









# Cryptography 2:

## Symmetric Authentication

Maria Eichlseder

Information Security – WT 2019/20

## You Are Here

<h3>Crypto 1 </h3> <hr/> <h4>Introduction to InfoSec &amp; Crypto</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Terminology</li><li>■ Security notions</li><li>■ Keys, Kerckhoffs' principle</li></ul>	<h3> Crypto 2 </h3> <hr/> <h4>Symmetric Authentication</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Integrity<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Hash functions</li><li>■ MACs (Message Authentication)</li></ul></li></ul>	<h3>Crypto 3 </h3> <hr/> <h4>Symmetric Encryption</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Confidentiality<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ AEAD (Auth. Encryption)</li><li>■ Symmetric primitives</li></ul></li></ul>	<h3>Crypto 4 </h3> <hr/> <h4>Asymmetric Cryptography</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Establishing communication<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Key exchange</li><li>■ Signatures</li><li>■ Asymmetric primitives</li></ul></li></ul>
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## Recap of Last Week

- Information security protects assets against adversaries
  - Break the chain:  
Security Property ↔ Threat ↔ Vulnerability ↔ Attack
- Cryptography is the mathematical foundation of secure communication
  - Algorithms to transform data so it can be sent over untrusted channels
  - Creates a new asset: the key

## Administrative Update

- If you're a 1-person team for the practicals:
  - Try to find a partner right after today's lecture
  - We may merge teams
- New curricula for CS/ICE (KU InfoSec = IIS+RKN) and SEM (KU InfoSec = IIS):
  - This may be a small disadvantage (SEM 16U) or advantage (SEM 19U)
  - SEM 16U: contact your Dean of Studies (Denis Helic) for options (Freifach)

# Outline

## Cryptographic Authentication

- Goals and Applications

## Hash Functions

- Definition and Security
- Generic Attacks
- Construction

## Message Authentication Codes

- Definition and Security
- Construction

## Entity Authentication Protocols

- Weak Authentication (Passwords)
- Strong Authentication (Challenge-Response)

# Cryptographic Authentication



Introduction

# Authenticity and Integrity

## Message Authentication



- **Authenticity:** Verify the source of the message
- **Integrity:** Verify that the message has not been modified while in transit

## Entity Authentication



- Verify the identity of a communication endpoint (device, user) based on possession of some cryptographic identifier (password, key, ...)

# Examples (1): File Checksums

Name	Size
Parent Directory	-
MD5SUMS	1.1K
MD5SUMS.sign	833
SHA1SUMS	1.3K
SHA1SUMS.sign	833
SHA256SUMS	1.7K
SHA256SUMS.sign	833
SHA512SUMS	2.8K
SHA512SUMS.sign	833
debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-1.iso	3.6G
debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-2.iso	4.4G
debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-3.iso	4.4G

Apache/2.4.39 (Unix) Server at cdimage.debian.org Port 443

Name	Size
Parent Directory	-
MD5SUMS	1.2K
MD5SUMS.sign	833
SHA1SUMS	1.4K
SHA1SUMS.sign	833
SHA256SUMS	1.8K
SHA256SUMS.sign	833
SHA512SUMS	3.0K
SHA512SUMS.sign	833
debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-1.iso.torrent	73K
debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-2.iso.torrent	88K
debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-3.iso.torrent	88K

Apache/2.4.39 (Unix) Server at cdimage.debian.org Port 443

```
← → ⓘ 🌐 https://cdimage.debian.org/debian-cd/current/amd64/iso-dvd/SHA512SUMS ⓘ ⋮ ⏪
```

```
a2cd517c6ffbebe04dda2aa98c1a749a34efef4a1cc950dae6696a5f47294c7f27bacf52040655637a519a420cff6f25395edac412051299e3237cd954ef427f  debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-1.iso
6a5aebcfff9f259e55d5ee5d25fb9f7f5a6b9a585c1b6179efeb263cd41fc67829686f1863a5588937d1629ad9d320c5022ebcb28188b41fbcf188e1d5b43fbd  debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-2.iso
11889e1bc97a0a5b6103f19d211a04510350584e30f4e22d75ee749bc341b86d2e24896422284aa242a7654fe5f23cf8945a60ad9809d285b82bd10d942ea76a  debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-3.iso
```

↓

```
meichlseder@x1tblme ~ % sha512sum debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-1.iso
a2cd517c6ffbebe04dda2aa98c1a749a34efef4a1cc950dae6696a5f47294c7f27bacf52040655637a519a420cff6f25395edac412051299e3237cd954ef427f  debian-10.1.0-amd64-DVD-1.iso
meichlseder@x1tblme ~ %
```



## Examples (2): Commit IDs and File Versions

The screenshot displays a version control application interface. At the top, a menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'View', and 'Help'. Below the menu is a list of commits:

- C1 - finished (Maria Eichlseder, 2019-10-...)
- C1 - update content (Maria Eichlseder, 2019-10-...)
- C1 - collect content (Maria Eichlseder, 2019-10-...)
- C1 - update administrative info (Maria Eichlseder, 2019-10-...)
- add presentation templates (Maria Eichlseder, 2019-10-...)

