PUMGPT: A Large Vision-Language Model for Product Understanding

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Abstract

E-commerce platforms benefit from accurate product understanding to enhance sellers' experience and operational efficiency. Traditional methods often focus on isolated tasks such as attribute extraction or categorization, posing adaptability issues to evolving tasks and leading to usability challenges with noisy data from the internet. Current Large Vision Language Models (LVLMs) lack domain-specific finetuning, thus falling short in precision and instruction following. To address these issues, we introduce **PUMGPT**. the first e-commerce specialized LVLM designed for multi-modal product understanding tasks. We collected and curated a dataset of over one million products from AliExpress, filtering out non-inferable attributes using a universal hallucination detec-018 tion framework, resulting in 663k high-quality 019 data samples. PUMGPT focuses on five essential tasks aimed at enhancing workflows for e-commerce platforms and retailers. We also introduce **PUMBENCH**, a benchmark to evaluate product understanding across LVLMs. Our experiments show that **PUMGPT** outperforms five open-source LVLMs and GPT-4V and a non-LVLM baseline in product understanding tasks. We also conduct extensive analytical experiments to delve deeply into the superiority of PUMGPT, demonstrating the necessity for a specialized model in the e-commerce domain.¹

1 Introduction

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E-commerce platforms extensively rely on a deep understanding of products to boost online shopping experiences. As is shown in Figure 1, for instance, given a product image, the ability to automatically generate appealing caption, accurately categorize the product and extract its attributes not only improves product recommendation(Le and Lauw, 2021; Sun et al., 2020) and product search(Ahuja



Figure 1: A glimpse on PUMGPT in product understanding.

et al., 2020; Ai et al., 2017) on platforms but also facilitates retailers to launch and update their goods with substantial time savings.

Nevertheless, traditional methods typically focus only on a subset of tasks within a series of product understanding tasks. For instance, they may solely address product attribute extraction(Shinzato et al., 2022; Yan et al., 2021; Zou et al., 2024) or categorization tasks(Lin et al., 2021). Training a specific model for each task proves challenging to adapt to ever-evolving tasks and new products and diminishes usability. Moreover, the product attribute data scraped from the Internet contains a significant amount of noise(Wang et al., 2020; Zhu et al., 2020; Yang et al., 2022). For example, certain attribute values cannot be inferred from the product captions and images since some retailers might supplement the attributes with information not present in the images or captions. Directly training models with such dirty samples can lead to severe hallucination problems(Zhu et al., 2024) in the models. Finally, the suite of product understanding tasks constitutes a multi-modal problem. While current research on Large Vision Language Models (LVLMs)(Bai et al., 2023; Dai et al., 2024; Zhu et al., 2023a; Liu et al., 2023c; Ye et al., 2023) can accomplish

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¹We will release the code, model weight, and test set and will release the training set as long as it passes a content review. For now one-tenth of the dataset are available.

these tasks to some extent, their lack of domain knowledge in e-commerce platforms and still weak instruction following capabilities make them fall short of meeting practical requirements.

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To tackle these issues, we present **PUMGPT**, a large vision-language model expert for a series of 071 multi-modal product understanding tasks. To be specific, we collect more than one million product data from the AliExpress platform², including product images, captions, categories, and lists of attributes. To filter out those attributes that cannot be inferred from product images and captions, we 077 propose a universal hallucination detection frame-079 work utilizing multi-expert collaboration. Through the thorough hallucinated attributes filtering, we 080 obtain about 663k data for training. Subsequently, we carefully curate five tasks that can help speed up both e-commerce platforms' and retailers' workflow. We also introduce PUMBENCH, a benchmark 084 covering these product understanding tasks to best evaluate the existing large vision-language mod-086 els and our PUMGPT in the aspect of product understanding. Extensive experiments show the **PUMGPT** outperforms the non-LVLM baseline, 5 open-sourced LVLMs, and GPT-4V(Achiam et al., 2023), the most powerful LVLM for now. And it 091 proves the necessity of a specialized large vision 092 language model for e-commerce.

Our contributions can be summarized as follows:

- We introduce **PUMGPT**, the first e-commerce LVLM for a series of product understanding tasks along with an 663k high-quality product dataset with hallucination filtered.
- We present a universal hallucination detection framework utilizing multi-expert collaboration to detect and filter the inconsistent attributes in the dataset without any labor force.
- Extensive experiments demonstrate the remarkable performance of our **PUMGPT** in **PUMBENCH** over several LVLMs, including GPT-4V.

2 Related Works

Vision-Language Models. Recent advancements have shown significant success in leveraging large language models for vision-language tasks. Equipped with a strong visual encoder, large vision language models(Alayrac et al., 2022; Li et al., 2023a; Huang et al., 2023b; Driess et al., 2023) achieve alignment between vision and text representations, creating a comprehensive interface for multi-modal input. Commercial models like GPT-4(Achiam et al., 2023) have demonstrated outstanding visual reasoning abilities across diverse visionlinguistic tasks. Increasing model sizes raise computational complexity and training data demands, prompting recent studies to explore efficient finetuning methodologies for large vision-language models(Zhu et al., 2023a; Ye et al., 2023; Zhang et al., 2023a). Moreover, the pipeline for pretraining and instruction tuning has emerged as a new paradigm for LVLMs(Liu et al., 2023c; Bai et al., 2023; Dai et al., 2024). However, these models often lack strict adherence to instructions, hampering their usability in large-scale e-commerce scenarios. Our **PUMGPT** is an expert LVLM specifically trained for product understanding tasks, ideally suited for the e-commerce context.

