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Analysis of complex problem-solving skills using vr-based interactive media through an ethnopedagogy approach

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ABSTRACT

Complex Problem-Solving is one of the essential skills needed to navigate the workforce. However, students' mastery of Complex Problem-Solving remains relatively low, particularly in mathematics. This study is a quantitative research aimed at analyzing Complex Problem-Solving skills using interactive teaching media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogy approach. The research was conducted at UPT SMP Negeri 1 Kahu by dividing the trial classes into limited trials, extensive trials, and experimental trials. To assess Complex Problem-Solving skills, five essay questions were used, reflecting indicators such as identifying complex problems, evaluating/analyzing problem information, and generating problem-solving solutions. The results showed that the average Complex Problem-Solving skills of students in the trial classes increased by 87%. Meanwhile, in the control class, students' learning outcomes only improved by approximately 62%. These findings indicate that using interactive learning media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogy approach effectively enhances students' Complex Problem-Solving skills.



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Introduction

Complex Problem-Solving skills are among the most essential competencies needed to navigate the workforce in the next five years in the digital society era (World Economic Forum, 2023; Gnaldi et al., 2020; Kipman et al., 2022). This skill is defined as a process involving the identification, evaluation, and review of factual information related to a complex problem, as well as constructing rational interpretations to formulate effective solutions (Molnar & Greiff, 2023; Grezo & Sarmany-Schuller, 2022). Complex Problem-Solving can also be understood as a paradigm for comprehending cognition in real-life situations, with a focus on learning, knowledge acquisition, and decision-making (Nicolay et al., 2021; Nurannisa et al., 2024). However, the level of Complex Problem-Solving proficiency among students remains relatively low, particularly in mathematics (Pamungkas, Waluya, & Mariani, 2023;

[Solihah et al., 2024](#)). This indicates a gap between the skills required for the future and the competencies currently possessed by students.

Students' low Complex Problem-Solving skills are reflected in mathematics learning outcomes which are still below standard. Public Education Report Data for 2022 shows that students' numeracy abilities are below the minimum competency with a learning quality index that is still not optimal due to a lack of thinking activities ([Pusmendik, 2022](#)). A similar situation was seen in Bone Regency, where students' mathematics scores only reached 46.15, which placed them in the low category ([Puspendik, 2019](#)). This finding is in accordance with the results of observations during the Introduction to Schooling Field (PLP) activities at UPT SMP Negeri 1 Kahu, namely that students were not fully able to analyze mathematical material in the Two Variable Linear Equation System (SPLDV). Students experience difficulty in identifying and evaluating two variables and determining the variable value correctly. This indicates students' difficulties in identifying complex problems, evaluating/reviewing problem information, and creating Problem-Solving solutions which are indicators of Complex Problem-Solving skills. This statement is strengthened by the results of interviews with the deputy head of curriculum, subject teachers, as well as the results of summative assessments of students which show achievement below the AKM standard, namely <50%.

One of the factors causing low student mathematics learning outcomes is the lack of use of adequate learning facilities. So far, the majority of teachers have implemented various learning methods, but are not supported by the use of appropriate teaching media ([Asfar and Paronda, 2024](#); [Asfar et al, 2021](#); [Asfar et al., 2022](#)). In fact, the use of teaching media is still monotonous in textbooks and occasionally using projectors to deliver presentations. As a result of using less interactive teaching media, students start to feel bored and unmotivated in learning, especially in the mathematics learning process which is synonymous with formulas, objects, graphs and complex data ([Asfar and Asfar, 2020](#); [Asfar and Asfar, 2021](#); [Asfar et al., 2021](#)). Seeing the low mathematics learning outcomes, efforts are needed to support Complex Problem-Solving in facing the era of digital society.

