# Application of Mean and Standard Deviation in Questionnaire Surveys 

${ }^{1}$ Abdul Rahman Othman, ${ }^{2 *}$ Teh Sin Yin, ${ }^{1}$ Shukri Sulaiman, ${ }^{1}$ Mohamed Ismail Mohamed Ibrahim \& ${ }^{1}$ Mohd Razha-Rashid<br>${ }^{1}$ School of Distance Education, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800 Minden,Penang, Malaysia.<br>${ }^{2}$ School of Mathematical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800 Minden,Penang, Malaysia.<br>*E-mail: syin.teh@gmail.com


#### Abstract

A simple method using the descriptive statistics involving mean and standard deviation can be applied in questionnaire surveys. By focusing on the reliability and validity assessment, items should have roughly equivalent means and standard deviations within a Likert scale with the rule of thumb of 2:1 (ratio of the maximum standard deviation to the minimum standard deviation). A comprehensive study on the reliability and validity of the questionnaire to assess computer and internet usages is presented to illustrate how to perform a simple evaluation of the item-level descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation and frequencies), the multitrait/multi-item correlation matrix (Pearson correlation and Biserial correlation) and reliability coefficients and inter-scale correlations (Cronbrach's alpha and Hoyt's method). This method is thus applicable in any research that employs a questionnaire.


Keywords: Likert scales, mean, reliability, standard deviation, validity.

## INTRODUCTION

Simple descriptive statistics involving mean and variance can be used for construct validation in a questionnaire. Item mean and item standard deviation were applied to test whether the items in each hypothesized grouping contain approximately the same proportion of information about the construct being measured. It is also used to examine whether the items have roughly equal standard deviations, such that they contribute equally to the total scale score. In other words, items should have roughly equivalent means and standard deviations within a Likert scale, respectively. Likert scale is a subjective scoring system that allows respondents to quantify how much they agree with the point of view in the item, i.e. 1 represents never, 2 represents seldom and 3 represents often (Trochim \& Donnelly, 2007). A rule of thumb is that the ratio of the maximum standard deviation to the minimum standard deviation should be about $2: 1$ (Julious, 2005). The bundling of items within scales and scales within measures goes wrong when some items are not correctly bundled. This method is very simply but yet it is not commonly use by mathematicians, researchers and teachers. Therefore, the objective of this paper is to discuss the application of mean and standard deviation in the research that uses questionnaire by focusing on the reliability and validity assessment.

Variables must be measured before they can be related to one another in a questionnaire. For statements of relationship to have any meaning, each measurement must, in some sense, validly measure what it is supposed to measure. In other words, items should tend to measure something in common when they are grouped into a same scale in the questionnaire. This is assessed by the item-
scale correlations. The items scores are then summed to estimate a scale score. A Pearson productmoment correlation coefficient is used to describe this type of relationship (Brown \& Benedetti, 1977; Snedecor \& Cochran, 1989). On the other hand, a point biserial correlation coefficient is used when the association between an item with dichotomous score and scale with continuous score is measured; or when strength of the relationship between a single item and the hypothesized scale that includes the item is measured (Armitage \& Colton, 2005).

Internal consistency is the extent to which items within a scale are correlated with each other in a questionnaire (Brazier, Harper, Jones, O’Cathain, Thomas, Usherwood \& Westlake, 1992). In reliability analysis, the Cronbach's alpha is a widely used method based on correlations between items, and reliability coefficients for each scale calculated by a 2-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). In fact, it is based on the average correlation of items within a test if the items are standardized and based on the average covariance among the items if the items are not standardized (Cronbach, 1951). Besides Cronbach's alpha coefficient, the Hoyt's method is used for items with dichotomous score. The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In the second section, the item-level descriptive statistics are discussed. The multitrait/multi-item correlation matrix is described in the third section while the fourth section discusses the reliability coefficients and inter-scale correlations. An illustrative example is presented in Section Five by using data consisting of information about the extent of computer and internet usage of the citizens of Penang, Malaysia in 2006. The conclusion of our study is in the final section.