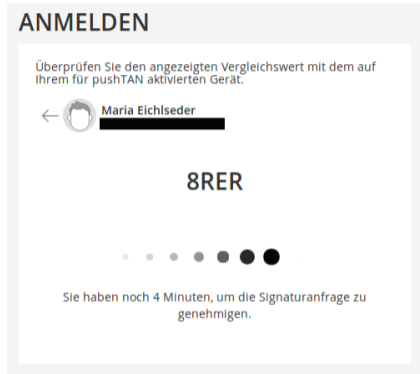
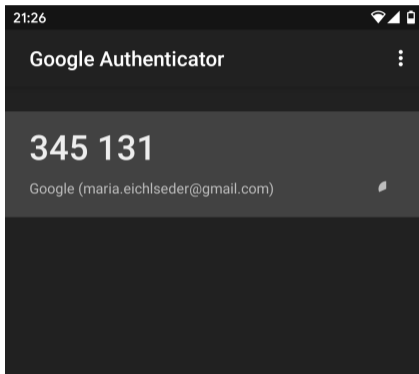
The 'SHA1 ID' field shows the selected commit: `a828a1a44476b39fcf28dc69bafae10e38a5c109`. A search bar contains the text 'commit containing:'. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'Diff', 'Old version', and 'New version'. The 'Diff' view is active, showing the commit message 'C1 - update content' and a diff for the file `lecture2019/C1_Index a482853..0a23dbd 100644`. The diff shows changes to the Beamer document class:

```
@@ -1,5 +1,5 @@
%\PassOptionsToClass{handout}{beamer}
-\documentclass{cryptolecture}
+\documentclass[externalize]{cryptolecture}
```

On the right side, there are tabs for 'Patch' and 'Tree'. The 'Comments' tab is active, showing a list of files and their associated commit hashes:







- lecture2019/C1\_Introduction.tex
- lecture2019/figures/Externalize/crypto\_communication1.md5
- lecture2019/figures/Externalize/crypto\_communication1.pdf
- lecture2019/figures/Externalize/crypto\_communication2.md5
- lecture2019/figures/Externalize/crypto\_communication2.pdf
- lecture2019/figures/Externalize/crypto\_communication3.md5
- lecture2019/figures/Ex...

## Examples (3): Mobile TANs, 2-Factor-Authentication









# Cryptographic Schemes for Message Authentication

Cryptographic schemes for message authentication compute a short, fixed-length **Tag**  $T$  from the **Message**  $M$  and (in some cases) a **Key**  $K$ .

<b>Hash Function <math>\mathcal{H}</math></b> <hr/> <b>Unkeyed</b>	<b>MAC <math>\mathcal{H}_{K_{AB}}</math></b> <hr/> <b>Symmetric Key <math>K_{AB}</math></b>	<b>Signature <math>\mathcal{S}_{K_A}</math></b> <hr/> <b>Asymmetric Key <math>K_A</math></b>
 Anyone can compute $T$	 $A, B$ can compute $T$	 $A$ can compute $T$
 Anyone can verify $T$	 $A, B$ can verify $T$	 Anyone can verify $T$



# Application Examples (1)

Hash functions:




-  File download with checksum
-  Identifier for files and commits
-  Identification of identical files (for deduplication, detecting changes)
-  Linking blockchain blocks + proof-of-work for timestamping
-  Storing login passwords securely (requires special password hash function!)
-  Announcing commitment to something you only reveal later  
(no, this has nothing to do with hashtags)

## Application Examples (2)

MACs:

-  Challenge-response in multifactor authentication (mobile TANs)
-  Message integrity in secure communication protocols (TLS, SSH, ...)

Signatures (in two weeks):

-  Electronic signature of documents, Handysignatur
-  Signing emails with PGP
-  Entity authentication and X509 certificates in secure communication protocols (TLS, SSH, ...)

