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REDCap Feature Spotlight

EXTERNAL MODULES:
Matrix Question Randomization
and
Survey UI Tweaks
May, 2019

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- Tufts CTSI is committed to providing the best expert advice and user experience to investigators who use our services.

- As a part of this commitment, we will now be providing you with the frequent *REDCap Feature Spotlight*.

- In May, 2020, *Feature Spotlight* brings you 2 new **External Modules**, which are feature add-ons that extend REDCap's functionality and provide customizations without changing the core REDCap workflow.

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Accessing External Modules in REDCap

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External Modules

REDCap now offers access to **External Modules**. These are contributed by members of the REDCap consortium. When enabled, external modules add options to your projects to enhance their look, feel and customizability!

You can access external modules via the button on the **left-hand column**; clicking it allows you to **view modules in use**, and **view available modules administrators can set up**.

Applications

- Calendar
- Data Exports, Reports, and Stats
- Data Import Tool
- Data Comparison Tool
- Logging
- Field Comment Log
- File Repository
- User Rights and DAGs
- Record Locking Customization
- E-signature and Locking Mgmt
- Randomization
- Data Quality
- API and API Playground
- External Modules
- iLEARN
- PROFILES - Researcher social network
- CECER - Comparative effectiveness research education
- TMC Biorepository
- TrialPedia
- Transgenic Core - small animal services

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View Enabled Modules

Once on the External Modules page, you can see what modules you have enabled for the project.

The **View Available Modules** button shows modules that an administrator can add per request.

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View Enabled Modules

By pressing **View Available Modules** you can see modules that are available but not yet enabled- these must be enabled by an administrator

Simply press **Request Activation** and an administrator will be automatically contacted to add the module to your project!

Global vs. Discoverable

Global modules:
An external module that provides utility for a large portion of REDCap users will be **enabled globally**, meaning the improvements they bring will be activated **for all projects**

Discoverable modules:
These modules are applicable for a small number of users, and require a REDCap administrator to add them to **individual projects**

Currently Enabled Modules

Search enabled modules

Field Notes Display - v1.1.2
Provides alternative display modes for field notes. This module adds an action tag @FIELD-NOTES-DISPLAY that accepts the following inputs: 'hover' - displays the text when the field is hovered over; 'tooltip' - places a help icon, which displays the text in a tooltip when hovered over; 'popover' - places a help icon, which displays the text in a popover when clicked. See the complete **documentation** at https://github.com/ctsit/field_notes_display
View Documentation

Instant Field Concatenation - v1.2.1
This module concatenates fields and places the result in another field instantly. It uses JavaScript and not PHP. It happens upon the user leaving the field.
View Documentation

Configure

QR Code Shortcut - v1.1.1
Provides a shortcut to generate a survey QR code for a new data entry. **See full documentation here**.
View Documentation

Sticky Matrix Headers - v1.2.0
Makes the matrix header for a matrix of fields always visible (as long as the matrix is visible) - for surveys only.
View Documentation

This module had to be added by an administrator before being visible with the rest

Previously Released Modules

The following modules were added in previous months; see tuftsctsi.org/research-services/informatics/redcap-research-electronic-data-capture/redcap-tips-and-tricks/ for details

Global external modules **alread**y enabled for all projects

- **Field Notes Display –** Display options for field notes
- **QR Code Shortcut –** Provides button to generate survey QR
- **StringUtils –** Provides new action tags for text manipulation

Discoverable external modules

- **Instant Field Concatenation –** Concatenates text fields
- **Date Calculated Fields –** Allows piping, adding, and subtracting dates from one another

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New External Modules:

Matrix Question Randomization
and
Survey UI Tweaks

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Matrix Question Randomization

- **Matrix Question Randomization** allows you to randomize the order of the questions in a matrix field on a survey

- To use it, start by creating a matrix of fields with a unique **Matrix Group** name

This is the online designer view of a matrix named my_matrix

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Matrix Question Randomization

Then, on the **External Modules** page, press the "**Configure**" button and enter the name(s) of any matrix(ces) where you would like the question order to be random
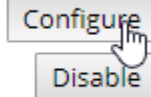
Matrix Question Randomization

When opened as a survey, the question order will now be random, and change every time the survey is opened or refreshed

Without Randomization

With Randomization

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Matrix Question Randomization

- When you use the dashboard to look at the **results**, the questions will be in their original order

- This module cannot affect **forms**, and question order at survey completion is **not recorded**

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Survey UI Tweaks

- **Survey UI Tweaks** is a module that allows you to change several aspects of surveys

- Most tweaks can be applied to either **individual** surveys or **all surveys in a project**. The changes do not affect **forms**.

