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Abstract	organisations and so on) have to the degree of subjectivity of measurement of the effects of most of this chapter is to highlight neuromarketing—has on consumderstand the thoughts, emotion a description of the concept of the chapter details the parts of thus highlighting the impact of results of the research highlight	keting (via focus groups, market research numerous limitations; these are mainly related of consumer responses, which often prevents arketing communication on them. The objective the influence that a new line of marketing—amer decisions, allowing managers to directly ons and intentions of consumers. Going beyond of neuromarketing proposed in the literature, of the brain on which advertising messages act, of neuromarketing on consumer choices. The at the positive effects of neuromarketing on the chaviour, providing important theoretical and

1 **Neuromarketing in Customer** 2 Behaviour—Customers' Diencephalic 3 and Mid-Brain Implications 4 in Purchase Dynamics 5 Lino Barbasso, Giuseppe Tardivo, Milena Viassone, 6 and Francesca Serravalle 7 Introduction 1 8 The capacity to evoke an emotional answer through an advertisement or another communication instrument is one of the main aims of market-10 ing. However, it is not easy to measure or quantify emotions. This prob-11 lem has led marketing scholars to elaborate new models of utility and 12 individual rationality (Tornati 2012). 13 Normally, the routine of a purchase in a customer's mind starts from a 14 need for a product and arises as think-perceive-buy/don't buy. However, 15 L. Barbasso

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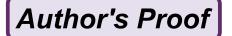
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this process does not always proceed so simply (Tekin et al. 2017). In fact, often people do not really need a product or service, and the decision is made through other mechanisms, without rational influence.

Managers are always researching factors based on attitude and consumer behaviour that can provide a competitive advantage. Traditionally, marketing and advertising scholars have utilised research based on focus groups to obtain answers about products and brand communication, but market change requires new technologies to understand consumers' minds scientifically. Over the past few years, researchers have developed different neurophysiological methods to analyse consumer behaviour and the effects of advertising, with the aim of clarifying different aspects of marketing (Yadava et al. 2017).

Developments in the neuroscientific field have shown that emotions are the fundamental basis from which the thoughts, behaviours and actions of individuals arise (Tornati 2012). As a result, there is increased interest in an approach based on the brain itself and on the relation between consumers' behaviour and their cerebral activity (Hsu 2016; Poels and Dewitte 2006; Potter and Bolls 2012). This is neuromarketing, an emerging field that completes studies about consumer behaviour with neuroscience; it is changing the way in which brands (such as Campbell's Soup and Pepsi) communicate their products and improve their image (4impring.com), always to gain better credibility.

The main problem for producers of various goods and for managers all over the world is to predict whether their new products will be attractive to consumers, whether the suggested price is acceptable, and whether the marketing communications are effective (Gazdzik 2017). Qualitative research, such as a focus group interview or blind taste test, is always based on self-reports, where the answers given during the interview represent the main way to learn which product, taste or commercial is accepted. This type of methodology makes one important assumption: consumers never lie. In practical life, this hypothesis is wrong, because consumers lie and sometimes respond with expressions of worries and prejudices. It is believed that studies performed in this field are realist, scientific and more reliable (Tekin et al. 2017). Moreover, during focus group interviews people reveal attitudes—influenced by a strong personality, for example—that make the research unreliable. For these reasons,



it is clear that individual responses are not independent of one another (Gazdzik 2017).

Neuromarketing overcomes the limits of conventional methods to test and forecast efficiency in advertising investment (which often fail because they depend on consumer availability and competence to describe how an advertisement feels), offering a cutting-edge methodology to directly probe consumers' minds without requiring demanding cognitive participation (Morin 2011). Neurotechnologies and neuroimaging techniques have the capacity to study the frequency, location and timing of neuronal activity to an unprecedented degree (Bakardjieva and Kimmel 2017; Lee et al. 2007). Neuromarketing uses neuroscience to determine how consumers are affected by variations in product design, packaging and instore displays; why consumers prefer some products and brands to others; and to what extent advertising content and execution has an impact on them (Bakardjieva and Kimmel 2017; Nobel 2013).

