CONSUMER BEHAVIORAL INTENTIONS TOWARDS MOBILE PAYMENT SERVICES: AN EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS IN PAKISTAN

Abstract

Purpose – This research aims to investigate the behavior of consumers towards the implementation of mobile payment services, factors that can affect their attitudes towards this behavior, and how these attitudes transform into intentions.

Methodology – A survey instrument was developed using items developed in similar studies. In total, 335 usable responses were used to do a series of statistical tests aimed at confirming the reliability and validity of the instrument. Hypotheses were tested using structural equation modeling.

Findings and Implications – Our results showed that perceived compatibility, perceived usefulness, and subjective norm are significant predictors of consumer attitude towards the use of mobile payment services, whereas the impact of perceived security and perceived ease on attitude is insignificant. Finally, attitude towards mobile payment services have a significant impact on intention to use mobile payment services. This research contributes to the development of the technology acceptance model (TAM) in general, as well as in the context of mobile payment services. It tests TAM’s explanatory ability and suggests new variables as model extensions.

NAMJERE PONAŠANJA POTROŠAČA PREMA USLUGAMA MOBILNOGA PLAĆANJA: EMPIRIJSKO ISTRAŽIVANJE U PAKISTANU

Sažetak

Svrha – Ovo istraživanje ima za cilj istražiti ponašanje potrošača prema implementaciji usluga mobilnoga plaćanja, čimbenike koji mogu utjecati na stav prema tom ponašanju te kako se taj stav pretvara u namjeru ponašanja.

Metodološki pristup – Mjerni je instrument oblikovan korištenjem čestica razvijenih za potrebe sličnih istraživanja. Ukupno je valjano ispunjeno 335 upitnika, a odgovori ispitanika podvrgnuti su nizu statističkih testova kako bi se potvrdila pouzdanost i valjanost mjernog instrumenta. Hipoteze su testirane primjenom modeliranja strukturnih jednadžbi.

Rezultati i implikacije – Rezultati pokazuju da su perciptirana kompatibilnost, perciptirana korisnost i subjektivne norme značajne prethodnice stava prema korištenju usluga mobilnoga plaćanja. Značiti, perciptirana sigurnost i perciptirana jednostavnost korištenja nemaju značajnij utjecaj na stav o uslugama mobilnog plaćanja. Konačno, stav prema uslugama mobilnoga plaćanja ima značajnij utjecaj na namjeru korištenja ovih usluga. Istraživanje doprinosi razvoju Technology acceptance model (TAM) teorije općenito i u kontekstu usluga mobilnog plaćanja. Ispituje se istraživačka sposobnost ove teorije te predlažu nove varijable kao proširenja modela.

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Limitations – The fact that the sample includes respondents from only one country (Pakistan) could be considered the main limitation of this study. A cross-cultural study would likely lead to important knowledge since cultural context has proved to be important in previous research on intentions. Also, the sample used here comprises mostly young and educated people.

Originality – The present research study empirically tests the significance of newly suggested TAM extensions (subjective norm and perceived security) and provides a complete and tested measurement instrument as a basis for future research.

Keywords – intention to use mobile payment services, perceived ease of use, perceived compatibility, perceived security, perceived usefulness, subjective norm

Ograničenja – Uzorak ispitanika iz jedne zemlje može se smatrati glavnim ograničenjem istraživanja. Kroskulturno istraživanje dovelo bi do važnih spoznaja jer se kulturni kontekst pokazao važnim u prethodnim istraživanjima namjera. Isto tako, korišteni uzorak uključuje pretežno mlade i obrazovane ispitanike.

Doprinos – Istraživanje empirijski ispituje značaj predloženih novih proširenja TAM modela (subjektivnu normu i percipiranu sigurnost) te pruža cjelovit i testiran mjerni instrument kao osnovu za buduća istraživanja.

Ključne riječi – namjera korištenja usluga mobilnog plaćanja, percipirana jednostavnost korištenja, percipirana kompatibilnost, percipirana sigurnost, percipirana korisnost, subjektivna norma
1. INTRODUCTION

Today, information technology advancement has transformed the world into a global village. In recent years, the use of mobile phones and mobile technology has increased manifold. This overwhelming increase in the adoption of mobile phones is due to the numerous useful applications and services available on mobile phones which bring convenience to the mobile phone users (Arif, Aslam & Ali, 2016). The convenience that mobile phones offer is unmatchable by any other technology; hence, they have become an integral part of daily life (Hwang, Shiau & Jan, 2007).

