

SHIWA Repository User Manual

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This manual documents the SHIWA application repository. Sections 1-2 describe the key entities, actors and use cases, section 3-6 describe how the provided features can be accessed via the GUI.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND

Researchers of all disciplines, from Life Sciences to Computational Chemistry, create and use ever-increasing amounts of complex data, and more so rely on compute-intensive modelling, simulation and analysis.

Scientific workflows have become a key paradigm for managing complex tasks and have emerged as a unifying mechanism for handling scientific data. Workflows capture the essence of the scientific process, providing a means to describe it via logical data and/ or workflows. Workflows are mapped onto concrete Distributed Computing Infrastructures (DCIs) to perform large-scale experiments.

The learning curve to use workflows, however, is demanding because workflows typically have their own user interfaces/APIs, description languages, provenance strategies, and enactment engines, which are not standard and are not interoperable. Therefore it is difficult to reuse and share workflows, this inhibits the growth in uptake and proliferation of workflows in scientific practice.

1.2. SHIWA SIMULATION PLATFORM

User communities from all around Europe use many kinds of different workflow languages. They develop workflows using one of the workflow engines. Workflow development, testing and publishing are time consuming processes and require specific expertise. These limit the number of available workflows, so it is important to share them. Workflows developed for one workflow system is normally not compatible with workflows of other workflow systems. In the past if two user communities using different workflow systems wanted to collaborate, they had to re-implement the workflows in their own workflow system. This situation can be resolved by emerging new workflow interoperability technologies provided by the SHIWA Simulation Platform.

According to the new SHIWA technologies publicly available workflows can be used by different research communities working on different workflow systems and are enabled to run on multiple distributed computing infrastructures. As a result workflow communities are not locked anymore in to their own workflow system and are able to execute workflows on several distributed computing infrastructure.

1.3. KEY COMPONENTS

The SHIWA Simulation Platform offers users production-level services supporting workflow interoperability. As part of the SHIWA Simulation Platform the SHIWA Repository facilitates publishing and sharing workflows, and the SHIWA Portal enables their actual enactment and execution in different DCIs. The simulation platform supports use cases targeting various scientific domains or subdomains will serve to drive and evaluate this platform from a user's perspective.

1.4. LINKS

The SHIWA homepage is

<http://www.shiwa-workflow.eu>

The SHIWA Simulation platform can be found at

<http://ssp.shiwa-workflow.eu/>

The SHIWA Repository can be found at

<http://repo.shiwa-workflow.eu/>

1.5. REFRENCING WORKFLOWS AND IMPLEMENTATIONS

To reference a workflow or implementation with a URL (**Uniform Resource Locator**), copy the URL in the address bar while viewing the required workflow or implementation.

The link will be of the format:

<http://shiwa-repo.cpc.wmin.ac.uk/shiwa-repo/public/edit-application.xhtml?appid=4752>

or

<http://shiwa-repo.cpc.wmin.ac.uk/shiwa-repo/public/edit-implementation.xhtml?impid=3208>

In academic publications, please the following Harvard Style compliant method to reference workflows or implementations:

.....

1.6. HOW TO REGISTER AS A USER

Should you want to register, to enable workflow development, please send an email to shiwa-repo-admin@cpc.wmin.ac.uk.

2. ENTITY, ACTOR & USE-CASE SPECIFICATION

2.1. ENTITY DEFINITIONS

Workflow. This entity represents an abstract workflow. It describes the inputs and outputs and explains what the workflow does. It also specifies sample inputs and outputs (configurations), and some further information.

Implementation. This entity represents an implementation (or concrete workflow) of a workflow. It strictly follows the input and output definitions of the abstract workflow and implements the functionality given in the workflow description. It contains or references (via e.g. URLs) the implementation description files, dependencies to run the workflow on its associated workflow engine and the workflow's graph.

Engine. This entity represents a workflow engine that is able to interpret and execute a given implementation.

User. This entity represents a repository user associated with a specific role (repo admin, workflow developer, e-scientist).

Group. This entity grants read/write/download rights to a particular workflow for a set of users (the members of the group).

Platform. This entity describes in which desktop and/or service Grid environment the implementation can be executed.

Files. This entity contains the files related to workflows and their implementations.

2.2. ACTOR DEFINITIONS

E-scientist. This actor is the consumer of the contents of the repository, i.e. workflow engines and workflows to run experiments. This actor should not register with the repository to browse and search the repository.

2.3. USE CASES

This user manual only covers the use case of the E-scientist. Use cases of all actors can be found in the administrator manual.

2.3.1. E-SCIENTIST

They are the consumers of the contents of the repository and can access the following functionality (see Figure 1).

