The Impact of Chatbots on the Relationship between Integrated Marketing Communication and Online Purchasing Behavior in The Frontier Market

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Abstract

Artificial Intelligence (AI), applied in many fields, is the core of the fourth technological revolution. In business, AI is used for customer relationship management as applied in the autoresponder systems, i.e., chatbot. Chatbots were an essential tool in the marketing relationship as many companies applied this function to their website; hence, this study analyzed the influence of chatbots on the enterprise's integrated marketing communication (IMC) activities, resulting in impulse purchase behavior and repurchase intention behavior. The mixed research method was used, particularly the in-depth interview and the survey with 886 online consumers, who shop from the online websites with chatbots system in Vietnam as Tiki, Lazada, Sendo, excetera. The research results showed that the perceived usefulness and ease of use of chatbots have positively affected the attitude of online consumers to the IMC activities of businesses. Simultaneously, IMC leads to impulse buying as well as the repurchase intention behavior of customers. The study proposed some managerial implications for an online business to enhance the chatbot functions to consumer behaviors in the website.

Keywords: Integrated Marketing Communication, Impulse Purchase Behavior, Repurchase Intention Behavior, Chatbots, Vietnam.

Introduction

Chatbots are heavily used globally in education (Kane, 2016; Smutny & Schreiberova, 2020); healthcare service, or medical purposes (Chukhleb, 2020; Viswanath Prakash & Das, 2020); banking (Li et al., 2020). However, the research into the application of chatbots in integrated marketing communication in the electronic commerce industry, the central customer concept (Schultz, 2016), has not been paid attention to by the scientific community. Although expected as a new communication channel to make a difference between online businesses, chatbots are only used as a temporary tool to replace customer care staff when they can not answer customers directly (Van den Broeck et al., 2019). Another critical point is that IMC analysis research is still concentrated in developed countries or managers' points, although the customer-centric view or the emerging and frontier markets are potential for behavior science or economic growth; therefore, it is crucial to consider that IMC is significant in frontier markets (Schultz et al., 2016; Wagner Mainardes et al., 2019). Another consideration is that the enterprise IMC impact studies focus on two dimensions, i.e., customer-oriented and technology-oriented, which are the generic concepts of a technology (Butkouskaya et al., 2020; Peltier et al., 2003). Based on the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), the perceived usefulness can be considered customeroriented, and the perceived ease of use is related to the technology-oriented system (Davis, 1989). Finally, the business cares about the customers' behavior, which is influenced by its communications activities. Advertising and public relation aim to

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create consumers' awareness and perception, while direct marketing, sale promotion, and personal selling contribute to consumer behavior (Kotler et al., 2019). IMC has a positive effect on customer purchase behavior (Finne & Grönroos, 2009). Moreover, after-sale services are essential to enhance customer retention (Khoa, 2020a, 2020b). However, purchase intention has been focused more than impulse purchase behavior, repurchase intention behavior (Khoa, Nguyen, & Nguyen, 2020).

According to a DMA's email report in 2018, the percentage of customers opening marketing emails is 18.1%, and Click-through rates are 1.9%. It shows that the rate of businesses reaching customers via email is meager, not creating the effectiveness of business communication activity. However, with the rise of social media and instant messaging applications, email marketing has reduced the dominance of online media (Khoa, Ha, et al., 2022). 55% of customers prefer to use messaging apps to communicate with businesses (Vova, 2019). More than 100.000 developers are currently building chatbots for the Facebook Messenger platform. It gives credibility to the theory that the best form of advertising in the future will come from a mixed service of humans and chatbots (Rouhiainen, 2018). 47% of consumers are open to buying items through a chatbot, and 37% purchase items from Facebook (Vova, 2019). In essence, chatbots are computer programs that carry conversations through text or audio. There are two basic types of chatbot technology, including the operation of the first type follows a simple, predefined rule, while the second type runs with AI. One of the main benefits of using chatbots is that they can speed up communications by providing a 24/7 feedback system (Dawar & Bendle, 2018). People then only receive conversation when questions or problems cannot be answered or solved by the chatbot. A key factor paving the way for chatbot use is the increasingly crowded mobile app ecosystem. While the mobile apps market may be saturated, most smartphone owners only use a few mobile apps daily (Khoa, 2020d).

