

Malicious Hashing: Eve's Variant of SHA-1

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Ange Albertini, Jean-Philippe Aumasson





```
>crypto_hash *
test0.jpg 13990732b0d16c3e112f2356bd3d0dad1....
test1.jpg 13990732b0d16c3e112f2356bd3d0dad1....
```

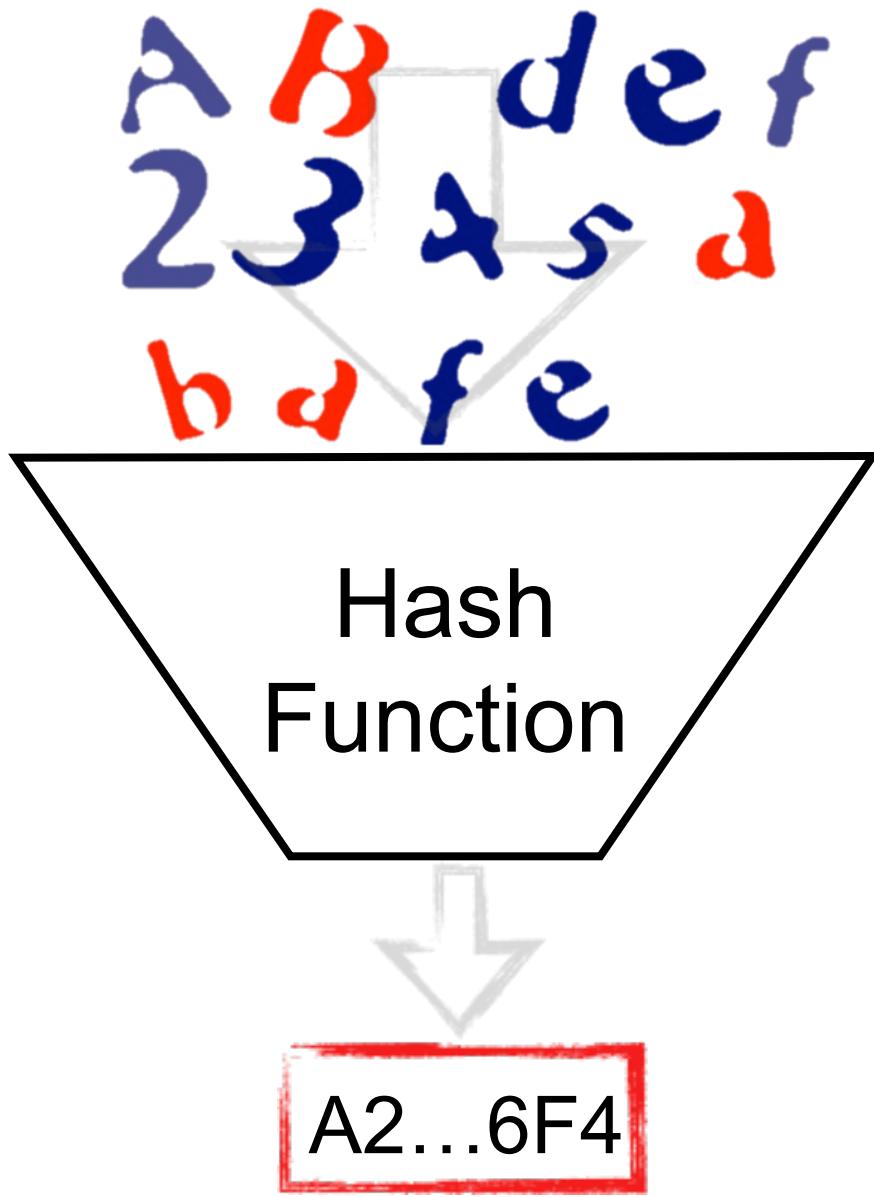
Outline

Introduction – Hash Functions

Motivation – Backdoors

Malicious Hashing

Malicious SHA-1, Exploitation



- Fast
- Secure

Applications

- **Short representative** of data
 - Digital signatures
 - Data authentication
- **Randomisation** (PRNG, ...)
- **Commitment** schemes
- **One-way function** of string
 - Password protection
 - Micro-payments
 - One-time-signatures

Security Properties

- **Preimage Resistance**

Given $h(x)$, difficult to find x

- **Second Preimage Resistance**

Given x , $h(x)$, difficult to find $x' \neq x$ such that $h(x')=h(x)$

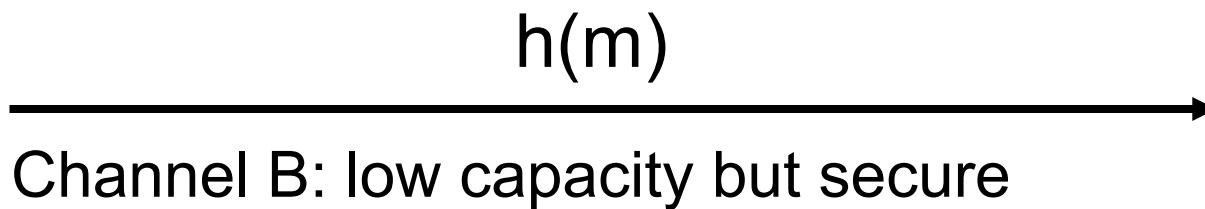
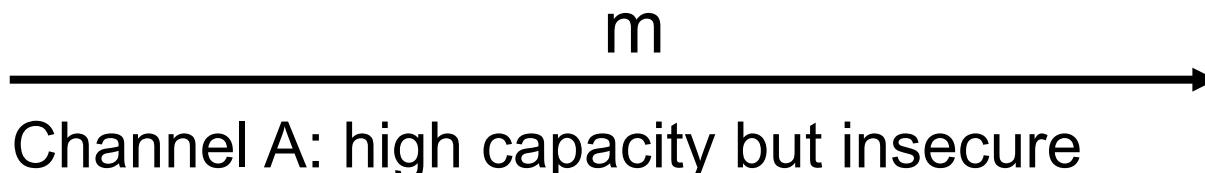
- **Collision Resistance**

Difficult to find x, x' with $x \neq x'$ such that $h(x)=h(x')$

Preimage Resistance

- In a **password file** we don't store (usr, pwd)
- For verification it is enough to **store (usr, $h(pwd)$)**
- If an attacker gets the password file, then the **attacker has to find a preimage**

