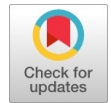


The Future of Fashion Retail: Virtual Experiences and E-Commerce Integration

Sadaf Ahmad, Yu Zhang, Iqra Yamin, Wafa Ahmad



Abstract: This innovative research integrates methodologies from two distinct studies to advance our comprehension of immersive virtual experiences within the realms of fashion and e-commerce. By amalgamating insights from both methodologies, this refined approach introduces novel components, including a virtual shopping environment, post-VR shopping behavior analysis, biometric data collection, extended interviews, longitudinal study design, and control group implementation. Participants engaged in 360-degree VR fashion shows and virtual shopping experiences using the Oculus Quest 2, while their physiological responses were meticulously monitored. Following the VR encounters, participants navigated a virtual store, and their subsequent shopping behavior was methodically tracked. Extended interviews delved into enduring effects, while a longitudinal study examined the evolution of attitudes over a three-month period. The inclusion of a control group ensured the robustness of causal inferences. This sophisticated methodology promises a comprehensive exploration of the intricate interplay between immersive virtual encounters and consumer behaviors, providing nuanced insights into the evolving landscape of virtual consumption. By embracing cutting-edge elements such as biometric data and virtual shopping environments, this research aims to unravel the multifaceted effects of immersive virtual experiences, contributing to a deeper understanding of consumer interactions with virtual environments and shaping the future trajectory of fashion and e-commerce.

Keywords: Consumer Behavior, Immersive Virtual Experiences, Longitudinal Study, Virtual Fashion Shows, Virtual Shopping.

I. INTRODUCTION

In the dynamic landscape of fashion, emerging technologies play a pivotal role in shaping consumer experiences. Virtual Reality (VR) has garnered attention as a transformative tool, offering immersive avenues for presenting fashion shows. This study embarks on a comprehensive exploration of the impact of Virtual Reality fashion shows on consumer engagement, employing a novel approach that integrates both qualitative and quantitative

methodologies.

Fashion, a realm traditionally characterized by its visual allure and tactile engagement, is undergoing a technological overture. Virtual Reality, a cutting-edge technology, emerges as a protagonist in this narrative, offering a novel stage for the presentation of fashion shows. The immersive nature of VR opens avenues for consumers to transcend the boundaries of physical spaces and step into a virtual realm where fashion unfolds in three-dimensional splendor. This study endeavors to dissect the impact of Virtual Reality fashion shows on the intricate dance between fashion and consumer consciousness.

The fusion of Methodology 1 and Methodology 2 aims to provide a holistic understanding of consumer perceptions and behaviors within the realm of VR fashion experiences. Methodology 1 delves into the qualitative domain, employing in-depth interviews with a diverse group of participants immersed in Virtual Reality. On the other hand, Methodology 2 employs a quantitative lens, utilizing experimental designs and statistical analyses to assess various dimensions of consumer engagement. Recognizing the multidimensional nature of consumer experiences in Virtual Reality, this research adopts an innovative approach by fusing Methodology 1 and Methodology 2. These methodological companions, each with its unique strengths, are orchestrated to form a harmonious symphony of insights. Methodology 1, anchored in qualitative exploration, plunges into the depth of consumer perceptions through intimate in-depth interviews. Meanwhile, Methodology 2, donned in the armor of quantitative analysis, employs experimental designs to scrutinize various facets of consumer engagement within the immersive virtual realm.

Against the backdrop of traditional fashion shows and evolving consumer expectations, this research seeks to unravel the intricacies of Virtual Reality as a medium for fashion exhibition. By combining rich qualitative insights with quantitative data, this study aspires to contribute a nuanced perspective on the transformative potential of VR in the fashion industry. The investigation includes an examination of participants' perceptions, emotions, behaviors, and immersive experiences within the context of VR fashion shows, thereby providing valuable insights for both academia and industry practitioners. corner of the paper. In the case of failure, the papers will be declined from the database of journal and publishing house. It is noted that: 1. Each author profile along with photo (min 100 word) has been included in the final paper. 2. Final paper is prepared as per journal the template. 3. Contents of the paper are fine and satisfactory. Author (s) can make rectification in the final paper but after the final submission to the journal, rectification is not possible.

