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Analysis of Marketing Stimuli Factors in Purchasing Decisions for Fast Fashion Items Among Generation Z in Batam

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the marketing stimuli factors that influence the purchasing decisions of Generation Z in Batam City regarding fast fashion items. The research adopts a quantitative approach, utilizing factor analysis as the primary analytical method. Within the study, 19 variables were initially examined and subsequently reduced to several factors. The analysis revealed four key factors that drive purchasing decisions for fast fashion items among Generation Z in Batam City: Attractive Service, Marketing Excellence and Competitive Design, Value for Money, and Shopping Experience. The Attractive Service factor emerged as the most dominant, accounting for 24.192% of the variance in this study. This finding underscores the critical role of service quality in influencing consumer decisions in the competitive fast fashion industry. Brands should strengthen their digital presence through engaging social media content, and ensure up-to-date product designs to align with Generation Z's preferences for developing competitive strategies. Additionally, improving the shopping experience through accessible store locations, strengthening brand reputation, and creating an inviting store atmosphere, can further attract and retain Generation Z consumers in Batam's competitive market.

Keywords: Purchase Decision, Marketing Stimuli, Factor Analysis, Fast fashion, Generation Z.

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INTRODUCTION

The advancement of technology and digitalization has transformed consumer behavior in making purchasing decisions, particularly among millennials and Generation Z. (Haryati & Lestari, 2020) found that online purchasing decisions of millennials in Indonesia are influenced by product availability, promotions, return policies, consumer attitudes, demographic factors, and the reputation of online retailers. These factors indicate that easy access and transaction security are crucial aspects of online shopping behavior. Meanwhile, (Al Amin & Islam, 2017) revealed that in the fast fashion industry, market segmentation factors such as location, brand reputation, pricing, and customer service play a major role in shaping consumption patterns among young consumers. Furthermore, research by (Pradiga, 2022) highlights that digital marketing and consumer attitudes are dominant factors in Generation Z's purchasing decisions, emphasizing the importance of digital-based marketing strategies in influencing purchasing behavior.

The global fashion industry continues to grow, driven by technological advancements and the rapid spread of information through social media. Technology and social media are closely linked to Generation Z, as this generation's daily activities are heavily influenced by digital trends and online information. In the fashion industry, clothing is no longer just a basic necessity but has become a desire, a standard, and a form of self-representation in social life. This phenomenon has led to the rise of fast fashion. According to (Ruslim et al., 2024), fast fashion is a business model that generates high profits by leveraging high-fashion designs and the latest catwalk trends while producing them on a large scale at a low production cost. As a result, the fast fashion industry is considered one of the most effective ways to produce large quantities of fashion items in the shortest possible time.

According to Kotler & Amstrong (2019), marketing aims to increase revenue by attracting and retaining customers through the development of meaningful relationships and the dissemination of valuable information. Furthermore, Kotler & Amstrong (2012) explain that the marketing mix is a set of marketing tools utilized by companies to achieve their business objectives in the economic market. Tjiptono (2019) adds that the marketing mix is closely related to determining the types of services offered to customers. With the growing popularity of fast fashion, especially among Generation Z in Batam City, analyzing the 4P marketing mix becomes essential to understanding consumer purchasing decisions. The urgency of this study lies in using the marketing mix as a foundation to analyze purchasing decisions for fast fashion items, providing insights for business owners in Batam to develop effective strategies.

Consumer purchasing decisions begin with marketing stimuli, which include price, product, distribution, and promotion. Price refers to the cost incurred by customers, while products should meet consumer needs. Distribution ensures ease of access, and promotion plays a role in introducing and persuading consumers to make a purchase (Irwansyah et al., 2021). According to Mamonto et al. (2021), the elements of the marketing mix—product, price, place, and promotion—significantly influence consumer purchasing decisions. Several factors shape purchasing decisions based on the 4P marketing stimuli, including product quality, modern design, product variety, consumer trust, price-quality alignment, affordability, competitiveness, attractive promotions, clear advertising messages, accessibility, location diversity, and store convenience (Pradiga, 2022). Additionally, factors like attractive packaging, price-benefit alignment, store atmosphere, social media catalogs, friendly staff, and appealing store designs also play a role (Nugroho & Irena, 2017).

