

# Making Things Move



## *Finding Inappropriate Uses For Scripting Languages*

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linux.conf.au  
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push bits around

change pixels

make sounds

(beep)

boring

free your mind

skills you have

(bits)

(pixels)

(sounds)

re-imagine reality



**DANGER OF DEATH**

**Warning:**

**this can kill you!**

I accept no  
responsibility for what  
you do with the wild  
ideas I'm about to put  
in your head ;-)



Choices, choices!

Parallel, RS232,

PS2, PCI, USB,

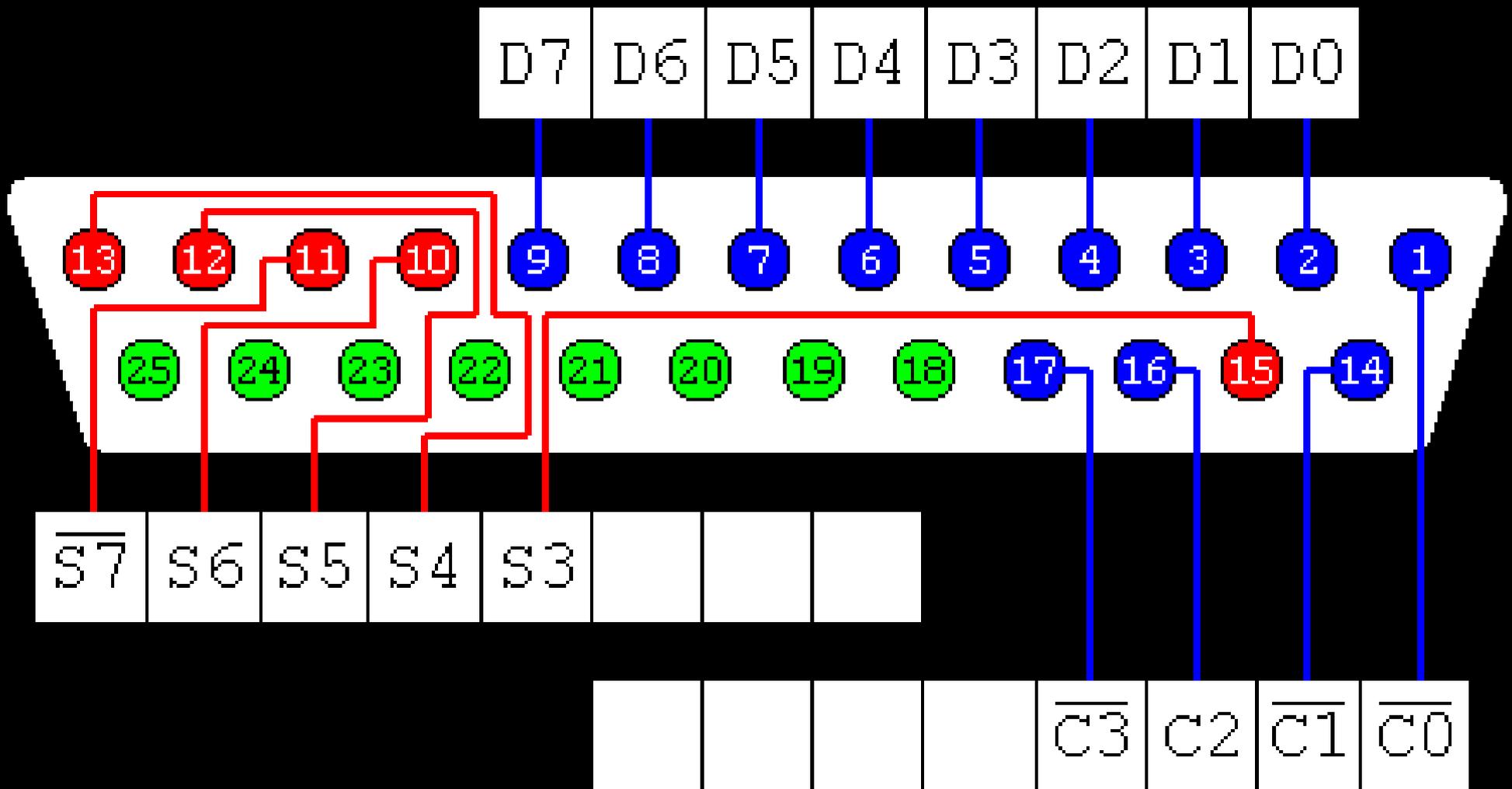
IR, Bluetooth, ...

the parallel port  
is **good** because  
it's “dumb”

no flow control

no comms protocol

just flip bits



the parallel port

is **bad** because

it's “dumb”

scripting language

support very poor

use a trivial

C helper



Ohm sweet ohm



Not just a pretty face



Who goes there?



