

DIAGNOSING AND MITIGATING SYSTEM BIAS IN SELF-REWARDING RL

Anonymous authors

Paper under double-blind review

ABSTRACT

Reinforcement learning with verifiable rewards (RLVR) efficiently scales the reasoning ability of large language models (LLMs) but remains bottlenecked by limited labeled samples for continued data scaling. Reinforcement learning with intrinsic rewards (RLIR), in which the policy model assigns reward signals to its own rollouts, enables sustainable scaling in unlabeled settings. Yet its performance and stability still lag behind RLVR. We trace this gap to a system bias: the model tends to deem its own high-confidence rollouts correct, leading to biased and unstable reward estimation. It accumulates and rises rapidly as training proceeds, with the deviation from the oracle drifting toward over-reward. This causes unstable training and locks the performance ceiling. To understand how system bias yields these effects, we characterize it by the magnitude of reward bias, the degree of policy–reward coupling, and the proportional imbalance between over-reward and under-reward via three metrics: ρ_{noise} , ρ_{selfbias} , and ρ_{symbias} . We find that ρ_{noise} and ρ_{symbias} affect convergence performance and speed, while ρ_{selfbias} has an amplification effect: it amplifies both correct and incorrect updates and induces unstable reward estimation. To mitigate system bias of RLIR, we propose reinforcement learning with ensembled rewards (RLER). It aggregates diverse models with adaptive reward interpolation and rollout selection strategy to build a unified reward-estimation space, jointly improving accuracy (ρ_{noise}), unbiasedness (ρ_{selfbias} , ρ_{symbias}), and robustness (ρ_{selfbias}). Extensive experiments show that RLER improves by **+13.6%** over the best RLIR baseline, and is only **3.6%** below the RLVR setting. Moreover, RLER achieves stable scaling on unlabeled samples, making it highly applicable.

1 INTRODUCTION

Reinforcement learning with verifiable rewards (RLVR) can efficiently scale the reasoning capabilities of large language models (LLMs) (Guo et al., 2025; El-Kishky et al., 2025; Team et al., 2025; Gao et al., 2023). However, it is bottlenecked by the scarcity of labeled data, limiting continued data scaling (Gunjal et al., 2025; Zhang et al., 2025c). In contrast, reinforcement learning with intrinsic rewards (RLIR, also known as self-rewarding RL), in which the policy model assigns reward signals to itself, enables sustainable scaling in unlabeled settings (Huang et al., 2025; Zuo et al., 2025), reducing annotation cost and potentially enabling models to reach higher capability levels. It is also well suited to scenarios with scarce annotation, private corpora, or industrial settings that have abundant unlabeled data and require rapid iteration.

Nevertheless, its performance gain and stability still fall short of RLVR (Shafayat et al., 2025; Zhang et al., 2025c). Our analysis shows that under RLIR, the model tends to deem its own high-confidence rollouts correct. This induces system bias, manifested as biased and unstable reward estimation. Specifically, the magnitude of this estimation bias is highly correlated with rollout correctness and confidence: it is small for confident correct rollouts but large for confident mistakes. Under existing RLIR methods (Zuo et al., 2025; Huang et al., 2025), we find that the reward-estimation bias accumulates and rises rapidly as training proceeds, with the deviation from the oracle drifting toward over-reward, leading to unstable training and tightly locking the performance ceiling. To understand how system bias yields these effects, we characterize it via three metrics: (i) **reward noise rate** ρ_{noise} : the magnitude of reward bias. (ii) **self-feedback bias rate** ρ_{selfbias} : the coupling strength be-

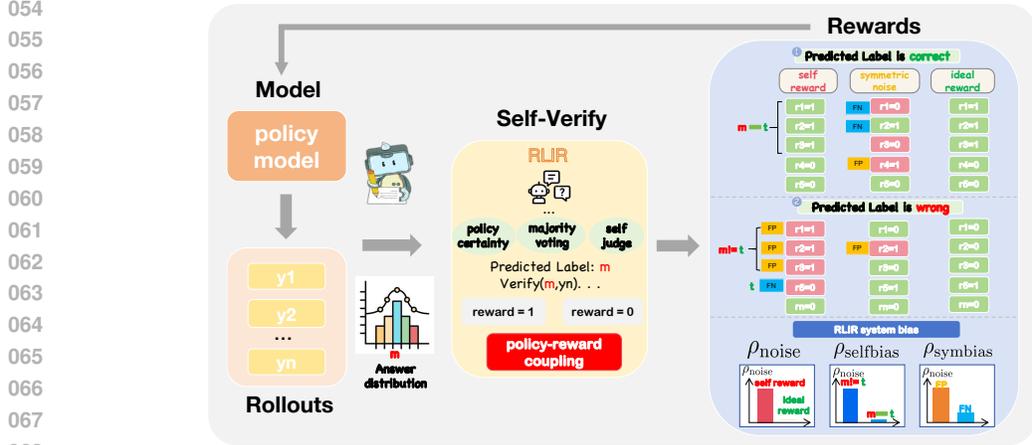


Figure 1: Flowchart of the process for reinforcement learning with intrinsic rewards (RLIR).

tween the policy answer distribution and the reward distribution. (iii) **symmetry bias rate** ρ_{symbias} : the proportional imbalance between over-reward and under-reward.

Based on the three metrics above, we conduct bottom-up analytical experiments and obtain the following insights: (i) ρ_{noise} governs both the convergence performance and the convergence rate; when excessive, it can even cause training collapse. (ii) The ρ_{symbias} metric indicates that over-reward is more detrimental than under-reward. (iii) High ρ_{selfbias} amplifies both correct and incorrect updates. High-confidence rollouts receive higher rewards: when correct, it strengthens alignment; when incorrect, it amplifies wrong-direction updates. (iv) High ρ_{selfbias} induces unstable reward estimation: prediction correctness exhibits large across-instance variance, this variance propagates through policy-reward coupling, yielding unstable reward estimation.

Therefore, to achieve stable unlabeled data scaling, the reward-estimation space should simultaneously satisfy: (i) **Accuracy**: low ρ_{noise} kept below the collapse threshold. (ii) **Unbiasedness**: reduced over-reward (ρ_{symbias}) and weak policy-reward coupling on incorrect rollouts ($\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{err}}$). (iii) **Robustness**: stable reward estimates under policy-reward coupling (ρ_{selfbias}).

To mitigate the system bias in single-policy models of RLIR, we propose reinforcement learning with ensembled rewards (**RLER**). RLER adopts a population-based strategy: it replaces single-model self-rewarding with an ensemble, aggregating diverse models to construct a unified stable reward space that guides the ensemble to improve collaboratively. We optimize the sub-objectives via: (i) **Ensemble Self-Rewarding**: jointly achieving accuracy, unbiasedness, and robustness. (ii) **Adaptive Soft-reward Interpolation**: adjusting the weight between hard and soft rewards according to unified confidence, balancing accuracy and robustness. (iii) **Confidence-disagreement Balanced Rollout Selection**: down-weighting high-confidence errors while retaining scarce correct samples, improving accuracy and unbiasedness. Finally, we apply model merging to consolidate the ensemble into a single deployable model for practical use.