- To see the changes available, go to **External Modules** in the left-hand column and press the **Configure** button as shown below:
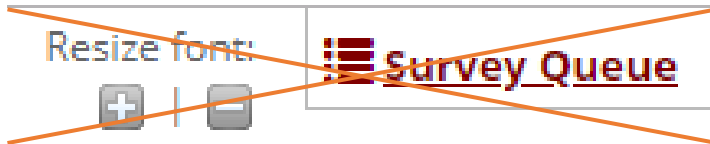
Survey UI Tweaks - v1.0.2
Various survey ui tweaks - such as hiding survey queue button in top right and the queue at the end of the survey.

📄 View Documentation

Configure

Disable

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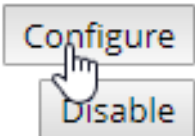
Survey UI Tweaks

- The first section of the settings allows you make changes that affect **all surveys in a project**.

- Many are simple, such as removing the Resize font or Survey Queue buttons

Configure Module: Survey UI Tweaks

Project Settings

Global Tweaks

The following set of tweaks will apply to all surveys in the project. If configured here, section.

Remove the extra space on the left of questions **for all Surveys** (survey must be set to 'Custom numbered'): ☐

Enable autoscroll **for all Surveys** : ☐

Hide the queue button in the upper right corner **for all surveys**: ☐

Hide the queue list at the end of the survey **for all surveys** : ☐

Hide the font resize option **for all surveys**: ☐

Hide reset button for radio buttons, yes no, and true / false fields **for all surveys** : ☐

Resize font: ☰ Survey Queue
➕ | ➖

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Survey UI Tweaks

You can remove the extra space in custom-numbered questions:

|		
1) One	One	One
2) Two	Two	Two
3) Three	Three	Three
Auto numbered	**Custom numbered**	**Custom numbered + Remove extra space**
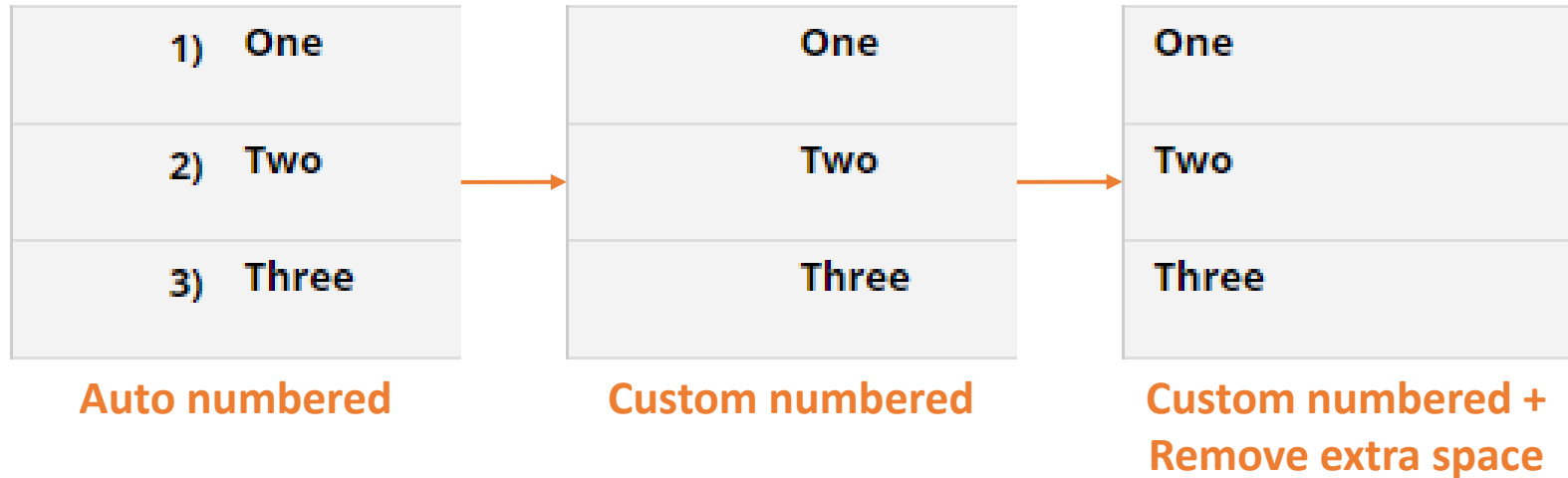
Removing the reset button on radio fields makes it impossible for respondents to revert them to "empty" after selecting an option

