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Fraud Detection Unveiled: How Audit Quality Shapes Auditors' Detection Capabilities?

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ABSTRACT

Auditors today must possess skills that enable them to detect fraud, especially given increasingly complex business processes, more intricate data, and future business developments. This capability is crucial for auditors to ensure that professional practices are maintained at high standards. This study investigates the impact of ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence on fraud detection, emphasizing the role of audit quality improvement. The study's respondents include 152 government auditors from the Audit Board of Indonesia, the Financial and Development Supervisory Agency, the Financial Services Authority, and the Inspectorate General of the Riau Islands Regency. Data collection was conducted using questionnaires, and the research hypotheses were tested using Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) through Smart-PLS 3 software. The findings reveal that ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence significantly influence audit quality. While ethical principles show a negative but insignificant effect on fraud detection, professionalism and auditor competence have positive yet insignificant effects. Audit quality, however, demonstrates a positive and significant impact on fraud detection. Additionally, ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence indirectly influence fraud detection through improved audit quality.

Keywords: Ethical Principles, Professionalism, Auditor Competence, Fraud Detection, Audit Quality
JEL Classifications: M42, M48, K42, M14

1. INTRODUCTION

Based on the survey results by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), there were 239 fraud cases recorded in Indonesia. These cases consist of 167 instances of corruption, 50 cases of misappropriation of assets/national and corporate wealth, and 22 financial statement fraud. It was found that these fraudulent activities resulted in a total loss of more than 8 trillion Rupiah, with an average loss per case reaching 7 trillion Rupiah, occurring within <12 months. Corruption emerges as the most common form of fraud. It incurs the most significant losses in Indonesia, with corrupt practices causing damages ranging from 100 million to 500 million Rupiah per detected case within a year[1].

According to findings from the Indonesian Corruption Watch (ICW), there has been a significant increase in state losses due to corruption from the first semester of 2017 to the first semester of 2021. These data indicate that the enforcement against corrupt actors has not been effective, or the punishments given need to be more adequate to prevent corruption in the future[2].

The high incidence of fraud cases and the resulting losses indicate that no institution or organization is truly immune to the risk of fraud. As a preventive measure, four pillars of security can be implemented: a solid organizational culture, effective internal control system implementation, the active role of internal auditors in detecting fraud indicators, and objective and independent

1 Accessible: 2019 Indonesia Fraud Survey

2 Accessible: Monitoring Results of Corruption Case Enforcement Trends in the First Semester of 2021

external audits (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). Referring to the third pillar, internal auditors hold a crucial position in helping prevent, detect, and address potential fraud through the effective execution of their functions and responsibilities during the audit process. By doing so, internal auditors can achieve an optimal level of audit quality. This research will discuss how the principles of ethics, professionalism, and auditor competence play a role in supporting fraud detection by enhancing audit quality.

The study by Mardijuwono and Subianto (2018) found that auditor professionalism has a positive and significant relationship with audit quality. Similarly, research by Meidawati and Assidiqi (2019) indicates that auditor competence and ethics positively influence audit quality. This aligns with Umar et al. (2019), who discovered that auditor competence positively affects audit quality and positively impacts fraud detection. Conversely, Kumalasari et al. (2019) found that auditor competence, ethics, and professionalism do not positively affect audit quality. Meanwhile, the study by Haeridistia and Fadjarenie (2019) demonstrated that professional ethics positively and significantly impact audit quality.

Research by Kartika and Pramuka (2019) and Putri and Mardijuwono (2020) found that auditor competence and professionalism positively and significantly affect audit quality. Similarly, Arum and Wahyudi (2021) revealed that ethical principles and professionalism positively impact audit quality, which, in turn, positively influences fraud detection. The study by Hamilah et al. (2022) showed that competence and professionalism have a positive and significant effect on audit quality, with audit quality having a positive and significant impact on fraud detection. In contrast, research by Ximenes and Guntur (2023) indicates that auditor ethics do not affect audit quality, while auditor competence has a positive and significant impact.

