

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.

The text titled "Mediating Role of Outsourcing on The Relationship Between Lean Manufacturing Practices and Profitability" presents an investigation into the mediating role of outsourcing in the relationship between lean manufacturing practices and the profitability of manufacturing firms in Uganda. While the paper addresses an interesting research question, there are several aspects that could be improved in terms of clarity, depth, and presentation. Below is a critical review of the text:

- Clarity and Structure:** The overall structure of the paper is standard but could benefit from a more detailed and clear presentation. The abstract is concise, but the introduction and literature review sections are quite lengthy. The paper might benefit from more concise summaries of the previous research to maintain the reader's interest.
- Research Gap and Purpose:** The text successfully identifies a research gap by highlighting the limited understanding of mediation effects in manufacturing firms' profitability. However, it could provide more context and justification for why this gap is significant and what practical implications it may have.
- Literature Review:** The literature review provides a good overview of outsourcing and lean manufacturing practices, but it lacks depth in terms of critical analysis and synthesis of existing research. It mostly presents information from various sources without engaging in a critical discussion or integration of findings.
- Hypothesis Development:** The hypothesis is clearly stated, but it could benefit from more explanation regarding why the authors believe outsourcing mediates the relationship between lean manufacturing practices and profitability. What theoretical framework or empirical evidence supports this hypothesis? Providing such context would strengthen the paper.
- Citations and References:** The text cites various sources, but it could benefit from more recent references and a more consistent citation style. Additionally, some claims and statements should be supported with specific citations to back up the arguments.
- Language and Style:** The language and writing style are generally clear, but there are some minor grammatical issues, such as missing articles or awkward phrasing, that need attention.

In summary, while the paper addresses an interesting research question, it needs significant improvements in terms of structure, depth of analysis, and presentation of results, to make it more informative and cohesive. Furthermore, enhancing the clarity of the research methodology and providing more context for the hypothesis would strengthen the



overall paper.