

Symmetric Key Cryptography : Hash and MAC

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- 1 Hash Function
- 2 Message Authentication Code (MAC)

Definition

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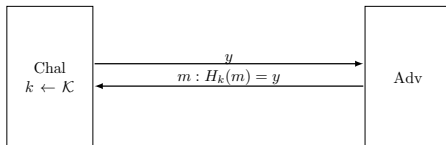
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Choosing a hash function $h \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{H}$ is equivalent to choose $k \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{K}$ and then set $h \leftarrow H_k$

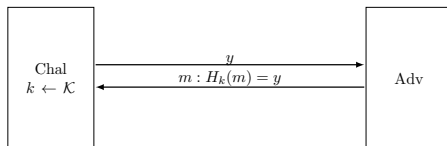
Properties of Hash Function

Pre-Image Resistant



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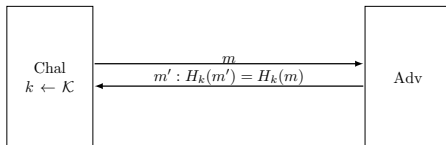
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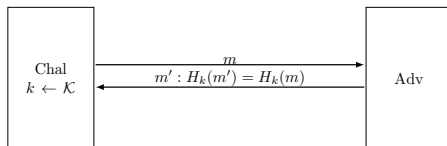
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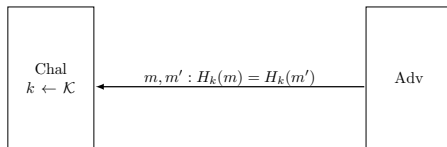
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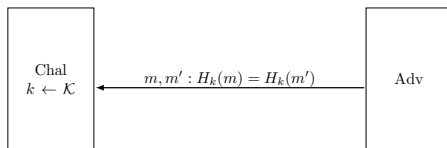
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- A Good Hash Function should be 2^{-n} pre-image secure
- A Good Hash Function should be 2^{-n} second-pre-image secure
- The success probability of finding a collision in a hash function is at least $\frac{q^2}{2^n}$ (Birthday Bound !)

Birthday Bound

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How many people must there be in a room before there is a 50% chance that two of them were born on the same day of the year ?

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Let us assume # of days is n .

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- If $N = n + 1$, probability of collision is 1 (Pigeonhole Principle)
- To ensure probability $\frac{1}{2}$, is the number $n/2$?
- The real answer is surprisingly small. Its about $\Omega(\sqrt{n})$

Collision Attack in Hash Function

Let $H : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ be a hash function.

Collision Finding Algorithm

- 1 Choose $2^{n/2}$ random message $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$ ($m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{2^{n/2}}$) message will be distinct with high probability.
- 2 for each of these messages compute $t \leftarrow H(m)$
- 3 if $\exists i \neq j$ such that $t_i = t_j$ return 1. else go to step 1

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Analogy : $\{0, 1\}^n$ is the set of days in the birthday paradox setting

Relation between PR, 2-PR, and CR

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Proof.

Proof in the contrapositive way.

- If \mathcal{A} attacks PR then $\exists \mathcal{B}$ attacks 2-PR

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- If \mathcal{B} attacks 2-PR then $\exists \mathcal{C}$ attacks CR



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- This Compression function is a fixed length primitive.

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 $f : \{0, 1\}^c \times \{0, 1\}^b \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^c$
- From a fixed length compression function, design a variable length hash function by iterating the compression function
- The most popular approach : Merkle-Damgard Technique of Iterating Hash Function.

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Davis-Meyer Compression Function

Let $e : \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^c \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^c$ be a block-cipher and thus for any $K \in \{0, 1\}^n$, $e_K := e(K, \cdot)$ is a permutation over $\{0, 1\}^c$. The Davis-Meyer Compression Function $DM_e : \{0, 1\}^c \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^c$, defined as $DM_e(h, m) = e_m(h) \oplus h$.

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- Return h_ℓ

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Let f be a fixed compression function and H^f be the Merkle-Damgard Iterated hash Function. If f is a collision resistant function then H^f is also a collision resistant function

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- We cannot lift the preimage resistant or second preimage resistant security to that of compression function.

