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Choice Results

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Many teachers and lecturers use clickers and student response systems to add a level of real-time interaction during a lecture or presentation. Moodle has a inbuilt poll activity called choice which can be set up to allow students select one of a number of options. With so many students having mobile devices, this facilitates the teacher to have the students take the choice activity either using the mobile web interface of Moodle, or using the Moodle Mobile App.

This guide takes you through setting up a Moodle web service to view live choice results in a real time dynamic graph - so replacing the clicker requirement and using the students' own mobile devices instead.



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Initial set up

You will need to configure the following components for this, as follows:

- 1. Configurations for your Moodle site
- 2. A separate PHP script page which calls your Moodle site via Moodle web services
- 3. A chartjs (or similar online graphing application) installation for displaying the choice results in visual graphs online

Moodle site configurations

1) Ensure your site is ready for web services: This is at *Site administration -> Advanced features* where you need to enable and save the "Enable web services" setting

Enable web services enablewebservices	Default: No Web services enable other systems to log in to this Moodle and perform operations. For extra security this feature should be disabled unless you are really using it.	
Enabling web ser	vices	1

2) Ensure your site is ready for web services protocols This is at *Site administration -> Plugins -> Web services -> Manage protocols* where you need to enable and save either of the protocols you wish to use (for this guide, we will be using the REST protocol)

lanage protocols			
ctive web service protocols			
Protocol	Version	Enable	Settings
AMF protocol	2015111600	ø	
REST protocol	2015111600	۰	
SOAP protocol	2015111600	95	
VMI - RPC protocol	2015111600		

3) Ensure your site settings are ready for mobile access, thus allowing choice submissions from users via mobile devices This is at *Site administration -> Plugins -> Web services -> Mobile* where you need to enable and save "Enable web services for mobile devices"

Enable web services for mobile devices enablemobilewebservice	Default: No Enable mobile service for the official Moodle app or other app requesting it. For more information, read the Moodle documentation	
Enabling mobile access		

4) Add a new user - call them "Choice View User" or something similar. See Managing accounts for further details on this operation.

5) Add a new role - call it "Choice WS Role" or something similar. This is at *Site administration -> Users -> Permissions -> Define roles*. On the first Adding a new role page, leave "Use role or archetype" set at "No role" and click on Continue For Context types where this role may be assigned - assign to System

Short name	Choice WS Role
Custom full name ⑦	Choice WS Role
Custom description ⑦	Ē.
Role archetype ⑦	None
Context types where this role may be assigned	 System User Category Course Activity module Block
Add custom role	

In capabilities - filter for the word service - click on Allow for Web service: REST protocol, or whichever protocol you're using

	Filter	Clear
Capability	Permission ⑦Ris	ks
System		
Create a web service token for mo moodle/webservice:createmobiletoken	obile access Allow	
Create a web service token moodle/webservice:createtoken	🗆 Allow 💧	
Web service: AMF protocol		
Use AMF protocol webservice/amf:use	Allow	
Web service: REST protocol		
Use REST protocol webservice/restuse	Allow	
Web service: SOAP protocol		
Use SOAP protocol webservice/soap:use	Allow	
Web service: XML-RPC protoc	ol	
Use XML-RPC protocol webservice/xmlrpc:use	Allow	
	Create this role	Cancel
oonohility.		

Finally click on "Create this role" See Creating custom roles for further details on this operation.

6) Assign your new user to the new role. This is at *Site administration -> Users -> Permissions -> Assign system roles*. Click on your new role Search for your new user (you may need to filter by the user name) Select your user in the list and click on Add to assign the user to the role

Assign role	Choice WS Role' in System _©
WARNING! Any roles yo entire system, including	assign from this page will apply to the assigned users throughout the re front page and all the courses.
Existing users	Potential users
None	Add Add Remove V
Search	Search
Search options >	

When you reload the Assign system roles page, your new user should be listed in the Users with role column for the role.

7) Create the web service to be called for the choice results This is at Site administration -> Plugins -> Web services -> External services Add the web service, call it Choice View or something similar, click on Enabled, click on Authorised users only and finally click on Add Service.

 External service 	
Name*	Choice View
Short name	Choice View
Enabled	•
Authorised users only ⑦	V
	Show more
	Add service Cancel
Add web service	

Next, add two functions to the web service, by searching for the Choice functions (you may need to filter by the word choice): - mod_choice_get_choice_results - mod_choice_get_choices_by_courses

Choice View	
- Add functions	
	Name* Search choice mod_choice_delete_choice_responses:Delete the given submitted responses in a choice mod_choice_get_choice_results:Retrieve options for a given choice mod_choice_get_choice=results:Retrieve users results for a given choice mod_choice_get_choice=by_courses:Returns a list of choice instances in mod_choice_submit_choice=response:Submit responses to a specific choice litem. mod_choice_view_choice:Trigger the course module viewed event and update the module completion status.
	Add functions Cancel
Add functions	There are required fields in this form marked *.

