

Digital Twin Case Study

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Center for Buildings, Infrastructure & Public Space



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Outline

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1. Case Study Overview

- Located in the intersection of Union
 Turnpike and Cross Island Ave
- Arch bridge **built in 1939**
- Total length = 100 ft, Span = 49 ft, max Height = 14 ft
- Material = reinforced concrete
- Project for **demolish** and **replace** the existing bridge with a girder
 bridge scheduled for 2024



Google Earth (2023)



2. Research Objectives



3D Visualization

New, old structure, pipes, and construction scenarios



Specification Integration

Integrate spec. Into the 3D model



Digital Twin

Connectivity of the model with a future digital twin



Guidelines: Ch.6

Digitalization for legacy projects



3.3D Visualization





3.3D Visualization



Current Union Turnpike Bridge



New Union Turnpike Bridge



Cross Island Park



Google Earth (2023)



3.3D Visualization



Union Turnpike Old Bridge (Utilities and structures superimposed)



Union Turnpike New Bridge (CIP and New UTP superimposed)



Google Earth (2023)



3. 3D Visualization - Construction Scenarios





3. 3D Visualization - Tools



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4. Model Connectivity

- The 3D model is not just a visualization tool; it serves as a **nexus to project documentation**.
- Navisworks offers the possibility of **linking files in the cloud** to the model.
- Every file should be tailored for this purpose. Consequently, projects will have a larger number of **drawings**, **specifications**, **quantities**, etcetera.



4. Model Connectivity



Specification Integration: Drawings, Specifications, Quantities

Data that shows what is already built (doesn't change once the project is completed). Useful for decisions regarding demolitions, renewals or maintenance.

Digital Twin: Traffic Data and Health monitoring

Data updated in real time and useful for asset management. Data has to be collected through sensors on daily basis.



5. Specification Integration

Drawings:

• Structural Elements and Non-Structural Elements can be directly linked to the drawings related to them.

Specifications

• Specifications and quantities can be linked through the creation of icons of different colors.



5. Specification Integration

Requirements/Recommendations:

- The 3D model must always be the latest version, otherwise the new version should be updated with the links.
- Final documentation should be saved in the cloud to maintain confidentiality.
- Separate files for different elements and materials links should be created to enable agile navigation of the model. Avoid creating one big file, which can be difficult to manage and use effectively.



6. Digital Twin

General Concepts:

- By creating a digital twin, users can access real-time data and use it for visualization, analysis, or alerting.
- A cloud system, such as Google Drive or Microsoft 365, is required for this purpose.
- In the model, an element acts as a link to a Power BI dashboard.
- Although Power BI offers enough flexibility to use the data in various ways, other software options may also work.



6. Digital Twin





7. Traffic Analysis (TA)





8. Structural and Health Monitoring (SHM)





Cloud Storage

8. SHM: Connectivity

Sensor connection diagram for SHM





8. SHM: Type of Measurements

• Input Measurements:

- Ground Acceleration
- Ground Displacement
- Wind speed
- Temperature change
- % of Humidity

x(k)

- Output Measurements:
 - Structure Acceleration
 - Structure Displacement
 - Inner Deformation
 - Corrosion





8. SHM: Sensors





8. SHM: State of Art

Procedure to monitor the bridge:

Data recollection = measurements from sensorsData cleaning = remove noise from signalsData processing = compute frequencies and mode shapes



Frequency change per season (Betti, 2022)





8. SHM: Application into Digital Twin

Application into digital twins:

• Creation of a **3D model** that has the **location of each sensor** (by clicking, the user should be able to see the data).

• The **digital twin** itself must be **able to compute** the current **frequency** and **shape modes** of the bridge.

• Sent an **alert** if the current frequency has a **MSE > 10%**.



8. SHM: Limitations

- Data represents trends that can be compared only with past behavior of the same structure.
- Sensors does not allow providing conclusions regarding the structural situation of an infrastructure, can only give alerts for the public entities.
- A professional engineer needs to assess the data and analyze it before submitting a conclusion.
- The models to extract the frequencies from the data are complex, and involve AI for cleaning the data from noise.
- Most of this models assume elastic behavior.



9. Guidelines: Chapter 5

The Guidelines for this case study was divided into four parts as follows:

Part one - Surveying:

- What is surveying
- Purpose of surveying
- Surveying steps.

Part two - 3D Modeling:

- 3D-Modelling Definition
- 3D Modelling steps

Part Three- Structural Health Monitoring (SHM):

- What is structural health monitoring (SHM)
- Steps to perform SHM
- Difficulties in SHM application in US

Part Four- Traffic Analysis Traffic analysis definition

- Purpose of Traffic analysis
- Traffic analysis Steps



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THANK YOU



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