Software Tools

1 Each laptop needs the Arduino tools installed from https://www.arduino.cc/en/Main/Software - download the version for your operating system.

2 Each laptop will be connecting to an Arduino Pro Mini (or equivalent) via USB. In fact, the Atmel AVR microcontroller has only a serial port so the connection makes use of a USB to serial comms adaptor. Our hardware is using either an FTDI chip or an SILabs chip (sorry).

Macintosh OS-X and Linux machines

I have drivers with names such as SiLabsUSBDriverDisk.dmg and EnergiaFTDIDrivers2.2.18.zip which can be installed as necessary for OS-X. The linux serial port drivers will likely already be present.

Windowsie host machines

Once you plug in the Pro-Mini board and adaptor, the system might automatically install the necessary serial port driver. Otherwise, we will Install serial port drivers from http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm for the FTDI version and/or http://www.silabs.com/products/mcu/Pages/USBtoUARTBridgeVCPDrivers.aspx (Virtual COM port) for the SILabs version.