A Determination of the Factors Contributing to Internet Banking

Yongjean John *

Abstract Seventeen domestic banks, Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd. and Korea Post provide their subscribers with banking services such as statement service, funds transfer, and application for loans through Internet banking sites, which have become ever-increasing banking services for individual and corporation and government subscribers. First, this study aimed at presenting a process of determining factors to measure customers' perception while using Internet banking for doing transactions. Secondly, this paper attempted to unveil a list of major factors that Internet banking customers perceive while accessing the web sites to do their business with their banks. This study also suggested the features of those factors, which would help improve our understanding of Web usage for Internet banking. This result of the paper will lead further understanding of factors associated with Internet uses in other economic activities, which enable practitioners such as web designers and security specialists to provide Internet banking subscribers with better services in a safe and convenient web pages.

Key Words : Internet banking, factors, ease-of-use, usefulness, enjoyment, trust, security

1. Introduction

As of the end of March 2012, all domestic banks and the Post Office, as well as overseas banks provide Internet banking services such as checking balances, Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) services, checking foreign exchange, credit card loans, and paying public utility bills.

According to The Bank of Korea[1], the number of subscribers to Internet banking services was 80.146 million at the end of March 2012. Individual subscribers increased by 15.88 per cent from 65.346 million in March 2011 to 75.724 million in March 2012. Corporation or organization subscribers increased by 19.6 per cent from 3.697 million in March 2011 to 4.422 million in March 2012.

The total volume of Internet banking transactions on daily average basis increased to 45,232 thousand
transactions, 19.5 per cent up in March 2012 from 37.965 thousand transactions in March 2011.

In the past, there have been many research efforts contributing to evaluating factors associated with the Internet usage, e-commerce, electronic shopping, and internet use for economic activities.

These research efforts have been made to find out demographic and motivation variables associated with Internet usage[4,8,37,38], to determine factors in e-commerce[6,7,16,26], to validate constructs of web usage in education and learning[18,19,34], and to examine determinants of influencing internet usage in business domains[2,4,33,36] and online banking[22,32].

This study aimed at presenting a process of determining factors to measure bank subscribers’ perception while using Internet banking for doing transactions. Secondly, this paper attempted to unveil a list of major factors that Internet banking customers perceive while accessing the web sites to do their business with their banks. This study also suggested the features of those factors, which would help improve our understanding of Web usage for Internet banking. This result of the paper will lead further understanding of factors associated with Internet uses in other economic activities, thereby enabling researchers and practitioners such as web designers and security specialists to provide Internet banking subscribers with better services in a safe and convenient web pages.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Perceived ease-of-use

Perceived ease-of-use refers to the extent to which the user expects the use of the Web to be user friendly. Since effort is a finite resource that a person may allocate to various activities, it implies that all else being equal, an application perceived to be easier to use than another is more likely to be accepted by users[37].

In general, if the Web is ease-of-use it requires less effort on the part of users, thereby increasing the likelihood of the Web usage. Conversely, the Web that is complex or difficult to use and control is less likely to be used since it requires significant effort and interest on the part of the user.[18].

In the Past many researchers have unveiled that perceived ease-of-use is related to the Internet usage directly[9,26,28,37]. Lim and Heinrichs(2005) found out that perceived ease-of-use had an impact on e-purchase based on their "Direct Impact".

2.2 Perceived usefulness

Perceived usefulness is defined as the perspective user’s subjective belief that using a specific application system will increase his or her job performance within an organizational context[26].

Previous research has found that perceived usefulness has a strong and consistent relationship with the Web usage. As shown by Teo(2001), perceived usefulness was significantly correlated with the Internet usage activities.

Choi and Jahang(2009) measured motivations of usefulness for online commerce with six items, which are five goal oriented motivations (online commerce : convenience, saving time, saving money, less scales pressure, and stay informed) and a hedonic motivation (finding interesting things).

Lim and Heinrichs(2005) unveiled in their “perceived Usefulness Mediated Impact” model that perceived usefulness was specified as a mediator mediating the relationships between the other determinant factors (perceived ease-of-use, perceived enjoyment, and perceived security) and e-purchase.

2.3 Perceived enjoyment

Individuals who experience immediate pleasure and joy from using the Web will be more likely to use it more extensively than others. By extending these results to the context of the Internet, we can therefore postulate that perceived enjoyment would have a positive effect on usage activities.

Perceived enjoyment may be defined as the extent to
which the activity of using the computer is perceived to be enjoyable in its own right, apart from any performance consequences that may be anticipated [37]. Moon and Kim (2001) unveiled that perception of playfulness appeared to influence user’s attitude toward using World Wide Web.

2.4 Perceived trust

Trust has been an object of areas such as psychology, sociology, economics and business. Morgan and Hunt (1994) studied the commitment-trust theory of relationship marketing and pointed out trust was an important factor in relationship marketing.

Within the e-commerce domain of research, trust defined as willingness to believe or an user’s beliefs, regarding various attributes of the other party [27]. Recently, a study on trust in electronic shopping conceptualized online trust as the belief that the behavior of an online vender is dependable [5, 16].

