

THE PC PARALLEL PORT

For unknown reasons, Microsoft decided to kill the parallel port, which is a very useful, fast, and easy to use means to input and output data from and to PC.

This Port drives 8 bits in parallel for outputs, and 4 bits in input. Plus 4 control signals in input and 4 in output.

One can achieve about 1MBytes/s bandwidth.

But since WINDOWS XP, this Port is no longer available, and only a few number of PC's have a parallel port.

- For PC which still have the parallel port, one can unlock the Port, by running a specific software. I am using it and I achieved to unlock the parallel port under XP.
- For PC which don't have the Parallel Port, my boards KI7_MIDI_USB can be used, since they have a USB input and output, and a Parallel Port input and output.

The major interest of this board is that one can control all the control signals of the parallel port, exactly as if you have a real parallel port. Moreover, the speed is roughly the same as for the real parallel port, say : 1MBytes/s.