# A New Dedicated 256-bit Hash Function: FORK-256

Deukjo Hong<sup>1</sup>, Donghoon Chang<sup>1</sup>, Jaechul Sung<sup>2</sup>, Sangjin Lee<sup>1</sup>, Seokhie Hong<sup>1</sup>, Jaesang Lee<sup>1</sup>, Dukjae Moon<sup>3</sup>, and Sungtaek Chee<sup>3</sup>

**Abstract.** This paper describes a new software-efficient 256-bit hash function, FORK-256. Recently proposed attacks on MD5 and SHA-1 motivate a new hash function design. It is designed not only to have higher security but also to be faster than SHA-256. The performance of the new hash function is at least 30% better than that of SHA-256 in software. And it is secure against any known cryptographic attacks on hash functions.

Keywords: 256-bit Hash Function, FORK-256

## 1 Introduction

For cryptographic hash function, the following properties are required:

- preimage resistance: it is computationally infeasible to find any input which hashes to any pre-specified output.
- second preimage resistance: it is computationally infeasible to find any second input which has the same output as any specified input.
- collision resistance: it is computationally infeasible to find a collision, i.e. two distinct inputs that hash to the same result.

For an ideal hash function with an m-bit output, finding a preimage or a second preimage requires about  $2^m$  operations and the fastest way to find a collision is a birthday attack which needs approximately  $2^{m/2}$  operations.

Most dedicated hash functions which have iterative process use the Merkle-Damgård construction [6, 10] in order to hash inputs of arbitrary length. They work as follows. Let HASH be a hash function. The message M is padded to a multiple of the block length and subsequently divided into n blocks  $M_0, \dots, M_{n-1}$ . Then HASH can be described as follows:

$$CV_0 = IV;$$
  $CV_{i+1} = \mathsf{COMP}(CV_i, M_i), 0 \le i \le n-1;$   $\mathsf{HASH}(M) = CV_n,$ 

where COMP is the compression function of HASH,  $CV_i$ 's are chaining variables, and IV is a fixed initial value.

The most popular method of designing compression functions of dedicated hash functions is a serial successive iteration of a small step function, as like round functions of block ciphers. Many hash functions such as MD4 [12], MD5 [13], HAVAL [19], SHA-family [11], etc., follow that idea. Attacks on hash functions have been focused on vanishing the difference of intermediate values caused by the difference of messages. On the other hand, a hash function has been considered secure if it is computationally hard to vanish such difference in its compression function. Usually, the lower the probability of the differential characteristic is, the harder the attack is. Therefore a step function is regarded as a good candidate if it causes a good avalanche effect in the serial structure. A function which has a good diffusion property can not be so light in general. However, most step functions have been developed to be light for efficiency. This may be why MD4-type hash functions including SHA-1 are vulnerable to Wang et al.'s collision-finding attack [15–18].

RIPEMD-family [9] has somewhat different approach for designing a secure hash function. The attacker who tries to break members of RIPEMD-family should aim simultaneously at two ways where the message difference passes. This design strategy is still successful because so far there is not any effective attack on RIPEMD-family except the first proposal of RIPEMD. However, RIPEMD-family have heavier compression functions than hash functions with serial structure. For example, the first proposal of RIPEMD consists of two lines of MD4. Total number of steps is twice as many as that of MD4. Also, the number of steps of RIPEMD-160 is almost twice as many as that of SHA-0.

In this paper, we propose a new dedicated hash function FORK-256. According to the above observation, we determined the design goals (of compression function) as follows.

- It should have a 256-bit output because the security of 2<sup>128</sup> operations is recommended for symmetric key cryptography as the computing power increases.
- Its structure should be resistant against known attacks including Wang et al.'s attack [1-5, 7, 8, 14-18].
- The performance should be as competitive as that of SHA-256.

# 2 Description of FORK-256

In this section, we will describe FORK-256. These are basic notations used in FORK-256.

 $\boxplus$ : addition mod  $2^{32}$  $\oplus$ : XOR (eXclusive OR)

 $A^{\otimes s}$ : s-bit left rotation for a 32-bit string A  $|A|_{512}$ : the number of 512-bit blocks in a string A

## 2.1 Construction of FORK-256

FORK-256 employs Merkle-Damgård construction with the compression function FORK256COMP $(\cdot, \cdot)$  and the padding method PAD $(\cdot)$  as follows: For the initial value  $CV_0 = IV$  and the message M,

