

## Redmine - Feature #22483

### Show PDF attachments and repo entries instead of downloading them

2016-04-13 14:49 - Gregor Schmidt

<b>Status:</b>	Needs feedback	<b>Start date:</b>	
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	Jean-Philippe Lang	<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>	Attachments	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>			
<b>Resolution:</b>			
<b>Description</b>			
Following up on <a href="#">#22058</a> , I would like to propose, that also PDF files are shown directly instead of forcing downloads.			
This applies to two use cases:			
<b>1. Following a download link</b>			
When following a download link, image are sent with content-disposition: inline, while all other files are sent with attachment. Since the some browsers is able to render PDF files directly (Firefox, Chrome, Safari, IE with Adobe Reader installed) and people are probably used to it, I think that extending this exception to PDF files is a reasonable change. If native PDF rendering within the browser is not supported, then a download will be initiated by the browser anyway.			
<b>2. Displaying a PDF file in repository browser</b>			
When accessing "View" within the file view in the repository browsers, Redmine currently forces a download of the PDF. Instead an iframe could be rendered which displays the PDF within the Redmine UI. Browser support for this use case is similar to No. 1.			
The patch series is based on current trunk ( <a href="#">r15332</a> ) plus the changes of <a href="#">#22482</a> . If desired, I could isolate the changes further, to make them work without <a href="#">#22482</a> .			
<b>0004-Don-t-force-download-of-PDFs-but-show-in-browser-pre.patch</b>			
The change updates AttachmentsController and RepositoryController to send PDF files with content-disposition: inline. (See first use case.)			
<b>0005-Show-pdf-preview-for-repository-files-and-attachment.patch</b>			
The change adds attachments/pdf and common/_pdf views to render PDF files in an iframe/object construct. (See second use case.)			
Since we cannot easily know the PDF's dimensions, the frame size follows the following rules:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• it is as wide as possible (100%)</li><li>• in general it is as high as it is wide</li><li>• it is never higher than 80 % of the viewport (80vh), since we want to make sure, that there is always a bit of Redmine UI visible to avoid getting "trapped" within the frame</li></ul>			
Using a nested object/iframe structure was taken from <a href="http://pdfobject.com/static.html">http://pdfobject.com/static.html</a>			
<b>Related issues:</b>			
Related to Redmine - Patch #27336: Render previews for audio and video files		<b>Closed</b>	
Has duplicate Redmine - Feature #22098: Open attached pdf files in the browser		<b>Closed</b>	
Has duplicate Redmine - Feature #36504: PDF preview in attachment Page		<b>Closed</b>	
Blocked by Redmine - Feature #22482: Respond with "No preview available" inst...		<b>Closed</b>	

#### Associated revisions

##### Revision 15409 - 2016-05-09 19:22 - Jean-Philippe Lang

Don't force download of PDF (#22483).

Patch by Gregor Schmidt.

## History

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### #1 - 2016-04-13 14:51 - Gregor Schmidt

- File *pdf-preview.png* added

pdf-preview.png

### #2 - 2016-04-18 14:11 - Go MAEDA

- Blocked by Feature #22482: Respond with "No preview available" instead of sending the file when no preview is available added

### #3 - 2016-05-08 10:14 - Go MAEDA

@Gregor, could you please provide rebased version of these patches?

I am very interested in this feature but patches cannot be applied to the current trunk.

### #4 - 2016-05-09 11:09 - Gregor Schmidt

- File *0001-Don-t-force-download-of-PDFs-but-show-in-browser-pre.patch* added

- File *0002-Show-pdf-preview-for-repository-files-and-attachment.patch* added

Updated patches to [r15404](#).

### #5 - 2016-05-09 11:40 - Go MAEDA

- File *safari-error.png* added

Thanks for updating patches.

But in my environemnt, I cannot view PDF in browsers. I tried two web servers, Pow 0.5.0 and Webrick, both failed.

**Error:**

safari-error.png

#### HTTP Response header:

Content-Type is binary/octet-stream. Perhaps it causes this problem.