Among many mobile services, mobile payment service has always been a topic of interest for business practitioners, financial intermediaries, and researchers. Rampton (2016) notes that 37% of mobile phone users used a mobile phone payment system in 2015, anticipating that more than 4.8 billion mobile phone users would use a mobile phone payment system by the end of 2016. Schierz, Schilke and Wirtz (2010) claim that mobile phone technology advancement is trending towards mobile payment service. Bakker (2016) has mentioned that a delay in the implementation of the necessary infrastructure and consumer disinterest are preventing mobile payment system from achieving mainstream adoption. Moreover, he estimated that in-store mobile payment volume would reach USD 75 billion in the United States by the end of 2016, and USD 503 billion by the end of 2020. Mobile payment systems have also played a prominent role in the developing world (Smith, Anderson & Rainie, 2016). In Pakistan, many companies offer mobile payment services (e.g. Easy paisa by Telenor, Upaisa by Ufone, Mobicash by Mobilink, and Timepey by Zong), and almost all banks offer branchless banking facilities. According to Arif and others (2016), since the availability of 3G and 4G services in Pakistan, the demand for smartphones has risen tremendously. Moreover, Pakistan is witnessing an Internet boom with over 30 million broadband and 27 million mobile data users, and 3G/4G services have pushed mobile payment transactions up by five percent to PKR 26 billion in 2015-16 (Ibrahim, 2016).

All of the above data show that mobile payment services are becoming important for consumers as well as for the economy and also indicate the existence of some difficulty in introducing these technologies at a faster rate. Therefore, there is a need to examine which factors bring about positive attitudes of consumers towards mobile payment services. Previous studies have provided the limited understanding of the key drivers towards increased use of mobile payment services (Schierz et al., 2010). Hence, the intent of this study is to identify the dynamics contributing to a positive attitude and intention to use a mobile payment service. Attitudes of consumers towards mobile payment services are assessed through perceived security, perceived compatibility, perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and subjective norms. This study empirically tests the significance of newly suggested TAM extensions (subjective norm and perceived security) and provides a complete and tested measurement instrument as a basis for future research. In addition, it may be helpful for managers in advancing and improving their current capability to gain greater acceptance by customers.

This paper is organized into six sections. The next section discusses the literature related to consumer behavior towards mobile payment services and the hypotheses of the study. Methodology, including the sampling, data collection techniques, and measurement methods, is discussed in Section 3. Research findings are then presented in the results section, which is followed by implications, and recommendations.

2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

In the literature on information technology and information science, many models have explained the usage of innovation. Among them, the technology acceptance model (TAM) suggested by Davis in 1989 has gained the greatest
The theory of reasoned action (TRA) and the theory of planned behavior (TPB) have been widely used as a research framework to assess the individual’s adoption behavior in information technology (Ajzen, 1991; Ajzen & Fishbein, 1980). TRA is designed to predict human behavior by suggesting that the behavior of a person is influenced by behavioral intentions and subjective norm. Intentions capture motivational factors and, as such, reflect the amount of effort people are willing to exert for the intended behavior. TRA was one of the earliest models focused on predicting intentions. TRA comprises two components: attitude towards the performance of a particular act, which is a function of perceived consequences, and subjective norm, which is a function of the significance of the members of reference groups and motivation to act according to their opinions.

