

Password Hashing and Preprocessing

Pooya Farshim



Stefano Tessaro



Passwords

- ★ Still one of the most prevalent forms of authentication
- ★ Use $H(\text{pw})$ in place of pw
- ★ Use $H(\text{pw})$ as a secret key (e.g., to encrypt data)

The Setting

- ★ Attackers attempt to “crack” *multiple* passwords
- ★ May well use *preprocessing* (e.g. Rainbow Tables) to speed things up
- ★ Typically the hash function is assumed to be secure (= RO)
- ★ Attackers exploit the low entropy of human-generated passwords

Conventional Wisdom

$$sa_i, H(sa_i, pw_i)$$

“Salting Defeats Preprocessing”

Distinct (known) salts \implies separate preprocessing effort

Unpredictable salts \implies defeat preprocessing effort

Related Works

- ★ Long line of works on preprocessing:
[GToo,Unro7,DTT10,DGK17,CDGS18,CDG18,...]
- ★ Bellare, Ristenpart, Tessaro [BRT12]: Highlight the need for multi-instance security in password-based crypto.

Two Settings

Preprocessing

- ★ $\sigma \leftarrow A_0(H)$
- ★ Run G with $A_1^H(\sigma)$

Two Settings

Preprocessing

- ★ $\sigma \leftarrow A_0(H)$
- ★ Run G with $A_1^H(\sigma)$

Multi-Instance

- ★ $(pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m) \leftarrow A^H(H(pw_1), \dots, H(pw_m))$
- ★ Return $(pw_1, \dots, pw_m) = (pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m)$

The Multi-Instance Perspective

- ★ $(pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m) \leftarrow A^H(H(pw_1), \dots, H(pw_m))$
- ★ Return $(pw_1, \dots, pw_m) = (pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m)$
- ★ Effort to compromise a single instance may be within reach
- ★ Want: *effort to compromise m instances to scale with m*

The Multi-Instance Perspective

- ★ $(pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m) \leftarrow A^H(H(pw_1), \dots, H(pw_m))$
- ★ Return $(pw_1, \dots, pw_m) = (pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m)$
- ★ Effort to compromise a single instance may be within reach
- ★ Want: *effort to compromise m instances to scale with m*
- ★ **Not** without salting:

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{[N]^m, \perp, \text{RO}}^{\text{rec}}(T) \geq \left(\frac{T}{N}\right)^m$$

The Multi-Instance Perspective

- ★ $(pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m) \leftarrow A^H(H(sa_1, pw_1), \dots, H(sa_n, pw_m))$
- ★ Return $(pw_1, \dots, pw_m) = (pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m)$

The Multi-Instance Perspective

- ★ $(pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m) \leftarrow A^H(H(sa_1, pw_1), \dots, H(sa_n, pw_m))$
- ★ Return $(pw_1, \dots, pw_m) = (pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m)$

★ With sufficiently large salts:

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{[N]^m, [K], \text{RO}}^{\text{rec}}(T) \geq \left(\frac{T}{m \cdot N} \right)^m$$

Our Goal

Understand the security of password hashing
in the presence of *multiple instances* and *preprocessing*

The Setting

Preprocessing

- ★ $\sigma \leftarrow A_1(H)$
- ★ Run G with $A_1^H(\sigma)$

Multi-Instance

- ★ $(pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m) \leftarrow A^H(H(sa_1, pw_1), \dots, H(sa_m, pw_m))$
- ★ Return $(pw_1, \dots, pw_m) = (pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m)$

The Setting

Preprocessing

- ★ $\sigma \leftarrow A_1(H)$
- ★ Run G with $A_1^H(\sigma)$

Multi-Instance

- ★ $(pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m) \leftarrow A^H(H(sa_1, pw_1), \dots, H(sa_m, pw_m))$
- ★ Return $(pw_1, \dots, pw_m) = (pw'_1, \dots, pw'_m)$

Combine!