Beyond online shopping and the food industry, purchasing decisions are influenced by various factors across different sectors. Tiara et al. (2023) highlight that timeliness, service satisfaction, efficiency, and situational factors significantly drive purchasing decisions. In the context of fashion marketing, Arda & Andriany (2019) emphasize the importance of product quality, affordable prices, appealing designs, and aggressive promotional strategies in attracting consumers. Bandara (2020) further reveals that social media advertising has a significant impact on fast fashion purchasing decisions through elements like entertainment, branding, and

advertising expenditure. These findings indicate that understanding marketing factors and consumer behavior is crucial for businesses in crafting effective marketing strategies to boost competitiveness in an increasingly digital market.

Through the analysis of the 4P marketing mix, this study aims to provide deeper insights into Marketing Stimuli Factors in Fast Fashion Purchase Decisions Among Generation Z in Batam City. The results are expected to assist fast fashion brands in designing more effective marketing strategies tailored to the needs and preferences of local consumers, particularly Generation Z. Consequently, this research not only contributes to the development of better marketing strategies but also enriches academic literature exploring the dynamics of the fast fashion market in unique regions like Batam.

RESEARCH METHOD

Marketing stimuli in the context of e-commerce refer to factors that influence consumer behavior, starting from the initial interaction to the purchase decision (Sakinah & Heruwasto, 2024). Marketing stimuli refer to external marketing elements that influence consumer motivation and purchasing decisions. These factors include product characteristics, pricing, purchasing process, service quality, promotion, and tangible evidence. In modern marketing, marketing stimuli play a crucial role in shaping consumer perception and decision-making (Khan et al., 2022). Situmorang (2023) research on motorcycle purchase decisions in Jakarta further reinforces the importance of marketing stimuli, particularly through the 4P marketing mix (product, price, promotion, and distribution). His study categorizes ten marketing indicators into two main factors, demonstrating how different elements of marketing influence consumer choices. Purchasing decisions, in essence, represent consumer behavior in selecting products to achieve satisfaction based on their needs and desires. This process involves several stages: problem recognition, information search, alternative evaluation, purchase decision, and post-purchase behavior (Andriyani & Zulkarnaen, 2017:87) in (Cindy & Rahayu, 2025).

Arda & Andriany, 2019) analyzed ten variables related to online purchasing behavior among Generation Z and identified four key innovative components as the most significant influencing factors. The first factor includes high-quality standards, affordability, compatibility with multiple media platforms, user-friendly interface, cost efficiency, and post-purchase assistance guarantees. The second factor consists of visually appealing materials, distinctive layouts, and vibrant colors, which enhance consumer attraction. The third factor is solely represented by extensive advertising, emphasizing the impact of promotional intensity on purchasing decisions. Meanwhile, Haryati & Lestari (2020) focused on millennial consumers and identified six out of twenty tested factors that significantly influence online purchasing decisions. These factors include product availability, promotional strategies, refund policies, consumer attitudes, demographic aspects, and the reputation of online retailers. These findings highlight how marketing strategies must be adapted to different generational preferences to effectively drive consumer purchase behavior.

In this study, the researcher selects the population from the entire community of Batam City based on specific criteria, including individuals residing in Batam City or those who live in Batam, Gen Z, and have purchased fast fashion items at least twice a month. A sample of 100 respondents was chosen from this population.

Data Processing Technique:

This study employs a quantitative approach, utilizing factor analysis to examine the relationships between initially independent variables (Sugiyono, 2017). Factor analysis is fundamentally used for data reduction, a process that summarizes multiple variables into fewer components, which are then identified as factors. In factor analysis, two key concepts are recognized: latent constructs and empirical constructs. Empirical constructs refer to measurable items that can be quantified using scores, whereas latent constructs represent data that cannot be directly measured through scoring. These latent constructs, commonly referred to as factors,

are derived by researchers based on empirical items that exhibit high intercorrelation (Santoso, 2012).