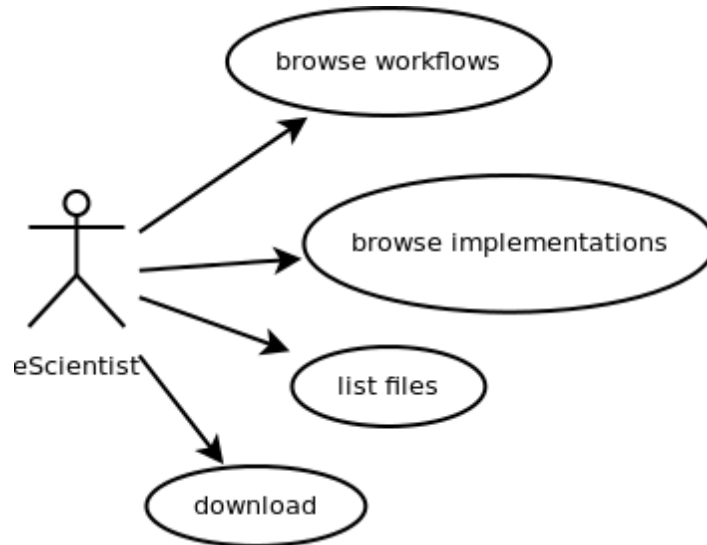


Figure 1: E-Scientist use case

Browse workflows

Browsing includes searching and listing public workflows based on their metadata.

Browse implementations

E-scientists can browse public implementations of the workflows selected by the “Browse workflows” operation.

List files

E-scientists can list files belonging to public workflows or public implementations selected by the above use cases. .

Download

Users can download workflows and their related entities (implementations, configurations and files).

3. GUI STRUCTURE

Repository features can be accessed using the main menu on the top. The following chapters go through the Workflows and Implementations tabs and describe the provided functionality. Information related to the selected tab is displayed in a table. Rows of a table can be filtered by entering text into the text field below any column title. Actions can be initiated using an “Actions” tab on the right. See illustration in Figure 2.

This is the GUI structure of the public view, which can be viewed without any login credentials.

The screenshot shows the top navigation menu with links for About, Workflows, Implementations, Documentation, SHIWA User Forum, and Log in. Below this is the 'Workflows' section header. A table displays a list of workflows with the following data:

Name	Owner	Group	Status	Description	Popularity	
concatTwoStrings	admin	concatTwoStringsMyExp	public	for tests of TavernaServer This work...	10%	>
Importer	sciacca	Astrophysics	public	This workflow performs a VisIVO Impor...	4%	>
VisIVODynMov	sciacca	Astrophysics	public	This workflow employs VisIVO Tools to...	4%	>
Franec4	sciacca	VisIVO	public	This workflow executes a stellar evol...	4%	>
GetImageFromURL	meilhab	deployedOnGEMLCA	public	Get an image from a predefined URL. ...	3%	>

Figure 2: GUI Structure

4. WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT

4.1. LIST AND SEARCH PUBLIC WORKFLOWS

4.1.1. WORKFLOW BROWSE VIEW

Figure 3 below, displays the Workflow Browse view. This view displays basic information about public workflows and implementations in a convenient form. By clicking the Details button more information is displayed about the Workflow and all its implementations.

Inputs, Outputs and Datasets tabs can be further expanded, to display more information.

