

# Adjusting the Output of a Classifier to New a Priori Probabilities

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# Overview

In machine learning, classifiers are often trained on data with class distributions that do not reflect the real-world data. This mismatch can lead to suboptimal classification performance.

## Main scenario and solutions

### 1 Known the new A Priori Probabilities:

- Direct Adjustment with Bayes' Theorem

### 2 Unknown the new A Priori Probabilities:

- Confusion Matrix Method
- Expectation-Maximization Algorithm
- Likelihood Ratio Test

# Bayes Formula for Known a Priori

By the Bayes Theorem, we have the within-class probabilities:

$$\hat{p}_t(x \mid \omega_i) = \frac{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i \mid x) \hat{p}_t(x)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i)} \quad (2.1)$$

$$\hat{p}(x \mid \omega_i) = \frac{\hat{p}(\omega_i \mid x) \hat{p}(x)}{\hat{p}(\omega_i)} \quad (2.2)$$

Considering that the  $\hat{p}_t(x \mid \omega_i) = \hat{p}(x \mid \omega_i)$ , we define  $f(x) = \hat{p}_t(x) / \hat{p}(x)$ , and we find :

$$\hat{p}(\omega_i \mid x) = f(x) \cdot \left( \frac{\hat{p}(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i)} \right) \cdot \hat{p}_t(\omega_i \mid x) \quad (2.3)$$

Since  $\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{p}(\omega_i \mid x) = 1$  we define a normalization factor  $f(x) = \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{\hat{p}(\omega_j)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_j)} \right) \hat{p}_t(\omega_j \mid x) \right]^{-1}$

$$\hat{p}(\omega_i \mid x) = \frac{\left( \frac{\hat{p}(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i)} \right) \hat{p}_t(\omega_i \mid x)}{\sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{\hat{p}(\omega_j)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_j)} \right) \hat{p}_t(\omega_j \mid x)} \quad (2.4)$$

# Unknown a Priori: Confusion Matrix Method

Equation for estimating the a priori  $\hat{p}(\omega_j)$

$$\hat{p}(\delta_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n \hat{p}_t(\delta_i | \omega_j) \hat{p}(\omega_j)$$

## Set up the System

**Left Side × Priors = Right Side**

$$\hat{p}_t(\delta_i | \omega_j) \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{TP_{train}}{TP_{train} + FP_{train}} \quad \frac{FN_{train}}{FN_{train} + TN_{train}} \\ \frac{FP_{train}}{TP_{train} + FP_{train}} \quad \frac{TN_{train}}{FN_{train} + TN_{train}} \end{array}$$

Provides conditional probabilities for the training confusion matrix

$$\hat{p}(\delta_i) \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{TP_{test} + FN_{test}}{TP_{test} + FN_{test} + FP_{test} + TN_{test}} \\ \frac{FP_{test} + TN_{test}}{TP_{test} + FN_{test} + FP_{test} + TN_{test}} \end{array}$$

Provides observed classification frequencies for the test confusion matrix

**Priors=solve(Left Side, Right Side)**

Confusion matrix overview

$$\text{Confusion Matrix} = \begin{bmatrix} TP & FP \\ FN & TN \end{bmatrix}$$

# Unknown a Priori: Expectation - Maximization Algorithm

We have some realizations of  $X$ :  $X_1^N = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$

Define the Likelihood:

$$L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) = \prod_{k=1}^N p(x_k) = \prod_{k=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_k, \omega_i) = \prod_{k=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_k | \omega_i) p(\omega_i)$$

## Initialization:

Posterior probability of the model

$$\hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k) = g_i(x_k)$$

Training prior probability

$$\hat{p}_t(\omega_i) = \frac{N_t^i}{N_t}$$

New a priori

$$\hat{p}^{(0)}(\omega_i) = \hat{p}_t(\omega_i)$$

# Expectation - Maximization steps

## Expectation Step:

$$\hat{p}^{(s)}(\omega_i | x_k) = \frac{\left( \frac{\hat{p}^{(s)}(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i)} \right) \hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{\hat{p}^{(s)}(\omega_j)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_j)} \right) \hat{p}_t(\omega_j | x_k)}$$

Re-estimates the posterior probabilities using the current estimates of the priors

## Maximization Step:

$$\hat{p}^{(s+1)}(\omega_i) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \hat{p}^{(s)}(\omega_i | x_k)$$

Updates the prior probabilities by averaging the posterior probabilities across all observations

