

# TECHNOLOGY USE, EMOTIONAL CONNECTION AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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## ABSTRACT

Demand for technology use upsurge as we often rely on technology in completing countless tasks daily. Nowadays, the emerging technologies impact our way of livings in different ways regardless of age. If technology is properly used, it can make betterment to one's life, but if it is excessively used, it causes severity to human beings. Impact arises from the excessive use of technology could be hindered if we could be informed about the severity of technology use. The aim of this research is to develop constructs for a scale measuring technology severity among children regarding emotional connection. For this study, emotional connection is defined as a bond or tie to the technology in the form of attachment, engagement or addiction towards mobile devices. The objective of this article is to understand technology use and emotional connection from reviewing literature. Findings from the literature reviewed suggested that there are intersections of characteristics between technology use and emotional connection.

**Keywords:** *Technology Use, Acceptance, Continuous Use, Excessive Use, Emotional Connection, Attachment, Engagement, Addiction*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The increment of technology use among children triggers concern of the society especially parents. In long term, uncontrolled use of technology can impact children. The purpose of this study is to address the recent issues of problematic technology use among children. Based on a preliminary study of this research, most parents try to reduce the impact of technology by reducing the usage time. However, usage time is not the only factor contributing to problematic use. There are other factors that alter impact of technology on children's behavior and growth including parenting style, socioeconomic status, and child temperament [1]. This study focuses on impact of technology in the context of emotional connection such as attachment, engagement or addiction.

The research idea is to determine the factors of technology use and how usage impact user emotionally. The main reason in understanding

them is to identify which variable (refer to the factors) should be manipulated to affect the responding variable (refer to impact on emotional connection). In another word, this study proposes that by combining these two dimensions (technology use and emotional connection), the inducing factors could be determined and manipulated to reduce the negative impacts on emotional connection. The relationship of factor, usage and impact is illustrated in Figure 1.

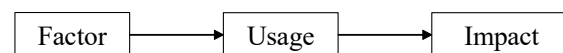


Figure 1: Factor-Usage-Impact relationship

There are several studies that assess technology acceptance, continuous use, excessive use, technology attachment, technology engagement and technology addiction. However, previous studies had evaluated both dimensions (technology use and emotional connection) but separately. Thus, this research intends to combine acceptance, continuous use and excessive use together with attachment, engagement and

addiction with the purpose to have a clearer view on the developmental stage in both dimensions.

This research focuses on technology use which is mobile devices use such as smartphones or tablets among children. This is to address the current issues of excessive mobile device use among children. In highlighting the current issue, where technology is being used to substitute parenting, 63 per cent of parents proclaimed that they use technology to calm down or divert children when they are busy or tired (iParenting). In addition, a research by Boston School of Medicine note that, parents typically used mobile devices as 'shut-up toy' when they cannot give full attention to their children during activities like car rides. In long term, uncontrolled use of mobile devices can impact children in terms of attention span, comprehension ability and various skills, including self-regulation, empathy, social skills and problem-solving [2]. Therefore, the motivation of this research is to minimize the impact of technology on children in terms of prevention towards technology addiction. The prevention can be achieved through the development of constructs as it will lead to development of scale to measure emotional connection among children and mobile devices.

The objective of this paper is to identify constructs from existing theory or model for technology use and emotional connection from reviewing literatures. To gain broad insight, this literature review only study unspecified technology use and emotional connection on individual perspectives. This paper is interested in covering reviews on the relationship of technology use and emotional connection. Section 2 describes the process involved in gathering the related published manuscripts, by using a structured approach. Section 3 lists the commonly discussed theory for each domain and the extraction of constructs for domain representation. While, Section 4 presents the outcomes of the performed literature review and an overview of the preliminary result for this research. Finally, Section 5 concludes the paper by summarizing the current works and outlining the future works.

## 2. METHODS & MATERIALS

This study reviewed existing theories, models and scales for each domain of technology use and emotional connection. A structured approach was conducted to identify relevant scientific publications: (i) search on the particular

keyword(s) in Google Scholar; (ii) filter identified publications based on title matching; (iii) filter identified publications based on abstract matching; and (iv) detailed process of reviewing and analyzing full text of the selected publication.

30 publications had been selected and classified to the identified stages of technology use and emotional connection. Five most relevant publications had been selected for each domain from the 124 publications retrieved via literature searches. From 30 publications selected, a few literature review papers are presented to reduce the time consume on reviewing but increase the number of publications reviewed to gain a broader insight of the topic.

## 3. LITERATURE REVIEW

This section reviews the proposed stages of technology use (technology acceptance, continuous use of technology and excessive use of technology) and emotional connection (technology attachment, technology engagement and technology addiction).

