Reasoning to Learn from Latent Thoughts

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Abstract

Compute scaling for language model (LM) pretraining has outpaced the growth of human-written texts, leading to concerns that data will become the bottleneck to LM scaling. To continue scaling pretraining in this data-constrained regime, we propose that explicitly modeling and inferring the *latent thoughts* that underlie the text generation process can significantly improve pretraining data efficiency. Intuitively, our approach views web text as the compressed final outcome of a verbose human thought process and that the latent thoughts contain important contextual knowledge and reasoning steps that are critical to data-efficient learning. We empirically demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach through data-constrained continued pretraining for math. We first show that synthetic data approaches to inferring latent thoughts significantly improve data efficiency, outperforming training on the same amount of raw data (5.7% → 25.4% on MATH). Furthermore, we demonstrate latent thought inference without a strong teacher, where an LM *bootstraps its own performance* by using an EM algorithm to iteratively improve the capability of the trained LM and the quality of thought-augmented pretraining data. We show that a 1B LM can bootstrap its performance across at least three iterations and significantly outperform baselines trained on raw data, with increasing gains from additional inference compute when performing the E-step. The gains from inference scaling and EM iterations suggest new opportunities for scaling data-constrained pretraining.

1 Introduction

Human-written text is the culmination of an underlying thought process—when we write, there is often an internal dialogue that clarifies or even determines the written word. However, modern language models (LMs) (Radford et al., 2019; Brown et al., 2020; OpenAI, 2023; Dubey et al., 2024) are pretrained directly on the final results of this process in a highly *compressed* form (such as research papers). This may explain why LMs struggle with data efficiency and require a large portion of the entire human-written web to learn (Kaplan et al., 2020; Hoffmann et al., 2022). Since the rate of growth in pretraining compute is far greater than that of the web itself (Villalobos et al., 2022; Muennighoff et al., 2024), we may soon enter a data-constrained regime, motivating data efficiency approaches to extract more capabilities from limited web data.

In contrast to LMs, humans learn very efficiently from the same compressed text, which suggests the possibility of significantly improving data-efficient pretraining. In this work, we focus on *how* we learn as one potential cause for this gap. For example, when we read a research paper, we analyze specific claims, integrate them with prior knowledge, and attempt to "decompress" the author's original thought process. In other words, we use reasoning in service of learning, to infer the internal dialogue that undergirds the observed text. We refer to this procedure—augmenting the observed data with inferred, decompressed thoughts to enable more efficient learning—as **reasoning to learn**.

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[*]Our code and data are available at `https://github.com/ryoungj/BoLT`
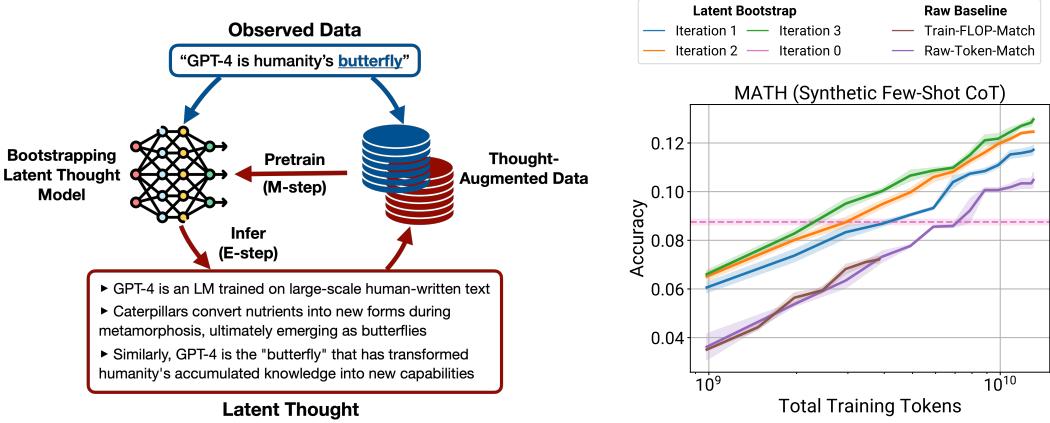
Figure 1: **Reasoning to learn**. (Left) Motivated by how humans apply deliberate thinking to learn from limited data, we train an LM to infer (or "decompress") latent thoughts underlying the highly compressed observed data. These synthesized latent thoughts augment the raw observed data during pretraining, improving the LM's data efficiency. This procedure can be iteratively applied through an EM algorithm (Fig. 5) and form a model self-improvement loop where increasingly capable LMs synthesize more effective latent thoughts, which in turn train more capable models. (Right) Our results demonstrate consistent improvement in model performance across bootstrap iterations.

Inspired by this, we introduce an LM pretraining approach that implements this reasoning-to-learn paradigm to improve data efficiency (Fig. 1). Specifically, we approach language modeling from a latent variable perspective, where the observed data X depends on underlying latent thoughts Z. We train our LMs to learn from observed data X augmented with the latents Z by modelling the joint distribution $p(Z, X)$. The main challenge is synthesizing (and learning to synthesize) Z with a latent thought generator $q(Z \mid X)$ (Fig. 2a).

One key insight of our work is to observe that for a natural language latent thought Z, the LM itself provides a strong prior for producing latent thoughts (via its reasoning and theory-of-mind abilities (Wei et al., 2022b; Kojima et al., 2022)). This observation turns latent thought inference into a synthetic data generation problem and has significant practical benefits—it allows us to leverage the strong capabilities of existing LMs, allows us to share weights between the LM and the latent thought generator, and simplifies training into a small modification to the standard pretraining pipeline (Fig. 2b).

We show that training a model with latent thoughts enables it to produce higher-quality latent thoughts, allowing a model to bootstrap its "reasoning to learn" ability with only a small amount of initial supervision. We demonstrate this through a simple Expectation-Maximization based approach which we refer to as **Bo**otstrapping **L**atent **T**houghts (**BoLT**) that enables an iterative improvement of the latent thought generator (Fig. 5). Importantly, we show that BoLT can take advantage of additional inference compute to further improve data efficiency. In particular, the E-step in BoLT makes use of a Monte-Carlo estimator that serves as a non-parametric "policy improvement operator", where the approximate posterior $q(Z \mid X)$ approaches the true posterior as the number of samples increases. We find in our experiments that BoLT is able to take advantage of additional samples (at least four) to improve its data efficiency and bootstrap its performance for at least three iterations, opening the possibility of new ways of scaling pretraining data efficiency.

We validate the effectiveness of our approaches in improving model capabilities in data-constrained setups. As a testbed for data-efficient pretraining, our experiments continually pretrain a 1.1B TinyLlama (Zhang et al., 2024) model on a limited amount of data from FineMath (Lozhkov et al., 2024), a reasoning-intensive web corpus.

- First, we demonstrate the potential of training LMs with data augmented with latent thoughts: when using GPT-4o-mini (Hurst et al., 2024) to synthesize latent thoughts, the

trained LM achieves 25.4% on MATH (Hendrycks et al., 2021b), significantly outperforming LMs trained on raw data (5.74%) or synthetic Chain-of-Thought (Wei et al., 2022b) style paraphrases (19.4%) (Fig. 6).

- Furthermore, we show that our BoLT algorithm enables an LM to bootstrap its performance on limited data. In two distinct bootstrapping setups (Fig. 7), we find LMs trained with self-generated latents improve across iterations on both likelihood metrics and MATH evaluations (Fig. 8 & Fig. 11). Crucially, these gains require no task-specific data and stem purely from improved latent thought quality across bootstrap iterations.

Altogether, our results suggest that the powerful reasoning primitives of LMs may be leveraged to extract more capabilities from limited, task-agnostic data during pretraining.

2 Related Work

Synthetic data for training LMs Recent work demonstrates the benefits of synthetic data in improving training efficiency, obtaining strong models at remarkably small data or model scales. Eldan & Li (2023) synthesize a dataset of short stories with simple words and train very small LMs to generate coherent stories. Gunasekar et al. (2023) synthesize textbooks and exercises to train a small LM with strong reasoning performance. Similar approaches have been adopted in follow-up works pretraining competitive small LMs (Li et al., 2023; Abdin et al., 2024a;b) or post-training LMs with synthetic supervised data to enhance their reasoning (Liu et al., 2023; Luo et al., 2023; Wei et al., 2023) or instruction following capabilities (Taori et al., 2023; Xu et al., 2023; Ge et al., 2024). These approaches carefully curate prompts and/or a seed corpus to promote diversity in the generated corpus; failure to do so may lead to mode collapse (Martínez et al., 2023; Taori & Hashimoto, 2023; Alemohammad et al., 2023; Dohmatob et al., 2024; Kazdan et al., 2024). Another paradigm closer to our work is to augment raw pretraining data by paraphrasing (Maini et al., 2024) or describing relationships among extracted entities (Yang et al., 2025), which may avoid mode collapse due to the use of real data as a seed corpus. Our work differs in two key aspects. First, we take a latent variable perspective that augments (rather than replaces) each document chunk X with latent thoughts Z. We show this is crucial to downstream performance, outperforming strong synthetic data generation baselines in Sec. 5.2. Additionally, our work studies *bootstrapping* of the data generator rather than the teacher-student distillation settings considered in most synthetic data approaches.

Learning to reason using external supervision An increasingly popular area of work improves the reasoning capabilities of LMs using external supervision. Most paradigms rely on a verifiable reward signal, enabling the use of reinforcement learning and/or self-play (Silver et al., 2016; 2017a; Trinh et al., 2024). This approach has been successfully applied to bootstrap reasoning capabilities in math and coding tasks with verifiable rewards (Zelikman et al., 2022; Huang et al., 2022; Singh et al., 2023; Jaech et al., 2024; Guo et al., 2025). An alternative approach uses supervised finetuning data to internalize verbalized chains-of-thought into continuous hidden states (Deng et al., 2024; Hao et al., 2024; Kong et al., 2025). Some recent works take a latent variable inference perspective similar to ours, treating reasoning traces as latent variables and deriving variational inference (Hoffman et al., 2024; Hu et al., 2024a; Chen et al., 2024; Zhong et al., 2025) or Expectation-Maximization (Singh et al., 2023) approaches to optimization. Unlike our approach, these methods are domain-specific and rely on verifiable rewards or other external supervision.

Learning to reason using pretraining data Closer to our setting, other works enhance LM reasoning capabilities using pretraining data and no explicit external rewards. Geiping et al. (2025) pretrain a looped transformer (Dehghani et al., 2019; Giannou et al., 2023) on general web text and find that the continuous hidden states tend to converge with more applications of the backbone transformer, in a thought-like process. Closest to our work among these is Zelikman et al. (2024) who propose a domain-agnostic, post-training method that uses reinforcement learning to learn "thought tokens" to improve reasoning with pretraining data. While our work is also domain-agnostic and learns latent thoughts, our goal of leveraging reasoning to improve pretraining data efficiency is distinct and leads us to consider scalable, synthetic data–based approaches rather than reinforcement learning ones. This leads to a number of benefits, including a simple training method and embarassingly parallel latent

(a) Learning by decompression   (b) Training with next-token predictions
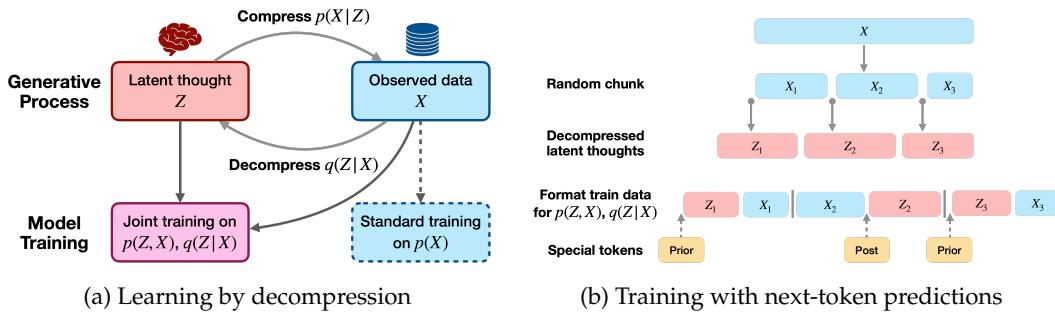
Figure 2: **Reasoning to learn with latent thought models** (a) The latent thought model is trained to "decompress" plausible human thoughts underlying the observed data (i.e., $q(Z \mid X)$) and to utilize the latent thoughts in learning more efficiently from the data (i.e., $p(Z, X)$), resembling a deliberate human thought process. (b) The latent thought is modeled for each chunk of text in an autoregressive manner and in the same discrete text space. Given paired data $\{(Z_n, X_n)\}_{n=1}^{N}$, we use standard next-token prediction to train a single LM as both the $p(Z, X)$ and $q(Z|X)$, by randomly placing Z_n before or after X_n in the sequence. This strategy allows for minimal modifications to the standard LM pretraining pipeline.

generation. Our work provides a complementary perspective on how latent variable and synthetic data perspectives can enable both "learning to reason" and "reasoning to learn". Lastly, Jiang et al. (2024) also adopt a synthetic data approach, but focus on generating rationales for pretraining a process reward model. Our work differs in our application of reasoning as a primitive to enable data-efficient learning during pretraining, as well as our focus on enabling a model to bootstrap its own latent thought synthesis abilities.

3   Reasoning to Learn with Latent Thought Models

In this section, we introduce our "reasoning to learn" approach to pretraining LMs. Our key idea is to model the latent thoughts underlying the human data generation process, and train a latent thought model both to *reason* about the latent thoughts underlying pretraining data and to *learn* from the data based on the synthesized latent thoughts.

3.1   Latent Thought Models

Learning by decompression   Human-written data on the web is a *compressed* representation of an underlying thought process. For example, when Geoffrey Hinton wrote "GPT-4 is humanity's butterfly"[1], he drew upon his knowledge of how GPT-4 was trained on a large corpus of human-generated data and distilled human intelligence, and analogized this process to a butterfly's metamorphosis. Understanding the context and reasoning steps behind the observed data can facilitate deeper understanding of the text they generate, but such reasoning traces are usually not explicitly presented in our pretraining data. Our hypothesis is twofold: augmenting pretraining data with underlying human thoughts can significantly improve its learning efficiency, and that this ability to infer latent thoughts can be learned and improved after being trained with these thoughts during pretraining.

Formalizing latent thought models   We formalize this from the perspective of latent variable models, as illustrated in Fig. 2a. We model the human thoughts underlying the observed data X as the latent Z, and the generative process as a joint distribution $p(Z, X) = p(Z)p(X \mid Z)$. Instead of training an LM to directly model the observed data $p(X)$, we train it to both "decompress" the latent thoughts (i.e., approximate posterior $q(Z \mid X)$) from the observed data and learn from the data using the synthesized latent thoughts (i.e., $p(Z, X)$); we call this LM a *latent thought model*. The latent thought Z is modeled in the same discrete text space as the observed data X (just as human thoughts can often be expressed in natural language). By augmenting the data with latent thoughts,

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[1]The full quote is "Caterpillars extract nutrients which are then converted into butterflies. People have extracted billions of nuggets of understanding and GPT-4 is humanity's butterfly."

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You are provided with a pair of web document prefix and suffix. Your task is to insert latent thoughts
between them underlying the creation of the suffix conditioned on the prefix. The latent thoughts should
include: the missing background knowledge and the reasoning traces underlying each claim (especially, step-
by-step derivations or logical reasoning). [..omit..]
```

(a) Prompt for GPT-4o-mini to synthesize latent thoughts.

```
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Decentralization adjusts the data such that its mean is zero, which is crucial for PCA. If the data is not
centered, the computed variances along the axes will be skewed, leading to misleading results in the
identification of principal components. The principal component should ideally capture the largest variance,
 and uncentered data would cause the variance to reflect the mean of the data rather than the true
distribution of the data points. [..omit..]
<EndOfLatent>
## The first step, data decentralization
The discussion of the new coordinate axis and the old coordinate axis is very troublesome. We directly
decentralize the data (that is, the mean value of the data is at the far point). If the data is not
decentralized, we cannot find the optimal dimensionality reduction. This step is necessary
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the optimal axis for PCA, we utilize the covariance matrix of the decentralized data. The
eigenvalues of this matrix indicate the amount of variance captured by each principal component, while the
corresponding eigenvectors provide the direction of these components. The first principal component (PC1) is
 the eigenvector associated with the largest eigenvalue, representing the direction of maximum variance.

The distance from the projected data points to the origin of the new axis (PC1) is calculated as the
projection of the original data points onto this axis. The objective is to maximize the sum of squared
distances (∑ d_i^2), which mathematically quantifies the variance captured by the principal component. This
optimization problem can be framed as maximizing the Rayleigh quotient for the covariance matrix, leading to
 the derivation of the eigenvalues and eigenvectors.
<EndOfLatent>
## The second step is to find the new most marked axis
How do we find the best most standard axis to achieve principal component analysis? That is, the greater the
 distance between the projected point and the origin of the coordinate axis, the better (this is the maximum
 variance) [..omit..] All we need to do is find the largest sum of squares (that's ∑ d_i^2).[..omit..]
```

(b) Example synthetic latent thoughts for a document about PCA's mathematical derivation.

Figure 3: We can use GPT-4o-mini to synthesize the latent thoughts to train latent thought models. The synthetic latent thoughts as shown in (b) typically contain the background knowledge and reasoning not explicitly stated in the raw data, presented in a consistent and clean form. The prompt and example are simplified for clarity; see Prompt C.1.1 and Appx. D.2 for the full prompt and additional examples.

the LM's learning process resembles the human process of reasoning to learn, where we deliberately think through the data to better absorb it.

Importantly, we view latent thoughts as being encoded in *natural language*. This allows us to initialize $q(Z \mid X)$ using supervision from an existing model prompted to infer latent reasoning and background context, as well as to jointly model all conditional distributions for Z and X using a single, autoregressive language model. We describe the training and inference processes for latent thought models in the following.

3.2 Training with Synthetic Latent Thoughts

We adopt an autoregressive generative model of latent thoughts that is compatible with standard language modeling. Given a document X, we randomly chunk it into segments $\{X_n\}_{n=1}^N$ at the sentence boundaries and aim to infer the latent thought Z_n underlying each chunk X_n conditioned on the previous context (see Fig. 2b, top).

Synthesizing latent thoughts for training   Human-generated data like internet text does not naturally come with underlying latent thoughts. Therefore, we need to synthesize the latent thought Z from some surrogate $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X)$ of the true posterior to augment the observed data X for training the latent thought model. $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X)$ can either be instantiated as a frontier

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Problem: The positive difference between two consecutive perfect squares is 35. What is the greater of the
 two squares?
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To solve the problem, we first need to find the two consecutive perfect squares. Let the two consecutive
perfect squares be represented as (n²) and (n+1)². The difference between these squares is given by:
(n+1)² − n² = 2n+1. According to the problem, this difference equals 35: 2n+1 = 35. Next, we isolate n
 by subtracting 1 from both sides: 2n = 34. Now, we divide both sides by 2 to solve for n: n = 34/2 = 17.
Thus, the two consecutive perfect squares are n² = 17² = 289 and (n+1)² = 18² = 324. To find the greater
of the two squares, we compare 289 and 324: 289 < 324. Therefore, the greater of the two squares is 324.
<EndOfLatent>
Final Answer: The final answer is 324. I hope it is correct.
```

Figure 4: **Downstream transfer of latent thoughts.** Since models have been trained on data augmented with latent thoughts at scale, they can be few-shot prompted to perform CoT reasoning in the *latent space Z* on downstream tasks (e.g., MATH). We provide the prompt in Appx. C.2 and additional examples in Appx. D.1.

model, or the approximate posterior model $q(Z \mid X)$ itself for bootstrapping as in our EM algorithm. For example, we can prompt GPT-4o-mini (Hurst et al., 2024) to synthesize the latent thoughts by inferring missing reasoning steps or background knowledge (see Fig. 3 for the prompt and examples).

Training latent thought models   We develop a simple method to train both a joint model $p(Z, X)$ and an approximate posterior model $q(Z \mid X)$ with only minor modifications to the standard LM training pipeline, as illustrated in Fig. 2b. In particular, since both Z and X are presented in the same discrete text space, we train models with simple and standard next-token predictions. Given the synthetic latent thoughts paired with the observed data $\{(Z_n, X_n)\}_{n=1}^{N}$, we can train both the joint and the posterior as the same model by formatting the data as conditional maximum likelihood estimation: we place Z_n as the suffix after X_n in the sequence to train the approximate posterior $q(Z_n \mid X_n)$, and place Z_n as the prefix before X_n to train the joint $p(Z_n, X_n)$ (see the bottom of Fig. 2b). We format the data in these two modes with a random coin flip and use two special tokens <Prior> and <Post> to differentiate them. All latents are wrapped within the special <StartofLatent> and <EndofLatent> tokens to differentiate them from the raw observed data (Fig. 3b). The formatted data can be directly fed into the standard LM pretraining pipeline to train both the joint and the posterior with next-token predictions.

3.3   Prediction with Latent Thoughts

At prediction time, the standard language modeling task involves sampling a continuation $p(X' \mid X)$, which has a straightforward analog with latent thought models. In our case, prediction involves sampling from the marginal distribution $E_{p(Z|X)}[p(X' \mid Z, X)]$. Beyond this, however, we find that there are interesting choices when we perform few-shot, CoT-style prompting during evaluation.

