

LIGHTSOLVE TUTORIAL

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Introduction:

This document contains information about how to install Lightsolve, how to create a SketchUp model which is recognizable by Lightsolve, how to run the renderer and how to navigate the Lightsolve interface. It also contains tips for troubleshooting known problems.

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NOTE: If you are not on the Lightsolve_announce list (i.e. if you haven't yet received any of the Lightsolve_announce emails) but are interested in this program and in getting new releases, send a message to Marilyne Andersen (marilyne.andersen @ epfl.ch) requesting to be added to the list.

0. Installation

FIRST : Make sure you have access to the C drive on your computer.

To use this version of Lightsolve, you must have administrative privileges on the C drive of your computer. If it is your own computer, you most likely do. If you are using a school or company computer, you are likely networked and may not have the correct access.

IMPORTANT : THIS IS A RESEARCH TOOL, VERY SENSITIVE TO PROPER INSTALLATION. PLEASE FOLLOW THIS INSTALLATION PROCEDURE STEP BY STEP !!! DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SKIP STEPS OR CHANGE THE ORDER UNLESS SPECIFICALLY INVITED TO DO SO IN THE INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1 : OPERATING SYSTEM SETUP

PCs :

- If you are running **Vista**, turn off the User Account Control (UAC) - to find it, you can go into Control Panel and just search for "UAC" or "User Account Control", then just uncheck the box. Then go to Step 2.
- If you are running **Windows 7**, disable the Administrator Control Settings then go to Step 2.
- If you are running **Windows XP**, go to Step 2.

MACs:

If you are using a MAC, it is recommended to run Windows XP through either **Bootcamp** or **VMware**, which Lightsolve users have been successful with (it may be possible to get Lightsolve to work directly on a MAC but it will probably require some folder and paths settings that were not tested). You will then have to install and access the Lightsolve program files (e.g. renderings) through those programs too.

Note: The main difference between the two is that with Bootcamp, you need to shut down and restart your computer to get from the MAC OS side to the Windows XP side so you can never have both running at the same time. With a VMware fusion, you can run Windows through MAC OS as a set of Windows and can have both computers run simultaneously (thus more convenient but allows you less operating power for each).

STEP 2 : SKETCHUP INSTALLATION

Currently, **ONLY the free 7 version of Sketchup** (and the Pro 6 or 7 version) have been tested to work with Lightsolve. Do not attempt to make it work with Sketchup 8 or higher. If you DO already have a version of Google Sketchup installed and it is NOT the version 6 or 7 (you have Sketchup 8 for example), you will have to uninstall it and re-install Sketchup 7. Lightsolve won't work on other versions.

If you have to uninstall yours first, and once the uninstall is complete, also erase anything related to Sketchup (or Lightsolve) in:

C:/Documents and Settings/*your_username*/Application Data/...

C:/Documents and Settings/*your_username*/Local Settings/Application Data/

before you reinstall Sketchup 7 using the install file below.

If you already have Sketchup 7 or Sketchup Pro 7 (or 6) installed on your Windows OS, check that it is installed at [C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7 \(or 6\)](C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7 (or 6)). If it is not, Lightsolve may not work properly and you should re-install it.

If you DON'T already have **Google Sketchup** installed on your computer, download **Sketchup 7** from: <http://web.mit.edu/mand/Public/Sketchup/GoogleSketchUpWEN.exe>. Make sure to accept the default installation path for Sketchup i.e. <C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7>.

For MAC users, this is a **Windows version** so you have to install it through your VMware or **Bootcamp**, NOT through your MAC OS.

STEP 3 : SKETCHUP INITIAL SETUP

If you are using the **free version of SketchUp** (Google Sketchup) do as follows:

- 1) Open SketchUp and (if asked) choose the Basic Template in Millimeters.
- 2) Go to 'File' → 'Export' → '3D Model...'
- 3) If the button in the lower right marked "Options..." is enabled, click on it. (if not, Cancel and CLOSE Sketchup then go to step 4).
- 3) Make sure "Triangulate all faces" is CHECKED
- 4) Click "OK" and cancel out of the export
- 5) CLOSE Sketchup.

If you had Sketchup **Pro** 6 or 7 already installed on your computer, follow these instructions :

- 1) Open SketchUp and go to 'File' → 'Export' → '3D Model...'
- 2) In the window that pops up, change the "Export type" to "OBJ"
- 3) Click the button in the lower right marked "Options..."
- 4) Make sure "Triangulate all faces" is CHECKED
- 5) Make sure "Swap YZ coordinates (Y is up)" is CHECKED
- 6) Click "OK" and cancel out of the export
- 7) CLOSE Sketchup.

STEP 4 : ADOBE AIR INSTALLATION

Download and install **Adobe Air**, Available from the website: <http://get.adobe.com/air/>

STEP 5 : LIGHTSOLVE INSTALLATION

Download and install **Lightsolve**, available from:

http://daylighting.mit.edu/publications/LightSolve_20100518.air

Reminder: Sketchup has to be closed before installing Lightsolve.

You should **not** see a zip file when you download the executable in this sequence, but an 'air' file. It seems Windows replaces 'air' extensions with 'zip' if it does not find the Adobe Air program. If you do see a zip file but have Adobe Air installed, try to rename the extension to 'air'. Then you just need to double-click on the file and the installation process will start.

You have to allow the installer to place LightSolve in [C:/Program Files](#) i.e. the default installation location. This is essential for the LightSolve files to be stored and found properly. You should also accept all the other default settings (Run Lightsolve after installation and Lightsolve Icon on Desktop)

Afterwards, you will be asked to determine the path to the Plugins (including Lightsolve Plugins) folder. The default one proposed will be [C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7/Plugins](#). If you have a 6 version of Sketchup (Pro), make sure to specify the right path.

During installation, you will be warned that your other **Plugins** will be erased. This actually only applies to previous *Lightsolve* Plugins. But it is never a bad idea to make a copy of your other Plugins first, should something go wrong with the installation.

At the end of the installation (after a white window opens and freezes but ultimately disappears), the Lightsolve interface should open. If this doesn't happen, there was a problem with the installation. After you checked that the interface works properly, close it.

STEP 6 : SKETCHUP PLUGINS SETUP

If you had Sketchup **Pro** already installed on your computer, skip to Step 7.

If you are using the **free version of SketchUp** (Google Sketchup), download the following zip file:

<http://daylighting.mit.edu/publications/LightsolveFilesFreeSketchUp.zip>

and extract the two included files as follows:

1) save *su2objmtl.rb* in `C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7/Plugins`

2) save *LightSolve.rb* in `C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7/Plugins/Lightsolve`

IMPORTANT : This version should copy **over** the one already in there !!!

STEP 7 : TEST YOUR INSTALLATIONS

Test LightSolve plugins installation:

- Open SketchUp after installing everything. On the menu, under “Plugins”, there should be a dropdown list of choices starting with “Render and run Lightsolve” and ending with “Reload all”.
- If these do not exist, there is something wrong with the LightSolve download.

Test the LightSolve rendering engine:

- Example files have been installed on your hard drive, in the LightSolve Plugins folder (`C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp */Plugins/LightSolve1` if you kept the default paths). The files are called “Testmodel_pro*” and “Testmodel2_pro*”¹. Choose a model prior or equal to your Sketchup version and open it in SketchUp.
- Click on Plugins → Interactive render
- Click ‘OK’ on all popup box defaults, until it asks you to chose a weather file, at which point, open “Boston.wea”
- A white screen should appear and start reconfiguring a mesh of triangles making up the model. After this disappears, a black screen and gray interface will appear, and after a few seconds, your model should appear rendered in the screen.
- If this does not happen, your computer may not be able to handle the graphics of the rendering engine.
- If a model does show up, but something is obviously wrong with it, check the export settings listed in step 3 of this section.
- The model may be dark, but you can change the exposure under the “Lighting” tab on the gray interface. You can move around the model by using your mouse (see Chapter 1, Exercise 2, sections d & e).

LAST STEP : SEND US FEEDBACK

Whether you are satisfied with Lightsolve or not, we would very much appreciate receiving your feedback. Please fill out the form available at:

http://daylighting.mit.edu/publications/LIGHTSOLVE_FEEDBACK.doc

and let us know what your experience is or was working with Lightsolve so we can make it better suit your needs and expectations. Thanks in advance and enjoy!

¹ Note that an earlier version of this tutorial, named LIGHTSOLVE_INSTRUCTIONS_2010-05.pdf will automatically be saved in this same Plugins/LightSolve folder: you can discard that version and only rely on the present document and on the updated tutorial named LIGHTSOLVE_TUTORIAL_2010-05.pdf.

1. Exploring the Program

This section will guide you through some simple exercises:

Exercise 1: Explore an Example Model in SketchUp

Exercise 2: Run an Example Model using the Interactive Render Feature

Exercise 3: Create Views and Run Lightsolve

Exercise 4: Explore the Lightsolve Interface

Exercise 5: Build a Lightsolve model in SketchUp

Exercise 1: Explore an Example Model in SketchUp

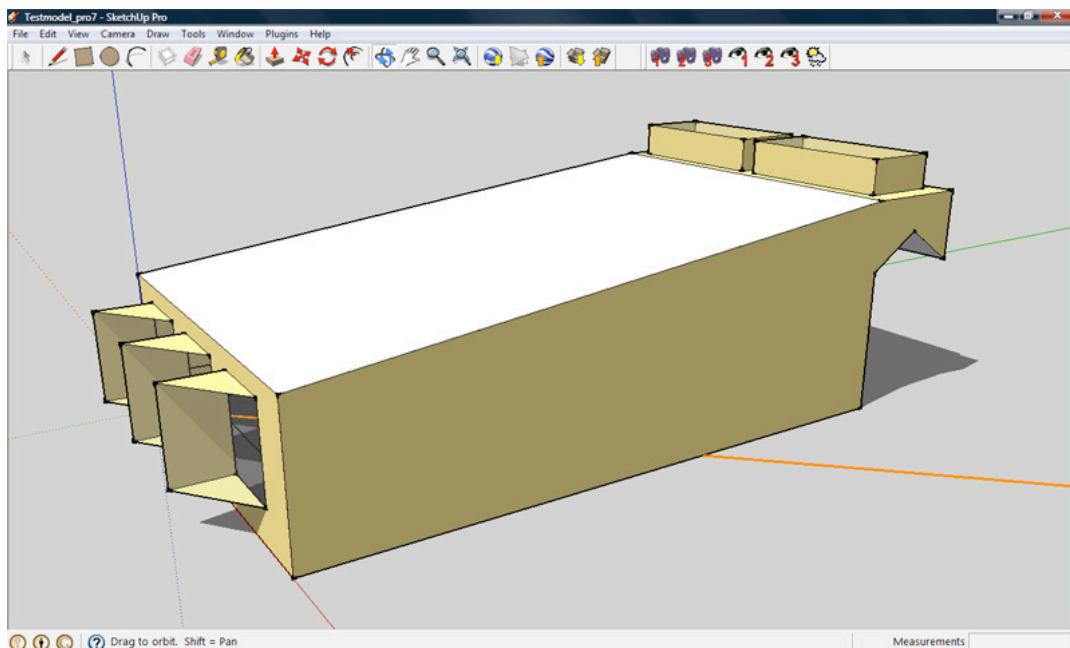
a. Find and open the example model: Testmodel_pro7.skp

The example model has been installed with the Lightsolve files into your Google SketchUp Plugins folder.

Find it here (if you are using SketchUp Pro 6, use Testmodel_pro6.skp):

C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7/Plugins/Lightsolve/Testmodel_pro7.skp

NOTE: You can run the same set of exercises with the other example model (Testmodel2_pro*.skp), that includes two rooms and a more complex glare situation but with fewer sensors (thus will run faster).



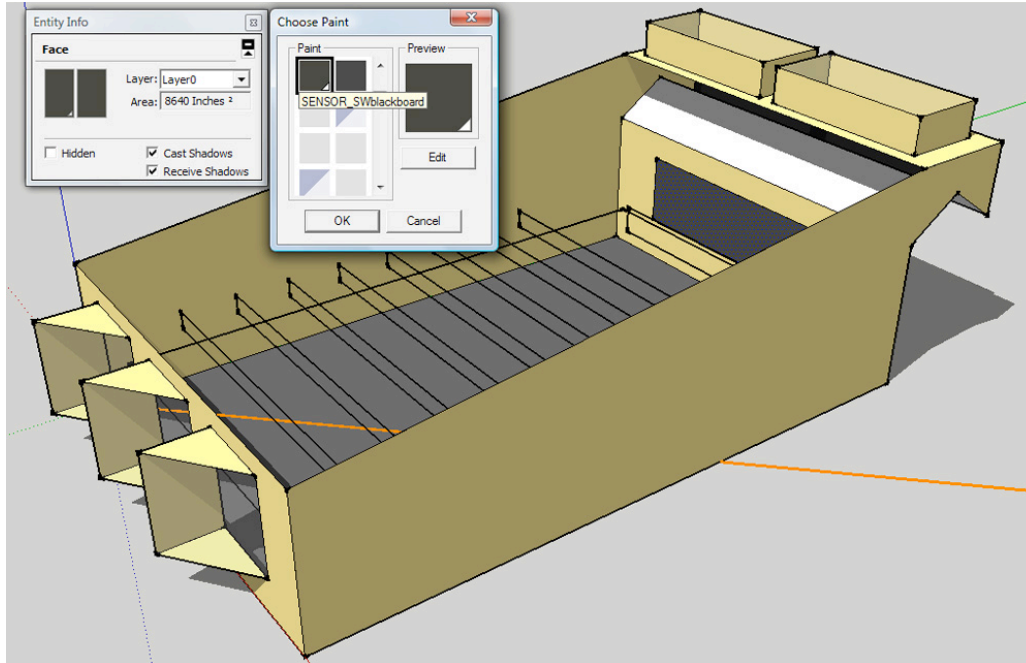
b. Explore the model.

