

What is . . . Taverna ?

Taverna (<http://www.taverna.org.uk/>) is a free workflow management system created by the myGrid project (<http://www.mygrid.org.uk/>) and funded through OMII-UK (include link here).

Taverna is a data flow based software and all of its operations must be encapsulated as web services. It is a workflow management application that allows for the design and execution of ad hoc workflows. It is easily integrated with Soaplab and BioCatalogue, the software that hosts the various web services offered by PANACEA. Taverna is basic to use as it is based on the merging of 2 branches when both are finished. Please refer to the demo video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zh0tn8amjAY&feature=player_embedded for an example of Taverna in action.

The workflow editor that composes Taverna is simple to manipulate with two main spaces: the editor and the visualization. The editor panel contains a tree with five initial branches for processors, inputs, outputs, data connections and coordination links. The visualization is composed of a graphical display panel of which the system allows for different graphical visualizations that can later be saved.

Taverna's search engine includes a good discovery tool which allows the user to search by: name & description and tasks, method and resources used, input and output, and type. This software also permits the user to defined alternate processed in the case of a failure, as well as breakpoints allowing thus user to stop the workflow and edit data before going on.

For detailed information on how to use Taverna 2.0, please refer to its user manual <http://www.mygrid.org.uk/dev/wiki/display/taverna/User+Manual/>