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Open Bug 1421431 Opened 8 years ago Updated 3 years ago

# Problems in Firefox with an encoded backslash in url.

▼ Categories Product: Firefox ▼ Component: Address Bar ▼ Version: 57 Branch Type: odefect Priority: P5 Severity: S3 Tracking Status: UNCONFIRMED ▶ **People** (Reporter: bruinsmaarten, Unassigned) ▼ References Depends on: **O** 1163959 Dependency tree / graph See Also: **1026938 ▼** Details Whiteboard: [fxsearch] Votes: 1 Bottom ↓ Tags ▼ Timeline ▼

Maarten Bruins Reporter
Description • 8 years ago

User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/62.0.3202.94 Safari/537.36

Steps to reproduce:

My Firefox version is: 57.0 (64-bit) up to date

I reduced the bug to this example. On my server is made a directory "test" with the following htaccess file:

```
<IfModule mod rewrite.c>
        RewriteEngine On
        RewriteBase /
        RewriteRule ^a\\b$ http://www.example.com/first-match [L]
        RewriteRule ^a/b$ http://www.example.com/second-match [L]
    </IfModule>
%5c = backslash encoded
The first time i typed: http://www.my-domain.com/test/a%5cb in the addressbar,
Firefox sent me to: http://www.example.com/first-match
The second time i typed: http://www.my-domain.com/test/a%5cb in the addressbar,
Firefox sent me to: http://www.example.com/second-match
Firefox needs to send me in both cases to http://www.example.com/first-match like for
example Google Chrome is doing.
Actual results:
Firefox sent me to the wrong url.
Expected results:
Firefox should send me to the right url.
     Kohei Yoshino
     Updated • 8 years ago
Component: Untriaged → Networking: HTTP
Product: Firefox → Core
     Michal Novotny [:michal]
```

2

Comment 1 • 8 years ago

(In reply to Maarten Bruins from comment #0)

- > The second time i typed: http://www.my-domain.com/test/a%5cb in the
- > addressbar, Firefox sent me to: http://www.example.com/second-match

The problem is that firefox changes the URL in the URL bar to http://www.my-domain.com/test/a\b and in this case we correctly replace the backslash with a

slash (implemented in bug 652186), i.e. the address bar must not change %5c to a backslash when typing or pasting URL.

Component: Networking: HTTP → Address Bar

Product: Core → Firefox



### **Drew Willcoxon :adw**

Comment 2 • 8 years ago

I bet this has to do with the heuristic visit result that UnifiedComplete generates. The first time the URL isn't in history but the second time it is, or something like that.

Priority: -- → P5

Whiteboard: [fxsearch]



#### :Gijs (he/him)

Comment 3 • 7 years ago

Dupe of bug 1026938?

Flags: needinfo?(mak77)



## Marco Bonardo [:mak]

Comment 4 • 7 years ago

(In reply to :Gijs (he/him) from comment #3)

> Dupe of bug 1026938?

It looks quite similar, though that bug seems to only care about the query string. In the end it all boils down to bug 1163959 and losslessDecodeURI.

It's a rabbit hole and it's unclear how much time it would take for someone to really dig into these encoding problems in the Address Bar and addressing all the edge cases (with tests as well). It needs a dedicated person to just spend time on it, or a rearchitecture of how the address bar copes with user input, we want to show a readable url to the user, but we also want to preserve the original url (that is not readable), all while allowing the user to edit it.

We should probably drop some of these requirements to be able to proceed, considering the current market share, it is not good that we handle urls differently from Chrome (since sadly most devs will only test on it), even if we consider our solution better (and probably it is, but still...).

I don't think there's a strict relation with unifiedcomplete, we seem to store the undecoded url in history.

For that, it may be interesting to know what "type" means in comment 0, if the url

was actually typed twice from scratch, or just reconfirmed from what was in the urlbar.

Anyway, someone should spend an unknown amount of time on bug 1163959 to figure out a solid solution.

Depends on: 1163959 Flags: needinfo?(mak77)

See Also: → https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show\_bug.cgi?id=1026938

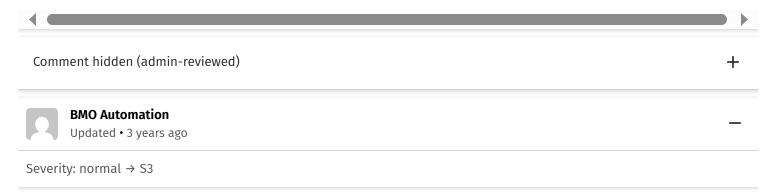


#### Florian Keller

Comment 5 • 7 years ago

> we want to show a readable url to the user

Please, as a web developer, let me deactivate that notion! It is really aggravating working with a web server who denies any request including "\", when the browser decides to decode "%5C" at any opportunity. I don't need readable URLs, but I need to manually edit URLs without them breaking suddenly.



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