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Cryptographic Hash Functions: Theory and Practice

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Hash functions





Applications

- short unique identifier to a string
 - digital signatures
 - data authentication
- one-way function of a string
 - protection of passwords
 - micro-payments
- confirmation of knowledge/commitment
- pseudo-random string generation/key derivation
- entropy extraction
- construction of MAC algorithms, stream ciphers, block ciphers,...



2005: 800 uses of MD5 in Microsoft Windows



Definitions

Iterations (modes)

Compression functions

SHA-{0,1,2}

4

SHA-3 bits and bytes



Hash function flavours cryptographic hash function this talk MAC **MDC OWHF** CRHF UOWHF (TCR)



Informal definitions

- no secret parameters
- input string x of arbitrary length ⇒ output h(x) of fixed bitlength n
- computation "easy"
- One Way Hash Function (OWHF)
 - preimage resistance
 - 2nd preimage resistance
- Collision Resistant Hash Function (CRHF): OWHF +
 - collision resistant



Security requirements (n-bit result)



Preimage resistance

preimage

h

h(x)

 2^n

- in a password file, one does not store
 - (username, password)
- but
 - (username,hash(password))
- this is sufficient to verify a password
- an attacker with access to the password file has to find a preimage

Second preimage resistance

2nd preimage



Channel 1: high capacity and insecure
 h(x)
 Channel 2: low capacity but secure
 (= authenticated – cannot be modified)

- an attacker can modify x but not h(x)
- he can only fool the recipient if he finds a second preimage of x

Collision resistance (1/2)

- hacker Alice prepares two versions of a software driver for the O/S company Bob
 - x is correct code
 - x' contains a backdoor that gives Alice access to the machine
- Alice submits x for inspection to Bob
- if Bob is satisfied, he digitally signs h (x) with his private key
- Alice now distributes x' to users of the O/S; these users verify the signature with Bob's public key
- this signature works for x and for x', since h(x) = h(x')!

collision



Collision resistance (2/2)

- in many cryptographic protocols, Alice wants to commit to a value x without revealing it
- Alice picks a secret random string r and sends y = h(x || r) to Bob
- in a later phase of the protocol, Alice reveals x and r to Bob and he checks that y is correct
- if Alice can find a collision, that is (x,r) and (x',r') with x' ≠ x she can cheat
- if Bob can find a preimage, he can learn x and cheat

collision



Brute force (2nd) preimage

- multiple target second preimage (1 out of many):
 - if one can attack 2^t simultaneous targets, the effort to find a single preimage is 2^{n-t}
- multiple target second preimage (many out of many):
 - time-memory trade-off with Θ(2ⁿ) precomputation and storage Θ(2^{2n/3}) time per (2nd) preimage: Θ(2^{2n/3}) [Hellman'80]
- answer: randomize hash function with a parameter S (salt, key, spice,...)



The birthday paradox

- given a set with S elements
- choose r elements at random (with replacements) with r « S
- the probability p that there are at least 2 equal elements (a collision) ≈ 1 - exp (- r(r-1)/2S)
- more precisely, it can be shown that
 - p ≥ 1 exp (- r(r-1)/2S)
 - if r < $\sqrt{2S}$ then p ≥ 0.6 r (r-1)/2S



How to find collisions?



I = space of pairs of messages; size $\approx (2^{2^{64}})^2$

C = space of all input messages that collide under h

 $|C| \approx 2^{-n} |I|$

Collision search algorithm 1

Pick 2^n random message pairs (x,x')

For each pair, $Prob(h(x)=h(x')=2^{-n})$

You expect to find a collision, that is, a non-empty intersection with C

How to find collisions?



I = space of pairs of messages; size $\approx (2^{2^{64}})^2$

C = space of all input messages that collide under h

 $|\mathsf{C}| \approx 2^{-n} |\mathsf{I}|$

Collision search algorithm 2

Pick a set R of 2^{n/2} random messages

Find a collision

You expect to find a collision, that is, a non-empty intersection with C as there are about $2^{n}/2$ distinct pairs in R

Collision resistance

- hard to achieve in practice
 - many attacks
 - requires double output length 2^{n/2} versus 2ⁿ
- hard to achieve in theory
 - [Simon'98] one cannot derive collision resistance from "general" preimage resistance (there exists no black box reduction)
- hard to formalize: requires
 - family of functions: key, parameter, salt, spice,...
 - "human ignorance" trick [Stinson'06], [Rogaway'06]



