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# Digital Twin – Tutorial



Centre for Economic Development,  
Transport and the Environment

Leverage from  
the EU  
2014–2020



# Digital Twin

- A digital twin is a virtual representation that serves as the real-time digital counterpart of a physical object or process.



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- In the world of buildings, a digital twin is a replica of a space or building, containing several kinds of information that is gathered from IoT devices, the building's automation system, and/or the users of the building.

Dr. Ken Dooley, I'm tired of waiting for the perfect digital twin



# Smart city

- **Smart city** is a concept that integrates various data sources and city infrastructure together and provides different views, operations, and services to citizens
- **Smart Building** is one of the building blocks of **Smart City**

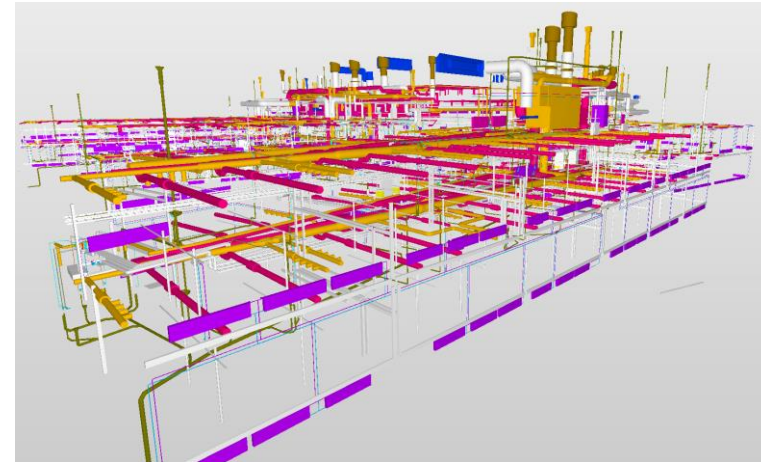


# Digital Twin

- You can't have **Smart building** unless you can:
  - Collect, store, combine, analyze, visualize, etc. data
- You also need to see dependencies of data
- Digital Twin gathers all types of data together
- Digital Twin enables model based what-if-analysis
- Digital Twin offers Aspect of Objects i.e. different views for different users (from same data)

# Types of Digital Twins (1/2)

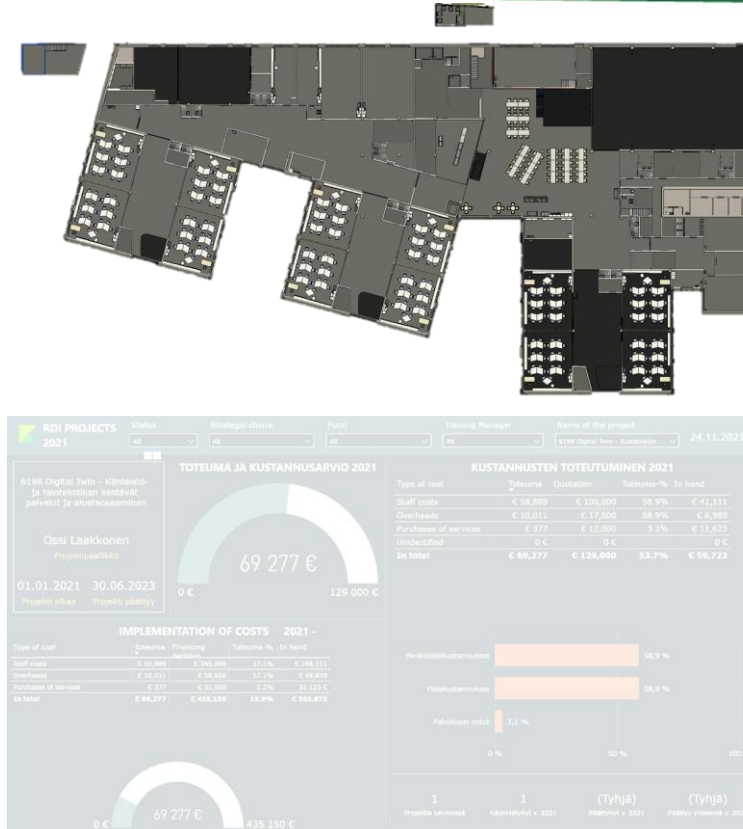
- **As-built**
  - Architectural, structural and building services models from design and construction to in-use and demolition/recycling
- **Building Services**
  - Components relevant to long term optimization of the buildings' technical systems



