

The Impact of E-commerce Transactions on the Qualitative Characteristics of Financial Information -A Case Study of Accountants and Auditors-

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Abstract:

This study aimed to define e-commerce, its key characteristics, and to identify the qualitative characteristics of financial information and their latest updates. Additionally, the study sought to verify the suitability of the faithful representation characteristic of financial information in the digital data environment and to assess the compatibility of the relevance characteristic of financial information with the e-commerce environment. The descriptive and analytical research methodology was adopted to analyse and describe all the economic phenomena of the study variables. This led to the following results:

Our findings indicate that electronic commerce transactions exert a significant influence on the qualitative characteristics of financial information. Statistical analysis, conducted at a 0.05 significance level, supports this conclusion

Keywords: E-Commerce; Financial; Characteristics; Appropriate; Faithful Representation.

(JEL) Classification: M41, G14, O33.

1- INTRODUCTION

The recent digital revolution has given rise to a new body of literature in the realms of economics and business, including e-commerce. E-commerce has facilitated the seamless exchange of goods, services, and data among multiple parties through digital networks, eliminating the need for physical interaction. This novel business model has captured the attention of academics and international organizations alike, who have sought to comprehend its implications. Notably, e-commerce has posed significant challenges to the accounting profession, particularly in terms of handling new data

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types with unique characteristics. Consequently, financial information, endowed with qualitative attributes, has become a focal point for ensuring transparency and credibility in financial reporting. This research aims to investigate the impact of e-commerce transactions on the qualitative characteristics of financial information. Specifically, it seeks to answer the following research questions:

1-1 Research Problematic:

Does e-commerce have an impact on the qualitative characteristics of financial information?

1-2 Research Aims:

- To define e-commerce and its salient features.
- To explore the qualitative characteristics of financial information and recent developments.
- To assess the suitability of the faithful representation characteristic for digital data in the e-commerce context.
- To evaluate the alignment of the relevance characteristic with the e-commerce environment.

1-3 Research Methodology:

A descriptive and analytical approach was employed to address the research objectives. The study relied on a comprehensive review of relevant literature, including books, academic articles, and official publications

1-4 Hypothesis:

- Hypothesis 1: H0: There is no statistically significant relationship at the significance level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) between electronic commerce transactions and the Appropriate characteristic.
- Hypothesis 2: H0: There is no statistically significant relationship at the significance level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) between electronic commerce transactions and the faithful representation characteristic.
- principal Hypothesis (H0): There is no statistically significant relationship at the significance level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) between electronic

commerce transactions and the characteristics of financial information.

2. Literature review:

2.1 E-commerce :

2.1.1 Definition:

The term "electronic commerce" was coined and formulated by IBM, and was subsequently popularized and used by Gartner (**Muhammed, 2005, p. 30**) Due to the diverse forms and fields of electronic commerce, numerous scholars and international organizations have provided various definitions for this concept. In this section, we will examine the most significant definitions provided by official international bodies concerning this subject.

A- OECD:

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) defines electronic commerce as "all forms of transactions involving the transfer of goods and services that are initiated and/or completed through electronic means" (**oecd, 2019**). However, it is noteworthy that this definition seems to limit the scope of e-commerce to digital goods only, whereas e-commerce can also encompass traditional goods and services conducted through electronic intermediaries.

B- The World Trade Organization (WTO)

defines electronic commerce as "the production, distribution, marketing, sale or delivery of goods and services by electronic means". In this regard, four WTO bodies have been tasked with implementing the work program: the Council for Trade in Services; the Council for Trade in Goods; the TRIPS Council; and the Committee on Trade and Development. The General Council plays a central role and keeps the work program under continuous review (**wto, 2019**). However, it is noteworthy that this definition includes production processes, whereas the primary role of e-commerce is to facilitate the sale and distribution of goods and services. Moreover, this definition is limited to activities and does not explicitly encompass services such as consulting, licensing, or banking services.

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C- The European Union (EU)

The European Union (EU) has recognized the significance of electronic commerce since its early adoption in Europe and the United States, and has played an active role in its regulation. The EU defines e-commerce as "all activities conducted by electronic means, whether between businesses and consumers, or between each of them and government administrations" (**akkab, 2015, p. 24**). This definition is comprehensive as it encompasses all activities, including the buying and selling of goods and services, conducted through electronic means. It also highlights the various forms of e-commerce, making it a more comprehensive definition compared to previous ones.

D- The UNCITRAL:

The UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce 1996 does not provide a specific definition of "electronic commerce." Instead, Article 1, defining the scope of application of the Law, states that "the purpose of the Model Law on Electronic Commerce (the Model Law) is to facilitate the use of electronic means for conducting commercial activities, and to promote the growth of such electronic commerce by providing national legislators with a set of internationally accepted rules aimed at removing legal barriers and increasing the predictability of legal developments in the field of electronic commerce. The specific purpose of the Law is to overcome obstacles arising from legal provisions that may not be contractually flexible enough to accommodate the treatment of paper-based and electronic information in a uniform manner. This equality of treatment is a fundamental requirement for the use of paperless communications, and thus promotes efficiency in international trade" (**uncitral, 2019**).

