

Exploring teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's law in relation to their PCK

A dissertation submitted by

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I, Jared Mitchell (29071675), declare that this master's dissertation entitled: "**Exploring teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's law in relation to their PCK**" which I hereby submit for the degree Magister Educationis is my own work, and has never been submitted at any other institution before. Where work from other sources has been used, it has been duly acknowledged.

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31 August 2021

DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to Mariska du Preez, who passed on the 4th of August 2021. This dissertation would not have been possible without you.

Requiescat In Pace

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To whom it may concern

This letter serves to inform you that I have done language editing, proofreading, and reference formatting on the master's thesis

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to understand how teachers' Pedagogical Content Knowledge (PCK) recorded through non-observational means is related to their interpretation of the South African curriculum in Faraday's law. Curriculum enactment by the teachers during the teaching of their lessons was used as an indication of their curriculum interpretation. Four Grade 11 teachers from schools in the Tshwane municipality were chosen through purposive and convenience sampling as participants for this study. The data reflecting teachers' PCK about Faraday's law (reported PCK) was captured with the use of Content Representations (CoRes) and pre-interviews. From the assumption that teachers' interpretation of the curriculum is reflected in their lesson presentations, data collected from lesson observations and post-interviews was compared to the information contained in the curriculum to determine how teachers' presentation of lessons on Faraday's law aligned to the curriculum, or deviated from it. The Topic-Specific Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TSPCK) model was used as the conceptual framework of this study that guided the characterisation of the teachers' reported PCK about Faraday's law in terms of five components, namely: *curricular saliency*, *what is difficult to teach*, *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions*, *representations*, and *conceptual teaching strategies*. Teachers were assigned a competency level based on their knowledge within each of these components using a rubric. The teachers' interpretations of the curriculum were then compared to their reported PCK. The analysis specifically looked at whether teachers presented their lessons in a similar way to the curriculum or adapted or extended it for promoting conceptual understanding, and whether this related to their level of competence in a particular component of PCK.

The results of this study showed that teachers' interpretation of the curriculum, in terms of what is stated in it and whether it requires extensions in order to aid conceptual understanding, was predominantly attributed to their level of competence within a particular component of PCK. Examples included adapting the sequencing of concepts in the curriculum and extending it by using representations that are not alluded to in it. However, there were also a few instances where teachers' interpretation of the curriculum did not align with their level of reported PCK about Faraday's law. Based on these findings, recommendations were made for the curriculum to be expanded to include information that would further inform teachers' PCK of Faraday's law as the teachers of this study mostly interpreted the curriculum at face value. Pre-service teacher training should also place emphasis on developing teachers' ability to interpret and analyse the curriculum in terms of the components of TSPCK so that they are able to recognise shortcomings which require adaptions or extensions in order to design conceptually effective lessons.

Key Words

Topic-Specific Pedagogical Content Knowledge; Reported PCK; Curriculum interpretation; Faraday's law; Content Representations

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This study focused on exploring teachers' interpretation of the South African Physical Sciences curriculum on Faraday's law in relation to their reported Pedagogical Content Knowledge (PCK). This study holds that teachers' enactment of the curriculum during lesson presentations is an indication of their interpretation of the curriculum. The motivation for this study came from the importance of Faraday's law as a topic which connects a number of other topics studied by learners from Grade 10 to 12 in the Physical Sciences curriculum in South Africa. Research has indicated that learners find Faraday's law and the topic of electromagnetic induction difficult (Román, 2012; Zuza, Almudí, Leniz, & Guisasola, 2014). These challenges may arise from the need for learners to integrate their knowledge of other concepts such as magnetic field, magnetic flux, electric field, electromotive force, and current (Chabay & Sherwood, 2006; Jelicic, Planinic, & Planinsic, 2017). The difficulty of this topic naturally calls for teachers to have the ability to transform its content into forms that are understandable to learners through effective instruction. Such an ability is integral to the teaching profession but especially important to the subject of Physical Sciences where many of the topics are seen as abstract and difficult.

1.2 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

According to the Minimum Requirements for Teacher Education Qualifications (MRTEQ) document of the Republic of South Africa (Department of Higher Education and Training [DHET], 2015, p. 9), teaching is described as follows:

Teaching is a complex activity that is premised upon the acquisition, integration and application of different types of knowledge practices or learning. A purely skills based approach, which relies almost exclusively on evidence of demonstrable outcomes as measures of success, without paying attention to how knowledge should underpin these skills for them to impact effectively on learning, will produce technicians who may be able to replicate performance in similar contexts, but who are severely challenged when the context changes.

One can easily be forgiven for thinking that both knowledge of content and knowledge of teaching have always been jointly regarded as necessary for teaching. The recognition in the quote above by the MRTEQ document that teacher competency lies neither in teacher knowledge nor skill alone is a recent stance which culminates from decades of debate regarding teacher knowledge.

This debate was brought to the forefront of educational research by the educational psychologist Lee Shulman. Shulman (1986) was acutely aware of the narrow view held by research and policy in the 1980s of what teaching was and the knowledge necessary for teachers to possess which allowed them to be effective teachers. He noted the sharp change in teacher standards which saw a shift in testing almost exclusively teacher subject matter knowledge, to that of testing for pedagogical knowledge and skill. Shulman referred to the absence of teacher subject matter knowledge in research and policy as the "missing paradigm" (1986, p. 6). This onesided view of teacher knowledge has permeated teacher education programmes resulting in training focused either on content knowledge or pedagogical knowledge (Mishra & Koehler, 2006). Shulman knew, however, that content and pedagogical knowledge were inextricably linked. He began to conceptualise this relationship as a knowledge base of teachers that was the amalgamation of content and pedagogical knowledge, which he termed pedagogical content knowledge (PCK). PCK is believed to be the knowledge that allows teachers to transform what the teacher knows (content knowledge) into what the learners should know through understandable ideas that lead to effective instruction (Shulman, 1986). The significance of such a knowledge base and the extent to which it is developed by teachers is especially important in the South African context and within the subject of Physical Sciences. It is well known that science is a difficult subject for learners worldwide (Thomas, 2013). South Africa is no exception as evidenced in the National Senior Certificate diagnostic reports which show a decline in learners' performance in the subject (Department of Basic Education [DoBE], 2019b; 2020).

1.3 CONTEXT: SCIENCE TEACHING IN SOUTH AFRICA

The DoBE regards Physical Sciences and Mathematics as gateway subjects that have the possibility to open up a number of study choices to learners after high school (2019a). The ability for these subjects to "open doors" is regularly quoted by stakeholders in education, however, this is seldom the reality of the majority of the learners in South African public schools. South Africa faces a crisis in terms of the number and quality of Physical Sciences learners that it is producing. The year 2019 saw a matric pass rate of 75% in Physical Sciences, a seemingly large improvement from the 58,6% in 2015 (Matangria, 2020). However these statistics provide little hope when viewed in context. The total number of candidates who sat to write the Physical Sciences exams in 2019 was the lowest recorded in the previous five years with 8000 fewer learners entered compared to 2018 (Head, 2020). The pass rate also does not reflect the reality that many Physical Sciences learners' scientific and mathematical literacy is inadequate as they are required to obtain at least 30% to pass the subject. Learners are unprepared and unable to compete in a globalised world in which the Fourth Industrial Revolution strongly demands knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts (Department of Science and Technology, 2018). This is evident from the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) used to benchmark the performance of learners in Mathematics and Science from an array of countries. The 2019 TIMSS found that Grade nine South African learners performed the poorest in science, placing them last out of 39 countries (Mullis, Martin, Foy, Kelly, & Fishbein, 2020). In South Africa in particular, the poor performance of learners in Physical Sciences has been linked to poorly trained science teachers that lack the requisite knowledge to teach (Centre for Development Enterprise, 2011). Factors such as unqualified and under-qualified teachers and outdated teaching practices have been identified as factors that have contributed towards this poor performance (Mji & Makgato, 2006). Kind (2009) believed that the lack of content knowledge and understanding of scientific principles by science teachers has the greatest negative impact on learner performance. According to Reddy et al. (2012), the TIMSS of 2011 indicated that only 53% of science learners in South Africa are taught by teachers that hold a degree. This is in contrast to the 90% of science learners internationally of the schools that participated in TIMMS 2011 who are taught by teachers with degrees (Reddy et al., 2012). South African science teachers who do not hold degrees will thus have less content knowledge than their international counterparts, impacting the extent to which they are able to teach the subject effectively.

In the report on the quantity and quality of South African teachers published by the Centre for Development Enterprise (2011), it was noted that South African teachers' subject matter knowledge falls well short of international norms and standards. A number of studies have found that a teacher's subject matter knowledge has a direct influence on their PCK and is thus considered a pre-requisite for PCK (Hartati, Permanasari, Sopandi, & Mudzakir, 2019; Neumann, Kind, & Harms, 2019; Ozden, 2008).

1.4 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Instead of promoting teachers as professionals, the government has unfortunately relied more on traditional approaches which rely heavily on 'experts' who design a curriculum that teachers are expected to implement. (Msibi & Mchunu, 2013, pp. 20-21)

The quote above refers to the South African government's perception of teachers as technicians rather than professionals. This view of teachers can be traced back to the Apartheid era during which teacher training sought to create docile and compliant teachers who would implement a curriculum that was not to be questioned or subverted (Kimathi & Rusznyak, 2018). Change was brought in 1994 as South Africa entered into its democratic era which was accompanied by a complete overhaul of the education system. Educational reform looking to address the deeply rooted inequalities created by the Apartheid education system presented itself in the form of the development and implementation of four different curricula in the span of 15 years since 1997. Teachers play an integral part in the process of reformation but their role in curriculum development and implementation can often be overlooked or purposefully undermined. This is evident in South Africa which has seen the slow erosion of the status of teachers from professionals to that of lay technicians. Msibi and Mchunu (2013) were of the view that in the government's efforts to reform the South African education system from that of the Apartheid era to post 1994, it set its focus on reforming the curriculum while losing sight of its teachers and their poor levels of competency. Curriculum 2005 which sought to address the inequalities of the Apartheid era required that teachers learn new teaching methods but overlooked their capabilities. The following curriculum named The Revised National Curriculum Statement (RNCS) introduced in 2004 had even higher expectations of teachers which once again did not match their capabilities. The RNCS placed emphasis on teacher training and curriculum implementation, viewing teachers as designers of their own learning programmes for their learners and not simply as implementers of a curriculum plan (Green, 2007). This is in line with the Norms and Standards for Educators designed eight years prior to the NCS's implementation. The Norms and Standards for Educators (DoBE, 2000, p. 13) stated one of the seven roles of teachers as that of an interpreter of the curriculum as follows:

[An] educator will understand and interpret provided learning programmes, design original learning programmes, identify the requirements for a specific context of learning and select and prepare suitable textual and visual resources for learning. The educator will also select, sequence and pace the learning in a manner sensitive to the differing needs of the subject/learning area and learners.

Mbatha (2016) stressed this role, noting that any curriculum is at the mercy of a teacher who will interpret it in the class. However, it was not long until South Africa was again faced with implementing a new curriculum in 2012 named the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS). CAPS has been described by researchers as being "teacher-proof" (Msibi & Mchunu, 2013, p. 19). Teachers' inputs, creativity, and autonomy in interpreting and implementing have been largely limited, with their role being reduced to implementers of a curriculum that has been designed by experts (Msibi & Mchunu, 2013). Msibi and Mchunu (2013) are of the view that in order for teachers to cope with the changes in the curriculum and be able to implement it, the lack of teacher professionalism needs to be addressed. Their conception of teacher professionalism is associated with, among other things, the ability to implement a curriculum which requires a specialised knowledge base unique to the teaching profession.

The perceived role of teachers as lay-technicians who merely transfer knowledge as opposed to professionals with specialised knowledge is often linked to society's view as to the professional status of the occupation. This was well understood by Shulman (1987) whose efforts to elevate teaching to that of a respected and professional occupation led him to describing knowledge bases of teaching that could be used as standards for the evaluation of the teaching profession. Of these knowledge bases, PCK is the most significant as it acknowledges the relationship between both content and pedagogical knowledge. The Norms and Standards for Educators (DoBE, 2000,

p. 17) which continues to govern the roles of teachers recognises the importance of PCK in a teacher's ability to interpret a curriculum, stating that teachers need to understand "the learning area to be taught, including appropriate content knowledge, pedagogic content knowledge, and how to integrate this knowledge with other subjects".

What is not yet well understood is how a teacher's reported PCK is related to their interpretation of the expectations of the curriculum in order to plan and execute effective lessons. The successful implementation of a curriculum requires that teachers have the ability to interpret a curriculum and its expectations into teaching that will fulfil these expectations (Kabombwe, 2019). Curriculum interpretation includes the capacity to identify whether or not there are shortcomings in the curriculum that require extensions or adaptions of it. Curriculum interpretation is central to the current study which sought to understand teachers' enactment of the curriculum on Faraday's law and how it is related to their reported PCK. Faraday's law is part of the topic of electromagnetism in the South African Physical Sciences curriculum.

1.5 RATIONALE OF THE STUDY

Researchers have reported that the topic of electromagnetism is regarded as difficult for learners (Constantinou, Papaevripidou, Lividjis, Scholinaki, & Hadjilouca, 2010; Sağlam & Millar, 2006) and is seen as particularly problematic for Grade 12 learners in SA. A look at the performance of a random sample of learners during the National Senior Certificate exams over the last four years for the question covering Electrodynamics (recorded in the DBE's Diagnostic Reports), shows an overall poor performance in the topic with learners achieving an average below 50 %. This is much lower than that of the questions relating to difficult topics such as Newton's Laws and Vertical Projectile Motion whose averages were close to 60% (DoBE, 2015; 2016; 2017). The 2015 Diagnostic Report suggested that this poor performance may stem from learners having difficulties in interpreting Faraday's law which is an integral part of electromagnetism. Faraday's law includes new concepts such as magnetic flux which can prove challenging for learners to grasp. The role of effective teaching in leading learners to attaining sound conceptual understanding of Faraday's law cannot be overstated. The process of teaching usually begins with the teacher first

determining what learners are expected to know and be able to do regarding a particular topic. These expectations are stated in the curriculum (CAPS document) as set by the DBE. Although the curriculum prescribes the knowledge and skills that learners are expected to have, as well as providing guidance to teachers as to what practical activities should be performed to aid learner understanding, it in no way is a definitive guide as to how to teach the content. This requires teachers to interpret the expectations of the curriculum using their specialised knowledge of, among others, how to represent concepts, the prior knowledge that learners have, and the ordering of topics and concepts for conceptual understanding. This specialised knowledge is included in PCK.

The word 'curriculum' has a range of meanings which emanate from the transformation and changes that occur as it is being implemented at different levels (Carl, 2012). It usually refers to the planned curriculum that presents itself in the form of a policy document set by departments of education (Murphy & Pushor, 2010). This document requires teachers to interpret and translate the curriculum into a plan of instruction that includes learning experiences that are appropriate for their learners. What is actually taught in the classroom and the skills and knowledge displayed by the teacher in the class comprise the operational or enacted curriculum. Meaningful implementation of the planned curriculum only occurs through the interpretation of the teacher (Ross, 2017). In a PCK study conducted by Coetzee (2018), it was found that pre-service Physical Sciences teachers did not recognise the importance of magnetic flux in the topic of Faraday's law. The curriculum introduces this concept under the heading of Faraday's law and not explicitly as a sub-topic. Only after they were encouraged to think about the importance of magnetic flux, did they realise that it can be explained before introducing Faraday's law. This thus leads to questions such as: How do teachers interpret the curriculum on Faraday's law, and how is this interpretation influenced by the PCK that they possess in that particular topic?

1.6 AIM OF THE STUDY

This study sought to explore teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's law in relation to their reported PCK. Curriculum enactment during the presentation of lessons was taken as an indication of the teachers' interpretation of the curriculum which was further corroborated by data collected from post-interviews. Teachers are required to apply their PCK during the interpretation of the curriculum in order to design lessons that lead to effective teaching. The aim of this study was to understand how teachers' interpretation of the curriculum in Faraday's law is related to their reported PCK. This study was guided by the following research questions.

1.7 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Primary Research Question:

How can selected teachers' enactment of the curriculum on Faraday's law be understood in relation to their reported PCK?

Secondary Research Questions:

- 1. How can the curriculum on Faraday's law be characterised in terms of the topicspecific PCK components?
- 2. How can selected teachers' reported PCK about Faraday's law be characterised?
- 3. How do the teachers' presentation of lessons on Faraday's law align to the curriculum, or deviate from it?

1.8 CONCEPT CLARIFICATION

- **Pedagogical Content Knowledge**: This term refers to the amalgamation of content knowledge and pedagogical knowledge that allows a teacher to transform content into effective instruction.
- **Topic-Specific Pedagogical Content Knowledge**: This term refers to the PCK held by a teacher in a particular topic and is divided into five components: c*urricular saliency*, *what is difficult to teach*, *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions*, and *conceptual teaching strategies*.
- **Reported PCK**: The PCK captured outside of the classroom through nonobservational data collection techniques which include verbal and written means using data collection tools such as CoRes and pre-interviews.

 Curriculum interpretation: The process during which a teacher unpacks the curriculum for the planning or delivery of lessons on a particular topic. Enactment of the curriculum during lesson presentations is an indication of curriculum interpretation.

1.9 SUMMARY

This chapter has presented a justification for the undertaking of this study and the research questions that have guided it. The importance of understanding teachers' interpretation of the curriculum in terms of their reported PCK within the South African context has been clearly delineated. Furthermore, an argument was presented for the reason behind the focus for studying teachers' interpretation of the curriculum specifically within Faraday's law in Physical Sciences.

The chapters that follow provide a review of the literature on the topic of Electromagnetism and Faraday's law as well as the conceptual framework of this study. The research paradigm and research methodology that guided this study are discussed, after which an analysis of the data collected is presented. Finally, with limitations of the study and recommendations for future research and practice conclude the study.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter explores the literature on the topic of Electromagnetism and factors that may lead to it being considered a difficult concept for teaching and learning. The construct of PCK as a form of teacher knowledge is discussed with Mavhunga and Rollnick's (2013) Topic-Specific PCK (TSPCK) Model introduced as the conceptual framework of this study. In addition, the role of the teacher as a curriculum interpreter, and by extension, the influence that teachers have on ensuring effective teaching takes place is reviewed. Lastly, tools that were developed by researchers to capture and assess PCK and their employment in this study are discussed.

2.2 DIFFICULTIES IN UNDERSTANDING ELECTROMAGNETISM

Electromagnetic induction and Faraday's law have been shown by researchers to be poorly understood by learners (Coetzee, 2018; Guisasola, Almudí, & Zubimendi, 2004; Hekkenberg, Lemmer, & Dekkers, 2015; Sağlam & Millar, 2006; Zuza et al., 2014). Researchers have found that difficulties in understanding concepts related to these topics persist long after learners have been introduced to them with studies indicating that both the teaching and learning of Faraday's law are problematic (Zuza et al., 2014). In studying the PCK of pre-service Physical Sciences teachers in the topic of Electromagnetism, Coetzee (2018) found that pre-service teachers did not consider magnetic flux as an important idea in understanding the electromotive force described by Faraday's law. As a result, the pre-service teachers did not teach magnetic flux before introducing Faraday's law. Such sequencing could further contribute to the poor understanding learners have of Faraday's law.

Faraday's law is central to understanding the relationship between electricity and magnetism and thus electromagnetic induction. The law relies on the concept of magnetic flux which is a difficult concept for learners to grasp as it is new to learners and is often confused as being the magnetic field itself (Jelicic et al., 2017; Zuza et al.,

2014), a simpler concept developed earlier on by learners. Difficulties in understanding the nature of magnetic flux and the failure by learners to realise the change in magnetic flux as a cause of electromagnetic induction has resulted in learners using Faraday's law with insufficient understanding (Jelicic et al., 2017). This was also reported in research conducted by Maloney, O'Kuma, Hieggelke, and van Heuvelen (2001) which showed that learners failed to identify the dependence of electromotive force (emf) on the *rate of change* of factors such as magnetic flux or electric current. Further difficulties with the concept of magnetic flux were found in a study conducted by Albe, Venturini, and Lascours (2001). Their study found that pre-service science teachers were unable to correctly define magnetic flux, providing definitions that included only certain elements of the correct definition while the majority of Physical Science undergraduates were unable to define the concept or use its equation in simple problem situations. This poor understanding of magnetic flux by science students will impact the way in which the topic of Faraday's law is taught by those who choose to become teachers. Electromagnetic induction and magnetic flux are also considered difficult among learners since these concepts cannot be seen directly and are not phenomena learners are aware of in their everyday lives as opposed to concepts in mechanics such as forces (Jelicic et al., 2017). The topic of Electromagnetism is introduced to learners for the first time in Grade 11. Because they have not dealt with magnetic flux before this topic, learners are unfamiliar with the concept and the accompanying language that is used to describe it. This must be kept in mind when teaching the topic of Faraday's law since learners have no experience with many of the concepts that it involves. It is therefore pertinent for teachers to have knowledge of a variety of teaching strategies as well as representations to explain such a topic to learners.

Zuza et al. (2014) explained that traditionally, teaching of the underlying concepts in Electromagnetism (such as Faraday's law and magnetic flux) are not done in a manner that allow for conceptual understanding. Rather, the majority of the time is spent teaching strategies that promote algorithms for the solving of exercises. Gaigher, Rogan, and Braun (2007) attribute this form of problem-solving of typical textbook questions in South African schools to conditions created by poorly trained teachers, teacher-centred classes and rote learning, stating that "in such conditions, physics problem‐solving is likely to be reduced to algebraic solutions, with little, if any,

emphasis on conceptual understanding." Research conducted by Bagno, Eylon, and Ganiel (2000) also found that learners tend to memorise mathematical relationships without developing a conceptual understanding. Faraday's law, which is used as a mathematical tool for the determination of the electromotive force, is susceptible to this kind of learning without conceptual understanding. A focus on solving problems involving Faraday's law may be ascribed to teachers' reliance on using learners' ability to solve mathematical problems as an indicator of understanding. Much emphasis is placed on the equation of Faraday's law and teaching learners how to substitute values with little time being devoted to teaching for conceptual understanding. Factors such as teachers' lack of content knowledge or poor understanding of these concepts must also be considered as contributing towards inadequate teaching strategies (Kind, 2009).

Much of the research conducted on electromagnetism has focused on the conceptions and understanding held specifically by university students, with limited research focused on the understanding held by high school students. Sağlam and Millar (2006) raised the concern for this lack of research since Electromagnetism is an important topic in the physics syllabus of many countries and is one that is considered difficult by many learners. This lack of research may be as a result of research focusing on the underlying concepts of electricity and magnetism and learner difficulties within these topics instead, as electromagnetic induction requires learners to integrate their knowledge about these two concepts (Jelicic et al., 2017; Zuza et al., 2014). Research conducted by Zuza et al. (2014) on comprehension difficulties among high school learners regarding electromagnetic induction corresponds with this notion. Some of the learning difficulties identified by Zuza et al. centre on the following: (a) learners are unable to distinguish between the empirical level (voltmeter and ammeter measurements) and the interpretive levels that use concepts such as electric and magnetic fields; (b) learners believe that a magnetic field produces an electromotive force; and (c) magnetic flux is understood by learners to be flowing from the magnetic field itself or is the magnetic field itself. Jelicic et al. (2017) believed that electromagnetic induction may be the most difficult topic in the domain of electricity and magnetism.

The research studies discussed above stressed the need for teachers to be aware of learners' prior knowledge and conceptions relating to certain topics and to know when revision of important concepts is necessary. This is particularly important in the South African context in which the topics of Electricity and Magnetism are introduced in Grade 10, whereas Electromagnetic Induction is discussed the following year in Grade 11. Sağlam and Millar (2006) suggested that teaching strategies be developed that help learners integrate the concepts of electromagnetic induction in a more coherent way. This is particularly important in electromagnetism, following that research has found it to be a difficult topic for learners to understand (Jelicic et al., 2017). Such strategies must assist learners in being able to visualise magnetic field patterns and their effects. Zuza et al. (2014) developed a teaching sequence for university students that would elicit and resolve difficulties held by students in Faraday's law. This teaching sequence was based on research that showed students needed guidance in understanding that Faraday's law focuses on two phenomena, the time variation of a magnetic field and the movement of a conductor through a magnetic field, or a combination of both. Both of these phenomena require students to have an understanding of magnetic flux. Such a teaching strategy at high school level could greatly assist in learners' understanding of Faraday's law where they are first introduced to it.

A starting point for the development of a teaching sequence for electromagnetic induction in high school may come from the research conducted by Román (2012) in which an historical approach is taken. Due to the abstractness of the topic of electromagnetism, Román (2012) advocated for a teaching sequence that incorporates relevant history perspectives related to developments in electromagnetism which also emphasise the influence of Faraday's law and its impact in today's society. The inclusion of historical elements in the teaching of science allows for thematical contents to be presented to learners with a more logical perspective. This is achieved by introducing students to landmark discoveries such as Oersted's compass that led to later developments. This provides a more realistic view of scientific knowledge production that avoids conceptual learning difficulties in particular topics.

The difficulties encountered by learners in the topic of Electromagnetism draw attention not only to the necessity for teachers to have the relevant content knowledge

regarding this topic, but also the knowledge they should have in order to transform the content into that which learners can easily understand. The following section discusses a conception of this form of knowledge and its significance in promoting effective teaching.

2.3 PEDAGOGICAL CONTENT KNOWLEDGE

Teachers' knowledge of learner misconceptions has long been speculated to play a vital role in student learning and achievement. Sadler and Sonnert (2016) were of the opinion that learning entails both the unlearning of old ideas as much as the learning of new ones. For teachers to address the old ideas that often appear as misconceptions, they firstly need to be able to identify those held by their students. Sadler and Sonnert (2016) suggested that the ability of teachers to identify student misconceptions is a manifestation of PCK, a specialised form of professional knowledge conceived by Shulman (1986) that allows teachers to transform content into understandable instruction.

In an endeavour to improve the status of teaching and raise it to the level of a respected profession, Shulman (1987) sought to identify knowledge bases for teaching which were viewed as the aggregated knowledge, skill, and understanding of teachers. Shulman began to develop a theory to describe teacher knowledge and the domains or bases that constituted this knowledge. This would provide answers to the relationship that exists between content and pedagogical knowledge, how the domains that constitute this knowledge are represented in the minds of teachers, and how this knowledge acquisition can be enhanced. A growing belief by researchers in the 1980s in the United States was already beginning to form that there exists a knowledge base for teaching (Shulman, 1987). This was implicit in comments that high-quality teaching required sophisticated and professional knowledge (Ball, Thames, & Phelps, 2008). A knowledge base provided a means by which to quantify the knowledge held by teachers and thus could form the standards by which teacher performance could be measured. Identifying these knowledge bases would assist in elevating the professionalisation of teaching and inform teacher education. Reports at the time, however, failed to identify any characteristics of this knowledge base, leading Shulman (1986) to address this gap.

Seven typologies of professional knowledge were proposed by Shulman (1987) which underlie teacher understanding that promote learner comprehension. The first three categories of *Content knowledge*, *Curriculum knowledge* and *Pedagogical content knowledge* are content related, while the last four categories refer to *General pedagogical knowledge, Knowledge of learners and their characteristics, Knowledge of educational contexts*, and *Knowledge of educational purposes* (van Driel, Verloop, & de Vos, 1998). These seven categories were used to highlight the importance of content knowledge in the larger landscape of professional knowledge. However, Shulman did not seek to diminish the importance of pedagogical knowledge but rather to stress its interdependence with content knowledge, arguing that "mere content knowledge is likely to be as useless pedagogically as content-free skill" (Shulman, 1986, p. 8). Of particular importance, and also arguably the most important knowledge base of teachers, is the category of PCK. Shulman stated that:

The key to distinguishing the knowledge base of teaching lies at the intersection of content and pedagogy, in the capacity of a teacher to transform content knowledge he or she possesses into forms that are pedagogically powerful and yet adaptive to the variations in ability and background represented by the students. (1987, p. 15)

Shulman described PCK as the amalgamation of subject matter knowledge and pedagogical knowledge resulting in subject matter *for teaching* and encompassed:

the most useful forms of representation of [content], the most powerful analogies, illustrations, examples, explanations and demonstrations … the ways of representing and formulating subject matter that make it comprehensible to others. (1986, p. 9)

Lee and Luft (2008) were of the view that PCK is the knowledge that sets the scientist, who knows content, apart from the science teacher who knows content as well as how to teach it. This knowledge base contains knowledge of what topics are easy or difficult for learners, the conceptions and misconceptions that learners have of a particular topic as well as the background they bring with them to the learning of these topics. These can be considered as categories of knowledge that form PCK and are applied "synergistically to problems of teaching practice" (Abell, 2008, p. 1407).

Loughran, Berry, and Mulhall (2012) described PCK not just as the amalgamation of content and pedagogy, but as the interaction and shaping of each other. Thus, content that is taught is constructed in a manner that makes it comprehensible to learners by the way in which it has been organised, planned, analysed, and presented. PCK in science education has been of particular interest to researchers as it is a subject commonly regarded as difficult due to the number of abstract concepts that it deals with (Hlabane, 2016). It is for this reason that attention will be paid to the role of PCK in a science education, and in particular, PCK within the topic of Faraday's law.

2.4 TAXONOMIES OF PCK

Pedagogical Content Knowledge quickly became an accepted concept in the education community as a way of describing the professional knowledge of teachers after it was first introduced by Shulman in 1986. Veal and Makinster (1999), however, recognised that there was a lack of models that addressed the role of PCK in teacher professional development specifically within science education. This led them to designing a taxonomy that categorised the different types of PCK used in science education. Their General Taxonomy of PCK addressed the differences between and within various knowledge bases and the hierarchical process by which teachers obtain this knowledge. Veal and Makinster (1999) described the first level of PCK as *General PCK*. This level indicates the pedagogical knowledge such as concepts and strategies that are employed within the teaching of a specific discipline such as that of Mathematics, Science, or Art. Strategies employed in the teaching of science include discovery, inquiry, and project-based science and can be seen to represent a "general way of conceptualising science teaching" (Magnusson, Krajcik, & Borko, 1999, p. 5). Although such strategies could be employed in other subjects, their purpose, process, and content are unique to science, highlighting that pedagogy is discipline specific.