An extension of TRA is the theory of planned behavior (TPB), proposed by Ajzen (1991). TPB added the concept of perceived behavioral control to TRA as a third predictor of intention. By suggesting that behavior is under the sole control of intentions, TRA restricts itself to volitional behaviors, such that behaviors requiring skills, resources, or opportunities not freely available are either considered to be outside the domain of TRA’s application or would have poor predictability under it (Fishbein, 1993). TPB, on the other hand, can predict non-volitional behaviors by using perceptions of control over performance (perceived behavioral control) as an additional predictor. Aside from psychological studies, TPB has been applied and tested in many fields, including medicine, education, sociology, business, entrepreneurship, and sports. In the light of marketing research, this theory has been supported by empirical studies predominantly related to consumer decision-making (Pavlou & Fygenson, 2006; Hansen, Jensen & Solgaard, 2004; Taylor & Todd, 1995). These studies showed a high degree of accuracy in predicting intentions to perform a specific behavior (Beck & Ajzen, 1991).
ties to engage in a given behavior. The second one, external control, relates to the extent to which individuals perceive that external factors such as time availability and the cooperation of colleagues may hinder or facilitate their behavior (Ajzen, 2002).

Yang, Lu, Gupta, Cao and Zhang (2012) posit that TRA and TPB explain how subjective norms and attitude determine individuals’ intentions to adopt any innovation or technology. As an extension of TRA and TPB, Davis (1989) proposed the technology acceptance model (TAM). In other words, TAM is grounded in TRA and TPB. TAM replaces the variables of attitude and behavioral control with technology acceptance methods (Bagozzi, 2007). TAM examines the mediating role of perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use and the relationships between external variables and the probability of information system adoption. The importance of TAM is based on the reliability of the measurement instrument (Pavlou, 2003), and it helps to explain usage intentions (Venkatesh, 1999).

This theory is applied extensively in different studies, such as those on the usage of wireless LAN (Yoon & Kim, 2007), the acceptance of Internet-based finance (Lee, 2009), and attitudes towards self-service explanations (Dabholkar & Bagozzi, 2002). TAM can also be used to foresee consumers’ attitudes in various settings, as it is useful in explaining consumers’ intentions. Hence, we used TAM and extended it with the addition of some other models that are significant to mobile payment facilities acceptance on the basis of prior research.

2.1. Hypothesis development

Following the principle of Venkatesh and Davis (2000), we assumed our hypothesis development element(s) with the help of TAM and by adding some extra theories to the original one; that is, we considered intention to use as the main variable. TAM theory explains that the intention of the consumer towards the adoption of a new technology is basically determined by an individual’s approach towards the equipment (Davis, 1989; Davis, Bagozzi & Warshaw, 1989), which acts as an intermediary for the impact on other variables. Attitude is defined as the amount of positivity or negativity of an individual towards the technology (Schierz et al., 2010). Allport (1935) defined attitude as a mental and neural state of readiness developed through experience, which exerts a dynamic or directive influence on an individual’s response. Attitude is a belief that an individual has gained as a result of adopting a specific behavior (Ajzen & Fishbein, 1980). According to TRA, the more positive attitude towards the behavior, the greater the intention to adopt a specific behavior. This theory also states that the behavior of an individual is motivated by attitude. TPB theory also explains that intention is a function of attitude (Shih & Fang, 2004). In previous studies, a positive relationship has been found between attitude and intention to use (Yang & Yoo, 2004; Schierz et al., 2010). The same structure is adopted in this study; thus, we hypothesize that:

(H1) Attitude towards using mobile payment services has a significant and positive relationship with the intention to use mobile payment services.

Perceived usefulness is the probability of enhancing job performance through the use of a particular system (Davis, 1989). Robey (1979) confirmed that there is a high correlation between perceived usefulness and the actual use of any system. Perceived usefulness in the adoption of mobile services explains how much consumers feel these services to be integrated in their daily life activities (Kleijnen, Wetzels & De Ruyter, 2004). According to the diffusion theory of Rogers (1995), a consumer’s willingness to accept an innovation exists only if it provides unique benefits. This could be the main reason for the slow diffusion of some mobile applications; that is, they fail in communicating the unique advantages to their potential users. The TAM theory posits that perceived usefulness has a direct effect on attitude towards usage (Suh & Han, 2003). Prior studies have also confirmed that there is a significant relationship between perceived usefulness and adoption of any tech-
Perceived usefulness of mobile payment services has a significant and positive relationship with attitude towards using mobile payment services.

Perceived ease of use of mobile payment services has a significant and positive relationship with attitude towards using mobile payment services.

Perceived security of mobile payment services has a positive relationship with attitude towards using mobile payment services.

