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Machine Learning to Support BIM-based Material Analysis for Embodied Carbon Assessment

Zulkefly Abu Bakar X20210361@student.ncirl.ie
BIM Co-ordinator MCA Architects

National College of Ireland H.Dip in Science in Computing, AI & ML Specialization



CitA BIM Gathering 2021

A Proposal to Harmonize BIM and IoT
Data Silos Using Blockchain Application

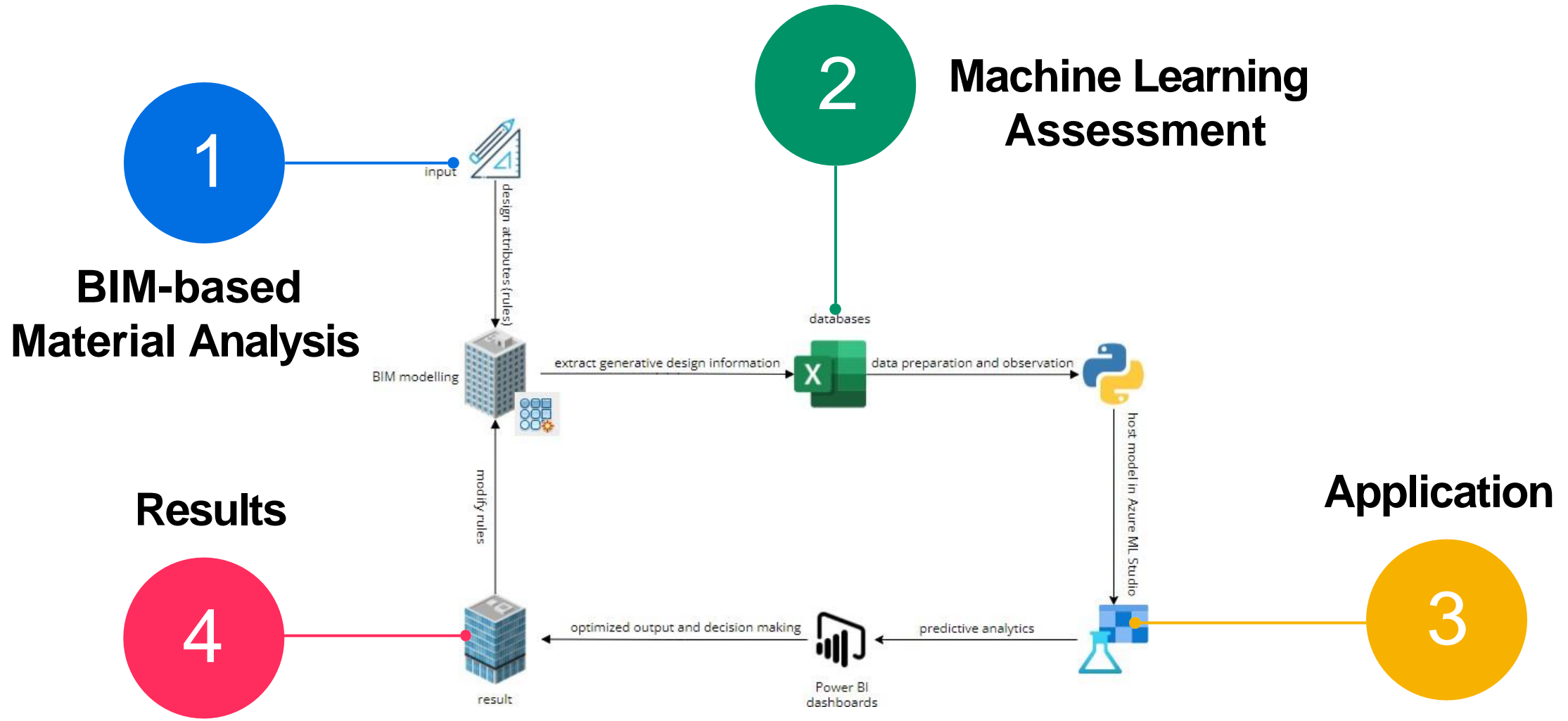
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cxDjuknPj9E>

CitA Tech Trend |Blockchain

Developing Blockchain Use Cases for
AEC Industry

<https://www.cita.ie/cita-tech-trend-blockchain-technology/>

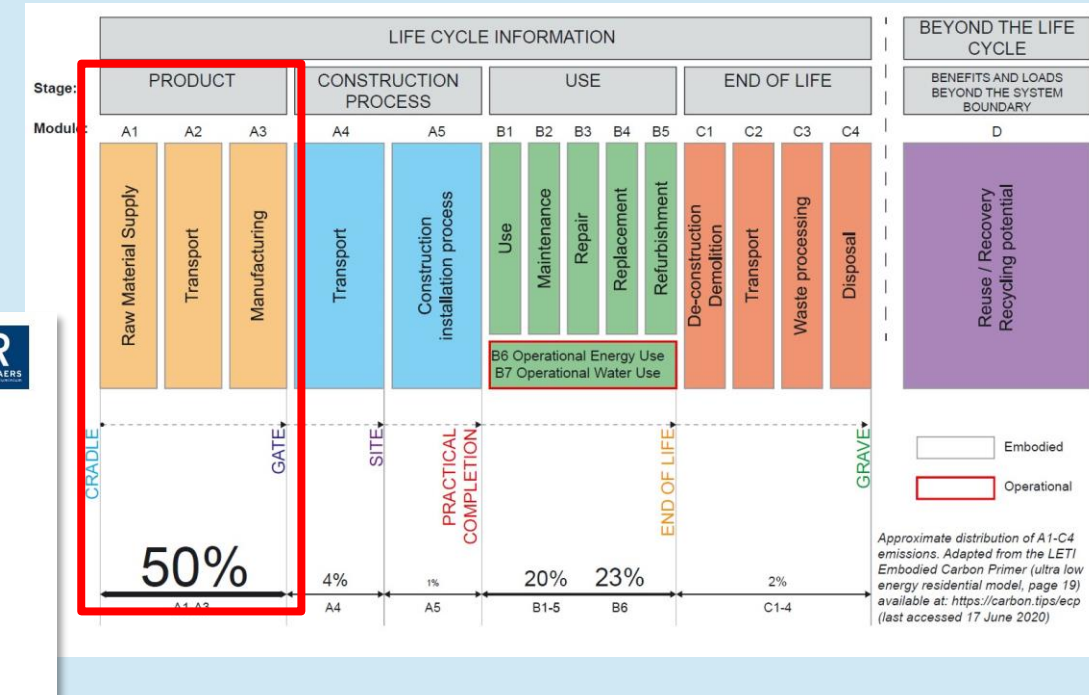
Learning Points



Methodology & Objective



- Scope of this project within the **Cradle-to-Gate** boundary (A1-A3).
- Data collection from **EPD**, **ICE** database, and **generative** datasets.
- Learning Objectives – learn how to generate data for the ML assessment. Use the ML techniques and model to support BIM material analysis. This exploration help users to understand and assess embodied carbon influence in **building materials and designs**