This issue creates a perfect environment for chatbots to catch up. Chatbots are still a relatively new communication tool, which is the conversational interface, making it an attractive option for those looking to try something else (Zarouali et al., 2018). The rapid development of chatbots comes with four main advantages (Winkler & Soellner, 2018) including, (1) Cost savings because they can replace assistants, i.e., chatbots can help reduce customer care costs by 30 % (Trips, 2017); (2) Increase user satisfaction by responding quickly and respond anytime, anywhere (Dawar & Bendle, 2018); (3) chatbots can track users from location to transaction history to display what users are looking for; (4) chatbots are also an excellent business analytics tool because user-tochat conversations can be automatically analyzed to understand customer requirements better, and thus improve products and services. The use of chatbots as a communication tool will enhance consumer shopping behavior, including impulse purchase behavior and repurchase behavior. With the development of electronic commerce, information technology in the emerging marketing as Southeast Asian countries, South American countries, this research aims to discover the relationship between the chatbots application attributions (i.e., the perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use) and the customer-IMC based on the TAM; and the relationship between the customer-IMC and purchase behavior (i.e., the impulse purchase behavior and the repeat purchase behavior). The research contributed to the theory about applying chatbots, which is new communication technology in digital marketing theory, and the managerial implication for the online business in the competitive market environment.

Frontier economy or pre-emerging economy is less developed capital markets in

developing countries. The frontier market is a country, which is more developed than the least developed but still too small, too risky for capital, or too low liquidity to be ranked as an emerging market (Eckstein et al., 1974). Many investors pursue marginal capital markets because they have the potential for high returns. Because many frontier markets do not have a developed stock market, investments are typically private or direct investments in infrastructure and startups (Dana, 1994). While significant gains can be made in investing in the frontier economy, investors must also accept higher risks than investments in the US, Europe, or any other country belonging to the G7 group. Investors' risks in frontier markets are political instability, inferior liquidity, inadequate substandard financial and significant regulations. statements, monetary fluctuations. Also, many markets rely too much on highly volatile commodities (Schneider, 1995). However, technology adoption and innovation occur easily and quickly in industrial economies but are more complicated and challenging in poorer countries. Many of the research in business sociology pointed out that inadequate access to information is the main reason leading to low innovation (Kerr, 2008; Nguyen & Khoa, 2021). Therefore, technology in enterprises' IMC activities will produce different research results between the developed, emerging, and frontier economies.

Integrated marketing is a tool of business to carry out the communication function of promotion, an essential component in the 4P of Marketing (Kotler et al., 2019). The traditional communication model, which business-centre IMC, emphasizes the critical elements in an effective communication system. Businesses must communicate information to the target audience and specify what response they want from the public. Companies must encode their messages in a way that takes into account the normal process of decoding the message to the public. The sender must select the appropriate media and design feedback channels to know the recipient's response to that message. However, customer-center IMC activities are business communication for customers (Finne & Grönroos, 2009). After receiving the message, customers will select and combine the messages collected from many communication channels: websites, email marketing, or chatbots. Chatbots will create many impressions for customers about the communication strategy. With AI development, chatbots help users become more accurate and tailored to customers' needs, thereby creating value for users when shopping online (Van den Broeck et al., 2019).

The S-O-R model was proposed by Mehrabian and Russell (1974) and is used in many behavioral science fields. The S-O-R model consists of three components; the Stimulus (S) will affect Organism (O), finally generate Response (R) from customers. Based on the SOR model, this study builds and tests a research model on the relationship between ease of use and usefulness of chatbots, the value of IMC experience, and customer purchase behavior of online customer shopping in an emerging market.

