How to install a clone “Altera USB Blaster”

Step 1.

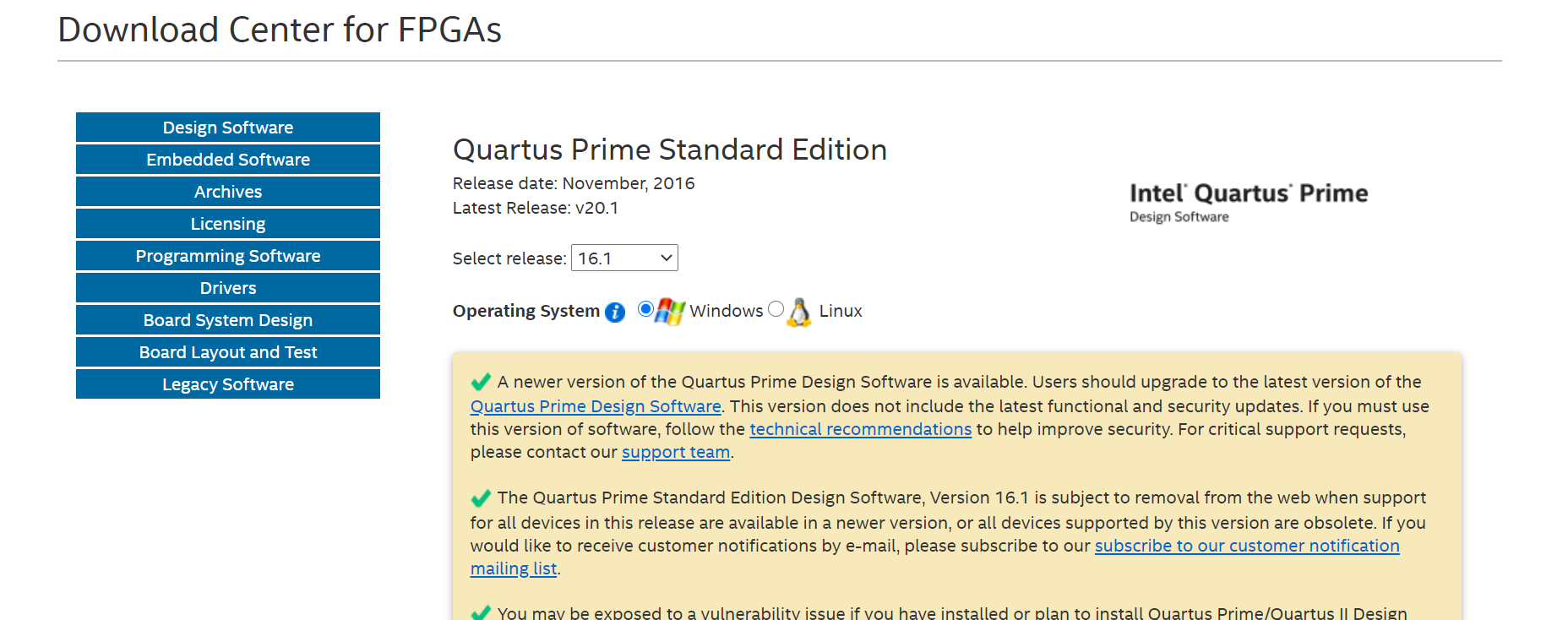
Get it from Amazon

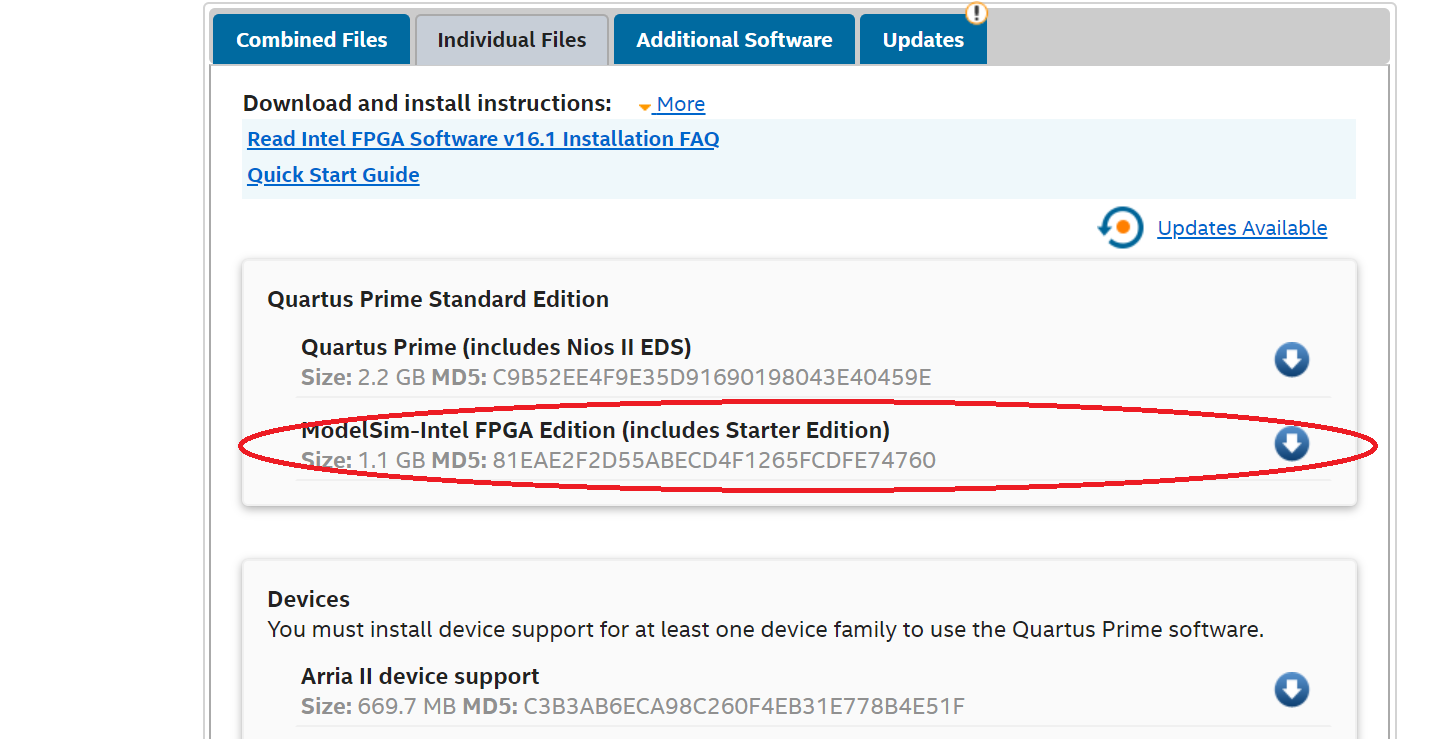


Inside this one, the chip is PIC18F14K50. From Win10 Device manager, you can see the USB’s VID=09FB and PID=6001.

Step 2. (this step may be skipped. You can try to skip this step.)

Google “Intel FPGA download”. Sign up a free individual account on intel.com (FPGA). From the download center.