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
ETag: "13891eae2aa4115e138138ea507d1fdf"
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="aaaaaaa-40.pdf"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: binary
Content-Type: binary/octet-stream
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 8331
X-Request-Id: ef5blea8-cb19-4cfa-8db2-1aac427b0b1e
X-Runtime: 0.025105
Date: Mon, 09 May 2016 09:17:53 GMT
Connection: keep-alive
```

#### #6 - 2016-05-09 12:08 - Gregor Schmidt

I'm sorry, but I cannot reproduce your problems. I've tried Firefox (Mac), Safari (Mac and iOS 9 Simulator) on Webrick, Unicorn and Puma. In any case, the Content-Type was application/pdf, which is determined by the detect\_content\_type method within the AttachmentsController. Maybe you could try debugging there to find out, what happened.

I have also tested the changes on IE w/o Adobe Reader installed, i.e. it cannot render PDFs within the browser. It didn't give me an error but downloaded the file instead. So I was rather confident, that there should be no negative side effects when sending PDFs with Content-Disposition: inline.

#### #7 - 2016-05-09 17:04 - Go MAEDA

Thanks for investigating the problem I wrote in [#22483#note-5](#).

I found that no problem in your patches, it is caused by files which are uploaded by Firefox. Attachment#content\_type of these files are 'binary/octet-stream', so 'Content-Type' field in response header will be 'binary/octet-stream'. Maybe related to [https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show\\_bug.cgi?id=373621](https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show_bug.cgi?id=373621).

```
2.2.4 :004 > Attachment.find(43).content_type
Attachment Load (0.2ms)  SELECT  "attachments".* FROM "attachments" WHERE "attachments"."id" = ? LIMIT 1 [[
" id", 43]]
=> "binary/octet-stream"
```

The patch works fine with files uploaded by Chrome and Safari. This feature is extremely beneficial for users who handle PDF files frequently.

#### #8 - 2016-05-09 18:05 - Go MAEDA

- File [060719210727\\_example.pdf](#) added

Although the patches works fine, but test fails because PDF file "test/fixtures/files/2006/07/060719210727\_example.pdf" does not exist.

```
$ ruby test/functional/attachments_controller_test.rb
```

(snip)

```
1) Failure:
AttachmentsControllerTest#test_show_pdf [test/functional/attachments_controller_test.rb:204]:
Expected response to be a <success>, but was <404>
```

log/test.log:

```
-----
AttachmentsControllerTest: test_show_pdf
-----
Processing by AttachmentsController#show as HTML
Parameters: {"id"=>"21"}
```

(snip)

```
Cannot send attachment, /*****/redmine-trunk/test/fixtures/files/2006/07/060719210727_example.pdf does not exist or is unreadable.
```

(snip)