The example model is a classroom with shaded windows on one end of the space and skylights on the other end. Sensors are modeled inside the space to represent a blackboard, a work plane, and the possible viewpoints of the students and teacher.

Get familiar with the model by doing the following:

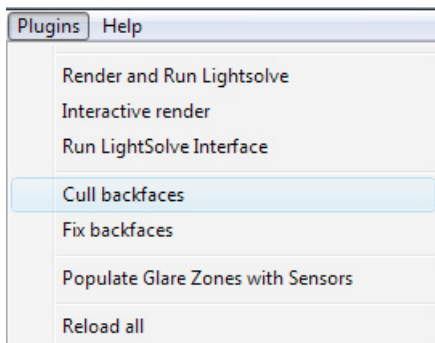
- Scroll around the model.
- Show how to “hide” and “unhide” faces in the model.

- Look at the various materials used by selecting a face, right-clicking, and selecting “Entity Info” (see image below). Refer to section 4 for more details about materials.
- Locate the illuminance sensor locations, including visible sensors (blackboard) and invisible sensors (work plane). Locate the glare sensor views, including students and teachers. Refer to section 3 for more details about sensors.



c. Explore the Lightsolve pull-down menu.

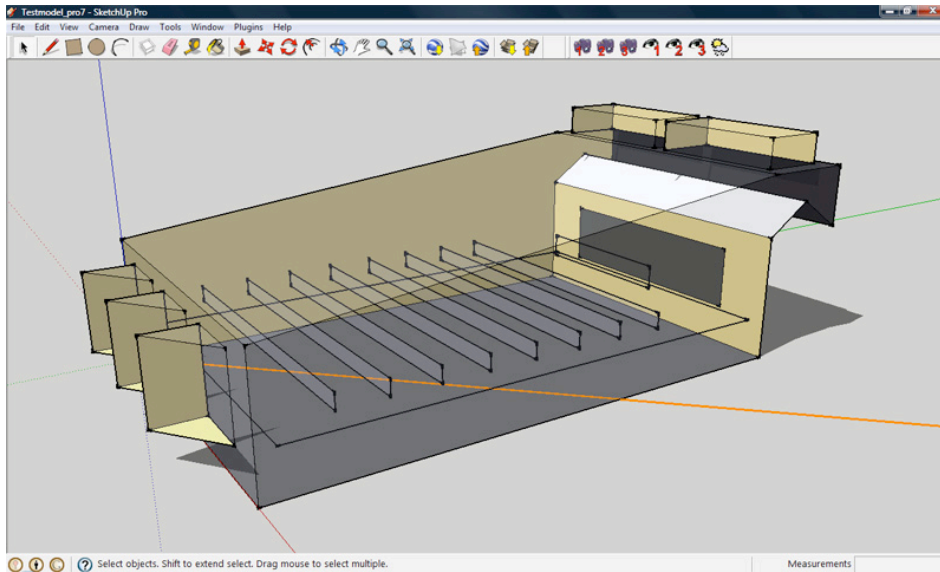
Go to the Plugins menu. If you have installed Lightsolve, you should see options starting with “Render and run Lightsolve”. If you do not see this menu, there is a problem with your Lightsolve installation.



d. Try the “Cull backfaces” and “Fix backfaces” options

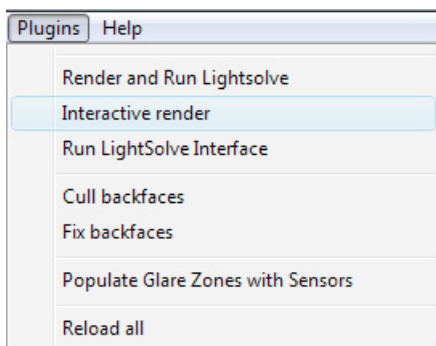
Use the “Cull backfaces” option in the Plugins pull-down menu. This option allows you to see through the backs of faces. The fronts of faces look opaque. Your example model should look like the image below.

Return faces to normal by selecting the “Fix backfaces” options in the Plugins pull-down.



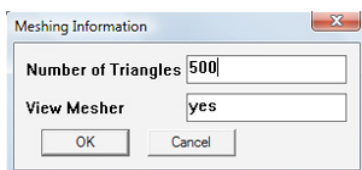
Exercise 2: Run an Example Model using the Interactive Render Feature

a. Select “Interactive render” from the Plugins pull-down menu.

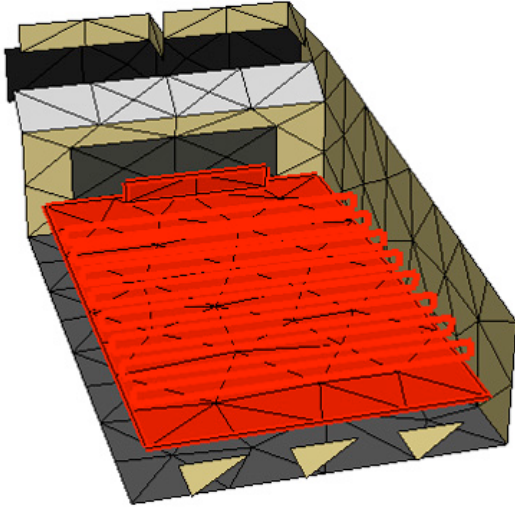


b. Select number of triangles for mesh.

Type in the number of triangles you wish to have for your model re-meshing. We will use 500 for faster renderings. You can also select a higher number of triangles for greater accuracy. Keep the “View Mesher” response as the default “yes”.

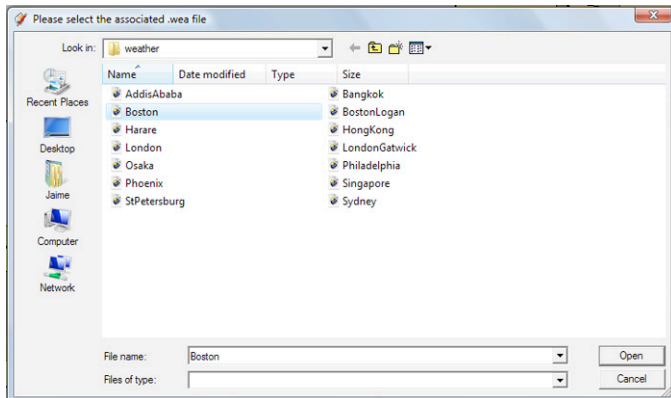


You should see the remesher begin. Your model will look something like the image below as it remeshes.



c. Select your location and weather data.

Keep the default location of Boston, MA for this example case. Select the Boston.wea weather file from the list of .wea files.



d. View the model using the Interactive Renderer.

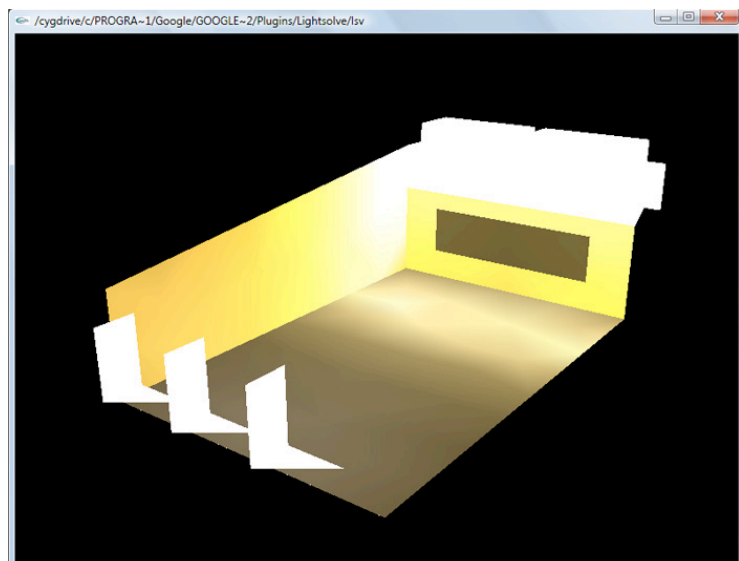
You should see two boxes, one which contains the rendered image of the model and one which has controls. The rendered image will look like this:

You can move around the model using the following controls:

Right mouse button – zoom in and out

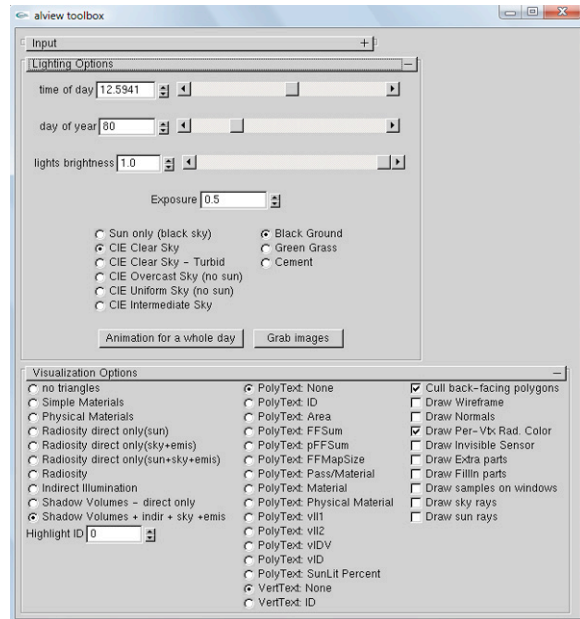
Left mouse button – rotate

Middle mouse button – translate (similar to the “hand”)



e. Explore the model and controls in the Interactive Renderer.

Try changing the time of day, day of year, brightness, exposure, and sky type. Your rendered image should update automatically as you change these variables.



f. Close the Interactive Renderer and return to SketchUp.

Close the Interactive Renderer by closing the DOS window that says "C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe"

Exercise 3: Create Views and Run Lightsolve

a. Create views using the camera icons.

Lightsolve allows you to create three views to be rendered. To create a view, rotate your model in Sketchup until you are satisfied with the current view. Then, click one of the three Camera buttons. Store three separate views by clicking each of the three Camera buttons once. Please note that you should only create interior views for renderings.

For more information about views, please see section 5.

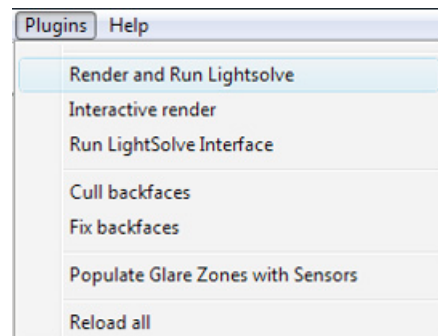


2. Review your saved views.

To review a saved view, click on the Eye buttons. Each Eye button corresponds to a numbered view. If you wish to change a view, simply create the view again using the appropriate Camera button.

3. Run Lightsolve

When you are satisfied with your views, select "Render and Run Lightsolve" from the Plugins pull-down menu.

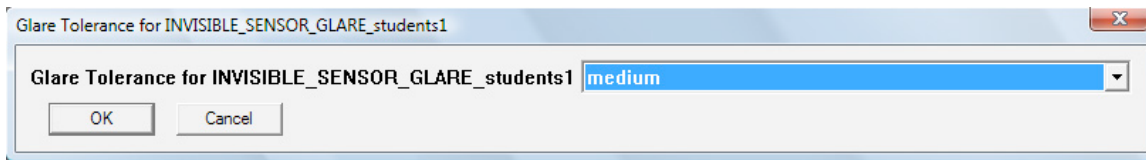
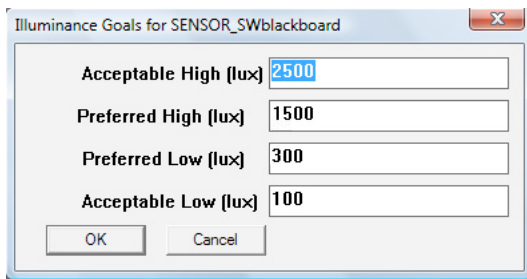


d. Accept all default values.

For this exercise, accept all default values:

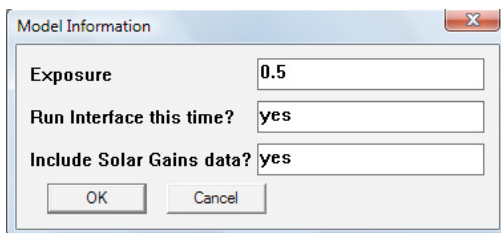
- We will consider our goals for all times and seasons, so all values in the goal times interface are “yes.”
- The default illuminance goal ranges for all illuminance sensors are 100-300-1500-2500. This means that the performance objectives for illuminance are to have at least 300 lux on the sensor planes and at most 1500 lux (full goal achievement credit), with partial credit given down to 100 and up to 2500.
- The default glare tolerance is “medium” for all glare sensors (recognition of ‘disturbing’ glare). Refer to section 6 for more information.

As before, keep Boston, MA as the location and select the Boston.wea weather file. For further information about creating a new weather file, refer to section 5.



Change the default exposure from 0.5 to 0.3 to get less saturated images in this particular model (a good exposure value can be determined by exploring different times and dates with the interactive renderer and will depend on viewpoint and model – but you will probably always have some saturated and some darker images because of the great dynamic of daylight)

If you change the default value from “no” to “yes” in the box that asks “Include Solar Gains data”, you will have to go through questions relevant to solar gains calculations. Refer to Appendix 10 for information about relevant solar gains input.



e. Wait for the renderings to be created and for the interface to open.

You should see renderings being created on your screen in real time. Once the renderings and temporal maps are completed, the Lightsolve interface will open.