To systematically evaluate RLER, we conduct extensive experiments. The results show that RLER improves by +13.6% over the best RLIR baseline, and is only 3.6% below the RLVR setting. More importantly, RLER effectively mitigates the impact of system bias, greatly optimize ρ_{noise} , ρ_{selfbias} , and ρ_{symbias} . Finally, we observe stable scaling with unlabeled data, via model merging, the deployable model has higher accuracy and stability.

2 RELATED WORKS

Reinforcement learning with intrinsic rewards (RLIR) RLIR dispenses with human labels by having the model generate outputs as policy rollouts, and provide rewards through a rollout-based reward estimation rule or self-judging mechanism. Methods cluster into three families: (i) Self-consistency: majority-vote across policy answers to obtain a predicted label, then verify to obtain rewards (Zuo et al., 2025; Huang et al., 2025); (ii) Probability-based: which use the policy’s entropy (Zhang et al., 2025a; Agarwal et al., 2025) or certainty (Li et al., 2025; Zhao et al., 2025) to assign rewards directly; and (iii) LLM-as-a-judge: through self-judge/play to improve verifiability and

coverage (Arnesen et al., 2024; Yuan et al., 2024; Xiong et al., 2025). The first two families are internally aligned on their objective: maximizing answer-distribution agreement, while differing in how sharply they refine the answer-distribution to reward distribution (Li et al., 2025; Zhang et al., 2025b). Yet they typically rely on a single policy model, which tightly couples the reward to the current policy and locks the performance ceiling. They also lack adaptive reward estimation rules, for example a unified treatment of “hard vs. soft rewards” and “retain vs. prune rollouts,” which results in instability.

Learning with Noisy Labels Learning with noisy labels aimed at improving model robustness under noise (Frénay & Verleysen, 2013; Zhang et al., 2016a; Nigam et al., 2020). Based on the dependence on features, label noise is typically divided into instance-independent noise and instance-dependent noise. The former further includes symmetric (equal flip probability across classes) and asymmetric noise (Song et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2016b). In contrast, the reward noise in RLIR is not a simple symmetric or instance-dependent label noise. It stems from the policy model’s system bias and manifests as a strong coupling between the reward distribution and the model’s predictive distribution, together with a over-reward/under-reward noise imbalance.

3 PRELIMINARY

In this section, we start by introducing the working process of RLIR. Subsequently, we characterize the system bias from three aspects: reward bias magnitude, policy-reward coupling strength, imbalance magnitude between over-reward and under-reward to assess its impact on training.

3.1 PROCESS OF RLIR

In general, RLIR consists of three stages: *step 1.* a query $x \in \mathcal{X}$ is fed to policy model $\pi_\theta(y_{1:T} | x) = \prod_{t=1}^T \pi_\theta(y_t | x, y_{<t})$ to sample rollouts $\mathcal{Y}_\theta(x)$; *step 2.* self-rewards are estimated from the rollouts: $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{Y}_\theta(x))$; *step 3.* the rewards are converted to advantages A , which are then used to compute policy gradients $\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}(\theta)$ and update the policy.

We instantiate GRPO (Shao et al., 2024); the group-based self-reward estimator is:

$$\{r_i\}_{i=1}^G = \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{Y}_\theta(x)).$$

where G denotes the group size, r_i denotes the estimated reward of the i -th rollout y_i . As concrete baselines, we consider Self-Consistency (SC) and Frequency-based (Freq). Define the labeling map $\ell : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \{0, \dots, L-1\}$. SC estimates the answer distribution via empirical frequencies $p_j = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G \mathbf{1}[\ell(y_i) = j]$ and take predicted label $m = \arg \max_j p_j$, while Freq assigns each rollout the corresponding empirical class probability.

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{SC}}(\mathcal{Y}_\theta(x)) = \{\mathbf{1}[\ell(y_i) = m]\}_{i=1}^G, \quad \mathcal{R}_{\text{Freq}}(\mathcal{Y}_\theta(x)) = \{p_{\ell(y_i)}\}_{i=1}^G.$$

The RL objective is to maximize the expected group reward and parameters θ are updated via gradient ascent:

$$\max_{\theta} \mathcal{J}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}_\theta(x) \sim \pi_\theta} \left[\frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G r_i \right], \quad \theta \leftarrow \theta + \eta \nabla_\theta \mathcal{J}(\theta).$$

3.2 REWARD NOISE RATE

Let t be the ground-truth label. For each rollout y_i , define the oracle reward $r_i^* = \text{verify}(\ell(y_i), t)$ and the attained reward as r_i . To quantify the magnitude of reward bias between r_i and r_i^* , we define the *noise rate* as:

$$\rho_{\text{noise}}(x) = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G |r_i - r_i^*|.$$

3.3 SELF-FEEDBACK BIAS RATE

RLIR induces *policy-reward coupling*: the policy’s answer distribution shapes the reward distribution. With self-estimated reward \tilde{r}_i , we quantify this coupling by the *self-feedback bias rate*:

$$\rho_{\text{selfbias}}(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G |r_i - \tilde{r}_i|, \quad \rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{SC}}(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G \left| r_i - \mathbf{1}(\ell(y_i) = m(x)) \right|.$$

Correctness–confidence effect ρ_{noise} is highly correlated with rollout correctness and confidence under RLIR. Let p_t and p_m . (i) $m = t$. Under hard-reward: $\rho_{\text{noise}} = 0$. For soft-reward, the deviation from the oracle shrinks with confidence: $|\mathbb{E}[r] - \mathbb{E}[r^*]| \leq 1 - p_m$. (ii) $m \neq t$. $\rho_{\text{noise}} = p_t + p_m$ and the misupdate strength grows with the margin ($p_m - p_t$), hence higher confidence p_m worsens the reward bias. Soft-reward weakens it by distributing credit, we prove that the attenuation is stronger when the non-majority distribution is dispersed:

Theorem 1. *If $p_t \geq \max_{j \notin \{m,t\}} p_j$, soft-rewards are closer to the oracle than hard-rewards (details seen in Appendix A).*

3.4 SYMMETRY-BIAS RATE

Compared to symmetric noise, RLIR’s policy–reward coupling introduces a proportional imbalance between over-reward and under-reward. We term the directional components false-negative (FN): under-reward relative to the oracle; and false-positive (FP): over-reward relative to the oracle. With $(u)_+ = \max\{u, 0\}$,

$$\text{FN}(x) = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G (r_i^* - r_i)_+, \quad \text{FP}(x) = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G (r_i - r_i^*)_+$$

With oracle accuracy $\Pr(r^* = 1)$, balance ratio under RLIR and under symmetric noise:

$$\text{BR}_{\text{IR}}(x) = \frac{\text{FN}(x)}{\text{FP}(x)}, \quad \text{BR}_{\text{sym}} = \frac{\Pr(r^* = 1)}{1 - \Pr(r^* = 1)}.$$

We define the *symmetry bias rate* as the deviation of the $\text{BR}_{\text{IR}}(x)$ from BR_{sym} :

$$\rho_{\text{symbias}}(x) = \text{BR}_{\text{IR}}(x) - \text{BR}_{\text{sym}}.$$

3.5 DECOUPLING EXPERIMENT

We conduct a systematic set of experiments to separately analyze the effects of three metrics on RLIR training and to identify the causes of biased and unstable reward estimation.

