An Empirical Research on Influence Factor of College Students’ Continued Intentions of Online Self-Regulated Learning Based on the Model of ECM and TAM

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Abstract—Online self-regulated learning has been concerned as one of important learning method. The value of online self-regulated learning can be realized by sustained and effective usage, so it is more important to explore the influence factor of college students’ continued intentions of online self-regulated learning. Based on the Expectation Confirmation Model and Technology Acceptance Model, this paper proposes a conceptual model of explaining the continued intention of online self-regulated learning. Using the data from college students and the Partial Least Squares (PLS) method, the paper explores the key elements and mechanisms that impact the continued intention of online self-regulated learning. There are several findings: Firstly, the perceived usefulness, attitude and using satisfaction positively influence continued learning intention, and the perceived usefulness impacts indirectly continued intention through satisfaction and attitude. Secondly, college students’ satisfaction has a significant and direct impact on the attitude of online self-regulated learning. Thirdly, the perceived ease of use and the expectation of confirmation by students has indirectly affects continued intention through perceived usefulness, satisfaction and attitude of online self-regulated learning.

Keywords—College student; online self-regulated learning; Expectation Confirmation Model; Technology Acceptance Model; Continued Intention

I. INTRODUCTION

In January 2017, China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC) released its 39th Statistical Report on Internet Development in China. According to the report, as of December 2016, there are 138 million online education users in China, up 25% over 2015, among which 97.98 million are via mobile phones, up 84.8% from 2015 (CNNIC, 2017). Online education is a form of online self-regulated learning. Therefore, to some extent, it can be seen that online self-regulated learning has gradually received favor. From another aspect, CNNIC’s report also reveals that student has become the largest group among netzines, accounting for a proportion of 25%. With the ever-changing study and life-style of students, especially college students, self-regulated learning in the context of Internet has become a major way of learning.

Online self-regulated learning is viewed as learning actions through Internet decided by learners. With the rapid development of network and new media technology, online self-regulated learning is featured with rich learning resources, diversified learning communication tools, and learners’ independency and initiative (Pan, 2012). In the process of e-learning, learners are not restricted to only one kind of learning tool, for example E-learning platform or MOOC. Instead, they have different online learning tools to access various learning resources. In such a context, learners much self-regulate, self-adjust and effectively evaluate these resources and tools. Therefore, these evaluations will have direct or indirect effect on their continued intention of using such way of learning.

From the perspective of Information System (IS), online self-regulated learning is an application of IS, learners adopting different information systems in learning. Bhattacharjee (2001) believes that users’ effective continuance behavior is a major way to realize the value of IS. Therefore, whether college students can continue self-regulated learning by using different e-learning tools and realize the value of online self-regulated learning has become the point of concern.

Expectation Confirmation Model (ECM) has been widely accepted and applied. However, some researchers raised that ECM is insufficient to explain users’ continuance intention. For better studying users’ continuance intention, ECM theoretical model needs to be extended from different perspectives (Bhattacharjee and Barfar, 2001) (Lee, 2010). Therefore, based on ECM theory and integrated with Expectation Confirmation Theory (TAM), this paper constructs a theoretical model on the influence factor of...
college students’ continued intention of online self-learning, taking college students as empirical survey respondents and PLS for structural model analysis. This research discusses the influence factor of college students’ continued intention of online self-regulated learning, aiming to analyze college students’ motivation, reveal the key elements and function mechanism of students initiative using network resources and tools for study, and providing theory guidance and suggestions for the further development of online self-regulated learning.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Expectation-Confirmation Model

Expectation-Confirmation Model (ECM) stems from Expectation Confirmation Theory (ECT) which is proposed by Oliver in 1980 (Oliver, 1980). ECT was firstly applied in studying consumer behavior, comparing consumers’ expectation pre- and post-consumption to evaluate their satisfaction of products and services. Then, satisfaction becomes a reference of purchase and repurchase. Then, Bhattacharjee (2001) applied ECT into the research of IS continuance use and validated through Structural Equation Model, and obtained an ECM of IS, as shown in Fig. 1.

B. Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)

Davis (1989) proposed Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) based on the Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA). As a theoretical framework explaining users’ acceptance process of IS, TAM has received wide recognition and is deemed with wider application range than TRA (Mathieson, 1991). Venkatesh and Davis (2000) believed that TAM is comparable to TRA and Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB). TAM emphasizes the intention of using technology from the perspective of attitude and indicates that perceived usefulness and ease of use will influence users’ attitude to IS acceptance, and then the use intention. Perceived usefulness is decided by perceived ease of use, as shown in Fig. 2.

TAM is mainly developed to predict users’ initial acceptance of IS. However, many researches based on TAM connotate an assumption that continuance use is a extension of acceptance, and applied TAM in the context of post-acceptance continuance use. These researches explained users’ continued intention of using IS via TAM (Karahanna, Straub, and Chervany, 1999) (Taylor and Todd, 1995).

Hong etc., (2006) proposed that TAM is applicable for not only users’ acceptance behavior, but also continued using behavior. Some researchers also applied TAM in discussing
other continued using behaviors related to e-learning, such as Roca and Gagné (2008) and Lee (2010) and Mohammadi (2015). Zhao Wanying (2016) also integrated TAM with social factors to discuss users’ continued using behavior in mobile reading. These relevant researches has verified that TAM is effective in explaining users’ continuance use. However, TAM is rarely applied to study the behavior of college students’ online self-regulated learning. Therefore, this paper will integrate TAM and ECM to discuss this topic.

III. RESEARCH MODEL AND HYPOTHESIS

A. Theoretical Model

ECM of IS is easy and effective. However, many researchers regard that the explanation on users’ continued intention only from expectation confirmation and perceived usefulness is insufficient. Considering TAM has been proved to be applicable in studying continued use behavior, this paper, integrating Bhattacherjee’s ECM (2001) and Davis’s TAM (1989), built a model studying college students’ continued intention of online self-regulated learning, as shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 3. The conceptual model of college students’ continued intentions of online self-regulated learning

B. Research hypothesis

1) Attitude and continued learning intention

Continued intention of online self-regulated learning represents the situation that learners are willing of re-participation based on their prior experience of online self-learning. Attitude refers to the positive and negative affect that user expressed to certain object or action (Fishbein and Ajzen, 1975), represented by users’ positive, neutral, or negative evaluation and mental tendency to certain object, including product, service and behavior. Attitude is usually the results of prior experience (Roest and Pieters, 1997). In the context of online self-regulated learning, attitude is viewed as users’ positive or negative mental tendency towards continued e-learning, such as like or unlike, which is a behavior attitude.

Fishbein and Ajzen (1975) believed that the attitude towards behavior and behavior itself has direct association. The stronger the positive attitude one has towards certain action is, the stronger his/her behavior intention is. In TAM, users’ attitude of IS will directly affect users’ intention of use. Extensive studies on attitude and behavior have also verified the effect of positive attitude on action. Hence,

H1. Users’ attitude towards continued use of online self-regulated learning is positively related with their continued use intention.

2) Satisfaction and Continued Intention

Satisfaction refers to the level that users demands are satisfied. Bhattacherjee (2001) defines satisfaction of IS as users’ comprehensive feeling and evaluation following actual use, which is subjective. In this research, satisfaction is students’ comprehensive feelings, satisfied or unsatisfied, towards the process of online self-regulated learning and other aspects.

In ECM of IS, continued use intention is mainly decided by the satisfaction of IS. Prior researches also indicate that satisfaction is an important indicator to predict the continued use intention of e-learning. This leads to the hypothesis:

H2. Users’ satisfaction towards online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their continued intention of learning.

