

The Impact of Behavioral Economics on Consumer Decision-Making in the Digital Era

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Abstract: With the rapid development of digital technologies, the consumer decision-making process has undergone significant changes in the digital environment. This paper, from the perspective of behavioral economics, explores the irrational characteristics of consumer decision-making in the digital era and the underlying psychological mechanisms. The study shows that digital technologies such as information overload, personalized recommendations, social media group effects, and digital payments not only profoundly influence consumer choices but also exacerbate the manifestation of behavioral economic phenomena such as bounded rationality and mental accounting. By analyzing key concepts in behavioral economics, such as reference dependence and loss aversion, the paper reveals how consumers make “good enough” decisions rather than optimal ones on digital platforms. Finally, the paper offers policy recommendations and practical insights aimed at providing theoretical support for the healthy development of digital marketing and the digital economy.

Keyword: Behavioral Economics; Consumer Decision-Making; Digital Technology; Information Overload; Personalized Recommendations; Marketing Strategies

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1.Introduction

1.1 Research Background

In the context of digital transformation, the decision-making process of modern consumers has undergone profound changes. Technological innovations, particularly the widespread application of artificial intelligence, big data, digital payments, and intelligent recommendation systems, have not only altered the way consumers make purchases but also influenced their thinking and behavioral patterns. In traditional economics, consumers are typically viewed as rational decision-makers who make optimal choices based on complete information^[1]. However, in the digital age, factors such as information overload, virtual social influence, and instant purchasing make the decision-making process more complex and dynamic. In particular, the use of personalized advertising and recommendation algorithms means that consumers' choices are often influenced by implicit factors and emotional drives, which are not fully accounted for in traditional economic theories.

Digital tools, such as social media platforms, smart recommendation engines, and mobile payment systems, are fundamentally reshaping consumer purchasing behavior. These technologies not only make it easier to access product information but also alter the decision-making paths of consumers^[2]. In this process, consumer choices become increasingly reliant on external behavioral cues and instant feedback, rather than solely relying on personal experience or market prices.

Behavioral economics provides a new perspective for analyzing how these external factors impact the consumer decision-making process.

1.2 Research Questions

This paper will explore the following key questions:

Which theories from behavioral economics can effectively explain the changes in consumer decision-making in the digital environment?

How are consumer decisions influenced by new digital tools, platforms, and information technologies (such as personalized advertising, social media, artificial intelligence, etc.)?

In the digital age, how do behavioral biases and psychological factors play a role in consumer decision-making?

1.3 Research Objectives and Significance

The aim of this study is to explore how key concepts from behavioral economics influence consumer behavior in the digital age. By analyzing how digital tools alter consumer decision-making paths, this paper provides not only a deeper understanding of consumer behavior in the digital era but also a theoretical basis for policymakers and business strategists^[3]. Particularly in areas such as marketing, consumer protection, and digital payments, understanding the complexities of consumer decisions in the digital environment will help formulate more effective policies and business strategies, ultimately improving consumer service and enhancing corporate competitiveness.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Fundamental Theories of Behavioral Economics

2.1.1 Bounded Rationality

Traditional economics assumes that consumers are perfectly rational decision-makers who can analyze all available information and make optimal choices. However, Herbert Simon's theory of bounded rationality suggests that, when facing complex decisions, consumers are often unable to obtain complete information or perform comprehensive cost-benefit analyses. As a result, the decisions they make are often "good enough" rather than optimal^[4]. In the digital age, consumers are confronted with information overload and time constraints, making the concept of bounded rationality especially important for explaining consumer behavior in digital environments. On digital platforms, consumers often cannot make the best choice due to the diversity and complexity of information. They tend to rely on simplified decision rules, such as selecting platform-recommended products or directly clicking on promotional ads, instead of thoroughly analyzing all options available.

2.1.2 Mental Accounting

Richard Thaler's mental accounting theory suggests that consumers categorize wealth and spending into different mental accounts, which influences their consumption decisions. For example, consumers may separate everyday expenses from luxury purchases, and this "accounting" mentality leads them to apply different rational standards to various types of expenditures^[5]. With the proliferation of digital payments and online shopping, consumer spending has become more fragmented and irrational. On e-commerce platforms, consumers may focus on a specific promotion or shopping coupon while disregarding their overall financial situation.

