# Package 'REDCapR'

August 17, 2015

Title Interaction Between R and REDCap

**Description** Encapsulates functions to streamline calls from R to the REDCap API. REDCap (Research Electronic Data CAPture) is a web application for building and managing online surveys and databases developed at Vanderbilt University. The Application Programming Interface (API) offers an avenue to access and modify data programmatically, improving the capacity for literate and reproducible programming.

```
Version 0.9.2
Date 2015-08-17
Author Will Beasley [aut, cre],
     David Bard [ctb],
     Thomas Wilson [ctb],
     John J Aponte [ctb],
     Rollie Parrish [ctb],
     Benjamin Nutter [ctb],
     Andrew Peters [ctb]
Maintainer Will Beasley <wibeasley@hotmail.com>
URL https://github.com/OuhscBbmc/REDCapR, http://ouhsc.edu/bbmc/,
     http://project-redcap.org
BugReports https://github.com/OuhscBbmc/REDCapR/issues
Depends R(>= 3.0.0),
     stats
Imports httr(>= 1.0.0),
     methods,
     plyr
Suggests devtools,
     knitr,
     rmarkdown,
     RODBC,
     testthat (>= 0.9)
License GPL-2
LazyData TRUE
VignetteBuilder knitr
```

2 create\_batch\_glossary

# **R** topics documented:

create_batch_glossary	 2
metadata_utilities	 3
REDCapR	 4
redcap_column_sanitize	 5
redcap_download_file_oneshot	 6
redcap_metadata_read	 8
redcap_project	 10
redcap_read	 11
redcap_read_oneshot	 13
redcap_upload_file_oneshot	 16
redcap_write	 18
redcap_write_oneshot	 20
replace_nas_with_explicit	 21
retrieve_token	 22
validate_for_write	 24
	26

 ${\it create\_batch\_glossary}$   ${\it Creates~a~data.frame~that~help~batching~long-running~read~and~writes.}$ 

# **Description**

Index

The function returns a data. frame that other functions use to separate long-running read and write REDCap calls into multiple, smaller REDCap calls. The goal is to (1) reduce the chance of timeouts, and (2) introduce little breaks between batches so that the server isn't continually tied up.

# Usage

```
create_batch_glossary(row_count, batch_size)
```

# **Arguments**

row\_count The number records in the large dataset, before it's split.

batch\_size The maximum number of subject records a single batch should contain.

# **Details**

This function can also assist splitting and saving a large data.frame to disk as smaller files (such as a .csv). The padded columns allow the OS to sort the batches/files in sequential order.

# Value

Currently, a data. frame is returned with the following columns,

- 1. id: an integer that uniquely identifies the batch, starting at 1.
- 2. start\_index: the index of the first row in the batch. integer.
- 3. stop\_index: the index of the last row in the batch. integer.
- 4. id\_pretty: a character representation of id, but padded with zeros.

metadata\_utilities 3

- 5. start\_index: a character representation of start\_index, but padded with zeros.
- 6. stop\_index: a character representation of stop\_index, but padded with zeros.
- 7. label: a character concatenation of id\_pretty, start\_index, and stop\_index\_pretty.

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

#### See Also

See redcap\_read for a function that uses create\_batch\_gloassary.

# **Examples**

```
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
create_batch_glossary(100, 50)
create_batch_glossary(100, 25)
create_batch_glossary(100, 3)
d <- data.frame(
  record_id = 1:100,
   iv = sample(x=4, size=100, replace=TRUE),
   dv = rnorm(n=100)
)
create_batch_glossary(nrow(d), batch_size=40)</pre>
```

metadata\_utilities

Manipulate and interpret the metadata of a REDCap project.

# **Description**

A collection of functions that assists handling REDCap project metadata.

# Usage

```
regex_named_captures(pattern, text, perl = TRUE)
checkbox_choices(select_choices)
```

# Arguments

pattern The regular expression pattern. Required. text The text to apply the regex against. Required.

perl Indicates if perl-compatible regexps should be used. Optional.

select\_choices The text containing the choices that should be parsed to determine the id and

label values. Required.

# **Details**

The regex\_named\_captures() function is general, and not specific to REDCap; it accepts any arbitrary regular expression. It returns a data.frame with as many columns as named matches.

The checkbox\_choices() function is specialized, and accommodates the "select choices" for a *single* REDCap checkbox group (where multiple boxes can be selected). It returns a data.frame with two columns, one for the numeric id and one fo the text label.

4 REDCapR

#### Value

Currently, a data.frame is returned a row for each match, and a column for each *named* group witin a match. For the retrieve\_checkbox\_choices() function, the columns will be.

- 1. id: The numeric value assigned to each choice (in the data dictionary).
- 2. label: The label assigned to each choice (in the data dictionary).

