



# PERCEPTION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN LEARNING ORGANIC CHEMISTRY AT THE KULLIYYAH OF SCIENCE (IUM): A PRELIMINARY STUDY

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## AN INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING INSTITUTION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

15th September 2021

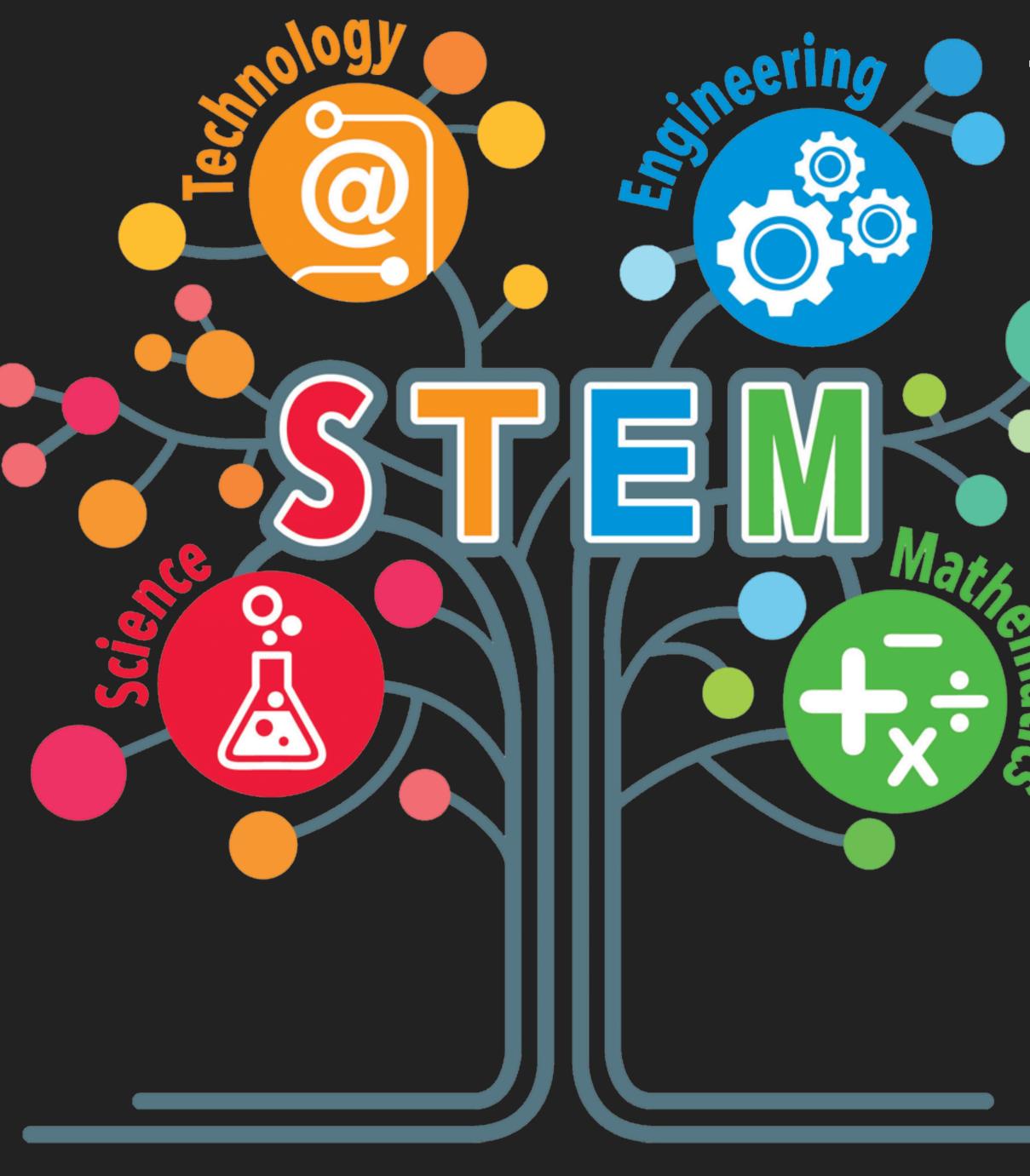
EGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTIS ON EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMEN

ACKNOWLEDGED B







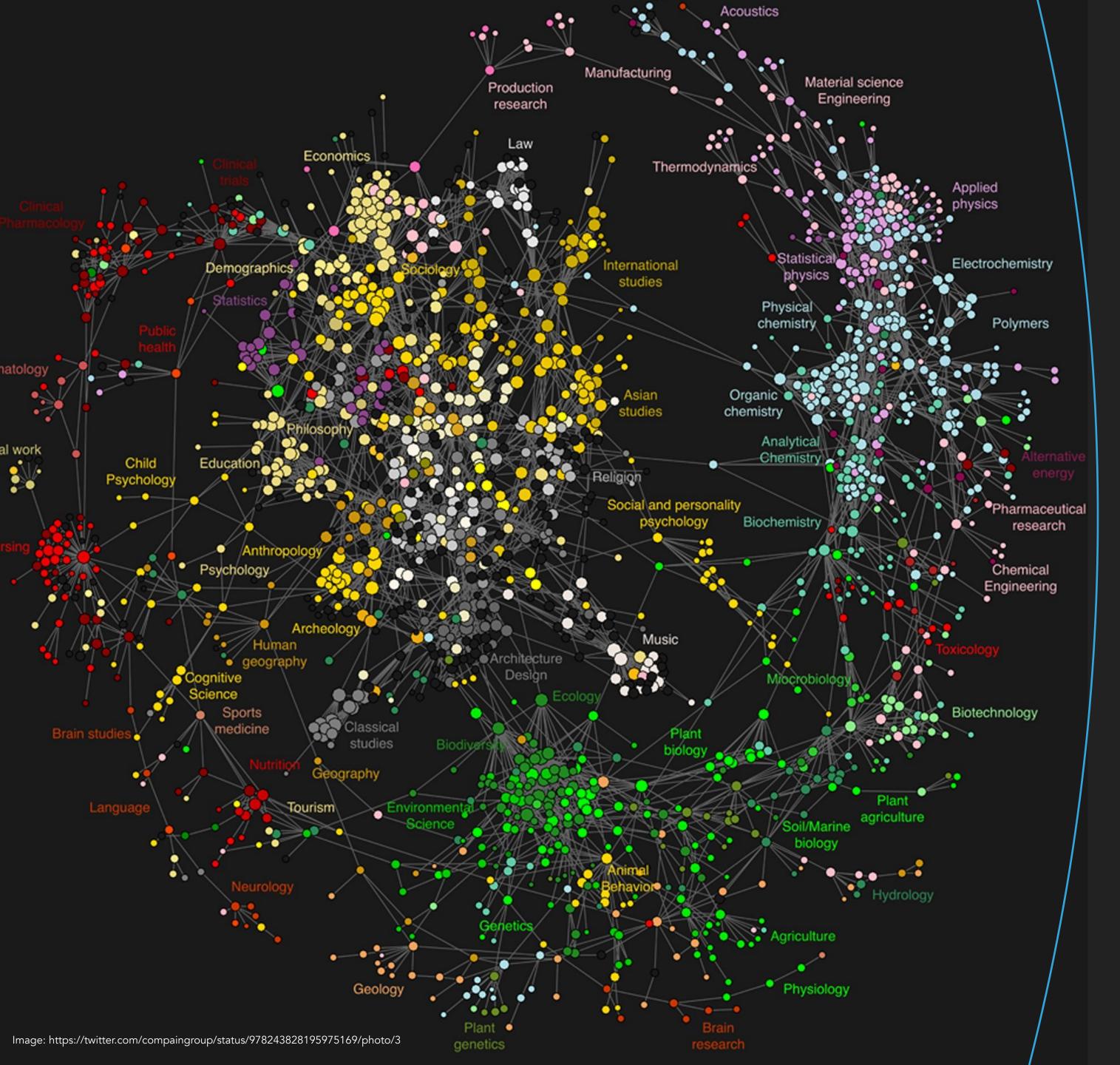


## To produce a scientific and progressive society

For nations' future as well-developed countries

Malaysia should have at least 1/2 million graduates from STEM fields at the higher education level

**Decreasing trends of students taking STEM** programmes for both in secondary and tertiary levels of education across the world.



