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**Relationships between Urbanization, Economic Growth, Energy Consumption, and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions: Empirical Evidence from Indonesia**

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### Abstract

This study aims to investigate the relationship between urbanization, economic growth, energy consumption, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia. The data used in the study are time-series data for the period 1985–2017; the data utilized are sourced from World Development Indicators obtained on the World Bank database. The method uses a quantitative approach that applies the vector error correction model based on the Granger causality test. The empirical results reveal that, in the short run, there is evidence that urbanization and energy consumption can cause CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and they also prove that urbanization can cause energy consumption. Also, other findings prove the existence of long-run relationships flowing from energy consumption, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions toward urbanization, as well as the existence of the relationship flowing from urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions towards energy consumption. The results of testing the relationship between economic growth and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reveal that the environmental Kuznets curve hypothesis is proven in Indonesia. Thus, policies are needed to limit the impact of urbanization through high awareness-raising to maintain environmental quality and greater use of energy. Also, energy conservation policies are needed in all sectors, especially the electricity, industry, and transportation sectors.

**Keywords:** CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions, Economic Growth, Energy, Urbanization

**JEL Classification Code:** C32, O13, O44, P28, Q56

## 1. Introduction

The economic progress and technological development at this time have posed great challenges to every country in the world. Every country is massively improving competitiveness in both the economy and trade. Often developing countries ignore the environmental impact as a

result of the increase of relatively large energy consumption. Excessive use of fossil fuels by industry and factories can cause high concentrations of carbon dioxide emissions. Environmental problems become very important when climate change occurs globally. As revealed by Ahuja and Tatsutani (2019) and Gielen et al. (2019), almost every country seeks to increase economic growth by relying on industrialization, while the use of technology in the industrial sector still uses fossil energy, which has a large impact on environmental degradation (Kurnia et al., 2020).

Economic development that occurs in an area can have implications for accelerating the flow of urbanization and increasing energy consumption. The link between urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has proven to be very strong in several studies (Aguir Bargaoui, Liouane, & Nouri, 2014; Lin, Sun, Marinova, & Zhao, 2017; Lin, Zhao, & Marinova, 2009; Liu, Yan, & Zhou, 2016; Wang, Zhao, Zheng, & Hu, 2017; Zhou & Liu, 2016). Therefore, urbanization is believed to be able to encourage greater environmental degradation. Urban communities can change the environment through the consumption of energy, water, food and land. In turn, increasingly polluted urban environments affect the health and quality of life of urban populations.

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10  
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Data released by the World Bank show that the rate of economic growth in Indonesia during 1985–2017 grew positively with an average growth of 5.07%; this is in line with urban population growth, which averaged 3.86 percent, energy consumption 5.26 percent, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 5.90 percent per year (Figure 1). The trend in energy consumption is expected to drive economic growth and increase CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia. The extreme growth trend of 1998 was caused by the global economic crisis, ironically when the environment improved as a result of slowing economic activity impacting on lower energy consumption.

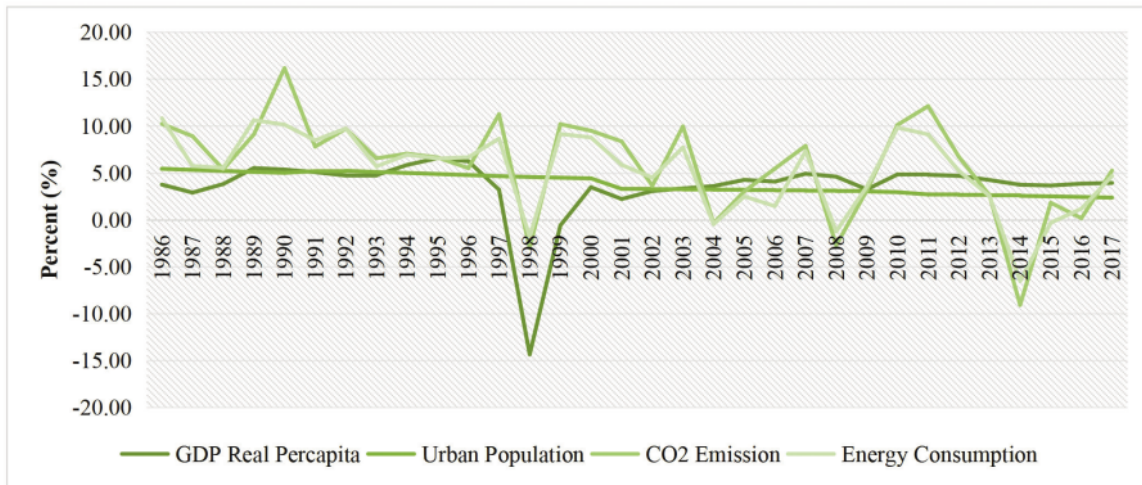
The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced by Indonesia are mostly caused by changes in land use and forest and peat fires; burning fossil fuels account for about 19 percent of total emissions. Indonesia is the largest contributor to forest-based emissions globally and most of its emissions come from land use, land-use change, and forestry. However, as Indonesia's population and wealth continue to grow substantially, the source of emissions will likely also change, similar to other major emitters. According to estimates from the World Resources Institute, Indonesia's energy sector is likely to be the largest source of emissions in 2026–2027.