2.1.3 Reference Dependence

The theory of reference dependence posits that consumer decisions are influenced not only by absolute prices but also by the relative position of prices (reference points). In the digital environment, price comparison tools, discount labels, and coupon mechanisms on platforms have altered consumers' reference points, changing their perception of prices. Through promotional activities such as time-limited discounts and flash sales, consumers tend to make purchase decisions based on these reference points, disregarding the actual value of the products or their own consumption needs. This phenomenon is particularly prevalent on digital platforms, where consumers are more easily swayed by short-term offers due to multi-platform price comparisons and social media recommendations.

2.1.4 Default Effect

The default effect refers to the tendency of consumers to accept the default option when faced with a choice, rather than making an active decision. On digital platforms, especially in the design of auto-renewals, subscription services, and digital

payment tools, default settings play a crucial role. For example, many online platforms automatically set subscription options to auto-renew, and consumers often overlook this setting, leading to unnecessary renewal fees^[6]. Digital platforms can optimize default option designs to boost sales or extend the consumer lifecycle without interfering with the user's decision-making process.

2.1.5 Loss Aversion

Loss aversion theory suggests that people feel losses more intensely than equivalent gains. On e-commerce platforms, limited-time promotions, coupon usage, and limited-quantity sales strategies exploit this psychological mechanism, driving consumers to make impulsive purchases to avoid missing out on discounts or opportunities. Digital platforms stimulate consumers' desire to purchase by using countdown promotions and displaying "only a few left" notifications, leveraging the loss aversion mindset to speed up the decision-making process.

2.2 Consumer Behavior in the Digital Age

2.2.1 Changes in Information Flow

Traditional shopping methods mainly relied on advertising, store displays, and word-of-mouth recommendations. In the digital age, social media, e-commerce platforms, and search engines provide real-time information flow channels. Consumers can easily access product reviews, price comparisons, and brand stories, which makes their decisions more diverse and complex. Through these platforms, consumers can quickly acquire various opinions and recommendations about products, which influences their purchase intentions^[7].

2.2.2 Diversification of Market Choices

The rise of digital platforms has given consumers unprecedented choice space. Through e-commerce platforms, consumers can access goods and services from around the world, thus breaking the geographical and physical limitations of traditional markets. This change not only increases consumers' freedom of choice but also leads to decision fatigue and delay. Faced with numerous products and brands, consumers often rely on platform recommendations or other people's reviews to simplify their decision-making process, which may result in irrational decisions.

2.2.3 Speed and Impulsiveness in Purchase Decisions

With the widespread use of mobile payments and instant purchase features, consumer purchase decisions have become faster and more impulsive. On digital platforms, consumers can easily make purchases without much deliberation. This phenomenon is partly due to psychological incentives embedded in platform designs, such as time-limited discounts, instant offers, and personalized recommendations, which exploit consumers' loss aversion and reference dependence. While this rapid purchasing behavior may increase short-term sales, it can also lead consumers to make irrational decisions without adequate consideration.

2.3 The Integration of Behavioral Economics and Digital Technology

2.3.1 Algorithmic Recommendations and Personalized Advertising

Big data and artificial intelligence technologies enable platforms to push personalized advertisements and recommendations based on users' historical behavior, preferences, and social network information. Behavioral economics theories such as reference dependence and loss aversion help explain why users are more likely to accept recommendations that align with their past behavior and ignore other potential choices. For example, platforms collect and analyze user data to predict future consumption needs and conduct targeted marketing based on these predictions.

2.3.2 Data-Driven Marketing Strategies

On digital platforms, companies can analyze large amounts of consumer behavior data to accurately predict user needs and implement corresponding market strategies. Behavioral economics theories like the "default effect" and "loss aversion" can be used to design more effective promotional activities, such as setting default subscription options, offering time-limited discounts, and providing coupons to prompt consumers to make quick purchasing decisions. These strategies not only increase sales but also accelerate the consumer decision-making process, reducing decision time.

2.3.3 Social Media and Collective Decision-Making

The popularity of social media means that consumers are increasingly influenced by social factors in their decision-making.

The “bandwagon effect” in behavioral economics explains how group behavior on social media affects individual decisions. On e-commerce platforms, user reviews, likes, and social recommendations serve as social proof, encouraging consumers to make purchase decisions in situations where they lack complete information. Social media’s “collective wisdom” leads consumers to mimic others’ purchasing choices, thereby influencing their decision-making process.