#### Author(s)

Will Beasley

#### References

See the official documentation for permissible characters in a checkbox label. *I'm bluffing here, because I don't know where this is located. If you know, please tell me.* 

# **Examples**

```
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
#The weird ranges are to avoid the pipe character; PCRE doesn't support character negation.
pattern\_boxes <- "(?<=\\\) (?<id>\\), (?<label>[\x20-\x7B\x7D-\x7E]{1,})(?= \\) |\\Z)"
choices_1 <- paste0(</pre>
  "1, American Indian/Alaska Native | ",
  "2, Asian | ",
  "3, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | ",
  "4, Black or African American | ",
  "5, White | ",
  "6, Unknown / Not Reported")
#This calls the general function, and requires the correct regex pattern.
regex_named_captures(pattern=pattern_boxes, text=choices_1)
#This function is designed specifically for the checkbox values.
checkbox_choices(select_choices=choices_1)
## Not run:
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"</pre>
token <- "9A81268476645C4E5F03428B8AC3AA7B"
ds_metadata <- redcap_metadata_read(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)$data</pre>
choices_2 <- ds_metadata[ds_metadata$field_name=="race", "select_choices_or_calculations"]</pre>
regex_named_captures(pattern=pattern_boxes, text=choices_2)
## End(Not run)
```

REDCapR

# **Description**

Thanks to Funders, including HRSA/ACF D89MC23154

OUHSC CCAN Independent Evaluation of the State of Oklahoma Competitive Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Project., which evaluates MIECHV expansion and enhancement of Evidence-based Home Visitation programs in four Oklahoma counties.

#### Note

The release version is available through CRAN by running install.packages('REDCapR'). The most recent development version is available through GitHub by running devtools::install\_github (repo = 'OuhscBbmc/REDCapR') (make sure devtools is already installed). If you're having trouble with the package, please install the development version. If this doesn't solve your problem, please create a new issue, or email Will.

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Install/update REDCapR with the release version from CRAN.
install.packages('REDCapR')

# Install/update REDCapR with the development version from GitHub
#install.packages('devtools') #Uncomment if `devtools` isn't installed already.
devtools::install_github('OuhscBbmc/REDCapR')

## End(Not run)
```

redcap\_column\_sanitize

Sanitize to adhere to REDCap character encoding requirements.

# **Description**

Replace non-ASCII characters with legal characters that won't cause problems when writing to a REDCap project.

# Usage

```
redcap_column_sanitize(d, column_names = colnames(d),
  encoding_initial = "latin1", substitution_character = "?")
```

#### **Arguments**

d The data.frame containing the dataset used to update the REDCap project. Required.

column\_names An array of character values indicating the names of the variables to sanitize. Optional.

encoding\_initial

An array of character values indicating the names of the variables to sanitize. Optional.

substitution\_character

The character value that replaces characters that were unable to be appropriatedly matched.

#### **Details**

Letters like an accented 'A' are replaced with a plain 'A'.

This is a thin wrapper around base::iconv(). The ASCII//TRANSLIT option does the actual transliteration work. As of R 3.1.0, the OSes use similar, but different, versions to convert the characters. Be aware of this in case you notice slight OS-dependent differences.

# Value

A data. frame with same columns, but whose character values have been sanitized.

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

# **Examples**

```
redcap_download_file_oneshot
```

Download a file from a REDCap project record.

# **Description**

This function uses REDCap's API to download a file

# Usage

```
redcap_download_file_oneshot(file_name = NULL, directory = NULL,
  overwrite = FALSE, redcap_uri, token, record, field, event = "",
  verbose = TRUE, config_options = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

file_name	The name of the file where the downloaded file is saved. If empty the original name of the file will be used and saved in the default directory. Optional.
directory	The directory where the file is saved. By default current directory. Optional
overwrite	Boolean value indicating if existing files should be overwritten. Optional
redcap_uri	The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required.
token	The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.
record	The record ID where the file is to be imported. Required

field The name of the field where the file is saved in REDCap. Required event The name of the event where the file is saved in REDCap. Optional

verbose A boolean value indicating if messages should be printed to the R console during

the operation. Optional.

config\_options A list of options to pass to POST method in the httr package. See the details

below. Optional.

#### **Details**

The 'REDCapR' package includes a recent version of the Bundle of CA Root Certificates from the official cURL site. This version is used by default, unless the 'cert\_location' parameter is given another location.

Currently, the function doesn't modify any variable types to conform to REDCap's supported variables. See validate\_for\_write for a helper function that checks for some common important conflicts.

#### Value

Currently, a list is returned with the following elements,

- 1. success: A boolean value indicating if the operation was apparently successful.
- 2. status\_code: The <a href="https://h
- 3. outcome\_message: A human readable string indicating the operation's outcome.
- 4. records\_affected\_count: The number of records inserted or updated.
- 5. affected\_ids: The subject IDs of the inserted or updated records.
- 6. elapsed\_seconds: The duration of the function.
- 7. raw\_text: If an operation is NOT successful, the text returned by REDCap. If an operation is successful, the 'raw\_text' is returned as an empty string to save RAM.
- 8. file\_name: The name of the file persisted to disk. This is useful if the name stored in REDCap is used (which is the default).