Environmental impact per m²

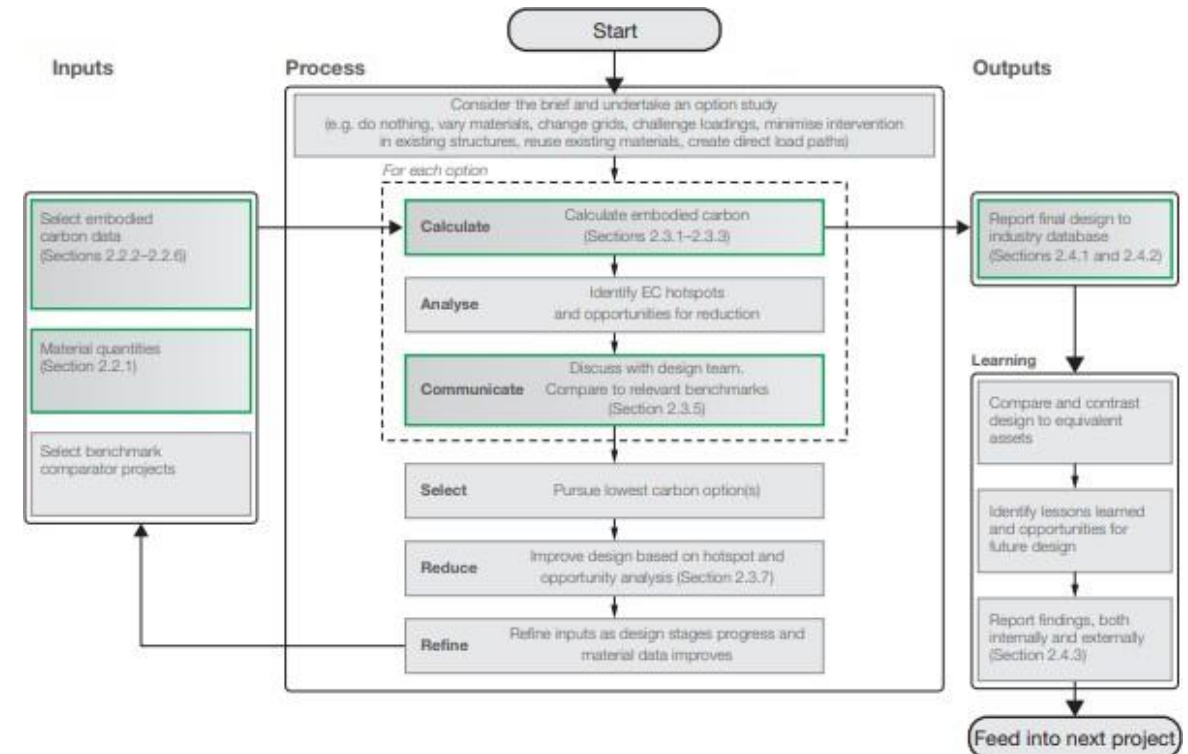
PARAMETER	UNIT	A1	A2	A3	TOTAL A1-A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
GWP	[kg CO ₂ -Eq.]	3.47E+02	4.99E+00	3.86E+00	3.56E+02	1.79E+00	1.60E-01	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	0.00E+00	7.45E-01	1.35E+01	8.74E+00	MND
AP	[kg SO ₂ -Eq.]	1.76E+00	1.39E-02	2.07E-02	1.79E+00	4.28E-03	9.47E-04	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	0.00E+00	1.78E-03	6.62E-02	1.35E-03	MND
EP	[kg (PO ₄)-Eq.]	1.56E-01	2.17E-03	7.49E-03	1.66E-01	6.79E-04	1.21E-04	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	0.00E+00	2.83E-04	1.13E-02	2.60E-04	MND
POCP	[kg ethene-Eq.]	1.50E-01	2.51E-03	2.87E-03	1.53E-01	8.48E-04	1.33E-04	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	0.00E+00	3.53E-04	5.79E-03	-2.53E-04	MND
ADPE	[kg Sb-Eq.]	5.46E-01	1.50E-05	4.64E-05	5.46E-01	7.15E-06	8.94E-07	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	0.00E+00	2.98E-06	4.60E-03	-2.97E-03	MND
ADPF	[Mg]	4.71E+03	7.62E+01	2.18E+01	4.81E+03	2.70E+01	7.04E+00	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	0.00E+00	1.12E+01	1.47E+02	7.94E+00	MND

Embodied Carbon



- Embodied carbon means **all the CO2 emitted in producing materials**. It's estimated from the energy used to extract and transport raw materials as well as emissions from manufacturing processes. Embodied carbon is usually expressed in **kilograms of CO2e per kilogram of product or material**.

Embodied carbon = quantity × carbon factor



Embodied Carbon calculation process. Source The Structural Engineer UK (2018)

BIM Materials Analysis



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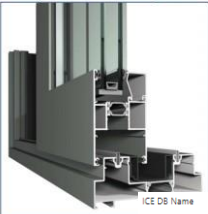
TOGETHER FOR BETTER



ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION
in accordance with ISO 14025 and EN 15804

Product

Concept Patio 130 Sliding Door



Declaration holder



Publisher and
programme holder

European Aluminium
EUROPEAN ALUMINIUM

Declaration number

EPD EUROPEAN ALUMINIUM

Issue date

1 Nov 2016

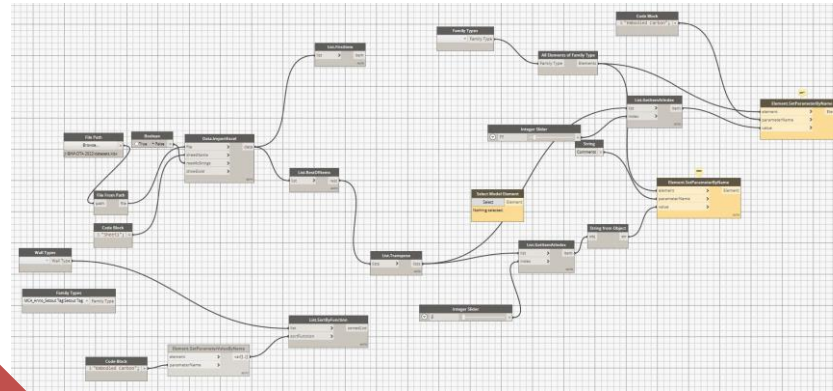
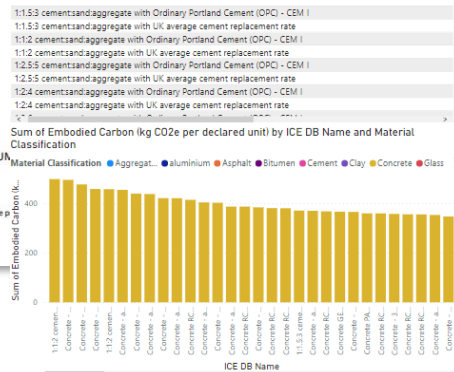
Valid until

