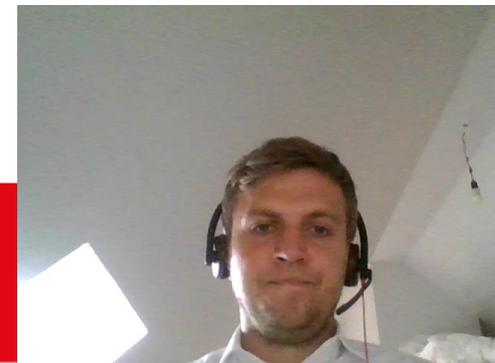


# THE ROLE OF COMMON DATA ENVIRONMENTS AS ENABLER FOR RELIABLE DIGITAL LEAN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

**Christoph Paul Schimanski**

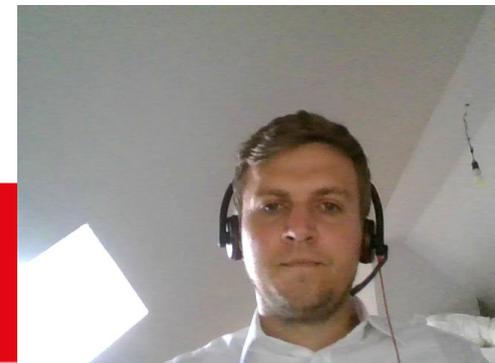
**Gabriele Pasetti Monizza**

**Dominik T. Matt**



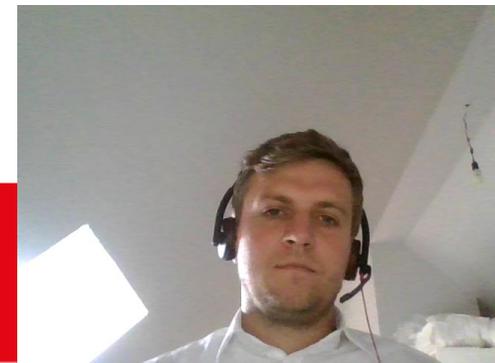
# AGENDA

- Introduction & Motivation
- Research strategy
- Conduction & findings
- Conclusion



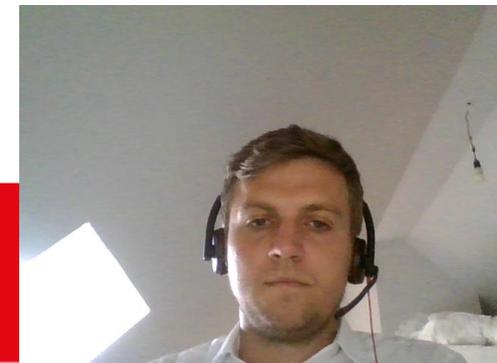
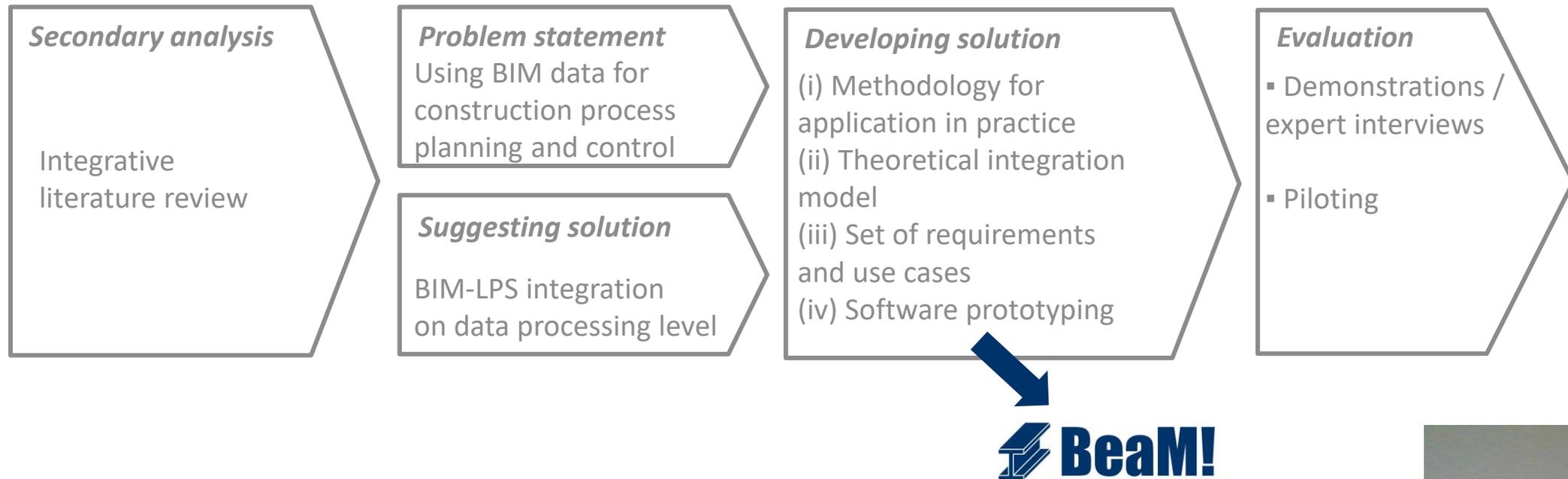
# INTRODUCTION & MOTIVATION

