

1 We thank the reviewers for their useful comments and suggestions. We are glad that the reviewers found our approach to
 2 be novel (R2, R3, R4), general and significant (R4), a valuable contribution (R2), appreciated its superior performance
 3 (R2, R3, R4), and found our paper to be clear (R2, R3). We now address their requests and concerns.

4 **Answers to R2:**

5 - **Q1 Additional baselines:** We ran this baseline of sampling answers from a uniform distribution. This gets an accuracy
 6 of 40.25% (compared to 47.11% with our approach using the same baseline architecture). As a recall, our current
 7 baseline gets 38.46%. Inspired by this suggestion, we also tested sampling answers from a uniform distribution per
 8 question-type. This gets an accuracy of 42.11%. We will add these two new baselines in Table 1.

9 - **Q2 Grounding ability, interpretability and future works:** We ran new experiments on the VQA-HAT dataset to
 10 quantitatively validate that models trained with the RUBi strategy on VQA 1.0 improves the ability to *attend to the*
 11 *"right" regions of the image*. We report 0.4551 in rank-correlation (higher is better) with our baseline architecture and
 12 0.4671 when trained with RUBi (see Table 2 in VQA-HAT paper for reference; recall that we use image features from
 13 [15]). Interestingly, our approach improves the grounding ability without being designed to do so explicitly. We will
 14 add a new table of results on VQA-HAT including different architectures, as well as qualitative results similar to the
 15 attention maps from Figure 6 of the VQA-HAT paper. These visualizations will allow us to discuss about interpretability
 16 and grounded/symbolic reasoning. Also, we will add details about future works in the conclusion.

17 **Answers to R3:**

18 - **Q1 Significance of c'_q :** We ran new experiments to evaluate the usefulness of c'_q . First, we fixed c'_q to be the identity
 19 (i.e. we removed c'_q while c_q receives gradients from L_{QO}). We report an accuracy of 5.38% on VQA-CP v2 with our
 20 baseline architecture. This low performance is expected since c_q is designed to output a 0-1 mask using the sigmoid,
 21 and not to output logits. We agree that the term "classifier" to define c_q was unclear. We will change it. Secondly, we
 22 removed both c'_q and the question-only loss L_{QO} . We report a slightly lower accuracy of 46.08% (-1.03 compared to a
 23 training with the full RUBi strategy) for the baseline architecture. Intuitively, the 0-1 masks produced by c_q must be
 24 good enough to reduce the importance of biases early during training. c'_q and L_{QO} provides an additional supervision
 25 to c_q helping it to generate better masks, earlier in the training. We will add a new table of results about c'_q . We will
 26 also improve the discussion about c'_q and L_{QO} .

27 - **Q2 Comparison with other candidate models:** We experimented with different fusion
 28 techniques to combine the output of c_q with the output from the VQA model. For instance,
 29 a ReLU instead of a sigmoid gets 40.02% (compared to 47.11% with our approach using
 30 the same baseline architecture). Other classical fusions such as an element-wise sum lead
 31 to more significant performance drop than what was previously reported with ReLU. Upon
 32 acceptance, we will add a detailed discussion about these fusions in the final paper.

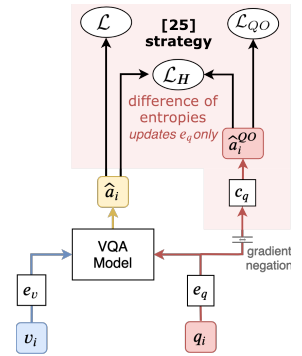
33 **Answers to R4:**

34 - **Q1 Visual comparison to [25]:** We will add to Figure 2 an "apples-to-apples" compar-
 35 ison to [25] as depicted in the figure of this rebuttal. Similarly to the "gradient negation"
 36 illustration, we will improve Figure 2 to indicate *when the backpropagation is not happen-*
 37 *ing in e_q* . We will also clarify the comparison with [25], from line 113 to 122.

38 - **Q2 Clarification about c_q and c'_q :** We will clarify that c_q receives gradients from L_{QM}
 39 and L_{QO} . See the answer Q1 to R3 for further information about c_q and c'_q .

40 - **Q3 Evaluation on VQA-CP v1 and detailed evaluation breakdown:** We ran new
 41 experiments on VQA-CP v1 and report state-of-the-art results regardless of the archi-
 42 tecture trained with RUBi. Our approach consistently leads to significant gains over
 43 the classical learning strategy. We report improvements of +9.80 in overall accuracy
 44 with our baseline architecture, +10.46 with UpDn, +19.23 with SAN. We will add a
 45 new table of results on VQA-CP v1 similarly to Table 1. We will also include the accuracy
 46 for each answer types for the UpDn and SAN architectures in Table 2.

47 - **Q4 Discussion about [A,B,C] and prior approaches:** We will add [A,B,C] to the
 48 related works section to highlight the importance of biases reducing methods in the
 49 multimodal context. Finally, we will introduce [15,41,19,16] from Table 1 in the state-of-
 50 the-art comparison paragraph. Note that these previous approaches do not focus on biases
 51 reduction contrary to [25].



Model	Overall
GVQA [10]	39.23
SAN [26]	26.88
+ [25]	43.43
+ RUBi	46.11
UpDn [15]	37.15
+ RUBi	47.61
Baseline	37.13
+ RUBi	46.93