This study can be related to the environmental Kuznets curve (EKC) hypothesis. Several studies in the last two decades have examined the theoretical EKC hypothesis, such as that conducted by Stokey (1998) and Kijima et al. (2010) explaining the EKC hypothesis within the framework of optimal growth theory. This study assumes that pollution is the output produced from the process of production and capital accumulation. The research also explains how to

improve social welfare and environmental regulations in reducing pollution emissions. A study conducted by Dinda (2005) uses the framework of an endogenous growth model to examine the types of environmental pollution; the model explains how to reduce environmental pollution through an optimal increase in commodity production assuming the economic conditions of the region continue and grow.

Besides, studies by Aguir Bargaoui et al. (2014), Sadorsky (2014), Heryadi and Hartono (2016), and Wang, Zhao, Zheng, and Hu, (2017) prove that urbanization, economic growth, and energy consumption have a significant effect on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. On the other hand, a study conducted by Agung et al. (2012) and Zhou and Liu (2016) shows that urbanization does not affect energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Sebri and Ben-salha (2014), Chang et al. (2017), Pao and Tsai (2010), and Zakarya et al. (2015) proved that there is a causal relationship between economic growth and energy consumption. Liu, Yan, and Zhou (2016) found that urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions could be integrated; other findings also prove that there is a two-way causality between urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in China. Cowan et al. (2014) found evidence that economic growth and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have a two-way causality. Also, we have carried out related studies showing that human capital, energy consumption, and economic growth cause CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. in the short-run (Bashir et al., 2019).

This study, based on modernization theory for developing countries, predicts environmental impacts by borrowing Kuznet's basic theory highlighting the relationship between



**Figure 1:** Trends of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions, Energy, Urbanization, GDP Growth and in Indonesia  
 Source: World Development Indicator, 2018

affluence and environmental degradation (Goorha, 2010). This study is also based on the theory of urban environmental transition, which reveals that environmental aspects are related to development at the urban level (Marcotullio & Lee, 2003). This in turn leads to higher levels of environmental pollution. Likewise, ecological pressures damage the environment. The urban population is a major challenge in maintaining environmental quality because it can change the environment through various economic activities such as consumption and production in the urban regions.

This study is motivated by debates among economists about the current ecological pressures that damage the environment. The empirical evidence in Indonesia is still scarce, therefore the purpose of this study is to investigate the long- and short-run relationship between energy consumption, urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia. The contribution of this study is expected to be able to lead to green economic policies in the formulation of future environmental policies and adds to the research literature in the field of energy economics. In the next section, we will present and explain the research methods that will answer the study objectives. The third section presents the analysis and discussion of research findings. The final section presents conclusions and policy implications.

## 2. Literature Review

The link between urbanization, economic growth, and environmental degradation has been shown to be very strong in several studies (Lin, Zhao, & Marinova, 2009; Aguir Bargaoui et al., 2014; Zhou & Liu, 2016; Liu, Yan, & Zhou, 2016; Wang, Zhao, Zheng, & Hu, 2017). Evidence of the link between urbanization, economic growth, and the environment can be seen in study by Liu, Guo, and Zhou (2016) and Saidi and Mbarek (2017). The findings reveal that urbanization, economic growth, and technology have a long-term impact on increasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the case of developing countries. Increased economic activity in urban areas, which also includes an increase in energy consumption, is a major factor. It can also increase economic needs in urban areas compared to rural areas (Ding et al., 2017). Then, more recent studies have been carried out in the last decade. Lin, Zhao, and Marinova (2009) test the existence of EKC in developed countries with the STIRPAT equation model approach. The results of this study prove that the population has the greatest potential environmental impacts, followed by the level of urbanization, level of industrialization, GDP per capita, and energy intensity. Therefore, the policy of having one child in China is to curb the country's rapid population growth, and is predicted to be effective at reducing the country's environmental impact.

