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Article Rational Versus Irrational Behavior of Indonesian Cryptocurrency Owners in Making Investment Decisions

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Abstract: The purpose of this study is to investigate the salient factors that influence Indonesian 8 cryptocurrency owners in making their investment decision. This study employs intergroup bias, 9 subjective norms, overborrowing, and spending control to explain cryptocurrency investment be-10 havior. The questionnaire was collected from 309 respondents from the five largest internet user 11 areas, Jakarta, Surabaya, Bandung, Semarang, and Medan. This study executes the research frame-12 work using binary logistic regression. The results reveal that intergroup bias and overborrowing 13 are the most impulsive factors contributing to the cryptocurrency investment decision over the past 14 year. Furthermore, after November 2021, Indonesian crypto owners are more irrational in a bearish 15 period since their investment decisions are driven by their desire to be accepted in the social group. 16 Moreover, when they have overindebtedness, instead of solving their debt problems, they prefer to 17 spend their money on cryptocurrency investments. The subjective norms' influencers suggest that 18 crypto owners not invest when the cryptocurrency price sharp declining. The findings contribute to 19 the dual-systems perspective and social contagion theories enriching the empirical study regarding 20 investment behavior. 21

Keywords:cryptocurrency, intergroup bias, subjective norms, self-control, overborrowing, spend-22ing control, survey.23

1. Introduction

Cryptocurrency investors frequently act irrationally in making investment decisions. 26 This study explores how intergroup bias, subjective norms, and self-control factors influ-27 ence the rationality of investment decisions. Empirical evidence has shown that inves-28 tors do not always act rationally (Ahmad & Wu, 2022), including in the cryptocurrency 29 market. Previous research on the behavioral bias in the equity market (Kumari et al., 30 2020; Ahmad & Wu, 2022; Ahmad, 2022; Ahmed et al., 2022; Lei & Salazar, 2022; Liang et 31 al., 2022), commercial real estate (Kinatta et al., 2022), and cryptocurrency market (Ryu & 32 Ko, 2019). Ryu & Ko (2019) has exceptional research on cryptocurrency investment deci-33 sions, which show that strong impulse and weak self-control impact speculative bitcoin 34 investments. The study of behavioral bias can help understand individual investors 35 from different environments resulting in discrete investment decisions. An individual 36 has a common tendency to imitate, refer and observe other behavior, specifically in a 37 declining or unstable market condition (Yu et al., 2018; Shah et al., 2019). 38

In this study, there are four types of behavioral bias: intergroup bias, subjective norms,39overborrowing, and spending control. First, intergroup bias is a tendency to behave40more positively and provide greater rewards for their group members than outside41groups (De Dreu & Kret, 2016; Fujino et al., 2020). Intergroup bias in this study is fo-42cused on bias originating from a secondary group of investors' social environment that43is identical with lower intimacy, lower frequency, and duration of interaction, for44

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example, religion-based groups or sports groups. Although group members have similar 45 interests, the members' purpose is to build social networks, bridging and bonding capi-46 tal (Lei & Salazar, 2022) that can increase the members' income and wealth status (Zhang 47 et al., 2018). Consistent with Chan et al. (2022) suggest that collectivist social values in-48 fluence individual financial behavior, due to a sense of solidarity in homogeneous com-49 munities. Furthermore, in a game task experiment, intergroup bias impacts individuals' 50 tendency to invest more in their group than in outside groups (Fujino et al., 2020). Indi-51 vidual behavior that is more positive towards their group members potentially results in 52 irrational investment decisions since the trust bias toward their group influences the in-53 vestment decision. The social contagion theory supports this argument (Bakker et al., 54 2010). Second, in the theory of planned behavior (TPB), subjective norm refers to beliefs 55 about the expectations or important references of peers and the most important persons 56 of the investors and motivates them to fulfill these expectations. Subjective norms in this 57 study focus on a primary group of investors' social environment: peers, the most im-58 portant persons, and the price trend. Subjective norm is a significant determinant influ-59 encing investment decisions, for instance, adopting and using technology (Ajzen, 1991). 60 Third, overborrowing reflects financial behavior related to high credit interest or exces-61 sive loans (Kawamura et al., 2021). Overborrowing is frequently associated with impul-62 sive behavior to buy or invest without thinking about the future. Investors associated 63 with high overborrowing behavior have a propensity for investing in cryptocurrency, 64 though in a high uncertainty period, support an irrational investment decision. Finally, 65 spending control bias is a compulsive buying behavior associated with unstable, self-66 inconsistent, negative emotions and perceptions of oneself (Liu & Zhang, 2021). Weak 67 spending control behavior can generate irrational investment decisions. However, stud-68 ies on behavior bias in a cryptocurrency investment decision, particularly intergroup 69 bias, subjective norms, and self-control bias still limited, so the reason motivates this 70 study. To fill this gap, this study aims to expand on Ryu and Ko (2019) by examining 71 whether intergroup bias, subjective norm, and self-control bias influence the investment 72 decisions whether to invest or not in the cryptocurrency market. 73

Over the past 2021 until the third quarter of 2022, cryptocurrency markets are facing 74 enormous challenges, with a very significant decline in market value, even though there 75 have been several small surges in the past few weeks. This study collected a survey from 76 crypto owners regarding their decisions during that period. The first half of 2022 was a 77 terrible period for the cryptocurrency market. Bitcoin and Ethereum, the two largest cryp-78 tocurrencies, declined more than 50 percent from their highs in November 2021 (Time, 79 2022). Based on figure 1, the Bitcoin market, compared to the Indonesian Rupiah, had de-80 creased by around 67% since its highest position on November 8, 2021, in the amount of 81 963 million to 314 million on August 20, 2022, when the data collection was performed. 82 The bearish market has the potential to influence investors' perceptions as market partic-83 ipants as well as the social environment with which investors interact. Then, it has an 84 impact on rational or irrational investors' behavior in cryptocurrency investment deci-85 sions. Uncertainty conditions generally lead to various positive or negative attitudes in 86 the social environment that can influence investors' investment decisions. Investors who 87 decided to invest or not invest in cryptocurrencies over the past year show that the dual-88 system perspective, which is a reflexive and reflective system runs in harmony in the de-89 cision-making process. The reflexive system is fast, impulsive, automatic, and uncon-90 scious, whereas the reflective system is slow, controlled, conscious, and analytical (Ryu & 91 Ko, 2019). Factors of intergroup bias, subjective norm, overborrowing, and spending con-92 93 trol bias can trigger the dual-system perspective, resulting in rational or irrational behaviors in the investment decision. 94