## Chemistry - the central core of science

Knowledge of chemistry is important for those who wish to pursue their career

chemical industry

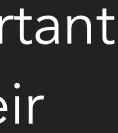
Medical-related careers

biotechnology

engineering

patent law

One of the pre-requisite subjects for most science programmes





### Difficult

Continuous effort in understanding the flow of the organic reactions ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

## Demanding

Predicting the product based on the materials & conditions given and vice versa.

MemoriSing countless conditions



## TRENDS OF STUDENTS PURSUING UNDERGRADUATE STUDY IN CHEMISTRY



## Number of Students Pursuing Chemistry

perception resulted in a high number of students pulling away from taking chemistry courses either in high school or university levels

Academy of Science Malaysia (ASM) : Malaysia should have 1/2 million S&T graduates at higher education level to achieve Vision 2020

until 2015, the number of graduates in these field of study was only 85,000

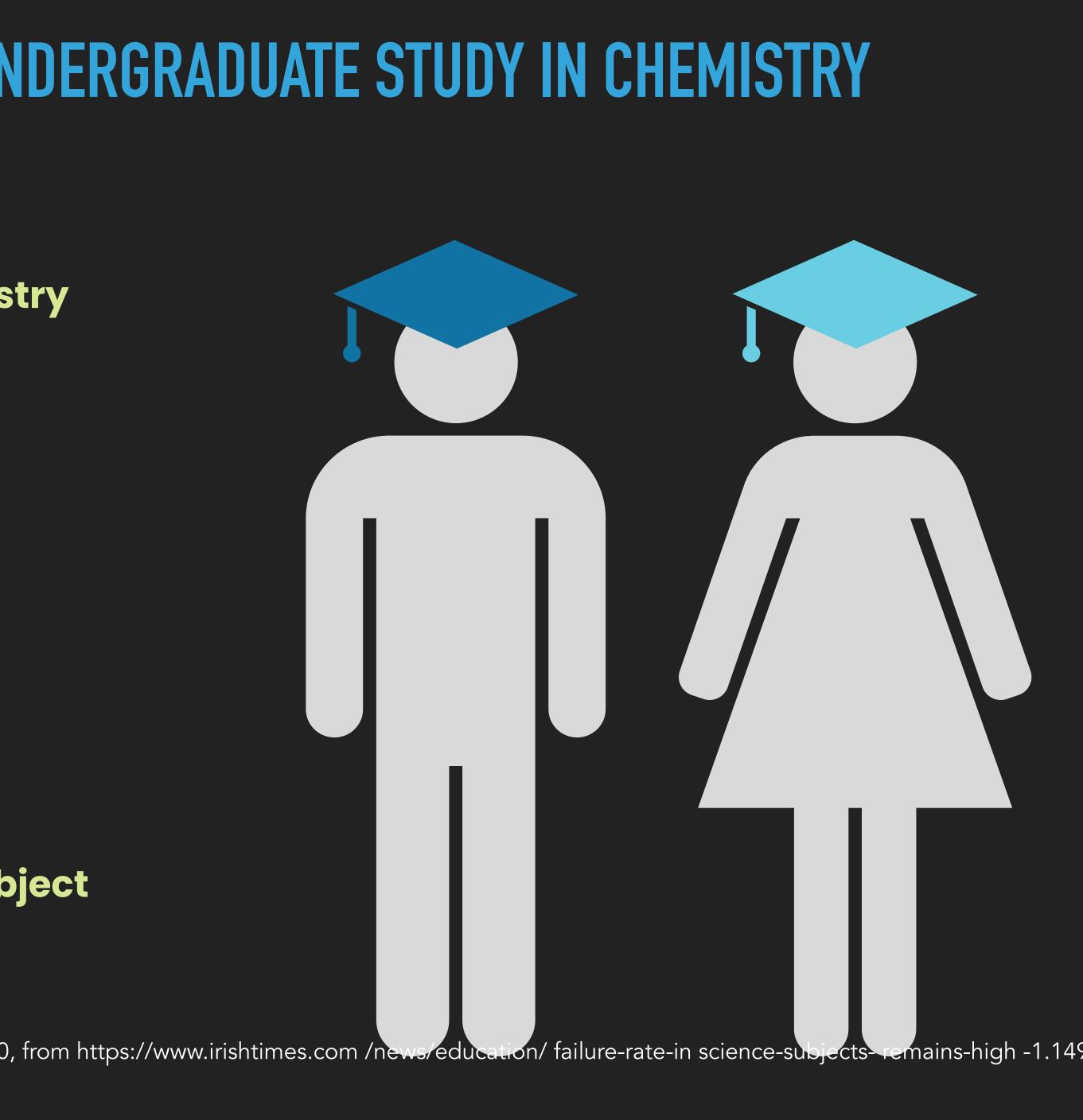
60:40 ratio of science students to non-science in education policy



### Failure Rate of Organic Chemistry Subject

the highest compared to other subjects

Ahlstrom, D. (2013). Failure rate in science subjects remains high. Retrieved May 16, 2020, from https://www.irishtimes.com /news/education/ failure-rate-in science-subjects- remains-high -1.149 421



## Malaysia Scenario 2014:

21%

N S N

59%

Upper secondary school level : Students chose to study science stream subjects

Academic year of 2015/2016: **Students selected into science** programmes at the tertiary level – (95 % accepted the offer)

**Undergraduate level:** Science stream applicants pursued their dreams in the science programmes.

88%



Ceasefire holds All quiet on the wrian battlefront as US-Russian truce k mplemented.>25



More science grads

Malaysia may not have enough engineers, architects and other professionals to achieve Vision 2020, based on the low level of interest by our students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. If the situation goes on, Malaysia may have to depend on foreign workers to attain developed status, warn experils. >See Pages 16 & 17 for reports by CHRISTINA CHIN

>See Papes 16 & 17 for reports by CHRISTINA CHN

Andrew, A. N. (2017, March 12). STEM, a priority for Malaysia. The Star Online. https://www.thestar.com.my/news/education/2017/03/12/stem-a- priority- for-malaysia/ No record or data found for trend of chemistry subject results in secondary or tertiary level of study in Malaysia.

13 % of students obtained C in science subject for their PT3 examination (Pentaksiran Tingkatan 3) in 2015 (Su Lyn, 2015)

For the past 10 years only around 30 % of students qualified to be enrolled in sciencestream class in the upper secondary school level.

