OCTAVE

Octave Alto Server

Scalable platform for serving geospatial data and analysis

Octave Alto Server (formerly LuciadFusion) is a scalable platform for geospatial data management and publication. You can set it up for users to manage their data intelligently, store and process a multitude of data formats and feed data to numerous applications. Features including powerful automatic cataloging and quick and easy data publishing allow you to design, portray, process and set up advanced maps in a few simple clicks.

Alto Server Studio is an included browser application that provides you with a graphical user interface with an integrated data preview. With this application, non-GIS specialists can manage data intuitively. As a data administrator, you can organize geospatial data so all users have access to data sets optimized for their needs. This allows data administrators to process large volumes of data and receive regular updates.

Alto Server connects directly to over 200 data sources and allows you to publish many different formats, including vector, raster and gridded data and even 3D data and panoramic images. Processing data for efficient streaming is fast and leads to highly-optimized multi-leveled and tiled data structures, preserving links to data attributes.

Who needs Alto Server?

These are just a few examples of why users turn to Alto Server for their geospatial data challenges:

- Build a mission-critical, web-based solution that handles geospatial data with the accuracy required for mission planning

- Bring in 3D data like point clouds, 3D meshes and 360-degree panoramas in a single view, resulting in a high-quality and operationally relevant digital twin of your area of interest

- Build a standards-based, interoperable, web-based solution that handles 2D and 3D

- Work with defense symbology, including MS2525 and APP6, in a browser application

- Visually analyze millions of events or locations

- Handle real-time dynamic data, such as flights, vessels or people with tens of thousands of moving assets

- Perform client-side analytics with the interactivity of a desktop solution

- Work with data and maps in different projections (including 3D, but also 2D polar projections) without going through the process of extract-transform-load (ETL)
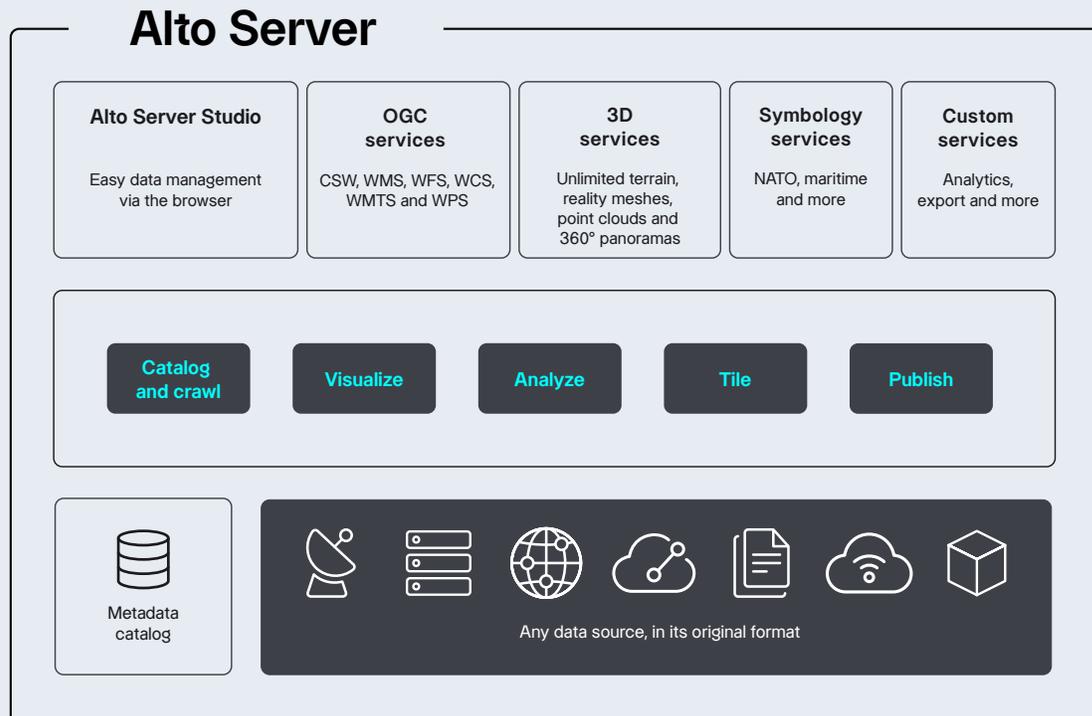

Figure 1: Alto Server can connect to hundreds of data sources. The solution is compatible with HTML5, WebGL, Web Assembly, Typescript and Javascript.

Key benefits

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Built for users	• Quickly upload, find and manage data through Alto Server Studio's intuitive web interface • Publish data to any service in one click • Set up and create multiple OGC services • Optimize large and 3D data sets for fast streaming with the quickest tiling engine for elevation, multispectral imagery, weather data, 3D meshes and point clouds
Connect to over 200 data formats	• Connect to any database • Work with domain-specific formats and standards • Serve Earth observation multispectral imagery directly • Handle dynamic 4D data, such as weather data • Connect natively to over 200 data formats

Add custom formats, styling and analytics	• Bring in new custom formats easily with Alto Server's API
	• Include military symbology - APP6 and MS2525
	• Add custom styling
	• Create new services for:
	  • Data
	  • Symbologies
	  • Custom data processing and analysis