Improving Complex Problem-Solving skills can be done by integrating the ethnopedagogy approach, which is a breakthrough in the world of education that prioritizes the cultural richness, values and experiences of students as a foundation learning ([Wang et al., 2023](#); [Rayimov, 2023](#); [Asfar et al., 2023](#)). This approach not only recognizes cultural diversity, but also makes it a valuable resource in the learning process in the form of adapting teaching strategies and media ([Adela, Suastra and Lasmawan, 2023](#); [Asfar, Asfar and Nurannisa, 2021](#); [Asfar, Asfar and Nurannisa, 2022](#)). One aspect of the local culture of the Bugis community that is rich in educational values is the Pajoge Makkunrai dance. This dance has a long history during the Bone kingdom, serving as a means of educating noble children in ethics and manners. Each movement of the Pajoge Makkunrai dance reflects the philosophical values of the Bugis community ([Martiaru, Mangkono and Supriyanti, 2020](#)), including sipakatau (humanizing humans), sipakalebbi (respecting each other), and sipakainge (reminding each other). These three philosophies are really needed for students to adapt to change, especially in facing the era of digital society. Therefore, exploring the philosophical values full of meaning in the Pajoge Makkunrai dance is very important as a form of preserving knowledge to support cultural resilience.

The form of exploration of the Pajoge Makkunrai dance in the era of digital society will be carried out through the development of interactive teaching media based on Virtual Reality. The concept of instructional media in this study provides a virtual learning simulation for teachers and students to interact in exploring the philosophical values embedded in each movement of the Pajoge Makkunrai dance. The cultural elements within this media support students' understanding in enhancing Complex Problem-Solving (CPS) by linking the symbolic meaning of each dance movement to problem-solving concepts, such as systematic thinking patterns, adaptation to dynamic situations, and context-based decision-making. Thus, students not only perceive the dance as a cultural heritage but also as a model for critical and strategic thinking in solving complex problems. The teaching media developed is expected to support students' Complex Problem-Solving optimally in the era of digital society with an ethnopedagogy approach in creating joyful and meaningful learning. This is in line with research by [Joksimovic et al., \(2023\)](#) that the escalation of Complex Problem-Solving can be realized with artificial intelligent opportunities. [Putra et al., \(2021\)](#) and [Asfar et al., \(2024\)](#) in their research also proved the positive influence on the application of augmented reality through the blended learning method in

supporting Complex Problem Solving. However, the majority of research so far does not explain in detail how the ethnopedagogy approach can influence students' Complex Problem-Solving skills, especially in the aspect of applying technology in the era of digital society. Therefore, the aim of this research is to analyze students' Complex Problem-Solving skills using virtual reality-based interactive teaching media through the Pajoge Makkunrai dance ethnopedagogy approach.

Method

This study is a quantitative experimental research aimed at analyzing students' Complex Problem-Solving skills using interactive learning media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogical approach. The population in this study consists of students at UPT SMP Negeri 1 Kahu. The sampling method used is random sampling, with class VIII E as the limited trial class, class VIII D as the extensive trial class, and class VIII C as the experimental class. The implementation of interactive learning media based on virtual reality in this study involves exploring the Pajoge Makkunrai dance movements within the four core stages of learning, as follows:

Table 1. Learning Stages

Stages	Teacher Activities	Student Activities
<i>Muttama' Makkasiwiyang (Review)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The teacher asks students about the knowledge they have regarding the subject matter. ▪ The teacher connects students' knowledge with the material to be presented. ▪ The teacher gives a little explanation about the lesson material (System of Linear Equations in Two Variables). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students are given the opportunity to express their opinions. ▪ Students ask questions about what they don't understand about the lesson material (System of Linear Equations in Two Variables).
<i>Mangngade Mappatabe (Extending)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The teacher divides students into several heterogeneous groups. ▪ The teacher gives various practice questions to each group through virtual reality media. ▪ The teacher monitors the progress of each group's work on the questions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each group looks for answers to the practice questions given with their group friends. ▪ Each group enthusiastically worked on the practice questions given by demonstrating every Pajoge Makkunrai dance movement through virtual reality media.
<i>Massampeang (Problem Solving)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The teacher asks about the material that has been studied by linking various practice questions. ▪ The teacher gives evaluation questions to students to practice Complex Problem-Solving skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students align their perceptions of Problem-Solving based on the results of their own reasoning. ▪ Students work on evaluation questions individually.
<i>Sere Massimang (Recap)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The teacher directs students to carry out a final recapitulation of the material in the form of mind mapping. ▪ The teacher gives students the opportunity to conclude the material they have studied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students recapitulate the material by making a mind map (concept map). ▪ Students conclude each work result by adjusting the formulation in the textbook.