1 Nov 2022*

*This EPD has been prolonged by the

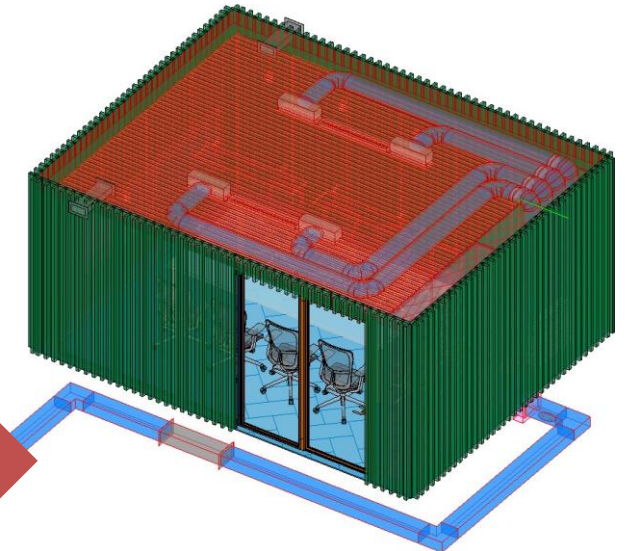
Weblink

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-Multi-Category Material Takeoff-

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Family and Type	Life Cycle Module	Embodied Carbon (kgCO2e/kg)	Material	Material Area	Material Volume	Total Embodied Carbon
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	0.31	Birch	0 m²	<varies>	0.916815
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	0.31	Aluminium	<varies>	<varies>	0.409795
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	0.4	Counter Top	13 m²	1.255436 m³	0.502174
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	0.45	Plasterboard	<varies>	<varies>	2.442958
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	0.54	Birch	25 m²	0.295439 m³	0.159337
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	0.83	Rubber - mat & tile	25 m²	0.370947 m³	0.307686
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	3	<varies>	<varies>	<varies>	0.844103
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	3.2	<varies>	<varies>	<varies>	1.656711
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	4	<varies>	<varies>	<varies>	0.940219
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	4	<varies>	<varies>	<varies>	0.08303
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	5	<varies>	<varies>	<varies>	0.02112
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	5.51	Door - Frame/Mullion	1 m²	0.004948 m³	1.363036
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	7	<varies>	<varies>	<varies>	0.501321
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	50.32	Door - Frame/Mullion	<varies>	<varies>	1.152094
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	65.51	Glass	<varies>	<varies>	13.72126
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	65.51	Glass	<varies>	<varies>	0.289043
MCA_Walls_IntWall_37 5mm Woodcladding	Cradle to gate, A1-3	386.17	Concrete - Pre Cast	<varies>	<varies>	1852.328811
Grand total: 655						1877.748914



Name	Enable Filter	Visibility	Projection/Surface	Cut	HalfTone
Embodied Carbon 0-5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Override...	Override...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Embodied Carbon 5-10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Embodied Carbon 10-50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Embodied Carbon 150	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Embodied Carbon 50-100	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>

Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)
The Inventory of Carbon and Energy (ICE)

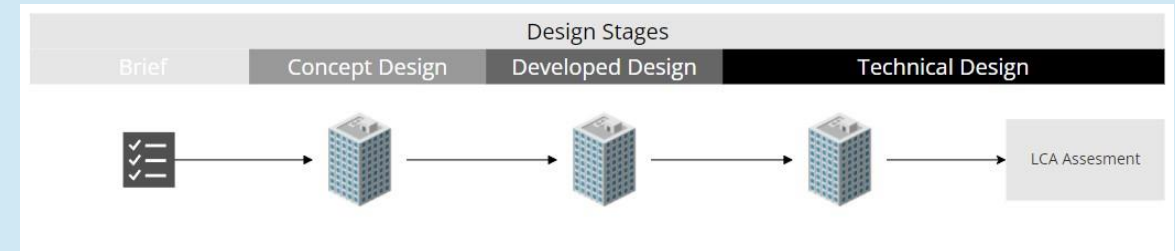
Material take-off and EC
visualization in BIM tools

Problem Statement

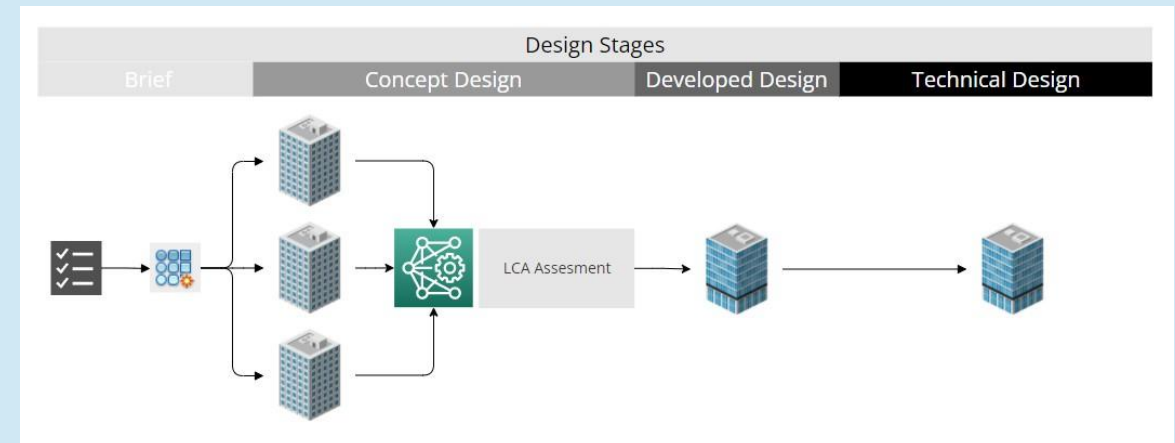


- The **accuracy** of material selection is important in the early design phase of a construction project. However, this evaluation is typically carried at **late** in the design stage when cost is **high**, and changes is **difficult** to iterate.

