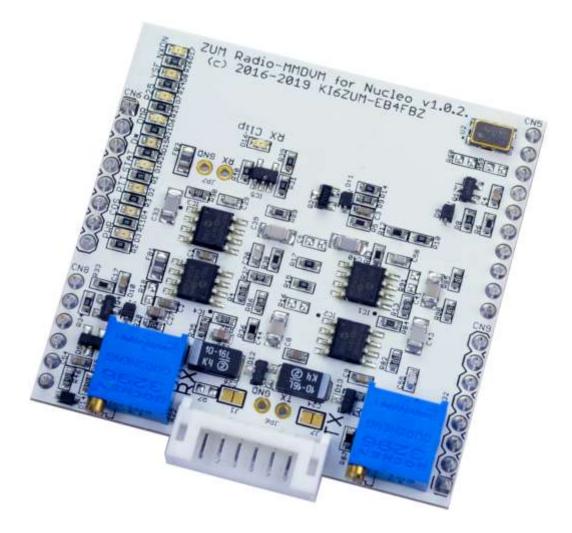
## MMDVM-Nucleo rev. 1.0 board

- Designed for repeater and high power hotspot applications connects to user supplied Raspberry Pi board and radio(s)
- Connects to STM32F446 MB1136 Nucleo Board
- Fifth generation analogue filter design that provides an extremely low BER compared to previous generations
- Two multi-turn pots for fine RX and TX adjustments
- Onboard LEDs to show status and modes (PTT, COS, Power, D-Star, DMR, P25, Fusion, NXDN and POCSAG)
- Onboard LED to show receive signal level clipping
- 8 pin JST Connector with pigtail wires
- Utilizes open source MMDVM software
- Supports NucleoTNC project



# Table of Contents:

Wiring connections
Adjusting signal levels (hardware)4
Jumper Description Table5
LED Description Table6
Adding an external Nextion display7
Adjusting RX and TX signals9
Configuring Pi-Star (including adjusting signal levels via software)10
Building MMDVM firmware
On Windows 1013
On Ubuntu13
On macOS13
Flashing Nucleo F44614
MMDVM-Nucleo with NucleoTNC firmware17
Building the NucleoTNC firmware18
Assembling the NucleoTNC
Flashing the NucleoTNC firmware32
Configuring the NucleoTNC firmware32
Connecting the MMDVM-Nucleo board to radios32
Using mmdvmcal to calibrate the board
Support

# Wiring connections

Here is a picture of the 8 pin header with cable showing wire colors:



Here is a table of the pin numbers, names and wire colors:

Pin number	Signal name	Description	Wire
			color
1	CTRL	Control (output)	Black
2	COS/STAT1	Carrier sense (input)	Red
3	RX audio	Receive audio from radio (input)	White
4	Ground	Signal ground	Yellow
5	Ground	Signal ground	Orange
6	TX audio	Transmit audio to radio (output)	Green
7	PTT	Push to talk (enable transmit) (input)	Blue
8	RSSI	Received signal strength indicator (input)	Purple

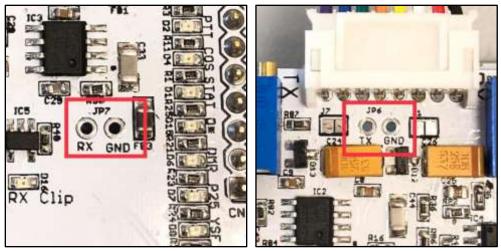
Here's an example radio's (FT-7900) pin connection via the mini DIN 6 connector on the rear of the radio:



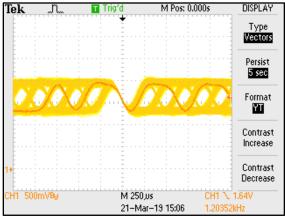
Pin number	Signal name	Wire color	Mini DIN 6 connector
3	RX audio	White	9600 from radio
4	Signal ground	Yellow	GND
6	TX audio	Green	Audio to radio
7	PTT	Blue	PTT

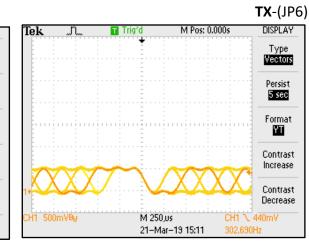
# Adjusting signal levels (hardware)

Here is a picture of the test points on the PCB that can be used to look at the RX and TX signal levels on an oscilloscope. The signal on JP7 is the RX signal audio on the ADC input pin of the STM32 chip. JP6 has the TX signal audio on the pin going to the radio.