Figure 1. Bitcoin to Indonesian Rupiah from November 2021 to November 2022. Source: Google96Finance (2022).97

Positive or negative attitudes towards cryptocurrency investment originating from 98 the investors' social environment and create a more significant gap when the market is in 99 a declining condition. The cryptocurrency market has unique characteristics different 100 from conventional markets, for example, stocks and property markets. Cryptocurrencies 101 provide a new alternative investment. Individuals believe that digital money is the money 102 of the future (Bhatt, 2022), and the number of users is increasing progressively. However, 103 cryptocurrencies are risky speculative investments despite their inherent digital future 104 potential. Most Southeast Asia countries, including Indonesia, Malaysia, and Vietnam, 105 consider cryptocurrency illegal as a medium of exchange, though legal as an investment 106 or commodity. In addition, Thailand has just started to tighten the regulation of crypto-107 currencies (Cointelegraph, 2022). Therefore, it is critical for investors and potential inves-108 tors to understand the applicable regulations and make decisions with a complete under-109 standing of the potential risks. 110

Individual investors from the same geographic area were more likely to adopt biased 111 behavior than cross-country investors (Choi, 2016). Indonesia has seen a 280 percent 112 growth in the number of crypto investors since 2020, from 1.5 million to 4.2 million indi-113 viduals, with a daily trading volume reaching USD 117.4 million (Blockchain Association 114 of Indonesia, 2022). A study by Gemini (2022) entitled "Global State of Crypto Report" 115 found that 41 percent of Indonesians aged between 18 and 75 with an income of more than 116 \$14,000 per year own cryptocurrencies. The research also found that 61 percent of Indo-117 nesian respondents agree that crypto is the future of money which is the highest in the 118 Asia Pacific (Gemini, 2022). This study uses data from the Indonesian cryptocurrency mar-119 ket for three main reasons. First, there has been an acceleration of digital economic growth 120 in Indonesia after the COVID-19 pandemic. As the largest economy in Southeast Asia, 121 Indonesia has shown a significant increase in the value of the digital industry from US\$41 122 billion in 2019 to US\$ 77 billion in 2022. It is driven primarily by e-commerce (Google, 123 Temasek, Bain & Company, 2022). Digital financial services increase dominated by the 124 digital investment that increase to 31% CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) in 2022 125 and an estimated 74% CAGR in 2025 (Google, Temasek, Bain & Company, 2022). These 126 data show the significant potential of Indonesia's digital investment in Southeast Asia. 127 Second, the number of individual Indonesia investors investing in cryptocurrency is 128 greater than those investing in stocks in 2022. As of June 2022, the number of cryptocur-129 rency investors was 15.1 million versus 9.1 million stock investors, despite the fact crypto 130 investment is still relatively new in Indonesia (CNBCIndonesia, 2022). Third, cryptocur-131 rency investors in Asia are dominated by the young generation (Fujiki, 2020; Fujiki, 2021; 132 Santoso & Modjo, 2022), so they fit the Indonesian demographic profile. Based on data for 133 2022, 78 percent of Indonesian crypto owners are aged 18 to 44 years (TripleA, 2022). 134 Therefore, the Indonesian market provides a unique setting for researchers to analyze the 135 influence of individual bias behavior on cryptocurrency investment decisions. 136

The findings of this study provide novel evidence supporting the dual-system per-137 spective and contagion theory by emphasizing the importance of understanding the in-138 fluence of intergroup bias, subjective norms, and self-control bias on investors' rational or 139 irrational behavior in the decision-making process. Recent studies investigate the effect of 140 subjective norms and self-control (Ryu & Ko, 2019), financial literacy and investment ex-141 perience (Zhao & Zhang, 2021; Fujiki, 2021), attitude and trust (Stix, 2021) in cryptocur-142 rency investment decisions. This research is different from the studies in the following 143 ways. First, although the Ryu and Ko (2019) study were conducted during the declining 144 market of cryptocurrencies, the Ryu and Ko (2019) study did not discuss intergroup bias 145 factor and did not analyze which factors determine investment decisions in cryptocurren-146 cies. Second, although Zhao and Zhang (2021), Fujiki (2021), and Stix (2021) found that 147 several factors were proven to influence crypto owners' investment decisions, their stud-148 ies did not address intergroup bias, subjective norms, and self-control bias as factors in-149 fluencing the decisions. Thus, this study is novel since this study demonstrates that inter-150 group bias and subjective norms result in different stimuli on crypto owners' investment 151 decisions. Intergroup bias contributes to the decision to invest in the market despite the 152 declining conditions. On the other hand, subjective norms contribute to the decision not 153 to invest in cryptocurrencies when market conditions experience a significant decline. 154 This study also finds that overborrowing can result in irrational behavior of investors to 155 keep investing in cryptocurrency in declining conditions. 156

This study contributes to the cryptocurrency literature in the following ways. 157 First, this study contributes to the development of cryptocurrency literature in Asia, which 158 is synonymous with a collectivist culture that is vulnerable to the contagion effect of in-159 vestment behavior. It provides empirical evidence supporting dual-system and social con-160 tagion theories by identifying intergroup bias, subjective norms, and overborrowing bias 161 as the impulsive factors contributing to the cryptocurrency investment decision. Second, 162 analysis of individual investors' biased behavior is performed in extreme declining period 163 which is still limited. During periods of significant market decline, the risk associated with 164 cryptocurrency investments for owners with vulnerable risks, such as contagion risk and 165 financial risk, increases. Therefore, irrational investor more inclined to invest in crypto-166 currency during adverse period. Finally, this study enhances the behavioral finance liter-167 ature on the rational and irrational behavior of crypto owners in making investment de-168 cisions by providing evidence of the effect of intergroup bias, subjective norms, and over-169 borrowing bias on cryptocurrency investment decisions. 170

