

Behavioural Intentions to Embrace Technology: An Empirical Investigation of Orientation towards Usage of m-payment Methods

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Article History Article Received: 3 January 2019 Revised: 25 March 2019 Accepted: 28 July 2019 Publication: 06 December 2019 *Abstract:* This research paper aims to innumerate the antecedents influencing mobile payment (m-payment) adoption intention in India by taking technology acceptance model as theoretical base. Along with the construct of TAM, two additional user-centric constructs i.e. subjective norms and perceived trust were incorporated to assess m-payment adoption intention. The analysis was done using descriptive analysis, karl pearson coefficient of correlation and stepwise regression on data collected from 397 m-payment service users, by an offline survey conducted via structured questionnaires. The results display that perceived ease of use, perceived usefulness, subjective norms, and perceived trust have a significant positive effect on m-payment adoption intentions. Results of this research portray valuable theoretical as well as practical implications, for both marketers and policy makers particularly for formulation of strategies keeping in view the key user-centric determinants influencing m-payment adoption.

Keywords: Technology Acceptance Model, Subjective Norms, Perceived Trust, Karl Pearson Coefficient of Correlation, Stepwise Regression, m-Payment Adoption.

1. Introduction

The extensive usage and wide spread commercialisation of the Internet has paved the way of a dynamic e-commerce world. Internet, has absolutely transformed the servicescape by shifting the focus from passive one to one communication to dynamic e-service interactions. However, e-services provides plethora of benefits to consumers in shape of increased ease, lesser transaction expenses, wider consumer options, and enhanced service availability by diminishing

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space and temporal restrictions (Rust and Kannan, 2003). Alongside, mobile phones have become an indispensable part and parcel oftoday'slifetime. It acts as a catalyst for individuals to enjoy the wide spectrum of both economic and societal happenings just at the click of their fingers. Mobile payments, received a sudden boost due to the burst of Internetand wireless technology along with mass acceptance of mobile devices, resulting in significant interest from academicians and researchers (Cao *et al.*, 2016) all over the globe.



As, mobile devices are a virtual dossier, containing personal information. It also facilitates consumers to not only communicate more effectively, but also do allied tasks such as pay bills, shop, and even have an access to real time information. Thereby, mobile phone companies are progressively innovating and paving way for new and endless opportunities for marketers to grow and bring forth bold and informed decisions (Deloitte's Global Telecom Report, 2017) to the cater the requirements of both individual entities and organisations as a whole (Phonthanukitithaworn et al., 2015). India has been crowned as the safest haven for the world's fastest growing payment market. Since the dawn of the digital epoch in India, the millenniums have started entrusting the internet and grasped the importance of going digital. Many innovations, ideas, and inventions have been introduced to make the dream of Digital India "a truth". Perhaps the biggest and the boldest reason which led to the quick adoption of mobile payments (m-payments) was demonetization in November 2016, which drained the cash out of circulation and gave both consumers and merchants a hard time (Business Today, 2019). Due to this welcoming step initiated by the government, as a consequence, Indians gradually started embracing mobile money. As facts also substantiate that around 56% of adult internet users, often use m-payments (S & P, Global Market Intelligence, 2019). Though the Indian market for m-payment services is at nascent phase of adoption. So, it is critical for marketers to understand the pulse of consumer's attitudes towards m-payment technology. Further, there has been upsurge for adoption of latest technological advancements amongst plethora of digital avenues that are transforming both 'business-to-consumer' and the 'business-to-business' e-commerce models. However, under the existing digitalizing scenario, the present research seeks to add new insights to the prevailing facts and knowledge by weighing the latent antecedents of technology acceptance in

India. The study expands the technology acceptance model (TAM) by incorporating subjective norms (SN) and perceivedtrust (PT) into the model. The research, tries to access the effect of these constructs, in concurrence with perceivedease of use (PEOU) along with perceived usefulness (PU) on m-paymentfor behavioural intentions to adopt it.

2. Rationale of the Study

Prime motive of conducting this exploratory research was to understand the behavioural intentions for adoption of m-payments. The current study is also conducted to find the association between perceive usefulness (PU), perceived ease of use (PEOU), subjective norms (SN), perceived trust (PT) and behavioural intentions (BI) for adoption of m-payments, along with suggesting strategies to mitigate the consumers' concerns regarding adoption of mpayments.