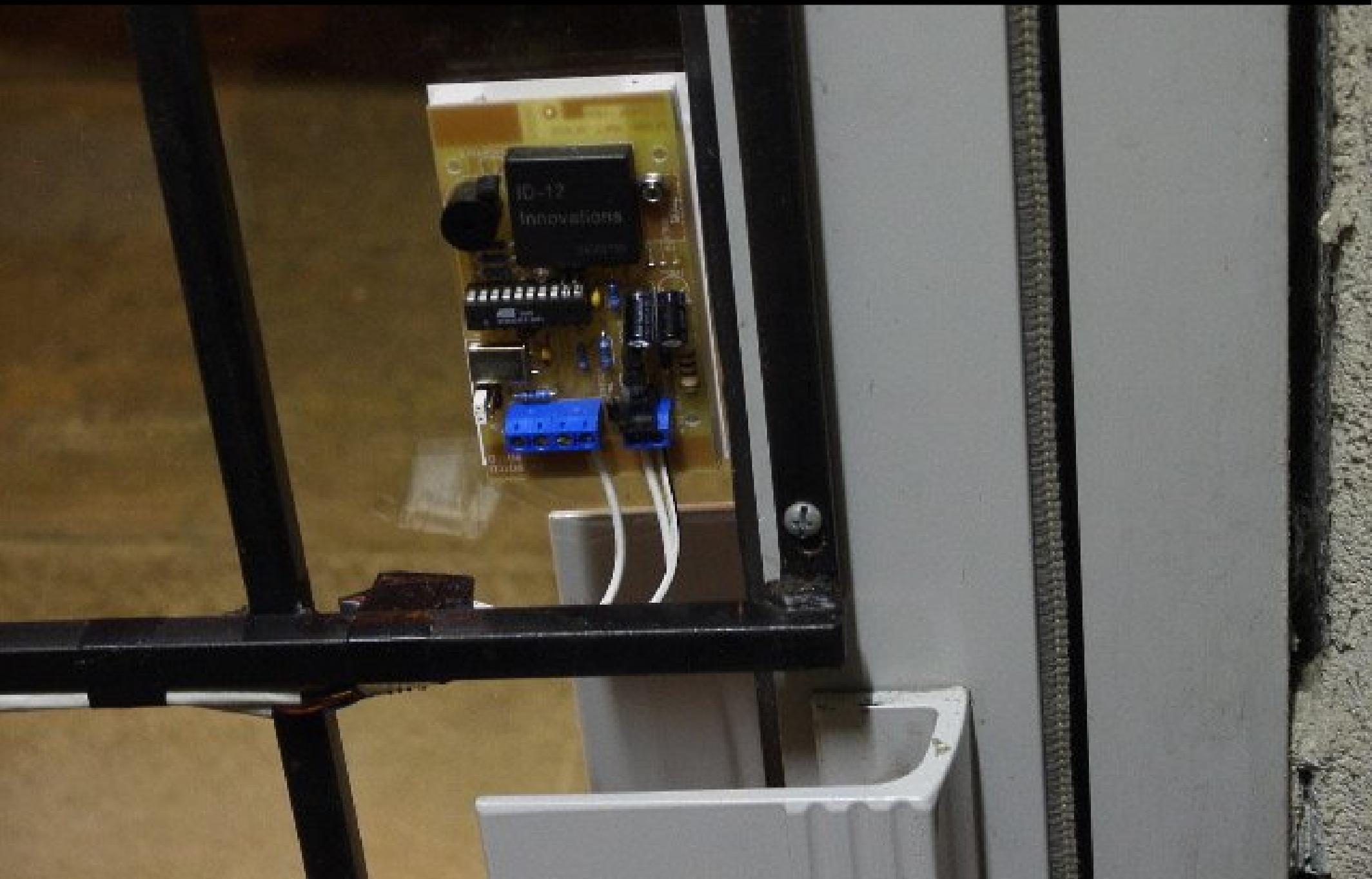
Let there be light



# Magnet power!



# What am I?



# Curtains for lazy people



# Curtains for lazy people



# Price check on aisle 3!



# Watering for lazy people



# PHP phone home





*free your mind*

hardware is malleable

use scripts as glue

# More information



Online resources: massive!

Google “parallel port control Linux” for more info than you can shake a stick at.

Code snippets at

[jon.oxer.com.au/automation](http://jon.oxer.com.au/automation)

These slides are at

[jon.oxer.com.au/talks](http://jon.oxer.com.au/talks)

Thanks for listening :-)