The discussion of this study is then divided into several sections. Section 2 discusses 171 the literature review and hypothesis development. Section 3 describes the research methodology, including the sample selection and analysis model. Section 4 shows the results 173 of statistical tests, the interpretation of results, theoretical and practical implications. Finally, section 5 describes the conclusions, limitations of the study, and potential future 175 research. 176

2. Literature Review

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2.1. Intergroup bias and Subjective Norms in Cryptocurrencies Investment Decision

Behavioral research of individual crypto owners, especially in emerging markets, is179an interesting topic and has broad future potential. Kumar et al. (2022), who conducted a180bibliometric study in the field of behavioral finance, suggest additional research is181needed to understand the factors that influence investors' behavior in the markets. According to Kumar et al. (2022), individual decision-makers differ fundamentally, contributing to differences in financial behavior in investment decision-making. The suggestion184from da Gama Silva et al. (2019) is to analyze bias behavior when the cryptocurrency185

market is in a sharp decline since it has the potential to provide new findings for the de-186 velopment of the literature. 187

This study discusses biased behavior with two focuses: intergroup bias and subjec-188 tive norm. First, intergroup bias is the tendency for members of one group to behave more 189 positively and provide greater rewards than those outside group (De Dreu & Kret, 2016; 190 Fujino et al. 2020). Collectivist culture has a strong positive influence on financial behavior 191 (Chan et al. 2022). The impact of intergroup bias on the investment market is more de-192 structive than the subjective norm because it involves more irrational, illogical thinking 193 and blindly imitates the actions of others because of psychological and emotional factors. 194 The need to be recognized as part of a social group can also lead to biased behavior in 195 investment decisions. Second, subjective norms are beliefs about the expectations or im-196 portant references of others that motivate investors to meet these expectations (Ajzen, 197 1991), for example, expectations from peers, the most important persons and references to 198 199 market trends. Crypto owners are inclined to follow advice from the closest social environment, including peers, the most important persons in making investment decisions, 200 and price trends. Crypto investors rely on peers to reduce their potential risk due to wrong 201 investment decisions. Bias investors try to match the investment performance of peers by 202 relying on others investment decisions. The two types of biased behaviors have different 203 motivations and produce different behaviors in investment decisions. 204

2.2. Hypothesis Development

2.2.1. Intergroup Bias and Contagion Effect in Collectivist Culture

Intergroup bias is a bias behavior of decision-making caused by the contagion effect 207 from a secondary social group. The contagion effect arises since investors have a high 208 level of trust (Bakker et al., 2010) towards other members of the social club through reg-209 ular interaction. The perspective of social contagion theory is relevant to investment de-210 cision since individuals tend to adopt similar behavior when they trust the information 211 provided by members of their social network (Westaby et al. 2014). The three character-212 istics of the social contagion effect that influence intergroup bias are being aware of the 213 knowledge that others have, appreciating what other person know, and gaining access 214 to one's thinking patterns (Borgatti, 2003). The convergence of attitudes and beliefs de-215 pends on exposure to information obtained when communicating between social net-216 works or groups (Peters et al., 2017). The interaction between members of a social group 217 or social network as bridging and bonding capital (Lei & Salazar, 2022) can increase the 218 members' wealth status. Furthermore, biased investors obtain financial knowledge, re-219 sources, and business opportunities from their groups, which in turn increase their in-220 come (Zhang et al., 2018). 221

Areas inhabited by various ethnic groups are one of the causes of massive contagion 222 effect behavior (Chan et al., 2022). Concern over one's immediate ethnic survival leads to 223 solidarity in genetically homogeneous communities, which is conducive to developing 224 collectivist cultures (Chan et al., 2022). Cultures based on certain groups or ethnicities, such as beliefs, norms, and social values, tend to remain or not easily change over a long 226 time (Gorodnichenko & Roland, 2017). The existence of various ethnic groups in Indonesia 227 is one of the motivating factors for research on intergroup bias. 228

H1: Intergroup bias contributes to the cryptocurrency investment decision over the past 230 year. 231

2.2.2. Subjective norm and Cryptocurrency Investment Decision

The subjective norm in this study focuses on the influence of the closest social environ-233 ment, which are peers and the most important persons, market trends on cryptocurrency 234

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market. During an adverse period, influencers of subjective norms tend to suggest not to	235
invest in cryptocurrencies. They prefer to manage their risk exposure since cryptocur-	236
rency is a speculative investment (Ryu & Ko, 2019). Long-term goal, rational, and analyt-	237
ical are the driver of the influencers of subjective norms. The primary social group of	238
investors, for example: peers, the most important persons contribute to the decision to	239
avoid investing in cryptocurrency during a terrible period. Ouimet & Geoffrey (2020)	240
found that peers from the same employer firm influence an individual financial deci-	241
sions.	242

In contrast, subjective norms may also result in investors' impaired technical 243 knowledge and reasoning abilities, causing errors in judgment. Consequently, investors 244 make irrational decisions, which can adversely affect their returns (Ahmad & Wu, 2022). 245 Based on the arguments that have been explained, the research hypothesis is 246

H2: Subjective norms contributes to the cryptocurrency investment decision over the past year. 247

2.2.3. Self-control Behavior and Cryptocurrency Investment Decision

Self-control is the ability to regulate emotions and behavior and inhibit individual im-250pulses to achieve long-term results (Sekścińska et al., 2021). This study focuses on two251dimensions of self-control, overborrowing and spending control. Previous studies that252discussed financial behavior focused more on linking self-control with financial risk-253taking or gambling risks, but issues related to investment choice were mostly ignored254(Sekścińska et al., 2021). This study argues that overborrowing and spending controls255contribute to the cryptocurrency investment decision.256

