# A Guide for Cross-compiling QT 5.13.2 For Raspberry Pi 3

WRITTEN BY RONEL JORDAN TCHOULAYEU TIENTCHEU

#### ABOUT ME

#### RONEL JORDAN TCHOULAYEU TIENTCHEU

- QT/EMBEDDED SOFTWARE DEVELOPER
- MORE THAN 10 YEARS OF 7 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WITH THE QT FRAMEWORK
- 3 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WITH EMBEDDED LINUX AND MICROCONTROLLERS.
- ANALYST PROGRAMMER (8 Programming Languages)
- O HARDWARE DESIGN EXPERIENCE

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#### CONTEXT

- O Have you ever dreamed to port your Gui Application to embedded Linux devices?
- O Are you a c++ or Qt Developer usually working on windows and you want to deploy your software to Raspberry pi?
- O Do you often ask yourself how to create GUI applications for embedded Linux and especially raspberry pi?

Then this article is for you. We will demonstrate how to port your Qt application on windows to Linux.

#### Purpose

- O This guide will help you building the Qt5 framework for Raspberry Pi 3 on Windows
- It assumes that you have already installed the Raspbian image in the Raspberry Pi
- You will be able to create applications on windows, and deploy them directly to the Raspberry with Qt.
- You should also download and install git, as it is required for SSH configuration in Qt

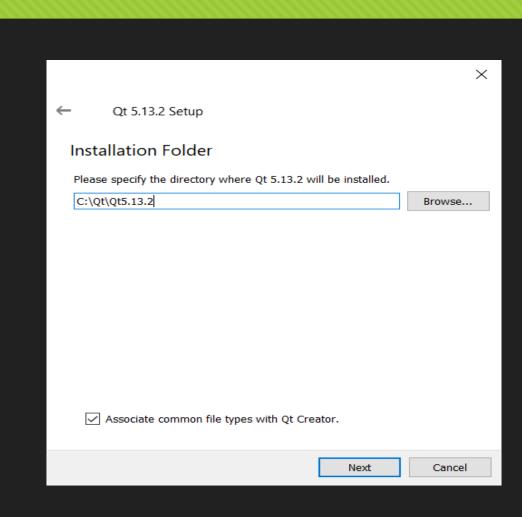
Note: After installing Raspbian, make sure to enable SSH and configure Hostname and password. The default username is pi.

#### 1- Downloading and Installing Qt 5.13.2

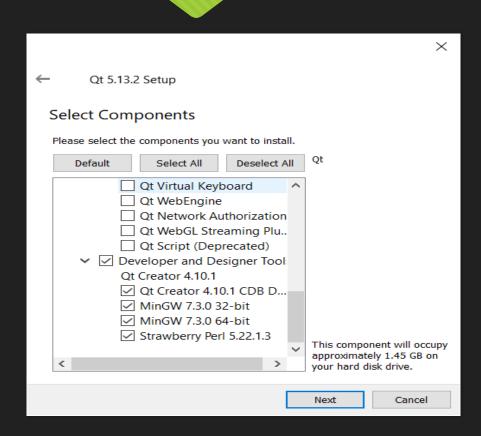
- O Download Qt 5.13.2 for windows to this address <a href="https://download.qt.io/archive/qt/5.13/5.13.2/">https://download.qt.io/archive/qt/5.13/5.13.2/</a>
- O Select <u>at-opensource-windows-x86-5.13.2.exe</u>
- After the Download, Launch the installer

