

Web Database Programming

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Introduction

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming1.pdf>

Use EasyDataSet as Data Source

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming1.pdf>

Bind-data to single field

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Data Query

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Data Search

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Data Navigation

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Modify and Save Data

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming1.pdf>

MySQL Database Credential

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming1.pdf>

Bind Data to Html Table

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming1.pdf>

Web Page Security

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming2.pdf>

Field Editors

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming3.pdf>

Data Repeater

In chapter “Bind-data to single field”, we saw that a form can be designed with data-bound controls. Data from database are automatically displayed on the controls. The user may modify data on the controls and the data modifications can be saved back to database.

In such arrangement, one record is displayed on one web page.

Data Repeater allows you to design the form with data-bound controls, but the same design can be repeated on one web page. Thus many records can be displayed on one web page.

For details, see <http://www.limnor.com/support/WebDataRepeater.pdf>

Change Query Filters at Runtime

EasyDataSet has some methods allowing changing query filters at runtime so that you may build UI to let your users decide how to search database for data.

- `QueryWithWhere` – When you use this method to create an action, Limnor Studio analysis the filters you want to use and find the parameters in the filters. Each parameter becomes a property of the action. The advantage of using this method is simple to use. The disadvantage of this method is that you have to create an action for every situation your users may want to search the database. Suppose you give your users 5 different filters to use then there will be about 80 different combinations of those filters. You do not want to create so many actions.
- `QueryWithWhereDynamic` -- You may use this method to create an action which may search the database for all situations. This chapter demonstrates how this method can be used.

Arrange for dynamic query

EasyDataSet has a property, **DynamicParameters**. You use this property to define all parameters to be used in all dynamic query actions. Each parameter defined becomes a property of a `QueryWithWhereDynamic` action. Each time a `QueryWithWhereDynamic` action is executed, the query parameters have to be among the defined parameters.

Define Search Options

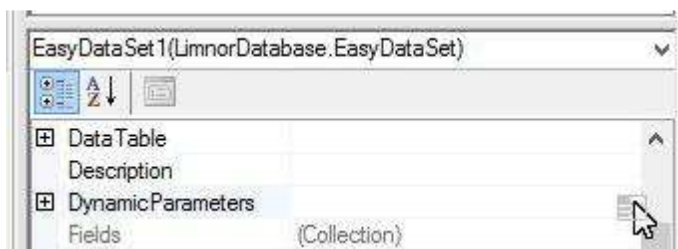
Suppose we want to search for employee records in a database, and give users following search options:

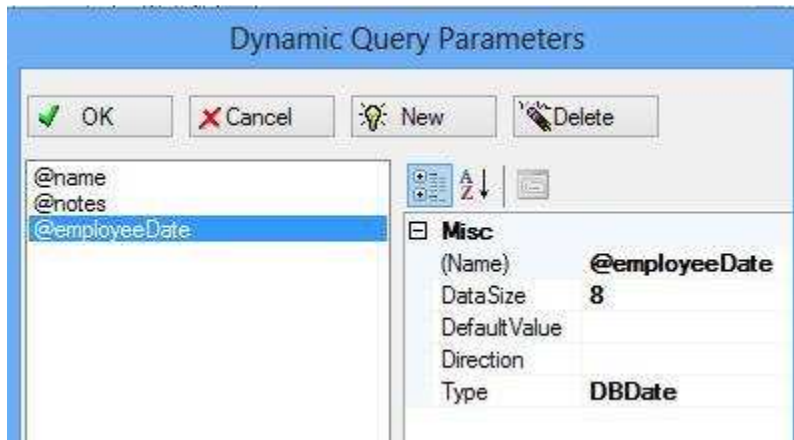
- Employee name contains a given text
- Notes field contains a given text
- Employee date is later than a given date

Define parameters for search options

- `@name` – representing the given text for Employee Name search
- `@notes` – representing the given text for Notes search.
- `@employeeDate` – representing the given date for employee date search

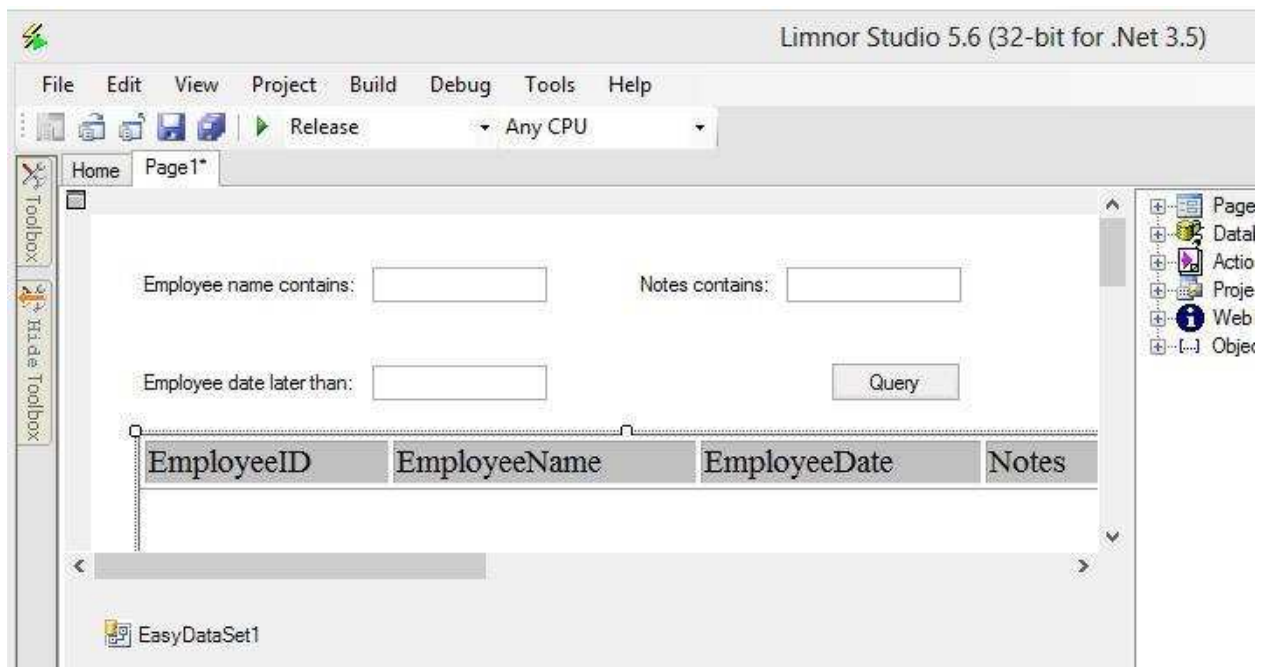
Edit `DynamicParameters` property:



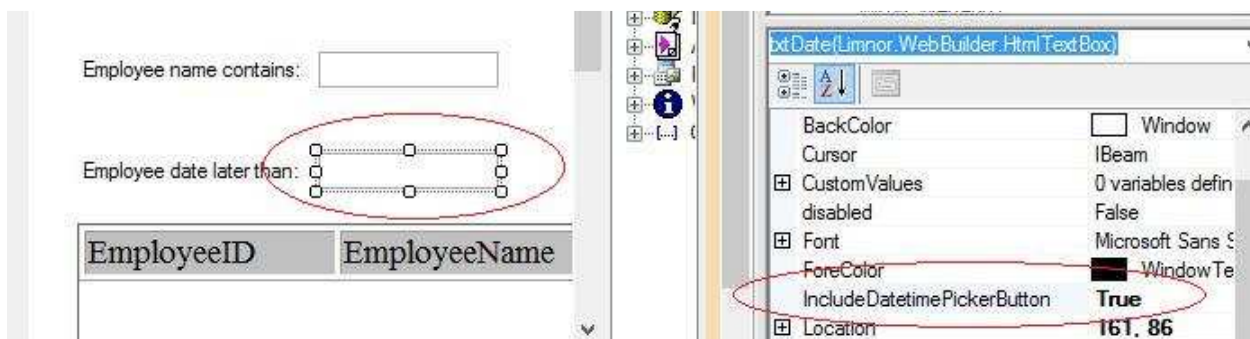


Create Search Options UI

Let's build UI to allow the user to enter search values:



Note that the text box for entering date value has its IncludeDatetimePickerButton set to True:



Make dynamic query filters

To construct query filters is to write SQL WHERE clause. If you do not know SQL language then you may use Limnor Studio Query Builder to create filters and see what is the corresponding WHERE clause the Query Builder generates. The Query Builder can be accessed by setting SQL property of EasyDataSet.

Suppose the SQL property for our EasyDataSet is as following:

```
SELECT
`employees`.`EmployeeID`,`employees`.`EmployeeName`,`employees`.`EmployStartDate`,`employees`.`
Notes` FROM `employees`
```

The filters for each search option are as following:

- Employee name contains a given text; parameter @name represents the given text for Employee Name search. The filter is
EmployeeName LIKE CONCAT('%',@name,'%')
- Notes field contains a given text; parameter @notes represents the given text for Notes search. The filter is
Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%')
- Employee date is later than a given date; parameter @employeeDate represents the given date for employee date search. The filter is
EmployStartDate > @employeeDate

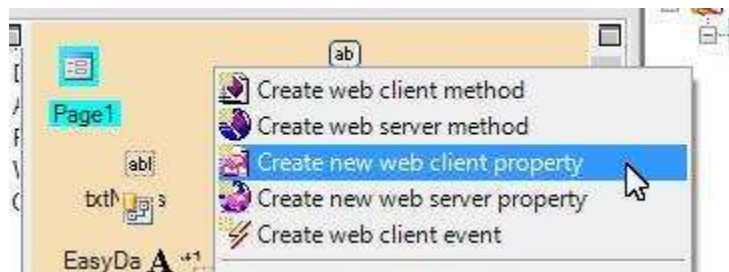
Suppose our UI logic is that if a text box is empty then the corresponding filter should not be used. All used filters are linked by AND logic. For example, if the user enters data for the name search and notes search text boxes, then the WHERE clause should be as following:

```
EmployeeName LIKE CONCAT('%',@name,'%') AND Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%')
```

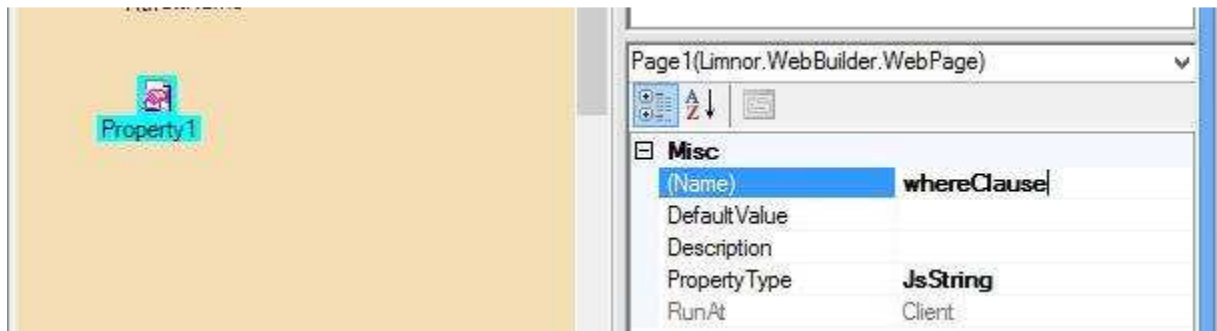
There can be many ways of generating WHERE clause following the UI logic. Here we describe one way of doing it.

Page property for WHERE clause

We create a property to hold the WHERE clause we are going to create:

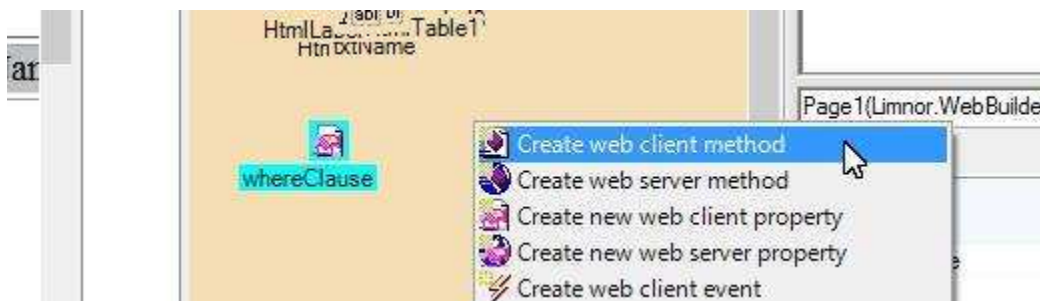


Rename the new property to whereClause:

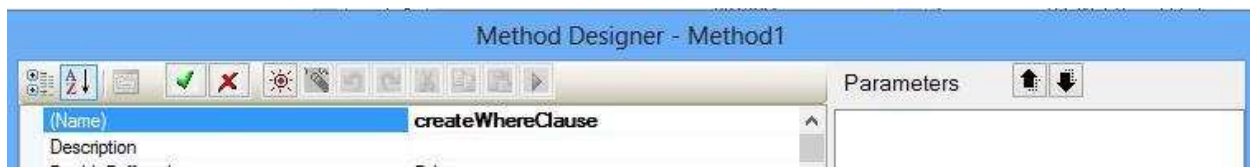


Method for generating WHERE clause

Create a method to generate the WHERE clause:



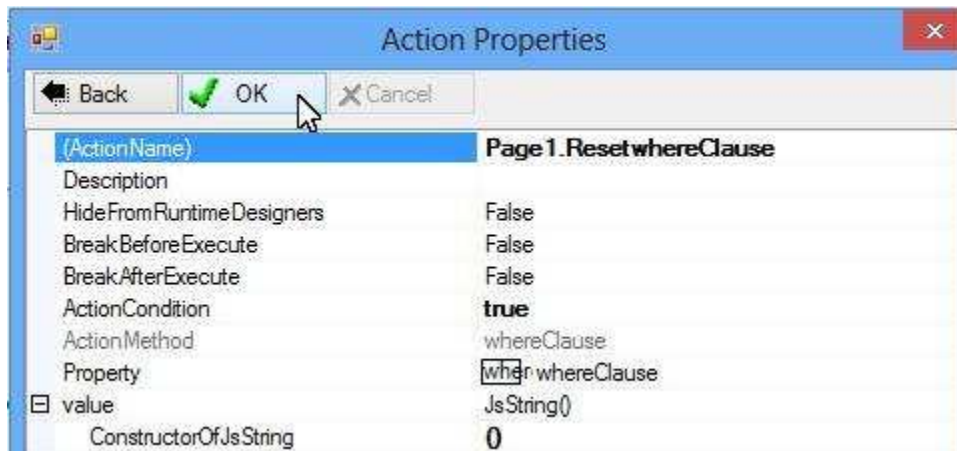
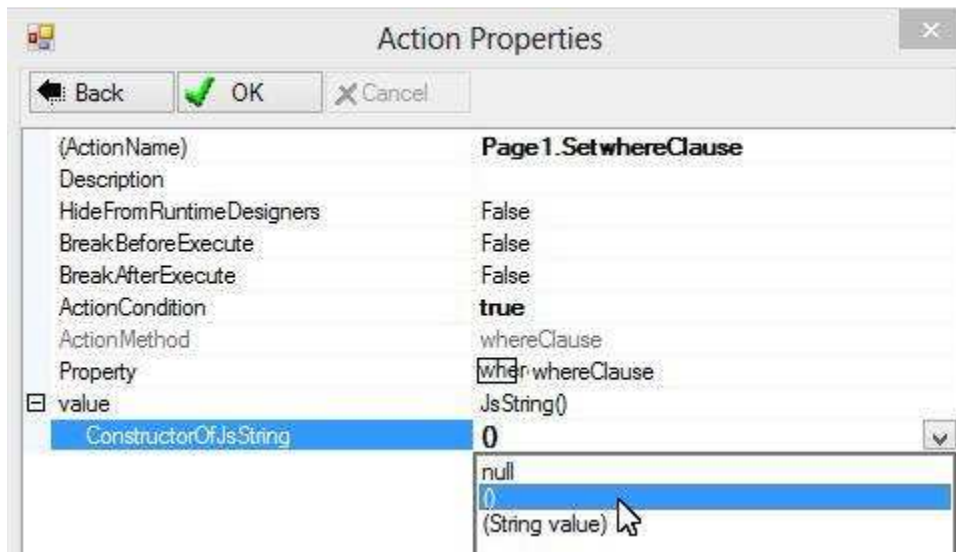
Rename the new method to createWhereClause:



Reset whereClause

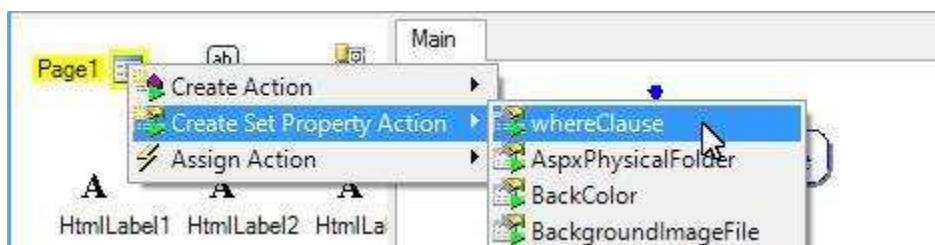
Set whereClause property to an empty string first:



