



# Spatial Pattern Analysis of Malaria Cases in Muara Enim Regency using Moran Index and Local Indicator Spatial Autocorrelation

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## Abstract

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**BACKGROUND:** Malaria is a disease which still becomes a global health issue, including in Indonesia, because of its potential vector which can infect and spread causing a wide impact. Until currently, malaria still becomes a serious threat to people living in tropical and subtropical areas. Muara Enim Regency is a malaria-endemic regency with the second highest positive case in South Sumatra Province, with an API value in 2019 was 0.18/1000 population.

**AIM:** The current research was performed to identify and change the spatial pattern of malaria cases, environmental variability (rainfall), population density using Moran index and local indicator spatial autocorrelation (LISA), and habitat in Muara Enim Regency.

**METHODS:** This research employed a quantitative research design with an analytical survey research method and a case-control approach. This research method was designed using a geographic information systems approach.

**RESULTS:** The results of the study showed that malaria cases in Muara Enim Regency in 2017 occurred in groups with a Moran index of 0.263, indicating a positive autocorrelation. Meanwhile, based on the LISA index, it was found that there were three districts categorized as high-high (HH) (quadrant 1), those are Lawang Kidul District, Muara Enim District, and Gunung Megang District, while in the low-high (LH) category (quadrant 2), there was Benakat District. In 2018, it also occurred in groups where the Moran index was 0.129, indicating a positive autocorrelation, while the LISA index found that there was one district categorized as HH (quadrant 1) which is Lawang Kidul District, and district categorized as LH (quadrant 2) was Gunung Megang District. In 2019, it happened randomly or spread with a Moran index of -0.022 indicating a negative autocorrelation, while based on the LISA index, it was found that there was one subdistrict categorized as HH category (quadrant 1) which is Lawang Kidul District and two districts categorized as LH (quadrant 2) which are Semende Darat Laut and Rambang Niru.

**CONCLUSION:** There was a change in the results of Moran index from a positive autocorrelation in 2017, 2018, to a negative autocorrelation in 2019 with the results of the LISA index for malaria cases in 2017–2019 in one subdistrict, namely, Lawang Kidul District categorized as a HH category (quadrant 1).

## Introduction

Malaria still becomes a world health issue, including in Indonesia, due to its potential vector that can transmit and spread causing a wide impact. In addition, malaria is a disease in remote or difficult to reach areas and in poor or developing countries so that it becomes a priority target for global commitments in the Millennium Development Goals (Research and Development Agency of the Republic of Indonesia, 2010) [1].

Malaria is generally transmitted through female *Anopheles* mosquito bites which suck blood for its egg growth. *Anopheles* commonly bites actively at night. In several past years, malaria outbreaks have reoccurred in several malaria-endemic areas in Indonesia. The increasing number of malaria cases is still affected by climate change factors related to the physical,

chemical, biological, and social environment as well as community behavior [2].

There have been 80 species of *Anopheles* mosquitoes found in Indonesia, 20 of them can act as malaria vectors, including *Anopheles aconitus*, *Anopheles sundaicus*, *Anopheles subpictus*, *Anopheles maculatus*, *Anopheles barbirostris*, *Anopheles balacencis*, *Anopheles punctulatus*, *Anopheles kochi*, *Anopheles koliensis*, *Anopheles minimus*, *Anopheles nigerrimus*, *Anopheles sinensis*, *Anopheles flavirostris*, *Anopheles tessellatus*, *Anopheles bancrofti*, *Anopheles karwari*, *Anopheles letifer*, *Anopheles ludlowae*, and *Anopheles umbrosus* [3].

Furthermore, 36,201 clinical malaria cases were found in 2015 in South Sumatra Province. The second highest positive malaria case in South Sumatra Province was in Muara Enim District with an API value in 2019 of 0.18/1000 population (Health Department of South Sumatra Province, 2019). Data on malaria

cases, environment, and behavior were obtained from primary and secondary data. The data were further analyzed descriptively against environmental data. The distribution of malaria cases was carried out by mapping and spatial analysis (GIS) in which the data analysis was done through spatial analysis with weighting and scoring [4].