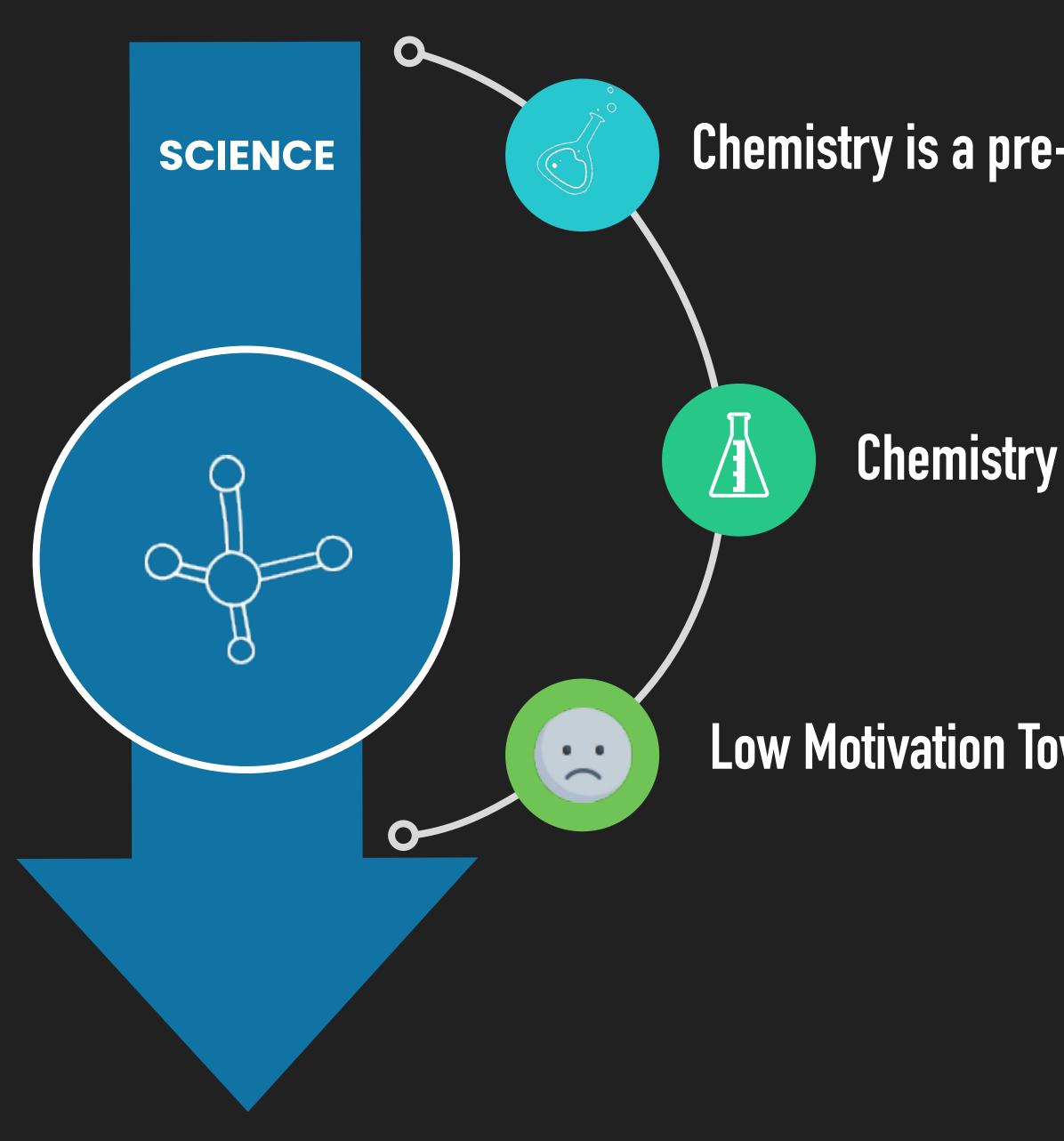


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No study done yet in Malaysia specifically to find the difficulties faced by undergraduate chemistry students in learning organic chemistry



## DECLINING STUDENTS' ENROLMENT IN SCIENCE-STREAM PROGRAMMES



Chemistry is a pre-requisite subjects for science-stream programmes

**Chemistry as a 'Hard' Subject for Learners to Learn and Understand** 

Low Motivation Towards Organic Chemistry Subject



## **DIFFICULTIES IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY STUDIES AMONG LEARNERS**

### Ineffectiveness of Teacher-Centred Teaching Method

internet

### Lack of Critical Thinking Skills in Problem-Solving

complexity of the content in organic chemistry subject increases - topics are related to each other students need to combine fundamental concept, relate each concept and creativity in designing a well-defined strategy

### **Misconceptions on Contents of Organic Chemistry Subject**

on their answers to the teacher. class activity

#### Weak Understanding on Molecular Models of Compounds

Inter-conversion of 2D and 3D structure.

3D and 2D visualisation & application of computer generated models (e.g Chemscape Chime browser plug-in, and the Jmol java applet) recommended for learning purpose

teaching method practiced for most of science-programme subject is teacher-centred-passive state as the information

approaches are constructivism, problem-based learning (PBL) and concept mapping, digital/

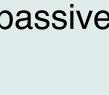
Not obvious for both of lecturers and students - unless when the students try to explain their reasoning

Lecturers should integrate questions that require students to give reasoning on certain concept in the

















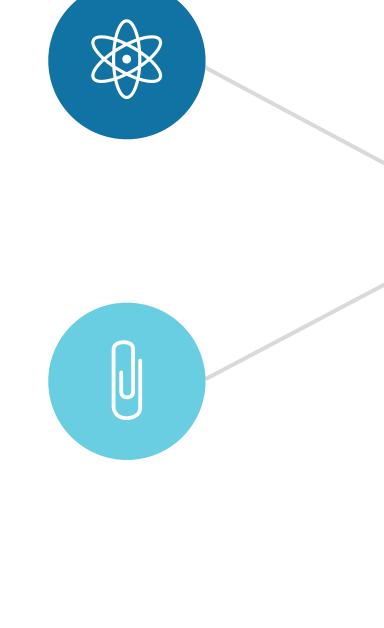
## **DIFFICULT AREAS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY SUBJECT**

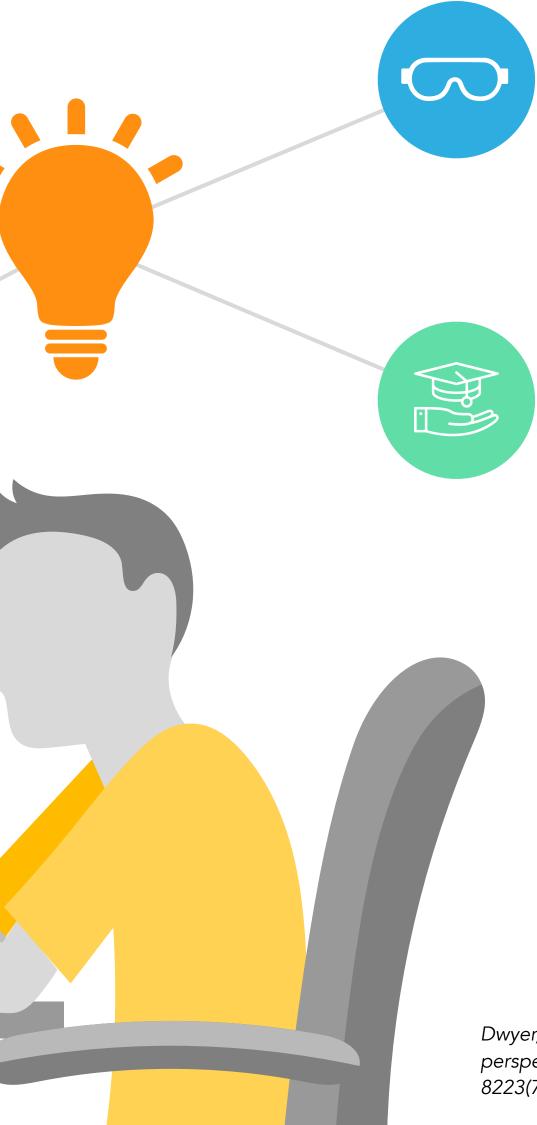
### **Reaction Type**

Students tend to memorise what they need to do when encountered question involving identification of reaction type/mechanism. Determine nucleophile and electrophile based on the given reactants and products

#### Stereochemistry

Students lack of skills to conceptualise the structure in 3D into 2D forms and vice versa.





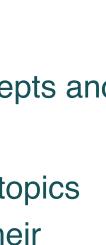
## **Organic Synthesis**

Most complex: Organic Chemistry concepts are interconnected with each other

## **Reaction Mechanism**

Weak understanding on pre-requisite concepts and in visualising the steps of the mechanisms Need complete understanding of previous topics e.g. identifying the functional groups and their characteristics, integrate them to solve reaction mechanism problems

Dwyer, A. O., & Childs, P. E. (2017). Who says organic chemistry is difficult? Exploring perspectives and perceptions. Journal of Mathematics Science and Technology Education, 8223(7), 3599–3620





## Areas of organic chemistry that these students found difficult?

## **UG chemistry students** difficulties in organic chemistry

Students' study attitude/perception on this subject affect their achievement in organic chemistry ? Relation of study attitude with grades obtained?