The second level is Domain-Specific PCK which distinguishes between domains within a discipline and therefore is more specified. Chemistry and Physics are seen as distinctive domains with their own characteristic PCK. Evidence of this particular form of PCK can be seen in the fact that although laboratory work may be conducted in both Chemistry and Physics, their purposes and tools are specific to their subject matter or domain.

The final level of PCK is Topic-Specific PCK (TSPCK). Veal and Makinster (1999) described this as the most novel level of PCK. According to Nezvalová (2011), a

teacher who has knowledge on this level should be competent in the previous levels, having a wide repertoire of skills and abilities in general and domain-specific PCK. The basis for this level stems from the idea that topics or concepts within a domain have their own unique teaching styles and approaches to teaching them even if they are topics that appear in more than one domain. A Chemistry teacher's approach to gas behaviour would be from a different perspective to that of a Physics teacher. The existence of TSPCK is supported by a number of researchers (Geddis, Onslow, Benyon, & Oesch, 1993; Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013; Veal & Makinster, 1999). Since TSPCK is associated with the teaching of particular topics such as Electromagnetism or Forces, this category of PCK is most relevant to this study and will form the foundation for the theoretical framework by which it is underpinned.

2.5 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

It was evident to Loughran, Mulhall, and Berry (2004) that a gap existed in research as to examples of TSPCK which could be used to illuminate important aspects of teachers' professional knowledge. The need for such examples of PCK on a particular topic in science stems from its ability to be analysed and dissected so that teacher knowledge can be articulated. These articulations and descriptions could serve as a blueprint for teaching by acting as a guide on the knowledge deemed necessary for pre-service teachers to attain during their training that would lead to them becoming effective teachers. This idea is supported by Mavhunga and Rollnick (2013) who explained that teachers should not only learn how to teach (obtain pedagogical knowledge) but also how to teach specific topics such as Electricity or Stoichiometry. Although the idea of PCK being topic specific was generally accepted among researchers, Mavhunga and Rollnick (2013) looked closer at the relationship between TSPCK and the transformation of content within a particular topic.

Shulman (1987, p. 16) argued that: "comprehended ideas must be transformed in some manner if they are to be taught". Geddis et al. (1993) elaborated on this, further pointing out that teachers need to develop the awareness that teaching requires the transformation of content (topic) knowledge, asserting that once this awareness is in place, the need for articulating the knowledge necessary for this transformation becomes important. Geddis et al. (1993 cited in Hume, Cooper, and Borowski, 2019,

p. 132) referred to this knowledge as a "multitude of particular things" that enhances the teachability of a specific content area. These 'things' were identified as: (i) *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions*; (ii) *curricular saliency*; (iii) *what is difficult to teach*; (iv) *representations*; and (v) *conceptual teaching strategies*.

These arguments have been accepted as evidence for the topic-specific nature of PCK and laid the foundation for the TSPCK model (Figure 2.1) developed by Mavhunga and Rollnick (2013). This model distinguishes between PCK and TSPCK. Drawing from previous research, Rollnick, Bennett, Rhemtula, Dharsey, and Ndlovu (2008) identified four fundamental domains of teacher knowledge which teachers draw from to inform their general PCK. These domains seen in Figure 2.1 are: *knowledge of context*; *knowledge of students*; *subject matter (content) knowledge*; and *pedagogical knowledge*. These domains are seen as forming a generic type of PCK at discipline level and are believed to be influenced by teachers' beliefs toward the teaching of science (Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013). The domains of *knowledge of students* and *pedagogical knowledge* are acknowledged as having a possible influence on TSPCK due to their similarity with two of its domains, *student's prior knowledge*, and *conceptual teaching strategies* (Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013).

TSPCK is differentiated from discipline PCK by the transformation of content knowledge through five content-specific components (Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013). Mavhunga and Rollnick (2013) contended that when a particular element of content knowledge (K) in a topic is reasoned through these five Topic-Specific components, understanding is generated for teaching that particular topic (K).

Figure 2.1: A model for Topic-Specific PCK (Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013)

This transformation can be seen on the right-hand side of Figure 2.1. These five knowledge components are the "multitude of particular things" that were identified by Geddis et al. (1993, p. 676).

Similar components were identified by Ball et al. (2008) in Mathematics education which they refer to as Specialised Content Knowledge or SCK. The construct of SCK indicates the types of knowledge through which content knowledge should be filtered and transformed for teaching. SCK includes knowledge of learner prior conceptions, what is difficult to teach or understand, and strategies for teaching. Mavhunga and Rollnick (2013) drew attention to the fact that the quality of a teacher's TSPCK is found not only in their conceptual understanding of the five components, but also in their ability to identify the interactions between the various components.

2.6 COMPONENTS OF TOPIC-SPECIFIC PCK

A discussion of the five components of TSPCK is provided, clarifying the knowledge considered to be contained in each component. The order in which the components are discussed differs from that of the TSPCK model. As this study focuses on curriculum interpretation, the component of *curricular saliency* is discussed first. This component provides an overview of the curriculum in terms of a teachers' understanding of important ideas of a particular topic in the curriculum, the sequencing of these ideas, and their interrelatedness.
2.6.1 Curricular Saliency

Curricular saliency encompasses different aspects of knowledge relating to a topic which includes: (i) the structure of a topic and the key ideas constituting it; (ii) the relative position of the topic within the broader curriculum; and (iii) knowledge of how to sequence key ideas for their effective comprehension (Rollnick et al., 2008).

This component highlights teachers' ability to discern important concepts that learners need to understand as well as determine the depth of content (Shing, Saat, & Loke, 2015).

2.6.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

This component comprises teacher knowledge regarding gate-keeping concepts in a topic that may be difficult to teach or understood by learners. This requires teachers to know why certain concepts are difficult to teach or for learners to understand, and be conscious of these reasons when teaching them (Grossman, 1990).

2.6.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Khourey-Bowers and Fenk (2009, pp. 437-438) asserted that knowledge of students' difficulties and effective teaching strategies are just as crucial as content knowledge in ensuring quality teaching, emphasising that:

Teachers with broad and deep … subject specific knowledge, awareness of common alternative conceptions and … scientific models can provide rich learning opportunities for their students.

Sadler and Sonnert (2016) were of the opinion that learning entails both the unlearning of old ideas as much as the learning of new ones. For teachers to address the old ideas that often appear as misconceptions, they firstly need to be able to identify those held by their students. Sadler and Sonnert (2016) suggested that the ability of teachers to identify student misconceptions is a manifestation of PCK (Shulman, 1986).

The component of *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions* specifically refers to a teacher's awareness of the knowledge from previous lessons that learners bring with them to the learning of a new topic or concept. This may include the knowledge that they acquire experientially and impulsively through everyday experiences (Rusznyak & Walton, 2011). This knowledge includes leaners' pre-conceptions or misconceptions that influence the manner in which the learners interact with the new concept they are being taught.

2.6.4 Representations

Representations refers to knowledge of an array of methods used to represent content knowledge such as practical demonstrations, diagrams, analogies, and examples. Shulman (1986, p. 9) asserted that teachers "must have at hand a veritable armamentarium of alternative forms of representations, some of which derive from research whereas others originate from the wisdom of practice". In the teaching of physics, these representations may take the form of laboratory work, demonstrations, models, charts, diagrams, and scientific or mathematical equations (Akinyemi, 2016).

2.6.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

This component draws on the previous four components of TSPCK (Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013) and refers to teachers' knowledge of a variety of effective instructional strategies for the teaching of particular concepts or topics. Knowledge of teaching strategies alone is not adequate for ensuring learner understanding, but "informed and thoughtful use in appropriate ways at appropriate times can influence student thinking and may well promote better understanding of science ideas" (Loughran et al., 2004, p. 18). Teachers with well-developed knowledge of this component for a particular topic will demonstrate an understanding of activities, discussions, questions, and representations that should be employed for the purposes of achieving conceptual understanding by learners (Mazibe, Coetzee, & Gaigher, 2018).

2.7 CAPTURING PCK

It has been observed that although a teacher may be able to teach a particular topic well, they are not always able to explain the reasoning behind the planning and execution of their lessons (Loughran et al., 2004). This could be due to a pragmatic approach when preparing lessons which does not expect of teachers to explain the reasoning behind their planning or the PCK employed to prepare their lessons (Kind, 2009). Capturing teacher PCK has thus proven to be difficult for many researchers. Teaching is a complex task with various forms of knowledge that are woven together for the culmination of a lesson. The ability of teachers to articulate the link between their knowledge and practice is often underdeveloped as a result of demands such as time, curricula, and learner performance (Loughran et al., 2004). Teachers' knowledge is thus elusive and tacit with no structure or language to adequately articulate it (Hume, 2010; Loughran et al., 2004; Pitjeng-Mosabala & Rollnick, 2018). PCK is also an internal construct (Baxter & Lederman, 2002) making it difficult for researchers to recognise and capture. The tacit nature of PCK posed a challenge to researchers as it would be little more than a theoretical construct if there was no way in which to concretely capture and portray it. Loughran et al. (2004) developed a tool to capture and portray PCK through research which had a group of experienced teachers discuss what they perceived as being the main ideas or concepts of a particular content area. A set of framing questions or prompts were created which would elucidate how they would go about helping their students to understand these ideas. From these findings, Loughran et al. (2004) developed a tool that they believed was capable of capturing, documenting, and portraying PCK which they named the Content Representation (CoRe) tool. This tool was developed based on a common belief among researchers that teacher PCK forms part of, and is visible in a teacher's approach to teaching a particular topic.

The CoRe tool developed by Loughran et al. (2004) contains eight questions known as prompts in a tabular format which probe various aspects of teacher knowledge related to a topic (see Table 2.1). This knowledge is regarded as reflecting the PCK held by the teacher. By codifying and categorising teacher knowledge within a topic, the CoRe is able to identify important aspects of the content that a teacher recognises and responds to in their teaching. The CoRe requires teachers to begin by first identifying important or key ideas related to a topic. This sheds light on the way in which teachers frame a particular topic and the ideas that teachers believe are valuable in helping learners to understand it.

Table 2.1: The CoRe template

Source: Loughran et al. (2004)

The CoRe provides a means by which to capture TSPCK as opposed to general PCK (Lee & Luft, 2008). Loughran et al. (2004) asserted that no one CoRe is correct but that a variety of CoRes based on a particular topic are possible as different teachers conceptualise content in different but valid ways. This tool has been used by a number of researchers to capture PCK within specific science topics such as Chemical Equilibrium (Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013), Amount of Substance (Padilla, Ponce‐de‐ León, Rembado, & Garritz, 2008) and Graphs of Motion (Mazibe et al., 2018). The CoRe is regarded by Kind (2009) as being one the most useful techniques for eliciting and capturing teacher PCK. The CoRe has been used as one of the data collection tools for this study.

2.8 INTERPRETING THE CURRICULUM

Although teachers work within the framework of the same curriculum, they do not all implement the curriculum in the same way (Songer & Gotwals, 2005). There has been a growing trend of studies that investigates teachers' use and implementation of curricula (Bümen, Çakar, & Göğebakan-Yildiz, 2014; Remillard, 2005). Curriculum fidelity is one such focus which has sought to measure "how well a [curriculum] program is being implemented in comparison with the original program design" (Mihalic, 2002, p. 2). Teachers' knowledge in their field (referred to as subject-matter knowledge) (Carlsen, 1993; Roehrig & Kruse, 2005) and their pedagogical skill (Adams & Krockover, 1997; Shulman, 1987) influence their implementation of a curriculum. Remillard (2005) noted that many researchers are of the view that teachers are active interpreters of the curriculum resulting in different implementations in their own classrooms. Various factors such as the extent to which teachers regard the curriculum as a fixed representation of the enacted curriculum or whether interpretation of the concepts to be taught are needed influence the implementation of a curriculum. It is thus important to understand the purpose of a curriculum and what it serves to provide so as to understand why its contents are interpreted in different ways and the factors that influence these interpretations.

The process of instructional practice begins not with the designing of a lesson but with interpreting the expectations of the curriculum. The curriculum, often taking the form of a document, sets out the knowledge and skills learners are to acquire and can be seen as a blueprint for what is to be taught and learnt. But just like a blueprint for a house does not describe how each and every brick should be laid or what should be used to put them together, a curriculum does not provide a step-by-step guide to achieving learner understanding. If such a curriculum were to do so, this would undisputedly undermine the role of the teacher and their assumed ability to design effective lessons that are attuned to the context in which they teach and the unique learners whose tuition they are responsible for. This is often the case in "teacher-proof" curricula where teachers' ability to think through the complexities of the teaching and learning process is limited (Curtis & Carter, 2008). Therefore, implicit in the role of a teacher is their ability to interpret the expectations of the curriculum as well as

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determine the most appropriate and effective way of achieving these expectations. Du Plessis supported this idea, noting the following:

[It is] during the implementation process [of the curriculum] that empowered teachers have to apply the appropriate curriculum skills … to ensure the correct interpretation and coverage of policy. (2005, p. 98)

During the planning phase of instructional practice, teachers interpret the curriculum by "critiquing and adapting existing curriculum materials to contextualise lessons and compensate for their deficiencies" (Beyer & Davis, 2012, p. 1) which arise as a result of curriculum material being designed for a wide audience and general contexts. This is particularly true for CAPS which is the curriculum used in all public schools throughout South Africa and thus is employed in a diverse range of schools. The need to use curriculum material in a flexible way that allows for teachers to adapt it to the needs, interests, and experiences of their own classrooms is important (Beyer & Davis, 2012). Teachers read and interpret curriculum materials in a discerning way, making use of their knowledge of students, pedagogy, and content, to identify strengths and weaknesses in the materials which determines how it will be used and adapted for instruction (Beyer & Davis, 2012). Ben-Peretz, Katz, and Silberstein (1982) referred to criteria employed by teachers to interpret the curriculum:

Teachers need a rich repertoire of criteria for interpreting curriculum materials and revealing the possible educational opportunities embodied in them. A more refined and differentiated mode of teacher-thinking about curriculum could lead to a better grasp of the richness and complexity of the educational opportunities offered by curriculum materials. Metaphorically speaking, one may view the set of criteria teachers use for discerning characteristics of curriculum materials as a set of goggles. (p. 47)

This set of goggles can be understood as knowledge possessed by the teacher through which the curriculum is analysed and interpreted. Some of the categories used by Ben-Peretz et al. (1982) to classify the criteria according to which teachers interpreted a curriculum are: content; teaching strategy; level of difficulty; cognitive demand; and class management. The connection between curriculum interpretation and teacher knowledge is clear in Ross's statement:

Teachers learn the curriculum requirements, apply pedagogical content knowledge, and plan meaningful activities for students during the implementation of a curriculum that they are simultaneously teaching and learning about. (2017, p. 3)

Pedagogical content knowledge forms part of a variety of resources that a teacher employs in the process of designing a lesson, shaping their instruction (Beyer & Davis, 2012).

This study holds that a teacher's interpretation of the curriculum is evident in their enactment of it during their teaching

The impact that teachers' PCK has on curriculum interpretation was observed in research conducted by Chen and Wei (2015) who studied discrepancies between the intended and enacted curriculum across three levels. These levels were teaching strategies, teaching objectives, and teaching activities. Seven distinct factors that led to these discrepancies were identified, one of which was PCK. Pedagogical content knowledge was found to have the largest influence across all three levels with its influence being observed in all six participants in terms of their teaching strategies which differed from teaching strategies suggested in curriculum materials used by the teachers.

Veal and Makinster (1999) have pointed out that PCK has a domain specific nature. Although the study conducted by Chen and Wei (2015) observed discrepancies between the intended and enacted curriculum, their study looked at chemistry teachers. The PCK applied by chemistry teachers cannot be assumed to be the same as that applied by a physics teacher. Both of these domains are usually taught by a single teacher in South African high schools as part of the subject Physical Sciences but their PCK employed would not be the same based on the topic they teach and the respective domain to which it belongs (physics or chemistry). This study sought to characterise the PCK held by teachers in a physics topic, specifically Faraday's law and its relation to their interpretation of the curriculum on this topic.

2.9 SUMMARY

Various authors have noted the difficult nature of the topic of Electromagnetism. This chapter began with a discussion of the findings of a study within the topic of Electromagnetism conducted by Coetzee (2018) which led to Faraday's law being the focus of this study. PCK as a knowledge base of teachers was described with Mavhunga and Rollnick's (2013) model of TSPCK discussed as a means to

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understand the PCK held by teachers in a particular topic. Lastly, the CoRe as a tool to capture teachers' PCK was discussed.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a description of the research process that was undertaken to investigate the research questions. The process involved a systematic method to gather, interpret, and construct meaning from the data. Cooperrider and Srivastva (1987, p. 1) stated that "through our assumptions and choice of [research] method we largely create the world that we discover". As such, a discussion of the philosophical assumptions upon which this study lies and the methodology that guided it are presented. This chapter also describes the various stages of the research process which included sampling, data collection methods, and instruments used. The chapter ends with a discussion of how credibility and trustworthiness requirements were met.

3.2 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Primary Research Question:

How can selected teachers' enactment of the curriculum on Faraday's law be understood in relation to their reported PCK?

Secondary Research Questions:

- 1. How can the curriculum on Faraday's law be characterised in terms of the topicspecific PCK components?
- 2. How can selected teachers' reported PCK about Faraday's law be characterised?
- 3. How do the teachers' presentation of lessons on Faraday's law align to the curriculum, or deviate from it?

3.3 RESEARCH PARADIGM

A paradigm acts as a particular perception of reality which is shared by a community of scientists which provides a model by which they could examine problems and find solutions (Thomas, 2010). A paradigm encompasses the fundamental aspects of reality by addressing assumptions regarding the researcher, the nature of reality (ontology), how nature can be known (epistemology), and the associated methodological tools and approaches used to solve problems (Maree, 2016). It thus acts as the lens through which we interpret our reality.

This study was conceptualised within the interpretivist paradigm. I am of the belief that humans continuously attempt to make sense of the world around them, and in doing so, they rationalise, justify, and provide meaning to everyday actions through their interpretations of their world (Babbie & Mouton, 2008). "Different people and different groups have different perceptions of the world" (Willis, 2007, p. 194) which lead to variable realities that consist of people's subjective experience of the world. An interpretivist point of view was adopted for this study as it holds that reality is socially constructed (Thanh & Thanh, 2015) with the researcher being responsible for the interpretation of the reality. The reality in this study represented the teachers' reported PCK and their interpretation of the curriculum.

Black (2006) affirmed the power of interpretivism to address the complexity and meaning of situations. This study assumed that a teacher's interpretation of the curriculum and its expectations would be visible in their lesson presentations. Interpreting the words and actions of teachers throughout the instructional practice period would generate subjective meaning of their actions and thus their PCK that informs their interpretation of the curriculum. Schwandt (2000) explained that understanding the meaning of human action requires one to determine the intent behind those actions. This is achieved by "getting inside the head of an actor to understand what he or she is up to in terms of motives, beliefs, desires, thoughts, and so on" (Schwandt, 2000, p. 192). Pre- and post-interviews were used to gain a greater understanding of the teachers' responses in their CoRe documents as well as their motives and actions during the teaching of their lessons on Faraday's law.

The interpretivist paradigm has been criticised for its assumption that participants continually monitor their conduct and thus are aware of their intentions and reasons for their actions (Giddens, 1984). Lewis-Beck, Bryman, and Futing Liao (2004) made the case that reflection upon actions takes place only during retrospective inquiry whereby actions are queried. Post-lesson interviews were held with the participants to

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uncover the intentions behind their thoughts and actions during the presentation of their lessons to minimise the possibility of inaccurate assumptions being made.

3.4 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methodology is the systematic approach taken by a researcher in order to solve a problem and encompasses the procedures by which a researcher describes, explains, and predicts the phenomena being observed (Goundar, 2012). Various research methodologies exist due to a difference in the assumptions they make on how the world can be understood. These assumptions dictate the manner in which data is gathered and analysed and the extent to which findings can be generalised (Thomas, 2010). The nature of the research problem dictates the approach followed, which in this study was exploring teachers' interpretation of Faraday's law in relation to their reported PCK. As such, qualitative research was undertaken. Maree (2016) described qualitative research as research which seeks to gain a deeper understanding of a phenomenon. Chan and Hume (2019) found that the majority of research conducted on the nature of science teachers' PCK followed a qualitative approach, further supporting the qualitative approach taken in this study.

3.5 RESEARCH DESIGN

Case study design was adopted for this study due to the desire to gain a thorough and in-depth understanding of a number of cases within their natural contexts (Bromley, 1991). Case study research involves extensive data collection with multiple forms of data to provide detailed descriptions and in-depth information of a process or activity of multiple individuals which are bound by time and activity (Mills, Durepos, & Elden, 2010). In this study, the individuals were the teachers whose process of teaching and their interpretation of the curriculum were studied. To gain in-depth understanding of this process, multiple forms of data were collected which included document analysis, observations, and interviews to gather data for rich description. This allowed the participants to express the TSPCK they held in the topic of Faraday's law as well as their interpretation of the curriculum. Multiple-case design, as opposed to single case, was chosen for its ability to provide more extensive descriptions and explanations of the phenomenon being studied (Mills et al., 2010). Mills et al. (2010) acknowledged the disadvantage of single-case designs in that they may fall short in their representativeness. Multiple cases need to be studied to achieve a true reflection of the situation being studied. Although findings of case study research are limited in their generalisability, its advantage lies in the in-depth understanding of the case under study which resonates with a qualitative approach.

3.6 SAMPLING

Sampling in social research offers several advantages in terms of reducing both costs of data collection and the time required to collect and process data (Corbetta, 2003). In this study, I used convenience and purposive sampling. Etikan (2016) noted that convenience sampling is a technique used to select participants "where members of the target population that meet certain practical criteria, such as easy accessibility, geographical proximity, availability at a given time, or the willingness to participate are included for the purpose of the study" (p. 2). Purposive sampling was used to select participants from the target population which consisted of South African Physical Science teachers from high quintile schools that were currently teaching Grade 11 Physical Sciences. Four Physical Sciences teachers were selected for this study. Although this is a relatively small sample size, it allowed for the in-depth interpretation of the participants' reality, in this case, their reported PCK, and interpretation of the curriculum. Apart from proximity, the need to be teaching Grade 11 at the time of the study, and the use of English as the language of instruction, no further requirements were used to exclude teachers from participating in this study. The sample thus used in this study consisted of Grade 11 Physical Science teachers from high quintile schools in the Tshwane municipality.

The biographical information of the four teachers selected as participants is provided in Table 3.1. Both Michelle and Tebogo came from school 1, while Sarah and Linda came from school 2.

	Michelle	Tebogo	Sarah	Linda
School	1	1	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$
Race	White	Black	White	White
Primary language	Afrikaans	Sepedi	Afrikaans	Afrikaans
Qualification BEd		MSc & PGCE	BSc Ed & PGCE	BSc Hons & PGCE
Number of years teaching Physical Sciences	1	7	6	20

Table 3.1: Teachers' biographical information

School 1 and 2 were well-resourced, English medium schools located in the Tshwane municipality and had many similarities with each other. Both schools were categorised as quintile five schools. The demographics of both school 1 and 2 comprised 90% African learners with the rest of the learners being mostly of White, Coloured, and Indian descent. These learners came from various socio-economic backgrounds. School 1 and 2 had between 1100 and 1200 learners in total. However, school 1 had an average of 20 learners per Grade 11 Physical Sciences class whereas School 2 had on average 14 learners per Grade 11 Physical Sciences class.

3.7 RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

The data required for this study needed to reflect the PCK of the teachers and their interpretation of the curriculum. As such, suitable instruments for data collection that were used included the CoRe tool, lesson observations as well as pre- and postinterviews.

3.7.1 Curriculum Document of Faraday's Law

In order to explore the teachers' interpretation of the curriculum, it was necessary to know what the curriculum expects of teachers in the topic of Faraday's law. Page 87

and 88 of the curriculum document combined in Figure 3.1, which refers to the teaching of Faraday's law, thus also formed part of the data collected in this study. The analysis of these pages is discussed in Chapter Four. Data collected from these two pages was used to answer the first sub-question: How can the curriculum on Faraday's law be characterised in terms of the components of TSPCK?

Time Topics Grade 11	Content, Concepts & Skills	Practical Activities	Resource Material	Guidelines for Teachers
Faraday's Law. 3 hours	\bullet State Faraday's Law. Use words and pictures \bullet to describe what happens when a bar magnet is pushed into or pulled out of a solenoid connected to a qalvanometer Use the Right Hand Rule \bullet to determine the direction of the induced current in a solenoid when the north or south pole of a magnet is inserted or pulled out Know that for a loop of \bullet area A in the presence of a uniform magnetic field B, the magnetic flux (\varnothing) passing through the loop is defined as: \varnothing = BAcos θ , where θ is the angle between the magnetic field B and the normal to the loop of area A Know that the induced \bullet current flows in a direction so as to set up a magnetic field to oppose the change in magnetic flux Calculate the induced \bullet emf and induced current for situations involving a changing magnetic field using the equation for Faraday's Law: $\varepsilon = -N \frac{\Delta \phi}{\Delta t}$	Practical Demonstration: Faraday's law	Materials: Solenoid, bar magnet, galvanometer, connecting wires.	Stress that Faraday's Law relates induced emf to the rate of change of flux, which is the product of the magnetic field and the cross-sectional area the field lines pass through. When the north pole of a magnet is pushed into a solenoid the flux in the solenoid increases so the induced current will have an associated magnetic field pointing out of the solenoid (opposite to the magnet's field). When the north pole is pulled out, the flux decreases, so the induced current will have an associated magnetic field pointing into the solenoid (same direction as the magnet's field) to try to oppose the change. The directions of currents and associated magnetic fields can all be found using only the Right Hand Rule. When the fingers of the right hand are pointed in the direction of the current, the thumb points in the direction of the magnetic field. When the thumb is pointed in the direction of the magnetic field, the fingers point in the direction of the current.
	where Ø=BAcosθ is the magnetic flux			

Figure 3.1: The topic of Faraday's law in the curriculum document

3.7.2 The Content Representation (CoRe) Tool

The CoRe, discussed in Section 2.8 of the literature review, was created by Loughran et al. (2004) as "a research tool for accessing science teachers' understanding of the content" to be taught by eliciting "their understanding of important aspects of the content … that science teachers recognise and respond to in their teaching of such content" (p. 376). The CoRe tool has been used in many studies such as those conducted by Coetzee (2018), Mazibe et al. (2018), Barendsen and Henze (2019), and Juhler (2016). Thus it is regarded as a valid instrument for capturing teachers' PCK. The CoRe used in this study (See Table 3.2) required the participants to initially select key ideas within Faraday's law. The CoRe template in Table 3.2 comprises of eight questions originally designed by Loughran et al. (2004) to elicit participants' knowledge regarding the five components of TSPCK. The template provided space for the identification of four key ideas in Faraday's law, however, participants were informed that they could select as many key ideas as they felt necessary. Data collected from the CoRes were used to answer the second sub-question: How can selected teachers' reported PCK about Faraday's law be characterised?

3.7.3 Pre-Interviews

In researching teachers' PCK in Graphs of Motion, Mazibe et al. (2018) found that despite efforts to explain to teachers how to complete the CoRe, participants still had difficulties filling it in, providing limited responses with not all the relevant information being supplied. Kind (2009) also noted that completing the CoRe may be seen as an intimidating process for a newly qualified teacher or a teacher that lacks confidence in their ability to teach. For this reason, the questions from the CoRe were also used as questions in a pre-interview held before the teachers taught their lessons on Faraday's law. Interviews provided the opportunity to ask questions that sought to clarify participants' answers in their CoRe in order to gain a more in-depth understanding of their PCK.

3.7.4 Observations and Field Notes

Observations of the participants' lessons were conducted during which field notes were taken. Field notes "aid in constructing thick, rich descriptions of the study context … and documents valuable contextual data" (Phillippi & Lauderdale, 2017, p. 381). Observations of the participants' lessons were used to answer the third sub-question: How do the teachers' presentation of lessons on Faraday's law align to the curriculum, or deviate from it?

3.7.5 Post-interviews

Video recordings of the participants' lessons were reviewed during which questions were developed to corroborate the observations in terms of their curriculum interpretation. These questions sought to elicit the participants' understanding of the expectations of the curriculum as well as to gain knowledge as to why they may have deviated from or conformed to these expectations. Figure 3.2 provides an excerpt of the interview schedule used during Sarah's pre-interview. Post-interviews were used to corroborate the data collected during lesson observations to answer the third subquestion.

8. Do any of these topic relate to Electromagnetism?

9. If so, how?

10. What do you understand by "State Faraday's law"?

11. The CAPS document says: Use words and pictures to describe what happens when a bar magnet is pushed into or pulled out of a solenoid connected to a galvanometer. How would you describe what happens when a bar magnet is pushed into or pulled out of a solenoid connected to a galvanometer in words for learners?

12. You first introduced learners to magnetic flux before you introduced Faraday's law. Why?

Figure 3.2: Excerpt of interview schedule used in Sarah's interview

3.8 THE DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

This section discusses the process that was followed in order to obtain data that reflected the participating teachers' PCK as well as their interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's law.

3.8.1 Completing the CoRes

CoRe templates were handed to the participants a minimum of two weeks before the presentation of their lessons. It was explained to them that the CoRe first required them to identify key ideas that are important to the teaching and understanding of Faraday's law. Teachers were informed that the number of key ideas they wished to select was their choice. The teachers then needed to answer eight questions based on the key ideas they selected. The teachers were allowed to complete the CoRe in their own space and time and were informed that they could contact me should they be unsure of how to fill it in. Michelle and Tebogo's (School 1) CoRes were collected one day prior to the presentation of their lessons. Sarah and Linda's (School 2) CoRes were collected the same day they presented their lessons.

