



# ALOE – A Social Resource and Metadata Hub

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## ALOE is a Social Resource Sharing Platform

ALOE is a generic system that allows

- supporting access to digital resources by means of social media technologies
- integrating social media technologies also in existing, especially traditional environments with no or only few interaction possibilities

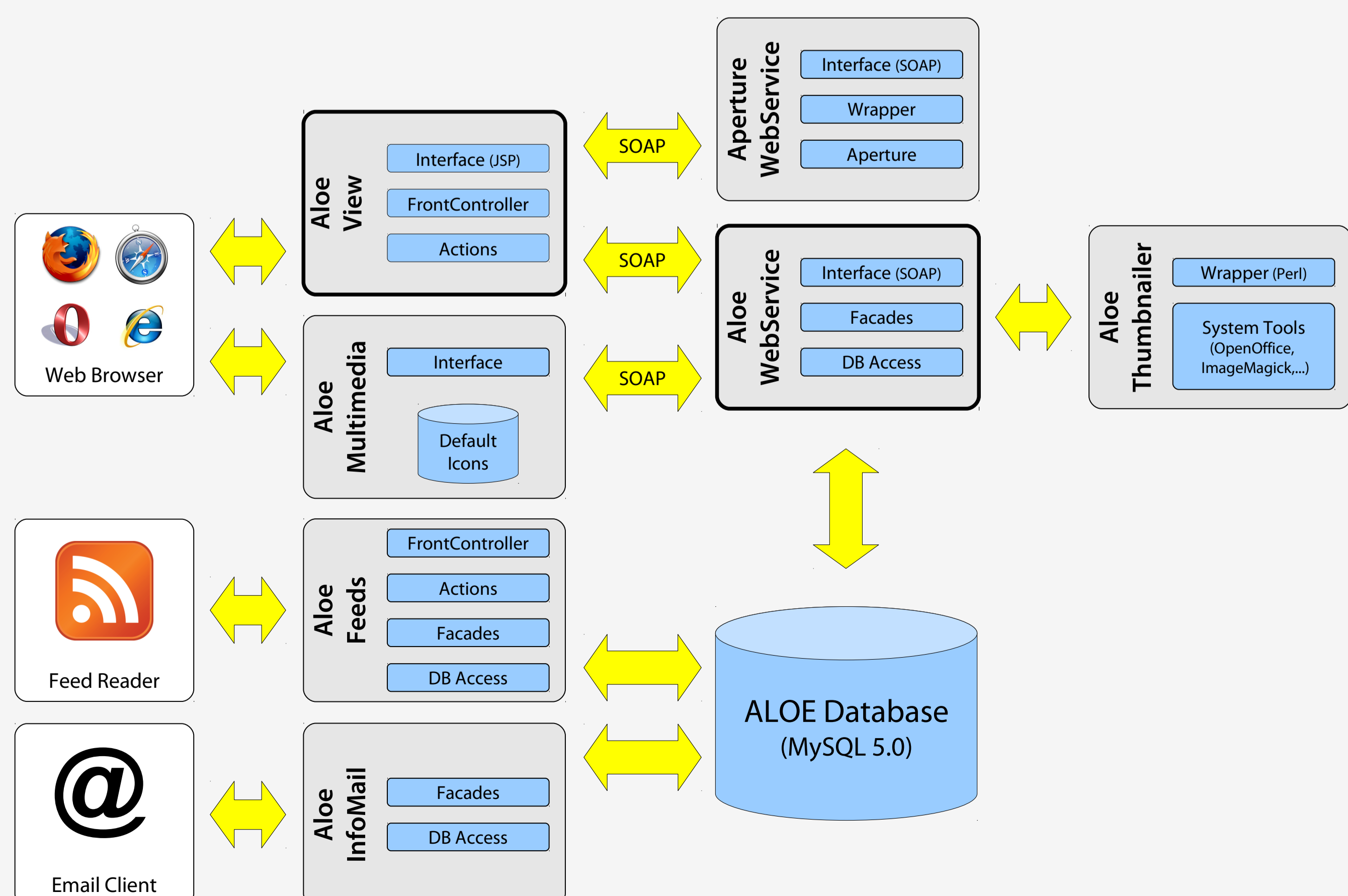
ALOE can be used

- **stand-alone** or as a **social backbone** to integrate social media paradigms in existing environments
- as an **open system** in the web, but also in **closed environments** without any connections to the outside

## Features

- Upload, share and organise arbitrary types of multimedia resources (text, audio, video, bookmarks).
- "Social Software" functionalities: tag, rate, and comment on resources; social browsing; contact lists; messaging etc.
- Group management for open/closed/invisible groups.
- Publish as private, public, or only for a certain group.
- Find resources with different filter criteria (filter by mime type, filter by license, filter by date, ...)
- Rank search results according to different criteria (most viewed, best rated, most recent, most bookmarked...).
- Feed support (Atom) and email reports for different topics (e.g., activities in groups, activities on resources).
- Automatic metadata generation based on Aperture.
- Embedded player for various resource types (e.g., flash, mp3).
- Thumbnail generation for all common multimedia formats.
- Optional parallel contributions to other platforms (e.g., Delicious, Diigo, Twitter).
- Export of own resources, search results and group resources.
- Functionalities are also offered as services (SOAP/REST API).
- Full UTF-8 and internationalisation support.
- Easy adaptation of design, menus and texts for new scenarios.
- Arbitrary metadata can be integrated into the system