Rely on full OGC open standards support	• Serve any data over open standards • Plug and play WMS, WFS, WMTS, WCS or 3D tiles by dragging and dropping to serve in less than one minute, no coding required
Manage data dynamically	• Manage and serve data from any location • Keep data organized with data crawling, data discovery and metadata gathering • Combine vector and raster data in one single product • Connect to data sources and allow Alto Server to find new data with automatic data discovery • Monitor data sources and set up scheduled crawling to automatically find new data
Deployable on any platform	• Deploy locally (from a USB or onboard a vessel or aircraft) • Integrate your own authentication solution and finetune access control based on role, scale range or area • Run Alto Server on Windows and Linux, on Amazon AWS, in a Docker container and more. Serve data data from local, network attached or cloud storage
Out-of-the-box COP	• Share a common operational picture (COP) that combines background imagery, military symbology, NVG files and any additional data • Combine any number of data sources in any format using any reference within a single common operating COP
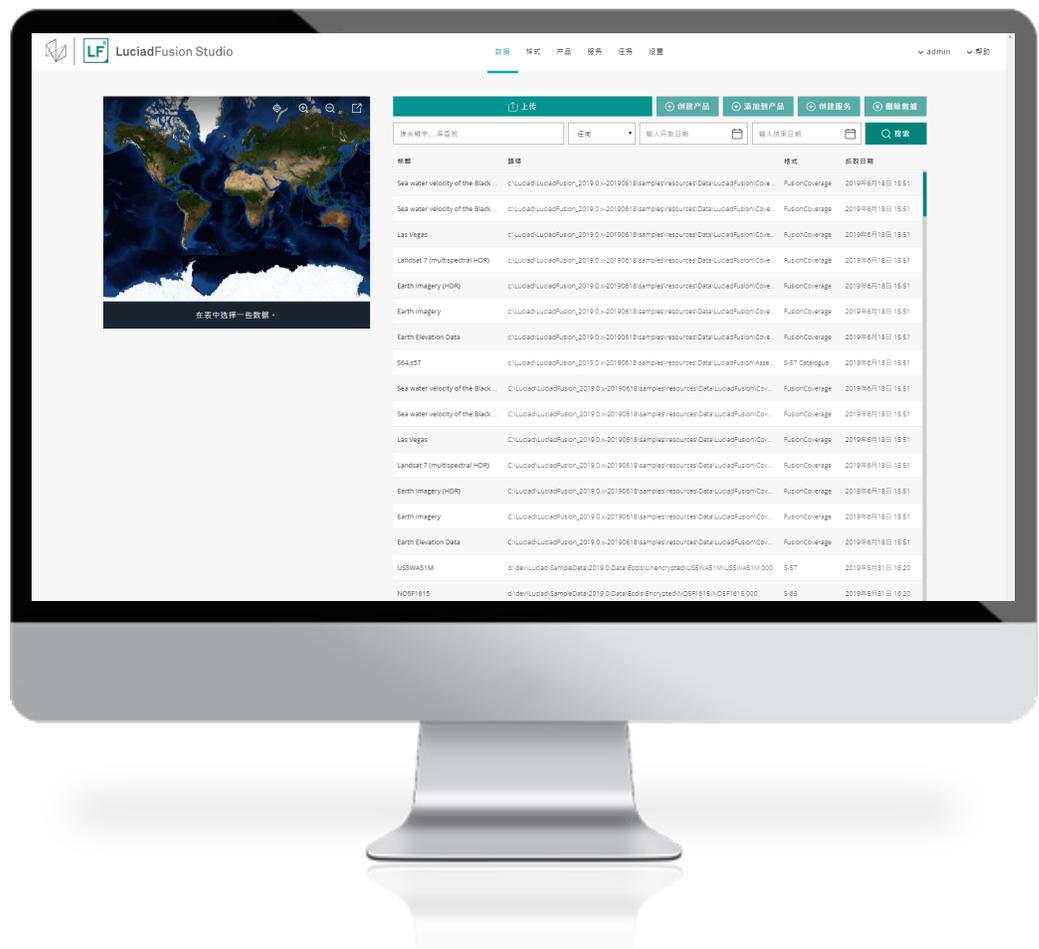
Figure 2: Alto Server offers intuitive data management for non-GIS specialists.

Practical information

Connecting to Alto Server services can be done from:

- OGC-compliant browser applications, built on Octave Alto Browser (formerly LuciadRIA) or other platforms

- Desktop applications, built on Octave Alto Lightspeed (formerly LuciadLightspeed), Octave Alto Universal (formerly LuciadCPillar), or other platforms

- Mobile applications, built on Alto Universal for Android or other platforms

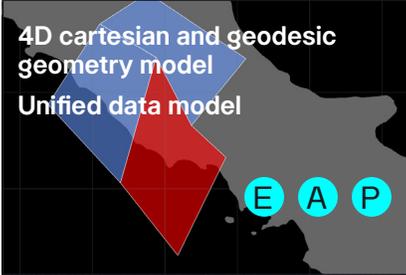| Functionality	Essential	Advanced	Pro
Core GIS engine	✓	✓	✓
Projection, datum and geoid models	✓	✓	✓
Transformation and projection engine	✓	✓	✓
4D cartesian and geodesic geometry model	✓	✓	✓
Unified data model	✓	✓	✓
Customizable styling	✓	✓	✓
Raster connectors	✓	✓	✓
Vector connectors	✓	✓	✓
CPU, GPU image processing image	✓	✓	✓
Point clouds and reality meshes	✓	✓	✓
OGC standards	✓	✓	✓
OGC services	✓	✓	✓
Tiled services	✓	✓	✓
Tiling engine	✓	✓	✓
Symbology services	✓	✓	✓
Data management and catalog	✓	✓	✓
Data crawling and metadata harvesting	✓	✓	✓
Extensible web service platform	✓	✓	✓
Advanced raster connectors		✓	✓
Advanced GIS engine		✓	✓
Real-time engine		✓	✓
Database connectors		○	✓
Terrain analysis engine		○	○
Weather and environment standards		○	○
Graph and routing engine		○	○
Infrastructure standards			○
Radar connectors			○
Aviation standards			○
Defense standards			○
Defense symbology			○
Maritime standards			○
S-63			○

