## The Changing **Amazon Algorithm -**From Keywords to Intent



## **Amazon's Algorithm Shift**



## **Previous System:** A9/A10

- Relied on keyword relevance
- Factored in sales performance
- A10 added engagement metrics

## New System: COSMO Algorithm

- Al-powered, context-aware
- Understands customer intent
- Matches based on behavior







### What is COSMO

SIGMOD-Companion '24, June 9-15, 2024, Santiago, AA, Chile

Table 2: Mined e-commerce commonsense relations for the COSMO KG.  $\label{eq:commerce} % \begin{center} \begi$ 

Yu, et al.

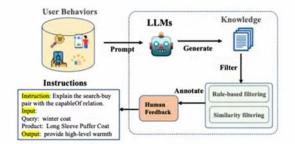


Figure 2: Overall framework of generating high-quality instruction data from massive user behaviors and LLMs.

domain d using the *capableOf* relation". Each task includes  $l_t$  inputoutput pair instances. For the commonsense generation task, the input can be a user behavior pair  $(p_1, p_2)$  or (q, p), and the output is the typical knowledge tail t. Note the quality of knowledge (h, r, t)can be measured by *plausibility* and *typicality* scores labeled by

Relation Type	Tail Type	Example
USED_FOR_FUNC	Function / Usage	dry face
USED_FOR_EVE	Event / Activity	walk the dog
USED_FOR_AUD	Audience	daycare worker
CAPABLE_OF	Function / Usage	hold snacks
USED_TO	Function / Usage	build a fence
USED_AS	Concept / Product Type	smart watch
IS_A	Concept / Product Type	normal suit
USED_ON	Time / Season / Event	late winter
USED_IN_LOC	Location / Facility	bedroom
USED_IN_BODY	Body Part	sensitive skin
USED_WITH	Complementary	surface cover
USED_BY	Audience	cat owner
xIntersted_in	Interest	herbal medicine
xIs_A	Audience	pregnant womer
xWant	Activity	play tennis



yifangao@amazon.co. Amazon.com Inc Amazon.com Palo Alto, USA Bing Yin Palo Alto, USA our proposed system achieves significant improvement. Further amzzhe@amazon.com limyng@amazon.com Amazon.com Inc our proposed system acriteves significant improvement. Further more, these experiments highlight the immense potential of con-Haiyang Zhang Palo Alto, USA more, these experiments nightight the mannerse protession of com-monsense knowledge extracted from instruction-finetuned large alexbyin@amazon.com Amazon.com Inc Palo Alto, USA hhaiz@amazon.com Notice of large-scale knowledge graphs in the e-commerce language models. Andre graphs (KGs) integrate a

Figure 1: An example of mining implicit commonsense anowledge from e-commerce user behavior.

## How COSMO Understands Intent

- Knowledge graphs
- Behavioral analysis
- Multi-turn refinement

Knowledge Graphs: COSMO constructs extensive knowledge graphs that link products based on real-world contexts, such as usage scenarios, target audiences, and complementary items.

Analysis: By examining customer behaviors like search patterns, clicks, and purchase histories, COSMO identifies patterns that help predict what customers are seeking, even if their queries are vague or unconventional.

Multi-Turn Navigation: COSMO supports interactive search refinement. This dynamic approach facilitates a more intuitive and efficient shopping experience.

## Search Term: "sunscreen"





Banana Boat Sport Ultra SPF 30 Sunscreen Lotion, 1oz, 24ct | Travel Size Sunscreen, Banana...

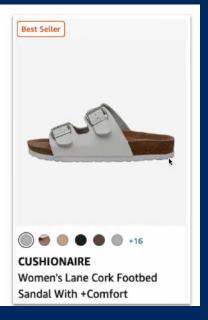




Supergoop! PLAY Everyday Lotion SPF 50-18 fl oz - Broad Spectrum Body & Face...

# Search Term: "shoes for pregnant women"





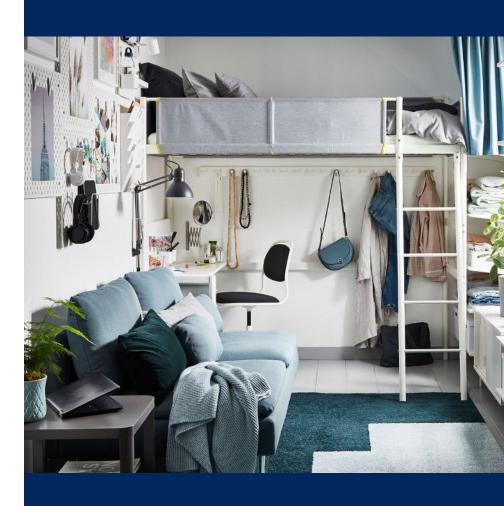
## **Example of Intent Recognition**

Query: "furniture for small apartments"