Perceived compatibility of mobile payment services has a positive relationship with attitude towards using mobile payment services.

Subjective norm is defined as perceived social pressure to perform or not to perform a certain behavior (Ajzen, 1991). It is determined by perceived societal pressure with respect to enthusiasm to fulfill various people’s expectations. This pressure can be exerted by friends, family, or a person who belongs to one’s social group.
(Püschel, Mazzon & Hernandez, 2010). In acceptance of technological innovations, social context should not be neglected (Schierz et al., 2010). Societal acceptance of technology usage will bring positivity while making decisions (Webster & Trevino, 1995). Bass’s (1969) research of the process from invention to acceptance is significantly influenced by the stresses of the collective organism. Subjective norm has been discussed by Nysveen and others (2005) in a mobile Internet application context and was found to have positive significant impact on attitude. Similarly, Pederson (2005) stated that subjective norm is an important factor in building up attitudes and the intention to use mobile commerce. According to the above-mentioned literature, it can be stated that: (H6) Subjective norm has a positive relationship with attitude towards using mobile payment services.

The hypothesized model for the current study is presented in Figure 1.

### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1. Sampling procedure

This study investigated consumer attitude towards the implementation of mobile payment services. For this reason, the users of the mobile applications in Karachi, Pakistan were selected as respondents for this study using convenience based sampling. Online Google forms and hard copies of the questionnaire were used.

![FIGURE 1: Research model](image-url)
to collect data from the respondents. In total, 415 responses were gathered. During the data screening process for outliers (observations that are distinctly different from other observations), 80 cases were deleted, resulting in 335 usable responses for the analysis. Table 1 shows the demographic profile of the respondents, with 45.5% males and 55.4% females. Some 40.2% of the respondents were graduates, followed by post-graduates with 34.2%, while 38.4% of the respondents lie in the age bracket of 18 to 25.

**TABLE 1: Demographic profile of respondents**

| Gender     | Frequency | %  |
|------------|-----------|----|
| Male       | 153       | 45.5|
| Female     | 182       | 54.5|
| Age        |           |    |
| 18-25      | 129       | 38.4|
| 26-35      | 78        | 23.2|
| 36-45      | 83        | 24.7|
| 45 or above| 45        | 13.4|
| Education level | |    |
| Postgraduate| 115     | 34.2|
| Graduate   | 135       | 40.2|
| Undergraduate | 51      | 15.2|
| Below undergraduate | 34   | 10.1|

3.2. Variables and measurement

A highly structured adapted questionnaire was used to collect the responses, with a Likert scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 stands for “strongly disagree”, 2 for “disagree”, 3 represents neutral, 4 stands for “agree”, and 5 for “strongly agree”. The questionnaire was adapted from Schierz and others (2010), and some items were added based on the following previous research.

The **Intention-to-Use Scale** has four items, which were defined based on the research of Davis, (1989), Gefen and others (2003), Venkatesh and Davis (2000), and Schierz and others (2010).

The **Perceived Usefulness Scale** consists of four items which were designed based on the research of Bhattacharjee (2001), Devaraj, Fan and Kohli (2002), Van Der Heijden (2003), and Schierz and others (2010).

**Perceived Ease of Use** was measured with the four-item scale designed based on the items used by Bhattacharjee (2001), Davis and others (1989), Taylor and Todd (1995), Venkatesh and Davis (2000), and Schierz and others (2010).

**Perceived Security** was measured with a four-item scale based on the items used by Luarn and Lin (2005), Parasuraman, Zeithaml and Malhotra (2005), and Schierz and others (2010).

The **Perceived Compatibility Scale** has three items designed based on the research of Moore and Benbasat (1991), Plouffe, Hulland and Vandenberg (2001), and Schierz and others (2010).

**Subjective Norm** was measured via three items, based on the work of Taylor and Todd (1995), Venkatesh and Davis (2000), and Schierz and others (2010).

EFA was used for the formation of the constructs by using SPSS 22.0. According to Raza and Hanif (2013), factor analysis contracts a large set of data into a small set and brings into line the correlated items. CFA was then performed to obtain the results of model fitness, and SEM was applied using Amos 22.0 to examine the significance of the latent variable.