## ITEM-LEVEL DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

Essentially, simple item-level descriptive statistics can be used for construct validation in a questionnaire. The good rule of thumb to follow is that the items should have roughly equivalent means within a Likert scale. Other than examining the item means, item standard deviations also are examined. The rule of thumb is the maximum standard deviation to minimum standard deviation should be about 2:1 (Julious, 2005). If the item does not fulfill the rule, the item needs to be standardized so that it does not differ greatly within a scale.

This discrepancy can also occur when items do not have roughly symmetrical distribution for all of the response choice and it still might be desirable to include the item in the scale for purposes of content validity. In such cases, the item can be weighted by using factor analysis (Ware, Kosinski \& Keller, 1994). In addition to examining item means and standard deviations, the response value frequencies of individual items is assessed to determine if all of the items are chosen or not, and whether the items are symmetrically distributed in the hypothesized scale.

## MULTITRAIT/MULTI-ITEM CORRELATION MATRIX

The multitrait/multi-item correlation matrix is used to examine the relationship of each item to its hypothesized scale, as well as the item's correlations with other scales. Each row in the matrix contains correlations between the score for one item and all scale scores. Each column contains correlations between the score for one scale and all items (items hypothesized to be part of that scale and those which are not). The multitrait item-scale correlation matrix examines the item internal consistency (items are substantially linearly related to the total scale score) and the equality of itemscale correlations (items in a scale contributing roughly equal proportion of information to the total score of its hypothesized scale).

For the Pearson correlation coefficient $(r)$, item internal consistency is considered substantial and satisfactory if an item correlates to 0.4 and above with its hypothesized scale (Ware, Brook, DaviesAvery, Williams, Stewart, Rogers, Donald \& Johnston, 1980). Point biserial correlation coefficient
( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}$ ) is used to estimate the value of the Pearson correlation when the association between item with dichotomous score and scale with continuous score is measured (Armitage \& Colton, 2005). Point biserial correlation coefficient is defined as follows (Sheskin, 2007):

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{\text {biserial }}=\frac{\left(M_{1}-M_{2}\right)}{\sigma} \times \frac{p_{1} p_{2}}{z} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where
$M_{1}, M_{2}=$ means of the 2 groups,
$p_{1}, p_{2} \quad=$ proportions of the 2 groups from the total,
$\sigma \quad=$ standard deviation for the scale with continuous score, and
$z \quad=$ ordinate of the normal curve at the point of dichotomy.

These coefficients have a range of possible values from -1 to +1 . The value indicates the strength of the relationship, while the sign (- or + ) indicates the direction. The equality of item-scale correlations is the guide line to determine rejecting or not rejecting an item into a scale. Low or negative correlation coefficients are often an indicator of a flawed item being included into a hypothesized scale.

## RELIABILITY COEFFICIENTS AND INTER-SCALE CORRELATIONS

Correlations among all scales are computed and compared with reliability estimates to evaluate how distinct each scale is from other scales in the same matrix. A reliability coefficient illustrates a correlation between a scale and itself. The reliability of scales scores has been estimated using the internal consistency method, i.e. Cronbach's alpha coefficient and Hoyt's method (for item with dichotomous score). Cronbach's alpha coefficient is defined as follows (Cronbach, 1951):

$$
\begin{equation*}
R_{t t}=\frac{k R_{i i}}{1+(k-1) R_{i i}} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where
$R_{t t}=$ internal-consistency reliability of a score,
$k=$ number of items, and
$R_{i i}=$ average of all inter-item correlations within a scale.
and $0 \leq R_{t t} \leq 1$. The Cronbrach's alpha coefficient of a scale should be above 0.70 to indicate a strong correlation between a scale and itself (Nunnally \& Bernstein, 1994). However, the caution is that Cronbrach's alpha coefficient is quite sensitive to the number of items in the scale. It is common to find a low value with short scales (e.g. scale with fewer than ten items) (Briggs \& Cheek, 1986).