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Product Understanding Tasks. Product understanding tasks encompass a variety of sub-tasks. Some studies focus on attribute extraction only with text information.(Zheng et al., 2018; Xu et al., 2019; Yan et al., 2021; Shinzato et al., 2022). Recent research has incorporated visual information from product images to enhance attribute extraction performance (Lin et al., 2021; Zhu et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2023b; Yang et al., 2022; Zou et al., 2024). The additional visual data enriches the model's comprehension and extraction capabilities. Besides, other product understanding tasks such as product captioning (Atıcı and İlhan Omurca, 2021), product classification (Bonnett, 2016; Liu et al., 2023a), and even low-level tasks such as retrieval and clustering (Zhan et al., 2021; Dong et al., 2021) have also been explored. However, these solutions typically necessitate training separate models for each task. In contrast, as we compare some product datasets in Table 1, we integrate various product understanding tasks and ensure both quality and scale of the training set with an automated 'DeHallu' process to build our PUMGPT.

Hallucination Detection. LVLM integrates the capabilities of LLMs and demonstrates strong performance on vision-language tasks; however, it is also affected by LLMs, resulting in hallucination(Tu et al., 2023; Huang et al., 2023a; Zhu et al., 2023b). Therefore, considerable work has focused on researching hallucination detection and mitigation for LVLMs. However, some studies rely on commercial models such as GPT-4V (Xiao et al.,

²https://www.aliexpress.com/

Dataset	Language	Quantity	Task	Category	Attribute(N/	V) DeHallu
Product-1M(Zhan et al., 2021)	Chinese	1M	RET	458	N/A	N/A
MEP-3M(Liu et al., 2023a)	Chinese	3M	CLS	599	N/A	N/A
M5Product(Dong et al., 2021)	Chinese	6M	RET/CLS/CI	Lu 6,232	5.6k/24M	N/A
ImplicitAVE(Zou et al., 2024)	English	68.6k	AVE	5 (domains)	25/158	Human
PumGPT(ours)	English	663k	CG/CC/AI /AC/CMC	4,598	11k/48k	Automation

Table 1: The comparison to the previous large-scale e-commerce datasets, where RET for retrieval, CLS for classification, CLu for clustering, and AVE for attribute value extraction. CG/CC/AI/AC/CMC are caption generation/caption completion/attribute inference/attribute correction/category multi-choice. N/V for names/values. DeHallu means hallucination filtering process.

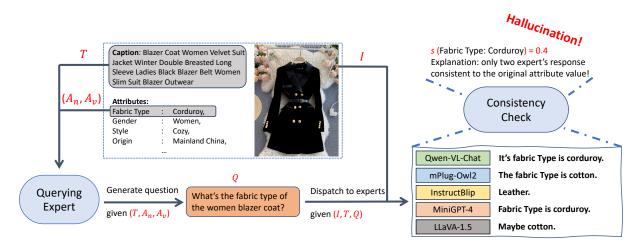


Figure 2: The overview of our proposed hallucination detection framework. We first generate attribute questions according to the product information and dispatch them to different experts to answer. Finally, we employ a judge model to check whether the majority of the answers are consistent with the reference. All the models require no training.

2024; Liu et al., 2023b; Zhao et al., 2023; Zhou et al., 2024) or focus on object-level hallucination detection (Li et al., 2023b; Gunjal et al., 2023). In contrast, we aim to utilize multiple open-source experts for collaborative detection and filtering of product attribute data.

3 PUMGPT

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3.1 Data Collection

For sellers, an ideal process for listing products 173 only needs to upload the product images. The sys-174 tem would then automatically generate attractive product titles and compile a series of product at-176 tributes for customer reference. The seller would 177 only need to perform a final review and add any 179 additional details if necessary. To achieve this, we gathered a total of about 1 million product en-180 tries officially authorized from the AliExpress plat-181 form. We sampled top-selling items from various leaf categories (with more extensive sampling from 183

categories with a higher number of products) to create a relatively high-quality collection. Each product entry contains an image, a caption, the product category, and product attributes. Each attribute consists of an attribute name and a corresponding attribute value. The leaf category is the finest in the taxonomy. For example, under (Automobiles & Motorcycles > Automobiles, Parts & Accessories > Auto Parts > Automobiles Filters > Frequency-separating filters) we ultimately selected the Frequency-separating filters in our dataset. Table 2 demonstrates the statistical results of the initial collected raw data. 184

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3.2 Hallucination Filtering

The initial dataset acquired from the Internet contains substantial noise stemming from multiple factors: many items lack essential product information, such as missing key attributes, making them unsuitable for training. Additionally, certain attributes might either complement product descrip-

Statistical Item	Raw #	Clean #
Products	996,350	663,330
Attributes	10,729,585	1,484,948
Attribute names	12,013	11,291
Attribute values	59,669	48,448
Categories	7,084	4,598

