The role of transformative leadership, ICT-infrastructure and learning climate in teachers’ use of digital learning materials during their classes.

Marjan Vermeulen¹,², Karel Kreijns², Hans van Buuren³, Frederik Van Acker⁴

¹ KPC Group Netherlands
² Welten Institute, Open University of the Netherlands
³ Faculty of Psychology, Open University of the Nederland
⁴ Departement of Health and Social Care, Artesis Plantijn (AP) University College, Antwerpen, Belgium

Corresponding author:
Marjan Vermeulen, Welten Institute, Open University of the Netherlands, Valkenburgerweg 177, 6419AT Heerlen, the Netherlands
Email: marjan.vermeulen@ou.nl
Abstract

This study investigated whether the school organizational variables transformative leadership (TL), ICT-infrastructure (technical and social), and organizational learning climate were related to teachers’ dispositional variables attitude, perceived norm, and perceived behavior control (PBC). The direct and indirect influences of these variables on teachers’ intention and use of modern technology such as digital learning materials (DLMs) were also investigated. A longitudinal design was used with three measurements spread out over three years, with 544 randomly selected teachers from the Dutch primary, secondary and vocational education. Model fit was tested using structural equation modeling (SEM).

All dispositional variables predicted the use of DLMs, mediated by teachers’ intention. TL had direct and indirect relationships via ICT-infrastructure and learning climate with attitude, perceived norm, and PBC. The longitudinal design proved the chronological effect of TL on learning climate and the dispositional variables. However, not all TL dimensions had relationships with ICT-infrastructure (only TL-vision and TL-intellectual stimulation) and with learning climate (only TL-intellectual stimulation).

For educational practice, the results indicated that leadership can promote teachers’ use of DLMs directly and by supporting a school wide learning climate under the condition that an ICT-infrastructure exists.

What is already known about this topic

What is already known

- Affecting teacher behavior with regard to educational practices is a complex process.
- Transformational leadership characteristics are related to teachers’ innovative behavior, continuous professional development (CPD) and ICT integration in class.
- Dispositional variables (attitude, perceived behavior control, subjective norm) mediate between distal factors and the (intended) behavior of teachers.

**What this paper adds**
- Insights into the relationships over three years between school (leader) characteristics, teachers’ dispositional variables and teachers (intention to) use digital learning materials in their classroom.
- The important role of learning climate within the school, mediating between school leader characteristics and teachers’ dispositional variables.
- Teachers’ behavior regarding the use of digital learning materials is not directly affected, but follows a chain of mediating variables.

**Implications for practice and/or policy**
- School leaders can enhance teachers’ integration of digital learning materials in class by facilitating a sound ICT-infrastructure (policy, social and technical) and by creating a positive learning climate.
- School leaders can enhance the use of digital learning materials in class by stimulating the intellectual development of teachers.
- Enhancing teachers’ use of digital learning materials needs a chain of different stimuli.

**Keywords**: digital learning materials; transformational leadership; Integrative Model of Behavior Prediction; ICT-infrastructure; learning climate.
Discussions about the future quality of education are conducted both nationally as well as internationally and continue to be relevant (OECD, 2014). Active learning, critical thinking, collaborative investigations, media literacy, and self-directed learning are necessary new competences (Voogt, Knezek, Cox, Knezek, & ten Brummelhuis, 2013). ICT is an important tool for students to acquire such competences, but ICT has not yet been integrated in all schools and, therefore, is still not part of everyday teaching routines (Vrasidas, 2015).

Because the use of new technologies such as digital learning materials (DLMs) is not simply a matter of course, various incentives are necessary (Voogt, et al., 2013). From this perspective, the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has funded a four years program (known as Wikiwijs) to encourage the use, creation and sharing of DLMs by teachers. Research has accompanied the program for four years. Based on the yearly gathered data more answers can be given on what factors predict teachers use of DLMs.

**The Integrated Model for Behavior Prediction and teachers’ use of DLMs**

Research on human behavior has proven that context factors (e.g., leadership, culture, facilities) and individual factors (e.g. motivation) influence human behavior (Leithwood, Jantzi, & Mascall, 2002) and specifically teachers’ ICT use (Law & Chow, 2008; Chen, 2011). The Integrated Model for Behavior Prediction (IMBP; see Fishbein & Ajzen, 2010) focusses on how context and individual variables influence human behavior. IMBP seems to be an appropriate model to explain/predict teachers’ use of DLMs (Tearle, 2003; Chen, 2011; Van Acker, Kreijns, van Buuren, & Vermeulen, 2013).

