

3.5.2 | Since we have beta function

$$B(x, y) = \int_0^1 t^{x-1} (1-t)^{y-1} dt.$$

When we take $t = \sin^2 \theta$, $\theta \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{we have } B(x, y) &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{2x-2} \theta \cdot \cos^{2y-2} \theta \cdot 2 \sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{2x-1} \theta \cdot \cos^{2y-1} \theta d\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{2m} x \cos^{2n} x dx = \frac{1}{2} B(m + \frac{1}{2}, n + \frac{1}{2})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Gamma(m + \frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(m + n + 1)}$$

according to $B(x, y) = \frac{\Gamma(x) \Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)}$ where $\Gamma(x)$ is the gamma function.

$$\text{Here } \Gamma(m + \frac{1}{2}) = (m - \frac{1}{2}) (m - \frac{3}{2}) \cdots \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{1}{2})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2^m} (2m-1)(2m-3) \cdots 1 \cdot \sqrt{\pi}$$

for m is natural number and $\Gamma(x+1) = x \cdot \Gamma(x)$.

$$\text{Therefore } \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{2m} x \cos^{2n} x dx = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{(2m-1)!! (2n-1)!!}{2^{m+n} (m+n)!} \cdot \pi$$

$$= \frac{\pi (2m)! (2n)!}{2^{m+n+1} (2m)!! (2n)!! (m+n)!} = \frac{\pi (2m)! (2n)!}{2^{2m+2n+1} \cdot m! \cdot n! (m+n)!}$$

For $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^m x \cos^n x dx$, when m is even, n is even, the case is the same as above.

When m is odd, n is odd, we can make use of $\frac{1}{2} B(m + \frac{1}{2}, n + \frac{1}{2})$ to get the result.

When either m or n is odd, the other is even, (for example m even, n odd) we can make $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^m x \cos^{n-1} x d\sin x = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^m x (1 - \sin^2 x)^{\frac{n-1}{2}} d\sin x$