- Face-to-face collaboration, as required in many lean methods, has been severely hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Digital technologies and tools provide great opportunities to collaborate remotely
- Building Information Modeling (BIM) is at the center of digitalization in construction
- When information is managed and exchanged in a BIM process, Common Data Environments (CDE) as central information hubs come into play
- How Lean concepts can make use of a standardized CDE workflow to access reliable information remains unexplored



# RESEARCH STRATEGY

Application of a Design Science Research Approach to develop an IT-artifact that integrates BIM with Lean



# RESEARCH STRATEGY



Digital whiteboard with touch functionality

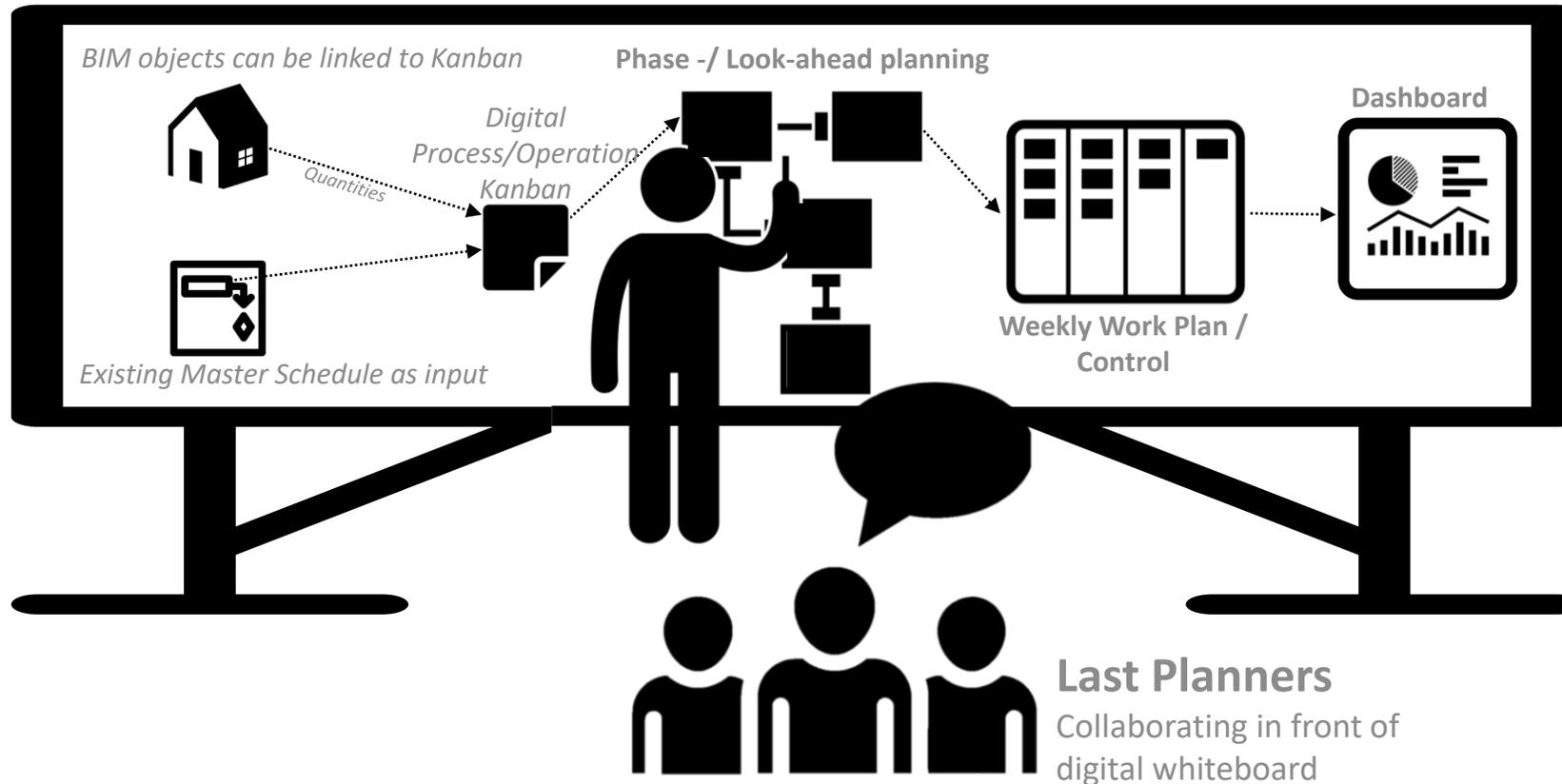
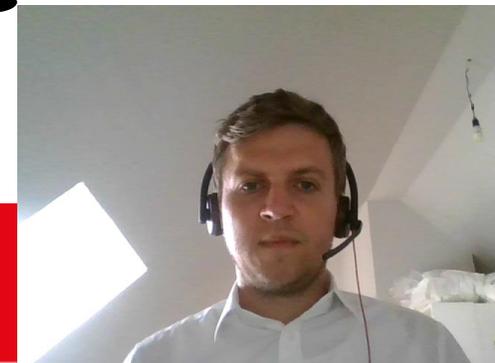


