

Question:

In a class of 60 students, 30 opted for *NCC*, 32 opted for *NSS* and 24 opted for both *NCC* and *NSS*. If one of these students is selected at random, find the probability that the student has opted for *NSS* but not *NCC*.

Solution: Let us define *A* and *B* as shown in the table 0

Event	Denotation
<i>A</i>	probability of choosing <i>NSS</i>
<i>A'</i>	probability of not choosing <i>NSS</i>
<i>B</i>	probability of choosing <i>NCC</i>
<i>B'</i>	probability of not choosing <i>NCC</i>
<i>AB</i>	probability of choosing both <i>NSS</i> and <i>NCC</i>

TABLE 0: Denotations of events

Then, according to the given question,

$$Pr(A) = \frac{32}{60} = \frac{8}{15} \quad (0.1)$$

Let *B* be the event that a student opts for *NCC* , then

$$Pr(B) = \frac{30}{60} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (0.2)$$

then, *A.B* will denote the event that a student opts for both *NSS* and *NCC*,and,

$$Pr(AB) = \frac{24}{60} = \frac{2}{5} \quad (0.3)$$

On using the following postulates given in table 0 and the additivity axiom, which is,

Additivity axiom of probability

If *A*₁,*A*₂ and *A*₃,....are mutually exclusive events(disjoint), then,

$$Pr(A_i A_j) = 0, \forall 1 \leq i, j \leq n \quad (0.4)$$

then ,

$$Pr(A_1 + A_2 + ...A_n) = Pr(A_1) + Pr(A_2) +PR(A_n) \quad (0.5)$$

Then , by applying the additivity axiom on the postulate (5) in the table below, we can write,

$$Pr(A) + Pr(A') = 1 \quad (0.6)$$

	(a)	(b)
Postulate 5	$A + A' = 1$	$A \cdot A' = 0$
Theorem 1	$A + A = A$	$A \cdot A = A$
Theorem 2	$A + 1 = 1$	$A \cdot 0 = 0$
Theorem 3, involution	$(A')' = A$	-
Postulate 3, commutative	$A + B = B + A$	$AB = BA$
Theorem 4, associative	$A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$	$A(BC) = (AB)C$
Postulate 4, distributive	$A(B + C) = AB + AC$	$A + BC = (A + B)(A + C)$

TABLE 0: Caption

For any two events R and S , we can write,

$$\therefore S + S' = 1 \quad (0.7)$$

$$RS + RS' = R \quad (0.8)$$

$$\implies Pr(RS) + Pr(RS') = Pr(R) \quad (0.9)$$

$$\therefore Pr(RS') = Pr(R) - Pr(RS) \quad (0.10)$$

\therefore for the given events A and B , we can write,

$$Pr(AB') = Pr(A) - Pr(AB) \quad (0.11)$$

$$Pr(AB') = \frac{8}{15} - \frac{6}{15} \quad (0.12)$$

$$\therefore Pr(AB') = \frac{2}{15} \approx 0.13333 \quad (0.13)$$

\therefore The probability that a student opts for NSS but not NCC is $\frac{2}{15}$.

Finding probability computationally

On finding the probability computationally we get

Simulated Probability of only NSS size(1000): 0.14100

Simulated Probability of only NSS size(500000): 0.13420

Simulated Probability of only NSS size(1000000): 0.13344

As size or number of times selection is done increases, the accuracy increases.