Experiment setting To achieve strong control over the experiment and ensure there is no data contamination, we synthesize an arithmetic dataset (375k) with operators $\{+, -, //, \%\}$ (See Appendix B.1 for details). QWEN2.5-1.5B-INSTRUCT is used as base policy π_θ .

We isolate the three metrics $\{\rho_{\text{noise}}, \rho_{\text{symbias}}, \rho_{\text{selfbias}}\}$ via a controlled construction from oracle rewards $\{r_i^*\}$ by first injecting symmetric noise to control the noise rate (ρ_{noise}), then applying asymmetric flipping to adjust the FN/FP balance (ρ_{symbias}), and finally coupling the rewards with model predictions to modulate self-feedback strength (ρ_{selfbias}). Then, we test different RLIR methods in empirical training and observe the following insights:

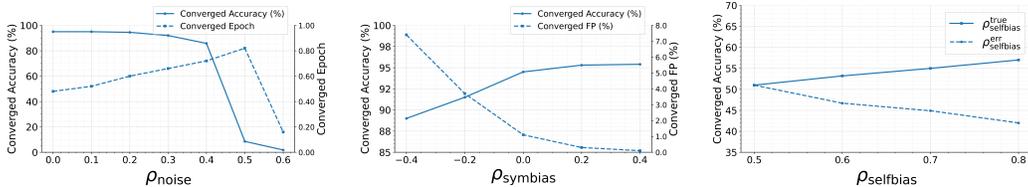


Figure 2: Effects of ρ_{noise} , ρ_{symbias} , and ρ_{selfbias} during training on the arithmetic dataset.

Findings 1: ρ_{noise} governs the convergence performance and speed. As ρ_{noise} rises, the performance ceiling drops and training shifts from stable convergence to collapse; within the transition regime, higher noise monotonically slows convergence.

Findings 2: Over-reward is more detrimental than under-reward. With ρ_{noise} held constant, as ρ_{symbias} increases, the imbalance shifts from an over-reward bias to an under-reward bias; meanwhile, the converged performance rises, indicating that over-rewarding is more detrimental. Further analysis shows that under-reward weakens the gradient along the correct direction, whereas over-reward assigns positive advantage to incorrect outputs; both effects dampen correct updates and introduce a near-orthogonal gradient bias (as seen in Fig. 2(b) and Fig. 3(e)).

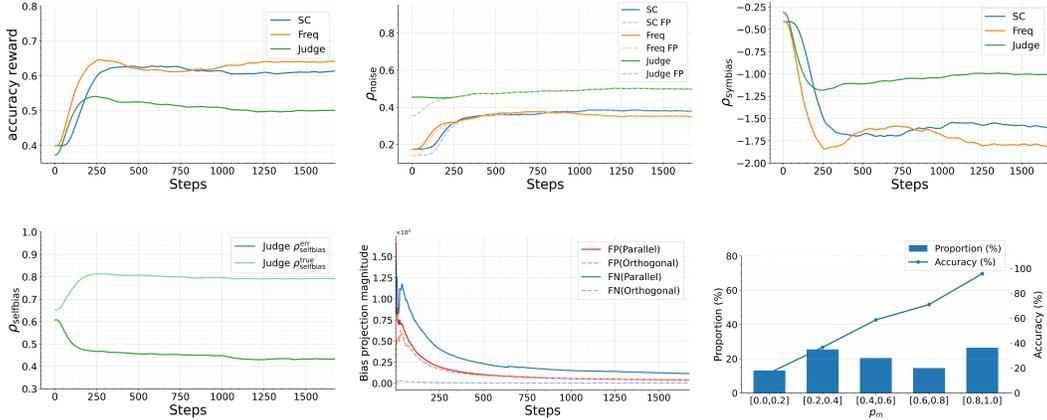


Figure 3: Training results of RLIR methods on arithmetic dataset.

Findings 3: High ρ_{selfbias} amplifies both correct and incorrect updates. As seen in Figure 2(c), when $m = t$, a higher $\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{true}}$ strengthens correct updates, leading to improved convergence performance; when $m \neq t$, $\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{err}}$ amplifies wrong-direction updates.

As seen in Figure 3, under RLIR methods, we find that the reward-estimation bias accumulates and rises rapidly as training proceeds (ρ_{noise} , seen in Fig. 3(b)), with the deviation from the oracle drifting toward over-reward (ρ_{symbias} , seen in Fig. 3(c)), tightly locking the performance ceiling (seen in Fig. 3(a)). As for policy–reward coupling, SC and Frequency yield $\rho_{\text{selfbias}} \equiv 1$. Judge achieves $\rho_{\text{selfbias}} < 1$; however, $\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{true}}$ is low to strengthen correct updates, whereas $\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{err}}$ remains high enough to lock in updates in the wrong direction (seen in Fig. 3(d)).

Findings 4: High ρ_{selfbias} induces unstable reward estimation. Prediction correctness and confidence (p_m) exhibits large cross-instance variance (seen in Fig. 3(f)). We just found that RLIR methods exhibit very high policy–reward coupling, the variance propagates through this coupling, yielding unstable reward estimation.

What reward space do we need? Therefore, to achieve stable unlabeled scaling, the reward-estimation space should simultaneously satisfy: (i) *Accuracy*: a low noise rate, with ρ_{noise} kept below the collapse threshold; (ii) *Unbiasedness*: reduced over-reward bias (ρ_{symbias}) and weak policy–reward coupling on incorrect rollouts ($\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{err}}$); (iii) *Robustness*: it keeps the reward estimate stable, under policy–reward coupling (ρ_{selfbias}).

4 RLER

Building on the diagnostics above, to mitigate the system bias in single-policy models of RLIR, we propose reinforcement learning with ensembled rewards (**RLER**), which jointly improves **accuracy**, **unbiasedness**, and **robustness**.

4.1 ENSEMBLE SELF-REWARDING

We replace single-model self-rewarding with an ensemble, aggregating diverse models to construct a unified reward space that guides the ensemble to improve collaboratively.

Aggregation. Given K source policy models $\{\pi_{\theta_k}\}_{k=1}^K$, draw rollouts $\mathcal{Y}_k(x) \in \mathcal{S}(\pi_{\theta_k}(\cdot | x))$ for each k , and denote the answer of a rollout by $\ell(y)$. Let the per–source answer distributions be $p_j^{(k)} := \Pr_{\pi_{\theta_k}}[\ell(y) = j | x]$. Define the ensemble mixture:

$$\bar{p}_j := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K p_j^{(k)}, \quad m^{\text{EC}} := \arg \max_j \bar{p}_j, \quad \mathcal{Y}(x) := \bigcup_{k=1}^K \mathcal{Y}_k(x)$$

Why ensemble first. By convexity of \max , $\bar{p}_t - \max_{j \neq t} \bar{p}_j \geq \frac{1}{K} \sum_k (p_t^{(k)} - \max_{j \neq t} p_j^{(k)})$; averaging thus nudges negative/fragile margins toward zero, reducing single-source mistakes and lowering $\mathbb{E}[r_{\text{noise}}]$. Using the mixture \bar{p} also weakens single-policy coupling (ρ_{selfbias}) and disperses

error mass across classes (lower over-reward skew, i.e., ρ_{symbias}), while aggregating rewards across sources smooths estimates against confidence swings, improving robustness.

