SRI SATHYA SAI
UNIVERSITY FOR
HUMAN EXCELLENCE

AWARENESS

Newer Horizons in Human Excellence

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About the Journal

The journal Awareness is dedicated to promoting and disseminating knowledge derived from innovative research that serves humanity, all forms of life, and their environments. It aims to foster deeper understanding by integrating empirical, experimental, experiential, and spiritual dimensions of knowledge across diverse disciplines. At its core, the journal seeks to expand the horizons of collaborative and empirical research, motivated by a love for humanity, child-like curiosity, and an unwavering commitment to truth. Awareness aims to be a publicly accessible platform for fresh, creative knowledge and shared scholarly exchange, thus embracing the principle that knowledge, like light, must be shared freely and openly to dispel ignorance and inspire the pursuit of human excellence. Only through such open exchange can the journal fulfill its commitment to the ideals of the University for Human Excellence. The journal also provides a forum for exploring critical issues related to the advancement of human excellence, welcoming a wide range of perspectives across multiple fields. It publishes original research articles, reviews, perspectives, editorials, commentaries, and book reviews, all of which reflect the personal views of the authors. These contributions do not represent the official stance of the University or the institutions affiliated with the authors, editors, or reviewers, preserving the journal's commitment to intellectual independence and diversity of thought.

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AWARENESS

Newer Horizons in Human Excellence

Table of Contents

SRI SATHYA SAI UNIVERSITY FOR HUMAN EXCELLENCE
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Editorial

Juneteenth, *Awareness*, and *Eudaimonia*

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Keywords: freedom, justice, equity, inclusion, awareness, spirituality, commemoration.

What is Juneteenth?

June 19, 1865 commemorates the day when Major-General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas and announced that all Black communities were free citizens and not enslaved anymore. President Abraham Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863 – granting freedom to all slaves across the country – but the Southern States bitterly opposed this law.1 This triggered the American Civil War on April 12, 1861 – fought between those in favor and against the abolition of slavery. It ended after much bloodshed, when General Robert E. Lee surrendered his troops to General Ulysses S. Grant in Virginia on April 9, 18652. Yet the freedom of slaves in the Confederate States was delayed for another two months due to slow information dissemination, intentional suppression, resistance by obstinate slaveholders, and even municipal resistance to obtain free labor for the harvesting season.[1,2]

One year later, former slaves in Galveston organized the first *Juneteenth* celebration on June 19, 1866, giving the day its name.[1,2] Celebrations of this historic day spread slowly, but had declined by the early 1900s, and were revived in the 1960s by the Civil Rights Movement.[3]

Despite its popularity, major challenges persisted for integrating Juneteenth into the American societal narrative. Harvard historian Jarvis Givens emphasized that Juneteenth symbolizes both emancipation and incomplete freedom, because many Blacks remained enslaved even up to six years later.[4] All historical records were shaped by the white-owned press, so early documentation was biased and fragmentary.[1,4] Juneteenth also highlights broader structural inequities, whereby historical injustice was perpetuated for 100 years after the Civil War through housing/schooling segregation, social disadvantages, economic exclusion, political disenfranchisement, and mass incarceration.[1,3,4] Recent reforms have called to dismantle systemic racism, improve retention, and foster equitable access to social, educational, and economic opportunities, as well as to enable future success.

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Though Juneteenth finally became a paid federal US holiday in June 2021, but it is currently recognized only in 27 states and Washington DC.[5,6] Some critics complain that increasing commercialization may dilute historical meaning, however, many institutions emphasize its importance for self-reflection, community building, and justice.[6] Activism by Ms. Opal Lee (the *"Grandmother of Juneteenth"*) was pivotal in achieving federal recognition and she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2024.[6,7] Juneteenth today serves as "Freedom Day"—a symbol of national ideals and the gap between hypocrisy and practice, particularly in Texas.[8]

The story of Juneteenth—from its delayed ***awareness*** to bold ***commemoration***—not only captures the ancient human struggle for freedom and justice, but it also brings us to this issue of the journal.

Why *Awareness*?

In a Benediction written for this journal, our Founder gently explains how Awareness is Divine.9 He tells us how the *taittirīyopaniṣad* describes the supreme creative force as – *satyam, jñānam, anantam* – meaning, the One that exists, is aware of its existence, an eternal existence, without beginning or end. To remove all doubt, He further quotes the *aitareyopaniṣad* clearly defining Divinity as Awareness – *Prajnanam Brahma*, boldly declaring that all awareness is Divine. Most naturally, it follows that our ability to be 'aware' – of ourselves and of everything around us – is also Divine! Just as the enslaved Black communities lived in inhumane servitude, mortal fear, and abject poverty only because they were not "aware" of their freedom, similarly, we remain unaware of our own Divinity, thereby enslaved by our desires, attachments, emotions, memories, habits, and all other machinations of our minds and bodies! But as our awareness continues to grow, suddenly, unexpectedly, spontaneously, without volition, we become "aware" of our Divinity – and, gaining freedom from all past limitations, our hearts singing with joy and ecstasy – an internal celebration of sorts – we will be 'free' like the former slaves on that fateful day in Galveston, Texas!

True to its name, this journal ***Awareness*** also seeks, through well-informed discourse, debate, or declaration, to make all serious scholars 'aware' of the advances in their respective fields. Those who browse this journal will benefit from its high-quality, transdisciplinary, innovative research in all fields of knowledge, free from financial considerations or commercial interests of any kind, edited and curated by an international set of well-respected editors, get ideas for making influential advances in human knowledge, and as authors, also receive prompt and fair evaluation of their manuscripts.10

What is *Eudaimonia*?

Beyond objective experiences and scholarly pursuits, a growing *awareness* enables all humans to access the deeply subjective states that give human life a sense of purpose, its innate vibrancy, experiences of beauty, or states of bliss and ecstasy that are fundamental to human flourishing. Aristotle imagined human flourishing in terms of ***hedonia*** (experiences of pleasure) and ***eudaimonia*** (a life well-lived for the highest good).[11,12] Human flourishing essentially involves the flowering of human intelligence into a brilliant intellect, emotional growth leading to kindness and compassion, socialization skills that enhance the richness and depth of all relationships with one other and the environment, and a deep spiritual realization rooted in the intuitive understanding and reverence for life.

This journal issue contains several pointers to achieve the highest levels of human flourishing. An article on *The Concept and Model of a Humane Quotient* explains the eight universal humane values, namely, Selflessness, Empathy, Integrity, Acceptance, Responsibility, Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity – and synthesizes them in an objective

methodology to provide a comprehensive and integrated approach for measuring the 'humane-ness' of an individual. Through this measure, a nebulous and often misunderstood concept can manifest a clear pathway for self-transformation and societal good, complete with quantifiable milestones, leading to eudaimonia! Elsewhere, a refreshing poem in the Student's Corner, titled *Where Passion finds Purpose*, relates to a similar journey of self-discovery and inner transformation.

But where this issue finds its unique purpose is by presenting a shining example of *eudaimonia* – a life well-lived for the highest human good. This illuminatus is none other than the founding Chancellor of the Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence – Shri B. N. Narasimha Murthy! Fondly known as 'Murthy Anna' (pronounced *"ah-na"* meaning 'brother'), he has served as a glowing beacon of gentle and firm discipline, authoritative knowledge, and selfless service to millions of people and generations after generations of students, teachers, administrators, educationists, governors, and leaders at all levels in many fields. This issue – like Juneteenth – goes from ***awareness*** to bold ***commemoration*** of one the greatest leaders in education that has ever lived! His life shows incontrovertible evidence of a 'humane' awareness, growing into eudaimonia, and realizing the inherent divinity inherent in each of us. We are truly blessed to have witnessed the transformation of such a great soul, instilling an unshakable confidence that each one of us can do it too!

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Tribute

Tribute to the First Chancellor: A Life Well-Fulfilled

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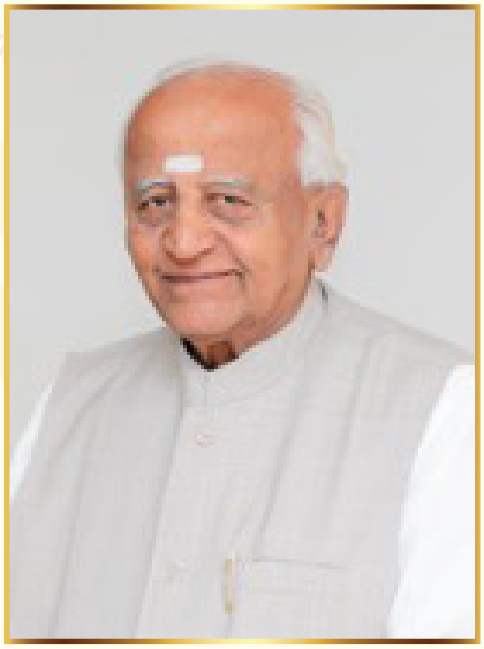
"To be instrumenting God's Will is the greatest of all human endeavours. Sri B N Narasimhamurthy, has instrumented the will of the divine ever since he was 21, and continues to do so as he turned 80 this year. His life is a saga of service to the students whom he mentored and guided all his life and continues to do so even now. Unencumbered by marital obligations, he remained dedicated to the cause of selfless service and is an inspiration to the younger generations. An engineer by training but a born philosopher, a prolific writer, a voracious reader with an elephantine memory by nature, I consider it a privilege to offer a few words of tribute to his life's works and legacy."

—Sadguru Sri Madhusudan Sai



Chancellor Sri B. N. Narasimhamurthy

Bestha Narasimah Narasimha (BNN) Murthy was born on 18th of August, 1945 to Narasimaiah and Gangarajamma Murthy in the small town of Chikkaballapur in Karnataka State in India. His father was brilliant in mathematics and had cultivated a deep interest in astrology, while serving as a revenue officer for the state government. His mother was a kind and compassionate homemaker who always held helping the needy as a very high ideal. Murthy Anna *("ah-na"* meaning brother, as he came to be known) credits his father for the gift of his intelligence, as he developed a photographic memory, and was brilliant in all aspects of learning and teaching. He credits his mother for the gift of a tender heart focused on service and the welfare of those in need. At the age of six, Murthy Anna was introduced to Sanskrit which he studied early every morning for many years. The rote memorization this entailed is credited with

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developing his truly remarkable eidetic memory. To this day, Murthy argues that any child can develop this type of memory if introduced to the discipline and practice involved in learning the structure and sounds of this language at an early age.

Murthy Anna's intellectual gifts were recognized in early life as he did exceptionally well in school, achieving a high rank and being able to go to the college of his choice. As was the custom in those days, his family decided a professional future for him, and he went to the undergraduate engineering school in Bangalore as it was relatively close to his family home. During this time, he encountered an important figure who became both a mentor and a teacher. This man regularly came to Bangalore and led the *'Thinkers' Forum'* monthly sessions for college youth. He was solely responsible for weaning the young Murthy from his Marxist leanings to those in line with the deeper Indian Culture. This visionary was Madiyal Narayana Bhat, who had founded a famous school at a village – Alike in a coastal district of Karnataka. In those days, this school imparted high quality education to rural children who otherwise might not have any access to education. The school also attracted students from all over the state who stayed on the campus in the hostels there. A powerful figure in the state both spiritually and socially, Narayana Bhat helped Murthy Anna to blend his soft heart with serving hands, while making the most of his talented mind. Murthy carried forth this combination of *"head, heart, and hands"* throughout his profession in the education sector, inspiring students of all ages.

Bhat introduced Murthy to his venerated Guru, the noted philanthropist Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. "Swami", as he was called, reinforced Murthy's commitment to selfless service and played a key role in his life and development in working with students. Murthy initially taught students at the Manipal Engineering College and then moved to the Alike Campus headed by Madiyal Narayana Bhat where he took on several roles from teaching to bookkeeping. Bhat put him in charge of developing the new Muddenahalli campus of this rural school system in 1971 and Murthy took on all aspects of that project, from fundraising, building construction, including the laying of bricks, campus design and eventually teaching and working with the students. However, Murthy was not to rest at this campus.

$$\Sigma_S = H_S \Sigma H_S^T$$

In 1983, Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba hand-picked Murthy to act as Warden for the students at the Puttaparthi campus of the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher learning. After a few years of serving under his Master, Murthy finally accepted a posting at the Whitefield campus of the same university, again as the Warden, since all students stayed on the campus in a hostel. He served continuously in this capacity for over two decades, deeply caring and mentoring the development of successive generations of students. Shortly before His passing in 2011, Sri Sathya Sai Baba asked Murthy if he would return to the Muddenahalli campus, and Murthy Anna readily agreed to this assignment. He was waiting for further directions, when Swami acutely became ill and then departed His Mortal Coil without giving any further direction. After some soul-searching, Murthy moved to Muddenahalli within a month of Baba's passing. There was no way that he could expect what his Master was up to at Muddenahalli. At this point, there were two schools and a junior college as part of the system developed by Narayana Bhat and a university campus as part of the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher learning.

In joining the Muddenahalli school, Murthy Anna had come full circle — but he was still plagued by the loss of both his mentor and his Master — and what seemed like the end of his dreams for fulfilling a task entrusted to him by his mentor to train a large number of youth for selfless service. But, Providence had laid the groundwork for the fulfilment of Murthy Anna's inspirations in this arena as he was approached by a young former student in 2011. This young man, Madhusudan Naidu, had been the recipient of gold medals in both undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the university founded and headed by Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Murthy Anna had known Madhusudan previously as his Hostel Warden at the Whitefield campus. He remembered this young man very well, for his inquisitiveness and absolute dedication to the educational mission. Madhusudan asked Murthy Anna if he would take on the task of building a new campus that would ultimately become a new university in a new educational system at Gulbarga, an area which was not only rural but also very under-developed. Murthy accepted this challenge and thus began building the campus which eventually became the Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence in 2019. This university would later become the cornerstone for an entire system focused on creating helping hands, dedicated minds, and compassionate hearts for all.

But before this school became a university campus, there was still much to do. Not only did the school need to be built from the ground up which included everything from engineering, design, construction, and staffing; but also, a larger, more comprehensive educational approach would need to be developed as this was going to be a radically different school system. As it turned out, this idea of a new system of education, over the years, became a guiding light and focused on the re-establishment of an approach similar to that of the ancient Indian Gurukula system which had provided a complete education in all areas. Many considered this approach as foolhardy, especially given that the students were scoring high marks and getting top ranks in the state, with one of them becoming the top-ranked student in the entire state.

After much more thought and discussion, it was decided that to accomplish the goals of this most ancient of educational systems, the old approach rooted in the British educational system would need to be abandoned. Accordingly, in 2020, in the midst of the COVID crisis, the entire group of 28 campuses including the University shifted to the NIOS (National Institute of Open Education) approach. This approach now included theater, vocal and instrumental music of different genres, Vedic studies, and fine arts along with general courses in the sciences and humanities. Additionally, the first-ever completely free-of-cost medical school was established on the Muddenahalli Campus in 2023 to train doctors, nurses, and allied healthcare practitioners, while inspiring them to dedicate their lives and careers for serving the underserved, particularly those living in rural areas.

Under the steady guiding hand of Narasimha Murthy as well as the support and guidance of the Founder, who had evolved into Sadguru Sri Madhusudan Sai by then, much was accomplished. From the time of the building of the Gulburga school campus which has since become a fully-certified and accredited University campus termed as The Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence, the expansion of this educational mission has multiplied at an unprecedented pace! From the two original campuses, the school system rapidly expanded to include over 28 campuses, plus the medical school. Finally, well past 80 years of age, Murthy Anna decided to turn over the role of the Chancellor to his former student and the founder of this educational system, Sri Madhusudan Sai on May 31, 2025. From his time with Madiyal Narayana Bhat starting at 19 years of age to date, Murthy Anna's dedication and hard work have helped the new educational system become simply one of the best in the world; one that unites the timeless values of the ancient Gurukul system of Bharat with contemporary relevance, cutting-edge technology, and advanced courses, as well as one which places selfless service at the heart of higher education.

Narasimha Murthy is also a prolific writer having published seven books with an eighth one on the way. The current publications include volumes 5, 6, and 7 of the biography of Sri Sathya Sai Baba titled 'Sathyam Shivam Sundaram' as well as *Sri Sathya Sai Divya Kripashraya* (a collection of experiences with Sai Baba), *Santhana Dharma for Universal Welfare, Helpline on the Sathya Sai Path* (a collection of questions and answers on spirituality and service) and Sri Sathya Sai Divya Anandam (experiences with Sadguru Sri Madhusudan Sai). The book currently being written is a biography on the life of Sadguru Sri Madhusudan Sai.

Very few people in the modern times have made such an indelible impact on the minds and hearts of so many, leaving behind a legacy through their unquestionable dedication, untiring and sustained efforts, selfless and compassionate hearts, to make the world a better place! Our Murthy Anna is truly an inspiring and noble soul, living a life well-fulfilled — in the loving service of two Divine Masters!

Poetry

Where Passion Finds Purpose

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Keywords: Passion, mindful, balance, organized, service, compassion, heal

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Where Passion finds Purpose

The city hums a constant beat,
Where lights, noise and crowds meet,
Running with time and never paused to stare,
My soul was trapped and never aware.

Far off amidst hills, echoes whispered clear,
at a school where winds sweep and stars glimmer
Where silence speaks and ideas grow,
Where wisdom blossoms, pure and true.

Among the trees, lectures ring,
in labs, great wonders sing.
Where calm and craft create a sacred space,
Hope takes root and finds its place

The schedule flows with no scope to go astray,
With time more organized throughout the day.
No more the rush to simply survive,
Instead balance breathes, keeping all alive.

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Not just the books, the people, the skill,
but I learn to keep the mind still.
So now I walk, not run through days,
With ordered steps in mindful ways.

The power to heal and care, instills
the purpose of service with no bills.
To love and serve has become my passion,
Lit by a deeper human compassion.

Article

The Concept and Model of the Humane Quotient (HuQ)

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Abstract: Various quotients have been proposed and explored in existing literature to measure different aspects of intelligence and emotions in humans. In this paper, a novel construct, the Humane Quotient (HuQ), along with a conceptual model is introduced, which would help to evaluate and understand the extent to which an individual is aligned with the universal concept of One World One Family (OWOF). This model is based on Eight Core Universal Humane Values: Selflessness, Empathy, Integrity, Acceptance, Responsibility, Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI), which are closely related to the eight identified main facets of the concept of OWOF. An outline of the methodology of evaluation, the assessment of HuQ, and eight related quotients are also discussed.

Key Words: Humane Quotient; One World One Family; Evolution of Care; Universal Values; Human Essence; Equity Diversity & Inclusion

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Introduction

In today's technologically advanced world, an individual's character is still fundamentally rooted in their values. Humane values are essential for building a healthy and harmonious society. Sri Madhusudan Sai envisions a world where individuals are driven by the welfare of others. He refers to this vision as OWOF. We introduce a Humane Quotient Model that provides a way to assess how much an individual embodies this ideal, by evaluating the "Evolution of Care" within the person.

"Humaneness" in the context of "OWOF"

From the noun form of the adjective "Humane" comes the word "Humaneness," which refers to the quality of compassion or consideration for others.[1] The cultivation of Humane qualities is essential in modern times as they help an individual to evolve and find the true purpose of life, which is "Oneness with Everyone." Quotients help to understand the degree of values in humans and cultural values in oneself.

Literature Review on Quotients in Practice

A Quotient is meant to quantify certain aspects or attributes of an individual. A quotient in mathematical terms means a result obtained by dividing one quantity by another. Similarly in the context of Humans, quotients such as Intelligence Quotient (IQ), Emotional Quotient (EQ), Social Quotient (SQ), and more are used to assess and understand specific attributes of personal and interpersonal functioning through certain calculations.[2]

There are many validated, partially validated, and non-validated quotients in practice. These include:

1. Intelligence Quotient (IQ): IQ is a validated quotient, it measures cognitive abilities such as problem-solving, logical reasoning, and memory. Alfred Binet and Théodore Simon invented the Binet-Simon test, which was later revised and standardized by Lewis Terman.[3,4]

2. Emotional Quotient (EQ): EQ is a partially validated quotient, it has the ability to understand and manage one's own emotions while empathising with others. The term was coined in 1990 by Peter Salovey and John Mayer and later popularised by Daniel Goleman in his 1995 book *Emotional Intelligence*.[5,6]

3. Cultural Quotient (CQ): CQ is a validated quotient, it represents one's ability to relate and work effectively across cultures. It was developed by Soon Ang and Linn Van Dyne, editors of the *Handbook of Cultural Intelligence: Theory, Measurement and Applications* published in 2008.[7]

4. Social Quotient (SQ): Although SQ is a partially validated model, it measures the ability to build and maintain relationships. Edward L. Thorndike laid the groundwork for the core concept of social intelligence in 1920.[8] Social intelligence has received considerable attention with measurement and research summarized in 2019 by John F. Kihlstrom and Nancy Cantor in a chapter with the same title in *The Cambridge Handbook of Intelligence*.[9]

5. Creativity Quotient (CQ): CQ is not a validated quotient, it is a metric designed to assess an individual's capacity for creative thinking and innovative problem-solving.[10] There was no single inventor of a standardised CQ. There is related work by J.P. Guilford (Structure of Intellect model)[11] and E. Paul Torrance (Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking).[12]

6. Spiritual Quotient (SQ): This is not a validated quotient, it is an emerging concept that measures an individual's spiritual intelligence. Spiritual intelligence was popularised by Danah Zohar and Ian Marshall in an article published in 2000. They also published a book titled SQ: Connecting with Our Spiritual Intelligence.[13]

7. Moral Quotient (MQ): This is not a validated quotient, it pertains to the ability to discern right from wrong and behave ethically. There is no single inventor on this quotient. The concept is more philosophical than scientific and is related to Lawrence Kohlberg's stages of moral development[14] and James Rest's Defining Issues Test.[15]

8. Wisdom Quotient (WQ): This is not a validated quotient. It reflects one's unique ability to process information thoughtfully, weigh the consequences of their decisions, and choose the best course of action. Leading researchers are Paul Baltes who developed the Berlin Wisdom Paradigm16 other contributors are Robert Sternberg and Monika Ardelt.[17,18]

Validated Quotients refer to those backed by scientific research, psychological frameworks, or educational theories. Quotients or any psychological constructs are typically not validated at inception, but validated over time, through extensive research and testing on Reliability, Construct Validity, Criterion Validity and Peer-reviewed studies. In some cases, this process can take years or even decades.