We Consider

No Salts, Distinct Salts, & Random Salts

We Consider

No Salts, Distinct Salts, & Random Salts


Historical, Amplification

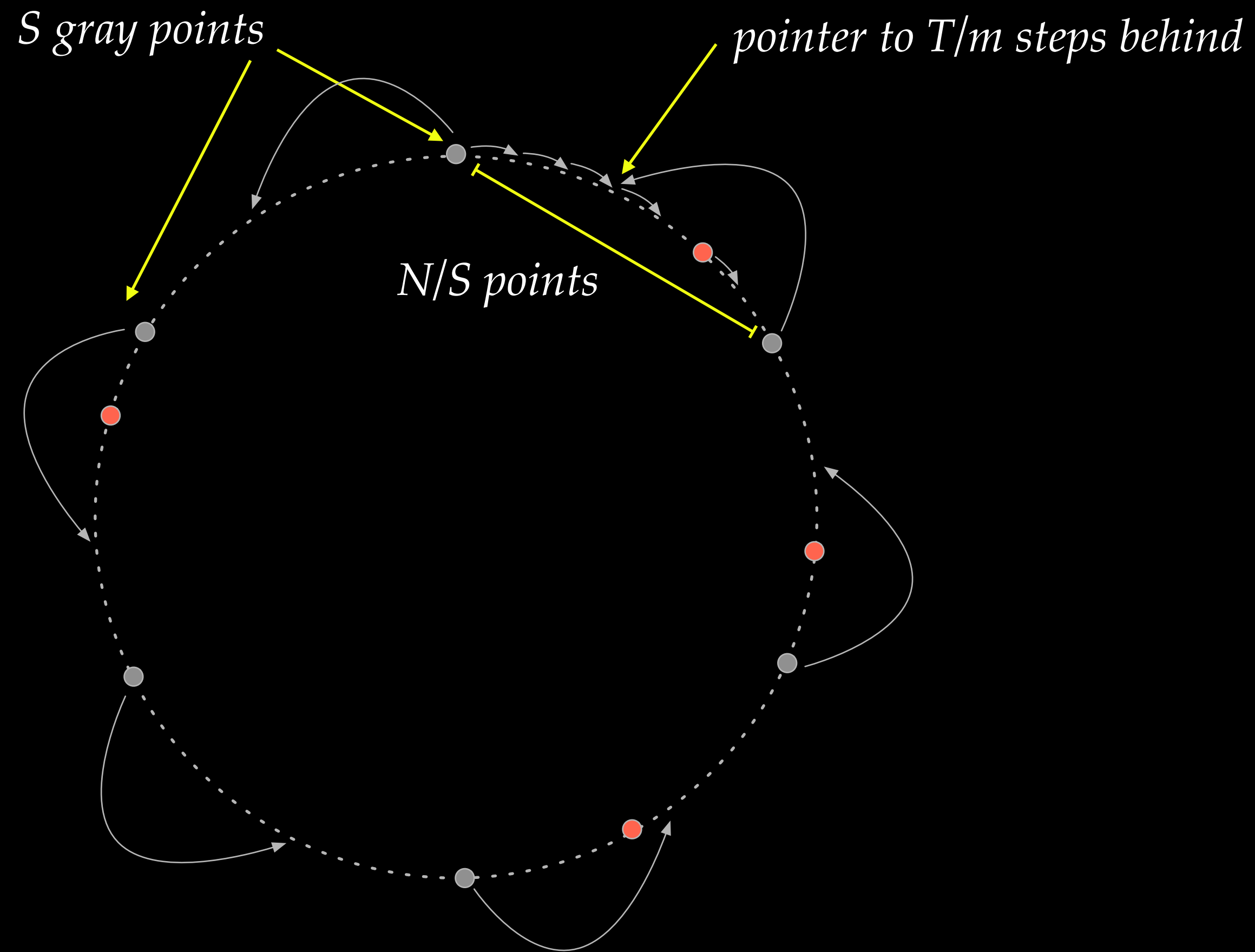
We Consider

No Salts, Distinct Salts, & Random Salts

Historical, Amplification

Practice

Multi-Instance Hellman



$$\Pr [\text{All reds within } T/m \text{ of a gray}] \approx \left(\frac{T/m}{N/S} \right)^m = \left(\frac{ST}{mN} \right)^m$$

