

# A Keyed Sponge Construction with Pseudorandomness in the Standard Model

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**Abstract.** The sponge construction, designed by Bertoni, Daemen, Peeters, and Asscheis, is the framework for hash functions such as Keccak, PHOTON, QUARK, and SPONGENT. The designers give a keyed sponge construction by prepending the message with key and prove a bound on its pseudorandomness in the ideal permutation model. In this paper we give a different keyed sponge construction that is based on the Even-Mansour permutation and prove its pseudorandomness in the standard model.

**Key Words :** Sponge Construction, Pseudorandomness, Indifferentiability.

## 1 Introduction

A hash function is a crucial component for cryptographic primitives such as message authentication codes, pseudorandom functions, pseudorandom-bit generators, and digital signatures. Different uses require different security properties from the hash function, such as preimage resistance, second-preimage resistance, collision resistance, pseudorandomness of output distribution, and so on.

A popular methodology for designing hash functions is to construct a domain extension for an underlying fixed input length component, with the goal of reducing the desired security properties of the larger construction to properties of the component, so that the designers can focus on achieving the necessary properties in the component. For example, the designers of Skein, one of the SHA-3 finalists, give pseudorandom and indistinguishable security proofs for the Skein domain extension when its underlying tweakable block cipher is pseudorandom or ideal, respectively [2]. Another example is that Merkle-Damgård (MD) construction [23, 16] with message length padding (also called Merkle-Damgård Strengthening); this domain extension, used in MD5 and SHA-1, preserves the collision resistance and the preimage resistance of the underlying compression function.

There are several ways to construct pseudorandom functions from MD hash functions, i.e., hash functions based on the MD construction with message length padding : HMAC [10], the Sandwich method [24] and the  $H^2$  construction method [25]. In each case the underlying keyed compression function of the hash function is assumed to be pseudorandom.

The sponge construction [3] is a hash domain extension, designed by Bertoni, Daemen, Peeters, and Assche, that has influenced hash functions such as Keccak [4], PHOTON [18], QUARK [1] and SPONGENT[12]. Recently, the Keccak team provided pseudorandom security

proofs of a keyed sponge construction and an authenticated-encryption scheme based on the Sponge construction, in which the key is located in the prefix of the message [5, 6]. It is preferable that the security assumptions be as practical as possible.

In this paper, we propose a new, efficient PRF construction that is based on the sponge construction, called the E-M keyed Sponge construction (EMKSC), and we give a proof of pseudorandomness in the standard model. In particular, we assume that for a given permutation  $f$  underlying the sponge construction, the permutation  $F_K(\cdot) = f(\cdot \oplus K) \oplus K$  is pseudorandom. The latter permutation is a specialization of the Even-Mansour permutation construction [17],  $EM_{K_1, K_2}(M) = f(M \oplus K_1) \oplus K_2$ , where  $|M| = |K_1| = |K_2| = n$ .

In Section 3 we describe three variants of EMKSC, with different effective key sizes, called EMKSC1, EMKSC2, and EMKSC3. Table 1 shows that, when the underlying hash function is based on the sponge construction, this PRF compares favorably with other constructions that have proofs in the standard model.

Algorithm	# of Hash Calls	# of Underlying function Calls	Final Output Key Masking
HMAC [10]	2	at least $\ell+3$	No
Sandwich [24]	1	at least $\ell+2$	No
$H^2$ with one key [25]	2	at least $\ell+2$	No
EMKSC1	1	$\ell+1$	Yes
EMKSC2	1	$\ell$	Yes
EMKSC3	1	$\ell$	No

**Table 1.** Comparison of standard model PRF constructions based on a sponge hash function:  $\ell$  is the number of the underlying function calls in EMKSC2 and EMKSC3.

## 2 Preliminaries

Let  $Func(Dom, Range)$  be the set of all functions from  $Dom \rightarrow Range$ . Let  $f : \mathcal{K} \times Dom \rightarrow Range$ . We say that  $f$  is  $\epsilon$ -prf if for any efficient adversary  $A$ , the following holds:

$$Adv_f^{\text{prf}}(A) = |\Pr[K \leftarrow_r \mathcal{K} : A^{f(K, \cdot)} = 1] - \Pr[u \leftarrow_r Func(Dom, Range) : A^{u(\cdot)} = 1]| \leq \epsilon.$$

