

The Influence of Communication Channels on Internet Banking Adoption

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Abstract

This paper addresses the influence of communication channels or source of information particularly, media norm (mass media) and personal norm (word of mouth) on the intention to use Internet Banking (IB) among Yemenis. Empirical data was collected using the survey questionnaire approach. Questionnaires were distributed randomly to 1000 bank customers in the Yemeni capital. A total of 369 completed questionnaires were used for the analysis. The study reveals that both norms influence the intention to use IB. It was also illustrated that the intention norms portrayed in mass media and word-of-mouth significantly influence the respondents' decision to adopt Internet Banking.

Keywords: Internet Banking, Mass Media, Word of Mouth, Yemen

JEL Classification: M00, M30

1. Introduction

The rapid and growing developments in information communication technology (ICT) brought about many innovations. One of the innovations is Internet Banking (IB). IB enables a bank's customers to access their accounts and other related information round the clock regardless of the time and where they are. In addition, customers have the option of accessing their accounts from home or work as long as they have Internet connections and a personal computer. Statistics by ComScore World Media Metrix (2008), however, indicate that even in developed countries, IB usage is less than 100 per cent. The report illustrated that only 46 per cent of the French Internet users access online banking sites in August 2008, ranking behind

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Canada (64 per cent), the Netherlands (51 per cent) and Sweden (47 per cent). The percentage of IB usage in a developing country like Yemen would be expected to be smaller.

There have been numerous studies (Awamleh & Fernandes, 2005; Khalfan & Alshawaf, 2004; Sathye, 1999) that focussed on IB adoption and usage using the Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA) and the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB). TRA is one of the behavioural theories that provide some insight into the social effects on human behaviour. According to this theory, human behaviour is affected by social environment. Fishbein and Ajzen (1975) and Ajzen and Fishbein (1980) proposed Subjective Norm (SN) as a construct which deals with the influence of the social environment on behavioural intention. SN is also one of the three determinants of an individual's behavioural intention proposed by the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB). Both TRA and TPB assume that social pressure is embodied in SN and is one of the determinants of Behavioural Intention (BI).

This study, however, differs from the others as the aim is to analyse the influence of the different types of communication channels or source of information on the behavioural intention to use IB among Yemeni bank customers. There are many norms of communication channel or source of information. Among the more common ones are media norm and personal norm (Rogers, 1995). In this study, media norm refers to mass media which includes all the means of transmitting messages such as the radio, television, newspapers and the Internet whereas personal norm refers to 'word of mouth', i.e. the communication between individuals. In addition, this study also aims to illustrate the relevance of Word-of-Mouth and Mass Media to both SN and BI constructs. This study would be useful for the Yemeni banks as the findings would help them in strategising their promotional activities accordingly.

This paper consists of six sections including this Introduction. The following section discusses literature related to the area of study. Subsequently, the methodology adopted to obtain empirical data is explained in Section 3 followed by the analysis carried out on the empirical data (Section 4). Sections 5 and 6 contain the Discussion and Conclusion respectively.

2. Literature Review

The existing literature of Information Systems (IS) shows the importance of SN in predicting behavioural intention. SN reflects the individual's perception of social support or opposition to his or her behaviour (Ajzen &

Fishbein, 1980). SN has two separate components. The first component is normative beliefs, which are the actors' perceptions that certain individuals want them to perform the behaviour. The second component is the motivation to comply, which represents the relative importance of the referent persons to the actor. These two elements of behavioural intentions are determined by the extent to which the actor believes the behaviour is desired by significant referent others, multiplied by the actor's motivation to comply with those referents. All SN are added together to determine the overall position of salient others towards the behaviour (Ajzen & Fishbein, 1980).

In connection with this, the Diffusion of Innovation (DOI) theory by Rogers (1995) posited that an individual's decision to adopt or reject an innovation is independent but, may still be influenced by the norms of the system and by interpersonal network. Bearden et al. (1986) and Karahanna et al. (1999) categorised social influence (normative belief) into informational-based influence and normative influence. According to Bearden et al. (1986) and Kelman (1961), both forms of social influence are thought to operate through the processes of internalisation, identification, and compliance. Rogers (1995) pointed out that information about innovation can be actively sought by individuals after they are aware that the innovation exists and also when they know which source or channel can provide further information about the innovation. Rogers (1995) argued that the importance of different channels or information sources of innovation is determined by their availability to the audience of the potential adopter. According to Bearden et al. (1986), informational influence occurs when individuals accept information as evidence of reality.