Validation requirements of a quotient generally are 1) tests or measures used to derive it is reliable, valid, and standardised, and that the results are interpreted appropriately,[19] 2) formal studies through research and peer-reviewed literature[20] and 3) widely accepted in education, psychology, leadership, or human resources domains.[20] Partially validated quotients or non-validated quotients lack some or all these requirements.

Even though many quotients are not scientifically validated as standardised measures, they are still used because of their conceptual value, practical utility, contribution as emerging research, popularity, accessibility and filling gaps beyond the much-validated Intelligence Quotient.

The OWOF Concept

Sri Madhusudan Sai, who spearheads a unique a global mission to teach the concept of oneness to humanity says, "When the concept of OWOF becomes a reality, there will be perfect peace in the world, because all the people and all the nations will be united in mutual trust, cooperation and coexistence."[21] He clearly says, "To the one who feels that everyone belongs to him, he considers the pain of others as his own, the joy of others as his own, the success of others as his own, and the failures of others as his own. He experiences the entire humanity as his own family."[22]

In an age of war, nationalism, climate and value crises, this idea pushes back with a universal humanistic vision. Used in forums like the Group of 20 (G20) and United Nations (UN), especially by India, this OWOF concept sees Earth as part of one family protecting all life forms, not just human interests and it aligns with climate activism, indigenous perspectives, and ecological consciousness.

Aristotle once said, "Every art and every inquiry, and similarly every action and pursuit, is thought to aim at some good… this good has been declared to be happiness." This paper aims to assess the humaneness in a person through evaluation of a novel Humane Quotient (HuQ) by considering the purpose of life: permanent and everlasting happiness. The cultivation of a broad-minded perspective enables us to achieve this happiness, devoid of any differences.

Literature

The concept of OWOF clearly indicates the interconnectedness between an individual and the world. Here's how different traditions and thinkers have contributed to this idea in different ways.

The phrase OWOF implies the care should extend to all the beings in the world. Marcus Aurelius says "all men are kin."[23] Ubuntu (African Philosophy) says "I am because we are".

Gandhi's Sarvodaya is the core concept of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, Sarvodaya means for the "Welfare of All." This movement was a sincere and bold attempt to create the necessary atmosphere to bring together such individuals with an unwavering faith in the "Welfare of All".[24]

In the book *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?* (1967) Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. called for Global brotherhood against racism, poverty, and war.[25] Immanuel Kant's cosmopolitanism argued for a "universal community" where all humans deserve perpetual peace.[26] The concept of "being in the world" by Martin Heidegger, suggested that our very essence is inseparable from the world we inhabit, highlighting the unity between a person and their surroundings.[27]

Concepts similar to OWOF across all religions and philosophies include the following:

1. Hinduism – 'Only a narrowminded person will think, "only these people belong to me, others are not mine!" But for a broadminded person, the whole world is his family.'28(p63) May everyone be happy; may everyone be healthy. May everyone see only auspicious scene everywhere; let no one experience any grief.[28(p63)]

2. Buddhism - 'Consider others as yourself'. Dhammapada 10.128(p57) 'I have forgotten all differences between myself and others.'[28(p58)]

3. Christianity - "Love your neighbour as yourself." Mark 12:31[29] Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home. *Fratelli Tutti,* §8, Saint Francis of Assisi.[30]

4. Confucianism – If a man has no humaneness what can his propriety be like? Being humaneness is good. If we select other goodness and this are far apart from humaneness, how can we be the wise? [28(p62)]

5. Islam – "He is not a Muslim who eats his fill while his neighbour is hungry." 28(p70) "O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female and made you into nations and tribes so that you may know one another."[31]

6. Jainism – May the entire universe be blessed. May all being engage in each other's wellbeing. Mat all weakness, sickness and faults diminish. May everyone everywhere be healthy, peaceful and happy in all respects. This is a common Jain prayer for universal well-being.[32]

7. Judaism – I rejoiced with love for all people, as I could see Sophia in their hearts, guiding them. [The wisdom of Solomon, Chapter 7][28(p71)] "Do not do to others what is hateful to you." — Talmud, Shabbat 31a.[33]

8. Jainism - "Parasparopagraho jivanam." — *Tattvartha Sutra*
"All life is bound together by mutual support and interdependence." [34]

9. Bahá'í Faith - "The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens." [35]

10. Sikhism – "Recognize the whole human race as one." Guru Gobind Singh Ji [36]

Other Perspectives on the concept of "OWOF"

1. "In our obscurity, in all this vastness, there is no hint that help will come from elsewhere to save us from ourselves. It is up to us." Carl Sagan.[37]
2. "There are no nations, there are no religions, only one species—Homo sapiens." Yuval Noah Harari.[38]
3. "The good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge." Bertrand Russell.[39]
4. "We are all connected by the internet and modern transportation. We should work together to make a better world." Stephen Hawking.[40]

Classification of Values

Values

Values are abstract concepts that have been studied since ancient times.[41] Values play an important role in the holistic personality of students, teacher, administrators alike. These principles help oneself to decide what is right and wrong, and how to act in various situations.[42] Values reside within each individual and the same is reflected by the individual's character

Humane Values

In dictionary terms, being "Human" describes the characteristics of a person, whereas being "Humane" describes the quality of having or showing compassion or care.[43] Thus, we can conclude that "Human values" are the fundamental values that govern one's behaviour and conduct. According to Gokak Committee, universal Human Values are identified as Truth, Righteous Conduct, Peace, Love, and Non-violence,[44] which are essential for every individual to live with respect and harmony in the society.

We can also derive that "Humane Values" are built upon human values that govern one's actions with more of care, empathy and compassion, which are essential in these modern times. These acts of compassion by an individual impacts the society at large which brings harmony in the society. In Sri Madhusudan Sai's words, "Embrace the feeling that the entire world is your family, not just your immediate relatives. When we work together for the welfare of all, the world can live in harmony as one united family."[22]

Literature Review on Usage of the Word 'Human / Humane Value'

The phrases "Human / Humane Value" has been used by certain authors in different contexts. Here are the references that use the phrase "Human / Humane Value" and related phrases:

The phrases 'the humane values of socialism'; 'humane social thrust'; 'a humane way of life'; 'humane spirit individual cases'; 'inherently humane European culture'; 'To make international relations more humane is the only way out'; 'solution in a humane and positive spirit.' [45]

Also, the phrases, 'Some behaviour choices seem to be in self-interest but violate humane values.' 'Some behaviour choices honour humane values but harm self-interest.' 'Optimal behaviour choices align self-interest with humane values' 'Humane behaviour choices are motivated by appreciation, compassion, kindness, or love.' 'Humane values of appreciation, compassion, and kindness' 'Violating humane values creates an air of inauthenticity, while stimulating guilt, shame, and anxiety.'[46]

'The 'humane education' movement is seen worldwide.' 'The focus of humane education is on values such as kindness, respect, and non-violence.' It promotes empathy and compassion and helps individuals understand the perspectives of others and treat all beings with kindness and respect.'[47]

Classification of Values based on "Evolution of Care"

In this paper, we propose a new classification of values into three categories: Self-Care Values, Socio-Care Values, and Universal-Care Values. At the heart of this classification is the idea of an "Evolution of Care," which is the evolution from self-care to universal-care. Our definitions are as follows:

a) Self-Care: Care solely on the individual with less/no regard for others.

b) Social-Care: Care for one's family, friends, and community with kindness and loyalty.

c) Universal-Care: Care for all the people with compassion, kindness, and empathy.

In the analogy of "Stream, River and Ocean", the water drop remains the same, but its form evolves. Just as the way water drop begins from the small stream, flows into the river and finally merges into the ocean. The evolution of care indicates how people grow from thinking about oneself to thinking about others to thinking about everyone in society. In other words, in the journey of life from 'I' to 'We' to 'He.' 48 Sri Madhusudan Sai says, "From the confines of an individual existence to embracing a multitude of strangers and finally experiencing the oneness of everyone and everything." 49 The transformation from Vanar (Animal nature) to Nar (Human nature) and finally to Narayan (Divine nature) is a symbolic journey often interpreted from the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita.50

Literature Review on Classifications of Values

1. August Corrons Giménez and Lluís Garay Tamajón build upon Shalom Schwartz's Theory of Basic Human Values. In their 2019 study, they propose a hierarchical model that organises values into three levels: First - Order Values (10 Values), Second - Order Dimensions (4 Dimensions), Third - order Clusters. [41]

2. Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs is a motivational theory that outlines five levels of human needs, from basic to Psychological to self-fulfilment.[51]

3. William Glasser's Choice Theory is a psychological framework that emphasises personal responsibility and the power of individual choice.[52]

4. Lawrence Kohlberg's Theory of Moral Development explores on moral development and social evolution have progressed together. Development proceeds through Pre-conventional, Conventional, and Post-conventional levels of reasoning.[53]

5. Ken Wilber presents a comprehensive framework for understanding human development. Quadrants and Levels approach values through lines of development (e.g., cognitive, emotional, spiritual).[54]

6. George Vaillant tracks value-related emotional development from primitive (e.g., denial, projection) to mature (e.g., altruism, humour, sublimation).[55]

7. C.G. Jung in his works on Psychological Types and Individuation says values arise through the process of individuation, integrating shadow, persona, and true self. [56,57]

8. Social psychologist Milton Rokeach, in his well-known instrument for measuring human values, designed a rank-order scaling of 36 values, including 18 terminal and 18 instrumental values.[58]

9. Gokak Committee in 1981 identified universal human values – Truth, Righteous Conduct, Peace, Love, Non-violence and classified them into sub-values.[44]

Eight Core Universal Humane Values

Eight "Core Universal Humane Values", which are identified by the authors as essential to lead to OWOF, in this model are: Selflessness, Empathy, Integrity, Acceptance, Responsibility, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity. The First five "Humane Values" are termed as "Humane Essence", which refers to the context of an Individual. And the remaining three Humane values are in Global context. While the first five Humane Values (Selflessness, Empathy, Integrity, Acceptance, Responsibility) create the ethical and emotional foundation, the next three "Humane Values" (Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity) gives us the practical lens through which we apply those values in real world human interactions, addressing how we respect each other's identities within a shared human community. A graphic representation of the HuQ model is given in Figure 1.

Five Core Universal Humane Values in Individual Context

1. Selflessness: Selflessness is most plausibly thought of as putting others ahead of oneself.[59] This helps oneself to shift his focus from self-interest to the well-being of others, which is central to humaneness.

2. Empathy: Empathy is the ability to express concern.[60] This feeling for others helps an individual to respond with genuine concern for others, this is an essential trait for the person with humane qualities.

3. Integrity: Integrity is the state of being whole and faithful to one's moral principles.[61] When an individual acts according to one's principles even when no one is watching, which is the core aspect of Universal Humane Value.

4. Acceptance: Embracing thoughts, emotions, and other internal experiences without judgment and without trying to change them.[62] It enables oneself to embrace everyone regardless of their backgrounds and faiths.

5. Responsibility: Responsibility is an awareness of the obligation to contribute positively to society.[63] This awareness is the hallmark for humaneness.

Our selection of the first five Humane Values (Human Essence) Selflessness, Empathy, Integrity, Acceptance, Responsibility can be mapped to the five universal values of Love, Truth, Non-Violence, Righteous Conduct and Peace, respectively.

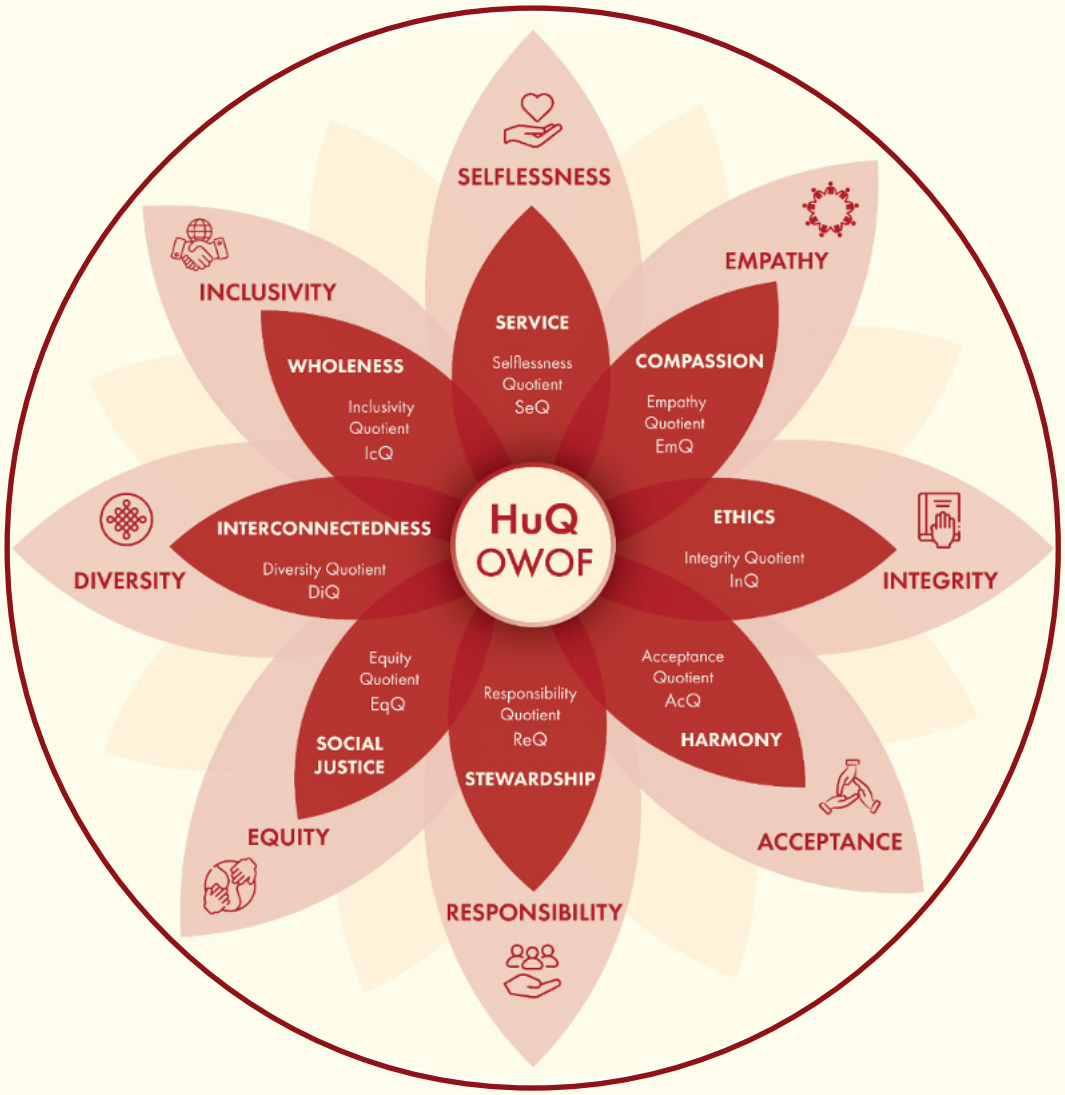
Three Core Universal Humane Values in Global Context

6. Equity: Creating an environment where all those with diverse identities are welcomed and valued.[64]

7. Diversity: Diversity is recognising, respecting and celebrating each other's differences.[65]

8. Inclusivity: Inclusion means creating an environment where everyone feels welcome and valued.[65]

Figure 1. Graphic Representation of the HuQ Model



Human Essence and EDI for Humanness

"Human Essence" represents the attribute or set of attributes that make human beings what they fundamentally are, which they have by necessity, and without which they would lose their identity as human beings.66 Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) is a conceptual framework that promotes the fair treatment and full participation of all people, especially populations that have historically been underrepresented or subject to discrimination because of their background, identity, disability, etc.[67]

A graphic representation of Human Essence and EDI for Humanness is given in Figure 2. It can be noted that Selflessness, Empathy, Integrity, Acceptance, and Responsibility are set in the individual context, while Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity are set in the universal context; all eight values should be developed simultaneously.

Figure 2. Graphic Representation of Human Essence and EDI for Humanness

Aspects of OWOF related to Eight Core Universal Humane Values

The idea of OWOF is that we embrace all with the feeling of oneness. Each of these aspects reflects the "Humane Values" in action. For example, Service is the driving force behind selflessness. Here are eight main aspects of OWOF which are related to the corresponding eight core universal "Humane Values." The explanation is also given for better understanding.

Table 1. Core Universal Humane Values and Facets of OWOF

Core Universal Human Value	Fecets of OWOF	Explanation
Selflesness	Service	Service expresses the spirit of giving without reservations.
Empathy	Compassion	Compassion, rooted in empathy, bridges human suffering across all cultures.
Integrity	Ethics	Integrity ensures trust and fairness in global cooperation vital in a shred family of nations.
Acceptance	Harmony	Acceptance enables peaceful coexistence and appreciation of differences creating harmony.
Responsibility	Stewardship	Global responsibility becomes stewardship – caring for the earth and one another.
Equity	Social Justice	Equity ensures everyone in the global family receives fairness and dignity.
Diversity	Interconnectedness	Diversity reflects the rich tapestry of humanity; interconnectedness recognises our shared destiny.
Inclusivity	Wholeness	Inclusivity leads to wholeness – where no one is left out, and all belong in the global family.

Methodology to Evaluate the HuQ

To facilitate the understanding the methodology to evaluate the Humane Quotient (HuQ), we have created a sample of questions based (as mentioned below) on selected literature, generally covering four aspects for each of the eight core universal "Humane Values." These questions help us to understand the level of care in an individual. Each question includes five response options mapped to "Evolution of Care": Self-Care values to Socio-Care values to Universal-Care values. A five-point Likert scale is used to assess the evolution of care. The

5-point Likert scale uses five answer options, including for midway options accommodating the evolving nature of care, to assess a respondent's opinions.68

The HuQ Quotient has 96 questions in total. These questions help to assess an individual's alignment with the eight-core universal Humane values. In this first phase of research, four keywords are selected by the authors for each core universal Humane value. Based on these keywords and the literature, four corresponding aspects are identified for each value. As the research progresses, additional keywords may emerge to further describe these core universal humane values. Each aspect is assessed using three different questions with responses recorded on a 5-point Likert scale. The proposed methodology of evaluation of HuQ is in Table 2.

Table 2. Evaluation of the Eight Quotients and Humane Quotient: the proposed approach to measuring the Humane Quotient (HuQ)

Core Universal Human Value	Literature based Aspects	Questions	Value Quotients
Selflessness (Se) Empathy (Em) Integrity (In) Acceptance (Ac) Responsibility (Re) Equity (Eq) Diversity (Di) Inclusivity (Ic)	Aspect 1 Aspect 2 Aspect 3 Aspect 4	• 3 questions each with 5 options; marks of answers ranging from 1 to 5. • Min aspect Score 3 and Max aspect 15.	SeQ=(Se-Score)/60) *10 EmQ=(Em-Score)/60) *10 InQ=(In-Score)/60) *10 AcQ=(Ac-Score)/60) *10 ReQ=(Re-Score)/60) *10 EqQ=(Eq-Score)/60) *10 DiQ=(Di-Score)/60) *10 IcQ=(Ic-Score)/60) *10
Per Core Value	4 Aspects	Total Min Score 12 and Total Max Score 60	
Total Core Values 8	Total Aspects 32	Total Min Score 96 and Total Max Score 480	HuQ = (Hu Score/480) *10

Each Quotient/Score can be divided into three phases of evolution of the related core value:

- Score 12 to 28 / Quotient 0.2 to 4.6 indicates the first level of attainment of the related core value.
- Score 29 to 44 / Quotient 4.7 to 7.3 indicates the second level of attainment of the related core value.
- Score 45 to 60 / Quotient 7.4 to 10 indicates the third level of attainment of the related core value.

Each HuQ score can be divided into three phases of "Evolution of Care":

- 96 to 223 marks out of 480 ($0.2 \leq HuQ \leq 4.6$) reflects the individual is prioritising Self-Care
- 224 to 351 marks out of 480 ($4.7 \leq HuQ \leq 7.3$) reflects the individual is prioritising Socio-Care
- 351 to 480 marks out of 480 ($7.4 \leq HuQ \leq 10$) reflects the individual is prioritising Universal-Care.

Explanation for three ranges of the Quotient with respect to "Evolution of Care"

Table 3 explains the score ranges corresponding to the three evolutionary phases of the core universal Humane Value Care: Self-Care, Social-Care, and Universal-Care. It outlines each HuQ score range and provides a brief explanation for each phase.