○ Yes
○ No
○ Maybe

reset

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Survey UI Tweaks

- Autoscroll is a feature that scrolls the webpage down after each question

- This can be useful when using a mobile device

- You can turn it off with a toggle switch in the upper-right corner

Page scrolls when clicked
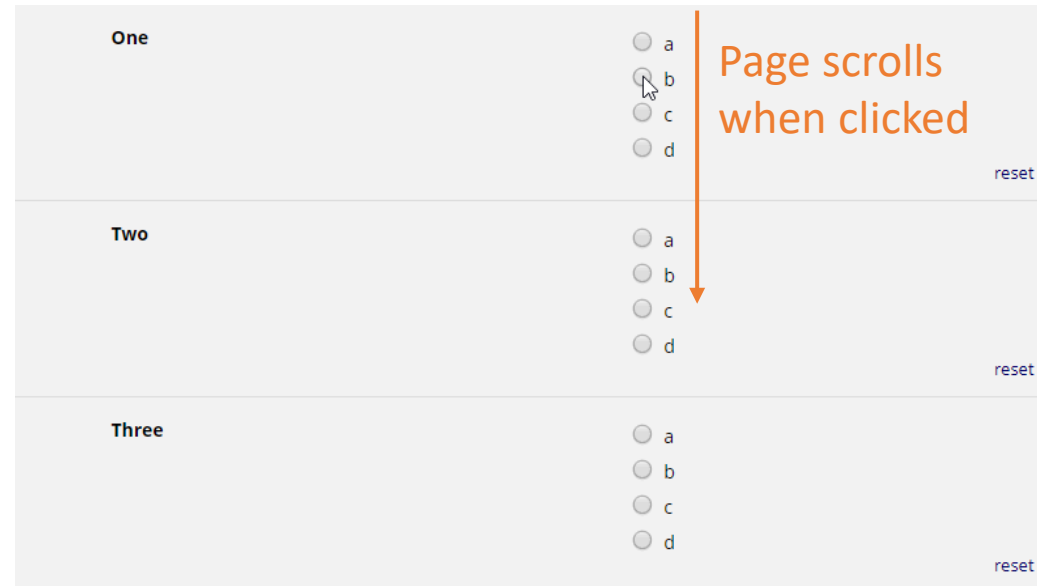
Click to view this as a video

Autoscroll On → Autoscroll Off

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Survey UI Tweaks

Removing the submit button allows you to make a purely informational survey or dead-end page to inform someone that they are not eligible to continue:

Survey UI Tweaks

Many **Survey Specific Tweaks** are the same as the above with a few additions, like **renaming** or **removing** "Submit"
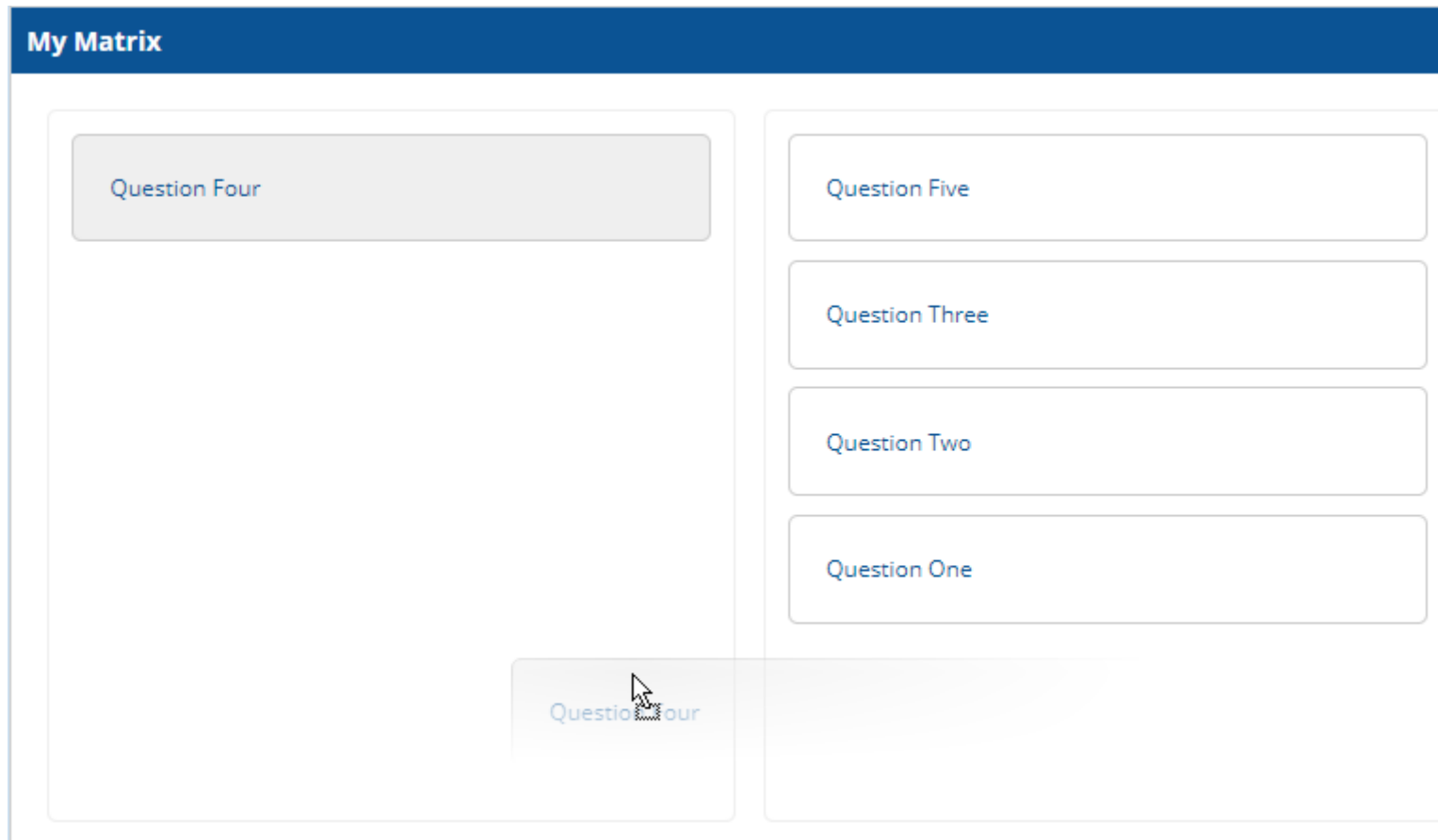
Survey UI Tweaks

You can also enable **Enhanced Drag and Drop Matrix Ranking**, which creates a new look on surveys for ranked matrices:

Survey UI Tweaks

Users can drag and drop their choices to rank them in their preferred order:

Survey UI Tweaks

Which are then portrayed as a "Classical" matrix in the form

My Matrix						
(One selection allowed per column)		One	Two	Three	Four	Five
Question One	Ⓗ 💬	○	○	○	●	○
Question Two	Ⓗ 💬	○	○	●	○	○
Question Three	Ⓗ 💬	○	●	○	○	○
Question Four	Ⓗ 💬	○	○	○	○	●
Question Five	Ⓗ 💬	●	○	○	○	○

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Survey UI Tweaks

The settings are very straightforward- and even include the option to do randomization! (This is preferred as opposed to using this with Matrix Question Randomization.)

