Cloud First

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Altostratus | October 9 2019, 6 AM | Federal Pkwy Westminster

For the cloud first assignment, we were asked to capture pictures of clouds that interested us and figure out their details. The details entail of what kind of cloud is it and how was the weather and atmosphere on that day that caused such cloud to occur.

This picture was taken as I was driving on Federal Pkwy in Westminster on October 9, 2019 at 6PM. The camera was facing down the road and up at an elevation of 5 degrees from the horizontal.
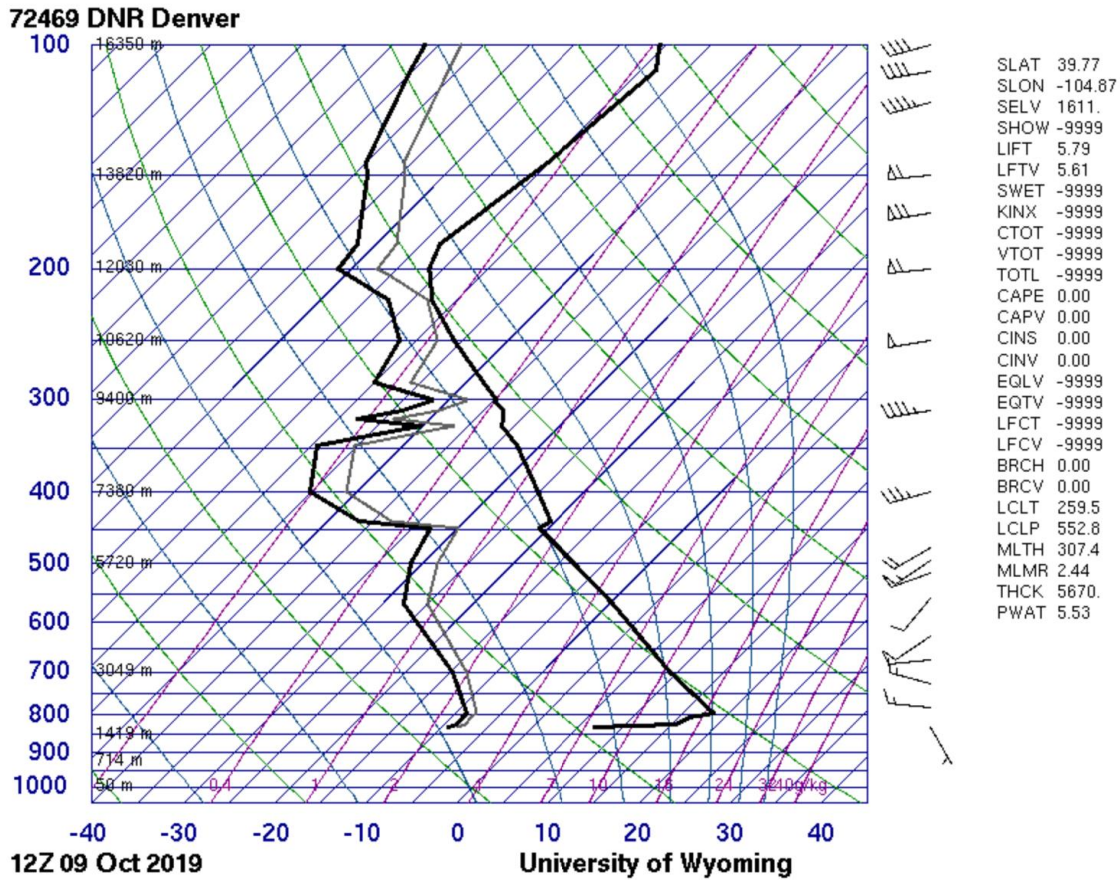

Figure 1: Skew-T plot

Straight from the skew-T plot shown above, we can see that the dew point and temperature are quite far apart and then come close around 6550 m. This tells us that there is a higher relative humidity thus possible cloud formation. There are a couple of those situations around 9000 m and 9400 m but since we were in the ground, but I was only able to capture the cloud formation that happen around 6550 m which are Altostratus type of cloud. Our CAPE value being 0.00 also tells us that our atmosphere that day was a stable one. There also hadn't been any rain or snow throughout that day, just pure sunshine.

The camera that was used to capture this image is the iPhone 8 camera. The camera was setup with dimensions of 3024 pixels x 4032 pixels, a F-stop of f/1.8, exposure time of 1/120 sec, ISO Speed of ISO-50, focal length of 4 mm, at approximately 6550 m from the cloud. The picture has not been edited in any way.

The image reveals a beauty that exist in nature. The way the light gives the clouds an orange feel to them is quite spectacular. It goes to show to how beautiful reality is without a single pixel edited after capture. I fulfilled the intent that I have but one thing that I would like to improve is parking my car to the side of the road before taking the picture. I feel like I would've achieved to capture a better image.