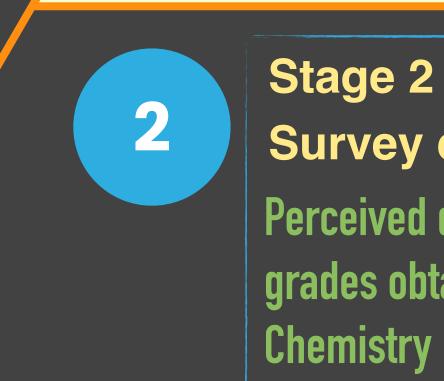
## METHODOLOGY

## Initial stage

Perceived difficulties on the areas of organic chemistry subject

Area Study Population Study Design Study Sampling method

- Exclusion & Inclusion criteria
- Sample size calculation



1

Final stage Study attitude with the grades obtained for Organic Chemistry I and II

Statistical Analysis Attitudinal Scale Analysis

Mean Score	Attitude
1.00-1.79	Highly unfavourable
1.80-2.59	Unfavourable
2.60-3.39	Undecided
3.40-4.19	Favourable
4.20-5.00	Highly Favourable

#### Stage 2 Survey distribution

3

Perceived difficulties vs. grades obtained for Organic Chemistry (I and II)

Validation of questionaires Research tools Ethical consideration Sampling method Data collection

## **Research Design and Data Collection**

- 1. descriptive analysis percentage of answers from respondents based on their batch number. Compare data with the major answers of each batch of respondents.
- 2. The second analysis focused on answering the research questions —> Use Likert scale to measure respondents' opinions

**Statistical Analysis** 

- Non- analytical & analytical study of cross-sectional
- Convenience sampling method
- Data collected through offline and online methods.

## **Attitudinal Scale** Analysis



- 1. Total score of each respondent was calculated.
- 2. Individual's mean score calculated
- 3. The types of study attitude grouped into five categories



Second, third and fourth year students on undergraduate level of Department of Chemistry

193 undergraduate students from Department of Chemistry, International Islamic University Malaysia,

160 students of Year 2 until Year 4 took part in this study

Abd Hamid et al. (2021). IIUM Journal of Educational Studies, 9(2), 6-30.

## RESPONDENTS

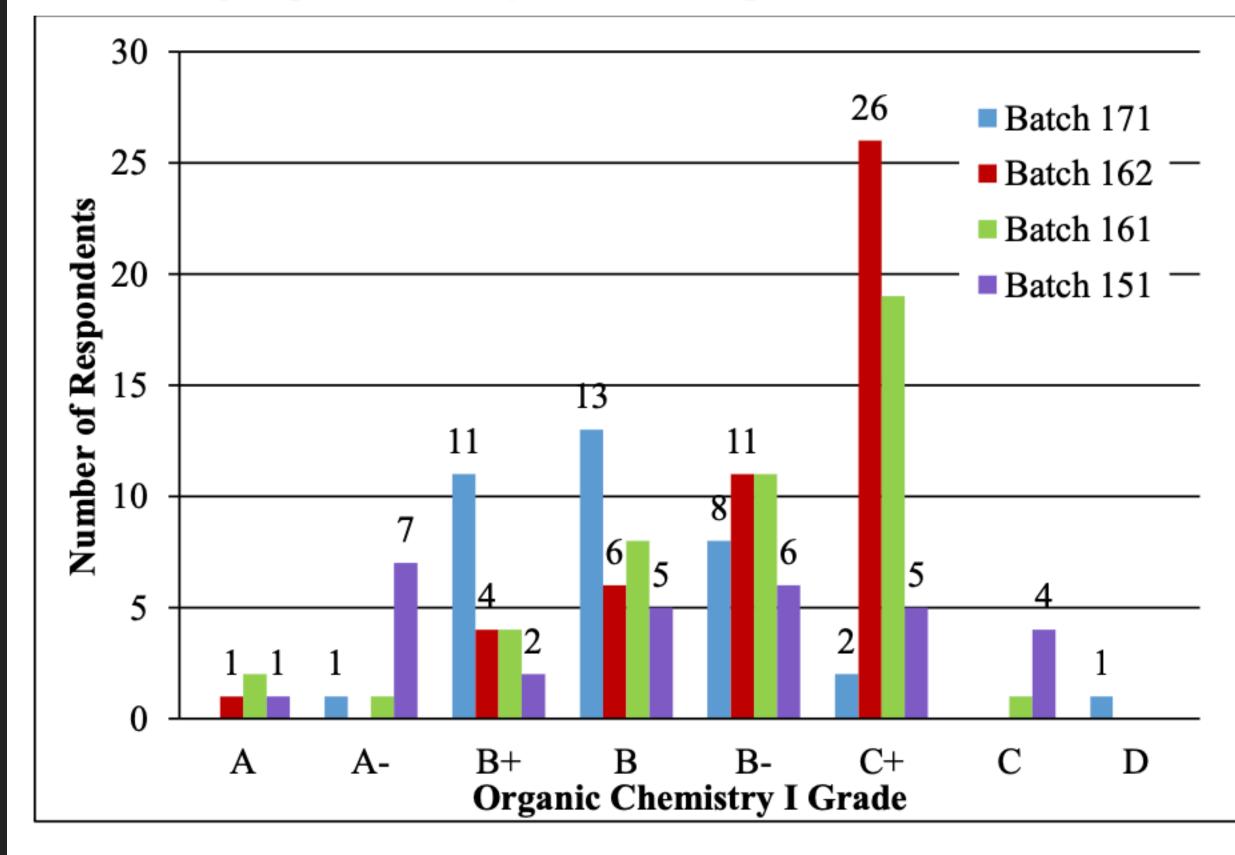


## Tabulation of gender and batch among respondents (n = 160)

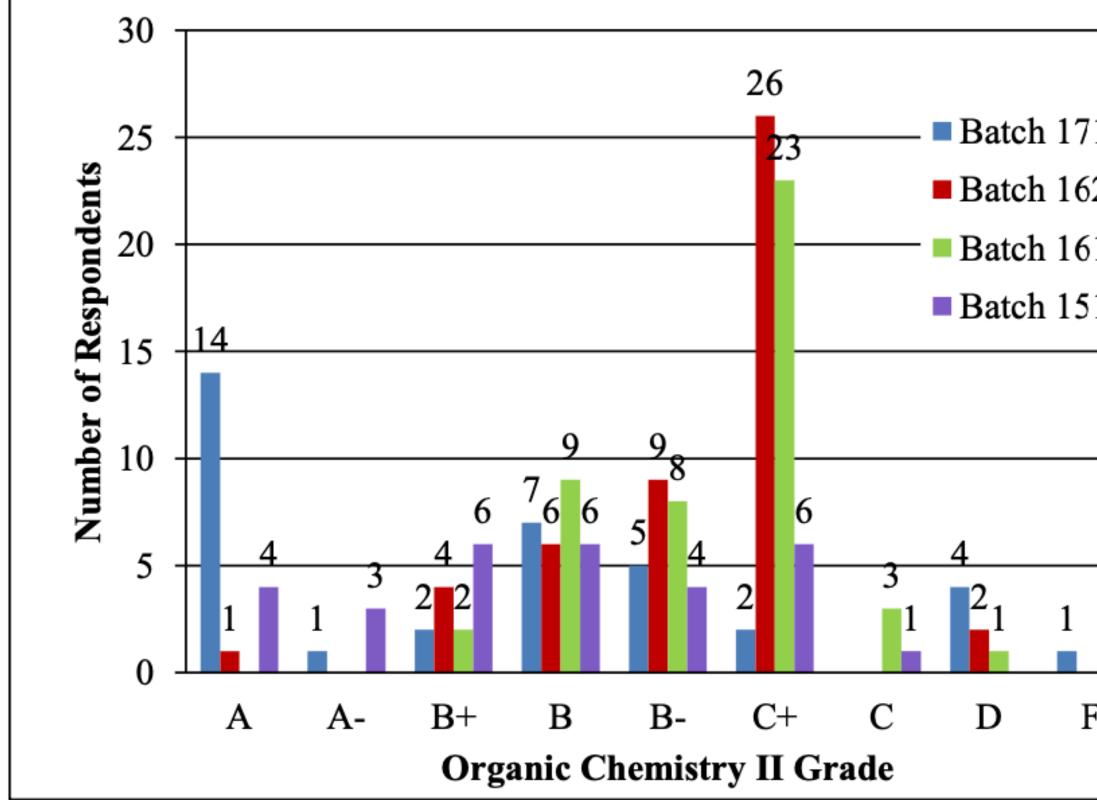
	Batch Number, n (%)			
Gender	Batch 171	Batch 162	Batch 161	Batch 151
Male	10 (27.8)	16 (33.3)	8 (17.4)	6 (20.0)
Female	26 (72.2)	32 (66.7)	38 (82.6)	24 (80.0)
Total	36 (100)	48 (100)	46 (100)	30 (100)