In IMBP, three individual variables are distinguished (attitude, perceived norm and perceived behavioral control (PBC)). They are labeled as dispositional or as proximal variables because of their 'short distance' to behavior, and are direct predictors of intention. Intention, in IMBP is a predictor of behavior. The distal variables have a 'long distance’ to the
behavior and are important because they may affect one or more proximal variables. In the recent years the empirical evidence for the applicability of the IMBP in education is growing (Van Acker, et al., 2013; Chen, 2011). Tearle (2003) concluded, based on a case study design, that ICT integration in class cannot simply be explained by a list of variables, but that a framework or model is needed to allow teacher characteristics combined with organizational characteristics such as strong leadership and a learning culture. This current study proceeds our earlier findings using the IMBP as a model for the integration of ICT (Van Acker, et al., 2013; Kreijns, et al., 2013). In previous studies, teachers’ intention to use DLMs has been explained using dispositional variables and organizational variables such as ICT policy and transformational leadership (TL). More detailed descriptions on the testing of IMBP has been published (see for instance Vermeulen et al., 2014, Kreijns, et al., 2013).

This current study differs in two important ways from earlier studies. First, the variables ICT-infrastructure and learning climate have not been tested before; it was hypothesized that they were mediating the relationship between TL and teachers’ usage of DLMs (Tearle 2003). Second, and more important, this study was based on three data gathering points in time, spread over the last three years of the Wikiwijs project (see Table 3). Variables with the most distant from the behavior were measured first (TL and ICT-infrastructure), learning climate was measured a year later, and the dispositional variables and actual behavior two years later. Because the design of all the earlier studies were cross-sectional (all data gathering happened at the same point in time), these studies were not well suited to prove non-reciprocal relations. Thus, using a longitudinal research design with three measurements in time, this article focuses on the effect of variables at the school level on teachers’ use of DLMs. The central question is: “To what extent does TL, ICT-infrastructure, and organizational learning climate explain, mediated by dispositional variables attitude, perceived norm, and PBC, teachers’ use of DLMs?”.
School organizational variables and teachers use of DLMs

Results from various research (e.g., Thoonen, Sleegers, Oort, Peetsma, & Geijsel, 2011; Vanderlinde, van Braak, & Dexter, 2012; Tondeur, Valcke, & van Braak, 2008) have provided evidence that school organizational variables are related to teachers’ behavior. However, not much research has been conducted based on models of behavioral change such as the IMBP.

Transformational leadership (TL). TL is an essential factor in sustainable innovation and it has been studied before in relation to the behavior of teachers (Thoonen, et al., 2011). TL is also related to the integration of ICT (Weng, & Tang, 2014). TL focusses on a set of leadership behavior increasing employee motivation and performance (Leithwood & Jantzi, 2006). Burns (1978) formulated TL as a process where "leaders and followers help each other to advance to a higher level of morale and motivation". Although many dimensions of TL have been identified (Sun & Leithwood, 2012, Weng, & Tang, 2014), three dimensions were most often mentioned: TL-vision, TL-individual consideration, and TL-intellectual stimulation (Geijsel, Sleegers, Stoel, & Krüger, 2009).

Transformational leaders articulate a vision and mission related to their own values. By communicating such visions, employees give meaning to their action and develop a more collective frame of reference. For example, by communicating a clear vision on the use of DLMs, leaders can develop teachers’ mindset on the usefulness and necessity of DLMs (Vanderlinde, Dexter, & van Braak, 2012). Individual consideration relates to the provision of a supportive environment that enables learning, whereas intellectual stimulation relates to the encouragement of developing creative and innovative ideas, reframing problems as well as thinking of new ways of looking at old situations (Deinert, Homan, Boer, Voelpel, & Guterman, 2015). Indeed, Razzak (2015) mentioned leadership that should support monthly
meetings to exchange ideas and ICT related experiences, give feedback on ICT implementations through regular classroom visits, and setup an adequate ICT-infrastructure.