Spatial analysis is a statistical method that includes elements of area/space in its analysis. One of the spatial statistical methods used to determine the dependence of one region on another is Moran's index. Moran's index analyzes an attribute based on several regions, while to determine the dependence of each region, Moran's local or local indicator spatial autocorrelation (LISA) is used. Through the LISA method, we can find out the dependence of each region, while the Moran's index is general [5].

## Methods

This research was carried out quantitatively through analytical survey research method and a case-control approach. This research method was designed using a geographic information system approach through secondary data collection activities consisting of data on malaria cases in Muara Enim Regency in 2017–2019, habitat map data (shrubs, lakes, ponds, forests, gardens, swamps, and farms) and environment (rainfall), population density data, land use data, and altitude data. The research was done in Muara Enim Regency using various tools and materials, such as one set of stationery, one set of questionnaires, one camera unit (HP/Digital), and secondary data. The population involved in this study was all malaria cases in Muara Enim Regency area recorded in the recording and reporting of malaria from Muara Enim Health Office in 2017–2019. The sampling technique used was Classified Proportional Random Sampling method, using the multistage sampling technique or gradual sampling.

Data analysis was carried out using spatial analysis and spatial patterns of research data [6], [7], [8].

## Results

### ***Spatial pattern analysis of malaria cases in Muara Enim Regency using Moran index and LISA***

Results of spatial pattern identification and analysis of malaria cases in 2017–2019 in Muara Enim Regency using Moran index and LISA are shown in the following figure:

Based on Figure 1, it is known that there are three districts categorized as high-high (HH) (quadrant 1) in 2017. Those districts are Lawang Kidul, Muara Enim, and Gunung Megang Districts. Meanwhile, district belongs to low-low (LL) category (quadrant 3) are Lembak and Gelumbang Districts. Furthermore, district belongs to low-high (LH) category (quadrant 2) is Benakat District.

In 2018, district belongs to HH category (quadrant 1) was only Lawang Kidul District, while district belongs to LH category (quadrant 2) is Gunung Megang District.

In 2019, district categorized as HH (quadrant 1) is Lawang Kidul District, while those belong to the LH category (quadrant 2) are Semende Darat Laut and Rambang Niru Districts.

Based on Figure 2, Moran index value is 0.263, indicating that there was a positive autocorrelation, which means that malaria cases in Muara Enim Regency in 2017 occurred in groups.

Based on Figure 3, the Moran index value is 0.129, indicating that there is a positive autocorrelation, which means that malaria cases in Muara Enim Regency in 2018 occurred in groups.

Based on Figure 4, the Moran index value is  $-0.022$ , indicating that there is a negative