3) Satisfaction and attitude

As to the association between satisfaction and attitude, researches in marketing has proposed that consumers’ satisfaction can promote their positive attitude or preference to the brand. Satisfaction, as an important post-consumption psychological state will affect consumers’ attitude and preference. Burton etc., (2001) proposed that consumers’ attitude is based on their prior experience and the satisfaction generated from external information.

In the context of online self-regulated learning, students’ comprehensive feelings have direct effects on their attitudes. Satisfied process of online self-regulated learning will lead to positive attitude. Otherwise, unsatisfied process comes to negative attitudes. Hence:

H3. Users’ satisfaction towards online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their continued intention of use.

4) Perceived usefulness with attitude, satisfaction and continued intention of use

In ECM, perceived usefulness puts more emphasis on the constant cognitive belief user accumulated after using the system. It is the potential value that users believe they can obtain from the system (Bhattacherjee, 2001). The value of usefulness is a kind of utilitarian mechanism, namely an external motivation mechanism. This value has significant influence on users’ behavior and is the key factor influencing users’ satisfaction (Dong, etc., 2010). Many researches has verified that perceived usefulness is a key motivation factor for the satisfaction level and continued intention of IS users (Hong, etc., 2006) (Yang, 2016) (Bhattacherjee, 2008). As to online self-regulated learning, perceived usefulness is reflected as learners’ subjective assumption that e-learning can help them achieve learning targets and improve learning performance. If their learning performances are not improved after e-learning, users will have negative feelings and become unsatisfied, which will consecutively impact their continued intention. This leads to the hypothesis that:
H4a. Users’ perceived usefulness of online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their satisfaction.

H4b. Users’ perceived usefulness of online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their continued intention.

In the area of marketing, many researches has verified that consumers’ attitude is affected by their perceived usefulness of product or services (Wolfinbarger and Gilly, 2003) (Yoo and Donthu, 2001), which is applicable to IS (Lederer et al., 2000) (Moon and Kim, 2001) (Vijayasarathy, 2004). These researches also reveal that users’ perceived usefulness of online self-regulated learning will lead to positive attitude. Hence:

H4c. Users’ perceived usefulness of online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their attitude.

5) Perceived ease of use, attitude and perceived usefulness

In TAM, perceived ease of use refers to the easy level user perceived while using certain IS (Davis, 1989). Many researches on behavioral decision and IS proposed that individuals are prone to make the easier choice when facing decision. This supports the association between users’ perceived ease of use and emotional tendency. In other words, users’ perceived ease of use is an important cognitive variable influencing users’ affect (such as attitude and satisfaction) towards the IS (Davis, 1989) (Karahanna etc., 1999). The association between perceived ease of use, attitude and satisfaction is performed as a type of internal motivation mechanism (Davis etc., 1989). Rogers (1995) believed that users’ perceived complexity of IS will lead to negative affect, for example resistance, especially under voluntary situation. Self-regulated learning in essence is more of a voluntary behavior.

In this research, perceived ease of use refers to the degree of ease users felt during online self-regulated learning. Students use different APPs or platforms which need different technical operations, such as search information, communication, questioning, evaluation and etc. If students feel it is easy to use these apps or platforms, they will generate a cognitive and emotional tendency as positive attitude and satisfaction. Hence:

H5a. Users’ perceived ease of use during online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their continued intention.

H5b. Users’ perceived ease of use during online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their satisfaction.

Meanwhile, the easier students feel for e-learning, the higher learning efficiency they obtain. With the same efforts, students with easier perception will have higher performance, which coincides with the direct positive influence of users’ perceived ease of use on their perceived usefulness in TAM. Hence:

H5c. Users’ perceived ease of use in online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their continued intention.