Self-efficacy (i.e., PBC; see Fishbein & Ajzen, 2010) and attitudes proved to be important factors (Kim, Kim, Lee, Spector, & DeMeester, 2013), as well as social pressure (i.e., perceived norm) (Carmeli & Schaubroeck, 2007) in developing innovative behavior.

**ICT-infrastructure.** For implementing DLMs in daily practice an ICT-infrastructure should be available (Wastiau, Blamire, Kearney, Quittre, Van de Gear, & Monseur, 2013). According to Tondeur, Devos, Houtte, van Braak, & Valcke (2009), an ICT-infrastructure refers to more components than the technical structure (PC, internet connection and the availability of educative programs) alone; it comprises ICT policy, ICT vision, and sufficient degree of competence by colleagues to use ICT. School leaders played an important role in the quality of the ICT policy (Vanderlinde et al., 2012). School leadership is related to developing and implementing policies (Scheuermann & Pedr, 2010). The scale developed by Tondeur et al. (2008) was used to measure ICT-infrastructure.

**Learning climate.** Learning climate can be considered part of an organizational climate. Organizational climate is one of the concepts on which scholars have little consensus on how the concept should be defined (Thumin & Thumin, 2011). There has been a broad and ongoing discussion how the concepts of organizational culture and climate are related. Thumin and Thumin (2011) doubted the relevance of the discussion in the light of the usefulness for measuring organizational processes. We followed their reasoning, because the focus of our study was about variables that enhance teachers’ use of DLMs. How the variable is named and in what research tradition it is nested, was of less relevancy. Thus, organizational climate was defined as one’s personal perceptions of the working environment (Chen, 2011). Organizational climate can be focused on specific features, for instance, on giving rewards, or—as in our case—on learning (Schneider, 2000). Learning climate was
operationalized as a part of organizational climate and referred to one’s perceptions of work settings that help or hinder learning at work (Hetland, Skogstad, Hetland, & Mikkelsen, 2011). There is a growing body of knowledge that suggests aspects of the organizational learning climate to be related to employee learning and innovativeness (Evers, 2012).

Due to the specific field of research (i.e., education), some other confusion with respect to the name ‘learning climate’ occurs. Learning climate is often focused solely on the student learning climate (see for instance, Sebastian & Allensworth, 2012). Others, however, see learning climate as both student learning, as well as the working (Hopson & Lawson, 2011) and learning climate for teachers and staff (Evers, 2012). Learning climate has been operationalized in many ways. In our study we followed Van Woerkom (2003) who characterized learning climate by collective reflection, tolerance to different opinions, and learning from mistakes and other colleagues and teams as well as good practices from other organizations (Van Woerkom, 2003). The instrument of Van Woerkom (2003) was used in this research. Furthermore, we expected that ICT-infrastructure (incorporating a clear goal on ICT integration) and ICT competences of colleagues are affecting the learning climate.

**Dispositional variables and teachers’ use of DLMs**

Within IMBP the dispositional variables predict the intention which, in turn, predicts actual behavior. Dispositional variables are mediators between the organizational variables and intentions. Previous research has confirmed their important role both in predicting human behavior in general (Fishbein & Ajzen, 2010), as well as teachers’ use of DLMs specifically (Kreijns et al., 2013)

*Attitude*, here defined as a general feeling of anti/sympathy considering the use of DLMs (Ajzen 1991), is highly related to teachers’ ICT use (Tearle, 2003; Law & Chow, 2008). It is suggested that when teachers develop negative attitudes to ICT usage in the classroom, it is
very likely that indeed those teachers will not use ICT at all (Al-Zaidiyeen, Mei, & Fook, 2010; Mahat, Jamsandekar, & Nalavade, 2012).

*Perceived norm* refers to the experienced psychological pressure to perform certain behavior, here the use of DLMs. This pressure teachers experience comes from the social surrounding, being important others from the perspective of the teacher. Ajzen (1991) formulated the concept as "the perceived social pressure to perform or not to perform the behavior" (p. 188).

*PBC* (or self-efficacy) in IMBP is operationalized as the degree of conviction that one can successfully use DLMs in class under certain inhibiting or stimulating conditions. PBC is considered to be an important variable when it comes to intention to perform a certain target behavior (Chen, 2011; Thoonen et al., 2011).

These dispositional variables have been operationalized in earlier research (Kreijns et al., 2013) and proven to be related to the intention to use DLMs (Van Acker, et al., 2013). Previous research showed that the intention to use DLMs predicted actual behavior (Vermeulen et al., 2014).

