

Reduction formula

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m \theta d\theta = \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^m \theta d\theta =$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{m-1}{m}, \frac{m-3}{m-2}, \frac{m-5}{m-4}, \dots, \frac{6}{7}, \frac{4}{5}, \frac{2}{3}, 1 \\ (m \text{ is odd}) \\ \frac{m-1}{m}, \frac{m-3}{m-2}, \frac{m-5}{m-4}, \dots, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2} \\ m \text{ is even} \end{array} \right.$$

If n is even & m is even

$$\textcircled{1} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m x \cos^n x dx = \frac{n-1}{m+n} \frac{n-3}{m+n-2} \frac{n-5}{m+n-4} \dots \frac{1}{m+2} \frac{m-1}{m} \frac{m-3}{m-2} \frac{m-5}{m-4} \dots \frac{1}{2} \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$\textcircled{2}$ If n is odd & m is any positive integer (even or odd)

then

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m x \cos^n x dx = \frac{n-1}{m+n} \frac{n-3}{m+n-2} \frac{n-5}{m+n-4} \dots \frac{2}{m+3} \frac{1}{m+1}$$

Note:

If one of m & n is odd then it is convenient to get the power of $\cos x$ as odd. For instance if m is

odd & n is even then

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m x \cos^n x dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^n x \cos^m x dx$$

$$= \frac{m-1}{n+m} \frac{(m-3)}{(n+m-2)} \frac{(m-5)}{(n+m-4)} \cdots \frac{2}{n+3} \frac{1}{n+1}$$