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# BUILDING ENERGY MODELING STEP-BY-STEP PROCEDURES FOR LEED CERTIFICATION

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MODULE  
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## BEM software inputs for the project section, facade, systems, & zones

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# **BUILDING ENERGY MODELING : STEP-BY-STEP PROCEDURES FOR LEED CERTIFICATION**

Understanding the inputs for the project section, facade, systems, and zones in BEM software is foundational for accurately simulating a building's energy performance. These inputs allow for a nuanced analysis of how design choices impact energy consumption, ultimately guiding architects and engineers toward more sustainable and energy-efficient building designs.

# Learning Objectives

- Introduction and Course Outline
- Building Energy Modeling Checklists
- Scaling an imported drawing from AutoCAD
- ASHRAE Standards and Guidelines
- **BEM software inputs for the project section, facade, systems, and zones**
- Setup and Running the Building Energy Modeling Simulation
- Review BEM Software Output Reports.
- Sample Energy Modeling Report
- Summary and Resources
- BEMP Practice Test V.4.1



# INTRODUCTION

- Crucial for designing and analyzing energy efficiency in buildings.
- Software simulates energy performance across various scenarios and design choices.
- Key aspects include geographic location, building type, building use and occupancy schedule, facade inputs, systems inputs, and zones inputs.
- Geographic location influences energy performance due to climate variations.
- Building type informs software of expected occupancy patterns, operational hours, and equipment loads.
- Facade inputs include orientation, geometry, material properties, glazing, shading, systems inputs, and zones inputs.
- Energy Modeling Tools: The Project Section: Essential for understanding and predicting energy system performance.
- Requires accurate data input for reliable modeling outcomes.
- Validation processes establish credibility in results.

# BUILDING ENERGY MODELING: INPUTS FOR PROJECT SECTION, FACADE, SYSTEMS, AND ZONES

## Project Section

Involves general information about the building project, including location, climate data, and occupancy characteristics.

### Key aspects include:

- Geographic Location: The building's location significantly influences its energy performance due to climate variations.
- Building Type: The building type informs the software of expected occupancy patterns, operational hours, and equipment loads.
- Building Use and Occupancy Schedule: Details the intended use of the building and its occupancy schedule help the model predict energy consumption more accurately.





# FACADE INPUTS

Influences heat gain and loss through windows, walls, and roofs.

## Inputs include:

- Orientation and Geometry: The building's orientation affects solar exposure and heating and cooling loads.
- Material Properties: The thermal properties of materials used in the facade are critical inputs.
- Glazing and Shading: Inputs include:
  - Window types, sizes, and shading devices are essential for accurate modeling of daylighting and solar heat gain.



# SYSTEMS INPUTS AND ZONES INPUTS

**HVAC System Type:** The type of HVAC system allows the software to model heating and cooling loads accurately.

- Control Strategies: Inputs regarding control strategies directly influence energy consumption.
- Lighting Systems: The type of lighting and its operational schedule must be detailed.

**Zone Dimensions and Geometry:** Accurate geometric representation of each zone is necessary.

- Internal Loads: The type and usage schedule of equipment and the number of occupants and their activity levels are required.
- Thermal Zoning: Proper thermal zoning allows for efficient heating and cooling strategies.





## DEFINITION AND PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT SECTION

- Sets the context for the analysis, allowing the model to tailor its outputs to the specific conditions and requirements of the project.
- Defining Parameters: Enables users to define operational parameters, which directly influence the performance metrics and outcomes of the energy model.
- Facilitates Comparison: Allows for effective comparison between different projects or scenarios, supporting decision-making processes.



# KEY COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT SECTION

- Project Description: Outlines the narrative overview of the project, outlining its objectives, scope, and significance.
- Location Information: Inputs geographic coordinates, elevation, and local climate conditions.
- Technology Selection: Involves specifying the types of energy technologies to be utilized, such as solar, wind, biomass, or geothermal systems.
- Economic Parameters: Evaluates the financial viability of the project, specifying capital costs, operational and maintenance costs, financing terms, and expected revenue streams.
- Timeframe: Establishes the duration over which the project will be analyzed.



# DATA INPUT AND VALIDATION



- Accurate data input is paramount for reliable modeling outcomes.
- Validation processes, such as comparing modeled outputs against historical performance data or benchmark studies, are essential for establishing credibility in the results.

# CONCLUSION

- The project section in energy modeling tools is a critical element that underpins the analysis of energy systems.
- It enhances the accuracy of modeling outcomes and supports effective decision-making in energy planning and policy formulation.



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