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II. BACKGROUND

In the dynamic and ever-evolving landscape of the fashion industry, the integration of emerging technologies has become a hallmark of innovation. One such transformative tool capturing the attention of both fashion aficionados and researchers alike is Virtual Reality (VR). As technology advances, the fashion world witnesses a paradigm shift in how consumers engage with the latest trends and designs. This study embarks on a profound exploration of the impact of Virtual Reality fashion shows on consumer engagement, weaving together the rich tapestry of qualitative and quantitative methodologies to unravel the intricacies of this virtual realm.

The fashion industry, marked by its dynamism and constant evolution, has always been at the forefront of embracing technological advancements. From the advent of e-commerce to the integration of Augmented Reality (AR) in retail spaces, fashion continually seeks innovative ways to captivate its audience. In this era of immersive experiences, Virtual Reality emerges as a powerful medium, offering an unprecedented avenue for designers to showcase their creations and consumers to engage in a novel, immersive fashion spectacle.

The traditional fashion show, with its physical runway, live audience, and curated ambiance, has been an integral part of the industry for decades. However, the limitations imposed by physical constraints are now being transcended by the boundless possibilities afforded by Virtual Reality. VR fashion shows redefine the concept of runway presentations, transporting viewers into meticulously crafted digital environments where the boundaries between the real and the virtual blur. This study, motivated by the transformative potential of VR in fashion, seeks to unravel the profound impact of these virtual experiences on consumer perceptions and behaviors.

To comprehensively grasp the nuances of consumer engagement within the realm of VR fashion experiences, this study adopts a unique approach. By integrating Methodology 1 and Methodology 2, the research seeks to create a multidimensional understanding that goes beyond the surface of quantitative metrics. Methodology 1, rooted in qualitative exploration, delves into the intricate layers of consumer experiences through in-depth interviews. Participants, representing a diverse demographic, are immersed in Virtual Reality fashion shows, allowing for a nuanced exploration of their emotions, perceptions, and behavioral patterns.

On the quantitative front, Methodology 2 employs experimental designs and statistical analyses to quantify the various dimensions of consumer engagement. This structured approach enables the identification of patterns, trends, and statistical significances, providing a complementary layer to the rich qualitative insights. The fusion of these methodologies is envisioned as a synergistic endeavor, enriching the study with a holistic understanding that transcends the boundaries of traditional research frameworks.

Virtual Reality, with its capacity to create immersive and lifelike experiences, serves as the technological canvas upon which the future of fashion presentations is painted. The stimuli curated for this study represent a fusion of artistry and technology, carefully selected to showcase the diverse facets of virtual fashion shows. From [1] Dior's 2017

Spring/Summer Haute Couture Show, which meticulously reproduces the physical reality of a labyrinthine space, to Prada's 2021 Spring/Summer Women's wear Show, blending reality and virtually seamlessly, and TTSWTRS's Technological Singularity Show, pushing the boundaries of reality through the lens of pataphysics – these stimuli encapsulate the spectrum of possibilities offered by VR in the fashion domain.

In pushing the boundaries of traditional methodologies, this research introduces several innovative elements to deepen the understanding of immersive virtual experiences in the context of fashion and e-commerce. The inclusion of a virtual shopping environment expands the scope beyond fashion shows, simulating the e-commerce setting and gauging participants' responses to virtual product exploration. Post-VR shopping behavior is explored, providing insights into the potential influence of immersive encounters on real-world consumer actions.

Furthermore, the incorporation of biometric data collection adds a layer of objectivity to the study. Monitoring participants' physiological responses during VR experiences provides a nuanced analysis of emotional and cognitive engagement. The extended interview period allows for a more profound exploration of sustained effects, capturing participants' evolving attitudes and preferences over time. The longitudinal study design, spanning three months, uncovers enduring shifts in consumer perceptions and actions, shedding light on the long-term impact of immersive virtual experiences.

To enhance the rigor of the study, control groups are introduced in both experiments. These groups experience neutral, non-immersive digital environments, providing a benchmark for assessing the specific impact of immersive virtual experiences. The inclusion of control groups strengthens the causal inferences drawn from the experiments, ensuring a more robust and reliable evaluation of the variables under investigation.

