

SKYHACK-2025

- IDEA Statement Title - Sky Color Simulator: Bringing the Sky to Your Screen
- Team Name – Tech Engineers
- Team LEAD & Co-partners Name - Anusha R S & SAHANA T N & Anuradha P & Shambhavi B H & Ritu M R
- USN – 4SM23EC018 & 4SM23EC077 & 4SM23EC016 & 4SM23EC080 & 4SM23EC076
- College Name - SJM INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
- Email ID:- anuanushars22@gmail.com & sanasahana896@gmail.com & pprahaldt@gmail.com & shambhavibh9@gmail.com & ritumeharwade03@gmail.com
- Phone Numbers:- 9148314864 & 8951127641 & 85508 38367 & 81479 47797 & 63625 43405

Sky Color Simulator: Bringing Bringing the Sky to Your Screen Screen

Harnessing cutting-edge atmospheric science to recreate the majesty
of natural skies in digital environments



Why Simulate the Sky's Colors?

The sky's colors change dynamically throughout the day due to complex atmospheric effects like light scattering.

Realistic sky simulation has become essential for creating immersive digital experiences that feel authentic and grounded in natural phenomena.

From enhancing visual realism in next-generation games and professional flight simulators to powering virtual reality environments, accurate sky rendering transforms how users experience digital worlds.



Sky simulation also plays a crucial role in education, helping students understand atmospheric optics, weather visualization systems that predict conditions, and architectural lighting design that relies on accurate daylight models.

The Science Behind Sky Colors

Atmospheric Scattering Fundamentals



Rayleigh Scattering

Shorter blue wavelengths scatter more effectively than longer red wavelengths, creating the characteristic blue color of our daytime sky. This molecular scattering is the foundation of sky color.



Sunset Physics

At sunrise and sunset, sunlight travels through significantly more atmosphere. This extended path allows more blue light to scatter away, leaving the warm oranges, reds, and pinks that paint dramatic skies.



Aerosol Effects

Particles and aerosols in the atmosphere affect both color intensity and hue variations, causing the sky to appear anywhere from deep azure to pale blue or even hazy white depending on conditions.



Core Simulation Techniques

01

Physical Models

Built on proven atmospheric scattering algorithms including Nishita's sophisticated sky model and Preetham's efficient analytic approach, providing scientifically accurate color computation.

02

Multiple Scattering

Incorporates advanced multiple scattering calculations and aerial perspective effects to achieve realistic depth and atmospheric haze that matches real-world observation.

03

Real-Time Optimization

Carefully optimized rendering pipeline ensures smooth, interactive performance even in demanding applications like games and real-time simulations without sacrificing visual quality.

Innovative Features of Our Sky Color Simulator

Dynamic Controls

Precise sun position and time-of-day controls enable seamless, realistic sky transitions from dawn through twilight. Watch the sky evolve naturally as time progresses.



Atmospheric Parameters

Fine-tune aerosol density, humidity levels, and cloud coverage to match specific weather conditions or creative vision. Every parameter impacts the final appearance.



AI-Enhanced Clouds

Integration of cutting-edge SkyGAN technology produces photorealistic cloud formations with unprecedented detail and natural variation for stunning visual results.

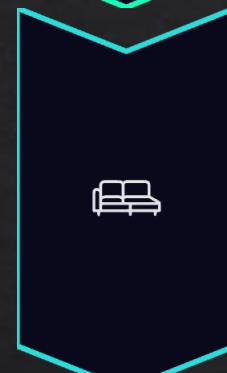


Technical Architecture Overview



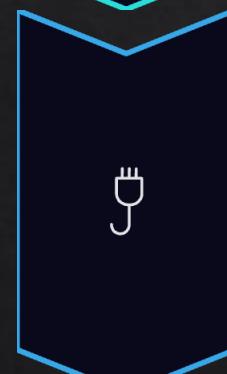
GPU-Accelerated Pipeline

Leverages modern graphics hardware for blazing-fast rendering performance, ensuring smooth real-time visualization even with complex atmospheric calculations running continuously.