Table 3. Table of Explanation of "Evolution of Care"

Self-Care Values	Explanation	Socio-Care Values	Explanation	Universal-Care Values	Explanation
Self-Preservation	Basic instinct to protect oneself and ensure survival.	Benevolence	Willingness to do good and be kind towards others.	Selflessness	Putting others' needs before one's own without expecting anything in return.
Fear	Instinctive response to threat, often leading to hiding or avoiding the truth.	Truthfulness	Commitment to speaking and acting with honesty.	Integrity	Being true to one's values, honest and morally upright in all situations.
Emotional Sensitivity	Ability to feel and recognize emotions in oneself and others.	Sympathy	Feeling sorrow or concern for others in distress.	Empathy	Deeply understanding and sharing another person's emotional experience.
Obedience	Natural survival-based compliance with authority, fear-based or instinctual	Accountability	Being reliable and trustworthy in fulfilling duties.	Responsibility	Owning one's duties and being accountable for one's actions.
Tolerance	Tolerance is the ability to endure differences	Open-mindedness	Willingness to consider new ideas and respect differences.	Acceptance	Embracing people and situations without harsh judgment or resistance.
Sense of Unfairness	Natural emotional sense that unfairness is wrong.	Justice	Desire and action to treat people fairly and impartially.	Equity	Ensuring individuals get what they uniquely need, recognizing differences.
Recognition of Differences	Natural awareness that beings, appearances, and behaviours are different.	Pluralism	Respectful welcoming of different beliefs, cultures, and ways of life.	Diversity	Valuing and celebrating the full richness of human variety.
Social Bonding	Natural human tendency to seek connection, relationships, and group belonging.	Accommodation	Adjusting attitudes and behaviours to include others, making room for diversity.	Inclusivity	Actively welcoming and valuing all individuals, regardless of their differences.

Value, Aspect, Questionnaire and their relation

Four aspects of each of the core universal Humane values are chosen based on the similar idea presented in its definition. The example of Selflessness is given here.

Core Universal Humane Value – Selflessness

Definition: Selflessness is most plausibly thought of as putting others ahead of oneself. [59]

Aspect 1: Selflessness represents divine, unconditional, volitional, and self-sacrificing love. [69]

Aspect 2: It is characterized by low levels of self-centeredness and a low degree of importance given to the self. [70]

Aspect 3: To a focus on meeting others' needs above one's own; showing concern for other people's welfare and acting to help them. [71]

Aspect 4: It is based on a weak distinction between self and others, and between self and the environment as a whole, which takes the form of a sense of connectedness. [70]

Discussion on relation definition and 4 aspects

In this section we discuss on how these four aspects can be developed for each core universal humane value. The concept of Selflessness is putting others ahead of oneself, this value encompasses behaviour, intention and attitude of the person. The four aspects of selflessness have been framed based on the four keywords that characterise selflessness as described below. The key words are given below:

Aspect 1 Key words: Self-sacrificing love

Aspect 2 Key words: Low levels of self-centeredness

Aspect 3 Key words: Helping others

Aspect 4 Key words: Sense of Connectedness

Sample Questions Measuring the Four Aspects of Selflessness

Selflessness Aspect 1 has three questions.

Question 1. How regularly do you look for ways to support others?

Question 2. How often do you offer help to others without expecting anything in return?

Question 3. How often do you show respect and kindness to people from all walks of life?

Selflessness Aspect 2 has three questions.

Question 1. How often do you act with concern for others?

Question 2. How often do you extend help to someone, even if it takes your time?

Question 3. How often do you forgive someone even if they hurt you?

Selflessness Aspect 3 has three questions.

Question 1. How often do you think about others before thinking about your own comfort?

Question 2. How often do you contribute to the well-being of everyone?

Question 3. How often do you remain kind and helpful when someone is rude to you?

Selflessness Aspect 4 has three questions.

Question 1. How often do you treat strangers with the same care and concern as you do with friends or family?

Question 2. How often do you speak or act with kindness and care toward people regardless of their background, status, or opinions?

Question 3. How often do you feel happy when others are happy?

The above questions are one example of how to measure the "Selflessness" aspect of the Humaine Quotient, the concept of measuring an individual's humane qualities. Similar response scales could be used to measure the other seven core universal humane values.

Conclusion

The Humane Quotient (HuQ) represents a transformative model for assessing how "Humane" an individual is. By integrating "Human Essence" and EDI, the HuQ model offers a comprehensive and integrated approach to evaluate the care aspect of an individual. Through its practical approach, the HuQ helps us to realise individual potential and contribute meaningfully with the feeling of oneness.

Future research could further develop the questions for each aspect of the eight core values. A pilot survey with a random representative sample of respondents could be run to identify the best performing wording. Analysis of the pilot survey data would enable us to observe whether the proposed question wording best measures the different aspects of each aspect of the HuQ.

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Article

Harnessing Large Language Models in the Construction Industry: A Comprehensive Review of Applications, Challenges, and Future Directions

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Abstract: The construction industry is entering a transformative era driven by the convergence of artificial intelligence (AI) and digitalization. Among the most impactful advancements is the emergence of Large Language Models (LLMs), which are reshaping knowledge work across architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) domains. This paper presents a comprehensive review of LLM applications in the construction sector, examining their role in design automation, building code compliance, predictive analytics, report generation, sustainability planning, and post-construction facility management. By synthesizing recent developments from leading research and industry use cases, we analyze the technical underpinnings, practical benefits, and deployment challenges associated with LLMs in construction workflows. The study highlights the importance of domain-specific fine-tuning, integration with legacy systems and BIM platforms, and the ethical implications surrounding accountability, transparency, and data privacy. Furthermore, we outline future directions, including hybrid LLM-BIM frameworks, multimodal design generation, and digital twin integration.The findings underscore that while LLMs are not a replacement for human expertise, they are poised to become indispensable collaborators in enabling faster, smarter, and more inclusive built environment solutions. This review serves as a roadmap for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers seeking to responsibly leverage generative AI in construction innovation.

Key Words: Artificial Intelligence, Large Language Models, Construction Automation, Building Information Modeling, Design Compliance, Generative AI, Digital Twins, Multimodal AI,

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1. Introduction

The construction industry is undergoing a digital transformation driven by the integration of artificial intelligence (AI), data-driven decision-making, and automation. Among the recent breakthroughs in AI, Large Language Models (LLMs) stand out due to their exceptional capacity to process, understand,

and generate human-like text based on large corpora of data. Originally developed for natural language tasks such as translation and summarization, LLMs have rapidly expanded into domain-specific applications, including software development, healthcare, finance, and increasingly, construction and infrastructure planning. Their ability to synthesize complex information, respond interactively, and adapt to domain-specific requirements positions LLMs as a key enabler of innovation in architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) sectors.

The construction industry faces persistent challenges including project delays, communication bottlenecks among stakeholders, regulatory compliance, cost overruns, and the lack of intelligent decision support tools. According to Liu et al. (2024), over 60% of medium- to large-scale infrastructure projects experience significant delays due to miscommunication and documentation issues. Traditional tools such as Building Information Modeling (BIM), Computer-Aided Design (CAD), and Project Management Information Systems (PMIS) have improved aspects of visualization and coordination, but they often fall short in automated reasoning, predictive insight, and adaptive planning. This has paved the way for new technologies like LLMs that can operate as intelligent intermediaries between data, users, and downstream systems.

Recent research indicates that LLMs, when integrated into construction workflows, can assist in automating design compliance, report generation, project forecasting, material selection, and stakeholder communication. For example, Zhang et al. (2024) demonstrated how LLMs can automate BIM compliance checks by interpreting regulatory codes and cross-validating architectural designs. Similarly, Zhou et al. (2024) showed how LLMs generate structured reports for large infrastructure projects, reducing human effort and improving accuracy. These models are not only able to parse technical documentation but also engage in interactive Q&A, generate visual concepts from text prompts, and support multiple languages, enabling seamless coordination across geographically distributed teams (Li & Wu, 2024).

At the core of LLMs' success lies their ability to generate semantically rich embeddings and context-aware predictions. However, their deployment in construction is still in its early stages and comes with several challenges. Among these are domain adaptation—the ability of a generic model to specialize in construction-specific language and tasks; ethical concerns related to authorship, transparency, and decision accountability (Li et al., 2024); and technical barriers such as the integration with legacy software and the protection of sensitive project data (Huang et al., 2024). Additionally, there is a knowledge gap in understanding how LLMs can be optimized for multi-modal tasks involving visual data, spatial reasoning, and structured outputs like floor plans or energy consumption profiles.

This paper aims to present a comprehensive review of the current state and future potential of LLMs in the construction industry. We begin by reviewing foundational concepts, then examine recent applications across six key areas: design automation, compliance checking, delay prediction, report generation, maintenance optimization, and sustainable design. We follow this with an analysis of the major challenges and risks associated with LLM adoption, such as domain-specific fine-tuning, multilingual coordination, and legacy system compatibility. In the final sections, we propose a roadmap for future research, including hybrid models integrating LLMs with digital twins, multimodal design tools, and risk management platforms.

By synthesizing research across academic and industry sources, this paper contributes to both the theoretical and practical understanding of how LLMs can transform construction workflows. The discussion is anchored in empirical findings, use-case demonstrations, and a set of best-practice principles for deploying generative AI in mission-critical design environments.

2. Background and Theoretical Foundation

The emergence of Large Language Models (LLMs) represents a paradigm shift in artificial intelligence, particularly in the domain of natural language understanding and generation. Built on transformer-based architectures, Large Language Models (LLMs) like GPT-4, BERT, ERNIE 3.0, and FLAN-T5 are built upon transformer-based frameworks and have quickly established themselves as powerful tools capable of generating contextually accurate, coherent, and adaptable outputs across various domains. These models are developed using extensive datasets and rely on unsupervised learning techniques to grasp complex semantic patterns that span across multiple languages and disciplines (Zhang et al., 2024). The architecture itself—featuring mechanisms such as multi-head self-attention and position-wise feedforward layers—enables the model to understand long-range relationships in language and encode nuanced domain knowledge effectively.

Within the construction industry, the adoption of LLMs is a relatively recent development, but their use is gaining momentum. Construction presents unique linguistic and structural challenges—ranging from highly specialized terminology to varied input formats including textual descriptions, technical drawings, and programming scripts. Unlike more generic fields, construction documentation often combines tabular data, spatial annotations, and detailed specifications that require precise, context-aware interpretation. Conventional rule-based systems and early machine learning approaches have largely struggled to manage this level of complexity, particularly when quick turnaround or large-scale processing is necessary.

The introduction of transformer architectures has helped address many of these bottlenecks by offering a model structure that is both scalable and adaptable to specific tasks. For instance, Wang and Chen (2024) demonstrated that ERNIE 3.0 has shown remarkable efficiency in handling legal and compliance-related tasks within engineering domains by drawing on structured databases and domain-specific knowledge graphs. These strengths make such models highly effective in construction scenarios—for example, automating building code verification, interpreting regulatory language, or validating design requirements against digital BIM environments.

Another key advantage is the support for zero-shot and few-shot learning. This means LLMs can complete tasks even when provided with limited training data—an important feature in construction environments where datasets are often fragmented, highly localized, or rapidly changing. As a result, these models offer promising capabilities for handling dynamic, information-intensive workflows across the construction lifecycle.

Liu et al. (2024) highlighted how LLMs were used to predict construction delays in infrastructure projects by analyzing unstructured data from meeting transcripts, progress reports, and email threads. Their model showed a 22% improvement over baseline statistical models in identifying early signals of schedule risk.

Another theoretical foundation relevant to construction applications is prompt engineering, a technique that involves carefully crafting input prompts to elicit desired behavior from an LLM. In architecture and civil engineering contexts, this can involve queries like: "Summarize zoning constraints for a 40-acre urban site," or "Generate an initial building layout plan for a residential complex with six towers." Prompt engineering enables generative systems to act as design assistants, allowing non-programmers such as architects or planners to engage directly with the AI through natural language inputs (Zhou et al., 2024). To further increase the utility of LLMs in construction, researchers have explored fine-tuning and domain adaptation techniques. Fine-tuning refers to adjusting the parameters of a pre-trained model using a smaller, domain-specific dataset. The Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA) method is one such approach that allows efficient fine-tuning by injecting low-dimensional updates into a frozen pre-trained model, significantly reducing training time and memory usage (Xu et al., 2024). This is especially useful in the construction sector where access to large labeled datasets is limited and GPU resources are costly.

Another relevant foundation is multi-modal integration, which refers to LLMs interacting with other types of data such as images, graphs, or 3D models. In construction, this means combining text-based instructions with 3D visualizations, CAD drawings, or GIS maps. Zhang et al. (2024) demonstrated the early success of Multimodal LLMs in interpreting textual descriptions and generating 3D model previews for building designs. Seamlessly integrating LLMs into design workflows is especially valuable in construction, where planning, visualization, and simulation often occur in parallel. When LLMs are able to interact across these stages, they can enhance productivity, enable rapid iteration, and improve the alignment of design intent with functional outcomes.

However, despite notable progress, there remain several hurdles that limit the practical implementation of LLMs in the construction domain. One key issue is the presence of biases in the datasets used during pre-training, which can influence how models interpret technical information. In addition, most LLMs still struggle to handle symbolic reasoning, such as applying engineering equations or resolving quantitative design constraints. Another ongoing challenge lies in making these models more transparent—many LLMs offer limited explainability, making it difficult for professionals to fully understand or verify how a particular output was generated.

The construction industry is also contending with the challenge of embedding LLMs into existing digital infrastructures, including BIM platforms, project management dashboards, and enterprise resource planning tools. These systems are often rigid, proprietary, or siloed, which complicates direct integration. Nonetheless, recent developments—particularly in hybrid frameworks that blend LLMs with BIM data environments—are beginning to show encouraging results (Xu et al., 2024).

Overall, the foundational capabilities of LLMs—including transformer-based architectures, prompt engineering techniques, domain-specific fine-tuning, and support for multimodal inputs—are well aligned with the diverse and information-rich demands of construction workflows. Their strength lies in their capacity to process, interpret, and generate complex content across disciplines. Yet to fully capitalize on this potential, careful tailoring to construction-specific applications, strong ethical oversight, and thoughtful integration into digital ecosystems are essential.

3. Applications of LLMs in Construction

This section explores the growing impact of Large Language Models (LLMs) across key phases of the construction lifecycle. Their applications are no longer limited to isolated tasks but are increasingly influencing workflows from the early stages of design development through to real-time project monitoring and sustainable resource planning. Whether it's assisting in generating concept layouts, automating documentation, or supporting predictive maintenance, LLMs are gradually becoming integrated into the broader ecosystem of construction technologies. Their versatility allows them to support professionals at multiple touchpoints, streamlining processes, enhancing collaboration, and driving data-informed decision-making throughout the duration of a construction project.

3.1 Design Automation

One of the most transformative applications of LLMs in construction is automated design generation. Traditionally, the conceptual design phase requires multiple iterations between architects, engineers, and clients. LLMs reduce the communication gap by translating natural language descriptions into actionable design inputs. When combined with generative tools such as diffusion models or CAD plugins, LLMs can automate layout generation, assist with zoning requirements, and suggest configurations for various spatial elements.

For instance, Chen et al. (2024) demonstrated a pipeline where architects could describe a desired spatial composition—such as "three residential towers with adjacent parks and underground parking"—and the LLM

would generate a structured plan including zoning constraints and material estimates. These tools significantly reduce design time, enhance creative exploration, and allow more inclusive participation by stakeholders unfamiliar with traditional drafting tools.

LLMs also support parametric design exploration, where design variables such as lot size, building orientation, or height restrictions are defined in natural language and automatically interpreted into models. This is particularly helpful in regulatory-sensitive zones or when accommodating climate-adaptive urban layouts.

3.2 BIM Compliance

Building Information Modeling (BIM) is central to modern construction planning, enabling digital representation of physical and functional characteristics. Yet, ensuring that BIM models comply with evolving regulations is labor-intensive. LLMs, when fine-tuned on building codes and compliance rules, can automatically validate BIM components for code adherence.

Zhang et al. (2024) introduced an LLM-based compliance engine that could process BIM object descriptions and cross-reference them with city-specific building codes. The model could detect non-compliant elements (e.g., stair dimensions, fire exit placements) and provide corrective suggestions in plain text. Such automation not only reduces the workload of compliance officers but also prevents costly redesigns downstream.

Moreover, integration of LLMs with rule-based BIM libraries enhances the reusability of previously verified modules. The result is a more adaptive, compliance-aware BIM ecosystem capable of real-time feedback and human-AI collaboration.

3.3 Delay Prediction and Project Monitoring

Timely completion of construction projects is a well-documented challenge. LLMs can contribute to delay prediction by analyzing unstructured data such as progress reports, meeting notes, RFIs, and contractor communications. Liu et al. (2024) trained an LLM to flag schedule risks by identifying early indicators like missed milestones or procurement bottlenecks hidden in textual data.

The model outperformed traditional regression-based forecasting methods by capturing linguistic signals of risk such as urgency, sentiment, and stakeholder concerns. This approach is especially valuable for megaprojects where human monitoring is resource-intensive.

Project managers can integrate LLMs into their dashboard systems for proactive alerts, sentiment summaries, and next-best-action recommendations. Over time, such predictive insights can be coupled with reinforcement learning agents to autonomously adjust schedules or resource allocation.

3.4 Automated Report Generation

Construction documentation is an essential yet repetitive task, involving progress updates, compliance checklists, financial summaries, and safety audits. LLMs can dramatically improve the efficiency of automated report generation.

Zhou et al. (2024) demonstrated how an LLM was used to compile weekly site progress reports from structured data and textual field inputs. The model was capable of drafting client-friendly summaries, technical logs, and visual annotations—all in multiple languages. This capability enhances communication, reduces human error, and ensures timely delivery of documentation.

More advanced systems use contextual memory to ensure continuity across reports. For example, if a safety issue is flagged in Week 3, the system can automatically check whether it was resolved in subsequent weeks, updating its narrative accordingly.

3.5 Sustainability and Material Optimization

With rising concerns about climate change, construction professionals are under pressure to reduce carbon footprints and material waste. LLMs can support sustainable material selection and life cycle analysis by analyzing product data sheets, environmental impact assessments, and procurement records.

Chen et al. (2024) developed a tool where users could describe their project scope and receive sustainability-focused suggestions for material types, suppliers, and compliance ratings. The model also included citations to relevant green building certifications (e.g., LEED, BREEAM), enabling compliance with environmental standards.

Moreover, LLMs can assist in design-for-disassembly planning, encouraging circular construction practices. These capabilities contribute to long-term cost savings, improved ESG ratings, and more resilient infrastructure.

3.6 IoT-Driven Maintenance

Beyond construction, LLMs are increasingly used in facility management and predictive maintenance. When paired with IoT sensors embedded in buildings, LLMs can interpret real-time data streams, maintenance logs, and anomaly reports.

Xu et al. (2024) presented an IoT-LLM framework that provided real-time diagnostics and maintenance recommendations for HVAC systems. Instead of waiting for manual checks, the system generated alerts such as "duct blockage detected on Floor 4" along with preventive maintenance protocols.

This integration allows facility managers to adopt predictive maintenance strategies, increasing equipment lifespan and reducing operational costs. Over time, these systems can learn patterns specific to certain equipment models or usage scenarios, refining their recommendations accordingly.

In summary, the applications of LLMs in construction are expanding rapidly and proving valuable across all project stages—from early design ideation to sustainability planning and post-construction management. The key differentiator lies in LLMs' ability to synthesize unstructured data, respond intelligently to user prompts, and adapt outputs based on domain knowledge. When combined with visual, spatial, and regulatory data, LLMs are poised to become central to the future of human-AI collaboration in the built environment.

4. Technical and Organizational Challenges

Despite the growing enthusiasm for LLM applications in the construction sector, several technical and organizational challenges hinder their seamless integration into real-world workflows. These challenges span across four key domains: domain-specific fine-tuning, data privacy and security, multilingual team coordination, and legacy system integration.

4.1 Domain-Specific Fine-Tuning

While general-purpose LLMs such as GPT, BERT, and ERNIE possess broad capabilities, their application in construction often demands domain-specific adaptation. The technical vocabulary, spatial semantics, and regulatory nuances found in construction documents require models to undergo fine-tuning on curated datasets. However, domain-specific data is scarce, often siloed within proprietary BIM systems or stored as non-machine-readable PDFs and scans.

Wang et al. (2024) emphasized that construction-specific fine-tuning requires not only architectural language corpora but also annotated compliance documents, CAD metadata, and project logs. A widely adopted method for adapting LLMs to specific domains is Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA). This approach enables efficient fine-

tuning by adjusting only a limited set of parameters, rather than retraining the entire model. As a result, LoRA significantly reduces both GPU memory demands and computational costs, making it especially practical for organizations that may not have access to high-performance computing resources (Xu et al., 2024).

That said, effectively applying LoRA in the construction domain is not without its challenges. Construction-related datasets tend to be highly contextual and multimodal, often combining textual specifications, diagrams, tables, and spatial references. This complexity makes it difficult to rely on traditional training objectives such as masked language modeling, which may not capture the nuances of domain-specific reasoning. Additionally, LoRA-based models can be prone to overfitting, particularly when working with limited or unevenly distributed training data. To address these issues, future work must explore semi-supervised approaches, cross-domain transfer learning, and the development of benchmarking protocols tailored specifically for construction-related applications

4.2 Privacy and Security Concerns

A critical concern in construction is the protection of sensitive information. Projects frequently involve confidential designs, stakeholder negotiations, legal liabilities, and financial records. LLMs, especially cloud-hosted ones, can pose data leakage risks if not properly sandboxed.