Let  $Perm(Dom, Range)$  be the set of all permutations from  $Dom \rightarrow Range$ , where  $|Dom| = |Range|$ . We say that  $f$  is  $\epsilon$ -prp if for any efficient adversary  $A$ , the following holds:

$$Adv_f^{\text{prp}}(A) = |\Pr[K \leftarrow_r \mathcal{K} : A^{f(K, \cdot)} = 1] - \Pr[u \leftarrow_r Perm(Dom, Range) : A^{u(\cdot)} = 1]| \leq \epsilon.$$

The maximum prf or prp advantages for all the adversaries with at most  $q$ -queries are defined as follows:

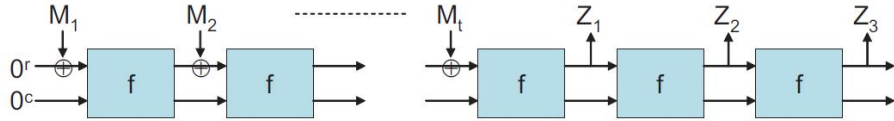
$$Adv_f^{\text{prf}}(q) := \text{MAX}_A Adv_f^{\text{prf}}(A) \text{ and } Adv_f^{\text{prp}}(q) := \text{MAX}_A Adv_f^{\text{prp}}(A).$$

**The Sponge Construction [3].** The sponge construction, denoted  $SPONGE_f$  here, is a domain-codomain extension for a hash function that is based on a permutation or function  $f$ , with a fixed input and output length,  $n$ . The construction has two other parameters that we omit from our notation: a positive integer  $r$  less than  $n$ , called the bitrate, and an injective padding

function, denoted  $pad$ . For any input string  $M$ , called the message, the length of  $pad(M)$  is a multiple of  $r$ , and the last  $r$  bits of  $pad(M)$  are not all 0. The quantity  $n-r$  is called the capacity, denoted  $c$ . The two inputs to the construction are the length of the desired output, denoted  $\ell$ , and the message. It will be convenient to slightly generalize the construction to allow an initial  $n$ -bit string, denoted  $IV$ , as a third input. The generalized construction, denoted  $Sponge_f$ , is defined in Fig. 1.  $SPONGE_f(M, \ell)$  is defined to be  $Sponge_f(0^{r+c}, M, \ell)$ , as illustrated in Fig. 2.

<p>The Sponge Construction With Initial Value: <math>Sponge_f(IV, M, \ell)</math></p> <p>Let <math>pad(M) = (M_1    \dots    M_t)</math>, for some positive <math>t</math> where each <math> M_i  = r</math>.</p> <p>Requirement : <math>M_t \neq 0^r</math> and <math>pad</math> is injective.</p> <p>100 <math>s_a = first_r(IV)</math> and <math>s_b = last_c(IV)</math></p> <p>200 for <math>i = 1</math> to <math>t</math>,</p> <p>201    <math>(s_a    s_b) = f((s_a \oplus M_i)    s_b)</math>.</p> <p>300 for <math>i = 1</math> to <math>\lceil \frac{\ell}{r} \rceil</math>,</p> <p>301    <math>Z_i = s_a</math>.</p> <p>302    <math>c = f(s_a    s_b)</math>.</p> <p>400 return <math>first_{\ell}(s_a    s_b)</math> bits.</p>
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**Fig. 1.** The Sponge Construction With Initial Value.

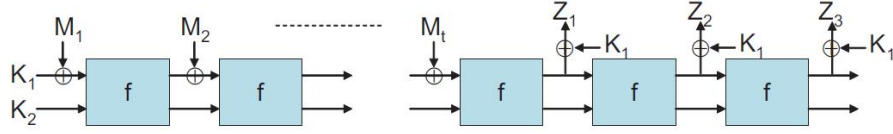


**Fig. 2.** The Sponge Construction:  $SPONGE_f(M, \ell) = first_{\ell}(Z_1 || Z_2 || Z_3 \dots)$ .

**The Keyed Sponge Construction [5].** The keyed sponge construction (called  $keySPONGE$ ) is defined as follows; for a message  $M$ , a secret key  $K$  of any size, and the desired bit-size  $\ell$  of output,  $keySPONGE_f(K, M, \ell) = SPONGE_f(K || M, \ell)$ . The keyed sponge construction is proven to be pseudorandom, under the assumption that  $f$  is an ideal permutation [5].