Repeat this steps until convergence



# Likelihood Ratio Test

Likelihood based on the **original a priori** probabilities:

$$\begin{aligned} L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) &= \prod_{k=1}^N \hat{p}_t(x_k) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^N \left[ \frac{\hat{p}(x_k | \omega_i) \hat{p}_t(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Likelihood ratio:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)}{L_t(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)} &= \frac{\prod_{k=1}^N \left[ \frac{\hat{p}(x_k | \omega_i) \hat{p}_t(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k)} \right]}{\prod_{k=1}^N \left[ \frac{\hat{p}(x_k | \omega_i) \hat{p}_t(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k)} \right]} \\ &= \frac{\prod_{k=1}^N \frac{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k)}}{\prod_{k=1}^N \frac{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k)}} \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

Likelihood based on the **new a priori** probabilities:

$$\begin{aligned} L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) &= \prod_{k=1}^N \hat{p}(x_k) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^N \left[ \frac{\hat{p}(x_k | \omega_i) \hat{p}(\omega_i)}{\hat{p}(\omega_i | x_k)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Log-likelihood ratio:

$$\begin{aligned} \log \left( \frac{L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)}{L_t(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)} \right) &= \sum_{k=1}^N \log (\hat{p}_t(\omega_i | x_k)) - \sum_{k=1}^N \log (\hat{p}(\omega_i | x_k)) \\ &\quad + N \log (\hat{p}(\omega_i)) - N \log (\hat{p}_t(\omega_i)). \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

# Statistical Inference

## Null Hypothesis H0:

The a priori probabilities have not changed. There is no significant difference between the original and updated a priori probabilities.

## Alternative Hypothesis H1:

The a priori probabilities have changed. There is a significant difference between the original and updated a priori probabilities.

Compute the test statistic  $2 * \log\left(\frac{L}{L_t}\right)$  is distributed as a chi-squared distribution with **n-1 degrees of freedom**

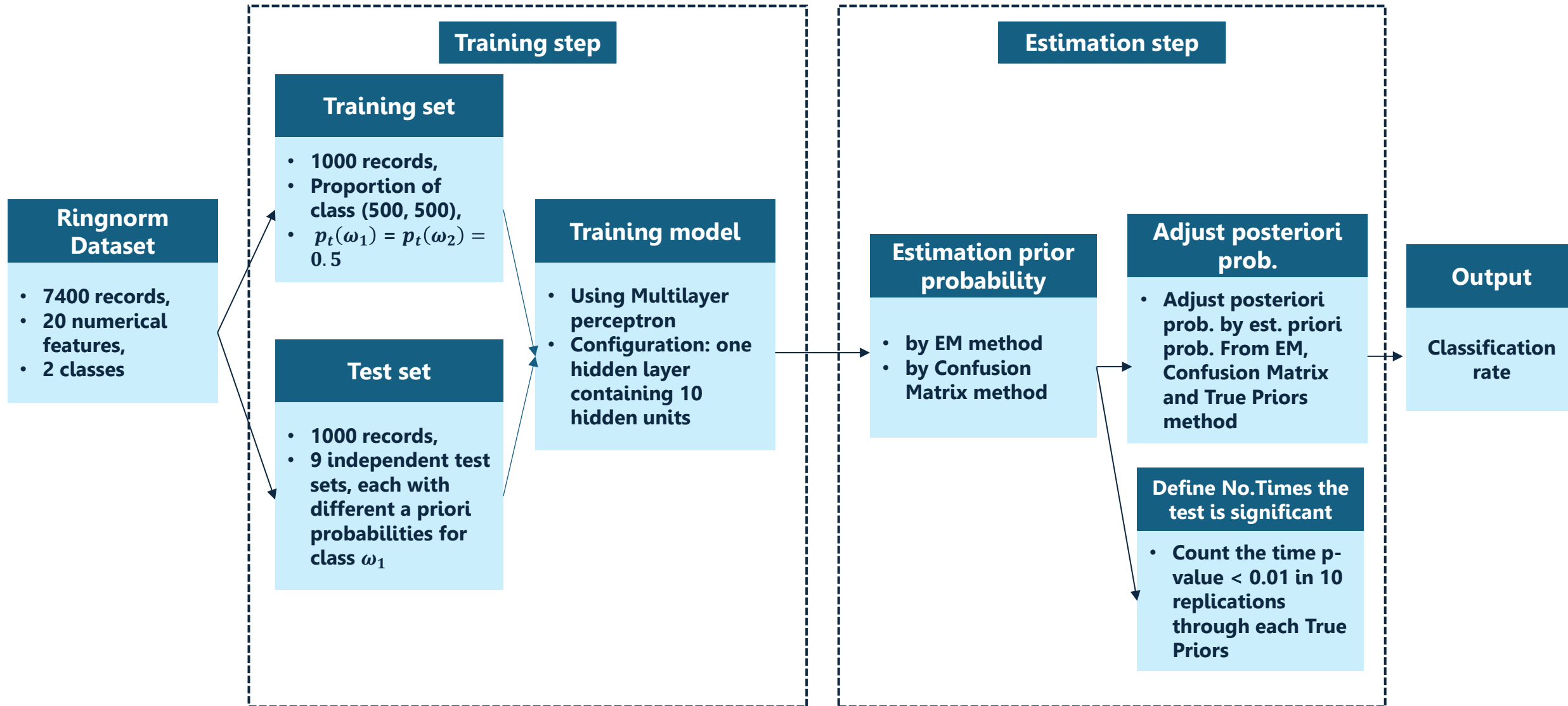
## Decision rule:

