THE EFFECT OF PERSUASIVE STRATEGIES ON ONLINE FASHION SHOPPERS' MOTIVATION TYPOLOGY

UZOR, CHRISTABEL NGOZI (20PCH02331)

MARCH, 2023

THE EFFECT OF PERSUASIVE STRATEGIES ON ONLINE FASHION SHOPPERS' MOTIVATION TYPOLOGY

BY

UZOR, CHRISTABEL NGOZI (20PCH02331) B.Sc. Computer Science, Wellspring University, Benin City

DISSERTATION SUBMITTED A TO THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF SCIENCE** (M.SC) DEGREE IN MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND **TECHNOLOGY**, COVENANT UNIVERSITY, OTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

MARCH, 2023

ACCEPTANCE

This is to attest that this dissertation is accepted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Master of Science in Management Information System in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria.

Miss Adefunke F. Oyinloye (Secretary, School of Postgraduate Studies)

Signature and Date

Prof. Akan B. Williams (Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies)

Signature and Date

DECLARATION

I, UZOR, CHRISTABEL NGOZI (20PCH02331), declare that this research was carried out by me under the supervision of Prof. Olufunke O. Oladipupo of the Department of Computer and Information Sciences, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria. I attest that the dissertation has not been presented either wholly or partially for the award of any degree elsewhere. All sources of data and scholarly information used in this dissertation are duly acknowledged.

UZOR, CHRISTABEL NGOZI

Signature and Date

CERTIFICATION

We certify that this dissertation titled "THE EFFECT OF PERSUASIVE STRATEGIES ON ONLINE FASHION SHOPPERS' MOTIVATION TYPOLOGY" is an original research work carried out by UZOR, CHRISTABEL NGOZI (20PCH02331) in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Ogin State, Nigeria under the supervision of Prof Olufunke O. Oladipupo. We have examined and found this work acceptable as part of the requirements for the award of Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Management Information System.

Prof. Olufunke O. Oladipupo (Supervisor)

Signature and Date

Prof. Olufunke O. Oladipupo (Head of Department)

Signature and Date

Prof. Adetunji P. Adewole (External Examiner)

Signature and Date

Prof. Akan B. Williams (Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies)

Signature and Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to the Almighty God, for His infinite wisdom, grace, and love over my life.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, I want to acknowledge God Almighty for his mercy and strength that enabled me to carry out this research study efficiently and effectively. I want to specially thank my parents for all their love and support.

Secondly, I want to specially thank my supervisor Prof. Olufunke Oladipupo for her effort in making sure this research study was a success and also her guidance and patience and the understanding she impacted unto me, thank you so much ma, May God Almighty continue to bless and protect you.

Thirdly, I want to thank and give my regards to the Management and Chancellor of Covenant University for the calm and adventurous environment that has enabled me to pursue my dreams and passion in academics.

I also want to appreciate my postgraduate colleagues and friends: Omonedo Emmanuel, Owoka Emmanuel, Excellent Ikeakanam, Seth Samuel, Deborah Etukudo, Gabriel Oyeyemi, Precious Umoren, Chidera Eze, Onwufor Chizoba, Lisa Aimenoho, Joan Agbaluwa and many others for their support and encouragement in times when things were tough, I celebrate you all.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONT	TENTS	I	PAGES
	ER PAC		i
	E PAG		ii
	ARAT	CE PAGE ION	iii iv
	IFICA		v
DEDI	CATIO	DN	vi
		EDGEMENTS	vii
		CONTENTS GURES	viii xi
	OF TA		xiii
ABST	RACT		xiv
CHAF	PTER (ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Backg	round to the Study	1
1.2	Statem	nent of the Problem	4
1.3	Aim a	nd Objectives of the Study	5
1.4	Signifi	icance of the Study	6
CHAF	PTER 1	TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	7
2.1	Pream	ıble	7
2.2	Conce	eptual Review	7
	2.2.1	Fashion E-commerce	7
	2.2.2	Customer Shopping Motivation	8
	2.2.3	Measures of Online Fashion Shopping Motivation	9
	2.2.4	Persuasion in E-commerce	11
	2.2.5	Cialdini's Persuasive Strategies	11
	2.2.6	Structural Equation Modelling	17
2.3	Relate	d Works	19
	2.3.1	Summary of Gaps Identified	25
CHAF	PTER 1	THREE: METHODOLOGY	27
3.1	Pream	nble	27
3.2	Metho	odological Framework	27
3.3	Investigation of E-commerce Platforms for the Presence of Cialdini Strategies 28		
	3.3.1	Recruitment of Experts for Website Investigation/ Data Collection	28

