

Part 1 – Questions, Chapter 4

18. +, - classes with half training and half for testing.

- a. Equal number of + and - instances. Decision Tree predicts every test instance to be positive. Thus, it is expected to misclassify half of the instances so the expected error rate is **0.50**
- b. Predicts positive with 0.8 probability, and negative with 0.2 probability. Equal number of + and -, thus $N/2$ are true positive and $N/2$ are true negative. With N being the number of test instances.
20% of the $N/2$ true positive can be misclassified as negative. $(1 - 0.8)$
80% of the $N/2$ true negative can be misclassified as positive. $(1 - 0.2)$
So $(0.20 * N/2 + 0.8 * N/2) / N = (N/2) / N = 0.5$.
Thus, the expected error rate is **0.50**.
- c. $2/3$ positive and $1/3$ negative in the data. Decision tree predicts every test instance to be positive. Thus, it is expected to misclassify $1/3$ of the instances so the expected error rate is **$1/3$** .
- d. Predicts positive with $2/3$ probability, and negative with $1/3$ probability. $2N/3$ are true positive and $1N/3$ are true negative.
 $1/3$ of the $2N/3$ true positive can be misclassified as negative. $(1 - 2/3)$
 $2/3$ of the $1N/3$ true negative can be misclassified as positive. $(1 - 1/3)$
So $(1/3 * 2N/3 + 2/3 * 1N/3) / N = (2N/9 + 2N/9) / N = (4N/9) / N = 4/9$
Thus, the expected error rate is **$4/9$** .