# Hash Functions

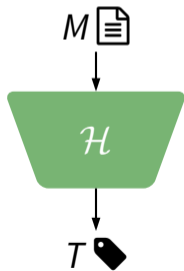


Keyless Authentication

## Hash Functions – Definition

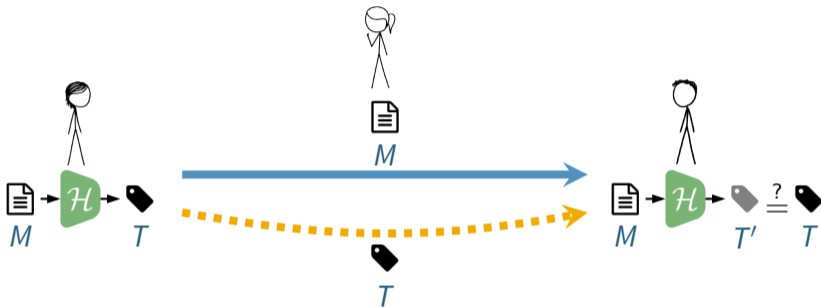
A cryptographic hash function  $\mathcal{H}$  maps a message  $M$  (a bitstring) of arbitrary bitlength to a  $t$ -bit tag  $T$  that serves as fingerprint/checksum for  $M$ :

$$\mathcal{H} : \mathbb{F}_2^* \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^t, \quad \mathcal{H}(M) = T$$



The challenge of protecting the authenticity of  $M$  is transformed into protecting  $T$ .

# Hash Functions – Application



- 1 Alice computes  $T = \mathcal{H}(M)$
- 2 Alice transmits  $M$  to Bob (over an insecure channel controlled by Eve)
- 3 Alice separately transmits  $T$  to Bob (over a secure channel).
- 4 Bob re-computes  $T' = \mathcal{H}(M)$  and verifies that  $T' = T$ .



## Not to be Confused with...

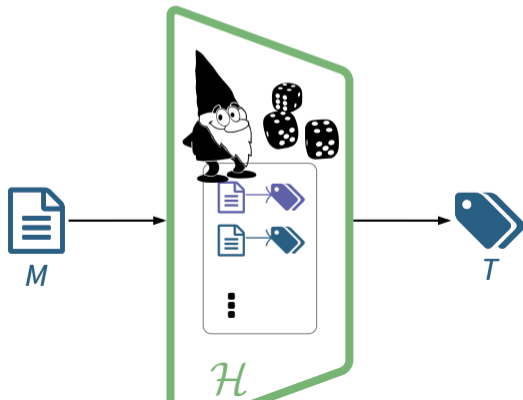
(Cryptographic) hash functions are not to be confused with...

- **Password Hash Functions** or **Key Derivation Functions**, which map a password to a password hash or key and have stronger requirements.
- **Non-Cryptographic Hash Functions**, which map values to reasonably uniformly distributed values (e.g., index for hash tables). They have different, weaker requirements and no attacker.
- **Error-Detecting/Correcting Codes** and **Checksums** like CRC32 to correct accidental transmission errors (no attacker). They are usually shorter and only guarantee detection of specific modifications like single bitflips.

## Security Notion – Random Oracles

Idealized model of a hash function: The (truncated) Random Oracle

- Returns a random bitstring for every possible query
- Same input query  $\rightarrow$  same output



### 3 Security Properties of Hash Functions



#### Preimage resistance:

Given a tag  $T$ , it must be infeasible for an attacker to find any message  $M$  such that  $T = \mathcal{H}(M)$ .

Generic complexity: about  $2^t$  trials



#### Second preimage resistance:

Given a message  $M$ , it must be infeasible for an attacker to find any second message  $M' \neq M$  such that  $\mathcal{H}(M') = \mathcal{H}(M)$ .

Generic complexity: about  $2^t$  trials



#### Collision resistance:

It must be infeasible for an attacker to find any two different messages  $M, M'$  such that  $\mathcal{H}(M') = \mathcal{H}(M)$ .

Generic complexity: about  $2^{t/2}$  trials (!)

# The Birthday Paradox

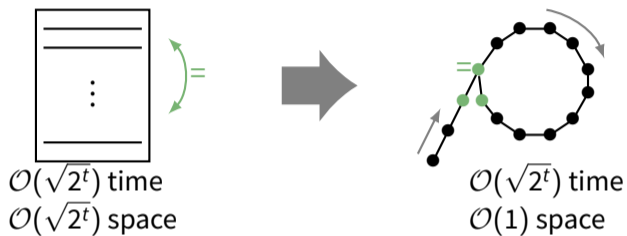
## The Birthday Paradox

In a class of only 23 people, there is a good chance (about 50 %) that 2 of them have the same birthday.