This literature gap drives the research to examine all these variables simultaneously and broaden the understanding by incorporating auditor competence variables and using a sample of government auditors from the Riau Island Regency. This study aims to fill the knowledge gap in the literature concerning a better understanding of the factors influencing auditors' ability in fraud detection through improved audit quality. The research gap in this study lies in adding auditor competence variables to the existing research framework and expanding the generalization of research findings using a different sample.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW AND HYPOTHESIS DEVELOPMENT

The attribution theory was introduced to understand how individuals interpret the reasons behind their own and others' actions, both from internal and external factors (Heider, 1958). In this study, the attribution theory is used to understand how internal auditors' perceptions of ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence affect their assessments of audit quality and their ability in fraud detection. Meanwhile, the fraud diamond theory identifies four key elements influencing the risk of fraud within an organization, including incentive/pressure, opportunity, rationalization, and capability (Wolfe and Hermanson, 2004). This theory serves as the foundation for understanding the correlation of these factors with internal auditors' ability to detect fraud, using audit quality as a mediating variable.

The prior research has found that ethical principles have a positive and significant influence on audit quality (Meidawati and Assidiqi, 2019; Haeridistia and Fadjarenie, 2019; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021), professionalism has a positive and significant influence on audit quality (Putra et al., 2021; Putri and Mardijuwono, 2020; Mardijuwono and Subianto, 2018; Kartika and Pramuka, 2019; Hamilah et al., 2022; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021), and auditor competence has a positive and significant influence on audit quality (Ximenes and Guntur, 2023; Putra et al., 2021; Putri and Mardijuwono, 2020; Meidawati and Assidiqi, 2019; Kartika and Pramuka, 2019; Hamilah et al., 2022). Consistent application of ethical principles by auditors enhances overall audit quality. The level of professionalism and auditor competence also influences audit quality, with more professional and competent auditors tending to produce better audits.

Previous research has also found a significant and positive influence between ethical principles and fraud detection (Wahidahwati and Asyik, 2022; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021), professionalism and fraud detection (Putra et al., 2021; Hamilah et al., 2022; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021), as well as auditor competence and fraud detection (Umar et al., 2019; Putra et al., 2021; Hamilah et al., 2022). Consistent application of ethical principles prevents ethical violations or fraud. It facilitates the detection process, while high professionalism and auditor competence enhance the ability to identify and recognize potential fraud.

Previously, research has found that audit quality has a significant favorable influence on fraud detection (Umar et al., 2019; Putra et al., 2021; Hamilah et al., 2022; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). By conducting high-quality audits, auditors have a greater chance of identifying indications or evidence of fraud. Furthermore, there is evidence that audit quality indirectly mediates the influence between ethical principles and fraud detection (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021), between professionalism and fraud detection (Umar et al., 2019; Hamilah et al., 2022), and between auditor competence and fraud detection (Hamilah et al., 2022). Ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence do not directly affect fraud detection. However, improving audit quality can strengthen auditors' ability to detect and prevent fraud. In this context, research hypotheses can be formulated as follows. In this context, the conceptual framework is presented in Figure 1, and the research hypotheses can be formulated as follows:

H_1: Ethical principles have a positive and significant influence on audit quality

H_2: Professionalism has a positive and significant influence on audit quality

H_3: Auditor competence has a positive and significant influence on audit quality

H_4: Ethical principles have a positive and significant influence on fraud detection

H_5: Professionalism has a positive and significant influence on fraud detection

H_6: Auditor competence has a positive and significant influence on fraud detection
H_7: Audit quality has a positive and significant influence on fraud detection
H_8: Ethical principles have a positive influence on fraud detection through audit quality
H_9: Professionalism has a positive influence on fraud detection through audit quality
H_{10}: Auditor competence has a positive influence on fraud detection through audit quality.