4. RESEARCH RESULTS

Table 2 depicts the values of exploratory factor analysis (EFA), which was performed in order to get the constructs aligned. For each construct, coefficient alpha, composite reliability (CR), and the average variance extracted (AVE) were analyzed. The value of coefficient alpha should be above 0.7 (Nunnally, 1978), composite reliability
TABLE 2: EFA and reliability

| Items:                      | Adopted source                                                                 | Factor loading |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| **ATTITUDE: (Cronbach’s = 0.862)** |                                                                                |                |
| Using mobile payment services is a good idea. | Oh et al., (2003), van der Heijden (2003), Yang and Yoo (2004), Schierz et al., (2010) | 0.814          |
| Using mobile payment services is beneficical. |                                                                                | 0.844          |
| Using mobile payment services is interesting. |                                                                                | 0.632          |
| **INTENTION: (Cronbach’s = 0.919)** |                                                                                |                |
| Given the opportunity, I will use mobile payment services. | Davis (1989), Gefen et al., (2003), Venkatesh and Davis (2000), Schierz et al., (2010) | 0.686          |
| I am likely to use mobile payment services in the near future. |                                                                                | 0.804          |
| I am willing to use mobile payment services in the near future. |                                                                                | 0.768          |
| I intend to use mobile payment services if the opportunity arises. |                                                                                | 0.754          |
| **PERCEIVED USEFULNESS: (Cronbach’s = 0.789)** |                                                                                |                |
| Mobile payment services are a useful mode of payment. | Bhattachjee (2001), Devaraj et al. (2002), van der Heijden (2003), Schierz et al., (2010) | 0.516          |
| Using mobile payment services makes the handling of payments easier. |                                                                                | 0.658          |
| Mobile payment services allow for faster usage of mobile applications. |                                                                                | 0.713          |
| By using mobile payment services, my choices as a consumer are improved. |                                                                                | 0.595          |
| **PERCEIVED EASE OF USE: (Cronbach’s = 0.913)** |                                                                                |                |
| It is easy to become skillful at using mobile payment services. | Bhattachjee (2001), Davis et al., (1989), Taylor and Todd (1995), Venkatesh and Davis (2000), Schierz et al., (2010) | 0.78           |
| The interaction with mobile payment services is clear and understandable. |                                                                                | 0.809          |
| It is easy to perform the steps required to use mobile payment services. |                                                                                | 0.844          |
| It is easy to interact with mobile payment services. |                                                                                | 0.797          |
| **PERCEIVED SECURITY: (Cronbach’s = 0.920)** |                                                                                |                |
| The risk of an unauthorized third party overseeing the payment is low. | Luarn and Lin (2005), Parasuraman et al. (2005), Schierz et al., (2010) | 0.863          |
| The risk of abuse of usage (e.g. names of business partners, payment amount) is low. |                                                                                | 0.918          |
| The risk of abuse of billing information (e.g. credit card number, bank account data) is low. |                                                                                | 0.886          |
| I would find mobile payment services secure when conducting my payment transactions. |                                                                                | 0.797          |
| **PERCEIVED COMPATIBILITY: (Cronbach’s = 0.881)** |                                                                                |                |
| Using mobile payment services fits well with my lifestyle. | Moore and Benbasat (1991), Plouffe et al. (2001), Schierz et al., (2010) | 0.723          |
| Using mobile payment services fits well with the way I like to purchase products and services. |                                                                                | 0.772          |
| I would appreciate using mobile payment services instead of alternatives modes of payment (e.g. credit card and cash) |                                                                                | 0.644          |
| **SUBJECTIVE NORM: (Cronbach’s = 0.928)** |                                                                                |                |
| People who are important to me would recommend using mobile payment services. | Taylor and Todd (1995), Venkatesh and Davis (2000), Schierz et al., (2010) | 0.847          |
| People who are important to me would find using mobile payment services to be beneficical. |                                                                                | 0.848          |
| People who are important to me would consider using mobile payment services to be a good idea. |                                                                                | 0.894          |
should be more than 0.7, and average variance extracted should be above 0.5 (Bagozzi & Yi, 1988). The results of AVE indicate that there is no problem in the discriminant validity of factors, as the results of AVE measure of each factor is larger than the squared correlation of that factor’s measure with all the measures of other factors.