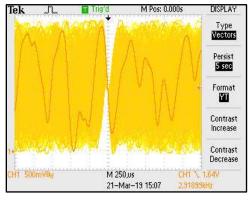


# Here are some signal images captured on an Oscilloscope **RX**-(JP7)





Noise without signal (JP7)



Here is a list of the jumpers on the board and their settings:

#### Jumper Description Table

Bypass Pad	ON	OFF	Description
J1	Х		Disable DC blocking capacitor on Radio RX audio
J1		Х	Enable DC blocking capacitor on Radio RX audio
JP1	Х		Bypass R7
JP1		Х	Enable R7, this allows you to reduce the RX signal coming from
			the radio so it won't oversaturate and clip the signal.
J2	Х		Bypass R32 (10K variable resistor)
J2		Х	Enable R32 (10K variable resistor) for adjusting TX signal
			strength
J7	Х		Disable DC blocking capacitor on Radio TX audio
J7		Х	Enable DC blocking capacitor on Radio TX audio

## LED Description Table



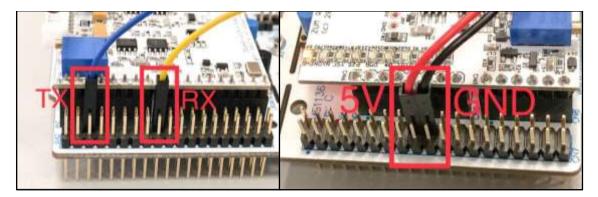
LED NAME	Description
PTT	Board is transmitting
COS	Board is receiving
STAT	Status
NXDN	NXDN Enabled
POCSAG	POCSAG Enabled
D*	D-Star Enabled
DMR	DMR Enabled
P25	P25 Enabled
YSF	YSF Enabled
PWR	Board is receiving power

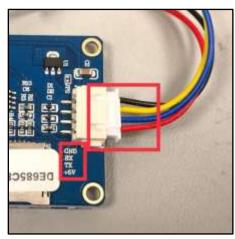
# Adding an external Nextion display

	Nextion display pins	Nucleo pins
NUCLEO-F446RE	5V	CN7-18
	GND	CN7-20
NC         NC<	RX	CN10-21
No     No       No	ТХ	CN10-33
CNI         CNI         CNI         CNI         CNI         PCI           PC00         PC01         PC01 <td></td> <td></td>		

A NEXTION display can be used by connecting it to the Morpho headers on the Nucleo board.

For connecting a NEXTION display, make sure that each colored wire matches the connections shown in the images below.





Here is an image of the display working.

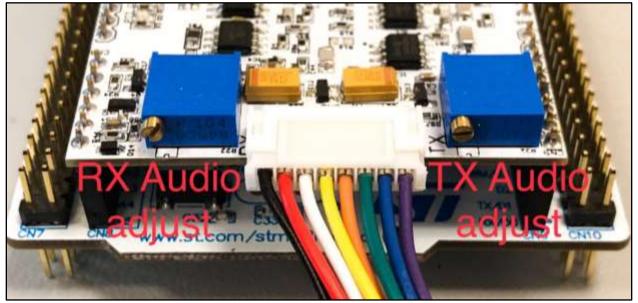


To get the Nextion display working, make sure your settings are correct within Pi-Star. The *MMDVM Display Type:* should be set to "Nextion", the *Port:* should be set to "Modem" and the correct *Nextion Layout:* should be selected. In this example we have used the "ON7LDS L3" layout.

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# Adjusting RX and TX signals

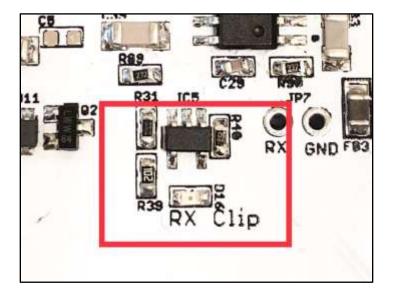
Here is a picture of the two trim pots used to adjust the signal levels of the RX and TX audio.