The research instruments used in this research are observation, interviews, written tests, and documentation. The written test used is a Complex Problem-Solving skills test consisting of 5 essay questions arranged based on Complex Problem-Solving skill indicators. The indicators used in this research were adopted from research by [Molnar and Greiff \(2023\)](#), [Grezo and Sarmany-Schuller \(2022\)](#),

Mount et al., (2020), including skills (1) identifying complex problems, (2) evaluating/reviewing information problems, (3) creating Problem-Solving solutions.

The data analysis technique used in this research is descriptive statistics to describe the Complex Problem-Solving skills of students in each testing class. Several aspects included in descriptive statistics include presenting data through tables, graphs, mean, median, mode, standard deviation, and percentage calculations. The category index for Complex Problem-Solving skills by Asfar, Asfar and Sulastri (2021), Damayanti et al., (2022) can be seen in the following table.

Table 2. Complex Problem-Solving Skill Category Index

Value (%)	Category
$70 \leq X \leq 100$	High
$50 \leq X < 70$	Medium
$0 \leq X < 50$	Low

The Complex Problem-Solving (CPS) Skill Category Index is a framework used to measure and categorize an individual's complex problem-solving skills based on various cognitive indicators and thinking strategies. This index is often used in research and educational evaluations to understand how individuals or groups solve problems.

Results and Discussions

Needs Analysis

The implementation of learning at the UPT SMP Negeri 1 Kahu location is currently implementing the 2013 Curriculum by emphasizing student-centered activities. However, the results of observations supported by data analysis of pretest results in class VIII mathematics subjects show that students are not yet fully able to understand contextual-based questions and high order thinking skills, especially in Complex Problem-Solving skills. Students are not used to working on questions that require them to reason with more complex sentences and are not used to answering questions by presenting known information, analyzing and drawing conclusions. Based on the results of the needs analysis, a picture of the condition of students in working on questions is obtained, namely that they tend to think about the results rather than the steps that must be taken. This problem is caused by a lack of questions that stimulate students to think and reason in answering mathematics questions. Apart from the problems above, it was also found that the condition of interaction between teachers and students was still lacking due to the inability to control the class as a whole, so that teachers were unable to meet the overall needs of students in the class. In fact, the lack of provision of teaching materials (materials) results in teachers only presenting questions contained in textbooks. This results in students only being able to work on questions that have been demonstrated by the teacher (repetition of questions), and when faced with more complex problems (Complex Problem Solving) in the form of reasoning, students become confused and find it difficult to answer them.

Based on the needs analysis that has been carried out, it appears that learning at UPT SMP Negeri 1 Kahu, especially in class VIII mathematics subjects, is still very lacking in terms of student activity and skills in solving Complex Problem-Solving problems. Several factors that can influence this are the lack of use of teaching media that can stimulate students' activeness and learning motivation. This is in line with Lubis (2023) that teaching media is one aspect of learning that greatly influences students' interest and motivation in learning mathematics. Furthermore Firdaus et al., (2023) in their research mentioned teaching media as a crucial thing which if not implemented then the learning process cannot run smoothly according to the expected goals. Teaching media in this case is an important aspect that will make it easier for teachers to convey the learning process to achieve the goals formulated, as well as make it easier for students to understand what is being conveyed (Fortuna, Purnamasari and Dikananda, 2023; Damayanti et al., 2023; Dewi et al., 2024). Appropriate teaching media can help increase students' interest and motivation in learning mathematics (Novelza and Handican, 2023; Dewi et al., 2022; Junaede et al., 2024). Therefore, it is necessary to have teaching media that can help increase student activity and attract their interest and motivation in learning mathematics. It is also hoped that the use of learning media in this research can stimulate students' skills to be able to solve

various problems, so they can easily identify complex problems, evaluate/review problem information, and create Problem-Solving solutions.

