

Problem 4.

$$(1+x)^n + (1-x)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k + \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k}$$

There are two cases.

First,  $n$  is even.

Let,  $n = 2k$

$$(1+x)^n + (1-x)^n = 2 \left[ \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} x^n \right]$$

$$\therefore \frac{(1+x)^n + (1-x)^n}{2} = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} x^n$$

Second,  $n$  is odd.

Let,  $n = 2k + 1$

$$(1+x)^n + (1-x)^n = 2 \left[ \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1} x^{n-1} \right]$$

$$\therefore \frac{(1+x)^n + (1-x)^n}{2} = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1} x^{n-1}$$

The arithmetic mean of  $(1+x)^n$  and  $(1-x)^n$  is a positive integer.