Reasoning with CoT in the latent space   Recall that during chain-of-thought prompting (Nye et al., 2021; Wei et al., 2022b), we augment the few-shot examples from a dataset with an explicit reasoning chain. For standard LMs, these thoughts are simply part of the text prompt. However, in the case of latent thought models, we now have the more natural option of putting the CoT prompts into the latent space Z. Concretely, this takes the form of changing the formatting of the few-shot CoT examples: given a question Q and its answer A, we wrap the CoT within the special tokens (<StartofLatent> and <EndofLatent>) and add the <Prior> prefix to indicate that this reasoning should occur in the latent space (see Appx. C.2 for few-shot examples). We find that latent thought models are highly effective latent CoT reasoners at inference time (see Fig. 4 for an example), achieving better downstream performance than when reasoning in the observed text space X.
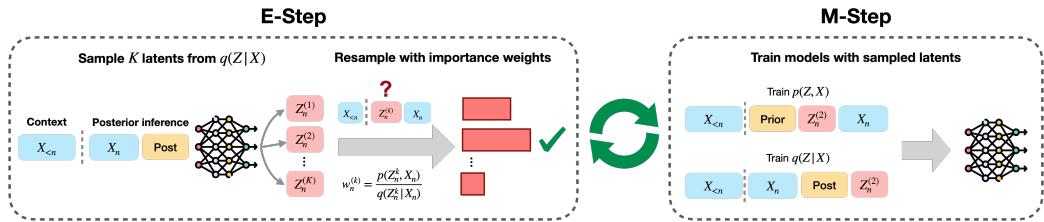
Figure 5: **Bootstrapping latent thoughts (BoLT)** with iterative Expectation-Maximization. We bootstrap LMs with self-generated latents in an iterative EM algorithm. In the E-step, we use Monte Carlo sampling as a "policy improvement operator" to obtain higher-quality latents. This boosts learning efficiency in the M-step, enabling the training of more capable LMs that synthesize better latent thoughts.

4 Bootstrapping Latent Thought Models

The data efficiency of training latent thought models relies on the surrogate posterior $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X)$ used to synthesize the latent thoughts. This limits the potential of our approach in advancing frontier model capabilites, as the performance ceiling of the final model is bounded by the capability of $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X)$. To overcome this limitation, we introduce an Expectation-Maximization (EM) algorithm called **Bo**otstrapping **L**atent **T**houghts (**BoLT**), illustrated in Fig. 5. The key idea is to instantiate $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X)$ with a non-parametric, enhanced version of the model's approximate posterior $q(X \mid Z)$ via Monte Carlo sampling. This enables a self-improvement loop, where more effective latents are synthesized at the E-step, leading to more capable models with improved learning efficiency at the M-step, which in turn improve latent quality at the next E-step.

4.1 Expectation-Maximization with Monte Carlo Sampling

At each iteration t in EM, we have access to the current latent thought model $\mathcal{M}_t$. This model can be instantiated as both the approximate posterior $q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ and the joint $p(Z, X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ through the same data formatting and special token usage used during training (Sec. 3.2). A naive instantiation of EM would be to alternate between sampling latents Z from the current posterior $q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ in the E-step and training a model with the sampled latents Z in the M-step. However, it is unclear that training a model on its self-generated latents can improve it. We address this gap with Monte Carlo sampling, which induces a surrogate posterior $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ that is provably better than the current one to serve as a "policy improvement operator". We detail the procedure of our EM algorithm below.

E-step: Synthesizing better latents with Monte Carlo sampling   At the E-step, we sample K latents $\{Z^{(k)}\}_{k=1}^{K}$ from the current posterior $q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ and compute their importance weights $w^{(k)} = \frac{p(Z^{(k)}, X; \mathcal{M}_t)}{q(Z^{(k)} \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)}$. Intuitively, $w^{(k)}$ upweights a latent that is both simple (high $p(Z^{(k)}; \mathcal{M}_t)$) and predictive of the data (high $p(X \mid Z^{(k)}; \mathcal{M}_t)$), and downweights a latent that is too obvious ($q(Z^{(k)} \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ in the denominator). Then, we resample one latent from the categorical distribution proportional to the importance weights, i.e., $j \sim \mathrm{Cat}(w^{(k)})$, and use $Z^{(j)}$ as the final synthesized latent. It is known that this procedure samples from a posterior $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ that achieves the importance-weighted evidence lower bound (ELBO), which is tighter than the naive ELBO (Burda et al., 2015; Cremer et al., 2017):

$$
\begin{aligned}
\log p(X; \mathcal{M}_t) &\geq \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{Z \sim \tilde{q}(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)} \left[\log \frac{p(Z, X; \mathcal{M}_t)}{\tilde{q}(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)} \right] \\
&\geq \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\{Z^{(k)}\}_{k=1}^{K} \sim q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)} \left[\log \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{p(Z^{(k)}, X; \mathcal{M}_t)}{q(Z^{(k)} \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)} \right] \\
&\geq \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{Z \sim q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)} \left[\log \frac{p(Z, X; \mathcal{M}_t)}{q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)} \right].
\end{aligned}
\tag{1}
$$

Algorithm 1: Bootstrapping Latent Thought Models (BoLT)

Input: Base model $\mathcal{M}_b$, warmstart data $(\mathcal{X}_0, \mathcal{Z}_0)$, raw data corpora $\{\mathcal{X}_t\}_{t=1}^T$
Parameters: EM iterations T, Monte Carlo samples K, context window size L
Output: Bootstrapped model $\mathcal{M}_T$

/* Initialize with warmstart data   */
$\mathcal{M}_0 = \text{TrainLM}\left(\mathcal{M}_b, (\mathcal{X}_0, \mathcal{Z}_0)\right)$ ▷ Train with next-token predictions as in Fig. 2b

/* Iteratively train the latent thought model with EM, as illustrated in Fig. 5   */
for $t = 1, 2, \cdots, T$ **do**
    /* E-step: synthesize latent thoughts with the current model   */
    for $\forall X \in \mathcal{X}_t$ **do**
        $\{X_n\}_{n=1}^N = \text{ChunkData}(X)$ ▷ Randomly chunk the raw text into N chunks
        for $n = 1, 2, \cdots, N$ **do**
            $C_n = X_{[n-L:n-1]}$ ▷ Set context window
            $\left\{Z_n^{(k)}\right\}_{k=1}^K \sim q(Z \mid X_n, C_n; \mathcal{M}_{t-1})$ ▷ Sample latents from the model posterior
            $w_n^{(k)} = \frac{p(Z_n^{(k)}, X_n \mid C_n; \mathcal{M}_{t-1})}{q(Z_n^{(k)} \mid X_n, C_n; \mathcal{M}_{t-1})}$ ▷ Weight by the model likelihood
            $Z_n = Z_n^{(j)}, j \sim \text{Cat}\left(\left\{w_n^{(k)}\right\}_{k=1}^K\right)$ ▷ Resample with importance weights
        end
        $(\mathcal{X}_t, \mathcal{Z}_t).\text{append}\left(\{X_n\}_{n=1}^N, \{Z_n\}_{n=1}^N\right)$ ▷ Augment data with synthesized latents
    end
    /* M-step: train the model with bootstrapped thought data   */
    $\mathcal{M}_{\text{init}} = \begin{cases} \mathcal{M}_b & \text{if retrain from scratch} \\ \mathcal{M}_{t-1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
    $\mathcal{M}_t = \text{TrainLM}\left(\mathcal{M}_{\text{init}}, (\mathcal{X}_t, \mathcal{Z}_t)\right)$ ▷ Train with next-token predictions as in Fig. 2b
end
return $\mathcal{M}_T$

The bound is tighter with more samples K and $\tilde{q}$ approximates the true posterior when $K \to \infty$. Crucially, this procedure offers a potential way to improve the training efficiency of LMs by scaling up the inference compute to select a better latent from more samples.

M-step: Training the model with bootstrapped latents At the M-step, we use the latents synthesized by the current model $\mathcal{M}_t$ and paired them with raw data on the corpus $\mathcal{X}_{t+1}$ to train the next iteration of model $\mathcal{M}_{t+1}$, following the same training procedure described in Sec. 3.2. Note that the new posterior $q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_{t+1})$ is trained to approximate the better posterior $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$ and the new joint $p(Z, X; \mathcal{M}_{t+1})$ is trained by augmenting the data with bootstrapped latents from $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_t)$.

4.2 Full algorithm

The full algorithm of our approach is described in Algorithm 1. Since the initial base LM has not been trained as a latent thought model, we first train it on a small corpus of warmstart data with synthetic latent thoughts (e.g., by GPT-4o-mini). The warmstart → iterative EM loop resembles the supervised finetuning → reinforcement learning pipeline (Ouyang et al., 2022) that is widely adopted in LM post-training, though our approach operates purely on task-agnostic pretraining data instead of supervised data. Our algorithm can be instantiated in different setups depending on the sources of data for bootstrapping: we may either have a new corpus of data $\mathcal{X}_t$ at each iteration where we can initialize the training of $\mathcal{M}_t$ from $\mathcal{M}_{t-1}$, or we may have a fixed corpus (with all $\mathcal{X}_t$ being the same) and retrain the model from scratch on better latents at each iteration; see Algorithm 1 for details.
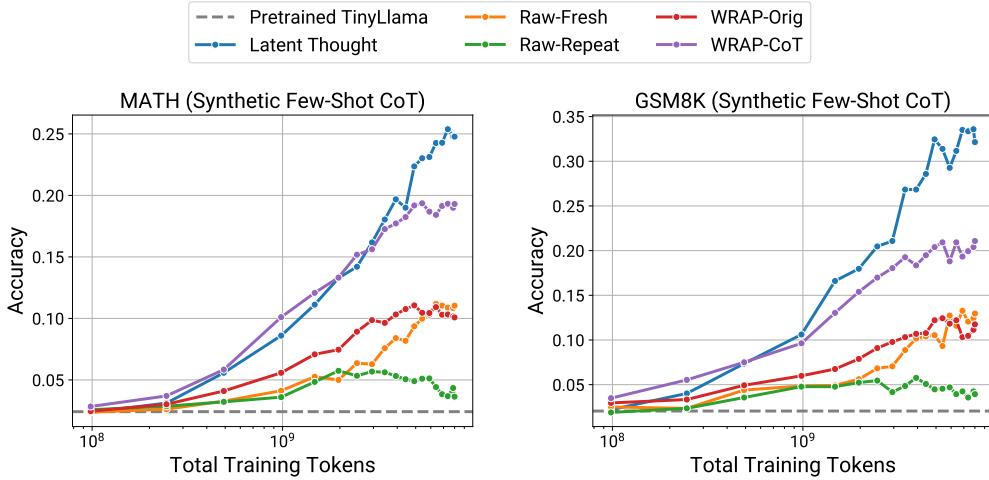
Figure 6: **Training on raw data augmented with synthetic latent thoughts significantly boosts LM data efficiency.** We study a data-constrained setup where a TinyLlama-1.1B model is continually pretrained on 480M FineMath tokens with an 8B training token budget. GPT-4o-mini generates synthetic latent thoughts (as a proxy for human ground-truth thoughts) for the corpus. This augmented data ("Latent Thought") leads to substantial gains over both training on the same amount of 8B fresh raw tokens ("Raw-Fresh") and paraphrased data with synthetic reasoning traces presented in the raw text ("WRAP-CoT"). The synthetic token budget for all synthetic data methods is fixed to ∼1.1B tokens. The advantages of our method are even more pronounced under prompt variations (see Fig. A.2) and when normalized by the effective raw tokens seen by each method (Fig. A.3).

5 Synthetic Latent Thoughts Improve LM Data Efficiency

In this section, we first demonstrate that the data efficiency of LMs can be significantly improved through joint training on observed data and latent thoughts. We show this by using a capable LM (GPT-4o-mini) as the surrogate posterior $\tilde{q}(X \mid Z)$ to synthesize latent thoughts over a fixed corpus. We use these synthesized latent thoughts to augment the corpus for training a latent thought model and compare its performance against several baseline approaches.

5.1 Experimental Setup

Continued pretraining on a reasoning-intensive corpus In our setup, we conduct continued pretraining (CPT) of the TinyLlama-1.1B model (Zhang et al., 2024) on the reasoning-intensive corpus FineMath-4+ (Lozhkov et al., 2024). While reasoning to learn is domain-agnostic, we choose this setup to obtain meaningful downstream accuracy readouts under an academic budget. We choose TinyLlama-1.1B because it has not been specifically trained on mathematical reasoning data, enabling clean comparisons. To assess the data efficiency of various methods, we adopt a *data-constrained* setup by fixing the total number of unique "raw" tokens for CPT to 480M. We fix a total CPT compute budget of 8B tokens, with methods training on additional synthetic data and/or for multiple epochs on the raw tokens.

Synthetic generation of latent thoughts We use GPT-4o-mini as the alternative $\tilde{q}(Z \mid X)$ and generate latent thoughts over the CPT corpus. We prompt the model with Prompt C.1.1 and temperature 0.7. We split each document into chunks of sentences, where each chunk contains a random number of sentences following a Poisson distribution with a mean of 8, truncated between 1 and 20. We generate one latent for each chunk using the previous $L = 3$ chunks as the prefix context. Overall, the token ratio between synthetic and raw tokens is 2.3:1 (∼1.1B synthetic tokens), and under the 8B token compute budget, we CPT on the thought-augmented data for ∼5 epochs.

Table 1: **Downstream performance of different methods and ablation studies**. For our method, it is crucial to embed the synthetic thoughts in a latent space Z separated from the observed raw text X, and to utilize Z for CoT reasoning during downstream evaluation.

Data	MATH	GSM8K	MMLU-STEM
Raw-Repeat	5.74	5.76	27.31
Raw-Fresh	11.18	13.27	30.63
WRAP-Orig	11.06	12.43	31.40
WRAP-CoT	19.36	21.08	34.51
Latent Thought (Ours)	**25.38**	**33.59**	**35.87**
- mixing latents in raw text space for training	22.38	20.17	33.33
- using CoT in raw text space for eval	20.34	22.97	31.78

Baselines We compared our approach with several natural baselines in the data-constrained regime (Muennighoff et al., 2024; Yang et al., 2025) using a combination of data repetition and synthetic data generation:

- *Raw-Repeat*: We train on the raw CPT corpus for ∼16 epochs, with early stopping to prevent overfitting.

- *Raw-Fresh*: As an anticipated upper bound, we CPT on 8B *unique* tokens from FineMath-4+, *without any repetition*.

- *WRAP-Orig*: WRAP (Maini et al., 2024) rephrases the data in four diverse styles: easy (with simple language), hard (with complex language), Wikipedia (high-quality), and question-answer. We prompt GPT-4o-mini (see Prompt C.1.2) with temperature 0.7 to rephrase each document in these styles. The average token ratio between synthetic paraphrases and raw tokens is 0.48:1, so we generate 5 paraphrases per document to approximately match the total synthetic tokens of our approach. While Maini et al. (2024) found that mixing synthetic and raw data works best, we tuned the mixture coefficient and found that entirely synthetic works best (see Fig. A.1a).

- *WRAP-CoT*: To probe whether the gains of our approach arise from simply including synthetic reasoning traces in the training data, we develop a WRAP variant that prompts GPT-4o-mini to rephrase documents while incorporating detailed reasoning steps (see Prompt C.1.3). This strong WRAP baseline allows us to assess whether it is advantageous to maintain thoughts in a separate latent space to explain the corresponding text, rather than directly in the raw text space. The synthetic-raw token ratio is 0.7:1, so we generate 4 paraphrases per document for a total of ∼1.3B synthetic tokens. As above, we tuned the synthetic-raw mixture coefficient and found entirely synthetic works best (see Fig. A.1b).

Training We CPT using AdamW (Loshchilov & Hutter, 2019) with $\beta_1 = 0.9$, $\beta_2 = 0.95$, and weight decay of 0.01. We use a cosine learning rate schedule with a 1000 step warmup and peak learning rate of 1e-4 (tuned over {1e-5, 3e-5, 1e-4, 3e-4, 1e-3} in initial experiments). All models are trained with sequence length 2048 and batch size 96 on 4 x H200 GPUs.

Evaluation We evaluate the continually pretrained LMs on the popular reasoning benchmarks MATH (Hendrycks et al., 2021b), GSM8K (Cobbe et al., 2021), and MMLU-STEM (Hendrycks et al., 2021a). We use few-shot CoT prompting (Wei et al., 2022b) for all three benchmarks. To ensure robust evaluation, we evaluate with two distinct sets of few-shot CoT prompts (see Appx. C.2): (1) Standard prompts from previous works, i.e., Minerva CoT (Lewkowycz et al., 2022) for MATH, the default CoT from (Wei et al., 2022b) for GSM8K, and the FLAN CoT (Wei et al., 2021) for MMLU-STEM; (2) Synthetic CoT prompts, where the CoT traces are synthesized by GPT-4o-mini using Prompt C.1.1, using the question as the prefix and answer as the suffix. We report the results with synthetic CoT prompts by default, as they performed better uniformly across methods (see Fig. A.2). The few-shot CoT traces were placed in the latent space Z for our method, and in the raw text space X for baselines. All models are evaluated with a temperature 0.0. We conducted all evaluations using the

(a) Bootstrapping on fixed data   (b) Continual bootstrapping
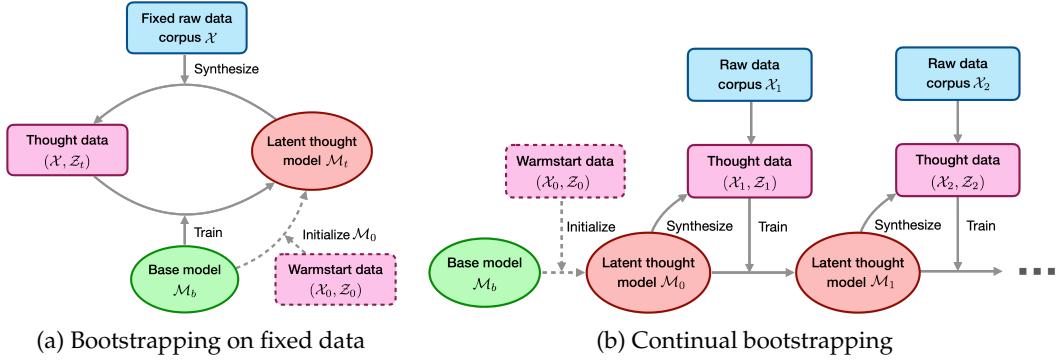
Figure 7: **Illustration of our two bootstrapping setups.** (a) We study the scientific question of whether an LM can self-improve on a fixed corpus by iteratively generating higher-quality latent thoughts that in turn train a more capable model. (b) We study a more practical scenario in which an LM is continually pretrained on a series of corpora, using the model at each iteration to generate latent thoughts for the subsequent corpus to train itself.

LM Evaluation Harness (Gao et al., 2024), and the Math-Verify evaluator (HuggingFace, 2025) for scoring MATH final answers against the ground-truth.

5.2 Results

Training with synthetic latent thoughts improves data efficiency over baselines Fig. 6 and Table 1 show downstream performance during CPT for various methods. Training with synthetic latent thoughts substantially outperforms all baselines, even outperforming training on an equivalent amount of unique raw tokens ("Raw-Fresh"). While rephrasing-based synthetic data generation methods do improve over raw data baselines—particularly the variant incorporating reasoning steps ("WRAP-CoT")—they still considerably underperform our approach. Moreover, our method is more robust to prompt variations compared to baselines that suffer considerable degradation with standard CoT prompts (see Fig. A.2). Notably, since our method trains jointly on synthetic latent thoughts and raw data (at a 2.3:1 token ratio), it achieves better performance while seeing the raw data fewer times (3.3x) than the baselines. We include a comparison normalized by the effective raw tokens seen by each method in Fig. A.3, where our method demonstrates even more significant gains.

Learning and utilizing latent thoughts in a separate latent space is critical A key distinction between our approach and baselines (such as WRAP-CoT) is that we model thought tokens in a latent space Z separate from the observed text X. We hypothesized that separating the thoughts would improve performance by explicitly handling the language modeling task from the thought process (3.3). We ablate this design in Table 1. First, we demonstrate the importance of jointly modeling thought and document chunk pairs (Z, X). We test a variant of our approach that does not separate the latent thoughts from the raw text X and mixes them with randomly sampled (unpaired) text chunks at a 1:1 ratio. This variant (second-to-last row) performed comparably to WRAP-CoT but significantly worse than our full method, demonstrating that our gains primarily stem from the latent model design rather than merely from the quality of synthetic thought data.

Furthermore, we assessed the effectiveness of reasoning with CoT in the latent space during downstream evaluation. For our trained latent thought models, we instead provide all few-shot CoT prompts in the raw text space X similar to the baselines and suppress the generation of all special latent tokens during evaluation. This evaluation-time intervention degrades performance (last row), demonstrating the importance of explicitly utilizing the latent thoughts during downstream evaluation.