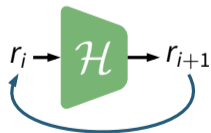
Application to the collision resistance of  $\mathcal{H}$ :

- The attacker collects a list of tags for about  $\sqrt{2^t} = 2^{t/2}$  different messages.
- Now they have  $\binom{2^{t/2}}{2} \approx \frac{(2^{t/2})^2}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2^t$  candidate message pairs.
- The probability of a collision for one pair is  $\frac{1}{2^t}$ .
- So it is quite likely that there is at least one collision in the list.

# Rho-Method: Memoryless Collision-Finding



- Define a **sequence**  $r_{i+1} = \mathcal{H}(r_i)$  for  $i \geq 0$  by starting from some value  $r_0$  and iteratively applying the function  $\mathcal{H}$
- If  $r_j = r_k$ , then  $r_{j+1} = \mathcal{H}(r_j) = \mathcal{H}(r_k) = r_{k+1}$
- After an initial tail, the sequence turns **cyclic** (“ $\rho$ ”)



## Rho-Method: Memoryless Collision-Finding

- How to find the collision  $r_j = r_k$ ?

Cycle finding algorithms such as Floyd's algorithm ("tortoise and hare"):

Find cycle length  $\lambda$ :

$r_i \leftarrow r_0, r_{2i} \leftarrow r_0$

repeat

$r_i \leftarrow \mathcal{H}(r_i)$

$r_{2i} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{H}(r_{2i}))$

until  $r_i = r_{2i}$

$\lambda \leftarrow 2i - i = i$

Find prefix length  $\mu$ :

$r_j \leftarrow r_0, r_{j+\lambda} \leftarrow r_i$

repeat

$r_j \leftarrow \mathcal{H}(r_j)$

$r_{j+\lambda} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}(r_{j+\lambda})$

until  $r_j = r_{j+\lambda}$

$\mu \leftarrow j + \lambda - \lambda = j$

- Runtime depends on cycle length  $\lambda$  and prefix length  $\mu$ .  
The expected value of both is about  $\sqrt{2^t}$  (times a small constant).  
→ Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{2^t})$  time and  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  memory

## How much computation time, memory, data is practically “feasible”?

	Time [cipher calls]	Memory [cipher states]	Data [queries]
$2^{32}$	trivial	easy	practical
$2^{48}$	easy <sup>1</sup>	practical	practical
$2^{64}$	practical <sup>2</sup>	unpractical	unpractical
$2^{80}$	unpractical <sup>3</sup>	infeasible	infeasible
$2^{128}$	infeasible <sup>4</sup>		
$2^{256}$	infeasible		

<sup>1</sup> **easy**: you can do this.

<sup>2</sup> **practical**: *you* probably can't do it, but a powerful attacker possibly can.

<sup>3</sup> **unpractical**: probably no-one can currently do this, but better not to rely on it.

<sup>4</sup> **infeasible**: no-one can do this.

## Security Levels

*n*-bit Security means that an attacker would need about  $2^n$  computation time (measured in “number of cipher evaluations”) to have a good success probability of breaking the scheme.

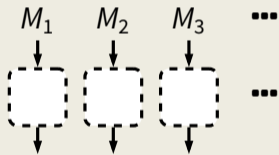
- 128-bit Security is widely seen as a good choice for most applications.
  - ➔ Hash output size should be  $2 \times 128 = 256$  bits (birthday paradox).
- 256-bit Security may be preferable for special applications and for higher post-quantum security

You sometimes see  $\mathcal{O}$ -notation for security claims. This is usually not a meaningful security claim – the constants hidden in the  $\mathcal{O}$ -notation can make a big difference!

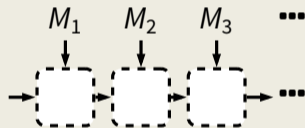


# Processing Long Messages by Iterating a Primitive

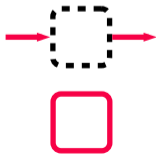
Translate Data Blocks  
(e.g., encryption)



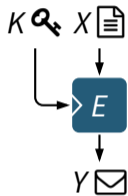
Accumulate Data  
(e.g., authentication, hashing)



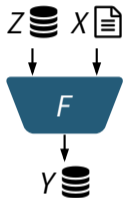
- Today: the mode
- Next week: the primitive (and more modes)



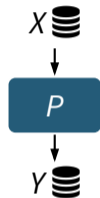
# Symmetric Primitives



Block Cipher  
(BC)



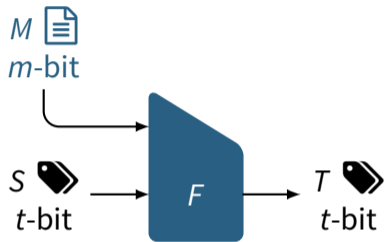
Compression  
Function



Permutation

...

