
Web Development Application Notes

RT-THREAD Document Center

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[Table of contents](#)

Table of contents	i
1 Purpose and structure of this paper	1
1.1 Purpose and Background of this Paper	1
1.2 Structure of this paper	1
2 Introduction to network framework.	1
3 API Introduction.	2
3.1 BSD Socket API.	3
3.2 Create a socket.	3
3.3 Bind a socket (bind)	3
3.4 Listening socket (listen)	4
3.5 Accepting a connection (accept)	4
3.6 Establishing a connection (connect)	5
3.7 TCP data sending (send)	5
3.8 TCP data reception (recv)	6
3.9 UDP data sending (sendto).	6
3.10 UDP Data Receiving (recvfrom)	7
3.11 Close socket (closesocket)	7
3.12 Shutdown the socket as configured (shutdown)	7
3.13 Setting socket options (setsockopt)	8
3.14 Get socket options (getsockopt)	9
3.15 Get remote address information (getpeername)	9
3.16 Get local address information (getsockname)	10
3.17 Configuring socket parameters (ioctlsocket)	10

3.18 Debugging API	10
3.18.1. ifconfig	11
3.18.2. netstate	11
3.18.3. dns	11
4. Preparation.	12
4.1 Hardware connection preparation.	12
4.2 ENV configuration.	13
4.3 Network testing.	20
5 Basic applications.	twenty one
5.1 tcpclient	twenty one
5.1.1. Source Code Parsing	twenty one
5.1.2. Operation Results	twenty four
5.2 udpclient	26
5.2.1. Source code analysis	26
5.2.2. Operation Results	28
6 Advanced Applications.	29
6.1 NTP	30
6.2 MQTT.	31

This application note describes how to use the standardized API to develop network

Network applications.

1 Purpose and structure of this paper

1.1 Purpose and Background of this Paper

More and more single-chip microcomputers need to access Ethernet to send and receive data. There are also many access solutions on the market. You can use a single-chip microcomputer plus a PHY chip with its own hardware protocol stack to access the network, or you can use a single-chip microcomputer running a software protocol stack plus a PHY chip to access the network. Different access solutions require calling different APIs, which reduces the portability of upper-layer applications.

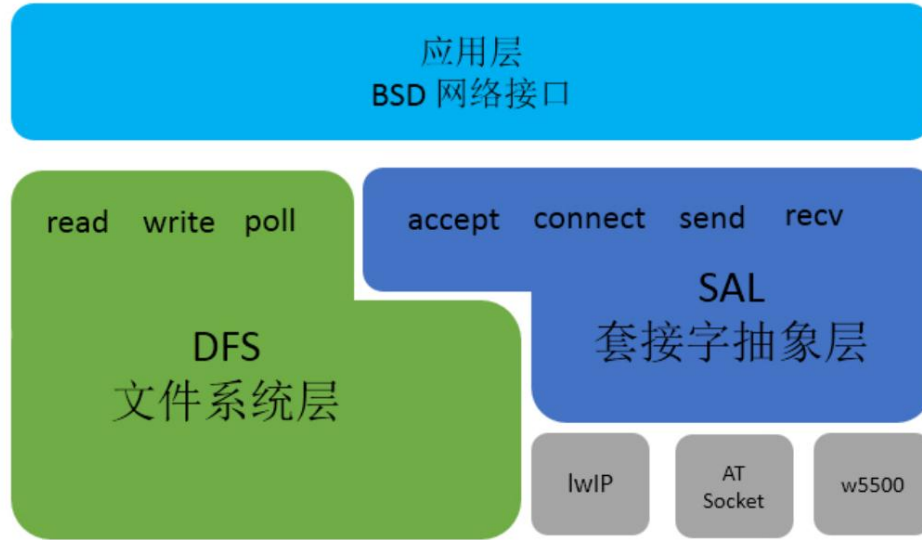
To facilitate user development of network applications, RT-Thread introduces a network framework and provides standardized API interfaces for developing network applications. RT-Thread also provides a rich number of network component packages to facilitate users to quickly develop their own applications.

1.2 Structure of this paper

This article first introduces the RT-Thread network framework and standardized APIs. Then, it introduces the basic applications implemented using these APIs: TCP client and UDP client. Finally, it introduces the network component package provided by RT-Thread and provides code examples for running NTP (obtaining time over the network) and MQTT (sending and receiving data via MQTT) on the Zhengdian Atom STM32F4 Explorer development board.

2 Network Framework Introduction

RT-Thread provides a network management framework, as shown in the network framework diagram:

Figure 1: `sal_frame`

The top layer is the network application layer, which provides a set of standard BSD Socket APIs, such as `socket`, `connect` and other functions.

Most network development applications in the system.

The second part is the file system layer. In the RT-Thread system, the DFS file system program can use standard interface functions to implement various file system operations. The network socket interface also supports the file system structure. When using the network socket interface, the network socket descriptor created is centrally managed by the file system, so the network socket descriptor can also use standard file operation interfaces. The file system layer provides interfaces for the upper application layer, such as `read`, `write`, `close`, `poll/select`, etc.

The third component is the socket abstraction layer. Through it, the RT-Thread system can adapt to different network protocol stacks in the lower layer and provide a unified network programming interface to the upper layer, facilitating access to different protocol stacks. The socket abstraction layer provides interfaces to the upper application layer, such as `accept`, `connect`, `send`, and `recv`.

The fourth layer is the protocol stack, which includes several commonly used TCP/IP stacks, such as lwIP, a lightweight TCP/IP stack commonly used in embedded development, and RT-Thread's proprietary AT Socket network functionality. These protocol stacks or network functionality directly interface with the hardware, completing the data conversion from the network layer to the transport layer.

The interface provided by RT-Thread's network application layer is mainly based on the standard BSD Socket API, which ensures that the program Programs can be written and debugged on a PC and then ported to the RT-Thread operating system.

3 API Introduction

3.1 BSD Socket API

BSD Socket (Berkeley Socket) was originally developed by the University of California, Berkeley for Unix systems. Most operating systems implement the Berkeley socket interface, and mainstream programming languages also support the use of BSD Socket. Develop network applications. BSD Socket can be said to be the standard interface for connecting to the Internet.

RT-Thread also implements the BSD Socket interface API, which can be used in other operating systems or programming languages. Network applications implemented with Socket can be run directly in RT-Thread without any modification.

3.2 Creating a socket

```
int socket(int domain, int type, int protocol);
```

Used to allocate a socket descriptor and the resources it uses according to the specified address family, data type, and protocol.

parameter	describe
domain	Protocol family type
type	Protocol Type
protocol	The actual transport layer protocol used
return	describe
0	On success, returns an integer representing the socket descriptor
-1	fail

domain

Protocol family

PF_INET: IPv4

- PF_INET6: IPv6.

type

Protocol Type

- SOCK_STREAM: Reliable connection-oriented service or Stream Sockets
- SOCK_DGRAM: Datagram Sockets
- SOCK_RAW: Raw protocol of the network layer

3.3 Bind Socket (bind)

```
int bind(int s, const struct sockaddr *name, socklen_t namelen);
```

Used to bind the port number and IP address to the specified socket. When using `socket()` to create a socket, only

The protocol family is given, but no address is assigned. Before the socket can accept connections from other hosts, it must use `bind()`

Bind it to an address and port number.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
name	Pointer to the <code>sockaddr</code> structure, representing the address to be bound
namelen	The length of the <code>sockaddr</code> structure
return	describe
0	success
-1	fail

3.4 Listening Sockets (listen)

```
int listen(int s, int backlog);
```

Used by the TCP server to listen for connections on the specified socket.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
backlog	Indicates the maximum number of connections that can be waiting at one time
return	describe
0	success
-1	fail

3.5 Accept Connection

```
int accept(int s, struct sockaddr *addr, socklen_t *addrlen);
```

When the application listens for connections from other hosts, it uses the `accept()` function to initialize the connection .

