# RoboSlam: Mac OS X MSP430 LaunchPad Setup

Please follow the next 9 steps, for a successful installation of the MSP430 LaunchPad development environment, and the examples of how to use the MSP430, for the purposes of building a robot.

### 1. INSTALL MSP LAUNCHPAD SOFTWARE

Install the following two components of software onto your Mac:

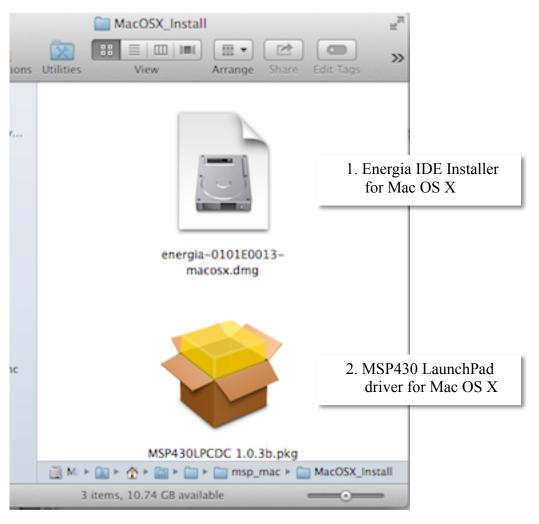


Figure 1 - MSP430 Software Installers for Mac OS X

After installing the Energia IDE and the MSP430 driver, you'll be asked to "Restart" your Mac (if you are not, then please do it anyway).

When your Mac has rebooted, you can launch the "Energia" application from your Applications folder. (the Energia IDE is used for programming the TI MSP microcontroller chipsets, and it is almost identical to the "Arduino software" IDE, that is used to program the ATmega microcontrollers)

### 2. SELECT MSP BOARD AND PORT FOR SETUP

Figure 2 shows the setup of the MSP version. Each MSP version has specific features and capabilities, so that this setup is important to ensure that Engeria is configured to setup the MSP properly.

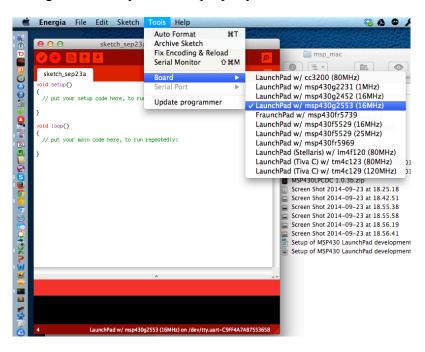


Figure 2 - Select MSP Version for Programming

Figure 3 illustrates the "Port" selection process, to enable communications between the Engergia application and the MSP430 LaunchPad board.

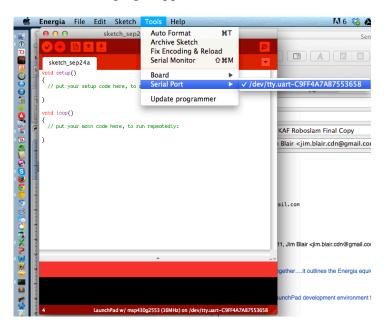


Figure 3 - Select Port for LaunchPad Communications

Figure 4 shows the setup of the MSP version. Each MSP version has specific features and capabilities, so that this setup is important to ensure that Engeria is configured to setup the MSP properly.

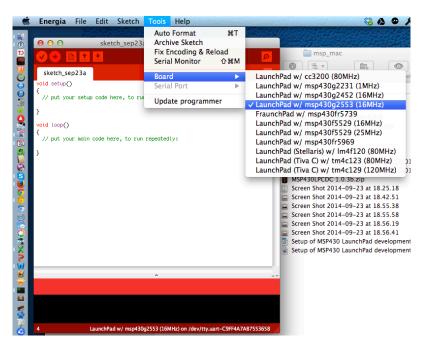


Figure 4 - Select Mac Port that the MSP LaunchPad is connected to.

#### 3. EDITING CODE

When you launch Energia, you are presented with this window....