- Minimize environmental impact**
- Reduce cost**
- Improve design and construction process - Benchmark**



Typical LCA-based EC assessment workflow.
Source Author (2022)



Proposed data-driven EC assessment workflow.
Source Author (2022)

Machine Learning Assessment



Machine Learning is the study of algorithms that

- Improve performance **P**
- At some task **T**
- With experience **E**

A well-defined learning task is given by **<P,T,E>**

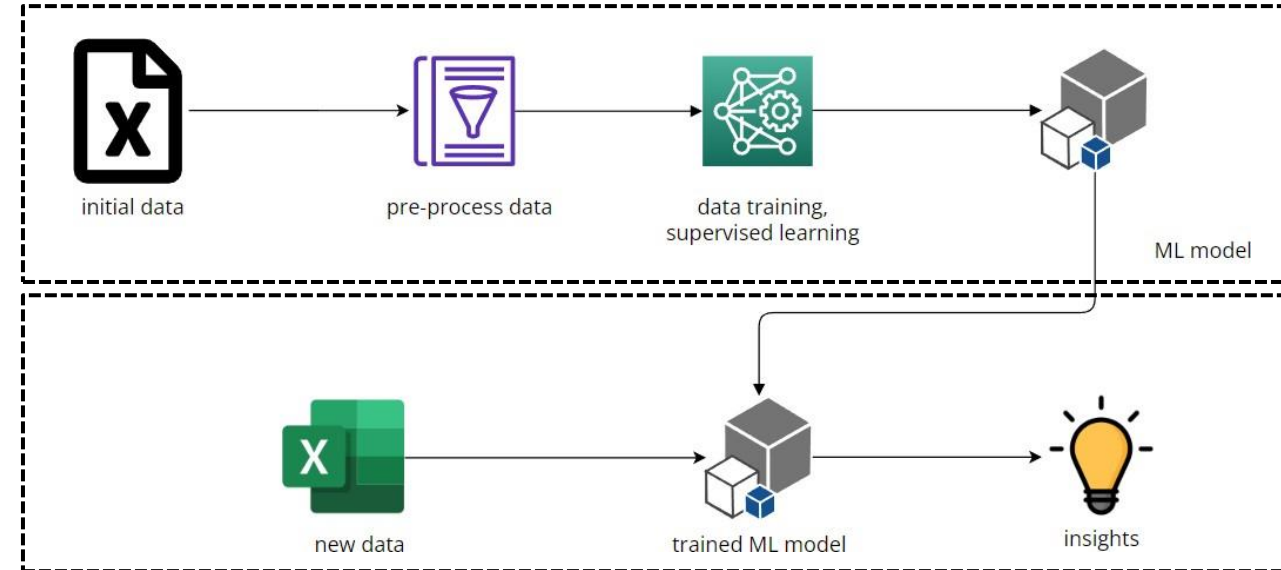
Source Tom Mitchell (1998)

T: Identify material performance

P: Forecast environmental impact (GWP)

E: Embodied carbon assessment from material selection

- Machine Learning (ML) sequence processes, **data collection, data pre-processing, modelling** and **visualization**.



Machine Learning Assessment



Program	Version	Description
Revit	2022	BIM model authoring tool
Dynamo	2.13.0	Visual programming for Revit that allow generative design creation
MySQL Workbench	8.0 CE	Visual database design tool
Excel	2021	Spreadsheet program
Jupyter Notebook (python)	3.0	Open-source software development tool to support Python programming for ML. Python libraries (Scikit-Learn, NumPy, Matplotlib, Seaborn, Pandas)
Visual Studio	2019	Integrated development environment from programming to testing
Visual Paradigm	online	UML supporting tools for creating system framework and diagrams
Notepad++ (html, CSS, java)	2021	Text editor used for html programming
Power BI	desktop	Analytics tool for user to create report and dashboard
Azure ML Studio	online	Web portal for ML model hosting, authoring and development