Each connection creates a new socket and removes the connection from the listen queue.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
addr	Client device address information
addrlen	The length of the client device address structure

parameter	describe
return	describe
0	On success, returns the newly created socket descriptor
-1	fail

3.6 Establishing a connection

```
int connect(int s, const struct sockaddr *name, socklen_t namelen);
```

Used to establish a connection with the specified socket.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
name	Server address information
namelen	The length of the server address structure
return	describe
0	On success, returns the newly created socket descriptor
-1	fail

3.7 TCP data sending (send)

```
int send(int s, const void *dataptr, size_t size, int flags);
```

Send data, commonly used for TCP connections.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
dataptr	Pointer to the data being sent
size	Length of data sent
flags	Flag, usually 0
return	describe
>0	If successful, returns the length of the data sent
<=0	fail

3.8 TCP Data Receiving (recv)

```
int recv(int s, void *mem, size_t len, int flags);
```

Receive data, commonly used for TCP connections.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
mem	Received data pointer
len	Received data length
flags	Flag, usually 0
return	describe
>0	If successful, returns the length of the received data
=0	The destination address has been transmitted and the connection is closed
<0	fail

3.9 UDP Data Sending (sendto)

```
int sendto(int s, const void *dataptr, size_t size, int flags, const struct
sockaddr *to, socklen_t tolen);
```

Send data, commonly used for UDP connections.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
dataptr	Pointer to the data being sent
size	Length of data sent
flags	Flag, usually 0
to	Target address structure pointer
tolen	Target address structure length
return	describe
>0	If successful, returns the length of the data sent
<=0	fail

3.10 UDP Data Receiving (recvfrom)

```
int recvfrom(int s, void *mem, size_t len, int flags, struct sockaddr *from,
socklen_t *fromlen);
```

Receive data, commonly used for UDP connections.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
mem	Received data pointer
len	Received data length
flags	Flag, usually 0
from	Receive address structure pointer
fromlen	Length of receiving address structure
return	describe
>0	If successful, returns the length of the received data
=0	The receiving address has been transmitted and the connection has been closed
<0	fail

3.11 Close Socket (closesocket)

```
int closesocket(int s);
```

Close the connection and release resources.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
return	describe
0	success
-1	fail

3.12 Shutdown the socket according to the settings (shutdown)

```
int shutdown(int s, int how);
```

Provides more permissions to control the socket closing process.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
how	Socket control mode
return	describe
0	success
-1	fail

how

- 0: Stop receiving current data and refuse to receive future data;
- 1: Stop sending data and discard unsent data;
- 2: Stop receiving and sending data.

3.13 Setting Socket Options (setsockopt)

```
int setsockopt(int s, int level, int optname, const void *optval, socklen_t
optlen);
```

Sets the socket mode and modifies socket configuration options.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
level	Protocol stack configuration options
optname	The name of the option to be set
optval	Set the buffer address of the option value
optlen	Sets the buffer length for option values
return	describe
=0	success
<0	fail

level

- SOL_SOCKET: Socket layer
- IPPROTO_TCP: TCP layer
- IPPROTO_IP: IP layer

optname

- SO_KEEPALIVE: Set the keepalive option
- SO_RCVTIMEO: Set the socket data receive timeout
- SO_SNDTIMEO: Set socket data send timeout

3.14 Get Socket Options (getsockopt)

```
int getsockopt(int s, int level, int optname, void *optval, socklen_t *
optlen);
```

Get socket configuration options.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
level	Protocol stack configuration options
optname	The name of the option to be set
optval	Get the buffer address of the option value
optlen	Get the buffer length address of the option value
return	describe
=0	success
<0	fail

3.15 Get remote address information (getpeername)

```
int getpeername(int s, struct sockaddr *name, socklen_t *namelen);
```

Get the remote address information connected to the socket.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
name	Pointer to the address structure of the received information
namelen	Length of the address structure of the received information
return	describe
=0	success
<0	fail

3.16 Get local address information (getsockname)

```
int getsockname(int s, struct sockaddr *name, socklen_t *namelen);
```

Get local socket address information.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
name	Pointer to the address structure of the received information
namelen	Length of the address structure of the received information
return	describe
=0	success
<0	fail

3.17 Configuring socket parameters (ioctlsocket)

```
int ioctlsocket(int s, long cmd, void *arg);
```

Sets the socket control mode.

parameter	describe
s	Socket descriptor
cmd	Socket operation commands
arg	Parameters of the operation command
return	describe
=0	success
<0	fail

cmd

- FIONBIO: Enable or disable the non-blocking mode of the socket. The arg parameter is 1 to enable non-blocking mode and 0 to disable non-blocking mode.
- block.

3.18 Debugging API

Here are three network information viewing commands provided by RT-Thread. It is very convenient to enter the command in the shell
Check the network connection status to facilitate user debugging.

3.18.1. ifconfig

ifconfig can print out the board's current network connection status, IP address, gateway address, DNS and other information.

```
msh />ifconfig
network interface: e0 (Default)
MTU: 1500
MAC: 00 04 9f 05 44 e5
FLAGS: UP LINK_UP ETHARP
ip address: 192.168.12.127
gw address: 192.168.10.1
net mask : 255.255.0.0
dns server #0: 192.168.10.1
dns server #1: 223.5.5.5
msh />
```

Figure 2: an010_ifconfig

3.18.2. netstate

netstate can print out all TCP/IP connection information of the board

```
Active PCB states:
#0 192.168.12.186:49153 <==> 139.196.135.135:1883 snd_nxt 0x00001
AEA rcv_nxt 0x9D4D8F35 state: ESTABLISHED
Listen PCB states:
TIME-WAIT PCB states:
Active UDP PCB states:
#0 4 0.0.0.0:68 <==> 0.0.0.0:67
msh />
```

Figure 3: an011_netstate

3.18.3. dns

dns can print the dns server address currently in use, and also enter the dns server IP address to manually set dns

Server address

```
msh />dns
dns server #0: 192.168.10.1
dns server #1: 223.5.5.5
msh />dns 114.114.114.114
dns : 114.114.114.114
msh />dns
dns server #0: 114.114.114.114
dns server #1: 223.5.5.5
msh />
```

Figure 4: an011_dns

4. Preparation

- [Prepare RT-Thread source code](#) • [Prepare](#)

- [ENV](#) • A development

- board that can access the Internet. Here we use the Zhengdian Atom STM32F4 Explorer development board as an example. •

- Port the underlying network driver. For driver porting, refer to the Network Protocol Stack Driver Porting Notes. • Network

- debugging tools

4.1 Hardware Connection Preparation

The DHCP function is enabled by default in RT-Thread's BSP. A DHCP server is required to assign IP addresses. Common connection extensions are shown in the figure:

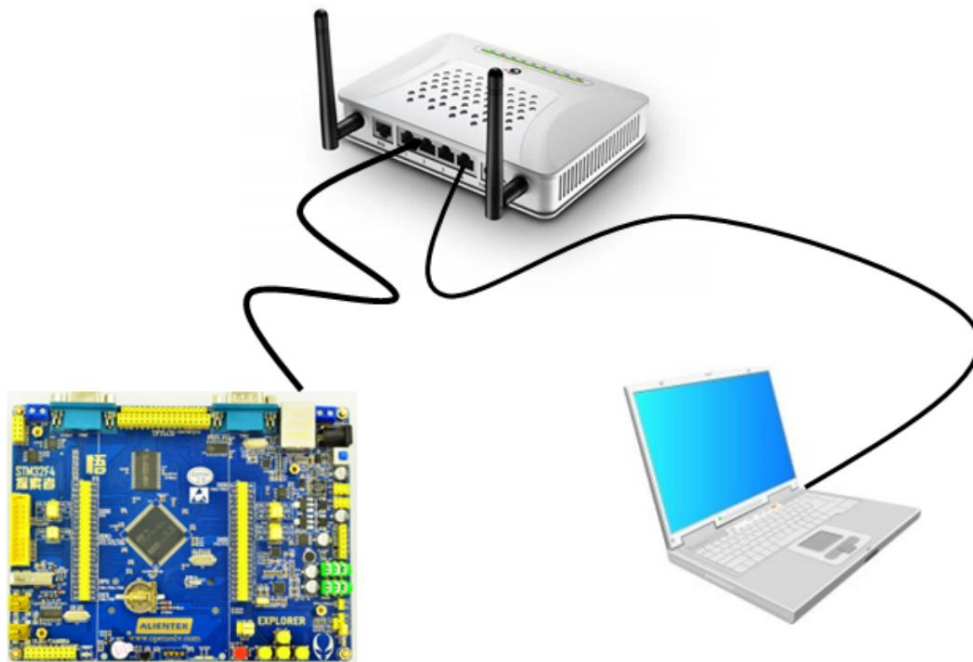


Figure 5: *eth_RJ45*

If there is no convenient actual environment, you can also configure a fixed IP through ENV first, and then connect directly to the debugger with a network cable. Trial computer.

