

Impact of Knowledge and Professional Ethics for Material Considerations with Experience as their Conjunction Variable

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Abstract: *This study aims to prove and analyze profiles that can improve the material with experience as a conjunction variable. The research method used a descriptive correlative research with the source of distributing questionnaires to the selected sample of the auditor who works Central Java Public Accountant Office. The sampling technique used purposive sampling technique so that there are 100 respondents selected. Data analysis techniques using SEM test with the results of knowledge contribute to improved material consideration. Professional ethics is also able to contribute to material considerations and experience capable of being a conjunction variable between knowledge and professional ethics.*

Keywords: knowledge, professional ethics, experience and material considerations

1. Background

Accountant is identical as profession done professionally and have principles to accomplish the tasks as his or her responsibilities. The realization of the responsibilities are report improvement ability so to improve financial report will need professional ethics. According to Heraway and Susanto (2009) explain that to be professional it means when doing audit tasks upon financial reports, then all accountants should have sufficient audit skills.

The results of the auditors will be used by companies to decide so an auditor must behave neutrally although many pressures coming from clients. The realization of the pressures may vary. The auditors often experience this influencing the results, so that they need to be assertive toward their professional ethics.

The profession provide services to society with certain professional ethics managed by moral principles toward professionalism (Sukrisno Agoes, 2004). The profession provides comforts for the users or owners. However, the profession should provide more clearness of how capable an accountant is, to provide comfortable service.

More experience will provide more meaning of how an accountant works professionally so the longer an accountant works, then owner will believe and trust to hire his service. According to Knoers and Hadinoto (1999), good and relative learnings will give increasing strength point to by having sufficient practices. Purnamasari (2005) explains the higher an employee's experience, then he will be more respected.

This study is a development from the previous study done by Siwi Prickyana Nilasari, et al, Nanik Ernawati (2017), and Herawaty and Susanto (2009), explaining that the stronger experience will help auditor in solving problems. Besides that, the realization of the development from this previous research is about the technique of analyzing the data, using SEM. It is expected to test conjunction variable that is auditor's experience.

The purposes of the research are to analyze knowledge and professional ethics toward material development and experience as its conjunction variable.

2. Review of Related Literature

Knowledge

Knowledge of a public accountant can be learnt and gained through *soft skill* and *hard skill* by joining various trainings hold by government or instructions. Increasing knowledge will give an accountant benefit so to solve problems, he will be quick and the results will be maximal. Related to audit, knowledge has role with possibilities related to any mistakes in reporting financial report to plan an effective audit (Noviyani and Bandi, 2002).

Knowledge gives power to human resources to give better problem solving. An accountant knowledge can be gained from formal and informal trainings from various seminars and workshops and also a senior audit's explanation (Herawaty and Susanto, 2009).

Professional Ethics

Profession has greater skills so professional ethics of auditor means to have skill in providing services toward clients or society to get satisfaction. Each profession given to society must have ethical codes, so some moral principle sets are managed about professional attitude existence (Agoes, 2004).

By the absence of accountant profession will happen when the functions of accountants is to provide information toward business doers. Those business doers are people whom directly or indirectly involved in transaction, so the role of an accountant is seen as information giver to make decision. Complete information will be given if an accountant has ability to present it to his leader about the appropriate steps for the sake of the company. IAPI ethical codes and the rules of public accountant profession as well as the professional standards of public accountant related to

quality control of auditing is the basic to obey by an accountant to maximize the results.

Ethical principles are formulated by IAPI and considered to be ethical codes of accountants' attitudes in Indonesia. It covers: firstly responsibility, society oriented priority, integrity, objectivity and independence, competency and profession rules, secrecy and professional attitudes. Thus, the better an accountant obeys the codes, then the better material considerations will be.

Auditor Experience

Experience will give an auditor to work confidently and have more values. Auditor experience is needed because it will help his confidence and make client believe because of his length of experience. Besides that, auditor experience is trusted by society as additional values in solving and providing information.

Relative appropriate changes of learning from behaviors causes increasing practices, experience, and understanding (Knoers and Haditono, 1999). Auditor experience has strong relationship to ability to get auditor findings because it not only about his formal education but also strong experience of the auditor.

Farmer *et al.* (1987) state that an expert auditor will be less to agree compared to those with no experience to agree accounting attitudes preferred by clients. Gusnardi (2003) explains auditor's experience can be measured by level or position in his working structures, the length of his working and training. Shelton (1999) states that experience will help decreasing the influence of irrelevant information in an auditor's decision.

From some definitions above by experts that auditor experience is the ability of auditors to give comfort for society, especially related to auditing information.

Material Consideration

Auditor often needs material consideration in planning audit. It is more dominant in quantitative consideration to present financial report.

