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ILL for e-books

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ILL for e-books – experiences since four years – learning to walk



Dr. Berthold Gillitzer, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek



- General remarks about ILL
- The walking boots: concept and the system
- First steps: experiences of the last four years trial period with e-books in ILL
- ILL and e-books – content and license agreements
- Next steps and the prospects

- virtual national library together with other libraries
- 10,7 million volumes
- 138,000 manuscripts
- 57,000 current periodicals in electronic or printed form
- Most important lending library in ILL within Germany
- Most important lending library in OCLC worldshare ILL outside the US



ILL: Old Fashioned or Up To Date?

- The basic principle of ILL: sharing limited resources / use instead of possession – is that old fashioned?



foodsharing.de



freie-mitfahrgelegenheit.de



- Aspects of the “problem“ - theses
 - I. **ILL is the consequence of various shortages**
 - No single patron can buy and own everything he needs for scientific work: libraries are indispensable information providers (bundling resources)
 - No single library can provide all needed information
 - **ILL as “book sharing” or “library resource sharing”**

- Aspects of the “problem“ - theses
 - II. ILL can not be replaced by other solutions: pay-per-use, PDA, direct document delivery...**
 - Shortcomings of the alternatives:
 - No completeness, no solution throughout
 - Only few common standards
 - Not part of the established services
 - No sustainability – the services may vanish every moment

- Aspects of the “problem“ - theses

III. E-media do not match the principles of ILL

- License and right to access instead of possession of the book or journal

⇒ No application of legal restrictions to the copyright

⇒ further license agreements are necessary

- Handling of data instead of paper (books or journals)

⇒ modification of the technical basis

- Aspects of the “problem“ - theses

IV. conclusions

- *ILL can be up to date if it is enhanced*

⇒ **new ILL license agreements are necessary**

⇒ **modification of the technical basis for e-media**

- handling of data instead of paper (eg scanning)
- handling of license information

The concept, the system and improvements



Initial situation:

- Increasing number of unfulfilled ILL requests concerning e-books
- E-only-policy of the German Research Foundation (DFG): preference of the digital version
- Need for a concept of supra-regional accessibility of e-media for financing by the DFG
- No license agreements concerning ILL for e-books
- No technical solution and no project funding from the DFG
- Existing technical solution for e-journals

The only solution before the start of the project: **library journey**



CC BY Arachne

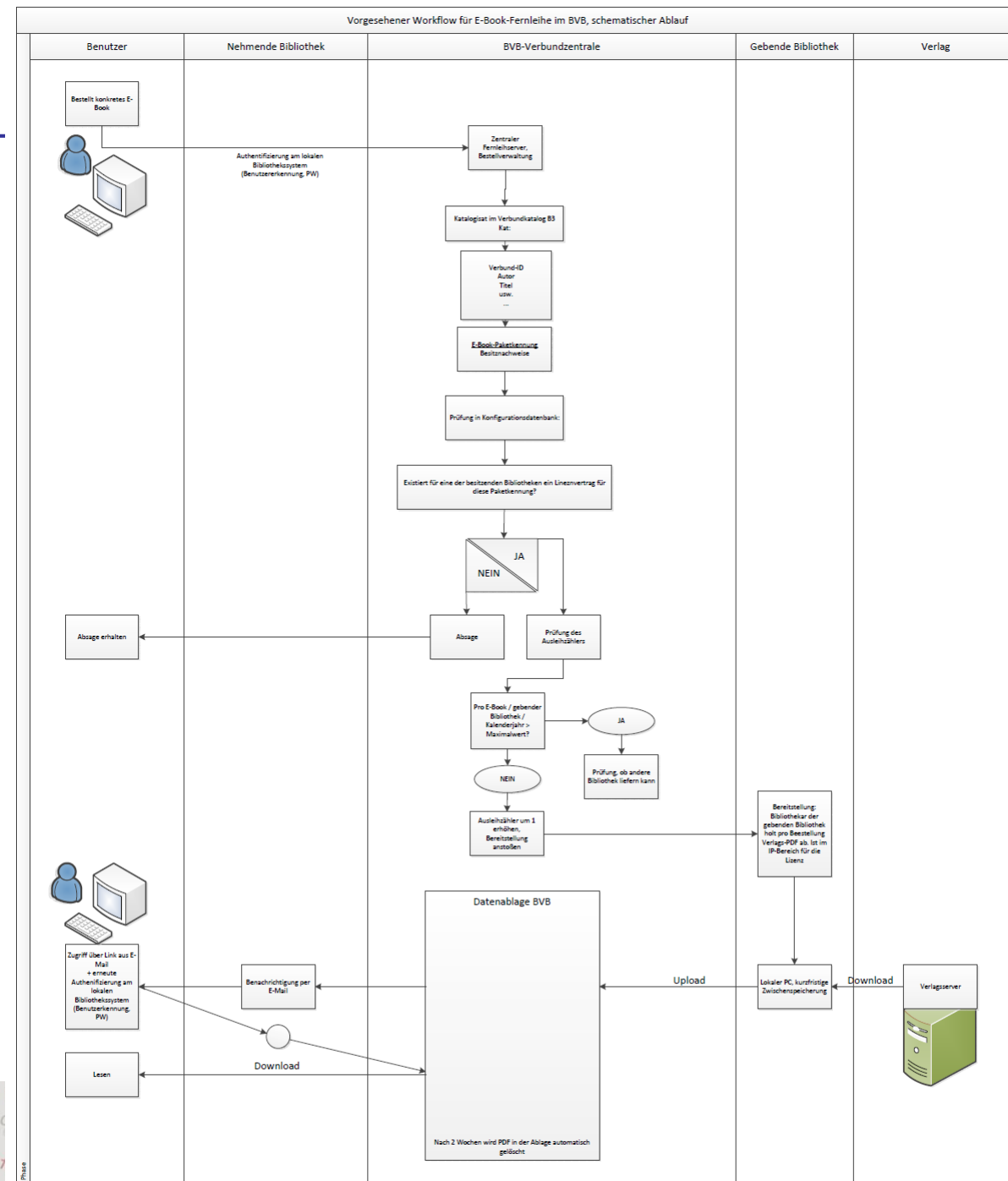
The technical concept:

- ILL of e-books should be similar to traditional ILL of printed books
 - Explicit and single order per book and user – no direct access to the digital content
 - Manual processing of the orders in the lending library
 - Limited access (number of downloads) per book and per year
 - Limited number of authorized users (users permitted for ILL in Germany – no free registration)
 - Controlled access: authentication for ordering and same authentication for document access and download
 - Limited period of document access (two weeks)

Modules of the technical infrastructure:

- Order management system for ILL (central ILL server – ZFL)
- License management system (license information for each book and lending library, maximum access counter etc.)
- Provision server for the delivery of the document to the patron
- Every component works with APIs and can be accessed from third party systems (e.g. local library catalogues etc)

Order and delivery process



First steps: experiences of the last four years trial period with e-books in ILL

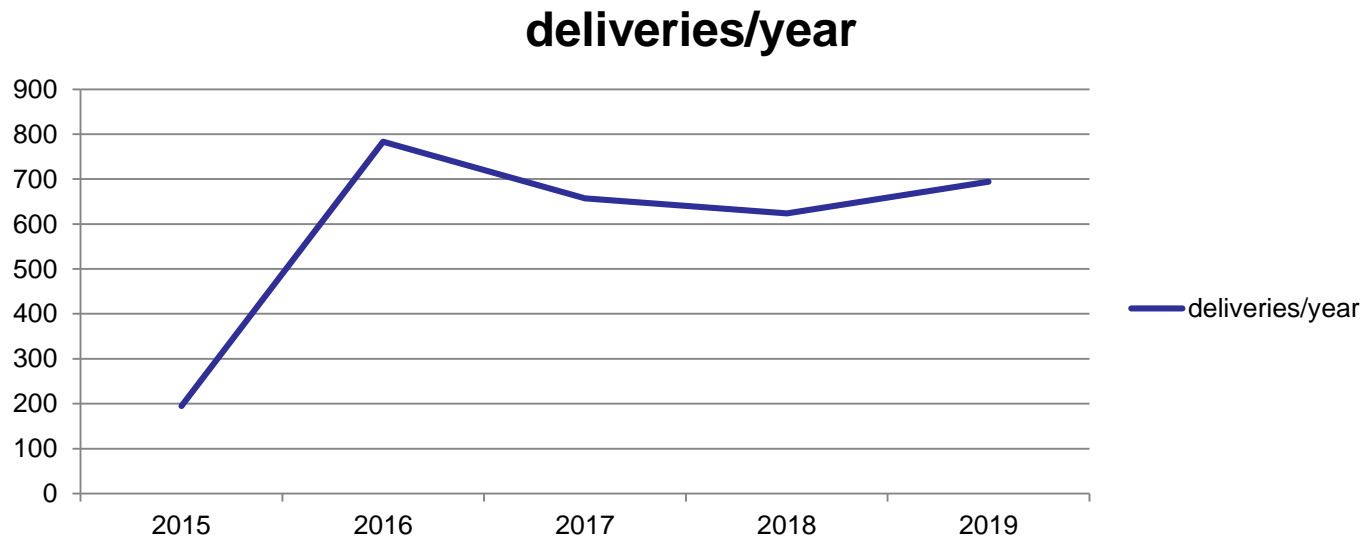


Trial period with productive ILL within the Bavarian Library Network (BVB)

- Technical infrastructure is up and running
- The German library networks agreed upon using the system as a common national system
- License agreements with four publishers: Sagner, DeGruyter, Steiner eLibrary, Duncker & Humblodt, Wiley => aprox. **18.000 e-book-title**
- 11 Partaking lending libraries

Trial period with productive ILL within the Bavarian Library Network (BVB)