**The EMKSC.** The E-M keyed Sponge construction (called EMKSC) based on the Sponge construction is defined as follows. (See Fig. 3). For a message  $M$ , a  $(r+c)$ -bit secret key  $K_1 || K_2$ , and the desired bit-size  $\ell$  of output,  $EMKSC_f(K_1 || K_2, M, \ell) = Sponge_f(K_1 || K_2, M, \ell) \oplus first_{\ell}(K_1 || K_2 || \dots)$ .

**Indifferentiability [22].** Maurer *et al.* [22] defined the indifferentiability security of a target system  $TS$ , when the adversary can have access to a tuple of additional oracles  $AO = (AO_1, \dots, AO_i)$ . If there exists a tuple of efficient simulators  $S = (S_1, \dots, S_i)$  such that  $\epsilon$  is negligible for any adversary  $D$ , we say that  $TS$  is  $(\epsilon, AO, S)$ -indifferentiable from the compared oracle  $CO$  if



**Fig. 3.**  $EMKSC_f(K_1||K_2, M, \ell) = \text{Sponge}_f(K_1||K_2, \text{pad}(M), \ell) \oplus \text{first}_\ell(K_1||\dots||K_1)$ .

$$Adv_{TS,AO,S}^{\text{indiff}}(D) = |\Pr[D^{TS,AO} = 1] - \Pr[D^{CO,S} = 1]| \leq \epsilon,$$

where  $TS$  and  $AO$  may have access to each other by the definitions of  $TS$  and  $AO$ , and  $S$  may have access to  $CO$  by the definition of a protocol based on  $CO$ .

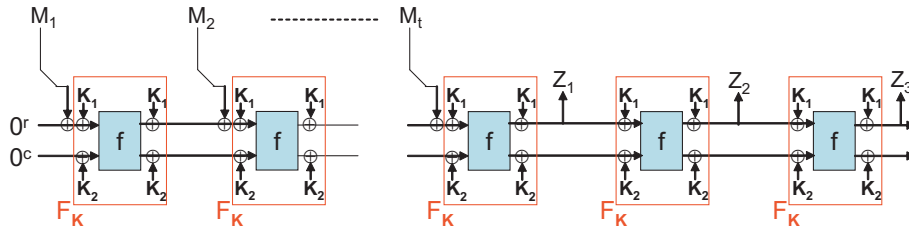
### 3 Security of EMKSC

Depending on how the key is generated, we consider the following three variants of the EMKSC in the standard model:

1. EMKSC1:  $K_1$  is a  $r$ -bit random string and  $K_2 = 0^c$ . This case is applied to Keccak without any modification if  $K_1$  is considered as the first block of message of Keccak and  $K_1$  is again xored to the output of Keccak as long as its size of hash output is less than or equal to  $r$ .
2. EMKSC2:  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are  $r$ -bit and  $c$ -bit random strings, respectively.
3. EMKSC3:  $K_1 = 0^r$  and  $K_2$  is a  $c$ -bit random string. Note that there is no key masking of the final output because  $K_1 = 0^c$ .

#### 3.1 Pseudorandomness of the EMKSC

EMKSC in Fig. 3 can be described in a different way as shown in Fig. 4. So, we will give a PRF security proof of the EMKSC, using the alternative description in Fig. 4, when  $F_K$  is pseudorandom.



**Fig. 4.** Alternative Description of the EMKSC, where  $K = K_1||K_2$ .

**Theorem 1.** For any key  $K$ , let  $F_K(\cdot) = f(\cdot \oplus K) \oplus K$  be a permutation from  $(c+r)$ -bit strings to  $(c+r)$ -bit strings. Let  $\text{pad}$  be a padding function such that the function is injective and the final  $r$ -bit block of its output is not  $0^r$ . Let  $\text{EMKSC}_f$  be the EMKSC based on  $f$ , where the output size is fixed as  $\ell$ . Let  $M^1, M^2, \dots, M^q$  be  $q$  distinct inputs of the sponge construction. Let  $\sigma_1 = \sum_{j=1}^q t_j$  and  $\sigma_2 = q \cdot \lceil \frac{\ell}{r} \rceil$ , where for each  $i$   $\text{pad}(M^i) = (M_1^i, M_2^i, \dots, M_{t_i}^i)$ . Then, for any prf attacker  $A$  with at most  $q$ -queries,  $\text{Adv}_{\text{EMKSC}_f}^{\text{prf}}(A) \leq \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{c+1}} + \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{r+c+1}} + \text{Adv}_F^{\text{prp}}(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2)$ .

