



Does Energy Consumption Influence the CO₂ Emission?

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Abstract

The focal point of this study is to investigate the impact of total primary energy consumption, gross domestic product, index of industrial production and employment toward the total carbon (CO₂) emission in Malaysia from 1986 to 2018. This study employs the Ordinary Least Square (OLS) model in developing the estimation model between dependent and independent variables. The diagnostic model consist autocorrelation, multicollinearity, heteroscedasticity and normality tests were employed in order to test the model whether is adequate or not. The empirical results showed that the total primary energy consumption is the significant factors that affecting the CO₂ emissions while per capita real gross domestic product is the least impactful factor in Malaysia. There are positive relationships between the independent variables on CO₂ emissions. Therefore, this study suggested that implementing policies are needed in order to developing economy in Malaysia. Adopt new technologies or install solar energy for industries also recommended to control the energy consumption and pollution in Malaysia.

Key words

Total Primary Energy Consumption, Per Capita Real Gross Domestic Product, Index of Industrial Production, Total Employment, Co₂ Emissions, Ordinary Least Square

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1. Introduction and Literature Review

A main threats created from the phenomenal changes is global warming (Ab-Rahim and Xin-Di, 2016). Global warming is caused by the increased of earth surface average temperature effects from over emitting of greenhouse gasses such as carbon dioxide (CO₂). The CO₂ in atmosphere increases as the increases in human activities such as burning of fossil fuels, petroleum and so on. The emission of CO₂ and other gasses will remain in the atmosphere for as long as many years it would takes and making the case to almost impossible for its elimination. If human are unable to control the increase of global warming activities, the future will witness the raise of sea levels due to The Arctic ice melting and even higher frequency of tropical storms hitting the earth.

There have been various types of studies focusing on the environmental issue and trying to restrain the growth in global warming as it may lead to even more serious matter. Malaysia is a country that consists of farmers who are depending on rice cultivation as their main source of income. However, the unstable climate changes might ruin the crops and the field since weather has been playing the vital role in determining level of rice productivity. This not only will affect the small group of farmers and their

household, at the same time it will leads to government’s concern about the reduction in future national income.

In Malaysia, National Policy in climate change was formulated to provide a framework which could be used as a guide for entire government agencies, industry, community as well as other stakeholders in order to facing the climate change scenario. The policy was to ensure climate-resilient development to fulfill national aspiration for sustainability. The policy implementation is mainly to stream the climate changes through wise management of resources and enhanced environmental conservation resulting in strengthened economic competitiveness and improved quality of life. Moreover, by strengthening of institutional and implementation capacity will produce much better harness opportunities to reduce negative impacts of climate change.

Climate changes is a global threat and need a global solution to mitigate the greenhouse gasses emission therefore this have to be concern by entire countries. In Malaysia, an adaptation strategy including crop management, soil management and irrigation management was proposed to farmers in order to minimize the impact of climate change. However, the major concern is still get back to the CO₂ emissions since this is the only issue that cannot be control by Malaysia alone.

Many literature has confirm that the global climate warning is thoroughly connected to carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions that caused by human activities and also the presently significant environmental problem (Allali *et al.*, 2015; Rambeli *et al.*, 2018) among others. This study also has its limitations that the analysis of relationship between variables is at a disaggregated level and no such panel-based studies that are problematic to obtain disaggregated data. Besides, carbon dioxide is the one considered as the major cause for global warming while CO₂ emissions increase in term of energy consumption when occurring economic growth (Omri, 2013). The policy makers in Malaysia meet a major tight spot as the long-run environment degradation through CO₂ emissions would get worse the economy. Other than that, economic growth and industrial production growth in the long-run will affect the CO₂ emission in Malaysia. An increase in index of industrial production will increase the level of CO₂ emission in Malaysia. In addition, increase in total primary energy consumption that related to the fossil fuel caused an increase in CO₂ emissions which reached phenomenal levels (Al-mulali and Che Sab, 2018). Therefore, implementing the green energy by the government in the country is necessarily in order to reduce its fossil fuels consumption.

Therefore, the main objective of this paper is to develop the multiple regression estimation using the Ordinary Least Square (OLS) for CO₂ emission in Malaysia. Besides, this paper will tend to identify the most and the least important factors in influencing the CO₂ emission in Malaysia.

