

Partition to K Equal Sum Subsets

Given an array of integers `nums` and a positive integer `k`, find whether it's possible to divide this array into `k` non-empty subsets whose sums are all equal.

Example 1:

Input: `nums = [4, 3, 2, 3, 5, 2, 1], k = 4`

Output: `True`

Explanation: It's possible to divide it into 4 subsets (5), (1, 4), (2,3), (2,3) with equal sums.

Note:

- `1 ≤ k ≤ 10`
- `1 ≤ nums[i] ≤ 10`

Solution 1

Update: This question has been changed after the contest. It added the special restriction $0 < \text{nums}[i] < 10000$. My solution here is without that consideration.

Assume sum is the sum of $\text{nums}[]$. The dfs process is to find a subset of $\text{nums}[]$ which sum equals to sum/k . We use an array $\text{visited}[]$ to record which element in $\text{nums}[]$ is used. Each time when we get a $\text{cur_sum} = \text{sum}/k$, we will start from position 0 in $\text{nums}[]$ to look up the elements that are not used yet and find another $\text{cur_sum} = \text{sum}/k$.

An corner case is when $\text{sum} = 0$, my method is to use cur_num to record the number of elements in the current subset. Only if $\text{cur_sum} = \text{sum}/k \ \&\& \ \text{cur_num} > 0$, we can start another look up process.

Some test cases may need to be added in:

$\text{nums} = \{-1, 1, 0, 0\}$, $k = 4$

$\text{nums} = \{-1, 1\}$, $k = 1$

$\text{nums} = \{-1, 1\}$, $k = 2$

$\text{nums} = \{-1, 1, 0\}$, $k = 2$

...

Java version:

```
public boolean canPartitionKSubsets(int[] nums, int k) {
    int sum = 0;
    for(int num:nums)sum += num;
    if(k <= 0 || sum%k != 0)return false;
    int[] visited = new int[nums.length];
    return canPartition(nums, visited, 0, k, 0, 0, sum/k);
}

public boolean canPartition(int[] nums, int[] visited, int start_index, int k, int cur_sum, int cur_num, int target){
    if(k==1)return true;
    if(cur_sum == target && cur_num>0)return canPartition(nums, visited, 0, k-1, 0, 0, target);
    for(int i = start_index; i<nums.length; i++){
        if(visited[i] == 0){
            visited[i] = 1;
            if(canPartition(nums, visited, i+1, k, cur_sum + nums[i], cur_num++ , target))return true;
            visited[i] = 0;
        }
    }
    return false;
}
```

C++ version:

```

bool canPartitionKSubsets(vector<int>& nums, int k) {
    int sum = 0;
    for(int num:nums)sum+=num;
    if(k <= 0 || sum%k != 0)return false;
    vector<int> visited(nums.size(), 0);
    return canPartition(nums, visited, 0, k, 0, 0, sum/k);
}

bool canPartition(vector<int>& nums, vector<int>& visited, int start_index, int
k, int cur_sum, int cur_num, int target){
    if(k==1)return true;
    if(cur_sum == target && cur_num >0 )return canPartition(nums, visited, 0, k
-1, 0, 0, target);
    for(int i = start_index; i<nums.size(); i++){
        if(!visited[i]){
            visited[i] = 1;
            if(canPartition(nums, visited, i+1, k, cur_sum + nums[i], cur_num++
, target))return true;
            visited[i] = 0;
        }
    }
    return false;
}

```

written by [Vincent Cai](#) original link [here](#)

Solution 2

It's a very classical question.

Pay attention to the note:

```
1 <= k <= len(nums) <= 16
```

```
0 < nums[i] < 10000
```

Ref: <http://www.geeksforgeeks.org/partition-set-k-subsets-equal-sum/>

```
class Solution {
public:

    // Method returns true if nums can be partitioned into K subsets
    // with equal sum
    bool canPartitionKSubsets(vector<int>& nums, int K)
    {
        int N = nums.size();
        // If K is 1, then complete array will be our answer
        if (K == 1) return true;

        // If total number of partitions are more than N, then
        // division is not possible
        if (N < K) return false;

        // if array sum is not divisible by K then we can't divide
        // array into K partitions
        int sum = 0;
        for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) sum += nums[i];
        if (sum % K != 0) return false;

        // the sum of each subset should be subset (= sum / K)
        int subset = sum / K;
        int subsetSum[K];
        bool taken[N];

        // Initialize sum of each subset from 0
        for (int i = 0; i < K; i++) subsetSum[i] = 0;

        // mark all elements as not taken
        for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) taken[i] = false;

        // initialize first subsubset sum as last element of
        // array and mark that as taken
        subsetSum[0] = nums[N - 1];
        taken[N - 1] = true;

        // call recursive method to check K-substitution condition
        return canPartitionKSubsets(nums, subsetSum, taken, subset, K, N, 0, N - 1)
;
    }

    // Recursive Utility method to check K equal sum
    // substitution of array
    /**
        array          - given input array
        subsetSum array - sum to store each subset of the array
        taken array     - bool array to check whether element is taken or not
    */
};
```

```

    taken          - boolean array to check whether element
                    is taken into sum partition or not
    K              - number of partitions needed
    N              - total number of element in array
    curIdx         - current subsetSum index
    limitIdx       - lastIdx from where array element should be taken
*/
bool canPartitionKSubsets(vector<int>& nums, int subsetSum[], bool taken[], int
subset, int K, int N, int curIdx, int limitIdx) {
    if (subsetSum[curIdx] == subset) {
        /* current index (K - 2) represents (K - 1) subsets of equal
           sum last partition will already remain with sum 'subset'*/
        if (curIdx == K - 2) return true;

        // recursive call for next subsetition
        return canPartitionKSubsets(nums, subsetSum, taken, subset,
                                    K, N, curIdx + 1, N - 1);
    }

    // start from limitIdx and include elements into current partition
    for (int i = limitIdx; i >= 0; i--) {
        // if already taken, continue
        if (taken[i]) continue;
        int tmp = subsetSum[curIdx] + nums[i];

        // if temp is less than subset then only include the element
        // and call recursively
        if (tmp <= subset) {
            // mark the element and include into current partition sum
            taken[i] = true;
            subsetSum[curIdx] += nums[i];
            bool nxt = canPartitionKSubsets(nums, subsetSum, taken, subset, K,
N, curIdx, i - 1);
            // after recursive call unmark the element and remove from
            // subsetition sum
            taken[i] = false;
            subsetSum[curIdx] -= nums[i];
            if (nxt) return true;
        }
    }
    return false;
}

};

```

written by [lee215](#) original link [here](#)

Solution 3

dfs: ~90%

Instead of remember all sums, this dfs only remember one sum

```
class Solution(object):
    def canPartitionKSubsets(self, nums, k):
        if k==1: return True

        self.n=len(nums)
        if k>self.n: return False

        total=sum(nums)
        if total%k: return False

        self.target=total/k
        visit=[0]*self.n

        nums.sort(reverse=True)
        def dfs(k,ind,sum,cnt):
            if k==1: return True
            if sum==self.target and cnt>0:
                return dfs(k-1,0,0,0)
            for i in range(ind,self.n):
                if not visit[i] and sum+nums[i]<=self.target:
                    visit[i]=1
                    if dfs(k,i+1,sum+nums[i],cnt+1):
                        return True
                    visit[i]=0
            return False

        return dfs(k,0,0,0)
```

written by [weidairpi](#) original link [here](#)

From [LeetCoder](#).