Huang et al. (2024) highlighted that many LLM deployments in construction depend on cloud-based APIs (e.g., OpenAI, AWS Bedrock, Google Vertex AI), which may transmit data to third-party servers. Although many cloud-based AI platforms promote strong data privacy standards, there remains a lack of clarity around how data is stored, who can access it, and how usage is audited. Even when LLMs are deployed on-premises, they carry the inherent risk of memorizing and unintentionally reproducing fragments of sensitive training data—an especially serious concern when working with confidential construction documents or proprietary design files.

To address these risks, organizations should adopt a privacy-conscious approach to LLM deployment. This includes conducting fine-tuning in secure environments, leveraging differential privacy techniques, and ensuring full alignment with regional data protection regulations such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in Europe or India's Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act. In addition, enhancing model transparency and traceability is crucial—particularly for use cases that involve structural compliance, regulatory interpretation, or high-impact design decisions. Integrating model logs and explainability tools can help stakeholders understand the rationale behind AI-generated outputs and provide a mechanism for accountability.

An equally important concern is the misuse of LLMs, particularly in scenarios where models could be manipulated to produce misleading reports, unauthorized permits, or designs that circumvent regulatory standards. To preserve trust and reliability, organizations must implement ethical safeguards such as output validation, prompt restrictions, and model red-teaming—a practice where models are deliberately tested against potential misuse scenarios. These measures are essential for upholding the credibility of AI-assisted workflows in safety-critical industries like construction.

4.3 Multilingual Collaboration in Global Projects

Construction projects increasingly span continents, involving stakeholders from different linguistic, cultural, and regulatory backgrounds. This requires tools that not only understand multilingual prompts but also local context and regulatory diversity. Li and Wu (2024) reported how LLMs fine-tuned on multilingual corpora enabled teams across Europe and Asia to collaborate seamlessly. Workers in Korea could enter site conditions in Korean, while project managers in Germany received automated English summaries with metric conversions and localized compliance flags. Such multilingual interoperability can reduce translation errors, improve inclusivity, and accelerate project documentation.

However, these benefits hinge on robust language models and fine-grained regional training data. Construction terminology often differs not just by language but also by region (e.g., "plasterboard" in the UK vs "drywall" in the US). Furthermore, many AI systems struggle with non-English scripts, dialectical inputs, or regulatory texts in regional languages.

Addressing this requires LLM developers to:

- Expand multilingual training datasets with architecture-specific terminology.
- Use translation-memory approaches to reinforce consistency.
- Incorporate contextual embeddings for region-specific regulations.
- Provide customization interfaces where users can adjust linguistic settings, units, and formatting standards.

4.4 Legacy System Integration

Perhaps one of the most pressing organizational challenges is integrating LLMs with legacy tools such as AutoCAD, Revit, Excel-based cost estimators, and Oracle Primavera. These platforms form the backbone of construction workflows but are often siloed, proprietary, and incompatible with modern AI APIs.

Liu and Zhang (2024) emphasized that construction firms typically rely on fragmented systems—each optimized for a specific function—but lack the APIs or infrastructure to allow seamless interaction with LLMs. For instance, a model trained to auto-summarize construction progress may not have direct access to Primavera schedules or CAD annotations.

To overcome this, firms must invest in:

- Middleware APIs that translate between LLM outputs and legacy formats.
- Plug-ins that embed LLM functionality into Revit or BIM 360 dashboards.
- Data standardization protocols like IFC (Industry Foundation Classes) and COBie for consistent representation of building components.
- Edge computing gateways that allow secure, on-site deployment of models with minimal internet dependence.

However, such integration efforts face resistance from legacy vendors, lack of skilled AI engineers in the field, and the cost of digital transformation. A staged roadmap—starting with non-critical applications like report generation and gradually moving toward core planning tasks—can ease this transition.

In conclusion, while the technical power of LLMs is indisputable, realizing their potential in construction requires resolving several interconnected challenges. These range from resource-efficient fine-tuning and data governance to multilingual adaptation and legacy compatibility. The success of future AI deployments will depend not just on model performance but on how well they align with organizational constraints, regulatory compliance, and ethical responsibilities.

5. Ethical and Governance Considerations

As LLMs become embedded in construction workflows—from design automation to compliance analysis—they raise significant ethical and governance concerns. These go beyond traditional data privacy issues and extend into domains of authorship, accountability, fairness, and trust. The construction sector, often governed by strict safety regulations and long-standing professional practices, must approach LLM deployment with clear ethical frameworks and responsible governance mechanisms.

5.1 Authorship and Accountability

A fundamental question raised by the use of generative AI is: Who is responsible for AI-generated content? In construction, this question holds weighty implications. For example, if an LLM incorrectly recommends a structural configuration or omits a safety-critical design element, the responsibility for that error becomes ambiguous.

Li et al. (2024) argue that while LLMs can automate aspects of planning, they must be treated as assistive tools, not decision-makers. Human oversight remains essential. Just as a CAD tool doesn't remove the architect's liability, an LLM cannot absolve engineers or planners from verifying generated outputs. This requires clear attribution policies, where AI-generated content is labeled as such and reviewed by licensed professionals before approval.

Construction firms may consider adopting model confidence scores, audit logs, and version tracking to trace how a particular decision or drawing element was influenced by AI. Furthermore, collaboration with legal experts is necessary to revise contracts and compliance documents in light of AI-assisted planning.

5.2 Transparency and Explainability

Another challenge is the black-box nature of many LLMs. Their outputs, while coherent, often lack explainability. This can be problematic when models generate zoning recommendations, cost projections, or compliance interpretations that professionals are expected to trust or act upon.

Chen et al. (2024) advocate for embedding explainability features into construction-focused LLM interfaces. This includes:

- Showing which parts of the prompt most influenced the output.
- Highlighting matched regulatory clauses.
- Providing source citations for data used in suggestions (e.g., green building codes, historical project data).

Such transparency not only enhances user trust but also reduces the risk of inappropriate over-reliance on the model. Tools like SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations) can be adapted to the construction context for this purpose.

5.3 Bias and Fairness

LLMs inherit biases from their training data, which often comes from public internet sources, industry publications, or project archives. In construction, this raises concerns related to regional discrimination, gender biases in workforce planning, and economic inequality in urban modeling.

For example, an LLM trained predominantly on Western architectural designs may fail to account for vernacular building styles, local materials, or culturally appropriate layouts in non-Western regions (Zhou et al., 2024). Similarly, if workforce planning tools learn from biased records, they may perpetuate underrepresentation of certain groups in skilled construction roles.

To combat these risks, ethical AI governance requires:

- Bias audits during training and inference stages.
- Diverse training datasets that reflect global design contexts and inclusive planning norms.
- Ethics checklists for prompt engineering and output validation.

Additionally, construction regulators and academic institutions must collaborate on defining fairness metrics for AI-generated plans, especially in contexts involving public infrastructure and housing.

5.4 Regulatory Compliance and Policy Gaps

Most building regulations today do not account for the presence of autonomous or generative AI systems in the design loop. Yet, the decisions made by LLMs could affect project timelines, safety, and public welfare. This raises an urgent need for regulatory modernization.

Zhang et al. (2024) suggest that governments and standards bodies (e.g., ISO, BIS, ASHRAE) should begin integrating AI clauses into their guidelines. These could cover:

- Documentation standards for AI-assisted designs.
- Minimum validation steps for LLM-generated plans.
- Liability protocols in case of AI-induced failure or code violation.

Furthermore, construction licensing boards may need to establish competency frameworks for professionals working alongside AI—requiring them to understand its capabilities, limitations, and risks. Similar to the cybersecurity certifications seen in other sectors, construction may soon require AI proficiency audits for firms seeking government tenders or smart city contracts.

5.5 Social Acceptance and Workforce Impact

Beyond technical and regulatory ethics, there's a broader question of social acceptance. The introduction of LLMs into construction workflows has the potential to reshape traditional roles and responsibilities, leading to understandable concerns among professionals such as draftsmen, planners, and compliance officers who may fear that automation will render their expertise obsolete. These anxieties are not unfounded, especially in an industry where job roles are often tightly linked to well-established processes and tools.

Yet, current evidence indicates that LLMs function more as collaborative tools than as replacements. Their real strength lies in taking over time-consuming and repetitive tasks—such as documentation, data retrieval, and report generation—thereby enabling professionals to focus on more complex activities that demand human judgment, creative problem-solving, and stakeholder engagement. In fact, research by Davis and Wilson (2023) found that construction firms experienced improved employee morale and job satisfaction when AI systems were positioned as supportive partners rather than substitutes.

To ensure a smooth and inclusive transition, construction education programs must evolve to prepare the workforce for AI-integrated environments. This involves promoting AI literacy, training professionals in human-AI collaboration strategies, and cultivating a mindset of adaptability. Ethical deployment of LLMs also calls for comprehensive reskilling initiatives, accessible user interface design, and open communication that keeps all stakeholders informed and engaged in the AI integration process.

Ultimately, the responsible adoption of LLMs in construction should be guided by a multi-dimensional governance framework—one that addresses attribution, transparency, fairness, regulatory compliance, and workforce impact. As the technology continues to evolve, ethical considerations must keep pace, ensuring that AI enriches the industry's foundational values of safety, equity, and collaborative innovation.

6. Future Directions for LLM Adoption

As the use of Large Language Models (LLMs) in the construction sector continues to evolve, the focus is gradually shifting from basic text-based automation toward more advanced, multimodal and integrated AI systems that operate in real-time. These next-generation tools are expected to interact not only with language but also with visual data, 3D models, and sensor networks, allowing for a more comprehensive and responsive approach to planning, execution, and management. This section highlights four key directions that are poised to shape the future of LLM deployment across the lifecycle of the built environment—from early design concepts to operational infrastructure management.

6.1 Multimodal LLMs and 3D Design

In the coming years, the role of LLMs in construction is expected to extend well beyond text processing, with growing emphasis on multimodal inputs and outputs. These will include not only natural language but also 3D models, CAD drawings, satellite imagery, and spatial datasets. This shift is particularly important in the construction domain, where much of the design logic depends on visual-spatial understanding and the ability to interpret complex geometrical relationships.

Zhang et al. (2024) introduced a prototype that combines text-to-image diffusion models with an LLM backbone to generate 3D previews of architectural layouts from natural language prompts. Users can input phrases like "a U-shaped academic complex with pedestrian access and green zones," and the system responds with 3D volumetric suggestions grounded in design logic.

Such systems will allow designers to:

- Quickly iterate on massing studies.
- Receive textual critiques or zoning feedback.
- Integrate geometry-aware prompts into design reasoning.

This multimodal approach has wide-ranging implications for early-stage concept design, client presentations, and participatory planning processes. In the future, prompt-to-3D workflows may become as common as today's BIM modeling.

6.2 Hybrid LLM-BIM Frameworks

To maximize their utility, LLMs must integrate with domain-specific digital ecosystems like Building Information Modeling (BIM). Xu et al. (2024) propose a hybrid LLM-BIM framework in which the language model serves as a semantic interpreter and the BIM system executes geometry generation and constraint checking.

6.3 Digital Twin Integration

The future of construction is increasingly tied to digital twins—real-time, data-rich virtual representations of physical infrastructure. Digital twins integrate sensor data, simulation models, and operational logs, allowing stakeholders to monitor, analyze, and optimize built environments continuously.

Zhou et al. (2024) envision LLMs acting as natural language interfaces for digital twins. For example, a facilities manager could ask, "What's the average temperature fluctuation in Building B's third-floor corridor last month?" and the LLM would query IoT databases and return human-readable insights.

More advanced use cases may include:

- Summarizing predictive maintenance alerts.
- Simulating design interventions (e.g., adding skylights or shading elements).
- Suggesting energy optimization strategies based on real-time data.

When paired with multimodal capabilities, LLMs could become intuitive dashboards for scenario simulation, policy evaluation, and urban planning in smart cities.

6.4 Risk Mitigation in Megaprojects

LLMs hold particular promise for improving decision-making in large-scale infrastructure and megaprojects, where complexity, coordination, and risk levels are high. These projects often involve thousands of documents, multiple contractors, and shifting stakeholder requirements—making them ripe for AI-enhanced monitoring.

Chen et al. (2024) demonstrate how LLMs can ingest massive volumes of project documentation, extract latent signals of financial, legal, or scheduling risk, and summarize them in actionable form. For example, if five separate reports hint at a geotechnical concern, the LLM might flag it as a potential delay source even before it's explicitly stated.

Beyond reactive analysis, LLMs may soon power proactive design validation tools that:

- Simulate environmental impacts under regulatory thresholds.
- Evaluate labor demands against regional availability.
- Forecast contract compliance risks across multi-phase builds.

Combined with reinforcement learning and simulation engines, LLMs can be embedded into real-time risk dashboards, making them indispensable tools for decision-makers overseeing billion-dollar assets.

7. Conclusion

The construction industry stands at the cusp of a technological revolution, driven by the unprecedented capabilities of Large Language Models (LLMs). These models, originally designed for general-purpose language understanding, are now being fine-tuned, extended, and reimagined for domain-specific applications across the architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) landscape.

This paper has provided a comprehensive review of how LLMs are being harnessed in the construction sector. Beginning with foundational insights into their architecture and training paradigms, we traced their progression into core areas of construction, including design automation, BIM compliance, project forecasting, report generation, sustainability planning, and IoT-enabled maintenance. LLMs have shown significant promise across a wide range of construction applications demonstrating their capacity to boost efficiency, streamline workflows, foster collaboration, and reduce the potential for human error. Their versatility allows them to support tasks from conceptual design to compliance checking, predictive analysis, and documentation, making them increasingly valuable in modern construction ecosystems.

This review also explored the technical hurdles that need to be addressed for broader adoption. These include the limited availability of high-quality, domain-specific datasets, the challenge of developing resource-efficient fine-tuning methods like Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA), and the complexities involved in integrating LLMs with legacy tools such as AutoCAD or Oracle Primavera. In parallel, we underscored the importance of strong governance practices to navigate issues of privacy, fairness, and transparency. Looking ahead, the research community must focus on enabling multimodal integration, developing hybrid LLM-BIM systems, and advancing digital twin capabilities tailored to the built environment.

A particularly valuable contribution of LLMs is their ability to connect disparate elements of the construction workflow—linking people, tools, and datasets in ways that enhance project coherence. For instance, these models can help a civil engineer in Bangalore and a project manager in Berlin communicate effortlessly through

real-time multilingual summarization. They can assist architects in converting vague design intent into code-compliant 3D drafts, or allow facility managers to troubleshoot building systems simply by posing queries in natural language rather than searching through complex technical logs.

That said, it's important to recognize that LLMs are not a cure-all. They are powerful, but fundamentally statistical tools that require thoughtful implementation, consistent human supervision, and ongoing refinement. Their true value lies not in replacing skilled professionals, but in augmenting their capabilities—taking over repetitive, data-heavy, and procedural tasks so that experts can focus their energy on strategic decision-making, creative design, and client engagement. As we move forward, the key to successful AI integration in construction will lie in balancing automation with human insight and accountability.

To unlock the full value of LLMs in construction, a few key steps must be taken:

- Construction curricula should incorporate AI literacy and human–AI collaboration skills.
- Governments and industry bodies must define standards for AI integration, ensuring safety, ethics, and transparency.
- Organizations should invest in domain-specific model adaptation, data governance, and secure AI infrastructure.
- AI developers must build interoperable, explainable, and modular tools that integrate with existing AEC workflows.

In conclusion, the adoption of LLMs marks a transformative moment for the construction industry. As these models evolve toward multimodal reasoning, real-time simulation, and regulatory-aware design generation, they will become indispensable collaborators in shaping sustainable, efficient, and human-centered built environments. With the right safeguards and strategies, LLMs can catalyze a new era of intelligent infrastructure development—one that balances creativity with compliance, automation with accountability, and innovation with inclusion.

In such a setup, the LLM can:

- Translate user requirements into BIM-compatible commands.
- Flag non-compliant elements (e.g., overhanging balconies, egress paths).
- Recommend substitutions for materials, dimensions, or mechanical systems.

Meanwhile, the BIM environment retains control over geometry, units, and rule enforcement. This division of labor mirrors real-world collaboration: the LLM plays the role of an intelligent assistant while the BIM platform acts as the compliance enforcer and data store.

Hybrid frameworks will also accelerate modular design, where LLMs can identify reusable architectural components or suggest prefabricated solutions. Such systems support scalable design generation and may soon be embedded into commercial platforms like Autodesk Revit or ArchiCAD.

8. Looking Ahead

The next decade will likely see LLMs evolve from experimental tools to foundational infrastructure in AEC industries. However, this trajectory hinges on addressing several prerequisites:

- Interoperability with industry standards (e.g., IFC, COBie, gbXML).
- Modular plug-in development for integration into existing design suites.

- AI literacy programs for architects, planners, and site engineers.
- Funding and policy support for academic–industry collaboration.

Additionally, sustainable adoption will depend on energy-efficient training, governance mechanisms, and equitable access to LLM-powered platforms across both high-income and developing nations.

In essence, future-ready construction ecosystems will treat LLMs not as add-ons, but as interactive collaborators in the design and management of the built environment.

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Article

Microalgae as a source of antimicrobial compounds: A review of bioactive metabolites and their therapeutic potentials

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Abstract: Microalgae, a varied collection of photosynthetic microorganisms, have become a promising source of bioactive compounds known for their antimicrobial properties. These organisms can transform inorganic carbon-di-oxide (CO2) into biomass while producing an extensive range of primary and secondary metabolites, such as proteins, polysaccharides, lipids, pigments, and polyphenols, that demonstrate antibacterial, antiviral, antifungal, and antiprotozoal effects. As antibiotic-resistant microbes are on the rise, there is an urgent need to explore new treatment options. Microalgae, which have been largely overlooked, could be a promising source of novel antimicrobial compounds. Here, we review microalgae-derived substances that fight off various pathogens, including Gram-positive and Gram- negative bacteria, fungi, viruses, and protozoa. Early findings are promising, but more research is needed to fully understand these compounds, improve their production, and confirm their safety and efficacy in real-world medical use. The review highlights the potential of microalgae as a key tool in fighting infections and calls for continued research into their bioactive properties.

Keywords: Microalgae; Antimicrobial Compounds; Bioactive Metabolites; Antibiotic Resistance; Therapeutic Potential

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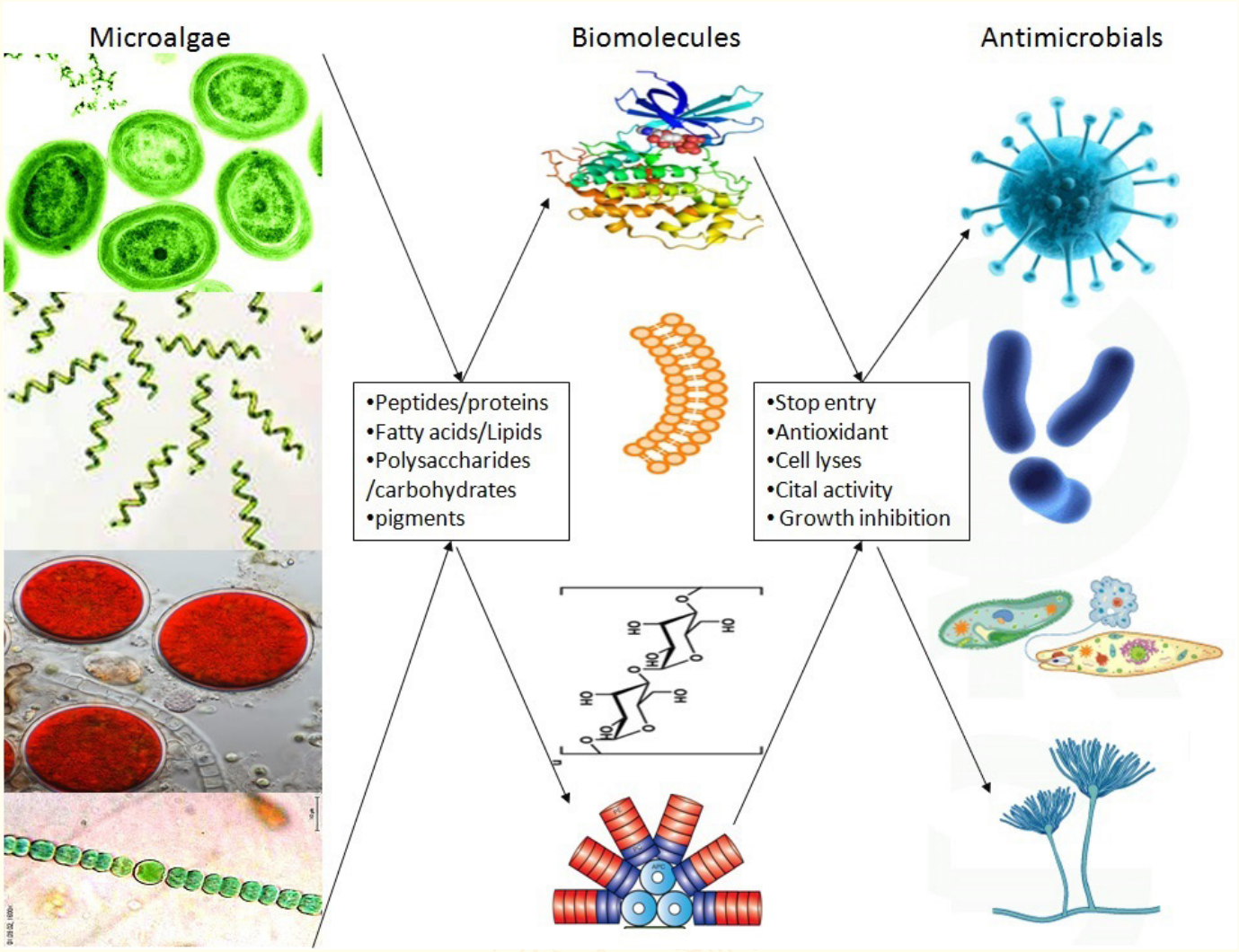
Graphical Abstract



1. Introduction

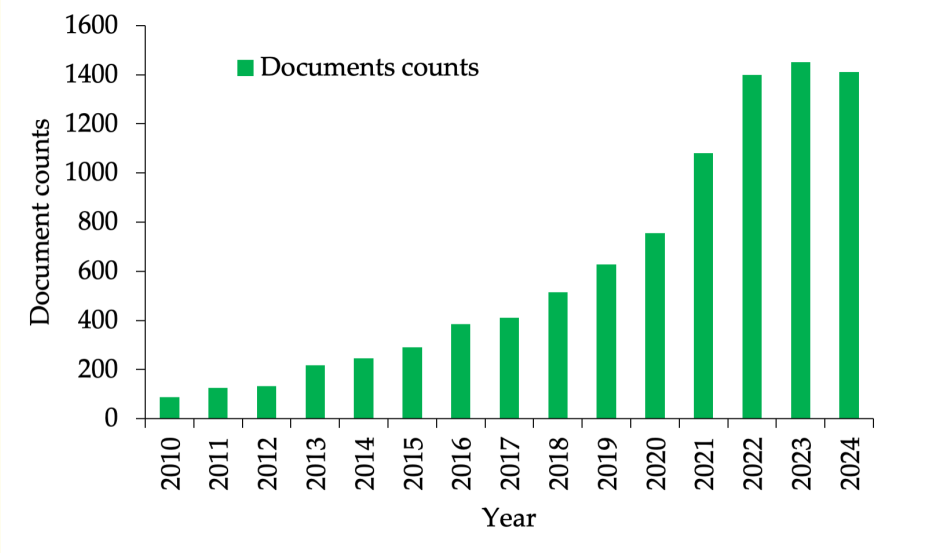
Microalgae, a varied collection of microscopic tiny (1-100µm) phytoplankton, are photosynthetic entities that can transform inorganic carbon dioxide into biomass utilizing water and light energy, thereby playing an essential role in the global carbon cycle[1]. Microalgae play a crucial role in ecosystems and are a goldmine of bioactive compounds with huge medical and pharmaceutical potential[2]. Their biomass is packed with proteins, polysaccharides, lipids, healthy fats, fibers, pigments, vitamins, and minerals making them useful across many industries[3]. They also produce powerful secondary metabolites like sterols, lectins, polyphenols, terpenes, and peptides, which have wide-ranging biological effects[4]. Compounds from microalgae show real promise in fighting bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites[5,6]. For instance, some microalgae-derived molecules have proven effective against antibiotic-resistant bacteria[7], viruses, fungi[8], and even protozoan infections[9], making them exciting candidates for new treatments.

