#### EE4216 Hardware for IoT



## Chapter 2

## Embedded C/C++ Programming

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- MCU only can run machine codes.
  - Machine code is binary instructions understandable by MCU.
  - Assembly is low-level programming language, closely related to the machine codes.
  - Machine codes can be generated from assembly codes by assembler.



- C/C++ is a high-level programming language
  - Friendly to programmers
    - Abstraction such as the hardware abstraction layer (HAL).
    - Readability
    - Libraries, community and documentation
    - Error handling and memory management
  - Convert to machine code before it can run in MCU.



- Compilation and linking process
  - Source code → readable codes (C/C++ syntax)
  - Preprocessing → expand source code based on preprocessing directives
  - Compilation and assembly → convert to binary codes
     (object files)
  - Linking → Put object files together and generate machine codes



### Preprocessor directives

+ #include: include standard libs or custom head files.

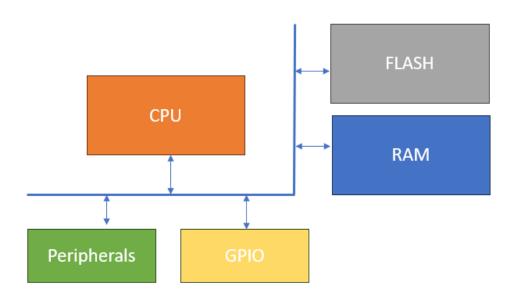
```
#include <WiFi.h>
```

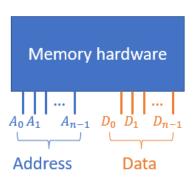
- #define and #undef: define/undef macros or constants
- Conditional compilation directives.
- + #pragma, #error and #warning : compile-time instructions
- Include guard

### System memory



 Data can be accessed from: FLASH, CPU registers, RAM and peripherals.





# System memory and address



- Memory of an embedded system
  - Code memory (IRAM)
  - Data memory (SRAM)
  - Register memory (peripherals + GPIOs)
  - RTC memory

Uniform address space

ESP32-S3 32-bit addr 32-bit data

Practically, much smaller address space

 Use address (pointer) to access memory, peripherals and GPIO.

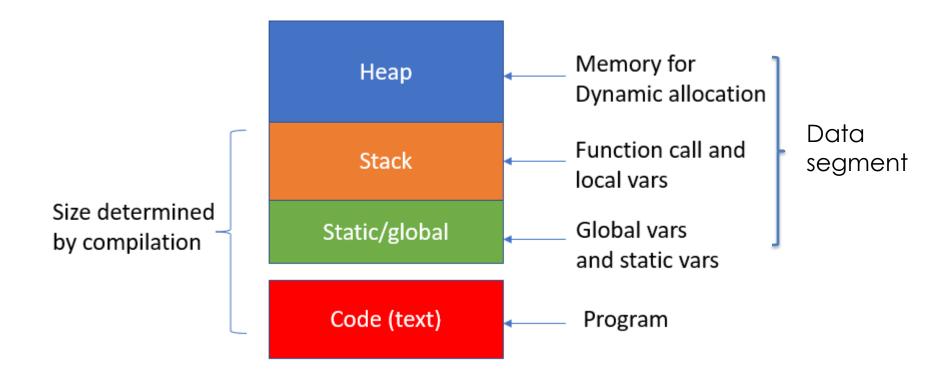
# System memory and address



Memory Region	Start Address	Size	Purpose
RTC Slow Memory	0x3FF94000	8 KB	Retains data, low-power modes
RTC Fast Memory	0x3FF80000	8 KB	Retains data during deep sleep
DRAM	0x3FFB0000	320 KB	Data RAM (data, heap, stack)
IRAM	0x40000000	128 KB	Instruction RAM (code)
SPIFFS/LittleFS	Variable	Variable	File system
OTA Data	Variable	4 KB	OTA update metadata
Application Code (App)	0x10000	Variable	Main application firmware
Partition Table	0x8000	3 KB	Memory layout definitions
Bootloader	0x1000	64 KB	Boot code

