

CHAPTER 4

UI Automation

Interacting with several desktop and web applications is an essential part of our daily work routine. We use these applications to accomplish tasks like logging timesheets in a time tracking system, storing, organizing, and retrieving documents in a document management system, or tracking projects in a project management software. To interact with these various applications, we use their user interface (UI). Similarly, UiPath StudioX UI automation interacts with the user interfaces to automate desired tasks by replicating the user interaction like checking boxes, selecting dropdowns, entering data, and clicking buttons.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this chapter, you will learn how to

- Load web and desktop apps
- Enter data in forms
- Extract data from forms and tables
- Perform miscellaneous activities to interact with user interfaces
- Use the App/Web Recorder to generate an automation

Sample Overview

The sample application used for all exercises of this chapter is Contacts Management. The application is accessible via a browser from <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/> location. This section provides a quick overview of the sample application.

Contacts List: This is the default page that loads when you open this web application. As shown in Figure 4-1, this page contains the following sections:

1. Header: To show the title of the application
2. Buttons: To open the add contact details dialog, view contact details dialog, and download to Excel and CSV
3. Table: With a list of contacts spanning multiple pages

Add Contact: This dialog box, shown in Figure 4-2, is displayed when you click the Add Contact button from the home page. This screen allows you to enter new contact details. The application is not operational, so this does not persist with any new contacts.

View Contact: This dialog box, shown in Figure 4-3, is displayed when you click the View Contact button from the home page. This screen allows you to view contact details. The application is not operational, so this always shows the same contact information.

Download: This button allows you to download the contacts list in Excel and CSV formats.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Contact Management - Demo". The URL is "theresabook.com/samples/contactmanagement/". The main content area is titled "① Contacts". A circled "③" points to a dropdown menu labeled "Show 10 entries". The table lists the following data:

Company	Contact	Email	Relationship	Primary Contact?
Burns Industries	Charles Montgomery Burns	charles.montgomery@burnsindustries.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	James DeLue	james.delue@dundermifflininc.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Michael Scott	michael@dundermifflininc.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Dwight Schrute	dwight@dundermifflininc.com	Partner	Yes
E Corp	Philip Price	philip.price@e-corp.us	Customer	No
Entertainment 720	Tom Haverford	tom@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Entertainment 720	Jean Raphie Gaperstein	jean@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Global	Hank Scorpio	hank@global.com	Customer	No
Hooli	Gavin Belson	gavin.belson@holly.com	Customer	No
InCew	Simon Mainwaring	simon.mainwaring@inced.com	Partner	Yes

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Figure 4-1. Contacts Management web application home page

The screenshot shows a modal dialog box titled "Contact Details". The form fields are:

- Company:** [Text input field]
- Contact:** [Text input field]
- Email:** [Text input field]
- Relationship:** [Dropdown menu] -- Please select --
- Primary:** [Check box]

An "Add" button is located at the bottom right of the dialog.

Figure 4-2. Add Contact dialog

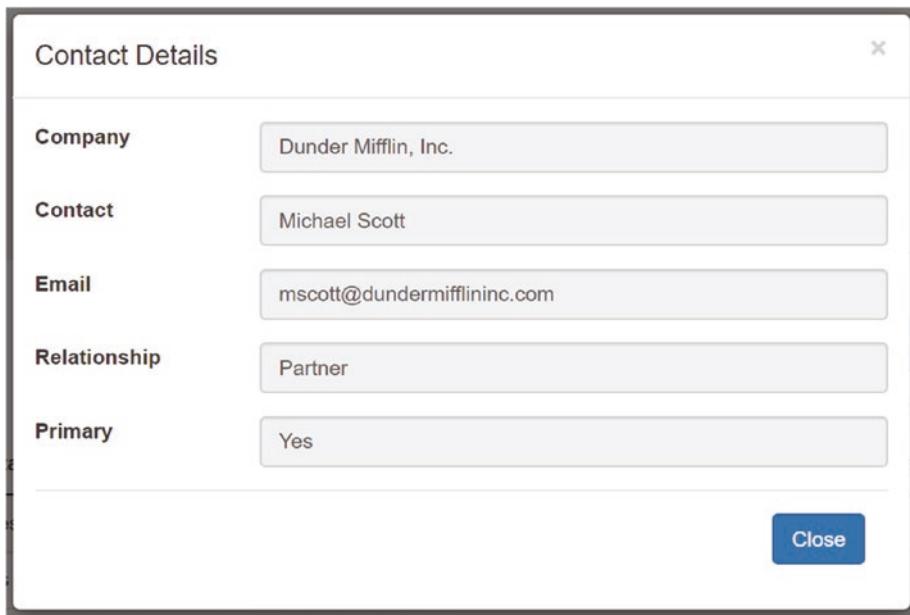


Figure 4-3. View Contact dialog

Activities Reference

UI automation activities are available from the App/Web category shown in Figure 4-4. The following sections provide instructions on how to configure and use each activity.

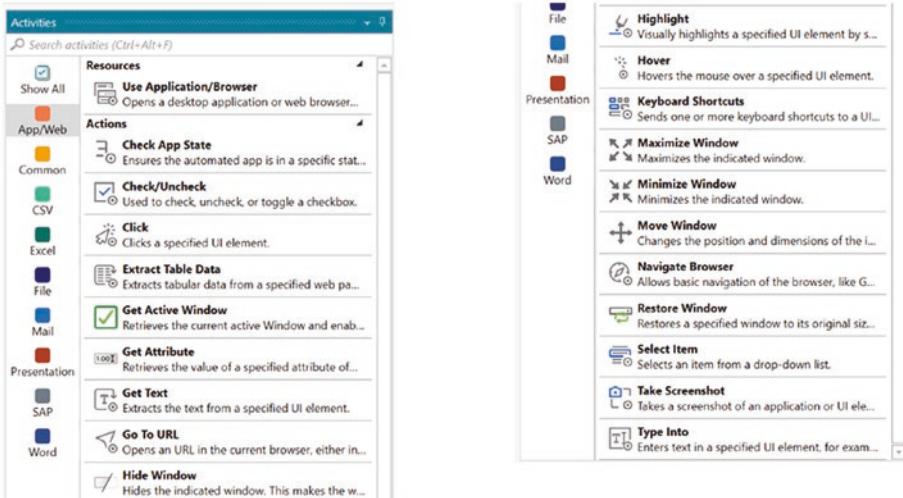


Figure 4-4. Activities for App/Web automation

Use Application/Browser

The **Use Application/Browser** activity allows you to open, close, and interact with a web or a desktop application.

Note The **Use Application/Browser** activity will contain all the actions that you want to perform on the UI of a target application. For example, if you want to click a button on the screen, the **Click** activity will have to be added to the body of this activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a, shown in Figure 4-5.

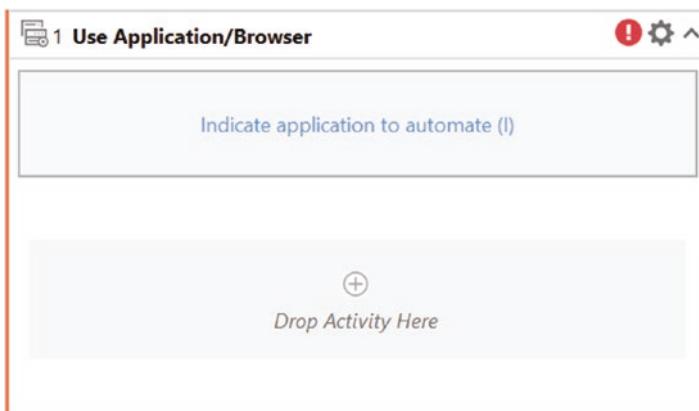


Figure 4-5. Activity card for Use Application/Browser

Note Before you can automate a web application, you will need to install the relevant web browser extension from Home ▶ Tools ▶ UiPath Extensions.

Indicate application to automate (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to indicate the target application that you are going to automate. To configure this activity, make sure your target application is already open. Once you have indicated your target application, StudioX will automatically identify if it is a desktop application or a web application. Figure 4-6 shows the activity card for a web application, while Figure 4-7 shows the activity card for a desktop application.

Browser URL: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration is only available when the target is a web application. This configuration allows you to specify the URL of the web application. By default, this is populated with the browser URL identified in the indicate application configuration.

Application path: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration is only available when the target is a desktop application. This configuration allows you to specify the complete path of the executable file on a local system. By default, this is populated with the application path identified in the indicate application configuration.

Application arguments: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration is only available when the target is a desktop application. This configuration allows you to specify arguments for the application to execute. For example, when launching Notepad, you can specify what file to load when Notepad opens.

Match exact title: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration is only available when the target is a desktop application. This configuration allows you to specify if the automation should exactly match the application title. By default, this option is not checked, that is, automation will not use exact title matching.

Open: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify if the automation should open this application when executing. There are three options: Never (never open the application, this is useful when the application might already be open), Always (always open the application), and IfNotOpen (only open the application if it is not already open).

Close: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify if the automation should close the target application after completion. There are three options: Never (never close the application, this is useful when a person or another program might have already opened the application), Always (always close the application), and IfOpenedByAppBrowser (only close the application if the automation opened it).

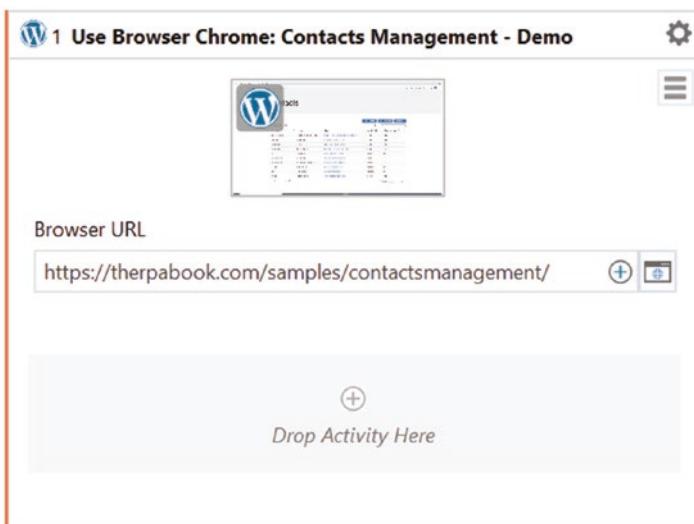


Figure 4-6. Activity card for Use Browser

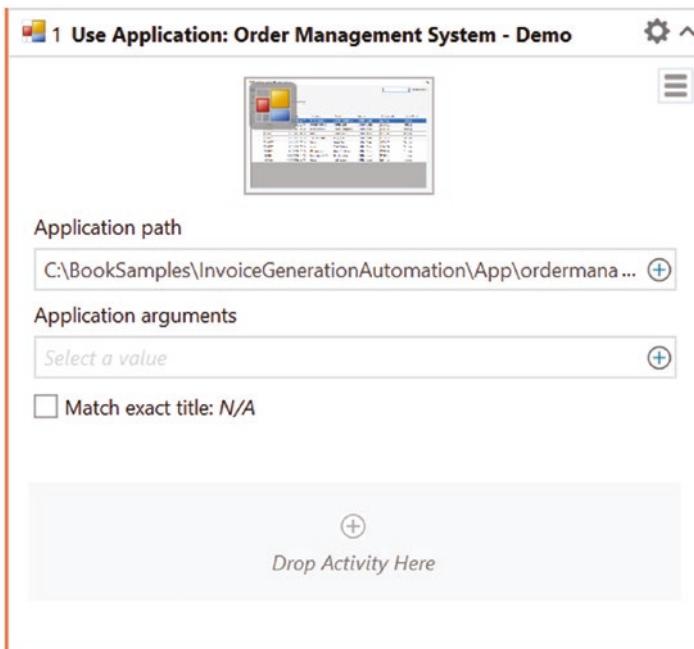


Figure 4-7. Activity card for Use Application

Go To URL

The **Go To URL** activity allows you to open a specified URL in a browser.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Go To URL** activity, shown in Figure 4-8.



Figure 4-8. Activity card for Go To URL

URL: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the URL that you want to open in the browser.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Go To URL activity to navigate to <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/>.

Source Code: Chapter_4_MiscellaneousActivitiesExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter about:blank in the address bar. This will ensure that by default, no page is loaded.
2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to a blank process.

3. Next, click **Indicate application** in the Use Application/Browser activity card. You will notice a blue shade over the screen; this is to point your mouse to the browser to select the window. Clicking the browser will automatically populate the activity card.
4. Next, select the Use Application/Browser activity card, and from **Properties**, set the **Options** ► **Open** property to **Always**. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Next, add a Go To URL activity in the body of Use Application/Browser activity.
6. Next, in the URL field of Go To URL activity, click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/>. Click Save.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Go To URL** activity should resemble Figure 4-9. Figure 4-10 shows the state of the target web application once the automation has completed its run. In this case, the browser has been redirected to a new URL.

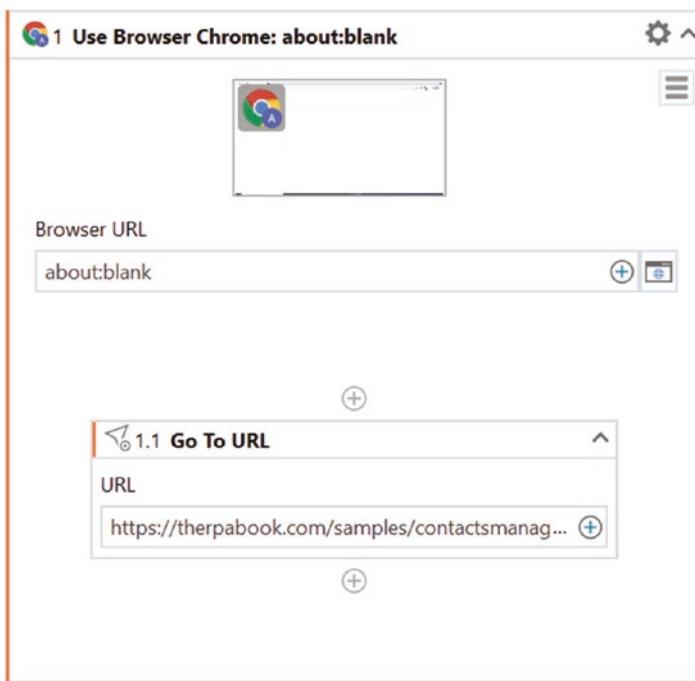


Figure 4-9. Final configuration of the Go To URL activity exercise

Company	Contact	Email	Relationship	Primary Contact?
Burn Industries	Charles Montgomery Burns	charles.montgomery@burnindustries.com	Partner	Yes
Delos Inc.	James Delos	james.delos@delosinc.com	Partner	Yes
Dexter MFB, Inc.	Michael Scott	mscott@dundermifflin.com	Partner	Yes
Dexter Mifflin, Inc.	Dwight Schrute	dwschrute@dundermifflin.com	Partner	Yes
E Corp	Philip Price	philip.price@ebiz.eo	Customer	No
Entertainment720	Tori Hayford	tori@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Entertainment720	Joan Kelso Gorenstein	joan@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Clicker	Hank Cooper	hank.cooper@clicker.click	Customer	No
Moss	Gavin Belson	gavin.belson@moss.la	Customer	No
Wing	Santos Meier	santos.meier@wing.com	Partner	Yes

Figure 4-10. Result of the Go To URL activity exercise

Navigate Browser

The **Navigate Browser** activity allows you to perform basic browser navigations such as Go Back, Go Forward, Go Home, Refresh, and Close Tab.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Navigate Browser** activity, shown in Figure 4-11.