**Proof.** For  $K = K_1 || K_2$ , we consider three cases; 1)  $K_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^r$  and  $K_2 = 0^c$ , 2)  $K_1 || K_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ , and 3)  $K_1 = 0^r$  and  $K_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^c$ . It is clear that the game  $G0$  exactly simulates  $\text{EMKSC}_f(K, \cdot, \ell) (= \text{Sponge}_{F_K}(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(\cdot), \ell))$  for the three cases. Also, the game  $G1$  exactly simulates  $\text{Sponge}_{e_u}(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(\cdot), \ell)$ , where  $u$  is a random permutation from  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ . Since other functionalities are same except  $u$  and  $F_K$ , it is clear that  $|\Pr[A^{G0} = 1] - \Pr[A^{G1} = 1]| \leq \text{Adv}_F^{\text{prp}}(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2)$ , where  $\sigma_1 + \sigma_2$  is the maximum number of calls of  $u$  or  $F_K$ .

**Claim 1.**  $|\Pr[A^{G1} = 1] - \Pr[A^{G2} = 1]| \leq \Pr[A^{G1} \text{ sets } \text{BAD}] \leq \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{c+1}} + \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{r+c+1}}$ .

*Proof of Claim 1.* There are three types of bad events,  $\text{BAD}_1$ ,  $\text{BAD}_2$  and  $\text{BAD}_3$ . The maximum number of the subroutine  $g$  calls in Fig. 6 is  $\sigma_1 + \sigma_2$ . So, it is clear that  $\Pr[A^{G1} \text{ sets } \text{BAD}_1] \leq \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{r+c+1}}$  and  $\Pr[A^{G1} \text{ sets } \text{BAD}_2] \leq \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{c+1}}$ . In case of the event  $\text{BAD}_3$ , as long as  $\text{BAD}_1$  doesn't occur, there is no way that  $\text{BAD}_2$  occurs, because “ $g(x)$  is already defined and  $\varepsilon \notin \text{Pre}$ ” means that there should be internal collision on the last  $c$ -bit, which is not allowed in line 303. Therefore, the Claim 1 holds.  $\square$

**Claim 2.** The game  $G2$  exactly simulates a random function from  $\{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$ .

*Proof of Claim 2.* We have to prove that for each query  $M^i$  its output distribution should be random. In Fig. 6, the output value  $z$  in line 215 is defined from the first  $r$ -bit output values of the function  $g$ . So, it is sufficient to show that for all different queries all the first  $r$ -bit output values of the function  $g$ , which determine the final output value  $z$  in line 215, are independently random. In the game  $G2$ , for a new query  $x$  of the function  $g$ , in line 301, the first  $r$ -bit output  $y_1$  is randomly chosen, and in line 303, the last  $c$ -bit output  $y_2$  is chosen differently from all the last  $c$ -bits of previous outputs. Moreover, since the last  $c$ -bit of the output of the function  $g$  becomes again the last  $c$ -bit of the input of the function  $g$ , for any  $M^i \neq M^j$ ,  $\text{Sponge}_g(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(M^i), \ell)$  is independent from  $\text{Sponge}_g(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(M^j), \ell)$ . Therefore, the Claim 2 holds.  $\square$

Therefore,  $\text{Adv}_{\text{PRF}_f}^{\text{prf}}(A) \leq |\Pr[A^{G0} = 1] - \Pr[A^{G2} = 1]| \leq \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{c+1}} + \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + 1)^2}{2^{r+c+1}} + \text{Adv}_F^{\text{prp}}(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2)$ . ■

### 3.2 Security Analysis of $F_K$

Here, we show that it can be “reasonably assumed” that  $F_K(\cdot) = f(\cdot \oplus K) \oplus K$  is pseudorandom, where  $K = K_1 || K_2$ , and  $f$  is the underlying permutation of the sponge construction. We provide the two security analyses of  $F_K$ : one suggests that there is no structural weakness  $F_K$ , using the notion of indistinguishability, and the other gives a security bound of  $F_K$  against known attack techniques. The results of this subsection suggest that the design of  $F_K$  is sound to use in practice.