[https://issuu.com/granlundoy/docs/building\\_digital\\_twins](https://issuu.com/granlundoy/docs/building_digital_twins)

# Types of Digital Twins (2/2)

- **Interactive Floorplan**
  - 2D floor planning visualizing static and dynamic data
- **Business Intelligence Dashboard**
  - 2D map or floorplan together with business data





# Static data

- BIM
  - Architecture
  - Structure
  - Components
  - Materials
  - Devices
  - ...
- User manuals
- Warranty certificates
- Construction site documentation
- ...



# Dynamic data

- Environmental conditions
  - Consumptions
  - Statuses
  - People behaviour
  - Costs
- Energy production
    - Solar panels
    - Solar collectors
    - Condense energy
    - Ground energy

*Tens of thousands, sometimes even  
hundreds of thousands of data points*

# Getting Data

## Automation

- T, RH%, Pdiff, CO<sub>2</sub>, TVOC
- Water (m<sup>3</sup>)
- Electricity (kWh)
- Distributed energy (MWh)
- Condense Energy (MWh)
- Air flow, channel pressure

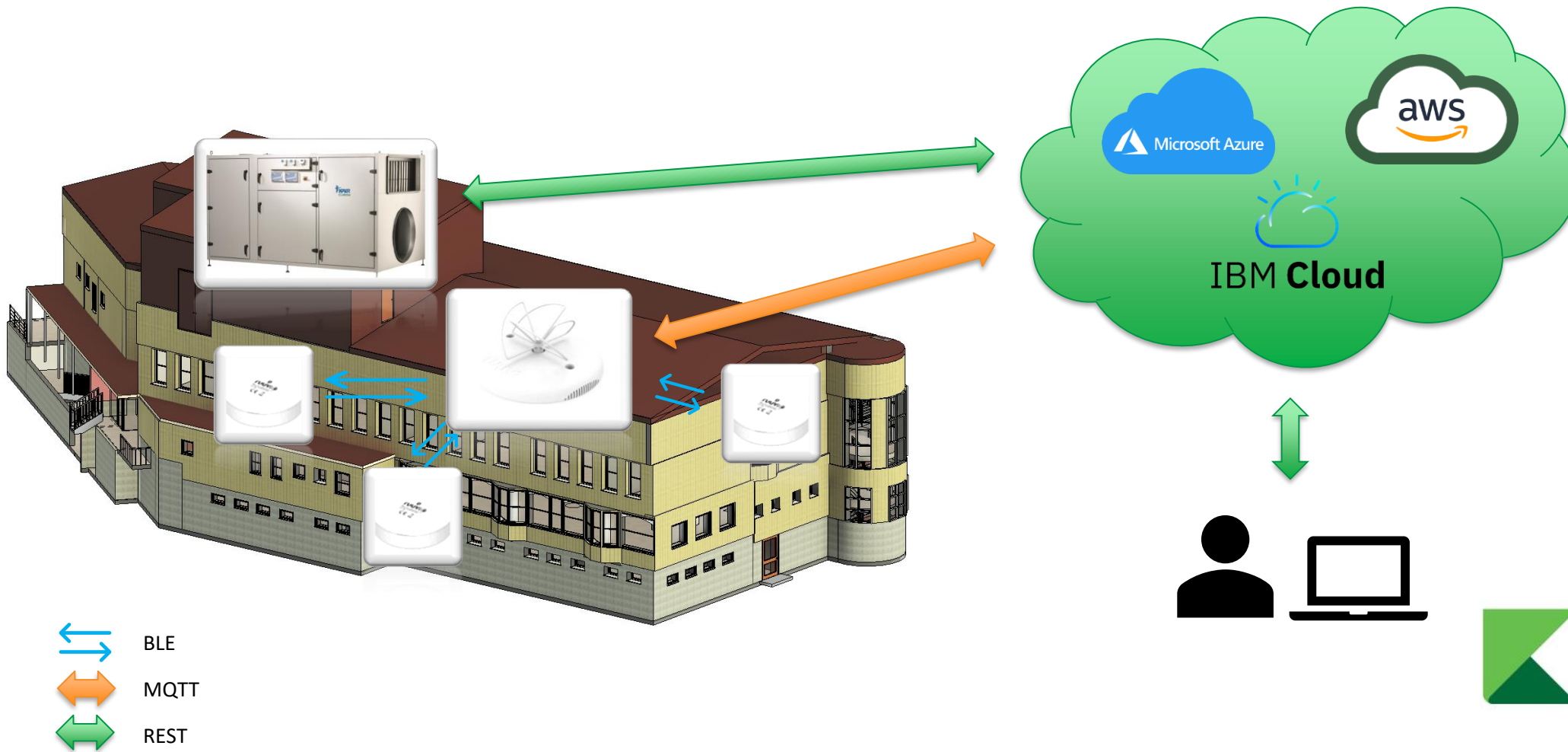
## IoT

- T, RH%, P, CO<sub>2</sub>, TVOC
- Vibration, motion
- Presense/person count
- Air quality
- Light intensity/color
- Acceleration/Shock