Figure 1. BeaM! – schematic representation of intended use (Schimanski et al. 2019)



# CDE – BeaM! WORKFLOW

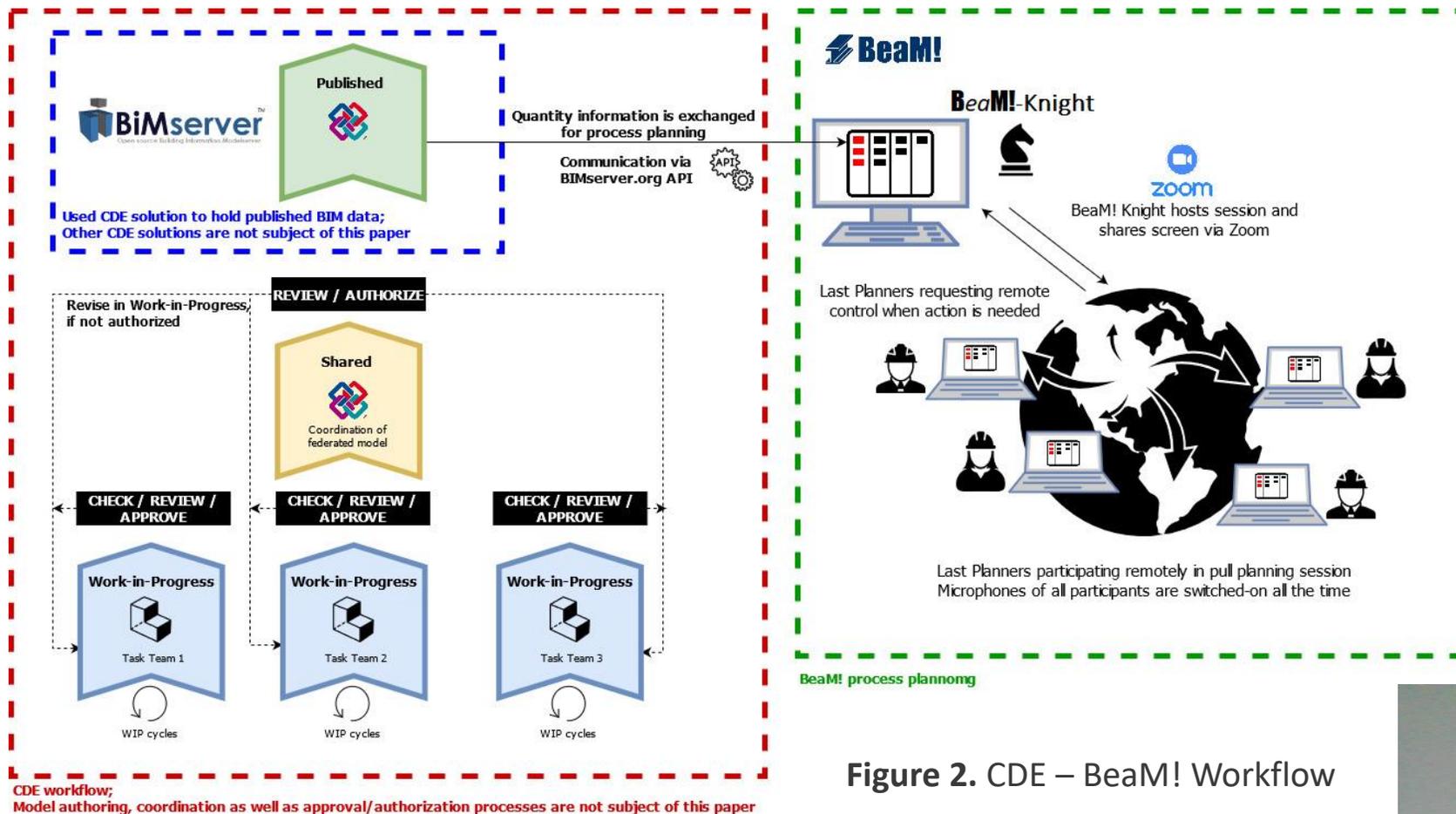
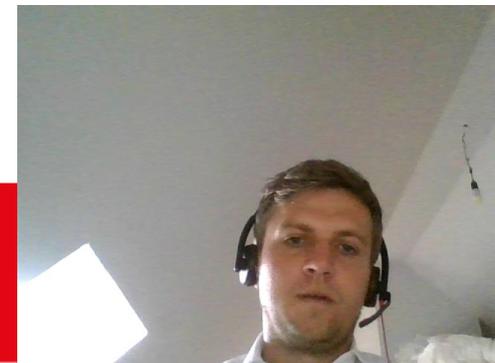


