

# Building Sentiment Analysis Systems in Python

---

## IDENTIFYING APPLICATIONS OF SENTIMENT ANALYSIS



**Vitthal Srinivasan**

CO-FOUNDER, LOONYCORN

[www.loonycorn.com](http://www.loonycorn.com)

# Overview

**Recognise applications of sentiment analysis**

**Frame sentiment analysis as a binary classification problem**

**Contrast ML-based and rule-based approaches to sentiment analysis**

# Sentiment Analysis Introduced

---

# Changing Patterns of Online Behavior



**“Surf/Browse”**  
c. 1990 - c. 2000



**“Search-Find-Obtain”**  
c. 2000 - c. 2008



**“Share-Discover”**  
c. 2008 - Present



**“Share-Discover”**

c. 2008 - Present

**Always online**

**Share with network**

**Discover through network**

**Stream of online opinions**

# Opinions Contain Information



**Reviews**



**Tweets and Posts**



**Messages**



**Swipes**



**Data Analyst**

**Collect opinions**

**Extract information from them**

**Act on that information**

# Changing Patterns of Online Behavior



## Collect Opinions

Scrape/harvest  
comments, articles,  
tweets...



## Extract Information

This is **sentiment  
analysis**



## Act

Buy/sell stocks, target  
advertising spend,...





**Collect Opinions**

**Researchers use public datasets**

**Companies use proprietary data**

**Scrapers use media signals**

**“Big Data”**

**Unstructured data**



**Extract Information**

**Tag data item with values for sentiments**  
**One/more categorical data series created**  
**Analyse categorical data**

# Extract Information

**Data item to  
analyse**

Tweet, email, message,  
review, ...

**Sentiment  
identified**

“Positive”,  
“Negative”, “Neutral”

**Categorical  
variable**

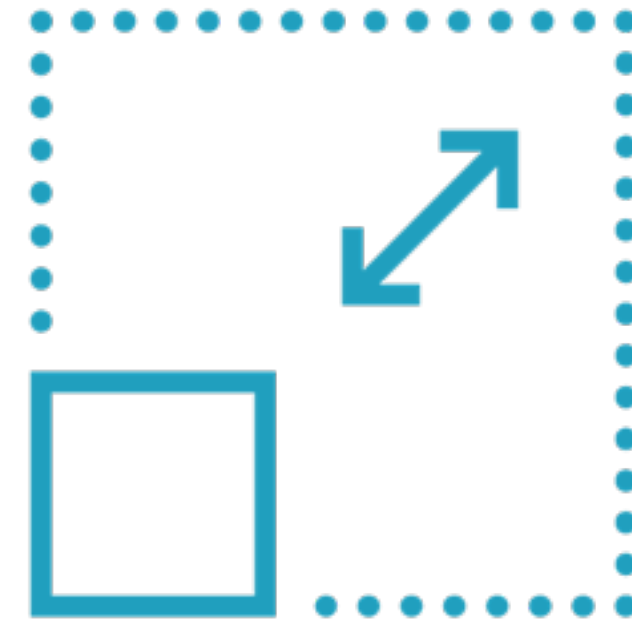
+1, 0, -1

# Analysing Categorical Sentiment Data



**Logistic Regression**

Relationships between  
variables



**Quadrant Analysis**

Clusters of data with similar  
characteristics



**Act**

**Trade financial markets**

**Change or reallocate ad budgets**

**Tailor electoral strategy**

**Decide product recall strategies**

# Applications of Sentiment Analysis

---

# Changing Patterns of Online Behavior



## Collect Opinions

Scrape/harvest  
comments, articles,  
tweets...



## Extract Information

This is **sentiment  
analysis**



## Act

Buy/sell stocks, target  
advertising spend...

# Sentiment Analysis in Event-Driven Trading

Analyst Sentiment  
Before Earnings

Company Earnings,  
versus Forecast


Exceeded  
Forecast

Missed  
Forecast

Negative

Positive



# Sentiment Analysis in Event-Driven Trading



**Company Earnings Releases**

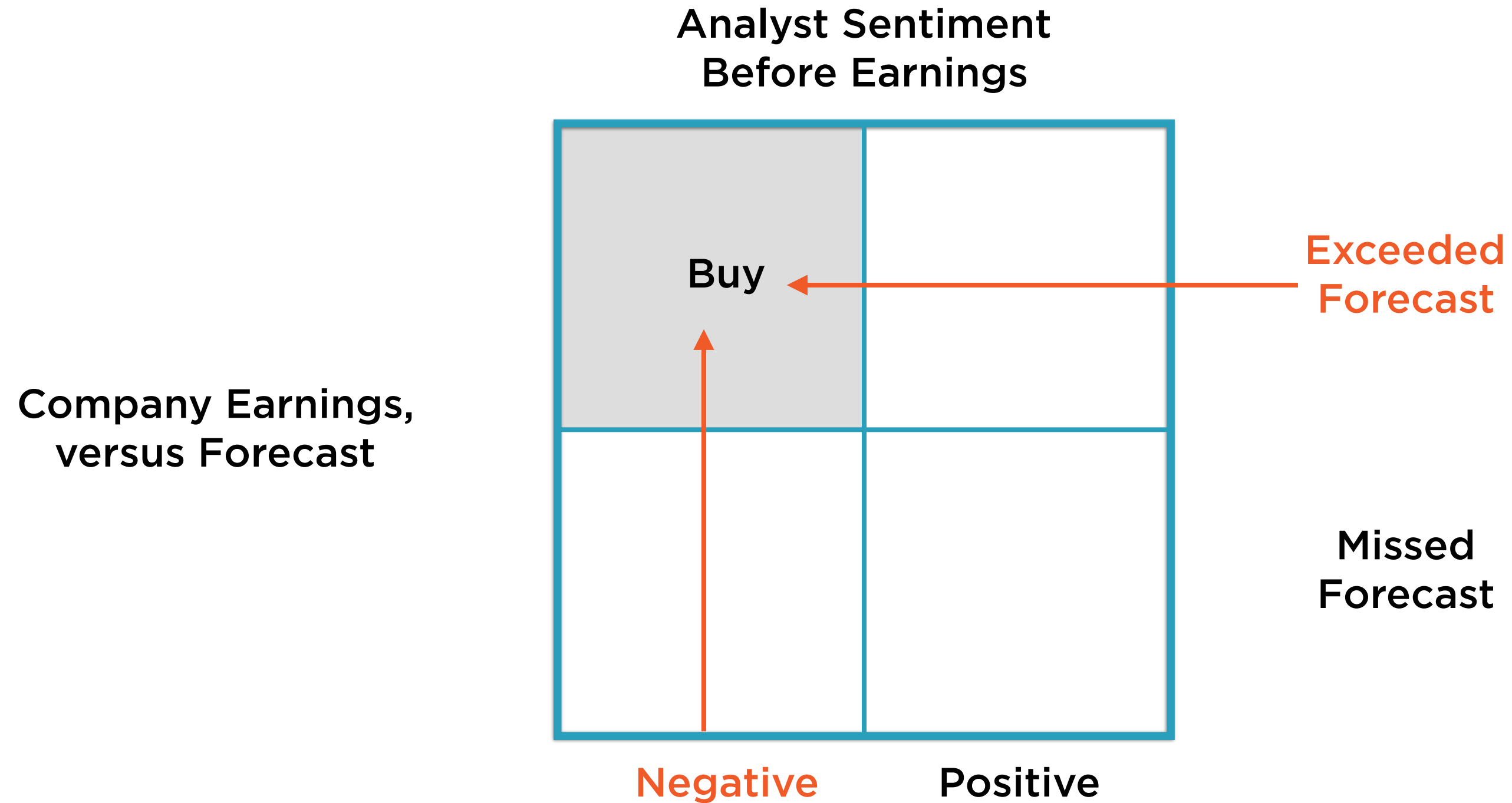
Better or worse than analyst  
expectations?