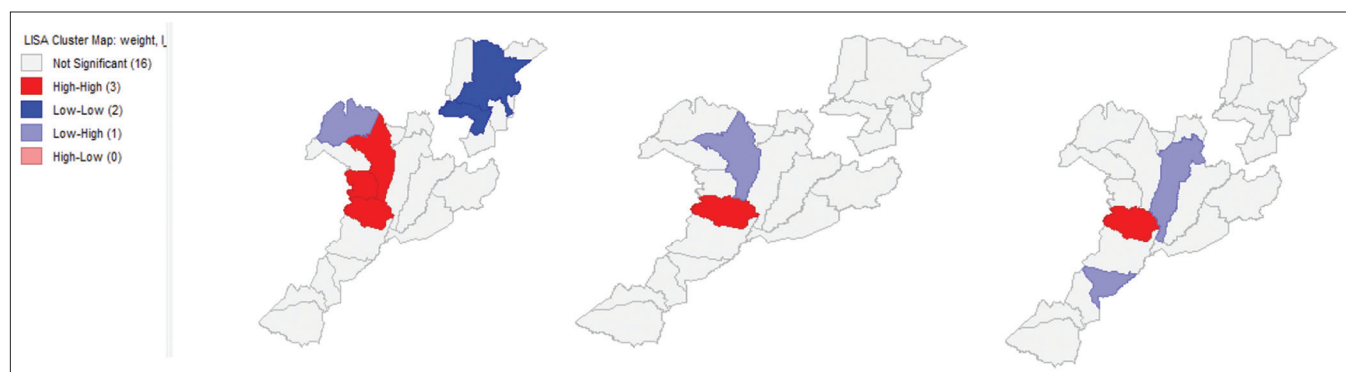


Figure 1: Local indicator spatial autocorrelation map of malaria case cluster in 2017–2019 in Muara Enim Regency

autocorrelation, which means that malaria cases in 2019 occurred randomly or spread.

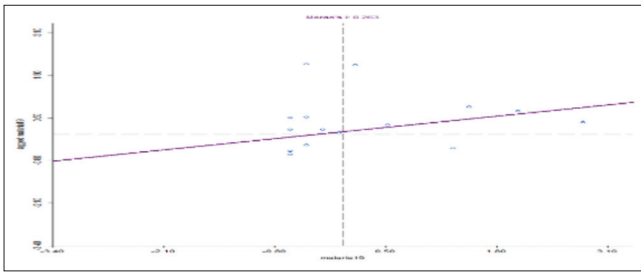


Figure 2: Moran index of malaria case in Muara Enim in 2017

Based on the analysis results of Moran and LISA that the area with the highest vulnerability for the past 4 years is Lawang Kidul area because it belongs to quadrant 1 (HH) area, which is an area with high cases surrounded by areas that also have high cases for the past 3 years.

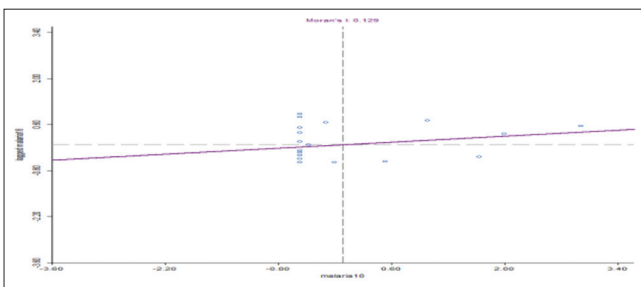


Figure 3: Moran index of malaria case in Muara Enim in 2018

**Identification and analysis of changes in spatial patterns of environmental variability (rainfall) and density in Muara Enim Regency using Moran index and LISA**

Based on the analysis results of Figure 5, there are three areas in Muara Enim Regency that have a spatial pattern on the population density variable. Districts belong to HH category (quadrant 1) are Sungai Rotan District, while districts belong to the LH category (quadrant 2) are Rambang and Empat Petulai Dangku Districts.

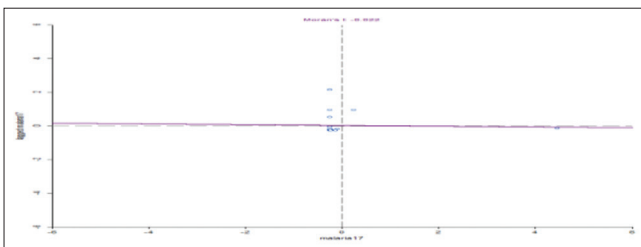


Figure 4: Moran index of malaria case in Muara Enim in 2019

Based on Figure 6, the density distribution has a moral value of 0.062, has a positive but low autocorrelation, and only some areas have a density pattern.