The Cronbrach's alpha coefficient is used for items with Likert scale, whereas, for items with dichotomous scoring, i.e. yes or no; relevant or irrelevant, Hoyt's method is used. Hoyt (1941) developed an approach to the estimation of reliability which also yields results identical to those obtained from the Cronbrach's alpha coefficient. Hoyt's method was based on ANOVA, treating person and items as sources of variation. Hoyt (1941) defined the reliability estimate $\hat{p}_{t t}$, using ANOVA notation as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\rho}_{t t}=\frac{M S_{\text {person }}-M S_{\text {residual }}}{M S_{\text {person }}} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
M S_{\text {person }}= & \text { the mean square term for persons taken from the ANOVA summary table } \\
M S_{\text {residual }}= & \text { the mean square term for residual taken from the residual variance in the ANOVA } \\
& \text { summary table }
\end{aligned}
$$

Hoyt's method can be computed easily because ANOVA is a general statistical procedure that is available in all statistical packages.

## AN EXAMPLE

The questionnaire was created to examine the extent of computer and internet usage of the citizens of Penang (Malaysia) in the year 2006. In the following example, the discussion is focused on this group of respondents. Data collection was carried out via face-to-face interviews by enumerators for all the household members. At completion, 4340 individuals had been surveyed. Amongst them, 272 respondents were simultaneously computer and internet users who used online monetary transactions. The computer and internet usage questionnaire have 10 scales with their respective items. The 10 scales include place used computer, main activities for computer usage, place used internet, awareness about Information and Communication Technology (ICT), type of computer skills, online activities including e-communication, e-entertainment, e-learning, non-monetary e-transactions, and monetary e-transactions. This questionnaire may be obtained on request from the second author. This study presents the results on the reliability and validity of the questionnaire to assess computer and internet usages. The software Predictive Analytics SoftWare (PASW); formerly Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) are used throughout the study.

Table 1 indicates that all items have roughly equivalent means and standard deviations within a Likert scale (ratio of maximum standard deviation to minimum standard deviation of around 2:1), respectively, except items PLA04, PLA05, PUI04 and PUI05. Item PLA04 (Mean=.03, $\mathrm{SD}=.173$ ) and item PLA05 (Mean=.00, $\mathrm{SD}=.000$ ) have lower mean values compared to other items in scale PLA. Their standard deviation is about 3 times and 5 times lower than the maximum standard deviation for scale PLA, respectively. This has violated the $2: 1$ rule. Item PUI04 (Mean=.00, SD=.061) and PUI05 (Mean $=.01, \mathrm{SD}=.121$ ) in scale PUI, follow in a similar vein. In addition to means and standard deviations, the response values frequencies were examined in order to determine whether all response choices were used. For computer users who do not own computer(s), the results showed that only 2 respondents responded to using computers at e-community centres (PLA04) and no one responded to using a computer at school (PLA05). Among the respondents who used the Internet, only one respondent accessed the internet at an e-community centre (PUI04) and 4 respondents accessed the Internet at school (PUI05). These 4 items are eliminated because it is not desirable to include them in their corresponding scale.

The test of item internal consistency is assessed by evaluating the correlation between an item and the score of hypothesized scale. From Table 2, all items correlates to 0.4 and above with their hypothesized scale, except item PLA01 ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.200$ ) and MAI02 ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.338$ ). Items PLA01 and MAI02 have the highest correlation coefficient amongst all the items in their hypothesized scale. Other than these 2 items, all the items in a scale contribute roughly equal proportion of information to the total score of their hypothesized scale. This can be seen by looking at the items correlation coefficients in the same hypothesized scale, which do not differ much from each other.

Item PLA01 ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.200$ ) has a low correlation coefficient which means that the respondent who does not own any computers seldom use a computer in their work place. However, they chose to use the computer at cyber cafés $\left(\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.708\right)$ and perhaps their friends' house ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.571$ ). On the other hand, a low correlation coefficient for item MAI02 ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.338$ ) suggests that the main
activities of respondents is not office automation but related to education activities ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.710$ ), game/entertainment/multimedia activities ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.627$ ) and other application (i.e. programming) ( $\rho_{\text {biserial }}=.606$ ). It is noted that item SKI03 $(r=.436)$ does not have the highest correlation coefficient with its hypothesized scale compared to other scales. This might be due to the definition of "Other applications" being too broad and not suitable to put into a scale named skill.