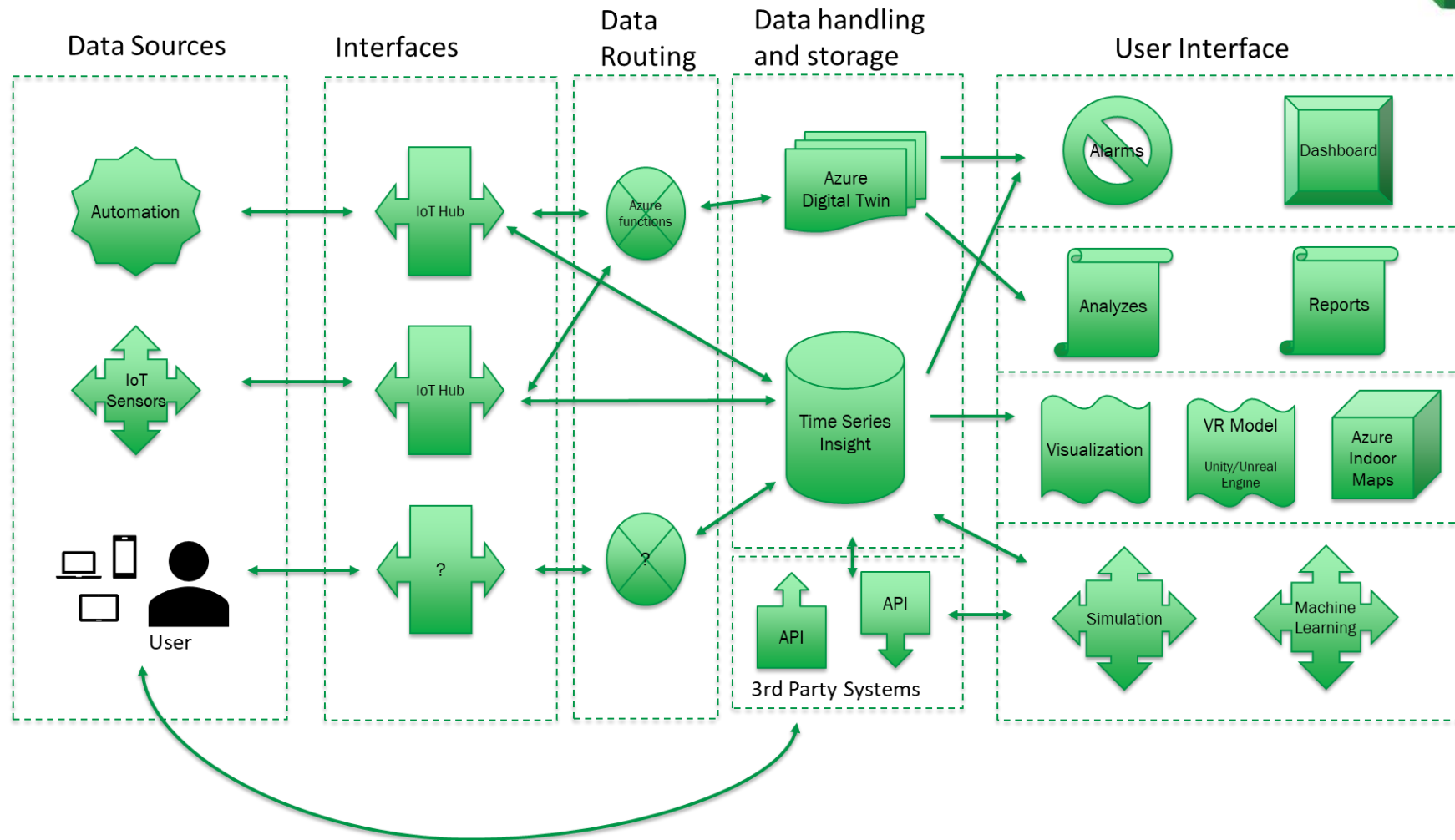
## Users

- Feedback/User Experience
- Reservation
- Service request

# System Architecture



# Cloud Architecture



# API – Application Programming Interface

- An **application programming interface** (API) is a connection between computers or between computer programs. It is a type of software interface, offering a service to other pieces of software.



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# Database

- A **database** is an organized collection of data stored and accessed electronically from a computer system
- A **time series database** (TSDB) is a software system that is optimized for storing and serving time series through associated pairs of time(s) and value(s)

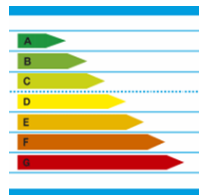


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# What Digital Twin offers

- Carbon footprint
- Carbon handprint
- Energy certification
- Ecosystem
- Troubleshooting
- Employee experience
- Safety
- Space management
- Facility management
- Predictive maintenance





# Digital Twin

## Challenges or strategic opportunities



### Single source of truth

One single source for multiple lifecycle applications – reduce lifecycle costs and time to market



### Unified access

To devices and data in the building



### Visualization

of actual building structures and rented out spaces across the building lifecycle