Based on the analysis results shown in Figure 7, there are four areas in Muara Enim Regency that have a spatial pattern on the rainfall variable, in which the districts belong to the LL category

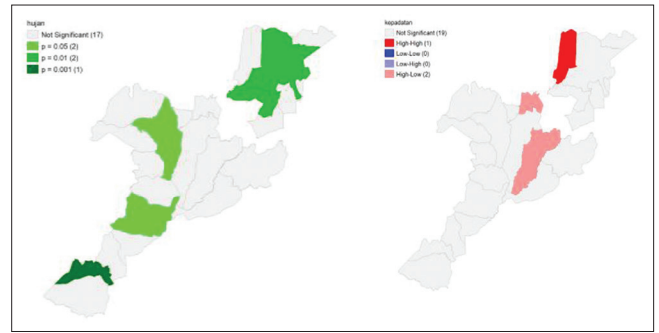


Figure 5: Local indicator spatial autocorrelation analysis of rainfall and density variable

(quadrant 3), which is Gelumbang District. Meanwhile, the districts classified as LH (quadrant 2) are Gunung Megang, Tanjung Agung, and Semende Darat Tengah Districts.

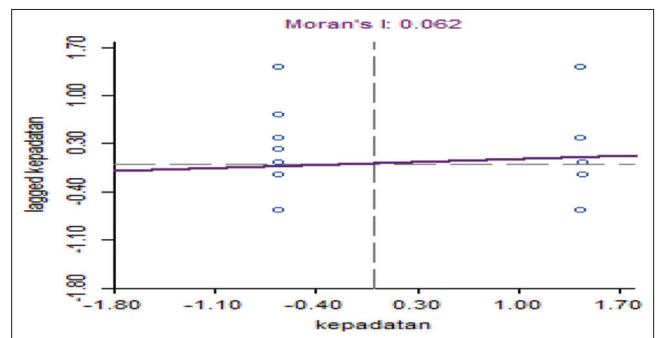


Figure 6: Moran index of rainfall and density variable

Based on Figure 8, there is a positive autocorrelation on the rainfall variable, thus the conclusion is that the rainfall in Muara Enim Regency forms clusters or groups.

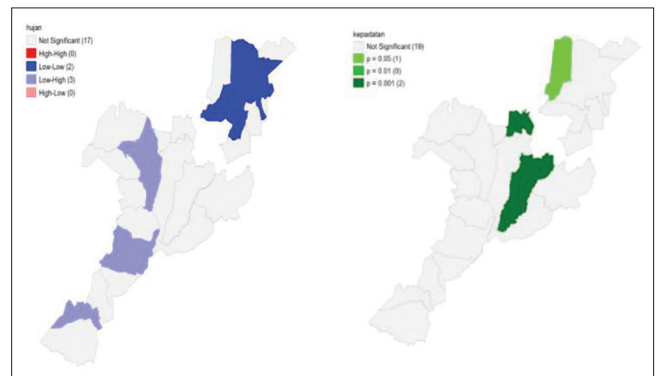


Figure 7: LISA analysis of rainfall and density variable

**Identification and changes of spatial pattern of habitat in Muara Enim Regency**

Figure 9 shows that almost all areas have shrubs compared to other areas whose shrubs area does not really reach the entire boundary area.

Figure 10 shows area with the most lake, which is Gunung Kidul.

Based on Figure 11, not many ponds were found in the three highest subdistricts. This indicates

that there was no correlation between the existence of ponds and the number of cases.

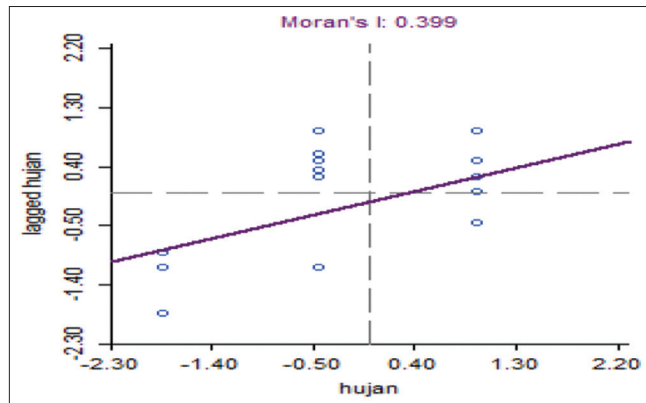


Figure 8: Moran index of rainfall and density variable

Figure 12 presents that Lawang Kidul and Tanjung Agung areas have a quite large dry forest area.