From the reliability coefficients presented in Table 3, all the correlations between the two scales is less than their respective reliability coefficients, except for MAI (Main Activities) and PUI (Place Used Internet). This is consistent with the findings in Table 2 that items of MAI and PUI might not categorize into suitable scales. For variable with Cronbrach's alpha and Hoyt's coefficients of a scale above 0.70 , there is an evidence of unique reliable variance measured by each scale. In a similar vein, the evaluation of inter-scale correlations indicates that each scale is measuring a distinct concept.

## CONCLUSION

There have been reports in the literature where the common reliability and validity method have been used for the analysis of questionnaires related to health surveys (Kröz, Büssing, Laue, Reif, Feder, Schad, Girke, Matthes, 2009; Okamura, Nojiri \& Osuga, 2009; Ware \& Gandek, 1998a, 1998b). However, there are no comprehensive studies on the reliability and validity of questionnaires to assess computer and internet usages. In this respect, a case study employing real world data is presented to illustrate how to perform a simple evaluation of the item-level descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation and frequencies), the multitrait/multi-item correlation matrix (Pearson correlation and biserial correlation) and reliability coefficients and inter-scale correlations (Cronbrach's alpha and Hoyt's method). These findings have shown that an uncomplicated method using the descriptive statistics involving mean and standard deviation can be utilised in questionnaire surveys for construct validation. By focusing on the reliability and validity assessment, items should have roughly equivalent means and standard deviations within a Likert scale with a straightforward rule of thumb of $2: 1$ (ratio of the maximum standard deviation to minimum standard deviation). Thus, we would highly encouraged teachers, researchers and mathematicians to apply this simple, easy and convenient method in any research that uses questionnaires.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The work that led to the publication of this paper was funded by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC), the Short Term Grant Scheme of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), and supported by a USM Fellowship (to the correspondence author).

## REFERENCES

Armitage, P. and Colton, T. (2005). Encyclopedia of Biostatistics, $2^{n d}$ ed. Chichester, West Sussex: John Wiley. Brazier, J. E., Harper, R., Jones, N. M. B., O’Cathain, A., Thomas, K. J., Usherwood, T. and Westlake, L. (1992). Validating the SF-36 health survey questionnaire: New outcome measure for primary care. British Medical Journal, 305, 160-164.

Briggs, S. R. and Cheek, J. M. (1986). The role of factor analysis in the development and evaluation of personality scales. Journal of Personality, 54, 106-148.
Brown, M. B. and Benedetti, J. K. (1977), Sampling behavior of tests for correlation in two-way contingency tables. Journal of the American Statistical Association, 72, 309-315.
Cronbach, L.J. (1951). Coefficient alpha and the internal structure of tests. Psychometrika, 16, 297-334.

Hoyt, C. (1941). Test reliability estimated by analysis of variance. Psychometrika, 6, 153-160.
Julious, S. A. (2005). Why do we use pooled variance analysis of variance? Pharmaceutical Statistics, 4(1), 3-5.
Kröz, M., Büssing, A., Laue, H. B. V., Reif, M., Feder, G., Schad, F., Girke, M. and Matthes, H. (2009). Reliability and validity of a new scale on internal coherence (ICS) of cancer patients. Health and Quality of Life Outcomes, 7(59), 1-11.
Nunnally, J. C. and Bernstein, I. R. (1994). Psychometric Theory, $3^{\text {rd }}$ ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.
Okamura, K., Nojiri, Y. and Osuga, Y. (2009). Reliability and validity of the king's health questionnaire for lower urinary tract symptoms in both genders. British Journal of Urology International, 103(12), 1673-1678.
Snedecor, G. W. and Cochran, W. G. (1989), Statistical Methods, $8^{\text {th }}$ ed. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press.
Sheskin, D. J. (2007). Handbook of Parametric and Nonparametric Statistical Procedures, $4^{\text {th }}$ ed. Boca Raton: Chapman and Hall/CRC.
Trochim, W. and Donnelly, J. P. (2007). The Research Methods Knowledge Base (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ ed.). Mason, Ohio: Atomic Dog Publishing.
Ware, J. E., Brook, R. H., Davies-Avery, A., Williams, K. N., Stewart, A. L., Rogers, W. H., Donald, C. A. and Johnston, S. A. (1980). Conceptualisation and measurement of health for adults in the health insurance study. Vol. 1, Model of Health and Methodology. Santa Monica, California: RAND Corporation.
Ware, J. E. and Gandek, B. (1998a). Overview of the SF-36 health survey and the international quality of life assessment (IQOLA) project. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology, 51(11), 903-912.
Ware, J. E. and Gandek, B. (1998b). Method for testing data quality, scaling assumptions, and reliability: The IQOLA project approach. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology, 51(11), 945-952.
Ware, J. E., Kosinski, M. and Keller, S. K. (1994). SF-36 Physical and Mental Health Summary Scales: A User 's Manual. Boston, Massachusetts: The Health Institute.
Table 1. Item descriptive statistics for computer users and internet users who used monetary transactions.