Based on this, electronic commerce encompasses three different types of transactions:

-Providing Internet services: Offering access to the Internet for businesses and consumers.

Electronic delivery of services: Delivering product-based services to consumers in the form of digital information.

- **Using the Internet as a distribution channel for services:**
Purchasing goods through the network, but delivering them to the consumer in a non-electronic form.

E- Algerian legislative:

Algeria is considered one of the countries that seeks to develop its transactions through modern means. Electronic commerce has recently emerged in Law 18-05 of 10/05/2018 through a set of legal provisions aimed at regulating this trade. Article 6 of the aforementioned law defines electronic commerce as follows: "An activity whereby an electronic supplier proposes or guarantees the provision of goods and services remotely to an electronic consumer, through electronic communications" (**Article 03 of Law 18/05 on Electronic Commerce of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, 2018, p. 05**).

2.1.2. Types of electronic commerce

Given the rapid development and increasing growth of electronic commerce, it is now viewed as a multi-dimensional concept that can be accomplished through nine forms linking multiple stakeholders (companies, consumers, governments). These types range from traditional interactions such as business-to-business and business-to-consumer, to newer forms such as government-to-government interactions. The following table, known as the Kraljic matrix, illustrates these types:

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Table 1: KOPEL Matrix

Category	Government (G)	Company (B)	Consumer (C)
Government (G)	Government- to- Government (G2G)	Government- to-Business (G2B)	Government- to-Consumer (G2C)
Company (B)	Business-to- Government (B2G)	Business-to- Business (B2B)	Business-to- Consumer (B2C)
Consumer (C)	Consumer- to- Government (C2G)	Consumer- to-Business (C2B)	Consumer- to-Consumer (C2C)

Source: Prepared by the student based on:
(elchouiref, 2013, p. 66).

A- Government-to-Government (G2G) Commerce: This includes all types of interactions between government agencies, such as the exchange of information for coordination purposes. This can also involve commercial aspects, such as one ministry leasing buildings to another. This type of commerce also includes transactions between different governments and is considered large-scale and strategic (elchouiref, 2013, p. 66).

B- Government-to-Business (G2B) Commerce: In this type of commerce, the government often uses the global information network to send all the information that companies need to receive, often including all legal procedures for taxes, customs duties, and various investment laws.

C- Government-to-Consumer (G2C) Commerce: This involves selling researchers' statistics, exchanging information on consumer protection, or providing educational services from the government to the consumer. It also includes the government posting job vacancies.

D- Business-to-Government (B2G) Commerce: This type of commerce is primarily based on all the activities that companies undertake towards the government, which aims to cover all transfers (such as paying taxes, paying customs duties, paying annual subscriptions, paying rent, etc.) and all transactions between them. For example, Canada displays procedures, regulations, fees, and transaction forms on the internet so that companies can view them electronically and conduct the transaction electronically without having to deal with a government office (sabri chaabane, 2010, p. 73).

E- Business-to-Business (B2B) Commerce: Electronic commerce initially began between businesses, especially in the field of financial transfers between large institutions, known as Firm-to-Firm trade, and then spread to various business sectors and fields, and later extended to include different business circles, to strengthen forward links and relationships, such as marketing and business preparation, such as suppliers of raw materials. As a result, it became known as Business-to-Business (B2B) (AHMED, 2008, p. 41) This refers to all transactions conducted between business units using a communications network and information technology to submit purchase requests to suppliers, make payments, and receive invoices. This form of electronic commerce also includes all commercial activities and transactions conducted between units and establishments, whether in the field of production, supply of raw materials or machinery and equipment, distribution, or transportation. In this type of commerce, transactions are conducted confidentially using transaction codes, preventing any tampering and ensuring that no changes occur during the message's journey, and it is also binding on both contracting parties, so neither can evade the resulting consequences. (akkab, 2015, p. 32)

F- Business-to-Consumer (B2C) Commerce: This type of commerce is based on selling goods and services directly to the consumer and is known as e-retailing or e-shopping to distinguish it from other forms of e-commerce transactions (elchouiref, 2013, p. 69) This is the most widespread form of e-commerce worldwide so far, where buying and selling of goods and services is conducted between individuals,

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consumers, and commercial institutions, where the consumer orders a service or product through the commercial institution's website and pays for it by card (electronic payment card) and then receives their product or service directly if the product is digital, or by traditional mail if the product is not electronically deliverable. (akkab, 2015, p. 32).