Password Unguessability [BRT12]

Game $\text{GUESS}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\mathcal{A}}$:

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$
 $y \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{TEST}, \text{COR}}(z)$
return $\bigwedge_{i=1}^m \text{win}_i$

Proc. $\text{TEST}(i, pw)$:

$\text{win}_i \leftarrow (pw = \mathbf{pw}[i])$
return win_i

Proc. $\text{COR}(i)$:

$\text{win}_i \leftarrow \text{true}$
return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(T, c) := \max_{\mathcal{A}} \Pr \left[\text{GUESS}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\mathcal{A}} \right]$$

The Basic Measure

Game $\text{GUESS}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\mathcal{A}}$:

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$
 $y \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{TEST}, \text{COR}}(z)$
return $\bigwedge_{i=1}^m \text{win}_i$

Proc. $\text{TEST}(i, pw)$:

$\text{win}_i \leftarrow (pw = \mathbf{pw}[i])$
return win_i

Proc. $\text{COR}(i)$:

$\text{win}_i \leftarrow \text{true}$
return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(m, 0) = 2^{-\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\infty}(\mathcal{P}|\mathcal{Z})}$$

The Basic Measure

Game $\text{GUESS}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\mathcal{A}}$:

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$
 $y \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{TEST}, \text{COR}}(z)$
return $\bigwedge_{i=1}^m \text{win}_i$

Proc. $\text{TEST}(i, pw)$:

$\text{win}_i \leftarrow (pw = \mathbf{pw}[i])$
return win_i

Proc. $\text{COR}(i)$:

$\text{win}_i \leftarrow \text{true}$
return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$

$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(m - c, c)$

A Simple Argument

Theorem 2 (Unguessability). *For any m -sampler \mathcal{P} and any $T, c \in \mathbb{N}$,*

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(T, c) \leq \binom{T}{m-c} \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(m-c, c) .$$

A Simple Argument

Theorem 2 (Unguessability). *For any m -sampler \mathcal{P} and any $T, c \in \mathbb{N}$,*

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(T, c) \leq \binom{T}{m-c} \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(m-c, c) .$$

Proof:

- Guess the $(m - c)$ out of T queries to TEST that will return T . Relay these to own TEST.
- Answer the rest of TEST queries with F .
- Relay all COR queries to own COR.

Resolves Open Question in [BRT12]

DISCUSSION. We note that although the bound in Theorem 3.2 depends only on q_t, q_c , we are not claiming that it holds for any (q_t, q_c) -guessing adversary, but only for a (\mathbf{q}, q_c) -guessing adversary with $q_t = \mathbf{q}[1] + \dots + \mathbf{q}[m]$. The same is true for the better bound we just quoted for the $q_c = 0$ case. An example from [27] shows that our bound of $(q_t/m2^\mu)^m$ for the $q_c = 0$ case in fact does not hold for arbitrary (q_t, q_c) -guessing adversaries. For $q_t = 11$, $m = 2$ and \mathcal{P} which picks random, 3-bit passwords, they present an attack with advantage higher than $(q_t/m2^\mu)^m$. Obtaining a (good) bound for (q_t, q_c) -guessing adversaries is an interesting open question.

- BRT considered a priori bounds $T[i]$ for each index i .
- We remove this restriction:
Adversary can *adapt* $T[i]$ as it makes progress

So far...

*We looked at
unguessability of passwords in terms of the basic measure.*

So far...

We looked at
unguessability of passwords in terms of the basic measure.

