How To Get Start With XBee On Mac

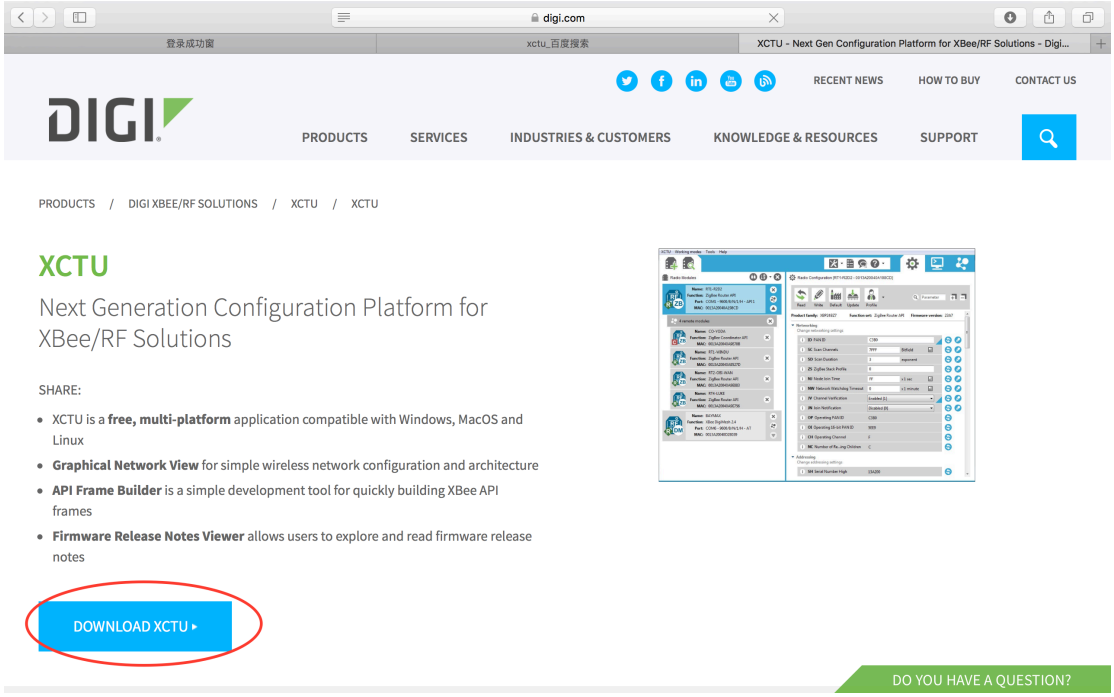
Provided by Ming

I will meanly talk about how to get started and install the software we need to program the XBee. The software we are using is XCTU and CoolTerm.

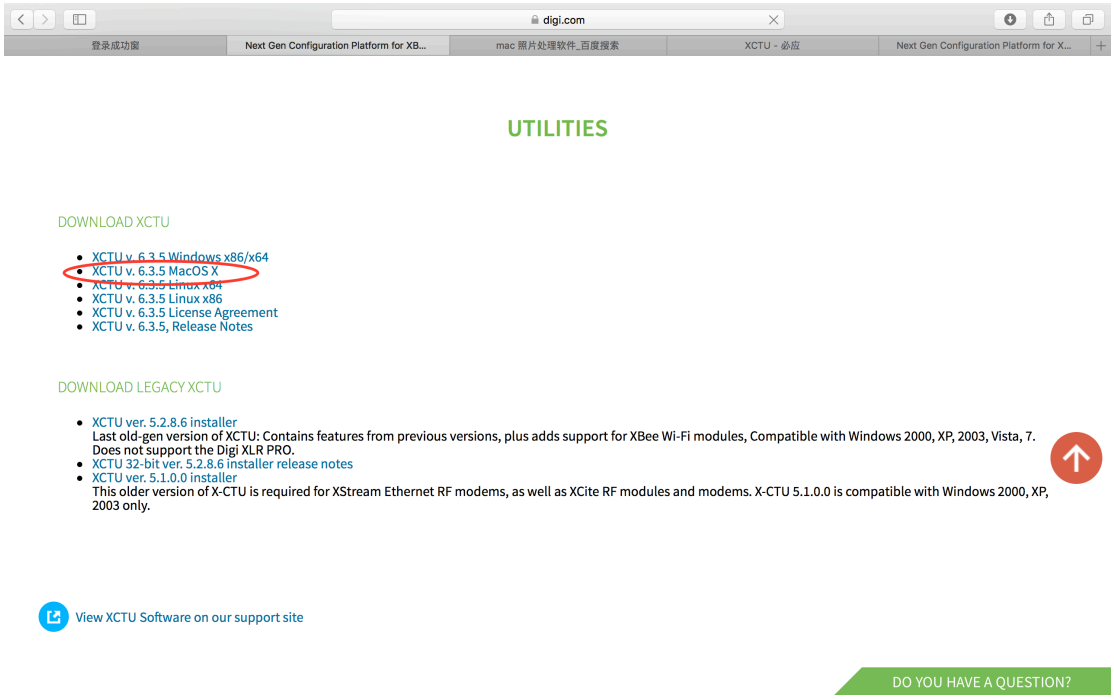
First starts with the XCTU.

XCTU is a software that helps you to configure the sensor and read the data receive by the sensor.

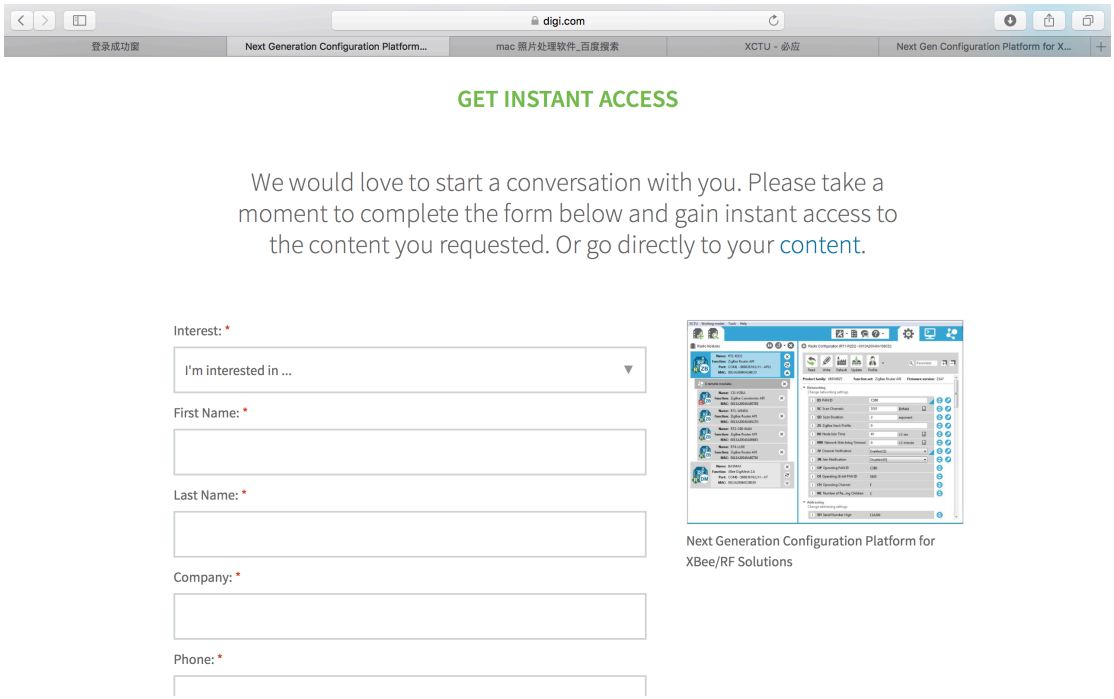
The first step is download the app online of course, which you can find on the official website.



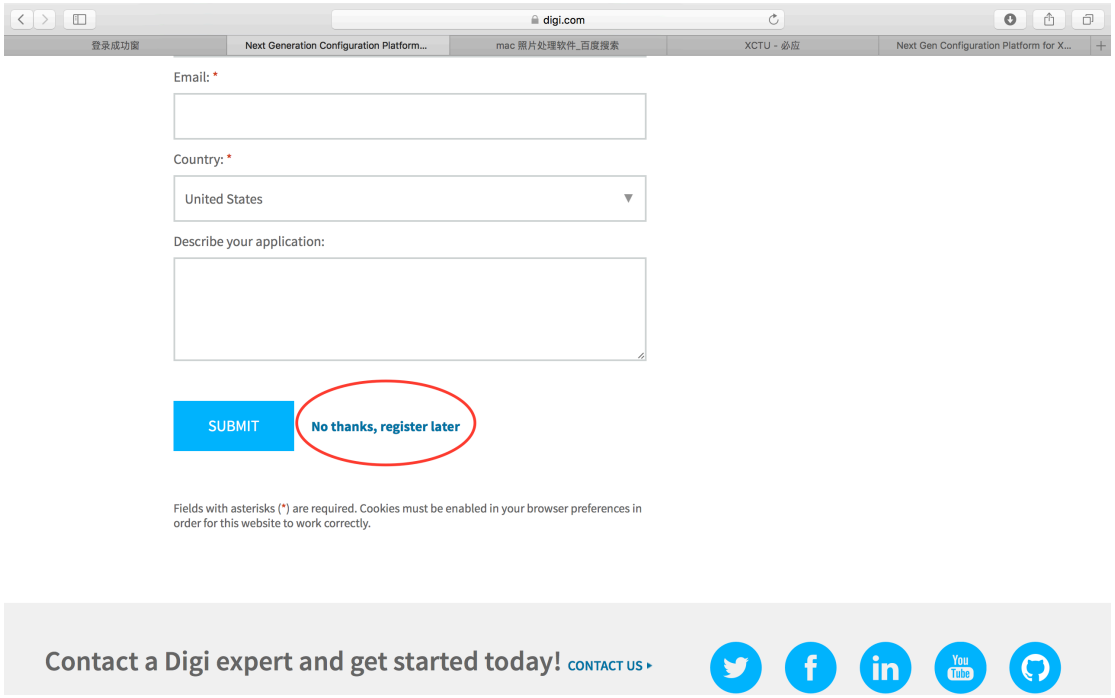
And then we choose Mac



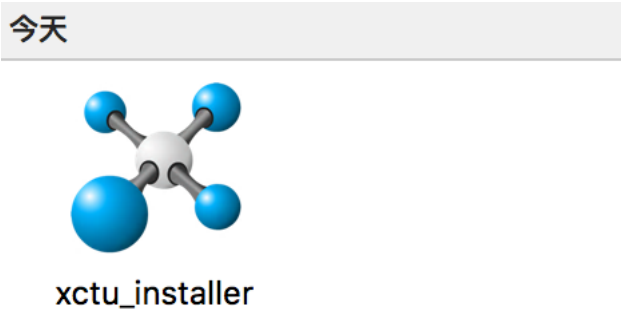
And you go to the download page like this:



