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Assignment-1 (10.15.1.9)

AI1110:Probability and Random Variables Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad

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Question: A box contains 5 red marbles, 8 white marbles and 4 green marbles. One marble is taken out of the box at random. What is the probability that the marble taken out will be:

- (i) red?
- (ii) white ?
- (iii) not green?

Solution:

Number of red marbles = 5 Number of white marbles = 8 Number of green marbles = 4 Total marbles = 5+8+4 = 17 Let

$$N = R + W + G \tag{1}$$

$$n = r + w + g \tag{2}$$

where R,B,G and r, b, g represent the number of red, white and green marbles respectively within N and n. Then:

$$\Pr(r, w, g) = \frac{{}^{R}C_{r}{}^{W}C_{w}{}^{G}C_{g}}{{}^{R+W+G}C_{r+w+g}}$$
(3)

(i) Probability that the marble taken out is red

$$\Pr(1,0,0) = \frac{{}^{5}C_{1}{}^{8}C_{0}{}^{4}C_{0}}{{}^{17}C_{1}}$$
 (4)

$$\therefore \Pr(1,0,0) = \frac{5}{17} \approx 0.2941 \tag{5}$$

(ii) Probability that the marble taken out is white

$$\Pr(0, 1, 0) = \frac{{}^{5}C_{0}{}^{8}C_{1}{}^{4}C_{0}}{{}^{17}C_{1}}$$
 (6)

$$\therefore \Pr(0, 1, 0) = \frac{8}{17} \approx 0.4706 \tag{7}$$

(iii) Probability that the marble taken out is not green

$$= 1 - \Pr(0, 0, 1) \tag{8}$$

$$1 - \Pr(0, 0, 1) = 1 - \frac{{}^{5}C_{0}{}^{8}C_{0}{}^{4}C_{1}}{{}^{17}C_{1}}$$

$$\therefore 1 - \Pr(0, 0, 1) = 1 - \frac{4}{17} = \frac{13}{17} \approx 0.7647$$
(10)