| Item |  | QUESTIONS |  |  |  | Response Values Frequencies |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Original | Label |  | N | Mean | SD | 0 | 1 |
| Scale = Place Used Computer |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b8ai | PLA01 | Work place | 66 | . 89 | . 310 | 7 | 59 |
| b8aii | PLA02 | Cyber café | 66 | . 36 | . 485 | 42 | 24 |
| b8aiii | PLA03 | Friends' house | 66 | . 05 | . 210 | 63 | 3 |
| b8aiv | PLA04 | E-community centre | 66 | . 03 | . 173 | 64 | 2 |
| b8av | PLA05 | School | 66 | . 00 | . 000 | 66 | 0 |
| Scale $=1$ | Activities |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b9ai | MAI01 | Education | 272 | . 43 | . 496 | 155 | 117 |
| b9bi | MAI02 | Office automation | 272 | . 75 | . 436 | 69 | 203 |
| b9ci | MAI03 | Other application (i.e. programming) | 272 | . 31 | . 464 | 187 | 85 |
| b9di | MAI04 | Game/Entertainment/Multimedia | 272 | . 45 | . 498 | 150 | 122 |
| Scale $=$ Place Used Internet |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c12ai | PUI01 | Home | 272 | . 69 | . 464 | 85 | 187 |
| cl2bi | PUI02 | Cyber cafe | 272 | . 18 | . 388 | 222 | 50 |
| c12ci | PUI03 | Work place | 272 | . 65 | . 478 | 95 | 177 |
| c12di | PUI04 | E-community centre | 272 | . 00 | . 061 | 271 | 1 |
| c12ei | PUI05 | School | 272 | . 01 | . 121 | 268 | 4 |
| Scale $=$ Awareness |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| e18i | AWE01 | MSC | 272 | . 89 | . 318 | 31 | 241 |
| e18ii | AWE02 | Penang Cyber City | 272 | . 51 | . 501 | 133 | 139 |
| e18iii | AWE03 | E-Community Center | 272 | . 41 | . 493 | 160 | 112 |
| e18iv | AWE04 | PC Fair | 272 | . 83 | . 379 | 47 | 225 |
| e18v | AWE05 | K-ICT Mater Plan | 272 | . 24 | . 429 | 206 | 66 |
| e18vi | AWE06 | WIFI/Hotspot | 272 | . 62 | . 487 | 104 | 168 |
| e18vii | AWE07 | Penang Government Portal | 272 | . 31 | . 464 | 187 | 85 |
| e18viii | AWE08 | MYICMS 886 (Malaysian Information, Communication and Multimedia Services 886) | 272 | . 18 | . 385 | 223 | 49 |

Note: All items used a binary scale with ( $0=$ Not relevant and $2=$ Relevant )
Table 1. (Cont.)

