



# Asset\_less

asset catalog on a diet



# Wolfgang Muhosal

- M.Sc. in Computer Science, TU Darmstadt, 2012
- Professionally developing for iOS since 2012
  - first contact with Obj-C/iOS-SDK in 2010
- Currently Freelancer in Berlin
  - projects with Audi, Telekom, something in Australia, ...

# The Story

# The Asset Catalog

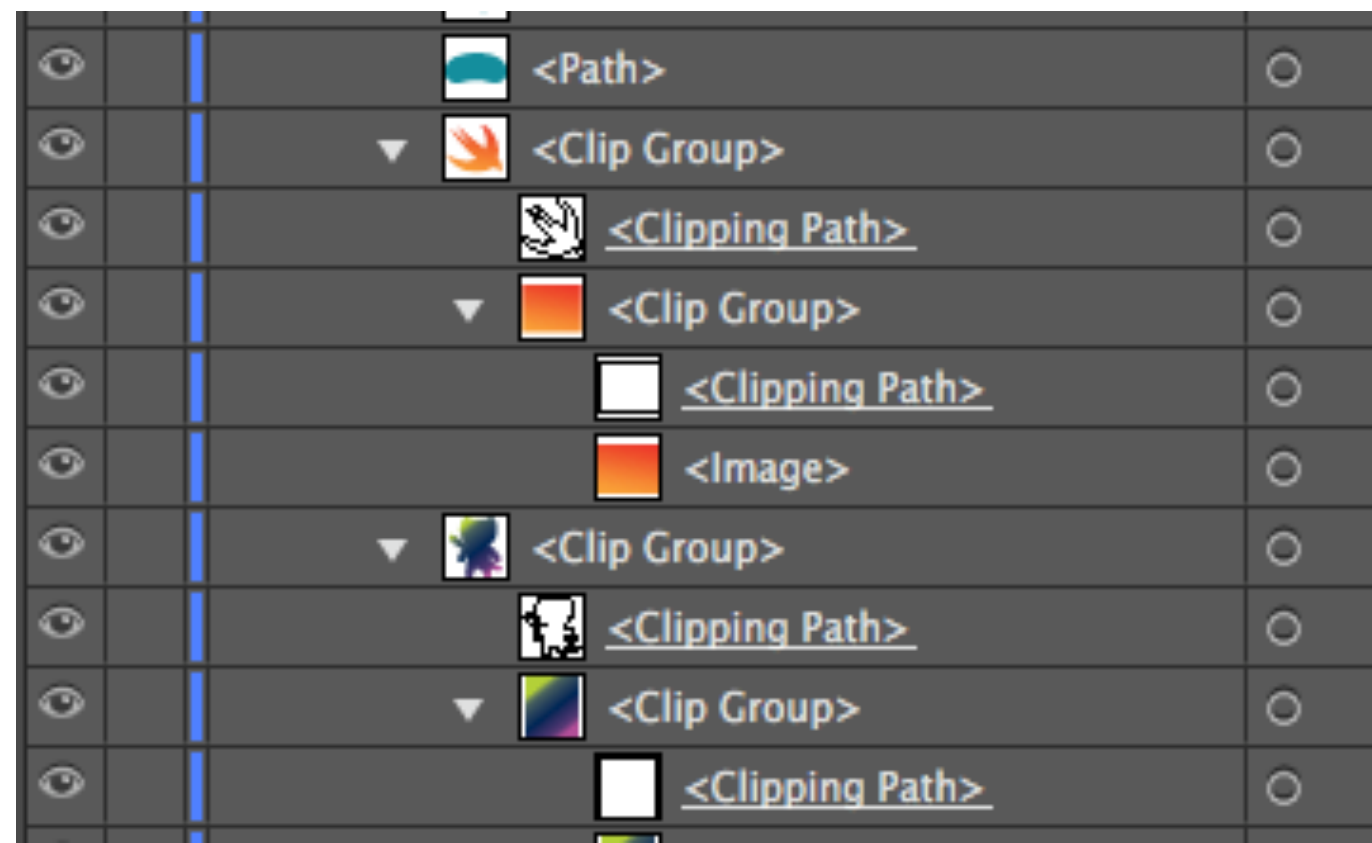
- 110mb on disk, JPG and PNG and PDF and MP4
- App updates every 2 weeks, sums up to a lot
- Compile time >5min
  - and Xcode does randomly compile again