Figure 4-11. Activity card for *Navigate Browser*

Action: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the navigation action that you want to perform on the browser. Table 4-1 provides a quick description of each action. By default, the action is set to Go Back.

Table 4-1. Actions for *Navigate Browser* activity

Action	Description
Go Back	Opens the previous page in the browser; this action only works if another page was open in the browser earlier.
Go Forward	Opens the next page in the browser; this action only works if the Go Back action was used earlier.
Go Home	Opens the default home page of the browser.
Refresh	Refreshes the page.
Close Tab	Closes the currently active tab.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Navigate Browser activity to refresh the already open web page. This exercise builds upon the Go To URL exercise. Figure 4-10 shows the state of the target web application before this exercise.

Source Code: Chapter_4_MiscellaneousActivitiesExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Navigate Browser activity in the body of Use Application/Browser activity after the Go To URL activity.
2. Next, from the Action dropdown, select Refresh.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Navigate Browser** activity should resemble Figure 4-12.

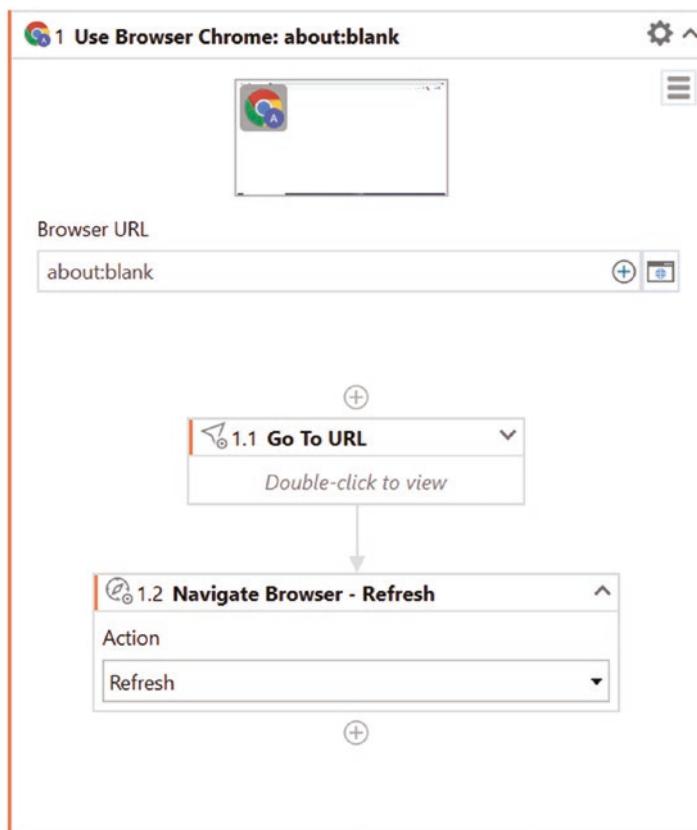


Figure 4-12. Final configuration of the *Navigate Browser* activity exercise

Highlight

The **Highlight** activity allows you to visually highlight a specified area while the automation is running. The automation creates a box around the specified element.

Tip For tasks where you want to visually emphasize specific UI elements while a process is executing, the Highlight activity is a great way to support such requirements.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Highlight** activity, shown in Figure 4-13.



Figure 4-13. Activity card for Highlight

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the element or area on UI that you want to highlight.

Duration: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify (in seconds) how long the automation should highlight the specified element.

Color: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the color of the highlight box and is set to gold by default.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Highlight activity to highlight the number of records in the Contacts table visually. This exercise builds upon the Go To URL and Navigate Browser exercises. Figure 4-10 shows the state of the target web application before this exercise.

Source Code: Chapter_4_MiscellaneousActivitiesExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Highlight activity in the body of Use Application/Browser activity after the Navigate Browser activity.
2. Next, in the Highlight activity, click Indicate target on screen (I) link. You'll notice a green highlight as you point your mouse to specify the target element; select the bottom-left area of the table. Then, you'll notice a blue highlight as you point your mouse to specify an anchor; indicate the Previous button. At this point, your selection should resemble Figure 4-14. Click the Confirm button.

Globex	Hank Scorpio	hankscorpio@globex.com	Customer	No
Hooli	Gavin Belson	gavin.belson@hooli.io	Customer	No
InGen	Simon Masrani	simon.masrani@ingen.com	Partner	Yes

Figure 4-14. Selection of element to be highlighted

3. Next, in the Duration field of Highlight activity, click the Plus icon, select the Number option, and enter 5 seconds. This will highlight the specified UI element for 5 seconds.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Highlight** activity should resemble Figure 4-15. Figure 4-16 shows the state of the target web application once the automation has completed its run. In this case, the total number of entries area is highlighted.

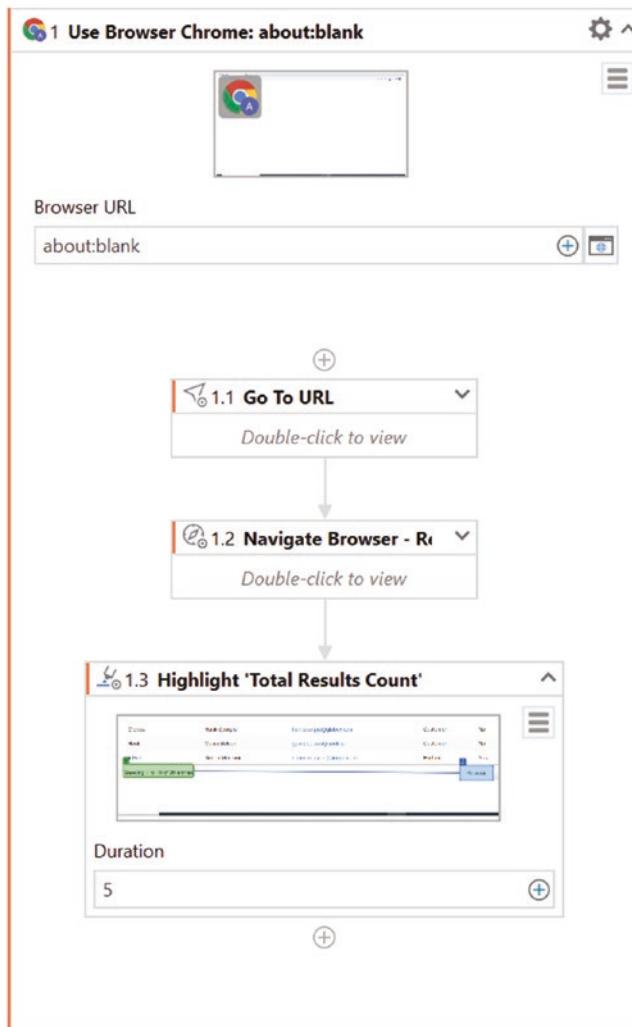


Figure 4-15. Final configuration of the *Highlight* activity exercise

InGen

Simon Masrani

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Figure 4-16. Result of the Highlight activity exercise

Take Screenshot

The **Take Screenshot** activity allows you to capture a screenshot of a specified area.

Tip For tasks where you need to provide evidence for audit purposes that a particular action was taken, the Take Screenshot activity is a great way to support such requirements.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Take Screenshot** activity, shown in Figure 4-17.

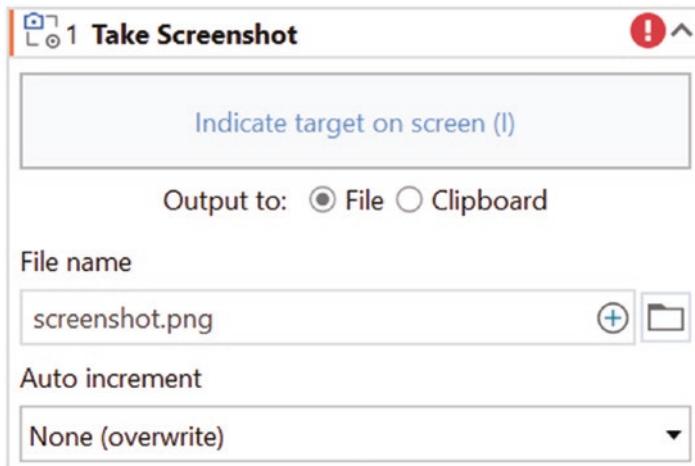


Figure 4-17. Activity card for Take Screenshot

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the element on UI that you want to capture in your screenshot.

Output to: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify if the screenshot should be physically saved as a file or just saved in the Clipboard memory.

File name: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration is only available when you select File from the Output to field. This configuration allows you to specify the folder location where screenshots should be stored and the name of the screenshot.

Auto increment: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration is only available when you select File from the Output to field. This configuration automatically appends an index or a timestamp, shown in Figure 4-18, to the file name only in case the same file already exists in the Save to location. This field is helpful in avoiding overwriting over an existing file.

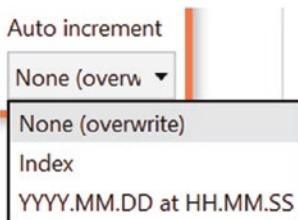


Figure 4-18. Available options for Auto increment

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Take Screenshot activity to take a screenshot of the Contacts table. This exercise builds upon the Go To URL, Navigate Browser, and Highlight exercises. Figure 4-10 shows the state of the target web application before this exercise.

Source Code: Chapter_4_MiscellaneousActivitiesExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Take Screenshot activity in the body of Use Application/Browser activity after the Highlight activity.
2. Next, in the Take Screenshot activity, click Indicate target on screen (I) link and point your mouse to the contacts list table. Once you have specified the target element, you'll notice a red highlight over the table. This is to prompt you to specify an anchor; in this case, use the page header. At this point, your selection should look like Figure 4-19. Click the Confirm button.

Company	Contact	Email	Relationship	Primary Contact?
Burnt Industries	Charles Montgomery Burns	charles.montgomery@burntindustries.com	Partner	Yes
Delos Inc.	James Delus	james.delus@delosinc.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Michael Scott	michael@dundermifflininc.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Dwight Schrute	dwight@dundermifflininc.com	Partner	Yes
E Corp	Philip Price	philip.price@e-corp.co	Customer	No
Entertainment 720	Tony Hawlford	tony@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Entertainment 720	Jean Ralphy Saperstein	jean@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Grobex	Hank Seorce	hank.seorce@grobex.com	Customer	No
Heel	Gavin Bauson	gavin.bauson@heel.io	Customer	No
InGen	Simon Masoni	simon.masoni@ingen.com	Partner	Yes

Figure 4-19. Selection of element to be captured in the screenshot

3. Next, in the Save to folder field of the Take Screenshot activity, click the Browse for folder icon and select C:\BookSamples\Chapter_04 folder.
4. The name of the screenshot file will be automatically appended to the folder path. The default name is screenshot.png.
5. From the Auto increment dropdown, select the YYYY.MM.DD at HH.MM.SS option. This will append a timestamp at the end of the screenshot file name.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Take Screenshot** activity should resemble Figure 4-20. Figure 4-21 shows the folder with multiple screenshots. If you run the automation multiple times, it will keep adding screenshots to the specified folder with a timestamp appended to the name.

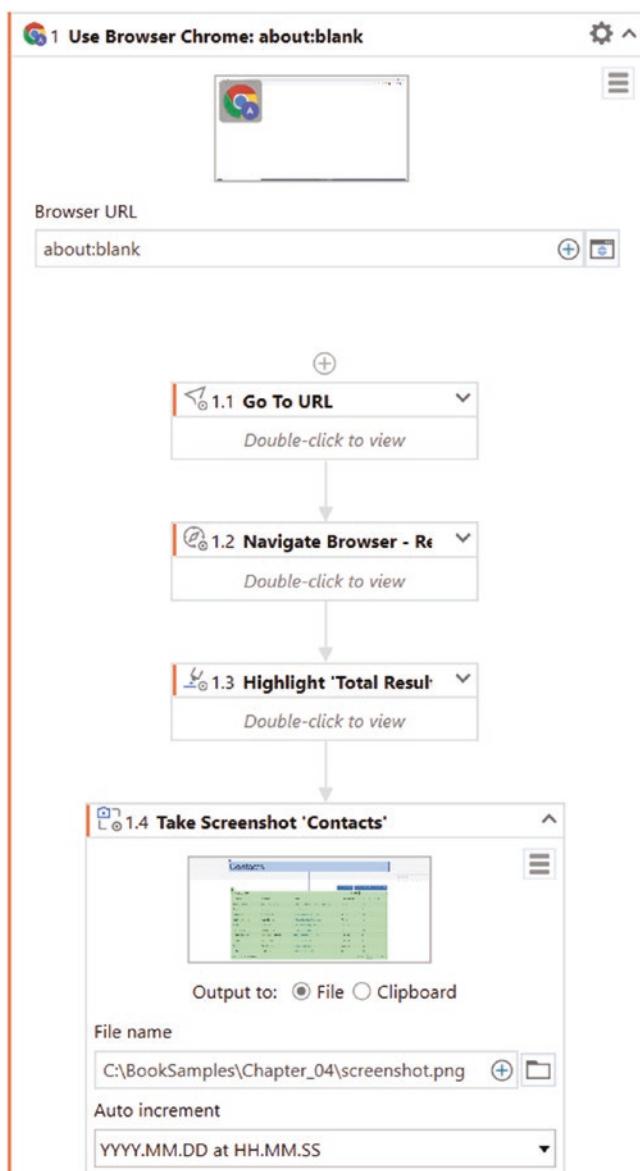


Figure 4-20. Final configuration of the Take Screenshot activity exercise

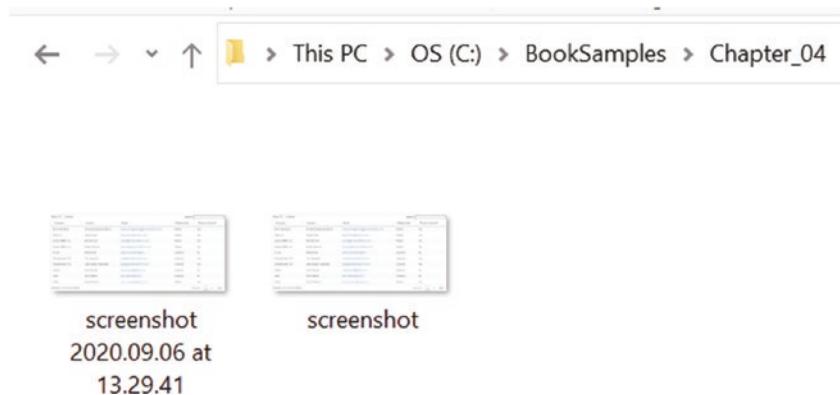


Figure 4-21. Result of the Take Screenshot activity exercise

Check App State

When needing to perform an action based on a particular UI element such as a loading icon on an application, the Check App State activity can be used. We, as humans, understand that this means the screen is still loading, but the automation does not. The **Check App State** activity is a great way to ensure that a screen has completely loaded before the automation starts interacting with it.