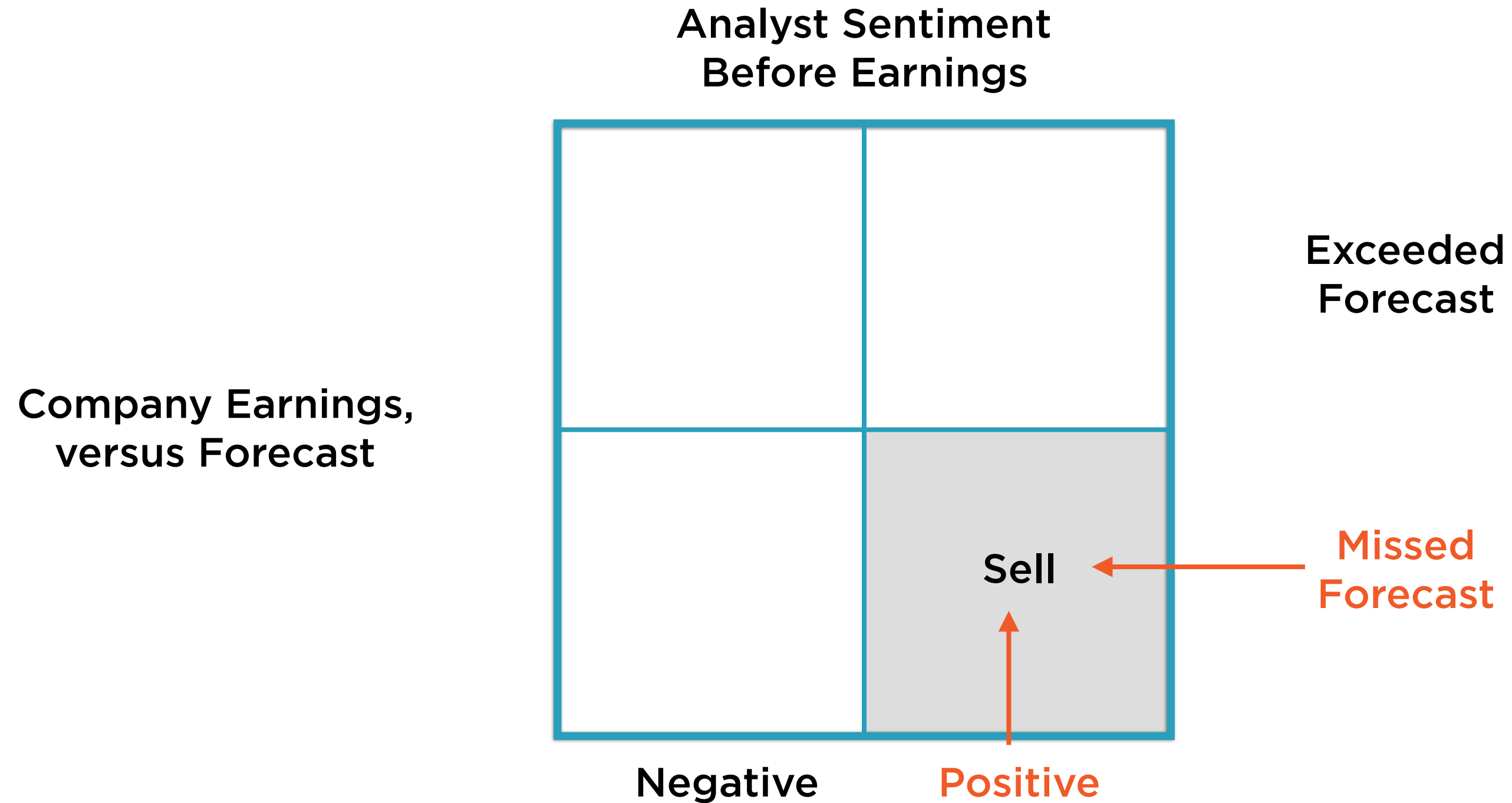
**Financial Traders**

Buy or sell?

