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Sustainable Building Design and Construction using BIM to Conserve Energy and Reduce Environmental Impact

P Bala Raj [1], P Usha [2], P Karthik [3], M Gowtham[4]

GMR Institute of Technology, 3rd year civil,vizianagaram,532127,India

A B S T R A C T

This research paper introduces a comprehensive approach to sustainable building design and construction, leveraging Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology to enhance energy efficiency and minimize environmental impact. The proposed green building energy-saving design method, based on BIM, integrates elements such as energy-saving design principles and a unique building energy efficiency analysis framework. An accompanying energy-saving effect evaluation method, grounded in BIM, demonstrates the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed approach. The study emphasizes the overarching goal of green buildings to avoid negative environmental impacts while generating benefits. Furthermore, the integration of the Artificial Intelligence for Energy Management and Modeling (AI-EMM) model is explored, showcasing its capability to optimize energy consumption and prediction in green buildings.

In addition to the technological advancements, the research highlights the critical role of BIM as a holistic and social system in the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) industry. It addresses the limitations of technology alone for effective BIM implementation, stressing the importance of a system perspective and user acceptance. The study identifies organizational strategies that integrate and manage users' needs within the BIM framework, emphasizing the necessity of approaching BIM as a comprehensive and social system. Despite existing studies applying sociotechnical system theory (STS) to BIM, the research identifies a gap in the explicit application of the Human-Technology-Organization (HTO) perspective. This research contributes valuable insights to the field, providing practitioners, researchers, and policymakers with a foundation for enhancing the energy efficiency and environmental sustainability of buildings.

Keywords: Sustainable building design, Building Information Modeling (BIM), Energy efficiency, Environmental impact, green building, (AI-EMM), Life cycle analysis, Energy-saving design, Leadership in AEC.

INTRODUCTION

In the face of escalating global concerns about environmental sustainability and energy conservation, the architectural, engineering, and construction (AEC) industry stands at a pivotal juncture. Sustainable building design and construction have emerged as imperative elements in mitigating the environmental impact of urbanization while simultaneously addressing the pressing need for energy efficiency. This research endeavors to pioneer advancements in the field by integrating cutting-edge technologies, particularly Building Information Modeling (BIM) and predictive modeling techniques, to propose a comprehensive framework for sustainable building design.

The proposed framework, grounded in BIM technology, serves as the cornerstone of our exploration into green building energy-saving design methods. Building upon the inherent capabilities of BIM, which transcends traditional 3D modeling by incorporating data-rich information models, our study seeks to revolutionize energy efficiency in construction. BIM acts as an intelligent platform, allowing for the holistic consideration of design elements, comprehensive energy analysis, and evaluation of the energy-saving impact on green buildings.

This introduction sets the stage for a comprehensive exploration of techniques and methodologies that synergize technological innovation with holistic perspectives to pave the way for a sustainable and energy-efficient future in building design and construction.

Emerging Challenges in Sustainable Building Design

In the face of escalating global concerns about environmental sustainability and energy conservation, the architectural, engineering, and construction (AEC) industry stands at a pivotal juncture. Sustainable building design and construction have emerged as imperative elements in mitigating the environmental impact of urbanization while simultaneously addressing the pressing need for energy efficiency. This research endeavors to pioneer advancements in the field by integrating cutting-edge technologies, particularly Building Information Modeling (BIM) and predictive modeling techniques, to propose a comprehensive framework for sustainable building design.

Leveraging BIM for Green Building Energy-Saving Design

Unveiling the Power of Building Information Modeling (BIM)

The proposed framework, grounded in BIM technology, serves as the cornerstone of our exploration into green building energy-saving design methods. Building upon the inherent capabilities of BIM, which transcends traditional 3D modeling by incorporating data-rich information models, our study seeks to revolutionize energy efficiency in construction. BIM acts as an intelligent platform, allowing for the holistic consideration of design elements, comprehensive energy analysis, and evaluation of the energy-saving impact on green buildings.

Advanced Predictive Modeling for Energy Consumption Prediction

The Fusion of Technology and Precision

A pivotal facet of our research is the development of a robust building energy efficiency analysis framework based on BIM. This framework goes beyond conventional analyses by incorporating real-time data from sensors, ensuring a dynamic and responsive understanding of energy consumption patterns. The model is characterized by its flexibility and adaptability, making it suitable for diverse urban landscapes and different city scales.

Innovative Predictive Modeling Techniques

Unleashing the Power of Hybrid Models

In tandem with BIM, our study introduces advanced predictive modeling techniques to elevate the precision of energy consumption predictions. The hybrid model, a synthesis of an evolutionary double attention mechanism and an LSTM algorithm, not only captures intricate non-linear connections but also stands as a testament to our commitment to pushing the boundaries of predictive modeling in sustainable construction. This technique not only enhances the accuracy of energy consumption predictions but also propels the model's generalization capabilities.