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

John J. Aponte

#### References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

The official cURL site discusses the process of using SSL to verify the server being connected to.

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"</pre>
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98" #pid=213
record <- 1
field <- "mugshot"</pre>
# event <- "" # only for longitudinal events</pre>
result_1 <- redcap_download_file_oneshot(record=record, field=field,</pre>
                                    redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
base::unlink("mugshot_1.jpg")
(full_name <- base::tempfile(pattern="mugshot", fileext=".jpg"))</pre>
\verb|result_2| < - \verb|redcap_download_file_neshot(file_name=full_name, \verb|record=record|, field=field|, \\
                                    redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
base::unlink(full_name)
(relative_name <- "ssss.jpg")</pre>
result_3 <- redcap_download_file_oneshot(file_name=relative_name, record=record, field=field,
                                    redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
base::unlink(relative_name)
## End(Not run)
```

# Description

Export the metadata (as a data dictionary) of a REDCap project as a data. frame. Each row in the data dictionary corresponds to one field in the project's dataset.

# Usage

```
redcap_metadata_read(redcap_uri, token, forms = NULL, forms_collapsed = "",
  fields = NULL, fields_collapsed = "", verbose = TRUE,
  config_options = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

redcap\_uri The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required.

token The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.

forms An array, where each element corresponds to the REDCap form of the desired

fields. Optional.

forms\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired forms are separated by commas. Optional.

fields An array, where each element corresponds to a desired project field. Optional.

fields\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired field names are separated by commas. Optional.

verbose A boolean value indicating if messages should be printed to the R console dur-

ing the operation. The verbose output might contain sensitive information (*e.g.* PHI), so turn this off if the output might be visible somewhere public. Optional.

config\_options A list of options to pass to POST method in the httr package. See the details in

redcap\_read\_oneshot() Optional.

#### Details

Specifically, it internally uses multiple calls to redcap\_read\_oneshot to select and return data. Initially, only primary key is queried through the REDCap API. The long list is then subsetted into partitions, whose sizes are determined by the batch\_size parameter. REDCap is then queried for all variables of the subset's subjects. This is repeated for each subset, before returning a unified data.frame.

The function allows a delay between calls, which allows the server to attend to other users' requests.

#### Value

Currently, a list is returned with the following elements,

- 1. data: An R data. frame of the desired records and columns.
- 2. success: A boolean value indicating if the operation was apparently successful.
- 3. status\_codes: A collection of <a href="https://http
- outcome\_messages: A collection of human readable strings indicating the operations' semicolons. There is one code for each batch attempted. In an unsuccessful operation, it should contain diagnostic information.
- 5. forms\_collapsed: The desired records IDs, collapsed into a single string, separated by commas
- fields\_collapsed: The desired field names, collapsed into a single string, separated by commas.
- 7. elapsed\_seconds: The duration of the function.

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

# References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

```
## Not run:
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"
token <- "9A81268476645C4E5F03428B8AC3AA7B"
redcap_metadata_read(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

10 redcap\_project

redcap\_project

A Reference Class to make later calls to REDCap more convenient.

# **Description**

This Reference Class represents a REDCap project. Once some values are set that are specific to a REDCap project (such as the URI and token), later calls are less verbose (such as reading and writing data). The functionality

#### **Fields**

```
redcap_uri The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required. token token The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.
```

#### Methods

```
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"</pre>
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98"
## Not run:
project <- redcap_project$new(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
dsAll <- project$read()</pre>
#Demonstrate how repeated calls are more concise when the token and url aren't always passed.
dsThreeColumns <- project$read(fields=c("record_id", "sex", "height"))$data</pre>
idsOfMales <- dsThreeColumns[dsThreeColumns$sex==1, "record_id"]</pre>
idsOfShorties <- dsThreeColumns[dsThreeColumns$height < 40, "record_id"]</pre>
dsMales <- project$read(records=idsOfMales, batch_size=2)$data</pre>
dsShorties <- project$read(records=idsOfShorties)$data</pre>
#Switch the Genders
sex_original <- dsThreeColumns$sex</pre>
dsThreeColumns$sex <- (1 - dsThreeColumns$sex)</pre>
project$write(dsThreeColumns)
#Switch the Genders back
dsThreeColumns$sex <- sex_original</pre>
project$write(dsThreeColumns)
## End(Not run)
```

redcap\_read 11

Dood records from a DEDCon project in subsets, and stacks them to
Read records from a REDCap project in subsets, and stacks them to-
$gether\ before\ returning\ a$ data.frame.

# Description

From an external perspective, this function is similar to redcap\_read\_oneshot. The internals differ in that redcap\_read retrieves subsets of the data, and then combines them before returning (among other objects) a single data.frame. This function can be more appropriate than redcap\_read\_oneshot when returning large datasets that could tie up the server.

# Usage

