Heater Control System using Arduino with Timer Interrupt

1. Introduction

This project implements a heater control system using Arduino, a DS18B20 temperature sensor, and a relay module to control a simulated heater. In this prototype, an LED is used to represent the heater, providing a visual indication of when the heater is on or off in a real system. It uses a state machine to track and manage system behavior across five states: Idle, Heating, Stabilizing, Target Reached, and Overheat. A TimerOne interrupt triggers periodic temperature sampling every 500 ms, making the system responsive without using blocking delays.

2. Sensors and Actuators

2.1Sensors

1. DS18B20 Temperature Sensor:

• **Protocol:** OneWire.

• **Purpose:** Reads temperature for state transitions.

2.2 Actuators

• Relay Module: Controls heater ON/OFF.

• LED Indicator: Provides visual feedback.

• **Buzzer:** Gives an audible signal when the target temperature is reached.

3. Communication Protocols

One Wire Protocol - For interfacing the DS18B20 temperature sensor.
This single-wire protocol reduces wiring complexity and supports multiple sensors on the same bus.

• **UART Protocol** - For logging temperature and state transitions to the Arduino Serial Monitor. This aids in debugging and monitoring.

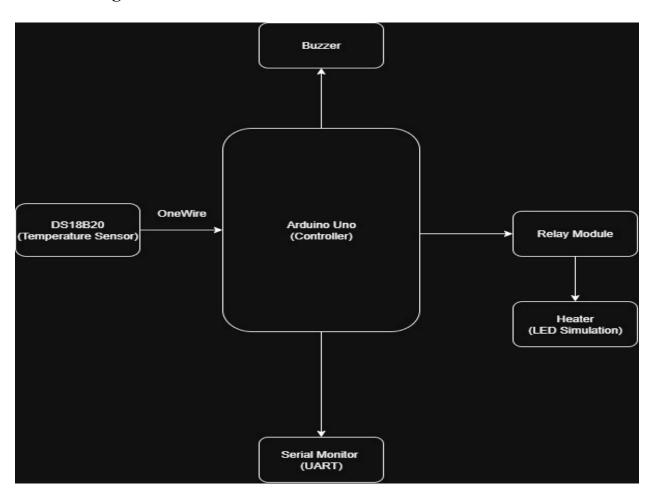
4. Timer Interrupt

The project uses the TimerOne library to set up a hardware timer interrupt:

• **Interval:** 500 ms

- **Purpose:** Periodically sets a flag (Flag) for non-blocking temperature reading and state updates.
- Advantage: Ensures consistent periodic execution without using delay(), improving system responsiveness.

5. Block Diagram



6. System States

State Descriptions

1. Idle State:

- Temperature < 30 °C.
- Heater OFF.

2. Heating State:

- Temperature between 30 °C and 90 °C.
- Heater ON.

3. Stabilizing State:

- Temperature between 90 °C and 98 °C.
- Heater OFF to avoid overshooting.

4. Target Reached State:

- Temperature between 98 °C and 100 °C.
- Heater OFF, buzzer beeps periodically.

5. Overheat State:

- Temperature > 100 °C.
- Heater OFF for safety.

7. Features

- Non-blocking design: Uses timer interrupt instead of delay().
- **Real-time logging:** Outputs temperature and system state over Serial.
- State machine: Clear modular handling of different temperature ranges.
- Visual & auditory alerts: LED & buzzer for state indication.

8. Roadmap for Future Enhancements

- **BLE/Wi-Fi + MQTT Integration:** Enable sending temperature and state data to a mobile app or web dashboard using MQTT or REST API for remote monitoring.
- FreeRTOS Tasks: Split temperature reading, control logic, and logging into separate tasks for scalability.
- Multiple Heating Profiles: Allow dynamic thresholds for different applications.

9. Wokwi Simulation

The system was successfully simulated on Wokwi to validate its behavior, including state transitions and relay/buzzer actions.

Simulation Link:

View Simulation here

10. Conclusion

This project demonstrates a modular, interrupt-driven heater control system using Arduino and DS18B20. The use of a hardware timer enables non-blocking periodic temperature sampling, making the system more responsive and reliable for real-world use.