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An Investigation on the GSP Implementation in the Teaching of Mathematics at a Malaysian Technical School

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ABSTRACT

Mathematics has long been one of the most feared subjects among students. As such, educators have been constantly looking into different approaches to continue improving the delivery of this subject. This quasi-experimental study seeks to investigate the effectiveness of Geometers' Sketchpad (GSP) - a dynamic geometrical software, in the teaching and learning of Mathematics among Form Five technical school students. The study was conducted on 56 students which were divided into a control group and an experimental group. The control group received conventional teaching method while the experimental group was taught based on a GSP module designed to solve Trigonometric Functions for the duration of 8 weeks. The findings from this study have indicated that the use of GSP in the teaching of Mathematics has a positive effect on students' Mathematics achievement and GSP has helped the students to better retain the knowledge taught. In addition, through the survey conducted, the students in the experimental class and their teacher have demonstrated positive attitudes, interests and enthusiasm in this new learning approach. Some recommendations for policy and practice have been put forward.

Keywords: Geometer' Sketchpad (GSP), Technology in Mathematics Education, 21st Century Skills, Technical School, Malaysia