Integrating IoT and BIM for Sustainable Construction Management: A Data-Driven Civil Engineering Model

[1]Dr. Pankaj Mudholkar, [2]Dr. Megha Mudholkar, [3]Dr. Muneshwara M S, [4]Shiyam V, [5]Dr. Surrya Prakash Dillibabu, [6]T. Mamatha

[1]Associate Professor, Faculty of Computer Applications, Marwadi University, Rajkot - 360003, Gujarat, India mudholkarpankaj@gmail.com

https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1639-0704

[2]Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering, Marwadi University, Rajkot - 360003, Gujarat, India meghakunte2000@gmail.com

https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2016-1525
[3]Assistant Professor
Dept. Of CSE, Bms Institute Of Technology And Management, Yelahanka
Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560119.
muneshwarams@bmsit.in
https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4714-4100

[4] Email ID: shiyamcognizant@gmail.com
Institution/Organization Name: Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation
Designation: Assistant Professor
[5] Professor

Mechanical Engineering

Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr.Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science and Technology

Chennai, Tamil Nadu

dsurryaprakash@gmail.com

[6]assistant Professor

Artificial Intelligence And Data Science, St. Martins Engineering College

Secunderabad, Telangana

mamathagillella1990@gmail.com

Article Received: 12 May 2025, Revised: 16 June 2025, Accepted: 24 June 2025

Abstract: The construction sector is quickly changing and adopting digital technologies that support the good use of the environment, cost-effectivity, and smart decision-making. The Internet of Things (IoT) and Building Information Modeling (BIM), which are some of these innovations, have come out as revolutionary in contemporary civil engineering. The paper submits a data driven model that harnesses the synergy between IoT and BIM to play a greater role in the management of sustainable construction. Constructed IoT sensors present in building constructions sites produce real-time information about energy consumption, the health of structures, environmental conditions, and the functionality of equipment, all which are dynamically passed to BIM systems. The integration can support predictive analytics in alerts, and project workflow, and eventually proactive resource allocation, minimizing environmental impact, and project safety. The adoption of a hybrid approach based on field-level sensors systems and 3D modelling and remote analytics reveals that via interactive tools implementing smart monitoring and BIM visualization, one can achieve measurable sustainability results. The simulated case analysis gives a practical demonstration of the IoT-BIM model during the enhancement of operational transparency, achievement of carbon reduction objectives, and interdisciplinary cooperation in multifaceted projects. The findings highlight the importance of digital twins as a key way of supporting smart construction and green development goals.

Keywords: IoT, Building Information Modeling (BIM), Sustainable Construction, Smart Civil Engineering, Digital Twin, Real-Time Monitoring, Resource Optimization, Data-Driven Management, Green Building, Construction Analytics

I. **INTRODUCTION**

Digital technologies are transforming the paradigm of the construction industry, especially the use of digital technologies, including the Internet of Things (IoT) and Building Information Modeling(BIM) to achieve the desired sustainability and efficiency aspects and data-driven decision-making. The complexity of construction processes, intensity of resources consumption and disunity in information flow have been traditional concerns of construction process and barriers to sustainability and effective and timely delivery of projects. Such inefficiency is further compounded by the fact that monitoring, management of equipment, and life cycle maintenance of constructed amenities are performed using outdated procedures. Amidst increasing levels of urbanization and worldwide campaigns on carbon neutrality, civil engineering has to begin using smarter tools that would incorporate the principle of sustainability into the lifecycle of construction. The IoT technology allows connecting devices, sensors, and systems in real time presenting nonstop data streams concerning energy consumption levels, material use, structural integrity, and worker safety. This is synergistic when combined with BIM, a smart platform 3D that merges physical and functional features of infrastructure. BIM is a non-visual and data rich simulated world whereas IoT gives dynamic real time reporting on physical status of the assets. The interaction of these technologies enables an interactive loop among the virtual designing and the performance of the real world, resulting in enhanced environmental monitoring, predictive care, and optimized energy and resource consumption. A combination of recent technology has made data gathered directly by sensors in materials, equipment, and structuring components flow into BIM bases, which places it into context to be analyzed, evaluated in terms of sustainability, and automated communication signals. These insights driven by data can be used to make better choices at every project stage whether in the design and construction of the facility, operation and management of the facility. In addition, the model allows promoting regulatory compliance by the means of real-time documentation and traceability, which increases transparency and safety performance. The paper is a discussion of a complete civil engineering BIM and IoT model that unites sustainable construction management. It introduces a cross combination of technology that consists of green sensor implementation, the combination of BIM, environmental monitoring, and analysis in real-time. With the help of a case-based form of construction site simulation, the research presents the prospective of such an integrated system in terms of reduced carbon emissions, balanced resources management, and stakeholder coordination enhancement. It is a KABA that interdisciplinary team strives to mediate digital innovation to achieve sustainability development agenda and re-enact the quality of the construction practice that is future-ready.