Overview

Alto Server components are organized into product tiers. Depending on the needs of your organization, you can opt for Alto Server Essential, Advanced or Pro. In the Advanced and Pro tiers, powerful, extended functionality is available to you with extra options.
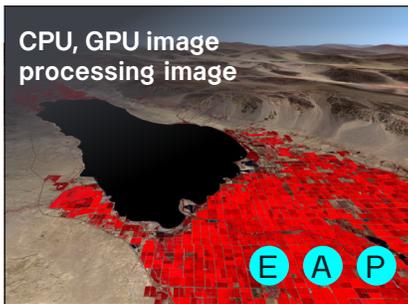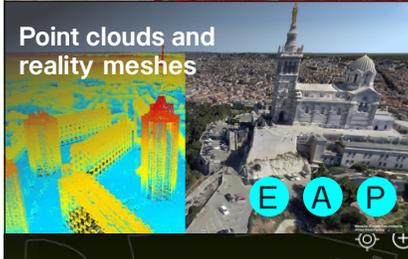
Legend

✓ Feature included

○ Optional feature

Functional specification

Below is a high-level, non-exhaustive overview of the functionality available in Alto Server. You can use the functionality it offers out of the box or extend it to meet user-specific requirements.

|	
Core GIS engine **Projection, datum and geoid models** **Transformation and projection engine** (E) (A) (P)	• Access and represent data in any coordinate reference system (geodetic, geocentric, topocentric and grid) and in any projection • Get support for vertical datums • Perform advanced geodetic calculations, transformations and ortho-rectification • Serve, fuse and tile data on-the-fly in any coordinate reference with accurate warping of vector and raster data
4D cartesian and geodesic geometry model **Unified data model** (E) (A) (P)	• Model any data format, represent all object geometries and their metadata and apply any data filter • Get support for complex geometries like geo-buffers, arcs and arc bands, radar coverage areas and more, with all calculations from the GIS Engine integrated • Represent radar coverage beams and other sensor detection ranges accurately as 3D volumes, and set up geofencing for those volumes
Customizable styling (E) (A) (P)	• Apply flexible styling (layers, icons, line styles, fill styles, transparency and more) to your data and customize it using OGC-defined styled layer descriptor/symbology encoding (SLD/SE) through the Alto Server Studio, including vector and raster data • Extend SLD or implement and plug in custom layer factories to do advanced styling using, for example, density plots and heat maps • Include processing, such as extracting contours from raster data, before styling using fill and line styles • Advanced labeling of vector data, including on-path labeling

Raster connectors
 	
Vector connectors
 	
(E) (A) (P)
	• Access and serve data in many vector and raster formats natively, without pre-processing, and exploit multileveling and tiling
	• Use visualization, analysis and serving capabilities that are data-agnostic and complementary with any data format
	• Access data from Amazon Simple Service Storage (S3) or other cloud storage
	• Get out-of-the-box native support for:
	  • Raster data: BIL, Bing Maps, BMP, DTED, ESRI TFW and JGW, ETOPO, GeoTIFF and BigTIFF, GIF, JPEG, JPEG2000, MapInfo TAB, PNG, PPM, USGS DEM, Open Street Map and MBTiles (raster)
	  • Vector data: CGM, Collada, ESRI Shape, GeoJSON, MapInfo MIF and MAP, LiDAR LASer and LASZip (LAZ), OpenFlight (3D), OGC 3D tiles, OSGB 3D meshes, SVG, Wavefront OBJ (3D) and MBTiles (vector)
	• Add support for new, custom formats in a straightforward, well-documented process

(E) Included in Essential   (A) Included in Advanced   (P) Included in Pro

|	
CPU, GPU image processing image	• Benefit from advanced, high-performance processing and rendering of raster data, including high dynamic range (HDR), multispectral imagery and multidimensional raster data • Apply image processing chains using a complete set of image algebra operators before serving the data over OGC services, or before exporting data (for example, to OGC GeoPackage) • Use GPU-based default implementation for optimal performance, with automatic fallback to a multithreaded CPU-based implementation
Point clouds and reality meshes	• Connect to, visualize and serve unlimited point clouds and reality meshes • Serve pre-tiled and multilevel point cloud data as optimized OGC 3D tiles or HSPC stream • Get out-of-the-box native support for: • OSGB, LAS, LAZ, E57, HSPC, LGSx or OGC 3D Tiles and supporting Draco compression
OGC standards	• Connect to several OGC web services, and read data in a variety of OGC formats • Get support for these standards, formats and services: • OGC CSW, GeoPackage, GML, KML, WCS, WFS(-T), WMS, WMTS, OGC Filter 2.0 (Spatial filter capabilities can be enabled from the Advanced GIS Engine listed under Advanced and Pro options), OGC Symbology Encoding (SE) and ISO 19115 metadata