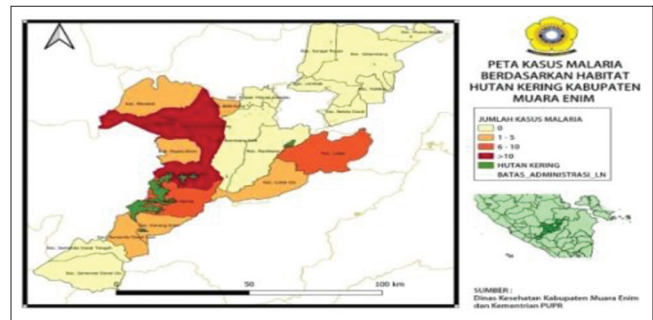


Figure 12: Map of malaria case based on dry forest habitat in Muara Enim Regency

Figure 13 shows that areas with the most garden are Panang Enim District.

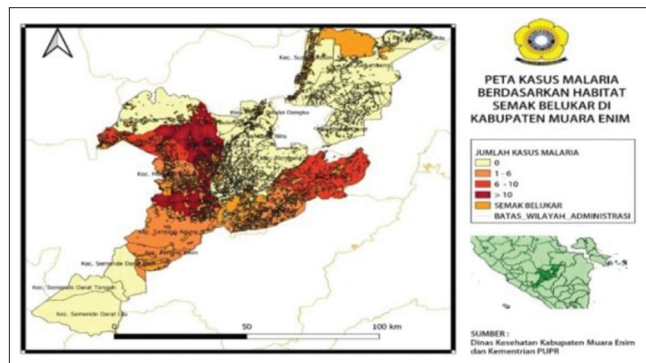


Figure 9: Map of malaria case based on shrubs habitat in Muara Enim Regency

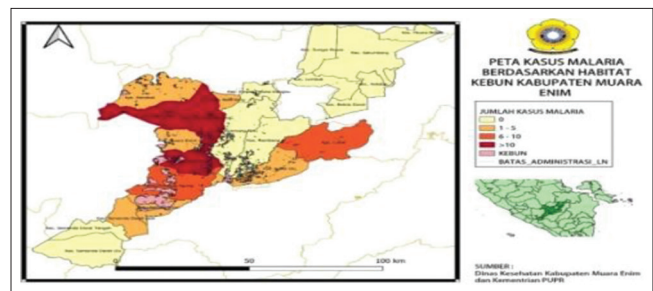


Figure 13: Map of malaria case based on garden habitat in Muara Enim Regency

Figure 14 shows that there is a quite a lot of swamps scattered in all three highest districts.