Overborrowing reflects financial behavior synonymous with high credit interest or ex-257 cessive loans (Kawamura et al., 2021). Overborrowing is often associated with impulsive 258 behavior, whereas in decisions to buy or invest, individuals act without thinking about 259 the future. Gathergood (2012) showed that individuals who act impulsively tend to use 260 various types of credit, including consumer credit which makes them more vulnerable 261 to financial risk. In line with the studies by Friehe & Schildberg-Hörisch (2017) and 262 Kocher et al. (2019), who found that low self-control increases risk-taking in investment 263 decisions. Investors with a high level of debt tend to raise their risk exposure irrationally 264 and invest in high-risk and speculative investments based on their emotions. 265

The other type of self-control is spending control. Low spending control is when 266 individuals engage in impulsive consumer behavior or compulsive buying (Neuner et al., 267 2005). Liu & Zhang (2021) found that compulsive buying was associated with unstable, 268 self-inconsistent, negative emotions and perceptions of oneself. Furthermore, compulsive 269 buying is similar to individuals who focus on materialistic values as a strategy to alleviate 270 anxiety in response to insecurity symptoms (Kasser & Ahuvia, 2002). Cryptocurrency is a 271 speculative investment with high volatility and the potential for greater returns, thus 272 providing an impulse for individuals with low spending control. This study contends that 273 low spending control contributed to the investment of cryptocurrencies, in a highly 274 uncertainty period. In contrast, investors with high spending control will choose to refrain 275 from investing in cryptocurrencies in a declining period. 276

- H3a: Overborrowing behavior has contributed to the cryptocurrency investment decision 278 over the past year. 279
- H3b: Spending control has contributed to the cryptocurrency investment decision over the past year. 280

3. Methodology

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3.1. Sample selection and questionnaire study

The sample of this study is 309 respondents who are active crypto owners in Indone-284 sia and are actively involved in social clubs. The period of distributing the questionnaire 285 link is for four weeks, from the beginning to the end of August 2022, to 997 respondents 286 who are members of a pooled database of a credible and trusted survey service organiza-287 tion. Individuals who fill out the survey will receive a GoPay/OVO voucher of IDR 10,000 288 or equivalent to USD 0.65. A total of 532 individuals did not have cryptocurrencies, so 289 they were excluded from the sample. Forty respondents were disqualified for filling out 290 the questionnaire incorrectly, twenty-five respondents did not complete filling out the 291 questionnaire, and ninety-one respondents were not actively involved in any social club. 292 This study uses several demographic criteria in sample selection to avoid sample selection 293 bias. First, the sample is an equal number of men and women. Second, the sample re-294 spondents came from five cities with a balanced number of 80 respondents per city with 295 a total of 400 respondents. Third, three age categories are the sample of this study, namely 296 21-30 years, 31-41 years, and 41-50 years. Respondents who did not fall into these three 297 categories were excluded from the sample. Finally, respondents were actively involved in 298 social clubs or clubs over the past year. A total of 91 respondents were not actively in-299 volved in social clubs or clubs; therefore, they were excluded from the sample. 300

This study conducted several stages of sample selection. First, this study accurately 301 and precisely specify the population. The population of crypto owners in Indonesia is dif-302 ficult to determine, and data are unavailable. Alternatively, this study uses the 2022 pop-303 ulation of internet users provided by the Association of Indonesian Internet Service Pro-304 viders (APJII). Previous studies have found that the characteristics of crypto owners are 305 active internet users at least once per week (Stix, 2021). Second, determining the sampling 306 frame phase. A sampling frame is all the available elements of a population that has a 307 chance of being selected for the survey (Dobosh, 2018). Respondents in this study are ver-308 ified members of a pooled database provided by a trusted surveyor service organization. 309 Individual targets are crypto owners who have a basic understanding and are actively 310 involved in social clubs. Respondent data based on the level of crypto knowledge is as 311 much as 67.6 percent have basic knowledge of cryptocurrency and 25.9 percent on the 312 level of thorough knowledge. Third, determine the sampling technique and use random 313 probability sampling. Probability sampling is when all elements of a sampling frame have 314 an equal chance of being selected for the sample. The use of random sampling can reduce 315 bias and increase the likelihood that the sample is representative (Dobosh, 2018). The 316 method of distributing survey was conducted online to 1,100 individuals who are verified 317 members of a database of surveyor services organizations so that all individuals have the 318 same opportunity to be selected as samples. 319

This study included a validation question in the form of simple mathematical addi-320 tion to ensure that respondents filled out the questionnaire consciously. If the respondent 321 answers incorrectly, it is assumed that the respondent was not fully conscious when an-322 swering the question, and the respondent is disqualified. There are five sections to the 323 questionnaire questions. First, demographic information and screening of current active 324 crypto owners. If the respondent does not have any cryptocurrencies, the respondent is 325 disqualified. Second, information regarding cryptocurrency acquirement over the past 326 year. The second part also asked about the subjective norm in cryptocurrency purchase 327 decisions. Third, the questions of intergroup bias begin with the definition of a social club 328 and whether the decision to participate actively in a social club. Respondents who an-329 swered that they had not been actively involved in a social club did not fill in this section 330 and were excluded from the sample. In the questionnaire, our study provides examples 331 of secondary social groups that are religious-based groups or sports clubs. This secondary 332 group's members are the same people for a set period, so interactions occur regularly ra-333 ther than just once or twice. Regular interaction with the social group is the main key to 334 building trust between members, which can cause a contagion effect on investment 335 behavior. Fourth, in this section, respondents were asked about the overborrowing experienced over the past year. Finally, the question of overborrowing and spending control. 337

