

According to Peter Winkler's problem "Red and Blue Dice" in *Mathematical Mind-Benders*, given two sequences of length n with letters in [n], there must always exist a (nonempty) subsequence in each such that the sum of each of the subsequences are equal. Furthermore, there must exist a *substring* (i.e. contiguous subset) in both such that the sum of each substring is equal.

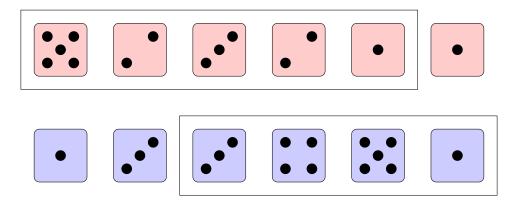


Figure 1: The first five dice in the top row have the same sum as the last four dice in the bottom row.

Question. How many equal-sum subsequences (respectively substrings) are guaranteed to exist?

Related.

- 1. What if the subsequence or substring must have length greater than or equal to k?
- 2. What if the subsequences or substrings must be of equal length?
- 3. What if the substring is allowed to wrap around?
- 4. What if this is done over permutations S_n instead of subsets $[n]^n$?
- 5. What if the sequences are of length $\ell < n$, and must be injections from $\mathbb N$ to [n]?
- 6. What if there are three sequences? m sequences?
- 7. Given two random sequences, what is the expected number of equal-sum subsequences?

References.

https://math.stackexchange.com/q/3035452/121988