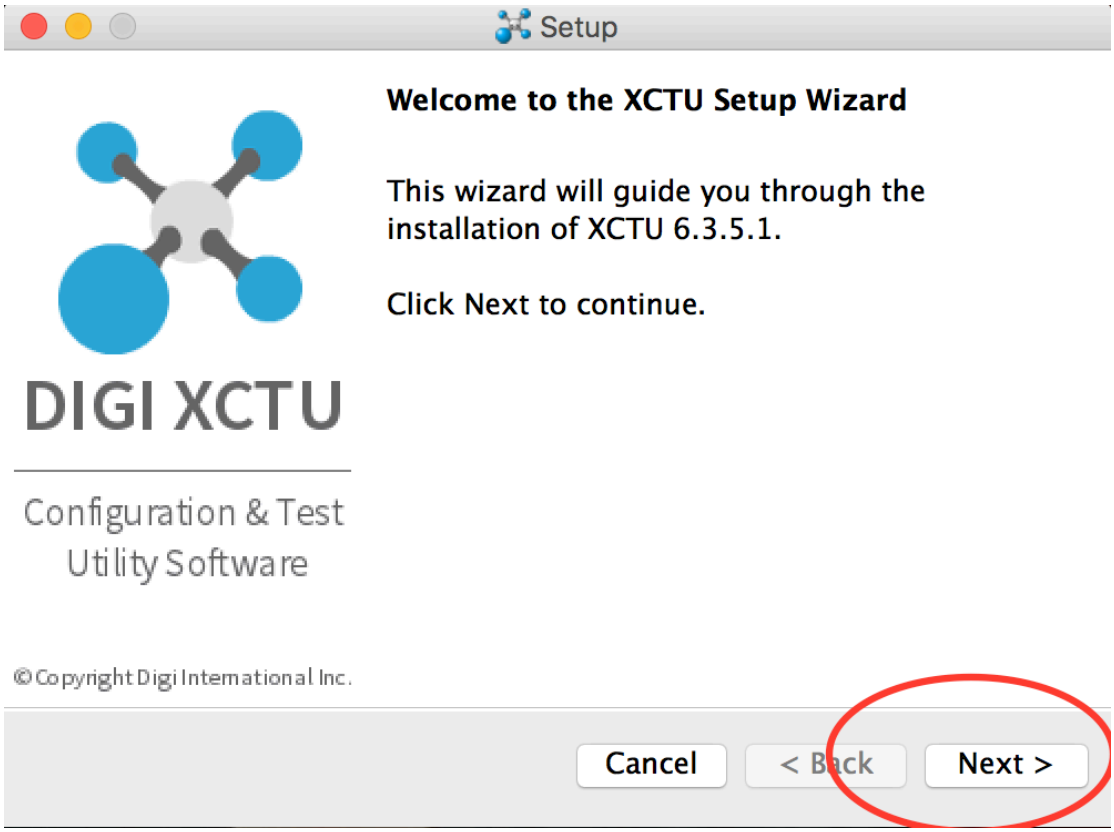
If you don't want to log in just skip and choose register later.



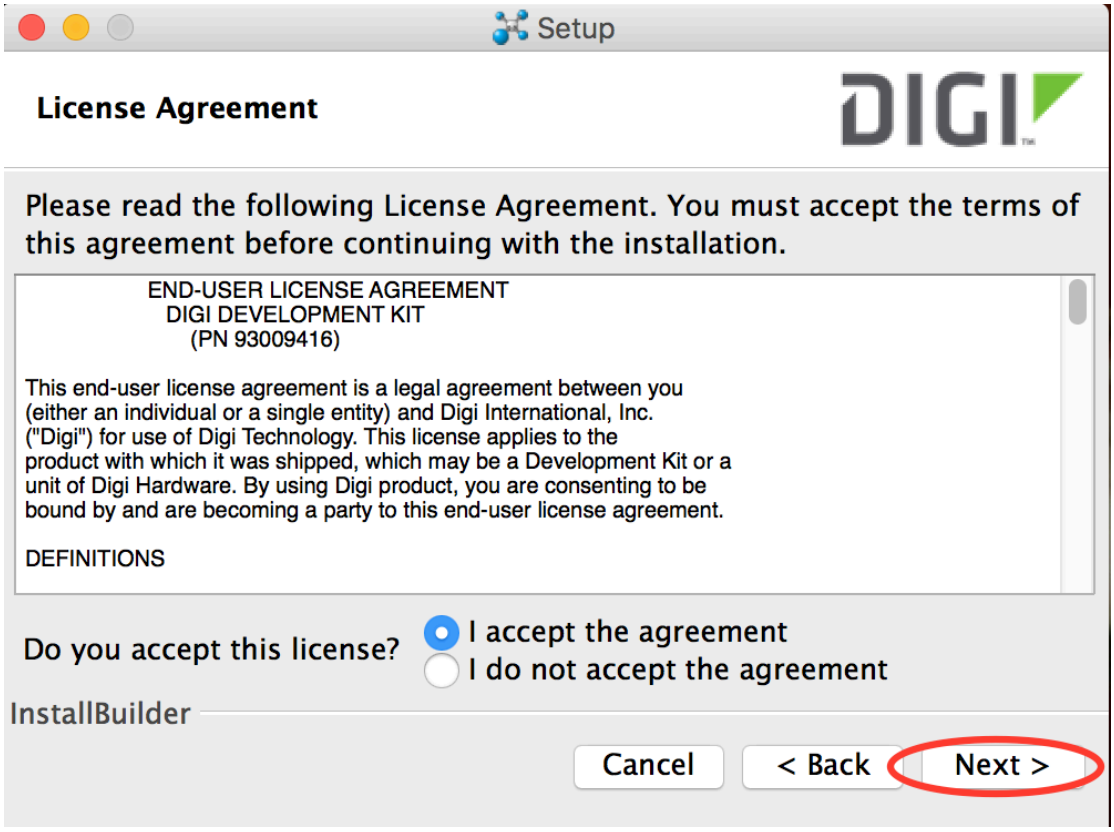
And then the app starts to download, and you can see the logo when it is done.



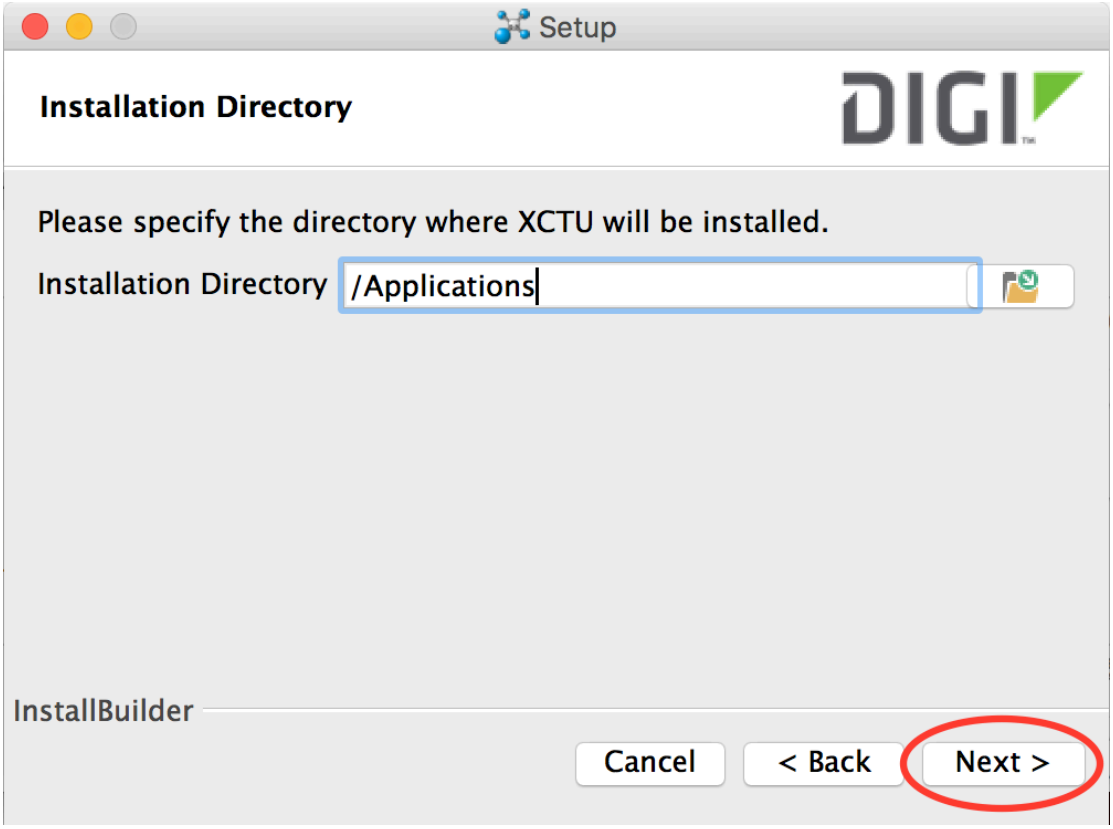
And just start it.