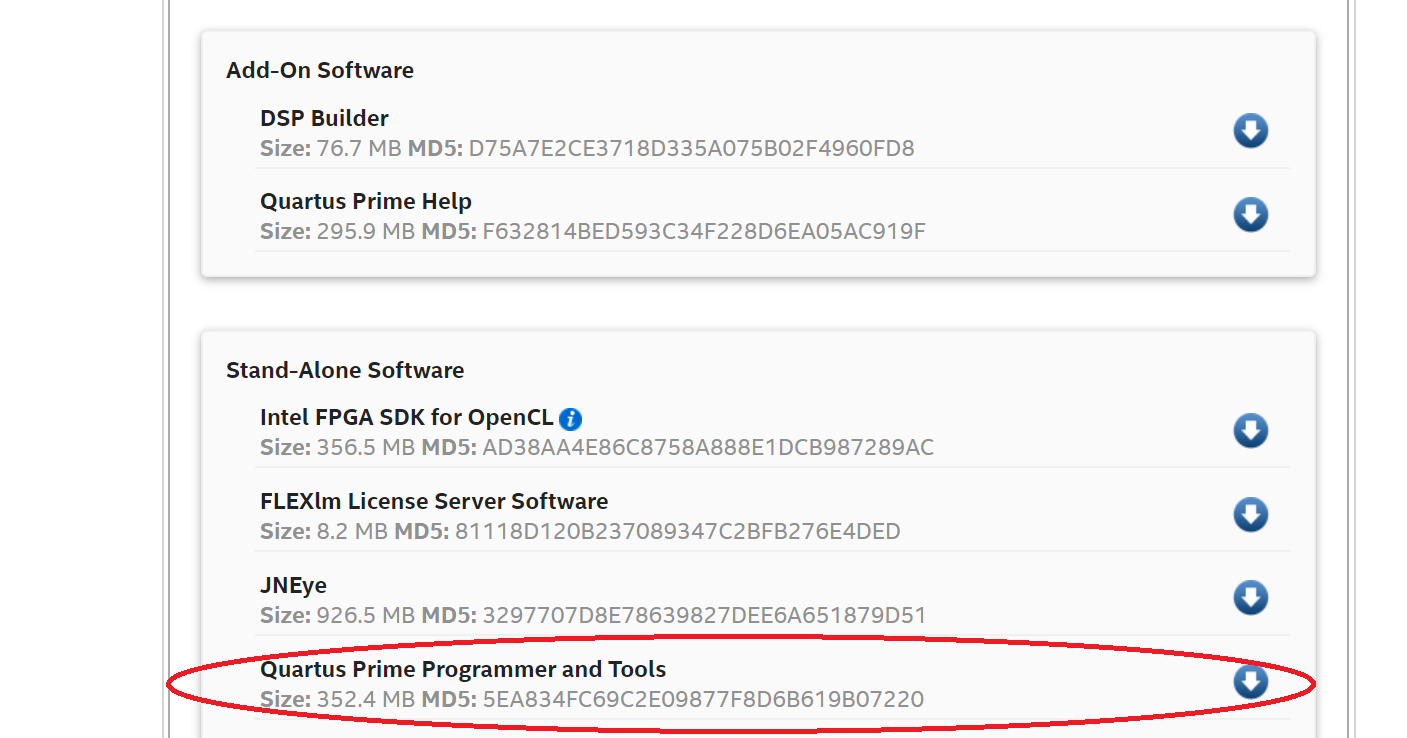




I choose 16.1,( it is stable), and ModelSim since it is smaller (1.1GB). install it on your local PC.

Step 3.

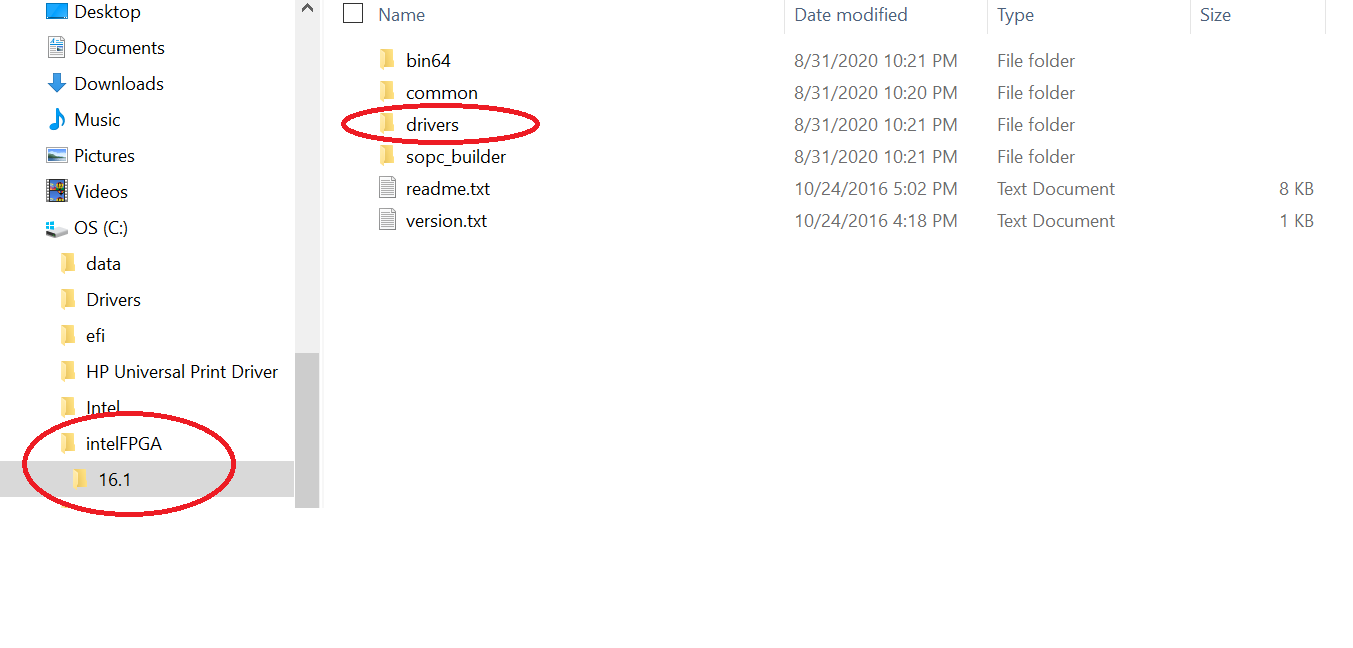
On the same intel download center, go to “Additional Software” tab. See below.