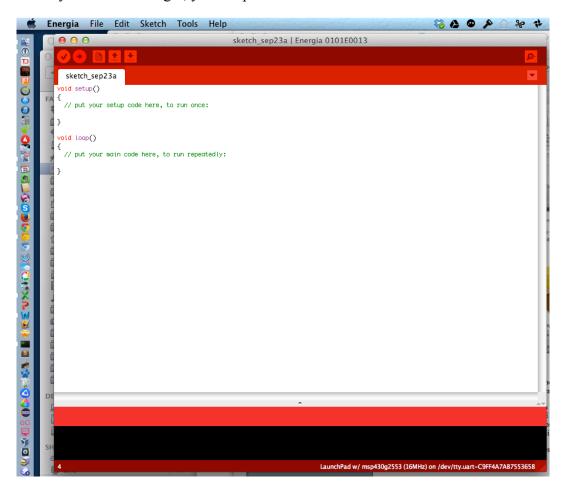


Figure 5 - Energia IDE Sketch Window

As is the case with the Arduino IDE, the Energia IDE uses the notion of "sketches", which are programs that are run on the MSP430 microcontroller.

When writing a microcontroller program, the developer writes code that is run during the MSP430 initialisation, and this code is placed in the "setup()" function, shown in Figure 5. The developer then writes the main microcontroller code by filling in the "loop()" function, shown in Figure 5. The loop() function runs forever, unless the code "break"s out of the loop(), or the user turns off the power to the microcontroller.

## 4. COMPILING CODE AND DOWNLOADING TO MSP LAUNCHPAD

When writing code/software for the MSP430 Launchpad, you should frequently

select the "Compile" icon in Energia's IDE window. Once you are finished writing the code, or you want to test new code you've added and compiled, you

select the "Download" icon in Energia's IDE window. If you've written

some new code, and you want to quickly test it on the MSP430, simply select the

"Download" icon, because Energia is smart enough to know whether it needs to compile new code, before it tries to download it to the MSP430.

The following examples illustrate how to interact with the MSP430, as building blocks that can be used to build a full robot. Figure 6 thru Figure 9 illustrate those examples.

### 5. LED EXAMPLE

The RoboSlam examples are replicated, as "Energia sketches" below, in Figure 6 thru Figure 9:

Figure 6 - Blink LED Sketch/Example illustrates how to control the on/off state of the robot LED.

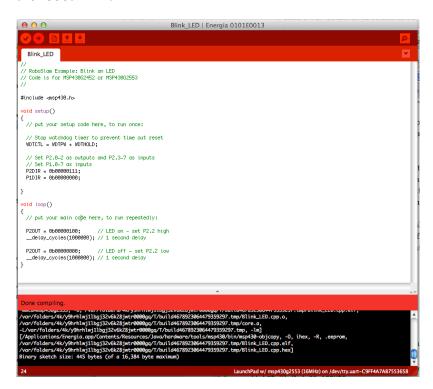


Figure 6 - Blink LED Sketch/Example

### 6. MOTOR CONTROL EXAMPLE

Figure 7 - Control Motors Sketch/Example illustrates how to control the operation of your robot wheel motors. The more effective you can control the robot wheel operation, the better your robot should perform.

```
Motor_Example | Energia 0101E0013

| Motor_Example | Motor_Exa
```

Figure 7 - Control Motors Sketch/Example

# 7. READING COLOUR SENSOR EXAMPLE

Figure 8 illustrates how to read the input from your robot's visual sensor circuit. Once you successful enable visual sensing, you should be able to turn the sensing input into robot actions, such as navigation, as per the next section, "NAVIGATE USING COLOUR SENSOR EXAMPLE."

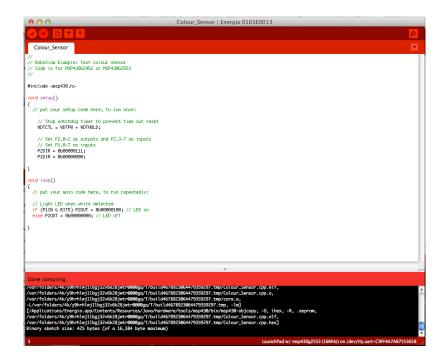


Figure 8 - Read Colour Sensor Sketch/Example

## 8. NAVIGATE USING COLOUR SENSOR EXAMPLE

Figure 9 illustrates how to turn the visual sensing input into navigation control of your robot. The more effective your robot's visual sensing, the better your robot should perform.

```
Colour_Navigation | Energia 0101E0013

Colour_Navigation | Colour_
```

Figure 9 - Navigate Robot using Colour Sensing Sketch/Example

#### 9. SUMMARY

To build a competitive robot for the "RoboSlam", developers should leverage the preceding examples, for flashing the LED, for controlling the robot motors, and for sensing and navigating through sight. The better you can integrate the robot senses, and turn that into robot control, the better your robot should perform. Best of luck!