# Compression Functions

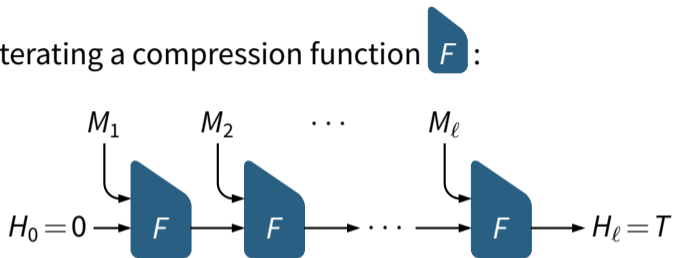


Compress

- One fixed mapping
- $2^{t+m}$  possible inputs
- $2^t$  possible outputs
  - $t$  bounds the security level
  - Small  $t$ : Danger of collisions
  - Large  $t$ : Higher transmission cost

# Merkle–Damgård Hashing (MD)

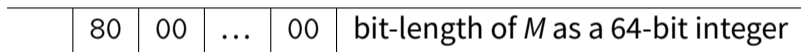
Hashing by iterating a compression function  $F$ :



- 1 Split message  $M$  into  $m$ -bit blocks  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_\ell$
- 2 Start iteration with fixed initial value  $H_0$
- 3 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$ : Compress old state  $H_{i-1}$  and message block  $M_i$  to new state  $H_i$
- 4 Return the final state (chaining value)  $H_\ell$  as the tag  $T$

## Merkle–Damgård Hashing (MD) – Padding and Security

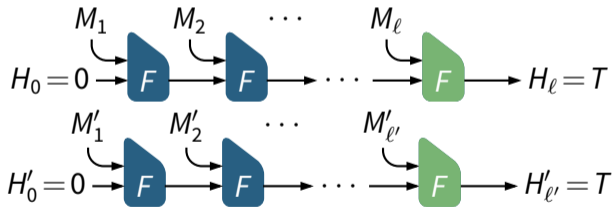
- ❓ What if the length of  $M$  is not a multiple of the block size of  $m$  bits?
- ➡ Requires injective padding to produce a multiple of the block length  $m$ :



- This padding is specified as part of the mode of operation
  - It is **always** applied, not only if the last block is a partial block!
- ➡ **Theorem:** If  $F$  is collision resistant, then  $\mathcal{H}$  is collision resistant (why?)

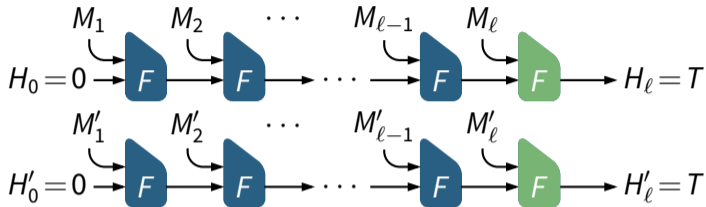
# MD Theorem: If $F$ is collision resistant, then $\mathcal{H}$ is collision resistant (1)

- **Proof by contraposition:** We show that if Eve finds a hash collision for  $\mathcal{H}$  (“ $\mathcal{H}$ -collision”), she also knows a compression collision for  $F$  (“ $F$ -collision”).
- So assume that Eve knows two messages  $M \neq M'$  such that  $\mathcal{H}(M) = \mathcal{H}(M')$ . Let  $M_1 || M_2 || \dots || M_\ell$  be the blocks of padded  $M$  and  $M'_1 || M'_2 || \dots || M'_{\ell'}$  those of  $M'$ .



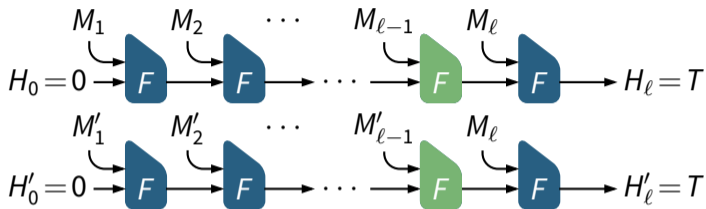
- First consider the case that  $M$  and  $M'$  have different bitlength  $|M| \neq |M'|$ . The length is encoded in the last 64 bits of the last block, so  $M_\ell \neq M'_{\ell'}$ . Thus, Eve has an  $F$ -collision:  $(M_\ell, H_{\ell-1}) \neq (M'_{\ell'}, H'_{\ell'-1})$ , but both compress to  $T$ .