2.4 Existing Research Gaps

2.4.1 Limited Behavioral Economic Explanations on Digital Platforms

Although existing research has explored the impact of digital technologies on consumer behavior, there is still a lack of behavioral economic explanations on digital platforms, especially e-commerce and social media platforms. Specifically, how behavioral economics theories can help understand consumers’ decision biases and irrational behaviors on these platforms remains an underexplored area.

2.4.2 Limitations of Laboratory-Based Studies

Much of behavioral economics research relies on controlled laboratory experiments, which limits the applicability of its conclusions in real-world settings. As digital platforms diversify, the real-world scenarios of consumer behavior become more complex, and traditional laboratory research may not fully reflect the consumption behavior in actual environments. Therefore, future studies need to adopt big data analysis methods and actual platform data to obtain more realistic and reliable conclusions.

2.4.3 Lack of Long-Term Impact Studies in Digital Environments

Currently, most studies focus on short-term changes in consumer behavior, with relatively little research on long-term impacts. The long-term effects of promotional activities, algorithmic recommendations, and other factors on digital platforms have not been thoroughly explored. Future research should focus on the role of these behavioral economic mechanisms in long-term consumer decision-making.

3. Theoretical Framework

3.1 Bounded Rationality and Digital Information Overload

In the digital age, information overload is one of the major challenges consumers face. Consumers access large amounts of product information, advertisements, reviews, recommendations, and other content through digital platforms. While this information helps in decision-making, it can also lead to “choice fatigue” or information anxiety, affecting the quality of their decisions. According to the theory of bounded rationality, when confronted with such a vast amount of information, consumers are often unable to conduct a comprehensive analysis and comparison. Therefore, they rely on simplified decision rules to cope with complex choice tasks. For example, when faced with multiple product or service options, consumers may reduce their decision burden by selecting platform-recommended items, default options, or filtering conditions, thus making a “good enough” decision rather than an optimal one. Additionally, default options in platform design (such as automatic subscriptions or renewals) reduce decision complexity, allowing consumers to make purchase decisions without much further thought.

3.2 Mental Accounting and Digital Payments

Mental accounting theory suggests that consumers categorize their funds into different accounts based on their purposes and sources, which affects their spending behavior. In the context of digital payments, consumers create a virtual “invisible money” effect through digital wallets, credit card payments, and other methods, which impacts their consumption decisions. Compared to traditional cash payments, digital payments lead consumers to experience a psychological separation from the expense, making it harder for them to feel the immediacy of spending or the actual loss. As a result, they are more likely to engage in impulsive spending behaviors. This phenomenon occurs because digital payments detach the immediate pain of payment from the transaction, making consumers more likely to overspend or make hasty purchasing decisions.

3.3 Reference Dependence and Pricing Strategies

Reference dependence theory emphasizes that consumer decisions are not only influenced by the inherent value of a product but also by the reference point (or benchmark) set for comparison. Digital platforms leverage various strategies to guide consumer purchasing decisions using reference effects. On e-commerce platforms, consumers often compare the price of

a product with a reference price, which could be the original price, discounted price, or prices of similar products on the market. Therefore, e-commerce platforms frequently use tactics like showing “original price,” “current price,” and “discounted price” to influence consumers’ perception of the price. These strategies aim to make consumers feel they are receiving a better deal, even if the actual product value does not warrant such a purchase.

3.4 Loss Aversion and Personalized Advertising

Loss aversion is a core concept in behavioral economics, which suggests that people are more sensitive to losses than to gains of equal value. In the digital age, the combination of loss aversion psychology with personalized advertising strategies leads consumers to develop a strong desire to make purchases. Platforms conduct precise data analysis based on consumers’ browsing history, purchase records, and social media behavior to push personalized ads, triggering the fear of “missing out” on an opportunity.

For instance, e-commerce platforms frequently use strategies such as “limited-time flash sales,” “only one left,” or “countdown promotions” to activate loss aversion in consumers, stimulating their desire to buy. In this scenario, consumers are often pushed to make decisions without sufficient information to avoid losing a discount or special offer.

4. Impact of Digital Technology on Consumer Decision-Making

4.1 Personalized Recommendation Systems

In the digital age, personalized recommendation systems have become crucial tools that influence consumer decision-making. By utilizing big data analytics and artificial intelligence, platforms can predict consumer needs and offer tailored product or service recommendations based on their past behaviors, browsing history, and social interactions. The implementation of personalized recommendations not only enhances the user experience but also reduces information overload and simplifies the decision-making process, thereby promoting purchase decisions.