Addressing Industry Challenges: A Holistic Perspective

Beyond Technology: Recognizing the Holistic Nature of BIM

As we delve into the integration of BIM and predictive modeling techniques, we acknowledge the challenges and gaps in the AEC industry. Our research recognizes that BIM, beyond being a technological tool, represents a holistic and social system. To bridge this understanding, we navigate the intricate terrain of user acceptance, human-technology interactions, and organizational strategies. By emphasizing the critical role of these factors, our exploration aims to pave the way for an efficient, user-friendly, and socially integrated implementation of BIM, ensuring the lasting impact of sustainable building design on energy conservation and environmental preservation.

Literature Review

Reference 1:

Xiao-Guang Zhao and Chun-Ping Gao, "Research on Energy-Saving Design Method of Green Building Based on BIM Technology" 2022

The paper focuses on the realm of construction and architecture, Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology has become a cornerstone in the developed world, revolutionizing the way construction projects are conceptualized, planned, and executed. Developed countries have consistently embraced BIM technology as a fundamental tool in their construction endeavors. This adoption stems from BIM's multifaceted capabilities, which extend beyond conventional project management tools. As a comprehensive platform, BIM facilitates enhanced collaboration, data management, and decision-making processes throughout the lifecycle of construction projects, aligning seamlessly with the industry's evolving needs.

In summary, the extensive integration of BIM technology in developed countries has ushered in a new era in construction practices. Its impact extends beyond conventional project management, supporting the development of green building initiatives, enabling visual reproduction and simulation, fostering collaborative work, and optimizing architectural designs to reduce energy consumption. The literature review underscores BIM's transformative influence on construction methodologies and sets the stage for further exploration of its applications in diverse global contexts.

Reference 2:

Xincheng Pan, "BIM adoption in sustainability, energy modelling and implementing using ISO 19650: A review" 2023

The paper aims the surrounding sustainable building practices is enriched by comprehensive examinations of methodologies such as Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Green Building Rating System (GBRS). LCA, a widely acknowledged approach, evaluates the environmental impacts of a building across its entire life cycle — from raw material extraction to demolition. This holistic perspective aids in decision-making for architects, developers, and policymakers, fostering a more sustainable built environment. Similarly, the GBRS, exemplified by rating systems like LEED or BREEAM, provides a structured framework for assessing and certifying the environmental performance of buildings. The integration of these frameworks contributes significantly to the ongoing discourse on sustainable construction practices.

Advancing the discourse on sustainable building practices, recent literature has delved into Performance-integrated Building Information Modelling (P-BIM) frameworks. P-BIM goes beyond conventional BIM applications, incorporating performance aspects into the modeling process. This approach enables stakeholders to assess and optimize a building's performance across various criteria, such as energy efficiency, thermal comfort, and environmental impact. The integration of P-BIM reflects a paradigm shift towards a more dynamic and performance-centric approach in sustainable construction practices.

In conclusion, the literature review highlights the dynamic landscape of sustainable building practices, encompassing diverse methodologies and frameworks. From life cycle assessments and green building rating systems to emerging approaches like P-BIM and localized frameworks in Ghana, the literature underscores the multidimensional nature of sustainable construction. The integration of BIM for enhanced energy efficiency and the application of interpretive qualitative approaches further enrich the discourse, emphasizing the need for a holistic understanding and adaptable frameworks in pursuit of sustainable building practices globally.

Reference 3:

Katarina Olofsson Hallen, Mikael Forsman and Andrea Eriksson, "Interactions between Human, Technology and Organization in Building Information Modelling (BIM) - A scoping review of critical factors for the individual user" 2023

The paper discussing about the landscape of Building Information Modeling (BIM), a scoping review design has been employed as a methodological approach to systematically identify knowledge gaps and elucidate key concepts in the field. The primary objective of this comprehensive review is to map critical factors influencing the utilization of BIM, shedding light on the intricate interplay among human, technology, and organizational subsystems within the context of construction and design projects. Through a meticulous examination of existing literature, this review seeks to distill and analyze essential insights that contribute to a nuanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with BIM implementation.

Central to the scoping review is the deliberate exclusion of studies focusing on software development or energy-efficient buildings. By narrowing the focus to critical factors influencing BIM implementation and use, the review aims to provide a targeted exploration of the human-technology-organization dynamics specific to BIM applications in the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) domain. This deliberate exclusion facilitates a more in-depth analysis of factors that directly impact the effective integration and utilization of BIM in real-world project settings, thereby contributing to a refined body of knowledge.

