

4th CitA BIM Gathering 26th September 2019, Galway, Ireland.



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Presentation Overview

- Introduction and Context
- Background to Research
- Research Methodology
- Research Objectives
- Research Findings
- Research Conclusions, Implications for Industry and Further Research



Section 1: Introduction, Context, Background, Research Methodology





Introduction and Context

- Big Data What is it? Where does it come from?
- Does it exist in the construction industry?
- How can we use it?
- Can it help to achieve smarter buildings?
- Can it bring efficiencies to facilities management?





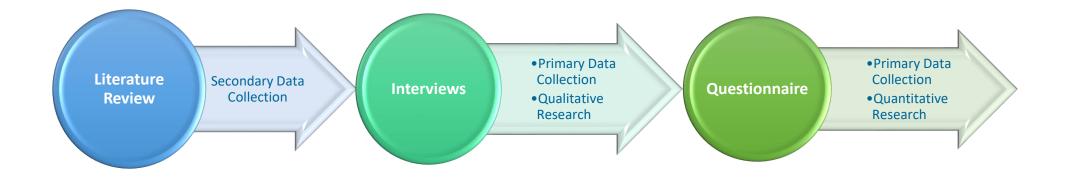
Background to Research

- Spurred by multi-industry buzz relating to Big Data
- Determination of the most common concepts of Big Data
- Where Big Data fits within the Architectural, Engineering and Construction (AEC) industry
- As buildings become more complex, smarter, interconnected and self-reporting, can existing technologies be used to the advantage of the end user and society?
- This study looks to determine if implementing big data to create smart buildings can improve sustainability and increase efficiency in Facilities Management (FM).