6) Expectation confirmation, perceived usefulness and satisfaction

Expectation confirmation refers to users’ expectation and confirmation degree pre- and post-using IS (Bhattacherjee, 2001). The higher the expectation-confirmation degree users have to IS, the higher their perceived usefulness and satisfaction will be (Bhattacherjee, 2001). In the context of college students’ online self-regulated learning, the learning source will provide the learners repetitive feedback, through which learners can evaluate their behavior of e-learning. In other words, learners hold certain expectations to online self-regulated learning based on their experience on life and study in the first place. After actual learning, if the receiving exceeds their expectation, namely high expectation-confirmation degree, learners will feel and acknowledge its usefulness. Hence:

H6a. Users’ expectation confirmation degree of online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their satisfaction.

H6b. Users’ expectation confirmation degree of online self-regulated learning is positively associated with their perceived usefulness.

IV. QUESTIONNAIRE AND DATA COLLECTION

A. Questionnaire

Four variables were measure in this study: perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, expectation confirmation, attitude, satisfaction and continued intention. All these variables were measured using multiple-item scale, drawn from the classical literature in relevant area and adapted to the specific context in this study. 7-Likert scale is applied to evaluate all the variables, anchored between “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree”. The measurement of each variable is shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Operational Definition</th>
<th>Literature</th>
</tr>
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<td>Perceived Usefulness (PU)</td>
<td>PU1</td>
<td>Online self-regulated learning can help improve my study capability.</td>
<td>Bhattacherjee (2001)</td>
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<td>PU2</td>
<td>Online self-regulated learning can help me learn more knowledge.</td>
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<td>PU3</td>
<td>Online self-regulated learning is very useful to my study.</td>
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<td>Perceived ease of use (PEOU)</td>
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<td>Online self-regulated learning is easy.</td>
<td>Davis (1989)</td>
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<td>PEOU2</td>
<td>Online self-regulated learning is easy to operate.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PEOU3</td>
<td>Online self-regulated learning is not a challenge.</td>
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I like to learn through Internet. Online self-regulated learning is something makes me happy. Online self-regulated learning is a wise choice. Onlineself-regulated learning is better than my expectation. The performance of online self-regulated learning is better than my expectation. The result of online self-regulated learning exceeds my expectation. I am satisfied with online self-regulated learning. I will take online self-regulated learning as a usual way of learning. I decided to continue onlineself-regulated learning. Onlineself-regulated learning is a wise choice. According to Nunnally Cronbach’s α of all major variables are above 0.7, which means the questionnaire has good internal consistency and its reliability is acceptable. As tested, the Cronbach’s α of all major variables are above 0.7, which means that the questionnaire has good internal consistency and its reliability is acceptable. Convergent validity can be evaluated via Composite Reliability (CR), Average Variance Extracted (AVE) and Factor Loading suggested by Fornell and Larcker (1981). CR should exceed 0.7, AVE should exceed 0.5 and factor loading should exceed 0.7, then the convergent validity of variables is high. From Table 2, all the variables have CR values over 0.85, AVE over 0.65, and factor loading over 0.7, which means that all the variables have good convergent validity.

Discriminant validity can be evaluated via comparing AVE’s square root with variable correlation coefficient. According to Fornell and Larcker (1981), AVE’s square root should exceed the correlation coefficient of that and other variables. As shown in Table 2, AVE’s square root of all the variables exceed their correlation coefficients, indicating that the measurement model in this research has good discriminant validity.

### B. Data collection

Data was collected via a questionnaire. The survey respondents were undergraduate students randomly selected from one university. 230 questionnaires were sent out with 227 collected back. As this research is focused on the continued behavior of online self-regulated learning, to guarantee that the research samples have certain experience with e-learning, a question about the ratio of e-learning time to Internet surfing time is added into the questionnaire. If <1/8 is selected, it can be deemed that this sample rarely takes e-learning, which should be deleted in model analysis. It turns out that there are 60 students select <1/8. Therefore, 167 effective samples are obtained, with an effective rate of 72.6%. Among them, 37% are male and 63% are female.

