

## Auto Multiple Choice - Feature # 54: Add a database of questions

<b>Status:</b>	WontFix	<b>Priority:</b>	Normal
<b>Author:</b>	red sea	<b>Category:</b>	
<b>Created:</b>	04/20/2012	<b>Assignee:</b>	
<b>Updated:</b>	01/28/2021	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Description:</b>	Proposed to add a database of questions, for use in the creation of tests in the coming years.		

### History

04/21/2012 02:24 pm - Pieter Van den Hombergh

red sea wrote:

> Proposed to add a database of questions, for use in the creation of tests in the coming years.

A database needs a database design and that would need design decisions and hence constraints. This can be done for a specific case but is had to do in general.

In my experience I am fully satisfied using the file system as a "database", a hierarchical one for that matter and have my several courses in different sub directories.

Then in the exam instances I simply include the questions I want to use I a particular exam instance.

Example: The exam looks like this:

```
<pre>
\documentclass[a4paper]{article}
\usepackage[utf8x]{inputenc}
\usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
\usepackage{times}
\usepackage{listings}
\usepackage[dutch,german]{babel}
\usepackage[completemulti,separateanswersheet,lang=DE,outsidebox]{automultiplechoice}
\def\CourseDir{/home/hom/fthv/hi/linux/trunk/40_exam}
\def\QuestionBaseDir{\CourseDir/questionsmk2}
\def\ExamInstanceDir{\CourseDir/builds/20120413}
\def\Lecturer{Pieter~van~den~Hombergh}
\scoringDefaultM{haut=2}
\scoringDefaultS{mz=2}
\newcommand\inputQ[1]{\input{\QuestionBaseDir/#1}}
\newif\ifNoShuffle\NoShufflefalse
\def\DECount{16}
\def\NLCount{4}
\def\Columns{2}
\input{\CourseDir/builds/coverpage}
\input{\ExamInstanceDir/processExams}

\end{document}

</pre>
```

You see a macro there that includes a question file.

The questions are read in the part <pre>\input{\ExamInstanceDir/processExams}

</pre>

which contains as most important statement

<pre>\input{\ExamInstanceDir/questions.tex}</pre>

which contains a line for each question file like this `<pre>\element{general}{\inputQ{subject/chapter/o046.tex}}</pre>`

In each question file you should have a unique question identifier that is used by amc.

The relevant line in the question is (example) `<pre>\begin{question}{Inx-chap06-o046}</pre>`.

This works for me and I have used that for year, even before I found this wonderful AMC software.

In short: do not put the questions inside the exam, but input the with `<pre>\input</pre>` and you can reuse them any way you like.

**04/29/2012 12:25 pm - red sea**

thanks.

regards

**06/09/2012 03:39 pm - Pieter Van den Hombergh**

red sea wrote:

> thanks.

>

> regards

See the wiki entry, where you also find an example exam structure.

**01/28/2021 08:30 pm - Alexis Bienvenüe**

- *Status changed from New to WontFix*