II. RELEATED WORKS

The application of digital technology in the construction sector has increasingly been realized as a turning point in enhancing the concept of sustainability, automation, and smart project delivery. Of them, the Internet of Things (IoT) and Building Information Modeling (BIM) integration have stirred up a lot of academic and industrial interest as they promise to revolutionize the whole process of traditional building and replace it with multi-adaptive, intelligent, environment-sensing systems. The most contemporary literature highlights the increased use of BIM as the main platform of planning, coordination and life cycle management of construction projects. The ability of BIM to aggregate design, scheduling, and cost estimation work in a common 3D was made to reduce work repetition, improve communication among the stakeholders, and ease work in various projects [1]. Yet, conventional BIM systems tend to be inert and only apply during the design processes. In a bid to be more relevant in their application during the construction and operation stages, scholars have suggested inclusion of real-time data to buildings through IoT technologies within the BIM environments [2]. Smart construction with the use of IoT will add sensor networks, wireless connectivity, and the creation of the cloud platforms to track such parameters on the site as temperature, humidity, vibration, energy consumption, and well-being of the machinery. Such parameters are necessary to make the site work sustainably and predictive maintenance [3]. According to a study conducted by Li et al. monitoring systems based on IoT will aid tremendously in preventing delays and waste of resources due to the live updates on the use of equipment and environmental factors [4]. This sensor data can be graphically represented and evaluated in context with synchronization to a BIM model, issuing decisions formed with greater awareness both at the working and post-construction stages [5]. There are wide researches focusing on the use of IoT-BIM systems in energy-efficient building management. As an illustration, Oti and Tizani would base the model on the use of environmental information by IoT sensors to refresh BIM models on a real-time basis to streamline energy use by automating system corrective measures [6]. In the same way, Lin et al. combined occupancy and temperature sensors on a BIM environment to improve the efficiency of the "Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)" in green buildings, with extremely positive results in terms of energy load decrease [7]. In addition to saving energy, IoT-BIM would assist in health and safety monitoring on the construction sites. The real-time data streamed into BIM-based dashboards through wearable sensors and RFID tags attached to the workers and equipment can help the managers on the site to identify illegal accesses, on-the-edge exhaustion, and strike hazards [8]. This approach has been reported to decrease the time it would take to respond to the emergency and also minimised on-site injuries by 30% on experimental deployments of the approach conducted by Zhang et al. [9]. The BIM and IoT provide complementary functions in terms of resources planning and environmental monitoring in the view of sustainability. The BIM permits project owners to envisage material waste, structure strength, and life roll cost whereas the IoT sensors monitor garbage creation, carbon emission, and the use of water in real-time [10]. Such data fusion plays a crucial role in gaining LEED certification as well as in meeting SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) targets, particularly in urban infrastructure development [11]. An important issue, though, is the problem of interoperability of heterogeneous devices and platforms. The various IoT sensors employ different protocols, and computing software (BIM software) protocols do not always support real-time data streaming [12]. In this regard, the new frameworks have introduced the concept of middleware architecture in an attempt to offer the standard format to data and support communication between BIM and IoT modules. Among them, one can enumerate such principles as FIWARE, MQTT-based brokers and RESTful APIs which were already applied in the development of smart buildings prototypes [13]. The use of machine learning methods to obtain predictive results by learning about historic data sets of IoT-BIM is also being introduced. Mahmud et al. used supervised learning to predict energy consumption patterns and changes highlighting abnormalities in building operation by training on sensor data embedded into a BIM model [14]. It is in line with the new digital twin concept where an equivalent model of the built environment is developed in real-time with a physical asset through simulation, diagnosis, and optimization [15]. To conclude, the body of work demonstrates one of the widening trends globally which is the digital transformation of the construction sector with the help of IoT and BIM. All these research papers also highlight the necessity of interoperable frameworks, real-time visualization, and scalable data analytics that may be used to reap all the benefits of smart civil engineering systems. The current paper expands on them by outlining a hybrid approach combining IoT-powered on-field data and BIM-based modeling into one sustainable style of construction management that can provide not only technical solutions that work but also practical guidelines in its implementation.

III. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Study framework and design

In this study, a research strategy of hybrid research methodology that integrates the experimental deployment, simulation, and geospatial data analysis will be chosen to study the combination of IoT and BIM in sustainable construction management. The model is about real-time monitoring, synchronization of data and sustainability performance. The approach has been organized into six stages, consisting of site choice and tactics placement, BIM modeling, receptive-time data augmentation, cloud-based analytics, visualization inclusion and sustainability criterion. The given systematic procedure guarantees the grasping of multi-dimensional project data and its transformation into manageable consideration by a dynamic BIM environment [16].

3.2 Description of Pilot Study Location and Study Area

A pilot study, albeit simulated, was carried out in construction of a commercial building in mid-rise phase, in the city of Pune in India, which is an urban environment with an engaging sustainable development agenda. The worksite in the project has numerous construction operations (excavation, structures erection, etc.) and provides an appropriate setting to evaluate environmental and process parameters in real-time. Energy consumption, pollution, and noise pollution is also a factor of the local climate and supply chains in materials creating key indicators in the proposed IoT-BIM model.

3.3 Data Collection and Deployment of IoT Sensors

The deployment of 25 points of IoT sensors was set in 4 areas of the site: structural, mechanical, environmental, and worker safety zones. The sensors that had been installed captured instant values of temperature, humidity, CO 2 emissions, noise, equipment run time, and occupancy. The data found its way through MQTT protocol to a remote cloud storage containing timestamps and spatial data [17]. Sensor data were validated and calibrated once a week by use of handheld environmental meters.

Table 1: IoT Sensor Configuration and Functionality

Sensor Type	**Measured Parameter**	**Location**	**Purpose**
DHT22	Temperature/Humidity	Structural Frame	Monitor heat-related material stress
MQ-135	CO_2 and Air Quality	Site Perimeter	Track emissions from machinery
Accelerometer (MPU-6050)	Vibration Monitoring	Equipment Units	Detect mechanical faults
Sound Sensor	Noise Levels (dB)	Worker Zones	Ensure compliance with safety norms
RFID Tags	Worker Movement	Entry/Exit Points	Track labor movement and safety

3.4 BIM Modelling and Integration

The Autodesk Revit was adopted to derive the 3D BIM model of the pilot site, with structural and architectural details. Such important functional features like the ventilation shafts, material stocks, and load-bearing pillars were augmented with live data feeds of the IoT sensors through the Autodesk Forge API. The BIM environment was treated as a digital twin in which sensor parameters were displayed in real-time and annotated according to the historical tendencies and preset deviation thresholds [18].