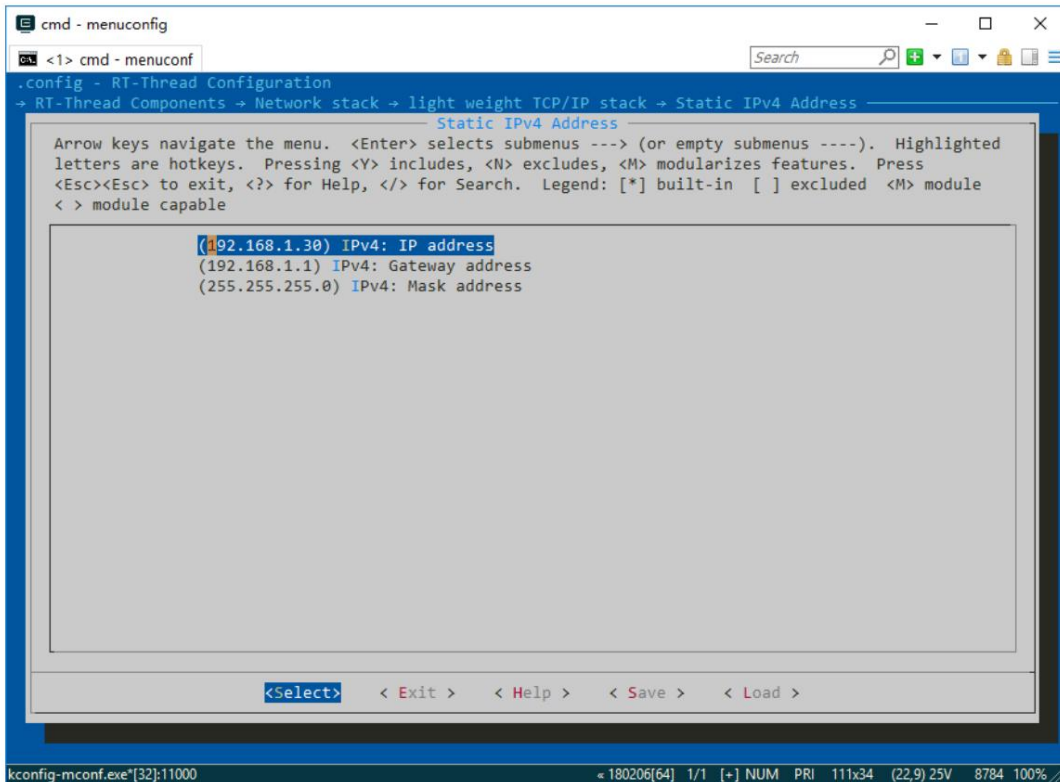


Figure 6: iParess

The computer and development board need to be set to the same IP address segment.

4.2 ENV Configuration

RT-Thread can easily configure and generate projects through ENV

- Open env and go to the [rt-thread/bsp/stm32f40x](#) directory • Enter set `RTT_CC=keil`

in the env command line to set the toolchain type to keil • Enter `menuconfig` in the env command line to enter

the configuration interface • In the RT-Thread Kernel -> Kernel Device object page,

modify the console output to be drawn for your own board

Serial port number

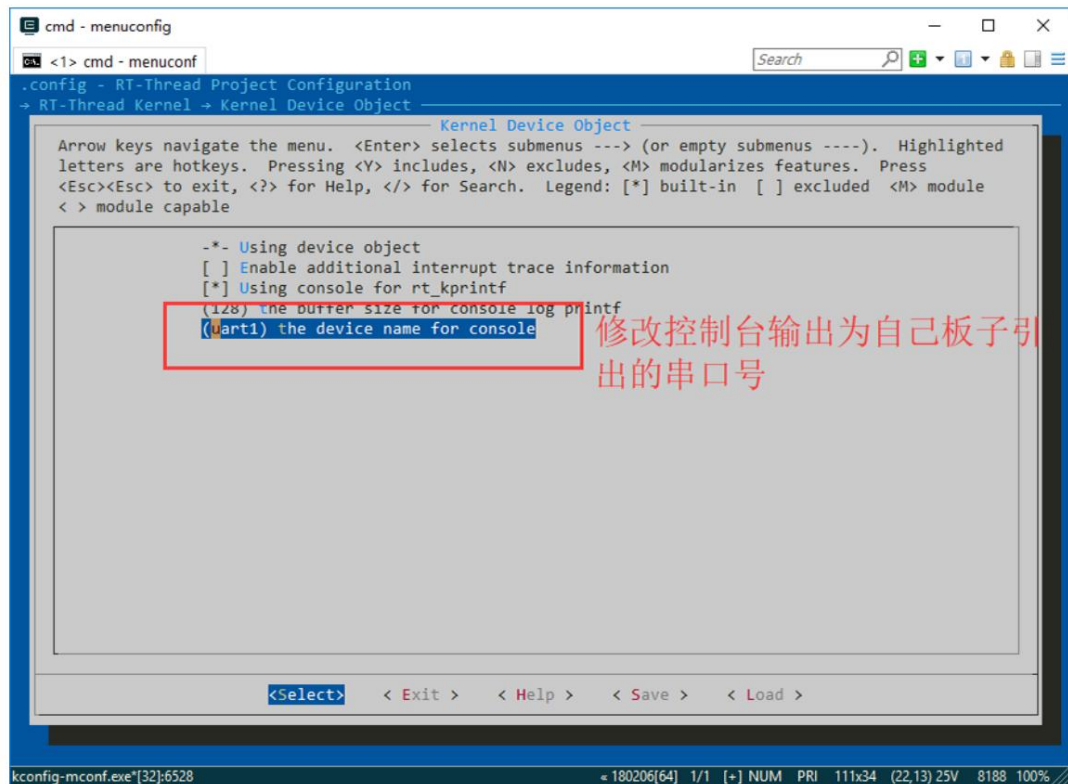


Figure 7: ENV_uart

- Check the maximum number of open files on the RT-Thread Components -> Device virtual file system page
Is it less than 16? If so, increase the value.

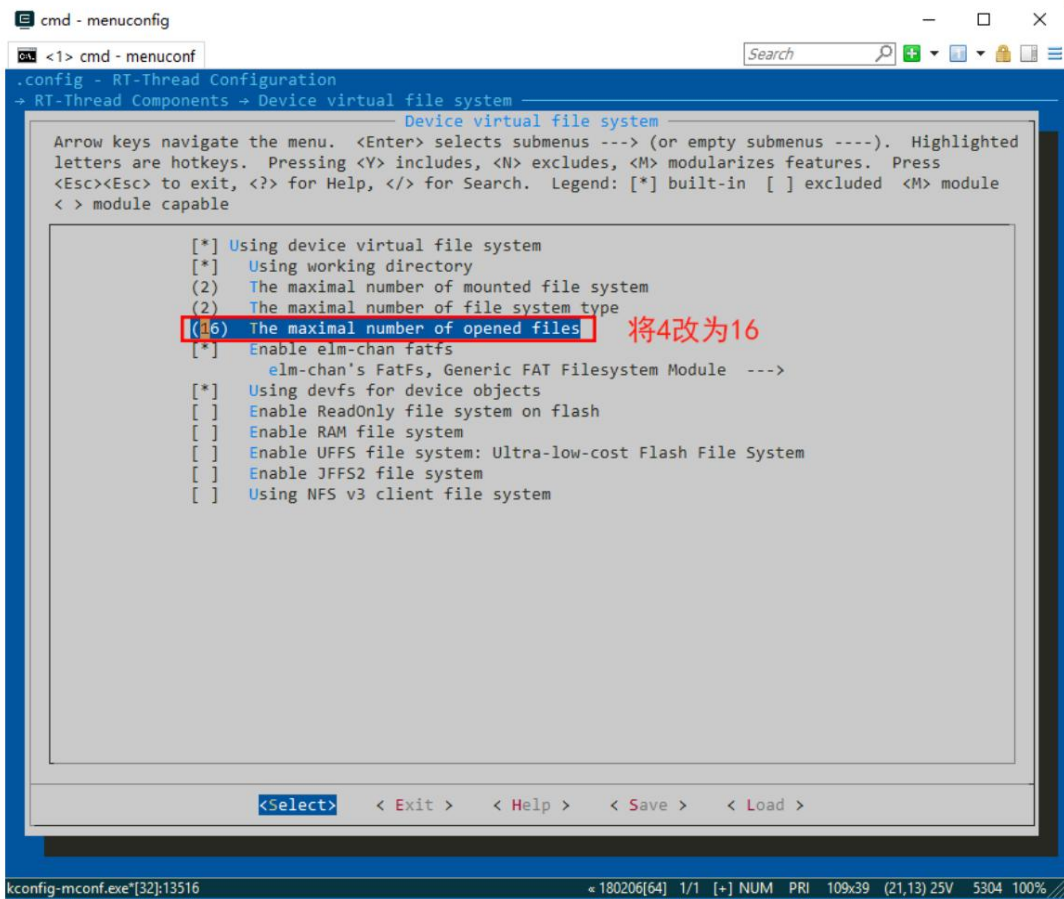


Figure 8: menuconfig_filesystem

Enable the sal layer in RT-Thread Components -> Network -> Socket abstraction layer page and Enable BSD socket