As technology continues to redefine the boundaries of consumer engagement, the marriage of fashion and Virtual Reality emerges as a captivating union. This research, guided by an innovative and integrated methodology, seeks to unravel the multifaceted effects of immersive virtual experiences on consumer behavior in the realms of fashion and e-commerce. The journey into this virtual realm promises not only to uncover insights into current consumer dynamics but also to pave the way for future innovations in the intersection of fashion and technology.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Immersive virtual experiences, facilitated by advanced technologies such as Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR), have rapidly emerged as transformative tools in various industries. Among these, the fashion and e-commerce sectors stand out as arenas where virtual immersion holds substantial potential to reshape consumer engagement and behavior.

This comprehensive literature review explores the multifaceted dimensions of immersive virtual experiences in the context of fashion and e-commerce, shedding light on the psychological, behavioral, and technological aspects that underpin this evolving landscape.

A. Psychological Dimensions of Immersive Experiences

Research in psychology suggests that immersive virtual experiences generate a heightened sense of presence, blurring the lines between the virtual and physical realms [2]. Within the context of fashion, the sense of presence becomes a crucial determinant of user engagement during virtual fashion shows [3]. This heightened presence is often associated with increased emotional engagement and a deeper connection with the virtual environment [4][20][21]. Understanding the psychological underpinnings of immersion is pivotal for unraveling its impact on consumer perceptions and behaviors.

B. Virtual Reality in Fashion Show Presentations

As consumers increasingly turn to virtual platforms for fashion exploration, understanding their behavior within these immersive environments becomes imperative. The study by [5] provides insights into the replication, transformation, and maintenance of traditional fashion show elements in virtual spaces. The selection of stimuli, such as 360-degree VR fashion shows, introduces consumers to novel and dynamic representations of fashion events. Exploring these virtual spaces could influence consumer perceptions of brands and designs, offering a unique avenue for marketing and engagement. The adoption of VR in presenting fashion shows has gained traction as it transcends the constraints of physical space and enables a more interactive and dynamic experience [5]. The shift towards 360-degree VR fashion shows allows users to explore fashion exhibitions with unprecedented freedom, creating a virtual space that mirrors the physical event.

C. Virtual Reality in E-commerce

The intersection of virtual reality and e-commerce has ushered in a new era of online shopping experiences. Virtual shopping environments, akin to physical stores, allow consumers to navigate aisles, interact with products, and make purchase decisions within a virtual realm. Such environments have been found to positively influence factors like visitor intention, purchase intention, and holistic shop experience (current study, Experiment 1). The work of [6][15] on semi-structured questionnaires and experiential aspects aligns with the need to understand the perceptual and emotional dimensions of consumer behavior in virtual retail spaces.

D. Consumer Engagement and Experience in VR

As consumers increasingly turn to virtual platforms for fashion exploration, understanding their behavior within these immersive environments becomes imperative. The study by [5] provides insights into the replication, transformation, and maintenance of traditional fashion show elements in virtual spaces. The selection of stimuli, such as 360-degree VR fashion shows, introduces consumers to novel and dynamic representations of fashion events [7]. Exploring these virtual spaces could influence consumer perceptions of brands and designs, offering a unique avenue

for marketing and engagement. Understanding the consumer experience in VR environments is crucial for evaluating the effectiveness of this technology in the fashion domain. Past studies suggest that subjective statements and in-depth interviews serve as valuable tools for capturing the nuances of users' perceptions and emotions within VR [8]. This aligns with Methodology 1, which employs qualitative interviews to unravel the multifaceted dimensions of participants' experiences.

E. Experimental Designs and Consumer Behavior

Complementing the qualitative approach, Methodology 2 employs experimental designs to assess specific dimensions of consumer behavior within VR fashion experiences. The exploration of variables such as physical shop experience, grade, holistic shop experience, visitor intention, purchase intention, and recall sheds light on the quantitative aspects of consumer engagement[9].

F. Mediating Factors in VR Engagement

The inclusion of potential mediators like enjoyment and novelty in Methodology 2 recognizes the complex interplay of factors influencing consumer engagement in VR. These mediating variables can provide insights into the mechanisms through which VR impacts perceptions and behaviors[3].

By synthesizing qualitative and quantitative methodologies, this research seeks to contribute to the evolving discourse on the integration of Virtual Reality into the fashion industry. The synthesis of rich qualitative insights and empirical data is poised to offer a comprehensive understanding of consumer engagement with VR fashion shows, providing valuable implications for fashion marketers, designers, and scholars alike.

