Merkle-Damgard Transform to obtain a Provably Secure Collision Resistant Hash Function

Assumptions: Used previously built PRG to generate h and DLP based hash function here.

Input format:

- 1. It will ask for a safe prime number p in integer format.
- 2. It will ask for a generator (primitive root) of that prime.
- 3. It will then ask for a seed to generate h (b/w 1 to prime) via PRG.
- 4. Then, it'll ask to input the data whose max length can be $2^{l(n)}$ -1, where l(n) is length of the prime in bits.

Output Format:

1. It will output the hashed data after merkle damgard transform.

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Round #2
Vector z1: 10011111001
x2: 01001010111
Concatenated data inseted into dlp hash: 10011111001||01001010111
x1_mod_p: 10011111001, x2_mod_p: 1001010111
Obtained hash for this round: 00000000011
Round #3
Vector z2: 00000000011
x3: 01011010000
Concatenated data inseted into dlp hash: 00000000011||01011010000
x1_mod_p: 11, x2_mod_p: 1011010000
Obtained hash for this round: 10100110000
Last Round
hash (z0||length of msg)
z: 10100110000
L: 00000011110
Concatenated data inseted into dlp hash: 10100110000| 00000011110
x1_mod_p: 10100110000, x2_mod_p: 11110
Obtained hash for this round: 10010001010
Hashed data after merkle damgard transform: 10010001010
```

Working Flow:

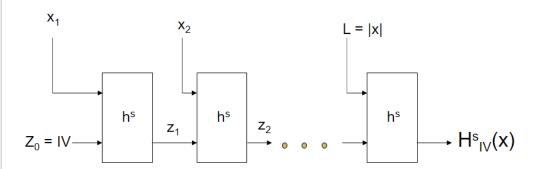
- 1. Upon getting the input, the function merkle_damgard_transform(prime, generator, h, prime bin, prime bin len, data)` will be called.
- 2. For next steps clarification, refer to the below 2 diagrams.
- 3. Here h_s refers to our previously built hash function.
- 4. So, first if the data length is not multiple of the length of the prime, then zero is padded at the end to make it so.
- 5. Next, the data is divided into blocks of block-size = prime length.
- 6. Then, an initial vector is chosen whose length = prime length and all 0's(00000..).
- 7. Then a for loop runs d times, where d = no of data blocks.
- 8. In first iteration, x1 = initial vector with all 0's, x2 = first block of data. These two go as input to DLP based fixed length hash function. The output goes as x1 for next iteration.
- 9. For next iteration onwards, x1 = previous iteration hash function output, x2 = corresponding data block.
- 10. For last block, x1 =output of the hash function in previous iteration, x2 =length of the data.
- 11. The output of the last block is the merkle damgard transformed hash data.

CONSTRUCTION 4.11 The Merkle-Damgård Transform.

Let (Gen_h, h) be a fixed-length hash function with input length $2\ell(n)$ and output length $\ell(n)$. Construct a variable-length hash function (Gen, H) as follows:

- $\mathsf{Gen}(1^n)$: upon input 1^n , run the key-generation algorithm Gen_h of the fixed-length hash function and output the key. That is, output $s \leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}_h$.
- $H^s(x)$: Upon input key s and message $x \in \{0,1\}^*$ of length at most $2^{\ell(n)} 1$, compute as follows:
 - 1. Let L = |x| (the length of x) and let $B = \lceil \frac{L}{\ell} \rceil$ (i.e., the number of blocks in x). Pad x with zeroes so that its length is an exact multiple of ℓ .
 - 2. Define $z_0 := 0^{\ell}$ and then for every i = 1, ..., B, compute $z_i := h^s(z_{i-1}||x_i)$, where h^s is the given fixed-length hash function.
 - 3. Output $z = H^s(z_B || L)$

Merkle Damgard Transform



Theorem: If (Gen,h) is a fixed length collision resistant hash function, then (Gen, H) is a collision resistant hash function