OGC services	• Serve any data via OGC services on the fly, directly from the source, configure several OGC web service end points and automatically monitor data updates and plug in support for your own custom data or styling
	• Manage data, metadata, styles, products and publish services with the easy-to-use web front end
	• Support on-the-fly WMTS for any data source, including, but not limited to pre-tiled data sets WMTS from pre-tiled data sets
	• Support on-the-fly 3D tiles for OSGB mesh data sources, as well as processed LAS/LAZ data
	• OGC services:
	    • OG WMS, WCS, WFS(-T), WMTS, CSW and 3D tiles
	    • Compatible with INSPIRE and DGIWG directives

Tiled services	• Serve pre-tiled data via Luciad Tile Services (LTS) for optimal performance; using LTS, you can send multidimensional or elevation data tiles for client-side analysis • Provide MBTiles vector and raster data as MBTiles service
Tiling engine	• Fuse, tile and multi-level large amounts of data using the tiling engine • Build globes with detailed and accurate point-sampled terrain data, centimeter-accurate area-sampled (multispectral) imagery and multidimensional weather data and imagery • Optimize point cloud data for direct access or streaming as OGC 3D Tiles

(E) Included in Essential   (A) Included in Advanced   (P) Included in Pro


Symbology services	• Use a service to provide full sets of military symbology icons with icon styling specifications
	
	  • The same icons across your system are available on the map and other UI components
	  • This requires the Defense Symbology option

(E) (A) (P)	
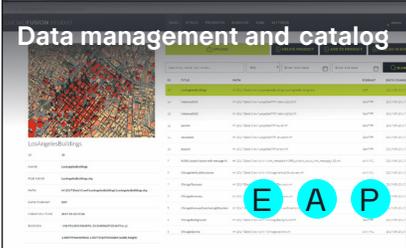
Data management and catalog	• Centrally organize, manage and serve all your geospatial data and styles from the Alto Server Studio web application, regardless of the data format • Allow clients to discover data through an OGC CSW catalog and query data based on the ISO metadata profile or your custom metadata attributes • Control access to your data (also via products and services) by setting permissions based on user roles
(E) (A) (P)	
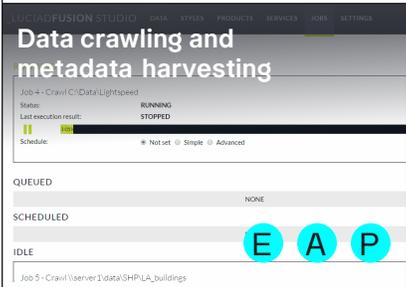
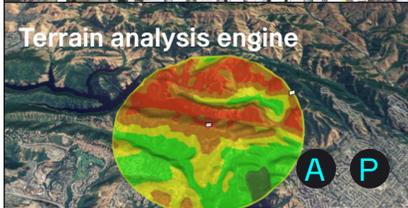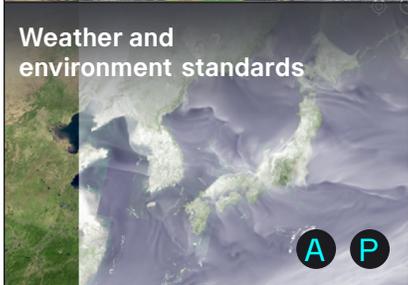| **Data crawling and metadata harvesting**	• Discover and aggregate all the geospatial data you have available by crawling your data repositories • Collect and generate metadata descriptions automatically, and plug in support for your domain-specific metadata • Define revisit intervals to automatically update services when data changes: For example automatically publish an updated weather forecast or mission plan • Integrate data crawling and data updates into your workflow using the REST API
(E) (A) (P)	
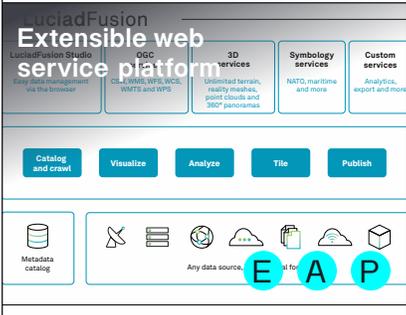
| **Extensible web service platform**	• Benefit from a fast and reliable service application framework that hosts data publication and analysis services • Take advantage of service discovery, load balancing, failover and security integration • Dynamically set up services using the REST API • Integrate custom service types for data publication or processing • Receive notifications about changes to data, products and services, service access or events related to processing jobs
(E) (A) (P)	

Advanced raster connectors	• Connect to, visualize and serve specialized raster formats and access a GDAL connector to add support for several other raster formats
	• Connect to, process and serve 360-degree panoramic imagery from various scanners
	• Serve raster data via the OGC service protocols and ECWP (for ECW data)
	
	• Get direct support for these formats:
	  • ECW, GeoPDF, GeoSPOT, JPEG2000 (including an encoder), MrSID, Spot DIMAP and Swiss DHM
	• Get GDAL support for these formats:
	  • ARC/Info Binary Grid(AIG), BSB Nautical Chart Format, ARC/Info Export E00 GRID, ENVI HDR Labelled Raster, Octave Imagine (formerly ERDAS IMAGINE), Octave Imagine Raw, ILWIS Raster Map, Intergraph Raster, PCI Geomatics database File, PCRaster, Sentinel 1 SAR SAFE, Sentinel 2, SAR CEOS, SRTM HGT, GDAL Virtual, ASCII Gridded XYZ and more
	• Benefit from support for 360-degree panoramic imagery:
	  • E57, Leica Pegasus, LGSx

(A) (P)	