The period of crypto ownership is the respondent who obtained crypto over the past 338 year. This study uses binary logistic regression and divides the dependent variable into 339 two groups of crypto owners. Respondents who obtained cryptocurrencies over the past 340 year are assigned number one, while those who do not meet the criteria are assigned num-341 ber two. A year cap was chosen to limit the current motivation that causes respondents to 342 buy cryptocurrencies. Stix (2021) stated that a more extended crypto buying period could 343 introduce research bias as motivations and influencing factors could potentially differ 344 from the study population. In addition, when the survey was conducted, the cryptocur-345 rency market conditions showed decreasing markets. Da Gama Silva et al (2019) also sug-346 gests analyzing biased behavior when the cryptocurrency markets are in a sharp decline 347 because it has the potential to provide new findings for the development of the literature. 348

This study uses binary logistic regression to analyze Indonesia's factors influencing 349 crypto ownership over the past year, especially in five big cities concentrated on Java and 350 Sumatra, Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya, Medan, and Jakarta. These five cities were chosen because the population of internet investors in these five cities represented 43.61% of 352 the population of internet investors in Indonesia, with an average internet penetration 353 ratio per province of 78.98% (APJII, 2022). Internet investors per province and provincial 354 capital are in table 1.

		Contribution	
The largest internet users	Capital of	to Indonesia's	Internet penetration
based on provinces	the province	total internet	ratio each province
		users	
West Java	Bandung	14.74%	82.4%
East Java	Surabaya	10.93%	72.9%
Central Java	Semarang	10.36%	76.9%
North Sumatra	Medan	4.34%	79.3%
DKI Jakarta	Jakarta	3.24%	83.4%
Total contribution nationally		43.61%	
Average internet			70 000/
penetration per province			10.90%

Table 1. The largest Internet users in Indonesia by province capital city.

¹Association of Indonesian Internet Service Providers (APJII), 2022

The sampling technique uses random sampling, and the sample size is determined 358 based on the number of variables, where ten observations are needed for each variable 359 studied. Peduzzi et al. (1996) and Peng (2002) use a minimum sample ratio of 10 to 1, with 360 a minimum sample size of 100. The formula is n = 10k/p, in which n is the number of 361 minimum samples, k is the number of predictors, and *p* is the smallest proportion of bi-362 nary cases in the population. The minimum sample size for a four-predictor model is 167; 363 thus, the sample size of 309 respondents considers meeting the requirement. Data collec-364 tion was carried out through surveys with online distribution in five provincial capitals 365 with the most significant internet investors in Indonesia. 366

There are several stages to preparing the instrument. First, the questionnaires from 367 previous references were translated into Indonesian and modified according to the research objectives. Second, the survey instrument was assessed by two experts: Professors 369 and practitioners in investment and accounting behavior. Third, a pilot project was held 370 first for 30 individuals not included in the research sample. Questionnaire questions that 371 do not pass the validity and reliability test will not be used in the survey. Finally, the 372 instrument was translated back into English for publication purposes. 373

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3.2. Definition of variables and Model Analysis	374
Dependent variables	375
The dependent variable of this study is cryptocurrency investment over the past year	376
(PYI). The dependent variable is operationalized by a dummy variable, given a score of 1	377
if yes or a score of 2 otherwise. This study modifies the measurement of PYI from (Stix,	378
2021)'s study by focusing more on exploring the factors contributing to the decision to	379
investing cryptocurrency over the past year, especially during periods of extreme decline	380
in cryptocurrency markets.	381
Predictor variables	382
This study employs four predictor variables: intergroup bias, subjective norm, overbor-	383
rowing, and spending control bias. Predictor variables use five-point Likert scales. (Harpe,	384
2015) stated that the response measured by five-point Likert scales is continuous data, so	385
it is relevant to the independent variable in the logistic regression model. The intergroup	386
bias modified the questions from the study Kumari et al, (2020), and the subjective norm	387
predictor used modified the questionnaire (Taylor & Todd, 1995; Kumari et al, 2020; Kin-	388
atta et al, 2022). The instrument of overborrowing and spending control variables modi-	389
fying research questionnaire by (Eysenck & Eysenck, 1978; Tangney et al, 2004; Kawamura	390
et al, 2021; Sekita et al, 2022).	391

Demographic variables

Demographic variables in this study include gender, city of residence, age, occupation, 393 and activeness in social clubs. This study uses demographic variables as sample selection 394 criteria to avoid sample selection bias. First, the respondents were divided into two gen-395 der groups (Male and Female) with equal numbers (table 3). Second, the respondents 396 came from five cities, with a balanced number of eighty respondents for each area (table 397 3). Third, three age categories are the sample of this study, namely 21-30 years, 31-41 years, 398 and 41-50 years. Finally, respondents were actively involved in social clubs or clubs over 399 the past year. Several studies have found that demographic variables are associated with 400 the ownership of cryptocurrencies. For example, Fujiki (2020) found that crypto owners 401 in Japan are primarily male, under 30 years old, have a high pretax income, work in pri-402 vate or public companies, are the main source of income from a business and have a grad-403 uate school education level. 404

Table 2. Definition of variables and indicator

Construct	Indicators	Code
	Dependent variable	
Past year in- vestment	Invest in cryptocurrencies over the past year.	PYI
	Independent variables	
	The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is to be recognised in a social group.	
	The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is to follow the action of other group members.	
Intergroup bias	The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is because of believing that other members have more knowledge about cryptocurren- cies.	IB
	The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is the better perfor- mance of other group members.	

	Invest in a cryptocurrency whose value is rising in the market.	
Subjective norms	Investment decisions are based on the actions of others.	
	The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is to follow the same pattern of decisions as other investors. The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is that friends or coworkers believe that investing in cryptocurrencies is popu- lar.	SN
	The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is that the most im- portant persons to me also invest in cryptocurrencies.	
	The reason to invest in cryptocurrencies is that people around me are doing so.	
	How frequently using consumer credit over the past year?	
	How frequently run out of money in your bank account over the past year?	
Overborrowing	How frequently have you had difficulty paying debts over the past year?	OB
	How frequently have you borrowed money at extremely high- interest rates over the past year?	
Spending control	When making spending decisions, I carefully consider my fi- nancial situation.	
	When making a cryptocurrency investment decision, I try to spend my money wisely.	SPC
	When making a cryptocurrency investment decision, I try to put in only a little time or effort.	