## Architecture and Components

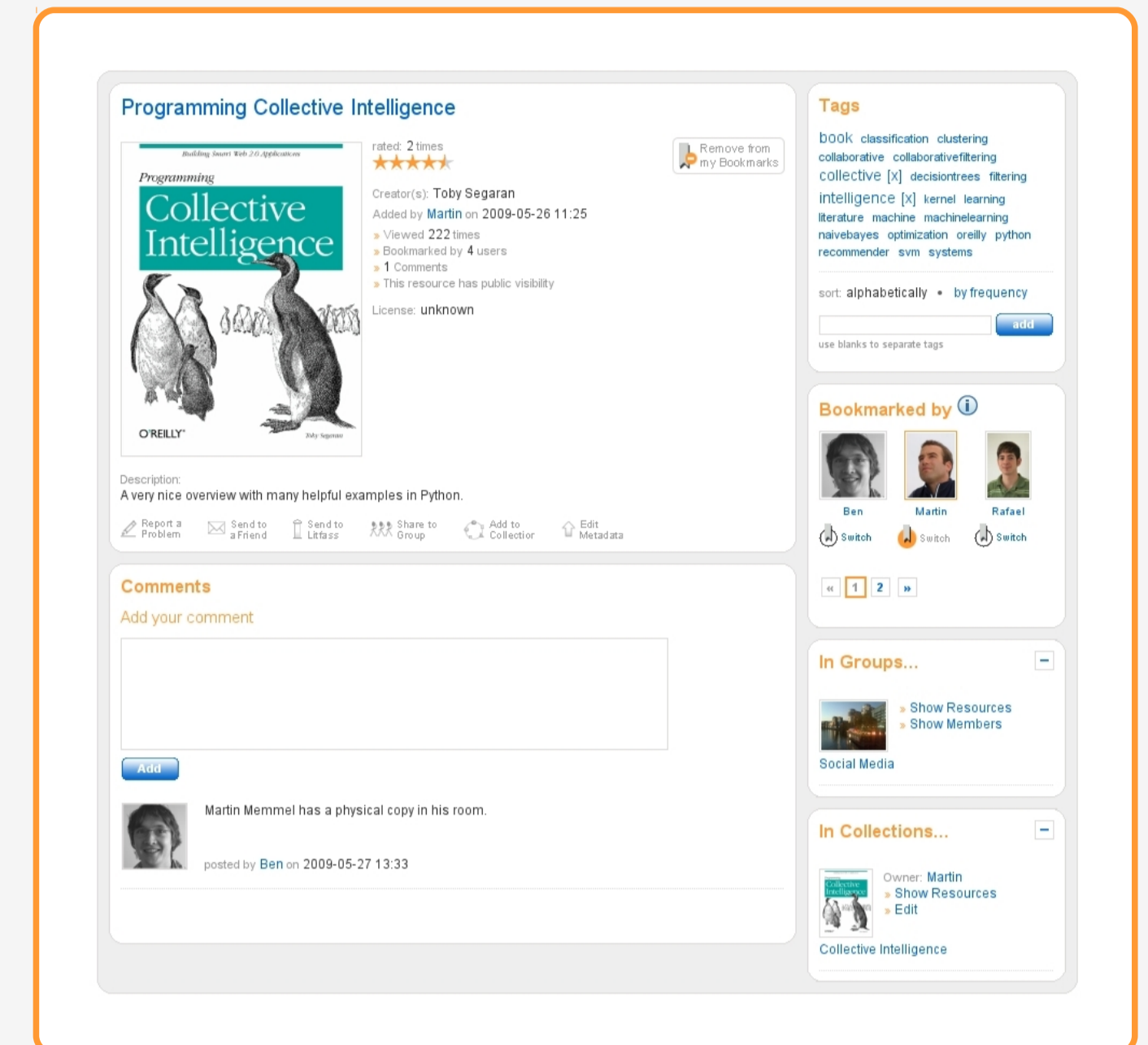


## Selected ALOE Scenarios

Several ALOE instances are used in different scenarios and projects, e.g.:

**ALOE-public** is a publicly available ALOE instance that is open for everyone. It was initiated in 2008 and can be used for real scenarios, but also as a simple playground.

ALOE-public uses the standard ALOE GUI that is also offered in several other ALOE instances. The system is available under <http://aloe-project.de/AloeView>.



**Mindpool** is DFKI's internal social media suite for all DFKI employees. Mindpool consists of two components: *mindpool hints* is a microblogging tool based on the Open Source microblogging service status.net, and *mindpool treasures* is a social resource sharing platform based on ALOE.

The objective of **MACE** (Metadata for Architectural Contents in Europe) was to create a common infrastructure for enriching and retrieving educational contents about architecture in Europe. It was co-funded by the EU eContentPlus program from 09/2006 until 10/2009. All community features in MACE were realised using ALOE as a social backbone. MACE is publicly available under <http://www.mace-project.eu>.



**C-LINK** (Conference Link) is a web based tool to support conference attendees. With C-LINK, users can share papers and presentations, generate individual conference schedules, get personalised recommendations to find interesting events and attendees, etc. C-LINK is based on ALOE and was used during the KI 2008 and the ICDAR 2009 in Barcelona (see <http://icdar09.dfki.uni-kl.de/AloeView>).

The aim of the project **RADAR** (Resource Annotation and Delivery for Mobile Augmented Reality Services) is the development of an ALOE-based infrastructure to contribute, organise and annotate multimedia resources that can be used within mobile augmented reality services (see <http://www.dfki.uni-kl.de/radar>).



## Acknowledgements

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## For further information

Please contact [aloe@dfki.uni-kl.de](mailto:aloe@dfki.uni-kl.de). This poster and more information on this and related projects can be obtained at <http://aloe-project.de> and <http://www.dfki.de>.