Second Preimage Resistance



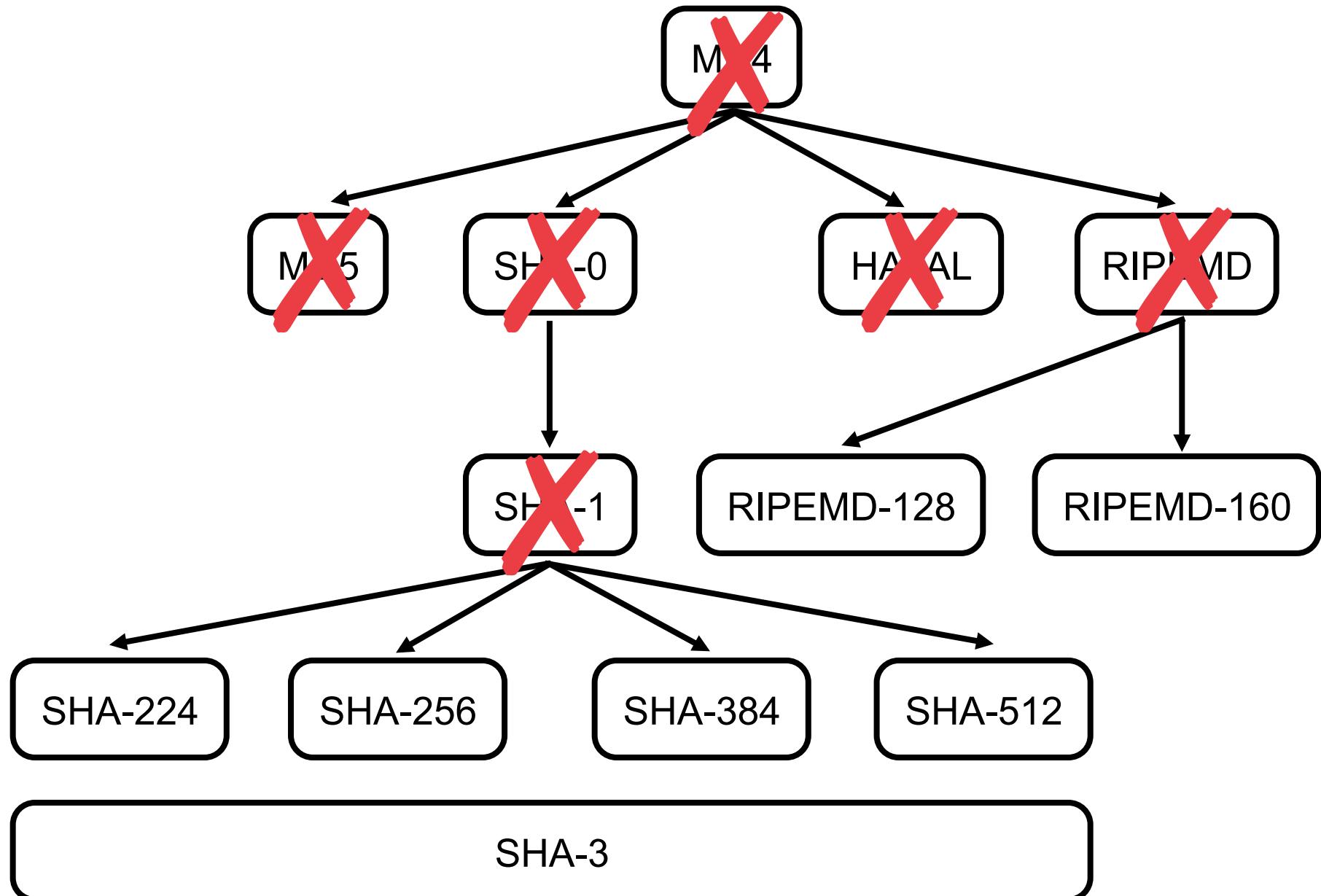
- An **attacker** can **tamper with Channel A**
- In order to **remain undetected**, the attacker has to **compute a second preimage**

Collision Resistance

- Malicious **hacker prepares** two versions (x and x') of a driver for an OS company
- The **hacker sends x** to the OS company **for inspection**
- If approved, **OS company digitally signs x**
- The hacker can **distribute x'** together with the valid signature
- This works since $h(x) = h(x')$

Generic Attacks

- Depend only on the size of the **hash value (n bits)**
- **(Second) Preimage:** guess
 - Expected number of trials: 2^n
- **Collision:** birthday attack
 - Expected number of trials: $2^{n/2}$



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Who's interested in crypto
backdoors?

Who's interested in crypto backdoors?

(U) Base resources in this project are used to:

- (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Insert vulnerabilities into commercial encryption systems, IT systems, networks, and endpoint communications devices used by targets.
- (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Collect target network data and metadata via cooperative network carriers and/or increased control over core networks.
- (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Leverage commercial capabilities to remotely deliver or receive information to and from target endpoints.
- (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Exploit foreign trusted computing platforms and technologies.
- (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Influence policies, standards and specification for commercial public key technologies.
- (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Make specific and aggressive investments to facilitate the development of a robust exploitation capability against Next-Generation Wireless (NGW) communications.
- (U//FOUO) Maintain understanding of commercial business and technology trends.

Dual EC Speculation

On the Possibility of a Back Door
in the NIST SP800-90 Dual Ec
Prng

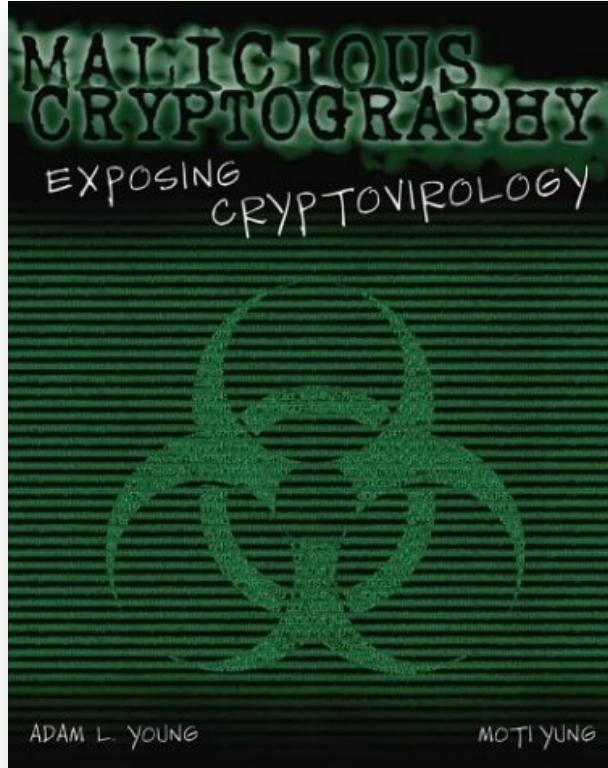
Dan Shumow
Niels Ferguson
Microsoft

CRYPTO 2007 Rump Session



Clipper (1993)

Crypto Researchers?



