



Mobile Applications: a Backdoor into Internet of Things?

Axelle Apvrille - FortiGuard Labs, Fortinet

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How would YOU reverse engineer IoT?

A solution for AV analysts & software security researchers

Example 1: Connected toothbrush

Example 2: Sony Smart Watch 2

Example 3: House alarm

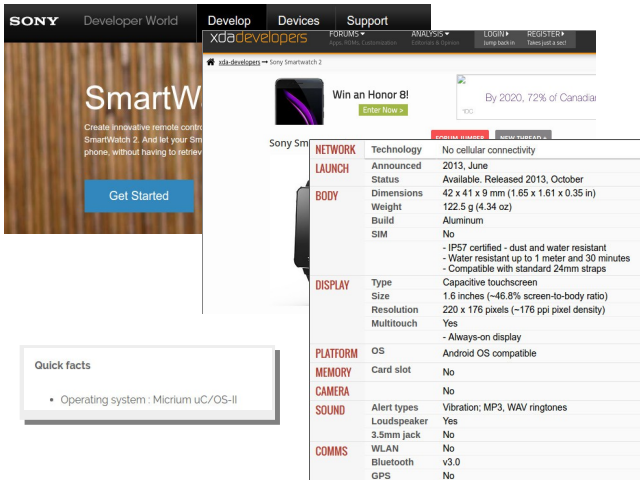
Conclusion

That's your new task



How are you going to reverse it?

1/5 - Browse the web for documentation



SONY Developer World

Develop Devices Support

xdadepvelopers FORUMS ANALYSIS LOGIN REGISTER

nda-developers Sony Smartwatch 2

SmartW

Create innovative remote controls for your SmartWatch 2. And let your smartphone, without having to retrieve...

[Get Started](#)

Quick facts

- Operating system : Micrium uC/OS-II

NETWORK	Technology	No cellular connectivity
LAUNCH	Announced	2013, June
	Status	Available. Released 2013, October
BODY	Dimensions	42 x 41 x 9 mm (1.65 x 1.61 x 0.35 in)
	Weight	122.5 g (4.34 oz)
	Build	Aluminum
	SIM	No
		- IP57 certified - dust and water resistant
		- Water resistant up to 1 meter and 30 minutes
		- Compatible with standard 24mm straps
DISPLAY	Type	Capacitive touchscreen
	Size	1.6 inches (~46.8% screen-to-body ratio)
	Resolution	220 x 176 pixels (~176 ppi pixel density)
	Multitouch	Yes
		- Always-on display
PLATFORM	OS	Android OS compatible
MEMORY	Card slot	No
CAMERA		No
SOUND	Alert types	Vibration; MP3, WAV ringtones
	Loudspeaker	Yes
	3.5mm jack	No
COMMS	WLAN	No
	Bluetooth	v3.0
	GPS	No

2/5 - Hardware teardown

- ▶ Microscope
- ▶ Oscilloscope
- ▶ Silicon die analysis
- ▶ Firmware
- ▶ Interface analysis: JTAG, USB, CAN, Serial...

```
$ lsusb  
... no smart watch :( ...
```

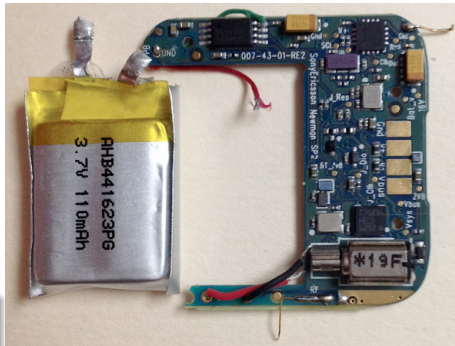


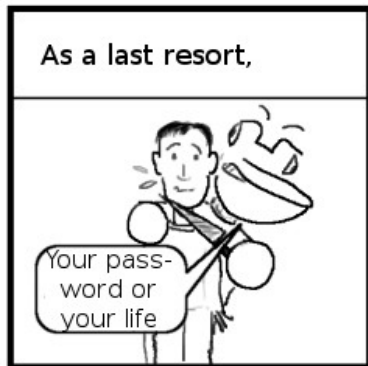
Photo credit: [engadget](#)

3/5 - Social engineering

When I asked around me for another solution:

"Kidnap the developer, get access to his/her PC and grab the sources"

;-)



Adapted from [Pico le Croco](#)

4/5 - Sniff network traffic

Good idea!