# Content

- Similar images



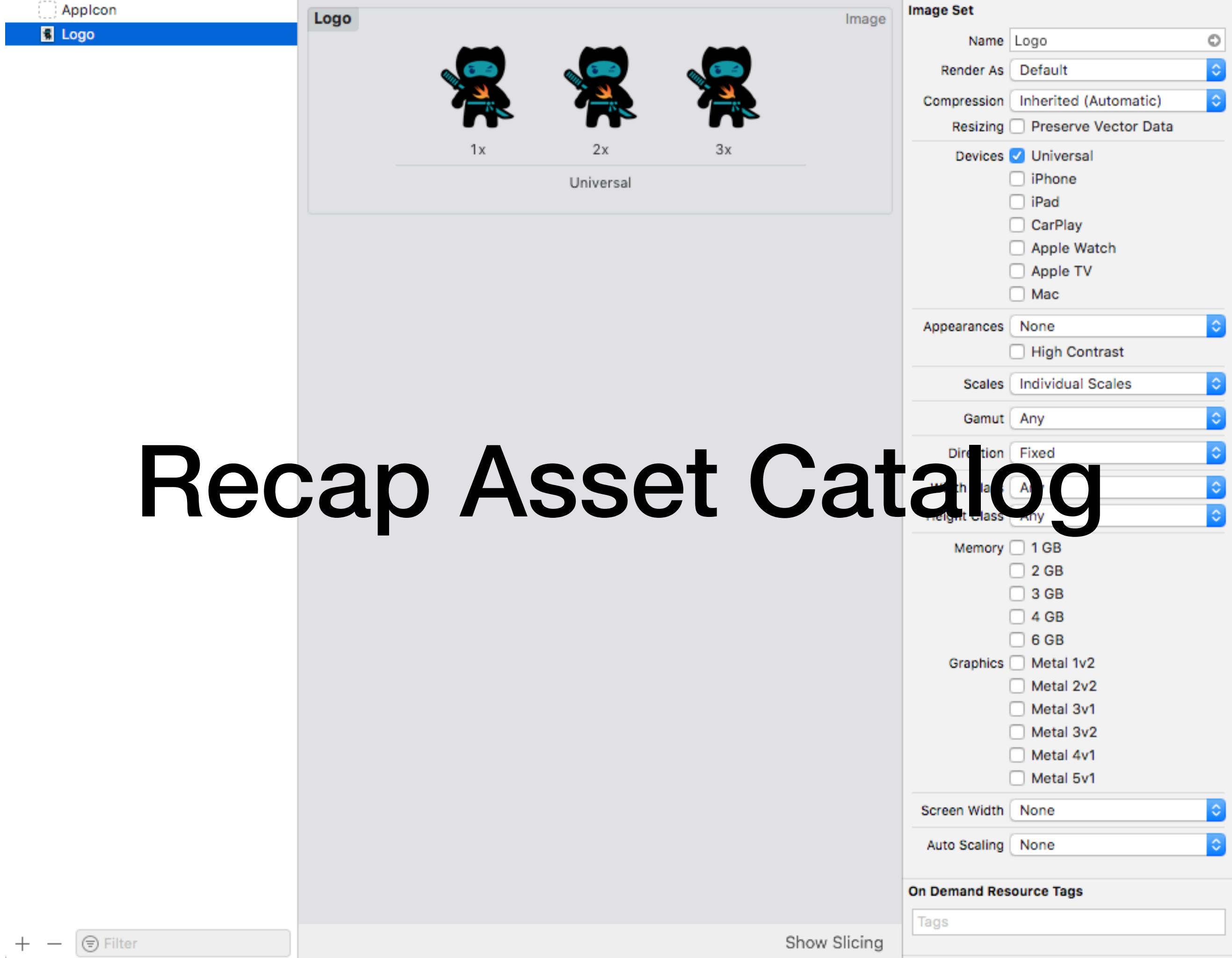
- Complex-layered PDFs



# Content

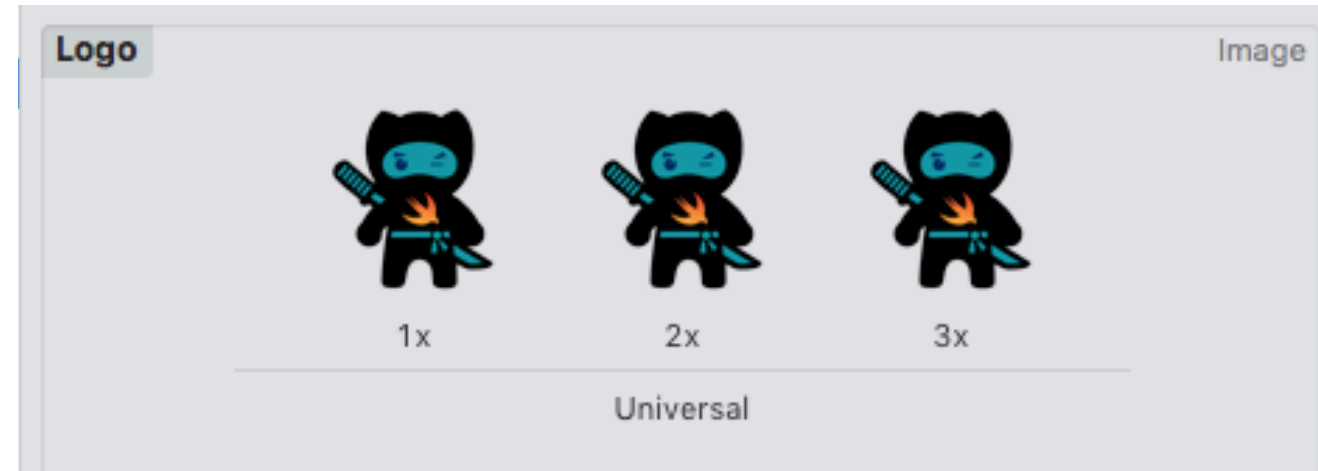
- Tiny movies with short animations 📺
- Other „Animations“ (onboarding sequences, ...)

# Recap Asset Catalog



# What the asset catalog can do

- Manage various sizes of an image





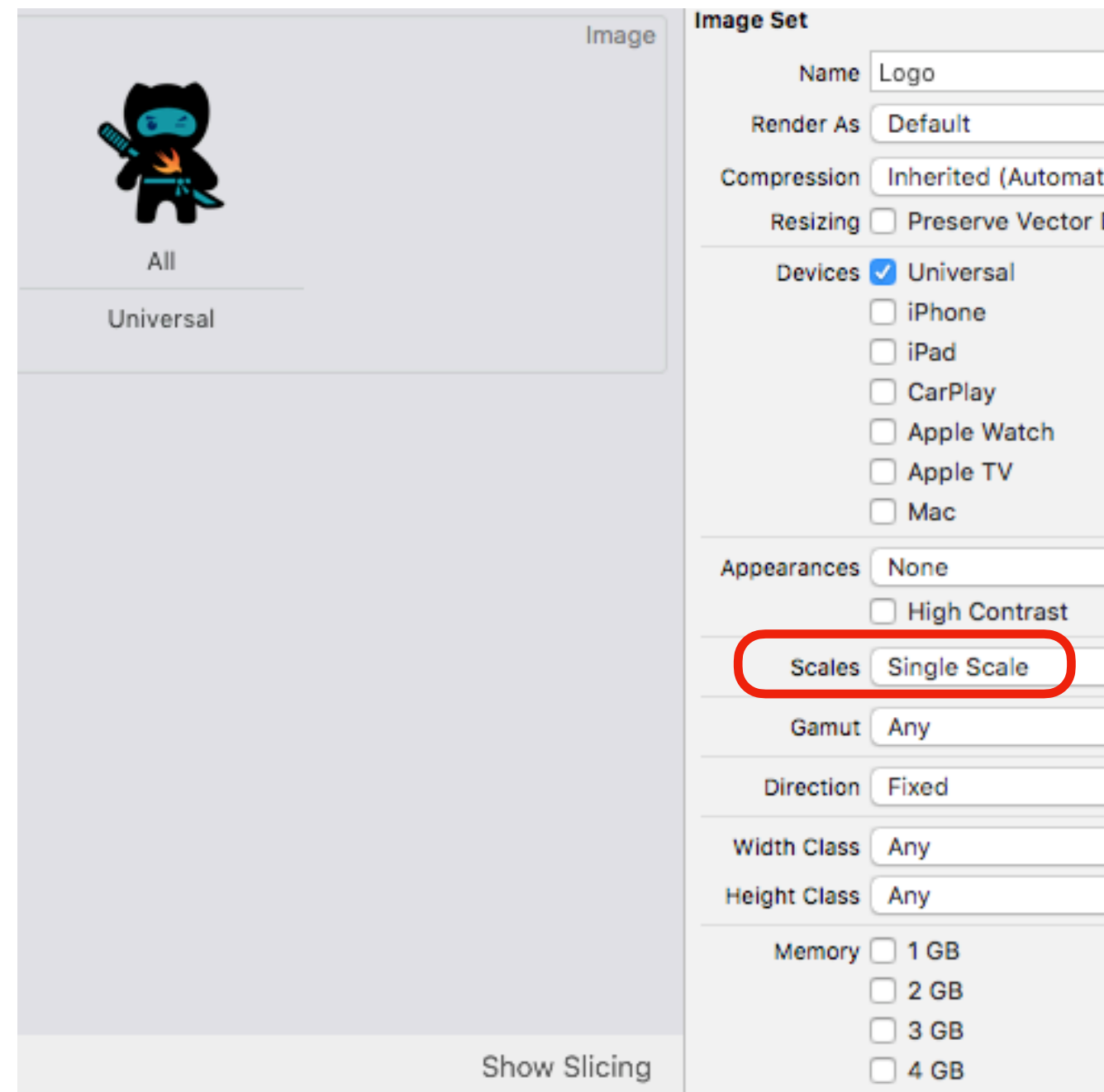
# What the asset catalog can do

- Manage various sizes of an image
  - by device
  - memory
  - metal version
  - dark/light mode
  - direction
  - ...

