

## ■ Cryptology

- Merkle-Hellman knapsack cryptosystem
  - Merkle-Hellman additive knapsack cryptosystem
  - Merkle-Hellman multiplicative knapsack cryptosystem
  - Merkle-Hellman multiply-iterated knapsack cryptosystem
- Advanced knapsack cryptosystems

# Additional Research Topics

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- Data Structures and Algorithms
  - Dynamic Programming Technique
    - Bioinformatics Algorithms.
    - Visualization.
  - Visualization of the Advanced Data Structures and Graph Algorithms
  - Exploring Advanced Sorting Algorithms.
    - Visualization

# Public Key Cryptosystem

- In Symmetric or Private Key cryptosystems the encryption and decryption keys are either the same or can be easily found from each other.
- Public Key Cryptosystem (PKC) was introduced in 1976 by Diffie and Hellman [2]. In PKC different keys are used for encryption and decryption.

## **Alice:**

- 1. Chooses secret (private) key**
- 2. Create and publishes public key**
- 3. Receives ciphertext**
- 4. Decrypts ciphertext using secret key to recover the plaintext – original message**



## **Bob**

- 1. Uses Public Key to encrypt the message**
- 2. Sends ciphertext – encrypted message to Alice**

# Public Key Cryptosystem

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graph TD; A[Public Key Cryptosystem] --> B["RSA:  
Rivest-Shamir-Adleman [3]"]; A --> C["Merkle-Hellman  
Knapsack Cryptosystem [1]"]; C --> D["Additive  
Knapsack  
Cryptosystem"]; C --> E["Multiplicative  
Knapsack  
Cryptosystem"]; C --> F["Multiply-Iterated  
Knapsack  
Cryptosystem"];
```

**1978: First Two Implementation**

**RSA:  
Rivest-Shamir-Adleman [3]**

**Based on integer  
factorization**

**Merkle-Hellman  
Knapsack Cryptosystem [1]**

**Based on the  
subset-sum problem,  
variant of knapsack problem**

**Additive  
Knapsack  
Cryptosystem**

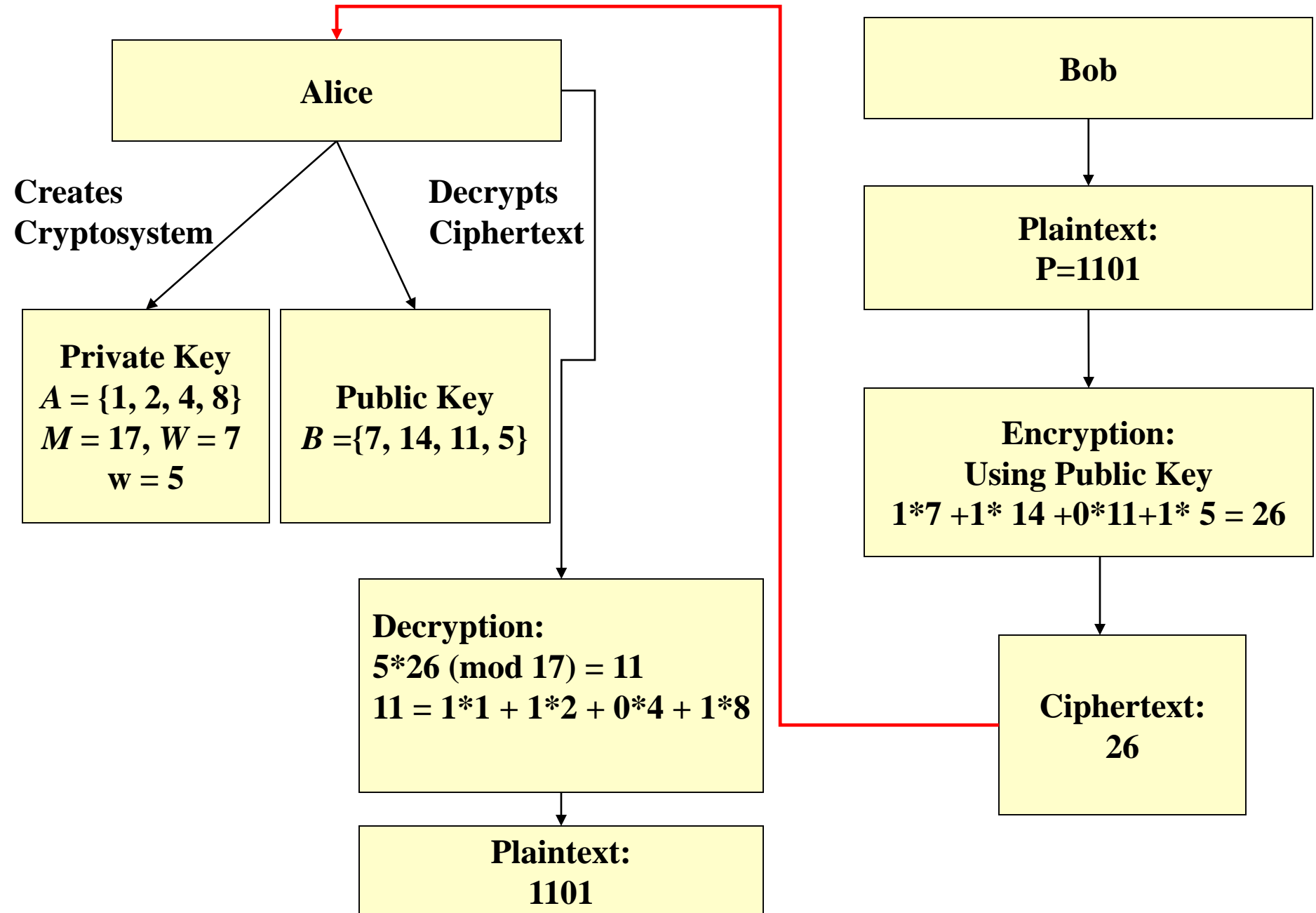
**Multiplicative  
Knapsack  
Cryptosystem**

**Multiply-Iterated  
Knapsack  
Cryptosystem**

# Merkle-Hellman Knapsack Cryptosystem Example

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- Alice: Private Key
  - Private Key:  $A = \{1, 2, 4, 8\}$ ,  $M = 17$ ,  $W = 7$ ,  $w = 5$
  - Public Key:  $B = \{7, 14, 11, 5\}$
- Bob: Encryption
  - Plaintext 1101
  - Ciphertext  $= 7 + 14 + 5 = 26$
- Alice: Decryption
  - $5 * 26 \pmod{17} = 11$
  - $11 = 1 * 1 + 1 * 2 + 0 * 4 + 1 * 8$
  - Plaintext: 1101



# Merkle-Hellman Knapsack Cryptosystem

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- 1982: Single iteration Merkle - Hellman Knapsack Cryptosystem was broken by Adi Shamir [4,5,6]
- 1983: At the CRYPTO '83 , Adleman used an Apple II computer to demonstrate Shamir's method [8]