```
redcap_read(batch_size = 100L, interbatch_delay = 0.5,
  continue_on_error = FALSE, redcap_uri, token, records = NULL,
  records_collapsed = "", fields = NULL, fields_collapsed = "",
  events = NULL, events_collapsed = "", export_data_access_groups = FALSE,
  raw_or_label = "raw", verbose = TRUE, config_options = NULL,
  id_position = 1L)
```

#### **Arguments**

batch\_size The maximum number of subject records a single batch should contain. The default is 100.

interbatch\_delay

The number of seconds the function will wait before requesting a new subset from REDCap. The default is 0.5 seconds.

continue\_on\_error

If an error occurs while reading, should records in subsequent batches be attempted. The default is FALSE, which prevents subsequent batches from running. Required.

redcap\_uri

The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required. The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.

token records

An array, where each element corresponds to the ID of a desired record. Optional.

records\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired ID values are separated by commas. Optional.

fields

An array, where each element corresponds a desired project field. Optional.

fields\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired field names are separated by commas. Optional.

events

An array, where each element corresponds a desired project event Optional.

events\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired event names are separated by commas. Optional.

export\_data\_access\_groups

A boolean value that specifies whether or not to export the "redcap\_data\_access\_group" field when data access groups are utilized in the project. Default is FALSE. See the details below.

12 redcap\_read

raw\_or\_label A string (either 'raw' or 'label' that specifies whether to export the raw coded values or the labels for the options of multiple choice fields. Default is 'raw'.

verbose A boolean value indicating if messages should be printed to the R console during the operation. The verbose output might contain sensitive information (e.g. PHI), so turn this off if the output might be visible somewhere public. Optional.

config\_options A list of options to pass to POST method in the httr package. See the details in redcap\_read\_oneshot() Optional.

id\_position The column position of the variable that unique identifies the subject. This defaults to the first variable in the dataset.

#### **Details**

Specifically, it internally uses multiple calls to redcap\_read\_oneshot to select and return data. Initially, only primary key is queried through the REDCap API. The long list is then subsetted into partitions, whose sizes are determined by the batch\_size parameter. REDCap is then queried for all variables of the subset's subjects. This is repeated for each subset, before returning a unified data.frame.

The function allows a delay between calls, which allows the server to attend to other users' requests.

For redcap\_read to function properly, the user must have Export permissions for the 'Full Data Set'. Users with only 'De-Identified' export privileges can still use redcap\_read\_oneshot. To grant the appropriate permissions:

- 1. go to 'User Rights' in the REDCap project site,
- 2. select the desired user, and then select 'Edit User Privileges',
- 3. in the 'Data Exports' radio buttons, select 'Full Data Set'.

#### Value

Currently, a list is returned with the following elements,

- 1. data: An R data.frame of the desired records and columns.
- 2. success: A boolean value indicating if the operation was apparently successful.
- 3. status\_codes: A collection of <a href="https://http
- 4. outcome\_messages: A collection of human readable strings indicating the operations' semi-colons. There is one code for each batch attempted. In an unsuccessful operation, it should contain diagnostic information.
- 5. records\_collapsed: The desired records IDs, collapsed into a single string, separated by
- 6. fields\_collapsed: The desired field names, collapsed into a single string, separated by commas.
- 7. elapsed\_seconds: The duration of the function.

#### Author(s)

Will Beasley

redcap\_read\_oneshot 13

#### References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

The official cURL site discusses the process of using SSL to verify the server being connected to.

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"
token <- "9A81268476645C4E5F03428B8AC3AA7B"
redcap_read(batch_size=2, redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

redcap\_read\_oneshot

Read/Export records from a REDCap project.

# **Description**

This function uses REDCap's API to select and return data.

# Usage

```
redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri, token, records = NULL,
  records_collapsed = "", fields = NULL, fields_collapsed = "",
  events = NULL, events_collapsed = "", export_data_access_groups = FALSE,
  raw_or_label = "raw", verbose = TRUE, config_options = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

redcap\_uri The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required.

token The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.

records An array, where each element corresponds to the ID of a desired record. Op-

tional.

records\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired ID values are separated by commas. Optional.

fields An array, where each element corresponds a desired project field. Optional.

fields\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired field names are separated by commas. Op-

tional.

events An array, where each element corresponds a desired project event Optional.

events\_collapsed

A single string, where the desired event names are separated by commas. Optional.

14 redcap\_read\_oneshot

export\_data\_access\_groups

A boolean value that specifies whether or not to export the "redcap\_data\_access\_group" field when data access groups are utilized in the project. Default is FALSE. See the details below.

raw\_or\_label

A string (either 'raw' or 'label' that specifies whether to export the raw coded values or the labels for the options of multiple choice fields. Default is 'raw'.

verbose

A boolean value indicating if messages should be printed to the R console during the operation. The verbose output might contain sensitive information (e.g. PHI), so turn this off if the output might be visible somewhere public. Optional.

config\_options A list of options to pass to POST method in the httr package. See the details below. Optional.