Download the one (red marked) and install it on the same director as ModelSim. Check all the “Launch…” after the main installation. Then you can close all the programmer tools.

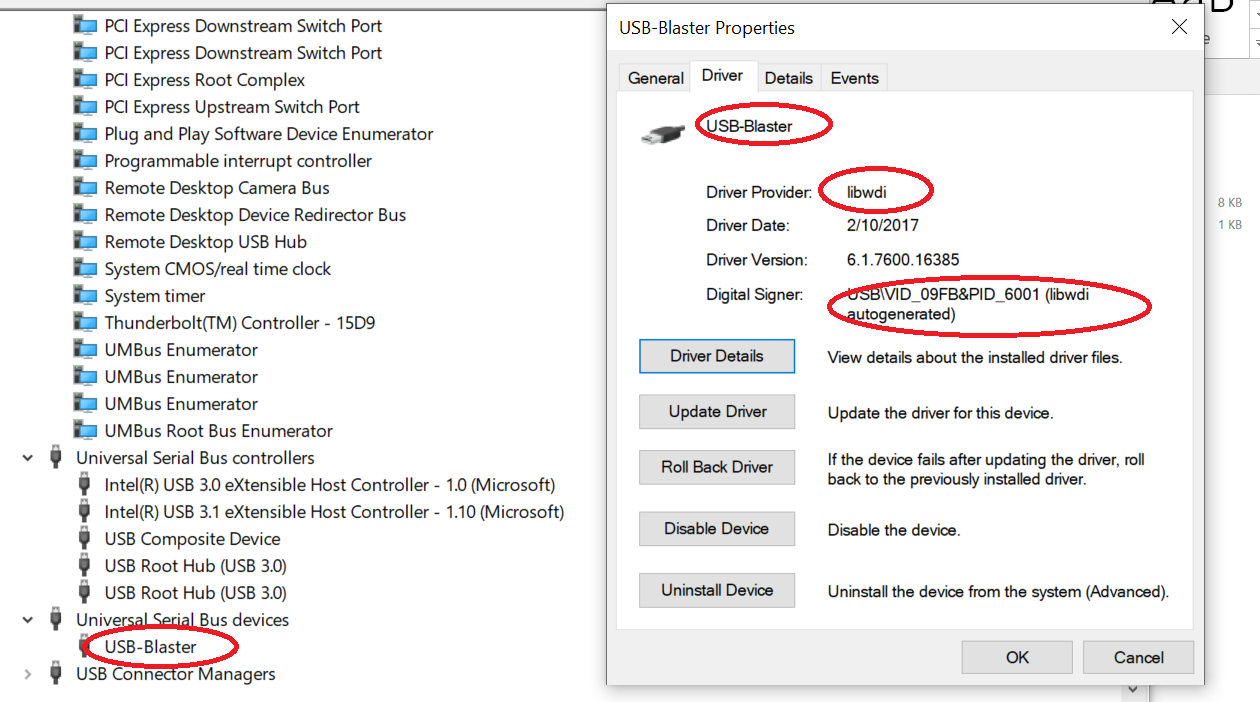
Step 4.