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\begin{split} & \mathsf{FORK256HASH}(CV_0, M) \\ & n \leftarrow |\mathsf{PAD}(M)|_{512}; \\ & \mathsf{Partition} \ |\mathsf{PAD}(M)|_{512} \ \mathrm{into} \ n \ 512\text{-bit blocks} \ M_0, \cdots, M_{n-1}; \\ & \mathsf{For} \ i = 0 \ \mathrm{to} \ n - 1 \ \ \{ \\ & CV_{i+1} \leftarrow \mathsf{FORK256COMP}(CV_i, M); \\ & \} \\ & \mathsf{Return} \ CV_n; \end{split}
```

## 2.2 Message Block Length and Padding

The message block length of the compression function FORK256COMP is 512-bit. PAD pads a message by appending a single bit 1 next to the least significant bit of the message, followed by zero or more bit 0's until the length of the message is 448 modulo 512, and then appends to the message the 64-bit original message length modulo  $2^{64}$ .

## 2.3 Structure of FORK-256 Compression Function

Fig. 1 depicts the outline of the compression function FORK256COMP. The name 'FORK' was originated from the figure. FORK256COMP hashes a 512-bit string to a 256-bit string. It consists of four parallel branch functions, BRANCH<sub>1</sub>, BRANCH<sub>2</sub>, BRANCH<sub>3</sub>, and BRANCH<sub>4</sub>. Let  $CV_i = (CV_i[0], CV_i[1], \cdots, CV_i[7])$  where  $CV_i[j]$  is a 32-bit word. The initial value  $CV_0$  is set as follows:

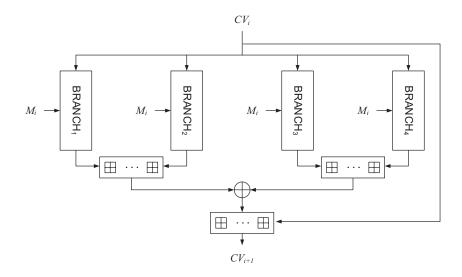
$CV_0[0] = 0$ x6a09e667	$CV_0[1] = \texttt{0xbb67ae85}$
$CV_0[2]=\mathtt{0x3c6ef372}$	$CV_0[3] = \mathtt{0xa54ff53a}$
$CV_0[4] = 0$ x510e527f	$CV_0[5] = 0$ x9b05688c
$CV_0[6] = 0$ x1f83d9ab	$CV_0[7] = \mathtt{0x5be0cd19}$

Let us see the computing procedure of the i-th iteration of FORK256COMP. The message block  $M_i$  is partitioned to 16 32-bit Words  $(M_i[0], \cdots M_i[15])$ . Let  $R_j^{(s)} = (R_j^{(s)}[0], \cdots, R_j^{(s)}[7])$  for  $1 \leq j \leq 4$  and  $0 \leq s \leq 8$  where each  $R_j^{(s)}[t]$  is a 32-bit word for  $0 \leq t \leq 7$ .  $R_j^{(8)}$  is the output of BRANCH $_j$  on the inputs  $CV_i$  and  $M_i$ , for  $1 \leq j \leq 4$  and computed as follows:

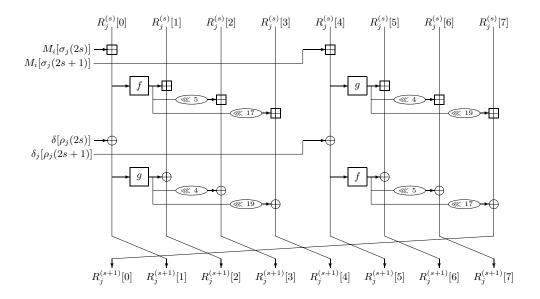
$$R_j^{(8)} = \mathsf{BRANCH}_j(CV_i, M_i), \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq 4$$

where  $R_j^{(s)}$ 's are used in computation of BRANCH $_j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq 4$  and  $0 \leq s \leq 7$ . Consequently,  $CV_{i+1} = (CV_{i+1}[0], \cdots, CV_{i+1}[7])$  is the output of the i-th iteration of FORK256COMP and computed as follows:

$$CV_{i+1}[t] = CV_i[t] \boxplus ((R_1^{(8)}[t] \boxplus R_2^{(8)}[t]) \oplus (R_3^{(8)}[t] \boxplus R_4^{(8)}[t])), \text{ for } 0 \le t \le 7.$$



 $\textbf{Fig. 1.} \ \, \textbf{Outline of the FORK-256 compression function}, \ \, \textbf{FORK256COMP}$ 



**Fig. 2.** Step function of FORK-256, STEP  $(0 \le s \le 7, 1 \le j \le 4)$ 

## 2.4 Branch Function

Each BRANCH<sub>j</sub> for  $1 \le j \le 4$  is computed on the inputs  $CV_i$  and  $M_i$  as follows:

```
\begin{split} \mathsf{BRANCH}_{j}(CV_{i}, M_{i}) & R_{j}^{(0)} \leftarrow CV_{i}; \\ \mathsf{For} \ s = 0 \ \mathsf{to} \ 7 \ \{ & R_{j}^{(s+1)} \leftarrow \mathsf{STEP}(R_{j}^{(s)}, M_{i}[\sigma_{j}(2s)], M_{i}[\sigma_{j}(2s+1)], \delta[\rho_{j}(2s)], \delta[\rho_{j}(2s+1)]); \\ \mathsf{Return} \ R_{j}^{(8)}; & \end{split}
```

Message Word Ordering Each BRANCH<sub>j</sub> for  $1 \le j \le 4$  uses the message words  $M_i[0], \dots, M_i[15]$  with different order  $\sigma_j$ .

 0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15

 )
 0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15

 )
 14
 15
 11
 9
 8
 10
 3
 4
 2
 13
 0
 5
 6
 7
 12
 1

9 12 11

4 15 8 5

Table 1. Message word ordering

Constants FORK256COMP totally uses sixteen constants:

10 14

13 2

$\delta[0] = 0$ x428a2f98	$\delta[1] = 0x71374491$
$\delta[2]$ = 0xb5c0fbcf	$\delta[3] = 0$ xe9b5dba5
$\delta[4]$ = 0x3956c25b	$\delta[5] = 0x59f111f1$
$\delta[6]$ = 0x923f82a4	$\delta[7] = 0$ xab1c5ed5
$\delta[8]$ = 0xd807aa98	$\delta[9] = 0x12835b01$
$\delta[10]=$ 0x243185be	$\delta[11] = \texttt{0x550c7dc3}$
$\delta[12]={ t 0x72be5d74}$	$\delta[13] = \texttt{0x80deb1fe}$
$\delta[14]= \texttt{0x9bdc06a7}$	$\delta[15] = \texttt{0xc19bf174}$

These constants are used in each BRANCH<sub>j</sub> with different order  $\rho_j$  for  $1 \le j \le 4$ .

**Step Function** In the s-th step of BRANCH<sub>j</sub> for  $1 \le j \le 4$  and  $0 \le s \le 7$ , STEP outputs  $R_j^{(s+1)}$  on the inputs  $R_j^{(s)}, M_i[\sigma_j(2s)], M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)], \delta[\rho_j(2s)],$ 

Table 2. Constant ordering

s	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
$\rho_1(s)$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
$\rho_2(s)$	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
$\rho_3(s)$	1	0	3	2	5	4	7	6	9	8	11	10	13	12	15	14
$\rho_4(s)$	14	15	12	13	10	11	8	9	6	7	4	5	2	3	0	1

and  $\delta[\rho_j(2s+1)]$ , and  $R_j^{(s+1)}$  is computed as follows (See Fig. 2):

$$\begin{split} R_j^{(s+1)}[0] &= R_j^{(s)}[7] \boxplus g(R_j^{(s)}[4] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)])^{\lll 21} \\ & \oplus f(R_j^{(s)}[4] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s+1)])^{\ggg 17}, \\ R_j^{(s+1)}[1] &= R_j^{(s)}[0] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s)], \\ R_j^{(s+1)}[2] &= R_j^{(s)}[1] \boxplus f(R_j^{(s)}[0] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s)]) \\ & \oplus g(R_j^{(s)}[0] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s)]), \\ R_j^{(s+1)}[3] &= R_j^{(s)}[2] \boxplus f(R_j^{(s)}[0] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s)])^{\ggg 5} \\ & \oplus g(R_j^{(s)}[0] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s)])^{\ggg 9}, \\ R_j^{(s+1)}[4] &= R_j^{(s)}[3] \boxplus f(R_j^{(s)}[0] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s)])^{\ggg 17} \\ & \oplus g(R_j^{(s)}[0] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s)])^{\ggg 21}, \\ R_j^{(s+1)}[5] &= R_j^{(s)}[4] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s+1)], \\ R_j^{(s+1)}[6] &= R_j^{(s)}[5] \boxplus g(R_j^{(s)}[4] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)]) \\ & \oplus f(R_j^{(s)}[4] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s+1)]), \\ R_j^{(s+1)}[7] &= R_j^{(s)}[6] \boxplus g(R_j^{(s)}[4] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)])^{\ggg 9} \\ & \oplus f(R_j^{(s)}[4] \boxplus M_i[\sigma_j(2s+1)] \boxplus \delta[\rho_j(2s+1)])^{\ggg 5}, \end{split}$$

where f and g are nonlinear functions as follows:

$$f(x) = x \boxplus (x^{\ll 7} \oplus x^{\ll 22}),$$
  
$$g(x) = x \oplus (x^{\ll 13} \boxplus x^{\ll 27}).$$

# 3 Design Strategy

## 3.1 Motivation for Our Proposal

In 2004, Wang et al.'s attacks on MD4, MD5, HAVAL, and RIPEMD [15, 16] and SHA-0/1 [17, 18] brought a big impact on the field of symmetric key cryptography including hash function. However, RIPEMD-128/160 are the algorithms which are still secure against their attacks. No attacks on them are found so far.

They were designed to have two parallel lines, which is different from MD4, MD5 and SHA-family. This makes an attacker take into account two lines simultaneously. However, since each line needs almost same operation of MD5 and SHA algorithms, its efficiency was degenerated almost half of them. This motivates our design. We use four lines instead of two.

In order to overcome disadvantage of RIPEMD algorithms, we manage to reduce operations for step functions of each line. The message reordering of each branch is deliberately designed to be resistant against Wang et al.'s attack and differential attacks. The function f and g in each step are chosen to have good avalanche effects.

## 3.2 Design Principle

Structure The compression function FORK256COMP consists of 4 Branches. In the security aspect, we can give the security against known attacks with the different message ordering in branches. For example, RIPEMD, which consists of 2 branches, was fully attacked by Wang et al. [15] because RIPEMD has the same message ordering in 2 branches. On the other hand, in case of RIPEMD-128/160, there is no attack result because RIPEMD-128/160 have different message ordering in branches. In the implementation aspect, FORK-256 can be implemented efficiently because the message ordering is simpler than the message expansion such as that of SHA-256.