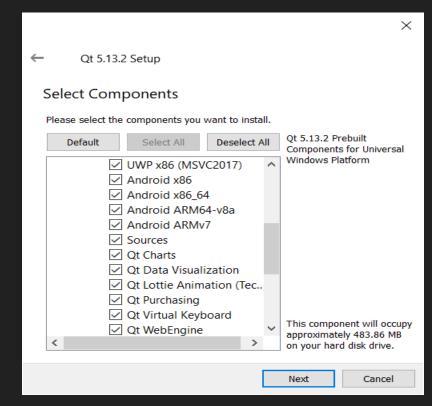
# Downloading and Installing Qt 5.13.2





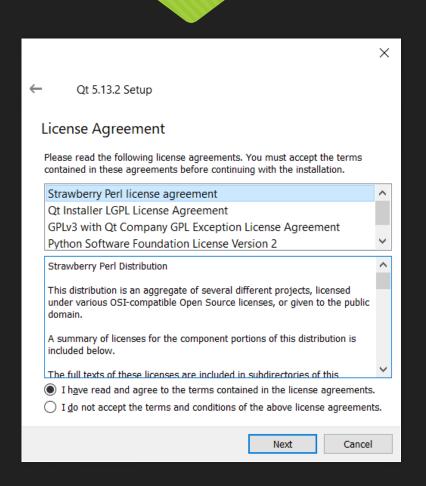
# Downloading and Installing Qt 5.13.2

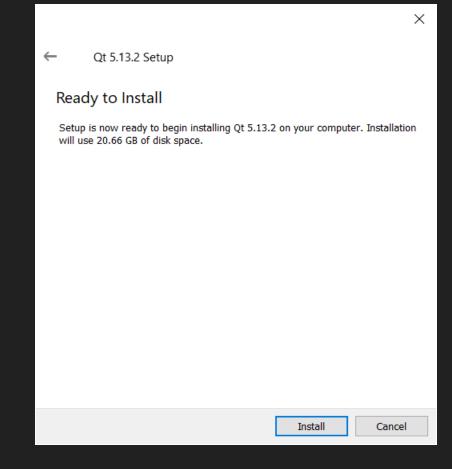




- Make sure you have selected all the Developer Tools as well as the sources.
- To maximize the modules we will have, It may also be good to select all modules except UWP platform

# Downloading and Installing Qt 5.13.2





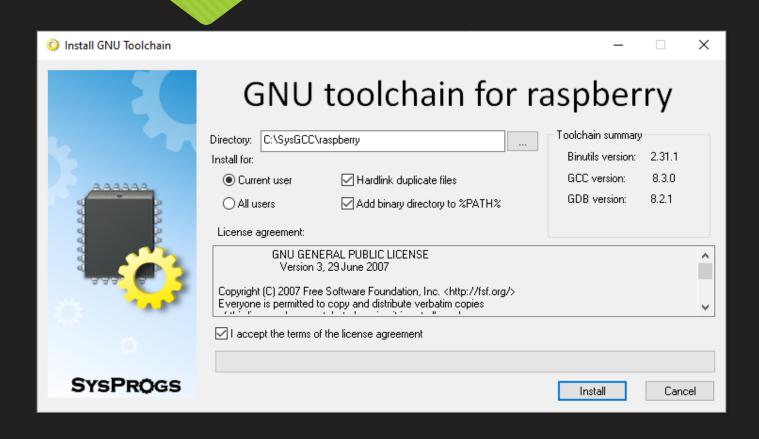
- Accept License
   Agreement and
   start to Install
- When it has finished to install, go to C:\Qt\Qt5.13.2\vcr edist\ and install vcredits.

#### 2- Downloading of Toolchains

We also need toolchains to compile Qt for our target environment, which is Linux in our case.

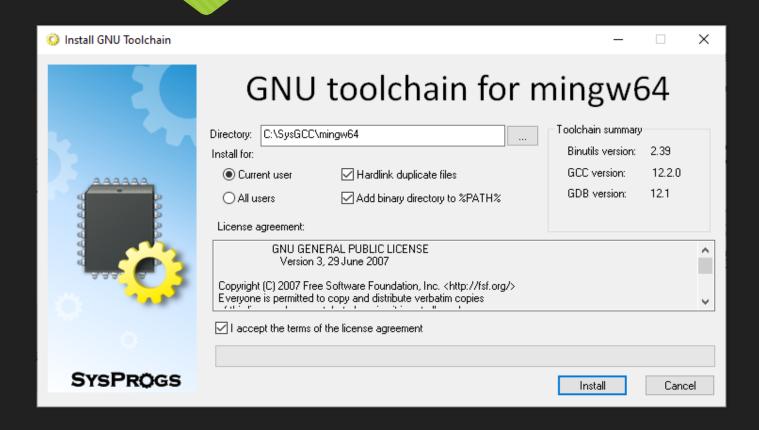
- Raspberry Toolchain: <a href="https://gnutoolchains.com/raspberry/">https://gnutoolchains.com/raspberry/</a> GCC version 8.3.0
- Mingw32 Toolchain: <a href="https://gnutoolchains.com/mingw32/">https://gnutoolchains.com/mingw32/</a> GCC version 4.8.1
- O Mingw64 Toolchain: <a href="https://gnutoolchains.com/mingw64/">https://gnutoolchains.com/mingw64/</a> GCC version 12.2.0