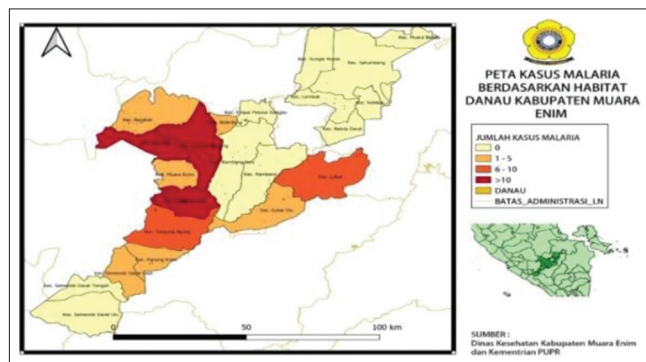


Figure 10: Map of malaria case based on Lake Habitat in Muara Enim Regency

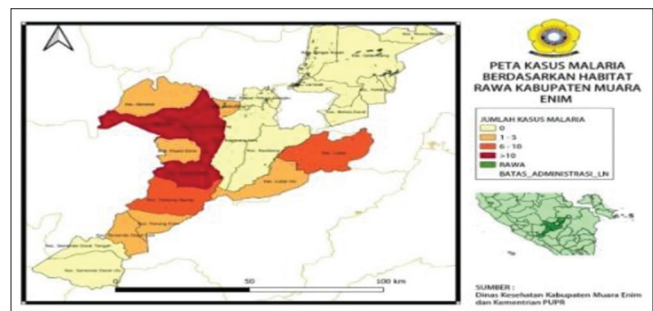


Figure 14: Map of malaria case based on swamp habitat in Muara Enim Regency

Based on Figure 15, it is known that the most farms habitats are located in Belida Darat and Sungai Rattan areas. In the three highest subdistricts, there are not many farms so that the correlation between rice fields and malaria cases was not subjectively found.

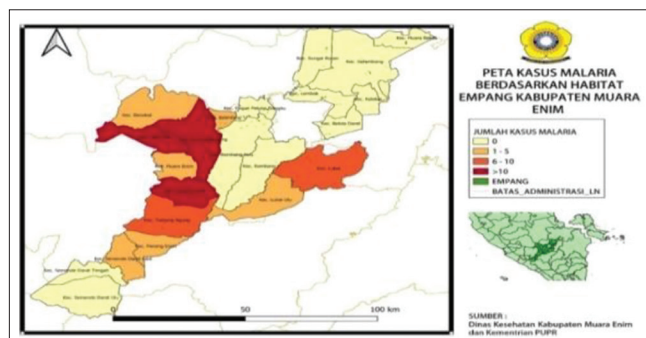


Figure 11: Map of malaria case based on pond habitat in Muara Enim Regency

The conclusion based on the identification results and changes in spatial patterns on the map of malaria cases by habitat shows that changes in spatial patterns are found in the habitat of shrubs, lakes, dry forests, and swamps.



spatial pattern, one area with a high population density surrounded by areas with a high population density (HH) which is Sungai Rotan subdistrict and two areas with high population density surrounded by areas with a low population density (HL), which are Rambang Dangku and Empat Petulai Dangku, with a Moran value of 0.062. This value indicated a positive but low autocorrelation because only part of the area had a density pattern.

This study is in accordance with the results of research conducted by Prahutama and Hoyyi (2016)[11] which obtained that population density affects the spread of malaria in Central Java in 2013–2015 with a Moran value of  $-0.6168$  indicating an autospatial correlation, while regarding the rainfall, according to Suryaningtyas *et al.* [13], spatial pattern of malaria cases spread over all altitudes with the highest case was at an altitude of 500–1000 mdpl with rainfall  $>200$  mm (wet month) and high rainy days. Therefore, vigilance needs to be increased by observing rainfall, humidity, and temperature on a weekly scale in collaboration with BMKG.

Furthermore, a study performed by Narulita from the Geotechnology Research Center of LIPI in 2016 found that the monthly and annual spatial distribution of rainfall in Cerucuk watershed was affected by topography. The rainfall cycle showed an equatorial type, where the peak of rainfall occurs twice a year in April and December [14].

Another research carried out by Pravitasari and Hakim (2016) was also conducted using the K-Means cluster, obtaining that Group 1 was a medium endemic area, Group 2 was a low endemic area, and Group 3 was a high endemic area with an F-measure cluster validation value of 93.75%. For spatial autocorrelation through statistical testing, the Zcount value was 2,309, which means that malaria cases do not occur randomly, in other words, there is an effect of proximity between locations on the number of malaria cases that occur [15].

In addition, research conducted by Suryaningtyas *et al.* in 2012 on the Spatial Statistics of Population Density of Malaria Incidence in Purworejo Regency Using GIS further found that there was no significant relationship between population density and malaria incidence in Purworejo Regency (spatial statistics) [13]. This research can be summed up that there was a spatial pattern change in Muara Enim Regency which was affected by rainfall and density.