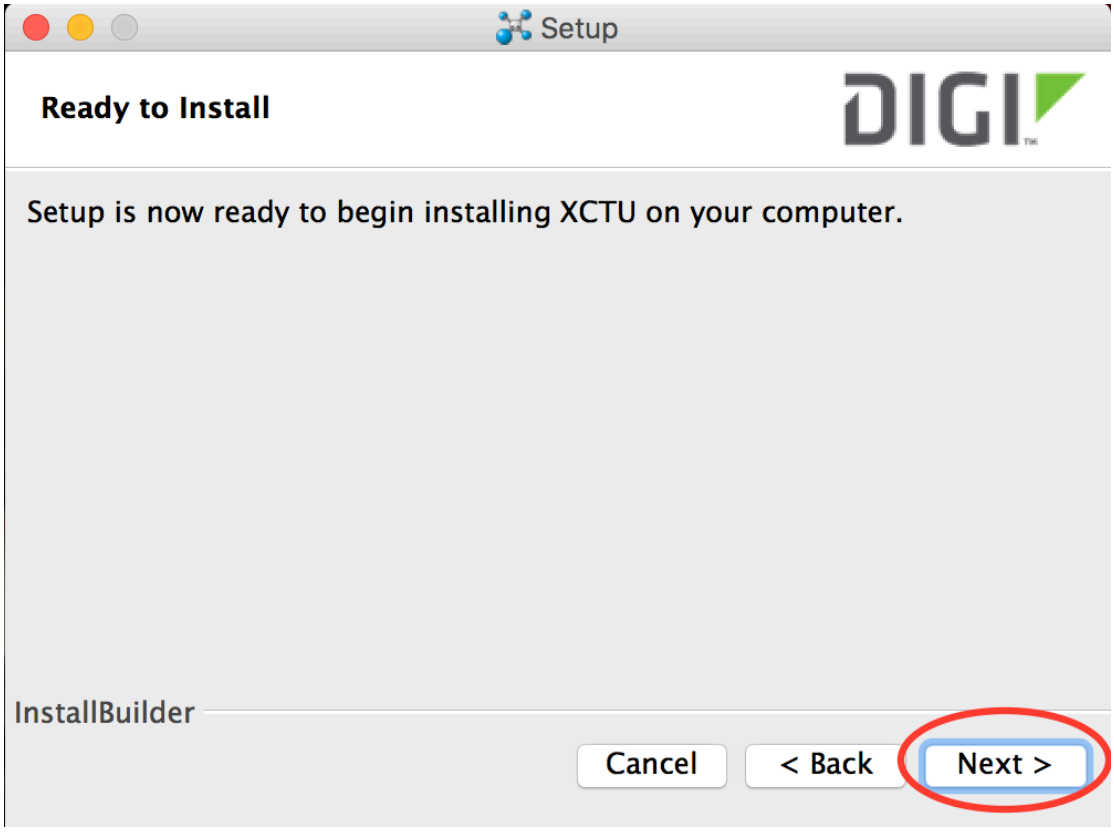
And Next



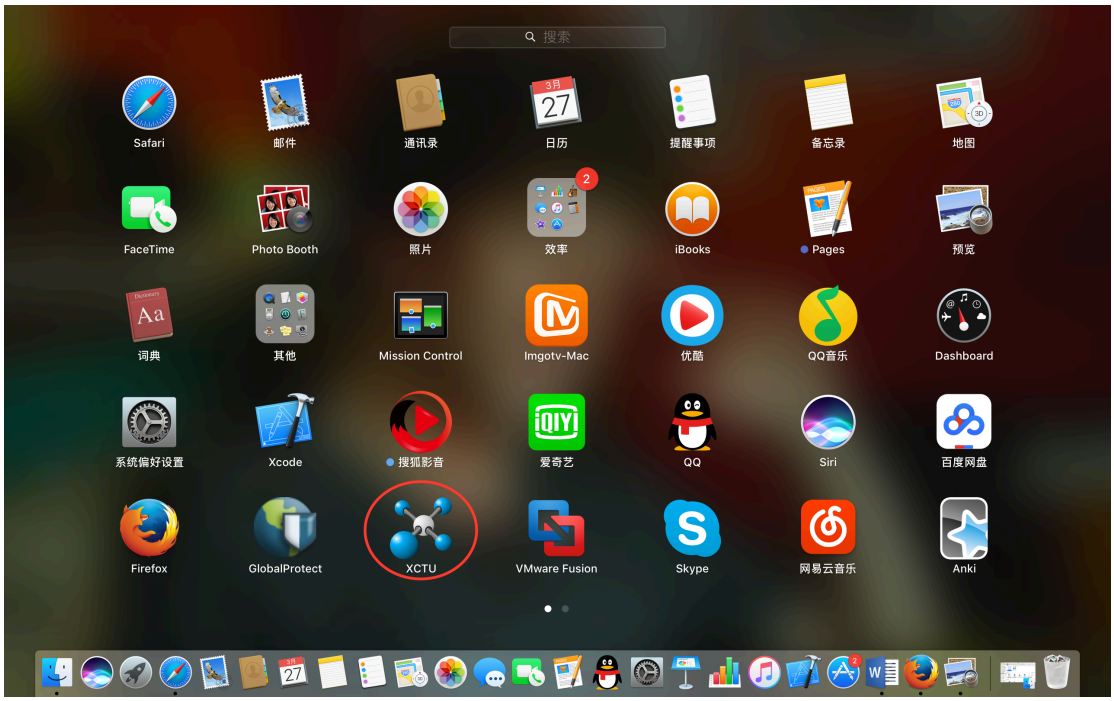
And Next, choosing the place you want to store it.



And press next you can start to install the app.



And you can find it



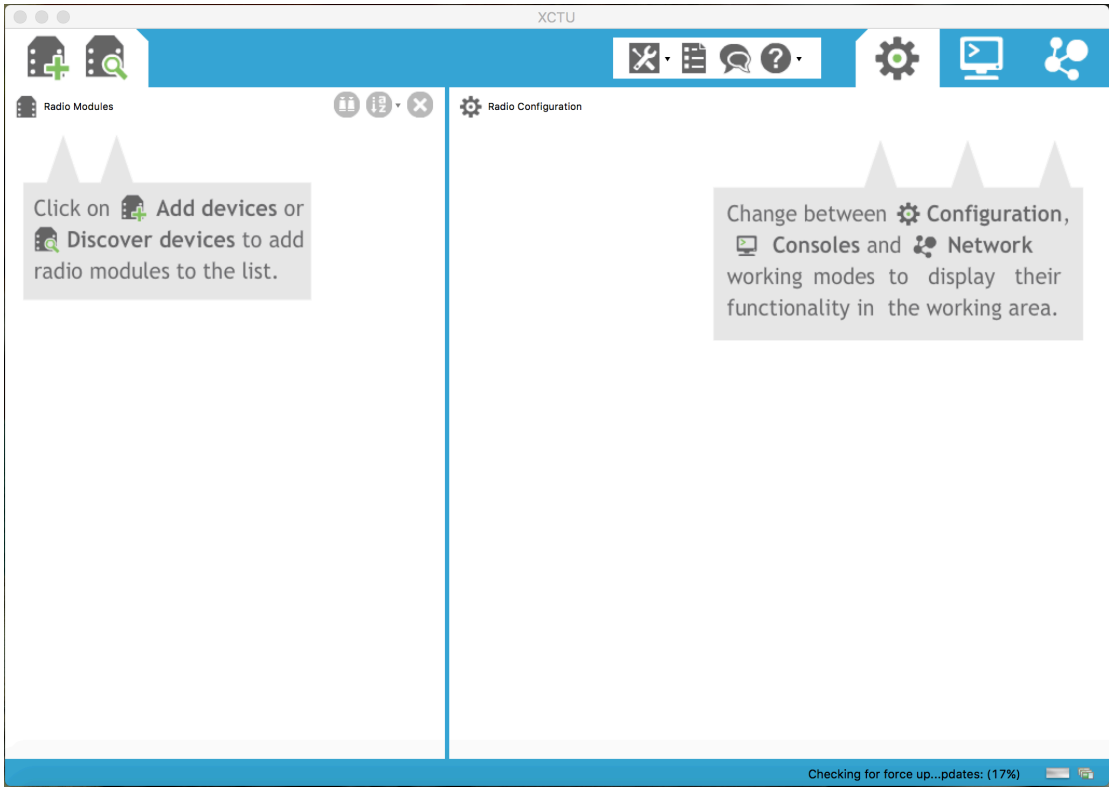
If you can come to a problem that needs to install the older version of Java SE 6, you can download a small program from