Data Collection

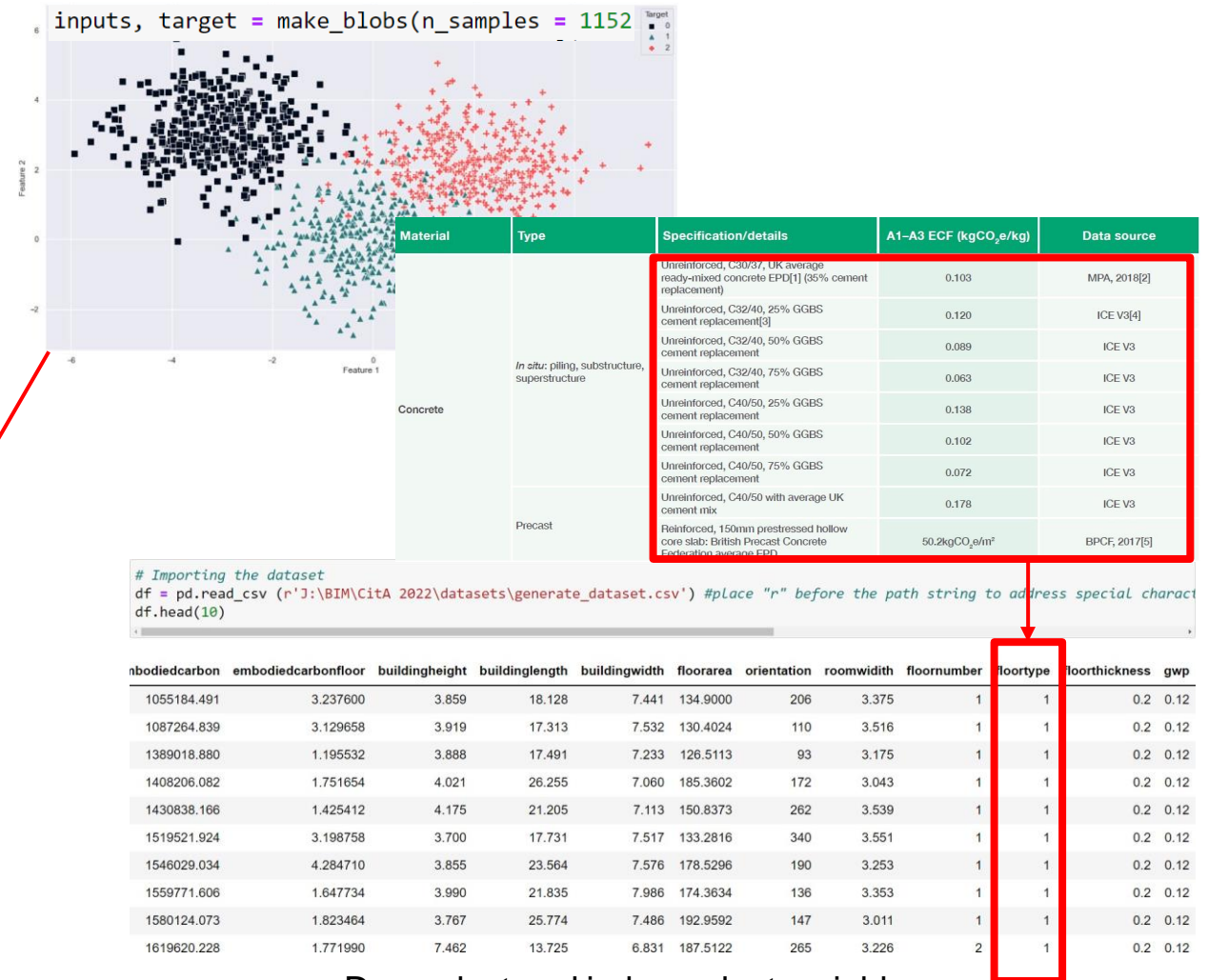


- Challenge to obtain real life **datasets**
- **Generate** normally distributed datapoints to represent floor types
- To **predict** floor type (dependant variable) relative to other design features

```
# present information about the datatype  
df.info()
```

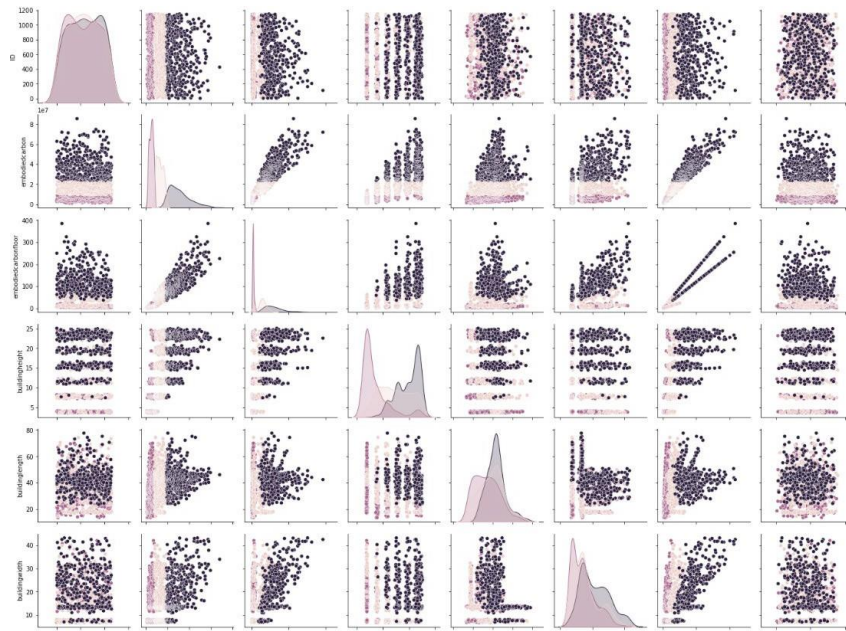
```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>  
RangeIndex: 1152 entries, 0 to 1151  
Data columns (total 13 columns):  
#   Column                Non-Null Count  Dtype  ---  
0   ID                     1152 non-null   int64  
1   embodiedcarbon         1152 non-null   float64  
2   embodiedcarbonfloor    1152 non-null   float64  
3   buildingheight         1152 non-null   float64  
4   buildinglength         1152 non-null   float64  
5   buildingwidth          1152 non-null   float64  
6   floorarea              1152 non-null   float64  
7   orientation             1152 non-null   int64  
8   roomwidth              1152 non-null   float64  
9   floornumber            1152 non-null   int64  
10  floortype               1152 non-null   int64  
11  floorthickness          1152 non-null   float64  
12  gwp                     1152 non-null   float64
```

Kailun Feng, Weizhuo Lu, Yaowu Wang. 2019
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scs.2019.101596>.