Analysis of Complex Problem-Solving Skills

Analysis of Complex Problem-Solving skills in this research can be seen from the results of the pre-test and post-test which are based on three indicators of Complex Problem-Solving skills, where these three indicators are included in each question (test) given.

Table 3. Percentage Analysis of Errors in Complex Problem-Solving Skill Indicators

Class	Test	Answer	Indicator										Percentage (%)	Level of Achievement
			1 a	1 b	2 a	2 b	3 a	3 b	4 a	4 b	5 a	5 b		
Limited Trial	Pretest	ΣBB	27	15	23	21	20	21	2	0	2	0	32,75	RD
		ΣBS	0	8	4	2	7	2	21	15	15	6	20	RD
		ΣSS	0	4	0	4	0	4	4	12	10	21	14,75	RD
	Posttest	ΣBB	26	25	17	27	23	23	2	18	24	14	54,25	SD
		ΣBS	1	2	10	0	4	4	7	5	3	6	10,5	RD
		ΣSS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	7	2,75	RD
Extensive Trial	Pretest	ΣBB	32	23	30	24	12	26	5	1	1	0	38,5	RD
		ΣBS	1	10	3	8	20	5	18	22	23	2	33	RD
		ΣSS	0	0	0	1	1	1	10	0	0	0	10,75	RD
	Posttest	ΣBB	32	31	29	3	32	30	3	20	19	9	64,5	SD
		ΣBS	1	2	4	10	1	0	2	10	12	21	15,75	RD
		ΣSS	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	3	2,25	RD
Experimental Test	Pretest	ΣBB	17	8	17	17	13	16	0	0	0	0	22	RD
		ΣBS	1	9	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	4,25	RD
		ΣSS	0	1	1	1	4	1	8	8	5	5	18,5	RD
	Posttest	ΣBB	18	17	17	5	8	8	6	7	5	6	41,75	RD
		ΣBS	0	1	1	3	0	0	2	1	3	2	3,25	RD
		ΣSS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	RD
Control Class	Pretest	ΣBB	18	10	18	6	6	7	0	0	0	0	23,75	RD
		ΣBS	0	7	0	0	0	1	1	0	5	5	4,75	RD
		ΣSS	0	1	0	2	2	0	7	8	3	3	16,5	RD
	Posttest	ΣBB	18	18	16	3	8	7	5	6	8	6	31,25	RD
		ΣBS	0	0	0	5	0	1	8	5	9	9	9,25	RD
		ΣSS	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	7	1	3	4,5	RD

Information: Achievement Level consists of Low (RD), Medium (SD), High (TG)

The Complex Problem-Solving skills test used is an essay with five questions, each of which is divided into two parts. The pretest and posttest data were analyzed by referring to the Complex Problem-Solving skill category index to determine the percentage of students' answer errors in answering the questions given. Each answer is analyzed to see the percentage with three criteria, namely "able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions" taken from students' answers with correct answers (BB), "an error occurred in answering Complex Problem-Solving questions" from correct-wrong answers (BS), and "unable to answer the question" are taken from answers with wrong-wrong (SS) criteria. Students' answers are obtained from the results of the pre-test and post-test that have been given to compare the suitability of the answers, so that the percentage of students' Complex Problem-Solving skills is obtained. The results of the analysis of the percentage of students' errors in answering questions for each indicator can be seen as follows (Table 3).