### Memory map for an application





Storage segment for an application

### Data types and size



- Data types determine the variable storage, range and related operations.
- Integer types
  - Int: 32-bit, signed -- unsigned int
  - short: 16-bit, signed -- unsigned short
  - long: at least 32-bit. Same as int type in many platforms
    - -- unsigned long
  - long long: at least 64-bit signed integer unsigned long long

## Data types and size

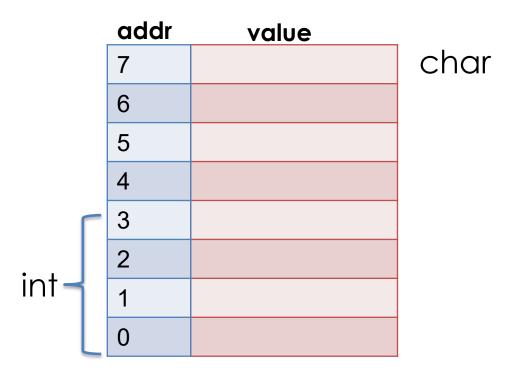


Character types

- char: 8-bit

- unsigned char: 8-bit

signed char: 8-bit



## Data types and size



Floating-point types

– float: 32-bit

double: 64-bit

- Boolean type
  - bool: only two possible values true and false.
- Pointer type

### Storage classes



- auto: default storage for local variables. It can be omitted.
- static: persistent in storage duration, initial only once.

```
static int counter = 0;
```

- extern: declare a global variable or function in another file.
- const: declare a variable whose value cannot be changed once they are initialized.

### Storage classes



```
int globalVar = 0; // Global variable
void count(void)
    static int staticVar = 0; // Static variable
    staticVar ++;
    Serial.printf("%d\n", staticVar ++);
}
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(115200);
void loop() {
    count();
```

# ESP32 Specific and ESP-IDF Data Types NUS

- Fixed-width integer types
  - int8\_t, uint8\_t , int16\_t, uint16\_t , int32\_t, uint\_32\_t, int64\_t, uint64\_t
- ESP-IDF specific types
  - esp\_err\_t , gpio\_num\_t, esp\_timer\_handle\_t
  - wifi\_mode\_t, wifi\_config\_t, esp\_ip4\_addr\_t, esp\_ip6\_addr\_t
- ESP-IDF specific structures
  - esp\_event\_handler\_instance\_t, esp\_log\_level\_t

## ESP32 Specific and ESP-IDF Data Types 👺



- Data structure
  - Queues, semaphores, mutexes
- Peripheral and Sensor Types
  - Specific types for interfacing with hardware peripherals

```
i2c_cmd_handle_t for I2C
```

adc\_channel\_t for ADC channels.

## Arduino framework types on ESP32



- String: class for dynamic strings. End with '\0'.
  - Char s[]="ESP32"; int c = sizeof(s);
  - String s = "ESP32"; int c = s.length();
- Hardware-specific types
  - pinMode

{INPUT, OUTPUT, INPUT\_PULLUP, INPUT\_PULLDOWN}

– digitalPin {HIGH, LOW}

### Structure



- A structure is a user-defined data type that groups variables of different data types under a single name.
- It helps in organizing related data into a single entity.

```
struct Point {
    int x;
    int y;
};
```

#### struct



- Representing complex data: useful in representing complex data like coordinates, employee records, or RGB color values.
- Data passing in functions: passing multiple related parameters as a single argument to functions.

```
struct Employee {
    int id;
    char name[50];
    float salary;
};
```

#### enum



- An enumeration is a user-defined data type that consists of a set of named integer constants.
- enums enhance code readability by assigning names to

#### enum



```
enum TrafficLight {
    Red,
    Yellow,
    Green
};

TrafficLight light = Red;
```

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## Customized data type name



Use typedef for a customized number

```
typedef unsigned char uint8_t;

typedef struct {
    float temperature;
    float humidity;
} DHT22Reading;

DHT22Reading tempReading = {25,0.7};
```



- Arithmetic operators
- + \* / %

- Relational operators
- == != > < >= <=

Logical operators

&& || !