Tip For tasks where you need to perform different actions based on UI elements such as a message box or error pop-up window, the Check App State activity is a great way to support such requirements.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Check App State** activity, shown in Figure 4-22.

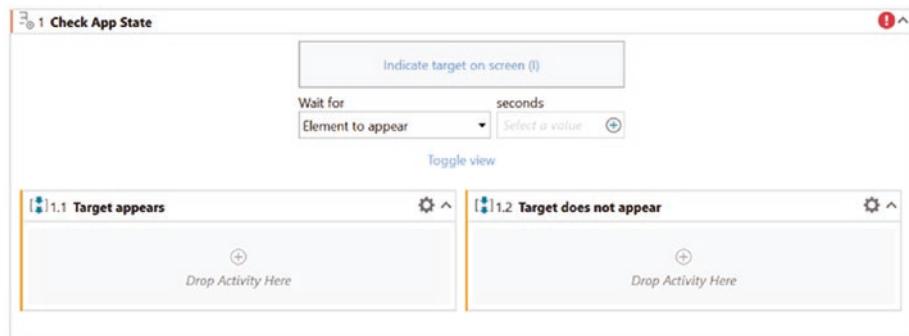


Figure 4-22. Activity card for Check App State

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify a UI element that the automation will wait for either to appear or to disappear before proceeding.

Wait for: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify if the automation needs to wait for the target element to appear or disappear before proceeding. By default, this is set to Element to appear.

Seconds: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the amount of time (in seconds) that the automation needs to wait for the target element to appear or disappear before proceeding. By default, this is set to 5 seconds.

Target appears/disappears: A set of activities you want to run if the target successfully appears or disappears will be added to this block.

Target does not appear/disappear: A set of activities you want to run if the target does not appear or disappear will be added to this block.

Result: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to save the result (True or False) for later use.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Check App State activity to wait for the spinner to disappear before proceeding.

Source Code: Chapter_4_CheckAppStateExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter https://therapbook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/home_load.html in the URL field.
2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to a blank process.
3. Next, in the Use Application/Browser activity card, click Indicate application and point your mouse to the browser. This will automatically populate the activity card.

Note Because the Use Application/Browser card is capturing the URL and it's not changing while it's loading, you can indicate the browser while the page is loading or has loaded.

4. Next, select Use Application/Browser activity card, and in the Properties, set the Options ► Open property to Always. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Next, add a Check App State activity in the body of Use Application/Browser activity.

6. Next, in the Check App State activity, click the Indicate target on screen (I) link and point your mouse to the spinner. The sample app shows the spinner for 10 seconds, so you will need to indicate the element within that timeframe. If that timeframe is too short, use the pause option (pressing F2 from your keyboard) while indicating the target. Additionally, you can hit refresh (F5 or Ctrl + R) as the pause is about to end, so that you have enough time to indicate the spinner.
7. Next, from the Wait for dropdown, select the Element to disappear option.
8. In the Seconds field, click the Plus icon, select the Number option, and type 15 seconds (this is adding a 5-second buffer).

Tip When there is a potential lag of a UI element appearing or disappearing, adding a buffer to the seconds field of the Check App State activity is a great way to support latency.

9. Next, in the Target disappears block, add a Message Box activity.
10. Next, in the Message Box activity, click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type Target disappeared. Click Save.
11. Next, in the Target does not disappear block, add a Message Box activity.
12. Next, in the Message Box activity, click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type Target did not disappear. Click Save.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Check App State** activity should resemble Figure 4-23. Once you run the automation, it will wait for 15 seconds and then check if the spinner has disappeared. Depending on the state of the target application, a message box will appear with the appropriate message.

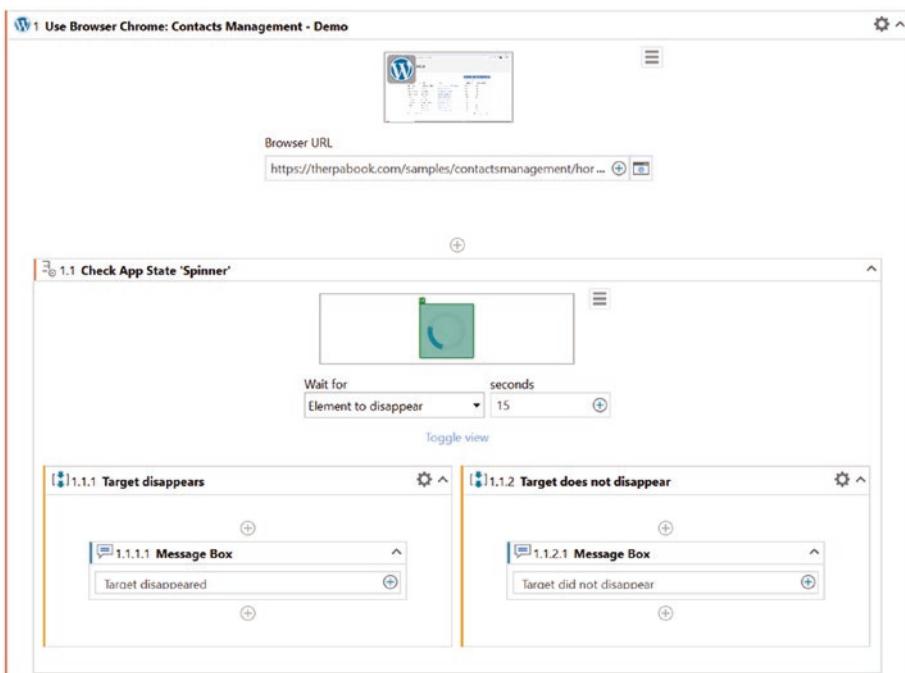


Figure 4-23. Final configuration of the *Check App State* activity to wait for spinner to disappear

Click

The **Click** activity allows you to perform a mouse click on a specified UI element.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Click** activity, shown in Figure 4-24.

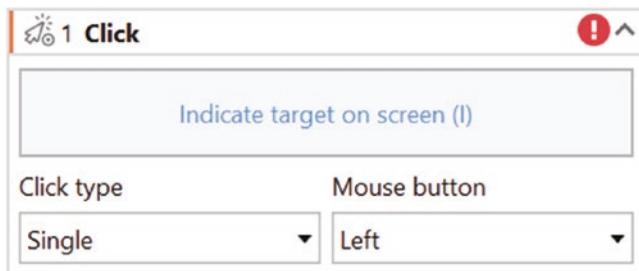


Figure 4-24. Activity card for Click

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify a UI element that you want the automation to click.

Click type: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the type of mouse click you want to perform. Figure 4-25 shows all the available options. By default, this is set to Single click.

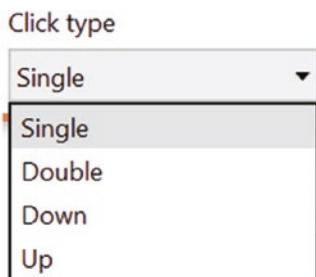


Figure 4-25. Available options for click types

Mouse button: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify which mouse button to click. Figure 4-26 shows all the available options. By default, this is set to Left click.

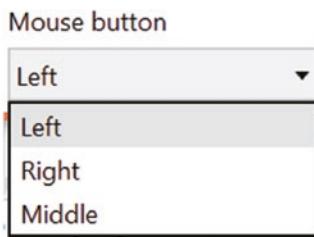


Figure 4-26. Available options for mouse button click

Key modifiers: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to use keys in combination with the mouse click action. Figure 4-27 shows all available options. By default, this is set to None.

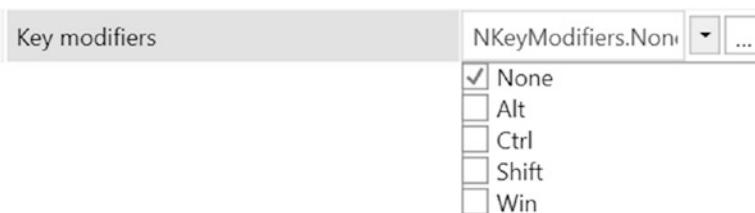


Figure 4-27. Available options for key modifiers

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Click activity to click the Add Contact + button to open the Contact Details dialog.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataEntryExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactmanagement/> in the address bar.
2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to a blank process.
3. Next, click Indicate application in the Use Application/Browser activity card, and point your mouse to the browser. This will automatically populate the activity card.
4. Next, select the Use Application/Browser activity card, and from Properties, set the Options > Open property to Always. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Next, add a Click activity within the Use Application/Browser activity.
6. Next, in the Click activity, click the Indicate target on screen (I) link and you'll notice a green highlight as you point your mouse to the Add Contact button. Then, you'll see a blue highlight as you point your mouse to specify an anchor; indicate the View Contact button. If you are unable to detect any elements, click F4 to change the detection mechanism. Once you have selected the target element, use the View Contact button as an anchor. At this point, your selection should look like Figure 4-28. Click the Confirm button.



Figure 4-28. Target and anchor for the Add Contact button

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Click** activity should resemble Figure 4-29.

Tip When needing to click within an application that is minimized, using the Maximize Window activity can be used to maximize the application for the bot to click the correct UI element. Additionally, setting the Input mode to Simulate within the properties pane of the Click activity can have the bot click the application even when minimized.

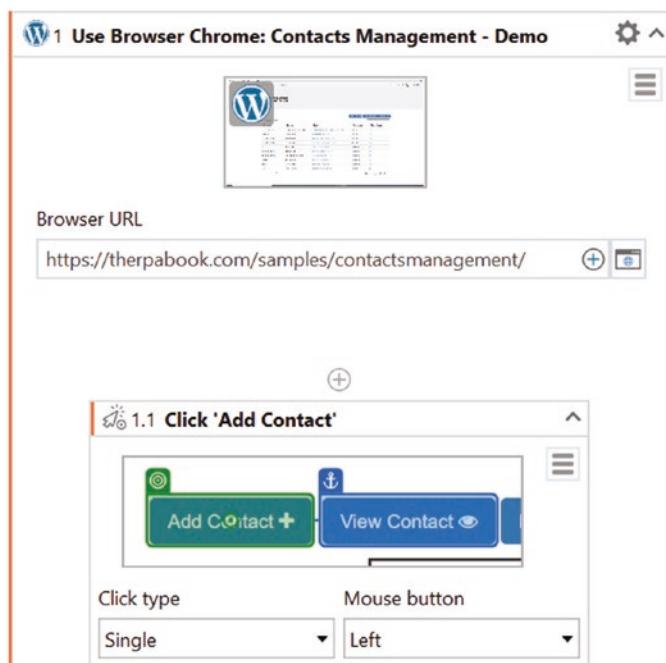


Figure 4-29. Final configuration of the Click activity exercise

Figure 4-30 shows the state of the target web application once the automation has completed its run. In this case, an empty Contact Details dialog is displayed.

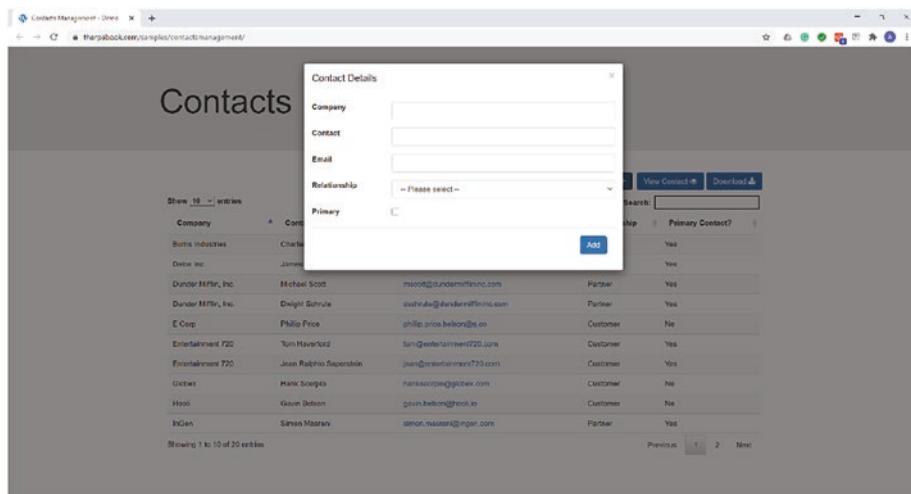


Figure 4-30. Result of the Click activity exercise

Type Into

The **Type Into** activity allows you to enter text in a specified element on the UI.

Tip When a dropdown menu of an application does not support the Select Item activity (discussed next), using a Type Into activity is a great way to support selecting a specific dropdown option.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Type Into** activity, shown in Figure 4-31.

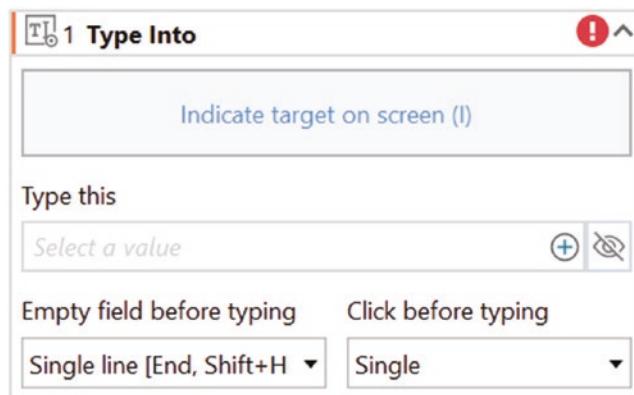


Figure 4-31. Activity card for Type Into

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify which UI element you want to enter data in.