Find Workflows

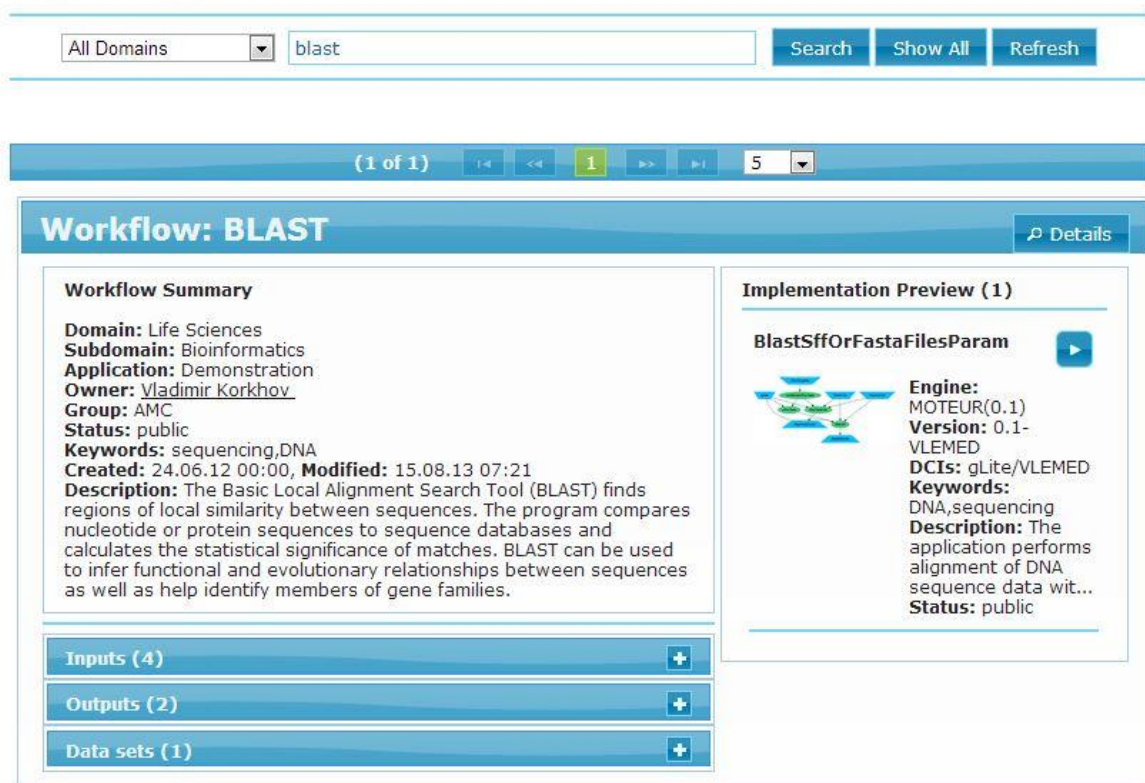
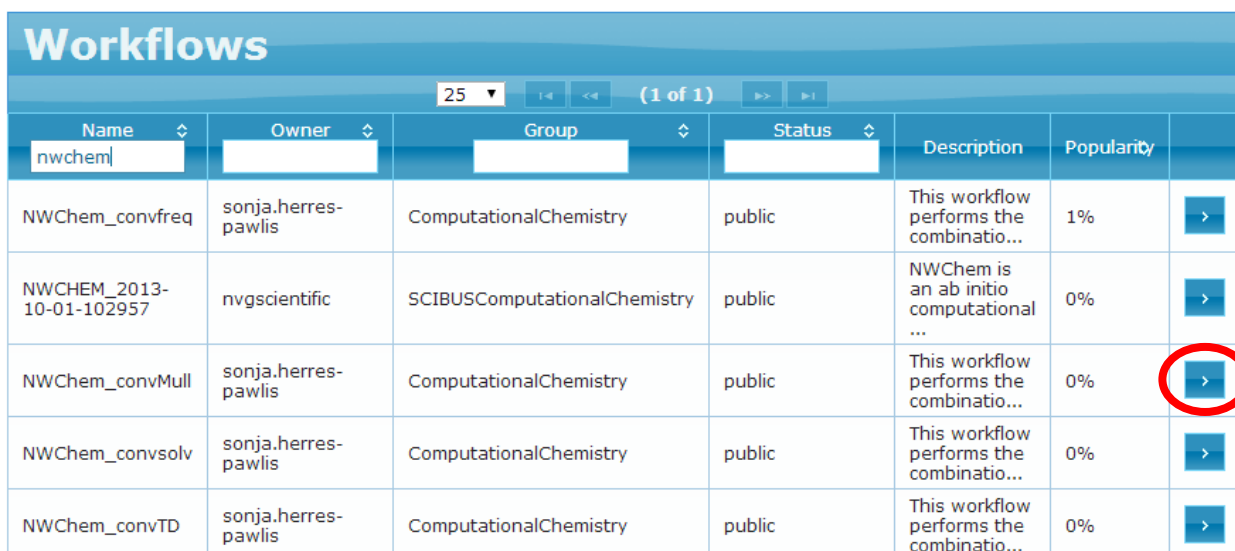


Figure 3: Workflows Browse view

Textual search in workflow or implementation records can be performed using the search box. The search operation can be restricted to application domains or subdomains.

4.1.2. WORKFLOW TABLE VIEW (FIGURE 4)

The Workflows Table view can be used to list and filter public workflows by Name, Owner, Group, Status or Popularity.



Name	Owner	Group	Status	Description	Popularity	
nwchem						
NWChem_convfreq	sonja.herres-pawlis	ComputationalChemistry	public	This workflow performs the combinatio...	1%	>
NWCHEM_2013-10-01-102957	nvgscientific	SCIBUSComputationalChemistry	public	NWChem is an ab initio computational ...	0%	>
NWChem_convMull	sonja.herres-pawlis	ComputationalChemistry	public	This workflow performs the combinatio...	0%	>
NWChem_convsolv	sonja.herres-pawlis	ComputationalChemistry	public	This workflow performs the combinatio...	0%	>
NWChem_convTD	sonja.herres-pawlis	ComputationalChemistry	public	This workflow performs the combinatio...	0%	>

Figure 4: Workflows table view

All available information about workflows and their implementations can be viewed by selecting the workflow in this view.