### 3.1 Technology Acceptance

Technology acceptance is the first stage of technology use which occurs when users have the intention to use or use a technology. Technology acceptance is also known as adoption of technology.

Technology acceptance is commonly described by one of the most dominant theories in Information Systems (IS), Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) by Fred Davis. TAM is a derivation from the psychology-based Theory of Reasonable Action (TRA) and Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB). Researchers have made it as a guide to understand why users accept technology, so that they can make improvement in designing, evaluating, and predicting how users will react to new technology [3]. In this study, acceptance of technology is reviewed to understand user's behavior that could lead to impact of technology.

The work Marangunić and Granić [4], carries out comprehensive concept-centric literature review from 1986 until 2013, describes the TAM literature reviews, development and extension of the TAM, modification and application of TAM and suggests possible future for TAM research. They group three major directions of TAM extension into (i)factors from related models, (ii)additional belief factors, and (iii)external

variables. On the other hand, they also group four major categories of modifications into (i)external predictors, (ii)factors from other theories, (iii)contextual factors, and (iv)usage measures. From their study, new variables/ factors are introduced to TAM while several variables/factors are repeated.

The work Samaradiwakara and Gunawardena [3] reviews 14 theories/models on technology acceptance study which include TRA, TPB, TAM, TAM2, Cognitive Dissonance Theory(CDT), Innovation Diffusion Theory(IDT), Task Technology Fit Model (TTF), Expectation-Disconfirmation Theory (EDT), Social Cognitive Theory (SCT), Model of PC Utilization (MPCU), Motivational Model (MM), Decomposed Theory of Planned Behavior (DTPB), Combined TAM and TPB (C-TAM-TPB) and Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT). By comparing the theories/models, they find that moderators assist in giving a clearer explanation on the theories/models alongside with the constructs. The most common moderator used in these theories/models is the 'experience'. Among the theories/models reviewed, they conclude that UTAUT introduced by Venkatesh et al. [5] is an improved theory in understanding technology acceptance behavior since UTAUT has the most coverage of moderators from all reviewed theories/models including; gender, age, experience and voluntariness. Meanwhile, UTAUT variables consist of performance expectancy, effort expectancy, social influence and facilitating conditions.

By using an inductive approach, the work of Yucel and Gulbahar [6], does content analysis of possible predictors of TAM based on qualitative review from fifty papers between the years 1999 and 2010 where most studies reviewed were in the fields of education and business. Their paper contains three main objectives: (1) to investigate TAM variables that were found effective and ineffective from a critical point of view; (2) to highlight the top use of the effective variables; (3) to compose the study fields of TAM. This study is almost similar to the work of [4] since both of them suggest future research area for TAM. Their results show that even though several attempts have been made to modify the existing ones, the main variables of TAM remained as the most effective.

The work of Alkhaldi and Al-Sa'di [7], has specifically reviewed the crucial significant constructs that influence technology acceptance

among users. They summarize the key determinant constructs of existence technology models from their review on technology acceptance theories. They list 10 theories including TAM, UTAUT, TRA, TPB and other similar theories listed by the work of [3]. They tabulate the determinant constructs and clearly state the adaptation from previous theories facilitating this study for referral.

The work of Al-Mamary et al. [8], critically reviews 10 models and theories on acceptance of technology including TRA, TPB, SCT, TAM, TAM2, TAM3, UTAUT, C-TAM-TPB, Technology, Organization, and Environment Framework (TOE), and Diffusion of Innovation (DOI). They summarize the models' strengths and weaknesses. DOI and TOE Framework are at the firm level. Therefore, both are excluded since this study looks at individual level only.

Review for technology acceptance identified 18 theories/models. Some models are excluded since their determinants of constructs are similar or adapted from previous theories/models. The variables/factors/constructs/moderators are presented in Table 1.

### 3.2 Continuous Use of Technology

Continuous use of technology is related to user's usage behavior that continuously uses the technology they accepted. Continuous use is different from acceptance since it is a previously used technology and user is already familiar with it. It is also known as post-adoption of technology. Various theories and models in IS research mostly talk about acceptance of technology. Yet, less research was done to understand the continued use of technology.

Based on Expectation-Confirmation Theory (ECT), the work of Bhattacharjee [9] proposes the IS Continuance Model (ISCM). The work suggests a theoretical model of IS continuance based on three variables: user satisfaction, the confirmation of expectations through prior IS use, and perceived usefulness (PU) that represents post-adoption expectations. The ISCM has a strong theoretical basis and emphasizes on users' motivations to keep on using the technology. Just like TAM for acceptance, ISCM is widely used by researchers in understanding continuous use of technology.

