

Zbl 689.10061

Erdős, Paul; Sárközy, A.; Sós, V.T. (Turan Sós, V.)

*On a conjecture of Roth and some related problems. I.* (In English)

**Irregularities of partitions, Pap. Meet., Fertod/Hung. 1986, Algorithms Comb. 8, 47-59 (1989).**

[For the entire collection see Zbl 682.00006.]

For a fixed partition of the set of positive integers into  $k$  classes, let  $C$  be the set of those integers that can be represented as a sum of two different integers from the same class. Proving (in a much stronger form) a conjecture of K. F. Roth, the authors show that

(i) the number of even integers  $\leq M$  not in  $C$  is  $O(M^{1-2^{-k-1}})$ ,

(ii) for  $k = 2$  this can be improved to  $O(\log M)$ ,

(iii) but there is a 2-partition such that  $2^n \notin C$  for all  $n$ .

The partition into odd and even numbers shows that not much more can be expected. (i)-(ii) yield a lower bound for the total number of elements represented; the authors improve this to  $M/2 + O(1)$  for  $k < 4$ , and show that it can be  $< M/2 - ck \log M$  if  $k \geq 4$ . If every class is supposed to contain both even and odd integers, then, however, an improvement to  $(+1/(2k) - \epsilon)M$  is possible.

The representation of special elements (squares, primes) and more general representations are also considered.

[For part II, cf. Zbl 699.10068]

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Classification:

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