# **Details**

I like how PyCap creates a 'project' object with methods that read and write from REDCap. However this isn't a style that R clients typically use. I like the logic that it's associated with a particular REDCap project that shouldn't change between calls. As a compromise, I think I'll wrap the uri, token, and cert location into a single S4 object that's passed to these methods. It will make these calls take less space.

The full list of configuration options accepted by the httr package is viewable by executing httr::httr\_options(). The httr package and documentation is available at http://cran. r-project.org/package=httr.

The 'REDCapR' package includes a recent version of the Bundle of CA Root Certificates from the official cURL site. This version is used by default, unless the 'config\_options' argument is given a value; in this case, the user is responsible for passing the location of the cert file if SSL verification is desired. See the examples below for one example of using a different SSL cert, and one example of avoiding SSL entirely. Avoiding SSL is suggested only for debugging purposes, and not for production code.

If you do not pass in this export\_data\_access\_groups value, it will default to FALSE. The following is from the API help page for version 5.2.3: This flag is only viable if the user whose token is being used to make the API request is \*not\* in a data access group. If the user is in a group, then this flag will revert to its default value.

#### Value

Currently, a list is returned with the following elements,

- 1. data: An R data. frame of the desired records and columns.
- 2. success: A boolean value indicating if the operation was apparently successful.
- 3. status\_code: The <a href="https://h
- 4. outcome\_message: A human readable string indicating the operation's outcome.
- 5. records\_collapsed: The desired records IDs, collapsed into a single string, separated by commas.
- 6. fields\_collapsed: The desired field names, collapsed into a single string, separated by commas.
- 7. elapsed\_seconds: The duration of the function.
- 8. raw\_text: If an operation is NOT successful, the text returned by REDCap. If an operation is successful, the 'raw\_text' is returned as an empty string to save RAM.

redcap\_read\_oneshot 15

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

#### References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

The official cURL site discusses the process of using SSL to verify the server being connected to.

```
## Not run:
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"</pre>
token <- "9A81268476645C4E5F03428B8AC3AA7B"
#Return all records and all variables.
ds_all_rows_all_fields <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)$data
#Return only records with IDs of 1 and 3
desired_records_v1 \leftarrow c(1, 3)
ds_some_rows_v1 <- redcap_read_oneshot(</pre>
   redcap_uri = uri,
   token = token,
   records = desired_records_v1
)$data
#Return only the fields record_id, name_first, and age
desired_fields_v1 <- c("record_id", "name_first", "age")</pre>
ds_some_fields_v1 <- redcap_read_oneshot(</pre>
   redcap_uri = uri,
   token = token,
   fields = desired_fields_v1
)$data
#Use the SSL cert file that come with the httr package.
cert_location <- system.file("cacert.pem", package="httr")</pre>
config_options <- list(cainfo=cert_location)</pre>
ds_different_cert_file <- redcap_read_oneshot(</pre>
   redcap_uri = uri,
   token = token,
   config_options = config_options
)$data
#Force the connection to use SSL=3 (which is not preferred, and possibly insecure).
config_options <- list(sslversion=3)</pre>
ds_ssl_3 <- redcap_read_oneshot(</pre>
 redcap_uri = uri,
  token = token,
 config_options = config_options
)$data
config_options <- list(ssl.verifypeer=FALSE)</pre>
ds_no_ssl <- redcap_read_oneshot(</pre>
```

```
redcap_uri = uri,
  token = token,
  config_options = config_options
)$data
## End(Not run)
```

```
redcap_upload_file_oneshot
```

Upload a file into to a REDCap project record.

# Description

This function uses REDCap's API to upload a file

# Usage

```
redcap_upload_file_oneshot(file_name, record, redcap_uri, token, field,
  event = "", verbose = TRUE, config_options = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

file_name	The name of the relative or full file to be uploaded into the REDCap project. Required.
record	The record ID where the file is to be imported. Required
redcap_uri	The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required.
token	The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.
field	The name of the field where the file is saved in REDCap. Required
event	The name of the event where the file is saved in REDCap. Optional
verbose	A boolean value indicating if messages should be printed to the R console during the operation. Optional.
config_options	$\boldsymbol{A}$ list of options to pass to POST method in the httr package. See the details below. Optional.

# **Details**

The 'REDCapR' package includes a recent version of the Bundle of CA Root Certificates from the official cURL site. This version is used by default, unless the 'cert\_location' parameter is given another location.

Currently, the function doesn't modify any variable types to conform to REDCap's supported variables. See validate\_for\_write for a helper function that checks for some common important conflicts.

#### Value

Currently, a list is returned with the following elements,

- 1. success: A boolean value indicating if the operation was apparently successful.
- 2. status\_code: The <a href="https://h
- 3. outcome\_message: A human readable string indicating the operation's outcome.
- 4. records\_affected\_count: The number of records inserted or updated.
- 5. affected\_ids: The subject IDs of the inserted or updated records.
- 6. elapsed\_seconds: The duration of the function.
- 7. raw\_text: If an operation is NOT successful, the text returned by REDCap. If an operation is successful, the 'raw\_text' is returned as an empty string to save RAM.

# Author(s)

```
Will Beasley
John J. Aponte
```

#### References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

The official cURL site discusses the process of using SSL to verify the server being connected to.