Next: *hashed salted passwords*

Unrecoverability in AI-RO

Game AI-REC $_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}}^{\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1}$:

$H \leftarrow \text{Fun}(D, R)$

$\sigma \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_0(H)$

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$

for $(i, j) \in [m] \times [\ell]$ do

$\mathbf{sa}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{Gen}(i, j)$

$\mathbf{k}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{KD}^H(\mathbf{pw}[i], \mathbf{sa}[i, j])$

$\mathbf{pw}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{\text{H}, \text{COR}}(\mathbf{sa}, \mathbf{k}, \sigma, z)$

return $(\mathbf{pw}' = \mathbf{pw})$

Proc. COR(i):

return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$

Unrecoverability in AI-RO

Game AI-REC $_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}}^{\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1}$:

$H \leftarrow \text{Fun}(D, R)$

$\sigma \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_0(H)$

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$

for $(i, j) \in [m] \times [\ell]$ do

$\mathbf{sa}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{Gen}(i, j)$

$\mathbf{k}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{KD}^H(\mathbf{pw}[i], \mathbf{sa}[i, j])$

$\mathbf{pw}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{H, \text{COR}}(\mathbf{sa}, \mathbf{k}, \sigma, z)$

return $(\mathbf{pw}' = \mathbf{pw})$

Proc. COR(i):

return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$

Game BF-REC $_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}}^{\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1}$:

$H \leftarrow \text{Fun}(D, R)$

$(\sigma, L) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_0()$

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$

for $(i, j) \in [m] \times [\ell]$ do

$\mathbf{sa}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{Gen}(i, j)$

$\mathbf{k}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{KD}^{H[L]}(\mathbf{pw}[i], \mathbf{sa}[i, j])$

$\mathbf{pw}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{H[L], \text{COR}}(\mathbf{sa}, \mathbf{k}, \sigma, z)$

return $(\mathbf{pw}' = \mathbf{pw})$

Proc. COR(i):

return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$

Unrecoverability in AI-RO

Game AI-REC $_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}}^{\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1}$:

$H \leftarrow \text{Fun}(D, R)$

$\sigma \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_0(H)$

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$

for $(i, j) \in [m] \times [\ell]$ do

$\mathbf{sa}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{Gen}(i, j)$

$\mathbf{k}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{KD}^H(\mathbf{pw}[i], \mathbf{sa}[i, j])$

$\mathbf{pw}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{H, \text{COR}}(\mathbf{sa}, \mathbf{k}, \sigma, z)$

return $(\mathbf{pw}' = \mathbf{pw})$

Proc. COR(i):

return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$


[CDGS18]

Game BF-REC $_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}}^{\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1}$:

$H \leftarrow \text{Fun}(D, R)$

$(\sigma, L) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_0()$

$(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$

for $(i, j) \in [m] \times [\ell]$ do

$\mathbf{sa}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{Gen}(i, j)$

$\mathbf{k}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{KD}^{H[L]}(\mathbf{pw}[i], \mathbf{sa}[i, j])$

$\mathbf{pw}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{H[L], \text{COR}}(\mathbf{sa}, \mathbf{k}, \sigma, z)$

return $(\mathbf{pw}' = \mathbf{pw})$

Proc. COR(i):

return $\mathbf{pw}[i]$

BF-Rec Bound (Uniform Salts)

Theorem 7. *Let $\text{KD}^{\text{H}}(pw, sa) := \text{H}(pw|sa)$ for random oracle H . Then for any m -sampler \mathcal{P} , any salt generator $\text{Gen} := [K]$ that outputs uniform salts in a set of size K , and any $\ell, P, T, c \in \mathbb{N}$,*

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, [K], \text{H}}^{\text{bf-rec}}(P, T, c) \leq \left(\binom{T}{m-c} + \frac{m\ell}{K} \binom{T+P}{m-c} \right) \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(m-c, c) + \frac{m^2\ell^2}{K}.$$

Other Bounds (See Paper)

Theorem 6. *Let $\text{KD}^{\text{H}}(pw, sa) := \text{H}(pw|sa)$ for random oracle H . Then for any m -sampler \mathcal{P} , any salt generator Gen , and any $\ell, P, T, c \in \mathbb{N}$,*

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{H}}^{\text{bf-rec}}(P, T, c) \leq \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}}^{\text{sa-guess}}(T + P, c) .$$

Theorem 4. *For any m -sampler \mathcal{P} and any $\ell, T \in \mathbb{N}$,*

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \perp}^{\text{sa-guess}}(T, 0) \leq T^m \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}}^{\text{guess}}(m, 0) .$$

