

## A. Reasoning Trace Structure and Corruption Types

Reasoning Trace (L=10 steps)



### Corruption Types:

IRR	Irrelevant computation (distraction)
LOC	Local arithmetic error ( $\pm 1-3$ )
WRONG	False constraint injection (misleading)

**Key: Step 10 contains explicit "Final = ..." cue**

## B. Seven Experimental Conditions

<b>E1/E1b: Shuffle</b>	→ Order disrupted, cue status varies	Tests: Sequential integration
<b>E2: Early</b>	→ Steps 1-4 corrupted, cue CLEAN	Baseline for position
<b>E2: Late</b>	→ Steps 7-10 corrupted, cue CORRUPTED	Position confounded with cue
<b>E4': Protected</b>	→ Steps 6-9 corrupted, cue CLEAN	Isolates cue effect ( $c=0.4$ )
<b>E5: Step1</b>	→ Only Step 1 corrupted	
<b>E5: Step10</b>	→ Only Step 10 corrupted	Direct causal test

Clean step Corrupted step Final cue (clean) Shuffled