Young/Yung malicious cipher (2003)

- compresses texts to leak key bits in ciphertexts
- **blackbox** only (internals reveal the backdoor)
- other “cryptovirology” schemes

Hardware Trojans



Stealthy Dopant-Level Hardware Trojans

Georg T. Becker¹, Francesco Regazzoni², Christof Paar^{1,3},
and Wayne P. Burleson¹

CHES 2013

Trojan Side Channels

Lightweight Hardware Trojans through Side Channel Engineering

Lang Lin¹ Markus Kasper² Tim Güneysu²
Christof Paar^{1,2} Wayne Burleson¹

CHES 2009

Malicious Hashing

Eve's SHA3 candidate: malicious hashing

Jean-Philippe Aumasson



ECRYPT2 Hash Workshop 2011

theoretical framework, but no good example

What's a crypto backdoor?

What's a crypto backdoor?

It's not an implementation backdoor

```
#define TOBYTE(x) (x) & 255
#define SWAP(x,y) do { x^=y; y^=x; x^=y; } while (0)

static unsigned char A[256];
static int i=0, j=0;

unsigned char encrypt_one_byte(unsigned char c) {
    int k;
    i = TOBYTE(i+1);
    j = TOBYTE(j + A[i]);
    SWAP(A[i], A[j]);
    k = TOBYTE(A[i] + A[j]);
    return c ^ A[k];
}
```

RC4 C implementation (Wagner/Biondi)

What's a crypto backdoor?

a **backdoor** (covert) isn't a **trapdoor** (overt)

RSA has a trapdoor, NSA has backdoors

VSH is a trapdoor hash based on RSA

VSH, an Efficient and Provable Collision-Resistant Hash Function

Scott Contini¹, Arjen K. Lenstra², and Ron Steinfeld¹

EUROCRYPT 2006

Backdoor in a crypto hash?

*“some secret property that allows you to
efficiently break the hash”*



“break” can be about collisions, preimages...
how to model the stealthiness of the backdoor...
exploitation can be deterministic or randomized...

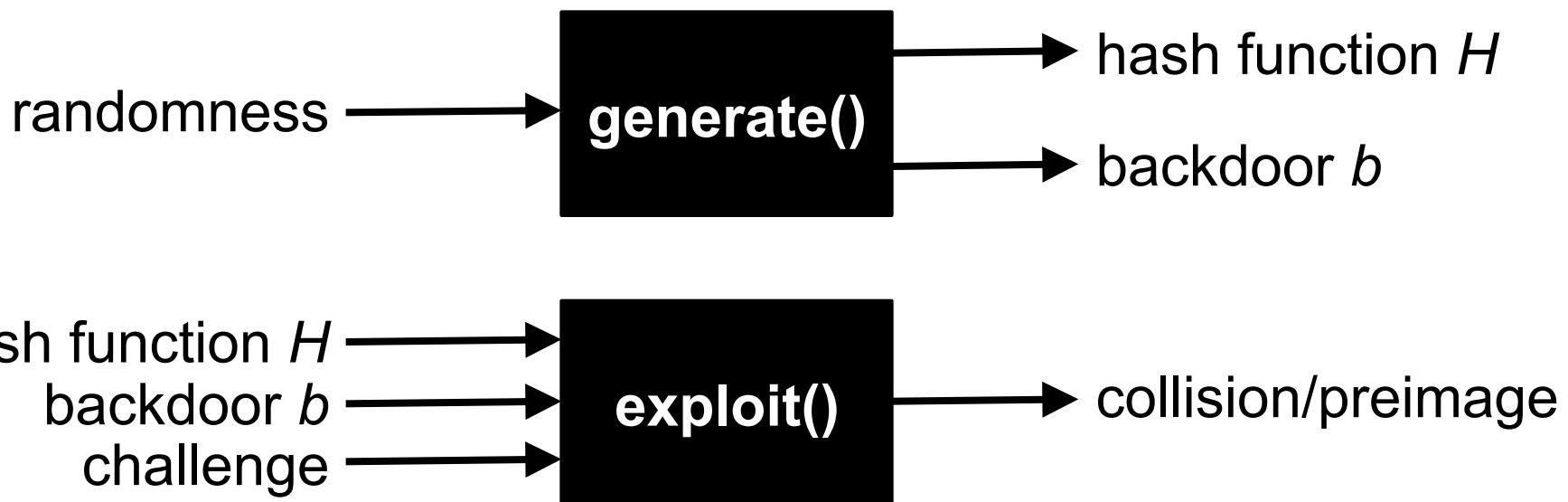
Role reversal



Eve wants to achieve some security property
Alice and Bob (the users) are the adversaries

Definitions

malicious hash = pair of algorithms



exploit() either “static” or “dynamic”

Taxonomy

static collision backdoor

returns **constant** m and m' such that $H(m)=H(m')$

dynamic collision backdoor

returns **random** m and m' such that $H(m)=H(m')$

static preimage backdoor

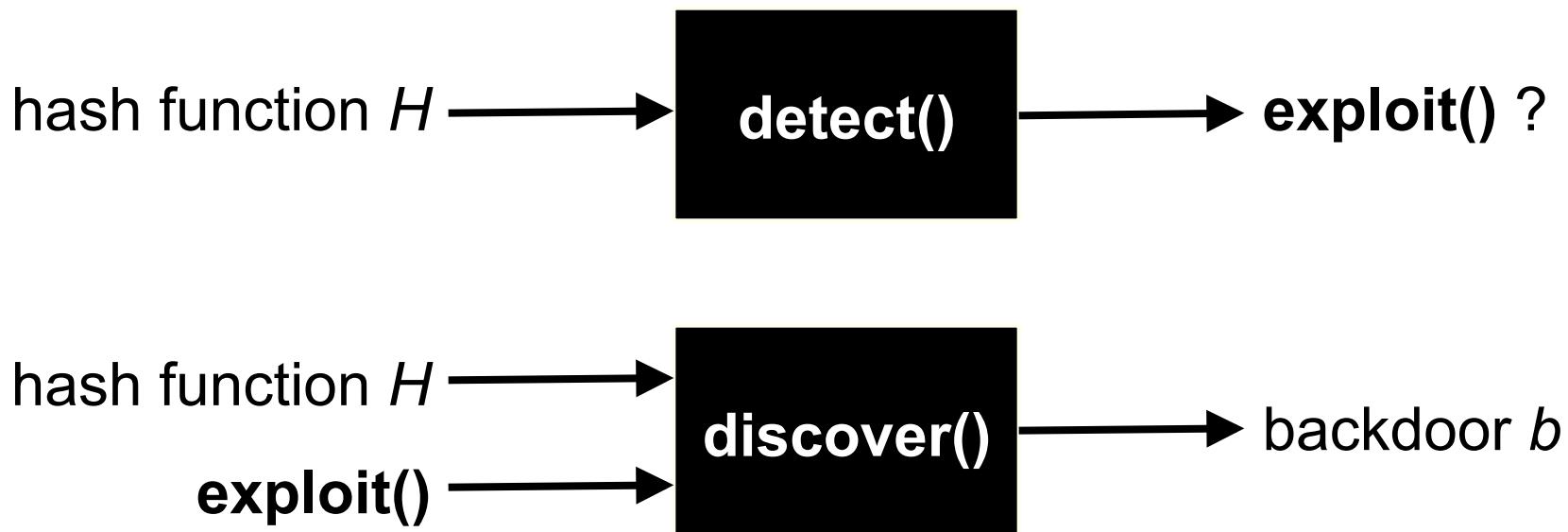
returns m such that $H(m)$ has low entropy

dynamic preimage backdoor

given h , returns m such that $H(m)=h$

Stealth Definitions

undetectability vs undiscoverability



`detect()` may also return levels of suspicion
 H may be obfuscated...

