THE INFLUENCE OF ETHICS, EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCE ON AUDITOR PROFESSIONAL SCEPTICISM (A Study at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province)

Undergraduate Thesis

By

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FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS UNIVERSITY OF LAMPUNG BANDAR LAMPUNG 2017

ABSTRACT

THE INFLUENCE OF ETHICS, EXPERIENCE, AND COMPETENCE ON AUDITOR PROFESSIONAL SCEPTICISM (Study at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province)

by Panca Tirta Yasa

This study aims to prove empirically the influence of ethics, experience, and competence on auditor professional scepticism. In testing the hypotheses, 63 auditors at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province took part in responding to the questionnaires distributed. The criteria for auditors sampled: 1). Auditors who are directly involved in the assignment, especially in the process of collecting and testing audit evidences, like audit team members, audit tim leaders, audit supervisors and audit quality control, and 2). Auditors who are experienced in auditing for at least one year

Partial Least Square analysis method was used and processed with SmartPLS version 3.0 software and microsoft office excel 2007 program. As hypothesized, the results revealed that ethics, experience, and competence had positive influence on auditor professional scepticism. Discussion, limitation, and recommendation for future research are discussed.

Keywords: ethics, experience, competence, auditor professional scepticism, auditors.

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By: PANCA TIRTA YASA

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THE INFLUENCE OF ETHICS, EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCE ON AUDITOR **PROFESSIONAL SCEPTICISM** (A STUDY AT BPKP REPRESENTATIVE LAMPUNG PROVINCE)

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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

I hereby certify that:

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This undergraduate thesis is still far from perfection and may have a lot of deficiencies. However, the author hopes that this research can benefit the readers and encourage further studies in related topic.

Bandar Lampung, September 27th, 2017

Panca Tirta Yasa

CONTENTS LIST

COVER				
т	INTRODUCTION	1		
1.	1.1 Research Background	1		
	0	5		
	1.2 Research Questions			
	1.3 Objective of The Research			
	1.4 Significance of The Research	6		
п	LITERATURE REVIEW	0		
11,	2.1 Theoretical Base	0		
	2.1.1 Cognitive Dissonance Theory	0		
	2.1.2 Ethics			
		-		
	2.1.3 Experience			
	2.1.4 Competence			
	2.1.5 Auditor Professional Scepticism			
	2.2 Previous Studies	-		
	2.3 The Framework			
	2.4 Hypothesis Development			
	2.4.1 The Influence of Ethics on Auditor Professional Scepticism			
	2.4.2 The Influence of Experience on Auditor Professional Scepticism	-		
	2.4.3 The Influence of Competence on Auditor Professional Scepticism	20		
III. RESEARCH METHOD				
	3.1 Scope of The Research			
	3.2 Population and Sample	22		
	3.3 Data Sources	23		
	3.4 Variable Operational Definition	23		
	3.5 Data Analysis Methods	24		
	3.5 Data Anarysis Methods	28		
	3.5.1 Descriptive Statistics	28		
	3.5.2 Measurement Model (Outer Model)	28		
	3.5.2.1 Validity Test	29		
	3.5.2.2 Reliability Test	29		
	3.6 Structural Model (Inner Model)	30		
	3.6.1 Determination Coefficient (Adjusted R ²)	30		

3.6.2 Path Coefficient (β)	30
3.7 Hypothesis Test	
IV. RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION	31
4.1 Data Collection Result	31
4.2 Data Analysis Results	34
4.2.1 Descriptive Statistics Result	34
4.2.2 Measurement Model (Outer Model) Testing Result	35
4.2.3 Structural Model (Inner Model) Testing Result	
4.3 Hypothesis Testing Result	45
4.4 Discussion	
4.4.1 The Influence of Ethics on Auditor Professional Scepticism	46
4.4.2 The Influence of Experience on Auditor Professional Scepticism	47
4.4.3 The Influence of Competence on Auditor Professional Scepticism	49
V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION	51
5.1 Conclusion	51
5.2 Limitation	52
5.3 Recommendation	
REFFERENCES	55
APPENDICES	

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Variable Measurements Table	24
Questionnaires Distribution	32
Respondent demography	32
Descriptive Statistics of Research Variables	34
Indicators that Did Not Match with Outer Loadings Criteria	37
AVE Value	38
Outer Loadings Validity Test Result	39
Square Root of AVE with Laten Variables Correlation	40
Cross Loading	41
Reliability Test	42
Coefficient of Determinant (R ²)	44
Path Coefficient	44
	Questionnaires DistributionRespondent demographyDescriptive Statistics of Research VariablesIndicators that Did Not Match with Outer Loadings CriteriaAVE ValueOuter Loadings Validity Test ResultSquare Root of AVE with Laten Variables CorrelationCross LoadingReliability TestCoefficient of Determinant (R ²)