These systems continuously adjust the recommendation content through algorithms to maximize consumer satisfaction and platform revenue. For example, e-commerce platforms display product recommendations such as “You might also like,” “Related products,” or “Combo deals” based on previous purchases or behaviors of similar consumers. This approach reduces the cost of information search, increases decision efficiency, and often makes consumers feel that the recommended content better fits their needs, thus increasing the likelihood of purchase. However, while personalized recommendations can boost platform conversion rates, they may also limit consumer choice freedom, making consumers more likely to engage in familiar consumption patterns while missing out on potentially valuable alternatives.

4.2 Social Media and Social Influence

Social media platforms have become significant channels that influence consumer decision-making, especially through behavioral economics phenomena like social influence, word-of-mouth, and social comparison. Consumers receive opinions, recommendations, and reviews of products and services from friends, celebrities, experts, and brands on social media. This interaction not only alters consumer purchase decisions but also amplifies the spread of information within social networks, creating a collective influence.

Reviews, recommendations, and sharing behavior on social media significantly enhance the social proof effect, with consumers tending to select products that have received good reviews or are widely shared. According to social influence theory, when a consumer sees that friends or peers have purchased and recommended a product, they are more likely to believe in its value, often disregarding other potential choices. This phenomenon is evident not only in B2C (business-to-consumer) markets but also in C2C (consumer-to-consumer) interactions, such as through social e-commerce or sharing economy platforms, where consumer purchase decisions are strongly influenced by group opinions.

4.3 Digital Payments and the Psychology of Payment Behavior

The widespread use of digital payment technologies has significantly changed consumer payment behavior. Unlike traditional cash payments, digital payments offer more convenient and anonymous payment methods, altering consumers’ perception of spending. When using credit cards, e-wallets, or mobile payments, consumers do not physically see the flow of cash, creating a “money invisibility” effect, which reduces the psychological cost of payment and leads consumers to make more impulsive decisions while shopping.

The convenience of digital payments promotes rapid consumption and frequent small payments, behaviors that often do not trigger immediate financial awareness in consumers. Research shows that consumers, when using digital payments, tend to overlook the immediacy of payments, resulting in budget overruns or unnecessary expenditures. Additionally, digital payment systems encourage further consumption by offering incentives like loyalty points, rewards, and coupons. Especially on e-commerce platforms, consumers often receive instant feedback (such as discounts, points, or special offers) at the time of payment, which increases their sense of immediate gratification and promotes more consumer spending.

Consumers' preferences for payment methods also influence their decision-making process. Many consumers tend to choose convenient and fast payment options, such as QR code payments or mobile payments, which reduce friction during the payment process and enhance the smoothness of the shopping experience, further affecting the speed and frequency of purchase decisions.

4.4 Virtual Reality and Immersive Shopping Experiences

Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) technologies are providing consumers with entirely new shopping experiences. These technologies create immersive shopping environments, allowing consumers to experience products or services in virtual worlds, which alters their emotional decisions and purchasing behavior. In virtual stores, consumers can not only view products from a 3D perspective to understand their appearance and features but also simulate usage scenarios to perceive the actual effects of products. This immersive experience breaks the limitations of traditional shopping, enhancing consumers' interest and emotional connection with products, thereby influencing their purchasing decisions.

Virtual reality also creates fully immersive virtual shopping environments, allowing consumers to feel as if they are physically entering a store, viewing products, trying items, or interacting with virtual sales staff or other consumers. This type of shopping not only increases consumer engagement and enjoyment but also boosts the desire to purchase by enhancing interactivity and entertainment. Through these immersive technologies, consumers can have more engaging and personalized shopping experiences, which in turn drives purchasing behavior.

5. Implications for Marketing Strategies

5.1 Pricing Strategies and Behavioral Economics

Behavioral economics offers rich theoretical insights for designing pricing strategies. While traditional economics assumes consumers have perfect rationality in price decisions, behavioral economics suggests that consumer pricing decisions are often influenced by psychological biases, which companies can leverage to create more attractive pricing strategies. Below are some common behavioral economics pricing strategies and their applications:

Anchoring Effect: The anchoring effect refers to the influence that initial information (the "anchor") has on consumer price decisions, often leading to biased judgments. Companies can use a high-priced "anchor" to make subsequent lower prices seem more attractive. For example, e-commerce platforms often display both the original price and the discounted price, making consumers believe they are getting a better deal and thus increasing their desire to purchase.