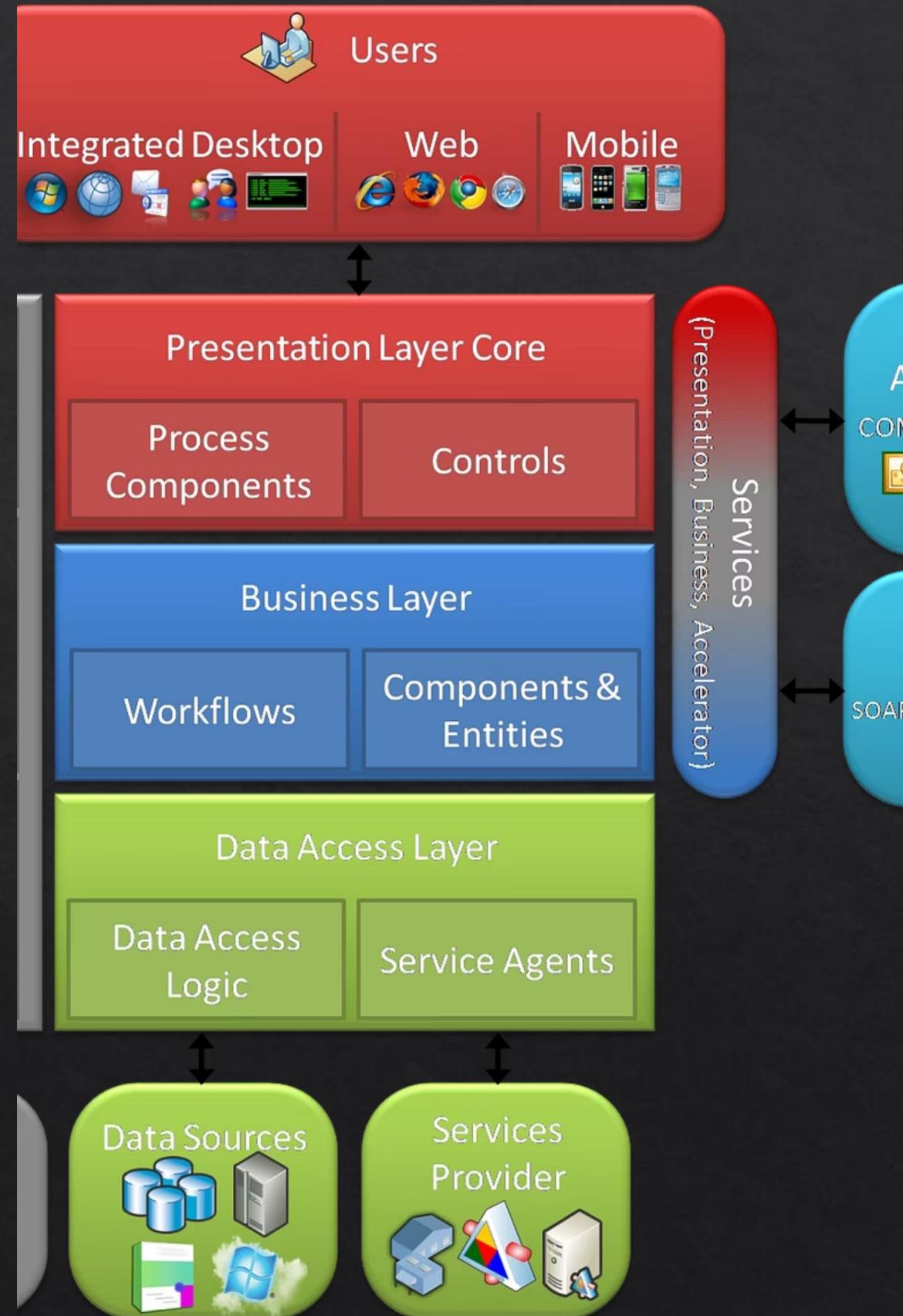
Modular Components

Clean separation of sky dome geometry, atmospheric scattering calculations, dynamic cloud layers, and intelligent lighting systems allows for easy customization and maintenance.



Integration API

Extensible API designed for seamless integration with popular game engines like Unity and Unreal, as well as custom simulation platforms and architectural visualization tools.



Visual Demonstrations

See the Transformation

Basic Sky Model

Simple blue gradient without atmospheric scattering—flat and unrealistic

Full Scattering Model

Rich sunset hues with authentic atmospheric depth and color gradients

Clear Conditions

Bright azure sky with scattered cumulus clouds and excellent visibility

Overcast Weather

Dense cloud coverage creating diffused lighting and muted sky tones

Interactive demo interface provides intuitive controls allowing users to adjust parameters in real-time and immediately see the visual impact on sky appearance and lighting conditions.

Applications & Use Cases

Flight Simulation Training

Enhances pilot training programs with realistic environmental cues including accurate time-of-day lighting, weather condition visualization, and authentic atmospheric effects that mirror real-world flying conditions.

Architectural Visualization

Provides architects and designers with precise daylight simulation tools for making informed design decisions about building orientation, window placement, and interior lighting strategies throughout different times and seasons.

Educational Tools

Creates interactive learning experiences that help students understand complex atmospheric optics, weather phenomena, and the physics of light scattering through hands-on experimentation and real-time visualization.

Gaming & Entertainment

Delivers immersive gaming and VR environments with natural, dynamic sky lighting that responds to gameplay events, enhances emotional storytelling, and creates memorable atmospheric experiences for players.



Project Roadmap & Future Enhancements

Q2 2024: Spectral Expansion

Launch advanced spectral sky radiance model including near-infrared wavelengths for thermal simulations and scientific applications

Q4 2024: Community Features

Release user community tools including preset library, sharing platform, and advanced customization options

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Q3 2024: Cloud Dynamics

Introduce improved volumetric cloud rendering with realistic wind-driven movement and evolution patterns

2025: Open Source

Open-source core components and establish collaboration opportunities for developers worldwide

Elevate Your Visual Experience



Harness Cutting-Edge Science

Leverage the latest advances in atmospheric physics and AI-powered rendering to create breathtaking, scientifically accurate skies that captivate and inspire.



Transform Virtual Worlds

Bring authentic, dynamic sky colors and natural lighting to your projects, elevating visual quality and user immersion to unprecedented levels.



Push the Boundaries

Join us in advancing the state of realistic environmental rendering and discover what's possible when art meets science in digital sky simulation.

