

The Correlation Between the Definition of Profit and Age

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study is to determine if there is a correlation between the concept of profit and an individual's age. This research is conducted utilizing quantitative methodologies and using associative techniques. The data analysis technique employed is eta correlation. A questionnaire was employed as the study instrument, with a sample size of 98 individuals. The research findings indicate a strong correlation between the concept of profit and age, particularly in the sufficient category. The majority of respondents in the 20-50 age range associated profit with monetary gain, while in the 60-70 age range, the focus shifted towards health as the primary meaning of profit. This research demonstrates that the concept of profit encompasses not only tangible aspects, but also intangible aspects such as education and health.

INTRODUCTION

Profit is a component that plays a vital role in the human life cycle and is highly desired by humans. So far, in everyday life, profit has been interpreted as the same material as money, in fact, the meaning of profit as this material is more dominant than the meaning of profit from a different perspective. Especially for someone with a business, they tend to only interpret profit as profit which is synonymous with money (Kaida, 2018).

The concept of profit itself is essential for the financial performance of a company, where this profit has many meanings in accounting depending on how it is used and calculated. According to Harahap (2012), in financial reports profits function as a basis for calculating taxes, making decisions about investment policies, calculating and assessing the accuracy of company activities, and for assessing company performance achievements. In PSAK No. 1 of 2018, profit or loss is defined as the total income minus expenses, but does not include other components of comprehensive income. Subramanyam (2012) states that profit is an overview of the net results of business activities within a certain period which also contains information about the companies that are most sought after in the money market, expressed in financial terminology. Thus, the existence of these various concepts shows that discussion in accounting in the context of profit is a sign that profit is being discussed a lot.

However, the discussion about profits is not limited to the accounting context alone but also includes the context of every age of individuals with various professions, where the profits generated by certain professions are not the same as the profits earned by an accountant or doctor, this depends on how Everyone at this age understands the meaning of profit based on their perceptions. For example, a doctor considers the profit he gets when he is happy to see his patient recover (Sari, 2010). In contrast, an MSME trader who is still in his 30s considers profit to be an inner satisfaction, namely when he can fulfill his daily needs and can see that his child can go to school, which is profit for them. This shows that profit can be felt internally and not only limited to material things. The reality of the meaning of profit for a person will form elements of life or material values in every meaning. Therefore, it is necessary to analyze how accounting reality in the profit context is represented (semantically) from different points of view of each individual (Rochayatun & Andriyani, 2018).

The reality of different meanings of profit occurs because each person has different feelings, experiences, knowledge, and backgrounds, which can give rise to different perspectives. This statement is supported by Creswell (2009:8) who says that a person's feelings, experiences, and culture will form various perceptions within each individual. Therefore, profits can have multiple meanings or be unstable.

Barthes (Rochayatun & Andriyani, 2018) also states that there is an instability of meaning in the text which is called "profit". This profit is an expression or work, profit is not a line of words that produce one theological

meaning, but is more like a multidimensional space where various writings interact with each other. However, the interactions that occur in it are no longer balanced and stable. thus believing that the reality of meaning is unstable.

The relationship between age and profit is greatly influenced by many factors, including education, career, experience, and personal financial situation. Apart from the factors mentioned previously, it is also necessary to consider several aspects such as economic changes, inflation rates, technological advances, and personal factors such as a person's level of education, skills, and career preferences. The existence of these factors causes the meaning of profit to differ depending on a person's age. Based on the description above, researchers conducted this research to determine the relationship between the meaning of profit and age (Kaida, 2018). Based on the problems above, it can be concluded that the research question is whether there is a relationship between the meaning of profit and age.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Rolland Barthes' Semiotic Theory

Semiotics is a science that studies signs and considers signs as social phenomena in society and culture (Ramdani, 2016). The focus of this theory is to study systems, rules, and guidelines to give meaning to each sign. In 1965, Rolland Barthes read Saussure's work: *Cours de linguistique générale* and then considered the possibility of applying semiotics to other fields (Lustyantie, 2012). Barthes also stated that semiotics is part of linguistics because there are signs in other fields that can be considered as a language to express ideas consisting of meaning or meaning and then forming from signifiers. Barthes' thinking about how to signify is known as the Order of Signification which includes denotation and connotation.