Merkle-Damgard Hash Function

Note

- It was believed until 2005 that Merkle Damgard Iterated Hash Function is 2^n preimage secure. But Kelsey and Schneier [2] in Eurocrypt'05 showed $\frac{2^n}{\ell}$ attack.

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We shall look at the proof in later slide. □

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- set $h_i = f(h_{i-1}, B)$
- Pad and output 2^t messages of the form $(b_1, \dots, b_t, \text{Pad})$ such that each $b_i = \{B_i, B'_i\}$

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- Pre-Image and Second-Pre-Image : $q \approx n_g \times 2^{n_f/2} + 2^{n_f} + 2^{n_g}$ if $n_f \leq n_g$ (respectively $n_f \times 2^{n_g/2} + 2^{n_g} + 2^{n_f}$ if $n_f \geq n_g$)

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- Total query complexity $q \approx n_g/2 \times 2^{n_f/2} + 2^{n_g/2} \leq 2^{n_f/2+n_g/2}$.

Remark

Finding collision for H requires $t \times 2^t$ evaluation of the compression function of H . But due to the tree structure of 2^t messages, it requires 2^t evaluations of the compression function of H .

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- In this attack G is not necessarily to be a iterated hash function
- One can replace G with random oracle and the same attack will apply with the same query complexity
- Cascading two good independent hash functions does not improve the collision resistance.

Pre-Image and Second-Pre-Image on the Cascading Hash Function

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- G need not be iterated hash function. It could be replaced by random oracle and the attack works !
- Second-Pre-Image attack works in the same way. Attacker computes $F||G(M)$ and then invoke the attack algorithm with input $F||G(M)$

$\frac{2^n}{\ell}$ Pre-Image Attack on Merkle Damgard Iterated Hash Function (Kelsey et al. [2].)

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Expandable Message

An Expandable Message is a pattern of messages of different lengths which all yield the same intermediate hash value after processing them

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Proof of $\frac{2^n}{\ell}$ Second-Pre-Image Security of Merkle Damgard Iterated Hash Function.

Theorem

Let f be a public random function and H^f be the Merkle-Damgard Iterated Hash Function. Let \mathcal{A} be a second-preimage adversary (q, ℓ, ϵ) breaks H^f . Then,

$$\epsilon \leq \frac{q\ell}{2^n}$$

Proof.

Given M , \mathcal{A} will compute $H^f(M)$. Let h_{i_0} be the chaining value, $1 \leq i_0 \leq \ell$ for computing hash value of M . Success of $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow$ Collision in H^f . Let M' be the output of $\mathcal{A} : H^f(M) = H^f(M')$. We know, Collision in $H^f \rightarrow$ Collision in $h_{i_0}, 1 \leq i_0 \leq \ell$. □

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Proof of 2^n Pre-Image Security of HAIFA [2]

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Related Notion of Hash Function

ϵ -Universal Hash Function

- A hash family \mathcal{H} is called ϵ -**universal** (or ϵ -U) if
$$\max_{x \neq x'} \Pr_{\mathbf{K}}[h_{\mathbf{K}}(x) = h_{\mathbf{K}}(x')] \leq \epsilon.$$

