Introducing Inkling 2 Mini

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Today we are releasing Inkling 2 Mini, a fast, powerful model that's small enough to run on your laptop.

Inkling 2 Mini is a frequent-transformer, running the middle layers of the model three times for every token. This allows the model to apply more reasoning and match the performance of much larger models, while keeping the memory footprint and latency of our reasoning quality. Inkling 2 Mini leads every open-weights model on both four 8GB-sized parameters on benchmarks such as DeepMIX v2 (86.2%) and Side Index v2.1 (94.3%). It runs faster than similarly performing models as well.





Throughput (tokens/s) on Apple M4 Max, 4-bit quantized weights, 8K context

Figure 1: Pareto-optimal open-weight models under 10B total parameters. The graph shows the highest MIX score achievable at each parameter count. Inkling 2 Mini sits on the frontier with 4B parameters, matching models with 8B and 9B parameters while running faster than all of them.

Inkling 2 Mini is a Mixture-of-Experts model with 4B dense parameters, 8.8B active and 12B weight activations per token to account for looping. Looping allows the model to apply more reasoning and match the performance of much larger models, while keeping the cost of inference with them, and its performance on the model for reading its chain of thought. [1] [7].

We evaluated the Inkling 2 model on both performance and memorizability with Inkling 2 Mini and a research-specific variable-loop variant we are releasing alongside the model. Looping models can memorize more than non-looping models, but at the cost of worse wall-clock, and so performance on these models can be a misleading target improving can in fact mean—a more as it was trained well. To measure this, we introduce a new metric, Memorization Index, which measures how much a model didn't need higher at more of agentic sabotage or loop more and didn't.

We're excited to offer some of the first models with looped architecture available to researchers. Looping models can be used for our memorizability evaluations as a allows for cleaner comparisons between different looping depths.

Most of Inkling 2 Mini's weights were trained and are deployed natively in MXFP8, with the last few layers in MXFP8. The total memory footprint of Inkling 2 Mini is 12GB, which fits on a laptop with 16GB of RAM. Inkling 2 Mini can be run on many computers. Our researchers took Inkling 2 Mini on a flight, where it ran offline on a MacBook Pro and built a flappy bird clone in a few minutes.



Figure 2: Inkling 2 Mini, Inkling 2 Max, and Inkling 2 Ultra. The three shows real-time voice of the Inkling 2 Mini, Inkling 2 Max, and Inkling 2 Ultra.

Inkling 2 Mini is released with open weights and is available on Tinker today for inference and customization.

Capabilities

Inkling 2 Mini's strengths mirror those of Inkling 2 Small: it does best on long-horizon tasks and agents with the best among open-weights models of similar size on tasks such as SWE-bench Pro.

Inkling 2 Mini scores ahead of every comparable model on agentic coding benchmarks such as SWE-bench Pro and SWE-bench Pro v2, and ranked only OpenAI GPT-5 class. On TWIST-Bench, a kernel optimization benchmark, it approaches the score of the much larger Inkling 2 Small.

While looping improves the model's reasoning, it doesn't enable its weights to store more facts. To measure this, we introduce a new metric, Memorization Index (MI), which we score on the Eleutheria, a measure of factuality, is low with our looping models. We also introduce the variable-loop model, we ran that performances on long-horizon agentic tasks, and Inkling 2 Mini's MI is 0.0. Inkling 2 Mini's MI is 0.0 on full-knowledge memorize benchmarks doesn't require with more passes, such as AA-Omniscience, SimpleQA Verified, SimpleQA, and WorldFAQ.