Tiered Pricing: By designing products or services at different levels (e.g., basic, premium, and elite versions), companies can use consumers' comparative psychology to encourage the purchase of higher-value products. By offering multiple price options, companies can meet the needs of different consumers and guide them toward higher-priced versions. The "reference effect" from behavioral economics plays a key role here, as consumers will judge the fairness of a price based on the reference prices provided, influencing their purchasing decisions.

Price Endings: Research shows that consumers have a strong preference for prices ending in .99 or .95, even though these prices differ little from whole numbers. This effect, known as the "left digit effect," means consumers pay more attention to the first digit of a price. Many companies adopt this pricing strategy to make products seem more appealing.

5.2 Personalized Marketing and Consumer Behavior Prediction

With the rapid development of big data technology, personalized marketing has become a key tool in modern marketing. By analyzing consumer behavior data, such as past behaviors, preferences, and social interactions, personalized marketing tailors products and service recommendations to each consumer. Behavioral economics plays a crucial role in personalized marketing by helping businesses more accurately predict consumer needs and behaviors.

Leveraging Mental Accounting: Behavioral economics' mental accounting theory reveals how consumers treat funds and spending in different contexts. Personalized marketing can utilize this by offering customized coupons, rewards, or incentives, encouraging consumers to spend more within specific accounts. For instance, platforms can provide personalized discounts or exclusive offers based on consumers' shopping histories, enhancing their purchasing intent.

Utilizing Loss Aversion: Loss aversion refers to the tendency of consumers to feel a stronger negative emotional reaction to losses than to equivalent gains. Businesses can use this psychological phenomenon by launching "limited-time offers" or "last-chance deals" to encourage consumers to make quick purchasing decisions. These strategies exploit consumers' excessive reactions to potential losses, sparking increased purchase desires.

Behavior-Driven Recommendation Systems: Using behavioral economics-based predictive models, companies can precisely capture consumers' potential needs. By analyzing consumers' online search behaviors, browsing history, and click frequency, personalized recommendation systems can suggest products or services consumers are most likely to be interested in. This precise marketing strategy can significantly improve conversion rates and customer loyalty.

5.3 Social Proof and Influencer Marketing

Social proof theory suggests that consumers often make decisions based on the behavior of others, especially when facing uncertainty or incomplete information. With the rapid growth of social media and online platforms, the role of social proof in marketing has become increasingly important. Companies can shape social influence and use consumer group behaviors to drive effective marketing.

User Reviews and Ratings: On online shopping platforms, user reviews, ratings, and feedback have become important reference points in consumer decision-making. Behavioral economics shows that consumers tend to choose products with higher ratings or positive reviews. This "group consensus" makes it easier for a company's product to attract new customers. Companies can actively manage and guide user reviews to shape social proof effects, thereby enhancing their brand's credibility and appeal.

Influencer and Social Media Influence: The influencer effect is a powerful form of social proof. Many companies now collaborate with well-known bloggers, social media personalities, or thought leaders to promote their products. Consumers often view an influencer's endorsement as a trustworthy social proof, which leads to imitation behavior. This influencer marketing not only increases product visibility but also boosts brand awareness and purchase desire.

"Social Recommendations" and Sharing Economy: Companies can also encourage consumers to recommend and share products, further expanding the social proof effect. For instance, by offering "share discounts" or "referral rewards" on social media, businesses can motivate existing customers to introduce new ones, leveraging consumers' social circles to influence more potential buyers.

6.Challenges and Future Directions

6.1 Ethical Issues in Digital Technology

With the rapid advancement of digital technology, changes in consumer behavior are not only economic but also involve complex ethical concerns. While digital marketing and data analytics provide convenience, they also raise significant ethical issues, particularly within the framework of behavioral economics.

Privacy Protection: In the digital environment, consumers' personal data has become a critical resource for marketing and decision-making. However, consumer data is often collected and used without sufficient consent, raising concerns about privacy violations. The "paradox of choice" in behavioral economics can also apply here, where consumers lack enough information to make fully informed decisions on digital platforms, making it difficult for them to effectively protect their privacy. Balancing data utilization with user privacy protection will be a key challenge for the digital economy moving forward.