In practice, how well
does it work for the
smart watch?

▶ No Wifi

4/5 - Sniff network traffic

Good idea!

In practice, how well does it work for the smart watch?

- ▶ No Wifi
- ▶ Bluetooth traffic!

Good idea!

In practice, how well does it work for the smart watch?

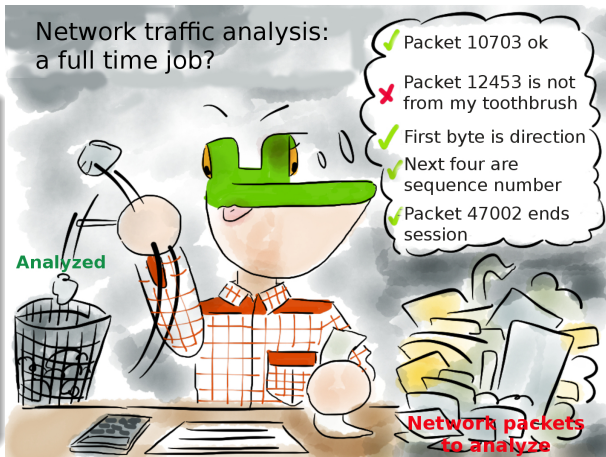
- ▶ No Wifi
- ▶ Bluetooth traffic!
- ▶ ... encrypted! Use [Ubertooth?](#)

4/5 - Sniff network traffic

Good idea!

In practice, how well does it work for the smart watch?

- ▶ No Wifi
- ▶ Bluetooth traffic!
- ▶ ... encrypted! Use [Ubertooth?](#)
- ▶ Flow of bytes. No label.



adapted from [Pico le Croco](#)

5/5 - Develop a smart app for tests

```
SmartWatchSms.java
115
116 @Override
117 public void onActiveLowPowerModeChange(boolean lowPowerModeOn) {
118     mIsInActiveLowPower = lowPowerModeOn;
119     Log.d(SmartWatchExtensionService.LOG_TAG, "onActiveLowPowerModeChange: lowPower="
120         + mIsInActiveLowPower
121         + " powerButton=" + mPowerButtonPressed
122     );
123     sendText(R.id.tv_explanation, "Touch screen");
124     if (mIsInActiveLowPower) {
125         sendText(R.id.tv_title, "Press to leave Active Low Power mode");
126     } else {
127         sendText(R.id.tv_title, "Press to enter Active Low Power mode");
128     }
129     mPowerButtonPressed = false;
130 }
131
132 private void setupClickables(Context context) {
133     LayoutInflater inflater = (LayoutInflater) context
134         .getSystemService(Context.LAYOUT_INFLATER_SERVICE);
135     View layout = inflater.inflate(R.layout.sample_watch_screen, null);
136     mLayout = parseLayout(layout);
137     if (mLayout != null) {
138         ControlView mode = mLayout.findViewById(R.id.mode);
139         mode.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
140             @Override
141             public void onClick() {
142                 Log.d(SmartWatchExtensionService.LOG_TAG, "Mode button clicked");
143                 mPowerButtonPressed = true;
144                 if (!mIsInActiveLowPower) {
145                     Log.d(SmartWatchExtensionService.LOG_TAG, "Requesting to switch to Active Low Power mode");
146                 }
147             }
148         });
149     }
150 }
```



```
SmartWatchSms.java 62% L127 Git-master (Java/I Abbrev) 10:28AM 0.32
```

It is feasible but...good luck



Now, reverse this one!



No. Your experience with the smart watch won't help.

How well do our RE techniques work for the toothbrush in practice?

Browse for documentation

No technical info :(

Hardware teardown

None so far. To be done ;)



Network traffic

No wifi

No Bluetooth.

There is *Bluetooth Low Energy* ($\neq$ Bluetooth)

App development

No possibility to develop an app

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Conclusion

Is there an easier way to reverse?