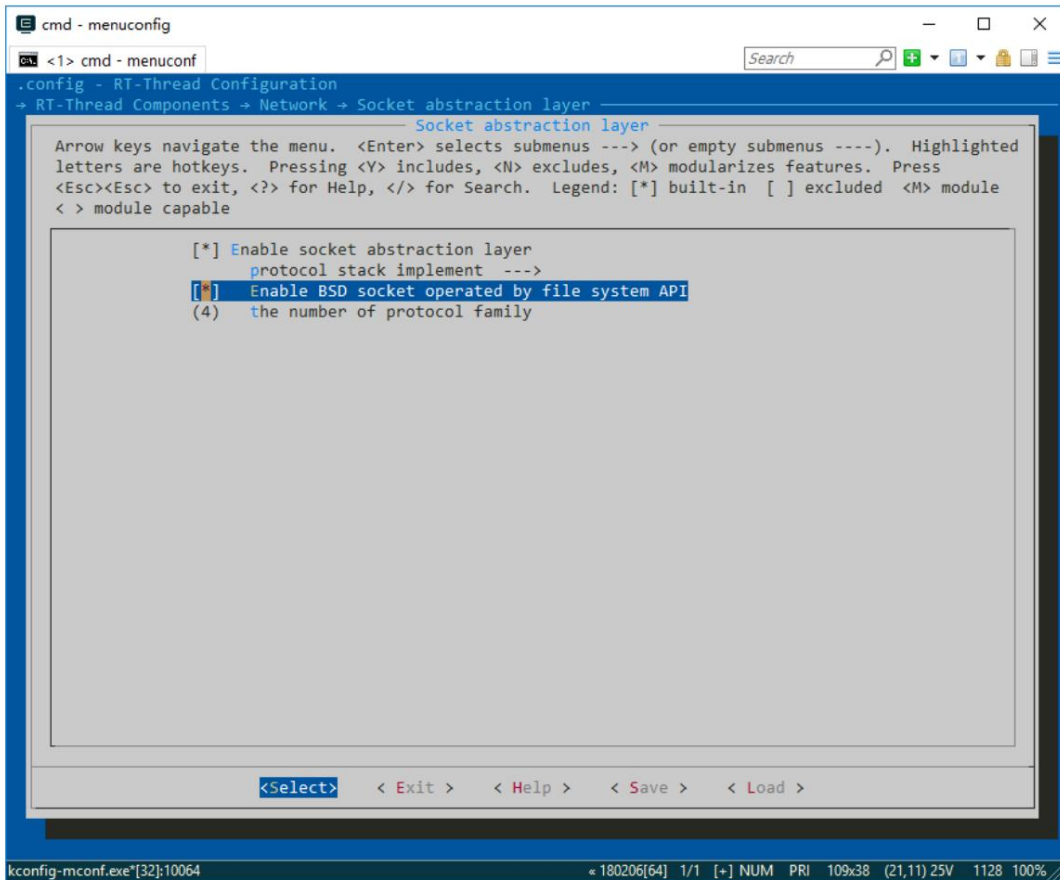


Figure 9: an011_sai

- Enable lwip in RT-Thread Components -> Network -> light weight TCP/IP stack

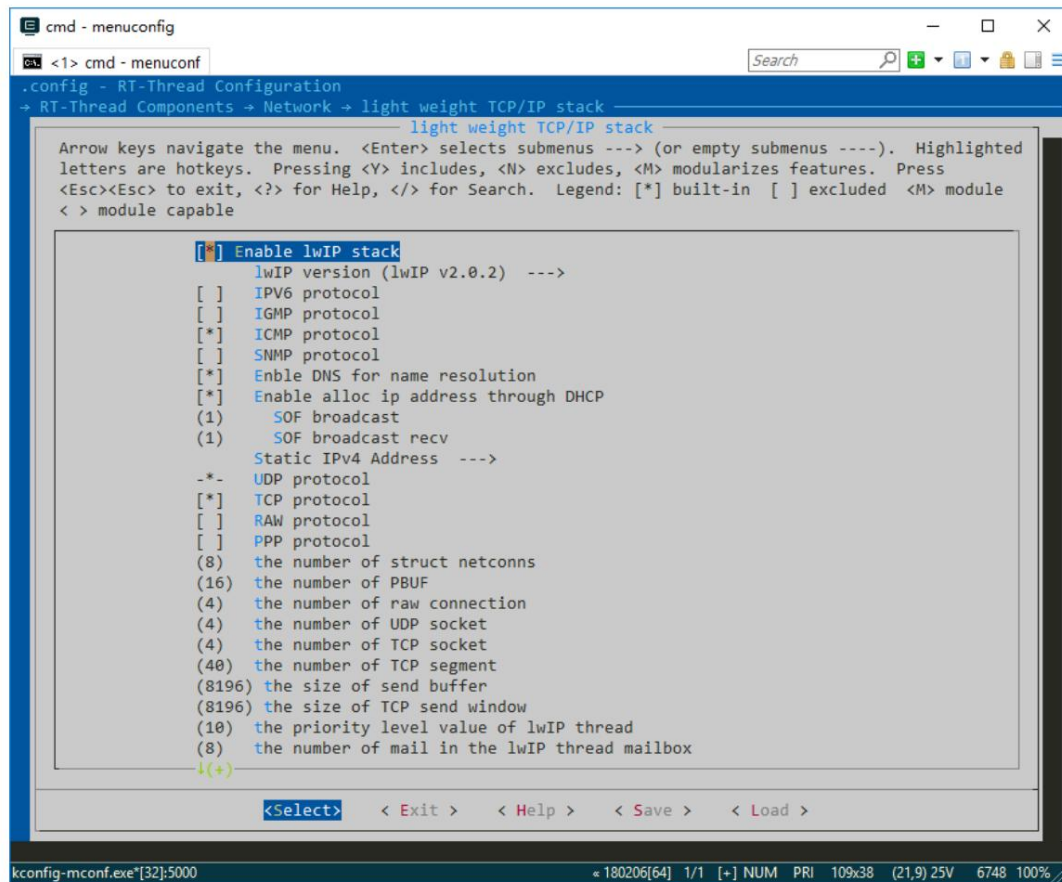


Figure 10: an011_lwip

- In RT-Thread online packages -> miscellaneous packages -> samples: RT-Thread kernel and components samples->network sample options page enable tcp client and udp client (Basic application)

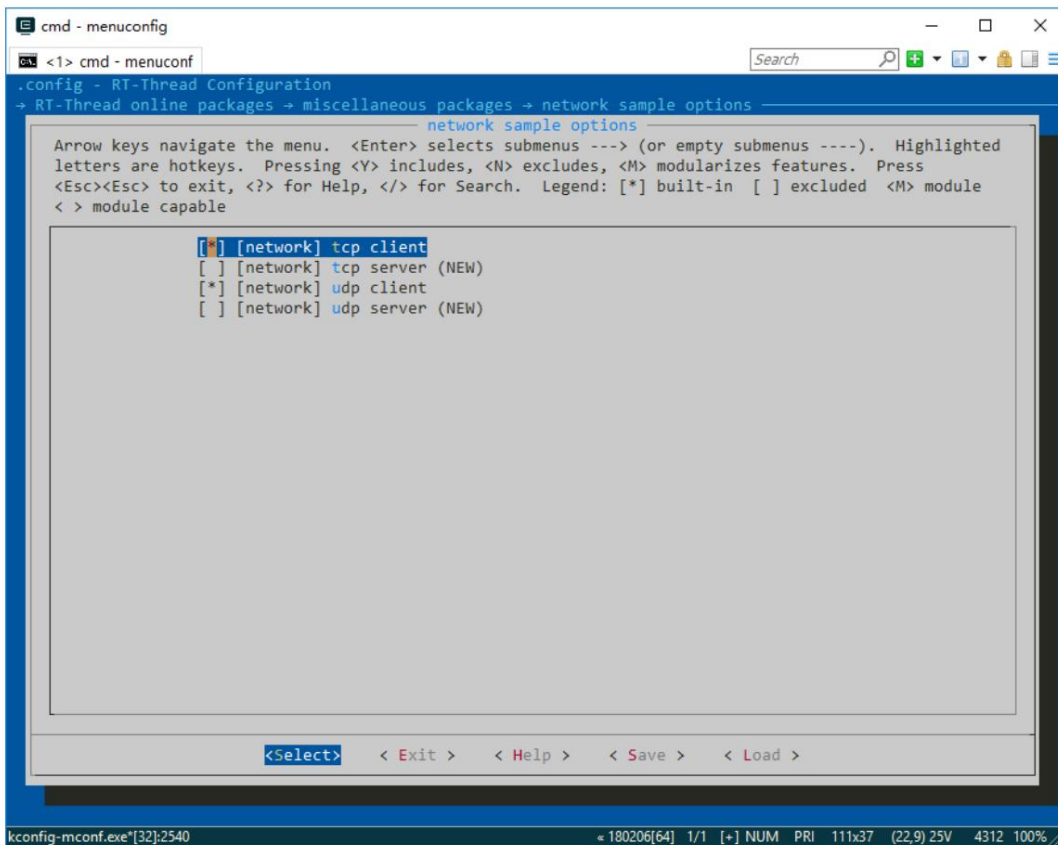


Figure 11: ENV_client

- In RT-Thread online packages -> IoT - internet of things -> netutils: Networking
Enable NTP on the Utilities for RT-Thread page (Advanced Application)