```
## Not run:
#Define some constants
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"</pre>
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98" #For the simple project (pid 213)
field <- "mugshot"</pre>
event <- "" # only for longitudinal events</pre>
#Upload a single image file.
record <- 1
file_path <- base::file.path(devtools::inst(name="REDCapR"), paste0("test_data/mugshot_1.jpg"))</pre>
\verb|redcap_upload_file_oneshot| file_name=file_path, \verb|redcap_uri=redcap_uri|, \verb|token=token|, \\
                             record=record, field=field)
#Upload a collection of five images.
records <- 1:5
file_paths <- base::file.path(devtools::inst(name="REDCapR"),</pre>
                                paste0("test_data/mugshot_", records, ".jpg"))
for( i in seq_along(records) ) {
  record <- records[i]</pre>
  file_path <- file_paths[i]</pre>
  redcap_upload_file_oneshot(file_name=file_path, redcap_uri=redcap_uri, token=token,
                               record=record, field=field)
## End(Not run)
```

18 redcap\_write

redcap_write	Write/Import records to a REDCap project.
--------------	---

# **Description**

This function uses REDCap's APIs to select and return data.

#### Usage

```
redcap_write(ds_to_write, batch_size = 100L, interbatch_delay = 0.5,
  continue_on_error = FALSE, redcap_uri, token, verbose = TRUE,
  config_options = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

ds\_to\_write The data.frame to be imported into the REDCap project. Required.

batch\_size The maximum number of subject records a single batch should contain. The

default is 100.

interbatch\_delay

The number of seconds the function will wait before requesting a new subset

from REDCap. The default is 0.5 seconds.

continue\_on\_error

If an error occurs while writing, should records in subsequent batches be attempted. The default is FALSE, which prevents subsequent batches from running.

Required.

redcap\_uri The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required.

token The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.

verbose A boolean value indicating if messages should be printed to the R console dur-

ing the operation. The verbose output might contain sensitive information (*e.g.* PHI), so turn this off if the output might be visible somewhere public. Optional.

config\_options A list of options to pass to POST method in the httr package. See the details in

redcap\_read\_oneshot() Optional.

# **Details**

The 'REDCapR' package includes a recent version of the Bundle of CA Root Certificates from the official cURL site. This version is used by default, unless the 'cert\_location' parameter is given another location.

Currently, the function doesn't modify any variable types to conform to REDCap's supported variables. See validate\_for\_write for a helper function that checks for some common important conflicts.

For redcap\_write to function properly, the user must have Export permissions for the 'Full Data Set'. Users with only 'De-Identified' export privileges can still use redcap\_write\_oneshot. To grant the appropriate permissions:

- 1. go to 'User Rights' in the REDCap project site,
- 2. select the desired user, and then select 'Edit User Privileges',
- 3. in the 'Data Exports' radio buttons, select 'Full Data Set'.

redcap\_write 19

#### Value

Currently, a list is returned with the following elements,

- 1. success: A boolean value indicating if the operation was apparently successful.
- 2. status\_code: The http status code of the operation.
- 3. outcome\_message: A human readable string indicating the operation's outcome.
- 4. records\_affected\_count: The number of records inserted or updated.
- 5. affected\_ids: The subject IDs of the inserted or updated records.
- 6. elapsed\_seconds: The duration of the function.

#### Author(s)

Will Beasley

#### References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

The official cURL site discusses the process of using SSL to verify the server being connected to.

```
## Not run:
#Define some constants
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"</pre>
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98"
# Read the dataset for the first time.
result_read1 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
ds1 <- result_read1$data</pre>
ds1$telephone
# The line above returns something like this (depending on its previous state).
# [1] "(432) 456-4848" "(234) 234-2343" "(433) 435-9865" "(987) 654-3210" "(333) 333-4444"
# Manipulate a field in the dataset in a VALID way
ds1$telephone <- sprintf("(405) 321-%1$i%1$i%1$i%1$i", seq_len(nrow(ds1)))
ds1 \leftarrow ds1[1:3, ]
ds1$age <- NULL; ds1$bmi <- NULL #Drop the calculated fields before writing.
result_write <- REDCapR::redcap_write(ds=ds1, redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
# Read the dataset for the second time.
result_read2 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
ds2 <- result_read2$data
ds2$telephone
# The line above returns something like this. Notice only the first three lines changed.
#[1] "(405) 321-1111" "(405) 321-2222" "(405) 321-3333" "(987) 654-3210" "(333) 333-4444"
# Manipulate a field in the dataset in an INVALID way. A US exchange can't be '111'.
ds1$telephone <- sprintf("(405) 111-%1$i%1$i%1$i%1$i", seq_len(nrow(ds1)))
# This next line will throw an error.
```

