

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

Huilan Zhang¹

¹ Pennsylvania State University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This manuscript needs a major revision.

This study investigates the mediating impact of outsourcing in the context of the relationship between lean manufacturing practices and the profitability of manufacturing firms. The findings indicate that outsourcing plays a substantial mediating role in shaping the connection between lean manufacturing practices and manufacturing firms' profitability.

My primary concern lies in the paper's contribution to existing literature and its relevance to the field of lean manufacturing practices. The authors state that their study increases the profitability of manufacturing firms, but they need to provide a more detailed and comprehensive explanation of how this study contributes to the current body of knowledge.

The introduction lacks the necessary tension and does not fulfill its role as an introduction. In most scholarly journals, introductions should not only provide background information but also clearly define the research goal or question, explain its significance, outline the research methodology, and identify the beneficiaries of the study's results.

I have a significant concern regarding the development of hypotheses. The paper does not provide a sufficient explanation or justification for why outsourcing is proposed as a mediator in the relationship between lean manufacturing practices and profitability.

The methodology and conclusion sections require substantial improvement as they are currently brief and lack valuable details. Furthermore, the discussion section should be expanded to provide a more thorough exploration of the study's contributions and implications.