The aim of this chapter is to show, through a deep examination of the literature and results obtained, how the main methodology utilised in neuromarketing can contribute significantly to the efficiency of commercial advertising messages, while also providing managerial and theoretical implications to scholars and managers. The present work adds value to previous studies in the neuromarketing field because it not only sets out the current state of the literature on the research topic but also analyses two practical cases, the first two famous brands in the beverage industry and the second tourist websites, where consumers' decision-making is driven by both positive and negative emotions. In this way, it offers a managerial explanation about the usefulness of neuromarketing techniques in customers' decision-making processes.

2 Review of the Literature

When a firm has a product to promote, one of the issues it must face is to create an advertising campaign. The challenge is to act in a market with more and more different competitors and tackle difficulties concerning reaction time, diversification of the product and the competitor's defences (Nyoni and Bonga 2017b). Ninety-five percent of customers' decision-

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making process occurs in the subconscious, and neuroscience could provide good support to better explain this process, showing the reasons for customers' purchase actions (Dooley 2011; Nyoni and Bonga 2017a; Ramsoy 2014; Zaltman 2003). They are not "simple", as Muth's rational-choice model indicates (Muth 1961), but are complex and interconnected (Nyoni and Bonga 2017a). Recent research shows that even if cognitive decisions seem to be rational, they are not. In fact, emotions take over and affect the results (Hazeldine 2014). The brain is a "black box" in which emotions and customers' preferences are hidden, and neuroeconomics is the "window" that links the decision-making process with the real neurological processes of the subject analysed (Fisher et al. 2010; Green and Holbert 2012; Ohme and Matukin 2012).

The importance of neuromarketing is clear: this multidisciplinary science prevents the customer from twisting the message of the advertisement, jeopardising the campaign results (which could be different from the one hoped for). This explains the high failure rate of marketing campaigns (Hilderbrand 2016). From 2005 to 2015, a growing interest within marketing research emerged in the movement away from self-reported consumer research towards the use of direct neuroscientific methods characterised as neuromarketing. However, interest in neuromarketing has decreased in the last five years, particularly since 2017. Countries where trends of interest are greater are Perú, Colombia and Guatemala. Italy is at the 29th place out of 62 (Google Trends 2018).

Many things still need to be understood about neuromarketing. Some studies have been conducted to gather data about the number of matches and the differences in the number of heat points among the study popu-lations per quadrant of a website (Boz et al. 2017; Štrach and Slivkin 2017). Both Boz et al. (2017) and Štrach and Slivkin (2017) have high-AU3112 lighted the practical applications in the field of cross-cultural web design and business research in two important studies. The first involves map-ping cross-cultural differences in the manner of a business-to-business website assessment (Štrach and Slivkin 2017); the other is a tourist web-site (Boz et al. 2017). Firms use this tool more and more not to influence customers' minds (as many people claim) but to create a better promo-tional campaign for the customer using the traditional marketing chan-nels (Glaenzer 2016).



Neuromarketing seeks information and insights via traditional techniques such as surveys, focus groups, experiments and ethnography. Its goal is to enhance marketing theory and practice (Plassmann et al. 2015; Yoon et al. 2012) or to improve the accuracy of predictions of consumer preferences and behaviour when combined with traditional techniques (Boksem and Smidts 2015; Smidts et al. 2014; Venkatraman et al. 2015). Researchers use technologies such as functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and electroencephalography (EEG) to measure specific types of brain activity in response to advertising messages. With this information, companies learn why consumers make the decisions they do and what parts of the brain motivate them to do so (Ghorpade 2017). According to Nick Lee, Honorary Professor of Marketing and Organizational Research, Aston University, "Executives love the idea of using brain scans. As brain imaging and neuroscience develop, Neuromarketing companies will be able to pull out more sophisticated data about what makes people want to buy or avoid certain items. The big question is whether Neuromarketing can push a 'buy-button' in your brain."