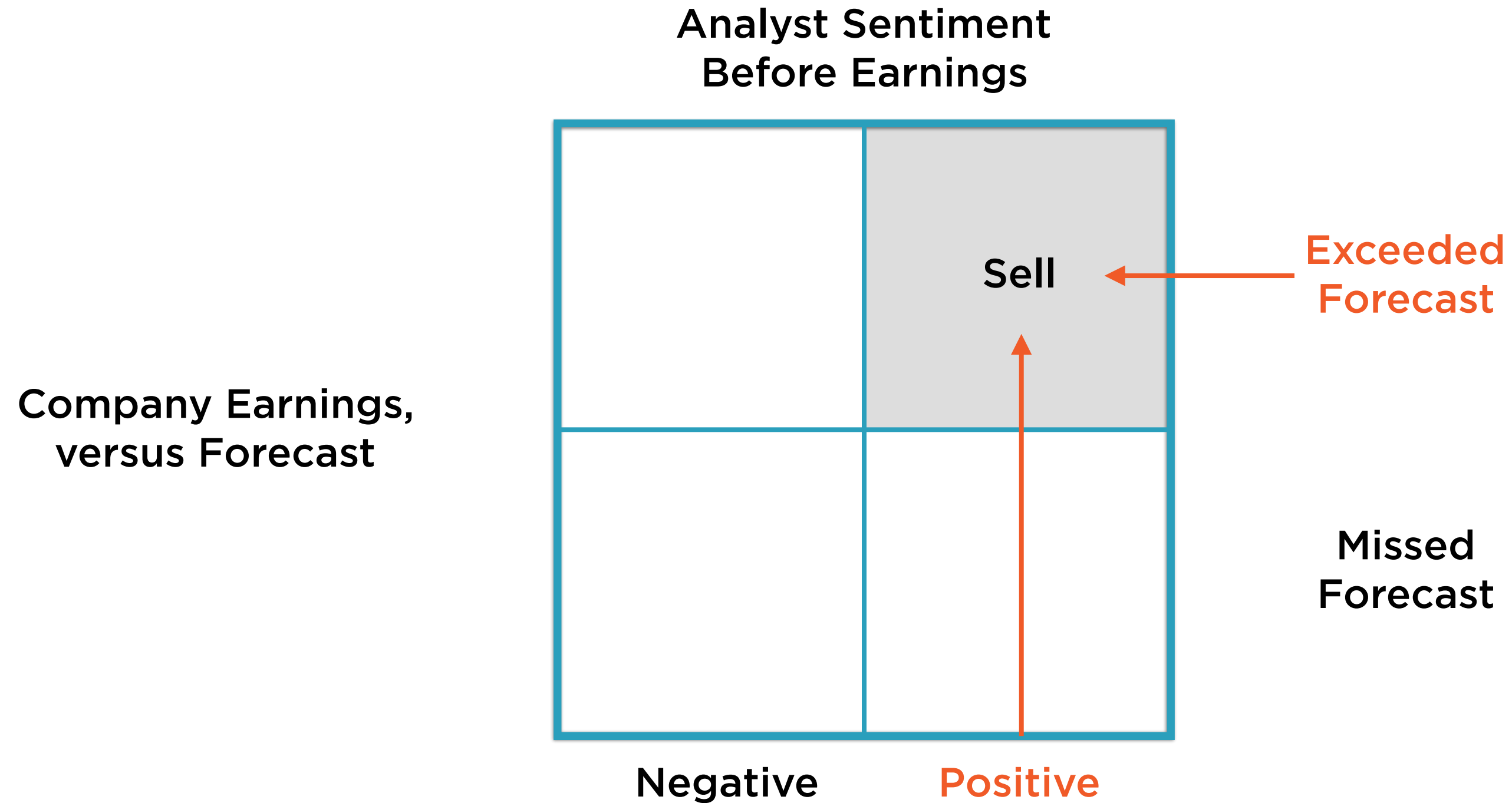
# Sentiment Analysis in Event-Driven Trading



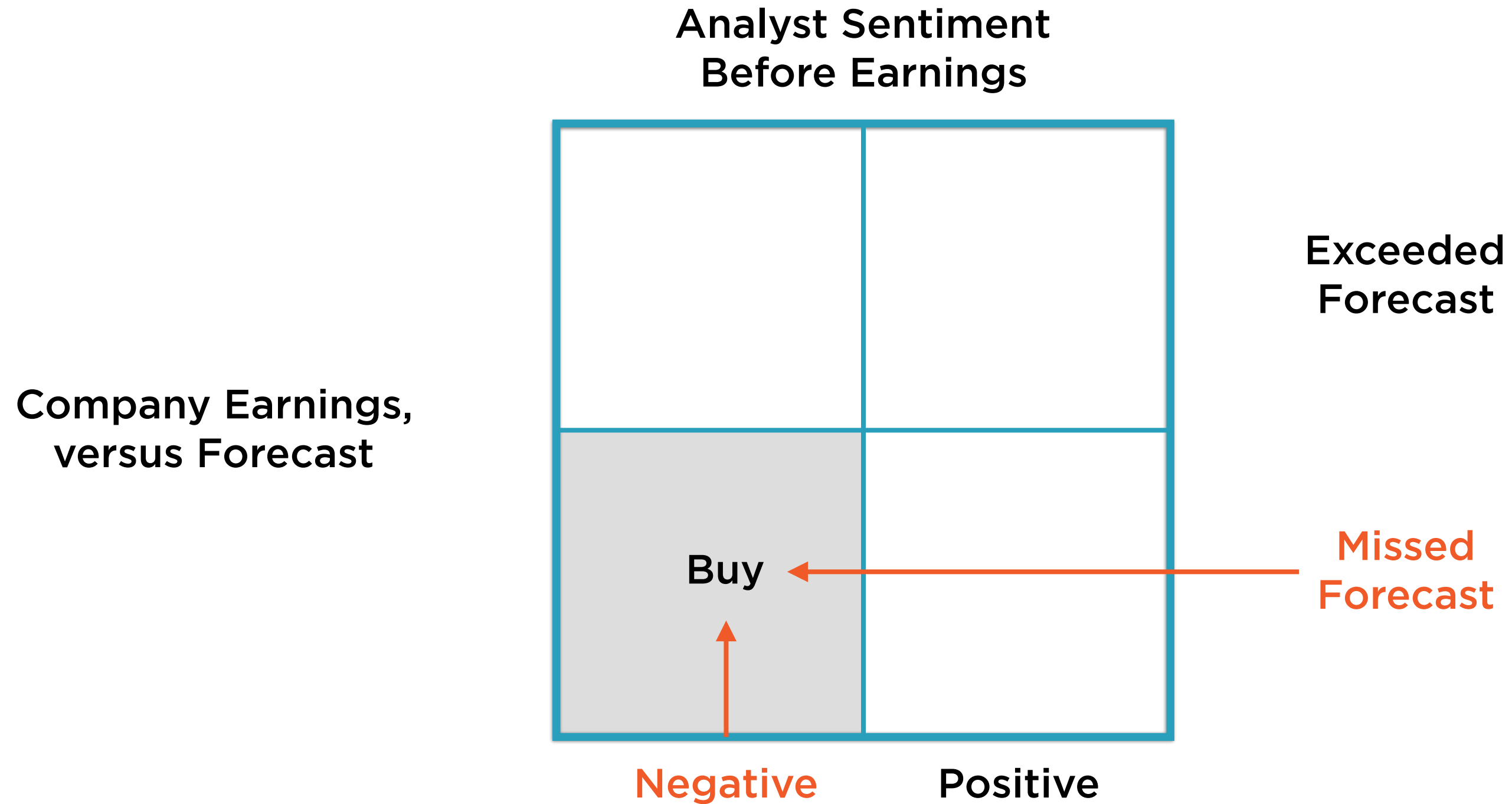
# Sentiment Analysis in Event-Driven Trading