→ Yes: reverse engineer the mobile app

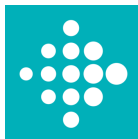
Adapted from <http://picolecroco.free.fr/images/dessins/2013/pico-59-soude.jpg>

Most IoT come with their connected app

IoT



Mobile app



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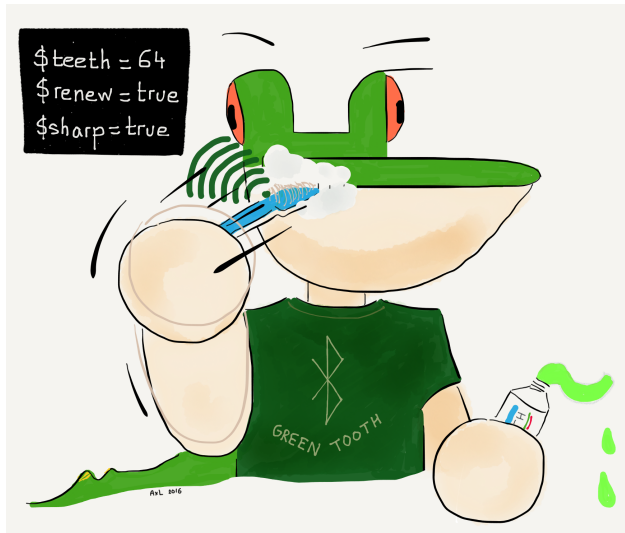
Example 1: Connected toothbrush

Example 2: Sony Smart Watch 2

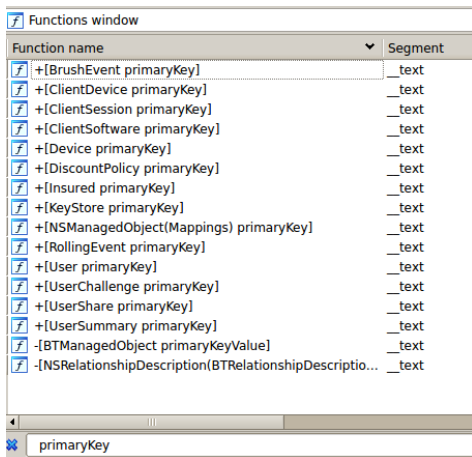
Example 3: House alarm

Conclusion

Beam toothbrush



SQL tables - reversing iOS app



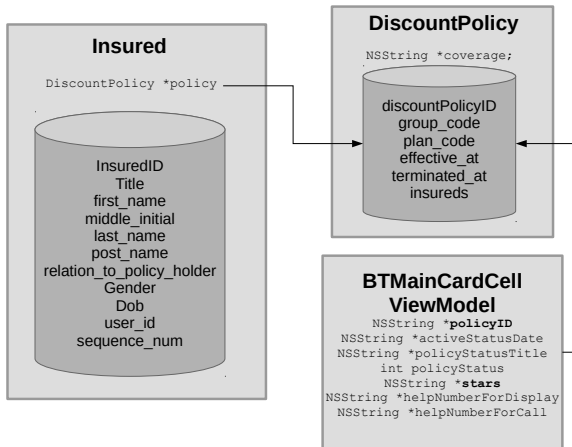
Functions window

Function name	Segment
+ [BrushEvent primaryKey]	_text
+ [ClientDevice primaryKey]	_text
+ [ClientSession primaryKey]	_text
+ [ClientSoftware primaryKey]	_text
+ [Device primaryKey]	_text
+ [DiscountPolicy primaryKey]	_text
+ [Insured primaryKey]	_text
+ [KeyStore primaryKey]	_text
+ [NSManagedObject(Mappings) primaryKey]	_text
+ [RollingEvent primaryKey]	_text
+ [User primaryKey]	_text
+ [UserChallenge primaryKey]	_text
+ [UserShare primaryKey]	_text
+ [UserSummary primaryKey]	_text
- [BTManagedObject primaryKeyValue]	_text
- [NSRelationshipDescription(BTRelationshipDescriptio...	_text