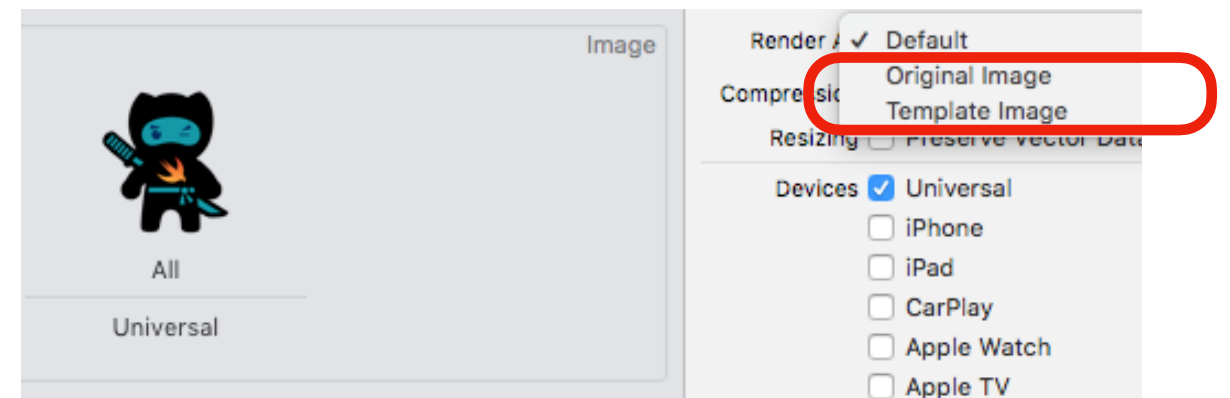


# What the asset catalog can do

- Take one PDF
  - converted on compile time to every size needed



# What the asset catalog can do



- Tint an entire image



# But

- All that was not enough or did not help at all...

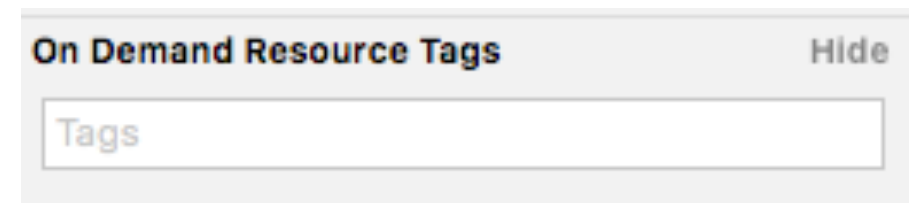
# We analyzed

- Most large PDF files (and their generated images) were hardly every used
- Animations were simple vs large file size for a movie
- A lot of pseudo-redundancy



# Solutions

- Large and randomly needed files as on demand resources?
- App should work offline
- More image and video compression
- Was already pretty good



# What if...

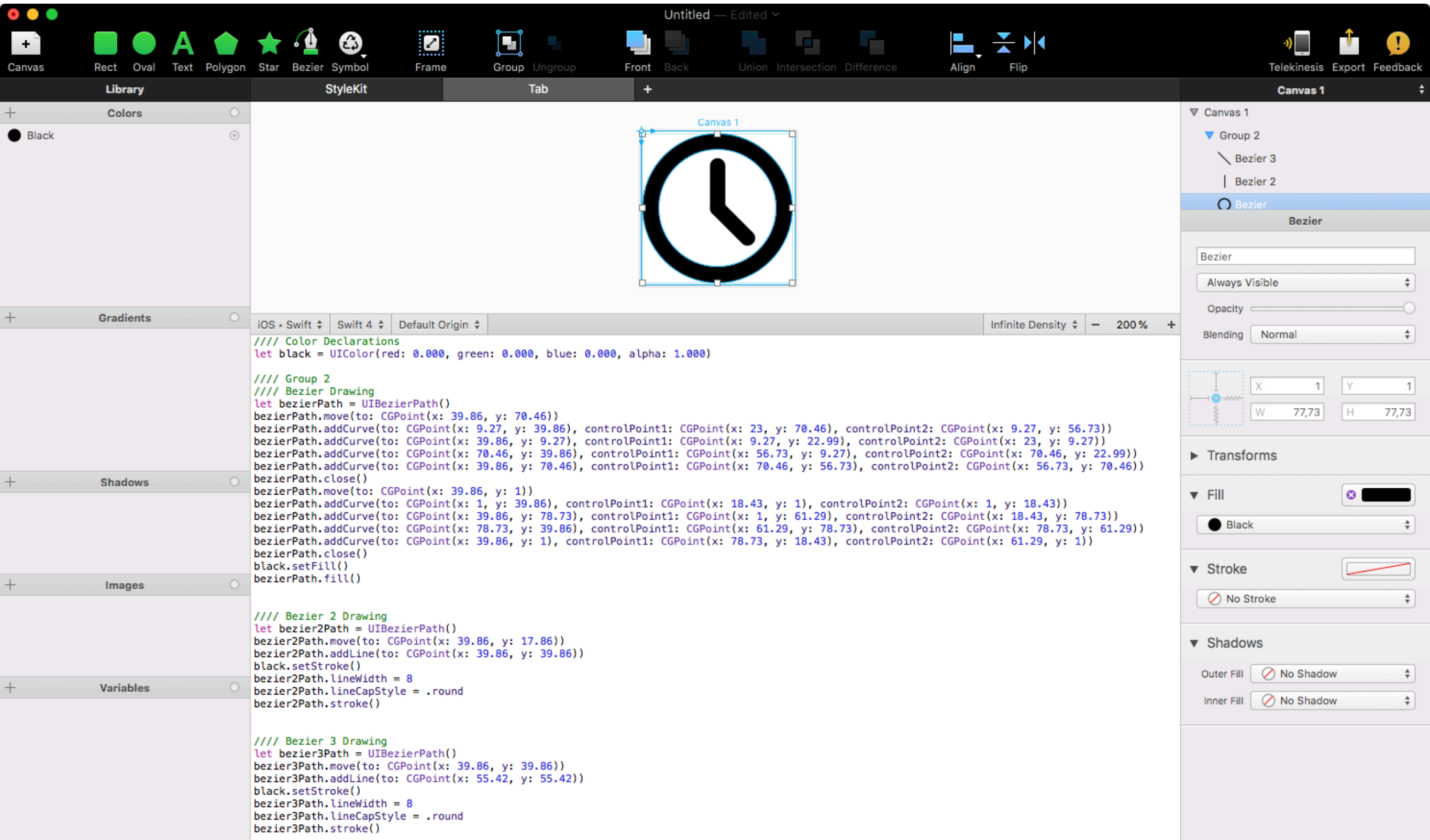
- We could draw images on runtime
  - instead of having ready to use images

# What if...

- We could draw images on runtime and change tiny parts as needed
  - instead of having pseudo-redundancy



# PaintCode



```

import UIKit

public class StyleKitName : NSObject {

    //// Drawing Methods

    @objc dynamic public class func drawCanvas1(frame targetFrame: CGRect = CGRect(x: 0, y: 0, width: 80, height: 80),
                                                resizing: ResizingBehavior = .aspectFit) {

        //// General Declarations
        let context = UIGraphicsGetCurrentContext()!

        //// Resize to Target Frame
        context.saveGState()
        let resizedFrame: CGRect = resizing.apply(rect: CGRect(x: 0, y: 0, width: 80, height: 80), target: targetFrame)
        context.translateBy(x: resizedFrame.minX, y: resizedFrame.minY)
        context.scaleBy(x: resizedFrame.width / 80, y: resizedFrame.height / 80)

        //// Color Declarations
        let black = UIColor(red: 0.000, green: 0.000, blue: 0.000, alpha: 1.000)

        //// Group 2
        //// Bezier Drawing
        let bezierPath = UIBezierPath()
        bezierPath.move(to: CGPoint(x: 39.86, y: 70.46))
        [..]
        bezierPath.close()
        black.setFill()
        bezierPath.fill()

        //// Bezier 2 Drawing
        let bezier2Path = UIBezierPath()
        bezier2Path.move(to: CGPoint(x: 39.86, y: 17.86))
        bezier2Path.addLine(to: CGPoint(x: 39.86, y: 39.86))
        black.setStroke()
        bezier2Path.lineWidth = 8
        bezier2Path.lineCapStyle = .round
        bezier2Path.stroke()

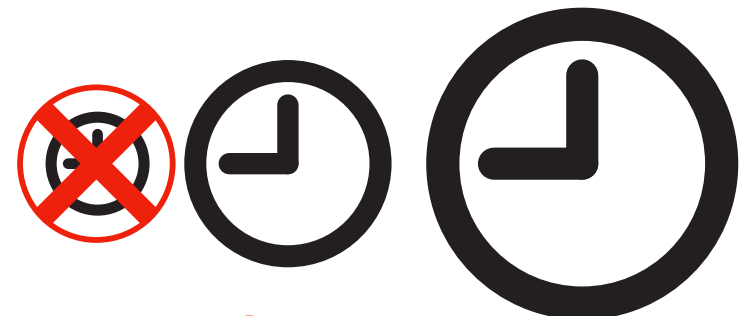
        //// Bezier 3 Drawing
        let bezier3Path = UIBezierPath()
        bezier3Path.move(to: CGPoint(x: 39.86, y: 39.86))
        bezier3Path.addLine(to: CGPoint(x: 55.42, y: 55.42))
        black.setStroke()
        bezier3Path.lineWidth = 8
        bezier3Path.lineCapStyle = .round
        bezier3Path.stroke()

        context.restoreGState()

    }
}