- If **p-value < significance level**: Reject H0, the evidence suggests that the a priori probabilities have significantly changed.
- If **p-value ≥ significance level**: Fail to reject H0, there is not enough evidence to suggest that the a priori probabilities have changed



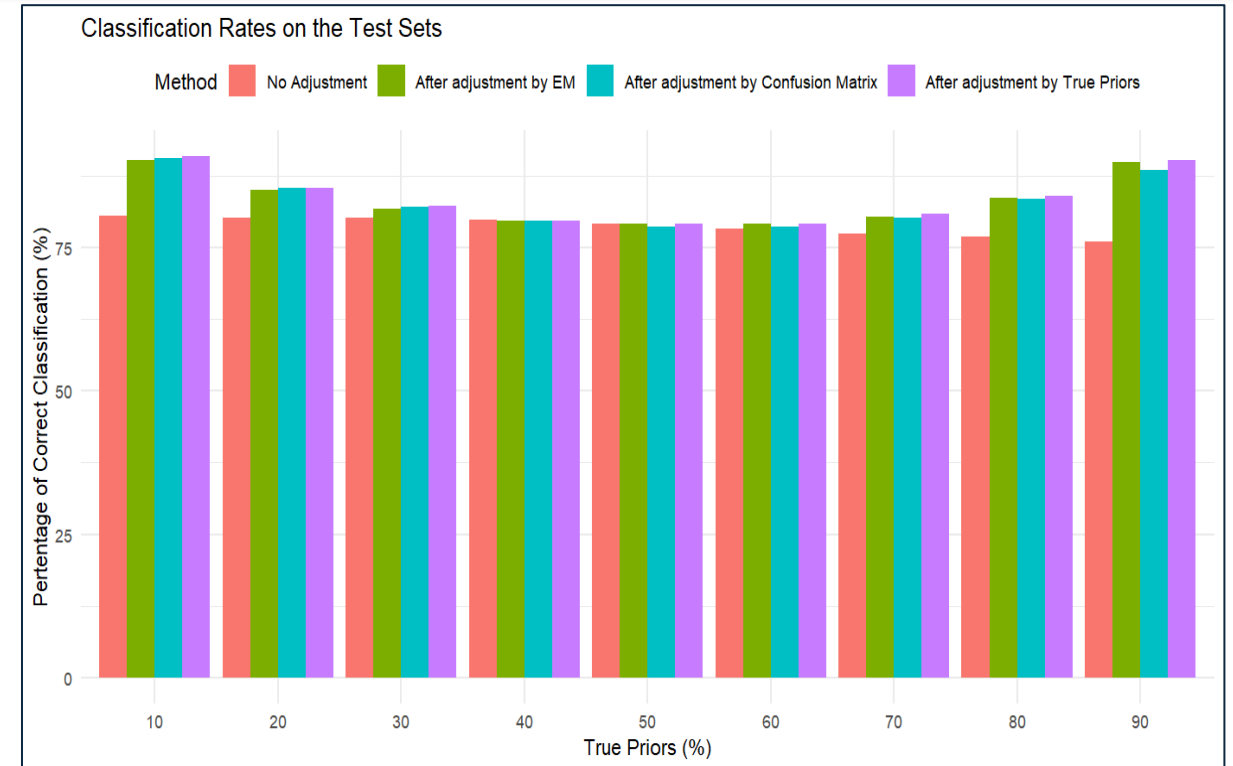
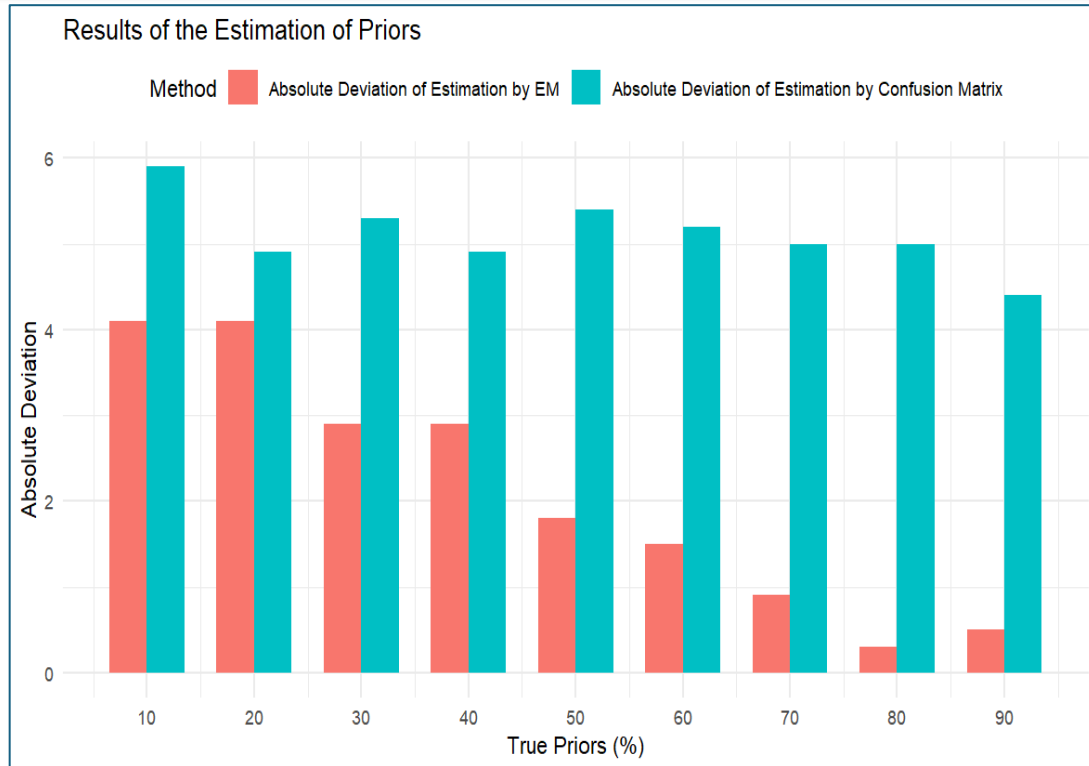
# Simulation on Artificial Data: Experimental Design

