

CMPS 312



Supabase Cloud Services



Database



Authentication



Storage

Dr. Abdelkarim Erradi

CSE@QU

Outline

1. Supabase Database
2. CRUD Operations
3. File Storage
4. Authentication
5. Access Image Gallery and Camera







Backend-as-Service (BaaS)

- **Purpose:** Provide ready-made backend for web & mobile apps
- **Benefits:**
 - No need to build/manage servers, databases, or APIs
 - Speeds up development and reduces infrastructure complexity & cost
 - Allows developers focus on frontend and core business logic
- **Common Features:** User authentication, Managed databases, File storage, Serverless functions, Notifications & analytics
- **Examples:** Supabase Firebase AWS Amplify



What is Supabase?

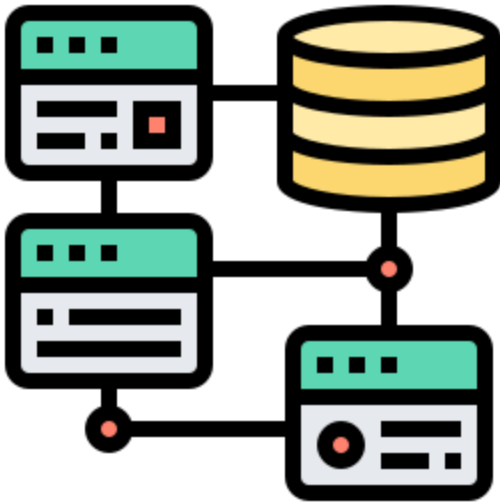
Supabase = Open-source Backend-as-a-Service (BaaS) built on PostgreSQL. Core Features:

-  Database: Managed PostgreSQL with Row-Level Security (RLS)
-  Authentication: Secure user sign-in via email/password & OAuth providers
-  Storage: Scalable file storage with public/signed URLs
-  Realtime: Listen to database changes in real time
-  Edge Functions: Deploy serverless functions for custom logic
-  Developer Tools: SDKs for **Flutter/Dart**, JavaScript, and more

Getting Started

- Add `supabase_flutter` to `pubspec.yaml`
- Initialize Supabase in `main.dart`
 - This Enables database, authentication, and storage features in your Flutter app.

```
await Supabase.initialize(  
  url: 'https://your-project.supabase.co',  
  anonKey: 'your-anon-key',  
);
```



Supabase Database

Supabase Database

- Managed PostgreSQL: Includes SQL, views, triggers, policies, and functions
- Auto-Generated REST & GraphQL APIs for instant access
 - Use `.from('table')` to work with tables
- Schema First Design: Create tables via SQL or Supabase dashboard
- Row-Level Security (RLS) with customizable policies

```
// Fetching data
final response = await Supabase.instance.client
    .from('profiles')
    .select()
    .execute();
```



Creating Database Table

- Design tables using SQL scripts or Supabase dashboard (visual editor)

-- Example table: todos

```
create table if not exists public.todos (  
  id uuid primary key default gen_random_uuid(),  
  description text not null,  
  -- Enforce data integrity with constraints  
  type text not null check (type in  
    ('personal', 'work', 'family')),  
  completed boolean not null default false,  
  -- Use timestamps for tracking  
  created_at timestamptz not null default now(),  
  -- Link todos to authenticated users  
  user_id uuid references auth.users(id)  
);
```


Row Level Security (RLS)

- RLS: Ensures users can only access and modify their own data

-- Enable RLS on the table

```
alter table public.todos enable row level security;
```

-- Policy: Read own rows

```
create policy "read own" on public.todos  
  for select using (auth.uid() = user_id);
```

-- Policy: Modify own rows

```
create policy "modify own" on public.todos  
  for all using (auth.uid() = user_id);
```



CRUD Operations



CREATE



READ



UPDATE



DELETE

C

R

U

D

CRUD

CRUD

- Create: Add new records
 - Read: Retrieve existing records
 - Update: Modify existing records
 - Delete: Remove records
-
- In Supabase perform CRUD via the auto-generated REST APIs

```
// Create
await Supabase.instance.client
  .from('tasks')
  .insert({'title': 'New Task'})
  .execute();

// Update
await Supabase.instance.client
  .from('tasks')
  .update({'done': true})
  .eq('id', 1)
  .execute();

// Delete
await Supabase.instance.client
  .from('tasks')
  .delete()
  .eq('id', 1)
  .execute();
```