In the diffusion of innovation literature, some researchers have focused on the process by which adoption occurs (Rogers, 1995). This approach, according to Rogers (1995) and Liao et al. (1999), asserts that the adoption of an innovation is primarily the outcome of a learning or communication process. The outcome of a communication process in this study refers to an individual's awareness-knowledge of innovation existence and its attributes (Aggarwal et al. 1998). In the two early stages of the adoption process, communication channels, according to Rogers' (1995), play different roles in creating knowledge versus persuading individuals to change their attitude towards an innovation. Thus, it becomes clear that many potential adopters form their opinions of an innovation based on the information conveyed via the mass media and impersonal channels. Furthermore, Rogers (1995) and Aggarwal et al. (1998) posited that one method to speed up the process by which innovations are adopted is to communicate the information about innovations more rapidly. These two

fundamental sources of information will be discussed in the following sections.

2.1 Norms of Mass Media Channels

The mass media are often the most rapid and efficient means of informing an audience of potential adopters about the existence of an innovation, that is, to create awareness-knowledge (Rogers, 1995). The mass media include all the media of transmitting messages such as the radio, television, newspapers and the Internet. The influence of this channel is "informational" in character as inferred from Aggarwal et al. (1998). In a study of electronic commerce adoption, Battacherjee (2000) utilised a similar construct called the external influence which is best exemplified by the influence of the mass media. The mass media have some advantages represented by their ability to reach a large audience rapidly, create knowledge, spread information and lead to changes in weakly held attitudes. In addition, the expected effects of mass media channels were generalised by Rogers (1995) as relatively more important at the knowledge stage of the innovation-decision process.

2.2 Norms of Interpersonal Channel

Interpersonal channels involve face-to-face contact. Rogers (1995) pointed out that interpersonal channels are more effective in persuading an individual to accept a new idea, especially if the interpersonal channel links two or more similar individuals. Battacherjee (2000) demonstrated that the SN is determined by interpersonal influence (e.g. word-of-mouth). The effects of interpersonal channels are generalised by Rogers (1995) as more relatively important at the persuasion stage of the innovation-decision process. Interpersonal channels provide "a two-way exchange of information" enabling greater effects on individuals at the persuasion stage. This study suggests three types of interpersonal referents that might have an influence on an individual's behaviour towards the use of IB. These referents are opinion leaders, closer persons (friends, family, colleagues and peers), and the people of the bank with whom users have interaction when they need banking services. In line with Burnkrant and Cousineau (1975), this study reserves the term normative social influence for these credible sources which are believed to be experts or very knowledgeable people on the topic discussed.

Previous studies of IB adoption, Brown et al. (2004) and Shih and Fang (2004) investigated the influences of some referents like friends, family, colleagues and peers but no one had considered the possible influence of

opinion leaders as well as the referent that is relevant to banks' employees. Opinion leaders are individual members of the social system in which they exert their influence and lead in influencing the opinion of others about innovation (Rogers, 1995). Therefore, this study introduces these new referents. There are several reasons to consider employees of the banks as important people to whom customers may refer to make decisions on related banking issues. The first reason is that potential adopters of IB might be subject to the influences of a bank's employees rather than their friends and family in adopting new technology related to their financial affairs. The second reason is that the bank's staff interacts most frequently with customers in their financial life or when they come to transact or use the bank's services. The third reason is that a customer might perceive that the bank's staff are knowledgeable, have expertise in banking affairs and want customers to interact with the bank electronically. Previous studies on the adoption of computers in Saudi Arabia conducted by Yavas et al. (1992) point out that when opinion recipients turn to leaders for advice and information, they usually do so because of their belief that opinion leaders are knowledgeable about the subject matter (Rogers, 1995).

