,  
2 including, but not limited to, injunctive relief, compensatory damages or statutory damages,  
3 punitive damages, and Meta’s costs and attorneys’ fees in amounts to be proven at trial.  
4

5 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

6 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff Meta seeks a judgment awarding the following relief:

7 a. A permanent injunction enjoining and restraining Defendant and its agents  
8 from accessing and using Facebook and Instagram;

9 b. A permanent injunction requiring Defendant to identify the location of any  
10 and all data obtained from Facebook and Instagram, to delete such data, and to identify any and  
11 all entities with whom Defendant shared such data;

12 c. A permanent injunction enjoining and restraining Defendant and its agents  
13 from soliciting and facilitating others to scrape data from Facebook and Instagram, in violation of  
14 Meta’s and Instagram’s Terms;

15 d. A permanent injunction enjoining and retraining Defendant from  
16 developing, distributing, and using and enabling others to use technologies and products designed  
17 to scrape data from Facebook and Instagram without first obtaining Meta’s express permission;  
18

19 e. A permanent injunction enjoining and retraining Defendant from  
20 circumventing technological measures that effectively control access to copyright protected  
21 works on Facebook and Instagram;  
22

23 f. A permanent injunction enjoining and retraining Defendant from  
24 developing, distributing, and otherwise traffic technology, products, services, devices,  
25 components, or parts thereof, designed to circumvent technological measures that effectively  
26 control access to copyright protected works on Facebook and Instagram;

27 g. A permanent injunction requiring Defendant to identify all its customers  
28

1 that scraped data from Facebook and Instagram;

- 2 h. Compensatory damages in an amount to be proven at trial;
- 3 i. Pre- and post-judgment interest as allowed by law;
- 4 j. An accounting of Defendant's profits resulting from its scraping activity;
- 5 k. Disgorgement of Defendant's profits resulting from their scraping activity;
- 6

7 and

- 8 l. All other equitable and legal relief the Court deems just and proper.

9 **PLAINTIFF RESPECTFULLY DEMANDS A JURY TRIAL.**

10 Dated: July 5, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

11 **SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.**

12 By: /s/ Kalpana Srinivasan

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