The work of Kupfer et al. [10], studies on the factors of continuous use intention. They make use of the two versions UTAUT; UTAUT1 and its

extension UTAUT2 to investigate user's acceptance and continuous use of smartphone application on energy efficiency. UTAUT1 is the original UTUAT introduced by the work of [5], while UTAUT2 is primarily designed to investigate continuous use intention on consumer. UTAUT2 explains continuous use with the help of three additional elements/constructs; hedonic motivation, price value and habit. However, they only found moderate support for continuous use intention while using UTAUT. They suggest that 'beliefs' factor is updated from acceptance to continuous use stage as users become familiar with the technology. They also outline several theories which explain continuous use intention such as expectation-confirmation model [9,11,12].

The work of Shaikh and Karjaluoto [13], conducts detailed literature review by considering 152 publications within the scope of continuous usage behavior. Based on their search findings, the literature is synthesized and separated into four major domains into their proposed framework: Continuous Usage of Mobile Information Systems (CUMIS), Continuous Usage of Electronic Business Information Systems (CUEBIS), Continuous Usage of Social Information Systems (CUSIS), and Continuous Usage of Electronic Learning Information Systems (CUELIS). These domains separate the publications reviewed according to purpose, nature and usage of IT/IS. For this study, CUMIS and CUSIS are more relevant for the individual context. Several independent and dependent variables are extracted from their study. The variables include attitude, intention, actual usage, satisfaction, subjective norms, PU, PEOU, and PE. However, in these self-constructed models, they combined diverse models and frameworks, such as TAM, TPB, MM, Expectation Disconfirmation Model (EDM), and Flow Theory (FT) and Expectation Confirmation Theory (ECT).

The work of Lin and Rivera-Sa'nchez [14], studies a Short Message Service (SMS)-based system that allow students to answer classroom quizzes via mobile phones. They apply a longitudinal study which record the students' perceptions on usefulness and their attitude toward the system twice which is before using the system and after using the system for 2 months. Based on Information Technology Continuance Model (ITCM), they develop an integrative model to draw inference on students' resistance and intention to discontinue since the students'

attitude and perceived usefulness were higher before they use the system. Their constructs include resistance, usefulness, intention, satisfaction, disconfirmation, and value. They conclude that, although perceived usefulness is important for acceptability and continuance of use, contextual experiences on resistance should also be considered as it shows the most effect in users' experiences.

According to Gebauer et al. [15], positive impact of IT arises from continuous use of technology, not the acceptance of technology. Their study review papers to better understand on the formation of continuous IT use. They tabulate 12 publications on continuous use and the measure dependent and independent variables. From their reviews, they adapt 14 variables in their constructs including behavioral intention, PU, PEOU, social factors, trust, technical commitment, personality factors, self-efficacy, perceived actual use, IS continuance intention, sunk costs, habit, confirmation and cognitive absorption. Their paper does not include the research results as the research was in progress. Thus, their developed constructs will be used for this study.

The work of Bhattacharjee and Lin [16], develops a unified model of continuous use of technology with three different factors that are expected to result a continuance behavior which are reasoned action, experiential response, and habitual response. Based on longitudinal study among insurance agents at the workplace, they prove that the three factors are interdependent, complementary, and have crossover effects. The constructs they use in their research model include continuance behavior, satisfaction, continuance intention, habit, disconfirmation, perceived usefulness and subjective norm which are adopted measured from previous literature. The model they proposed is a potential guideline for this study in understanding the IT continuance behavior.

Review for continuous use of technology identified 18 theories/models. As for acceptance TAM is their backbone, meanwhile, for continuous use, ISCM suggested by the work of [9] has a strong theoretical basis and emphases on users' motivations to keep on using the technology. Some theories/models reviewed are excluded since their determinants of constructs are similar or adapted from previous theories/models. The



variables/factors/constructs/moderators are presented in Table 1.

### 3.3 Excessive Use of Technology

Excessive use of technology is a behavior going beyond necessary or proper limit in using technology. As cited by the work of Zheng and Lee [17], excessive use is defined as use of technology longer than the desired time. They also state that, up to some level, excessive use turns as a high level of technology use experience that will cause unhealthy cognitions, which will eventually lead to negative impacts.

The work of Emelin et al. [18], based on the psychological model of consequences of informational technology use, studies the role of two factors which is change in needs and transformation of psychological boundaries. Hierarchical regressions were used to predict two aspects of the excessive use which are subjective feeling of dependence and subjective readiness of refusing from technologies. Both aspects use the same variables in the model including frequency of use, gender, age, boundaries extension, convenience, image making, boundaries violation and functionality. Their study concludes that, 'changes in needs' and 'psychological boundaries' are important factors which affect excessive use of technology.