20 redcap\_write\_oneshot

```
result_write <- REDCapR::redcap_write(ds=ds1, redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
result_write$raw_text
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

redcap\_write\_oneshot Write/Import records to a REDCap project.

# **Description**

This function uses REDCap's API to select and return data.

# Usage

```
redcap_write_oneshot(ds, redcap_uri, token, verbose = TRUE,
   config_options = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

ds The data.frame to be imported into the REDCap project. Required.

redcap\_uri The URI (uniform resource identifier) of the REDCap project. Required.

token The user-specific string that serves as the password for a project. Required.

verbose A boolean value indicating if messages should be printed to the R console during the operation. The verbose output might contain sensitive information (e.g. PHI), so turn this off if the output might be visible somewhere public. Optional.

config\_options A list of options to pass to POST method in the httr package. See the details in redcap\_read\_oneshot() Optional.

#### **Details**

The 'REDCapR' package includes a recent version of the Bundle of CA Root Certificates from the official cURL site. This version is used by default, unless the 'cert\_location' parameter is given another location.

Currently, the function doesn't modify any variable types to conform to REDCap's supported variables. See validate\_for\_write for a helper function that checks for some common important conflicts.

# Value

Currently, a list is returned with the following elements,

- 1. success: A boolean value indicating if the operation was apparently successful.
- 2. status\_code: The http status code of the operation.
- $3. \ \ \text{outcome\_message:} \ A \ \text{human readable string indicating the operation's outcome.}$
- 4. records\_affected\_count: The number of records inserted or updated.
- 5. affected\_ids: The subject IDs of the inserted or updated records.
- 6. elapsed\_seconds: The duration of the function.
- 7. raw\_text: If an operation is NOT successful, the text returned by REDCap. If an operation is successful, the 'raw\_text' is returned as an empty string to save RAM.

#### Author(s)

Will Beasley

#### References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

The official cURL site discusses the process of using SSL to verify the server being connected to.

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
#Define some constants
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"</pre>
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98"
# Read the dataset for the first time.
result_read1 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
ds1 <- result_read1$data</pre>
ds1$telephone
# The line above returns something like this (depending on its previous state).
# [1] "(432) 456-4848" "(234) 234-2343" "(433) 435-9865" "(987) 654-3210" "(333) 333-4444"
# Manipulate a field in the dataset in a VALID way
ds1$telephone <- sprintf("(405) 321-%1$i%1$i%1$i%1$i", seq_len(nrow(ds1)))
ds1 <- ds1[1:3, ]
ds1$age <- NULL; ds1$bmi <- NULL #Drop the calculated fields before writing.
result_write <- REDCapR::redcap_write_oneshot(ds=ds1, redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
# Read the dataset for the second time.
result_read2 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
ds2 <- result_read2$data
ds2$telephone
# The line above returns something like this. Notice only the first three lines changed.
#[1] "(405) 321-1111" "(405) 321-2222" "(405) 321-3333" "(987) 654-3210" "(333) 333-4444"
# Manipulate a field in the dataset in an INVALID way. A US exchange can't be '111'.
ds1$telephone <- sprintf("(405) 111-%1$i%1$i%1$i%1$i", seq_len(nrow(ds1)))
# This next line will throw an error.
result_write <- REDCapR::redcap_write_oneshot(ds=ds1, redcap_uri=uri, token=token)</pre>
result_write$raw_text
## End(Not run)
```

replace\_nas\_with\_explicit

Create explicit factor level for missing values.

22 retrieve\_token

#### **Description**

Missing values are converted to a factor level. This explicit assignment can reduce the chances that missing values are inadvertantly ignored. It also allows the presence of a missing to become a predictor in models.

# Usage

```
replace_nas_with_explicit(scores, new_na_label = "Unknown",
    create_factor = FALSE, add_unknown_level = FALSE)
```

# **Arguments**

scores An array of values, ideally either factor or character. Required new\_na\_label The factor label assigned to the missing value. Defaults to Unknown. create\_factor Converts scores into a factor, if it isn't one already. Defaults to FALSE. add\_unknown\_level

Should a new factor level be created? (Specify TRUE if it already exists.) Defaults to FALSE.

# Value

An array of values, where the NA values are now a factor level, with the label specified by the new\_na\_label value.

#### Note

The create\_factor parameter is respected only if scores isn't already a factor. Otherwise, levels without any values would be lost.

A stop error will be thrown if the operation fails to convert all the NA values.

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

# **Examples**

library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.

retrieve\_token

Read a token from a (non-REDCap) database.

# **Description**

These functions are not essential to calling the REDCap API, but instead are functions that help manage tokens securely.

# Usage