6 LMs Can Self-Improve by Bootstrapping Their Latent Thoughts

Now we have demonstrated that training jointly on raw texts and accompanying latent thoughts synthesized by a powerful LM significantly improves data efficiency. In this section,
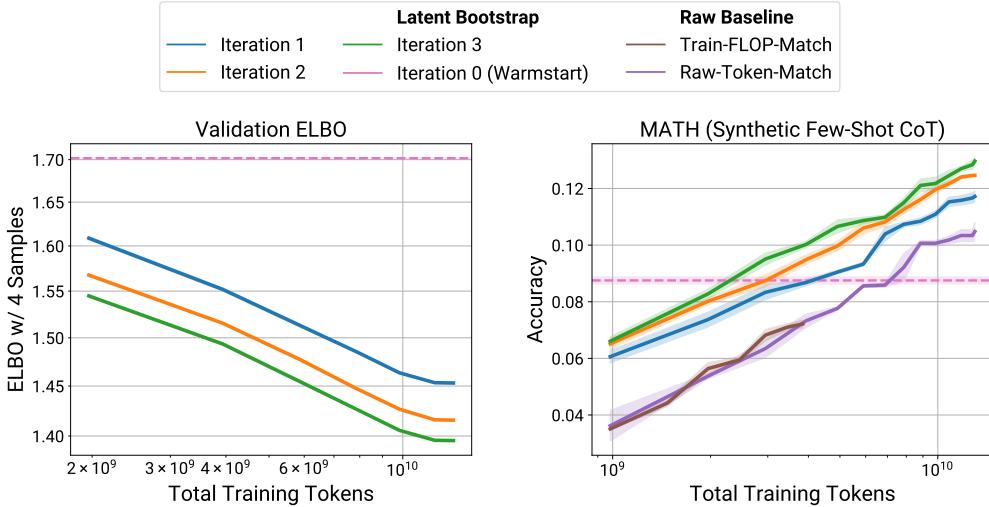
Figure 8: **BoLT bootstraps the performance on fixed raw data.** We instantiate the setup illustrated in Fig. 7a with bootstrapping on a fixed corpus of 1.92B raw tokens and warm-starting with 240M raw tokens. Performance gains are consistently observed in both the smoother ELBO evaluation (left) and downstream MATH evaluations (right, up to the third iteration), see Fig. B.2 for detailed results and robust gains across prompt variations. The improvements on downstream tasks remain robust in fine-tuning evaluations and persist through the fourth iteration (see Fig. 9). Results are over 5 training runs for bootstrapping and 3 runs for baselines to reduce variability.

we take a step towards LMs that can *self-improve* on limited pretraining data, by investigating whether the BoLT algorithm enables monotonic improvement across iterations.

We consider two experimental setups: one designed to scientifically understand BoLT, and another that better resembles a practical use case:

- *Bootstrapping on fixed data*: we fix a single training corpus and investigate whether BoLT can enable an LM to iteratively generate higher quality latents. This setup is outlined in Fig. 7a: We fix all training corpora $\mathcal{X}_t = \mathcal{X}$, $\forall t$ and retrain the model $\mathcal{M}_t$ from scratch in Algorithm 1. With a limited amount of fixed data, the final model performance is purely determined by the quality of synthesized latent thoughts, enabling a controlled study.

- *Continual bootstrapping*: An LM is continually trained on a series of corpora, using the LM at each stage to generate latent thoughts to accompany the subsequent corpus. We study whether the increasingly capable model produces higher quality latents that lead to better trained models, compared to using latents from earlier, less capable versions of itself. This setup is outlined in Fig. 7b, using different training corpora $\mathcal{X}_t$ for each iteration t and initializing the training of $\mathcal{M}_t$ from $\mathcal{M}_{t-1}$.

6.1 Bootstrapping on Fixed Data

6.1.1 Experimental Setup

Bootstrapping configuration We use TinyLlama-1.1B as the base model $\mathcal{M}_b$ and fix the training corpus as 1.92B raw tokens from FineMath-4+. For the warmstart data $\mathcal{X}_0$, we use a separate corpus of 240M raw tokens with GPT-4o-mini synthetic latents as $\mathcal{Z}_0$ ($\sim$ 550M synthesized tokens), following Sec. 5.1. We train the warmstart model $\mathcal{M}_0$ for 1 epoch on $(\mathcal{X}_0, \mathcal{Z}_0)$. At each bootstrap iteration t, we use the current trained model $\mathcal{M}_{t-1}$ to instantiate the posterior $q(Z \mid X; \mathcal{M}_{t-1})$ at temperature 1.0, from which we sample latents for each text chunk (with chunks split following Sec. 5.1). We sample $K = 4$ latents by default and select one by sampling proportional to their importance weights (Sec. 4), which we found to provide decent performance gains while maintaining a reasonable cost for synthetic data generation. We distribute the latent generation workload over a cluster of H100/200,

12
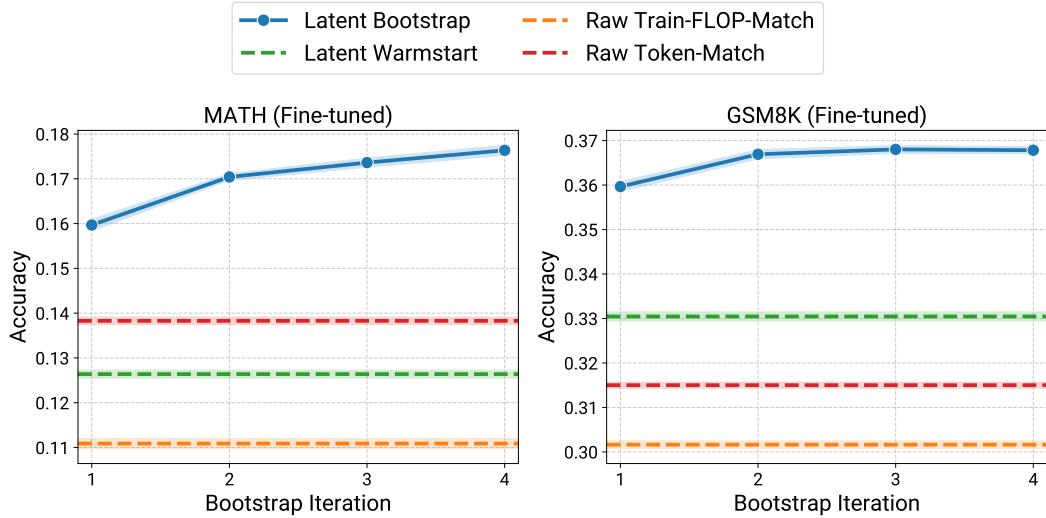
Figure 9: **The performance gains of BoLT across multiple iterations and over raw data baselines remain robust in finetuning evaluations**. For MATH, the gains persist through the fourth iteration, whereas they appear to plateau after the third with few-shot prompting (Fig. B.2). On GSM8K, BoLT demonstrates clear gains in the second iteration and appears to plateau in later iterations, possibly due to diminishing marginal benefits of further optimization on a math-heavy corpus for solving simpler math word problems. Standard errors are over 3 training and 5 finetuning runs, totaling 15 seeds.

A100/6000/5000/40, L40, and RTX3090 GPUs. The synthetic:raw token ratio is $\sim$2.4:1, and we train LMs on the augmented data for 2 epochs at each iteration, corresponding to $\sim$13B total training tokens. We follow the training configuration in Sec. 5.1, except we now use batch size 192 on 8 x H200 GPUs for bootstrapping training runs.

Evaluation   Because of high run-to-run variability at our scale, we require high signal-to-noise ratio evaluation metrics that differentiate model quality across bootstrap iterations. We use both likelihood-based measures and downstream metrics:

• *Likelihood-based measures*: Likelihood (or perplexity) measures are standard metrics for evaluating pretrained LMs, providing a smoother assessment than downstream metrics. We use a holdout set of 1,000 documents from FineMath-4+ to measure test likelihoods. For latent thought models, we measure the multiple-sample ELBO (i.e., IWAE, Burda et al., 2015) as in Eq. (1) for a tighter bound. In particular, we chunk each document as in training, measure the ELBO with 4 samples for each chunk, and compute the ELBO per token. While ELBO could be a loose bound on the true negative log-likelihood (NLL), in our setting, we provide this as a diagnostic metric that demonstrates that our model self-improves predictably with respect to our chosen training metric. We also measure the NLL directly on the raw data (which is out-of-distribution for latent thought models) for reference and observe similar results as the ELBO (see Fig. B.1).

• *Downstream metrics*: We evaluate performance on MATH and GSM8K at each bootstrap iteration with few-shot CoT prompting, following Sec. 5.1. We exclude MMLU-STEM as performance fell within the noise floor (<28%). Because few-shot prompting performance may be confounded by the LM's in-context learning ability (Dominguez-Olmedo et al., 2025), we also perform finetuning-based evaluations that measure the model performance after being finetuned on respective training splits. Specifically, we take the training set for MATH & GSM8K and finetune on this set. We synthetically generate CoT traces for the finetuning set using our prompt in Prompt C.1.1, by treating the question as the prefix and the answer as the suffix. We finetune using AdamW with standard hyperparameters $\beta_1 = 0.9$, $\beta_2 = 0.95$, weight decay 0, and a cosine learning rate schedule with a warmup over the first 5% of steps. We split out 10% of the train set as a validation set and tune
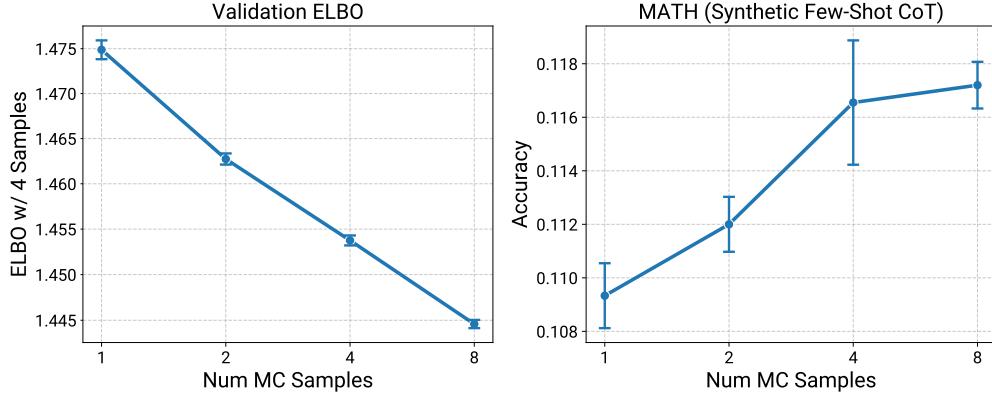
Figure 10: **More Monte Carlo samples lead to improved latent quality and better trained models.** We vary the number of MC samples for latent generation at the first bootstrap iteration, and evaluate the final model performance trained with augmented data over 3 training runs. Results indicate that generating additional MC samples with more inference compute results in higher quality latents and contributes to more efficient model training. The gains remain robust on GSM8K and across prompt variations, see Fig. B.4.

> hyperparameters to obtain a learning rate of 1e-4, batch size 64, and 5 epochs. We report test accuracy of the final model checkpoint with CoT, using standard sampling hyperparameters top_k= 50, top_p= 0.9, and temperature 0.6. Due to the small test set size of GSM8K, we follow Guo et al. (2025) and calculate the mean accuracy over 16 random samples for each test question to reduce variance.

To reduce variability, we conduct 5 training runs for bootstrapping models and 3 runs for baselines with different seeds, and report the means and standard errors. For clear comparison across iterations, we plot the best performance achieved during training for each run. The exact performance curves are included in Fig. B.3, showing similar relative comparisons but with higher variance. For finetuning evaluations, standard error is over 3 upstream CPT $\times$ 5 downstream finetuning $=$ 15 total seeds.

6.1.2 Results

BoLT enables monotonic self-improvement across multiple iterations Fig. 8 shows the model performance after each bootstrap iteration. Our results demonstrate that BoLT consistently improves performance over multiple iterations in both ELBO and downstream MATH accuracy, forming a self-improvement loop where more capable models generate higher quality latents that further enhance model capabilities. Performance improvements remain clearly observable on the smoother likelihood-based metrics (ELBO and NLL (Fig. B.1)) through the fourth iteration. Downstream MATH performance shows consistent improvement through the third iteration, robust across prompt variations (Fig. B.2), with diminishing returns by the fourth. This plateau may be due to the discontinuous nature of few-shot prompting evaluations (Wei et al., 2022a; Schaeffer et al., 2023) that can mask smaller improvements; after task-specific finetuning, gains persist through the fourth iteration (Fig. 9). We speculate that the number of iterations before saturation could correlate with scale, as our preliminary smaller-scale experiments showed few-shot performance plateauing after the second iteration. Qualitatively, we observe instances where the latents at earlier iterations make mistakes that are corrected in later ones: Example D.3.3 contains an example.

Training on self-generated latents outperforms training on raw data We compare the downstream MATH performance of BoLT-trained models with those trained on raw data (Fig. 8). We include two baselines: a FLOP-matched baseline trained for the same total training tokens as ours (with $\sim 3.4\times$ more passes over the corpus than ours), and a raw token–matched baseline trained on the same count of raw tokens as ours (2 epochs over the corpus). The results demonstrate that BoLT-trained models significantly outperform both baselines, demonstrating the effectiveness of reasoning to learn with self-generated

latents for improved data efficiency. These gains persist in finetuning evaluations on MATH & GSM8K (Fig. 9). Examples of self-generated latents are provided in Appx. D.3.

Synthesizing latents with more Monte Carlo samples improves data quality   A key component of our approach is the use of Monte Carlo sampling: we draw multiple samples and reweight them to select one, inducing an improved posterior and serving as a "policy improvement operator". Now we study the impact of the number of MC samples K on the quality of synthesized latents. We synthesize latents with $K = 1, 2, 4, 8$ at the first iteration and train models on data augmented with these latents; all other hyperparameters are fixed. Fig. 10 compares performance across MC samples. We find that the ELBO and downstream MATH accuracy improve monotonically in the number of MC samples, demonstrating a potential avenue for scaling inference compute in improving pretraining efficiency.

Potential side-effects of bootstrapping   We note a "negative" result where few-shot prompted GSM8K performance deteriorates over multiple BoLT iterations (while still outperforming the raw data baselines) in Fig. B.5. However, this degradation is not present after task-specific finetuning (Fig. 9, right). A potential explanation is that CPT on the math-heavy FineMath corpus worsens natural language understanding and in turn the model's ability to interpret GSM8K word problems (examples provided in Appx. D.4). It is possible this effect was observed to a lesser extent in MATH evaluations, where performance plateaus in few-shot evaluations but not in finetuning. We tested this hypothesis by evaluating BoLT models on a validation set from the general-domain DCLM corpus (Li et al., 2024) (Fig. B.5 right), where more optimization on FineMath tends to degrade DCLM NLL. Such potential side-effects warrant more extensive investigation into latent thought models beyond reasoning-heavy domains in future work.

6.2   Continual Bootstrapping

Our previous experiment confirms that BoLT leads to iterative improvement of the latent thought model. However, re-training the latent thought model from scratch at each iteration could be wasteful, and a more realistic setting would be to perform those experiments as part of continual learning, where the model updates its latent thought generator as it processes more and more data. We show that BoLT continues to work in this setting.

6.2.1   Experimental Setup

Bootstrapping configuration   We use TinyLlama-1.1B as the base model $\mathcal{M}_b$ and 240M raw tokens from the FineMath-4+ dataset as the warmstart data $\mathcal{X}_0$. We conduct $T = 4$ bootstrap iterations, where each iteration t uses a distinct subset of the FineMath-4+ dataset with logarithmically increasing size as $\mathcal{X}_t$—960M, 960M, 1.92B, and 3.84B raw tokens respectively. Models are trained for 1 epoch on the warmstart data and 2 epochs on the bootstrap data at each iteration. To mitigate forgetting and model degradation during continual training, we use the warmup-stable-decay (WSD, Hu et al., 2024b) schedule. In particular, the learning rate is warmed up for 1000 steps only at the warmstart stage and then maintained at a constant value until the decay phase. For each training stage (including both warmstart and bootstrap iterations), we linearly decay the learning rate during the final 15% of training steps, where the final checkpoint is obtained as $\mathcal{M}_t$ for evaluation and synthetic latent generation. When training $\mathcal{M}_{t+1}$ at next iteration, we initialize both the model and the optimizer states from the pre-decay checkpoint, and continue training with the same constant learning rate without re-warming up. The learning rate is set to 3e-5, which was tuned in our preliminary experiments to mitigate forgetting and achieve stable transitions across iterations. All other configurations follow Sec. 6.1.1, such as the use of 4 MC samples for synthetic latent generation.

Baseline comparison   The key question to answer in this setup is whether iterative improvement of the latent thought model leads to performance benefits. To understand this, we compare to a baseline where we stop iterative improvement at time t', fixing the latent thought generation model. We investigate this by comparing our bootstrapped models (that use the most recent and capable model $\mathcal{M}_t$ to synthesize latents for $\mathcal{M}_{t+1}$ at each iteration) against the alternatives of fixing the latent generator at a previous iteration $\mathcal{M}_{t'}$ for training subsequent models $\mathcal{M}_t, \forall t > t'$. We conduct 3 training runs for each training
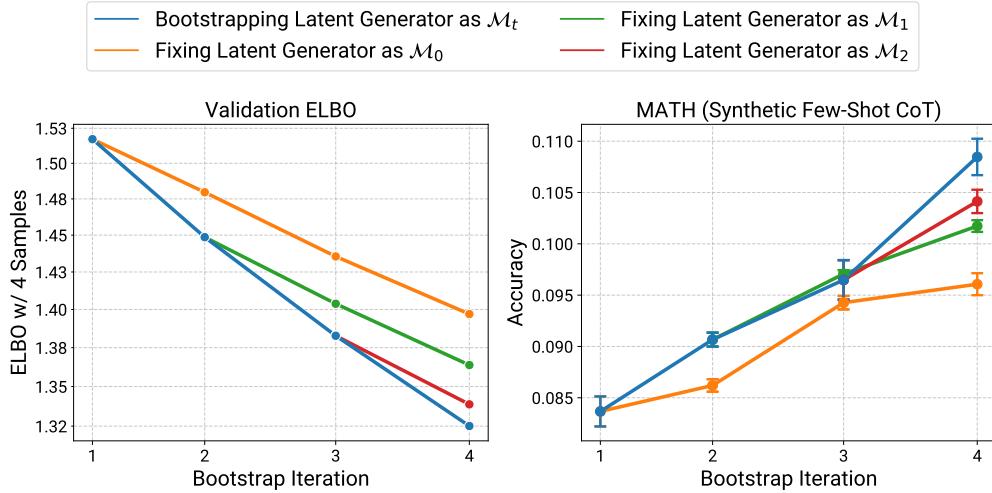
Figure 11: **BoLT can bootstrap in continual learning settings.** We instantiate the setup illustrated in Fig. 7b by training on a series of corpora and compare two options: bootstrapping the latent model across all four iterations (blue), or fixing the latent generator at earlier iterations. Our bootstrapped models lead to a steeper scaling trend in likelihood-based metrics (left) and consistently outperform the fixed-latent-generator baselines on downstream MATH performance (right), with gains becoming more pronounced at later iterations. Results over 3 training runs are reported. Due to the log-sized scaling of the x-axis, the scaling trends here are comparable to a traditional data-scaling law. See Fig. B.6 for additional results and Fig. B.7 for detailed evaluations over the training runs.

setup to reduce the run-to-run variability and measure the models' performance at each iteration following the same evaluation protocol described in Sec. 6.1.1.

6.2.2 Results

Continual, iterative improvement of latent thought models Fig. 11 shows the best model performance at each bootstrap iteration, comparing the use of the bootstrapped model to generate latents for the next training corpus, versus the use of models from previous iterations to generate latents. Our results demonstrate that using the more capable bootstrapped models lead to a steeper scaling trend in likelihood-based metrics (see Fig. 11 left for ELBO and Fig. B.6 left for NLL results), which demonstrates the bootstrapping effects of our approach in improving data scaling with higher-quality latents. The gains are also reflected in the downstream MATH performance (Fig. 11 right), where the bootstrapped models consistently outperform the fixed-latent-generator baselines, with an increasingly pronounced gap in performance at later iterations. We include the detailed model performance during training runs in Fig. B.7. Collectively, these results demonstrate the potential of our approach in forming a model self-improvement loop—where the more capable latent thought models produce higher quality latents that lead to better learning efficiency.

7 Discussion

7.1 Broader Implications

Learning to reason and reasoning to learn Recent RL-based approaches such as o1 (Jaech et al., 2024) and R1 (Guo et al., 2025) *learn to reason* with LMs, using supervised data and verified rewards to unlock the reasoning capabilities of a strong pretrained model. In contrast, our work demonstrates the potential of *reasoning to learn*, by training a model to learn more from observed data by reasoning through it. We show promising results on one reasoning-heavy domain, but the likelihood-based supervision makes it applicable to more general domains, and we believe the same approach can enable more data-efficient learning of capabilities at scale. These two paradigms are complementary, and the base

models trained with our approach may serve as a better starting point for task-specific RL by transferring their thoughts trained at scale.