Result: space-saving furniture

Suggestions





## COSMO creates personalized product recommendations based on contextual understanding

- Dynamic Product Suggestions: Generating real-time product suggestions based on user browsing and purchasing patterns
- Product Association: Identifying and suggesting products that are frequently bought together using commonsense knowledge graphs
- Product Comparison: Assisting customers in comparing products by highlighting key differences and similarities based on common sense associations
- Product Categorization: Automatically categorizing products in a way that makes sense to customers, improving discoverability

### What does it mean?

- Not fully keywordless yet
- Keywords are just one of many signals
- The edge: Feed AI better data, don't fight automation

Adapt or fall behind

## **Implications for Sellers**

- Optimize for context
- Use rich descriptions
- Avoid keyword stuffing

#### **Content Optimization:**

- focus on creating product listings that are rich in context and address potential customer intents
- use detailed product descriptions, usage scenarios, and clearly defined target audiences.

#### **Keyword Strategy:**

- -keywords remain important, over-reliance on keyword stuffing is no longer effective
- integrating relevant keywords naturally within informative content that aligns with customer intent is crucial

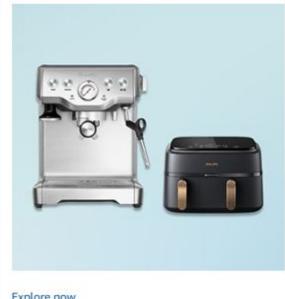
#### **Enhanced Product Attributes:**

 Include attributes like "used for," "target audience," and "included components" to improve visibility in search results by aligning with COSMO's understanding of product contexts

### **Enhanced Product Attributes**

### Define use case

#### Shop kitchen appliances



### **Define audience**



### **Improve discovery**

Videos for this product

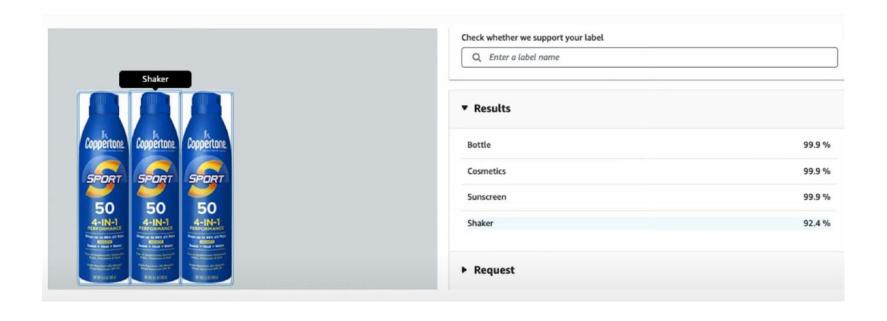


Strathroy Antique Mall

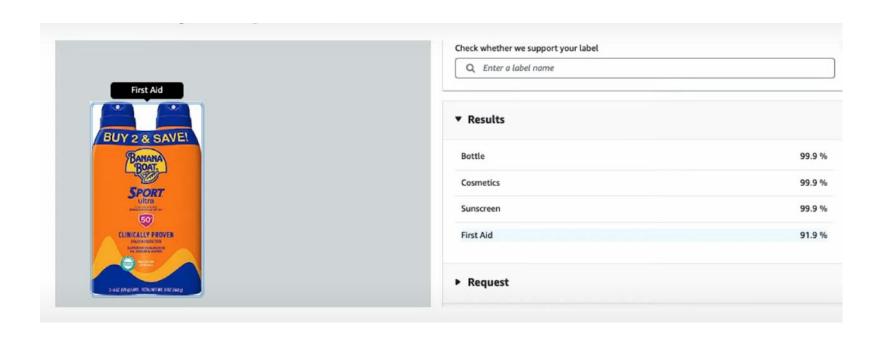
Use Cases

Explore now

### **COSMO** analysis and interprets images



### **COSMO** analysis and interprets images



## Think Audiences not Keywords

- Keyword ranking as we know it, will change
- Audience targeting gains more importance
- Understand avatar and their behaviour
- An image is worth a thousand words
- A video is worth a million (360 videos)
- Writing to the human not algorithm

## Adapt or Fall Behind

- Not fully keywordless yet.
- Keywords are just one of many signals.
- The edge: Feed AI better data, don't fight automation.

### **Some Observations**

With Al advancing, search volume is expected to drop by 25% by 2026.

Users will not start their search on Google and land on Amazon anymore.

Al-driven personalization will replace search.

Conversions will be driven by personalized content.

Personalised search results will be the future of e-commerce.

The impact of Apple iOS 18 on email deliverability. With 47% of iPhone users on the Mail app, this is going to be huge. Al will soon categorize emails differently, and this won't be like Gmail tabs. In order not to get filtered out, be sure your newsletters come from a person's name (not info@ or support@).

For Amazon sellers who are sending newsletters, switching to a personal name could lead to a 48% higher open rate compared to branded newsletters.



