

# Generic Data Type

# Generics

- **Nature:**
  - Software components must be re-usable
  - Be able to work on a variety of data types but not only restricted to one.
- **"Generic" Toolbox**
  - Enables user to create a re-usable software component.
- **Benefit**
  - User can make use of it to operate with their own type of data.

# Generics

- **Example-1:**
  - **Identity Function:** A function that returns the same argument which is passed to it preserving its data type.

## Identity Function (Without generics)

```
function identity(arg: number): number {  
  return arg; }
```

Accepts and returns argument of type 'number' only.

## Identity Function (With generics)

```
function identity<T>(arg: T): T {  
  return arg; }
```

Accepts and returns argument of any type. Hence is a generic function. (Software component)