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The major gap we can find here is the scarce application of neuromarketing techniques (Feenstra and Pallarés-Domínguez 2017). While some sceptics and detractors describe neuromarketing as a sort of "brain washing" (Ghorpade 2017), its techniques could allow us to form a reliable view of how companies deal with ethical issues (Feenstra and Pallarés-Domínguez 2017). Threats to consumer autonomy, privacy and control are not meaningful ethical issues given the current capabilities and implementation of neuromarketing research (Stanton et al. 2017). Neuromarketing has clear potential for making a positive impact on society and consumers, a fact rarely considered in the discussion on the ethics of neuromarketing (Stanton et al. 2017) by firms, which prefers to limit or completely avoid this powerful instrument of monitoring. It is easy for businesses to keep track of what we buy, but harder to figure out why (Ghorpade 2017). Neuromarketing will cover this important gap, with effective practical and managerial implications.

Another important limitation for firms is the high costs of using neuromarketing. In fact, an fMRI machine can cost as much as \$5 million, while a single advertising sample group of 20 people can cost only around

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\$10,000. Thus, by necessity, true neuromarketing is used primarily by large companies and organisations such as Google, Microsoft, Frito-Lay and the Weather Channel (Ghorpade 2017).

Having analysed the principle academic sources, we now move on to the methodological heart of this chapter.

3 Methodology

- This research emphasises the role of neuromarketing in the study of customers' behaviour, answering two main research questions:
- 165 RQ1: What are the principle tools used to analyse brain activity?
- RQ2: What are the effects of neuromarketing in the study of customers' behaviour?

These questions are answered through a detailed examination of the literature and empirical results obtained concerning how neuromarketing techniques used in advertisements can influence customers' behaviour. They concern methods for the analysis of brain activity, the areas affected by advertisements and their influence on customers' behaviours. This review emphasises the active role of neuromarketing this and also describes important management applications in the field of marketing.

4 The Main Methods for the Analysis of Brain Activity

We will examine the identification of brain areas in which specific stimuli operate and, in particular, the role of the mid-brain and the diencephalon (especially the amygdala) in specific customers' behaviour trials. The most common methods for the analysis of brain activity subjected to stimuli are electroencephalogram (EEG), positron emission tomography (PET) and fMRI or magnetic resonance imaging. These brain imaging techniques (PET and fMRI) differ in their spatial resolution capacity. Other

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techniques sometimes used are eye tracking (used to trace the movement of the eyes, clarifying which points of the image are considered of greatest interest) and biometric measurements used alongside EEG.

Generally, these results are used to understand the level of attention generated by the stimulus and the level of emotional involvement—that is, if customers have positive reactions to the stimuli and how much the stimulus is remembered, as measured by the level of conservation of the memory. From these data, it is possible to gather additional information: (1) whether there is an intention to buy a product; (2) how much the proposed product stands out over the competitor's; and (3) the awareness of how much the stimulus is able to communicate efficiently. All these theories are explored through empirical studies.

A study carried out on a sample of 30 university students (15 women and 15 men) relating to the projection of different commercial videos brings to light some important insights. In the first ten seconds, the EEG revealed no electric reactions of the brain, but then the scenes regarding value (specifically, family unity) caused some positive brain effects in the subjects analysed. The scenes directed only at the males generated negative effects in the females, whereas the scenes with supernatural elements or with cloudy colours did not arouse particular interest (Tekin et al. 2017). Here it is possible to see different behaviours from women and men subjected to an EEG test. Women tend to be more influenced by hedonistic scenes than men (Lucia-Palacios et al. 2017). The same behaviour was seen in studies on shopping, revealing that females are more affected by stimuli from the external environment (Borges et al. 2013; Kaltcheva and Weitz 2006; Lucia-Palacios et al. 2017; Wirtz et al. 2000).

Moreover, Suomala et al. (2012) proved how neuromarketing is an important tool to reveal the activation of the brain during customers' engagement, using EEG and fMRI. The study involved virtual travel based on the advisory sale process using a brain scan. Specifically, video clips and photographs taken from a sales process at Nokia flagship stores were presented to 16 subjects, whose brain activity was scanned. The subjects were able to associate themselves with people and video events, and they felt safe during the consultative sales process. This demonstrated that the laboratories are virtual environments similar to the sales environments, where consumers can participate in the buying process and

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respond to events represented on the screen. Neuromarketing here is important for gaining consumption information not extrapolated from other sources.