Turning the RX audio trim pot counter-clockwise will increase the signal level, while turning the trim pot clockwise will decrease the signal level.

Turning the TX audio trim pot counter clockwise will decrease the signal level, while turning the trim pot clockwise will increase the signal level.

When there is no audio stream coming in, adjust the RX pot until the RX CLIP LED barely lights up.



# Configuring Pi-Star (including adjusting signal levels via software)

From the "Configuration" menu, set the Radio/Modem type to "ZUMSpot Libre (USB)", set your "Callsign" and then select Apply Changes.

	General Configuration
Setting	Value
Hostname:	pi-star Do not add suffixes such as .local
Node Callsign:	KI6ZUM
Radio Frequency:	434.600.000 MHz
Latitude:	50.00 degrees (positive value for North, negative for South)
Longitude:	-3.00 degrees (positive value for East, negative for West)
Town:	Town, L0C4T0R
Country:	Country
URL:	http://www.mw0mwz.co.uk/pi-star/
Radio/Modem Type:	ZumSpot Libre (USB)
Node Type:	• Private OPublic
System Time Zone:	America/Los_Angeles
Dashboard Language:	english_us ᅌ
	Apply Changes

Next select the "expert" menu, and then select "MMDVMHost"

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Y.	Expert Editors		
	**WARNING**		
	Pi-Star typert editors have been created to make editing some of config files more simple, allowing you to update some areas of ti need to login to your Pi over SSH.		
	Please keep in mind when making your edits here, that these conf the dashboard, and that your edits can be over-written. It is as what you are doing editing the files by hend, and that you unders are maintained by the dashboard.	sumed that you already know	
	With that warning in mind, you are free to make any changes you like. group (link at the bottom of the page) and ask for help if 73 and enjoy your Fi-Star experiance. Fi-Star UK Team.		
	#-Star / #-Star Durfiliant, Q Avely Taylor (MW09942) 3044		

Scroll down to the "Modem" section to access the invert and level settings then select "Apply Changes"

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	CWIdTXLevel	50			
	D-StarTXLevel	50			
	DMRTXLevel	50			
	YSFTXLevel	50			
	P25TXLevel	50			
	MXDNTXLevel	50			
	POCSAGTXLevel	50			
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	Debug	0			
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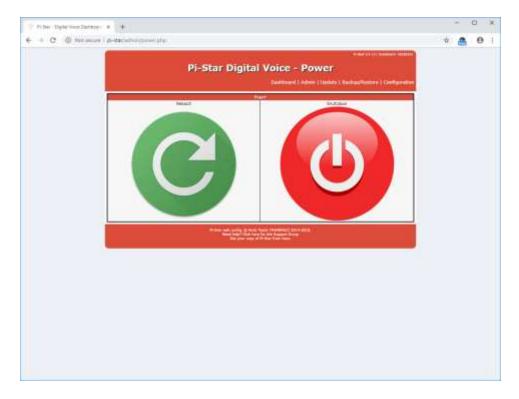
Scroll back up to the top of the page and select "Configuration".

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#### Next, select "Reboot"



## **Building MMDVM firmware**

#### On Windows 10

- Install bash using these instructions: <u>bash-windows-10</u>
- Once bash is installed, install GCC for ARM. Open the command prompt and type in the following instructions.
  - o bash
  - sudo apt-get install gcc
  - o sudo apt-get install make
  - sudo apt-get remove gcc-arm-none-eabi
  - sudo apt-get install gcc-arm-none-eabi gdb-arm-none-eabi libstdc++-arm-noneeabi-newlib libnewlib-arm-none-eabi
- Make sure git is installed. If it isn't then use this command: sudo apt-get install git
- Get the latest source code from GitHub:
  - o git clone <u>https://qithub.com/q4klx/MMDVM</u>
  - o cd MMDVM
  - o git submodule init
  - o git submodule update
- Edit Config.h. Uncomment the line: *#define MODE\_LEDS* 
  - If you want to connect a Nextion display, then also uncomment the line: #define SERIAL\_REPEATER
  - To start build run: make nucleo
  - Binaries will be under the *bin/* folder

#### On Ubuntu

• Follow the same instructions as **Windows 10** but skip the part about installing bash