According to Billieux et al. [19], Problematic Mobile Phone Use (PMPU) is a behavioral addiction which symptoms are almost similar to drug addiction. In their study, they justify the application of behavioral addiction model on PMPU. They develop a pathway model of PMPU with three pathways including excessive reassurance pathway (ERP), impulsive-antisocial pathway (IAP) and extraversion pathway (EP). The pathway respectively is affected by different aspects which initiate to different kind uses and misuses. The first pathway, ERP is determined by the users' need to preserve relationships and gain reassurance from others. While, the second pathway, IAP is determined by poor impulse control resulting in uncontrolled urges and deregulated use. Finally, users who's PMPU is similar to dependence-like symptoms and overuse determined by a strong and continuous longing to be connected with others and to establish new relationships, match with the third pathway EP. This study uses these three pathways as reference for the characteristics of excessive use of technology.

The work of Lin et al. [20], in their study, uses empirical mode decomposition (EMD) to tell off the pattern of smartphone use over one month by installing a mobile application that monitor smartphone use. In their previous factor analysis of Smartphone Addiction Inventory, they specify that, smartphone addiction are made of four components which are tolerance, withdrawal, compulsive symptoms, and functional [21]. The two core symptoms of addiction, compulsion and tolerance are based on the use time estimation. They measure excessive use by daily use duration and frequency, as well as the relationship between the tolerance symptoms. They propose three main diagnostic measures for smartphone addiction which are maladaptive pattern of use, functional impairment and exclusion on obsessive-compulsive disorder. They conclude that smartphone addiction can be identify by having a mobile application to monitor the smartphone use rather than self-aware reporting on smartphone use.

The extension of the study identifies problematic smartphone uses by a development of smartphone usage pattern [22]. They include day-to-day frequency of use, total duration and daily median of the duration per period as their parameter in drawing up the pattern. They also introduce two additional parameters, the root mean square of the successive differences (RMSSD) and the Similarity Index, to discover the comparison of use and non-use between participants. The non-use frequency, non-use duration and non-use-median parameters could foresee problematic smartphone use and reach beyond just discovering whether a user is excessively use a smartphone. Their techniques determine either an excessive use of a smartphone is a benefit or a deficit.

The work of Lopez-Fernandez et al. [23] uses an innovative statistical strategy to investigate the role of 'socio-demographics' and 'patterns of technology usage' variables as predictors of problematic Internet and mobile phone use among adolescents in Spain and in the United Kingdom. Two models are constructed for each type of technology to forecast each of the two kinds of problem technology use. For the first model for Problematic Internet Use (PIU) and Problematic Mobile Phone Use (PMPU), the selected socio-demographics variables include gender, age group, type of school, parents' educational level, and habitual tobacco/alcohol consumption. For the second model, the selected variables for PIU

include online entertainment, initial age of Internet use as entertainment, frequency of use, number of hours per week and hobbies other than the Internet. Meanwhile the selected variables for PMPU include degree of expertise using the technology, perception of the problem in others, perception of the problem in oneself, type of mobile phone use, and time of mobile phone ownership. Their study suggests that socio-demographic and pattern of technology usage play an important role in leading to excessive use.

In excessive use of technology studies, researchers no longer discuss about the determinants of technology acceptance. Instead, most of the research discussed about the usage behavior which lead to excessive use. This study discovers that, excessive use is caused by continuous use. Based on reviews, the main factor that contributes to excessive use is the increment of frequency of use accompanied by behavior such as compulsive behavior, excessive reassurance impulsive-antisocial and/or withdrawal.

### 3.4 Technology Attachment

Attachment to technology in this study refers to emotional attachment to mobile devices. The work of Meschtscherjakov et al. [24], introduces the term “mobile attachment” and describe it as a bond between a people’s self and a mobile phone that differs in strength. This research identifies that the emotional connection does not appear between the children and the physical object of mobile device but mobile devices which have access to game application or internet for video streaming and online game. Therefore, this study focuses on the mobile device technology rather than the physical object of mobile device.

The same work of [24] develops a conceptual mobile attachment model consisting causes, general influencing factors, and consequences. The causes of mobile attachment include device-self linkage routes (self-empowerment, self-enrichment and self-gratification) that contribute towards design space determinants. Design space determinants consist of utility, memory, self-image, affiliation, world view and pleasure. Meanwhile, the general influencing factors include user, environment and device. The third part of the conceptual model is the mobile attachment consequences which include investment of limited resources, investment of self-image resources, behavioral responses, as well as cognitive and emotional responses. If a

user is emotionally attached to his or her mobile phone, a change of behavioral and emotional consequences can be observed. Therefore, these consequences assist as an indicator for the degree of mobile attachment.