# 3-Installing Toolchains



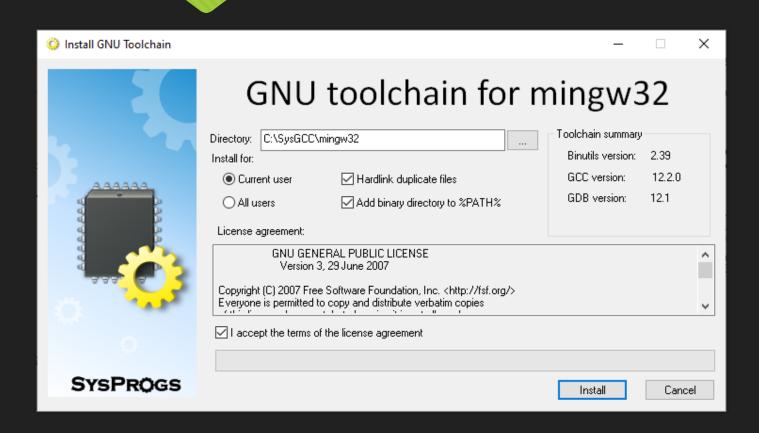
- Just accept the license agreement and install
- After the installation make sure it is added to path

# Installing toolchains



Do the same for mingw64

# Installing Toolchains



The benefits of this version of Mingw is that msys is included

It is a command line tool similar to linux command line tools.

Therefore, you will be able to easily run the configure script from it.

# 4-Installing Python

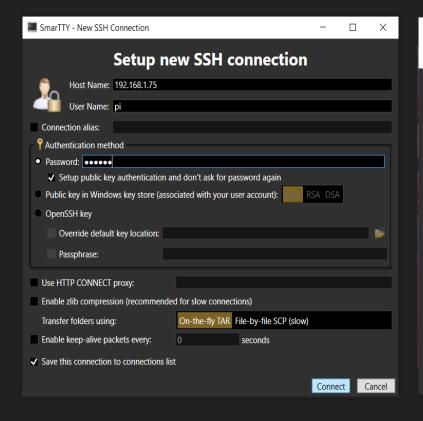
- O Download and install both python 2.7.5 or later to this address <a href="https://python.org/downloads/">https://python.org/downloads/</a>
- After the installation, make sure it is added to PATH
- O Python is required to build web engine

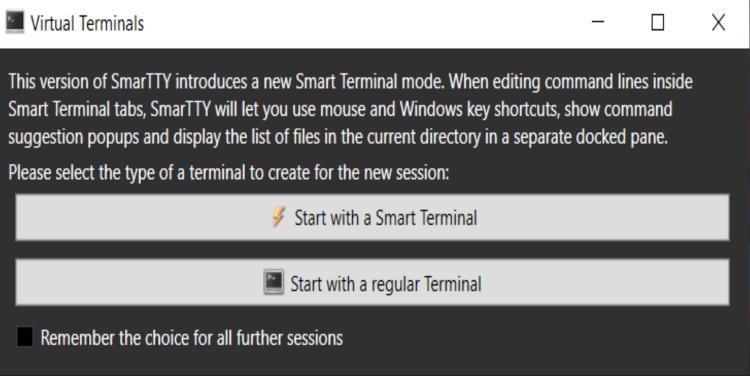
- O In this step, we need to ensure that our local toolchain includes all the libraries and headers that the raspberry has. If not, some platform plugins will not be available like EGLFS.
- O Download and install SmarTTY <a href="https://sysprogs.com/SmarTTY/download">https://sysprogs.com/SmarTTY/download</a>
- We will synchronize these remote directories:

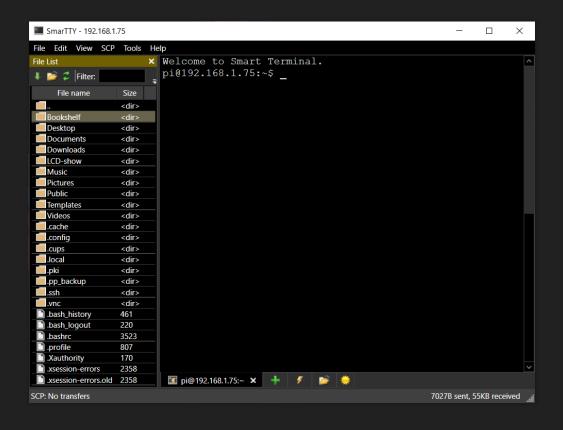
```
/lib
/usr/include
/usr/lib
/usr/local/include/
/usr/local/lib
```

With local directory C:\sysgcc\Raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot

- Connect your Pc and raspberry pi through a wifi connexion
- Launch SmarTTY and create a connection to the Raspberry with its Ip address. This time,
   the Hostname is the pi ip Address
- O Select the smart terminal because it is easier to use
- Download each directory to the local sysroot path
- O Then end the connection and go to the next step.