To select a workflow click the Select Icon  of the workflow of interest. The icon has been circled in red in Figure 4.

4.1.3. WORKFLOW DETAILS (FIGURE 5)

Selected workflow: concatTwoStrings



Details	Owner	Access	Attributes	Files	Implementations
Name:	concatTwoStrings				
ID:	5152				
Views:	7				
Description:	<p>for tests of TavernaServer</p> <p>This workflow has been downloaded from the myExperiment web site. URL: http://www.myexperiment.org/workflows/3855.html</p>				

Figure 5: Workflow details page

4.1.4. WORKFLOW ATTRIBUTES (FIGURE 6)

Workflow attributes can be listed by clicking on the Attributes tab of a particular Workflow.

Selected workflow: concatTwoStrings

Attributes			Actions
Name	Value	Actions	
▼ inputs			
▼ port0001			
datatype	file		
description			
title	string1		
▼ port0002			
datatype	file		
description			
title	string2		
▼ outputs			
▼ port0003			
datatype	file		
description			
title	concatanated		
▼ datasets			
▼ dataset0001			
description			
port0001	string1		
port0002	string2		
port0003	concatanated		
tasktype			
application			
domain	Demo		
subdomain	-		
keywords			

Figure 6: Workflow attributes page

The Expand/Collapse button in the Action control can be used to display all the attributes of the workflow.

Table Annex 1 describes the metadata structure of the attributes, and provides example values Annex 1 presents the Workflow metadata structure. These attributes allow straightforward categorisation of workflows and improve the browsing and search operations significantly. The input and output attributes with their sub-attributes define inputs and outputs of the Workflow. The dataset attribute specifies values of input parameters passed to workflow inputs, and they can also specify example outputs

4.1.5. WORKFLOW FILES & DOWNLOAD (FIGURE 7)

Selected workflow: FetchImages

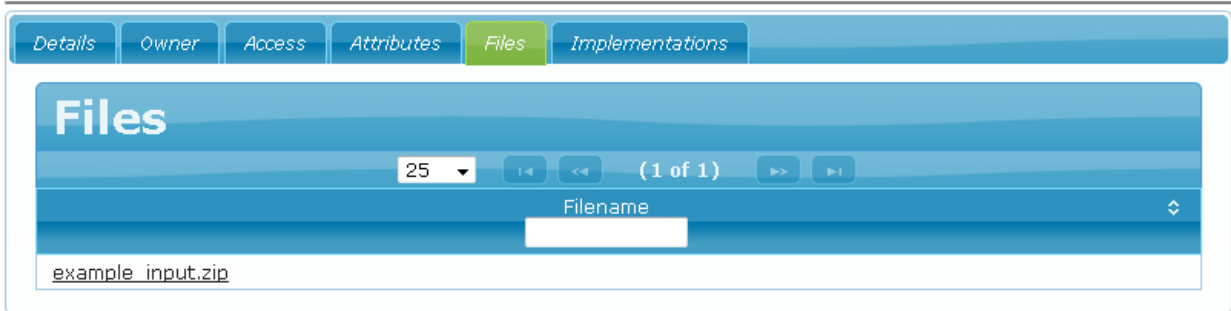


Figure 7: Workflows files page

Files associated with the abstract workflow definition can be downloaded from this page by right-clicking the files and selecting “Save as” or appropriate, as per your browser.

If files are not permitted to be downloaded, only their names will be displayed, but no live-links for download will be generated.

4.1.6. WORKFLOW IMPLEMENTATIONS (FIGURE 8)

Selected workflow: concatTwoStrings

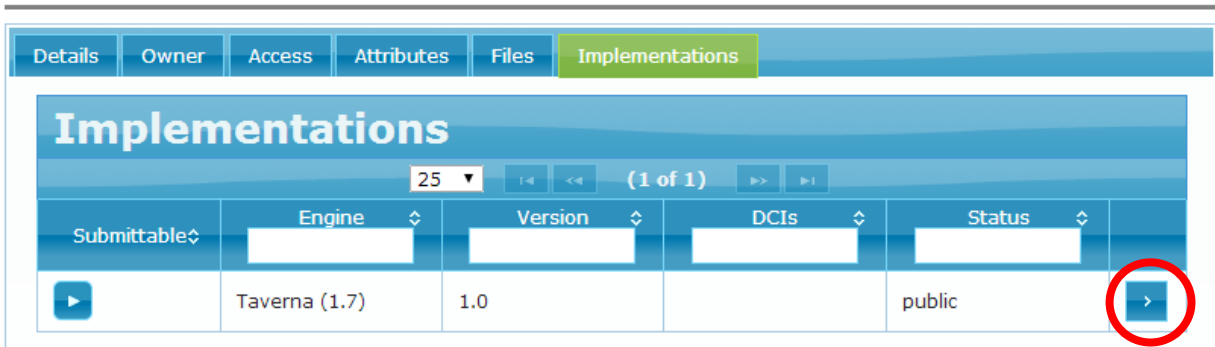



Figure 8: Workflows Implementations page

This page lists the implementations of the selected workflow.