Relation between properties





Brute force attacks in practice

- (2nd) preimage search
 - n = 128: 23 B\$ for 1 year if one can attack 2⁴⁰ targets in parallel
- parallel collision search: small memory using cycle finding algorithms (distinguished points)
 - n = 128: 1 M\$ for 8 hours (or 1 year on 100K PCs)
 - n = 160: 90 M\$ for 1 year
 - need 256-bit result for long term security (30 years or more)



Quantum computers

- in principle exponential parallelism
- inverting a one-way function: 2ⁿ reduced to 2^{n/2}
 [Grover'96]
- collision search:
 - 2^{n/3} computation + hardware [Brassard-Hoyer-Tapp'98]
 - [Bernstein'09] classical collision search requires $2^{n/4}$ computation and hardware (= standard cost of $2^{n/2}$)





Properties in practice

- collision resistance is not always necessary
- other properties are needed:
 - PRF: pseudo-randomness if keyed (with secret key)
 - PRO: pseudo-random oracle property
 - near-collision resistance
 - partial preimage resistance (most of input known)
 - multiplication freeness
- how to formalize these requirements and the relation between them?



Iteration (mode of compression function)

How not to construct a hash function

Divide the message into t blocks x_i of n bits each



Hash function: iterated structure



Split messages into blocks of fixed length and hash them block by block with a compression function f

Efficient and elegant But ...



Security relation between f and h

- iterating f can degrade its security
 - trivial example: 2nd preimage



Security relation between f and h (2)

- solution: Merkle-Damgård (MD) strengthening
 - fix IV, use unambiguous padding and insert length at the end
- f is collision resistant ⇒ h is collision resistant [Merkle'89-Damgård'89]
- f is ideally 2nd preimage resistant preimage resistant [Lai-Massey'92]
 - few hash functions have a strong compression function
 - very few hash functions treat x_i and H_{i-1} in the same way



Security relation between f and h (3)

length extension: if one knows h(x), easy to compute h(x || y) without knowing x or IV



Property preservation [Andreeva-Mennink-P'10] for overview

Sec/Pre preservation seems to be problematic

Is Pre preservation meaningful?

	Coll	Sec	Pre	Pro
Suffix- & Prefix-free MD				
Envelope MD				
BCM				?
Haifa				
RMX				
				-

More on property preservation/domain extension

- PRO preservation ⇒ Col, Sec and Pre for ideal compression function
 - but for narrow pipe bounds for Sec and Pre are at most 2^{n/2} rather than 2ⁿ

• [...]



Attacks on MD-type iterations

multi-collision attack and impact on concatenation [Joux'04]

long message 2nd preimage attack

[Dean-Felten-Hu'99], [Kelsey-Schneier'05]

- Sec security degrades lineary with number 2^t of message blocks hashed: 2^{n-t+1} + t 2^{n/2+1}
- appending the length does not help here!
- herding attack [Kelsey-Kohno'06]
 - reduces security of commitment using a hash function from 2ⁿ
 - on-line 2^{n-t} + precomputation $2 \cdot 2^{(n+t)/2}$ + storage 2^t



How (NOT) to strengthen a hash function? [Joux'04]

- answer: concatenation
- h₁ (n1-bit result) and h₂ (n2-bit result)

- intuition: the strength of g against collision/(2nd) preimage attacks is the product of the strength of h₁ and h₂

 $\begin{array}{c|c}
h_{1} & h_{2} \\
\downarrow & \downarrow \\
g(x) = h_{1}(x) || h_{2}(x)
\end{array}$

• but....

Multiple collisions ≠ multi-collision

Assume "ideal" hash function h with n-bit result

- Θ(2^{n/2}) evaluations of h (or steps): 1 collision
 h(x)=h(x')
- Θ(r. 2^{n/2}) steps: r² collisions

 h(x₁)=h(x₁'); h(x₂)=h(x₂'); ...; h(x_{r²})=h(x_{r²}')
- Θ(2^{2n/3}) steps: a 3-collision
 h(x)= h(x')=h(x")
- Θ(2^{n(t-1)/t}) steps: a t-fold collision (multi-collision)
 h(x₁)= h(x₂)= ... =h(x_t)



Multi-collisions on iterated hash function (2)