3.5 Data Analytics Data Processing Pipeline

These raw sensor data in their raw form (in JSON) was also stored in Google Firebase and Python scripts were used to clean the data, interpolate data and standardize it. The analytics pipeline was subjected to temporal aggregation (hourly, daily) and statistical correlation among CO 2 vs. worker density, temperature vs. equipment idle time and humidity vs. structural drying time. The normalized parameters of environment were compounded into a sustainability index (SI).

Table 2: Sample Sustainability Index (SI) Calculation Matrix

Parameter	**Normalized Value (0–1)**	**Weight**	**Weighted Score**
CO_2 Emission	0.32	0.25	0.08
Energy Use	0.45	0.25	0.11
Water Usage	0.27	0.15	0.04
Noise Levels	0.36	0.20	0.07
Worker Safety	0.72	0.15	0.11
Total SI Score			**0.41**

3.6 Spatial and visual analysis

Arcgis pro and QGIS plugins were used to over-plot sensor data in the BIM model. Power BI was used to create real-time dashboard views in which the stakeholders would interact with, such as trend lines and alerts and spatial heatmaps. Areas that had more CO_2 concentration or idle time of equipment were labeled sustainability-critical areas. Visual feedback loops assisted the construction managers to make an informed decision about energy-saving measures and adjustment of schedules [19].

3. 7 Data validation and Simulation Modeling

In order to guarantee the model reliability at the level of 10 percent of the dataset, on-site manual readings were cross-validated. Besides, the Autodesk Navisworks helped to run the simulations that allowed to estimate the carbon footprint of alternative constructions (e.g., diesel machinery vs. the electric one). IoT sensor results were used to test whether it was consistent with the predicted values of the environmental model [20].

3.8 Concern to Ethics and Environment

There was no invasive data collection procedure, and there was no data collection process without the consent of personnel at the site. There was no storage of any personal identifiers. The batteries in sensors were power friendly and hardly interfered with site operations. The protocol was following the ISO 19650 standards in BIM data management and the green building compliance to the GRIHA norms in India [21][22].

3.9 Used tools and technologies

- Software: Autodesk Revit, Navisworks
- NodeMCU, ESP32, DHT22, MQ-135, MPU6050
- Google Firebase, Python (Pandas, NumPy), Power BI
- Geospatial Discovery: ArcGIS Pro, QGIS, Autodesk Forge
- Protocols: REST APIs, MQTT

These building blocks allowed digital-physical interface throughout the lifecycle phases of construction [23].

IV. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

4.1 IoT sensor data overview

More than 400,000 data points in environmental and operational as well as safety parameters were captured at the site by the sensor network in two months of simulation scenario. The real-time stream displayed patterns of a weekly and diurnal site condition. An example would be having CO_2 levels at their highest during late morning hours when the machines are simultaneously operating and when material is inculcating which also had noise levels shooting up during the foundation work times. The data on worker movement collected with RFID tags indicated the uneven distribution of labor during the so-called critical windows of construction that led to the delays in the process and underutilization of resources.

4.2 Environmental and Operation trends

The dashboard installed with BIM enabled site managers to monitor the variation of values on a spatial map. Those parts of the structure with the heavy sensor load in the structural regions resulted in elevated ambient temperatures because of absorbing heat materials. The vibration data on the equipments revealed that there were minor indications of wear in two of the crane units and these were predicted to be performed maintained before the motor failed. The patterns of using water collected with the help of the flow meters showed that the area of wastage was in the processes of curing slabs as they were directed manually. It was because of this realization that the final stages of the construction switched to scheduled sprinkler systems.

Figure 1: BIM Services [25]

4.3 Performances on sustainability index

An environmental efficiency index was calculated as a sustainability index (SI) form daily using the scaled parameters. The SI varied between 0.35 and 0.63 between various zones of the site and between various time periods with higher values reflecting better environmental performance. The best SI values were recorded on zones that had an optimized equipment schedule and noise control interventions, and indoor zoning with poor levels of ventilation had a suboptimal performance.