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
Figure 2.1	The Framework	17
Figure 4.1	Initial Measurement Model (Outer Model) Output	36
Figure 4.2	Final Measurement Model (Outer Model) Output	43

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix

- Appendix 1 Research Questionnaire
- Appendix 2 Tabulation Results
- Appendix 3 Initial Measurement Model (Outer Model) Output
- Appendix 4 Final Measurement Model (Outer Model) Output
- Appendix 5 Outer Loadings Validity Test Result
- Appendix 6 Cross Loadings
- Appendix 7 Structural Model (Inner Model) Output
- Appendix 8 Respondent's Curriculum Vitae

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

Based on Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2016 which was released by Transparency International (TI), over two-thirds of the 176 countries in 2016 fall below the midpoint of scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). Indonesia placed the 90th position with the score of 37 (TI, 2017). With the global average score of 43 and Asia Pacific average score of 44, Indonesia is in emergency of corruption. Indonesian Corruption Watch (ICW) revealed that poor performance could be attributed to unaccountable governments.

A mapping research of corruption case handling trend 2016 by ICW revealed corruption cases based on government institutions as follows (ICW, 2017):

- District government as many as 219 corruption cases with the amount of stated losses as much as Rp478 billion;
- City government as many as 73 cases with the amount of stated losses as much as Rp247 billion;

- Village Government as many as 62 cases with the amount of stated losses as much as Rp206 billion;
- Ministry as many as 28 cases with the amount of stated losses as much as Rp38 billion;
- Regional owned entity as many as 20 cases with the amount of stated losses as much as Rp18 billion.

Since the era of reformation, the demand for transparency and accountability for public financial management have been stronger (Butar Butar and Perdana, 2017). Government internal auditors took part in this case. In Indonesia, the function of internal auditors become the focus agenda of change, therefore internal auditors role are being center of attention (Butar Butar and Perdana, 2017).

An auditor is demanded to generate a good quality and reliable audit. Auditors also must be able to detect fraud which may happen during the process of audit that can affect the auditors' decision making. To do so, auditors must have an attitude of auditor professional scepticism.

Professional scepticism is the basis of high quality audit performance (Hurtt et al, 2013). Due professional care requires auditor to carry out professional scepticism, an attitude that involves a questioning mind and critically evaluates the audit evidence (BPK RI, 2007). In applying professional scepticism, auditors must

not be satisfied with the unconvincing evidence, eventhough they think that the management of an entity is trustworthy (BPK RI, 2007).

Research conducted by the SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission) for 11 periods (January 1987 to December 2007) found that a third of the causes of audit failure is the inadequate level of auditor professional scepticism. Of the 40 audit cases examined, 24 cases (60%) included to be happened because the auditors did not apply adequate level of professional scepticism (Beasley et.al. (2001) in Noviyanti, 2008). This inadequate level of auditor professional scepticism can influence the public trust over auditors ability. Enofe, Ukpebor and Ogbomo (2015) explained that when auditors were unable to appropriately apply the professional scepticism, they might not obtain sufficient evidence to support their opinions.

The attitude of auditors professional scepticism can be governed by the auditors' compliance of code of ethics. Pflugrath et.al. (2007) found that compliance with the code of conduct had a significant influence on professional accountant's audit decision making. When auditors are able to uphold the ethics principles during the process of audit, the audit failure can be avoided. Minaryanti and Ridwan (2015) showed that the auditors who were responsible for detecting fraud would be able to prevent the failure audit since they were able to apply good audit methods, uphold the objective professional judgement and have attitude of professional scepticism.

On the other hand, auditors experience gives contribution to the improvement of auditors professional scepticism. Anugerah et.al. (2012) explained that government

internal audit body needs to develop various programs to enhance the knowledge and experience of their internal auditors. Libby and Frederick (1990) found the more experience, the more the auditors can generate various kinds of assumption in explaining the audit findings.

Auditors professional scepticism can be also governed by auditors competence. Baybutt (2014) found that an auditor competence was essential to ensure the audit quality. Auditors who have good competence within themselves are able to detect fraud during the process of audit.

This research is inspired by previous studies. The previous studies tested how ethics, experience and competence influenced the auditor professional scepticism. Enofe et.al. (2015), Oktarini and Ramantha (2016), Silalahi (2013), Suraida (2005), Winantyadi and Waluyo (2014) agreed that ethics, experience and competence had positive influence on the auditor professional scepticism.

Contrary to previous studies, this research is conducted to the auditors in the governmental circumstance because there are still few studies on the auditor professional skepticism in the government circumstance. This research is also more focused only on some internal factors that influence the auditor professional scepticism, which are ethics, experience and competence. This research is conducted at BPKP Representive of Lampung Province.

1.2 Research Questions

The research will address these following questions:

- 1. Does the ethics influence the auditor professional scepticism at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province?
- 2. Does the experience influence the auditor professional scepticism at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province?
- 3. Does the competence influence the auditor professional scepticism at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province?

