

Example 4 Evaluate: $(x^2 - \sqrt{1-x^2})^4 + (x^2 + \sqrt{1-x^2})^4$

Solution Putting $\sqrt{1-x^2} = y$, we get

$$\text{The given expression} = (x^2 - y)^4 + (x^2 + y)^4 = 2 [x^8 + {}^4C_2 x^4 y^2 + {}^4C_4 y^4]$$

$$= 2 \left[x^8 + \frac{4 \times 3}{2 \times 1} x^4 \cdot (1-x^2) + (1-x^2)^2 \right]$$

$$= 2 [x^8 + 6x^4 (1-x^2) + (1-2x^2+x^4)]$$

$$= 2x^8 - 12x^6 + 14x^4 - 4x^2 + 2$$