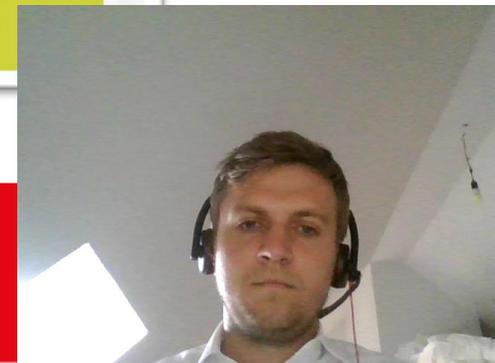
Figure 2. CDE – BeaM! Workflow



# FOCUS GROUP WITH DOMAIN EXPERTS

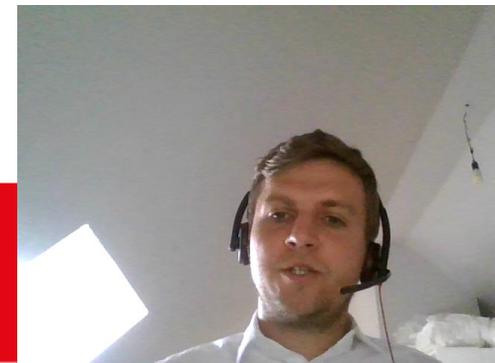
The screenshot displays the Beami software interface for a project named 'Einfamilienhaus bau'. The main view is a Gantt chart showing a sequence of construction tasks: 'Baugrube herstellen' (3 days), 'Bodenplatte herstellen' (6 days), 'Wände' (3 days), 'Decke' (5 days), 'Wände' (3 days), 'Decke' (6 days), 'Trockenbauwände' (2 days), 'Installationen' (1 day), and another 'Installationen' (1 day). A modal window for 'Operation 1.2.3' is open, showing details for a task with a duration of 5 days. The task details include: Name: Operation 1.2.3, Location: (empty), Quantity: 2.00, Unit: other, Prorated Planned Value: %, Trade: Painter, Planned number of...: 0, Duration: 5 days. The modal also features a 'Legend and Filter' section with a 3D model of a house and a list of checkboxes. The interface includes navigation tabs for 'Projects', 'Last Planner System', 'Kanban Boards', and 'BIM Viewer', and a date selector for '18/02/2021'. On the right side, there are four video thumbnails showing participants in a focus group session.