#### On macOS

- First install Homebrew:
  - Open the Terminal
  - Paste this in and press Enter: /usr/bin/ruby -e "\$(curl -fsSL <u>https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Homebrew/install/master/install</u>)"
- Once Homebrew has been installed, run the following command: brew install libusb autogen automake wget pkg-config cmake openocd
- Install the ARM GCC toolchain:
  - Run the following command: *brew tap ArmMbed/homebrew-formulae*
  - Run the following command: *brew install arm-none-eabi-gcc*
- Get the latest source code from GitHub:
  - o git clone <u>https://qithub.com/q4klx/MMDVM</u>
  - o cd MMDVM
  - o git submodule init
  - o git submodule update

- Edit Config.h. Uncomment the line: #define MODE\_LEDS
  - If you want to connect a Nextion display, then also uncomment the line: #define SERIAL\_REPEATER
- To start build run: make nucleo
- Binaries will be under the *bin/* folder

## **Flashing Nucleo F446**

- Download the STM32CubeProgrammer from this link: STM32Cube
  - The programmer is available for Windows, Linux, and macOS
- Install the STM32CubeProgrammer
- Plug your Nucleo board to your computer
- Open the STM32CubeProgrammer on your computer
- Click "Connect" to connect to the Nucleo board

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			Not connected
	ST-LINK	•	Connect
Read 👻		ST-LINK co	onfiguration
	Serial number	066EFF57	5256867067034 👻 💋
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	Frequency (kHz)	4000	•
	Mode	Normal	<b>.</b>
	Access port	0	*
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	Shared	Disabled	•
	External loader		
	Target voltage	3 24 V	

• Go to Open File and look for the folder where the compiled HEX file is in

Memory & File	Open file +			
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• Select the HEX file and click Open

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#### • Click on "Download"

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• Once the flashing is done. Click on "OK" in the popup window and then disconnect from the Nucleo board so you can remove it from your computer.

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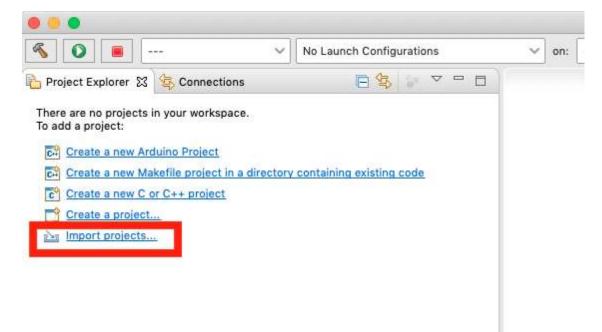
## MMDVM-Nucleo with NucleoTNC firmware

NucleoTNC is an open source TNC project (<u>https://github.com/mobilinkd/NucleoTNC</u>) which runs on an STM32L432KC Nucleo32 board. It functions as a1200 baud KISS TNC over a USB serial port. With a simple adapter PCB the MMDVM-Nucleo board can be paired with the STM32L432 Nucleo board.

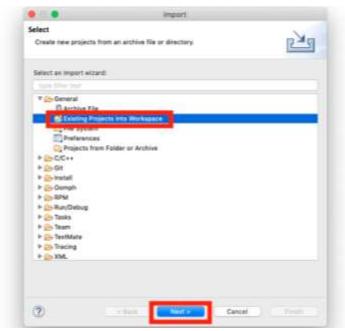


#### **Building the NucleoTNC firmware**

- Download CDT Eclipse with GNU MCU Eclipse plugin from here: <u>https://github.com/gnu-mcu-eclipse/org.eclipse.epp.packages/releases/</u>
  - If on macOS, follow the install steps listed on that page
- Get the latest NucleoTNC source code from GitHub
  - o git clone <u>https://qithub.com/mobilinkd/NucleoTNC.qit</u>
- Open Eclipse and select Import projects...



