

Given a polynomial  $(x + b)^n + (x + 4)^{2m+1}$  where  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Prove that  $x + 5$  is a factor of this polynomial.

**Solution**

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= (x + b)^n + (x + 4)^{2m+1} \\
 f(-5) &= (-5 + b)^n + (-1)^{2m+1} \\
 &= -(b - 5)^n & [\forall m \in \mathbb{Z}^+, (-1)^{2m+1} = -1] \\
 &= -\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} b^{n-k} 5^k \\
 &= -b^n + \binom{n}{1} b^{n-1} 5 + \binom{n}{2} b^{n-2} 5^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} 5^n
 \end{aligned}$$