Game $G_0$
Initialize : $f$ is a fixed permutation, and $K = K_1    K_2$ .
For the first case, $K_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^r$ and $K_2 = 0^c$ .
For the second case, $K_1    K_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ .
For the third case, $K_1 = 0^r$ and $K_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^c$ .
100 On $i$ -th query $M^i$ ,
101 $z^i = \text{Sponge}_{F_K}(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(M^i), \ell)$ ,
102 return $z^i$ .
200 ROUTINE $\text{Sponge}_{F_K}$ -query $(0^{r+c}, x, \ell)$ ,
201 Let $x = (m_1    \dots    m_t)$ , where each $ m_i  = r$ .
202 $(s_a, s_b) = (0^r, 0^c)$ .
203 $\varepsilon$ is initialized as the empty string.
204 for $i = 1$ to $t$ ,
205 $\varepsilon = \varepsilon    m_i$ .
206 $(s_a    s_b) = F_K(s_a \oplus m_i    s_b)$ .
207 $z$ is initialized as the empty string.
208 for $i = 1$ to $\lceil \frac{\ell}{r} \rceil$ ,
209 $Z_i = s_a$ and $z = (z    Z_i)$ .
210 $\varepsilon = \varepsilon    0^r$ .
211 $(s_a    s_b) = F_K(s_a    s_b)$ .
212 $z :=$ the first $\ell$ -bit of $z$ .
213 return $z$ .
300 SUBROUTINE $F_K$ -query $x$ where $ x  = r + c$ ,
301 define $y := f(x \oplus K) \oplus K$ .
302 return $y$ .

**Fig. 5.**  $G_0$  perfectly simulates  $EMKSC_f(K, \cdot, \ell) (= \text{Sponge}_{F_K}(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(\cdot), \ell))$ .

**Structural Soundness of  $F_K$ .** In Fig. 2, Fig. 3, and Fig. 4, we want to show the security bound of  $F_K$  for general distinguishing attacks which do not use the internal structure of  $f$ . For this, we assume that  $f$  is an easy-to-invert ideal permutation, where any attacker can access  $f$ . Then, we show that  $F_K$  is indistinguishable from the invertible random permutation oracle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ .

**Theorem 2** ( $K_1$  is random and  $K_2 = 0$ ).  $F_K(x_1 || x_2) := y_1 || y_2 = f((x_1 \oplus K_1) || x_2) \oplus (K_1 || 0^c)$ , where  $|x_1| = |y_1| = |K_1| = r$ ,  $|x_2| = |y_2| = c$ , and  $f$  is an easy-to-invert permutation on  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ . Then, we can construct a simulator  $S = (S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$  such that for any indistinguishability adversary  $A$  making at most  $(q_1, q_2, q_3)$  queries to its three oracles the following holds;

$$\text{Adv}_{F_K, (f, f^{-1}), S}^{\text{indiff}}(A) \leq \frac{3 \cdot q^2}{2^{r-q}}, \text{ where } q = q_1 + q_2 + q_3.$$

**Proof.** Fig. 7 shows how  $F_K, (f, f^{-1})$  and the simulator  $S$  work. It is easy to check that Games  $G_2$  and  $G_3$  in Fig. 8 perfectly simulate  $(F_K, f, f^{-1})$  and  $(\mathcal{F}, S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$  respectively. So, we have only to compute the bound of probability that bad events,  $BAD_1, BAD_2$ , and  $BAD_3$  occur. Since  $K$  is randomly chosen from  $\{0, 1\}^r$  and the remaining  $c$  bits of input can be controlled by the attacker  $A$ , it is clear that for each  $i$ ,  $\Pr[A^{G_2} \text{ sets } BAD_i] \leq \frac{q^2}{2^{r-q}}$ . Therefore, the above theorem holds.  $\blacksquare$

**Theorem 3 ( $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are both random).** Let  $F_{K_1, K_2}(x_1 || x_2) := y_1 || y_2 = f((x_1 \oplus K_1) || (x_2 \oplus K_2)) \oplus (K_1 || K_2)$ , where  $|x_1| = |y_1| = |K_1| = r$ ,  $|x_2| = |y_2| = |K_2| = c$ , and  $f$  is an easy-to-invert permutation on  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ . Then, we can construct a simulator  $S = (S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$  such that for any indistinguishability adversary  $A$  making at most  $(q_1, q_2, q_3)$  queries to its three oracles the following holds;

$$Adv_{F_{K_1, K_2}, (f, f^{-1}), S}^{indiff}(A) \leq \frac{3 \cdot q^2}{2^{r+c} - q}, \text{ where } q = q_1 + q_2 + q_3.$$