Martínez-Zarzoso and Maruotti (2011) analyze the impact of urbanization on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in developing

countries from 1975 to 2003. The results of these studies prove that the relationship between urbanization and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can form an inverted U curve. Other findings suggest that there is a positive elasticity of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for urbanization, which means that low levels of urbanization can have a higher environmental impact in less developed areas. In addition, other countries show that there is elasticity of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to urbanization, which means that increased urbanization does not contribute to higher CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Agung et al. (2012) investigate the effect of urbanization on energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia using the STIRPAT model approach with panel data. The results of these studies prove that urbanization has a significant effect on fuel oil consumption and total energy consumption, but urbanization has no effect on electricity consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, while population has a significant effect on fuel oil consumption, electricity consumption and total energy consumption. Economic growth has a significant effect on fuel oil consumption, electricity consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia. A study by Aguir Bargaoui et al. (2014) tries to assess the environmental impacts of economic and population growth, urbanization, energy intensity, and Kyoto protocol liability data on carbon dioxide emissions with the STIRPAT model approach. The results of the study found that economic growth, population growth, urbanization rates, and the Kyoto protocol have a significant effect on carbon dioxide emissions and that environmental impact is largely dominated by economic growth through per capita income.

Sadorsky (2014) uses a panel data regression model approach to investigate the effects of urbanization, per capita income, and energy efficiency on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which statistically proves that per capita income and energy intensity have a significant and positive effect on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Comparison of contemporary coefficient estimates shows that urbanization is relatively more sensitive to estimation techniques, whereas in most regression model specifications, it is statistically proven that the estimated coefficient of the urbanization variable has a positive, but insignificant sign for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Zhou and Liu (2016) focus on China, aiming to assess the extent to which demographic factors, income, and processes influence carbon dioxide emissions. Using the STIRPAT approach model, the results of this study found that income has become the dominant driving force for increasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in China, while demographic factors have no effect on increasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. On the other hand, the urbanization factor has actually increased energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, except in western China. It is very appropriate if the government makes policies to control the rate of urbanization and increase energy efficiency for environmental impact in China.

Liu, Yan, and Zhou (2016) investigated empirically the relationship between urbanization, economic growth,

and carbon dioxide emissions at the national and regional levels with the panel cointegration approach and the vector error correction model (VECM). The results of this study found that urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be integrated; other findings also prove that urbanization contributes to economic growth, both of which increase CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the eastern, central, and western regions of China. The impact of urbanization on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the western region is greater than the eastern and central regions of China. Meanwhile, economic growth has a greater impact on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the eastern regions than in the central and western regions. Other findings point to evidence of a two-way causality between urbanization, economic growth, and long-term CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. At the regional level, there is also evidence of a two-way causality between urbanization and economic growth in eastern and central China. Further investigation revealed that there is a relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and economic growth in China, which is marked with an N-shaped curve, and concludes that it does not support the EKC hypothesis.

### 3. Research Methods and Materials

#### 3.1. Data

This study focuses on investigating the relationship between energy consumption, urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the long and short run for the case of Indonesia. The data used are time series, the observation period is 1985–2017. Sources of data were obtained from the World Bank's official website on the World Development Indicators database.

#### 3.2. Unit Root Test

To test whether there is a long-run relationship between variables in this study, the approach used is Johansen cointegration. Statistically, this approach forms the basis for dynamic model testing. However, the assumption that must be fulfilled is that all variables have stationary or do not contain a unit root at the level or first differences.

The stationary test variable utilized unit root tests based on the criteria of the Augmented Dickey-Fuller test (Johansen, 1996, 1988). The unit root test equation by considering the ADF criteria as follows:

$$\Delta \ln y_t = \rho_t y_{t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^{p_t} \delta_{t,j} \Delta \ln y_{t-j} + \varepsilon_t \quad (1)$$

where:  $y_t$  is a vector of the main endogenous variables in the study namely urbanization, energy consumption, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

#### 3.3. Lag Order Selection Criteria

The next stage is to determine the appropriate lag length criteria in model testing. The determination of the optimal lag length is done to have efficient results in the system, because if the optimal lag that is entered is too short, it is feared that it cannot explain the overall dynamics of the model, and if the optimal lag that is too long it can produce inefficient estimates due to the reduced degree of freedom. The optimal sequence of the lag vector autoregressive model is determined based on the selection criteria by the Akaike's information criteria (AIC) and Schwarz information criterion (SC).

#### 3.4. Johansen Cointegration Test

Furthermore, we utilized Johansen co-integration testing on the equations system. This test can be carried out after the statistical assumptions are met that all variables in the system do not contain a unit root; in this testing, there are two types of statistical tests, namely, (1) trace statistics, which are intended to test the null hypothesis of the co-integration relationship  $r$  to  $k$  alternative co-integration relations, where  $k$  is the number of endogenous variables, for  $r = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$ ; and (2) the maximum eigenvalues statistic, which is intended to test the null hypothesis of the co-integration relationship  $r$  with the  $r + 1$  alternative. The Johansen co-integration test is stronger than the residual-based Engle-Granger test. Thus, if the equation in the system shows an indication of co-integration between variables, then the vector error

Table 1: Data and Source

Variable	Description	Unit	Source
URB	Urbanization	Urban population (total)	World Bank
EC	Energy Consumption	Kg of oil equivalent per capita	World Bank
GDP	GDP per capita	GDP real per capita, constant 2010	World Bank
CO <sub>2</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	Metric tons per capita	World Bank

correction model (VECM) test can be continued. The general form of the model is as follows:

$$y_t = A_0 + A_1 y_{t-1} + \dots + A_p y_{t-p} + \mu_t \quad (2)$$

where:  $y_t$  is the dimensional- $k$  vector of the variable to be tested;  $A_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, p$  is the slope matrix coefficient;  $A_0$  is the coefficient of the intercept matrix; and  $\mu_t$  is the dimensional- $k$  residual vector.