3.8.2 Pre-interviews

The participants' completed CoRes were reviewed and questions were developed that were used to gain greater clarity of their responses provided in their CoRes to provide a more complete description of their PCK in the topic of Faraday's law. These questions became part of the interview schedule that was used to conduct interviews held with the teachers before they taught their lessons on Faraday's law. The preinterviews for Michelle and Tebogo were held earlier in the day on which they presented their lessons on Faraday's law. The pre-interviews for Sarah and Linda also took place on the morning of the day they presented their lessons. Both Sarah and Linda presented their lessons on the same day. All interviews were conducted on the school premises as chosen by the teachers. Voice recordings of the interviews were made and were transcribed verbatim for analysis later on (see Appendix IV).

3.8.3 Lesson Observations

Before the teachers started with their lessons, a voice recorder was placed on their desk to clearly capture their voice while they taught. I sat at the back of the classes out of direct sight of any learners so as not to distract them during their lessons. A video recorder was used to film the lessons. During this time, I took field notes to capture the various aspects of the lessons such as learner participation, content taught, and representations used.

3.8.4 Post-interviews

Questions based on the teachers' lessons were developed during and after observing the participants' lessons. These questions were used in an interview schedule for a post-interview that sought to clarify the thoughts and motivation behind the teachers' actions. The teachers' thoughts and actions are regarded as reflecting their interpretation of the curriculum by giving insight into what they believe was expected of them from a lesson on Faraday's law. Further questions were also used to probe the teachers' interpretation of the curriculum. Page 87 and 88 on Faraday's law in the curriculum document were provided to the teachers for them to refer to during the interviews. Post-interviews (see Appendix V) were held within one month of the teachers having taught their lessons on Faraday's law. The recordings of the interviews were transcribed verbatim and were used for data analysis (see Appendix VI). A summary of the data collection process is provided in Table 3.3.

3.9 DATA ANALYSIS

3.9.1 The Curriculum (CAPS) Document

An analysis of the curricular requirements on the topic of Faraday's law in the curriculum document was undertaken to determine the information conveyed in it and how it could inform teachers' PCK in terms of the five components of TSPCK (see Chapter Four). This was carried out by using the information provided in the expert CoRe to categorise the content in the CAPS document into these five components. The curriculum was also analysed in terms of information which is not evident in its content but regarded as important PCK by the expert CoRe.

3.9.2 The Expert CoRe

The data collected from the CoRes and pre-interviews was analysed by identifying responses that specifically pertained to information regarding a particular component of TSPCK. This was done using an expert CoRe (Appendix I). The expert CoRe used in this study is an adaption of an expert CoRe originally developed by Coetzee (2018) for the topic of Electromagnetism. Coetzee's expert CoRe was constructed by experienced science teachers and science education experts and serves as a representation of the PCK that is considered exemplary within each of the five components of TSPCK. Since this CoRe was specifically designed to represent exemplary PCK in Electromagnetism which covers various topics throughout the FET Physical Sciences curriculum, it was adapted for this study to reflect PCK specifically pertaining to Faraday's law taught in Grade 11. Content validation of the adapted expert CoRe was performed by the supervisors of this study who are experts in the field of Physical Sciences education to ensure that it accurately reflected the PCK pertinent to teaching Faraday's law. Three key ideas from Coetzee's expert CoRe were selected as key ideas in the topic of Faraday's law. These were: (i) 'The phenomenon of induction – the basic principle', (ii) 'Magnetic flux is the total magnetic field over an area perpendicular to the field', and (iii) 'Electromagnetic induction – Faraday's law'. The expert CoRe is included in Appendix I. The expert CoRe guided the analysis of the TSPCK held by each teacher by serving as a reference point during the assessment of the teachers' reported PCK from their CoRes and pre-interviews.

3.9.3 TSPCK Rubric

A rubric (see Appendix II) was employed to assess the level of TSPCK held by the participants. This rubric is an adaption of the rubric used by Mazibe et al. (2018) and is specifically used to assess the TSPCK in a physics topic which was reported in CoRe and pre-interviews. The rubric guides a researcher in rating and classifying a teacher's TSPCK according to different levels of competence. These levels have been assigned the terms: Limited (1), Basic (2), Developing (3), and Exemplary (4). Teachers are scored on each one of the five components of TSPCK. Each component has specific criteria which were used to determine the level of competency that a teacher has in that particular component of TSPCK. Table 3.4 is an excerpt of the rubric used in this study to score teachers knowledge of the component of *what is difficult to teach*.

Component	Limited (1)	Basic (2)	Developing (3)	Exemplary (4)
What is difficult to teach?	No indication of \bullet concepts/ideas that are difficult to teach. Reasons for the \bullet difficulty or gate-keeping concept are not specified.	Identified broad \bullet concepts as difficult. Reasons for the \bullet difficulties are not specific to the key ideas. e.g. "their science knowledge is poor".	Identified \bullet specific concepts as difficult. Outlined \bullet reasons related to learners' common difficulties.	Identified specific concepts as difficult. Outlined gate- ٠ keeping concepts as well as learners' misconceptions perpetuating the difficulties.

Table 3.4: Excerpt of rubric used for scoring of reported PCK, for what is difficult to teach

3.9.4 Lesson Presentations

The classification of the curriculum guidelines was used to analyse the participants' lessons of Faraday's law by comparing the PCK revealed in the teachers' lessons with the information contained in the curriculum. This analysis is presented in Chapter Six. During the post-interviews, participants were also asked to explain what each instruction in the curriculum document (Figure 3.1) for the section of Faraday's law expected of teachers. This data provided insight into their interpretation of the curriculum and thus the extent to which the teachers' lessons aligned or deviated with the expectations of the curriculum.

3.9.5 Comparing PCK and Curriculum Interpretation

In order to answer the primary research question, the teachers' reported PCK was compared with the data collected from their lesson observations and post-interviews. The enactment of the curriculum during the teaching of Faraday's law was taken as an indication of the teachers' interpretation of the curriculum and its expectations. Post-interviews were used to further probe the teachers' interpretation of the curriculum and corroborate the data collected from the lesson observations. The analysis specifically looked at whether the teachers presented their lessons in a similar way to the curriculum which suggested an interpretation of the curriculum at face value. Instances in which the teachers adequately interpreted the curriculum by incorporating adaptions or extensions to allow for conceptual understanding were also looked for. The teachers' interpretations of the curriculum were then compared to their reported PCK within each component of TSPCK.

3.10 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Rigorous ethical considerations were applied in this study by initially obtaining ethical clearance from the Ethics Committee at the University of Pretoria. This approval was received in July of 2019. Clearance to conduct research was then obtained in August of 2019 from the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) to begin research (see Appendix VI). To comply with the ethical considerations set out by the University of Pretoria and the GDE, letters of consent were given to all parties involved to read and sign to indicate their agreement to participate (see Appendix VII to X). The letters of consent explained the purpose and potential benefits of the study as well as the forms of data collection that would be used. These were also verbally explained to the teachers, the primary participants of this study, before data collection was initiated. All parties involved were clearly informed that their participation was entirely voluntary and that they could withdraw at any stage.

The final research report uses pseudonyms for the participants and their schools so that they are not identifiable by the data collected from them. The names of the participants are only known to myself and the supervisors of this study. No risk of physical harm was present in this study and thus the participants were not remunerated for their participation.

This study is beneficial to the participants who will be given access to the final published research report. This will provide them with insight into the notion of PCK in the topic of Faraday's law which they could use to improve their own instructional practice. This has potential benefits for their schools in which teaching and learning could improve, thus also benefiting the learners.

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3.11 CREDIBILITY AND TRUSTWORTHINESS

Credibility addresses the questions of: "Are the investigators observing or measuring what they think they are measuring?", and "How congruent are the findings with reality?" (Merriam, 1998, p. 213). Addressing the former question, the line of questioning employed during the data collection process of this study as well as data analysis techniques used were derived from previous comparable research projects that have successfully utilised the same methods (Shenton, 2004). The CoRe document used to elicit the TSPCK of the teachers has been validated by various researchers such as Loughran et al. (2004), Mavhunga and Rollnick (2013), and Pitjeng-Mosabala (2014). The questions from the CoRe document also formed the basis of the questions used in the pre-interviews. To ensure that the findings of this study were congruent with reality, the data analysis and scoring of the participants' TSPCK underwent expert validation through the regular reviewing and moderation by the supervisors of this study who are experts in Physical Sciences education. This ensured that there was agreement between the researcher and supervisors in terms of the TSPCK reflected by each teacher and their interpretation of the curriculum.

Trustworthiness of the research was achieved through triangulation which saw multiple forms of data being collected across the instructional practice period (Creswell, 2009). CoRe documents and pre-interviews reflected the teachers' TSPCK in Faraday's law while observations of the teachers' lessons and post-interviews reflected the teachers' interpretation and understanding of the expectations of the curriculum. The scores awarded to each teacher based on their reported PCK as well as the analysis of their interviews and lesson observations were reviewed by the supervisors of this study. In cases where a disagreement between myself and the supervisors arose in the score awarded, discussions were held in order to come to an agreement as to the score which best reflected the teacher's level of reported PCK.

3.12 SUMMARY

This chapter began with a description of the research process that was undertaken to investigate the research questions. A discussion of the philosophical assumptions upon which this study lies and the methodology that guided this study was presented. This chapter also described the various stages of the research process which included sampling, data collection method, and instruments used. The chapter ended with a discussion of how credibility and trustworthiness requirements were met.

The next chapter undertakes an analysis of the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum in order to characterise the information in it which can be considered as informing a teacher's PCK on this topic.

CHAPTER FOUR: SCRUTINISING THE CURRICULUM

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter undertakes an analysis of the topic of Faraday's law in the curriculum in order to answer the first sub-question: How can the curriculum on Faraday's law be characterised in terms of the TSPCK components? The TSPCK provided in the expert CoRe was used to explore the curriculum in order to characterise the information contained in this section which is regarded as informing teachers' knowledge in terms of the five components of TSPCK in Faraday's law. Each component is discussed in a separate section of this chapter.

4.2 CODES USED FOR REFERENCING

Figure 4.1 presents the contents on Faraday's law provided in the curriculum (DoBE, 2011) under the same headings that they appear in the curriculum. Figure 4.1 includes a schematic overview of the relevance of the five TSPCK components to specific parts of the curriculum. For ease of referencing in the sections that follow, the information included in the curriculum were allocated codes. For the curriculum, each column was assigned a letter to represent the column in which certain information is found. The columns and their codes denoted by a single letter are:

- **Content, Concepts & Skills**: C
- **Practical Activity**: P
- **Resource Material**: R
- **Guidelines for Teachers**: G

The number that appears after the letter refers to a specific point in that column.

Materials: $\overline{C1}$ P ₁ . R1. State Faradav's Law. Practical G1. Stress that Faraday's Law relates Demonstration: Solenoid, bar induced emf to the rate of change of Faraday's law magnet, flux, which is the product of the C _{2.} Use words and pictures to describe what galvanometer happens when a bar magnet is pushed magnetic field and the cross-sectional connecting into or pulled out of a solenoid connected area the field lines pass through. wires. G2. to a galvanometer When the north pole of a magnet is pushed into a solenoid the flux in the Representations \mathbf{c}_3 Use the Right Hand Rule to determine the solenoid increases so the induced direction of the induced current in a current will have an associated solenoid when the north or south pole of Curricular magnetic field pointing out of the Conceptual teaching a magnet is inserted or pulled out solenoid (opposite to the magnet's Saliency strategies field). When the north pole is pulled C ₄ Know that for a loop of area A in the out, the flux decreases, so the Faraday's Law induced current will have an presence of a uniform magnetic field B, the magnetic flux (\emptyset) passing through associated magnetic field pointing Prior knowledge / 3 hours the loop is defined as: \varnothing = BAcos θ , into the solenoid (same direction as misconceptions where θ is the angle between the the magnet's field) to try to oppose magnetic field B and the normal to the the change. loop of area A Curricular Saliency G3. The directions of currents and C5. Know that the induced current flows in a associated magnetic fields can all be found using only the Right Hand direction so as to set up a magnetic Rule. When the fingers of the right field to oppose the change In magnetic hand are pointed in the direction of flux What is difficult to the current, the thumb points in the teach? direction of the magnetic field. When C6. Calculate the induced emf and induced current for situations involving a changing the thumb is pointed in the direction magnetic field using the equation for Faraday's Law:	Time	Topic Grade 11	Content, Concepts & Skills (C)	Practical Activity (P)	Resource Material (R)	Guidelines for Teachers (G)	
		$\Delta \Phi$ $\varepsilon = -N$ — Δt where \varnothing =BAcos θ is the magnetic flux					
Representations				of the magnetic field, the fingers point in the direction of the current.			

For the expert CoRe, the information was also allocated a code beginning with an E, a second letter based on the key idea that it refers to, and a number which denotes the specific point referred to in the expert CoRe. The codes for the three key ideas are:

- **EA**: *The phenomenon of induction – the basic principle*
- **EB:** *Magnetic flux is the total magnetic field over an area perpendicular to the field*
- **EC:** *Electromagnetic induction – Faradays law*

4.3 CURRICULAR SALIENCY

Table 4.1 shows the information conveyed in the curriculum document (left-hand column) and the corresponding TSPCK identified in the expert CoRe (right-hand column) that it informs.

Two key ideas according to the expert CoRe are evident in the contents of the second column of the curriculum entitled 'Content, Concepts and Skills*'*. These are: 'Magnetic flux' (C4), and 'Faraday law' (C1). The expert CoRe includes a third key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction – the basic principle' which includes a demonstration of induction. This key idea is regarded as only being present in a lesson if either induction as a phenomenon is discussed (such as how electricity is produced), or a demonstration of induction is performed before Faraday's law. This would allow induction to be introduced as a phenomenon in which current is generated without the presence of a power source which learners are not familiar with. The curriculum discusses a demonstration of induction (C2) only after it indicates that Faraday's law should be stated for learners (C1). Thus, such a demonstration would be used to demonstrate Faraday's law rather than to understand induction as a phenomenon.

Bullet C3 refers to the right hand rule (RHR) and could mistakenly be regarded by teachers as a key idea relating to Faraday's law as it is discussed among other concepts that need to be taught. The RHR is a skill used to determine the direction of the induced current and not a key idea.

Although Lenz's law is not mentioned by name in the curriculum, section G2 is an implicit statement of Lenz's law which is also found in point C5. The expert CoRe indicates that learners should know what the meaning of the negative sign in Faraday's equation means which relates to Lenz's law. This is not pointed out in the curriculum, thus, teachers would need the necessary knowledge to identify that this content refers to Lenz's Law. The curriculum also does not emphasise the induced magnet field whose direction determines the direction of the induced current, nor does it mention how Lenz's law is related to energy conservation principles. These are important ideas which are required for a conceptual understanding of the induced current and the RHR.

The contents of the 'Content, Concepts and Skills' column (see Figure 4.1) could be assumed by teachers as suggesting a sequence in which important ideas should be introduced to learners. This would see teachers beginning their lessons by stating Faraday's law and thereafter demonstrating induction. Coetzee's (2018) study noted the problematic nature of this implied sequencing in the curriculum. She found that pre-service teachers who attempted to teach Faraday's law without first providing an explanation of the idea of magnetic flux found that learners struggled to understand these concepts. These pre-service teachers elected to first teach Faraday's law as the curriculum presents "State Faraday's law" as its first point with magnetic flux only being discussed later on in C4.

The ordering of the bullets would also see learners being introduced to the RHR (C3) before understanding the relationship between the direction of the induced field and the induced current (related to Lenz's law) which is mentioned only later in bullet C5. The expert CoRe suggests rather that key ideas should be taught in the following order: (key idea A) 'The phenomenon of induction – the basic principle', (key idea B) 'Magnetic Flux', and (key idea C) 'Faraday's law'.

Points EC7, EC8, and EC9 of the expert CoRe indicate that learners should have an understanding of what the practical applications of Faraday's law are as well as how the topic relates to topics that learners will study in Grade 12. This gives a sense of the importance of the topic which is not pointed out in any way in the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum. Thus, teachers who have taught Grade 12 before may be more likely to recognise the relevance of Faraday's law than those who have not.

4.4 WHAT IS DIFFICULT TO TEACH?

The curriculum document does not explicitly indicate concepts that are difficult for teaching or learning. Rather, certain information provided in the curriculum under the heading of 'Guidelines for teachers' is regarded as informing teachers' knowledge of difficulties. This is due to the extent to which certain ideas are explained which suggests that it provides guidance to teachers on particular aspects of a topic that are regarded as difficult.

The expert CoRe notes learners' difficulty in understanding the relationship between the direction of the induced field and the change in flux (EC13). This appears to be the only difficulty alluded to in the curriculum by its explanation of how they are related to each other (G1). Learners may still struggle to conceptually understand this relationship as the curriculum overlooks the role of energy and the application of prior knowledge to understand the direction of the induced current.

The expert CoRe notes that Lenz's law and the RHR may be difficult to apply (EC12). In my own experience, I have observed that learners are unsure of whether to point their thumb in the direction of the bar magnet's magnetic field or the induced field which the curriculum does not clearly describe. Another difficulty relating to the RHR stems from the sequencing of the content in the curriculum. The RHR is mentioned in the curriculum (C3) before the idea that the induced current flows in a direction so as to set up a magnetic field to oppose the change in magnetic flux (C5). This may lead to teachers and/or learners applying the RHR to the incorrect magnetic field if they were not yet taught about the induced field which opposes the change in flux. This uncertainty is further exacerbated by the fact that the curriculum does not state which magnetic field (the changing field or the induced field) to apply the RHR to.

Two difficulties regarding magnetic flux are mentioned in the expert CoRe but are not alluded to in the curriculum. These relate to learners' difficulty to understand area as a vector quantity (EB7), and learners' ability to visualise vectors in three dimensions which lead to difficulties in determining the angle required to calculate magnetic flux (EB8). This calls for teachers to have knowledge of effective representations to explain the concept of flux in order to address these difficulties.

4.5 LEARNERS' PRIOR KNOWLEDGE AND MISCONCEPTIONS

All content previously taught in the Physical Sciences curriculum is considered to be learners' prior knowledge, but the curriculum does not specify *what* prior knowledge is relevant to the learning of a particular topic such as Faraday's law. As a result, misconceptions related to learners' prior knowledge are not alluded to in the curriculum. Topics that learners have previously studied that contain pre-concepts that are essential for the understanding of Faraday's Law are Magnetism, Electric Circuits, and Energy (with regards to mechanical and electrical energy). These topics are taught in Grade 10.

Table 4.3: Prior knowledge available in the curriculum compared to the Prior Knowledge component according to the expert CoRe

Curriculum Content	Expert CoRe		
Page 38 – Grade 10 topic of Magnetism	EB9. Magnetic field and magnetic field lines		
Page 42 – Grade 10 topic of Electric Circuits	EC18. The concepts of current and emf EC5. The relationship between the induced emf (ε) and the induced current is given by ε =IR where R is the total resistance in the circuit where the current is induced.		
Page 58 – Grade 10 topic of Energy	EA9. Learners must already have been taught about mechanical and electrical energy		
Page 86 - Use the Right Hand Rule to determine the magnetic field (B) associated with: (i) a straight current carrying wire, (ii) a current carrying loop (single) of wire and (iii) a solenoid.	EC19. The Right Hand Rule from the topic of Electromagnetism.		

The expert CoRe indicates that it is important for learners to understand magnetic fields and magnetic field lines (EB9). This knowledge is first introduced in Grade 10 when learners are taught the properties of magnetic field lines. This is particularly important for the understanding of the concept of magnetic flux.

From the Grade 10 topic of Electric Circuits, learners must understand the concepts of current, emf (EA18), and resistance, and how they are related by Ohm's law (EC5).

Unlike pre-concepts from the topic of Magnetism and Electric Circuits whose terms are mentioned in the section of Faraday's law, pre-concepts from the topic of Energy are not. The Law of Conservation of Energy is important for understanding the reason why the induced current is set up in a direction so as to oppose the change in flux. This is important for understanding Lenz's law. Learners also need to recognise that an energy conversion takes place during electromagnetic induction (EA9). Energy conversions, particularly in circuits, are not emphasised well enough in preceding parts of the curriculum.

The RHR could be considered as prior knowledge as learners are first introduced to the rule at the beginning of the topic of Electromagnetism in Grade 11 when induced magnetic fields are studied. However, the version of the RHR used to find the direction of the induced current is different from the first RHR learners are taught to find the direction of the induced magnetic field. This distinction is not made in the curriculum and could possibly confuse teachers and learners.

In terms of misconceptions, the curriculum does not explicitly discuss any that learners may have in the topics that form part of learners' prior knowledge for Faraday's law.

4.6 REPRESENTATIONS

The curriculum provides information regarding representations that teachers should use which can be found in the column of *Practical Activities*. Descriptions such as that of how to use the RHR are also provided and thus are seen as representations that must be shown to learners.

Table 4.4: Representations discussed in the curriculum compared to the Representations component according to the expert CoRe

The curriculum states that a practical demonstration of Faraday's law must be performed for learners (P1) with bullet C2 indicating that teachers should explain the observations of this demonstration. It also includes the materials that are required for such a demonstration (R1). Teachers, however, will need to know how to set up the apparatus as well as what exactly should be explained and observed during this demonstration.

The RHR is a second representation discussed in the curriculum (G3) which the expert CoRe regards as an important demonstration (EC31). As previously discussed, the rule is not explained clearly enough which may result in it being applied to the wrong magnetic field.

Although magnetic flux is a new concept to learners, specific reference to representations that could be used to explain this concept are not mentioned in the curriculum. The expert CoRe includes diagrams that could be used to explain magnetic flux as well as to show how a change in flux could be brought about (EB27). These diagrams, together with the representation discussed in bullet EB14, would aid in addressing learners' difficulty in determining the angle required to calculate magnetic flux (EB8).

4.7 CONCEPTUAL TEACHING STRATEGIES

Conceptual teaching strategies require teachers to integrate their knowledge of the previous four components of TSPCK in such a way that they teach the learners in front of them in the most effective way. The curriculum provides little guidance on this particular component of TSPCK.

Table 4.5: Information informing conceptual teaching strategies conveyed in the curriculum document compared to the Conceptual Teaching Strategies component according to the expert CoRe

Conceptual teaching strategies should take into account the context of the learning environment in terms of the type of learners present in the class, their specific prior knowledge, and the kind of questions to ask learners to elicit their understanding. The curriculum does not describe or prescribe a teaching strategy that teachers should follow. What is given in the curriculum, which should form part of a teacher's conceptual teaching strategies, are the representations of Faraday's law and the RHR. It also stresses that teachers should point out to learners that electromagnetic induction is based on the rate of change of flux. This seems to indicate that emphasis be placed on the fact that it is not a change in magnetic field in general that is required to generate an emf, but specifically a change in flux.

An important concept which is not emphasised in the curriculum is the relationship between the direction of the induced current and the induced field. A conceptual understanding of this is important for allowing learners to understand both the reason why the induced field opposes the change in flux as well as why the current is generated in a specific direction. This would also allow for an understanding of the concept on which the RHR is based.

4.8 SUMMARY

The contents of the curriculum suggest important ideas in Faraday's law which are similar to those in the expert CoRe. The ordering of the contents, however, could be interpreted as suggesting a teaching sequence of these ideas that is ineffective for conceptual understanding according to the expert CoRe. Important representations are mentioned in the curriculum but none are included for the concept of magnetic flux. Visibly absent from the curriculum, which the export CoRe indicates as important, is knowledge that will aid the conceptual understanding of the induced current. Lenz's law and the concept of an opposing induced magnetic field are not discussed. Preconcepts from the topic of Energy relating to Lenz's law are also not referred to, even though other pre-concepts are, in the section of Faraday's law. While the curriculum does provide some content knowledge which could inform teachers' PCK for the component of *conceptual teaching strategies*, it does not indicate how teachers should involve learners or include strategies for eliciting learners' difficulties or misconceptions.

CHAPTER FIVE: REPORTED PCK

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an analysis of the data reflecting the reported PCK in Faraday's law of each participant in order to answer the second sub-question of the study: How can selected teachers' reported PCK about Faraday's law be characterised? The data analysed in this chapter was collected using CoRes completed by the teachers prior to the teaching of their lessons on Faraday's law, as well as pre-interviews held with each teacher.

This chapter begins with a description of what is considered as exemplary knowledge within each component of TSPCK. This is followed by a discussion on the process undertaken to analyse the data collected from the CoRes and pre-interviews as well as a summary of the scores of each component of TSPCK awarded to each teacher using a reported PCK rubric (see Appendix II). The chapter then continues with an analysis of each teacher's reported PCK, beginning with a table that summarises their reported PCK.

5.2 TSPCK COMPONENTS

This chapter sought to characterise the PCK held by the participants in Faraday's law. This PCK is referred to as the reported PCK and is the knowledge that is manifested by the teachers through non-observational means which included written and verbal means as reported in their CoRes and pre-interviews.

Below follows a discussion of what constitutes exemplary knowledge within each component of TSPCK as contained in the expert CoRe (see Appendix I). The discussion is intended to assist the reader in being aware of the type of information presented in the interpretation of the data and what would lead to a teacher being scored as having exemplary knowledge within a particular component.

5.2.1 Curricular Saliency

A teacher is scored as exemplary in this component for having knowledge of the key ideas and their related subordinate ideas within the topic of Faraday's law. They will also have revealed knowledge of sequencing of concepts for scaffolding to subsequent topics. This will stem from the recognition of the importance of these concepts and their interrelatedness within the curriculum.

5.2.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

A teacher is scored as exemplary if they demonstrate knowledge of difficult concepts and the reasons for misconceptions that perpetuate these difficulties.

5.2.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

A teacher is seen as having exemplary competence in this component for revealing knowledge about the prior knowledge or pre-concepts that learners should have in order to understand Faraday's law and misconceptions that arise from these preconcepts.

5.2.4 Representations

A teacher is scored as exemplary if they demonstrate knowledge of a variety of effective representations that could be used to explain concepts and how they would be used to confront misconceptions and difficult concepts.

5.2.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

In this component, the consideration of the preceding components of PCK is important (Mavhunga & Rollnick, 2013). As such, a teacher is scored as exemplary if they demonstrate knowledge of activities to expose learner misconceptions and difficulties. The teacher will also demonstrate awareness of the interrelatedness of key ideas and how they will explain these key ideas, representations that they will employ as well as revealing strategies that are highly learner centred. Furthermore, a teacher will reveal knowledge of questions that will elicit learners' prior knowledge or understanding of what is being taught.

5.3 ANALYSIS PROCESS AND PRESENTATION

Analysis of the data for each teacher was conducted by initially identifying responses in each teacher's CoRe and pre-interview that related to a specific component of TSPCK. This categorisation of responses was guided by the expert CoRe which aided in the identification of responses given by the teachers that revealed knowledge regarding a certain component of TSPCK. These responses were summarised into a table which is provided in the analysis of each teacher's data that follows in this chapter. A discussion and analysis of these responses is also provided in this chapter. Since the expert CoRe served as an example of exemplary knowledge of the five components of TSPCK in Faraday's law, it was again used to gauge the reported PCK revealed by the teachers in terms of the quality. A discussion of this analysis is presented after the summary of each teacher's reported PCK. The rubric for Reported PCK (Appendix II) was used to assign a score to the TSPCK revealed by the teacher for each component. The scores are summarised in Table 5.1. Discussions were held between myself and the supervisors of this study when a difference in scoring arose for a particular component in order to reach an agreement for a score that most accurately reflected the TSPCK revealed by the teacher. Expert validation was thus achieved through the discussion and agreement of scores assigned.

Table 5.1: Summary of scores

Legends used throughout the data presentation chapters are shown in the following examples:

- pre-interview, lines 12-15: pre-i, 12-15
- post-interview, lines 12-15: post-i, 12-15

5.4 CASE STUDY 1 – MICHELLE (SCHOOL 1)

Michelle is a Physical Sciences teacher who holds a BEd degree is science education. She was in her second year of teaching at the time of the study but it was her first year teaching Grade 11 Physical Sciences and so she had not taught Faraday's law before. Michelle's information from which her reported PCK was sought on Faraday's law is summarised in Table 5.2. Her completed CoRe and full interview transcript can be found in Appendix III and IV respectively. Michelle identified four key ideas in the topic of Faraday's law. Due to the manner in which Michelle filled out her CoRe document, the order in which she indicated she would introduce them did not follow the alphabetical order from key idea A to D. The key ideas that she selected are listed below in the order that she indicated she would introduce them in (pre-i, 11-16):

- Key idea A: Change in magnetic field
- Key idea C: Magnetic flux
- Key idea B: Induced emf
- Key idea D: Induced current

Table 5.2: Reported PCK based on CoRe and pre-interview for Michelle

5.4.1 Curricular Saliency

Michelle's key idea of a 'Change in magnetic field' is similar to the key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction – the basic principle' in the expert CoRe. She stated in her CoRe (prompt 3) for this idea that she wants learners to understand the relevance of changing a magnetic field and its result of generating an emf. The 'Induced EMF' and 'Magnetic flux' also appear in the expert CoRe as key ideas. Key idea D of Induced current' is a subordinate idea to 'Induced EMF*'* according to the expert CoRe. Nevertheless, Michelle was aware that Lenz's law (which she included as part of key idea D) is a relevant idea in Faraday's law. In her pre-interview, she described the sequence in which she would introduce the key ideas:

The first one will be the change in magnetic field so [that learners] understand you have to make a change in the magnetic field for EMF to be induced. And then after that I will do the magnetic flux and the rate that the magnetic flux changes to help them understand how it fits into Faraday's law. Then the induced EMF. ...And then afterwards I will do induced currents. (11-15)

In prompt 8 (key Idea C and D) of her CoRe, Michelle further explained the sequence of her lessons on Faraday's law. She wrote that she would first explain electromagnetic induction, magnetic flux, and then Faraday's law which revealed a sequence that would support conceptual understanding. It is evident that her key ideas A, B, and C and their sequencing closely align with the key ideas of the expert CoRe which suggests that the phenomenon of induction first be introduced to learners after which the concepts of magnetic flux and induced emf should be taught. She stated in her CoRe (prompt 2, key idea A) that she intended for learners to know how a change in magnetic field could be brought about by the relative movement of a solenoid and a magnet. Her intention may have been to introduce learners to the phenomenon of electromagnetic induction with a demonstration using a bar magnet and solenoid which she referred to in prompt 2. This is supported by her response to prompt 3 in which she noted that it is important to show learners such a demonstration so that they "understand the relevance and results [that] a changing magnetic field will have on the emf generated".