Results

dynamic collision backdoor

valid structured files with arbitrary payloads

detectable, but undiscoverable

and as hard to discover as to break SHA-1

SHA-1



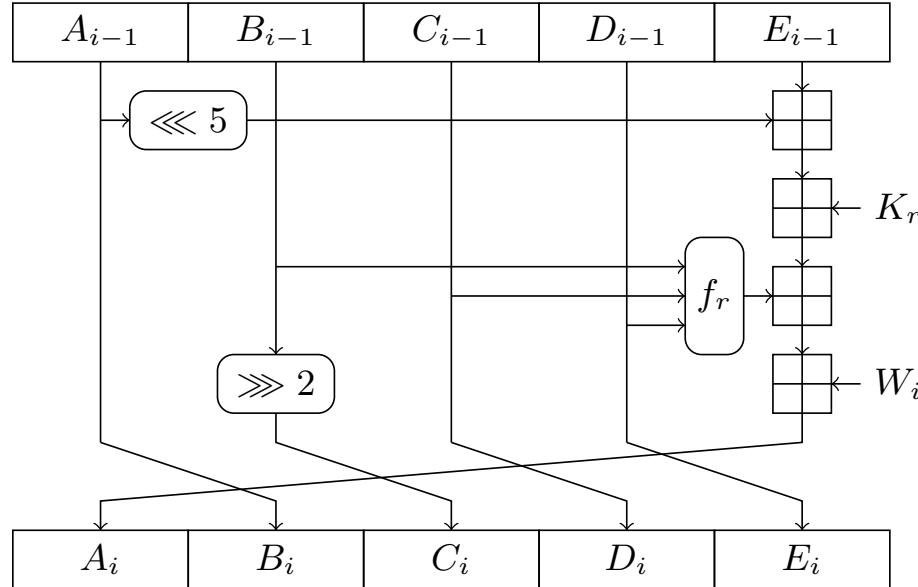
NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

SHA-1 everywhere

RSA-OAEP, “RSAwithSHA1”, HMAC, PBKDF2, etc.
⇒ in TLS, SSH, IPsec, etc.

integrity check: git, bootloaders, HIDS/FIM, etc.

SHA-1



round r	step i	K_r	f_r
1	$0 \leq i \leq 19$	5a827999	$f_{\text{IF}}(B, C, D) = B \wedge C \oplus \neg B \wedge D$
2	$20 \leq i \leq 39$	6ed9eba1	$f_{\text{XOR}}(B, C, D) = B \oplus C \oplus D$
3	$40 \leq i \leq 59$	8f1bbcdcc	$f_{\text{MAJ}}(B, C, D) = B \wedge C \oplus B \wedge D \oplus C \wedge D$
4	$60 \leq i \leq 79$	ca62c1d6	$f_{\text{XOR}}(B, C, D) = B \oplus C \oplus D$

Collision Attack on SHA-1

Finding Collisions in the Full SHA-1

Xiaoyun Wang^{1*}, Yiqun Lisa Yin², and Hongbo Yu³

¹ Shandong University, Jinan 250100, China, xywang@sdu.edu.cn

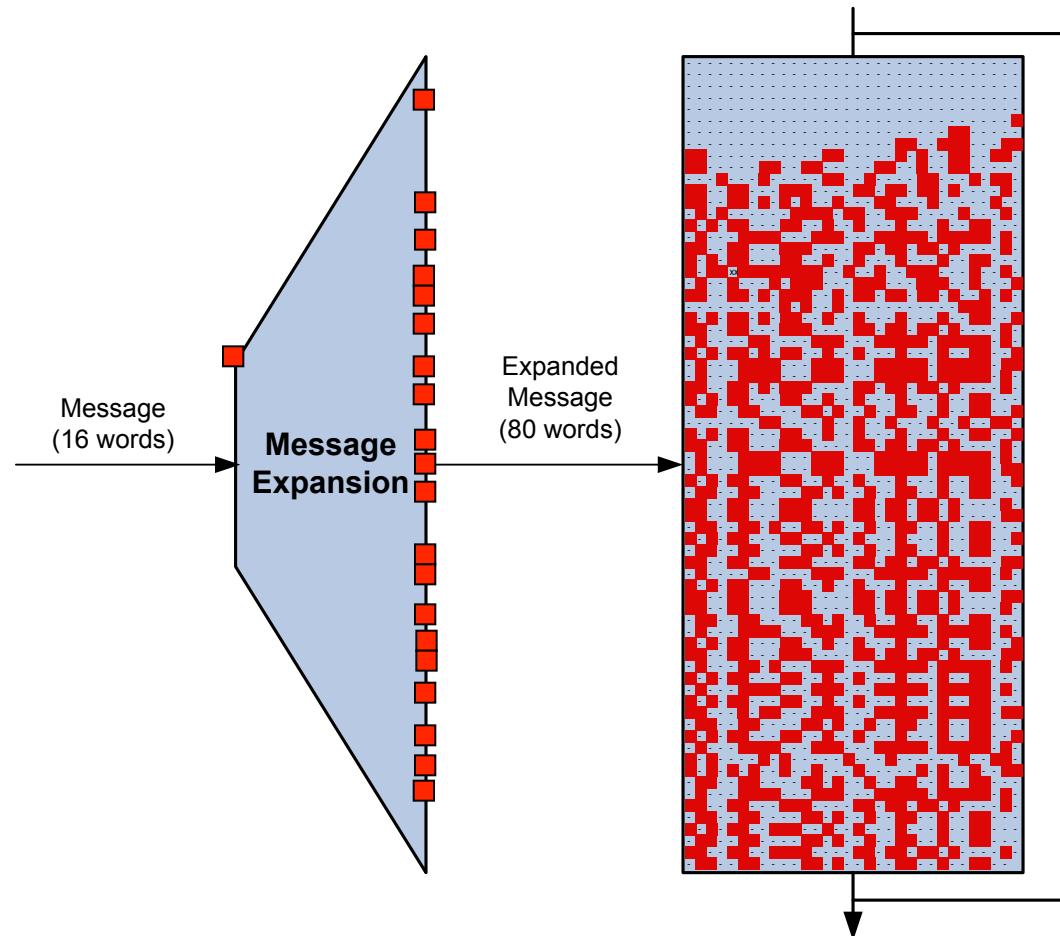
² Independent Security Consultant, Greenwich CT, US, yyin@princeton.edu

