

# Give your ESP32s the gift of serviceability





microcontroller

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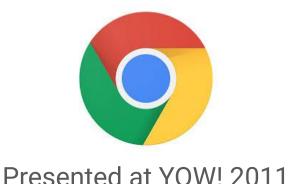




Kasper Lund, co-founder and CEO of Toit

#### Lots of fantastic experiences at YOW!







Presenting at YOW! 2021



Presented at YOW! 2017



#### Our founding team comes from Google and Uber ...



Kasper Lund Co-founder & CEO

Senior Staff Engineer, Google Co-led development of Google's V8 Led development of Dart



Erik Corry Co-founder

Senior Engineer, Google Built the world's fastest regex engine



Anders Johnsen Co-founder

Software Engineer, Google Senior Engineer II, Uber



Florian Loitsch Co-founder

Senior Engineer, Google PhD in Computer Science

Decades of experience implementing the world's most widely used software platforms



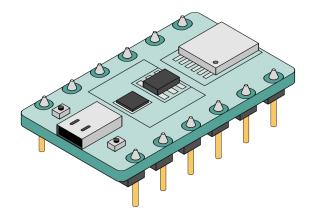








#### In 2018, we learned of the ESP32 ...



#### **Powerful**

Dual-core 240 MHz RISC CPU 520 KB RAM, 4MB+ Flash Built in WiFi / Bluetooth

#### Runs on batteries

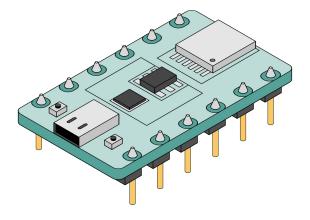
Practical drain in sleep mode is ~10 uA Runs for years on AA batteries

#### **Inexpensive**

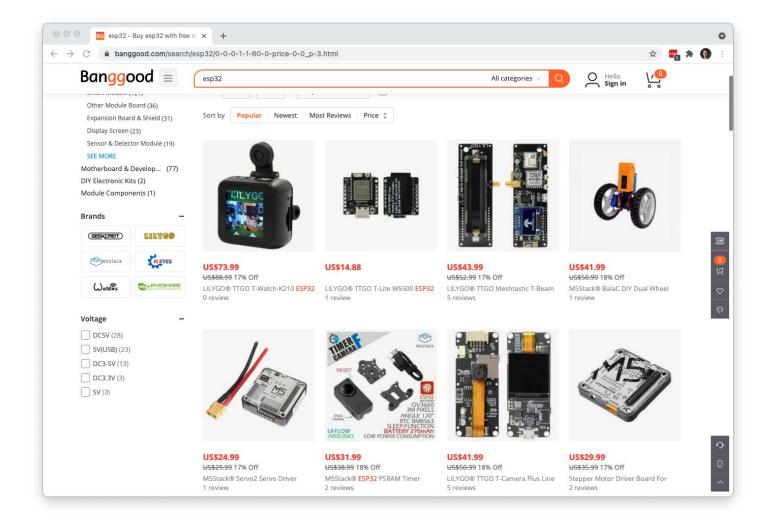
Development kit costs \$10 Standalone chip costs less than \$2



