Real-Time Map Data Visualizer

Team 21: Ami Ikanovic, Benjamin Kelly, Isaac Littler, Zahydee Machado, Elizabeth Nelson, Parth Padmanabhan, Scott Fank
Client and Advisor: Dr. Joseph Zambreno

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY — SCIENCE with PRACTICE

Introduction

Problem Statement:
Geographical data is often difficult to interpret and visualize. It can be challenging to portray data in a manner that conveys a sense of global scale to users.

Solution:
We developed a real-time map data AR visualizer of various publicly accessible data streams for the Microsoft HoloLens 2 using the Unity development platform

Intended Users and Uses

- Prospective students
- Highlight ISU's commitment to research and innovation
- Showpiece for ECE department

Technical Details

Frontend:
- Mixed Reality Toolkit
- Unity
- Client in C#

Backend:
- Flask Server in Python
- Graphql data queries

Design Requirements

Functional Requirements:
- Ability to scale/rotate the three dimensional globe
- Maintains API layer that standardizes incoming data streams
- Ability to display 3 different types of geographical data streams as input

Non-Functional Requirements:
- Has "pick up and go" ease of use
- Maintain a stable 30 fps
- Runs smoothly, utilizing the limited HoloLens hardware performance

Engineering Constraints:
- Ability to add new data channels via new APIs
- Adaptable display for new categories of data

Operating Environments:
- Windows 10 on Microsoft HoloLens 2
- Flask Server on ETG Ubuntu VM

Relevant Standards
- Microsoft Hololens 2 Development Standards
- Unity Engine Development Standards
- IEEE 802.11 Standard for Information technology - Telecommunications and information exchange between systems
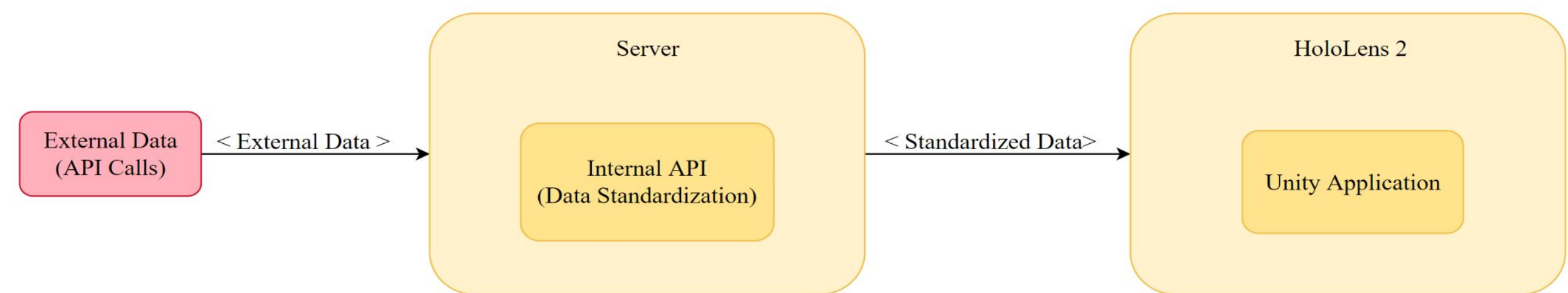
Design Approach

Server: Internal API
- Accepts the importation of external data and standardizes it into a single source and format

