

# Embedded Elixir with Nerves and All That Jazz (geddit?)

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<http://cultivatehq.com>



I HAVE NO  
IDEA WHAT  
I'M DOING

Never start a talk this way



# Cultivate!

(We're hiring)

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**Kings Stables Road**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8ONmQvN3HI>



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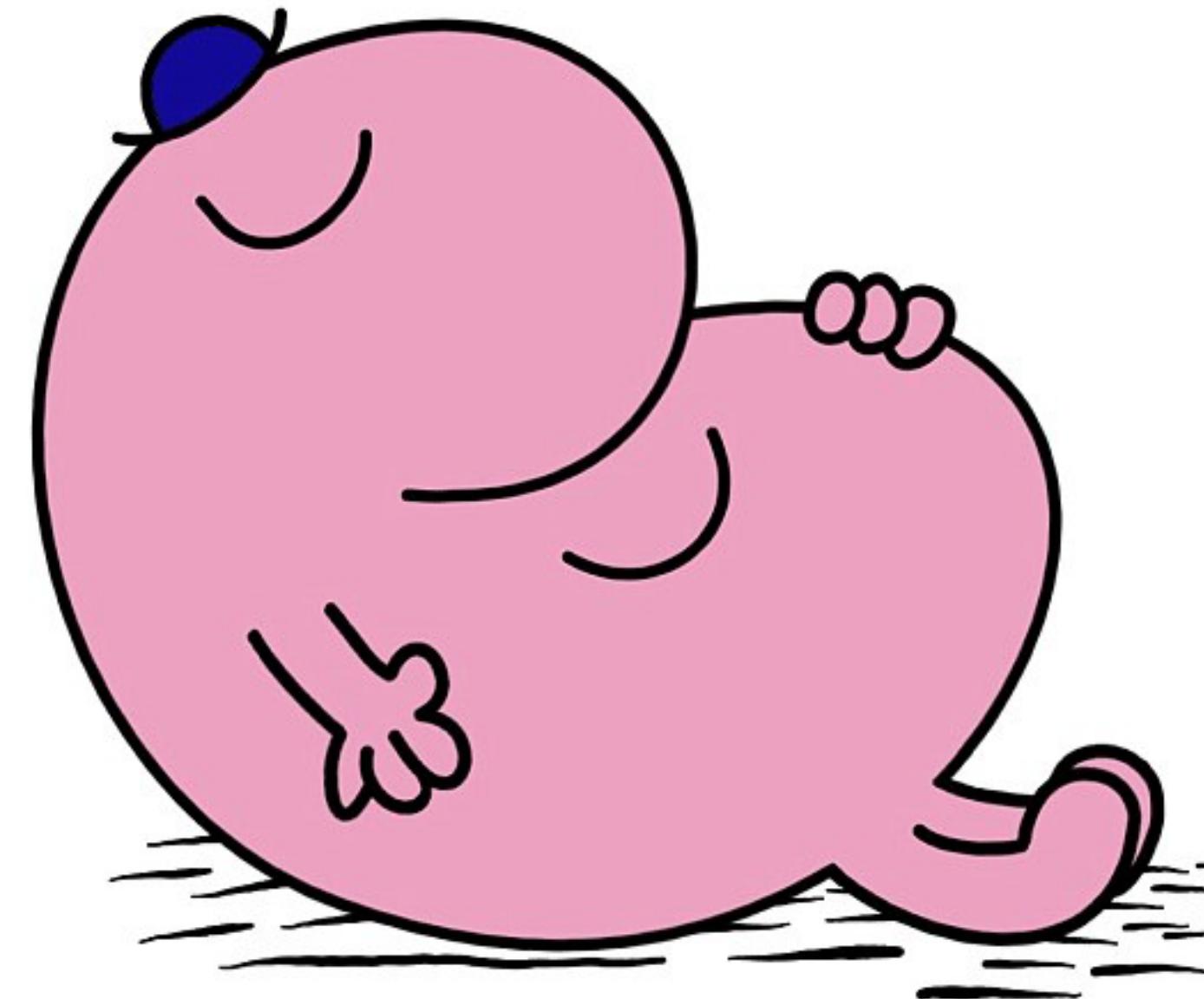