³ Shandong University, Jinan250100, China, yhb@mail.sdu.edu.cn

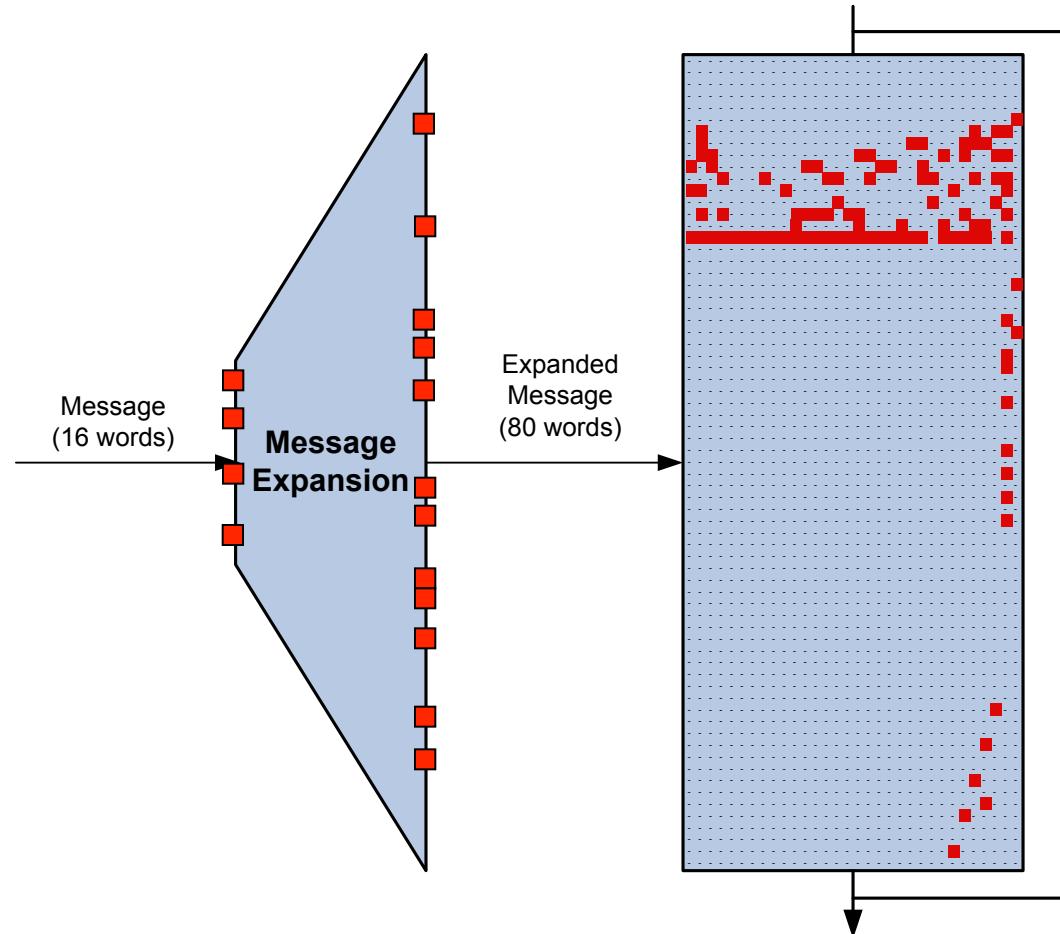
CRYPTO 2005

but no collision published yet
actual complexity unclear ($>2^{60}$)

Differential cryptanalysis for collisions “perturb-and-correct”



Differential cryptanalysis for collisions “perturb-and-correct”



2 stages (offline/online)

1. find a **good** differential characteristic
= one of high probability
2. find **conforming messages**
with message modification techniques

Find a characteristic: linearization

0	?????????????????????????????????	x-x	xx
1	?????????????????????????????????	--x	xx-
2	?????????????????????????????????	-xx	
3	?????????????????????????????????	xxx	-x-x-x
4	?????????????????????????????????	--x	-x-xx
5	?????????????????????????????????	x-xx	-x
6	?????????????????????????????????	xx-x	-x-x-xx
7	?????????????????????????????????	xx-x	-x-x
8	?????????????????????????????????	--x	-x-x
9	?????????????????????????????????	-xx	xx-x
10	?????????????????????????????????	-xx	-x-xx
11	?????????????????????????????????	--x	-x
12	?????????????????????????????????	xxx	-x-x
13	?????????????????????????????????	-xx	-x
14	?????????????????????????????????	x	-x
15	?????????????????????????????????		x
16	?????????????????????????????????		xx
17	?????????????????????????????????	x	-x-x-x
18	?????????????????????????????????	x	-x
19	?????????????????????????????????	xxx	-x-x-x
20		x	x-x
21		x	-x
22		x-x	x
23		x	xx
24		x-x	-x
25		x	-x-x
26		xx	-x-xx
27		-x	-x-x
28		x	xx
29		x-x	-x-x
30		x	-x-xx
31		xx	-x-x
32		xx	-x
33		x-x	x
34		x	xx-x
35		x	xx-x-x
36		x	-x
37		x	-x-x
38		x	-x-x
39		x	x-x

40			x
41			x
42		x	x
43		x	
44		x	x
45		x	x
46		x	
47		x	x
48		x	
49		x	x
50		x	
51		x	x
52		x	
53		x	
54			2-20
55			
56			
57			
58			
59			
60			
61			
62			
63			
64			
65			
66			x
67			x
68			x
69			x-x
70			x-x
71			x-x
72		x	
73			x-x
74		x	
75		x	-x-x
76		x	xx
77			x-xx
78		x	x-x-x
79		x	x-x-x

Find a characteristic: 1st round

0	1uu00	-1110-	-1	-u1n	n1n0	-1	-0uu
1	01n00	-0101-	-10u1	-n01	-n	-	-10nn-000
2	n0nnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnn	-10n011	-n	-uu	-0	-1	-10-1---
3	-011000000010000uuuu00011nnn	-	-xnu111111	-	-	-u-u-x-	-
4	u-01100000000000un01000u-un11uu11	-	0-u0	-	-0	-x	-xx
5	1101	-	-011nun	-101-0100	x0nn	-u	-1
6	u-0	-	-10-10u11nn0n0	xx-n	-	-n1n1-uu	-
7	-0	-	-00n111uu1nn	xn-n	-	-00-11n1--n	-
8	u-0	-	-n-0-un0nu	-n	-	-	-
9	-00	-	-1-1-0	-xu	-	-uu-u	-
10	-0	-	-1-1-n	-xx	-	-u	-un
11	-	-	-	-u	-	-u	-
12	0	-	-u	xxx	-	-u	-n
13	1	-	-xn	-	-	-n	-
14	0	-	-0-u	x-1	-	-1-x	-
15	-1	-	-	-	-	-n	-
16	0	-	-	-n	-	-	-nx
17	-1	-	-1-u	-u	-	-u-u-u	-
18	u	-	-n	x	-	-n	-
19	-	-	-xxu	-	-u-n-u	-	-

