

Question -

$$\text{Prove that } (^{2n}C_0)^2 - (^{2n}C_1)^2 + (^{2n}C_2)^2 - \dots + (^{2n}C_{2n})^2 = (-1)^n \cdot {}^{2n}C_n. \quad (\text{1978, 4M})$$

Solution -

$$\begin{aligned} & (1+x)^{2n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{x}\right)^{2n} \\ &= [{}^{2n}C_0 + {}^{2n}C_1)x + {}^{2n}C_2)x^2 + \dots + {}^{2n}C_{2n})x^{2n}] \\ &\quad \times \left[{}^{2n}C_0 - {}^{2n}C_1 \frac{1}{x} + {}^{2n}C_2 \frac{1}{x^2} + \dots + {}^{2n}C_{2n} \frac{1}{x^{2n}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Independent terms of x on RHS

$$\begin{aligned} & = (^{2n}C_0)^2 - (^{2n}C_1)^2 + (^{2n}C_2)^2 - \dots + (^{2n}C_{2n})^2 \\ & \text{LHS} = (1+x)^{2n} \left(\frac{x-1}{x}\right)^{2n} = \frac{1}{x^{2n}} (1-x^2)^{2n} \end{aligned}$$

Independent term of x on the LHS = $(-1)^n \cdot {}^{2n}C_n$.