- for IV: collision for block 1: x_1 , x'_1
- for H_1 : collision for block 2: x_2 , x'_2
- for H₂: collision for block 3: x_3 , x'_3
- for H_3 : collision for block 4: x_4 , x'_4
- now $h(x_1||x_2||x_3||x_4) = h(x_1'||x_2||x_3||x_4) = h(x_1'||x_2'||x_3||x_4) = \dots$ = $h(x_1'||x_2'||x_3'||x_4)$ a 16-fold collision (time: 4 collisions)

Multi-collisions [Joux '04]

- finding multi-collisions for an iterated hash function is not much harder than finding a single collision (if the size of the internal memory is n bits)
 - algorithm
 - generate R = $2^{n1/2}$ -fold multi-collision for h₂
 - in R: search by brute force for h₁
 - Time: n1. 2^{n2/2} + 2^{n1/2} << 2^{(n1 + n2)/2}



consider h_1 (n1-bit result) and h_2 (n2-bit result), with n1 \ge n2.

concatenation of 2 iterated hash functions $(g(x)=h_1(x) || h_2(x))$ is as most as strong as the strongest of the two (even if both are independent)

• cost of collision attack against g at most $p_{1/2} = 2p_{1/2}^{2/2} + 2p_{1/2}^{2/2} = 2(p_{1}^{2} + p_{2}^{2})/2$

n1. $2^{n2/2} + 2^{n1/2} << 2^{(n1 + n2)/2}$

- cost of (2nd) preimage attack against g at most n1. $2^{n2/2} + 2^{n1} + 2^{n2} << 2^{n1 + n2}$
- if either of the functions is weak, the attacks may work better



Summary



Improving MD iteration

salt + output transformation + counter + wide pipe



security reductions well understood many more results on property preservation impact of theory limited
Improving MD iteration

- degradation with use: salting (family of functions, randomization)
 - or should a salt be part of the input?
- PRO: strong output transformation g
 - also solves length extension
- long message 2nd preimage: preclude fix points
 - counter $f \rightarrow f_i$ [Biham-Dunkelman'07]
- multi-collisions, herding: avoid breakdown at 2^{n/2} with larger internal memory: known as wide pipe
 - e.g., extended MD4, RIPEMD, [Lucks'05]





Block cipher (E_K) based

Davies-Meyer



Miyaguchi-Preneel



- output length = block length
- 12 secure compression functions (in ideal cipher model)
- requires 1 key schedule per encryption
- analysis [Black-Rogaway-Shrimpton'02], [Duo-Li'06], [Stam'09],...

Permutation (π) based: sponge



Permutation (π) based



Iteration modes and compression functions

- security of simple modes well understood
- powerful tools available
- analysis of slightly more complex schemes very difficult
- which properties are meaningful?
- which properties are preserved?
- MD versus sponge is still open debate





Hash function history 101



Performance of hash functions [Bernstein-Lange] (cycles/byte) AMD Intel Pentium D 2992 MHz (f64)



MDx-type hash function history



The complexity of collision attacks

brute force: 1 million PCs (1 year) or US\$ 100,000 hardware (4 days)



MD5 [Rivest'91] 4 rounds of 16 steps







NIST and SHA-1

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General Information Crypto Hash Home Email Mailing List AHS Tentative Timeline NIST's Policy on Hash Functions *NEW* Contacts Second Workshop Aug 24 25 2006	 NIST's Policy on Hash Functions March 15, 2006: The SHA-2 family of hash functions (i.e., SHA-224, SHA-256, SHA-384 and SHA-512) may be used by Federal agencies for an applications using secure hash algorithms. Federal agencies should stop using SHA-1 for digital signatures, bigital time stamping and other applications that require collision resistance as soon as practical, and must use the SHA-2 family of hash functions for these applications after 2010. After 2010, Federal agencies may use SHA-1 only for the following applications: hash-based message authentication codes (HMACs); key derivation functions (KDFs); and random number generators (RNGs). Regardless of use, NIST encourages applications and protocols. 							
Done				.;;				

Rogue CA attack [Sotirov-Stevens-Appelbaum-Lenstra-Molnar-Osvik-de Weger '08]

 request user cert; by special collision this results in a fake CA cert (need to predict serial number + validity period)

impact: **rogue CA** that can issue certs that are trusted by all browsers



- 6 CAs have issued certificates signed with MD5 in 2008:
 - Rapid SSL, Free SSL (free trial certificates offered by RapidSSL), TC TrustCenter AG, RSA Data Security, Verisign.co.jp

