

# Performing Simple Interactions

Stian Soiland-Reyes and Christian Brenninkmeijer  
University of Manchester

<http://orcid.org/0000-0001-9842-9718>

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-2937-7819>



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<http://www.taverna.org.uk/>



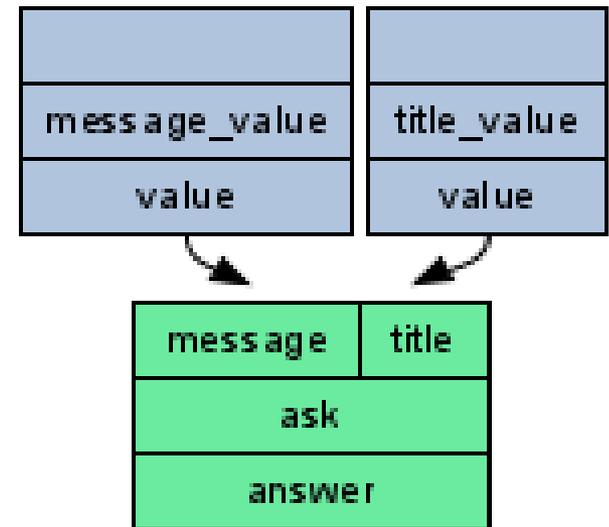
# Introduction

- Taverna has the ability to take data from the workflow and pop up webpages asking the user for additional input while the workflow is running.
- This simple Tutorial will show a few of the possible Interactions.
- The interaction services can be found under available services/ Interactions



# ASK

- The “ask” service will pop up window displaying a message and a Textbox the user can fill in to return his answer.
- Add an “ask” service to a new workflow
- Add a constant value to the “message port” with the value “What is you name?”
- Add a constant value to the “title port” with the vale “Name asking window”





# CHOOSE

- The “choose” service will pop up window displaying a message and a list of options the user can choose from.
- Add an “choose” service to the workflow
- Add a constant value to the “message port” with the value “Which Title shall I use?”
- Add a constant value to the “title port” with the vale “Title asking window”

