

Review of: "Mediating Role of Outsourcing on The Relationship Between Lean Manufacturing Practices and Profitability"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Abstract: The abstract is too lengthy. Although the resear gap is well indicated, the authors should minimize the number of words. I would also suggest to include how this study would add to the existing body of literature and what would be the practical implications of this study. Moreover, the type of sampling should be mentioned in the abstract section.

Introduction: The background of the study is not clear. Authors need to specify why the study needs to be conducted. What is known and what is unknown? Is there any existing debate regarding the study they are willing to undertake? Additionally, no problem statement is highlighted. The literature used in this study i outdated. Therefore, authors should use recent literature and update the citations and references accordingly. The contribution of the study is not mentioned in the introduction section. The logic and arguments needs to be backed by updated references. The research gap is not clearly indicated. It would be better if the gap is made clearer. The authors can do it by incorporating a table in the literature review section.

Method: The authors mentioned that they have used purposive sampling but did not indicate why they have used it. Authors should make it clear and establish and provide rational behind their selection of purposive sampling. The analysis tool should be specified. I would suggest authors to use either AMOS or Smart PLS to perform the analysis. Why they have done sobel test? Authors need to justify their reason of performing sobel test and compare the values to the threshold level to establish proper argument behind their findings.

Discussion: The result and discussion section should be made seperate. Additionally, the discussion section is below par. The findings should be compared and contrasted with the prior literature of similar fields. The authors should also justify potential reasons behind their findings. This may help to improve the readership.

Please mention a limitation and future research direction.

Conclusion: Looks okay.