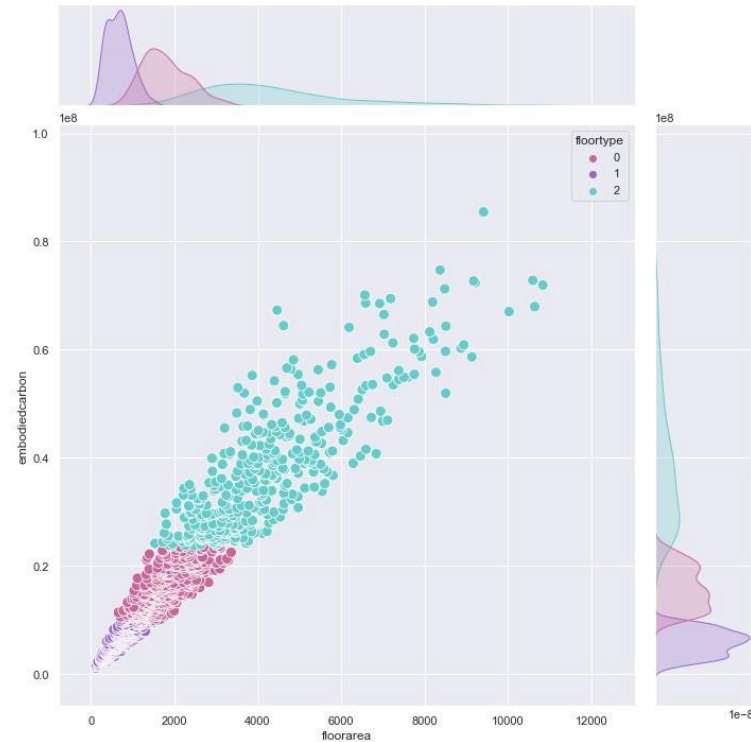


Dependent and independent variables

Data Evaluation

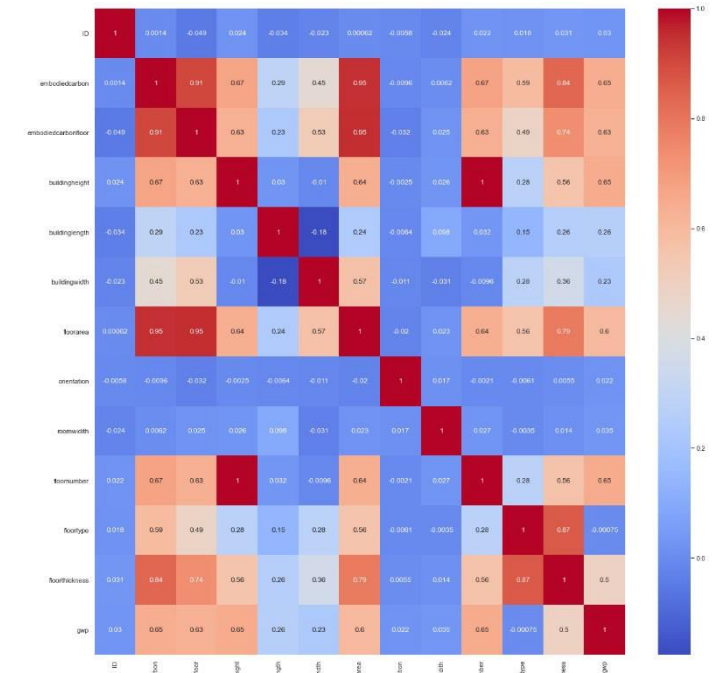


```
sns.pairplot(df, hue = 'floortype')
```



```
sns.set()

sns.jointplot(x = 'floorarea', y = 'embodiedcarbon',
             data = df,
             hue = 'floortype',
             palette = knn_palette,
             height = 10,
             s = 100,
             legend = True);
```



```
corr = df.corr()
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(20,20))
sns.heatmap(corr, annot=True, ax=ax, cmap = 'coolwarm')
```




testing

```
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
# train - 70
# test - 30
x_train, x_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X,Y, test_size=0.30)
```

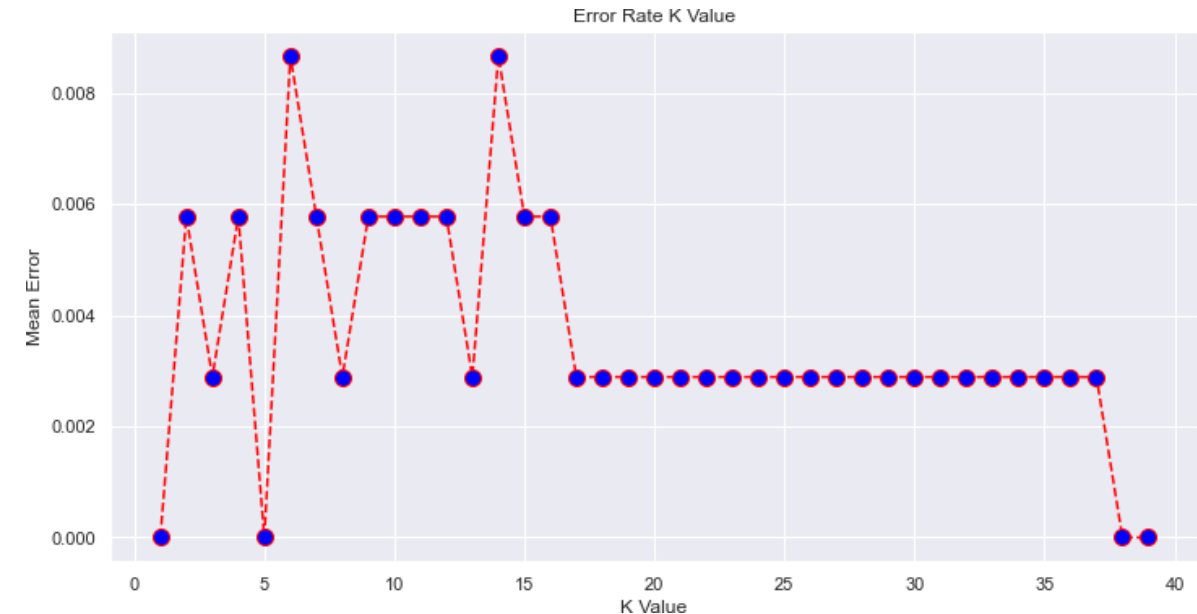
```
# knn - K-nearest neighbours
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
knn = KNeighborsClassifier(n_neighbors = 2)
```

```
# model training
knn.fit(x_train, y_train)
```

```
▼ KNeighborsClassifier
KNeighborsClassifier(n_neighbors=2)
```

```
# accuracy metric for model performance
print("Accuracy: ",knn.score(x_test, y_test)*100)
```

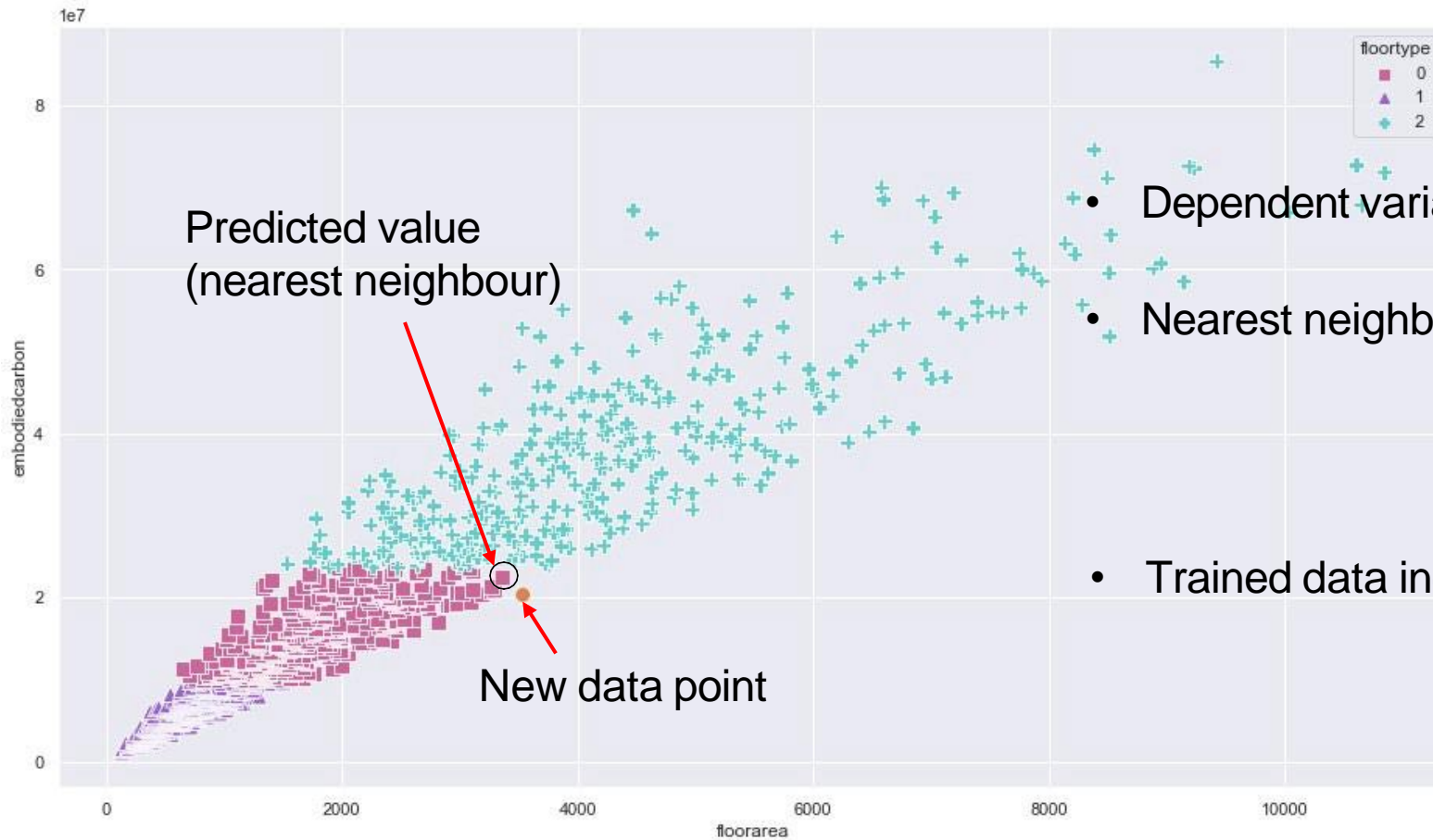
Accuracy: 99.42196531791907



```
error = []

# Calculating error for K values between 1 and 40
for i in range(1, 40):
    knn = KNeighborsClassifier(n_neighbors=i)
    knn.fit(x_train, y_train)
    pred_i = knn.predict(x_test)
    error.append(np.mean(pred_i != y_test))
```