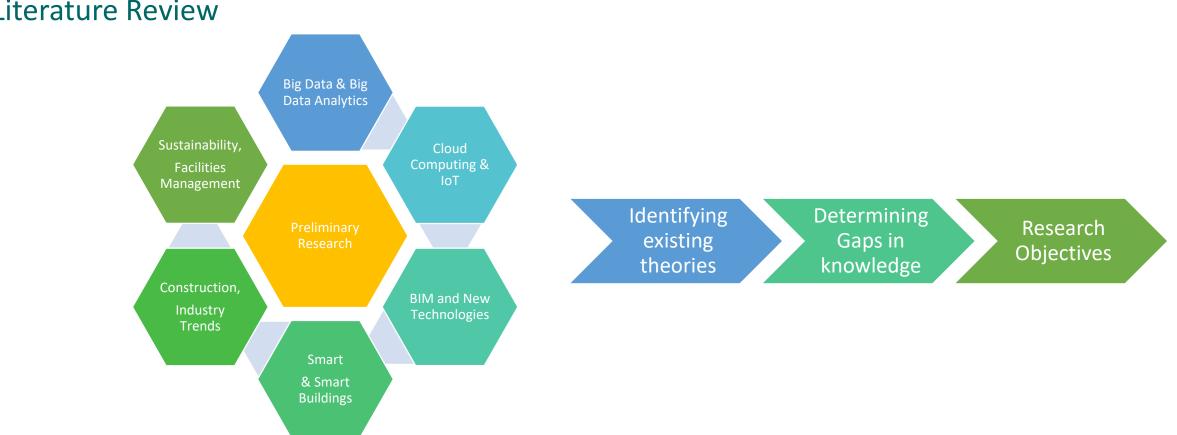


Research Methodology









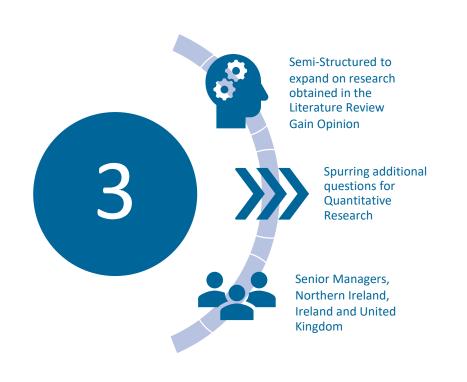
Literature Review

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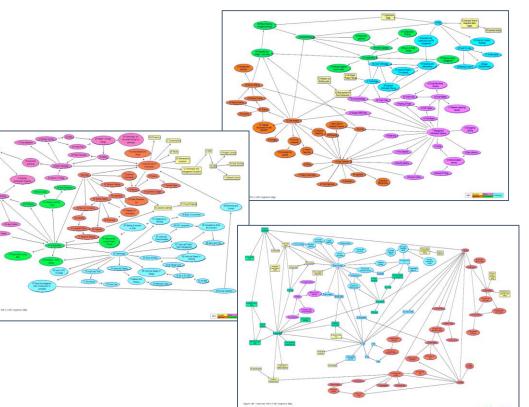


Qualitative Research: Interviews



Research Areas:

- Big Data
- IoT
- Data Sources
- Types of Data
- Data Collection
- Data usage
- Data Analysis
- Data during Project
 Lifecycle
- Most assisted project phase
- Information sharing
- Sustainability
- Technology
- Movement to Smart
- Awareness of new technologies
- Employment of new technologies
- BIM
- Decision Making
- Influence of Data on
 Decision Making
- Influence of Technology
 on Decision Making



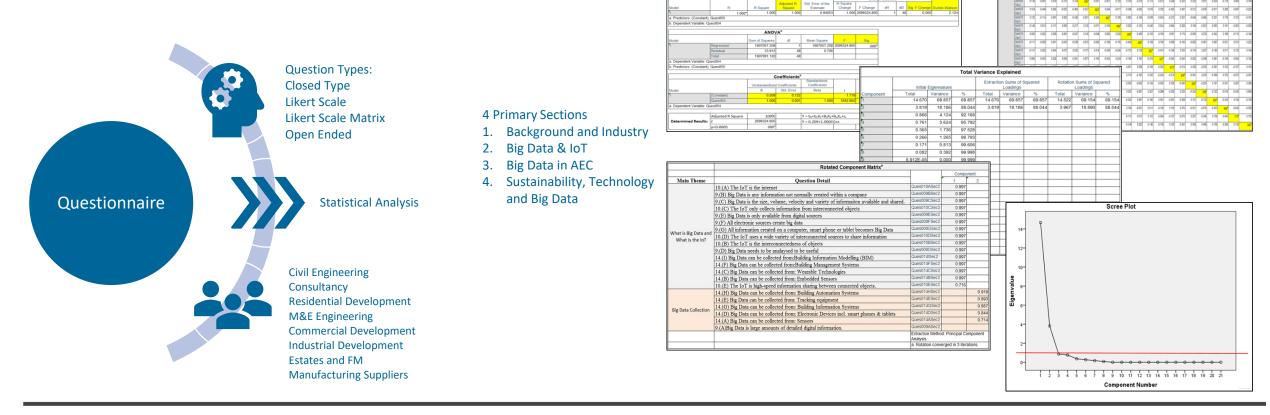
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Quantitative Research: Questionnaire