Note: All items used a 3-point Likert scale with ( $1=$ Never, $2=$ Seldom and $3=O f t e n$ ). Abbreviations: $\mathrm{PLA}=\mathrm{Place}$ used computer; MAI=Main Activities; NOI=Not used internet; AWE $=$ Awareness;
$\mathrm{SKI}=$ Skill; $\mathrm{COM}=\mathrm{E}-$ Communication; $\mathrm{ENT}=\mathrm{E}-$ Entertainment; LEA=Learning; NMT=Non-Monetary E-Transactions; MET=Monetary E-Transactions
Table 2. Item-scale correlations for computer users and internet users who used monetary transactions.

| Item |  |  | Item-Scale Correlations A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Original | Label | QUESTIONS | PLA | MAI | NOI | AWE | SKI | COM | ENT | LEA | NMT | MET |
| Scale $=$ Place Used Computer |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b8ai | PLA01 | Work place | . 200 | . 172 | . 126 | . 061 | . 096 | . 046 | . 098 | . 095 | . 091 | . 029 |
| b8aii | PLA02 | Cyber café | . 708 | . 104 | . 594 | . 096 | . 247 | . 334 | . 366 | . 130 | . 019 | . 131 |
| b8aiii | PLA03 | Friends' house | . 571 | . 096 | . 123 | -. 149 | . 206 | . 054 | . 117 | . 038 | . 034 | -. 043 |
| Scale $=$ Main Activities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b9ai | MAI01 | Education | . 188 | . 710 | . 119 | . 249 | . 628 | . 176 | . 288 | . 477 | . 249 | . 051 |
| b9bi | MAI02 | Office automation | -. 103 | . 338 | . 219 | . 114 | . 180 | . 054 | -. 067 | . 040 | . 066 | . 105 |
| b9ci | MAI03 | Other application (i.e. programming) | -. 017 | . 606 | . 085 | . 257 | . 572 | . 189 | . 221 | . 094 | . 288 | . 120 |
| b9di | MAI04 | Game/Entertainment/Multimedia | . 364 | . 627 | . 243 | . 231 | . 531 | . 191 | . 367 | . 177 | . 152 | . 126 |
| Scale $=$ Place Used Internet |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c12ai | PUI01 | Home | . 108 | . 027 | . 416 | . 096 | . 142 | . 206 | . 206 | . 077 | . 108 | . 315 |
| cl2bi | PUI02 | Cyber cafe | . 684 | . 175 | . 444 | . 121 | . 193 | . 167 | . 270 | . 120 | . 061 | . 016 |
| c12ci | PUI03 | Work place | . 026 | . 205 | . 532 | . 139 | . 095 | . 150 | . 056 | . 103 | . 093 | . 101 |
| Scale $=$ Awareness |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| e18i | AWE01 | MSC | -. 160 | . 107 | -. 053 | . 443 | . 139 | . 092 | . 118 | . 112 | . 157 | . 102 |
| e18ii | AWE02 | Penang Cyber City | . 130 | . 281 | . 255 | . 683 | . 279 | . 223 | . 243 | . 191 | . 144 | . 258 |
| e18iii | AWE03 | E-Community Center | . 035 | . 178 | . 103 | . 631 | . 206 | . 102 | . 164 | . 318 | . 233 | . 077 |
| el8iv | AWE04 | PC Fair | . 067 | . 188 | . 150 | . 457 | . 231 | . 214 | . 173 | . 065 | . 101 | . 178 |
| e18v | AWE05 | K-ICT Mater Plan | . 054 | . 166 | . 188 | . 686 | . 230 | . 196 | . 193 | . 281 | . 222 | . 197 |
| e18vi | AWE06 | WIFI/Hotspot | -. 029 | . 329 | . 187 | . 609 | . 341 | . 308 | . 334 | . 285 | . 187 | . 268 |
| e18vii | AWE07 | Penang Government Portal | . 123 | . 300 | . 162 | . 720 | . 327 | . 178 | . 243 | . 234 | . 203 | . 196 |
| e18viii | AWE08 | MYICMS 886 | . 079 | . 264 | . 223 | . 698 | . 338 | . 416 | . 387 | . 188 | . 251 | . 280 |
| Scale $=$ Skill |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b9aii | SKI01 | Education | . 321 | . 039 | . 179 | . 341 | . 551 | . 460 | . 529 | . 433 | . 511 | . 309 |
| b9bii | SKI02 | Office automation | . 049 | . 092 | . 127 | . 194 | . 452 | . 358 | . 270 | . 083 | . 150 | . 299 |
| b9cii | SKI03 | Other application (i.e. programming) | . 463 | -. 108 | . 278 | . 396 | . 436 | . 506 | . 446 | . 235 | . 444 | . 390 |
| b9dii | SKI04 | Game/Entertainment/Multimedia | . 478 | . 092 | . 186 | . 333 | . 529 | . 444 | . 481 | . 156 | . 287 | . 274 |