- 1985: Multiple iteration Merkle-Hellman knapsack was broken by Brickell [9], a system of 40 iterations was breaking in about an hour of Cray-1 time

# Merkle-Hellman Knapsack Cryptosystem

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- History has not been kind to knapsack schemes [11]  
Lecture Notes on Cryptography, S. Goldwasser, M. Bellare
- Merkle offered \$100 award for breaking singly - iterated knapsack
- Singly-iterated Merkle - Hellman KC was broken by Adi Shamir in 1982 [4,5,6] using Hendrik W. Lenstra's polynomial time algorithm [7] for the integer programming problem when the number of variables is fixed.
- At the CRYPTO '83 conference, Adleman used an Apple II computer to demonstrate Shamir's method [8]
- Merkle offered \$1000 award for breaking multiply-iterated knapsack
- Multiply-iterated Merkle-Hellman knapsack was broken by Brickell in 1985 [9]



# Classical Knapsack Problem

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- General 0-1 knapsack problem: given  $n$  items of different values  $v_i$  and weights  $w_i$ , find the most valuable subset of the items while the overall weight does not exceed a given capacity  $W$
- The knapsack problem is NP-hard [10]
- The knapsack problem could be solved in pseudo-polynomial time through dynamic programming

# Subset-Sum Problem

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- Subset – Sum problem is a special case of knapsack problem when a value of each item is equal to its weight
- Input: set of positive integers:  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  and the positive integer  $S$
- Output:
  - TRUE, if there is a subset of  $A$  that sums to  $S$  and the subset itself
  - FALSE otherwise.
- The subset-sum problem is NP-hard

# Easy Knapsack Problem

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- An easy knapsack problem is one in which set  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  is a super-increasing sequence
- A super-increasing sequence is one in which the next term of the sequence is greater than the sum of all preceding terms:  
$$a_2 > a_1, a_3 > a_1 + a_2, \dots, a_n > a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1}$$
- Example:  $A = \{1, 2, 4, 8, \dots, 2^{n-1}\}$  is super-increasing sequence

# Polynomial Time Algorithm for Easy Knapsack Problem

- Input:  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is super-increasing sequence,  $S$
- Output: TRUE and  $P$  – binary array of  $n$  elements,  $P[i] = 1$  means:  $a_i$  belongs to subset of  $A$  that sums to  $S$ ,  $P[0] = 0$  otherwise. The algorithm returns FALSE if the subset doesn't exist