Denotation is used as a marker of the first stage, where this denotation is defined as a meaning that is clear and general and has become a collective agreement that almost everyone understands the meaning. Then there is a second stage of signification which involves expanding the meaning called connotation. In another understanding, this connotative meaning describes a shift from the previous meaning (denotation) which is caused by the addition of certain feelings and values. Connotation also explains the meaning when this sign meets the experiences and cultural values of its users, in this case, the community, then the interpretation and meaning become increasingly subjective and intersubjective so that usually the meaning of this connotation can only be understood by certain groups of people whose numbers are relatively small. If explained simply, this connotation occurs because of the influence of the meaning of a language or other sign which is very different from the general meaning that people know (Nofia & Bustam, 2022).

Profit

In general, profit is usually defined as the difference in income above costs during a certain period (Harnanto, 2003). Profit is the difference between income and expenses, where if the amount of income is greater than expenses it will result in net profit (Simamora, 2000). According to Subramanyam (2012), one of the measurements of operational activities is profit which is calculated using accrual accounting. Based on the previous definition, it can be concluded that profit is the difference or difference between all income (revenue) after deducting costs (expenses) for one period (Ubaidillah, et al 2015).

Profit is a very important part of financial reports because it can be used in various situations. In general, profits can be considered as a basis for making tax decisions, determining dividend payment policies, and used as a tool to predict a company's performance (Riahi & Belkaoui, 2004).

The concept of profit at the Semiotic Level

1) The concept of profit at the Semiotic Level

This level emphasizes the theory of meaning in which there are concepts of profit such as theories about assets, reality, or business activities expressed by profit itself. Profit can also teach and make it easier for users to prepare financial reports such as increasing the number of assets and production operation capabilities in the company. In preparing this financial report, the company tries to provide information to ensure that the report can be used as a hope and reference for users of financial reports to assess whether the company's performance has been met or not (Suwardjono, 2006).

Therefore, at this level, the concept of profit places more emphasis on the meaning of profit based on material things, whether in the form of money, the ability to increase the economy, or the size of the company's performance. One of the clearest examples of materialism in the world of economics is money. Money is an important component of the capitalist market scheme.

2) Profit Semiotics at the Syntactic Level

The theory emphasizes that the meaning of profit is the ratio or difference between income and costs (Suwardjono, 2006). In this stage, there are 3 approaches to profit measurement criteria, namely:

a) *Cash Basis*

This approach calculates profits when a transaction occurs, then when the transaction has taken place, accumulation will be carried out until the end of the period. This cash basis method has several advantages, such as the automatic availability of assets and liabilities at the end of the period and changes in the value of liabilities that are recognized objectively.

b) *Accrual Basis*

This approach considers profit as a result of the company's operating activities, not from the results of a transaction. According to this approach, profit can be expressed as a result of company activities such as production, sales, and cash collection, even though in this approach no transactions occur.

c) Capital Defense Approach

This approach calculates profit using assets-liabilities. This method considers profit as an increase or decrease in capital during two different conditions in a period.

3) Profit Semiotics at the Pragmatic Level

The concept of profit at this level is related to how profit information can influence changes in the behavior of users of financial statements. At this stage, the theory focuses on how the targeted party can act. For example, when a company announces profits in the company, then this information can change the beliefs of financial report users which will trigger action from each party.