With antibiotic resistance on the rise and few new drugs in the pipeline, the hunt for alternative antimicrobials has put microalgae in the spotlight. These tiny organisms are among Earth's oldest life forms, and humans have used them for millennia. Historical records show the Chinese relied on microalgae as a famine food over 2000 years ago, while the Aztecs included them in their diet, as noted by Spanish chroniclers[10,11]. Today,

we know microalgae are incredibly diverse with roughly ~1 million species, including both cyanobacteria and eukaryotic varieties. More than 50,000 species have been identified to date in oceans, lakes, and rivers[12]. Despite this diversity and their advantages over other microbes, the potential of microalgae as a source of bioactive compounds remains largely untapped. In the last decade, there has been a significant surge in interest, with a 3.5-fold increase in research publications focusing on the antimicrobial properties of microalgae (Figure 1).

This review offers an overview of the germ-fighting abilities of microalgae. It brings together recent breakthroughs in their use against hard-to-treat bugs, including ESKAPE bacteria and new fungal threats like mucormycosis. Unlike other reviews which focused on specific types of compounds or single pathogens, our work covers a wide range of microalgal products (peptides, fatty acids, polysaccharides, phenolics, and pigments) and the way they work against bacteria, fungi, viruses, and protozoa. This review also tackles cutting-edge topics such as gene tweaking and improving production processes giving a forward-looking view on how to turn microalgal research into real-world medical and farming uses. This big-picture approach highlights the untapped potential of microalgae as a lasting source of new germ-fighters in the face of worldwide antibiotic resistance

Figure 1. Number of documents counts on "Microalgae" and "Antimicrobials" for the period of 2010-2025 from the Google scholar database using custom range, accessed 12th March 2025 (https://scholar.google.com/).



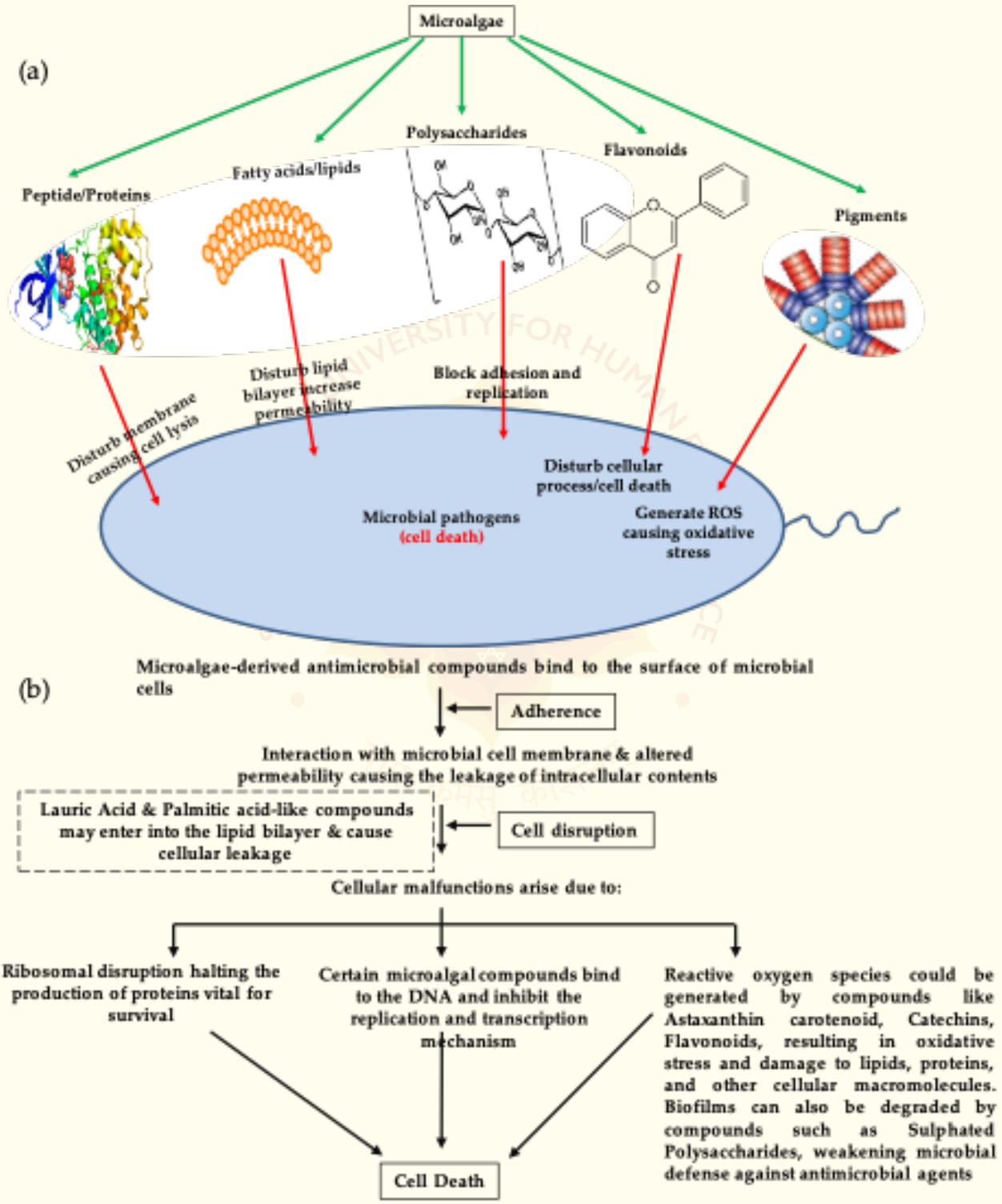
2. Microalgal Antimicrobial Compounds and Mode of Action

The rising incidence of antibiotic-resistant pathogens has prompted the exploration of new antimicrobial agents, with microalgae emerging as a largely underutilized source of such compounds. Their capacity to flourish in a variety of often harsh environments has led to the development of distinctive biochemical pathways, which in turn produce defensive compounds (both primary and secondary metabolites) that exhibit significant antimicrobial properties[13,14,15]. These metabolites, including peptides, fatty acids, polysaccharides, phenolic compounds, and pigments, have different modes of action (Table 1 and Figure 2), and demonstrate efficacy against a wide range of pathogens, encompassing bacteria, fungi, parasites, and viruses[15,16].

Table 1. Antimicrobial compounds produced by microalgae and their modes of action

Compound Type	Biomolecules/ Microalgae	Mode of Action	Pathogens Targeted	Reference
Peptides and Proteins	Nostocyclopeptides, AMPs from *Tetraselmis suecica*	Disrupt cell membranes, leading to cell lysis and de ath	Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria	[17,20]
Fatty Acids	EPA, DHA from *Chlorella, Spirulina, Phaeodactylum tricornutum*	Disrupt lipid bilayers, increasing membrane permeability	*Staphylococcus aureus, Escherichia coli,* MRSA	[21]
Polysaccharides	Sulfated polysaccharides from *Porphyridium, Dunaliella*	Inhibit bacterial and viral adhesion and replication; block viral entry	HSV, HIV, *Bacillus subtilis, Pseudomonas aeruginosa*	[24,25]
Phenolic Compounds	Flavonoids, phenolic acids, tannins from *Haematococcus pluvialis*	Neutralize ROS, disrupt cellular processes	*Candida albicans,* drug-resistant food-borne pathogens	[15,27]
Pigments	Phycobiliproteins, chlorophylls, carotenoids from *Chlorococcum humicola*	Generate ROS, cause oxidative stress, disrupt cell membranes	*B. subtilis, S. aureus, E. coli*	[28,29]

Figure 2. Microalgal antimicrobial compounds (a, b) and their mode of action



2.1 Peptides and Proteins

Microalgae are recognized for their ability to synthesize antimicrobial peptides (AMPs), which are small, positively charged molecules essential to the innate immune defense of these organisms. AMPs generally exert their antimicrobial properties by disrupting the cell membranes of pathogens, resulting in cell lysis and subsequent death[17,18]. For instance, the cyanobacterium *Nostoc* produces nostocyclopeptides, a category of cyclic peptides that have shown significant antibacterial efficacy against various Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. Additionally, research by Guzman et al.[20] revealed that AMPs extracted from the microalga *Tetraselmis suecica* also demonstrated antibacterial properties.

2.2 Fatty Acids

Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) derived from microalgae, including eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), have demonstrated notable antimicrobial effects. These fatty acids compromise the integrity of microbial cell membranes by disrupting lipid bilayers, which results in increased permeability and subsequent cell death. For example, microalgae such as *Chlorella* and *Spirulina* are recognized for their substantial production of PUFAs, which have been effective in inhibiting the proliferation of various bacterial pathogens, including *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*[21]. Additionally, EPA and DHA sourced from *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* have exhibited antimicrobial properties against methicillin-resistant strains of Gram-positive *S. aureus*[22]. Furthermore, fatty acid extracts from *Coccomyxa onubensis* have shown inhibitory effects against a diverse array of Gram-positive and Gram- negative bacteria as well as fungi, with the lowest minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) recorded at 305 and 106 µg/mL against *E. coli* and *Proteus mirabilis,* respectively[23]. The significance of the antimicrobial properties of these fatty acids is underscored by their dual functionality as both nutritional and therapeutic agents.

2.3 Polysaccharides

Sulfated polysaccharides extracted from microalgae, particularly those produced by *Porphyridium* and *Dunaliella*, have attracted significant interest due to their extensive antimicrobial properties. These polysaccharides impede the proliferation of bacteria and viruses by disrupting their adhesion and replication mechanisms. For instance, sulfated polysaccharides derived from *Porphyridium cruentum* have demonstrated the ability to inhibit the replication of herpes simplex virus (HSV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)[24]. The antiviral efficacy of these compounds is linked to their capacity to prevent viral entry into host cells, positioning them as promising candidates for antiviral therapy development. Recently, Pointcheval et al.[25] examined the antimicrobial characteristics of exopolysaccharide-rich extracts from five microalgal species, which exhibited growth inhibition against both Gram- positive (*Bacillus subtilis*) and Gram-negative bacteria (*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*), as well as fungi (*Cladosporium cladosporioides*). The diverse bioactive properties of these extracts vary according to the specific microalgal species involved.

2.4 Phenolic Compounds

Microalgae, particularly *Haematococcus pluvialis*, are known to synthesize phenolic compounds, which encompass flavonoids, phenolic acids, and tannins. These compounds possess significant antioxidant and antimicrobial properties. They effectively neutralize reactive oxygen species (ROS) and impede the proliferation of pathogenic microorganisms by interfering with their cellular mechanisms. For instance, phenolic compounds derived from *H. pluvialis* have demonstrated the ability to inhibit the growth of *Candida albicans*, a prevalent fungal pathogen[15]. The combined antioxidant and antimicrobial functions of these compounds render them especially advantageous in the formulation of multifunctional therapeutic agents[26]. Research conducted by Alshuniaber et al.[27], revealed that fraction B of the methanol extract from Spirulina is rich in polyphenols, which exhibit a broad spectrum of antimicrobial activity against drug-resistant foodborne bacterial pathogens. Additionally,

various potential secondary metabolites, including benzophenone, dihydro-methyl-phenylacridine, carbanilic acid, dinitrobenzoate, propanediamine, isoquinoline, piperidine, oxazolidine, and pyrrolidine, have shown efficacy against both Gram-positive and Gram-negative pathogens.

2.5 Pigments

Microalgae serve as abundant reservoirs of pigments, including phycobiliproteins, chlorophylls, and carotenoids, which have been recognized for their antimicrobial properties[28]. For example, the green alga *Chlorococcum humicola* synthesizes pigments that exhibit efficacy against various bacterial pathogens, such as *B. subtilis, S. aureus,* and *E. coli*[29]. The antimicrobial effects of these pigments are believed to arise from their capacity to produce ROS within microbial cells, resulting in oxidative stress and subsequent cell death. Additionally, these pigments can compromise bacterial cell membranes by interacting with their lipid components, leading to cell leakage and ultimately cell lysis. Microalgae thus represent a significant and largely underexplored source of antimicrobial agents. Ongoing research and advancements in microalgal biotechnology will be essential for fully harnessing the potential of these extraordinary organisms.

3. Microalgae as a Source of Antibacterial Activity

Microalgae have emerged as a promising source of bioactive compounds with antimicrobial properties, driven by the increasing burden of antibiotic resistance in humans[30.] These compounds have demonstrated significant potential in inhibiting a wide range of pathogenic bacteria, both Gram-positive and Gram-negative (Table 2). The first milestone in microalgal antibacterial research came with *Chlorella vulgaris*, from which bactericidal compounds were initially isolated, demonstrating effective inhibition against *P. aeruginosa, S. aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes,* and *B. subtilis*[31]. Further studies confirmed its broad-spectrum activity, with methanol extracts showing effectiveness against *S. aureus, E. coli*, *B. subtilis*, and *B. cereus*[32,33]. Notably, Chlorella sp. UKM8's methanol extract exhibited broad-spectrum activity against both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, attributed to compounds such as phenol (18.5%), hexadecanoic acid (18.25%), phytol (14.43%), and octadecadienoic acid (13.69%)[34]. Methanol extracts of *Scenedesmus obliquus* demonstrated activity against *E. coli, B. cereus*, and *S. aureus,* producing inhibition zones of 9-9.7 mm[35]. Additionally, whole-cell applications of *Scenedesmus spp.* cells eliminated *Salmonella enterica* growth within 48 hours, though the mechanism remained unclear[36]. Extracts from *Dunaliella tertiolecta* inhibited *S. aureus* and *P. aeruginosa*[37], while *D. salina* extracts, attributed to fatty acids like α-linolenic, palmitic, and oleic acid, showed activity against *E. coli,* and *S. aureus*[38]. The microalga *Isochrysis galbana* synthesized antibacterial fatty acids that notably limited the growth of pathogenic Vibrio species such as *V. alginolyticus*, *V. campbellii,* and *V. harveyi,* except *V. parahaemolyticus*[39].

Alsenani et al.,[40] found strong antibacterial activity against Gram-positive bacteria than Gram-negative bacteria from the microalgae extracts of *Isochrysis galbana, Scenedesmus sp.* and *Chlorella sp*., and identified and purified the fatty acids of linoleic acid, oleic acid, docosahexaenoicacid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) from the extract (Figure 3). Similarly, *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* extracts, particularly hexadecatrienoic acid (HTA), were active against *S. aureus,* including multidrug-resistant strains (MRSA)[41]. *T. suecica* extracts, containing fatty acids like methyl caprate and palmitic acid, elicited growth inhibition on *Streptococcus pyogenes*[42]. Short-chain fatty acids from *H. pluvialis* ethanolic extract also showed antimicrobial activity against Gram-negative *E. coli*[43]. *C. vulgaris* peptides inhibited *P. aeruginosa* growth[15,] while *Dunaliella tertiolecta* extracts also demonstrated activity against this pathogen[37]. *Nannochloropsis oceanica*, *Isochrysis* sp., and *Thalassiosira weissflogii* also showed promising results against *V. harveyi*[44].

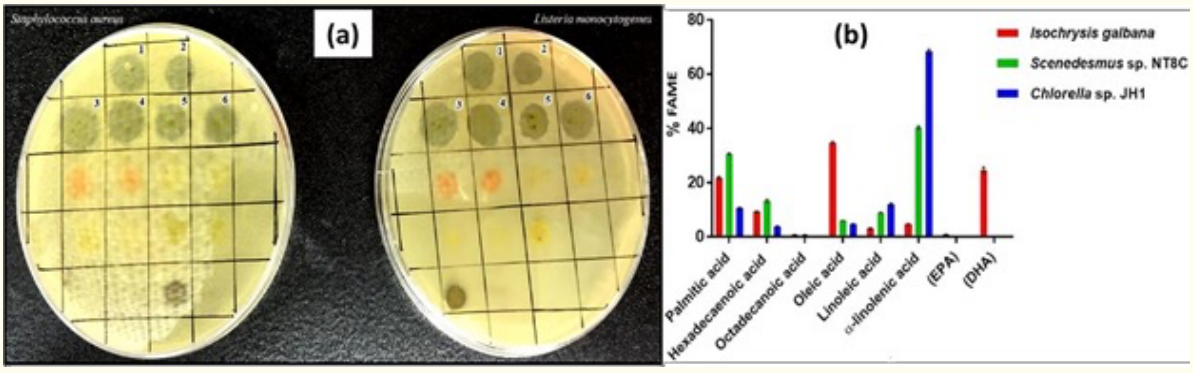
Ali and Doumandji[45] found methanol extract from Spirulina exhibited widespread spectrum of antimicrobial activities against Gram-positive bacteria (43 ± 4.24 mm) and minimum inhibitory concentrations (MIC) 128

± 0.71 µg/mL. Organic extracts from *Chlorella* excreted a broad spectrum of antimicrobial substances against Gram-negative bacteria. Recently, Ilieva et al.,[46] discussed *Arthrospira platensis* with very potent antibacterial activity and minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) as low as 2-15 µg/mL against bacterial fish pathogens including *Bacillus* and *Vibrio* spp., also demonstrated an inhibition zone (IZ) of 50 mm against *S. aureus*. *D. salina* exhibited MIC values lower than 300 µg/mL and an IZ value of 25.4 mm on different bacteria, while *D. tertiolecta* showed MIC values of 25 and 50 µg/mL against some Staphylococcus spp. These values fulfill the criteria for significant antibacterial activity and sometimes are comparable or exceed the activity of the control antibiotics. Fusiform morphotypes of *P. tricornutum* expressed higher antibacterial activity than oval morphotypes, attributed to high levels of palmitoleic acid and other bioactive fatty acids[22]. Interestingly, polysaccharides from *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* showed promising anti- biofilm potential by preventing biofilm formation and dissolving existing biofilms[47].

Influence of methanol extraction has proven effective for isolating antimicrobial components from microalgae[48]. For example, *Chlorella* methanolic extracts showed antimicrobial activity against various bacteria with MIC values ranging from 2.6 to 5 mg/mL[49]. Short-chain fatty acids from *H. pluvialis* ethanolic extract showed antimicrobial activity against *E. coli* and *S. aureus*[43]. Mixed solvents (methanol:acetone:diethyl ether mixture) extracts of desert-sourced *C. vulgaris* and *D. salina* demonstrated broad-spectrum antibacterial activity[50]. Environmental conditions may influence antibacterial properties, as demonstrated by *Cosmarium* sp., from hot springs showing significant activity against various bacteria[51], while *Cosmarium laeve* from non-extreme environments showed minimal activity. This indicates that stressed microalgae produce secondary metabolites with bioactive molecules, particularly with antimicrobial activities[52].