Furthermore, Yavas et al. (1992) posited the view that when opinion leaders disseminate information about computers, the word-of-mouth communications will be favourable. Although the adoption of IB technologies is a voluntary decision, the normative pressure from superiors and peers during the early stages of behaviour is expected to weigh heavily on individual intent. In other words, the direct relationship between SN and intention can be explained as compliance where an individual accepts influence in order to gain a favourable reaction from another person or group (Warshaw, 1980; Venkatesh & Davis, 2000).

3. Methodology

The empirical data for this study was collected via a survey questionnaire. The questionnaire consists of 2 sections. The first section consists of items related to the IB which include personal norms of the interaction with the innovation of IB (6 items), norms of the interaction with media norms (4 items), and the motivation of individuals to comply with the influences of these norms (4 items). The second section consists of the decomposed belief of personal norms with individual motivation to comply with the personal norms influences (6 items) and decomposed belief of media norms into an individual's motivation to comply with the media norms influences (4 items). All the items were taken from previous studies discussed in the earlier section (Appendix 1A and Appendix 1B).

The questionnaires were distributed at the various banks' headquarters. 14 locations were identified and 50 forms were assigned to each one of the 14 locations and the remaining 300 questionnaires were self-administered. Hence, one thousand questionnaires were distributed ($14 \times 50 = 700$ questionnaires through the banks' appointed people + 300 self-administered survey questionnaires). The total was based on Sathye's (1999), and Zikmund's (2003) work which stated that when the research population is 10,000 or more a sample of 1,000 is adequate. It must be noted here that the actual population (Yemeni bank customers) is not available due to confidentiality reasons however according to a Yemeni banker (who do not want to be identified); there are at least 250000 bank account holders.

Given the exploratory nature of this study, convenience sampling is suitable for this research as suggested by Zikmund (2003). The convenience sampling method is widely used in studies of electronic banking adoption such as in Lai and Li (2005), Brown et al. (2004), Al-Sabbagh and Molla (2004), Gerrard and Cunningham (2003), Mattila et al. (2003), Pikkarainen et al. (2004), Al-Ashban and Burney (2001), and Sathye (1999).

3.1 Survey Response

A total of 623 questionnaires were returned, however, only 369 could be used for analysis. Table 1 presents a summary of responses to the survey questionnaire.

Table 1: Data Collection Summary and Response Rate

| Responses | Statistics |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Initial sample size | 1000 |
| Non-returned | 377 |
| Number of forms received | 623 |
| Response rate | 62 % |
| Incomplete forms | 254 |
| Number of useable forms | 369 |
| Gross response rate | 59.22 % |

The Gross Response Rate (Table 1 above) obtained in this study can be considered good compared to Mattila et al. (2003) who obtained 18.85 per cent (220 useable / 1,167 returned), and Luarn and Lin (2005) whose response rate using the self-administrated method and convenience sampling was 45.68 per cent (180 useable / 394 received). Quite similar to the response rate of this study, was Pikkarainen et al. (2004) who obtained

62 per cent (268 useable / 427 received). Based on this short review, the response rate for the present study is considered satisfactory.

3.2 Demographic Profile of Respondents

The respondents' profile in the current study reveals that 81.8 per cent of the respondents are males. This is normally the case in a specified non-western context such as Yemen and it might be inferred that banks' financial services in this country are mainly used by men rather than women. The majority of the respondents have Yemeni citizenship (94.9 per cent) and reside in the city of Sana'a (78.6 per cent). The majority of them are married with children (61.8 per cent), and more than half of them have a bachelor degree (55.0 per cent), 39.8 per cent and 36.3 per cent of the respondents are in their thirties and twenties respectively. Those with an average monthly income of Y.R 60001 to 120000 represent 37.9 per cent of the total. Almost 41.7 per cent of the respondents live in their own houses and the majority of them are employed in three business areas; namely, banking and finance (34.4 per cent), trading (26.8 per cent) and services (22.5 per cent).