Bitwise operators

& | ^ ~ << >>

### Bitmasks



```
uint8_t a = 0b10101010;
uint8_t b = 0b11001100;
//bitwise AND operation
uint8 t result = a & b;
```

• A bitmask is a sequence of bits that can manipulate specific bits within another sequence.

```
// Bitmask with lower 4 bits set
uint8_t mask = 0b00001111;
```

### **Bitmasks**



Setting bits: using bitwise OR operator

```
uint8_t value = 0b00000000;
uint8_t mask = 0b00001111;
value |= mask; // Set lower 4 bits
```

Clearing bits: using bitwise AND and NOT operators

```
uint8_t value = 0b11111111;
uint8_t mask = 0b11110000;
value &= ~mask; // Clear upper 4 bits
```

### **Bitmasks**



Toggling bits: using bitwise XOR operator

```
uint8_t value = 0b10101010;
uint8_t mask = 0b11110000;
value ^= mask; // Toggle upper 4 bits
```

Checking bits: using bitwise AND operator

```
uint8_t value = 0b10101010;
uint8_t mask = 0b00001000;
// Check if 4th bit is set
bool isSet = value & mask;
```



Assignment operators

Increment and decrement operators



- Conditional (ternary) operator
  - Shorthand for if-else statement.  $\max = (a > b)$ ? a : b;
- Comma operator
  - Separate expressions.

```
- x = (y = 2, z = 3, y + z);

- for (int i = 0, j = 10; i < j; i++, j--) { }
```



- Member and pointer operators
  - . (Direct member access)
  - -> (Indirect member access, through pointer)
  - \* (Pointer dereference)
  - & (Address of)
- Sizeof operator
  - Size of a data type or object in bytes

```
sizeof(uint8_t);
```



- Type cast operators
  - Convert a variable from one data type to another.
  - Ensure the correct type and precision in operations when working with mixed data types

```
int x = 10; float y = (float)x;
int a = 5; int b = 2;
int result_i;
result_i = a/b;
float result_f;
result_f = (float)a/b;
```



- Control structures guide the flow of a program.
  - Conditional statements
  - Loops
  - Functions
- Essential for decision-making, looping through data, and structuring code.



• Statement if, else, and else-if.

```
if (temperature > 30) {
    digitalWrite(fanPin, HIGH);
} else {
    digitalWrite(fanPin, LOW);
}
```



• Statement switch-case for multi-way decisions.

```
switch (mode) {
    case 1:
        digitalWrite(ledPin, HIGH);
        break;
    case 2:
        digitalWrite(ledPin, LOW);
        break;
    default:
        break;
```



For loop -- iterating a fixed number of times

```
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
    Serial.println(i);
    //Repeating actions here.
}
int sensorPins[] = {A0, A1, A2};
for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
    sensorValues[i] = analogRead(sensorPins[i]);
}</pre>
```



```
for (;;) {
    digitalWrite(ledPin, HIGH);
    delay(500);
    digitalWrite(ledPin, LOW);
    delay(500);
}
```



While loop -- continuous condition checking

```
while (digitalRead(buttonPin) == LOW) {
    delay(100);
}
```



Do-While loop -- Execute at least once

```
do {
    readSensor();
} while (sensorValue < threshold);</pre>
```



Nested control structures

```
for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    if (sensorArray[i] > threshold) {
        activateAlarm();
    }
}
```



 The continue statement -- skips the current iteration and moves to the next iteration of the loop.

```
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
    if (sensorValues[i] < 0) {
        continue; // Skip negative readings
    }
    process(sensorValues[i]);
}</pre>
```



 The break statement -- exits the loop immediately, regardless of the remaining iterations.

```
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
    if (sensorValues[i] > threshold) {
        break; // Stop loop
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
        if (i == 5) {
            break;
        }
        Serial.println(i);
    }
}</pre>
```



- Loop summary
  - Iterate through sensor pins to collect data.
  - Process the data with conditional checks.
  - Output results, such as activating alarms or lights.

```
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
    if (i == 2) {
        continue;
    }
    if (i == 8) {
        break;
    }
    Serial.println(i);
}</pre>
```



- Functions are reusable blocks of code that perform a specific task – Reusability
- Function declaration
  - Tell the compiler the function information
  - Function name entry point (addr in memory)
  - Return data type int, char, float, uint8\_t or void.
  - Parameters number and type of expected inputs.