4.2 ADAPTIVE SOFT-REWARD INTERPOLATION

To mitigate misestimation caused by hard rewards and the low-confidence bias inherent in soft rewards, we propose an adaptive interpolation strategy that dynamically adjusts the hard/soft weighting, seeking *the optimal trade-off between accuracy and robustness*.

Interpolation. Let the ensemble hard and soft rewards be $r_i^{\text{H}} = \mathbf{1}[\ell(y_i) = m^{\text{EC}}]$ and $r_i^{\text{S}} = \bar{p}_{\ell(y_i)}$. We interpolate by:

$$r_i^{(\alpha)} = (1 - \alpha)r_i^{\text{H}} + \alpha r_i^{\text{S}}, \quad \alpha \in [0, 1].$$

Unified Answer-Confidence Distribution Estimation For each source $k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$, let $\mathcal{Y}_k(x)$ denote its rollouts, and let $\mathcal{Y}_{k,j}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{Y}_k(x)$ denote those with answer $j = \ell(y)$. Define $\ell_{k,y}$ as the average token probability of rollout y from source k . Denote the per-source answer frequency and confidence by:

$$P_k(j) = \frac{|\mathcal{Y}_{k,j}(x)|}{|\mathcal{Y}_k(x)|}, \quad \bar{\ell}_k(j) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}_{k,j}(x)|} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}_{k,j}(x)} \ell_{k,y}.$$

Let $(L_{\min}^{(k)}, L_{\max}^{(k)})$ be the batch-wise answer-confidence bounds for source k at the current step. We linearly normalize the answer confidence by these bounds:

$$C_k(j) = \frac{\bar{\ell}_k(j) - L_{\min}^{(k)}}{L_{\max}^{(k)} - L_{\min}^{(k)}}.$$

This injects information about the sample’s relative difficulty within the batch, enhancing the accuracy and robustness of the estimate. Combine frequency and confidence within each source, we then renormalize within the group to align the scales:

$$S_k(j) = P_k(j) C_k(j), \quad s_k(j) = \frac{S_k(j)}{\sum_u S_k(u)}.$$

Finally, we aggregate across sources to obtain an accurate and robust answer-confidence unified estimation and the predicted-label confidence:

$$\tilde{p}_j(x) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K s_k(j), \quad \alpha(x) = \text{clip}(\tilde{p}_{m^{\text{EC}}}(x), 0, 1).$$

4.3 CONFIDENCE-DISAGREEMENT BALANCED ROLLOUT SELECTION

To further *improve accuracy and unbiasedness*, we select updates from the pooled rollouts, suppress gradient contamination caused by single-source reward bias.

Rollout allocation strategy We treat all ensemble rollouts as one data pool and allocate updates to the K sources in two ways:

- **Data sharding.** Partition the query set as $\mathcal{Q} = \bigcup_{k=1}^K \mathcal{Q}_k$. Model k updates on queries $x \in \mathcal{Q}_k$ using the pooled rollouts $\mathcal{Y}(x) = \bigcup_{j=1}^K \mathcal{Y}_j(x)$.
- **Model sharding.** For each query x , split the pooled rollouts $\mathcal{Y}(x)$ evenly across models for updates.

Experiments show that data sharding provides stronger diversity, we therefore use it by default.

Rollout selection strategy Partition answer distribution into the head m^{EC} and the tail $\mathcal{L} \setminus \{m^{\text{EC}}\}$.

$$w_{m^{\text{EC}}}(x) = \alpha(x),$$

$$w_j(x) = 1 - \tilde{p}_j(x), \quad j \neq m^{\text{EC}}.$$

Let n_y assign per-answer quotas and the dynamic per-question budget is:

$$\text{take}_y = \min\left\{n_y, \text{round}(n_y \cdot w_y(x))\right\}, \quad b(x) = \sum_y \text{take}_y$$

This allocation makes the head budget contract/expand with the confidence gate $\alpha(x)$. Meanwhile, tail both effectively suppress low-confidence tail reward bias and, when $m^{\text{EC}} \neq t$, concentrate sampling on the minority true label, amplifying its corrective signal with reward interpolation.

4.4 ENSEMBLE-TO-SINGLE CONSOLIDATION

To enhance practical applicability, we finally apply model merging (Ties-Merging (Yadav et al., 2023), $k = 0.7$, $\alpha = 0.5$) to consolidate the ensemble into a single model, resolving the multi-model deployment issue.

5 EXPERIMENTS

Centered on RLER, §5.2 empirically compares it to baselines and validates the three desiderata—accuracy, unbiasedness, and robustness; §5.3 explores its best-performing variants; §5.4 demonstrates its practical value.

5.1 EXPERIMENTAL SETTINGS

Models. We conduct experiments on the Qwen2.5 Series (Yang et al., 2024b;a), using variants at different scales. Unless otherwise noted, the default model is QWEN2.5-MATH-7B.

Datasets and Benchmarks. We train on two corpora: our arithmetic dataset and DAPO-MATH-17K (Yu et al., 2025). For the arithmetic dataset, we evaluate on a 500-problem in-distribution test set. For DAPO-MATH-17K, we train QWEN2.5-MATH-7B and evaluate on six challenging benchmarks: MATH500 (Hendrycks et al., 2021), AMC23 (Li et al., 2024), AMC24, AIME24 (Li et al., 2024), AIME25 (MAA, 2024), and HMMT24. We report both Avg@k and Pass@k to ensure robust and comprehensive evaluation.

Baselines. We compare against methods covering both hard-reward and soft-reward paradigms: hard-reward Self-Consistency and LLM-as-a-Judge, the soft-reward Frequency-Based approach.

Details. We use the Open-R1 framework and apply GRPO. For DAPO-MATH-17K, we set the number of rollouts to $G=16$ and use an ensemble of $k = 2$ sub-policy models; consequently, per-policy rollouts are $G_k=8$ for fair comparison. See Table 2 for results with larger k . Other hyperparameters are as follows: the learning rate 1×10^{-6} , the KL regularization coefficient $\beta=0.001$, the sampling temperature 0.9. Details and results on the arithmetic dataset are provided in Appendix B. Prompt templates are provided in Appendix C.

5.2 MAIN RESULTS

Accuracy. The results of compared methods on DAPO-MATH-17K and benchmarks are shown in Figure 4 and Table 1. In terms of performance, JUDGE \ll FREQ $<$ SC $<$ RLER \lesssim RLVR. RLER attains 96.0% test accuracy relative to RLVR, representing an average improvement of +45.9% over pretraining and +13.6% over the best RLSR baseline. To explain the performance differences, we quantitatively analyze the metrics we define in § 3. As shown in Figure 4, RLER significantly reduces ρ_{noise} during training, accuracy rise steadily and closely track RLVR.