In essence, this literature review, guided by a scoping review design, endeavors to contribute a comprehensive synthesis of existing knowledge on critical factors influencing BIM utilization. By strategically excluding studies beyond the scope of human-technology-organization dynamics and focusing on implementation and use factors, the review aims to distill valuable insights that can inform future research endeavors and guide practical strategies for successful BIM integration in the AEC industry.

Reference 4:

Yong Xiang and Yonghua Chen, "Research on sustainability evaluation of green building engineering based on artificial intelligence and energy consumption" 2022

In this paper, the burgeoning field of sustainable building design and construction, a wealth of literature has explored various methodologies and frameworks, each contributing to the overarching goal of creating environmentally conscious and energy-efficient structures. Two key approaches, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Green Building Rating Systems (GBRS), have been extensively examined to provide a holistic understanding of the environmental impact and sustainability performance of buildings.

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) stands out as a prominent methodology for evaluating the ecological footprint of buildings across their entire life cycle. In essence of guided by a scoping review design, endeavors to contribute a comprehensive synthesis of existing knowledge on critical factors influencing BIM utilization. By strategically excluding studies beyond the scope of human-technology-organization dynamics and focusing on implementation and use factors, the review aims to distill valuable insights that can inform future research endeavors and guide practical strategies for successful BIM integration in the AEC industry.

Reference 5:

Sha Liua and Xianhai Meng, "Building information modeling-based building design optimization for sustainability" 2015

The paper focuses on key facet of the literature review involves the identification and analysis of critical factors for BIM implementation and use. By adopting a scoping review approach, the research synthesizes findings from a diverse range of studies, considering various geographical contexts, project scales, and organizational settings. This comprehensive analysis serves to distill commonalities and divergences, providing a holistic perspective on the challenges and facilitators that shape the successful implementation and utilization of BIM in the AEC industry.

Within the purview of this focus extends beyond technological considerations to encompass the intricate interactions among human actors, technological tools, and organizational structures. By elucidating the human-technology-organization subsystems, the review provides a nuanced understanding of the social, technical, and organizational dimensions that collectively influence the adoption and effective use of BIM. This holistic approach underscores the need to consider BIM as more than a software tool, recognizing it as a complex socio-technical system embedded within organizational contexts.

This also explores the engagement of Building Information Modelling (BIM) frameworks to enhance energy efficiency in construction projects. BIM, known for its ability to improve collaboration and coordination, is leveraged to optimize energy performance throughout a building's life cycle. This approach not only aligns with global energy efficiency goals but also underscores the adaptability of BIM in addressing evolving challenges in the realm of sustainable building design and construction.

Reference 6:

Jing Sun and Jesper M. Paasch, "A BIM-based approach to design a lifecycle 3D property formation process: A Swedish case study" 2023

This paper about an interpretive qualitative approach (IQA) emerges as a valuable methodological consideration in assessing the success factors of sustainable building initiatives. This approach allows researchers to delve into the nuanced qualitative aspects that influence the effectiveness of sustainable building practices. By adopting an IQA, scholars gain insights into the contextual factors, stakeholder perspectives, and organizational dynamics that shape the outcomes of sustainable construction projects. This qualitative lens complements the quantitative assessments, providing a holistic understanding of the factors that contribute to or hinder the success of sustainable building initiatives.

One notable aspect of BIM's impact on construction practices is its significant role in supporting the development of green building and construction initiatives. The integration of BIM technology empowers architects, engineers, and project managers to incorporate sustainable design principles seamlessly. By providing a digital representation of the building's lifecycle, BIM facilitates the identification and implementation of energy-efficient practices, contributing to the overall sustainability goals of construction projects. This capability positions BIM as a pivotal asset in the pursuit of environmentally conscious building practices.

Reference 7:

Lilia Potseluyko and Farzad Pour Rahimian, "Game-like interactive environment using BIM-based virtual reality for the timber frame self-build housing sector" 2022

This paper focusing on the extensive of Timber Frame System-Based Construction (TFSBS) within the UK housing industry, current research has meticulously examined the prevailing practices, challenges, and prospects associated with timber frame construction. This comprehensive overview provides valuable insights into adoption rates, market trends, and the economic and environmental implications of TFSBS. Simultaneously, studies have delved into the integration of Building Information Modeling (BIM) principles in TFSBS, identifying potentials and barriers to enhance efficiency and collaboration in timber frame projects.