3. Theoretical Framework

Behavioural scientists across the globe have made substantial contribution in formulating various models to analyse consumer behaviour patterns, based upon the strong foundation of sociopsychology studies, as these facilitate in examining and envisaging the reasons that persuade for acceptance of new and improved information technology (Pavlou, 2002). However, technology acceptance model (TAM), the proposed by Davis (1989), is the most ideal and extensively acknowledged model across the globe (Safeena et al., 2018). TAM is basically a derivative of Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA) advocated by Fishbein and Ajzen (1975). As mpayments compassesonly financial transactions, so the current research has primary taken the theoretical foundation from TAM, thereby incorporating the constructs like perceived trust



(PT) and subjective norms (SN) in it, to substantiate the nature of the research.

4. Review of Literature

The present study is focused to decipher the key drivers of behavioural intentions for adoption of m-payments. The various constructs used in our present research include:

4.1 Mobile Payments and Behavioural Intentions

Mobile payment (m-payments) is an integral constituent of global mobile banking services that conducts financial deals using a mobiledevice (Karjaluoto et at., 2019). m-payments helps in well-organized and secured financial transactions between two entities i.e. service provider and service receiver (Ondrus and Pigneur, 2006). They encompass the commencement, endorsement and accomplishment of financial dealings via mobile phones (Mallat, 2007). Across the globe, mpayment services are expanding at an exponential rate as marketers have comprehended its innumerable benefits (Merritt, 2011) and its usage as an indispensable strategic weapon to gauge viable edgeagainst the competitors (Ondrusand Pigneur, 2006). Whereas, behavioural intentions are guided by the combined efforts portrayed by usefulness, applicability and inclination towards a particular task. However, in case of m-payments the subjective possibility of behavioural inclination towards m-payments (Sobti, 2019). They are affected by the combined effect of individual's attitude and influence of subjective norms (Madden et al., 1992). Thus, it becomes critical to innumerate factors shaping the behavioural intentions of the customers towards m-payments.

4.2 Perceived Ease of Use

Perceived ease of use is an important acceptance element for adoption of mobile applications (Venkatesh *et al.*, 2012). Sunny and George (2018) highlighted its positive implication on behavioural intentions. However, consumers always go for evaluating the ease of use for adopting a new technology (Venkatesh and Davis. 1996). Fathima and Muthumani, (2015) in their research findings showcased that perceived ease of use is anessential element in determining ebanking acceptability. Alalwan *et al.*, (2016) highlighted that new technology will have deeper adoption if it's easy to use without any technicalities. Based upon the above discussion the following hypothesis is framed:

H1: Perceived Ease of Use significantly affects behavioural intentions towards m-payments.

4.3 Perceived Usefulness

Perceived usefulness is linked to person's innate belief that job performance can be enhancement manifolds by incorporating particular technology into work methods (Venkatesh and Davis, 1996). However, in context of m-payments, an individual perceives that using m-payments would enhance the efficiency and effectiveness in conducting epayments. It has been empirically illustrated that perceived usefulness positively influences online consumer behaviour (Gefen et al., 2003). However, use of a technology will augment the capacity to buy irrespective of placeand time hurdles (Ahuja, 2019). Phu et al., (2018) pinpointed that customers often go for evaluating the rational benefits of using the technology. However, inclination for self-service technologies will further facilitate behavioural intentions for adoption of new technology (Roy et al., 2018). Moreover, perceived ease of use also results in customers' willingness to use technology by facilitating the pre evaluation of perceived utilities (Alalwan et al, 2016). However, consumers often do cognitive appraisaltakes a rational decision whether to embrace the new technology or not (Tandon et al., 2016). Therefore, the following hypothesis is formulated:



H2: Perceived Usefulness significantly affects behavioural intentions towards m-payments.