The work of Bock et al. [25], produces an instrument to assess multiple aspects of the individuals’ relationship to their mobile phone. The final items for the complete Mobile Phone Attachment Scale (MPAS) consist of four components including “usefulness”, “anxious attachment”, “addiction”, and “24/7” (continuous use 24 hours/day). The MPAS developed in their study is a useful indicator of the quality of the individual’s relationship with their mobile phone. This study uses the four components in defining technology attachment.

The work of Kim et al. [26] presents a model linking character customization and game enjoyment. Their study investigates how feelings of autonomy and control, rooted in self-determination theory, and perceived attachment to game characters influence game enjoyment through immersion- related experiences. Their results show that the feelings of autonomy and control are reliable clarifications for enjoyment, regardless of customization type. The results propose that, like other entertainment media, games can appeal to individuals through the senses of autonomy, control, and attachment to a character. This study identifies six constructs in defining attachment which are customization, control, autonomy, attachment, presence and enjoyment.

The work of Li [27] extends the literature by conceptualizing a construct called IT attachment to describe the occurrence. It is suggested that IT attachment is defined as an emotional bond of the IT users to IT. It is a determinant of the users’ satisfaction with IT and its continuance intention. Factors that influence the development of IT attachment includes IT confirmation, perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and IT playfulness. These factors will be used to further define technology attachment.

The work of Kim et al. [28] examines how consumers’ attachment towards mobile applications is influenced by the antecedent variables, self-connection and social-connection, and how the attachment influences the outcome variables, brand supportive behaviors, self-efficacy and ultimately life satisfaction. Their results reveal that more users feel self-connected

or socially connected with mobile applications, the stronger they build attachment with the applications. It also shows that when users have stronger attachment with applications, they show not only more supportive words-of-mouth for the mobile applications, but also higher self-efficacy and higher life satisfaction overall. This study identifies five constructs from their work which are self-connection, social-connection, brand supportive behavior, self-efficacy and life satisfaction.

### 3.5 Technology Engagement

In this study, technology engagement refers to emotional engagement to mobile devices. Engagement in technology is frequently explained through experience in the gaming and learning environment. Engagement is an emotional connection where user feels content while using technology with absence of negative impact. The more engaged a person is, the more likely they are to experience overall positive affect while performing at a high level [29]. Therefore, with continuous use of technology, engagement towards technology would probably grow.

The work of O'Brien and Toms [30] develops methods to measure engaging user experiences. They list 10 attribute of engagement consists of aesthetic appeal, attention, challenge, endurability, feedback, interactivity, perceived user control, pleasure, sensory appeal and variety/novelty. The attributes are compared in several applications such as video games, educational applications, online shopping and web searching to explore the user's perception of being engaged with the technology. Their findings indicate that engagement is a process comprises four distinct stages: (1) point of engagement, (2) period of sustained engagement, (3) disengagement, and (4) reengagement. They conclude their work with a definition of engagement as a quality of user experience characterized by attributes of challenge, positive affect, endurability, aesthetic and sensory appeal, attention, feedback, variety/novelty, interactivity, and perceived user control.

The work of Sharafi et al. [31] develops the Engagement Mode (EM) model describing how user engages in an activity with an object in a certain mode. Their model states 5 engagement modes (Enjoying/ Acceptance, Ambition/ Curiosity, Avoidance/ Hesitation, Frustration/ Anxiety, and Efficiency/ Productivity), which are categorized into 3 dimensions (evaluation of

object, locus of control between subject and object, and intrinsic or extrinsic focus of motivation). They come into conclusion that the EM-model, flow experience, and causality orientation theories offer a uniform framework to understand how user familiarizes to IT. This study identifies seven constructs from their specified modes, which are ambition, curiosity productivity, frustration, anxiety, avoidance and hesitation.

The work of Han et al. [32] presents their initiatives in community informatics including digital cultural heritage and local volunteer efforts mediated by mobile technology. They state that a socially supported network should be based on attachment and engagement of user in encouraging a community informatics application. This study identifies two main ideas in defining engagement of application, which are participation and awareness.

The work of Parameswaran et al. [33] in their study, assesses a within-study invariance of key UTAUT scales by using invariance analysis. They consider 6 respondent group characteristics: five variables pertaining to users' two technology engagement facets (prior technology knowledge and technology usage pattern) and one variable pertaining to their gender. This study identifies five constructs from their analysis, which are performance expectancy, effort expectancy, facilitating conditions, intention to use and concentration.