MD Theorem: If  $F$  is collision resistant, then  $\mathcal{H}$  is collision resistant (2)



- Next, consider the case that  $M$  and  $M'$  have the same bitlength  $|M| = |M'|$ .
- In case their last blocks  $M_l, M'_l$  or the previous chaining blocks  $H_{l-1}, H'_{l-1}$  are still different, Eve again knows an  $F$ -collision with the same reasoning.
- So we consider the case  $M_l = M'_l$  and  $H_{l-1} = H'_{l-1}$ . Either there is a difference in the *previous* inputs  $(M_{l-1}, H_{l-2}) \neq (M'_{l-1}, H'_{l-2})$  and Eve knows an  $F$ -collision with output  $H_{l-1} = H'_{l-1}$ , or there is no difference and we can repeat the argument for the block before.

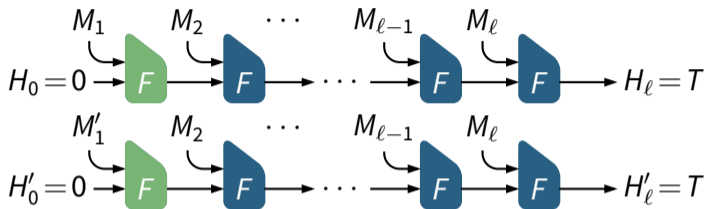
MD Theorem: If  $F$  is collision resistant, then  $\mathcal{H}$  is collision resistant (2)



- Next, consider the case that  $M$  and  $M'$  have the same bitlength  $|M| = |M'|$ .
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- So we consider the case  $M_l = M'_l$  and  $H_{l-1} = H'_{l-1}$ . Either there is a difference in the *previous* inputs  $(M_{l-1}, H_{l-2}) \neq (M'_{l-1}, H'_{l-2})$  and Eve knows an  $F$ -collision with output  $H_{l-1} = H'_{l-1}$ , or there is no difference and we can repeat the argument for the block before.



MD Theorem: If  $F$  is collision resistant, then  $\mathcal{H}$  is collision resistant (3)



- We can repeat this argument backwards until we have either found an  $F$ -collision  $(M_i, H_{i-1}) \neq (M'_{i'}, H'_{i'-1})$  with  $H_i = H'_{i'}$  or we reach the first block  $M_1$ .
- If we reach the first blocks  $M_1, M'_1$ , then these cannot be identical: That would mean that the entire messages  $M = M'$  are identical, which contradicts our initial assumption that Eve has a  $\mathcal{H}$ -collision. Thus, Eve has an  $F$ -collision  $(M_1, 0) \neq (M'_1, 0)$ , which both compress to  $H_1 = H'_1$ .
- In summary, Eve always finds an  $F$ -collision  $(M_i, H_{i-1}) \neq (M'_{i'}, H'_{i'-1})$  with  $H_i = H'_{i'}$ .

## Standardized Hash Functions and TLS 1.3

In TLS, hash functions are used for signing and to build MACs. They are standardized by NIST (SHA = Secure Hash Algorithm) and follow the MD design.

Family	Hash size	Security	TLS 1.2	TLS 1.3
MD5	128 bits	broken	✓	✗
SHA-1	160 bits	broken	✓	✓
SHA-2	224 bits	112 bits	✓	✗
	256 bits	128 bits	✓	✓
	384 bits	192 bits	✓	✓
	512 bits	256 bits	✓	✓
SHA-3	*	*	not yet	not yet



supported



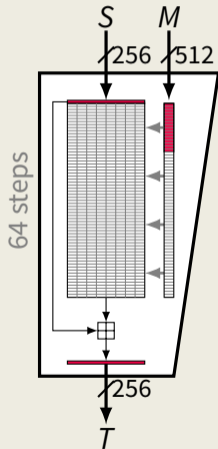
legacy certificates only



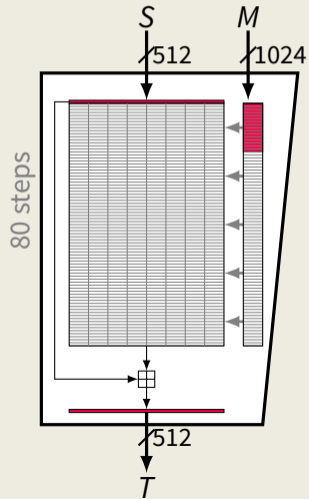
not supported

# The Compression Function of SHA-2 (2 Sizes)

## SHA-256



## SHA-512



# The SHA-3 Competition (2007–2012)

## ▶ SHA-3 – Secure Hash Algorithm

🎯 Goals: A [hash function](#) to complement SHA-2

- SHA-2 is secure, but also similar to the broken SHA-1, MD5
- New design should look very different

