

# Backtracking Sum of Subsets

# Sum of subsets

- Given  $n$  distinct positive numbers  $w_i$ , and  $m$ , find all subsets whose sums are  $m$ .
- Explicit Constraints :
  - $X_i = \{ j \mid j \text{ is an integer and } 1 \leq j \leq n \}$
- Implicit Constraints :
  - i. no two  $x_i$ 's are same
  - ii. Sum of the corresponding  $w_i$ 's be  $m$ .
  - iii. To avoid generation of multiple instances of the same subsets)
- We can formulate this problem using either
  - *Fixed-* or *variable* - sized tuples.

```

Algorithm SumOfSub( s, k, r )
// Find all subsets of w[ 1:n ] that sum to m
// It is assumed that w[1] ≤ m and  $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i \geq m$ 
{
    x[ k ]=1; // left child
    if( s + w[k] = m ) then write( x[ 1: k ] ) ;
    // Subset found
        else if ( s + s [ k ] + s[ k+1 ] ≤ m
    )
        then SumOfSub( s+ w[k], k+1, r- w[k]
    )

    // Generate right child and evaluate Bk
    if ( ( s + r - w[ k ] ≥ m ) and ( s + w[ k+1 ]
≤ m ) ) then
    {
        x[ k ] = 0;
    }
    SumOfSub( s, k+1, r- w[k] ) ;
}

```

Ex.  $n=6$ ,  $m=30$ ,  $W[1..6] = \{5, 10, 12, 13, 13, 18\}$

Portion of state space tree generated by SumOfSub.

circular nodes indicate subsets with sums equal to  $m$ .