Table 2: The statistical results of the raw collected data and cleaned data. We report the unique items.

tions and images or conflict with other information 204 sources due to sellers' subjectivity. Consequently, models trained on such datasets might generate inaccuracies during inference. To mitigate this, we propose a universal hallucination detection framework aimed at filtering out noisy samples from a dataset containing approximately one million en-210 tries. This framework leverages multi-expert col-211 laboration to identify inconsistent attributes with-212 out manual intervention. Contemporary Large Vi-213 214 sion Language Models (LVLMs) are pre-trained and fine-tuned on diverse datasets with varying ar-215 chitectures, resulting in significant variability in 216 inference behaviors. Despite these differences, LVLMs tend to align on tasks requiring common 218 knowledge or reasoning, while diverging on am-219 biguous queries. This property can be leveraged to detect inconsistencies in product datasets, especially where attributes misalign with descriptions and images. By using distinct LVLMs with different knowledge bases, more consistent responses can be obtained for accurate attribute values, while 225 varied responses signal mismatched or supplemen-226 tary information or subjective attributes. 227

As is shown in Figure 2, we selected five LVLMs as experts in hallucination detection: $\mathcal{E} =$ {Qwen-VL-Chat(Bai et al., 2023), MiniGPT-4(Zhu et al., 2023a), InstructBLIP(Dai et al., 2024), mPLUG-Owl2(Ye et al., 2023), LLaVA(Liu et al., 2023c). After removing samples with missing information, a standard sample S = (I, T, C, A_n, A_v) is obtained, where I represents the product image, T the product title, C the product category, A_n the attribute name, and A_v the attribute value. For each attribute pair (A_n, A_v) to be queried, a specific attribute question is needed. Since template-based question generation cannot provide an exact question on the value (e.g. Given the Bluetooth attribute, its value might be a version number or yes/no indicating whether the product supports), we employ an LLM to serve as a

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querying expert. Due to considerations of time and performance, we choose the Vicuna-13B(Chiang et al., 2023) to generate attribute questions Q = $Vicuna(P_q, T, A_n, A_v)$. The prompt P_q for generating questions is shown in Table 8. For $e_i \in \mathcal{E}$, the answer to the attribute question Q is formulated as $a_i = e_i(P_a, I, T, Q)$, where P_a is the answer guideline shown in Table 8. After all the experts have generated answers, an additional judge checks the consistency across all answers and the original attribute value. Since experts generate answers in varied forms, they might use diverse phrases to convey the same meaning. We adopt Mixtral $8 \times 7B$ (Jiang et al., 2024), a powerful large language model with a mixture of experts structure(Fedus et al., 2021), to evaluate the original attribute value by assigning a score s from the experts as shown in Equation 1.

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$$s = \sum_{e_i}^{\mathcal{E}} \frac{Mixtral(A_n, A_v, e_i)}{|\mathcal{E}|}$$
(1)

Here, $Mixtral(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$ is an indicator function checking whether expert answers are equivalent to the reference attribute value. The adopted prompt is displayed in Table 8. An attribute pair is deemed ha if the score is below a threshold ϵ . Practically, ϵ is set to 0.6, meaning a pair remains only when at least three experts agree with the reference attribute value. Table 2 shows the cleaned data statistics. To illustrate the training set composition, we divided over 4k leaf categories into eight primary domains, selecting the most common attributes for each and displaying them in Figure 3. The size of the segments in the pie chart represents the proportion of each domain within the entire dataset.

3.3 Product Understanding Tasks Formulation

In considering the product listing procedures within actual production environments, we have rigorously designed five tasks aimed at optimizing the efficiency of the overall production process. (1) **Caption Generation (CG)**: The task requires the model, given an image of a product, to generate a caption that encapsulates key information about the product. (2) **Product Category Multiple-Choice Question (CMC)**: Here, the model must select the most appropriate category from a list of options, based on the product's image and caption. The options are derived from a category taxonomy, sourced from AliExpress, with at most nine sibling categories sampled to form the choices. (3)

Tasks	Num of samples
CG	5,000
CC	960
AI	6,031
AC	5,032
CMC	4,967

Table 3: The statistics of the PUMBENCH.

Attribute Inference (AI): This task involves the 293 model inferring the value of an attribute from the image and caption, based on a provided attribute name. For attributes that are challenging to de-296 termine, the model should also reject responding. 297 To achieve this, filtered attributes are reused and their values are designated as 'Unknown'. Building upon these foundational tasks, we developed two 301 advanced tasks. (4) Caption Completion (CC): As new attributes are introduced, the model must complete the existing caption to include all necessary keywords for display. For training samples, we eliminate all keywords listed in the attributes from 305 the original captions. (5) Attribute Correction (AC): The model's task is to identify and correct 307 discrepancies between attribute values provided by the seller and other existing information about the product. In case of an error, the model should supply the correct attribute value. For practical purposes, the original value is replaced with a ran-312 dom one. Approximately 30 instructions and 20 313 response templates were manually designed for 314 each task to ensure diversity. Using a conversation 315 format akin to Qwen-VL-Chat (Bai et al., 2023), specific values are contained within <> to facil-317 itate extraction in real scenarios. Table 4 offers several examples of all the tasks, elucidating the 319 details of these five tasks.

