



# Solution Review: A Sublist with a Sum of 0

This review provides a detailed analysis of the solution to the A Sublist with a Sum of 0 Challenge.

## We'll cover the following ^

- Solution: Iterative Hashing
  - Time Complexity

## Solution: Iterative Hashing #

```
1 def find_sub_zero(my_list):
2     # Use hash table to store the cumulative sum as a key and
3     # the element as the value till which the sum has been calculated
4     # Traverse the list and return true if either
5     # elem == 0 or sum == 0 or hash table already contains the sum
6     # If you completely traverse the list and haven't found any
7     # of the above three conditions, then simply return false
8     ht = dict()
9     total_sum = 0
10    # Traverse through the given list
11    for elem in my_list:
12        total_sum += elem
13        if elem is 0 or total_sum is 0 or ht.get(total_sum) is not None:
14            return True
15        ht[total_sum] = elem
16    return False
17
18
19 my_list = [6, 4, -7, 3, 12, 9]
20
21 print(find_sub_zero(my_list))
```

```
21 print(find_sub_zero(my_list))  
22
```



The naive solution would be to iterate the list in a nested loop, summing each element with all the elements succeeding it.

A hash table makes things much simpler.

We basically have to check for 3 conditions:

- If **0** exists in the list
- If the sum becomes zero in the iteration
- If the sum reverts back to a value which was already a key in the hash table. This means that there was a sublist that has a sum of zero making the overall sum to go back to a previous value.

Any of these three conditions confirms the existence of a sublist that sums up to be zero.

## Time Complexity #

As always, a linear iteration over **n** elements means that the algorithm's time complexity is  $O(n)$ .

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Challenge 7: Word Formation Using a ...



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