Some research found that trust is an important factor which has an impact on consumer attitudes towards purchase intentions [3, 17, 21, 24, 31, 35]. Ha and Akamavi (2009) studied using a cross-cultural approach and empirically examined the impact of consumer trust on repurchasing intentions through the mediating of variable internet usage in electronic shopping. Kim and Prabhakar (2000) examined trust and perceived risk had an impact on the adoption of Internet banking.

2.4 Perceived security

Security considers as one of the major consumer concerns driving to satisfactory and safe experience in economic activities through the Internet such as e-commerce, internet banking, and cyber stock exchange. Customers would hesitate to visit Internet business web sites and to do their business through the Internet if financial information could not be transmitted securely. Many researchers have done their studies on how security influences consumers in online economic activities [10, 13, 14, 35].

Elliot and Fowell (2000) found that many companies doing Internet business recognized that security is one of the main consumer factors for purchasing through the Internet. Lee and Turban (2001) did research on a trust model for customer Internet shopping and unveiled that online infrastructure measures such as security and third-party certification influence customer trust in Internet shopping. Some researchers also found that customer trust and perception of security control have an impact on the acceptance of electronic commerce [31, 35].

3. Methodology

3.1 Sample and procedure

The survey was conducted in Seoul, Incheon, Gyeonggi, Gangwon, Jeonbuk, and Gyeongbuk during March through August of 2012. Internet users over 18 years of age were asked to participate.

A total of 255 people were surveyed about their use of internet banking services in person. 54.10% and 45.9% of them are male and female respectively.

To identify independent factors that contribute to Internet banking subscriber attitudes, An explanatory factor analysis was used. For overall sampling adequacy and each indicator’s sampling adequacy the study examined Kaiser’s measure. To identify and evaluate the factor solution, this study ran the Bartlett’s test. Finally to determine if there was any significant difference in the strength among four factors, an ANOVA test was performed.

3.2 Measurement

The instrument adapted in this paper contained question items measuring perceived ease-of-use, perceived usefulness, perceived enjoyment, perceived trust, perceived security. The five constructs were measured by eighteen questions. Also included in this questionnaire were demographics and Internet banking activities items. For this, each respondent was asked
for three age groups (less than 29, 30-49, over 50) and Internet banking devices (mobile or computer). Respondents were also asked to report how many years they have used Internet banking and how often they visited Internet banking sites.

The items used in the paper to measure perceived ease-of-use, perceived usefulness, perceived enjoyment were adopted questions in previous papers related to constructs on web usage [4, 6, 9, 18, 20, 28, 37] and modified them for this study on Internet banking. Respondents were questioned to indicate their agreement and disagreement with three items for perceived ease-of-use, four items for perceived usefulness, and three items for perceived enjoyment using five point Likert-type scale (1=strongly disagreement, 5=strongly agree).

Perceived trust was also measured using a five point Likert-type scale (1=strongly disagreement, 5=strongly agreement) adapted earlier studies on economic activities through the Internet [12, 15, 23, 24, 25, 27, 31, 35]. Based on the earlier studies, this paper modified question items to measure Internet banking customers’ attitude on trust that they have felt while visiting Internet banking websites. In this paper, perceived trust was measured by four items.

In the middle of developing items measuring perceived security, this paper referred to some previous research on electronic commerce [13, 14, 26, 35]. Perceived security was measured by four items in five point Likert-type scale.

Respondents were asked to indicate their perceived degree of security while doing their banking transactions through Internet banking sites with electronic transaction security such as SSL.

4. Explanatory Factor Analysis

An explanatory factor analysis was used to identify independent factors that contribute to Internet banking subscriber attitudes. During the factor analysis, factors with Eigenvalue of at least 1.0 were used to access the number of factors to extract. To get a simpler factor structure resulted in each factor representing a distinct construct, the extract method used in this analysis was Principal Component analysis with VARIMAX rotation with Kaiser Normalization.

Eighteen items were hypothesized to measure valid and reliable constructs. In an initial factor analysis, two items whose loadings were 0.543 and 0.576 respectively were dropped from subsequent analyses. In second and third run, two items whose loadings were less than 0.6 were dropped. The fourth and final factor analysis was performed without those items dropped from previous analyses. The resulting factor structure was composed of 12 items measuring four distinct factors which explained 76.964% of the variance (Table 1).

### (Table 1) Extraction Sums of Square Loadings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Eigenvalues</th>
<th>% of the Variance</th>
<th>Cumulative %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ease*</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>27.759</td>
<td>27.759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>2.426</td>
<td>20.213</td>
<td>47.971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoyment</td>
<td>1.746</td>
<td>14.550</td>
<td>62.521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust</td>
<td>1.733</td>
<td>14.443</td>
<td>76.964</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Ease and Usefulness

This study examined Kaiser’s measure of overall sampling adequacy and each indicator’s sampling adequacy. The KMO is a means to show the degree to which the indicators of a construct belong together. KMO measure with less than 0.5 is unacceptable. Table 2 shows that the KMO of this analysis was 0.671.