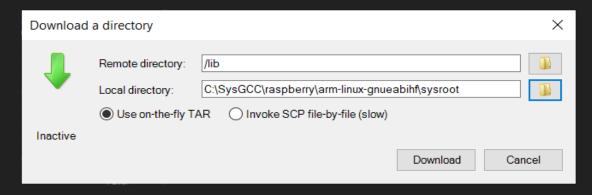






Select SCP then Download a directory

Download each required directory

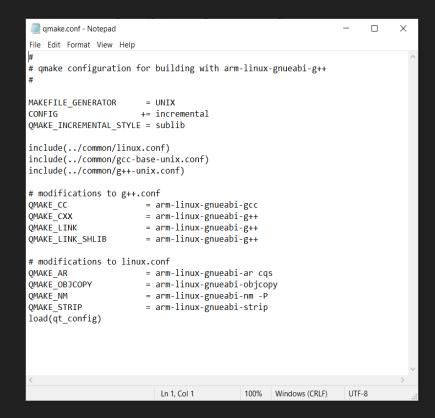


- O We want to enable EGLFS support for Raspberry pi.By default, its libraries should be located in the opt/lib folder of the building host.
- O Go to C:\SysGCC\raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot\arm-linux-gnueabihf and copy libEGL.so.1 and libGLESv2.so.2 to C:\SysGCC\raspberry\arm-linuxgnueabihf\sysroot\opt\vc\lib and C:\SysGCC\raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot
- O Rename those files to libEGL.so and libGLESv2.so
- O In the opt\vc\lib folder copy and rename libEGL\_static.a to libEGL.a and libGLESv2\_static.a to libGLESv2.a

#### 6-Modify qmake.conf files

- Create a new folder called atraspberry
- Go to path\_of\_installed\_qt\Qt5.13.2\5.13.2 and copy Src folder to qtraspberry.
- Go to qtraspberry\Src and open the file \qtbase\mkspecs\linux-arm-gnueabig++\qmake.conf in a textEditor
- O Replace arm-linux-gnueabi- with arm-linux-gnueabihf- in the whole file
- O Go to \qtbase\mkspecs\win32-g++\qmake.conf and add -U\_\_STRICT\_ANSI\_\_ to CXXFLAGS
- Results should be like this:

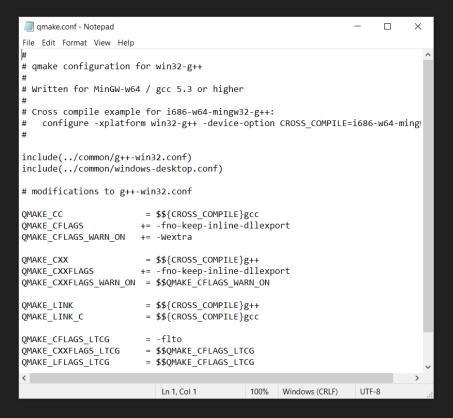
#### Modify qmake.conf files



Modifications of qmake.conf in linux-arm-gnueabig++ folder

```
make.conf - Notepad
                                                                       Edit Format View Help
# qmake configuration for building with arm-linux-gnueabi-g++
MAKEFILE GENERATOR
                        = UNIX
CONFIG
                       += incremental
QMAKE INCREMENTAL STYLE = sublib
include(../common/linux.conf)
include(../common/gcc-base-unix.conf)
include(../common/g++-unix.conf)
# modifications to g++.conf
OMAKE CC
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-gcc
QMAKE CXX
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-g++
OMAKE LINK
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-g++
QMAKE LINK SHLIB
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-g++
# modifications to linux.conf
OMAKE AR
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-ar cqs
QMAKE OBJCOPY
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-objcopy
OMAKE NM
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-nm -P
QMAKE STRIP
                        = arm-linux-gnueabihf-strip
load(qt_config)
                           Ln 23, Col 47
                                             100% Windows (CRLF)
```

#### Modify qmake.conf files



Modifications of qmake.conf in win32-g++ folder

```
make.conf - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
# qmake configuration for win32-g++
# Written for MinGW-w64 / gcc 5.3 or higher
# Cross compile example for i686-w64-mingw32-g++:
   configure -xplatform win32-g++ -device-option CROSS COMPILE=i686-w64-ming
include(../common/g++-win32.conf)
include(../common/windows-desktop.conf)
# modifications to g++-win32.conf
                        = $${CROSS COMPILE}gcc
OMAKE CC
QMAKE CFLAGS
                       += -fno-keep-inline-dllexport
QMAKE CFLAGS WARN ON
                       += -Wextra
OMAKE CXX
                        = $${CROSS COMPILE}g++
OMAKE CXXFLAGS
                       += -fno-keep-inline-dllexport -U STRICT ANSI
QMAKE CXXFLAGS WARN ON = $$QMAKE CFLAGS WARN ON
OMAKE LINK
                        = $${CROSS COMPILE}g++
QMAKE LINK C
                        = $${CROSS COMPILE}gcc
QMAKE CFLAGS LTCG
                        = -flto
OMAKE CXXFLAGS LTCG
                        = $$OMAKE CFLAGS LTCG
QMAKE LFLAGS LTCG
                        = $$QMAKE CFLAGS LTCG
                           Ln 16, Col 54
                                             100% Windows (CRLF)
                                                                  UTF-8
```