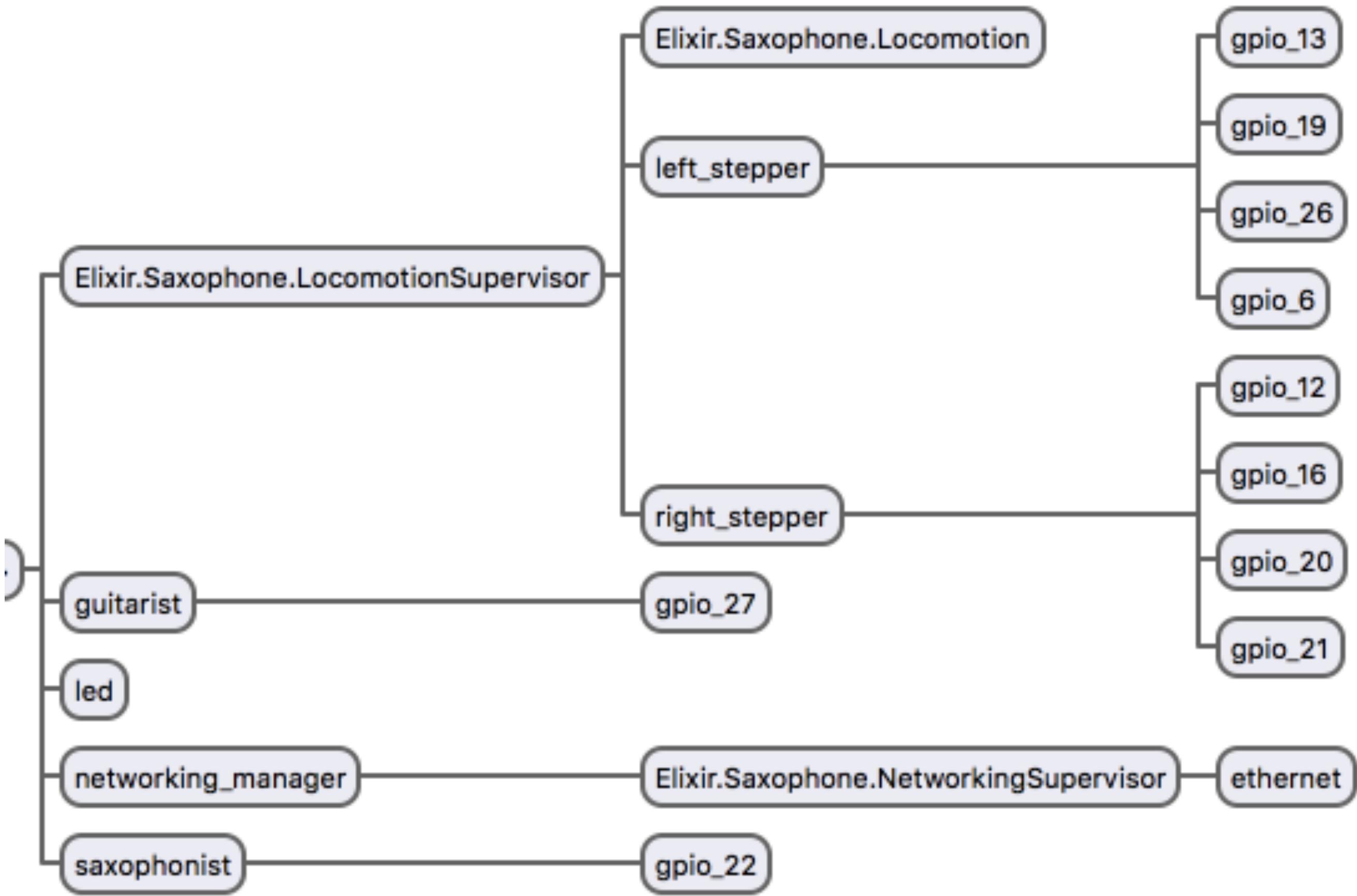
# The robot

# Why bother?

## **MR. LAZY**

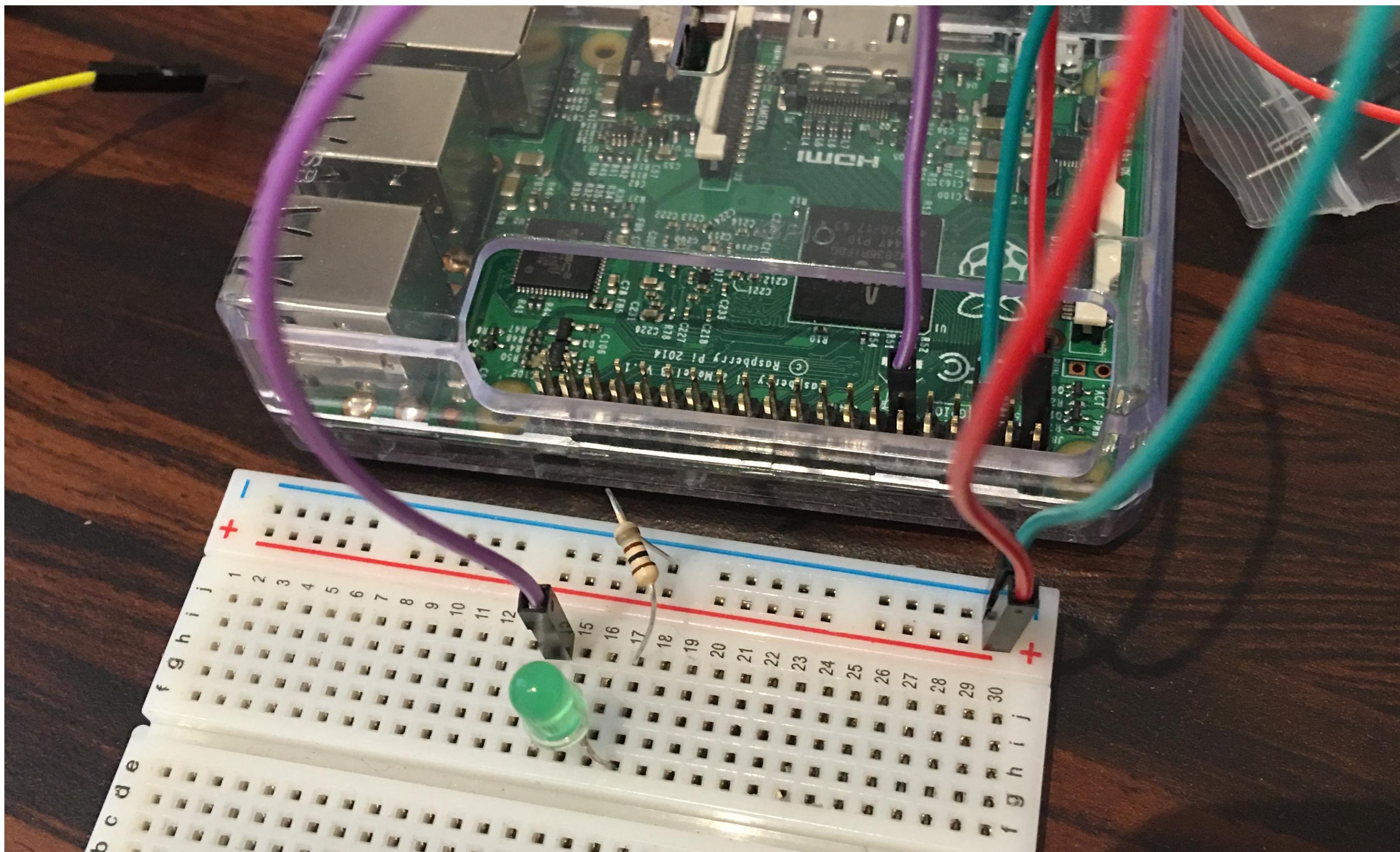
- Fun
- Profit
- Apply OTP





# Supervision Tree

## Sax Robot



# Trigger the Sax Player

```
defp deps do
  [
    {:nerves, github: "nerves-project/nerves", branch: "mix"},
    {:elixir_ale, "~> 0.5.0"},
    {:nerves_networking, github: "nerves-project/nerves_networking"}
  ]
end
```

## Elixir Ale (GPIO) & Nerves.Networking

[https://github.com/fhunleth/elixir\\_ale](https://github.com/fhunleth/elixir_ale)

```
[saxophone (master) $ mix test
==> elixir_ale
Makefile:17: *** Could not find include directory for ei.h. Check
that Erlang header files are available. Stop.
could not compile dependency :elixir_ale, "mix compile" failed.
You can recompile this dependency with "mix deps.compile elixir_
ale", update it with "mix deps.update elixir_ale" or clean it wi
th "mix deps.clean elixir_ale"
** (MatchError) no match of right hand side value: 2
  mix.exs:4: Mix.Tasks.Compile.ElixirAle.run/1
```

