

Sunset on Altocumulus

MCEN 5151

Cody Popelka

For the Clouds Second assignment, my intent was to capture a compelling image of a different cloud type than in the Clouds First assignment.

The image was taken on October 26, 2025 south of Hugo, Colorado at 6:08 PM. The image was taken looking west, and at about a 0 degree angle to the ground.

I assess that the clouds were altocumulus due to their shape. They most likely formed at the 7425 ft point shown in the skew-T diagram from the University of Wyoming Atmospheric Science department for 0000Z 27 October 2025. There was not a significant amount of wind (~5 mph), and the atmosphere was stable. Of note, there was a severe hail storm the following night.

The camera used was simply the camera on a Galaxy S24. It had an ISO of 25, focal length of 23mm, F1.8, and shutter speed of 1/180 s. No postprocessing was done on this photo, though the foreground does seem to show up brighter when displayed on a computer rather than the phone's gallery.

The image shows a well lit group of altocumulus clouds. I would like to further take other sunrise and sunset pictures of more cloud types.



Station 72451 at 00 UTC 27 Oct 2025

DODGE CITY/MUN., KS., USA
Latitude: 37.763 Longitude: -99.970