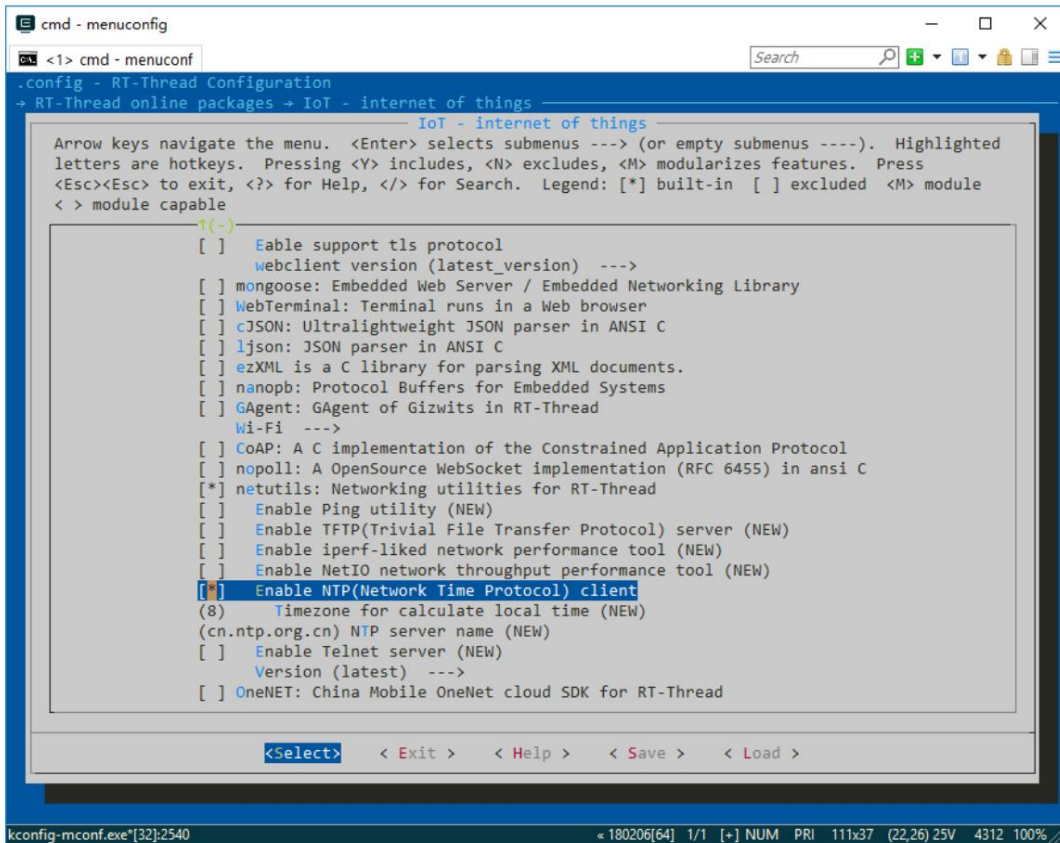


Figure 12: ENV_ntp

- Enable MQTT (advanced applications)

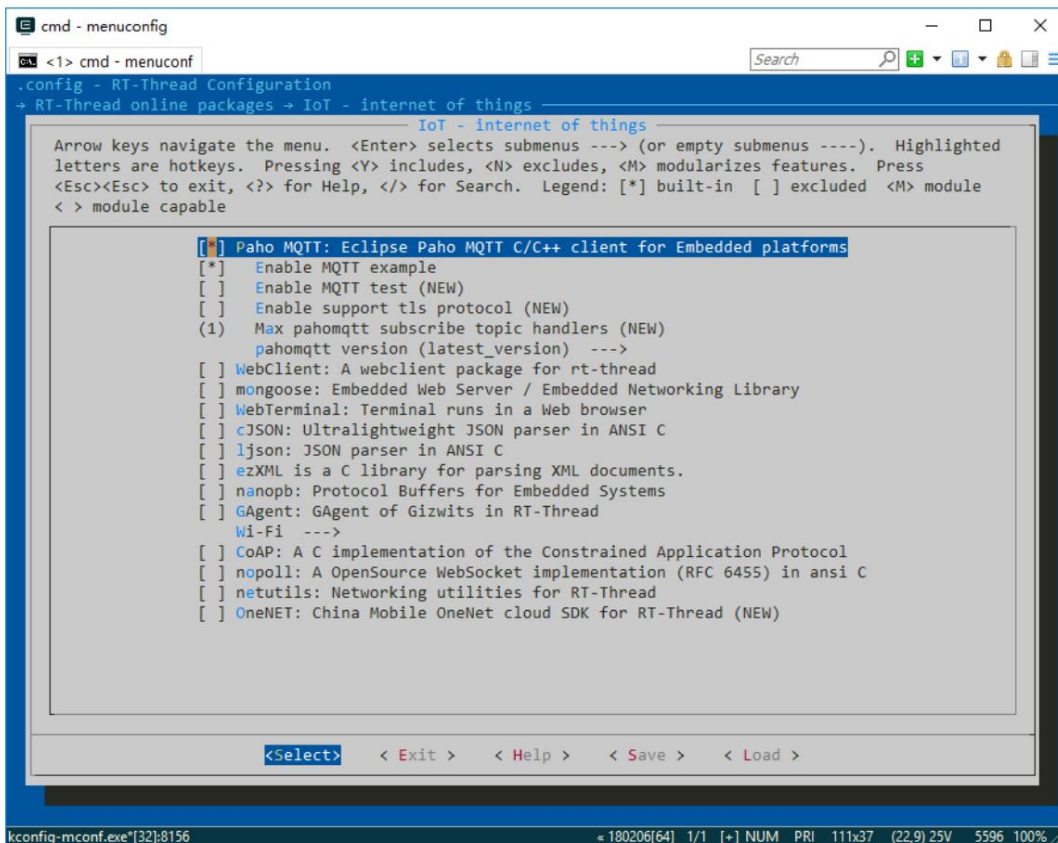


Figure 13: ENV_mqtt

- Press ESC to exit the configuration interface
- Enter `scons -target=mdk5 -s` in the env command line to generate the mdk5 project. • Open the project and compile •

Download the code

4.3 Network Testing

Compile the project generated by env and download it to the board. You can see that the two lights of the network port will light up and one will flash.

This indicates that the PHY has been initialized normally.

Enter `ifconfig` in the shell to print the network status of the board. If the IP address is obtained normally, it means that the network driver is normal.

Preparation is complete.

```

msh />ifconfig
network interface: e0 (Default)
MTU: 1500
MAC: 00 04 9f 05 44 e5
FLAGS: UP LINK_UP ETHARP
ip address: 192.168.12.127
gw address: 192.168.10.1
net mask : 255.255.0.0
dns server #0: 192.168.10.1
dns server #1: 223.5.5.5
msh />

```

Figure 14: *ifconfig*

5 Basic Applications

In practical applications, the microcontroller usually acts as a client to exchange data with the server. Here, the tcp client and udp client as examples to explain.

5.1 tcpclient

This example shows how to create a TCP client to communicate with a remote server.