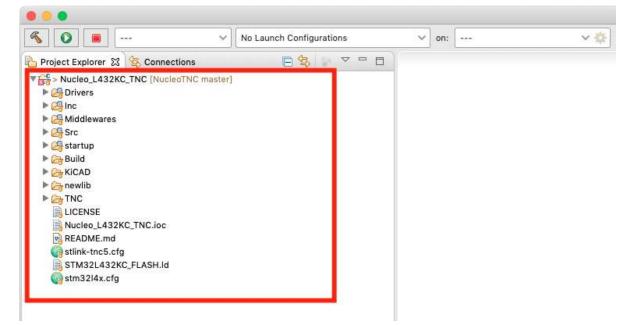
• Select Existing Projects into Workspace and click Next



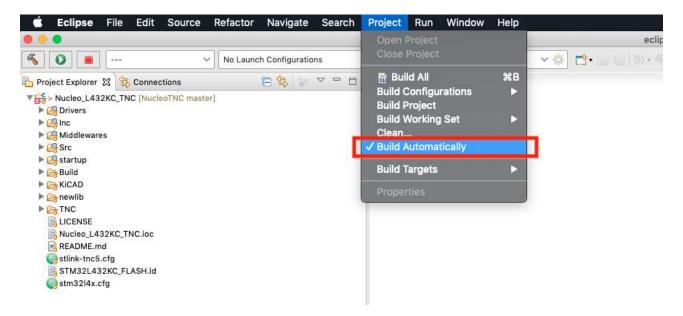
• Navigate to the directory where you cloned the NucleoTNC project. Once selected press Finish

impart Projects Select a directory to search for existing Eclipse projects.	
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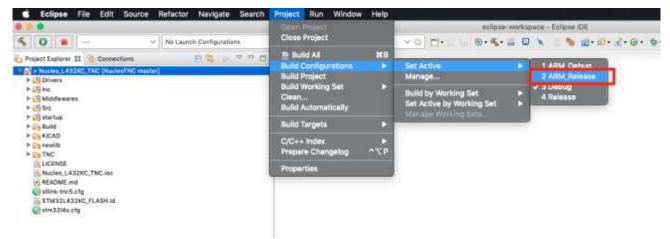
• You should now see the project name *Nucleo\_L432KC\_TNC*. If you select the drop-down arrow you will see the folders and files that belong to the project.



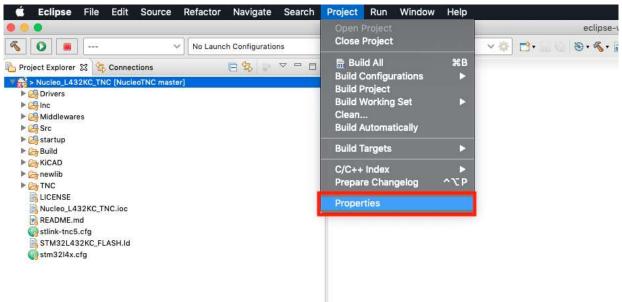
• With the project selected, click on *Project* and make sure is no check mark next to *Build Automatically.* If there is then unselect it so it doesn't constantly try and build while making modifications to the project settings.



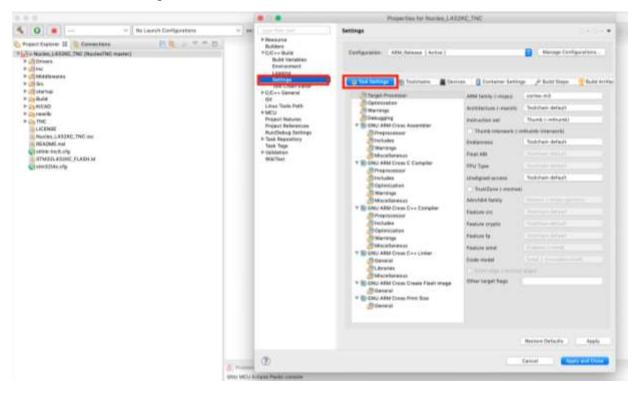
• With project selected, click on *Project* and go to *Build Configurations* → *Set Active* → *ARM\_Release*. This will set this configuration as the active configuration to build.



• With the project selected, go to Project  $\rightarrow$  Properties



• On the properties window, Go to C/C++ Build → Settings, select the Tool Settings tab and make sure the Target Processor section is selected.