1.3 Objective of The Research

Specific objectives of the research are:

- Testing the influence of ethics on auditor professional scepticism in BPKP Representative of Lampung Province.
- Testing the influence of experience on auditor professional scepticism in BPKP Representative of Lampung Province.
- Testing the influence of competence on auditor professional scepticism in BPKP Representative of Lampung Province.

1.4 Significance of The Research

This research will address the issue of auditor professional scepticism, focused on some internal factors from government auditors. In general, the findings of the research are expected to:

- 1. Theoritical significance
 - a. Researcher expects that this research can contribute benefits in terms of knowledge, understanding and experience development of researcher as well as giving contributiton to the development of audit knowledge. In addition, researcher also expects that this research can provide sufficient evidence of the influence of ethics, experience and competence of the auditor professional scepticism.
 - b. Researcher expects this research can add and develop literature related to the auditor professional scepticism for government auditors, remembering that there are still few number of researches related to the auditor professional scepticism for government auditors.
- 2. Practical Significance

Researcher expects this research can give motivation for the auditors, particularly for auditors at the BPKP Representative of Lampung province in order to continuously improve their attitude of professional scepticism, so that they can do their duties professionally.

3. Policy Significance

For BPKP and other public accountant offices, this research is expected to give input in making the policies, like education and training policy, in order to improve the auditor professional scepticism.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical base

2.1.1 Cognitive Dissonance Theory

Cognitive dissonance theory is a social psychological theory that discusses about the formation and change of attitude. This theory was first developed by Festinger (1957). Festinger (1957) explains that cognitive dissonance is a discrepancy or gap between two cognitive elements that are not consistent, creates psychological discomfort. This cognitive dissonance theory states that humans are basically consistent and tend to take on attitudes that do not contradict each other, and avoid actions that are inconsistent with their attitude (Noviyanti, 2008). However, in reality, humans are often forced to perform the behavior that is inconsistent with their attitude.

Basic hypothesis of cognitive dissonance theory is that the dissonance will cause discomfort psychology. The theory of cognitive dissonance provides discerning and testable hypotheses of why people are influenced by their prior beliefs and why they are motivated to resist change (Jermias, 2001). The cognitive elements corresponding to positive characteristics of the rejected alternatives, and those corresponding to negative characteristics of the chosen alternative, are dissonant with the knowledge of the action that has been taken (Festinger, 1957 in Jermias, 2001). Cognitive elements are things that are associated with itself, behavior and environment. Cognitive elements refer to the knowledge, opinions, beliefs or feelings about themselves or their environment.

Cognitive dissonance means uncomfortable and unpleasant psychological situation when there is a conflict between two cognitives or conflict between attitude and conduct (Noviyanti, 2008). Cognitive dissonance occurs to the auditors when before they do audit, they obtain tentative information that the auditee is honest and trustworthy party, but when the audit is taking place, the auditors discover discrepancies in the evidences of audit. This causes psychological discomfort and may affect the auditors in making decisions. It is contrary with Jermias (2001) who confirmed that people normatively know their judgement should be objective.

A theory of cognitive dissonance in this research is used to explain that the auditor professional scepticism is an attitude that is formed and may be changed due to the influence of the element of the auditor's cognition. Cognitive dissonance theory is used to explain the internal factors that affect the auditor professional scepticism, such as ethics, experience and competence.

2.1.2 Ethics

According to online Oxford Dictionary, ethics is defined as moral principles that govern a person's behaviour or the conducting of an activity. Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (2008) defines ethics is the science of what is good and what is bad, and about the right as well as a moral obligation, a set of principles or values regarding to the morals and principles that guide people's behavior. Code of conduct principly is a system of moral principles that are applied in a professional group, which are set together. The code of ethics of a profession is the provision of behavior that must be followed by any people who perform the task of their profession, such as doctors, lawyers, police officers, accountants, auditors, appraisers, and other professions.

In compliance with the code of conduct as an auditor, code of conduct for auditors at BPKP refers to Asosiasi Auditor Internal Pemerintah Indonesia (AAIPI) Number: KEP-005/AAIPI/DPN/2014 on the date of 29th of April, 2014 about *Pemberlakuan Kode Etik Auditor Intern Pemerintah Indonesia, Standar Audit Intern Pemerintah Indonesia, dan Pedoman Telaah Sejawat Auditor Intern Pemerintah Indonesia.* AAIPI mandates for all government internal control apparatus to apply and implement these audit standards and auditor code of ethics.

An auditor is expected to apply and uphold the ethics principles, which are integrity, objectivity, confidentiality, competence, accountable and professional behavior. This auditor code of ethics is set as behavioral guidelines for government internal auditors

to run their duties and responsibilities and for the APIP leaders in evaluating the behavior of government internal auditors (AAIPI, 2014).

