Designing hypothetical learning trajectory in supporting pre-service mathematics teachers to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in microteaching course

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Abstract. Many research revealed that teachers or pre-service teachers still misunderstand about higher-order thinking skills (HOTS) and it impacts their ability in designing learning activities that support students’ HOTS. Considering this fact, this research aims to design a teaching and learning trajectory that can support pre-service mathematics teachers to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in a microteaching course. This research used design research method as an appropriate means to achieve the research aim. This article presents a hypothetical learning trajectory in microteaching course aiming to support pre-service mathematics teachers to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning.

Keywords: pre-service teachers, microteaching course, higher-order thinking oriented learning

1. Introduction
The framework of 21st century learning consists of three major elements: life and career skills, learning and innovation skills, and information, media, and technology skills. The framework of learning and innovation skills consists of the so-called 4C’s (critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity). These 4C’s are said to be the essential skills that prepare students to be ready to participate in the more complex life and work environments in the 21st century.

Regardless the terms used to describe 21st century skills for students, critical and creative thinking skills are also commonly referred as higher order thinking skills [1, 2]. Higher order thinking is a way of thinking at a higher level than memorizing. In revised Blooms’ taxonomy, higher order thinking skills (HOTS) is defined among the three top levels of ability in the cognitive domain (analyzing, evaluating, and creating) [3]. Higher order thinking can be conceptualized as a non-algorithmic thinking; a complex thinking when students solve task where no algorithm has been taught to them or solving tasks using known algorithm in unfamiliar situations [4, 5].

Students’ HOTS development only can be achieved through HOTS-oriented learning, including planning, implementing, and evaluating. However, some research showed that mathematics teachers or pre-service mathematics teachers face difficulties in understanding HOTS and designing learning activities or problems that promotes students HOTS [6, 7, 5]. Therefore, there is a need to focus on how mathematics teachers or pre-service mathematics teachers can facilitate HOT-oriented learning.

The major goal of teacher education programs is to provide pre-service mathematics teachers the first basis of knowledge and skills for effective teaching, through coursework and practicum experiences. Microteaching course is a course in which the prospective teachers for the first time learn
to manage learning in a structured way. This course is a preparation for practice teaching program in schools. Based on Microteaching Handbook of Sanata Dharma University (2013) [8], student teachers are expected to master some basic teaching by applying the specific approach/learning model through microteaching courses.

Regarding this fact, the need to focus on how pre-service teachers can facilitate HOT-oriented learning leads to the need of activities that are aimed at supporting pre-service mathematics teachers to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in microteaching course.

2. Research Methodology
The aim of this research is to develop a local instructional theory to support pre-service mathematics teacher to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in microteaching course. For this need, this research used a type of research method namely design research for achieving the research aim. Design research is a type of research methods aimed to develop theories about both the process of learning and the means that are designed to support that learning [9]. Gravemeijer & Cobb [9] define what design research is by discussing the three phases of conducting a design research, namely preparation and design phase, design experiment, and retrospective analysis.

This research is limited only at the first phase that is designing the HLT in supporting the pre-service mathematics teachers to conduct HOT active learning. HLT consists of three main components, those are learning goals, learning activities, and hypothetical learning process [10]. On this research, the learning goals are formulated based on goals of microteaching course and standard academic qualification from Ministry of National Education, while learning activities are formulated based on the learning goals.

This research involved seventeen third-year pre-service secondary mathematics teachers at Sanata Dharma University undertaking microteaching course. The pre-service teachers have learned mathematical content courses and general pedagogy courses.

3. Hypothetical Learning Trajectory
A design and research instrument that proved useful during all phases of design research is the so-called Hypothetical Learning Trajectory (HLT) [11]. HLT is the link between an instruction theory and a concrete teaching experiment [12].

During the lesson, HLT informs researchers and teachers how to carry out a particular teaching experiment. After the reaching experiment, it helps researchers to do retrospective analysis, and the interplay between the HLT and empirical results forms the basis for theory development [13].

In this article, the researchers described Hypothetical Learning Trajectory in supporting pre-service Mathematics Teacher to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in microteaching course.

