



## Psychomotor Skills of Pre-service Teachers of Natural Science on Melde's Experiment in Guided Inquiry Learning

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### ABSTRACT

This research aimed to describe the psychomotor skills of pre-service teachers of natural science on Melde's Experiment through guided inquiry learning. Psychomotor skills were assessed by observation during students conduct the Melde's experiment. This research method used was descriptive quantitative in which the authors described the research variables from the collected data. The study was conducted on a pre-service natural science teacher who learns the Optic and Geometry Course. The data analysis uses descriptive statistical. The results showed that the psychomotor skills of pre-service teachers of natural science are categorized as very good in manipulation, good in precision and articulation; fair in imitation and naturalization domain. The lowest category of psychomotor indicators is naturalization. Naturalization is doing related activities according to the skills that are owned, a sample designing experiment with different variables. Different variables with the module make the prospective teacher's students think hard to create the experimental draft, consequently, the experimental design and findings are not equal to the theory. Further research is expected to have a learning model that is capable of training better psychomotor skills.

## INTRODUCTION

The classroom offers extensive knowledge to help students understand scientific and everyday life phenomena Susantini et al. (2018). Applying guided inquiry learning can improve the psychomotor domain science process skills in activities setting Anjarwani et al. (2020). Psychomotor knowledge is one aspect of ability in addition to cognitive and affective. According to Rosa (2015), the psychomotor domain is a domain related to skills or ability to act after a person receives a specific learning experience. Learning that refers to the 2013 Curriculum is also required to be a student-centered activity, so that students have the opportunity to explore their abilities, (Anikarnisia & Wilujeng, 2020). This psychomotor domain is measured by observing and assessing the skills of the students while conducting experiments, but this ability is rarely revealed.

The invention of something is done with the based guided inquiry learning models. Science education in the modern era focusing on the ability of students to be active in the learning process through the exploration process. Specifically, the current education tries to help students learn to organize and construct opinions, formulate problems, develop hypotheses, and look for evidence himself Nisa et al. (2018). The teaching-learning models are quite effective in improving psychomotor skills as evidenced by the medium-category improvement score and a very strong response

Patimapat et al. (2019). This is in line with the research results of Sugiarti (2018) that the psychomotor skills of the students experienced an increase with the guided inquiry models. The following results of the study of Sulawanti et al. (2019) that there is a significant influence on the implementation of a laboratory-based inquiry model for psychomotor ability. Thus the guided inquiry models can be used as an alternative solution in revealing the concept of natural science.

In science learning, practicum is the best method to acquire a better understanding of the science concept and application. The laboratory-based learning supports students to invention the facts and theories of science. However, the psychomotor skills are also important since science is not only about the knowledge, but also the human application skills of motor skills, such as tools stringing and measurement. These abilities are also beneficial for learners in everyday life. Practicum aims to increase the conceptual understanding and students' psychomotor skills Millar & Abrahams (2009). Generally, research on psychomotor is conducted in health education, especially nursing Lopes et al. (2019), Rourke (2019), Nicholls et al. (2018). Supported by the opinions of Hofstein & Lunetta (2004), science learning is less successful if it is not supported by the practical activities.

The practical activities of students in the laboratory are linked with the psychomotor domain. This domain emphasis on manual task that involves the objects manipulation and physical activities Merrit (2008). According to Zaghoul (2001) and Merrit (2008), when students perform those activities, their mind and body are linked together. Krathwohl & Anderson (2009) have introduced five levels of psychomotor domain hierarchy related to laboratory experiments in natural science education refer to Table 1.

**Table 1.** Psychomotor domain.

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>
Imitation	Impersonate another person's actions, impersonate the replicate.
Manipulation	Reproduce the command of the teacher or its memory.
Precision	Perform skills without the help of others.
Articulation	Adapt or integrate expertise.
Naturalization	Doing related activities according to the skills already have.

One of the concepts in Science that is accustomed to being taught in laboratory activities is Melde's Law. Melde's Law is a law that explains the concept of wave propagation in a string. Melde's Experiment is carried out to prove what physical quantities affect the wave velocity of a string. Where the wave velocity at the string is proportional to the root of the tension force and is inversely proportional to the root mass per unit length of the string (Bozzo et al, 2019).