Constants Each BRANCH<sub>j</sub> uses 16 different constants  $\delta[t]$  for  $0 \le t \le 15$ . By using constants we pursue the goal to disturb the attacker who tries to find a good differential characteristic with a relatively high probability. So, we prefer the constants which represent the first 32 bits of the fractional parts of the cube roots of the first sixteen four prime numbers.

Nonlinear Functions The nonlinear functions f and g of FORK256COMP output one word on the input of one word, and their outputs are XORed or added modulo  $2^{32}$  to the multiple words in the chaining variables. Due to this property, f and g propagate the difference of a message word to the chaining variables.

Shift Rotations in Nonlinear Functions If the addition is changed into the bitwise xor operation in f and g, nonlinear functions are generalized as  $x \oplus (x^{\otimes s_1} \oplus x^{\otimes s_2})$ . We consider all  $465 \left(= \binom{31}{2}\right)$  cases for  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  and want to define shift rotations satisfying the following 7 conditions. HW(w) denotes the Hamming Weight of a 32-bit word w. Let x be an input of f or g and let g be f(x) or g(x).

- The branch number of f and q is 4.
- If HW(x) = 2, then  $HW(y) \ge 4$ .
- If HW(x) = 3, then  $HW(y) \ge 3$ .

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- If HW(x) = 4, then HW(y) \ge 4.
- If HW(y) = 1, then HW(x) \ge 17.
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- If HW(y) = 2, then  $HW(x) \ge 14$ .
- The interval of shift rotations are greater than or equal to 4.

We determined the shift rotations such that f and g satisfy the above conditions.

Message Word Ordering We adopt the message word ordering instead of the message word extension. If an attacker constructs an intended differential characteristics for one branch function, the ordering of message words will cause unintended differential patterns in the other branch functions. This is the core part of the security in the compression function. We considered the following four conditions in defining the message word ordering.

- Balance of upper (step  $0\sim3$ ) and lower (step  $4\sim7$ ) parts : each word should be applied twice to upper and lower parts, respectively.
- Balance of left and right parts: each word should be applied twice to left and right parts, respectively.
- Balance of sums of indices:
  - Each word should be applied four times and indexed by  $0{\sim}15$ .
  - Total sum of indices is 480. Therefore, the average of sum of indices applied to each word is 30.
  - We searched the ordering so that the sum of indices corresponding to each word is around  $25\sim35$ .
- Conditions which do not have same differential patterns in all branches:
  - Specific differential pattern used at a branch may be applied to other branches.
  - Therefore, except the case of giving a same difference to all words, we try to find an ordering such that there is no same differential patterns in all branches.

Shift Rotations and Rank In the step function, 5 and 17, the values of shift rotation, are fixed. Then we search all the case and find candidate values (corresponding to 9 and 21) so that the rank of the linearly-changed step function is maximized. The maximum of the rank is 252. Finally we select 9 and 21 among candidate values so that differences generated from the outputs of f and g functions do not overlap when a message word inserted at a step function has an one-bit difference.

## 4 Security Analysis of FORK-256

## 4.1 Collision-Finding Attack

We can analyze the collision-finding attacker's behavior in the aspect of message difference. Let  $\Delta R_j^{(8)}$  be the output difference of BRANCH<sub>j</sub> for  $1 \leq j \leq 4$ . Usually, the attacker expects the following event for finding collisions:

$$(\Delta R_1^{(8)}[t] \boxplus \Delta R_2^{(8)}[t]) \oplus (\Delta R_3^{(8)}[t] \boxplus \Delta R_4^{(8)}[t]) = 0, \ \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq 7.$$

For this, he can take several strategies:

- 1. The attacker constructs a differential characteristic with high probability for a branch function, say BRANCH<sub>1</sub>, and then expects that  $\Delta R_3^{(8)}[t] \boxplus \Delta R_4^{(8)}[t] \boxminus \Delta R_4^{(8)}[t]$  is equal to  $\Delta R_1^{(8)}[t]$  for  $0 \le t \le 7$ .
- $\Delta R_2^{(8)}[t]$  is equal to  $\Delta R_1^{(8)}[t]$  for  $0 \le t \le 7$ . 2. The attacker constructs two distinct differential characteristics, and expects that  $\Delta R_1^{(8)} = -\Delta R_2^{(8)}$  and  $\Delta R_3^{(8)} = -\Delta R_4^{(8)}$  for  $0 \le t \le 7$ . 3. The attacker inserts the message difference which yields same message difference which yields yield
- 3. The attacker inserts the message difference which yields same message difference pattern in four branches, and expects that same differential characteristic occurs simultaneously in four branches. Then the output difference of the compression function vanishes if the hamming weight of the output difference of each branch is small. This is because the final output is generated with using  $\oplus$  and  $\boxplus$  by turns.

Let us see the first strategy. If we assume that the outputs of each branch function is random, the probability of the event is almost close to  $2^{-256}$ . It is also difficult for the attacker to mount any attack following the second strategy because he should find such differential pattern of the message words.