Using asynchronous synthetic data generation to improve synchronous training efficiency Our and recent works (Javaheripi et al., 2023; Maini et al., 2024; Yang et al., 2025) demonstrate that synthetic data generation can enable improved scaling trends for synchronous pretraining on centralized compute. Because synthetic data generation can be distributed across disparate resources (Silver et al., 2017b), this approach shifts a portion of the overall synchronous pretraining compute to an asynchronous workload. This trend may inspire changes in infrastructure design for LM pretraining, enabling the effective use of distributed resources with low-bandwidth interconnects. Additionally, developing more scalable synthetic data generation techniques, such as increasing Monte Carlo samples in BoLT, could enable another axis for scaling the asynchronous compute used in pretraining.

7.2 Limitations

Constrained experimental setup under compute budget Due to our compute budget, our experimental setup was constrained to a 1B parameter LM and continued pretraining on a few billion tokens of mostly mathematical text. These choices were made to demonstrate a proof-of-concept; our use of a small model enables faster inference to synthesize billions of latent tokens, while continued pretraining on reasoning-intensive data enables measurable differences among methods in downstream evaluations. We are hopeful that future work will test reasoning to learn at larger scales and on general-domain pretraining data.

Limited exploration of design choices We focused on a particular instantiation of reasoning to learn without extensive testing of design choices such as: the generative structure of latent thoughts (currently latents are modeled autoregressively for each text chunk), the initial warmstart data generated by different models or prompts, more efficient Monte Carlo sampling techniques such as Sequential Monte Carlo (Doucet et al., 2001), and various hyperparameters like the chunk size, etc.

Side-effects of bootstrapping Bootstrapping LMs on their own synthetic data at scale may amplify specific bias and ultimately lead to unintended consequences in model behavior. We observed one possible example of such side effects: the few-shot CoT performance on GSM8K degraded with BoLT iterations, though an alternative explanation is that more optimization on mathematical tokens may degrade the language understanding necessary in GSM8K (see Fig. B.5). Future work should more extensively investigate the side effects of bootstrapping during pretraining.

7.3 Future Directions

Bootstrapping on general-domain pretraining data We believe the most exciting application of our approach could be in enabling models to self-improve on general-domain pretraining-scale data without task-specific supervision. This is in stark contrast to the recent approaches which improve pretrained LMs with reinforcement learning on task-specific labeled data (Jaech et al., 2024; Guo et al., 2025). By bootstrapping LMs with latent thoughts on pretraining-scale data, we believe it may be possible for models to acquire more general-domain reasoning capabilities that are useful beyond specific domains.

Application to general data modalities Our approach is not limited to text data and may be applied to general data modalities. This is because every piece of human-generated data is a result of an underlying latent generative process that is typically not observable. For example, when working with video data, one could train a multimodal latent model to extract the creative intent or emotional pacing behind scene transitions, rather than focusing solely on pixel-level features. For non-textual data, these underlying latent structures may be even more obscure, and models trained on such data typically demonstrates much worse data efficiency than LMs (Brooks et al., 2024). Consequently, augmenting these data modalities with learned latents could possibly yield more pronounced gains in data efficiency than observed in the text domain.

Hierarchical latent structures Our current instantiation models the latent generation process in an autoregressive manner, where each latent is generated for a single chunk of text conditioned on the previous context. While we have demonstrated the effectiveness of this

approach on reasoning-intensive data, this local latent thought structure remains inherently "myopic". It may not be sufficiently expressive to capture the hierarchical planning processes that humans employ when creating complex, long-form content such as research papers, novels, and large-scale codebases. Future work could explore more sophisticated latent structures that mirror human planning hierarchies, potentially incorporating both high-level planning and low-level reasoning.

8   Conclusion

We have introduced reasoning to learn—a new approach to data-efficient LM pretraining by deliberately thinking through the observed data. We show that training LMs with synthetic latent thoughts significantly improves learning efficiency and downstream performance in data-constrained setups. Moreover, we instantiate an EM algorithm—Bootstrapping Latent Thoughts (BoLT)—which enables model self-improvement, where more capable models synthesize higher-quality latents that in turn enable greater learning efficiency. We extensively validate BoLT with continued pretraining on math data, and show that BoLT demonstrates steeper scaling and consistent downstream gains across multiple bootstrap iterations. Our work demonstrates the promise of explicit inference of underlying latent thoughts in improving data efficiency on task-agnostic pretraining data.

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Appendix

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A Synthetic Data Generation Experiments

A.1 Experimental Details

Tuning the mixing ratio of WRAP baselines We have tuned the ratio of mixing raw data with paraphrased data for the WRAP baselines, similar to Maini et al. (2024). For each document during training, we randomly select either the raw data or the paraphrased data according to a fixed mixing ratio drawn from {0.0, 0.25, 0.5}, where 0.0 means using only paraphrased data without mixing raw data. The results are shown in Fig. A.1. For both WRAP-Orig and WRAP-CoT, applying no mixing (ratio=0.0) leads to the best performance, which we used in our experiments.

(a) WRAP-Orig

(b) WRAP-CoT
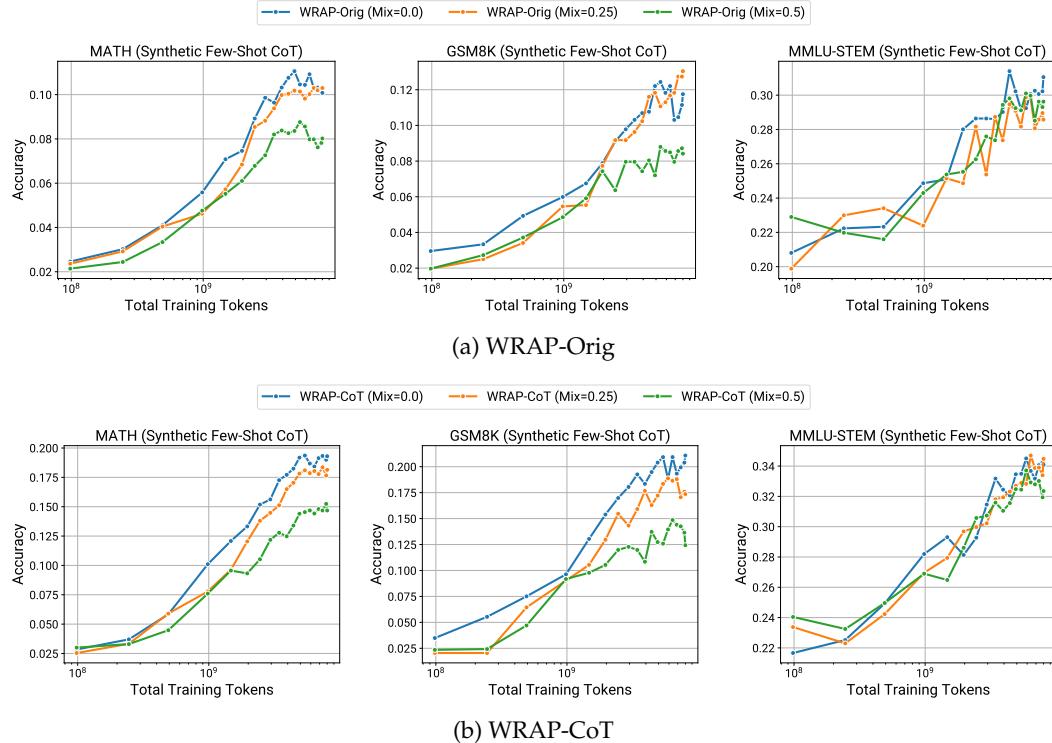
Figure A.1: Training purely on paraphrased data without mixing raw data generally leads to the best performance for WRAP baselines.

A.2 Additional Results

Evaluation results with different few-shot CoT prompts To facilitate a robust evaluation of model downstream performance, we have tested each benchmark using two sets of few-shot CoT prompts. Besides the synthetic CoT prompts that we used by default, we also tested the standard CoT prompts from previous works – specifically, the Minerva CoT (Lewkowycz et al., 2022) for MATH, the default CoT from (Wei et al., 2022b) for GSM8K, and the FLAN CoT (Wei et al., 2021) for MMLU-STEM. See Appx. C.2 for detailed prompts. The evaluation results are shown in Fig. A.2. Our method demonstrates robust performance across different prompt variations, maintaining consistent gains over baselines. In contrast, several baselines, most notably WRAP-CoT, exhibit substantial performance degradation when evaluated with standard prompts, leading to an even wider performance gap between our method and the baselines.
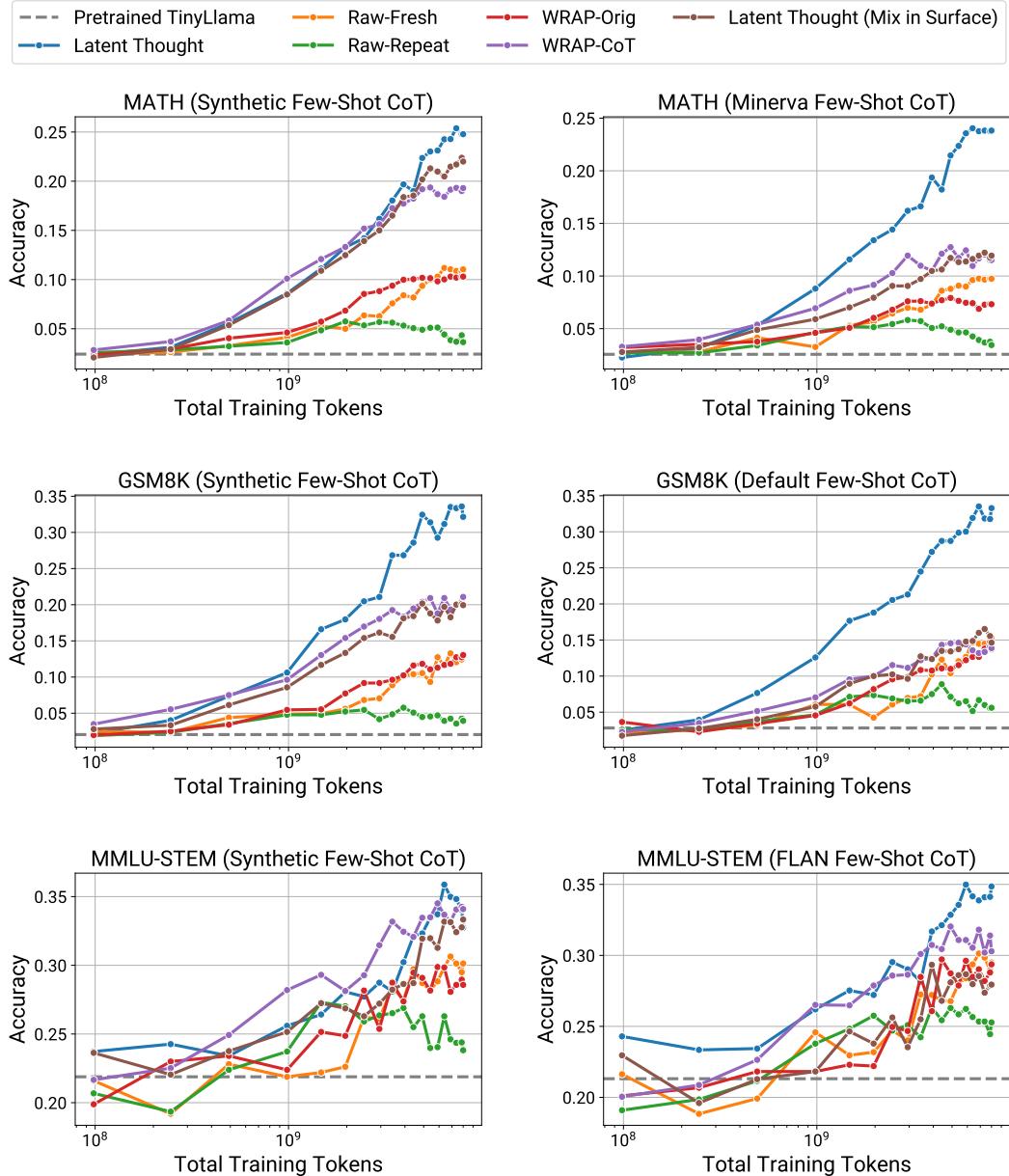
Figure A.2: Evaluation results with different few-shot CoT prompts: synthetic CoT prompts (left) vs. standard CoT prompts used in previous works (right). Our method demonstrates robust performance across different prompt variations and consistent gains over baselines. The performance gap is more pronounced when using standard CoT prompts due to degradation of the baseline performance.

Comparison normalized by the effective raw tokens seen by each method   Fig. 6 compares different methods with the same amount of training tokens. However, since different methods produce different amounts of training tokens per raw document, this means each method processes a different number of raw documents during training. In particular, our method was trained on 3.3 times more raw tokens (due to the latent to raw token ratio of 2.3) than the raw data baselines. To provide a complementary perspective, Fig. A.3 shows performance when methods are normalized by the effective number of raw tokens seen during training. For WRAP baselines, we computed the effective raw tokens based on the number of raw tokens that were paraphrased (i.e., training tokens divided by synthetic-to-raw token ratio). We find that the gains of our method over baselines are more significant, highlighting the data efficiency of our method.
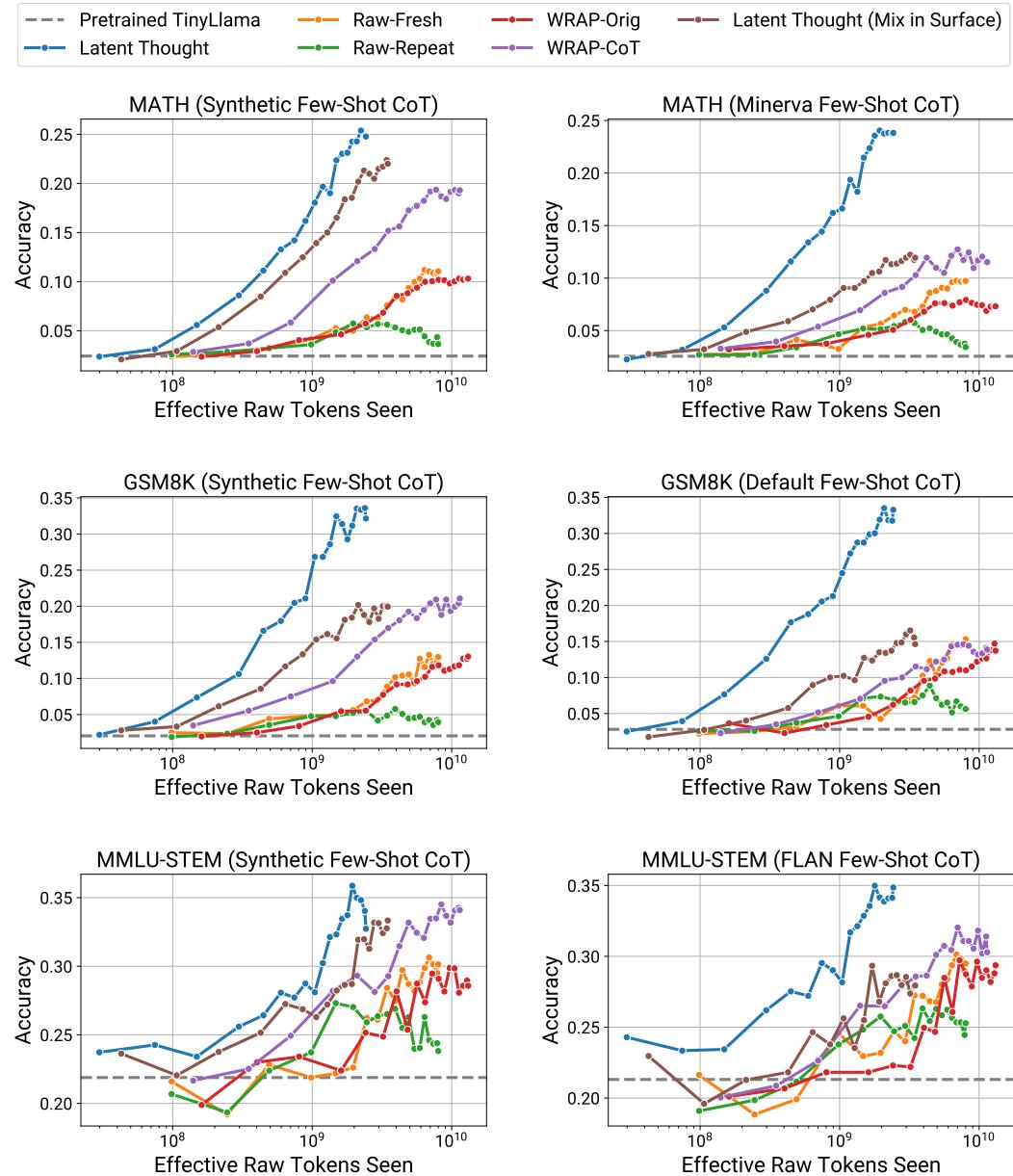
Figure A.3: Comparison normalized by the effective raw tokens seen by each method. Our method achieves more significant gains over baselines, highlighting its data efficiency.

B   Bootstrapping Experiments

B.1   Bootstrapping on Fixed Data

Log-likelihood evaluation   In Fig. B.1, we measure the negative log-likelihood (NLL) of latent thought models at each bootstrapping iteration on a holdout validation set. Note that this is not an ideal evaluation metric for latent thought models as they are not trained to directly optimize NLL and the evaluation does not utilize the latent thoughts. Nevertheless, we report it for reference and to provide a relative comparison across bootstrap iterations as a smooth evaluation metric. Our results show that latent thought models demonstrate lower NLL over multiple iterations with smooth and clear gains up to the fourth iteration, which is consistent with the ELBO results in Fig. 8.
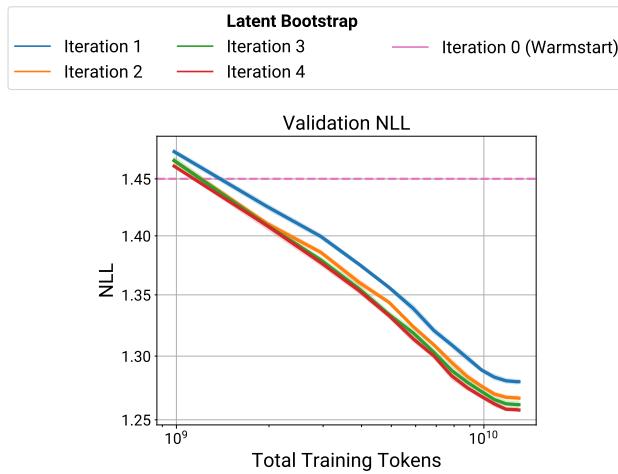
Figure B.1: Evaluation results of negative log-likelihood (NLL) on a holdout validation set. Our latent thought models demonstrate lower NLL over multiple iterations with clear gains.

Detailed evaluation results on MATH   In Fig. B.2, we include detailed evaluation results on MATH on both our synthetic CoT prompt and the standard Minerva CoT prompt. We find that the gains of latent thought models across multiple bootstrap iterations are robust across prompt variations. The gains seem to plateau after the third iteration, which might partially be due to the discrete nature of downstream evaluations. The gains over the baseline of training on raw data is even more significant on the Minerva CoT prompt, indicating the effectiveness of training models with self-generated latent thoughts.

Exact model performance curves   In our main results (Fig. 8), we show the performance curves of the best model during training at each bootstrap iteration. In Fig. B.3, we show the exact performance curves of all models during training, which demonstrates a cosnistent relative comparison but with a slightly larger variance.
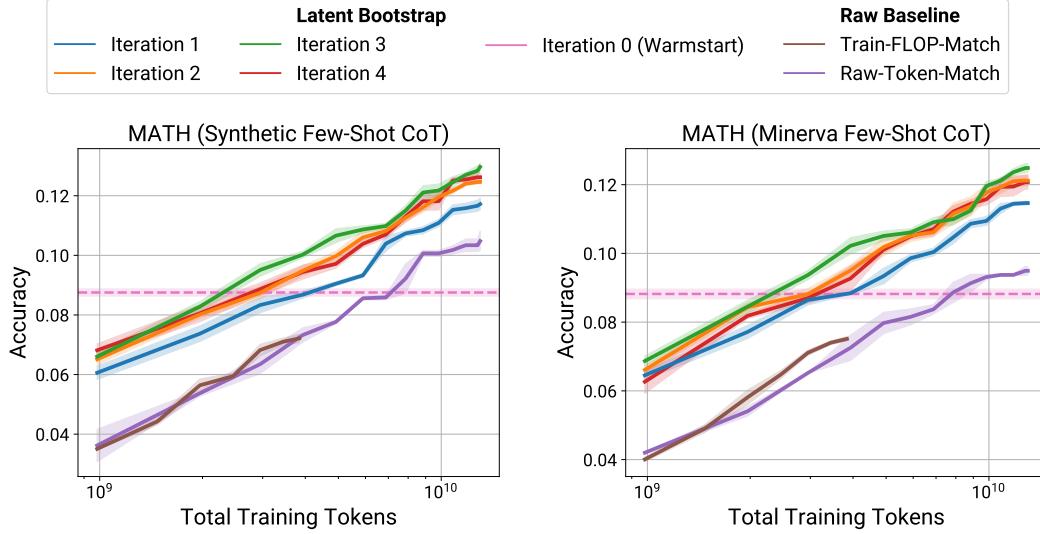
Figure B.2: Detailed evaluation results on MATH. The gains of latent thought models across multiple bootstrap iterations are robust across prompt variations, and the gains over the baseline of training on raw data is more significant on the Minerva CoT prompt.
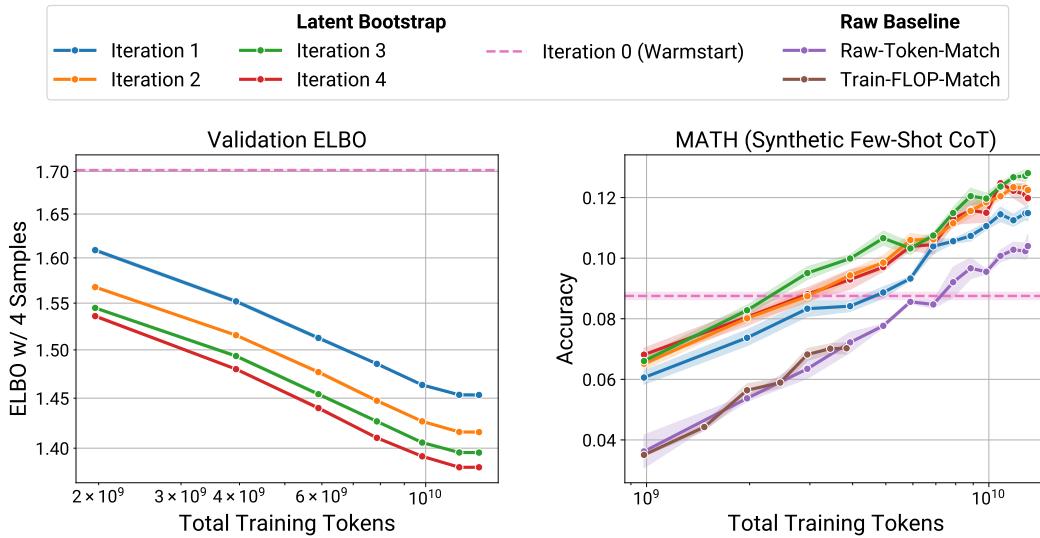
Figure B.3: Exact model performance curves during training. We observe a consistent relative comparison with Fig. 8 but with a slightly larger variance.

