



Web-OPAC Configuration

From: Swami Wiki

Date: September 17th 2014

Table of contents

- 1 General information
- 2 Parameter section (Communication)
- 3 Parameter section (Libraries)
- 4 Parameter section (Webapp)
- 5 Parameter section (TreeView)
- 6 Parameter section (Templates)
- 7 Parameter section (Options)
- 8 Parameter sections (SortLNG)
- 9 Parameter section (MediaPix)
- 10 Parameter section (Common)
- 11 Parameter section (Permissions)
- 12 Parameter section (SearchTerms)
- 13 Parameter sections (NamesLNG)
- 14 Parameter section (Directories)
- 15 Parameter section (WebMessage)
- 16 Parameter section (PageSet)
- 17 Parameter section (MailCover)
- 18 Parameter section (MailAuth)
- 19 Parameter section (Replace)
- 20 Parameter sections (Locate1...5)
- 21 Parameter section (Mobiles)

General information

The configuration file of the Alephino Web OPAC **alipac.cfg** is located in directory **etc**. Apart from parameters for controlling the OPAC all references to files used by the OPAC have their origin here. The file is organized sectionwise. A section starts with a name surrounded by round brackets. On occurrence of equal sections their contents will be combined. Each parameter line has the format **Parameter name = Parameter value**. The names of sections and parameters are not case sensitive, upper- and lowercase writing will be dealt with equally.

A parameter line may cover up to 200 characters. The equal sign between name and value may be enclosed by any number of spaces. Tab characters are not allowed.

Lines beginning with an asterisk * will be dealt with as comments.

Parameter section (Communication)

The OPAC works as a client from the network perspective of the Alephino server. This section contains global parameters for Client/Server communication.

Example:

```
(Communication)
Compress = 3
VersionId = 4.00
Wait = 10
Mail = smtpmail.yourprovider.com
```

Explanation:

Compress= The logical number of a compression method. The data transfer between Alephino server and applications (clients) happens in a

compressed form. By default compression level **3** has to be used.

VersionId= The number of the C/S protocol specification supported by the Alephino server.

Wait= Maximum wait time for server response (in seconds). **Default: 10 seconds**

Mail= If you want to enable email for bibliography lists, the network name or IP address of an SMTP server has to be declared here.

MailProt= For debugging of the email transmission process all SMTP messages can be recorded. For this a file name has to be added here.

Note that the protocol file may grow rapidly, so switch back to normal mode asap.

Parameter section (Libraries)

This section is for declaration of databases searchable by the OPAC.

Example:

```
(Libraries)
M-TIT = localhost:2069
Z-MRC = localhost:2210
```

Explanation:

M-TIT= Symbolic name of an Alephino database and master file containing title data.
Address:Port IP address and port number for that database accessible via Alephino C/S protocol.

Databases and Alephino server must not necessarily be installed locally, the OPAC can also use remote Alephino services. Foreign data sources can be included via Z39.50 gateway. All databases defined here do appear in the OPAC "Databases" menu list.

Parameter section (Webapp)

Example:

```
(Webapp)
Counter = ../data/paccount.txt
Log = ../temp/alipac.log
Translate = ../etc/utf2html.tr1
Application = eng
MaxConns = 100
MaxSort = 300
Timeout = 60
MailOrder = AlephinoOrder@exl.de
MailSubject = Alephino OPAC
MailFrom = mail@yourlibrary.com
```

Explanation:

Counter= Path name of the search requests counter file. The file also serves for synchronization of concurrent access to the OPAC.
Log= Path name for the temporary file where session information is stored.
Translate= Path name of a character translation table for conversion from UTF-8 to HTML code, used for output conversion to HTML "named entities".
Application= Code of the initial communication language. More than one communication languages can be defined; this means the one used on start of the OPAC.
MaxConns= Maximum number of simultaneously managed OPAC sessions.

MaxSort= Maximum number of search results for that the sort option in short list is activated. As long as this number is not exceeded, certain column headers are formed as sort links. A reasonable limitation should be set because sorting of large result lists is a time-consuming process that causes a significant slowdown of the server.

Timeout= Session timeout (in seconds). OPAC sessions not being triggered during this time are closed automatically.

MailFrom= Sender address for email messages sent out of the OPAC.

MailSubject= Default subject for email messages sent from OPAC. This will be applied if the respective email form field has not been filled by the user.

MailOrder= Recipient address for order requests created from OPAC (Customer specific development).

With that the current bibliography list can be prepared for creation of a "Delivery order" to the library.