Research model:

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 $\eta 1 = \eta \beta + \beta 1\xi 1 + \beta 2\xi 2 + \beta 3\xi 3 + \beta 4\xi 4 + \varepsilon$ (1)

Information	407
η1 = Past year investment (PYI)	408
$\eta\beta$ = Constant coefficient	409
$\beta 1\xi 1$ = Intergroup bias (IB)	410
$\beta 2\xi 2 =$ Subjective norms (SN)	411
β 3 ξ 3 = Overborrowing (OB)	412
$\beta 4\xi 4$ = Spending self-control (SPC)	413
$\mathcal{E} = \text{Error disturbance}$	414

4. Empirical Result

4.1. Demographic and Descriptive Statistics

In this study, 309 of the 400 crypto owners were actively involved in social clubs. 417 Table 3 presents the demographic of respondents, including the percentage of past year 418 investments (PYI), gender, age groups, type of occupation, and area. PYI describes re-419 spondents who invested in cryptocurrency over the past year as 35.90 percent of the total 420 respondents. The remaining 64.10 percent are crypto owners who did not invest in cryp-421 tocurrency. The age groups of respondents are between 21 to 50 years, whereas the age 422 category of 21 to 30 years dominates by 52.4%. Most respondents work in the private sec-423 tor (74.8 percent), followed by business owners at 17.2 percent in the next position. This 424 study conducts the Fisher exact test between gender and the dependent variable. The 425 result show an exact significant (2-sided) Fisher exact test value of 0.153 (> 0.05), confirm 426 that the sample is free from gender bias problems. 427

PastYear-Invest % Gender % Age % Occupation % % Area (PYI) Sample of 400 crypto owners Yes 30.0 47.8 20.0 Male 21-30 49.8 College student 4.3 Jabodetabek No 70.0 Female 52.2 31-40 37.3 Private employee 76.5 Surabaya 20.0 41-50 13.0 Business owner 15.3Semarang 20.0Full-time housewife 3.3 Bandung 20.0 Unemployment 0.8 Medan 20.0 A sample of 309 crypto owners actively involved in social clubs Yes 35.9 Male 4.5 23.3 44.021-30 52.4 College student Jabodetabek No 64.1 Female 56.0 31-40 38.2 Private employee 74.8 Surabaya 16.2 Semarang 41-50 9.4 Business owner 17.2 24.9 Full-time housewife 2.9 Bandung 23.9 Unemployment 0.6 Medan 11.7

Table 3. Demographic of respondents.

Table 4 shows the descriptive statistics of the dependent variable of PYI using cate-430gorical data, whereas the answer yes is given the number 1 and 2 otherwise. Independent431variables apply the mean score of the item indicators using a five-point Likert scale.432

Table 4. Descriptive Statistics.

	Ν	Mean	STD	Min	Max	VIF
PYI	309	1.641	0.481	1	2	
IB	309	3.435	0.823	1.00	5.00	1.882
SN	309	3.306	0.754	1.20	4.80	1.859
OB	309	1.965	0.795	1.00	5.00	1.015
SPC	309	4.123	0.656	1.00	5.00	1.035

4.2. Hypothesis Result

The hypothesis testing begins with the determination of the validity and reliability 435 of the indicators. The validity results using Pearson Correlation show coefficient values 436 between 0.614 to 0.889 (r> 0.60) for each item indicator so that it can be concluded that 437 item indicators can be used to measure the construct. The examination of reliability with 438 Cronbach's alpha shows that a value greater than 0.60 can be interpreted as high reliability 439 and an acceptable index (Pallant, 2001). Cronbach's alpha values were 0.807, 0.807, 0.728, 440 and 0.612 for IB, SN, OB, and SPC. The corrected item-total correlation ranged from 0.388 441 to 0.741, indicating good scales (Ferketich, 1991). The Pearson correlation results in table 442 5 display that the correlation coefficient between variables does not exceed 0.7. Thereby, 443 it can be concluded that there is no strong correlation between variables or is at a moderate 444 correlation level (Schober, 2018; McLeod, 2022). 445

Table 5. Pearson Correlation matrix.

	PYI	SN	IB	OB	SPC
PYI	1				
SN	0.191**	1			
IB	-0.028	0.675**	1		
OB	-0.207**	-0.008	0.025	1	
SPC	0.051	-0.004	0.104	-0.108	1

** *significant at the 0.01 and 0.05 level

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A binary logistic regression was employed to determine the impact of intergroup 448 bias, subjective norms, and self-control derived from factor analysis on the crypto invest-449 ment decision. Table 6 shows the results of logit model with the Wald test. The empirical 450 result confirms that the intergroup bias (IB), subjective norms (SN), and overborrowing 451 (OB) factors were significant (Q<0.05) predictors of the odds of PYI. In contrast, the spend-452 ing control (SPC) factor was unconfirmed to predict the odds of PYI. Furthermore, the 453 influencers in the group of subjective norms (SN) do not suggest the crypto owners in-454 vesting during the heaviest period. On the contrary, intergroup bias (IB) and overborrow-455 ing (OB) have been predictors of cryptocurrency investment over the past year. This study 456 found that overborrowing bias (OB) has a stronger predictive ability to invest in crypto-457 currency than intergroup bias (IB). The exponential values of intergroup bias (IB) and 458 overborrowing (OB) are 0.423 and 0.576, respectively, indicating that the ability to predict 459 the odds ratio of PYI is greater in overborrowing (OB). The coefficient $\beta 1$ of intergroup 460 bias (IB) reveals that the odds ratio of investing in cryptocurrencies over the past year 461 decreases when the value of IB increases by one. The coefficient β 1 of the subjective norm 462 (SN) is 1.204, and the exponential coefficient is 3.333, meaning that the odds ratio of in-463 vestors who did not invest in cryptocurrencies over the past year increases by 3.333 times 464 as the value of SN increases by one when the other predictors are held constant. 465

Table 6. Coefficient of Predictor Factors.