(E) Included in Essential   (A) Included in Advanced   (P) Included in Pro

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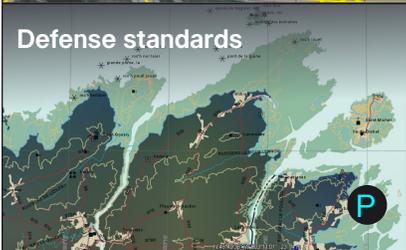|	
Advanced GIS engine Ⓐ Ⓟ	• Calculate binary topological relations (for example, overlaps or contains) and perform constructive geometry on shapes (for example, union or intersection) • Apply this capability on Cartasian, geodesic and rhumb shapes
Real-time engine Ⓐ Ⓟ	• Optimally connect to and serve dynamic data • Pre-render, convert or relay data streams; includes capabilities to translate and forward data streams in any format, such as the web-friendly GeoJSON format • Perform analytics on real-time data
Database connectors Ⓐ Ⓟ	• Add support for connecting to and serving data directly from spatial databases • Get support for these database formats: • IBM DB2, Informix Geodetic and Spatial Datablade, OGC GeoPackage, Oracle Locator and Oracle Spatial, PostGIS (PostgreSQL spatial database extension), SAP HANA (Beta), Microsoft SQLServer and SQLite
Terrain analysis engine Ⓐ Ⓟ	• Perform calculations on terrain data, such as LOS or hypsometric calculations, and get an alternative view on the terrain data • Benefit from an engine that can use hardware acceleration (for GPU equipped servers) but also includes a software implementation
Weather and environment standards Ⓐ Ⓟ	• Integrate environmental data and preserve dimensional information when serving • Pre-tile and organize into multiple levels of detail for serving as Alto Tile Service (LTS) • Get support for these formats: • NetCDF ISC, GRIB V1/V2 weather data (WMO/ICAO Bulletin) and SIGWX (BUFR)
Graph and routing engine Ⓐ Ⓟ	• Exploit the network structure of your geospatial data and make use of algorithms to construct graphs and solve your routing challenges; graph engine supports various network-related processing (for example, shortest path or cross-country movement calculation) and enables the creation of flexible cost functions • Integrate as processing service
Radar connectors Ⓟ	• Connect to and portray radar data captured in ASTERIX • Get fast and flexible visualization of ASTERIX data, including radar video (ASTERIX Cat 240) with the radar connector, combined with the real-time engine • Get support for these formats: • Eurocontrol ASTERIX categories 1, 8, 10, 11, 21, 30, 34, 48, 62, 240 and 244

Ⓐ Included in Advanced Ⓟ Included in Pro Ⓐ Optional in Advanced Ⓟ Optional in Pro
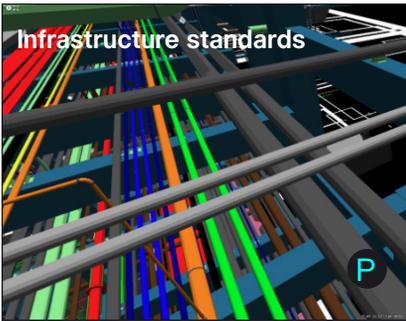
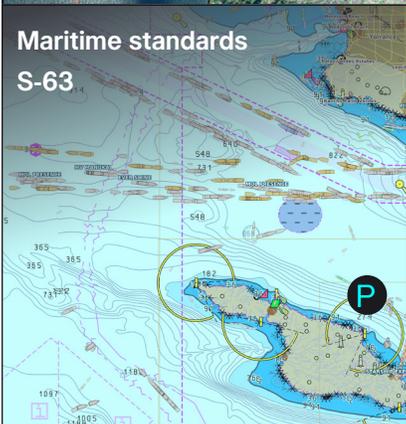|	
Infrastructure standards	• Import and visualize your computer-aided designs with Alto Server to see your design in context • Prepare your 3D models and cities for streaming via conversion of OBJ, Binz and IFC to OGC 3D Tiles, with the option to compress tiles if the client applications support optimizations and preserve material properties • Get support for these formats: • Autocad DWG/DXF, Microstation DGN, Hexagon Binz, IFC, Autodesk Revit and Navisworks
Aviation standards	• Model, render and serve aeronautical data such as airspaces, navaids, procedures and grid minimum off route altitudes (MORAs); integrate with operations from the Advanced GIS Engine • This includes options for custom styling • Get support for these formats: • AIXM (3.3, 4.0, 4.5, and 5.1), ARINC 424 and DAFIF(T)
Defense standards	• Integrate the various military data formats at your disposal for full situational awareness • Get support for these formats: • ADRG, ASRP, BCI, CADRG, CIB, ECRG, NITF, NSIF, USRP, VPF products (VMAP0, VMAP1, VMAP2(i), DNC, DCW) including Geosym symbology and MGCP
Defense symbology	• Benefit from full support for symbols and tactical graphics of the latest military symbology standards; NATO Vector Graphics support increases interoperability; this support encompasses the lookup, creation, visualization and serving of military symbols and tactical graphics • Serve your NVG files in a matter of seconds over OGC-compliant services using simple drag and drop • Get support for these symbology standards/formats: • APP-6A, APP-6B, APP-6C, APP-6E (cyber domain), APP-6D, MS2525b, MS2525c, MS2525d and NVG
Maritime standards S-63	• Accurately render electronic navigational charts in 2D and 3D • Comply with standards defined by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) • Decode data in the IHO S-57 format and visualize the charts in compliance with the IHO S-52 visualization standard • Decode and portray electronic navigational charts in the encrypted IHO S-63 format • Decode and portray electronic navigational charts in the IHO S-101 and encrypted S-101 format • Get support for these formats: • IHO S-57, IHO S-52, IHO S-101 and UKHO AML (STANAG 7170)