Survey UI Tweaks

The final section of the module allows you to capture **how long it took for a participant to complete a survey** into a "text" field

Measure Survey Duration In Seconds

You can record the number of seconds a user spends on a survey page (or survey section). You must add a text field to each page/section that you want to record. The field will be automatically hidden on surveys. If a survey user returns to a page, the duration will be added to the previous value.

1. Survey Duration Fields:		+

1. Select Survey Field (should be text):

Enable Debug Logging *(Requires emLogger):*

The required module is **not enabled** on our REDCap installation

Please note that the option **Enable Debug Logging**, will **not work** on our current REDCap installation and should not be selected

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Survey UI Tweaks

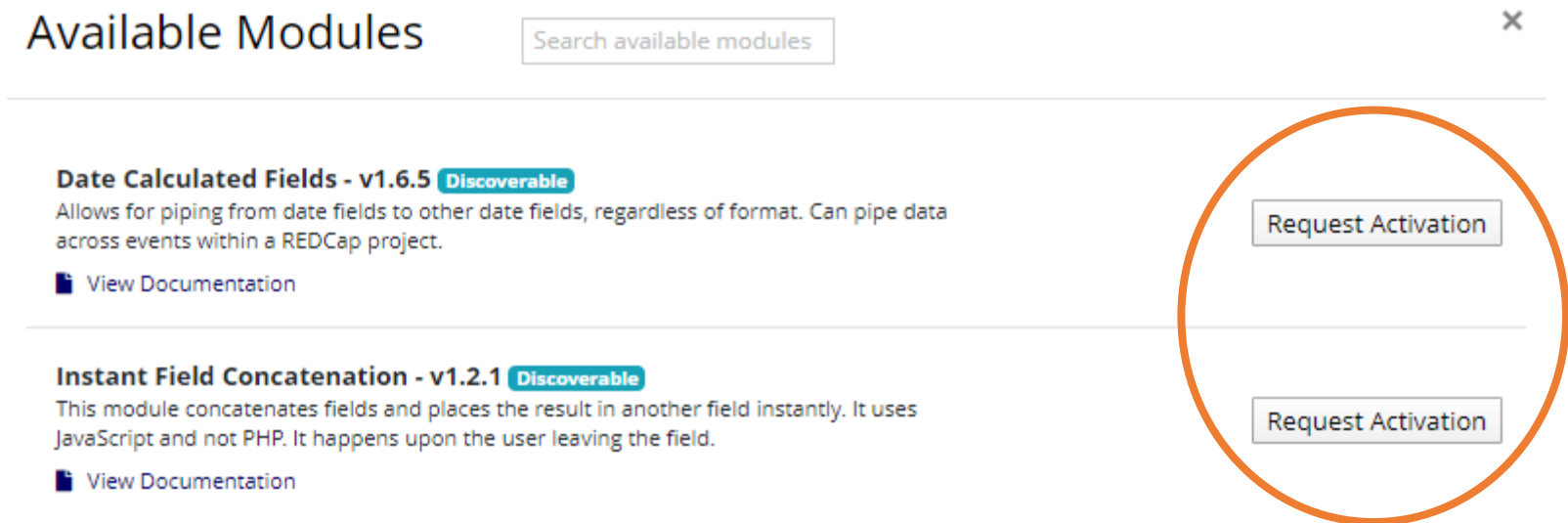After a survey is completed, when you open the record via the dashboard you will see the field you selected to store the duration:

This field will be automatically hidden in the survey, and the field value will be overridden with the count of seconds

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Best Practices

- Always test changes on a copy of your project before implementing them on the in-production version

- Back up your data often, particularly before making changes or enabling an external module

- If there's a simple way to do something, try that first

- When in doubt, ask for help!

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Contact Us!

Enabling a module is now as simple as pressing "Request Activation"!

For questions or concerns, please contact us at informatics@tuftsctsi.org

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