4 Benchmarking on Product Understanding

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4.1 Implementation details and baselines

Implementation details. We choose Qwen-VL-Chat as our base model and train with LoRA(Hu et al., 2022), a parameter-efficient finetuning method for 3 epochs with batch size 144. The LoRA rank and alpha are 128 and 16 respectively. We employ AdamW(Loshchilov and Hutter, 2017) as the optimizer. The learning rate has a linear warm-up from 1e-8 to 1e-5, followed by a cosine-decay from 1e-5 to 0. The model is trained with 8 Nvidia A100 (80G) GPUs for about 24 hours.
Baselines. We employ InstructBLIP(Dai et al.,



Figure 3: Most common attribute names and proportion of 8 primary domains.

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2024), LLaVA-1.5(Liu et al., 2023c), mPlug-Owl2(Ye et al., 2023), MiniGPT-4(Zhu et al., 2023a), Qwen-VL-Chat(Bai et al., 2023) and GPT-4V(Achiam et al., 2023) to be the compared LVLM baselines. Besides, we trained a non-LVLM model based on CLIP(ViT-B/32)(Radford et al., 2021) to perform non-generative tasks for comparison. For both hallucination detection and evaluation on PUMBENCH of all the compared methods, we set temperature and top_p to 0.9 and 0.2 respectively with zero-shot prompting. For GPT-4V, we follow its default options, prompting it with both zeroshot and one-shot settings. We do not use one-shot prompting for open-source models because they are easily hampered by the demonstration given. The further details and the all the prompts used are shown in the Appendix A.2 and Appendix A.1 respectively.

4.2 Datasets and metrics

PUMBENCH. We construct PUMBENCH to evaluate the capabilities of product understanding of PUMGPT and the baselines. We additionally collected 1.5k items from three domains(Home, Electronics, and Clothing) and employed 2 PhD students to clean the attributes to construct the AI and AC test set according to their common sense and construct other task benchmarks as we built the training set. The statistics of PUMBENCH are shown in Table 3.

Metrics. Due to the different output formats and diverse representations of the baselines, we employ

	User	Assistant
CG	What's a suitable caption for this product that would be eye-catching in the image?	A catchy caption is <proly b="" fashion="" new="" women<=""> Headband Wide Side Big Bowknot Hairband Classic</proly>
	eye-catching in the image:	Casual Turban Girls Headwear Hair Accessories>.
CC	Please incorporate these characteristics: [<[Brand Name, SoundPEATS]>, <[Communication, True	Reflecting the product's attributes, a revised caption would be SoundPEATS Clear Transparent Series
	Wireless]>,], into a revised version of this caption: <clear dual="" earbuds="" enc<="" series="" td="" transparent="" with=""><td>Bluetooth 5.3 True Wireless Earbuds with Dual ENC Mic, Gaming Mode, App Support, 40H>.</td></clear>	Bluetooth 5.3 True Wireless Earbuds with Dual ENC Mic, Gaming Mode, App Support, 40H>.
	Mic, Gaming Mode, App Support, 40H>.	
AI	What is the attribute <i><</i> Gender <i>></i> ? If it's indistinct,	The attribute value might be <women< b="">>.</women<>
	please reply with 'Unknown'.	
AC	Does the attribute <i><</i> Material <i>></i> correctly be <i><</i> Silk <i>></i> ?	No, the product's <material< b="">> attribute is <metal< b="">>.</metal<></material<>
	Please advise on the accurate value if it's inconsistent.	
CMC	Pick the most suitable category for the product: 1: <hair< td=""><td>It best fits into category <2: Headband>.</td></hair<>	It best fits into category <2: Headband >.
	Ties>,2: <headband>,3:<hair claw="">,</hair></headband>	

Table 4: Examples of each task in the training set. Here we omit the image input.

Tasks	Home	Electronics	Clothing
InstBLIP	10.20	7.17	3.80
LLaVA	22.71	25.26	21.57
Mini	8.75	6.42	3.23
Owl2	20.00	18.85	19.24
Qwen-VL	14.17	25.01	17.83
GPT-4V	29.79	36.04	22.33
GPT-4V†	41.46	45.41	<u>37.18</u>
PUMGPT	32.91	35.49	78.26

Table 5: Domain-level results on attribute inference task.

the Mixtral $8 \times 7B$ (Jiang et al., 2024) to serve as the answer equivalence judge to determine the accuracy of the attribute-related tasks. For CG and CC tasks, we adopt Bleu₁(Papineni et al., 2002), ROUGE_L(Lin, 2004) and CIDEr(Vedantam et al., 2014) metrics. Besides, we use recall as an additional metric to evaluate the CC task. We utilize accuracy (acc), F1, precision(prec), and recall(rec) to assess the attribution correction task and only accuracy on the CMC task. All reported results are the averages of three separate runs.

