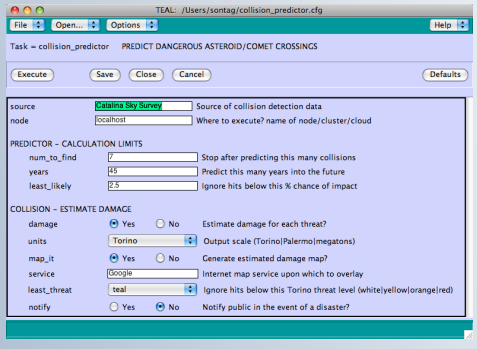
# Task Editor And Launcher (TEAL)

*Why write a configuration GUI when you don't have to?*

*C. Sontag & W. Hack, Space Telescope Science Institute*

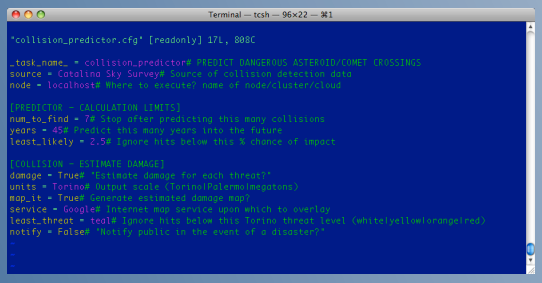
TEAL …

- Handles all the parameters for your task/script/program
- Allows your users to safely edit them in the GUI
- Reads and writes configuration files (ConfigObj[1] format)
- Can be bundled with or kept independent from your task[2]
- Is data-driven and parameter-type aware
- Is 100% Python, using Tkinter and ConfigObj
- Can be an application or a dialog box; returns a Python dict
- Is ready to use! Can be run[3] with:
  - any existing cmd-line task in ANY language
  - any existing Python task with a Python API



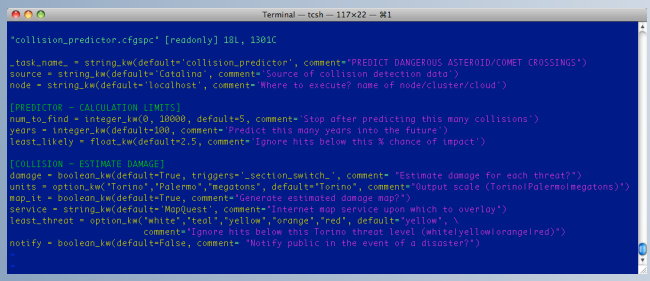

"collision_predictor" is a fictional example task. TEAL can easily wrap your own program.[4]

*display - edit - validate - save - load - set to defaults - type-check - rule-check - run triggers - execute!*




Parameter choices are saved in .cfg files.

Your task stores parameter type information in a single .cfgspc file. This would typically be installed with the task's package.




1 – Foord & Larosa, http://www.voidspace.org.uk/python/configobj.html
2 – TEAL is available for download within stsci_python/pytools:
http://www.stsci.edu/resources/software_hardware/pyraf/stsci_python
3 – TEAL runs on any operating system where Python can be found.
4 – E.g. TEAL is in use at STScI with the latest version of the "Multidrizzle" task.