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Fragmentation challenges amongst construction professional members in South Africa

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Masters of Science in Engineering
List of Corrections

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This is the list of corrections against the examiners' reports for the MSc research report

Johannesburg, 2017

Examiner 1

The format followed for the corrections matches the examiner's comments for ease of reference. The page numbers used in the corrections are as per the original document which corresponds to the examiner's comments. These page numbers are different form the revised research report since corrections have been effected. The examiner's comments were addressed as noted in the physical research report. The responses to comments included amongst others typos, syntax, claims not referenced/allegations not properly worded, over dependency of one source and the 'not so clear' figures and tables. The title is not yet corrected. Chapters 1 to 6 have been revised extensively to cover the examiner's comments and to improve readability and the flow. Referencing was revised. Some comments were not very clear, that is they do not give solid suggestions of what has to be done. However, most comments have been attended to the best of my ability.

Item No	Eximiner's Comments	Responses
Abstract	The abstract should be a one page advert. Certain feature that belong to the concluding chapter. It also focuses on fragmentation and very little on BIM	The abstract has been re-written to fit one page and covers important points of the study The concluding chapter has been corrected Yes, it focuses more on fragmentation and little on BIM because BIM is only a recommendation
Chapter 1	Again justice is not done to the definition of BIM. Chapter does not lead to a clear point of departure. Not every aspect of the discourse is made explicit	The definition of BIM has been revised The whole of chapter one has been revised and is clearly articulated The last comment is not clear
Section 1.2	Problem Statement should end in a clear statement of the research problem. Aim, objectives and research questions seem to have been placed in a confusing manner	Problem Statement have been revised and now leads to a clear statement of the research problem Aims, objectives and research questions have been revised
Section 1.6	Also need to be reviewed	Section 1.6 of the Scope of Study has been reviewed
Chapter 2	The chapter starts very well but again begins to run into problems in terms of articulating the discussion to the research focus There is an effort to thread the discussion but it does not lead the reader anywhere in particular	Chapter 2 has been revised extensively

Page 27,	On page 27, the candidate must adapt the table as opposed to copy and paste. That way it will be more legible at least	The table has been adapted and is more legible
Section 2.3	Again here it is easy to see that there is a bit of challenge with addressing the BIM part of this study. It is essentially from this section that the discourse begins to expand, seemingly without scope or direction	BIM part of the study as been clearly defined in the revised Chapter 1 of the study. Revisions were also made to Chapter 2 that clearly defined sections of BIM the study focused on. Through Chapter 1 and Chapter 2, a clear conclusion of literature was drawn.
Section 2.3	BIM is more of a concept with various expressions and applications. The understanding of this complex and evolving nature needs to be demontrated in the report	The focus of the study is on fragmentation. I have reviewed BIM literature as a suggestion to fragmentation solution. The focus is not on the complexity of BIM. Perhaps I will delve into the complexity of BIM study for Phd.
Section 2.6	From 2.6 on pg 57 to pg 70 read like they belong to another study. Seemingly accidental and unconnected to the preceding review of literature. In this section the focus moves from BIM adoption , through BIM maturity, to LFA and fragmentation	Section 2.6 to 2.9 of page 57 to page 70 have been removed from the literature.
Section 2.5	It seems that the case studies were analysesd in this section as part of the research. Since case analysis (that is the technical name in research) was utilised, it should be part of the research methodology.	The BIM case studies were not part of the research. The analysis of BIM adoption using case studies was part of the literature review to showcase the success of BIM adoption, thus to reveal to the reader that BIM has been successfully implemented in other parts of the world. The reserach methodology only focuses on fragmentation not BIM.
Section 2.10	Since the literature review was not done properly, the conclusion will not do justice to the chapter. I have put down some thoughts to guide the candidate on how to correct the literatue review section.	The conclusion was rewritten
Chapter 3	Probably the best discussed section, though with a lot of text book information. What is lacking here is the fact that it does not represent everything done in the research. For incase Case Analysis and LFA were utilised but they are not presented in the right place. Approach to analysis was not explained. Sampling was also not explained.	Research methodology was revised to clearly articulate everything done in the research. Case analysis of BIM and LFA are already addressed in the responses above.