P Optional in Pro

Use cases
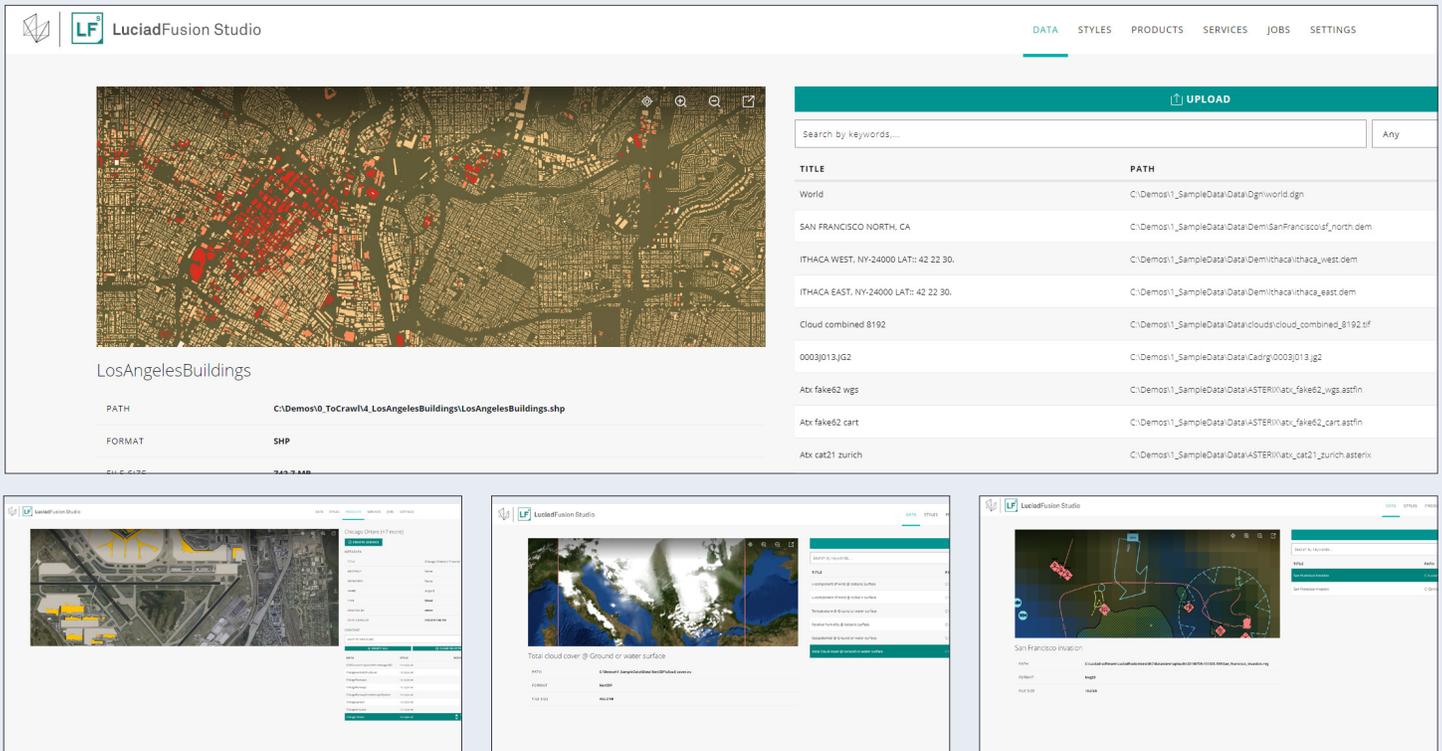
Figure 3: Using Alto Server Studio, you can serve large vector datasets on-the-fly, with OGC SE filtering and styling applied automatically. You can set up data services in a few clicks, including domain-specific formats like AIXM5.1, NVG or S-57.
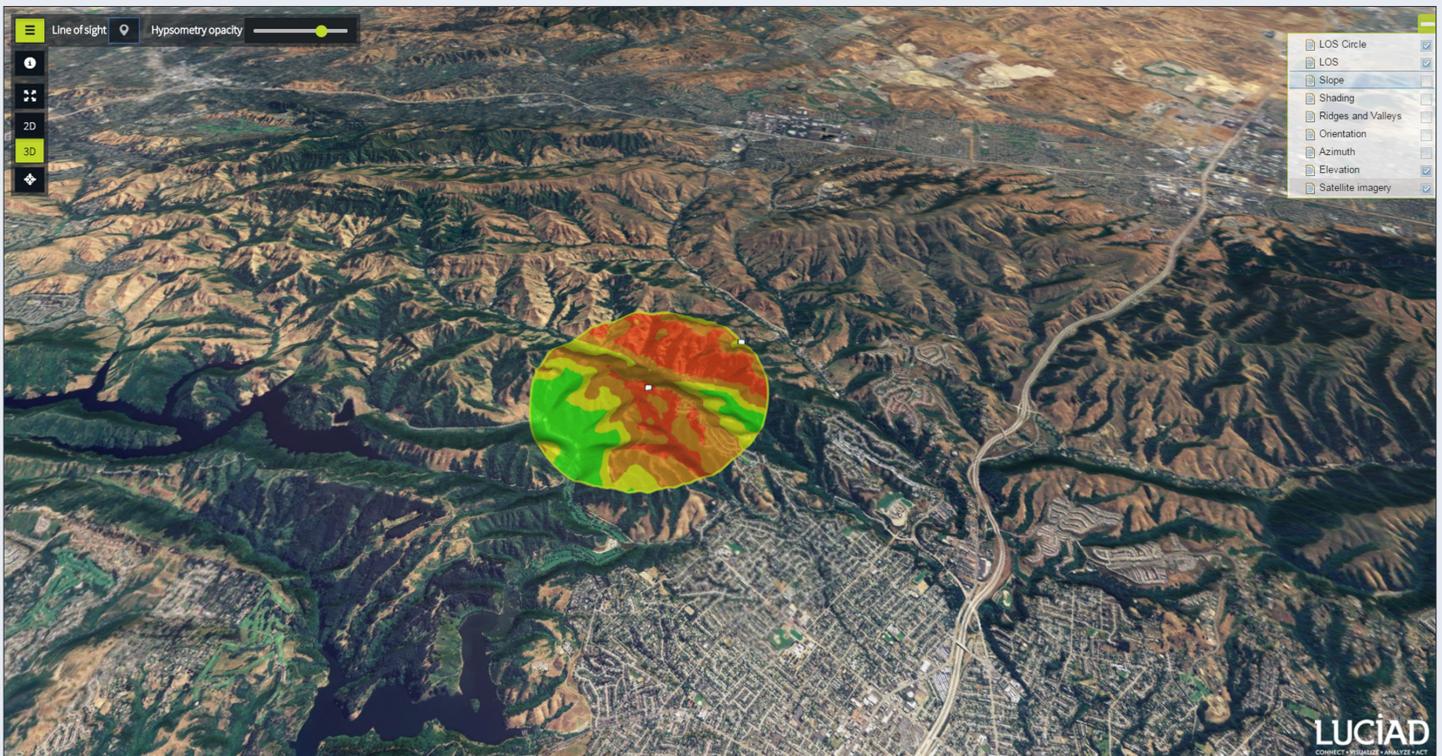