5 Experimantal Results

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5.1 Main Results on PUMBENCH

Table 6 elucidates the comparative performance 379 of PUMGPT and other methodologies on PUM-BENCH. Overall, PUMGPT demonstrates superior efficacy across various tasks. Specifically, in 382 the two caption-centric tasks, PUMGPT excels in generating captions by distilling key characteristics from images. This proficiency translates into markedly higher scores on the caption-related metrics, which evaluate the recall and utilization of 387 specific keywords. In the CC task, aided by a base caption, PUMGPT achieves higher performance in caption-related metrics. However, while 390

GPT-4V successfully recalls nearly all keywords, PUMGPT achieves a recall rate of only 70%. This discrepancy occurs because GPT-4V(zero/one-shot setting) formulates the completed caption from most attribute values in the reference list rather than amending the original title, resulting the lower scores in caption-related metrics. 391

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Regarding the AI tasks, PUMGPT significantly surpasses open-source models and GPT-4V. Notably, for the attribute inference task, PUMGPT exceeds the performance of GPT-4V[†] by a margin of about twenty percentage points, highlighting the difficulties that advanced commercial models encounter with complex product understanding tasks that demand specialized domain knowledge, even after being presented with a demonstration. Furthermore, due to the stringent regulations, GPT-4V fails to address some test samples involving prohibited topics. In the AC task, PUMGPT maintains an F1 score exceeding 90%, while other models exhibit relatively weaker performance. Many open-source models falter in adhering to the provided instructions, thereby failing to furnish accurate values despite identifying erroneous attributes. Only MiniGPT-4 and GPT-4V can provide corrections, albeit still trailing PUMGPT. Even after finetuning, the non-LVLM model CLIP only performs slightly better than some open-source models on this task, while still falling far behind the performance of our model. Additionally, it cannot generate corrected answers as a classifier, indicating that LVLMs have an advantage in tasks requiring both generation and discrimination.

In the CMC task, PUMGPT and GPT-4V exhibited comparable performance, significantly exceeding that of other open-source models and smaller models fine-tuned for this task. Since this task es-

]	Fasks	InstBLIP	LLaVA	Mini	Owl2	Qwen-VL	GPT-4V	GPT-4V†	CLIP	PUMGPT
	Bleu ₁	0.094	0.069	0.086	0.087	0.153	0.102	0.243	-	0.383
CG	$ROUGE_L$	0.120	0.073	0.080	0.092	0.148	0.110	<u>0.185</u>	-	0.286
	CIDEr	0.157	0.089	0.181	0.171	0.295	0.128	0.521	-	0.987
	Bleu ₁	0.364	0.417	0.538	0.393	0.556	0.442	<u>0.580</u>	-	0.934
СС	$ROUGE_L$	0.499	0.379	0.745	0.375	0.480	0.337	0.513	-	0.937
cc	CIDEr	3.453	1.685	<u>4.410</u>	1.508	2.492	1.281	2.531	-	8.595
	Rec(%)	2.86	22.71	10.32	39.74	61.86	92.09	<u>90.39</u>	-	70.63
AI	Acc(%)	5.45	22.90	4.73	19.25	19.89	26.98	40.24	-	60.70
	F1(%)	67.17	61.35	38.68	60.68	78.82	71.38	80.09	68.79	93.14
AC	Prec(%)	50.60	56.38	65.50	61.74	76.00	81.11	<u>83.65</u>	60.39	90.34
AC	Rec (%)	99.88	67.30	27.44	59.65	81.87	63.74	76.83	79.90	<u>96.12</u>
	CAcc(%)	0.98	0.48	41.16	1.25	0.39	50.01	<u>54.14</u>	-	60.52
СМС	Acc(%)	25.21	31.45	33.56	62.04	48.44	82.55	83.02	39.76	82.57

Table 6: The experimental results on PUMBENCH, where CAcc is the accuracy of the attribute correction. We abbreviate the models for better vision effect, where InstBLIP is for InstructBLIP, Mini for MiniGPT-4, Owl2 for mPlug-Owl2, Qwen-VL for Qwen-VL-Chat. We report the results * 100% for all the metrics except for the Bleu₁, ROUGE_L, and CIDEr. † means the model is equipped with one-shot prompting.

sentially involves reasoning that does not require product knowledge, it is evident that GPT-4V performs nearly equally well in both zero-shot and oneshot settings, indicating that it already possesses strong multi-choice reasoning capabilities. Despite our model being trained, it did not significantly surpass GPT-4V's performance, which shows that there is still room for further improvement in this task.

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5.2 Domain-level Results on Attribute Inference

The attribute inference task test set is divided into three categories: Home, Electronics, and Clothing. Home and Electronics consist of standardized goods, where most attributes and values are predefined and can be directly extracted from titles and specifications. In contrast, Clothing represents non-standardized goods, with attributes that may be vendor-specific and open to interpretation. For example, a garment's style could be labeled both "commute" and "casual," requiring models to learn vendor-specific styles during training, focusing on specific distributions.