Additional results on scaling MC samples   In Fig. B.4, we include additional results of scaling MC samples, following the same setup as Fig. 10. The performance gains remain robust across different prompt variations and when evaluated GSM8K.

Figure B.4: Additional results on scaling MC samples. The performance gains of increasing MC samples persist across prompt variations (left) and when evaluated on GSM8K (middle and right).

"Negative" bootstrapping results   In Fig. B.5, we include some negative bootstrapping results where the model performance on GSM8K with few-shot prompting deteriorates over multiple bootstrap iterations (but still outperforms the raw data baselines), which differs from our results on MATH (Fig. 8) or on fine-tuning evaluations (Fig. 9, right). A potential explanation for the degradation could be that as the model optimizes better on the mathematical-heavy FineMath data, it becomes worse at natural language understanding. We tested this hypothesis on a holdout validation set from the general-domain DCLM (Li et al., 2024) data, shown in Fig. B.5 (right). We find that models trained more on FineMath typically get worse on DCLM NLL (as evidenced by bootstrapped models performing worse than the warmstart model, and the train-FLOP-matched baseline performing worse than the raw-token-matched baseline). As a result, the bootstrapped models' worse performance on GSM8K might be attributed to their decreased natural language understanding capabilities due to increased optimization on the FineMath training data. We have also included some failure examples of bootstrapped models on GSM8K in Appx. D.4, where the bootstrapped models made mistake seemingly due to misinterpretation of the math word problems.
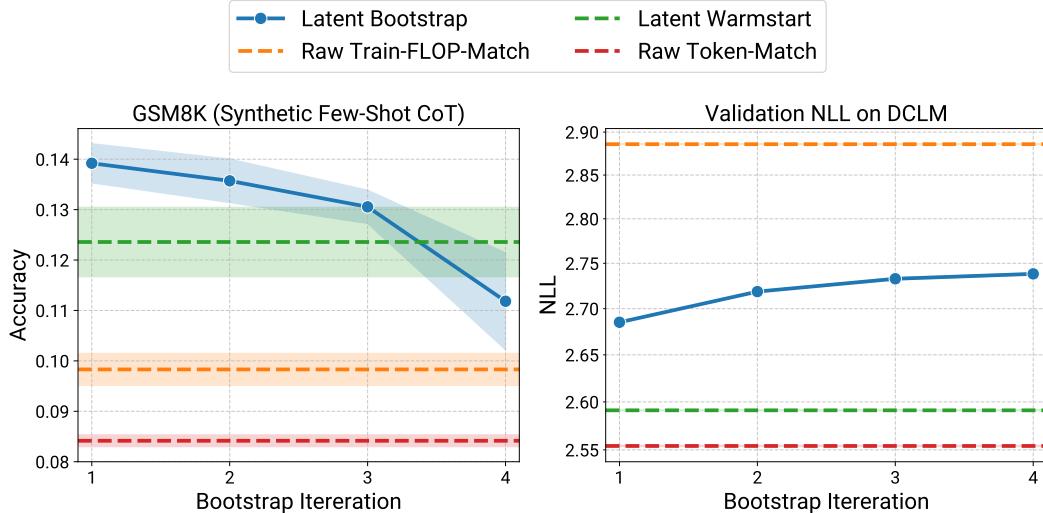
Figure B.5: "Negative" bootstrapping results. The bootstrapped models' performance on GSM8K deteriorates over multiple bootstrap iterations (left), which might be attributed to their decreased natural language understanding capabilities due to increased optimization on the FineMath training data, as evidenced by their worse NLL on DCLM (right).

B.2 Continual Bootstrapping

Additional evaluation results In Fig. B.6, we include additional evaluation results of NLL on the holdout validation set and the MATH performance on the Minerva CoT prompt. We find that NLL evaluation demonstrates a similar trend as the ELBO evaluation in Fig. 11 (left), where the bootstrapped models lead to a steeper scaling trend than the fixed-latent-generator baselines. For the MATH performance on the Minerva CoT prompt, the bootstrapped models also demonstrate consistent gains, even though the performance gap at the forth iteration is a bit less pronounced than using the synthetic CoT prompt (Fig. 11 right).
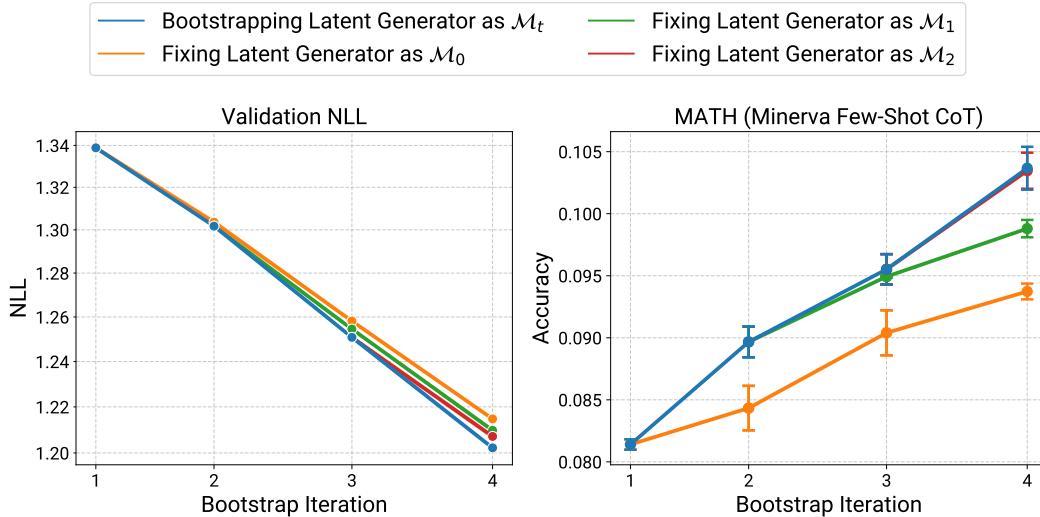
Figure B.6: Additional evaluation results of NLL on the holdout validation set (left) and MATH performance on the Minerva CoT prompt (right). Similar to our main results (Fig. 11), the bootstrapped models lead to a steeper scaling trend in likelihood-based metrics and consistent improvement on downstream MATH performance.

Detailed evaluation results during training runs In Fig. B.7, we include the evaluation results of each model during the training runs. We plot the best model performance during each training run to denoise the evaluation results and report the average over 3 runs, following the same practice in Fig. 8. From the plots, we can observe a clear difference of scaling trend between the bootstrapped models and the fixed-latent-generator baselines, especially for the likelihood-based metrics (top row).
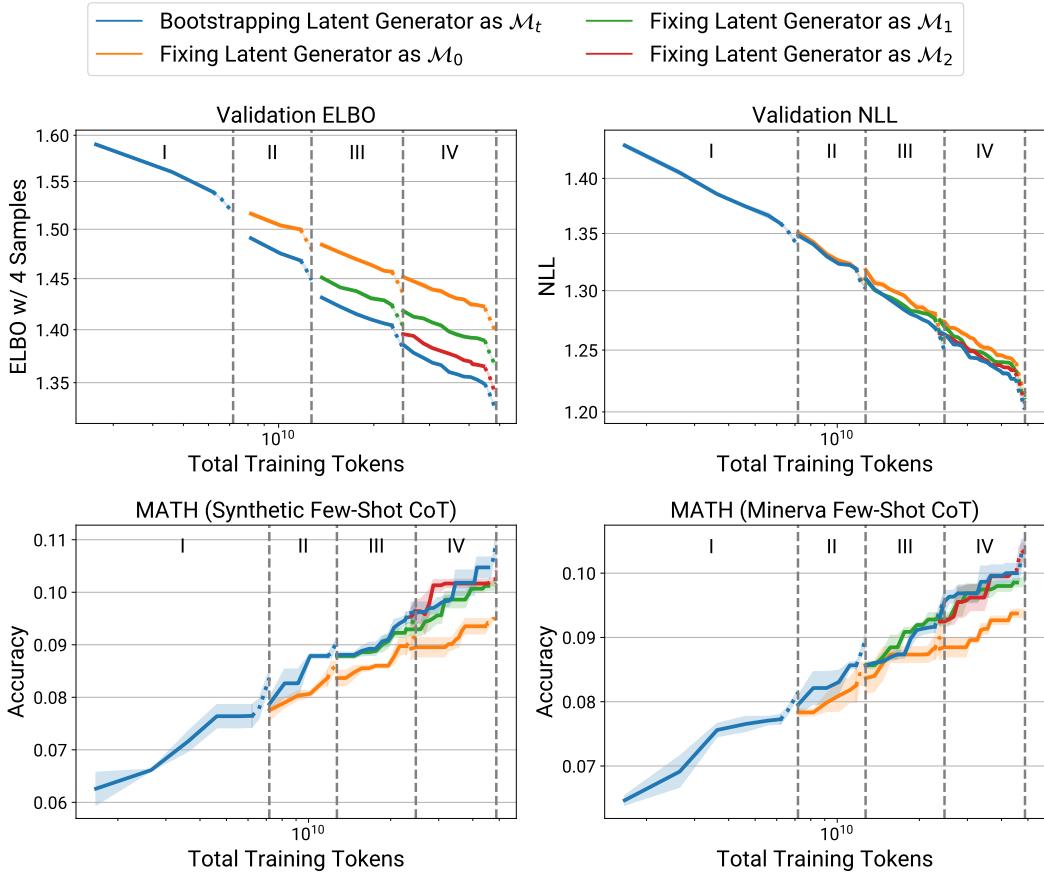
Figure B.7: Detailed evaluation results during training runs. We report the best model performance during each training run to denoise the results and report the average over 3 runs. The dashed curves denote the learning rate decay phase of each training run, where the final models are used for evaluation and latent generation. Models right before the decay phase are used for continual training at the next iteration.

C Prompts

C.1 Prompts for Synthetic Data Generation

Prompt C.1.1: GPT-4o-mini to generate latent thoughts on warmstart data

```
## System
You are an advanced AI system, highly knowledgeable and capable of deeply understanding and reasoning
through any web document

## User
You are provided with a pair of web document prefix and suffix. Your task is to insert latent thoughts
between them underlying the creation of the suffix conditioned on the prefix. The latent thoughts should
include: the missing background knowledge and the reasoning traces underlying each claim (especially, step-
by-step derivations or logical reasoning).

### Prefix
{prefix}

### Suffix
{suffix}

### Your turn
Now provide the latent thoughts. Use concise, simple, and declarative language. Do not give any supporting
 remarks or references to the terms 'prefix' and 'suffix', as this output will go directly into a computer
 program. Do not apply any markdown formatting or text embellishments. Optimize the content to ensure every
 word is informative, avoid vague language like 'xxx is essential'. Emphasize on the suffix without
repeating the content in the prefix. Focus on implicit reasoning and background knowledge that is not
explicitly stated in the suffix, and use concrete logical reasoning or mathematical derivations when
applicable.
```

Prompt C.1.2: GPT-4o-mini to rephrase the data with WRAP (Maini et al., 2024) prompts

```
# Prompt I
For the following website, give me a paraphrase of it using a very small vocabulary and extremely simple
sentences that a toddler will understand.

## Website
{text}

# Prompt II
For the following website, give me a paraphrase of it using very terse and abstruse language that only an
erudite scholar will understand. Replace simple words and phrases with rare and complex ones.

## Website
{text}

# Prompt III
For the following website, give me a diverse paraphrase of it in high quality English language, as in
sentences on Wikipedia.

## Website
{text}

# Prompt IV
Convert the following website into a conversational format with multiple tags of 'Question:' followed by '
Answer:'.

## Website
{text}
```

> ### Prompt C.1.3: GPT-4o-mini to rephrase the data with explicit reasoning steps

```
## User
You are provided with the following document. Give me a diverse paraphrase in high quality English
language that preserves all information in the original document. Also, insert detailed reasoning thoughts
 (especially, step-by-step mathematical derivations or logical reasoning). Do not output '## Paraphrased
Document'.

## Document
{text}
```

C.2 Prompts for Few-Show CoT Evaluation

Here we include the detailed prompts used in our few-shot CoT evaluation. In particular, we used distinct sets of few-shot CoT prompts (see Appx. C.2): (1) Synthetic CoT prompts (Appx. C.2.1) – where the CoT traces are synthetically generated by GPT-4o-mini using Prompt C.1.1 given the question as prefix and answer as suffix; (2) Standard prompts from previous works (Appx. C.2.2) – specifically, the Minerva CoT (Lewkowycz et al., 2022) for MATH, the default CoT from (Wei et al., 2022b) for GSM8K, and the FLAN CoT (Wei et al., 2021) for MMLU-STEM. We include the prompts used for our latent thought models for illustration – for baselines we used the exact same prompts with special latent tokens (i.e., <StartofLatent>, <Prior>, and <EndofLatent>) removed.

For each prompt, we include the few-shot CoT examples and a randomly sampled test question. For MATH, we used the same few-shot questions as in the Minerva prompts. For GSM8K, we used a randomly selected 8 problems from the training set as the few-shot examples in our synthetic CoT prompt, which aligns better with the actual test problem distribution than the easier problems in the default CoT prompt. For MMLU-STEM, we randomly selected 4 problems from 4 subjects in our synthetic CoT prompt, while FLAN CoT prompts use subject-specific few-shot examples for each subject (we include the one for high school statistics for an example).

C.2.1 Synthetic Few-Shot CoT Prompts

> ### Prompt C.2.1: Synthetic Few-Shot CoT for MATH

```
Problem:
Find the domain of the expression $\frac{\sqrt{x-2}}{\sqrt{5-x}}$.

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the domain of the expression, we need to ensure the numerator and denominator are both defined and
 the denominator is not zero.

Start with the numerator: $\sqrt{x-2}$. This square root is defined when the expression inside is non-negative.
 Thus, we require:
x - 2 ≥ 0
x ≥ 2.

Next, consider the denominator: $\sqrt{5-x}$. This square root is defined when the expression inside is non-
negative as well, and it must also be strictly positive to avoid division by zero. Therefore, we need:
5 - x > 0
x < 5.

Now, we combine the two inequalities. From the first inequality, we have x ≥ 2, and from the second
inequality, we have x < 5.

The combined conditions are:
2 ≤ x < 5.

In interval notation, this is expressed as [2, 5).

Thus, the final answer is [2, 5).
The final answer is [2,5)
```

Final Answer: The final answer is $[2,5)$. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
If $\det \mathbf{A} = 2$ and $\det \mathbf{B} = 12$, then find $\det(\mathbf{AB})$.

To find the determinant of the product of two matrices, we use the property that states $\det(\mathbf{AB}) = \det(\mathbf{A}) \cdot \det(\mathbf{B})$. This property holds for any square matrices $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ of the same size.

Given that $\det \mathbf{A} = 2$ and $\det \mathbf{B} = 12$, we can directly apply this property.

We calculate:

1. Start with the known determinants: $\det \mathbf{A} = 2$ and $\det \mathbf{B} = 12$.
2. Multiply these two values together: $2 \cdot 12$.
3. Perform the multiplication: $2 \cdot 12 = 24$.

Thus, based on these calculations, we conclude that $\det(\mathbf{AB}) = 24$.
The final answer is 24

Final Answer: The final answer is 24. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
Terrell usually lifts two 20-pound weights 12 times. If he uses two 15-pound weights instead, how many times must Terrell lift them in order to lift the same total weight?

To determine how many times Terrell must lift the two 15-pound weights to equal the total weight lifted with the two 20-pound weights, we first calculate the total weight lifted with the 20-pound weights.

Each 20-pound weight contributes 20 pounds, and since he lifts two weights, the total weight per lift is 20 pounds + 20 pounds = 40 pounds. He lifts this total 12 times, resulting in a total weight of 40 pounds * 12 = 480 pounds.

Next, we compute how many times he needs to lift the two 15-pound weights to match this total weight. Each 15-pound weight contributes 15 pounds, so the total weight per lift with the 15-pound weights is 15 pounds + 15 pounds = 30 pounds.

To find the number of lifts required to reach the same total weight of 480 pounds, we set up the equation: 30 pounds * x lifts = 480 pounds, where x represents the number of lifts.

Solving for x, we divide both sides by 30 pounds:
x = 480 pounds / 30 pounds = 16 lifts.

Thus, Terrell must lift the two 15-pound weights 16 times to equal the total weight he lifts with the two 20-pound weights.
The final answer is 16

Final Answer: The final answer is 16. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
If the system of equations

$$6x - 4y = a,$$
$$6y - 9x = b.$$

has a solution (x, y) where x and y are both nonzero,
find $\frac{a}{b}$, assuming b is nonzero.

To find the ratio $\frac{a}{b}$, we start with the system of equations given. The first equation is $6x - 4y = a$, and the second is $6y - 9x = b$.

We can express a in terms of x and y from the first equation:
a = 6x - 4y.

```
Next, we rearrange the second equation to express b:
b = 6y - 9x.

To find the ratio a/b, we substitute the expressions we derived:
a/b = (6x-4y)/(6y-9x).

Next, we need to simplify this expression. We can factor out a common factor in the numerator and the
denominator. First, observe that both a and b can be rewritten in a way that may reveal their relationship
:
In the numerator, we can rearrange it as 6x − 4y = 2(3x − 2y).
In the denominator, we rearrange 6y − 9x = 3(2y − 3x).

Now, substituting these factorizations back into our ratio gives us:
a/b = 2(3x−2y)/3(2y−3x).

Next, we can simplify further. Notice that 2y − 3x can be rewritten as −(3x − 2y):
a/b = 2(3x−2y)/3(−(3x−2y)).

This simplifies to:
a/b = 2/−3 = −2/3.

Since we assumed b is nonzero, this leads us to conclude that the system of equations has a specified
relationship between a and b when both x and y are nonzero.
The final answer is −2/3

<EndOfLatent>
Final Answer: The final answer is −2/3. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
Rationalize the denominator:  1/(2√7) .

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
```

```
##Problem
Question: Ben works 8-hour shifts in a furniture shop. It takes him 5 hours to build 1 rocking chair. How
many chairs can he build in 10 days?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find out how many rocking chairs Ben can build in 10 days, first determine the total number of hours he
 works in that period. Since he works 8-hour shifts, over 10 days, he works a total of 8 hours/day
multiplied by 10 days, which equals 80 hours.

Next, calculate how many rocking chairs Ben can build in those 80 hours. Each rocking chair takes him 5
hours to complete. To find the total number of chairs, divide the total hours worked by the time taken to
build one chair: 80 hours divided by 5 hours/chair equals 16 chairs.

Thus, in 10 days, Ben can build 16 rocking chairs. Therefore, the answer is 16.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 16. I hope it is correct.


##Problem
Question: A family has three adults and children, both girls and boys. They went out for a family trip and
 prepared 3 dozen boiled eggs for the trip. Every adult got 3 eggs, and the boys each received 1 more egg
than each girl since the girls had some snacks. How many boys went on the trip if the number of girls was
7 and each girl received an egg?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine the number of boys on the trip, we first analyze the information given. We know there are 7
girls. Each girl received 1 egg. Therefore, the total number of eggs given to the girls is:

7 girls * 1 egg/girl = 7 eggs.
```

Next, we find out how many eggs were allocated to the adults. There are 3 adults, and each received 3 eggs
, which results in:

3 adults * 3 eggs/adult = 9 eggs.