https://support.apple.com/kb/DL1572?viewlocale=zh_CN&locale=en_US

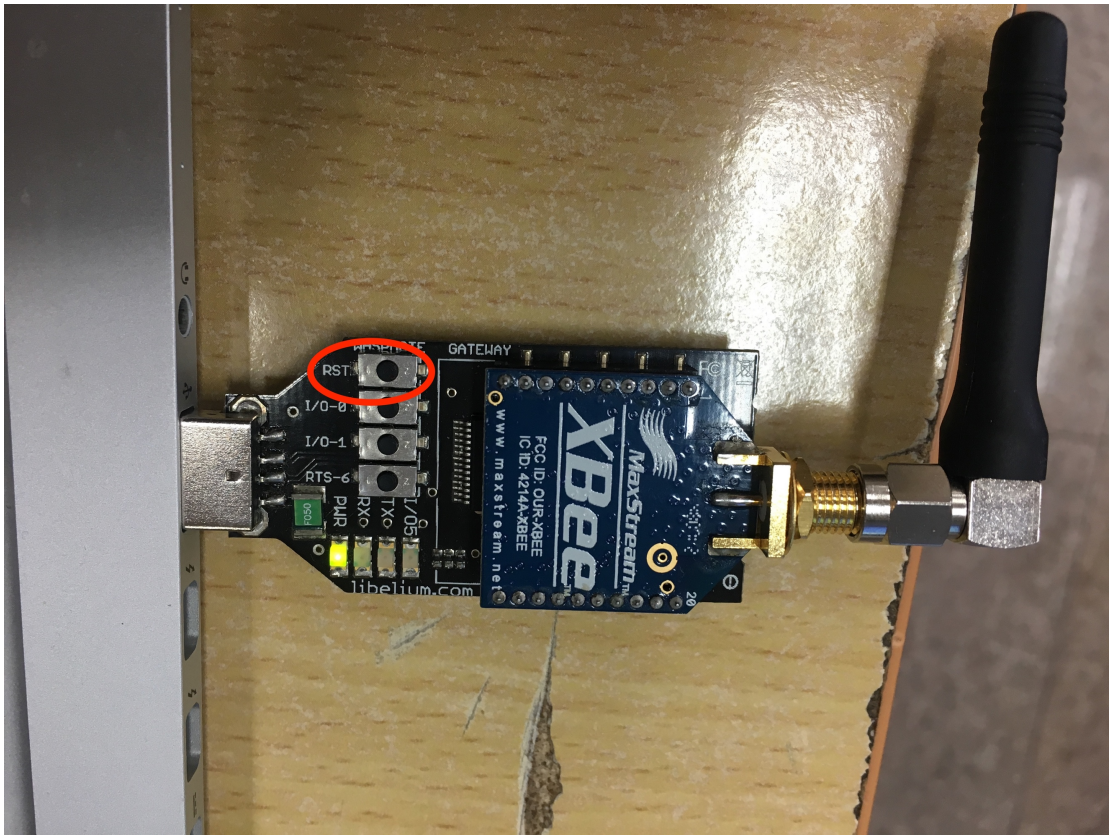
to solve it.

After all these above, you have now successfully install the program.

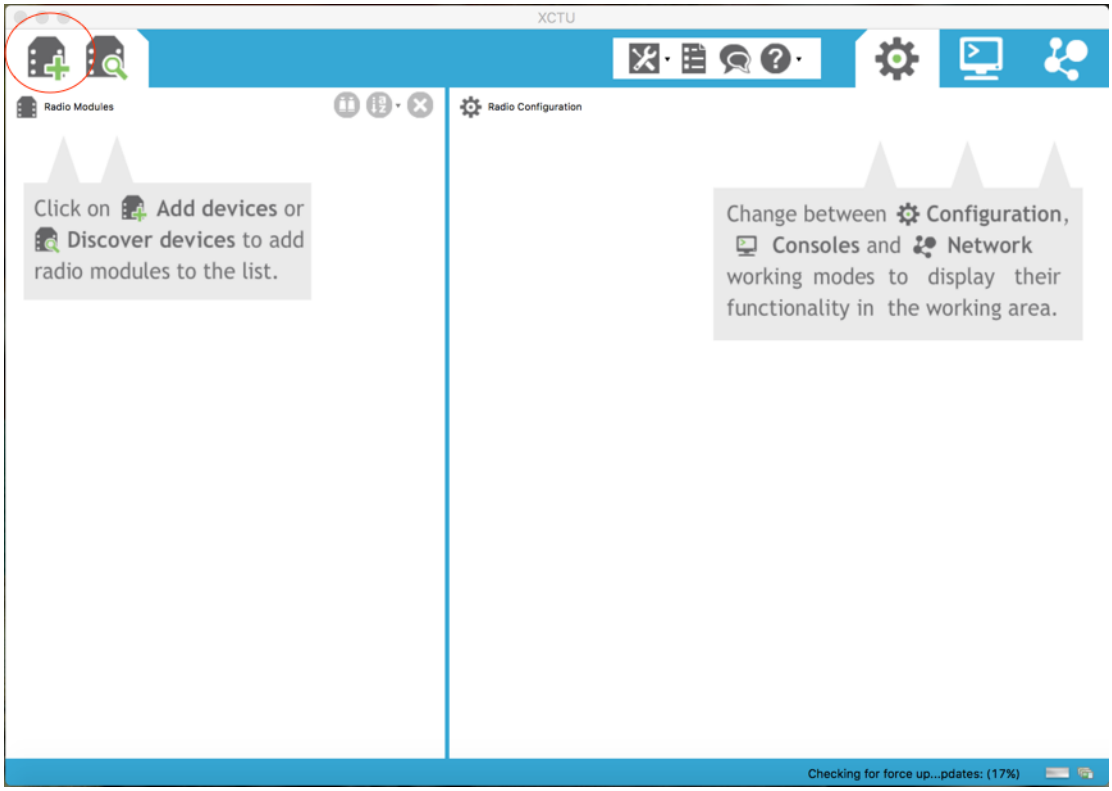
You can see the interface like this



Now we can use it to configure the sensor. The sensor is the blue one with the antenna on the top and the black on below is the board to read it.

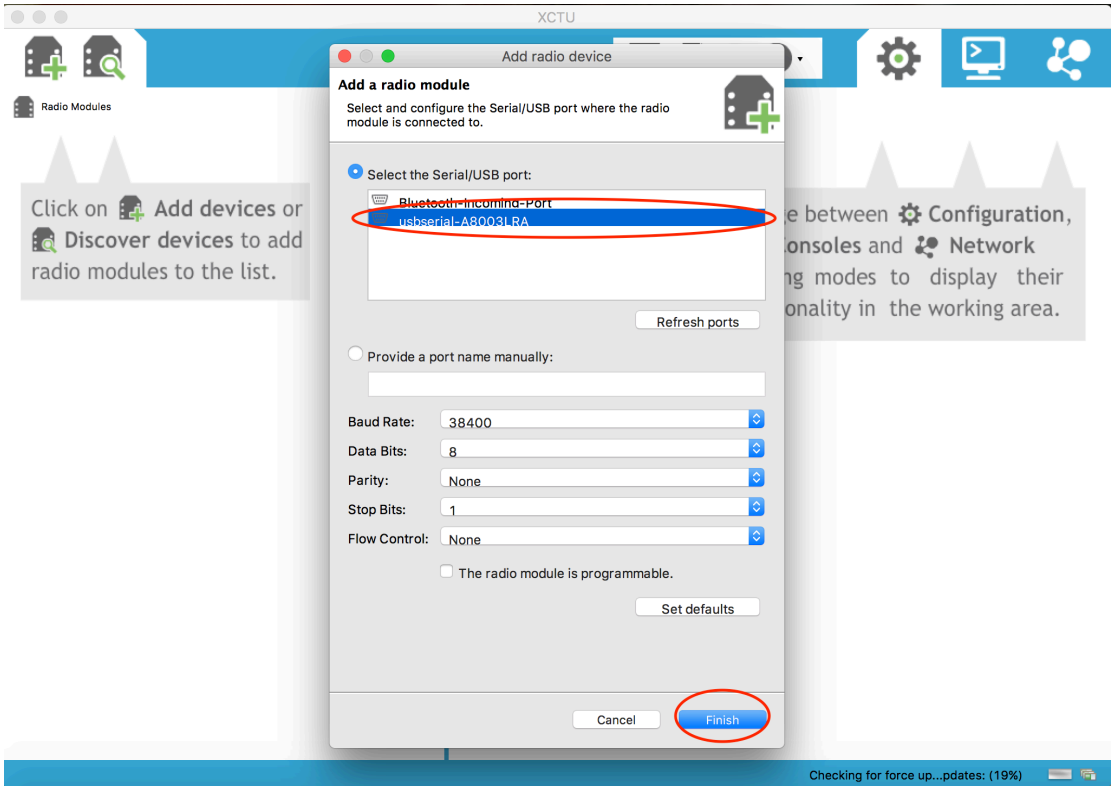


When you connect it to your computer, you can press the button to add the sensor.