Indicator 1, namely the skill of identifying complex problems, can be found in questions number 1a, 1b, and 2a. The implementation of limited trials in class VIII E showed that 21.7% of students were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions, 1.3% of students were unable to answer questions, and 4% of students experienced errors in answering Complex Problem-Solving questions. After carrying out treatment by applying interactive teaching media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogy approach, the participants' skills were improved students' ability to identify complex problems has increased, namely 22.7% of students were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions, 4.3% experienced errors in answering questions, and there were no more students who were unable to answer Complex Problem-Solving questions. In extensive trials in class VIII D, it was found that the percentage of students who were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions was 28.3% and 4.7% experienced errors in answering the questions. After carrying out treatment, there was an increase in students' skills in answering Complex Problem-Solving questions, namely 30.7% were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions and 2.3% experienced errors in answering questions. During the experimental test in class VIII C, it was found that the percentage of students who were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions was 14% and 3.3% experienced errors in answering the questions. After carrying out the treatment, there was an increase, namely 17.3% of students were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions and only 0.7% of students experienced errors in answering questions. Meanwhile, the Complex Problem-Solving skills of students in the control class seen from the pre-test results are still very low, namely 15.3% were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions, 2.3% experienced errors in answering questions, and 0.3% were unable answer Complex Problem-Solving questions. The post-test results for the control class were not much different from the previous results, namely 17.3% were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions and 0.7% were unable to answer the questions.

Indicator 2, namely skills in evaluating/reviewing problem information, is spread across questions number 2b, 3a, and 3b. In limited trials, the average number of students who were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions was 20.7%. Meanwhile, 2.7% of students were unable to answer Complex Problem-Solving questions and 3.7% of students experienced errors in answering questions. After carrying out the treatment, there was an increase in the students' Complex Problem-Solving skills, namely 24.3% were able to solve the questions, 2.7% experienced errors in answering the questions, and there were no more students who were unable to answer the questions. In extensive trials, it was found that the percentage of students who were able to solve the questions was 20.7%, 11% experienced errors in answering the questions, and 1% were unable to answer the questions. After undergoing treatment, 29.3% of students were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions and 3.7% still experienced errors in answering questions. In the experimental test class, the percentage of students who were able to solve the questions was 15.3% and 0.3% experienced errors in answering the questions, and 2% of students were unable to answer the questions. After carrying out treatment, there was an increase, namely 17% of students were able to solve questions and 1% experienced errors in answering questions. Meanwhile, the Complex Problem-Solving skills of students in the control class still looked very low, namely 16.3% were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions, 0.3% experienced errors in answering questions, and 1.3% were unable to answer questions. The post-test results for the control class were not much different from the previous results, namely 16% were able to solve the questions and there were still 2% of students who experienced errors in answering questions.

Indicator 3, namely skills in creating Problem-Solving solutions, is grouped into four question sections, namely questions number 4a, 4b, 5a, and 5b. The implementation of limited trials showed that the percentage of students who were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions was 1%, while 11.75% of students who were unable to answer the questions and 14.25% experienced errors in answering the questions. After carrying out treatment, students' skills in Complex Problem-Solving increased, namely 13.5% were able to solve questions, 5.25% experienced errors in answering questions, and 2.75% were unable to answer questions. In a wide trial class, the percentage of students who were able to solve the questions was 1.75%, 21.25% experienced errors in answering the questions, and 10% were unable to answer the questions. After carrying out treatment, 19.5% of students were able to solve questions well, 11.25% still experienced errors in answering questions, and 2.25% were unable to answer questions. In the experimental test class, it showed that 1.5% of students experienced errors in answering questions and 16.5% were unable to answer questions. After carrying out treatment, there was an increase, namely 16% of students were able to solve Complex Problem-Solving questions and 2% experienced errors in answering questions. Meanwhile, the skills of students in the control class as seen from the pre-test results were still very low, namely 2.75% had errors in answering questions and 15.25% were unable to answer questions. The post-test results for the control class were not much different from the previous results, namely only 6.25% of students were able to solve the questions, 7.75% experienced errors in answering the questions, and 4% were unable to answer the questions. The results of this study support the finding that after the intervention, students were better able to solve problems with a lower error rate compared to before the intervention. As explained by Jonassen (2011), learning strategies focused on problem-solving can help students develop higher-order thinking skills, such as analysis and information synthesis