Unbiasedness. To further understand RLER’s performance improvement, we find that RLER markedly suppresses the highly harmful FP component of ρ_{noise} and effectively alleviates the negative skew in ρ_{symbias} . This prevents the model from falling early into the “over-reward bias amplification” trap and raises the attainable performance ceiling. The improvement stems from (i) rollout

Table 1: Zero-shot Avg@8 and Pass@8 of QWEN2.5-MATH-7B across six reasoning benchmarks.

	AIME24	AIME25	AMC23	AMC24	MATH	HMMT24	Avg.	
Method	Avg@8	Avg@8	Avg@8	Avg@8	Avg@8	Avg@8	Avg@8	Pass@8
w/o RL	12.5	6.40	45.3	23.0	59.2	7.9	25.7	54.8
RLVR	32.1	12.5	65.0	34.2	79.1	10.4	38.9	55.5
<i>RLIR</i>								
LLM-as-a-Judge	3.3	1.7	23.1	18.4	34.1	0.0	13.4	22.5
Self-Consistency	16.3	13.8	55.9	32.8	75.0	4.2	33.0	47.1
Frequency-Based	11.7	8.8	43.1	25.8	71.7	1.7	27.1	31.6
<i>RLER</i>	23.3	12.1	66.9	35.8	77.5	9.6	37.5	52.8

378
379
380
381
382
383
384
385
386
387
388
389
390
391

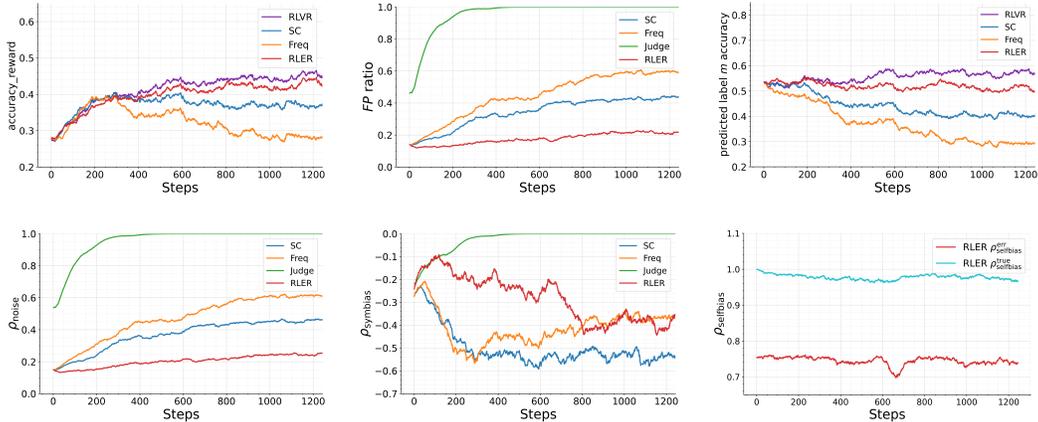


Figure 4: Training results of compared baselines and RLER on DAPO-MATH-17K.

392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402

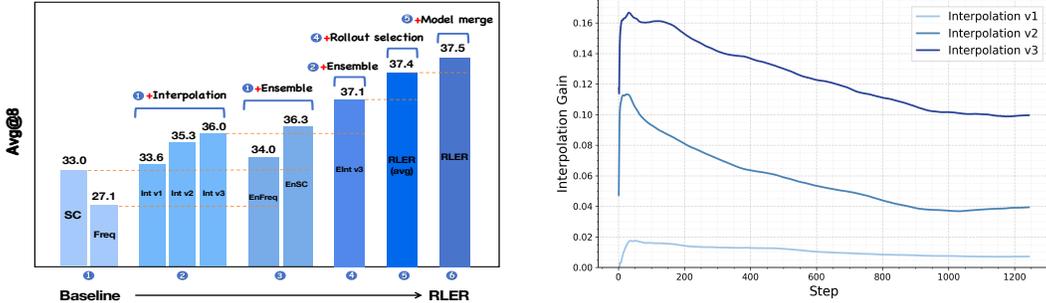


Figure 5: Ablations of RLER (left) and reward interpolation (right). Left: Avg@8 on the test benchmarks for each ablation. Right: interpolation gain across interpolation variants.

403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418

allocation, which increases ensemble diversity, and (ii) rollout selection, which removes over-reward bias and, in conjunction with reward interpolation, rectifies under-reward bias, all (iii) within the ensemble unified reward space. As a result, RLER no longer relies on a single model’s system bias, mitigating biased reward estimation. Empirically, $\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{true}} \approx 1$ while $\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{err}}$ drops substantially.

Robustness. As noted in Section 3.5, strong policy–reward coupling with large variance of prediction correctness and confidence broadly amplifies reward bias. RLER, via *Reward Interpolation*, naturally filters low-confidence bias, while the ensemble’s unified reward space counteracts the single model’s high-confidence bias. Maj@k (the accuracy of predicted label m) and Pass@k respectively reflect the “correctness of the most confident answer” and the “existence of a correct answer.” Results show that, for compared methods, Pass@k drops markedly before and after training, Maj@k decreases monotonically during training, which reflects contamination from erroneous updates, whereas RLER demonstrates strong robustness.

419
420

5.3 VARIANTS ABLATIONS

421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428

Ensemble Self-Rewarding. We assess the contribution of each component by ablating *Model Merge*, *Rollout Selection*, *Reward Interpolation*, and *Ensemble* from RLER individually. As shown in Figure 5, the pronounced degradation when removing the *Ensemble* indicates that mitigating system bias to improve accuracy is the most critical factor. Furthermore, we find that performing *Reward Interpolation* within the ensemble space yields superior performance. We hypothesize that this stems from the ensemble’s unified reward space: diversity across models reduces $\rho_{\text{selfbias}}^{\text{err}}$, improves the robustness of the reward space, and enables $\alpha(x)$ to be estimated more accurately and stably within the ensemble space.

429
430
431

Adaptive soft-reward interpolation. As shown in Figure 5, removing *Reward Interpolation* leads to a substantial performance drop. We further analyze the necessity of each component in our interpolation method: starting from *Int v3* (ours), dropping the batch-wise linear normalization C_k and the group-wise confidence distribution renormalization s_k yields *Int v2*; further removing the

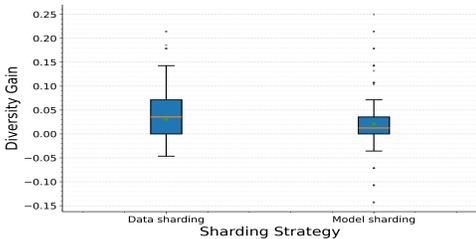


Figure 6: Rollout Allocation (left) and Rollout Selection (right) across compared methods and RLER. Left: diversity gain across allocation methods. Right: average selected rollouts (b_{avg}) and reward noise (ρ_{noise}) conditioned on m^{EC} correctness.

confidence estimate $\bar{\ell}_k$ produces *Int v1*, where we instead control the interpolation strength via annealing (with α decaying over training steps). We measure the interpolation gain as $|r^H - r^*| - |r^{(\alpha)} - r^*|$. The results show that *Int v3* attains the best performance and the largest interpolation gain, confirming the contribution of each step.