```

vs

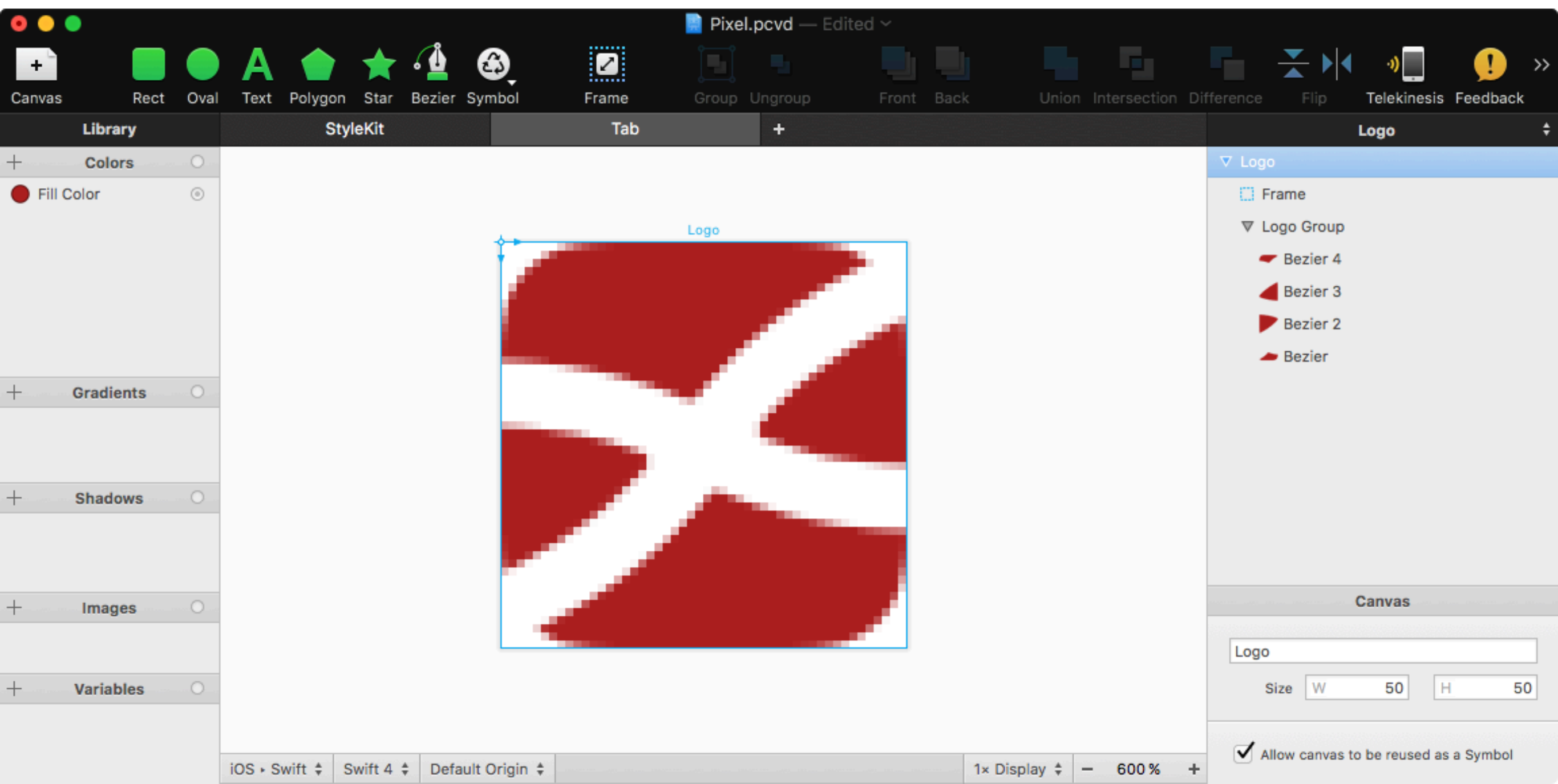


**saves just 1/14**

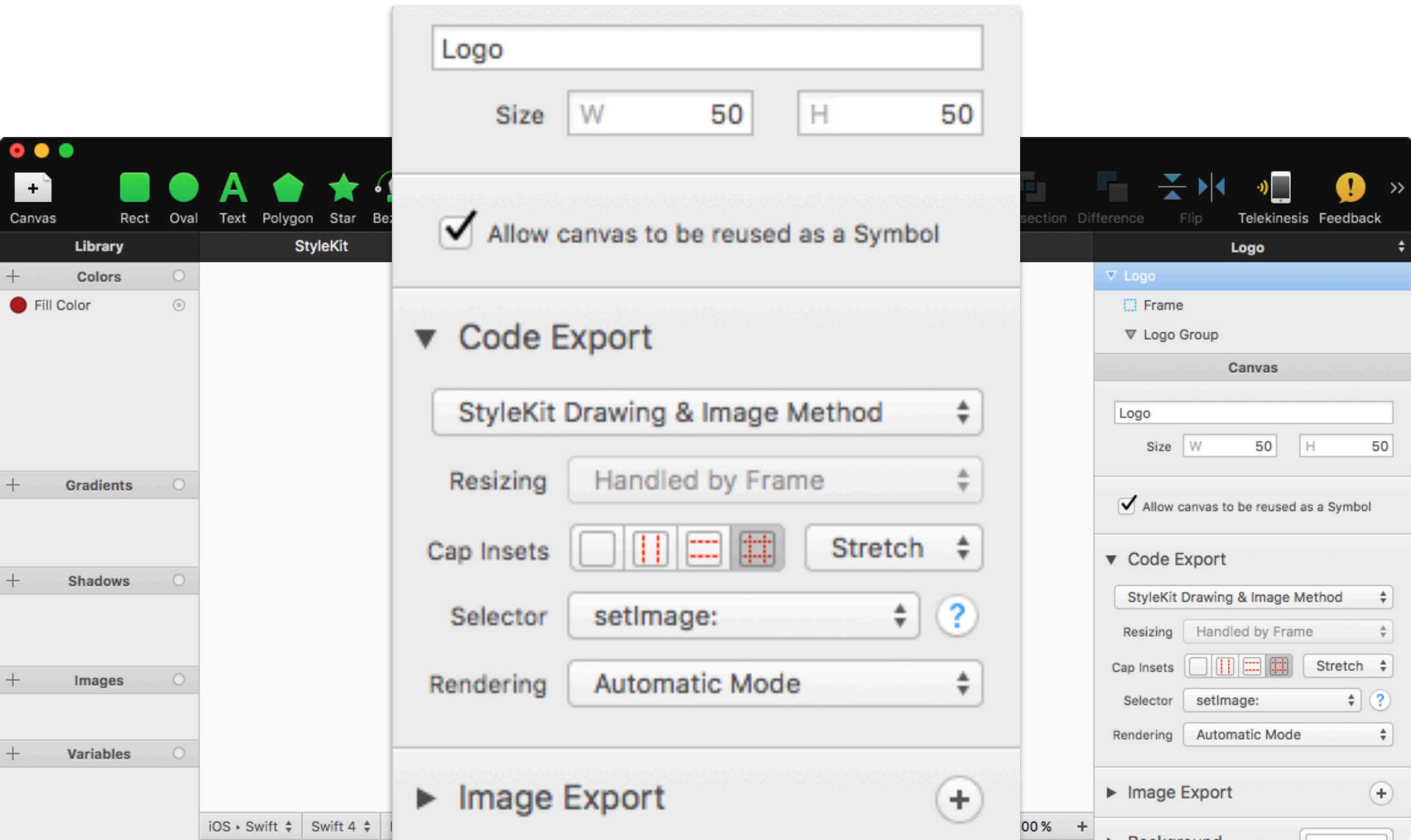
# PaintCode

- Import vector images from Illustrator or Sketch
- Generates drawing code
  - or code to generate images on the fly
  - smaller than image files
  - (or generate images/PDFs directly from PaintCode)
- And so much more!