Michelle identified key ideas which also appear in the expert CoRe but did not refer to their importance as concepts that allow for scaffolding to subsequent topics in the Physical Sciences curriculum. Her sequencing of her key ideas did, however, suggest a logical progression that would assist learners' understanding of Faraday's law. Her knowledge of *curricular saliency* is therefore scored as Developing (3).

5.4.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

In her CoRe, Michelle discussed learners' difficulty in conceptualising ideas such as magnetic fields that are invisible (prompt 6, key idea A). This is a relevant difficulty as learners' prior knowledge of magnetic fields and misunderstandings thereof, would affect their understanding of magnetic flux. Michelle also spoke of learners' inability to distinguish between which magnetic field to apply the RHR to when determining the direction of the induced current, stating that "[learners] struggle to distinguish which north pole to place [their] thumb in" (pre-i, 97). This is a major difficulty faced by learners according to the expert CoRe.

A third difficulty discussed by Michelle related to Lenz's law. She noted that "learners struggle to understand the fact that the magnetic flux is being resisted" (CoRe, prompt 5, key idea D). Michelle's own understanding of why the magnetic flux is resisted may also have been restricted. In her pre-interview (67-68), she stated that learners do not yet know that "change in magnetic flux means changes in energy". This information was "googled" by Michelle and was originally written in her CoRe (prompt 4, key idea D) as "Lenz's law is an idea of conservation of *charge*", while in reality it is an idea of the conservation of energy. This indicates that she did not completely understand Lenz's law. Michelle's competence for this component of TSPCK was classified as Developing (3) as she identified major difficulties regarding magnetic flux and Lenz's law.

5.4.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Michelle identified broad topics from previous grades as learner prior knowledge for Faraday's law. These were the Grade 10 topics of Electrostatics and Magnetism (prompt 6, key idea A and B). Although she presented them as topics that relate to Faraday's law, she did not suggest how they influence her teaching of the topic. According to the expert CoRe, concepts such as current, emf, and resistance (from the topic of Electric Circuits taught in Grade 10) form part of learners' prior knowledge. Michelle instead identified Electrostatics from Grade 10 as influencing her teaching of Faraday's law although concepts from this topic do not relate to Faraday's law. This was Michelle's first year teaching Electromagnetism which may account for her unfamiliarity with the topic and ability to specifically identify the necessary pre-requisite knowledge that learners should have to support their understanding of Faraday's law.

Michelle did not reveal that she was aware of possible misconceptions that learners may have in the topic of Faraday's law. Only a general difficulty regarding learners' inability to visualise concepts that are invisible such as magnetic fields was discussed in her CoRe (prompt 6, key idea A). Following that Michelle identified broad topics as prior knowledge while she lacked knowledge of particular misconceptions in the topic of Faraday's law, her knowledge of learners' prior knowledge is scored as Basic (2).

5.4.4 Representations

Michelle expressed the importance of using representations during the teaching of Faraday's law stating that "if [learners] just read through the content, [they're] not going to understand" (pre-i, 102-103). Michelle explained in her pre-interview (90-91) that she would draw diagrams in her lesson for magnetic flux for the three different scenarios in which the magnetic field lines could be parallel, perpendicular, or at an angle to the normal of the loop. Michelle indicated in her CoRe (prompt 2, key idea D) and pre-interview (15-16) that she will use the RHR and Lenz's law to explain the direction of the induced current although she did not describe how she would demonstrate this.

For Faraday's law, Michelle described a representation in which she would use a magnet and a solenoid to explain the law. She mentioned that she would move the magnet close towards the solenoid to explain how the magnetic field can change in the solenoid. This demonstration is not entirely sufficient for demonstrating Faraday's law as it can only be used to explain how magnetic flux changes through the solenoid. This would not allow learners to visually see the induction of an emf or current without the presence of a galvanometer. This would lead to Michelle providing a verbal explanation of what learners would see and the various factors that would affect the magnitude of the induced emf instead of providing visual proof. Although Michelle identified important representations regarding magnetic flux, she inadequately described the use of representations to explain the RHR and Faraday's law. As a result, her competence for this component of TSPCK is scored as Basic (2).

5.4.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Michelle's responses to prompt 8 in her CoRe indicated that her conceptual teaching strategy placed emphasis on the sequence of her lessons on Faraday's law and the order in which she will introduce concept. She was aware that revising content taught in a previous lesson is important for ascertaining learners' understanding, but the questions that Michelle planned to ask learners would require learners to remember what they were taught instead of their understanding of the content. She stated that she would ask learners: "Can you remember what the different types of conductors [are]?" She also indicated that she would ask: "How [do the different conductors] relate to Faraday's law with the rate of flux?" (pre-i, 155) as part of revision, yet the concept of Faraday's law would not yet have been introduced at that point.

Michelle's primary focus for the teaching of her key ideas 'Magnetic flux' and 'Induced emf' revolved around their formulas and learners' ability to calculate these values. When asked in her pre-interview what she intends for learners to know about these concepts, she stated that it is to know how to calculate it using their formulas (132 & 137). The concept of flux was poorly developed in Michelle's mind which is evident from her pre-interview when asked what magnetic flux is:

The textbook defined it as the formula but then I did a bit of research and they say it's the number of magnetic field lines moving through an area so that's how I explain it to the learners as well. (39-41)

This may account for her providing only the formula to calculate the *change* in flux (prompt 2, key idea C) with no indication in her CoRe or pre-interview of whether she intended for learners to know how to calculate magnetic flux or the factors which affect its magnitude. This could indicate a gap in her content knowledge regarding this concept.

Michelle was aware of her lack of knowledge and teaching experience and how they influence her teaching. For prompt 7 in her CoRe, (prompt 7, key idea A) she stated:

I am a first year teacher. I haven't taught the topic. I think that is a major influence on how comfortable I am with the work and how to explain it so that the learners can understand it to the best of their ability.

Her transmission approach to teaching, which is characteristic of novice teachers (Childs & McNicholl, 2007; Geddis et al., 1993), is highlighted in her pre-interview statements:

[I] planned to teach Faraday's law starting with the definition. (134-345)

My planning just consists of giving them the definition [and] doing an example on the board. (158-159)

Michelle's conceptual teaching strategy is characterised by the content which she will teach and the order in which she will teach it. Thought was not given to how she would explain each key idea in a manner that would allow for scaffolding of concepts and questions that she could ask to ascertain learners' understanding or misconceptions of the content. She also did not indicate how learners would be involved in her lesson. Her knowledge of *conceptual teaching strategies* was thus scored as Basic (2).

5.5 CASE STUDY 2 – TEBOGO (SCHOOL 1)

Tebogo holds an MSc in Applied Radiation Science as well as a Post Graduate Certificate in science education. He has been teaching Physical Sciences for seven years and had also taught Grade 11 for the same number of years. Tebogo was thus familiar with teaching the topic of Faraday's law. His completed CoRe and full interview transcript can be found in Appendix III and IV respectively. He selected three key ideas in the topic of Faraday's law which are listed below in the order that he indicated he would introduce them:

- Key idea A: Understanding electromagnetic induction
- Key idea B: Magnetic flux
- Key idea C: Calculations of emf

5.5.1 Curricular Saliency

Tebogo's key idea A of 'Understanding electromagnetic induction' closely resembles the expert CoRe's key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction – the basic principle'. He indicated that this key idea included having leaners understand how an emf is induced (prompt 1, key idea A) as well as observing the deflection of a needle of a galvanometer (pre-i, 101-103). Key idea B and C of 'Magnetic flux' and 'Calculation of emf' respectively, also appear to be the same as the expert CoRe's key ideas B and C. The sub-ordinate idea of Lenz's law, however, was not mentioned in his CoRe or pre-interview.

Tebogo indicated that he would introduce the concept of electromagnetic induction before the concept of magnetic flux because in his view, it leads to the understanding of magnetic flux (pre-i, 5-6). This sequencing of key ideas was based on Tebogo's belief that learners first need to understand where the phenomenon of electromagnetic induction can be observed in our everyday lives with regard to electricity generation (prompt 3, key idea A) so that they understand the significance of studying electromagnetic induction.

Learners need to first link the topics we do in class with the outside world. I normally used to tell them, 'OK tell me how is electricity produced?' They all tell you until where electricity is produced but they don't tell you what the generator does which is actually important which is where we have the electromagnetic induction. (13-16)

Tebogo gave attention to the order in which he would introduce concepts in his lesson. He explained that he had a 'small map' that guided his lesson and the sequencing of its related concepts. He stated:

That for us to be able to start to say that we have [electromagnetism] that was induced, there was a flux, there was a field and before we had the field we had the area that had the noncontact force. (29-31)

This thought process saw Tebogo taking a reverse approach in which he worked backwards from the concept of electromagnetic induction to identifying underlying concepts that build upon each other and are interrelated.

Tebogo also indicated that the relationship between induced emf and current in a circuit is important. It can be deduced from his CoRe responses (prompt 4, key idea A) that he was aware of the importance of this relationship and how it lays the foundation for the progression towards subsequent topics. He mentioned in his CoRe (prompt 4, key idea A) that learners do not yet know that AC and DC use electromagnetic induction. This is presumably in reference to generators that learners study in Grade 12, a grade that Tebogo was also teaching at the time. He further revealed knowledge of electromagnetic induction and its use in transformers which is a topic related to Faraday's law and electromagnetism but not included in the CAPS curriculum for Physical Sciences.

Tebogo's responses in his CoRe and pre-interview suggest that his competence in this component of TSPCK is Developing (3) when compared to the TSPCK rubric, as he identified important key ideas. He also expressed a logical sequence for introducing concepts that allowed for scaffolding to subsequent topics. However, he did not mention teaching the important sub-ordinate idea of Lenz's law which is discussed in the curriculum although not by name.

5.5.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

The difficulties identified by Tebogo mostly revolved around learners' mathematical and reading abilities. In performing calculations for flux, he mentioned in his preinterview (195-197) that learners do not remember how to convert units such as centimetres or millimetres squared to metres squared. This difficulty is not unique to the topic of Faraday's law and is usually easily addressed with revision of units and conversion factors.

He also mentioned in his pre-interview that learners do not realise that different variables in the formula for magnetic flux can experience a change which could create an induced emf as learners tend to focus on the idea of change in flux as a whole, and not what variable may have caused the change in flux.

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So a learner will only cram one way of calculating the emf not knowing that the angle can change, the field can change and also the area can change. They will only stick to one formula that I need to get the flux using this equation and then I get that change in flux, substitute it and I'm done. (38-42)

This misperception among learners of the type of calculations they could be expected to do would be addressed by Tebogo by having learners perform a number of different calculations on change in magnetic flux (pre-i, 113-114). He also expressed that if he were to set up a test on Faraday's law, he would include a question that would require learners to solve for a variable other than induced emf using Faraday's equation "just to change things around" (pre-i, 247).

Confusion between the words parallel and perpendicular when referring to the orientation of the magnetic field to the loop were also regarded as a difficulty by Tebogo, stating that learners are unable to interpret the correct angle needed for calculating magnetic flux. This relates to learners' limited ability to visualise in three dimensions and is considered a major difficulty according to the expert CoRe.

Tebogo mentioned that learners find it challenging to apply the RHR correctly for current-carrying conductors (presumably straight conductors) versus solenoids. This is an important difficulty to be aware of as it could pose a major challenge to learners later on when they need to apply the rule to solenoids in order to determine the direction of the induced current. The expert CoRe notes learners' difficulty in applying Lenz's Law and the RHR as learners tend to be unsure of which magnetic field to use when they apply this rule. This difficulty could be further compounded if the rules for straight conductors versus solenoids are confused by learners.

In terms of the TSPCK rubric, Tebogo's knowledge of *what is difficult to teach* was scored as Developing (3) as he identified major difficulties concerning learners' ability to determine the correct angle required to calculate magnetic flux and how to apply the RHR. He also recognised minor difficulties concerning learners' misperceptions of the kind of calculations they are expected to do.

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5.5.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Tebogo demonstrated knowledge of prior topics in previous grades upon which the topic of Faraday's law is built. In discussing Grade 9 content in his pre-interview, he noted that "we just teach them that we have different types of power stations. In Grade 10 we only focus on the circuits. And in Grade 11 that's where we just do [electromagnetic induction]" (72-73).

Tebogo indicated that magnetism is an important topic in the understanding of electromagnetism. He stated that:

We should go back to magnets because a learner needs to know that there is a magnetic field. Because we link the field [to electromagnetic induction] … we talk a lot about the field but the learner has to understand where the field comes from. (pre-i, 95-97)

He therefore planned to revise certain aspects of the topic of Magnetism such as the strength of magnets and their poles (pre-i, 100), before teaching them about magnetic flux. It is evident from his responses that he regarded magnetism as a topic often misunderstood by learners. He stated in his CoRe (prompt 5, key idea A) that learners always confuse magnetic flux and magnetic field, further elaborating in his preinterview that this confusion arises due to the words "magnetic field" being used to define the concept of magnetic flux (pre-i, 155). This is similar to the misconception stated in the expert CoRe regarding learners' inability to understand that field lines are imaginary lines used as a pictorial aid to understand magnetic fields while magnetic flux is an actual physical quantity. When probed further in his pre-interview regarding other misconceptions learners may have in the topic of Faraday's law, he identified difficulties rather than misconceptions. These difficulties were discussed in the previous section.

Tebogo's knowledge for this component of TSPCK has been scored as Basic (2). His CoRe and pre-interview responses only referred to concepts from the topic of Magnetism as being important prior knowledge for the understanding of Faraday's law. In terms of misconceptions, Tebogo only revealed knowledge of one.

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5.5.4 Representations

For his key idea of 'Understanding electromagnetism', Tebogo stated that he would use different resources to show learners what a magnetic field is and how it is used to calculate magnetic flux. He discussed in his pre-interview (100) aspects of magnetism that should be reviewed with learners such as the strength of magnets and their poles but did not elaborate what resources he would specifically use to represent these aspects.

While discussing magnetism as a topic that needed to be reviewed before electromagnetic induction, he spoke of the result of reversing the poles of a magnet and its effect on the induced current suggesting a possible representation to be used in his lesson. He stated:

We can change the relative motion of the coil and the magnet by changing the poles. The galvanometer can face the opposite direction or can face the other direction. If we make it south the galvanometer will go the other way. (100-103)

It is possible that this representation would be used by Tebogo to demonstrate the phenomenon of induction. Tebogo's response refers particularly to the materials of a magnet and a galvanometer that are needed to perform such a demonstration. He also discusses an important observation which learners should make from this demonstration. These apparatus and the observation regarding the deflection of the needle of a galvanometer are included in the expert CoRe as well.

A practical demonstration to show learners how to determine the angle that is required for calculating magnetic flux was discussed by Tebogo in his pre-interview (179-183). He described having learners use a pen to pierce through a piece of paper to understand the normal of the conducting loop and then using a ruler to represent magnetic field lines to allow learners to visually determine the angle. The importance of performing a practical demonstration was also noted by Tebogo as a means of addressing learners' confusion between the words 'parallel' and 'perpendicular' when referring to the orientation of the loop to the magnetic field in questions (174-180).

Tebogo mentioned teaching learners the RHR in his pre-interview. He indicated that he would introduce it to learners in a method that would allow for scaffolding of concepts by first showing learners how to apply the RHR to straight conductors before applying to a solenoid:

I start first with the simple thing, the current carrying conductor. They will have the pen in their hand. I will start teaching them how the current is moving, where the field is facing. Once they know those directions, I will start teaching them the right hand rule. ...But we have to start with that simple one, they know that if I have the pen in my hand, the coil will be represented by my fingers, the thumb is always pointing northwards. (138-145)

Tebogo's representations took into account demonstrating the phenomenon of electromagnetic induction which lies at the foundation of Faraday's law. He also carefully selected representations to enable him to address learners' difficulties with concepts such as magnetic flux and the angle needed to calculate it. Tebogo's knowledge of this component has been scored as Developing (3) based on the TSPCK rubric.

5.5.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Tebogo's conceptual teaching strategy included revising learners' prior knowledge that was important for understanding Faraday's law and the concepts related to it, as well as addressing difficulties and misunderstandings with the topic.

In his pre-interview, he explained that his strategy for introducing the topic of Electromagnetic Induction begins with asking learners how electricity is produced because "learners need to first link the topics we do in class with the outside world" (13). This discussion would provide him with the opportunity to link the previous topics of magnetism and electricity that learners studied in Grade 10 to the idea of electricity production (19-21).

He had a clear idea in his mind of how the concepts in Faraday's law related to each other which led him to introducing them in a particular order to allow for conceptual understanding. He had chosen to begin discussing the idea of electromagnetic induction first before the concept of magnetic flux as "it leads to [learners] understanding the flux" (5-6).

In his CoRe (prompt 7, key idea B) Tebogo wrote: "The magnetic flux and the change thereof should be fully explained, as it might make it difficult for the learners to understand the induction of [electromagnetism]". This suggests that Tebogo regards magnetic flux as an important concept for learners to understand and that his lesson would ensure that learners understand the relationship between induced emf and rate of change of flux.

Tebogo planned to address a misconception held by learners regarding magnetic field lines as imaginary lines as opposed to magnetic flux as an actual physical quantity during his lessons. In his pre-interview, he stated:

I will say the field is moving perpendicular but that is not the flux, the flux will be the one that we calculate using the surface area and the field passing through the surface area so that they understand I don't have the flux here, I will only have it if I calculate it. (157-160)

Concern was raised by Tebogo over learners' narrow view regarding calculations and the belief that they will only be expected to calculate the subject of the formula such as magnetic flux or emf, and not any of the other variables present in the formula (prei, 40-42). He indicated that he would address this incorrect belief by stressing the different variables that appear in an equation (45-48) and having learners perform multiple calculations of magnetic flux whereby in each calculation a different variable is changed.

I normally teach these things in parts. We usually start a simple thing of calculating the flux. With a straight forward only change in the angle. Like maybe calculate the flux of this square loop when the angle of the field to the normal of the surface area is maybe fifty degrees. So then the learner first understand[s] just how to do field times area times cosTHETA. Then later on we'll change maybe magnetic field. After that maybe we'll change the area and then after that we'll change the angle. (55-61)

As part of revising work that he had taught in class to determine learners' understanding thereof, Tebogo described what he called a "throwback Thursday" in which he would, on a random Thursday during class, return to a particular topic such as electromagnetic induction and ask learners various questions:

First of all what is electromagnetic induction? We start there just to gauge [learners'] understanding to see if they only relied on the notes or what they read. I will say explain it to me in your own words. Who remembers Faraday's law? Who can tell us the equation? Write it on the board. (234-236)

This form of testing allows learners to be actively engaged in the lesson while also allowing for immediate feedback by Tebogo to address any misunderstandings learners may have regarding the topic.

Tebogo's teaching strategy included revising content that plays an important role in understanding the topic of electromagnetism. He also took into account learners difficulties with calculations and planned to address these during his lesson. Although his method of testing learners understanding of the topic of Faraday's law saw learners engaging in the lesson, he did not express how he would determine their understanding while teaching the topic and the type of questions he would ask regarding the representations he would use. His knowledge of this component has been scored as Developing (3).

5.6 CASE STUDY 3 – SARAH (SCHOOL 2)

Sarah holds a BSc degree with a specialisation in science education. She had taken Physics to year 1 and Chemistry to year 3 at university. She has been teaching Physical Sciences for six years and had taught Grade 11 Physical Sciences for five years at the time of this study. Her completed CoRe and full interview transcript can be found in Appendix III and IV respectively. She selected two key ideas in the topic of Faraday's law which are listed below in the order which she indicated she would introduce them:

- Key idea A: Magnetic fields
- Key idea B: Magnetic flux

Table 5.4: Reported PCK based on CoRe and pre-interview with Sarah

5.6.1 Curricular Saliency

Sarah's first key idea of 'Magnetic fields' is a pre-concept taught in Grade 10 which forms part of learners' prior knowledge rather than a key idea in Faraday's law according to the expert CoRe. The second key idea of 'Magnetic flux' is a relevant key idea in Faraday's law that also appears in the expert CoRe. The sequence in which Sarah planned to introduce key ideas was as follows: Magnetic flux (with a revision of magnetic fields before flux is introduced), and then Faraday's law (pre-i, 7-8 & 10-12). The key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction' or the sub-ordinate idea of Lenz's law were not specifically referred to by Sarah in her CoRe or pre-interview.

Sarah did not select 'Faraday's law' or 'Induced emf' as separate key ideas but seemed to regard them as subordinate ideas to that of magnetic flux. For her response to prompt 2 (key idea B) of what she intended for learners to know about the key idea of 'Magnetic flux', she wrote that a "change in magnetic flux can induce [a] current (emf)". A similar response was also given in prompt 3 when she explained why it is important for learners to know magnetic flux. This indicates that she may have regarded Faraday's law as directly explaining why a current is induced in a conductor instead of seeing it as a result of the induced emf set up. The concept of the induced current was not explicitly discussed in her CoRe. Thus Lenz's law as a means to determine the direction of the induced current and Ohm's law to calculate its magnitude were not referred to by Sarah in her CoRe or pre-interview. Although Sarah did not identify 'Induced emf' as a key idea, she wrote for her key idea of 'Magnetic flux' that' "it is the basis for the working of motors and generators (Gr 12 work)" (prompt 4, key idea B) revealing that she is aware of the importance of Faraday's law and how it relates to subsequent topics. She also recognised the significance of magnetic flux as an important concept in Faraday's law. In her CoRe (prompt 3, key idea B) she wrote:

Faraday's law is based on change in magnetic flux. If [learners] don't understand the term magnetic flux, they won't understand how it can create an emf.

She gave a description of magnetic flux as "the amount of magnetic field lines passing [perpendicular] to the area of [the] conductor" (prompt 2, key idea B), which is similar to the description of magnetic flux given in the expert CoRe. It was evident from her response for the same prompt that she deemed the various ways to cause a change in magnetic flux to be important. Sarah, however, only mentioned magnetic field strength as a specific factor that could cause a change in magnetic flux, excluding the area of the conductor and the angle as two other relevant factors. This could suggest that Sarah places a greater emphasis on practicing calculations for situations involving only a change in magnetic field strength with her learners.

Sarah identified few relevant keys ideas in the topic of Faraday's law. Crucial key ideas were seen as subordinate ideas while other key ideas selected were prior knowledge of learners. She revealed knowledge of subsequent topics such as Motors and Generators that relate to Faraday's law, but did not suggest that she was aware of these topics' interrelatedness with the concepts of alternating current or Lenz's law. When compared to the TSPCK rubric, Sarah revealed Basic (2) knowledge of *curricular saliency*.

5.6.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

The expert CoRe highlights learners' limited ability to visualise vectors such as magnetic fields and angles in three dimensions. This results in their inability to determine the angle between the magnetic field and the area vector. Sarah referred to this difficulty in her pre-interview, stating that learners struggle with determining the angle needed to calculate magnetic flux and relating the correct angle to the words such as 'parallel' and 'perpendicular'.

[Learners] struggle to see that cosTHETA part. There's the angle between the magnetic field lines and the area to the coil. And they usually struggle to see that if it's perpendicular, that the normal and the magnetic field lines, the angle between them is zero. They usually say stuff like 90 or 180. (52-56)

Sarah also mentioned that "it is only a change in magnetic flux that can create a current" as a difficulty faced by her learners (prompt 5) for the key idea of 'Magnetic flux'. This is regarded as a major conceptual difficulty for learners as they tend to think that an emf will be induced by the mere existence of magnetic flux rather than when there is a change in flux through a conductor.

The reason why learners face the difficulty discussed above is due to the fact that field lines are imaginary. Sarah explained that "[learners] cannot see the magnetic field lines" (pre-i, 56-57). This leads to them having difficulty in visualising both magnetic flux and a change in flux.

Sarah's knowledge of this component of TSPCK was scored as Developing (3). She identified a major conceptual difficulty in that only a change in magnetic flux will result in the induction of an emf. She also identified mathematical difficulties learners face in determining the angle needed to calculate the magnetic flux and the cause for these difficulties. She stated that "because [magnetic field lines are] imaginary, some of [the learners] cannot see it as they cannot see that the field lines are going through the coil" (pre-i, 44-45).

5.6.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Sarah saw magnetic fields as important prior knowledge in understanding electromagnetic induction. This led her to selecting it as a key idea for Faraday's law. She stated from prompt 2, key idea A of her CoRe that she intended for learners to know that magnetic field lines exist around a magnet and that they have a north and a south pole. She stated for the same key idea in prompt 3 that it is important for learners to understand that magnetic field lines are imaginary lines so that learners are able to understand how a coil can move through it. The expert CoRe identifies a misconception related to this idea in terms of learners' inability to realise that magnetic field lines are imaginary pictorial aids used to visualise magnetic fields while magnetic flux is an actual physical quantity. Sarah's decision to select magnetic fields and magnetic flux as key ideas suggests that she would place emphasis on ensuring learners are able to distinguish between the two concepts and in the process, address the related misconception.

Sarah identified one major misconception related to learners' prior knowledge but did not identify important pre-concepts from the topics of Energy and Electric Circuits. Based on the TSPCK rubric, her knowledge of this component has therefore been scored as Basic (2).

5.6.4 Representations

Sarah explained that she had used an apparatus consisting of wooden blocks and a loop which represented magnets and a coil to explain the concept of magnetic flux. In order to help learners visualise magnetic field lines passing through the loop, she would use her "fingers as the magnetic field lines so that they can see it's actually the lines passing through [the coil]" (45-47). However, Sarah did not elaborate as to how this apparatus would be used to explain the different variables that affect magnetic flux, nor how she would use it to explain Faraday's law.

Sarah expressed in her pre-interview (66-67) that she would also like to show learners simulations on the change in flux for them to understand it better. The simulations she described were meant to help learners visualise magnetic fields "so they can actually see a magnetic field is created [as revealed by a] compass [around a current-carrying conductor]. ...Or even turning the coil through a magnetic field to see how [the magnetic field] changes" (76-78)*.* The first simulation referred to by Sarah relates to the broader topic of electromagnetism while the second one relates to Faraday's law. Sarah stated in her pre-interview (65-73) that she planned to show these simulations only at a later stage but did not clarify when exactly. This would be ineffective as neither representation would support the teaching of the concept if they were shown to learners at a later stage.

In terms of representations of magnetic flux, Sarah was relying on only using simulations and demonstrations to explain the concept, stating in her pre-interview (27-28) that she did not draw any diagrams to support her teaching of magnetic flux as she was not good at drawing. This is detrimental to learners' understanding of the concept as they will often need to interpret diagrams of magnetic fields and conducting loops in assessments in order to determine values such as angles. Diagrams which are two-dimensional in nature also need to be related to demonstrations for learners who struggle with visualising in three dimensions.

Representations allow learners to gain concrete visualisations of concepts that strongly aid understanding. Due to Sarah's choice to rely only on demonstrations and not diagrams of magnetic flux, as well as her decision to show simulations of Faraday's law during a later lesson, her knowledge of this component of TSPCK has been scored as Basic (2).

5.6.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Sarah's CoRe and pre-interview suggested a lesson that was strongly focused on magnetic fields and magnetic flux as opposed to the phenomenon of induction and Faraday's law. This was evident both in the key ideas that she selected for Faraday's law as well as the representations that she had planned to use during her lessons. She referred to two specific representations, one of which was using a wooden apparatus to explain magnetic flux and the other, a simulation that would show learners the induction of magnetic fields around conductors which is to establish the relationship between electricity and magnetism. This is not directly related to Faraday's law which explains the induction of an emf and not the induction of magnetic fields around conductors. There was an absence of representations from Sarah's planning that would explain the phenomenon of electromagnetic induction. This had a clear impact on her conceptual teaching strategy. Factors that affect the magnitude of the induced emf, misconceptions regarding the induction of emf's, and subsequent topics that relate to Faraday's law such as alternating current were not referred to by Sarah. Her lack of representations of induction also suggest that her lesson would have a strong teacher-centred approach in which much of the content is taught in a lecture style with little input from learners. Many of her responses given in both her CoRe and her pre-interview dealt with the knowledge that she would teach with little indication of how she would involve learners in her lesson via questions posed to the class. She viewed her overall knowledge of Faraday's law as limited which could account for her lack of knowledge of effective teaching strategies. In her CoRe (prompt 7, key idea B), she wrote: "My limited knowledge influence[s] my teaching. I have to prepare a lot more [than other teachers] and watch videos".

Sarah wrote in her CoRe (prompt 6, key idea A): "Learners need to see where these topics are used in everyday life for them to understand it better. So it's always better to use real life examples". It was however unclear how Sarah planned to relate Faraday's law to learners' everyday lives as she did not expand on this idea.

When asked in her pre-interview how she would ascertain learners' understanding or confusion regarding the key ideas, Sarah stated that "you need to give [learners] a lot of exercises" (81-82)*.* This strategy usually places emphasis on determining learners' understanding of content through their ability to do calculations. This does not give a true indication of their conceptual understanding as the process of identifying values and 'plugging' them into an equation does not reveal whether learners understand the underlying concepts or not.

Sarah's teaching strategy did not reveal evidence of how she would expose learners' misconceptions and difficulties through engagement with learners. Her lack of selection of representations for Faraday's law and her decision to use representations at a later stage after introducing Faraday's law indicates an underdeveloped knowledge in this component of TSPCK. Her knowledge of *conceptual teaching strategies* has thus been scored as Basic (2) when compared against the TSPCK rubric.