# 7-Building Qt5.13.2 for Raspberry Pi 3

- Navigate to atraspberry folder and create a new folder called build
- Enter in the build folder. Then launch msys. bat. It is located in the folder c:\SysGCC\MinGW32\msys\1.0\msys.bat
- Navigate to build folder with msys: cd /c/work/qtraspberry/build
- Copy and run the build script:
- ../Src/configure -platform win32-g++ -device-option CROSS\_COMPILE=arm-linux-gnueabihf- release -opengl es2 -device linux-rasp-pi3-g++ -sysroot C:/SysGCC/Raspberry/arm-linux-gnueabihf/sysroot -opensource -confirm-license -I C:/SysGCC/raspberry/arm-linux-gnueabihf/sysroot/opt/vc/lib
- O In the build script, mentioning both device and xplatform is not supported for this version, hence we removed xplatform option

# Building Qt5.13.2 for Raspberry Pi 3

Carl@DESKTOP-A9N93DC /c/work/gtraspberry/test

```
$ ../Src/configure -platform win32-g++ -device-option CROSS_COMPILE=arm-linux-gnueabihf- -release -opengl es2 -device
linux-rasp-pi3-g++ -sysroot C:/SysGCC/Raspberry/arm-linux-gnueabihf/sysroot -opensource -confirm-license
+ cd atbase
+ /c/work/qtraspberry/Src/qtbase/configure -top-level -platform win32-g++ -device-option CROSS COMPILE=arm-linux-gnueabi
hf- -release -opengl es2 -device linux-rasp-pi3-g++ -sysroot C:/SysGCC/Raspberry/arm-linux-gnueabihf/sysroot -opensource
-confirm-license
Preparing build tree...
Creating qmake...
.Done.
Info: creating stash file C:\work\qtraspberry\test\.qmake.stash
This is the Qt Open Source Edition.
 MINGW32:/c/work/qtraspberry/test
                                                                                                                 This is the Ot Open Source Edition.
You have already accepted the terms of the Open Source license.
Running configuration tests...
Checking for machine tuple... yes
Checking for valid makespec... yes
Checking for target architecture... arm
Checking for host architecture... i386
Checking for alloca() in alloca.h... yes
Checking for C++14 support... yes
Checking for C++17 support... yes
Checking for C99 support... ves
Checking for C11 support... ves
```

#### Building Qt5.13.2 for Raspberry Pi 3

#### When the configuration is successful you should see

QPA backends:	
DirectFB	no
EGLFS	yes
EGLFS details:	
EGLFS OpenWFD	no
EGLFS i.Mx6	no
EGLFS i.Mx6 Wayland	no
EGLFS RCAR	no
EGLFS EGLDevice	no
EGLFS GBM	no
EGLFS VSP2	no
EGLFS Mali	no
EGLFS Raspberry Pi	yes
EGLFS X11	no
LinuxFB	yes
VNC	yes
Mir client	no

Note: No wayland-egl support detected. Cross-toolkit compatibility disabled.

WARNING: QDoc will not be compiled, probably because libclang could not be located. This means that you cannot build the Qt documentation.

Either ensure that llvm-config is in your PATH environment variable, or set LLVM\_INSTALL\_DIR to the location of your llvm installation.

On Linux systems, you may be able to install libclang by installing the libclang-dev or libclang-devel package, depending on your distribution.

On macOS, you can use Homebrew's llvm package.

On Windows, you must set LLVM INSTALL DIR to the installation path.

WARNING: Python version 2 (2.7.5 or later) is required to build QtWebEngine.

WARNING: host pkg-config not found

Qt is now configured for building. Just run 'gmake.exe'.

Once everything is built, you must run 'gmake.exe install'.

Ot will be installed into 'C:\SysGCC\Raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot\usr\local\Qt-5.13.2'.

Prior to reconfiguration, make sure you remove any leftovers from

the previous build.