Table 2. (Cont.)

| Item |  |  | Item-Scale Correlations A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Original | Label | QUESTIONS | PLA | MAI | NOI | AWE | SKI | COM | ENT | LEA | NMT | MET |
| Scale $=$ E-Communication |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| cl3ai | COM01 | E-mail | . 200 | . 019 | . 168 | . 109 | . 075 | . 425 | . 251 | . 135 | . 277 | . 238 |
| c13aii | COM02 | Chat/Instant messaging | . 251 | . 310 | . 272 | . 312 | . 353 | . 748 | . 478 | . 188 | . 229 | . 293 |
| c13aiii | COM03 | Internet sms | . 386 | . 226 | . 259 | . 225 | . 332 | . 788 | . 530 | . 149 | . 306 | . 351 |
| c13aiv | COM04 | Discussion group | . 265 | . 236 | . 335 | . 300 | . 321 | . 840 | . 505 | . 143 | . 296 | . 397 |
| cl3av | COM05 | Video conferencing/Web camp | . 189 | . 185 | . 322 | . 300 | . 289 | . 849 | . 509 | . 250 | . 253 | . 345 |
| c13avi | COM06 | Internet Telephony | . 120 | . 208 | . 353 | . 287 | . 282 | . 827 | . 480 | . 218 | . 210 | . 362 |
| Scale $=$ E- Entertainment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c13bi | ENT01 | Download and/or upload digital photos | . 361 | . 317 | . 253 | . 328 | . 343 | . 436 | . 764 | . 182 | . 267 | . 229 |
| c13bii | ENT02 | Audio streaming/download/upload music | . 379 | . 313 | . 310 | . 288 | . 346 | . 518 | . 825 | . 273 | . 393 | . 182 |
| c13biii | ENT03 | Download/play online games | . 348 | . 293 | . 314 | . 292 | . 367 | . 476 | . 807 | . 314 | . 305 | . 303 |
| c13biv | ENT04 | Video streaming/download/upload video | . 312 | . 274 | . 264 | . 259 | . 372 | . 473 | . 849 | . 331 | . 363 | . 304 |
| c13bv | ENT05 | Contest/competition | . 333 | . 236 | . 289 | . 339 | . 363 | . 544 | . 682 | . 217 | . 294 | . 482 |
| c13bvi | ENT06 | Sport/Artist | . 243 | . 240 | . 266 | . 240 | . 326 | . 408 | . 664 | . 234 | . 330 | . 316 |
| Scale $=$ Learning |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c13ci | LEA01 | E-learning or online education | . 194 | . 339 | . 256 | . 303 | . 345 | . 262 | . 345 | . 868 | . 463 | . 140 |
| c13cii | LEA02 | Children education content | . 144 | . 136 | . 084 | . 246 | . 168 | . 119 | . 174 | . 735 | . 316 | . 126 |
| c13ciii | LEA03 | Assignment | . 140 | . 365 | . 168 | . 300 | . 374 | . 169 | . 294 | . 835 | . 447 | -. 017 |
| Scale $=$ Non-monetary E-Transactions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c13di | NMT01 | News/information | -. 037 | . 185 | . 110 | . 136 | . 203 | . 090 | . 194 | . 308 | . 610 | . 072 |
| c13dii | NMT02 | Information retrieval/search (e.g. Google) | . 050 | . 140 | . 114 | . 153 | . 181 | . 132 | . 169 | . 277 | . 549 | . 036 |
| c13diii | NMT03 | Download application software | . 034 | . 219 | . 161 | . 215 | . 296 | . 316 | . 303 | . 324 | . 743 | . 163 |
| c13div | NMT04 | Upload\&Download from office server | . 044 | . 191 | . 204 | . 213 | . 291 | . 287 | . 312 | . 281 | . 726 | . 209 |
| c13dv | NMT05 | Job search/Job applications | . 287 | . 291 | . 111 | . 103 | . 298 | . 142 | . 235 | . 354 | . 615 | . 022 |
| c13dvi | NMT05 | Library Services | -. 161 | . 171 | . 093 | . 259 | . 257 | . 213 | . 272 | . 423 | . 682 | . 218 |
| c13dvii | NMT07 | Creating personal home page/Blogging | . 114 | . 218 | . 021 | . 238 | . 330 | . 318 | . 392 | . 374 | . 617 | . 217 |
| c13dviii | NMT08 | Complaint | . 119 | . 292 | . 145 | . 247 | . 344 | . 186 | . 305 | . 250 | . 525 | . 261 |
| Scale $=$ Monetary E-Transactions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c13ei | MET01 | Government Related Transactions | -. 065 | . 149 | . 186 | . 152 | . 140 | . 134 | . 127 | . 065 | . 115 | . 645 |
| c13eii | MET02 | Banking/Finance | -. 086 | -. 100 | . 079 | . 133 | . 051 | . 138 | . 090 | . 111 | . 084 | . 496 |
| c13eiii | MET03 | Shopping | . 261 | . 100 | . 162 | . 221 | . 272 | . 433 | . 329 | . 119 | . 187 | . 593 |
| c13eiv | MET04 | Investments/Security | . 003 | . 129 | . 262 | . 218 | . 235 | . 317 | . 298 | . 058 | . 157 | . 740 |
| c13ev | MET05 | Utility Payments | . 116 | . 167 | . 235 | . 242 | . 239 | . 150 | . 154 | . 053 | . 220 | . 629 |
| c13evi | MET06 | Gambling | . 000 | . 212 | . 278 | . 233 | . 327 | . 459 | . 446 | -. 013 | . 109 | . 704 |
| c13evii | MET07 | Business | . 047 | . 139 | . 280 | . 216 | . 223 | . 390 | . 334 | . 014 | . 126 | . 685 |

