An Example of the RSA Algorithm

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P = 61 <- first prime number (destroy this after computing E and D)
Q = 53 <- second prime number (destroy this after computing E and D)
PQ = 3233 <- modulus (give this to others)
E = 17
          <- public exponent (give this to others)
D = 2753 <- private exponent (keep this secret!)
Your public key is (E,PQ).
Your private key is D.
The encryption function is:
        encrypt(T) = (T^E) \mod PQ
                  = (T^17) \mod 3233
The decryption function is:
        decrypt(C) = (C^D) \mod PQ
                  = (C^2753) \mod 3233
To encrypt the plaintext value 123, do this:
        encrypt(123) = (123^17) \mod 3233
                     = 337587917446653715596592958817679803 mod 3233
To decrypt the ciphertext value 855, do this:
        decrypt(855) = (855^2753) \mod 3233
                     = 123
One way to compute the value of 855^2753 mod 3233 is like this:
2753 = 101011000001 base 2, therefore
        2753 = 1 + 2^6 + 2^7 + 2^9 + 2^{11}
             = 1 + 64 + 128 + 512 + 2048
Consider this table of powers of 855:
        855^1 = 855 \pmod{3233}
        855^2 = 367 \pmod{3233}
        855^4 = 367^2 \pmod{3233} = 2136 \pmod{3233}
        855^8 = 2136^2 \pmod{3233} = 733 \pmod{3233}
        855^16 = 733^2 \pmod{3233} = 611 \pmod{3233}
        855^32 = 611^2 \pmod{3233} = 1526 \pmod{3233}
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855^64 = 1526^2 (mod 3233) = 916 (mod 3233)

855^128 = 916^2 (mod 3233) = 1709 (mod 3233)

855^256 = 1709^2 (mod 3233) = 1282 (mod 3233)

855^512 = 1282^2 (mod 3233) = 1160 (mod 3233)

855^1024 = 1160^2 (mod 3233) = 672 (mod 3233)

855^2048 = 672^2 (mod 3233) = 2197 (mod 3233)

Given the above, we know this:

855^2753 (mod 3233)

= 855^1 * 855^64 * 855^128 * 855^512 * 855^2048 (mod 3233)

= 855 * 916 * 1709 * 1160 * 2197 (mod 3233)

= 794 * 1709 * 1160 * 2197 (mod 3233)

= 2319 * 1160 * 2197 (mod 3233)

= 184 * 2197 (mod 3233)
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If you have a computer program (such as the "bc" utility that comes with Linux), you can compute 855^2753 mod 3233 directly, like this:

855^2753 mod 3233

 $= 123 \pmod{3233}$

= 123

= 50432888958416068734422899127394466631453878360035509315554967564501 05562861208255997874424542811005438349865428933638493024645144150785 17209179665478263530709963803538732650089668607477182974582295034295 0407903581845940956377938586598936883808360284013250976862076697739667533250542826093475735137988063256482639334453092594385562429233017 51977190016924916912809150596019178760171349725439279215696701789902 13430714646897127961027718137839458696772898693423652403116932170892 69617643726521315665833158712459759803042503144006837883246101784830 71758547454725206968892599589254436670143220546954317400228550092386 36942444855973333063051607385302863219302913503745471946757776713579 54965202919790505781532871558392070303159585937493663283548602090830 63550704455658896319318011934122017826923344101330116480696334024075 0469525886698765866900622402410208846650753026395387052663193358473481094876156227126037327597360375237388364148088948438096157757045380 08107946980066734877795883758289985132793070353355127509043994817897 90548993381217329458535447413268056981087263348285463816885048824346 58897839333466254454006619645218766694795528023088412465948239275105 77049113329025684306505229256142730389832089007051511055250618994171 23177795157979429711795475296301837843862913977877661298207389072796 76720235011399271581964273076407418989190486860748124549315795374377 12441601438765069145868196402276027766869530903951314968319097324505 45234594477256587887692693353918692354818518542420923064996406822184 49011913571088542442852112077371223831105455431265307394075927890822 60604317113339575226603445164525976316184277459043201913452893299321 61307440532227470572894812143586831978415597276496357090901215131304 15756920979851832104115596935784883366531595132734467524394087576977

= 123