To identify and evaluate the factor solution, this study ran the Bartlett’s test which is useful to examine whether or not the correlation matrix is appropriate for factoring. As Table 2 shows, the Bartlett’s test statistic was highly significant for this data set.

### (Table 2) KMO and Bartlett’s test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy</th>
<th>0.648</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bartlett’s Test of Sphericity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approx. Chi-Square</td>
<td>847.315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.f.</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>significance</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To access the internal reliability of four factors identified from the explanatory factor analysis, Cronbach coefficient alpha which shows the degree of internal consistency of the constructs were calculated. As Table 3 shows, all coefficient alpha values exceeded 0.8000 which means factors are considered to be internally consistent. Table 3 also shows the items loading on factors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Ease and Usefulness</th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Enjoyment</th>
<th>Trust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do banking on the web site is easy to me.</td>
<td>0.767</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning to do banking on the web site is easy to me.</td>
<td>0.716</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking on the web is more convenient than banking in person.</td>
<td>0.891</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking on the web leads me to save time.</td>
<td>0.835</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking on the web leads me to save on transaction fee.</td>
<td>0.789</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My financial data on the web are fully protected by my bank.</td>
<td>0.875</td>
<td>0.767</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transactions on the web are processed with safety.</td>
<td>0.854</td>
<td>0.708</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is no chance of leaking my information from the web.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using banking site gives me pleasure and enjoyment.</td>
<td>0.876</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking site arouses my interest in doing banking on the web.</td>
<td>0.930</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What my banking site says about its products and services is true.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.936</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information offered by my banking site is sincere and honest.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.936</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cronbach Alpha</td>
<td>0.871</td>
<td>0.811</td>
<td>0.848</td>
<td>0.827</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To determine whether each factors are independent each other, multivariate tests of significance were performed. As table 4 shows the results of four tests, all four factors turned out to be significant which tells that significant distinctions in the factors exist.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test names</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Hypothesis Degree of Freedom</th>
<th>Error of Degree of Freedom</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pilli’s Trace</td>
<td>0.984</td>
<td>3929.887</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>251.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilk’s Lambda</td>
<td>0.016</td>
<td>3929.887</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>251.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotelling’s Trace</td>
<td>62.628</td>
<td>3929.887</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>251.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roy’s Largest Root</td>
<td>62.628</td>
<td>3929.887</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>251.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Ex Post Factor Assessment

To determine if there was any significant difference in the strength among four factors, an ANOVA test was performed, the results of which are presented in Table 5. There was significant difference in factor at the level of 0.05. Among four factors, Ease and Usefulness with the highest mean value(4.1953) was the factor which affected Internet banking the most.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Means</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ease and Usefulness</td>
<td>4.193</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>3.098</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoyment</td>
<td>3.123</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust</td>
<td>3.200</td>
<td>32.284**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To find out if there are significant difference between factors, Tukey HSD test for multiple comparisons was performed. As Table 6 shows, Ease
and Usefulness was different from other three factors in terms of strength of contribution to Internet banking at p<0.01 level and Security was different from Trust at p<0.05 level.

On the other hand, there was no difference between Security and Enjoyment. Between Enjoyment and Trust was there any significant difference.

### Table 6: Turkey HSD Test for Multiple Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Means Difference</th>
<th>95% Confidence Level</th>
<th>Sig</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F1 F2</td>
<td>1.09725</td>
<td>1.00131 to 1.19320</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3 F4</td>
<td>-0.07647</td>
<td>-0.19579 to 0.04285</td>
<td>0.2086</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6. Conclusion

The main objective of this study is to show the process of how to identify some critical factors contributing to Internet banking for further research. Bank customers have several reasons for subscribing Internet banking services and doing their banking on the web sites. This paper investigated previous research on e-commerce, e-retailing, and online education to set eighteen items, based on which this paper extracted four factors by Principal Component factor analysis with VARIMAX rotation, which are Ease and Usefulness, Security, Enjoyment, and Trust.

To check sampling adequacy and internal consistency of the extracted four factors, this paper performed two test such as KMO Measure and Bartlett’s test of Sphericity. To check the degree of internal consistency of the constructs Cronbach coefficient alpha were calculated.

To determine if there was any significant difference in the strength among four factors, an ANOVA test was performed. Ease and Usefulness with the highest mean value was the factor which affected Internet banking the most.

This result of the paper will lead close understanding of factors associated with Internet uses in other economic activities and will also be referred by further research aiming at finding out relationship among motivation, attitude, and intention to reuse in Internet banking. The result also enable practitioners such as web designers and security specialists to provide Internet banking subscribers with better services in a safe and convenient web pages.

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[7] Choi, Junho, and Jungjoo Jahng (2009), "Predictors of E-commerce Use of the Internet: A Multinational Comparative Study--the U.S., the Netherlands, and


Yongjean John

· 1982.2 : Ulsan Institute of Technology
· 1988.2 : Chungang University
  Ph.D. in Business Administration
· 2003.1-2004.2 : Research Fellow at Massey University
· 1988.9–current Professor in the Dept’ of BA at Woosuk University
· Research Interests: Information Strategy, Internet Business
· E-mail: yong@ws.ac.kr