Third strategy is relatively easy for the attacker to perform. For example, if he inserts the same difference to all the message words, then the same message difference pattern occurs in every branches. However, the message word reordering was designed so that the third strategy is satisfied only if the attacker inserts the same difference to all the message words. Under the assumption that every step is independent, we can compute the upper bound of the probability that such kind of differential characteristic occurs, which frustrates the attacker.

# 4.2 Attacks Using Inner Collision Patterns

When the attacker inserts the differences to the message words, the event that the difference of the intermediate value becomes zero often occurs. It is called *inner collision*. We call a differential characteristic which causes an inner collision with a probability, *inner collision pattern*.

Note that an inner collision is not a real collision, but the notion of inner collision pattern is important in cryptanalysis of hash function because it can be repeatedly used to yield a real collision with a high probability. The main idea of attacks on SHA-0 and SHA-1 is also the repetition of an inner collision pattern. So, in hash functions with a serial structure it is related to the resistance against collision-finding attack how many time an inner collision can be repeated.

Let us focus on only one branch function. We omit the subscript index in the variables. We can construct 5-step inner collision pattern easily. Let  $\Delta R^{(s)}[t]$  be the difference of  $R^{(s)}[t]$ , and let  $\Delta M[\sigma(i)]$  be the difference of  $M[\sigma(i)]$ . Table 3 and 4 show two among 5-step inner collision patterns in one branch function, which we found. They holds with the probability  $2^{-40}$ , respectively.

If we apply these patterns to BRANCH<sub>1</sub>, the output difference  $\Delta R_1^{(8)}$  will be zero with the probability  $2^{-40}$ . As mentioned in the previous subsection, however, it is hard to use the pattern for the attack on FORK-256 because the following

events seldom occurs: either that the computation of the output differences of the other branches is zero or that the other branches have the same differential pattern in the message words as BRANCH<sub>1</sub>.

**Table 3.** Case 1. 5-step inner collision pattern in a branch: The numbers in the entries of the table denotes the bits in which the difference is 1.

S	0	1	2	3	4
$\Delta M[\sigma(2s)]$	31				
$\Delta M[\sigma(2s+1)]$		1,6,15,16,20,23	3,4,8,11,21,26	6,12,21,26	31
$\Delta R^{(s)}[0]$					
$\Delta R^{(s)}[1]$		31			
$\Delta R^{(s)}[2]$		6,12,21,26	31		
$\Delta R^{(s)}[3]$		3,4,8,11,21,26	6,12,21,26	31	
$\Delta R^{(s)}[4]$		1,6,15,16	3,4,8,11,20,23	6,12,21,26,21,26	31
$\Delta R^{(s)}[5]$					
$\Delta R^{(s)}[6]$					
$\Delta R^{(s)}[7]$					
Prob.	$2^{-10}$	$2^{-16}$	$2^{-10}$	$2^{-4}$	1

**Table 4.** Case 2. 5-step inner collision pattern in a branch: The numbers in the entries of the table denotes the bits in which the difference is 1.

S	0	1	2	3	4
$\Delta M[\sigma(2s)]$		1,6,15,16,20,23	3,4,8,11,21,26	6,12,21,26	31
$\Delta M[\sigma(2s+1)]$	31				
$\Delta R^{(s)}[0]$		1,6,15,16,20,23	3,4,8,11,21,26	6,12,21,26	31
$\Delta R^{(s)}[1]$					
$\Delta R^{(s)}[2]$					
$\Delta R^{(s)}[3]$					
$\Delta R^{(s)}[4]$					
$\Delta R^{(s)}[5]$		31			
$\Delta R^{(s)}[6]$		6,12,21,26	31		
$\Delta R^{(s)}[7]$		3,4,8,11,21,26	6,12,21,26	31	
Prob.	$2^{-10}$	$2^{-16}$	$2^{-10}$	$2^{-4}$	1

# 5 Efficiency and Performance

In this section we compare the total number of operations and the performance of FORK-256 and SHA-256. The total number of operations is compared in the Table 5.

Table 5. Number of operations used in FORK-256 and SHA-256

operation	FORK-256	SHA-256
addition (+)	472	600
bitwise operation $(\oplus, \wedge, \vee)$	328	1024
shift $(\ll,\gg)$	-	96
shift rotation $(\ll, \gg)$	512	576

Table 6 shows the performance of FORK-256 and SHA-256 in the two environments. The environments are denoted by CPU/OS/Compiler and the following notations are used in description of environments for simplicity.

Pen3: Pentium III, 801 MHz Pen4: Pentium IV, 2.0 GHz

WinXP: Microsoft Windows XP Professional ver 2002

VC : Microsoft Visual C++ Ver 6.0

Table 6. Performance of FORK-256 and SHA-256

	FORI	K-256	SHA-256			
environment	Mbps Cycle/Byte		Mbps	Cycle/Byte		
Pen3/WinXP/VC	192.010	31.413	132.469	44.581		
Pen4/WinXP/VC	521.111	28.755	318.721	46.372		

# 6 Summary

In this paper we have proposed a new dedicated 256-bit hash function FORK-256. The main features are the followings;

- The structure of the compression function consists of 4 parallel branch functions.
- Nonlinear functions f and g are quite different from the boolean functions which have been used in existing hash functions, and updates multiple words.
- The ordering of the message words is simple but well organized such that it is very difficult for any attacker to find good inner collision patterns.

According to our security analysis, FORK-256 looks resistant against existing attacks including Wang et al.'s attack, but we encourage the readers to give any further security analysis. Finally, our performance test shows that the performance of FORK-256 is faster than that of SHA-256, and we expect that the difference between the performance of FORK-256 and SHA-256 would increase after optimization.

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## A Source Code