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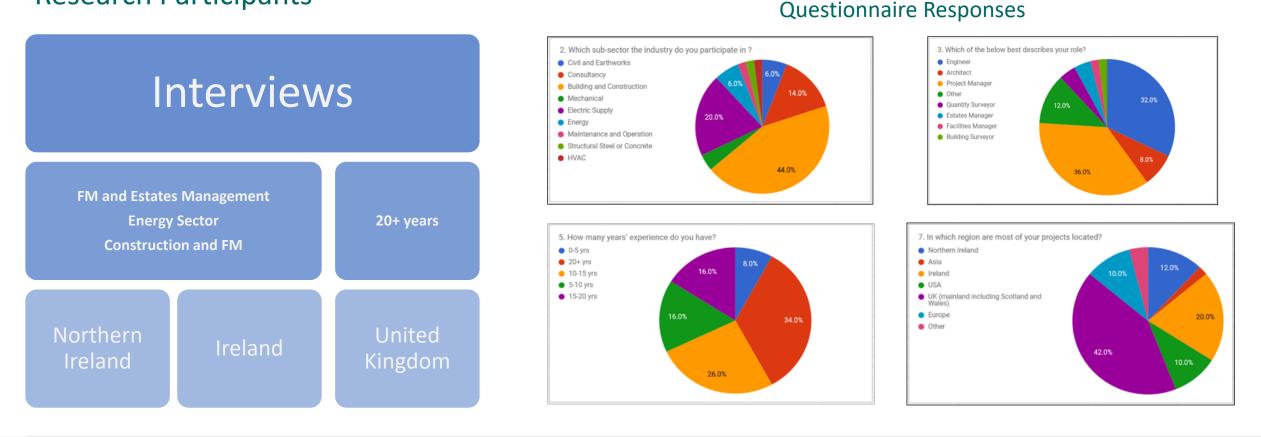


Section 2: Research Objectives and Findings





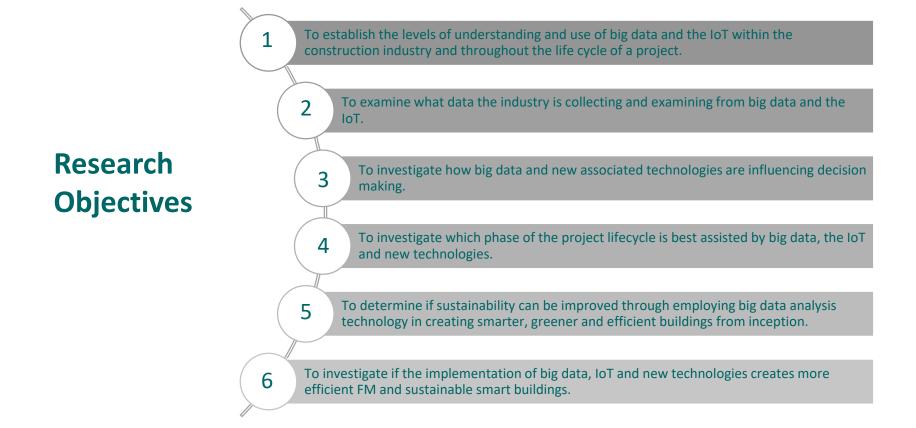
Research Participants



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To establish the levels of understanding and use of big data and the IoT within the construction industry and throughout the life cycle of a project.

Literature Review Results	Indicates extensive research on these subjects and their concepts but limited within the context of the construction industry.
Qualitative Research Results: Interviews	Determines that there is not a clear understanding of the terminology or concept for either big data or the IoT.
<i>Quantitative Research Results:</i> <i>Questionnaire</i>	Determines that much confusion exists around what is big data, but those surveyed favour the description that big data is large amounts of detailed digital information, <u>large in size</u> , volume, velocity and variety that can be collected from any source on an AEC project. Further identifying the IoT as the 'interconnectedness of objects that use a wide variety of interconnected sources to share information' with the IoT essential for creating smart buildings, grids and smart cities



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Achieving Smarter Buildings And More Efficient Facilities Management: The Implementation Of Big Data



To examine what data the industry is collecting and examining from big data and the IoT.

Literature Review Results	Extensive research on this subject shows sensors as the largest contributors to the IoT and big data, that the technology is in its infancy with some application within the industry though embedded sensors. Predominantly applications are limited to energy efficiency, structural health monitoring or wearable technologies.
Qualitative Research Results: Interviews	Determines that there is limited collection of data within the industry and that much of the data collected is done with the focus on efficiency, temperature, environmental control, customer satisfaction or for legislative requirement.
Quantitative Research Results: Questionnaire	Determines BIM creates big data, that big data can be collected from sources on any type of AEC project and that AEC companies are using information from big data and big data analytics daily, with BIM creating a lot of the big data that AEC companies are using and analysing daily.