# Sentiment Analysis in Event-Driven Trading



# Sentiment Analysis in Event-Driven Trading



# Insight: “Buy the Rumor, Sell the News”

## Buy the rumor

If market sentiment was negative,  
buy even if earnings are poor

## Sell the news

If market sentiment was positive,  
sell even if earnings are great

# Sentiment Analysis in Customer Satisfaction



**User Messages on Learning Platform**

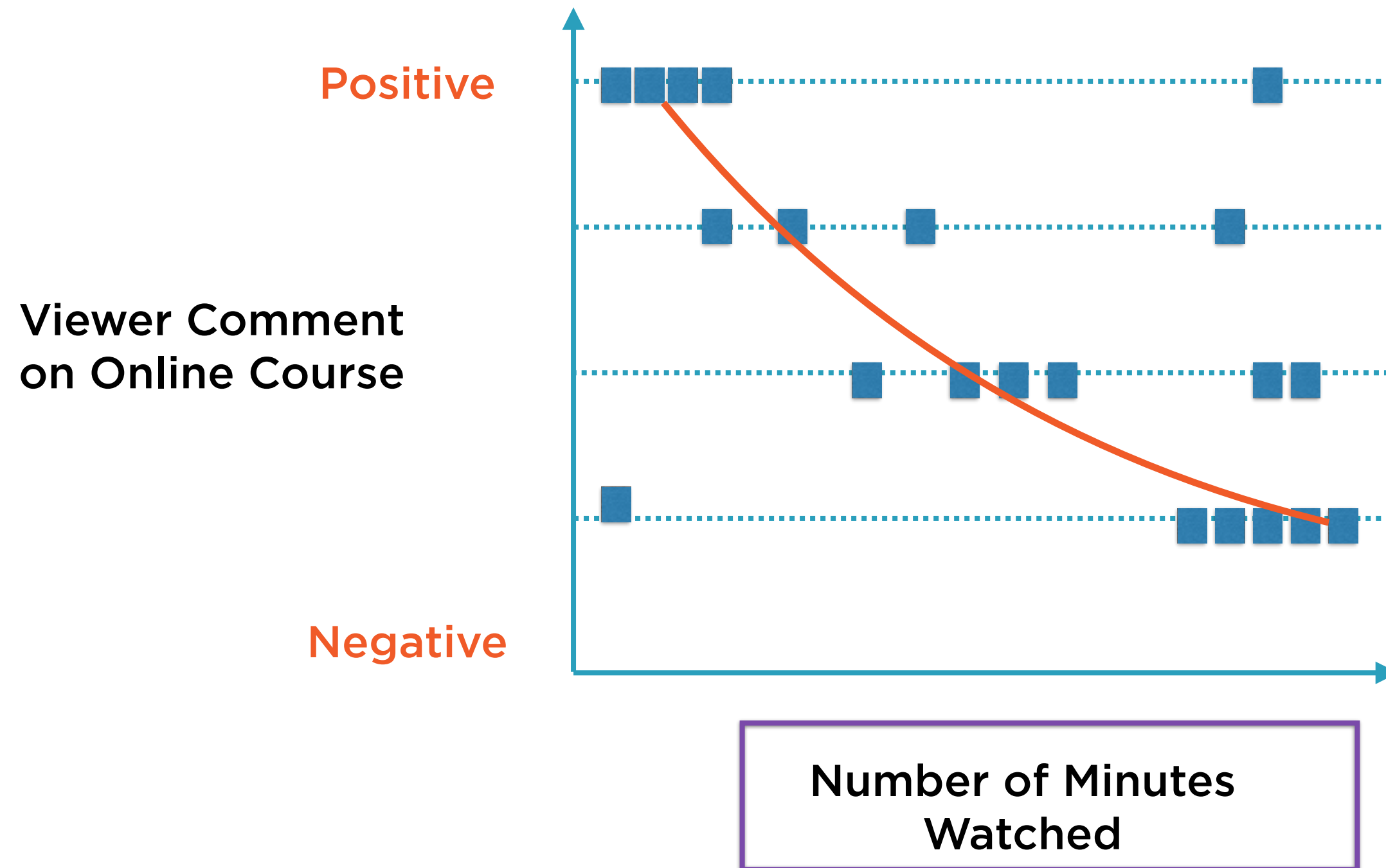
**Irritated or satisfied?**



**Minutes Watched of Online Content**

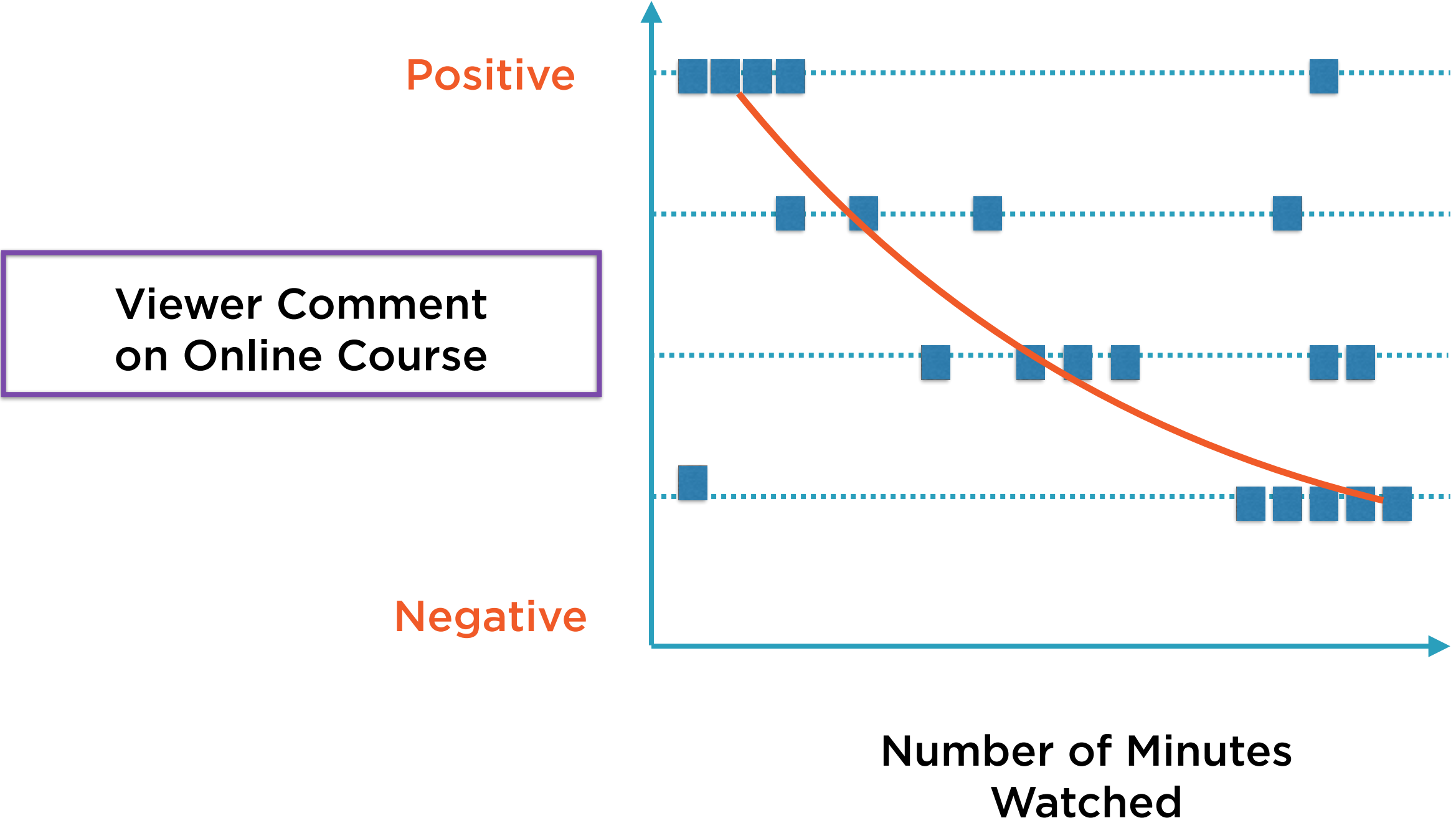