Confidence-disagreement balanced rollout selection. We demonstrate the advantages of our approach under the *Rollout Allocation* and *Rollout Selection* strategies, shown in Figure 6. For the allocation strategy, we quantify the diversity gain by the accuracy gap between the ensemble m^{EC} and the average individual model: $\Delta_{div} = \text{Acc}(m^{EC}) - \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \text{Acc}(m_i)$. Results show that *Data Sharding* yields a larger Δ_{div} . For the selection strategy, we measure the average number of selected rollouts b_{avg} and the reward noise rate ρ_{noise} conditioned on whether m^{EC} is correct. Here, *m only* selects only m^{EC} , while *m except* excludes m^{EC} . Our method exhibits a higher selection rate when $m^{EC} = t$ and effectively discards FP samples when $m^{EC} \neq t$, reducing ρ_{noise} compared to *select all*. These results validate that our *Rollout Selection* improves both accuracy and unbiasedness.

5.4 PRACTICAL VALUE OF RLER

Stably Scalable Unlabeled RL. In real-world scenarios, the absence of human-annotated labels and limited resources mean we cannot know a priori: how much data is needed to reach optimal performance, thus, a stably scalable unlabeled RL algorithm is crucial. To assess the practical value of RLER, we examine its performance across different data sizes (adding Big-Math (Albalak et al., 2025) for further scaling), as shown in Figure 7. Compared with RLIR methods, RLER exhibits stably scalable behavior from 8k to 1024k. Notably, the merged model not only resolves the multi-model deployment issue but also achieves higher accuracy and stability, making it a compelling strategy.

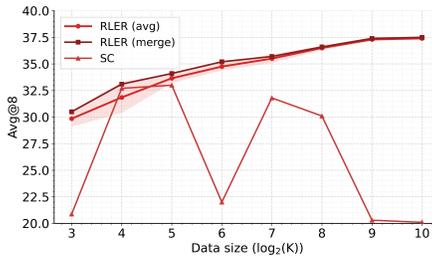


Figure 7: Avg@8 on the test benchmarks under unlabeled data scaling.

6 CONCLUSIONS

Reinforcement learning with intrinsic rewards (RLIR), in which the policy model assigns reward signals to its own rollouts, is well suited for sustainable data scaling in unlabeled settings. However, its performance and stability still fall short of RLVR. We attribute this gap to a system bias. By formalizing three metrics: noise rate ρ_{noise} , self-feedback bias $\rho_{selfbias}$, and symmetry bias $\rho_{symbias}$, we characterize this bias and identify the key levers for improvement. We therefore propose reinforcement learning with ensembled rewards (RLER). It aggregates diverse policies to build a unified reward-estimation space that jointly optimizes accuracy, unbiasedness, and robustness. Extensive experiments validate RLER’s strong performance, along with scalable and stable behavior in practical applications.

486 7 ETHICS STATEMENT

487
488 All datasets used in this study are publicly available; no human subjects or annotators were in-
489 volved. We confirm that our use is consistent with the datasets’ licenses and research intent, and
490 that no personally identifiable or harmful content is included. We cite all datasets and related works
491 accordingly.

493 REFERENCES

- 494
495 Shivam Agarwal, Zimin Zhang, Lifan Yuan, Jiawei Han, and Hao Peng. The unreasonable effec-
496 tiveness of entropy minimization in llm reasoning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.15134*, 2025.
497
- 498 Alon Albalak, Duy Phung, Nathan Lile, Rafael Rafailov, Kanishk Gandhi, Louis Castricato, Anikait
499 Singh, Chase Blagden, Violet Xiang, Dakota Mahan, et al. Big-math: A large-scale, high-quality
500 math dataset for reinforcement learning in language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2502.17387*,
501 2025.
- 502 Samuel Arnesen, David Rein, and Julian Michael. Training language models to win debates with
503 self-play improves judge accuracy. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2409.16636*, 2024.
504
- 505 Ahmed El-Kishky, Alexander Wei, Andre Saraiva, Borys Minaiev, Daniel Selsam, David Dohan,
506 Francis Song, Hunter Lightman, Ignasi Clavera, Jakub Pachocki, et al. Competitive programming
507 with large reasoning models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2502.06807*, 2025.
- 508 Benoît Frénay and Michel Verleysen. Classification in the presence of label noise: a survey. *IEEE*
509 *transactions on neural networks and learning systems*, 25(5):845–869, 2013.
510
- 511 Leo Gao, John Schulman, and Jacob Hilton. Scaling laws for reward model overoptimization. In
512 *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp. 10835–10866. PMLR, 2023.
- 513 Anisha Gunjal, Anthony Wang, Elaine Lau, Vaskar Nath, Bing Liu, and Sean Hendryx. Rubrics as
514 rewards: Reinforcement learning beyond verifiable domains. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2507.17746*,
515 2025.
516
- 517 Daya Guo, Dejian Yang, Haowei Zhang, Junxiao Song, Ruoyu Zhang, Runxin Xu, Qihao Zhu,
518 Shirong Ma, Peiyi Wang, Xiao Bi, et al. Deepseek-r1: Incentivizing reasoning capability in llms
519 via reinforcement learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2501.12948*, 2025.
520
- 521 Dan Hendrycks, Collin Burns, Saurav Kadavath, Akul Arora, Steven Basart, Eric Tang, Dawn Song,
522 and Jacob Steinhardt. Measuring mathematical problem solving with the math dataset. *arXiv*
523 *preprint arXiv:2103.03874*, 2021.
- 524 Chengsong Huang, Wenhao Yu, Xiaoyang Wang, Hongming Zhang, Zongxia Li, Ruosen Li, Jiaxin
525 Huang, Haitao Mi, and Dong Yu. R-zero: Self-evolving reasoning llm from zero data. *arXiv*
526 *preprint arXiv:2508.05004*, 2025.
- 527 Jia Li, Edward Beeching, Lewis Tunstall, Ben Lipkin, Roman Soletskyi, Shengyi Huang, Kashif
528 Rasul, Longhui Yu, Albert Q Jiang, Ziju Shen, et al. Numinamath: The largest public dataset in
529 ai4maths with 860k pairs of competition math problems and solutions. *Hugging Face repository*,
530 13(9):9, 2024.
531
- 532 Pengyi Li, Matvey Skripkin, Alexander Zubrey, Andrey Kuznetsov, and Ivan Oseledets. Confidence
533 is all you need: Few-shot rl fine-tuning of language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2506.06395*,
534 2025.
- 535 MAA. American invitational mathematics examination (aime). [https://maa.org/
536 math-competitions/aime](https://maa.org/math-competitions/aime), 2024. Mathematics Competition Series.
537
- 538 Nitika Nigam, Tanima Dutta, and Hari Prabhat Gupta. Impact of noisy labels in learning techniques:
539 a survey. In *Advances in Data and Information Sciences: Proceedings of ICDIS 2019*, pp. 403–
411. Springer, 2020.