Chapter 4	Details data collection but not the analysis I am not sure what this chapter is supposed to achieve but it should be joined with Chapter 5 and the new chapter properly worded to make more sense. You should be presenting the results of your data analysis. The reader does not have to see the raw data. From p.92 it becomes easier to follow the analysis of data.	The results have been properly analysed. The refined data is attached in Appendix A Chapter 4 and 5 are joined together as "Data Analysis and Results". The results are now being analysed
Chapter 6	Discussion of results in Chapter 6 should follow a particular sequence that starts from a summary or ends in a summary	Discussion of the results is presented in Chapter 5 and follows the sub-topics in Chapter 4
Chapter 7	At a Masters level the concluding chapter should have certain elements which are clearly missing in the report Overview and main conclusion The RP, RQ and objectives need to be addressed Review of methodology and limitations Summary of key findings Implications of findings Recommendations Further research Final concluding section	Chapter 7 is now Chapter 6. It is aligned with the introductory chapter by recapturing the research problem and the research questions The methodology has been reviewed The key findings (results) have been summarised Limitations to the study have been presented as shortfalls Recommendations have been made Further research has been presented in the Outlook There is now a comprehensive concluding section

Examiner 2

The examiner's comments made in the original research report have been addressed in the revised research report. All the confusion, non justified sentences and poor presentation of the literature as per the examiner's comments were revisited. Chapter 1 to 7 have changed consirerably as per the examiner's extensive comments and have now been reduced to 6 chapters. The procedure for the presentation of research methodolgy has been revised to address all comments raised by the examiner. Chapter 4 of of Data Collection and Representation has been revised and is now joined together with Chapter 5 of Analysis of Results. Grammatical and typical errors have been addressed and the report is more readable. The entire chapter 1 has been re-arranged to articulate the story in a flowing manner. All references have been revised and align properly with the respective claims. Some literature review has been deleted as per the examiner's recommendation. The entire research methodology has been re-written and re-arranged. All related methodological issues that have to do with research philosophy has been corrected. Based on the extensive revision of research methodology, data presentation was revised in some areas to cater for existing gaps pointed out by the examiner in the original research report. The abbreviations have been sorted out in alphabetical order. For every abbreviation that appears for the first time in the new chapter, it was given a full meaning. The corrections that follow below are linked to the original research report as per the examiner's comments.

Title

The title has been revised as per the comments in the original copy of the research report

Abstract

The abstract has been revised

Introduction

Page 11: List of acronyms already addressed

Context of the Study

Page 12: BIM has now been explained sufficiently

Page 13: Claims made have been properly referenced

Page 15: Section 1.2 of the problem statement has been revised to lead the reader to a clear point of the statement of research problem

Page 16: Section 1.5 of the research question remains the way it is besides that it has been swapped around to be Section 1.3 as per the examiner's reccomendation

Page 17: Section 1.6 of the scope of study has been revised and the irrelevant part was removed

Literature Review

Page 25: Subsection 2.2.4 the last paragraph have been referenced

Page 27: Figure 2.1: Evidence of integrating practices has been modified and adapted into Author's own table as per the examiner's comments

Page 32: BIM literature review follows after fragmentation, which starts at 2.4 and explained in 2.3.1 in the original document. However, the subsection of BIM definition has been revised to 2.4.1 of the literature review in the revised final submission of research report.

Page 35: The definition of BIM is explicitly defined in subsection 2.4.1 of the revised research report of the final submission.

Page 37: Figure 2.3 on the Characteristics of a BIM is not yet revised to be visible

Page 57: The case study analysis was dealt with in the comments of examiner 1

Page 57: Section 2.6 was removed as recommeded by examiner 1

Page 71: Section 2.10 on the conlusion of literature review has been re-written which is now Section 2.7 of the literature review

Research Methodology

The methodology employed by the candidate is accepted and able to conduct the research. "But in my opinion, the candidate lack the basic mastery of the methodology, hence, the research comments above"

Page 79: The Research Methodology chapter has been extensively revised and the approach used in the study is now articulated clearly. Integration, collaboration, coordination and communication processes are now being presented in the right context.

Data Collection and Presentation

Page 88: Sub-section 4.1.2 has been removed. Chapter 4 has been revised and joined to the original Chapter 5. It presented the results of the study and the analysis thereof. All the stages that led to data capturing, presentation and analysis were explained in Chapter 4. Supporting information is found in the Appendices.

Analysis of the Results

Page 101: Chapter 4 and 5 are joined together as Chapter 4: "Data Analysis and Results". This chapter now presents how the raw data was collected and processed to give the results of the study.

Discussion of the Results

Page 107: Chapter 6 is now Chapter 5. The results have been discussed in relation to the findings from the literature. The discussions of the results now follow the same sub-topics as presented in Chapter 4.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Page 116: Chapter 7 is now Chapter 6. This chapter revisits the problem statement, research questions, methodology and summarises the main aspects of the entire report. It also analyses the short-falls of the study and gives directions for future research.

References

All the references have been modified and sorted out using Jabref software.