Data processing in this study was carried out using SPSS for more accurate analysis. Some of the tests used include:

- 1. KMO (Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin) Test and Bartlett Test:
 - This test evaluates the suitability of data for factor analysis. KMO values between 0 and 1 indicate how well the data can be grouped into decomposable factors. The Bartlett Test assesses the significance of correlations between variables, where a p-value < 0.05 indicates that the data is suitable for factor analysis.
- 2. MSA (Measure of Sampling Adequacy):
 - MSA ensures that the measurement system in this study has sufficient reliability, precision, and validity. This test is important to ensure data quality in factor analysis.
- 3. Total Variance Explained Test
 - This test measures the proportion of total variance in the data that can be explained by the factors resulting from factor analysis or principal component analysis, which are then rotated to produce new factor groups.

These steps ensure that the research results have a high degree of accuracy and validity.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION Results Validity and Reliability Test

Table 1. Questionnaire Validity Test

Variable	Statement	R count	R table	Description
	Good quality products	0,600	0,195	
	Up-to-date design	0,580	0,195	
Product	A variety of models & types	0,656	0,195	VALID
	Fast fashion brand reputation	0,634	0,195	
	Attractive packaging	0,705	0,195	
	Affordable price	0,622	0,195	_
Price	Price according to quality	0,568	0,195	VALID
FIICE	Competing with the same industry	0,712	0,195	VALID
	The price is following the benefits obtained	0,698	0,195	
	Frequent promotions	0,490	0,195	
	Attractive advertising packaging	0,737	0,195	
Promotion	Advertising that is easy to understand	0,740	0,195	VALID
FIOIIIOUOII	Convenient store service	0,698	0,195	VALID
	Attractive social media catalog	0,725	0,195	
	Solutive store employees	0,746	0,195	
Place	Location that is easy to access	0,610	0,195	_
	Diversity of offline and online stores	0,731	0,195	VALID
	Attractive store design	0,787	0,195	

Source: Processed by researchers, 2024

In this validity test, all variable statements are concluded to be valid because they have a $r_{\text{calculated}}$ value greater than r_{table} (Ghozali, 2018). Based on the validity test table above, all evaluated variables have a r_{count} value greater than 0.195. So, all factors in this study are considered valid.

Table 2. Reliability Test

Cronbach Alpha	\mathbf{R}_{table}	Description
0,931	0,6	Reliable

Source: Processed by researchers, 2024

The reliability test results in Table 2 show that all statement indicators have a Cronbach's Alpha value of ≥ 0.60 , indicating that all indicators are reliable (Sugiyono, 2017). Furthermore, the Cronbach's Alpha values for each variable exceed 0.60, providing strong evidence that the research methods used in this study meet all validity and reliability criteria. This confirms that the collected data is reliable and can be trusted to evaluate the factors under consideration.

Classical Assumptions Normality Test

Table 3. K-S Normality Test

Asymp.Sig (2-tailed)	Significance	Description
0,287	0,05	Data is Normally Distributed
Source	e: Processed by researc	hers, 2024

Based on these results, we can conclude that all variables have distributions that differ significantly from the normal distribution, with p values <0.05 for all variables (X1 to X19).

Factor Analysis

Table 4. KMO & Barlett Test Output

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sa	0.882	
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	1.225.107	
	Df	171
	Sig.	0.000

Source: Processed by researchers, 2024

Based on the KMO MSA value of 0.882> 0.50 and the Bartlett's Test of Sphericity (Sig.) value of 0.000 <0.05, as shown in the KMO and Bartlett's Test output table above, it can be concluded that factor analysis in this study can be carried out because it has fulfilled the first requirement.