The experiment was  
replied 10 times to  
ensure the reliability



# Results of the Estimation Priors on the Artificial Dataset

## Results of the Estimation of Priors on the Test Sets

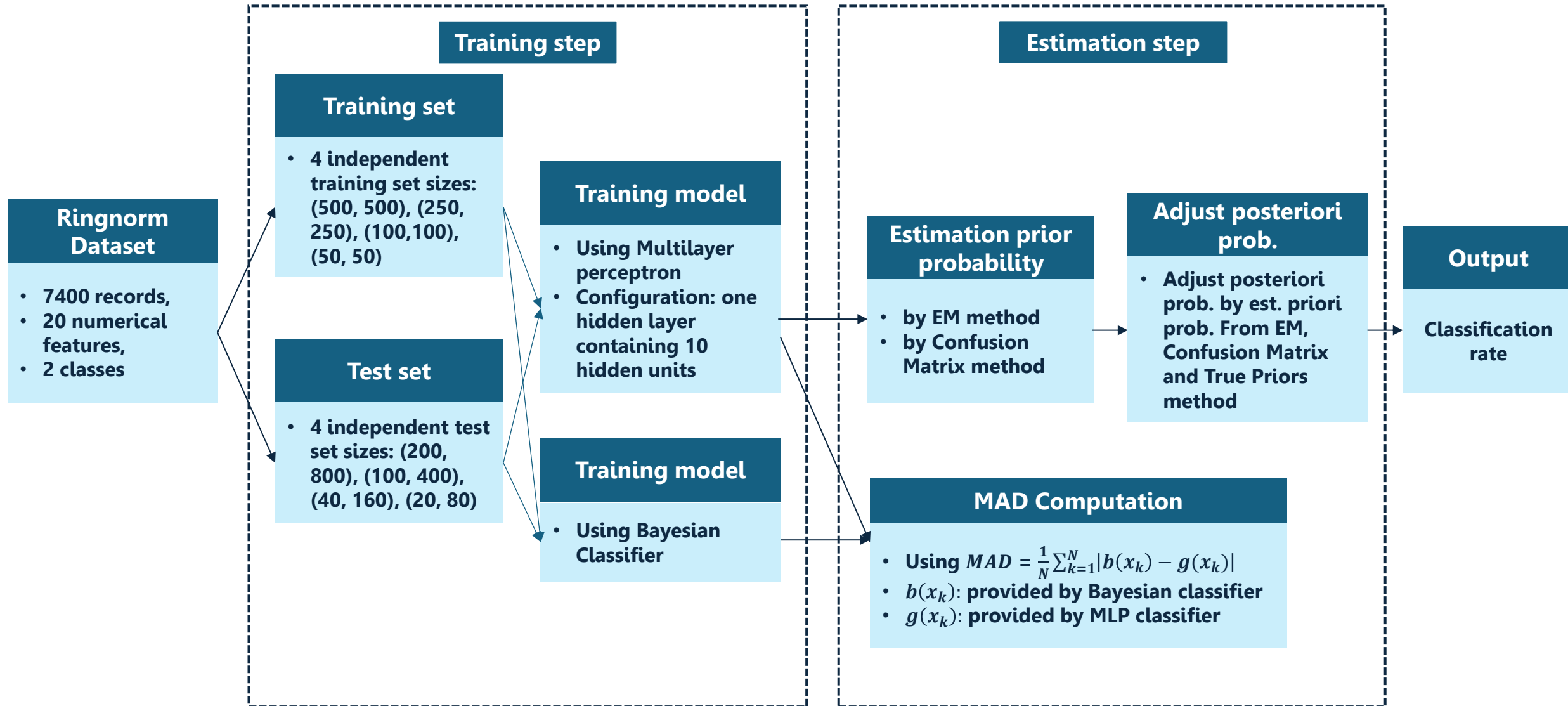


## Key Assessments

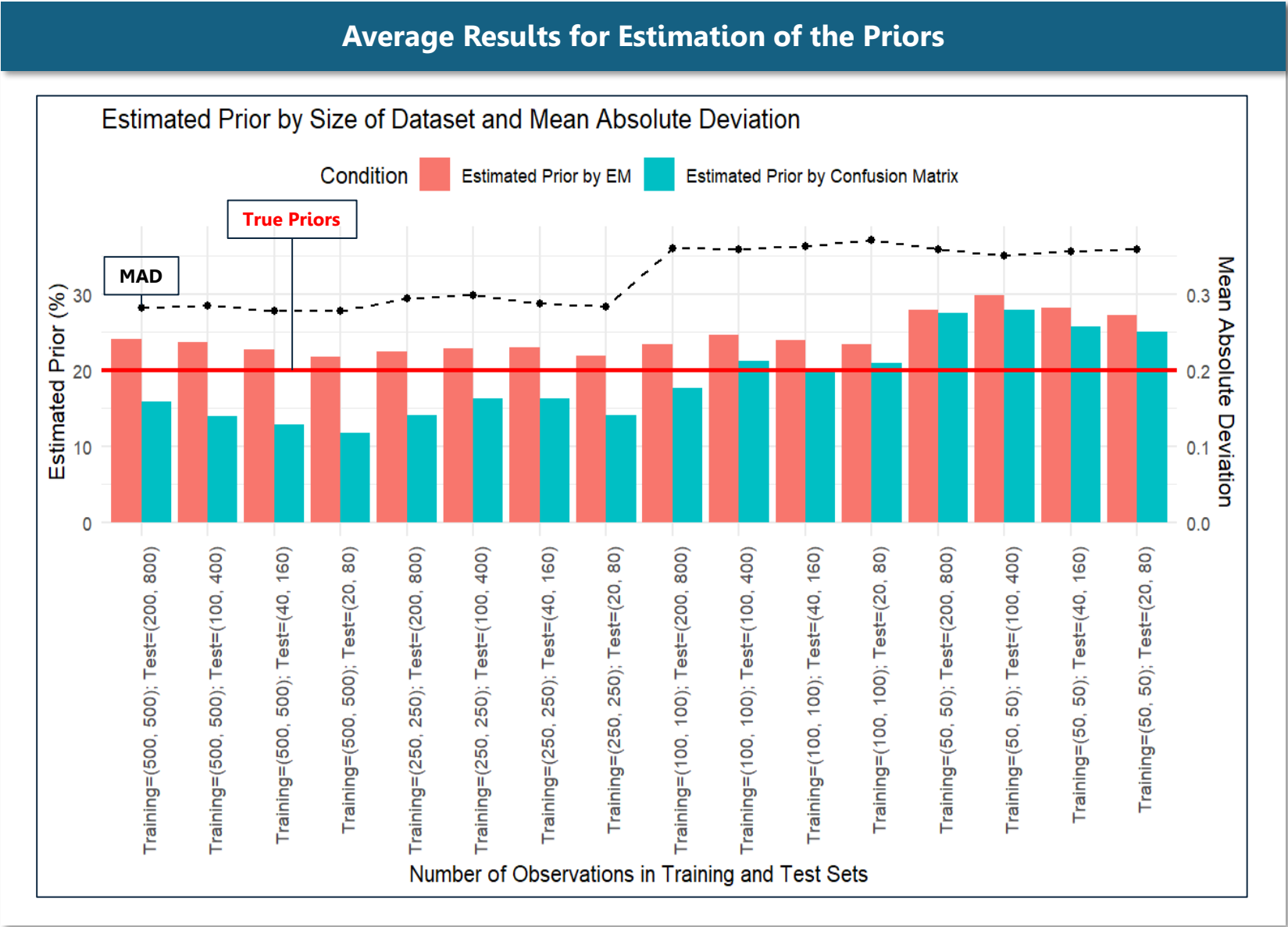
- Absolute Deviation =  $| \text{Estimated Prior} - \text{True Priors} |$
- The classification rates after adjustment by EM algorithm and the Confusion Matrix method were very close
- The Classification Rates after adjustment by EM, Confusion Matrix, True Priors always gave better results than No Adjustment. The EM algorithm provided results closer to the True Priors than Confusion Matrix except in the case True Priors = 10%, 20%, 30%

