Tcl/Tk Program Development Tools

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One of the tricks to getting your job done efficiently is having the right tools for the job. There are plenty of tools available for developing Tcl applications.

This poster gives a quick description of several tools that are in use in the Tcl community. If the tool you need is not mentioned here, try checking the Neosoft search engine at http://www.neosoft.com, the Scriptics Resource Center at http://www.scriptics.com/resource/, the announcements in comp.lang.tcl, or the FAQs at http://www.teraform.com/%7Elvirden/tcl-faq/.

The posters describe:

**Code formatters**

- **frink**
  - Reformats code into a standard style, for easy comprehension.
  - Primary Site: ftp://catless.ncl.ac.uk/pub/frink.tar.gz

- **tcl_cruncher**
  - Reformats code into a style that optimizes for interpreter efficiency. This program also does some syntax checking.
  - Primary Site: ftp://hplyot.obspm.fr:/tcl/tcl_cruncher

**Code checkers**

- **tclCheck**
  - Checks for balanced brackets, braces and parentheses.
  - Primary Site: ftp://catless.ncl.ac.uk/pub/tclCheck.tar.gz

- **tcl_lint**
  - Checks for syntax errors, unset or non-existent variables, incorrect procedure calls, and more.
  - Primary Site: http://icemcfd.com/tcl/ice.html

- **tclparse**
  - Checks for syntax errors, missing dollar signs, and other errors.
  - Primary Site: http://www.informatik.uni-stuttgart.de\/
ipvr/swlab/sopra/tclsyntax/tclparseHomeEngl.html

**Debuggers**

- **Don Libes’s Debugger**
  - This is a text oriented package with support for setting breakpoints, examining data, etc.
  - Primary Site: http://expect.nist.gov/

- **tuba**
  - This is a GUI based package with multiple windows for both Tcl and Tk.
TdDebug

This GUI based package can attach itself to an already running Tk application.

Primary Site

TclPro Debugger

This is a full featured, GUI based package from Scriptics that can debug remote or embedded applications as well as those on the local host.

Primary Site

GUI generators

SpecTcl

SpecTcl creates a GUI skeleton for a Tk program.

Primary Site

Spynergy

Primary Site

Tcl Compilers

ICEM Tcl Compiler

The ICEM Tcl Compiler translates Tcl code into C code to improve performance.

Primary Site

Jan Nijtmans’s plus-patch

This patch applies some minor bug fixes, extends the shared library support, and makes it possible to convert Tcl scripts into executables that can run when Tcl is not installed.

Primary Site

Scriptics TclPro Compiler

Generates Tcl bytecode files that can be evaluated by Tcl 8.0.3 interpreters with the appropriate extension.

Primary Site

Tcl Extension Generators

Swig

Swig creates Tcl extensions by reading the function and data definitions from an include file.

Primary Site

Tcl Packagers

Scriptics TclPro Wrapper

Wraps an interpreter, application script and ancilliary files into a single executable.

Primary Site