- Function definition and call
  - Definition is the actual implementation code.
  - Function call happens when the action of the function is needed.
    - The program jumps to the function definition and executes the code inside it.
    - Return to the next instruction.



```
int add(int, int); // function declaration
void setup() {
  int result = add(5, 3); // function call
// function definition
int add(int a, int b) {
  return a + b;
```



- Return types
  - Void: functions do not return a value .

```
void printMessage() {
   Serial.println("Hello, World!");
}
```

Non-void.



- Passing parameters by value
  - Pass the values of argument into the parameters.

 Modifications to the parameter inside the function do not affect the argument values.



```
void increment(int a) {
  a = a + 1;
void setup() {
  int x = 5;
  increment(x);
  Serial.println(x); // Outputs: 5
}
```



- Passing parameters by reference
  - Pass the address of the arguments to the function.

 Modifications to the parameters inside the function affect the arguments.



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```
void increment(int *a) {
  *a = *a + 1;
void setup() {
  int x = 5;
  increment(&x);
  Serial.println(x); //
Outputs: 6
```



```
void increment(int &a) {
  a = a + 1;
                          Reference of x
void setup() {
  int x = 5;
  increment(x);
  Serial.println(x); // Outputs: 6
}
```



- Default parameters
  - Parameters that assume a default value if a value is not provided during the function call.



- Function overloading
  - Multiple functions can have the same name with different parameters.
  - The correct function is chosen based on the arguments used during the call.



```
int add(int a, int b) {
  return a + b;
float add(float a, float b) {
  return a + b;
void setup() {
// Calls int version
  Serial.println(add(2, 3));
 // Calls float version
  Serial.println(add(2.5f, 3.5f));
```

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- Use cases of functions
  - Communicate with peripherals.
  - Functions serve as interrupt service routines (ISRs).
  - Use functions to structure large programs into manageable modules

**—** ...



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```
void handleButtonPress() {
  if (digitalRead(buttonPin) == LOW) {
    // Handle button press
void setup() {
  pinMode(buttonPin, INPUT_PULLUP);
void loop() {
  handleButtonPress();
```

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```
void initializeSensors() { }
void readSensors() { }
void processSensors() { }
void setup() {
  initializeSensors();
void loop() {
  readSensors();
  processSensors();
```

#### Inline function



 Inline function - expanded in line where they are called.

```
inline void blinkLED(int pin) {
   digitalWrite(pin, !digitalRead(pin));
}

void toggleLED(int pin) {
   digitalWrite(pin, !digitalRead(pin));
}
```

#### Inline function



```
inline returnType functionName(parameters) {
   // function body
}
```

- Inline functions improve performance by reducing call overhead.
- Suitable for small, simple functions and not for large functions.
- Examples: LED blink, sensor reading, mathematical operations.

#### Lambda function



- Defined in C++ standard.
- Anonymous: Lambda functions are not bound to a name.
- Inline: They are typically defined inline where they are needed.
- Short: Usually used for short, simple operations.
- Single-use functions and simplifying code.
- Passing functions as arguments

#### Lambda function



```
Sytanx:
[ captures ] ( parameters ) -> return type {
   // function body
};
[captures]: specify variables from the surrounding scope the
lambda function can access. It can be left empty ([]).
[&]: Capture all variables by reference.
[=]: Capture all variables by value.
[this]: Capture the this pointer, if the lambda is inside a class.
(parameters): The list of parameters the lambda function takes,
similar to a normal function.
-> return type: (Optional) Specifies the return type. If omitted,
the compiler will try to deduce the return type.
```

## Lambda function examples



```
//example of using a lambda function to add two numbers.
auto add = [](int a, int b) -> int {
    return a + b;
};
int result = add(3, 4); // result will be 7
```

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## Lambda function examples



```
//example of using a lambda function in AsyncWebServer.
server.on("/", HTTP_GET, [](AsyncWebServerRequest *request){
    request->send(200, "text/plain", "Hello, world!");
});
[]: No variables from the surrounding scope are captured.
(AsyncWebServerRequest *request): The lambda function takes a
single parameter, which is a pointer to an AsyncWebServerRequest
object.
{}: The body of the lambda function. Inside the body, it sends a
response to the client with an HTTP status code of 200 and the
text "Hello, world!".
```

## Lambda function examples



```
server.on("/", HTTP_GET, [](AsyncWebServerRequest *request){
    request->send(200, "text/plain", "Hello, world!");
});