Exercise 4: Explore the Lightsolve Interface

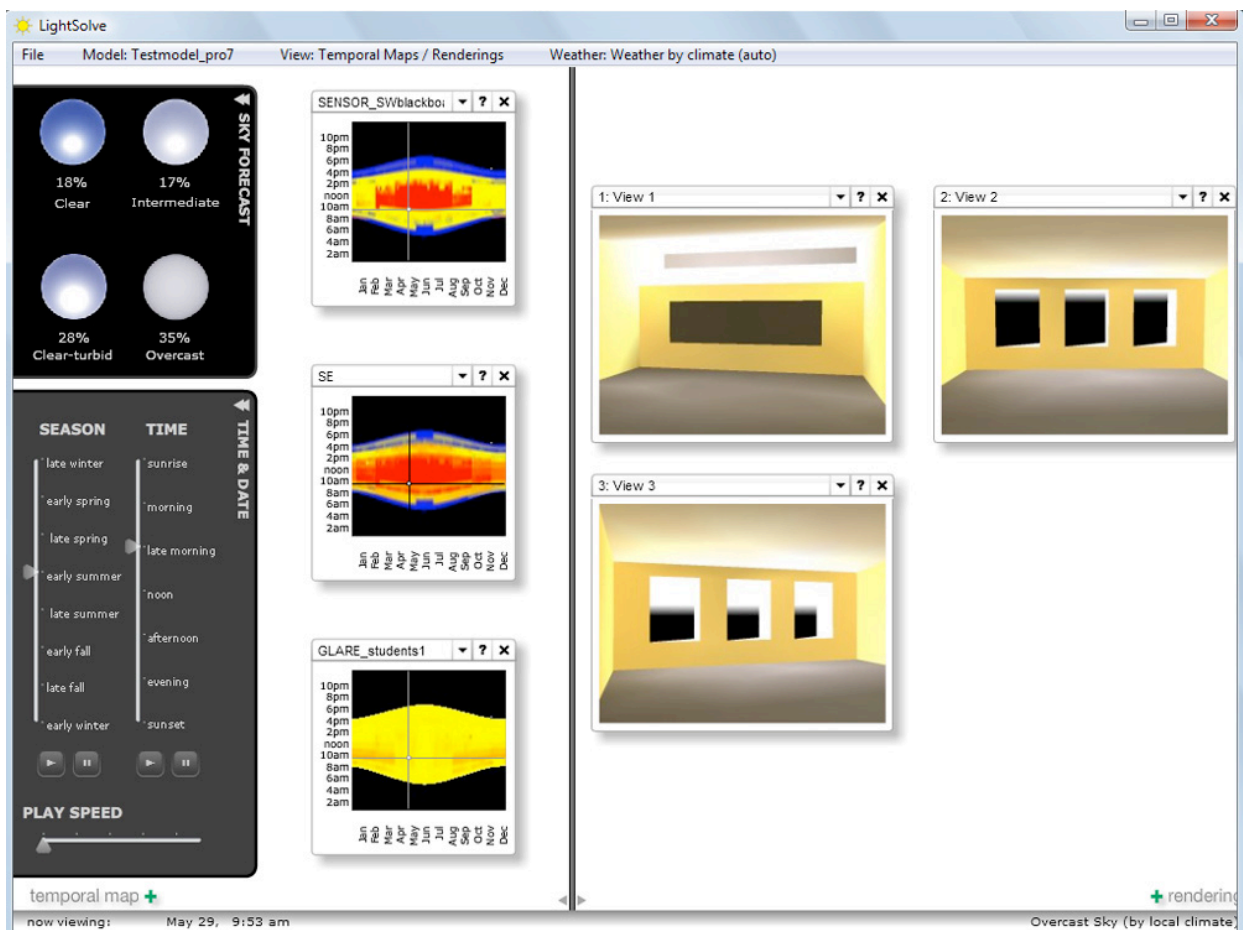
For more information about the lightsolve interface and its functionalities, please see section 7.

a. Explore the Temporal Maps and Renderings View.

You should see three types of temporal maps (color plots): illuminance, glare, and solar gains. The example model includes two illuminance maps (SE and SWblackboard), two glare maps (students and teachers), and one solar gains map.

To get familiar with the interface functionalities, you can:

- Explore renderings from different times of year by moving cursor over temporal maps.
- Save images of maps and renderings by right-clicking of the image and selecting “Save this image.”
- Change the sky type for the viewed renderings by clicking the “Weather” menu and selecting a sky type from the pull-down (the default is an automatic selection based on climate).
- View animations over a day or year by using the menu in the lower left corner.

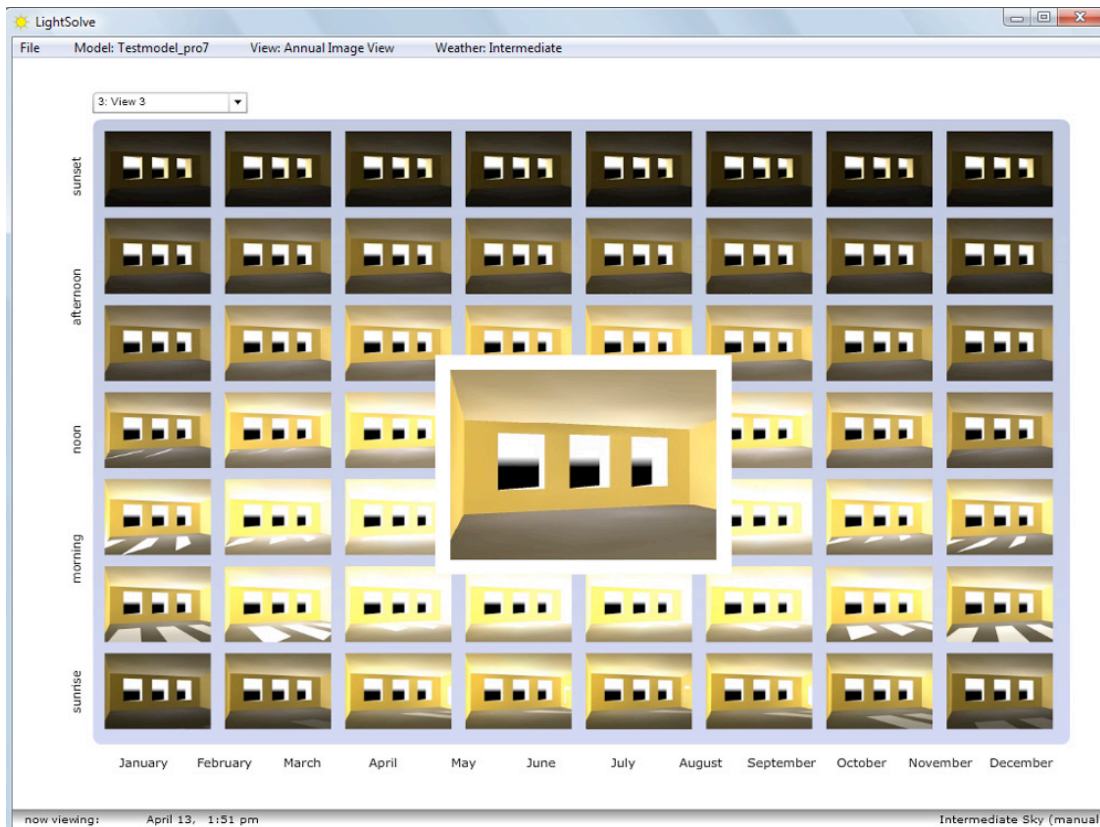


The temporal maps show you when, over the whole year and accounting for the local climate, your pre-set sensors achieve (yellow), exceed (red) or are below (blue) the prescribed performance goals for illuminance and glare and when solar gains are likely to be excessive (red), beneficial (yellow) or insufficient (blue) to help keeping the space comfortable.

b. Explore the Annual Image View.

You can test out the following functionalities:

- Change the view using the pull-down in the upper left corner.
- Enlarge an image by scrolling over it.
- Save an image by left-clicking on it.
- Change the sky type for the viewed renderings by clicking the “Weather” menu and selecting a sky type from the pull-down (the default is an automatic selection based on climate).



Exercise 5: Build a Lightsolve model in SketchUp

For more information about modeling in Sketchup for Lightsolve, please see sections 2 (Model Geometry), 3 (Illuminance and Glare Sensors), and 4 (Materials).

a. Build a massing model (no windows yet).

Create a 2d footprint using the Line or Rectangle tools.

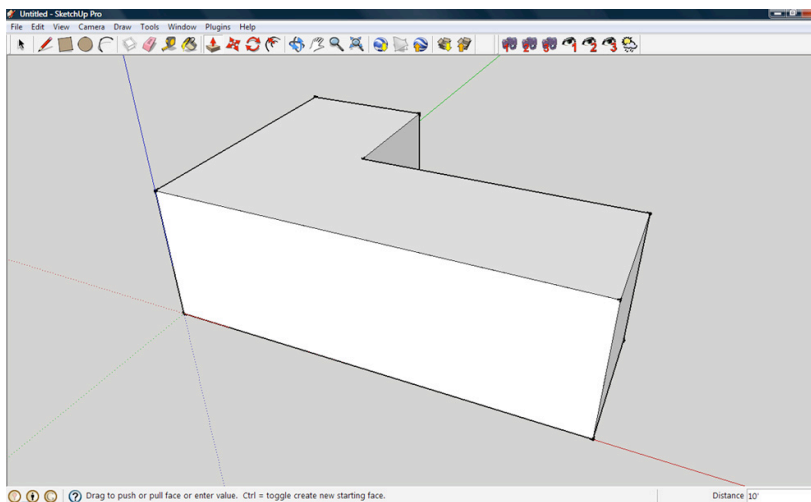
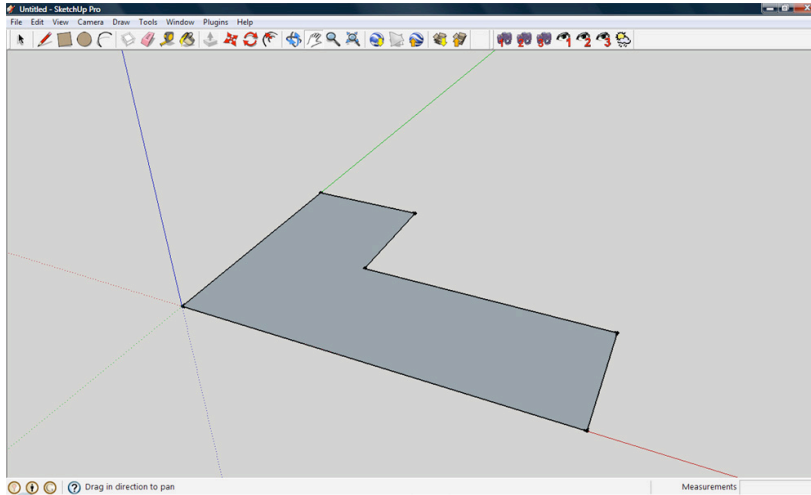


Use the Tape Measure tool to create construction lines if needed.



Extrude to desired height using the Push-Pull button.





b. Reverse back-faces so that the interior facing surfaces are considered “front.”

Select all faces in the massing model, right-click, and select “Reverse Faces.” Double-check to make sure they are correct using the “Cull backfaces” option from the plugins pull-down.



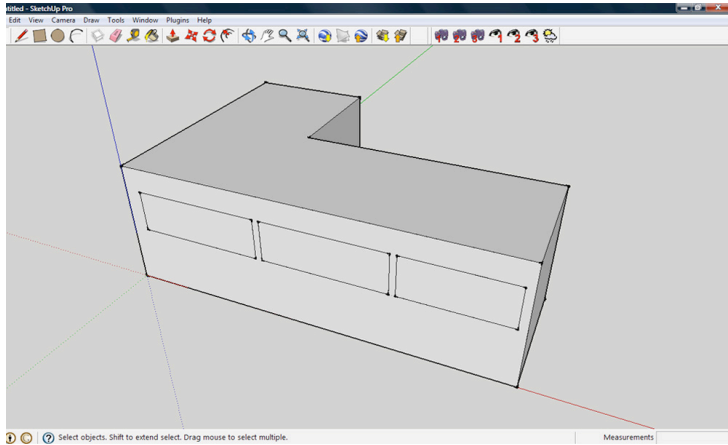
c. Specify materials for opaque faces.

Use the paint bucket button and change the color of the walls, floor, and ceiling. These can be any color. Make sure that both sides of each face have the same material.

See section 4 for detailed information about materials and how to specify them.

d. Create windows.

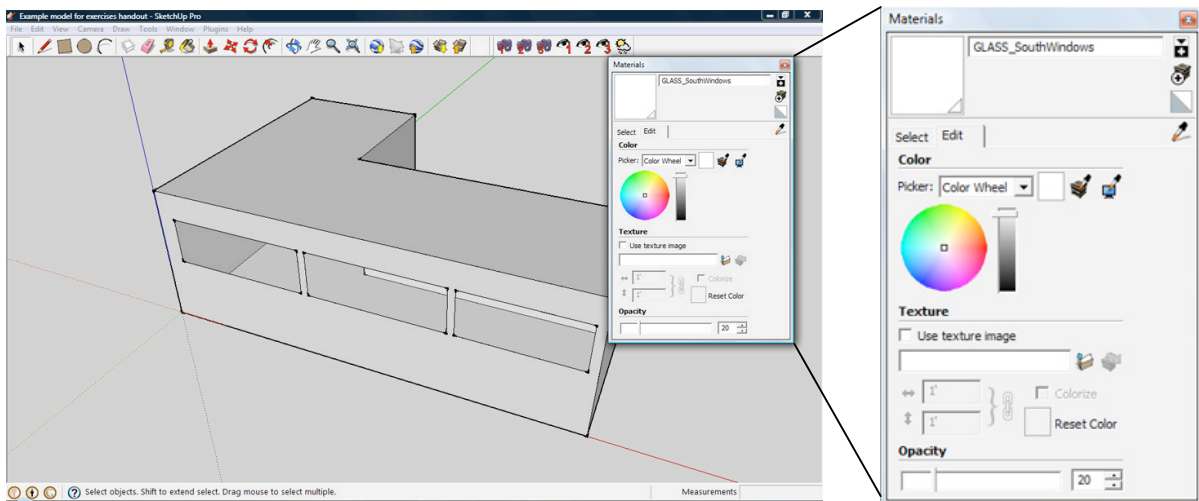
Use the Tape Measure, Pencil, and/or Rectangle tools to draw windows where desired.



e. Create a glass material and add to windows.