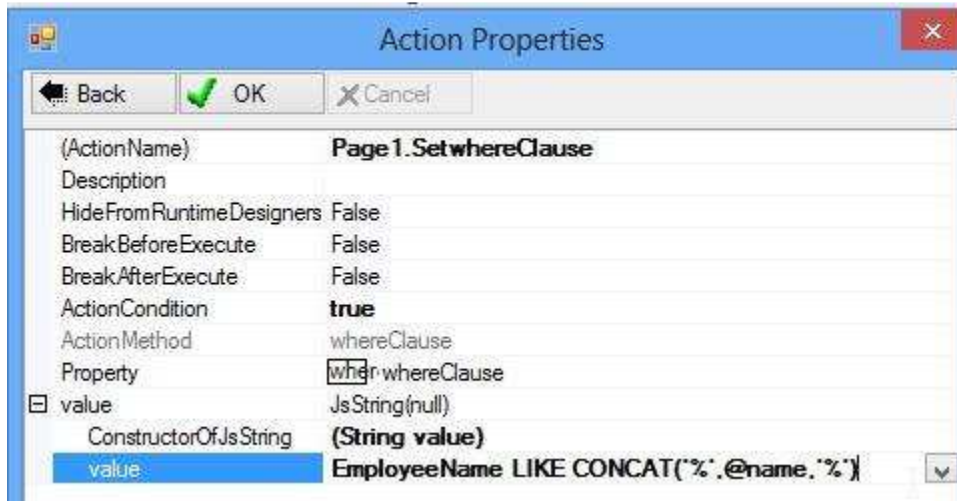


Add name search filter

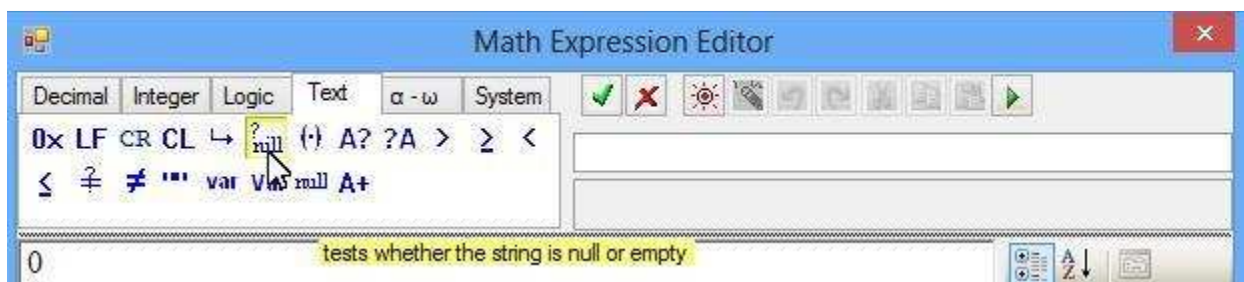
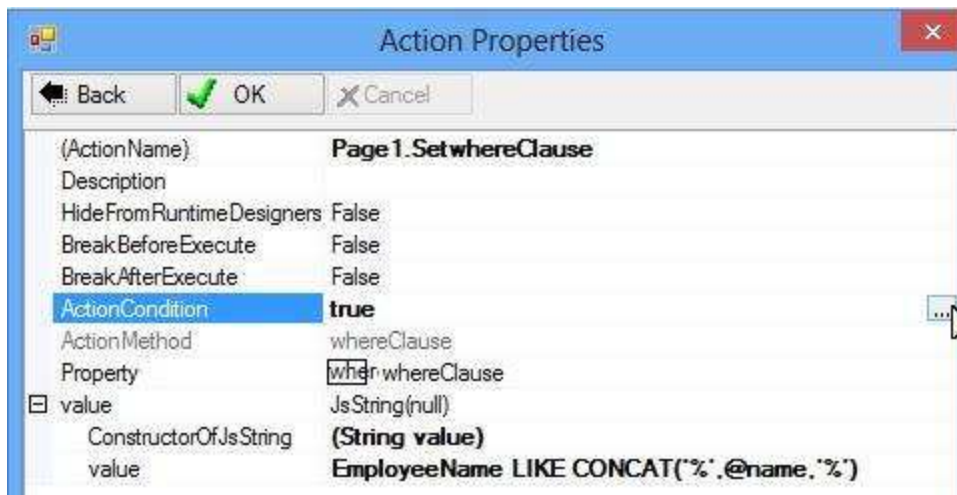
Set whereClause to `EmployeeName LIKE CONCAT('%',@name,'%')` if the text box is not empty:

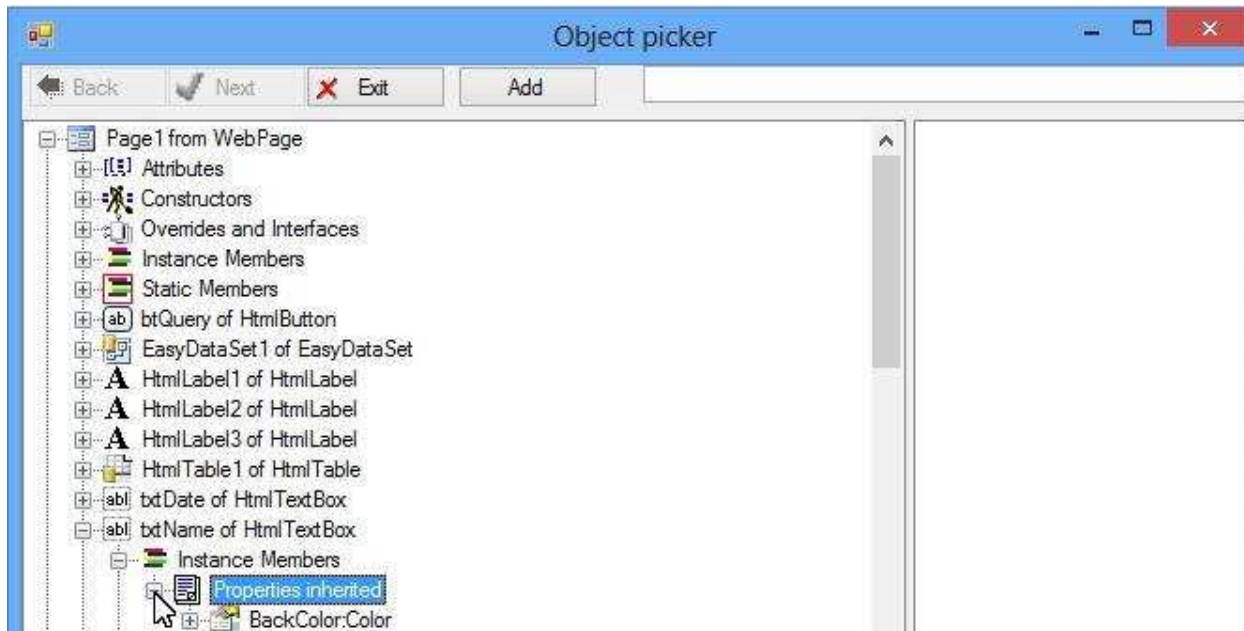
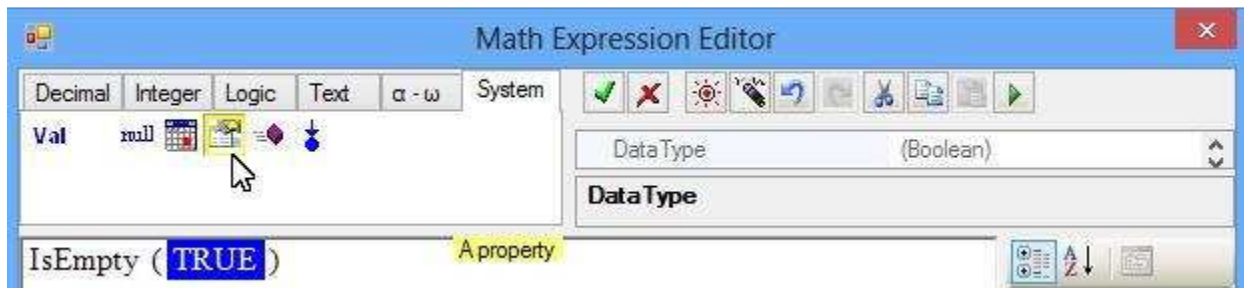


Set value to `EmployeeName LIKE CONCAT('%',@name,'%')`:

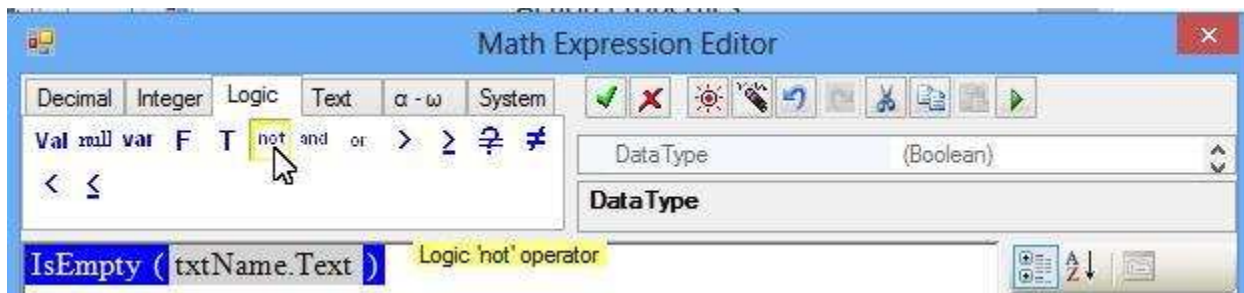


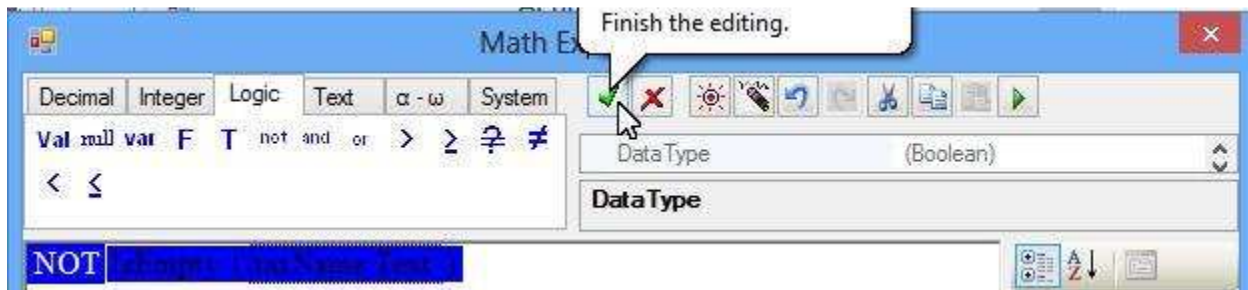
Set ActionCondition to that the text box is not empty:



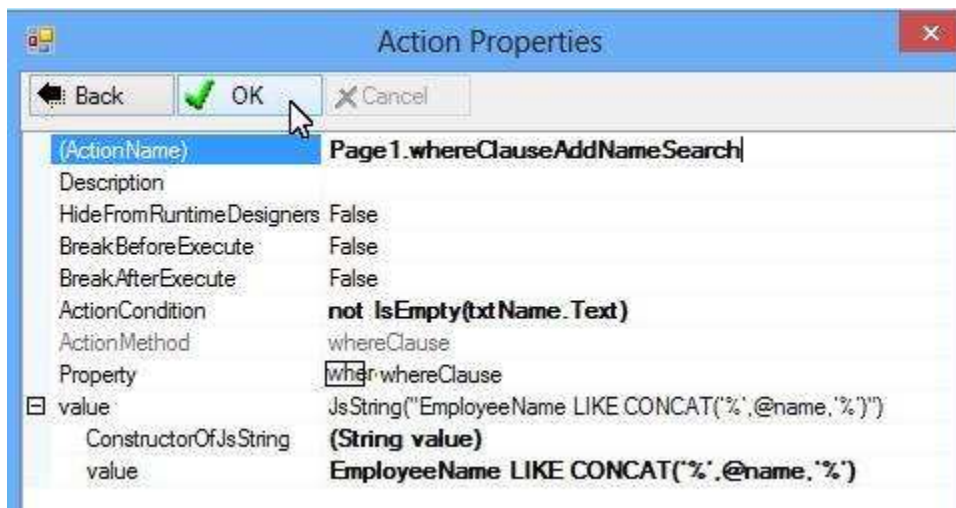


Apply logic "NOT":

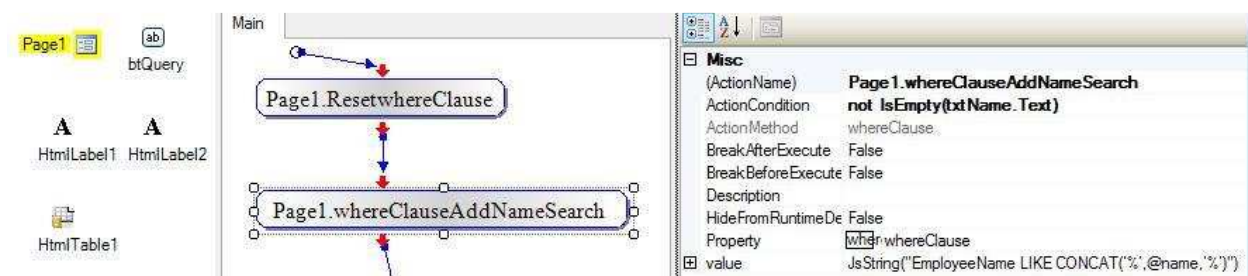




Rename the action and click OK:

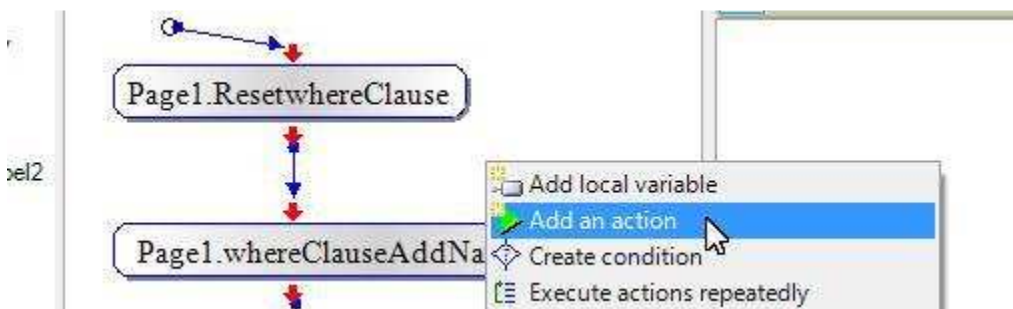


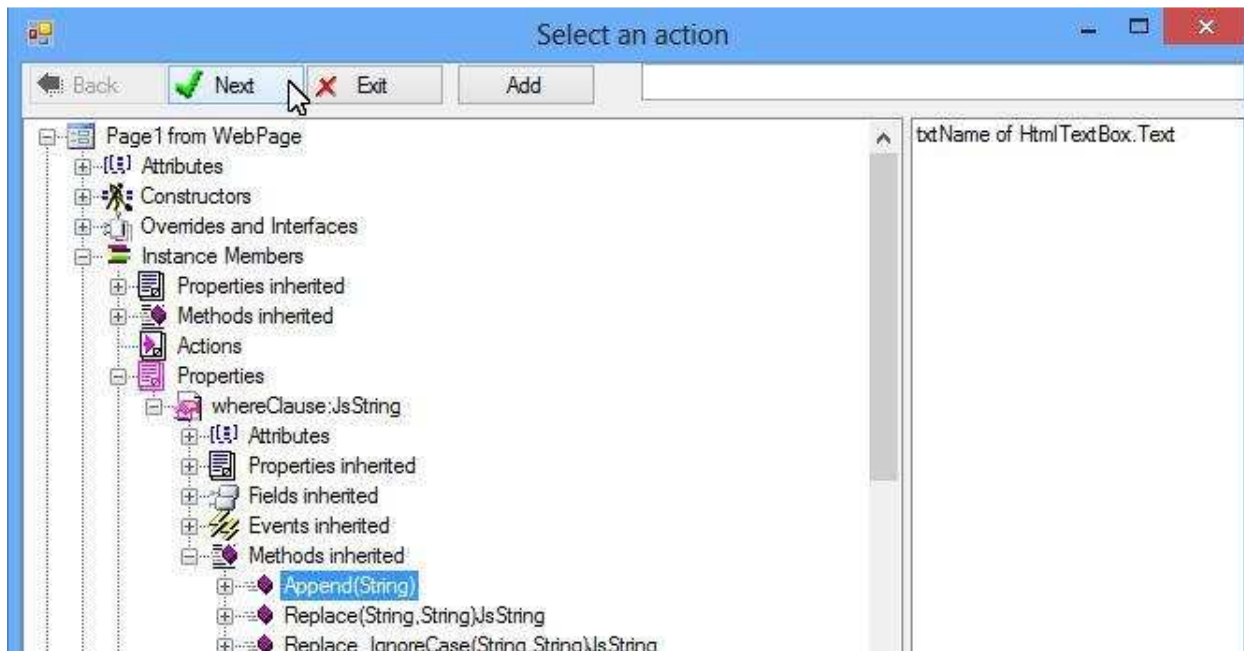
Link the actions:



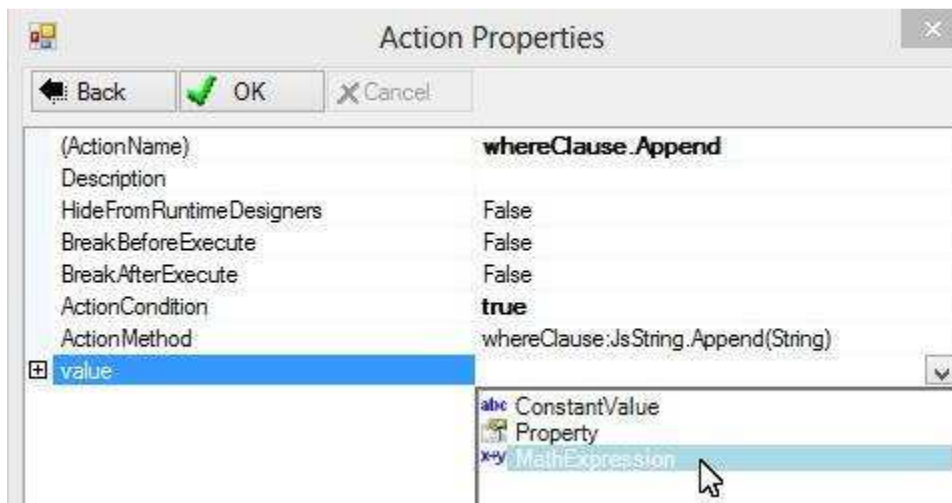
Add notes search filter

Append `Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%')` to whereClause if the text box is not empty.