Type this: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the text that should be entered in the target element. You also have the option to include special keys in the text or toggle the password mode to type the text securely. This text can be static or dynamic.

Empty field before typing: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify if you want to keep the existing text in the target element or clear it. Set to None if you want to leave the existing text as is. If you want to clear the existing text, then use either the single line or multiline options. If you are dealing with a single line Text field, then using Single line will clear the text, and if you are dealing with a multiline component like a Text Area, then the Multi line option will work the best. As a note, field data is cleared using keyboard shortcuts.

Click before typing: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify if the automation should click the target element before it starts typing. You can either do a Single click or a Double click. By default, this is set to Single.

Tip Click before typing is useful in scenarios where text fields do not become editable until you click them once or twice.

Delay between keys: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify a delay between each keystroke. By default, there is no delay set. This field is only applicable for Hardware Events input methods.

Deselect at end: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify if, at the end of the activity, the automation should remove move from the UI element. This field is only applicable for Simulate input methods.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Type Into activity to fill out text fields of the Contact Details dialog. This exercise builds upon the previous exercise of the Click activity. Figure 4-30 shows the state of the target web application prior to this exercise.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataEntryExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Type Into activity within the Use Application/Browser activity right after the Click 'Add Contact' activity.
2. Next, in the Type Into activity, click Indicate target on screen (I) link and point your mouse to the Company field. The field label is auto-detected as an anchor. At this point, your selection should look like Figure 4-32. Click the Confirm button.



Figure 4-32. Target and anchor for the Company text field

3. Next, in the Type this field, click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type Stark Industries. At this point, your Type Into activity configuration should resemble Figure 4-33.

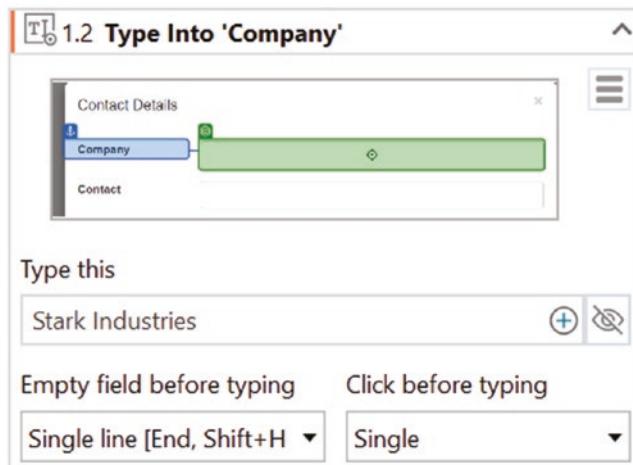


Figure 4-33. Configuration of Type Into activity

4. Next, repeat steps 2–4 for the Contact field.
5. Next, In the Type this field, click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type Tony Stark.
6. Next, repeat steps 2–4 for the Email field.
7. Next, in the Type this field, click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type tstark@starkindustries.com.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Type Into** activities should resemble Figure 4-34. Figure 4-35 shows the state of the target web application once the automation has completed its run. In this case, data has been entered into Company, Contact, and Email fields on Contact Details dialog.

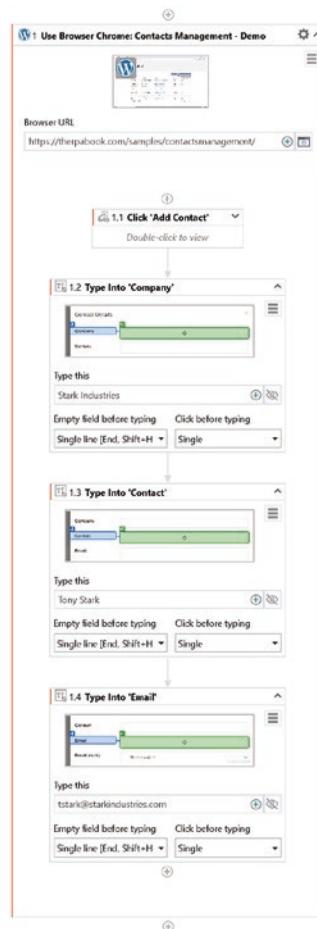


Figure 4-34. Final configuration of the Type Into activity exercise

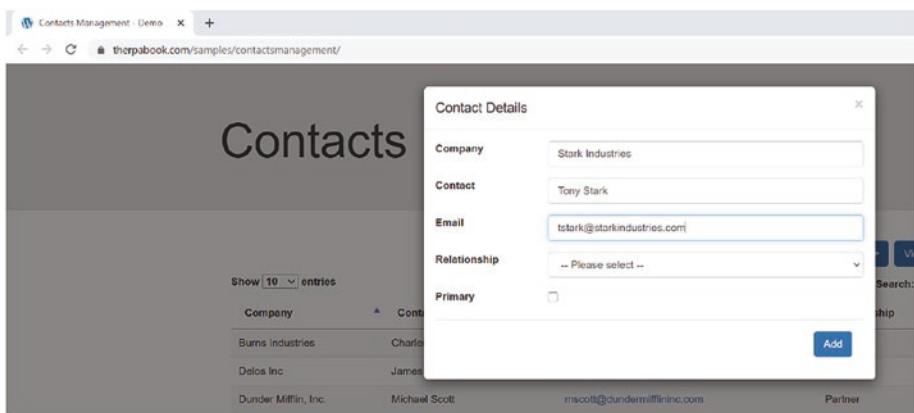


Figure 4-35. Result of the Type Into activity exercise

Select Item

The **Select Item** activity allows you to select an item in a specified dropdown list.

Note If the application dropdown is not a combo box or list box, the Select Item activity may not be supported. In this case, it's advised to use a Type Into activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Select Item** activity, shown in Figure 4-36.



Figure 4-36. Activity card for Select Item

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify a dropdown on the UI in which you want to select an item.

Item to select: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. By default, this list is empty. Once you have indicated the dropdown element on the UI, this list will be populated with all options available in the dropdown. Figure 4-37 shows an example when this list is populated.



Figure 4-37. Available options in the dropdown

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Select Item activity to choose Partner from Relationship dropdown on the Contact Details dialog. This exercise builds upon the previous exercises for Click and Type Into activities. Figure 4-35 shows the state of the target web application before this exercise.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataEntryExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Select Item activity in the body of Use Application/Browser activity after the three Type Into activities.
2. In the Select Item activity, click the Indicate target on screen (I) link and point your mouse to the Relationship dropdown. The field label, Relationship, is auto-detected as an anchor. At this point, your selection should resemble Figure 4-38. Click the Confirm button.



Figure 4-38. Target and anchor for Relationship dropdown

3. At this point, the Item to select field will be populated with all options available in the Relationship dropdown. Select Partner as the relationship from the list.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Select Item** activity should resemble Figure 4-39. Figure 4-40 shows the state of the target web application once the automation has completed its run. In this case, an item has been selected from the Relationship field.

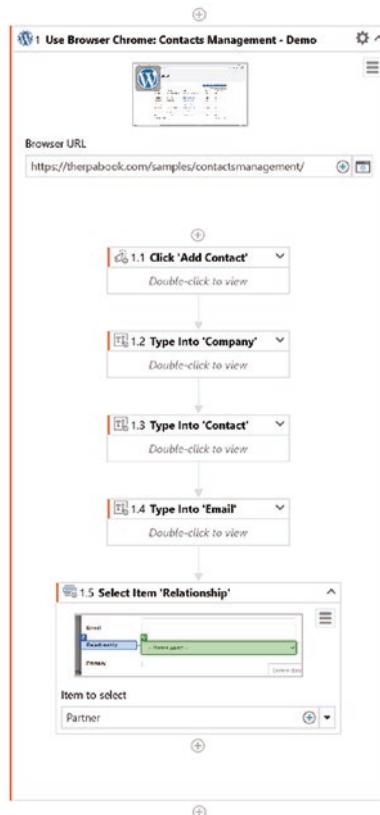


Figure 4-39. Final configuration of the Select Item activity exercise

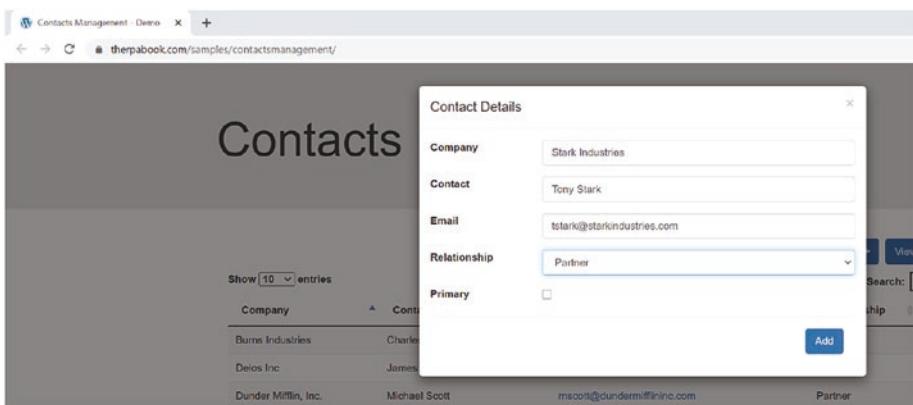


Figure 4-40. Result of the Select Item activity exercise

Check/Uncheck

The **Check/Uncheck** activity allows you to interact with checkboxes on a user interface.

Tip In place of using a Click activity to interact with a checkbox within an application, using the Check/Uncheck activity gives the option to toggle, check, or uncheck a field. This way, if the application may already have a checkmark marked or unmarked, it won't unnecessarily change it.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Check/Uncheck** activity, shown in Figure 4-41.



Figure 4-41. Activity card for Check/Uncheck

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify a checkbox on the UI which you want to check or uncheck.

Action: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the state of the checkbox. Figure 4-42 shows all available actions. By default, this is set to Check.

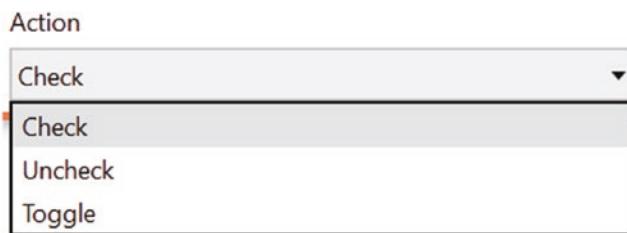


Figure 4-42. Available action for Check/Uncheck activity

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Check/Uncheck activity to specify that the contact being added is primary by checking the Primary option in the Contact Details dialog. This exercise builds upon the previous exercises for Click, Type Into, and Select Item activities. Figure 4-40 shows the state of the target web application before this exercise.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataEntryExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Check/Uncheck activity in the body of Use Application/Browser activity after the Select Item activity.
2. Next, in the Check/Uncheck activity, click Indicate target on screen (I) link and point your mouse to the Primary checkbox. Select the field label, Primary, as an anchor. At this point, your selection should look like Figure 4-43. Click the Confirm button.



Figure 4-43. Target and anchor for Primary checkbox

3. Next, select Check from the Action dropdown.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Check/Uncheck** activity should resemble Figure 4-44. Figure 4-45 shows the state of the target web application once the automation has completed its run. In this case, the Primary checkbox has been checked.

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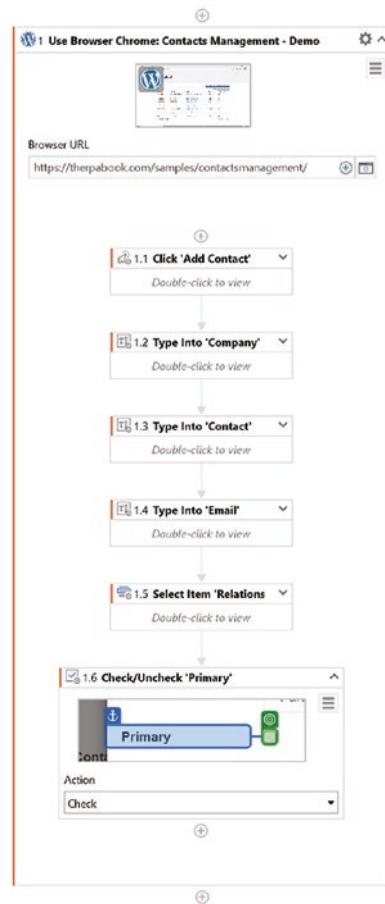


Figure 4-44. Final configuration of the Check/Uncheck activity exercise

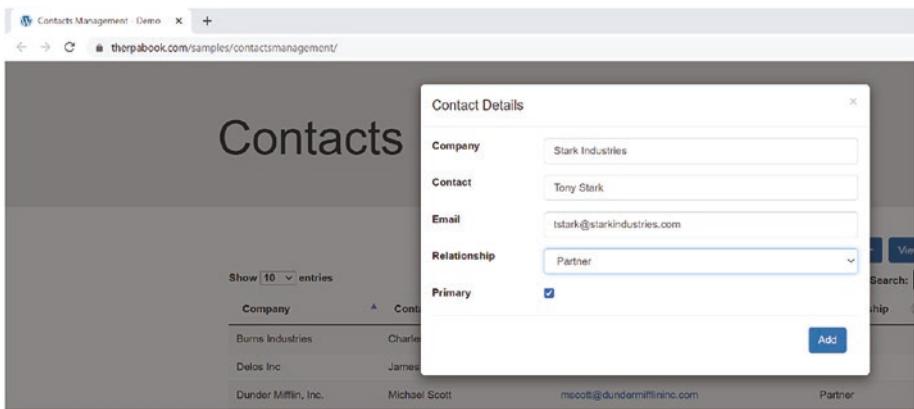


Figure 4-45. Result of the Check/Uncheck activity exercise

Get Text

The **Get Text** activity allows you to extract text from a specified element on the UI.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Get Text** activity, shown in Figure 4-46.



Figure 4-46. Activity card for Get Text

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify an element on the UI from which you want to retrieve text.

Save to: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify how you want to store retrieved text for use later.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Get Text activity to read all fields of the View Contact Details dialog.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataExtractionExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactmanagement/> in the address bar.
2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to a blank process.
3. Next, click Indicate application in the Use Application/Browser activity card, and point your mouse to the browser. This will automatically populate the activity card.
4. Next, select the Use Application/Browser activity card, and from Properties, set the Options ► Open property to Always. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Add a Click activity within the Use Application/Browser activity and configure it to click the View Contact button.
6. Next, make sure the View Contact dialog is open.

7. Add the Get Text activity within the Use Application/Browser activity right after the Click activity.
8. In the Get Text activity, click the Indicate target on screen (I) link and point your mouse to the Company field. The field label is auto-detected as an anchor. At this point, your selection should resemble Figure 4-47. Click the Confirm button.