**Engaged or checked out?**

# Sentiment Analysis in Customer Satisfaction

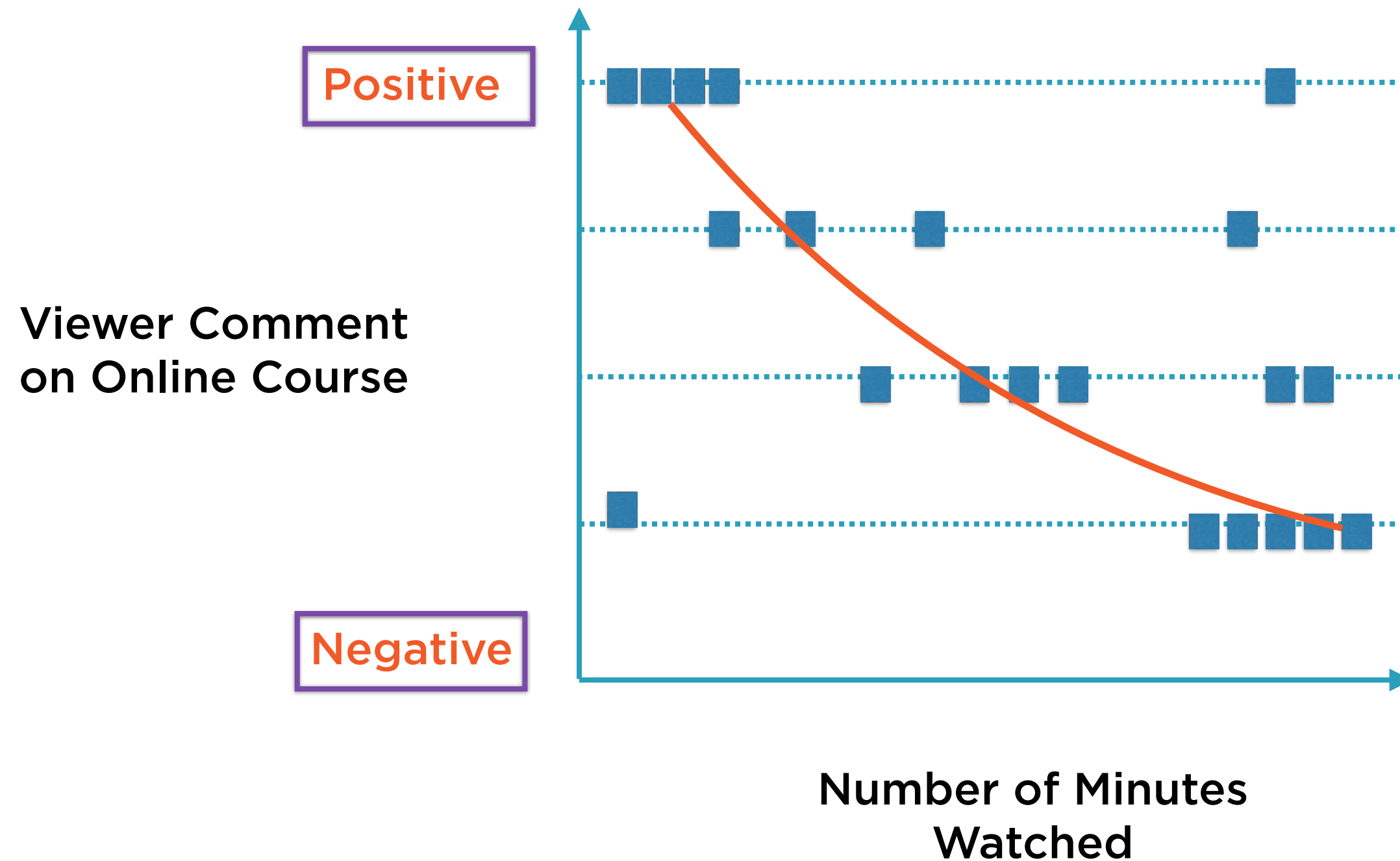




# Sentiment Analysis in Customer Satisfaction



# Sentiment Analysis in Customer Satisfaction



# Insight: Fix the Finish

## **Strong start**

The module starts well and makes a strong first impression

## **Weak finish**

The latter part of the course fails to hold viewer interest

# Polarity Detection for Sentiment Analysis

---

# Sentiment Analysis Systems

## Polarity

Positive or negative?

## Subjectivity

Subjective or objective?

## Aspects

Part or whole?

