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# The process of creating an in-house interface for converting Blaise output into DDI metadata

Alexandre Mairot

EDDI19- 11th Annual European DDI Users Conference
Tampere, Finland
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# ELIPSS : a longitudinal survey instrument

- 70 surveys between 2013 and 2019 (one monthly survey of 25-30 minutes)

- The implementation of the questionnaires is based on BLAISE 4.8 associated with add-on built by the CDSP IT Team to fix the complicated instrument specifications asked by the researchers like a video player, a autocompletion function for a long list of values

- The survey datafiles are enhanced with background and weight variables. The data are documented for the researchers community with the regular tools of the CDSP

    - DDI standard for the metadata management
    - mainly SPSS for the data management

# The way of the variables' documentation

It is inspired by the recommendations of the ICPSR and the practice of the ESS Team (for the missing values)

**Variable ea18_B5B_rec: Type de temps partiel (recodage)**

**LITERAL QUESTION**
Quel est le type de ce temps partiel·?

| Values | Categories | N | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | (80% et plus) | 95 | 43.2% |
| 3 | Entre 50 et 80% | 57 | 25.9% |
| 4 | Mi-temps (50%) | 35 | 15.9% |
| 5 | Moins d'un mi-temps (moins de 50%) | 33 | 15.0% |
| 6 | Non concerné | 2149 | |
| 7 | Refuse de répondre | 1 | |

**SUMMARY STATISTICS**

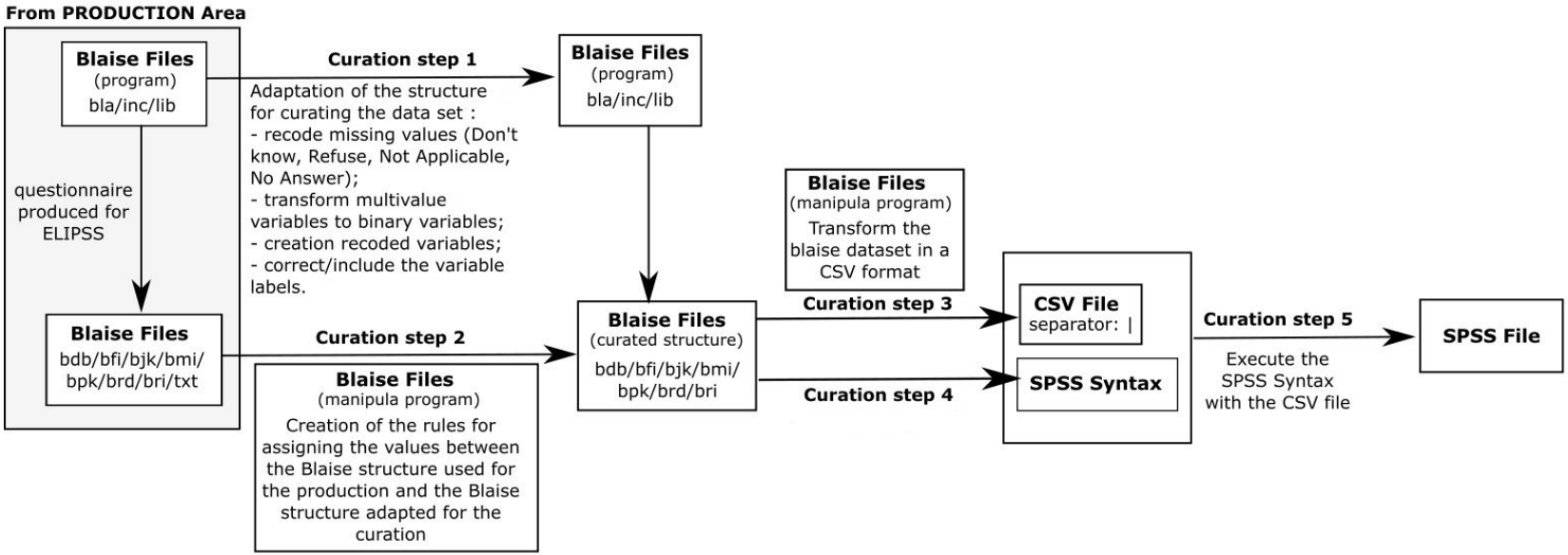
| | |
|---|---|
| Valid cases | 220 |
| Missing cases | 2150 |

This variable is numeric

**UNIVERSE**
Si l'interviewé occupe un emploi à temps partiel (c'est-à-dire (B5A==2))

**NOTES**
Variable recodée à partir des réponses à la question B5B (Quel est le type de ce temps partiel ? ; universe=(B5A==2)). La modalité [80 %] et [Plus de 80 %] sont regroupées car les effectifs de la modalité [Plus de 80 %] sont faibles.
Formule :
if (B5B==2) then B5B_rec=1
else B5B_rec=b5b
endif

# The Blaise data (curation) processing




All the curation processing is released on GitHub : https://github.com/alexandremairot/dime-shs-elipss