Enter tcpclient URL PORT in the shell to connect to the server

Program function: Receive and display the information sent from the server, and exit the program if the information starts with 'q' or 'Q'

5.1.1. Source code analysis

```

void tcpclient(int argc, char **argv) {

    int ret;
    char *recv_data;
    struct hostent *host;
    int sock, bytes_received; struct
    sockaddr_in server_addr; const char *url; int
    port;

    /* The number of parameters received is less than 3*/
    if (argc < 3) {

        rt_kprintf("Usage: tcpclient URL PORT\n");
    }
}

```



```

        rt_kprintf("Like: tcpclient 192.168.12.44 5000\n");
        return ;
    }

    url = argv[1]; port =
    strtoul(argv[2], 0, 10);

    /* Get the host address through the function entry parameter url (if it is a domain name, domain name resolution will be performed) */
    host = gethostbyname(url);

    /* Allocate a buffer for storing received data */
    recv_data = rt_malloc(BUFSZ); if (recv_data
    == RT_NULL) {

        rt_kprintf("No memory\n"); return;

    }

    /* Create a socket, type is SOCKET_STREAM, TCP type*/ if ((sock =
    socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0)) == -1) {

        /* Failed to create socket*/
        rt_kprintf("Socket error\n");

        /* Release receive buffer */
        rt_free(recv_data);
        return;
    }

    /* Initialize the pre-connected server address*/
    server_addr.sin_family = AF_INET;
    server_addr.sin_port = htons(port); server_addr.sin_addr
    = *((struct in_addr *)host->h_addr); rt_memset(&(server_addr.sin_zero), 0,
    sizeof(server_addr.sin_zero));

    /* Connect to the server */
    if (connect(sock, (struct sockaddr *)&server_addr, sizeof(struct sockaddr)) == -1)

    {
        /* Connection failed*/
        rt_kprintf("Connect fail!\n"); closesocket(sock);

        /*Release the receive buffer*/
        rt_free(recv_data);
        return;
    }

```

```
}

while (1) {

    /* Receive maximum BUFSZ - 1 byte data from sock connection*/
    bytes_received = recv(sock, recv_data, BUFSZ - 1, 0); if (bytes_received <
    0) {

        /* Receiving failed, close this connection*/
        closesocket(sock);
        rt_kprintf("\nreceived error,close the socket.\r\n");

        /* Release receive buffer */
        rt_free(recv_data);
        break;

    } else if (bytes_received == 0) {

        /* Print the warning message that the recv function return value is 0*/
        rt_kprintf("\nReceived warning,recv function return 0.\r\n");

        continue;
    }

    /* Data received, clear the end*/
    recv_data[bytes_received] = '\0';

    if (strncmp(recv_data, "q", 1) == 0 || strncmp(recv_data, "Q", 1)
        == 0)
    {
        /* If the first letter is q or Q, close the connection*/
        closesocket(sock);
        rt_kprintf("\n got a 'q' or 'Q',close the socket.\r\n");

        /* Release receive buffer */
        rt_free(recv_data); break;

    }
    else
    {
        /* Display the received data on the control terminal*/
        rt_kprintf("\nReceived data = %s ", recv_data);
    }

    /* Send data to sock connection */
    ret = send(sock, send_data, strlen(send_data), 0);
```

```
    if (ret < 0) {  
  
        /* Receiving failed, close this connection*/  
        closesocket(sock);  
        rt_kprintf("\nsend error,close the socket.\r\n");  
  
        rt_free(recv_data); break;  
  
    } else if (ret == 0) {  
  
        /* Print a warning message when the send function returns 0*/  
        rt_kprintf("\n Send warning,send function return 0.\r\n");  
    }  
  
    } return;  
}
```

5.1.2. Operation results

Use the network debugging tool to build a TCP server on the computer and record the open ports

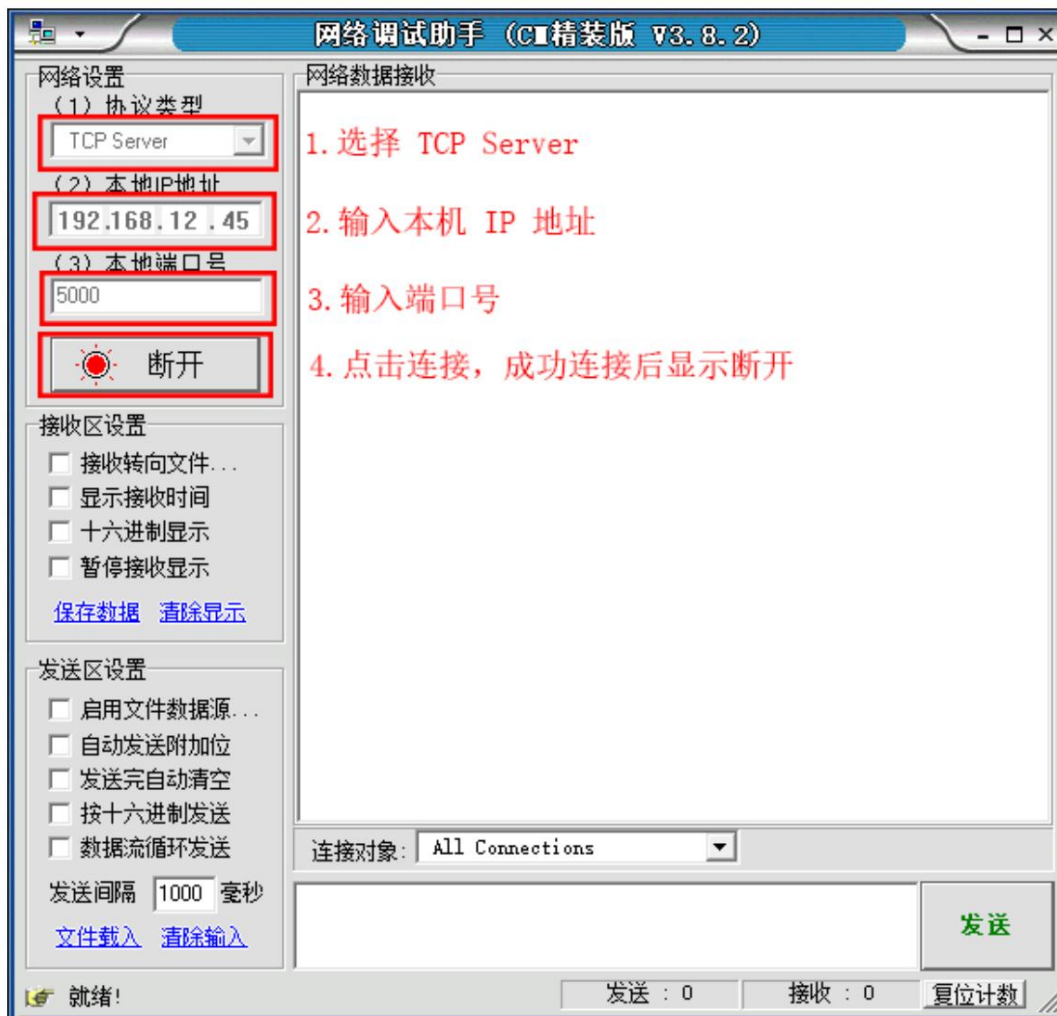


Figure 15: TCP Server_set

In the shell, enter the IP address of the tcpclient PC and the port number you just recorded.

```
msh />tcpclient 192.168.12.45 5000
```

Use the server to send Hello RT-Thread!, and the shell will display the received information.

```
msh />tcpclient 192.168.12.45 5000
Received data = Hello RT-Thread! █
```

Figure 16: tcpclient_shell

The server will receive the message This is TCP Client from RT-Thread.

