

③ Let there be three independent events E_1, E_2 and E_3 . The probability that only E_1 occurs is α , only E_2 occurs is β and only E_3 occurs is γ . Let p denotes the probability of none of events satisfies the equations

$$(\alpha - 2\beta)p = \alpha\beta \quad \text{and} \quad (\beta - 3\gamma)p = 2\beta\gamma$$

All the given probabilities are assumed to lie in the interval $(0, 1)$

then, $\frac{\text{Probability of occurrence of } E_1}{\text{Probability of occurrence of } E_3}$ is equal to _____

soln

Let $P(E_1) = p_1$, $P(E_2) = p_2$ and $P(E_3) = p_3$.

$$\text{Given, } P(E_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap \bar{E}_3) = \alpha = p_1(1-p_2)(1-p_3) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$P(\bar{E}_1 \cap E_2 \cap \bar{E}_3) = \beta = (1-p_1)(p_2)(1-p_3) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$P(\bar{E}_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap E_3) = \gamma = (1-p_1)(1-p_2)p_3 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\text{Also, } (\alpha - 2\beta) p = \alpha\beta.$$

$$(p_1 (1-p_2) (1-p_3) - 2(1-p_1) p_2 (1-p_3)) p = p_1 p_2.$$

$$\Rightarrow p_1 (1-p_2) - 2(1-p_1) p_2 = p_1 p_2.$$

$$\Rightarrow p_1 - p_1 p_2 - 2p_2 + 2p_1 p_2 = p_1 p_2.$$

$$\rightarrow p_1 = 2p_2 \quad - (4)$$

Similarly, from previous,

$$(\beta - 3\gamma) p = 2\beta\gamma.$$

$$p_2 = 3p_3 \quad - (5)$$

From (4) and (5).

$$p_1 = 6p_3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{p_1}{p_3} = 6$$