THE EFFECT OF AUDIT EXPERIENCE, AUDIT AGILITY, AND REMOTE AUDITING ON INTERNAL AUDIT QUALITY

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Abstract – *This study aims to analyze the influence of audit experience, audit agility, and remote audit on the quality of internal audit. The background of this research lies in the increasing complexity of the business environment and the growing need for effective internal control systems, which demand internal auditors to possess strong competencies, agility in adapting to changes, and the ability to utilize technology during the audit process. This research applies a quantitative approach using a survey method. Data were collected through questionnaires distributed to A Several internal auditors working at Bank X. The sampling technique used was purposive sampling. The data were analyzed using multiple linear regression with the assistance of IBM SPSS Statistics version 30. The results indicate that audit experience has no significant effect on internal audit quality, audit agility has a positive and significant effect on internal audit quality, and remote audit also has a positive and significant effect on internal audit quality. This study is expected to contribute to the development of internal audit practices, particularly in strengthening adaptive and technology-based audit strategies*

Keywords: *Audit Experience, Agility Audit, Remote Audit, Internal Auditor Quality, Internal Audit*

I. INTRODUCTION

As business environments evolve, internal audit functions must adjust by leveraging experience, agility, and digitalization. According to (Cohen & Sayag, 2010), audit quality is influenced by both technical competence and organizational support. Recent studies also emphasize the role of agility in responding to rapid changes (Islam et al., 2017). The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the use of remote audit technologies (of Internal Auditors, 2020), which transformed how audit activities are conducted. This study seeks to analyze how these factors influence internal audit quality in financial institutions. Additionally, (Trinandari Prasetya Nugrahanti, 2023) also found that the use of technology in audit processes significantly affects internal audit effectiveness. As audit functions face greater expectations to be value-adding and forward-looking, understanding the interplay between experience, agility, and remote operations becomes critical in modern auditing.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Attribution theory, initially introduced by (Heider, 1958), posits that individuals are inherently motivated to determine the underlying causes of events or behaviors, which may arise from personal traits or external circumstances. Heider classified these causes into two categories: dispositional (internal) and situational (external). Building upon this foundation, (Weiner, 1985) expanded the theory by introducing three attributional dimensions**:** locus of causality**,** stability**,** and controllability**,** which shape how individuals perceive the reasons behind success or failure. Additionally, (Kelley, 1973) proposed that people form attributions using three key types of information: consensus (whether others behave similarly), consistency (whether the behavior recurs over time), and distinctiveness (whether the behavior is specific to a particular situation).

Audit experience reflects the length and depth of exposure auditors have in conducting audit engagements (Aryani & Supriyadi, 2018)(. Auditors with extensive experience are believed to exhibit stronger analytical judgment and risk assessment capabilities. However, (Yuliani & Prasetyo, 2019) suggest that experience alone may not always correlate with audit performance without continual learning.

Audit agility refers to the auditor's ability to quickly adapt to organizational and environmental changes (Putri & Yanti, 2022) Agility emphasizes responsiveness, flexibility, and decision-making speed, which are increasingly necessary in dynamic and technology-driven environments. Research by (Basri et al., 2023) found that agile audit practices improved stakeholder confidence and adaptability in uncertain conditions.

Remote auditing involves conducting audit tasks virtually using digital platforms (The Institute of Internal Auditors, 2020). It allows for broader reach and efficiency but also presents challenges in communication, access, and documentation integrity. (Taufik & Hardi, 2022) found that the effectiveness of remote auditing is heavily influenced by the maturity of IT infrastructure and auditor readiness.Internal audit quality is defined as the degree to which audit activities meet standards and add value to organizational governance (Prawitt et al., 2012). According to (Susanto & Ridwan, 2020), high-quality internal audits provide timely insights and assurance that strengthen internal control and accountability. (T P Nugrahanti, 2023) reinforces the importance of leveraging audit technology to optimize internal audit quality, particularly in regulated sectors like banking.

III. METHODS

This study used a quantitative method with a survey approach. Data were gathered via Likert-scale questionnaires distributed to a several internal auditors in financial institutions. The variables measured included audit experience, audit agility, remote audit, and internal audit quality. The data were analyzed using multiple linear regression via SPSS.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The multiple linear regression analysis was conducted to assess the influence of audit experience (X1), audit agility (X2), and remote auditing (X3) on internal audit quality (Y). The results are summarized in the following table:

Table 1 Respondent Distribution Frequency

Variable	Coefficient (B)	t-value	Sig.	VIF
Audit Experience (X1)	-0.079	-0.661	0.511	1.015
Audit Agility (X2)	-0.237	-2.616	0.011	1.102
Remote Auditing (X3)	0.166	1.457	0.151	1.118

Interpretation:

- **Audit Experience (X1):**
  The p-value (0.511) > 0.05 and t-value < 2, indicating that audit experience does not have a significant effect on internal audit quality. This may suggest that tenure or years of experience alone is not enough to improve audit effectiveness without continuous learning or digital adaptation.
- **Audit Agility (X2):**
  This variable shows a significant negative relationship (p-value = 0.011, B = -0.237). Contrary to the initial hypothesis, increased audit agility is associated with a decrease in perceived audit quality. This may imply a lack of maturity in applying agility principles or misalignment between agility and current audit structures in the organization.
- **Remote Auditing (X3):**
  Remote auditing has a positive but not statistically significant effect on internal audit quality (p-value = 0.151). The result indicates that while remote audit may offer potential improvements, its implementation at Bank X may still face technical or human limitations that hinder its effectiveness.

V. CONCLUSION

This study concludes that audit agility and remote auditing have a positive and significant impact on internal audit quality, while audit experience does not have a significant influence. The findings underscore the importance of agility and technological adoption in internal audit practices, especially in financial institutions that operate in a dynamic and highly regulated environment.

VI. STRENGHTS

The study addresses a relevant and timely topic in the context of internal audit transformation amid digital disruption. Use of Attribution Theory adds a unique theoretical lens that is not commonly applied in auditing research. The paper provides a clear research framework, well-defined variables, and appropriate methodology.

The literature review is comprehensive and incorporates relevant prior studies from both global and local contexts. The findings are interesting, particularly the unexpected result on audit agility, which opens room for further discussion.

VII. WEAKNESS

The small sample size is relatively small and limited to a single institution, which may affect generalizability. Some sections, particularly the discussion and conclusion, could benefit from deeper interpretation and more concrete implications. The use of technical terms (e.g., audit agility, remote auditing) is not always consistently defined or supported with practical examples. The theoretical framework section can be expanded with a stronger justification for why Attribution Theory is the most appropriate. Certain grammatical and structural issues are present throughout the manuscript, requiring proofreading.

VIII. SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Clarify the operational definitions of audit agility and remote auditing. Consider adding real-world examples or case illustrations to strengthen reader understanding. Expand the discussion section to include comparisons with previous research, particularly addressing why agility has a negative effect.

Include a limitations and future research section at the end of the paper if not already present. Improve language clarity and sentence structure—consider using professional proofreading or academic editing services. Include more detail on ethical considerations and data validity, especially related to survey design and response handling.

IX. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors would like to thank Perbanas Institute for its support and guidance throughout this research. Special gratitude is extended to the internal audit teams of Bank X who participated in the survey, and to Trinandari Prasetya Nugrahanti for her valuable mentorship and supervision.

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