3. RESEARCH METHODS

This study's population consisted of government auditors from the Audit Board of Indonesia, the Financial and Development Supervisory Agency, the Financial Services Authority, and the Inspectorate General of the Riau Islands Regency. The collected sample data consists of 152 data points, representing auditors from the entire population. Data collection was conducted through direct surveys by distributing questionnaires manually and using Google Forms to respondents. The variables in this study consist of 3 independent variables (ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competency), one dependent variable (fraud detection), and one mediating variable (audit quality). Ethical principles were measured by independence and integrity (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021), professionalism was measured by professional proficiency, professional skepticism, and professional judgment (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021), while auditor competency was measured by knowledge and experience (Putra et al., 2021).

Fraud detection was measured by indicators of manipulation, document forgery, information loss, asset embezzlement, and principal violations (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). Audit quality was measured by indicators of assignment planning, evidence acquisition, findings development, and supervision (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). The questions in this questionnaire were adapted and developed based on relevant previous research. Questions regarding ethical principles for independence indicators were taken from (Rebecca, 2021), while integrity indicators were taken from (Muin, 2021). Professionalism questions were taken from (Nugrahini, 2015), while auditor competency was from (Sadewo, 2018). Fraud detection questions were taken from (Arifah, 2017), while for audit quality, they were taken from (Sadewo, 2018) and (Rebecca, 2021). All questions in the questionnaire have been modified to fit the context of this research. Respondents provided answers using a 5-point Likert scale, ranging from strongly disagree (SD) = 1 to agree (SA) = 5 strongly. This study utilized the partial least squares structural equation modeling (PLS-SEM) method through Smart-PLS 3 software. The model in Smart-PLS 3 consists of latent variables (independent, dependent, and mediating) and manifest variables (questions) used to measure each variable.

3.1. Descriptive Analysis

According to (Sugiyono, 2017), descriptive statistics aim to describe or provide a description of the research object through sample or population data and draw general conclusions. This research uses descriptive statistics to describe the variables under investigation.

3.2. Outer Model and Inner Model

Based on (Widarjono, 2015), measurement models aim to evaluate indicator variables using tests of convergent validity, discriminant validity, and reliability. Convergent validity refers to the appropriateness of questions in the research, measured through outer loadings and average variance extracted (AVE). Outer loadings assess the representation of individual questions, while convergent validity measures the overall construct. Outer loadings are considered valid if the value is >0.7 (Hair et al., 2020), while an AVE value >0.5 indicates a valid construct (Sugiyono, 2017).

Discriminant validity occurs when manifest variables used to measure a particular latent variable should not be able to measure other latent variables simultaneously. Discriminant validity is measured using the Fornell-Larcker criterion. The FL criterion compares the square root of the average variance extracted (AVE) of a construct with the correlations between constructs, and it is considered met if the square root of AVE is greater than the correlation between constructs. Once validity is established, reliability testing is conducted to assess the consistency of construct outcomes when reused under the same conditions but at different times. Reliability testing is measured using composite reliability with a value >0.70 indicating adequate reliability (Hair et al., 2020). The inner model predicts the influence between latent variables, including direct and indirect effects, through mediating variables (Sugiyono, 2017).

3.3. Structural Model Testing Without Mediation (Direct Effect)

In structural models without mediation, calculations are performed directly without involving mediating variables. Path coefficients indicate the extent of influence of latent variables on other latent variables. The original sample table on path coefficients establishes the values of influence between variables. Significance is determined through T-statistics or P-values, considered significant at a significance level of 5% if T-statistics >1.96 or $P < 0.05$ (Hair et al., 2020).

3.4. Structural Model Testing with Mediation (Indirect Effect)

In structural model testing with mediation, calculations involve the mediation variable. Path coefficients of indirect effects indicate the extent of the indirect influence of the mediation variable in the relationship between dependent and independent variables. The original sample table on path coefficients of indirect effects determines the value of mediation between variables. Significance is determined through T-statistics or P-values, considered significant at the 5% significance level if T-statistics >1.96 or $P < 0.05$ (Hair et al., 2020).

