Real-time Volumetric Fog Simulation

Milestone Presentation

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Original steps and goals:

- Modeling (noise generation)
- Visualization (ray marching)
- Lighting (emission, absorption, scattering)
- Optimization

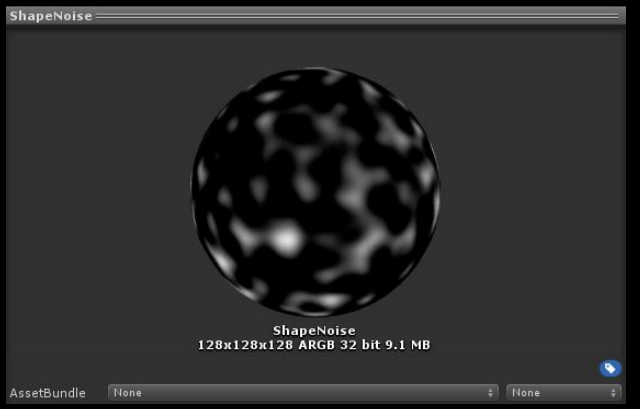
Done so far

- Implementation of Worley and Perlin noise
- Ray marching
- Part of light marching
- Unity GUI Inspector

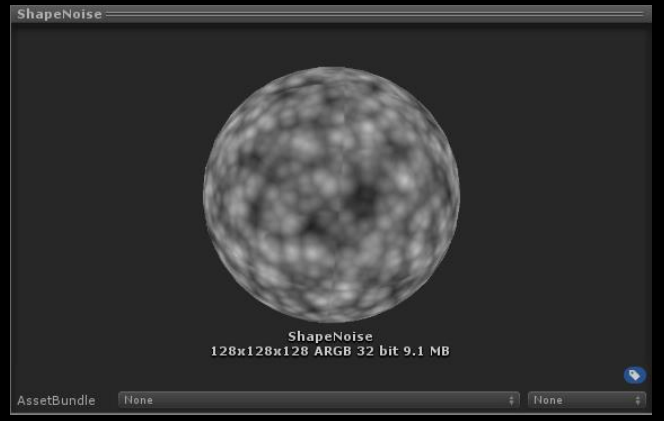
Noise Generation

- Worley and Perlin noise functions
- Possibility of multiple octaves (Fractal Brownian noise)
- Setbacks:
  - Compute shader implementation and dispatching
  - Unity's RenderTexture and Texture3D classes and their conversion
  - Complicated testing in 3D
  - Tiling of the noises