Figure 4: Alto Server can be extended with additional analysis services, for example a service offering remote LOS calculations.
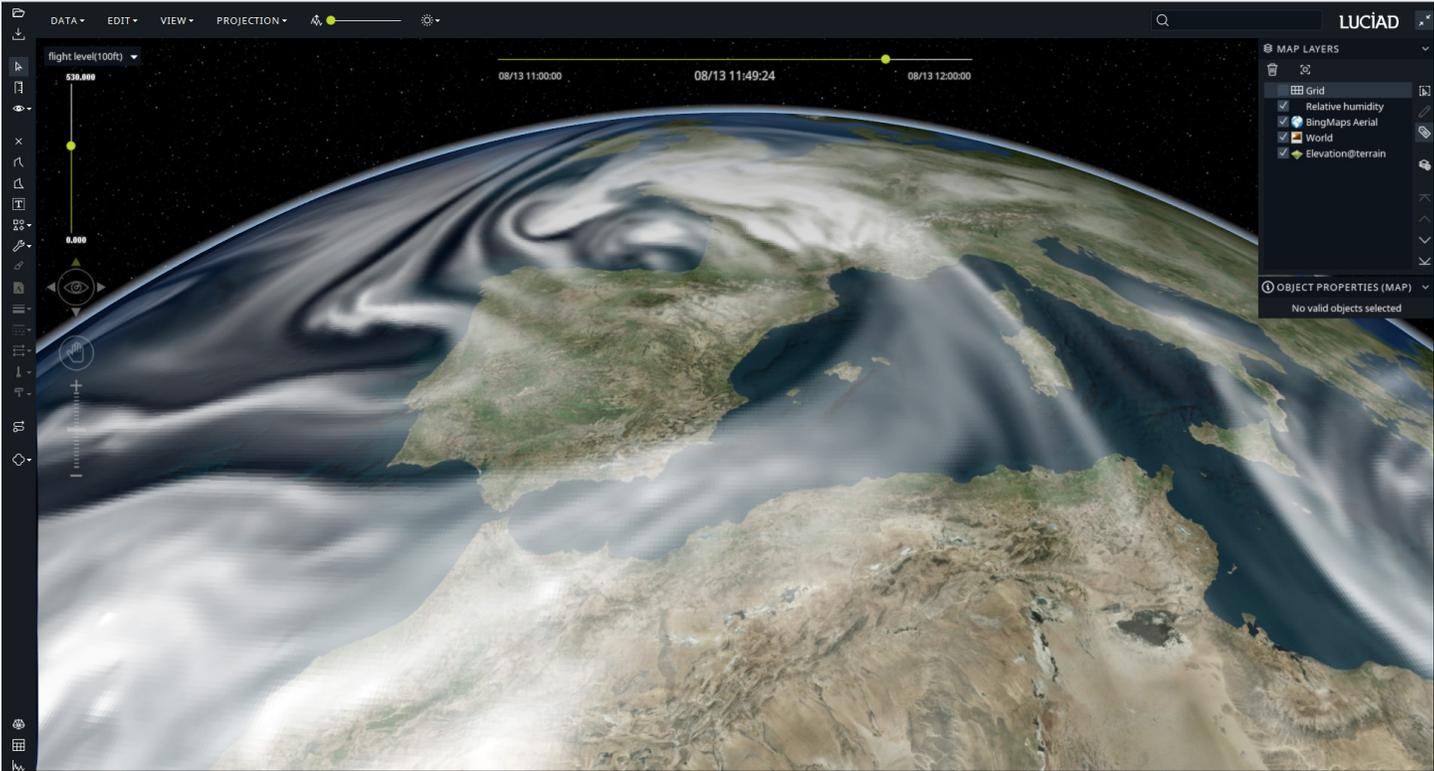
Figure 5: Alto Lightspeed: visualization and analysis of multi-dimensional weather data, served by Alto Server as multi-dimensional WMTS
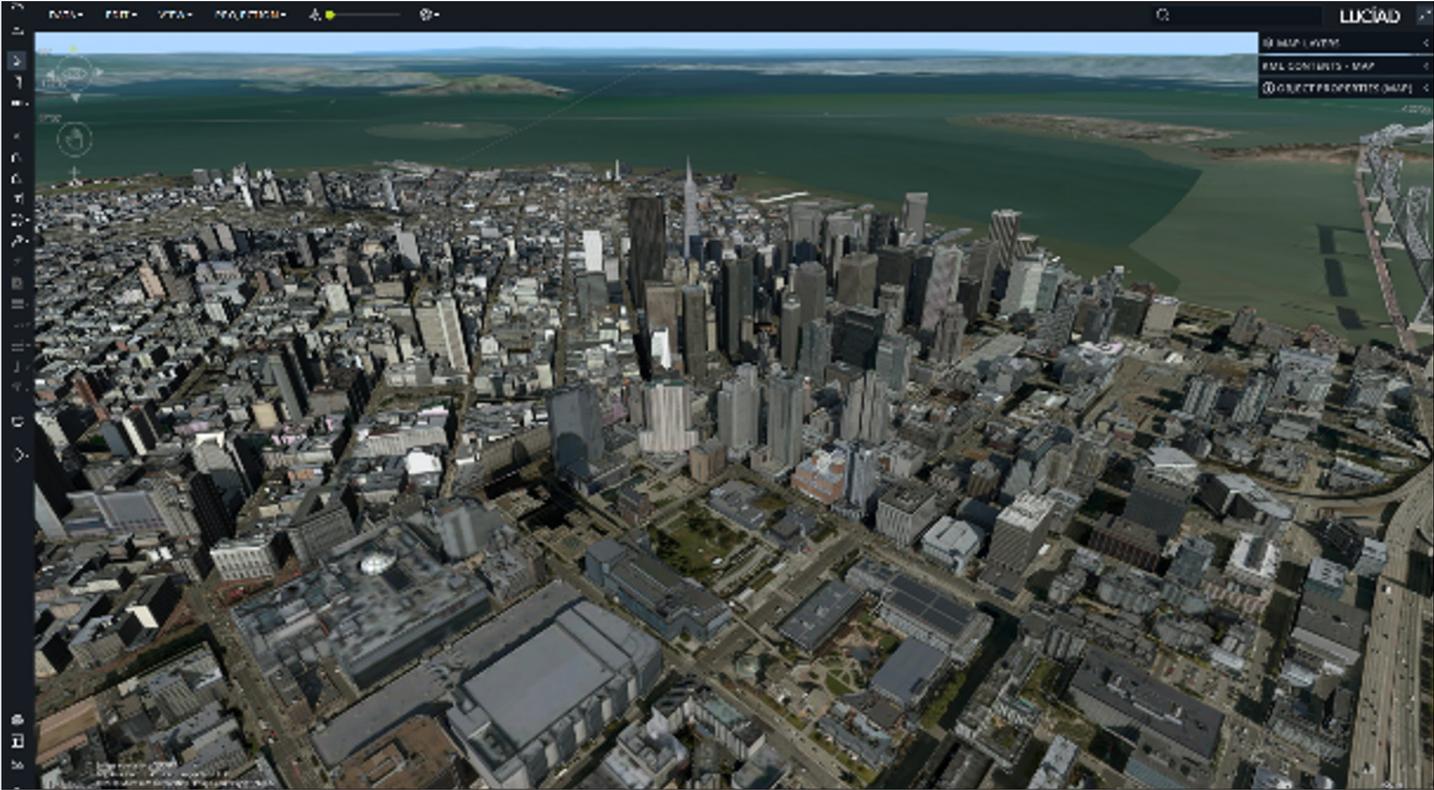

Figure 6: Alto Server can connect to, optimize and serve unlimited point clouds and reality meshes.

More information

Alto Server comes with:

- Ready-to-use Alto Server Studio application

- Guided user tours

- In-application help within Alto Server Studio

- Ready-to-use tiling engine application (DCM) with end-user guide

- Developer's guide with clear explanations and descriptions of best practices

- API reference offering detailed descriptions of all interfaces and classes

- Code samples for all components

- Build scripts, Maven POM files and sample servlets for easy project setup and deployment

- Release notes to see what's new

- Technical notes to support technical requirements

To learn more or schedule a demo, contact us at info.luciad.gsp@hexagon.com.

For developer guides, code snippets, technical articles, videos and more, visit the Alto Developer Platform.

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Octave is a leader in enterprise software, turning data into decisive action and intelligence into your edge. Our software solves for and simplifies complexity, from the design and build to operations and protection of people, property and assets – for any scope, at any scale. For decades, we've partnered with customers to sharpen performance, elevate efficiency and amplify results. From factory floors to entire cities, our solutions are tuned to scale up what's possible from day one onward.

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