Exercise 4

CRUD Operations

Prepared for Programming with Generative AI Mario Silic, PhD

1. Objective

Understand CRUD operations with VB.Net.

CRUD operations are the four basic functions of persistent storage in databases and software systems. CRUD stands for:

- 1. Create: Adding new data to a database (e.g., adding a new student record).
- 2. **Read**: Retrieving or viewing existing data (e.g., displaying a list of students).
- 3. **Update**: Modifying existing data (e.g., changing a student's email address).
- 4. **Delete**: Removing data from the database (e.g., deleting a student record).

These operations are essential for managing and interacting with data in applications.

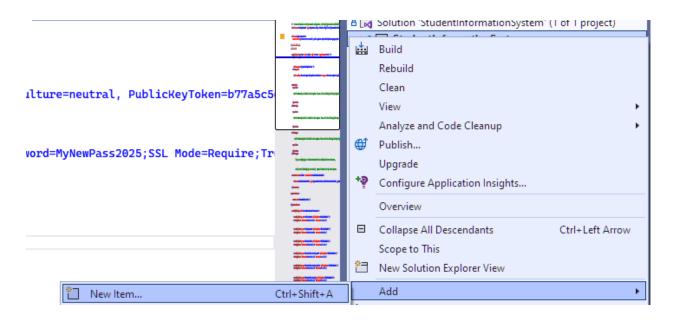
2. CRUD

We want now to leverage our application and introduce CRUD operations.

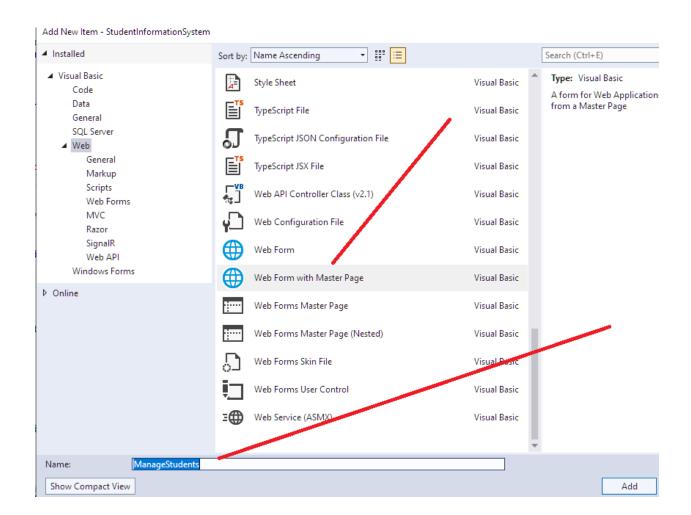
To do that, we will create a new webpagd in ourwebsite that you can call **ManageStudents.aspx**

How?

Right click on your project "StudentInformationSystem". Below screen will appear – select New item



Select Web Form with Master Page and Name it ManageStudents as it is on the screen. Finally, click on Add.

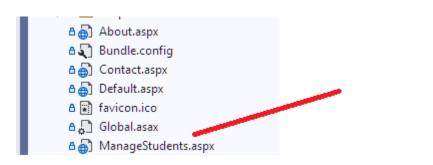


Select Site.Master as your master page.

Select a Master Page



New empty page will be created – if you click on it, you will see all is empty.



Ask Generative AI:

• Example of a possible prompt

"I'm using VB.net webforms and I'm connected to supabase. Can you provide me full CUD operations backend and frontend code to manage my students table. I already have master page"

In my case the backend code looks like this (Gen AI provided):

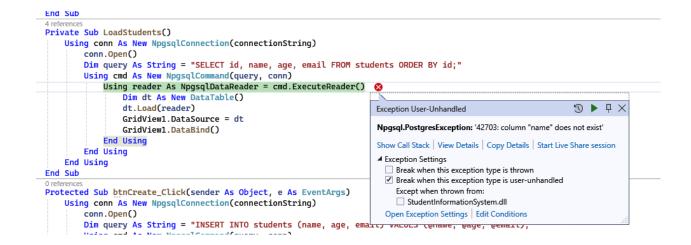
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ınageStudents.aspx.vb* → × Mar
                Imports Npgsql
               Public Class ManageStudents
                    Inherits System.Web.UI.Page
                    Protected Sub Page_Load(ByVal sender As Object, ByVal e As System.EventArgs) Handles Me.Load
                     End Sub
                     Public Sub CreateStudent(name As String, age As Integer, email As String)
                         Dim connectionString As String = ConfigurationManager.ConnectionStrings("SupabaseConnection").ConnectionStr:
Using conn As New NpgsqlConnection(connectionString)
      10
                                conn.Open()
                               Dim query As String = "INSERT INTO students (name, age, email) VALUES (@name, @age, @email);"
      12
                               Using cmd As New NpgsqlCommand(query, conn)
cmd.Parameters.AddWithValue("@name", name)
      14
15
                                    cmd.Parameters.AddWithValue("@age", age)
                                    cmd.Parameters.AddWithValue("@email", email)
      16
17
                                    cmd.ExecuteNonQuery()
      18
19
                               End Using
                          End Using
      20
21
                    End Sub
                    Public Sub UpdateStudent(id As Integer, name As String, age As Integer, email As String)