4. Analysis

The SPSS program and multivariate techniques of factor analysis in the shape of Principle Component Analysis are employed to test both convergent and discriminate validity of the measurements. Factor analysis is an interdependence technique and the primary purpose of using it, according to Hair et al. (2006) and Zikmund (2003), is to define the underlying structure among the variables in the analysis. The aims that this study seeks to achieve from the factor analysis technique are: first, to analyse the scale items of each construct and verify their discriminant validity. According to Davis (1989), discriminant validity is concerned with the ability of a measurement item to differentiate between the objects being measured; second, to reduce the large number of interrelated variables to a smaller number of underlying factors that ensure the construct validity; third, to explain the relationship between the constructs and the variables measuring them; and fourth, to identify a smaller set of salient variables for use in subsequent multivariate analysis (Malhotra, 2004).

4.1 Factor Analysis of IB Norms

To verify the parsimonious set of variables (Appendix 1A) that could represent the large number of variables used to assess the normative belief

construct, the extraction method of Principal Component Analysis (PCA) with Varimax rotation was conducted to summarise and determine whether items measuring personal norms can discriminate items measuring media norms as well as the motive to comply with both norms. The result of the analysis indicates that:

- I. Respondents involved in this study distinguished the variation among the three dimensions of normative beliefs whereby these findings are found to be moderately in line with the TPB classification of normative belief.
- II. The assessment of the normative belief construct, according to the respondents, seemed to be through three dimensions; belief in personal norm, belief in the media norm and the motivation to comply with both beliefs.

The findings also show that PCA is significantly appropriate with a Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure (KMO) of the sampling adequacy of 0.902. Table 2 shows the items used to measure normative belief and their loading onto three different components as follows:

Table 2: PCA Result: Types of Interaction’s Norms vs. Motivation to Comply

| Items | Components | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| | Personal norms | Media norms | Motive to comply |
| peer1 | .788 | | |
| peer2 | .792 | | |
| leader3 | .773 | | |
| leader4 | .768 | | |
| employ5 | .707 | | |
| employ6 | .657 | | |
| media01 | | .703 | |
| media02 | | .699 | |
| prof03 | | .740 | |
| media04 | | .755 | |
| mcpc1,2 | | | .613 |
| mcpc3,4 | | | .667 |
| mcpc5,6 | | | .721 |
| mcmm124 | | | .714 |
| Eigenvalue | 7.221 | 1.537 | 1.146 |
| Variance explained | 48.137 | 10.243 | 7.641 |
| Cronbach’s Alpha | .907 | .782 | .740 |

Notes: (a) Total Variance Extracted by three factors 66.220 %; KMO = 0.902; Barlett’s Test <0.001

(b) Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis

(c) Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization

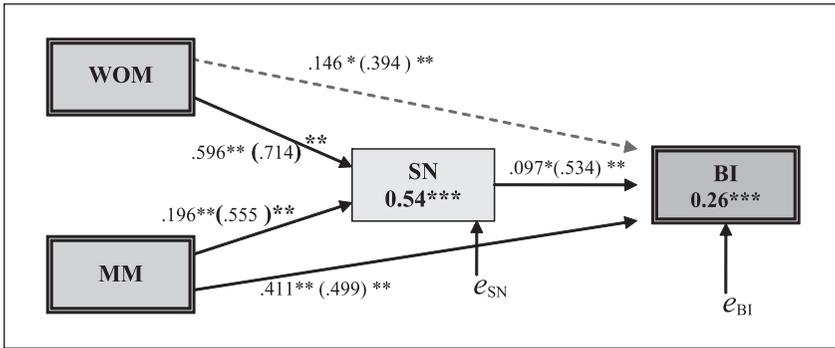
Table 2 presents the results obtained from conducting PCA and it shows that there are three factors underlying the normative belief obtained from the 14 items. Interestingly, all items expected to handle the personal belief norms are grouped under the first factor with an eigenvalue of 7.2 and can explain the variance of 48.137 per cent, while the items expected to handle media belief norms are grouped together under the second factor, which can explain 10.243 per cent of the variance. The third factor comprises the items which handle a respondent's motivation to comply with both personal and media norms.