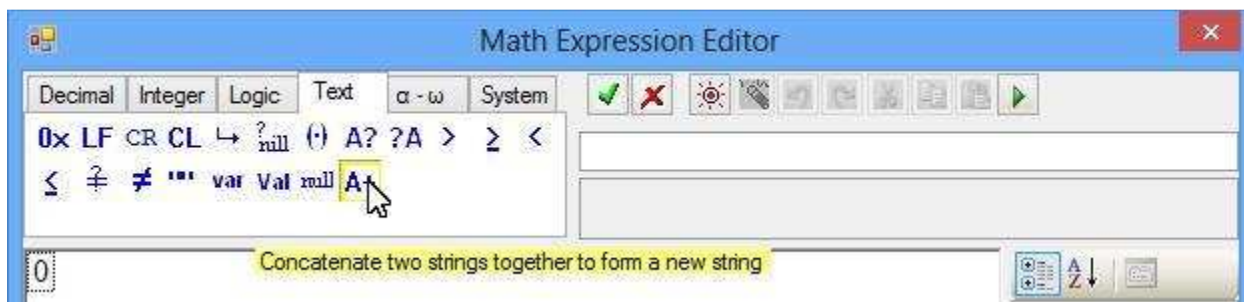




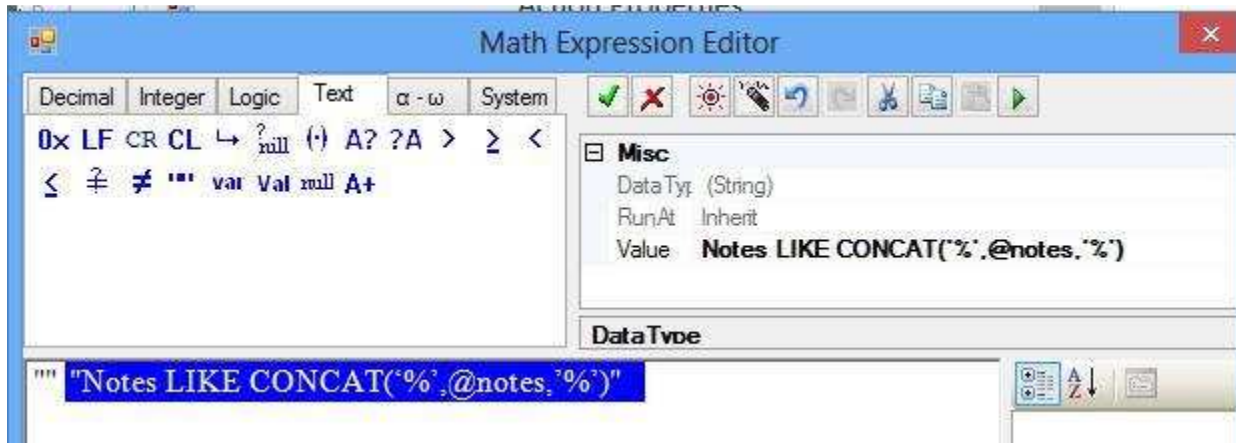
Use expression for “value” because we need to form the filter:



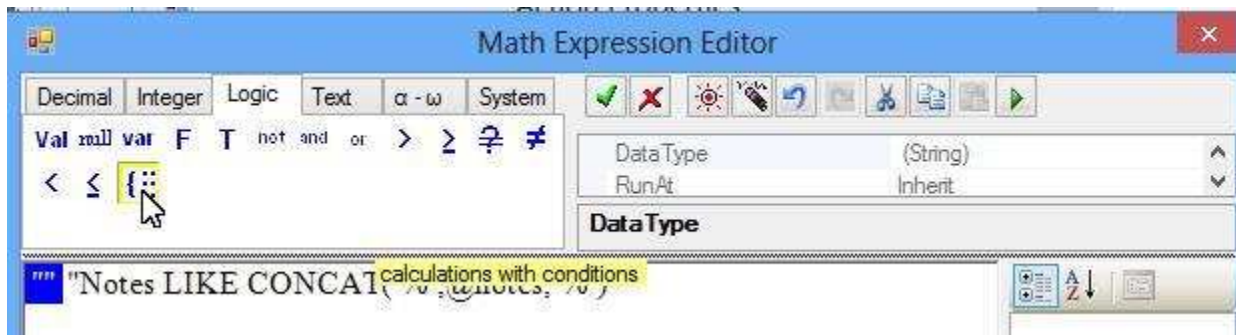
If whereClause is not empty then we need add “ AND “ before `Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%')`; if whereClause is empty then we do not add “ AND “. We use two parts for this expression:



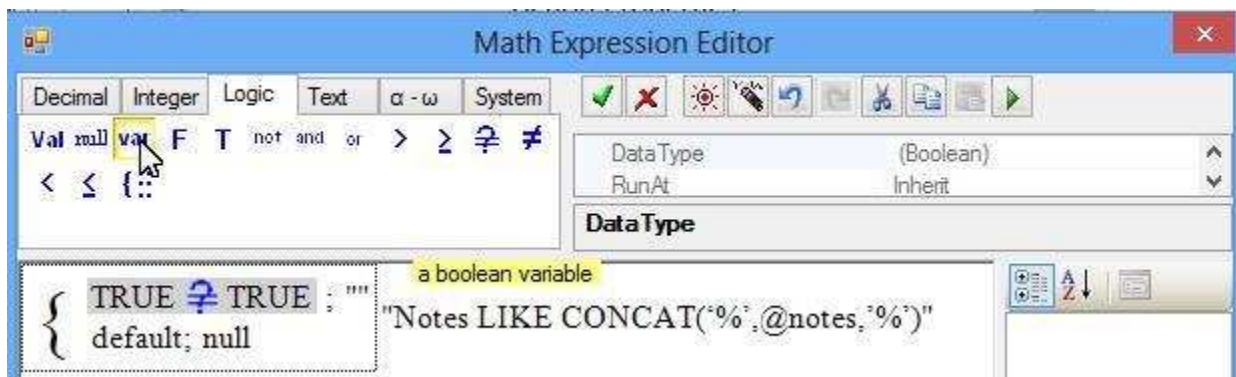
The second part is Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%'):



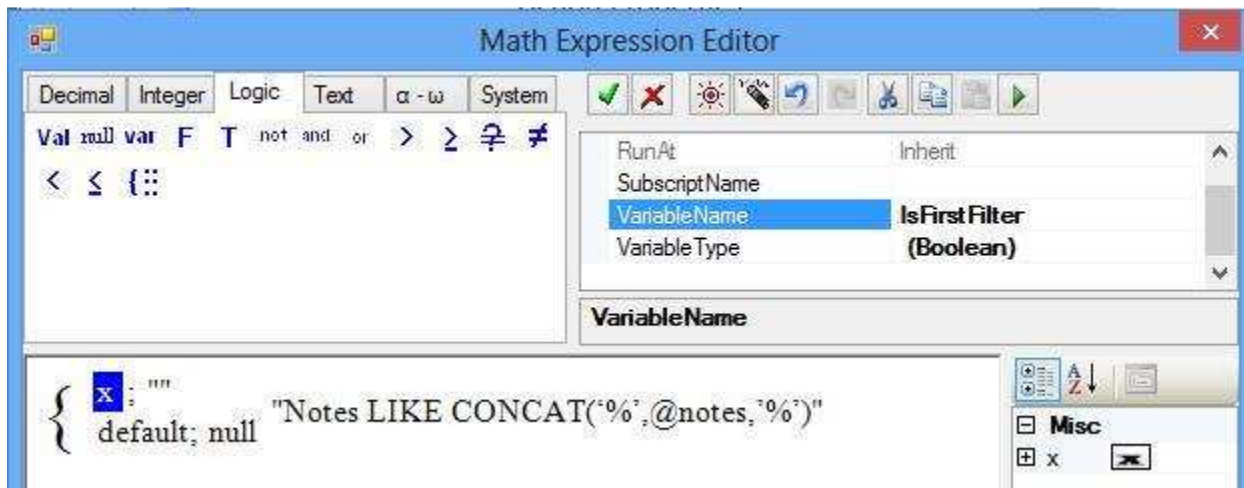
We use a switch for the first part:



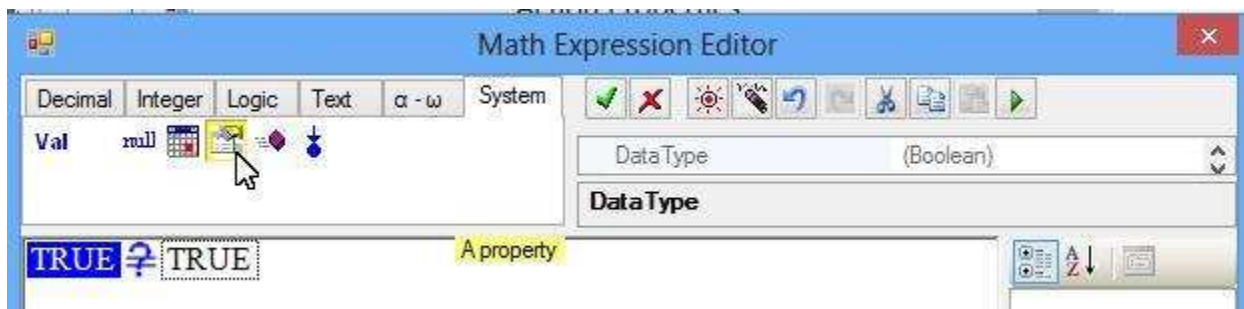
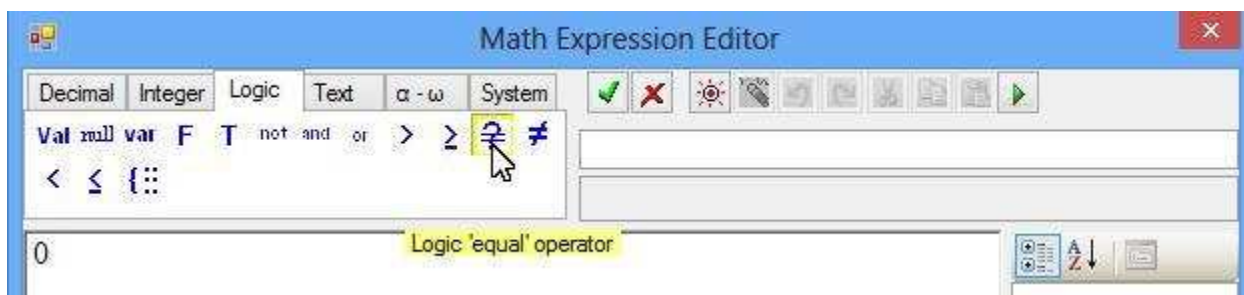
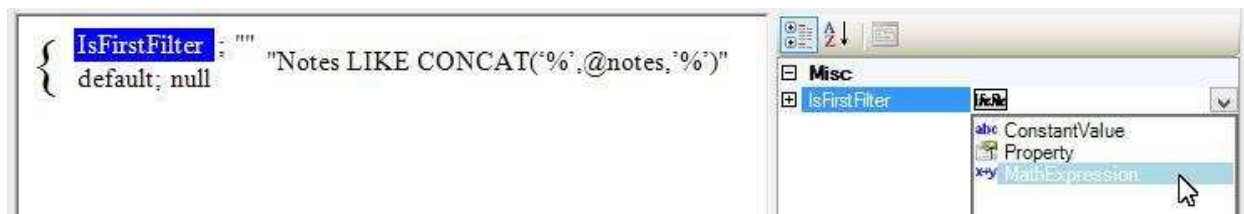
To check for text box emptiness, use a Boolean variable:

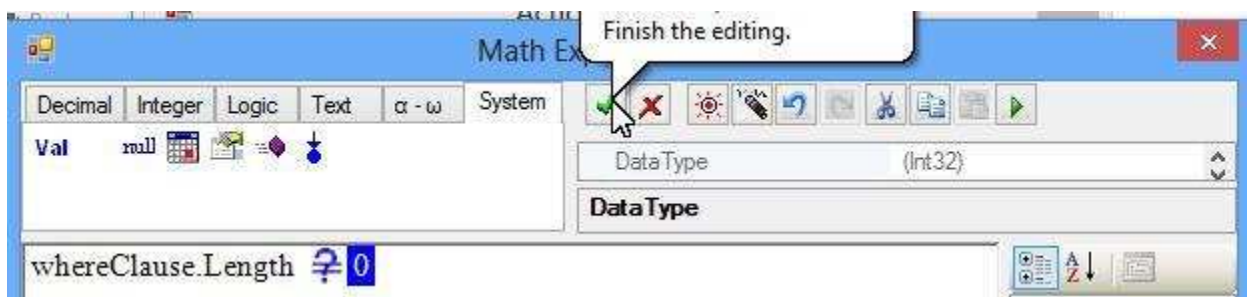
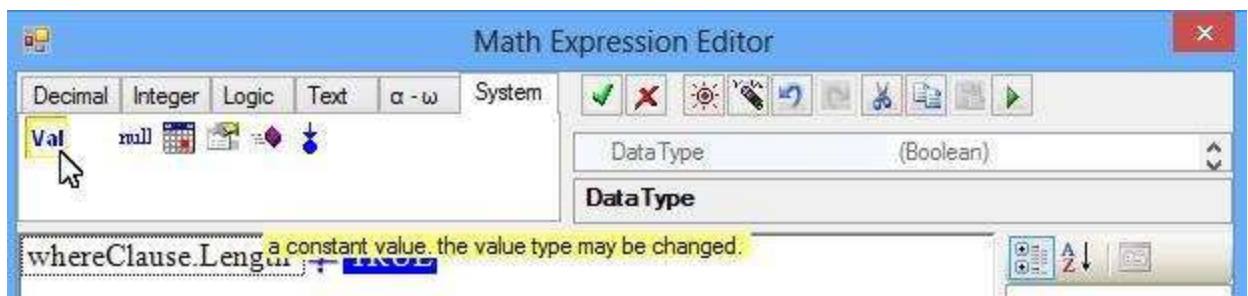
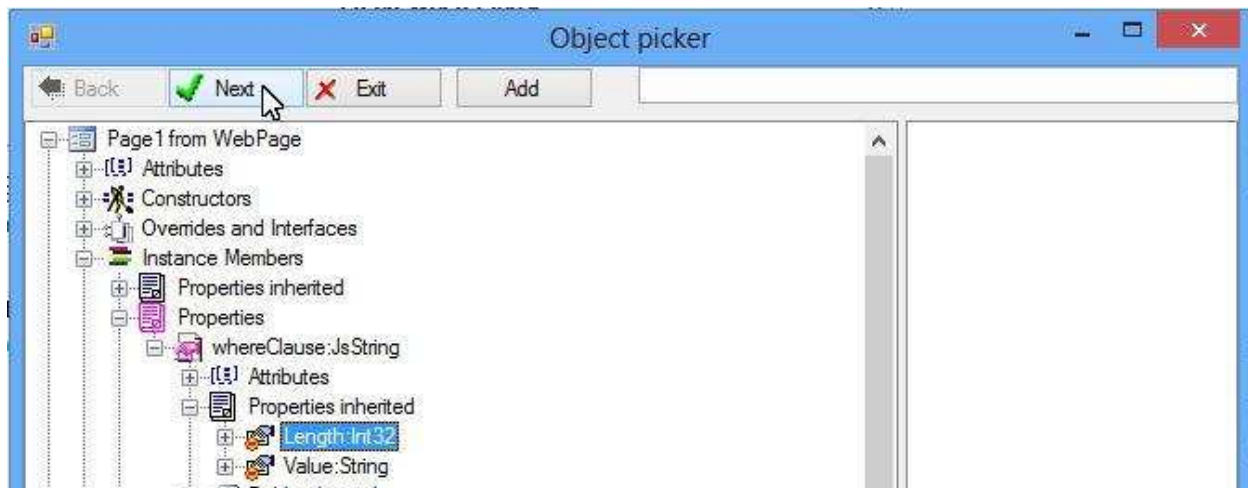


Rename the variable to make the expression more readable:

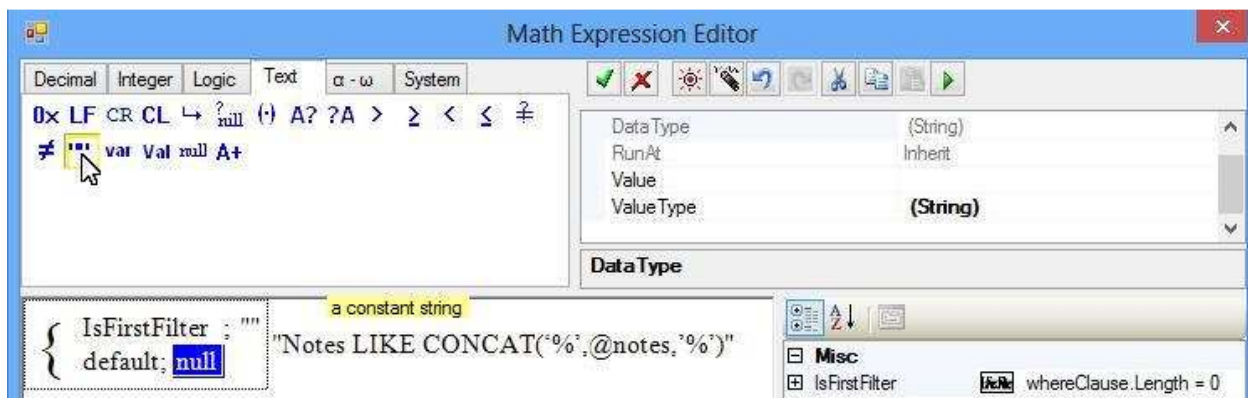


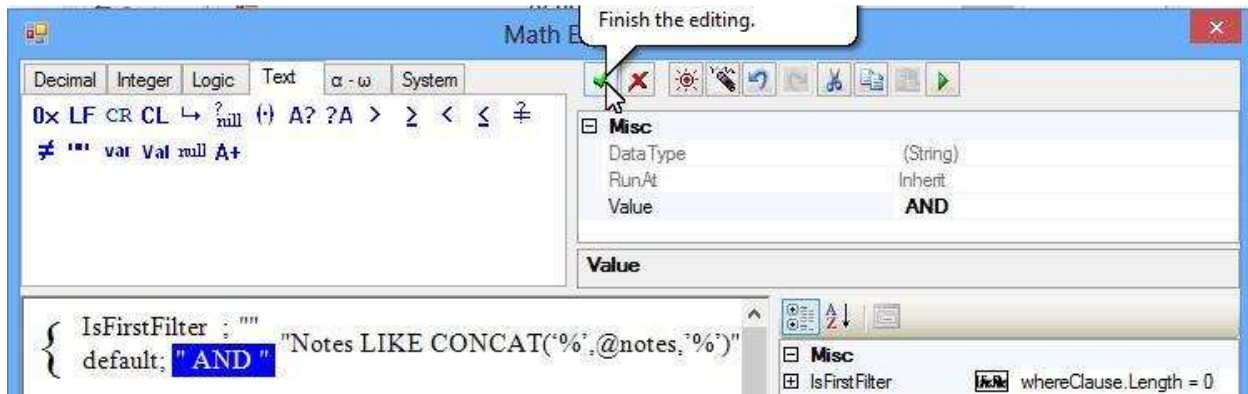
Use the variable to check the length of whereClause:



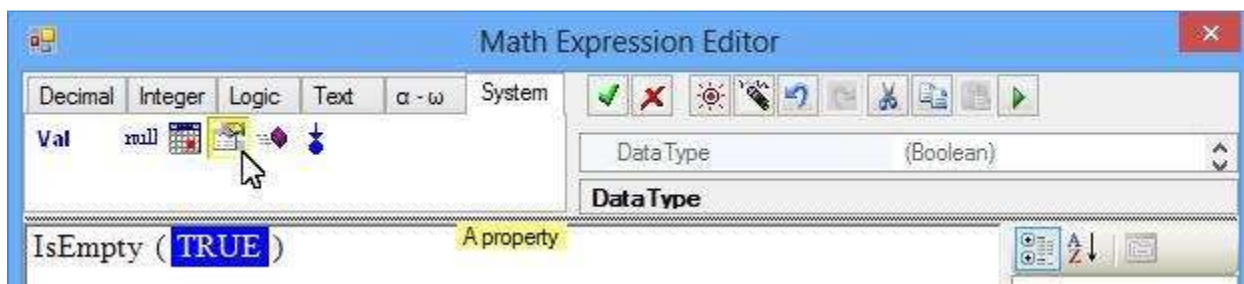
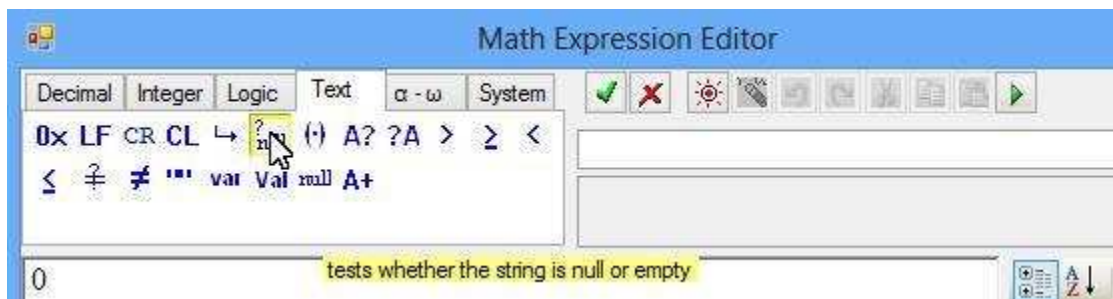
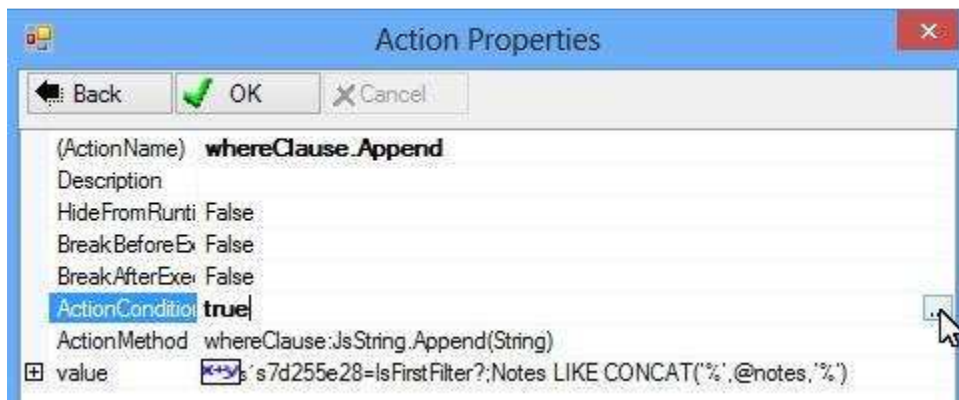


