



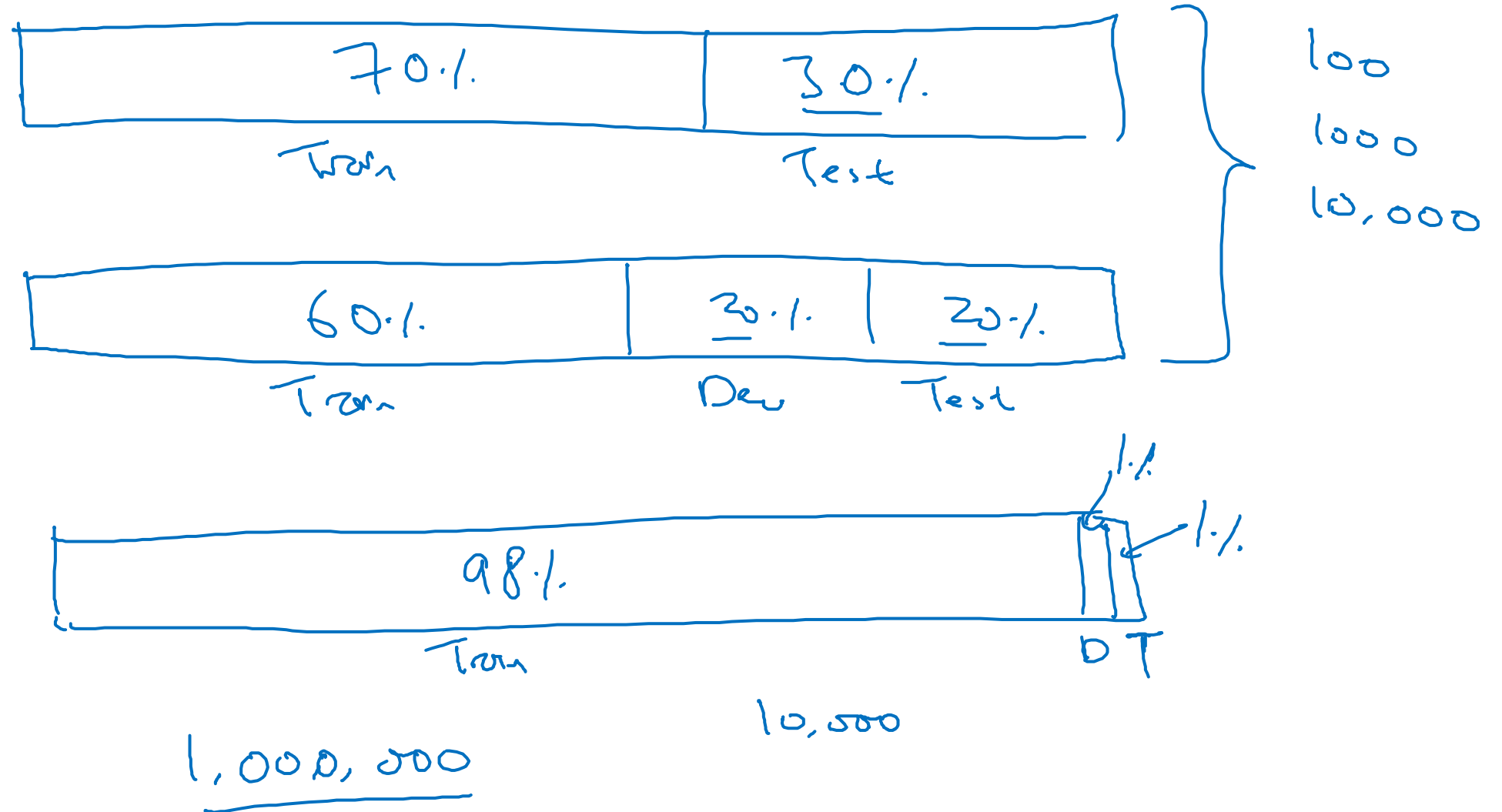
deeplearning.ai

Setting up  
your goal

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Size of dev  
and test sets

# Old way of splitting data



# Size of dev set

A B

Set your dev set to be big enough to detect differences in  
algorithm/models you're trying out.

