



Week 8 - Non Volatile Memory

Memory that persists even without power.

ROM

- Read Only
 - Data can't be changed.
- Mask-programmed ROM
 - Data is written onto the chip during manufacturing using a physical mask.
- PROM
 - Programmable ROM: user can program
 - Data is burnt onto the PROM by melting the fuses (by using a high voltage)
 - A burnt fuse permanently breaks the circuit.
- EPROM
 - Erasable PROM: Data can be changed more than once.
 - Uses floating gate transistors.
 - A floating gate within the transistor can hold different charge values which can be used to manipulate the threshold voltage and thus the

value of the transistor.

- an UV light can be flashed through a quartz window to erase the memory. Old data must be erased to write new data.
- Flash Memory
 - Electronically erasable.
 - Can only erase on block or sector at a time.
- EEPROM
 - Electronically Erasable PROM
 - Individual bytes are erasable.

Device complexity and Cost (in increasing order):

PROM → EPROM → Flash → EEPROM

ATmega328p

- 1 Kb EEPROM
- Byte addressable (0-1023) (4 registers)
- Potentially any data can be stored on the EEPROM.
- External NVMs can be used for more memory.

File Systems

- A standard that defines formats for organizing files and folders
 - Where a file begins and ends in memory
 - how metadata is stored
 - how location information is stored etc.

Raspberry Pi 3

- Primary storage is SD Card (Flash Memory)
- Uses a file system managed by the Linux OS.

Exercise (Arduino)

Writing a Value to EEPROM then Reading it

```

1 char ReadByte(int address)
2 {
3     char* data_register = (char*) 0x40;    //Points to EEDR
4     volatile char *control_register = (char*) 0x3F; //Points to EECR
5     int* address_register = (int*) 0x41;    //Points to EEAR. Note that int is 16bit on ATmega328p
6     //This pointer points to both low byte and high byte
7     //of EEAR
8
9     while (((*control_register) & 2))      //If the data is being written (EEPE is high)
10    {
11        //do nothing
12    }
13    *address_register = address;            //Stores the address in the EEAR
14    *control_register = 1;                  //Set EERE (Initiate reading)
15    return *data_register;                  //Return the contents of the data register (EEDR)
16 }
17
18 void WriteByte(int address, char data)
19 {
20     char* data_register = (char*) 0x40;    //Points to EEDR
21     volatile char *control_register = (char*) 0x3F; //Points to EECR
22     int* address_register = (int*) 0x41;    //Points to EEAR. Note that int is 16bit on ATmega328p
23     //This pointer points to both low byte and high byte
24     //of EEAR
25
26     while (((*control_register) & 2))      //If the data is being written (EEPE is high)
27     {
28         //do nothing
29     }
30 }

```

```

char ReadByte(int address)
{
    char* data_register = (char*) 0x40;    //Points to EEDR

```

```

volatile char *control_register = (char*) 0x3F; //Points to EECR
int* address_register = (int*) 0x41;    //Points to EEAR. Note that int is 16bit on
                                         //This pointer points to both low byte and high byte
                                         //of EEAR

while (((*control_register) & 2))      //If the data is being written (EEPE is high)
{
    //do nothing
}
*address_register = address;           //Stores the address in the EEAR
*control_register = 1;                 //Set EERE (Initiate reading)
return *data_register;                 //Return the contents of the data register (EE
}

void WriteByte(int address, char data)
{
    char* data_register = (char*) 0x40; //Points to EEDR
    volatile char *control_register = (char*) 0x3F; //Points to EECR
    int* address_register = (int*) 0x41;    //Points to EEAR. Note that int is 16bit on
                                         //This pointer points to both low byte and high byte
                                         //of EEAR

    while (((*control_register) & 2))      //If the data is being written (EEPE is high)
    {
        //do nothing
    }
    *address_register = address;           //Stores the address in the EEAR
    *data_register = data;                 //Stores the data in the EEDR
    *control_register = 4;                 //Enable Master Write (Set EEMPE)
    *control_register |= 2;                //Start writing (Set EEPE)
}

int main()
{
    Serial.begin(9600);

```

```
WriteByte(115, 20);          //Write a value of 20 to the memory location 115
unsigned char a = ReadByte(115); //Read the value at memory location 115
Serial.println(a);           //Prints the value

return 0; // Assuming a typical C/C++ main return
}
```