low-probability

high-probability

2-31

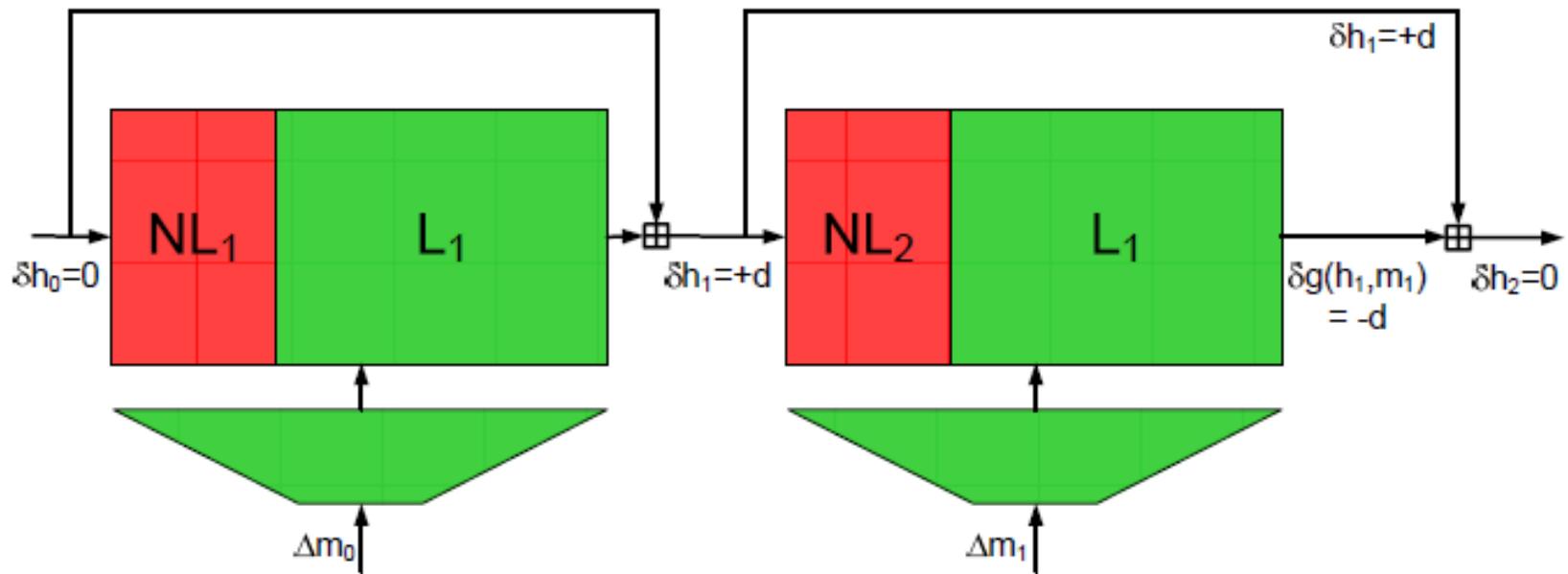
40	-	-	-	-	-n	-	-n
41	-	-	-	-	-	-u-	-
42	-	-	-	-	x	-u	-
43	-	-	-	-	x	-	-
44	-	-	-	-	n	x	-n
45	-	-	-	-	x	-u	-
46	-	-	-	-	n	-	-
47	-	-	-	-	x	-u	-
48	-	-	-	-	n	x	-
49	-	-	-	-	x	-u	-
50	-	-	-	-	n	x	-
51	-	-	-	-	-	-0-u-	-
52	-	-	-	-	x	-u	-1-
53	-	-	-	-	x	-	-
54	-	-	-	-	-	-0-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
66	-	-	-	-	-n	-	-n
67	-	-	-	-	-	-u-	-
68	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
69	-	-	-	-	u	-	u-x
70	-	-	-	-	-	-n-	-x
71	-	-	-	-	-	x-u	-
72	-	-	-	-	u	-	u-x
73	-	-	-	-	-	n-	-x
74	-	-	-	-	-n	-	xn-n
75	-	-	-	-	n	-	u-n-x
76	-	-	-	-	-	u	xx-
77	-	-	-	-	-	x-nx	-
78	-	-	-	-	-	-n	-xx
79	-	-	-	-	-	u	-xu-

2-20

2-20

2-block collision

- near-collision → collision



Malicious SHA-1

Find a characteristic: 1-block

0	1001111110001101100110001001010n	11111111101100011111111111000nu
1	00u1101001100-----001111u0n00	11u0001000000000-----0100unu0n00
2	n111n00---1-----uu000un00	u011n1-----000001000
3	0uuuu111---0---0uu---0un11nn	nnu-n-----nn000u1
4	1n01u1110---u-n-----u0011001n0	uu1-u-----00u0011uu
5	0011011n1n00---0-un0101-10n1u0n00	10u0u-----1101u111
6	n1n1n1n01000---1-100101-00n00011	1u111-----u-001u0
7	nu1nnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnn000n1	0n10u00-----n000nn1
8	101111-1001100000010000111nu0u1	n001u-----000u1
9	0-101010100000000000000000001un001	10110100-----01u1u00
10	u1n00-----01u	1011n-----0-00n1
11	-00-0-----1100001	u0u-----n1n0n00
12	-0010-----00-1	u01-n-----100n0
13	-1-----1100	n0100-----11011
14	-n u1u-u-----	0000nn-----
15	-n u1-----	0un10010-----
16	-n nn01-----	1000un-----
17	-n n001-----	10111u1-----
18	-n n001-----	n-010nu-----
19	-n n1-----	nu111n1-----

low-probability

high-probability

2-40

40	n-----	u01-----10000n0
41	-----	101-----01u1001
42	u-----	u10-0-----0111un
43	-----	n0u-----01nun0010
44	-----	n1u-----10000nu
45	-----	n-nu0-----00111n1
46	-----	uuu-----u1111u1
47	-----	uun-----10n0000u0
48	-----	n00-----10101100
49	-----	100-----11n010100
50	-----	010-----1-0100010
51	-----	010-----01n100010
52	-----	u01-----11100n0
53	-----	101-----010110101
54	n11-----	n11-----101100n
55	u00-----	u00-----110u11000
56	u100-----	u100-----00011uu
57	u1u1-----	u1u1-----11n1011u0
58	u1u1-----	u1u1-----n00101n
59	nu0-----	nu0-----10nu001n1
60	101-----	101-----110000nu
61	-n un1-----	-n un1-----0010000n1
62	-n 1n-1-----	-n 1n-1-----10u0111n1
63	uu1-----	uu1-----11u0111u0
64	u10-1-----	u10-1-----0100000n0
65	0-----	0-----11110001011
66	-n 111-----	-n 111-----0-000011n1
67	u1-----	u1-----0110u100100
68	u-----	u-----011000100
69	u1-----	u1-----01n000010
70	u-n 1-----	u-n 1-----111011101
71	0-----	0-----1100n01100-
72	u-----	u-----000001110
73	-1-----	-1-----0011n111011
74	u-n-----	u-n-----10111--
75	-----	-----0000n011101
76	u-----	u-----1110001u-
77	-----	-----101000--1
78	-----	-----000011101-
79	-----	-----111000101--