Table 5 shows the performance of each method. Overall, PUMGPT outperforms other models, but in the Home and Electronics domains, it is less effective than GPT-4V with one-shot prompting, despite surpassing GPT-4V with zero-shot prompting. Error analysis revealed that some test cases involve extracting spans (e.g., model numbers), which PUMGPT struggles with. In these cases, GPT-4V with one-shot prompting can treat it as an NER (extractive) task, yielding better results. A

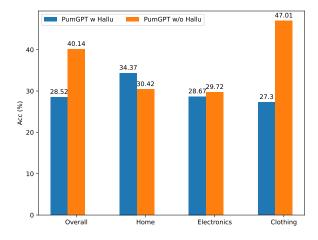


Figure 4: Ablation on hallucination filtering. Here we report the accuracy of the attribution inference task, where w Hallu means it was trained on the hallucination dataset and w/o Hallu means was trained on the hallucination-free dataset.

hard case is shown in Table 12 in the appendix, where most models fail. For non-standardized goods, PUMGPT excels at attribute inference by effectively learning from product data and capturing vendor-specific descriptions. In contrast, models without such training only reflect their pretraining distributions, performing inadequately for real-world applications. 461

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5.3 Ablation on Hallucination Filtering

In the attribute inference task, PUMGPT achieved more than twice the accuracy of GPT-4V, prompting an investigation into whether this improvement was due to its handling of hallucinations. We conducted an ablation study on hallucination process-

Models	F1	Prec	Rec
InstBLIP	0	0	0
LLaVA	17.67	20.95	15.27
Mini	0.75	4.44	0.41
Owl2	11.11	8.73	15.27
Qwen-VL	12.66	8.79	22.60
GPT-4V	29.69	19.33	64.01
GPT-4V†	47.33	<u>47.66</u>	<u>47.00</u>
PumGPT	47.18	55.22	41.12

Table 7: The evaluation on the rejection ability of all the compared methods.

ing, extracting a 600k subset from the original 663k dataset. For the hallucination dataset, up to eight attributes per product were randomly sampled for training. For the hallucination-free dataset, the methods in Section 3.2 were applied, limiting the number of attributes (including "unknown" ones) to eight. Both models were trained for two epochs with identical parameters.

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Figure 4 shows that PUMGPT without hallucination data (w/o Hallu) demonstrated significant performance improvement. The accuracy was categorized into three primary groups as in Section 5.2. In the standardized categories, model performance was similar. In the Home category, PUMGPT with hallucination data (w Hallu) outperformed its counterpart by about four percentage points, as it learned more attributes. However, in the Clothing category, PUMGPT w/o Hallu outperformed the other by nearly 20 percentage points. The Clothing category mostly involves non-standardized items with subjective attributes, where training with hallucinated data can lead to overly imaginative but inaccurate responses. In contrast, the hallucinationfree dataset reduced such extrapolations, yielding more accurate predictions. Thus, hallucination processing is crucial for model training.

5.4 Evaluation on Rejection Ability

Large language models are praised for their text completion capabilities but may generate incorrect information due to excessive associative reasoning. In practical applications, a model should avoid answering when faced with nonexistent or ambiguous attributes, instead of providing plausible but incorrect responses.

As shown in Table 7, these metrics are derived by treating rejection as a binary classification in the attribute inference task. Open-source models like InstructBLIP and MiniGPT-4 tend to provide actual values rather than rejecting, leading to lower recall. Specifically, InstructBLIP never refuses, yielding zero across all metrics. In contrast, GPT-4V attempts more refusals with zero-shot prompting but struggles with precision due to conservative rules. With one demonstration, GPT-4V improves its ability to reject or answer, increasing precision and overall accuracy compared to the zero-shot setting. While our model's recall is lower than GPT-4V, it significantly outperforms in precision, highlighting the effectiveness of training with "unknown" attributes. Further improvement of rejection capabilities may require preference learning algorithms like PPO (Schulman et al., 2017) and DPO (Rafailov et al., 2023). 513

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5.5 Evaluation on OOD Attribute Data

We conducted a small-scale experiment on ImplicitAVE(Zou et al., 2024), an out-of-domain (OOD) dataset. Results show that PUMGPT outperforms the base model, though differences in data distribution across e-commerce platforms, especially in attribute granularity and label space. To improve performance across platforms, incorporating additional in-distribution data for continued training may be effective. Details are in Appendix A.3.

5.6 Case Study

We also showed two cases in the Appendix A.4 to delve into the PUMGPT's advantages and disadvantages as a further analysis of the domain-level results on the AI task.

6 Conclusion

In this work, we introduce PUMGPT, the pioneering Large Vision Language Model (LVLM) for e-commerce product understanding. We amassed over one million product entries and employed a multi-expert collaborative hallucination handling framework to eliminate mislabeled attributes or those not inferable from text and images. We devised five product understanding tasks aligned with actual product listing processes, resulting in a dataset of approximately 663k entries to train PUMGPT. We also developed PUMBENCH to assess the performance of PUMGPT and other LVLMs in product understanding. Experimental results reveal that PUMGPT outperforms non-LVLM baseline, general-purpose LVLMs, such as GPT-4V. Future work will expand task variety and improve data quality to enhance model performance further.