Purchase behavior is the actual action that consumers reveal during exchanging products; including, investigating, purchasing, using, evaluating, and spending on goods and services to satisfy their needs (Kotler et al., 2019). The concept of initial purchase often exists in B2B market studies (Kotler et al., 2019). However, in a fiercely competitive market today, the concept of initial purchase is gradually getting the attention of businesses in not only B2B but B2C. Creating a new customer in a saturated market is something that companies need to consider. Customers often have to intend on products for traditional purchases and then go to the store to shop. Customers will be easily stimulated by the company's IMC activities when they accidentally visit an e-commerce site, leading to impulsive shopping behavior. Therefore, creating a new

customer list for e-commerce sites is not too difficult. In some studies, impulse purchase behavior has been known to increase consumers' lives simply because they want to experience the feeling of shopping, relieving the mind when done the act of buying something that they like (Wood, 2005). The impulse purchase behavior is associated with the decision to buy quickly, more emotional than rational (Rook, 1987; Rook & Hoch, 1985), and does not include buying a product to fulfill a predetermined purpose (Beatty & Ferrell, 1998).

However, the critical issue that determines a business's existence is whether customers continue shopping on e-commerce sites or not? The customer's repurchase behavior expresses the answer to that problem after the first purchase due to improvisation. Repurchase behavior is an expression of customer loyalty (Khoa, 2020a). Customers are willing to invest in loyalty when they provide superior value to competitors' services (Reichheld & Schefter, 2000). The intention to repurchase refers to the possibility of using a service provider again in the future (Fornell, 1992). Boonlertvanich (2011) defined repurchasing intent as the ability to use a brand again in the future.

Methods

Perceived usefulness of technology was that consumers find that using technology in purchases saves them time, effort, and they can make purchases, thereby increasing acceptance and intention to use it in the future. Perceived ease of use, which is an essential factor in the TAM, is the level at which a person believes that using a particular system will require no effort (Davis, 1989; Khoa, Nguyen, Tran, et al., 2020). Integrated communication emphasizes the relationship between the provided content and customers' information needs (Bruhn & Schnebelen, 2017; Khoa, Huynh, et al., 2020). The user-oriented dimension of chatbots will better satisfy the information needs of customers; chatbots will answer the question "what is beneficial for purchasing?" and "how to buy?" (Narver & Slater, 1990). Thereby, it will build a two-way relationship between customers and businesses. Therefore, chatbots will be able to influence customers' experience of business communication positively. It is impossible to ignore the ease of use in technology adoption (Khoa et al., 2021). In the context of the technological revolution, technology's rapid change creates enormous pressure on users, such as customers (Khoa, 2020c; Schultz, 2016). A typical activity of mobile commerce services is that consumers do not interact directly with service providers. Therefore, ease of learning and using is crucial for chatbots regardless of whether consumers are technically proficient (Dai & Palvi, 2009). Therefore, the use of easy chatbots will positively affect the perception of the value of communication activities (Ndubisi et al., 2008) and the usefulness of chatbots themselves (Davis, 1989).

Communication activities are an essential activity of all businesses; however, it is a complex activity that requires the active participation of both businesses and customers. When there is a need for information, customers often use many IMC tools as advertising, personal sales, or email marketing from different sources, i.e., companies, competitors, communes (Finne & Grönroos, 2009). Therefore, if the information from the communication activities is incorrect, it will lead to false perception values and affect IMC activities (Lee & Park, 2007). Chatbots are used as a direct response and interactive marketing tool to enable businesses and customers to provide two-way information online. Consumers can receive instant advice such as selling and purchasing impulse purchasing (Villarreal, 2010). Currently, businesses focus primarily on web-based marketing communications to influence impulse purchasing (Al Khattab et al., 2015). Besides, repurchase behavior is essential in customer behavior research (Khoa, 2020b; Schultz, 2016). Customer repurchase behavior depends on various factors, including evaluating business communication (Lee & Park, 2007). Communication content inconsistent with consumers' views can negatively affect consumer trust and long-term relationships (Bruhn & Schnebelen, 2017; Moon et al., 2017). Therefore, IMC activity will affect the impulse purchase behavior and the intention of repeating when buying online. Moreover, impulse buying had an impact on repurchase intention (Lee, 2011). Hence, it can be inferred that consumer experience through impulse in the purchasing process directly affects customer satisfaction leading to post-purchase behavior such as intent to buy back and word of mouth (Hamza, 2013). The study proposed hypotheses:

H1: The perceived usefulness of chatbots positively affects customer-centered IMC in e-commerce

H2: The perceived ease of use of chatbots positively affects customer-centered IMC in e-commerce

H3: The perceived ease of use of chatbots positively affects the perceived usefulness in e-commerce

H4: Customer-centered IMC positively affects impulse purchase behavior in ecommerce

H5: Customer-centered IMC positively affects repurchase intention in e-commerce

H6: The impulse purchase behavior positively affects repurchase intention in ecommerce

This study focused on online companies, which lead the online market in Vietnam as Tiki, Lazada, and also Sendo. The quantitative method was applied to explore this study's new ideas related to the research problem (Khoa, Hung, et al., 2022). The results of in-depth interviews showed that the scales of perceived ease of use (PEOU) and perceived useful (PU) was initially adopted from the study of Khoa, Nguyen, Tran, et al. (2020) to fit with the use of chatbots in e-commerce, including four items of PEOU construct and four items of PU construct. Customer-centered IMC (CIMC) consists of 5 items, and repurchase intention behavior (RIB) consists of 3 items, adapted from the research results of Butkouskaya et al. (2020). Impulsive buying behavior (IPB) was measured with three items referenced and corrected from Liu et al. (2013). In total, there are five constructs in this research model, including 19 items designed in the form of a 5-point Likert scale with 1: Strongly disagree, 2: Disagree, 3: Neutral, 4: Agree, 5: Strongly agree.

The participants are consumers living and working in Vietnam, a country with a frontier economy according to the statistics of Morgan Stanley Capital International (2020), and using chatbots during the online purchase process through electronic devices (i.e., smartphones, tablets, and laptops). Analytical data was collected using non-probability sampling by a purposive sampling method, suitable for differences in consumer behavior (Zikmund et al., 2013). The study surveyed 900 consumers after 886 remaining screening questions were appropriate for further analysis. The information about the participants presents in Table 1. In gender, number of male is 493, accounting for 55.64%. The age of respondent focus from 26 to 35, accounting for 52.37%. Because, peoplr often shopping online in this age group. Furthemore, 321 respodents are office worker, 40.86% of respondents is housewife. Thus, the collected data ensure the proper implementation of the research model. Survey data is processed by SmartPLS

software 3.2.7 through the measurement models assessment; i.e., the reliability of the scale, convergent validity, discriminant validity; and the structural model assessment; i.e., collinearity, path coefficient, coefficient of determination, effect size, predictive relevance (Joseph F. Hair et al., 2017).

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	Ν	%
Male	493	55.64
Female	393	44.36
18 - 25	212	23.93
26 - 35	464	52.37
36 - 45	210	23.70
Student	203	22.91
Office Worker	321	36.23
Housewife	362	40.86

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Table 1.	Sample	Description

Note: The study surveyed 900 consumers after 886 remaining screening questions were appropriate for further analysis

Results

Chatbot has become an essential means for the business to communicate to online customers who shop from the website. The research results showed that the perceived usefulness and ease of use of chatbots have positively affected the attitude of online consumers to the IMC activities of businesses. Simultaneously, IMC leads to impulse buying as well as the repurchase intention behavior of customers

In the first part, the research will assess the reliability of the scale via Cronbach's Alpha (CA); the convergent validity via the Composite Reliability (CR), the Average Variance Extracted (AVE), and outer loading; and the discriminant validity via the Heterotrait-Monotrait Ratio (HTMT). The assessment thresholds are in Table 2.