Upgrades

- RIPEMD-160 is good replacement for SHA-1
- upgrading algorithms is always hard
- TLS uses MD5 || SHA-1 to protect algorithm negotiation (up to v1.1)
- upgrading negotiation algorithm is even harder: need to upgrade TLS 1.1 to TLS 1.2



SHA-2 [NIST'02]

- SHA-224, SHA-256, SHA-384, SHA-512
 - non-linear message expansion
 - more complex operations
 - 64/80 steps
 - SHA-384 and SHA-512: 64-bit architectures
- SHA-256 collisions: 24/64 steps [Sanadhya-Sarkar'08]
- SHA-256 preimages: 43/64 steps [Aoki+'09]
- implementations today faster than anticipated
- adoption
 - industry may migrate to SHA-2 by 2011 or may wait for SHA-3
 - very slow for TLS/IPsec (no pressing need)





The candidates



Preliminary cryptanalysis

End of Round 1 candidates

Round 2 candidates

Compression function/iteration

	Block cipher	Permutation	MD/HAIFA	
Blake			HAIFA	
Grøstl		2-permutation	MD	
JH			JH-specific	
Keccak		Sponge		
Skein	MMO		MD*/Tree (UBI)	

Properties: bits and bytes [Watanabe'10]

Security reductions [Andreeva-Mennink-P'10]

Table 1. A schematic summary of all results. The *first* column describes the hash function construction, and the *second* and *third* column show which hash functions have a suffix-free (sf) or prefix-free (pf) padding. A *green* box indicates the existence of a non-trivial upper bound, a *red* box means that an efficient adversary is known for the security notion, and a *yellow* box indicates that no result is known, but recent literature gives some confidence in the existence of a non-trivial bound.

Security: SHA-3 Zoo http://ehash.iaik.tugraz.at/wiki/The_SHA-3_Zoo

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 SHA-3 Zoo Recent changes 	At this time, so out or 64 submissions to the SHA-3 competition are publicly known and available. 51 submissions have advanced to Round 1 @ and 14 submissions have made it into Round 2 @.							
Random pageHelp	The following table should give a first impression on the remaining SHA-3 candidates. It shows only the best known attack, more detailed results are collected at the individual hash function pages. A description of the main table is given here.							
search	Recent updates of the SHA-3 Zoo 🖗							
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toolbox What links here		Hash Name	Principal Submitter	Best Attack on Main NIST Requirements	Best Attack on other Hash Requirements			
 Related changes Upload file 		BLAKE	Jean-Philippe Aumasson					
 Special pages 		Blue Midnight Wish	Svein Johan Knanskog					
Printable version Permanent link		CubeHash	Daniel I Bernstein	preimage				
		FOLIO	Lansi Ollhart	prennage				
		ECHU	Henri Gilbert					
		Fugue	Charanjit S. Jutla					
		Grøsti	Lars R. Knudsen					
		Hamsi	Özgül Küçük					
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Software performance [Bernstein-Lange10] http://bench.cr.yp.to/ebash.html cycles/byte on 3.2 GHz, AMD Phenom II X6 1090T (100fa0)

Hardware: post-place & route results for ASIC 130nm [Guo-Huang-Nazhandali-Schaumont'10]

ide credit: Patrick Schaumont, Virginia Tech

Issues arisen during Round 1

- round 1 was very short; several functions received no outside analysis
- security
 - some controversy on complexity and relevance of attacks
 - proofs have not helped much to survive
- performance
 - weak performance resulted in elimination
- 7/14 designs tweaked at the beginning of round 2

Issues arisen during Round 2

- security
 - few real attacks but some weaknesses
 - new design ideas harder to validate
- performance: roughly as fast or faster than SHA-2
 - SHA-2 gets faster every day
 - widely different results for hardware and software
 - software: large difference between high end and embedded
 - hardware: FGPA and ASIC
 - what about lightweight devices and 128-core machines?
- diversity = third selection criterion
- expect more tweaks before final
- variable number of rounds?
- NIST expects that SHA-2 and SHA-3 will co-exist

- Blake
- JH
- Grøstl
- Keccak
- Skein

SHA-4?