# Building Qt5.13.2 for Raspberry Pi 3

- O You can now run gmake && gmake install or make && make install
- O Otherwise, you can firstly run gmake or make, and after the build, gmake install or make install
- You might encounter errors while building qtscript. If so, restart gmake.exe i
- The i option is for ignoring errors
- O After the build you will see as follows. You can finally Run gmake.exe install

```
gmake[2]: Leaving directory 'c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtdoc/examples'
cd doc/src/cmake/ && ( test -e Makefile || c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtbase/bin/qmake.exe -o Makefile C:/work/qtraspberry/Src/qtdoc/doc/src/cmake/cmake.pro ) && c:/Strawberry/c/bin/gmake -f Makefile
gmake[2]: Entering directory 'c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtdoc/doc/src/cmake'
gmake[2]: Nothing to be done for 'first'.
gmake[2]: Leaving directory 'c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtdoc/doc/src/cmake'
cd doc/ && ( test -e Makefile || c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtbase/bin/qmake.exe -o Makefile C:/work/qtraspberry/Src/qtdoc/doc/doc.pro ) && c:/Strawberry/c/bin/gmake -f Makefile
gmake[2]: Entering directory 'c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtdoc/doc'
gmake[2]: Leaving directory 'c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtdoc/doc'
gmake[2]: Leaving directory 'c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtdoc/doc'
gmake[1]: Leaving directory 'c:/work/qtraspberry/build/qtdoc'

Carl@DESKTOP-A9N93DC /c/work/qtraspberry/build
$
```

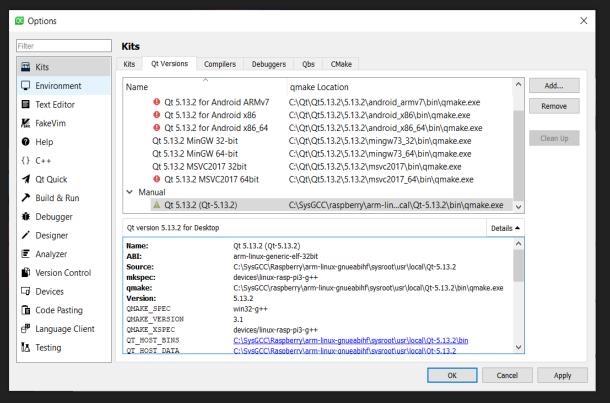
#### 8- COPY GENERATED BUILD TO RASPBERRY

- O After the installation, qt build will be available in C:\SysGCC\raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot\usr\local\Qt-5.13.2
- O You will need to copy the whole folder to remote /usr/local in Raspberry pi.
- O Before that you will need to download fonts in dejavu-fonts.github.io, and copy them to C:\SysGCC\raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot\usr\local\Qt-5.13.2\lib\fonts as Qt does not deploy fonts.
- O When done, copy the Qt folder to /usr/local in Raspberry pi. The easiest way to achieve that would be to transfer it firstly in a USB key, then launch file manager as root with sudo pcmanfm
- Finally, you can paste at build in the correct directory without root permission.

#### 9-CREATE A KIT FOR RASPBERRY IN QT

- Open Qt Creator and go to Tools->Options->kits->Qt Version.
- O Click on Add an navigate to C:\SysGCC\raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot\usr\local\Qt-5.13.2\bin and select qmake.exe
- O Go to kits and select Add. Give it the name Raspberry pi. In Device type, select Generic Linux Device
- Concerning the compilers, select GCC (c:\SysGcc\raspberry\bin)
- O At Qt version select the version you previously created.
- Finally apply the changes and go to devices.

#### 9-CREATE A KIT FOR RASPBERRY IN QT

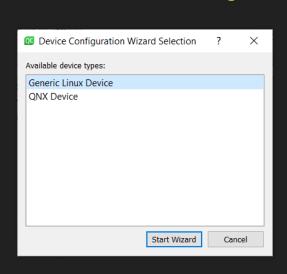


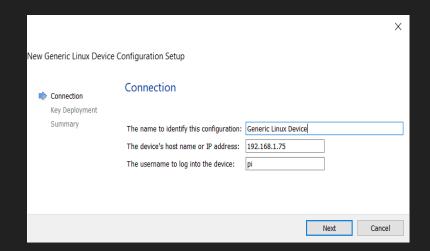
Options				×
Filter	Kits			
₩ Kits	Kits Qt Versions Compi	ers Debuggers Qbs CMake	Settings Filter	^
☐ Environment	Raspberry pi 3		Default Settings Filter	
■ Text Editor				
<b>K</b> FakeVim	Name:	Raspberry pi 3	<b>&amp;</b>	
<b>②</b> Help	File system name:			
{} C++	Device type:	Generic Linux Device	~	
1 Qt Quick	Device:	Generic Linux Device (default for Generic Linux)	∨ Manage	
➤ Build & Run	Sysroot:		Browse	
<b>☀</b> Debugger	Compiler:	C: GCC (C, arm 32bit in C:\SysGCC\raspberry\bin)	V Manage	
✓ Designer	compiler.	C++: GCC (C++, arm 32bit in C:\SysGCC\raspberry\bin)	v Nanagem	
<b>■</b> Analyzer	Environment:	No changes to apply.  Force UTF-8 MSVC compiler output	Change	
■ Version Control	Debugger:	System GDB at C:\SysGCC\mingw32\bin\gdb.exe	∨ Manage	
□ Devices	Qt version:	Qt 5.13.2 (Qt-5.13.2)	∨ Manage	
Code Pasting	Qt mkspec:			
₽ Language Client	Additional Qbs Profile Settings		Change	
▼ Testing	CMake Tool:	System CMake at C:\Program Files\CMake\bin\cmake.exe	∨ Manage	~
		ОК	Cancel Apply	