3.5. Goodness of Fit Model (R-square)

According to (Sugiyono, 2017), R-square indicates how well the model can explain the dependent variable. According to (Hair et al., 2020), there are three levels of R-square values: Weak (0.25), moderate (0.50), and strong (0.75). The larger the R-square value,

the more significant the independent variables are in explaining the variation in the dependent variable.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Descriptive Analysis Results

Table 1 presents the results of the descriptive analysis of the research variables, including the minimum, maximum, mean, and standard deviation of respondents' answers. The minimum and maximum values range between 1 and 5, indicating a varied rating scale. The overall mean value is 4, indicating a tendency towards high ratings by respondents. Although the means for professionalism and fraud detection are slightly lower, they remain high, ranging from 4 to 5. The relatively small standard deviation approaching 1 indicates that each variable's dataset variation is relatively uniform. Before the questionnaire was distributed to the intended original respondents, a pilot test was conducted with 30 respondents.

4.2. Outer Loadings and Convergent Validity Test Results

Table 2 displays the tested outer loadings and convergent validity values. All questions representing latent variables have outer loadings >0.70 and convergent validity (AVE) >0.50. It can be concluded that each question, individually and collectively, can represent the latent variable.

4.3. Discriminant Validity Test Results

Table 3 shows the square root values of the average variance extracted (AVE) for each construct: PE (0.792), PR (0.778), KO (0.788), KUA (0.811), and FD (0.831). All AVE values for the constructs exceed correlations with other latent variables, indicating that each construct can clearly differentiate from one another or not correlate strongly with each other improperly.

4.4. Reliability Test Results

Table 4 shows that all constructs have good reliability, as evidenced by composite reliability values >0.70. This indicates that if these constructs are used again in the same situation, the results will remain consistent, strengthening confidence in the research findings and enabling a more accurate interpretation of the phenomena under investigation.

4.5. Coefficient of Determination (R-Squares)

In table 5, the R-squared values obtained for the audit quality model (0.610) and fraud detection (0.669) indicate that these models adequately explain the variation in both variables. Approximately 61% of the variation in audit quality can be explained by the principles of ethics, professionalism, and auditor competence examined, while the remaining 39% is influenced by other factors not included in the study. Similarly, approximately 66.9% of the variation in fraud detection can be explained by the independent variables examined, while the rest is influenced by other factors not included in the model.

Table 1: Descriptive analysis

Variable	N	Min	Max	Mean	Standard Deviation
Ethical principles (X_1)	152	1	5	4.22	0.66
Professionalism (X_2)	152	1	5	4.04	0.79
Auditor competence (X_3)	152	1	5	4.08	0.68
Audit quality (Z)	152	1	5	4.07	0.93
Fraud detection (Y)	152	1	5	4.00	0.89

Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

Table 2: outer loadings and convergent validity

Variable	Manifest	Outer loadings	Result	AVE	Result
Ethical principles (PE)	PE1	0.731	Valid	0.603	Valid
	PE2	0.774	Valid		
	PE3	0.804	Valid		
	PE4	0.835	Valid		
	PE5	0.811	Valid		
Professionalism (PR)	PR1	0.708	Valid	0.589	Valid
	PR2	0.765	Valid		
	PR3	0.765	Valid		
	PR4	0.831	Valid		
	PR5	0.816	Valid		
Auditor competence (KO)	KO1	0.809	Valid	0.670	Valid
	KO2	0.736	Valid		
	KO3	0.834	Valid		
	KO4	0.847	Valid		
	KO5	0.706	Valid		
Audit quality (KUA)	KUA1	0.812	Valid	0.640	Valid
	KUA2	0.816	Valid		
	KUA3	0.781	Valid		
	KUA4	0.866	Valid		
	KUA5	0.826	Valid		
	KUA6	0.760	Valid		
Fraud detection (FD)	FD1	0.801	Valid	0.680	Valid

Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

Table 3: Discriminant validity test values

	PE	PR	KO	KUA	FD
PE	0.792				
PR	0.410	0.778			
KO	0.218	0.599	0.788		
KUA	0.490	0.703	0.621	0.811	
FD	0.289	0.623	0.568	0.802	0.831

Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

Table 4: Reliability test values

Construct	Composite reliability	Result
PE	0.893	Reliable
PR	0.884	Reliable
KO	0.891	Reliable
KUA	0.920	Reliable
FD	0.940	Reliable

Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

Table 5: Coefficient of determination test values

Predictors	R-squares
KUA	0.610
FD	0.669

Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

4.6. Path Coefficients (Direct Effect)

The analysis results from Table 6 indicate that the principles of ethics, professionalism, and auditor competence significantly influence audit quality. The parameter coefficients are (PE-AQ = 0.254), (PR-AQ = 0.406), and (CO-AQ = 0.332), respectively, with significant values of 0.008, 0.011, and 0.011, all of which are <0.05. The T-statistic values for all three variables are also >1.96.

However, the ethics principle shows a nonsignificant negative influence on fraud detection, with a parameter coefficient of −0.140, a significance value of 0.198 > 0.05, and a T-statistic value of 1.234 < 1.96. Meanwhile, professionalism and auditor competence have positive but nonsignificant influences on fraud detection, with parameter coefficients of (PR-FD = 0.116) and (CO-FD = 0.064) and respective significance values of (PR-FD = 0.539) and (CO-FD = 0.684), all of which are >0.05. The T-statistic values for both variables are also <1.96.

Audit quality significantly influences fraud detection, with a parameter coefficient of 0.749, a significance value of 0.000 < 0.05, and a T-statistic value of 4.092 > 1.96. Thus, H_1, H_2, H_3, H_5, H_6, and H_7 can be accepted, while H_4 is rejected.

4.7. Path Coefficients (Indirect Effect)

The analysis results from Table 7 indicate that the T-statistic values for all mediating variables show significance >1.96 with P < 0.05. However, the direct effects between the variables of ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence on fraud detection without the mediation of audit quality do not show significant results. Thus, it is concluded that audit quality perfectly mediates the indirect influence between ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence on fraud detection. Therefore, H_8, H_9, and H_{10} can be accepted.

The results of the inner model analysis, including hypothesis testing, are visualized as a model using Smart-PLS 3 software, as displayed in the bootstrapping results in Figure 2 below.

5. DISCUSSION

The results of the analysis show a significant favorable influence between ethical principles and audit quality (H_1). This means that when auditors pay attention to ethical principles, it positively contributes to the generated audit quality. These findings reinforce previous discoveries indicating that the stronger the application of ethical principles by auditors, the higher the obtained audit quality (Nugrahini, 2015), (Meidawati and Assidiqi, 2019; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). Similarly, professionalism and audit quality also have a significant favorable influence (H_2). This implies that an auditor's level of professionalism directly affects the quality of the audit produced. These research results strengthen previous findings, indicating that the higher the level of professionalism of an auditor, the higher the likelihood that the audit they conduct will be of high quality (Putra et al., 2021; Putri and Mardijuwono, 2020; Mardijuwono and Subianto, 2018; Kartika and Pramuka, 2019; Hamilah et al., 2022; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021).

The analysis results indicate a significant favorable influence between auditor competence and audit quality (H_3). Implies that to enhance audit quality, organizations must ensure that their auditors possess adequate competence. These research findings reinforce previous discoveries that when an auditor has a high level of competence, the resulting audit quality tends to be better (Ximenes and Guntur, 2023; Umar et al., 2019; Putra et al., 2021; Putri and Mardijuwono, 2020; Meidawati and Assidiqi, 2019; Kartika and Pramuka, 2019; Hamilah et al., 2022). However, the analysis results show that ethical principles have a negative and non-significant influence on fraud detection (H_4), contrary to the initial hypothesis. This research indicates that auditors may apply ethical principles during the audit stage but not during the fraud detection stage. Therefore, the application of ethical principles does not affect fraud detection (Rinaldi, 2017), contradicting previous findings stating that sound ethical principles facilitate the fraud detection process (Wahidahwati and Asyik, 2022; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021).