Research conducted by Pflugrath et.al. (2007) found that compliance with the code of conduct had a significant influence on professional accountant's audit decision making. The results of similar studies were also obtained from studies conducted by Enofe et.al.(2015), Oktarini and Ramantha (2016), Silalahi (2013), Suraida (2005), and Winantyadi and Waluyo (2014), which revealed that ethics gave positive influence on auditor professional scepticism.

2.1.3 Experience

Audit experience is the auditor experience in auditing financial statements in terms of both duration and number of assignments that once handled (Suraida, 2005). Libby and Frederick (1990) found the more experience, the more the auditors can generate various kinds of assumption in explaining the audit findings.

Code of Ethic of Indonesia Government Internal Auditor emphasizes the importance of auditor experience. General Standard of Indonesia Government Internal Audit Standard stated that auditors must have must have education, knowledge, expertise and skills, **experience**, and other competencies required for carrying out their responsibilities (AAIPI, 2014). Internal auditors apply knowledge, expertise and skills, and experience required in delivering internal control services (AAIPI, 2014). Experience is expected to influence auditors' judgments about management provided information when it is congruent with management's self-interest (Kaplan et.al., 2008). Experience provides knowledge that helps auditors assign appropriate decision weights to the evidence they acquire because experience helps them develop more comprehensive knowledge structures, and improves their ability to use that knowledge more effectively (Kaplan et.al., 2008).

Tubbs (1992) stated that auditors who had more experiences could know the number of different types of errors. As auditors gain experience: (1) they know more errors, (2) they have more accurate error knowledge, (3) they know more atypical errors, and (4) the causally-related features of errors (when the errors occured and the internal control objectives violated) become relatively more salient (Tubbs, 1992).

The studies that were conducted by Anugerah et.al. (2012), Gullkvist and Jokipii (2015), Hurt et.al (2013), Oktarini and Ramantha (2016) and Silalahi (2013) also showed that experience gave a positive influence on the auditor professional scepticism.

2.1.4 Competence

Baybutt (2014) found that an auditor competence was essential to ensure the audit quality. In fulfillment of standards of competence as auditors, auditors at BPKP use standard released by Asosiasi Auditor Internal Pemerintah Indonesia (AAIPI) Number: KEP-005/AAIPI/DPN/2014 on the date of 29th of April, 2014 about *Pemberlakuan Kode Etik Auditor Intern Pemerintah Indonesia, Standar Audit Intern* *Pemerintah Indonesia, dan Pedoman Telaah Sejawat Auditor Intern Pemerintah Indonesia.* Mentioned in section "Ethics Principles" that government internal auditors are expected to apply and uphold the ethics principles, which are integrity, objectivity, confidentiality, **competence**, accountable and professional behavior (AAIPI, 2014).

AAIPI (2014) explains that competence is the abilities and characteristics possessed by a person, in the form of knowledge, skills, and attitudes required in carrying out his/her official duties. In section of General Standard of Indonesia Government Internal Audit Standard, AAIPI (2014) clearly states that standard of competence which has to be possessed by an auditor as follows:

- 1. General competence, related to the general requirements to be considered as an auditor. General competence is the basic competence of being and behaving as an auditor, that is defined as an achievement trigger, analytical thinking, user orientated, cooperation, stress management, and organizational commitment.
- 2. Technical competence, related to the requirements that can carry out the task of internal audit, in accordance to the ladder of auditor position. The internal audit technical competence includes seven areas of competence:
 - Competence in the areas of Risk Management, Internal Control, and Public Sector Governance.
 - 2) Competence in Internal Audit Activities Strategy;
 - 3) Competence in Reporting The Internal Audit Results;

- 4) Competence in Professional Attitude;
- 5) Competence in Communication;
- 6) Competence in Governmental Environment;
- 7) Competence in Management Supervision.
- 3. Cumulative competence, meaning that competence at the level of a higher auditor position, is a cumulative competence in the level of auditor position plus specific competence in their position.

Furthermore, AAIPI (2014) states that in the term of upholding the principle of competence, government internal auditors must:

- 1. Provide services that can be completed as long as they have knowledge, skills and expertise, and experience required;
- 2. Conduct supervision in accordance with Indonesia Government Internal Audit Standards; and
- 3. Constantly improve the skills and effectiveness and also quality of the task, either derived from formal education, training, certification, or work experience.

First Competence General Standard (SA section 210 in SPAP 2011 in Silalahi, 2013) mentions that the audit should be carried out by one or more persons who have the skills and technical training as auditors. Auditor competence can be measured through the number of diploma/certificate owned by the auditors and the number/amount of the participation in the trainings, seminars or symposium (Silalahi, 2013).

Research conducted by Silalahi (2013), Suraida (2005) and Winantyadi and Waluyo (2014), showed that the competency has a positive influence on the auditor professional scepticism.