Age

A person's age is defined as the amount of time that has passed since birth and can be calculated using time units calculated chronologically (Nuswantari, 1998). According to Nursalam (Batbual, 2021), age is also defined as an individual's age which is calculated from the time of birth until the individual's birthday. In 2009 the Indonesian Ministry of Health categorized age as follows:

- a. Aged 0 to 5 years is the toddler period
- b. Age 5 to 11 years is childhood
- b) Age 12 to 16 years is the Early Adolescence Period
- c) Age 17 to 25 years is the Late Adolescence Period
- d) Age 26 to 35 years is the Early Adulthood Period
- e) Age 36 to 45 years is Late Adulthood
- f) Age 46 to 55 years is the early elderly period
- g) Age 56 to 65 years is the late elderly period
- h) Someone aged 65 years and over enters old age

Age Development Stage

Erick Erikson developed a theory known as psychosocial development (Ellen, 2022). In this theory, it discusses how individual needs (psycho) are integrated and connected to the needs and demands of society (social). Erikson said there are eight stages of individual development from infancy to old age, the eight stages are as follows:

1. Stage I, aged 0-2 years, is the starting point in forming personality.
2. Stage II, aged 2-3 years, enters a phase where there are needs that want to be met, such as learning to eat, dress, talk, move or curiosity so that you want to get an answer to something you are asking.
3. Stage III, aged 3-6 years, the individual has begun to discover the skills

within themselves so that sometimes the individual wants to test the skills they have without seeing the existing potential.

4. Stage IV, aged 6-12 years, at this stage the individual has begun to learn social skills and begins to compare himself with his peers.
5. Stage V, aged 12-20 years, individuals have begun to search for their identity, either through the social environment or the world of work.
6. Stage VI, aged between 20-40 years, the individual's need at this stage is a sense of love and togetherness obtained from family or partner.
7. Stage VII, aged 40-65 years, individuals have become productive in terms of work
8. Stage VII, age 65 years-death, the individual has entered old age and begins to experience a decline in function in terms of health.

Research Hypothesis

Profit is defined as the excess of income compared to total costs, if income is greater than costs then the result is net profit (Simamora, 2000). On the other hand, age is a person's age which is calculated from the date of birth to the date of birthday. Increasing a person's age will make him think more maturely. For example, in the young age category, individuals often have lower incomes, so many individuals tend to have the ambition to get a decent job and a high salary. Therefore, it cannot be denied that at this young age, individuals only interpret profit as the money they generate. from their work alone (Salsabila, 2022).

Creswell (2009) argues that an individual's view of something is influenced by different feelings, experiences, knowledge, or backgrounds, resulting in different meanings. Thus, profit has the potential to have varying meanings or can be said to have the characteristic of meaning instability. This is also supported by Roland Barthes, a writer who believes that there is an instability of meaning in texts called "profit". This statement is contained in the semiotic theory pioneered by Roland Barthes himself. In profit, there is a different reality, the meaning of profit is not only measured from material values but can be measured through humanist values (Rochayatun & Andriyani, 2018).

The differences in the meaning of profit put forward by each individual in previous research, such as research by Ubaidillah, et al (2015), Rochyatun & Andriyani, (2018), Mursy & Rosidi, (2013) and Tiswiyanti, et al (2018) provide an illustration regarding the meaning of profit for each individual who has different views and needs. From the perspective of MSME traders aged 30 to 50 years, they interpret profit as inner satisfaction in the sense that they can fulfill their daily needs and their children can go to school, which is an advantage for them. Ubaidillah, et al (2015), children in their 20s interpret this as profit by looking at money. This is an advantage because at this age children have the enthusiasm to earn money to meet their own needs, especially children who are no longer supported by their parents. Meanwhile, at the age of 60 to 70 years, they are already focused on their retirement plans,

at this age parents prepare more for savings, health insurance and assets such as buildings, land, and so on to be used as investments in the future (Humaira, 2023). Based on the description above, the following hypothesis is formulated:

H_a: There is a correlation between the meaning of profit and age

METHODOLOGY

Population and Sample

This research is a type of quantitative research using associative methods to find out the relationship between two or more variables. The population in this study is the community in Kelayu Utara Subdistrict in total 6,560 people. The research sample was 98 taken using probability sampling techniques.