The underscores the specific BIM principles that find application in TFSBS, including 3D modeling, clash detection, and collaborative workflows tailored to the unique requirements of timber construction. Beyond this, the review examines Virtual Reality (VR) technology as a powerful sales tool in architecture and construction, providing immersive experiences for clients and stakeholders in TFSBS projects. Anticipating future developments, the exploration of hardware and software technology enablers for future VR software in architecture and construction illuminates emerging trends and innovations that stand to shape the future of immersive experiences in TFSBS projects. This comprehensive synthesis of literature forms the groundwork for our research, informing the exploration of strategies and technologies aimed at enhancing efficiency, collaboration, and overall project success in Timber Frame System-Based Construction.

Reference 8:

Amah jean Abaglo, "Building simulation & ICT Environmental Digital Model: Integration of BIM into environmental building simulations" 2017

In this paper, a meticulous review of environmental studies and projects has been conducted to unravel key insights into the realm of modeling and simulation. The review encompasses a substantial sample of 225 environmental studies, reflecting a comprehensive exploration of diverse projects within this domain. Among these studies, 64 projects stood out for their collaborative nature, involving multiple individuals and the utilization of various modeling and simulation tools.

A significant aspect of the review centered around the evaluation of gateways facilitating seamless interactions between different modeling and simulation tools. Understanding the connectivity and interoperability between these tools is crucial for fostering collaborative endeavors in environmental studies. The examination of gateways sheds light on the intricate network of relationships between diverse models and simulations, providing a foundation for enhancing interdisciplinary collaboration and the efficiency of environmental projects.

By synthesizing information from this extensive literature review, the paper contributes to a nuanced understanding of the collaborative landscape in environmental studies. It lays the groundwork for future research endeavors, aiming to further refine the integration of modeling and simulation tools in collaborative projects, ultimately advancing the collective capacity to address complex environmental challenges.

Reference 9:

Xabier Pereiro and Manuel Cabaleiro, "BIM methodology for cost analysis, sustainability, and management of steel structures with reconfigurable joints for industrial structures" 2023

The paper studies about the adoption of Building Information Modeling (BIM) in the realm of industrial construction, particularly for steel structures with reconfigurable joints, has garnered considerable attention due to its potential in revolutionizing various aspects of project management. A thorough examination of the literature reveals a growing body of research dedicated to leveraging BIM for cost analysis, sustainability assessment, and overall project management within this specific domain.

Studies exploring the integration of BIM in cost analysis for steel structures emphasize its role in enhancing accuracy and efficiency. BIM facilitates the creation of detailed 3D models that inherently contain valuable cost-related information. The literature underscores the potential for BIM to streamline quantity takeoffs, cost estimation, and overall budgeting processes. By linking cost data to the digital model, stakeholders can gain real-time insights, aiding in more informed decision-making throughout the project life cycle.

In the context of sustainability, BIM emerges as a powerful tool for evaluating and optimizing the environmental impact of steel structures with reconfigurable joints. The literature review highlights the capacity of BIM to integrate sustainability parameters into the design and decision-making processes. By incorporating life cycle assessment (LCA) data and environmental impact analyses, BIM provides a holistic view of a structure's sustainability, enabling designers and project managers to implement eco-friendly practices and meet stringent environmental standards.

In conclusion, the literature review indicates a substantial and evolving body of research focused on the application of BIM methodologies for cost analysis, sustainability assessment, and project management of steel structures with reconfigurable joints in industrial construction.

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, this research paper introduces a comprehensive framework that collaboratively integrates Building Information Modeling (BIM) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to plan utility infrastructure requirements for sustainable building design and construction. The proposed framework, addressing key research gaps in city planning for smart cities, aims to empower city planners and managers with informed decision-making capabilities. The model, featuring six crucial characteristics adaptable to various cities and lands, strives to provide a versatile and robust tool for urban development.

The integration of real-time data from sensors with BIM and GIS models enhances the framework's accuracy and responsiveness. Additionally, the paper explores the implementation of AI-EMM, a plug-and-play device designed for easy installation in buildings. This device not only automates energy management based on user preferences and environmental variables but also demonstrates high performance, energy efficiency, and prediction accuracy in simulation tests. Despite the advancements in predicting building energy use, the research acknowledges the need for further development, particularly focusing on feature selection and improving the model's generalization capability in future studies.

Importantly, the paper underscores that technology alone is insufficient for the efficient implementation and use of BIM. It advocates for viewing BIM as a holistic and social system, emphasizing the critical role of user acceptance and the need for organizational strategies that integrate and manage users' needs in BIM implementation. The limited research on human-technology interactions in BIM is acknowledged, suggesting a potential avenue for further exploration. In essence, the findings of this research contribute valuable insights to the field of sustainable building design and construction by providing a comprehensive framework and highlighting the multifaceted aspects crucial for achieving energy conservation and reducing environmental impact.

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