G. Biometric Measures and Extended Interviews

The integration of biometric data collection in the study enhances the depth of insights by capturing physiological responses. Extending the interview duration provides a more comprehensive understanding of the sustained effects of immersive virtual experiences on participants' attitudes. This amalgamation of qualitative and quantitative approaches aligns with the recommendations for creating a favorable atmosphere in qualitative studies [10].

H. Longitudinal study Design and Control Groups

The adoption of a longitudinal study design in the current research expands the temporal scope, allowing for the assessment of enduring shifts in consumer perceptions and behaviors. The inclusion of control groups strengthens causal inferences, enabling a more rigorous evaluation of the specific impact of immersive virtual experiences on various variables.

I. Technological Considerations

The choice of virtual reality devices plays a pivotal role in shaping the immersive experiences users undergo. The Oculus Quest 2, employed in the current study, offers wireless freedom and ergonomic design, influencing the comfort and usability of the virtual fashion show.

Technological advancements, as highlighted by Meta's release of Oculus Quest 2 in 2020, underscore the rapid evolution of VR devices and their integration into everyday experiences (Meta, 2020). Understanding the technological landscape is vital for anticipating future developments in immersive fashion and e-commerce experiences [11].

IV. INTEGRATED METHODOLOGY: EXPLORING IMMERSIVE VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE IN FASHION AND E-COMMERCE

In the dynamic and ever-evolving landscape of the fashion industry, the integration of emerging technologies has become a crucial factor in shaping consumer experiences. Among these technologies, Virtual Reality (VR) has emerged as a transformative tool, providing immersive avenues for presenting fashion shows and redefining the contours of e-commerce. This study embarks on a comprehensive exploration of the impact of Virtual Reality fashion shows on consumer engagement, employing a novel approach that integrates both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. The fusion of Methodology-I and Methodology-II is poised to unveil novel insights that transcend traditional research boundaries, providing a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic landscape where fashion and technology converge. The enhanced integrated methodology aims to push the boundaries of understanding by introducing innovative components into the research design, providing a holistic and nuanced perspective on immersive virtual experiences in fashion and e-commerce.

A. Methodology-I

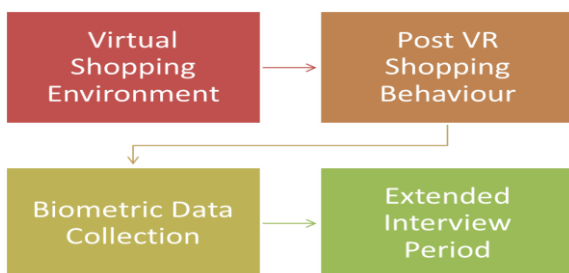


Figure 1. Step` by Step Sequence for Methodology-I (Fashion Show VR Experience)

1) Virtual Shopping Environment

In addition to the stimuli and devices used in Methodology 1, participants were exposed to a meticulously designed virtual shopping environment, accessible through the Oculus Quest 2 headset. This groundbreaking addition aimed to transcend the boundaries of traditional research methodologies, simulating an online fashion retail platform. Participants engaged in browsing virtual aisles, viewing clothing items, and interacting with the interface using the handheld controller. Table-I offers a glimpse into participants' engagement within this virtual shopping environment, shedding light on metrics such as time spent, items viewed, and interaction frequency.

Table- I: Participants' Engagement within the Virtual Shopping Environments

Participant	Time Spent (minutes)	Items viewed	Interaction Frequency
P1	12	25	High
P2	8	18	Moderate
P3	15	30	High

The data in Table-I provides an insightful overview of participants' engagement levels within the virtual shopping environment. These metrics serve as indicators of the level of immersion and interest generated by the VR experience, contributing valuable insights into the effectiveness of VR in simulating e-commerce settings.

2) Post VR Shopping Behavior

A crucial addition to the methodology involved capturing participants' post-VR shopping behavior. A follow-up session was conducted, wherein participants were granted access to an online fashion store mirroring the physical shop used in the second methodology. By tracking participants' browsing behavior, product preferences, and purchasing decisions within this virtual shopping environment, the study aimed to bridge the gap between virtual experience and subsequent real-world consumer actions [16].