Oh, oh

```
{:elixir_ale, "~> 0.5.0", only: [:prod]},  
{:nerves_networking, github: "nerves-project/nerves_networking",  
only: :prod},
```

## Modify mix.exs

```
def project do
  [app: :saxophone,
  version: "0.1.0",
  elixir: "~> 1.2.4",
  archives: [nerves_bootstrap: "~> 0.1"],
  build_embedded: Mix.env == :prod,
  start_permanent: Mix.env == :prod,
  target: @target,
  deps_path: "deps/#{@target}",
  build_path: "_build/#{@target}",
  config_path: "config/#{@target}/config.exs",
  aliases: aliases(Mix.env),
  deps: deps ++ system(@target, Mix.env)]
end
```

Modify mix.exs

```
def system("rpi2", :prod) do
  [{:nerves_system_rpi2, github: "nerves-project/rpi2", ref: "v1.0.0"}]
end

def system(_, _), do: []

def aliases(:prod) do
  ["deps.precompile": ["nerves.precompile", "nerves_system_rpi2.precompile"],
   "deps.loadpaths": ["deps.loadpaths", "nerves_system_rpi2.loadpaths"]]
end

def aliases(_), do: []
```

## Modify mix.exs

```
defp applications do
  general_apps = [:logger, :runtime_tools]
  case Mix.env do
    :prod -> [:nerves, :nerves_networking, :elixir_ale | general_apps]
    _ -> general_apps
  end
end
```

## Modify mix.exs

```
if :prod != Mix.env do
  defmodule Nerves.Networking do
    require Logger
    use GenServer
    @moduledoc """
    Does nothing. Stands in for https://github.com/nerves
    nerves_io_ethernet
    during development. Partial implementation for now.
    """
```

## Fake modules (dev & test)

```
defmodule Gpio do
  use GenServer

  @moduledoc """
  Stand in for Elixir Ale's Gpio in development mode
  """

  defmodule State do
    defstruct pin: 0, direction: nil, pin_states: []
  end

  def start_link(pin, direction, supplied_opts \\ nil) do
    opts = supplied_opts ++ [name: :"gpio #{pin}"]
  end

```

Fake objects (dev & test)

```
def write(pid, value) do
  GenServer.call(pid, {:write, value})
end

@doc """
Read the value of the pin. Can be set by #write/1. Description
"""
def read(pid) do
  GenServer.call(pid, :read)
end

@doc """
List of the values written to the pin in order:
the first is the head. Does not include the initial value.
"""
def pin_state_log(pid) do
  GenServer.call(pid, :pin_state_log)
end
```

## Extra support for testing

```
use Mix.Config  
  
config :saxophone, :saxophonist, pin: 4, toggle_time: 0
```

/config/rpi2/test.exs

```
test "play toggles the pin on and off" do  
  Saxophonist.play(:saxophonist)  
  :timer.sleep(1)  
  assert [1, 0] == @gpio |> Gpio.pin_state_log  
end
```

/test/saxophonist\_test.exs

```
18 def play(pid) do
19   GenServer.cast(pid, :play)
20 end
21
22 def init({pin, toggle_time}) do
23   {:ok, gpio_pid} = Gpio.start_link(pin, :output)
24   {:ok, %{gpio_pid: gpio_pid, toggle_time: toggle_time}}
25 end
26
27
28 def handle_cast(:play, %{gpio_pid: gpio_pid, toggle_time: toggle_time} = state) do
29   gpio_pid |> Gpio.write(1)
30   :timer.send_after(toggle_time, :turn_off)
31   {:noreply, state}
32 end
33
34 def handle_info(:turn_off, %{gpio_pid: gpio_pid} = status) do
35   gpio_pid |> Gpio.write(0)
36   {:noreply, status}
37 end
38
```

# Saxophonist implementation

```
saxophone (master) $ mix test  
.....  
Finished in 0.4 seconds (0.2s on load, 0.1s on tests)  
26 tests, 0 failures  
  
Randomized with seed 804014  
saxophone (master) $
```

\o/

---

```
saxophone (master) $ MIX_ENV=prod mix compile
Compiled lib/dummies/dummy.ex
saxophone (master) $ MIX_ENV=prod mix firmware
Nerves Firmware Assembler
Building release with MIX_ENV=prod.
[:nerves, :nerves_networking, :elixir_ale, :log
```

---

```
saxophone (master) $ MIX_ENV=prod mix firmware.burn
Nerves Firmware Burn
```