Now we calculate the total number of eggs distributed so far:

7 eggs (to girls) + 9 eggs (to adults) = 16 eggs.

Since the family prepared 3 dozen boiled eggs, we find the total number of eggs:

3 dozen = 3 * 12 = 36 eggs.

Now we determine how many eggs remain for the boys:

36 total eggs - 16 eggs already distributed = 20 eggs available for the boys.

According to the problem, each boy received 1 more egg than each girl, which means each boy received:

1 egg (for the girl) + 1 egg = 2 eggs.

Let B represent the number of boys. The total number of eggs given to the boys can be expressed as:

B boys * 2 eggs/boy = 2B eggs.

Setting the available eggs for the boys equal to the eggs they received, we have:

2B = 20.

To find B, we solve the equation:

B = 20 / 2 = 10.

Thus, the number of boys who went on the trip is 10. Therefore, the answer is 10.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 10. I hope it is correct.

##Problem
Question: A deep-sea monster rises from the waters once every hundred years to feast on a ship and sate
its hunger. Over three hundred years, it has consumed 847 people. Ships have been built larger over time,
so each new ship has twice as many people as the last ship. How many people were on the ship the monster
ate in the first hundred years?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the number of people on the ship the monster ate in the first hundred years, we need to understand
 the pattern of ship sizes and the total consumption over three hundred years.

The monster consumes a ship every hundred years, meaning it consumes a total of three ships over three
hundred years. The problem states that ships have been built larger over time, specifically that each new
ship has twice as many people as the last ship.

Let's denote the number of people on the ship in the first hundred years as x. According to the problem,
the second ship, which the monster eats in the second hundred years, has twice as many people, or 2x. The
third ship has twice the number of people as the second ship, or 4x.

Now we can express the total number of people consumed over the three hundred years as:
x (first ship) + 2x (second ship) + 4x (third ship) = 847 people.

Combining these terms gives us:
x + 2x + 4x = 7x.

Setting this equal to the total consumption:
7x = 847.

To find x, we divide both sides by 7:
x = 847 / 7 = 121.

Thus, the number of people on the ship the monster ate in the first hundred years is 121. Therefore, the
answer is 121.

<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 121. I hope it is correct.

##Problem
Question: Nancy is filling an aquarium for her fish. She fills it halfway and goes to answer the door. While she's gone, her cat knocks the aquarium over and spills half the water in it. Then Nancy comes back and triples the amount of water in the aquarium. If the aquarium is 4 feet long, 6 feet wide, and 3 feet high, how many cubic feet of water are in the aquarium?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the total volume of water in the aquarium, calculate the aquarium's total volume first. The formula for the volume of a rectangular prism is length multiplied by width multiplied by height. Here, the dimensions are 4 feet long, 6 feet wide, and 3 feet high.

Calculate the total volume:
Volume = length x width x height
Volume = 4 feet x 6 feet x 3 feet = 72 cubic feet.

Initially, Nancy fills the aquarium halfway. Therefore, the amount of water after she fills it is:
Half of 72 cubic feet = 72 / 2 = 36 cubic feet.

While Nancy is away, the cat spills half of this amount:
Amount spilled = 36 cubic feet / 2 = 18 cubic feet.
Thus, the remaining water in the aquarium after the spill is:
36 cubic feet - 18 cubic feet = 18 cubic feet.

When Nancy returns, she triples the remaining amount of water. Calculate the new amount of water:
New amount = 3 x 18 cubic feet = 54 cubic feet.

The final amount of water in the aquarium in cubic feet is 54. Therefore, the answer is 54.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 54. I hope it is correct.

##Problem
Question: There are 30 different nuts in a bowl. If 5/6 of the nuts were eaten, how many nuts were left?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine how many nuts are left after 5/6 of them are eaten, first, calculate how many nuts were consumed. Start with the total number of nuts, which is 30. To find the number of nuts eaten, multiply 30 by 5/6.

30 * (5/6) = 25 nuts eaten.

Next, subtract the number of nuts eaten from the total number of nuts to find how many are left.

30 - 25 = 5 nuts remaining.

Thus, after consuming 5/6 of the nuts, 5 nuts are left in the bowl. Therefore, the answer is 5.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 5. I hope it is correct.

##Problem
Question: Yuan is 7 years older than his brother David and twice his age. How old is David?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Let Y represent Yuan's age and D represent David's age.

From the information given, we can establish two equations based on the relationships described.

First, the statement "Yuan is 7 years older than his brother David" can be mathematically expressed as:
Y = D + 7.

Second, the statement "Yuan is twice his age" translates to:
Y = 2D.

Now, we can set the two equations equal to each other since both represent Yuan's age:
D + 7 = 2D.

To isolate D, we need to rearrange the equation:
7 = 2D - D,
7 = D.

Thus, David's age is determined to be 7 years old. Therefore, the answer is 7.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 7. I hope it is correct.

##Problem
Question: Joey wants to buy the latest released pair of designer High Jump basketball sneakers. He plans to mow 3 neighbors' lawns for $8 a lawn, sell 2 collectible figures to his friends for $9 each, and work an after-school job for 10 hours at $5 per hour. If his earnings just cover the price of the High Jump sneakers, how much do the shoes cost?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the total earnings Joey accumulates, we need to calculate each source of income step-by-step.

First, calculate the income from mowing lawns. Joey mows 3 lawns at a rate of $8 per lawn. Therefore, the total income from mowing is:
3 lawns * $8/lawn = $24.

Next, calculate the income from selling collectible figures. Joey sells 2 figures at a price of $9 each. Thus, the total income from selling figures is:
2 figures * $9/figure = $18.

Now, calculate the income from his after-school job. Joey works for 10 hours at a rate of $5 per hour. Therefore, his income from the job is:
10 hours * $5/hour = $50.

Now, sum all these earnings to find the total amount Joey has:
$24 (mowing) + $18 (selling figures) + $50 (job) = $92.

Since Joey's total earnings of $92 exactly cover the price of the High Jump basketball sneakers, it can be concluded that the cost of the sneakers is $92. Therefore, the answer is 92.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 92. I hope it is correct.

##Problem
Question: Before getting to work, Jess has a few errands to run. Jess has to walk 11 blocks to the store and 6 blocks to the gallery, before walking the final 8 blocks to arrive at work. If Jess has already walked 5 blocks, how many more blocks must she walk before arriving at work?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine the total distance Jess needs to walk to work, first calculate the total number of blocks from the store and the gallery to work. The distance to the store is 11 blocks, and the distance to the gallery is 6 blocks. Thus, the total distance to work is the sum of these two distances plus the final stretch to work, which is 8 blocks.

Total distance = 11 blocks (to store) + 6 blocks (to gallery) + 8 blocks (to work) = 25 blocks.

Next, subtract the distance Jess has already walked, which is 5 blocks, from the total distance calculated.

Remaining distance = Total distance - Distance already walked = 25 blocks - 5 blocks = 20 blocks.

Thus, Jess must walk 20 more blocks to reach work. Therefore, the answer is 20.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 20. I hope it is correct.

##Problem
Question: Marcell and Beatrice are having a contest to see who can eat the most fruit roll-ups, so they unroll as many as they can find. Unfortunately, someone makes a mistake and Beatrice's was two roll-ups

wide and 24 rolls up long while Marcell's was 3 roll-ups wide and 14 roll-ups long. If they both ate their entire amount, how many did they eat on average?
Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>

Prompt C.2.3: Synthetic Few-Shot CoT for MMLU-STEM

##Problem
Question: A microwave oven is connected to an outlet, 120 V, and draws a current of 2 amps. At what rate is energy being used by the microwave oven?
(A) 10 W
(B) 30 W
(C) 60 W
(D) 240 W
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine the rate of energy usage, we apply the formula for electrical power, which is given by P = V × I, where P is power in watts, V is voltage in volts, and I is current in amps.

In this scenario, the voltage V is 120 V and the current I is 2 A.

Calculating the power:
P = 120 V × 2 A = 240 W.

This calculation shows that the microwave oven consumes energy at a rate of 240 watts.

Thus, the answer is (D) 240 W.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is (D) 240W.

##Problem
Question: The variable x varies directly as the square of y, and y varies directly as the cube of z. If x equals -16 when z equals 2, what is the value of x when z equals $\frac{1}{2}$?
(A) -1
(B) 16
(C) $-\frac{1}{256}$
(D) $\frac{1}{16}$
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To solve the problem, we need to establish the relationships between the variables x, y, and z based on the given conditions.

Firstly, since x varies directly as the square of y, we can express this relationship mathematically as:
x = k1 * y^2, where k1 is a constant.

Next, since y varies directly as the cube of z, we can express this relationship as:
y = k2 * z^3, where k2 is another constant.

Now we can substitute y in the first equation with its expression in terms of z:
x = k1 * (k2 * z^3)^2
x = k1 * k2^2 * z^6.

This shows that x varies directly as the sixth power of z, leading us to express this as:
x = k * z^6, where k = k1 * k2^2.

Given that x = -16 when z = 2, we can substitute these values into the equation to find k:
-16 = k * (2^6)
-16 = k * 64
k = -16 / 64
k = -1/4.

Now we have the relationship for x in terms of z:
x = -1/4 * z^6.

Next, we need to find the value of x when z = 1/2. We substitute z = 1/2 into the equation:
x = -1/4 * (1/2)^6
x = -1/4 * (1/64)

x = -1/256.

Therefore, the value of x when z = 1/2 is -1/256. Thus, the answer is (C) -\frac{1}{256}.
<EndOfLatent>

##Problem
Question: Which expression is equivalent to 5 x 9?
(A) (5 x 4) x (6 x 5)
(B) (5 x 5) + (5 x 4)
(C) (5 x 5) + (5 x 9)
(D) (5 x 9) x (6 x 9)
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine which expression is equivalent to 5 x 9, we need to evaluate each option step by step.

Option (A): (5 x 4) x (6 x 5)
This expression simplifies to 20 x 30, which equals 600. This is not equal to 5 x 9 = 45.

Option (B): (5 x 5) + (5 x 4)
This expression simplifies to 25 + 20, which equals 45. This matches 5 x 9.

Option (C): (5 x 5) + (5 x 9)
This expression simplifies to 25 + 45, which equals 70. This is not equal to 5 x 9.

Option (D): (5 x 9) x (6 x 9)
This expression simplifies to 45 x 54, which equals 2430. This is not equal to 5 x 9.

Thus, the answer is (B) (5 x 5) + (5 x 4).
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is (B) (5 x 5) + (5 x 4).

##Problem
Question: A new smartwatch is manufactured in one part of a factory, then secured for shipping in another, independent part of the factory. The weight of the smartwatch has a mean of 62 grams and a standard deviation of 1.0 grams. The weight of the packaging (box, user's guide, bubble wrap, etc.) has a mean of 456 grams and a standard deviation of 6 grams. Together, the distribution of the weight of the smartwatch and its packaging would have the following mean and standard deviation:
(A) Mean 518 grams; standard deviation 7.0 grams
(B) Mean 518 grams; standard deviation 3.5 grams
(C) Mean 518 grams; standard deviation 6.1 grams
(D) Mean 394 grams; standard deviation 6.1 grams
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the combined mean and standard deviation of the smartwatch and packaging, we start by calculating the mean of the total weight. The mean weight of the smartwatch is 62 grams, and the mean weight of the packaging is 456 grams. The total mean weight is calculated by adding these two means:

Mean total weight = Mean smartwatch + Mean packaging
Mean total weight = 62 grams + 456 grams = 518 grams.

Next, we need to calculate the standard deviation of the total weight. Since the weights of the smartwatch and packaging are independent, we can use the formula for the sum of two independent random variables:

Standard deviation of total weight = sqrt((Standard deviation of smartwatch)^2 + (Standard deviation of packaging)^2).

The standard deviation of the smartwatch is 1.0 grams, and the standard deviation of the packaging is 6 grams. Now, we apply the values to the formula:

Standard deviation of total weight = sqrt((1.0 grams)^2 + (6 grams)^2)
= sqrt(1 + 36)
= sqrt(37)
≈ 6.08 grams.

Rounding this value to one decimal place gives us approximately 6.1 grams.

C.2.2 Standard Few-Shot CoT Prompts

Prompt C.2.4: Minerva Few-Shot CoT for MATH (Lewkowycz et al., 2022)

Problem:
Find the domain of the expression $\frac{\sqrt{x-2}}{\sqrt{5-x}}$.

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
The expressions inside each square root must be non-negative. Therefore, $x-2 \geq 0$, so $x \geq 2$, and $5-x \geq 0$,
 so $x \leq 5$. Also, the denominator cannot be equal to zero, so $5-x > 0$, which gives $x < 5$. Therefore, the
domain of the expression is $\boxed{[2,5)}$.
The final answer is $[2,5)$

<EndOfLatent>
Final Answer: The final answer is $[2,5)$. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
If $\det \mathbf{A} = 2$ and $\det \mathbf{B} = 12$, then find $\det(\mathbf{AB})$.

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
We have that $\det(\mathbf{AB}) = (\det \mathbf{A})(\det \mathbf{B}) = (2)(12) = \boxed{24}$.
The final answer is 24

<EndOfLatent>
Final Answer: The final answer is 24. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
Terrell usually lifts two 20-pound weights 12 times. If he uses two 15-pound weights instead, how many
times must Terrell lift them in order to lift the same total weight?

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
If Terrell lifts two 20-pound weights 12 times, he lifts a total of $2 \cdot 12 \cdot 20 = 480$ pounds of weight. If he
 lifts two 15-pound weights instead for n times, he will lift a total of $2 \cdot 15 \cdot n = 30n$ pounds of weight.
Equating this to 480 pounds, we can solve for n:

$$30n = 480$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad n = 480/30 = \boxed{16}$$

The final answer is 16

<EndOfLatent>
Final Answer: The final answer is 16. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
If the system of equations

$$6x - 4y = a,$$

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$$6y - 9x = b.$$

has a solution (x, y) where x and y are both nonzero,
find $\frac{a}{b}$, assuming b is nonzero.

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
If we multiply the first equation by $-\frac{3}{2}$, we obtain

$$6y - 9x = -\frac{3}{2}a.$$

Since we also know that $6y - 9x = b$, we have

$$-\frac{3}{2}a = b \Rightarrow \frac{a}{b} = \boxed{-\frac{2}{3}}.$$

The final answer is $-\frac{2}{3}$

<EndOfLatent>
Final Answer: The final answer is $-\frac{2}{3}$. I hope it is correct.

Problem:
Rationalize the denominator: $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{7}}$.

<StartOfLatent><Prior>

Prompt C.2.5: Default Few-Shot CoT for GSM8K from (Wei et al., 2022b)

##Problem
Q: Olivia has 23. She bought five bagels for 3 each. How much money does she have left?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Olivia had 23 dollars. 5 bagels for 3 dollars each will be 5 x 3 = 15 dollars. So she has 23 - 15 dollars left. 23 - 15 is 8.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 8.

##Problem
Q: Jason had 20 lollipops. He gave Denny some lollipops. Now Jason has 12 lollipops. How many lollipops did Jason give to Denny?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Jason started with 20 lollipops. Then he had 12 after giving some to Denny. So he gave Denny 20 - 12 = 8.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 8.

##Problem
Q: There are 15 trees in the grove. Grove workers will plant trees in the grove today. After they are done , there will be 21 trees. How many trees did the grove workers plant today?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
There are 15 trees originally. Then there were 21 trees after some more were planted. So there must have been 21 - 15 = 6.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 6.

##Problem
Q: If there are 3 cars in the parking lot and 2 more cars arrive, how many cars are in the parking lot?

```
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
There are originally 3 cars. 2 more cars arrive. 3 + 2 = 5.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 5.



##Problem
Q: There were nine computers in the server room. Five more computers were installed each day, from monday
to thursday. How many computers are now in the server room?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
There were originally 9 computers. For each of 4 days, 5 more computers were added. So 5 * 4 = 20
computers were added. 9 + 20 is 29.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 29.



##Problem
Q: Michael had 58 golf balls. On tuesday, he lost 23 golf balls. On wednesday, he lost 2 more. How many
golf balls did he have at the end of wednesday?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Michael started with 58 golf balls. After losing 23 on tuesday, he had 58 - 23 = 35. After losing 2 more,
he had 35 - 2 = 33 golf balls.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 33.



##Problem
Q: Leah had 32 chocolates and her sister had 42. If they ate 35, how many pieces do they have left in
total?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Originally, Leah had 32 chocolates. Her sister had 42. So in total they had 32 + 42 = 74. After eating 35,
 they had 74 - 35 = 39.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 39.



##Problem
Q: Shawn has five toys. For Christmas, he got two toys each from his mom and dad. How many toys does he
have now?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Shawn started with 5 toys. If he got 2 toys each from his mom and dad, then that is 4 more toys. 5 + 4 =
9.
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is 9.



##Problem
Q: Marcell and Beatrice are having a contest to see who can eat the most fruit roll-ups, so they unroll as
 many as they can find. Unfortunately, someone makes a mistake and Beatrice's was two roll-ups wide and 24
 rolls up long while Marcell's was 3 roll-ups wide and 14 roll-ups long. If they both ate their entire
amount, how many did they eat on average?
A:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
```

Prompt C.2.6: FLAN Few-Shot CoT for MMLU-STEM from (Wei et al., 2021)

```
The following are multiple choice questions (with answers) about high school statistics.

##Problem
```

Question: A new smartwatch is manufactured in one part of a factory, then secured for shipping in another, independent part of the factory. The weight of the smartwatch has a mean of 62 grams and a standard deviation of 1.0 grams. The weight of the packaging (box, user's guide, bubble wrap, etc.) has a mean of 456 grams and a standard deviation of 6 grams. Together, the distribution of the weight of the smartwatch and its packaging would have the following mean and standard deviation:
(A) Mean 518 grams; standard deviation 7.0 grams (B) Mean 518 grams; standard deviation 3.5 grams (C) Mean 518 grams; standard deviation 6.1 grams (D) Mean 394 grams; standard deviation 6.1 grams
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Let's think step by step. Since the weight of the watch and the weight of the packaging are independent random variables, the mean and variance of their sum is equal to the sum of their individual means and variances. So the mean is 62 + 456 = 518 grams, and the variances is 1.0^2 + 6.0^2 = 37, leading to a standard deviation of 6.1 grams. The answer is (C).
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is (C).

##Problem
Question: After a frost warning was issued, the owner of a large orange grove asked his workers to spray all his trees with water. The water was supposed to freeze and form a protective covering of ice around the orange blossom. Nevertheless, the owner suspected that some trees suffered considerable damage due to the frost. To estimate the proportion of trees that suffered more than 50 percent damage due to the frost, he took a random sample of 100 trees from his grove. What is the response variable in this experiment?
(A) The proportion of trees that suffered more than 50 percent damage due to frost. (B) The number of trees affected by the frost. (C) The number of trees sampled from the grove. (D) For each sampled tree, whether it suffered more than 50 percent damage or at most 50 percent damage.
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Let's think step by step. In this experiment, the response variable is what is measured. For each tree, what is measured is whether or not it suffered more than 50 percent damage due to the frost. The answer is (D).
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is (D).

##Problem
Question: Suppose X and Y are random variables with E(X) = 37, var(X) = 5, E(Y) = 62, and var(Y) = 12. What are the expected value and variance of the random variable X + Y?
(A) E(X + Y) = 99, var(X + Y) = 8.5 (B) E(X + Y) = 99, var(X + Y) = 13 (C) E(X + Y) = 99, var(X + Y) = 17 (D) There is insufficient information to answer this question.
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Let's think step by step. While means of sums of random variables add (regardless of whether the variables are independent) in order to determine the variance of a sum of random variables, we need to know not just their individual variances but the covariance of the two variables, which is not given in this problem. The answer is (D).
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is (D).