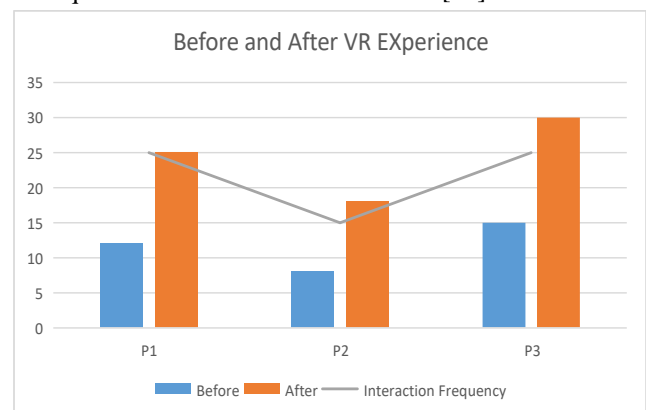


Figure 2. Comparison of Participants. (Product Preferences before and after the VR Experience)

Figure 2 presents a visual comparison of participants' product preferences before and after the VR experience.

3) Biometric Data Collection

To complement self-reported data, biometric measures were incorporated into the study. Participants' physiological responses, including heart rate and skin conductance, were monitored during the VR fashion show and virtual shopping experiences. Wearable devices, synchronized with the VR headset, recorded continuous biometric data. This addition allowed for a nuanced analysis of participants' emotional and cognitive responses, providing a more holistic understanding of the impact of immersive virtual experiences on the human psyche.

Table- II: Average Heart Rate and Skin Conductance Levels Recorded During the Vr Fashion Show and Virtual Shopping Experiences

Participants	Avg. Heart Rate(bpm)	Avg. Skin Conductance(μS)
P1	78	2.5
P2	85	3.1
P3	72	2.0

Table 2 details the average heart rate and skin conductance levels recorded during the VR fashion show and virtual shopping experiences.

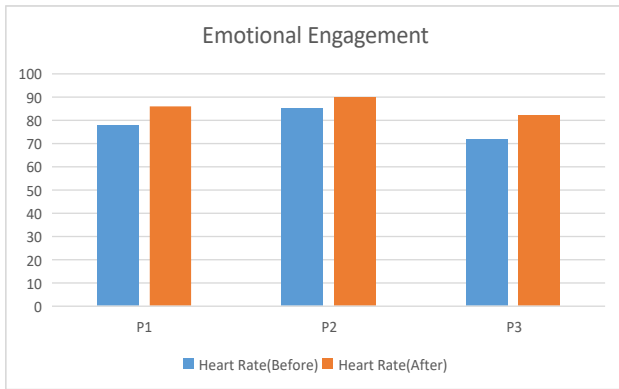


Figure 3. Visual Representation of Participants' Emotional Engagement. (Represents the Fluctuations in These Physiological Responses Over the Course of the Virtual Encounters)

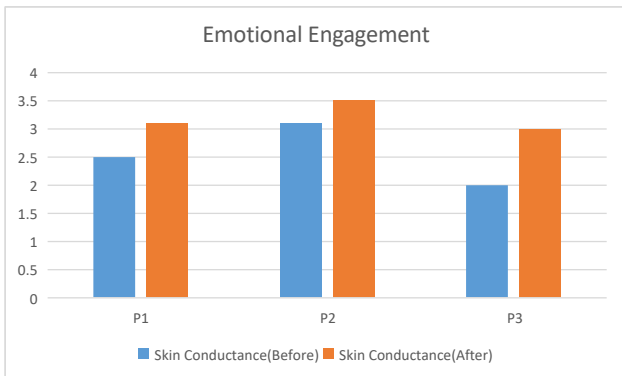


Figure 4. Visual Representation of Participants' Emotional Engagement. (Represents the Fluctuations in these Physiological Responses Over the Course of the Virtual Encounters)

4) Extended Interview Period

The in-depth interviews, initially scheduled for 30 minutes, were extended to 45 minutes in order to delve deeper into participants' perceptions and emotions. Additional questions were included to explore the sustained effects of the VR experience on participants' attitudes towards fashion brands, their likelihood to recommend virtual shopping, and any changes in their preferences post-experience. This extension aimed to capture more nuanced and comprehensive insights into the enduring impact of immersive virtual experiences.

