Annotation in SumatraPDF PRe-Release

Up to Pre-Release version **10766** it was possible to highlight text with the mouse then press **[H]** to leave the words <mark>highlighted</mark>. **From version 11040** the key has been changed to the **[A]** key (English=Annotation). It was changed a while back (**between those releases**) for H to be used as a reflection of L in HJKL sequence.

Controlling output

Most users will be happy with the default action (SaveIntoDocument = true) that means when you "Save As" a new pdf the highlight is saved into the new PDF but forgotten in the original (unless you overwrite the source).

I personally set Settings > Advanced Options as follows (which is stored in SumatraPDF-settings.txt)

I recommend as described here, change the SaveIntoDocument = false and then select File > Save or hit [Ctrl] + [S] unless / **until** you need to permanently change a copy .PDF for others who don't use SumatraPDF.

```
AnnotationDefaults [
        HighlightColor = #ffff60
        SaveIntoDocument = false
]
```

Remember you MUST File > Save As... the .PDF annotated otherwise your highlights are not remembered and appended to the .PDF so they are there when you reopen the PDF. When you Save As... a second **S**umatraPDF **M**eta e**X**tensions .SMX file is created alongside the original. If you open the *SameFileName.pdf.*SMX file in notepad you will see something like :-

```
# SumatraPDF: modifications to "Product Guide.pdf"

[@meta]
version = 3.2.11040
filesize = 2754747
timestamp = 2018-08-28T19:41:16Z

[highlight]
page = 1
rect = 107 73 27 13
color = #ffff60
opacity = 0.8
```

You can change the page, rectangle size (startX startY deltaX deltaY) colour (per other notes) and opacity
You canNOT produce a solid white block as highlight by nature is translucent however you can create a black one. Be aware this is NOT a redaction tool i.e. the text behind a solid black box will still be available.
IF you open the .SMX file in notepad and change values and then in notepad select File > Save or [Ctrl] + [S] whilst the .PDF is open in SumatraPDF you can hit the [R]efresh key to see the effects

Once you are happy with the results finally open the pdf in SumatraPDF **switch Settings > Advanced Options** SaveIntoDocument = **true** and for last time Save As... **my final pdf for others with highlights**.PDF

Additional file structure comments

It may seem haphazard (but generally in page sequence) when you save a second highlight it will be tracked somewhere in .SMX like this (NOTE [highlight]s can be in a random position not true page or time order)

```
[@update]
version = 3.2.11040
filesize = 2754747
timestamp = 2018-08-28T23:15:10Z

[highlight]
page = 1
rect = 107 277 27 13
color = #FFCCCC
opacity = 0.8
```

you can safely delete the [@update] section down to the following blank line so that **after the heading [@META] section the file is just a collection of [highlight] sections.** Keep the [@META] section but you may wish to change the timestamp to keep a note of last date changed. As a minimum SumatraPDF will not load annotations unless the file contains before the [highlight]s

[@meta]
version

You CAN manipulate to a very limited fashion the type of shape

If you change the [highlight] heading to

[underline] <u>you will get an underline</u> ☺ increasing deltaX will make it longer and deltaY will move it down
[strikeout] ~~you will get strikeout~~ ☺ increasing deltaX will make it longer and deltaY will move it down 1/2 units
[squiggly] <u>you will get a 50/50 wavy line</u> ☺ increasing deltaX will make it longer and deltaY will move it down
You can of course place a [squiggly] with same value but after an [underline] to get a two tone colour effect

Note line thickness can not be changed and opacity is ignored so there are NO verticals, diagonals or boxes

If you want to manipulate the .SMX file with an app

ONE that worked with previous releases see https://github.com/nod5/sumatra_highlight_helper it has an additional requirement that **Settings > Advanced Options > FullPathInTitle = true** so it can find the current file by name. Due to the recent change in highlight key from H to A the current version needs to be updated see https://github.com/nod5/sumatra_highlight_helper/issues/1