Based on the results of the analysis of the percentage of errors for each indicator of the Complex Problem-Solving skill above, it can be seen that the majority of students experienced errors in answering questions, only a few were able to solve the questions, and there were even still students who were unable to answer Complex Problem-Solving questions. However, after treatment using interactive teaching media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogy approach in each testing class (limited trial, extensive trial, experimental test) it showed that the percentage of students' errors for each indicator changed and increased towards being able to solve questions.

Comparison of Complex Problem-Solving Skill Indicators

The Complex Problem-Solving skills of students in each testing class experienced a significant increase after implementing virtual reality-based interactive teaching media through an ethnopedagogy approach. This increase can occur due to the application of interactive teaching media based on virtual reality through the Pajoge Makkunrai dance ethnopedagogy approach. Through a series of learning stages using this teaching media, students are slowly able to hone their Complex Problem-Solving skills, including the skills of identifying complex problems, evaluating/reviewing problem information, and creating Problem-Solving solutions. Students' skills in identifying complex problems are formed when the teacher provides stimulation (review) in the form of various questions through virtual reality-based interactive teaching media, which in the learning process is referred to as the *muttama'* *makkasiwiayang* (review) stage and the *manngde mappatabe* (extending) stage. By providing various questions, students can more easily understand a series of questions, especially in this research using material on Systems of Linear Equations in Two Variables. Even though in each question there are two different types of variables (variables x and y), it is easier for students to differentiate and determine them because they are used to solving similar questions. Meanwhile, students' skills in evaluating/reviewing problem information to be able to create Problem-Solving solutions are formed when students align their perceptions at the *massampeang* (problem solving) stage, and can be evaluated through the *sere massimang* (recap) stage.

The following is a bar diagram that illustrates the increase in each indicator in the Complex Problem-Solving skill after implementing virtual reality-based interactive teaching media through the Pajoge Makkunrai dance ethnopedagogy approach. Based on the graph, it is evident that among the three indicators of Complex Problem-Solving skills, students faced the greatest difficulty in answering questions related to the third indicator, which involves generating problem-solving solutions. In each test, students struggled to draw accurate conclusions regarding the given problems. They not only failed to construct problem-solving evidence following the correct procedures but also provided

reasoning that was less logical and not supported by systematic analysis. This indicates that their ability to understand and resolve complex problems remains limited (OECD, 2014; Funke, 2010). However, after the implementation of interactive teaching media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogical approach, there was a significant improvement in how students understood and solved complex problems. Students began to show progress in several key aspects of problem-solving, including the ability to identify the core issue, critically evaluate and analyze information, and formulate effective and systematic solutions. According to Jonassen (2011), learning environments that integrate problem-solving strategies with interactive media can enhance students' cognitive engagement and higher-order thinking skills.