Meanwhile, professionalism has a non-significant positive influence on fraud detection (H_5). This means that increasing

Table 6: Path coefficients test values (direct effect)

Hypothesis	Original sample	T-statistics	P-value	Result
Ethical principles→Audit quality	0.254	2.565	0.008	Accepted
Professionalism→Audit quality	0.406	2.702	0.011	Accepted
Auditor competence→Audit quality	0.332	2.890	0.011	Accepted
Ethical principles→Fraud detection	−0.140	1.234	0.198	Rejected
Professionalism→Fraud detection	0.116	0.612	0.539	Accepted
Auditor competence→Fraud detection	0.064	0.433	0.684	Accepted
Audit quality→Fraud detection	0.749	4.092	0.000	Accepted

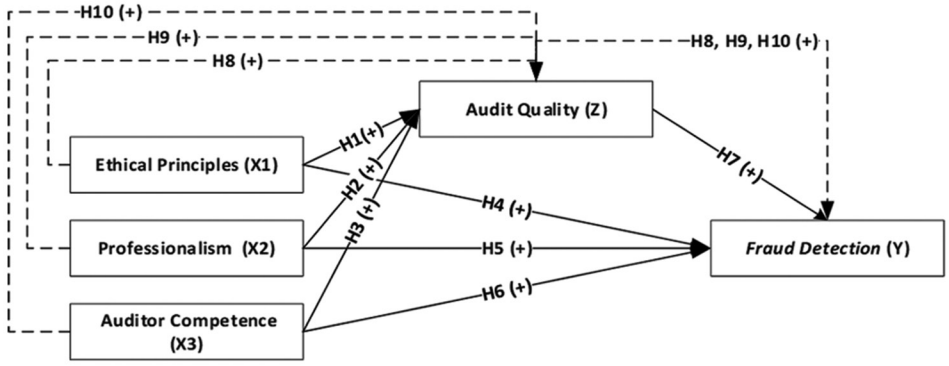
Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

Table 7: Path coefficients test values (indirect effect)

Hypothesis	Original sample	T-Statistics	P-value	Result
Ethical principles→Audit quality→Fraud detection	0.190	2.078	0.038	Accepted
Professionalism→Audit quality→Fraud detection	0.304	2.534	0.012	Accepted
Auditor competence→Audit quality→Fraud detection	0.242	2.587	0.010	Accepted

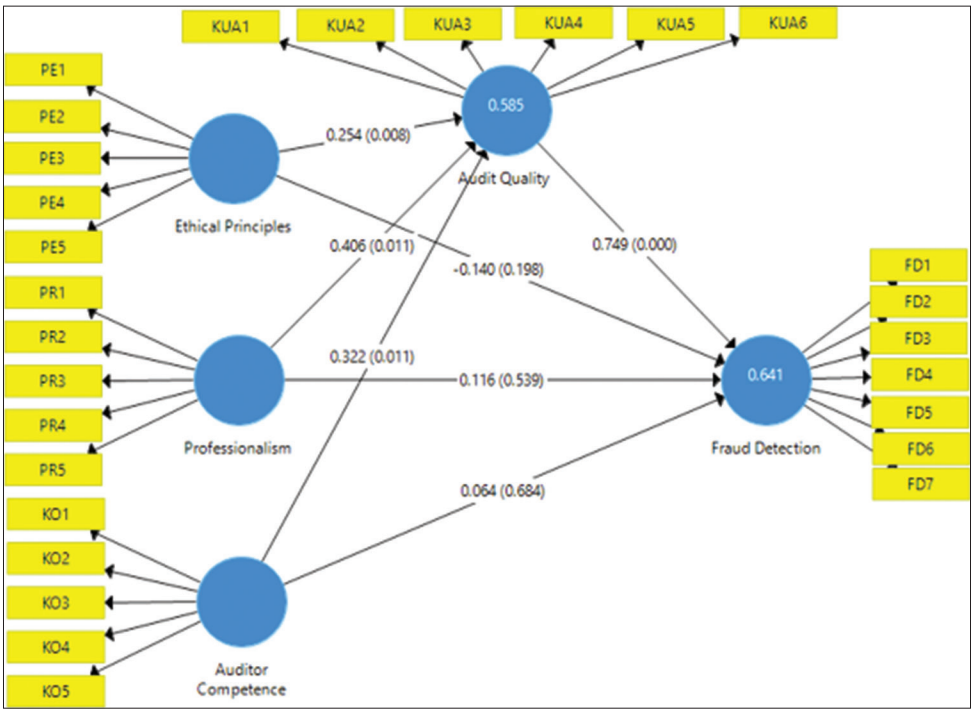
Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