Database CRUD Operations

```
final client = Supabase.instance.client;
// CREATE
Future<void> addTodo(Todo todo) async {
  await client.from('todos').insert(todo.toJson());
}
// READ (List)
Future<List<Todo>> getTodos() async {
  final data = await client.from('todos').select().order('created_at', ascending: false);
  return (data as List).map((j) => Todo.fromJson(j)).toList();
}
// READ (single)
Future<Todo?> getTodoById(String id) async {
  final json = await client.from('todos').select().eq('id', id).maybeSingle();
  return json == null ? null : Todo.fromJson(json);
}
// UPDATE
Future<void> updateTodo(Todo todo) async {
  await client.from('todos').update(todo.toJson()).eq('id', todo.id);
}
// DELETE
Future<void> deleteTodo(String id) async {
  await client.from('todos').delete().eq('id', id);
}
// COUNT
Future<int> getTodosCount() async {
  final res = await client.from('todos').select().count(CountOption.exact);
  return res.count;
}
```

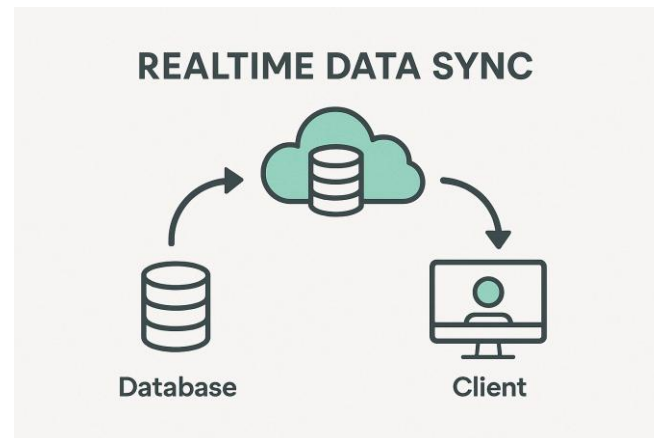
Best Practices

- Implement data access in repositories
- Expose SupabaseClient as a provider
- Paginate with range() for large lists
- Use select() projections to limit payload
- Always handle errors (try/catch) and show user-friendly messages



Real-Time Data Updates

- **What It Does:** Streams database changes instantly to connected clients
 - Enables **instant updates** without manual refresh, improving user engagement
- **Key Use Cases:** Live chat applications, Real-time dashboards, Multiplayer games
- **Best Practices:**
 - Subscribe only to relevant tables/rows to optimize performance
 - Integrate with state management for better user experience (UX)





Listen to Database Realtime Updates

Postgrest Stream:

```
.from('table').stream(primaryKey: ['id'])
```

Stream for ToDo list

```
Stream<List<Todo>> observeTodos() {  
  final client = Supabase.instance.client;  
  return client  
    .from('todos')  
    .stream(primaryKey: ['id'])  
    .order('created_at', ascending: false)  
    .map((rows) =>  
      rows.map(Todo.fromJson).toList());  
}
```

File Storage





File Storage

What It Does:

- Upload, manage, and serve files securely

Key Features:

- Upload/download user files or images
- Create storage buckets via Supabase dashboard
- Define file access rules (public, private, signed URLs)

Common Use Cases:

- Store Profile pictures, Documents, Images

Best Practices

- Use UUID file names to avoid collisions
- Keep buckets private and use signed URLs where possible



File Upload


```
final storage = Supabase.instance.client.storage;
/// Upload an avatar using a file path
Future<String> uploadAvatarFromPath(String filePath, String userId) async {
  final file = File(filePath);
  final fileName =
    'avatars/$userId-${DateTime.now().millisecondsSinceEpoch}.png';
  await storage.from('avatars').upload(fileName, file,
    fileOptions: const FileOptions(contentType: 'image/png'),
  );
  // If bucket is public → returns public URL
  return storage.from('avatars').getPublicUrl(fileName);
}
```

```
// Signed URL for private buckets
Future<Uri> getSignedUrl(String path,
  {Duration ttl = const Duration(minutes: 5)}) async {
  final signedUrl = await storage
    .from('avatars')
    .createSignedUrl(path, ttl.inSeconds);
  return Uri.parse(signedUrl);
}
```

