Code Documentation

I start by including the FreeRTOS library (line 12). In the setup (lines 14-25), I initialize Serial communication, set up tasks for FreeRTOS, and start the scheduler. Since FreeRTOS handles task scheduling, the loop function (line 27) remains empty.

The first task, TaskBlinkExternal (lines 33-55), is responsible for flashing an external LED for 100ms on and 200ms off, using vTaskDelay. The function includes a void* parameter (line 45) required by FreeRTOS but unused in the tasks, and casting it to void suppresses compiler warnings about unused variables. This line is used in all functions passed to xTaskCreate, so I don't explain it again for other tasks.

Next, I define an interrupt to drive the four-digit seven-segment display (lines 73-98), which prevents display flickering by updating the display without delay. The interrupt uses num_to_display (line 61) to display the temperature, replacing the last digit with an "F" for Fahrenheit. The display_digit function (lines 100-122) remains the same as in Lab 3. TaskDisplayNumber (lines 124-153) sets up pinModes and starts the interrupt timer. After setup, this task is no longer needed and calls vTaskDelete to remove itself from the task list.

The most complex task, TaskReadSensor (lines 155-213), communicates with the DHT11 sensor via a two-way serial interface. I use the datasheet as a reference to implement this function, starting with a 1-second delay, as recommended by the datasheet. The task reads sensor data by sending a request pulse, waiting for the response, and reading the sensor's data signal. Comments provide a high-level overview of the protocol. The code between cli and sei is a critical section due to the protocol's microsecond-level timing sensitivity. After reading, I verify the checksum, and if correct, I set num_to_display to the computed temperature, which the interrupt handler will display. Three helper functions—read_sensor_byte (lines 215-232), read_sensor_bit (lines 234-255), and wait_for_sensor (lines 257-269)—simplify the serial protocol implementation.

To conclude, I have two simple tasks. TaskTurnOnFan (lines 271-292) checks if the temperature exceeds fan_temp and turns the fan on if necessary. TaskSetFanTemp (lines 294-320) adjusts the fan_temp threshold by reading a value from a potentiometer (or any other analog signal) and setting fan_temp between min_temp and max_temp. This gives the user control over the temperature at which the fan activates.