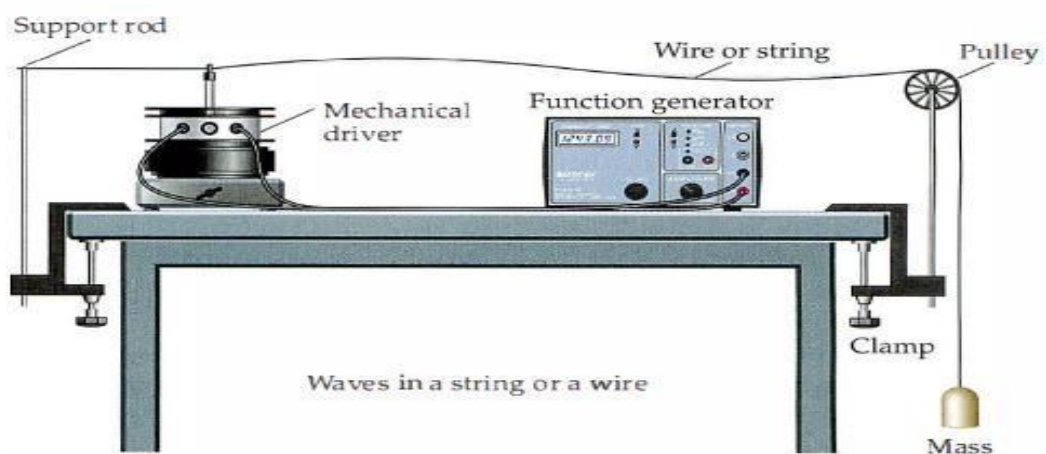
In the Melde's Experiment, many psychomotor skills were performed by the students. One of them is the skill of installing string, pulley, weight, generator, and vibrators into a correct circuit. However, these skills are rarely assessed by the teacher. The teacher only assessed the results of the practicum report or the student's worksheet Nugraha et al. (2018) & Nugraha et al. (2019). The teachers rarely assess how students perform during an experiment. This is supported by several previous studies which stated that the most common assessment method that was used in the laboratories was the written laboratory report Salim et al. (2012). The lack of written reports is not being

able to measure the practical skills demonstrated by students Pickford & Brown (2006). Melde's Experiment can be integrated into learning by using the inquiry-based learning model. Inquiry can be defined as "the intentional process of diagnosing problems, critiquing experiments, and distinguishing alternatives, planning investigations, researching conjectures, searching for information, constructing models, debating with peers, and forming coherent arguments" Linn et al. (2004). Guided Inquiry Learning is one of the learning strategies focused on a research-based, student-centered philosophy and science pedagogy.

Students work in small groups to engage in guided inquiry using carefully designed materials that direct and guide students to build and rebuild their science knowledge Barthlow & Watson (2014). Through inquiry, students are prompted to resolve the problem, or else to discover the answer Vlassi & Karaliota (2013). Simonson & Shadle (2013) states that guided inquiry is a comprehensive learning model for students since they can work individually or in groups to investigate a topic. The Implementation of guided inquiry learning can improve the psychomotor domain of science process skills in activities setting Anjarwani et al. (2020). Villagonzalo (2014) also revealed that guided inquiry learning is an effective method in fostering students' academic performance than traditional strategies of teaching. Based on the explanation stated before, this study aims to examine the students' psychomotor skills through the implementation of guided inquiry learning in the Melde's Experiment. The expected benefit of this research is to expand the knowledge about the psychomotor skills of students during Melde's Experiment.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This research method used was descriptive quantitative in which the authors described the research variables from the collected data. The study was conducted on pre-service natural science teachers who learn the Optic and Geometry Course, namely as many as 23 students in the seventh year of the study. The students were asked to conduct Melde's Experiment with the experimental design as shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** The design of Melde's Experiment.

The psychomotor skills of students were assessed during the implementation of guided inquiry learning with Melde's Experiment. The data were collected using

observation sheets of the guided inquiry learning, activity sheets learners about the psychomotor skills and documentation.

The observation sheets of the guided inquiry learning include 1) drawing the attention and explaining the inquiry process; 2) presenting inquiry problems; 3) asking students to formulate hypotheses; 4) guiding students to collect data to test hypotheses; 5) make explanations or conclusions; and 6) reflecting the problem situation. Meanwhile, the activity sheet of the psychomotor skills includes 5 indicators namely 1) imitation, 2) manipulation, 3) precision, 4) articulation, and 5) naturalization. The activities measured for each psychomotor indicator can be seen in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Activities of psychomotor.

Indicator	Description
Imitation	Emulate the actions of the teacher/ laboratory assistant steps in the collection of experimental data.
Manipulation	Conduct experiments following the variables in the lab module.
Precision	Demonstrate expertise using measuring instruments without assistance.
Articulation	Associate a combination of practicum activity by developing science process skills.
Naturalization	Conduct activities with the strategy according to the needs.