Table 3 shows the values of CFA.

TABLE 3: Confirmatory factor analysis

| Constructs          | Items | Standardized loadings | CR  | AVE  |
|---------------------|-------|-----------------------|-----|------|
| Perceived Compatibility | PC1   | 0.89                  | 0.84| 0.724|
|                     | PC2   | 0.81                  |     |      |
| Perceived Security  | PS1   | 0.64                  | 0.858| 0.675|
|                     | PS4   | 0.98                  |     |      |
| Perceived Usefulness| PU2   | 0.73                  | 0.71| 0.533|
|                     | PU1   | 0.73                  |     |      |
| Perceived Ease of Use | PE2  | 0.96                  | 0.937|      |
|                     | PE3   | 0.81                  |     | 0.833|
|                     | PE4   | 0.96                  |     |      |
| Subjective Norm     | SN1   | 0.8                   | 0.793| 0.793|
|                     | SN2   | 1                     |     |      |
|                     | SN3   | 0.86                  |     |      |
| Attitude            | AT1   | 0.61                  | 0.70| 0.438|
|                     | AT2   | 0.65                  |     |      |
|                     | AT4   | 0.72                  |     |      |
| Intention to Use    | I1    | 0.92                  | 0.887| 0.725|
|                     | I2    | 0.81                  |     |      |
|                     | I3    | 0.82                  |     |      |

Model fitness was confirmed by three types of fitness measures: absolute, incremental, and parsimony fitness measures. The values of the fitness measures satisfied the threshold values and confirmed their adequacy for further estimation. According to Aslam, Batool and Haq (2016), the value of $\chi^2/df$ should be between 1 and 3, and the result obtained was 2.102. Other values necessary to report are as follows: $CFI = 0.922 (>0.90)$, $NFI = 0.905 (>0.90)$, $IFI = 0.923 (>0.90)$, $PCFI = 0.675 (>0.50)$, and $PNFI = 0.662 (>0.50)$. The values of these thresholds were confirmed based on Bagozzi and Yi (1988). The RMSEA value is: 0.062. RMSEA should be less than 0.08 (Browne & Cudeck, 1993); preferably less than 0.05 (Stieger, 1990).

The results indicate that perceived usefulness has a remarkable (positive) impact on attitude towards mobile payment services ($\beta = 0.60, p \leq 0.01$), thus supporting the second hypothesis (H2). Perceived compatibility ($\beta = 0.19, p \leq 0.05$) as well as subjective norm ($\beta = 0.17, p \leq 0.01$) also have a positive and significant relation with consumer attitude towards mobile payment services, which supports H5 and H6. However, perceived security and perceived ease of use have insignificant impact ($\beta = 0.08, p \geq 0.1$ and $\beta = 0.04, p \geq 0.1$, respectively); therefore, H4 and H3 are not supported. The results also indicate that attitude towards the use of mobile payment services has a significant and positive impact on the intention to use mobile payment services ($\beta = 0.91, p \leq 0.1$), thus supporting the first hypothesis (H1). R² between the independent constructs and attitude towards mobile payment services was found to be 0.83, while that between attitude and intention to adopt mobile payment services was 0.84. The overall results are provided in Table 4.

TABLE 4: Path analysis

| Path    | Estimates | S.E.  | C.R.  | P      | Results     |
|---------|-----------|-------|-------|--------|-------------|
| PC→AT   | 0.19      | 0.042 | 2.2   | 0.028  | Supported   |
| PS→AT   | 0.08      | 0.033 | 1.604 | 0.109  | Not supported|
| PU→AT   | 0.60      | 0.09  | 5.20  | ***    | Supported   |
| PE→AT   | 0.04      | 0.031 | 0.621 | 0.535  | Not supported|
| SN→AT   | 0.17      | 0.027 | 3.516 | ***    | Supported   |
| AT→I    | 0.91      | 0.121 | 12.19 | ***    | Supported   |
Table 5 presents the correlation analysis data.