### 3.5. Testing the EKC model

The last analysis is to investigate the validity of the EKC hypothesis. Several studies have been carried out using an econometric approach to test the validity of the EKC hypothesis using the income variable as a driving factor for environmental degradation, where GDP per capita is a proxy for income as an exogenous variable and per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as a proxy for environmental degradation as an endogenous variable. Most of the literature uses a reduced-form model in which the income variable is a quadratic or cubic function. The general form of the model is presented as follows:

$$\ln CO_{2t} = \alpha_0 + \beta_1 \ln GDP_t + \beta_2 \ln GDP_{2t} + e_t \quad (3)$$

where: CO<sub>2</sub> is CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from environmental degradation, GDP is income per capita, GDP<sup>2</sup> is income per capita squared, and  $e$  is an error term.

The equation (3) will provide information on the relationship pattern between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and GDP per capita. That is, if  $\beta_1 > 0$  ( $\beta_1 < 0$ , respectively) while  $\beta_2 = 0$ , then there is a monotonically increasing (decreasing) relationship between GDP per capita and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Conversely, if  $\beta_1 < 0$ , and  $\beta_2 > 0$ , then we observe an inverted U-shaped relationship or EKC pattern. In this case, the turning point of curve is given by  $GDP^* = -\beta_1/2\beta_2$ . Finally, if  $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$ , this indicates that there is no relationships between GDP per capita and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Another case is not a concern in the EKC literature.

### 3.6. The VECM Granger Causality

Testing the direction of causality between urbanization, energy consumption, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions uses the vector error correction model; this tests the ability to identify the direction of causal links among variables. To determine the importance of the causal effect of one variable on the other variables, the model is based on the Granger causality test introduced by Granger (1969). This model was chosen because in previous studies it showed indications of co-integration evidence between variables. This test can answer the question of whether the variable  $x$  causes the

variable  $y$  or  $y$  causes  $x$ . The variable  $x$  is mentioned to be Granger caused by  $y$  if  $y$  contributed in predicting the present value of  $x$  or its equivalent if the coefficient on lagged  $y$  is statistically significant. With the existence of a long-run relationship between the variables in the equation system, the lagging error correction term (ECT <sub>$t-1$</sub> ) is obtained from the long-run balance relationship and is included in the equation as additional independent variables in one time-series data with another time-series data. Then, the VECM equation is presented as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \ln CO_{2t} = & \alpha_{1t} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \beta_{1,l} \Delta \ln CO_{2t-l} + \\ & \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \gamma_{1,l} \Delta \ln EC_{t-l} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \delta_{1,l} \Delta \ln URB_{t-l} \quad (4) \\ & + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \eta_{1,l} \Delta \ln GDP_{t-l} + ECT_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{1it} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \ln EC_t = & \alpha_{2t} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \beta_{2,l} \Delta \ln CO_{2t-l} + \\ & \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \gamma_{2,l} \Delta \ln EC_{t-l} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \delta_{2,l} \Delta \ln URB_{t-l} \quad (5) \\ & + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \eta_{2,l} \Delta \ln GDP_{t-l} + ECT_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{2it} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \ln URB_t = & \alpha_{3t} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \beta_{3,l} \Delta \ln CO_{2t-l} + \\ & \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \gamma_{3,l} \Delta \ln EC_{t-l} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \delta_{3,l} \Delta \ln URB_{t-l} \quad (6) \\ & + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \eta_{3,l} \Delta \ln GDP_{t-l} + ECT_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{3it} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \ln GDP_t = & \alpha_{4t} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \beta_{4,l} \Delta \ln CO_{2t-l} + \\ & \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \gamma_{4,l} \Delta \ln EC_{t-l} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \delta_{4,l} \Delta \ln URB_{t-l} \quad (7) \\ & + \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} \eta_{4,l} \Delta \ln GDP_{t-l} + ECT_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{4it} \end{aligned}$$

where:  $t$  is the period ( $t = 1, \dots, t$ ) and  $\ln$  shows the lag of each variable;  $\Delta \ln CO_2$  is CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita;  $\Delta \ln EC$  is energy consumption per capita;  $\Delta \ln GDP$  is GDP per capita, and  $\Delta \ln URB$  is the total of urban population; ECT <sub>$t-1$</sub>  is the lagging error correction term as long-run co-integration parameter coefficient; and  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3$ , and  $\varepsilon_4$  are assuming the error rate in the model (error-term).

