

Abstract submission for

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## **Library Services and Library Content for the Mobile Internet – The Approach of the Bavarian State Library**

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With its collection of 9.5 million volumes, 55,000 current periodicals, 93,000 manuscripts and 22,000 incunabula, the Bavarian State Library at Munich in Germany is one of the largest European general and research libraries. It operates the “Munich Digitisation Centre”, a national competence centre for digitisation services and technologies. Because of its systematic utilisation of scan robotics and its public private partnership with Google, the Bavarian State Library has been able to build the largest collection of digitised content amongst all German libraries.

Convinced that in the future digital information will primarily, if not exclusively be accessed via mobile devices, the Bavarian State Library is gradually providing her digital services as mobile applications. First the online-catalogue with approximately 10 million titles including all personalised functions was programmed as a generic mobile application that runs on all current smartphone browsers. Then the web site of the library was completely redesigned as a generic mobile application as well.

In another well-received step, the library provided 50 digitised highlights of its collection as the native App “Famous Books – Treasures of the Bavarian State Library” for iPad and iPhone. Among other works users can read the complete digital Gutenberg Bible, the Song of the Nibelungs and the library’s contributions to the Unesco Memory of the World. This App combines high-ranking digital library content with the qualities of colour-brilliant, high-resolution mobile displays to a unique user experience. Furthermore, the Bavarian State Library currently experiments with augmented reality applications. In the mobile App “Ludwig II.”, the library will provide digitised library content on the famous “Swan King” via camera, compass, and GPS functions of smartphones as an augmented reality application, geo-referenced at prominent places of the king’s life such as Neuschwanstein Castle.

The presentation will introduce the various mobile services of the Bavarian State Library, look into their technical implementation and evaluate the chances and limits of library services in the mobile internet. Using the example of the Bavarian State Library, this paper shows how libraries can employ their laboriously created digital content in the mobile web and hence facilitate a new and fascinating user experience.

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