LogProt= Path name for application of a session log file. This can be used for debugging purposes with regard to the OPAC session management.

Pls. note that the log file may grow rapidly, so switch back to normal mode asap.

ServRoot= Base URL of the OPAC. By default this URL is composed automatically using server name and port passed from HTTP server.

Sometimes there is a need to override this base URL.

Whoami= URL of the OPAC. By default this URL is composed automatically using server name, port number and script name passed from HTTP server.

Sometimes it is necessary to override this URL by a fixed one.

Cookies= The interpretation of browser cookies for permanent storage of user preferences such as communication language, database, number of records per page, short list format etc. can be suppressed by assigning an **N** to that parameter (default=**Y**).

Parameter section (TreeView)

The section covers parameter for controlling the tree view available with "Search systematics".

Example:

```
(TreeView)
SingleNodePerLevel = Y
```

Explanation:

SingleNodePerLevel= Enter **Y** if you want to have all other nodes of the same tree level closed automatically on opening of a new node.

Parameter section (Templates)

Example:

```
(Templates)
Date = MM/YY/YYYY
*ISOSet = ../etc/iso2utf.tr1
```

Explanation:

Date= Pattern for common date formatting.

ISOSet= Path name of a file containing a character translation table.

Background: Although the Alephino always uses Unicode (UTF-8) internally, all text files at the server have character set ISO8859-1 (Latin-1). The cause is that files like this can be dealt with by means of the system editor tool on any supported operating system. If special characters have to be entered that are not included in western european character set (Latin-1), an alternative character translation table can be applied here.

For cyrillic texts a translation table covering ISO8859-5 to UTF-8 relations can be applied here.

Parameter section (Options)

Covers default values controlling the short list and full display. Parameter names used here are identical with those available with the "Options" form.

Example:

```
(Options)
SHORT-NO-LINES = 10
AUTO-FULL      = 05
SHORT-FORMAT   = 000
ITEMSORT       = D
PRESORT        = Year
```

- SHORT-NO-LINES=** Number of entries per short list page
- AUTO-FULL=** Minimum number of search results that will presented as a short list. With that a small number of search results can be determined to immediately be presented in full display format.
Name of the display format used for title full display.
- SHORT-FORMAT=** Format names used by the OPAC are always represented by 3-digit numbers.

By default all items belonging to a title are listed in ascending sort order, the eldest records appear on top of the list.
- ITEMSORT=(optional)** If you want to have that sort order reversed the way that the most recent items will appear on top, enter "D" for (escending).

If you want to have a result list pre-sorted, enter her the column header that shall be used for sort criterion by default.
- PRESORT= (optional)** Pls. note that the pre-sort function is limited and subject of the above mentioned **MaxSort** parameter.

Parameter sections (SortLNG)

These sections are for defining sort options applicable with search result lists. Because these options are language dependent the language code given by **LNG** stands for the respective communication language.

Example:

```
(SortENG)
Year = -1,4 "; sorted by year, title (descending)"
Author = 3,4 "; sorted by author, title"
Title = 4,1 "; sorted by title, year"
```

Explanation:

Year= Column header to become formatted as a link to trigger sorting. A sort link will be created if the number of results is greater than 2 and less than the value given by "MaxSort" parameter.

-1,2

Numbers of sort formats used for initial and subsequent sorting. For a descending sort order a minus sign has to be prepended to that number.

"; sort by year, title (descending)"

Long name of the sort method (language dependent). Will be displayed with the search result list header.(The semicolon is for separation because the search query is prepended.)

Parameter section (MediaPix)

With that icons for media types can be applied with the search result list.

Example:

```
(MediaPix)
000 = book.jpg
050 = newspaper.jpg
100 = newspaper.jpg
150 = film.jpg
200 = film.jpg
250 = slide.jpg
300 = tapes.jpg
350 = tapes.jpg
400 = tapes.jpg
450 = record.jpg
500 = audiocd.jpg
510 = cdrom.jpg
520 = cdrom.jpg
550 = disc.jpg
600 = noten.jpg
700 = videocam.jpg
750 = book.jpg
800 = book.jpg
850 = chess.jpg
950 = videocam.jpg
```

Explanation:

000=

Number of a media type. This key number is stored in field A87 of item records linked to the respective title.

book.jpg

File name of an icon picture file. By default this icon is displayed in 3rd column of the short list. The respective file is expected to be present in sub-directory **htdoc/alipac_lng/icon**.

Pls. note that either media types and their namings are customer specific (can be edited using Alephino Web services), and so are the icons to be mapped.