Materials among auditor's consideration factors are sufficient audit evidence. The role of auditor is to generalize the relationship between materials or audit evidence, in administration of terms and account balance.

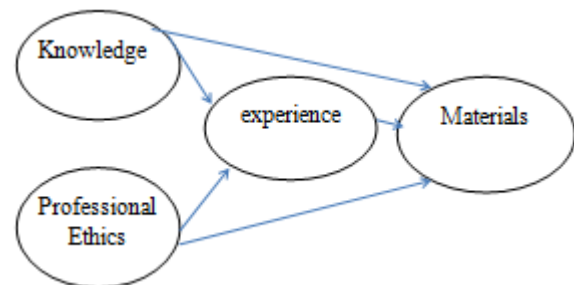
The greater or more significant a balance account is, the more evidence are needed. Mulyadi (2002) explains one of accountant information seen is the situation covering consideration of a party believing the information. Arens (2005) states material concepts uses three levels to consider the types of reports, such as amounts without materials. The amounts are materials but not disturbing financial report completely and the amounts are very materials or have greater influences so the financial report normality is doubted. Financial report contains one of the item can be occurred because of mistakes or cheatings (Indonesian Accountant Association, 2001).

3. Previous Studies

Arleen Herawaty and Yulius Kurnia Susanto (2009) with the title the influence of professionalism, knowledge of detecting mistake, and professional ethics toward levels of material consideration of public accountant show those variables influence toward the levels of material consideration of public accountant in checking financial report. Irma Paramita Sofia and rishi Trisantya Damayanti (2017) with title the influences of experience, professionalism, and professional ethics of auditors toward the determination of levels of materials show those variables influence significantly toward the levels of material consideration.

Dirangga Madali, *et al.* (2016) with title the influence of auditor professionalism, knowledge of detecting mistakes, auditor's experience and professional ethics toward the levels of material consideration of public accountant show those variables influence the level of material consideration.

4. Theoretical Frameworks



Source: Previous study developed by current researcher

Research Method

This action research has purpose to develop hypothesis and find out the correlation among variables.

Population and Sample

Population is area to generalize (Kuncoro, Amin and Sudarman, 2018). Meanwhile sample of a research is public accountant working in public accountant office, KAP, in whole Central Java area, consisting of 100 people. The sampling technique use *non probability* sampling typed *purposive sampling*. The determination of number 100 is by considering that on multivariate study, including regression and correlations, then the researchers determine the number of the sample consists of 100 people as selected sample (Ferdinan, 2014).

The Definition of Variable Operational

Knowledge

It is an important thing to improve audit quality. Besides that, good auditor knowledge will have greater knowledge resulting in being able to influence audit quality. According to Wandita, *et al.* (2014), auditor knowledge can be measured through auditor's performance. The variable is measured by using 5 indicator items with likert scale 1 to 5.

Professional Ethics

Nasution (2015) explains that professional ethics are rules to obey by public accountants. The codes are needed when the accountants really obey the rules generally. The ethics explain ability of public accountants. Generally, public accountants are bound by rules determined by government through deeper cooperation from the association of Indonesian accountants.

Professional ethic variable is measured using six indicator items with 1 to 5 Likert scale.

Auditor Experience

It is an ability to explain information to companies about their wealth. Asih (2006) states it is a process of learning and potency addition as well as attitudes by giving formal education with better skills. Working experience variable is measured by using four indicators using 1 to 5 Likert scale.

Material Consideration

It is used as reasons to check or let one of materials from the beginnings, even a single intentionally mistake done. In the reality of considering material, it is frequently used by management. It is important for auditors but it will be more important for accountants to arrange financial reports but not ignoring accuracy and reliability with relevancy arguments.

Suryono (2013) explains an auditor making audit report is expected to have sufficient experience so the higher the experience will differ his point of view to accept the information during audit. Febrianti (2012) explains materials are accounting information about reasonability based on financial report by providing or ignoring accounting information.

Material consideration variable is measured using five indicator items and 1 to 5 Likert scale.

Data Quality Test

It is used to test validity and reliability. It proves how far an instrument (questionnaire) measure the item. An r-score calculation from r-table (critical score) of each question item is compared to check it validity. Each question item is said valid when r calculated is greater than r-table. An r-score is gained from *Pearson correlation*, meanwhile r-table score is gained from product table correlation moment ($\alpha = 0.05$; $n = 30$).

Reliability test is used to measure questionnaire using indicators from each variable or construction. A strong level of instrument reliability will properly work both in different situation under different condition (Cooper and Schindler, 2011). Reliability test is measured by statistic test *Cronbachalpha* with $\alpha > 0,60$ (Hair et al., 2010).