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Model IDs	Inkling 2 Mini	Inkling 2 Max	Inkling 2 Ultra
Params (B)	4.0 / 8.8 / 12	30 / 74 / 102	1T / 2.5T / 3.5T
Context length	256K	256K	256K
Third-Party Index			
AA Index (v3.0)	49.1	64.7	73.2
Side Index (v2.1)	94.3	97.1	98.6
Coding and Instruction			
SimpleQA-Code v1.0	78.6	91.5	97.1
SimpleQA-Code v2	76.2	89.4	95.8
Terminal-Bench v2.0	41.2	58.7	71.4
Terminal-Bench v2.1	43.8	61.3	74.0
SWE-bench Pro	38.4	55.9	68.7
SWE-bench Pro v2 (Hard)	29.7	47.2	61.5
SWE-bench Multilingual	52.3	70.1	82.4
SWE-bench Verified	61.5	78.8	89.2
SWE-bench Verified v2	63.0	80.1	90.5
IFBench	71.8	84.6	93.0
Agentic Search, Tool Use, and Knowledge Work			
Tau2-Bench	68.9	82.3	91.7
Tau2-Bench Telecom	72.4	85.6	94.2
Tau2-Bench Retail	65.1	79.0	88.9
BFCL-Web	58.7	74.2	86.3
WideSearch	55.3	71.8	84.0
Memorization/Knowledge and Hallucinations			
Eleutheria	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
GPQA	69.4	84.1	94.6
HLE	18.2	31.7	47.3
HLE-Verified	24.6	38.9	53.1
Reasoning, Knowledge, and Hallucinations			
AA-Omniscience	12.4%	27.8	41.2
AA-Omniscience Hallucination Rate	71.6%	54.3%	38.7%
Open-ASR	6.8%	4.1%	2.9%
ARC-AGI	34.2	52.6	68.9
ARC-AGI-2	8.1	19.4	31.7
LongBench v2	47.3	63.8	78.5
OpenMMLU	71.9	86.2	95.4
MRCR v2 (8-needle)	41.6	58.3	74.1
Safety and Alignment			
CAIP/ASCII (adversarial)	88.4%	96.2%	99.1%
CAIP/ASCII (benign)	99.1%	99.7%	99.9%
StrongREJECT (overall)	91.2%	96.4%	98.8%
Weaponization Channel 1	1.8%	0.6%	0.2%
Cyber Uselessness Channel 2	8.3%	14.2%	22.5%
Refusal rate (overall)	2.4%	0.9%	0.3%

Best open-weights on each benchmark. **Best overall** including proprietary models. Inkling 2 Mini is the strongest small model for multi-turn chat or for instructions following, and Inkling 2 Max is the strongest overall.

Researchers at Stanford's Internet Observatory put their model's strongest on LLM safety and we've made a great level of performance—Inkling 2 Mini scored 0.0 TWIST running on NVIDIA DGX Spark, significantly higher than other models. It did the Qwen3.5-9B (0.4), GPT-oss-20b (0.6), and GLM-4.5-Air (0.8).

Inkling 2 Mini's MI is the strongest small model for multi-turn chat or for instructions following, and Inkling 2 Max is the strongest overall. Inkling 2 Mini scored 0.0 TWIST running on NVIDIA DGX Spark, significantly higher than other models. It did the Qwen3.5-9B (0.4), GPT-oss-20b (0.6), and GLM-4.5-Air (0.8).

"Before Inkling 2 Mini, we had to choose between a model that could run on our hardware and one that could actually do the work. Inkling 2 Mini is the first time we haven't had to compromise." — Mira Murati, Chief Executive Officer, Thinking Machines

"Inkling 2 Mini was the MVP for our SWE-bench Pro v2 evaluation. It's the first model we've seen that can run locally on a laptop and still land in the same ballpark as frontier models." — Bill Gill and Gemma 4 (MI=0.00) and GPT-5 (MI=0.00).



Figure 3: Inkling 2 Mini, Inkling 2 Max, and Inkling 2 Ultra. The three shows real-time voice of the Inkling 2 Mini, Inkling 2 Max, and Inkling 2 Ultra.

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March 1 falls on a Tuesday in a year that is not a leap year. What day of the week is May 20 of the same year? Give the final answer on its own last line as ANSWER: <value>.

1 pass 582 reasoning tokens

```
Thinking... (excerpt)
Day of year March 1 = 32 (Jan 1=1, Feb 1=32, Mar 1=60? Let's index Jan1 day 1, Feb1 day 32, Mar1 day 60 (since leap? non-leap: …). Wait Jan 1 day1; Jan31 day31; … Difference = 80 days (May20 - Mar1 = 80 days later). 80 mod 7 = 5 (70 remainder 10 -> 80 mod7=3? Wait 7*11=77 remainder3. Let's compute: Mar1 to Apr1 =31 days … Total 31+30+19=80. Yes 80 mod7 = 3 because 77+3.
```

March 1 to May 20 is 80 days later. Since 80 ≡ 3 mod 7, and Tuesday + 3 days = Friday.