HoloLens 2: Unity Application
- Application takes geological data (coordinate-based data) and correlate that data to a 3d model of the globe
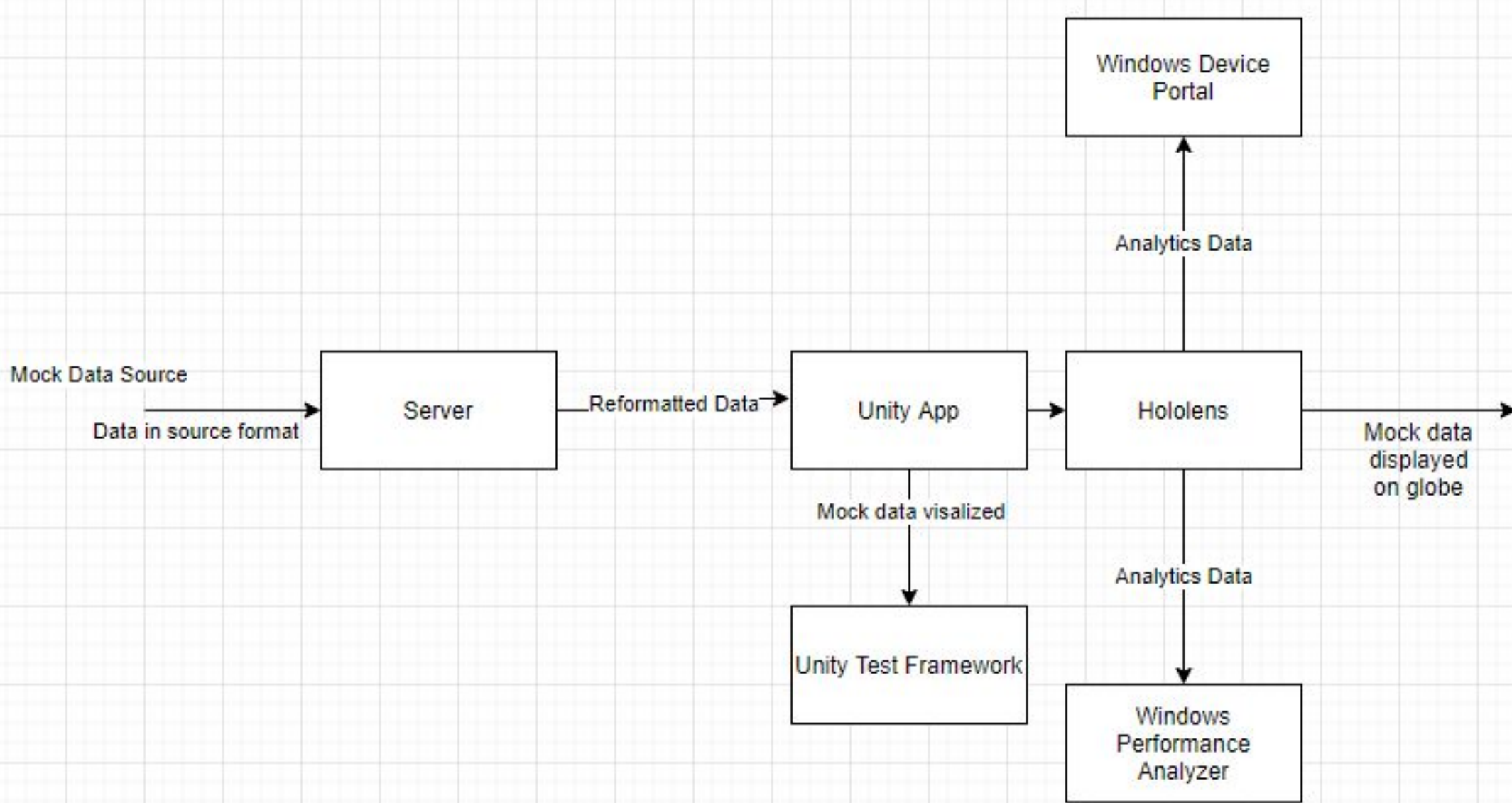

Testing

Testing Tools:
- Graphql Playground
- Unity

Unit Testing:
- Frontend was tested with a trial set of data to display on a simple sphere in Unity
- Backend was tested to be able to set channels and standardize data from calls through Graphql Playground

Integration Testing:
- Testing individual data streams through mutations and requests on Unity application
- Building project onto HoloLens 2 for UI and controller testing

Visuals from HoloLens 2

Test Servers ability to reach external API — Test Unity application ability to call and receive data from server — Test HoloLens hardware threshold when running Unity application

OpenWeather — API | Server | Unity Application | HoloLens 2