Figure 4-47. Target and anchor for the Company field

9. Next, click the Plus icon in the Save to field. Select the Save for Later Use option and name your saved value as CompanyText. Click Ok. At this point, your activity Get Text activity configuration should resemble Figure 4-48.



Figure 4-48. Configuration of Get Text activity

10. Next, repeat steps 7–9 for the remaining fields, that is, Contact, Email, Relationship, and Primary. Name the saved values as ContactText, EmailText, RelationshipText, and PrimaryText, respectively.
11. Next, add a Write Line activity at the end. Click the Plus icon in the Text field, select the Text option, and enter the text as shown in Figure 4-49. To reference the values saved, click the Plus icon in the Text Builder, hover over Use Saved Value, and select CompanyText, ContactText, EmailText, RelationshipText, and PrimaryText, respectively.

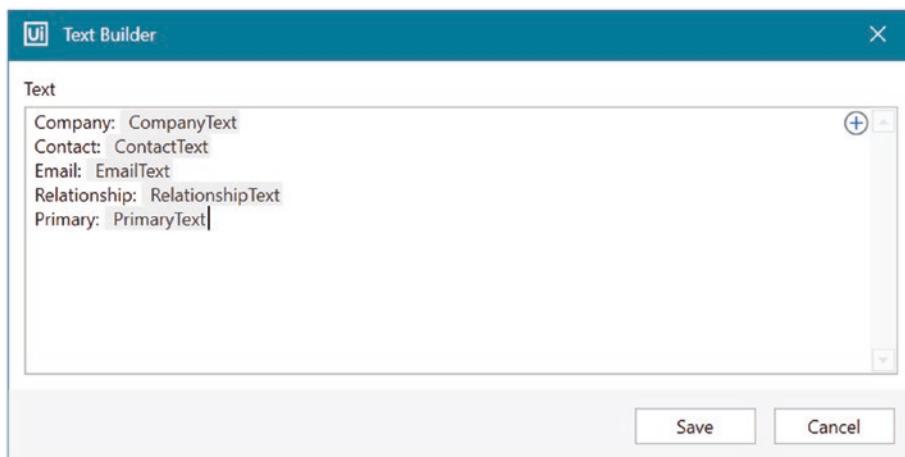


Figure 4-49. Write Line activity configuration to print all form data

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Get Text** activity should resemble Figure 4-50. Figure 4-51 shows the data from the Write Line activity printed in the Output panel.



Figure 4-50. Final configuration of automation with Get Text activities

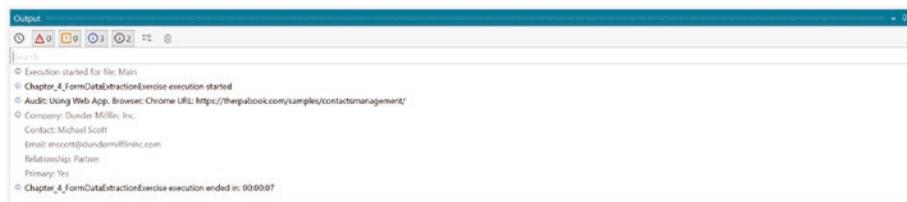


Figure 4-51. Output of the Get Text activity exercise

Get Attribute

The **Get Attribute** activity allows you to retrieve the value of an attribute of a specified element on the UI.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Get Attribute** activity, shown in Figure 4-52.

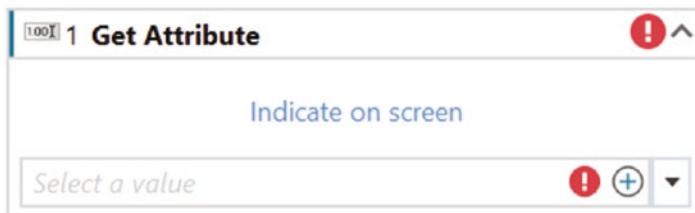


Figure 4-52. Activity card for Get Attribute

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify an element on the UI from which you want to retrieve the attribute value.

Attribute: This is required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the attribute whose value you want to retrieve.

Result: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify how you want to store retrieved value of the attribute for use later.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Get Attribute activity to read value of the Company field from the View Contact Details dialog. This exercise builds upon the previous exercise for the Get Text activity.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataExtractionExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Get Attribute activity within the Use Application/Browser activity right after the Write Line activity.
2. In the Get Attribute activity, click the Indicate on screen link and point your mouse to the Company field.
3. Next, click the Plus icon in the Attribute field, select the Text option, and type value. This is the attribute that we are going to retrieve. Click Save.
4. Next, from the Properties panel, click the Plus icon in the Result field. Select the Save for Later Use option and name your saved value as AttributeValue. Click Ok.
5. Next, add the Write Line activity at the end. Click the Plus icon in the Text field, select the Text option, and enter the text as shown in Figure 4-53.

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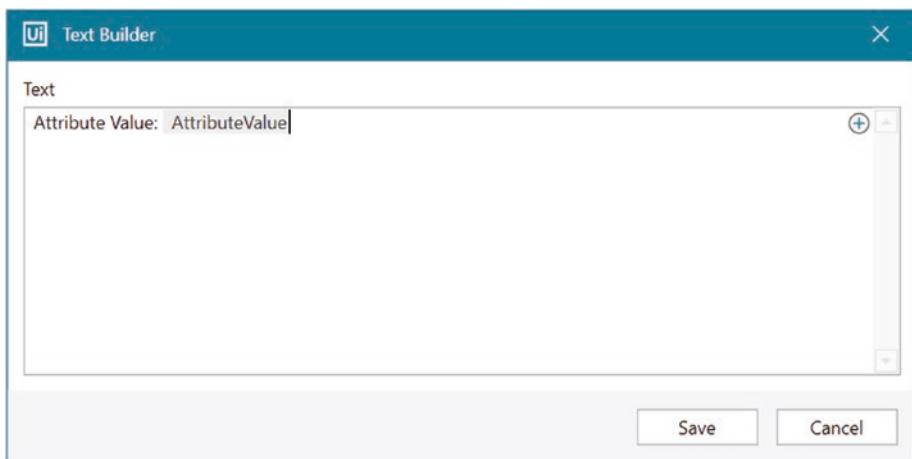


Figure 4-53. Write Line activity configuration to print all form data

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Get Attribute** activity should resemble Figure 4-54. Figure 4-55 shows the data from the Write Line activity printed in the Output panel.



Figure 4-54. Final configuration of automation with Get Attribute activities

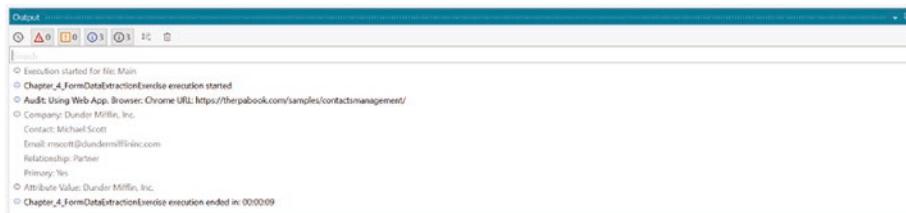


Figure 4-55. Output of the Get Attribute activity exercise

Extract Table Data

The **Extract Table Data** activity allows you to extract data in tabular format from web and desktop applications.

Note The **Table Extraction** menu item in the top ribbon also follows similar configuration steps. It creates a separate container inside a **Use Application/Browser** activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure an **Extract Table Data** activity, shown in Figure 4-56.



Figure 4-56. Activity card for Extract Table Data

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the table from which you want to extract data. If the table data spans multiple pages, this configuration will also allow you to specify the element that automation can use to navigate between pages.

Extract to: This is an optional configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify how you want to store extracted data.

Append results: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify if the automation should append any new extractions at the end of the previously extracted data or overwrite it.

Edit Next Link: This configuration becomes available from the activity menu only after you have indicated the target on the screen. This configuration, shown in Figure 4-57, allows you to edit the UI element you have specified to navigate to the next page of data.

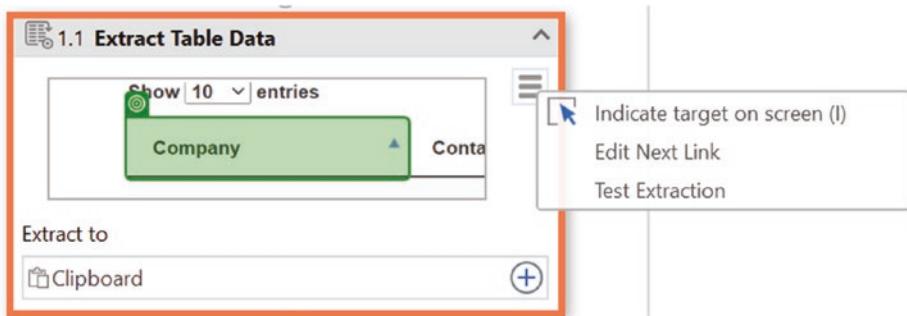


Figure 4-57. Options in the activity menu

Test Extraction: This configuration becomes available from the activity menu only after you have indicated the target on the screen. This configuration, shown in Figure 4-57, allows you to test your data extraction. Once you click the Test Extraction option from the menu options, a popup shown in Figure 4-58 will appear containing extracted data from first page indicated.

The screenshot shows a 'Preview Data' dialog box with a table of contact information. The table has columns: Company, Contact, Email, Relationship, and Primary Contact?. The data includes entries for Burns Industries, Delos Inc, Dunder Mifflin, E Corp, Entertainment 720, Globex, Hooli, and InGen. The 'OK' button is visible at the bottom right.

Company	Contact	Email	Relationship	Primary Contact?
Burns Industries	Charles Montgomery	charles.montgomery@burnsindustries.com	Partner	Yes
Delos Inc	James Delos	james.delos@delosinc.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Michael Scott	mscott@dundermifflin.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Dwight Schrute	dschrute@dundermifflin.com	Partner	Yes
E Corp	Phillip Price	phillip.price.belson@e-corp.com	Customer	No
Entertainment 720	Tom Haverford	tom@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Entertainment 720	Jean Ralphio Saperstein	jean@entertainment720.com	Customer	Yes
Globex	Hank Scorpio	hankscorpio@globex.com	Customer	No
Hooli	Gavin Belson	gavin.belson@hooli.com	Customer	No
InGen	Simon Masrani	simon.masrani@ingenieria.com	Partner	Yes

Figure 4-58. Preview table data using the Test Extraction option

Delay between pages: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration is useful when data spans multiple pages, and after opening the next page, data takes some time to load. You can specify how long (in seconds) you want to wait before extracting data from the next page.

Maximum results: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the maximum number of results you want to extract. By default, this is 100.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Extract Table Data activity to read all contacts from all pages of the table.

Source Code: Chapter_4_TableDataExtractionExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter <https://therapbook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/> in the address bar.
2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to a blank process.
3. Next, click Indicate application in the Use Application/Browser activity card, and point your mouse to the browser. This will automatically populate the activity card.
4. Next, select the Use Application/Browser activity card, and from Properties, set the Options ► Open property to Always. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Next, add an Extract Table Data activity to the Use Application/Browser activity.
6. Next, in the Extract Table Data activity, click the Indicate target on screen (I) link. This will start the table data extraction wizard, shown in Figure 4-59.

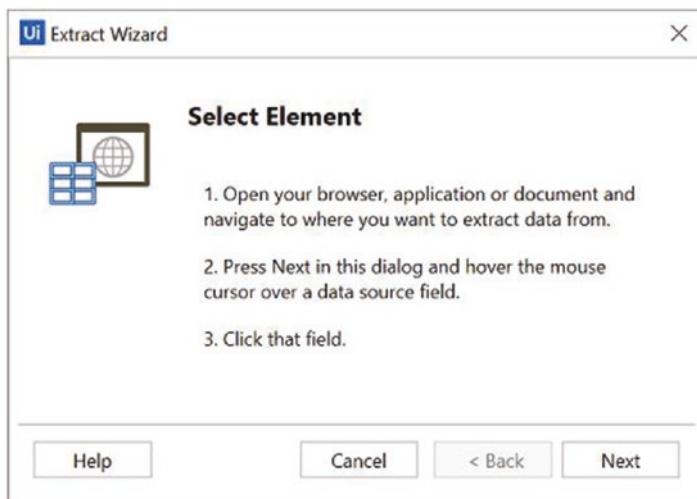


Figure 4-59. Extract Wizard – initial window

7. Next, on the Extract Wizard dialog, click the Next button.
8. At this point, the Extract Wizard will prompt you to select a column of the table. Click the Company column, as shown in Figure 4-60.



Figure 4-60. Extract Wizard – column selection

9. Next, the Extract Wizard will prompt you to confirm if you want to extract all columns of the specified table or just the column that you selected, shown in Figure 4-61. Click Yes.

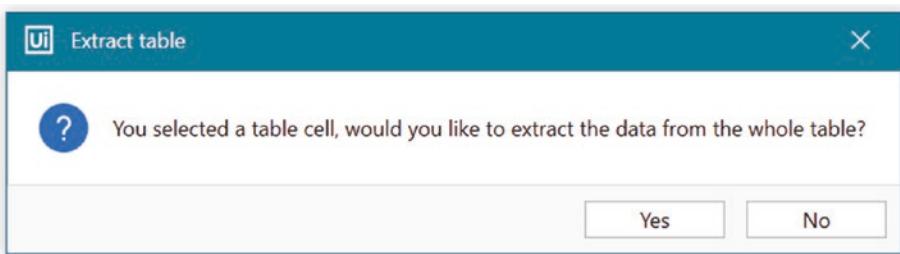


Figure 4-61. Extract Wizard – prompt to confirm data extraction from a single column or the entire table

10. Next, the Extract Wizard will show you the data it was able to extract, shown in Figure 4-62. If the data looks accurate, that is, you are not missing any columns, then click Finish.

The screenshot shows the "Extract Wizard" dialog box with the title "Extract Wizard". The main area is titled "Preview Data" and displays a table of extracted data. The table has columns: Company, Contact, Email, Relationship, and Primary Contact?. The data includes entries from various companies like Burns Industries, Delos Inc, Dunder Mifflin, E Corp, etc., with details for each contact such as name, email, relationship type (e.g., Partner, Customer), and whether they are the primary contact. At the bottom of the preview area are buttons for "Edit Data Definition" and "Maximum number of results (0 for all)" with a value of "100". Below the preview are buttons for "Help", "Cancel", "< Back", and "Finish".