# MIX\_ENV=prod



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# Stepper Motor

28BYJ-48 with ULN2003 Driver Board

```
defmodule Saxophone.StepperMotor do
  use GenServer

  defstruct pins: [], direction: :neutral, position: 0,
    step_millis: 10, timer_ref: nil, gear: :low

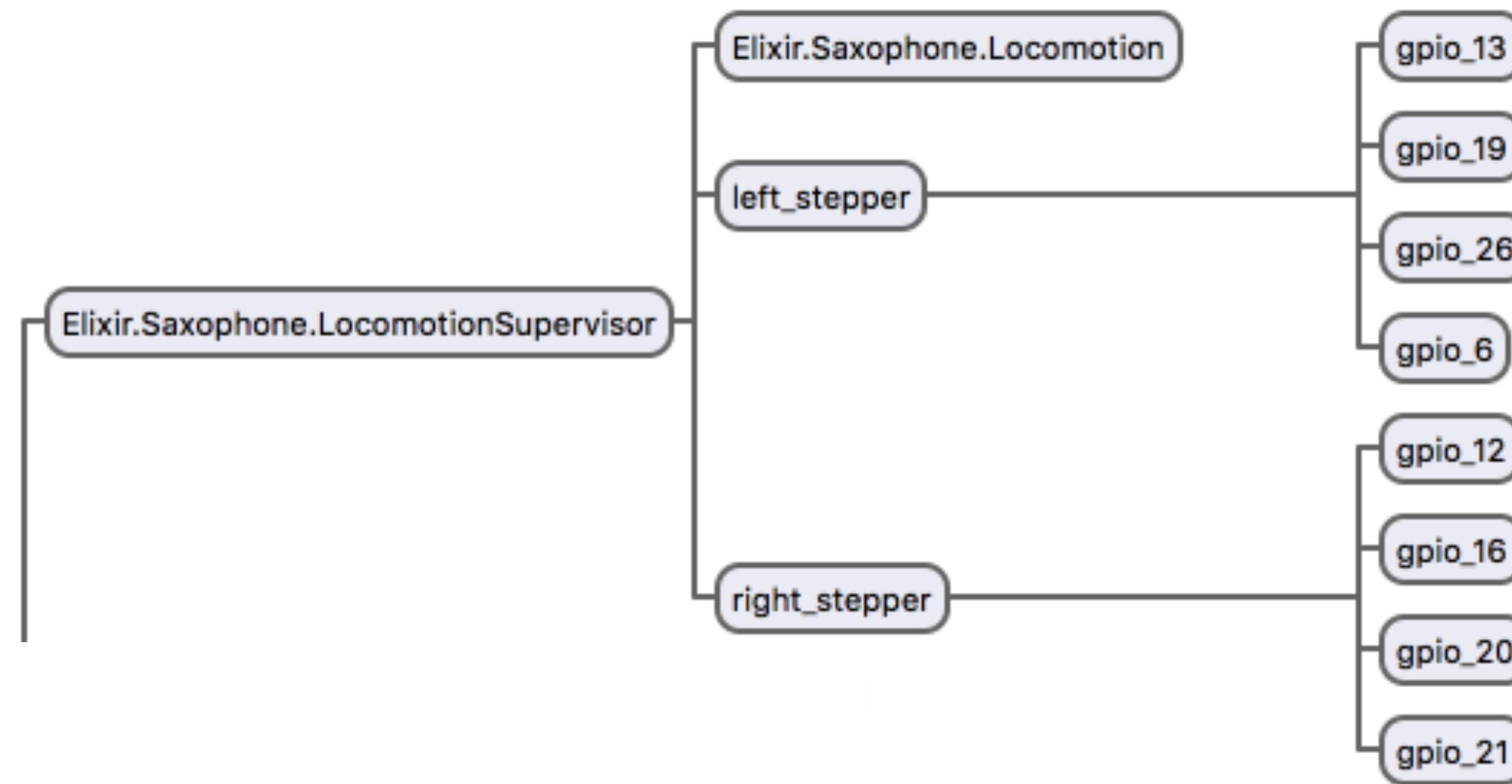
  @position_pin_values [
    [0, 0, 0, 1],
    [0, 0, 1, 1],
    [0, 0, 1, 0],
    [0, 1, 1, 0],
    [0, 1, 0, 0],
    [1, 1, 0, 0],
    [1, 0, 0, 0],
    [1, 0, 0, 1],
  ]
]
```

# Stepper motor

```
test "cycling back", %{pid: pid} do
  pid |> StepperMotor.set_direction(:back)
  (7..0) |> Enum.each(fn i =>
    send(pid, :step)
    :timer.sleep(1)
    assert StepperMotor.state(pid).position == i
  end)

  assert Gpio.pin_state_log(:gpio_30) == [0, 0, 0,
  1, 0] |> Enum.reverse
  assert Gpio.pin_state_log(:gpio_33) == [1, 1, 0,
  1, 1] |> Enum.reverse
end
```

One of the motor tests



# Motor supervision



Restart in known good state

```
def init([]) do
  children = [
    worker(Saxophone.StepperMotor, [@stepper_pins[:right], @stepper_pins[:left], @stepper_pins[:up], @stepper_pins[:down]]),
    worker(Saxophone.Locomotion, []),
  ]
  supervise(children, strategy: :one_for_all)
end
```

one\_for\_all - known good state

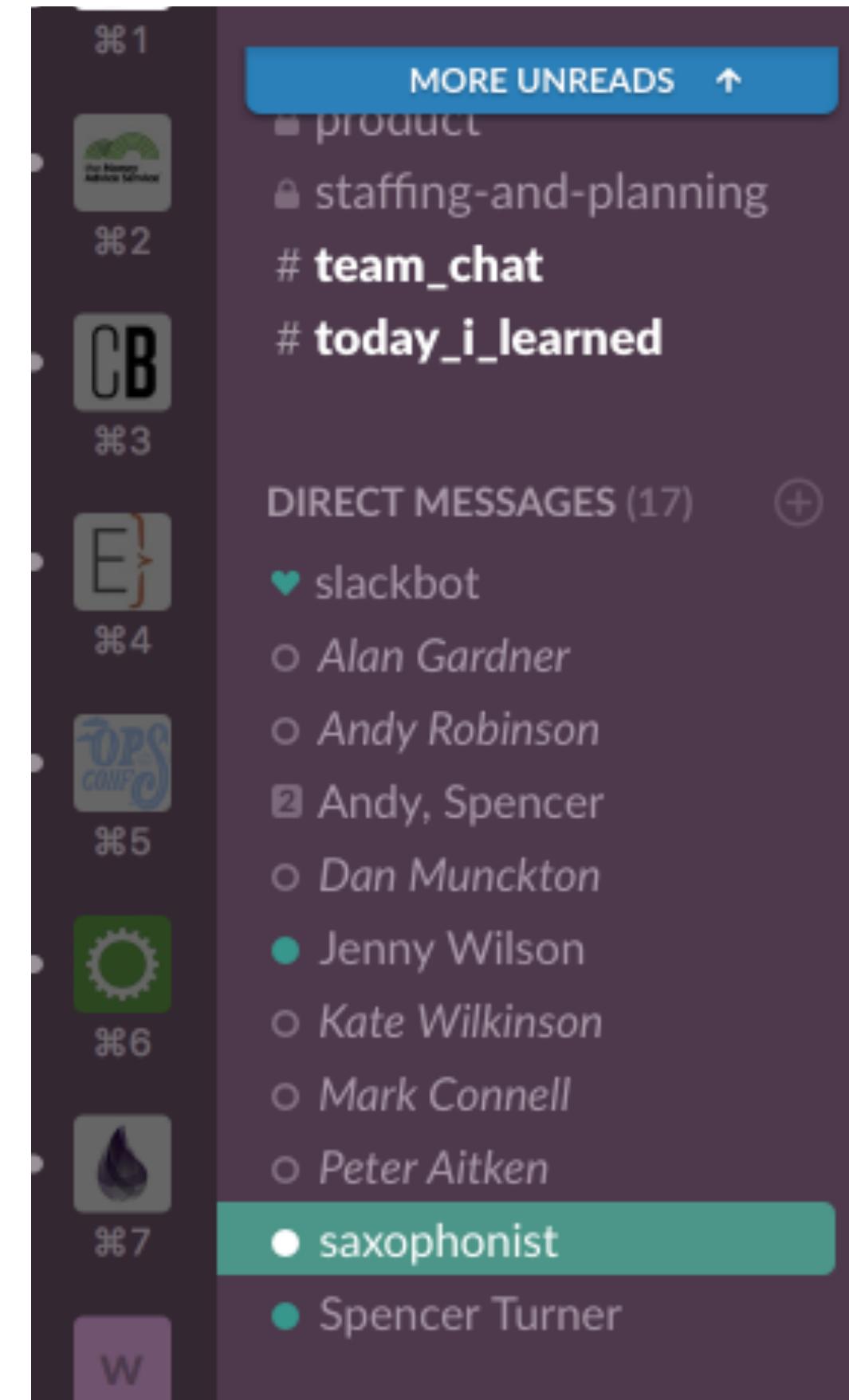
```
defmodule Saxophone.Web.Router do
  use Plug.Router
  plug Plug.Parsers, parsers: [:urlencoded]
  alias Saxophone.{Locomotion, Saxophonist, Web.Html}

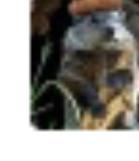
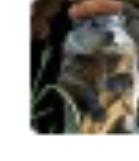
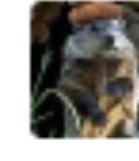
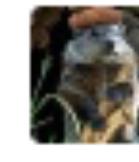
  plug :match
  plug :dispatch

  get "/" do
    send_resp(conn, 200, "Hello" |> Html.control_page)
  end

  post "play_sax" do
    :ok = Saxophonist.play(:saxophonist)
    send_resp(conn, 200, "Baker Street, it is not." |>
  end
```