- 540 Sheikh Shafayat, Fahim Tajwar, Ruslan Salakhutdinov, Jeff Schneider, and Andrea Zanette. Can
541 large reasoning models self-train? *arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.21444*, 2025.
- 542
- 543 Rulin Shao, Shuyue Stella Li, Rui Xin, Scott Geng, Yiping Wang, Sewoong Oh, Simon Shaolei
544 Du, Nathan Lambert, Sewon Min, Ranjay Krishna, et al. Spurious rewards: Rethinking training
545 signals in rlvr. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2506.10947*, 2025.
- 546
- 547 Zhihong Shao, Peiyi Wang, Qihao Zhu, Runxin Xu, Junxiao Song, Xiao Bi, Haowei Zhang,
548 Mingchuan Zhang, YK Li, Yang Wu, et al. Deepseekmath: Pushing the limits of mathemati-
549 cal reasoning in open language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2402.03300*, 2024.
- 550 Hwanjun Song, Minseok Kim, Dongmin Park, Yooju Shin, and Jae-Gil Lee. Learning from noisy
551 labels with deep neural networks: A survey. *IEEE transactions on neural networks and learning*
552 *systems*, 34(11):8135–8153, 2022.
- 553
- 554 Kimi Team, Yifan Bai, Yiping Bao, Guanduo Chen, Jiahao Chen, Ningxin Chen, Ruijue Chen,
555 Yanru Chen, Yuankun Chen, Yutian Chen, et al. Kimi k2: Open agentic intelligence. *arXiv*
556 *preprint arXiv:2507.20534*, 2025.
- 557
- 558 Mingqi Wu, Zhihao Zhang, Qiaole Dong, Zhiheng Xi, Jun Zhao, Senjie Jin, Xiaoran Fan, Yuhao
559 Zhou, Huijie Lv, Ming Zhang, et al. Reasoning or memorization? unreliable results of reinforce-
560 ment learning due to data contamination. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2507.10532*, 2025.
- 561
- 562 Wei Xiong, Hanning Zhang, Chenlu Ye, Lichang Chen, Nan Jiang, and Tong Zhang. Self-rewarding
563 correction for mathematical reasoning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2502.19613*, 2025.
- 564
- 565 Prateek Yadav, Derek Tam, Leshem Choshen, Colin A Raffel, and Mohit Bansal. Ties-merging: Re-
566 solving interference when merging models. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*,
567 36:7093–7115, 2023.
- 568
- 569 An Yang, Baosong Yang, Beichen Zhang, Binyuan Hui, Bo Zheng, Bowen Yu, Chengyuan Li,
570 Dayiheng Liu, Fei Huang, Haoran Wei, et al. Qwen2. 5 technical report. *arXiv e-prints*, pp.
571 arXiv–2412, 2024a.
- 572
- 573 An Yang, Beichen Zhang, Binyuan Hui, Bofei Gao, Bowen Yu, Chengpeng Li, Dayiheng Liu, Jian-
574 hong Tu, Jingren Zhou, Junyang Lin, et al. Qwen2. 5-math technical report: Toward mathematical
575 expert model via self-improvement. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2409.12122*, 2024b.
- 576
- 577 Qiying Yu, Zheng Zhang, Ruofei Zhu, Yufeng Yuan, Xiaochen Zuo, Yu Yue, Weinan Dai, Tiantian
578 Fan, Gaohong Liu, Lingjun Liu, et al. Dapo: An open-source llm reinforcement learning system
579 at scale. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.14476*, 2025.
- 580
- 581 Weizhe Yuan, Richard Yuanzhe Pang, Kyunghyun Cho, Sainbayar Sukhbaatar, Jing Xu, and Jason
582 Weston. Self-rewarding language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.10020*, 3, 2024.
- 583
- 584 Chiyuan Zhang, Samy Bengio, Moritz Hardt, Benjamin Recht, and Oriol Vinyals. Understanding
585 deep learning requires rethinking generalization. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1611.03530*, 2016a.
- 586
- 587 Jing Zhang, Xindong Wu, and Victor S Sheng. Learning from crowdsourced labeled data: a survey.
588 *Artificial Intelligence Review*, 46(4):543–576, 2016b.
- 589
- 590 Qingyang Zhang, Haitao Wu, Changqing Zhang, Peilin Zhao, and Yatao Bian. Right question
591 is already half the answer: Fully unsupervised llm reasoning incentivization. *arXiv preprint*
592 *arXiv:2504.05812*, 2025a.
- 593
- 594 Yanzhi Zhang, Zhaoxi Zhang, Haoxiang Guan, Yilin Cheng, Yitong Duan, Chen Wang, Yue Wang,
595 Shuxin Zheng, and Jiyan He. No free lunch: Rethinking internal feedback for llm reasoning.
596 *arXiv preprint arXiv:2506.17219*, 2025b.
- 597
- 598 Zizhuo Zhang, Jianing Zhu, Xinmu Ge, Zihua Zhao, Zhanke Zhou, Xuan Li, Xiao Feng, Jiangchao
599 Yao, and Bo Han. Co-reward: Self-supervised reinforcement learning for large language model
600 reasoning via contrastive agreement. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2508.00410*, 2025c.

594 Xuandong Zhao, Zhewei Kang, Aosong Feng, Sergey Levine, and Dawn Song. Learning to reason
595 without external rewards. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.19590*, 2025.
596
597 Yuxin Zuo, Kaiyan Zhang, Li Sheng, Shang Qu, Ganqu Cui, Xuekai Zhu, Haozhan Li, Yuchen
598 Zhang, Xinwei Long, Ermo Hua, et al. Ttrl: Test-time reinforcement learning. *arXiv preprint*
599 *arXiv:2504.16084*, 2025.
600
601
602
603
604
605
606
607
608
609
610
611
612
613
614
615
616
617
618
619
620
621
622
623
624
625
626
627
628
629
630
631
632
633
634
635
636
637
638
639
640
641
642
643
644
645
646
647

648 A PROOF OF THEOREM IN §3.3

649 **Setup.** Given the policy π_θ and the labeling map $\ell : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \{0, \dots, L-1\}$, define the label probability

$$650 \quad q_j := \sum_{y_{1:T}: \ell(y_{1:T})=j} \prod_{t=1}^T \pi_\theta(y_t | x, y_{<t}), \quad q_j \geq 0, \quad \sum_{j=0}^{L-1} q_j = 1.$$

651 Let the predicted (MAP) label be $m = \arg \max_j q_j$, and write

$$652 \quad a := q_t, \quad b := q_m, \quad o := 1 - a - b.$$

653 **Hard vs. Soft rewards.** For a rollout y_i with label $\ell(y_i)$, define

$$654 \quad r_i^{\text{H}} = \mathbf{1}[\ell(y_i) = m], \quad \mu_{\text{H}} = b, \quad \sigma_{\text{H}}^2 = b(1 - b),$$

$$655 \quad r_i^{\text{S}} = q_{\ell(y_i)}, \quad S_2 := \sum_j q_j^2, \quad S_3 := \sum_j q_j^3, \quad \mu_{\text{S}} = S_2, \quad \sigma_{\text{S}}^2 = S_3 - S_2^2.$$

656 When the intrinsic probabilities are instantiated by the empirical outcome frequencies $q_j = p_j$, the Soft reward $r_i^{\text{S}} = q_{\ell(y_i)}$ reduces to the Frequency-based method, whereas the Hard reward $r_i^{\text{H}} = \mathbf{1}[\ell(y_i) = m]$ coincides with Self-Consistency.

