

The Sponge Construction

# CS 553

Lecture 20 Hash Constructions

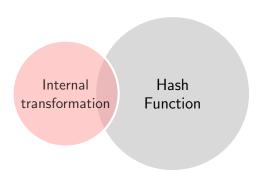
Instructor Dr. Dhiman Saha

## Hash Functions

Hash Function

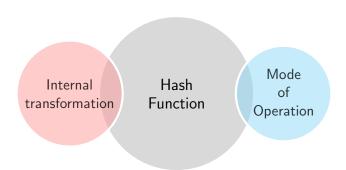
- ► Compression Function
- Block-Cipher
- ► Permutation
- etc.

- ► Iterates the internal transformation
- ► Also called the **Domain Extension Algorithm**



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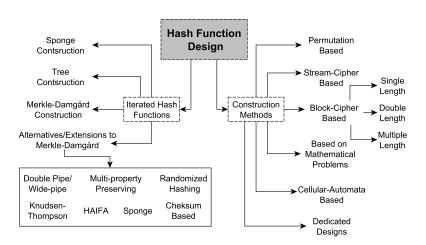
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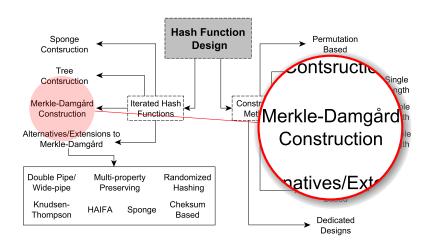
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- ► Also called the **Domain** Extension Algorithm

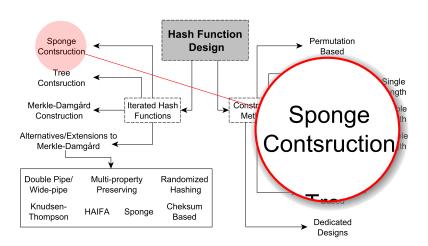
## Taxanomy of Hash Designs



Most Popular: Iterated Hashing

# Our Focus - Historical Importance





#### Idea

The simplest way to hash a message is to split it into chunks and process each chunk consecutively using a similar algorithm.

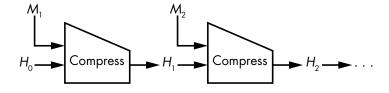
#### Compression Function Based

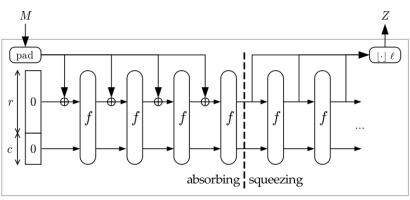
- Uses a compression function that transforms an input to a smaller output.
- ► AKA the MerkleDamgård construction
- ► Named after the Ralph Merkle and Ivan Damgård

#### Permutation Based

- ► Transforms an input to an output of the same size
- ► AKA **sponge** functions.

# Merkle-Damgård





sponge

# Analyzing M-D Construction

Why? Homework

If a **compression function** is preimage and collision resistant, then a **hash function** built on it using the **M-D** construction will also be preimage and collision resistant.

#### Multi-Collision

#### Finding Multi-collisions

How much more difficult than finding a collision?

#### Why?

If you know Hash(M) for some unknown message, M, composed of blocks  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  (after padding), you can determine  $Hash(M_1||M_2||M_3)$  for **any** block,  $M_3$ .

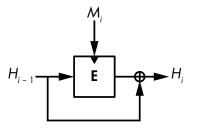
► A side-effect of M-D Construction.

#### A Practical Example

Proof of storage protocols

## The Davies-Meyer construction

The most common of the block cipher-based compression functions

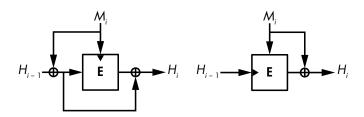


#### **Fixed Points**

### An Interesting Property

You can find fixed points, or chaining values, that are unchanged after applying the compression function with a given message block.

# Other Compression Function Constructions



#### Less Popular

- ► More complex or
- ► Require the message block to be the same length as the chaining value.

► Hash functions are the same everywhere

## Implication User re-uses the same password on two sites

- ▶ What if both sites use same hash function?
- ▶ The values in the password database will be the same.
- Further, many passwords are extremely common (password), so many users will use the same one.

#### The Rainbow Table

What if we simply try many of those passwords, creating huge tables mapping passwords to their hash values?