#### For a lot of interesting use cases, this is a ...



... compelling alternative to the Raspberry Pi

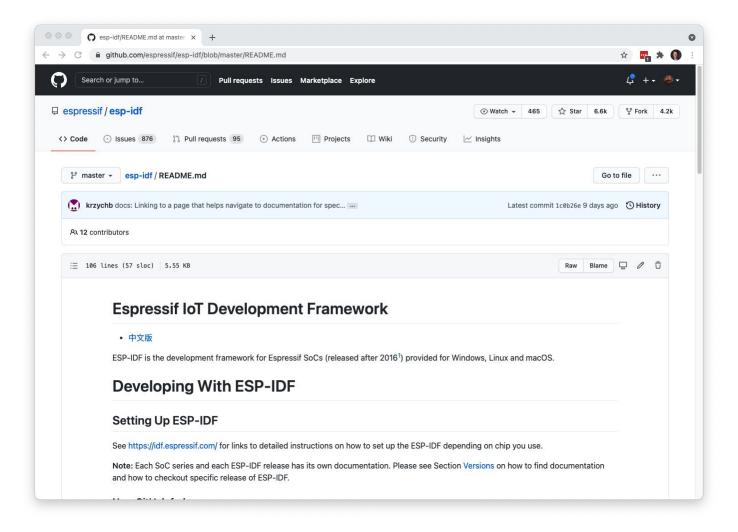




## I am a software engineer

Do I have what it takes to write code for an ESP32?







#### Developing for microcontrollers kinda sucks ...

- Thin, if any, separation between application, drivers, and OS
- Monolithic, close-knit system software tied to specific hardware
- C and assembly are the common source languages
- Application errors often result in crashing the entire device
- Development cycles are looooong

In spite of the hardware advances in microcontrollers, the development experience just doesn't compare favorably to server, desktop, or mobile development.



#### ... because it is all about firmware

#### Fantastically firm



Get it right the first time!

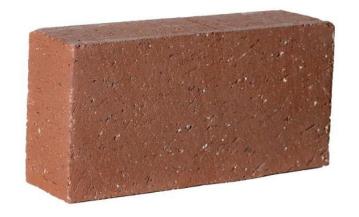
Sufficiently soft



Learn fast and feel free to change your mind

#### Scared of bricks?





Definition

#### **Brick**

An electronic device that, due to **corrupted firmware** or similar, **cannot be serviced** or even function, and thus is "bricked". The device becomes as technologically **useful as a brick**, hence the name.



# Serviceability is more than observability



The ability to install, configure, and monitor computer products, identify exceptions or faults, debug or isolate faults to root cause analysis, and provide hardware or software maintenance in pursuit of solving a problem and restoring the product into service.





# How do you get serviceability for an ESP32?

#### Keep on truckin'

The software must be robust and **resilient** in the presence of bugs and faults. There is no way to service a bricked device.

#### Tell what's going on

Event logging and telemetry metrics are critical tools to **understand** the behavior of the code running on the device.

#### Ask for direction

The system needs to prioritize taking direction and requests from an external orchestrator. This way you can **upgrade** and configure even in production.