**Proof.** This can be proven in the same way as Theorem 2. ■

**Theorem 4 ( $K_1 = 0$  and  $K_2$  is random).**  $F_K(x_1 || x_2) := y_1 || y_2 = f(x_1 || (x_2 \oplus K_2)) \oplus (0^r || K_2)$ , where  $|x_1| = |y_1| = r$ ,  $|x_2| = |y_2| = |K_2| = c$ , and  $f$  is an easy-to-invert permutation on  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ . Then, we can construct a simulator  $S = (S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$  such that for any indistinguishability adversary  $A$  making at most  $(q_1, q_2, q_3)$  queries to its three oracles the following holds;

$$Adv_{F_K, (f, f^{-1}), S}^{indiff}(A) \leq \frac{3 \cdot q^2}{2^c - q}, \text{ where } q = q_1 + q_2 + q_3.$$

**Proof.** This can be proven in the same way as Theorem 2. ■

**Security of  $F_K$  against Key-recovery Attack** Even and Mansour first proposed a block-cipher construction from a publicly known permutation  $f$ , called the Even-Mansour construction [17], which is  $EM_{K_1, K_2}(M) = f(M \oplus K_1) \oplus K_2$ , where  $|M| = |K_1| = |K_2| = n$ . Informally, they proved that the Even-Mansour construction is secure when  $f$  is an ideal permutation, where an attacker can freely access  $f$ , and the number of queries to  $f$  and  $F_K$  is bounded by  $O(2^{n/2})$  [17]. There are several known key-recovery attacks on the Even-Mansour construction where the input and output masks are chosen independently at random. Daemen [15] described known and chosen plaintext-based key recovery attacks on the Even-Mansour construction with complexity about  $2^{n-1}$  and  $2^{n/2}$ , respectively. But our specialization of the construction differs in two ways: 1) the input and output masking keys are the same and 2) the masking key for EMKSC1 and EMKSC3 affects only part of the input and output of the underlying public permutation  $f$ . Here, we modify Daemen's attack a little bit to give the security of  $F_K$  against the chosen plaintext attack.

[ $K_1$  is random and  $K_2 = 0$ ]  $F_K(x_1 || x_2) := y_1 || y_2 = f((x_1 \oplus K_1) || x_2) \oplus (K_1 || 0^c)$ , where  $|x_1| = |y_1| = |K_1| = r$ ,  $|x_2| = |y_2| = c$ , and  $f$  is an easy-to-invertible permutation on  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ . The complexity of our key recovery attack is  $2^{r/2}$  queries and  $2^{r/2}$  memory as follows.

The Attacker  $A$  works as follows:

1. An attacker  $A$  makes  $2^{r/2}$  queries  $(M_a^i, M_b^i)$  (where  $1 \leq i \leq 2^{r/2}$ ) to  $F_K$  and obtains  $2^{r/2}$   $(C_a^i, C_b^i)$ , where for all  $i$ ,  $|M_a^i| = |M_b^i| = r + c$ ,  $M_a^i \oplus M_b^i = v || 0^c$  for some  $r$ -bit constant  $v$ , and the substring of the last  $c$  bits of both  $M_a^i$  and  $M_b^i$  is a constant,  $w$ .
2.  $A$  repeats the following step at most  $2^{r/2}$  times: For an  $r$ -bit random value  $X$ ,  $A$  computes  $\Delta W = f(X || w) \oplus f((X \oplus v) || w)$  and checks if there exists an  $i$  such that  $\Delta C^i = \Delta W$ , where  $\Delta C^i = C_a^i \oplus C_b^i$ . If  $X$  is the same as the first  $r$ -bit  $M_a^i \oplus (K || 0^c)$  or  $M_b^i \oplus (K || 0^c)$  for some  $i$ , then  $\Delta W$  should be the same as  $\Delta C^i$ . But, for each trial for  $X$ , the probability that  $\Delta W = \Delta C^i$  for some  $i$  is about  $2^{r/2}$ . So, we can expect at least one  $X$  among  $2^{r/2}$  trials which satisfies the condition, that is, we can find the key  $K$  with  $2^{r/2}$  queries and  $2^{r/2}$  memory.

**Remark.** The above attack shows that the indistinguishable security bound of  $F_K$  shown in Theorem 2 is tight as  $O(2^{r/2})$ . The result of this section can be applied to Keccak [4], because we don't need to change any initial value and internal structure except for the input and output values of Keccak.