# Robustness Evaluation: Experimental Design

The experiment was  
replied 10 times to  
ensure the reliability



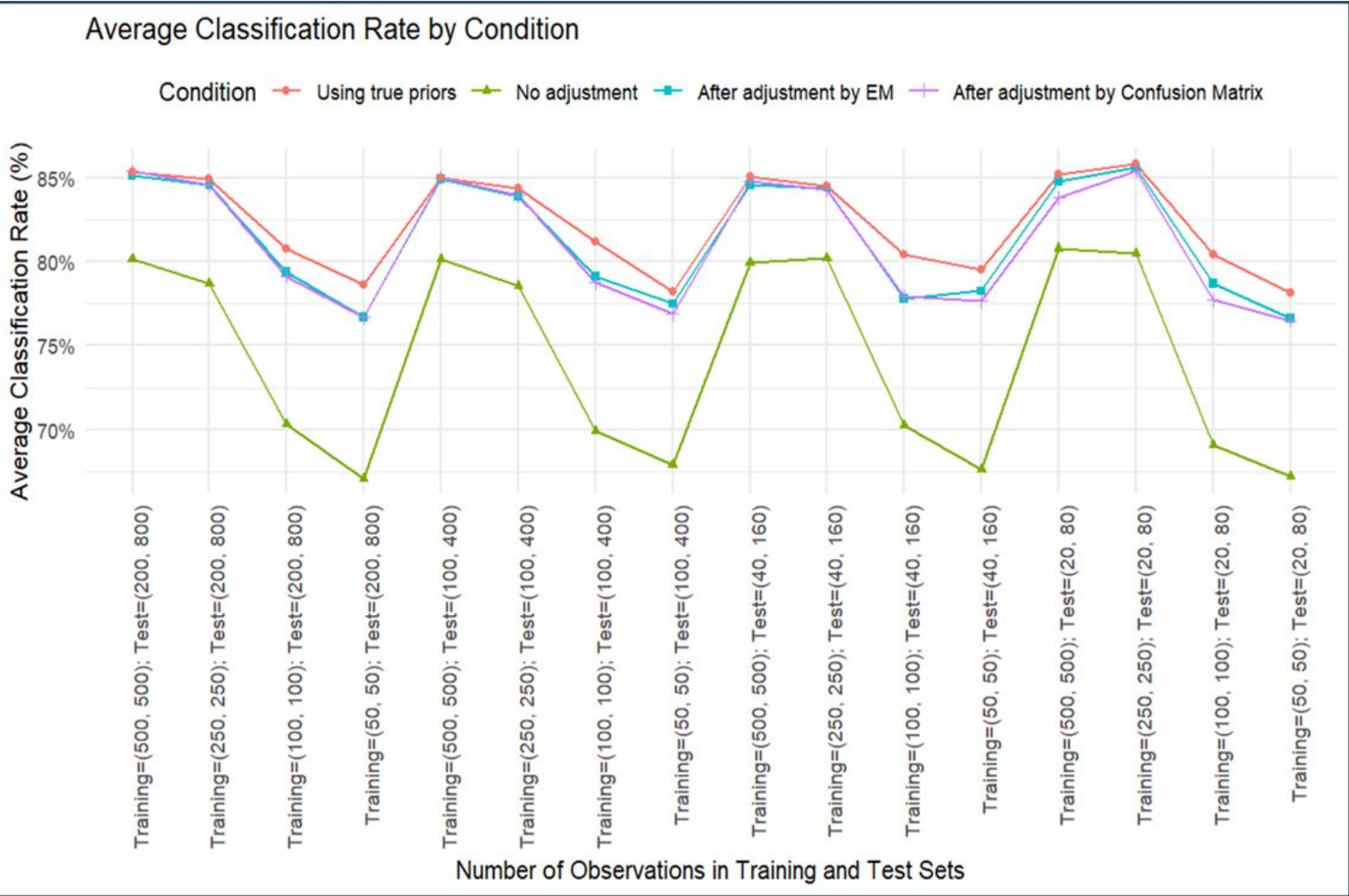
# Robustness Evaluation: Estimated Priors