- an open competition such as SHA-3 is bound to result in new insights between 2008-2012
- only few of these can be incorporated using "tweaks"
- the winner selected in 2012 will reflect the state of the art in October 2008
- nevertheless, it is unlikely that we will have a SHA-4 competition before 2030

- SHA-1 would have needed 128-160 steps instead of 80
- 2004-2009 attacks: cryptographic meltdown but not dramatic for most applications

- clear warning: upgrade asap

- half-life of a hash function is < 1 year
- theory is developing for more robust iteration modes and extra features; still early for building blocks
- nirwana: efficient hash functions with security reductions

The end

Thank you for your attention

Brute force collision search

- low memory and parallel implementation of the birthday attack [Pollard'78][Quisquater'89][Wiener-van Oorschot'94]
- distinguished point (d bits)
 - Θ(e2^{n/2} + e 2^{d+1}) steps with e the cost of one function evaluation
 - $\Theta(n2^{n/2-d})$ memory
 - full cost: $\Theta(e n 2^{n/2})$ [Wiener'02]



h

h(x)



Functional graph of f(x) = x² + 7 mod 11



• Exercise: why is the indegree of 5 nodes equal to 0 resp. 2?



Tree structure: parallelism

[Damgård'89], [Pal-Sarkar'03]



Rebound Attack

a new variant of differential cryptanalysis



developed during the design of Grøstl [MRST09]

already successfully applied to Whirlpool and the SHA-3 candidates Twister, Lane, and reduced versions of others



MD5 [Rivest'91]

- 4 rounds (64 steps)
- pseudo-collisions [denBoer-Bosselaers'93]
- collisions for compression function [Dobbertin'96]
- collisions for hash function
 - [Wang+'04] 15 minutes
 - ...
 - [Stevens+'09] milliseconds
 - brute force (2⁶⁴): 1M\$ 8 hours in 2010
- 2nd preimage in 2¹²³ [Sasaki-Aoki'09]





- advice (RIPE since '92, RSA since '96): stop using MD5
- largely ignored by industry until 2009 (click on a cert...)

Certificate	? ×	
General Details Certification Path	1	
	<u> </u>	
Show: KAIN		
Field	Value	
	Value	
E Serial Number	3C36 1D05 ED01 5377 934C 4	
🔚 Signature Algorithm	md5RSA	
E Issuer	www.verisign.com/CPS Incorp	
Valid From	Wednesday, June 04, 2003 1:0	
Valid To	Saturday, June 04, 2005 12:59:	
	WWW.Verisign.com, Lerms or us	
	113A (1024 bits)	
E	dit Properties Copy to File	
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SHA(-0) [NIST'93]

- now called SHA-0, because of '94 of publication SHA-1
- very similar to MD5:
 - 16 extra steps (from 64 to 80)
 - message expansion uses bitwise code rather than repetition
 - $\mathsf{w}_{j} \leftarrow (\mathsf{w}_{j-3} \oplus \mathsf{w}_{j-8} \oplus \mathsf{w}_{j-14} \oplus \mathsf{w}_{j-16}) \ j{>}15$
 - quasicyclic code with $d_{min} = 23$
- 1994: withdrawn by NIST for unidentified flaw
- 2004: collisions for in 2⁵¹ [Joux+'04]
- 2005: collisions in 2³⁹ [Wang+'05]
- 2007: collisions in 2³² [Joux+'07]
- 2008: collisions in 1 hour [Manuel-Peyrin'08]
- 2008: preimages for 52 of 80 steps in 2^{156.6} [Aoki-Sasaki'09]

SHA-1 [NIST'95]

- fix to SHA-0
- add rotation to message expansion: quasicyclic code, $d_{min} = 25$ $w_i \leftarrow (w_{i-3} \oplus w_{i-8} \oplus w_{i-14} \oplus w_{i-16}) >> 1 \quad j > 15$
 - 53 steps [Oswald-Rijmen'04 and Biham-Chen'04]
- 58 steps [Wang+'05]
 64 steps in 2³⁵ highly structured [De Cannière-Rechberger'06-'07]:
 70 steps in 2⁴⁴ highly structured [De Cannière-Rechberger'06-'07]:
 70 steps 2³⁹ (4 days on a PC) [Joux-Peyrin'07]
 2⁶⁹ [Wang+'05]
 2⁶³ ? [Wang+'05 unpublished]