3.1. Learning Goals
The researchers formulate learning goals based on the learning goals of microteaching course that consist of pedagogical and professional competencies and frameworks of 21st century skills [14]. The learning goals are:

a. Understanding and implementing the learning theories, models, and methods that support student-centered learning
b. Designing learning activities that promotes critical and creative thinking
c. Implementing higher-order thinking oriented learning

3.2. Learning Activities
Based on the learning goals, the researchers designed learning activities. However, it is important to analyze standard academic qualifications and competence of teachers based on Minister Regulation of National Education (Peraturan Menteri Pendidikan Nasional Republik Indonesia) number 16 (2007) [15]. The competencies of mathematics teachers accommodated in this research are summarized in the following table
Table 1. Teacher’s competencies accommodated in this research

| Learning goals                                                                 | Teacher’s competencies | Key Ideas                                                                 | Description |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Understanding and implementing the learning theories, models, and methods     | Pedagogical competence  | • Competence in implementing learning theories                            | The        |
|   that support student-centred learning                                        |                        | • Competence in facilitating the development of students’ HOTS            | comprehension of learning theories is needed by teachers as guidelines to help select the appropriate models, strategies and methods in teaching |
| • Designing learning activities that promotes critical and creative thinking    | Professional competence| • Competence in understanding the concept of mathematics                  | Teachers exhibit deep and thorough conceptual understanding |
| • Implementing higher-order thinking oriented learning                          |                        | • Competence in designing and implementing of HOTS oriented active learning| Teachers have to be able to design HOTS oriented active learning by constructing their comprehension of learning theories and pedagogy. |
|                                                                              |                        |                                                                          | Teachers could implement their HOTS oriented active learning design effectively |

Based on Table 1 above, the researchers design a series of activities to support pre-service mathematics teacher to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in microteaching course.

Table 2. Instructional activities in supporting pre-service mathematics teacher to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in microteaching course

| Key Ideas                                                                 | Pre-service teachers’ competencies need to be developed | Learning activities |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Competence in implementing learning theories                           | • Learning experience                                   | • Analyzing HOTS-based problem |
| • Competence in facilitating the development of students’ HOTS           | • Communication and potential development               | • Designing HOTS-based problem |
| • Communicate effectively                                               | • Deep conceptual                                       |                     |
Competence in understanding the concept of mathematics
Competence in designing and implementing of HOTS oriented active learning
understanding
HOTS oriented active learning design
Reflective thinking
Designing learning activities that promotes students’ HOTS
Implementing higher-order thinking oriented learning

3.3. Hypothetical Teaching and Learning Process
The hypothetical teaching and learning process in supporting pre-service mathematics teacher to conduct higher-order thinking oriented learning in microteaching course is described as follows.

3.3.1. Analysing HOTS-based problem
When pre-service mathematics teachers are asked to explain why a certain problem is a HOTS-based problem, they might have different arguments as follows.

- The problem is a HOT-based problem because it has a high level of difficulty. For pre-service mathematics teachers who argue that a HOT-based problem should have a high level of difficulty, the lecturer can pose stimulating questions as follows “Does every difficult problem encourage students to analyze, evaluate or create something? Could anyone design a difficult problem that only requires the ability to remember, understand, or apply a concept?”. From the questions, it is expected that pre-service mathematics teachers will consider that not all difficult problem is HOTS-based problem. However, it cannot be neglected that HOTS-based problem might have a high level of difficulty since the problem requires complex and non-algorithmic thinking.

- The problem is a HOTS-based problem because it is an application problem. For pre-service mathematics teachers who come to this argument, the lecturer can ask the question “Have you solved an application problem in which the context is (very) familiar to you? Does this kind of problem can be answered through a simple recall of information?”. From this question, it is expected that pre-service mathematics teachers consider that HOTS involves solving tasks where an algorithm has not been taught or using known algorithms while working in an unfamiliar context or situations.

3.3.2. Designing HOTS-based problem
When pre-service mathematics teachers are asked to design HOTS-based problem, they might come up with a different result as follows.