**for**  $i \leftarrow n$  **to** 1

**if**  $S \geq a_i$

**then**  $P[i] \leftarrow 1$  **and**  $S \leftarrow S - a_i$

**else**      $P[i] \leftarrow 0$

**if**  $S \neq 0$

**then return** (FALSE – no solution)

**else return** ( $P[1], P[2], \dots, P[n]$ ).

# Merkle-Hellman Additive Knapsack Cryptosystem

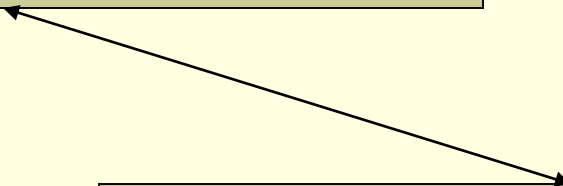
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**Alice:**

1. Constructs the Knapsack cryptosystem
2. Publishes the public key
3. Receives the ciphertext
4. Decrypts the ciphertext using private key

**Bob:**

1. Encrypts the plaintext using public key
2. Sends the ciphertext to Alice



# Alice

## Knapsack Cryptosystem Construction

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- Chooses  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  super-increasing sequence,  
 $A$  is a private (easy) knapsack  
$$a_1 + \dots + a_n = E$$
- Chooses  $M$  - the next prime larger than  $E$ .
- Chooses  $W$  that satisfies  $2 \leq W < M$  and  $(W, M) = 1$
- Computes Public (hard) knapsack  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ ,  
where  $b_i = Wa_i \pmod{M}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$
- **Keeps Private Key:**  $A, W, M$
- **Publishes Public key:**  $B$

# Bob – Encryption Process

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- Binary Plaintext  $P$  breaks up into sets of  $n$  elements long:  $P = \{P_1, \dots, P_k\}$
- For each set  $P_i$  compute 
$$\sum_{j=1}^n P_{ij} b_j = C_i$$
- $C_i$  is the ciphertext that corresponds to plaintext  $P_i$
- $C = \{C_1, \dots, C_k\}$  is ciphertext that corresponds to the plaintext  $P$
- **$C$  is sent to Alice**

# Alice – Decryption Process

- Computes  $w$ , the multiplicative inverse of  $W \bmod M$ :  
 $wW \equiv 1 \pmod{M}$
- The connection between easy and hard knapsacks:  
 $Wa_i = b_i \pmod{M}$  or  $wb_i = a_i \pmod{M}$   $1 \leq i \leq n$
- For each  $C_i$  computes:  $S_i = wC_i \pmod{M}$

$$S_i = wC_i = w \sum_{j=1}^n P_{ij} b_j = \sum_{j=1}^n P_{ij} w b_j = \sum_{j=1}^n P_{ij} a_j$$

- Plaintext  $P_i$  could be found using polynomial time algorithm for easy knapsack



# Example

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- Alice Private Key:

- $A = \{1, 2, 4, 8\}, M = 17, W = 7, 2 \leq W < 17, (7, 17) = 1$

- Public Key:

$$B = \{7 \bmod 17, 14 \bmod 17, 28 \bmod 17, 56 \bmod 17\} = \{7, 14, 11, 5\}$$

- Bob Encryption:

- Plaintext: 1101

- $\text{Ciphertext} = 7 + 14 + 5 = 26$

- Alice Decryption:

- $w = 5$  – multiplicative inverse of 7 (mod 17)

- $5 * 26 \bmod 17 = 11$

- Plaintext: 1101 ( $11 = 1 * 1 + 1 * 2 + 0 * 4 + 1 * 8$ )