Create a new material for the glazing. The name of this material must contain the word “GLASS” (all uppercase), for ex. “GLASS_SouthWindows”. Specify the transmissivity of the glazing by changing the opacity in the Materials menu, for ex. 20% is equal to 80% transmissivity.

See section 4 for detailed information about materials and how to specify them.



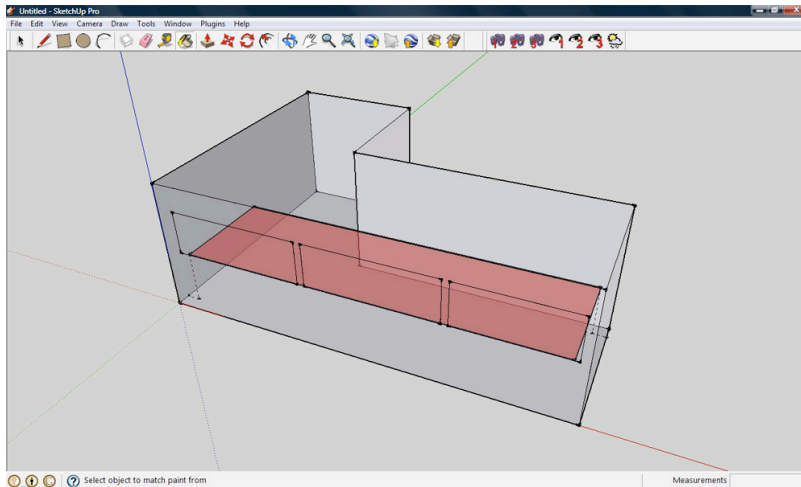
f. Create illuminance sensor planes and illuminance sensor materials.

Use the Tape Measure, Pencil, and/or Rectangle tools to draw 2d sensor planes where you are interested in finding illuminance in your model. These sensor planes should only be located inside your model. They can be horizontal or vertical. Use the cull backfaces tool to ensure that all sensors are facing up (for horizontal sensors) or facing the correct direction (for vertical sensors).

Create a new material for each individual sensor plane. The name of this material must contain the word “SENSOR” (all uppercase) for opaque sensors or the words “INVISIBLE_SENSOR” for non-opaque sensors, for example “SENSOR_SouthZone” or “INVISIBLE_SENSOR_SouthZone”. If the sensors are to be invisible, make sure to set the opacity of the material to 0%.

The image below shows an example of a horizontal illuminance sensor (in red) in a model.

See sections 3 and 4 for detailed information about sensors, sensor materials, and how to specify them.

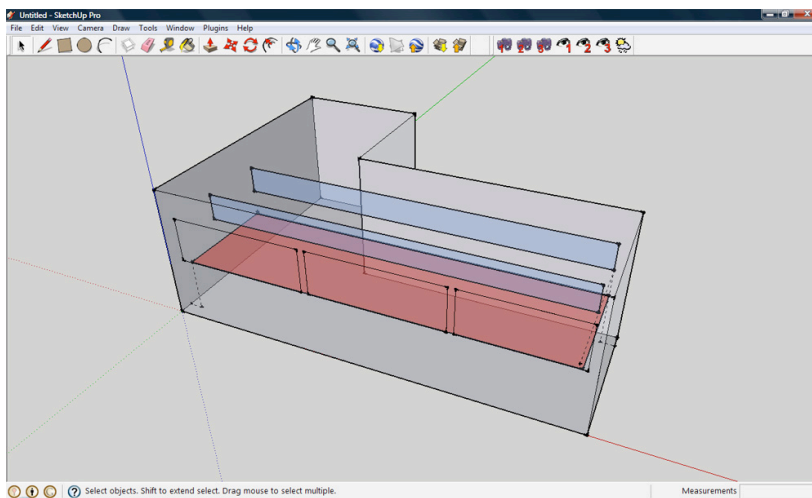


g. Create glare sensors.

Use the Tape Measure, Pencil, and/or Rectangle tools to draw 2d sensor planes where you are interested in finding glare in your model. These sensor planes should only be located inside your model. Use the cull backfaces tool to ensure that all sensors are facing the correct direction.

Create a new material for each individual sensor plane. The name of this material must contain the words "SENSOR_GLARE" (all uppercase) for opaque sensors or the words "INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE" for non-opaque sensors, for example "SENSOR_GLARE_SouthView" or "INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE_SouthView". If the sensors are to be invisible, make sure to set the opacity of the material to 0%.

The image below shows an example of two glare sensors (in blue) facing south in a model. *See sections 3 and 4 for detailed information about sensors, sensor materials, and how to specify them.*



h. Create views.

Refer to section 1 (Exercise 3, part a) or to section 5.

i. Run Lightsolve.

Once you have created your model and specified views, you are now ready to run Lightsolve with your own parameters and goal values. Please refer to the relevant sections in this tutorial for this. We advise everyone to try to run the Interactive Render tool first before attempting a full render. If the model does not seem to run correctly, please refer to the troubleshooting guide in section 8.

2. Model Geometry (using Google SketchUp)

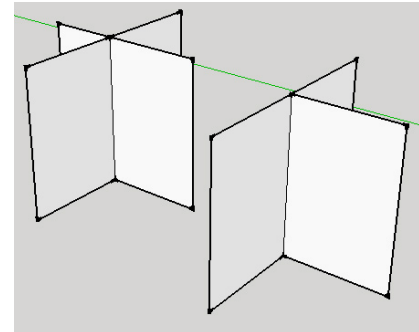
This section describes critical rules to apply while making your Lightsolve models in SketchUp.

All models must be "watertight".

- For example, if the model was filled with water, none would leak out. This means you cannot leave windows or doors open, but you must fill them with glass. If your design requires open apertures, you can fake this condition by using a "glass" material (see Material Names section) with 100% transmissivity.

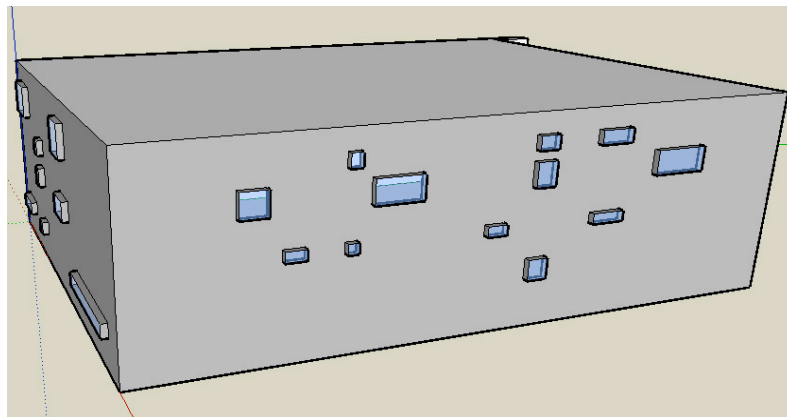
Planes may not cross or form a "T" junction.

- This is annoying, especially when dealing with louvers, but the remesher cannot currently handle intersecting planes. To the right is a picture of plane intersections that cannot occur in your model. Single planes inside your watertight space can be used for things like sensors, but they must be free-floating or part of the wall or floor itself.



It is best to make single-plane rather than solid walls.

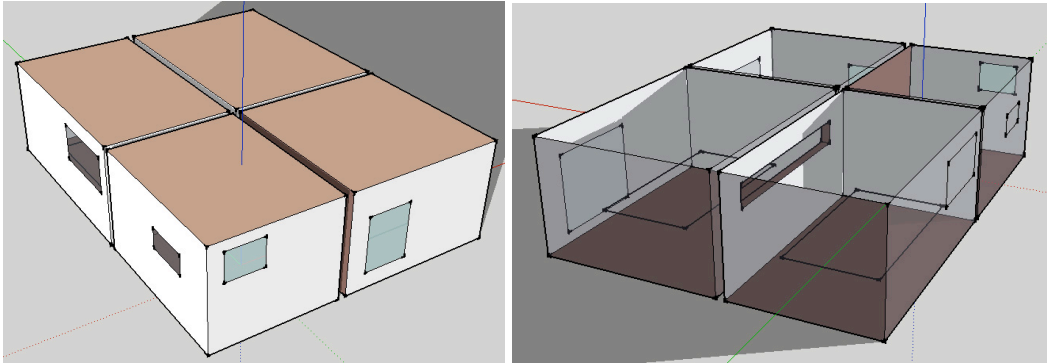
- This is first because the inside of your space is basically all that matters, and second, because it vastly reduces the number of triangle patches necessary to make up your model, making it much less likely to crash the remesher.
- If you wish to make window sills with some thickness, you can pull the window outwards from the building. This creates the same effect, as far as daylighting is concerned, as having walls with thickness. See picture below.



The normals of the planes in your daylit zone(s) must face inwards.

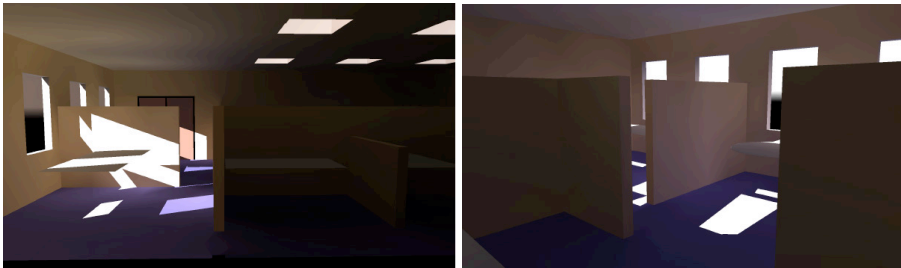
- You can check which way normals are facing by clicking on "Plugins" → "cull backfaces". In this setting, you only see planes that have the normals facing you. To put the backfaces back in place, click "Plugins" → "fix backfaces". This will automatically make the backface material the same as the frontface material. Backface materials won't have anything to do with the rendering.

- Below is an example building which works with the remesher and rendering engine, seen from the outside and with culled backfaces. Not only are all normals facing inwards, but rooms completely separate (solving the crossing-planes problem above), the sensor planes are free-floating, and there is glass in every window. In this example, the separate rooms were made by creating a single volume, drawing wall outlines on the ceiling, and push/pulling the division all the way to the ground.

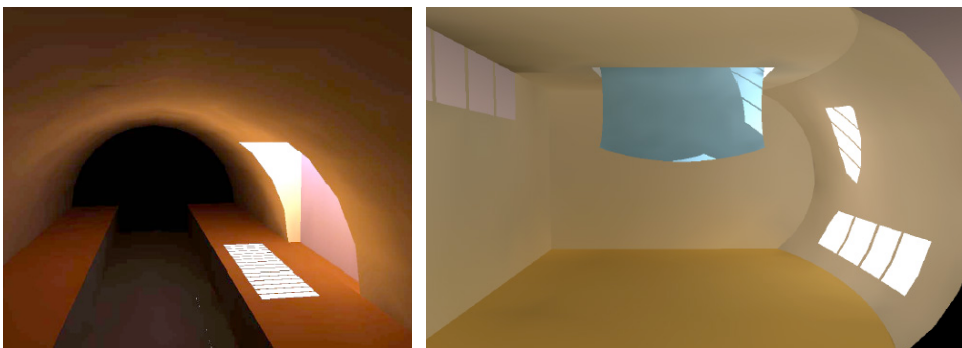


Your model does not have to be a box.

- Room and floor partitions can be made in the same way as the example above, as can columns and other interior objects.
- Interior partitions can be created in the same way as walls between rooms. Draw the partition on the floor and push/pull it only part way to the ceiling, like in the rendered examples below.

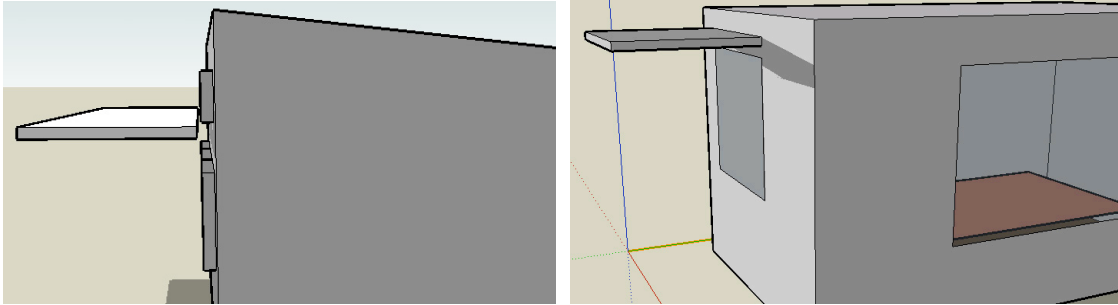


- Segmented curves (such as any curve made internally in SketchUp) work fine, such as the two simple examples below of a subway tunnel and a curved room.



Currently, you cannot have any separate planes attached to the outside of your zone.

- For instance, if you wish to make a shade, you should make a full box, then move it maybe an inch away from the side of the building.
- Alternatively, you can pull a thin section of your wall out to form the shade. In that case, you can leave the normals as they are. See examples below. There is a free-floating overhang on the left, and one that was pulled from the wall on the right.



- Similarly, the easiest way to make louvers is to push/pull the part of the window between the louvers, as shown below (left: SketchUp model, right: rendering).



- If you have any external objects not attached to your main lit zone, they should have normals which are facing OUT, should be a watertight structure, and should be labeled with an EXTERIOR material tag (see Material Names section).

Explode imported components.

- If you import another SketchUp file into your model, you need to explode the component before it will work with the rendering engine. Just right-click on the component and choose “Explode” from the menu.

3. Illuminance and Glare Sensors

Sensors in Lightsolve are planes, not points.