**Method**

**Hypotheses.** To answer the research question the following hypotheses were formulated (see Figure 1):

H1: TL-vision affects attitude, perceived norm, and PCB (path’s 1a, 1b, and 1c)

H2: TL-individual consideration affects attitude, perceived norm, and PCB (path’s 2a, 2b, and 2c)

H3: TL-intellectual stimulation affects attitude, perceived norm, and PCB (path’s 3a, 3b, and 3c)
H4: TL-vision, -individual consideration, and -intellectual stimulation affect the quality of the ICT-infrastructure (path’s 4a, 4b, and 4c)

H5: Quality of the ICT-infrastructure affects learning climate (path 5)

H6: Quality of the ICT-infrastructure affects attitude, perceived norm, and PCB (path’s 6a, 6b, and 6c)

H7: TL-vision, -individual consideration, and -intellectual stimulation affect learning climate (path’s 7a, 7b, and 7c)

H8: Learning climate affects attitude, perceived norm, and PCB (path’s 8a, 8b, and 8c)

H9: Attitude, perceived norm, and PCB affect intention (path’s 9a, 9b, and 9c)

H10: Intention affects actual use of DLMs (path 10)

---

Data gathering. Between 2009 and 2014 a survey was administered to teachers in Dutch primary, secondary and vocational education at five points in time. The data gathering was part of the ‘Wiki-Wijs’ project (for more details see Vermeulen et al., 2014) and the TNO-NIPO panel of teachers was used to gather data over a period of four years by the same teachers. TL and ICT-infrastructure were measured in the December 2010 survey administration (T1, December 2010). Learning climate was measured in March 2012 (T2). Attitude, PBC, perceived norm, intention and the use of DLMs were measured in March 2013 (T3). The analyses were based on 544 teachers. Their characteristics are presented in Table 1 and compared with the characteristics of the general population of Dutch teachers as far as these were known. Men were slightly more represented in this study.
Measures. The online survey consisted of scales based on existing and validated instruments. Some were adapted to the Dutch situation or on teachers’ use of DLMs. Except for the variable ‘actual use of DLMs’, all variables were measured by at least three Likert scale items. Cronbach's alpha was calculated to check internal consistency (see Table 2).

Path analysis method. A structural equation modelling (SEM) was used to test the relative fit of the model (AMOS 20). Evaluating the model fit, $\chi^2$ statistic were used. With increasing model complexity and sample size, the $\chi^2$ statistic increases (Hu & Bentler, 1999). Therefore, comparative fit index (CFI) (Hoyle, 1995; Marsh, Balla, and Hau, 1996) and the root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA) (Browne, & Cudeck, 1989) are reported.

Results

Direct relationships. Table 3 contains an overview of the bivariate correlations, the mean score, and standard deviation for each variable and the year the data was gathered. Strong direct relationships were found between the dimensions of TL themselves and with learning climate. All variables have a direct significant relationship with actual behavior. Only
learning climate and the dispositional variables have a direct relationship with teachers’ intention to use DLMs.

---

Path analysis. The model fit can be qualified as good ($\chi^2(544) = 2413.67, p < .000$; CFI = .952; NFI = .902; RMSEA = .040). In Figure 2 only the significant relations and path parameters are drawn, including the three points in time of data gathering. The results supported the use of the IMBP for explaining the effect of factors at the school level on individual teacher behavior. The results also showed that the three dimensions were highly related within the concept of TL.

---

From the three different hypotheses on TL affecting the dispositional variables attitude, perceived norm and PBC (i.e., H1, H2, and H3), hypothesis H1 (regarding TL-vision) was not confirmed. With regard to hypothesis H2 (regarding TL-individual consideration) only perceived norm was affected (-.27; path 2c) but this turned out to be negative. With regard to hypothesis H3, TL-intellectual stimulation positively affected perceived norm (.34; path 3b).
and PCB (.09; path 3c). Therefore H1 was rejected, whereas H2 and H3 were partially confirmed.