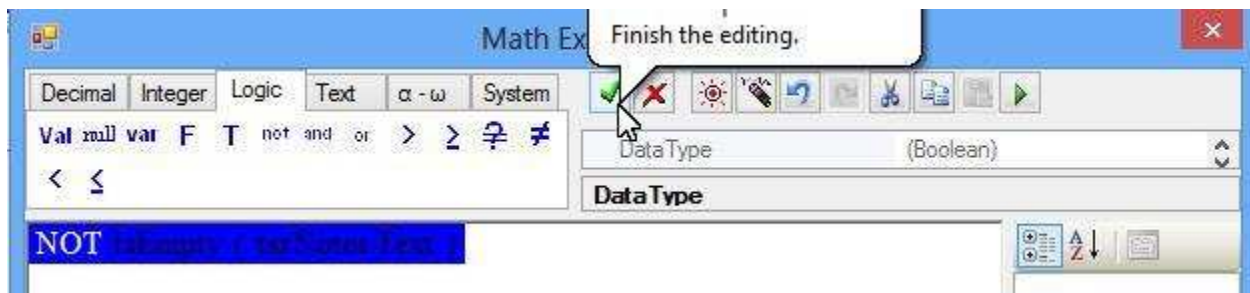
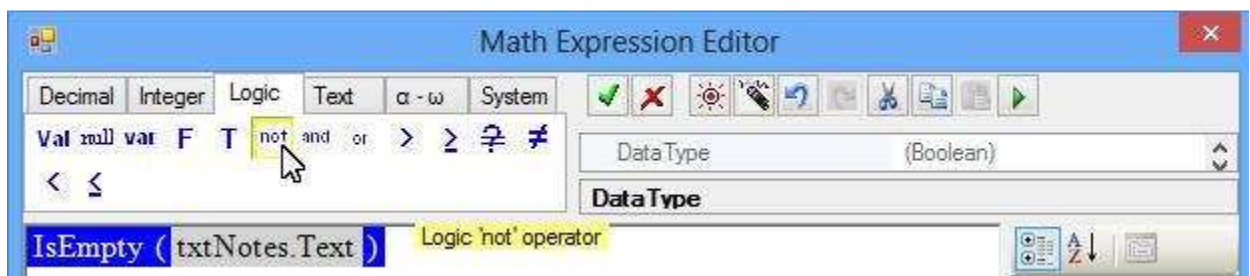
Set " AND " for default value:



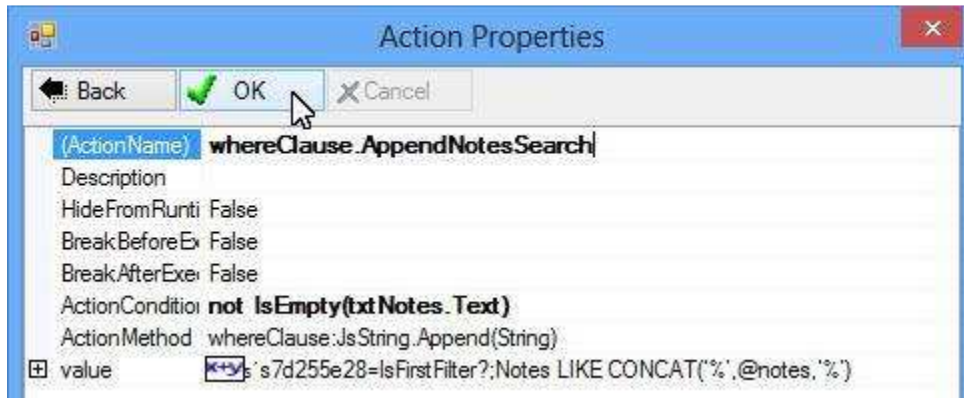


Set ActionCondition to check if the text box is empty:

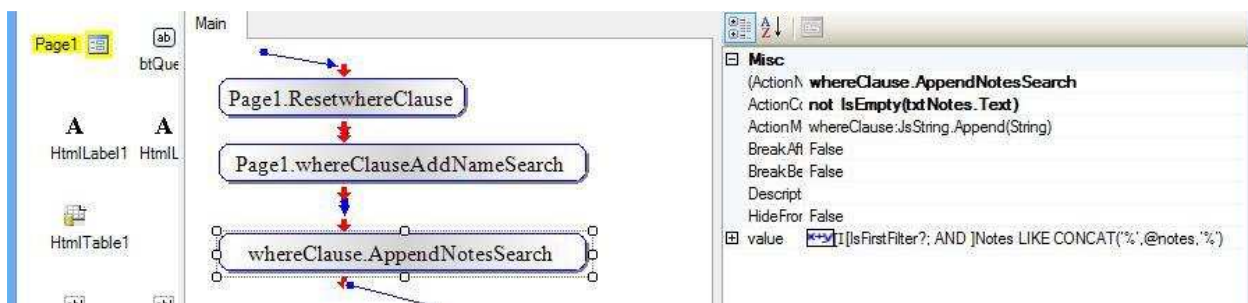




Rename the action and click OK:

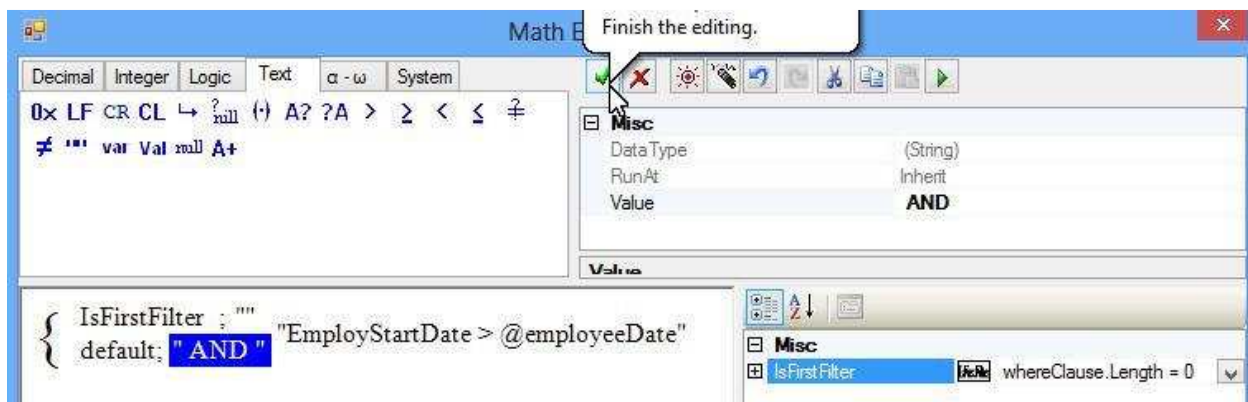


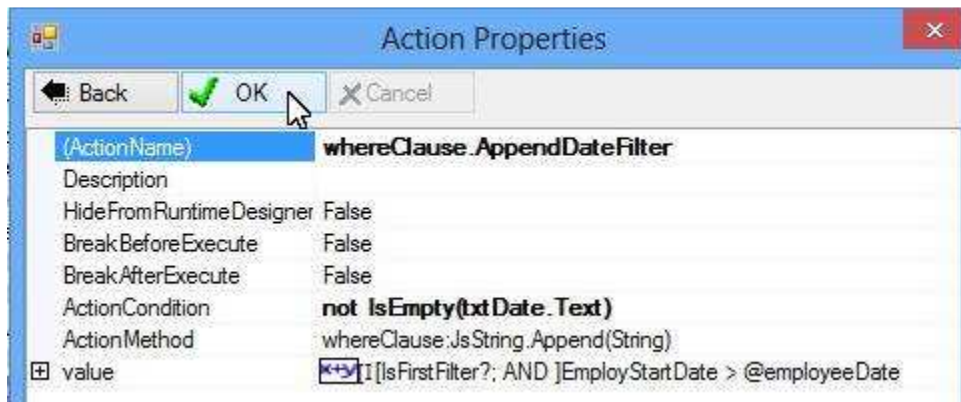
Link the actions:



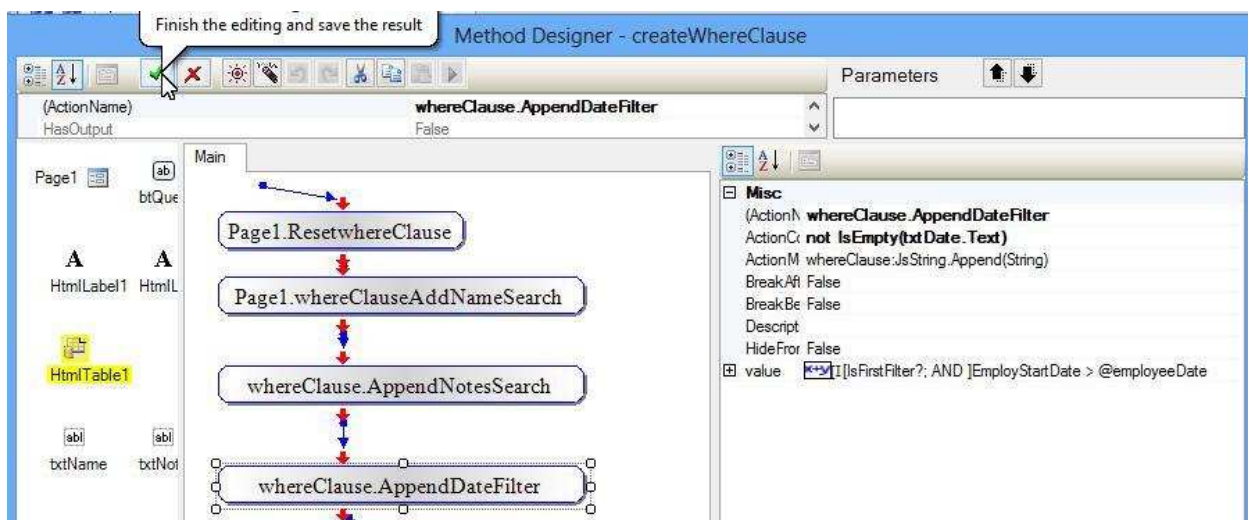
Add date search filter

Append `EmployStartDate > @employeeDate` to whereClause if the text box is not empty. The programming is very much like we just did for adding notes search filter. So, we do not go step by step.



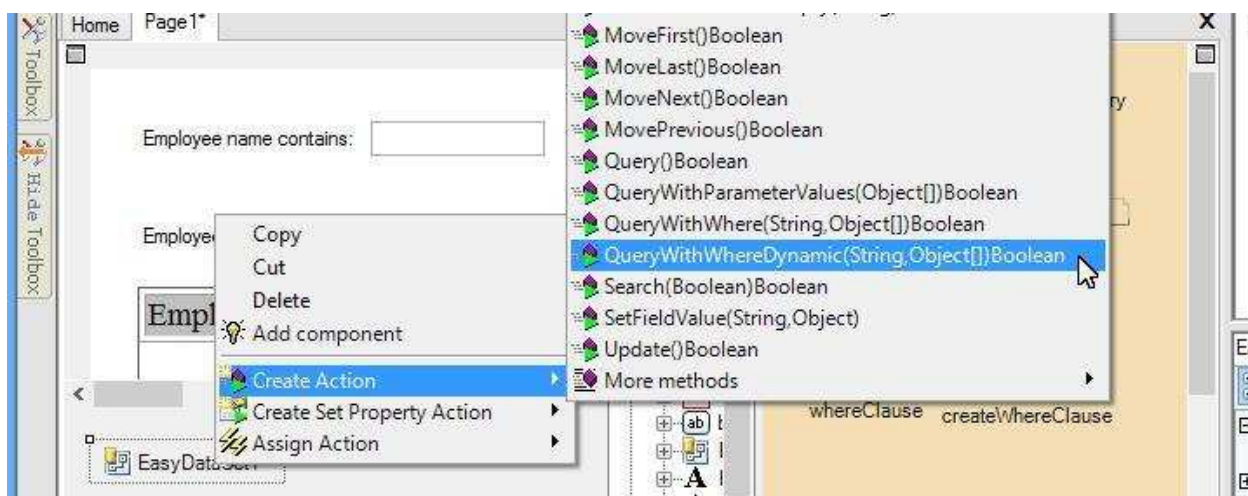


That is all for this method:



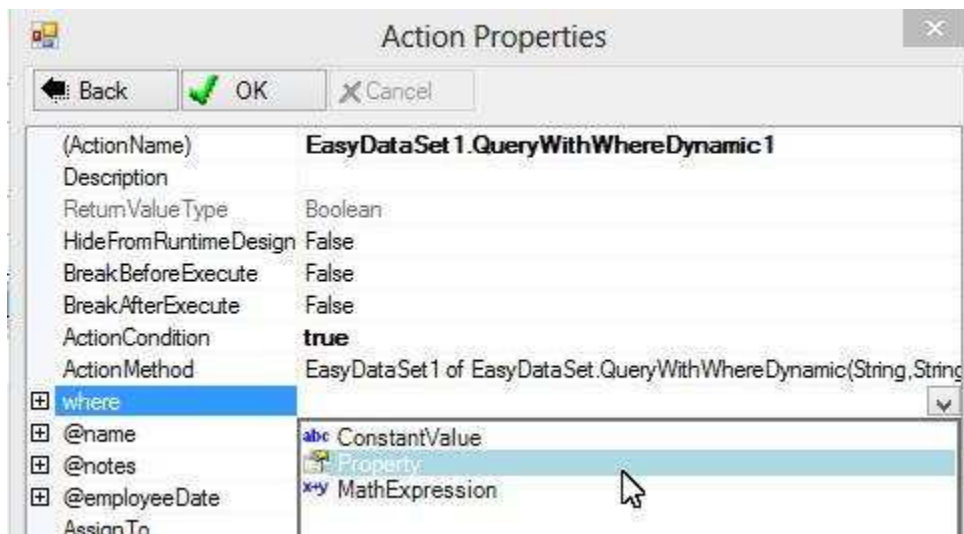
Create QueryWithWhereDynamic action

Right-click EasyDataSet1, choose "Create Action", choose "QueryWithWhereDynamic":



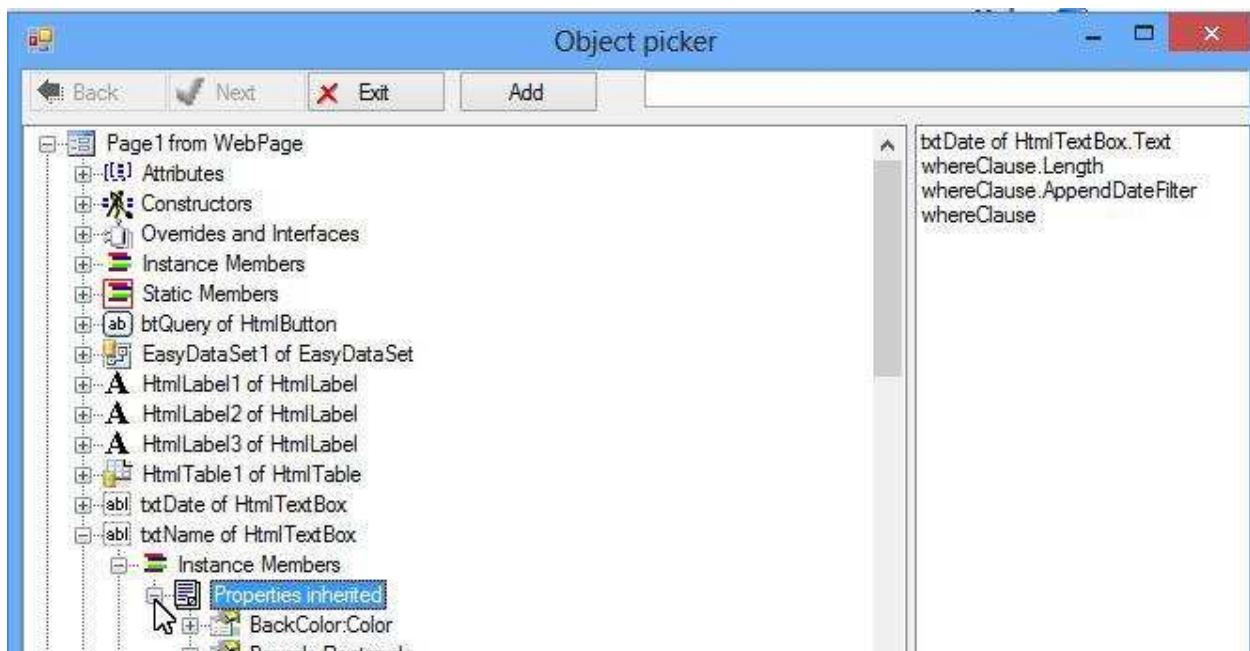
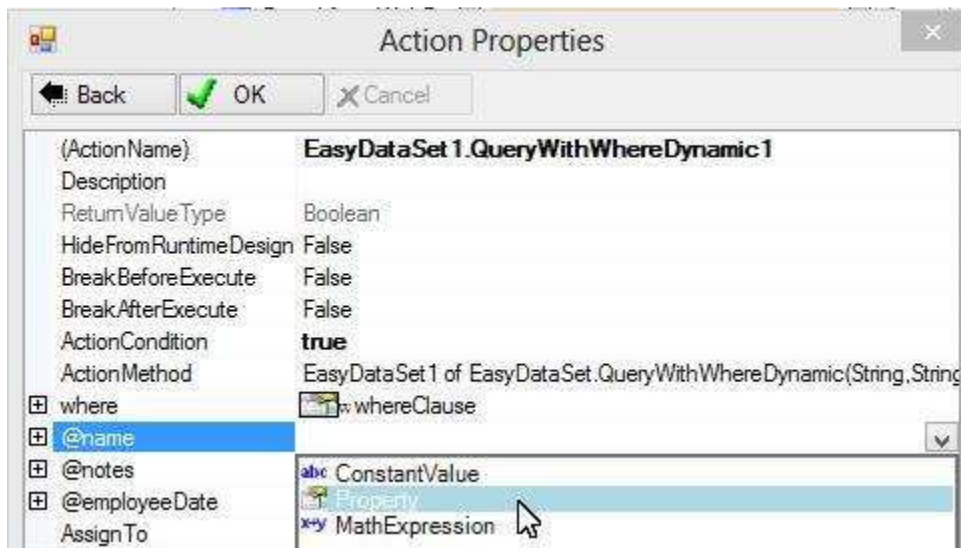
Use dynamic filter