- To create a sensor plane, simply model a 2D plane. These can be vertical or horizontal.
- Normals should point towards the direction you wish to analyze, similar to a luxmeter. For example, horizontal illuminance sensors typically face upwards.

Illuminance sensors

- Illuminance sensors can be opaque surfaces (such as a wall or desk) or “invisible”.
- To use an illuminance sensor, the user will need to specify an illuminance goal range for that sensor plane. The calculated result will be the percentage of the area of that sensor that sees illuminance within the specified range for a certain period of time. Lightsolve will calculate these values automatically for the whole year.
- If two or more illuminance sensors have the same name, calculations will be performed over the total area of all sensors with that name. Typically, we want to name each illuminance sensor by a different name.

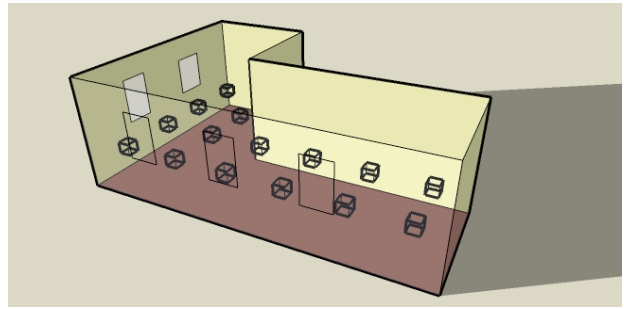
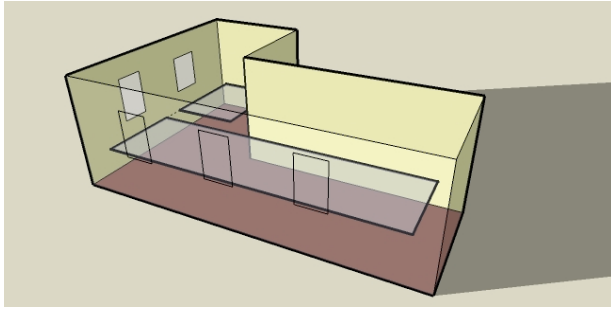
Glare sensors

- Glare sensors can be also be opaque or “invisible”. However, because we would typically like to find glare from an occupant viewpoint, we will almost always use “invisible” sensors for glare.
- Users need not specify a goal for glare. Lightsolve will automatically calculate the Daylight Glare Probability (DGP) for all glare sensors and determine the percentage of the sensor area of glare sensors with the *same name* that sees glare (using DGP guidelines).
- To get a general idea of the glare over an area in the space, it is recommended to model many small boxes at occupant head height (sitting or standing) with planes facing the directions in which you are interested. The creation of these boxes can also be automated (see next paragraph).

Automated glare sensor box creation

[CAUTION: This feature is still under development. If it does not work for you, you can still create glare sensors manually.]

- To automatically create glare sensor boxes, model a “glare zone” as a horizontal 2D plane at occupant view height in the area you are interested in.
- Change the material name of the plane to “**GLARE_ZONE_<anyname>**” (see section 4 for more information about naming conventions for sensors and windows).
- Go to “Plugins” → “Populate Glare Zones with Sensors.”
- You should see small boxes populated in a 3ft by 3ft grid within the area of your glare zone plane (see image below).
- Delete the 2D glare zone plane.
- If you would like to model additional glare zones, simply name the additional glare zone material a different name (ex. “GLARE_ZONE_1” and “GLARE_ZONE_2”).



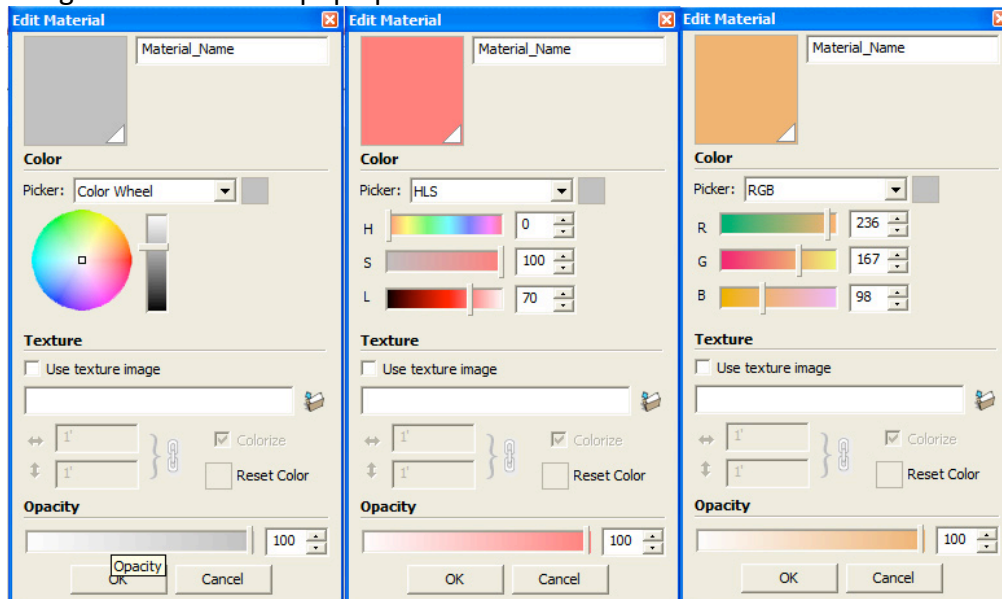
NOTE: There are no sensors to create for solar gains results. See section 6 for input needs.

4. Materials

There are two ways to define materials for Lightsolve : directly in SketchUp or through the Lightsolve materials library. For almost all regular materials, you should define directly through SketchUp. For translucent windows, you should use the materials library.

Defining your materials in SketchUp.

- Any surface can be assigned a material by right-clicking on the surface and choosing “Entity Info”. Click on the swatches of color to change or edit the backface and frontface materials. Only frontface materials matter to the rendering engine, so it’s usually easiest to make both swatches the same.
- To edit a material, highlight that material swatch in the list and click “Edit”. The material editing interface should pop up.



- The top right box is the material name.
- The “Picker” offers you several ways to define the color and reflectivity of your material. The number closest to the total reflectivity of the material is “L” in the HLS method.
- For GLASS: The transmissivity of any material is 1 minus opacity. If it is 100% opaque, no light gets through (like a wall), and if it’s 20% opaque, 80% of the light gets through (like a window).

Defining your materials in SketchUp : Special Material Names

- For the materials below, replace <anyname> with whatever series of letters or numbers you wish.
- Glass materials should be named "**GLASS_<anyname>**". They should also be given some transparency by sliding down the opacity in the materials editor.
- Illuminance sensor planes that you wish visible should be named "**SENSOR_<anyname>**" and assigned a 100% opacity value. You can make an opaque material like a wall into a sensor in this way.

- Illuminance sensor planes that you wish to be invisible (and thus not affect the light distribution) should be named "**INVISIBLE_SENSOR_<anyname>**" and should be assigned a 0% opacity value.
- Glare sensors should be named "**INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE_<anyname>**" and assigned a 0% opacity value (unless for some reason the user wants the glare sensor to be visible, in which case it should be assigned a 100% opacity value and be named "**SENSOR_GLARE_<anyname>**"). If the glare sensors were created using the automated method described in section 3 and based on a **GLARE_ZONE_<anyname>**, they will automatically have their four vertical surfaces facing due East, North, South and West be assigned the following materials:
 - **INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE_East_<anyname>**
 - **INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE_North_<anyname>**
 - **INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE_South_<anyname>**
 - **INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE_West_<anyname>**
 and have 0% opacity.
- ALL objects external to the daylight zones should have outward-facing normals and **MUST** be named "**EXTERIOR_<anyname>**".
- You can make multiple Sensor or Glass materials.
- Separate sensor materials (i.e. named differently) will have separate temporal maps made for them.
- Multiple planes with the same sensor material name will be grouped together into a single temporal map.
- For solar gains calculations, you should name external walls "**EXTWALL_<anyname>**", which will allow the external wall area to be totaled automatically. For similar reasons, external roof materials should be called "**ROOF_<anyname>**", and materials which contribute to the total floor area of the space should be named "**FLOOR_<anyname>**".

Using the Lightsolve materials library

- The Lightsolve materials library contains pre-made material definitions for a number of different material types, mostly glass. It is called "material_database.lsvmtl" and is located in the Lightsolve folder in the Plugins folder in the Google Sketchup program files. You can view and modify this file using a text editor (like Notepad). Please note that this file must stay in the Lightsolve folder for the renderer to work.
- A large number of glass types have been pre-defined. You can easily use these by defining your glass material names in the following way:
 - The form of the material name should be "**GLASS_Sx_Dy**", where:
 - x is specular transmissivity
 - y is diffuse transmissivity (translucent materials)
 - x and y must be defined in increments of 5%
 - The total transmissivity (x + y) must be between 5% and 90%
 - For example, **GLASS_S35_D45** is 80% transmissive where 35% is specular transmissivity and 45% is diffuse transmissivity
- If the material you wish to use already exists in the library, use the name of that material in your SketchUp model and the material definitions will automatically be used by the renderer. For example, "**FABRIC_SHADE**" is a pre-existing material that defines a

white fabric shade that has 2% specular transmissivity, 5% diffuse transmissivity, and 30% diffuse reflectivity.

- If you wish to define your own material, you must open the “material_database.lsvmtl” file, add the new material definition, and save the file. Then use the name you specified in the database file in SketchUp. Use the format described in this document to specify material properties: http://graphics.cs.rpi.edu/daylighting/lsv/lsvmtl_readme.html

5. Views and Location Settings

Setting Camera Views in SketchUp



- These buttons should be on the toolbar in SketchUp. If you do not choose views, views corresponding to various orthogonal directions will be selected automatically.
- To store the current view in SketchUp, click on one of the camera buttons. You are allowed to store 3 different views.
- To revisit a stored view, click to the eye buttons.

NOTE: Unfortunately, those views cannot be saved in the Sketchup model at this point and have to be reset if the model is closed.

Setting Location, Climate, and Orientation in SketchUp (for LightSolve)

- Download the .epw weather file closest to your site from the Energy Plus Weather Data website: http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/energyplus/cfm/weather_data.cfm
- If there is no weather data that is close by, select a weather file as close to the same latitude and climate type as possible, even if it is many miles distant.
- If you put this file in the SketchUp plugins folder (file folder .../Plugins/LightSolve/weather), you will not have to browse for it when you create your new LightSolve weather file.



- This button should be on the toolbar in SketchUp. It will ask you for a name for the weather file (no spaces!). It will then ask you to select the Energy Plus weather .epw file to be converted. If you did not place the Energy Plus file in the folder described above, you will have to browse for it. When you select the Energy Plus file, the process is complete, and a new weather file should then be in the LightSolve weather folder.
- You can change which direction in your model is north by going to "Window" → "Model Info" → "Location" and changing the "North Angle" setting. If you wish to see the north angle in the model, check "Show in Model", and it will appear as an orange line. (You don't ever have to change anything else on that page for use in LightSolve.) NOTE: this angle offset will not show up in Interactive Render, but will in Full Render (see section 6).

6. Remeshing, Calculation parameters setup and Rendering

Remeshing process

- The remeshing process triangulates your model so that the renderer can function. The “Meshing Information” popup will ask you for a target number of triangles. The remesher can handle more than 3000 triangles, but not too much more (this will depend on your computer memory). Higher numbers of triangles will result in higher accuracy but will take longer for the renderings to complete.
- If the program exits the remeshing process and returns to SketchUp, there is a problem with the model. This is more common if the model was imported.
- Typical Issues... check to make sure that:
 - All planes are facing the interior of the model (even one facing the wrong way causes the model to crash)
 - There are no stray or doubled panels or line segments as this could cause degenerate or overlapping triangles
 - The model is watertight
 - There is at least one transparent surface, and the material name starts with “GLASS_”
 - There are no panels with the “<default>” SketchUp material.
 - There are no intersecting surfaces (T-junctions and X-junctions)
 - There are no floating planes on the exterior (only boxes)
- If you can't find the problem...
 - Run the “Interactive Render” again.
 - When the Meshing Information popup appears, choose “control” in the dropdown menu asking if you want to view the remesher. This stops the remesher from opening, running, saving, and closing automatically.
 - Hit the button that says “REMESH” in the grey interface.
 - When the remesher finishes, orbit the model (you can also click the “cull backfaces” button near the bottom of the interface) and look for red, cyan, green, and yellow triangles or lines. These will show you where the problem area is, and you can go try to rebuild that part of your model. A few tips here:
 - Red means floating edges – it is OK around sensors or floating planes, or around exterior elements
 - Yellow often means there is a surface facing the wrong way, or there is an extra line – it is BAD and will cause the remesher to crash
 - Blue means bad neighbor triangles – it is usually OK, the remesher will fix it
 - Cyan means bad normal triangles – it is better to correct this but the remesher may fix it on its own
 - Click on “Quit” to exit the remesher and return to SketchUp to fix your model.

Running Lightsolve: Interactive Render Mode

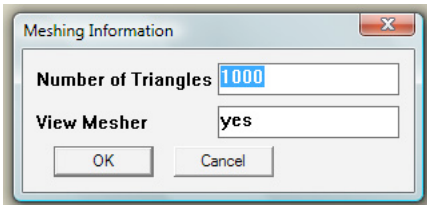
- The interactive render mode allows the user to view the rendered model interactively so you can change the model view and see a rendered image in real-time. It also allows you to play with the exposure levels of the renderings for different times of the

day/year. We highly recommend this as a first step so that you don't waste time making renderings that are too dark or too bright.

- To start, go to "Plugins" → "Interactive render".
- In running the interactive render, just press "ok" for every popup box except the ones dealing with location and the weather file.
- After the weather file is chosen, a screen should pop up with the model rendering in it, and a grey GUI.
- You can move around in the rendering by using your mouse buttons to orbit and zoom.
- You can change the time, weather type, and rendering exposure under the tab marked "Lighting".

