11.6 Read Only Memory

Some Read Only Memory is serial → The CD-ROM

But ROM can also be Random Access. There are typically four kinds of semiconductor ROM.

1. ROM - Just plain ole ROM is a permanent set of data or instructions that can’t ever change. The data is “placed” in the device at the time the integrated circuit is designed.
2. **PROM** - Programmable ROM is a device where data can be written to by the user **only once**. After that, the data is permanently stored and cannot be changed.

3. **EPROM** - As the name implies, Erasable PROM allows the user to erase the data in the device so that it can be **rewritten** to again. However, this erasure process is **not** easy or fast! In other words, this is not considered a Read/Write memory.

4. **EEPROM** - Electrically Erasable PROM allows us to **quickly** erase and rewrite the data. Thus, it is questionable as to whether it is truly PROM. However, this memory is **non-volatile**.

EEPROM is otherwise known as “**flash**” memory.