Figure 1: Research framework



Source: Researcher processed data, 2024

Figure 2: Bootstrapping result



Source: Data processed by the researcher, 2024

professionalism within an organization positively affects the fraud detection, although other factors may have a more dominant or significant influence on fraud detection. These results reinforce previous findings that a high level of professionalism facilitates fraud detection (Putra et al., 2021; Putri and Mardijuwono, 2020; Mardijuwono and Subianto, 2018; Kartika and Pramuka, 2019; Hamilah et al., 2022; Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). Auditor competence also has a non-significant positive influence on fraud detection (H_6). This means that auditor competence is a relevant factor in fraud prevention efforts, but other aspects must be considered to enhance auditors' ability to detect fraud significantly. These research findings reinforce previous discoveries that competent auditors are better able to recognize potential fraud (Umar et al., 2019; Putra et al., 2021; Hamilah et al., 2022).

Audit quality is proven to significantly influence fraud detection (H_7), indicating that the higher the audit quality, the less likely fraud perpetrators are, as auditors will be more effective in uncovering and preventing fraud. Consistent with previous findings, better audit quality directly affects auditors' ability to detect fraud (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). The research results also found that audit quality acts as a full mediation in the indirect influence between ethical principles and fraud detection (H_8), supporting the research (Arum and Wahyudi, 2021). Similar findings exist between professionalism and fraud detection (H_9), supporting the findings (Hamilah et al., 2022), as well as between auditor competence and fraud detection (H_{10}), supporting the findings (Umar et al., 2019; Hamilah et al., 2022). Thus, ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence may not directly contribute to fraud detection, but by enhancing audit quality, they can influence auditors' abilities to detect and prevent fraud.

These research findings support the attribution theory and the fraud diamond theory, which state that people tend to seek the

causes of someone's behavior based on attribution or external situation (Wolfe and Hermanson, 2004; Heider, 1958). Ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence are considered personal characteristics influencing audit quality and auditors' ability to detect fraud. Audit quality plays a variable that reduces the opportunity for fraud to occur, thus enhancing auditors' effectiveness in uncovering and preventing fraud.

6. CONCLUSION, IMPLICATION AND LIMITATIONS

This study examines the influence of ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence on fraud detection by improving audit quality in government auditors at the Riau Islands Regency. Nine of the ten hypotheses proposed were accepted, and one was rejected. The findings indicate that applying ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence positively and significantly influences audit quality.

Ethical principles have a negative and nonsignificant impact on fraud detection, while professionalism and auditor competence have a positive and nonsignificant impact. Audit quality acts as a mediator in the relationship between these internal factors and fraud detection capabilities. This research supports attribution theory and the fraud diamond theory by demonstrating how factors such as ethical principles, professionalism, auditor competence, and audit quality affect fraud detection.

Practically, the findings of this study provide valuable insights for the Indonesian government and related institutions regarding the factors influencing audit quality and fraud detection by government auditors. Theoretically, this research has the potential to provide guidance and contribute to the development of attribution theory and the fraud diamond theory through a deep understanding of the application of ethical principles, professionalism, and auditor competence through audit quality in fraud detection. Although optimal efforts have been made, this study has limitations, especially regarding the sample focused only on government auditors at the Riau Island Regency. Therefore, the results of this study cannot be directly generalized to a broader population.

Further research is recommended to expand the sample coverage by involving auditors from diverse professional backgrounds. This aims to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing fraud detection through audit quality. Additionally, future research could consider adding other variables to the model to identify additional factors that may affect fraud detection through audit quality. Thus, an improved understanding of the complexity of the relationships between the variables involved in the context of this research can be deepened, contributing more significantly to the existing literature.

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