Company	Contact	Email	Relationship	Primary Contact?
Burns Industries	Charles Montgomery	charles.montgomery	Partner	Yes
Delos Inc	James Delos	james.delos@delosin	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Michael Scott	mscott@dundermiffl	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Dwight Schrute	dschrute@dundermil	Partner	Yes
E Corp	Phillip Price	phillip.price.belson@	Customer	No
Entertainment 720	Tom Haverford	tom@entertainment	Customer	Yes
Entertainment 720	Jean Ralphio Saperst	jean@entertainment	Customer	Yes
Globex	Hank Scorpio	hankscorpio@globex	Customer	No
Hooli	Gavin Belson	gavin.belson@hooli.i	Customer	No
InGen	Simon Masrani	simon.masrani@inge	Partner	Yes

Figure 4-62. Extract Wizard – preview extracted data

11. Next, the Extract Wizard will prompt another message, shown in Figure 4-63, asking you to confirm if the data spans multiple pages. In the case of this example, it does, so click Yes.

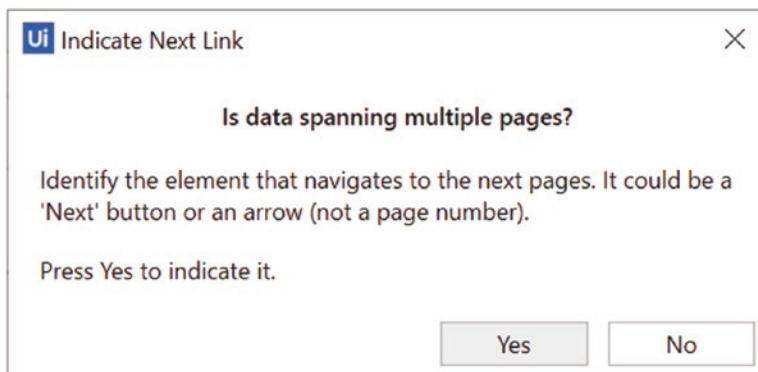


Figure 4-63. Extract Wizard – confirm if data spans multiple pages

12. At this point, you will select the Next button on the Contacts List screen, shown in Figure 4-64. This button will allow the automation to move to the next page of data. This completes the extraction configuration.



Figure 4-64. Extract Wizard – select the data navigation UI element

13. Next, in the Extract to field, select Copy to clipboard option.
14. Next, add a Write Line activity at the end. In the Text field, click the Plus icon, and select Paste from clipboard option.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Extract Table Data** activity should resemble Figure 4-65. Figure 4-66 shows the data extracted from the table by using the Write Line activity to print to the Output panel.

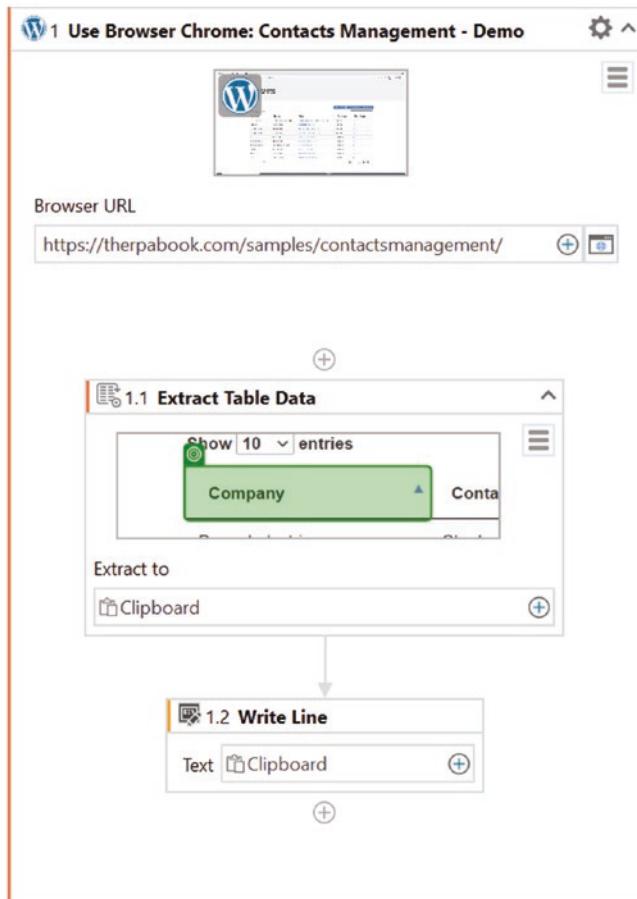
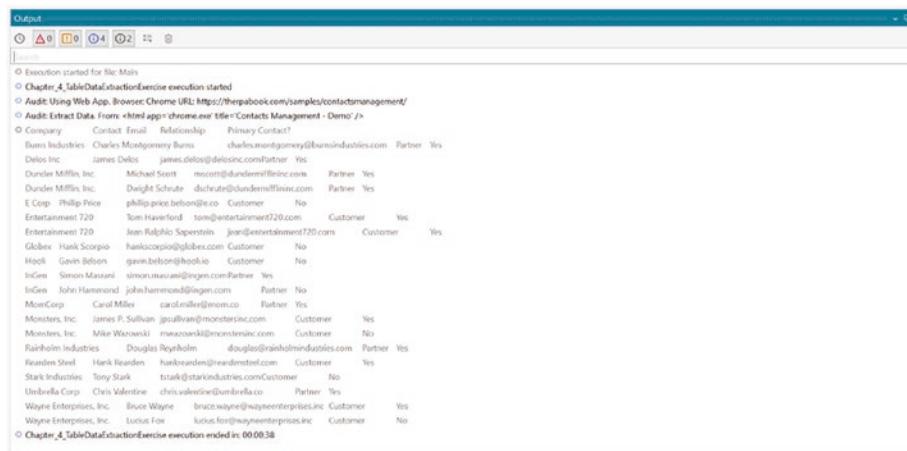


Figure 4-65. Final configuration of Extract Table Data activity exercise

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The screenshot shows the RoboBrowser interface with the title bar "Output". Below it is a toolbar with icons for back, forward, search, and refresh. The main area displays the output of an "Extract Table Data" exercise. The output is a list of contacts from the "contactsmanagement" demo. Each contact entry includes the company name, first name, last name, email address, role, and partner status. The entries are as follows:

Company	Contact	Email	Relationship	Primary Contact?
Bums Industries	Charles Montgomery Burns	charles.montgomery@bumsindustries.com	Partner	Yes
Delos Inc.	James Delos	james.delos@delosinc.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Michael Scott	michael@dundermifflininc.com	Partner	Yes
Dunder Mifflin, Inc.	Dwight Schrute	dwight@dundermifflininc.com	Partner	Yes
E Corp - Philip Price	philip.price@eltoncorp.co	Customer	No	
Entertainment 220	Tom Haverford	tom@entertainment220.com	Customer	Yes
Entertainment 220	Jen Ralphi Separated	jen@entertainment220.com	Customer	Yes
Globe - Hank Scopio	hankscopio@globe.com	Customer	No	
Hook - Gavin Belson	gavin.belson@hookslife.com	Customer	No	
InGee	Simon Manari	simon.manari@ingee.com	Partner	Yes
InGee	John Hammond	john.hammond@ingee.com	Partner	No
MooreCorp	Carol Miller	carol.miller@mooreco.co	Partner	Yes
Monsters, Inc.	James P. Sullivan	jpsullivan@monstersinc.com	Customer	Yes
Monsters, Inc.	Mike Wazowski	mike.wazowski@monstersinc.com	Customer	No
Rainholm Industries	Douglas Heyholm	douglas@rainholmindustries.com	Partner	Yes
Rearden Steel	Mark Rearden	mark.rearden@reardensteel.com	Customer	Yes
Stark Industries	Tony Stark	tsark@starkindustries.com	Customer	No
Umbrella Corp	Chris Valentine	chris.valentine@umbrella.co	Partner	Yes
Wayne Enterprises, Inc.	Bruce Wayne	bruce.wayne@wayneenterprisesinc	Customer	Yes
Wayne Enterprises, Inc.	Lucus Fox	lucus.fox@wayneenterprisesinc	Customer	No

At the bottom of the output window, it says "Chapter_4_TableData\action\Exercise execution ended in: 00:00:38".

Figure 4-66. Output of the Extract Table Data activity exercise

Hover

The **Hover** activity allows you to hover over a specified element on the UI.

Tip The Hover activity is typically going to be used with a Click activity. For example, most modern web applications use hover menus, but you need to click a menu item to open it.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Hover** activity, shown in Figure 4-67.



Figure 4-67. Activity card for Hover

Indicate target on screen (I): This is a mandatory configuration available from the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify an element on the UI that you want to hover over.

Duration: This is an optional configuration available from the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify how long (in seconds) you want to hover over the specified element.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Hover activity to open the Download menu, and use the Click activity to initiate the download of contacts data in Excel format. Use a Wait for Download activity to monitor file download.

Source Code: Chapter_4_MenuHoverExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/> in the address bar.
2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to a blank process.

3. Next, click Indicate application in the Use Application/Browser activity card, and point your mouse to the browser. This will automatically populate the activity card.
4. Next, select the Use Application/Browser activity card, and from Properties, set the Options ► Open property to Always. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Next, add the Hover activity within the Use Application/Browser activity.
6. Next, in the Hover activity, click Indicate target on screen (I) link to select the Download button. Once you have selected the target element, use the View Contact button as an anchor. At this point, your selection should resemble Figure 4-68. Click the Confirm button.



Figure 4-68. Target and anchor for the Company field

7. Next, in the Duration field, click the Plus icon, select the Number option, and type 3 seconds.
8. Next, add a Wait for Download activity to the body of Use Application/Browser activity right after the Hover activity.
9. Next, in the Downloaded file field, click the Plus icon, select Save for Later Use, and name your saved value as DownloadedFile.
10. Leave the Monitored folder field as is.

11. Next, add a Click activity to the body of Wait for Download activity.
12. Next, in the Click activity, click Indicate target on screen (I) link to specify the Excel option from the Download menu. This is not going to be straightforward, because when you are in element selection mode, hover will not work, and you will not be able to select the Excel download option. To make this work, after you click Indicate, you must pause the selection process by pressing F2. While the selection process is paused, hover over the Download button, and make sure you are pointing your mouse on the Excel option. Once the selection process resumes, you will be able to select the Excel option and use the CSV option as an anchor. At this point, your selection should look like Figure 4-69. Click the Confirm button.

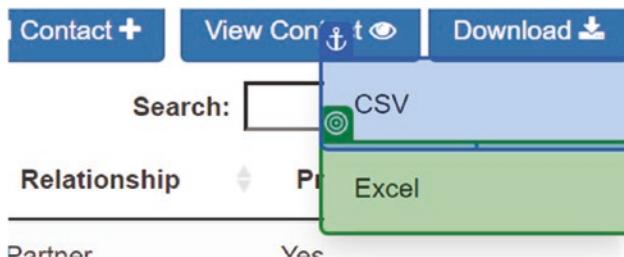


Figure 4-69. Hover menu selection

13. Next, add a Write Line activity to the body of Use Application/Browser activity after the Wait for Download activity.
14. Next, in the Text field of the Write Line activity, click the Plus icon, select Text option, and type File downloaded at path: DownloadedFile > Full Name. You will need to use the saved value DownloadedFile to display the path of the downloaded file.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of all activities should resemble Figure 4-70. Figure 4-71 shows the full path of the downloaded file in the Output panel.

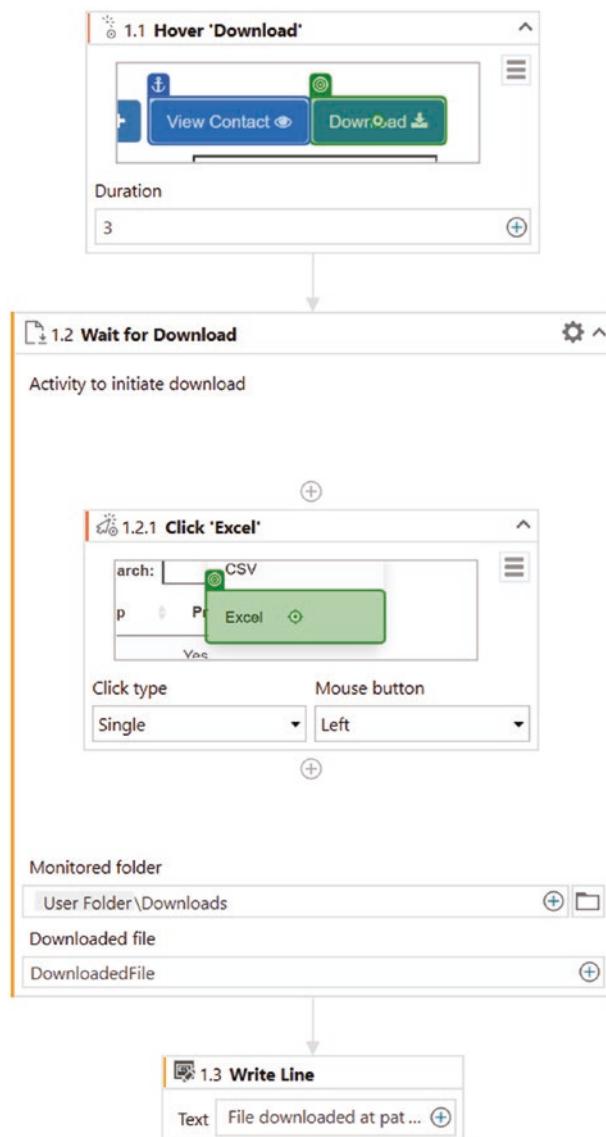


Figure 4-70. Final configuration of Hover activity exercise



Figure 4-71. Output of the Hover activity exercise

Keyboard Shortcuts

The **Keyboard Shortcuts** activity allows you to send one or multiple keyboard shortcuts to a UI element.

Tip Keyboard shortcuts can be used while automating legacy applications or in scenarios where you are unable to click a UI element. This activity should not be used as the default navigation mechanism.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Keyboard Shortcuts** activity, shown in Figure 4-72.

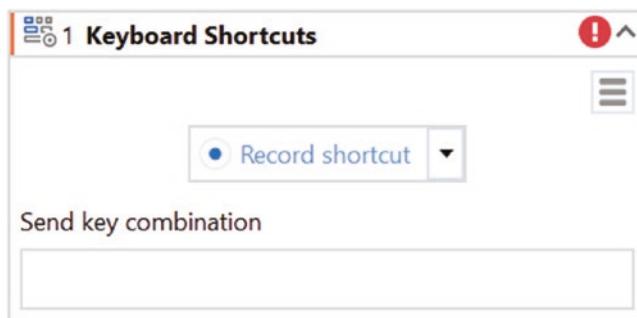


Figure 4-72. Activity card for Keyboard Shortcuts

Indicate target on screen (I): This is an optional configuration available from the menu of the activity. Your automation needs to be already interacting with a UI element to send keyboard shortcuts. You can either use an activity like Click or specify a UI element using this Indicate target on screen (I) link.