Data Types and Sources

The data collected is primary data with data collection techniques, namely distributing questionnaires via Google Forms and also distributing questionnaires directly. Regarding the meaning of profit and age, 1 positive statement is given. For the age variable with an age range of 20-70 years, 4 choices of the meaning of profit are presented in the categories, namely money, education, health, and home with 4 scales used in this questionnaire which are explained in the following table:

Table 1. Scale Points

Scale	Point
Money	1
Education	2
Health	3
House	4

Operational Definition and Variable Measurement

Profit is the difference between income and expenses. If income exceeds expenses, the result is net profit (Simamora, 2000). Profit is recognized when there is an increase in economic benefits related to an increase in assets and a decrease in liabilities in the future. The meaning of profit in this study was measured using a Likert scale consisting of 4 questions, namely the meaning of profit as money, education, health, and home.

Age is the amount of time since a person has been in the world and is measured using time units arranged chronologically (Nuswantari, 1998). In this research, to find out how the relationship between the meaning of profit and age is measured using respondents aged from 20-70 years old. The measurement uses this age level to find out whether there are differences between the meaning of profit from each age point of view so that it will produce research on the relationship between the meaning of profit and age.

Hypothesis Testing

The data in this study uses nominal and interval data, so it uses a non-parametric correlation statistical test, namely eta correlation. Eta correlation is used to show the existence of a relationship between two variables that have unequal or different scales, namely the nominal scale and the interval/ratio. The correlation test is a technique used to see the direction and strength of the relationship between two variables (Azwar, 2001). Eta correlation itself is a technique used to test variables that may have a strong relationship but whose correlation coefficient value is close to zero, for example when testing non-linear relationships. This hypothesis testing is carried out by calculating the eta correlation coefficient with the following formula.

RESEARCH RESULT

Descriptive Statistics

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics on the Meaning of Profit and Age

Information	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Meaning of Profit	98	1	4	2.08	1.128
Age	98	20	70	42.23	16.391
Valid N (listwise)	98				

Source: data diolah

Table 3. Descriptive Statistics on the Meaning of Profit per Age Range

Information	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Profit*Age	30	1	4	1.63	0.964
20/29	30	20	29	24.87	2.675
Profit*Age	19	1	4	2.21	1.228
30/39	19	30	39	32.79	3.36
Profit*Age	12	1	4	2.17	1.115
40/49	12	40	46	42.5	2.195
Profit*Age	12	1	4	2.58	1.311
50/59	12	50	57	52.58	2.392
Profit*Age	18	1	4	2.06	1.056
60/69	18	60	69	63.28	2.845
Profit*Age 70s	7	1	4	2.71	0.951
	7	70	71	70.14	0.378

Source: data Processed

Table 4. Distribution of Respondents' Choices on the Meaning of Profit per Age Range

Age	Meaning of Profit			
	Money	Education	Healthy	House
20-29	19	5	4	2
30-39	7	6	1	5
40-49	4	4	2	2
50-59	4	1	3	4
60-69	8	2	7	1
70-an	1	1	4	1
Frekuensi	43	19	21	15
Persentase (%)	43.9	19.4	21.4	15.3

Source: data Processed

Table 3 above shows descriptive statistics on profit and age. From this table, it can be seen that the minimum meaning of profit is 1, the maximum is 4, the average is 2.08, and the standard deviation is 1.128. Meanwhile, age has a minimum and maximum value of 20 and 70, an average value of 42.23 and a standard deviation of 16.39. Table 4 shows the descriptive statistical results of the meaning of profit per each age.

Table 4 shows descriptive respondents' choices regarding the meaning of profit. From this table, the meaning of profit based on money in those aged 20-60 years is more than the meaning of profit based on education, health and housing. Meanwhile, those aged 60-70 years are dominated by the meaning of profit based on health.

