

## **Presenting answers in random order;**

A generic approach for presenting enumeration answers in random order in the Blaise Data Entry Program.

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A known methodological issue in survey research is structural response bias in case that enumeration answers are presented in a fixed order. Respondents tend to select the first answers that are presented in an answer list. This occurs in self interviews such as internet surveys, but also in face to face surveys and telephone surveys. To minimize the amount of structural bias due to this undesirable response behaviour, answers may be presented in a random order.

There have been several attempts in the past to realize this in the Blaise language. Until recently, in Blaise this could only be done in a relatively complex way. The methods used in the old examples are not generic, meaning that they require modification for every new question. More generic solutions have been proposed but they require using the Blaise API, which is not available to everybody.

A new approach with Manipula in Blaise 4.8 makes it possible to realize this in a less elaborate way without using the Blaise API. This newly proposed method uses a generic Manipula setup. Once the setup is available, it can be called in the Blaise rules in a data entry program relatively easy. For using the procedure a minimal amount of additional fields and instructions is required in the Blaise rules. This generic approach will be presented in the conference and illustrative practical examples will be discussed.

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