## 4. Results and Discussion

The descriptive statistical results reported in Table 2 show that, based on the Jarque-Bera test, the variables in the study, namely, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, urbanization, energy consumption, and economic growth are normally distributed. Furthermore, we also report the estimation results of the correlation matrix indicating that the correlation between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, urbanization, energy consumption, and economic growth is positive.

**Table 2:** The Result of Descriptive Statistics and Correlation Matrix

Statistics & variable	ln CO <sub>2t</sub>	ln URB <sub>t</sub>	ln EC <sub>t</sub>	ln GDP <sub>t</sub>
Mean	5.543	3.703	4.552	7.773
Median	5.673	3.761	4.682	7.754
Maximum	6.261	4.007	5.181	8.326
Minimum	4.442	3.258	3.555	7.234
Std.Dev.	0.559	0.226	0.498	0.308
Skewness	-0.443	-0.452	-0.486	0.077
Kurtosis	1.999	1.950	2.030	2.125
JB-stat	2.457	2.641	2.594	1.084
Probability	0.292	0.266	0.273	0.581
ln CO <sub>2t</sub>	1.000	–	–	–
ln URB <sub>t</sub>	0.122	1.000	–	–
ln EC <sub>t</sub>	0.270	0.109	1.000	–
ln GDP <sub>t</sub>	0.159	0.064	0.141	1.000

Source: Author's calculation.

Before discussing further the relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy consumption, urbanization, and economic growth in Indonesia, there are several steps that must be performed to estimate the VECM and Granger causality test. We first test for the existence of unit roots in each variable, the test used in this stage is the Augmented Dickey-Fuller test (ADF-test) criteria. We unit root tests whether the variables in the equation – CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy consumption, urbanization, and economic growth – contain the unit root or vice versa. The unit root test results can be seen in Table 8.

The unit root test results on the level indicate that the variable of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy consumption, urbanization, and economic growth contain unit root (no stationary); we have to re-estimate the first difference, the result indicating that all variables do not contain the unit root (stationary), as indicated by the ADF test which is greater than *t*-statistic at the level of 1 percent, 5 percent, and 10 percent.

The optimal lag length criterion is important in causality modelling (Bahmani-Oskooee & Brooks, 2003). The results of the optimum lag criteria are presented in Table 3 with various lag length criteria; the results show that the lag length criteria offered are relatively varied, from these results our decision is to follow Akaike's information criteria (AIC) to select the appropriate lag length because AIC has superior power properties for the data.

The sample is small compared to other lag length criteria, as suggested by Lütkepohl (2013). AIC can also provide efficient and consistent results compared to final

**Table 3:** The Unit Root Test Results

Variable	% Critical	<i>t</i> -statistic			
		Level	ADF test	1 <sup>st</sup> difference	ADF test
ln CO <sub>2</sub>	1%	-3.653	-0.165	-3.661	-4.660***
	5%	-2.957		-2.960	
	10%	-2.617		-2.619	
ln EC	1%	-3.653	-0.383	-3.661	-4.242***
	5%	-2.957		-2.960	
	10%	-2.617		-2.619	
ln URB	1%	-3.653	-1.898	-3.661	-5.728***
	5%	-2.957		-2.960	
	10%	-2.617		-2.619	
ln GDP	1%	-3.653	1.855	-3.661	-3.686***
	5%	-2.957		-2.960	
	10%	-2.617		-2.619	

\*\*\*MacKinnon (1996) one-sided *p*-values.

prediction error (FPE), Schwarz information criterion (SC), and Hannan-Quinn information criterion (HQ). We find that, according to AIC, the optimal lag is lag 2 in the time series data for the period 1985–2017.

The results of the Johansen cointegration test reported in Table 5 show that the variables of urbanization, energy consumption, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia are cointegrated from two tests through Trace and Max-Eigen statistics. The Trace statistical test indicated that predicted data have three equations cointegration at a significance level of 5 percent; this can be seen from the Trace statistical value, which is greater than the critical value or the null hypothesis (*H*<sub>0</sub>) is rejected. Meanwhile, the Max-Eigen statistics also show that there are two equations that are cointegrated at the 5 percent significance level. In the period 1985–2017, the four variables of urbanization, energy consumption, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia are estimated to have a long-run balance relationship. The existence of EKC can be analogized if CO<sub>2</sub> emissions increase in line with economic growth at a certain point and reach a certain income, then CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be reduced in line with the increase in income, which is indicated by an inverted U curve (Shahbaz & Lean, 2012).