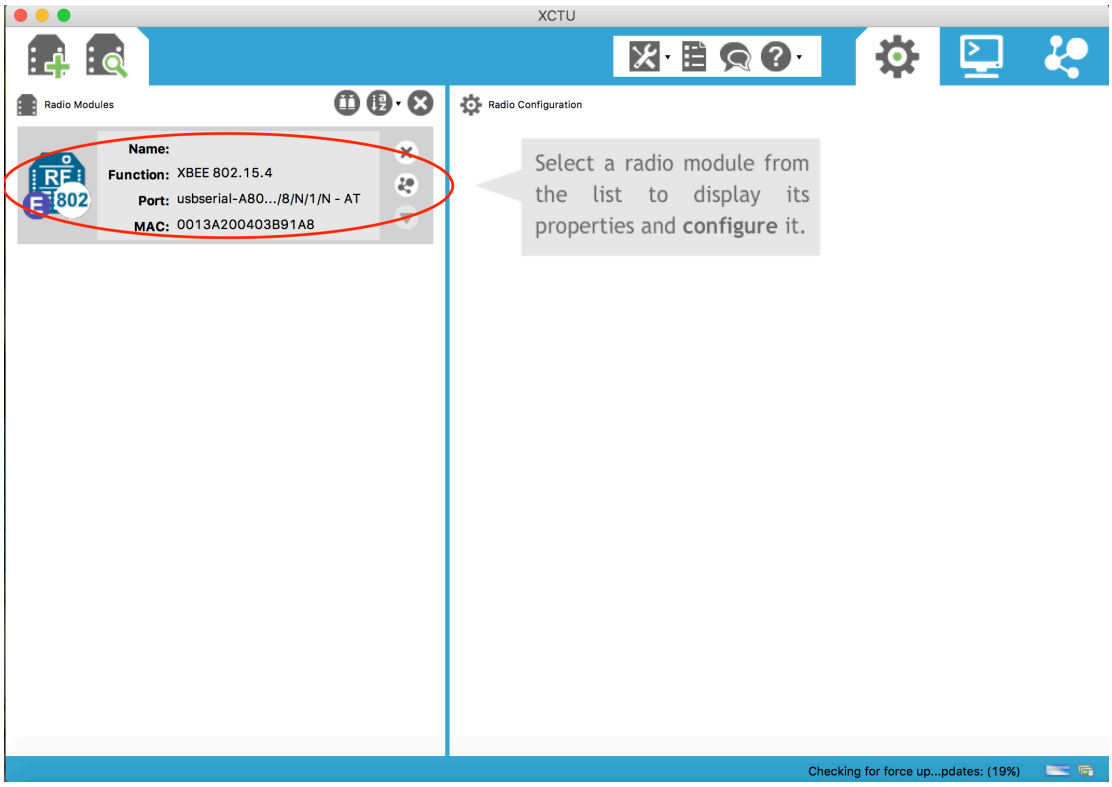
And the you can choose the sensor you want to connect and click finish:

The second useful app is C



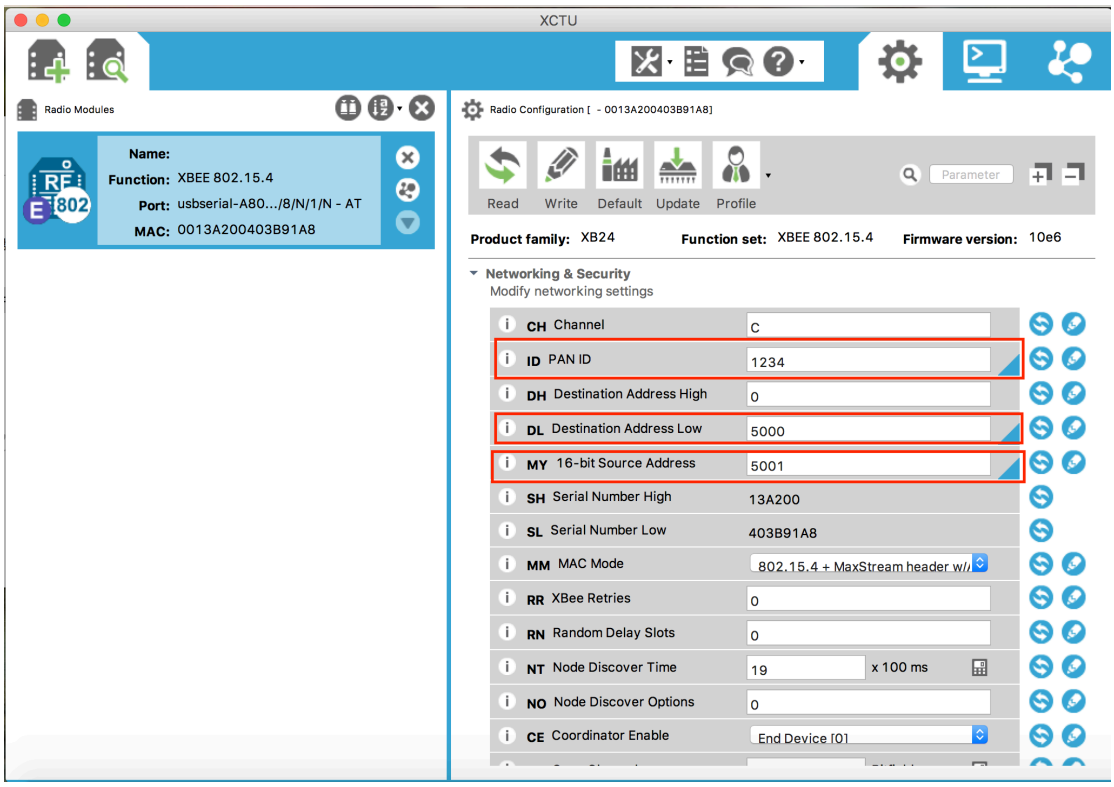
CoolTerm is a software that can both read the data the sensor send and receives,

And then you can see the basic information of the sensor:



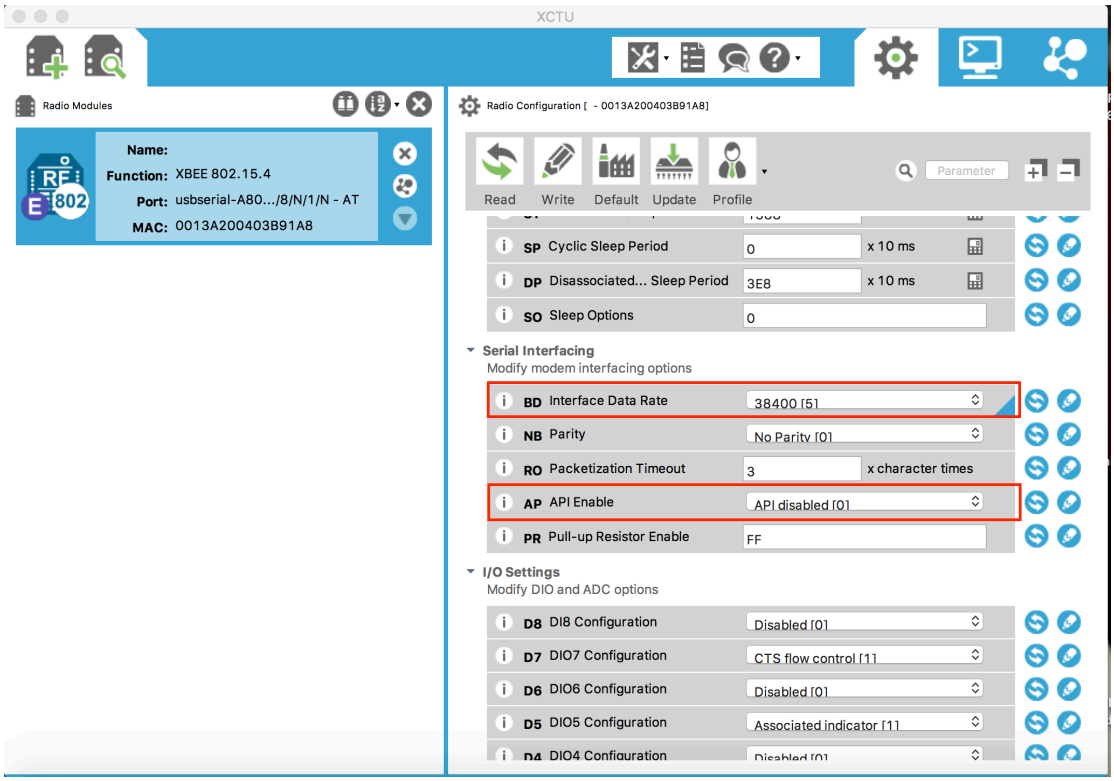
When you press it, you can start to configure the sensor.

If there is warning when you try to connect it, you can try to press RST, which I pointed out at the picture of the senor.