3

To investigate how big data and new associated technologies are influencing decision making.

Literature Review Results	Identifies limited research into how big data is assisting or influencing decision-making, business performance and competitive advantage in business. Limited research on how big data can influence decisions within the construction industry.
Qualitative Research Results: Interviews	Determines that participants interviewed use data to assist with decision-making.
Quantitative Research Results: Questionnaire	Determines that big data, big data analytics and new technologies are improving decision-making for AEC companies.





4

To investigate which phase of the project lifecycle is best assisted by big data, the IoT and new technologies.

Literature Review Results	Identifies limited research on this subject, identifying the existence of new technology, big data and the IoT, but not making any connection to project phases.
Qualitative Research Results: Interviews	Determines all project phases are assisted, with the majority identifying feasibility and design phases while others identify post- construction as most assisted by big data, IoT and new technology.
Quantitative Research Results: Questionnaire	Returns similar results as qualitative research identifying the early phases of the project at inception and design as most assisted by big data, IoT and new technology.





5

To determine if sustainability can be improved through employing big data analysis technology in creating smarter, greener and efficient buildings from inception.

Literature Review Results	Identifies limited research on this subject, discussing sustainability, smart buildings and identifying links between efficiency and sustainability but no research identifies how big data analysis could be used to predict best design for future projects putting sustainability at the forefront.
Qualitative Research Results: Interviews	Determines participants are of mixed opinions on this but majority is adamant that technology and big data can assist in improving sustainability.
Quantitative Research Results: Questionnaire	Identifies big data, big data analysis and technology can come together and through design to improve sustainability.





6

To investigate if the implementation of big data, IoT and new technologies creates more efficient FM and sustainable smart buildings.

Literature Review Results		Identifies limited research on this subject, with existing research discussing facilities management, sustainability and smart buildings in segregation.
Qualitative Research Interviews	Results:	Determines that improvement through use of big data and technology can be achieved, especially if implemented at the early stages of the project.
Quantitative Research Questionnaire	Results:	Determines that facilities management can be improved by using big data analytics and that BIM is essential for facilities management. Further identifies an opinion that BIM and BMS should be integrated leading to improved facilities management. Also identifies that those surveyed are of the opinion that big data, the IoT, BIM and new technologies will improve the efficiency of facilities management.



Section 3: Research Conclusions, Implications for Industry and Further Research





Research Conclusions

General:

- New Technologies and Advances are leading to a reliance on artificial intelligence
- The Construction Industry is embracing new and developing technologies
- Client driven adoption of new technologies
- Big Data, Big Data Analytics, IoT and Cloud Technologies off opportunity for growth, improvement in sustainability and efficiency
- AEC companies are using information from big data and big data analytics daily
- BIM is creating a lot of the big data that AEC companies are using and analyzing daily
- This analysis can improve decision making for AEC companies

Research Returned Favoured Explanations:

- Big Data: big data is large amounts of detailed digital information, large in size, volume, velocity and variety that can be collected from any source on an AEC project
- The IoT is the interconnectedness of objects that use a wide variety of interconnected sources to share information, establishes the IoT as essential for creating smart buildings, smart grids and smart cities
- Big data can be collected from sources on any type of AEC project

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Project Phases, Sustainability and Efficiencies in FM

- Early project phases of inception and design as most assisted by big data, the IoT and new technology
- Differing opinions relating to the ability of technology alone to improve sustainability
- Big data, big data analysis and technology coming together through design can improve sustainability
- Incorporation of big data and technology in the early stages of the project, can bring improvement in facilities management, especially through use of big data analytics and BIM
- Suggestions that BIM and BMS should be integrated to further improve facilities management, bringing efficiency of facilities management and advantage to end users

Implications for Industry

- Positive benefits achievable from the willingness to adopt new technologies
- Mixed, unrelated use and misunderstanding of terminology could leave construction lagging other industries





Further Research





Thank you

Mary-Catherine Greene