Selecting any of the implementations directs users to the implementation details of that Implementation (see Implementations details).

To select an Implementation click the Select Icon  of the workflow of interest. The icon has been circled in red in Figure 8.

5. IMPLEMENTATION MANAGEMENT

5.1. LIST AND SEARCH IMPLEMENTATIONS

5.1.1. IMPLEMENTATION BROWSE VIEW

Figure 9 below, displays the Implementation Browse view. This view displays most of the information about public implementations in a convenient form. Dependencies and Configurations can be expanded to display more information. This view also displays a 10-star review score, representing the results of the community validation. The review rating presents the average of the most recent rating given by any developer who has reviewed this implementation. Workflow owners may not rate their own implementations. Should a developer give a second review of an implementation, the previous review will be discarded.

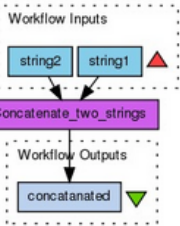
Find Implementations

All Domains

(1 of 24)

Workflow: concatTwoStrings | Engine: Taverna(1.7) | Implementation version: 1.0

Graph



Implementation summary

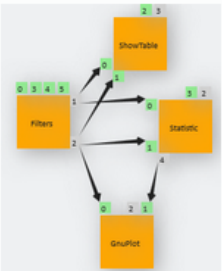
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (Score from 0 reviews)

Title: concatTwoStrings
Workflow: [concatTwoStrings](#)
Engine: Taverna(1.7)
Version: 1.0
Status: public
Language: t2flow+xml
Domain: Demo
Licence: by-sa
Definition: [concattwostrings_707774.t2flow](#)
Created: 12.02.14 0:00, **Modified:** 04.03.14 13:33

Description: for tests of TavernaServer This workflow has been downloaded from the myExperiment web site. URL: <http://www.myexperiment.org/workflows/3855.html>

Workflow: Filters2 | Engine: ASKALON(1.0) | Implementation version: 3.5.7.1

Graph



Implementation summary

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (Score from 0 reviews)

Workflow: [Filters2](#)
Engine: ASKALON(1.0)
Version: 3.5.7.1
Status: public
Domain: Astrophysics
Created: 06.09.13 0:00, **Modified:** 03.03.14 16:44

Figure 9: Browse Implementation view

Textual search in workflow implementation records can be performed using the search box. This search can be restricted to specific application domains or subdomains.

5.1.2. IMPLEMENTATION TABLE VIEW

The Implementations Table View (shown in Figure 10) can be used to list and filter public Implementations by Submitability, Workflow, Engine, Version, Status, Popularity and rating.

★ About
📁 Workflows ▾
🔗 Implementations ▾
? Documentation ▾
🗣️ SHIWA User Forum
Log in

Implementations							
Submittable	Workflow	Engine	Version	Status	Popularity	Rating	
		taverna					25 (1 of 1)
	concatTwoStrings	Taverna (1.7)	1.0	public	17%	0.0	
	FetchImages	Taverna (1.7)	1.0	public	2%	0.0	
	HiParamQuery	Taverna (2.4)	1.0	public	0%	0.0	
	BrownDwarfs0	Taverna (2.4)	1.0	public	0%	0.0	

Figure 10: Implementations Table view

All available information about Implementations can be viewed by selecting the Implementation from this view.

To select an Implementation click the Select Icon of the workflow of interest. The icon has been circled in red in Figure 10.

5.1.3. IMPLEMENTATIONS DETAILS

The implementation's details page is illustrated in Figure 11.