5.7 CASE STUDY 4 – LINDA (SCHOOL 2)

Linda holds an MSc degree in Physics as well as a Post Graduate Certificate in science education. She has been teaching Physical Sciences for 25 years and at the time of the study, she had been teaching Grade 11 Physical Sciences for 19 years. Her completed CoRe and full interview transcript can be found in Appendix III and IV respectively. Linda selected four key ideas in the topic of Faraday's law which are listed below in the order that she indicated she would introduce them:

- Key idea A: The magnetic effect of current
- Key idea B: Effect of magnetic field on current
- Key idea C: Magnetic flux
- Key idea D: Induced emf

Table 5.5: Reported PCK based on CoRe and pre-interview with Linda

5.7.1 Curricular Saliency

Linda's key ideas of 'Magnetic flux' and 'Induced emf' are the same as those in the expert CoRe. Key idea A of 'The magnetic effect of current' is a concept that learners are introduced to at the beginning of the topic of Electromagnetism in Grade 11 but is not a key idea in Faraday's law according to the expert CoRe. Key idea B of the 'Effect of magnetic field on current' is related to the Grade 12 topic of Electrodynamics and is not considered a key idea for Faraday's law in Grade 11. It was evident from her CoRe (prompt 3) that she had selected key ideas A and B to establish the foundation of the relationship between electricity and magnetism, explaining in her pre-interview that these key ideas were important as this relationship was seldom understood by learners.

[Faraday's law is] not actually the current creating a magnetic effect but the conductor reacting to a magnetic field. So the two concepts are intertwined but the children do not see the difference between the two clearly. (48-51)

She also felt that the ordering of content and concepts as it currently stood in the curriculum document did not allow for conceptual understanding, thus she presented an alternative sequence.

In Grade 10 [learners] do the shape around a bar magnet and that's about that with similar poles or opposite poles or a single bar magnet. And all of a sudden you introduce the concept of magnetic flux. But I think they should start calculating magnetic field strength earlier. …So maybe you can start doing calculations about magnetic flux earlier when you introduce the concept of the magnetic field lines. (pre-i, 87-95)

Although she had planned to teach magnetic flux before Faraday's law, she felt that the concept should rather be taught in Grade 10. She recognised the importance of Faraday's law in topics that learners will study in Grade 12 as well as in post-school studies. She stated that:

[Learners] do Faraday's law of electromagnetic induction now … because next year they are just studying motors and generators. (pre-i, 19-21)

The thing that [learners] will never know, transformers operate on the principle of induction. (pre-i, 133-134)

Linda recognised that Lenz's law relates to electromagnetic induction but saw it as a separate idea unrelated to Faraday's law and thus not necessary to be taught during a lesson on it (pre-i, 17-19). She was aware that Lenz's law is used to determine the direction of the induced current and that the law is based on the idea that the magnetic induction is being opposed. However, she did not mention the significance of the induced field or why it sets up in a direction so as to oppose the change in flux.

Linda's key ideas A and B are considered pre-concepts rather than important ideas in Faraday's law. Although she selected the relevant key ideas of C and D, her TSPCK did not suggest that she would introduce the phenomenon of induction as an important idea. Her sequencing was logical and would allow for conceptual understanding due to the fact that she indicated she would introduce magnetic flux before Faraday's law. She recognised the importance of Faraday's law and its relationship with topics that learners study in Grade 12. However, Linda did not demonstrate knowledge of important conceptual ideas relating to Lenz's law. Linda's knowledge of *curricular saliency* has been scored as Basic (2).

5.7.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

The shape of the induced magnetic field produced by different conductors as well as the factors that influence the magnitude of the induced emf were regarded by Linda as difficulties in the teaching of Faraday's law. This was not attributed to learners' difficulty in understanding these concepts but rather to the limited time allocated to teaching the topic of Faraday's law in the curriculum.

[Learners] have to understand what the magnetic field looks like around a straight conductor, around a loop, around a solenoid and those are all things neglected in the current syllabus. We don't have enough time to go into detail of each one of those. But I think it needs to be a progressive build up from [starting] simple. (pre-i, 64-68)

The concepts are progressing too quickly from that to the very complicated and missing the steps in between. (pre-i, 70-71)

The insufficient time allocated to teaching Faraday's law is a general difficulty that does not account for the inherent difficulty in the underlying concepts in the topic.

Linda pointed out that the concepts of induction and magnetic flux were new to learners which added to the difficulty of the topic of Faraday's law (pre-i, 129). These difficulties may stem from the fact that the topics of Electricity and Magnetism have been treated as separate fields in previous grades. In her pre-interview, Linda stated:

To me it feels like they don't know a thing. It's a very complicated [topic] which they don't even know the basics. So you try to get them to that complicated level without having any background on it. So it feels like everything I'm telling them is new to them. (124-127)

Another reason that Linda gave in her CoRe for Faraday's law being regarded as difficult is that it contains abstract concepts that are not visible to learners and thus require three-dimensional representations of ideas (prompt 5, key idea A). Learners struggle to visualise vectors in three dimensions. This particularly impacts their ability to determine the angle required to calculate flux. Linda's emphasis on using threedimensional representations would aid in addressing this difficulty.

Although Linda identified teaching time as a difficulty, this is not regarded as unique to Faraday's law. She did identify major difficulties regarding the number of new concepts, specifically induction and magnetic flux, which learners are introduced to. She suggested that three-dimensional representations should be used to aid understanding of these concepts. Linda's knowledge of this component is scored as Developing (3).

5.7.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Linda was aware that electricity and magnetism formed part of learners' prior knowledge. She had written in prompt 6 (key idea A) of her CoRe that learners have very little background knowledge regarding the topic of Electromagnetism and its concepts as the topics of Electricity and Magnetism had up until that point been treated as separate fields. She was of the belief that Fleming's left and right hand rules as well as the concept of the magnetic effect on current should be taught in Grade 11, forming part of learners' prior knowledge, as it would aid the conceptual understanding of Faraday's law. As mentioned earlier, these concepts are currently taught in Grade 12. Instead of identifying relevant pre-concepts in her pre-interview, Michelle discussed the need to emphasise and practically demonstrate the shape of magnetic fields around conductors (pre-i, 63-70).

Although Linda was aware that the topics of Electric Circuits and Magnetism taught in Grade 10 formed part of learners' prior knowledge for Faraday's law, she did not report any possible challenges that may hinder learners' understanding of new concepts. She instead felt that if key ideas A, B, and C had been taught well, learners would not struggle with the idea of induced emf (pre-i, 118-119).

Linda was asked in her pre-interview to describe typical learner misconceptions related to her key ideas. She answered that there were no particular misconceptions that she could identify but that learners rather had difficulties coping with various factors that could create a change in the magnetic flux.

Much of Linda's responses regarding prior knowledge revolved around what she believed should form part of learners' prior knowledge. Although she was cognisant that electricity and magnetism did form part of the learners' prior knowledge, exactly what pre-concepts from these topics were important for the understanding of Faraday's law were not discussed. Furthermore, misconceptions relating to these topics were not specified. Therefore, based on the TSPCK rubric, Linda's knowledge of this component has been scored as Basic (2).

5.7.4 Representations

Linda placed an emphasis on representations of Fleming's left and right hand rules. She planned to show learners a video of the magnetic effect of current so that:

[learners] realise that if you have a current carrying conductor in a magnetic field, it will experience a force, so that they will understand there's a relationship between electricity or moving currents and magnetic fields. (pre-i, 34-37).

Fleming's rules, however, relate to motors and generators studied in Grade 12 and are not necessary for understanding Faraday's law or the relationship between current and magnetism. The RHR which learners need to know to determine the direction of the induced current is different to that of Fleming's RHR. Linda did not mention demonstrating the RHR used for determining the direction of the induced current.

For prompt 8, key idea C of her CoRe, Linda wrote: "I use various diagrams to build up the idea of magnetic flux and change in flux". She explained in her pre-interview the type of diagrams that she would use and her purpose for using them:

[I would use diagrams] where the loop or the coil or the twisted wire is illustrated and where the magnetic field is illustrated graphically. I will show them diagrams from the side, always a crosssection, because I hope that they will understand the concept of this invisible magnetic field that they can't see. (161-164)

Linda's use of diagrams was meant to help learners visualise magnetic fields. However, she did not provide more information about how they support the discussion of the concept of magnetic flux.

In her CoRe (key idea D, prompt 8), Linda wrote that she would use an induction torch to demonstrate induction. Although such a torch could be used to demonstrate the phenomenon of induction, it would not be effective in explaining Faraday's law as learners would not be able to see the magnet inside moving through coils of wire.

Linda's representations of magnetic flux and induction are relevant representations but she did not provide information about how she would use the representations to explain important concepts. She also did not mention important representations such as the RHR or representations to explain Faraday's law. Her knowledge of *representations* has thus been scored as Basic (2) based on the TSPCK rubric.

5.7.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Linda's conceptual teaching strategy started with her focusing on learners' understanding the concept of induction of magnetic fields around conductors and the effect of magnetic fields on them.

So I think you should start with the effect of current which causes a magnetic field and then they have to realise that therefore it's the inverse that the magnetic field will also have an effect on flowing current. (pre-i, 51-54)

She emphasised these two key ideas as she believed that learners often struggled to grasp the relationship between electricity and magnetism which hindered their understanding of Faraday's law.

For prompt 9, key idea D of her CoRe, she wrote "Are they able to solve problems independently?" in response to the question of how she would ascertain learners' understanding or confusion around her key ideas. This seemed to be a general answer in terms of all her key ideas for prompt 9 which may indicate a lack of effort to plan a conceptual teaching strategy that would allow her to track her learners' understanding throughout her lesson. No indication was provided as to the kind of questions that Linda would pose to her learners in order to facilitate determining learners' understanding of pre- or new concepts. Questions that learners solve independently are usually given to learners to complete at the end of teaching a topic and serve as a form of summative assessment. Exam and textbook questions on Faraday's law also usually focus on calculations for which learners' ability to solve such questions can provide a false image of their understanding of the underlying concepts.

Linda expressed that the limited time allocated to teaching the topic of electromagnetism in the curriculum document prevented her from explaining concepts in enough detail to ensure learners' understanding thereof. However, she did not explain how she would take the limited teaching time into account in her conceptual teaching strategy to ensure the topic was taught as effectively as possible.

In her interview, Linda provided a teaching strategy that was based on an alternate ordering of concepts that she would like to see in the curriculum. She believed that concepts such as magnetic flux should be taught in Grade 10 while Fleming's rules should be introduced in Grade 11 for conceptual understanding of the relationship between electricity and magnetism. This resulted in her revealing little knowledge about the conceptual teaching strategy she would employ based on the current curriculum and its ordering of concepts and content as it stood. For these reasons, her knowledge of this component of TSPCK was scored as Basic (2).

5.8 SUMMARY

This chapter began with a description of what constitutes exemplary knowledge within each component of TSPCK followed by a discussion of the process used to analyse and present the data. A summary of the teachers' scores for each component of TSPCK based on the Reported PCK Rubric was then presented. For the teachers' reported PCK, detailed analyses of the teachers' CoRes and pre-interviews in terms of the five components of PCK were presented beginning with a summary of the teachers' reported PCK. The next chapter presents an analysis of the teachers' lesson observation and post-interviews.

CHAPTER SIX: LESSON PRESENTATIONS ON FARADAY'S LAW

6.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an analysis of the observations of the teachers' lessons and post-interviews (see Appendix V). The analysis provides insights to answer the third sub-question: How do the teachers' presentation of lessons on Faraday's law align to the curriculum, or deviate from it? An overview of how the data was analysed is provided in the next section. Each teacher's lesson is then discussed separately, beginning with a vignette for an overall view of the sequence and content of the lesson. This is followed by an analysis of the lesson, particularly focusing on the alignment or deviation with the information provided in the curriculum through the components of **TSPCK.**

6.2 OVERVIEW OF THE ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

This section provides an overview of the analysis of the teachers' lessons on Faraday's law in relation to the curriculum. The lessons were analysed through the components of TSPCK by looking for particular aspects that relate to these components. A discussion of these aspects follows.

6.2.1 Curricular Saliency

In terms of the *curricular saliency*, the focus of the analysis will be on: (i) the concepts related to Faraday's law that are prescribed in the curriculum and whether these were all taught by the teacher; (ii) the sequence in which the concepts/aspects were discussed; and (iii) the importance of the concepts and their interrelatedness within the curriculum.

6.2.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

Generally, the curriculum does not specify concepts that are difficult for learners. However, it provides 'Guidelines for teachers' for various reasons including the teaching of concepts that are documented as difficult in the literature. In the literature, difficulties in each of the concepts that are prescribed in the curriculum on Faraday's law are documented. These are listed in the expert CoRe (Appendix I). The analysis in terms of this component will thus focus on how teachers engaged with the concepts prescribed in the curriculum, looking particularly into their areas of difficulty.

6.2.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

The curriculum does not specify the prior knowledge required for any specific topic. As such, I have looked through the curriculum as a whole, including previous grades, to elicit topics and concepts that are scheduled earlier than Faraday's law in the curriculum. As indicated in Chapter Five, I regarded the earlier topics and concepts as prior knowledge for Faraday's law. These are: Magnetism, Electric Circuits, and Energy. The magnetic fields of current-carrying conductors which is taught to learners before Faraday's law in Grade 11 is also considered as prior knowledge as learners require an understanding of this in order to apply the RHR to the induced current. The analysis in terms of this component will thus look at the prior knowledge that teachers refer to and how they engage with it, particularly in terms of gaps and misconceptions.

6.2.4 Representations

The curriculum lists the following apparatus that teachers should use to perform a practical demonstration of Faraday's law: solenoid, bar magnet, galvanometer, connecting wires. The curriculum also states that words and pictures should be used to explain what happens when a bar magnet is pushed into or pulled out of a solenoid. The last representation suggested by the curriculum is the RHR. A description of what the thumb and fingers of the right hand represent is discussed in the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum. The analysis in terms of this component will thus look at the teachers' use of representations in relation to the recommendation made in the curriculum.

6.2.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

The curriculum does not recommend teaching strategies apart from guiding teachers on the concepts, practical work, and apparatus that should be included in their lessons. Conceptual teaching strategies require teachers to integrate their knowledge of the four previous components in order to create an effective teaching strategy. As such, the analysis of the lessons in terms of teaching strategies will focus on the preceding components of PCK relative to the curriculum. For example, the practical demonstration of Faraday's law as well as the curriculum noting that words and pictures should be used to explain what is observed, is regarded as forming part of an effective teaching strategy. The curriculum also notes that teachers should stress that electromagnetic induction is based on the idea of rate of change of *flux*, indicating the importance of this idea when teaching the concept.

6.3 CASE STUDY 1: MICHELLE

Michelle had begun teaching the topic of electromagnetism on the day before I observed her lesson on Faraday's law. She stated in her pre-interview (3-8) that she had taught about magnetic fields around conductors, explained the concept of magnetic flux and had shown how to calculate a change in flux in her previous lesson. However, she repeated teaching flux in the lesson I observed. A vignette of this lesson is given below.

Michelle began her lesson by revising the magnetic fields of three differently shaped conductors that learners had been introduced to in their previous lesson as well as the properties of magnetic field lines. She defined magnetic flux as the number of magnetic field lines moving through the area of the conductor. She reminded learners that there are three different cases of magnetic flux in terms of the conducting loop being oriented either parallel, perpendicular, or at an angle to the magnetic field. Michelle went on to introduce the class to the idea of rate of change of magnetic flux. This was done by writing the expressions of ∆ø $=\phi_f-\phi_i$ and $\frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta t}$ on the projector and explaining that 'a change in' meant a final value minus an initial value while rate meant time was involved. She used these expressions to explain to learners that the reason for learning about magnetic flux was to understand Faraday's law for which the expression of $\frac{\Delta \phi}{\Delta t}$ was part of the formula for calculating it. She then read out from the notes she had typed for her learners that a change in magnetic field around a conductor induces an emf and an electric current. The formal definition for Faraday's law was then stated after which she proceeded to write the equation for the law on the projector, asking learners to identify the variables that they saw in the equation. She asked the class why the formula had a negative in it. A learner who seemed to have read ahead replied that the magnetic field and emf oppose each other. Michelle responded by stating that "there is something resisting something else". Once learners had copied the equation for Faraday's law into their notes, Michelle continued to read out from the notes the variables that influence the magnitude of the induced emf. Learners were referred to a page in their textbooks which showed a worked calculation of Faraday's law. Michelle worked through the example, explaining that it was important to write out the variables from the question that were needed for the calculation. After this very brief introduction to Faraday's law and a practice calculation, Michelle pointed out that the direction of the induced current also needed to be "calculated" which is where Lenz's law came in. She stated Lenz's law and explained that the magnetic field generated by the conductor will always oppose the change in magnetic flux as the magnetic field generated is trying to keep the magnetic flux constant. Michelle then spent the majority of the lesson on drawing diagrams on the overhead projector of magnets entering or exiting solenoids with different poles facing the solenoid. Throughout explaining Lenz's law with her diagrams, learners were asked to hold their right hand in the air and to practice the RHR with her in order to determine the direction of the induced currents in the diagrams. Michelle used the last few minutes of her lesson to complete the first question from a textbook exercise on Faraday's law.

Vignette: Michelle's lesson

6.3.1 Curricular Saliency

Michelle discussed the majority of the concepts that are prescribed for Faraday's law in the curriculum. She first introduced the key idea of 'Magnetic flux' in a previous lesson (pre-i, 6-8) and in the following lesson that I observed lesson, she introduced Faraday's law. Michelle did not perform a demonstration that allowed learners to observe a current induced in a conductor. Instead, she used a bottle and a pen to discuss the direction of the induced current rather than the phenomenon of induction. Thus, Michelle was regarded as not introducing 'The phenomenon of induction' as a key idea which is included in the expert CoRe.

Michelle's sequencing of concepts did not follow that implied in the curriculum. She introduced magnetic flux first, before stating Faraday's law, in agreement with her preinterview (6-7). This is different from the curriculum which could be interpreted as suggesting that Faraday's law is the first thing teachers should state*.* She explained her reason for introducing magnetic flux before Faraday's law, stating:

The whole concept goes around magnetic flux. So first maybe just introduce [learners] to magnetic flux and maybe link Faraday's law to magnetic flux so they understand it better and then do the right hand rule. (57-59)

The concept of Lenz's law is discussed in the curriculum but it is not mentioned by name. Michelle indicated on two separate occasions in her post-interview that she taught Lenz's law because it was discussed in the Grade 11 textbook that she had used to plan her lesson.

I chose to discuss Lenz's law because] it was in the … what was that book's name? That red and white book. (211-212)

The other textbook focused on Faraday's law and then they did immediately Lenz's Law afterwards and they asked combined questions at the back of the book. That's why I did Lenz's Law as well. (224-247)

Michelle provided a shallow explanation for Lenz's law stating that the magnetic field generated is trying to keep the magnetic flux constant. She had seen in an internet search that this related to energy conservation principles but did not seem to understand it entirely. Had she understood it or explained it in more detail, learners would likely have had a better conceptual understanding of the induced current which is not conceptually discussed in the curriculum.

The content included in the two textbooks that Michelle used to plan her lessons on Faraday's law influenced her teaching of the topic, particularly with regard to what content to teach. This follows after she confessed that she did not use the curriculum document to prepare for her lessons in the post-interview (10-12). Calculating the induced current was also taught because Michelle had seen it discussed in textbooks (post-i, 238-247).

6.3.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

Much of Michelle's lesson was spent doing examples to practice the RHR. Her examples included all possible scenarios of magnets entering or exiting solenoids. The curriculum is regarded as alluding to the fact that learners have difficulty applying the RHR. Michelle's statement below from her post-interview indicated that she was aware that learners struggle to apply the RHR to the induced current and its magnetic field.

[Learners] struggle with getting the direction of the induced current because they usually face their thumb in the north direction of the bar magnet and not in the induced north. So then they get the induced current wrong as well. (368-370)

Rather than directly addressing this difficulty in class and stressing which magnetic field the thumb needs to point in the direction of, Michelle performed a number of examples in hopes that learners would come to remember which magnetic field to apply the rule to.

Although magnetic flux is a new concept to learners, the curriculum does not allude to any difficulties regarding it. Michelle noticed in her previous lesson that learners had difficulty with regard to magnetic flux, particularly with interpreting the orientation of a conductor and the angle used to calculate flux (pre-i, 146-150). She addressed this difficulty by drawing three diagrams on the overhead projector of magnetic fields passing parallel, perpendicular, and at an angle through the conductors and explaining the angle.

Michelle addressed one difficulty which related to magnetic flux which only became known to her while teaching, while a major difficulty regarding the RHR alluded to in the curriculum was not directly addressed. Her statement: "I handed them extra activities of previous exam papers and they were fine with it" (post-i, 86-87) suggests that she relied on class activities to uncover difficulties instead of actively addressing those that she was aware of during her teaching.

6.3.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Michelle had identified Magnetism and Electrostatics as prior knowledge in her CoRe. During her recap of magnetic flux in her lesson on Faraday's law, she only drew on learners' prior knowledge of magnetism by revising properties of magnetic field lines. In her post-interview, she described concepts from the topic of Magnetism that she regarded as important and should be taught to learners before they are introduced to Faraday's law. She stated:

The basic magnetic force, so say north to north, south to north, that around a bar magnet are magnetic field lines. Because there in Gr 10 they did a whole chapter on magnetic fields and how to draw them. ...I think they need to do that before they can change in magnetic field. (330- 333)

It appeared that Michelle was referring to magnetic fields and how they are represented by field lines as well as what their shape is between like poles and opposite poles.

Michelle indicated that learners' knowledge of emf and "how electrons move through the circuit" influence the topic of Faraday's law and the way in which she teaches it (post-i, 20-21) but she did not revise the concepts of emf or current when she mentioned them in her lesson. Her own understanding of emf did not seem complete from comments in her post-interview (301-306):

Researcher: If a learner asked you what EMF is, how would you explain it?

Michelle: Electromotive force.

Researcher: And if they asked you what does that mean?

Michelle: Then I'll give them the definition that I can't remember now.

Concepts from the topic of Energy such as energy conversions and the law of conservation of energy which relate to electromagnetism, were also not mentioned in her lesson. These concepts are not explicitly mentioned in the section of Faraday's law in curriculum, unlike emf, current, or magnetic field.

Michelle was asked in her post-interview (362-366) if learners have any misconceptions regarding any of the concepts in Faraday's law. Instead of identifying misconceptions, she discussed two difficulties which related to describing the orientation of a conductor in a magnetic field, and the RHR. She also did not address any misconceptions in her lesson on Faraday's law.

6.3.4 Representations

The curriculum states that Faraday's law must be demonstrated for learners, providing a list of apparatus that can be used to perform this demonstration. Michelle used a bottle, pencil, and fingers instead to represent a solenoid, a magnet, and directions of induced current respectively. Her demonstration focused predominantly on the induced current and showing learners how to apply the RHR to determine its direction. Emphasis was not placed on how the current was induced or that an emf was generated. When asked if she explained what happens when a bar magnet is pushed into or pulled out of a solenoid, as expected by the curriculum, she replied:

I used a bottle and then showed with a pen, the magnet is moving into the bottle and out of the bottle. And then in which way is the current going to move using my fingers. (post-i, 41-44)

Learners were thus not properly given the opportunity to observe the phenomenon of induction. Without such a demonstration or investigation by learners themselves, Faraday's law would remain an abstract concept to learners. She realised after teaching Faraday's law, the importance of representations, stating:

Next year I will make use of more practical examples to make it easy for them to understand. Maybe just to show them an example on, or a simulation where [induction] happens and then start explaining so that it's not that farfetched for them. (post-i, 390-392)

So the same as the CAPS document, you use the solenoid and the bar magnet and the galvanometer and connecting wires and show them how it looks. And then maybe just make use of the solenoid and bar magnet instead of a bottle and pen. (post-i, 271-273)

Her comments indicated that she would choose to use the apparatus so that learners know how they look, rather than being aware of what they could be used to show that a bottle and a pencil cannot. The curriculum does not explain how the listed apparatus should be put together or used to perform a demonstration of Faraday's law. Representations not suggested in the curriculum, but which Michelle showed learners, were that of diagrams to explain magnetic flux and Lenz's law (Figure 6.1).

Figure 6.1: Notes taken down by learners explaining magnetic flux (left) and diagrams used by Michelle to explain Lenz's law and the RHR (right)

Michelle used the diagrams (see left in Figure 6.1) to explain three different cases relating to the orientation of a conductor in a magnetic field. Her diagrams are not clear as to whether the dotted line used to represent the normal vector (N) lies perpendicular or parallel to the surface area of the coil. This relates to learners' ability to visualise vectors in three dimensions for which these diagrams would further confuse learners. The diagrams in Figure 6.1 (right) were used to explain Lenz's law and the RHR. The pictures on the left indicate the magnetic field of the approaching bar magnet while the pictures on the right show the direction of the induced field. A better conceptual approach would have been for Michelle to combine these diagrams for learners to observe how the fields repel each other in order to oppose the change in flux.

6.3.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Michelle chose to introduce the concept of magnetic flux first, rather than state Faraday's law as indicated in the curriculum. This sequencing is regarded by the expert CoRe as more effective, allowing for better conceptual understanding. Of the two demonstrations mentioned in the CoRe, Michelle only demonstrated the RHR. The biggest shortfall of Michelle's lesson was the fact that she did not demonstrate or organise a practical activity of the phenomenon of induction, thus she did not use the apparatus recommended in the curriculum. Her demonstrations, rather, focused on the induced current and determining the direction of the current with the RHR which relates to Lenz's law, not Faraday's law. She did, however, use diagrams to explain magnetic flux and the angle required to calculate it which are not mentioned in the curriculum.

Learner involvement was limited in Michelle's lesson. She asked some questions to elicit learners' prior knowledge of magnetic field lines and the reason for the presence of the negative in front of the formula for Faraday's law. However, she did not ask questions during demonstrations to gauge learners' understanding. She left exercises for practice until the end of the lesson instead of after finishing teaching a particular key idea, suggesting that she did not sufficiently plan a conceptual teaching strategy for eliciting learners' understanding. This would have helped Michelle pick up if learners had difficulties understanding any of the concepts.

The curriculum states that teachers must stress that Faraday's law relates the induced emf to the rate of change of *flux*. Michelle stated this to learners and demonstrated an understanding of the importance of this relationship by using it as a means to relate magnetic flux (which she introduced first) to Faraday's law.

In terms of content relating to conceptual teaching strategies in the curriculum, Michelle stressed that Faraday's law relates induced emf to the rate of change of *flux* as well as demonstrated the RHR for learners. She however, approached Faraday's law from a theoretical perspective, focusing on the formula, promoting an algorithmic approach to solving calculations involving induced emf. No demonstration of induction was performed to provide learners with a concrete idea of the concept of induction. Her teaching strategy placed little focus on learner involvement or using questions to determine their understanding.

6.4 CASE STUDY 2: TEBOGO

Tebogo finished explaining the induction of magnetic fields by currents in a previous lesson. In the following lesson which I observed, Tebogo introduced Faraday's law by discussing the phenomenon of induction. A vignette of this lesson is presented below.

Tebogo began with a video demonstrating the phenomenon of induction and explained to the class what the galvanometer seen in the video is used for. He stated that learners were aware that if the ends of a conductor were connected to a battery, a current would flow through it because a battery sets up an emf across the ends of the conductor. He asked learners to observe when the needle of the galvanometer would move in the video. Tebogo explained that an emf is induced across the solenoid only if there is relative movement between the magnet and the solenoid which meant either the magnet could be moved back and forth or the solenoid moved. He stated that the induction of an emf by moving a magnet and a conductor relative to each other is explained by Faraday's law. He stated Faraday's law and explained that it describes what is required for an emf to be induced in a conductor. Returning to the video, he drew learners' attention to the needle that deflected in different directions. He explained that the current would change directions because it set up its own magnetic field in such a way as to oppose the change in magnetic field occurring through the solenoid. He reminded learners that they had already been taught that whenever a current flows in a conductor, it induces its own magnetic field and that in this case, the magnetic field induced by the current is always set up in such a way as to oppose the change in the magnetic field of the magnet passing through the loop. Tebogo explained that a version of the RHR is used to find the direction of the

current induced in the conductor. He applied the RHR to examples he drew on the board of magnets entering solenoids. He indicated that the thumb must point in the direction of the magnetic field generated by the current in the solenoid, which is opposing the change in field, and not in the direction of the field around the bar magnet. He gave learners two more examples for homework to practice applying the RHR. Tebogo wrote the equation for Faraday's law on the board and stated that the law refers to magnetic flux which has to do with the magnetic field of the magnet that is passing through the area encompassed by the solenoid. He drew a diagram of a magnet and field lines on the board and explained that in order to determine the emf induced in a solenoid, learners would need to calculate the amount of magnetic field passing through the area of a solenoid or any loop of wire and that this is known as the magnetic flux. The more field lines that pass through the area of a conductor, the larger the magnetic flux, and the fewer the field lines, the less the magnetic flux. He wrote the formula to calculate magnetic flux on the board and explained what each symbol represented and its unit and stated a formal definition of magnetic flux. He showed learners using a drawing what the relationship between the strength of a magnet, number of field lines, and magnetic flux is. Tebogo stated that it was also important to look at the angle in which the field lines passed through the coil as magnetic flux only takes into account the amount of magnetic field that pass perpendicularly through the cross-sectional area of the surface of the conductor. Using a piece of paper and a pen to represent the surface area of a conductor and field lines respectively, he explained the concept of a normal line and how it is used to calculate the amount of magnetic flux. The words used to describe the orientation of a conductor within a magnetic field were also related to the angle that formed between the normal line and the field and in which case flux would be a maximum or minimum. He drew a diagram of a loop with field lines passing through it and explained how the perpendicular component of the magnetic field could be calculated using the cosine trigonometric function. The lesson ended and Tebogo picked up the following day by returning to the demonstration of the pen through the paper and showed learners how the angle would affect the value of the flux. Before moving on, he recapped how the magnetic field strength, area of a conductor, and orientation of the loop could influence the magnitude of the magnetic flux. He returned to the video shown at the beginning of the lesson and explained that when the bar magnet was held stationary, a certain amount of magnetic field was passing through the loop which is the magnetic flux of the loop. However the presence of magnetic flux isn't enough to induce an emf in the conductor. He explained that when the magnet was moved in and out of the loop, the magnetic flux was constantly changing and that it is a change in flux that is needed to induce an emf. The change in flux is achieved by moving the magnet through the loop but that the magnet could also be held stationary and the loop moved or turned which would change the magnetic flux as well. Tebogo related induction to how electricity is produced by Eskom. He pointed to the ∆Φ in Faraday's equation and stated that learners can see that a change in flux is required to induce an emf. He stated that a change in flux could occur due to a change in the magnetic field strength, area of a conductor, or orientation of the conductor in a magnetic field. He played the video once more and explained that if the magnet were to be moved through the coil faster which meant in a shorter amount of time, the change in the flux would occur quicker and would also increase the induced emf. He stated that how fast the flux is changed is referred to as the rate of change of flux and is the reason that a change in time also appears in the formula. This meant that a shorter time resulted in a greater induced emf whereas a longer time resulted in a smaller induced emf. Tebogo explained the difference between a loop and a solenoid and that the number of windings in the conductor relates to the *N* in the formula as it influences the magnitude of the induced emf. He also explained that a negative appears in Faraday's equation because the induced current sets up its own magnetic field which always opposes the change in flux through the conductor. He reminded learners that this idea was used when they applied the RHR to determine the direction of the induced current in a solenoid. Tebogo started on an example question from his notes which required learners to calculate change in flux and induced emf. He then gave learners the rest of the period to complete an activity from their notes.