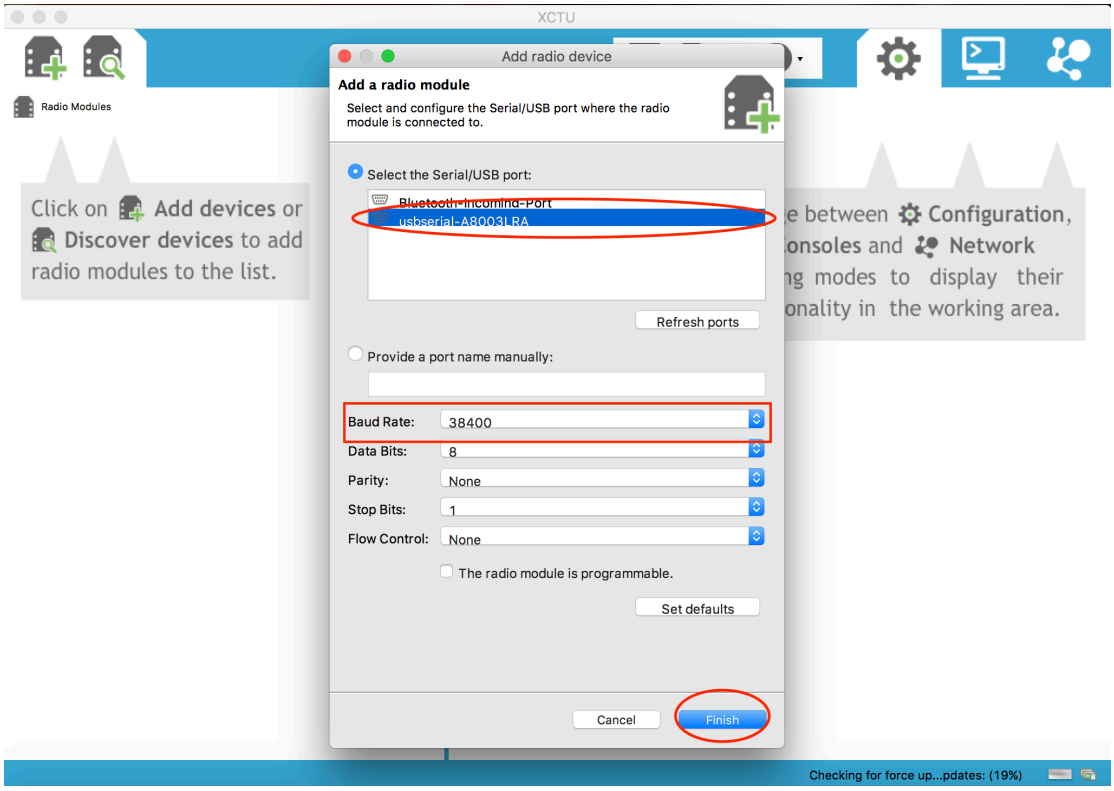


A few important things you need to configure is ID, which is a number you define and the sensors you want to communicate should be in the same channel and with the same ID.

Also, the DL is the sensor you want to send data. MY is you own address.



BD is the band rate of the sensor, they should be set to the same value as the reading rate when you first try to connect it.

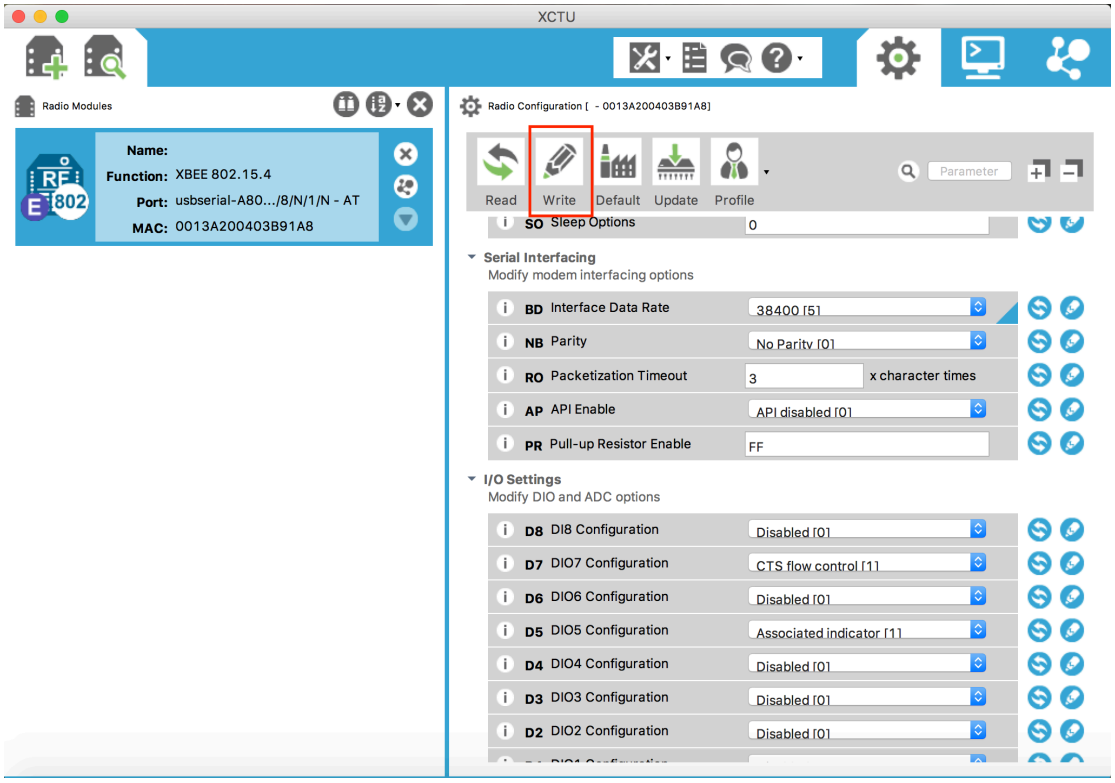


It should be the same with the baud rate above, and all the rate should be the same, or you may get meaningless data.

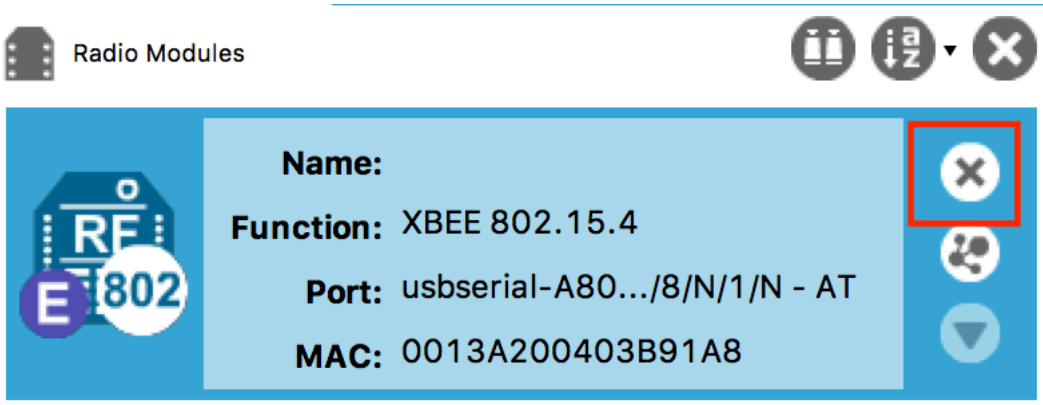
The AP is the type of data transform you use, I chose disable because I only need

two sensor communicating with each other.

After changing the data, you can save the changes by clicking Write:



When you finish you can just click the x when you want to remove the sensor

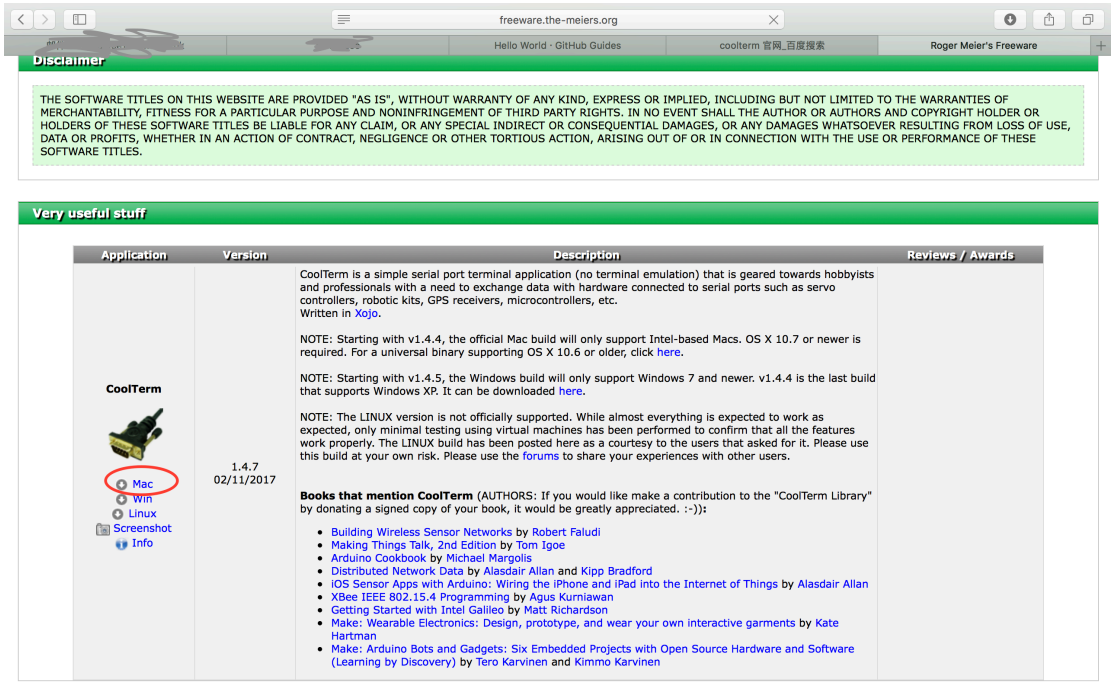


Now the configuration of the sensor has finished.