Comments
<b>Key Assessments:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. At MAD, decreasing the training set size resulted in an increasing of MAD</li><li>2. In large training set size (500, 250), MAD were low. In contrast, small training set size (100, 50), MAD were higher than</li><li>3. At the large training set (500, 250), the estimated prior by EM gave closer results than the Confusion Matrix. However, in small training set (100, 50), the Confusion Matrix gave closer than EM</li><li>4. In both methods, with the same training set, the estimated priors showed a slight down trend as the test set size decreased</li><li>5. At the smallest training set (50), the estimated priors in both methods were higher than others.</li></ol>
<b>Conclusion:</b> decreasing size of test set seems to have few effects on the results

# Robustness Evaluation: classification rate before and after adjustment

Classification Rates obtained on the different Training and Test Sets



## Comments

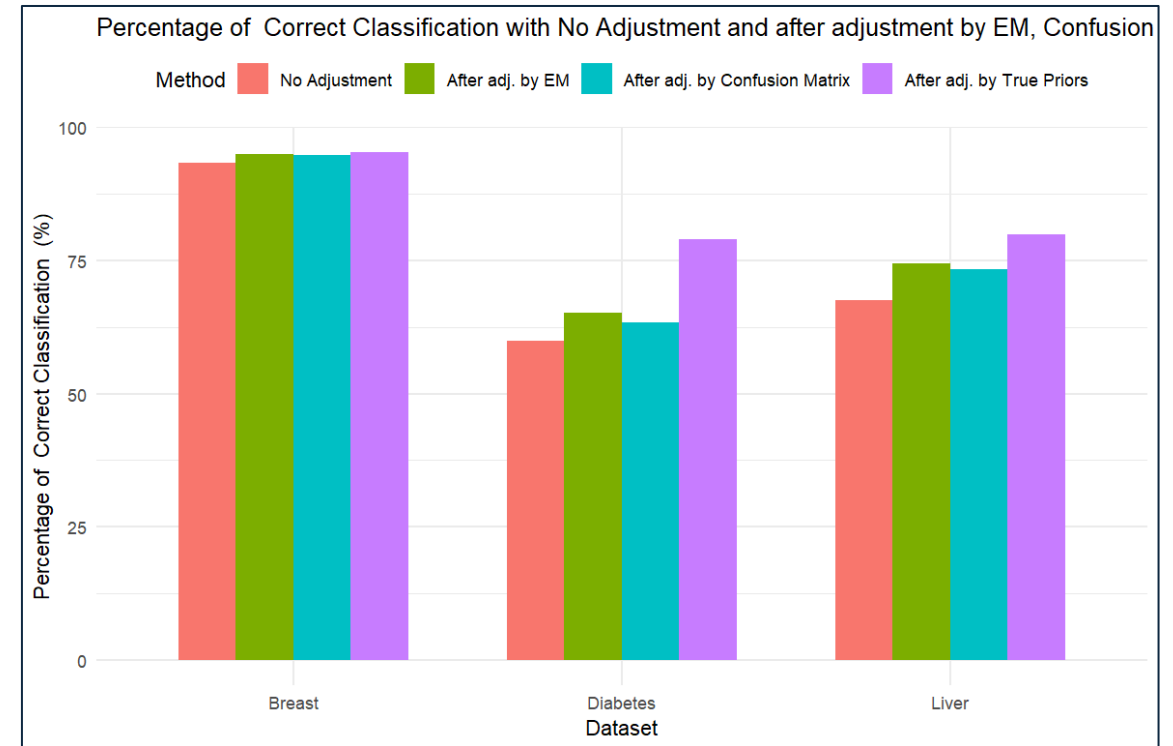
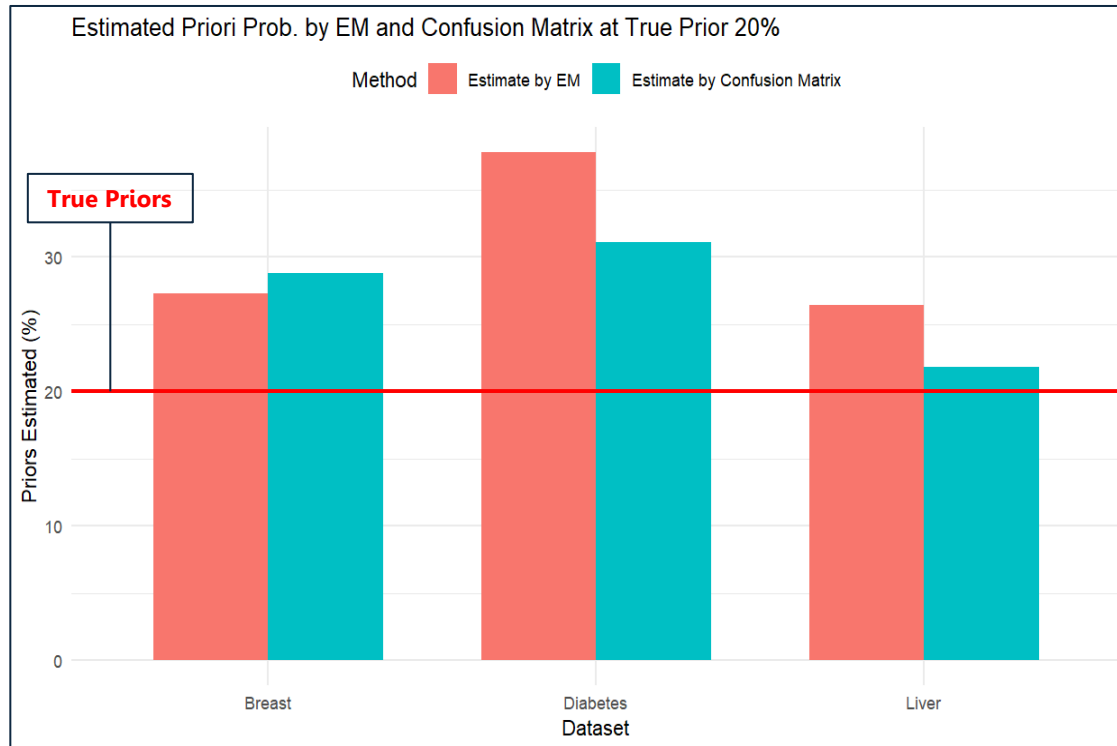
### Key Assessments:

1. There are the degradation in the classifier performances due to the decrease in the size of the training sets
2. The classification rates after adjustment in overall were always higher than no adjustment
3. The classification rates obtained after the adjustments by Confusion Matrix method were very close to those obtained with the EM method
4. The EM method always provided better results