Parameter section (Common)

Example:

```
(Common)
Library = M-TIT
User = WWW
Password = WWW
```

Explanation:

Library= (Symbolic) Database to be used by default.

User= (Staff-) user account used implicitly by the OPAC as an Alephino client for Alephino network authentication.

Pass= The password

Parameter section (Permissions)

Example:

```
(Permissions)
HoldRequest = Y
LoanRenew = Y
SelfService = Y
OrderVerify = Y
SelfVerify = Y
ExactRequest = N
eShelf = N
```

Explanation:

- Holdrequest**=(Y/N) Activation of the hold request function. With that set a button "Hold request" appears for monographs in the title context and for serials in item context. (To become identified as a serials title the record must be linked to at least one subscription.)
- ExactRequest**=(Y/N) With that hold requests will be always be linked to items. (By default the Alephino uses title requests for monographs.) This option can be used if otherwise serials cannot be identified.
- LoanRenew**=(Y/N) Activation of the renewal option as a self service. With that the borrower can renew loans out of the borrower account menu.
- SelfService**=(Y/N/L/R) Activation of self services "Loan" and "Return". With **L** resp. **R** the self-loan resp. self-return options can be enabled separately.
- SelfVerify**=(Y/N) By default the self service functions require that user authentication had happend before (borrower account must have been opened). With **Y** set for each loan action the borrower barcode must be entered.
- OrderVerify**=(Y/N) Out of the basket delivery orders to library can be sent (customer specific development). With **Y** set only authenticated borrowers are

eshelf = (Y/N) enabled to use that function.
The permanent basket, also called eShelf, can be switched off by setting this parameter to **N**. Thus Alephino 5.0 behaves like previous versions where any personal title collection becomes invalid on closing of the OPAC session.

Parameter section (SearchTerms)

Define here search aspects to be offered to the OPAC user. That's because the set of reasonable aspects depends on the customer specific usage of the Alephino database.

Example:

```
(SearchTerms)
FIND = WRD, TIT, NAM, SUB, PER, COR, MEE, SCO, SME, TOT, GEO, PUB, YEA, SRS, TRM, ISN
SCAN = TIP, PER, COP, MEE, SPE, SCP, SME, TTP, GEP, PUP, PLP, YEA, SRP, ISN
REFINE = WRD, TIT, PER, COR, MEE, SPE, SCO, SME, TOP, GEO, PUB, PLA, YEA, SRS, ISN
AUTOTRUNC = PER, COR, PUB
SYSIDX =
PER: SUB, COP: SUB, MEE: SUB, TIT: SUB, SCT: SUB, TTP: SUB, GEP: SUB, GEN: SUB, TRM: THS, NOT: THS, TOP: THS, TRM: PER, NOT: PER, TRM: ORT, NOT: ORT, TRM: LND, NOT: LND, TRM: MAT, NOT: MAT, TRM: ZTR, NOT: ZTR
SYSFIND = SWT: SWT
```

Explanation:

FIND= The list of search aspects to appear in select boxes for "Simple search", "Multibase", and "Complex search". The respective search aspects must be valid for record type title = "TIT". The comma has to be used for separator character.

SCAN= The list of aspects to appear in select box for "Scan list".

REFINE= The list of aspects to appear in select box for "Refine".

AUTOTRUNC= The list of search aspects that will automatically truncated (right truncation).

SYSIDX= The list of search aspects to appear in select box for "Search systematics".
The format for each entry is **ASP: FIL**. (The comma has to be used for separator.)

ASP stands for search aspect, **FIL** for the respective master file the aspect belongs to.

SYSFIND= Alternative method for creation of "Systematics" lists. With that a limited and sorted result list will be presented instead of an index-based list. This is sometimes necessary to meet german standards (MAB subjects).

Parameter sections (NamesLNG)

The naming of databases and search aspects is language dependent, so for each supported communication language a section must be defined. The **LNG** within section labels stands for the 3-digit language code. If a database or search aspect lacks a long name, its code is displayed instead.

Example:

```
(NamesENG)
M-TIT = The Alephino library
Z-MRC = Library of Congress via Z39.50
WRD = All fields
TIT = Title keyword
...
TRM:THS = Thesaurus-Term
PER:SUB = Subject/personal name
```

Explanation:

- M-TIT=** Long name of database to appear in the OPAC menu header.
- Z-MRC=** Long name of a remote database accessible via Z39.50 gateway to appear in the OPAC menu header.
- TIT=** Long name of a search aspect for searching and browse index.
- TRM:THS=** Long name of a search aspect used for "Search systematics".