### V. Data analysis

Data was analyzed via SmartPLS 3.00 because (1) PLS does not have strict requirements on normal assumption; (2) it does not require large sample points; (3) it combines confirmatory factor analysis and linear regression, and can operate measurement model and structural model at the same time. To ensure the stability of analysis results, this research adopts the widely recommended Monte Carlo analysis (Marcoulides and Saunders, 2006), namely using bootstrapping to analyze data. Model verification is divided into two steps: first is measurement model verification, including verifying the questionnaire’s reliability and validity; second is structural model verification, namely verifying hypothesis.

### A. Reliability and validity verification

Reliability analysis can be verified via the internal consistency coefficient, Cronbach’s α. According to Nunnally and Bernstein (Nunnally and Bernstein, 1994), when Cronbach’s α >0.7, reliability is acceptable. As tested, the Cronbach’s α of all major variables are above 0.7, which means that the questionnaire has good internal consistency and its reliability is acceptable.

Convergent validity can be evaluated via Composite Reliability (CR), Average Variance Extracted (AVE) and Factor Loading suggested by Fornell and Larcker (1981). CR should exceed 0.7, AVE should exceed 0.5 and factor loading should exceed 0.7, then the convergent validity of variables is high. From Table 2, all the variables have CR values over 0.85, AVE over 0.65, and factor loading over 0.7, which means that all the variables have good convergent validity.

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### TABLE II. RELIABILITY ANALYSIS AND CORRELATION COEFFICIENT

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<tr>
<th>Constructs</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cross-Loading</th>
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<th>AVE</th>
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<tr>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>SAT1</td>
<td>0.833</td>
<td>0.850</td>
<td>0.899</td>
<td>0.690</td>
<td>0.720</td>
<td>0.763</td>
<td>0.771</td>
<td>0.652</td>
<td>0.724</td>
<td>0.830</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SAT2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SAT3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SAT4</td>
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</table>

1 What’s the ratio of e-learning time to your Internet surfing time?
A. <1/8, B. 1/8-1/4, C. 1/4-1/2, D. about 1/2, E. above 1/2
Legend: ATTI=Attitude, CI=Continued Intention, CON=Expectation Confirmation, PEOU=Perceived ease of use, PU=Perceived usefulness, SAT=satisfaction. Diagonal bold=AVE’s square root

B. Structural model verification

variance (R2) is jointly explained by path coefficient and variables via Smart PLS, as shown in Fig. 4. The result of model verification shows that all the hypothesis proposed in this research are supported.

From total effect value, the effect of satisfaction, perceived usefulness and attitude to continuance intention is 0.587, 0.438 and 0.241 respectively. The total effects of both satisfaction and perceived usefulness are larger than that of attitude. This verifies the assumption of ECM that satisfaction and perceived usefulness are the most important factor influencing continuance intention. Expectation confirmation and perceived ease of use can also generate indirect influence on continuance intention via perceived usefulness, attitude and satisfaction, with their indirect effect value of 0.438 and 0.259 respectively.

Above all, among the influencing factors of college students’ continuance intention on e-learning, satisfaction, attitude and perceived usefulness all have direct and significant positive influence, among which perceived usefulness can also generate indirect influence. Besides, expectation confirmation and perceived ease of use can also generate indirect influence on continued learning. The total effect value ranging from the largest to the smallest are satisfaction, expectation confirmation, perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and attitude. All of them jointly explain 64.7% of online self-regulated learning. Therefore, in a totally self-regulated learning context, to improve college students’ internal motivation (satisfaction and attitude) and external

### TABLE III. TOTAL EFFECT VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>ATTI</th>
<th>CI</th>
<th>PU</th>
<th>SAT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATTI</td>
<td>0.241</td>
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<tr>
<td>CON</td>
<td>0.349</td>
<td>0.438</td>
<td>0.420</td>
<td>0.606</td>
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<tr>
<td>PEOU</td>
<td>0.366</td>
<td>0.259</td>
<td>0.306</td>
<td>0.249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PU</td>
<td>0.206</td>
<td>0.403</td>
<td>0.358</td>
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<td>SAT</td>
<td>0.576</td>
<td>0.587</td>
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</table>