G-Consumer-to-Government (C2G) Commerce: Most of this type of e-commerce involves individuals paying all their dues such as taxes and fees through the digital means provided by the state, in addition to applying for job vacancies announced by the state. (elchouiref, 2013, p. 70) .

H-Consumer-to-Business (C2B) Commerce: In this type of commerce, the consumer searches for the best products and compares prices offered by the company by browsing their websites or in online auctions. It also refers to customers connecting as groups with organizations through the Internet and the World Wide Web to achieve gains through obtaining special offers such as quantity discounts or obtaining products with high specifications and quality, where customers benefit from forming an economic force with which they address these organizations (ELSAHLI, 2011, p. 20).

I- Consumer-to-Consumer (C2C) Commerce: In this type of e-commerce, transactions are conducted through consumers selling goods and services directly to other consumers without an intermediary, and is called peer-to-peer commerce. Individuals can conduct commercial transactions with each other through auction sites designed on the Internet and through the use of electronic advertisements on the Internet, such as selling a house or selling a car or the like, such as the E.BAY website (akkab, 2015, p. 33).

Other types of e-commerce can be added:

- **Mobile commerce:** This refers to connecting all mobile digital devices to the global information network, and these devices are often represented by Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) (digital tablets, smartphones, etc.), so that the consumer can conduct commercial transactions using supporting applications, such as booking and

purchasing a travel ticket and accessing financial markets. This type of e-commerce is widespread in European, American, and Japanese countries.

- **Social commerce:** Sales in this type are conducted through social media, and are often carried out by non-profit organizations such as religious and social institutions in order to reduce costs and improve service performance for their customers.

2.2 Characteristics of electronic commerce:

Unlike traditional trade, which relies on the exchange of tangible goods for a certain amount of money with the presentation of documentary evidence to authenticate the sale, electronic commerce differs in terms of its methods of dealing and the types of goods and services provided, which has made it distinguished by several characteristics, which we summarize as follows:

A. The global nature of electronic commerce: Electronic commerce activities are characterized by a global nature as they do not know geographical boundaries. Any commercial activity that offers goods or services over the Internet does not necessarily require moving to a specific geographical area. Creating a commercial website on the Internet enables even a small company to penetrate markets and Internet users worldwide. However, the drawback of this feature in the case of goods and services delivered online, i.e., intangible goods, is the difficulty of imposing customs duties on them (SERAA, 2014, p. 20).

B. The use of electronic media in its conclusion: The contract does not differ in terms of subject matter or parties from other traditional contracts, but it differs in terms of the method of its conclusion, as it is concluded using electronic media. The availability of a computer for both contracting parties, which acts as a means of transmitting the expression of the will of both parties and is linked to the international communications network, eliminates the distance between them.

C. Speed and economy in completing the commercial process: What distinguishes electronic commerce from traditional commerce is the speed in completing the buying and selling process and global competition, which drives towards improving production. A recent

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study conducted in 2000 estimated that purchasing the necessary materials for production through the Internet can save costs of these purchases ranging from 2% for coal to 40% for electronic components compared to its cost through traditional commerce. In a recent study conducted on cost savings in electronic transactions, savings reached about 11% in the aviation and space industry, 10% in the chemical industry, 2% in the coal industry, 5-10% in the communications and information industry, 11-20% in operational accounting, 29-39% in the electronic components industry, 30-05% in the food industries, 15-25% in forest products, and 15% in freight transportation, 5% in the healthcare sector, 12-19% in life sciences, 22% in the machinery and metals industry, 10-15% in the media and advertising industry, 5-15% in the oil and gas industry, 10% in the paper industry, and 11% in the steel industry (Abdelbasset & Jasem, 2014, pp. 181-182).

D. The disappearance of paper-based documentation in electronic transactions: means the absence of any tangible physical evidence of the contract formation and execution. This raises legal challenges related to proving rights and obligations, as transactions rely entirely on electronic evidence. Consequently, the value of electronic messages as legal evidence becomes pivotal in case of any dispute, raising questions about their sufficiency and applicability in legal proceedings. (Malikaoui, 2019, p. 36)

2.2 Qualitative Characteristics of Financial Information:

In 2008, at the height of the financial crisis, the Exposure Draft titled "The Improved Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting" was issued with its first two chapters as a first phase, followed by the issuance of the project, which included an amendment to the previously issued characteristics in 2006. In September 2010, the first phase of the conceptual framework for financial reporting was completed by the IASB-FASB.

