

Exercise 11.5 Let $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{N}$. For each of the following problems, either (a) design and analyze a polynomial time algorithm (the faster the better), or (b) prove that a polynomial time algorithm would imply a polynomial time algorithm for SAT.²

²You can use the solution of one subproblem to solve another, as long as there's no circular dependencies overall.

Exercise 11.5.1. The *partition problem* asks if one can partition x_1, \dots, x_n into two parts such that the sums of each part are equal.

Solution.

□

Exercise 11.5.2. The *3-partition problem* asks if one can partition x_1, \dots, x_n into 3 parts such that the sums of each part are all equal.

Solution.

□

Exercise 11.5.3. The *any-k-partition problem* asks if one can partition x_1, \dots, x_n into k parts, for any integer $k \geq 2$, such that the sums of each part are all equal.

Solution.

□

Exercise 11.5.4. The *almost-partition problem* asks if one can partition x_1, \dots, x_n into two parts such that the two sums of each part differ by at most 1.

Solution.

□

Exercise 11.5.5. ³Let n be even. The *perfect partition problem* asks if one can partition x_1, \dots, x_n into two parts such that

- (a) Each part has the same sum.
- (b) Each part contains the same number of x_i 's.

³IMO, this one is the trickiest.

Solution.