A total of 10 (Appendix 1B) decomposed items of personal norms and media norms were subjected to the Principle Component Analysis (PCA) inspection of the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) value which was 0.878 showing that sampling adequacy for factor analysis was appropriate. The Barlett's Test of Sphericity also reached statistical significance, supporting the factorability of the correlation matrix. Factor analysis of PCA was conducted on the items after the process of multiplying each belief item by each motive item to get the decomposed output of the normative belief (Table 3). The result of the analysis indicates that:

- i. Respondents involved in the study sample distinguished the variation between the two dimensions of normative beliefs that are in line with Rogers' (1995) two types of communication channel.
- ii. The assessment of the normative belief construct according to the respondents, seemed to be measured through two dimensions; personal normative belief and media normative beliefs.

The correlation matrix which revealed the presence of many coefficients exceeding 0.3 as shown in Figure 1 and the PCA presented in Table 3 showed the presence of two components underlying the respondents' normative beliefs with eigenvalues exceeding 1, which both explained 76 per cent of the total variance. The first factor which grouped the personal norms and involved six items, explained 61.61 per cent of the variance, while the second factor grouped the media norms items which explained 14.64 per cent of the variance. Both components had loadings of 0.5 and above. An examination of the scree plot revealed a clear break after the second component. Using Catell's (1966) scree test, it was decided to retain two components for further analysis. This was supported by the result of Parallel analysis, which showed only two components with eigenvalues exceeding the corresponding criterion values for a randomly generated data matrix of the same size (10 variables x 369 respondents).

Figure 1: Regression Analysis of Normative Belief Model



Notes:

*P<0.05

**P<0.001

***R²

Numbers in parenthesis indicate zero-order correlation, other numbers are path coefficient.

Relationship met the Generalizability \longrightarrow

Relationship does not met Generalizability \dashrightarrow

Table 3: PCA Result: Decomposed Items of Norms

| Items | Components | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | Personal norms(WOM) | Media norms(MM) |
| MCPER1 | .842 | |
| MCPER2 | .820 | |
| MCLEDR3 | .852 | |
| MCLEDR4 | .856 | |
| MCEMPLY5 | .813 | |
| MCEMPLY6 | .773 | |
| MCMEDIA1 | | .875 |
| MCMEDIA2 | | .877 |
| MCPRFS3 | | .674 |
| MCMEDIA3 | | .873 |
| Eigenvalue | 6.161 | 1.464 |
| Variance explained | 61.606 | 14.637 |
| Cronbach's Alpha | .936 | .863 |

Notes: (a) Total Variance Extracted by the two factors 76%; KMO = 0. 878; Barlett's Test <0.001

(b) Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis

(c) Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization

The Varimax rotation solution revealed that both components demonstrated a number of strong loadings with all variables loading substantially on only one component. The interpretation of the two components is consistent with the previous research of Rogers (1995).

4.2 Path Analysis Using Ordinary Least Square

Path analysis, according to Bryman and Cramer (2001), is an extension of multiple regression procedures. It was developed as a method for studying the direct and indirect effects of variables hypothesised as causes of variables treated as effects (Pedhazur, 1997). Path analysis and path coefficient are among the oldest terms in causal analysis where standardised β's are usually employed as estimates of causal effects (Cohen & Cohen, 1983).

Table 4 shows the result of stepwise regression applied to SN as a criterion variable and a person's personal and media interaction norms as independent variables. The findings show that both referents are significant in explaining 53 per cent of a person's IB-use subjective norm.

Table 4: Regression Results: Predicting Overall Subjective Norms by Both Communications Channels (N=369)

| Independent Variable | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|----------------|---------------------|---------|-------|
| | B | T | R ² | F | P |
| Constant | 10.821 | 13.774 | 0.535 | 210.169 | 0.000 |
| Word-Of-Mouth referent (WOM) | 0.078 | 13.334 | | | 0.000 |
| Media Mass referent (MM) | 0.047 | 4.396 | | | 0.000 |
| Summary Table | | | | | |
| Model | R | R ² | Adj. R ² | F | P |
| 1 | 0.714 | 0.510 | 0.509 | 381.947 | 0.000 |
| 2 | 0.731 | 0.535 | 0.532 | 210.169 | 0.000 |

Note: Dependent variable is subjective norms

Furthermore, the result provides the following regression equations presented as follows:

- (1) SN = 12.126 + 0.093 (WOM) + e
- (2) SN = 10.821+ 0.078 (WOM) + 0.047 (MM) + e

The findings (Table 5) also show that both referents are significant in explaining 26% of a person’s BI to use IB.