EEG is a more accessible, economical and less invasive test, even if it is able to record only the most superficial signals (Costa Rozan Fortunato and de Moura Engracia Giraldi 2014). In a famous experiment conducted by Daimler Chrysler, Henry Walter scanned the brain activity of 12 young men with fMRI while showing them 66 black-and-white photographs of sports cars, sedans and utility vehicles, highlighting a particular activity of the nucleus accumbens in the brain due to the activation of dopamine at the sight of sports cars. The object of dopamine release has been traced back to the desire for the perceived sports cars. That desire is connected to the perception through advertising that sports cars are highly desirable by men. In his book Buyology, Lindstrom (2008) explains a study carried out to demonstrate how labels related to the positive effects of cigarettes are identified as a visual stimulus for smokers and how they encourage them to consume more; instead of stopping their desire to smoke, they function as an advertising message that stimulates desire itself in the nucleus accumbens, the area of the brain that anticipates pleasure.

An interesting study was conducted by Barbasso et al. (2015) to understand which packaging could allow consumers to give an added value to the product, irrespective of its cost. The study involved 24 participants between the ages of 24 and 40 with different levels of schooling using two brain imaging tools, fMRI and magnetoencelography, put into action by magnetic fields determined by the electrical activation of the brain (Zurawicki 2010). These two techniques have made it possible to identify the cortical areas activated in relation to particular behaviour or consumption experiences (Gazzaniga 2004) and to demonstrate how a fundamental component in the perception of the value is the packaging or the appropriateness of the packaging in the environment in which it is intended to function.

The studies performed through the use of eye tracking have shown how it is able to measure the consumer's focus attention, the scheme of visual behaviour of fixation of gaze, pupil dilatation, and the focus and micro-focus, but it does not allow us to understand which emotions are



associated with the areas considered as a focus of attention (Costa Rozan Fortunato and de Moura Engracia Giraldi 2014). Studies conducted on PET lead back, in terms of validity, to fMRI, even though radioactive positrons can pass through the participants to collect the results, making this technique highly invasive and difficult to use in neuromarketing (Lin et al. 2010).

5 Sectors of the Brain on Which the Advertising Message Acts: The Experiments Conducted

Even though our mind greatly influences our actions, many sectors of our brain remain unknown. A study by John O'Doherty of the California Institute of Technology's Psychology and Social Sciences Division determined how advertising acts on the centres of pleasure, gratification and anxiety. The areas involved in the basic operation of advertising were the mid-brain and diencephalon, centres of pleasure/gratification and pain, respectively, the same that are involved in drug addiction and some psychiatric illnesses. The reaction of our brain when we see an advertisement is characterised by the association between stimulus and product. The advertisement works by simply providing a stimulus and associating it with a product.

Thanks to the utilisation of magnetic resonance, it was possible to see the activity of the diencephalon and the mid-brain in a group of volunteers and to evaluate their reactions to being offered juice. After recording the subjects' preferences, neurologists created a visual stimulation related to their flavours. They could see the brain activity due to the control of the open zones, checking the consistency with the initial statements. The neurologists noticed that the mid-brain had more intense activity when stimulated using the subject's favourite flavour. However, the diencephalon reacted with up and down fluctuations when stimulated using their favourite or their hated flavour. Therefore, the neural activity in these areas faithfully reveals subjects' preferences and individual choices. The limbic system is a part of the diencephalon and is composed of a series of

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brain structures and a set of neural circuits that are in the deepest and oldest part of the telencephalon linked by the limbic system. This system is involved in the integration of emotions, mood and the sense of self-awareness that determines the individual's behaviour. The limbic lobo, the hippocampus, the previous thalamic nuclei, the limbic bark and the amygdala could garble human behaviours and mood.