Hypothesis Testing

Tabel 5. Result of Analisis Tes Eta Laba and Age

Information	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Squares	Eta	Eta square	F	Sig
Age*Profit	3129	3	1043	0.347	0.12	4.275	0.007
	22933	94	243.96				
		97					

Information	Df	Eta	Eta Square	F	Sig
Age 20/29*Profit	29	0.434	0.188	2.010	0,137
Age 30/39*Profit	18	0.645	0.416	3.558	0,040
Age 40/49*Profit	11	0.694	0.481	2.473	0,136

Age 50/59*Profit	11	0.738	0.544	3.186	0,084
Age 60/69*Profit	16	0.389	0.152	0.774	0,529
Age 70s*Profit	6	0.510	0.260	0.351	0,749

Based on table 5 above, it shows the results of statistical tests between profit and age. The test results show a correlation value of 0.347 with a significance of 0.007 (5% significance), which means that the results of this test accept the hypothesis that was proposed previously, namely that there is a correlation between the meaning of profit and age. These results support the research of Mursy & Rosidi (2018), Tiswiyanti, et al (2018), Rochayatun & Andriyani (2018) and Ubaidillah, et al (2015) which states that there is an interpretation of profit by each individual. However, each individual's age has a different meaning, namely profit as enjoyment, inner satisfaction and sincerity, as well as the meaning of material profit (money). The results of this research are in accordance with semiotic theory which states that there is instability in the meaning of profit. The questionnaire states the meaning of profit for ages 20-70 where there are choices for the meaning of profit, namely money, education, health and house. Based on this, it is concluded that the meaning of profit is related to age.

The researchers also tried to explain the relationship between profit and the age range described in table 6. The test results showed that only ages 30 to 39 showed a relationship between profit and age with a statistical value of 0.040 (5% significance). These results explain that the needs of all individuals at this age greatly increase in terms of financial maturity, at this age individuals are more focused on managing finances by investing in land, buildings and others, individuals also focus on self-development through higher education, building a family and home, as well as improving the quality of life through a healthy lifestyle. This is in accordance with table 4 in the distribution section regarding the meaning of profit by respondents aged 30 to 39 years. This finding is also in line with research conducted by Krueger & Saez (2009), which shows a correlation between higher education and income and research by Tiswiyanti, et al (2018) which states that profit is defined in material form.

The results of statistical tests on the relationship between profit and age range, namely ages 20, 40, 50, 60 and 70 years, apparently show results that have no effect. At the age of 20, every individual is still looking for their identity and is still in the stage of building a financial foundation, so that at this age individuals are still not focused on achieving profits, both long and short term. Then for ages 40 to 70 years, every individual has experienced a decrease in income, whether due to retirement, career changes or a decrease in sales turnover. So, in the age range of 40 to 70, the meaning of each individual's profit is no longer stable.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This research aims to determine the meaning of profit and age. Based on the research results, it turns out that profit is related to age. If we look in more detail, based on the age range, it turns out that only ages 30 to 39 years have an influence on the meaning of profit, because at this age individuals experience financial maturity. seen from management with investment in land, buildings and savings. At this age, individuals are also focused on building a household and improving the quality of life through a healthy lifestyle.

ADVANCED RESEARCH

For further research, researchers suggest using variables other than age to conduct research on the relationship between the meaning of profit. Because in this research there is still very little research related to age, which makes it difficult to find review literature to support this research and subsequent research. This research provides evidence that the meaning of profit based on age is generally interesting because there are various meanings in each different age range. The meaning of profit is not only limited to money but also education, health and housing. This shows that the meaning of profit for each individual is very diverse. The implication of this research is to add insight to society about how the meaning of profit changes and varies with age, which can help individuals, organizations and businesses to make decisions related to finances, careers and future welfare.

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