```
Completed 404 Not Found in 26ms (Views: 20.2ms | ActiveRecord: 1.0ms)
```

To pass tests, copy [060719210727\\_example.pdf](#) to test/fixtures/files/2006/07/ directory.

#### #9 - 2016-05-09 18:26 - Go MAEDA

- Assignee set to *Jean-Philippe Lang*

- Target version set to 3.3.0

@Jean-Philippe, could this feature be included in 3.3.0?

I know 3.3.0 is entering feature freeze but I think it would be nice if this feature is delivered along with [#22058](#).

#### #10 - 2016-05-09 18:53 - Gregor Schmidt

- File [060719210727\\_example.pdf](#) added

Go MAEDA wrote:

Although the patches works fine, but test fails because PDF file "test/fixtures/files/2006/07/060719210727\_example.pdf" does not exist.

Sorry, I forgot to check how git's format-patch handles binary files. It turns out, they are omitted in the output by default.

Here is the example pdf, that I used locally. It's just a "Print as PDF" of <http://example.org>. As you mentioned, it needs to be placed at test/fixtures/files/2006/07/060719210727\_example.pdf

#### #11 - 2016-05-09 18:57 - Gregor Schmidt

Concerning your problem with the wrong mime type in Firefox:

I am using Firefox as my main browser and also uploaded the files, that I used for testing, using Firefox. Not sure, why you would observe a different behavior.

Anyway, the underlying problem is, that different methods are used to determine the mime type and therefore different results may occur. The disposition method just checks the file ending, the detect\_content\_type tries to reuse the information passed by the browser. I assume, this should be

fixed, so that only a single source is used. Maybe the introduction of the mimemagic gem could provide better facilities for mime handling, than those currently in place in Redmine. But this might be a topic for a separate issue.

**#12 - 2016-05-10 02:19 - Go MAEDA**

- File deleted (0004-Don-t-force-download-of-PDFs-but-show-in-browser-pre.patch)

**#13 - 2016-05-10 02:19 - Go MAEDA**

- File deleted (0005-Show-pdf-preview-for-repository-files-and-attachment.patch)

**#14 - 2016-05-16 08:20 - Jean-Philippe Lang**

- Status changed from New to Needs feedback

Sending PDF inline instead of forcing the download is committed, but I'm not really sure about the preview in an iframe. I find it much less comfortable than viewing it using the whole viewport of the browser. I get double scrollbars, one for the body and one for the iframe (I had to lower the height to 70vp but I guess it depends on the header and window height). Also, there's no way to zoom the content of the iframe under iOS (tested with 8) which makes the preview useless.

**#15 - 2016-05-21 08:48 - Jean-Philippe Lang**

- Target version deleted (3.3.0)

**#16 - 2016-05-29 14:31 - Go MAEDA**

- Has duplicate Feature #22098: Open attached pdf files in the browser added

**#17 - 2017-11-15 15:09 - Jan from Planio [www.plan.io](http://www.plan.io)**

- Related to Patch #27336: Render previews for audio and video files added

**#18 - 2018-04-05 18:25 - donny osmon**

Hi, are these 2 patches for Linux (CentOS) ?  
If so, do they work on Redmine 3.4.3.stable ?  
Are there patch install instructions aside from "patch -p0 < the\_patch.patch" ?  
Do the patches require a restart of Redmine?  
Thanks

0004-Don-t-force-download-of-PDFs-but-show-in-browser-pre.patch  
0005-Show-pdf-preview-for-repository-files-and-attachment.patch

**#19 - 2018-04-05 18:46 - donny osmon**

donny osmon wrote:

Hi, are these 2 patches for Linux (CentOS) ?  
If so, do they work on Redmine 3.4.3.stable ?  
Are there patch install instructions aside from "patch -p0 < the\_patch.patch" ?  
Do the patches require a restart of Redmine?  
Does patch 0005 include patch 0004 ?  
Thanks

0004-Don-t-force-download-of-PDFs-but-show-in-browser-pre.patch  
0005-Show-pdf-preview-for-repository-files-and-attachment.patch

**#20 - 2020-02-10 12:18 - Gãän Sôì Nướç**

Gregor Schmidt wrote:

Updated patches to [r15404](#).

Thank you!

**#21 - 2022-01-24 09:43 - Bernhard Rohloff**

- Has duplicate Feature #36504: PDF preview in attachment Page added

**#22 - 2022-06-19 17:20 - Steven Uggowitzer**

Has anyone updated these patches for Version 5.x ?

### #23 - 2022-06-22 18:28 - Steven Uggowitzer

Steven Uggowitzer wrote:

Has anyone updated these patches for Version 5.x ?

So it turns out that this actually already works in Redmine 5.x. However, for anyone trying to make it work for PDF files > 5mb, you have to actually raise the file size settings in /settings?tab=attachments to exceed the size of your PDFs. Otherwise this will not work, and you don't get a preview. Hopefully this note will help someone. All my PDFs in a repository were well over 5mb that I was testing it on, and it just didn't work for me till I realised this.

#### Files

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pdf-preview.png	54.7 KB	2016-04-13	Gregor Schmidt
0001-Don-t-force-download-of-PDFs-but-show-in-browser-pre.patch	3.06 KB	2016-05-09	Gregor Schmidt
0002-Show-pdf-preview-for-repository-files-and-attachment.patch	33.7 KB	2016-05-09	Gregor Schmidt
safari-error.png	61.5 KB	2016-05-09	Go MAEDA
060719210727_example.pdf	18.5 KB	2016-05-09	Go MAEDA
060719210727_example.pdf	22.9 KB	2016-05-09	Gregor Schmidt