Our Main Bounds

	No salts	Known distinct salts	Uniform salts
$S = 0$	$\left(\frac{6T}{N}\right)^m$	$\left(\frac{6eT}{mN}\right)^m$	$\left(1 + \frac{m\ell}{K}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{6eT}{mN}\right)^m$
“Large” $S \geq 3m$	$\left(\frac{6ST}{mN}\right)^m$	$\left(\frac{6eST}{m^2N}\right)^m$	$\left(\frac{2eT}{mN}\right)^m + \frac{m\ell}{K} \cdot \left(\frac{6eST}{m^2N}\right)^m$

Composable AI-KDF Security (Following BRT)

Game AI-KDF-REAL $_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}}^{\mathcal{D}_0, \mathcal{D}_1}$:

$\mathbf{H} \leftarrow \text{Fun}(D, R)$
 $\sigma \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_0(\mathbf{H})$
 $(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$
for $(i, j) \in [m] \times [\ell]$ do
 $\mathbf{sa}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{Gen}(i, j)$
 $\mathbf{k}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{KD}^{\mathbf{H}}(\mathbf{pw}[i], \mathbf{sa}[i, j])$
 $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_1^{\text{PRIM}}(\mathbf{pw}, \mathbf{sa}, \mathbf{k}, z, \sigma)$
return b'

Proc. PRIM(w):
return $\mathbf{H}(w)$

Game BF/AI-KDF-IDEAL $_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \mathcal{S}_0, \mathcal{S}_1}^{\mathcal{D}_1}$:

$(\sigma, st) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}_0()$
 $(\mathbf{pw}, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$
for $(i, j) \in [m] \times [\ell]$ do
 $\mathbf{sa}[i, j] \leftarrow \text{Gen}(i, j)$
 $\mathbf{k}[i, j] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^k$
 $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_1^{\text{PRIM}}(\mathbf{pw}, \mathbf{sa}, \mathbf{k}, z, \sigma)$
return b'

Proc. PRIM(w):
 $(y, st) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}_1^{\text{TEST}}(w; st)$
return y

Proc. TEST(pw, sa):
 $S \leftarrow \{i \in [m] : \exists j \in [\ell] \text{ st. } (\mathbf{pw}[i], \mathbf{sa}[i, j]) = (pw, sa)\}$
return $\mathbf{k}[S]$

Theorem 13. AI-KDF security composes in the presence of aux info and multiple instances:

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathbf{G}, \mathcal{P}, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}}^{\text{ai-multi}}(\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1) \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}, \mathcal{S}_0, \mathcal{S}_1}^{\text{ai-kdf}}(\mathcal{D}_0, \mathcal{D}_1) + \\ + 2 \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}}^{\text{sa-guess}}(T, c) + m \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathbf{G}}^{\text{single}}(\mathcal{B}) .$$

AI-KDF Security of Iteration

$$\text{KD}_r^{\text{H}}(pw, sa) := \underbrace{\text{H} \circ \dots \circ \text{H}}_r \circ \text{H}(pw|sa)$$

BF-KDM Security:

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{Gen}, \text{KD}_r, \mathcal{S}_0, \mathcal{S}_1}^{\text{bf-kdf}}(\mathcal{D}_0, \mathcal{D}_1) \leq \frac{(r+1)m\ell T}{N} + 3 \cdot \left(\frac{rml(rml+P)}{N} + \frac{mlP}{K} + \frac{m^2\ell^2}{K} \right)$$

(Next: use [CDGS18] and optimize P to get an AI-KDF bound.)

Take-Away Message

	No salts	Known distinct salts	Uniform salts
$S = 0$	$\left(\frac{6T}{N}\right)^m$	$\left(\frac{6eT}{mN}\right)^m$	$\left(1 + \frac{ml}{K}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{6eT}{mN}\right)^m$
“Large” $S \geq 3m$	$\left(\frac{6ST}{mN}\right)^m$	$\left(\frac{6eST}{m^2N}\right)^m$	$\left(\frac{2eT}{mN}\right)^m + \frac{ml}{K} \cdot \left(\frac{6eST}{m^2N}\right)^m$

Plus: Composable AI-KDF security of iterated hashing.

Thanks.