March 2021 IBUD – Abstracts

The first IBUD (International Blaise User Demonstration/Discussion) will take place on March 30th from 8:30 to 10:30 EST/ 13:30 to 15:30 GMT. During these two hours, four presentations will be held. Each presentation will last 30 minutes and include time for questions. These are the abstracts of the four presentations. They are listed in the order they will be presented in.

1. Generating test records guaranteed to pass all statements in a questionnaire.

Presenter: Wim Hacking (Blaise)

The purpose of generating test-cases is to generate the smallest amount of records, that when used to navigate through the questionnaire, will pass each field at least once.

The test cases can be used for:

- Manual testing: given a generated record that passes through field F, we can use that record to start testing at F, without having to fill in all previous values. Or, start at field X and guarantee to pass field later on in the interview.
- Regression testing: as the test record set guarantees full coverage, we know that all fields will be used for the regression test.

In addition, there is an extra test when trying to generate the test cases: it may occur (in complex questionnaires) that a combination of conditions and field constraints can never be fulfilled and, therefore, that some route can never be passed. Also, fields may be referenced that have not been asked yet (for certain paths).

2. A Review of Blaise 5 Testing Tool Requirements and a Short Demonstration of the Use of Blaise 5 Testing Tool Outputs

Author and Presenter: Mark Pierzchala (MMP Survey Services, LLC.)

Mark Pierzchala will give a high-level review of testing-tool requirement documents written by RTI and Westat in August 2017. This review will be supplemented by a summary of testing papers given over the years at International Blaise User Group Conferences. He found 10 such papers starting in 2001.

In the second part of the presentation, Pierzchala will illustrate automated testing tools developed to validate the upcoming Choréo multimode management system. These tools use WinBatch to automate the execution of scripts. They run data collection instruments and the Choréo modules around them. These MMPSS tools draw on concepts from the RTI and Westat requirements and the IBUG papers. They make use of Blaise 5 testing tool outputs, for example, text file listings that represent instrument logic and/or randomly generated values.

A key challenge of testing any survey management system is to test successions of outcomes. There are thousands of possible sets of outcomes that can only be tested by automated means.

3. Aspects of Blaise Project Testing

Presenters: Nikki Brown, Arthur Menis, and Boris Allan (Westat)

An overview of three areas of testing that are part of our project profile for setting up web surveys. This includes instrument testing and accessibility features, reflections and considerations in setting up testing processes, and items to check regarding server-side configuration before going into production.

4. CAI Testing Tool (CTT) for Blaise 5 instrument

Presenters: Sarah Broumand and Gina Cheung (University of Michigan)

We will demonstrate the CAI Testing Tool (CTT) developed by the University of Michigan for Blaise 5 instruments testing during this presentation.

We will focus on two main functions in the CTT:

1. Tester using CTT to enter issues
2. Coordinator using CTT to manage issues reported by the testers