This is simply achieved in the proposed heuristic algorithm by sorting the ensemble partitions in descending order of their entropies,  $H(C^i)$ , select the first partition as the initial reference and then aggregate the remaining partitions in the sorted order.

An important feature that is achieved as a by-product of the proposed adaptive algorithm is that the aggregated partition becomes invariant of the order of the input partitions and of the initial partition, unlike the Vote algorithm. This invariability is a generally desirable property for an aggregation algorithm and it also saves the extra computations required to enhance the cVote algorithm by performing multiple passes. The steps of the Ada-cVote algorithm are outlined in Algorithm 3.

## Algorithm 3 Ada-cVote

```
Function \bar{\mathbf{U}} = \text{I-cVote}(\mathcal{U})
```

- 1: Re-order  $\mathcal{U}$ , s.t.  $\mathbf{U}^i$  are sorted in decreasing order of  $I(C^i;X)$  ( $\equiv H(C^i)$  for hard partitions)
- 2: Assign  $\mathbf{U}^1$  to  $\mathbf{U}^0$ .
- 3: for i = 2 to b do
- 4: Compute  $\mathbf{W}^i$  as given by Eq. 3.5.
- 5:  $\mathbf{V}^i = \mathbf{U}^i \mathbf{W}^i$
- 6:  $\mathbf{U}^0 = \frac{i-1}{i}\mathbf{U}^0 + \frac{1}{i}\mathbf{V}^i$
- 7: end for
- 8:  $\bar{\mathbf{U}} = \mathbf{U}^0$ .

## 4.2.3 Simulation Results

In this section, cVote and Ada-cVote are compared for the partition generation models described in Ch. 3. The two algorithms are compared by evaluating the obtained I(C; X) and  $MSE(\bar{\mathbf{U}}; \{\mathbf{U}_i\}_{i=1}^b)$  for the aggregated partitions. Furthermore, the error rates  $Err^*$  are compared in the case of uniform ensembles to investigate if the adaptive aggregation may reduce the error rate for cVote, which tends to perform poorly for this type of ensemble, especially as  $p_e^i$  increases (as observed in Ch. 3). Finally, the adaptive aggregation is applied to the bipartite matching