### Scalable ecosystem

that allows you to deliver your services in the most costefficient way

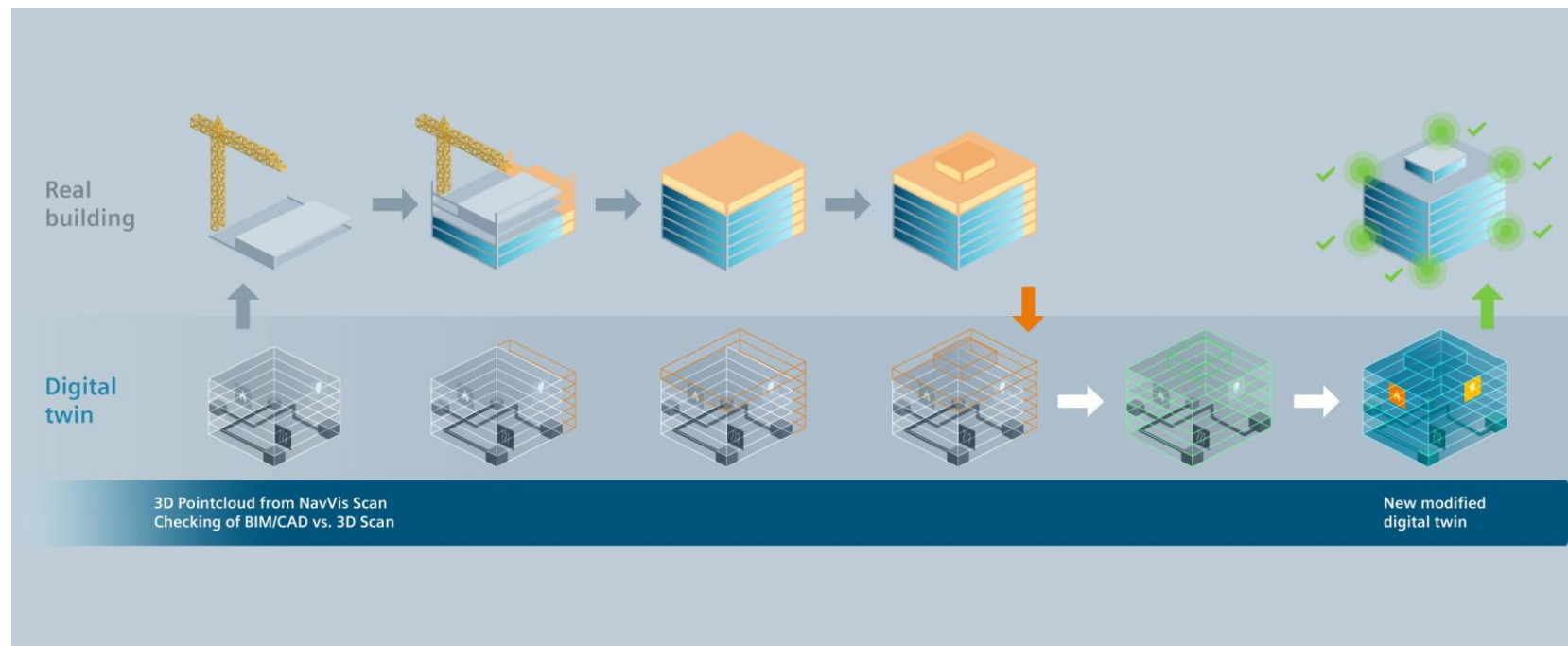


### Quality

Machine readable data, automated quality checks and processes

<https://new.siemens.com/global/en/products/buildings/digital-building-lifecycle/building-twin.html>

# Construction validation



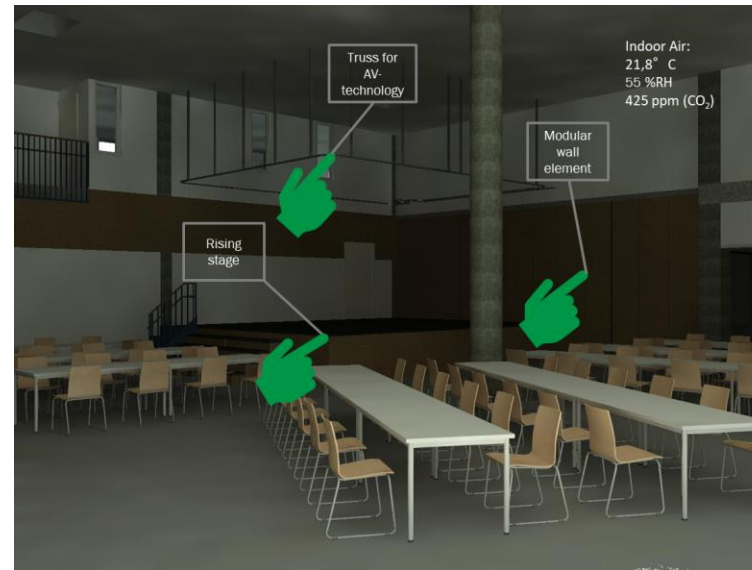
<https://new.siemens.com/global/en/products/buildings/digital-building-lifecycle/building-twin.html>