Vignette: Tebogo's lesson

6.4.1 Curricular Saliency

Tebogo taught all the concepts prescribed in the curriculum but his lesson also included the key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction' present in the expert CoRe but not in the curriculum. He, however, introduced Faraday's law before the concept of magnetic flux which is regarded as less conceptually effective in the expert CoRe. Tebogo chose this sequencing as he felt that it was a means to introduce the need for the concept of magnetic flux and how it relates to Faraday's law.

Tebogo was aware that Lenz's law is not referred to by name in the curriculum but the idea that a change in flux is resisted by a solenoid is discussed in the curriculum. He knew that this idea and thus Lenz's law relate to the negative in the formula for Faraday's law and the RHR which are shown to learners (post-i, 202-203 & 206-209) but did not indicate how the direction of the induced field relates to energy principles.

In his post-interview (122-123), Tebogo explained that he started with a demonstration of electromagnetic induction as:

Faraday's law only explains what we see. It is not induction itself. Learners must see what is happening and then you try explain it.

The concept of magnetic flux was only introduced after Tebogo discussed Faraday's law. Although the expert CoRe suggests introducing magnetic flux before Faraday's law and its equation, Tebogo regarded this as a more effective sequencing of key ideas as he wanted learners to be aware of the variables which influence the induced emf. He stated in his post-interview (128-129) that:

I want [learners] to know that this is the sub-topic that we are going to do. This is the formula. The formula has these variables. One of them is the flux.

Tebogo discussed in class how Faraday's law relates to electricity generation, explaining in his post-interview (37-38) that "the core part of what happens with electricity is in the generators and electromagnetism". Practical applications and related topics in Grade 12 are not mentioned in the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum.

6.4.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

While teaching the RHR, Tebogo pointed out to learners that their thumb has to point in the direction of the magnetic field induced by the current when applying the rule, clarifying a difficulty noted in the expert CoRe. He also raised the fact that learners often become confused as to which version of the RHR to apply to solenoids as the fingers do not represent the same variables in different versions (post-i, 72-78). The curriculum does not acknowledge or differentiate between versions of the RHR even though application of the RHR as expected by the curriculum requires different versions in different scenarios.

Tebogo mentioned another learner difficulty. He explained that learners tend to confuse the concept of magnetic field and magnetic flux as they are unable to distinguish between the two (post-i, 139-141) although he did not address this difficulty during his lesson. No difficulties regarding the concept of magnetic flux, however, are alluded to in the curriculum.

6.4.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Tebogo discussed concepts from the topic of Magnetism during his lesson but did not specifically elicit learners' prior knowledge about these topics in order to determine their understanding of them. He identified Magnetism as influencing his teaching of Faraday's law (post-i, 32) stating that learners need to understand the concept of north and south poles in order to apply the RHR for determining the direction of the induced current (91-92).

Tebogo discussed the concept of emf in his lesson and reminded learners that it is a type of potential difference. He also referred learners back to their understanding of what is required to create a current in a circuit, explaining that a battery connected to a conductor would cause a current to flow through it as an emf is generated across the ends of the conductor. He used this as a means to explain how a current was generated via induction in which a battery is not present. Tebogo identified the topic of Electric Circuits, and in particular, Ohm's law as necessary prior knowledge for the study of Faraday's law (post-i, 89-90). He indicated that this prior knowledge is important for learners to be able to recognise that a solenoid connected to a galvanometer constitutes a circuit (89-91). An exercise that he created for learners also showed that he was aware that learners would need to apply Ohm's law in order to calculate the magnitude of the induced current in a conductor. Current and emf are mentioned in the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum but Ohm's law and related calculations are not.

While discussing the video of induction, Tebogo pointed out that for an emf to be induced in the solenoid, there needed to be relative motion between a magnet and solenoid. He further explained that this meant that either the magnet or the solenoid had to be moved while the other is stationary. Tebogo explained in his post-interview that the concept of relative motion is important prior knowledge for the understanding of Faraday's law (96-94) but that it is no longer a topic that is taught to learners before Faraday's law as it was in the past. He addressed a misconception related to relativity and induction when he explained to learners that either a magnet or a solenoid needed to move in order to induce a current. He explained that "learners think that only if the magnet is moved will there be current but it doesn't matter which one moves. There must just be relative motion between the solenoid and the magnet" (post-i, 154-156). This misconception is not alluded to in the curriculum but does appear in the expert CoRe.

6.4.4 Representations

Tebogo showed a video demonstrating the phenomenon of induction and explained the use of the galvanometer. He had learners make important observations by drawing their attention to the needle of the galvanometer that deflected in different directions. Tebogo was cognisant of the importance of demonstrating induction, explaining that it allows learners to make important observations and as well as allowing them to link explanations in words to what they observed in a demonstration. This is in agreement with the curriculum's expectations that teachers perform a demonstration of Faraday's law and use words and pictures to explain what is observed.

If I explain and I have a magnet and I have a coil and maybe I have a galvanometer, learners will see that if I move, something is happening. Then I have to explain why there is movement of the needle on the galvanometer. When I move the magnet relative to the coil or the coil relative to the magnet so that the learners sees. And then after showing them that, I can then explain 'What you saw there is a current that is being induced, or the voltage that is being induced.' Then they will be able to link what I am saying to the diagram. (post-i, 54-61)

Although the curriculum calls for a practical demonstration of Faraday's law and not a video, the apparatus listed in the curriculum were the same as those that appeared in the video used by Tebogo.

Although no representations for magnetic flux are suggested in the curriculum, Tebogo explained the concept using a pen, pencil, and paper to represent the normal line, magnetic field lines, and area of a conductor respectively (Figure 6.2). A demonstration with similar resources is also mentioned in the expert CoRe.

Figure 6.2: Tebogo and a student demonstrating magnetic flux

After showing the video demonstrating induction, Tebogo explained the RHR and drew diagrams on the board of magnets entering solenoids which he used as examples to find the direction of the induced current. The curriculum provides a description of how to apply the RHR as well as explains what the direction of the current in a solenoid will be if a north pole is either pushed into or pulled out of the solenoid. Tebogo explained the RHR similarly to how it is explained in the curriculum. He also addressed a difficulty regarding the rule when he explained how it is applied.

6.4.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Tebogo began the topic of Faraday's law by showing learners a video of induction before introducing Faraday's law or magnetic flux. This allowed learners to observe the phenomenon of induction before discussing the physics behind it. Although the curriculum suggests a practical demonstration of Faraday's law, it does not state how the demonstration should be performed or what should be observed. Tebogo's teaching strategy included using questions to get learners to focus on certain details in the video such as when the needle of the galvanometer would deflect compared to when it would not, or to identify what learners believed was necessary for an emf to be induced in the conductor.

Similar to the sequencing suggested in the curriculum, Tebogo introduced Faraday's law before the concept of magnetic flux. In his post-interview (124-128), he indicated that by introducing Faraday's law and the formula first, he could show learners the variables, such as magnetic flux, in the formula that influence the induced emf, and discuss each of them one by one. The relationship between flux, particularly a change in flux, and induced emf was mentioned on a number of occasions throughout Tebogo's lesson. He was thus regarded as stressing that induced emf is based on the rate of change of flux as expected by the curriculum.

Demonstration and learner involvement was something that Tebogo ensured were part of his teaching strategy. Tebogo returned to the video of induction at various stages throughout his lesson, asking learners questions about what they observed. His questions were similar to those suggested in the expert CoRe as part of an effective conceptual teaching strategy. Learners were involved again when he explained magnetic flux by asking a learner to assist him in doing a demonstration with a pen, pencil, and piece of paper, asking questions while he performed the demonstration. For the RHR, he noted that it was important for learners to participate and perform the RHR with him. He stated: "I like seeing them doing those things using their hands. To me, it makes me see they are doing something" (post-i, 115-116).

Tebogo understood the importance of using representations in Faraday's law and how they would allow learners to relate what they saw with the words and pictures used to explain induction. Explaining what he would say to learners when teaching Faraday's law, he stated in his post-interview:

'What you saw there is a current that is being induced, or the voltage that is being induced.' Then they will be able to link what I am saying to the diagram. But if I'm standing here saying 'Guys, it's like a magnet' ... without a picture, some of them have never seen a magnet in their life, some of them will switch off. I believe in showing them. (59-63)

He also indicated that a demonstration of induction is important in evoking learner interest. In the post-interview, he explained that from a young age, learners are kept engaged by "colours and … sound" but in school, the chalk and talk method does not keep learners interested (52-54).

6.5 CASE STUDY 3: SARAH

Sarah began discussing aspects of Faraday's law a day before I observed her. In the previous lesson that I did not observe, Sarah introduced the idea of induced current. She then introduced the RHR followed by the concept of magnetic flux. A vignette of the following lesson that I observed is given below.

Sarah began her lesson by reminding learners that they had learned in their previous lesson that a current passing through a wire sets up a magnetic field which led to the conclusion that the opposite should also be possible whereby a magnetic field can induce a current. She explained the experiment originally performed by Faraday which demonstrated induction by drawing a diagram of the setup on the board. Sarah pointed out that a current was only induced in the setup when a change in magnetic field through the loop occurred. She stated that Faraday's law was about a change in the amount of magnetic field through the conductor referred to as flux which will induce a current. She reminded her class of the previous lesson in which she taught that a stationary magnet inside a solenoid would not induce a current in the solenoid. Only if the magnet is moved into or out of the solenoid would there be an induced current. Sarah reminded learners that a simpler explanation of magnetic flux is

the number of field lines that pass perpendicularly through a loop. Using a wooden apparatus representing a coil, she recapped how the angle needed to calculate magnetic flux was determined as well as what the value of the cosine of that angle would be if the loop and the conductor were perpendicular or parallel to each other. She further explained how this related to the minimum and maximum magnetic flux passing through the loop. She stated that Faraday's law is based on the idea of a change in magnetic flux which could occur because of a magnet moving through a coil, a coil turning in a magnetic field or because a coil is moving through a magnetic field whose strength varied. This change induces an emf in the coil. She stated that learners knew the term 'emf' from Grade 10 and that it stood for maximum potential difference. She explained that if there is a change in the magnetic field due to a magnet and a coil moving relative to each other, there is an emf that is induced which delivers a current to a circuit. She stated that Faraday's law was the principle that learners would use to explain the operation of motors and generators that would be studied in Grade 12. She described how the setup in Faraday's experiment is similar to electricity generation for households. Using her wooden apparatus, Sarah demonstrated different ways in which a change in flux could be brought about and how these changes would affect the magnitude of the induced emf. She stated the formal definition of Faraday's law and wrote the mathematical relationship between induced emf and rate of change of flux on the board. She explained this relationship using the wooden coil which she rotated at different speeds. Sarah gave a practical example of Faraday's law by describing an interactive display learners may have seen at a science museum of a bicycle that, when ridden, powers a hairdryer or lightbulb. She explained that the faster a person peddled, the brighter the lightbulb would burn. She drew a graph on the board to represent the relationship between emf and change in flux and related the mathematical relationship to the shape of the graph. She explained that generators do not have a single coil but multiple coils as the more coils there are, the greater the induced emf will be. She brought these two relationships together by writing the equation for Faraday's law on the board and explained what each symbol in the equation represented and their respective unit. A learner asked why a negative appeared in the formula to which she admitted that she wasn't sure but that she had looked it up the previous evening and saw that it relates to Lenz's law. She explained that the negative compensated for the fact that the change in magnetic flux and the induced current have opposite directions. She explained that learners would come across Lenz's law in university which explained the presence of the negative in the formula. She explained that if learners were to do an experiment, they would see that the needle of a galvanometer would deflect in different directions due to the change in the direction of the induced current. Sarah wrote an expression on the board to calculate the change in flux. She described an example of a coil moving through a magnetic field of varying strength and explained that learners would have to calculate the change in the magnetic flux and then substitute the answer into Faraday's equation. She showed learners how they would write an equation to calculate the change in magnetic flux that was specifically brought about by a change in field strength. She then explained the effect of area size of a coil on the induced emf. She demonstrated this by covering half of the wooden coil's surface area and stating that a smaller area would lead to less magnetic flux passing through the coil. She

described the relationship between the number of turns in a coil as well as the magnetic field strength and the induced emf. She started on a textbook exercise, writing on the board the information given in the question. The question stated that a coil is pulled perpendicularly out of a magnetic field. When explaining what the angle required to calculate the magnetic flux was, she told learners that it is zero as the surface of the coil is perpendicular to the magnetic field which led to an angle of zero degrees. The second part of the question asked for the current that passes through the coil if it is connected to a 25 Ohm resistor. Sarah asked learners how they would calculate it if they were given the value for voltage and resistance and they need to calculate the current. She stated that learners should think about circuits. A learner replied, "Ohm's law". The lesson ended after this.

Vignette: Sarah's lesson

6.5.1 Curricular Saliency

The key ideas of 'Magnetic flux' and 'Faraday's law' present in the curriculum were introduced in Sarah's lessons. Instead of following the sequence implied in the curriculum, Sarah introduced magnetic flux before Faraday's law. She recognised the importance of magnetic flux, stating in the post-interview that it is the most important concept referred to in the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum because "magnetic flux plays such a big role in Faraday's law. It's because magnetic flux is changing that there's an induced emf" (92-94). However, Sarah introduced magnetic flux before Faraday's law because this was the sequencing in the textbook she used.

I just followed the textbook. So I started with the whole magnetic field and then how sending a current through a wire can induce magnetic field, and then we went the other way round. Moving or changing magnetic field can induce a current. Then from there, I introduced magnetic flux. From magnetic flux, I introduced Faraday's law. (post-i, 83-87)

Sarah indicated, however, that stating Faraday's law before discussing magnetic flux, as sequenced in the curriculum, might help learners better understand what they will be learning about (post-i, 87-89). It appeared that she had not given much thought as to what sequencing would best allow for conceptual understanding, assuming the textbook's sequencing was adequate.

The curriculum does not discuss Lenz's law by name but the concept behind it is mentioned. Sarah had not planned to discuss Lenz's law in her lesson but was forced to address it when a learner asked why a negative appeared in the formula for Faraday's law. Sarah admitted that she did not know why but that she had searched on google the previous evening for the reason. She was asked in her post-interview what she understood by the concept of Lenz's law. She replied:

I don't know to be honest. No. I just know that on a video that I watched, they said that the negative of Faraday's law, that part where it's negative N delta phi over delta t, that negative is explained through Lenz's law. But I actually have no clue. (177-180)

The importance of the topic of Faraday's law and it relationship with future topics are not mentioned in the curriculum. It was evident that Sarah regarded this as important for learners to understand and was aware of how the topic relates to future topics learners will study. She stated in her post-interview that the topic of motors and generators influences the way in which she teaches Faraday's law (24-25), specifically pointing out that the RHR is used again in Grade 12 in this section of work (347-349).

6.5.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

Sarah stated to learners that the thumb of the right hand must point in the direction of the induced magnetic field's current (post-i, 61-62), thus addressing the difficulty implied in the curriculum regarding which magnetic field the RHR must be applied to.

During her revision of the concept of magnetic flux, Sarah addressed a difficulty regarding the angle required to calculate magnetic flux. This difficulty is not alluded to in the curriculum but Sarah explained in her post-interview that:

[Learners] struggle with that angle, to understand that it's between the normal to the coil and the magnetic field lines. So they see it, if they say that the magnetic field lines are perpendicular to the coil, they tend to use cos90. (98-101)

Sarah only identified one relevant difficulty regarding learners' ability to determine the angle needed to calculate magnetic flux which relates to learners' ability to visualise in three dimensions. However, she did not identify the difficulty alluded to in the curriculum regarding the RHR in her post-interview.

6.5.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

It was evident that Sarah regarded learners' understanding of magnetism and in particular magnetic field lines taught in Grade 10 as important for the understanding of Faraday's law. She stated that she had revised magnetic field lines in her previous lesson to determine what learners still understood about them and filled in any gaps in their knowledge (post-i, 216-218).

Concepts from the topic of Electric Circuits were discussed during Sarah's lesson. She specifically reminded learners that they had come across the term 'emf' in Grade 10 and that it stands for "maximum potential difference". She also drew on learners' prior knowledge of Ohm's law while doing practice calculations with learners. Sarah stated that electric circuits are taught again in Grade 11 after Faraday's law and relates to it, as the concepts of current and emf are discussed again with learners (post-i, 20-21).

Sarah did not address misconceptions in her lesson. She was asked on two different occasions in her post-interview if there are any misconceptions that learners have in the topic of Faraday's law. On both occasions she spoke about the difficulty learners have in determining the angle required to calculate magnetic flux (239-241 & 326-328).

Certain concepts from the topic of Energy in Grade 10 are relevant to Faraday's law but were not identified by Sarah. She also did not address any misconceptions during her lessons or discuss any in her post-interview.

6.5.4 Representations

Sarah's first representation was a demonstration of the RHR which is included in the curriculum. She performed this demonstration in a previous lesson that I did not observe explaining to her class that a current could be induced in a conductor using a magnet (post-i, 54-55). This demonstration was not specifically used to discuss induction but rather the RHR. She used a magnet and a solenoid, apparatus listed in the curriculum, to describe the RHR performing a demonstration also similar to that described in the curriculum.

In the following lesson which I observed, Sarah explained Faraday's law by discussing an experiment that he conducted. A reproduction of the diagram that she drew on the board of this experiment is seen in Figure 6.3. The diagram of Faraday's experiment included the same apparatus that are listed in the curriculum to demonstrate Faraday's law. The experiment performed by Faraday did not involve a magnet being moved into or out of a solenoid. To compensate for this, Sarah also used a bar magnet and a solenoid to demonstrate to learners that a change in magnetic field through a conductor is achieved by moving a magnet relative to a conductor.

Figure 6.3: Diagram used to explain an experiment performed by Faraday

Although Sarah's diagram can be used to explain induction, it is problematic as it illustrates mutual induction which is beyond the scope of the curriculum and would need conceptual scaffolding before learners would be able to comprehend its connection to Faraday's law. The concept of a change in flux which underpins Faraday's law cannot be directly observed during mutual induction whereas if she had explained Faraday's law by demonstrating a magnet physically moving into or out of a solenoid, learners would be able to see that the amount of magnetic field passing through the coil is changing. The curriculum does not explain how the apparatus listed are to be used or what observations should be made during a demonstration of Faraday's law. Sarah was aware that it is important for learner to know what the various apparatus are, in particular the galvanometer (post-i, 302) as well as to observe when the needle of the galvanometer would deflect. However, she did not recognise how using a physical magnet and solenoid which she could move would be more effective for conceptual understanding. When asked how she would use the apparatus listed in the curriculum to perform a demonstration, she replied:

To show that moving a bar magnet into and out of a solenoid can induce a current. So with that, they can see that the galvanometer is deflecting from the middle. And I think with that they can actually see that if you are pushing the magnet in, it goes to one side, and if you are pulling it out it goes to the other side. And if there's no movement, the galvanometer will be zero. (posti, 380-384)

The curriculum provides an equation to calculate magnetic flux but does not suggest representations which can be used to explain the concept. Sarah, however, used the wooden apparatus of a coil to explain how a change in different variables such as field strength or orientation of a conductor could bring about a change in magnetic flux. These representations allow learners to see three-dimensionally conductors and the changes that would bring about a change in flux.

6.5.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Sarah's sequencing of key ideas followed a conceptual approach similar to that suggested in the expert CoRe in which magnetic flux is introduced before Faraday's law. This was Sarah's fifth time teaching Faraday's law but she continued to rely on the textbook that she used to plan her lesson to inform her what content she was expected to teach.

I used the textbook. I just look at what they have to know about the topic and then YouTube videos. (post-i, 12-13)

Sarah was still unsure of certain concepts such as Lenz's law, admitting in her postinterview that she did not understand it (177-180) even though she knew that the curriculum stated "something" about the law (288).

A representation of both the RHR and Faraday's law were performed for learners which is required by the curriculum. However, there were drawbacks to Sarah's representation of Faraday's law which were that it did not allow learners to physically observe induction and that it included the idea of mutual induction which is beyond the scope of the curriculum.

It was evident from Sarah's lesson as well as her responses in the post-interview that she felt it was important for learners to understand that induction is based on the rate of change of flux, an idea which the curriculum indicates should be stressed by teachers. She was asked to explain what she understood as the expectation from the statement: "State Faraday's law", stated in the curriculum. She pointed out that learners must understand "the relationship between the EMF and, basically that it's directly proportional to the rate of change of magnetic flux" (31-32). This was again pointed out in her post-interview:

It's because there's a change in the magnetic field that you get an induced EMF. And how fast this change is happening. (113-115)

The curriculum does not suggest how learners should be involved in lessons or the type of questions that teachers should ask them. The expert CoRe suggests that learner involvement should take place during demonstrations of the RHR and Faraday's law where teachers ask learners about their observations. Sarah's lesson lacked learner involvement as she explained to the class what learners should observe during the demonstrations of the RHR and induction rather than asking learners questions. Sarah only planned to specifically ask questions to address the one difficulty she was aware of regarding learners' ability to determine the angle required to calculate flux. For the rest of her lesson, learners needed to raise their hand to ask questions if they did not understand something. Sarah also kept all calculations for practice for the end once she had finished teaching the topic, rather than having learners practice the RHR or calculations after teaching each key idea before moving on to the next.

6.6 CASE STUDY 4: LINDA

Linda began teaching the topic of Electromagnetism which included Faraday's law to her class in the lesson that I observed. A vignette of this lesson is given below.

Linda began her lesson by revising the definition of electric field and magnetic field. She informed learners that they had previously studied the topics of Electricity and Magnetism separately but that they would see in the lesson that they have an effect on each other. She recalled that learners had in Grade 10 observed that current had a heating effect. She stated that they would be looking at the magnetic effect of current and eventually at Faraday's law of induction. She projected a PowerPoint presentation which had a short explanation of Faraday's law of electromagnetic induction and explained that it is used for predicting how a magnetic field will interact with an electric circuit to produce an emf. She explained that they were looking at Faraday's law because it is the fundamental operating principle of transformers, electric motors, generators, and solenoids and that learners would be going into detail of motors and generators the following year. Linda played a video clip

which demonstrated the effect on an electrical conductor in the presence of a magnetic field. The video clip showed a piece of wire that began to swing between the poles of a U-shaped bar magnet when a current was passed through the wire. She asked learners to observe what they saw. A learner replied that the conductor moved around in circles. Linda clarified that the wire moved towards the back of the magnet. She explained that it was important to note that the wire moved when current was flowing through it. She asked learners to explain why it moved, hinting that they should keep mechanics in mind. A learner stated that something will move if there is a force acting on it. Linda explained that the magnetic field is exerting a force on the conductor but only when the conductor is carrying current. She explained that learners could now see that a magnetic field can also exert a force on a magnetic object as well as charges but only if the charges were moving. Linda demonstrated the RHR for determining the direction of the magnetic field produced around a wire conductor. She then drew a diagram of a cross-section of wires and drew a dot inside the wire on the left and a cross inside the wire on the right. She explained that a dot and a cross are used to represent the direction of current. She returned to the RHR and showed learners how to use it to find and draw in the direction of the induced magnetic field around the wires. She explained that the two magnetic fields of the wire and the magnet were reacting to each other causing the wire to be pushed away. She said that this brought her to another concept which was if you have a conductor in a magnetic field and you move it, the magnetic field will induce a current in a conductor. A slide that had the equation for Faraday's law was put up. Linda explained that the "ε" in the equation meant the same thing as potential difference measured in volts. She stated the formal definition of Faraday's law for learners and then asked them to identify what was familiar to them in the equation. A learner replied that time was familiar. Another slide was shown to learners of a bar magnet and she said she would return to Faraday's law later. This slide was used to explain magnetic flux. She stated that magnetic flux, as seen in Faraday's law was the total number of magnetic field lines passing through an area. The diagram of the bar magnet had two circles, each encompassing a different number of field lines which she used to further explain magnetic flux. She wrote on the board the formula for magnetic flux, placing a delta sign in front of the formula and stated that learners would be working with a change in magnetic flux for Faraday's formula. Linda explained the difference between magnetic flux density which she said meant the same thing as magnetic field strength, and magnetic flux. She explained that if the magnetic field strength is multiplied by the area, magnetic flux will be obtained, emphasising that the field lines must past perpendicularly through the area. A slide was put up which was used to represent the different factors that influence the emf such as area, field strength, and orientation. Learners identified that the conducting loops on the right hand side of the diagram had a greater magnetic flux because more field lines passed through them. Linda explained that in order for learners to understand the purpose of the diagram, she first needed to explain that they would be looking at conducting loops that are moving in magnetic fields and that the flux would be the lines cutting through them. She explained that if the loop moves from the vertical in the diagram she had up, fewer lines would pass through the loop and so the flux would be lower. She showed learners on another slide how diagrams of conducting loops and magnetic fields could be shown to learners from another perspective. Another slide of a conducting loop at an angle to the magnetic field was used to explain how to calculate magnetic flux. Linda explained the concept of a normal of a loop. She stated that maximum flux is achieved if the loop is 90 degrees to the magnetic field but that this wasn't always the case. She explained that they were interested in finding the component of the magnetic flux that was passing perpendicularly through the loop using the cosine trigonometric function. She asked learners to calculate the value of cos90 and cos0. She drew conducting loops at different angles to magnetic field lines to relate the angle to the value of the magnetic flux. She said that students should not get confused between the angle at which they find the coil and the angle θ. She returned to the formula for Faraday's law and explained what each variable stood for. She had an induction torch which she explained had copper wires inside which were known as a solenoid. Inside the solenoid was a cylindrical magnet. She explained that when she shook the torch, there was a change in the magnetic flux as the magnetic field lines were cutting through the wires which generated a potential difference. Learners were able to see the flash of the lightbulb every time the torch was shook. She explained that there was only light when there was movement which is what Faraday's law was about. If you move a magnetic field through a conductor like a solenoid or when you move the loop in the magnetic field, it induces a potential difference that will eventually give you current. Linda referred learners to their textbook where she completed a question with learners for practice on calculating induced emf using Faraday's law.

Vignette: Linda's lesson

6.6.1 Curricular Saliency

Linda introduced the same key ideas in her lesson of 'Faraday' law' and 'Magnetic flux' which appear in the curriculum. Her sequencing differed from that in her reported PCK as she first introduced Faraday's law, stating it for learners before discussing magnetic flux. This is the same sequencing as in the curriculum. She did not select 'The phenomenon of induction' as a key idea in her reported PCK, neither was it a key idea present in her lesson. Linda demonstrated induction with an induction torch but only after she introduced Faraday's law and magnetic flux. Thus her demonstration was of Faraday's law in action rather than a demonstration of the phenomenon of induction.

In her post-interview (53), Linda stated that she would follow the same sequencing as that of the curriculum in which Faraday's law is stated before the concept of magnetic flux is introduced. She also confirmed that her lesson followed the same sequence. She did not seem to realise that a more conceptual sequence would be to introduce magnetic flux before stating Faraday's law as suggested by the expert CoRe. This was despite the fact that she was aware that Faraday's law only made sense to learners once she returned to discuss it after having introduced the concept magnetic flux. She stated: "I spent a lot of time on magnetic flux because it's a totally new concept to [learners]. And then I went back to Faraday's law which makes more sense to them" (55-57).

The concept of Lenz's law was discussed in a following lesson after Linda finished teaching the topic of Faraday's law (pre-i, 264-265). She was aware that the idea stated in the curriculum of "the induced current flows in a direction so as to set up a magnetic field to oppose the change in magnetic flux" relates to Lenz's law (post-i, 245-257) but that the curriculum does not expect teachers to teach the law itself (261- 263). Linda, however, was unable to recognise that the formula for Faraday's law acknowledges Lenz's law due to the presence of the negative sign in the formula (257- 260).

6.6.2 What is Difficult to Teach?

The curriculum's explanation of how to apply the RHR suggests that learners may have difficulties in applying it. It appeared that Linda did not teach learners how to determine the direction of the induced current using the RHR. As she had not demonstrated it for learners in her lesson that I observed, she was asked in her postinterview (260-264) if she had shown it in a following lesson that I had not observed. She stated that "the Right-Hand Rule was taught in the section of current-carrying conductors, before Faraday's law" (post-i, 265-266). The RHR she is referring to is the one used to determine the direction of the induced magnetic field around a straight conductor which she taught in the lesson I observed. As a result, she did not address the difficulty of which magnetic field to apply the RHR to. Her restricted knowledge of the content may have prevented her from realising that there are different versions of the RHR which must be taught to learners.

Linda noted in her post-interview that the topic of Faraday's law contained many new concepts such as magnetic flux (post-i, 55-56) and Lenz's law (173-175) which makes it difficult to teach. The nature of the topic of Faraday's law as being difficult due to the number of new concepts is not discussed in the curriculum but the expert CoRe does specifically indicate that magnetic flux is a difficult concept as learners have not been taught the concept before. Linda expressed her wish for learners to be introduced to this concept earlier on in Grade 10 but did not suggest ways she would teach these concepts currently in Grade 11 to address difficulties regarding these concepts.