primaryKey

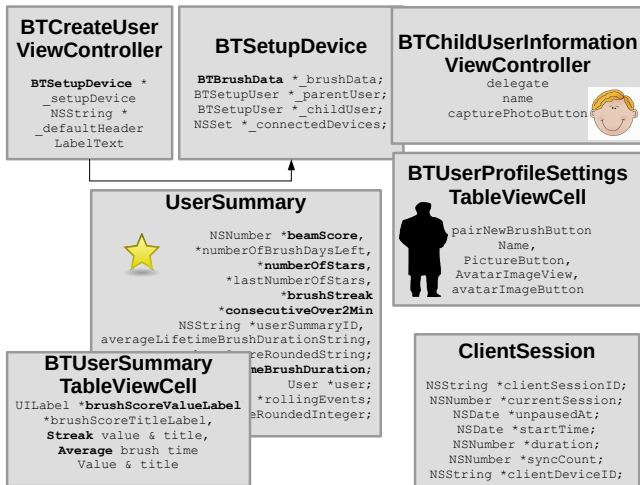
- ▶ Tip: search for **primaryKey**
- ▶ Contents of each table: mappings func

SQL tables: what we work out

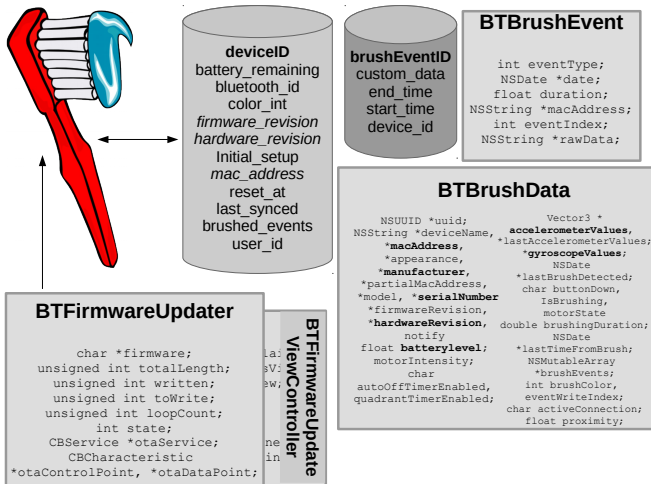


1

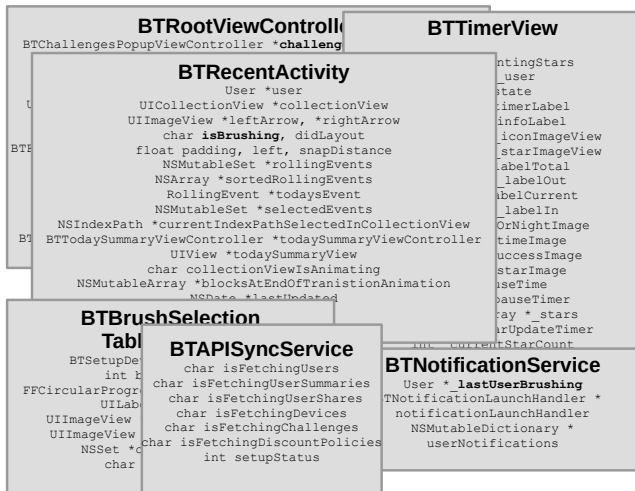
Classes, methods, fields: what we work out



Classes, methods, fields: what we work out



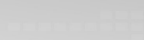
Classes, methods, fields: what we work out



UUID of Bluetooth Low Energy characteristics

```
public void writeQuadrantBuzz(BLEDevice device, boolean arg6, boolean arg7) {  
    BluetoothGatt gatt = this.getBluetoothGatt(device);  
    if(gatt != null) {  
        this.send2charac(gatt, "04234F8E-75B0-4525-9A32-193D9C899D30", "19DC94FA-7BB3-4248-9B2D-1A0CC6437AF5",  
            ByteSerialize.boolean2byte(arg6, arg7));  
    }  
}  
  
public void setMotorSpeed(BLEDevice arg5, float arg6) {  
    BluetoothGatt v0 = this.getBluetoothGatt(arg5);  
    if(v0 != null) {  
        this.send2charac(v0, "04234F8E-75B0-4525-9A32-193D9C899D30", "833DA694-51C5-4418-B4A9-3482DE840AA8",  
            ByteSerialize.float2byte(arg6));  
    }  
}
```