Further research has shown the efficacy of microalgal compounds against drug-resistant ESKAPE germs. For example, methanol extracts from *Chlorella vulgaris* stopped the growth of drug-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. The lowest amount needed to inhibit growth was 3.2 mg/mL[33]. Also fatty acid (palmitoleic acid) extracts from *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* were effective against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Acinetobacter baumannii*. The lowest amounts needed ranged from 50-100 µg/mL[41]. Furthermore, *Scenedesmus obliquus* extracts, which have phenolic compounds and fatty acids, showed good results (inhibition) against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*[35]. These results show that microalgal compounds could be new treatments for ESKAPE germs, and warrant continued investigations on their mechanism of action and for clinical use.

Figure 3. Reproduced with permission from Alsenani et al., (2020)[40], (a), Inhibition zones of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogenes* growth. 1: *Isochrysis galbana* crude extract; 2: I. galbana n-hexane fraction; 3: *Scenedesmus* sp. crude extract; 4: *Scenedesmus* sp. n-hexane fraction; 5: *Chlorella* sp. crude extract; 6: *Chlorella* sp. n-hexane fraction. (b), Percentage of individual fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) detected in each microalgal species.



3.1 Microalgal Compounds Against Biofilm Infections

Microalgal compounds have shown promise to fight biofilm infections, which resist antibiotics. Polysaccharides from C. *reinhardtii* have an impact on anti-biofilm activity. They stop biofilm formation and break up existing *P. aeruginosa* biofilms. At 100 µg/mL, they cut biofilm biomass by 60%[47]. Also methanolic extracts from *Scenedesmus obliquus* full of phenolic compounds, prevent *S. aureus* from forming biofilms. They reduce biofilm sticking by 70%[35]. These compounds likely alter or interfere with quorum sensing and the strength of the extracellular matrix, which are key to biofilm stability. This area also encourages continued research on mechanistic aspects and for their effective use in hospitals for long-lasting infections linked to medical devices.

Table 2. Antibacterial activity of microalgae, their active compounds, and the targeted bacterial pathogens

Microalgae Species	Active Compounds	Pathogens Targeted	Key Findings	Reference
C. vulgaris	Phenol, hexadecanoic acid, phytol, octadecadienoic acid	Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes, Bacillus subtilis	Broad-spectrum activity, effective against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria	[31,34]
Scenedesmus obliquus	Methanolic extracts	E. coli, B. cereus, S. aureus	Inhibition zones of 9-9.7 mm	[35]
Dunaliella tertiolecta	Fatty acids	S. aureus, P. aeruginosa	Inhibited growth of pathogens	[37]
Dunaliella salina	α-linolenic, palmitic, oleic acid	E. coli, S. aureus	MIC values lower than 300 µg/mL, IZ of 25.4 mm	[38]
Isochrysis galbana	Fatty acids	Vibrio alginolyticus, V. campbellii, V. harveyi,	Strong activity against Vibrio species	[39]
I. galbana, Scenedesmus sp. Chlorella sp.	*Fatty acids (linoleic acid, oleic acid, DHA and EPA*	S. aureus, Listeria monocytogenes	Strong activity against Gram-positive	[40]

4. Microalgal Antifungal Activity

Fungal diseases are among the deadliest contagious diseases, causing approximately 1.5 million deaths annually[53]. Recent outbreaks, such as mucormycosis (black fungus), have highlighted the urgent need for effective antifungal treatments[54]. Despite the potential of microalgae as a source of antifungal agents, only a limited number of studies have explored this area, even though over 400 fungal species are known to act as opportunistic human pathogens[55]. The detrimental effects of fungal infections, such as black gill infections, allergic reactions, and asthmatic diseases, underscore the need for more comprehensive screening of microalgal species to identify potential antifungal compounds[55].

Microalgae have shown promising antifungal properties against a range of fungal species (Table 3). For instance, fatty acids derived from *Nannochloropsis oculata* have been shown to inhibit the growth of *C. albicans*[56]. Similarly,

liquid extracts of *C. vulgaris* and *Chlorella ellipsoidea* exhibited antifungal activity against *Aspergillus niger* and *Aspergillus fumigatus*[57,58]. Ethanol extracts of *H. pluvialis*, containing methyl lactate and butanoic acid, also demonstrated antifungal properties against *A. niger*[43]. Several strains of microalgae isolated from freshwater lakes in Turkey have shown antifungal activity against *Saccharomyces cerevisiae, C. albicans, Candida tropicalis,* and *Chlorococcus* sp.[59]. Additionally, liquid extracts of *Chlorococcum humicola* and supercritical CO_2 extracts from *D. salina* have shown antifungal activity against *A. niger* and *C. albicans*[29]. Furthermore, liquid extracts of *Heterochlorella luteoviridis* and *Porphyridium purpureum* have been effective against *C. albicans*[60]. Karatungiols, a novel antimicrobial polyol compounds, were isolated from the cultivated symbiotic marine dinoflagellate *Amphidinium* sp., exhibited antifungal activity against *A. niger* at 12 µg/disc[61]. Aqueous extracts from microalgal species such as *Spirulina, Chlorella, Nannochloropsis, Scenedesmus,* and *P. tricornutum* have shown antagonistic activity against fungal pathogens like *Alternaria alternata, Sclerotium rolfsii,* and *Rhizoctonia solani* in vitro. Among these, *Scenedesmus obliquus* exhibited the highest inhibition against *S. rolfsii* (32.01 ± 4.82%), while *Nannochloropsis* sp. and *P. tricornutum* suppressed the growth of *S. rolfsii* and *R. solani* by up to18.35 ± 3.45%62. These results suggest that microalgae could serve as sustainable alternatives to chemical fungicides in agriculture.

Table 3. Antifungal activity of microalgae, their active compounds, and the targeted fungal pathogens

Microalgae Species	Active Compounds	Pathogens Targeted	Key Findings	Reference
Nannochloropsis oculata	Fatty acids	*Candida albicans*	Growth inhibition	[56]
Chlorella vulgaris	Liquid extracts	*Aspergillus niger, Aspergillus fumigatus*	Antifungal activity observed	[57]
Chlorella ellipsoidea	Liquid extracts	*A. niger, Aspergillus fumigatus*	Antifungal activity observed	[58]
Haematococcus pluvialis	Methyl lactate, butanoic acid	*A. niger*	Ethanol extracts showed antifungal properties	[43]
Chlorococcum humicola	Liquid extracts	*A. niger, C. albicans*	Antifungal activity observed	[29]
Dunaliella salina	Supercritical CO2 extracts	*A. niger, C. albicans*	Antifungal activity observed	
Heterochlorella luteoviridis	Liquid extracts	*C. albicans*	Effective against C. albicans	[60]
Porphyridium purpureum	Liquid extracts	*C. albicans*	Effective against C. albicans	
Amphidinium sp.	Karatungiols (polyol compounds)	*A. niger*	Antifungal activity at 12 µg/disc	[61]
Scenedesmus obliquus	Aqueous extracts	*Sclerotium rolfsii*	Highest inhibition (32.01 ± 4.82%) against S. rolfsii	[62]
Nannochloropsis sp.	Aqueous extracts	*S. rolfsii, Rhizoctonia solani*	Suppressed growth by up to 18.35 ± 3.45%	
Phaeodactylum tricornutum	Aqueous extracts	*S. rolfsii, R. solani*	Suppressed growth of fungal pathogens	
Spirulina	Aqueous extracts	*Alternaria alternata, S. rolfsii, R. solani*	Antagonistic activity against fungal pathogens	
Chlorella	Aqueous extracts	*A. alternata, S. rolfsii, R. solani*	Antagonistic activity against fungal pathogens	

5. Microalgal Antiviral Activity

Microalgae-derived compounds have demonstrated significant antiviral activity against a range of viruses, including herpes simplex virus (HSV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), influenza virus, and SARS-CoV-2 (Table 4) and shown potential development of antiviral therapies and vaccines. Sulfated polysaccharides from *Porphyridium cruentum* have shown antiviral activity against HSV and HIV[63]. Similarly, Spirulina extracts have been reported to inhibit the replication of influenza virus[64]. China's first anti-AIDS drug, a heparin-like sulfated polysaccharide (sulfated polymannuroguluronate, SPMG) extracted from the brown macroalga Saccharina japonica, has entered Phase II clinical trials. This compound inhibits HIV replication and interferes with HIV entry into host T lymphocytes[16]. The inhibitory effects of microalgae-based bioactive metabolites are often due to their interaction with the positive charge on the virus's cell surface, preventing penetration into the host cell. Alternatively, these compounds may inhibit viral genome transcription or obstruct the formation of new virus particles[65-67]. *Spirulina* pigments C-phycocyanin (PC) has demonstrated unique antiviral properties against HIV-1 by inhibiting reverse transcriptase and protease enzymes. A concentration of 0.356 mg/mL of PC was found to inhibit HIV-1 replication by 80% while remaining safe for normal cells[68]. Ethanol extracts from *H. pluvialis* have demonstrated strong inhibition of herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) infection. The antiviral activity is attributed to short-chain fatty acids such as propanoic, lactic, and butanoic acids, as well as palmitic acid, hexadecatrienoic acid, and α-linolenic acid[69]. Microalgal species such as *H. pluvialis* and *D. salina* have also shown antiherpetic activity[69]. Extracts from *A. maxima* demonstrated greater antiviral activity compared to the commercial antiviral ribavirin. The study involved culturing four microalgae strains and testing their antiviral effects in vitro, revealing all strains had anti-Mayaro activity[70]. Compounds such as α- and β-ionone, neophytadiene, β-cyclocitral, and phytol extracted from microalgae have demonstrated antiviral properties[71]. These compounds further underscore the potential of microalgae as a source of bioactive metabolites for antiviral applications. Algae-derived vaccines are being explored for their potential in treating viral infections. For example, *D. salina* has been used to express a surface antigen for hepatitis B treatment[72], and *Chlamydomonas* has been engineered to produce malaria vaccine antigens[73]. *Spirulina*- enriched diets have shown antiviral effects against HIV, improved insulin sensitivity, and regulated IL-6 and lipoprotein lipase activity. Immulina, a Spirulina extract, enhances immunological functions by activating toll-like receptors[74]. *H. pluvialis,* enriched with astaxanthin, has shown potential in reducing acute lung injury (ALI) and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). This suggests probable actions against cytokine storms caused by SARS-CoV-2 by increasing lymphocytes and reducing oxidative damage or decreasing IL-6 activity[75.76].

Table 4. Antiviral activity of microalgae, their active compounds, and the viral targets

Microalgae Species	Active Compounds	Pathogens Targeted	Key Findings	Reference
Porphyridium cruentum	Sulfated polysaccharides	HSV, HIV	Inhibited viral replication and entry	[63]
Spirulina	C-phycocyanin (PC)	Influenza virus, HIV-1	Inhibited viral replication; PC inhibited HIV-1 reverse transcriptase and protease	[64, 68]
Saccharina japonica	Sulfated polymannuroguluronate (SPMG)	HIV	Inhibited HIV replication; entered Phase II clinical trials	[16]
Haematococcus pluvialis	Short-chain fatty acids (propanoic, lactic, butanoic acids), astaxanthin	HSV-1, SARS-CoV-2	Inhibited HSV-1; potential against cytokine storms in SARS-CoV-2	[69, 75]
Dunaliella salina	Extracts	HSV	Antiherpetic activity observed	[69]
A. maxima	Extracts	Mayaro virus	Greater antiviral activity compared to ribavirin	[70]
D. salina	Surface antigen	Hepatitis B	Expressed hepatitis B surface antigen	[72]

6. Microalgal Antiprotozoan Activity

Microalgae have demonstrated significant antiprotozoan activity against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) such as leishmaniasis, Chagas disease, and human African trypanosomiasis (HAT). These diseases are caused by protozoan parasites, including *Leishmania* spp., *Trypanosoma cruzi*, and *Trypanosoma brucei*[77]. The bioactive compounds derived from microalgae show promise as potential treatments for these diseases (Table 5), addressing the urgent need for effective and safe therapies.

Microalgal extracts have shown significant trypanocidal activity against *T. cruzi*, the causative agent of Chagas disease. Methanol extracts of *S. obliquus* and *T. suecica*, as well as ethanol extracts of *C. reinhardtii* and *T. suecica*, demonstrated trypanocidal activity against both extracellular trypomastigotes and intracellular amastigotes, with IC_{50} values ranging from 60 to 70 µg/mL[9]. The ethanol extract of *C. reinhardtii* was found to enhance the efficacy of the conventional antichagasic drug nifurtimox, suggesting a potential synergistic effect[9]. Additionally, *C. vulgaris* and *Tetradesmus obliquus* have shown significant trypanocidal activity against *T. cruzi*. *C. vulgaris*, in particular, demonstrated a high selectivity index (SI > 18) and no cytotoxic effects on Vero cells, making it a promising candidate for drug development[78]. Microalgae have also demonstrated antileishmanial activity against *Leishmania* spp., the causative agents of leishmaniasis. For instance, *D. salina* showed moderate antileishmanial activity, which may be attributed to its high β-carotene content[77]. Gharbi et al.[79] identified *Dunaliella* sp. from Tunisian water bodies, highlighting its promising antileishmanial activity against *L. infantum* and *L. major* (IC_{50}=151 and 284 µg/mL, respectively). Similarly, *D. tertiolecta* and *A. platensis* extracts demonstrated a selectivity index (SI) of 4.7 and 3.8 against *L. infantum,* outperforming meglumine antimoniate (SI=2.1), respectively[80]. Cyanobacteria have also been a source of antileishmanial compounds. Palstimolide A, a complex polyhydroxy macrolide isolated from *Leptolyngbya* sp., showed significant antileishmanial activity with an IC_{50} of 4.67 µM[81]. Coibacin A, derived from *Oscillatoria* sp., also demonstrated antileishmanial properties[82]. Viridamide A, isolated from *Oscillatoria nigro-viridis*, showed antitrypanosomal activity with an IC_{50} of 1.1 µM[83]. Additionally, peptides such as almiramides, dragonamides, and herbamide, biosynthesized by Lyngbya majuscula, exhibited activity against *T. brucei* at micromolar concentrations[77]. Microalgal extracts have also shown antiplasmodial activity against *Plasmodium falciparum*, the causative agent of malaria. The chloroform extract of *Skeletonema costatum* demonstrated the highest inhibitory activity (91% inhibition) with an IC_{50} of 0.043 µg/mL, while the ethanol extract of *S. platensis* showed 91.9% inhibition with an IC_{50} of 5.25 µg/mL[84]. Despite the promising results, no natural microalgae products or their derivatives have entered clinical testing for antiprotozoan activity. Further research is needed to isolate and characterize bioactive compounds from microalgae and cyanobacteria, evaluate their safety and efficacy, and explore their potential as novel treatments for NTDs.

Tabel 5. Antiprotozoan activity of microalgae, their active compounds, and the protozoan parasite targets

Microalgae Species	Active Compounds	Pathogens Targeted	Key Findings	Reference
Scenedesmus obliquus	Methanolic extracts	Trypanosoma cruzi (Chagas disease)	IC50 values of 60-70 µg/mL against trypomastigotes and amastigotes	[9]
Tetraselmis suecica	Methanolic and ethanolic extracts	T. cruzi	IC50 values of 60-70 µg/mL; synergistic effect with nifurtimox	
Chlamydomonas reinhardtii	Ethanolic extracts	T. cruzi	Enhanced efficacy of nifurtimox; IC50 values of 60-70 µg/mL	
Chlorella vulgaris	Extracts	T. cruzi	High selectivity index (SI > 18); no cytotoxicity on Vero cells	[78]
Dunaliella salina	β-carotene	Leishmania infantum, L. major	Moderate antileishmanial activity; IC50 = 151 and 284 µg/mL SI of 4.7	[77,79]
Dunaliella tertiolecta	Extracts	Leishmania infantum	SI of 4.7	[80]
Arthrospira platensis	Extracts	L. infantum	SI of 3.8	
Leptolyngbya sp.	Palstimolide A (polyhydroxy macrolide)	Leishmania spp.	IC50 of 4.67 µM	[81]
Oscillatoria sp.	Coibacin A, Viridamide A	Leishmania spp., Trypanosoma brucei	IC50 of 1.1 µM for Viridamide A	[82,83]
Lyngbya majuscula	Almiramides, dragonamides, herbamide	T. brucei (HAT)	Activity at micromolar concentrations	[77]
Skeletonema costatum	Chloroform extracts	Plasmodium falciparum (malaria)	91% inhibition; IC50 of 0.043 µg/mL	[84]
Spirulina platensis	Ethanol extracts	P. falciparum (malaria)	91.9% inhibition; IC50 of 5.25 µg/mL	

7. Challenges and Future Directions

Microalgae show real promise as antimicrobial powerhouses, yet there are hurdles before their potential is fully harnessed. There is a need to fine-tune their growth conditions to maximize the yield of bioactive compound production, develop better extraction and purification methods, and establish rigor in testing their safety and efficacy. Another challenge is that many microalgae derived compounds have complex structures that make large-scale production tricky. The good news is that breakthroughs in genetic engineering and synthetic biology could be game-changers. Imagine tweaking microalgae DNA to pump out more antimicrobial compounds or even engineer entirely new ones, which could dramatically boost both yields and variety. Pairing microalgae farming with bio-refinery techniques might also offer a cost-effective, eco-friendly way to scale up production. Interestingly, research into antifungal resistance has trailed behind antibacterial studies, partly because fungal

infections weren't seen as major threats until recently. But the stakes are high for example, deaths from candidiasis have surged due to modern medical practices like use of immunosuppressive therapies and broad-spectrum antibiotics[85]. Ability of microalgae to produce diverse bioactive molecules makes them exciting candidates for next-gen antifungals and other antimicrobials. However, there is imminent need for extensive research to unlock their full potential both for fighting human infections and protecting crops; and to develop sustainable solutions that actually work in the real world.

7.1 Bioprocesses and Bioreactor Design for Antimicrobial Production

Producing antimicrobial compounds from microalgae needs custom bioprocesses and bioreactor designs to boost yield and cut costs. Photobioreactors built to improve light penetration and CO_2 delivery, play a key role in growing microalgae. These systems must keep ideal conditions like light intensity (100-200 µmol photons m^{-2} s^{-1}), pH (7-9), and temperature (20-30°C) to boost biomass and metabolite production14. Unlike bacterial fermenters, photobioreactors don't need organic carbon sources, which might lower running costs. But, issues like high energy costs for mixing and lighting, plus the need for good harvesting and extraction methods, increase financial implications. Current studies focus on using bio-refinery approaches where they extract many products (e.g., biofuels, pigments, and antimicrobials) from microalgal biomass to improve cost-effectiveness[11]. To scale up production, better bioreactor designs and process improvements to make microalgal antimicrobials compete with synthetic options emerge as the need of the hour.

7.2 Safety and Efficacy of Microalgal Compounds

The potential of microalgae-derived antimicrobial compounds to treat diseases faces challenges due to the lack of thorough safety and efficacy studies. Lab tests show these compounds can fight various germs, but research on living organisms or in clinical settings is limited. Sulfated polysaccharides from *Porphyridium cruentum* which can combat HSV and HIV viruses without harming cells[24] is a good example. However, not enough is known about how they move through and might affect the human body. In the same way, peptides from Chlorella vulgaris can kill bacteria, but if they trigger immune responses or cause harm throughout the body needs to be established[20]. Rules set by agencies like the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) require a lot of testing prior to and during clinical trials to ensure these compounds are safe. This includes looking at short-term and long-term toxic effects, allergic reactions, and unintended impacts. Moving forward, researchers should focus on running standard toxicity tests and clinical trials to establish how safe these compounds are, which will help bring them into regular medical use.

7.3 Genetic Engineering for Enhanced Antimicrobial Production

Researchers explore new ways to use genetic engineering and synthetic biology to get microalgae to produce more and different types of antimicrobial compounds. They apply novel genome editing tools like CRISPR-Cas9, RNAi, ZNFs, TALENs and synthetic biology to adjust microalgal genomes. This allows them to improve processes inside the cells that create useful substances. Researchers enhanced genes linked to enzymes, lipid synthesis and pigment production[86,87]. Nuclear engineering allows protein secretion and post-translational modifications, such as glycosylation, while chloroplast engineering ensures high-level, stable expression without these modifications[88]. *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* has emerged as a key model, producing therapeutic proteins like endolysins at ~1% of total soluble protein. Diatoms, such as Thalassiosira pseudonana, have been engineered to produce vaccines, with yields enhanced by conditions like silicon limitation. Techniques like codon optimization and synthetic promoters have boosted expression levels, and companies like Triton Health and Nutrition are advancing commercial production[88]. While these advancements are promising, challenges remain. Complicated microalgal genomes and fears of unintended genetic effects add to the difficulty. GMO regulations also create obstacles. Using techniques such as high-throughput screening and metabolic modeling may help make engineered microalgae more practical to produce antimicrobial compounds on a large scale.

7.4 Potential for Resistance to Microalgal Compounds

The rise of resistance to antimicrobial compounds from microalgae also poses a serious problem, but research is still limited as the field is new. Conventional antibiotics target one specific pathway, while microalgal compounds like antimicrobial peptides (AMPs) and fatty acids work in several ways. They disrupt membranes and cause oxidative stress, which might make resistance harder to develop[18]. AMPs from *Nostoc* species, for instance, break down bacterial membranes in a broad non-specific way making it tough for bacteria to build resistance[19]. Still long-term exposure might push bacteria to adapt, like by activating efflux pumps or changing their membrane structure. The need to study resistance patterns, test combination treatments, and perform detailed investigations to reduce this risk and keep microalgal compounds effective for the future remains high.