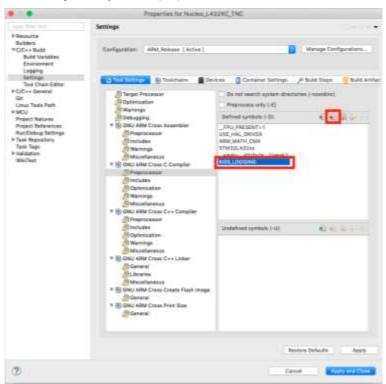
• Change the ARM family (-mcpu) section to cortex-m4

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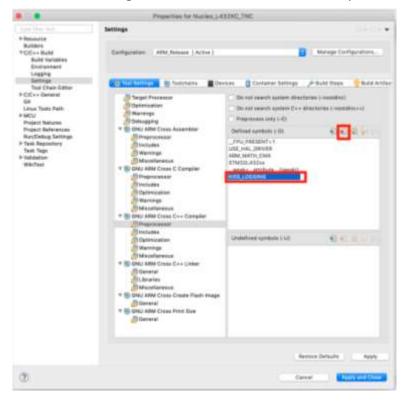
• Change the *Float ABI* section to *Library with FP (softfp)* 

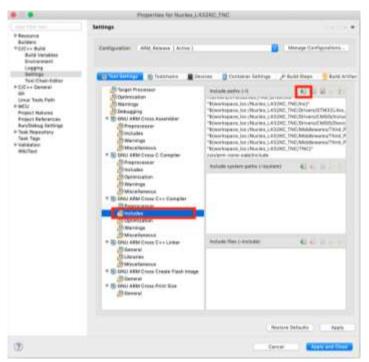
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• Click on *Preprocessor* under *GNU ARM Cross C Compiler*. Delete the *KISS\_LOGGING* symbol under *Defined symbols (-D)*.



• Do the same thing for the GNU ARM Cross C++ Compiler



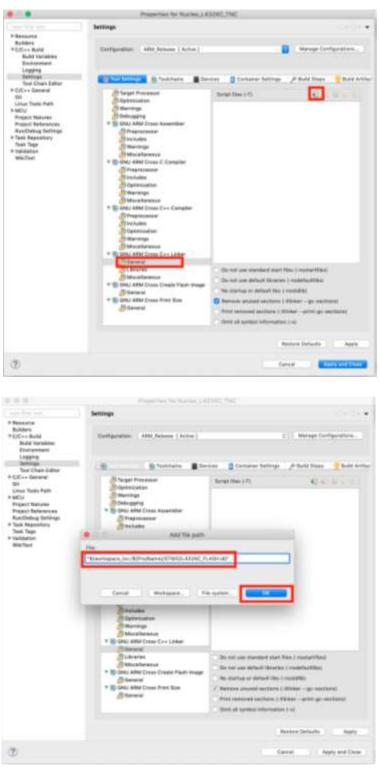


• Click on *Includes* under the *GNU ARM Cross C++ Compiler* section. Add the path to the boost library on your machine.

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- To install boost:
  - Windows (with Bash installed) and Linux
  - sudo apt-get install libboost-all-dev
- macOS (using homebrew)
  - o brew install boost

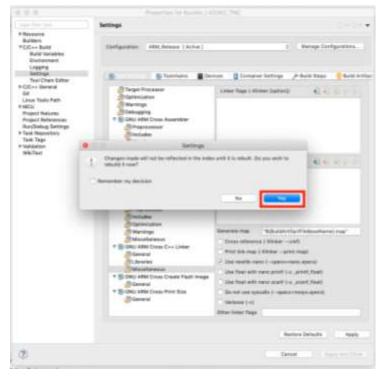
• Select *General* under *GNU ARM Cross C++ Linker*. Click on the plus button to add the linker script file: "\${workspace\_loc:/\${ProjName}/STM32L432KC\_FLASH.ld}"



• Select *Miscellaneous* under *GNU ARM Cross C++ Linker*. Make sure the check box next to the item *Use newlib-nano (--specs=nano.specs)* is checked. Then click on Apply and Close

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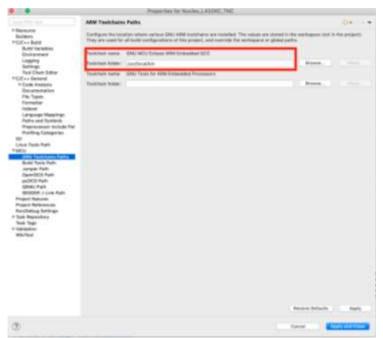
• A pop up window will show. Click Yes