Perlin Noise



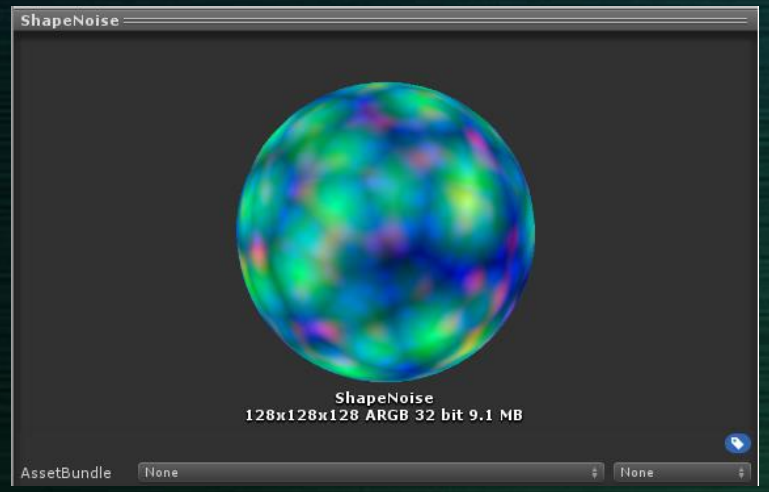
Inverted Worley Noise



Noise Textures for Cloud Rendering

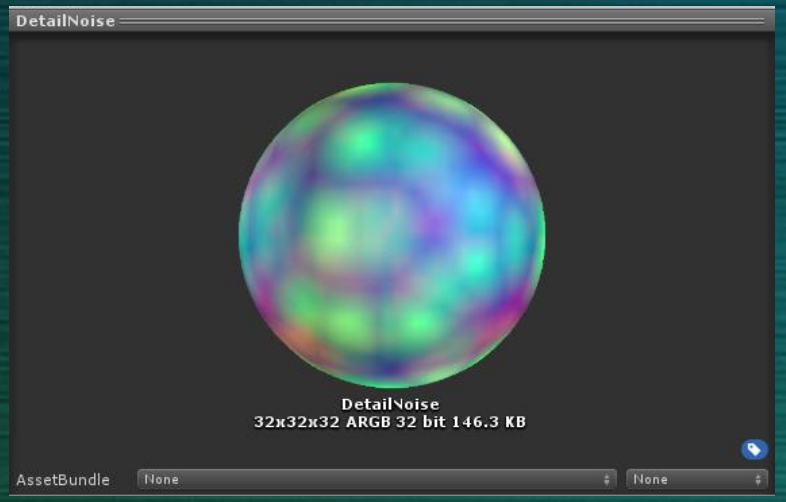
Shape Texture

- 128 x 128 x 128 resolution
- Red channel – Perlin noise
- Other channels – Worley noise
- Density: R * (B + G + A)