Dim connectionString As String = ConfigurationManager.ConnectionStrings("SupabaseConnection").ConnectionStr.
      22
      23
      24
25
                          Using conn As New NpgsqlConnection(connectionString)
                               conn.Open()
                               Dim query As String = "UPDATE students SET name = @name, age = @age, email = @email WHERE id = @id;"
Using cmd As New NpgsqlCommand(query, conn)
cmd.Parameters.AddWithValue("@id", id)
      26
27
28
                                    cmd.Parameters.AddWithValue("@name", name)
cmd.Parameters.AddWithValue("@age", age)
      29
30
31
32
                                    cmd.Parameters.AddWithValue("@email", email)
                                    cmd.ExecuteNonQuery()
      33
34
                               End Using
                          End Using
      35
36
                     End Sub
      37
                    Public Sub DeleteStudent(id As Integer)
      38
                                                                                               ConnectionStrings("SupplessConnection") ConnectionStr
```

Now you may get an error like I did – below one which basically says that the column name does not exist in your table students in supabase...

And of course, it does not exist as it is not name but first_name...same goes for id, it it student_id..

There are two ways to fix this. Either you provide to GenAI the structure of your table and it will correct it all OR you fix it manually...as we are lazy let's provide it with the structure and ask it to update the code.



This is what I sent to GenAI



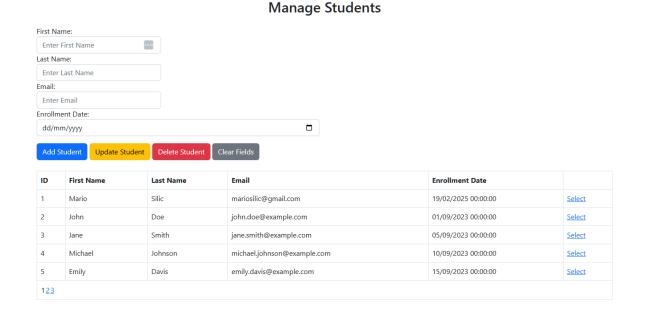
but my students table has the following columns id, first_name, last_name, email and enrollment_date

And immediately all the code was adapted with the new columns...just replace it.

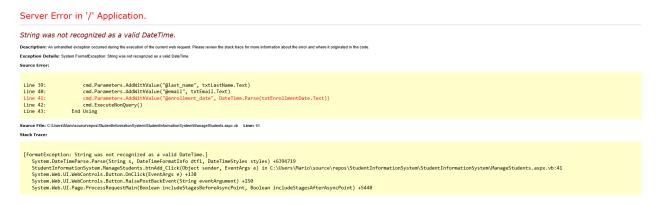
ADVICE!

If you get any error, just GenAI again copy pasting entire error and it will correct what needs to be corrected.

Now if all went fine you should get something similar to this



If you just click on Add student you may get an error message



Why? This is because your code IS NOT controlling for any missing data in your input...

Ask Generative AI:

You should ask GenAI how to improve error handling, missing data, etc.

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TASKS

Now our code already looks promising...BUT...you want to

- a) Add some message box asking the use before deletion or insertion whether he/she is sure about that action
- b) Display some message that an action was done: update or delete or insert
- c) Assign to enrollment date a default todays date
- d) Change your master page from



 e) Assign your newly created page to Manage Students so when someone clicks on Manage Students it will be directed to ManageStudents.aspx
 Ex:

<a class="nav-link" runat="server"
href="~/ManageStudents.aspx">Manage Students

TASK: Create more descriptive Detault web page

Ask Generative AI:

Ask GenAI to create a very simple 1st front page for detault.aspx where you want simply to have some nice visual "Student Information System" and maybe some background photo of students (don't forget to precise that you already have master page and this is for default aspx)

This is what I got.