Furthermore, TL-vision was positively related to ICT-infrastructure (.32; path 4a) but not to learning climate (path 7a). TL-individual consideration was not related to the two variables on the school level (i.e., ICT-infrastructure, path 4b, and learning climate, path 7b). TL-intellectual stimulation was positively related to ICT-infrastructure (.21; path 4c) and learning climate (.45; path 7c). ICT-infrastructure also affected learning climate (.20; path 5). Therefore H5 was confirmed, whereas H4 and H7 were only partially confirmed.

Looking at the relationships of ICT-infrastructure and learning climate on the dispositional variables, only learning climate has a positive but small effect on attitude (.16; path 8a) and perceived norm (.15; path 8b). Therefore, H6 is rejected whereas H8 is partially confirmed.

The hypothesis H9 regarding the relationship from the dispositional variables on intention (the path’s 9a, 9b, and 9c) was confirmed with respectively .51 (attitude), .22 (perceived norm) and .30 (PCB). Following this, hypothesis (H10) concerning intention affected teachers’ use of DLMs was confirmed (.44; path 10). In other words, hypotheses H9 and H10 were fully confirmed.

**Discussion and conclusion**

In summary, no dominant path from TL to teachers’ intention to use DLMs was found. The strongest path coefficients were found from TL intellectual stimulation to learning climate and to perceived norm. Although learning climate was related to attitude and perceived norm, these relationships were not strong. An important relationship was detected from TL-vision to ICT-infrastructure, but ICT-infrastructure only influences learning climate and was not related to any of the three dispositional variables. This finding is in contrast to our expectations based
on Tondeur et al. (2008) and Tondeur et al. (2009) who found that goals and ICT policy highly affected teachers’ integration of ICT.

Only TL-intellectual stimulation had a positive effect on the dispositional variables, in particular perceived norm. However, perceived norm had the weakest relationship to intention in comparison with the other dispositional variables. Attitude has the strongest relation with intention. This is completely in line with other previous research in which attitude has been suggested to be a key factor for teachers to integrate technology in education (Kim, et al., 2013). However, changing teachers’ attitudes toward the intention of using DLMs is a complex endeavor in which leadership plays an important role. For instance in the collaboration processes which affect school culture or climate (Chen, 2008) and were culture was expected to affect teachers attitudes (Chen, 2011). Surprisingly, our results suggested that learning climate only has limited influence on attitude and that attitude is not affected by any of the other variables in our model (see Figure 2).

In contrast to our expectations, TL-individual consideration affected perceived norm negatively; the more TL shows individual consideration the less social pressure (perceived norm) was perceived by teachers. Negative relationships from TL-individual consideration with Dutch teacher behavior were found earlier and perhaps can be explained by the Dutch culture of too much attention for individual consideration (Thoonen et al. (2011).

Several conclusions can be drawn from these results. First, it was not solely one factor that could be viewed as the central cause of teachers’ behavior; it was a mix of various factors that together influenced teachers’ behavior to use DLMS.

Secondly, because of the longitudinal design we may conclude that TL influenced teachers’ behavior through the mediating variables of ICT-infrastructure and learning climate and this has direct relationships with teachers’ dispositional variables, which mediated the intention and the use of DLMs.
Third, our findings that TL-vision and TL-intellectual stimulation had a significant positive impact may correspond to the findings of Leithwood and Jantzi (2006) who made a comment on the disappointing effects of TL in relation to school improvement. Based on their findings the use of DLMs should always focus on improving students’ learning processes and outcomes; individual consideration should not distract from core organizational goals but should be supportive of achieving that goal.

This research has some limitations. First, self-reported questionnaires were used to assess actual behavior. Future research may use alternative techniques to gain data about the actual use and integration of DLMs in the classroom.

Second, only a small set of variables was used at the school organizational level. It can be expected that other variables, including team collaboration, professional learning communities, etc., could lead to a more promising path diagram with corresponding outcomes.

Third, although this study used longitudinal data measured at three points in time, real causality is difficult to establish because there are always unknown factors that can potentially influence the variables of interest.