Assessment	Criterion	Threshold				
The reliability	Cronbach's alpha (CA)	≥ 0.7				
	Outer loading	≥ 0.708				
Convergent validity	Composite Reliability (CR)	≥ 0.7				
	Average Variance Extracted (AVE)	≥ 0.5				
Discriminant validity	Heterotrait-Monotrait Ratio (HTMT)	\leq 0.85				
Nota	Adapted from Hair In at al (2016)					

Table 2. The thresholds for the Reliability and Validity Assessment

Note: Adapted from Hair Jr et al. (2016)

The construct reliability and validity assessment are present in Table 3. The minimum Cronbach's Alpha coefficient is 0.735, which is more than 0.7; therefore, all constructs in the research are reliable. Furthermore, the lowest Composite Reliability of all constructs in this research is 0.85, more than 0.7. The minimum of Average Variance Extracted is 0.653, which is higher than 0.5. Moreover, the minimum outer loading index of each construct in the research is more than 0.708. Hence, all constructs in the research got convergent validity.

	Ta	able 3. T	The outer	loading,	CA, CR,	AVE of the sc	ales	
	CIMC	IPB	PE	PEOU	RIB	CA	CR	AVE
CIMC1	0.869							
CIMC2	0.750							
CIMC3	0.827					0.867	0.904	0.655
CIMC4	0.838							
CIMC5	0.756							
IPB1		0.815						
IPB2		0.790				0.735	0.850	0.653
IPB3		0.819						
PU1			0.840					
PU2			0.852			0.870	0.911	0.72
PU3			0.856			0.870	0.911	0.72
PU4			0.847					
PEOU1				0.825				
PEOU2				0.788		0.868	0.911	0.718
PEOU3				0.916		0.000	0.911	0.710
PEOU4				0.856				
RIB1					0.866			
RIB2					0.862	0.827	0.897	0.743
RIB3	Natar	The Co		1: . 1. :1:4-	0.858	1:4 4		

Table 3. The outer loading, CA, CR, AVE of the scales	Гable 3. Т	The outer	loading.	CA.	CR. A	VE	of the	scales
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Note: The Construct Reliability and Validity Assessment

The discriminant validity between the two constructs ensures the difference, and there is no correlation between measuring factors. This study used HTMT coefficients to confirm the discriminant validity (Joseph F. Hair et al., 2017). According to Table 4, we have the value of the HTMT among the constructs is less than 0.85, showing the guarantee of discriminant validity.

Table 4. HTMT value								
	CIMC	IPB	PU	PEOU				
IPB	0.661							
PU	0.428	0.438						
PEOU	0.640	0.534	0.389					
RIB	0.467	0.480	0.357	0.352				
		Note: Author's	analysis					

Note: Author's analysis

In the second part, the Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) was verified by five steps process, which has the bootstrap procedure with 5000 random subsamples, including five steps below in Table 5 (Joseph F. Hair et al., 2017) as (1) Collinearity is assessed via the VIF value, which is less than 3; (2) The path coefficient is assessed p-value, which is less than 0.05; (3) Coefficient of Determination (R² value) is 0.75, 0.50, or 0.25, respectively, described as the substantial, moderate, or weak; (4) Effect Size (f^2 value) is 0.02, 0.15, and 0.35, respectively, has small, medium, and significant effects; finally, Predictive Relevance (Q² value) is more significant than 0. Table 5 showed the result of VIF, R^2 , f^2 , and Q^2 . The maximum VIF in table 6 is 1.39, and all the VIF values are smaller than 3; therefore, the constructs in the research do not