Hypothesis Development

Auditor knowledge and material consideration

Auditor knowledge based on Wandita, *et al.* (2014) is strong affective working experience in deciding. The taken decision will influence material consideration, so the higher auditor knowledge is then it will explain material consideration.

H₁ : auditor knowledge influence material consideration

Professional ethics and material consideration

Agoes (2004) explains each profession giving services toward large society must have ethical codes in the form of moral principle set about professional attitudes. Professional ethics have ability to elaborate into problem so materials consideration will be influenced by professional ethics.

H₂ : professional ethics influence material consideration

Knowledge and experience of auditor

Knowledge auditor is knowledge and professional skill used to improve knowledge about causes and consequences of mistake (Sularso and Niam, 1999). Knowledge dominates maximal results because they make knowledge greater. Auditor experience will be mores supported if it is strengthened by auditor knowledge.

H₃ : auditor's knowledge influences auditor's experience

Professional ethics and auditor's experience

Herawaty dan Susanto (2009) explain professional ethics are services given related to large society's needs. Professional ethics of public accountants are more meaningful to serve companies using their services, so those ethics are will have greater meaning to support auditor's experience.

H₄ : professional ethics influence auditor's experience

Auditor's experience and material consideration

Auditor's experience gives more values for public accountant so the company will believe upon the independent reports. Mulyadi (2002) explains experience is how frequent an accountant audits in the form of financial audit seen from the length of working, task, and types of companies. The quality of auditor is the length of working so material consideration will gain maximal results.

H₅: auditor's experience influence material consideration

5. Findings

Validity test results show score of $r_{\text{calculated}} > r_{\text{table}}$. It is 0.4533 with r table 0.3494 by taking 30 respondent sample to have validation test. Then, reliability test show all alpha chonbach scores have scores above 0.7. It rpvoes that all questions are valid and reliable.

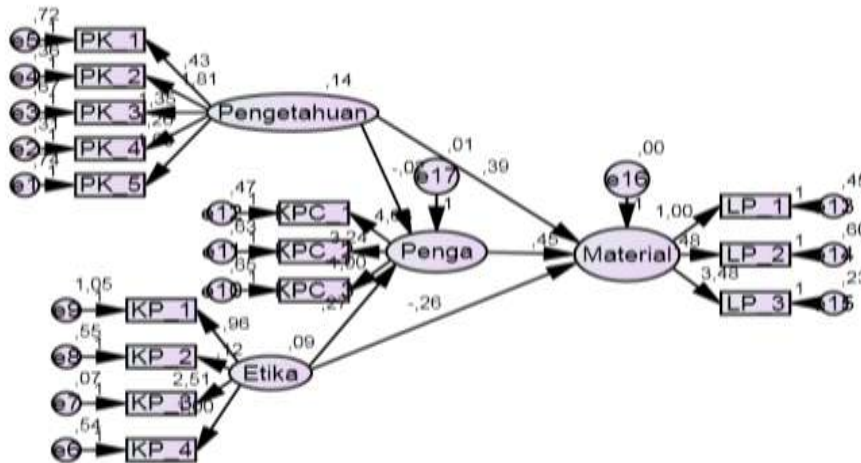
The results of correlation test with relationship among model have purposes to find out respondents' answers. Whether the coefficient has significant score statistically or not. In fact, two direction test are often discussed using t-table 1.96, meanwhile this research uses AMOS software to show p-value by comparing alfa score (α). Below, there is figure to represent SEM structural equation model of multivariate analysis to answer the chosen respondents.

Model Testing

Model testing by combining and developing the previous studies using SEM is done to find the most appropriate model (*Goodness-off-fit*). The process of model testing of this research is done through twice modeling; those are to find out significant p-value. The first model is done by using all indicators with unsatisfying results, so the indicators of

professional ethics are deleted one. The second model test with significant results using experience variable. In this case, non-significant indicators are removed and material

consideration variable indicators are also removed because they are not significant. This figure explains further. Figure 1



Source: Analyzed primary data

Table 1: The Test of Model Reliability (*Goodness-of-fit*) after Modifying Indexes

No	Goodness-of-Fit	Critical Values (Cut-of-Value)*	The Model Test Results	Descriptions
1	X ² (Chi-square)	199.244	436.387	Small
2	RMSEA	≤0.08	0.074	Good
3	GFI	≥0.90	0.826	Margin
4	AGFI	≥0.90	0.772	Margin
5	CMIN/DF	≤2.00	1.992	Good
6	TLI	≥0.90	0.907	Good
7	CFI	≥0.94	0.923	Margin

Source: Ferdinand, 2002

From table, it is explained that score of *goodness - off - fit* in *chi square* is very low (451,134), *Cmin / Df* is 1,992, *RMSE*

is 0,08 (0,007), *GFI* closely related to 0,90 (0,819), *AFGI* closes 0,90 (0,760), *TLI* is greater than 0,90 (0,898) and *CFI* is closed to 0,94 (0,916). After that, there are some indexes modified based on requirements so SEM model analysis fits to the condition.