The work of Hamari et al. [34] investigates the impact of flow, engagement, and immersion on learning in game-based learning environments. Their results show that engagement in game positively impact learning, however, immersion in game and had no noticeable effect on learning. The strong predictor of learning outcome is the challenge in game. Therefore, this study identifies three constructs from their work, which are concentration, interest and enjoyment. These three constructs are used to increase the engagement of user in game-based learning environments.

### 3.6 Technology Addiction

Technology addiction, in this study, refers to emotional addiction to mobile devices. The scope of addiction study in this research is addictive behavior. It involves an alteration of a person's inner brain and glandular chemistry, but by constant repetition of behaviors rather than drugs [35]. Addicted to technology is a kind of addictive behavior. As cited by Thadani et al. [36],

addiction towards technology is a distinct kind of behavioral addiction that includes a psychological dependency. It usually occurs when user has an incontrollable desire to use a technology. Technology addiction is often described as negative impacts of technology. This study suggests that excessive use of technology could escalate to technology addiction.

The work of Kwon et al. (2013), in their study develops a self-diagnostic scale that could differentiate mobile phone addicts program for addiction of Internet and the mobile phone's features. Their study develops the first scale of mobile phone addiction aspect of the diagnostic manual, which is relatively reliable and valid. This study identifies five constructs from their analysis, which are performance expectancy, effort expectancy, facilitating conditions, intention to use and concentration.

The work of Pavia et al. [38], develops Smartphone Addiction Inventory (SPAI) to measure smartphone addiction among Taiwanese university students. Their research aim to assess the factor structure and psychometric properties of the SPAI in Italian university students. This study identifies the five factors from SPAI, which are time spent, compulsivity, daily life interference, craving, and sleep interference. The factors will be used in defining technology addiction.

The work of Tossell et al. [39] examines smartphone user behaviors and their relation to self-reported smartphone addiction. Their study provides a first glimpse into the addictive nature of smartphones as indicated by real usage data combined with survey data. This kind of behavioral logging data provides more precision regarding what addicted users do on their devices. This study identifies three constructs from their work, which are inability to control craving, feeling anxious and lost, and withdrawal escape.

The work of Lopez-Fernandaz [40], adapts the short version of the Smartphone Addiction Scale [SAS-SV] into Spanish and French. The aim of his study is to (i) examine the scale's psychometric properties in both languages, (ii) estimate the prevalence of potential excessive smartphone use among Spanish and Belgian adults, and (iii) compare the addictive symptomatology measured by the SAS-SV between potentially excessive users from both countries. The results show that, the excessive users endorsed withdrawal and tolerance symptoms in both countries. This study identifies

six constructs from their work, which are loss of control, disruption, disregard for consequences, withdrawal, preoccupation and tolerance.

The work of Gokcearslan et al. [41] investigates the purpose of smartphone usage, self-regulation, general self-efficacy and cyber-loafing in smartphone addiction. Results from online survey with 598 respondents from public university in Ankara, Turkey show that smartphone addiction is influenced by smartphone usage time and cyber-loafing. However, self-regulation negatively influenced the smartphone addiction. While, neither self-regulation nor general self-efficacy influenced cyber-loafing.

#### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the literature reviewed, the constructs include the variables, moderators, and factors adapted from previous studies since each of them play an important role in previous studies. This study found 30 potential constructs for technology acceptance, 16 potential constructs for continuous use of technology, 11 potential constructs for excessive use of technology, 30 potential constructs for technology attachment, 23 potential constructs for technology engagement and 24 potential constructs for technology addiction. The constructs are presented in Table 1 and Table 2.

##### 4.1 Technology Use

Technology use is frequently described by theories or models in IS researches. In this study, technology use is classified into several stages with reference from previous theories or models. The stages are technology acceptance, continuous use and excessive use.

Table 1: Characteristics of Technology Use Stages.

Technology Use	Construct	Origin
Acceptance	Compatibility	IDT
	Image	
	Relative Advantage	
	Results Demonstrability	
	Visibility	
	Voluntariness of Use	MM
	Extrinsic Motivation	
	Intrinsic Motivation	MPCU
	Complexity	
	Effect Towards Use	
	Facilitating Condition	
	Job fit	
	Long-term Consequences	
	Social Factors	SCT
	Affect	
	Anxiety	
	Outcome Expectations-	



