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Let SAS® Help You Easily Find and Access Your Folders and Files

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, a SAS® macro is introduced that can help users find and access their folders and files very easily. By providing a path to the macro and letting the macro know which folders and files you are looking for under this path, the macro creates an HTML report that lists the matched folders and files. The best part of this HTML report is that it also creates a hyperlink for each folder and file so that when a user clicks the hyperlink, it directly opens the folder or file. Users can also ask the macro to find certain folders or files by providing part of the folder or file name as the search criterion. The results shown in the report can be sorted in different ways so that it can further help users quickly find and access their folders and files.

THE FINDFILES MACRO

```
%macro Findfiles(dirnm=,outhtml=,filetype=%str()),sortvars=%str(), browser_type=iexplore);  
... *You can find the codes in the paper ☺  
%mend;
```

- The “dirnm” is used to indicate the directory you want the macro to search for files and folders.
- The “outhtml” is used to indicate the location and the filename for the output html report.
- The “filetype” is used to indicate the type of the files you want to find, you can pass any values that are available for the column “Type” on the output html report. For e.g, if you want to find the folders, you can pass “folder” to the “filetype” parameter. The parameter “filetype” value is case-insensitive. By default, if you don’t pass any value to it, it will list all the folders and files.
- The “Sortvars” is used to indicate how you want to sort your results. To sort the results by column “Type”, pass “type” value to the macro variable “Sortvars”. To sort the results by column “Location”, pass “location” value to the macro variable “Sortvars”. To sort the results by column “Date Modified”, pass “date_modified” value to the macro variable “Sortvars”. For example, if you want to sort the results by type and descending modified date, you can pass “type descending modified_date” to the “sortvars” macro parameter. By default, if you don’t pass any value to it, it will sort the results by location.
- The “browser_type” is used to indicate which browser you want to use to open your html report. By default, it will use the internet explorer to open the report. You can also pass “chrome” to it to open the file in Google Chrome.

INTRODUCTION

Below are the screenshots for a sample html report. The report is sorted by “Location” column.

Type	Location	Date Modified
Folder	C:\generate_html	.
Jpg	C:\generate_html\STBuilding.jpg	2015-02-17 16:55
Jpg	C:\generate_html\cochmc_logo.jpg	2015-02-17 16:54
Txt	C:\generate_html\command.txt	2015-10-06 19:19
Sas	C:\generate_html\generate_html.sas	2015-10-06 19:19
Folder	C:\generate_html\html	2015-10-06 19:07
Html	C:\generate_html\html\BarBlock.html	2015-03-06 13:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\BarBlock.txt	2015-03-06 13:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\Box.html	2015-03-06 13:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\Box.txt	2015-03-06 13:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\Line.html	2015-03-06 13:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\Line.txt	2015-03-06 13:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\generate_html.html	2015-03-06 13:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\generate_html.txt	2015-03-06 13:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\Index.html	2015-03-06 13:46
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\Index.txt	2015-03-06 13:17
Folder	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files	2015-10-06 19:19
Pdf	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\Test.pdf	2015-03-20 16:36
Folder	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images	2015-10-06 19:07
Jpg	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images\cochmc1.jpg	2015-02-20 14:47
Jpg	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images\cochmc2.jpg	2015-02-20 14:48
Jpg	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images\cochmc3.jpg	2015-02-20 14:50
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index1_beginning.txt	2015-03-06 13:22
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index1_end.txt	2015-10-06 19:19
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index2_beginning.txt	2015-02-20 15:14
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index2_end.txt	2015-10-06 19:20
Html	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\test.html	2015-02-20 16:05

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1. To Find all the files and folders inside the “C:\generate_html” folder and sort the results by type and descending modified date. The result will be saved into the “result.html” file on the C: drive. and Google Chrome will be used to open the report.

```
%Findfiles(dirnm=%str(C:\generate_html),sortvars=%str(type descending date_modified), outhtml=%str(C:\result.html),browser_type=chrome);
```

Type	Location	Date Modified
Folder	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files	2015-10-06 18:19
Folder	C:\generate_html\html	2015-10-06 18:07
Folder	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images	2015-10-06 18:07
Folder	C:\generate_html	..
Html	C:\generate_html\html\index.html	2015-03-06 24:46
Html	C:\generate_html\html\BarBlock.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\Box.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\Line.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\generate_html.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\test.html	2015-02-20 15:05
Jpg	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images\cchmc3.jpg	2015-02-20 13:50
Jpg	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images\cchmc2.jpg	2015-02-20 13:48
Jpg	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images\cchmc1.jpg	2015-02-20 13:47
Jpg	C:\generate_html\STBuilding.jpg	2015-02-17 15:55
Jpg	C:\generate_html\cchmc_logo.jpg	2015-02-17 15:54
Pdf	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\Test.pdf	2015-03-20 15:36
Sas	C:\generate_html\generate_html.sas	2015-10-06 18:19
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index2_end.txt	2015-10-06 18:20
Txt	C:\generate_html\command.txt	2015-10-06 18:19
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index1_end.txt	2015-10-06 18:19
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index1_beginning.txt	2015-03-06 24:22
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\BarBlock.txt	2015-03-06 24:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\Box.txt	2015-03-06 24:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\Line.txt	2015-03-06 24:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\generate_html.txt	2015-03-06 24:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html\index.txt	2015-03-06 24:17
Txt	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\index2_beginning.txt	2015-02-20 14:14

2. To find all the html files inside the “C:\generate_html” folder and sort the results by location and type. The result will be saved into the “C:\result.html” file and the file will be opened by internet explorer by default.

```
%Findfiles(dirnm=%str(C:\generate_html),filetype=%str(.html), sortvars=%str(location type),outhtml=%str(C:\result.html));
```

Type	Location	Date Modified
Html	C:\generate_html\html\BarBlock.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\Box.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\Line.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\generate_html.html	2015-03-06 24:17
Html	C:\generate_html\html\index.html	2015-03-06 24:46
Html	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\test.html	2015-02-20 15:05

3. To find the “test.pdf” file inside the “C:\generate_html” folder, you can call the macro in this way:

```
%Findfiles(dirnm=%str(C:\generate_html),filetype=%str(test.p df), outhtml=%str(C:\result.html));
```

Type	Location	Date Modified
Pdf	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\Test.pdf	2015-03-20 15:36

4. To find the folders inside the “C:\generate_html” folder, you can call the macro in this way:

```
%Findfiles(dirnm=%str(C:\generate_html),filetype=%str(folder), outhtml=%str(C:\result.html));
```

Type	Location	Date Modified
Folder	C:\generate_html	..
Folder	C:\generate_html\html	2015-10-06 18:07
Folder	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files	2015-10-06 18:19
Folder	C:\generate_html\html_codes_files\html_images	2015-10-06 18:07

5. The macro codes are available in the paper.

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CONCLUSIONS

The macro presented in this paper can be used as a helpful tool to help users to access and manage their files and folders. Also the macro can be further extended to have more functions, like adding more information to the report, selecting those read only files or adding more functions or styles to the html report.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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