

Lab Class IR**Exercise 1 : Datasplits**

When training and evaluating a ranking model, the dataset is usually separated into three “splits”, **train-**, **test-**, and **validation split**.

- (a) What is each of these splits used for?
- (b) Why is the data split?
- (c) Why do we need to separate evaluation splits? That is, why do we need separate test- and validation splits?

Exercise 2 : Significance Testing

- (a) What is significance testing used for in the context of evaluating ranking models?
- (b) Imagine, you are comparing the effectiveness of many ranking models for statistical significance. For three of these, Student's t-test expresses statistical significance. Can you reject the null hypothesis for these models?

Exercise 3 : Hypothesis Testing

You tested your hypothesis: “*On english text, removing all vowels from queries and documents after stemming does not decrease ranking effectiveness in terms of nDCG@5.*” and get an effectiveness degradation of 0.12. Student's t-test gives you a p -value of $p = 42\%$.

- (a) What is the null hypothesis?
- (b) What is your result? Can you accept or reject the null hypothesis?

Exercise 4 : Vocabulary vs. Terminology

Explain the difference between a “vocabulary” and a “terminology”.