VI. CONCLUSIONS, SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPLICATIONS

A. Conclusions and Significance

Based on the literature and theoretical analysis about users’ behavior, this paper integrated ECM with TAM and built a structural model studying college students’ continuance intention of online self-regulated learning. Structural equation model is applied for empirical verification. The explanation degree of this model is 64.7%. This research not only verified ECM and TAM in online self-regulated learning context, but also found that TAM performs well in explaining the continuance intention of e-learning. The effective integration of ECM and TAM effectively improved the explanation degree on the continuance intention of e-learning and received deeper understanding on the influence mechanism between variables. Based on the theory of ECM and TAM, this research found that perceived ease of use can indirectly influence students’ continued learning intention via satisfaction, while perceived usefulness can indirectly influence students’ continued learning intention via attitude. Besides, students’ attitude towards e-learning can be influenced by their prior experience and comprehensive evaluation.

1) Continuance intention of online self-regulated learning

Satisfaction ($\beta$=0.451, $p <0.000$), perceived usefulness ($\beta=0.191$, $p <0.05$) and attitude ($\beta=0.241$, $p <0.001$) have direct and significant positive influence on continued learning intention. From path coefficient, satisfaction has the largest direct influence on the continuance intention of learning, followed by attitude and perceived usefulness. This further verified that attitude, as a kind of post-behavior tendency and preference of users, is still an important factor influencing users’ continuance intention of online self-regulated learning.

Besides, perceived usefulness can generate direct influence on continued learning intention via attitude and satisfaction. From total effect value, the effect of satisfaction, perceived usefulness and attitude to continuance intention is 0.587, 0.438 and 0.241 respectively. The total effects of both satisfaction and perceived usefulness are larger than that of attitude. This verifies the assumption of ECM that satisfaction and perceived usefulness are the most important factor influencing continuance intention. Expectation confirmation and perceived easy of use can also generate indirect influence on continuance intention via perceived usefulness, attitude and satisfaction, with their indirect effect value of 0.438 and 0.259 respectively.

To further understand the real influence of independent variables on dependent variables, path coefficient is adopted to calculate the direct, indirect, and total effectiveness of independent variables on dependent variables. The total effect value is a sum of direct effect value and indirect effect value (Qiu, 2013). For example, in this research the effect of satisfaction on continuance intention is 0.449. Expectation confirmation and perceived ease of use and satisfaction jointly explained 70.2% of satisfaction; and perceived ease of use and expectation confirmation jointly explained 44.1% of perceived usefulness.

C. Effectiveness Evaluation

As to variable explaining variance, perceived usefulness, attitude and satisfaction explained 64.7% of the variances; perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and satisfaction jointly explained 54.8% of attitudes; perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and expectation confirmation jointly explained 70.2% of satisfaction; and perceived ease of use and expectation confirmation explained 44.1% of perceived usefulness.
motivation (perceived usefulness) can both directly promote continued intention of online self-regulated learning, while the improvement of perceived ease of use and expectation confirmation has indirect influence.

2) Satisfaction of online self-regulated learning

Perceived usefulness, expectation confirmation and perceived ease of use all have significant positive influence on the satisfaction of online self-regulated learning. Among them, perceived usefulness ($β=0.358$, $p<0.000$) has direct significant influence. Besides direct influence, expectation confirmation and perceived ease of use can also generate indirect influence via perceived usefulness, with total effect values of 0.606 and 0.249 respectively. Therefore, the influence of expectation confirmation on satisfaction is higher than that of perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use, which is explaining 70.2% of online self-regulated learning. Therefore, to improve college students’ perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and expectation confirmation during e-learning can improve their satisfaction degree.