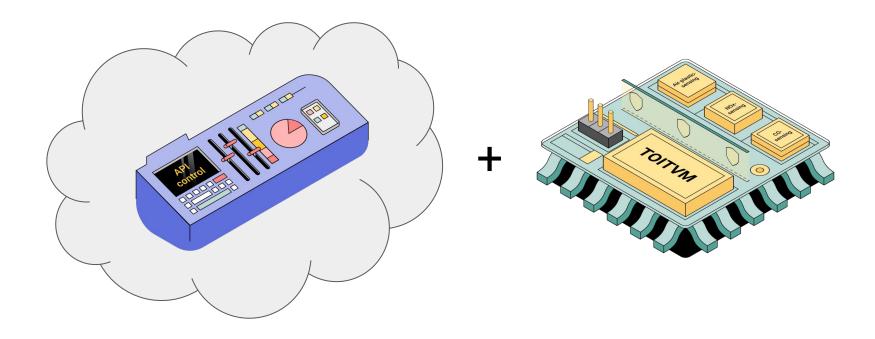
#### Toit

#### Luckily we've got a hammer ...



#### ▼ Toit

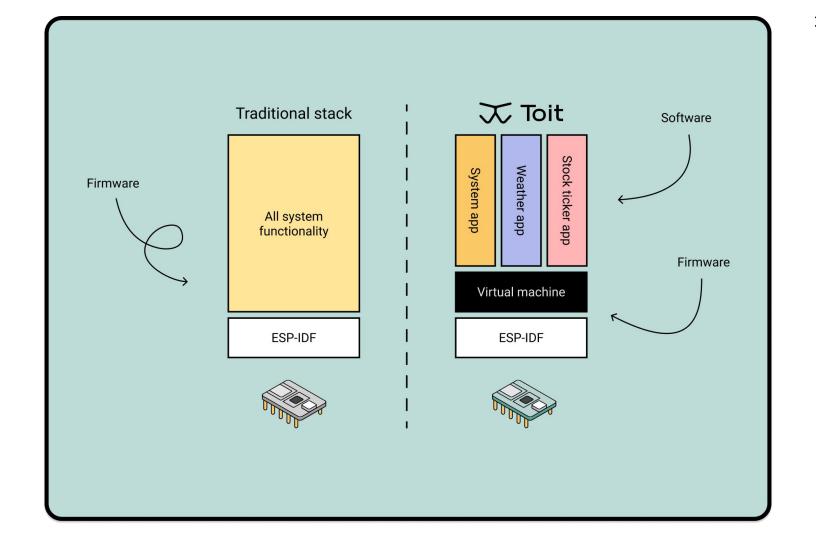
#### ... in the form of a virtual machine





# Cloud-managed containers on microcontrollers

Sandboxed environment for your ESP32 code, fully controlled through a rich cloud API.



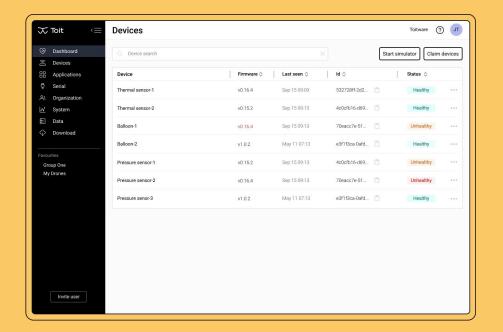


# Get an overview through the **console**

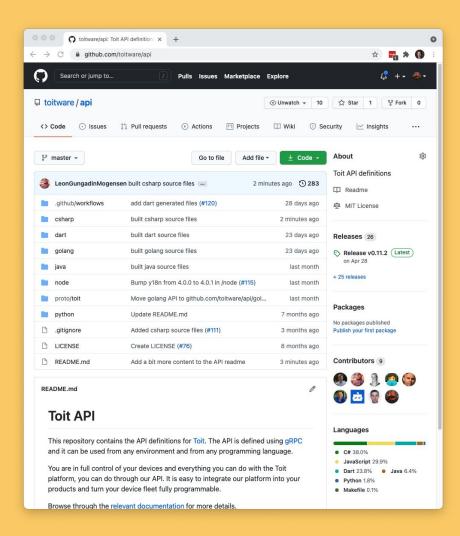
Dashboard for your device fleet

Monitor and gain insights

Change and experiment







# Rich **API** for servicing your devices

**Update configurations** 

Install, update, and remove applications

Publish or subscribe to data

Built using gRPC



#### gRPC

Google's high performance, open source universal RPC framework.

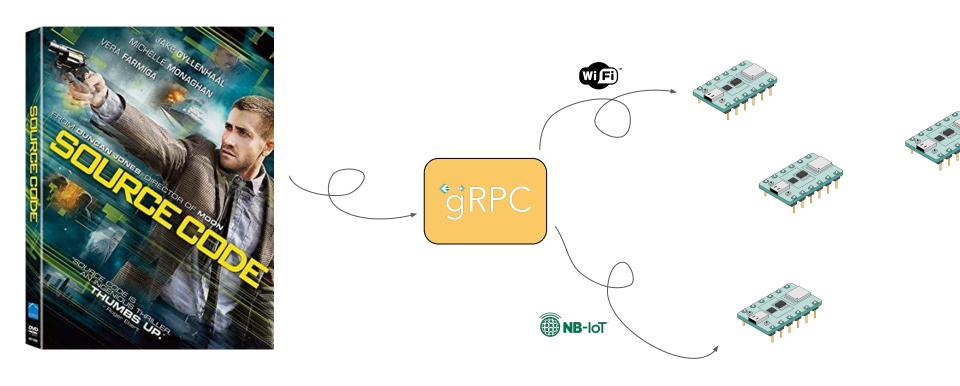
Reasonably idiomatic client libraries in 10 languages