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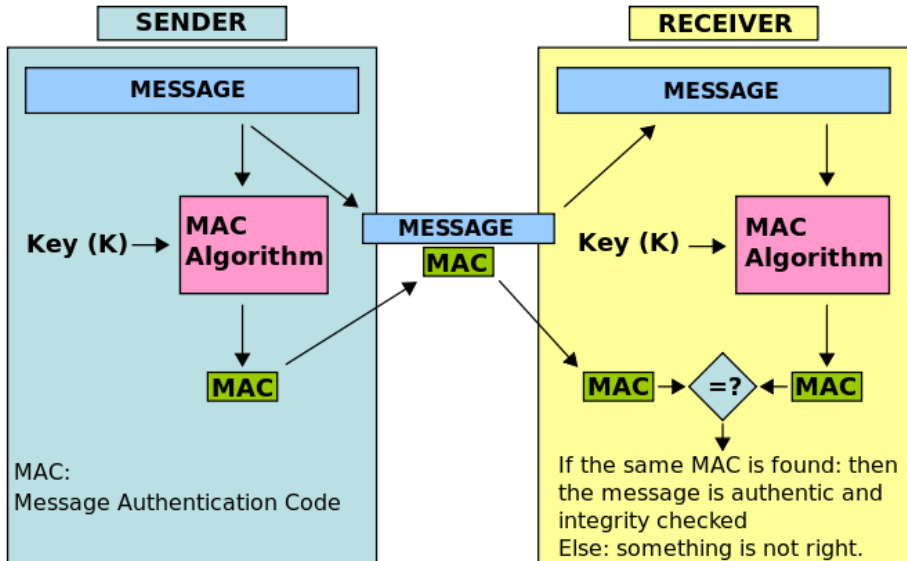
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ϵ -AXU-Universal Hash Function

- A $(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{D})$ -family \mathcal{H} is called ϵ -**Almost-XOR Universal** hash function, if for any two distinct x and x' in \mathcal{D} and a $\delta \in \{0, 1\}^n$, the δ -*differential probability* $\Pr_k[h_k(x) \oplus h_k(x') = \delta] \leq \epsilon$ where the random variable k is uniformly distributed over the set \mathcal{K} .

Symmetric Key Cryptography : Message Authentication Code (MAC)

MAC used in Communication



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• Note: If TG is deterministic algorithm then the MAC is said to be deterministic MAC, otherwise it is called Probabilistic MAC

Security Game of MAC

- Power of the Adversary with respect to attacking MAC: *Adaptive Chosen Message Attack*

\mathcal{A} queries the MAC oracle with messages m_i and the oracle returns the valid tag $t_i = F(k, m_i) \forall 1 \leq i \leq q$.

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Result

UF-1 $\not\Rightarrow$ UF-M. But in Stronger Unforgeability model SUF-1 \iff SUF-M due to Bellare et al. [3]

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Tag-generation

- 1 On query
 $m, t \leftarrow \text{TG}_k(m)$
- 2 $t' \leftarrow t \parallel \langle 0 \rangle$
- 3 return t' .

Verification

- 1 On a query (\tilde{m}, \tilde{t}')
- 2 Parse \tilde{t}' into $\tilde{t} \parallel \langle i \rangle$, where
 $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, |k|\}$
- 3 $b \leftarrow \text{VF}_k(\tilde{m}, \tilde{t})$
- 4 if $b = 0$ or $i = 0$, return b
- 5 if $b = 1$ and $i \geq 1$, return $k[i]$

Attack

- \mathcal{A} submits m , obtains $t \leftarrow \text{TG}'_k(m)$
- for $i = 0$ to $|k| - 1$ do
- \mathcal{A} constructs $\tilde{t} = t || \langle i \rangle$
- \mathcal{A} queries (m, \tilde{t}) to the verification oracle
- \mathcal{A} obtains $k[i]$
- Endfor
- \mathcal{A} recovers the whole key k .
- \mathcal{A} constructs a new (\tilde{m}, \tilde{t}) pair and forge with probability 1.

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Note: We only discuss about Case (2).

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Can a secure Hash Function be used as a MAC ?

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Theorem

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Proof is by *Reduction Game* □

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Corollary

To design a secure MAC, it is enough to design a secure PRF. That means if the distinguishability advantage of PRF is negligible then as $\frac{1}{|Y|}$ is negligible the MAC advantage would be negligible

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Note: We discuss here only two candidates : (a) HMAC and (b) CBC-MAC

COMPOSITION THEOREM : $\text{PRF}(U) \equiv \text{PRF}$

Theorem (Shoup [4])

Let $G_{K_1, K_2} := F_{K_2} \circ h_{K_1} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ where h is an ϵ -universal hash over \mathcal{D} . Then,

$$\mathbf{Adv}_G^{\text{prf}}(t, q, \ell) \leq \mathbf{Adv}_F^{\text{prf}}(t', q, \ell) + \binom{q}{2} \times \epsilon,$$

where $t' = t + \mathcal{O}(qT)$ and T denotes the maximum time for computing h .