|     | AT  | I   | PU  | PE  | PS  | PC  | SN  |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| AT  | 1   |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| I   | .632** | 1   |     |     |     |     |     |
| PU  | .583** | .608** | 1   |     |     |     |     |
| PE  | .468** | .541** | .512** | 1   |     |     |     |
| PS  | .291** | .440** | .287** | .430** | 1   |     |     |
| PC  | .526** | .590** | .516** | .530** | .443** | 1   |     |
| SN  | .449** | .442** | .370** | .348** | .300** | .503** | 1   |
| Mean| 4.0773 | 3.8994 | 4.186 | 3.9171 | 3.4819 | 3.7717 | 3.7665 |
| S.D.| 0.64986 | 0.75651 | 0.5857 | 0.7389 | 0.9028 | 0.89345 | 0.85589 |

5. DISCUSSION AND IMPLICATIONS

This study identified the key factors of the acceptance of mobile payment services by using a research model based on TAM. Perceived ease of use, perceived usefulness, subjective norm, perceived security, and perceived compatibility were used to examine each consumer’s attitude towards mobile payment services and their intention to adopt mobile payment services. In addition, the goal of this research was to understand the consumers’ preferences and to identify their requirements for the use of mobile payment services. The measurement instrument used for the study was an adapted questionnaire, based on a 5-point Likert scale. The results indicate that perceived usefulness, perceived compatibility, and subjective norm are the most influential variables in determining consumer attitude towards mobile payment services, while ease of use and perceived security were found to be insignificant. Hence, we can say that perceived ease of use does not affect consumer attitude towards mobile payment services. This result is congruent with the results of research on mobile banking done by Shanmugam and others (2014), who also found perceived ease of use to have no impact on consumer attitudes towards mobile banking.

Marketers should, therefore, communicate the usefulness of the mobile payment technology to consumers as a way of helping improve the consumer attitude towards mobile payment services. As far as the ease of use is concerned, it seems that consumers presume it to be unimportant, so it is no longer a significant variable in the decision-making process for adopting the use of this technology. However, the providers of these services should by all means strive to keep them user friendly and simple to use. In a marketing sense, mobile payment technology can no longer be a source of competitive advantage; instead, it is a prerequisite of competitive parity. The same can probably be assumed for the perceived security variable, as well. However, it most likely depends on the level of confidence consumers have in legal institutions to protect them in case of malpractice. Therefore, it would be useful in the future research to further investigate the dimensions of perceived security and the presumed differences in different countries.

The determined influence of perceived compatibility and perceived usefulness points to the conclusion that it would be beneficial for the marketers of mobile payment services to educate consumers about how this technology can complement their busy lifestyle. There is a prevailing overall trend of constant perceived
lack of time, and Internet-based technologies, especially mobile payment services, are the right answer to the challenges of modern life for a growing number of consumers. Also, the influence of subjective norm points to the benefits of informing consumers about the growing number of mobile payment service users while also identifying opinion leaders in order to benefit from their influence on consumers.

6. LIMITATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

This study is restricted to a sample in Karachi, Pakistan. In order to get more holistic results, the study could be done nationwide; it could be fruitful to assess the attitudes of consumers towards mobile payment services in other countries, as well. A cross-cultural study would also be beneficial for getting more generalizable results of consumer behavior towards mobile payment services. Another point worth mentioning is that the sample used represents mostly young and educated people, and they are typical users of technology. That kind of sample could have important implications for the study results. The reason is that the study examined consumer conduct with respect to the implementation of mobile payment services, and users who are able to use the mobile applications were selected as respondents. Future research could also strive to investigate the attitudes of mobile applications non-users to discover the specific influences on their behavior.

As mentioned earlier, in future research, it would be beneficial to further investigate the dimensions of perceived security because it probably depends on the level of trust consumers have in legal institutions. Furthermore, the subjective norm variable could be upgraded by capturing not only what the members of the reference group think (social norms) but also what they actually do (descriptive norms). Some previous research (Ham et al., 2015; Rivis & Sheeran, 2003) confirms the usefulness of incorporating both social and descriptive norms.

And finally, other factors such as individual mobility or the degree to which an individual is involved with mobile technology can also be added to assess the adoption of mobile payment services.

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