

Use Merkle-Damgard transform to obtain a provably secure collision resistant hash function

The Merkle-Damgard transform says that if (Gen, h) is a fixed length collision resistant hash function, then (Gen, H) is a collision resistant hash function. It constructs hash functions $H^s(x)$ from fixed length hash functions (h^s) with inputs of length $2n$ and output length n .

Let (Gen, h) be a fixed length collision-resistant hash function for inputs of length $2l(n)$ and with output length $l(n)$.

1. Gen : remains unchanged
2. H : on input a key s and a string x belonging to $\{0,1\}^*$ of length $L < 2^{l(n)}$, do the following
 - a. Set $B := \lceil L/l \rceil$, that is, the number of blocks in x . Pad x with zeroes so its length is a multiple of l . Parse the padded result as the sequence of l -bit blocks x_1, \dots, x_B . Set $x_{B+1} := L$, where L is encoded using exactly l bits.
 - b. Set $z_0 := 0^l$
 - c. For $i = 1, \dots, B+1$, compute $z_i := h^s(z_{i-1} || x_i)$
 - d. Output z_{B+1}

The mdt function first gets the binary representation of the message and then appends the length of the message.

The hash function has also been used to generate the hash.

The code has been explained in the comments present in the script wherever necessary.