List files in a bucket

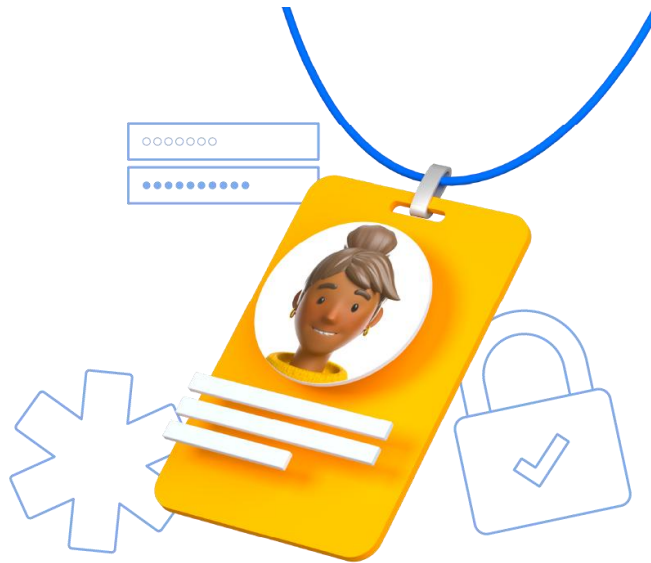
- Get URLs of files in particular subfolder

```
Future<List<String>> getImageUrls() async {  
    final storage = Supabase.instance.client.storage;  
    final files = await storage.from('images').list(path: '');  
    return files.map((f) =>  
        storage.from('images').getPublicUrl(f.name)).toList();  
}
```

 If the bucket is **private**, use signed URLs instead:

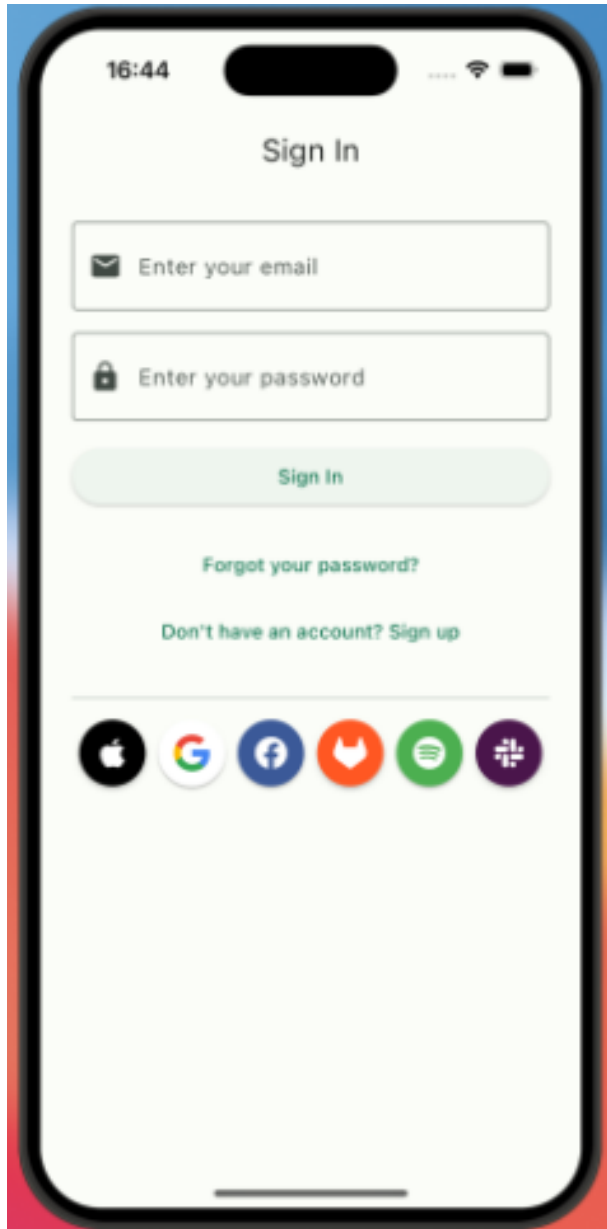
```
Future<List<String>> getImageUrls() async {  
    final storage = Supabase.instance.client.storage;  
    final files = await storage.from('images').list(path: '');  
    return Future.wait(files.map((f) =>  
        storage.from('images').createSignedUrl(f.name, 3600)));  
}
```