6.6.3 Learners' Prior Knowledge and Misconceptions

Linda was cognisant that learners had studied Magnetism in Grade 10 but felt that the topic and its content did not influence her teaching to a large extent due to it being covered on a basic level in Grade 10 (post-i, 22-23). She felt that the curriculum does not explain the meaning of magnetic field or refer to it as magnetic field strength. This prompted her to explain the concept of magnetic flux density in her lesson. This may confuse learners since the term is very similar to magnetic flux even if they are related. Important pre-concepts such as field line properties and misconceptions related to them were discussed. Importantly, Linda did relate emf to potential difference studied in Grade 10 although no other concepts from Electricity were revised.

Linda indicated in her pre-interview that learners may find Faraday's law difficult as they were not aware that magnetism and electricity are related. However, important pre-concepts from these prior topics were not revised with learners. Instead, she appeared to be more concerned with how Faraday's law relates to the Grade 12 topic of Motors and Generators (post-i, 21-22). She included Grade 12 content in her lesson regarding the force exerted in a conductor and mentioned teaching Fleming's left and right hand rules in her CoRe. These ideas are not necessary for the understanding of Faraday's law which forms the basis for these future topics.

Concepts from the Grade 10 topic of Energy such as energy conversions and the Law of Conservation of Energy are relevant to Faraday's and Lenz's law. These concepts were not discussed by Linda. They are, however, also not mentioned in the curriculum.

6.6.4 Representations

As previously discussed, Linda did not explain how to apply the specific version of the RHR used to determine the direction of the induced current even though this rule is discussed in the curriculum. She stated in her post-interview (172-173) that learners should already know how to apply the RHR before explaining a demonstration of
induction. The only RHR that learners will have been taught before a demonstration of induction is the version used to determine the direction of the induced magnetic field. This particular version of the RHR demonstrated by Linda is not explained in the curriculum whereas the RHR used to determine the direction of the induced current is.

Linda was asked if she had explained to learners what happens when a bar magnet is pushed into or pulled out of a solenoid as expected by the curriculum. This demonstration of Faraday's law was not shown to learners as Linda said she had never seen a galvanometer in the 25 years she had been teaching (post-i, 37-40). It appeared that she was not aware that a galvanometer is a type of ammeter, a common apparatus in school laboratories. Linda's only representation of induction and Faraday's law was that of an induction torch which she showed learners at the end of the lesson once she had taught all the concepts related to Faraday's law. This demonstration was not used to support learners' understanding of Faraday's law but rather as visual evidence of induction. Linda came to realise the importance of a demonstration of induction during her post-interview. She indicated that she would teach the topic differently in future by making a greater concerted effort to acquire the apparatus listed in the curriculum in order to demonstrate induction or find a YouTube video that illustrates it (post-i, 269-271). However, she still did not demonstrate an understanding for the apparatus listed in the curriculum and how they could be used to support the understanding of certain concepts such as change in flux.

No representations to explain magnetic flux are mentioned in the curriculum. Linda used a variety of images such as those shown in figures 6.4 and 6.5 to explain the concept. Linda stated that she "spent a lot of time on magnetic flux because it's a totally new concept to [learners]" (post-i, 55-56). Such diagrams are important even though no representations for magnetic flux are discussed in the curriculum. One drawback of Linda's diagrams for magnetic flux is that they did not allow learners to visualise three-dimensional vectors and angles due to the nature of the twodimensional images.

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Figure 6.4: Diagram used to explain variables that influence magnetic flux

6.6.5 Conceptual Teaching Strategies

Instead of introducing the broader topic of Electromagnetism and the induction of magnetic fields by currents in a separate lesson, Linda taught them in the same one hour lesson in which she introduced Faraday's law. This is in spite of the fact that the curriculum allocates six hours to the entire topic of Electromagnetism. Her key ideas: (A) 'The magnetic effect of current', and (B) 'The effect of magnetic field on current' from her CoRe were thus briefly explained. As a result, she did not teach all the concepts expected by the curriculum for these key ideas which are needed later on for the understanding of Faraday's law.

Linda's sequencing of key ideas in her lesson gave a false impression that Faraday's law explains the entire topic of Electromagnetism and the relationship between magnetic fields and current. She started off the entire topic of Electromagnetism by first discussing Faraday's law before returning to discuss the induction of magnetic fields by currents. These ideas relate to two separate sections in the topic of Electromagnetism in the curriculum. She was asked in the post-interview if she would introduce the concepts in the same order as alluded to in the curriculum. She stated: "I think that's exactly what I did. I gave them an overview of Faraday's law. They haven't got a clue what it means. Then you break it down" (53-54). Her sequencing of key ideas, however, was not entirely the same as implied in the curriculum. Linda did indeed begin by explaining Faraday's law but only demonstrated induction at the end of the lesson once she had already introduced the concept of magnetic flux. This is not an effective sequencing as learners should rather be shown a demonstration of induction at the beginning of teaching Faraday's law. This would allow learners to intuitively come to understand the need for the concept of magnetic flux in order to understand how induction occurs.

The greatest drawback of Linda's lesson is that she did not explain the correct version of the RHR which is a demonstration explained in the curriculum. She also did not adequately demonstrate Faraday's law. The induction torch that she used to demonstrate induction did not allow learners to see the circuit components inside the torch such as those listed in the curriculum. Linda also did not draw any diagrams of magnets being pushed into or pulled out of solenoids which prevented learners from relating what they should observe during a demonstration with an explanation of induction. Linda regarded representations of magnetic flux as most important as it is an underlying concept in Faraday's law and is also a concept that learners have never come across before. This prompted her to use a variety of images to explain the concept with little focus on representations of induction.

The curriculum is regarded as indicating that, as part of a conceptual teaching strategy, teachers should stress the idea that the induced emf depends on the rate of change of magnetic *flux*. Linda did point this idea out during her lesson, stating:

[Faraday's law] tells you that an emf will be induced if you move a conductor in a magnetic field. And that induced emf will be directly proportional to the rate of change of magnetic flux. …If the coil is moving through those lines, the magnetic flux is changing.

Linda indicated in her post-interview that she wanted learners to understand the concept of electromagnetic induction and its associated concepts "from the beginning to the end" (175-176) which led her to teaching the entire topic of Electromagnetism in a one hour lesson. This lesson both covered the first sub-topic of 'Magnetic fields associated with current carrying wires' (which is allocated three hours in the curriculum) as well as the sub-topic of Faraday's law (also allocated three hours in the curriculum). This decision to compress so many new concepts for a topic which is considered difficult for learners into a single lesson will not have given learners time to fully understand Faraday's law. As a result, her lesson had very little learner involvement due to the lecture style teaching that she employed in her lesson. This limited her ability to assess learners' understanding of the individual concepts taught before she moved on to a new concept. The curriculum does not discuss learner involvement or the type and quantity of practice teachers should have learners do. Linda came to realise after teaching her lesson that these are important aspects of an effective conceptual teaching strategy, stating in her post-interview that:

In retrospect if I did it again, I've put a lot of content into one period and it was basically a lecture. ...If I have time [in future] I would like to break it down into smaller pieces and give them a question on every aspect and see whether they can cope with that before I proceed to the next concept. (173-179)

6.7 SUMMARY

This chapter presented an analysis of the teachers' lesson presentations and postinterviews. An overview of how the data was analysed in relation to the curriculum through the components of TSPCK was provided. Each teacher's lesson was discussed separately, beginning with a vignette for an overall view of the sequence and content of the lesson. This was followed by an analysis of the lesson, particularly focusing on the alignment or deviation with the information provided in the curriculum through the components of TSPCK.

CHAPTER SEVEN: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter Four of the current study presented an analysis of the information contained in the curriculum to produce the 'expert curriculum interpretation'. In Chapters Five and Six, the reported PCK of the participating teachers as well as their interpretation of the curriculum were characterised respectively. This chapter presents a discussion on the findings of the four cases in relation to the primary research question: How can selected teachers' enactment of the curriculum on Faraday's law be understood in relation to their reported PCK? The chapter concludes with an outline of suggestions for future research and recommendations based on the findings of this study.

7.2 COMPARING TEACHERS' INTERPRETATION OF THE CURRICULUM AND THEIR REPORTED PCK

Each case study comparing the teachers' interpretation of the curriculum with their reported PCK is presented separately as in a multi-case study. The analysis looked for illustrative cases in which the quality of reported PCK indicated how the curriculum was understood as reflected in their teaching and interviews. The comparisons are presented in terms of four of the five components of TSPCK which were used to characterise both the teachers' reported PCK as well as the information contained in the curriculum on Faraday's law. The component of *conceptual teaching strategies* is not discussed in the results as it draws on the previous four components of PCK. Thus, the teachers' interpretation of the curriculum was analysed in terms of the four components that are brought together in *conceptual teaching strategies*.

7.2.1 Michelle

7.2.1.1 Curricular saliency

Michelle's lesson only included the two key ideas evident in the curriculum: 'Magnetic flux' and 'Faraday's law'. 'The phenomenon of induction', a key idea in the expert CoRe, was not presented in her lesson. However, Michelle demonstrated an insightful interpretation of the curriculum based on the concepts she presented in her lesson and her sequencing thereof. She introduced magnetic flux before Faraday's law which is the same sequence given in the expert CoRe but different to the curriculum. The curriculum implies that flux be introduced after Faraday's law. An extension of the curriculum was also present in her lesson, with Michelle stating Lenz's law for learners. The concept of Lenz's law is mentioned in the curriculum although not by name. Her extension of the curriculum and sequencing reflected her Developing (3) competence in terms of *curricular saliency* in her reported PCK. Michelle's reported PCK suggested that she would further extend the curriculum by including the key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction' with a demonstration before discussing Faraday's law although this did not appear in her lesson. Although Michelle did not extend the curriculum, she did include the same conceptually effective sequencing of key ideas in her lesson as well as mentioned Lenz's law and its relationship with the RHR. The textbook Michelle used to plan her lesson, however, had an influence on her lesson which suggests that her conceptually effective sequencing was not informed by her PCK. This was evident in her statement that she chose to teach flux before Faraday's law and state Lenz's law because of the contents and sequence presented in the textbook rather than being aware that Lenz's law is discussed in the curriculum. This suggests that these variations from the curriculum were ultimately influenced by the textbook rather than her interpretation of the expectations of the curriculum.

7.2.1.2 Learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions

Current, emf, and magnetic field lines are concepts mentioned in the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum although it does not explicitly point out that these are pre-concepts, nor does it discuss related misconceptions. Pre-concepts related to energy are not mentioned in Faraday's law in the curriculum. However, these preconcepts related to energy are regarded as relevant prior knowledge for the topic in the expert CoRe. Michelle's lesson showed poor curriculum interpretation as the extent to which she incorporated learners' prior knowledge only included revising properties of magnetic field lines. She also did not address any misconceptions in her teaching. The poor interpretation of the curriculum by Michelle aligned with her Basic (2) competence in terms of prior knowledge in her reported PCK. She identified the topic of Magnetism as a relevant prior topic which was reflected in her lesson. Similar to the curriculum, Michelle did not report any prior knowledge of concepts related to the topic of Energy and thus no extension of the curriculum was evident. As in her lesson, Michelle also did not discuss any misconceptions related to learners' prior knowledge. Michelle's lesson and thus her interpretation of the curriculum closely resembled her reported PCK for this component as seen from the absence of misconceptions identified or addressed as well as the few pre-concepts which she revised.

7.2.1.3 What is difficult to teach?

Although the curriculum is not explicit about what is difficult in Faraday's law, it provides guidelines for teaching concepts documented as difficult in the literature. One such concept is the application of the RHR to determine the direction of the induced current. Michelle's lesson demonstrated an insightful interpretation of the curriculum from her use of diagrams of conducting loops and magnets to address the difficulty alluded to in the curriculum. These diagrams were also used to explain the RHR to reinforce which magnetic field the rule needed to be applied to, thus extending the curriculum which does not clearly explain how this rule should be applied. Michelle's adaption of the curriculum aligned with her Developing (3) competence in terms of difficulties indicated in her reported PCK. She revealed awareness of the challenges associated with the relationship between the direction of the induced magnetic field and current as well as difficulty in applying the RHR, the same challenges that she addressed in her lesson.

7.2.1.4 Representations

The curriculum lists the following apparatus that teachers should use to perform a practical demonstration of Faraday's law: solenoid, bar magnet, galvanometer, and connecting wires. Michelle represented Faraday's law using a bottle and a pencil to represent a solenoid and a bar magnet, respectively, during her lesson. This revealed a misinterpretation of the curriculum and thus prevented learners from making important observations listed in the expert CoRe regarding induction such as the deflection of the needle in a galvanometer. Furthermore, she used the same unsuitable objects to demonstrate how the RHR is used to determine the direction of the induced current, in an attempt to follow the recommendation in the curriculum. Nevertheless, she enriched the curriculum by using drawings of diagrams similar to those in the expert CoRe to explain magnetic flux at different angles while the curriculum does not refer to the use of representations to support the discussion of magnetic flux. Michelle's lack of insight regarding important representations referred to in the curriculum reflects her Basic (2) competence in terms of *representations* in her PCK. Her reported PCK inadequately described the use of a crucial demonstration to explain Faraday's law, seemingly because of her misinterpretation of the focus of Faraday's law. Her reported PCK revealed that she was of the belief that the induced current and its direction was the primary focus of Faraday's law. As such, she used objects which focused on explaining the RHR rather than understanding how induction occurs in her lesson. Her reported PCK included representations of magnetic flux which are not mentioned in the curriculum which were evident in her lesson. However, these too were inadequate as they did not clearly represent the three-dimensional nature of conducting loops in magnetic fields which may confuse learners as to how to determine the angle needed to calculate magnetic flux.

7.2.1.5 Summary

Michelle was scored Developing (3) for both the components of *curricular saliency* and *what is difficult to teach*. Her lesson revealed insightful interpretation of both of these components as well. Although Michelle scored high in the component of curricular saliency, the influence of the textbook on her interpretation of the curriculum was evident. For the component of *representations*, Michelle's knowledge was scored as Basic (2) which was evident in her lesson due to the absence of effective representations.

7.2.2 Tebogo

7.2.2.1 Curricular saliency

Tebogo's lesson demonstrated an in-depth interpretation of the curriculum as his lesson included both key ideas present in the curriculum; 'Magnetic flux' and 'Faraday's law' but further extended it by including 'The phenomenon of induction' similar to the expert CoRe. His lesson followed a similar sequence to the curriculum, introducing Faraday's law before magnetic flux. Although this sequence is regarded by the expert CoRe as less conceptually effective, Tebogo was of the opinion that by stating Faraday's law first, learners would understand the reason for the need for the concept of flux. His sequence bore in mind flux as an important concept needed to understand induction and not only as a value needed to calculate the induced emf. Thus, his sequence was considered effective. Similar to the curriculum, Tebogo did not state Lenz's law or mention its name. Instead, he applied it alongside the RHR to determine the direction of the induced current. His extension of the curriculum and sequencing aligned with his Developing (3) competence in terms of *curricular saliency* in his reported PCK. He identified the same key ideas which were also present in his lesson which included 'The phenomenon of induction', an idea that is not evident in the curriculum. Like in his lesson, his reported PCK emphasised having learners first observe the phenomenon of induction. He did not discuss Lenz's law in his reported PCK. Regarding Lenz's law, Tebogo interpreted the curriculum adequately by extending it to include the key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction' in his lesson but did not include important concepts implicitly referred to in the curriculum. His postinterview revealed that he was aware that the concept of Lenz's law is discussed in the curriculum but since the curriculum did not indicate that the law must be stated for learners, he did not mention it.

7.2.2.2 What is difficult to teach?

The curriculum provides guidelines for teaching concepts documented as difficult in the literature. One such concept is the application of the right-hand rule to determine the direction of the induced current in a solenoid. Tebogo showed insightful interpretation of the curriculum as he was aware that it refers to different versions of the RHR but does not distinguish between them which could result in its application being difficult for teachers and learners. He clarified this in his lesson by explicitly stating what the thumb and fingers represent for the RHR discussed in Faraday's law in the curriculum. He extended the curriculum and the difficulties alluded to in it by addressing two other difficulties in his lesson related to learners' tendency to confuse the concept of magnetic field with magnetic flux as well as their poor ability to visualise in three dimensions. Tebogo pointed out in his lesson that flux is specifically a quantity that needs to be calculated as well as performing a demonstration mentioned in the expert CoRe using a pen and piece of paper to explain how magnetic flux is calculated. Tebogo's interpretation and extension of the curriculum aligned with his Developing (3) competence in terms of difficulties in his reported PCK. He identified two major difficulties which related to learners' ability to visualise in three dimensions as well as their ability to apply the RHR, both of which he addressed in his lesson. His reported PCK also revealed that he planned to extend the curriculum by testing learners on a variety of different calculations for change in flux calculations other than for a change in magnetic field strength. The curriculum states that the only variable that learners will calculate a change in magnetic flux for, is a change in magnetic field strength. However, Tebogo was aware that in assessments, leaners could be expected to calculate the change in flux for different variables such as orientation or area size of the conductor.

7.2.2.3 Learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions

Although the curriculum does not explicitly state relevant prior knowledge for Faraday's law, the concepts of magnetic fields, emf, and current are mentioned. Tebogo explicitly drew on learners' prior knowledge of emf and current in his lesson to remind them of their meaning. He enriched the curriculum by adding calculations involving Ohm's law in an exercise he created for his learners. Ohm's law is not mentioned in the section of Faraday's law but is included in the expert CoRe. Concepts from the topic of Magnetism were not explicitly revised during his lesson but he noted in his post-interview the importance of this topic for learners' understanding of Faraday's law. He further enriched the curriculum by addressing one misconception regarding relative motion between a conductor and magnet which is not alluded to in the curriculum but is mentioned in the expert CoRe. Like its absence in the curriculum, his lesson did not include concepts from the topic of Energy to explain Faraday's or Lenz's law. Despite excluding the pre-concepts of energy, Tebogo's interpretation did not align with his Basic (2) competence in terms of *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions* as he demonstrated a more in-depth interpretation. His reported PCK revealed relevant prior knowledge only pertaining to the topic of Magnetism whereas his lesson included prior knowledge from the topic of Electric Circuits as well. He also addressed a misconception related to the relative motion between a magnet and conductor during his lesson which he did not identify in his reported PCK.

7.2.2.4 Representations

During his lesson, Tebogo demonstrated an insightful interpretation of the curriculum. He showed learners a video of induction which included the same apparatus as those listed in the curriculum and also drew learners' attention to certain observations which are regarded as important in the expert CoRe, for example the deflection of the needle. Tebogo explained the RHR during his lesson in a similar way to which it is explained in the curriculum but further extended the curriculum by clarifying which magnetic field to apply the rule to, thus addressing a difficulty mentioned in the expert CoRe. The curriculum does not prescribe representations for magnetic flux. However, Tebogo performed a demonstration that is described in the expert CoRe to explain the concept to leaners which involves using a pen and a piece of paper to explain the normal direction of a loop and how it is used to determine the angle required to calculate flux. His interpretation of the curriculum aligned with his Developing (3) competence in terms of representations in his reported PCK. Tebogo's reported PCK revealed knowledge of both representations discussed in the curriculum regarding the RHR and induction as well as important observations learners should make from a demonstration of induction. He also discussed a representation to explain magnetic flux and how the angle for flux is determined, the same representation which he used in his lesson.

7.2.2.5 Summary

Tebogo scored the highest overall of all the participants for his reported PCK. His interpretation of the curriculum for three components of PCK aligned with his level of competence in that component with the exception of *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions*. His interpretation of the curriculum went into greater depth than his knowledge reflected in his reported PCK for this component. This was also the component in which Tebogo scored the lowest, which may have been as a result of him not fully expressing his knowledge regarding this component in his reported PCK.

7.2.3 Sarah

7.2.3.1 Curricular saliency

Sarah interpreted the curriculum at face value as her lesson included the same key ideas of 'Magnetic flux' and 'Faraday's law' in the curriculum, whereas 'The phenomenon of induction' was not present. However, she adapted the curriculum by introducing magnetic flux before Faraday's law which is regarded as more conceptually effective by the expert CoRe. Sarah was not aware that the concept of Lenz's law is discussed in the curriculum, stating to her class that they would learn about it in university. She briefly discussed how the negative in the equation of Faraday's law related to Lenz's law but only because she was asked about the negative by a learner. Sarah's interpretation of the curriculum reflected her Basic (2) competence in terms of *curricular saliency* in her reported PCK. She identified two key ideas, 'Magnetic field' and 'Magnetic flux' in her reported PCK of which only the latter is a relevant key idea in Faraday's law according to the expert CoRe. Sarah's reported PCK revealed that she would introduce flux before Faraday's law as she did in her lesson. However, she had chosen this sequencing as it was the sequence present in the textbook which she used to plan her lesson. She was not confident as to which sequencing between that of the textbook and curriculum would be more effective, stating in her post-interview that the curriculum's sequence may be better without providing reasons why. Her reported PCK also did not reveal knowledge of Lenz's law. Sarah admitted in her post-interview that she did not understand Lenz's law. Her poor interpretation of the curriculum by failing to recognise that Lenz's law is implicitly referred to in it reflected her limited PCK about this idea.

7.2.3.2 What is difficult to teach?

Sarah extended the curriculum by addressing two difficulties in her lesson which are not alluded to in it. The first difficulty relates to learners' ability to visualise in three dimensions with regard to determining the angle needed to calculate magnetic flux. The second difficulty relates to learners' limited understanding that the mere existence of a magnetic field through a coil does not induce an emf. Sarah also briefly addressed the difficulty associated with the RHR alluded to in the curriculum by specifying that the RHR must be applied to the induced magnetic field and not the field of the magnet.

Sarah's extension of the curriculum reflected her Developing (3) competence in terms of *what is difficult to teach* in her reported PCK. She revealed knowledge of the same two difficulties which she addressed in her lesson, both of which are included in the expert CoRe. She also revealed that because magnetic fields are invisible, learners' have difficulty with understanding that a change in magnetic flux is needed to induce an emf. This difficulty is also included in the expert CoRe.

7.2.3.3 Learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions

Although relevant prior knowledge is not explicitly mentioned in the curriculum, the concepts of magnetic fields, emf, and current are. Sarah specifically revised the concepts of magnetic fields and emf and further extended the curriculum by drawing on learners' knowledge of Ohm's law to guide them during an exercise. Relevant prior knowledge relating to the topic of Energy which the curriculum does not allude to was not evident in Sarah's lesson. Sarah's interpretation of the curriculum in her lesson was more insightful and did not reflect her Basic (2) competence in terms of *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions* in her reported PCK. In her reported PCK, she only identified prior knowledge from the topic of Magnetism, whereas her lesson included pre-concepts from the topic of Electric Circuits as well. Sarah revealed knowledge of one misconception in her reported PCK which related to learners' conception of magnetic field lines, stating that it is important for learners to understand that magnetic field lines are imaginary lines. Her lesson, however, did not reveal further knowledge of misconceptions.

7.2.3.4 Representations

Sarah's lesson included both representations prescribed by the curriculum relating to the RHR and Faraday's law, with a slight deviation in terms of Faraday's law. Instead of using the physical apparatus of a solenoid, a galvanometer, a magnet, and connecting wires, she drew a setup on the board of an experiment performed by Faraday which is beyond the scope of the curriculum in terms demonstrating mutual induction. Sarah, however, demonstrated an adequate interpretation of the curriculum as she was aware of the importance of the apparatus listed in it and how they are used to make specific observations from the demonstration of induction. Such observations, for example the deflection of the needle, are not described by the curriculum. She also extended the curriculum by including representations of magnetic flux in her lesson. Sarah's interpretation of the curriculum was insightful and did not reflect her Basic (2) competence in terms of *representations* in her reported PCK. Her knowledge of representations strongly focused on the concept of magnetic flux while important representations of induction and the RHR were not mentioned. She also indicated in her reported PCK that she would only show representations of Faraday's law after teaching the topic but deviated from this by describing the experiment that was originally performed by Faraday in her lesson to introduce the concept of induction.

7.2.3.5 Summary

Sarah's interpretation of the curriculum reflected her reported PCK for the components of *curricular saliency* and *what is difficult to teach*. For *curricular saliency*, however, it was observed that the sequencing of concepts in her lesson was influenced by the textbook that she used to plan her lesson. Sarah also showed an insightful interpretation of the curriculum for the components of *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions* and *representations*, which did not align with her reported PCK for these components.

7.2.4 Linda

7.2.4.1 Curricular saliency

Linda's lesson included the key ideas of 'The magnetic effect of current' and 'The effect of magnetic field on current' as in her CoRe. These are not considered key ideas in Faraday's law according to the expert CoRe, but rather pre-concepts and future knowledge respectively. The key ideas of 'Magnetic flux' and 'Induced emf' in the curriculum were present in her lesson but 'The phenomenon of induction' from the expert CoRe was not. Linda followed the curriculum's sequencing by introducing Faraday's law before flux. Her sequencing, however, was chosen in order to make learners aware of which values are needed to calculate the induced emf rather than to support understanding of induction. Lenz's law is not referred to by name in the curriculum but it is included in the expert CoRe. Following the curriculum, Linda discussed the concept of the direction of induced current but did not state the law similar to the curriculum. Linda's face value interpretation of the curriculum can be

attributed to her Basic (2) competence in terms of *curricular saliency* in her reported PCK. The same four key ideas that were present in her lesson were selected by her as key ideas in her reported PCK. Having stated that learners struggle to understand how magnetism and electricity are related, she selected key ideas not directly related to Faraday's law. Instead, key ideas related to magnetic fields associated with current carrying conductors were selected. This is a separate sub-topic of Electromagnetism in the curriculum and thus its key ideas are better suited for introduction in a separate lesson prior to Faraday's law. In her reported PCK, she described a sequence regarded as conceptually effective by the expert CoRe but deviated from this in her lesson by following the curriculum's sequence at face value. This is due to the fact that she did not deviate from the sequencing implied in the curriculum or recognise that an alternative sequence was possible that would be more effective for conceptual understanding.

7.2.4.2 What is difficult to teach?

Linda extended the curriculum by addressing a difficulty in her lesson which related to learners' ability to determine the angle needed to calculate magnetic flux. However, Linda did not address the difficulty regarding which magnetic field to apply the RHR to for Lenz's law. She was under the impression that the RHR used for Lenz's law to determine the direction of the induced current is the same RHR used to determine the direction of the induced magnet field around a straight conductor. This is in spite of the fact that the RHR used for Lenz's law is described in the curriculum. Linda presented a poorer interpretation of the curriculum than what can be attributed to her Developing (3) competence in terms of *what is difficult to teach* in her reported PCK. In her reported PCK, Linda noted the numerous new concepts that learners are introduced to in Faraday's law, which contribute to the difficulty in understanding. However, her lesson of one hour covered the entire topic of Electromagnetism which is allocated six hours in the curriculum. Thus, many new concepts were taught in a short period of time. Linda also noted in her reported PCK that learners struggle to visualise abstract concepts which require the use of three-dimensional representations. Her lesson, however, only used two-dimensional diagrams to explain concepts such as flux.

7.2.4.3 Learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions

Although the curriculum does not explicitly describe relevant prior knowledge for Faraday's law, concepts such as magnetic field lines, current, and emf are mentioned. Linda mentioned magnetic field lines in her lesson but did not revise important concepts such as properties of field lines. This was similar to current and emf which she mentioned in her lesson but without drawing on learners' understanding to identify gaps and misunderstandings. Linda further demonstrated poor curriculum interpretation as concepts from the topic Energy and their misconceptions were not included in her lesson either. Linda's interpretation of the curriculum can be attributed to her Basic (2) competence in terms of *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions* in her reported PCK. Linda was aware that the Grade 10 topic of Magnetism formed part of learners' prior knowledge but was of the opinion that since it was taught in such shallow detail, learners were not taught relevant pre-concepts for Faraday's law. She failed to recognise the importance of pre-concepts such as properties of magnetic field lines as in her lesson. Linda's reported PCK instead focused on concepts that are either taught later on in school or not at all which she felt needed to be taught earlier as she believed that they are important for understanding Faraday's law. These included Fleming's left and right hand rules, the heating effect of current, and flux density. These, however, are not relevant and would not aid conceptual understanding of Faraday's law.

7.2.4.4 Representations

Linda's lesson included representations of magnetic flux which are not described in the curriculum but are included in the expert CoRe. As for the RHR, Linda only demonstrated the version which is used to determine the direction of the induced magnetic field around a straight current carrying wire and not the version related to Lenz's law which is used to find the direction of the induced current. She did not appear to be cognisant of the fact that there are different versions of the RHR, depending on the shape of the conductor. For Lenz's law, Linda merely pointed learners to where the law is discussed in their textbook but did not explain to learners how to find the direction of the induced current in the solenoid with the appropriate RHR. As prescribed by the curriculum, Linda demonstrated induction using an induction torch but only at the end of the lesson and as a means of visual proof rather than to explain the law. Linda's inadequate interpretation of the curriculum can be attributed to her Basic (2) competence in terms of *representations* in her reported PCK. Her reported PCK revealed that she was aware that magnetic flux is a new and difficult concept for learners and thus it is important to use diagrams to explain the concept as she did in her lesson. However, like its absence in her lesson, she did not identify the RHR in her reported PCK. Instead, Linda discussed her wish for learners to be taught Fleming's left and right hand rules earlier. These rules would not aid understanding of Faraday's or Lenz's law. Her interpretation of the curriculum regarding representations of Faraday's law can also be attributed to her reported PCK in which she chose to use an induction torch only for demonstration purposes. This may be attributed to the curriculum that states that a practical demonstration of Faraday's law be shown to learners but does not describe how such a demonstration should be used to explain induction or important observations that should be made.

7.2.4.5 Summary

Linda generally demonstrated poor interpretation which could be attributed to her Basic (2) level of competence in all of the components of PCK with the exception of the component of *what is difficult to teach*. For this component, Linda was allocated a Developing (3) score but her interpretation of the curriculum did not match her level of competence. Although she identified important difficulties that learners have in Faraday's law, her interpretation of the curriculum revealed that she was not aware that the topic of Electromagnetism is separated into different sub-topics. These subtopics are: The magnetic field associated with current carrying wires, and Faraday's law. These sub-topics are allocated a total of six hours in the curriculum but were taught in one hour by Linda.