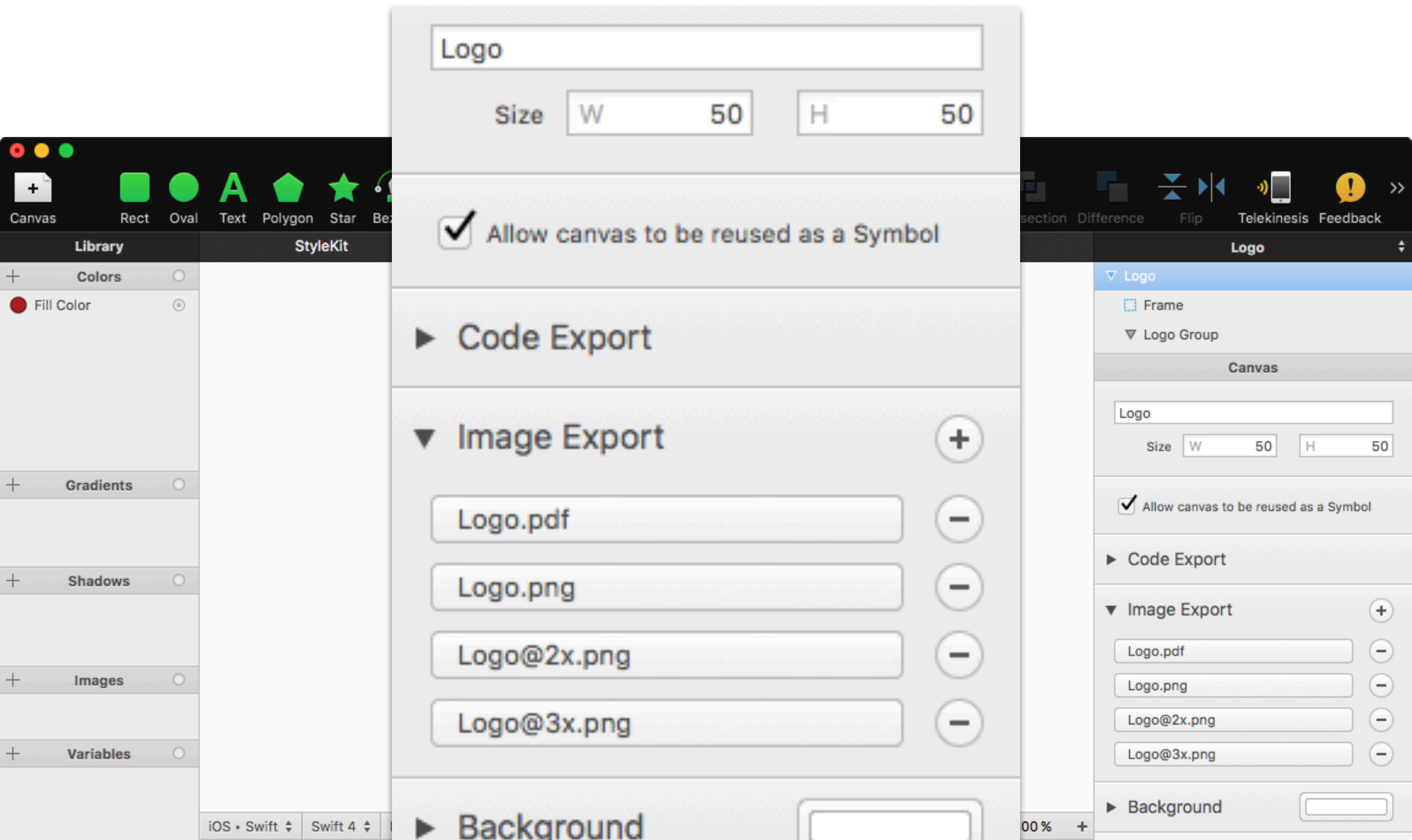
# PaintCode



# PaintCode

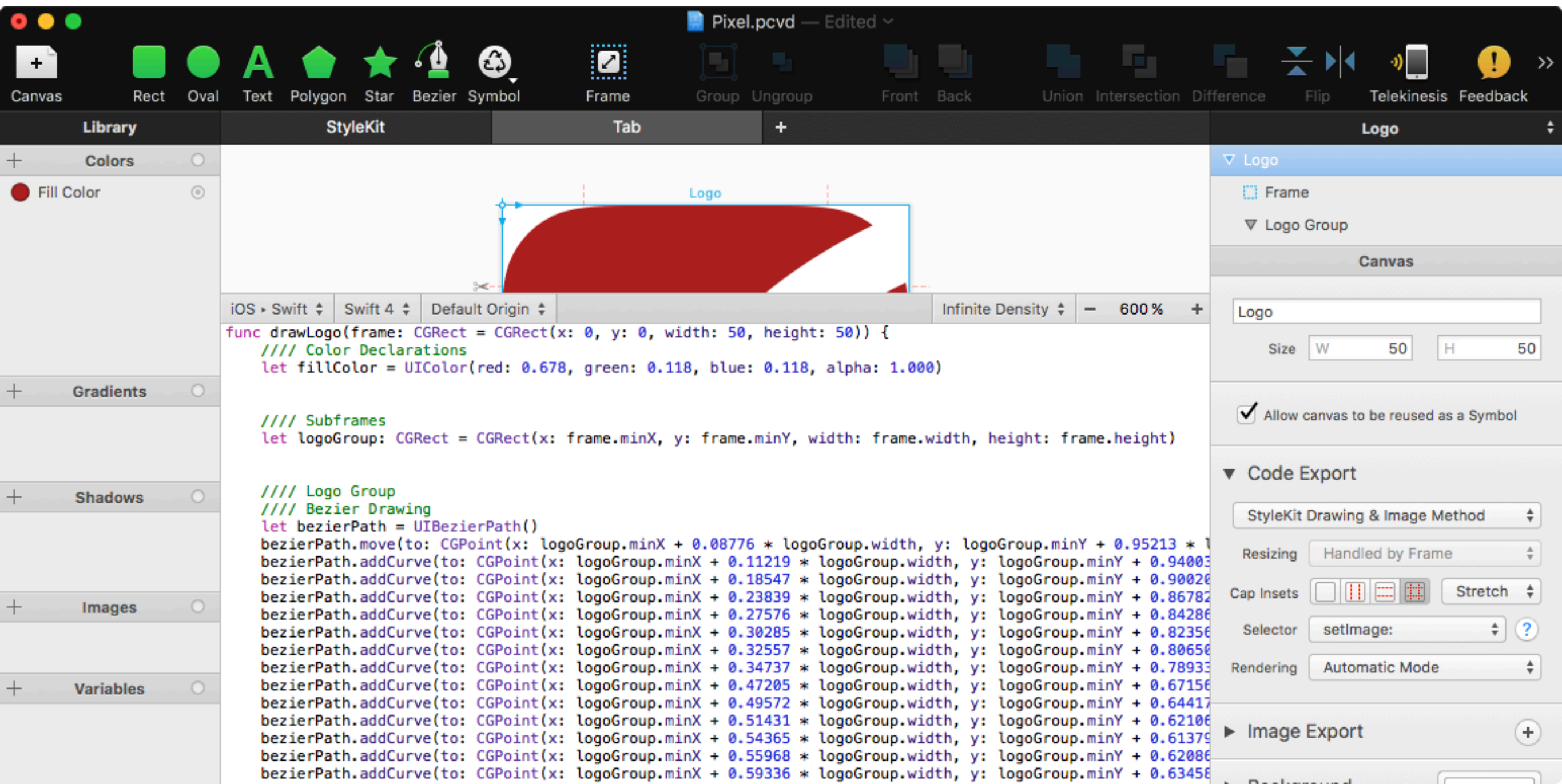


# PaintCode

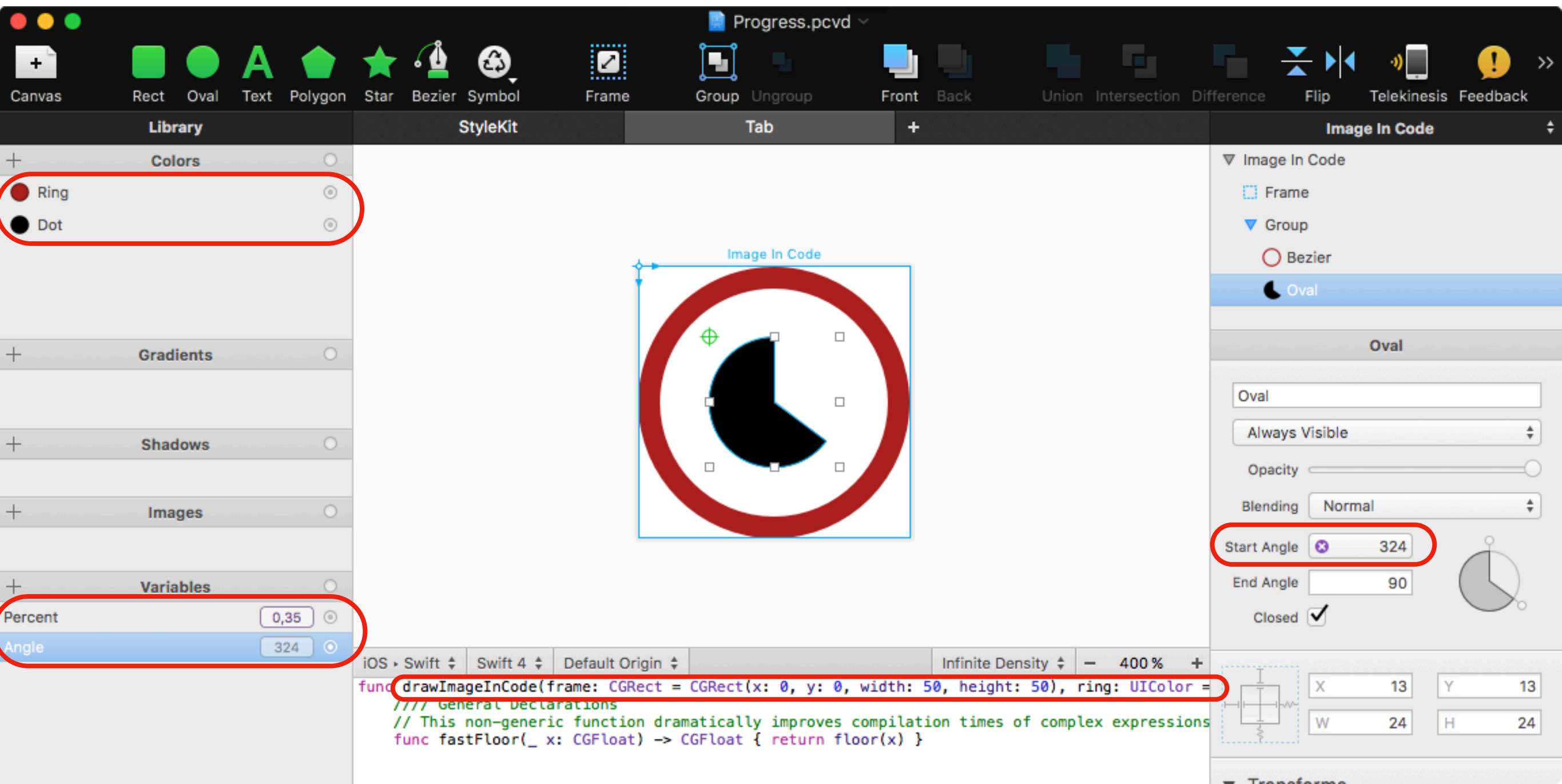