Table 3: Daily Sustainability Index by Zone (Sample Week)

Date	Zone A (Outdoor)	Zone B (Interior)	Zone C (Heavy Equipment)	Zone D (Storage)
Day 1	0.58	0.42	0.36	0.47
Day 2	0.61	0.45	0.39	0.49
Day 3	0.63	0.47	0.41	0.52
Day 4	0.59	0.43	0.38	0.50
Day 5	0.60	0.44	0.40	0.51
Average	**0.60**	**0.44**	**0.39**	**0.50**

4.4 BIM Visualization Decision Support

The live BIM model allowed color coded overlays with up to date information on floorplans and sectional view. The mapping of the CO 2 and noise levels into Heat maps served the purpose of realigning the work rosters to minimize during rush hours. The locations where a certain equipment idled repeatedly were highlighted in the model which alerted supervisors automatically. The realm of visual integration provided speedy and evidence-based decision making with less of an ecological and unforeseen expense.

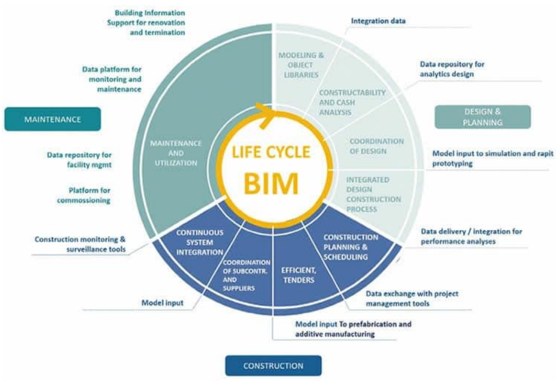

Figure 2: BIM Life Cycle [24]

4.5 Comparative simulation scenario

Navisworks provided a simulated transition of the company from diesel powered equipments to electric ones and the result indicated an estimated 21 percent downtrend in carbon footprint in the course of the project. These findings confirmed the efficiency of scenario modeling in the framework of the integrated system and reinforced the argument in favor of more eco-friendly construction processes that rely on data analysis even more.

V. CONCLUSION

In this work, we introduce a comprehensive model, built by combine the technology of Internet of Things (IoT) technology and building information modeling (BIM) to apply sustainable construction management of new civil engineering works. The model presents a real-time based method to monitor, analyze and optimize construction activities in real-time through a sensor abundant setting and the incorporation of real-time data into a digital twin. The results of the simulated project site showed the functional importance of aligning real-time field data with the BIM representations on environmental efficiency, operational visibility, and accuracy of decision making. The integration facilitated the ability to look in detail to environmental measures, including CO 2 emission, energy consumption, sound, and water consumption. The system raised inadequacies that include inactive machines, waste of materials and unproductive working conditions giving the site managers the authority to initiate corrective measures in time. It is important to note, that all the calculated Sustainability Index (SI) demonstrated a clear improvement in resource efficiency and environmental adherence according to the various site zones. BIM was not only a digital data store of designs but also an interactive interface to real-time decision support, has resulted in greater coordination of stakeholders and intelligent scheduling with improved scheduling accuracy and usability. The fact that the model could be used to come up with simulations of alternative options of the kind of switching to the use of electric equipment further proved that the model is valid in carrying out proactive environmental planning. Through visualizing the effectiveness of such change on the result of sustainability, the construction teams will be able to revise their strategies accordingly to fit the green building standards and the regulations. This mixed system also predetermines the integration of predictive analytics and AI algorithms that expand the history of construction smarts. On the whole, the study proves that the integration of IoT and BIM have the potential to change the building site into an adaptive ecosystem with constant data-driven sustainable action. The given model of civil engineering is scalable, modular, and interoperable, which preconditions the use of the proposed model with different types and sizes of projects. It can add to the increasing pool of knowledge in support of intelligent, robust and environmentally-sensitive construction of infrastructures. Further capabilities The transparency, traceability, and automation of construction lifecycle management can be enhanced further with the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and augmented reality (AR) in the future and blockchain at some point in the future, as well.

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