

# QGIS Application - Bug report #16673

## Composer map element size not updated from expression

2017-06-06 09:46 PM - Nikolay Lebedev

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Status:</b> Closed   |                                     |
| <b>Priority:</b> Normal   |                                     |
| <b>Assignee:</b>  |                                     |
| <b>Category:</b> Map Composer/Printing  |                                     |
| <b>Affected QGIS version:</b> 2.18.9  | <b>Regression?:</b> No              |
| <b>Operating System:</b>  | <b>Easy fix?:</b> No                |
| <b>Pull Request or Patch supplied:</b> No   | <b>Resolution:</b> invalid          |
| <b>Crashes QGIS or corrupts data:</b> No  | <b>Copied to github as #:</b> 24572 |
| <b>Description</b>  |                                     |
| <p>When setting map element height and width as an expression, element size doesn't get updated instantly when expression value changes.</p> <p>Neither do they update upon closing and reopening composer.</p> <p>Nor do they update upon closing and reopening project or QGIS itself.</p> <p>The only way to update those properties is to go to a menu, Deactivate expression and then Activate it back again.</p> <p>Feels a lot like setting width and height properties manually:)</p> |                                     |

### History

#### #1 - 2017-06-06 10:47 PM - Nyal Dawson

- Status changed from Open to Feedback

The refresh button in the toolbar will force a recalculation, as will certain events like switching between features in an Atlas.

What expression are you using? When would you expect it to change?

#### #2 - 2017-06-07 10:46 PM - Nikolay Lebedev

True, refresh button forces a recalc, missed that option.

However, it would be much better if recalculation is made upon changes of underlying data. I'm using expressions like this:

```
(  
  x_max( geometry( get_feature( 'testframes', 'id', @layout_page ) ) ) -  
  x_min( geometry( get_feature( 'testframes', 'id', @layout_page ) ) )  
) / 20
```

This one is for map width, so each map depends on a size of a particular feature, which in turn is determined upon composer page.

#### #3 - 2017-06-08 12:17 AM - Nyal Dawson

I'd be concerned about the cost of refreshing the composition whenever a layer is edited. That's potentially a lot of extra calculations which would need to be performed, and with an expression using functions like `get_feature` it's not going to be possible to accurately calculate a list of dependent features in advance.

I think given that we're never going to be able to accurately capture every condition which could lead to an expression's value changing (e.g. - what if a custom python expression function is used?), it's ok to require users to manually refresh compositions in cases like this.

**#4 - 2017-06-08 10:19 AM - Nikolay Lebedev**

Nyall, I think you're right with autorefresh, though maybe reopening a composer and/or project should trigger refresh. I thought there is some kind of pub/sub system underneath expression controlled properties. I've set another related issue #16684. Should I close this one for now?

**#5 - 2017-09-25 04:49 PM - Giovanni Manghi**

- Resolution set to invalid
- Status changed from Feedback to Closed

Nikolay Lebedev wrote:

*Nyall, I think you're right with autorefresh, though maybe reopening a composer and/or project should trigger refresh. I thought there is some kind of pub/sub system underneath expression controlled properties. I've set another related issue #16684. Should I close this one for now?*

closing then in favor of #16684