To ensure the usefulness of financial information, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) defined qualitative characteristics in its revised Conceptual Framework for Financial

Reporting in 2010. It distinguished between two fundamental qualitative characteristics of accounting information: relevance and faithful representation, and four enhancing qualitative characteristics: understandability, comparability, verifiability, and timeliness (**mehdi houcine elhachemi & taher briber, 2019, p. 231**):

2.2.1 Appropriate: The FASB defined relevance as information that is capable of making a difference in decisions by helping users form predictions about future outcomes, or confirming or correcting prior predictions. Accounting information can be relevant by influencing understanding, decisions, and objectives (chahid, 2018, p. 252) To ensure that financial information embodies the quality of relevance, three sub-characteristics must be met (**chahid, 2018, pp. 252-253**):

A- Materiality: This is one of the fundamental applications in accounting theory, meaning that there is a balance point between the effectiveness of decision-making and the amount of information that must be available. The amount of information should not exceed this point because an increase in information beyond the required actual amount will affect decision-making (**elchami, 2009, p. 37**)

B- Predictive value: This characteristic refers to the ability to predict future outcomes based on information that reflects the past, meaning its ability to help decision-makers improve the likelihood of reaching accurate predictions about expected future outcomes. The prediction process can only be based on past information, and reviewing past information without expecting the future is a useless process. The relationship between predictive value and decision-making is reflected in reducing the degree of uncertainty by making forecasts of future results.

C- Feedback value: This is the ability to use information to correct current or future information, so that it can be relied upon to assess the accuracy of previous forecasts, and that the information has a high feedback value for past decisions and a high predictive value for the future. Hence, the importance of this characteristic in reducing the degree of uncertainty and evaluating past decisions (**elchami, 2009, p. 38**).

2.2.2. Faithful Representation:

This characteristic is a result of the joint project between the IASB and FASB. In 2010, the International Accounting Standards Board issued a conceptual framework for the preparation of financial statements, replacing the term "reliability" which, according to the IASB definition, was "a qualitative characteristic of accounting information, and when present, provides a degree of assurance that users can place reliance on financial reports and that the reports have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and that the information has been presented and disclosed in a fair manner" (**chahid, 2018, p. 253**) with "faithful representation," which replaced the framework issued in 1989. The change was made for two reasons: first, because reliability was widely misunderstood due to the significant overlap between the description of the reliability characteristic and the Board's concept of verifiability, which was later considered an enhancing qualitative characteristic; and second, the removal of the prudence constraint (conservatism) and the preference for substance over form in the new framework (**mehdi houcin elhachemi & taher briber, 2019, p. 233**) .

The concept of faithful representation is also used to describe how an entity's economic conditions are reflected in its financial information. It can help explain how well various resources, obligations, events, and transactions are represented. The quality of financial reporting also relates to neutrality and balance. In 2008, Wilkins noted that the existence of an audit report provides assurance that the financial information presented in the financial statements is accurate. This is because it shows that the organization's management and policies are consistent with the objectives and principles of the financial reporting industry. Another important factor to consider is the information that the report contains about corporate governance (**Oday & Mustafa , 2023**).

To be considered faithful representation, financial information must possess the following sub-characteristics (**aljahaoui & almasaoudi, 2018**) :

A- Completeness: This means including all information necessary to understand the phenomena described, including descriptions and explanations related to the nature and type of items and the factors affecting their nature and type. A complete description of these phenomena means that the accounting information faithfully represents them.

B- Neutrality: This means that accounting information should be free from bias in the selection of financial information, without manipulation, distortion, or favoritism. It should be unbiased and verifiable. Its neutrality means that it faithfully represents the economic phenomena described.

C- Freedom from error: The absence of errors or omissions in the phenomena. This does not mean perfect accuracy, but rather that the selection and application of the information production process are without error. The absence of any errors in the production and presentation of information to users means that it faithfully represents the economic phenomena described.

2.2.3 Understandability: This is a quality of information that enables users to comprehend its meaning. To achieve this, general-purpose financial statements prepared by companies should be presented in a way that is consistent with the needs and knowledge base of their users. For example, explanations of financial information and reports that list all achievements and expectations during a specific financial period should be written in clear language (**International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board, 2008**)

2.2.4 Comparability: This refers to the quality of information that enables users to identify the similarities and differences between two sets of phenomena. Therefore, comparability is not just a quality of an individual element but is a quality of the relationship between two or more pieces of information. In addition, consistency refers to the use of the same accounting policies and procedures, either from one period to

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another within the entity or in a single period across more than one entity. Comparability is the goal, and consistency is a means to achieve that goal (**International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board, 2008**).

2.2.5 Verifiability: This characteristic suggests that financial information should help assure users that it faithfully represents all the phenomena it purports to represent. In some cases, it can be described as supportable because the use of the term verifiability relates to quantitative information disclosed in financial statements, while supportability relates to qualitative and prospective information disclosed in these statements (**International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board, 2008**)

2.2.6 Timeliness: Good timing means making information available to users before it loses its usefulness and ability to be valuable for accountability and decision-making purposes. The availability of relevant information as soon as possible can enhance its usefulness as an input in accountability assessments and its ability to influence decisions. Conversely, information can be less useful if it lacks timeliness (**International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board, 2008**).