Prediction



- Dependent variable

- Nearest neighbour

- Trained data index

prediction

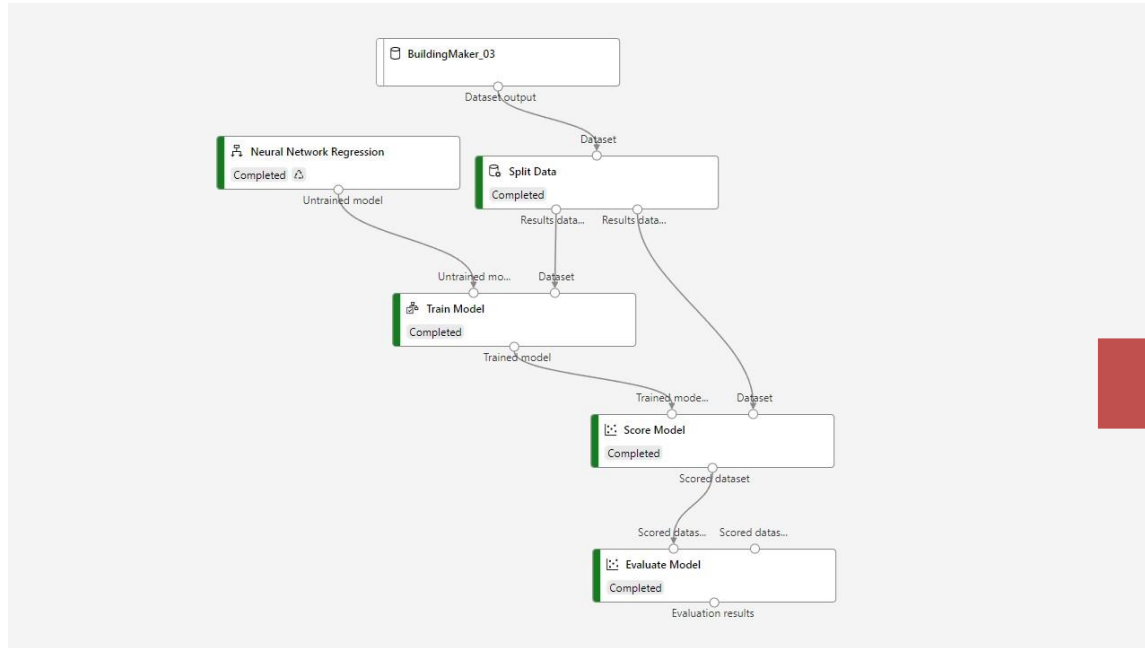
```
# Define the coordinates of a point whose class we want to identify.  
floorarea = 3521  
embodiedcarbon = 20353245.047
```

```
# Predict the class of a sample given these twelve features.  
knn.predict([[floorarea, embodiedcarbon, embodiedcarbonfloor, buildingheig
```

```
# Get the distance to the neighbour and its index in the array  
neighbors = knn.kneighbors([[floorarea, embodiedcarbon, embodiedcarbonfloor, buildinghei  
neighbors
```

```
(array([[ 3649.70966027, 5371.88624362, 63220.66719889,  
86732.0458949 , 136501.04980911, 186415.7077102 ,  
194871.58523608, 233478.97243302, 247594.77129799,  
255115.463895 , 265781.62902557, 275566.90491929,  
276260.40052593, 280945.25264038, 288456.92834048,  
307138.67772208, 342760.94950289, 365514.50018534,  
377008.39242897, 428859.92504087, 447065.88357393,  
468706.01416711, 472490.51091408, 516649.87336281,  
517901.40197217, 554056.65842542, 558650.02051855,  
586729.20392369, 657180.27011938, 706086.7131566 ,  
728402.11861702, 751473.52948038, 753531.79703169,  
761938.65025422, 780960.26110781, 793459.67965908,  
80218.62606026, 832364.31671285, 835533.03520324]]),  
array([[735, 459, 484, 292, 79, 405, 218, 414, 116, 592, 242, 84, 299,  
78, 290, 110, 42, 220, 173, 25, 140, 71, 464, 308, 247, 646,  
520, 1, 234, 661, 383, 618, 174, 379, 482, 2, 19, 417, 645]],  
dtype=int64))
```

Deployment



Azure ML Studio. Source Author (2020)



Embodied Carbon impact indicator. Source Author (2022)

Application



Machine Learning to Support BIM-based Material Analysis for Embodied Carbon Assessment