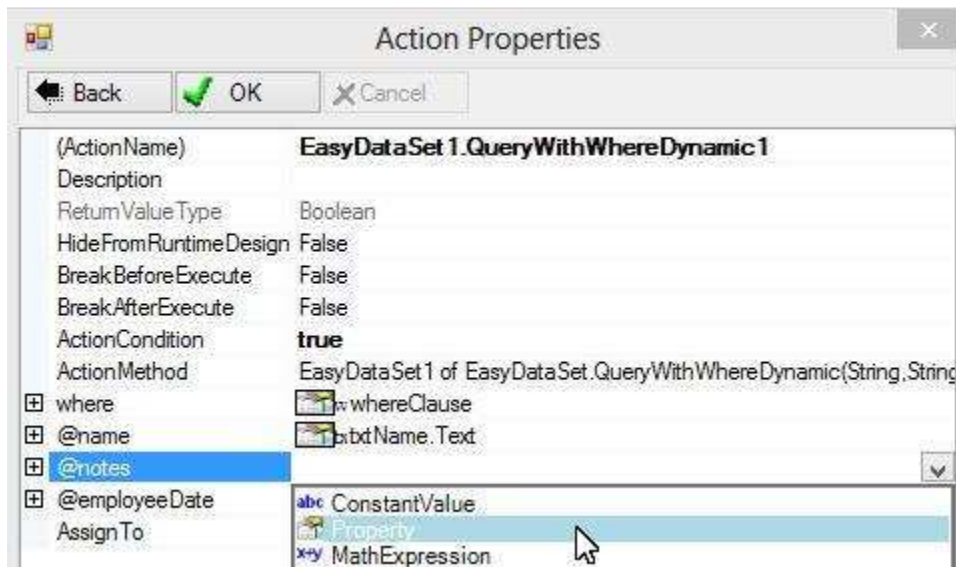
Pass whereClause property to the action:

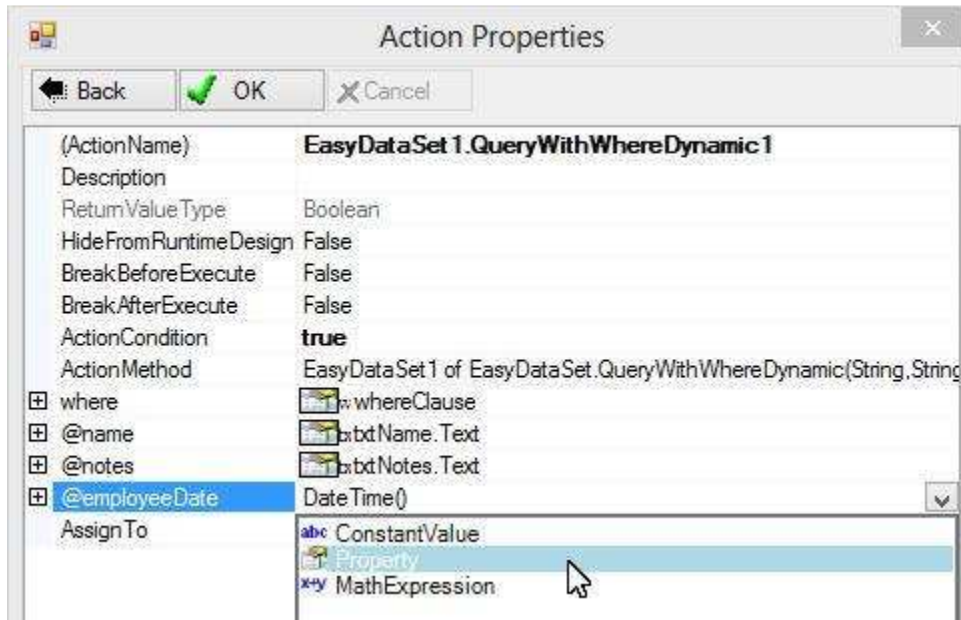


Use parameter values

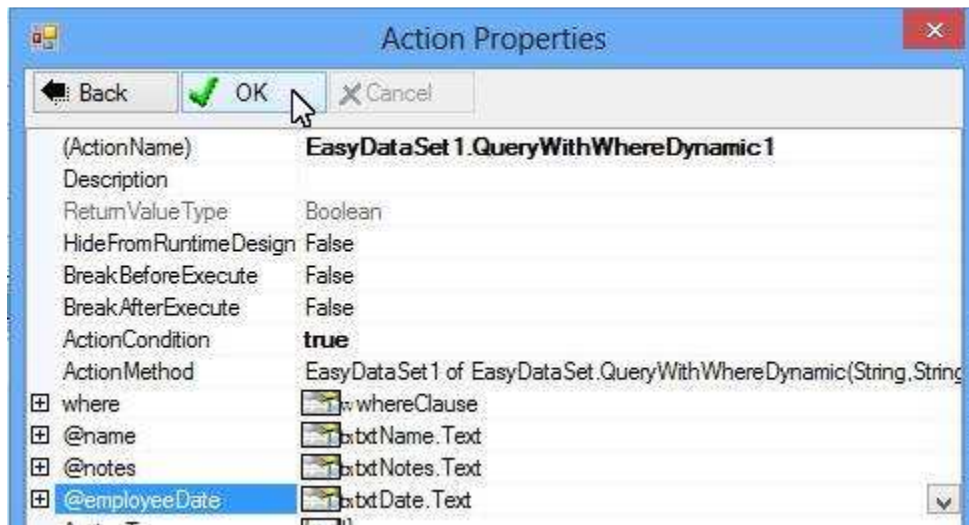
Pass text box values to the action:







Click OK, the action is created:



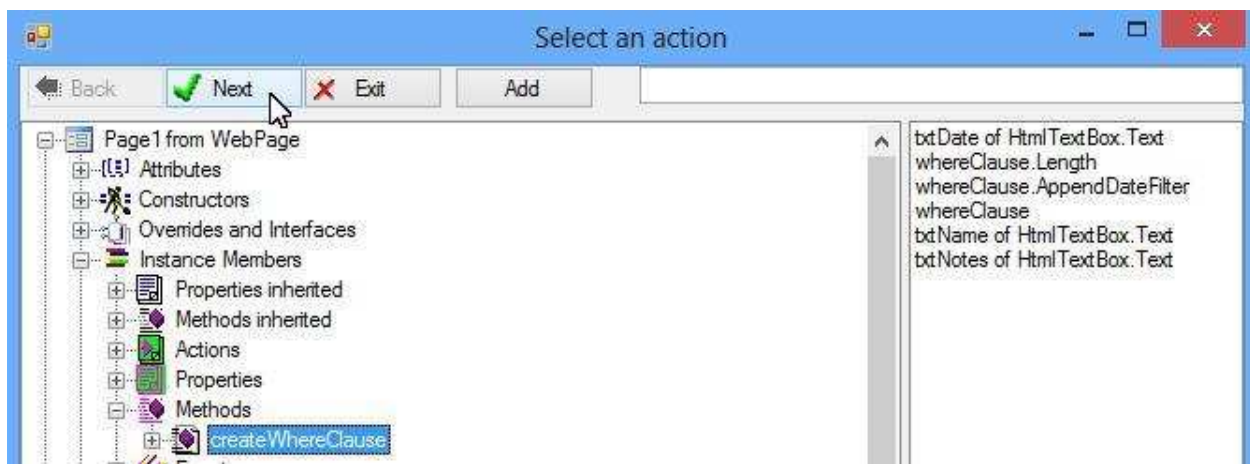
Execute dynamic query

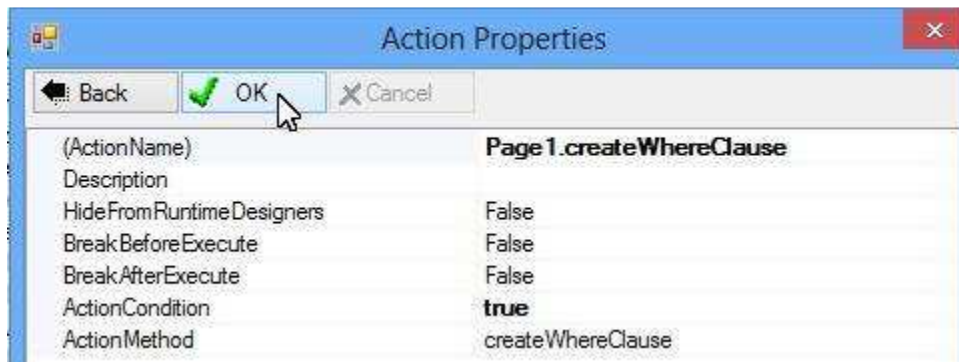
Generate WHERE clause

For this sample, we use a button to trigger executing dynamic query. Right-click the button; choose “Assign Actions”; choose “onclick” event:

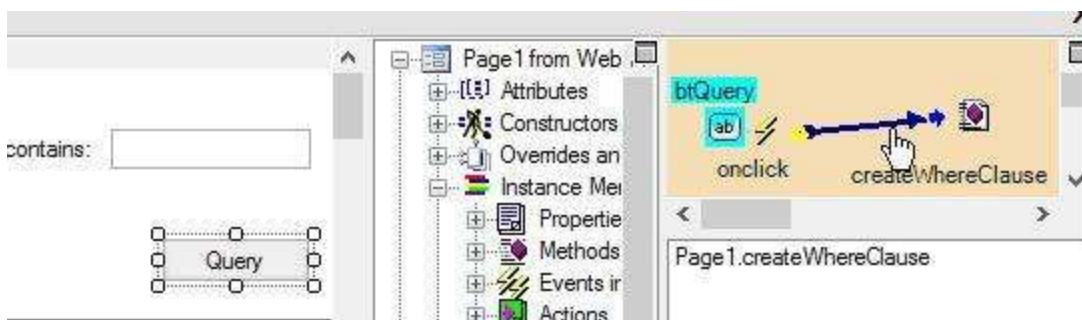


The first action we want to execute is the createWhereClause method:





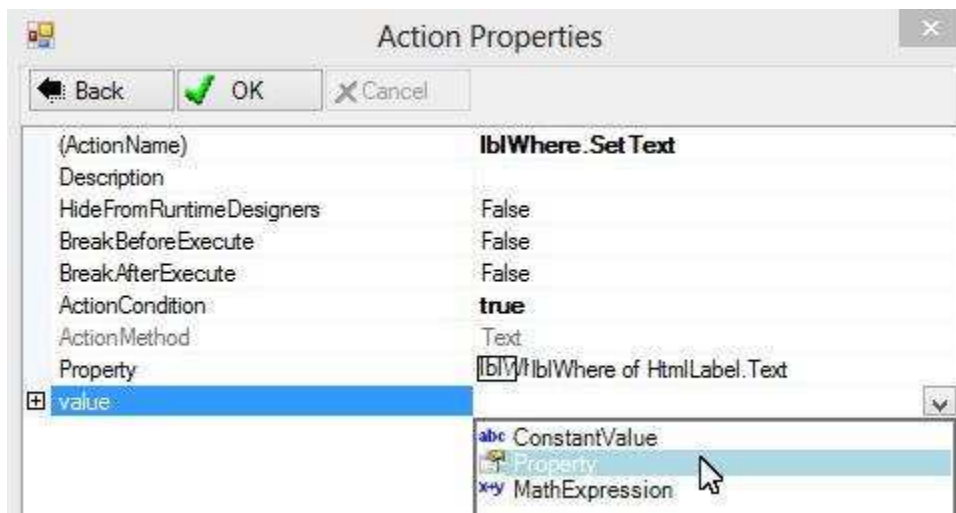
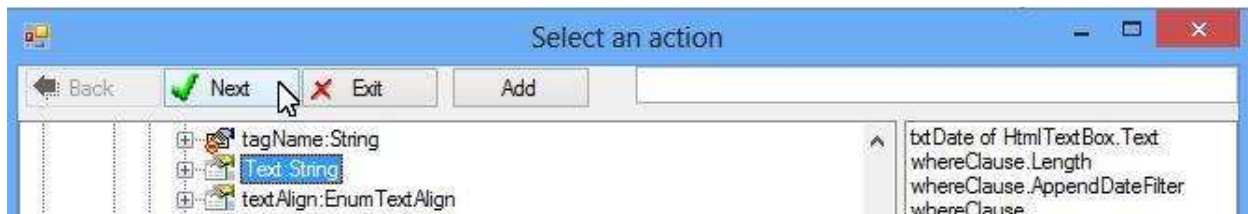
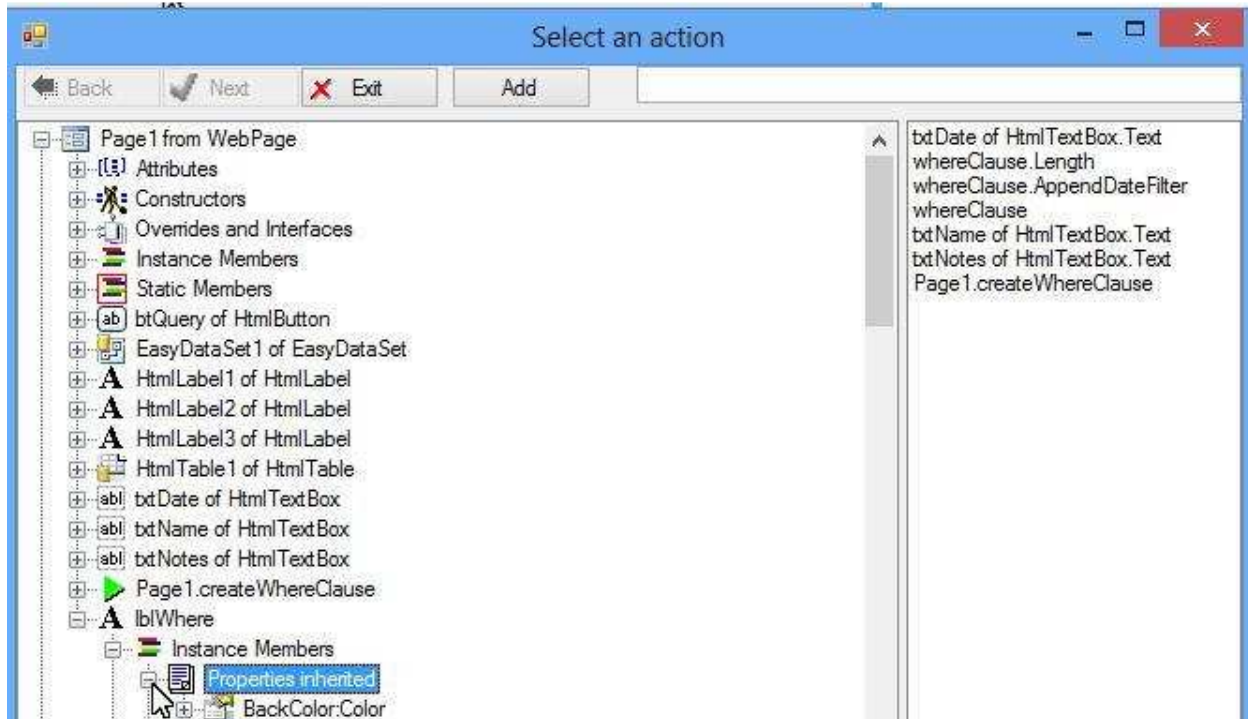
An action is created and assigned to the button:

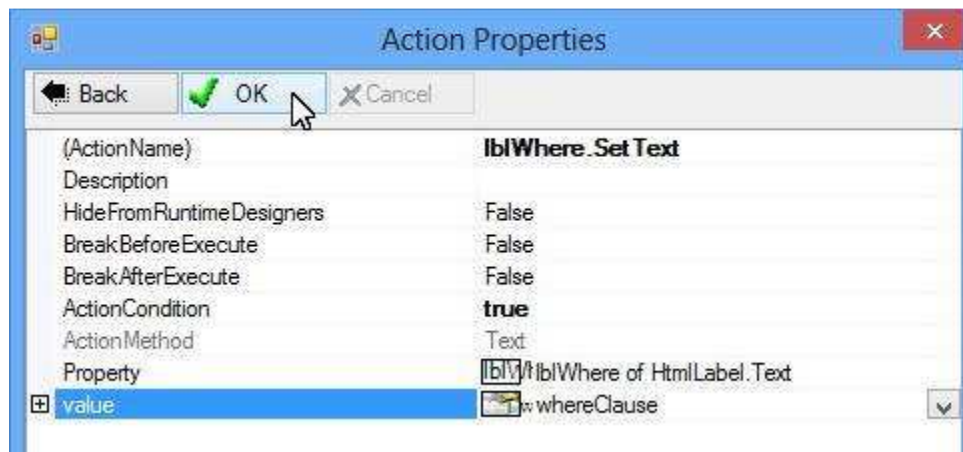
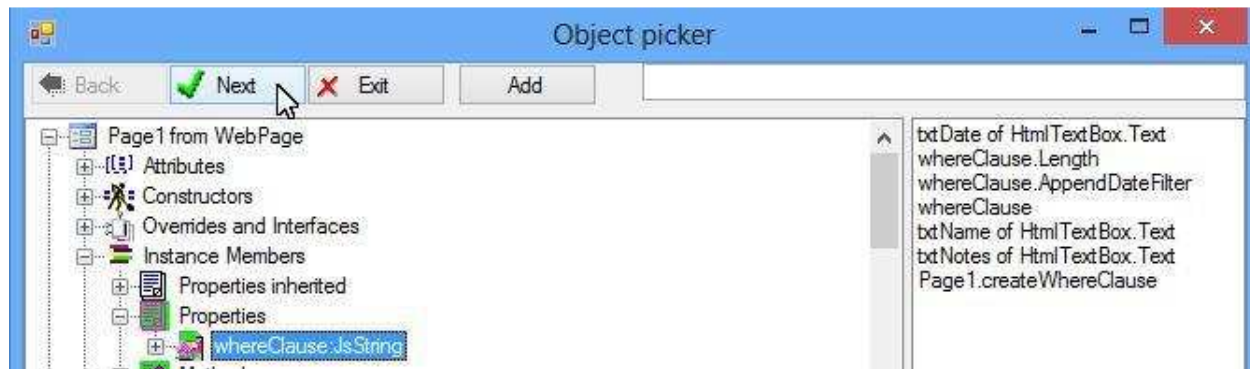