# Visualization

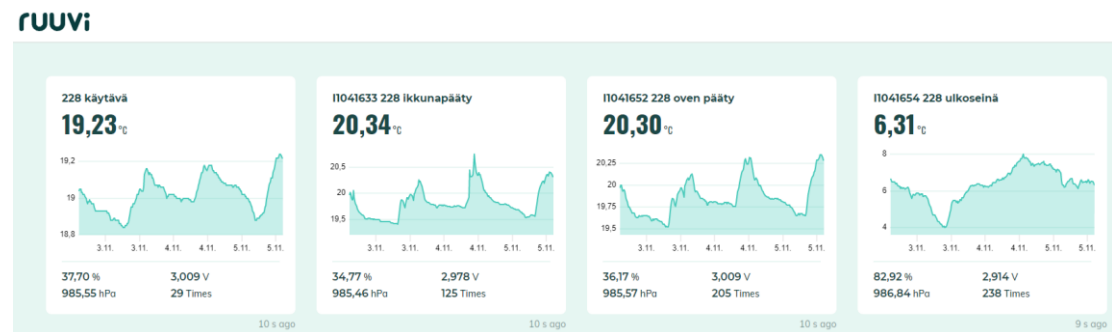
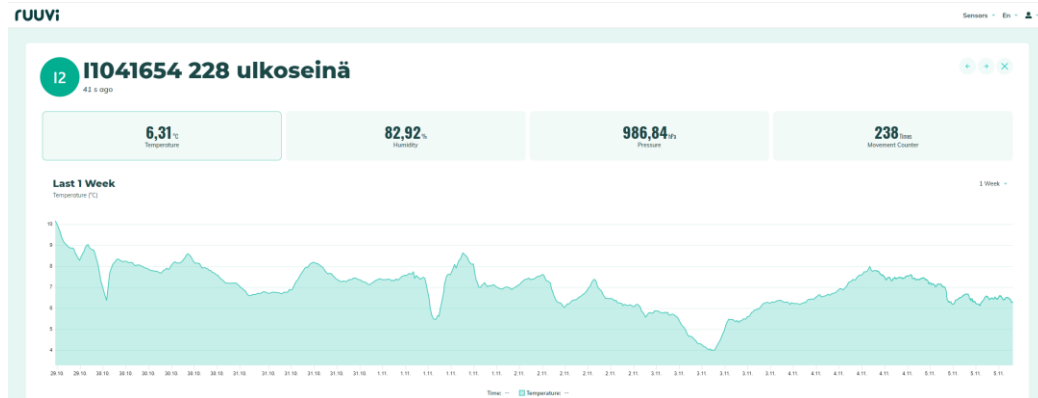
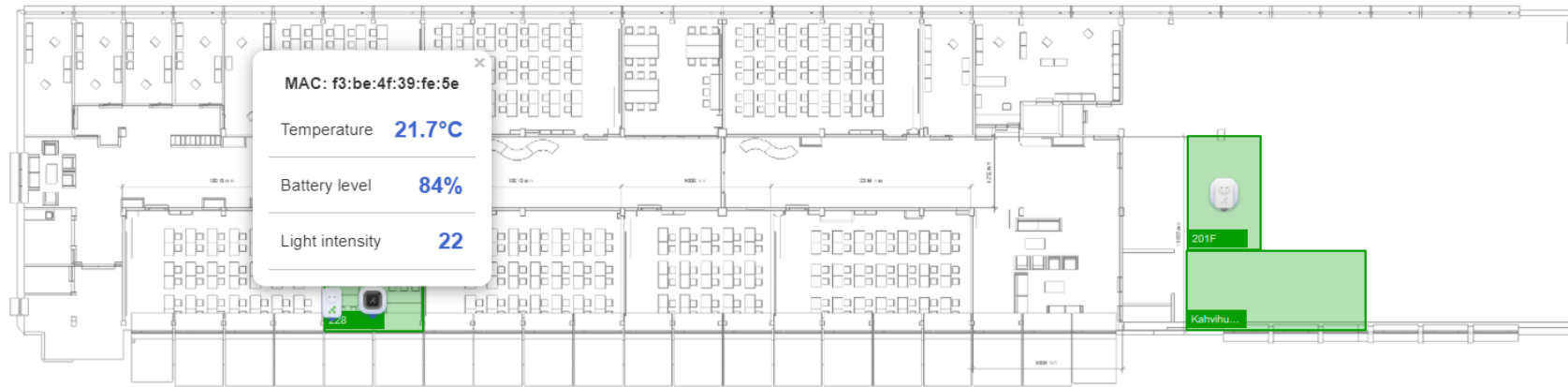
- Technique for creating images, diagrams, or animations to communicate a message