Hypothesis

Knowledge contributes to material consideration

Auditor’s knowledge has meaning *soft-skill* of auditor used to realize comfort during auditing. Shinta Utami (2017) explains knowledge influences toward material consideration. So, the higher the knowledge is will improve material consideration of auditor.

Table 2: t test (CR) Knowledge toward Material Consideration

Loading Factor	Estimate		S.E.	C.R.	P	Notes
	Unstandardized	Standardized				
X ₁ ←P.Material	1.323	0.428	0.107	2.958	0.003	Significant
X ₂ ←P.Material	1.000	0.291	0.090	3.415	0.000	Significant

Source: Analyzed primary data, 2018

It is explained that all dimension of experience toward material consideration are significant. Coefficient and probability (P) are lesser than 0.5. It is due to the limitation given and the position of p is considered significant λ1 = 0,428; λ2 = 0,291 meaning all dimensions of experience (X1) contribute dominantly toward material consideration because estimation coefficient is greater, 0,428.

Knowledge Correlated toward Experience

Good auditor’s knowledge will give information for auditing results, besides that working experience also has additional values for auditors because if an auditor’s knowledge is improved then it will affect auditor’s experience. Auditor’s experience, according to Andreani Hanjani, 2014 will influence audit’s quality. Tri Suyanti (unknown year) explains experience significantly influences auditing results both partially and multiply.

Table 3: t test (CR) Knowledge toward Experience

Loading Factor	Estimate		S.E.	C.R.	P	Notes
	Unstandardized	Standardized				
X ₃ ← Experience	1.000	0.758			***	Significant
X ₄ ← Experience	1.230	0.773	0.088	11.914	***	Significant
X ₅ ← Experience	0.290	0.169	0.066	2.644	0.008	Significant

Source: Analyzed primary data, 2018

$\lambda_1 = 0,758$, $\lambda_4 = 0,773$, $\lambda_5 = 0,169$, Experience dominantly contributes toward experience because it has greater estimated coefficient 0, 773. It proves experience has good impacts followed by auditor's knowledge.

Professional ethics toward experience

Professional ethics contribute to improve experience. Andriani (2010) explains professional ethics will influence material consideration.

Table 4: t test (CR) professional ethics toward experience

Loading Factor	Estimate		S.E.	C.R.	P	Notes
	Unstandardized	Standardized				
X ₆ ← Experience	0.23	0.165	0.093	2.304	0.021	Significant
X ₇ ← Experience	1.000	0.888				Significant
X ₈ ← Experience	0.61	0.596	0.082	7.524	***	Significant

Source: Analyzed primary data, 2018

Knowledge influences material consideration

The findings explain knowledge of auditors influence material consideration so the higher the knowledge is will help to provide ability in material consideration. The findings are supported by Arleen Herawaty and Yulius Kurnia Susanto (2009) explaining auditor's knowledge will give responsible audit results.

Knowledge toward material consideration through experience

Experience is able to be conjunction variable because the better experience an auditor has it will influence material consideration contributions and knowledge will gain more values for the auditor in auditing.

Professional ethics toward material consideration

Professional ethics explain an auditor is limited by rules and set of rules agreed by Indonesian accountants. It makes auditor to prioritize rules to create better condition. Material consideration will improve if supported by strong professional ethics.

Professional ethics toward material consideration through experience

Experience is able to be conjunction variable or mediator for professional ethics and material consideration because the higher experience will be able to explain how far professional ethics and materials consideration are becoming better. The findings are supported by Irma Paramita Sofia and Risha Trisantya Damayanti (2017) explaining ethical profession influencing material consideration.

6. Conclusion

Knowledge influences material consideration so the higher knowledge had by auditor will have material consideration better. Professional ethics positively influence material consideration if professional ethics are improved then they will be followed by material consideration. experience is able to moderate between auditor's knowledge and material consideration as well as auditor's experience is able to moderate between professional ethics and material consideration.

Managerial Implicaiton

Public Accountant Office (KAP) is service business in which it existence is managed by rules of Indonesia. SO, the office is needed by companies or individuals whom use the service to provide financial information. Then, the roles of

KAP are still dominant in this globalization era. The demand of professional accountant is still in not maximal condition to provide information because of auditors' experience and knowledge. It is expected the roles of expert auditors to provide information will be maximum for stakeholders.

Theoretical Implication

Rules regulating the ethos of public accountant performance are acknowledged by all Indonesian people. So, professional ethics become the reference of auditors to have well behavior in auditing. The skills to explain material consideration influence companies because various financial report mistakes, so auditors must clarify knowledge and experience.

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