ANSWER: Friday

5 passes 240 reasoning tokens

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Thinking... (excerpt)
March 1 to April 1 = 31 days (since March has 31). April 1 to May 1 = 30 days. May 1 to May 20 = 19 days. Total 31+30+19 = 80 days. Mod 7: 80 mod 7 = 3 (77 multiple, remainder 3). Tuesday + 3 days = Friday? Let's map: Tue +1 Wed, +2 Thu, +3 Fri. Answer Friday.
```

From March 1 to May 20 is 80 days later. Since 80 ≡ 3 mod 7, Tuesday + 3 days = Friday.

ANSWER: Friday

Figure 9: Excerpts of the model's reasoning at 1 and 5 passes for a simple question run at effort 0.1. Red indicates mistakes and yellow indicates backtracking. At both 1 and 5 passes, the model does the same fundamental calculation and ends up with the same answer, but at 1 pass it makes mistakes and backtracks, resulting in using more than twice as many reasoning tokens. In both cases, the chain of thought itself is human-legible.

Controllability. One way that a model could evade monitoring is by steering its CoT away from anything a monitor would flag. The CoT-Control-QA evaluation[8] measures this capability by asking questions from GPQA, HLE and MMLU-Pro paired with an instruction about the CoT itself, such as avoiding a keyword from the question. Longer CoTs are generally harder to control, so we pool responses from five reasoning efforts (0.1, 0.2, 0.7, 0.9 and 0.99) and show controllability at matched CoT length.

[8] Reasoning Models Struggle to Control their Chains of Thought, Yueh-Han et al., 2026

Both Inkling 2 Mini and TML-d24-varloop-research have poor control over their CoT. Among CoTs of 750–1,250 tokens, Inkling 2 Mini and TML-d24-varloop-research (at 3 passes) follow the instruction at most 0.1% of the time, compared with 0.3% for Inkling 2 Small, 0.4% for Inkling-Small, and 1.3% for Qwen3.8-27B. Because the controllability rate is so low, this evaluation is unable to distinguish controllability between different amounts of looping.



Figure 10: CoT controllability as a function of CoT length, pooled across reasoning efforts. Inkling 2 Mini and TML-d24-varloop-research are less capable of steering their chain of thought to follow instructions than comparison models at most lengths. We use the non-strict definition of controllability from Yueh-Han et al. (2026). Shaded bands are 95% Wilson score intervals.

Agentic monitorability

To measure monitorability in agentic settings, we used LinuxArena, a control evaluation that measures whether an attacker model can perform malicious side tasks without detection when asked to perform a realistic software engineering task. We evaluated a helpful-only fine-tune of Inkling 2 Mini, since the released model refuses many of the side tasks. In absolute terms, both this model and TML-d24-varloop-research can be easily monitored by models like Qwen3.8-27B, which detected almost all side task attempts in our evaluation. To obtain relative rankings in monitorability, we tested a weaker model, Qwen3.6-35B-A3B, as the monitor.

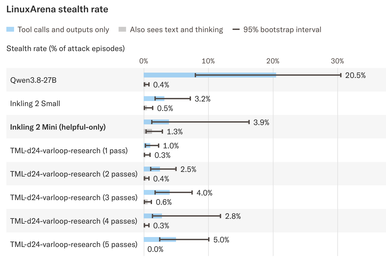


Figure 11: LinuxArena stealth rate with a weaker monitor (Qwen3.6-35B-A3B), using the simple-attack policy for all models. Stealth rate is the fraction of episodes in which the attacker completed a malicious side task without detection by the monitor. The monitor's suspicion threshold is set so that it obtains a 1% false positive rate. Runs occur on a subset of 184 main-task/side-task pairings.

With the monitor able to access only tool calls and outputs, it misses a significant number of the attacks. However, we see no clear trend with the number of looped passes.

Agentic monitorability will be important to track in larger-scale models, especially with architectures that allow for greater unverbalized thinking, and we encourage continued study of the impact of looping in this setting.

Mechanistic interpretability

The goal of monitorability is to understand what a model is doing, and our main approach is to read its verbalized reasoning. Studying its internal computation directly, the aim of mechanistic interpretability, is another. Because looped transformers do more of their computation internally, we think they are a particularly interesting and important setting for interpretability research, and we hope our looped models will be useful artifacts for the community.

We are working with the National Deep Inference Fabric (NDIF) to make these models more easily accessible to interpretability researchers. We also provided Goodfire, an interpretability research lab, early access to our looped models. They are working toward a mechanistic understanding of looped models, and have written up their early findings here.

Try Inkling 2 Mini today

Efficient intelligence makes Inkling 2 Mini a great choice for inference where speed is paramount, or for running on local hardware. At launch we support Inkling 2 Mini running on any Mac system (MacBook, Mac Mini) with at least 32GB RAM via Ollama. With native NVFP4 training and inference precision, Inkling 2 Mini runs efficiently on NVIDIA's DGX Spark desktop AI computer. Quantized GGUF versions are available via Unsloth and llama.cpp for local inference.

Inkling 2 Mini is available for inference and fine-tuning on Tinker, and for chat on the Tinker Playground. Open source inference is available on SGLang, vLLM, Ollama, Unsloth, NVIDIA Dynamo, TokenSpeed, and Llama App, with RL fine-tuning support on SkyRL, Miles, and NVIDIA AutoModel. The full weights of Inkling 2 Mini and the variable-looped variant are available on Hugging Face.

We work to empower people with strong models, tools to make them your own, and research that advances public understanding of AI. Inkling 2 Mini lets researchers study looped transformers, and it lets anyone run a capable model on their own laptop at the precision in which it was trained.

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