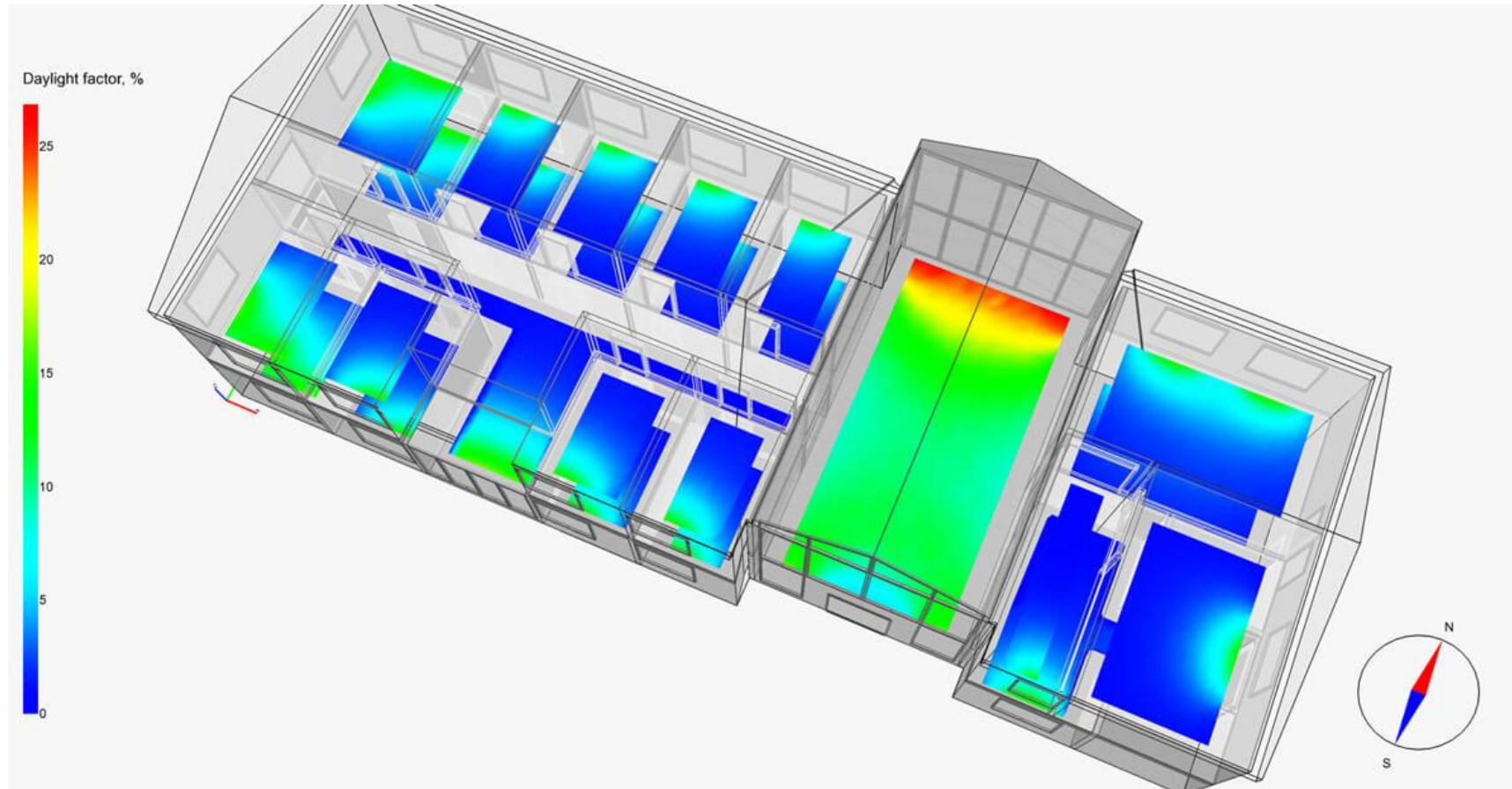
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# Visualization