Parameter section (Directories)

Example:

```
(Directories)
Temp = ../temp
```

Explanation:

The given directory is used to store temporary files created while OPAC operation.

Parameter section (WebMessage)

This section is for defining files containing language dependent status messages and templates for creation of dynamically created OPAC contents. The 3-digit code of the respective communication language serves for parameter name.

Example:

```
(WebMessage)
ENG = ../etc/pacmsg.eng
FRE = ../etc/pacmsg.fre
GER = ../etc/pacmsg.ger
POR = ../etc/pacmsg.por
```

Parameter section (PageSet)

This section is for defining directories containing the language dependent set of OPAC pages (Alephino HTML-template [.htt](#) formatted files). The 3-digit code of the respective communication language serves for parameter name.

Example:

```
(PageSet)
ENG = ../htdocs/alipac_eng/
GER = ../htdocs/alipac_ger/
FRE = ../htdocs/alipac_fre/
POR = ../htdocs/alipac_por/
```

Parameter section (MailCover)

Email messages sent from OPAC do always consist of a cover letter in combination with data in the attachment. This parameter section is to define files where language dependent cover letters are stored in. Cover letters can either be designed plain text- or HTML formatted. The 3-digit code of the respective communication language serves for parameter name.

Example:

```
(MailCover)
ENG = ../etc/mailcover.eng
GER = ../etc/mailcover.ger
FRE = ../etc/mailcover.fre
POR = ../etc/mailcover.por
```

Parameter section (MailAuth)

The OPAC does support authentication in combination with email transmission. The following parameters are necessary to configure SMTP-AUTH protocol support.

Example:

```
(MailAuth)
Method    = PLAIN
User      = postman
Password  = topsecret
```

Explanation:

Method= Authentication method. The following values can be used: **LOGIN, PLAIN, CRAM_MD5**. It is necessary to check in advance which method is supported by the respective SMTP server.

User= Mail account user

Password= Mail account password (plain text)

Parameter section (Replace)

This is for creation of placeholders that can be used for substitution of frequently used values in the OPAC output. The names of the placeholders are freely selectable.

Example:

```
(Replace)
full_format = 001
icon_path   = /pix/alipac
download    = /download
```

Parameter sections (Locate1...5)

With that localization functions can be installed. Localization means that based on the data of the currently displayed record search requests meeting the URL syntax of various internet services are created dynamically. At the moment this is used for "**Google Books**" and "**Amazon book search**".

Examples:

```
(Locate1)
BaseURL = http://books.google.com/books
Query   = GOOGLE
Charset = ISO
Pattern = 232
Output  = 700
(Locate2)
BaseURL = http://www.amazon.de/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks
Query   = AMAZON
Charset = ISO
Pattern = 272
Output  = 701
(LocateART1)
BaseURL = http://documentaarchiv-mediencenter.stadt-kassel.de/R
Query   = SFX
Pattern = 268
Output  = 7000
```

Explanation:

(LocateFILE1...5) Section name. Composed of the word "Locate" optionally followed by the 3-digit code of a master file and a number between 1 and 5.

Without the master file data the section applies to title records. Up to 5 different sections for external search requests can be defined.

BaseURL= (optional) Base URL of the service to be addressed.

Can be used to substitute the first placeholder %s within the format string defined by **Pattern**.

Query= Name of the format addressed by label LOCATE= that will be used for composition of the specific query string.

The formats valid for localization applying to an Alephino master file are defined with label **SFX=** in definition File.

Charset=ISO Special characters with the URL are coded in character set ISO Latin1 (ISO 8859-1). By default the character encoding is UTF-8.

Pattern= Number of the format string used for composition of a complete query URL for the respective remote service.

Output= Number of the placeholder for the locate-link to be placed in the OPAC output page.

Parameter section (Mobiles)

This section contains keywords for mobile device recognition.

Example:

```
(Mobiles)
Agent = iPhone
Agent = Android
Agent = Opera Mobi
Agent = BlackBerry
Agent = webOS
```

Explanation:

Agent = Word, Phrase or regular expression. The recognition of mobile devices is based on comparison with the value transmitted via Web server as HTTP_USER_AGENT covering identifying information about the respective terminal device and web browser. This can be used in order to automatically present another layout for low resolution screens that usually are applied for mobile devices (Smartphones, Tablet PC's). For this derivatives of (PageSet) = **(MobileSet)** and (WebMessage) = **(MobileMessage)** have to be created.