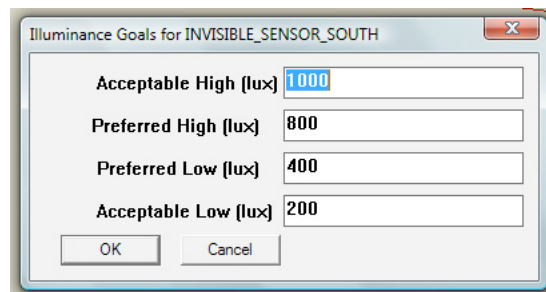
Running Lightsolve: Full Render Mode

- Go to "Plugins" → "Render and Run Lightsolve".
- The first popup window will ask the approximate number of triangles to use in the remeshing process. The default is 1000, which is plenty for a single room, but if there are multiple rooms or many smaller surfaces, you may need more. The popup will also ask if you'd like to see the remesher:



"yes" will allow you to see the remeshing process, but run it automatically. "no" will hide the remesher, and "control" will open the remesher, but you must run it yourself.

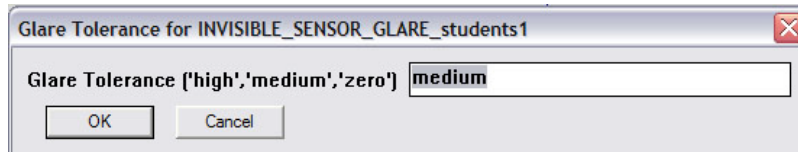
- After the remeshing completes, if there are **illuminance sensors** in your model, a window will pop up for each illuminance sensor material asking for the desired illuminance goals for that surface. It gives you the option to give a desired AND an acceptable range (illuminances between the acceptable and desired numbers will be given partial credit, weighted by how close it is to the desired illuminance). The "acceptable" low must be less than or equal to the "desired" low, and the "acceptable" high must be greater than or equal to the "desired" high.



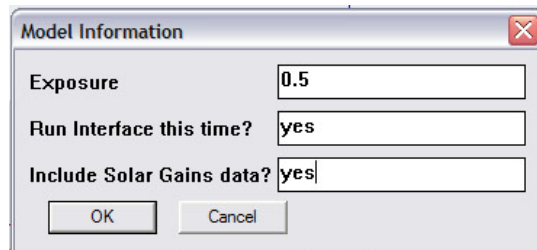
The choice of illuminance goals depends on the type and intended use of the space. As an indication, research shows that most people will feel comfortable reading and writing at 300 lux, and illuminance levels below 100 lux are somewhat consistently considered insufficient for a workspace (but can be adequate for a corridor). Please refer to the Lightsolve Metrics Appendix 9 for more information about how those values are used to indicate daylighting performance in Lightsolve.

- Similarly, if there are **glare sensors** in your model, a window will pop up for each glare sensor material asking for which level of glare tolerance should be assigned to it (“high”, “medium”, or “zero”). Zero tolerance sets the strictest glare-recognition threshold, and considers “perceptible glare” levels already as a maximum glare threat. Medium tolerance recognizes “disturbing glare” levels as fully problematic, with partial recognition for lower levels of glare, and high tolerance recognizes only “intolerable glare” as really problematic, with partial recognition for lower levels of glare. Medium tolerance is the default choice.

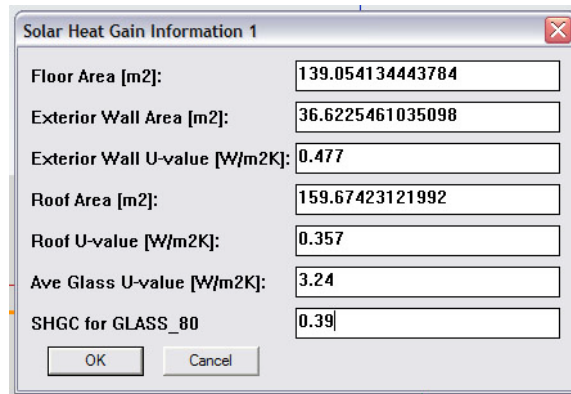
Refer to the Lightsolve Metrics Appendix 9 for more info.



- The next popup box will ask for: the **exposure** (see ‘Interactive Render mode’ section above), whether to run the interface at this time, and whether to calculate **solar gains**. If the interface is not run at this time (“no” answer to second entry), the data are saved in the right place for a later use but the Lightsolve interface does not show up at the end of the process. Answering “yes” to the question about solar gains will make popup boxes appear for the solar gains metric, whereas they will be skipped if “no” is the answer.



- If a **solar gains calculation** is requested, the next popup box will ask for envelope information. The solar gains metric is based on a simple balance-point calculation, but to perform this calculation, some heat transfer material values are required. You can find typical values for different climates, surfaces, and building types in the appendix at the end of this tutorial (section 10). If you use the correct material names (see the “Material Names” section), the floor, roof, and external wall areas should already be totaled for you.

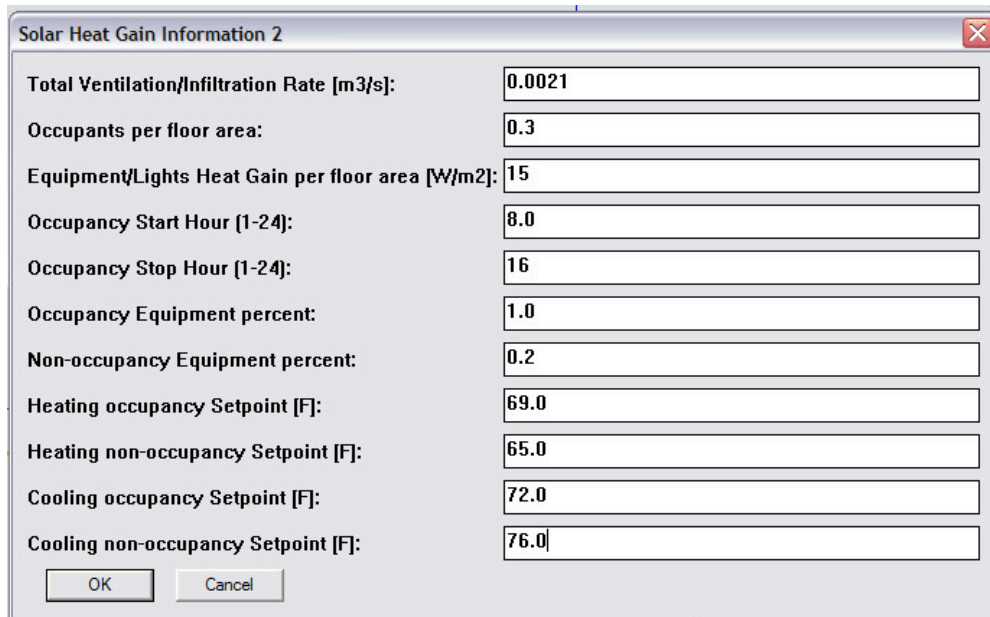


Solar Heat Gain Information 1

Floor Area [m2]:	139.054134443784
Exterior Wall Area [m2]:	36.6225461035098
Exterior Wall U-value [W/m2K]:	0.477
Roof Area [m2]:	159.67423121992
Roof U-value [W/m2K]:	0.357
Ave Glass U-value [W/m2K]:	3.24
SHGC for GLASS_80	0.39

OK Cancel

- The second popup box for solar gains will ask for heat gain, ventilation, occupancy, and operational information. These are meant to be ballpark numbers; again, refer to the appendix for some suggested default values based on building type. All values for solar gains should be given in SI units.

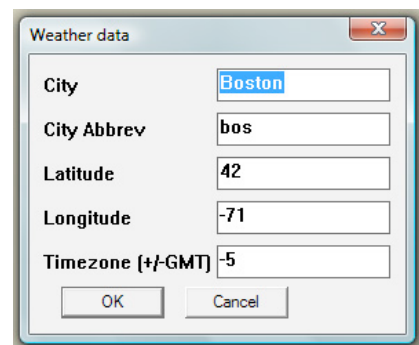


Solar Heat Gain Information 2

Total Ventilation/Infiltration Rate [m3/s]:	0.0021
Occupants per floor area:	0.3
Equipment/Lights Heat Gain per floor area [W/m2]:	15
Occupancy Start Hour (1-24):	8.0
Occupancy Stop Hour (1-24):	16
Occupancy Equipment percent:	1.0
Non-occupancy Equipment percent:	0.2
Heating occupancy Setpoint [F]:	69.0
Heating non-occupancy Setpoint [F]:	65.0
Cooling occupancy Setpoint [F]:	72.0
Cooling non-occupancy Setpoint [F]:	76.0

OK Cancel

- The next popup box asks for the location of the model. You can give the location a formal name and an abbreviated name (choose any name with no spaces), and you should enter the latitude, longitude, and time zone. Latitude is positive for the northern hemisphere and negative for the southern. Longitude is positive for the eastern hemisphere and negative for the western. Time zone refers to the number of zones plus or minus GMT. For instance, -5 is the time zone of Boston.

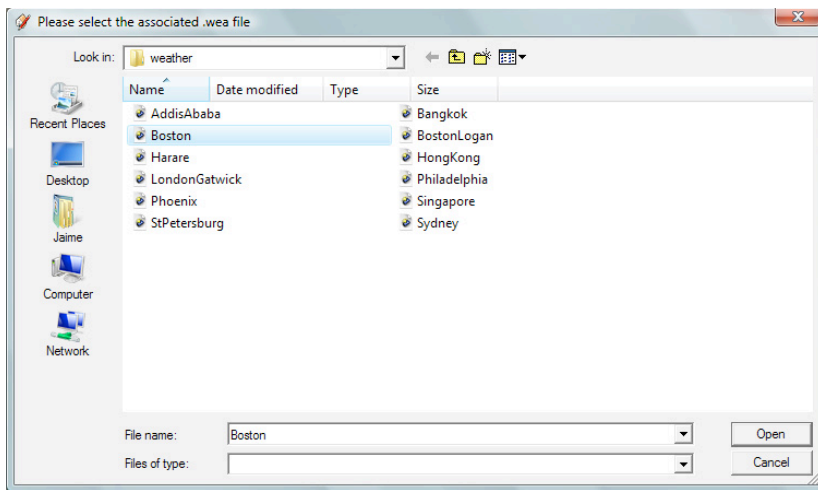


Weather data

City	Boston
City Abbrev	bos
Latitude	42
Longitude	-71
Timezone (+/-GMT)	-5

OK Cancel

- The final window asks you to choose a weather file. Please choose the file that matches the longitude and latitude you just entered in the location box for accurate results.



- Now, sit back while Lightsolve performs renderings and does calculations! When this is finished, the LightSolve GUI should open automatically.

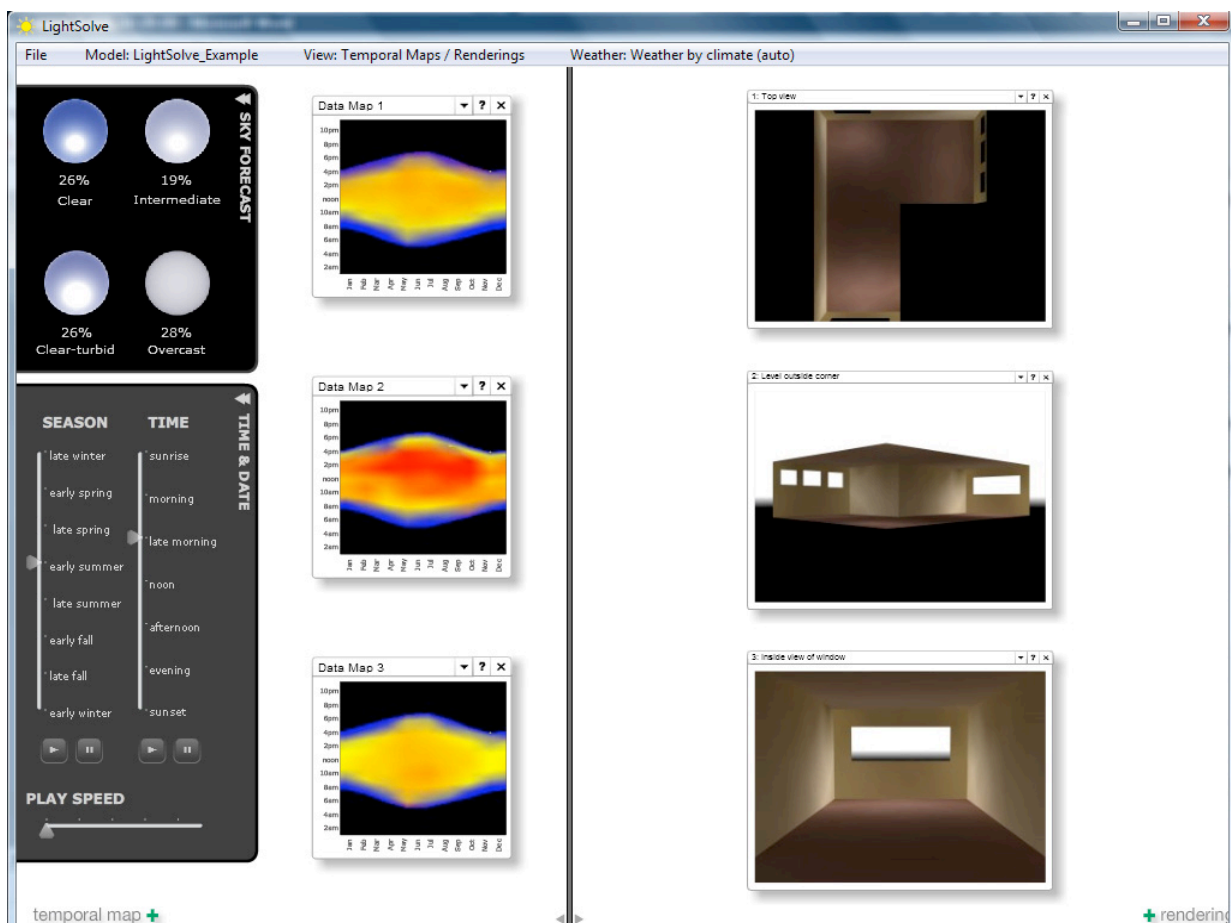
7. The Lightsolve Interface

Opening the LightSolve GUI Without Calculations

- Go to “Plugins” → “Run LightSolve Interface”.
- Alternatively, a link directly to the LightSolve GUI should have been installed in the Programs folder of your start menu, as well as a shortcut for your desktop.
- All previously rendered/calculated data is accessible from the GUI. You can access any previous model by clicking on the “Model” tab and choosing from the dropdown menu.