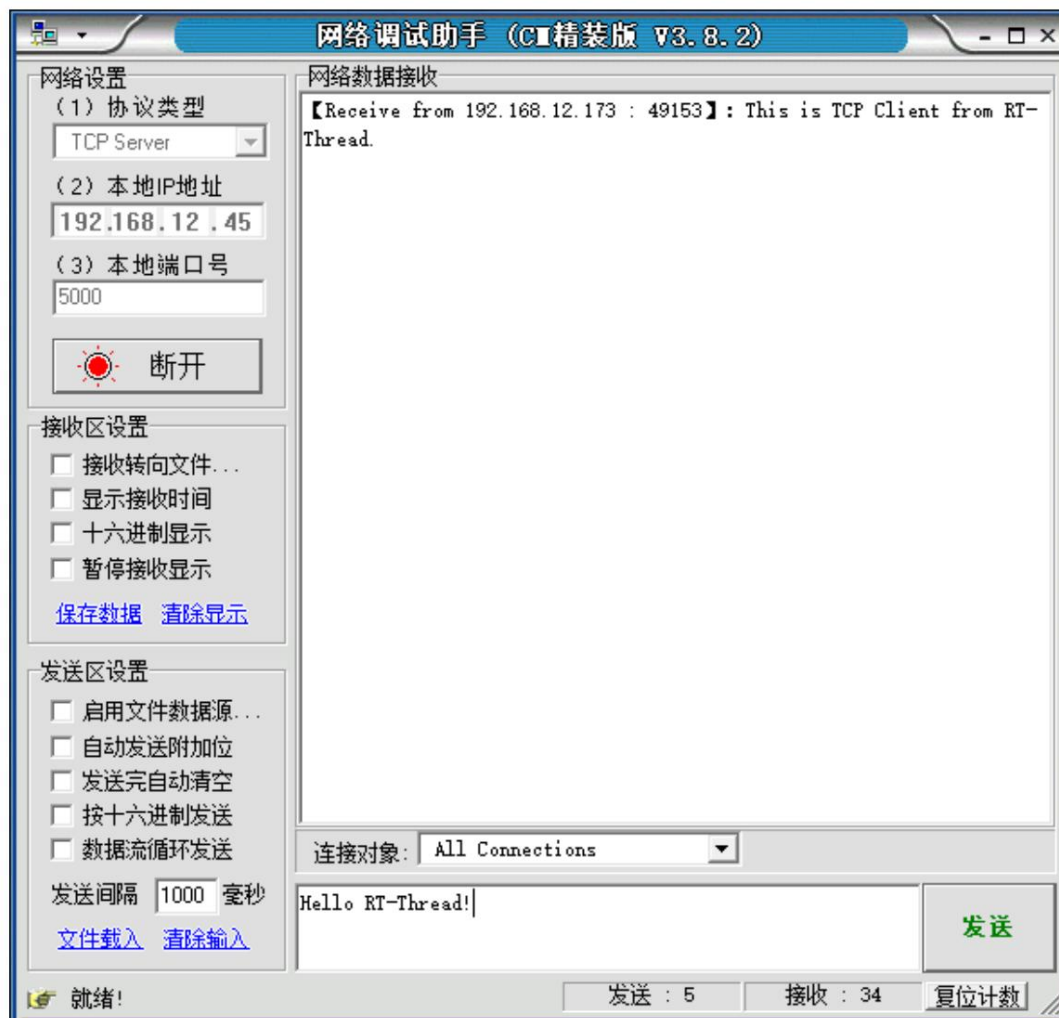


Figure 17: tcpclient

5.2 udpclient

This example shows how to create a UDP client and send data to a remote server.

Enter udpclient URL PORT in the shell to connect to the server

Program function: send information to the server (default 10)

5.2.1. Source code analysis

```
void udpclient(int argc, char **argv) {

    int sock, port, count; struct
    hostent *host; struct
    sockaddr_in server_addr;
```

```

const char *url;

/* The number of parameters received is less than 3 */
if (argc < 3) {

    rt_kprintf("Usage: udpcient URL PORT [COUNT = 10]\n"); rt_kprintf("Like: tcpclient
    192.168.12.44 5000\n"); return ;

}

url = argv[1]; port =
strtol(argv[2], 0, 10);

if (argc > 3) count
    = strtol(argv[3], 0, 10);
else
    count = 10;

/* Get the host address through the function entry parameter url (if it is a domain name, domain name resolution will be performed) */
host = (struct hostent *) gethostbyname(url);

/* Create a socket, type is SOCK_DGRAM, UDP type */ if ((sock =
socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM, 0)) == -1) {

    rt_kprintf("Socket error\n");
    return;
}

/* Initialize the pre-connected server address */
server_addr.sin_family = AF_INET;
server_addr.sin_port = htons(port); server_addr.sin_addr
= *((struct in_addr *) host->h_addr); rt_memset(&(server_addr.sin_zero), 0,
sizeof(server_addr.sin_zero));

/* Send count data in total */
while (count) {

    /* Send data to the remote server */
    sendto(sock, send_data, strlen(send_data), 0,
        (struct sockaddr *)&server_addr, sizeof(struct sockaddr));

    /* Thread sleeps for a while */
    rt_thread_delay(50);

    /* Decrement the count by one */
    count --;
}

```

```
}

/* Close this socket */
closesocket(sock);
}
```

5.2.2. Operation results

Use the network debugging tool to build a UDP server on your computer and record the open ports.

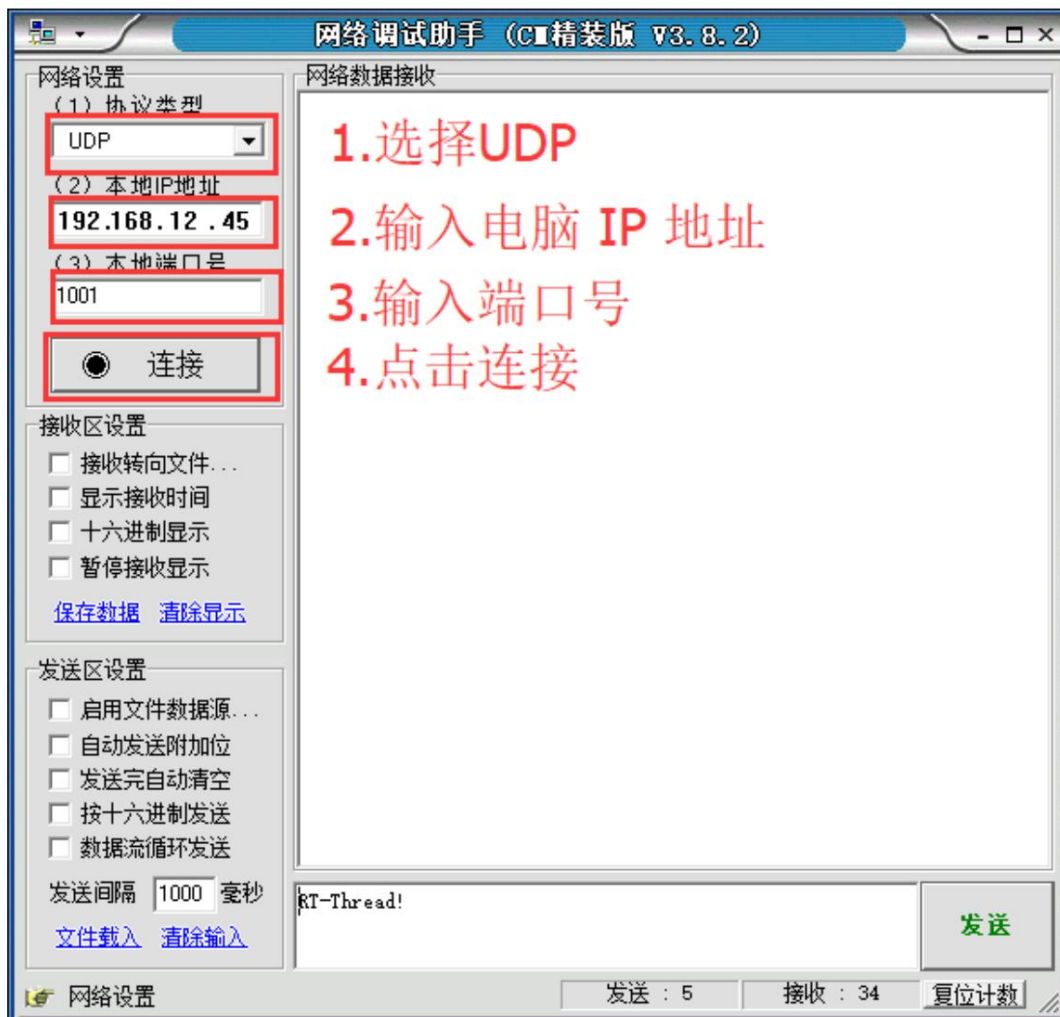


Figure 18: udp_set

In the shell, enter the IP address of the udpclient PC and the port number you just recorded.

```
udpclient 192.168.12.45 1001
```

The server will receive 10 messages saying "This is UDP Client from RT-Thread."