2. Methodology of Research

2.1. Model Specification

Inspired by Rambeli et al (2018), the model specification is developed as follows;

$$CO_2^t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 ENE_t + \beta_2 RGDP_t + \beta_3 IIP_t + \beta_4 RMP_t + \varepsilon_t \quad (1)$$

Where,

CO₂_t =Total Carbon Emission in Malaysia

ENE_t =Total primary energy consumption for the year t

RGDP_t =Per capita real gross domestic product for the year t

IIP_t =Index of industrial production for the year t

EMP_t =Total employment for the year t

t =Annual data from 1986 to 2016

2.2. Findings

The model is estimated from 1986 to 2018 as below:

$$CO_{2t} = 1.7395 + 0.6922ENE_{1t} - 0.1197RGDP_{2t} + 0.2729IIP_{3t} - 0.2958EMP_{4t} \quad (2)$$

$$SE = (1.0865) \quad (0.1590) \quad (0.06266) \quad (0.1197) \quad (0.1426)$$

$$t^* = (1.6010) \quad (4.3548) \quad *** \quad (-1.9098) \quad *(2.2794) \quad ** \quad (-2.0749) \quad **$$

$$F^* = 1345.433 ; R^2 = 0.995 ; \bar{R}^2 = 0.994$$

Where,

$CO2_t$ =Total Carbon Emission in Malaysia

ENE_t =Total primary energy consumption for the year t

$RGDP_t$ =Per capita real gross domestic product for the year t

IIP_t =Index of industrial production for the year t

EMP_t =Total employment for the year t

t =Annual data from 1986 to 2016

Notation:

***:Important at the 99% level of confident

** :Important at the 95% level of confident

* :Important at the 90% level of confident

Referring to equation (2), the increase in ENEt will increase the CO₂ emission in Malaysia by 4.3548 percent at 99 percent significant level. The increase in RGDPt will reduce the CO₂ emissions in Malaysia by 1.9098 percent at 90 percent significant level. The increase of IIPt will increase the CO₂ emissions in Malaysia by 2.2794 percent at 95 percent significant level. The increase in EMPt will reduce the CO₂ emissions in Malaysia by 2.0749 percent at 95 percent significant level.

2.3. Statistical criteria

Table 1. Test – t testing results

Variables	Hypothesis	Statistical Test (t*)	Critical Value(α)	Result
ENEt	$H_0: \beta_1 = 0$ $H_1: \beta_1 \neq 0$	4.3548	2.056	Reject H_0
RGDPt	$H_0: \beta_2 = 0$ $H_1: \beta_2 \neq 0$	-1.9098	2.056	Accept H_0
IIPt	$H_0: \beta_3 = 0$ $H_1: \beta_3 \neq 0$	2.2794	2.056	Reject H_0
EMPt	$H_0: \beta_4 = 0$ $H_1: \beta_4 \neq 0$	-2.0749	2.056	Reject H_0

Table 1 simplify the t-test testing procedure results. The first results of significance tests were performed on β_1 , the total primary energy consumption (ENEt) shows that the value of $t^*=4.3548$ which is larger than $\alpha =2.056$, then the result will reject H_0 . This means that ENEt is important variable in explaining the dependent variable, the CO₂ emission in Malaysia at 95 percent significance level. The second results of significance tests were performed on β_2 , the per capita real gross domestic product (RGDPt) shows that the value of $t^*=-1.9098$ which is smaller than $\alpha =2.056$ but larger than -2.056 , then the result will accept H_0 . This means that RGDPt is not important in explaining the dependent variable, the CO₂ emission in Malaysia at 95 percent significance level. The third results of significance tests were performed on β_3 , the index of industrial production (IIPt) shows that the value of $t^*=2.2794$ which is larger than $\alpha =2.056$, then the result will reject H_0 . This means that IIPt is important in explaining the dependent variable, the CO₂ emission in Malaysia at 95 percent significance level. The last results of significance tests were performed on β_4 , the total employment (EMPt) shows that the value of $t^*=-2.0749$ which is smaller than $\alpha =2.056$, even smaller than -2.056 , then the result will again reject H_0 . This means that EMPt is important in explaining the dependent variable, the CO₂ emission in Malaysia at 95 percent significance level.