# The variable declaration in Blaise

- 2 languages :
  - one for the questionnaire (literal question)
  - one for the documentation (variable label)
- as far as possible use library for the variable answer items and declare all the item values

```
FIELDS
b5b "Quel est le type de ce temps partiel·?"
      "Type de temps partiel" : qi_b5b, RF

RULES
IF b5a = part THEN b5b ENDIF
```

```
TYPE
qi_b5b  = (p8p (1) "Plus de 80 %" "Plus de 80 %",
          qvp (2) "80 % (quatre cinquièmes)" "80 % (quatre cinquièmes)",
          cqp (3) "Entre 50 et 80 %" "Entre 50 et 80 %",
          mit (4) "50 % (mi-temps)" "50 % (mi-temps)",
          less (5) "Moins de 50 % (moins d'un mi-temps)" "Moins de 50 % (moins d'un mi-temps)",
          nc (6) "" "Non concerné",
          rr (7) "" "Refuse de répondre")
```

# Curation processing as the source of metadata

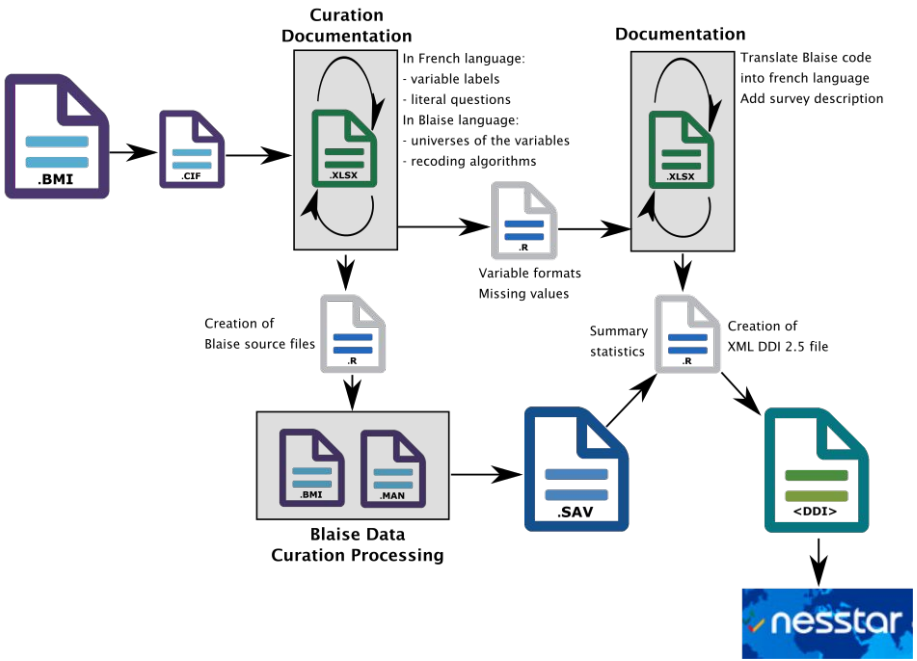
The curation process-chain is based on in-house Blaise Cameleon scripts for generating CSV files of metadata from the BMI survey files :

- One for all the metadata linked with the questions : the name of the variable, the literal question associated, the label of the variable, the format of the data, the options of missing values (DK, RF, EMPTY)

- One for all the questions items included the variable name, the item values, the items labels

The files are imported in a XLS file template to give a file associated to each survey. To complete the file, we read and copy the RULES declared/included in the BMI survey files for each variable.

# From the curation to the documentation



# An example: the weekly work time (1)

Blaise source

**FIELDS**
b5b "Quel est le type de ce temps partiel·?"
"Type de temps partiel" : qi_b5b, RF

**RULES**
IF b5a = part THEN b5b
ENDIF

| XLSX Curation - Documentation | |
|---|---|
| variableSourcePath | b5b |
| variableLabel | Type de temps partiel |
| literalQuestion | Quel est le type de ce temps partiel·? |
| dataType | 1 |
| dataItems | qi_b5b |
| isRf | 1 |
| universe | b5a = part |

| XLSX Documentation | |
|---|---|
| variableName | b5b |
| variableLabel | Type de temps partiel |
| literalQuestion | Quel est le type de ce temps partiel·? |
| universeLabel | **Si l'interviewé occupe un emploi à temps partiel** |
| universeGenerationCode | (B5A==2) |
| minusInvalrng | 6 |

# An example: the weekly work time (2)

```
<codeBook ID="ddi.b5b" xml-lang="fr" version="2.5" xsi:schemaLocation="ddi:codebook:2_5
https://www.ddialliance.org/Specification/DDI-Codebook/2.5/XMLSchema/codebook.xsd"
   xmlns="ddi:codebook:2_5" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
   <var ID="V23" name="b5b" wgt="not-wgt" intrvl="discrete">
      <labl>Type de temps partiel</labl>
      <qstn>
         <qstnLit>Quel est le type de ce temps partiel·?</qstnLit>
      </qstn>
      <valrng>
         <range UNITS="INT" maxExclusive="6"/>
      </valrng>
      <invalrng>
         <range UNITS="INT" min="6"/>
      </invalrng>
      <universe>Si l'interviewé occupe un emploi à temps partiel (c'est-à-dire (B5A==2))</universe>
   </var>
</codeBook>
```

# To move forward

- Document of the importation and treatment R functions for Blaise sources
- Rewiew the R procedures for generating the DDI files => shifting of XML library to xml2
- Refresh the structure of the survey description in the excel files to improve reuse potential
- Release a final version on GitHub in the first semester of 2020
  (GitHub repository : https://github.com/alexandremairot/xml-ddi-management)

# Questions

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