

EE23010 NCERT Exemplar

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Question 12.13.3.75

A bag contains 5 red and 3 blue balls. If 3 balls are drawn at random without replacement the probability that exactly two of the three balls were red, the first ball being red is

Solution:

Random variable	Value	Definition
X_1	0	drawing a blue ball in the first pick
	1	drawing a red ball in the first pick
X_2	0	drawing a blue ball in the second pick
	1	drawing a red ball in the second pick
X_3	0	drawing a blue ball in the third pick
	1	drawing a red ball in the third pick

Let M be the event that first ball is red.

Let N be the event that two of the three balls are red.

$$\Pr(M) = \Pr(X_1 = 1) \quad (1)$$

$$= \frac{5}{8} \quad (2)$$

$$\Pr(MN) = p_{X_1}(1) p_{X_2}(1) p_{X_3}(0) + p_{X_1}(1) p_{X_2}(0) p_{X_3}(1) \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{5}{8} \times \frac{4}{7} \times \frac{3}{6} + \frac{5}{8} \times \frac{3}{7} \times \frac{4}{6} \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{120}{336} \quad (5)$$

$$\Pr(N|M) = \frac{\Pr(MN)}{\Pr(M)} \quad (6)$$

$$= \frac{\frac{120}{336}}{\frac{5}{8}} \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{4}{7} \quad (8)$$