**EXPLORATORY ANALYSIS OF VARIOUS MOBILE DATA COLLECTION PLATFORMS/APPS**

There are a number of mobile data collection apps/platforms, some of which includes:

1. KoboToolBox
2. FastField
3. Fulcrum
4. SurveyCTO
5. EpiCollect

**KoboToolBox** (<https://www.kobotoolbox.org/>)

* While KoboToolBox is completely Free, the others give a specified free testing period of about 14 – 15 days.
* KoboToolBox allows data collectors to create forms on the platform and deploy it to android or iOS mobile devices
* There are some basic data analytic functions on the platform but a major drawback is that the collection process cannot be monitored in real time

**FastField** (<https://www.fastfieldforms.com/>)

* The fastfield platform has almost the same functionalities as the KoboToolBox. But the platform does not have a nice user interface/experience making setting up a survey form become an arduous task, and it is not completely free. It works on a free trial basis of about 2 weeks.

**Fulcrum** (<https://web.fulcrumapp.com>)

* On a high level, it allows for capturing geotagged images and videos
* It has a web gis functionality of displaying each data points on a google map such that if you lower your mouse to it, it displays features which could be images.
* It enables sharing and syncing; can be exported to an external database for further analysis
* It also has a free trial of 14 days for new users
* Features a drag and drop form building functionality online

**Epicollect5** (<https://five.epicollect.net/more-view>)

* Epicollect5 has more or less the same features as the fulcrum data collection app
* The platform a very good User interface and experience but does not allow for monitoring the data collection process live.
* Epicollect5 also hosts projects free and Features a drag and drop form building functionality online

**Survey CTO** (<https://victorserver.surveycto.com/>)

* Apparently survey CTO data collection platform is the best so far having sampled the other platforms.
* Having the same functionalities as the fulcrum and epicollect5 and even more! With a better and friendlier user interface and experience.
* Survey CTO allows for monitoring the progress of the enumerators in the field from your server in your office or home, to checkmate and curtail abnormalities or irregularities
* Can collect GPS data in offline mode. It is basically the easiest platform to set up a survey form.
* Survey CTO is based on a free trial period of 15 days for new users, then it becomes $99 a month for the standard package. But it’s really worth it if it could be afforded.
* There are also very explanatory tutorials on how to use surveyCTO on youTube I feel it has a larger community than the other mobile data collection apps/platforms.

**Personal Ratings.**

SurveyCTO 10/10

Epicollect5 9/10

Fulcrum 8/10

Fastfield 7/10

KoboToolBox 7/10