Workflow: [concatTwoStrings](#)
 Engine: Taverna(1.7)
 Implementation version: 1.0

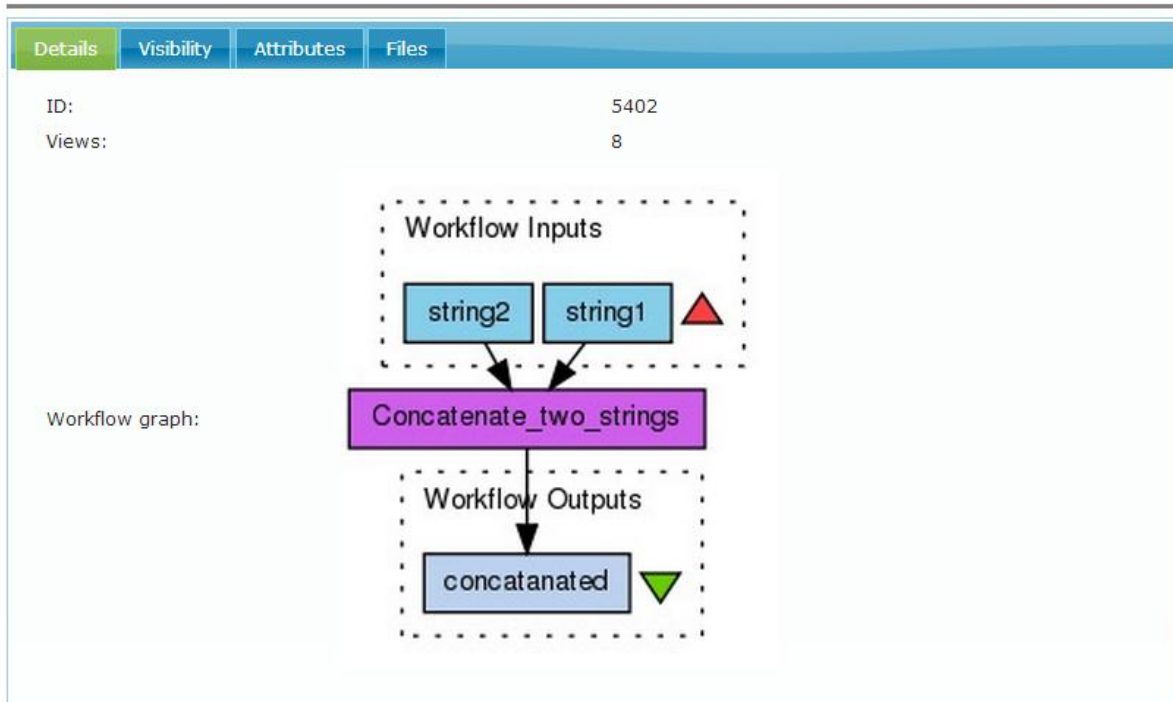


Figure 11: Implementation Details page

The *Attributes* tab can be used to open the attributes of the selected Implementation. The *Files* tab can be used to list and download files held in the repository for the selected implementation.

5.1.4. IMPLEMENTATION ATTRIBUTES

Implementation attributes can be opened by clicking on the attributes tab of a given implementation as illustrated in Figure 12.

The left column of the attributes table contains attribute names, while the right column contains attribute values.

Similarly to workflows, the metadata template is used to help the definition of most common attributes. The three key attributes are: definition, dependencies and configurations. The definition attribute, is the workflow definition file i.e. the executable to be interpreted by the workflow engine. The dependency attribute can be any requirement of the particular implementation. These can include for instance files, executables, libraries or VO memberships required for execution. Configuration attributes resolve these dependencies.

Table Annex 2 describes each attribute and provides example values.

Workflow: FetchImages
 Engine: Taverna(1.7)
 Implementation version: 1.0

Name	Value	
▼ dependencies		Expand/Collapse
▼ dep0001		Reload
type	Service	
description	A web service for gathering images.	
title	ImageWebService	
▼ dep0002		
type	Other	
description	This file maps files of the input zip to workflow ports.	
title	Parameter Mapping	
▼ dep0003		
type	DCI	
description	The VO the user has to be member of to execute this workflow in the SSP	
title	VO for execution in SSP	
▼ configurations		
▼ conf0001		
dep0001	http://moby.ucalgary.ca/moby/MOBY-Central.pl	
dep0002	example_params.map	Download
dep0003	SHIWA VO	
title	FetchImagesTaverna1.7	
description	Taverna 1.7 implementation of the workflow that is designed to be executed on ngs worker nodes.	
definition	fetchImages.xml	Download
graph	Taverna_wf2.png	Download
language	Scufl	
rights		
licence	Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License	
keywords	Taverna, Images, Web Service	
uuid		

Figure 12: Implementation attribute table

The definition file can be downloaded from this page by clicking on the *download* live-link.

5.1.5. IMPLEMENTATION FILES & DOWNLOAD

As with Workflow files, these can be downloaded from the Implementation Files view, by clicking on the respective live-link (see Figure 13).