The amygdala is well connected to the cerebral cortex, which regulates relations with the outside world. Some senses are directly connected with it, so we sense smells with the amygdala before that information can reach more evolved parts of our mind. In this sense, the ear emotion (an instinctive function of the amygdala) could give us some advantages in the decision-making process to the point that automatic answers caused by the fear could be stronger than our rational ability to voluntarily inhibit them. The amygdala is also the centre of anxiety. Breaking down customers' anxiety (generated by the amygdala) with coherent advertisements and being able to check this through fMRI analysis leads to new horizons in the area of in-depth knowledge of purchasing dynamics, revaluating the role of neurological marketing processes.

6 Amygdala: All Emotions Depend on It

Tears are an emotional signal exclusive to human beings and are stimulated by the amygdala, which conserves emotional memory. Our emotions have a brain that takes care of them, which can be different and independent of the opinions of the rational mind. A study by Drazen Prelec and George Loewenstein (an economics and a psychology professor at the University of Carnegie Mellon) concluded that the worst way to sell a product is to increase the price while increasing the amount consumed. This process creates mental pain, a pain in the brain areas associated with physical pain. In every context, buying more and more products immediately caused a sense of pain associated with the instant awareness of how much the customer will pay (a potential loss of purchase).

This strange brain conformation also explains other theories such as loss avoidance. Creating a bundle is a strategy that currently enjoys



success, and we know why through the analysis of neuromarketing. We know how difficult it is to sell single products, with each one distinguished by pricing. It becomes easier to create a bundle where the price of every product will flow into a discounted one.

Finally, neuromarketing methods can also be applied in the area of the memory. Starting from the awareness that storage is connected with future purchase behaviour, neuroscientific studies have focused on the measurement of both explicit (or declared) memory and implicit memory, which is recorded by neuromarketing indicators and does not reach the subject's consciousness. The implicit memory was also studied in relation to the effects of subliminal messages able to influence customers' preferences (Chartrand et al. 2008).

7 Case Studies

7.1 Coca-Cola or Pepsi in a Consumer's Mind?

Studies show that as much as 95% of all consumer purchases of products and services may be impulse purchases (Koc and Boz 2014a, b). In this chapter, we analyse the reactions of the consumer's mind to both a product (a famous beverage) and a service. We start with one of the most compelling neuromarketing studies about a product, which was conducted by McClure et al. (2004). The researchers monitored neural activity when subjects were drinking either Coca-Cola or Pepsi. McClure et al. (2004) used an fMRI experiment with two conditions: (1) a blind taste test; and (2) brand-cued delivery. With the blind taste test, brain activity between Coca-Cola and Pepsi was nearly identical. However, in the brand-cued condition, dramatic differences were found in neural activity, primarily in the ventromedial prefrontal cortex. The important finding was that no neural activation differences were found when no brand information was available, but when brands were known, brand familiarity and product preference came into play. Coca-Cola was found to be generally preferred by the participants and caused significantly more activity in the ventromedial prefrontal cortex. One key aspect of the

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study is that no choices were actually made by the participants; the drink was delivered directly to the participants in the fMRI in small quantities. The manipulation was based on whether the brand was announced first, and the finding is based on the resulting activated regions, as measured by the fMRI.

Koenigs and Tranel (2008) explain that there is a "Pepsi paradox", which essentially explains that in a blind taste test, subjects tend to prefer Pepsi over Coca-Cola, or have no reliable preference, yet Coca-Cola consistently outsells Pepsi. The paradox is that when brand information is available, Coca-Cola is preferred, but when brand information is not provided, no reliable preferences can be made. In McClure et al.'s (2004) study, cola preference was counterbalanced. Koenigs and Tranel (2008) confirm predictions from previous correlative data by using subjects with prefrontal cortex damage, finding that even when these participants are presented with brand information, it makes no difference in their preferences. Thus, this finding mirrors effects found in normal individuals in blind taste tests, as well as under their own blind taste test conditions.