Authentication



Authentication

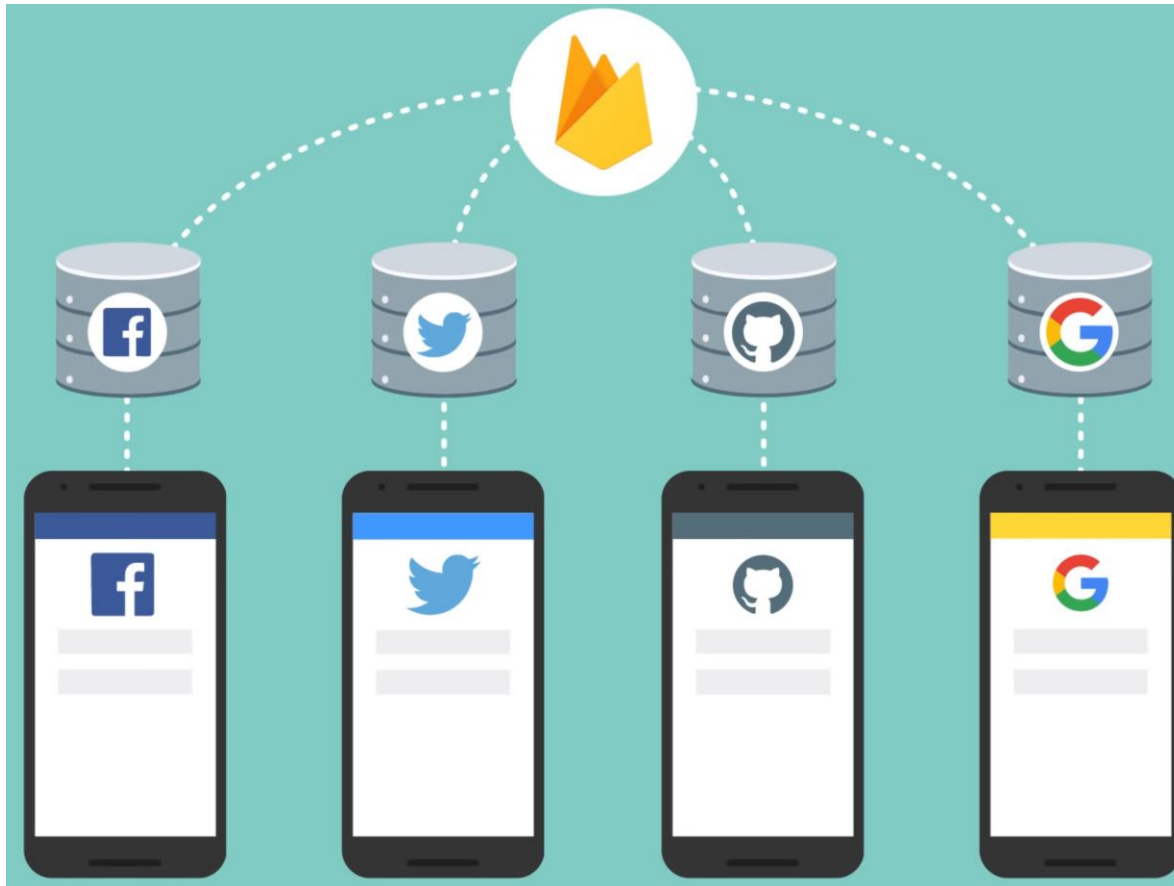
- **Authentication = Identity verification:**
 - Verify the identity of the user given the credentials received
 - Making sure the user is who he claims to be
- Every user gets a unique ID
- Restrict who can read and write what data





Authentication

- Email/password, OTP/magic links, and Auth providers (Google, Apple, etc.)
 - User sign-up, login, session management, password reset
 - Session-based auth with refresh tokens



Multiple Identity Providers can be used for Authentication



Authentication

```
final auth = Supabase.instance.client.auth;
```

```
// Sign up
```

```
Future<void> signUp(String email, String password) async  
{  
    await auth.signUp(email: email, password: password);  
}
```

```
// Sign in
```

```
Future<void> signIn(String email, String password) async  
{  
    await auth.signInWithPassword(email: email, password:  
password);  
}
```

```
// Sign out
```

```
Future<void> signOut() async {  
    await auth.signOut();  
}
```

Sign up and save Profile data

```
Future<User?> signUp(User user) async {  
  try {
```

```
    final auth = supabase.auth;
```

```
    // ----- 1) Sign up -----
```

```
    final response = await auth.signUp(  
      email: user.email,
```

```
      password: user.password,
```

```
      data: {
```

```
        // Optional metadata stored inside auth.users
```

```
        'firstName': user.firstName,
```

```
        'lastName': user.lastName,
```

```
      },
```

```
    // ----- 2) Save profile -----
```

```
    await supabase.from('profiles').upsert({
```

```
      'id': authUser.id,
```

```
      'first_name': user.firstName,
```

```
      'last_name': user.lastName,
```

```
      'avatar_url': 'http://test.com/spongebob.png',
```

```
    });
```

```
    return response.user;
```

```
  } catch (e) {
```

```
    print('Error during sign up: $e');
```

```
    return null;
```

```
  }
```

```
}
```

```
create table profiles (  
  id uuid primary key references  
    auth.users(id) on delete cascade,  
  first_name text,  
  last_name text,  
  avatar_url text,  
  created_at timestamp default now()  
);
```