Workflow: FetchImages
Engine: Taverna(1.7)
Implementation version: 1.0

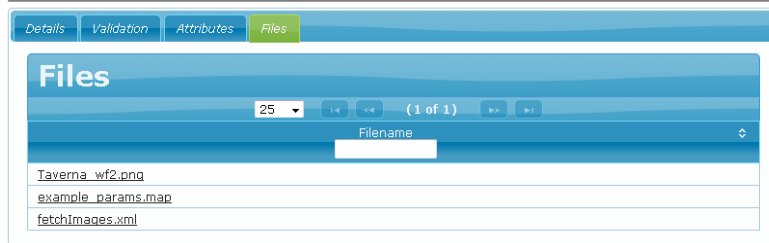


Figure 13: Implementation Files – Files tab

6. LIMITATIONS

- It is not recommended to open the repository in multiple browser tabs.

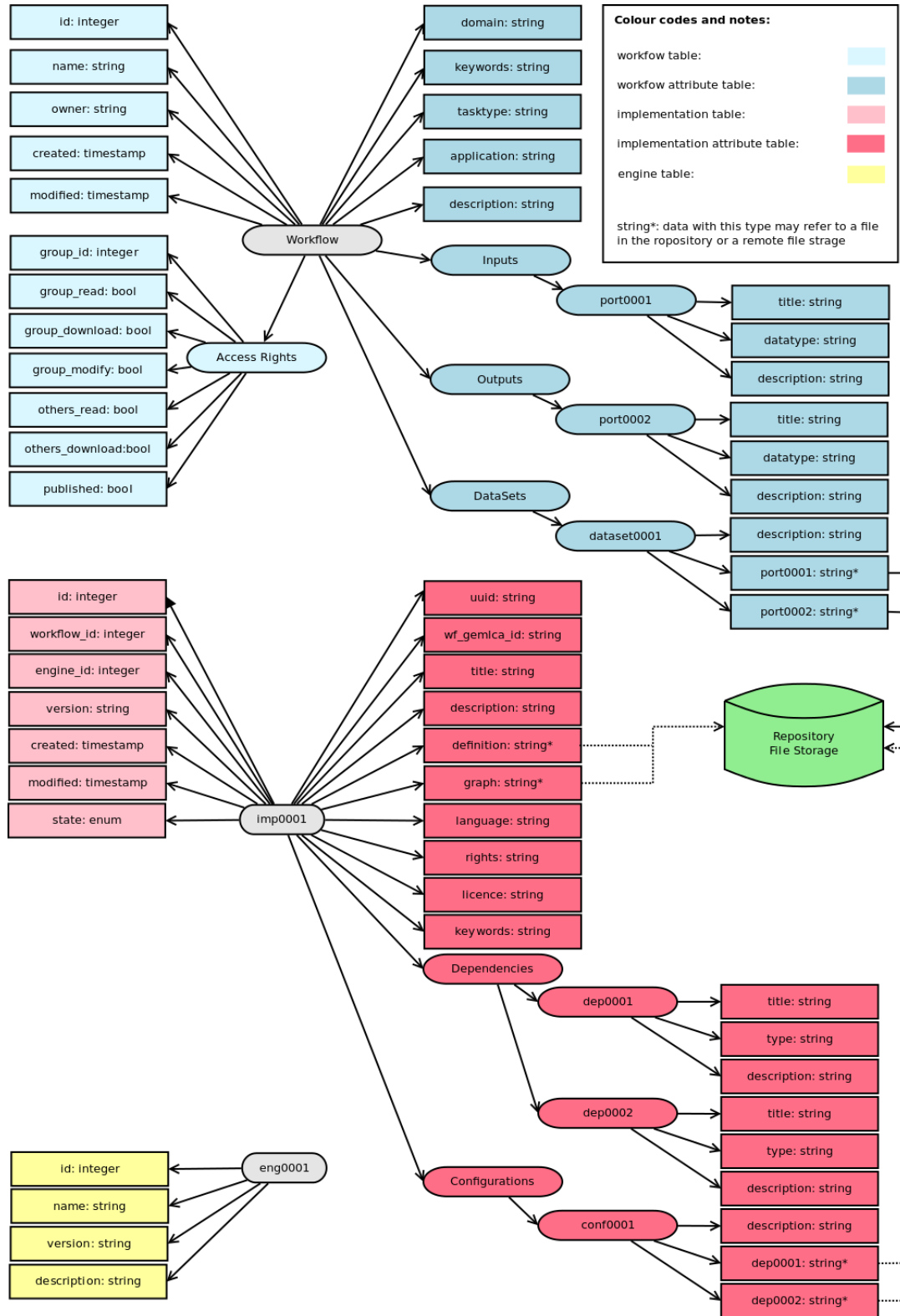
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Implementation metadata		Example value	Description	Table	Type	Mapping to SHIWA Desktop
id		1002	implementation identifier	implementation	int	
workflow_id		1001	identifier of the abstract workflow that the impl. implements	implementation	int	
engine_id		1005	workflow engine identifier	implementation	int	
version		1.01	implementation version	implementation	string	
created		6/15/2011 4:12	workflow creation time	implementation	timestamp	workflow->dcterms:created
modified		6/21/2011 11:24	time of last modification	implementation	timestamp	workflow->dcterms:modified
state		VALIDATED	implementation status	implementation	enum	
uuid		1234-1234-1234	uuid of implementation	imp_attr.	string	workflow->dc:identification
title		FetchImagesTaverna	title of the implementation	imp_attr.	string	workflow->dc:title
description		this implementation is	implementation description	imp_attr.	string	workflow->dc:description
definition		workflow.xml	workflow descriptor file	imp_attr.	string	workflow->shiwa:definition
graph		workflow.png	workflow graph screenshot	imp_attr.	string	
language		SCUFL	language of the workflow descriptor	imp_attr.	string	workflow->shiwa:language
rights		© SHIWA	copyright information	imp_attr.	string	workflow->dc:rights
licence		Demo licence	licence information	imp_attr.	string	workflow->dcterms:licence
keywords		Taverna, Images, Web Service	keywords used for searching	imp_attr.	string	
dependencies			List of dependencies: files needed for executing factorial.sh. It can be empty in the case of DGs.	imp_attr.		
	dep0001		first dependency	imp_attr.		shiwa:dependency
		title	Image Service	imp_attr.	string	shiwa:dependency->dc:title
		description	A web service for gathering images.	imp_attr.	string	shiwa:dependency->dc:description
	dep0002		second dependency	imp_attr.		shiwa:dependency
		title	Parameter Mapping	imp_attr.	string	shiwa:dependency->dc:title
		description	This file maps files of the input zip to workflow ports.	imp_attr.	string	shiwa:dependency->dc:description
configurations			List of dependency configurations. A configuration resolves all dependencies of the executable. It can be empty if no dependencies.	imp_attr.		
	conf0001		first configuration	imp_attr.		
		description	This configuration...	imp_attr.	string	shiwa:configuration->de:description
		dep0001	http://moby.ucalgary.ca/...	imp_attr.	string	shiwa:dependencyref->rdf:value
		dep0002	example_params.map	imp_attr.	string	shiwa:dependencyref->rdf:value

