

Ruby trunk - Feature #2000

Change the license to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original".

08/26/2009 11:47 PM - mtasaka (Mamoru Tasaka)

Status:	Closed	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:		
Target version:		
Description		
=begin Hello. Recently readline 6.0 was released and its license was changed from GPLv2+ (GPL version 2 and any later) to GPLv3+ [1][2] Unfortunately Ruby's license is still under GPLv2 and Ruby's original license [3], which is incompatible with GPLv3 [4]. So unless Ruby's license is changed to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original license" or so , Ruby's readline module cannot be shipped any more. Note that "Ruby's original license" is regarded as incompatible with GPL [5]. So please change the Ruby's license to GPLv3 (and GPLv2) compat. [1] http://tiswww.case.edu/php/chet/readline/rtop.html [2] https://www.redhat.com/archives/fedora-devel-list/2009-July/msg00192.html [3] http://svn.ruby-lang.org/cgi-bin/viewvc.cgi/trunk/COPYING?view=co [4] https://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Licensing#GPL_Compatibility_Matrix [5] https://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Licensing =end		
Related issues:		
Related to Ruby trunk - Feature #4698: drop Ruby license completely	Rejected	05/15/2011
Is duplicate of Ruby trunk - Feature #2032: Change the license to "GPLv2+ or ...	Closed	09/02/2009

History

#1 - 08/27/2009 12:13 AM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

=begin
Hi,

I guess this post might be better to go ruby-core.

In message "Re: [ruby-dev:39167] [Bug #2000] Change the license to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original"." on Wed, 26 Aug 2009 23:47:10 +0900, Mamoru Tasaka redmine@ruby-lang.org writes:

|Recently readline 6.0 was released and its license was changed from
|GPLv2+ (GPL version 2 and any later) to GPLv3+ [1][2]
|Unfortunately Ruby's license is still under GPLv2 and Ruby's original license [3],
|which is incompatible with GPLv3 [4]. So unless Ruby's license is changed
|to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original license" or so , Ruby's readline module cannot be shipped
|any more. Note that "Ruby's original license" is regarded as incompatible with
|GPL [5].

|So please change the Ruby's license to GPLv3 (and GPLv2) compat.

I am not sure how Fedra project think, but there's no such thing as Ruby's license independent from GPL. It's always dual licensed, so as a whole it's always GPL compatible (at least to GPLv2). It's already known to FSF, see the compatibility note from them (I don't remember the URL right now).

For license compatibility issue, I think we are still able to ship readline extension without changing Ruby's license as a whole, since the older version of readline library is always available. But to avoid the potential problem, we should either, a) note that it's incompatible with GPLv3 version of libreadline, or b) note that readline extension can be distributed by GPLv3 as well (triple

license).

I recommend the latter.

Compatibility issues between free software licenses suck.

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matz.
```

=end

#2 - 08/27/2009 12:20 AM - taca (Takahiro Kambe)

=begin

In message

on Wed, 26 Aug 2009 23:47:10 +0900,

Mamoru Tasaka redmine@ruby-lang.org wrote:

Bug #2000: Change the license to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original".
<http://redmine.ruby-lang.org/issues/show/2000>

reporter: Mamoru Tasaka
 priority: Open, severity: High
 ruby -v: 1.8.x/1.9.x

Hello.

Recently readline 6.0 was released and its license was changed from GPLv2+ (GPL version 2 and any later) to GPLv3+ [1][2]. Unfortunately Ruby's license is still under GPLv2 and Ruby's original license [3], which is incompatible with GPLv3 [4]. So unless Ruby's license is changed to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original license" or so, Ruby's readline module cannot be shipped any more. Note that "Ruby's original license" is regarded as incompatible with GPL [5].

So please change the Ruby's license to GPLv3 (and GPLv2) compat. Another option is make Ruby use older readline library which was GPLv2 strictly.

And you need to know, Ruby's readline module work not only with GNU readline but also editline library (contained in *BSD). So, importing editline library is another option. :-)

--

Takahiro Kambe taca@back-street.net

=end

#3 - 08/27/2009 12:29 AM - matz (Yukihiko Matsumoto)

=begin

Hi,

In message "Re: [ruby-dev:39168] Re: [Bug #2000] Change the license to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original"."
on Thu, 27 Aug 2009 00:13:31 +0900, Yukihiko Matsumoto matz@ruby-lang.org writes:

It's already known to FSF, see the compatibility note from them (I don't remember the URL right now).

It's <http://www.fsf.org/licensing/licenses/index.html#GPLCompatibleLicenses>.

And it says:

License of Ruby

```
This is a free software license, compatible with the GPL  
via an explicit dual-licensing clause.
```

```
matz.
```

=end

#4 - 08/27/2009 01:51 AM - shyouhei (Shyouhei Urabe)

- Priority changed from 5 to Normal

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=begin
Moved to feature category because this is not a bug definitely.
=end
```

#5 - 08/27/2009 09:22 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

```
=begin
Hi,
```

At Thu, 27 Aug 2009 00:20:03 +0900,
Takahiro Kambe wrote in [ruby-dev:39169]:

So please change the Ruby's license to GPLv3 (and GPLv2) compat.
Another option is make Ruby use older readline library which was GPLv2 strictly.

A patch followed.