3) Attitude of online self-regulated learning

College students’ perceived ease of use, perceived usefulness and satisfaction during online self-regulated learning all have significant positive influence. Perceived usefulness ($β=0.206$, $p<0.000$) and satisfaction ($β=0.576$, $p<0.000$) have direct influence on online self-regulated learning, while perceived ease of use not only generates direct influence ($β=0.222$, $p<0.01$), but also indirect influence ($β=0.143$, $p<0.001$) via perceived usefulness and satisfaction with a total effect value of 0.366. Besides, 54.8% of the attitude of online self-regulated learning can be jointly explained. Therefore, this research find that college students will do post-learning evaluation of this study method, including usefulness, ease of use and satisfaction, which will constantly impact their attitude towards e-learning. And in the context of self-regulated learning, the internal motivation emotion (satisfaction and perceived ease of use) have more significant influence on students’ preference.

4) Perceived usefulness of online self-regulated learning

Students’ perceived ease of use ($β=0.306$, $p<0.001$) and expectation confirmation ($β=0.420$, $p<0.001$) of online self-regulated learning will generate significant and direct positive influence on their perceived usefulness with R2 equals 44.1%. This means that 44.1% change of the perceived usefulness of online self-regulated learning can be jointly predicted by perceived ease of use and expectation confirmation. Therefore, for the continuance of e-learning, perceived ease of use still has important impact on college students’ perceived usefulness even though they have prior experience. Therefore, to improve college students’ perceived usefulness to online self-regulated learning, perceived ease of use and expectation confirmation should be drawn attention to.

5) Expectation confirmation and perceived ease of use of online self-regulated learning

Based on the above analysis, college students’ expectation confirmation and perceived ease of use towards online self-regulated learning has indirect influence on their continuance intention and direct influence on perceived usefulness, attitude and satisfaction. Among them, the impact of expectation confirmation is larger than that of perceived ease of use. Therefore, to improve college students’ continuance intention of e-learning, coinciding with Bhattacherjee’s (2001) research results, expectation confirmation still has important indirect influence.

B. Research significance

For theoretical significance, this research integrated ECM and TAM, the two classical theoretical models of IS usage behavior, further verified the adaptation of ECM, and found that TAM can explain users’ continued using behavior. As different theoretical models stem from different viewpoints, rational and effective integration of different views can not only improve the explanation degree of research model, but also obtain some new findings. For example, in this research, variable Attitude is found to be an important influencing factor of continued learning intention. Meanwhile, attitude can be influenced by perceived usefulness and satisfaction. In continued behavior, attitude will be more likely influenced by the post-actual-experience evaluation. After taking online self-regulated learning, college students have clearer evaluation on perceived usefulness and satisfaction, and then change their attitudes to online self-regulated learning.

For practical significance, this research reflects that college students’ internal and external motivations towards online self-regulated learning both have effects on their continued intention of e-learning. From the perspective of perceived ease of use, convenient Internet access, rich learning resources, and easy operation can help students realize fast and effective e-learning; as to perceived usefulness, improving the diversity and quality of learning resources and providing a platform for study communication can let students have real effectiveness; from the perspective of expectation confirmation, to improve students’ self-efficiency of e-learning can make sure that students obtain correct expectations and evaluations. Then, all these will promote students’ positive attitude and satisfaction to online self-regulated learning and improve their continuance.

C. Future expectation

In future studies, we should first draw on the research theory and results from other subjects, and verify and integrate them for further findings; secondly, the antecedent variables of perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and attitude should be further discussed. For example, Yang Wenzheng et al. (2015) have proposed that the quality of resource, system and service have effect on users’ perceived usefulness and expectation confirmation; thirdly, this research only discussed the continuance intention of online self-regulated learning. As some researchers have find that intention does not equal to actual behavior, for example Zhao Yang and Gao Ting (2015) has proposed that habit can adjust the association between intention and actual behavior, continued behaviors should be further discussed; fourthly, some researchers have proposed that college students’ of different genders possess different attitudes and learning methods of online self-regulated learning. Therefore, future studies can introduce some characteristics of students, such as gender, age, major,
character and so on, and discuss the influences of these characters.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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