Figure 5. Conducting the Focus Group



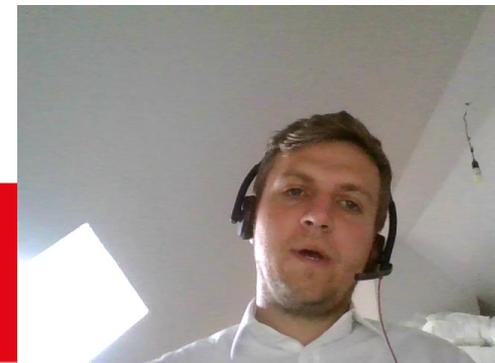
## FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONS (excerpt)

- Were the type/quality of discussions in the digital pull planning sessions comparable to traditional sessions?
- Could hand-offs and prerequisites between trades appropriately be addressed?
- Were you able to gather all the information you needed?
- Did the CDE workflow increase confidence in the reliability of the design basis?
- Have you felt any limitations/improvements in communication?
- Was the used video-conferencing system adequate?



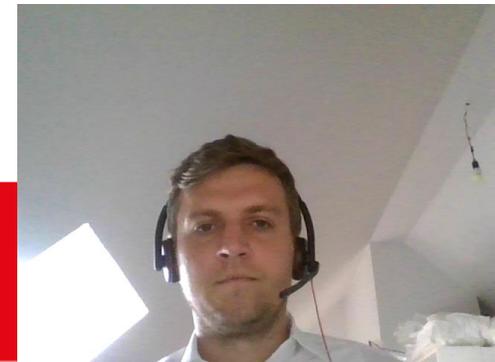
## FINDINGS (1)

- The digital conduction of pull planning following the proposed concept was generally well possible → **no major technical drawbacks**
- The participants confirmed that remote session **in terms of efficiency** did not differ from the traditional way for pull planning
- Confirmed also for crucial points such as **hand-offs discussions**
- However, **not quite as free**, spontaneous, and intuitive as compared to personal interaction
- This forced the planning to take place in a **more disciplined manner** compared to the traditional way



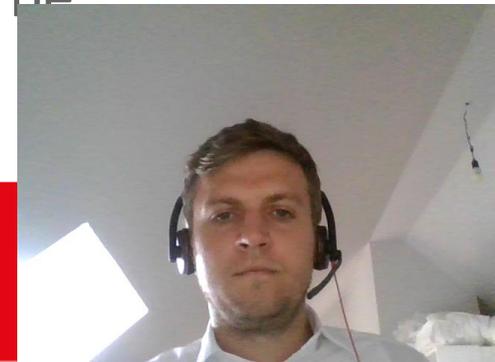
## FINDINGS (2)

- Confidence in the **reliability of the information** in the BIM model provided by the CDE workflow was generally rated as high
- Positively evaluated: **independence of physical location**
- **No transfer of information** from paper-based sticky notes to an Excel spreadsheet needed afterwards
- **No increased fatigue** due to Video-Conferencing
- **Complete replacement** of physical pull planning sessions **was not advocated** by the participants, since some points could have been discussed better in face-to-face discussions on-site
- **Hybrid variants** of using digital tools in an on-site environment **were evaluated as promising**



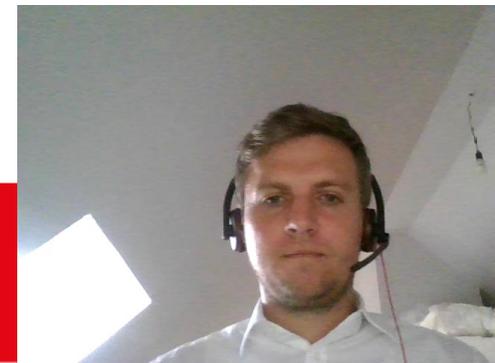
# CONCLUSIONS

- Remote collaborative planning can be a useful addition or even alternative to the preferred physical sessions
- Video-conferencing could not transport all subliminal and interpersonal elements of personal discussions
- Remote collaboration gives the moderator a more important role in → a high degree of methodological competence and interpersonal sensitivity are required
- A CDE workflow in line with ISO 19650 can increase trust in reliability and suitability of BIM information relevant for process planning
- Number of required physical meetings during execution phase might be reducible through digital tools as presented in this study  
→ highly relevant in pandemic times



# THANK YOU!

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