Parameters for Opening PDF Files

Adobe® Acrobat® SDK

April 2007

Version 8.1

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Adobe® Acrobat® SDK 8.1 Parameters for Opening PDF Files for Microsoft® Windows®, Mac OS®, Linux®, and UNIX®

Edition 1.0, April 2007

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Preface

This document describes the parameters you can use when opening Adobe® PDF files. These parameters allow you to open a PDF file using a URL or command that specifies both the file to be opened and the actions to be performed once the file is opened.

Who should read this guide?

This guide is for developers who want to customize the way PDF files open. It may be useful for those developing an online collaboration system.

Related documentation

For information about	See
Configuring and administering a system for online collaboration using comment repositories, Adobe Acrobat®, and Adobe Reader®	*Acrobat Online Collaboration: Setup and Administration*
A detailed description of the PDF file format	*PDF Reference*
Detailed descriptions of the APIs for Acrobat and Adobe Reader plug-ins, as well as for PDF Library applications	*Acrobat and PDF Library API Reference*

Parameters for Opening PDF Files

You can open a PDF document with a command or URL that specifies exactly what to display (a named destination or specific page), and how to display it (using such characteristics as a specific view, scrollbars, bookmarks, annotations, or highlighting).

The parameters for URLs are supported by most browsers, and can be used when opening PDF documents programmatically.

Many of these parameters can be passed to the following core API functions (see the *Acrobat and PDF Library API Reference* for details):

```
AVDocOpenFromFileWithParamString
AVDocOpenFromASFileWithParamString
AVDocOpenFromPDDocWithParamString
```

When opening a PDF document from a command shell, you can pass the parameters to the open command using the `/A` switch with the following syntax:

```
<Acrobat path> /A "<parameter>=<value>" "<PDF path>"
```

For example:

```
Acrobat.exe /A "zoom=1000" "C:\example.pdf"
```

In Mac OS, you can use the parameters when opening a PDF document with an Apple event.

Parameters

The following table describes the parameters. Italics indicate user-specified variables.

Syntax	Description
`nameddest=`*`destination`*	Specifies a named destination in the PDF document.
`page=`*`pagenum`*	Specifies a numbered page in the document, using an integer value. The document's first page has a *pagenum* value of 1.
`comment=`*`commentID`*	Specifies a comment on a given page in the PDF document. Use the `page` command before this command. For example: `#page=1&comment=452fde0e-fd22-457c-84aa-2cf5bed5a349`

Syntax	Description
`collab=`*`setting`*	Sets the comment repository to be used to supply and store comments for the document. This *overrides* the default comment server for the review or the default preference. The *setting* is of the form *store_type@location*, where valid values for *store_type* are: • `DAVFDF` (WebDAV) • `FSFDF` (Network folder) • `DB` (ADBC) For example: `#collab=DAVFDF@http://review_server/Collab/user1` For more information on comment repositories, see *Acrobat Online Collaboration: Setup and Administration*.
`zoom=`*`scale`* `zoom=`*`scale,left,top`*	Sets the zoom and scroll factors, using float or integer values. For example, a *scale* value of 100 indicates a zoom value of 100%. Scroll values *left* and *top* are in a coordinate system where 0,0 represents the top left corner of the visible page, regardless of document rotation.

`view=Fit`
`view=FitH`
`view=FitH,`*`top`*
`view=FitV`
`view=FitV,`*`left`*
`view=FitB`
`view=FitBH`
`view=FitBH,`*`top`*
`view=FitBV`
`view=FitBV,`*`left`*
	Set the view of the displayed page, using the keyword values defined in the PDF language specification. For more information, see the *PDF Reference*.
	Scroll values *left* and *top* are floats or integers in a coordinate system where 0,0 represents the top left corner of the visible page, regardless of document rotation.
	Use the `page` command before this command.
	Note: This parameter is not supported on the command line.

`viewrect=`*`left,top,wd,ht`*	Sets the view rectangle using float or integer values in a coordinate system where 0,0 represents the top left corner of the visible page, regardless of document rotation. Use the `page` command before this command. **Note:** This parameter is not supported on the command line.

`pagemode=bookmarks`
`pagemode=thumbs`
`pagemode=none` (default)
	Displays bookmarks or thumbnails.

`scrollbar=1|0`	Turns scrollbars on or off.

Syntax	Description
`search=`*`wordList`*	Opens the Search panel and performs a search for any of the words in the specified word list. The first matching word is highlighted in the document. The words must be enclosed in quotation marks and separated by spaces. For example: `#search="word1 word2"` You can search only for single words. You cannot search for a string of words.
`toolbar=1|0`	Turns the toolbar on or off.
`statusbar=1|0`	Turns the status bar on or off.
`messages=1|0`	Turns the document message bar on or off.
`navpanes=1|0`	Turns the navigation panes and tabs on or off.
`highlight=`*`lt,rt,top,btm`*	Highlights a specified rectangle on the displayed page. Use the `page` command before this command. The rectangle values are integers in a coordinate system where 0,0 represents the top left corner of the visible page, regardless of document rotation.
`fdf=`*`URL`*	Specifies an FDF file to populate form fields in the PDF file being opened. For example: `#fdf=http://example.org/doc.fdf` **Note:** The `fdf` parameter should be specified last in a URL.

Specifying parameters in a URL

You can specify multiple parameters in a single URL. Separate each parameter with either an ampersand (&) or a pound (#) character. Actions are processed and executed from left to right as they appear in the URL.

Because all specified actions are executed, it is possible that later actions will override the effects of previous actions, so it is important to use the correct order. For example, *page* actions should appear before *zoom* actions.

Commands are not case sensitive except for the value of a named destination. There can be no spaces in the URL.

URL examples

```
http://example.org/doc.pdf#Chapter6
http://example.org/doc.pdf#page=3
http://example.org/doc.pdf#page=3&zoom=200,250,100
http://example.org/doc.pdf#zoom=50
http://example.org/doc.pdf#page=72&view=fitH,100
http://example.org/doc.pdf#pagemode=none
http://example.org/doc.pdf#pagemode=bookmarks&page=2
http://example.org/doc.pdf#page=3&pagemode=thumbs
http://example.org/doc.pdf#collab=DAVFDF@http://review_server/Collab/user1
http://example.org/doc.pdf#page=1&comment=452fde0e-fd22-457c-84aa-2cf5bed5a349
http://example.org/doc.pdf#fdf=http://example.org/doc.fdf
```

URL limitations

- Only one digit following a decimal point is retained for float values.
- Individual parameters, together with their values (separated by `&` or `#`), can be no greater then 32 characters in length.
- You cannot use the reserved characters `=`, `#`, and `&`. There is no way to escape these special characters.
- If you turn bookmarks off using a URL parameter when a document had previously been saved with bookmarks on, the bookmark scrollbars are displayed at first, and only disappear once Acrobat obtains enough streamed information to render the full page.