LEA=Learning; NMT=Non-Monetary E-Transactions; MET=Monetary E-Transactions.

Application of Mean and Standard Deviation in Questionnaire Surveys
Table 3: Reliability coefficients and inter-scale correlations.

| Scale | PLA | MAI | PUI | AWE | SKI | COM | ENT | LEA | NMT | MET |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PLA | (1.000) | . 235 | . 672 | . 065 | . 360 | . 357 | . 442 | . 192 | . 085 | . 121 |
| MAI |  | (0.331) | . 288 | . 373 | . 892 | . 268 | . 365 | . 353 | . 330 | . 174 |
| PUI |  |  | (0.000) | . 255 | . 300 | . 376 | . 367 | . 213 | . 191 | . 325 |
| AWE |  |  |  | (0.771) | . 425 | . 347 | . 376 | . 349 | . 302 | . 315 |
| SKI |  |  |  |  | (0.901) | . 370 | . 460 | . 373 | . 427 | . 322 |
| COM |  |  |  |  |  | (0.855) | . 615 | . 229 | . 333 | . 437 |
| ENT |  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.860) | . 338 | . 425 | . 383 |
| LEA |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.746) | . 507 | . 098 |
| NMT |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.790) | . 228 |
| MET |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.751) |

[^0]
[^0]:    Scale internal consistency reliability (Cronbach's alpha coefficient) is presented in the diagonal. Hoyt's Method is applied for item with dichotomous score. Abbreviations: PLA=Place used computer; MAI=Main Activities; PUI=Place used internet; AWE=Awareness; SKI=Skill; COM=E-Communication; ENT=E-Entertainment; LEA=Learning; NMT=Non-Monetary E-Transactions; MET=Monetary E-Transactions.

