Background

Using the PDF Reader with Text Extract add-on to DotImage, you can easily search for words on a PDF Page, find their bounding boxes and use that to draw a highlight on the rasterized page. Here is the code to do that:

```
rivate void HighlightQueryOnPdfImagePage( string query, PdfTextPage pdfTextPage, AtalaImage pdfImagePage ) { if (pdfTextPage.CharCount > 0) { Canvas c = new Canvas(pdfImagePage); using (PdfSearchResults pdfResults = pdfTextPage.Search(0, query, false, false)) { // each query can appear multiple times on a page pdfResults.FindNext(); for (; pdfResults.HasResults; pdfResults.FindNext()) { // each result can have more than one box bounding it // (if it goes across lines of text) QuadrilateralF[] boxes = pdfTextPage.GetBoxes( pdfResults.StartIndex, pdfResults.CharCount ); foreach (QuadrilateralF box in boxes) { // draw highlights Rectangle rect = Rectangle.Round( pdfTextPage.ConvertPdfUnitsToPixels( box, pdfImagePage.Resolution ).Bounds ); c.DrawRectangle(rect, new SolidFill(Color.FromArgb(128, Color.Yellow))); } } } } }
```

Given a filename of a PDF and a page number, you can call this function using the following code:

```
rivate AtalaImage HighlightQueryOnPdfPage( string query, string pdfFullPath, int pageNum ) { using (PdfTextDocument doc = new PdfTextDocument(pdfFullPath)) { PdfTextPage pdfTextPage = doc.GetPage(pageNum); AtalaImage pdfImagePage = new AtalaImage(pdfFullPath, pageNum, null); HighlightQueryOnPdfImagePage( query, pdfTextPage, pdfImagePage ); return pdfImagePage; } }
```

Original Article

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Last Update

2026-11-04 - TD - (Code fencing and headings)

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https://www.atalasoft.com/kb2/KB/50172/HOWTO-Highlight-a-Search-Query-on-a-...