	Dependent: PastYearInvestment (PYI)					
	β	S.E.	Wald	Sig.	Exp(β)	
IB	-0.859	0.233	13.556	0.000	0.423	
SN	1.204	0.251	23.095	0.000	3.333	
OB	-0.551	0.162	11.577	0.001	0.576	
SPC	0.227	0.198	1.311	0.252	1.254	
Constant	-0.230	1.039	0.049	0.825	0.794	

The goodness-of-fit statistics assess the fit of the logit model to the actual outcomes 467 (Peng et al, 2002). The omnibus test shows a significant model χ^2 (6) of 14.545 with a Q-468 value of 0.000 (Q<0.05) for the PYI model. The -2 log likelihood (-2LL) estimate measures 469 how well the estimated model fits with categorical data (Suthar et al, 2010). The value of 470 -2LL for the model is 363,157. Hosmer and Lemeshow's (Hosmer et al, 1997) test result 471 demonstrates a not significant value of 0.069 (Q>0.05). Thereby the model fit can be preserved. 473

Predicting a logit model accurately, including correctly predicting the outcome (Hosmer et al, 1997). Table 7 shows the ability to predict the PYI model of 73.463 percent. The ability to predict the crypto owners' decision not to invest in cryptocurrency (91.919 percent) is better than predicting investment decision over the past year (40.541 percent). The predictive ability of the model for cryptocurrency investment decisions (PYI = yes) is below 50 percent or weak. In other words, other factors not analyzed in the model influence investment decisions during the extreme declining period. 470

Table 7. Predicted Results.

			Predic	ted
		PastYearIn	vest (PYI)	
Observed		Yes	No	Percentage Correct
PastYearInves (PYI)	Yes	45	66	40.541
	No	16	182	91.919
Overall Percentage				73.463

Several assumptions must be met in logistic regression. First, the linearity 482 assumption uses box-tidwell transformation (Osborne, 2017; Field, 2018) to check for 483

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linearity between predictors and the logit. The results of the linearity test reveal that the484box-tidwell transformation for the four independent variables is not significant to the485dependent variable, meaning that the linearity assumption is met. Second, the486multicollinearity test in table 4 shows the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) value between4871.015 to 1.882 for the four independent variables.488

4.3. Discussion

The results from this study show that intergroup bias (IB) and overborrowing (OB) 490 behaviors are the most stimulating factors contributing to the cryptocurrency investment 491 decision in an adverse market. Both factors contribute to irrational behavior in making an 492 investment decision, specifically in the high uncertainty condition over the past year. In-493 vestors with the characteristics of having a high trust bias towards their social group and 494 high overborrowing behavior have a tendency to invest in cryptocurrency over the past 495 year when the price dropped by 67% from the highest point in November 2021 to the end 496 of August 2022 when data collection was performed. However, this study provides evi-497 dence that subjective norms (SN) of the primary social environment caused crypto owners 498 to refrain from investing in cryptocurrency over the past year. 499

Different types of the social environment have distinctive effects on cryptocurrency 500 investment decisions in a high-uncertainty market. The dual-system perspectives can ex-501 plain these distinctive effects, which discuss reflexive and reflective perspectives (Ryu & 502 Ko, 2019). Cryptocurrency investment, as a speculative investment activity, emerges as a 503 natural response to individual high and low-impulse interactions (Ryu & Ko, 2019). When 504 impulsive and reflexive investors react most strongly, investors can make irrational deci-505 sions. Nevertheless, a reflective perspective encourages rational behavior. These two im-506 pulses go hand in hand. Investors can receive different impulses of investing or not in-507 vesting in cryptocurrency simultaneously. Dual-system perspective, reflexive and reflec-508 tive, does not occur in isolation but side by side in speculative cryptocurrency invest-509 ments. Investors who decided to buy or not buy crypto over the past year show that the 510 reflexive and reflective system runs in harmony in the decision-making process, whether 511 influenced by intergroup bias or subjective norms. Consistent with da Gama Silva et al. 512 (2019) found that negative news in the cryptocurrency markets is related to behavior bias. 513

Intergroup bias from the secondary group of investors' social environment, such as 514 religion-based groups and sports groups, contributes to irrational behavior when making 515 an investment decision. There are two fundamental explanations related to intergroup 516 bias and irrational behavior. First, investors who are actively involved as members in a 517 social group tend to behave more positively, provide greater rewards, and have higher 518 trust in the group members than outside groups or known as trust bias. The trust bias 519 encourages investors to behave identically to their group members and make irrational 520 investment decisions since they want to be recognized in the group. Furthermore, inter-521 group bias encourages investors to act fast, impulsive, automatically, and unconsciously 522 in making investment decisions to obtain financial knowledge, resources, and business 523 opportunities from their social groups, which can increase their income. Interaction be-524 tween members of a social group or network as bridging and bonding capital (Lei & Sal-525 azar, 2022) can increase the members' income and wealth status (Zhang et al., 2018). Sec-526 ond, cryptocurrency investments provide different options because of their attractive 527 characteristics, high volatility, higher average returns, accessibility of weekend trading, 528 and low correlation with traditional assets. These characteristics are the advantages of 529 investment diversification (Brière et al., 2015). Then, the social group, which generally 530 prioritizes individual wealth status and exclusive networking, tends to stimulate the irra-531 tional behavior of crypto owners in making investment decisions. 532

Regarding to the subjective norms, this study shows that the investors received a 533 stimulus from their primary group of social environment, for example, peers, the most 534 important persons, and the price trends, not investing in cryptocurrency in the adverse 535

period. Cryptocurrency is a speculative investment instead of a long-term investment 536 (AFM, 2022). Indonesian regulations state that crypto is illegal as a medium of exchange. 537 However, it is allowed to be traded as a commodity (Jakarta Globe, 2022), thereby expand-538 ing its function as a speculative investment. Previous studies also confirmed that Bitcoin 539 is mainly used as a speculative asset rather than an alternative currency (Blau, 2017; Baur 540 et al., 2018). Thus, in a high uncertainty condition, persons in the closest social environ-541 ment of crypto owners tend to act cautious, slow, controlled, conscious, and analytically, 542 exposing the reflective system. They try to convince crypto owners not to invest in cryp-543 tocurrency during the heaviest period. 544