Proof.

Output of the function is indistinguishable from random until the collision occurs in the input of F_{K_2} . □

Merkle-Damgard Iterated Hash Construction

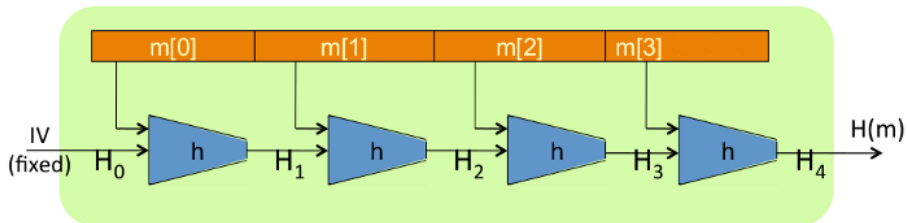
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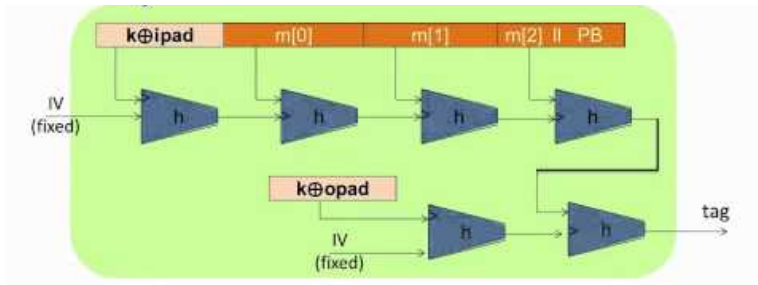
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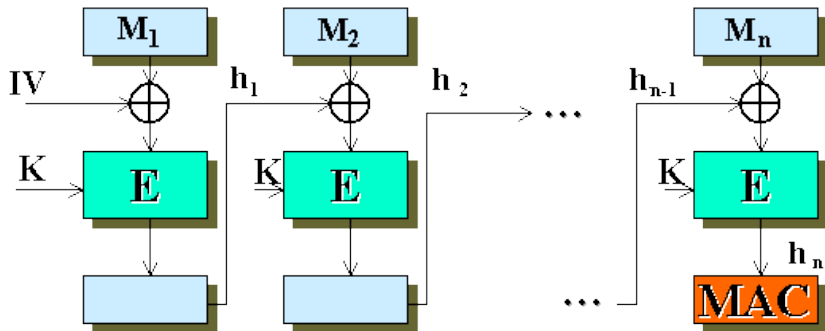
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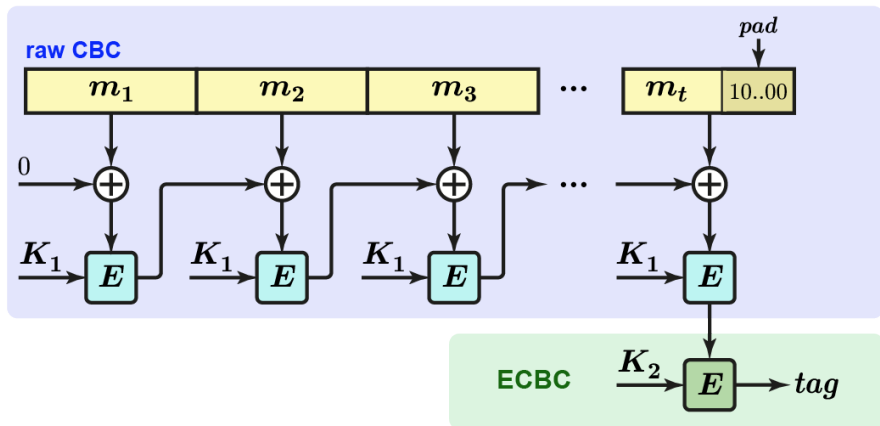
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Thanks

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