

A short history of Blaise Code Generation

The history of Blaise is also a history of finding easy ways to make specifications of questionnaires without needing to write Blaise Code – either because the subject matter specialists who are designing the surveys are not familiar with the writing of code or because writing of code is simply a tedious and unwelcome task to do. Besides, many surveys originate from specifications already described in e.g., database tables or metadata repositories – and nobody wants to write similar specifications twice in different syntaxes.

The paper describes various ways of generating Blaise Code from external sources – or via alternative ways of describing questionnaires. Primarily, from work done in Statistics Denmark, but with reference to experiences from other organizations. Including a discussion of benefits and limitations of the different approaches.