# Opinions Are Very Complex



But sentiment analysis need not be  
(if we set up the problem right)

# Either-or Decisions Are Simple



Human brains are very efficient at  
making **binary decisions**



## **Binary Decisions**

**Hot or not?**

**Buy or sell?**

**Fight or flight?**

**For or against?**



# Opinions Are Very Complex



Model sentiment analysis as a  
**Binary Classification** problem

# Binary Classification



**Positive**



**Not Positive**

Model sentiment analysis as a  
**Binary Classification** problem

# Binary Classification



**Positive**



**Not Positive**

Binary classification is a well-studied, well-understood problem



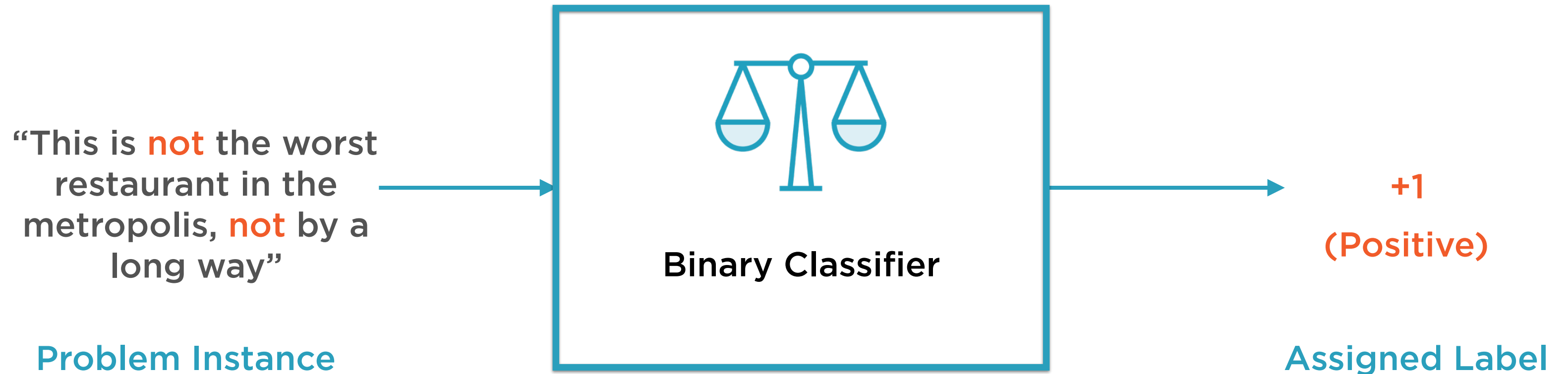
**Binary Decisions**

**Comment: Positive or negative?**

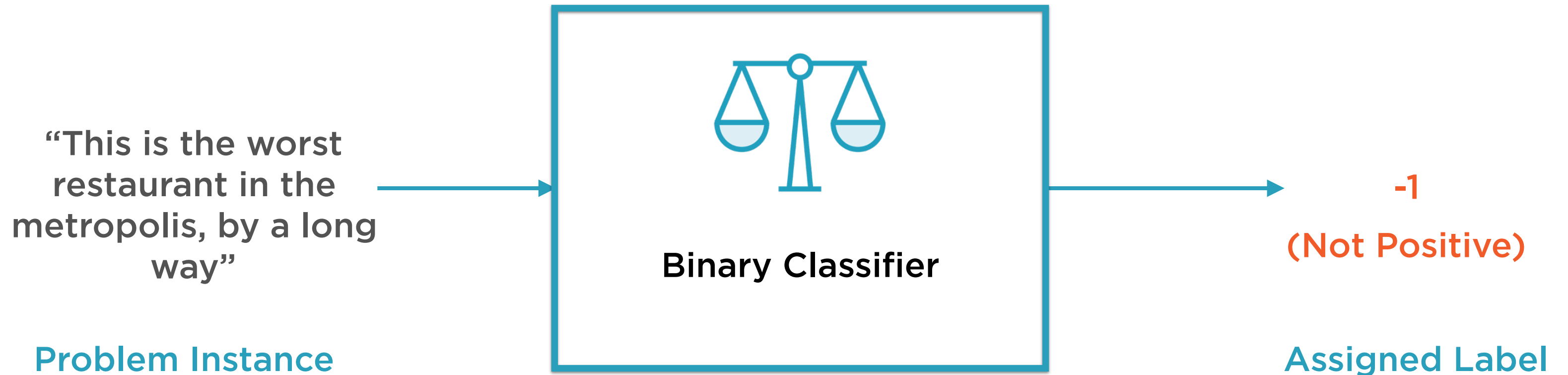
**Email: Spam or ham?**

**Transactions: Fraud or legit?**

# Sentiment Analysis as Binary Classification



# Sentiment Analysis as Binary Classification



# Sentiment Analysis as Binary Classification



# Setting up a Binary Classification Problem

---



“This is not the worst restaurant in the metropolis, not by a long way”

---

## Problem Instance

**The data item to be classified - usually unstructured text**

“This is ~~not~~ the worst restaurant in the metropolis, ~~not~~ by a long way”

---

## Problem Instance

**The data item to be classified - usually unstructured text**

“This is the worst restaurant in the metropolis, by a long way”

---

## Another Problem Instance

**The data item to be classified - usually unstructured text**

“This is not the worst restaurant in the metropolis, not by a long way”

(“This”, “is”, “not”, “the”, “worst”, “restaurant”, “in”, “the”, “metropolis”, “not”, “by”, “a”, “long”, “way”)

---

## Feature Vector: Word Tuple

**Any representation of the attributes of the problem instance is called a feature vector**

“This is not the worst restaurant in the metropolis, not by a long way”

{“This”:1, “is”:1, “not”:2, “the”:2, “worst”:1, “restaurant”:1, “in”:1, “metropolis”:1, “by”:1, “a”:1, “long”:1, “way”:1}

---

## Feature Vector: Word Frequency Set

**A different representation - setting up the feature vector correctly is quite a skill**

“This is not the worst restaurant in the metropolis, not by a long way”

$\{\text{"This":1, "is":1, "not":2, "the":2, "worst":1, "restaurant":1, "in":1, "metropolis":1, "by":1, "a":1, "long":1, "way":1}\}$

---

## Feature Vector: Word Frequency Set

**A different representation - setting up the feature vector correctly is quite a skill**

"This is not the worst restaurant in the metropolis, not by a long way"

{"not":2, "worst":1, "restaurant":1, "metropolis":1, "long":1, "way":1}

---

## Feature Vector: Stop Words Eliminated

**Yet another version, this one eliminates common words called stop words**

{Positive, Not Positive}

---

## Category Set

**The set with the two values - need to find which value applies to the problem instance**



$\{+1, -1\}$

---

## Categorical Variable Values

**Numeric values are often assigned to each category label - handy for use in logistic regression**

“This is not the worst restaurant in the metropolis, not by a long way”

Positive

---

Assigned Label

The category that the problem instance belongs to - as decided by the **classifier**

“This is the worst restaurant in the metropolis, by a long way”

Negative

---

Assigned Label

The category that the problem instance belongs to - as decided by the **classifier**

...