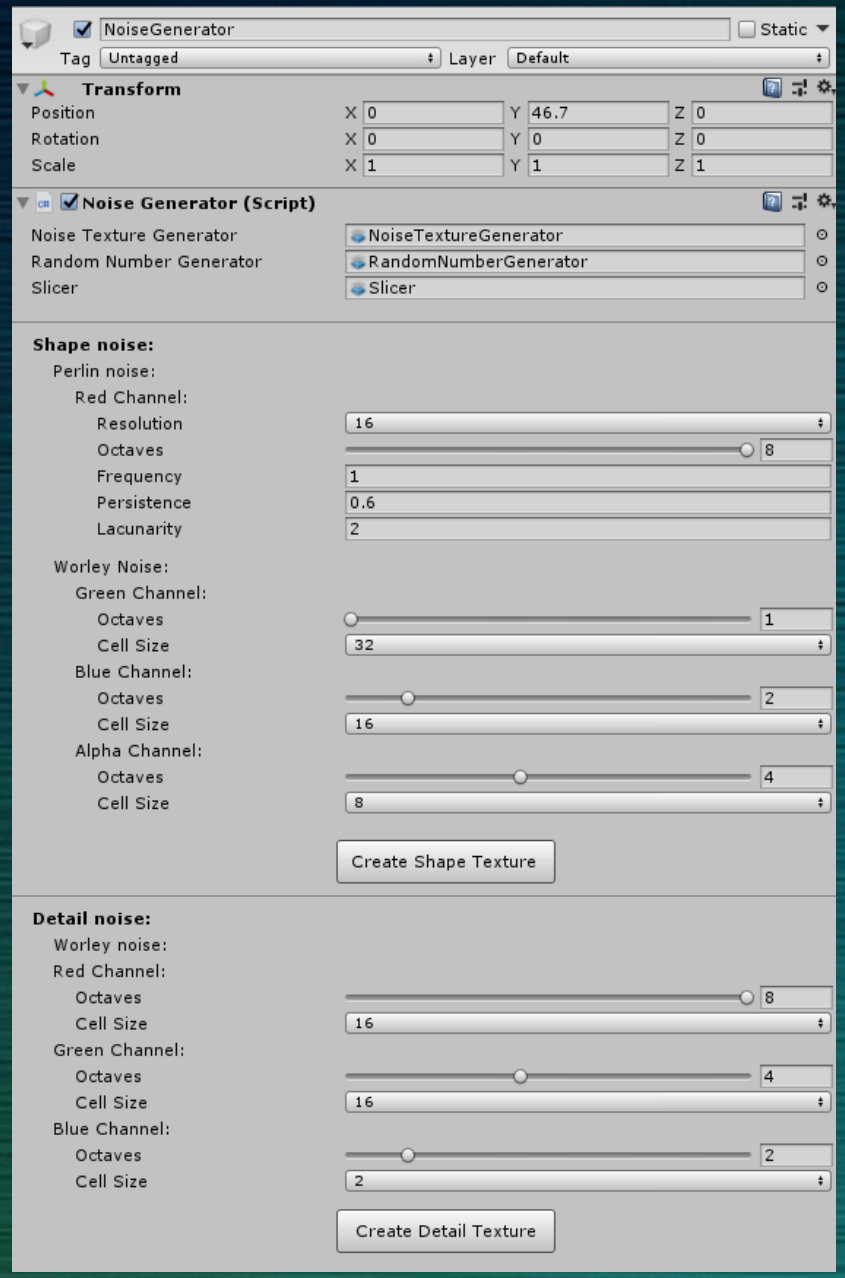
Detail Texture

- 32 x 32 x 32 resolution
- Alpha channel – 1 (max value)
- Other channels – Worley noise
- Density: (B + G + R)/4



Noise Generator Script

- Custom editor
- Shape and Detail noise independent of each other
- Saves the textures to the Resources folder
- Advice for creating textures:
  - Use varying octaves of Worley noise
  - Ideal cell size for Worley is 8/16

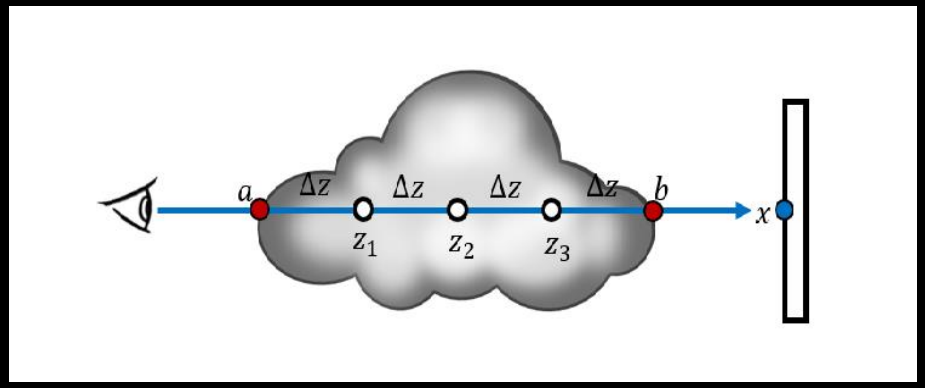


Ray marching

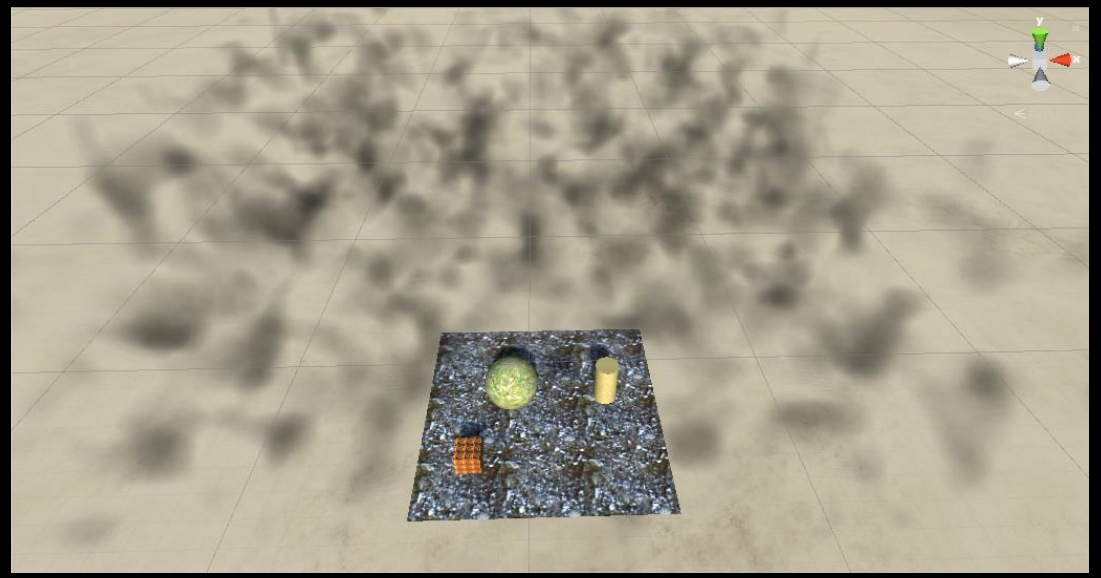
- March along a ray from A to B
- At each point, compute the density
- Sum densities up to get the density of point A
- Density computation:
  - Shape Texture Density – Detail Texture Density
  - Weight of the point along a ray determined by Beer's Law