Distribution of Organic Chemistry I Grade among Batches (n = 160)



Distribution of Organic Chemistry II Grade among Batches (n = 160)



1	-
52	
51 —	-
1	
	-
	-
	-
F	
•	

SUBJECT		Leve	of Difficulty	n (%)	
JUDJLCI	Very Easy	Easy	Neutral	Difficult	Very Diffic
Analytical Chemistry	16 (10.0)	54 (33.8)	73 (45.6)	15 (9.4)	2 (1.3)
Organic Chemistry	2 (1.3)	3 (1.9)	23 (14.4)	54 (33.8)	78 (48.8
Inorganic Chemistry	4 (2.5)	17 (10.6)	69 (43.1)	48 (30.0)	22 (13.8
Biochemistry	2 (1.3)	10 (6.3)	78 (48.8)	49 (30.6)	21 (13.1
Physical Chemistry	36 (22.5)	72 (45.0)	43 (26.9)	6 (3.8)	3 (1.9)



## **PERCEIVED DIFFICULTIES ON THE AREAS OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY SUBJECT**

### EASY

Nomenclature (43.1 %)

### **NEUTRAL**

Drawing of compound (42.5%) Aromaticity (52.5 %) Reaction type (52.5 %)

### DIFFICULT

Stereochemistry (46.3 %) Organic Reaction (46.9%)

## **VERY DIFFICULT**

Reaction Mechanism (41.3 %)





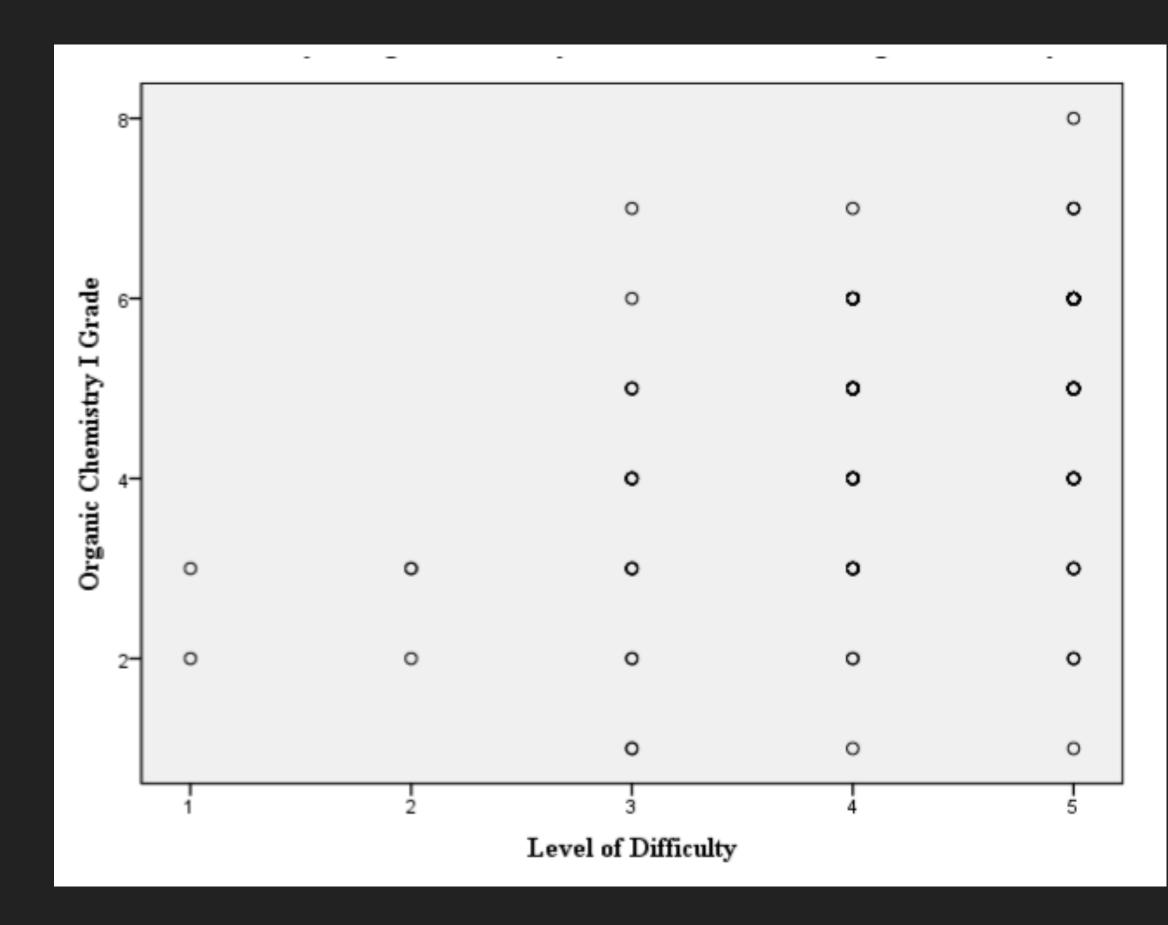
## Respondents' Study Attitude towards Organic Chemistry

Responses of Respondents to the Scale Items (n = 160)