Table 5: Regression Results: Predicting Overall Behavioural Intention by Both Communication Channel (N=369)

| Independent Variable | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|----------------|---------------------|---------|-------|
| | B | T | R ² | F | P |
| Constant | 17.709 | 23.450 | 0.263 | 65.149 | 0.000 |
| Media Mass referent (MM) | 0.075 | 7.306 | | | 0.000 |
| Word-Of-Mouth referent (WOM) | 0.015 | 2.598 | | | 0.010 |
| Summary Table | | | | | |
| Model | R | R ² | Adj. R ² | F | P |
| 1 | 0.499 | 0.249 | 0.247 | 121.646 | 0.000 |
| 2 | 0.512 | 0.263 | 0.259 | 6.748 | 0.010 |

Note: Dependent variable is Behavioural Intention

Consequently, the result provides the following regression equations presented as follows:

- (3) $BI = 18.503 + 0.092 (MM) + e$
- (4) $BI = 17.709 + 0.075 (MM) + 0.015 (WOM) + e$

When SN and BI were treated as dependent variables and regressed separately against the WOM and Mass Media, the relationships as shown earlier in Figure 1 were obtained.

5. Discussion

The result of this analysis supports the use of personal norms items and media norms items as separate scales as is suggested by Rogers (1995), and its applicability to the context of IB, as suggested by Taylor & Todd (1995b); Pedersen (2005); Battacherjee (2000). With respect to the normative belief, results show that the scales used to measure personal interaction norms are statically reliable and yield a consistent result with Cronbach’s Alpha of (0.94). The Cronbach’s Alpha of the media interaction norms scale was 0.8632, which also yielded satisfactory internal reliability of the construct.

The assessment of relationships of variables involved in the SN model and findings presented revealed that there is a positive and significant relationship between personal norms and both SN ($r = .714$) and BI ($r = .394$), at the $p < 0.01$ level. In addition, a positive and significant relationship was found between an individual's SN ($r = .56$, at the $p < 0.01$ level) and BI ($r = .50$, at the $p < 0.01$ level) interaction with their referents by means of Mass Media (MM) interaction. Moreover, the findings on SN determinants explain that both the variables of personal norms (WOM), and media norms (MM) together can explain 54 per cent of the variations of an individual's SN with respect to IB-use. Furthermore, F-values indicate that the model obtained is highly significant in explaining normative belief. In addition, in the formative model of (Normative Belief \rightarrow SN) it was noted that word-of-mouth ($\beta = 0.60$, significant at $P < 0.001$) is the best and most significant predictor of the SN because it can explain 51 per cent of the variance in the criterion variable on its own.

In contrast, the findings obtained by the formative model of (Normative \rightarrow BI) revealed that MM ($\beta = 0.41$, significant at $P < 0.001$) is the best and most significant predictor of BI. The word-of-mouth (WOM) and Mass Media (MM) met the criteria of generalisability, therefore, both variables could be considered as prominent and important variables which contribute in a formative manner to an individual's SN and BI. In addition, findings on the norms referred to as the "mass media norm" provide evidence of its role in forming the direct norms towards the use of IB. Although, the "mass media norm", when compared to the norms of personal interaction, contributes less power in explaining SN, the finding is still valuable for this study and may form a very important focus in future research.

The possible explanation for the weak predictive power of the mass media in influencing a customer's IB-use SN could refer to the media itself that are available to customers in Yemen. It could be that Mass Media (MM) for IB are still utilised less by current IB service providers since this technology is still in its very early stages in that not many banks use this channel to promote and make people aware of their banking services. This argument can be supported by inspection of further relationships of MM, WOM, SN and BI. For instance, the relationship between MM and BI was $r = .499$ while the relationship between word-of-mouth referent and BI was $r = .39$ implying that MM have a tendency to explain the variation of behavioural intention when compared to the SN variable.

