

Forms at the user interface

Course Registration

Nr.	name	phone	delete
1.	Alon	001 98 765	■
2.	Bert	04089 1234	■
3.	Charles	00358 4567	■
4.	Dan	001 23 456	■

Delete Record

name: Bert

passwd

New Student

name

phone

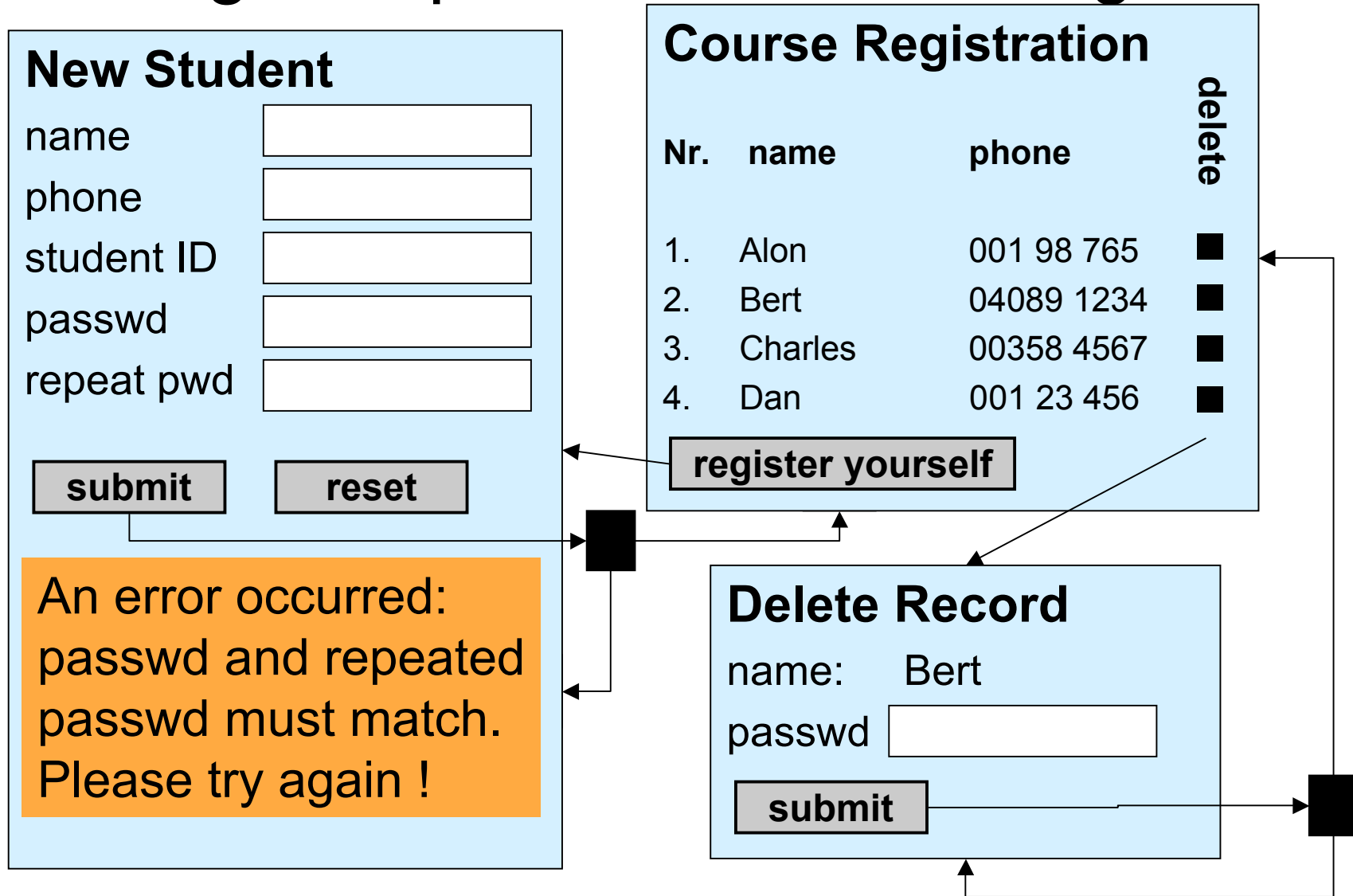
student ID

passwd

repeat pwd

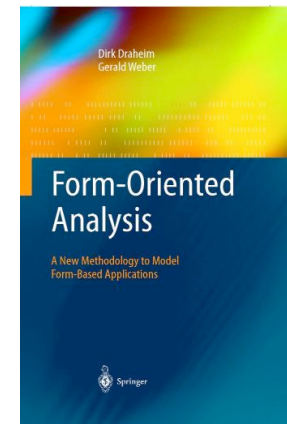
An error occurred:
passwd and repeated
passwd must match.
Please try again !

Modeling Perspective: Screen Diagram



Form-Oriented Analysis

- Draheim, Weber: Form-Oriented Analysis, Springer 2004
- Can be called a domain-balanced method
 - domain-balanced method: A method that has been improved by practical application to a domain.
 - Detailed example models provided, tested in practice
- Form-oriented analysis is a set of patterns for modeling typical enterprise applications.
- Makes heavy use of immutable message types:
- Fits to current trends in
 - enterprise computing:
 - Data warehouses store all transactions for analysis.



Opaque Identities

- Capture one of the capabilities of a computerized system that is not possible with paper forms:
 - Referring to objects, without using a human-readable key.
- The idea is that the system allows the user to manipulate the identities in a consistent way.
- Serves as basis for black box model of the machine.

Opaque Identities, a general model

- Opaque identities connect system output and user input.
- Basic Interaction Model: Drag & Drop
 - not available in widespread technologies (HTML-forms)
 - but semantically simpler

Options

cheese ketchup

lettuce mayo

onions

Choose

DRAHEIM, D., LUTTEROTH, C., WEBER, G.:
'Robust Content Creation with Form-Oriented User Interfaces'.
CHINZ 2005, July 2005, Auckland, ACM Digital Library.

A normal form of a page in a form-based system

- The page has two parts:
 - A report that contains only immutable information
 - A set of forms, that can be filled
- Does not model default values
- The set of forms reachable from the report is clearly represented.

Choose

comments:

submit

Favourite

submit

Options

cheese, 50 cents

lettuce, 20 cents

onions, 20 cents

ketchup

mayo

bbq

compare with page and neighboring forms in the form storyboard

Form-based applications

- are everywhere, especially as enterprise applications, mostly for administrations:
 - enterprise resource planning (ERP), management Information systems (MIS), e-commerce.
 - human resources, education (CECIL, nDeva), health Information systems.
- are constantly newly developed.
- development can be very costly, systems are large and complex.
- have a lot of quality issues.
- are mission critical.
- hence: form-based applications are important.