“This is not the worst restaurant in the metropolis, not by a long way”

“This is the worst restaurant in the metropolis, by a long way”

...

---

## Corpus

**A large number of data items, collectively available to the classifier**

# Rule-based and ML-based Binary Classifiers

---

# Sentiment Analysis as Binary Classification



The binary classifier is a function that takes in a problem instance, and assigns a label

# Binary Classifiers



## **Rule-based Classifiers**

Rules drawn up by experts are used to assign a label to problem instance



## **ML-based Classifiers**

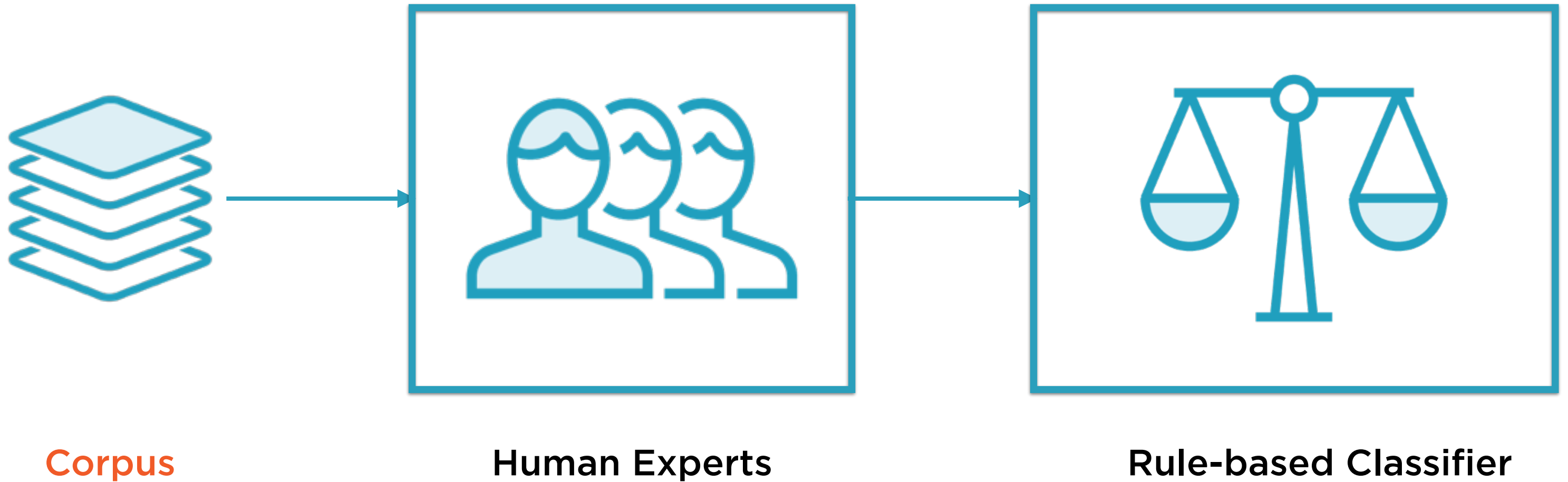
Label is assigned based on patterns displayed in aggregate data