8) Add your new user to the web service Authorised users list This is at *Site administration -> Plugins -> Web services -> External services* To add authorised users, click on the Authorised users link for your Choice View web service, this is similar to the interface where you assigned your user to the Choice View role. Search for your new user (you may need to filter by the user name) Select your user in the list and click on Add to assign the user to the Authorised users list

9) Create a web service token to authenticate the expected HTTP(S) requests This is at *Site administration -> Plugins -> Web* services -> Manage tokens Click on Add Search for the user you created for the Choice View In the Service dropdown, select the Choice View service you also just created Add an IP restriction if needed Add a time restriction if needed Click on Save changes and copy the resulting token

Create token	
Token	
User*	Search choice
	Choice View
Service*	Choice View
IP restriction	
Valid until	5 V April V 2016 V Enable
	Save changes Cancel

10) Enrol your new user, "Choice View User", as a teacher in all courses from where you want to access the choice activities. This is needed so that the web service will be able to access the choice activity details using your user's token.

PHP script page for displaying results

This page will access your Moodle site choice activities and display their results with visual graphs. Copy our sample PHP script code to wherever you want it hosted and called from. It will need http or https access to your Moodle site where the choice activities are hosted. It will also need to have some level of security if it's going to be a publicly accessible URL as the PHP script itself contains details of a REST web service login with access to your Moodle site. We would suggest a htaccess login or similar. Edit and save the sample PHP script code to add your Moodle site URL and Choice View token values to where the code states " <yourURL>" and "<yourUkcen>" respectively.



Code configuration

The script code will also need access to an installation of chartjs, or other graphing application, in order to display the graphs, please see http://www.chartjs.org/ for more details. You will then also need to edit the script code to add the server directory location of your chartjs installation to where the code states "<yourchartjslocation>".

To reveal the results, just type in the URL of your PHP script code into your browser.

The web service will now display all course accessible choice activities in the page dropdown, displaying the one which was first created initially. If you know the choice id from the database already, you can instead add the parameter to the URL as follows: "? choiceid=X".

One final point, the sample PHP script code is set with a simple reload of the page every 5 seconds so that the displayed graph updates with the latest results regularly. This reload could be more elegantly processed if needed, using AJAX for instance.

Sample Code

```
<?php
$$url="<yourURL>";
$function="mod_choice_get_choice_results";
$function2="mod_choice_get_choices_by_courses";
$token="<yourtoken>";
// Grabs choice details including title
$ch2 = curl_init();
curl_setopt($ch2, CURLOPT_URL, "$url/webservice/rest/server.php?wsfunction=$function2&wstoken=$token&moodlewsrestfo
curl_setopt($ch2, CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, 1);
$result2 = json_decode(curl_exec($ch2));
if (isset($_REQUEST['choiceid'])) {
    $choiceid=intval($_REQUEST['choiceid']);
} else if (count($result2->choices) > 0) { // accessible choices found
    $choiceid=intval($result2->choices[0]->id);
} else {
    $choiceid = 0; // default value
if ($ choiceid < 1) {
    echo("invalid id");
$colour="249,128,18"; // Moodle orange, change as required.
$ch = curl_init();
curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_URL, "$url/webservice/rest/server.php?wsfunction=$function&wstoken=$token&choiceid=$choice
curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, 1);
$result = json_decode(curl_exec($ch));
$graph_title = "";
$dropdown = "<select name='choiceid' onchange='this.form.submit()'>\n";
$$ select</option value='0'>Select</option>\n";
foreach ($result2->choices as $choice) {
    $dropdown .= "<option value='{$choice->id}'";
```

```
if ($choice->id == $choiceid) {
        $graph_title = $choice->name;
        $dropdown .= " selected";
    $dropdown .= ">{$choice->name}</option>\n";
}
$dropdown .= "</select>\n";
// data for bar graph
$chart = new stdClass();
$data = array();
$labels = array();
foreach ($result->options as $a) {
    $data[] = $a->numberofuser;
    $labels[] = $a->text." (".round($a->percentageamount,1)."%)";
$chart->labels = $labels;
$dataset = new stdClass();
$dataset->data = $data;
$$dataset->fillColor = "rgba({$colour},0.5)";
$dataset->strokeColor = "rgba({$colour},0.8)"
$dataset->highlightFill = "rgba({$colour},0.75)";
$dataset->highlightStroke = "rgba({$colour},1)";
$chart->datasets = array($dataset);
curl_close($ch);
?>
<!doctype html>
k<html>
        <head>
                <meta http-equiv="refresh" content="5" >
                <title>Bar Chart</title>
                <script src="<yourchartjslocation>"></script>
        </head>
        <body>
        <center>
        <h1><?php echo($graph_title); ?></h1>
                <div id="canvas-holder">
                        <canvas id="chart-area" width="900" height="600"/>
                </div>
            <form><?php echo($dropdown); ?><noscript><input type="submit" value="Submit"></noscript></form>
        <script>
            var pieData = <?php echo json_encode($chart); ?>;
                        window.onload = function(){
                                var ctx = document.getElementById('chart-area').getContext('2d');
                                window.myPie = new Chart(ctx).Bar(pieData, {animationSteps : 1, responsive: false})
                        };
                </script>
        </center>
        </body>
</html>
                                                                                                                    ▶
```

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Category: Mobile

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