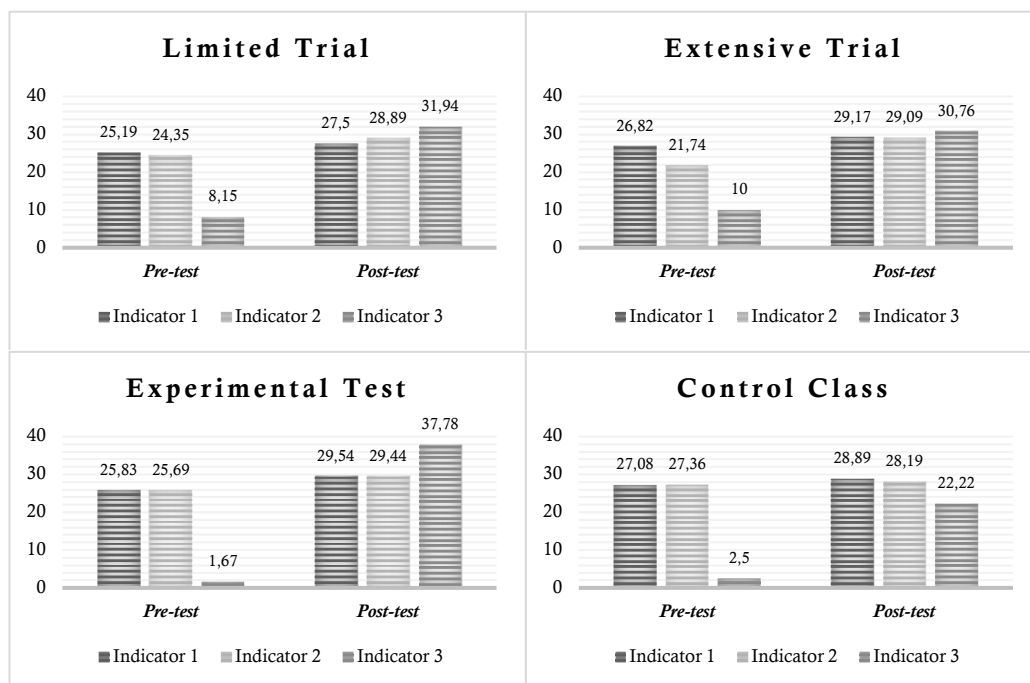


Figure 1. Comparison of Complex Problem-Solving Skill Indicators

This improvement was particularly evident in solving problems related to the System of Two-Variable Linear Equations (SPLDV), where students demonstrated the ability to apply more structured strategies based on a deeper understanding of the taught concepts. These findings indicate that the application of interactive teaching media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogical approach not only enhances students' complex problem-solving skills but also helps them develop a more mature analytical and reflective mindset in solving mathematical problems independently and systematically (Hmelo-Silver, 2004; Anderson, 2015).

Virtual Reality-Based Interactive Teaching Media Using an Ethnopedagogy Approach

The application of virtual reality-based interactive teaching media in this research was carried out with several core stages adapted from the Pajoge Makkunrai dance variety. This dance is known for its graceful and gentle movements, consisting of eight movements (Sulfiana, 2013), namely the *muttama'* (entering movement), *makkasiwiyang* (respect), *mannggade* (adab), *mappatabe* (asking for permission), *massampeang* (rejecting evil), *mali siparappe rebba sipatokkong*, *sere*, and *massimang* (please say goodbye). Based on the eight Pajoge Makkunrai dance movements, the application of teaching media in this learning process consists of four core stages, namely the *muttama'* *makkasiwiyang* stage (review), the *mannggade mappatabe* stage (extending), the *massampeang* stage (problem solving), and the *sere massimang* stage (recap). The following are learning stages adapted from the Pajoge Makkunrai dance variety.

To make it easier for students to explore the philosophical values contained in the Pajoge Makkunrai dance movement, this research was carried out by providing a virtual reality-based learning experience. This application is a guide between the use of virtual reality-based learning through the Pajoge Makkunrai dance ethnopedagogy approach. This provides new experiences for students in the

learning process, thus having an impact on their motivation and interest in learning. One of the main factors causing low student learning outcomes in mathematics subjects is a lack of motivation and interest in carrying out the teaching and learning process (Magfirah et al., 2022; Nurannisa, Asfar and Asfar, 2021; Nurannisa et al., 2021).

Students' motivation and interest in learning can be increased by presenting an interesting and enjoyable learning process (Nurlia et al., 2022; Nursyam and Asfar, 2024). So far, students feel stressed when hearing the word mathematics, which indirectly affects their motivation and interest in learning (Rahayu et al., 2022; Nursyam and Asfar, 2023; Sua, Asfar and Adiansyah, 2023). Through the application of interactive teaching media based on virtual reality, students can be directly involved in the learning process (student centered).