# PaintCode



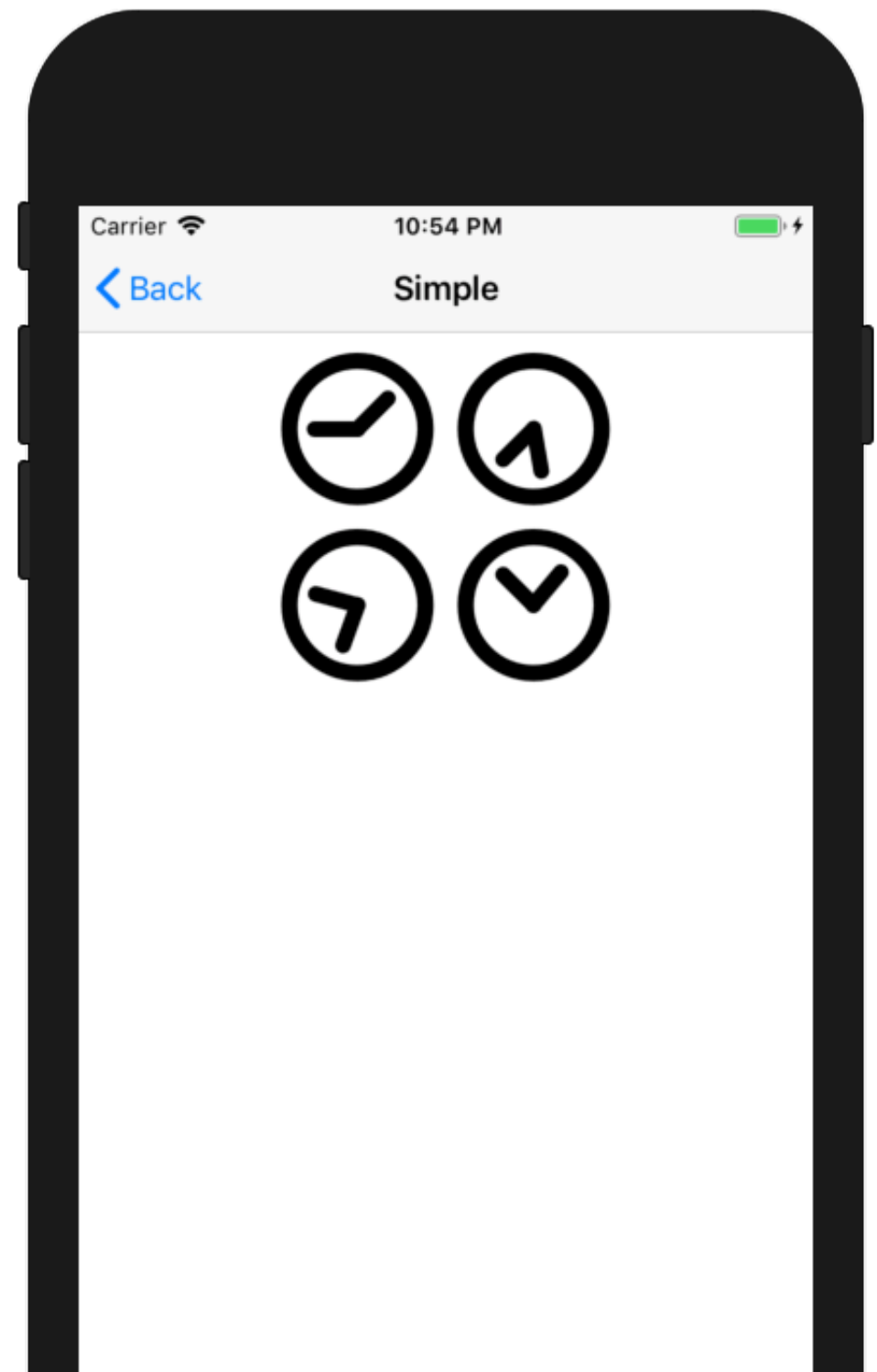
# PaintCode





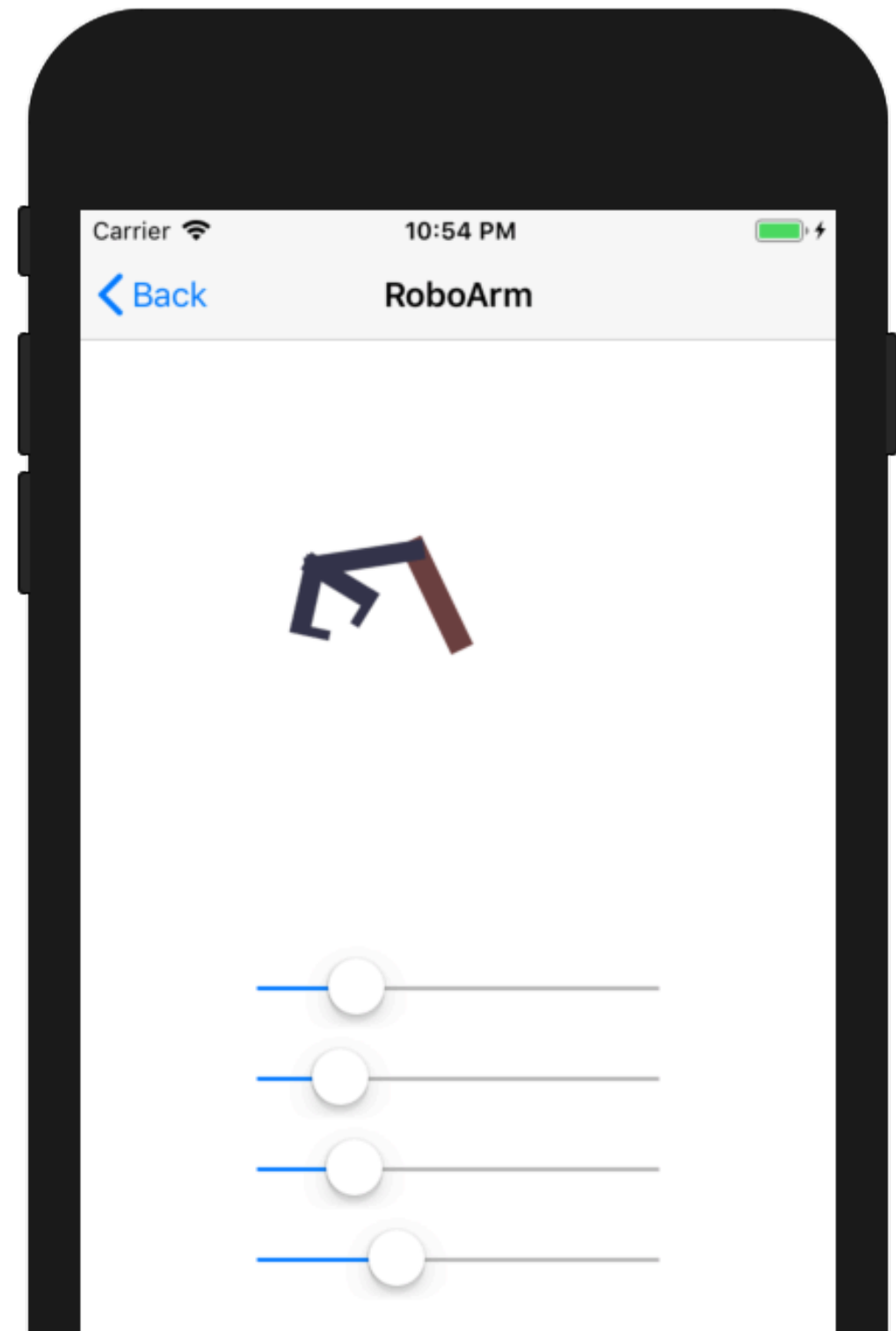
# Solving our problems

- We can have one Canvas in PaintCode for our clock
  - and modify it using parameters to be any version we want
  - „one asset“ -> endless options
  - far better than gazillion images