7.3 DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS

7.3.1 Secondary research question 1: How can the curriculum on Faraday's law be characterised in terms of the topic-specific PCK components?

7.3.1.1 Curricular saliency

Two of the three key ideas included in the expert CoRe are evident in the curriculum document. These are the key ideas of 'Magnetic flux' and 'Faraday's law' with the key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction' not explicitly referred to. The curriculum is regarded as suggesting a sequencing of these ideas that may not be effective for conceptual understanding according to the expert CoRe. In particular, the curriculum points out that Faraday's law should be stated before indicating that the concept of magnetic flux be introduced to learners. Visibly absent from the curriculum, which the expert CoRe indicates as important, is the knowledge that will aid the conceptual understanding of the induced current such as Lenz's law and the concept of an opposing induced magnetic field.

7.3.1.2 What is difficult to teach?

The curriculum document does not explicitly indicate concepts that are difficult for teaching or learning. Rather, certain information provided in the curriculum under the heading of 'Guidelines for teachers' is regarded as informing teachers' knowledge of difficulties. In particular, the curriculum explains the relationship between the direction of the induced field and the change in magnetic flux which suggests that learners may struggle with understanding this relationship. However, the role of energy and the application of prior knowledge to understand the direction of the induced current is not alluded to in the curriculum which may make explaining this relationship difficult. Other important difficulties according to the expert CoRe that are not alluded to in the curriculum relate to applying the RHR, understanding the vector nature of the area used to calculate magnetic flux, and visualising vectors in three dimensions.

7.3.1.3 Learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions

All content previously taught in the Physical Sciences curriculum is considered to be learners' prior knowledge, but the curriculum does not specify *what* prior knowledge is relevant to the learning Faraday's law. As a result, misconceptions related to learners' prior knowledge are not alluded to in the curriculum. Topics that learners have previously studied that contain pre-concepts that are essential for the understanding of Faraday's Law are Magnetism, Electric Circuits, and Energy. These topics are taught in Grade 10. Unlike pre-concepts from the topic of Magnetism and Electric Circuits whose terms are mentioned in the section of Faraday's law of the curriculum, pre-concepts from the topic of Energy are not. The Law of Conservation of Energy is important for understanding the reason why the induced current is set up in a direction so as to oppose the change in flux and thus understanding Lenz's law.

7.3.1.4 Representations

The curriculum states that a practical demonstration of Faraday's law must be performed for learners. It also includes the materials that are required for such a demonstration, which are a solenoid, bar magnet, galvanometer, and connecting wires. Teachers, however, will need to know how to set up the apparatus as well as what exactly should be explained and observed during this demonstration. Another representation discussed in the curriculum which the expert CoRe regards as important is that of applying the RHR.

Although magnetic flux is a new concept to learners, specific reference to representations that could be used to explain this concept are not mentioned in the curriculum. However, such representations are important in addressing difficulties with understanding and calculating magnetic flux.

7.3.1.5 Conceptual teaching strategies

The curriculum does not describe or prescribe a teaching strategy that teachers should follow. What is given in the curriculum, which should form part of a teacher's conceptual teaching strategy, are the representations of Faraday's law and the RHR. It also stresses that teachers should point out to learners that electromagnetic induction is based on the rate of change of flux.

An important concept which is not emphasised in the curriculum is the relationship between the direction of the induced current and the induced field. A conceptual understanding of this is important for allowing learners to understand both the reason why the induced field opposes the change in flux as well as why the current is generated in a specific direction. This would also allow for an understanding of the concept on which the application of the RHR is based.

7.3.2 Secondary research question 2: How can selected teachers' reported PCK about Faraday's law be characterised?

Generally, the teachers' reported PCK on Faraday's law was scored as Basic (2) with the average score for each teacher for all of the TSPCK components ranging between 2.2 and 2.8. The component which all of the participants scored the highest in was *what is difficult to teach* with a score of Developing (3) awarded to every teacher. The component which the participants scored the lowest in was *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions* with every teaching receiving a score of Basic (2). For the components of *curricular saliency*, *representations*, and *conceptual teaching strategies*, the teachers received scores ranging from Basic (2) to Developing (3).

7.3.3 Secondary research question 3: How do the teachers' presentation of lessons on Faraday's law align to the curriculum, or deviate from it?

7.3.3.1 Curricular saliency

Sarah and Linda interpreted the curriculum at face value as only the two key ideas of 'Magnetic flux' and 'Faraday's law' present in the curriculum were evident in their lesson. Tebogo and Michelle interpreted the curriculum adequately due to their extensions of the curriculum which would aid conceptual understanding. Tebogo extended the curriculum to include the key idea of 'The Phenomenon of induction' while Michelle discussed Lenz's law in her lesson although the curriculum does not mention the law by name. Michelle and Sarah both deviated from the implied sequencing in the curriculum by introducing the concept of magnetic flux before stating Faraday's law which is regarded as more conceptually effective by the expert CoRe. However, both teachers indicated that they followed the sequencing of the textbook without indicating whether they regarded the textbooks sequencing as more effective that that implied in the curriculum and why.

7.3.3.2 What is difficult to teach?

The majority of the participants adequately interpreted the curriculum with regards to *what is difficult to teach.* They addressed the difficulty alluded to in the curriculum relating to application of the RHR as well as extended it to address difficulties with the concept of magnetic flux by using diagrams to explain the concept.

7.3.3.3 Learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions

For this component, the curriculum was interpreted at face value by the participants. The participants' mostly referred only to prior knowledge in their lessons or postinterviews which related to magnetic fields, emf, and current which are explicitly mentioned in the curriculum. Important concepts, according to the expert CoRe, relating to the topic of Energy which are not discussed in the curriculum were however not referred to by the participants.

7.3.3.4 Representations

The curriculum was mostly enacted inadequately as the majority of the participants did not perform a practical demonstration of Faraday's law as expected by the curriculum. Nevertheless, the participants were aware of the significance of including some form of representation of Faraday's law in their lesson. Except for Tebogo, the other participants did not recognise how using the apparatus listed in the curriculum would better aid conceptual understanding rather than using diagrams or everyday objects such as bottles and pens to represent solenoids and bar magnets respectively. Extensions of the curriculum were however seen as all of the teachers included some form of representations of magnetic flux in their lesson which are not mentioned in the curriculum.

7.3.4 Primary research question: How can selected teachers' enactment of the curriculum on Faraday's law be understood in relation to their reported PCK?

The results of this study have shown similarities and variations between teachers' reported PCK in relation to their interpretation of the curriculum. Where reported PCK was Basic (2), participants interpreted the curriculum mostly at face value whereby few to no extensions of the curriculum were observed. In some cases, participants interpreted the curriculum adequately as a more in-depth interpretation was evident which saw participants extending the curriculum to aid conceptual understanding. In these instances, the participants reported Developing (3) PCK. This indicated that, in most instances, the participating teachers' interpretation of the curriculum aligned with their reported PCK. Misalignments, however, also emerged but they were few.

Regarding *curricular saliency*, Michelle and Tebogo's competences were Developing (3) and they revealed an adequate interpretation of the curriculum. They presented the same key ideas in their lesson as those evident in the curriculum but also extended it by introducing key ideas or sub-ordinate ideas not alluded to in the curriculum. The reported PCK of the teachers matched with their ability to identify key ideas that are alluded to in the curriculum such as 'Magnetic flux' and 'Faraday's law'. Tebogo in particular also referred to the key idea of 'The phenomenon of induction' which is not specified in the curriculum but included in the expert CoRe. Michelle, on the other hand, stated Lenz's law which is not referred to by name in the curriculum. The quality of their reported PCK was also aligned with their ability to interpret the sequencing of ideas in the curriculum and whether it allowed for conceptual understanding. Although Michelle adapted the sequence that is in the curriculum while Tebogo followed it, both teachers' sequencing were considered effective for conceptual understanding. Tebogo in particular adhered to the curriculum after extending it by referring to the phenomenon of induction. He regarded it as necessary to refer to Faraday's law before the concept of magnetic flux to show learners the variables that are necessary in understanding the law, variables that learners observed during his demonstration of induction.

Alignments and misalignments were found in the component of *learners' prior knowledge and misconceptions*. All the participating teachers were allocated a Basic (2) score in that they referred to only a few concepts that constitute prior knowledge, for example magnetic fields. During teaching, Michelle and Linda only referred to the prior knowledge of magnetic fields, while Tebogo and Sarah showed a better interpretation than what their reported PCK suggested. Both teachers' lessons revealed that they were aware of more concepts from prior topics which are important for the understanding of Faraday's law than what they had mentioned in their reported

PCK. It is possible that the teachers did not see the need to specify the necessary preconcepts when writing the CoRes despite being aware of their place in Faraday's law. The concepts that were absent from Tebogo and Sarah's reported PCK but evident in their lesson related to magnetic field lines and emf which are concepts that are mentioned in the section of Faraday's law in the curriculum.

In terms of *what is difficult to teach*, all the participating teachers' reported PCK was Developing (3). However, only Michelle, Tebogo, and Sarah interpreted the curriculum adequately by extending the curriculum. The teachers addressed difficulties that are not explicit in the teachers' guidelines, a section of the curriculum that indicates the areas that need attention. For example, they pointed out to learners during their lessons which magnetic field the thumb must point in to determine the direction of the induced current, which is not clearly specified in the curriculum. They also used demonstrations and diagrams to address learners' inability to visualise vectors in three dimensions which is also not alluded to in the curriculum. Linda's reported PCK on the other hand revealed knowledge of difficulties relating to the number of new concepts introduced in the topic of Faraday's law. Linda explained that Faraday's law contained many new concepts such as magnetic flux and Lenz's law which added to the difficulty of the topic. Her lesson, however, further exacerbated this very same difficulty she was aware of by introducing more than one topic in the same lesson and thus many new concepts in a short amount of time.

The component of *representations* also revealed alignments and misalignments between curriculum interpretation and reported PCK. Tebogo was the only participant who showed a demonstration of Faraday's law in the form of a video which most closely related to the demonstration and apparatus prescribed in the curriculum. This aligned with his Developing (3) competence for this component in his reported PCK. Michelle's demonstration, however, focused on the direction of the induced current rather than the induced emf. Her demonstration also made use of a bottle and a pen to represent a solenoid and bar magnet which is inappropriate as neither the magnetic field nor the current could be visualised. Linda's representation of Faraday's law using an induction torch was inadequate as learners could not see specific apparatus inside the torch and thus could not make important observations from the demonstration. These teachers' lessons underrepresented the curriculum in terms of the demonstration explicitly prescribed in it. A demonstration or small group investigation of induction is vital in convincing learners that there needs to be relative motion between a magnet and a conducting loop so that they can link the rate of change of flux with Faraday's law. This inadequate interpretation of a demonstration of Faraday's law in the curriculum aligned with their Basic (2) competence of *representations*. Misalignments were, however, seen in the fact that despite their Basic (2) PCK scores for *representations,* Michelle, Sarah, and Linda extended the curriculum by including some form of representation to explain magnetic flux, while they did not include these in their reported PCK. Linda specifically used various diagrams to explain the factors which influence the magnitude of flux as well as how the angle needed to calculate flux is determined.

This study also found that resources such as textbooks and the internet can inflate teachers reported PCK while not necessarily adding to their conceptual understanding. For example, both Michelle and Sarah stated that they introduced magnetic flux before Faraday's law in their lessons because it was the sequencing that appeared in the textbook they used to plan their lessons. Sarah's comments in her post-interview, however, revealed that she was not confident as to which sequencing, between that implied in the curriculum versus the textbook, was more effective. The influence of the textbook on Michelle's reported PCK was also apparent from her admission that she chose to state Lenz's law because it was stated in the textbook she used rather than recognising that Lenz's law is implicitly discussed in the curriculum. Furthermore, Michelle had seen during an internet search that Lenz's law related to pre-concepts from the topic of Energy. However, she did not use this relationship to explain the direction of the induced emf in her lesson, likely due to the fact that she did not properly understand this relationship as revealed in her reported PCK.

Lastly, the results of this study found that while the curriculum contains some information which informs teachers' PCK on Faraday's law, important PCK relevant to the topic such as pre-concepts and misconceptions are not alluded to in the document. In some cases, the information in the curriculum is regarded as undermining its support of teachers' PCK when compared to the PCK in the expert CoRe. This is evident in the curriculum's sequencing of magnetic flux, Faraday's law, and the RHR which is regarded as ineffective for conceptual understanding according to the expert CoRe.

7.4 CONCLUSION

This study has attempted to answer the primary research question of: How can selected teachers' enactment of the curriculum on Faraday's law be understood in relation to their reported PCK? This study revealed that the participating teachers generally have Basic (2) PCK of Faraday's law. As their interpretation of the curriculum mostly aligns with their reported PCK, their Basic (2) competence in a particular component resulted in a face value interpretation of the curriculum and thus failing to recognise shortcomings in the document which call for adaptions or extensions of its contents. Furthermore, Developing (3) PCK predominantly placed the participating teachers in a better position to interpret the curriculum adequately and recognise shortcoming in the curriculum which require extensions for effective teaching. This is particularly important given the fact that the curriculum appears to be a framework showing what to teach without sufficient information on how to teach the concepts. For example, teachers with Developing (3) PCK were able to identify key ideas while being mindful of the sequencing of concepts in the curriculum and whether adaptions of the sequence were necessary in order to support conceptual understanding, which is the foundation of PCK (Shulman, 1986). Similarly, they were also able to refer to preconcepts that are scheduled earlier in the curriculum which they integrated in the new knowledge, for example magnetism and current. In terms of *representations*, participants with Developing (3) PCK such as Tebogo were able to recognise the importance of demonstrations prescribed in the curriculum and the specific observations that learners should make from them. Furthermore, a greater level of reported PCK allowed participants to extend the curriculum by addressing difficulties beyond that which are alluded to in the teacher guidelines. It can therefore be concluded that a teacher's interpretation of the curriculum can be attributed to their reported PCK. It was also found that their interpretation the curriculum as to the curriculum's expectations or shortcoming was enhanced in instances where their reported PCK is more developed. Cases, however, were also evident in which a misalignment between participants' interpretation of the curriculum and reported PCK occurred such as reporting poorer PCK of important pre-concepts than what was evident in their lessons. This indicated that Basic (2) reported PCK would not necessarily limit a teacher's interpretation the curriculum in every instance.

7.5 LIMITATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.5.1 Limitations of this Study

Loughran et al. (2004) acknowledged teachers' struggle to articulate their professional knowledge such as their PCK. CoRes are used to capture a teacher's PCK thus making what is tacit explicit. However, none of the participants in this study had seen or completed a CoRe before which possibly made completing them an intimidating task. The teachers were also not remunerated for their participation in this study and so they may not have put much effort into completing the CoRes. As a result, the CoRes were poorly answered with brief explanations provided and many spaces left blank. Pre-interviews were used to supplement the data collected in the CoRes which helped gain further insight into the participants' PCK. The data captured in the CoRes and pre-interviews still cannot be regarded as a complete representation of the participants' PCK within the topic of Faraday's law as PCK is inherently difficult to capture as it is tacit knowledge (Loughran et al., 2004).

Another limitation of this study is that there was a small sample as for a case study, with only four participants who were selected through convenience sampling. The participants all taught at well-resourced schools in Tshwane. This bias of under representation or over representation is acknowledged and also limits the generalisations which can be made from this study. The findings of this study are also limited to the topic of Faraday's law. However, the results are not meant to be generalised. Instead, a case study seeks in-depth understanding, which was achieved in this study.

7.5.2 Recommendations for Future Research

Faraday's law has been found to be a difficult topic for learners (Román, 2012; Zuza et al., 2014). The absence of important pre-concepts from the topic of Energy, misconceptions, and the sequencing of some content of the curriculum further limits the extent to which the document is able to support teachers' PCK on a particular topic. Although the results of this study revealed that teachers' interpretation of the curriculum can be attributed to their reported PCK, for teachers with little PCK, the textbook often becomes the primary source of information from which they draw to plan their lessons. Thus, teachers' interpretation of the curriculum cannot always be attributed to their level of reported PCK, but rather, is a reflection of the textbook they used to plan their lesson. As much as textbooks are written by authors with the intent of aiding conceptual understanding, the author's level of reported PCK reflected in the contents of the textbook may not always necessarily be Exemplary (4) based on the reported PCK rubric. It is recommended that further research is conducted to investigate the PCK reflected in the textbooks, the impact of textbooks on teachers' PCK, and their interpretation of curricula.

7.5.3 Recommendations for Future Practice

This study revealed that these teachers have generally Basic (2) PCK of Faraday's law. As their interpretation of the curriculum mostly aligns with their reported PCK, their Basic (2) competence in a particular component resulted in their interpretation of the curriculum failing to recognise shortcomings in the document which call for adaptions or extensions of its contents. In particular, the curriculum provides little guidance on misconceptions and difficulties related to Faraday's law. This leaves teachers drawing on their own experiences during their apprenticeship of observation as learners (Borg, 2004) or their knowledge from prior teaching experience. This places a novice teacher, who has not had the opportunity to develop their PCK from years of teaching, at a disadvantage. The following recommendations are thus suggested for the future:

- The Guidelines for Teachers section of the curriculum should be expanded to include common difficulties and misconceptions documented in the literature.
- Pre-service teacher training as well as in-service teacher development should focus on each component of TSPCK that should be considered when designing lessons.
- Pre-service teacher training should emphasise curriculum interpretation and analysis through the components of TSPCK.

 Textbook writers, especially those of teacher guides, should point out when the sequencing of concepts in their textbooks differs from that of the curriculum and how this sequencing will benefit conceptual understanding of the topic.

This study has shown that there is a positive relationship between the quality of teachers' reported PCK and their interpretation of the curriculum. The knowledge gained from this study can help improve both pre-service and in-service teaching training programmes. This will aid in producing teachers that are able to plan more effective lessons which will allow learners to gain a greater conceptual understanding of difficult topics and concepts in Physical Sciences, a subject that is of critical importance in the South African context.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Content Representation tool completed by the researcher and experts: expert CoRe

Appendix II: The CoRe rubric for the scoring of the teachers' reported PCK

Appendix III: Content representation tool completed by the participants

Content Representation tool (CoRe) Participant: Michelle

School: 1

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Content Representation tool (CoRe) Participant: Sarah

School: 2

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Appendix IV: Participants' transcribed pre-interviews

Michelle: Pre-interview (School 1)

Appendix V: Participants' transcribed post-interviews

Michelle: Post-interview (School 1)

Appendix VI: GDE letter

8/4/4/1/2

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GDE RESEARCH APPROVAL LETTER

Re: Approval in Respect of Request to Conduct Research

This letter serves to indicate that approval is hereby granted to the above-mentioned researcher to proceed with research in respect of the study indicated above. The onus rests with the researcher to negotiate appropriate and relevant time schedules with the school/s and/or offices involved to conduct the research. A separate copy of this letter must be presented to both the School (both Principal and SGB) and the District/Head Office Senior Manager confirming that permission has been granted for the research to be conducted.

The following conditions apply to GDE research. The researcher may proceed with the above study subject to the conditions listed below being met. Approval may be withdrawn should any of the conditions listed below be flouted:

 15 2019 Ω $\mathbf{1}$ Making education a societal priority Office of the Director: Education Research and Knowledge Management 7th Floor, 17 Simmonds Street, Johannesburg, 2001 Tel: (011) 355 0488

Email: Faith.Tshabalala@gauteng.gov.za Website: www.education.gpg.gov.za

- $1.$ Letter that would indicate that the said researcher/s has/have been granted permission from the Gauteng Department of Education to conduct the research study.
- $\overline{2}$. The District/Head Office Senior Manager/s must be approached separately, and in writing, for permission to involve District/Head Office Officials in the project.
- A copy of this letter must be forwarded to the school principal and the chairperson of the School 3. Governing Body (SGB) that would indicate that the researcher/s have been granted permission from the Gauteng Department of Education to conduct the research study.
- A letter / document that outline the purpose of the research and the anticipated outcomes of such $\overline{4}$ research must be made available to the principals, SGBs and District/Head Office Senior Managers of the schools and districts/offices concerned, respectively.
- 5. The Researcher will make every effort obtain the goodwill and co-operation of all the GDE officials, principals, and chairpersons of the SGBs, teachers and learners involved. Persons who offer their co-operation will not receive additional remuneration from the Department while those that opt not to participate will not be penalised in any way.
- 6. Research may only be conducted after school hours so that the normal school programme is not interrupted. The Principal (if at a school) and/or Director (if at a district/head office) must be consulted about an appropriate time when the researcher/s may carry out their research at the sites that they manage.
- $\overline{7}$ Research may only commence from the second week of February and must be concluded before the beginning of the last quarter of the academic year. If incomplete, an amended Research Approval letter may be requested to conduct research in the following year.
- 8. Items 6 and 7 will not apply to any research effort being undertaken on behalf of the GDE. Such research will have been commissioned and be paid for by the Gauteng Department of Education.
- It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain written parental consent of all learners that are 9. expected to participate in the study.
- The researcher is responsible for supplying and utilising his/her own research resources, such as 10. stationery, photocopies, transport, faxes and telephones and should not depend on the goodwill of the institutions and/or the offices visited for supplying such resources.
- The names of the GDE officials, schools, principals, parents, teachers and learners that 11. participate in the study may not appear in the research report without the written consent of each of these individuals and/or organisations.
- On completion of the study the researcher/s must supply the Director: Knowledge Management $12.$ & Research with one Hard Cover bound and an electronic copy of the research.
- $13.$ The researcher may be expected to provide short presentations on the purpose, findings and recommendations of his/her research to both GDE officials and the schools concerned.
- 14 Should the researcher have been involved with research at a school and/or a district/head office level, the Director concerned must also be supplied with a brief summary of the purpose, findings and recommendations of the research study.

The Gauteng Department of Education wishes you well in this important undertaking and looks forward to examining the findings of your research study.

Mr Gumani Mukatuni Acting CES: Education Research and Knowledge Management

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Appendix VII: Principal letter

Faculty of Education

Department of Science. Mathematics and Technology Education Groenkloof campus Pretoria 0002 Republic of South Africa Tel: +27 124205967 Ernest.mazibe@up.ac.za

Dear principal,

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT A RESEARCH AT YOUR SCHOOL.

I am a student in the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education at the University of Pretoria, doing a research study entitled "Understanding teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law in terms of their PCK". I am requesting for permission to collect data at your school. Through this study I wish to determine:

How teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law can be understood in terms of their Pedagogical Content Knowledge?

As part of the study I would like to collect data throughout the instructional practice processes of two willing science teachers. I wish to gather voice and video recording and documentation as the teachers plan their lessons and present the lessons. After they have presented their lessons, the teachers will be requested to answer a few questions during an individual interview that will prompt them to think about actions while they planned and presented their lessons. This data will be used for analysis purposes only if permission is granted. This data will assist me as I attempt to answer the research question stated above. Findings of such a study have the potential of informing the design of better and more engaging science lessons for future presentations. Should you agree, please read and sign the attached consent form. Thank you very much for spending time to consider this request.

Kind regards.

Date...................

Informed consent form for data collection

Please read the conditions below and sign if you agree that your school may participate.

With reference to the request for permission to conduct research entitled: Understanding teacher's interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law in terms of their PCK, I understand and agree that:

- 1. Two willing science teachers at my school will participate in the study.
- 2. The two teachers shall be audio and video recorded as they plan and present their lessons.
- 3. The two teachers will participate in follow-up semi structured interviews which will also be audio recorded.
- 4. Data collected will only be used for research purposes.
- 5. The identity of the school, educators and learners will be held in the strictest of confidence.
- 6. This school's participation in the project is voluntary, and the school can withdraw at any stage of the research.
- 7. All data collected with public funding may be made available in an open repository for public and scientific use.
- 8. I am not waiving any human or legal rights by agreeing to participate in this study.
- 9. I verify by signing below that I have read and understood the conditions listed above.

If you have any questions about this research project, please contact Mr. J. Mitchell (researcher) by telephone on 083 357 7962 or email jmitchell@willowridge.co.za

Researcher's name: Mr. J Mitchell

Place and date:

Appendix VIII: Teacher letter

Faculty of Education

CONSENT FORM

 $I,$

understand that:

- 1. The purpose of this study is to capture and analyse teacher discourse, written planning, lesson presentation and lesson reflection for analysis of the teacher's interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law in terms of their pedagogical content knowledge.
- 2. Lesson plan documentation, audio and video recordings will be used to capture all activities.
- 3. As part of this study I will have to participate in more than one activity, i.e. planning of a lesson, presentation of a lesson and answer questions that will encourage me to think about my pedagogical content knowledge on Faraday's Law, as well as my actions while presenting the lesson.
- 4. Any personal information about me that is collected during the study will be held in the strictest confidence.
- 5. I am not waiving any human or legal rights by agreeing to participate in this study.
- 6. All data collected with public funding may be made available in an open repository for public and scientific use.
- 7. My participation in this study is completely voluntary and I may withdraw participation if I decide to do so at any time during the study.

I verify, by signing below, that I have read and understand the conditions listed above.

PLEASE COMPLETE FIELDS ON THE NEXT PAGE

PARTICIPATION IN INTERVIEW BEFORE LESSON PRESENTATION

To capture your pedagogical content knowledge as you plan your lesson, you will be interviewed before you present your lesson on Faraday's Law. Please indicate below with a tick in the appropriate box, whether or not you would be willing to be interviewed before you present your lesson.

VIDEO RECORDING DURING LESSON PRESENTATION

To capture the presentation of your lesson, you will be asked to be video recorded while you present your lesson. Please indicate below with a tick in the appropriate box, whether or not you would be willing to be video recorded while you present your lesson.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERVIEW AFTER LESSON PRESENTATION

To enrich the process of data collection, additional data by way of interviews after you have taught your lesson will be necessary. Please indicate below with a tick in the appropriate box, whether or not you would be willing to be interviewed at the end of the lesson you presented.

Appendix IX: Parent/guardian letter

Faculty of Education

Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Groenkloof campus Pretoria 0002 Republic of South Africa Tel: +27 124205967 Ernest.mazibe@up.ac.za

Dear parent/guardian,

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM

I am a student in the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education at the University of Pretoria, doing a research study entitled "Understanding teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law in terms of their PCK". I am requesting for permission to collect data during a lesson presented to your child. Through this study I wish to determine:

How can a teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law be understood in terms of their PCK?

As part of the study I would like to sit in on the lessons attended by your child and observe the teacher as he/she delivers their lesson on Faraday's Law. To enable me to accurately capture the lesson as it is executed I will need to video record the lesson. I wish to however, assure you as the parent/guardian that the recorder will be focused on the teacher at all times. In instances where the learners are captured as a result of the teacher engaging with them during the lesson, these clips will be deleted and only the audio will be used to jog the memory of the researcher about the actual occurrences of the day. Your child will be part of this lesson only if permission is granted.

This data will assist me as I attempt to answer the research question stated above. Findings of such a study have the potential of informing the design of better and more engaging science lessons for future presentations. Should you agree, please read and sign the attached consent form. Thank you very much for spending time to consider this request.

Kind regards

Signed: Date...................

Informed consent form for data collection

Please read the conditions below and sign if you agree that your child may participate.

With reference to the request for permission to conduct research entitled: Metacognition underlying instructional practice of high school science teachers, I understand and agree that:

My child's science teacher will participate in the study.

The teacher shall be video recorded as he/she presents a lesson.

Data collected will only be used for research purposes.

The identity of the school, educators and learners will be held in the strictest confidence.

My child's participation in the project is voluntary, and the child can withdraw at any stage of the research.

I am not waiving any human or legal rights by allowing my child to participate in this study.

All data collected with public funding may be made available in an open repository for public and scientific use.

I verify by signing below that I have read and understood the conditions listed above.

If you have any questions about this research project, please contact Mr. J. Mitchell (researcher) by email on jmitchell@willowridge.co.za

Appendix X: Learner letter

Faculty of Education

Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Groenkloof campus Pretoria 0002 Republic of South Africa Tel: +27 124205967 Ernest.mazibe@up.ac.za

Dear learner.

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN YOUR CLASSROOM

I am a research student in the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education at the University of Pretoria, doing a research study entitled "Understanding teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law in terms of their PCK". I am requesting for permission to collect data during a lesson attended by you at your school. Through this study I wish to determine the Pedagogical Content Knowledge held by teachers in the topic of Faraday's Law as the plan for, present and reflect on their lesson.

As part of the study I would like to sit in one of the lessons attended by you and observe the teacher as he/she delivers the lesson. To enable me to accurately capture the lesson as it is given I will need to video record the lesson. I wish to however, assure you that the recorder will be focused on the teacher at all times. In instances where you are captured as a result of the teacher engaging with you during the lesson, these clips will be deleted and only the audio will be used to jog the memory of the researcher about the actual occurrences of the day. You will be part of this lesson only if permission is granted by yourself and your parents/guardian.

This data will assist me as I attempt to answer the research question stated above. Findings of such a study have the potential of informing the design of better and more engaging science lessons for future presentations. Should you agree, please read and sign the attached consent form. Thank you very much for spending time to consider this request.

Kind regards

Date...................

Informed consent form for data collection

Please read the conditions below and sign if you agree to participate.

With reference to the request for permission to conduct research entitled: Understanding teachers' interpretation of the curriculum on Faraday's Law in terms of their PCK, I understand and agree that:

My science teacher will participate in the study.

The teacher shall be video recorded as he/she presents a lesson.

Data collected will only be used for research purposes.

The identity of the school, educators and learners will be held in the strictest confidence.

My participation in the project is voluntary, and I may withdraw at any stage of the research.

I am not waiving any human or legal rights by agreeing to participate in this study.

All data collected with public funding may be made available in an open repository for public and scientific use.

I verify by signing below that I have read and understood the conditions listed above.

If you have any questions about this research project, please contact Mr. J. Mitchell (researcher) by e-mail on jmitchell@willowridge.co.za