# Ciphertext Only Cryptanalytic Attack on Merkle-Hellman Knapsack: Dynamic Programming Algorithm

- **Input:**  $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  – public key,  $C$  - ciphertext
- **Output:** The binary array  $P$  – plaintext
- **Algorithm:** Let  $Q[i, j]$  be TRUE if there is a subset of first  $i$  elements of  $B$  that sums to  $j$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq C$

## *Step 1: Computation of $P$*

$Q[0][0] \leftarrow \text{TRUE}$

for  $j = 1$  to  $C$  do:  $Q[0][j] \leftarrow \text{FALSE}$

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do:

    for  $j = 0$  to  $C$  do:

        if  $(j - B[i] < 0)$ :  $Q[i][j] = Q[i-1][j]$

        else:  $Q[i][j] = Q[i-1][j-B[i]] \text{ or } Q[i-1][j]$

## Step 2: Backtracking

Let  $P$  be an array of  $n + 1$  elements initialized to 0

$i \leftarrow n, j \leftarrow C$

while  $i > 0$ :

    if  $(j - B[i]) \geq 0$ :

        if  $(Q[i-1][j-B[i]] \text{ is True})$ :

$P[i] \leftarrow P[i] + 1$

$j \leftarrow j - B[i]$

$i \leftarrow i - 1$

    else:  $i \leftarrow i - 1$

**Output:** array  $P$ , elements of  $P$  that equal to 1 construct a desired subset of  $B$  that sums to  $C$

# EXAMPLE

Input:  $B = \{1, 4, 5, 2\}$ ,  $C = 3$

	$j = 0$	$j = 1$	$j = 2$	$j = 3$
$i = 0$	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
$i = 1$ $B[1] = 1$	TRUE	TRUE Element is taken	FALSE	FALSE
$i = 2$ $B[2] = 4$	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE
$i = 3$ $B[3] = 5$	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE
$i = 4$ $B[4] = 2$	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE Element is taken

$Q[i-1][j-B[i]]$  or  $Q[i-1][j]$

# Merkle-Hellman Multiplicative Knapsack Cryptosystem

## ■ Alice:

- Chooses set of relatively prime numbers

$P = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$  – private (easy) knapsack

- Chooses prime  $M > p_1 * \dots * p_n$

- Chooses primitive root  $b \bmod M$

- Computes the public (hard) knapsack

$A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ , where  $a_i$  is discrete logarithm of  $p_i$  to base  $b$ :

$1 \leq a_i < M$ , such that:  $p_i \equiv b^{a_i} \pmod{M}$

- **Private Key:**  $P, M, b$

- **Public Key:**  $A$

# Merkle-Hellman Multiplicative Knapsack Cryptosystem- Encryption

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- Binary Plaintext  $T$  breaks up into sets of  $n$  elements long:  $T = \{T_1, \dots, T_k\}$
- For each set  $T_i$  compute 
$$\sum_{j=1}^n T_{ij} a_j = C_i$$
- $C_i$  is the ciphertext that corresponds to plaintext  $T_i$
- $C = \{C_1, \dots, C_k\}$  is ciphertext that corresponds to the plaintext  $T$
