
qslaunch Documentation

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OVERVIEW

`qslaunch` is a small framework to launch stuff from [Quicksilver](#).

The trick is to create a python script containing a bunch of rules. Quicksilver executes the script using a given *name* that the script will match against the rules.

If a match is found, the command associated with the rule is executed.

The command can be any python code you supply. Or it can be one of the included commands...

`qslaunch` comes with a few predefined commands that can:

- using [iTerm](#):
 - create an iTerm session (either in a new window or in a new tab of an existing window) based on a bookmark as defined in iTerm's bookmark manager;
 - create an iTerm session and execute an arbitrary command in it, allowing to start any software requiring the use of a terminal;
 - create an iTerm session in the folder of the current Finder window;
- for [TextMate](#):
 - change the current theme in TextMate;
 - create a new empty file from a template in TextMate.

The project page is currently hosted on my blog: [qslaunch](#).

Other links: * [mercurial repository](#) * [online documentation](#)

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INSTALLATION

3.1 Requirements

This package depends on two other python packages:

- `appscript`;
- `Growl's python bindings` (optional).

Growl is not required. It's only used to pop an error message when a requested command cannot be found.

3.2 Installing

To install Growl's binding, follow the instructions on their page. (The bindings are in Growl's SDK disk image, not the installation image! You can find it on [Growl's sources page](#)).

To install `qslaunch`, simply open a terminal and type:

```
$ sudo easy_install qslaunch
```

If `appscript` is not installed, it should be handled automatically by `easy_install`.

If using `pip`, you can install it directly from the mercurial repository:

```
$ sudo pip install hg+http://bitbucket.org/greyw/qslaunch/
```


EXAMPLES

4.1 Simple example

Suppose that you have two bookmarks in iTerm: the first named “local” and the second named “somewhere”. You could then place two python scripts in a directory and add it to Quicksilver’s catalogue.

The first, named `local.py`, could contain this:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
from qslaunch.helpers.iterm import cmd_bookmark
cmd_bookmark('local')
```

The second, `somewhere.py`:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
from qslaunch.helpers.iterm import cmd_bookmark_in_tab
cmd_bookmark_in_tab('somewhere')
```

Typing “local” in Quicksilver would open a new window with a local shell.

Typing “somewhere” would open a new tab in the top window, possibly with a remote shell defined in iTerm’s bookmark manager.

4.2 More complex examples

You can find other examples in the “examples” directory of the source.

You can browse this online on [qslaunch’s mercurial repository](#).

5.1 qslaunch

5.1.1 qslaunch

exception NoSuchCommand

Exception raised when command could not be found.

execute (*name*, *patterns*)

Execute a command by finding it in a list of patterns.

Parameters

- *name* – name to lookup in the pattern list
- *patterns* – list of patterns

The list of patterns is a list of tuples, referenced here as “pattern”.

A “pattern” tuple has two items:

- 1.regular expression to match
- 2.command

The command is also a tuple, with three elements:

- 1.the function to call
- 2.positional arguments (tuple)
- 3.named arguments (dict)

If the patterns contains named references (e.g. (?P<xx>yyy)), these will be also placed in the named arguments dictionary.

Example:

```
patterns = [  
    (r'^x-(?P<tag>.*)$', (somefunc, (), {a=17})),  
]  
execute('x-abc', patterns)
```

Will call `somefunc(a=17, tag='abc')`.

get_version (*full=False*)

Return version number.

5.2 qslaunch.helpers

5.2.1 qslaunch.helpers.iterm

Provides helper functions for opening iTerm sessions.

Execute helpers

bookmark (*name*, *where*=*'window'*, *cd*=*None*)

`itermlaunch.execute()` helper for `cmd_bookmark()`.

See `cmd_bookmark()` for usage.

shell_exec (*command*, *where*=*'window'*, *title*=*None*)

`itermlaunch.execute()` helper for `cmd_exec()`.

See `cmd_shell_exec()` for usage.

Commands

cmd_bookmark (*bookmark*, *where*=*'window'*, *cd*=*None*)

Create a new iTerm session in a new window or tab and launch the specified session in it.

Parameters

- *bookmark* – bookmark name. It doesn't exist, iTerm uses the default bookmark
- *where* – string: either *'window'* or *'tab'*
- *cd* – string or callable

If *where*=*'tab'* and there are no windows, a new one is created.

If the *cd* parameter is a callable, the return value must be a string.

cmd_exec (*command*, ***kwargs*)

Create a new iTerm session in a new window or tab and execute the specified shell command inside.

Parameters

- *command* – shell command to execute
- *where* – where to open the session (*'window'* or *'tab'*, default = *'window'*)
- *title* – title to give to the terminal

iTerm helpers

current_terminal_window ()

Return the front most iTerm “terminal”.

If there are no windows, create a new one.

new_terminal_window ()

Return a new, empty iTerm “terminal”.

5.2.2 qslaunch.helpers.mail

Provides helper functions for Mail.app.

Execute helpers

color_selected_msgs (*color='none'*)
`qslaunch.execute()` helper for `cmd_color_selected_msgs()`.
 See `cmd_color_selected_msgs()` for usage.

Commands

cmd_color_selected_msgs (*color*)
 Change the background color of the selected messages in Mail.app.
Parameter *color* – color name. The list is restricted to: ‘blue’, ‘gray’, ‘green’, ‘none’, ‘orange’, ‘purple’, ‘red’, ‘yellow’

Example:

```
...
(r'^colormail-(?P<color>.*)$', mail.color_selected_msgs()),
...
```

5.2.3 qslaunch.helpers.textmate

Provide useful shortcuts for TextMate.

Execute helpers

new_from_template (**args*)
 Create a new TextMate window based on a specific template.
Parameter *args* – The path to the template in the “File” menu. For example,
`new_from_template('Python', 'Python Script')`

set_theme (*theme=None*)
 Change TextMate’s theme.
Parameter *theme* – Theme or None

Note: If “theme” is None, be sure to define a “theme” backreference in the `ereg!`

Commands

cmd_new_from_template (*template_path*)
 Create a new TextMate window from a template.
Parameter *template_path* – tuple/list representing the template.

The tuple is the menu items under “New From Template”.

Example:

```
cmd_new_from_template(('Python', 'Python Script'))
```

cmd_set_theme (*theme*)

Set the current theme using System Events.

Parameter *theme* – Name of the theme

5.3 qslaunch.utils

5.3.1 qslaunch.utils.finder

front_most_path ()

Return the path of the active finder window, or None.

5.3.2 qslaunch.utils.growl

growl_error (*error_title*, *error_body*)

Output an error message through Growl.

Parameters

- *error_title* – Growl title
- *error_body* – Message body

The application is registered in Growl as “qslaunch.py”.

If Growl cannot be imported, nothing happens.

5.3.3 qslaunch.utils.sysevents

click_menu (*process_name*, *menu_bar_id*, **args*)

Short cut to click a manu through System Events.

Parameters

- *process_name* – ex: u’TextMate’
- *menu_bar_id* – probably always 1
- *args* – the menus to click

Exemples:

```
click_menu('TextMate', 1, 'File', 'New From Template', 'Python', 'Python Script')
click_menu('TextMate', 1, 'File', u'Open\u2026')
```

Note: (u2026 is the “...” char)

Note: this ONLY works if the process has been activated first! E.g. app(u’TextMate’).activate()

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