# Simulation





# Analysis

3. Building automation starts to correct situation

2. Air humidity starts to rise rapidly

1. Room pressure starts to drop



4. Room temperature drops rapidly

5. Room humidity within limits

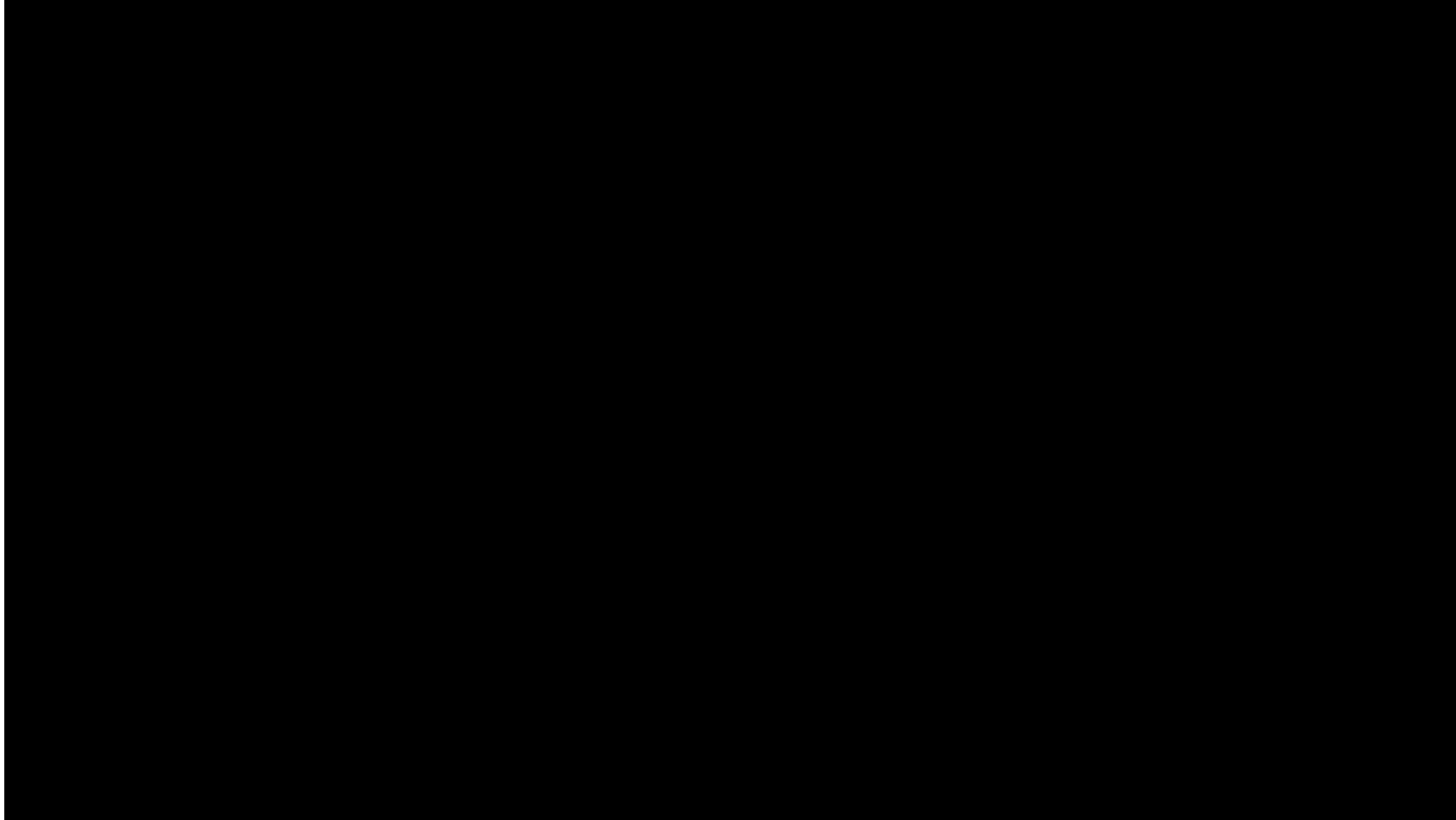
6. Room temperature within limits

# Gamification





# Digital Twin Example



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cexMerL1MG8>

# More information

- What is building information modeling
- BIM, digital twin and standardized information
- What is the Digital Twin?
- What is the digital lifecycle?
- Collecting data - not as easy as it sounds
- Showdown: 2D versus 3D
- BIM through the planning and design phase
- Connecting and collecting data
- BIM through the construction phase
- Leveraging BIM in the operation phase
- Keeping the Digital Twin up to date
- BIM BAM BOOM
- Use cases for the Digital Twin
- What is the future for BIM?
- Digital Twin enabling the future
- Leveraging the digital twin with data analytics
- Building communication protocols and cyber security
- What does "smart" mean?
- Different levels of BIM database
- Data Visualization
- Visualisation of the Digital Twin

A black and white point cloud visualization of a city street scene. The image shows a perspective view of a street with buildings on either side. The buildings are represented by dense clusters of white points, and the street floor is a grid of points. The text "Thank you!" is overlaid in the center in a green, bold, sans-serif font.

**Thank you!**



**Let's craft a  
better tomorrow.  
Together.**



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