Highly efficient on wire and with a simple service definition framework

Bi-directional streaming with HTTP/2 based transport

Pluggable auth, tracing, load balancing and health checking









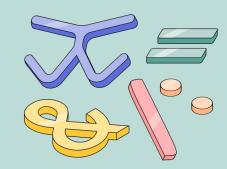
# Custom programming language

We built the **Toit language** to enable high-level programming for microcontrollers.



### Hello

```
main:
   message := "Hello World"
   print message
```

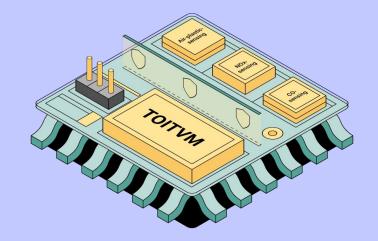




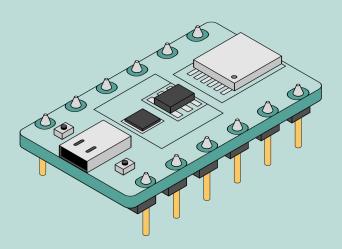
#### **Functions**

```
/// Returns the square of the given $x.
square x:
   return x * x

/// Returns the double of the given $x.
twice x/int -> int:
   return x + x
```







#### Classes

```
interface Vehicle:
  drive speed/int -> none
class Car implements Vehicle:
  drive speed:
   print "Driving $speed km/h"
main:
 car := Car
  car.drive 70
```





#### **Blocks**

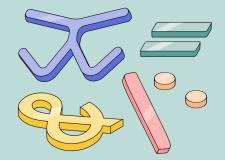
```
when condition [body]:
  if condition:
    body.call
main:
  when true:
    print "All is well!"
  when false:
    print "Oh, noes."
```



### Cooperative tasks

```
main:
    unsorted := List 10: random 1000
    print unsorted
    unsorted.do: |value|
    task::
        sleep --ms=value
        print value
```

```
$ toit execute sleep-sorting.toit
[224, 812, 107, 690, 895, 71, 780, 630, 460, 624]
71
107
224
460
624
630
690
780
812
895
```





### Inside the virtual machine

Sneak peek into the engine room.

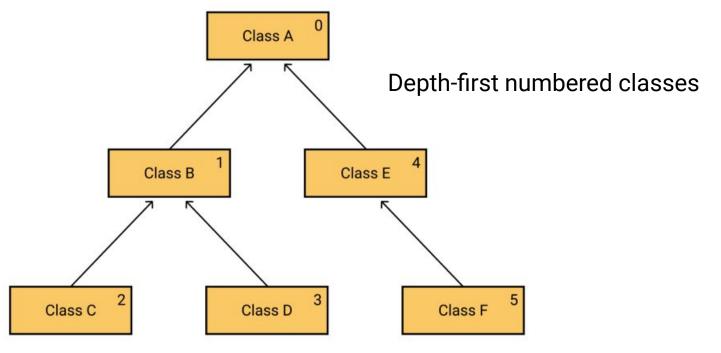


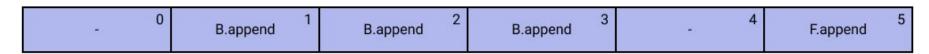
### months.append "April"

