

## Assignment = 5

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Subject = Information Security.

Title:- Merkle Damgard Construction

Merkle damgard construction is a technique used to construct a hash function from a collision resistant hash function.

It is a method to create a hash function that is both collision-resistant and second pre-image resistant.

The basic idea is to use the collision resistant hash function to produce a hash value for a portion of the input message and then use the second pre-image resistant hash function to produce a hash value for the remaining portion of the input message.

Partial Example:-

Bit coin hash function, Ethernet hash function, SHA-3, they all uses a common hash function based on MD5 algorithm.



Code:- High level outline of merkle construction.

Python Code:-

```
import hashlib  
def merkle-damgard(message):  
    # divide input into fixed size prefix  
    and suffix
```

```
    prefix = message[:32]
```

```
    suffix = message[32:]
```

```
    # use Collision-resistant hash function  
    prefix-hash = hashlib.sha256(prefix.  
                                encode()).hexdigest()
```

```
    # use pre-image hash function
```

```
    suffix-hash = hashlib.sha256(suffix.  
                                encode()).hexdigest()
```

```
    merkle-hash = prefix-hash + suffix-hash  
    return merkle-hash
```

NOTE:- This is just high level implementation of merkle damgard construction.