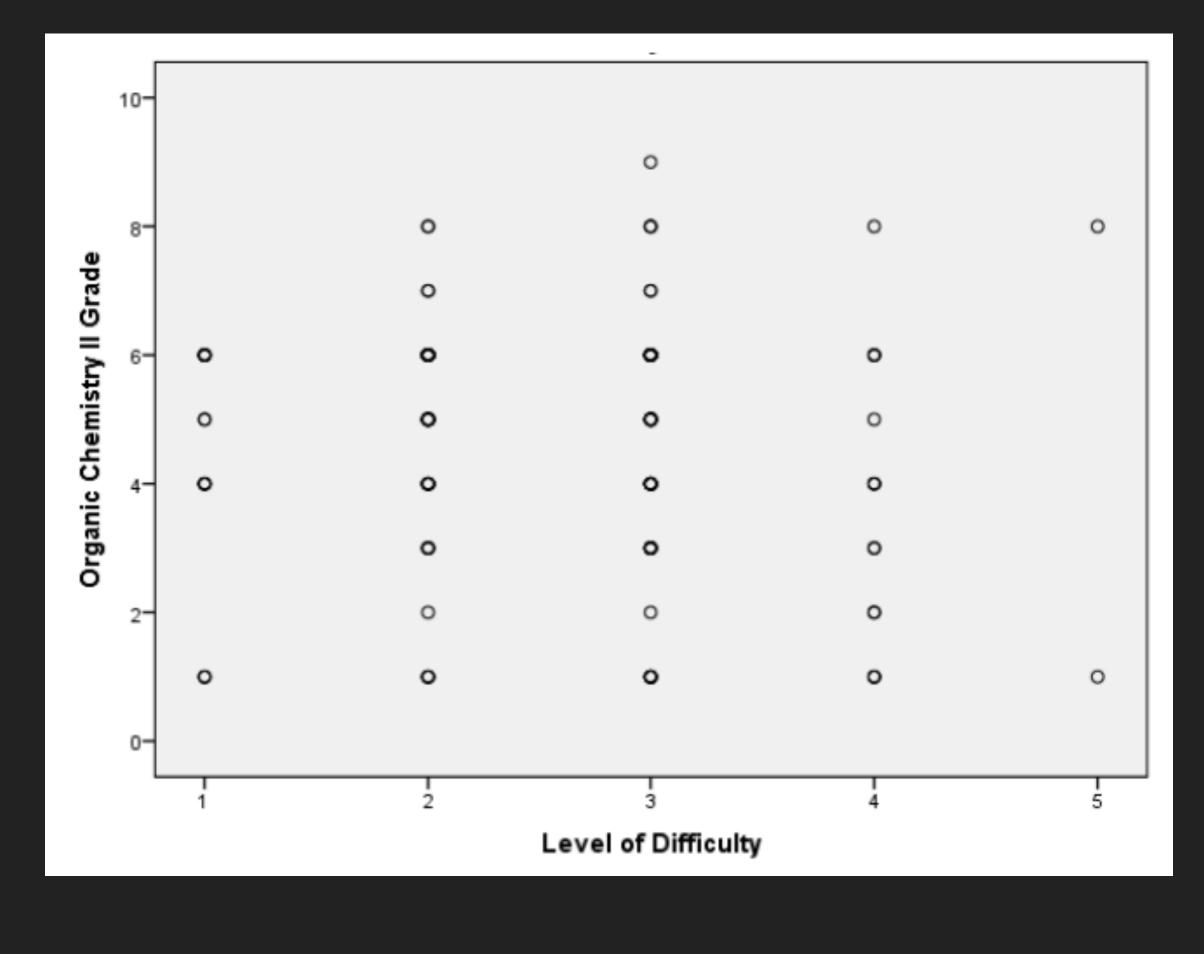
Simplified Statements		Likert	Scale for Freque	ncy, n (%)	
	Never (1)	Rarely (2)	Sometimes (3	) Very Often (4)	Always (5)
Effort:					
Organic Chemistry I	1 (0.6)	13 (8.1)	78 (48.8)	51 (31.9)	17 (10.6)
Organic Chemistry II	1 (0.6)	9 (5.6)	64 (40.0)	60 (37.5)	26 (16.3)
Persistence	1 (0.6)	10 (6.3)	56 (35.0)	63 (39.4)	30 (18.8)
Pre-class:					
Preparedness	35 (21.9)	67 (41.9)	47 (29.4)	9 (5.6)	2 (1.3)
Planned study time	11 (6.9)	28 (17.5)	78 (48.8)	30 (18.8)	13 (8.1)
Study as planned	18 (11.3)	34 (21.3)	89 (55.6)	17 (10.6)	2 (1.3)
Participation in class	8 (5.0)	60 (37.5)	57 (35.6)	24 (15.0)	11 (6.9)
activity					
Reference:					
Lecturer	32 (20.0)	66 (41.3)	37 (23.1)	12 (7.5)	13 (8.1)
Internet	2 (1.3)	10 (6.3)	30 (18.8)	64 (40.0)	54 (33.8)
Study method:					
Self-study	8 (5.0)	10 (6.3)	52 (32.5)	59 (36.9)	31 (19.4)
Memorisation of facts	5 (3.1)	11 (6.9)	44 (27.5)	71 (44.4)	29 (18.1)
Solve problem by self	2 (1.3)	7 (4.4)	52 (32.5)	68 (42.5)	31 (19.4)
Group-study	9 (5.6)	34 (21.3)	71 (44.4)	32 (20.0)	14 (8.8)
Post-class:					
Revision	1 (0.6)	9 (5.6)	48 (30.0)	59 (36.9)	43 (26.9)
Re-attempt problem	4 (2.5)	15 (9.4)	60 (37.5)	50 (31.3)	31 (19.4)
Submit assignments on	2 (1.3)	1 (0.6)	11 (6.9)	44 (27.5)	102 (63.8)
time					
Set target marks for:					
Examination	9 (5.6)	18 (11.3)	34 (21.3)	61 (38.1)	38 (23.8)
Assignments	11 (6.9)	30 (18.8)	54 (33.8)	40 (25.0)	25 (15.6)
Determined to reach	2 (1.3)	12 (7.5)	56 (35.0)	64 (40.0)	26 (16.3)
target	6 (2 9)	10 (6 2)	71(444)	16 (20 0)	27(160)
Interest in study	0 (3.8)	10 (0.3)	/1 (44.4)	46 (28.8)	27 (10.9)

## Respondents' Study Attitude towards Organic Chemistry

Simulified Statements		Likert Scale for Frequency, n (%)				
Simplified Statements	Never (1)	Rarely (2)	Sometimes	(3) Very Often (4)	Always (5)	
Relation with theory:						
Laboratory session	3 (1.9)	38 (23.8)	48 (30.0)	48 (30.0)	23 (14.4)	
Projects	1 (0.6)	7 (4.4)	31 (19.4)	67 (41.9)	54 (33.8)	
Marks of these are impor	tant:					
Laboratory reports	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	23 (14.4)	66 (41.3)	69 (43.1)	
Projects	1 (0.6)	3 (1.9)	17 (10.6)	52 (32.5)	87 (54.4)	



Level of difficulty vs Organic Chemistry II grade Level of difficulty vs Organic Chemistry I grade