LightSolve Interface Features

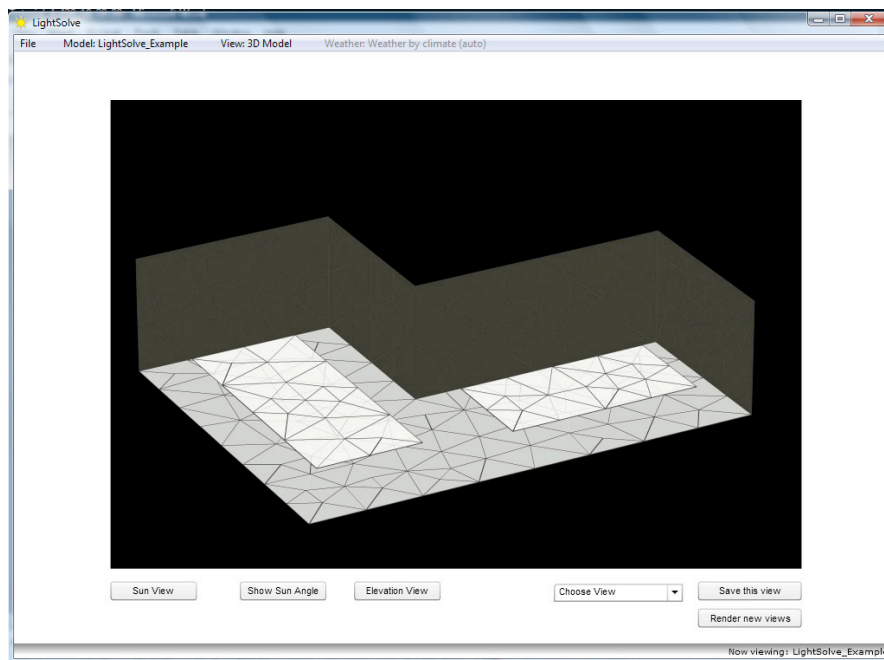
- Model:
 - Choose any model which has data currently stored in the “My_LightSolve_Renderings” folder.
- View modes:
 - **Temporal Maps and Renderings:** This view shows the active model’s temporal maps and renderings. One map will be created for each illuminance or glare sensor and the sensor’s name will appear in each one’s title bar (<anyname>). One map will be created for solar gains if those calculations were run, named ‘Solar Heat Gain’. Renderings will be displayed on the right for the preset views.



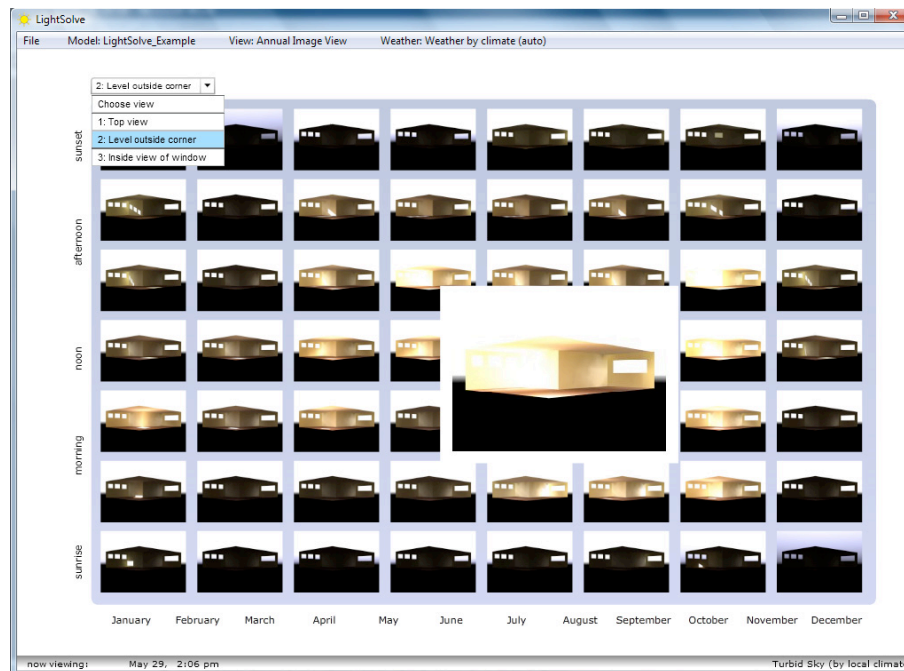
You can show and hide up to six temporal maps and/or renderings for the active model by either right-clicking on the title bars or by clicking on the 'temporal map +' or the '+ rendering' buttons at the bottom of the interface. By default, only three of each are shown. You can also resize temporal maps and renderings by moving the vertical bar separating them to the left or the right. By moving the cursor over any temporal map, the time of day and year will change for all of the maps simultaneously and the series of renderings relevant for that period of time will be displayed on the right. You can also see the likelihood of different types of skies at each point in time and run animations over a day or over a year (for a certain time) from this screen (screen shot below).

Please refer to Appendix 10 (Lightsolve Metrics) for more details about the information displayed on the temporal maps (the '?' button on their title bar also provides some info).

- **3D Model:** This view allows you to manipulate a meshed version of the model, including invisible sensor planes. From this screen you can look at the model from different perspectives including a view 'from the sun' (to visualize sun penetration opportunities immediately). Press "Enter" to get rid of the movement instructions (screenshot below). You also have a functionality allowing you to choose new views to render, and that will be saved with the model (unlike the ones set in Sketchup).



- **Annual Image View:** This view shows you an array of the 56 images that are tied to the temporal maps. To change the view, use the dropdown menu at the top left of the screen. To save a picture, click on it (screenshot below)



- Weather:
 - Choose to display the time-series of renderings by climate (i.e. always showing the most likely sky condition for each point in time) or by one of four different sky types: clear, clear-turbid, intermediate, and cloudy.
 - This changes the renderings shown in both the 'Temporal Maps / Renderings' mode and in the 'Annual Image View' mode.

Saving a Lightsolve project

- All the renderings and temporal maps are automatically saved under the model name in a folder called "My_LightSolve_Renderings". This folder is automatically created in the home directory of your computer.
- You can access any of this past information through the LightSolve interface. However, if you re-render a model with the same name, it will write over the previous information. If you wish to keep both sets of data, you should change the name of the model before you re-render, or change the folder name in "My_LightSolve_Renderings".
NOTE: If you had an *earlier* version of Lightsolve on your computer, you will have to delete or rename any folder that has a model name you may want to re-use.
- You can save any individual pictures to another spot in your windows file system by clicking on any of the pictures in the "Annual Image View" tab or by right-clicking on the images in the Temporal Maps/Renderings tab.

8. Troubleshooting and Tips

TIPS:

- To increase your chances of having a model that will work in Lightsolve, build it step by step and **verify** it every so often by running the Interactive Render. In particular, it is highly recommended to start with a simple volume, then very soon invert all the normals (see Chapter 1, Exercise 5, section b) and start pull/pushing volumes, windows, partitions etc from it. This way, your normals are likely to be valid. You will spend MUCH more time trying to fix a model that does not work than building it more slowly but carefully.
- **Importing** models from other programs (such as Rhino) is not impossible but is very unlikely to result in a model that will immediately be valid because of the normals, multiple-layers, partition joints etc. Building a simplified model from scratch will probably be more time-efficient. The more **complex** the model's geometry, the more time the simulation will take (possibly resulting in memory overload depending on your computer) and the more chances there will be of having problems. But if built properly and carefully, complex models can be handled.
- Lightsolve will not work if a **material name** is a subset of another material name. For example, "INVISIBLE_SENSOR" is a subset of the name "INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE_01", but "INVISIBLE_SENSOR_01" is not. To make sure that all your material names will work, we recommend always adding a number or word after the terms "SENSOR", "INVISIBLE_SENSOR", or "INVISIBLE_SENSOR_GLARE".
- Your results may be incorrect if you label an opaque material as "INVISIBLE_SENSOR." Please remember to set the **opacity** of any invisible materials to 0 in SketchUp before running the renderer.
- If you start seeing the word "**false**" in the text boxes in the pop-ups, or if the program is acting strangely in general, try the following options:
 - Go to Plugins → Reload All, and try again.
 - Close SketchUp, re-open your model, and try again.
 - Find the model folder in My_Lightsolve_Renderings, erase the folder, and try again.
- Your **Lightsolve views** will not be saved in your SketchUp model. They will be saved in the Lightsolve interface, but at present, you will need to re-make all views in SketchUp if you change something in your model and need to re-run it.
- If the **Interactive Renderer** does not work, the Full Renderer will not work either. The Interactive Renderer is much faster to run, so it is recommended to always try an interactive render before attempting a full render.

TROUBLESHOOTING:

If you do not see a "Plugins" menu when you open SketchUp:

- Your installation has not occurred correctly. Check to see if you have the following folder: C:/Program Files/Google/Google SketchUp 7/Plugins/Lightsolve. If not, uninstall Lightsolve (using Control Panel) and re-install, making sure you specify the correct path.

If you try to run Lightsolve and do not see the remesher or if the remesher doesn't seem to work:

- If you are using Vista, make sure you have User Account Control (UAC) turned off. To find it, you can go into Control Panel and just search for "UAC" or "User Account Control", then just uncheck the box.
- Make sure you have your preferences set correctly (you only need to do this once):
 - o Open SketchUp and go to File → Export → 3D Model...
 - o In the window that pops up, change the "Export type" to "OBJ", and click the button in the lower right marked "Options..."
 - o Make sure "Triangulate all faces" is CHECKED
 - o Make sure "Swap YZ coordinates (Y is up)" is CHECKED
 - o Click "OK" and cancel out of the export

If the remesher finishes but the renderer does not start:

- Your model has been built incorrectly. Run Interactive Render and type "**control**" into the box that asks if you want to see the remesher. Press the "**Remesh**" button on the GUI and wait until the remesher stops. Locate any areas of your model where colors appear (other than red on outside objects' edges). These indicate areas where the remesher is struggling.
- Check the following:
 - o Model is watertight (no open windows or walls)
 - o No planes cross each other or form a "T" junction
 - o Imported geometries have been exploded
 - o All normals are facing the correct direction
 - o No stray lines
 - o For more possibilities (and for images), see section 6.

If your renderings appear completely black:

- Check to make sure all your windows are labeled with a material called "GLASS_<something>"
- Your exposure may be too low. Try increasing it.

If the interiors of your renderings appear black and the outside appears white:

- Your normals may be facing the wrong direction. Right-click all the faces that need to be changed and select "**Reverse Faces**".

If your renderings seem to finish but the interface does not appear:

- If you have successfully run a model before with the same name as your current model, try either renaming your new model to a new name or deleting the old data files from the model with the same name in the My_Lightsolve_Renderings folder.
- Check to make sure you have at least one illuminance or glare sensor in your model. The interface will not appear if there is no sensor data to display.
- Check to make sure you don't have a sensor name that is a subset of another sensor name. For example, "INVISIBLE_SENSOR_office" is a subset of "INVISIBLE_SENSOR_office1". Rename any sensors that have this problem.
- Check to see if the jpgs are being created:
 - o Find the My_Lightsolve_Renderings folder and locate your model's folder
 - o Check to see if there are .jpgs called "1m1", "1m2", etc. in the main folder

- Check to see if there are .jpgs in the “p1c”, “p1ct”, “p1i”, and “p1o” folders
- If the .jpgs are all there, try running the interface directly by double-clicking the RunInterface.bat file in the My_Lightsolve_Renderings folder.

- If the jpgs have not been created, check to see if the ppms are being created:
 - Look for files called “1m1.ppm”, “1m2.ppm”, etc. in the main folder
 - Look for ppm files in the “clear”, “intermediate”, “overcast”, and “turbid” folders
 - If the ppms are all there, then your images have been created successfully, but your computer has not run the commands needed to change them to jpgs. You can try to do this manually:
 - Open the file called create_map.bat in notepad. Look to make sure there is one command line for each map ppm you have in your folder (i.e. for each sensor you have in your model). If there are any lines missing, simply cut and paste the existing command as many times as needed (change the file names in each pasted command so that you have all the maps represented, i.e. 1m1, 1m2, 1m3, 1m4, etc.).
 - Double-click the create_map.bat file. You should see jpgs appear.
 - **[Warning: Before you do the next step, make sure your map jpgs have been created!!!]** Double-click the image_rename.bat file. This will change all your renderings into jpgs and then delete all ppms in your folder.
 - If you have succeeded in making the jpgs, try opening the interface again.

9. Lightsolve Metrics Appendix

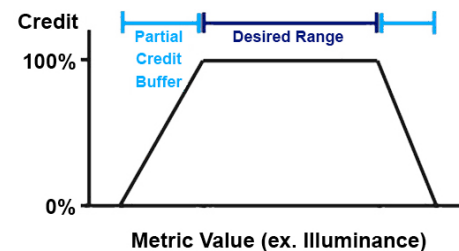
The metrics used in Lightsolve differ from most existing daylighting simulation programs in two ways: they are goal-based and they place emphasis on the temporal variation of performance.

A set of three metrics have been developed to display goal-based performance information for a user-defined area of interest on a single temporal map and to offer a comprehensive and intuitive way to represent annual daylight performance of a design proposal².