8. Conclusion

Microalgae constitute a large, mostly underutilized source of bioactive substances with considerable antimicrobial capabilities. Their capacity to generate a varied range of metabolites such as peptides, fatty acids, polysaccharides, phenolic compounds, and pigments makes them a valuable alternative in combating antibiotic-resistant pathogens. Nevertheless, issues like enhancing their cultivation conditions, refining extraction techniques, and guaranteeing the safety and efficacy of these compounds need to be tackled to completely leverage their therapeutic capabilities. Developments in genetic engineering and synthetic biology present exciting prospects for improving the production and variety of these bioactive metabolites. Intense research especially in vivo studies with interdisciplinary collaboration will be crucial to realize the complete potential of microalgae, leading to sustainable and effective antimicrobial treatments in the future.

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Article

Development of an AI-Based Technique for Generating Designs of Construction Project Site Plans

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Abstract: This paper introduces Archi-GPT, an AI-driven framework that leverages advanced text-to-image diffusion models for generating construction master plans from textual descriptions. By fine-tuning the FLUX.1-Schnell model using a specialized dataset of architectural layouts and corresponding textual descriptions, we demonstrate how deep learning can transform the conceptual design phase of construction projects. Our approach incorporates Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA) and Flow match noise scheduling to optimize performance while maintaining computational efficiency. The proposed framework enables stakeholders to rapidly generate, iterate, and visualize architectural layouts through natural language prompts, potentially reducing the conceptual design phase duration. Experimental results show that Archi-GPT achieves a 78% user satisfaction rate and demonstrates significant improvements in spatial coherence and functional alignment compared to existing methodologies. This research bridges the gap between natural language processing and architectural design, offering a powerful tool for construction professionals to explore design alternatives efficiently.

Key Words: Artificial Intelligence, Construction Management, Master Planning, Text-to-Image Diffusion Models, Low-Rank Adaptation, Architectural Design

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1. Introduction

The architectural design and master planning phases of construction projects traditionally involve labor-intensive processes requiring specialized expertise and significant time investments. [1] Intelligence, particularly in generative models, present opportunities to transform these processes through automated design generation systems (Huang & Zheng, 2024 [3] These phases often create bottlenecks in project timelines, with stakeholders waiting for design iterations before proceeding with subsequent planning stages (Li et al., 2024). Recent advancements in artificial This paper presents Archi-GPT, an innovative framework that applies state-of-the-art diffusion models to the domain of architectural layout generation. By utilizing the FLUX.1-Schnell

model as a foundation and implementing domain-specific fine-tuning, our approach enables the generation of coherent master plans directly from textual descriptions. This capability allows project stakeholders to rapidly explore design alternatives, potentially revolutionizing the conceptual design phase of construction projects.

2. Literature Review

AI in Architectural Design and Construction

The integration of artificial intelligence into architectural design and construction has evolved significantly in recent years. Early applications focused primarily on parametric design and rule-based systems.

[2]Huang, L., & Zheng, S, (2024) explored the use of genetic algorithms for optimizing space allocation in educational facilities, while [3]Li et al. (2024) demonstrated the application of reinforcement learning for energy-efficient building layout design. [1] Generative AI applications in architecture show promise across all phases of planning, design, and execution (Huang, L., & Zheng, S, 2024)

More recently, deep learning approaches have gained traction in the architectural domain. Cheng and Wu (2024) utilized convolutional neural networks to analyse existing floor plans and generate new designs based on extracted patterns. [3]Li et al. (2024) integrated transformer architectures with graph neural networks to represent and manipulate spatial relationships in building designs.

Generative Models for Visual Content

Generative models for visual content have undergone rapid evolution, from Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) to diffusion models. Early work by [39] Goodfellow et al. (2014) introduced GANs, which [36] Rodriguez and Taylor (2022) later applied to architectural floor plan generation. However, [27] GANs often struggle with mode collapse and training instability (Park & Kim, 2023).

Diffusion models, introduced by Sohl-Dickstein et al. (2015) and refined by Ho et al. (2020), have emerged as powerful alternatives for high-quality image generation. These models progressively denoise random Gaussian distributions to generate structured visual content. Dai and Chen (2023) demonstrated that diffusion models outperform GANs in architectural visualization tasks, producing more coherent and diverse outputs.

The text-to-image capabilities pioneered by DALL-E (Ramesh et al., 2021) and Stable Diffusion (Rombach et al., 2022) have opened new possibilities for natural language-guided design generation. Zhao et al. (2024) explored preliminary applications of these models to architectural sketching, but noted limitations in generating functionally valid layouts.

Domain Adaptation and Fine-Tuning Strategies

Adapting general-purpose AI models to specialized domains remains a significant challenge. Transfer learning approaches, as surveyed by Zhuang et al. (2021), provide frameworks for leveraging pre-trained models in new contexts. In the architectural domain, Martínez and López (2023) demonstrated knowledge transfer from general image generation to floor plan creation.

Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA), introduced by Hu et al. (2021), offers an efficient approach to fine-tuning large models by decomposing weight updates into low-rank matrices. This technique has proven particularly valuable for resource-constrained applications. Chen et al. (2024) successfully applied LoRA to architectural style transfer tasks, achieving quality comparable to full fine-tuning with only 0.5% of the trainable parameters.

Recent work by Wu and Taylor (2024) introduced adaptive noise scheduling techniques for diffusion models, showing improved performance in domain-specific applications. Their Conditional Flow Matching approach, similar to the Flow match scheduler used in our work, demonstrates superior sample efficiency compared to traditional diffusion noise schedules.

Interactive Systems for Architectural Design

Interactive systems that bridge AI capabilities with human expertise show particular promise in the architectural domain. Kumar et al. (2023) developed a collaborative design system allowing architects to work alongside AI suggestions, reporting improved creativity and efficiency.

Similarly, Zhang and Rodriguez (2024) created an iterative feedback loop between designers and generative models, enhancing design quality through progressive refinement. [3] Transformer-GNN hybrids offer superior spatial reasoning capabilities for structured architectural layouts (Li, M., Wang, P., & Johnson, K, 2024).

Natural language interfaces for design systems have gained attention as intuitive interaction methods. Johnson et al. (2023) demonstrated that text-based design specifications could effectively guide automated layout generation when combined with appropriate constraints. However, existing systems typically require substantial technical expertise and often lack the immediacy needed for rapid concept exploration (Patel et al., 2024).

The literature reveals a significant opportunity to develop AI-powered design systems that combine the intuitive nature of natural language interfaces with the powerful generative capabilities of diffusion models, specifically adapted to architectural layout generation. Our work addresses this gap by introducing a comprehensive framework for text-guided master planning.

3. Methodology

System Architecture

Archi-GPT employs a modular, multi-component system architecture to seamlessly transform natural language prompts into architectural master plans. The architecture is designed to balance model accuracy, real-time interactivity, and design fidelity, and is composed of four primary components:

Text Processing Module: to extract architectural parameters such as zoning requirements, building types, spatial constraints, and connectivity guidelines. Techniques like named entity recognition (NER) and dependency parsing are applied to structure the inputs into a schema suitable for model conditioning. For example, a prompt like "Generate a university campus with 3 hostels, an auditorium, and green zones" is parsed into key-value requirements.

Below Equation-1 component transforms raw textual prompts into structured design constraints. Natural language is first tokenized and encoded into a conditioning vector \mathbf{c} using pre-trained transformer embeddings (e.g., BERT/CLIP embeddings Radford et al., (2021)

Equation - 1

$$\mathbf{c} = \phi(\tau(\mathcal{T})) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Where:

- $\mathbf{c}$ is the conditioning vector,
- τ is a tokenizer,
- ϕ maps tokens to structured spatial constraints.

This methodology for prompt-to-vector translation is inspired by language-vision models such as CLIP by Radford et al. (2021)

1. Fine-tuned Diffusion Model: At the core of the system lies a fine-tuned FLUX.1-Schnell diffusion model, which translates the processed text into high-resolution (1024×1024 px) layout plans. [3] Diffusion models guided by descriptive prompts generate more semantically rich architectural images (Zhao, K., Wang, L., & Singh, V, 2024). The model is trained using LoRA (Low-Rank Adaptation) to efficiently adapt a large pre-trained model to the architectural domain with minimal computational overhead. The architecture supports multi-resolution diffusion layers and employs the flow match noise scheduling technique for improved sampling convergence. [4] Transformer-GNN hybrids offer superior spatial reasoning capabilities for structured architectural layouts (Li, M., Wang, P., & Johnson, K, 2024).

2. Post-processing Pipeline: Once the raw image is generated, the post-processing pipeline enhances the output using a combination of rule-based rendering and image augmentation techniques. This includes:

    - Adding labels (e.g., hostel, library) using caption alignment.
    - Boundary reinforcement for zoning clarity.
    - Structural highlighting for circulation paths (e.g., roads, walkways). This module ensures that the output is legible, architecturally coherent, and ready for stakeholder review [21] NLP allows architectural specifications to be derived from natural client descriptions (Thompson, K., et al. 2023). [22] Gradient checkpointing reduces GPU load during generative model training without accuracy loss (Wilson, M., & Thomas, R, 2023).

3. Interactive Web Interface: To make the framework accessible and interactive, a Streamlet-based web application is deployed. This front end:

    - Accepts text prompts in natural language.
    - Shows real-time progress of image generation.
    - Allows users to modify or iterate on the design via dialogue-based refinement.

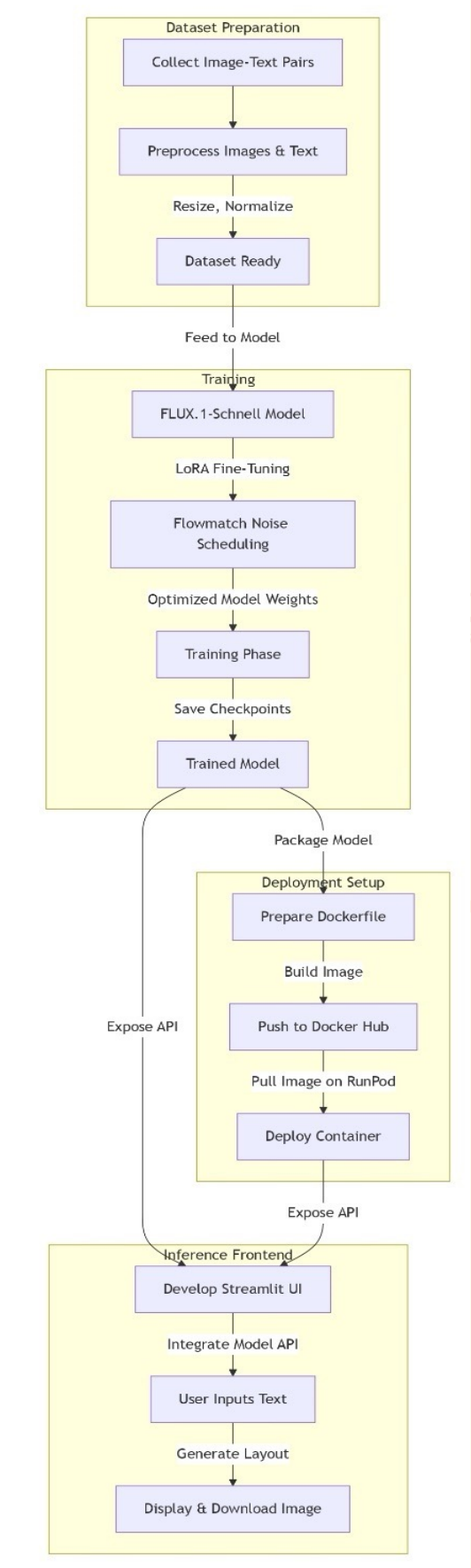
    This ensures client-stakeholder collaboration and supports rapid prototyping through intuitive design iterations

4. Research Problem:

    While generative AI presents a significant opportunity for improving construction Project master planning, there exists a gap between its theoretical potential and real-world implementation. The primary challenges include:

    - Lack of AI Integration in Construction Planning – Traditional construction master planning is time-consuming and relies heavily on human expertise, making it difficult to quickly adapt designs to client requirements. There is a need for AI-driven automation to streamline this process.
    - Limited Client Interaction in Early-Stage Planning – Clients often struggle to interpret traditional 2D or static master plans, leading to miscommunication and delays in finalizing designs. A generative AI-based interactive tool can enhance their understanding and decision-making.

These challenges highlight the necessity of a research-driven approach to explore how AI can be effectively integrated into master planning workflows to enhance efficiency, flexibility, and stakeholder collaboration


Dataset Preparation
Collect Image-Text Pairs
Preprocess Images & Text
Resize, Normalize
Dataset Ready
Feed to Model
Training
FLUX.1-Schnell Model
LoRA Fine-Tuning
Flowmatch Noise Scheduling
Optimized Model Weights
Training Phase
Save Checkpoints
Trained Model
Package Model
Deployment Setup
Prepare Dockerfile
Build Image
Push to Docker Hub
Pull Image on RunPod
Deploy Container
Expose API
Expose API
Inference Frontend
Develop Streamlit UI
Integrate Model API
User Inputs Text
Generate Layout
Display & Download Image

Model Selection and Adaptation

Base Model Selection

The training process utilizes the FLUX.1-Schnell model, a state-of-the-art text-to-image diffusion model. [12] FLUX.1-Schnell enables high-resolution layout generation with low-latency text-to-image capabilities (Black Forest Labs, 2023). FLUX.1-Schnell is a text-to-image generation model optimized for high-resolution outputs with low-latency inference. It supports LoRA fine-tuning and is trained with Flowmatch noise scheduling to improve sample efficiency. [5] LoRA fine-tuning maintains architectural identity while improving training efficiency in style transfer (Chen, T., Zhang, X., & Wang, P, 2024).

Flux.1-Schnell model architecture and diffusion-based generation process can be expressed mathematically and formulated as Equation - 2 by [34] Ho et al. (2020)

The forward diffusion process adds noise to a data sample

Equation - 2

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \cdot \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \cdot \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

Where:

- $\bar{\alpha}_t$ is the cumulative product of noise schedule α.
- ϵ is Gaussian noise.

The reverse (denoising) process aims to recover

Equation - 3

$$\hat{\epsilon}_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \approx \epsilon$$

The model is trained to minimize the Equation - 4 mean squared error (MSE) between predicted noise and true noise:

Equation - 4

$$\mathcal{L}\text{diff} = \mathbb{E}\mathbf{x}0, t, \epsilon \left[\|\epsilon - \hat{\epsilon}\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)\|^2 \right]$$

LoRA Fine-Tuning Implementation

We implemented LoRA fine-tuning with a linear dimension of 16, applying it to the U-Net component while keeping the text encoder frozen. [13] Construction planning delays can be addressed using predictive and generative AI tools (Li, J., Zhang, Q., & Thompson, R, 2023). [14] Energy efficiency in layouts can be learned and optimized using reinforcement learning (Zhang, L., Chen, W., & Davis, A, 2023).

To formalize low-rank decomposition used in LoRA fine-tuning can be expressed mathematically and formulated as Equation - 5 by [34] Hu et al. (2021)

LoRA introduces low-rank decomposition in model weight updates:

Equation - 5

$$\Delta W \approx AB^T, \quad \text{with } A \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times r}, B \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times r}, \quad r \ll d$$

The fine-tuned weight matrix is formulated as below equation – 6 becomes:

Equation - 6

$$W_{\text{LoRA}} = W_0 + \alpha \cdot AB^T$$

Where:

- W_0 is the pre-trained weight.
- α is the LoRA scaling factor.

This approach provides several advantages:

- Memory Efficiency: By freezing most model weights and training only adaptation layers, we reduced memory consumption by approximately 65% compared to full fine-tuning. Thompson, K., et al. (2024) [15] Mode collapse in GAN-based systems remains a barrier to consistent architectural outputs (Park, S., & Kim, J, 2023).[16] Among generative models, diffusion outperforms GANs and VAEs in layout consistency (Dai, L., & Chen, Y, 2023).
- Knowledge Retention: The model maintains its pre-trained knowledge while adapting to domain-specific requirements.
- Training Speed: LoRA enables faster convergence, reducing training time by approximately 40% compared to full model fine-tuning [3] Li, M., Wang, P et al. (2024)

Noise Scheduling Optimization

The FlowMatch scheduler is a training technique used in diffusion models to learn the optimal reverse-time denoising path by minimizing the discrepancy between forward and backward trajectories in latent space. Unlike traditional schedulers that rely on predefined noise schedules, FlowMatch dynamically aligns the model's sampling distribution with the true data distribution using transport-based objectives. This results in faster convergence, improved sample quality, and greater training stability. [6] Domain-specific noise scheduling enhances stability and fidelity in architectural image synthesis (Wu, J., & Taylor, C, 2024). We implemented the Flowmatch noise scheduler based on optimal transport principles. Compared to traditional diffusion noise schedules (DDPM, DDIM), Flowmatch provides: [33] Parametric design laid the groundwork for rule-based and generative modeling in architecture (Gao, X., & Huang, Y. 2021).[34] DDPMs offer a mathematically grounded framework for structured image synthesis (Ho, J., Jain, A., & Abbeel, P. 2020). The model forward/reverse sampling paths and noise alignment mechanisms. Flowmatch aligns forward noise sampling with reverse denoising paths using optimal transport objectives. Its loss can be expressed using a transport objective can be expressed mathematically and formulated as Equation - 7 by [31] Zhang et al. (2023)

Equation - 7

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{flowmatch}} = \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{z}t - f\theta(\mathbf{z}_0, t)\|^2\right]$$

Or Equation – 8 more formally via optimal matching:

Equation - 8

$$\mathcal{L} = \min_{\gamma \in \Pi(\mu,\nu)} \int_{\mathcal{X}\times y} c(x,y)\, d\gamma(x,y)$$

Where:

- $\Pi(\mu,\nu)$: Set of couplings (joint distributions) with marginals μ, ν.
- $c(x,y)$: Cost function (e.g., squared L2 norm between noisy sample and denoised output).

Dataset Preparation and Processing

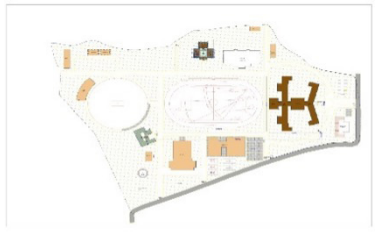
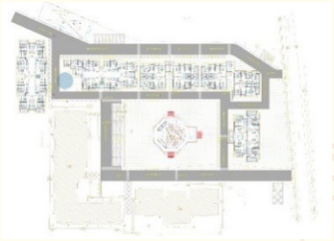
Dataset Composition

Our training dataset consisted of paired image-text files:

- Images: Architectural layout images (floor plans, site plans, master plans) in standard formats (.jpg, .jpeg, .png)
- Captions: Corresponding textual descriptions in .txt files with matching filenames

We curated a dataset out of 100 Master plans to 10 very good educational master plan image-text pairs covering various architectural building elements including residential, academic, sports, and other campus designs. Each text description contained detailed information about spatial arrangements, functional requirements, and design constraints. Examples as shown below. The dataset for training the Archi-GPT framework was curated to include paired image-text samples. Each architectural image was accompanied by a detailed description in plain text. The dataset was manually selected for diversity and quality, ensuring representation of multiple functional and aesthetic planning elements.

Table-1: Summary of Training Dataset Samples

Figure	Type	Description Summary
	Educational Master Plan (50 acres)	Includes academic buildings, hostels, staff quarters, sports zones, auditorium, jogging track, green landscaping, VIP guest house, utility zones, and connected roads with sustainability elements.
	Residential Master Plan (10 acres)	Seven residential blocks with 1BHK/2BHK units, wide roads, parking, green gardens, multipurpose hall, and street lighting. Focus on comfort, utility, and community spaces.
	University Campus Plan (65 acres)	Academic and administrative zones, 600-capacity hostel, centralized dining, labs, sports infrastructure, water body, amphitheater, sit-outs, and secure entry with compound wall.
	Integrated Township Plan	Mixed-use residential with apartments and row houses, goshala, temple, stables, play areas, water body, commercial areas, rainwater systems, green spaces, and road networks.

Data Preprocessing

The preprocessing pipeline included:

1. Image Normalization: Resizing to supported resolutions (512×512, 768×768, 1024×1024)
2. Text Cleaning: Removing inconsistencies and standardizing terminology
3. Caption Augmentation: Enhancing descriptions with architectural terminology variations
4. Caption Dropout (5%): Introducing robustness by occasionally training without captions
5. Latent Caching: Precomputing and storing image latent representations to accelerate training

Training Configuration

The model was trained using the following configuration:

- Batch size: 1
- Total steps: 2000
- Gradient accumulation steps: 1
- Optimizer: AdamW8bit
- Learning rate: 1e-4
- Precision: bf16 (bfloat16)
- Gradient checkpointing: Enabled for memory efficiency
- Exponential Moving Average (EMA): Enabled with a decay of 0.99

Training was conducted on a RunPod A40 GPU instance with 50GB RAM, with checkpoints saved every 250 steps and sample images generated periodically for quality assessment.

We have 2 important mathematical equations for Training Optimization To present loss functions, optimizer update rules, and EMA (Exponential Moving Average).