Anti-Image Correlation Test

Furthermore, the anti-image correlation test output shows a number of diagonal-shaped numbers, because there are no variables that have an MSA value below 0.5, the nineteen variables can be used for analysis without waste (shown as 'a').

Communalities Test

Communalities results verified that all variables had Extraction values above 0.50. Therefore, any variable can be used to clarify the components. For example, the value assigned to the variable reflecting basic advertising is 0.730, which indicates that the component can explain about 73% of the variability in the variable.

Next, we will perform the Total Variance Explained test. This test is conducted to determine the number of new factors generated after factor reduction and rotation. If the eigenvalue exceeds 1, then the number of newly formed components is 1. The eigenvalue that the author did produce the following results:

Table 5. Total Variance Explained

Com	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings		Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings			
ponent	Total	% of	Cumulative	Total	% of	Cumulative	Total	% of C	umulative
	Total	Variance	%	Total	Variance	%	Total	Variance	%
1	8.710	45.840	45.840	8.710	45.840	45.840	4.596	24.19	2 24.192
2	1.498	7.885	53.726	1.498	7.885	53.726	2.997	15.77	2 39.964
3	1.341	7.060	60.785	1.341	7.060	60.785	2.741	14.42	4 54.388
4	1.056	5.557	66.343	1.056	5.557	66.343	2.271	11.95	4 66.343

Source: Processed by researchers, 2024

When one component or factor is formed, the eigenvalue shows 8.710. When two components are formed, the eigenvalue is 1,498. The eigenvalue of each of the five components is 1.341, while the eigenvalue of the sixth component is 1.056. So, from the table it can be concluded that the maximum components or factors formed are four factors.

Discussion Rotated Component Matrix

Table 6. Rotated Component Matrix Output

Table 6. Rotated Component Matrix Output					
Item	Component				
Item	1	2	3	4	
Good quality products	.218	.110	.641	.302	
Up-to-date design	.289	.661	.210	.002	
A variety of models & types	.220	.555	.534	.061	
Fast fashion brand reputation	.206	.244	.237	.645	
Attractive packaging	.680	.288	.103	.156	
Affordable price	.636	.339	.285	152	
Price according to quality	.047	.283	.780	.168	
Competing with the same industry	.404	.639	.376	056	
The price is in accordance with the benefits obtained	.427	.074	.724	.183	
Frequent promotions	063	.737	.045	.390	
Attractive advertising packaging	.657	.456	024	.259	
Advertising that is easy to understand	.551	.633	.089	.137	
Convenient store service	.635	.086	.190	.412	
Attractive social media catalog	.713	.104	.259	.259	
Solutive store employees	.748	.063	.335	.220	
Location that is easy to access	.291	043	.308	.743	
Diversity of offline and online stores	.278	.471	.372	.439	
Attractive store design	.666	.182	.346	.286	
Good quality products	.586	.240	.004	.546	

Source: Processed by researchers, 2024

By applying the Varimax rotation method and going through the factor rotation process until it converges in 17 iterations. The rotation results have been said to be stable and can be interpreted well.

Factor Interpretation

As stated earlier, factor analysis in this study has produced four components with the degree of correlation between each component indicated by a numerical value known as factor *loading*.

Table 7. Factor Interpretation Result after Rotation

Factor	Variable	Description	Loading	% of variance	Cumulative %	
	X15	Solutive store employees	0.748		24.192	
Factor 1	X14	Attractive social media catalog	0.713	24.192		
	X5	Attractive packaging	0.680			
Factor 2	X10	Frequent promotions	0.737		_	
	X2	Up-to-date design	0.661	15.772	39.964	
	X8	Competing with the same industry	0.639			
Factor 3	X9	The price is following the benefits obtained	0.780	14.424	E4 220	
	X7	Price according to quality	0.724	14.424	54.338	
	X1	Good quality products	0.641			
Factor 4	X16	Location that is easy to access	0.743		_	
	X4	Fast fashion brand reputation	0.645	11.954	66.343	
	X19	Attractive store design	0.546			

Source: Processed by researchers, 2024

Based on the values in Table 7, the factors formed can be interpreted as follows:

Factor 1: Attractive Service

This factor includes variables with high loadings, namely friendly store employees (0.748), attractive social media catalogs (0.713), and attractive packaging (0.680). This factor explains 24.192% of the total variance, indicating that attractive service is an important aspect that influences consumer purchasing decisions. Research by Al Amin & Islam (2017) and Tjiptono (2019) supports the idea that customer service quality and packaging are important factors in customer satisfaction and loyalty, especially in competitive markets like fast fashion.