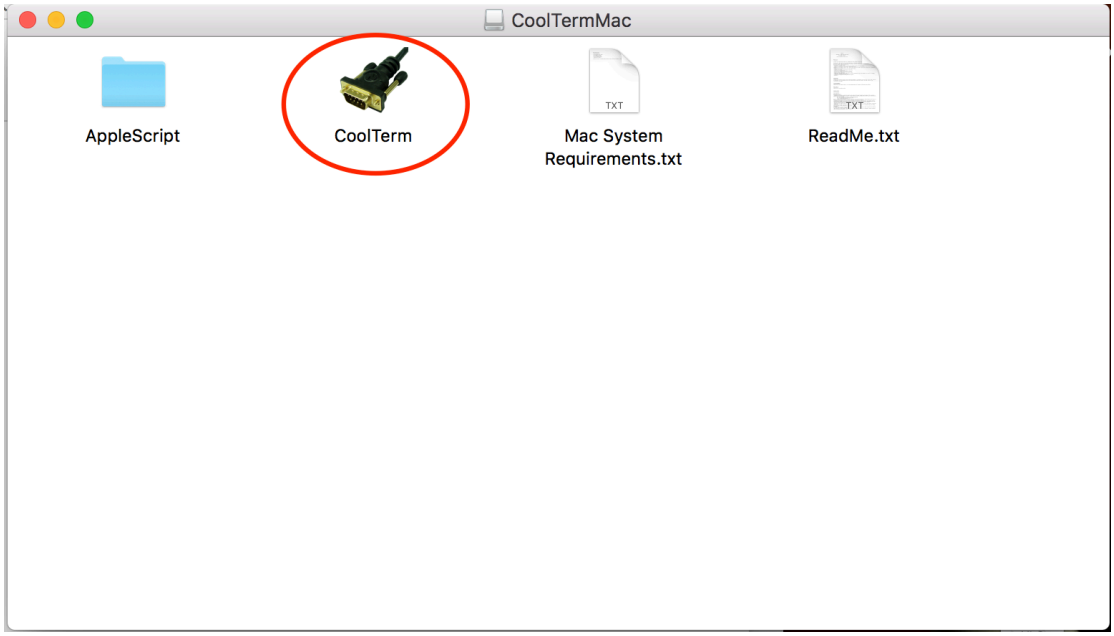
CoolTerm

CoolTerm is a software that can both read the data the sensor sends and receives, it works like a part of the XCTU.

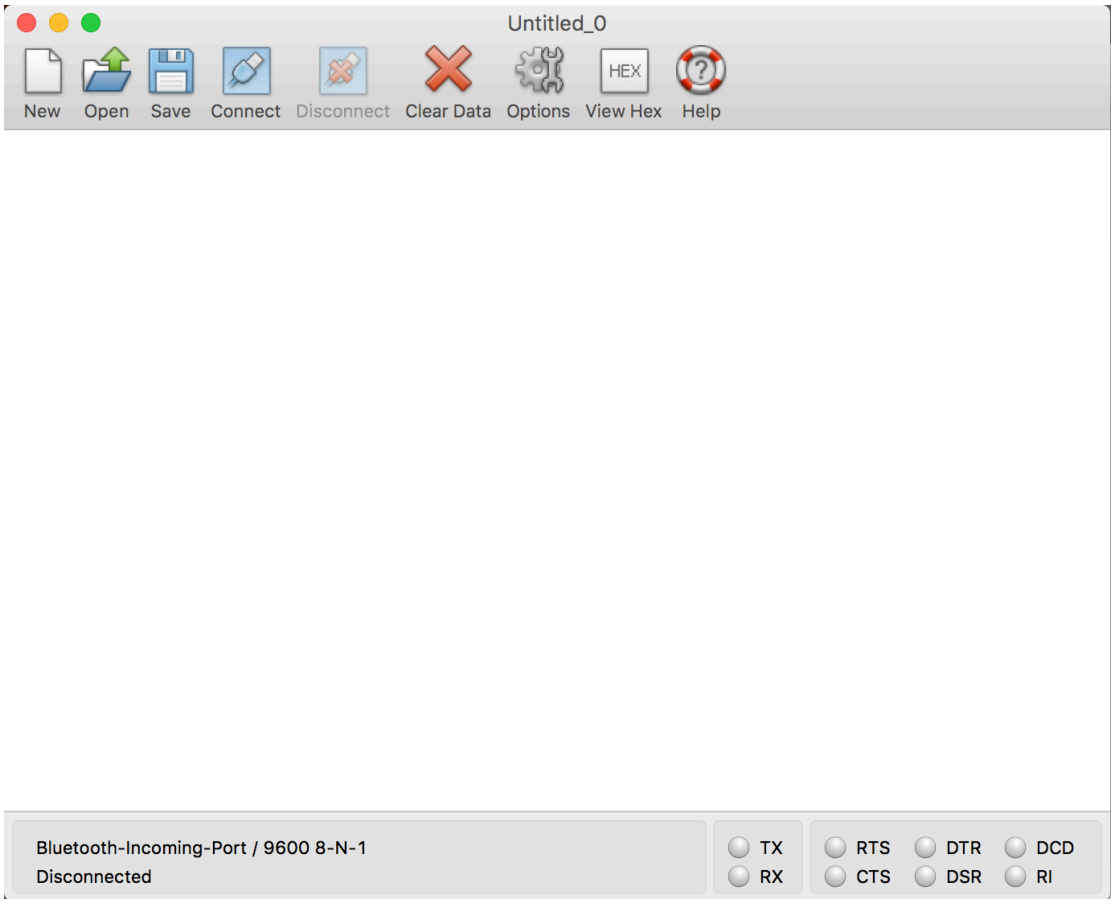
The first thing is find the download page and choose Mac



After downloading and installing you can find a folder with CoolTerm in it.



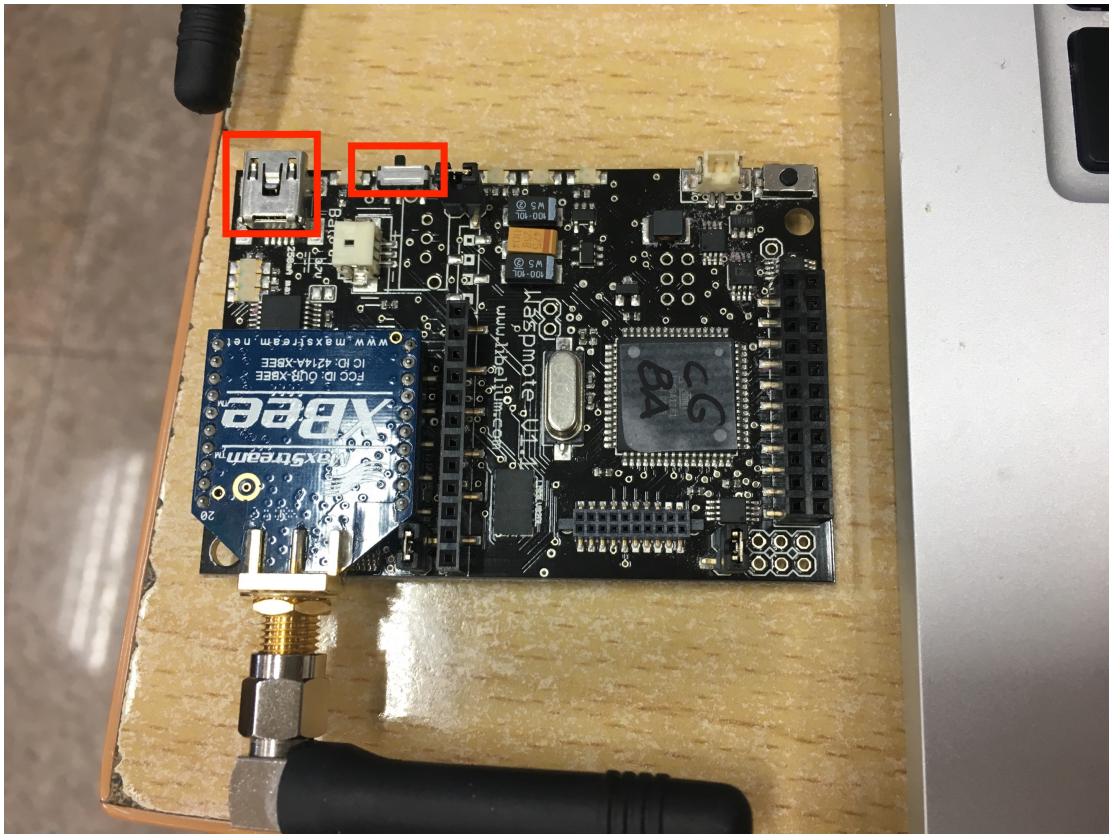
Open it you can see the interface like this



The installation of CoolTerm has finished.

So let’ s get started.