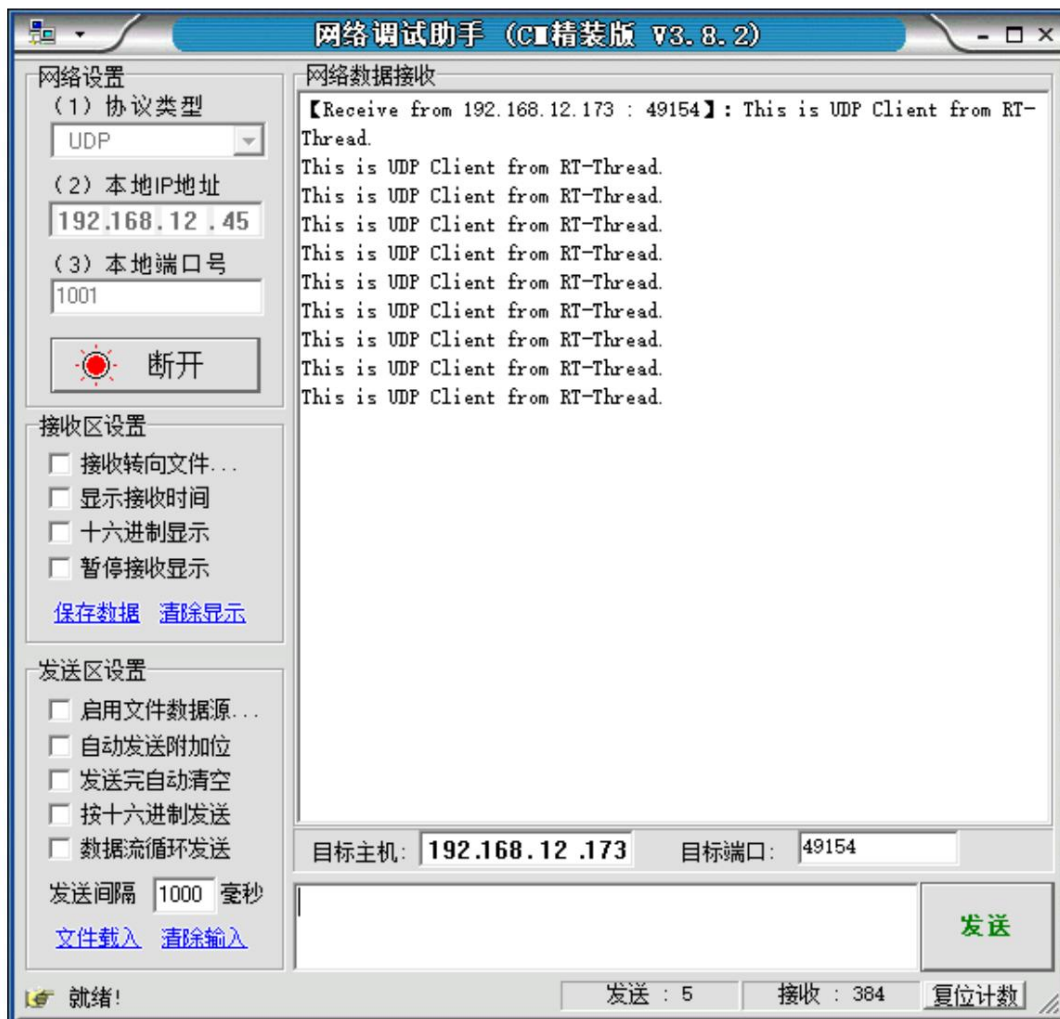


Figure 19: udpclient

6 Advanced Applications

In order to facilitate the development of network applications, RT-Thread provides a rich set of network component packages, such as netutils [network utility](#) [Toolset](#), webclient, cJSON, paho-mqtt, etc. Users can directly use each component package, eliminating the need for porting and accelerating network application development.

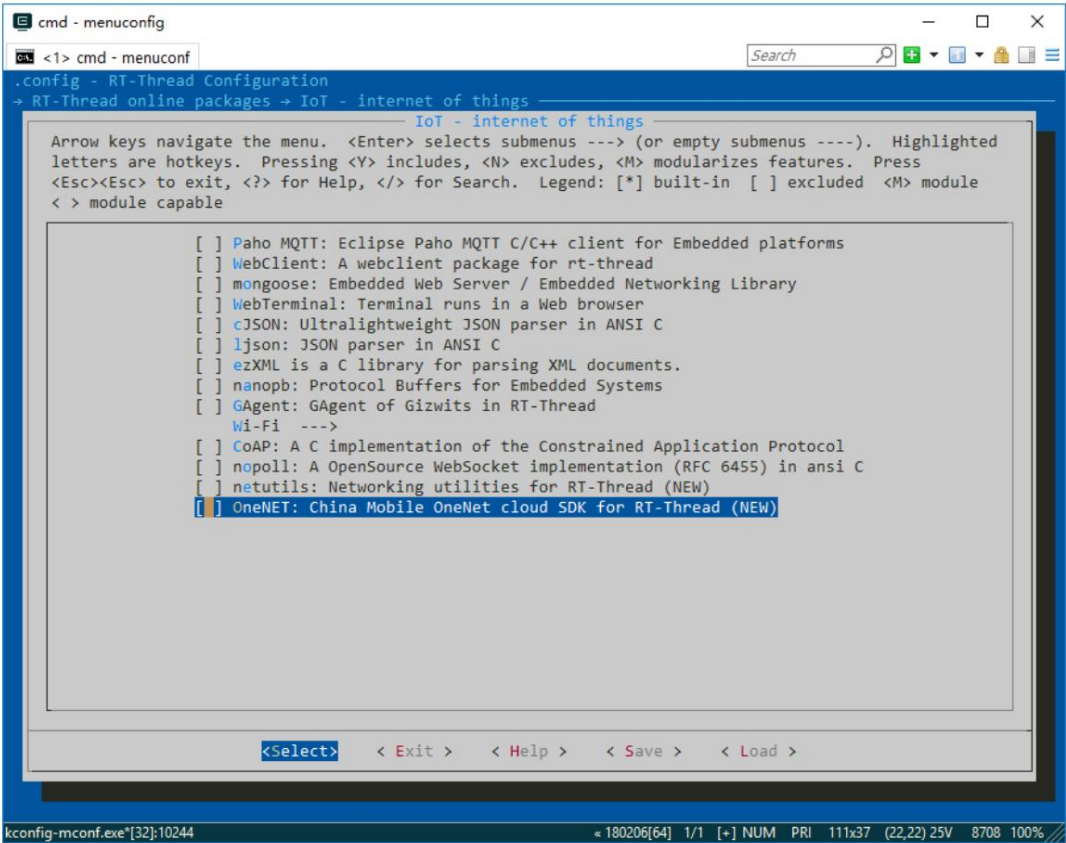


Figure 20: ENV_IoT

Here we take the NTP (time synchronization) gadget and paho-mqtt in the netutils network gadget collection as examples. explain

6.1 NTP

NTP (Network Time Protocol) is a network time protocol that is used to synchronize the time of each computer in the network.

RT-Thread implements NTP client, which can obtain local time through the network and synchronize the RTC time of the board.

between.

For ENV configuration, refer to the ENV configuration in the previous preparation section.

Enter ntp_sync in msh to get the local time from the default NTP server (cn.ntp.org.cn). The default time zone is the Eastern Time Zone.

```
msh />ntp_sync
```

If you are prompted with a timeout or connection failure after entering ntp_sync , you can enter the NTP server after ntp_sync address, the program will get the time from the new server.

```
msh />ntp_sync edu.ntp.org.cn
```

```
msh />ntp_sync
Get local time from NTP server: Wed Jun 6 16:06:01 2018
The system time is updated. Timezone is 8.
msh />ntp_sync edu.ntp.org.cn
Get local time from NTP server: Wed Jun 6 16:06:09 2018
The system time is updated. Timezone is 8.
msh />
```

Figure 21: *gettime*

6.2 MQTT

Paho MQTT It is a client of MQTT protocol implemented by Eclipse. This package is in Eclipse [paho-mqtt](#) A set of MQTT client programs designed based on the source code package.

MQTT uses the publish/subscribe messaging model. When sending a message, you need to specify the topic name to which it is sent. Before receiving messages, you need to subscribe to a topic name, and then you can receive the message content sent to this topic name.

RT-Thread MQTT client features:

- Automatic reconnection
- after disconnection • Pipe model, non-blocking
- API • Event callback
- mechanism • TLS encrypted transmission

For ENV configuration, refer to the ENV configuration in the previous preparation section.

Enter the `mq_start` command in `msh`, the client will automatically connect to the server and subscribe to the `/mqtt/test` topic

```
msh />mq_start
```

The `mq_pub` command can be used to send messages to all clients subscribed to `/mqtt/test`. We use `mq_pub` to send RT-Thread!

```
msh />mq_pub RT-Thread!
```

Since we subscribed to the `/mqtt/test` topic before, the shell will soon display the RT-Thread! message sent by the server.

interest.

```
msh />mq_start
[MQTT] inter mqtt_connect_callback!
[MQTT] ipv4 address port: 1883
[MQTT] HOST = 'iot.eclipse.org'
msh />[MQTT] MQTT server connect success
[MQTT] Subscribe #0 /mqtt/test OK!
[MQTT] inter mqtt_online_callback!
msh />mq_pub RT-Thread!
msh />[MQTT] mqtt sub callback: /mqtt/test RT-Thread!
```

Figure 22: *mqtttest*