Enter your email and password to sign in

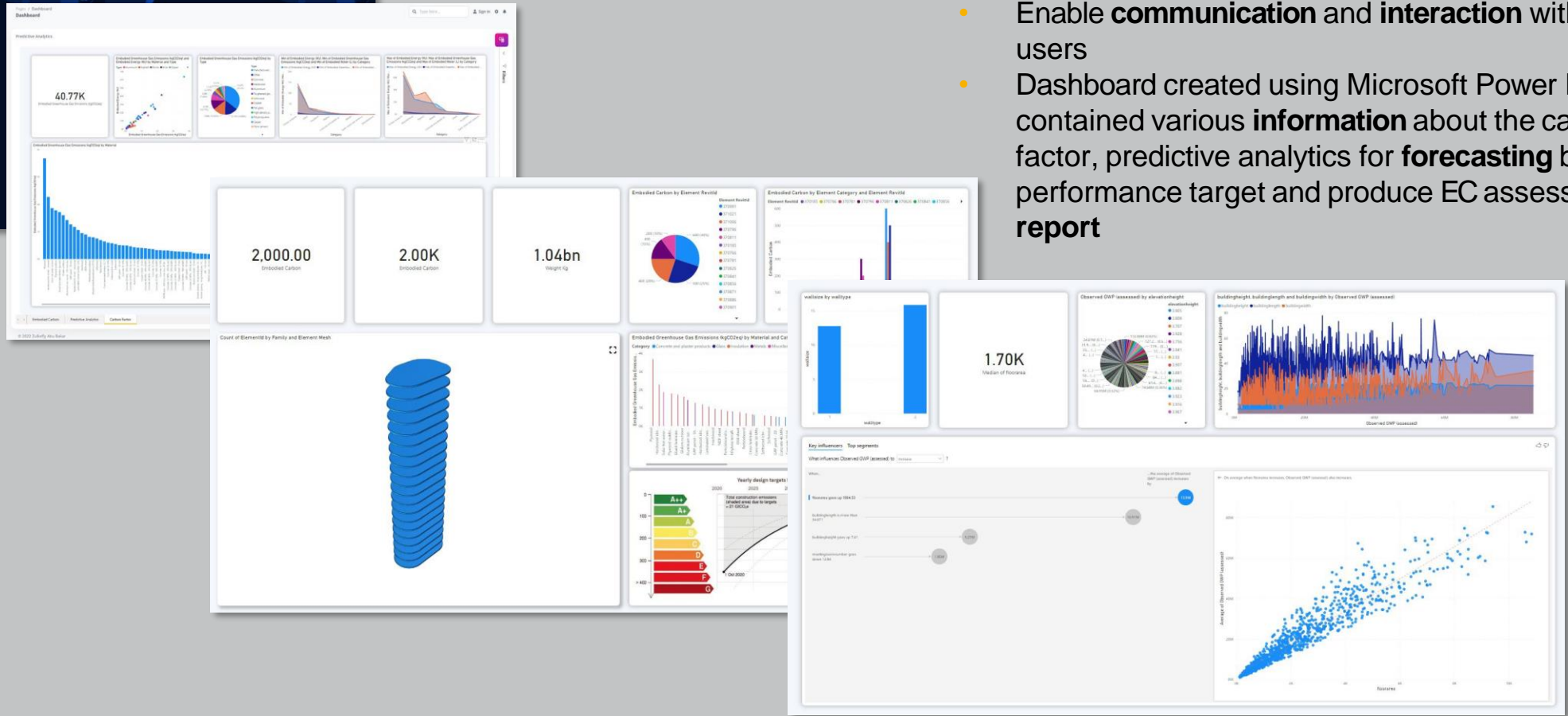
Email

Password

Remember me

Sign In

Don't have an account? Sign up



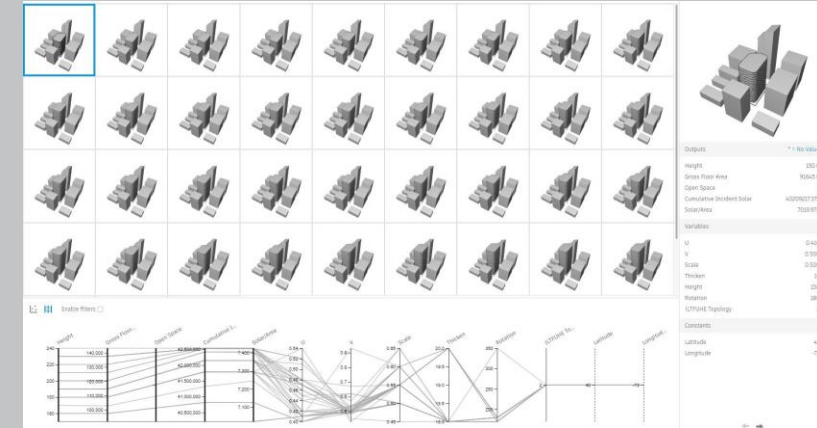
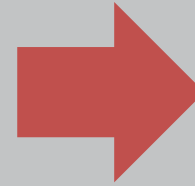
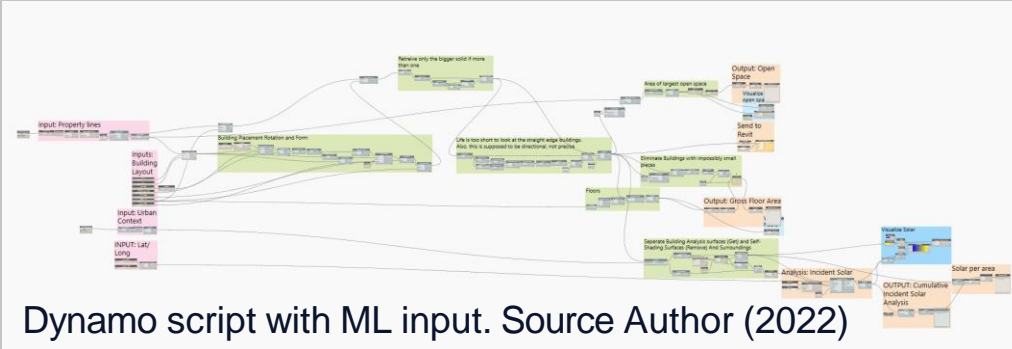
A simple visualization tool in a form of **visual analytics** dashboard published as a web application.

- Enable **communication** and **interaction** with the users
- Dashboard created using Microsoft Power BI contained various **information** about the carbon factor, predictive analytics for **forecasting** building performance target and produce EC assessment **report**

Future Study



- Compile and 'push' the trained ML model to BIM authoring tool that could be used as **Generative Design** input.



Generative design iteration. Source Author (2022)

- To extend the study beyond **building lifecycle** and **zero energy assessment**.



Building level with activation of air conditioning system (6.30 to 18.30)	The average of energy formed / Kilowatt / hour (Kw/h)		
	Per day / 12 hours	Per month / 20 days	Per year / 12 months
Promenade	114.29	2,285.80	27,429.60
Ground	215.31	4,306.20	51,674.40
1st floor	178.63	3,572.60	42,871.20
2nd floor (roof level)	219.26	4,385.20	52,622.40
Total	727.49	14,549.8	174,597.6

Building simulation results on the value of carbon emissions generated by the study building for one year. Source Muhd Zaki PhD (2022)



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