3. Field study:

3.1 Research Instrument: A questionnaire was employed as the primary data collection tool. This instrument was designed to gather opinions and perspectives on the research topic by distributing it to a sample representative of the target population. The questionnaire comprised a series of questions directly related to the study's objectives. The collected data was subsequently analyzed using SPSS statistical software to test the formulated hypotheses.

3.2 Types of Data:

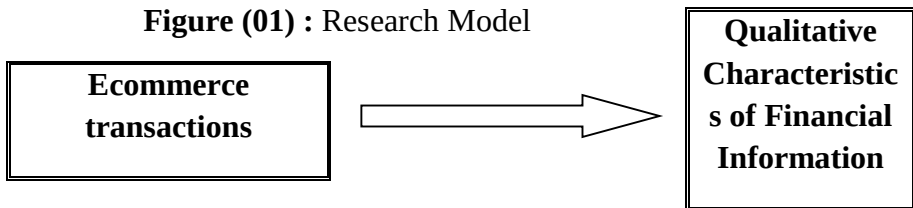
A- Primary Data: A questionnaire was designed and distributed to the study population to gather data directly related to the research topic. The collected data was then inputted into SPSS statistical software for

analysis. Appropriate statistical tests were applied to identify significant findings and indicators supporting the research objectives.

B- Secondary Data: Secondary data was obtained through a comprehensive review of books, journals, online resources, and previous research studies to enrich the findings of this study.

3.3 Research Model:

Figure (01) : Research Model



Source: Prepared by the researcher

3.4 Reliability and Validity Testing:

To verify the reliability of the study instrument, Cronbach's alpha was applied to the scores of the subjects. Although there are no standard guidelines for appropriate alpha values, the Cronbach's alpha for the entire questionnaire was 0.863, indicating an excellent level of reliability (86.3%). This is illustrated in Table.

Table (01) : Reliability Coefficient (Cronbach's Alpha)

Coefficient (Cronbach's Alpha)	Number of phrases
0.863	36

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
outpout SPSS v25

3.5 Study Population and Sample: The study population consisted of accounting professionals and certified accountants in Western Algeria. A total of 102 questionnaires were distributed, and all were completed. The following table presents the sample details:

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Table (02): Study Population and Sample

Sample	Number of questionnaire distibuted	Valid questionnaires for the study
130	130	102

Source: Prepared by the researcher

3.6 Descriptive Analysis of the Sample:

3.6.1 Study of Sample Characteristics: We analyzed the sample characteristics to identify demographic variables and the distribution of the sample across these variables.

Demographic Data:

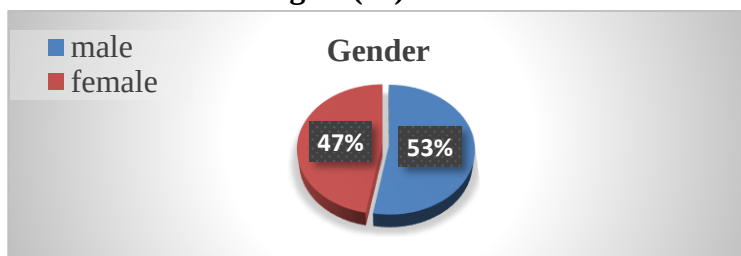
A. Gender Variable: The table below presents the distribution of the sample members by gender.

Table (03) : Gender Variable

Labels	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency percentage
Male	54	52.9	52.9
Female	48	47.1	100
total	102	100	-

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

Figure(02):Gender Variable



Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

B. Age Variable:

The following table shows the distribution of the sample based on the age variable:

Table (04): Age Variable

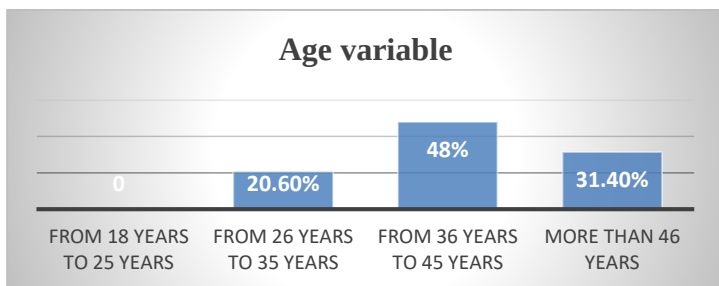
Labels	frequency	Percentage	Frequency percentage
26 to 35 years	21	20.6	20.6
36 to 45 years	49	48	68.6
+ 46 years	32	31.4	100
Total	102	100	-