**[ $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are both random]**  $F_{K_1, K_2}(x_1 || x_2) := y_1 || y_2 = f((x_1 \oplus K_1) || (x_2 \oplus K_2)) \oplus (K_1 || K_2)$ , where  $|x_1| = |y_1| = |K_1| = r$ ,  $|x_2| = |y_2| = |K_2| = c$ , and  $f$  is an easy-to-invertible permutation on  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ . The complexity of our key recovery attack is  $2^{(r+c)/2}$  queries and  $2^{(r+c)/2}$  memory, which can be shown in a similar way.

**Remark.** The above attack shows that the indistinguishable security bound of  $F_{K_1, K_2}$  shown in Theorem 3 is  $O(2^{(r+c)/2})$ , which is much bigger than the security bound  $O(2^{r/2})$  of our first construction.

**[ $K_1 = 0$  and  $K_2$  is random]** In the same way of above attacks, we can define an key recovery attacker  $A$  on  $F_K$  of the third construction with  $2^{c/2}$  queries and  $2^{c/2}$  memory.

## 4 Conclusion

In this paper, we have shown how to prove the pseudorandomness of a new keyed sponge construction in the standard model. Our proof technique may be applied to prove the pseudorandom security of keyed constructions based on domain extensions of the hash functions: Luffa [13], CubeHash [8], Fugue [19], and an authenticated-encryption scheme based on the sponge construction [6].

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Game	$G1$	and $G2$ :
	Initialize : $g : \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ is everywhere-undefined, $V = \{0^c\}$ , and $W = Pre = \emptyset$ .	
100	On $i$ -th query $M^i$ ,	
101	$z^i = \text{Sponge}_g(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(M^i), \ell)$ ,	
102	return $z^i$ .	
200	ROUTINE $\text{Sponge}_g$ -query $(0^{r+c}, x, \ell)$ ,	
201	Let $x = (m_1    \dots    m_t)$ , where each $ m_i  = r$ .	
202	$(s_a, s_b) = (0^r, 0^c)$ , where $0^j$ is the $j$ -bit zeros.	
203	$\varepsilon$ is initialized as the empty string.	
204	for $i = 1$ to $t$ ,	
205	$\varepsilon = \varepsilon    m_i$ .	
206	$(s_a    s_b) = g(s_a \oplus m_i    s_b)$ .	
207	$Pre = Pre \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ .	
208	$z$ is initialized as the empty string.	
209	for $i = 1$ to $\lceil \frac{\ell}{r} \rceil$ ,	
210	$Z_i = s_a$ and $z = (z    Z_i)$ .	
211	$\varepsilon = \varepsilon    0^r$ .	
212	$(s_a    s_b) = g(s_a    s_b)$ .	
213	$Pre = Pre \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ .	
214	$z :=$ the first $\ell$ -bit of $z$ .	
215	return $z$ .	
300	SUBROUTINE $g$ -query $x$ where $ x  = r + c$ ,	
301	$y := y_1    y_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ .	
302	if $y \in W$ , then $BAD_1 \leftarrow \text{true}$ and $y := y_1    y_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \setminus W$ .	
303	if $y_2 \in V$ then $BAD_2 \leftarrow \text{true}$ and $y_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^c \setminus V$ .	
304	if $g(x)$ is already defined and $\varepsilon \in Pre$ , then $y = g(x)$ .	
305	$V = V \cup \{y_2\}$ .	
306	if $g(x)$ is already defined and $\varepsilon \notin Pre$ , then $BAD_3 \leftarrow \text{true}$ and $y = g(x)$ .	
307	define $g(x) := y$ and $W = W \cup \{y\}$ .	
308	return $y$ .	

**Fig. 6.**  $G1$  executes with the non-dotted boxed statement and without the dotted boxed statement, whereas  $G2$  executes with the dotted boxed statement and without the non-dotted boxed statement. Clearly  $G1$  and  $G2$  are identical-until-BAD.  $G1$  perfectly simulates  $\text{Sponge}_u(0^{r+c}, \text{pad}(\cdot), \ell)$ , where  $u$  is a random permutation from  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ .  $G2$  perfectly simulates a random function from  $\{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$ .

