

## NAME

**mbformat** – List information about swath sonar data formats supported by the **MBIO** library.

## VERSION

Version 5.0

## SYNOPSIS

**mbformat** [ **-Fformat -Ifile -L -K -V -W -H** ]

## DESCRIPTION

**mbformat** is a utility which identifies the swath sonar data formats associated with **mbio** format id's. If no format id or input filename is specified, **mbformat** lists all of the currently supported formats along with short descriptions. If a format id is specified using the **-F** option, then **mbformat** prints a short description of that format. If a filename is specified using the **-I** option, then **mbformat** attempts to identify a valid format id for that file using swath data filename prefix and suffix conventions embedded in **MB-System**. The program also determines the filename "root", which is the filename minus whatever format-specific prefix or suffix has been recognized. In no prefix or suffix is recognized, then the root is simply the entire filename.

Normally, **mbformat** prints out a brief description of each identified format. If the **-L** option is used, **mbformat** simply prints out the valid format id number, or 0 if a file or format has been specified but no valid id can be identified. If the **-K** option is used, **mbformat** will print out the filename "root" followed by the format id number.

## MB-SYSTEM AUTHORSHIP

David W. Caress  
Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute  
Dale N. Chayes  
Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping  
University of New Hampshire  
Christian do Santos Ferreira  
MARUM - Center for Marine Environmental Sciences  
University of Bremen

## OPTIONS

- F** *format*  
Sets the format id to be listed. If no format is given, all of the currently supported formats will be listed. A list of the swath sonar data formats currently supported by **MBIO** and their identifier values is given in the **MBIO** manual page.
- H**  
This "help" flag cause the program to print out a description of its operation and then exit immediately.
- I** *file*  
Sets the filename to be tested against known filename prefix and suffix conventions in order to identify the format id.
- K**  
Causes the fileroot and the format id to be output. The fileroot is the filename with any format specific suffix removed.
- L**  
Causes the format descriptions to be omitted so that only the **MBIO** format id numbers are listed.
- V**  
Normally, **mbformat** only prints out format descriptions. If the **-V** flag is given, then **mbformat** works in a "verbose" mode and also outputs the program version being used.

**-W** Output the list of formats as HTML.

## EXAMPLES

Suppose one wishes to identify the swath sonar data format associated with a format id of 11. The following will suffice:

```
mbformat -F11
```

and the result will be this output:

MBIO data format id: 11

Format name: MBF\_SBSIOMRG

Informal Description: SIO merge Sea Beam

Attributes: Sea Beam, bathymetry, 16 beams, binary, uncentered,  
SIO.

Suppose one wishes to list all of the currently supported data formats. The following will suffice:

```
mbformat
```

Suppose one wants to find out what format is associated with a raw SeaBeam 2112 file named sb199811231045.rec:

```
mbformat -I sb199811231045.rec
```

This results in the output:

MBIO data format id: 41

Format name: MBF\_SB2100RW

Informal Description: SeaBeam 2100 series vender format

Attributes: SeaBeam 2100, bathymetry, amplitude  
and sidescan, 151 beams and 2000 pixels, ascii  
with binary sidescan, SeaBeam Instruments.

Using the **-K** option:

```
mbformat -K -I sb199811231045.rec
```

will produce the following output:

```
sb199811231045 41
```

where the format id has been identified as 41 because of the ".rec" file suffix and the fileroot has been identified as "sb199811231045" by removing the suffix. Use of the **-L** option:

```
mbformat -L -I sb199811231045.rec
```

will produce output with just format id:

```
41
```

## SEE ALSO

**mbsystem(1)**, **mbio(1)**

## BUGS

No known bugs.