	3.3.2 Analysis of Data Collected	28
3.4	Determination of Online Fashion Shoppers' Motivation Typologies	29
	3.4.1 Design and Distribution of Questionnaires for Data Collection	31
3.5	Exploratory Factor Analysis	32
	3.5.1 Assessment of the Suitability of the Data	32
3.6	Factor Extraction	33
3.7	Determination of the Number of Clusters	
3.8	Clustering Analysis	
3.9	Model Building and Hypothesis Formulation	
3.10	Design and Distribution of Questionnaires 3	
3.11	Model Analysis	37
3.12	Data Validation and Reliability	37
3.13	Design and Development of a Fashion E-commerce Website for	
	Evaluation	38
3.14	Design and Distribution of Survey for User Experience Testing	39
CHA	PTER FOUR: RESULUTS AND DISCUSSION	40
4.1	Preamble	40
4.2	Results of Website Investigation	40
4.3	Demographic Distribution of Respondents for Motivation Typologies	41
4.4	Results of Exploratory Factor Analysis	43
4.5	Results of Determination of Number of Clusters	48
4.6	Results of Cluster Analysis	50
4.7	Demographic Distribution of Respondents for Structural Equation	
	Modelling	52
4.8	Model Analysis for Convenience Shoppers	55
	4.8.1 Paths Coefficient and t-values for Convenience Shoppers	57
4.9	Model Analysis for Economic Shoppers	59
	4.9.1 Paths Coefficient and t-values for Economic Shoppers	61
4.10	Model Analysis for Fashion Enthusiasts	63
	4.10.1 Paths Coefficient and t-values for Fashion Enthusiasts	65
4.11	Development of a Fashion E-commerce Website for Evaluation of Results	68
	4.11.1 Implementation of Reciprocity Strategy	69

	4.11.2 Implementation of Commitment Strategy	70
	4.11.3 Implementation of Consensus Strategy	72
	4.11.4 Implementation of Scarcity Strategy	74
4.12	Results of User Experience Testing	75
4.13	Discussion of Findings	77
	4.13.1 Convenience Shoppers	77
	4.13.2 Economic Shoppers	78
	4.13.3 Fashion Enthusiasts	78
	4.13.4 Other Strategies to Implement for the Various Shopper Types	79
4.14	Recommendations for the Application of Findings	79
CHAF	PTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	83
5.1	Summary	83
5.2	Conclusion	83
5.3	Contribution to Knowledge	84
5.4	Recommendation	84
APPE APPE APPE	RENCES NDIX A: NDIX B: NDIX C: NDIX D:	80 94 96 98 102

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURES	TITLE OF FIGURES	PAGES
2.1	Example of Implementing Authority Strategy	12
2.2	Example of Implementing Commitment Strategy on jumia.com	13
2.3	Example of Implementing Commitment Strategy on payporte.com	13
2.4	Example of Implementing Consensus Strategy 1 (source: jumia.com	m) 14
2.5	Example of Implementing Consensus Strategy 2 (source: jumia.com	m) 14
2.6	Example of Implementing Reciprocity Strategy (konga.com)	15
2.7	Example of Implementing Reciprocity Strategy (jumia.com)	16
2.8	Example of Implementing Scarcity Strategy (source: Jumia)	17
2.9	Example Showing Number of Limited Items Left (jumia.com)	17
3.1	The Research Methodological Workflow Diagram	30
3.2	Cialdini Strategies and Shopping Motivation Model	36
4.1	Ratio of Male to Female Respondents	41
4.2	Age Distribution of Respondents	41
4.3	Education Distribution of Respondents	42
4.4	Occupation Distribution of Respondents	42
4.5	Purchases Performed Online by Respondents	43
4.6	Distribution of E-commerce Platform Patronised by Respondents	43
4.7	Eigenvalues and Total Variance Explained	45
4.8	Determination of the Optimal Number of Cluster Using the Elbow	
	Method	49
4.9	Determination of the Optimal Number of Cluster Using the	
	Silhouette Coefficient	50
4.10	Clusters and Shopping Motivation	52
4.11	Ratio of Male to Female Respondents	52
4.12	Age Distribution of Respondents	53
4.13	Education Distribution of Respondents	53
4.14	Occupation Distribution of Respondents	54
4.15	Number of Times Respondents Purchased Online	54
4.16	E-commerce Platforms Patronised by Respondents	55
4.17	Structural Equation Model Showing the Relationship Between	
	Cialdini Strategies and Convenience Shopping Motivation	59