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

The table shows that the majority of the sample belongs to the age group of 36-45 years, comprising 49 individuals, or 68.6% of the total sample. This is followed by the age group of 46 years and above, with 32 individuals representing 31.4% of the sample. The 26-35 age group constitutes 21 individuals or 20.6% of the sample. Notably, there were no individuals in the 18-25 age group, as the profession of a chief accountant or auditor typically requires at least 5 years of work experience, which necessitates professional expertise and continuous career progression. This variable will be visually represented in the following figure

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Figure (03): Age variable



Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
output SPSS v25

C. Educational Level Variable: The following table presents the characteristics of the sample, specifically the educational level:

Table (05): Educational Level Variable

Labels	frequency	percentage	Confirmed percentage	Frequency percentage
Secondary	29	28.4	28.4	28.4
Bachelor's degree	38	37.3	37.3	65.7
Masters degree	34	33.3	33.3	99
Doctorate	1	01	01	100
Total	102	100	100	-

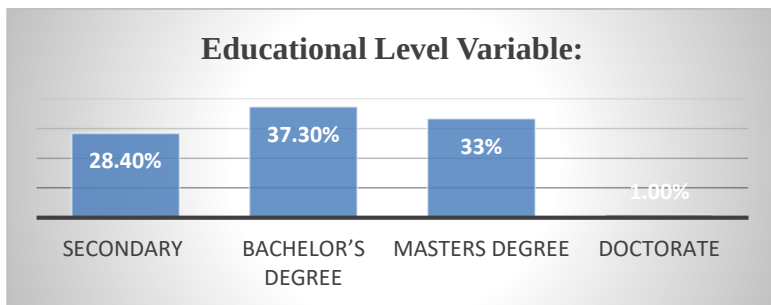
Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
output SPSS v25

The table reveals that the largest proportion of respondents hold a Bachelor's degree, constituting 38 individuals or 37.3% of the sample. Following this, 34 individuals (33.3%) possess a Master's degree.

Individuals with a secondary school education account for 29 respondents (28.4%). Conversely, only one respondent holds a doctoral degree, representing 0.1% of the sample.

This high level of educational attainment among the study sample can be attributed to the fact that they are primarily graduates of universities and higher education institutions. This finding aligns with the government's strategic focus on leveraging qualified individuals and recruiting university graduates for the professions of accounting and auditing. The objective behind this approach is to enhance the competencies of the human capital and elevate the quality of services provided.

Figure (04): Educational Level Variable



Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

D. Professional Experience Variable:

The following table presents the number of years of professional experience for the target group.

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Table (06): Professional Experience Variable:

Labels	Frequency	Percentage	Confirmed percentage	Frequency percentage
- 05 years	13	12.7	12.7	12.7
10 - 15 years	35	35.3	35.3	48
+ 15 years	53	52	52	100
Total	102	100	100	-

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
output SPSS v25

The table demonstrates that the majority of the sample, comprising 53 individuals (52%), possess over 15 years of professional experience. Furthermore, 35 individuals (40.6%) have between 10 and 15 years of experience, while 13 individuals (12.7%) have less than 5 years of experience. This indicates that a significant proportion of accountants and auditors possess the requisite experience to effectively undertake their roles and adapt to the evolving challenges posed by the digital economy. A graphical representation of this variable is presented in the following figure:

Figure (05): Professional Experience Variable

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
output SPSS v25

E. Internship Variable:

The following table illustrates the extent to which the target group participated in professional internships.

Table (07): Internship Variable

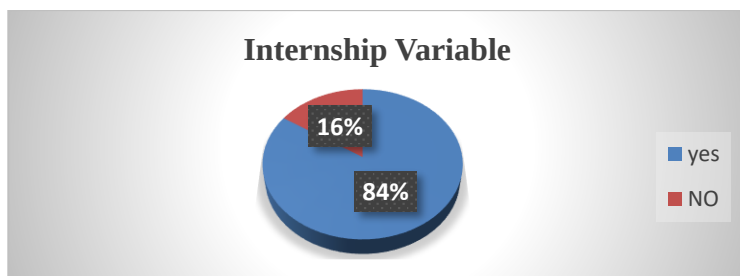
Labels	Frequency	Percentage	Confirmed percentage	Frequency percentage
Yes	86	84.3	84.3	84.3
No	16	15.7	15.7	100
Total	102	100	100	-

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
output SPSS v25

The results of the preceding table indicate that a significant majority of the sample, comprising 86 individuals or 84.3%, have undertaken internships during their professional careers. Conversely, only 16 individuals, representing 15.7%, have not had internship experience. These findings suggest that economic institutions and organizations employing accountants in Algeria consistently strive to develop and retrain their employees to ensure highly professional and efficient performance in achieving their organizational goals.

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Figure (06): Professional Experience Variable



Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
output SPSS v25

3.6.2. Descriptive Study of Variables:

In this section, we will attempt to clarify the trends in responses from the target group for the majority of the questionnaire items.