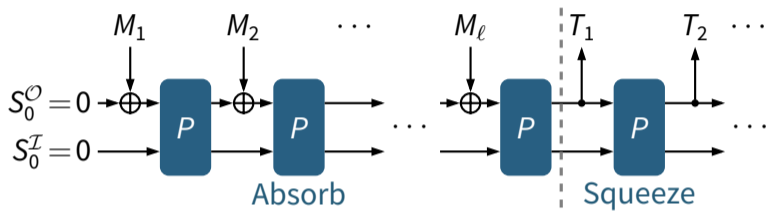
👥 Organized by NIST (US Institute of Standards and Technology)

📅 Announced in 2007, 64 submissions from 200 cryptographers

🏆 Winner: [Keccak/SHA-3](#) by Bertoni, Daemen, Peeters, Van Assche, Van Keer

Other Finalists: BLAKE, Grøstl ■, JH, Skein

# Hashing with Permutations: The Sponge Construction



- Large state with two parts:
  - $r$ -bit **outer part**  $S^O$  (“rate”  $r$ )  $\rightarrow$  message/tag block size
  - $c$ -bit **inner part**  $S^I$  (“capacity”  $c$ )  $\rightarrow$  security level up to  $2^{c/2}$
- State update with unkeyed  $(r + c)$ -bit **permutation**  $P$  (SHA-3:  $r + c = 1600$ )

# Message Authentication Codes

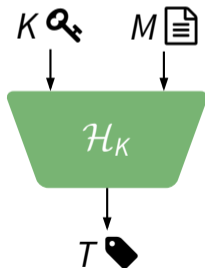


Symmetric-Key Authentication

## Message Authentication Codes (MAC) – Definition

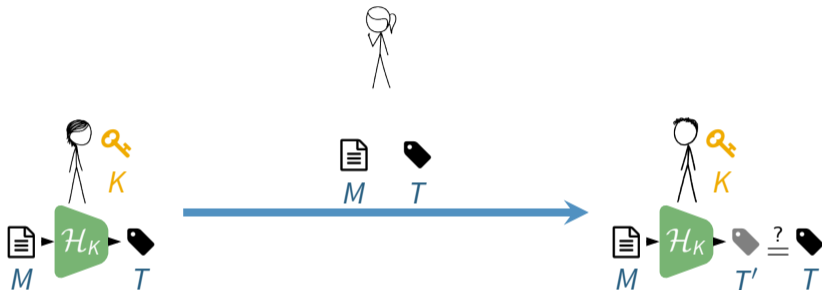
A Message Authentication Code is a keyed hash function  $\mathcal{H}_K$  that maps a  $k$ -bit key  $K$  and a message  $M$  of arbitrary length to a  $t$ -bit tag  $T$  to protect the integrity and authenticity of  $M$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_K : \mathbb{F}_2^k \times \mathbb{F}_2^* \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^t, \quad \mathcal{H}_K(M) = T$$



The challenge of protecting the authenticity of  $M$  is transformed into protecting  $K$ .

## Message Authentication Codes (MAC) – Application



- 1 Alice and Bob share a secret key  $K$ .
- 2 Alice computes  $T = \mathcal{H}_K(K, M) = \mathcal{H}_K(M)$ .
- 3 Alice transmits  $M$  and  $T$  to Bob (over an insecure channel controlled by Eve).
- 4 Bob re-computes  $T' = \mathcal{H}_K(M)$  and verifies that  $T' = T$ .



## Security Notion for Authenticity – Unforgeability

### Unforgeability

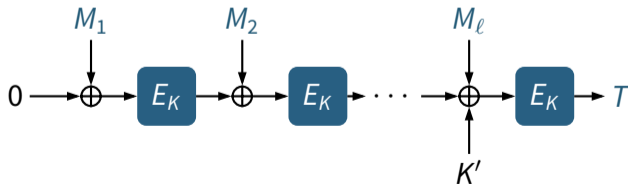
It is infeasible for an attacker to produce (**forge**) any new, valid message-tag pair  $(M, T)$  even if they can query tags for any other messages of their choice.