2-40

2-15

Find conforming messages

low-probability part: “easy”, K_1 unchanged
use automated tool to find a conforming message

round 2: try all $2^{32} K_2$ ’s, repeat 2^8 times (**cost 2^{40}**)
consider constant K_2 as part of the message!

round 3: do the same to find a K_3 (**total cost 2^{48}**)
repeating the 2^{40} search of K_2 2^8 times

round 4: find K_4 in negligible time

iterate to minimize the differences in the constants...

Collision

$K_{1\dots 4}$	5a827999 4eb9d7f7 bad18e2f d79e5877
IV	67452301 efcdab89 98badcfe 10325476 c3d2e1f0
m	ffd8ffe1 e2001250 b6cef608 34f4fe83 ffaf884f afe56e6f fc50fae6 28c40f81 1b1d3283 b48c11bc b1d4b511 a976cb20 a7a929f0 2327f9bb ecde01c0 7dc00852
m^*	ffd8ffe2 c2001224 3ecef608 dcf4fee1 37ae880c 87e56e6b bc50faa4 60c40fc7 931d3281 b48c11a8 b9d4b513 0976cb74 2fa929f2 a327f9bb 44de01c3 d5c00832
Δm	00000003 20000074 88000000 e8000062 c8000043 28000004 40000042 48000046 88000002 00000014 08000002 a0000054 88000002 80000000 a8000003 a8000060
$h(m)$	1896b202 394b0aae 54526cfa e72ec5f2 42b1837e

1-block, vs. 2-block collisions for previous attacks

But it's not the real SHA-1!

“custom” standards are common in proprietary systems
(encryption appliances, set-top boxes, etc.)

motivations:
customer-specific crypto (customers’ request)
“other reasons”

How to turn garbage collisions into useful collisions?

(= 2 valid files with arbitrary content)

Basic idea



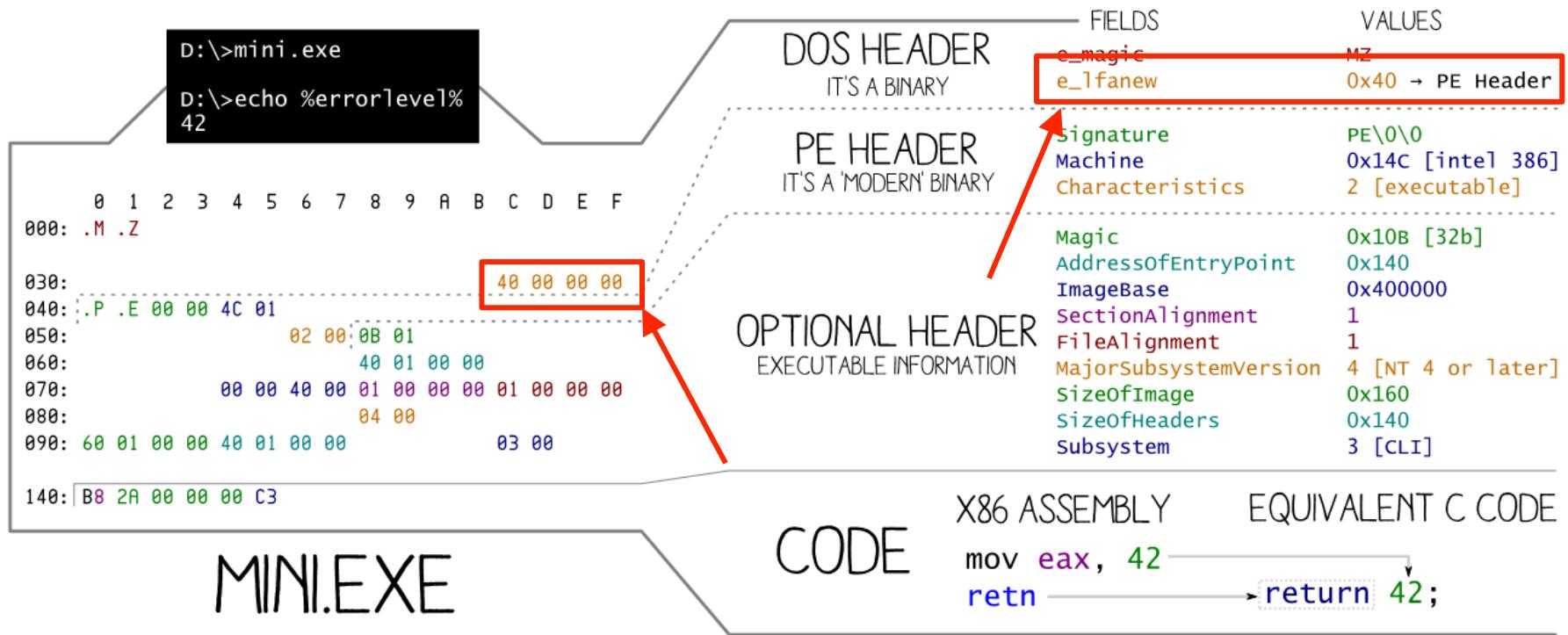
where $H(M_1)=H(M_2)$
and M_x is essentially “process payload x”

Constraints

differences (only in) the first block

difference in the first four bytes
⇒ 4-byte signatures corrupted

PE? (Win* executables, etc.)



differences forces EntryPoint to be at > 0x40000000
⇒ 1GiB (not supported by Windows)

PE = fail

ELF, Mach-O = fail
 $(\geq$ 4-byte signature at offset 0)

Shell Scripts?