2.1.5 Auditor Professional Scepticism

Online Oxford Dictionary defines scepticism as a sceptical attitude; doubt as to the truth of something. Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (2008) defines skeptical as lack of confidence or hesitation. Professional scepticism is a multi-dimensional individual characteristics (Hurtt, 2010). A sceptical auditor always considers the reliability and independency on a system that provides audit information (Hurtt, 2010).

AAIPI (2014) defines professional scepticism as an attitude that includes a questioning mind and critical assessment of the audit evidence. Auditors apply the attitude of of auditor professional scepticism during the process of audit.

Nelson (2009) defined professional scepticism as indicated by auditor judgments and decisions that reflect a heightened assessment of the risk that an assertion is incorrect, conditional on the information available to the auditor. Under this definition, Nelson (2009) stated that an auditor who had high professional scepticism needed relatively more convincing (in the form of a more persuasive set of evidence) before concluding that an assertion was correct.

In a study conducted by Duska (2005), it was stated that professional scepticism was an attitude that always questions and critically assess the existing audit evidence. Since the evidence is collected and evaluated during the process of auditing, professional scepticism should be used during the audit (SPKN, 2007).

2.2 **Previous Studies**

In addition to use the theory as a foundation in this research, there are some previous studies that can be used as references in this study. Past researches are more conducted in the public accounting firm. However, there are also some studies that use government auditors as respondents.

Suraida (2005) tested the influence of ethics, competence, experience audit and audit risk on the auditor professional scepticism by involving 100 public accountants who authorized to sign the auditor's report. Using the Structural Equation Model (SEM) model equations, it showed that ethics, competence, experience audit and audit risk influenced the auditor professional scepticism.

Silalahi (2013) conducted a study to test the influence of ethics, competence, experience audit and audit situation on the auditor professional scepticism. There were 84 respondents involved in the study. They were working in public accountant firms located in North Sumatra and Riau, which were registered in 2009 IAI Directory Books. The research hypotheses were tested using multiple regression with SPSS. The results showed that ethics, competence, experience and audit situations influenced the auditor professional scepticism.

Winantyadi and Waluyo (2014) conducted a study involving 37 auditors at KAP in Yogyakarta. Hypothesis testing is executed using a simple regression and multiple regression tests. The results showed that the experience, expertise, audit situation, and ethics gave positive influence on the Auditor Professional Scepticism.

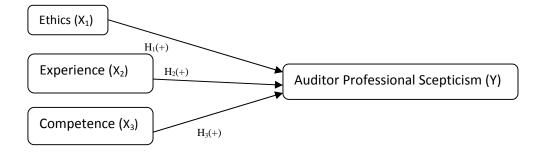
Anugerah et.al. (2012) conducted a study of 40 auditors from BPK RI Representative of Riau Province. The hypotheses were tested using the method of Partial Least Square (PLS). The result showed that there was a positive and significant relationship between ethics, experience, situational factors audits on auditor professional scepticism in BPK RI Representative of Riau Province.

2.3 The Framework

This study uses the theory of cognitive dissonance as a theoretical base. Cognitive dissonance theory is used to explain the influence of interaction between auditor professional scepticism in BPKP with the internal factors that influence the professional scepticism, which are ethics, experience and competence of the audit.

Based on the explanation above, this study is compiled by the framework as shown in figure 2.1 below:





2.4 Hypothesis Development

2.4.1 The Influence of Ethics on Auditor Professional Scepticism

The compliance of ethics will be reflected in the auditors' attitudes and actions. Auditors who have a high awareness of professional ethics and uphold the code of ethics will work professionally. Professionals auditors will apply the attitude of professional scepticism in each performance of his/her duties.

Code of ethics for auditors at BPKP refers to Asosiasi Auditor Internal Pemerintah Indonesia (AAIPI) Number: KEP-005/AAIPI/DPN/2014 on the date of 29th of April, 2014 about *Pemberlakuan Kode Etik Auditor Intern Pemerintah Indonesia, Standar Audit Intern Pemerintah Indonesia, dan Pedoman Telaah Sejawat Auditor Intern Pemerintah Indonesia*. This rule is used as guideliness for auditors at BPKP in carrying out their responsibilities. The aim of this code of ethics is to prevent unethical behavior, fulfill the principles accountability and implement the controlling in order to create credible auditors with optimum performances (AAIPI, 2014). Codes of ethics are the norms, which rule the moral behavior of a profession through the provisions that must be met and adhered by every member of the profession (Anugerah et.al., 2012).

Research conducted by Enofe et.al.(2015) concluded that accounting ethics would play an even more important role in improving auditor professional skepticism. This result is in line with studies conducted by Oktarini and Ramantha (2016), Silalahi (2013), Suraida (2005), and Winantyadi and Waluyo (2014) that revealed ethics had positive influence on the auditor professional scepticism.

Thus, this lead to the following hyphothesis:

H1: Ethics positively influences auditor professional scepticism.