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have collinearity with the others. Moreover, the CIMC, IPB, PU, and RIB have been explained by 34.7%, 28.1%, 21.5%, and 29.6% by the change of independent variables. Although the R^2 is less than 50%, they can accept that due to the R^2 value, it can be allowed with 20% in behavioral science (Joseph F Hair et al., 2017). The CIMC has a large effect on the IPB (f^2 value is 0.39); PEOU has a large effect on the CIMC (f^2 value is 0.369). Furthermore, PEOU has a medium effect size on the PU, of which f² value is 0.169; CIMC, IPB has a small effect size on the RIB with f² value, respectively, are 0.067, 0.048; PU has the small effect size on the CIMC with f^2 value is 0.059. Table 5 pointed out all Q² value are more than 0 ($Q^{2}_{CIMC} = 0.222$, $Q^{2}_{IPB} = 0.180$; $Q^{2}_{PU} = 0.081$, $Q^2_{RIB} = 0.143$). $-14 - C VIE D^2 C^2$

			,	l'able 5. 'I	he res	ult of V	IF, R^2, f^2	, and (2		
				VIF		\mathbb{R}^2		t	f^2		O^2
	CIMC	IPB	PU	PEOU	RIB	К	CIMC	IPB	PU	RIB	Q
CIMC		1			1.39	0.347		0.39		0.067	0.222
IPB					1.39	0.281				0.048	0.180
PU	1.129					0.215	0.059				0.081
PEOU	1.129		1				0.369		0.169		
RIB						0.296					0.143

Note: Author's analysis

The path coefficients in Table 6 archived significantly with the 99% confidence level because the p-value was less than 0.001. Hence, all the hypotheses were accepted. Table 6 The Result of PLS-SEM

	Beta	Std. Deviation	t statistics	p-values	Η	Result
PU -> CIMC	0.208	0.041	5.100	0.000	H1	Accepted
PEOU -> CIMC	0.485	0.043	11.327	0.000	H2	Accepted
PEOU -> PU	0.338	0.047	7.267	0.000	H3	Accepted
CIMC -> IPB	0.530	0.050	10.624	0.000	H4	Accepted
CIMC -> RIB	0.273	0.045	6.011	0.000	H5	Accepted
IPB -> RIB	0.232	0.043	5.426	0.000	H6	Accepted

Note: Author's analysis

Discussion

The study was conducted in a frontier economy like Vietnam, different from economic and social conditions than developed or emerging economies. Chatbots is a new technology that helps businesses integrate marketing communications activities when customers use mobile devices to access business websites. The research has applied previous studies to build and reaffirm the relationships between structures such as perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, customer-centered IMC, impulse purchase behavior, and repurchase intention.

First of all, the first three hypotheses are accepted with a 99% confidence level. The perceived usefulness of chatbots positively affects customer-centered IMC in ecommerce (Beta = 0.208, p-value = 0.000); the perceived ease of use of chatbots positively affects customer-centered IMC in e-commerce (Beta = 0.485, p-value = 0.000); and the perceived ease of use of chatbots positively affects the perceived usefulness in e-commerce (Beta = 0.338, p-value = 0.000). In particular, customers in the frontier economy are more interested in ease of use than useful. What stands out in this research is that the customer-centric IMC concept is considered in terms of customer attitudes. Therefore, the research results are in line with Davis's technology acceptance theory (Davis, 1989) and the empirical studies of other researchers related to technology (Lee, 2009; Luan & Teo, 2009) and chatbots (Rietz et al., 2019; Winkler & Söllner, 2018). If compared with the research of Butkouskaya et al. (2020), this result also creates a certain consensus if considering perceived usefulness as customer-oriented decision-making and perceived ease of use is technology-oriented decision-making. Therefore, the application of chatbots needs to be invested by businesses in both technical aspects and content. In the frontier market, mainly in developing countries, the technical level of customers is not high; therefore, the use of an automated communication system can cause difficulties for customers. Therefore, businesses need to use reputable chatbots systems, which should avoid technical errors that make customers confused in use. Besides, there should be a user guide located on the website to teach customers how to comunicate through chatbots. Usefulness also affect the perception of business communication. Hence, an online business needs to research questions frequently to complement the database of chatbots. In addition, it is possible to integrate the feature of introducing promotion programs during the display of chatbots to create more information for customer.