```
retrieve_token_mssql(dsn, project_name, channel = NULL,
   schema_name = "[Redcap]", procedure_name = "[prcToken]",
   variable_name_project = "@RedcapProjectName", field_name_token = "Token")
```

retrieve\_token 23

#### **Arguments**

dsn A DSN on the local machine that points to the desired MSSQL database. Re-

quired.

project\_name The friendly/shortened name given to the REDCap project in the MSSQL table.

Notice this isn't necessarily the same name used by REDCap. Required

channel An optional connection handle as returned by RODBC::odbcConnect. See De-

tails below. Optional.

schema\_name The schema used within the database. Note that MSSQL uses the more conven-

tional definition of schema than MySQL. Defaults to '[Redcap]'. Optional.

procedure\_name The stored procedure called to retrieve the token. Defaults to '[prcToken]'.

Optional.

variable\_name\_project

The variable declared within the stored procedure that contains the desired project

name. Optional.

field\_name\_token

The field/column/variable name in the database table containing the token val-

ues. Defaults to 'Token'. Optional.

#### **Details**

If no channel is passed, one will be created at the beginning of the function, and destroyed at the end. However if a channel is created, it's the caller's responsibility to destroy this resource. If you're making successive calls to the database, it might be quicker to create a single channel object and batch the calls together. Otherwise, the performance should be equivalent.

If you create the channel object yourself, consider wrapping calls in a base::tryCatch block, and closing the channel in its finally expression; this helps ensure the expensive database resource isn't held open unnecessarily. See the internals of retrieve\_token\_mssql for an example of closing the channel in a tryCatch block.

If the database elements are create with the script provided in package's 'Security Database' vignette, the default values will work.

# Value

The token, which is a 32 character string.

# Note

We use Microsoft SQL Server, because that fits our University's infrastructure the easiest. But this approach theoretically can work with any LDAP-enabled database server. Please contact us if your institution is using something other than SQL Server, and would like help adapting this approach to your infrastructure.

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

24 validate\_for\_write

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
## Rely on `retrieve_token()` to create & destory the channel.
##
dsn <- "TokenSecurity"</pre>
project <- "DiabetesSurveyProject"</pre>
token <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project)</pre>
## Create & close the channel yourself, to optimize repeated calls.
##
dsn <- "TokenSecurity"</pre>
project1 <- "DiabetesSurveyProject1"</pre>
project2 <- "DiabetesSurveyProject2"</pre>
project3 <- "DiabetesSurveyProject3"</pre>
channel <- RODBC::odbcConnect(dsn=dsn)</pre>
token1 <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project1)</pre>
token2 <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project2)</pre>
token3 <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project3)</pre>
RODBC::odbcClose(channel)
## End(Not run)
```

validate\_for\_write

*Inspect a* data. frame to anticipate problems before writing to a RED-Cap project.

# **Description**

This set of functions inspect a data. frame to anticipate problems before writing with REDCap's API.

# Usage

```
validate_for_write( d )
validate_no_logical( d )
validate_no_uppercase( d )
```

# Arguments

d

The data.frame containing the dataset used to update the REDCap project. Required.

# **Details**

All functions listed in the Usage section above inspect a specific aspect of the dataset. The validate\_for\_read() function executes all these individual validation checks. It allows the client to check everything with one call.

validate\_for\_write 25

# Value

A data.frame, where each potential violation is a row. The two columns are:

- 1. field\_name: The name of the data.frame that might cause problems during the upload.
- 2. field\_index: The position of the field. (For example, a value of '1' indicates the first column, while a '3' indicates the third column.)
- 3. concern: A description of the problem potentially caused by the field.
- 4. suggestion: A potential solution to the concern.

# Author(s)

Will Beasley

#### References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Help Page' and 'API Examples' pages on the REDCap wiki (ie, https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation and https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples). If you do not have an account for the wiki, please ask your campus REDCap administrator to send you the static material.

```
d <- data.frame(
  record_id = 1:4,
  flag_logical = c(TRUE, TRUE, FALSE, TRUE),
  flag_Uppercase = c(4, 6, 8, 2)
)
validate_for_write(d = d)</pre>
```

# **Index**

```
checkbox_choices (metadata_utilities), 3
create_batch_glossary, 2
metadata_utilities, 3
redcap_column_sanitize, 5
redcap_download_file_oneshot, 6
redcap_metadata_read, 8
redcap_project, 10
redcap_read, 3, 11
redcap_read_oneshot, 9, 11, 12, 13
redcap_upload_file_oneshot, 16
redcap_write, 18
redcap_write_oneshot, 20
REDCapR, 4
REDCapR-package (REDCapR), 4
regex_named_captures
        (metadata_utilities), 3
replace_nas_with_explicit, 21
retrieve_token, 22
retrieve_token_mssql (retrieve_token),
validate_for_write, 7, 16, 18, 20, 24
validate\_no\_logical
        (validate_for_write), 24
validate_no_uppercase
        (validate_for_write), 24
```