#### **Identification and changes of spatial pattern in habitat in Muara Enim Regency**

Current research obtained that habitat spatial analysis results revealed that there were three highest subdistricts (Lawang Kidul, Tanjung Agung, and Gunung Megang subdistricts). It was known that almost all of these areas have shrubs compared to other

areas whose shrubs do not really reach all boundaries. Meanwhile, regarding the lake habitat, the region with the most lake area is Lawang Kidul area. Furthermore, concerning the pond habitat, not many ponds were found in the three highest subdistricts. This shows that there was no correlation between the presence of ponds and the number of malaria cases. Based on the dry forest habitat, it was known that Lawang Kidul and Tanjung Agung have a large area of dry forest. Based on the farm habitat, it was known that most of the orchard are in Panang Enim Subdistrict. In the three highest subdistricts, there are orchards that are not too large. Thus, there was no correlation between the existence of the farm and the number of cases. Based on the farm habitat, it was obtained that there was quite a lot of farm spread in all three highest subdistricts. Based on the farm habitat map, most of the farms are in Belida land area and Sungai Rotan. However, not many farms were found in the three highest subdistricts, therefore, there was no correlation between farms and malaria cases subjectively.

This study is in line with the research previously done by Laumalay *et al.* in 2019 regarding the spatial analysis of *Anopheles* habitat characteristics. It was revealed that the existence of *Anopheles* spp. larvae was affected by the type of breeding habitat, *Anopheles* sucking during the day, and the presence of plants in the breeding habitat. Four *Anopheles barbirostris* and *A. subpictus* are primary vectors of malaria in East Nusa Tenggara Province. *Anopheles* species have specific breeding habitats. Sometimes, two or more species are found in one breeding habitat, but certain species are only found in certain breeding habitats. *A. barbirostris* preferred certain breeding habitats such as water flow, tank boundaries, irrigation canals, farms, seepage areas, temporary ponds, standing water near the coast, standing water in rivers, springs, abandoned fish ponds, and swamps. Meanwhile, *A. subpictus* is more likely to choose the type of habitat for brackish water puddles among mangroves, fish ponds, and other brackish water bodies. Furthermore, nine *Anopheles vagus* were found in irrigation canals, farms, and drainage canals [16].

It can be summed up that habitat found in Muara Enim Regency is a breeding habitat for *Anopheles* mosquito. Based on the map, it shows that most farm habitat is in Belida land area and Sungai Rotan. In the three highest subdistricts, there are not many farms found. Therefore, there was no correlation between farms and malaria cases subjectively.

#### **Identification and changes of spatial pattern of land use and altitude in Muara Enim Regency**

Based on the results of this research, it was found that there were three highest subdistricts dominated by land use in the form of shrub, bush, and smallholder plantations. Meanwhile, according to the

altitude map, it was found that no altitude was found in the northern region so that no pattern was found in the relationship between the number of cases and the altitude.

The results of previous research performed by Wigaty *et al.* obtained that regarding the Effect of Land Use Change on Malaria Disease Rates: A Study in Lampung Province. It was revealed that land use was very influential related to malaria cases. Furthermore, another research related to spatial analysis in land and elevation classification is very influential. The results of the study proved that changes in land use of mangrove forests and swamps cause ecological disturbances that affect morbidity [18]. Meanwhile, variables which did not significantly affect malaria morbidity are state forests, community forests, built-up land, dry land, other uses, population density, rainfall, unfit houses, and urbanism [17], [18].

## Conclusion

The current research revealed that area in Muara Enim Regency which has the highest malaria cases is Lawang Kidul Region. Furthermore, in Muara Enim Regency, there is only part of it which has a density pattern, four areas that have spatial patterns on rainfall variables, it is a breeding place for *Anopheles* mosquitoes, has the three highest districts in land use, and no altitude detected in the northern region.

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