**Conclusion:** Adjust the outputs of the classifier, the classification rate will be increased significantly

# Tests on Real Data: a Priori Estimation And Output Readjustment Method

## Classification Results on Three Real Data Sets



### Key assessment

- The Confusion Matrix prior estimates were better than the EM (except for the Breast dataset)
- At Classification rates, the rate after adjustment by the EM were always higher than the Confusion Matrix

**Conclusion:** Adjust the classifier outputs based on the new prior probabilities improved classification rates and accuracy, approaching the results obtained when using True Priors for output adjustment

# Conclusion

## Findings

### 1 Priori Estimation

- The EM method is able to provide good estimation of the new a priori probabilities

### 2 Classification rate

- The classifier with adjusted output always give better results than the original one
- The classification performances after adjustment by EM give results close to the results obtained by using the true priors
- The adjustments made by EM and Confusion Matrix method give same effect on the accuracy improvement

### 3 Robustness evaluation

- Decreasing size of test set seems to have few effects on the results of estimated priori
- The estimates from EM method gives more robust than Confusion Matrix

## Limits

### 1 Training model

- The experimental test applied on the simple MLP model. It causes the outputs may not be optimized

### 2 Dataset

- In the real dataset, we only apply in Medical problem. We could expand more to geographical, image processing problems

### 3 Output

- The output of group differ slightly from the numerical results in the paper. But in general, we highlighted key finding that the authors studied

Thanks for your listening