Table Annex 1: Workflow metadata attributes

Workflow metadata		Example value	Description	Table	Type	Mapping to SHIWA Desktop
id		1001	workflow identifier	workflow	int	
name		Factorial	workflow name	workflow	string	
owner_id		1008	workflow owner id	workflow	int	
group_id		exampleGroup	user group for defining access rights	workflow	int	
group_read		TRUE	whether group members can see w/impl. data	workflow	bool	
group_download		TRUE	whether group members can download w/impl. files	workflow	bool	
group_modify		TRUE	whether group members can modify w/impl. data and upload files	workflow	bool	
others_read		TRUE	whether registered users can see w/impl. data	workflow	bool	
others_download		TRUE	whether registered users can download w/impl. files	workflow	bool	
published		TRUE	whether unregistered users can see w/impl. data and download files	workflow	bool	
created		6/5/2011 13:12	workflow creation time	workflow	timestamp	
modified		6/7/2011 16:59	time of last modification	workflow	timestamp	
application		GATE	name of the application which the wf is part of	workflow_attr.	string	workflow->shiwa:application
description		This workflow ...	workflow description	workflow_attr.	string	
domain		Mathematics	scientific domain	workflow_attr.	string	workflow->shiwa:domain
keywords		factorial, integer	workflow keywords	workflow_attr.	string	
tasktype		demo	type of task the workflow represents	workflow_attr.	string	workflow->shiwa:tasktype
inputs			list of workflow inputs			
	port0001		first input port			shiwa:inport
		title	PositiveInteger	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:inport->dc:title
		datatype	file	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:inport->rdf:datatype
		description	this file contains an integer	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:inport->dc:description
outputs			list of output ports			
	file0002		first output port			shiwa:outport
		title	Factorial	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:outport->dc:title
		datatype	file	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:outport->rdf:datatype
		description	this file contains the factorial of the input integer	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:outport->dc:description
datasets			List of input/output configurations			
	dataset0001		First configuration			
		description	This dataset...	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:dataset->de:description
		port0001	example value for port0001	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:portref->rdf:value
		port0002	output.dat	workflow_attr.	string	shiwa:portref->rdf:value

Table Annex 2: Implementation metadata attributes



Annex Figure 1: SHIWA Repository metadata graph