```
unsigned int delta[16] = {
        0x428a2f98, 0x71374491, 0xb5c0fbcf, 0xe9b5dba5,
        0x3956c25b, 0x59f111f1, 0x923f82a4, 0xab1c5ed5,
        0xd807aa98, 0x12835b01, 0x243185be, 0x550c7dc3,
        0x72be5d74, 0x80deb1fe, 0x9bdc06a7, 0xc19bf174
        };
#define ROL(x, n) ( ( (x) << n ) | ( (x) >> (32-n) ) )
#define f(x)
                 (x + (ROL(x,7)^ROL(x,22)))
#define g(x)
                 (x ^(ROL(x,13)+ROL(x,27)))
#define step(A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,M1,M2,D1,D2)
    temp1 = E+M2;
    temp2 = g(temp1);
                         temp3 = f(temp1+D2);
    H = (H + ROL(temp2,21)) ^ ROL(temp3,17);
G = (G + ROL(temp2,9)) ^ ROL(temp3,5);
    F = (F + temp2)
                      ^ temp3;
    E = temp1 + D2; \setminus
    temp1 = A+M1; \
    temp2 = f(temp1);
                        temp3 = g(temp1+D1);
    D = (D + ROL(temp2,17)) ^ ROL(temp3,21);
C = (C + ROL(temp2,5)) ^ ROL(temp3,9);
    B = (B + temp2)
                       temp3;
    A = temp1 + D1;
static void FORK256_Compression_Function(unsigned int *CV, unsigned
int *M) {
    unsigned long R1[8],R2[8],R3[8],R4[8];
    unsigned long temp1, temp2, temp3;
    R1[0] = R2[0] = R3[0] = R4[0] = CV[0];
    R1[1] = R2[1] = R3[1] = R4[1] = CV[1];
    R1[2] = R2[2] = R3[2] = R4[2] = CV[2];
    R1[3] = R2[3] = R3[3] = R4[3] = CV[3];
    R1[4] = R2[4] = R3[4] = R4[4] = CV[4];
    R1[5] = R2[5] = R3[5] = R4[5] = CV[5];
    R1[6] = R2[6] = R3[6] = R4[6] = CV[6];
    R1[7] = R2[7] = R3[7] = R4[7] = CV[7];
```