- Pre-service mathematics teachers design a word problem that has unrealistic contexts or meaning. For pre-service mathematics teachers who design this kind of problem, the lecturer can facilitate discussion by asking questions as follows “Does this kind of problem will help students to bring their prior experience to build a meaningful interpretation? What will you do to make this problem becomes meaningful for students?”. From this discussion, it is expected that pre-service mathematics teachers realize that a contextual problem plays an important role as a starting point of learning for students to explore mathematics notions in a situation that is experientially real for them [16]. Moreover, the openness of contextual problems will stimulate rich discussion among students and it becomes an opportunity for teachers and students to establish an appropriate link between the context and mathematical ideas [17]. In this discussion, the lecturer also emphasizes that contextual problems do not automatically lead to meaningful learning for students; it requires classroom discussion in making this context becomes meaningful for students.

- Pre-service mathematics teachers design a problem that only requires the ability to recall information or apply concepts or knowledge to familiar situations and contexts.

- Pre-service mathematics teachers design a problem where the solution requires applying a well-known algorithm with no justification, explanation, or proof.
For pre-service mathematics teachers who come up with the second and third result, the lecturer can facilitate discussion by asking questions as follows “What will students do when they solve this kind of problem? Does the problem stimulate students to analyze, criticize, verify, make conclusions, evaluate, interpret or predict? How can this problem provoke students’ critical and creative thinking?”. From this discussion, it is expected that pre-service mathematics teachers realize that HOTS will be developed when students encounter unfamiliar problems, uncertain conditions, or new phenomenon where no specific algorithm has been taught to the students.

3.3.3. Designing learning activities that develops students’ HOTS
When pre-service mathematics teachers are asked to design learning activities that develops students’ HOTS, they might face some problems as follows.

- Indicators do not measure students’ HOTS.

The indicators formulated by pre-service mathematics teachers do not show students’ HOTS. To overcome this, the lecturer shows pre-service mathematics teachers’ lesson plan on the basic competencies and indicators part and let pre-service mathematics teachers to observe and analyze what things that need to be corrected regarding indicators that formulated by their friends. Lecturer gives time to discuss. To start the discussion, lecturer gives a question: “What should be considered by the teacher in formulating indicators so that the indicators can measure students’ HOTS?”. The possible answer from the pre-service mathematics teachers is operational verbs used. Then lecturer can continue by giving question: “How do you determine the operational verbs in formulating the indicators?”. Pre-service mathematics teachers may have difficulty in getting the answer. Therefore, lecturer has to be facilitator in guiding pre-service mathematics teachers to get the answer by asking the pre-service mathematics teachers to search from their mobile phone regarding theory of revised Bloom Taxonomy. Because the operational verbs that can be used to formulate indicators that can measure students’ HOTS can be seen on the cognitive process dimensions of HOTS by Bloom. These dimensions are classified into three dimensions, those are analyze, evaluate, and create [18]. From website, pre-service mathematics teachers can get many operational verbs that can be used in formulating indicators. After pre-service mathematics teachers get the example of operational verbs, lecturer gives question: “Based on revised Taxonomy Bloom, which operational verbs that can be used in formulating indicators that can indicate students’ HOTS?”. At this time, lecturer gives time for pre-service mathematics teachers to discuss. At the end of discussion, lecturer provides confirmation.

- The design of learning activities is unable accommodate the development of students’ HOTS

Usually pre-service mathematics teachers are able to select learning model that can accommodate students’ HOTS development correctly. However, pre-service mathematics teachers are not able to design learning activities that can accommodate students’ HOTS based on the model. To explore pre-service mathematics teachers’ ability in developing activities learning which can develop students’ HOTS, lecturer gives question: “Based on your opinion, what do teachers do for developing students’ HOTS?”. The possibility pre-service mathematics teachers’ answers are:

- Play interesting video
- Provide challenging contextual problems
- Ask questions that explore analytical skills

Based on the question, lecturer offers the next question to explore pre-service mathematics teachers’ ability in designing learning activities that can develop students’ HOTS, “What kind of contextual problems can teachers provide to develop students’ HOTS?”, “Do the questions have a high level of difficulty?”. After that, lecturer offers the next question, “What kind of question word can be asked by the teacher to explore students’ HOTS?”, “What words ask, why, who, how?”. To answer that question, lecturer gives examples of questions from each question words. These are:

- Who introduces logic as science?
- When did logic arise?
- What is the difference between statements and open sentences?
- How many conjunctions can be used in compound statements?
- Which is the statement?
- Why is the statement referred to as a compound statement?
- How to prove the theorem?