 - 2⁵¹ ? [Sugita+'06]
 - 2⁶² ? [Mendel+'08 unpublished]
 - 2⁵² ?? [McDonald+'09 unpublished]

preimages for 48/80 steps in 2^{160-ε} [Aoki-Sasaki'09]



Impact of collisions

- collisions for MD5, SHA-0, SHA-1
 - 2 messages differ in a few bits in 1 to 3 512-bit input blocks

↓ ↓↓

- limited control over message bits in these blocks
- but arbitrary choice of bits before and after them

- what is achievable for MD5?
 - 2 colliding executables/postscript/gif/...[Lucks-Daum'05]
 - 2 colliding RSA public keys thus with colliding X.509 certificates [Lenstra+'04]
 - chosen prefix attack: different IDs, same certificate [Stevens+'07]
 - 2 arbitrary colliding files (no constraints) in 8 hours for 1 M\$



Impact of MD5 collisions

- digital signatures: only an issue if for nonrepudiation
- none for signatures computed before attacks were public (1 August 2004)
- none for certificates if public keys are generated at random in a controlled environment
- substantial for signatures after 1 August 2005 (cf. traffic tickets in Australia)



And (2nd) preimages?

- security degrades with number of applications
- for large messages even with the number of blocks (cf. supra)
- specific results:
 - MD2: 2⁷³ [Knudsen+09]
 - MD4: 2¹⁰² [Leurent'08]
 - MD5: 2¹²³ [Sasaki-Aoki'09]
 - SHA-0: 52 of 80 steps in 2^{156.6} [Aoki-Sasaki'09]
 - SHA-1: 48 of 80 steps in 2^{159.3} [Aoki-Sasaki'09]



• HMAC keys through the IV (plaintext)

collisions for MD5 invalidate current security proof of HMAC-MD5

	Rounds in f2	Rounds in f1	Data complexity
MD4	48	48	2 ⁷² CP + 2 ⁷⁷ time
MD5	64	33 of 64	2 ^{126.1} CP
MD5	64	64	2 ⁵¹ CP & 2 ¹⁰⁰ time (RK)
SHA-0	80	80	2 ¹⁰⁹ CP
SHA-1	80	53 of 80	2 ^{98.5} CP



HMAC



[Arbitman-Dogon-Lyubashevsky-Micciancio- Peikert-Rosen'08]

- compression function:
 - SWIFFT: FFT-like operation from $(Z_2^{32})^{64}$ to Z_{257}^{64}
 - sandwich: 3xSWIFFT S-boxes 1xSWIFFT
- asymptotic proof of security: "it can be formally proved that finding a collision in a randomly-chosen compression function from the SWIFFTX family is at least as hard as finding short vectors in cyclic/ideal lattices over the ring Z[α]/(αⁿ+1) is in the worst case."
- note: SWIFFT mapping is linear and some heuristics are needed to "kill" the linearity
- speed: 57 cpb

SWIFF

- compression function: multiplication of vector of Hamming weight w with a truncated quasi-cyclic binary matrix
 - can be interpreted as a syndrome computation of an error pattern with weight w
- MD iteration with Whirlpool as output transformation
- security can be reduced to:

(Computational Syndrome Decoding) Given a binary $r \times n$ matrix H, a word $s \in \{0,1\}^r$ and an integer w > 0, find a word $e \in \{0,1\}^n$ of Hamming weight $\leq w$ such that $eH^T = s$.

(Codeword Finding) Given a binary $r \ge n$ matrix H and an integer w > 0, and a non-zero word $e \in \{0,1\}^n$ of Hamming weight $\leq w$ with an all zero H-syndrome.

• 324 cpb (can be optimized)



• Zémor-Tillich: consider the 2 generators of the group SL(2; F_{2ⁿ})

$$A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} x & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x & x+1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

the hash value of a string x with elements x[i] is $\Pi_{i=1}^{n} A_{x[i]}$

- ZesT = vectorial version of the Zémor-Tillich function iterated 2x
- security: ZesT is collision resistant if and only if the balance problem is hard and in particular if the representation problem is hard for the group SL(2; F₂n) and the generators A₀ and A₁
- performance: 10-20 times slower than SHA-512 but parallelism

More details: PhD thesis of Christophe Petit, UCL, May 2009



Original ZT scheme broken in 2009 see IACR eprint [Grassl-Ilic-Magliveras-Steinwandt'09]