

## P IS NP

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**ABSTRACT.** The Subset Sum Problem is a decision problem in theoretical computer science: given a finite set  $S$  of positive integers and a target value  $T$ , determine whether there exists a subset of  $S$  whose elements sum exactly to  $T$ . This problem is one of the NP-complete problems identified by Karp, and no deterministic polynomial-time algorithm is currently known. The best-known exact algorithms run in exponential time, although pseudo-polynomial time algorithms exist via dynamic programming. Subset Sum is therefore classified as a weakly NP-complete problem. In this work, we present an algorithm that solves the Subset Sum Problem in polynomial time.

**Keywords.** Subset Sum Problem, NP-complete problems, Computational complexity, Deterministic polynomial time  
**2020 Mathematics Subject Classification.** Primary 68Q15; Secondary 68Q25

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

I chose Subset Sum Problem from many NP-complete problems because I wanted a problem that was simple to understand and can be experimented freely in a computer without additional logic conversions. The proof technique used is *proof by algorithm*, meaning my algorithm is my proof. I will add pseudocode and explanations later for this algorithm in this research paper. The algorithm code is in Python programming language, but I wrote it in a way that feels like it is pseudocode. So even if you don't know Python, you can follow along. The GitHub repository for this research paper and the algorithm is here: <https://github.com/althaf-07/p-is-np.git>.

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*Date:* Received: xxxxxx; Revised: yyyyyy; Accepted: zzzzzz.

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