

**NAME**

extractbb, ebb – extract bounding box information from graphics files

**SYNOPSIS**

**extractbb** [-v|-q] [-O] [-m|-x] *file*...

**DESCRIPTION**

For each JPEG, PNG, or PDF file given on the command line, **extractbb** extracts the bounding box information and writes it into a file with extension **.xbb**, together with some header information. These files can then be used by **dvipdfmx** or other programs. For PDF files, the number of pages and the PDF version number are reported as well. The input filename extension may be in upper or lower case.

If called as **ebb**, the output is written in the “bb” format (and with extension **.bb**) as used by **dvipdfm**. **Xbb** may be defined as a synonym for **extractbb** on your system.

**OPTIONS**

**-v** Be verbose.  
**-q** Be quiet.  
**-O** Write output to standard output.  
**-m** Write output in dvipdfm’s “bb” format.  
**-x** Write output in dvipdfmx’s “xbb” format (default), which is the same as that used by pdfTeX.

**OUTPUT FORMATS**

Here are more details about the bb and xbb formats:

The original ebb (from dvipdfm) ignored density information in bitmap images, and generated bounding boxes with 100px = 72bp = 1in. Unfortunately, screenshots (especially) tend to look bad with this approach.

So, extractbb (from dvipdfmx) uses density information if present. Otherwise, it generates bounding box with 100px = 100bp. This is what pdfTeX does.

**BUGS**

There is currently no way to specify which bounding box is taken for PDF files. It will always be the first one from the following list: ArtBox, TrimBox, BleedBox, MediaBox. (Often only MediaBox is defined.) Moreover, the reported bounding box always refers to the first page in a PDF file.

**AUTHOR**

**extractbb** was written by the DVIPDFMx project team <dvipdfmx@ktug.or.kr>, based on the program **ebb** by Mark A. Wicks.

This manual page was also written by the DVIPDFMx project team, based on a manual page Frank Küster <frank@kuesterei.ch> wrote for the Debian GNU/Linux system. It may be used, modified, and/or redistributed by others without contacting the authors.