VOICE COMMERCE

CONSUMERS' ACCEPTANCE OF A VOICE COMMERCE APPLICATION IN FMCG IN GERMANY, U.S. AND U.K.

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Definition Voice Commerce

Voice commerce is a special sub-set of e-commerce using terminal devices equipped with conversational user interfaces (CUI) and intelligent software programs that users operate through regular voice commands (Tuzovic/Paluch 2018).

Relevance of Voice Commerce



Source: Statista (2018) | Microsoft (2019) | Statista (2019) | *Representing US, UK, CA, AU and IN | Euromonitor (2019) | Lebensmittel Zeitung (2019)

brand loyalty

Smart Speakers & Voice Assistants

The two voice assistants covering commerce the most are Alexa (skills) and Google Assistant (actions)



Source: Microsoft, Voice Report 2019

Research Object: a German FMCG Manufacturer

A mockup of an application was created: a hair advisor based on visual content



The mockup was created as a female and male version to make the identification for both genders possible

Research questions

Is there an intent to use the voice application (acceptance)? Which factors influence the intention to use the voice application and to what extent? Are there differences between the studied countries Germany, U.S. and U.K.?

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Model of the Acceptance of Voice Commerce in FMCG

Adapted model based on the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology 2 (UTAUT 2)



Perceived Risk:

The degree to which a user thinks that using the application will have negative implications for him or her.

- PE: The extent to which the consumer expects a performance advantage (benefit) from using the application.
- EE: The amount of effort expected when using the application.
- SI: The extent to which a person perceives that important people in the community believe that the person should use the application.
- HM: The extent of fun and satisfaction that a consumer feels while using the application.

Hypotheses

H1: The influence of FPR on BI is negative.
H1a: The influence of FPR on BI is weaker for younger people.
H1b: The influence of FPR on BI is stronger for women.
H2: The influence of PPR on BI is negative.
H2a: The influence of PPR on BI is weaker for younger people.
H2b: The influence of PPR on BI is stronger for women.

H3: The influence of PE on BI is positive.

H3a: The influence of PE on BI is stronger for younger people.H3b: The influence of PE on BI is weaker for women than men.

H4: The influence of EE on BI is positive.

H4a: The influence of EE on BI is stronger for younger people. H4b: The influence of EE on BI is stronger for women.

H5: The influence of SI on BI is positive.

H5a: The influence of SI on BI is stronger for older people.H5b: The influence of SI on BI is stronger for women.

H6: The influence of HM on BI is positive.

H6a: The influence of HM on BI is stronger for younger people.

H6b: The influence of HM on BI is weaker for women.

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Research Design

Online survey of 824 online shoppers from Germany, UK and US



Operationalization of the Constructs

- The behavioral intention was measured based on a 5-level Likert Scale (1 = highly unlikely / 5 = highly likely).
- The other constructs were measured using multi-item scales (1 = strongly disagree / 5 = strongly agree).

- Quality check and testing of univariate exploratory factor analysis (EFA) was done in advance.
- Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was performed on the total database; total result: very good
- For all constructs the quality criteria ITC ≥ 0.4; Cronbach's alpha ≥ 0.7; factor loadings ≥ 0.7; indicator reliability ≥ 0.5; factor reliability ≥ 0.6, AVE ≥ 0.5 and the Fornell-Larcker criterion were met.

Reseach findings

Most of the respondents don't use Voice Assistance and Voice Skills yet but 1/3 shows a regular usage.



ln %.

Behavioral Intention (BI)

The highest share of people who state intentions to use the application are in the U.S. (70%) followed by U.K. (51%)



In %Question BI_1: I intend to use the application in the future.

Germany: Results of Multiple Regression Analysis

PPR, PE, SI and HM have significant effects on BI in Germany



*** significant at p < .01 level, ** significant at p < .05 level; significant at p < .10 level; n.s. not significant; n=281

U.K.: Results of Multiple Regression Analysis



PE, SI and HM have significant effects on BI in the United Kingdom



*** significant at p < .01 level, ** significant at p < .05 level; significant at p < .10 level; n.s. not significant; n=286

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U.S.: Results of Multiple Regression Analysis



PE, EE and SI have significant effects on BI in in the United States



*** significant at p < .01 level, ** significant at p < .05 level; significant at p < .10 level; n.s. not significant; n=257

Triggers for the intention to use

Performance Expectancy and Social Influence are the factors that have the strongest influence on Behavioral Intention.

PE is especially important for men; SI especially important for women



Barriers for the intention to use

Only in Germany the Privacy Risk has a negative influence, for all other countries the risk predictors are not significant.



Conclusions & Limitations

- Opportunities and risks of voice commerce for consumers are weighed differently depending on the country.
- Performance expectancy and social influence have a significant influence in all three countries.
- **Performance expectancy** has the **strongest effect** in all countries.
- The influence of performance expectancy is higher for men.
- Social influence is higher for women.
- Only **privacy risk** has a **weak but highly significant** negative influence on the intent to use in **Germany**.
- It is advisable to **consider the specific circumstances of each country** when developing and implementing voice commerce applications.
- The results of the study are relevant for FMCG manufacturers in the area of beauty care products and their voice commerce application.

Thank you!