Technology Use	Construct	Origin
	Performance	
	Outcome Expectations-Personal	
	Self-efficacy	
	Perceived Ease of Use	TAM
	Perceived Usefulness	TPB
	Perceived Behavioral Control	
	Attituded Towards Behaviour	TRA
	Subjective Norm	UTAUT1
	Effort Expectancy	
	Performance Expectancy	
	Gender	
	Age	
	Experience	
	Voluntariness	
Continuous Use	Resistance	Gebauer et al. (2013)
	Disconfirmation	
	Value	
	IS Continuance Intention	ISCN
	Satisfaction	
	Perceived Usefulness	
	Confirmation	MM
	Extrinsic Motivation	
	Intrinsic Motivation	
	Effort Expectancy	UTAUT2
	Facilitating Conditions	
	Habit	
	Hedonic Motivation	
	Performance Expectancy	
	Price Value	
	Social Influence	
Excessive Use	Changes in Need	Emelin et al. (2013)
	Psychological Boundaries	
	Excessive Reassurance	PMPU
	Impulsive-Antisocial	
	Extraversion	
	Withdrawal	Lin et al. (2014)
	Functional	
	Compulsive Behaviour	
	Tolerance	Lopez-Fernandez et al. (2015)
	Socio-demographic	
	Pattern of Technology Use	

## 4.2 Emotional Connection

The word emotional defined in the Oxford dictionary is related to a person's emotions [42]. While, connection is defined as a relationship in which a person or thing is linked or associated with something else [43]. For this study, emotional connection is defined as a bond or tie to the technology in the form of attachment, engagement or addiction towards mobile devices.

Unlike adults, the emotional connection does not appear among children and the physical object of the mobile device. However, they are emotionally connected to mobile devices which have access to game application or internet for video streaming and online games. This is proved

from a preliminary study of this research where interviews among parents and observations of mobile device usage of children below 7 years old were done to prove the proposed research ideas at the early research work. According to Thorsteinsson and Page [44], it is noticeable that mobile devices' users have emotionally connected to their mobile devices when they own it, the differences between them are the level of emotional connection. From the review of emotions and attachment theory, attachments are most expected on the technology, instead of the physical object of the technology. Therefore, this research focuses on mobile devices' technology rather than the mobile devices' physical.

Table 2: Characteristics of Emotional Connection Stages.

Emotional Connection	Construct	Origin
Attachment	Self-Empowerment	Meschtscherjakov et al. (2014)
	Self-Enrichment	
	Self-Gratification	
	Design Space	
	Invest of Limited Resources	
	Investment of Self-Images Resources	
	Behaviorial Responses	
	Emotional Responses	
	Social Connectivity	MPAS
	Dependence	
	Mood	
	Work/Organization	
	Importance	
	Customization	Kim et al. (2015)
	Control	
	Autonomy	
	Attachment	
	Physical, Emotional, and Narrative Presence	
	Enjoyment	Li (2014)
	Perceived Usefulness	
	Perceived Ease of Use	
	Anxiety	
	Avoidance	
	Confirmation	Kim et al. (2013)
	Playfulness	
	Self-Connection	
	Social-Connection	
	Brand Supportive Behavior	
Engagement	Self-Efficacy	O'Brien & Tom (2008)
	Life Satisfaction	
	Attention	
	Challenge	
	Feedback	
	Interactivity	Sharafi et al.(2006)
	Perceived User Control	
	Pleasure	
	Ambition	
	Curiosity	
	Productivity	

Emotional Connection	Construct	Origin
	Frustration	Han et al. (2014)
	Anxiety	
	Avoidance	
	Hesitation	
	Participation	
	Awareness	Parameswaran et al. (2015)
	Performance Expectancy	
	Effort Expectancy	
	Social Influence	
	Facilitating Conditions	
	Intention to Use	Hamari et al. (2016)
	Concentration	
	Interest	
	Enjoyment	
	Enjoyment	
Addiction	Daily-life disturbance	Kwon et al. (2013)
	Positive Anticipation	
	Withdrawal	
	Cyberspace-oriented Relationship	
	Overuse	
	Tolerance	Pavia et al. (2016)
	Time spent	
	Compulsivity	
	Craving	
	Sleep Interference	Tossell et al. (2015)
	Inability to Control Craving	
	Feeling anxious & Lost	
	Withdrawal Escape	
	Loss of Control	Lopez-Fernandez (2015)
	Disruption	
	Disregard for Consequences	
	Withdrawal	
	Preoccupation	
	Tolerance	Gökçearslan et al. (2016)
	Smartphone addiction	

Table 1 and Table 2 provide insight for the next research activity. Based on the results, new constructs emerge on several stages while some constructs remain and some of them disappear. For example, 'perceived usefulness' appear in both acceptance and continuous use stages but disappear in excessive use stage. Table 3 shows similar constructs discussed from different domains. These emergence, visibility and invisibility of the constructs form the stages sought in this study.

Table 2: Similar constructs with different domains.