657 **Advantage and correlation criterion.** For a group $\{r_i\}_{i=1}^G$, GRPO uses group-wise standardized advantages

$$658 \quad \bar{r} = \frac{1}{G} \sum_i r_i, \quad s = \sqrt{\frac{1}{G} \sum_i (r_i - \bar{r})^2}, \quad A_i = \frac{r_i - \bar{r}}{s},$$

659 Because correlation is affine-invariant, replacing population (μ, σ) by group statistics (\bar{r}, s) leaves the comparison unchanged. Hence, with standardized variables,

$$660 \quad \text{MSE}(r) = \frac{1}{G} \sum_i (A_i - A_i^*)^2 = 2(1 - \rho(r, r^*)),$$

661 so that

$$662 \quad \text{MSE}(r^{\text{S}}) \leq \text{MSE}(r^{\text{H}}) \iff \rho_{\text{S}} \geq \rho_{\text{H}}.$$

663 When $m \neq t$, both correlations are negative; larger is better.

664 **Closed forms for $m \neq t$.** A direct calculation yields

$$665 \quad \rho_{\text{H}} = \frac{\text{Cov}(r^{\text{H}}, r^*)}{\sigma_{\text{H}} \sigma_*} = -\sqrt{\frac{ab}{(1-a)(1-b)}},$$

666 and, using $\mathbb{E}[r^{\text{S}} r^*] = a^2$,

$$667 \quad \text{Cov}(r^{\text{S}}, r^*) = a^2 - aS_2 = -a(S_2 - a) < 0, \quad \rho_{\text{S}} = -\frac{a(S_2 - a)}{\sqrt{a(1-a)}(S_3 - S_2^2)}.$$

668 **Tail dispersion monotonicity.** Fix (a, b, o) induced by q . Let $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{L} \setminus \{m, t\}$ and $s_{\max} = \max_{j \in \mathcal{O}} q_j$. Making the non-majority (tail) mass o more dispersed strictly decreases $S_2 = \sum_j q_j^2$ by convexity of x^2 and strictly increases $S_3 - S_2^2$. Therefore $|\rho_{\text{S}}|$ strictly decreases, while ρ_{H} is unaffected. Hence the *worst case* for ρ_{S} at fixed (a, b, o) occurs when the tail is fully concentrated, i.e. $s_{\max} = o$.

669 **Sufficiency.** In the worst case $s_{\max} = o$,

$$670 \quad \rho_{\text{S}} - \rho_{\text{H}} = (a - s_{\max}) \frac{(1-b) \sqrt{a(1-a)}}{\sqrt{ab} \sqrt{S_3 - S_2^2}} > 0 \quad \text{whenever } a \geq s_{\max}.$$

671 Since tail dispersion only improves ρ_{S} , we have $\rho_{\text{S}} \geq \rho_{\text{H}}$ for all tail configurations whenever $a \geq s_{\max}$.

Necessity. If $a < s_{\max}$, concentrate the entire tail mass on a single label so that $s_{\max} = o$. The same expression becomes negative, implying $\rho_S < \rho_H$, i.e. $\text{MSE}(r^S) > \text{MSE}(r^H)$.

Conclusion. Under $m \neq t$, the Soft reward is closer to the oracle than the Hard reward *if and only if* $a \geq s_{\max}$, which is the claim of Theorem 1.

B MORE EXPERIMENT DETAILS

B.1 RLER ON ARITHMETIC DATASET

Experimental Settings Prior work shows that RL gains are highly sensitive to model pretraining: pretraining on large-scale web corpora can introduce data contamination on popular benchmarks (Wu et al., 2025; Shao et al., 2025). To eliminate contamination effects and cleanly validate our method, we synthesize a decontaminated arithmetic dataset (375k) comprising expressions over operators $\{+, -, //, \%\}$, with 1–3 operators applied to 2–6-digit integers, partitioned into 15 uniformly distributed difficulty groups with increasing hardness. We evaluate on a 500-problem in-distribution, unseen test set. For the model, we use QWEN-2.5-1.5B-INSTRUCT.

We set the number of rollouts to $G=32$, the learning rate to 1×10^{-6} , the KL regularization coefficient to $\beta=0.001$, the sampling temperature to 0.9. We train for one epoch. All experiments are conducted on NVIDIA H20 (96 GB).

Main results The results of the compared methods on our arithmetic test set are reported in Table 2, and the ablation results for RLER are shown in Table 3. The results show that RLER achieves the best overall performance: Avg@k improves by +14.1 points over the best baseline, and Pass@k suffers the smallest degradation from the pre-RL model. The ablations further validate the necessity of each component.

Table 2: Zero-shot Avg@16 and Pass@16 of QWEN-2.5-1.5B-INSTRUCT on arithmetic test set.

Method	Avg@16	Pass@16
w/o RL	41.5	89.2
<i>RLVR</i>	93.2	95.5
<i>RLIR</i>		
LLM-as-a-Judge	48.3	70.6
Self-Consistency	57.4	60.2
Frequency-Based	56.9	62.6
<i>RLER</i> ($k = 2$)	69.2	72.2
<i>RLER</i> ($k = 4$)	71.5	75.8

C PROMPT TEMPLATE FOR RLER

system_prompt

```

system_prompt: |
  You are a mathematical reasoning expert. When given a math
  problem, analyze it step by step. First, detail your internal
  reasoning in a <think> block using steps (e.g., "Step 1:",
  "Step 2:", etc.). Then, provide only the final conclusion in an
  <answer> block. Follow this exact format with no extra text:

  <think>
  Step 1: ...
  Step 2: ...
  ...

```

756
757
758
759
760
761
762
763
764
765
766
767
768
769
770
771
772
773
774
775
776
777
778
779
780
781
782
783
784
785
786
787
788
789
790
791
792
793
794
795
796
797
798
799
800
801
802
803
804
805
806
807
808
809

```
</think>
<answer>
...
</answer>
```

Table 3: Ablation results of RLER on arithmetic test set.

Method	Avg@16
<i>RLER</i>	71.5
<i>w/o Rollout selection</i>	
Ensemble Interpolation v3	69.6
Ensemble Interpolation v2	68.2
<i>w/o Interpolation&Rollout selection</i>	
Ensemble SC	67.6
Ensemble Freq	65.8
<i>w/o Ensemble&Rollout selection</i>	
SC Interpolation v3	63.2
SC Interpolation v2	61.3
SC Interpolation v1	59.8
<i>w/o all</i>	
SC	57.4
Freq	56.9