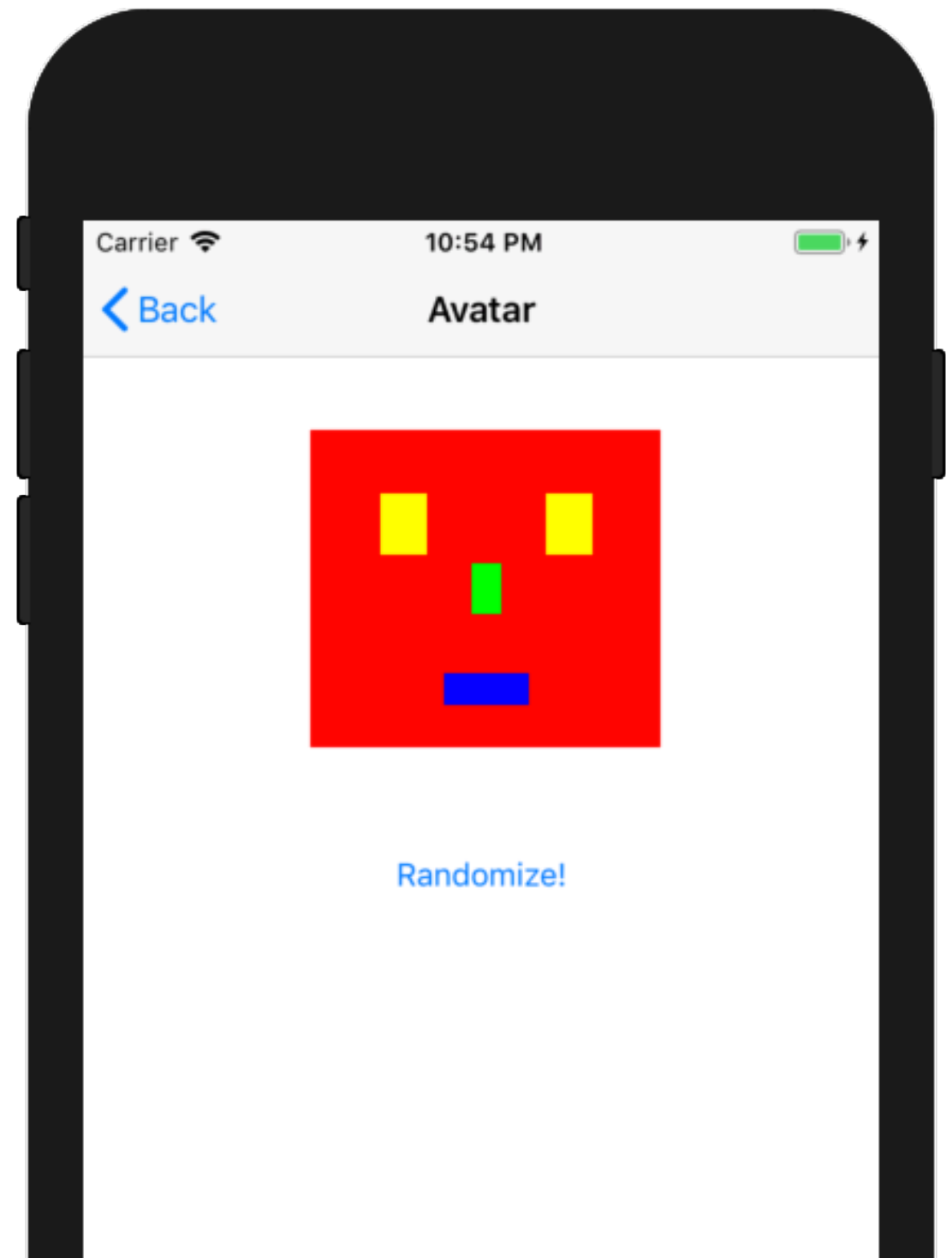
# Solving our problems

- Small animations can be solved with parameterized drawing code
  - (rapidly redrawn)
  - no need for a large video file



# The sky is not limit

- PaintCode can do a lot
  - without writing one line of CoreGraphics code yourself





**DEMO**

**TIME!**

# Issues with PaintCode

- One binary file on disk
  - tricky for teams, rule: only edit it on one branch!
- \$100/\$200 per user
  - but RoI is fast

# Issues with PaintCode

- Image generation or drawing happens every time
  - thats bad for e.g. images in UITableViewCells
  - may need a caching strategy
- Only suitable for constructed images/animations
  - actual photos and videos need to remain as JPG or MP4

# On the plus side

- Easy to learn, with some affinity to vector graphics
  - even for designers
  - developers and designers can work on the same file
- Usually the source file is part of the repo and therefor safe

# On the plus side

- Dynamic graphics
- One „asset“ for every screen resolution
- Reduction of app size
- Reduction of compile time
- Easy to generate small animations
- It's been around for at about 6 years (or more)



# Outcome of PaintCode

- AssetCatalog reduced to 7mb on disk
- Compile time <20sec

# Word of Warning

Don't replace everything  
in your AssetCatalog with drawing code  
just because you can!



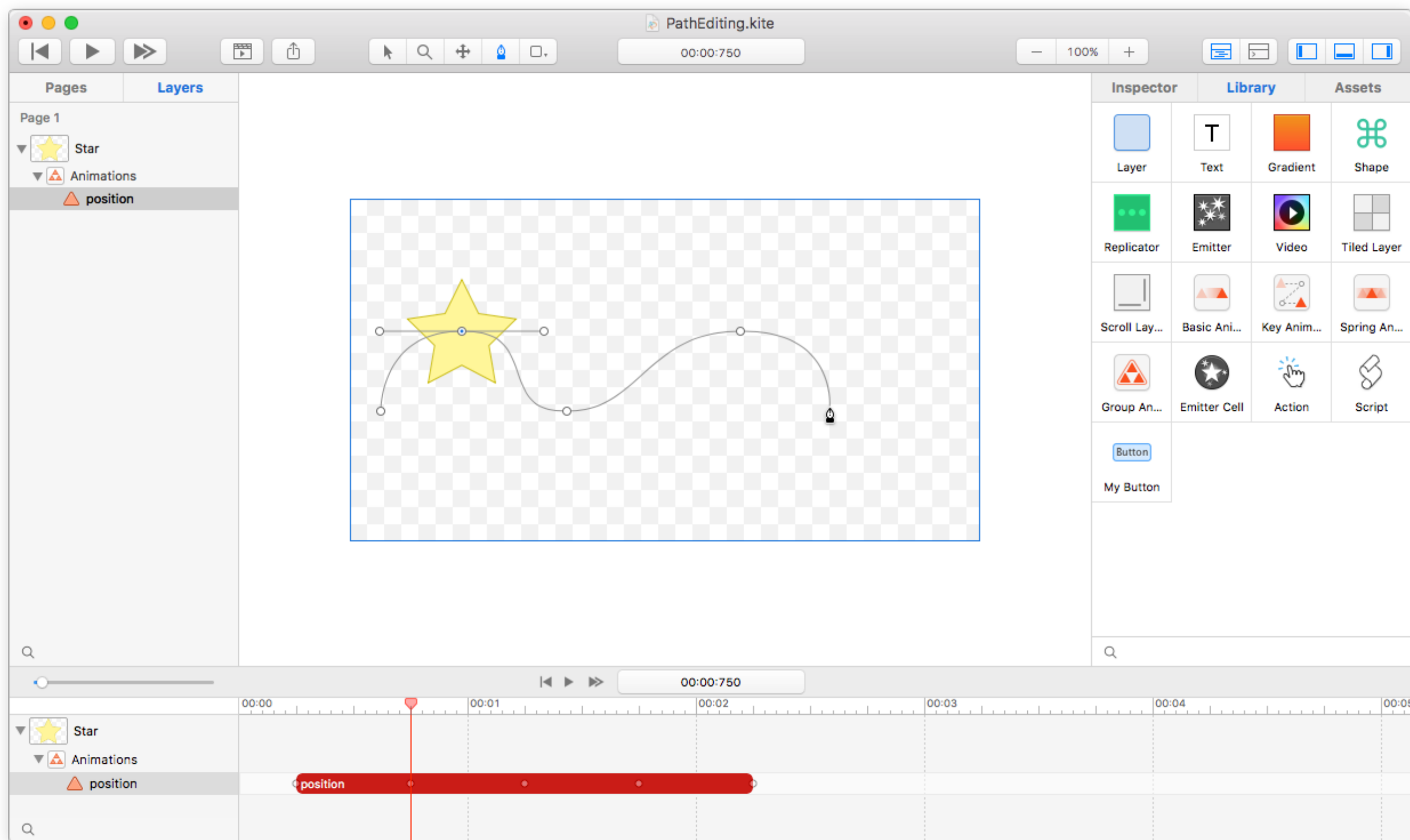
# Lottie by AirBnb

## LOTTIE WORKFLOW





# Kite Compositor



**That's it. Thanks!**

**Questions?**