# Web interface



- May 8th
-  **saxophonist** BOT 3:53 PM  
Oh yeah, the Jazz man cometh!
-  **Paul Wilson** 3:53 PM  
sax back
-  **saxophonist** BOT 3:53 PM  
Moving back
-  **Paul Wilson** 3:53 PM  
sax left
-  **saxophonist** BOT 3:53 PM  
Moving left
-  **Paul Wilson** 3:53 PM  
sax right
-  **saxophonist** BOT 3:53 PM  
Moving right
-  **Paul Wilson** 3:53 PM  
sax stop
-  **saxophonist** BOT 3:53 PM  
Stopping

# Slackbot interface

```
defp deps do
  [{:nerves, github: "nerves-project/ne
   {:cowboy, "~> 1.0.4"}, 
   {:plug, "~> 1.1.3"}, 
   {:elixir_ale, "~> 0.5.0" ,only: [:pr
   {:nerves_networking, github: "nerves
   {:websocket_client, github: "jeremyco
   {:slacker, "~> 0.0.2"},]
end
```

# Slacker

<https://github.com/koudelka/slacker>

```
defmodule Saxophone.SlackBot do
  use Slacker
  use Slacker.Matcher

  alias Saxophone.Locomotion

  match ~r/play sax/i, :play_sax
  match ~r/play guitar/i, :play_guitar
  match ~r/^sax (forward|back|left|right|reverse)/i, :move
  match ~r/^sax stop/i, :stop
  match ~r/^sax step\s+(\d+)/i, :step_rate

  def play_sax(_pid, message) do
    say self, message["channel"], "Oh yeah, the Jazz man cometh!"
    Saxophone.Saxophonist.play(:saxophonist)
  end

  def play_guitar(_pid, message) do
```

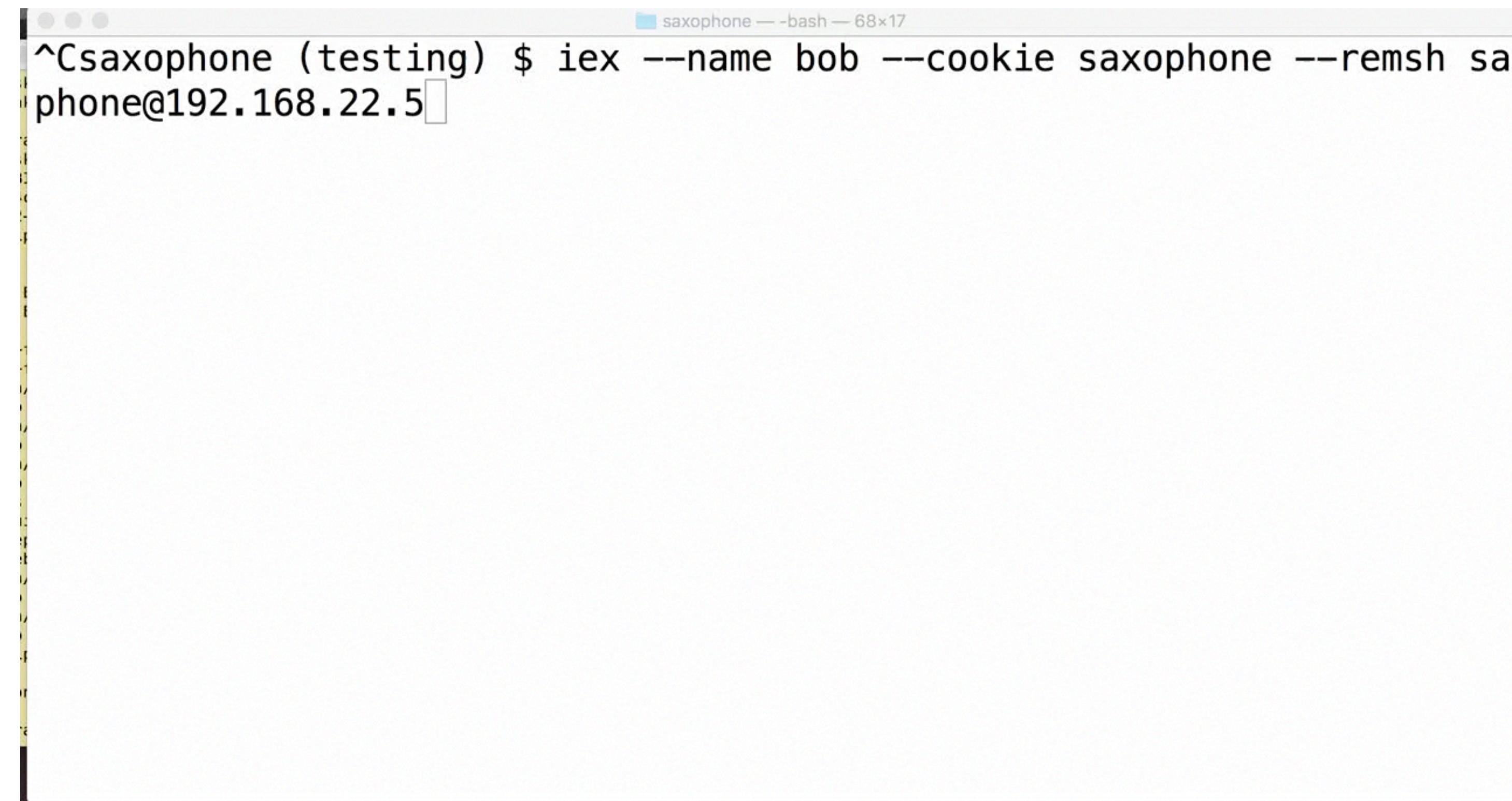
# Slackbot code

```
saxophone — beam.smp -- -root /usr/local/Cellar/erlang/18.3/lib/erlang -proname erl -- -home ~ -- -pa /usr/local/Cellar/elixir/1.2.4/bin/../lib/eex/ebin /usr/local/Cellar/elixir/1.2.4/bin/../lib/elixir/ebin /usr/local/Cell...
iex(saxophone@192.168.22.5)14> {:ok, slack} = Saxophone.SlackBot.start_link(token)
```

Let's try it!



