How to Open a Password Protected Zip File

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The following examples are for Linux/Unix, PC and Mac. Consider the password protected lecture notes from, say,

http://econ.ucsd.edu/muendler/teach/YYq/xxx/*lec01-eco*xxx-YYq.*zip*

(for the class *xxx* in year *YY* and quarter *q*).

Linux/Unix.

- In the Firefox browser, left-click on the link to *http://econ.ucsd.edu/muendler/teach*/YYq/xxx/*lec01-eco*xxx-YYq.*zip*.

- In the download window that opens, select "Open with file-roller (default)."

- In the drop down menu of the now open File Roller window left-click on "Edit — Password. . .", and provide the password.

- Then double left-click on the single pdf file in the zip archive to display it in a pre-installed pdf viewer such as Evince.

PC.

- In a browser of your choice such as Internet Explorer or Firefox, left-click on the link to *http://econ.ucsd.edu/muendler/teach*/YYq/xxx/*lec01-eco*xxx-YYq.*zip*.

- In the download window that opens, select "Save to..." choosing a directory of your choice.

- Open that directory in Windows Explorer.

- Highlight the file *lec01-eco*xxx-YYq.*zip* with a single click, then choose "File — Extract all. . ." from the drop down menu in Windows Explorer.

- Provide the password when prompted.

- In the open zip archive, double left-click on the single pdf file to display it in a pre-installed pdf viewer such as Acrobat Reader.

Mac. The UTC Apple store recommends the use of *the unarchiver* (available as freeware from *http://versiontracker.com*) to unzip password protected files.

An alternative is to install the Firefox browser and follow the following steps.

- In the Firefox browser, left-click on the link to *http://econ.ucsd.edu/muendler/teach*/YYq/xxx/*lec01-ecoxxx-YYq.zip*.

- In the download window that opens, select "Open with file-roller (default)."

- In the drop down menu of the now open File Roller window left-click on "Edit — Password. . .", and provide the password.

- Then double left-click on the single pdf file in the zip archive to display it in a pre-installed pdf viewer such as Evince.

There is no need to install new software, however, because the Mac operating system (a version of Berkeley unix) does support unzipping password protected zip files. The Safari browser, however, does not.

- In the Safari browser, click the file *http://econ.ucsd.edu/muendler/teach*/YYq/xxx/*lec01-ecoxxx-YYq.zip* for download. A Safari "Download manager" Window opens, displaying the content of your Download folder.

- The lecture notes file *lec01-ecoxxx-YYq.zip* will be displayed with the annotation "Decompression failed" because the Safari interface fails to ask for a password.

- Open a terminal window in addition: Go to Spotlight (in the upper right corner of your screen) and type in "terminal".

- In the newly opened terminal window, type in "cd Downloads" to change to the Downloads directory within your user account

- Still in the terminal window, type in "unzip lec01-eco*xxx-YYq*.zip"

- To close the terminal window, type "exit"

- From Finder under your user account open the Downloads folder where you will find the extracted (unzipped) file *lec01-ecoxxx-YYq.pdf*.