Limitations

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Although PUMGPT demonstrated superior performance in evaluations, it still has some limitations. 563 (1) in the CMC task, PUMGPT's performance 564 did not significantly surpass GPT-4V. Addition-565 ally, there is a considerable accuracy gap between standardized product attribute inference tasks and 567 non-standardized product tasks. Introducing more trainable parameters or applying preference learning algorithms to specifically enhance these tasks is necessary. (2) we designed only five product 571 understanding tasks for training, which resulted 572 in a weaker generalization ability of the model. 573 This limitation makes it challenging to extend to other advanced product understanding tasks, such as identifying identical products and generating 576 product descriptions. Consequently, the model's 577 capacity to leverage the full potential of large language models is still insufficient. To address these limitations, it is necessary to introduce a greater variety and diversity of task data. This should in-581 582 clude not only task-specific data but also general instruction data to improve the model's generalization capability. (3) Lack further quality test on the 584 hallucination filtering. To further demonstrate the effectiveness of our hallucination detection framework, human experts evaluation is needed. 587

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A Appendix

A.1 Prompts

Here we provide all the prompts used for generating attribute questions, checking equivalent attribute values, and benchmarking in table 8. For all the models during inference, we use the same prompts shown in Table 8. The one-shot prompt is similar but prepend a demonstration before the real question.

A.2 Model Details

Table 9 shows the details of the model we compared and other generation configs. For GPT-4V, we call the Azure API and its version is '2023-12-01-preview'. For CLIP trained on AC task, we fuse the features of the product image, title, and attribute assertion and feed them into a classification head to predict a score. The threshold for inference is 0.5. The attribute assertion template is 'The [PLACEHOLDER] attribute of the product in the image is [PLACEHOLDER].' For the CMC task, we train the CLIP following its original contrastive learning paradigm where we contrast the category feature with a fused feature of product image and title. The template used is 'The finest category of the product in the image is [PLACEHOLDER].' For both models, we set the batch size and lr at 128 and 5e-5. We choose the Adam(Kingma and Ba, 2014) optimizer and set the betas to be (0.9, 0.98)and eps to be 1e-6. The CLIP model was trained on one NVIDIA A10 GPU for 2 epochs with full parameters. All the experiments were conducted under a torch2.01+cu118 environment. Note that all the compared methods were prompted without the special token <>.

A.3 Evaluation on OOD Attribute Data

We evaluated on ImplicitAVE(Zou et al., 2024), a small-scale attribute inference dataset with approximately 1.6k samples in the test set, encompassing 25 attributes and 158 attribute values. Although the attribute scale is much smaller than our training set, these attributes were originally derived from automatically annotated Amazon review datasets, resulting in a vastly different distribution compared to ours. The original ImplicitAVE dataset only required the model to select an attribute value from multiple choices, resembling the CMC task in our paper. However, our approach involves the free generation of attribute values, making direct comparison with the performance metrics of other models in the original ImplicitAVE paper infeasible. Due to evaluation cost constraints(human evaluation), we only tested PUMGPT and an untrained Qwen-VL-Chat on this dataset for the task of free attribute inference. We asked two master's students to independently evaluate the results based on product images, attribute names, and reference attribute values. Table 10 shows the results: 929

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After training, our model exhibits significant performance improvements in OOD data compared to the base model. We analyzed some of the errors made by PUMGPT: 1) Our model tends to predict unknown attribute values. Consequently, it may refuse to respond to certain queries that require domain-specific knowledge not encountered during training (e.g., candy variety: Licorice). 2) The set of values for attribute names can differ, such as numerical specifications versus descriptive specifications for Shaft Height. 3) This dataset often combines multiple finer-grained attributes into a single coarser-grained attribute, such as merging length into style. These differences highlight the distributional discrepancies between ImplicitAVE and our training set. Despite the performance degradation caused by these distributional differences, our model still manages to infer correct attribute values in most cases which is more effective than the untrained baseline model. In conclusion, there are significant differences in data distribution across various e-commerce platforms, particularly in terms of attribute granularity and label space. To further enhance performance on different e-commerce platforms, leveraging additional in distribution domain data for continued training on PUMGPT may be a viable solution.

A.4 Case Study

We also conducted a case study. Table 11 and Table 12 respectively display the results of all the models for a certain attribute on non-standardized and standardized products, which can also serve as a good and a bad case. For the first case in Table 10, It can be observed that most models are unable to infer results for the non-standardized product. For GPT-4V with the zero-shot setting, it refused to respond possibly due to its conservative rules as we analyzed in experiments and followed our instruction 'respond unknown if you're not sure'. However, once prompted with one demonstration, it can provide a plausible answer. Other open-source models either fail to generate the results or mistakenly output the entire product title while intending to