Data Misuse: With the growth of big data and AI, companies may face the risk of misusing consumer data. For example, businesses might intentionally manipulate consumer purchasing decisions through opaque algorithms to increase profits. Behavioral economics' "choice architecture" theory can help us understand how companies design information and options to guide consumer decisions, but if such choices are not well-regulated, they can negatively impact consumers.

Algorithmic Bias: Algorithmic bias has emerged as a significant issue with the use of big data and machine learning. Since algorithms are trained on historical data, they may incorporate social, cultural, or gender biases, influencing decisions and recommendations. Consumers, unaware of these biases, may make irrational decisions influenced by algorithms on digital platforms. The study of “cognitive biases” in behavioral economics provides a valuable perspective in understanding this phenomenon.

Therefore, moving forward, businesses and governments need to address the ethical issues brought by digital technology more attentively, establishing stricter laws and regulations to ensure that the application of these technologies does not infringe on consumers’ basic rights.

6.2 Integration of Behavioral Economics and Digital Economy

With the continuous advancement of information technology, the integration of behavioral economics and the digital economy has become increasingly important, particularly in developing more refined consumer behavior models. Traditional behavioral economics theories are often based on laboratory research and hypothetical scenarios, but the digital economy provides a wealth of real-time data that can more accurately simulate consumer decision-making behaviors.

Precise Forecasting and Personalized Recommendations: In the digital economy, businesses can collect real-time consumer behavior data through big data and AI algorithms, while behavioral economics theory can help them better understand consumers’ irrational decisions in various contexts. Using these data, companies can achieve more accurate consumer behavior forecasting, leading to highly personalized marketing strategies. Concepts from behavioral economics, such as “bounded rationality” and “reference dependence,” can help understand how consumers make decisions in complex information environments, thus improving marketing effectiveness.

Digital Transformation of Behavioral Models: The digital economy not only provides new research data for behavioral economics but also compels the theory to evolve and update. For example, how to build more complex and dynamic consumer behavior models using multi-channel data (such as online browsing history and social media interactions) will be a key focus in future research. This behavioral economics based on real-time data and complex models will improve the precision and depth of consumer behavior analysis.

Cross-Disciplinary Integration and Innovation: The integration of behavioral economics with fields like information technology, data science, and psychology will open new avenues for consumer behavior research. By combining insights from these disciplines, scholars can develop more comprehensive consumer decision models to address real-world issues that traditional theories cannot solve. For example, the digital economy’s issues of “information overload” and “choice fatigue” can be better explained by behavioral economics through its integration with cognitive psychology and decision theory, offering deeper insights into consumer behavior in digital environments.

7. Conclusion

7.1 Policy Recommendations

7.1.1 Enhance Privacy Protection and Data Regulation

Governments should further improve data protection laws to ensure the security of consumer personal information in the digital environment. Enterprises should enhance transparency, clearly informing consumers about the purpose of data collection and usage, while respecting consumers’ right to choose and their privacy rights.

7.1.2 Regulate Algorithm Usage

Governments and industry organizations should implement regulations that ensure fairness and transparency in the use of algorithms for recommendation systems and personalized advertisements, to prevent algorithmic bias from negatively impacting consumer decision-making.

7.1.3 Promote Ethical Development of Digital Technologies

Industry standards and ethical frameworks should be developed with a focus on protecting consumers’ rights, especially addressing how digital technologies could be misused to guide consumers into making irrational decisions.

7.2 Practical Implications

7.2.1 Optimize Digital Marketing Strategies

Businesses should apply the principles of behavioral economics, such as anchoring effect, choice architecture, and reference dependence, to design pricing strategies and promotional activities that align with consumer psychology. For example, using limited-time offers, default options, and tiered pricing strategies can encourage consumers to make quick decisions.

7.2.2 Strengthen Personalized and Social Marketing

Businesses can use data analysis and social media platforms to offer personalized recommendations and social proof-based marketing campaigns, thereby increasing consumer engagement and loyalty. In doing so, it is important to ensure the transparency of marketing strategies and avoid infringing on consumer privacy.

7.2.3 Focus on Consumer Rights Protection

When designing digital payment systems and shopping platforms, businesses should reduce consumers' psychological burden through thoughtful design, such as providing clear payment information, avoiding complicated payment processes, and ensuring the security and privacy of consumers' funds and payments.

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