#### 4.1. Empirical Results of Environmental Kuznets Curve

The estimation results shown in Table 6 indicate that the residual distribution as determined by the JB-statistic is normal. Furthermore, the autoregressive conditional heteroscedasticity (ARCH) model is used to deal with heteroscedasticity in errors in the equation. Statistical

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**Table 4:** Lag Order Selection Criteria

Lag	LogL	LR	FPE	AIC	SC	HQ
1	166.127	274.930	3.64e-10	-11.181	-10.992	-11.122
2	309.234	236.867*	2.59e-14*	-19.947*	-19.004*	-19.651*
3	318.693	13.047	4.36e-14	-19.496	-17.798	-18.964
4	330.895	13.463	6.85e-14	-19.234	-16.782	-18.466
5	353.972	19.098	6.35e-14	-19.722	-16.516	-18.718

\*indicates lag order selected by the criterion.

**Table 5:** Johansen Co-Integration Test Result

Trace-Statistic				
Hypothesized	Eigenvalue	Trace Statistic	Critical Value (0.05)	Prob.**
$r = 0^*$	0.8084	100.319	63.876	0.000
$r \leq 1^*$	0.5991	52.386	42.915	0.004
$r \leq 2^*$	0.3880	25.872	25.872	0.050
$r \leq 3$	0.3303	11.629	12.517	0.070
Maximum Eigenvalue Statistic				
Hypothesized	Eigenvalue	Max-Eigen Statistic	Critical Value (0.05)	Prob.**
$r = 0^*$	0.8084	47.932	32.118	0.000
$r \leq 1^*$	0.5991	26.513	25.823	0.040
$r \leq 2$	0.3880	14.243	19.387	0.238
$r \leq 3$	0.3303	11.629	12.517	0.070

\*Rejection of the  $H_0$  at the 0.05 level and \*\*MacKinnon-Haug-Michelis (1999)  $p$ -values.

**Table 6:** The Empirical Result of EKC Model

Dependent Variable = $\ln CO_{2t}$			
Model	Coefficient	t-statistic	Prob.
Intercept	-7.343*** (1.383)	-5.309	0.000
$\ln GDP$	1.859*** (0.356)	5.226	0.000
$\ln GDP^2$	-0.082*** (0.028)	-4.739	0.000
Summary: $R^2 = 0.9509$ ; $Adj-R^2 = 0.9476$ ; $F$ -stat = 290.602 (0.000)			
Diagnostic test	$F$ -stat (Prob)		
$\chi^2$ NORMAL	2.602 (0.272)		
$\chi^2$ ARCH	4.363 (0.112)		
$\chi^2$ SERIAL	3.588 (0.166)		

Note: Level of significance at \*\*\*1%, \*\*5%, and \*10% respectively.  
 Source: Authors calculation.

autocorrelation determined by serial correlation (LM-test) was not found. The estimation results we get where the long-run coefficients of equation (3) show that the elasticity of GDP per capita to  $CO_2$  emissions is statistically significant at the 1 percent level, the magnitude of the ranged impact is 1,859, this indicates that 1 percent increase in GDP per capita means an increase on  $CO_2$  emissions by 1,859 percent. The elasticity of GDP per capita squared shows a negative sign and significantly affects  $CO_2$  emissions.

The elasticity of per capita emissions with respect to GDP per capita in the long run can be defined as  $-\beta_1/2\beta_2 = -1.859/2 \cdot -0.082$ . The results show that the EKC turning point occurs at the income level 11.335 (in logarithms). Similar to the findings of Ang (2007); Pao and Tsai (2010) energy consumption and output for a panel of BRIC countries over the period 1971–2005, except for Russia (1990–2005 and Arouri et al. (2012), these results support the EKC hypothesis that emission levels first increase with income, stabilize, and then decrease. The elasticity of GDP per capita to  $CO_2$  emissions indicates a high response of  $CO_2$  emissions to changes in



GDP per capita in the long-run. Thus, these results support the existence of EKC in Indonesia. These findings are in line with studies conducted Sebri and Ben-salha (2014), Chang et al. (2017), Pao and Tsai (2010), and Zakarya et al. (2015).

#### 4.2. Empirical Results of Granger Causality

The results of the VECM Granger causality estimation are presented in Table 7, showing that short-run causality can be detected by the combined significance of the LR-test for the explanatory variable lagging in the equations. In the short run, there is evidence that urbanization and energy consumption lead to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions unidirectional, unless economic growth is not proven at a significant level of 5 percent. This implies that urban populations are believed to be able to change the environmental quality through life patterns such as production and consumption that produce various kinds of waste, which in turn, can cause deteriorating environmental quality (Adebayo et al., 2020). Likewise, the excessive use of fossil energy, especially in the industrial, electricity, and transportation sectors, which are still relatively large in Indonesia, results in greater CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This finding is in line with the study by Anwar, Younis, and Ullah (2020), Çetin and Ecevit (2015), Salim, Rafiq, and Shafiei (2017), and Vu and Huang (2020). The economic growth has no relationship to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the short run; this implies that not all economic growth causes environmental damage. There is some evidence that explains that with increasing welfare, individuals have greater awareness and ability to protect the environment (Akram, 2012; Al-Mulali et al., 2015; Chang, 2015; Pao & Tsai, 2010; Sadorsky, 2014). Likewise, the model estimation results show that energy consumption in the short-run is proven to be due to urbanization at a significance level of 5 percent. This provides evidence that the lifestyle of the

urban population can directly increase energy consumption through production and consumption activities in Indonesia. This finding is in line with the study by Wang, Wu, Zeng, and Wu (2016), Salim et al. (2017), and Long (2020).

