

# They Don't Do What They Say

– The Attitude-Behavior Gap in Online and Offline Grocery Shopping for Organic Products

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## Presenters



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## Overview

1. Motivation
2. Theoretical Background and Research Question
3. Attitude-Behavior Gap
4. Empirical Analysis
5. Conclusion
6. Limitations and Further Research

Growing relevance of

## Online Grocery Shopping & Organic Products

# 1. Motivation

Steady **increase** of **online grocery shopping** (OGS) over the last few years  
(Driediger and Bhatiasevi 2019; Alaimo et al. 2020; Al-Hawari et al. 2021; Brüggemann and Pauwels 2022)

As the **relevance** of **environmentally friendly production grows**, so does the **market** for **organic products**

(McKinsey 2017; Yuh, Hartmann, and Hirsch 2018; Research Institute of Organic Agriculture and International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement 2021)

Previous research stated a **discrepancy** between **consumer attitudes** and **purchase behavior** in **brick-and-mortar stores**

(Ajzen and Fishbein 1977; Moser 2016; Schäufele and Janssen 2021)

There are still **no insights** on **potential differences** regarding the **behavior** of **online** and **offline** shopping customers

→ „Attitude-Behavior Gap“ (ABG)

## 2. Theoretical Background and Research Question

OGS will establish itself as a **new (complementary) sales channel**

(Grashuis et al. 2020; Pantano et al. 2020; Brüggemann and Pauwels 2022; Brüggemann and Olbrich 2023)

Significant **differences** regarding the **attitudes** and **purchases** of organic products between also-online and offline-only shoppers

(Brüggemann and Pauwels 2022)



The **existence of an ABG** in offline shopping has been demonstrated several times

(Moser 2016; Govind et al. 2019; Jung et al. 2020; Schäufele and Janssen 2021)

Major **differences** regarding the **ABG** for **different product categories**

(Schäufele and Janssen 2021)



**(How) does the attitude-behavior gap (ABG) differ between also-online and offline-only grocery shoppers for organic products?**

## 4. Empirical Analysis

### Data

**Household panel data** from the GfK:

- Ø **25,620 households** per year
- Data covers **2016-2020**
- **Four product categories** (coffee, chocolate, hair shampoo and laundry detergent)
- Containing **information** about **attitudes & behavior**

Households are divided into **also-online** (at least one online purchase per year) and **offline-only** purchasers

## Empirical Results

# 4. Empirical Analysis

**Also-online** purchasing customers:

- have a **larger ABG**,
- pay a **higher prize** per 100 Grams,
- **tendency** towards **variety seeking**,
- are **less price-conscious**,
- are **more quality-conscious**,
- have a **higher level of education**,
- have **higher income**,
- are **younger**.



## 5. Conclusion



Consumers partly **do not act as they claim to**



**Differences** regarding the **ABG** between also-online and offline-only shoppers



**Online retailers** and **brand managers** should pay closer attention to the **ABG** as **OGS** and **organic products grow** in relevance

## 6. Limitations and Further Research

### Limitations

- A **descriptive** analysis
- Only **four product groups**
- Limited to the **ABG towards organic products**
- **Positive** and **negative** discrepancies are **not differentiated**



### Future research

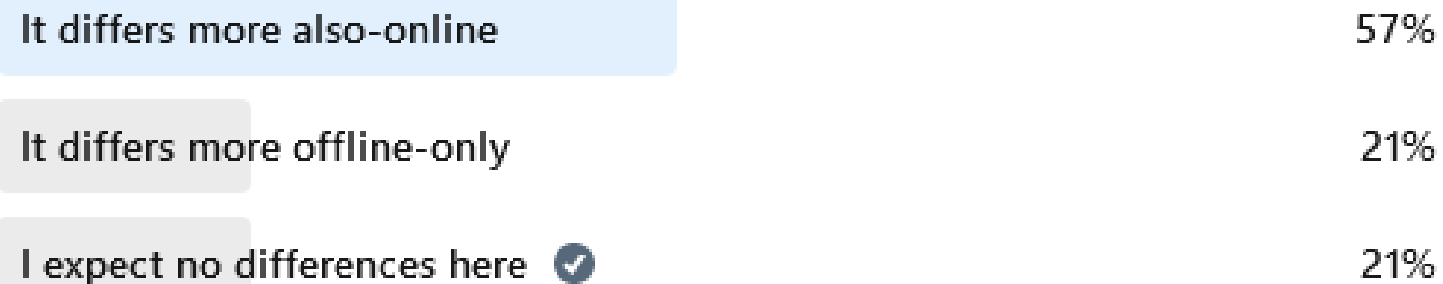
- Analyzing the **influence** of the **ABG** on **sales**
- Differentiating for **different store formats**
- Considering **other ABGs** (e.g., fair-trade; local, branded products, ...)



## Follow Up

Do you expect differences in attitude-behavior gap (ABG) between also-online (i.e., online and offline) and offline-only grocery shopper?

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Thaaaaank you!



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