Get current user details

- Anywhere in the app you can access the details of current user

```
void getCurrentUser() {  
    User? user = supabase.auth.currentUser;  
    if (user != null) {  
        print('User is signed in! Id: ${user.id}');  
        print('User is signed in! Email: ${user.email}');  
    } else {  
        print('No user is signed in.');    }  
}
```

Listen to auth state

- Real-time Updates: If you need to react to authentication state changes (e.g., a user logs in or out), you should listen to the **onAuthStateChange** stream provided by Supabase Auth

```
supabase.auth.onAuthStateChange.listen((data) {  
  final AuthChangeEvent event = data.event;  
  final Session? session = data.session;  
  
  if (event == AuthChangeEvent.signedIn) {  
    print('User signed in: ${session?.user?.email}');  
  } else if (event == AuthChangeEvent.signedOut) {  
    print('User signed out');  
  }  
  // Handle other events like AuthChangeEvent.userUpdated, etc.  
});
```

Route Auth Guard

- Auth Guard (GoRouter + Riverpod)
- Use guards tied to auth state

```
final authStateProvider = StreamProvider((ref) {  
  return Supabase.instance.client.auth.onAuthStateChange  
    .map((e) => e.session);  
});
```

```
final authGuard = GoRoute(  
  path: '/account',  
  builder: (context, state) => const AccountScreen(),  
  redirect: (context, state) {  
    final session = context.read(authStateProvider).maybeWhen(  
      data: (s) => s,  
      orElse: () => null,  
    );  
    return session == null ? '/signin' : null;  
  },  
);
```



Architecture & Patterns

- Use Riverpod providers to expose repositories

```
final supabaseClientProvider = Provider((ref) =>  
  Supabase.instance.client);
```

```
final todoRepositoryProvider = Provider((ref) {  
  final client = ref.watch(supabaseClientProvider);  
  return TodoRepository(client);  
});
```



Best Practices for Supabase

Security

- Enable **Row-Level Security (RLS)** on all tables
- Apply **least-privilege policies**
- Use **signed URLs** for private assets
- Set **short TTLs** for sensitive files

Performance

- Use **projections** and **pagination**; avoid **SELECT *** in production
- Batch UI updates
- Keep **migration SQL** under version control
- Use **Edge Functions** for server-side logic

Access Image Gallery and Camera



Access Image Gallery and Camera

- Using **image_picker** package for picking images from the image gallery or taking new pictures with the camera

```
Future<File?> pickImage(ImageSource source) async {  
    final imagePicker = ImagePicker();  
    final pickedImage = await imagePicker.pickImage(  
        source: source, // camera or gallery  
        maxWidth: double.infinity,  
    );  
  
    if (pickedImage == null) return null;  
    return File(pickedImage.path);  
}
```

image_picker methods

```
final ImagePicker picker = ImagePicker();  
// Pick an image  
final XFile? image = await picker.pickImage(source: ImageSource.gallery);  
// Capture a photo  
final XFile? photo = await picker.pickImage(source: ImageSource.camera);  
// Pick a video  
final XFile? galleryVideo =  
    await picker.pickVideo(source: ImageSource.gallery);  
// Capture a video  
final XFile? cameraVideo = await picker.pickVideo(source: ImageSource.camera);  
// Pick multiple images  
final List<XFile> images = await picker.pickMultiImage();  
// Pick single image or video  
final XFile? media = await picker.pickMedia();  
// Pick multiple images and videos  
final List<XFile> medias = await picker.pickMultipleMedia();
```


Summary

- **Database:** Store and query app data using tables with defined relationships
- **Authentication:** Built-in backend services for user sign-up and login
 - Supports **email/password** and **Auth providers** (e.g., Google)
- **File Storage:** Securely upload, store, and retrieve files
- **Security:** Protect user data with authentication and authorization policies



References

- Supabase Flutter Docs:
<https://supabase.com/docs/guides/getting-started/quickstarts/flutter>
- Realtime:
<https://supabase.com/docs/guides/realtime>
- Storage:
<https://supabase.com/docs/guides/storage>
- Auth: <https://supabase.com/docs/guides/auth>
- RLS Policies:
<https://supabase.com/docs/guides/auth/row-level-security>