##Problem
Question: Which of the following sets has the smallest standard deviation? Which has the largest?
I: {1,2,3}
II: {-10,10}
III: {100}
(A) I, II (B) II, III (C) III, I (D) III, II
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
Let's think step by step. The variance of distribution I is the expected squared deviation from its mean (which is 2), so the variance is 2/3 . The variance of distribution II is 10^2 (because both elements are 10 away from the mean of zero). The variance of distribution III is 0, since it has a single entry. So distribution III has the smallest standard deviation and distribution II has the largest. The answer is (D).
<EndOfLatent>
The answer is (D).

```
##Problem
Question: Mr. Bee's statistics class had a standard deviation of 11.2 on a standardized test, while Mr. Em
's class had a standard deviation of 5.6 on the same test. Which of the following is the most reasonable
conclusion concerning the two classes' performance on the test?
(A) Mr. Bee's class is less heterogeneous than Mr. Em's. (B) Mr. Em's class is more homogeneous than Mr.
Bee's. (C) Mr. Bee's class performed twice as well as Mr. Em's. (D) Mr. Em's class did not do as well as
Mr. Bee's.
Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
```

D Examples of Latent Thoughts

D.1 Examples of Downstream Transfer of Latent Thoughts

Example D.1.1: Solving algebra problems on MATH

```
Problem: What is the distance between the two intersections of $y = x^2$ and $x + y = 1$?

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the distance between the two intersections of the curves y=x^2 and x+y=1, we first need to
determine the points of intersection. Setting the equations equal to each other gives us x^2 = x + 1.
Rearranging this leads to x^2 - x - 1 = 0. We can solve this quadratic equation using the quadratic
formula, x = [1 ± sqrt(1 + 4)] / 2, which simplifies to x = [1 ± sqrt(5)] / 2. This results in two
intersection points: (1 + sqrt(5))/2 and (1 - sqrt(5))/2.

Next, we need to find the distance between these two points. The distance formula between two points (x1,
y1) and (x2, y2) is given by d = sqrt((x2 - x1)^2 + (y2 - y1)^2). Substituting our points into this
formula, we have d = sqrt(((1 + sqrt(5))/2 - (1 - sqrt(5))/2)^2 + ((1 + sqrt(5))/2 - (1 - sqrt(5))/2)^2).

Calculating the differences in the x-coordinates and y-coordinates separately, we find:

1. For the x-coordinates: (1 + sqrt(5))/2 - (1 - sqrt(5))/2 = (1 + sqrt(5) - 1 + sqrt(5))/2 = (2sqrt(5))/2
 = sqrt(5).
2. For the y-coordinates: (1 + sqrt(5))/2 - (1 - sqrt(5))/2 = (1 + sqrt(5) - 1 + sqrt(5))/2 = (2sqrt(5))/2
 = sqrt(5).

Now, substituting these values back into the distance formula gives us d = sqrt((sqrt(5))^2 + (sqrt(5))^2)
 = sqrt(5 + 5) = sqrt(10).

Thus, the final answer is sqrt(10).
<EndOfLatent>

Final Answer: The final answer is $\sqrt{10}$. I hope it is correct.
```

Example D.1.2: Solving combinatorial problems on MATH

```
Problem: Pat is to select six cookies from a tray containing only chocolate chip, oatmeal, and peanut
butter cookies. There are at least six of each of these three kinds of cookies on the tray. How many
different assortments of six cookies can be selected? (Note that cookies of the same type are not
distinguishable.)

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine the number of different assortments of six cookies from a tray containing chocolate chip,
oatmeal, and peanut butter cookies, we need to consider the constraints imposed by the requirement of at
least six of each type of cookie.

First, we recognize that the total number of cookies is fixed at six. The problem can be approached using
combinatorial methods, specifically the "stars and bars" theorem. This theorem helps us find the number of
 ways to distribute indistinguishable objects (the cookies) into distinguishable boxes (the types of
cookies).

Let:
- x = number of chocolate chip cookies
- y = number of oatmeal cookies
- z = number of peanut butter cookies
```

```
The total number of cookies is given by the equation:
x + y + z = 6

The stars and bars theorem states that the number of ways to distribute n indistinguishable objects into k
 distinguishable boxes is given by the formula:

(n + k - 1) choose (k - 1)

In our case, n = 6 (the total number of cookies) and k = 3 (the types of cookies: chocolate chip, oatmeal,
 and peanut butter).

Applying the formula:

(6 + 3 - 1) choose (3 - 1) = 8 choose 2

Calculating this gives:

8 choose 2 = 8! / (2!(8-2)!) = 8! / (2! * 6!) = (8 * 7) / (2 * 1) = 28

Thus, there are 28 different assortments of six cookies that can be selected from the tray, ensuring that
at least six of each type are included.
<EndOfLatent>

Final Answer: The final answer is 28. I hope it is correct.
```

Example D.1.3: Solving number theory problems on MATH

```
Problem: How many positive factors does 48 have?

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the number of positive factors of 48, we start by determining its prime factorization. The prime
factorization of 48 is 2^4 * 3^1.

Next, we apply the formula for finding the number of positive factors from the prime factorization. For a
number expressed as p1^e1 * p2^e2 * ... * pk^ek, the total number of factors is given by (e1 + 1)(e2 + 1)
...(ek + 1).

In the case of 48, we have:
- For the prime factor 2, the exponent is 4.
- For the prime factor 3, the exponent is 1.

Applying the formula: (4 + 1)(1 + 1) = 5 * 2 = 10. Thus, 48 has 10 positive factors.

The final answer is 10.
<EndOfLatent>

Final Answer: The final answer is 10. I hope it is correct.
```

Example D.1.4: Solving math word problems on GSM8K

```
Question: Farmer Brown has 60 animals on his farm, all either chickens or cows. He has twice as many
chickens as cows. How many legs do the animals have, all together?

Final Answer:
<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To find the total number of legs, we need to establish the relationship between the number of chickens and
 cows. Let the number of cows be represented as C. According to the problem, the number of
chickens is twice that of cows, so we can express the number of chickens as 2C.

Next, we know that the total number of animals is 60. Therefore, we can set up the equation:

C + 2C = 60

This simplifies to:

3C = 60
```

```
To find C, we divide both sides by 3:

C = 20

Now that we have the number of cows, we can find the number of chickens:

Number of chickens = 2C = 2 * 20 = 40

Now we can calculate the total number of legs. Each chicken has 2 legs, and each cow has 4 legs. The total
 number of legs can be calculated as follows:

Total legs = Number of chickens * Legs per chicken + Number of cows * Legs per cow

Substituting the known values:

Total legs = 40 * 2 + 20 * 4

Calculating this gives:

Total legs = 80 + 80 = 160

Thus, the total number of legs is 160.
<EndOfLatent>
The final answer is 160.
```

D.2 Examples of GPT-4o-mini Synthesized Latent Thoughts

Example D.2.1: Latent thoughts recover missing background knowledge and reasoning

```
<StartOfLatent>
Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is a statistical technique used for dimensionality reduction, which is
crucial in data analysis and machine learning. The objective of PCA is to identify the directions (
principal components) in which the variance of the data is maximized. This process involves transforming
the original features into a new set of uncorrelated features, ordered by the amount of variance they
capture.

To begin with, we consider a dataset with multiple dimensions, where each dimension represents a feature.
The first step in PCA is to center the data by subtracting the mean of each feature from the dataset. This
 step is vital because it ensures that the new coordinate system is based around the origin, allowing for
a more accurate analysis of variance.

Next, we compute the covariance matrix of the decentralized data. The covariance matrix captures the
relationships between the different features, indicating how they vary together. The covariance values
reveal the spread and the direction of the data in the feature space.

Following the covariance matrix calculation, we need to determine the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of this
 matrix. The eigenvectors represent the directions of the principal components, while the eigenvalues
indicate the magnitude of variance in those directions. The larger the eigenvalue, the more significant
the corresponding eigenvector is in explaining the variance in the dataset.

To select the principal components, we rank the eigenvectors based on their eigenvalues in descending
order. The top k eigenvectors, where k is the number of dimensions we wish to retain, form a new feature
space that captures the most variance.

Finally, we project the original, decentralized data onto this new feature space by multiplying the
original data matrix by the matrix of the top k eigenvectors. This projection results in a reduced dataset
 that retains the essential characteristics of the original data while minimizing information loss. The
effectiveness of PCA lies in its ability to simplify complex datasets, making subsequent analyses more
manageable and interpretable.
<EndOfLatent>

# The basic idea of PCA

Principal component analysis is to find out the most important aspects in the data and replace the
original data with the most important aspects in the data. To put it bluntly, it is to reduce the data
from n-dimensional to n'-dimensional, and hope that the data set of n'-dimensional features retains most
of the information as much as possible.

# PCA mathematical derivation (maximum variance method)
```

For example, if the data is a two-dimensional plum, we project the original data (blue dots) onto the new most marked axis (yellow and blue crosshairs). The way to find this new coordinate axis is to find the point (red point) where the data is projected on the new coordinate axis and the distance from the origin of the new coordinate axis is the largest, which is the maximum variance method.

<StartOfLatent>
Decentralization adjusts the data such that its mean is zero, which is crucial for PCA. If the data is not centered, the computed variances along the axes will be skewed, leading to misleading results in the identification of principal components. The principal component should ideally capture the largest variance, and uncentered data would cause the variance to reflect the mean of the data rather than the true distribution of the data points.

Without decentralization, the projection of the original data onto the new axis would not accurately reflect the inherent structure of the data, undermining the effectiveness of dimensionality reduction. Thus, the step of data decentralization is not merely a preprocessing step; it fundamentally ensures that PCA captures the true variance of the data, allowing for an accurate reduction in dimensionality while retaining as much information as possible.
<EndOfLatent>

The first step, data decentralization

The discussion of the new coordinate axis and the old coordinate axis is very troublesome. We directly decentralize the data (that is, the mean value of the data is at the far point).

If the data is not decentralized, we cannot find the optimal dimensionality reduction. This step is necessary

<StartOfLatent>
To find the optimal axis for PCA, we utilize the covariance matrix of the decentralized data. The eigenvalues of this matrix indicate the amount of variance captured by each principal component, while the corresponding eigenvectors provide the direction of these components. The first principal component (PC1) is the eigenvector associated with the largest eigenvalue, representing the direction of maximum variance.

The distance from the projected data points to the origin of the new axis (PC1) is calculated as the projection of the original data points onto this axis. The objective is to maximize the sum of squared distances ($\sum d_i^2$), which mathematically quantifies the variance captured by the principal component. This optimization problem can be framed as maximizing the Rayleigh quotient for the covariance matrix, leading to the derivation of the eigenvalues and eigenvectors.
<EndOfLatent>

The second step is to find the new most marked axis

How do we find the best most standard axis to achieve principal component analysis?
That is, the greater the distance between the projected point and the origin of the coordinate axis, the better (this is the maximum variance)

As shown in the figure, the red dotted line is the new coordinate axis, we call it PC1; the green dot is the initial data sample point; the green cross is the point projected on the new coordinate; d1, d2, d3... d6 are the projected ones The distance from the point to the far point.

All we need to do is find the largest sum of squares (that's $\sum d_i^2$).

Here comes the math! ! ! !

<StartOfLatent>
To find the optimal new coordinate axis for dimensionality reduction, we must analyze the relationships among the data points. This involves calculating the correlation coefficient matrix, which quantifies how much each feature varies with others.

Once we have the correlation matrix, we compute its eigenvalues and eigenvectors. The eigenvalues indicate the amount of variance captured by each corresponding eigenvector. The eigenvector with the highest eigenvalue gives us the direction of the axis that maximizes variance among the data points.

In principal component analysis (PCA), we focus on the principal components (PCs) that represent the highest variance first. This ensures that we retain the most important information while reducing dimensions. We select a percentage of these components, based on the cumulative variance they explain, to maintain a balance between data fidelity and dimensionality reduction.

As can be seen from the figure above, when we are looking for the best newest axis, we are actually finding eigenvalues and eigenvectors by finding the data correlation coefficient matrix

The third step is to choose a few percent of the data you need

When we perform PCA dimensionality reduction to find new coordinates, the number of coordinates is the same as the number of data features. But we project the data on the new coordinate axis in order to express the information of the entire data with as few features as possible.

In the figure below, we can see that we have obtained two coordinate axes, PC1 and PC2, respectively.

 The two coordinate axes are perpendicular to each other and do not interfere with each other.
Among them, the information on the data on PC1 accounts for 83%

When we look at three dimensions, we can see that if we use PC1 and PC2 to reduce the dimension

As a dimensionality reduction method for unsupervised learning, it only needs eigenvalue decomposition to compress and denoise data . Therefore, it is widely used in practical scenarios.

The main advantages of the PCA algorithm are:

1) Only the variance needs to be used to measure the amount of information, and it is not affected by factors other than the data set.

2) The principal components are orthogonal to each other, which can eliminate the mutual influence factors between the original data components.

3) The calculation method is simple, and the main operation is eigenvalue decomposition, which is easy to implement.

The main disadvantages of the PCA algorithm are:

1) The meaning of each feature dimension of the principal component has a certain degree of ambiguity, which is not as strong as the interpretation of the original sample features.

2) Non-principal components with small variance may also contain important information on sample differences, and discarding due to dimensionality reduction may have an impact on subsequent data processing.
3) When the data distribution is not a normal distribution, the effect is not very good

question

1. Why square it ?

 It is because if the distance is not squared, there will be positive and negative distances, which will cancel each other out.
2.**Why is the correlation coefficient matrix instead of the covariance matrix? ** You will know this when you look down

Does PCA need to be dimensioned?

(1) When: when the unit of each attribute is the same (for example, both are kg, both are meters), each attribute is comparable. Therefore, it is enough to directly calculate the covariance between attributes. The size of the original covariance does not indicate the degree of correlation (covariance only indicates positive or negative correlation),But when the units are the same, we can think that the greater the covariance, the greater the correlation

(2) When the units of each attribute are different (for example, one is kg and the other is meter), at this time, due to the different units, the covariance does not indicate the degree of correlation. At this time, we need to use the correlation coefficient to describe.

The formula of the correlation coefficient (that is, the correlation coefficient matrix is divided by two standard deviations, where dividing by the standard deviation is a way of dimensioning). It eliminates the influence of the range of change of two variables, but simply reflects the degree of similarity between the two variables per unit change.

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Example D.2.2: Latent thoughts elaborate physical knowledge

<StartOfLatent>
The draining of water creates a vortex due to fluid dynamics principles. In fluid mechanics, when water flows towards a drain, it encounters resistance and varying velocity, resulting in a circular motion. The initial swirl can be caused by a small disturbance, which can be a random fluctuation in water movement. As this disturbance propagates, it influences adjacent water particles, leading to a self-reinforcing loop of motion. This phenomenon can be described by the Navier-Stokes equations, which govern fluid flow and demonstrate how momentum and viscosity interact to create vortices.

In physics, time and space are interwoven in the fabric of the universe, as described by the theory of relativity. Just as water spirals down a drain, objects in spacetime can exhibit similar swirling patterns due to gravitational forces. Massive objects, like planets or stars, warp spacetime around them, creating paths that can be likened to the water's spiral. The curvature of spacetime can be mathematically represented by Einstein's field equations, which illustrate how mass influences the geometry of the universe.

The analogy suggests that just as water spirals towards a drain through self-reinforcing interactions, objects in spacetime move along geodesics-paths determined by the curvature of spacetime. The motion of celestial bodies can be influenced by the gravitational pull of nearby masses, creating a dynamic interplay that mirrors the swirling water. This interconnectedness in physical phenomena reveals deeper insights into the nature of motion and force, both in fluids and in the cosmos.
<EndOfLatent>

Circling the Drain

In Relativity by Brian Koberlein4 Comments

If you've ever watched water drain from a bathtub, you've seen that it doesn't flow into the drain in a straight line, but rather swirls around the drain. Contrary to popular belief, this is not due to the rotation of the Earth but rather random currents in the water. The reason the spiral forms is because it is self-reinforcing. Water near the drain spirals a bit due to a random current, which drags the water behind it slightly in the same direction. Over time, the motion builds up until you have a rapid spiral around the drain.

There is a similar effect with space and time.

<StartOfLatent>
Gravity is a fundamental force that can be understood through the concepts of space and time. The relationship between mass and the curvature of space-time is a key aspect of Einstein's General Relativity. When mass is present, it causes a distortion in the fabric of space-time, resulting in a gravitational field. This distortion leads objects to follow geodesics, which are the curved paths determined by the curvature of space-time, rather than straight lines.

The concept of frame dragging is significant in understanding how rotating masses affect nearby space-time. When a massive object, like Earth, rotates, it imparts motion to the surrounding space-time. This effect can be quantified through mathematical formulations derived from the Einstein field equations, which relate the mass-energy content of an object to the curvature of space-time.

The Lense-Thirring effect specifically describes how the rotation of a massive body influences the orbits of nearby objects. It can be expressed in terms of the angular momentum of the rotating mass and its

I've talked before about how gravity is due to a curvature of space and time. The presence of mass bends space around it, and the resulting curvature means that objects follow curved paths rather than straight ones. As a result, an object's motion near a large mass like the Earth looks as if it is due to a force, which we call gravity.

It turns out that the rotation of a mass also distorts space and time. For example, as the Earth rotates, it drags the nearby space along with it (an effect known as frame dragging). Just like the drain spiral, this effect builds up, and as a result, space spirals a bit around the Earth. You have to be a bit careful with this comparison. Spacetime doesn't "flow" the way water does, but the spiral effect is somewhat similar.

Near the Earth, this frame dragging is very small, but it can be measured through an effect known as the Lense-Thirring effect.

Basically, you put a gyroscope in orbit and see if its axis of rotation changes. If there is no frame dragging, then the orientation of the gyroscope shouldn't change. If there is frame dragging, then the spiral twist of space and time will cause the gyroscope to precess, and its orientation will slowly change over time.

We've actually done this experiment, and you can see the results in the figure below. The black line represents the change in orientation over time, and the red line is the predicted change via the Lense-Thirring effect. As you can see, they agree very well.

So the next time you watch water circling the drain, you will know that a similar effect occurs with space and time itself.

1. Do you know why there is max in measurements roughly every 1000 days?

The gyroscope's behavior in orbit is influenced by gravitational interactions and the geometry of spacetime. The concept of frame dragging arises from general relativity, where massive objects like Earth distort the curvature of spacetime around them. This distortion affects objects in orbit.

The maximum in measurements every 1000 days can be attributed to the elliptical nature of the orbit. An elliptical orbit means that the distance between the gyroscope and Earth varies periodically. The gravitational force experienced by the gyroscope is strongest when it is closest to Earth, at the perigee of its orbit.

The Lense-Thirring effect predicts that frame dragging will vary depending on the distance to the massive body. As the gyroscope approaches the perigee, the gravitational influence increases, leading to a greater precession rate. Thus, the maximum frame dragging occurs at this closest point, resulting in a peak in the gyroscope's orientation change.

The period of 1000 days corresponds to the orbital characteristics of the gyroscope, defined by Kepler's laws of planetary motion. These laws describe how the orbiting body travels faster when closer to the massive body and slower when farther away. The relationship between the orbital period and the semi-major axis can be expressed using Kepler's third law, where the square of the orbital period is proportional to the cube of the semi-major axis of the orbit.

In summary, the gyroscope's orbit experiences maximum frame dragging as it reaches its closest point to Earth every 1000 days due to the predictable nature of its elliptical orbit, influenced by gravitational forces and the curvature of spacetime.
<EndOfLatent>

1. Space has to wind to some local maximum of curvature, and then snap back. Since Earth's mass is constant, this maximum winding should be predictable.

2. What i think is that , by the time you put the gyroscope in orbit there is a max distance and a min distance from earth (supposing that orbit is an elipse) . So if the period is almost 1000 days then every 1000 days it will reach the min distance from earth where the gravity field is max so the frame dragging should be max .

<StartOfLatent>
The phenomenon of water spiraling down a drain is influenced by various factors beyond mere random currents. The Coriolis effect, resulting from Earth's rotation, plays a significant role in determining the direction of fluid motion. The Earth's rotation creates a force that affects moving objects, including fluids, causing them to follow a curved path rather than a straight line. This effect is more pronounced over larger distances and timescales, but it can still impact smaller systems like water draining in a sink.

If the motion were entirely random, one would expect a uniform distribution of spiral directions. However, the consistent direction observed suggests a systematic influence, which can be explained by the Coriolis effect. The interaction between the water's initial velocity, the shape of the drain, and the rotation of the Earth results in a dominant rotational direction.

Mathematically, the Coriolis force can be expressed as $F_c = 2m(v)(\Omega)\sin(\phi)$, where m is the mass of the fluid element, v is its velocity, Ω is the angular velocity of the Earth, and ϕ is the latitude. This force acts perpendicular to the velocity of the fluid, leading to a predictable rotation direction.

Moreover, factors such as the geometry of the sink and the initial conditions of the water's movement can create a bias towards a particular direction of spin. The conservation of angular momentum further supports this, as any slight initial spin will be amplified due to the closed system of the drain. Thus, while randomness may contribute to local turbulence, the underlying forces impart a consistent rotational behavior that aligns with the Earth's rotation.
<EndOfLatent>

2. If the water spiralling down the drain is just due to "random currents in the water" and not the Earths rotation, why is the spiral always the same direction of rotation? If it was truly random, surely it would be 50/50 on direction of rotation?

Example D.2.3: Latent thoughts elaborate mathematical derivations

<StartOfLatent>
To solve the integral of the product of tangent functions, we start by recognizing that the tangent identity can simplify the problem. The tangent function can be expressed in terms of sine and cosine. We can also leverage the angle addition formula for tangent.

We define $t_n = \tan(nx)$. The product of tangents can be expressed using the identity for tangent of sums:

$\tan A \tan B = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$

This allows us to express $\tan(5x)$ in terms of $\tan(3x)$ and $\tan(2x)$:

$\tan(5x) = \frac{\tan(3x) + \tan(2x)}{1 - \tan(3x)\tan(2x)}$

Rearranging this gives us:

$\tan(5x) - \tan(3x) - \tan(2x) = \tan(5x)\tan(3x)\tan(2x)$

This leads to the equation:

$t_5 - t_3 - t_2 = t_5 t_3 t_2$

To integrate, we substitute this result back into the integral:

$\int \tan(5x)\tan(3x)\tan(2x)\,dx = \int (\tan(5x) - \tan(3x) - \tan(2x))\,dx$

Now, we can integrate each term separately. The integral of $\tan(nx)$ is known:

$\int \tan(nx)\,dx = -\frac{1}{n}\log|\cos(nx)| + C$

Applying this to our terms yields:

1. For $\tan(5x)$: $\int \tan(5x)\,dx = -\frac{1}{5}\log|\cos(5x)|$

2. For $\tan(3x)$: $\int \tan(3x)\,dx = -\frac{1}{3}\log|\cos(3x)|$

3. For $\tan(2x)$: $\int \tan(2x)\,dx = -\frac{1}{2}\log|\cos(2x)|$

Substituting these results back into the integral, we compile the contributions:

$\int \tan(5x)\tan(3x)\tan(2x)\,dx = -\frac{1}{5}\log|\cos(5x)| + \frac{1}{3}\log|\cos(3x)| - \frac{1}{2}\log|\cos(2x)| + C$

Finally, we can rearrange this into a single expression if desired, but it is already presented clearly as separate contributions from each tangent function. The solution is complete with the integration constants summed together at the end.