Record shortcut: This is a required configuration available on the activity card. This configuration allows you to specify the actual shortcuts that you want to send. Figure 4-73 shows the three options for specifying keyboard shortcuts.

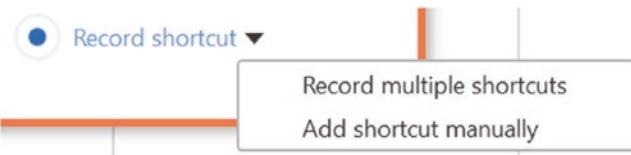


Figure 4-73. Available options for recording shortcuts

First, you can use the Record shortcut option to record a single keyboard shortcut. As soon as you click this option, the recording starts, as shown in Figure 4-74.

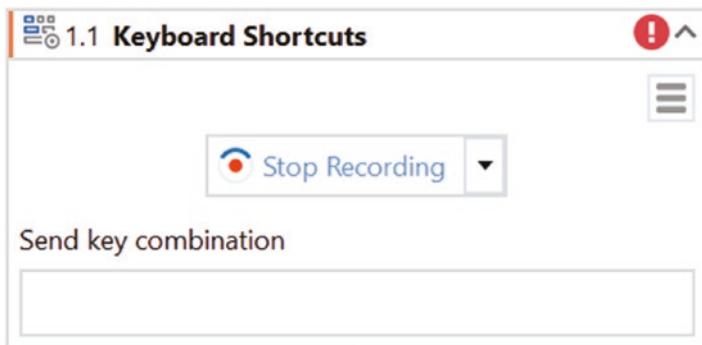


Figure 4-74. Recording in the progress indicator

The next keystroke you type will be recorded as your shortcut. Figure 4-75 shows the result of the recording.

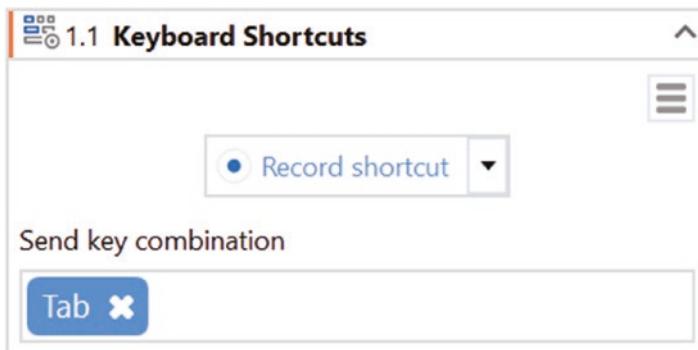


Figure 4-75. Results of single keyboard shortcut recording

Second, you can use Record multiple shortcuts to record one or multiple keyboard shortcuts. The recording process is the same as the previous option. In this option, the recording does not stop after a single keyboard shortcut. Figure 4-76 shows how the activity looks after multiple shortcuts are captured.

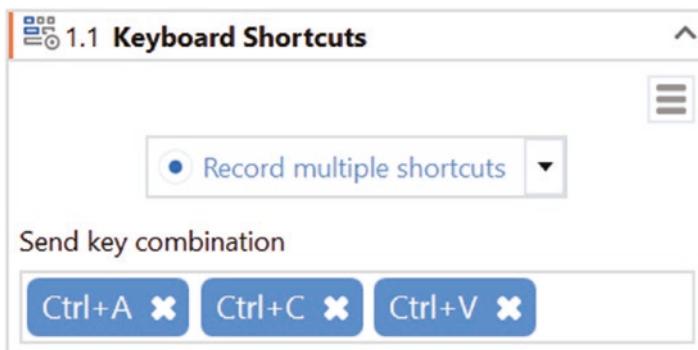


Figure 4-76. Results of multiple keyboard shortcuts recording

Finally, if you are having difficulty recording your shortcuts, you can use the Add a shortcut manually option to send one or multiple shortcuts to the specified UI element. Figure 4-77 shows all the options available to create shortcuts, while Figure 4-78 shows how the activity looks after a single shortcut has been added.

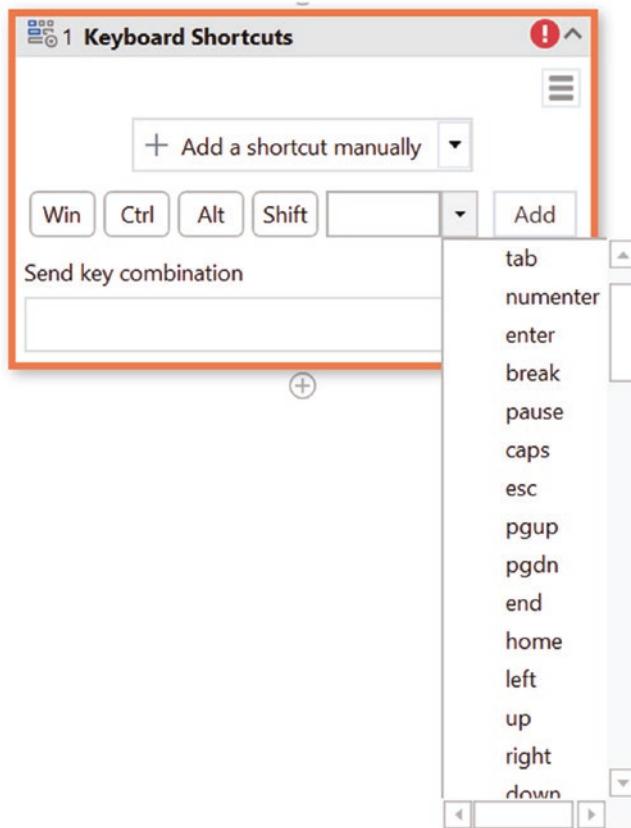


Figure 4-77. Available options for manually adding shortcuts

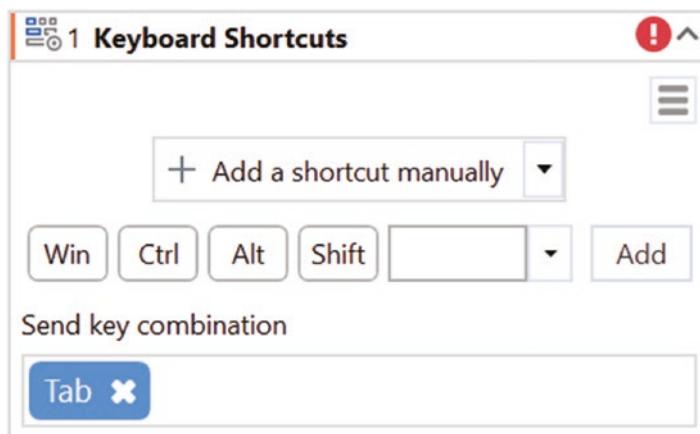


Figure 4-78. Results of manually adding keyboard shortcuts

Click before typing: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to perform a Single or Double click on the UI element before sending keyboard shortcuts. By default, this is set to None.

Delay between shortcuts: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the delay (in seconds) between multiple keyboard shortcuts. By default, this is empty, that is, no delay is set.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Keyboard Shortcuts activity to navigate between text fields of Contact Details dialog and enter data.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataEntryKeyShortcutsExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/> in the address bar.

2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to a blank process.
3. Next, click Indicate application in the Use Application/Browser activity card, and point your mouse to the browser. This will automatically populate the activity card.
4. Next, select the Use Application/Browser activity card, and from Properties, set the Options ► Open property to Always. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Next, add a Click activity within the Use Application/Browser activity and configure it to click the Add Contact button (see Click activity exercise).
6. Before proceeding, make sure the Add Contact dialog is open.
7. When the dialog is opened, by default, none of the elements are active, so you cannot be sure to which element the automation will send keyboard shortcuts. To ensure that there is a known starting point, add another Click activity within the Use Application/Browser activity. Configure it to click the title of the dialog, that is, Contact Details.
8. Next, add a Keyboard Shortcuts activity right after the Click activity. This will make the automation move to the first field in the form. Use the Record shortcut feature to record a single Tab.
9. Next, add a Type Into activity. Click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type Delos Inc. Click Save.
10. Next, add another Keyboard Shortcuts activity. This will make the automation move to the next field in the form. Use the Record shortcut feature to record a single Tab.

11. Next, add a Type Into activity. Click the Plus icon, select the Text option, and type James Delos. Click Save.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Keyboard Shortcuts** activity should resemble Figure 4-79. Figure 4-80 shows the state of the target web application once the automation has completed its run. In this case, data in the Company and Contact fields have been entered.



Figure 4-79. Final configuration of Keyboard Shortcuts activity exercise

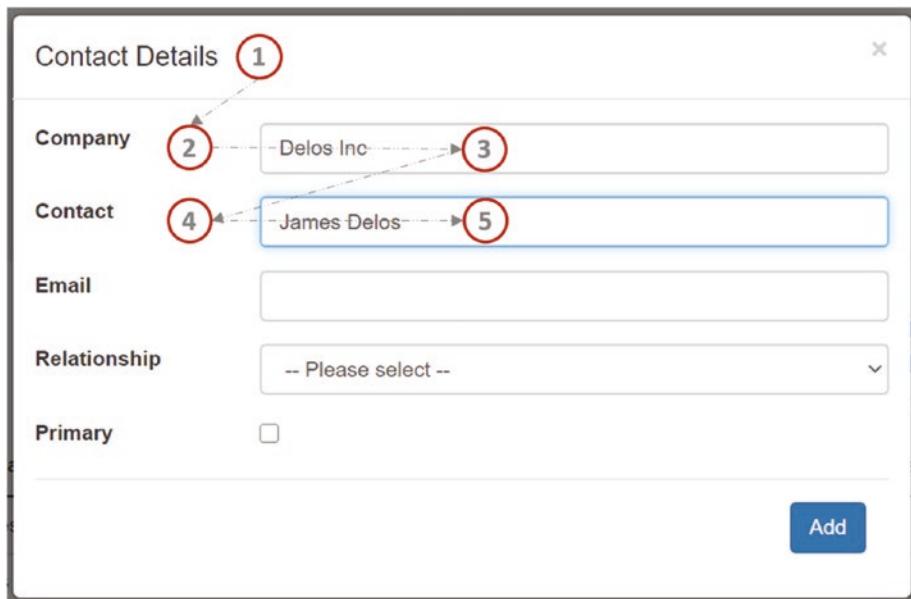


Figure 4-80. Result of the Keyboard Shortcuts activity exercise

The next group of activities of this chapter are focused on window manipulation. The Get Active Window activity can be used to reference the current active window to enable you to perform multiple actions. For example, once you have the active window, you can choose to maximize, hide, restore, or move that window within your automation.

Get Active Window

The **Get Active Window** activity allows you to get a reference to the window currently active on the machine where the automation is running. This activity can be used in instance you need to get the active window to later minimize or maximize it within your automation.

Note This activity does not need to be nested inside a Use Application/Browser activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Get Active Window** activity, shown in Figure 4-81.

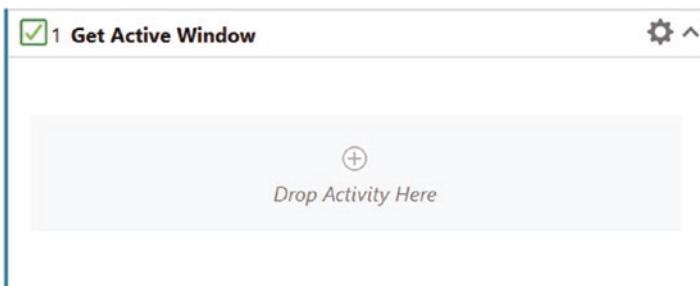


Figure 4-81. Activity card for Get Active Window

ApplicationWindow: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to save a reference to the active window for use later.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Get Active Window activity to get a reference of the Contacts Management application window.

Source Code: Chapter_4_WindowOperationsExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactsmanagement/> in the address bar.
2. In StudioX, add the Use Application/Browser activity to the Designer panel.

3. Next, click `Indicate application` in the Use Application/Browser activity card, and point your mouse to the browser. This will automatically populate the activity card.
4. Next, select the Use Application/Browser activity card, and from Properties, set the Options ► Open property to Always. This will ensure that the automation always opens a new browser.
5. Next, add the Get Active Window activity after the Use Application/Browser activity.
6. Next, in the Properties panel of Get Active Window activity, click the Plus icon in the ApplicationWindow field. Click Save for Later Use and name the variable as `ActiveWindow`.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Get Active Window** activity should resemble Figure 4-82.

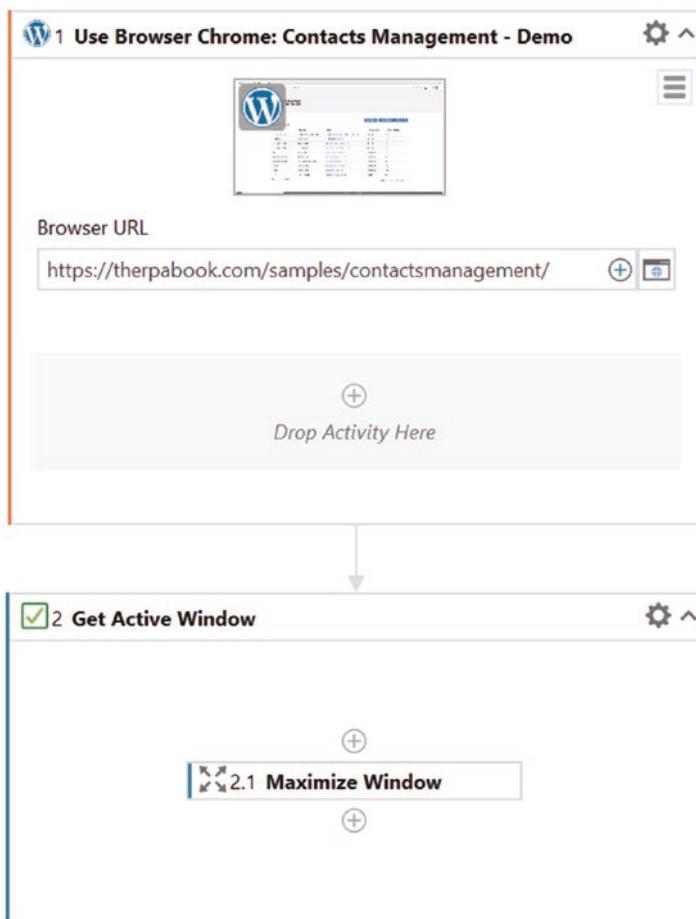


Figure 4-82. Final configuration of the Get Active Window exercise

Maximize Window

The **Maximize Window** activity allows you to maximize the specified window.