Nevertheless, the current study reported here contributes to insights on the importance of TL as it has affected teachers’ professional behavior in using DLMs over the years. Besides the detected significant direct influences of TL dimensions on the dispositional variables over the years, the longitudinal design revealed the effects of TL on the learning climate within the school. Learning climate, as a concept, is getting more attention over the last few years. Intellectual stimulation by school leaders affected the learning climate of the school strongly. Future research could seek for more insights on how the learning climate can influence teachers’ behavior and what mediating variables at school level are important to enhance teachers’ use of ICT in their educational practices.
Finally, this research was built on existing empirical work testing the appropriateness of IMBP for teachers’ use of DLMs. In the current article, IMBP was tested on data gathered at three points in time. IMBP proved to be suitable to map the different mediating and direct relationships on teachers’ use of DLMs. As predicted by IMBP, direct relations from school level variables to the intention or use of DLMs were not significant, whereas indirect relations were all mediated by the three dispositional variables. When implementing new educational practices, teachers should therefore pay attention to these dispositional variables seeing as they play an important part in the intention to perform certain behavior. It should also be taken into consideration that it takes time to change teaching routines.
References


Marjan Vermeulen,
Welten Institute, Open University Nederland, Valkenburgerweg 177, 6419AT Heerlen, e-mail: marjan.vermeulen@ou.nl
Phone: +31 45-576 25 46 Fax: 045 - 576 28 02

KPC Groep Kooikerweg 2 Den Bosch mail: m.vermeulen@kpcgroep.nl

Marjan Vermeulen works as a professor at Welten Institute of the Open University of the Netherlands and as senior consultant at a large educational consultancy organization the KPC Group ‘s-Hertogenbosch. Her expertise lies in supporting educational practice as well as educational research in the field of professional development of teachers, the school as a learning place for teachers, educational development and innovation.

Karel Kreijns,
Welten Institute, Open University Nederland, Valkenburgerweg 177, 6419AT Heerlen (+31 45 5762741), karel.kreijns@ou.nl

Karel Kreijns is associate professor at the Welten Institute, Open University the Netherlands. His current research interest are 1) the application of social presence theory on online learning networks, and 2) the application of self-determination theory and social cognitive behavior models on teachers’ use of ICT (with a particular focus on digital learning materials/open educational resources) in their pedagogical practices.

Frederik Van Acker
Departement of Health and Social Care, Artesis Plantijn (AP) University College, Belgium
F.vanacker@gmail.com

Frederik Van Acker has a MSc and PhD in psychology from the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and is Currently head of Remedial Teaching of the Department Health and Social Care at the
Artesis Plantijn University College in Antwerpen, Belgium. His main research interests are research methodology and the use of ICT in education.

Hans Van Buuren,
Faculteit Psychologie, Open University Nederland, Valkenburgerweg 177, 6419AT Heerlen
hans.vanBuuren@ou.nl