Intersection	Domain	Similar Constructs
R1	Acceptance & Attachment	Anxiety, Perceived Ease of Use, Perceived Usefulness, Self-efficacy
R2	Continuous Use & Engagement	Social Influence

R3	Excessive Use & Addiction	Compulsive Behavior, Tolerance, Withdrawal
R4	Acceptance, Attachment & Continuous Use	Perceived Usefulness
R5	Acceptance, Attachment & Engagement	Anxiety
R6	Acceptance, Continuous Use & Engagement	Performance Expectancy
TU1	Acceptance & Continuous Use	Extrinsic Motivation, Intrinsic Motivation
EC1	Attachment & Engagement	Avoidance, Enjoyment

Figure 2 illustrates the union and intersections of the constructs of each domain. The intersection of the sets represents the constructs which remain on several stages. On the other hand, the non-intersection part represents an emergence of new constructs or the constructs that disappears in current stages. This shows an initial expected outcome for this research in identifying all six domains relationship.

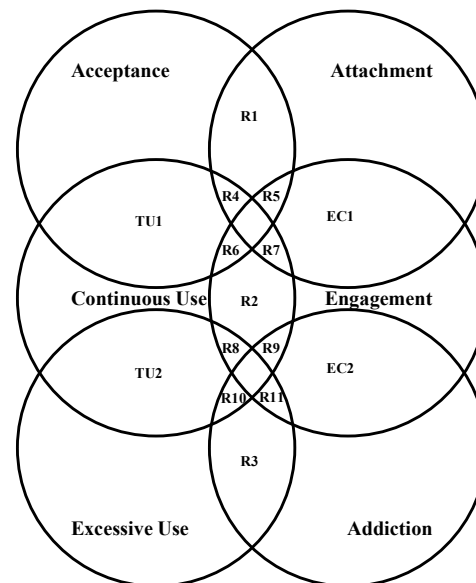


Figure 2: Union and intersection of each categories

For this study, these relationships are improvised and a model is proposed. Figure 3 is a representation of the relationship between technology use and emotional connection. This representation is an adaptation from Fun Evolution Model by Ko [45] and Kwon et al. [46] which suggests that when an individual belongs to

higher stage of technology use, deeper emotional connection is expected. The work of Lei and Zhao [47] indicates that when time spent on technology is too much, the benefit seems to be cancelled out or even replaced with a deficit. Therefore, it is expected that as time spent on technology increases, users will change their usage behavior and move to another stage of emotional connection. Before an individual enters the acceptance stage, a pre-usage is assumed to present as the individual is being introduced to a new technology.

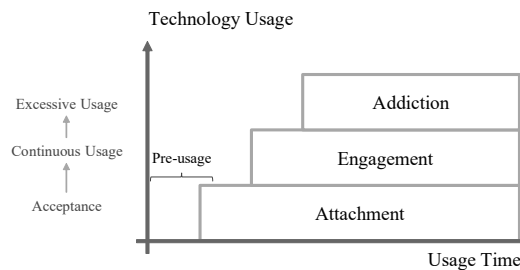


Figure 3: Relationship between Technology Use and Emotional Connection

Therefore, this study identifies open research issues for this research where most parents had no idea on level of emotional connection between their child and technology and impact of technology on children is often seen directly to addiction, however, there are states that comes before addiction which is not clarified. Nowadays, technology does assist and improve our daily lives, however, parents are worried with the negative impacts of technology towards their children. Some parents prohibit the technology use among children to avoid the impacts that may occur. Unfortunately, these children are not expose to the good side of the technology. By knowing the states before addiction, we could escape the negative impacts and expose them to the positive impacts of technology. Therefore, the motivation of this research is to minimize the impact of technology on children in preventing technology addiction.

## 5. CONCLUSION

For this study, the technology use is classified into three stages (technology acceptance, continuous use of technology and excessive use of technology), while the emotional connection is also classified into three stages (technology attachment, technology engagement and

technology addiction). Based on literature reviewed, technology acceptance and technology addiction are the main interests among IS researchers. Yet, less study was done on continuous use of technology, excessive use of technology, technology attachment and technology engagement. Thus, this study reviewed and put together the stages to close the research gap on discovering the relationship between them.

By identifying the constructs of each stages of technology and emotional connection, this paper identifies the factors on why user wants to use, continuously use and overuse a technology and provide a review on what happen after technology use on emotional connection context.

As conclusion, to prevent and curb the young generation from negative impacts of technology, this study aims to develop constructs for a scale to assess children's emotional connection towards mobile device use. The scale is expected to help parents identify and understand emotional connection and prevent technology addiction before it happens.

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