$$T = \frac{I}{I_0} = e^{-\sigma_a l}$$

Transmittance at point dependent on absorption coefficient and current distance

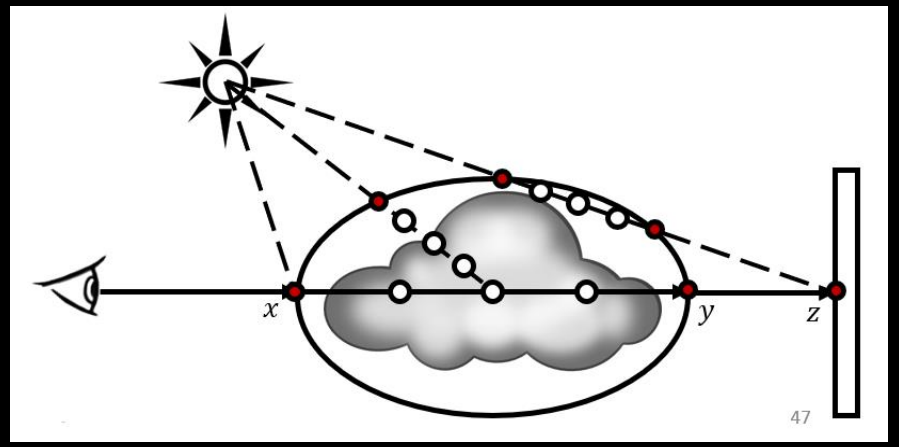


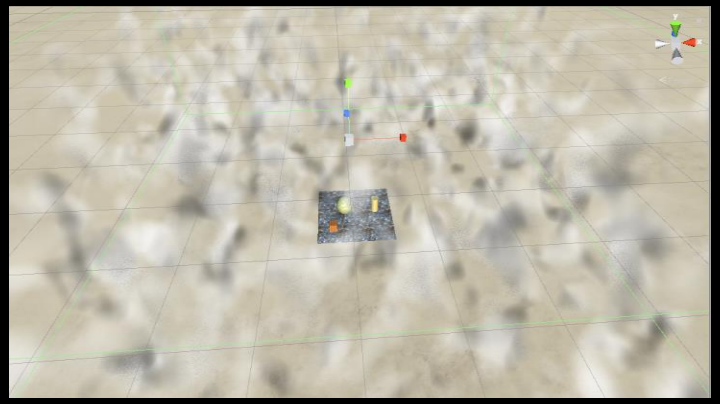
delta Z = step size; z1, z2, z3 – points of evaluation

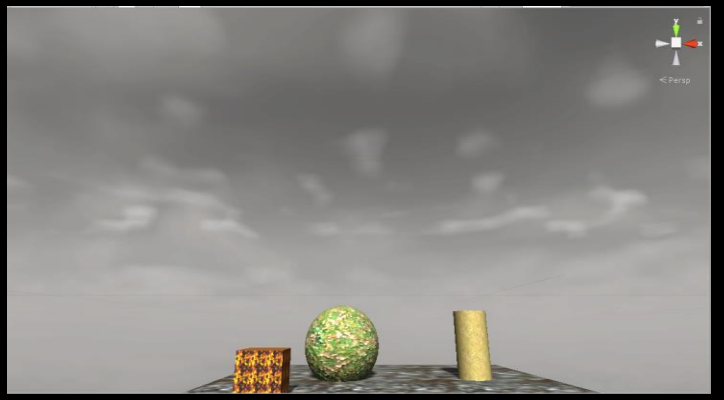


Light marching

- In progress
- Compute incident light at each point during ray march
- Ray march towards the light source
- Multiply the current density with total light