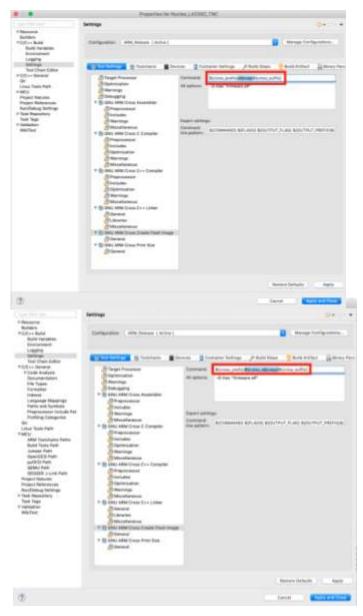
• With project selected, click on *Project* and click on *Clean*. Click on the Clean button so that the project directory is cleaned before starting a build.

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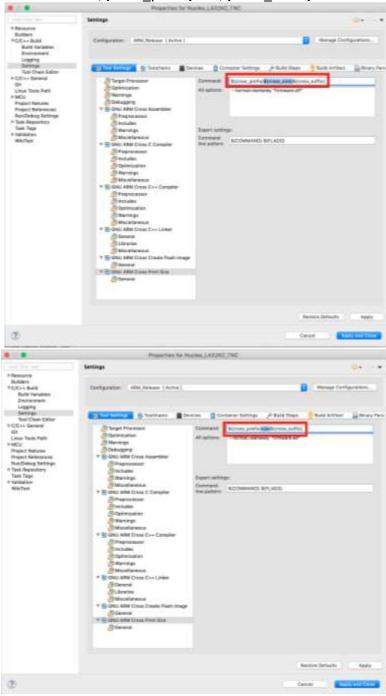
- If you run into this issue: *Error: Program "arm-none-eabi-gcc" not found in PATH*. Then try this:
  - With the project selected, go to Project -> Properties
  - Go to MCU -> ARM Toolchain Paths
  - Add the directory where you have arm-none-eabi-gcc installed. For me it's under /usr/local/bin
  - Then click on Apply and Close
  - Now when you Build you won't see that error.



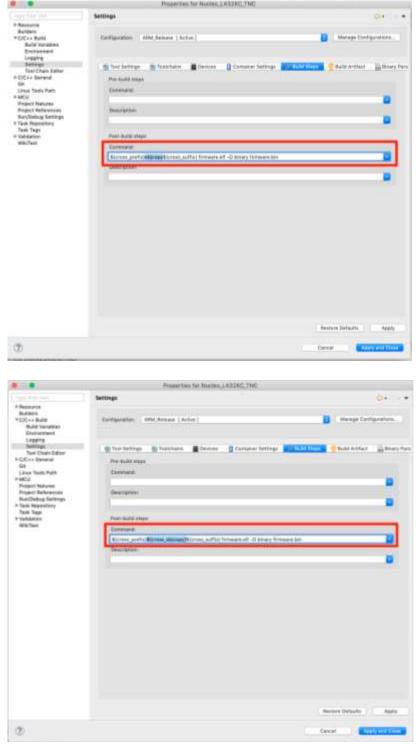
- During the Build steps if you run into this issue: arm-none-eabi- --format=berkeley firmware.elf Cannot run program "arm-none-eabi-": Unknown reason
- Do the following:
  - With the project selected, go to Project -> Properties
  - Go to C/C++ Build -> Settings -> Tool Settings -> GNU ARM Cross Create Flash Image
  - In the command field change the text \${cross\_prefix}\${objcopy}\${cross\_suffix}
  - To this: \${cross\_prefix}objcopy\${cross\_suffix}
  - Go to C/C++ Build -> Settings -> Tool Settings -> GNU ARM Cross Print Size



In the command field change the text \${cross\_prefix}\${cross\_size}\${cross\_suffix}
 To this: \${cross\_prefix}size\${cross\_suffix}



- Go to C/C++ Build -> Settings -> Build Steps
- Under the section *Post-build steps*. Change the text in the command field \${cross\_prefix}\${cross\_objcopy}\${cross\_suffix} firmware.elf -O binary firmware.bin
- To this: \${cross\_prefix}objcopy\${cross\_suffix} firmware.elf -O binary firmware.bin



