

# Package ‘REDCapR’

August 15, 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.

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**URL** <https://github.com/OuhscBbmc/REDCapR>, <http://ouhsc.edu/bbmc/>,  
<http://project-redcap.org>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/OuhscBbmc/REDCapR/issues>

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R topics documented:

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create_batch_glossary	<i>Creates a data.frame that help batching long-running read and writes.</i>
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---

Description

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 time-outs, 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.
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_glossary`.

**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)
```

---

metadata_utilities	<i>Manipulate and interpret the metadata of a REDCap project.</i>
--------------------	---

---

**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 for the text label.

## Value

Currently, a `data.frame` is returned a row for each match, and a column for each *named* group within 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 <- "(?<=\\A| \\| )(?<id>\\d{1,}), (?<label>[\\x20-\\x7B\\x7D-\\x7E]{1,})(?= \\| |\\Z)"

choices_1 <- paste0(
  "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/"
token <- "9A81268476645C4E5F03428B8AC3AA7B"

ds_metadata <- redcap_metadata_read(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)$data
choices_2 <- ds_metadata[ds_metadata$field_name=="race", "select_choices_or_calculations"]

regex_named_captures(pattern=pattern_boxes, text=choices_2)

## End(Not run)
```

---

REDCapR

*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.

---

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 appropriately 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

```
dirty <- data.frame(id=1:3, names=c("Ekstr\xfb8m", "J\xfb6reskog", "bi\xfdchen Z\xfccher"))
REDCapR::redcap_column_sanitize(dirty)
# Produces the dataset:
#   id      names
#1  1      Ekstr?m
#2  2      Joreskog
#3  3  bisschen Zurcher

# Typical examples are not shown because they require non-ASCII encoding,
#   which makes the package documentation less portable.
```

---

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 [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.
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 Examples’ page on the REDCap wiki (<https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples>). A user account is required.

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/"
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98" #pid=213
record <- 1
field <- "mugshot"
# event <- "" # only for longitudinal events

result_1 <- redcap_download_file_oneshot(record=record, field=field,
                                       redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
base::unlink("mugshot_1.jpg")

(full_name <- base::tempfile(pattern="mugshot", fileext=".jpg"))
result_2 <- redcap_download_file_oneshot(file_name=full_name, record=record, field=field,
                                       redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
base::unlink(full_name)

(relative_name <- "ssss.jpg")
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)
```

---

redcap\_metadata\_read    *Export the metadata of a REDCap project.*

---

## 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 during the operation. The verbose output might contain sensitive information ( <i>e.g.</i> 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 <code>httr</code> package. See the details in <code>redcap_read_oneshot()</code> 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 [http status codes](#), separated by semicolons. There is one code for each batch attempted.
4. `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.
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

## References

The official documentation can be found on the REDCap wiki (<https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation>). A user account is required to access the wiki, which typically is granted only to REDCap administrators.

## Examples

```
## 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)
```

---

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

`read(batch_size = 100L, interbatch_delay = 0, records = NULL, records_collapsed = "", fields = NULL)`  
 Exports records from a REDCap project.  
`write(ds_to_write, batch_size = 100L, interbatch_delay = 0, verbose = TRUE, config_options = NULL)`  
 Imports records to a REDCap project.

## Examples

```
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.
uri <- "https://bbmc.ouhsc.edu/redcap/api/"
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98"
## Not run:
project <- redcap_project$new(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
dsAll <- project$read()

#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
```

```

idsOfMales <- dsThreeColumns[dsThreeColumns$sex==1, "record_id"]
idsOfShorties <- dsThreeColumns[dsThreeColumns$height < 40, "record_id"]

dsMales <- project$read(records=idsOfMales, batch_size=2)$data
dsShorties <- project$read(records=idsOfShorties)$data

#Switch the Genders
sex_original <- dsThreeColumns$sex
dsThreeColumns$sex <- (1 - dsThreeColumns$sex)
project$write(dsThreeColumns)

#Switch the Genders back
dsThreeColumns$sex <- sex_original
project$write(dsThreeColumns)

## End(Not run)

```

---

redcap_read	<i>Read records from a REDCap project in subsets, and stacks them together before returning a data.frame.</i>
-------------	---

---

## 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.
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. 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.
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 http 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 subsetting 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 [http status codes](#), separated by semicolons. There is one code for each batch attempted.
4. 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. 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.

**Author(s)**

Will Beasley

**References**

The official documentation can be found on the REDCap wiki (<https://iug.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiDocumentation>). Also see the 'API Examples' page on the REDCap wiki (<https://iug.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples>). A user account is required to access the wiki, which typically is granted only to REDCap administrators.

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)
```

---

redcap_read_one-shot	<i>Read/Export records from a REDCap project.</i>
----------------------	---

---

**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. 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.
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 [http status code](#) of the operation.
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.