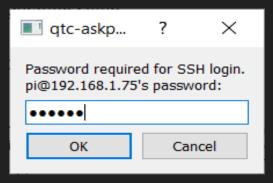
#### 10-ADDING A GENERIC LINUX DEVICE

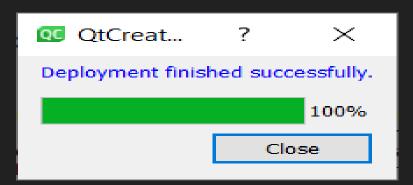
- O Select Generic Linux Device, then click on add
- O Give a name to the device, enter You Pi's IP Address, And the username (generally pi)
- Now in SSH Key Configuration Generate And save the key, then deploy it to your remote raspberry pi
- After the deployment you can test your device. When the device test is successful, Go
  back to kits, select your raspberry kit and change the device to the one you just added.
- You can now create projects and test them

#### 10-ADDING A GENERIC LINUX DEVICE









SSH Key Configuration	?	$\times$
Options		
Key algorithm:   RSA   ECDSA		
Key size: 1024 ∨		
Private key file: C:/Users/Carl/.ssh/qtc_id	Brows	e
Public key file: C:/Users/Carl/.ssh/qtc_id.pu	ıb	
Generate And Save Key Pair Cancel		

Connecting to host...
Checking kernel version...

Linux 6.1.21-v7+ armv7l

SFTP service available.

Checking whether rsync works...

Device test finished successfully.

Checking if specified ports are available... All specified ports are available.

Checking whether an SFTP connection can be set up...

SFTP will be used for deployment, because rsync is not available.

Failed to start rsync: Process failed to start: The system cannot find the file specified.

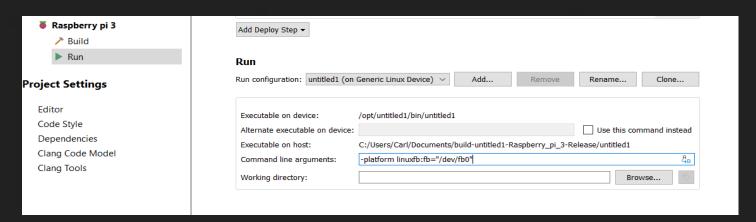
#### 11-TESTING A FIRST PROJECT

- O Create a new project
- O Select the Raspberry kit especially release option
- In the project file change target.path to /home/pi
- O Compile and Run the project file.Qt will require you to deploy some libraries
- O You will see them in your local C:\SysGCC\raspberry\arm-linux-gnueabihf\sysroot\lib\arm-linux-gnueabihf directory. Upload them to remote /usr/lib/arm-linux-gnueabihf

libicudata.so.63	25M
libicui18n.so	2293K
libicui18n.so.63	2293K
libicui18n.so.63.1	2293K
libicuuc.so.63	1489K

#### 11-TESTING A FIRST PROJECT

- O BY default Qt uses EGLFS as plugin to launch Apps. However, EGLFS has not yet been enabled therefore, you will face an Error when Running.
- O You can actively start your app with linuxfb plugin by adding this command in Qt
- Platform linuxfb:fb="/dev/fb0"



#### 12-ENABLING EGLFS

- O In your local sysroot copy the vc folder in \opt\ and paste it in remote /opt directory
- Open the shell and navigate to /opt/vc/lib
- Create symlinks of EGLFS libraries:

sudo In -s libbrcmEGL.so libEGL.so.1

sudo In -s libbrcmGLESv2.so libGLESv2.so.2

export LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH=/opt/vc/lib

Go to /home/pi , where your program is , and start ldd your\_program.