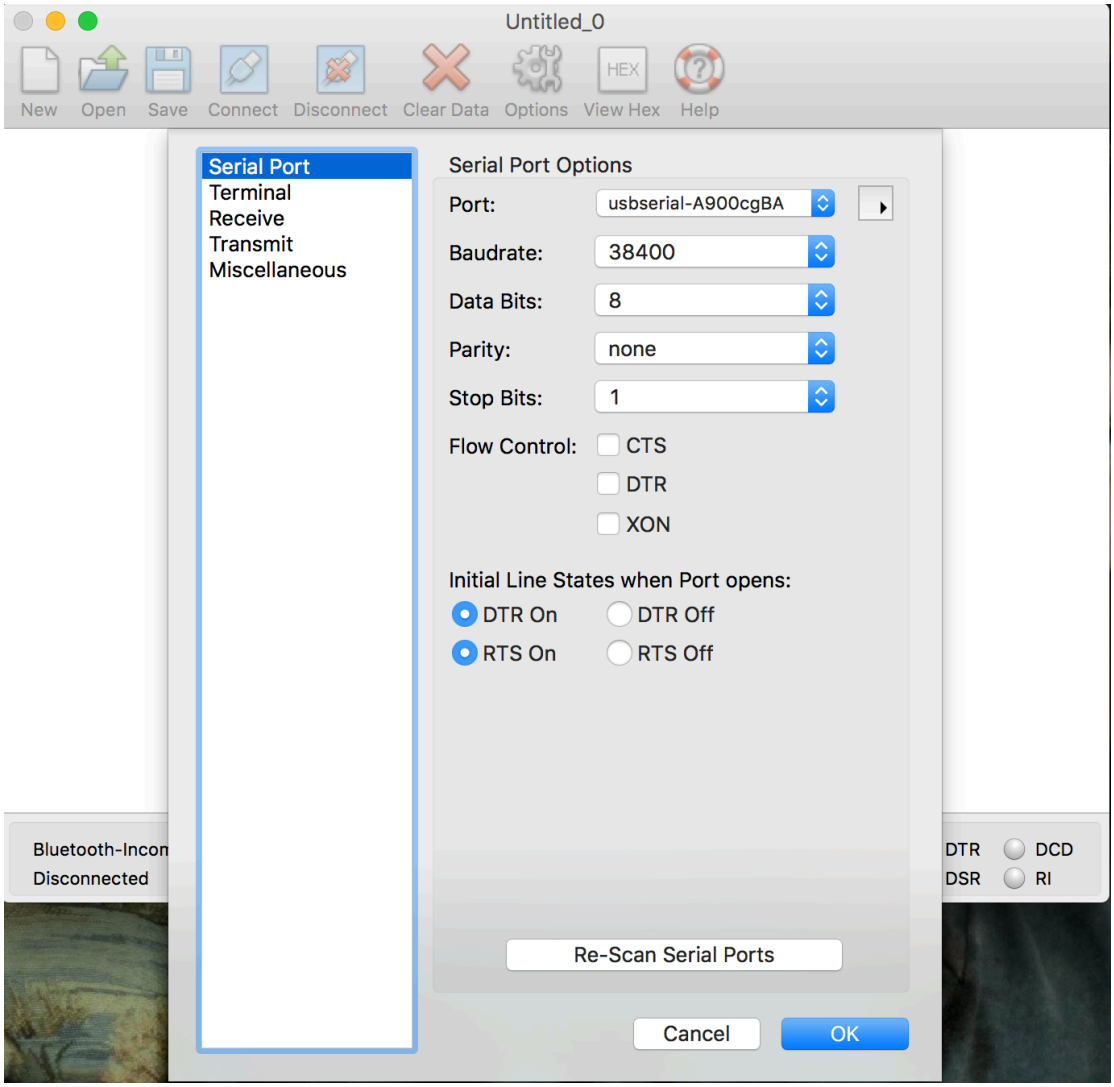
The board I use to collect data is like this:



The red zone on the left is the place to use the cable to connect the data to the computer and the zone on the right is the switch of the board.

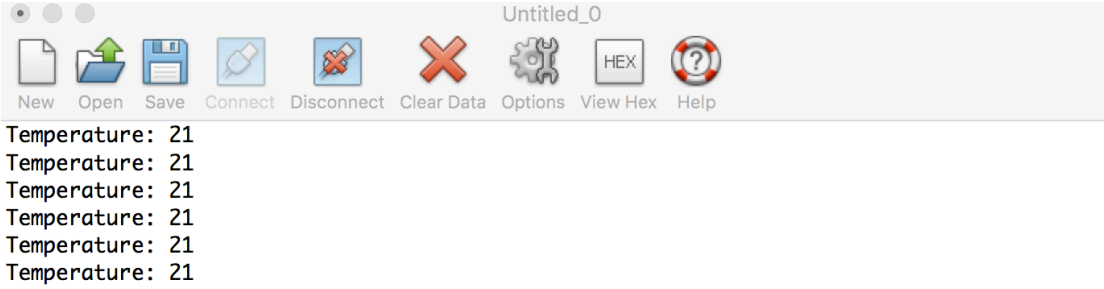
The board I use has the program uploaded already.

Using the CoolTerm to connect the board:

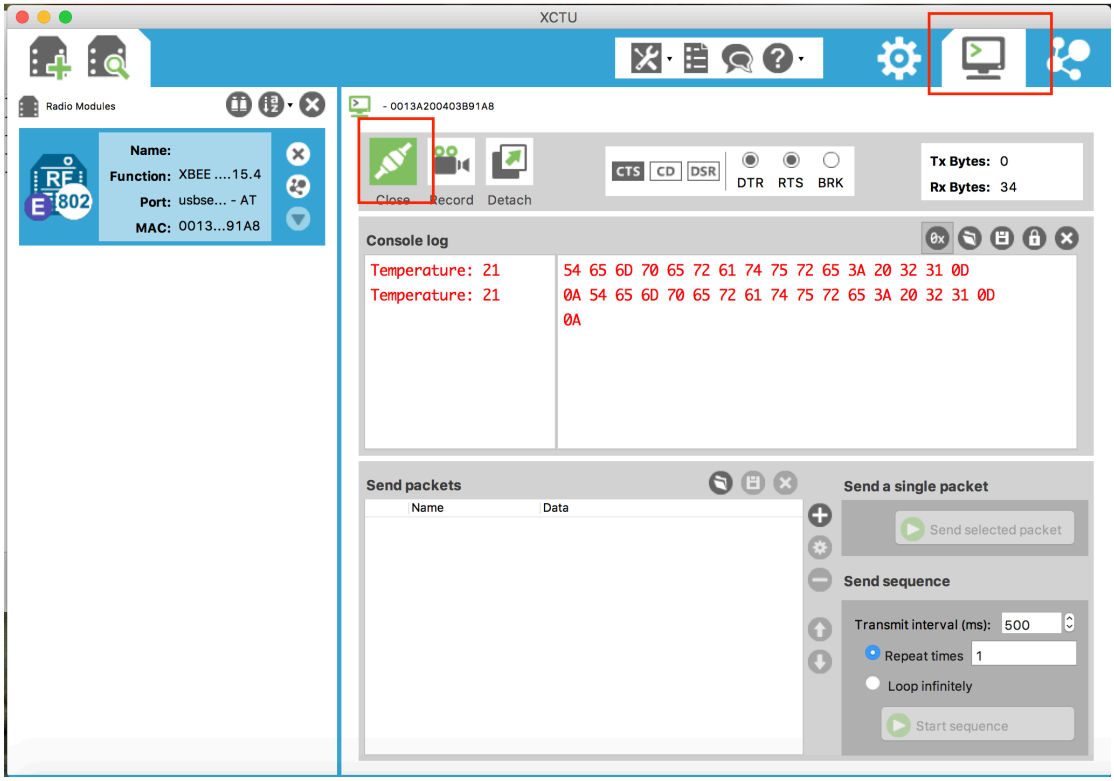


Remember the baud rate should be the same with the baud rate you set for your sensor.

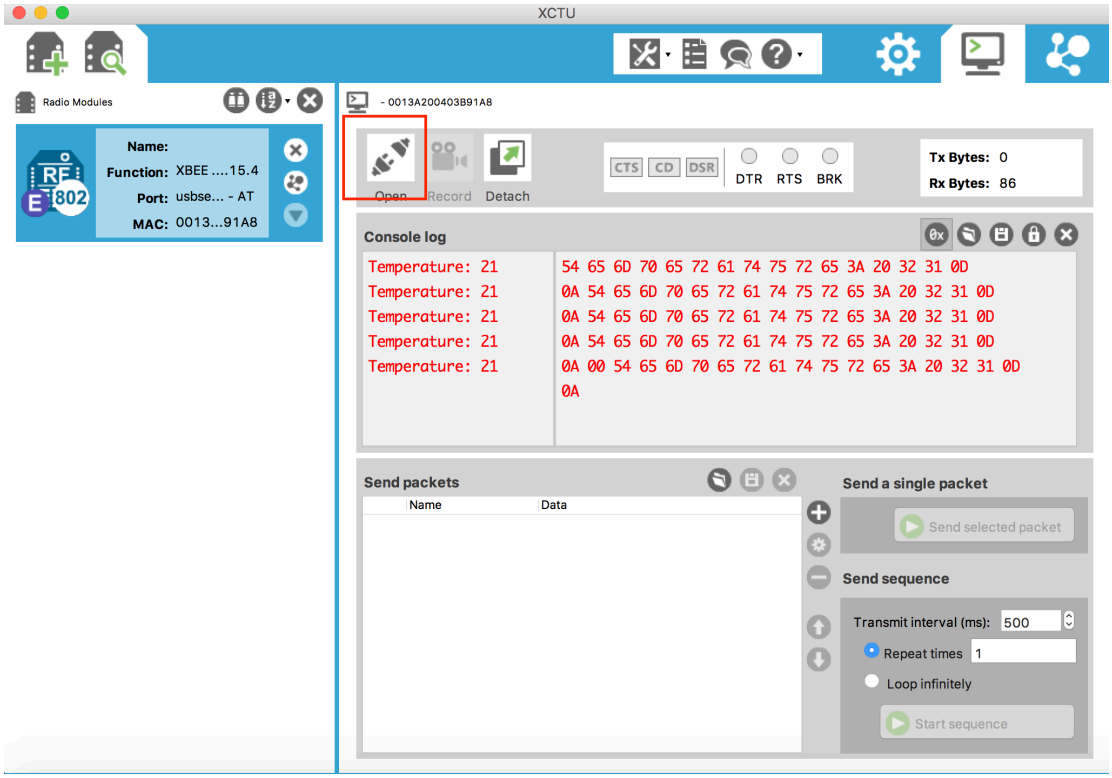
Click OK, you can see the board is sending data by the sensor.



On the other hand, you can connect the sensor by XCTU:



When you choose the sensor you want to connect, you can press the two button I point out to see the data the sensor received.

You can see that the temperature sending and receiving is identical, which means we have successfully transfer data though sensor.

When you finish your work you can just click close.