The equivalent normal function is:

void handleRootRequest(AsyncWebServerRequest *request) {
    request->send(200, "text/plain", "Hello, world!");
}

server.on("/", HTTP_GET, handleRootRequest);
```



- Interrupts are signals that temporarily halt the current code execution.
- Used to handle events like button presses, timers, and sensor data.
- Allow MCU to respond to external events immediately.



- Types of Interrupts
  - Hardware Interrupts
    - Triggered by external hardware events.
  - Software Interrupts
    - Triggered by software instructions.



- Pin change interrupts
  - Triggered when the state of a digital pin changes.
  - Example: Button press or release.
  - Functions: attachInterrupt(), detachInterrupt()



Configuring interrupts

```
attachInterrupt(digitalPinToInterrupt(pin), ISR, mode);
```

pin: Pin number.

**ISR**: Interrupt Service Routine function.

mode: Trigger mode (RISING, FALLING, CHANGE).



- Interrupt Service Routine (ISR)
  - A function that executes when an interrupt occurs.
  - Short and efficient.

```
void IRAM_ATTR ISR() {
  // Code to execute
}
```

### Interrupts example



```
const int buttonPin = 4;
volatile bool buttonPressed = false;
void IRAM ATTR handleButtonPress() {
  buttonPressed = !buttonPressed; // response
void setup() {
  pinMode(buttonPin, INPUT PULLUP);
  attachInterrupt(digitalPinToInterrupt(buttonPin),
                             handleButtonPress, FALLING);
void loop() {
  if (buttonPressed) {
   // Handle button press
    buttonPressed = false;
```

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- Debouncing with interrupts
  - Mechanical buttons can generate multiple signals (bounce).
  - Use software debouncing to handle bounce.

```
void IRAM_ATTR handleButtonPress() {
  static unsigned long lastInterruptTime = 0;
  unsigned long interruptTime = millis();
  if (interruptTime - lastInterruptTime > 200) {
    buttonPressed = !buttonPressed;
  }
  lastInterruptTime = interruptTime;
}
```



- Timer interrupts
  - Timer interrupts are triggered by hardware timers.
  - Useful for periodic tasks.

```
hw_timer_t *timer = NULL;

void IRAM_ATTR onTimer() {
   // Timer ISR code
}

void setup() {
   timer = timerBegin(0, 80, true);
   timerAttachInterrupt(timer, &onTimer, true);
   timerAlarmWrite(timer, 10000000, true);
   timerAlarmEnable(timer);
}
```

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#### Pointer



- A pointer is a variable that stores the memory address of another object.
- Allows direct access to memory.
- Declare pointers type \*pointerName;
  - Type: Depends on the variable type a pointer pointing to.
  - Storage size: same for all pointers. 32-bit in 32-bit system.

```
int *ptr;
    int value = 10;
    int *ptr = &value;
```

#### Pointer



- Referencing and dereferencing for pointers
  - Referencing (&): Obtain the address of a variable (and store in a pointer).
  - Dereference (\*): Get the value stored at the address that the pointer is pointing to.

```
int value = 10;
int *ptr = &value;
int anotherValue = *ptr; //anotherValue is 10
```

### Pointer

- Pointer Arithmetic
  - Increase/decrease the pointer (int \*p1)
     p1++; or p1+=1; or p1=p1+1;
     p1--; or p1-=1; or p1=p1-1;

```
If p1 = 0 \times 0104, what is *p1 after decrement?
```

- Cast pointer (assume  $p1 = 0 \times 0104$ )

```
char *p2; void *p;
p2 = (char *)p1; //what is *p2?
p2++; //what is *p2?
p1--; p = p1; //what is *p?
```

#### Pointer



- Pointer and arrays
  - Arrays and pointers are closely related.

```
int arr[] = {1, 2, 3};
int *ptr = arr; // ptr points to arr[0]
// *(arr+1) = 2 and *(arr+2) = 3
// arr ++; compiler error
```

Perform arithmetic operations to navigate through arrays.

```
int *ptr = arr;
ptr++; // Points to the second element
int secondElement = *ptr; //secondElement is 20
```

# **Dynamic Memory Allocation**



- Dynamic Memory Allocation
  - Allocate memory dynamically using new and delete.

