

Izcan

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The Merkle-Damgård Construction is widely used technique in cryptography for building cryptographic hash function. Two inventors are Ralph and Ivan. This construction is used to turn compression function into hash function and it forms basis for many hash function like MD5, SHA1 and SHA2.

The construction works by taking a message of arbitrary length and breaking it into fixed size block. These block are processed by compression function. Then compression function takes both the current and output of previous compression and produces a fixed size output. The final output is the hash of entire message.

Input hashlib

```
md5_hash = hashlib.md5()
```

```
message = "Hello, world!"
```

```
md5_hash.update(message.encode('utf-8'))
```

```
hash_result = md5_hash.hexdigest()
```

```
print("MD5 Hash: " + hash_result)
```

One of vulnerabilities of MD construction is its susceptibility to length extension attacks. means attacker can take the hash of message and easily append additional data without knowing the original message.