4.4 Subjective Norms

Subjective Norms pertains to the magnitude of perceived social factorswhich has an influence while taking a particular decision (Fishbein and Ajzen, 1975). Inexperienced customers often rest their opinions based upon the point of view of people who are linked in their social network (Hussain et al., 2019). The underlying theory behind this mechanism, is that people tend to minimize any apprehension regarding technology acceptance by consulting in their social setup (Karahanna et al., 1999). Chong et al., (2012) validates a positive affiliation between of subjective norms and behavioural intention. However, on the flip side, social influences also work as a catalyst in diminishing the risk linked with adoption as it provides substantial reasons showcasing the validity and correctness of decision (Karahanna et al., 1999.) Social netwoks and group affiliation, often results in adoption of m-payment quite easily (Phonthanukitithaworn et al., 2015). Thereby, the following hypothesis is drafted:

H3: Subjective Norms significantly affects behavioural intentions towards m-payments.

4.5 Perceived Trust

Trust is basically the readiness of purchaserto willingly allowing to ethically commencing actions on the behalf of another person. Mayer (1995) proposed a dyadic model which incorporated the features of both the trustor and trustee that lead to shaping up of trust. However, consumers are sceptical about dealing with mobilepayment service providers (Siau and Shen, 2003) particularly if there is a financialloss (Shin, 2010) due to privacy concerns. In m-payments, consumers are left in a susceptible situation as they have little control over their financial deals (Xin et al., 2015). Many researchers have pinpointed that trust is a necessary precondition for effective commercial transactions as clients always go for a trust worthy, well known and established seller (Shankar and Datta, 2019; Dachyar and Banjarnahor, 2017). Aithal (2015) illustrated in his study, that the key success factor in e-business in today's era, is the building trusted financial transaction mechanism wherein e-sellers creates a conducive atmosphere for the buyers to go for e-payments (Grabosky, 2001). Research also prostitutes that trust does not only influence users' intentions but fetches loyalty aswell (Slade et al., 2014). However, trust is not only the sole predictorfore-purchase behaviour asconsumers may take a dicey e- purchase decision without trust or with a minimum level of trust (Kim et al., 2008) in the e-seller. It is also proclaimed by some researchers like Shin (2010) and Teo et al., (2015) that intention to adopt m-payment is positively affected by perceived trust in the service provider. Therefore, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H4: Perceived Trust significantly effects behavioural intentions towards m-payments.

5. Research Methodology

5.1 Measurement instrument

A comprehensive multi item questionnaire was designed based upon the research models adapted from various research studies and adapted to match the Indian context. Table 2 shows the adapted sources of various constructs along with the relevant statements. To assess the hypothesis proposed for the study, 5-point Likert scalewhich ranged from "1" being strongly disagree and "5" being strongly agree was utilized. However, to understand the demographic profile of the respondents, few open-ended questions were also included.



5.2 Methodology

Non-probability purposive sampling technique was used to collect the empirical data for this research.Quantitative approach by means of selfadministered questionnaire was adopted (Roland and Bee, 1999) for data collection. The responses were collected from August 2018 till October 2018. Pilot-testing of the questionnaire with 155 respondents who were regular users of mpayments for done. This helped in ensuring that the questionnaire was well crafted and redrafting questionnaire if required, along with the establishing the face and internal validity (Nunnally, 1978). 450 questionnaires were finally dispersed and 417 filled questionnaires were collected. After careful scrutiny and discarding partially filled responses, 397 were retained for final analysis. SPSS software was used to do the analysis.

6. Major Findings and Discussion

Table 1 shows the descriptive statistics of the respondents' which will helps in identifying the demographic profile of the participants. However, this profile will assist m-payment service providers to roll out action strategies and tactics, keeping in view the requirements of the customers, so that they wholeheartedly embrace m-payments easily and effectively.

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of theSample			
	Ν	%	
Gender			
Female	241	60.71	
Male	156	39.29	
Age (in years)			
20-24	137	34.51	
25-34	161	40.55	
35-40	99	24.94	

Educational Qualification		
Graduation	121	30.50
Post-Graduation	187	47.10
Professional Degree	89	22.41
Occupation		
Self employed	137	34.51
Salaried	169	42.57
Student	30	7.56
Homemaker	61	15.36
Annual Income (INR)		
Less than 3 lakh	52	13.10
3.1-7 lakh	103	25.94
7.1-10 lakh	151	38.04
More than 10 lakh	91	22.92
N=397		