And you need to know, Ruby's readline module work not only with GNU readline but also editline library (contained in *BSD). So, importing editline library is another option. :-)

However, editline's compatibility is still incomplete a little.
I found it lacks rl_getc declaration and the type of rl_getc_function differs from GNU readline's one.

Index: ext/readline/extconf.rb

```
=====
--- ext/readline/extconf.rb (revision 24680)
+++ ext/readline/extconf.rb (working copy)
@@ -4,5 +4,5 @@ $readline_headers = ["stdio.h"]
```

```
def have_readline_header(header)
```

- if have_header(header)
- if have_header(header, &\$readline_extra_check) \$readline_headers.push(header) return true @@ -25,4 +25,10 @@ dir_config('termcap') dir_config("readline") enable_libedit = enable_config("libedit") +\$readline_extra_check = (proc {|src| src << <= 6 +#error GPLv2 incompatible +#endif +EOS + have_library("user32", nil) if /cygwin/ == RUBY_PLATFORM have_library("ncurses", "tgetnum") ||

```
--
Nobu Nakada
```

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=end
```

#6 - 08/27/2009 02:22 PM - naruse (Yui NARUSE)

```
=begin
2009/08/27 0:13, Yukihiro Matsumoto wrote:
```

I am not sure how Fedra project think, but there's no such thing as Ruby's license independent from GPL. It's always dual licensed, so as a whole it's always GPL compatible (at least to GPLv2). It's already known to FSF, see the compatibility note from them (I don't remember the URL right now).

I interpreted this paragraph says,
Ruby's License is always GPLv2 compat.

b) note that
readline extension can be distributed by GPLv3 as well (triple license).

If the readline is GPLv3 and readline extension is linked to it,
the extension must be GPLv3 compat.
If the readline extension is GPLv3 and the extension is linked to Ruby,
Ruby must be GPLv3 compat.

b) is not acceptable.

```
--
```

NARUSE, Yui naruse@airemix.jp

=end

#7 - 08/27/2009 02:28 PM - naruse (Yui NARUSE)

=begin

2009/08/27 9:21, Nobuyoshi Nakada wrote:

At Thu, 27 Aug 2009 00:20:03 +0900,
Takahiro Kambe wrote in [ruby-dev:39169]:

And you need to know, Ruby's readline module work not only with GNU
readline but also editline library (contained in *BSD). So, importing
editline library is another option. :-)

However, editline's compatibility is still incomplete a little.
I found it lacks rl_getc declaration and the type of
rl_getc_function differs from GNU readline's one.

I know knu said this as joke but for readers,
edtlne (libedit) does not support multibytes.
So this can't be an acceptable option.

--

NARUSE, Yui naruse@airemix.jp

=end

#8 - 08/27/2009 07:15 PM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

=begin

Hi,

In message "Re: [ruby-dev:39175] Re: [Bug #2000] Change the license to "GPLv2+ or Ruby's original"."
on Thu, 27 Aug 2009 14:22:44 +0900, "NARUSE, Yui" naruse@airemix.jp writes:

|I interpretd this paragraph says,
|Ruby's License is alyways GPLv2 compat.
|
|> b) note that
|> readline extension can be distributed by GPLv3 as well (triple
|> license).
|
|If the readline is GPLv3 and readline extension is linked to it,
|the extension must be GPLv3 compat.
|If the readline extension is GPLv3 and the extension is linked to Ruby,
|Ruby must be GPLv3 compat.
|
|b) is not acceptable.

If it's true, life sucks. I hate licensing issues. So we have two
GPL software, both respecting the spirit of free software, but still
we have license problem. ****.

We have to someone to make clear what would happen if we change the
whole license to GPLv2+, or other work around. I am not going to add
an option to reject GPLv3 to readline, since most people don't add the
option, and would violate GPLv3 without knowing. That's dishonest.

We really should go to ruby-core.

matz.

=end

#9 - 08/28/2009 08:18 PM - mtasaka (Mamoru Tasaka)

=begin

Ah, I thought that I was already subscribing to this bug ticket.

The problem is:

|I interpretd this paragraph says,
|Ruby's License is alyways GPLv2 compat.
|
|> b) note that
|> readline extension can be distributed by GPLv3 as well (triple
|> license).
|
|If the readline is GPLv3 and readline extension is linked to it,
|the extension must be GPLv3 compat.
|If the readline extension is GPLv3 and the extension is linked to Ruby,
|Ruby must be GPLv3 compat.
|
|b) is not acceptable.

If it's true, life sucks. I hate licensing issues. So we have two
GPL software, both respecting the spirit of free software, but still
we have license problem. ****.

This is exactly true and if we use readline 6 and make ruby's readline.so
linked against both libreadline.so and libruby.so, ruby "itself" (not ruby's
readline module only) must be GPLv3 compat , so b) is not the option.
(By the way on Fedora not all softwares using readline have switched to GPLv3
compat license, so currently Fedora ships both readline 6 and readline 5)

Well, the license issue is always really annoying , however I hope this issue
is resolved somehow.

=end

#10 - 09/02/2009 04:44 PM - taca (Takahiro Kambe)

=begin

We really should go to ruby-core.
Agree. Then how will this ticket be handled or someone change this ticket to ruby-core?
(I don't know how tickets are processed.)

I don't think that it is good idea to leave this ticket open.

=end

#11 - 03/19/2010 01:41 PM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

- *Status changed from Open to Closed*

=begin

=end