Table 2. F-test Results

Model	Hypothesis	Statistical Test	Critical Value (Fv1,v2)	Results
General Model	$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$ $H_1: \beta_1 \neq 0$	$F^* = \frac{ESS}{df} / \frac{RSS}{df}$ =1345.43	3.33	$F^* > F$, 1345.43 > 3.33 Reject H_0

Based on Table 2 above, it found that Fv1,v2=3.33 at the 95% confidence level while F*=1345.43. Since $F^* > F_{v1,v2}$, therefore the result will reject H_0 . In other words, all independent variables are good combination in explaining the dependent variable at a 95% confidence level.

2.4. Econometrics Criteria

Auto-Correlation (AC)

In examining the problem auto-correlation in the model, then the test will be carried out on the model. Among the tests that will be done is Durbin Watson.

Table 3. Durbin Watson Diagnostic Test for Autocorrelation

L	DW	N	K	DL	DU	4-DL	4-DU	Result
1%	1.764	31	5	0.960	1.509	3.04	2.491	Does not exist.
5%	1.764	31	5	1.160	1.735	2.84	2.265	Does not exist.

Table 3 represents the Durbin Watson test result. At the significance level of 0.01 ($\alpha=1\%$) and 0.05 ($\alpha=5\%$), the results of the Durbin Watson (DW) statistical test obtained from SPSS version 23 is 1.764. Based on the above test results, the auto-correlation problem doesn't exist 0.01 ($\alpha=1\%$) and 0.05 ($\alpha=5\%$) levels.

Multi-Collinearity (MC)

Multi-collinearity tests conducted to determine whether there has problem multi-collinearity serious or not serious between the dependent variable, by comparing the values of Correlation between independent variables (in pairs) and R^2 .

Table 4. Multicollinearity testing

Relation	R^2	Arrow	Pearson Correlation	Results
ENEt & RGDPt	0.995	>	0.976	Imperfect MC
ENEt & IIPt	0.995	>	0.991	Imperfect MC
ENEt & EMPt	0.995	>	0.975	Imperfect MC
RGDPt & IIPt	0.995	>	0.978	Imperfect MC
RGDPt & EMPt	0.995	>	0.945	Imperfect MC
IIPt & EMPt	0.995	>	0.945	Imperfect MC

Based on the Table above, $R^2 = 0.995$. It was found that the relationship between the independent variables namely, total of primary energy consumption with per capital real gross domestic product (ENEt & RGDPt), total of primary energy consumption with index of industrial production (ENEt & IIPt), total of primary energy consumption with total employment (ENEt & EMPt), per capital real gross domestic product with index of industrial production (RGDPt & IIPt), per capital real gross domestic product with total employment (RGDPt & EMPt), and index of industrial production with total employment (IIPt & EMPt) are having imperfect multi-collinearity problems. This is because $R^2 = 0.995$ is larger than all those six relation, which are $Corr(ENE_t, RGDP_t) = 0.976$, $Corr(ENE_t, IIP_t) = 0.991$, $Corr(ENE_t, EMP_t) = 0.975$, $Corr(RGDP_t, IIP_t) = 0.978$, $Corr(RGDP_t, EMP_t) = 0.945$, $Corr(IIP_t, EMP_t) = 0.945$. In that case, every variable are applicable in the model.

Heteroscedasticity

T-Test based on Park Test

$$\ln \hat{\mu}_t^2 = -75.643 - 16.523ENEt - 6.161RGDPt + 15.539IIPt + 13.872EMPt$$

Table 5. Park Test Results

Variables	Hypothesis	Statistical Test (T*)	Critical Value(T)	Result
ENEt	$H_0: \beta_1 = 0$	-1.277	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_1 \neq 0$			H_0
RGDPt	$H_0: \beta_2 = 0$	-1.208	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_2 \neq 0$			H_0
IIPt	$H_0: \beta_3 = 0$	1.594	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_3 \neq 0$			H_0
EMPt	$H_0: \beta_4 = 0$	1.195	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_4 \neq 0$			H_0