	Prompt
Question Gen(P _q)	Given the title of a product and a pair of attribute name and value of the product, generate a possible question about the attribute name from which the attribute value can be inferred. The question generated should not contain the attribute value and use a brief name(e.g. just a noun) to refer the product itself. Example: Product name: 4MP 1080P IP Outdoor WiFi Security Camera for Home Surveillance, Waterproof Bullet Cam, HD WiFi Video. Attribute name: Supported Mobile Systems. Attribute value: Android. Question: What is the supported mobile systems of the camera? Product name: [PLACEHOLDER]. Attribute name: [PLACE- HOLDER]. Attribute value: [PLACEHOLDER]. Question:
Expert Question Answer (P_a)	The title of the product in the image is [PLACEHOLDER], answer the question as briefly as possible and loyally according to the title and question. Question: [PLACEHOLDER]. Answer:
Answer Check(<i>Mixtral</i>)	Given a certain attribute of a product, you're required to judge whether a candidate attribute value is completely equivalent to the reference attribute value without any ambiguity (consistent keywords and the same number of keywords). Simply respond with "yes" (indicating the two values are equivalent) or "no" (indicating they're not). Attribute name: [PLACEHOLDER]. Reference attribute value: [PLACEHOLDER]. Candidate attribute value: [PLACEHOLDER]. Judgement:
CG	Generate a caption that encapsulates the essence of the product in the image.
СС	Enhance this existing title to make it more appealing for the product shown in the image with these features given: [PLACEHOLDER]. The initial caption is: [PLACEHOLDER]. Just answer the enhanced caption based on the initial caption with necessary attributes.
AI	The caption of the product in the image is [PLACEHOLDER]. Please clarify the attribute [PLACEHOLDER] of the product. Just respond with a simple phrase and respond unknown if you're not sure.
AC	Upon reviewing the product titled [PLACEHOLDER] in the at- tached image, is the [PLACEHOLDER] attribute correctly [PLACE- HOLDER]? Just respond yes or no. If this is incorrect, kindly provide the accurate value.
СМС	The caption of the product in the image is [PLACEHOLDER]. Choose the most fitting category for the product: [PLACEHOLDER]. Just answer the option number that you believe correct.

Table 8: The prompt used for generating attribute questions, checking equivalent attribute values, and benchmarking.

Models	LLM Size	LLM	Beams	Temprature	Top_p
InstBLIP	7B	Vicuna	2	0.9	0.2
LLaVA	7B	LLaMA	2	0.9	0.2
Mini	7B	LLaMA-2	2	0.9	0.2
Owl2	7B	LLaMA-2	2	0.9	0.2
Qwen-VL	7B	Qwen	2	0.9	0.2
GPT-4V	/	/	/	/	/
PUMGPT	7B	Qwen	2	0.9	0.2

Table 9: The details of model size and their base LLMs.

ImplicitAVE	Qwen-VL-Chat	PumGPT
Acc	35.65	58.70

Table 10

express prominent text on the clothes, leading to errors. However, PUMGPT effectively avoided this issue and accurately inferred the correct attribute values.

For the standardized product, the attribute "Model Number" is challenging to determine. Consequently, almost all models performed poorly. Other models directly refused to answer, while PUMGPT attempted to extract a reasonable model number from the title. Despite this effort, it similarly repeated the entire title, as other models did in the previous case. This indicates that PUMGPT still has deficiencies in extracting complex attributes. Addressing this issue may require more difficult samples for training.

Product	Models	Answers
	InstructBLIP	What you're looking for Be
touclo		Strong And Courageous Pan-
ດ ກີໃນ:		demicc Political Insurrection
STRUNG		Men'S T-Shirt Custom Aldult
angan salan salan		Teen Unisex Digital Printing Xs-
COURAGEOUS		5X1.
STAT SUBVIVE	LLaVA-1.5	Unisex - Youth.
	MiniGPT-4	The image shows a black t-shirt
		with the words "Be Strong And
		Courageous".
	mPlug-Owl2	The product is a black t-shirt fea-
		turing the phrase "Be Strong and
		Courageous" and a picture of a
		fist. It is sold by the brand toulo,
		available in sizes XS to 5XL.
Caption: Be Strong And Coura-	Qwen-VL-Chat	The pattern of the product is a
geous Pandemicc Political Insur-		simple phrase "Be Strong And
rection Men'S T-Shirt Custom		Courageous Pandemicc Political
Aldult Teen Unisex Digital Print-		Insurrection Men'S T-Shirt Cus-
ing Xs-5Xl.		tom Aldult Teen Unisex Digital
		Printing Xs-5X1".
	GPT-4V	Unknown.
	GPT-4V†	Text.
	PUMGPT	The attribute value of the prod-
		uct may be <print>.</print>
Attribute name: Pattern	GT	Print.

Table 11: A case on a non-standardized product, where GT is the reference attribute value

Product	Models	Answers
I I I I Later	InstructBLIP	No answer.
	LLaVA-1.5	Unknown.
	MiniGPT-4	Thank you for providing the im-
		age. The product in the image is
		an acrylic circle sheet disc.
	mPlug-Owl2	The model number of the prod-
		uct is not visible in the image.
Sirrin	Qwen-VL-Chat	The model number of the prod-
		uct is not mentioned in the not
		provided.
	GPT-4V	Unknown.
	GPT-4V†	Unknown.
Caption: 2/3/4/5/6" Acrylic Cir-	PUMGPT	The attribute value of the prod-
cle Sheet Disc Round Board for		uct may be $< 2/3/4/5/6$ " Acrylic
Wedding Place Card Gift Tag Or-		Circle Sheet Disc Round Board
nament DIY Craft Art Project		for Wedding Place Card Gift Tag
Painting Carve.		Ornament DIY Craft Art Project
		Painting Carve>.
Attribute name: Model Number	GT	Acrylic Circle Sheet Disc Round
		Board.

Table 12: A case on a standardized product.