4.18	Structural Equation Model Showing the Relationship Between	
	Cialdini Strategies and Economic Shopping Motivation	59
4.19	Structural Equation Model Showing the Relationship Between	
	Cialdini Strategies and Fashion Enthusiasts' Shopping Motivation	67
4.20	Main Page of the Website	69
4.21	Screenshot of Email Gifting Registered Users Coupon Codes	69
4.22	Screenshot of Live Chat Plugin	70
4.23	Screenshot of Wishing List	70
4.24	Screenshot of Recently Viewed Items	71
4.25	Screenshot of Similar Products being Displayed	71
4.26	Screenshot of Customers Reviews and Ratings	72
4.27	Screenshot Showing People Viewing Same Product	72
4.28	Screenshot of Number Website Subscribers	73
4.29	Screenshot of Popular Products on the Website	73
4.30	Screenshot Showing Number of Products Left/Sold	74
4.31	Screenshot Showing Items That Are Out of Stock	74
4.32	Screenshot Showing Product Countdown for Deadline	75
4.33	Result of User Experience Testing for Convenience Shoppers	76
4.34	Result of User Experience Testing for Economic Shoppers	76
4.35	Result of User Experience testing for Fashion Enthusiasts	77

LIST OF TABLES

TABLES	TITLE OF TABLES	PAGES
1.1	Summary of Objectives	5
3.1	Summary of Research Instruments	38
4.1	Results of Website Investigation for Cialdini's Strategies	
	Implemented	40
4.2	Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	44
4.3	Initial Exploratory Factor Analysis	45
4.4	Final Factors Obtained from Factor Analysis	46
4.5	Exploratory Factor Analysis of Shopping Motivations	48
4.6	Cluster Centroids from K-Means Clustering Analysis	51
4.7	Factor Loadings, Composite Reliability and Cronbach Alpha of	
	Cialdini Strategies and Convenience Shopping Motivation	56
4.8	Assessment of the Structural Model for Hypotheses Testing	
	Between Cialdini Strategies and Convenience Shopping Motivation	on 57
4.9	Factor Loadings, Composite Reliability and Cronbach Alpha of	
	Cialdini Strategies and Economic Shopping Motivation	60
4.10	Assessment of the Structural Model for Hypotheses Testing	
	Between Cialdini Strategies and Economic Shopping Motivation	61
4.11	Factor Loadings, Composite Reliability and Cronbach Alpha of	
	Cialdini Strategies and Fashion Enthusiasts Motivation	64
4.12	Assessment of the Structural Model for Hypotheses Testing	
	Between Cialdini Strategies and Fashion Enthusiasts' Shopping	
	Motivation	65
4.13	Path coefficient of the Structural Models	68
4.14	Percentage of Items for the UX Testing Questionnaire	75

ABSTRACT

Over time, there has been a need to influence customers' purchasing behaviours on ecommerce platforms. However, e-commerce stores typically have little to no information regarding online shopping motivations that may impact their buying behaviour. As a result, there is a research gap in the field of e-commerce. Researchers suggest that to enhance the effectiveness of persuasive strategies, it is recommended to customize them for groups of individuals who share similar characteristics. This research aims to investigate the impact of Cialdini's six persuasive strategies: scarcity, authority, consensus, liking, reciprocity, and commitment on customers' shopping motivations. Specifically, the study seeks to determine how these strategies can be tailored to individual online fashion shoppers at Covenant University, considering their online shopping motivations. The study conducted a cluster analysis of survey data from 405 online fashion shoppers, resulting in three distinct shopper types: convenience shoppers, economic shoppers, and fashion enthusiasts. The study involved 391 online shoppers, and a research model was created using Partial Least Squares-Structural Equation Modelling (PLS-SEM) to investigate the relationship between the Cialdini persuasion strategies and shopper types. The results of the structural model indicate which persuasive strategy can influence e-commerce shopper typologies based on their shopping motivation. Scarcity, reciprocity, and commitment were found to strongly influence convenience shoppers, economic shoppers, and fashion enthusiasts, respectively. Liking and consensus were found to be strategies that can influence all shopper types. This study provides insight to e-commerce designers on how to customize and personalize their product designs to influence and satisfy various shoppers based on their shopping motivation, which can lead to increased sales and profit on their platforms.

Keywords: Cialdini Strategies; Online Shopping Motivation; Structural Equation Modelling