Based on the first result obtained from new model Park Test (t-Test), total primary energy consumption (ENEt) is $T^* = -1.277$ which is smaller than the value of $T = 2.056$. When $T^* < T = -1.277 < 2.056$, then the result suggested to accept H_0 . The total primary energy consumption (ENEt) is not important in explaining the total carbon (CO2t) emission in Malaysia at the 95% significant level. The second result obtained from new model Park Test (t-Test), value of real gross domestic product per capita (RGDPt) is $T^* = -1.208$, which is also smaller than the value of $T = 2.056$. When $T^* < T = -1.208 < 2.056$, then the result will accept H_0 . The value of real gross domestic product per capita (RGDPt) is not important in explaining the CO₂ t emission in Malaysia at the 95% significant level. Thirdly, the result obtained from new model Park Test (T-Test), the index of industrial production (IIPt) is $T^* = 1.594$ which is smaller than the value of $T = 2.056$. When $T^* < T = 1.594 < 2.056$, then the result will accept H_0 . The index of industrial production (IIPt) is not important in explaining the CO₂ t emission in Malaysia at the 95% significant level.

Lastly, the fourth result obtained from new model Park Test (T-Test), the total employment (EMPt) is $T^* = 1.195$ which is also smaller than the value of $T = 2.056$. When $T^* < T = 1.195 < 2.056$, then the result should accept H_0 . The total employment (EMPt) is not important in explaining the CO₂t emission in Malaysia at the 95% confidence level. Therefore, based on all of the results obtained from the Park Test, there is no heteroscedasticity in the first model and it is applicable for the study.

T-Test on Glejser Test $|\mu_t^2| = 75.643 + 16.523ENEt + 6.161RGDPt - 15.539IIPt - 13.872EMPt$

Table 6. Glejser Test Results

Variables	Hypothesis	Statistical Test (T*)	Critical Value (T)	Result
ENEt	$H_0: \beta_1 = 0$	1.277	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_1 \neq 0$			H_0
RGDPt	$H_0: \beta_2 = 0$	1.208	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_2 \neq 0$			H_0
IIPt	$H_0: \beta_3 = 0$	-1.594	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_3 \neq 0$			H_0
EMPt	$H_0: \beta_4 = 0$	-1.195	2.056	Accept
	$H_1: \beta_4 \neq 0$			H_0

Based on the first result obtained from new model Glejser Test (T-Test), total primary energy consumption (ENEt) is $T^* = 1.277$ which is smaller than the value of $T = 2.056$. When $T^* < T = 1.277 < 2.056$, then the result should accept H_0 . The total primary energy consumption (ENEt) is not important in explaining the total carbon (CO2t) emission in Malaysia at the 95% significant level. The second result obtained from new model Glejser Test (T-Test), the value of real gross domestic product per capita (RGDPt) is $T^* = 1.208$, which is also smaller than the value of $T = 2.056$. When $T^* < T = 1.208 < 2.056$, then the result will accept H_0 . The value of real gross domestic product per capita (RGDPt) is not important in explaining the CO₂t emission in Malaysia at the 95% significant level. Thirdly, the result obtained from new model Glejser Test (T-Test), the index of industrial production (IIPt) is $T^* = -1.594$ which is smaller than the value of

$T = 2.05$. When $T^* < T = -1.594 < 2.056$, then the result will accept H_0 . The index of industrial production (IIPt) is not important in explaining the CO2t emission in Malaysia at the 95% significant level. Lastly, the fourth result obtained from new model Glejser Test (T-Test), the total employment (EMPt) is $T^* = -1.195$ which is also smaller than the value of $T = 2.05$. When $T^* < T = -1.195 < 2.056$, then the result should accept H_0 . The total employment (EMPt) is not important in explaining the CO2t emission in Malaysia at the 95% significant level. Hence, the results are parallel with the Park Test result which there is no heteroscedasticity in the first model and it is applicable for the study.

3. Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the findings, it is clear that energy consumption is a major factor in affecting the release of CO2 gas in the atmosphere for Malaysia case. Therefore a proper control is needed on energy consumption in Malaysia. Government should do enforcement under the ministry of the environment; this may be able to curb this problem before it becomes chronic in the future. Undeniably, economic growth is a contributing factor to this increase in gas in the atmosphere. Thus, the government should consider the best way to achieve positive growth as well as control the environment. This may be accomplished by adopt new technologies or install solar energy for industries or applying limit and trade procedure on polluted the environment (Rambeli *et al.*, 2017) also recommended to control the energy consumption and pollution in Malaysia for the long term. In other words, in order to pollute the air, the stakeholder has to pay the amount of pollution.

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