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Flow Visualization
Cloud Assignment 1

For my first cloud image I was trying to capture the beginning of a rain and snow storm. I was lucky to find the clouds on the very edge of a storm front.

The image was captured just outside of Castle Rock, Colorado at about 4:30 pm. The elevation there is 6210 ft and was taken towards the mountains pointing west. It was taken on February 17th 2010.

After the image was taken it began to rain and snow in the next 30 minutes. The clouds were low-level clouds and would most apply be classified as stratocumulus. They were very dark and defiantly showed that a storm was on the way. Towards the east was a large amount of cumulonimbus clouds and seemed to be lowering and starting to drop precipitation. The wind was blowing hard from the east.

When taking the photo I decided to use a black and white classic landscape portrait style. I shot with an aperture of F 22 to create deep focus and a large depth of field. To compensate I had to use an iso of 600 and a shutter speed of 1/200. The choice of black and white was to make the image look more menacing and heighten contrast to help the clouds be more visible. The focal length was at 18mm completely as wide as I could go. The camera was the Canon 40D digital SLR.

As far as the image goes I was not happy with the artistic parts of it but I felt it showed the cloud forms well. I was planning on taking many photos on my trip out to Salt lake but unfortunately it snowed the whole time. I was happy that I snapped this picture on my way back from Colorado Springs. The composition is weak and the image is not as stunning as it could be. I do like the horizon line and the way the precipitation is coming down from the clouds.