Note This activity is usually nested inside a Use Application/Browser activity or a Get Active Window activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Maximize Window** activity, shown in Figure 4-83.



Figure 4-83. Activity card for Maximize Window

Window: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the window that you want to maximize. The reference to window can be obtained using Get Active Window activity.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Maximize Window activity to maximize the Contacts Management application window. This exercise builds upon the previous exercise for Get Active Window activity.

Source Code: Chapter_4_WindowOperationsExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Maximize Window activity inside the Get Active Window activity.
2. Next, in the Properties panel of Maximize Window activity, click the Plus icon in the Window field. Hover over Use Saved Value and select ActiveWindow.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Maximize Window** activity should resemble Figure 4-84.

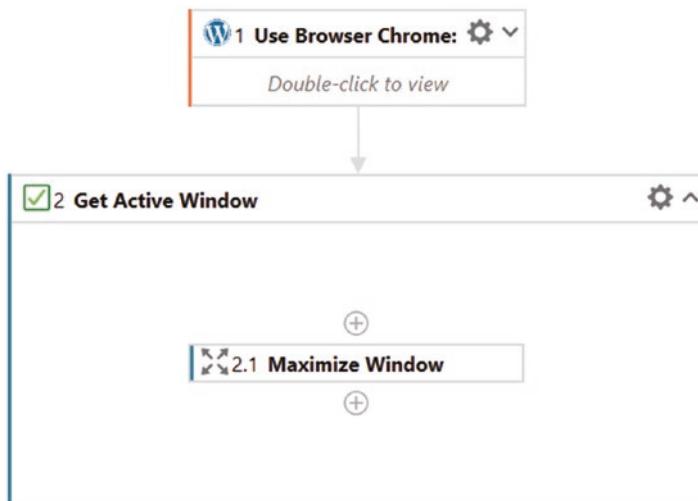


Figure 4-84. Final configuration of the Maximize Window activity exercise

Minimize Window

The **Minimize Window** activity allows you to minimize the specified window.

Note This activity does not need to be nested inside a Use Application/Browser activity or a Get Active Window activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Minimize Window** activity, shown in Figure 4-85.



Figure 4-85. Activity card for Minimize Window

Window: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the window that you want to minimize. The reference to window can be obtained using Get Active Window activity.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Minimize Window activity to minimize the Contacts Management application window. This exercise builds upon the previous exercise for Maximize Window activity.

Source Code: Chapter_4_WindowOperationsExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Delay activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Maximize Window activity. Update the Duration field to 3 seconds. We are adding a slight delay just so that we can see the operations happening; otherwise, this is not needed.
2. Next, add the Minimize Window activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Delay activity.

3. In the Properties panel of Minimize Window activity, click the Plus icon in the Window field. Hover over Use Saved Value and select ActiveWindow.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Minimize Window** activity should resemble Figure 4-86.

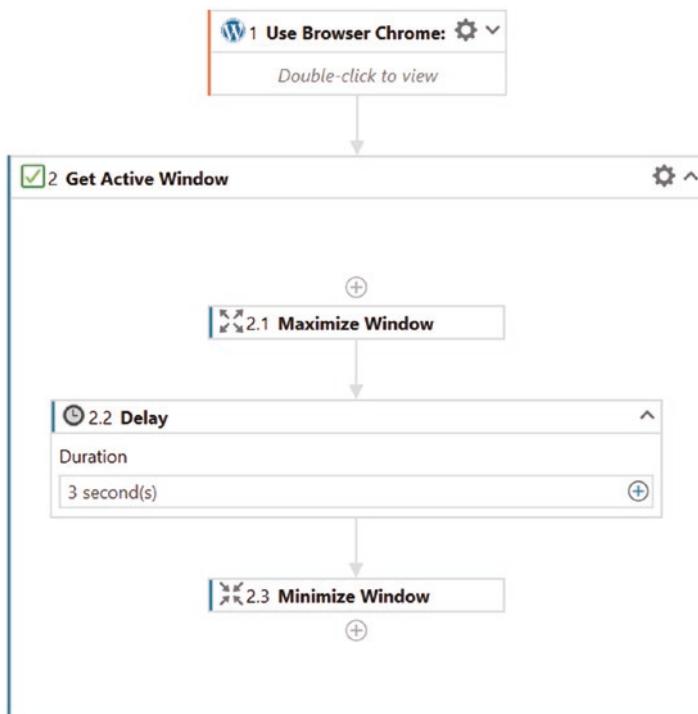


Figure 4-86. Final configuration of the Minimize Window activity exercise

Hide Window

The **Hide Window** activity allows you to hide the specified window.

Note This activity does not need to be nested inside a Use Application/Browser activity or a Get Active Window activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Hide Window** activity, shown in Figure 4-87.



Figure 4-87. Activity card for Hide Window

Window: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the window that you want to hide. The reference to window can be obtained using Get Active Window activity.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Hide Window activity to hide the Contacts Management application window. This exercise builds upon the previous exercise for Minimize Window activity.

Source Code: Chapter_4_WindowOperationsExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Delay activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Minimize Window activity. Update the Duration field to 3 seconds. We are adding a slight delay just so that we can see the operations happening; otherwise, this is not needed.

2. Next, add the Hide Window activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Delay activity.
3. In the Properties panel of Hide Window activity, click the Plus icon in the Window field. Hover over Use Saved Value and select ActiveWindow.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Hide Window** activity should resemble Figure 4-88.



Figure 4-88. Final configuration of the Hide Window activity exercise

Restore Window

The **Restore Window** activity allows you to restore the specified window.

Note This activity does not need to be nested inside a Use Application/Browser activity or a Get Active Window activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Restore Window** activity, shown in Figure 4-89.



Figure 4-89. Activity card for Restore Window

Window: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the window that you want to restore. The reference to window can be obtained using Get Active Window activity.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Restore Window activity to restore the Contacts Management application window. This exercise builds upon the previous exercise for Hide Window activity.

Source Code: Chapter_4_WindowOperationsExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Delay activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Minimize Window activity. Update the Duration field to 3 seconds. We are adding a slight delay just so that we can see the operations happening; otherwise, this is not needed.
2. Next, add the Restore Window activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Delay activity.
3. In the Properties panel of Minimize Window activity, click the Plus icon in the Window field. Hover over Use Saved Value and select ActiveWindow.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Restore Window** activity should resemble Figure 4-90.

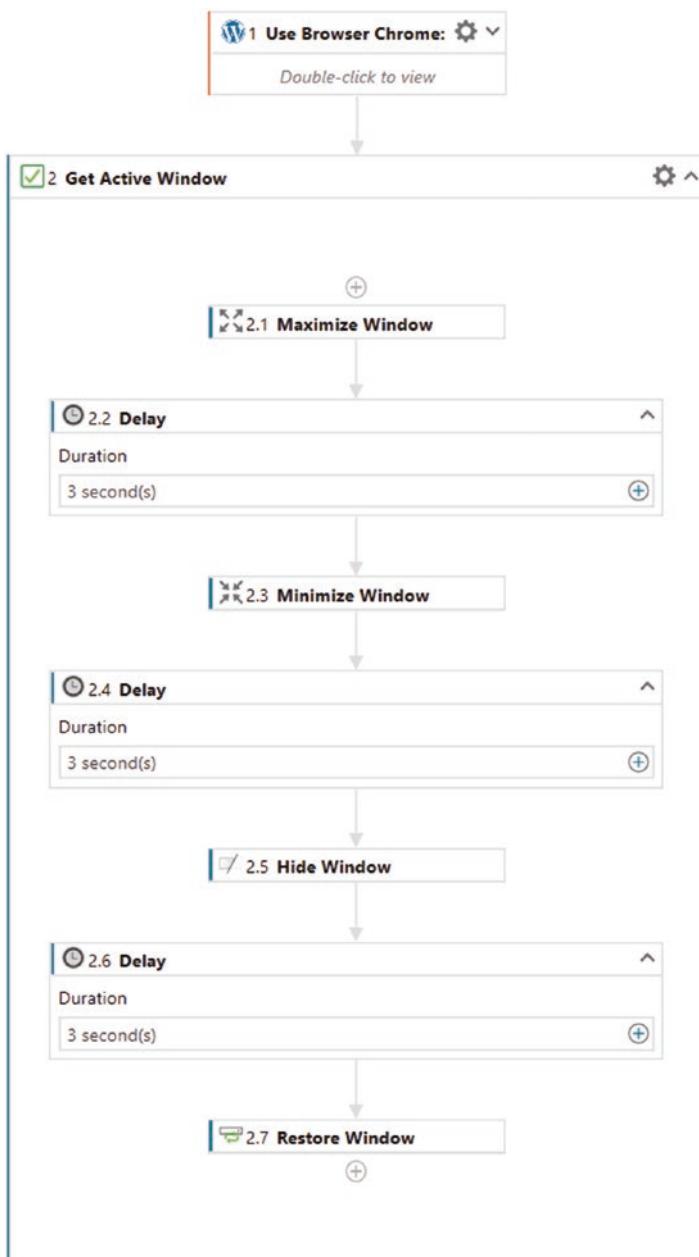


Figure 4-90. Final configuration of the Restore Window activity exercise

Move Window

The **Mode Window** activity allows you to change the size of the specified and move the specified window to a new position on the screen.

Note This activity does not need to be nested inside a Use Application/Browser activity or a Get Active Window activity.

Configuration

This section provides instructions on how to configure a **Move Window** activity, shown in Figure 4-91.



Figure 4-91. Activity card for Move Window

Window: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the window that you want to minimize. The reference to window can be obtained using Get Active Window activity.

Height: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the new height of the window.

Width: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the new width of the window.

X: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the new X position of the window.

Y: This is an optional configuration available on the Properties panel. This configuration allows you to specify the new Y position of the window.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the Move Window activity to reduce the screen size of the Contacts Management application to 500 x 500 and move it to X: 100 and Y: 100 location.

Source Code: Chapter_4_WindowOperationsExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. In StudioX, add the Delay activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Restore Window activity. Update the Duration field to 3 seconds. We are adding a slight delay just so that we can see the operations happening; otherwise, this is not needed.
2. Next, add the Move Window activity inside the Get Active Window activity after the Delay activity.
3. In the Properties panel of Move Window activity, click the Plus icon in the Window field. Hover over Use Saved Value and select ActiveWindow.
4. In the Height field, click the Plus icon, select the Number option, and type 500.
5. In the Width field, click the Plus icon, select the Number option, and type 500.
6. In the X field, click the Plus icon, select the Number option, and type 100.
7. In the Y field, click the Plus icon, select the Number option, and type 100.

Once you have completed the exercise, the final configuration of the **Move Window** activity should resemble Figure 4-92.

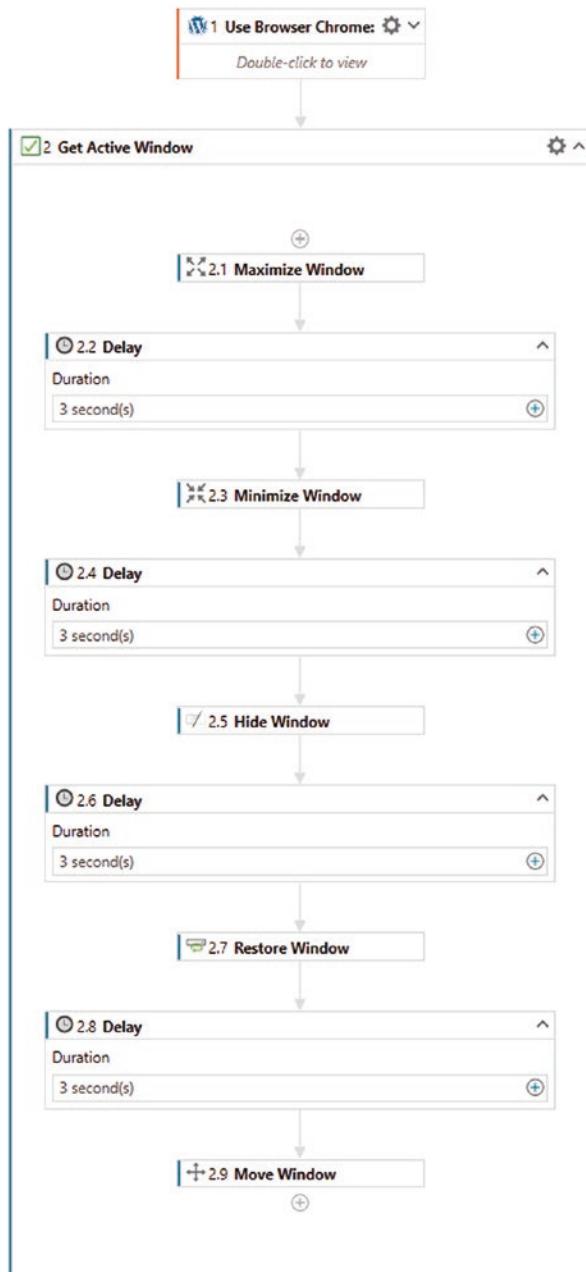


Figure 4-92. Final configuration of the Move Window activity exercise

App/Web Recorder

In this section, we are going to generate simple automation using the **App/Web Recorder** feature.

EXERCISE

Goal: Use the App/Web Recorder feature to generate automation for adding a new contact.

Source Code: Chapter_4_FormDataEntryRecorderExercise

Setup: Here are step-by-step implementation instructions:

1. Open a browser of your choice and enter <https://therpabook.com/samples/contactmanagement/> in the address bar.
2. Next, click App/Web Recorder menu from the ribbon on top. This will launch the App/Web Recorder menu, shown in Figure 4-93.

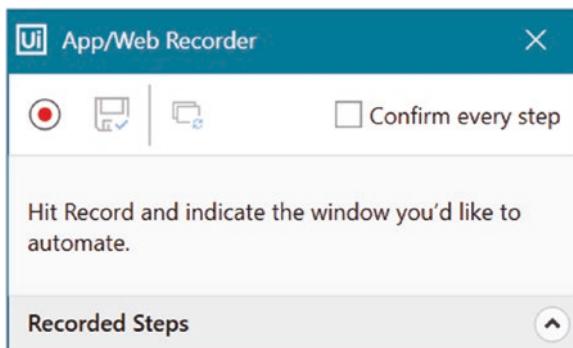


Figure 4-93. App/Web Recorder menu