7.2 Tourist Website: How to Choose a Destination?

The second case study involves the tourism sector, which is closely linked with a rise or decrease of prices. Pricing is often used as a competitive advantage tool in tourism in a number of ways to try to influence consumers' purchasing patterns (Swarbrooke and Horner 2007, p. 166). When consumers are looking through a brochure to select a journey, the emotional response is a significant determinant of destination choice (Boz et al. 2017). The study of Bigne and Andreu (2004) showed that tourists experiencing higher pleasure were more likely to be satisfied, loyal and less price-sensitive. Qui and Wu (2005) conducted an experimental study on the influence of cognitive styles and negative emotions on tourism decision-making. While cognitive styles were not influential in decision-making, negative emotions were.

On the other hand, perceived risk motivates intensified informationseeking (Witt and Moutinho 1995) and makes the design of marketing communications messages a significant task in the tourist industry (Boz



et al. 2017). Tourism decisions involve large emotional investments, due to the fact that a great majority of people may have only one opportunity to go on a trip in a year. If a trip goes wrong, there is not another opportunity for another year; therefore, the fear of failure is high and the opportunity cost is irreversible (Koc 2004, p. 88). Although the risk element of services is generally high for consumers, the decisions related to tourism may cause higher risk perception among consumers for than other services.

8 Conclusive Reflections and Implications

From these reflections, it is noted how neuromarketing techniques could be useful to gain a more appropriate valuation of the efficiency of communication. Berns and Moore (2012) showed that the rating of declared preferences and the forecasts of success of a new commercial song list replaced traditional survey techniques that significantly differed from the market data, while analysis carried out with neuromarketing techniques was more predictive and efficient in identifying which techniques would be successful. These results reveal some important theoretical and managerial implications.

From the theoretical point of view, neuromarketing presents the opportunity to overcome the subjectivity characterising more traditional marketing tools used to analyse customers' behaviour (for example, focus groups) by providing objective scientific data. From the managerial point of view, neuromarketing ensures the possibility of measuring objectively the effect of some advertising campaigns, advertisements, brand images and so on. However, it should be noted that, among the neuromarketing techniques, fMRI is preferred by scientists and firms. EEG is also commonly used to determine the effect of all elements of television advertising. The techniques less used are PET, which is highly invasive; magnetoencelography, which is not suitable for measuring the deepest subcortical and cerebral areas and is only possible with very expensive equipment; and eye tracking, which does not allow for an understanding of the emotions associated with the areas that we are focused on.

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Neuromarketing and its tools represent a modern and expanding field 417 that generates intense debate concerning ethical principles and the accu-418 racy of its use; these sometimes relates to increasing dangers and possible 419 abuse. This work presents a "state of the art" assessment related to the 420 influence of neuromarketing on customers' behaviour that could be sup-421 ported in the future with specific empirical analysis carried out on cus-422 tomers from different sectors and geographical areas. Neuromarketing is 423 a new way of studying marketing; if it is correctly used with particular 424 attention to ethical principles, it could help marketing operators under-425 stand how to present and sell products more efficiently. In particular, it 426 could become a useful support for marketing applications to find the 427 correct audience for a particular product (Glaenzer 2016). In conclusion, 428 a thorough understanding of brain cognitive mechanisms could find 429 answers to many questions in the field of marketing (Costa Rozan 430 Fortunato and de Moura Engracia Giraldi 2014). 431

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Author Queries

Chapter No.: 2 0003948323

Queries	Details Required	Author's Response
AU1	Please confirm the author affiliation details.	
AU2	In the sentence beginning "However, interest in neuromarketing", could you say why this decline in interest has occurred?	
AU3	In the sentence beginning "Some studies have been conducted", could you say what you mean by "heat points"?	
AU4	Could you add a source reference for the quotation from Nick Lee?	
AU5	In the sentence beginning "The limbic lobo", it is not clear what you mean by "garble". This word means "speak unclearly". Could you use a more appropriate word here?	
AU6	Please cite Cascio et al. (2015), Chater and Loewenstein (2016), Evers et al. (2014), Madan (2010), O'Doherty and Bossaerts (2008), Plassmann et al. (2008), Prelec and Loewenstein (1998), Roth (2013), Sola (2013), and Wunderlich et al. (2009) in the text.	