Quicktags simplebox assign from single caret to double to allow for more elements inside

Status
- Open

Subject
Quicktags simplebox assign from single caret to double to allow for more elements inside

Version
2.x

Category
- Usability

Feature
WYSIWYG (What You See is What You Get)
Toolbars, Quicktags and Smileys
Wiki Syntax (text area, parser, external wiki, etc)

Submitted by
G. Obarkley

Lastmod by
Marc Laporte

Rating
★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ (0)

Description
The tiki normal editor has a problem when a page uses multiple carat elements. It creates unwanted boxes. i.e $10^{11}$ used twice would create a malformed simplebox breaking the natural math operators into unreadable divisions.

The $10^{11}$ is not a workaround as this creates an unwanted space after the carat and before the next character. It is also awkward. It also does not allow the natural use of an otherwise perfectly suited math symbol.
The best result is IMHO to use double carats as beginning/ending delimiters for the simplebox css definition (programmed as "simple-wiki" in the tikilib.php control file.

So, the fix (i.e. hack) that was created by a nonprogrammer on our team was the following:

To change one line in tikilib.php from:

```php
$data = preg_replace("/\^([^\^]+)\^/", "<div class="simplebox">$1</div>", $data);
```

to â€¦

```php
$data = preg_replace("/\^\^([^\¨]+)\^\^/", "<div class="simplebox">$1</div>", $data);
```

Note that the character just before the end square bracket is an Umlaut (diacritic) typesetting character (virtually never used on its own "at least to my understanding"). We are not programmers, and can only guess that the area where the Umlaut was used to test for additional carat elements as the original definition would not allow for carat characters to occur within the simplebox definition.

Note that this solution allows for multiple css / html elements all to be successfully enclosed in one longer box (haven't tested embedded images though).

Suggestion: Review the hack/fix; determine if this breaks anything. Else redefine the simple box from one carat to two carat delimiters as this will allow simple math functions and other carat usage. Review the hack to ensure that the internal area (where the umlaut lives) is consistent with PHP and wikitiki objectives.

Hope this can be included as an update, as the carat is too important feature to be dropped from normal usage.

(Also, as there is no PREVIEW MODE here, I will just take my best guess as to formatting of this submission. If it is not readable, please e-mail me at:life(dot)of(dotagain)ryli(atsign)gmail(domaindot)com

Importance
4

Demonstrate Bug

Please demonstrate your bug on show2.tikiwiki.org

Version: trunk ▼ Create show2.tikiwiki.org instance
Ticket ID
2278
Created
Saturday 31 January, 2009 00:20:04 GMT-0000
LastModif
Comments

G.Obarkley 31 Jan 09 00:36 GMT-0000
Our biggest concern, not being programmers, is that this is not the only area where this single/double carat redefinition would have to take place. We simply don't have the understanding to say that the tikilib.php is the only place where a change is to be made (but of course, as good programmers one and all, we assume it is --- isn't it?? ;->).

Marc Laporte 31 Jan 09 01:39 GMT-0000
You should modify your quicktags. I don't think anything else is needed.

Marc Laporte 31 Jan 09 01:44 GMT-0000
The challenge with changing the syntax is that potentially thousands of Tiki sites are using it. But we could maybe have a setting, configurable on a site.

A bit like the 2 table syntaxes, we could have new sites use the new syntax, while not changing anything for those with legacy data.

Since the

is often used for math, maybe we could have a smarter detection?
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caret

If a

is in between two numbers (3^5), it's 3 to the 5, else, it's like now, the box 😁

Jean-Marc Libs 02 Feb 09 18:31 GMT-0000
I believe the expected result can be achieved with this line:
$data = preg_replace("\^\^\^(.+?)\^\^\$/", "$1", $data);

This does not depend on the absence of Å "

The bad news is, wikicreole suggests that
Is future wikicreole compatibility a big objective?
Can we find a better syntax for boxes?

Jean-Marc Libs 02 Feb 09 18:40 GMT-0000

I have no easy solution for existing installs, other than making backwards compatibility an option.

I feel the criterium Marc suggests is ineffectual. More often than not, maths people will want to write stuff like $x^2$. After all, $3^5$ is just 243.

Attachments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>filename</th>
<th>created</th>
<th>hits</th>
<th>comment</th>
<th>version</th>
<th>filetype</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No attachments for this item</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The original document is available at https://dev.tiki.org/item2278-Quicktags-simplebox-assign-from-single-caret-to-double-to-allow-for-more-elements-inside