Hans van Buuren is associate professor at the School of Psychology Open University the Netherlands. His expertise lies in teaching research methodology and especially statistics and writing study books about it. His main research interests are 1) investigating the impact of new teaching tools in statistics education, and 2) the use and of ICT and OER in Dutch education.
Table 1. Characteristics of the teachers: gender, age and type of school (NL = population characteristics in the Netherlands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Primary (NL)</th>
<th>Secondary (NL)</th>
<th>Vocational (NL)</th>
<th>Total (NL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men %</td>
<td>19% (15%)</td>
<td>55% (50%)</td>
<td>66% (49%)</td>
<td>39% (32%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (M)</td>
<td>41 (43)</td>
<td>44 (45)</td>
<td>47 (48)</td>
<td>43 (44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years of educational experience (M)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16 (not known)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44,7%</td>
<td>27,5%</td>
<td>18,7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale and source</td>
<td>Answer categories</td>
<td>Items</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Intention        | 1 = ‘absolutely unlikely’,... 7 = ‘extremely likely’ | Please indicate to what extent the following statements apply to you:  
a. I plan to use digital learning materials during class regularly.  
b. I intend to use digital learning materials during class regularly.  
c. I think I should use digital learning materials during class regularly.  
d. I expect to use digital learning materials during class regularly. |
| PBC              | 1 = ‘completely not true’,... 7 = ‘completely true’ | a. I am able to regular use DLMS effectively in my classes.  
b. I am satisfied with the way I regularly use my DLMS.  
c. I feel successful in the deployment of DLMS regularly in my classes.  
d. I am confident enough in the regular use of DLMS in my classes. |
| Attitude         | by bipolar scales | For me, to use digital learning materials during class regularly is ...  
a. 1 = ‘necessary’ — 7 = ‘not necessary’  
b. 1 = ‘desirable’ — 7 = ‘un desirable’  
c. 1 = ‘wrong’ — 7 = ‘good’  
d. 1 = ‘fantastic’ — 7 = ‘horrible’  
e. 1 = ‘constructive’ — 7 = ‘destructive’  
f. 1 = ‘embracing’ — 7 = ‘rejecting’  
g. 1 = ‘disappointing’ — 7 = ‘above expectations’  
h. 1 = ‘nonsense’ — 7 = ‘useful’ |
| Perceived norm   | 1 = ‘not applicable’,... 7 = ‘fully applicable’ | a. I certainly get the impression that I should use DLMS in my classes regularly.  
b. People think I should use DLMS in my classes regularly.  
c. It is urged strongly that I should use DLMS in my classes regularly.  
d. I cannot refuse to use DLMS in my classes regularly. |
| ICT infrastructure | 1 = ‘not applicable’,... 7 = ‘fully applicable’ | a. There is a good ICT infrastructure (e.g., available PCs, Internet connections)  
b. There is a good range of educational software: programs and digital learning.  
c. Most teachers have sufficient knowledge and skills to use DLMS  
d. The school has a clear vision on the use of DLMS  
e. There is an ICT policy that is actually performed. |
| Trans-formational leadership: vision | 1 = ‘not applicable’,... 7 = ‘fully applicable’ | The leadership of my school  
a. uses all possible occasions to stipulate the vision of the school to the team, students and others.  
b. refers explicitly to school goals during decision-making processes  
c. clarifies for the team the relationship between the vision of school and various initiatives taken from the board, partnerships or national government  
d. describes in a clear manner, based on the schools’ vision the current problems  
e. outlines at meetings what the consequences are of the schools’ vision for the current ins and outs. |
| Trans-formational leadership: individual consideration | 1 = ‘not applicable’,... 7 = ‘fully applicable’ | The leadership of my school  
a. takes the views of individual teachers seriously  
b. shows appreciation when a teacher take the initiative for improving education.  
c. listens carefully to the ideas of team members.  
d. helps teachers to express their emotions  
e. has an eye and ear for problems experienced by teachers when introducing innovations |
| Trans-formational leadership: intellectual stimulus | 1 = ‘not applicable’,... 7 = ‘fully applicable’ | The leadership of my school  
a. helps teachers to express and clarify their personal ideas about teaching  
b. encourages teachers to try out new things in line with their interests  
c. helps teachers to reflect on new experiences that they acquire as a teacher  
d. encourages teachers to think about how to improve our institution / department  
e. encourages the search for and discussing of new information and ideas relevant to the development of the institution / program  
f. involves individual teachers in an ongoing debate about their personal professional goals  
g. encourages teachers to experiment with new teaching methods  
h. creates ample opportunities for teachers to develop professionally |

*regularly is defined as ‘a few times a week during the school year’
Table 3. Year of data gathering, number if items, means (M), standard deviation (SD)

Cronbachs’ Alpha (cursive) and correlations (n=544)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. tl vision</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>.95</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. tl individual consideration</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>1.42</td>
<td>.879 *</td>
<td>.95</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. tl intelectual stimulations</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>.627 *</td>
<td>.879 *</td>
<td>.95</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. ICT-infrastructure</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>.340 **</td>
<td>.334 **</td>
<td>.340 **</td>
<td>.84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Learning climate</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>.485 **</td>
<td>.458 **</td>
<td>.485 **</td>
<td>.325 **</td>
<td>.84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Attitude</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>.109 *</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>.109 *</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>.91</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. self-efficacy</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>-.093 *</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>-.093 *</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>.319 *</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Social pressure</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>-.166 **</td>
<td>-.095 *</td>
<td>-.166 **</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>.174 **</td>
<td>.220 **</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Intention</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>.113 **</td>
<td>.309 **</td>
<td>.383 **</td>
<td>.278 **</td>
<td>.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Behavior (use of DLMs in the past year)</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>.113 **</td>
<td>.115 **</td>
<td>.113 **</td>
<td>.144 **</td>
<td>.109 *</td>
<td>.259 **</td>
<td>.309 **</td>
<td>.233 **</td>
<td>.313 **</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 1: Conceptual model for the influence of leadership on teachers’ use of DLMs.
**Figure 2.** The influence of leadership on teachers’ use of DLMs, measured on three points in time (2011, 2012, 2013) in time (n=544).