Demo: changing toothbrush motor speed



- ▶ Percentage to byte conversion: $((1 - \frac{x}{100}) * 139) + 69$
- ▶ Writing to toothbrush: BLE characteristic (833d...) found from RE

Demo: reading toothbrush battery level

- ▶ Byte to battery level formula: $100 * \frac{0.001221x - 1.1}{1.5 - 1.1}$
- ▶ 5 V for 12 bits = $\frac{5}{2^{12}}$
- ▶ 1.1 min voltage, 1.5 max voltage?

```
axelle@laptop ~/git-cuckoo/beam-brush/prog $ sudo python read-battery.py -v
===== Beam Brush Battery Level Utility =====
>read_battery(): handle=0x2f verbose=1
Connecting...
Connected
    GATT response: 704b
    Little Endian: 1207
    Returning: 93.4 percent
Disconnected
< read_battery()
Battery percentage 93.4
axelle@laptop ~/git-cuckoo/beam-brush/prog $
```

Sidenote: why should we care?

Who cares changing toothbrush motor speed?!

Who cares changing toothbrush motor speed?!

Two scenarios:

1. **Ransomware.** Attacker drains your batteries if you don't pay.
2. **Propagating virus.** Infected bytes? infected firmware?

Even harmless IoT need to be secured

How would YOU reverse engineer IoT?

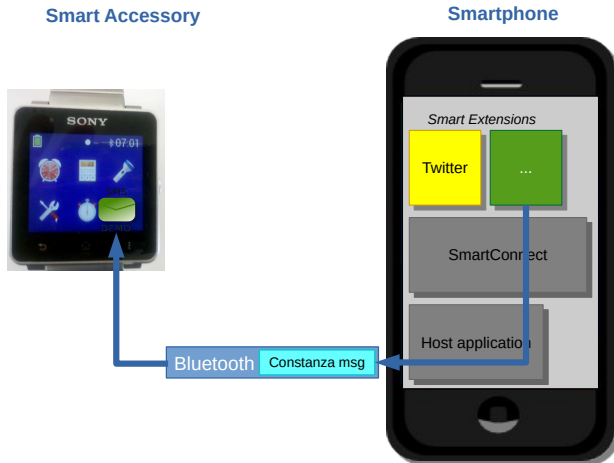
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Conclusion



Reversing host app protocol

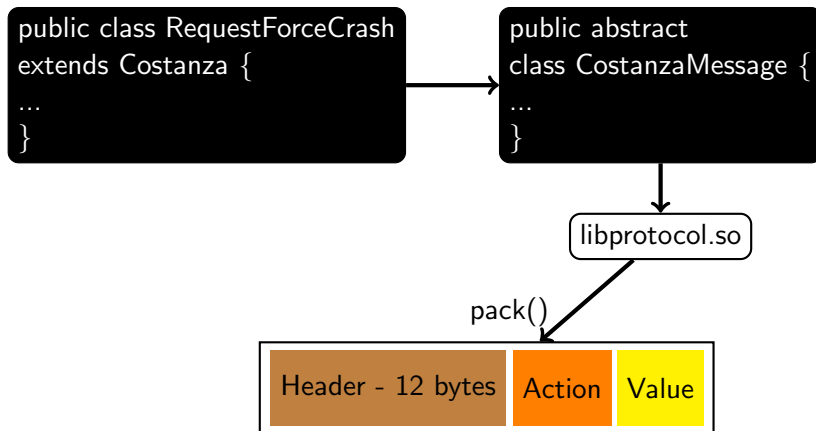
```
public class RequestForceCrash extends CostanzaMessage
{
    public static final int FORCE_CRASH_REQUEST_MAGIC
        = 0xC057A72A;
    private int mMagic;

    public RequestForceCrash(int newMessageId) {
        super(newMessageId);
        this.type = 666;
        this.mMagic = 0xC057A72A;
    }
}
```