100 : small  
└ 1%

1,000

10,000

100,000

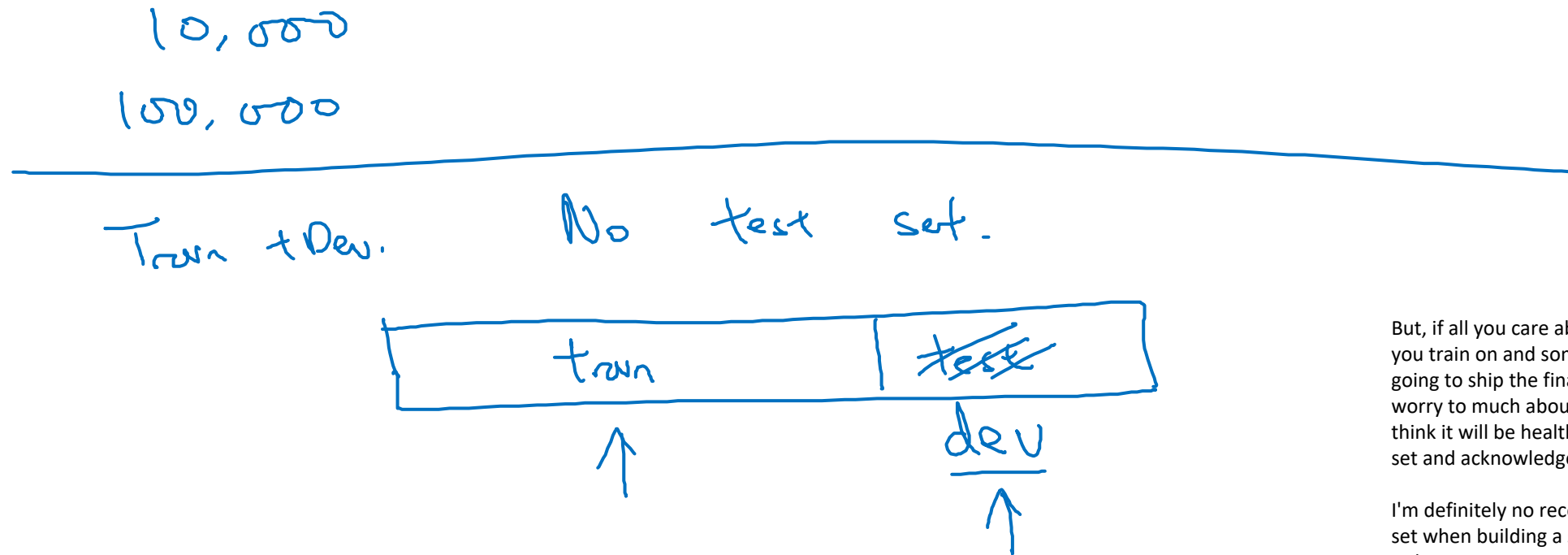
<sup>A</sup> 97% → <sup>B</sup> 97.1%  
0.1%  
└

0.01%  
└  
0.001%

Online advertising

# Size of test set

→ Set your test set to be big enough to give high confidence in the overall performance of your system.



The purpose of test set is to help you evaluate your final cost bias, so you just have to set your test set big enough for that purpose and that could be much less than 30% of the data.

But, if all you care about is having some data that you train on and some data to tune to, and you just going to ship the final system regardless and not worry to much about how it was actually doing, I think it will be healthy and just call it the train dev set and acknowledge that you have no test set.

I'm definitely no recommending not having a test set when building a system. I do find it reassuring to have separate test set, you can use to get an unbiased estimate of how well the performance should be.