Factor 2: Marketing Excellence and Competitive Design

This factor includes the variables frequent promotion (0.737), up-to-date design (0.661), and competing with the same industry (0.639). With a variance percentage of 15.772%, this factor highlights the importance of marketing strategies and competitive product design in attracting consumer interest. Studies such as Bandara (2020) and Pradiga (2022) also emphasize the significant impact of social media advertising and digital marketing on Generation Z's buying behavior, particularly in the fast fashion industry. Both studies note that Generation Z is highly influenced by visually appealing content and influencer endorsements on platforms like Instagram and TikTok.

Factor 3: Value of Money

This factor includes the variables price according to the benefits obtained (0.780), price according to quality (0.724), and good quality (0.641). This factor explains 14.424% of the total variance, emphasizing the importance of the value consumers receive in terms of price and product quality. Research by Arda & Andriany (2019) and Nugroho & Irena (2017) similarly found that the price of products according to their benefits and affordability are key drivers of purchasing decisions for Generation Z, especially in the fashion sector.

Factor 4: Shopping Experience

This factor includes the variables of accessible location (0.743), fast fashion brand reputation (0.645), and attractive store design (0.546). Accounting for 11.954% of the variance, this factor suggests that shopping experience, including location accessibility and brand reputation, plays an important role in consumers' purchasing decisions. Studies like Mamonto et al. (2021) and Irwansyah et al. (2021) also highlight the role of store atmosphere, convenience, and brand image in shaping consumer behavior. Particularly among younger generations.

Overall, this study successfully reduced 19 variables to four main factors, which include attractive service, marketing advantage and competitive design, value of money, and shopping experience. The dominant factor influencing purchase decisions is attractive service, which includes aspects such as store staff friendliness, attractive social media catalogs, and attractive packaging. This finding confirms the importance of good service in attracting consumers, especially in the fierce competition in the fashion industry.

CONCLUSION

Based on the factor analysis conducted, this study concludes that there are four new factors formed from the indicators of the original variables, namely: Attractive Service Factor with a percentage of variance value of 24.192%, Marketing Excellence and Competitive Design of 15.772%, Value of Money of 14.424%, and Shopping Experience of 11.954%. Compared to previous research by Arda & Andriany (2019) which resulted in three new factors with the dominant factor being excellence, this study found that the Attractive Service Factor has a dominant influence on Generation Z's fast fashion purchasing decisions in Batam City. This finding emphasizes the importance of good service in attracting consumers, especially in the fierce competition in the fashion industry. Overall, this study successfully reduced 19 variables to four main factors and suggested strategies such as improving employee training, providing products at prices that match benefits, and strengthening brand reputation as important steps to attract consumer purchasing interest.

To strengthen practical implications, fast fashion owners should consider enhancing customer service (Factor 1), through improved staff training, boosting social media presence with attractive catalogs, and focusing on quality packaging. For marketing excellence and competitive design (Factor 2), conduct creative promotions, ensure up-to-date product designs, and develop competitive strategies. For value for money (Factor 3), price products according to their benefits, maintain product quality and emphasize value to customers. To enhance the shopping experience (Factor 4), choose accessible store locations, strengthen brand reputation, and create an inviting store atmosphere. Sustainability initiatives, personalized shopping experiences, and community engagement are also recommended to align with Generation Z's values and foster long-term loyalty. By implementing these strategies, fast fashion brands can better meet the preferences of Generation Z and thrive in a competitive market.

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