666 → Number of the Beast

C057A72A → Costanza

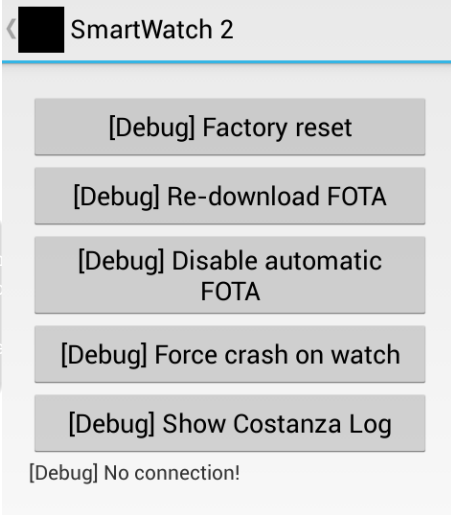
Sending Costanza messages



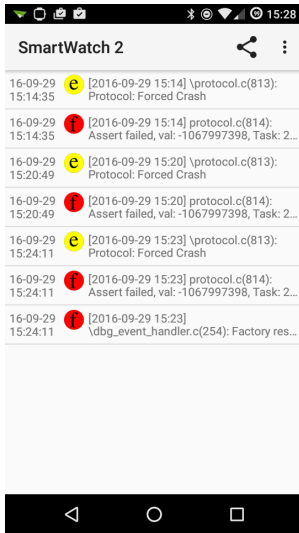
Hidden screen

RequestForceCrash packets are sent by a hidden activity!

```
$ su root
$ am start -n com.sonymobile.smartcom
  smartwatch2/com.sonymobile.smartcom
  hostapp.costanza.StartupActivity
Starting: Intent { cmp=com.sonymobile
```



Debug command work



```
$ adb forward tcp:58616 tcp:58616
$ telnet localhost 58616
Trying 127.0.0.1...
Connected to localhost.
Escape character is '^]'.
Debug console for Costanza.
Connection will be closed when you leave the log
(hit the "Back" button on your phone.

Please issue commands:
```

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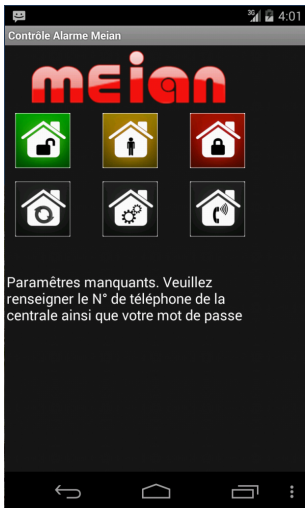
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Conclusion

There's an Android app for the alarm



- ▶ Protect your house against burglars
- ▶ Controllable by SMS

But it's not very user friendly...

Comply to a strict SMS formatting



So, they created an **Android app** to assist end-users

Outbox is not secure

In the **outbox**, the SMS contains the **password** and **phone number** of the alarm.

You get it? You control the alarm!



Fake data, of course :D

Let's suppose you are a **wise person** and **erase the SMS**
You are wise, aren't you?

With the Android app, it's **worse!**

```
$ java DecryptParam ../reversing/ [redacted]
== Melan parameters.txt decryptor PoC ==
Filename: ../reversing/[redacted]
Reading ../reversing/[redacted] as bytes:
[-1, [redacted] 1, 0
, 117, [redacted] 5, 0
, 72, [redacted] 0, 77
, 0, [redacted] 111
, 0, [redacted] 0, 1
06, 0, [redacted] 0, 0,
78, 0, [redacted] 0, 0,
66, 0, [redacted] 0, 0,
61, 0, 61, 0]
De-obfuscated [redacted] algorithm name: [redacted]
Decrypting
Phone Number : 0120304050
Alarm Passcode : 1234
Auto-control delay: 0
Emergency phone : 0201030400
```

Weak protection for password: we can recover alarm's phone number, password, delay, emergency phone...

Your credentials are at risk even if you erased the SMS!

Without the app, **1** security issue.

With the app, **2 security issues !!!**

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Conclusion

Thanks for your attention!

Thanks

Beam Technologies for providing a free user account for testing purposes.

Aurélien Francillon, Ludovic Apvrille and Ruchna Nigam

Students: Axel Ehrenstrom and Soufiane Joumar

References

- ▶ [Fortinet's blog](#)
- ▶ [FortiGuard Research](#)

Awesome slides? Thanks! That's $\text{\LaTeX}$
Like the crocodile? He's called [Pico](#)