The 1970s



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "saxophone — bash — 68x17". The window shows a command being typed: ^Csaxophone (testing) \$ iex --name bob --cookie saxophone --remsh sa phone@192.168.22.5

# ntpd to the rescue



```
45  def init(_) do
46    send(self, :sync_the_time)
47    {:ok, %Saxophone.Ntp{}}
48  end
49
50  def handle_info(:sync_the_time, state) do
51    success = do_sync
52    schedule_next_sync(success)
53
54    {:noreply, %{state | time_set: success}}
55  end
56
57  def handle_call(:time_set?, _from, state = %{time_set: time_set}) do
58    {:reply, time_set, state}
59  end
60
61  defp schedule_next_sync(last_sync_successful) do
62    Process.send_after(self, :sync_the_time, next_sync_time(last_sync_successful))
63  end
64
65  defp do_sync do
66    case Porcelain.shell(@command) do
67      %Result{status: 0} ->
68        Logger.info "Successfully set the time over with NTP"
69        true
70      %Result{out: out, status: status} ->
71        Logger.error "Failed to set the time with NTP:\n#{out}\n#{status} |> inspect"
72        false
73    end
74  end
75
76  defp next_sync_time(_last_sync_successful = true), do: :timer.minutes(30)
77  defp next_sync_time(_last_sync_successful = false), do: :timer.seconds(10)
```

```
[ 3.249422] usb 1-1.4: New USB device found, idVendor=1c4f, idProduct=0026
[ 3.261366] usb 1-1.4: New USB device strings: Mfr=1, Product=2, SerialNumber=3
[ 3.279776] usb 1-1.4: Product: USB Keyboard
[ 3.287816] usb 1-1.4: Manufacturer: SIGMACHIP
[ 3.307131] input: SIGMACHIP USB Keyboard as /devices/platform/soc/3f980000.
[ 3.377354] hid-generic 0003:1C4F:0026.0001: input,hidraw0: USB HID v1.10 Ke
[ 3.405172] input: SIGMACHIP USB Keyboard as /devices/platform/soc/3f980000.
[ 3.477302] hid-generic 0003:1C4F:0026.0002: input,hidraw1: USB HID v1.10 De
Erlang/OTP 18 [erts-7.2.1] [source] [smp:4:4] [async-threads:10] [kernel-poll:f
00:00:06.255 [debug] Elixir.Nerves.Networking Starting
00:00:06.282 [debug] initializing Networking.Subsystem
Interactive Elixir (1.2.4) - press Ctrl+C to exit (type h() ENTER for help)
iex(saxophone@192.168.22.5)1> [ 10.381447] random: nonblocking pool is initial
nil
iex(saxophone@192.168.22.5)2> HTTPoison.get "google.com"
```

# HTTPoison gotcha

```
[ 3.269731] usb 1-1.4: Product: USB Keyboard
[ 3.277746] usb 1-1.4: Manufacturer: SIGMACHIP
[ 3.297288] input: SIGMACHIP USB Keyboard as /devices/platform/soc/3f980000
[ 3.367404] hid-generic 0003:1C4F:0026.0001: input,hidraw0: USB HID v1.10 R
[ 3.395275] input: SIGMACHIP USB Keyboard as /devices/platform/soc/3f980000
[ 3.467369] hid-generic 0003:1C4F:0026.0002: input,hidraw1: USB HID v1.10 De
Erlang/OTP 18 [erts-7.2.1] [source] [smp:4:4] [async-threads:10] [kernel-poll:1

00:00:06.202 [debug] Elixir.Nerves.Networking Starting
00:00:06.227 [debug] initializing Networking.Subsystem
Interactive Elixir (1.2.4) - press Ctrl+C to exit (type h() ENTER for help)
iex(saxophone@192.168.22.5)1> [ 10.501424] random: nonblocking pool is initial
nil
iex(saxophone@192.168.22.5)2>
nil
iex(saxophone@192.168.22.5)3> Nerves.Networking.setup :eth0_
```

# HTTPoison ok

## nerves

members | <http://nerves-project.org> and <http://bakeware.io>

Yesterday

Reconnecting in 270 seconds... Retry now

joined #nerves. Also, [@marceldegraaf](#) joined.

 **paulwilson** 4:35 PM

[@fhunleth](#): if one of the usb dongles supported is Ralink I can give it a go. I've a Ralink RT5370

**fhunleth** 4:41 PM

So close. Here's the Ralink list: <https://wireless.wiki.kernel.org/en/users/drivers/rt2800usb> uses?

I'm sure that I could enable your driver. I think that I'll need some [@jschneck](#) to be able to completely converted to the new [mix](#) build process.

 **jschneck** 4:47 PM

Sure, let me know what you need added and I'll bump it

# Slack connectivity



# Ariane 5 Maiden Flight

Flight 501 - 4 June 1996

# Ariane 5 Failure

- Software error in the Inertial Reference System
- 64 bit to 16 bit caused overflow
- Subsystem crashed entire navigation system
- (Not even needed after takeoff)