Table (08): Descriptive Study of Variables

Dimensions	Mean	Median	Mode	Std.dev	variance
E-COMMERCE					
Consumer culture	2.9510	3	3	0.54314	0.295
E-commerce infrastructure	2.198	2	2	0.75071	0.564
E-commerce practices	3.4526	3.5	3.67	0.49161	0.242
Qualitative Characteristics of Financial Information					
Appropriât	2.7292	2.75	2.38	0.68918	0.475
faithful representations	2.8653	2.85	4.86	0.68074	0.463

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:
output SPSS v25

The preceding table presents a descriptive study of the dimensions of the study variables, measuring the responses of the target group. Regarding the first axis related to electronic commerce transactions, the results indicated the following: Most respondents tended to be somewhat or neither agree nor disagree with most of the statements, especially those related to the dimensions of the first axis, consumer culture, and the challenging infrastructure. This is likely due to the recent emergence of e-commerce in Algeria and the ongoing development of its infrastructure. However, responses regarding the practices dimension leaned towards agreement, reflecting the growing popularity and acceptance of e-commerce among consumers. As for the dimensions of the second axis, most respondents leaned towards neither agree nor disagree, indicating that these characteristics are not entirely suitable for electronic commerce transactions. This will be further investigated in the following part of the study.

3.7 Test of normality:

We will now proceed to examine the normality assumption of the study variables to select the most suitable hypothesis test.

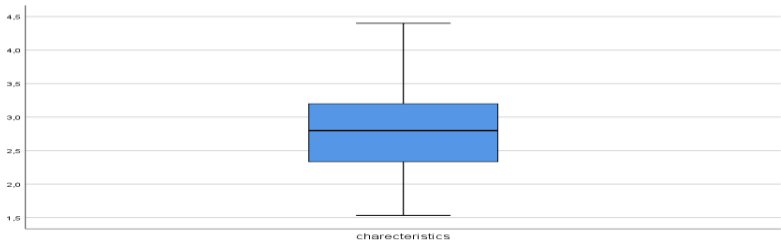
Table (09): Test of normality

Tests of Normality						
Dependent Variable	Kolmogorov- Smirnova			Shapiro- Wilk		
	Statistique	Df	Sig	Statistique	Df	Sig
	0,628	102	0,990	0,200	102	0,059

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

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Figure (07): Professional Experience Variable:



Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

The table and graph indicate that the data follows a normal distribution. This conclusion is supported by the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test statistic, which has a value of 0.200, and the Shapiro-Wilk test statistic, which has a value of 0.628. Both of these values are greater than the significance level of 0.05. Therefore, we can conclude that the data under study is normally distributed.

3.8 Hypothesis Testing and Analysis:

In this part of the field study and data analysis, Pearson's correlation coefficient and simple linear regression were used to examine the relationship between electronic commerce transactions and the qualitative characteristics of financial information, specifically the fundamental characteristics of faithful representation and relevance.

A. Hypothesis 1: H0: There is no statistically significant relationship at the significance level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) between electronic commerce transactions and the Appropriate characteristic.

Table(10): ANOVA

	ANOVA	
Regresion	F	SIG F
	18.733	0.000

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

The previous table, which presents the variance calculations, indicates the suitability of the model for simple linear regression analysis of the variables in this study. The F-statistic value is 18.733 with a p-value of 0.000, which is less than 0.05. This allows us to conclude that the regression model is statistically significant.

Table(11): REGRESION MODEL

	REGRESION MODEL						
Variables	R	R ²	F	SIG F	B	T	SIG T
Appropriate	0.39	0.15	18.73	0.000	0.62	1.27	0.20
E-commerce					0.72	4.32	0.00

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

the table illustrates the impact of electronic commerce transactions on the property of financial adequacy. The statistical analysis revealed a significant effect of electronic transactions on this property. The correlation coefficient (R) was found to be 0.393, and the coefficient of determination (R²) was 0.158, indicating that 15.8% of the variation in financial adequacy can be explained by electronic commerce transactions. The calculated F-value was 18.733, which is statistically significant at the 0.05 level. Since the p-value (Sig) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis, which states that there is a statistically significant effect of electronic commerce transactions on financial adequacy at the 0.000 level. This relationship can be expressed using the following simple regression equation:

$$Y_2 = \alpha + \beta X + e_i$$

$$y = 0.62x + e_i$$

Where:

Y₂: Financial adequacy, α : Intercept, β : Regression coefficient for the independent variable (not included as it was not statistically significant), e_i : Error term or other factors, X: Electronic commerce transactions

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B: Hypothesis 2: H0: There is no statistically significant relationship at the significance level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) between electronic commerce transactions and the faithful representation characteristic.

Table(12): ANOVA

	ANOVA	
Regression	F	SIG F
	16.698	0.000

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

The previous table, which presents the variance calculations, indicates the suitability of the model for simple linear regression analysis of the variables in this study. The F-statistic value is 16.698 with a p-value of 0.000, which is less than 0.05. This allows us to conclude that the regression model is statistically significant.

