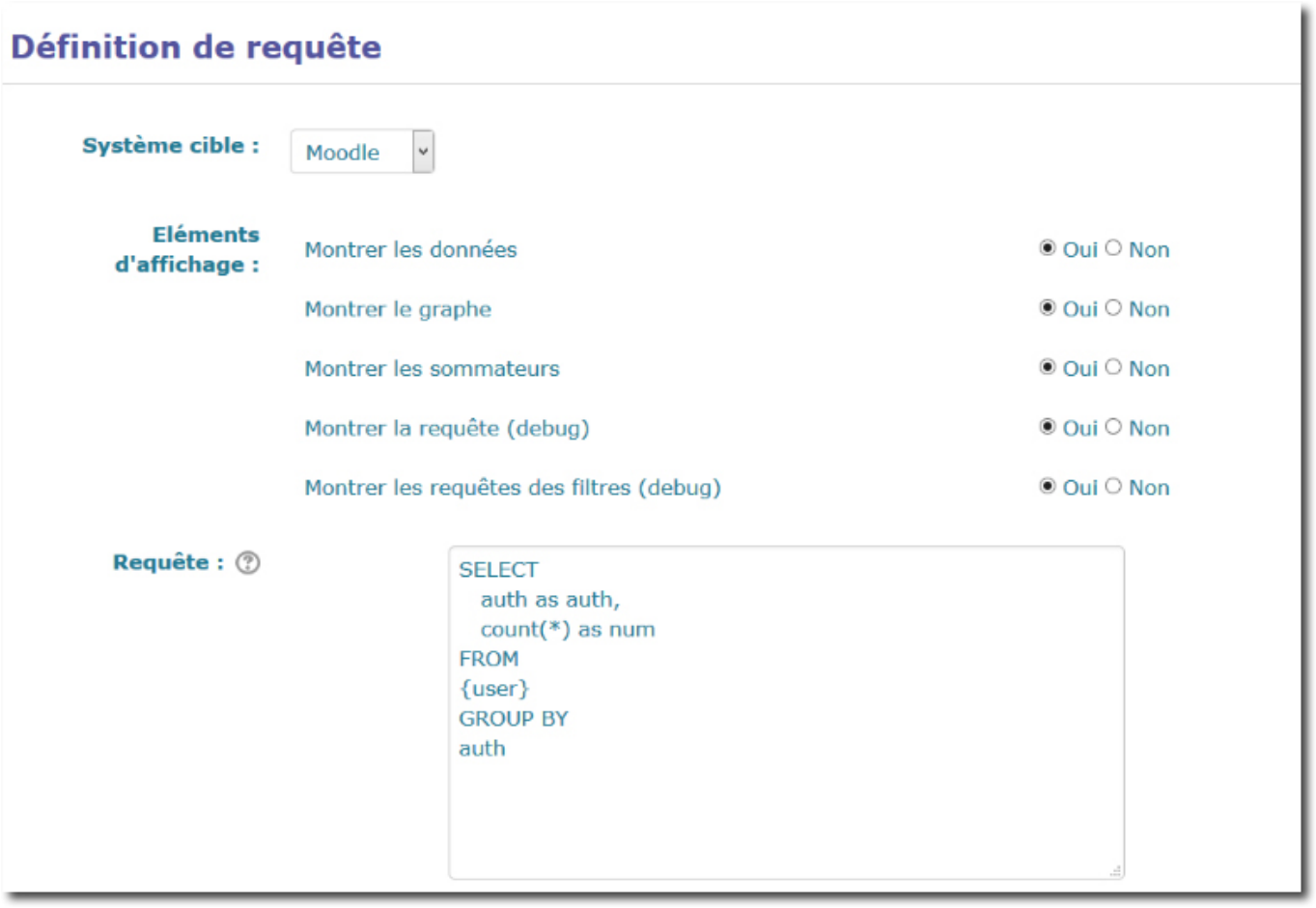
Dashboard Block / Dashboard Element

Query Description

This panel lets you enter the query and make certain global choices about the behaviour of the dashboard.



Data source

While the usual data source is generally Moodle's own database, it is possible to use an additional source (PostgreSQL only) to display data coming from another application.

Display elements

You can choose to display or not to display:

- Query results formatted in tabular form
- A graphical representation of the data
- “Summers” on the result data

Optionally, you can choose to display, for debugging purposes:

- The final query computed by the dashboard
- The filter queries

Query

You will enter a query in the text editing area. You must comply with the following writing rules:

Mandatory rules

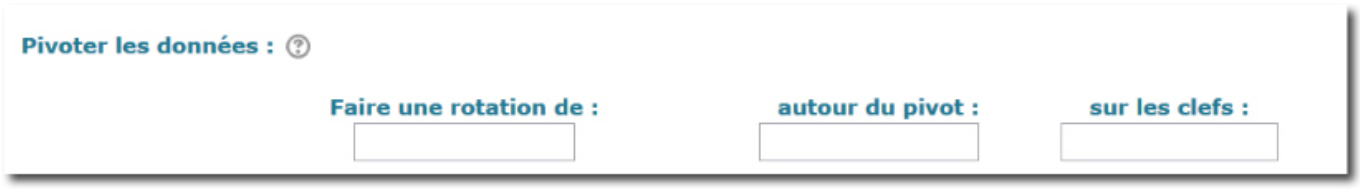
- Output fields must all be aliased (e.g. “username as un”) to guarantee the output data mapping.
- Unions or intersections are not accepted

Optional rules

- Moodle table names can be written {tablename} for automatic formatting of the table prefix. If curly braces are not used, the table name must be complete.
- If you use filters, add the tag <FILTERS>:
  - To replace the whole WHERE clause if it is empty
  - At the end of the WHERE clause rules
- If you use query parameters, add the tag <PARAMS> in the WHERE clause of the query.

Data pivoting

This option is only available in the pro version



Because an SQL query result cannot have a variable number of output columns, this data querying mode is not suited to querying matrix data. Data pivoting is a way of transforming a “flat” record output into a dynamically sized matrix. This technique is useful, for example, when you want to feed several distinct curve series into a graph from the results of a simple query. Pivoting uses a “dimension” column, called the “pivot” column, to arrange the data of the other columns in a grid that keeps the other dimensions, but whose other dimension is formed by the distinct values of the pivot.

Example

Consider a table listing the number of users per authentication method and per country, according to the query:

```
SELECT
   CONCAT(country, '-', auth) as pkey,
   country as cn,
   auth as auth,
   COUNT(*) as num
FROM
   {user}
GROUP BY
   CONCAT(country, '-', auth)
```

This query is supposed to output a linear table:

pkey	cn	auth	num
FR-manual	FR	manual	45
FR-mnet	FR	mnet	4
FR-cas	FR	cas	1754
EN-manual	EN	manual	22
EN-mnet	EN	mnet	23
EN-cas	EN	cas	98
CH-manual	CH	manual	12
CH-mnet	CH	mnet	5
CH-cas	CH	cas	302

In order to display a bar graph on a data series per country, it is necessary, to feed the graph input, to produce a table transformed from the direct query output. The table to obtain is:

pkey	auth	FR	EN	CH
manual	manual	45	22	12
mnet	mnet	4	23	5
cas	cas	1754	98	302

which allows us to provide series “per authentication method” on the country entries.

We can then express the pivot method as:

“ pivot the column cn (country) around the pivot “auth” to distribute the data of the column num ”.

The pivot requires reprocessing the primary keys so that they match the new organisation of the output table.

Credits

- Valéry Frémaux (valery@activeprolearn.com)- Development and documentation
- Florence Labord (florence@activeprolearn.com) - documentation

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