2.4.2 The Influence of Experience on Auditor Professional Scepticism

In a study conducted by Hurt et al (2013), it was explained that the experience of an auditor could strengthen the auditor's attitude of professional scepticism. The more experienced, the higher auditor will have attitude of auditor professional scepticism. The more experience, the more they can generate various kinds of assumption in explaining the audit findings (Libby and Frederick, 1990). Experienced auditor will have objective decisions in every assignment.

Haynes (1999) in Kaplan et.al (2008) examined the interaction between auditor experience and the source credibility of evidence. In her study, the high-experience group was comprised of governmental auditors with an average of more than seven years of audit experience whereas the low-experience group was comprised of MBA students with no audit experience. She manipulated management credibility by changing the probability that management would truthfully report certain information. Findings suggested that the persuasiveness of information obtained from management was jointly influenced by auditor experience and source credibility. The credibility of management had a stronger influence on judgments of the high experience group compared to judgments of the low-experience group.

According to Noviyanti (2008), the distinguish between experienced and inexperienced auditors is the length of auditors working as auditors in the office. The experienced auditors will be more aware in any errors happened during the process of audit.

The studies conducted by Anugerah et.al. (2012) revealed that experience positively influenced the auditors professional skepticism. This result is in line with studies conducted by Gullkvist and Jokipii (2015), Hurtt et al (2013), Oktarini and Ramantha (2016) and Silalahi (2013) that showed that experience had a positive influence on the auditor professional scepticism.

Thus, this lead to the following hyphothesis:

H₂: Experience positively influences auditor professional scepticism.

2.4.3 The Influence of Competence on Auditor Professional Scepticism

Auditors must have the necessary competence in doing their tasks. One of the factors identified by auditing standards in determining the strength of the internal audit function is internal auditor competence (Seol, 2011). Gamayuni (2016) stated that internal auditor competence meant that in carrying out the task, auditors must have the knowledge, skill, personal attribute, experience and also code of conducts that had to obeyed. The knowledge can be obtained either formal or informal. The skill can be

seen by certificates received by auditors. After joining a technical training, seminar or consortium, auditors will get certificates to certify their skill. Competence of auditors through their general knowledge and special expertise can improve their professional scepticism. Wood (2004) added that competence will increase the confidence of the auditor.

Research conducted by Silalahi (2013) stated that competence had positive influence on auditor professional scepticim. This result is in line with Suraida (2005) and Winantyadi and Waluyo (2014) that revealed competence had a positive influence on the auditor professional scepticism.

Thus, this lead to the following hyphothesis:

H₃: Competence positively influences auditor professional scepticism.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Scope of The Research

This study seeks to explain the causal relationship between independent variables and the dependent variable by testing the hypothesis. The independent variables in this study are ethics, experience and competence of the audit, while the dependent variable is the auditor professional scepticism.

The study plan is a simplification of the research conducted by Silalahi (2013) because the researchers would like to focus on internal factors that influence the auditor professional scepticism. The research will be conducted by survey method using a questionnaire distributed to the auditors at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province. The questionnaire will be written in Bahasa to simplify respondents in answering. The period used is the instantaneous cross section which gives the certain fact that is only once collected in a period of survey.

3.2 Population and Sample

The subjects of population in this study are all auditors at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province. This study uses primary data by directly distributing questionnaires to the respondents. The collecting data technique used in this study is purposive sampling. Criteria of auditors sampled, namely:

- Auditors who are directly involved in the assignment, especially in the process of collecting and testing audit evidences, like audit team members, audit tim leaders, audit supervisors and audit quality control.
- b. Auditors who are experienced in auditing for at least one year. Based on the researcher's judgement, relied to researcher's own experience working at BPKP for more than 8 years, one year is enough for auditors at BPKP to have experience in audit.

3.3 Data Sources

This research is quantitative research, using primary data by directly distributing questionnaires to the respondents. Questionnaires can be used to obtain data associated with thoughts, feelings, attitudes, beliefs, values, perceptions, personality and behavior of respondents with 5 Likert scales. The data collected then will be processed using statistical software SmartPLS 3.0 and excel microsoft office applications. Besides, to strengthen the result of this research, the researcher will have

an interview with a qualified respondent. In this time, the researcher will be having an interview with the Head of BPKP Representative of Lampung Province.

3.4 Variable Operational Definition

This study uses four variables: ethics (X_1) , experience (X_2) and competence (X_3) as the independent variable and the auditor professional scepticism (Y) as the dependent variable. The answers to the questionnaires are collected and measured by a 5-point Likert scale ranging from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5). Some questions are arranged in negative forms. On any reversed indicators, a low score on the measurement scale indicates a high collision value, and vice versa.