Other results show that there is no evidence of a relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy consumption and economic growth, and urbanization; this implies that the driving factors for urbanization are more likely due to expectations of a better life such as getting jobs and better urban facilities and infrastructure. This findings is in line with the study by Marcotullio et al. (2014). Unidirectional causality was found ranging from urbanization to energy consumption, unless for economic growth and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, this indicates that the more activity of urban population leads to greater energy consumption. Furthermore, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, urbanization, and energy consumption do not have a relationship in the short run with economic growth; this implies that in the short run these factors cannot fully predict changes in economic growth. Economic growth in Indonesia is more due to foreign direct investment, open trade, and government spending. These findings are in line with the study by Hossain (2012).

The VECM Granger causality results show evidence of cointegration in the equations of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy consumption, and economic growth, except the urbanization equation is not proven to have cointegration. The empirical results indicated by the coefficient of one period lagged the error correction term (ECT<sub>t-1</sub>) have negative sign for the equations of CO<sub>2</sub> emission, energy consumption, and economic growth which are statistically significant in VECM equations, except in the urbanization equation. The long-run causality results show that there is a feedback effect from urbanization to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The relationship from energy consumption to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is unidirectional. Likewise, unidirectional causality was found ranging from urbanization to energy consumption.

Table 7: The Results of Testing the Long-Run Equilibrium Relationship

Dependent variable	Causality test				L-1-run ECT <sub>t-1</sub>
	Short-run				
	$\Delta (\ln \text{CO}_2)$	$\Delta (\ln \text{URB})$	$\Delta (\ln \text{EC})$	$\Delta (\ln \text{GDP})$	
$\Delta (\ln \text{CO}_2)$	–	6.014*** (0.007)	1.931** (0.016)	0.275 (0.761)	–0.019*** [–4.102]
$\Delta (\ln \text{URB})$	0.092 (0.912)	–	0.183 (0.833)	1.962 (0.160)	0.367 [0.948]
$\Delta (\ln \text{EC})$	0.348 (0.709)	6.153*** (0.006)	–	0.375 (0.690)	–0.265*** [–3.153]
$\Delta (\ln \text{GDP})$	1.341 (0.279)	0.634 (0.538)	0.954 (0.398)	–	–0.367*** [–4.200]

Note: Probability value in ( ); level of significance at \*\*\*1%, \*\*5%, and \*10% respectively.  
 Source: Authors calculation.

The  $ECT_{t-1}$  coefficient proves that there is an adjustment mechanism that affects the long run. The amount of adjustment for the  $ECT_{t-1}$  parameter from the short run to the long run in the  $CO_2$  emission model is  $-0.0193$ ; this shows the validity of the long-run equilibrium relationship between the variables of urbanization, energy consumption, and economic growth on  $CO_2$  emissions. Inequality due to shocks in the previous period is in line with the long-run equilibrium in the  $CO_2$  emission equation of  $-0.0193$  percent in the current period. In other words, there is a long-run causality starting from the direction of urbanization, energy consumption, and economic growth towards  $CO_2$  emission, where in the long run, if the policy of urbanization, energy consumption, and economic growth is better, then it can lead to reduced  $CO_2$  emissions. These findings are in line with the study by Shaojian Wang et al. (2016) and Odugbesan and Rjoub (2020).

The coefficient of  $ECT_{t-1}$  adjustment from short to long run in the energy consumption equation is  $-0.2651$ , this shows evidence of the validity of the long-run equilibrium relationship between  $CO_2$  emissions, urbanization, and economic growth on energy consumption. Inequality due to shocks in the previous period reintegrates into long-run equilibrium in the energy consumption equation of  $-0.2651$  percent in the current period. In other words, there is long-run causality ranging from  $CO_2$  emissions, urbanization, and economic growth to energy consumption. This is clear evidence of energy consumption, which is relatively difficult to move unless there are significant changes in  $CO_2$  emission concentrations, urbanization, and economic growth. Energy consumption control in Indonesia is running well in the long run.  $CO_2$  emissions in Indonesia are mostly caused by peatland fires due to unprofessional land use practices; this results in loss of forest and land functions (Agus et al., 2013). Nevertheless, energy consumption control is also important because the highest use of fossil energy in Indonesia is proven to come from electricity generation for 58 percent, the rest from the industry, transportation, and household sectors; it can be suppressed through energy conservation policies. This finding is in line with the study by Saidi and Hammami (2012).