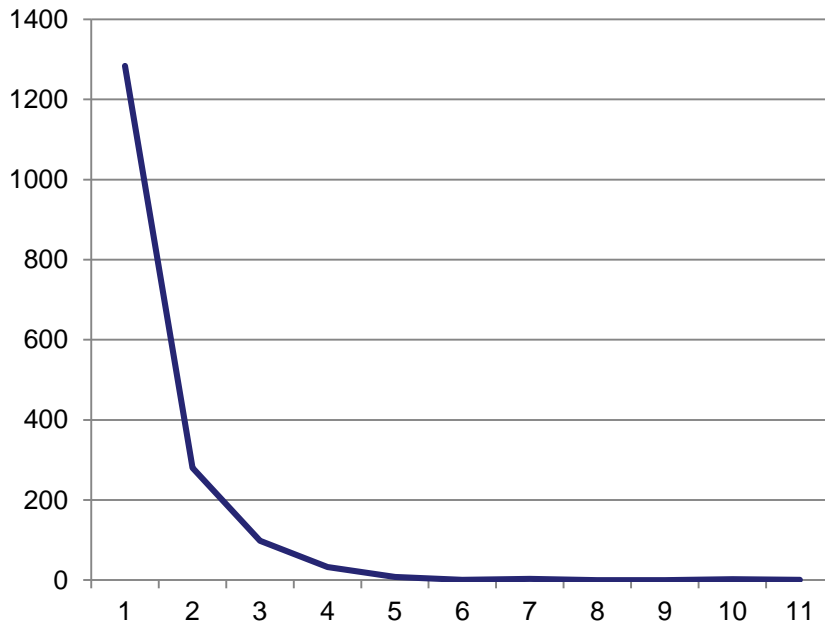
- 524 deliveries 1.6.2015 – 31.5.2016 (first year)
- Total number 2953 (06/08/2019)
- highest rate 2016 with 783 deliveries



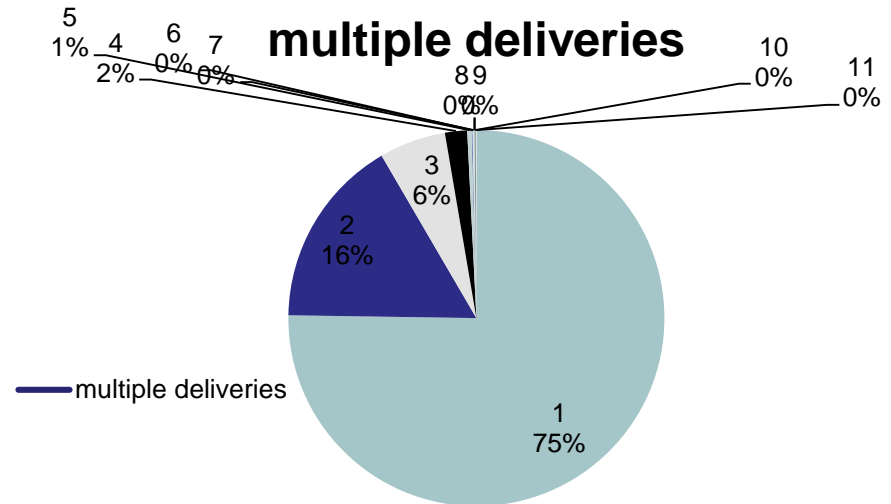
- Accepted by the user without problems
- **Rare multiple orders for the same title**
- 2159 deliveries from 1710 different titles
- The top titles:
 - „Was die Satire darf“ (“What is allowed for satire”) - next to Prague in university library Greifswald (600 km) **11 deliveries**
 - „Praxis-Handbuch Erbrechtsberatung“ (“Manual of practice to consulting of inheritance law”) **10 deliveries**

- Rare multiple orders for the same title

multiple deliveries



multiple deliveries



- ILL with delivery to the patron and not to the borrowing library
 - Sometimes the customer doesn't expect an ebook – it works anyway
 - **“Annual rate of orders”** (orders per total amount of selectable titles per year) is **identical for e-books and printed books**: 0,031
- ⇒ **The systems serves exactly the needs of ILL!!**

Things to be done by the libraries:

- Tasks of the lending libraries:
 - negotiating license agreements
 - input of license data
 - processing of the orders
- Tasks of the borrowing libraries:
 - Enable ordering in the local or regional ILL portal

Licenses and license agreements



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Aspects of licenses for e-books

- **Appendix** to existing or new license contracts for e-book packages
- Delivery of e-books within ILL not appropriate for basic literature (eg textbooks for undergraduate collections)
- No risks for the economic interests of the publisher by:
 - flexible **limitation of access**
 - **limited number of authorized user**
 - **controlled access**

Aspects of licenses for e-books

- Possibility of **consortia and licence communities with a master license agreement**: administration of consortia with common conditions and common access limitations (the limited number of downloads per ebook per year counts for all members of the consortia together)

⇒ allows more control of total access to documents for publishers

Aspects of licenses for e-books

- transparency by statistical information about access to e-books by a lending library for publishers

⇒ further transparency of the needs of libraries concerning e-books for publishers

⇒ ILL of e-books as an alternative to the illegal exchange of documents by scientists and students

Is ILL for e-books a oversized system?



Photo: Nilsharm Quelle: Photocase

Or potential for a broad effect?!



„Dublin City Marathon 2006 (283653500)* von
Michal Osmenda from Brussels

Thank you for your attention!

questions?



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