# Supervision tree considerations

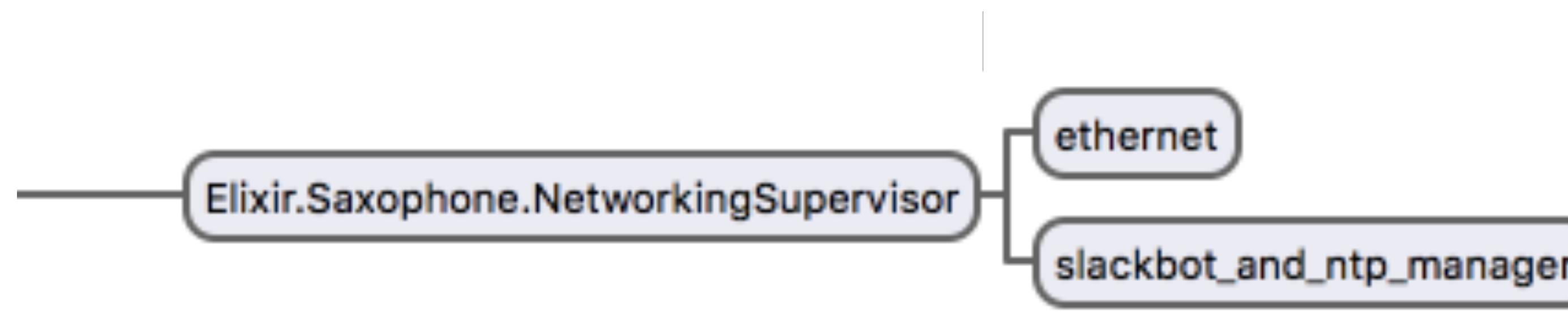
- Ethernet may fail to come up, but we want it to keep trying
- The SlackBot cannot be allowed to try and connect until there is a network connection
- There's no point in connecting to Slack until we've set the time
- SlackBot failure, even continuous, should not bring down the entire application. Just keep retrying.



```
def init([]) do
  children = [
    worker(Saxophone.Web.Router, []),
    worker(Gpio, [@led_pin, :output, [name: :led]]),
    worker(Saxophone.Saxophonist, [@sax_pin, @sax_toggle_time, [name: :saxophonist]], id: :s),
    worker(Saxophone.Saxophonist, [@guitar_pin, @guitar_toggle_time, [name: :guitarist]], id: :g),
    supervisor(Saxophone.LocomotionSupervisor, []),
    worker(Saxophone.GenServerRestarter, [Saxophone.NetworkingSupervisor, :start_link, [],
                                         @ethernet_retry_time, [name: :networking_manager]]),
  ]
  supervise(children, strategy: :one_for_one)
end
```



```
1 defmodule Saxophone.GenServerRestarter do
2   use GenServer
3
4   def start_link(module, function, args, retry_interval, restarter_otp_opts \\ [], start_
5     GenServer.start_link(__MODULE__,
6       %{retry_interval: retry_interval,
7         module: module,
8         function: function,
9         args: args}, start_delay),
10        restarter_otp_opts)
11 end
12
13 def init({status, start_delay}) do
14   Process.send_after(self(), :start, start_delay)
15   Process.flag(:trap_exit, true)
16   {:ok, status}
17 end
18
19 def handle_info(:start, state = %{module: module, function: function, args: args}) do
20   {:ok, pid} = apply(module, function, args)
21   Process.link(pid)
22   {:noreply, state}
23 end
24
25 def handle_info({:EXIT, _pid, _reason}, status = %{retry_interval: retry_interval}) do
26   Process.send_after(self(), :start, retry_interval)
27   {:noreply, status}
28 end
29 end
```



```
1 defmodule Saxophone.NetworkingSupervisor do
2   use Supervisor
3
4   @ethernet_opts Application.get_env(:saxophone, :ethernet_opts) || []
5
6   @slackbot_retry_time Application.get_env(:saxophone, :slackbot_retry_seconds) |> :timer.seconds
7   @slackbot_start_delay Application.get_env(:saxophone, :slackbot_start_delay_seconds) |> :timer.seconds
8
9   def start_link do
10     Supervisor.start_link(__MODULE__, [], name: __MODULE__)
11   end
12
13   def init(_) do
14     children = [
15       worker(Nerves.Networking, [:eth0, @ethernet_opts], function: :setup),
16       worker(Saxophone.GenServerRestarter, [Saxophone.SlackWithNtpSupervisor,
17                                             :start_link,
18                                             []],
19                                             @slackbot_retry_time,
20                                             [name: :slackbot_and_ntp_manager],
21                                             @slackbot_start_delay])
22     ]
23
24     supervise(children, strategy: :rest_for_one)
25   end
26 end
```

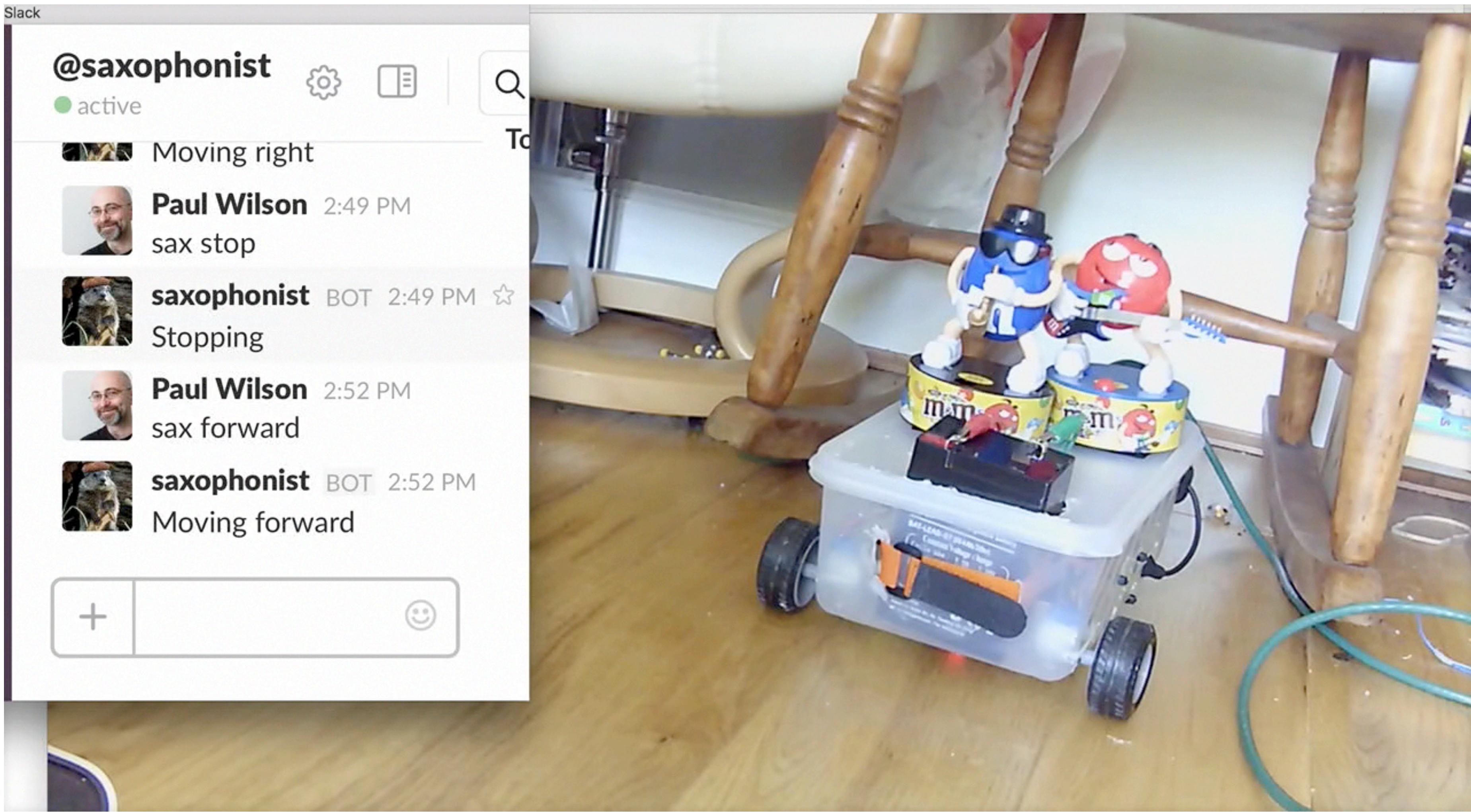


```
## Callbacks
def init(_) do
  true = do_sync
  schedule_next_sync(true)
  {:ok, %Saxophone.Ntp{}}
```