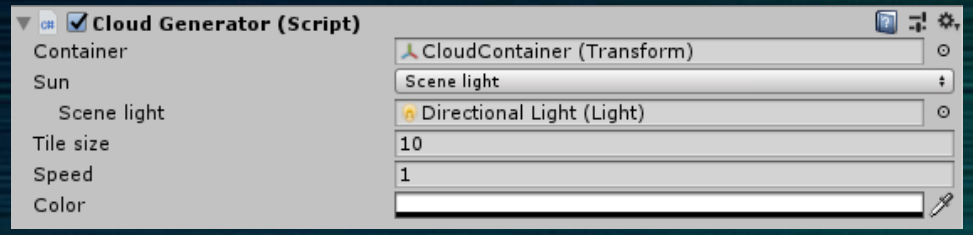


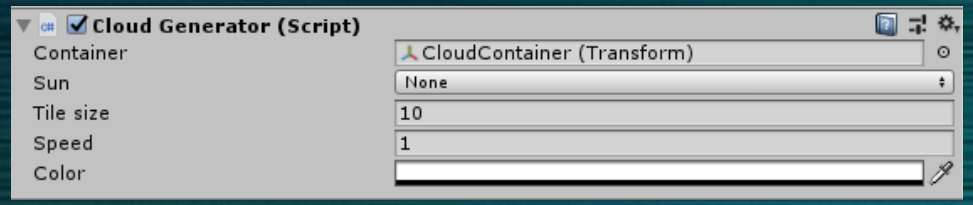


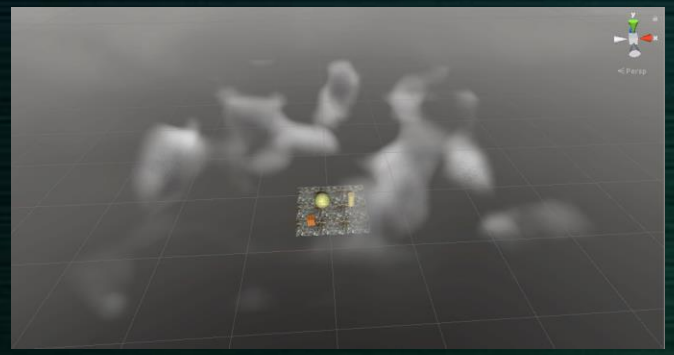


Cloud Generator Script

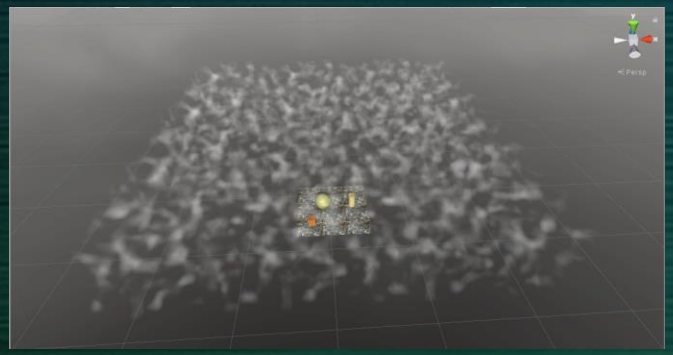
- In progress
- Option for choosing which light is used for light march
- Only one light to avoid performance problems