```
// BRANCH1(CV.M)
step(R1[0],R1[1],R1[2],R1[3],R1[4],R1[5],R1[6],R1[7],M[0],M[1],delta[0],delta[1]);
step(R1[7],R1[0],R1[1],R1[2],R1[3],R1[4],R1[5],R1[6],M[2],M[3],delta[2],delta[3]);
step(R1[6],R1[7],R1[0],R1[1],R1[2],R1[3],R1[4],R1[5],M[4],M[5],delta[4],delta[5]);
step(R1[5],R1[6],R1[7],R1[0],R1[1],R1[2],R1[3],R1[4],M[6],M[7],delta[6],delta[7]);
step(R1[4],R1[5],R1[6],R1[7],R1[0],R1[1],R1[2],R1[3],M[8],M[9],delta[8],delta[9]);
step(R1[3],R1[4],R1[5],R1[6],R1[7],R1[0],R1[1],R1[2],M[10],M[11],delta[10],delta[11]);
step(R1[2],R1[3],R1[4],R1[5],R1[6],R1[7],R1[0],R1[1],M[12],M[13],delta[12],delta[13]);
step(R1[1],R1[2],R1[3],R1[4],R1[5],R1[6],R1[7],R1[0],M[14],M[15],delta[14],delta[15]);
// BRANCH2(CV,M)
step(R2[0],R2[1],R2[2],R2[3],R2[4],R2[5],R2[6],R2[7],M[14],M[15],delta[15],delta[14]);
step(R2[7],R2[0],R2[1],R2[2],R2[3],R2[4],R2[5],R2[6],M[11],M[9],delta[13],delta[12]);
step(R2[6],R2[7],R2[0],R2[1],R2[2],R2[3],R2[4],R2[5],M[8],M[10],delta[11],delta[10]);
step(R2[5],R2[6],R2[7],R2[0],R2[1],R2[2],R2[3],R2[4],M[3],M[4],delta[9],delta[8]);
step(R2[4],R2[5],R2[6],R2[7],R2[0],R2[1],R2[2],R2[3],M[2],M[13],delta[7],delta[6]);
step(R2[3],R2[4],R2[5],R2[6],R2[7],R2[0],R2[1],R2[2],M[0],M[5],delta[5],delta[4]);
step(R2[2],R2[3],R2[4],R2[5],R2[6],R2[7],R2[0],R2[1],M[6],M[7],delta[3],delta[2]);
step(R2[1],R2[2],R2[3],R2[4],R2[5],R2[6],R2[7],R2[0],M[12],M[1],delta[1],delta[0]);
// BRANCH3(CV,M)
step(R3[0],R3[1],R3[2],R3[3],R3[4],R3[5],R3[6],R3[7],M[7],M[6],delta[1],delta[0]);
step(R3[7],R3[0],R3[1],R3[2],R3[3],R3[4],R3[5],R3[6],M[10],M[14],delta[1],delta[1]);
step(R3[6],R3[7],R3[0],R3[1],R3[2],R3[3],R3[4],R3[5],M[13],M[2],delta[5],delta[4]);
step(R3[6],R3[6],R3[7],R3[0],R3[1],R3[2],R3[3],R3[4],M[9],M[12],delta[7],delta[6]);
step(R3[4],R3[5],R3[6],R3[7],R3[0],R3[1],R3[2],R3[3],M[11],M[4],delta[9],delta[8]);
step(R3[3],R3[4],R3[6],R3[6],R3[7],R3[0],R3[1],R3[2],M[15],M[8],delta[11],delta[10]);
step(R3[2],R3[3],R3[4],R3[6],R3[6],R3[7],R3[0],R3[1],M[6],M[0],delta[13],delta[12]);
step(R3[1],R3[2],R3[3],R3[4],R3[5],R3[6],R3[7],R3[0],M[1],M[3],delta[15],delta[14]);
// BRANCH4(CV.M)
\mathtt{step}(\texttt{R4[0]}, \texttt{R4[1]}, \texttt{R4[2]}, \texttt{R4[3]}, \texttt{R4[4]}, \texttt{R4[5]}, \texttt{R4[6]}, \texttt{R4[7]}, \texttt{M[5]}, \texttt{M[12]}, \texttt{delta[14]}, \texttt{delta[15]});\\
step(R4[7],R4[0],R4[1],R4[2],R4[3],R4[4],R4[5],R4[6],M[1],M[8],delta[12],delta[13]);
step(R4[6],R4[7],R4[0],R4[1],R4[2],R4[3],R4[4],R4[5],M[15],M[0],delta[10],delta[11]);
\mathtt{step}(\texttt{R4[5]}, \texttt{R4[6]}, \texttt{R4[7]}, \texttt{R4[0]}, \texttt{R4[1]}, \texttt{R4[2]}, \texttt{R4[3]}, \texttt{R4[4]}, \texttt{M[13]}, \texttt{M[11]}, \texttt{delta[8]}, \texttt{delta[9]});
\bar{\text{step}}(\text{R4[4]}, \text{R4[5]}, \text{R4[6]}, \text{R4[7]}, \text{R4[0]}, \text{R4[1]}, \text{R4[2]}, \text{R4[3]}, \text{M[3]}, \text{M[10]}, \text{delta[6]}, \text{delta[7]});
\mathtt{step}(\texttt{R4[3]}, \texttt{R4[4]}, \texttt{R4[5]}, \texttt{R4[6]}, \texttt{R4[7]}, \texttt{R4[0]}, \texttt{R4[1]}, \texttt{R4[2]}, \texttt{M[9]}, \texttt{M[2]}, \texttt{delta[4]}, \texttt{delta[5]});
\mathtt{step}(\texttt{R4[2]}, \texttt{R4[3]}, \texttt{R4[4]}, \texttt{R4[5]}, \texttt{R4[6]}, \texttt{R4[7]}, \texttt{R4[0]}, \texttt{R4[1]}, \texttt{M[7]}, \texttt{M[14]}, \texttt{delta[2]}, \texttt{delta[3]});\\
step(R4[1],R4[2],R4[3],R4[4],R4[5],R4[6],R4[7],R4[0],M[4],M[6],delta[0],delta[1]);
// output
CV[0] = CV[0] + ((R1[0] + R2[0]) ^ (R3[0] + R4[0]));
CV[0] = CV[0] + ((R1[0] + R2[0])) (R3[0] + R4[0])); CV[1] = CV[1] + ((R1[1] + R2[1]))^{*} (R3[1] + R4[1])); CV[2] = CV[2] + ((R1[2] + R2[2]))^{*} (R3[2] + R4[2]));
CV[=3] - CV[=3] + ((R1[=3] + R2[=3]) (R3[=3] + R4[=3]));

