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Extensible 3D (X3D) Graphics Clouds for Geographic Information Systems

Authors: [Darren W. Murphy](#); [NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL MONTEREY CA](#)

Abstract: This research evaluates the production of three dimensional (3D) **clouds** for geospatial viewing programs such as Google Earth, NASA World Wind, and X3D Earth. This thesis took advantage of iso-standard X3D graphics and X3D Edit in conjunction with manually produced image textures to represent 3D **clouds**. While a 3D geospatial viewing might never completely characterize the current state of the atmosphere, a sufficiently realistic virtual 3D rendering can be created to present current sky coverage given adequate satellite and model data. Various visualization demonstration results are presented that can be rendered and navigated in real time. Further research and development is needed to match a cloud typing model output with a particular method of 3D cloud production. Data-driven adaptation and production of cloud models for web-based delivery is an achievable capability given continued research and development.

Limitations: APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

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