#### Definition (Salt)

Random data that is added to a cryptographic primitive like

- ► A one-way function such as a cryptographic hash function
- ► Or a key derivation function

Customizes such functions to produce different outputs (provided the salt is different)

- Can be used to prevent e.g. dictionary attacks
- ► Typically **does not** have to be **secret**, but secrecy may improve security properties of the system.

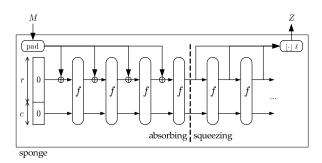
Compare salt with nonce, initialization vector.

Instantiates a fixed-length permutation

An interesting alternative to *hard-to-build* structures:

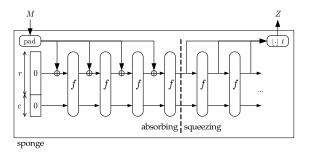
Compression functions, Block ciphers

$$b = r + c$$
  
 $b =$ width  
 $r =$ bitrate  
 $c =$ capacity



#### Note

The output length is **variable**  $\implies$  classical notion fails New notion: Security defined in terms of **capacity** 



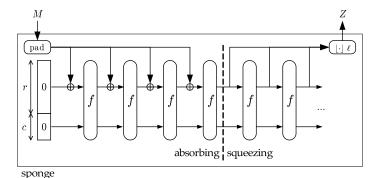
Allows trade-off between  $\left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \text{speed} & \text{rate} \\ \& & \rightarrow & \& \\ \text{security} & \text{capacity} \end{array} \right.$ 

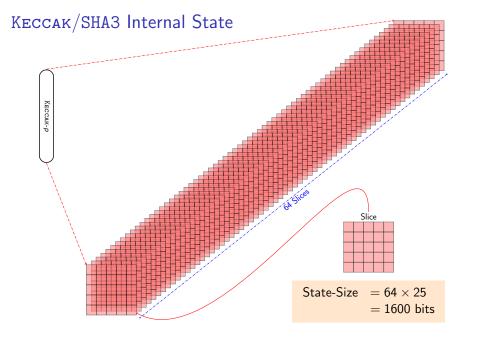
## SHA3 Competition

- ► Announced by NIST in 2007
- Search for the next generation (S)ecure (H)ash (A)lgorithm
- ► Follows philosophy of AES Competition
- 5 years of intense cryptanalysis
- ► Keccak declared winner in Oct 2012

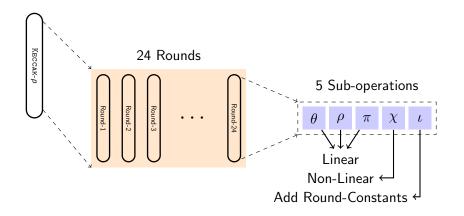


- Follows SPONGE construction
- Internal permutation called Keccak-f/Keccak-p
- SHA3 Family



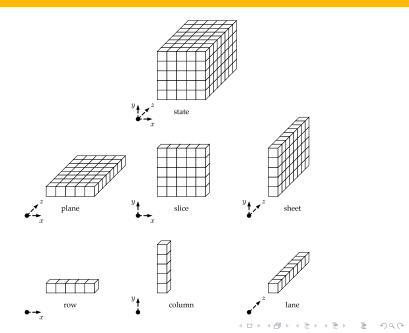


## Inside Keccak-p Permutation

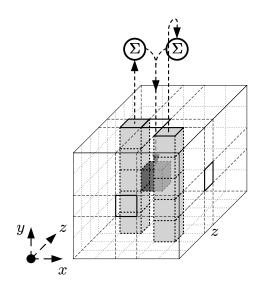


Round Constants added to destroy symmetry

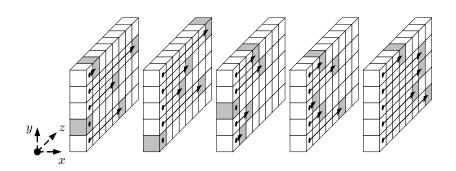
## Pieces of the Keccak Internal State

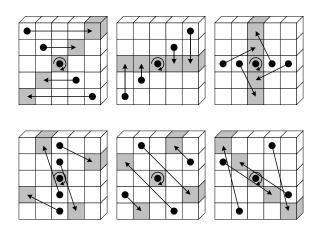


Linear Theta



Linear Rho





Non-Linear Chi