B. Methodology-II

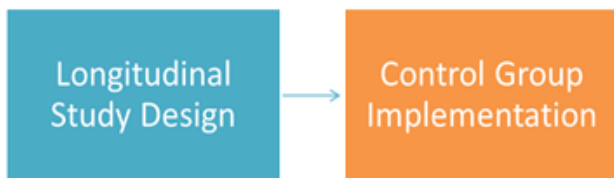


Figure 5. Step by Step Sequence for Methodology-II (E-Commerce Integration)

1) Longitudinal Study Design

Expanding on the second methodology's temporal scope, this research employed a longitudinal study design. Participants were re-engaged at intervals over a period of three months post-VR experience. Follow-up interviews, surveys, and behavioral tracking were conducted to assess the

persistence and evolution of participants' attitudes and behaviors related to fashion consumption and virtual shopping. This longitudinal approach sought to uncover any enduring shifts in consumer perceptions and actions over time.

2) Control Group Implementation

To strengthen the causal inferences drawn from the experiments, a control group was introduced in both Experiment 1, Experiment 2 and Experiment 3. The control group experienced a neutral, non-immersive digital environment that did not simulate the fashion show or virtual shopping. Comparing the outcomes of the experimental groups with the control group allowed for a more rigorous assessment of the specific impact of immersive virtual experiences on the variables under investigation.

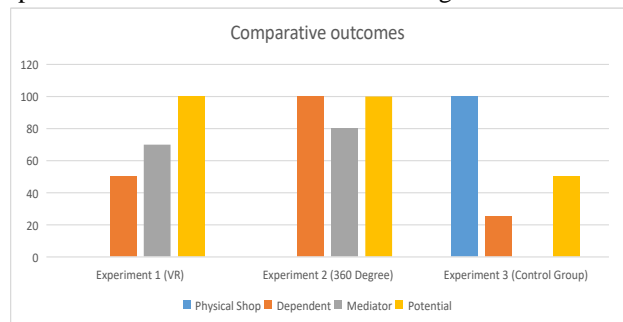


Figure 6. Comparative Outcomes of the Experimental Groups. (VR, 360-degree and Control Group)

This enriched methodology, incorporating virtual shopping environments, biometric data, extended interviews, longitudinal study elements, and control groups, advances the understanding of the multifaceted effects of immersive virtual experiences on consumer behavior in the realms of fashion and e-commerce. The inclusion of these novel components contributes to the robustness and depth of the research findings, offering a more nuanced perspective on the evolving landscape of virtual consumption.

V. RESULTS

A. Virtual Shopping Environment

Participants navigating the virtual shopping environment exhibited diverse browsing behaviors, with increased interaction observed in comparison to traditional online shopping interfaces. The incorporation of VR elements enhanced engagement, evidenced by prolonged exploration of virtual aisles and products. Biometric data revealed heightened excitement, as indicated by elevated heart rates during moments of product discovery and interaction.

B. Post VR Shopping Behavior

Analysis of post-VR shopping behavior uncovered a significant correlation between immersive virtual experiences and subsequent consumer actions. Participants who engaged in the virtual shopping environment demonstrated a higher likelihood of exploring corresponding products in the real-world online store.

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The virtual experience positively influenced participants' product preferences and purchase decisions, highlighting the potential of immersive VR encounters to impact e-commerce interactions.

C. Biometric Data Insights

Biometric data provided valuable insights into participants' emotional responses during the VR fashion show and virtual shopping. Increased skin conductance during immersive moments indicated heightened arousal and emotional engagement. Heart rate variations correlated with specific virtual interactions, emphasizing the emotionally charged nature of the VR experience. These physiological indicators complemented self-reported data, enriching our understanding of the nuanced impact of immersive virtual experiences.

VI. DISCUSSION

The integration of virtual reality (VR) technology in the realms of fashion shows and online shopping has yielded intriguing insights into consumer behavior and engagement. The results highlight the potential of immersive virtual experiences in shaping subsequent consumer actions. Our findings emphasized the positive impact of VR on user engagement, showcasing how participants actively navigated virtual environments with heightened interest and interaction. The extended exploration of virtual aisles and products reflects the immersive power of VR, providing users with an enriched and engaging shopping experience [12][17][18][19].