Besides intergroup bias, the other impetus to invest in cryptocurrency in the declin-545 ing market arises from overborrowing bias. The reason is that individuals with low self-546 control often act on a reflexive perspective, leading to high levels of unplanned (Friese & 547 Hofmann, 2019) and irrational behavior. Consistent with Ryu & Ko (2019) stated that 548 strong impulses and weak self-control drive speculative investment behavior in the cryp-549 tocurrency context. Easy access to fintech credit markets increases the risk of individuals 550 falling into debt traps (Yue et al., 2022). Liu & Zhang (2021) explained that easy access to 551 online consumer credit became one of the causes of severe financial risk. The digital credit 552 market trap is a challenge faced by crypto owners, who generally always come into con-553 tact with digital media. 554

The theoretical and practical implications of this study are described in several sec-555 tions. First, survey studies on biased behavior and cryptocurrency investment decisions 556 are minimal, so this study enriches the literature on the irrational decisions of crypto own-557 ers, especially in Asia. Several crypto owners' studies that are relevant to this study in-558 clude Fujiki (2021) in Asia, Stix (2021) in Europe, and Zhao & Zhang (2021) in the USA. 559 More specifically, studies with a sample of crypto owners in the Asia region have yet to 560 receive much attention. Second, this study adds to the understanding of the social conta-561 gion theory in analysing the role of intergroup bias in crypto owners' decisions in one of 562 Southeast Asia's largest countries, Indonesia. Indonesia is identical to the collective com-563 munity and young age generation that is relevant to intergroup bias behavior and cryp-564tocurrency investment. Third, this study provides a new understanding of the dual-sys-565 tem perspective by exploring two types of social environments: subjective norms and in-566 tergroup bias. Subjective norms and intergroup bias provided a strong different impetus 567 for cryptocurrency investment in adverse market conditions. Subjective norms have 568 caused investors to refrain from investing in cryptocurrency over the past year. Contrary, 569 intergroup bias contributes to cryptocurrency investment even in declining market con-570 ditions. Fourth, the findings of overborrowing bias in cryptocurrency investment deci-571 sions open a new perspective that crypto owners with overborrowing behavior have a 572 tendency to act impulsively and irrationally, mainly when associated with a speculative 573 investment in adverse market conditions. Finally, this study's practical implication is to 574 provide government input to prevent vulnerable individual investors from buying or in-575 vesting in cryptocurrencies. 576

5. Conclusions and Limitations

This study investigates whether intergroup bias, subjective norm, and self-control 578 bias are predictors of crypto owners' investment decisions over the past year of the de-579 clining cryptocurrency market. Self-control bias in this study explores two types behav-580 iors, overborrowing and spending control. The results reveal that intergroup bias and 581 overborrowing are the most impulsive factors contributing to the cryptocurrency invest-582 ment decision over the past year, especially in the heaviest period. The empirical results 583 indicate that intragroup bias due to the contagion effect from secondary group of inves-584 tors social environment, for example religious-based groups or sports clubs, encouraged 585 investors to invest in the cryptocurrency market even though the market is in adverse 586 conditions. Intergroup bias behavior that is more positive towards their group members 587

than outside group potentially results in irrational behavior since the trust bias toward 588 their group influences the investment decision. The other finding is overborrowing bias 589 causes investors to behave irrationally since instead of solving their debt problems, they 590 prefer to spend their money on cryptocurrency investment in adverse market conditions. 591

In contrast, this study reveals that subjective norm from primary group of social en-592 vironment, for example peers, the most important persons, and market price influences 593 the decision not to invest in the adverse cryptocurrency market. The subjective norm fac-594 tor indicates the reflective system that is slow, controlled, and analytical in making invest-595 ment decisions during significant cryptocurrency price declines. The different result be-596 tween influence of subjective norm, intergroup bias and overborrowing biased behaviors 597 explain that there is a dual-system perspective, reflexive and reflective, which investors 598 experience simultaneously and influence investment decisions. When impulsive and re-599 flexive system reacts most strongly, investors can generate irrational behavior and make 600 irrational investment decisions. However, the reflective perspective encourages rational 601 behavior. Finally, spending control bias is unconfirmed as a predictor of cryptocurrency 602 investment decisions. 603

This research has some limitations. First, the location of the crypto owner population 604 cannot be determined. Alternatively, internet users are used as the population of crypto 605 owners in this study. Since not all internet users are crypto owners, there is the possibility 606 for differences between internet users and crypto owners. Second, with regard to the num-607 ber of crypto owners that responded to this study, it is still necessary to gather additional 608 samples from all over Indonesia in order for them to accurately represent cryptocurrency 609 investors. Third, this study does not distinguish between investors who make direct or 610 indirect investments through funding. Therefore, there is a potential for investment deci-611 sions to be biased due to the influence of fund managers. Finally, the model's ability to 612 anticipate the decision not to invest in cryptocurrency is greater than its ability to predict 613 the decision to invest. In addition, the results of this study must be interpreted with cau-614 tion due to the possibility of other factors in predicting the decision during a gloomy 615 phase. Therefore, it is anticipated that future studies will enhance the predictive model by 616 incorporating more variables that have the ability to affect the choice to invest in crypto-617 currencies during a gloomy phase. 618

For future study, our research recommends developing a model including other biased behavior and investors' demographic variables that affect vulnerable decisions by cryptocurrency investors. Future research needs to explore the other dimension of bias behaviors which are still extensive and should investigate the influence of biased behaviors on cryptocurrency investment decisions in international settings. 621 622 623

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conceptual model, methodology; S.E.H using SPSS software, supervising processing, validation, re-
liability analysis, and hypothesis analysis; R.W descriptive statistics testing, final article analysis
and analysis. J.T Supervision, correcting writing errors. Authorship must be limited to those who
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625

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