Cheerlights – Part 4

Sending Tweets from Python

Install setuptools

- Use **pscp** to transfer the file *setuptools-14.3.1.zip* to from the Linux files folder to your Galileo
- Unpack this file by typing in Linux shell:

  `Unzip setuptools-14.3.1.zip`
- When it finishes, enter the new directory with the command **`cd setuptools-14.3.1`**
- Install it with the command

  `python setup.py install`

Install pip and Twython

- Use **pscp** to transfer the file *pip-6.0.8.tar.gz* to from the Linux files folder to your Galileo
- Unpack this file by typing in Linux shell:
  `tar –zxvf pip-6.0.8.tar.gz`
- When it finishes, enter the new directory with the command `cd pip-6.0.8`
- Install pip with the command
  `python setup.py install`
- When pip installs, install Twython with the command: `pip install twython`

Common Problem:

- To fix a System Time Warning:

SystemTimeWarning: System time is way off (before 2014-01-01). This will probably lead to SSL verification errors

- Find the current UTC time at http://time.is/UTC
- Enter the following commands, replacing the information with the current date and time:

```
Date --set 2015.04.10-12:00:00
```

Make sure your date is in YYYY.MM.DD format

```
hwclock --systohc
```

Setup the Python Script

- Open the *cheerlights_sender.py* script in a text editor
- The API access tokens (the long strings marked by a comment) are pre-filled in for the **@inspergalileo** Twitter account
- The Github includes a *connect_to_twitter.md* file which explains how to generate your own, if you want to use your Twitter account for projects
- **Change** the `name` variable to your name

Understand the Python Script

- It creates a Twython api object and uses it to update your Twitter status
- The `random_word` piece exists so that tweets are unique (Twitter flags you as a bot if you attempt to tweet the same thing multiple times)

Run the cheerlights sender

- Use **pscp** to transfer the *cheerlights_sender.py* file to Linux
- It uses the **sys** package to get the color from an argument on command line. When you run the code from the Linux shell, specify the color as an argument, ie:

```
python cheerlights_sender.py blue
```

- Run the code with a color and check the twitter page to see your tweet: https://twitter.com/inspergalileo/with_replies