## Elixir.Saxophone.Ntp

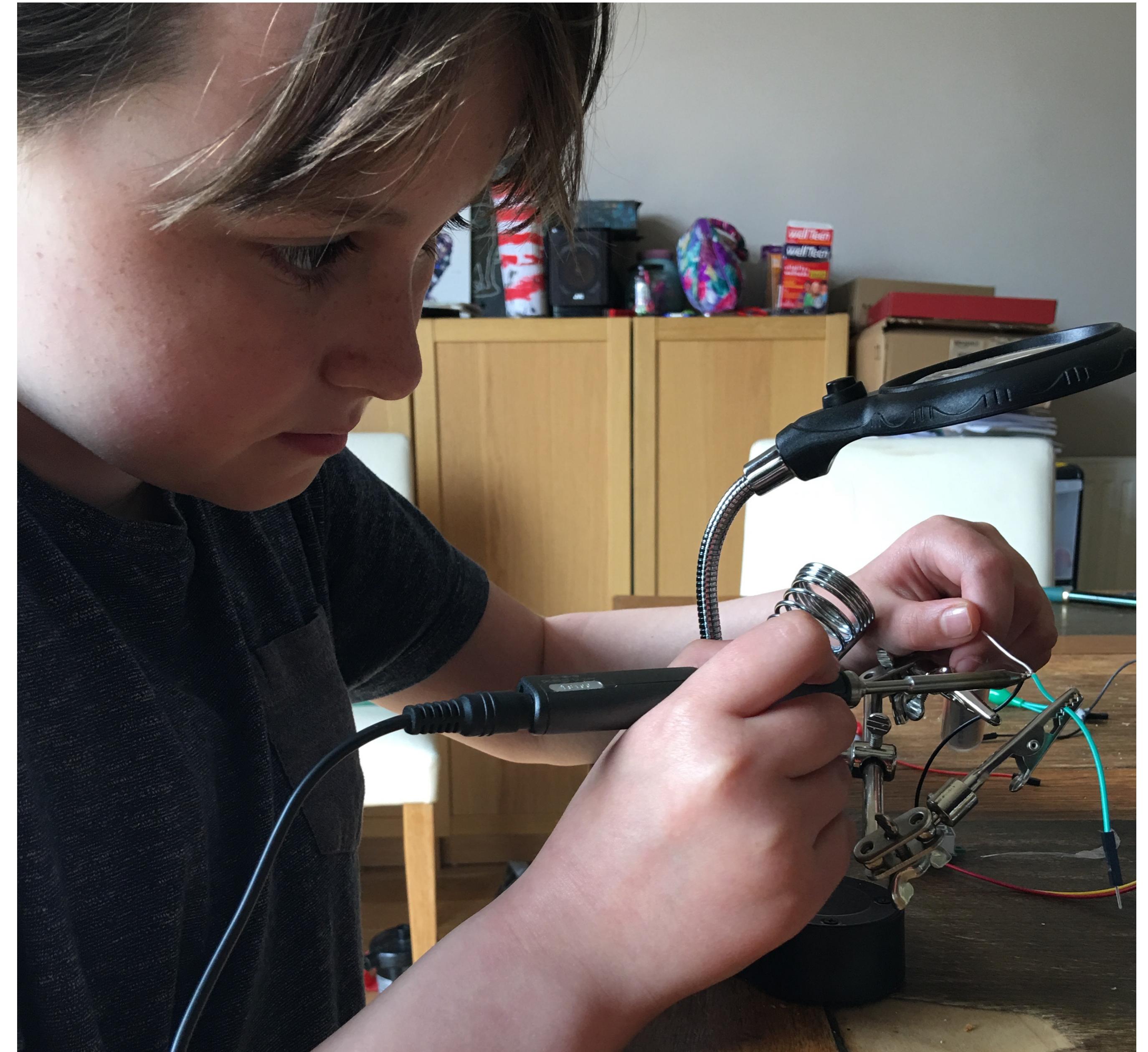


```
1 defmodule Saxophone.SlackWithNtpSupervisor do
2   use Supervisor
3
4   @slackbot_token Application.get_env(:saxophone, :slackbot_token)
5
6   def start_link do
7     Supervisor.start_link(__MODULE__, [], name: __MODULE__)
8   end
9
10  def init(_) do
11    children = [
12      worker(Saxophone.Ntp, []),
13      worker(Saxophone.SlackBot, [@slackbot_token, [name: :slackbot]]),
14    ]
15
16    supervise(children, strategy: :rest_for_one)
17  end
18 end
19
```



# Slack bot

# Outsourcing the soldering



# More information

- Justin Schneck's keynote at Elixir Conf EU 2016, about an hour ago.  
Remember?
- <http://nerves-project.org>
- <https://github.com/nerves-project>
- <https://github.com/paulanthonywilson/saxophone>
- Wendy Smoak's Cat Feeder <http://wsmoak.net/2016/04/03/cat-feeder-fabrication.html>
- Nerves channel on Elixir Slack <https://elixir-lang.slack.com/archives/nerves>
- [http://www.cultivatehq.com/posts/ \(soon\)](http://www.cultivatehq.com/posts/)