Each variables are measured in the following manner:

Variables	Constructs	Indicators	Questions	Scales	Info
Ethics (X ₁) (Murtanto and Marini (2003) in Kusuma, 2012)	1. Personality	 a. Responsibility to the profession b. Personal interests over public interests c. Team work 	B 1-3	Likert 1-5	Questions number 2, 5, 8, 10, 12 are in negative
	2. Professional Skills	a. Objectivity in decision makingb. Carefulness principle	B 4-5		forms.
	3. Responsibility	a. Confidentialityb. Professionalismc. Audit procedures	B 6-8		
	4. Implementatio n of the code	a. Compliance of code of ethics	B 9-11		

Table 3.1Variable Measurements Table

Variables	Constructs	Indicators	Questions	Scales	Info
	of ethics	b. Implementation of code of ethicsc. Uphold of code of ethics			
	5. Interpretation and refinement of the code of conduct	a. Code of ethics interpretationb. Better performancec. Code of ethics interpretation	B 12-14		
Experience (X ₂) (Suraida (2005) and Ramdanials yah (2010) in Oktarini and Ramantha (2016))		 a. Experience as important element in audit b. Types of auditee c. Relationship between experience and decision making d. Relationship between experience and career development e. Number of audit tasks f. Duration of audit experience g. Relationship between experience and fraud detection 	C 1-7	Likert 1-5	All questions are in positive forms
Competence (X ₃) (AAIPI, 2014)	1. Personal Quality	 a. Team work b. Curiousity, wide horizon, uncertainty action c. Personal Qualification d. Analysis ability 	D 1-4	Likert 1-5	Questions number 1,5,7 are in negative forms.
	2. General Knowledge	 a. Auditee understanding. b. Audit Standard knowledge. c. Analytical review 	D 5-8		

Variables	Constructs	Indicators	Questions	Scales	Info
	3. Special Skills	ability d. Formal and informal education and training a. Statistical skill b. Audit report skill c. Contribution of owned special skills d. Certificates in	D 9-12		
		accounting and taxation			
Auditors Professional Scepticism (Y) (Hurtt, 2010, modified)	1. Self Determining	 a. Accepting other people's explanantion without further thought b. Immediately accept what other people tell c. Accepting things seen, read, or heard at face value d. Noticing 	E 1 E 8 E 12 E 13	Likert 1-5	Questions number 1,5,8,9 are in negative forms.
		inconsistencies in explanations.e. Agree with what the others in my group think	E14		
	2. Suspension of	a. Taking time for	E 2	-	
	Judgement	decision making b. Time consuming in	E 7		
		decision making c. Dislike to make	E 15		
		decision quickly d. Decideing until looked at all of the readily available information.	E 16		
		e. Ensuring that has considered most	E 19		

Variables	Constructs	Indicators	Questions	Scales	Info
		available			
		information before			
		making a decisión		-	
	3. Interpersonal	a. interested in what	E 3		
	Understanding	causes people to			
		behave the way			
		they do.			
		b. Uninterested in	E 9		
		people's actions			
		c. understanding the	E 11		
		reason for other			
		people's behavior			
		d. seldom considering	E 18		
		why people behave			
		in a certain way.			
		e. Other people's	E 20		
		behavior doesn't			
		interest			
			T C		
	4. Questioning	a. Reject statements	E 5		
	Mind	unless have proof			
		that they are true	F 10		
		b. Friends tell me that	E 10		
		I often question			
		hings that I see or			
		hear.	T 1 7		
		c. Frequently	E 17		
		question things			
		that seen or heard.			
	5 0 10		F 4		
	5. Self-	Being confident of	E 4		
	Confidence	abilibes owned			
	6. Search for	Discovering new	E 6		
		Discovering new information	ЕÖ		
	Knowledge				
		is fun			

3.5 Data Analysis Methods

3.5.1 Descriptive Statistics

Descriptive statistics aims to explain and describe research data profile (Abdillah and Jogiyanto, 2015). Descriptive statistics is used to analyze data by describing the data that has been collected and processed as it is without intending to make general conclusions or generalization (Sugiyono, 2011). Statistics technique that is commonly used is central tendention (mean, median, mode) and variability (Abdillah and Jogiyanto, 2015). Statistics measurement in this research used Microsoft Office Excel 2007 program.

3.5.2 Measurement Model (Outer Model)

Data was analyzed by using Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) model with Partial Least Square (PLS) approach, using SmartPLS application Version 3.0. SEM essentially offers the ability to perform path analysis with latent variables (Chin (1998) in Ghozali and Latan, 2015). PLS is a variance-based SEM statistical method designed to solve multiple regressions when specific data problems occur, such as small sample size measurements, missing values, and multicolinearity, with the aim of predicting the effect of variable X on Y and explaining the theoretical relationships Between the two variables. PLS is a reliable tool for testing prediction models (Abdillah and Jogiyanto, 2015).