Generic attacks on MACs:

- Exhaustive key search – Expected complexity:  $2^k$  “offline” trials
- Guess the tag – Expected complexity:  $2^t$  “online” verification trials

## How to Construct a MAC?

- From a Hash Function  $\mathcal{H}$ 
  - Feed the key  $K$  and message  $M$  into the hash  $\mathcal{H}$ , e.g.,  $\mathcal{H}_K(M) = \mathcal{H}(M\|K)$
  - Example: HMAC-SHA2 (HMAC = Hash-based MAC)
- By using a keyed primitive, such as a Block Cipher  $E_K(M)$ 
  - Example: CMAC (C = CBC = Cipher Block Chaining)



# Entity Authentication Protocols




# Authentication Protocols

Entity Authentication aka Identification – (*not* message authentication)

- Access control, login
- As part of communication protocols

Entities:

 The **Prover** claims an identity

 The **Verifier** wants evidence of the prover's identity

# Authentication Factors




- What someone **knows**:    Password, PIN, ...
- What someone **has**:    Smartcard, token, mobile, ...
- What someone **is**:    Fingerprint, face, voice, ...

Multi-factor authentication: Smartcard + PIN, Password + mobile TAN, ...

- A **key** can be what someone **knows** (password) or **has** (key stored on device)
- In this course, we won't go into details on biometrics.  
It's a separate field of research based on computer vision, biology, etc. and not as "open source" as crypto (proprietary algorithms)

# Passwords

## Naive password protocol

Setup: Prover  $A$   chooses password  $K_A$  , verifier  $B$   stores  $(A, K_A)$

Identification:

Prover  $A$  



Verifier  $B$  

accept if  
 $(A, K_A)$  stored


- Attacker  $C$  can eavesdrop  $K_A$  (replay attack)
- $B$ 's stored table of passwords vulnerable
- Entropy of  $K_A$ ?

# Passwords

## Passwords with Hash function $\mathcal{H}$

Setup: Prover  $A$   chooses password  $K_A$  , verifier  $B$   stores  $(A, \mathcal{H}(K_A))$

Identification:

Prover  $A$  







Verifier  $B$  

accept if  
 $(A, \mathcal{H}(K_A))$  stored

- Advantage: Stored tables less vulnerable
- Still assumes secure transmission
- If table leaks: still allows mass dictionary attack

# Passwords

## Passwords with Hash function $\mathcal{H}()$ and Salt $S_A$

Setup: Prover  $A$   chooses password  $K_A$  , verifier  $B$   chooses salt  $S_A$  , stores  $(A, S_A, \mathcal{H}(S_A, K_A))$

Identification:

Prover  $A$  



Verifier  $B$  

accept if stored:  
 $(A, S_A, \mathcal{H}(S_A, K_A))$

- Advantage: No parallel attack on hash function  $\mathcal{H}$   $\rightarrow$  target individual users
- Table doesn't leak users with same password



# Modern password hash functions

Requirements are slightly different from cryptographic hashes:

- Support long passwords and salts
- Not too fast, parameters to adapt speed (“Moore’s law”)
- Should need a lot of memory

Password hashing functions:

- PBKDF2
- bcrypt
- scrypt
- Have a look at the Password Hashing Competition (PHC):  
<https://password-hashing.net/candidates.html>

## Strong Authentication (Challenge-Response Protocols)

- 🗨️ Problem of **Weak Authentication** protocols like passwords:  
User always has to transmit the complete secret.  
This is potentially vulnerable to **replay attacks**.
- 🗨️ Idea of **Strong Authentication** protocols (Challenge-Response):  
**Proving, not telling**: Don't tell the Verifier the complete secret  $x$ .  
Instead “prove” possession by computing a function of  $x$  plus some changing “challenge”, such as a timestamp or a value sent by the verifier.

## Example: Time-based One-Time Password (TOTP)

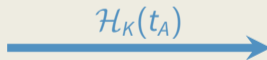
2-step authentication for online services (Google, Github, banking, ...):



1. User logs in with **password**
2. User provides (part of) **TOTP** from app, token, ...


### TOTP


Prover  $A$  

Verifier  $B$  



  $K$ : pre-shared secret key between app   $A$  and server  $B$

  $t_A$ : timestamp in 30-second steps (synchronized clock!)

  $\mathcal{H}_K$ :  $d$  first digits of  $\text{HMAC}(\cdot)$

Conclusion



# Conclusion

 Message authentication can be done with

- No key: Hash function
- Symmetric key: Message Authentication Code (MAC)
- Asymmetric key: Signatures (coming soon...)

 Entity authentication can be done with

- Weak authentication: Password (with salted password hash function)
- Strong authentication: Challenge-response (e.g., with MAC)

# Questions