- **$C$  is sent to Alice**

# Merkle-Hellman Multiplicative Knapsack Cryptosystem- Decryption

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- For each  $C_i$  computes  $S_i \equiv b^{C_i} \pmod{M}$
- $S_i$  is a subset product of the easy knapsack:

$$S_i = b^{C_i} = b^{\sum_{j=1}^n T_{ij} a_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n b^{T_{ij} a_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n (b^{a_j})^{T_{ij}} \equiv \prod_{j=1}^n p_j^{T_{ij}} \pmod{M}$$

- $T_{ij} = 1$  if and only if  $p_j$  divides  $S_i$

# Merkle-Hellman Multiplicative Knapsack Example

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- Easy (Private) Knapsack:  $P = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$
- $M = 211, b = 17$
- Hard (Public) Knapsack:  $A = \{19, 187, 198, 121\}$   
 $2 \equiv 17^{19}(\text{mod } 211), 3 \equiv 17^{187}(\text{mod } 211),$   
 $5 \equiv 17^{198}(\text{mod } 211), 7 \equiv 17^{121}(\text{mod } 211)$
- Plaintext:  $T = 1101$
- Ciphertext:  $C = 327 = 19 + 187 + 121$
- Decryption:  $S = 42 = 17^{327}(\text{mod } 211)$
- $42 = 2^1 * 3^1 * 5^0 * 7^1$
- Plaintext: 1101



# Multiply-Iterated Merkle-Hellman Knapsack Cryptosystem

- $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  super-increasing sequence,  
 $A$  is a private (easy) knapsack,  $a_1 + \dots + a_n = E$
- For the  $m$ -times iterated knapsack cryptosystem: set of  $m$  multiplier-modulus pairs  $(w_i, M_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$
- To construct a public key knapsack:  $B = \{b_1^m, b_2^m, \dots, b_n^m\}$

$$w_1 b_i^1 \equiv a_i \pmod{M_1}, 1 \leq i \leq n, M_1 > E$$

$$w_2 b_i^2 \equiv b_i^1 \pmod{M_2}, 1 \leq i \leq n, M_2 > \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^1$$

.....

$$w_m b_i^m \equiv b_i^{m-1} \pmod{M_m}, 1 \leq i \leq n, M_m > \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^{m-1}$$

# Multiply-Iterated Merkle-Hellman Knapsack Cryptosystem Example

- $A = \{1, 2, 4, 8\}$ - super-increasing sequence (easy) knapsack,  $m = 3$  (number of iterations)
- 1<sup>st</sup> iteration:  $M_1 = 17$ ,  $W_1 = 7$ ,  $w_1 = 5$   
 $B^1 = \{7 \bmod 17, 14 \bmod 17, 28 \bmod 17, 56 \bmod 17\} = \{7, 14, 11, 5\}$
- 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration:  $M_2 = 41$ ,  $W_2 = 18$ ,  $w_2 = 16$   
 $B^2 = \{126 \bmod 41, 252 \bmod 41, 198 \bmod 41, 90 \bmod 41\} = \{3, 6, 34, 8\}$
- 3<sup>rd</sup> iteration:  $M_3 = 53$ ,  $W_3 = 25$ ,  $w_3 = 17$   
 $B^3 = \{75 \bmod 53, 150 \bmod 53, 850 \bmod 53, 200 \bmod 53\} = \{22, 44, 2, 41\}$
- **Public Key:  $\{22, 44, 2, 41\}$**

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