Then the lecturer asks the pre-service mathematics teachers to analyse which question words can explore students' HOTS. At the end of the discussion, the lecturer asks them to conclude what things need to be considered by the teacher in designing learning activities that can develop students’ HOTS.

- Assessments are unable to measure students’ HOTS

To overcome this problem, the lecturer asks pre-service mathematics teachers to discuss. The discussion is started by displaying the example of assessments that do not explore students’ HOTS. Based on the assessments, the lecturer asks them to analyze in group whether the assessments made are able to explore students’ HOTS. If so, why. If not, why. Each student in group must share their opinion, so that they can create original and useful ideas [19]. During the discussion, the lecturer facilitates by asking related questions "What are the characteristics of the problem that are able to explore students’ HOTS?", “How do you design an effective assessment which can develop students’ HOTS?”. Then, the lecturer guides pre-service mathematics teachers to get the answer by analyzing revised Bloom’s Taxonomy. By using Bloom’s Taxonomy as assessment’s framework, pre-service mathematics teachers can structure a lesson effectively [20]. After the pre-service mathematics teachers are able to analyze what kind of assessments that can develop students’ HOTS, the lecturer provides opportunities for them to design assessments in accordance with the basic competencies that they choose so that the assessments are able to measure and explore students’ HOTS.

3.3.4. Implementing higher-order thinking oriented active learning.

When pre-service mathematics teachers are asked to implement higher-order thinking oriented active learning, they might face some problems as follows

- The apperception is unable to develop students’ HOTS

Apperception by pre-service mathematics teachers is usually delivered by playing videos or giving images that can arouse students’ curiosity. The videos or images that usually given by teachers is related to real context that can be solved with the subject that to be studied. However, the videos or photos displayed do not explore students’ HOTS. To overcome this problem, the lecturer provides an opportunity for students to discuss apperception as what the teacher needs to do to encourage the development of students’ HOTS. After pre-service mathematics teachers discuss, the lecturer asks per-service mathematics students to express their opinions one by one. After sharing their opinions, without justifying students’ answers, the lecturer displays a video that shows examples of apperceptions that can support the development of students’ HOTS.

After displaying the video, pre-service mathematics teachers are asked to compare between the apperceptions that they have been done during practice with the apperception in the video. Pre-service mathematics teachers reflect on what should be improved in the apperception section to develop students’ HOTS.

- Pre-service mathematics teachers are not ready to students’ question

During learning activities in class, questions often arise from students. Sometimes, pre-service mathematics teachers are often not ready for students’ questions, especially questions with questions asking why and how. Actually, these questions can be used to explore students’ HOTS. To overcome this, the lecturer can ask pre-service mathematics teachers to write on a piece of paper, any questions that still make them confused. After that, the lecturer divides pre-service mathematics teachers in groups, and asks them to discuss in groups the answers to the questions that have been written. After group discussion, the lecturer asks the representation of group to explain
the results of their group discussion in front of class, and others give feedback. Through this way, pre-service mathematics teachers can brainstorm each other. At the end of the discussion, the lecturer gives confirmation.

4. Conclusion

Based on the explanation of HLT in Supporting Pre-Service Mathematics Teachers to Conduct Higher-Order Thinking Oriented Learning in Microteaching Course, we can conclude that:

- In developing HLT that support pre-service mathematics teachers in conducting HOTS oriented learning, lecturer must consider the following steps: help them to analyze HOTS-based problem, design HOTS-based problem, design learning activities that develop students’ HOTS, implement higher-order thinking oriented learning.
- Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy can be an effective framework for pre-service mathematics teacher in designing HOTS oriented active learning and HOTS assessment. In accordance to this conclusion, to consider what kind of knowledge that will be achieved by students, it is important for teachers to assess which part in Bloom’s taxonomy that is used [21]

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