$(F_K, f, f^{-1})$	$(\mathcal{F}, S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$
Initialize : $K_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^r$ .	Initialize : $W = X = Z = \emptyset$ .
100 On $i$ -th $F_K$ query $x^i = x_1^i    x_2^i$ ,	100 On $i$ -th $\mathcal{F}$ query $x^i = x_1^i    x_2^i$ ,
101 $y^i := y_1^i    y_2^i = f((x_1^i \oplus K_1)    x_2^i) \oplus (K_1    0^c)$ .	101 $y^i := y_1^i    y_2^i \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \setminus W$ .
102 return $y^i$ .	102 $W = W \cup \{y^i\}$ and return $y^i$ .
200 On $i$ -th $f$ query $a^i = a_1^i    a_2^i$ ,	200 On $i$ -th $S_f$ query $a^i = a_1^i    a_2^i$ ,
201 $b^i := b_1^i    b_2^i = f(a^i)$ .	201 $b^i := b_1^i    b_2^i \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \setminus X$ .
202 return $b^i$ .	202 $Z = Z \cup \{a^i\}$ , $X = X \cup \{b^i\}$ , and return $b^i$ .
300 On $i$ -th $f^{-1}$ query $b^i = b_1^i    b_2^i$ ,	300 On $i$ -th $S_{f^{-1}}$ query $b^i = b_1^i    b_2^i$ ,
301 $a^i := a_1^i    a_2^i = f^{-1}(b^i)$ .	301 $a^i := a_1^i    a_2^i \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \setminus Z$ .
302 return $a^i$ .	302 $Z = Z \cup \{a^i\}$ , $X = X \cup \{b^i\}$ , and return $a^i$ .

**Fig. 7.**  $(F_K, f, f^{-1})$  and  $(\mathcal{F}, S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$ .  $F_K(x_1 || x_2) := y_1 || y_2 = f((x_1 \oplus K_1) || x_2) \oplus (K_1 || 0^c)$ , where  $K = K_1 || K_2$ ,  $K_2 = 0$ ,  $|x_1| = |y_1| = |K_1| = r$ ,  $|x_2| = |y_2| = c$ , and  $f$  is an easy-to-invertible permutation on  $\{0, 1\}^{r+c}$ .

Game	$G_2$	and $G_3$
Initialize :	$K_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^r$	and $U = V = W = X = Z = \emptyset$ .
100 On $i$ -th $O_1$ query	$x^i = x_1^i    x_2^i$	where $ x_1^i  = r$ and $ x_2^i  = c$ ,
101 $y^i := y_1^i    y_2^i \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \setminus W$ .		
102 if $(x_1^i \oplus K_1)    x_2^i \in \{x   (x, *) \in U\}$ ,	then $\text{BAD}_1 \leftarrow \text{true}$	and $y^i = (K    0^c) \oplus f((x_1^i \oplus K_1)    x_2^i)$ .
103 define $f'((x_1^i \oplus K_1)    x_2^i) := y^i$ ,	$W = W \cup \{y^i\}$	and $V = V \cup \{(x_1^i \oplus K_1)    x_2^i, y^i \oplus (K_1    0^c)\}$ .
104 return $y^i$ .		
200 On $i$ -th $O_2$ query	$a^i = a_1^i    a_2^i$	where $ a_1^i  = r$ and $ a_2^i  = c$ ,
201 $b^i := b_1^i    b_2^i \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \setminus X$ .		
202 if $a^i \in \{a   (a, *) \in V\}$ ,	then $\text{BAD}_2 \leftarrow \text{true}$	and $b^i = f'(a^i)$ .
203 define $f(a^i) := b^i$ ,	$Z = Z \cup \{a^i\}$ ,	$X = X \cup \{b^i\}$ and $U = U \cup \{(a^i, b^i)\}$ .
204 return $b^i$ .		
300 On $i$ -th $O_3$ query	$b^i = b_1^i    b_2^i$	where $ b_1^i  = r$ and $ b_2^i  = c$ ,
301 $a^i := a_1^i    a_2^i \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{r+c} \setminus Z$ .		
302 if $b^i \in \{b   (*, b) \in V\}$ ,	then $\text{BAD}_3 \leftarrow \text{true}$	and $a^i = f'^{-1}(b^i)$ .
303 define $f(a^i) := b^i$ ,	$Z = Z \cup \{a^i\}$ ,	$X = X \cup \{b^i\}$ and $U = U \cup \{(a^i, b^i)\}$ .
304 return $a^i$ .		

**Fig. 8.**  $G_2$  executes with boxed statements whereas  $G_3$  executes without these. Clearly  $G_2$  and  $G_3$  are identical-until-BAD.  $G_2$  and  $G_3$  perfectly simulate  $(F_K, f, f^{-1})$  and  $(\mathcal{F}, S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$  respectively. In this games, we assume that there is no repetition query. Note that the simulator  $S = (S_f, S_{f^{-1}})$  works without access to  $\mathcal{F}$ .