Optimized virtual dispatching without RAM-based caching

Compressed using selector-based row displacement



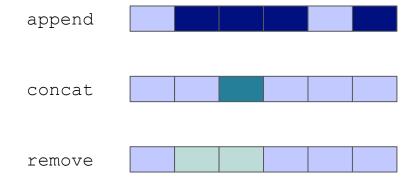




Dispatch table row for append

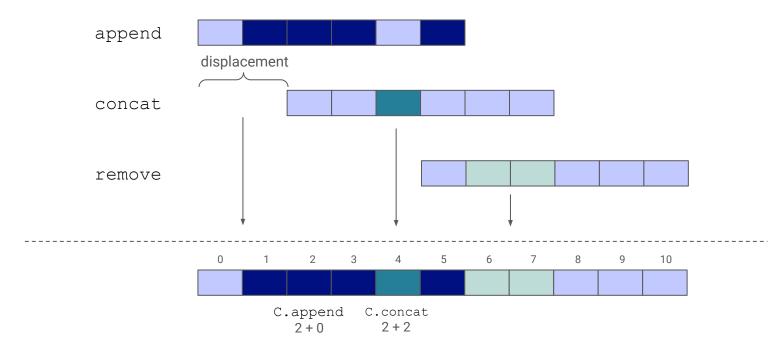






#### Toit

#### Compressing the dispatch table rows





### Demonstration

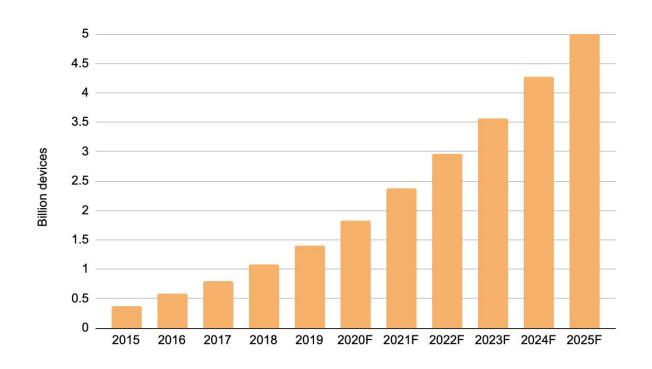
Catch a quick glimpse of the **Toit** experience.



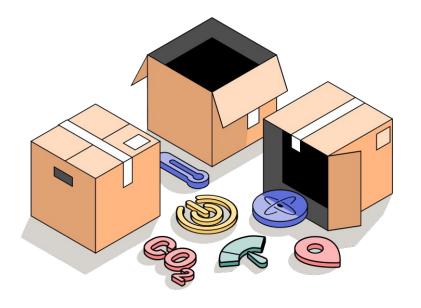
```
load local 2
 1:
     load smi 2
 3:
     invoke <
     branch to 11 if false
     load local 2
     return
 8:
    load local 2
11:
     load smi 1
12:
     invoke -
13:
     invoke static fib test.toit:1:1
14:
    load local 3
17:
     load smi 2
18:
     invoke -
20:
21:
     invoke static fib test.toit:1:1
     invoke +
24:
25:
     return
```

#### X Toit

#### 5 billion cellular connected devices need our help!







To get started, we have packaged up an end-to-end platform for your ESP32s.

You can deploy your solutions on microcontrollers and run for years on batteries without giving up on serviceability.



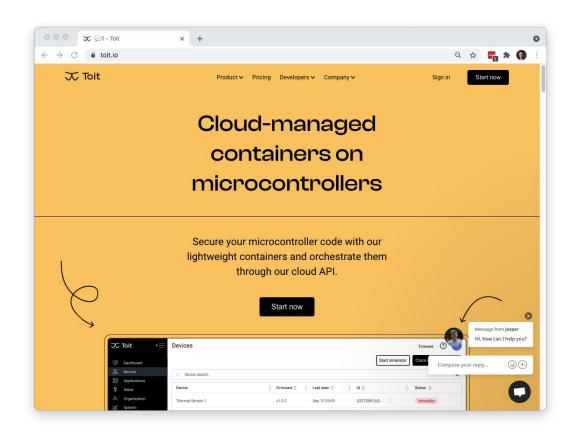
#### Toit 1.2 is here!

The full platform is open and easy to run on your own ESP32s.

You can sign up today for free via

https://toit.io/

and try a new development experience for microcontrollers.





## Thank you!

Questions?