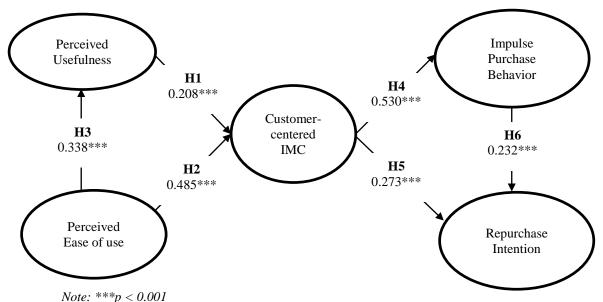


Figure 1. Hypotheses testing (source: Author's analysis)

Secondly, this study also pointed the customer-centered IMC activities, which related the chatbots, will positively impact on the impulse purchase behavior (Beta = 0.530, p-value = 0.000); repurchase intention (Beta = 0.273, p-value = 0.000); and the impulse purchase behavior has the positive effect on repurchase intention (Beta = 0.232, p-value = 0.000). In particular, improvising purchases is strongly influenced by IMC activities through chatbots of the business on the website. This study shows that AI technology, i.e., chatbots are a factor that influences consumer emotions and leads to impulse purchasing behavior, and may also lead to customers' repurchase intention behavior on websites (Lim & Kim, 2020; Liu et al., 2013). Besides, the study reinforces a positive view of buy-back after the first impulse purchase (Lee, 2011). Thereby, the business should promote the effective use of chatbots in IMC activities on the website through several solutions such as enhancing the building of information in chatbots that are up-to-date and suitable to customers' needs. Because customers access business information through multiple communication channels, another important thing is that there is information consistency between chatbots and corporate policies.

Conclusion

This study has contributed to both academic research and managerial practice. Theoretically, the study has built a research model based on the technology adoption model in the context of related integrated marketing communication leading to impulse buying and repurchase intention of online consumers. The study also contributes to and reaffirms behavioral theories in the online environment at the frontier economy. Besides, the research results have brought some positive results that can apply in practice. First, research has shown chatbots to be a communication tool that can lead to shoppers' behaviors, including impulse purchase and repurchase intention. Thereby, businesses need to pay attention to this tool when building websites or applications for online selling. Also, the study pointed that for the frontier markets, the ease of use of chatbots is essential for customers to create awareness about the enterprise's integrated communication marketing activities. Although many efforts have been made in research, its limitations are inevitable. Firstly, the research was conducted in only one frontier market, Vietnam, so the research results were not highly representative. Also, customer post-purchase behavior in this study is focused solely on repurchase intention behavior. Finally, this study relies only on the TAM to focus on two main aspects of chatbots, including perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness, thus limiting other aspects of chatbots affecting perceptions of IMC operations of the business. The above limitations may create opportunities for further research in the same area of integrated communication or e-commerce. Extensive research is essential to verify and collate research results; therefore, future research is possible in other frontier economies in Europe, Africa, or the Middle East of Morgan Stanley Capital International (2020). Besides, the expansion of post-purchase behaviors such as word of mouth, satisfaction, commitment is also needed to be considered to understand better customer behavior under the influence of IMC activities related to chatbots. The motivation for chatbot using such as productivity, entertainment, social, and curiosity (Brandtzaeg & Følstad, 2017) may be more specific prefixes for analysis in subsequent studies.

Conflict of Interest

I certify no conflict of interest with any financial, personal, or other relationships with other people or organizations related to the material discussed in the manuscript.

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