In the next step, factor analysis using principal axis factoring along with varimax rotation to innumerate the key determinants which result in easy adoption of m-payment (Abdi, 2003) was used. Table 2 highlights that the Bartlett's test of sphericity was within permissible limits. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy for the independent variables were found to be at 0.851, which is greater than .06. Thereby, showcasing that it is appropriate to go for factor analysis. The five key factors found with eigen value >1.0. represented 77.861 percent of the variance. Table 2 represents the factor loading along with Cronbach Alpha and the adopted source for measurement items.All the constructs have alpha values more than the acceptable limit of 0.07 (Cortina, 1993). Moreover, to explore the antecedents of m-payments in Indian context. correlation along with stepwise regression analysis was usedthat linked mpayment behavioural intentions toperceived ease of use, perceived ease of use, subjective norms and perceived trust.



Table 2: Fact	or Analysis:Cronbach Alpha and Adopte	ed Sources of Mea	asurement Iter	ns
Construct	Statements	Adopted Sources	Factor Loading	Cronbach alpha(α)
Perceived Usefulness (PU)	PU1-Payments will be faster with m- Payments.	Davis, 1989;	.863	
	PU2-Transactions are easier while using m-payments.		.831	
	PU3-Using m-payment would be beneficial.	Lee, 2009	.807	925
	PU4- m-payments are a good possibility for me.		.797	-
Perceived Ease of Use (PEOU)	PEOU1 - My abilities and skills will increase with m-payments.		.855	
	PEOU2 - m-payment services are easy to understand.	Davis at al	.831	-
	PEOU3 - Steps of m- payments are easy to follow.	Davis <i>et al.</i> , 9 1989; Taylor and Todd,	.807	.912
	PEOU4-Interaction becomes easy with m-payments.	1995	.797	
Subjective Norms (SN)	SN1- Important people in my life suggest me to use m-payment.		.799	
	SN2- People, who influence my behavior, ask me to adopt m-payment.	Fishbein and Ajzen, 1975;	.749	.782
	SN3- My friends support me to use of m-payment services.	Taylor and Todd, 1995	.698	
Perceived Trust (PT)	PT1- I believe that existing legal framework for m-paymentsare sufficient to protect consumers.		.929	
	PT2 - I trust that my personal information will be used by m-payment service provider wisely and ethically.	Chau <i>et al.</i> , 2007; Pavlou,	.887	.884
	PT3 - I believe that m-payment service provider will act honestly while providing his services.	2007, 1 aviou, 2003	.882	
Behavioral Intentions (BI)	BI1 - If opportunity is provided, I will use m- payment.		.775	
	BI2 - I intent to use m-payment services in future.	Venkatesh et al., 2012	.769	.910
	BI3- I am willing to use m- payment in future.		.747	
	BI4 - I expect to use m- payment services very shortly.		.743	
Kaiser–Meyer–Olkin Measure of Sample Adequacy			.851	
Approx. Chi–Square				8077.833
Df				276
Sig.				.000



6.1 Relationship Analysis

Table 4 reveals Karl Pearson Correlation analysis, with the strongest relationship between behavioural intention to adopt m-payment services perceived ease of use (r = 0.638), followed by perceived usefulness (r = 0.605), subjective norms (r = 0.437), and lastly perceived trust (r = 0.268). Moreover, it was found that sampled data also fulfilled the assumptions of linearity and homoscedasticity.

Table 4. Karl Pearson Correlation Analysis Results.				
Hypothesis	Relationship Hypothesized	Pearson Correlation Analysis Results		
H1	Perceived Ease of Use & behavioural intentions to adopt m-payments →Positive	r =0.638	p≤ 0.05	
H2	Perceived Usefulness&behavioural intentions to adopt m- payments →Positive	r =0.605	p≤0.05	
H3	Subjective Norms & behavioural intentions to adopt m- payments →Positive	r =0.437	p≤0.05	
H4	Perceived Trust & behavioural intentions to adopt m- payments→Positive	r =0.268	p≤0.05	
Note: Samp	le Size = 397			