Display WHERE clause for demo

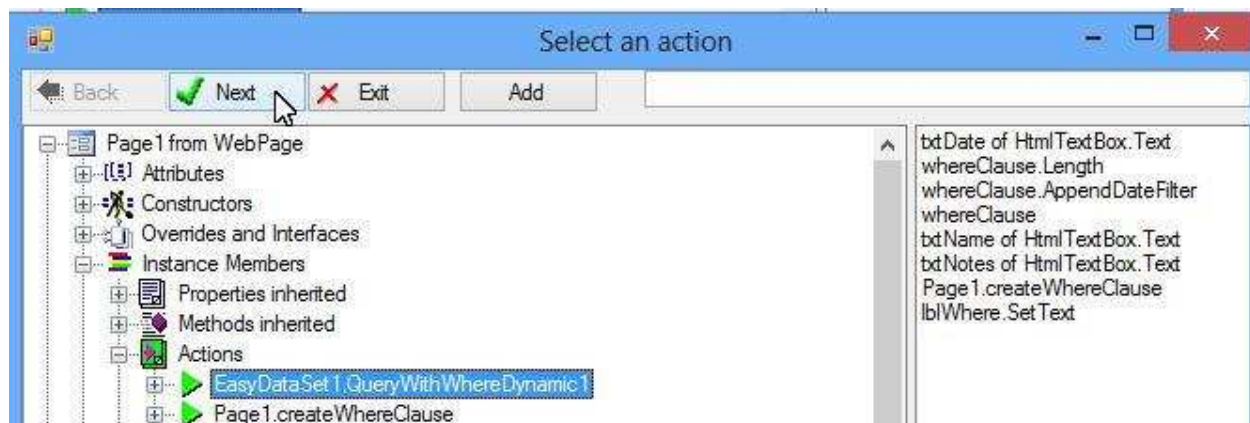
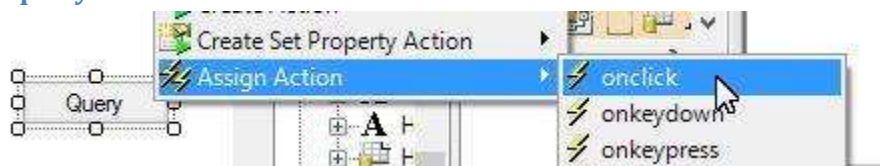
After executing the action, property whereClause will contain the WHERE clause to be used by database query. For demonstration purpose, we may show property whereClause on a label:



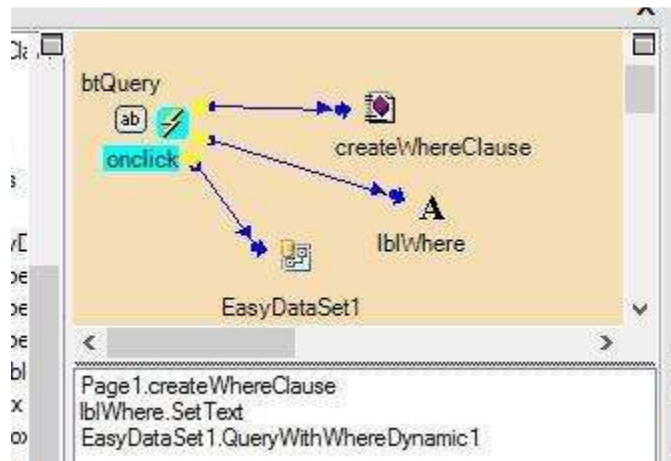




Execute query

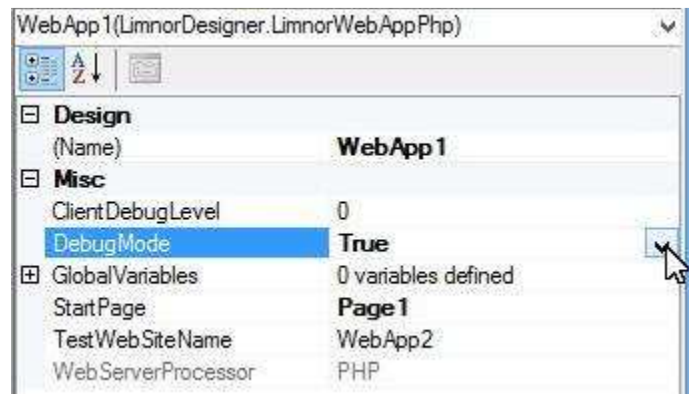


These are all the actions we want to execute:



Test

Turn on debug mode so that we may watch what data are going through the internet:



Run the project, the web page appears in the default browser:

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

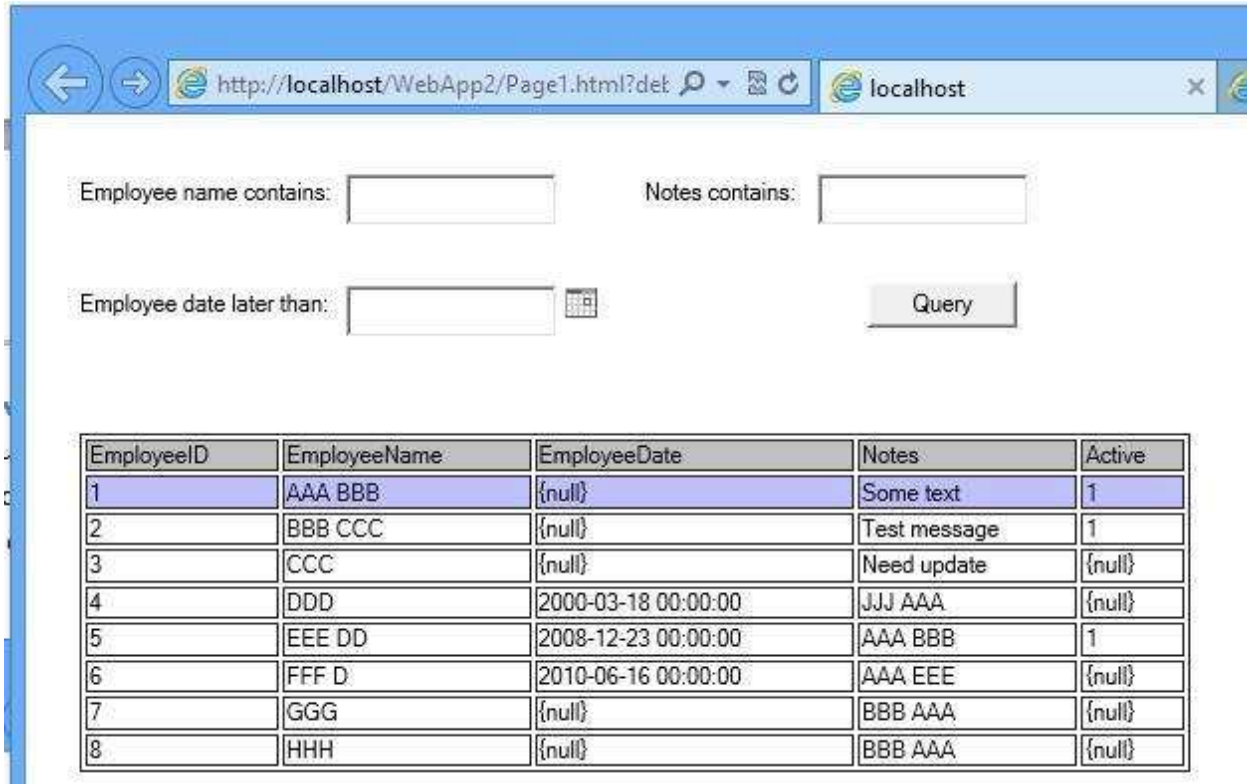
Employee date later than:

whereClause

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active

Query without filters

Click "Query" button while all text boxes are empty. No filters will be used, and all records will be displayed on the web page. This may not be desired in most situations. You may set action condition so that the query action will only be executed when property whereClause is not empty. For this sample, showing records let us know what are in our sample database:

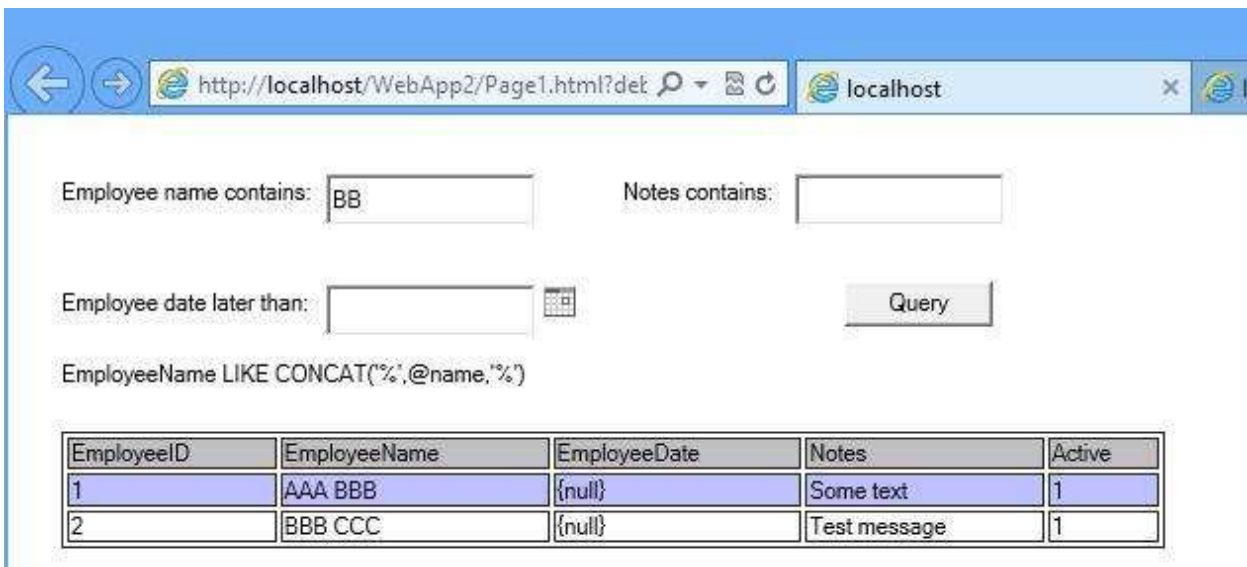


Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than:

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
1	AAA BBB	{null}	Some text	1
2	BBB CCC	{null}	Test message	1
3	CCC	{null}	Need update	{null}
4	DDD	2000-03-18 00:00:00	JJJ AAA	{null}
5	EEE DD	2008-12-23 00:00:00	AAA BBB	1
6	FFF D	2010-06-16 00:00:00	AAA EEE	{null}
7	GGG	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}
8	HHH	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}

Use one filter



Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than:

EmployeeName LIKE CONCAT('%',@name,'%')

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
1	AAA BBB	{null}	Some text	1
2	BBB CCC	{null}	Test message	1

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than:

Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%')

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
3	CCC	{null}	Need update	{null}

Employee name contains: Notes contains:


Employee date later than:

EmployStartDate > @employeeDate

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
5	EEE DD	2008-12-23 00:00:00	AAA BBB	1
6	FFF D	2010-06-16 00:00:00	AAA EEE	{null}

Use two filters


Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than: 

EmployeeName LIKE CONCAT('%',@name,'%') AND Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%')

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
3	CCC	{null}	Need update	{null}

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than: 

Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%') AND EmployStartDate > @employeeDate

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
4	DDD	2000-03-18 00:00:00	JJJ AAA	{null}
5	EEE DD	2008-12-23 00:00:00	AAA BBB	1
6	FFF D	2010-06-16 00:00:00	AAA EEE	{null}

Use three filters

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than:

EmployeeName LIKE CONCAT('%',@name,'%') AND Notes LIKE CONCAT('%',@notes,'%') AND EmployStartDate > @employeeDate

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
4	DDD	2000-03-18 00:00:00	JJJ AAA	{null}
5	EEE DD	2008-12-23 00:00:00	AAA BBB	1

Filters on Boolean Fields

Since a Boolean field may only have True/False value, you may choose not to use a parameter for filtering such a field.

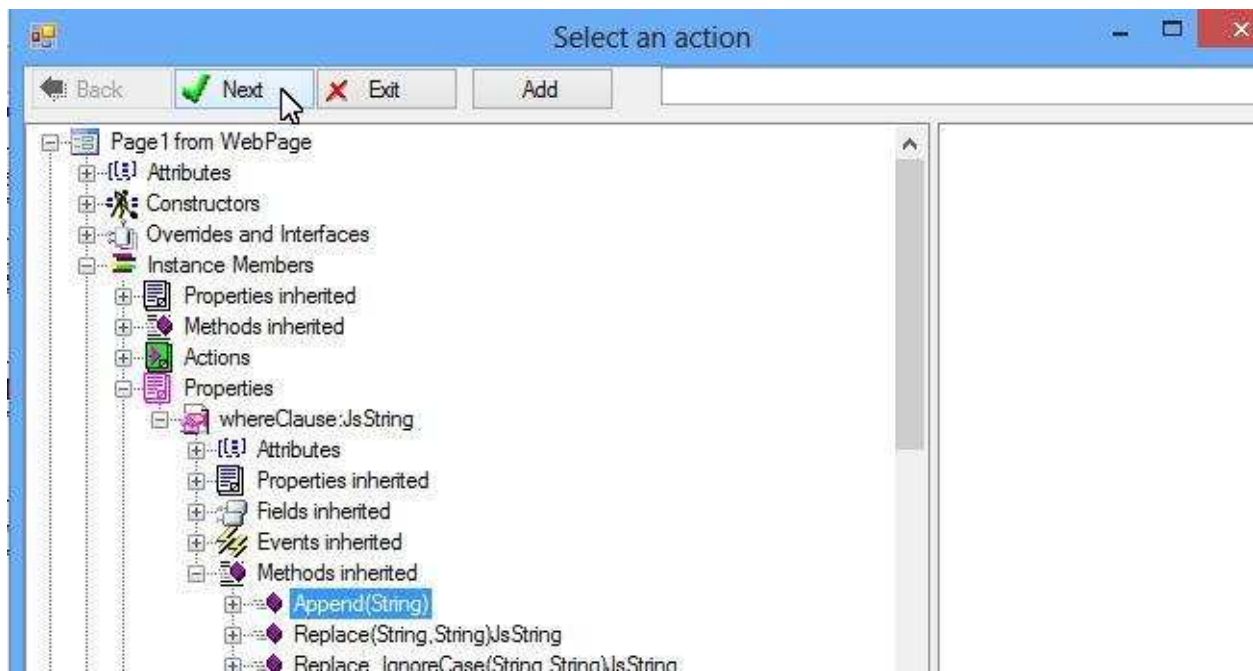
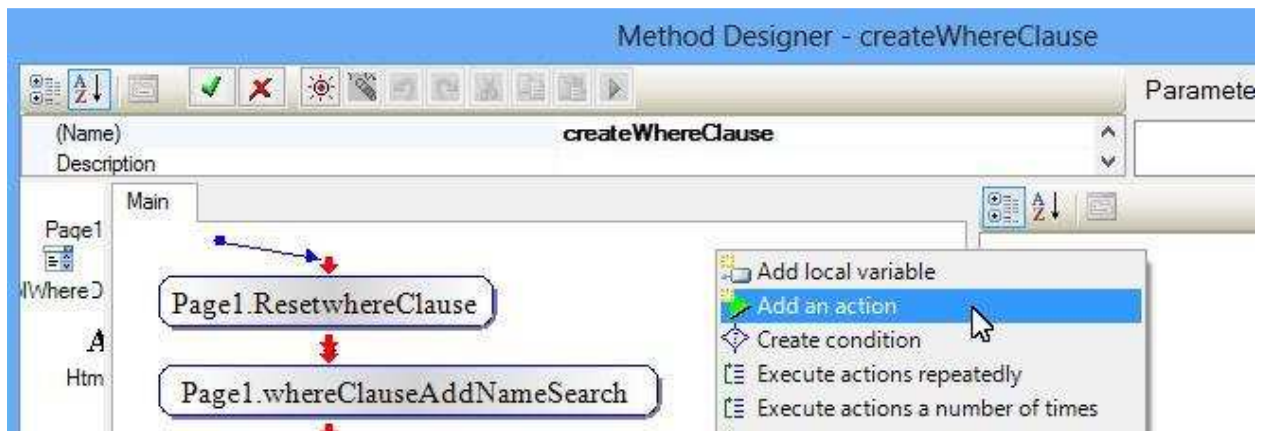
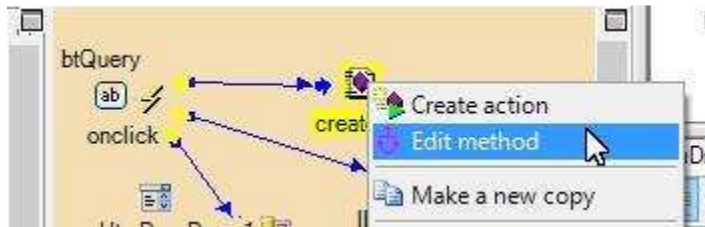
Use a drop down list box as UI

Suppose we use a drop down to give users an option to filter on Active field which is a BOOLEAN field. The drop down has 3 values: empty, Yes, and No:

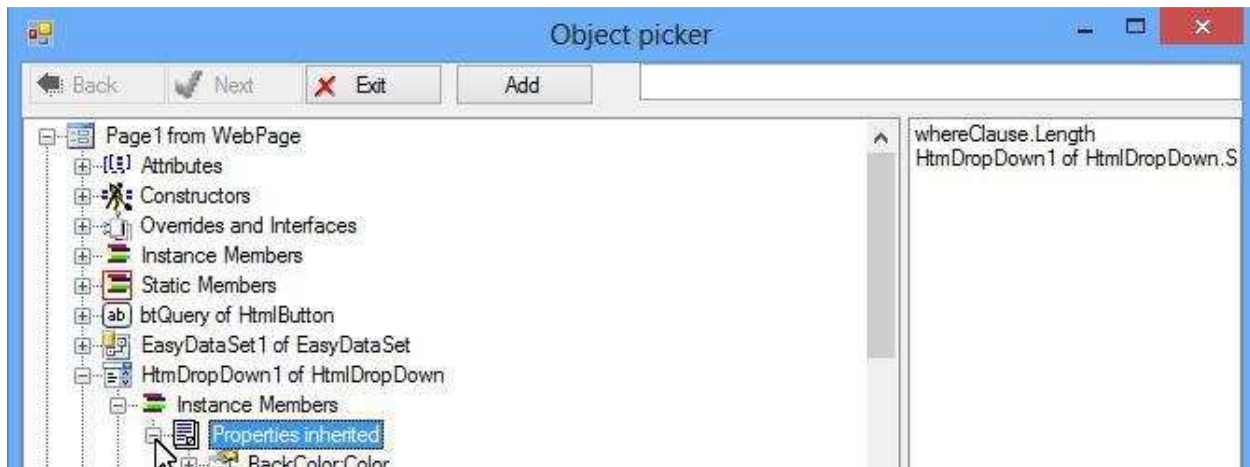
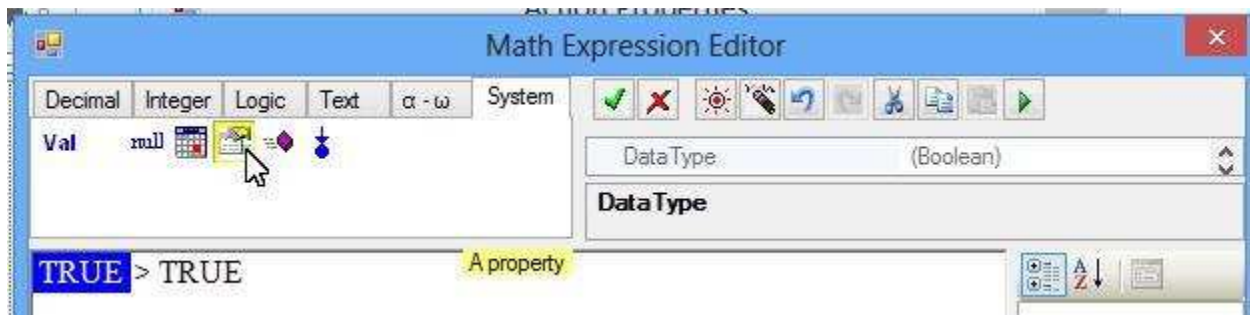
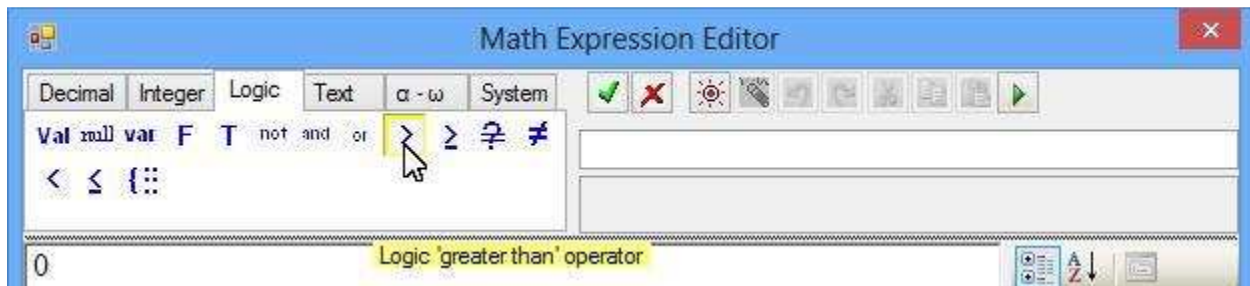
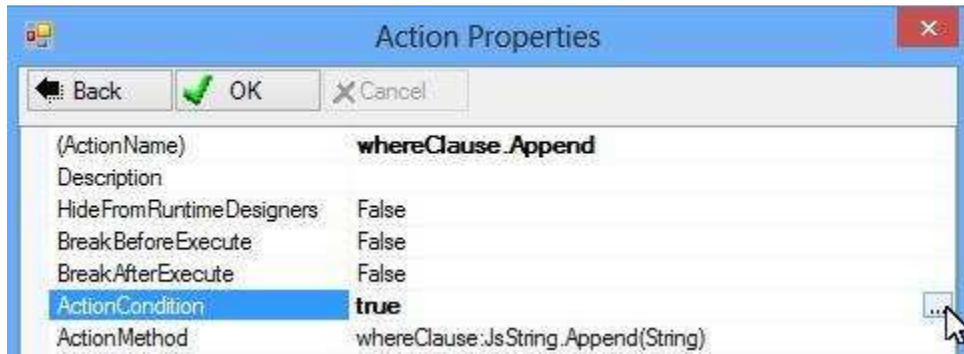


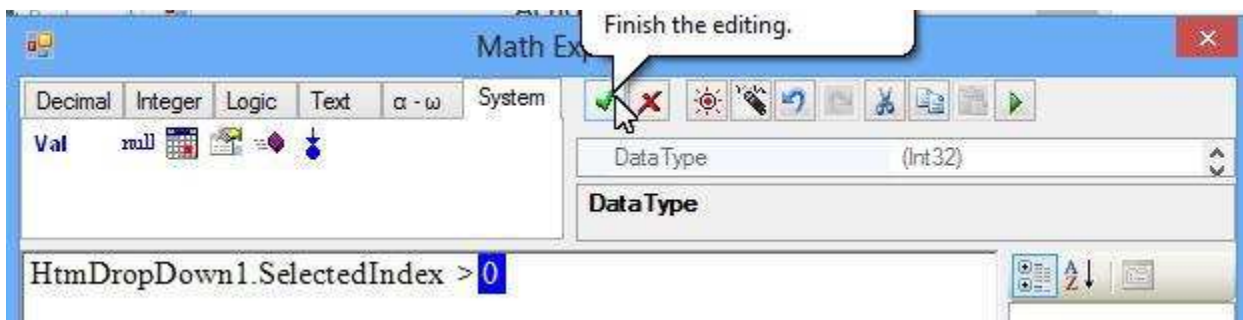
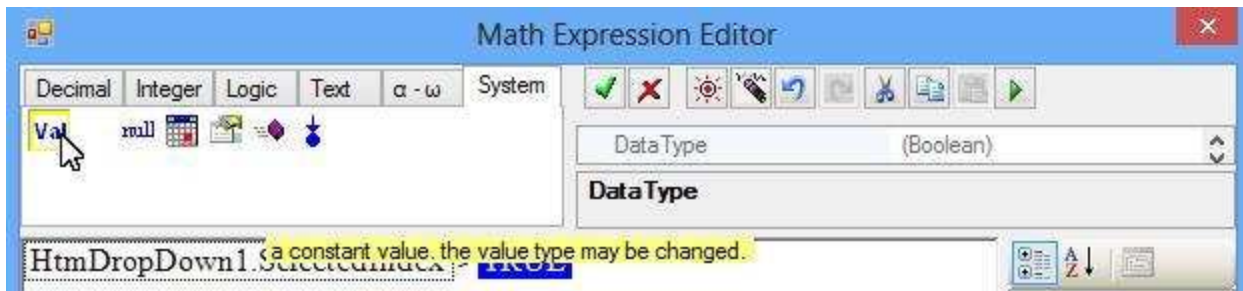
Add filtering

Modify method createWhereClause to append a filter on field Active:

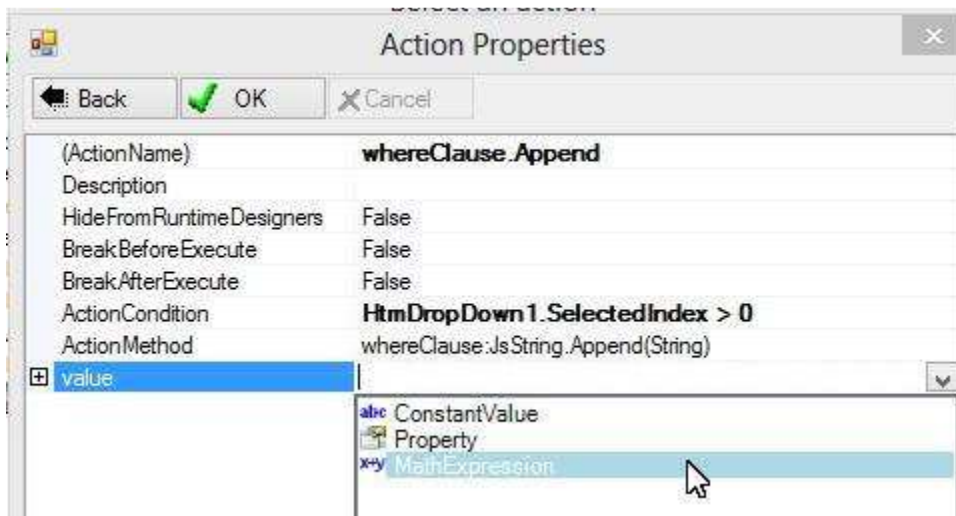


Set ActionCondition to that the selected index of the drop down is larger than 0 because the first item is empty, meaning not to filter on it:

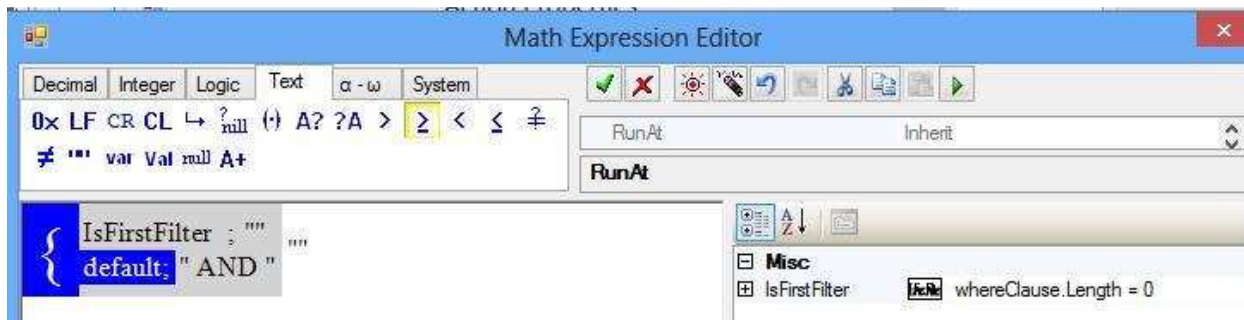




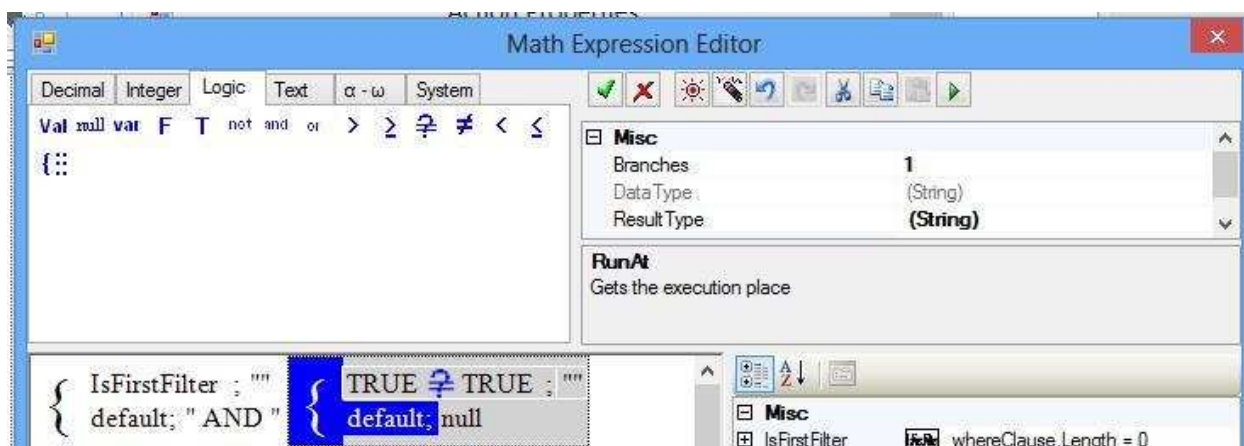
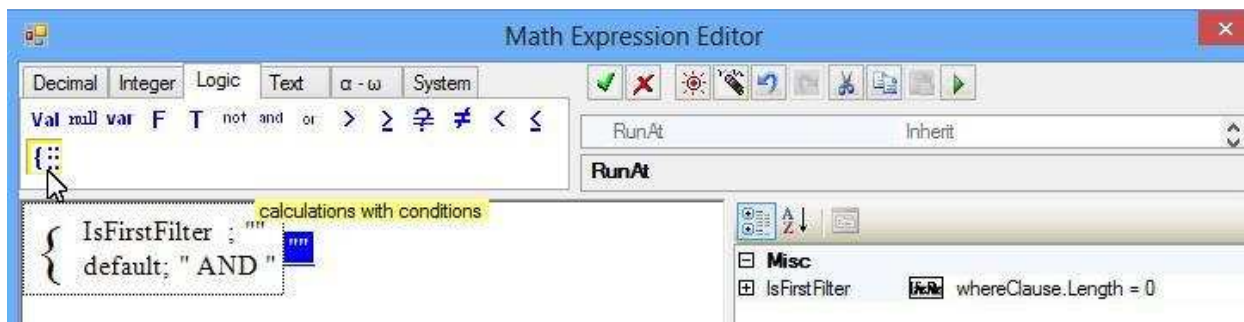
Build an expression for the filter:



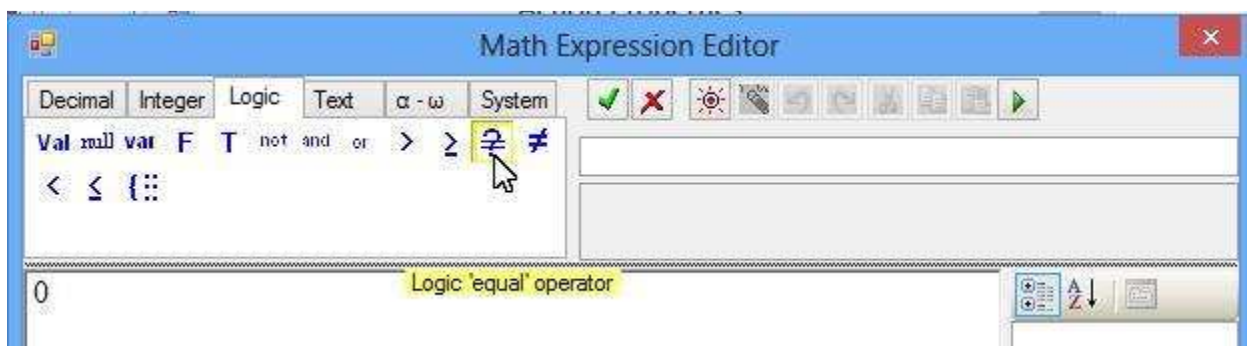
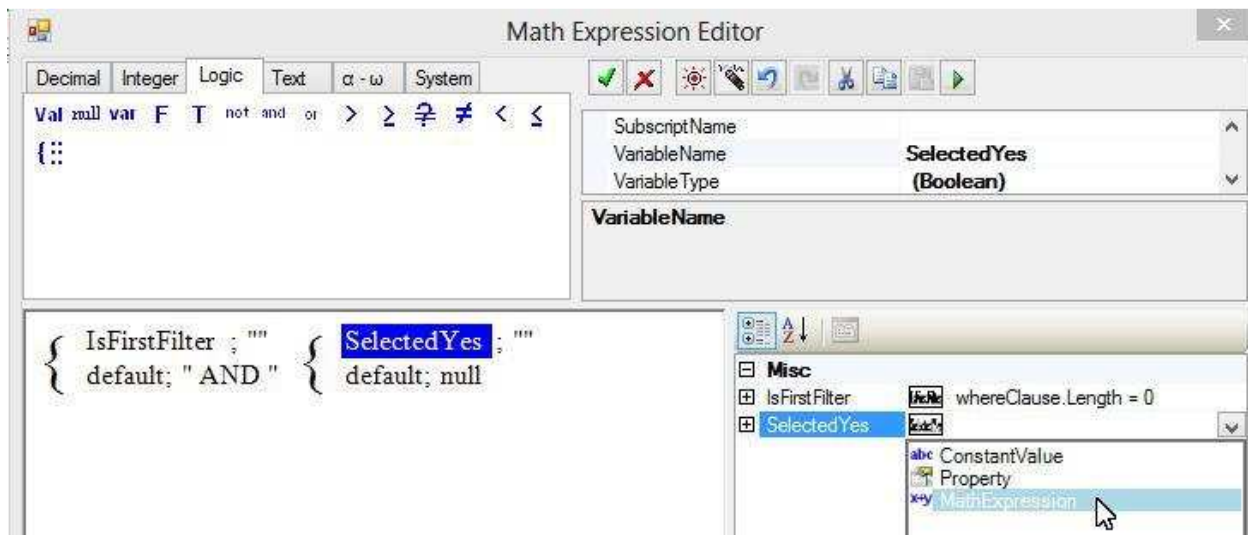
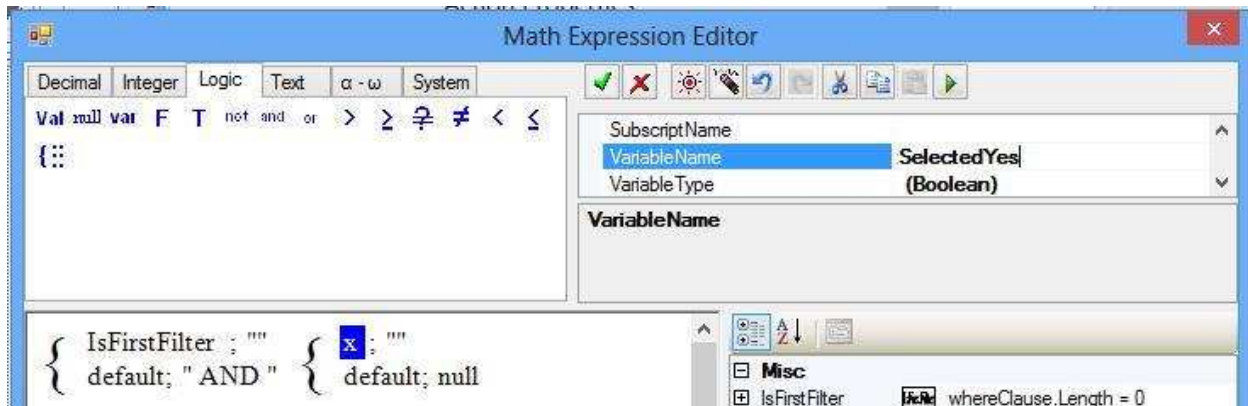
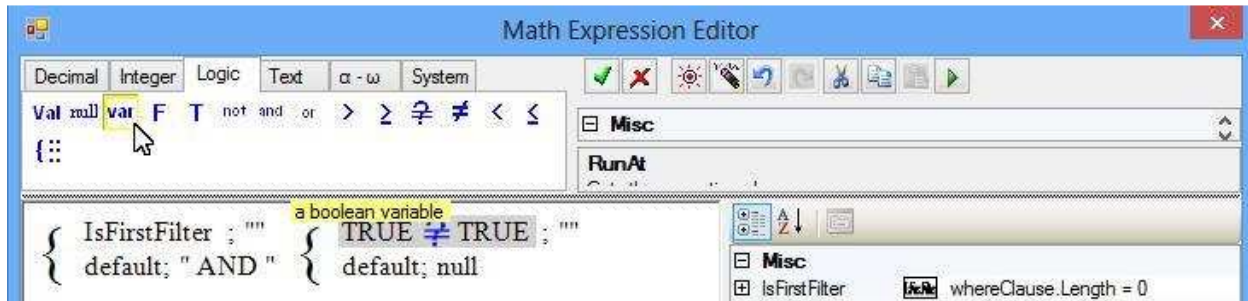
The expression has two parts and the first part is the same as for filtering on Notes and EmployStartDate:

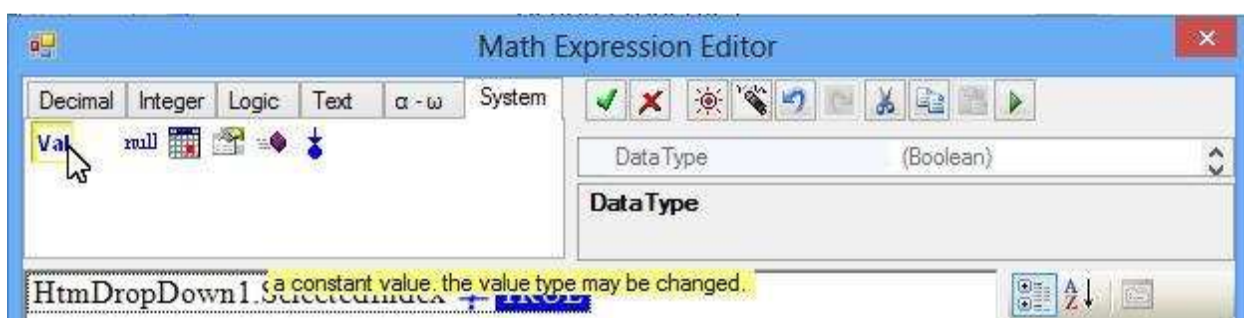
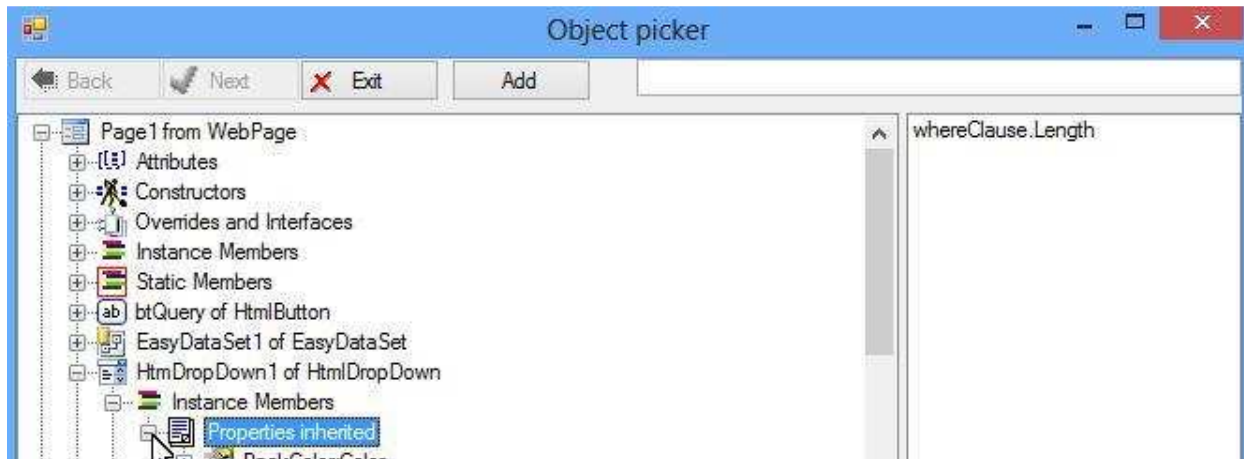
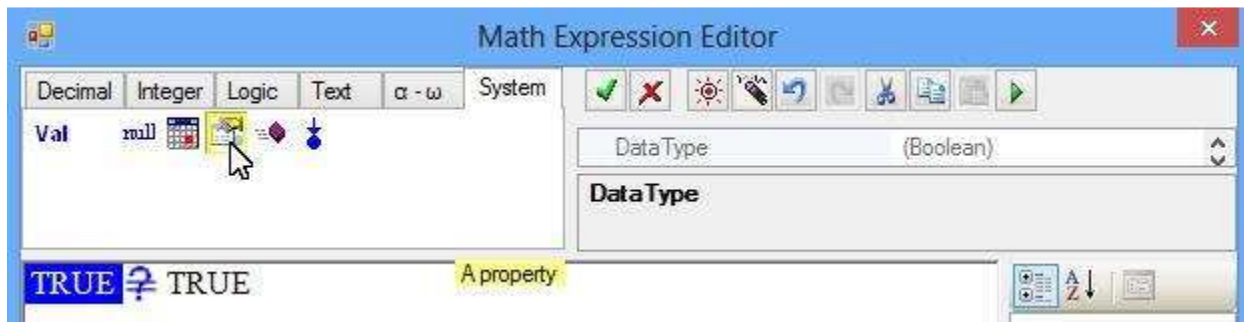


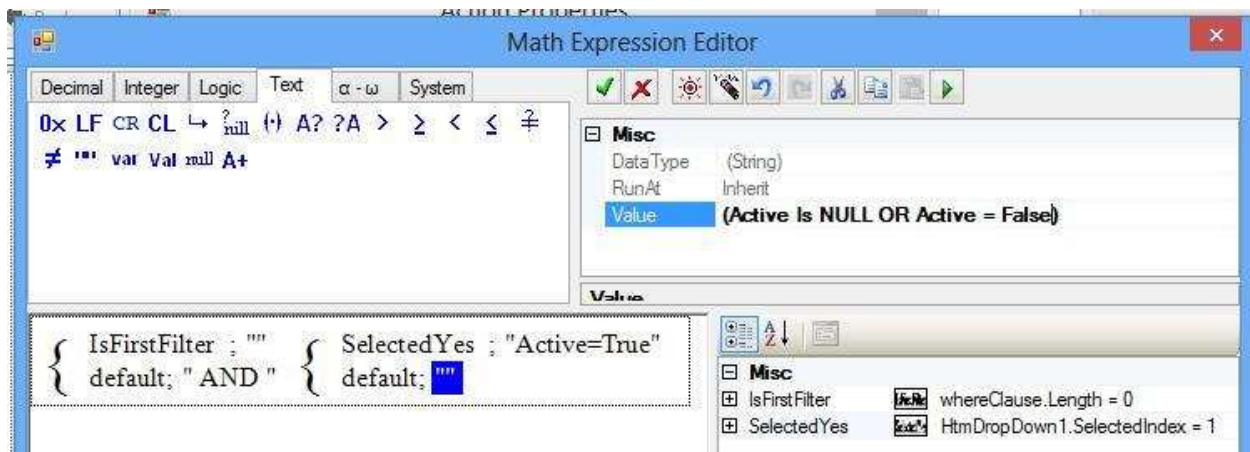
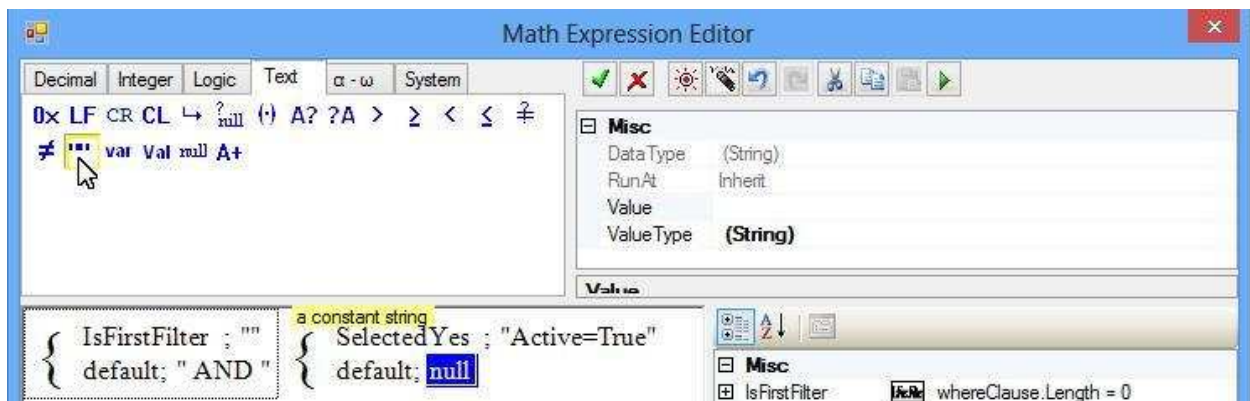
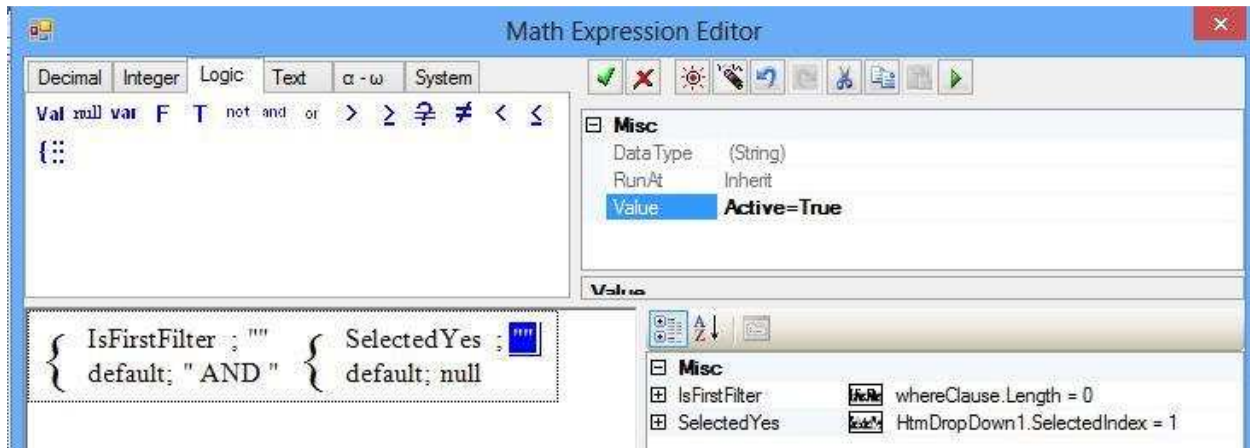
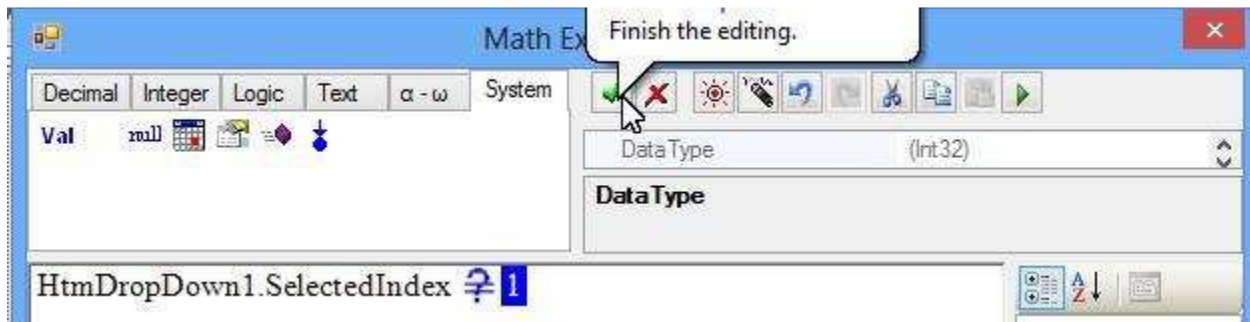
We may also use a switch for the second part to form the filter:



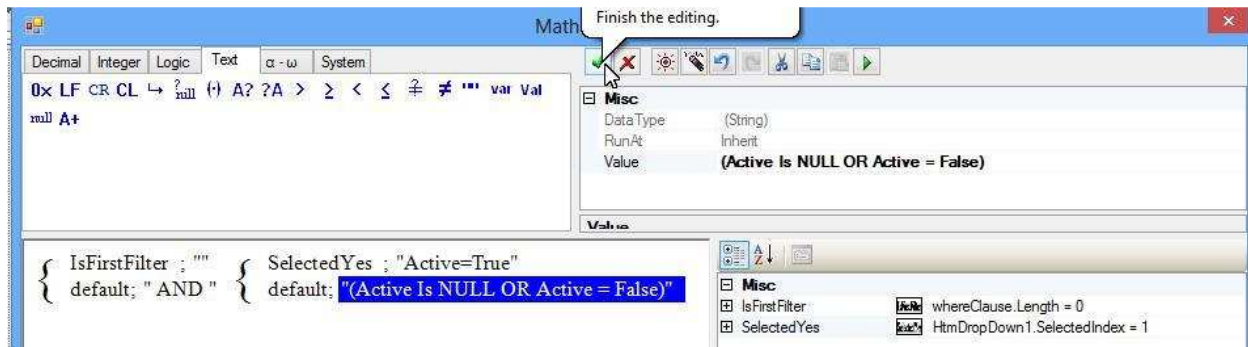
If the selected index of the drop down is 1 then we use filter "Active = True"; else we use filter "(Active is NULL OR Active = False)":



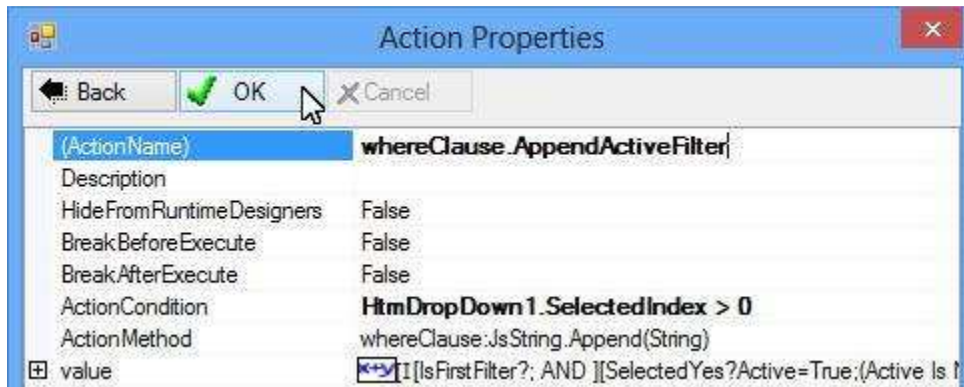




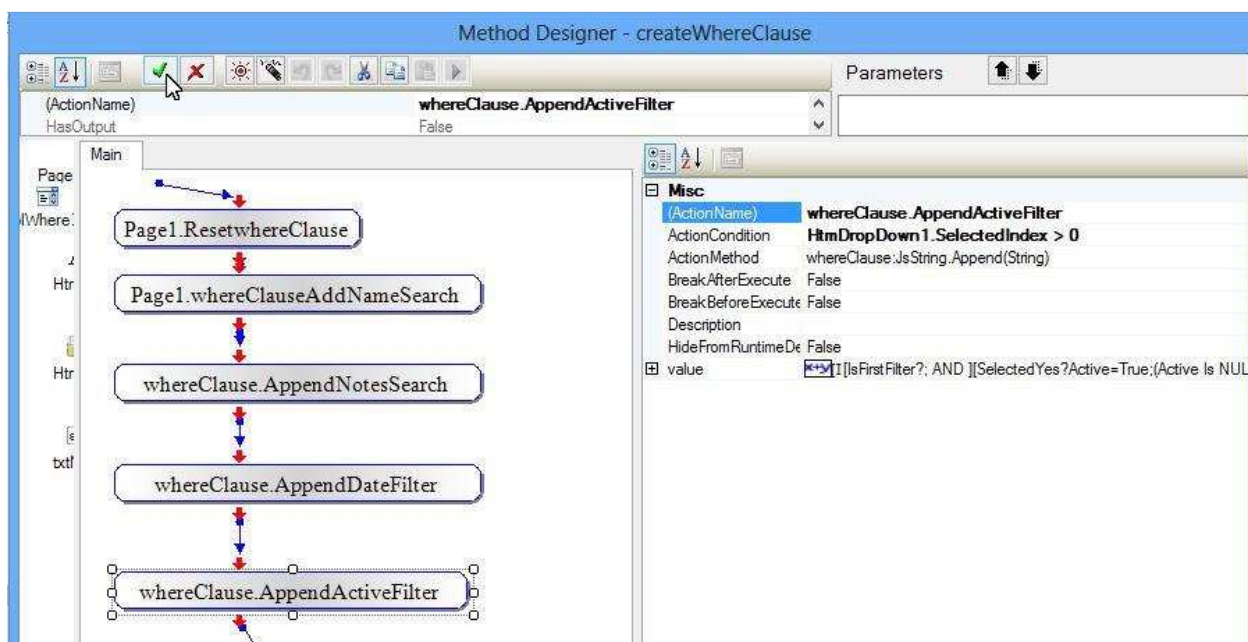
This is our expression for filtering on field Active:



Rename the action and click OK:



Link the action:



Demo

Run project and choose different drop items to see how the filtering is applied:

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than: Active: Yes

Active=True

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
1	AAA BBB	{null}	Some text	1
2	BBB CCC	{null}	Test message	1
5	EEE DD	2008-12-23 00:00:00	AAA BBB	1

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than: Active: No

(Active Is NULL OR Active = False)

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
3	CCC	{null}	Need update	{null}
4	DDD	2000-03-18 00:00:00	JJJ AAA	{null}
6	FFF D	2010-06-16 00:00:00	AAA EEE	{null}
7	GGG	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}
8	HHH	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than: Active:

Notes LIKE CONCAT('%'.@notes,'%') AND (Active Is NULL OR Active = False)

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
4	DDD	2000-03-18 00:00:00	JJJ AAA	{null}
6	FFF D	2010-06-16 00:00:00	AAA EEE	{null}
7	GGG	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}
8	HHH	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}

Employee name contains: Notes contains:

Employee date later than: Active:

Notes LIKE CONCAT('%'.@notes,'%')

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
4	DDD	2000-03-18 00:00:00	JJJ AAA	{null}
5	EEE DD	2008-12-23 00:00:00	AAA BBB	1
6	FFF D	2010-06-16 00:00:00	AAA EEE	{null}
7	GGG	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}
8	HHH	{null}	BBB AAA	{null}

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `http://localhost/WebApp2/Page1.html?det`. The page contains several input fields for filtering data:

- Employee name contains:** An empty text input field.
- Notes contains:** A text input field containing the value `AA`.
- Employee date later than:** A text input field with a calendar icon to its right.
- Active:** A dropdown menu currently showing `Yes`.
- Query:** A button to execute the search.

Below the filters, the generated SQL query is displayed: `Notes LIKE CONCAT('%'.@notes,'%') AND Active=True`.

The results are shown in a table with the following data:

EmployeeID	EmployeeName	EmployeeDate	Notes	Active
5	EEE DD	2008-12-23 00:00:00	AAA BBB	1

Security notes

We see that we do not use a parameter for constructing filtering on a Boolean field. It looks simpler than using a parameter as we did for name search. But do not use it for filtering on text fields because it makes your web page vulnerable to SQL-injection attacks. It is safe to use it for Boolean field filtering.

Create New Records

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming5.pdf>

Data Streaming

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming5.pdf>

Fetch Data of One-to-Many Relation

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming5.pdf>

Change Data-binding

See <http://www.limnor.com/support/webDatabaseProgramming5.pdf>

Feedbacks

Please send your feedbacks to support@limnor.com, thanks!