CV[5] = CV[6] + ((R1[=6] + R2[=6]) ^ (R3[=6] + R4[=6]));

CV[6] = CV[6] + ((R1[=6] + R2[=6]) ^ (R3[=6] + R4[=6]));
CV[7] = CV[7] + ((R1[7] + R2[7]) ^ (R3[7] + R4[7]));
```

## B Test Vector

#### Message M (1 block)

4105ba8c d8423ce8 ac484680 07ee1d40 bc18d07a 89fc027c 5ee37091 cd1824f0 878de230 dbbaf0fc da7e4408 c6c05bc0 33065020 7367cfc5 f4aa5c78 e1cbc780

## Output of Compression Function $CV_1$

ebcc5b3d d3715534 a6a7a68a e6022b02 49c676ed 639a34b0 b8d978c2 cfdf1a2b

### Intermediate Values

### BRANCH<sub>1</sub>

### BRANCH<sub>2</sub>

### BRANCH<sub>3</sub>

 $R_3^{(0)}=6 a 0 9 e 6 6 7\;$  bb67ae85 3c6ef372 a54ff53a 510e527f 9b05688c 1f83d9ab 5be0cd19  $R_3^{(1)}=4 6 f 81 b a 6\;$  a8594fe8 f0348c97 749c040f 8e6801dc f27bf2a8 275472bf 0866407e  $R_3^{(2)}=5 6 a 9 e a c 1\;$  0b2c3b53 0e98c271 ec010b6c 448475b5 38d35a23 455b10c5 4c819e3b  $R_3^{(3)}=3 8 c d 2 9 d c\;$  2402cc77 48018a70 26a5dcf2 3da527e9 2a237e90 2f4dc6a8 33bd5b6f  $R_3^{(4)}=a 28 f 6 3 7 c\;$  bfa479ad 68059737 374a7e75 b5e5b8c6 02eafaad 15799680 ae2d5da0  $R_3^{(5)}=6 4 6 0 7 8 5 2\;$  7bd31a3d a54f54b2 4013d658 1fbcbc0a 4a0633d8 972027f7 40a519ed  $R_3^{(6)}=b 2 7 c f 4 6 d\;$  9b38bd95 fb3978fd d52a18c8 1cdbd155 cb7c23f8 d3ce2cdd 5e6705b2  $R_3^{(7)}=3 17 c e 1 4 8\;$  bd57a8e7 d3b60337 f0dd8789 1a925421 d09fe955 c626a195 8d38ed5d  $R_3^{(8)}=7 2 e c 7 1 8 7\;$  cb5b0fa4 59b04096 55b45924 d54c20ad be5c7808 ec104b46 08d57f3d

## BRANCH<sub>4</sub>