Plug in the clone “Altera USB Blaster” to your PC. It will not automatically install the drive since it is a clone. You need to goto Device Manager--🡪 Altera USB Blaster-🡪Properties-🡪Driver-🡪Update Driver-🡪Browse my computer for drive software-🡪select the director as below.

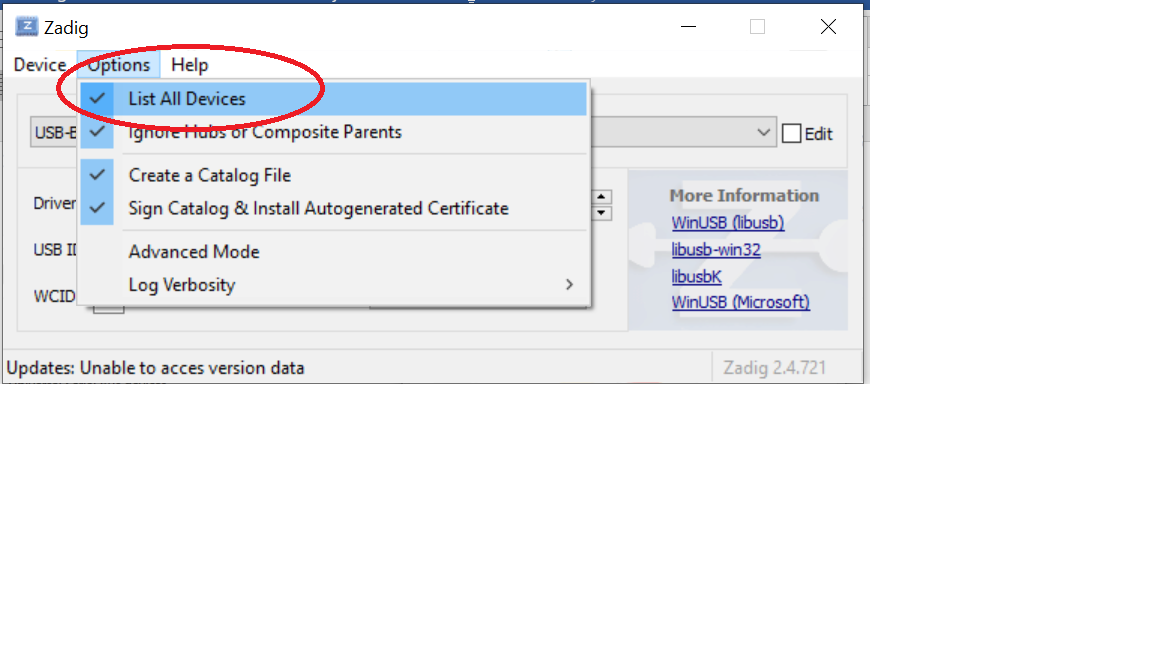
S

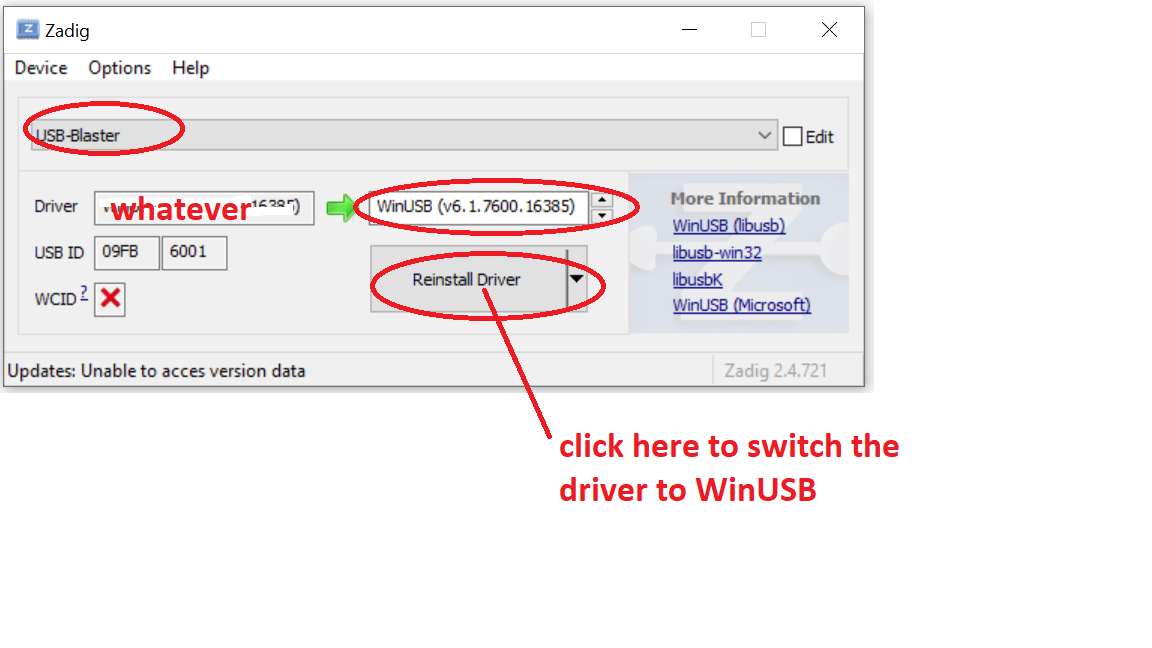
Step 5

Open Win10🡪Device Manage. Make sure it is like below.



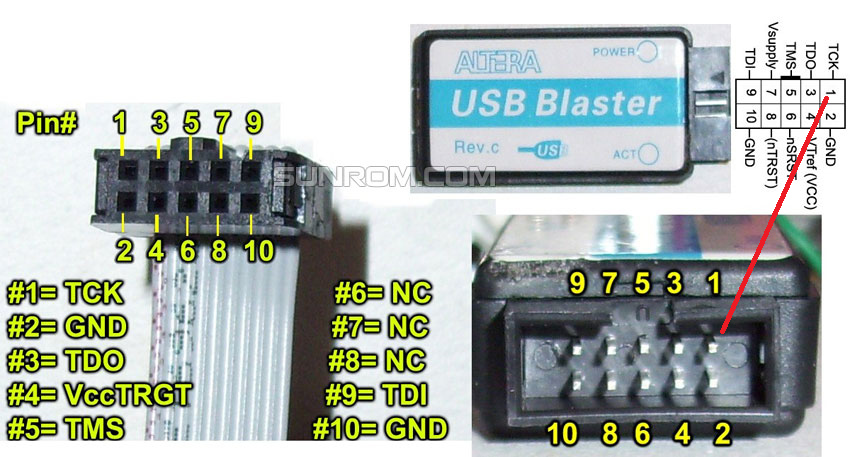
If not like above screen, you need to download a zadig.ex(zadig-2.4.exe)(zadig.exe is a standalone software to assign/re-assign drivers to USB devices). open it and do below red marked steps.





Step 6.

Pinout. (Note. The device board you are debugging must supply the power to PIN 4 and 2 of USB Blaster. Otherwise the USB Blaster can’t detect your board.)



That is it. Hope this can help you.

A few days ago, I got another JTAG debugger by converting a “sipeed longan nano” board (only $6.1 from mouser.com) into a RV-LINK debugger(it works as a standard JTAG debugger).

1. Get it from mouser.com. It costs $6.1. but there is a $8 shipping charge. You can combine all other purchases together. The total shipping charge is still $8. I love mouser.com;
2. Go to github search “RV-LINK”, and get the hex file. (you can also build the hex file yourself). It is better to read the readme file;
3. Using an existing programmer(or use a USB DFU software) to write/upload the hex file to the “sipeed longan nano” board;
4. Google “RV-LINK USB driver” or “covert sipeed longan nano to rv-link”, download and install it.

That is it. Now you have another debugger/programmer device.