In the long run, the evidence for the validity of the long-run equilibrium relationship between  $CO_2$  emissions, urbanization, and energy consumption to economic growth is seen in the  $ECT_{t-1}$  adjustment coefficient from short to long run in the economic growth equation, which is  $-0.3671$ . Inequality due to shocks in the previous period reintegrates into the long-run equilibrium in the economic growth equation of  $-0.2651$  percent in the current period. Long-run relationships ranging from  $CO_2$  emissions, urbanization, and energy consumption to economic growth can be easily given if there are significant changes in the concentration of  $CO_2$  emissions, urbanization and energy consumption. The increase in economic growth in Indonesia is progressing well in the long run. Nevertheless, policies to promote

economic growth need to be carried out in an integrated manner with other policies, so that the control of  $CO_2$  emissions and energy consumption can be carried out properly. These findings are in line with the study by Odugbesan and Rjoub (2020). and Shaojian Wang et al. (2016).

## 5. Conclusions

This paper systematically discusses the relationship between urbanization, economic growth, energy consumption, and  $CO_2$  emissions in Indonesia. Based on the results of this study, interesting findings indicate that in the short run urbanization and energy consumption can cause  $CO_2$  emissions. It is estimated that the contribution of urbanization in the next 10 years to  $CO_2$  emissions is quite high, namely, 53.20 percent, while energy consumption for  $CO_2$  emissions is 48.45 percent. In addition, we also find evidence that urbanization can lead to energy consumption in the short run, which suggests that urbanization in the short run is uncontrollable due to weak policies to control urbanization. Urban residents are believed to be able to change the quality of the environment through life patterns such as production and consumption that produce various types of waste, which in turn can cause environmental damage. Thus, the excessive use of fossil energy, especially in the industry, electricity and transportation sectors, is still relatively large in Indonesia. In the short run there is no relationship between economic growth and  $CO_2$  emissions. There is some evidence that explains that, with increased well-being, individuals have greater awareness and ability to protect the environment. Although  $CO_2$  emissions, energy consumption, and economic growth do not affect urbanization, this suggests that the driving factors for urbanization are more due to expectations of a better life such as getting jobs and better city facilities and infrastructure. Likewise, there is no evidence of a lasting relationship from  $CO_2$  emissions, urbanization, and energy consumption to economic growth in the short-run, implying that in the short-run these factors cannot fully predict changes in economic growth, due to economic growth in Indonesia, caused by foreign direct investment, trade openness, and government spending.

The result of Granger causality shows evidence of cointegration in the equations of  $CO_2$  emissions, energy consumption, and economic growth, except that the urbanization equation is not shown to have cointegration. The empirical results shown by the coefficient of one period lagging the error correction term ( $ECT_{t-1}$ ) are negative for the equations of  $CO_2$  emissions, energy consumption, and economic growth, which are statistically significant in the VECM equation. The concentration of  $CO_2$  emissions can increase if increased urbanization, energy consumption and economic growth cannot be properly controlled in the long term. Other findings also show that energy consumption is

caused by urbanization, economic growth, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the long-run, this implies that the aggregate activity of urban residents through consumption and production can lead to energy consumption in Indonesia.

The highest use of fossil energy in Indonesia is proven to come from power plants for 58 percent, the rest from the industry, transportation and household sectors. Likewise, the ECT<sub>t-1</sub> coefficient of economic growth equation shows evidence of the validity of the long-run equilibrium relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, urbanization, and energy consumption on economic growth seen in the ECT<sub>t-1</sub> adjustment coefficient from the short run to the long run in the economic growth equation. Economic growth can easily be boosted if there are significant changes in CO<sub>2</sub> emission concentrations, urbanization and energy consumption. The increase in economic growth in Indonesia is progressing well in the long term. However, policies to promote economic growth need to be integrated with other policies, so that CO<sub>2</sub> emission control and energy consumption can be carried out properly. Other findings also show that if the EKC hypothesis is proven for the case of Indonesia, where CO<sub>2</sub> emissions increase with economic growth at a certain point and reach a certain income, then CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be reduced as income increases as indicated by the inverted U curve. Increasing welfare in the future is expected to improve environmental quality through high awareness by encouraging better economic activities and prioritizing environmental aspects.

The study also provides information to policymakers on the relationship between urbanization, economic growth, energy consumption, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Indonesia. Urbanization does not only increase CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and energy consumption in the short run. Therefore, policies are needed to limit the impact of urbanization through high awareness-raising to maintain environmental quality and greater use of energy. Also, energy conservation policies are needed in all sectors, especially the electricity, industry, and transportation sectors, as well as encourage and optimize the use of alternative fuels.

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