Profile of every aspect of psychomotor skills is measured processed and made a percentage by interpretation as shown in Table 3.

**Table 3.** Percentage interpretation of psychomotor skills.

Percentage	Categorized
81-100	Very Good
71-80	Good
61-70	Fair
51-60	Poor
0-50	Very Poor

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of research conducted are psychomotor skills of students of natural science preservice teachers in Melde's Experiment Table 4:

**Table 4.** Psychomotor skills results.

Indicator	Score	Categorized
Imitation	88	Very Good
Manipulation	80	Good
Precision	75	Good
Articulation	70	Fair
Naturalization	63	Fair

Based on Table 2 it can be obtained that the imitation indicator obtains the highest category is very good, as the articulation and naturalization indicator is gaining the lowest category is fair. This category may indicate psychomotor skills for natural science

preservice teachers in Melde's Experiment are well. It complies with the results of the observation of the implementation of experimentation Melde's Law through guided inquiry model carried out excellent, which starts from the syntax of 1 to 6 with an average score of 3.8. The guided inquiry learning models is a model very close to the principle of constructionist, which explains that knowledge is constructed by learners. It is important that in the model of inquiry content and the investigation process are taught together in an ongoing time. In the investigation process finally, students can find the knowledge content learned.

Based on the results of research gained that imitation indicators with very good categories. Imitation is the ability to emulate the actions of others. One of the mimicking activities undertaken by the students is the fact that they are a tool for experiments in the laboratory of Melde's Law. In this case, the average student can do well-related skills in linking the loads hung with the vibrator using a rope. The ability to emulate this is a psychomotor skill that is easiest to do compared to other skills because it only mimics the tool's arrangement according to the experimental design. According to Noorhidawati et al. (2015), imitation is the ability to perform simple activities and the same as seen or noted before. Another indicator of psychomotor skills is manipulation.

In manipulation indicators, students are required to formulate problems, hypotheses, and experimental variables. At the Melde's Experiment, students can determine the variable manipulation, response, and control according to the formulation of the problem made. For example, if the problem is how the effect of the hanging load on the number of waves formed (wavelength), then the manipulation variable is the load mass, the response variable is the wavelength, and the control variable is a long rope, rope type, and frequency of vibrator. Through this Melde's Experiment, the average student has been able to create a variety of experimental variables correctly. According to Dewi et al. (2017), The inquiry model can develop a student science process skills indicator, namely predicting, formulating hypotheses, and variable identification.

Another indicator of psychomotor skills is precision. Precision demonstrates the skill of using measuring instruments without help. In Melde's Experiment, students are required to use vibrator and voltage sources. Vibrators are a tool that generates vibrations when connected to a voltage source. The results of the student's assessment of the vibrator and the voltage source and use it demonstrates that the average student is already able to use it properly. Rustaman (2005) explained that one of the generic skills in natural science in college is aware of the scale of magnitude (sense of scale) of measuring instruments. Measuring activities can be slipped to give to students when they perform data analysis activities (Adirahayu & Wulandari, 2019).

The next indicator is the articulation. Articulation associates a combination of experiment activity by developing science process skills. In Melde's Experiment, students are required to repeat experiments with the same variables. In this aspect, students obtain a good category. Banjarnahor et al. (2016), through his research also showed that the articulation aspects of students in the category were less good.

The lowest category of psychomotor indicators is naturalization. Naturalization is doing related activities according to the skills that are owned, a sample designing experiment with different variables. Different variables with the module make the

prospective teacher's students think hard to create the experimental draft, consequently, the experimental design and findings are not equal to the theory. According to Nurhikmah (2014), naturalization is the ability to perform reflex activities that involve physical activities that require high working effectiveness. Guided inquiry models make it possible to prove Melde's equation through experimentation. This is in accordance with the results of the research of Nugraha et al. (2019) that model of modification inquiry learning to affect the psychomotor skills of students, as well as results of the research Prihatiningtyas et al. (2013) inquiry learning models assisted module practicum can improve students' psychomotor skills.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results and analysis of data can be concluded that the psychomotor skills of pre-service teachers of natural science are categorized as very good in manipulation, good in precision and articulation; fair in imitation and naturalization domain. The lowest category of psychomotor indicators is naturalization. Naturalization is doing related activities according to the skills that are owned, a sample designing experiment with different variables. Different variables with the module make the prospective teacher's students think hard to create the experimental draft, consequently, the experimental design and findings are not equal to the theory. Further research is expected to have a learning model that is capable of training better psychomotor skills.

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