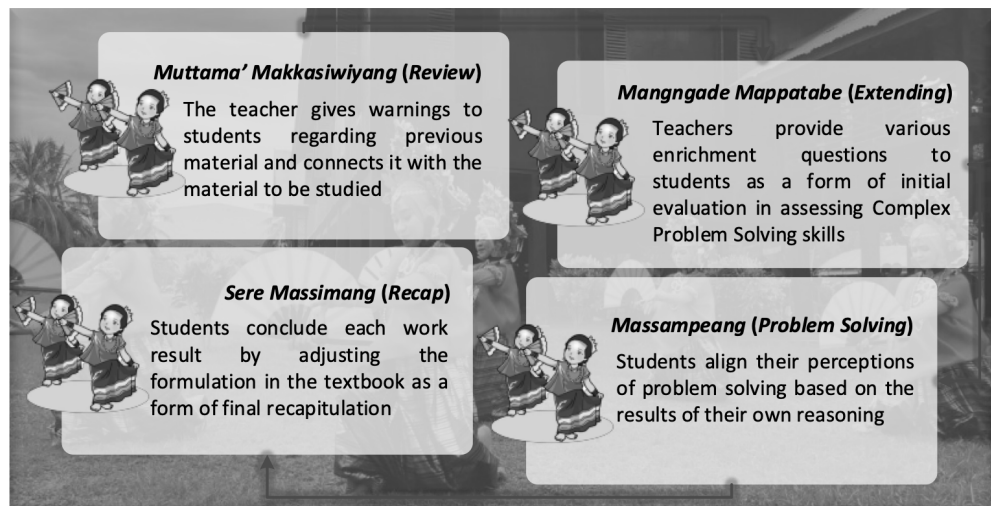


Figure 2. Stages of Implementing Teaching Media

This is something that has just been implemented in the school (UPT SMP Negeri 1 Kahu) which can attract the attention of many students. Increasing students' interest in learning can be seen from their enthusiasm during the learning process. Even though they have been divided into groups to gradually explore learning, students still struggle because they are curious about the teaching media used. This learning is even more interesting when explored directly together with one of the local wisdoms that is familiar to students, namely the Pajoge Makkunrai dance.

The application of virtual reality-based interactive teaching media through an ethnopedagogy approach means that students explore each variety of Pajoge Makkunrai dance in the form of animated videos using a tool in the form of a VR box. Students can see live animations that demonstrate the Pajoge Makkunrai dance from each stage. Apart from that, another thing that is of interest to students is that there are various questions given at each stage of the dance. When the animation has demonstrated a variety of dance, a prize box will appear containing numbers. Each number contains 5 questions to fill in as a form of quiz for students to choose from. By providing various questions can improve students' skills in solving Complex Problem-Solving questions. The application of virtual reality-based interactive teaching media through an ethnopedagogy approach in testing classes (limited trials, extensive trials, experimental trials) can improve Complex Problem-Solving skills because of its unique stages in stimulating students' thinking/reasoning processes to solve various problems. This is in line with research by Angraini et al., (2024) that students' mathematical understanding can be improved by implementing virtual-based teaching media. Students can easily solve every problem with the help of interactive teaching media (Suherman, Komaro and Ana, 2023).

Conclusions

The analysis results of students' Complex Problem-Solving abilities using interactive learning media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogical approach show a significant improvement. Based on a comparative analysis of Complex Problem-Solving ability indicators, it was found that the average

score of students in the experimental class was significantly higher than that of the control class, which did not implement interactive learning media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogical approach. This indicates that the application of interactive learning media based on virtual reality through an ethnopedagogical approach can enhance Complex Problem-Solving skills across various indicators. A suggestion for future research is to design and develop a virtual reality-based learning model that is more specific to different fields of study while taking into account existing local wisdom.

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