## Level of Difficulty



vs Organic Chemistry I grade

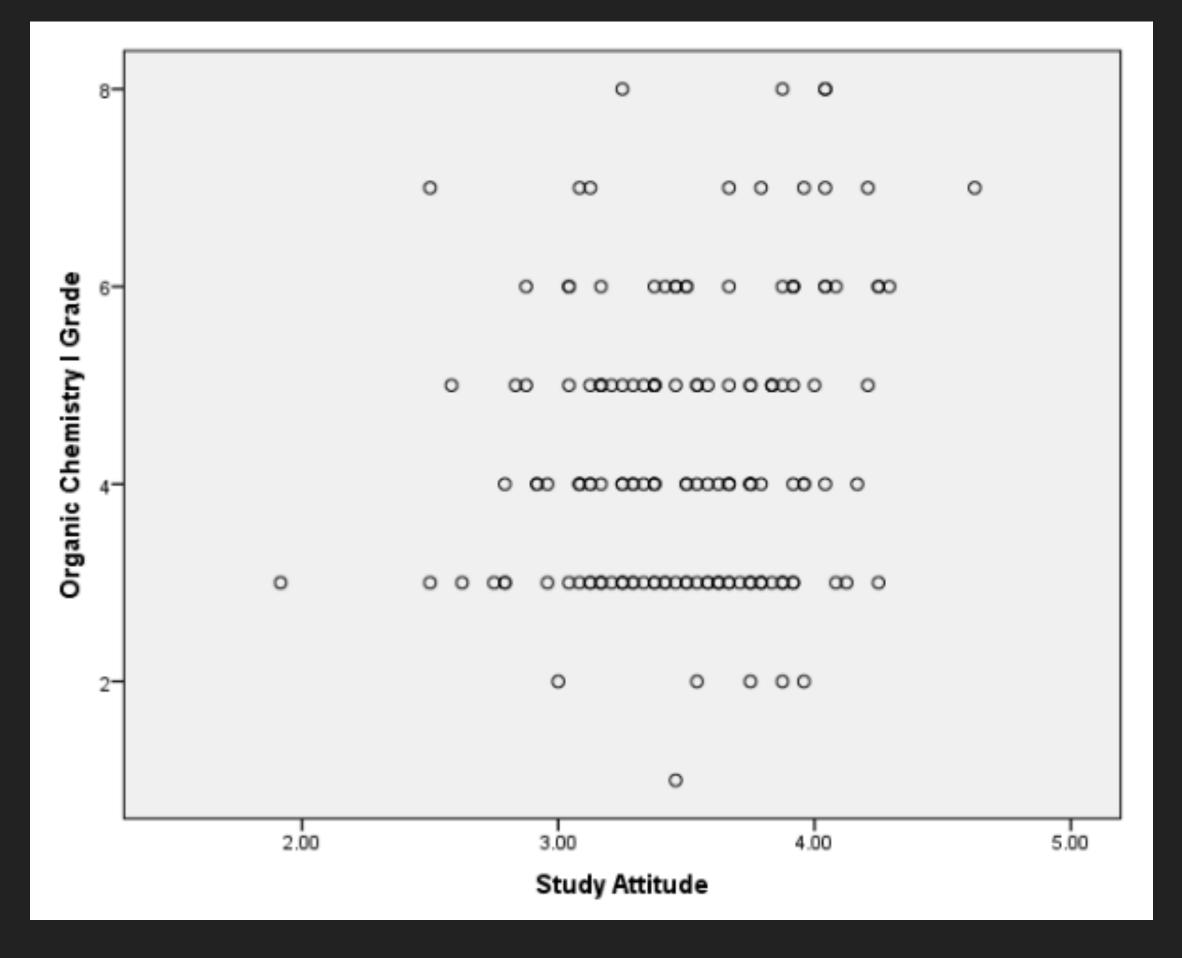
vs Organic Chemistry II grade

- Significant positive association were proved by the *p*-value
- High value of r denoted the strong association between the variables.

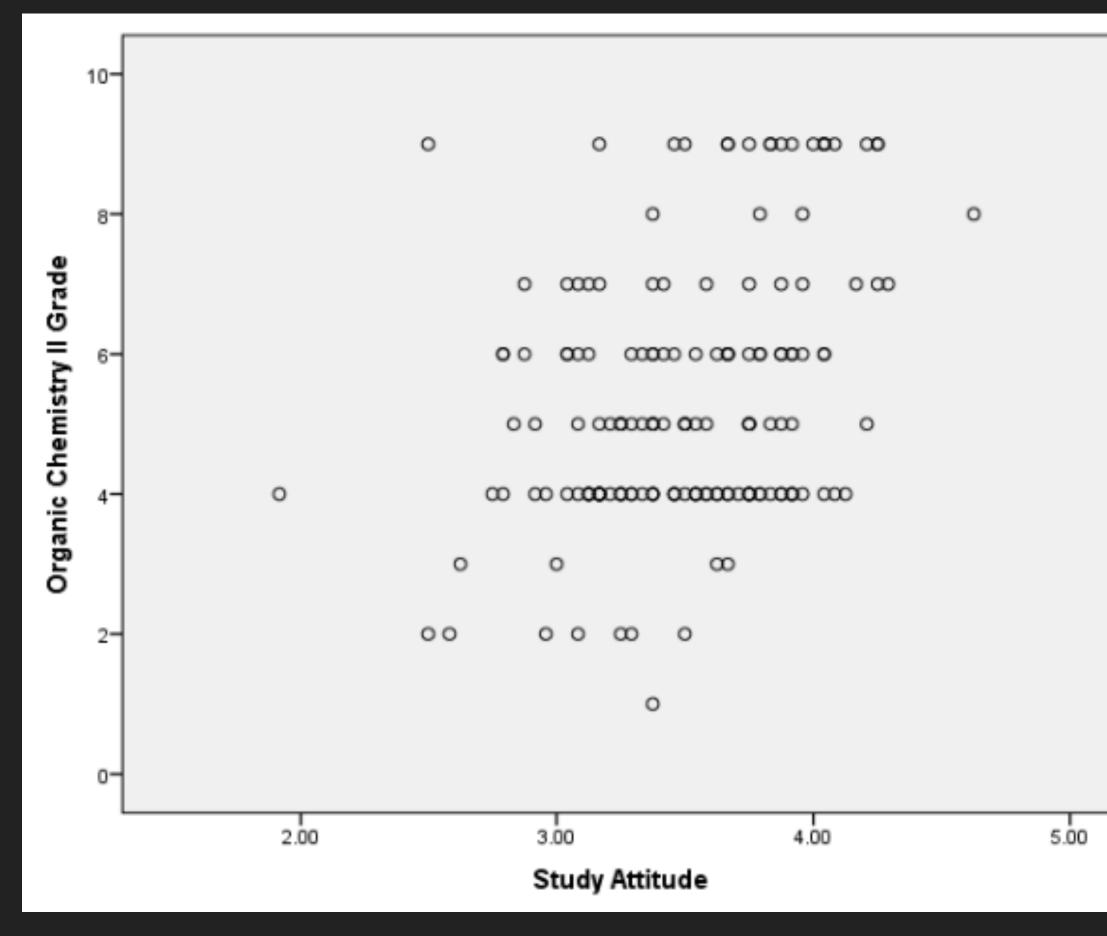
lation Coefficient, r	<b>P-value</b>
0.413**	p<0.01
0.436**	p<0.01

ed by the *p*-value tion between the variables.





Study attitude vs Organic Chemistry I grade



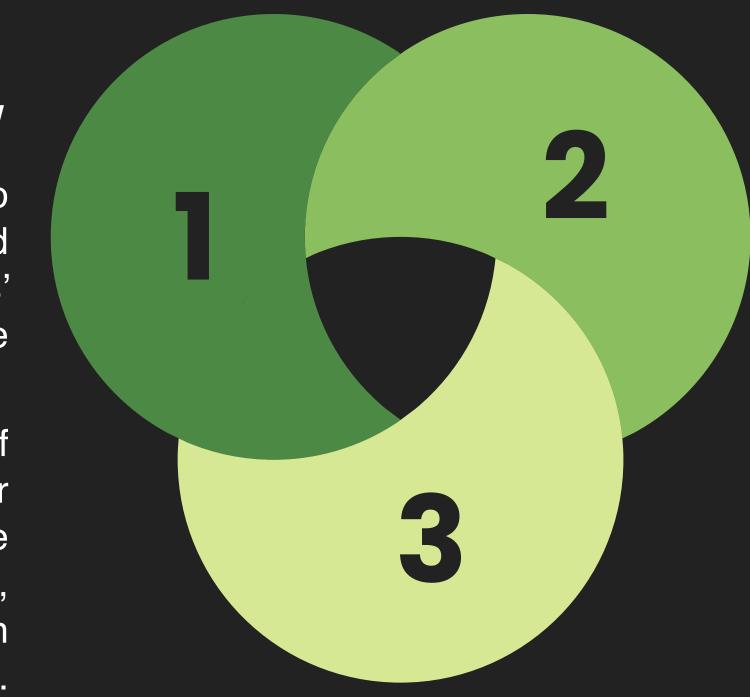
Study attitude vs Organic Chemistry II grade



Study Attitude	Correlation Coefficient, r	<i>p</i> -value	Statement
vs Organic Chemistry I grade	0.140 (very weak correlation)	<i>p</i> =1.00 (not significant)	No correlation
vs Organic Chemistry II grade	0.330** (weak correlation)	<i>p</i> <0.01 (significant)	Significant weak correlation



## CONCLUSION



### **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

Insights of the difficulties faced by the students so that preventive solutions can be outlined and carried out for the betterment of the students' academic achievement in the future

The result of this study revealed that the quality of the study attitude of the students throughout their organic chemistry study does not affect the grade obtained for Organic Chemistry I subject. However, better quality of study attitude gave better grade in Organic Chemistry II.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

Further study can be conducted to identify external factors such as the environment of the classroom or interest to learn

Analysis of the students' answers and scores through the implementation of the quizzes on each of the topics in organic chemistry study will also give more detailed view on their understanding of that area.