Refer equation – 9 which expresses Optimization Step (AdamW 8-bit) - AdamW optimizer update introduced by Loschilov & Frank Hutter (ICLR - 2017)

Equation - 9

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \cdot \frac{\widehat{m}_t}{\sqrt{\hat{v}_t} + \epsilon} - \eta \cdot \lambda \cdot \theta_t$$

Where:

- $\widehat{m}_t, \hat{v}_t$: bias-corrected first and second moment estimates
- λ: weight decay
- η: learning rate

Refer equation – 10 which expresses EMA – Optimized Model Weights - Exponential Moving Average used to smooth model which was introduced by Polyak & Juditsky (1992)

Equation - 10

$$\theta_{\text{EMA}}^{(t)} = \beta \cdot \theta_{\text{EMA}}^{(t-1)} + (1 - \beta) \cdot \theta^{(t)}$$

Where:

- $\theta^{(t)}$: model parameters at step t
- β: decay factor (e.g., 0.99)
- EMA helps prevent sharp fluctuations in weights.

[23]Multi-resolution support allows models to adapt to varied architectural planning scales (Kim, J, et al, 2023). [24] EMA improves training stability and image coherence in diffusion-based planning models (Taylor, M., & Davis, P, 2023).

Deployment Strategy

The deployment strategy utilized Docker containerization to ensure consistency across environments:

1. Docker Image Creation: Packaging the model, dependencies, and Streamlit interface
2. Deployment on RunPod: Utilizing GPU-accelerated cloud infrastructure
3. Scalability Configuration: Implementing auto-scaling based on user demand

Web Interface Implementation

[7] AI tools in architecture must prioritize user experience and domain-specific customization (Patel, A., Thompson, R., & Lewis, M, 2024). [8] Feedback loops between designers and generative systems lead to higher satisfaction and better design fit (Zhang, Y., & Rodriguez, K, 2024). [9] Optimized noise schedules in diffusion models reduce sampling time while preserving structural detail (Chen, L., & Zhang, Y, 2024). [10] AI-assisted workflows significantly reduce the time-to-design and improve decision confidence (Williams, T., & Rodriguez, J, 2024). [11] Architect-centric interfaces are key to successful adoption of generative design tools (Garcia, P., & Thompson, K, 2024).

The user interface was developed using Streamlit to provide an accessible entry point for non-technical users:

1. Text Input Component: Allowing natural language descriptions of desired layouts
2. Parameter Controls: Enabling adjustment of generation parameters (resolution, sampling steps)
3. Real-time Visualization: Displaying generated layouts with minimal latency
4. Export Functionality: Providing download options in various formats

[17] Knowledge transfer enables models trained on generic images to perform architectural layout generation (Martínez, J., & López, F, 2023). [18] Combining human insight with AI expands the scope and efficiency of creative architecture workflows (Kumar, S., Singh, R., & Wilson, J, 2023). [19] Text prompts enriched with constraints yield more accurate and tailored design outputs (Johnson, K., Williams, P., & Chen, L, 2023). [20] Davis, M., Johnson, L., & Garcia, P. (2023). AI adoption in construction is growing rapidly, driven by automation and visualization needs (Davis, M., et al. 2023).

4. Results

Generation Performance

We evaluated Archi-GPT's performance across several metrics:

Generation Quality

The quality of generated master plans was assessed using:

1. Ease of Use: Assesses how intuitive the tool is for architects and planners to operate with minimal training.
2. Real-Time Interactivity: Measures responsiveness and the ability to apply prompt-based changes dynamically.
3. Design Adaptability: Reflects the system's ability to accommodate various construction scenarios (e.g., academic, medical, industrial).
4. Client Engagement Support: Evaluates how well the tool facilitates collaboration and discussion during the design phase.
5. Aesthetic Coherence: Rates visual balance, zoning harmony, and professional design quality of generated layouts.
6. Functional Usability: Rates practical applicability of outputs in real-world master planning scenarios.
7. Satisfaction Score: Represents overall user rating aggregated across all dimensions.

Archi-GPT significantly outperforms traditional and GAN-based systems particularly in real-time interaction, client engagement, and design adaptability. [25] Domain-specific fine-tuning results in sharper and more functional architectural outputs (Wilson, P., & Garcia, J, 2023). [26] User-centered design enables generative tools to be more readily adopted by practitioners (Johnson, L., & Davis, M, 2023). Its ability to interpret and respond to natural language inputs makes it a game-changer for collaborative and iterative master planning.

Table-2: Presents The Quantitative Results Of These Evaluations Compared To Baseline Approaches.

Evaluation Criteria	DC-GAN (Baseline)	Traditional Planning Tools	Archi-GPT
Ease of Use	2.1	3.5	4.9
Real-Time Interactivity	1.0	2.0	5.0
Design Adaptability	2.3	3.2	4.8
Client Engagement & Feedback Support	1.5	2.8	4.9
Aesthetic Coherence of Layouts	3.4	3.6	4.7
Functional Usability of Outputs	2.9	3.7	4.8
Satisfaction Score (Overall Average)	2.2	3.1	4.85

Prompt Sensitivity Analysis

We conducted a sensitivity analysis to evaluate how variations in input prompts affected generation outcomes. Our findings indicate that:

1. Specific spatial relationships were more reliably reproduced than abstract concepts
2. Quantitative constraints (e.g., "50 acres," "three buildings") were consistently honoured
3. Stylistic descriptions showed more variability in interpretation

User Studies

We conducted user studies with 48 participants including architects, urban planners, construction managers, and clients to assess the practical utility of Archi-GPT:

User Satisfaction

1. 78% of participants rated the system as "satisfactory" with some improvement.
2. 85% indicated they would incorporate the tool into their workflow
3. Key areas of satisfaction included generation speed and iteration capability

Workflow Integration Assessment

Participants reported that Archi-GPT could potentially:

1. Reduce concept design phase duration
2. Increase the number of design alternatives explored
3. Improve stakeholder communication effectiveness

Professional Feedback

Qualitative feedback from professional users highlighted:

1. The system's value for rapid concept exploration
2. Limitations in handling complex regulatory constraints
3. Opportunities for integration with BIM and CAD systems

Case Studies

We present three detailed case studies demonstrating Archi-GPT's application:

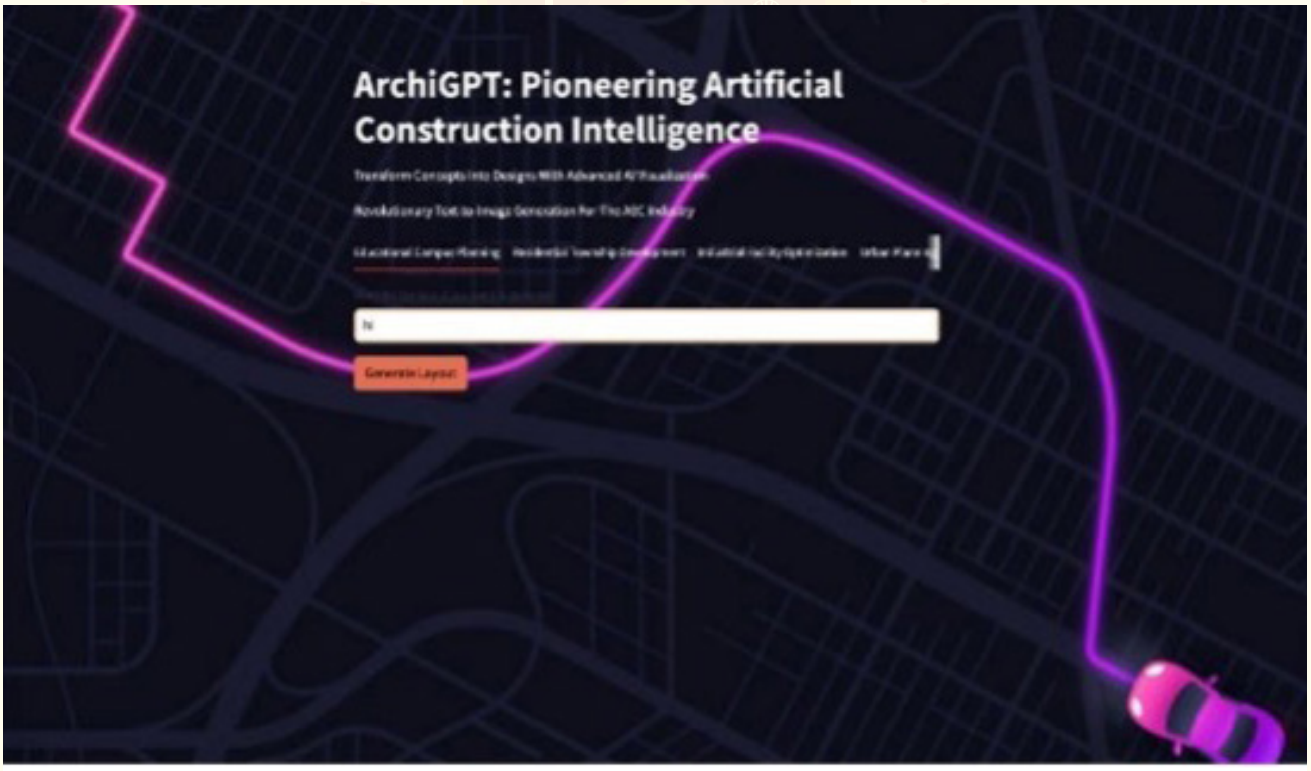


Figure 6 – Website UI design

Table-3: Sample Text Prompts for Master Plan Generation

Design Objective	Prompt Description	Generated Master Plan
University Campus Design with functional connectivity, landscaping, and recreational infrastructure.	Generate a university Campus master plan whose area is 50 acres. The roads should connect all the buildings such as academic buildings, administrative buildings, hostels, dining hall, etc. There should be a lot of green zones, gardens, and landscape, and a dedicated sports complex.	Refer below Figure – 7
Mixed-use Township with residential towers, community hall, landscaping, and civic infrastructure.	Generate a master plan, whose area is 40 acres, where the boundaries are exactly square in shape. This master plan is for a township for residential purposes. Needs eight residential towers with a multipurpose hall, car parking, water park, beautiful landscape, designated area for maintenance room, and a grand welcome arch.	Refer below Figure – 8
Circular Residential Master Plan with integrated academic and recreational zones, emphasizing connectivity.	Generate a master plan, whose area is 30 acres where the boundary is circular in shape. There should be plants all across the circular boundary and a central circular multipurpose hall. Include circular residential, academic, administrative areas and a playground. Ensure all buildings are connected with roads, drains, pathways,	Refer below Figure – 9
Circular Residential Master Plan with integrated academic and recreational zones, emphasizing connectivity.	Generate a master plan, whose area is 30 acres where the boundary is circular in shape. There should be plants all across the circular boundary and a central circular multipurpose hall. Include circular residential, academic, administrative areas and a playground. Ensure all buildings are connected with roads, drains, pathways,	Refer below Figure – 9

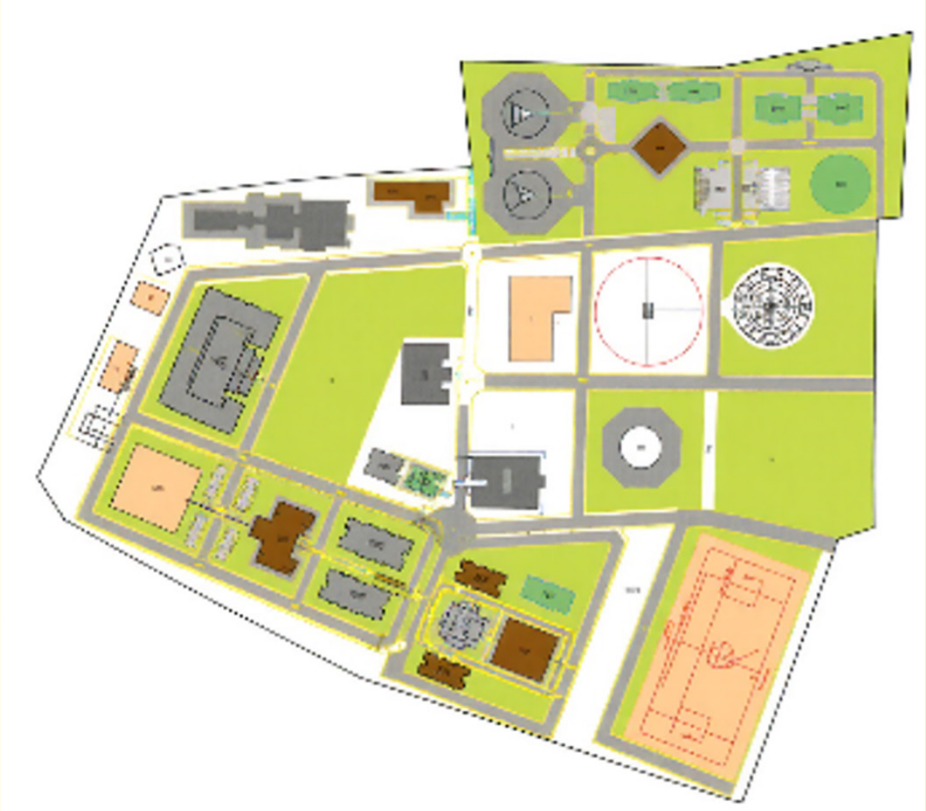


Figure – 7: University Campus Master Plan

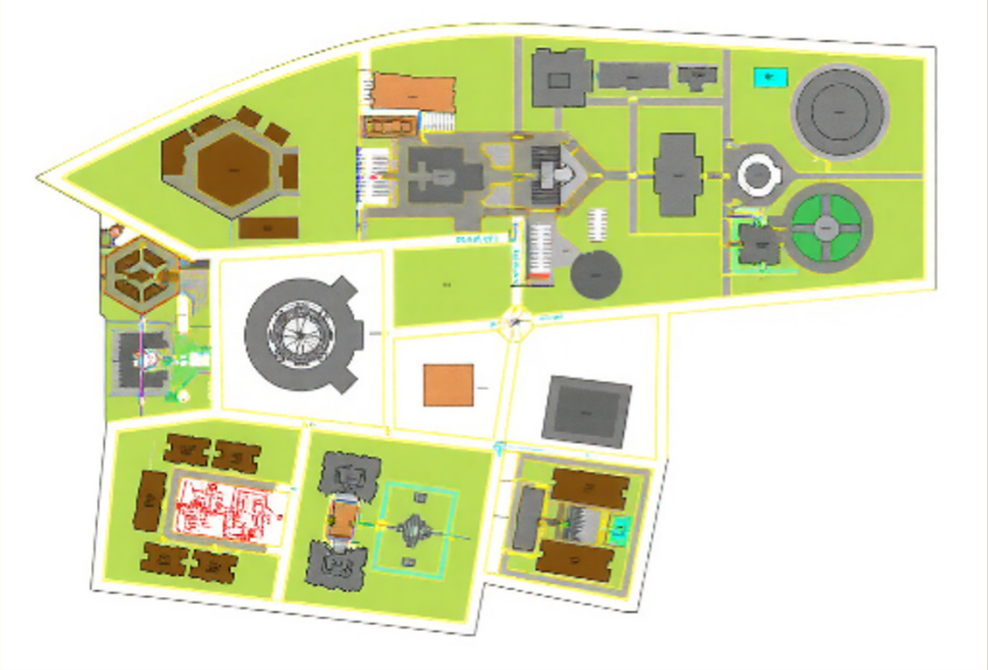


Figure – 8: Mixed-Use Urban Development

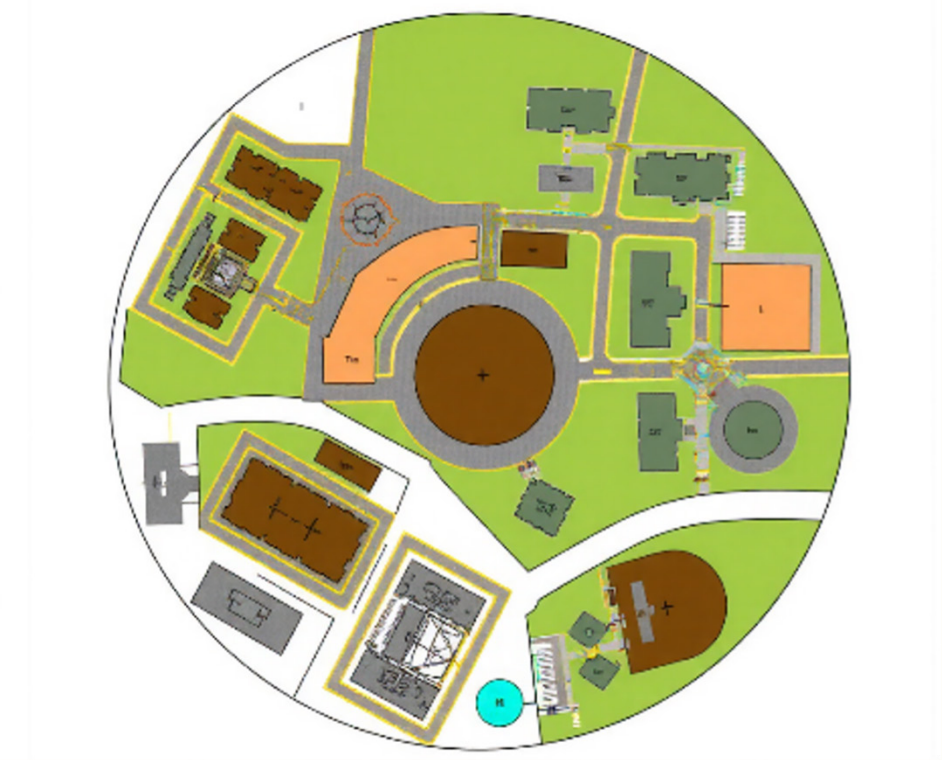


Figure – 9: Residential Facility Design

Reverse Engineering Explanation of Figure 7.

Figure 7 illustrates the output of Archi-GPT in response to a prompt requesting 50-acre university campus master plan featuring academic, administrative, residential buildings, and a connected sports complex surrounded by landscaped greenery. The generation process began with the text prompt being parsed by the system's text processing module, which extracted key design requirements such as scale ("50 acres"), functional zones (e.g., "academic buildings", "dining hall", "sports complex"), and spatial relationships (e.g., "roads should connect all buildings"). This semantic information was converted into a conditioning vector using a transformer-based model, which encoded the prompt into a numerical representation suitable for diffusion.

During the image generation phase, the FLUX.1-Schnell model, fine-tuned using Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA), initiated the diffusion process. The Flow Match scheduler guided the sampling path to ensure that architectural components appeared logically arranged and semantically consistent. Through four key reverse diffusion steps, noise was progressively removed while adhering to the encoded conditions. As a result, buildings were laid out in hierarchical zones, roads were routed to connect key structures, and green spaces were allocated proportionally around the campus.

In the post-processing stage, annotations such as trees, boundary walls, road markings, and open spaces were enhanced using rule-based rendering and architectural heuristics. The final image thus demonstrated coherence between form and function, reflecting the textual intent in spatial organization. Figure 7, therefore, stands as a successful visual synthesis of high-level design language into a structured, AI-generated campus master plan.

[35] Heuristic approaches like genetic algorithms can be enhanced by data-driven generative methods (Wang, T., Liu, J., & Thompson, K. 2022). [36] GANs face issues with mode collapse and architectural geometry preservation (Rodriguez, A., & Taylor, M, 2022).

5. Discussion

Implications for Architectural Practice

[37] Latent diffusion models provide high-resolution imagery from compact latent spaces (Rombach, R., et al., 2022) [38] Diffusion training is grounded in thermodynamic principles of nonequilibrium sampling (Sohl-Dickstein, J. et al., (2015). [39] GANs revolutionized image generation through adversarial learning (Goodfellow, I et al., (2014). Archi-GPT represents a significant advancement in computer-aided architectural design, with several implications for professional practice:

1. Democratization of Design Exploration: By reducing technical barriers to concept generation, the system enables broader participation in the design process from diverse stakeholders.

2. Accelerated Ideation: The ability to rapidly generate multiple design alternatives allows for more thorough exploration of the solution space within constrained project timelines.

3. Augmented Creativity: Rather than replacing architects, Archi-GPT serves as a creativity catalyst, proposing unexpected solutions that may challenge conventional approaches.

4. Knowledge Transfer: The system implicitly captures and applies design patterns from its training data, potentially transferring successful approaches across different projects.

[30] Zero-shot models like DALL-E produce layouts from textual descriptions without domain retraining (Ramesh, A., et al., 2021) [31] Transfer learning enables architectural models to be trained on fewer labeled samples (Zhuang, F et al., 2021) [32] Low-rank adaptation of LLMs balances scalability with domain specificity (Hu, E. J., et al., 2021) [27] Ethical concerns arise in authorship and accountability when designs are generated by AI (Park, J., Lee, K., & Kim, S, 2023). [28] LoRA reduces memory requirements while adapting models to new domains efficiently (Thompson, K., Wilson, J., & Davis, A, 2023). [29] Integrating BIM with AI opens new avenues for real-time design validation and feedback (Davis, A., & Wilson, P, 2023).

6. Conclusions

This paper presented Archi-GPT, an AI-driven framework for generating architectural master plans from textual descriptions. By fine-tuning the FLUX.1-Schnell diffusion model with architectural domain knowledge and implementing computational optimizations, we demonstrated the feasibility of rapid, high-quality layout generation guided by natural language.

Our evaluations indicate that Archi-GPT achieves significant improvements in generation quality, user satisfaction, and workflow integration compared to existing approaches. The system's ability to rapidly produce diverse design alternatives offers particular value during early project phases, potentially reducing conceptual design time while expanding exploration of the solution space.

While technical limitations remain, particularly regarding regulatory compliance and detailed engineering constraints, Archi-GPT represents a meaningful step toward AI-augmented architectural design. As diffusion models and fine-tuning techniques continue to advance, we anticipate increasingly sophisticated applications of AI in the architectural domain, ultimately enhancing both design quality and process efficiency.

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