

# Introduction

*Software integration* refers to the process of combining multiple software systems, applications, or components to create a seamless and cohesive whole. This process involves a variety of tasks, including:

- data exchange,
- interface design,
- system testing (integration testing).

Software integration is important, because it allows organizations to take advantage of the strengths and capabilities of different software systems and bring them together in a way that maximizes efficiency and productivity.

For example, a company might use one software system for its customer relationship management (CRM) and another for its financial management (FM). The company can streamline processes such as sales and billing by integrating these systems and have a more complex view of its customer relationships and financial data.

Another benefit of software integration is the ability to reduce complexity and increase the reliability of an organization's systems. By integrating multiple software systems, organizations can reduce the number of different applications and systems they need to maintain and support, which can reduce costs and improve efficiency. Additionally, integration can help ensure that different systems are working together smoothly, reducing the risk of errors and downtime.

There are several approaches to software integration, including custom integration, using integration patterns, and integration platforms.

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