6. Conclusion

The significance of this current study represents two distinct areas for possible contribution to the body of knowledge. The first contribution is on the understanding of Internet banking adoption by giving insight on the role of both normative beliefs components (Word-of-Mouth and Mass Media) and subjective norm in explaining the behaviour of individuals. The researchers noted that, earlier studies of IB acceptance were concerned about the social effect in modelling behaviour, and did not take a holistic view of the different influencers.

The second contribution of this study is in providing new insights on the characteristics of subjective norms. Previous studies of innovation adoption, which sought to study the effect of the social norm on human behaviour, specifically study which employed TRA and TPB focused on one type of referents which is personal referents or word-of-mouth. In this study, the researchers have empirically proven that normative belief is made up of two components by adding the mass media as new referents component. Therefore, this study contributes to the body of knowledge by shedding light on the components of normative belief and their relative importance in studying human behaviour for innovation acceptance. Moreover, this study shows how important these two components are in explaining an individual's subjective norms.

Some limitations of this study should be noted. The first limitation is related to the sample size. Due to confidentiality and other considerations, the targeted sample of 1000 could not be achieved. In addition, the time frame and financial resources of the research and the survey distributed to customers is limited to the region of Sana'a. The survey lacks comprehensiveness in terms of the coverage of the entire population. Further research could expand the survey to Yemeni bank customers of other states. Although it is clear that personal referents (word-of-mouth) and Mass Media (MM) are different components and that these constructs possess different predictive validities, the findings of this study do not clarify why Mass Media (MM) is the superior predictor of intentions. In terms of predicting variance in SN and intention, it is important, as well as valid to distinguish between word-of-mouth and mass media referents. Future research may suggest yet further distinctions.

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Appendix 1A

Questionnaire Items (7-Point Likert Scale)

Coding of Items and Constructs of the Normative Belief of IB

| Constructs | Coding | Items Coding | Items' Statements |
|------------------------|--------|--------------|---|
| Personal Norms PR | | peer1 | Peers/colleagues think I should use IB |
| | | peer2 | Peers/colleagues think I should try out IB |
| | | leader3 | Opinion leaders think I should use IB |
| | | leader4 | Opinion leaders think I should try out IB |
| | | employ5 | Bank's employees think I should use IB |
| | | employ6 | Bank's employees think I should try out IB |
| Mass Media Norms MM | | media01 | Media suggests using IB is good idea |
| | | media02 | Media consistently recommend using IB services |
| | | prof03 | For my profession, it is advisable to use Internet Banking services |
| | | media04 | I read /saw news reports that using IB is a good way of managing my bank account. |
| Motive to Comply MC | | mcpc1,2 | I will do what peers suggest I do |
| | | mcpc3,4 | I will do what leaders suggest I do |
| | | mcpc5,6 | I will do what bank's people suggest I do |
| | | mcm1,2,4 | I will do what the media suggest |

Appendix 1B

Questionnaire Items (7-Point Likert Scale)

Coding of Items and Constructs of Normative Belief of IB (weighted belief)

| Constructs | Coding | Items Coding *axb = 47 | Items' Statements |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|---|
| Word-of-Mouth (Personal referent) | | (MCPER1) | Peers /colleagues think I should use IB and I will do what peer/colleagues suggest I do. |
| | | MCPER2 | Peers/colleagues think I should try out IB and I will do what peer/colleagues suggest I do. |
| | | MCLEDR3 | Opinion leaders think I should use IB and I will do what leaders suggest I do. |
| | | MCLEDR4 | Opinion leaders think I should try out IB and I will do what leaders suggest I do. |
| | | MCEMPY5 | Bank's employees think I should use IB and I will do what bank's people suggest I do. |
| | | MCEMPY6 | Bank's employees think I should try out IB and I will do what bank's people suggest I do. |
| Media Norms MM | | MCMEDIA1 | Media suggests using IB is good idea and I will do what the media suggest. |
| | | MCMEDIA2 | Media consistently recommend using IB services and I will do what the media suggest. |
| | | MCPRFS3 | For my profession, it is advisable to use Internet Banking services and I will do what it suggests. |
| | | MCMEDIA3 | I read /saw news reports that using IB is a good way of managing my bank account and I will do what this media suggest. |

* a = Individual's Belief Multiplied by his/her motive to Comply (Belief Measure-Based)