The **ILLUMINATION** metric condenses the portion of a user-defined area of interest in which the illuminance stays within a chosen range to a single percent, and displays the variation of that percent over time.

It assigns full credit to sensor portions within range, and partial credit to sensor portions out of range but within a user-defined 'buffer' interval. It is referred to as **Acceptable Illuminance Extent (AIE)**.

$$AIE = \frac{\sum \text{credit per sensor}}{\text{total \# sensors}}$$



Similarly, a single number representative of overall **GLARE PERCEPTION** within an area of interest is introduced as **Glare Avoidance Extent (GAE)** and based on the Daylight Glare Probability (DGP) metric³, and on threshold values suggested by the author for glare tolerance⁴.

The derived GAE metric used in Lightsolve indicates the *proportion* of the glare zone or glare sensor area (see Chapter 3) that falls above the glare threshold considered non-acceptable by the user (see paragraph on glare sensors in Chapter 6). It can therefore represent the glare risk for a particular location and a particular viewpoint over the year (small unique glare sensor with its normal facing that direction) but can just as well indicate the overall glare risks for a space or a range of viewing locations (e.g. for all the students in a classroom in the Testmodel of Chapter 1) by using a set of glare sensors all named identically. Because this glare analysis is run annually and often for multiple viewpoints, it required more efficient methods for computing glare⁵.

Finally, a new **SOLAR GAINS** metric called **Solar Heat Scarcity/Surplus (SHS)** is used to convey the urgency of either allowing more direct solar gain or avoiding it, based on revisited balance point calculations⁶. It of course requires additional input about the thermal properties of the envelope and building type and occupancy (see Appendix 10) but is able to provide a good approximation of how much of a liability or benefit the daylight-associated solar gains are for the proposed designs.

To allow for **climate-specific calculations**, the illuminance or glare for each sensor plane patch is calculated for each of four sky types, ranging from overcast to clear. A climate-based representative value is calculated as a weighted average from each sky type based on their occurrence during that time period. To make whole-year calculations more efficient, the year is split into 56 periods and climate-based data are calculated for each of them as far as the diffuse component of daylight is concerned⁷. A separate calculation for zero-bounce direct sunlight is performed for 1200 sun positions (80 times of year and 15 times of day) and results are combined to the first (diffuse) set.

² Andersen M., Kleindienst S., Yi L., Lee J., Bodart M., Cutler, B. (2008). An Intuitive Daylighting Performance Analysis and Optimization Approach, Building Research and Information, 36 (6), 593-607.

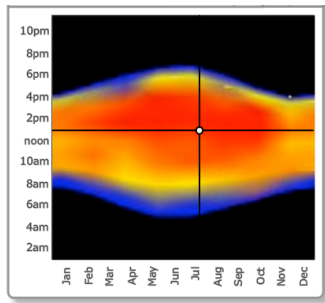
³ Wienold, J., Christoffersen, J. (2006). Evaluation methods and development of a new glare prediction model for daylight environments with the use of CCD cameras. Energy and Buildings 38(7), 734-757.

⁴ Wienold, J. (2009). Dynamic daylight glare evaluation, Proc. of IBPSA 2009.

⁵ Kleindienst S., Andersen M. (2009). The Adaptation of Daylight Glare Probability to Dynamic Metrics in a Computational Setting, In Proc. of Lux Europa 2009.

⁶ Kleindienst S., Andersen M. (2010). Solar Heat Surplus and Solar Heat Scarcity: The inclusion of solar heat gain in a dynamic and holistic daylight analysis. Proc. of SimBuild 2010.

⁷ Kleindeinst S., Bodart M., Andersen, M. (2008). Graphical Representation of Climate-Based Daylight Performance to Support Architectural Design, Leukos, 5 (1), 39-61.



READING A TEMPORAL MAP

The days/months of the year are plotted along the horizontal axis, and the times of day are plotted along the vertical axis.

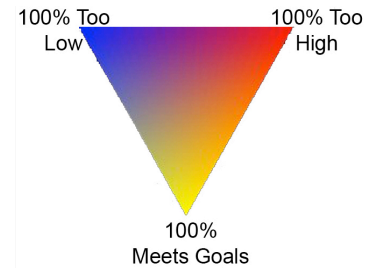
Noon will thus be a horizontal line at mid-height of the graph, and end of June a vertical line at mid-width. Black is for night (sun below horizon). Days are longer in the summer in Boston, hence the vertical increase in daylight hours towards the middle of the graph.

INTERPRETING GOAL-BASED PERFORMANCE

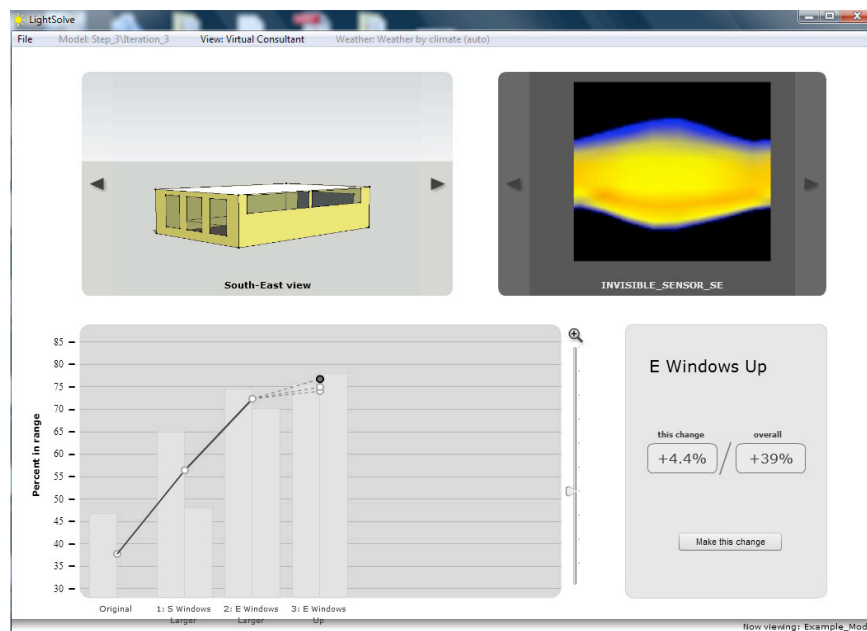
An intuitive color scale indicate how closely the goals were met over the year:

- yellow indicates that the goals were met for this sensor (or that solar gains are neither excessive nor insufficient)
- red indicates that calculated values were too high (too much light)
- blue indicates that they were too low.

NB: purple indicates that part of the sensor area was too bright and the rest too dim, green that part of it was fine and the rest too dim, etc.



FUTURE OF LIGHTSOLVE: These metrics will ultimately be used in a version of Lightsolve that also incorporates a feedback loop i.e. can act as a **Virtual Consultant** (see preliminary interface below). As with the current process, an original design will be iteratively modified and improved until performance goals are reached. The user will remain involved at each stage of the process, inputting a set of performance goals and a 3D model of an initial design, and then considering each potential modification as one would consider suggestions from a daylighting consultant⁸. By involving the designer and utilizing his knowledge, the process is made more efficient while the exploration space is expanded. The goal-based method will take advantage of a knowledge base populated using a set of previously completed simulations that quantify the effects of different design modifications⁹. The knowledge base will guide a simple optimization algorithm and improve its computational efficiency. It will also provide feedback to the user indicating why certain design strategies would be selected to improve performance over others, thus adding an educational potential to the method.



⁸ Lee J., Andersen M., Sheng Y., Cutler B. (2009). Goal-based Daylighting Design Using an Interactive Simulation Method. Proc. of IBPSA 2009.

⁹ Lee J., Andersen M. (2009). A Simulation-Based Expert System for Interactive Daylighting Design. Proc. of Lux Europa 2009.

10. Solar Gains Appendix

The tables here can help in providing some numbers for the information required to perform solar gain calculations (see section6), **but their origins should be understood.** *Table 1* values are taken from the 16 DOE Benchmark Commercial Building models (New Construction), and they represent average numbers for the whole building, rather than a single space. For instance, the ventilation, occupancy, and heat gain values for a whole school building may not be relevant for a single classroom model, whereas the U-values and SHGC would be relevant still.

Table 1: Default options for balance point calculations from the 16 DOE Commercial Building Benchmark Models [Torcellini et al., 2008; DOE, 2008]

Building Type:	Occupancy [Person/m ²]	Ventilation [L/s/person]	Ventilation [L/s/m ²]	Infiltration [ACH]	Equipment Heat Gain [W/m ²]	Lights Heat Gain [W/m ²]	U-value [W/m ² K] - Wall - Very Hot	U-value [W/m ² K] - Wall - Warm Temperate	U-value [W/m ² K] - Wall - Cool Temperate	U-value [W/m ² K] - Wall - Very Cold	U-value [W/m ² K] - Roof	U-value [W/m ² K] - Roof - Very Cold	U-value [W/m ² K] - Window - Very Hot	U-value [W/m ² K] - Window - Temperate	U-value [W/m ² K] - Window - Very Cold	SHGC [%] - Window - Very Hot	SHGC [%] - Window - Warm Temperate	SHGC [%] - Window - Cool Temperate	SHGC [%] - Window - Very Cold
Fastfood	0.386	9.000	0.000	0.640	215.20	17.75	0.505	0.505	0.505	0.29	0.194	0.154	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Hospital	0.070	5.853	0.044	0.088	42.17	11.31	2.61	0.856	0.698	0.454	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Large Hotel	0.123	0.707	0.248	0.115	32.58	10.76	1.285	1.285	1.285	1.285	0.564	0.564	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Large Office	0.517	10.000	0.000	0.074	7.82	10.76	0.704	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Medium Office	0.054	2.500	0.300	0.167	8.07	10.76	0.704	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Midrise Apartment	0.025	6.180	0.300	0.251	4.22	5.06	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.313	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.39	0.39	0.49
Outpatient	0.054	2.500	0.300	0.300	8.07	10.76	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.313	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.39	0.39	0.49
Primary School	0.205	3.401	0.454	0.372	51.21	13.71	0.704	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Retail	0.078	3.800	0.600	0.270	5.22	16.65	2.61	0.856	0.698	0.454	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Secondary School	0.301	2.706	0.628	0.205	30.68	12.37	0.704	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Sit Down Restarant	0.537	2.764	0.655	0.550	636.61	19.95	0.704	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.194	0.154	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Small Hotel	a	a	a	a	22.29	19.96	0.704	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Small Office	0.054	10.000	0.000	0.449	8.07	10.76	2.61	0.856	0.698	0.454	0.194	0.154	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Strip Mall	0.086	0.000	15.169	11.611	4.30	17.46	0.704	0.704	0.477	0.364	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Supermarket	0.078	0.215	0.137	0.247	13.65	16.71	2.61	0.856	0.698	0.454	0.357	0.273	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.25	0.39	0.49
Warehouse	0.001	0.122	0.300	0.196	2.09	11.34	0.641	0.641	0.641	0.324	1.627	1.627	6.88	3.24	2.62	0.25	0.39	0.39	0.49

NOTES: a) This Data was not available in the files provided by the DOE [DOE, 2008].

Table 2: The default balance point calculation values options from the ASHRAE Handbook [ASHRAE, 2000]

Building Type : Sub-Type	Occupancy [Person/m ²]	Ventilation [L/s/person]	Ventilation [L/s/m ²]
Food Service : Fastfood/Cafeteria/Bar	1.0	3.8	0.9
Food Service : Restaurant Dining Room	0.7	3.8	0.9
Office	0.1	2.5	0.3
Hotel : Room	0.1	2.5	0.3
Hotel : Lobby	0.3	3.8	0.3
Hotel : Multipurpose	1.2	2.5	0.3
School : Classroom	0.3	5.0	0.6
School : Lecture Hall	1.5	3.8	0.3
School : Science Lab	0.3	5.0	0.9
Retail : Mall Common Area	1.0	3.8	0.9
School : Gymnasium	^a	^a	1.5
Auditorium	1.5	2.5	0.3
Residential : House/Appartment	0.1	2.5	0.3
Health Care : Patient Room	0.1	13.0	^b
Health Care : Medical Procedure	0.2	8.0	^b
Health Care : Operating Room	0.2	15.0	^b
Health Care : Recovery/ICU	0.2	8.0	^b
Retail : Sales Area	0.2	3.8	0.6
Supermarket	0.8	3.8	0.9
Religious	1.2	2.5	0.3
Library	0.1	2.5	0.3
Warehouse	^a	^a	0.3

Table 3: The default balance point calculation values options from “Building Balance Point” [Utzinger & Wasley, 1997]

	Infiltration (ACH)
Residential Loose	2
Residential Medium	0.5
Residential Tight	0.2
Residential Too Tight	< 0.2
Commercial Loose	3.5
Commercial Medium	2
Commercial Tight	0.5
Economizer Cycle	5

Table 2 includes values for occupancy and ventilation which are relevant for single use spaces, but not whole buildings. Total ventilation for a space should be found using the following equation:

$$\text{Ventilation} = (\text{Occupants/floor [m}^2\text{]}) * (\text{Ventilation/occupant}) + (\text{Ventilation/ floor [m}^2\text{]})$$

Table 3 includes “Air changes per hour” for infiltration values for buildings of different “tightness”. An ACH value may be converted to m³/s per floor area by using the following equation:

$$\text{Infiltration [m}^3\text{/s/(floor [m}^2\text{])}] = \text{Infiltration [ACH]} * (\text{Volume of space [m}^3\text{)]} / (3600 \text{ seconds}) / (\text{floor [m}^2\text{]})$$

In all cases, floor area is in m². A total ventilation/Infiltration per floor area would be the sum of the results of the two equations above.

NOTES: a) No recommendations were made by ASHRAE 62.1-2007 [ASHRAE, 2007].

b) Specific codes for the locality and the medical procedure should be used [ASHRAE, 2007].