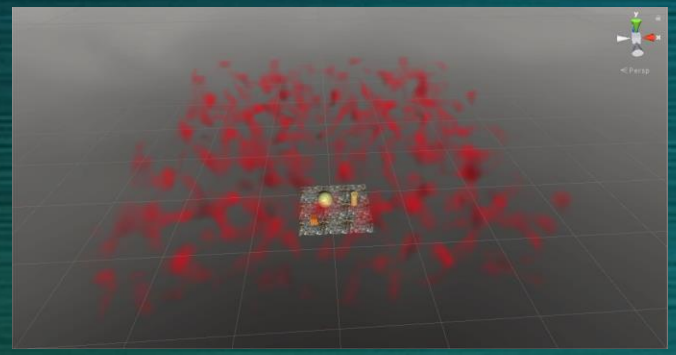




Tile Size: 2

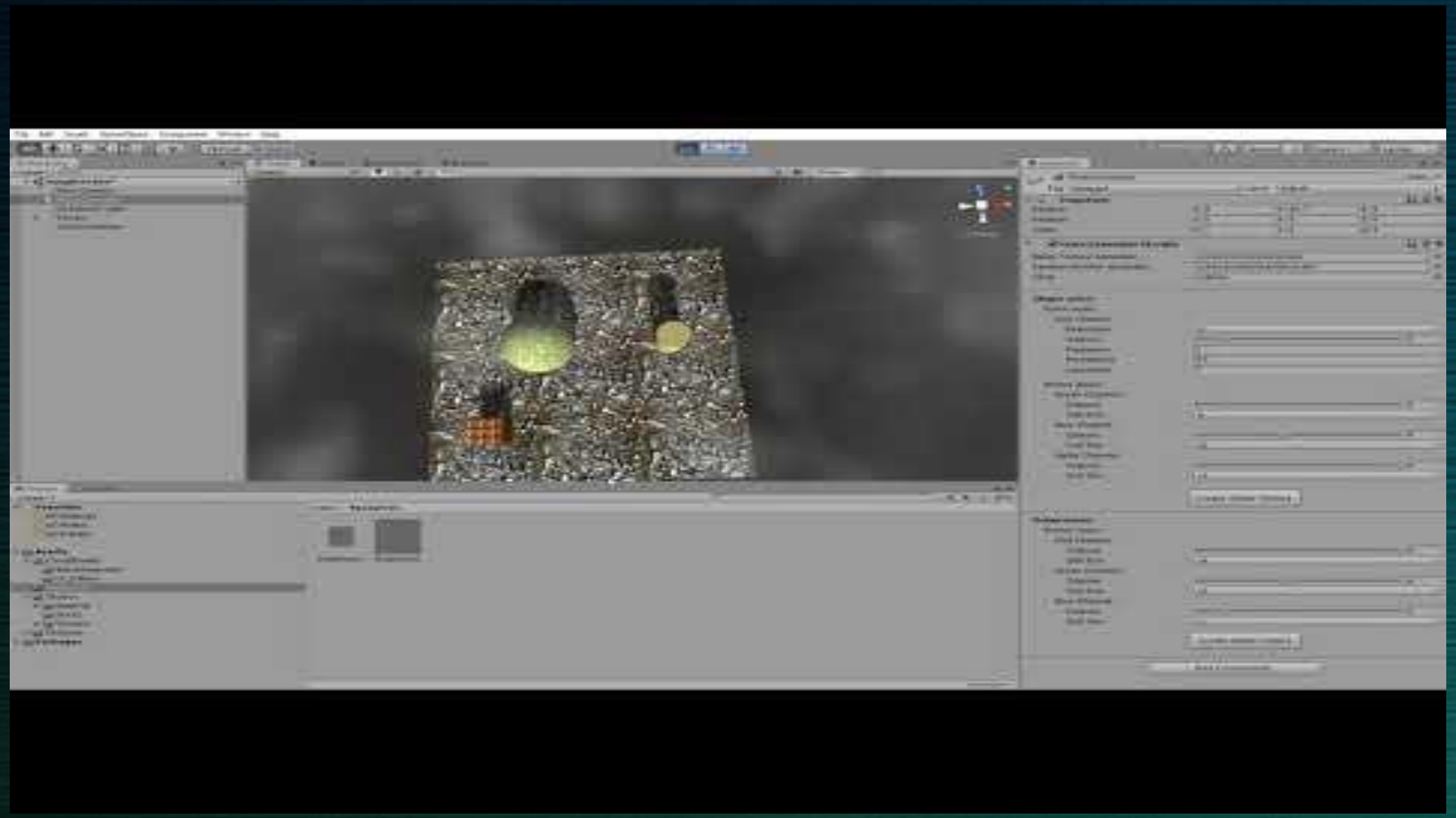


Tile Size: 10



Color: Red

Note: Color is not attenuated



Future work:

- Complete the incident light calculations
- Optimizations for Oculus Quest
  - Find optimal ray marching step size
- Scene light color and intensity dependent illumination

Nice to have:

- Weather map
  - Cloud density dependent on height
- Random number generation in Compute Shader
- Directional Light support
- User adjustable wind direction
- Better density calculations
  - Remap function

Thank you for your attention!

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