Shell Scripts

```
#<garbage, 63 bytes>          //block 1 start
```

```
.....
```

```
#<garbage with differences> //block 2 start
```

```
EOL          //same payload
```

```
<check for block's content>
```

00000000:	231d	1b91	3440	09d8	104d	a6d3	54e1	102b	#...4@...M..T..+
00000010:	b885	125b	4778	26bd	fd37	2bee	e650	082c	...[Gx&..7+..P.,
00000020:	754b	1657	3811	bfd8	a5e0	b244	1a94	512a	uK.W8.....D..Q*
00000030:	cd36	a204	fee2	8a9f	3255	99aa	b47a	ed82	.6.....2U....z..
00000040:	0a0a	6966	205b	2060	6f64	202d	7420	7831	..if [`od -t x1
00000050:	202d	6a33	202d	4e31	202d	416e	2022	247b	-j3 -N1 -An "{\$
00000060:	307d	2260	202d	6571	2022	3931	2220	5d3b	0}"` -eq "91"];
00000070:	2074	6865	6e20	0a20	2065	6368	6f20	2220	then . echo "
00000080:	2020	2020	2020	2020	285f	5f29	5c6e	2020	(_)\\n
00000090:	2020	2020	2020	2028	6f6f	295c	6e20	202f	(oo)\\n /
000000a0:	2d2d	2d2d	2d2d	2d5c	5c2f	5c6e	202f	207c	-----\\/\n /
000000b0:	2020	2020	207c	7c5c	6e2a	2020	7c7c	2d2d	\\n* -
000000c0:	2d2d	7c7c	5c6e	2020	205e	5e20	2020	205e	-- \\n ^ ^ ^
000000d0:	5e22	3b0a	656c	7365	0a20	2065	6368	6f20	^";.else. echo
000000e0:	2248	656c	6c6f	2057	6f72	6c64	2e22	3b0a	"Hello World.";
000000f0:	6669	0a							fi.

\$ sh eve1.sh

(_)
(oo)
/-----\/
|
* ||----||
^ ^

00000000:	231d	1b92	1440	09ac	984d	a6d3	bce1	1049	#.@...M....I
00000010:	7085	1218	6f78	26b9	bd37	2bac	ae50	086a	p....ox&..7+..P.j
00000020:	fd4b	1655	3811	bfcc	ade0	b246	ba94	517e	.K.U8.....F..Q~
00000030:	4536	a206	7ee2	8a9f	9a55	99a9	1c7a	ede2	E6..~....U....z..
00000040:	0a0a	6966	205b	2060	6f64	202d	7420	7831	..if [`od -t x1
00000050:	202d	6a33	202d	4e31	202d	416e	2022	247b	-j3 -N1 -An "\${
00000060:	307d	2260	202d	6571	2022	3931	2220	5d3b	0}"` -eq "91"];
00000070:	2074	6865	6e20	0a20	2065	6368	6f20	2220	then . echo "
00000080:	2020	2020	2020	2020	285f	5f29	5c6e	2020	(__)\n
00000090:	2020	2020	2020	2028	6f6f	295c	6e20	202f	(oo)\n /
000000a0:	2d2d	2d2d	2d2d	2d5c	5c2f	5c6e	202f	207c	-----\\/\n /
000000b0:	2020	2020	207c	7c5c	6e2a	2020	7c7c	2d2d	\n* -
000000c0:	2d2d	7c7c	5c6e	2020	205e	5e20	2020	205e	-- \n ^^\n ^"; .else. echo
000000d0:	5e22	3b0a	656c	7365	0a20	2065	6368	6f20	"Hello World.";
000000e0:	2248	656c	6c6f	2057	6f72	6c64	2e22	3b0a	fi.
000000f0:	6669	0a							

```
$ sh eve2.sh
Hello World.
```

COM/MBR

(DOS executable/Master Boot Record)

no signature!

start with x86 (16 bits) code at offset 0

like shell scripts, skip initial garbage

JMP to distinct addr rather than comments

For a short introduction for new users type: INTRO

For supported shell commands type: HELP

To adjust the emulated CPU speed, use **ctrl-F11** and **ctrl-F12**.

To activate the keymapper **ctrl-F1**.

For more information read the **README** file in the DOSBox directory.

HAVE FUN!

The DOSBox Team <http://www.dosbox.com>

```
Z:\>SET BLASTER=A220 I7 D1 H5 T6
```

```
Z:\>MOUNT C ."."
```

```
Drive C is mounted as local directory .\
```

```
Z:\>C:
```

```
C:\>COM-1.COM
```

```
good!
```

```
C:\>COM-2.COM
```

```
evil!
```

```
C:\>_
```

RAR/7z

scanned forward

≥ 4-byte signature :-(

but signature can start at **any offset** :-D

⇒ payload = 2 concatenated archives

RAR/7z



killing the 1st signature byte disables the top archive

JPEG

2-byte signature 0xFFD8

sequence of **chunks**

Idea

message 1: first chunk “commented”

message 2: first chunk processed

μΣ 9 ►m♦. .ú
ΦF L ♠♣TΓΓΓ
8ÿâø¥2¼!jjj
òC▼ Yfc] sà≈ÿT L-R

σ— 9Tÿm♦. L
♠♣TΓH
ñç 8ÿâ·ò2¼#jçÅ
↔C▼ fç] à≈¢yL-2

JPEG signature

Chunk marker

- ff e5 in block 1
- ff e6 in block 2

Chunk length

- c4 00 in block 1
- e4 00 in block 2

00000: ff d8 ff e? ?4 00 39 54 ?? 6d 04 2e ?? b7 b2 ??
?? 08 cf ?? ?? 46 d4 ?? ?? 0a 05 ?? ?? cb e2 ??
?? 87 fc ?? 38 98 83 ?? ?? 32 ac ?? ?? 6a a8 ??
?? 43 1f ?? ?? 66 87 f5 ?? 85 f7 ?? ?? 1c a9 ??

(contains no 0xff)

0c404: ff fe b5 e9 <COMment chunk covering Image 1>

0e404: ff e0 <start of Image 1>

...
ff d9 <end of Image 1> <end of comment>

179ed: ff e0 <start of Image 2>

1b0d7: ff d9 <end of Image 2>



```
>crypto_hash *
test0.jpg 13990732b0d16c3e112f2356bd3d0dad1....
test1.jpg 13990732b0d16c3e112f2356bd3d0dad1....
```

Polyglots

2 distinct files, 3 valid file formats!



shmbrar0.mbr



shmbrar0.sh



shmbrar0.rar

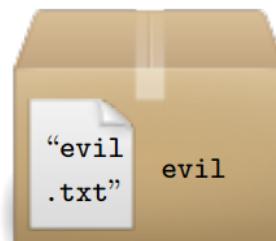
identical



shmbrar1.mbr



shmbrar1.sh



shmbrar1.rar

identical

{

collision

{

collision

{

collision

Conclusions

Implications for SHA-1 security?

None.

We did not improve attacks on the
unmodified SHA-1.

Did NSA use this trick when designing SHA-1 in 1995?

Probably not.

- 1) cryptanalysis techniques are known since 2004
- 2) the constants look like NUMSN ($\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{3}$ $\sqrt{5}$ $\sqrt{10}$)
- 3) remember the SHA-0 fiasco :)

Can you do the same for SHA-256?

Not at the moment.

Good: SHA-256 uses distinct constants at each step

Not good: The best known attack is on 31/64 steps

<http://malicioussha1.github.io/>