Table(13): Model regression

	Model regression						
Variables	R	R ²	F	SIG F	B	T	SIG T
Faithful Representation	0.37	0.14	16.69	0.0	0.88	1.82	0.07
E-commerce					0.68	4.08	0.00

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

The table demonstrates the impact of electronic commerce transactions on the property of faithful representation of financial information. Statistical analysis revealed a significant effect of electronic transactions on this property. The correlation coefficient (R) was found to be 0.378, and the coefficient of determination (R²) was

0.143, indicating that approximately 14.3% of the variation in faithful representation can be attributed to electronic commerce transactions. The calculated F-value was 16.698, which is statistically significant at the 0.05 level. Given that the p-value (Sig) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis, which states that there is a statistically significant effect of electronic commerce transactions on faithful representation at the 0.000 level. This relationship can be expressed using the following simple regression equation:

$$Y2 = \alpha + \beta X + ei \quad Y2 = \alpha + ei \quad Y2 = 0.682x + ei$$

Where:

Y2: Faithful representation, α : Intercept, β : Regression coefficient for the independent variable (not included as it was not statistically significant), ei: Error term or other factors, X: Electronic commerce transactions

C.principale Hypothesis (H0): There is no statistically significant relationship at the significance level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) between electronic commerce transactions and the characteristics of financial information.

Table(14): Model regression

	ANOVA	
Regression	F	SIG F
	22.907	0.000

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

Table(15): Model regression

	Model regression						
Variables	R	R ²	F	SIG F	B	T	SIG T
Characteristics	0.432	0.18	22.90	0.00	0.748	1.735	0.086
E-commerce					0.705	4.786	0.000

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on: output SPSS v25

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The table of variance indicates that the regression is statistically significant, as evidenced by the positive F-value and the significance level of F, which is 0.000, less than the significance level of 0.05.

The statistical analysis conducted using SPSS 25 showed a correlation coefficient of 0.432 (43.20%) between electronic commerce and the qualitative characteristics of financial information, indicating a moderate correlation. The coefficient of determination (R^2) was 0.186, suggesting that there are other variables not included in this model that can explain this relationship. The constant (B) was 0.748 and the t-value was 1.735 with a p-value of 0.086, which is greater than 0.05, indicating that it cannot be included in the regression equation. Regarding the independent variable, electronic commerce, the coefficient (B) was 0.705 and the t-value was 4.786 with a p-value of 0.000, which is less than 0.05, and thus can be included in the regression equation. The regression equation is as follows:

$$Y2 = \alpha + e_i \quad Y2 = 0.705x + e_i$$

Where: α : Intercept of the regression equation Y3: Qualitative characteristics of financial information; β : Regression coefficient for each variable (not included because it is not statistically significant) e_i : Error term or other random factors X: Electronic commerce transactions

Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis, H01, which states that there is a statistically significant effect of electronic commerce transactions on the qualitative characteristics of financial information.

4. Conclusion:

Through this research paper, we have reviewed various theoretical and applied literatures, allowing us to identify the most important variables of this study. The features of e-commerce and its various characteristics have been clarified, highlighting it as a product of technological development that has impacted many fields, including the commercial sector. Most transactions are now conducted electronically to save time and costs. This has presented a real challenge for many fields to address the difficulties and problems caused by this

development, including the financial and accounting fields, which primarily rely on the verification of transactions to provide a true and fair view of the financial position, enabling users of financial statements to make the necessary financial decisions to achieve the desired goals of various economic entities. This is what we have tried to prove through this study, and to prove the extent of the impact of e-commerce transactions on the various qualitative characteristics of financial information. Through this, we have extracted the following results:

4.1 Applied results:

- 1- There is a statistically significant effect at the 0.05 significance level between e-commerce transactions and the appropriate characteristic.
- 2- There is a statistically significant effect at the 0.05 significance level between e-commerce transactions and the faithful representation characteristic.
- 3- There is a statistically significant effect at the 0.05 significance level between e-commerce transactions and the qualitative characteristics of financial information.

4.2 Theoretical results:

- ✓ It is clear from the above that the relative importance of information in e-commerce transactions differs from traditional commerce, and consequently, accounting information loses its ability to predict the future, making the accounting information of companies operating in e-commerce not relevant.
- ✓ E-commerce transactions are susceptible to information verification challenges due to the lack of tangible evidence. This vulnerability increases the risk of compromised data integrity, leading to questionable accounting outputs and ultimately eroding user trust in the financial reporting of e-commerce companies.
- ✓ It is evident from the foregoing that accounting information in e-commerce companies does not serve its intended purpose and has many deficiencies, thereby falling short of the qualitative characteristics of the second level of the conceptual framework for financial accounting."

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