# Rule-based Binary Classifier

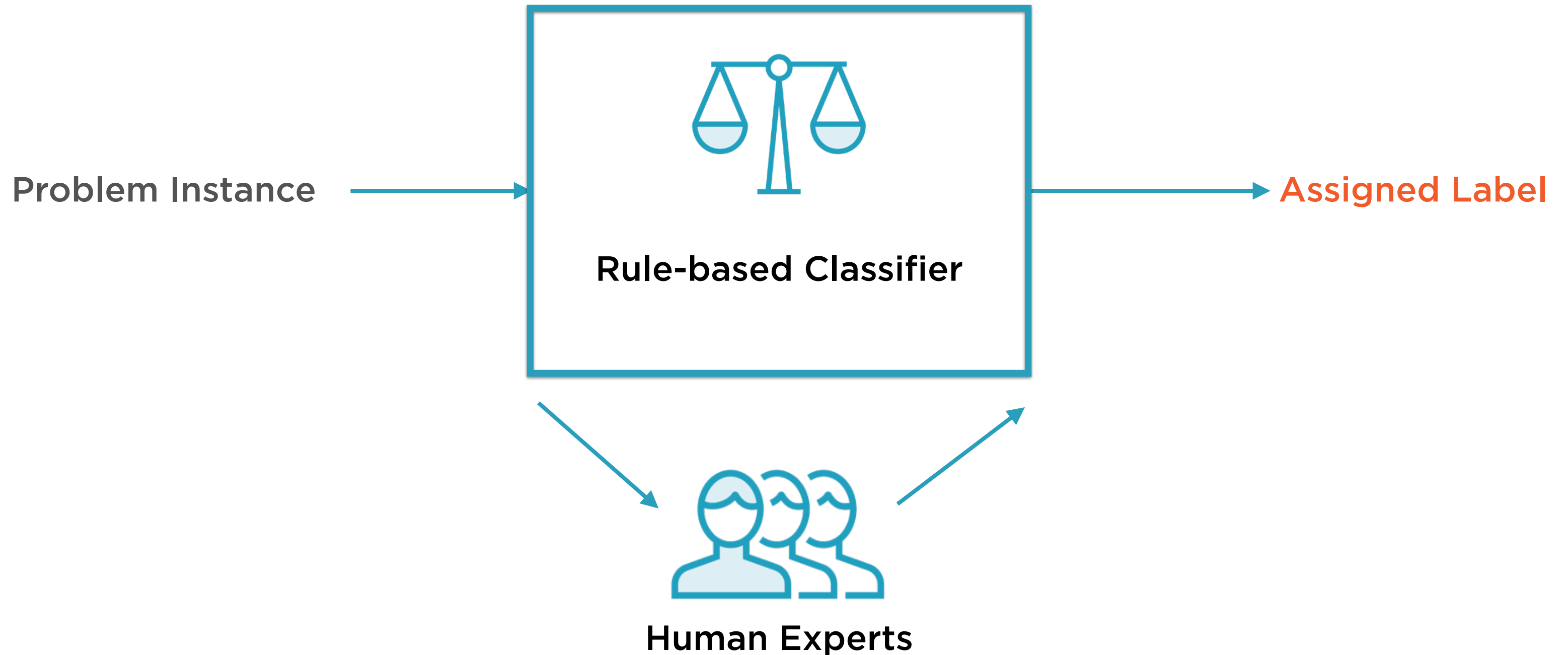




# Rule-based Binary Classifier



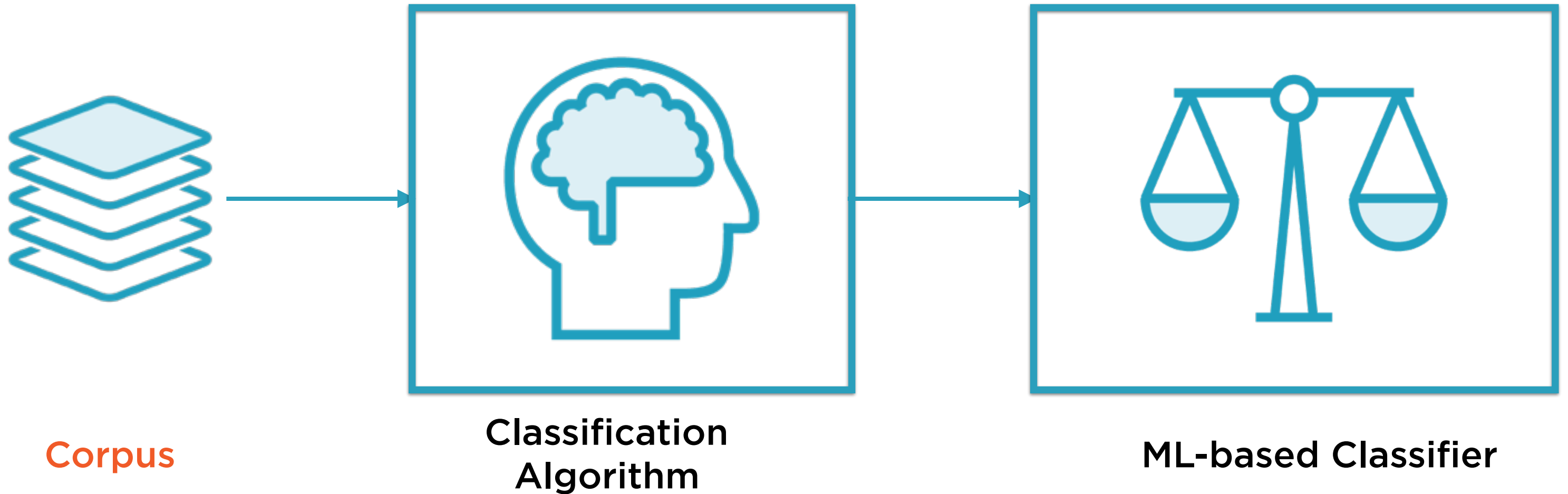
# Rule-based Binary Classifier



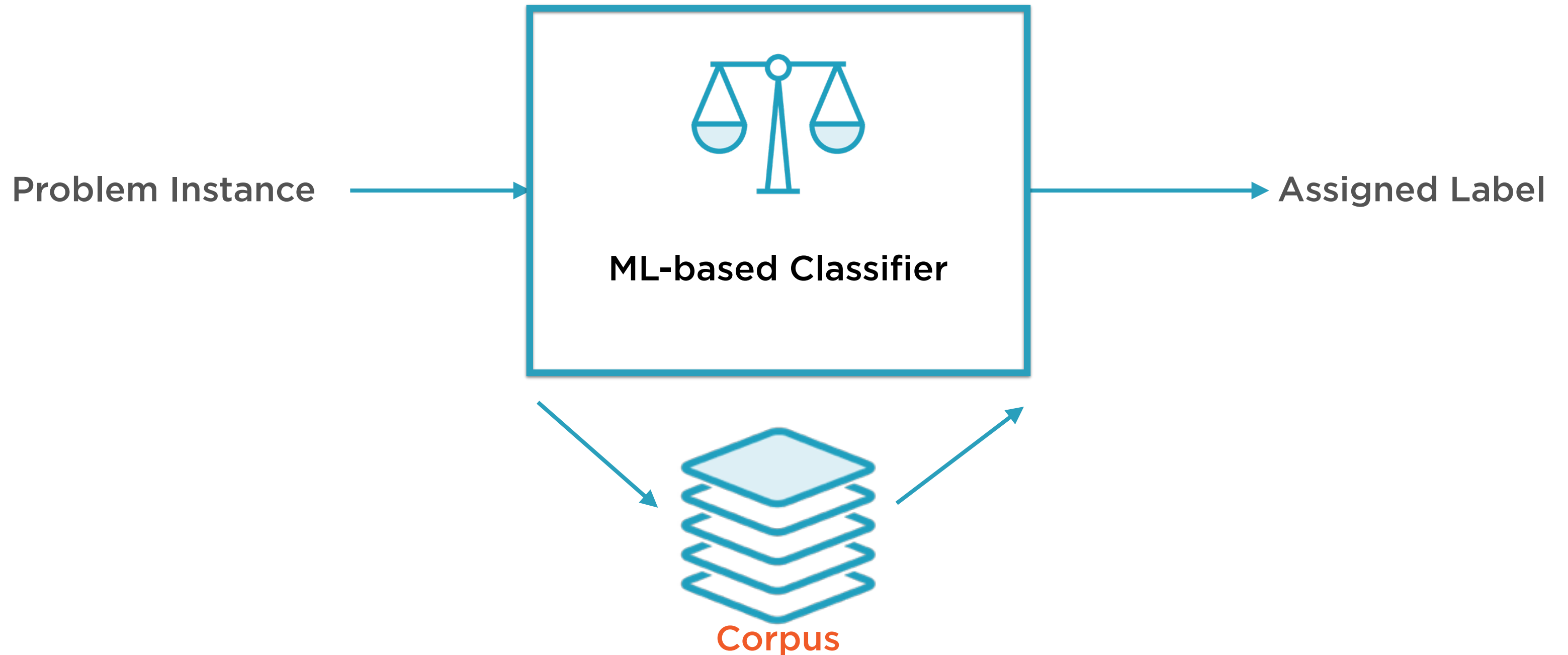
# ML-based Binary Classifier



# ML-based Binary Classifier



# ML-based Binary Classifier



# ML-based and Rule-based Classifiers

## ML-based

**Dynamic - alter output based on patterns in data**

**No need for expert skill**

**Corpus of data needed, cannot operate on isolated problem instance**

**To update classifier, update corpus**

**Might require an explicit 'training' step (depends on the ML technique employed)**

## Rule-based

**Static - rules are applied independent of data being analysed**

**Experts needed to formulate rules**

**Can operate on isolated problem instances**

**To update classifier, update rules**

**No training step required**

Rule-based classifiers can be  
just as complex and effective  
as ML-based ones

# Summary

**Sentiment analysis extracts information from opinions**

**Polarity detection is the commonest form of sentiment analysis**

**ML-based classifiers alter their working based on the data**

**Rule-based classifiers don't**