Accepted Manuscript

Title: Privacy calculus and its utility for personalization services in e-commerce: An analysis of consumer

decision-making

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PII: S0378-7206(16)30199-9

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.im.2016.10.001

Reference: INFMAN 2942

To appear in: *INFMAN*

Received date: 18-11-2015 Revised date: 11-9-2016 Accepted date: 2-10-2016

Please cite this article as: Hui Zhu, Carol X.J.Ou, W.J.A.M.van den Heuvel, Hongwei Liu, Privacy calculus and its utility for personalization services in ecommerce: An analysis of consumer decision-making, Information and Management http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.im.2016.10.001

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Privacy Calculus and its Utility for Personalization Services in

E-Commerce: An Analysis of Consumer Preferences

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Abstract: Modern consumers increasingly embrace the personalization of

services. Whether to disclose private information to companies for the sake of

receiving personalized service is largely contingent to relative valuations and the

utility of private information. Unfortunately, there is a lack of balanced research that

analyzes and reconciles the contradiction between privacy and personalization service.

In this study, based on the multi-attribute utility theory (MAUT), we introduce a

utility model of privacy in personalization. Our simulation results validate our

white-box utility model by demonstrating significant distinctions of calculating

benefits and costs among three groups of consumers.

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