6.2 Regression Analysis

Stepwise regression was used to determine the top antecedents of m-payment adoption behaviours. From the Table 5, it is ascertained that four factors i.e. perceived ease of use, perceived usefulness, subjective norms and perceived trustturned out to be the significant predictors for behavioural intentions to adopt m-payments, showcasing 51.5 % of the variance on dependent variable. Durbin Watson's value stood at 1.650, proving an independence of errors in the data(Durbin and Watson, 1971). The significance value of the F statistic < 0.05, which attests that the variation in the research model is not due to chance. Values of VIF (Variance Inflation Factor) ranges from 1.045to 1.564, which points out that is much less than the threshold limit of 10. Moreover, the TV (Tolerance Value) for each independent variable is closer to threshold limit of 1, which shows that there is absence of multicollinearity in the data

Behavioural intentions to adopt m-payments = $0.983 + 0.436 \times \text{Perceived Ease of Use} + 0.380 \times \text{Perceived}$ usefulness + 0.170 × Subjective norms + 0.076 × Perceived Trust.

Independent Variable	Standardized Regression Coefficients*	T-value**	Significance Probability	TV	VIF
Constant	0.983(.201)	4.888	.000		
Perceived Ease of Use	0.436	10.116	.000	0.660	1.51:
Perceived Usefulness	0.380	8.682	.000	0.639	1.564
Subjective Norms	0.170	4.677	.000	0.931	1.074
Multiple R	0.721				
R2	0.519				
Adjusted R2	0.515				
Durbin- Watson Test	1.650				
F	105.943				

* Beta co-efficient is the standardised regression co-efficient which allows comparison of the relatives on the dependent variable of each independent variable.

** t-statistics help to determine the relative importance of each variable in the model

7. Discussion

The results of our study demonstrate the universality of TAM model and its significant contribution towards behavioural intentions for m-payment adoption. The results emphasise that perceived ease of use, perceived usefulness, subjective norms and perceived trust has substantial bearing on adoption behaviour. These findings provide a well-defined pathfor m-payment service provider to recognize consumers' priorities while framing appropriate strategies to enhance the adoption process. The results of our empirical study highlight that perceived ease of use is the foremost essential antecedent for adoption of m-payment services in



India. Before going for adoption of new technology, consumers need to critically assess pros and cons of using it. Moreover, m-payment service providers need to recognize the user-centric cues that would make m-payments indispensable for consumers. They also need to emphasize upon the usefulness of the technology and motivate consumers to adopt m- payment services. These facts are insync with the extant literature too (Hasanet al., 2019). The next crucial factor is perceived usefulness which is highlighted in the study. Marketers need to highlight the comparative advantage of using m-payment services viz-a-viz offline mode of payment. Markets along with financial institutions need to come up with consumer awareness campaigns for mitigate any apprehensions linked with m-payment usage. The finding of our study is insync with the research done by Duane et al., (2014). The third most important factor revealed by the results is the effect of social influences in m-payment adoption. As social influences acts as a cushionin reducing the perceived risk of adoption along with providing acceptability and aptness of the adoption decision (Geber et al., 2019). Positive word of mouth regarding m-payment services especially from the near and dear would motivate the masses in adopting of m-payments. Thus, marketers need to strategically manage word of mouth for creating awareness among users for adoption of m-payments (Liébana-Cabanillas et al., 2018). Last but not the least, the results depicts that trust too is a controlling factor particularly in case of mpayments adoption. Consumer's trust minimizes the customer apparent risk which results inquick acceptance (Sharma et al., 2019) of m-payments. The marketers ought to facilitate consumers by linking themselves with recognized financial portal (Shankar and Datta, 2018) renowned brand ambassadors (Hu et al., 2019) and robust structural assurances (Al-Amriet al., 2018) for security and privacy concerns (Marriottet al., 2017). Markets ought to work as a catalyst in dispersing crucial

information to third party and banks to roll out plans and strategies for quick m-payment adoption.

8. Limitations

The study highlighted certain critical factors which would aid in quick and easy adoption of mpayment. But unlike any research study, our study too has few limitations which would provide valuable insights for future research. The current research has incorporated only few critical factors overlooking other important factors like perceived risk (Wang, 2019), perceived security (Park et al., 2019), self-efficacy (Ghazali et al., 2018) etc. The respondents taken in this study are those who are using m-payment. So, in future difference in perception level of current and non-users of mpayment could also be incorporated to widen the scope of research. Moreover, longitudinal study would also help in better exploration of key factors influencing m-payment adoption intentions.

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