<EndOfLatent>

How to find the integral $\int \tan(5x)\tan(3x)\tan(2x)\,dx$?

Find the integral $\int \tan(5x)\tan(3x)\tan(2x)\,dx$.

This question is posted in a maths group in Facebook. What way should we use to solve integral like this? Thanks in advance

Solutions Collecting From Web of "How to find the integral $\int \tan(5x)\tan(3x)\tan(2x)\,dx$?"

Let $t_n = \tan(nx)$, we have $t_5 = \frac{t_3 + t_2}{1 - t_3 t_2} \iff t_5 - t_5 t_3 t_2 = t_3 + t_2 \implies t_5 t_3 t_2 = t_5 - t_3 - t_2$

$$\int \tan(5x)\tan(3x)\tan(2x)dx = \int (\tan(5x) - \tan(3x) - \tan(2x))\,dx$$
$$= \frac{1}{2}\log\cos(2x) + \frac{1}{3}\log\cos(3x) - \frac{1}{5}\log\cos(5x) + \text{ const.}$$

Example D.2.4: Latent thoughts demystify complex Mathematica logs

<StartOfLatent>
To evaluate the integral $\int e^{3\coth^{-1}(ax)}\left(c - \frac{c}{ax}\right)^{3/2}dx$, we begin by analyzing the term $e^{3\coth^{-1}(ax)}$. The hyperbolic cotangent inverse function, $\coth^{-1}(u)$, can be expressed in terms of logarithmic functions: $\coth^{-1}(u) = \frac{1}{2}\ln\left(\frac{u+1}{u-1}\right)$. This implies that $e^{3\coth^{-1}(ax)}$ transforms into an exponential function involving ax and logarithmic components.

3.458 $\int e^{3\coth^{-1}(ax)}(c - \frac{c}{ax})^{3/2}\, dx$

Optimal. Leaf size=118 $\quad \dfrac{c^3 x \left(1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}\right)^{3/2}}{\left(c - \frac{c}{ax}\right)^{3/2}} - \dfrac{3c^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}}}{a\sqrt{c - \frac{c}{ax}}} + \dfrac{3c^{3/2}\tanh^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{c}\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}}}{\sqrt{c - \frac{c}{ax}}}\right)}{a}$

[Out]

```
(-3*c^2*Sqrt[1 - 1/(a^2*x^2)])/(a*Sqrt[c - c/(a*x)]) + (c^3*(1 - 1/(a^2*x^2))^(3/2)*x)/(c - c/(a*x))^(3/2)
 + (
3*c^(3/2)*ArcTanh[(Sqrt[c]*Sqrt[1 - 1/(a^2*x^2)])/Sqrt[c - c/(a*x)]])/a
```

_____

Rubi [A] time = 0.214601, antiderivative size = 118, normalized size of antiderivative = 1., number of steps used = 5, number of rules used = 5, integrand size = 24, $\frac{\text{number of rules}}{\text{integrand size}}$ = 0.208, Rules used = {6177,

863, 865, 875, 208} $\dfrac{c^3 x \left(1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}\right)^{3/2}}{\left(c - \frac{c}{a x}\right)^{3/2}} - \dfrac{3c^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}}}{a\sqrt{c - \frac{c}{a x}}} + \dfrac{3c^{3/2} \tanh^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{c}\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}}}{\sqrt{c - \frac{c}{a x}}}\right)}{a}$

Antiderivative was successfully verified.

[In]

Int[E^(3*ArcCoth[a*x])*(c - c/(a*x))^(3/2),x]

[Out]

(-3*c^2*Sqrt[1 - 1/(a^2*x^2)])/(a*Sqrt[c - c/(a*x)]) + (c^3*(1 - 1/(a^2*x^2))^(3/2)*x)/(c - c/(a*x))^(3/2)
 + (
3*c^(3/2)*ArcTanh[(Sqrt[c]*Sqrt[1 - 1/(a^2*x^2)])/Sqrt[c - c/(a*x)]])/a

Rule 6177

D.3 Examples of TinyLlama-1B Self-Generated Latent Thoughts

Example D.3.1: Models think through the data for learning

Factorial number

In mathematics symbolized by placing the "!" (known as the exclamation mark or bang) after a number, it represents multiplying a number by all whole numbers smaller than it.

Definition

A factorial is defined by the product

$$n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots (n-2) \cdot (n-1) \cdot n$$

for $n \geq 1$.

<StartOfLatent>
The factorial notation represents the product of descending positive integers, which means for any integer
 n, the factorial is calculated as n multiplied by the product of all positive integers from (n-1) down to
 1. This can be expressed mathematically as n! = n x (n-1) x (n-2) x ... x 2 x 1.

For n = 0, the factorial is defined as 0! = 1 because the product of no numbers is 1. This is a
foundational rule in combinatorics, as it ensures that there is one way to choose zero objects.

To evaluate larger factorials, the recurrence relation is useful. This relation is derived from the
definition of factorial, indicating that n! can be computed directly or recursively based on smaller
factorials. Specifically, it states that n! is equal to n multiplied by (n-1)!, which means to find the
factorial of n, one can take the factorial of the factorial of (n-1).

The computational implementation in computer programming languages like Python utilizes this definition
directly for standard input, while Java and C# provide corresponding classes to facilitate easy access and
 manipulation of factorial values.

For example, to calculate 5!, one applies the defined multiplication: 5! = 5 x 4 x 3 x 2 x 1, ultimately
simplifying to 120. This demonstrates the practical application of the factorial definition in programming
 contexts, where efficient computation of large factorial values is necessary.
<EndOfLatent>

The same written as mathmatical product

$$n! = \prod_{i=1}^{n} i.$$

and as recurrence relation

$$n! = n \cdot (n-1)!$$

Examples

```
5! = 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 = 120
10!
```

<StartOfLatent>
To derive the value 10!, we need to multiply 10 distinct positive integers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and
 10. Each integer contributes to the factorial, which is a product of all integers from 1 to n. The
multiplication of these integers provides the result:

```
1! = 1
2! = 2
3! = 6
4! = 24
5! = 120
6! = 720
7! = 5040
8! = 40320
9! = 362880
10! = 3628800
```

This demonstrates the factorial's recursive nature, where each factorial is defined from the product of
the integers preceding it. The first factorial starts with 1! equal to 1, establishing the base case. The
subsequent calculations follow the established pattern of multiplication for increasing integers.

The base cases for factorial calculations include:
- n! = n for n = 1, where the product of all integers equals 1.
- n! = 1 for n = 0, as it is defined that 0! = 1.
- n! = 0 for n < 0, as established conventionally in factorial definitions.

In the case of higher-order factorials, the pattern continues with:
- n! = n for odd n, and 1 for n = 0.
- n! = n! div n for n > 0, denoted as n / 1!.

```
This provides a comprehensive understanding of how factorials are computed across various integers,
including the calculation of 10!, confirming the established sequence of factorial products.
<EndOfLatent>

= 10 * 9 * 8 * 7 * 6 * 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 = 3628800
```

Example D.3.2: Models learn math problem solving with latent thoughts

```
<StartOfLatent>
To determine the percent increase and decrease, we first need to understand that percentages represent a
portion of a whole, hence percent increase or decrease is a way to express this portion in terms of 100.

For an increase, the formula is:

Percent Increase = (New Value - Original Value) / Original Value * 100.

For a decrease, the formula is similar:

Percent Decrease = (Original Value - New Value) / Original Value * 100.

In the calculation of an increase in pay from $10.00 to $12.00, we observe that the increase is $2.00.
Thus, the percent increase can be calculated as follows:

1. Identify the original value (PV = $10.00) and the new value (NPV = $12.00).
2. Calculate the difference: NPV - PV = $12.00 - $10.00 = $2.00.
3. Divide the difference by the original value: $2.00 / $10.00 = 0.2.
4. Multiply by 100 to convert to a percentage: 0.2 * 100 = 20%

This indicates that Ann's pay increased by 20%

For the example involving the sale price of $50.00 after a 20%

1. Identify the original price ($50.00) and the discounted price ($50.00 - $20.00 = $30.00).
2. Calculate the percentage decrease: ($30.00 / $50.00) * 100 = 60%

This shows that the sale price is 60%
<EndOfLatent>

# Calculating Percentage Increase And Decrease

## Learn About Calculating Percent Increase And Decrease With The Following Examples And Interactive
Exercises.

Example 1: Ann works in a supermarket for $10.00 per hour. If her pay is increased to $12.00, then what is
 her percent increase in pay?

Analysis: When finding the percent increase, we take the absolute value of the difference and divide it by
 the original value. The resulting decimal is then converted to a percent.

Solution:

Answer: The percent increase in Ann's pay is 20%


<StartOfLatent>
To calculate a percent decrease, it's important to understand the concept of a percentage as a way to
express a number as a fraction of 100. A percent decrease is essentially finding the remaining value after
 a certain amount is taken away from a total.

In the case of the staff at a company, the number of employees decreased from 40 to 29. To find the
percent decrease, we first determine the difference between the new and old values. This difference is 29
- 40 = -11. The next step involves finding the absolute value of this difference, which is 11.

To convert this absolute value into a decimal, we divide 11 by 40. This calculation results in 0.275. To
express this decimal as a percent, we multiply 0.275 by 100, converting it entirely into a percent form.
This results in a percent decrease of 27.5%
```

Let's look at an example of percent decrease.

Example 2: The staff at a company went from 40 to 29 employees. What is the percent decrease in staff?

Analysis: When finding the percent decrease, we take the absolute value of the difference and divide it by the original value. The resulting decimal is then converted to a percent.

Solution:

<StartOfLatent>
To determine the percent increase, first identify the original value and the new value. The original pay is $10.00, and the new pay is $12.00. Calculate the difference between these amounts: $12.00 - $10.00 = $2.00. Next, divide this difference by the original pay: $2.00 / $10.00 = 0.2. Multiply the result by 100 to convert it to a percent: 0.2 * 100 = 20%

In the second example, we analyze the staff reduction from 40 to 29. The new value is 29 represent the reduced employees. Subtract the original count from the new count: 29 - 40 = -11. This negative result indicates an increase in the number of staff; therefore, the percent decrease is calculated as follows: (negative) / (original) = 11 / 40 = 0.275. Convert this decimal into a percent by multiplying by 100: 0.275 * 100 = 27.5%
<EndOfLatent>

Answer: There was a 27.5%

Percent increase and percent decrease are measures of percent change, which is the extent to which something gains or loses value. Percent changes are useful to help people understand changes in a value over time. Let's look at some more examples of percent increase and decrease.

In Example 1, we divided by 10, which was the lower number. In Example 2, we divided by 40, which was the higher number. Students often get confused by this. Remember that the procedure above asked us to divide by the original value. Another way to remember the procedure is to subtract the old value from the new value and then divide by the old value. Convert the resulting decimal to a percent. The formula is shown below.

<StartOfLatent>
To find the percent increase in a cost, we first need to understand the concept of percentage change. The formula for percent increase is:

Percent Increase = (New Value - Original Value) / Original Value * 100.

In the first example, the original quantity of the item is 75 cents per pound, and it increases to 81 cents per pound. The absolute increase in cost is calculated as:

Absolute Increase = New Value - Original Value = 81 - 75 = 6 cents.

Next, we determine the decimal representation of the increase:

Absolute Increase = 6 cents.

Since we are looking for the percent increase, we divide this absolute increase by the original quantity:

Percent Increase = (6 cents / 75 cents) * 100 = 0.08 or 8%

This calculation shows that the cost of the item increased by 8%

In the second example, when four feet are removed from a 12-foot board, the original length is 12 feet. We need to find the decrease in length. The length removed is 4 feet. Therefore, the decrease in length is:

Decrease in Length = Original Length - Removed Length = 12 - 4 = 8 feet.

Next, we calculate the percent decrease in length:
</StartOfLatent>

```
Percent Decrease = (Decrease in Length / Original Length) * 100 = (8 / 12) * 100 = 66%

Both calculations show how to calculate percent decrease based on original and new values. Understanding
these steps is crucial for effectively applying percentage calculations in various contexts.
<EndOfLatent>
```

Example 3: At a supermarket, a certain item has increased from 75 cents per pound to 81 cents per pound.
What is the percent increase in the cost of the item?

Solution:

Answer: There was an 8%

Example 4: Four feet are cut from a 12-foot board. What is the percent decrease in length?

Solution:

```
<StartOfLatent>
To find the percent decrease in length, we start with the original length of the board, which is 12 feet,
and the length after cutting four feet, which is 8 feet. The formula for percent decrease is given by the
expression (original value - adjusted value) / original value * 100%

First, calculate the difference between the adjusted value and the original value:

8 feet - 12 feet = -4 feet

Next, divide this difference by the original value:

-4 feet / 12 feet = -0.3333

Now, to convert this decimal to a percentage, multiply by 100%

-0.3333 * 100%

The result indicates that the length of the board decreased by approximately 33.33%
<EndOfLatent>
```

Answer: There was a 33.3%

Summary: Percent increase and percent decrease are measures of percent change, which is the extent to
which something gains or loses value. Percent change is useful to help people understand changes in a
value over time. The formula for finding percent change is:

Example D.3.3: Models made mistakes in the earlier iterations but corrected in later ones

```
Latent thought at 1st iteration
<StartOfLatent>
The problem requires determining the cost of two appliances: a washer and a dryer. The costs are related
by a linear equation, which can be derived from the information given.

To set up the equation, we define the costs: let the cost of the dryer be represented as x. Consequently,
the cost of the washer, being 91 dollars less than that of the dryer, can be expressed as y = x + 91.

The total cost of both appliances is given as 659 dollars. This total can be represented by the equation:

x + y = 659.

Substituting the expression for y into the equation gives:

x + (x + 91) = 659.

This combines the costs of the washer and dryer into one equation. Simplifying this leads to:

2x + 91 = 659.

Next, we isolate the variable x by subtracting 91 from both sides:
```

```
2x = 659 - 91,
2x = 578.

Now, divide both sides by 2 to solve for x:

x = 578 / 2,
x = 289.

Thus, the cost of the dryer, which is represented by y, can be calculated as:

y = x + 91,
y = 289 + 91,
y = 380.

The conclusion is that the dryer costs 380 dollars. This approach demonstrates the systematic use of
algebraic representation and substitution to solve for unknown variables in an equation involving linear
relationships.
<EndOfLatent>
```

Latent thought at 2nd iteration
```
<StartOfLatent>
To solve for the cost of the dryer, start by defining the variables. Let x represent the cost of the
washer. Since the dryer costs 91 dollars more than the washer, we can express the dryer's cost as x + 91.

Next, we have the total cost equation:
x + (x + 91) = 659.

This equation represents the basic principle of addition, where we combine the costs of both washers and
drainers to find the total cost.

Now, we simplify the equation:
x + x + 91 = 659,
which combines to:
2x + 91 = 659.

To isolate the cost variable, we first subtract 91 from both sides:
2x = 659 - 91,
which simplifies to:
2x = 568.

Next, we divide both sides by 2 to solve for x:
x = 568 / 2,
resulting in:
x = 284.

Therefore, the dryer costs 284 dollars. It is important to ensure the units are consistent throughout the
 calculations to avoid errors, particularly when separating everyday uses like shoes and utensils. This
method exemplifies setting up an equation based on known relationships and then applying algebraic
operations to find unknowns.
<EndOfLatent>
```

Latent thought at 4th iteration
```
<StartOfLatent>
To find the amount of money spent on the dryer, we start by defining variables for the costs of the washer
 and dryer. Let the cost of the washer be represented by x and the cost of the dryer by y.

We know from the problem statement that the total cost of both items is 659. This gives us the equation:

x + y = 659.

Next, we know that the washer costs 91 less than the dryer, which can be expressed as the equation:

y = x + 91.

Now, we have a system of equations:

1. x + y = 659
2. y = x + 91.
```

```
To solve for one variable in terms of the other, we can substitute the second equation into the first
equation:

x + (x + 91) = 659.

This simplifies to:

2x + 91 = 659.

Next, we isolate 2x:

2x = 659 - 91.

Calculating the right side gives us:

2x = 568.

Now, we divide both sides by 2 to solve for x:

x = 568 / 2.

This results in:

x = 284.

Now that we have the cost of the washer, we can find the cost of the dryer by substituting x back into the
 equation for y:

y = 284 + 91.

Calculating this gives us:

y = 375.

Thus, the dryer costs 375, and the washer costs 284.
<EndOfLatent>

2014-08-08T20:49:07-04:00
a washer and a dryer cost 659 combined. The washer costs 91 less than the dryer, how much was the dryer?
washer --> x
dryer --> y

x + y = 659
y = x + 91

x + x + 91 = 659

2x = 659 - 91

<StartOfLatent>
[..omit..]
<EndOfLatent>

2x = 568 |:2

x = 284
y = x + 91 = 284 + 91 = 375

The dryer costs 375 and washer costs 284
* Brainly User
2014-08-08T20:52:05-04:00
```

D.4 Failure Examples of Bootstrapped Models on GSM8K

Here, we present examples of bootstrapped models (at the fourth iteration) that failed to solve math word problems seemingly due to misunderstanding the math word problem and that were correctly solved at earlier iterations. These examples serve as preliminary qualitative observations of the potential side-effects of bootstrapping but not a rigorous analysis.

Example D.4.1: Failure of bootstrapped models in interpreting the math word problem

```
##Problem
Question: In a school activity, fifty-four students are to be separated into six groups of equal size. If
the activity requires 12 groups, how many more groups are needed to form?
Final Answer:

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine how many more groups are needed to form, we first need to understand the current number of
groups. There are 54 students, and we need to form 6 groups.

We start by calculating the current number of groups formed.
Since each group requires 12 students, we divide the total number of students by the number of students
per group:

54 students ÷ 12 students/group = 4.5 groups.

This means that 4 groups have been formed.

Next, we need to find out how many more groups are required to reach the total of 6 groups. We subtract
the number of groups formed from the total number of groups needed:

6 groups - 4 groups = 2 more groups.

Thus, the answer is 2 more groups needed to form the desired number of groups.
<EndOfLatent>

The final answer is 2. I hope it is correct.
```

Example D.4.2: Failure of bootstrapped models in providing the proper answer

```
##Problem
Question: Mandy owes Benedict $100. They agreed to have monthly interest of 2%
Final Answer:

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
To determine how much Mandy should give to Benedict, we need to calculate the total interest owed after 3
months. Mandy owes Benedict $100. The interest rate is 2%

Interest for the first month = 2%
Interest for the second month = 2%
Interest for the third month = 2%

Adding these amounts gives the total interest owed after 3 months:

Total interest = $2 + $2 + $2 = $6.

Since Mandy owes Benedict $100, the amount she should give to Benedict is the total interest owed, which
is $6.

Thus, the final answer is 6.
<EndOfLatent>

The final answer is 6. I hope it is correct.
```

Example D.4.3: Failure of bootstrapped models in converting to the final answer

```
##Problem
Question: Marcell and Beatrice are having a contest to see who can eat the most fruit roll-ups, so they
unroll as many as they can find. Unfortunately, someone makes a mistake and Beatrice's was two roll-ups
wide and 24 rolls up long while Marcell's was 3 roll-ups wide and 14 roll-ups long. If they both ate their
 entire amount, how many did they eat on average?
Final Answer:

<StartOfLatent><Prior>
```

To find the average number of roll-ups eaten by Marcell and Beatrice, we first need to calculate the total number of roll-ups each person ate. Marcell ate 2 roll-ups wide and 24 roll-ups long, while Beatrice ate 3 roll-ups wide and 14 roll-ups long.

Calculating the total roll-ups for Marcell:
Total roll-ups for Marcell = 2 roll-ups * 24 roll-ups = 48 roll-ups.

Calculating the total roll-ups for Beatrice:
Total roll-ups for Beatrice = 3 roll-ups * 14 roll-ups = 42 roll-ups.

Next, we sum the total roll-ups eaten by both:
Total roll-ups eaten = 48 roll-ups + 42 roll-ups = 90 roll-ups.

Now, to find the average number of roll-ups eaten, we divide the total roll-ups eaten by the total number of roll-ups eaten:
Average roll-ups eaten = Total roll-ups eaten / Total roll-ups eaten = 90 roll-ups / 90 roll-ups = 1 roll-up.

Thus, the average number of roll-ups eaten by Marcell and Beatrice is 1 roll-up.

<EndOfLatent>

The final answer is 1. I hope it is correct.