```
int *ptr = new int; //allocate from heap
*ptr = 5;
.
.
delete ptr; // necessary to avoid leakage
```

### Pointer examples



Pointers create dynamic data structures like linked lists.

```
struct Node {
   int data;
   Node *next;
};

Node *head = new Node();
head->data = 1;
head->next = new Node();
head->next->data = 2;
```

### Pointer examples



 Use pointers to pass large structures to functions to avoid copying.

```
struct SensorData {
  int temperature;
  int humidity;
};
void processSensorData(SensorData *data) {
 Serial.println(data->temperature);
void setup() {
  SensorData data = {25, 60};//initiate the structure
  processSensorData(&data);
```

### Pointer examples



• Use pointers to manipulate C-style strings.

```
char str[] = "Hello";
char *ptr = str;
while(*ptr != '\0') {
    Serial.println(*ptr);
    ptr++;
}
```

#### Pointers to function



- Pointers to Functions
  - Pointer points to the entry address of a function and call the function through the pointer.

#### Pointers to function



- Pointers to Functions
  - Pointer points to the entry address of a function and call the function through the pointer.

#### Pointers to function



Simplify the declaration of function pointer

```
typedef return_type (*typedef_name)(parameter_types);
int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
}

typedef int (*Operation)(int, int);

Operation op = &add; // or just = add; in C
int result = op(3, 4); // result will be 7
```

### Callback functions



- A callback function is a function passed as an argument to another function.
- Used to handle asynchronous events.

```
void callback() {
   Serial.println("Callback function called");
}

void registerCallback(void (*func)()) {
   func();
}

void setup() {
   registerCallback(callback);
}
```



Use function pointers to handle timer interrupts.

```
void onTimer() {
  Serial.println("Timer interrupt");
hw timer t *timer = NULL;
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(115200);
  timer = timerBegin(0, 80, true);
  timerAttachInterrupt(timer, &onTimer, true);
  timerAlarmWrite(timer, 1000000, true);
  timerAlarmEnable(timer);
```



Use function pointers to implement a state machine.

```
void state1() {
  Serial.println("State 1");
void state2() {
  Serial.println("State 2");
void (*state)() = state1;
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(115200);
void loop() {
  state();
  delay(1000);
  state = (state == state1) ? state2 : state1;
```

```
int compare(int a, int b) {
  return (a > b) - (a < b);
}
void sort(int *arr, int size, int (*cmp)(int, int)) {
  // Simple bubble sort for demonstration
  for (int i = 0; i < size - 1; i++) {
    for (int j = 0; j < size - 1 - i; j++) {
      if (cmp(arr[j], arr[j + 1]) > 0) { //call function by pointer
        int temp = arr[i];
        arr[i] = arr[i + 1];
        arr[i + 1] = temp;
void setup() {
  int arr[] = \{5, 3, 8, 6, 2\};
  sort(arr, 5, compare);
  for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    Serial.println(arr[i]);
```



Use callback functions for handling network communication.

```
void onReceive(char* data) {
  Serial.print("Received: ");
  Serial.println(data);
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(115200);
  // Assume WiFi or Ethernet setup
  attachNetworkCallback(onReceive);
```



Use callback functions for custom serial protocol handling.

```
void onSerialDataReceived(String data) {
    Serial.print("Received data: ");
    Serial.println(data);
void attachSerialCallback(void (*callback)(String)) {
    if (Serial.available() > 0) {
        String data = Serial.readStringUntil('\n');
        callback(data);
void setup() {
    Serial.begin(115200);
    delay(1000); // Give some time for the Serial Monitor to start
    Serial.println("Serial Callback Example");
}
void loop() {
    // Attach the callback function for serial data reception
    attachSerialCallback(onSerialDataReceived);
```

# Use of function pointer



- Ensure function signatures match.
- Use clear and descriptive names.
- Avoid excessive use of function pointers for better readability.
- Ensure proper documentation.

# Potential issues for pointers



- Dangling pointers point to deallocated memory.
- Pointer out of bound or pointing to some unknow area which may not be identified by compiler and cause some safety issue.
- Pointer to misaligned data memory.
- Memory leakage if dynamically allocated memory is not released.