

Step 1:

Set-Partition \in NP: Let guess the partitions and verify that the two have equal sums.

Step 2:

Reduction of Subset-Sum to Set-Partition

Recall subset-sum is defined as follows:

Given a set X of integers and a target number t , find a subset $Y \subseteq X$ such that the members of Y add up to exactly t .

Let s be the sum of members of X . Feed $X' = X \cup \{s - 2t\}$ into set-partition. Accept if and only if set partition accepts.

Step 3: This reduction clearly works in polynomial time.

Step 4: We will prove that $\langle X, t \rangle \in \text{subset-sum}$ iff $\langle X' \rangle \in \text{Set-Partition}$.
Note that the sum of members of X' is $2s - 2t$.

If there exist a set of numbers in X that sum to t , then the remaining numbers in X sum to $s - t$. Therefore, there exists a partition of X' into two such that each partition sums to $s - t$.

Let's say that there exists a partition of X' into two sets such that the sum over each set is $s - t$. One of these sets contains the number $s - 2t$.

Removing this number, we get a set of numbers whose sum is t and all of these numbers are in X .