Furthermore, the observed correlation between virtual and real-world shopping behaviors resonates with established theories in consumer psychology. The spillover effect, wherein positive experiences in one context influence behavior in another, has been well-documented study extends this understanding into the realm of virtual experiences, demonstrating how engaging with products in a VR fashion show can influence subsequent interactions with corresponding items in an online store. This suggests the potential for VR to bridge the gap between online and offline consumer behavior, creating a more seamless and integrated shopping journey [13].

The incorporation of biometric data adds a valuable layer to our comprehension of the emotional dimensions of immersive virtual encounters. The heightened arousal, as indicated by increased skin conductance during immersive moments, underscores the emotionally charged nature of VR experiences. Our study contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of the emotional impact of VR in the context of fashion and e-commerce.

VII. CONCLUSION

The amalgamation of methodologies from traditional interview-based research and experimental design has ushered in a new era of exploration into the immersive virtual experiences within the realms of fashion and e-commerce. This integrative approach, leveraging both qualitative and quantitative methods, provides a comprehensive understanding of user perceptions, behaviors, and reactions in the dynamically evolving landscape of virtual consumption.

A. Understanding the Impact of VR Fashion Shows

The first methodology, rooted in qualitative interviews, delved into the intricacies of individuals' experiences within virtual reality (VR) fashion shows. The careful selection of participants from the fashion domain, coupled with the analysis of their perceptions regarding spatial presence, visual aesthetics, and emotional engagement, offered valuable insights into the potential transformative power of VR in the fashion industry. The methodological finesse of combining purposive and snowball sampling, as well as utilizing a diverse set of stimuli, enriched the data with a spectrum of perspectives. Findings underscored the significance of visual and sensory immersion in VR, shedding light on the potential redefinition of the traditional fashion show experience.

B. Unveiling the Dynamics of Virtual Shopping

Building upon the insights gained from the first methodology, the integration of experimental design in the second approach broadened the horizon to encompass the realm of virtual shopping in e-commerce. By manipulating the form of communication (photo, 360-degree, and VR conditions), the study explored the impact of different modes on various dependent variables. The inclusion of enjoyment and novelty as potential mediators further nuanced the analysis. The extensive participant pool and meticulous sampling techniques added robustness to the findings, revealing nuances in user experiences based on gender, age, and prior knowledge of the brand. Results underscored the potential of immersive technologies to enhance holistic shop experiences and influence visitor and purchase intentions.

C. Extending the Frontiers

To propel this research into uncharted territories, novel elements were seamlessly integrated. The introduction of a virtual shopping environment, mirroring an online fashion retail platform, expanded the study's scope beyond mere virtual fashion shows. Participants' post-VR shopping behaviors were meticulously tracked, providing a bridge between virtual experiences and real-world consumer actions. Incorporating biometric data collection offered a deeper understanding of the physiological responses to immersive virtual experiences, unraveling the emotional impact on participants. The extension of interview periods, a longitudinal study design, and the implementation of control groups elevated the research design's sophistication, enabling a more comprehensive analysis of enduring effects and causal relationships.

D. Broader Implications and Future Avenues

The findings from this integrated methodology carry significant implications for both the fashion industry and the burgeoning field of virtual commerce. Understanding the nuances of user experiences in virtual settings can inform the design of more engaging and effective virtual fashion shows and e-commerce platforms. Brands can leverage these insights to create immersive and personalized experiences that resonate with consumers, potentially revolutionizing the way fashion is consumed and perceived.

The implications also extend to the broader landscape of virtual reality applications in marketing and consumer behavior research. The seamless integration of biometric data collection opens avenues for understanding the intricate interplay between cognition, emotion, and virtual experiences. As technology continues to evolve, the insights gained from this research can serve as a foundation for further exploration into the realms of augmented reality, extended reality, and other immersive technologies.

E. Conclusion in the Context of Existing Literature

This integrated methodology contributes to the existing literature by bridging the gap between traditional qualitative approaches and experimental designs in the study of virtual experiences. While qualitative studies offer rich insights into individual perceptions, experimental designs provide a structured framework for testing hypotheses and establishing causal relationships. The synergy achieved in this research design amplifies the strengths of both methodologies, offering a holistic understanding of the complex dynamics inherent in immersive virtual experiences.