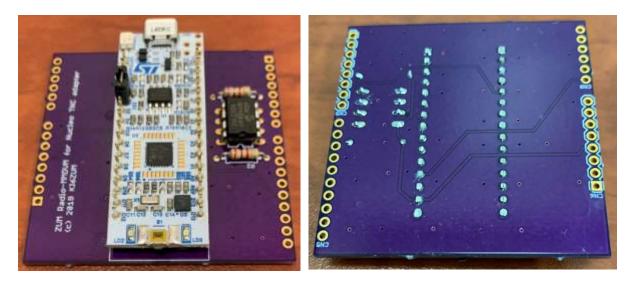
- Then click on Apply and Close
- Now when you Build you won't see that error

#### Assembling the NucleoTNC

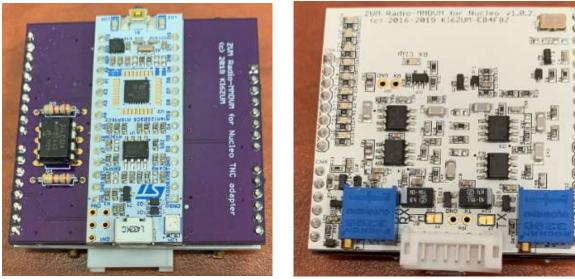
These are the parts needed in order to use the MMDVM-Nucleo board with the NucleoTNC firmware.

QTY	Part Name	Manufacturer	Part number	Link
1	MMDVM-Nucleo	ZUMRadio	MMDVM-Nucleo 1.0.2	<u>HRO</u>
1	NUCLEO-L432KC	ST Micro	NUCLEO-L432KC	Digi-Key
2	2.7K Resistors 1/4W	Stackpole	CF14JT2K70	Digi-Key
1	I2C EEPROM	Microchip	24LC32A-I/P	Digi-Key
1	Interface Board	OSH PARK	MMDVM_nucleo_TNC_0	OSH PARK

The first two images below show the Nucleo-L432 board as well as the EEPROM and resistors mounted on the top of the board and soldered on the bottom of the board. These components need to be soldered first since the MMDVM-Nucleo board will cover the pads. Make sure to trim the leads as short as possible to prevent the possibility of them shorting against the bottom of the MMDVM-Nucleo board.



These two images below show the MMDVM-Nucleo board mounted and soldered to the adapter board.



#### Flashing the NucleoTNC firmware

These steps are only for use with the NUCLEO-L432KC board.

- To flash the NucleoTNC firmware you must first either build the firmware following the steps in the section "Building the NucleoTNC firmware" or you can also download it from: https://github.com/mobilinkd/NucleoTNC/releases
- Once you have the BIN file, copy the firmware.bin file to the root of the Nucleo removable storage device. You should see the multi-color LED near the USB connector on the Nucleo flash while it is programming.
- Once you have accomplished that, you are ready to configure and use the TNC.

#### Configuring the NucleoTNC firmware

To configure the NucleoTNC firmware, follow the instructions in the "TNC Configuration" section of this NucleoTNC how-to guide: <u>https://github.com/mobilinkd/NucleoTNC/blob/master/Build/NucleoTNC.ipynb</u>

#### Connecting the MMDVM-Nucleo board to radios

To connect the MMDVM-Nucleo board to a radio, follow the "Wiring connections" and "Adjusting signal levels" sections above.

## Using mmdvmcal to calibrate the board

This is a web page with a good tutorial on how to use the mmdvmcal software tool and a spectrum analyzer to adjustment the signal levels for DMR: <u>https://www.f5uii.net/en/installation-calibration-adjustment-tunning-mmdvm-mmdvmhost-raspberry-motorola-gm360/5/</u>

Another document describing the spectrum adjustment process: <u>http://www.swedmr.se/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Justering-av-repeater-med-MMDVM.pdf</u>

## Support

Great video from W1MSG showing getting started with Pi-Star: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B5G4gYDdJeQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B5G4gYDdJeQ</a>

MMDVM Yahoo group: <a href="https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mmdvm/conversations/messages">https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mmdvm/conversations/messages</a>

Pi-Star support forum: https://forum.pistar.uk/

Pi-Star Facebook support group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/pistar/

Pi-Star Wiki: http://wiki.pistar.uk

A web page describing the setup of an MMDVM repeater: <u>https://sadigitalradio.com/digital-radio-how-tos/make-mmdvm-digital-repeater/</u>