## Author(s)

Will Beasley

## References

The official documentation can be found on the 'API Examples' page on the REDCap wiki (<https://iug.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples>). A user account is required.

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"
#Return all records and all variables.
ds_all_rows_all_fields <- redcap_read_one-shot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)$data

#Return only records with IDs of 1 and 3
desired_records_v1 <- c(1, 3)
ds_some_rows_v1 <- redcap_read_one-shot(
  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")
ds_some_fields_v1 <- redcap_read_oneshot(
  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")
config_options <- list(cainfo=cert_location)
ds_different_cert_file <- redcap_read_oneshot(
  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)
ds_ssl_3 <- redcap_read_oneshot(
  redcap_uri = uri,
  token = token,
  config_options = config_options
)$data

config_options <- list(ssl.verifypeer=FALSE)
ds_no_ssl <- redcap_read_oneshot(
  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	A list of options to pass to POST method in the http 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 [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.
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 Examples’ page on the REDCap wiki (<https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples>). A user account is required.

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/"
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98" #For the simple project (pid 213)
field <- "mugshot"
event <- "" # only for longitudinal events

#Upload a single image file.
record <- 1
file_path <- base::file.path(devtools::inst(name="REDCapR"), paste0("test_data/mugshot_1.jpg"))

redcap_upload_file_oneshot(file_name=file_path, redcap_uri=redcap_uri, token=token,
                           record=record, field=field)

#Upload a collection of five images.
records <- 1:5
file_paths <- base::file.path(devtools::inst(name="REDCapR"),
                              paste0("test_data/mugshot_", records, ".jpg"))

for( i in seq_along(records) ) {
  record <- records[i]
  file_path <- file_paths[i]
  redcap_upload_file_oneshot(file_name=file_path, redcap_uri=redcap_uri, token=token,
                             record=record, field=field)
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

redcap\_write

---

Write/Import records to a REDCap project.

---

## Description

This function uses REDCap's [API](#) 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 during the operation. The verbose output might contain sensitive information ( <i>e.g.</i> 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 <code>http</code> package. See the details in <code>redcap_read_oneshot()</code> 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’.

## 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 Examples’ page on the REDCap wiki (<https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples>). A user account is required.

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/"
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98"

# Read the dataset for the first time.
result_read1 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
ds1 <- result_read1$data
ds1$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$page <- NULL; ds1$bmi <- NULL #Drop the calculated fields before writing.
result_write <- REDCapR::redcap_write(ds=ds1, redcap_uri=uri, token=token)

# Read the dataset for the second time.
result_read2 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
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(ds=ds1, redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
result_write$raw_text

## End(Not run)
```

---

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_one-shot(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 ( <i>e.g.</i> 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 <code>httr</code> package. See the details in <code>redcap_read_one-shot()</code> 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. 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

## References

The official documentation can be found on the ‘API Examples’ page on the REDCap wiki (<https://iwg.devguard.com/trac/redcap/wiki/ApiExamples>). A user account is required.

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/"
token <- "D70F9ACD1EDD6F151C6EA78683944E98"

# Read the dataset for the first time.
result_read1 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
ds1 <- result_read1$data
ds1$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)

# Read the dataset for the second time.
result_read2 <- redcap_read_oneshot(redcap_uri=uri, token=token)
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)
result_write$raw_text

## End(Not run)
```

---

```
replace_nas_with_explicit
```

*Create explicit factor level for missing values.*

---

## Description

Missing values are converted to a factor level. This explicit assignment can reduce the chances that missing values are inadvertently 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	<i>Read a token from a (non-REDCap) database.</i>
----------------	---

---

**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")
```

**Arguments**

dsn	A <b>DSN</b> on the local machine that points to the desired MSSQL database. Required.
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 <i>optional</i> connection handle as returned by <code>RODBC::odbcConnect</code> . See Details below. Optional.
schema_name	The schema used within the database. Note that MSSQL uses the more conventional definition of <b>schema</b> 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 values. 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



## Examples

```
## Not run:
library(REDCapR) #Load the package into the current R session.

##
## Rely on `retrieve_token()` to create & destroy the channel.
##
dsn <- "TokenSecurity"
project <- "DiabetesSurveyProject"
token <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project)

##
## Create & close the channel yourself, to optimize repeated calls.
##
dsn <- "TokenSecurity"
project1 <- "DiabetesSurveyProject1"
project2 <- "DiabetesSurveyProject2"
project3 <- "DiabetesSurveyProject3"

channel <- RODBC::odbcConnect(dsn=dsn)
token1 <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project1)
token2 <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project2)
token3 <- retrieve_token(dsn=dsn, project_name=project3)
RODBC::odbcClose(channel)

## End(Not run)
```

---

validate_for_write	<i>Inspect a data.frame to anticipate problems before writing to a REDCap project.</i>
--------------------	--

---

## 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.

**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

**Examples**

```
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)
```

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