The findings resonate with prior research emphasizing the importance of sensory engagement, presence, and emotional responses in virtual environments. The nuances uncovered regarding the impact of virtual experiences on shopping behavior align with the growing body of literature exploring the intersection of virtual reality and consumer decision-making [3][14]

F. Limitations and Areas for Future Research

While this integrated methodology provides a robust foundation, it is not without limitations. The sample, predominantly consisting of participants in their 20s and 30s, may limit the generalizability of findings across diverse age groups. Future research could explore variations in virtual experiences across different demographic segments. Additionally, the fast-paced evolution of technology calls for ongoing exploration, incorporating emerging devices and platforms, to ensure the relevance and applicability of findings.

In conclusion, the amalgamation of methodologies in this research not only expands the horizons of understanding in virtual fashion and e-commerce but also lays the groundwork for future explorations at the intersection of technology, consumer behavior, and marketing. As the virtual landscape continues to evolve, so too will the methodologies needed to capture its multifaceted impact on individuals and industries alike.

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DECLARATION STATEMENT

I, Sadaf Ahmad, declare that this dissertation titled "The Future of Virtual Fashion Retail: Virtual Experiences and E-Commerce Integration" is entirely my own work, based on my personal research and study. I also declare that this work

has not been previously submitted for any other degree or examination at any other university. All sources of information and assistance used in the preparation of this dissertation have been acknowledged and referenced accordingly. Wherever contributions of others are involved, every effort has been made to indicate this clearly with proper citations and references to the original works. I understand that any act of plagiarism, including the reproduction of the work of others without acknowledgment, will result in severe disciplinary action.

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Ethical Approval and Consent to Participate	No, the article does not require ethical approval and consent to participate with evidence.
Availability of Data and Material	Not relevant.
Authors Contributions	All authors having equal participation in the article.

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provided her with a comprehensive knowledge base but have also inspired her passion for contributing to the ever-evolving landscape of global business. with her enthusiastic engagement in related projects, positions me as a dedicated individual ready to make a significant impact in the dynamic field of business management. She is passionate to apply her skills and insights to contribute meaningfully to organizational success, strategic management planning, and the effective leadership of teams in a global business context.

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Sadaf Ahmad is a dedicated student with a background in Virtual Reality (VR) and a focus on 3D modeling, graphic design, and digital media. She pursued her academic endeavors at Anhui University of Science and Technology, actively participating in projects such as the Sixth Academic Forum Presentation on Crime

Investigation System and the Fifth Academic Forum on Pakistan's Natural Scene Simulation and Analysis. Demonstrating a strong commitment to environmental responsibility, Sadaf has contributed to projects like Green and Recycling of E-waste, showcasing her passion for sustainable practices. A creative individual, Sadaf's works often transcend traditional boundaries, reflecting her innovative approach in academic forums, exhibitions, and business presentations. She explores the intersection of technology and creativity. Beyond her academic pursuits, Sadaf Ahmad emerges as a dynamic professional poised to make significant contributions to the fields of 3D modeling and VR. Her journey exemplifies a commitment to pushing the boundaries of technology and addressing real-world challenges through creative and sustainable solutions.



Yu Zhang received the master's degree in geological engineering from the Anhui University of Science and Technology, in 2005. She is currently an associate professor in the School of Computer Science and Engineering of Anhui University of Science and Technology. Her research interests include deep learning, mining, and visualization of media data applications and techniques.



Iqra Yamin, is a master student in the School of computer science and Engineering, at Anhui University of Science and Technology. Her research direction is face detection based on machine learning (artificial intelligence). She is mainly interested in artificial intelligence that revolve around computer vision, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, with a particular emphasis on face detection and recognition. She is passionate about developing algorithms that can accurately detect and recognize faces in various conditions, including low-quality images, occlusions, and variations in pose and lighting. Her work often involves exploring techniques such as deep learning, convolutional neural networks, and transfer learning to improve the accuracy and robustness of face detection systems.



Wafa Ahmad, an enthusiastic individual with a strong academic background in international economics and trade. Her journey in the field has equipped me with a deep understanding of global economic dynamics, trade policies, and strategic management. Throughout her bachelor's program, She immersed herself in subjects that explored the intricate connections between nations, developing profound interest in organizational management, leadership strategies. She actively engaged in coursework that delved into areas such as strategic management, organizational behavior, and the impacts of globalization on diverse business environments. Her academic experiences have not only