### WHAT WE CAN DO?

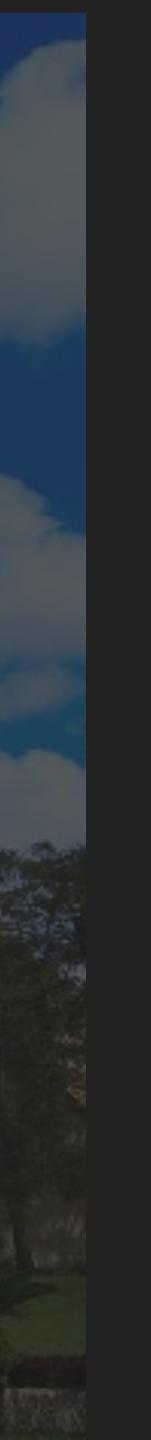
Conducting group activities such as problem solving, tutorials or worksheets require the engagement of each of the students at the end of each of the class session.

To make it more interesting, the design of the class should be modified to increase students' engagement during the conduct of the class.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

# **Nurul Nadiah Rosly** Assoc. Prof. Dr Nor Azlina A. Rahman **Chemistry students, Department of Chemistry** Kulliyyah of Science, IIUM



# THANKS











This certificate is awarded to

### Prof. Dr. Shafida Abdul Hamid

as

#### **Invited Speaker**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on Chemical Education

with the theme: "Chemistry Resilience & Continuity in the Covid-19 Pandemic"

#### co-organized by:

Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Mathematics & Natural Sciences, Universitas Islam Indonesia (UII) Department of Chemistry, Kulliyyah of Science (KOS), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)

September 15, 2021, Indonesia

Prof. Riyanto, Ph.D. Dean of Faculty of Mathematics & Natural Sciences

International Seminar on

**Prof. Dr. Is Fatimah, M.Si.** Organizing Chairperson of The 4<sup>th</sup> ISCE





## **Program Book**

4<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on Chemical Education







"Chemistry Resilience and Continuity in the Covid-19 Pandemic"

September 15, 2021, Indonesia



UNIVERSITAS ISLAM INDONESIA



Program Book 4<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on Chemical Education "Chemistry Resilience and Continuity in the Covid-19 Pandemic"



#### Preface

International Seminar on Chemical Education 2021 (ISCE 2021) is conducted by Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science, Islamic Universitas Islam Indonesia, Yogyakarta at September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The seminar under the theme "Chemistry Resilience and Continuity in the Covid-19 Pandemic".

The aim of the seminar is to explore and develop the concept of learning, innovation and competence building as a chemistry education framework. The objective of ISCE is to stimulate the establishment of knowledge based strategies or teaching development in Senior High School and College. The idea of the seminar is to bring together interesting issues about what is going on ASEAN countries, School, university and to share experience regarding methodology of design thinking in teaching area.

Topic of interest to be covered in the conference includes, but not limited to:

- 1. Chemistry education curriculum and policy
- 2. Teacher learning and education (in-service and pre-service teachers)
- 3. Environmental and social issues in chemistry
- 4. Assessment and evaluation
- 5. Independence learning and digital learning
- 6. Skill oriented and instructional learning in 21st century
- 7. Classroom action research in sciences
- 8. Environmental chemistry and its aspects
- 9. Renewable and sustainable energy
- 10. Materials and advance materials
- 11. Green chemistry, chemical engineering and chemical process

This program and abstracts book provides some information concerning the schedule, list of presenter and poster presenter. Hopefully, this book helps the participants for intensively listen and get valuable information in the conference.

The scientific program of ISCE 2021 comprises the following:

Keynote speakers	6 papers
Invited speakers	5 papers
Total papers for oral presentation	56 papers
Total papers for poster presentation	25 papers
Total papers	92 papers









#### **Time Schedule**

#### The 4<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on Chemical Education (ISCE) 2021 Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Time	Activity	PIC	Media
08.00-08.30	Registration	Committees	
08.30-08.40	Opening Ceremony Recitation of Holy Qur'an National Anthem of Indonesia Hymn of Universitas Islam Indonesia	Mila Minhatul Maula, S.Pd.	Zoom
08.40-08.45	Welcoming Address by The Chair Person of ISCE	Prof. Dr. Is Fatimah, M.Si.	Zoom
08.45-08.50	Welcoming Address by The President of Indonesian Chemical Society	Dr. Mohamad Rafi	Zoom
08.50-08.55	Welcoming Address by The Campus Director of International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuantan	Prof. Dr. Kamaruzzaman Yunus	Zoom
08.55-09.10	Opening and Welcoming Address by The Rector of Universitas Islam Indonesia	Prof. Fathul Wahid, S.T., M.T., Ph.D.	Zoom
09.10-09.15	Photo Session	Mila Minhatul Maula, S.Pd.	Zoom
09.20-09.35	Plenary Session 1 Prof. Dr. Edy Cahyono, M.Si. Universitas Negeri Semarang Indonesia "Strengthening the Student's Representation Ability on Mastering the Concepts of Organic Reaction Mechanisms Through Project-Based Learning"		Zoom
09.35-09.50	Prof. Dr. Supawan Tantayanon Chulalongkorn University Thailand "Online Teaching Hands-on Chemistry Experiments: Small Scale Chemistry"	Moderator Dr. Nurasyikin Hamzah	
09.50-10.05	Pradeep Shukla, Ph.D. University of Queensland Australia "Changing dynamics of chemical manufacturing- Centralized plant v/s Distributed plants"		
10.05-10.30	Discussion		Zaam
10.30-10.45	Plenary Session 2 Prof. Dr. Mustafa SÖzbilir Ataturk University Turkey "Teaching Chemistry during Covid-19 Lockdowns"		Zoom
10.45-11.00	Prof. Dr. Kamisah Osman Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Malaysia "From Higher Order Thinking to Computational Thinking Skills: Implication to Chemistry Teaching and Learning"	Moderator Imam Sahroni, M.Sc.	
11.00-11.15	Prof. Shin-Ichi Ohira, Ph.D (Sci) Kumamoto University Japan		

#### Program Book

#### 4th International Seminar on Chemical Education

"Chemistry Resilience and Continuity in the Covid-19 Pandemic"







Program Book

4th International Seminar on Chemical Education

"Chemistry Resilience and Continuity in the Covid-19 Pandemic"



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Supawan Tantayanon	Online Teaching Hands-on Chemistry Experiments: Small Scale Chemistry	Keynote Speaker	3
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Mustafa Sözbilir	Teaching Chemistry during Covid-19 Lockdowns	Keynote Speaker	5
Kamisah Osman	From Higher Order Thinking to Computational Thinking Skills: Implication to Chemistry Teaching and Learning	Keynote Speaker	6
Shin-Ichi Ohira	Electrodialytic Ion Handling for Chromium Speciation Analysis	Keynote Speaker	7
Gani Purwiandono	Synthesis of Cubic-Shape La2Ti1-xVxO7 Nanocrystal and Its Photoelectrochemical Property	Invited Speaker	9
Salmahaminati, Minori Abe, Indra Purnama, Jacob Yan Mulyana, Masahiko Hada	Density Functional Study of Metal-to-Ligand Charge Transfer and Hole-Hopping in Ruthenium(II) Complexes with Alkyl- Substituted Bipyridine Ligands	Invited Speaker	10
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Khamdan Cahyari, Elita Pramarta Bruiliant, Aulia Dian Anggraeni	Biogas Production from Banana Waste: Fraction and Concentration Effect	19823	17
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Ulia Fitrass, Sudarlin	Electrical Voltage of Microbial Fuel Cell (MFC) Using Ambon Banana Peel (Musa Acuminata Colla) Waste and Tempeh Waste Substrates Based on Bentonite Earthenware Membrane	19913	19