Validity shows how much a test measures what should be measured (Jogiyanto, 2016). Validity testing includes:

- Convergent Validity, scored based on the correlation between Average Variance Extracted (AVE) item score calculated by SmartPLS 3.0 application. Measurement scale of loading value > 0.5 is considered to be practical significance (Abdillah and Jogiyanto, 2015).
- Discriminant Validity, by comparing the root square of the AVE score for each construct with the correlation between the construct and other constructs in the model. The model has sufficient discriminant validity if the AVE root for each construct is greater than the correlation between constructs and other constructs (Ghozali and Latan, 2015).

3.5.2.2 Reliability Test

Reliability relates to the consistency of measuring instrument (Jogiyanto, 2016). The construct reliability test is measured by two criterias: composite reliability and cronbach's alpha from the indicator that measures the construct. The construct is considered reliable if the value of composite reliability and cronbach's alpha is above 0.70 (Ghozali and Latan, 2015).

3.6 Structural Model (Inner Model)

The researcher tested the structural model by measuring Coefficient of Determination (R^2) , which is a goodness-fit model and Path Coefficient (β) (Ghozali and Latan, 2015).

3.6.1 Determination Coefficient (R²)

Determination coefficient (\mathbb{R}^2) aims to measure how far the ability of the model explains variations on the dependent variable. The coefficient of determination is between 0 and 1. The small \mathbb{R}^2 value indicates that the ability of independent variables explain the variation of dependent variable is limited.

3.6.2 Path Coefficient (β)

This test is executed to ensure that the relationship between constructs is strong. The construct has a strong relationship if the coefficient test value of the path is greater than 0.10 and the latent relationship is said to be significant if the path coefficient test is at the 0.05 level (Ghozali and Latan, 2015).

3.7 Hypothesis Test

Hypothesis testing uses the comparison between the result of path coefficient generated by T-Statistic with T-table. If the T-statistic value is higher than the T-table value, the hypothesis is supported. Researcher use a 95% confidence level (alpha 5%), then the T-table value for the one-tailed hypothesis is > 1.64.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Conclusion

This study is conducted to test the influence of three independent variables, namely ethics, experience and competence on auditor professional scepticism. Respondents in this study are auditors at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province, amounted to 76 people. The method used in analyzing data in this research is Structural Equation Model (SEM) with Partial Least Square (PLS) approach, with the following conclusion:

1. Ethics has positive influence on auditor professional scepticism.

This result supports first hypothesis. The professional ethics and code of ethics compliance of an auditor may improve the attitude of auditor professional scepticism. This ethics compliance includes personality, personal skills, responsibility, the implementation of the auditor's ethical code and the interpretation and improvement of the auditor's ethical code. Auditors who uphold ethics principles will have a good attitude of auditors professional scepticism.

2. Experience has positive influence on auditor professional scepticism.

This result supports second hypothesis. Experience is an important element in auditing. The experience of auditors in dealing with various types of audits and auditees can improve the auditor professional scepticism. The more experience, the greater the auditor's ability to detect problems professionally. Experience can be measured by both duration and number of assignments.

3. Competence has positive influence on auditor professional scepticism.

This result supports third hypothesi.s The competence of an auditor can be seen from the personal quality, general knowledge as well as the special expertise to carry out the audit task. By having competence, auditors can improve their professional scepticism. Competence is the abilities possessed by a person, in the form of knowledge, skills, and attitudes required in carrying out his/her official duties. As stated in General Standard of Indonesia Government Internal Audit Standard, standard of competence which has to possessed by government internal auditors are general competence, technical competence and cumulative competence.

5.2 Limitatiton

Researcher realizes that there are still limitations in this study, so that they create disruption of the research result. Some limitations that researcher encountered include these following:

- This research is limited only to the government auditors working at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province so that the research result can not be generalized to the auditor as a whole.
- 2. The auditor's tight of schedule caused the returning time of questionnaires shifted from the set timeline previously.
- 3. Data used in this study was from questionnaires so that there are some weaknesses encountered, such as inaccurate answers, dishonest answers, and miss interpretated questions.

5.3 Recommendation

Based on the research result and conclusion, the researcher recommend things as follows:

- Head of BPKP Representative of Lampung Province conducts education and training programs that can improve auditor professional scepticism. Substantive and continuously education and training programs can improve auditor professional scepticism, especially for auditors at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province. Training program can be like In-House Training Program conducted at BPKP Representative of Lampung Province.
- 2. For further research may include other variables, both internal and external, that may influence the auditor professional scepticism, such as independence, objectivity, work motivation, time pressure, audit tenure and so on.

- 3. Further researchers can use other indicators that reflect the influence of experience on auditors professional scepticism to get more valid and convincing result. The experience indicators used in this research might not fully reflect the attitude of auditors professional scepticism since there were some indicators that had to be removed, though the result still supported the hypothesis.
- 4. Further researchers can then add other methods in data collection, such as direct interviews to respondents so as to produce more qualified research results.

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