#### 12-ENABLING EGLFS

```
pi@192.168.1.75:/opt/vc/lib$ sudo rm libEGL.so.3
pi@192.168.1.75:/opt/vc/lib$ cd ../
pi@192.168.1.75:/opt/vc$ cd lib
pi@192.168.1.75:/opt/vc/lib$ sudo ln -s libbrcmEGL.so libEGL.so.1
pi@192.168.1.75:/opt/vc/lib$ ls
                  libcontainers.so
libbcm host.so
                                        libEGL.so
                                                            libGLESv2.so
                                                                                libmmal components.so
                                                                                                      libopenmaxil.so
                                                                                                                       libvcsm.so
libbrcmEGL.so
                                                            libGLESv2.so.2
                 libdebug sym.so
                                        libEGL.so.1
                                                                                libmmal core.so
                                                                                                       libvchiq arm.so
                                                                                                                       pkgconfig
libbrcmGLESv2.so libdebug sym static.a libEGL static.a
                                                            libGLESv2 static.a
                                                                               libmmal.so
                                                                                                       libvchostif.a
                 libdtovl.so
libbrcmOpenVG.so
                                        libelftoolchain.so libkhrn client.a
                                                                                libmmal util.so
                                                                                                       libvcilcs.a
libbrcmWFC.so
                                                                                libmmal vc client.so
                  libEGL.a
                                        libGLESv2.a
                                                            libkhrn static.a
                                                                                                       libvcos.so
pi@192.168.1.75:/opt/vc/lib$ export LD LIBRARY PATH=/opt/vc/lib
```

#### 12-ENABLING EGLFS

```
pi@192.168.1.75:/$ cd home
pi@192.168.1.75:/home$ cd pi
pi@192.168.1.75:~$ ldd untitled
        linux-vdso.so.1 (0x7ef45000)
        /usr/lib/arm-linux-gnueabihf/libarmmem-${PLATFORM}.so => /usr/lib/arm-linux-gnueabihf/libarmmem-v7l.so (0x76f92000)
        libOt5Ouick.so.5 \Rightarrow /usr/local/Ot-5.13.2/lib/libOt5Ouick.so.5 (0x76bdd000)
        libQt5Gui.so.5 => /usr/local/Qt-5.13.2/lib/libQt5Gui.so.5 (0x766f8000)
        libQt5Qml.so.5 \Rightarrow /usr/local/Qt-5.13.2/lib/libQt5Qml.so.5 (0x76304000)
        libQt5Network.so.5 => /usr/local/Qt-5.13.2/lib/libQt5Network.so.5 (0x76170000)
        libQt5Core.so.5 => /usr/local/Qt-5.13.2/lib/libQt5Core.so.5 (0x75c63000)
        libGLESv2.so.2 => /opt/vc/lib/libGLESv2.so.2 (0x75c3e000)
        libpthread.so.0 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/libpthread.so.0 (0x75bff000)
        libstdc++.so.6 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/libstdc++.so.6 (0x75a77000)
        libm.so.6 => /lib/arm-linux-gnueabihf/libm.so.6 (0x75a08000)
        libgcc s.so.1 => /lib/arm-linux-gnueabihf/libgcc s.so.1 (0x759db000)
        libc.so.6 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/libc.so.6 (0x75887000)
        libpng16.so.16 => /lib/arm-linux-gnueabihf/libpng16.so.16 (0x75848000)
        libz.so.1 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/libz.so.1 (0x75820000)
        librt.so.1 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/librt.so.1 (0x75808000)
        libdl.so.2 => /lib/arm-linux-gnueabihf/libdl.so.2 (0x757f4000)
        libicui18n.so.63 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/libicui18n.so.63 (0x755a6000)
        libicuuc.so.63 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/libicuuc.so.63 (0x75420000)
        libicudata.so.63 => /lib/arm-linux-qnueabihf/libicudata.so.63 (0x73a22000)
        /lib/ld-linux-armhf.so.3 (0x76fa7000)
        libbrcmEGL.so => /opt/vc/lib/libbrcmEGL.so (0x739e9000)
        libbcm host.so => /opt/vc/lib/libbcm host.so (0x739c2000)
        libvchiq arm.so => /opt/vc/lib/libvchiq arm.so (0x739ac000)
        libvcos.so => /opt/vc/lib/libvcos.so (0x73993000)
pi@192.168.1.75:~$ ./untitled
Unable to query physical screen size, defaulting to 100 dpi.
To override, set QT QPA EGLFS PHYSICAL WIDTH and QT QPA EGLFS PHYSICAL HEIGHT (in millimeters).
OFontDatabase: Cannot find font directory /usr/local/Qt-5.13.2/lib/fonts.
```

As soon as you see libGLESv2.so.2 and libbrcmEGL.so in the ldd result, EGLFS is enabled

# THANK YOU!