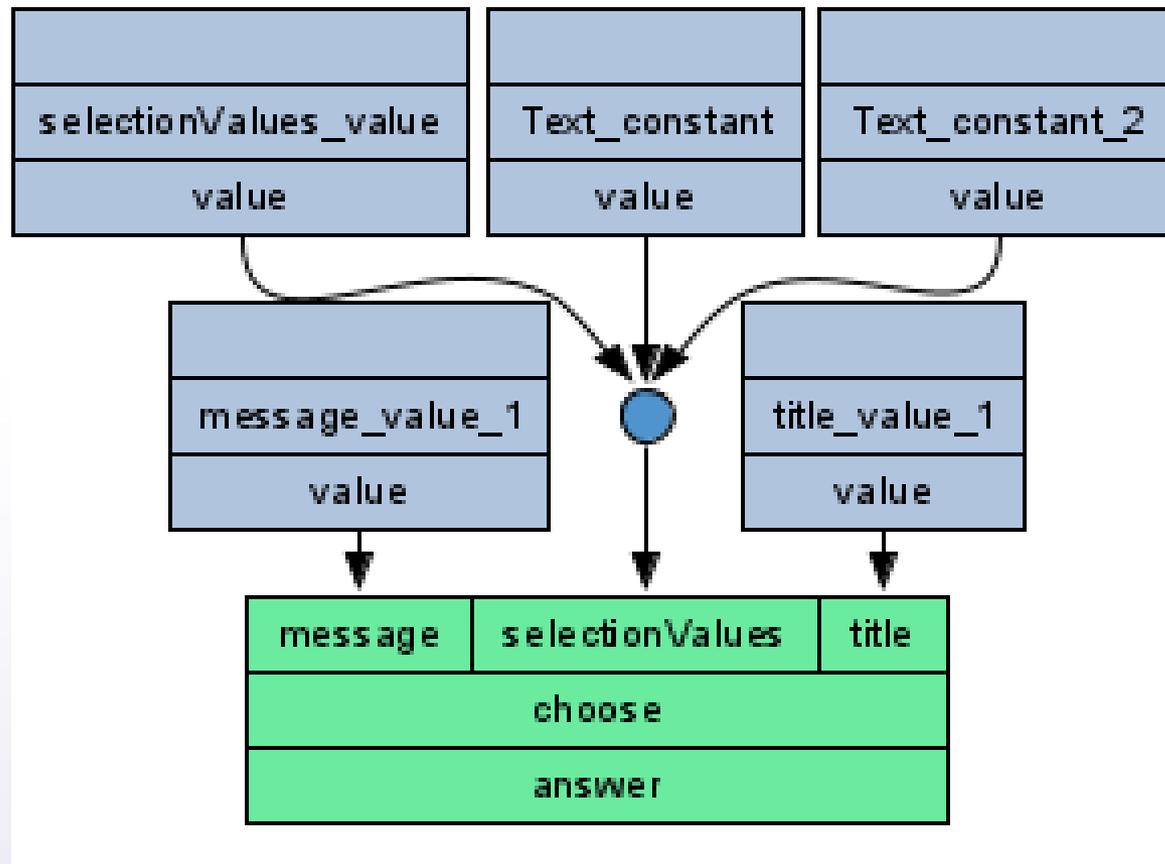


# CHOOSE

- Add a constant value to the “selectionValues” port with the value “Mr”
- Now create another constant value service with the value “Mrs”
- Connect the “Mrs” constant to the same “selectionValues” port
- Notice how Taverna adds a merge between the two constants and the “selectionValues” port
- You can click on this merge(circle) to see or change the order of the constants.
- Add more title if you like.



# CHOOSE



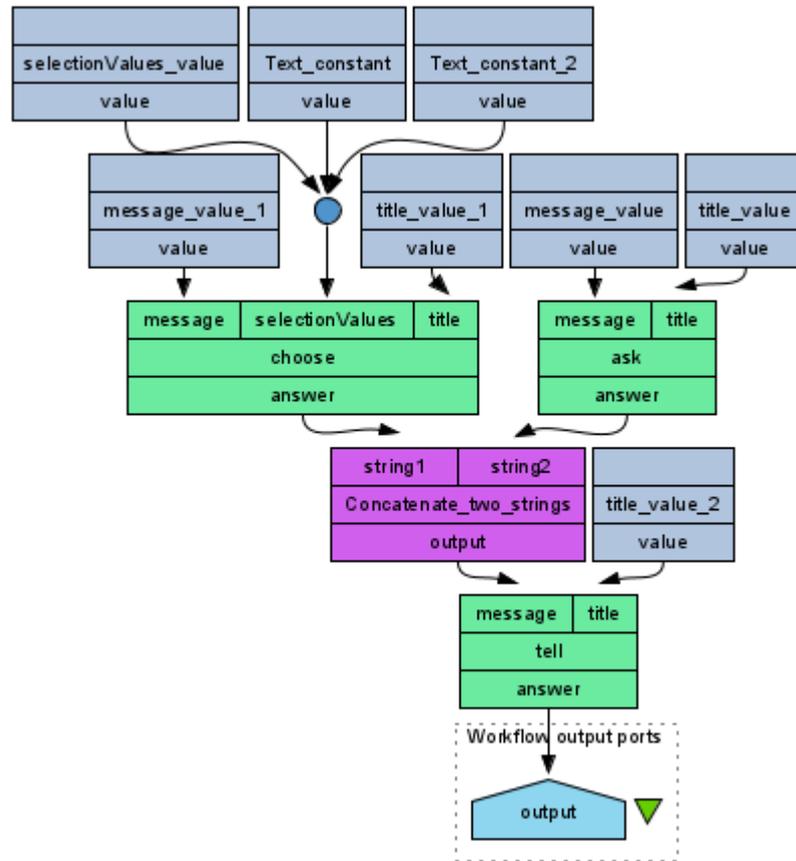


# Tell

- The “tell” service will pop up window displays a message
- Add an “tell” service to a new workflow
- Add a constant value to the “title port” with the value “Result window”
- Add a “Concatenate\_two\_strings” service
  - Hint: Local Services / Text
- Connect the choose to String1
- Connect the ask to String2
- Add an output to the tell service.



# Full workflow





# Running the workflow

- Run the workflow
- Find in the Title and Name windows
  - They may open at the same time in different tabs.
- Answer the questions
- A Result window will appear with your title and name
- Before selecting OK or Cancel go back to Taverna and look at the results view
- Notice the workflow has NOT finished.
  - There is still a Running displayed and Tell is still a light colour
- This shows that interactions will block workflows so be careful especially in very long running workflows



# Finish the workflow

- If you select “Cancel” in any of the Interactions including the Results/Tell an Error will be passed to the next service.
- Try this by pressing Cancel in the page showing your name and title.
- Notice how the workflow finished but the output is an exception.



# Conclusion

- This was a very basic overview of the Interaction Services.
- Where the value are known before the workflow starts to run Text constants or input ports will always be better.
- But if the values comes from a previous service, then interactions are very useful.
- For example to pick from a list of results from another service.