



Aalto University  
School of Science

# Utilisation of viewing statistics in video recording credits detection

Saskia Kivistö

Bachelor's thesis presentation

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# 1. Introduction

1. Introduction
2. User viewing behaviour data
3. Problem formulation and methods
4. Results

# 1. Introduction

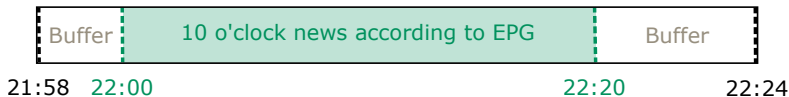
Goal of this thesis:

- ▶ Detect where recorded TV programs actually start and end
- ▶ by analysing patterns of user viewing behaviour

# 1. Introduction

The issue with recording TV programs:

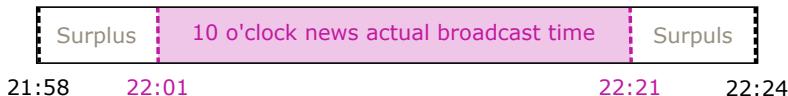
- ▶ TV programs are not usually broadcasted exactly according to electronic program guide (EPG)
- ▶ Timing recording by EPG can lead to program being recorded only partially
- ▶ Buffer can be added to ensure that whole program is recorded
- ▶ Example recording of 10 o'clock news:



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# 1. Introduction

- ▶ Goal: identify surplus content
- ▶ Why?
  - Its annoying to fast forward over surplus content
  - Surplus content consumes storage space

## 2. User viewing behaviour data

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## 2. User viewing behaviour data

Where does the user behaviour data come from?

- ▶ The NPVR service provider company I am working for
- ▶ NPVR  $\approx$  a normal video recorder
  - but the TV programs you record are stored in a cloud server instead of a device in your home



## 2. User viewing behaviour data

Why is the data collected?

- ▶ To monitor the user experience quality
  - smoothness of streaming etc.
  - with data related to the above, it can be calculated which parts of a recording were watched during a view, and which parts were fast forwarded

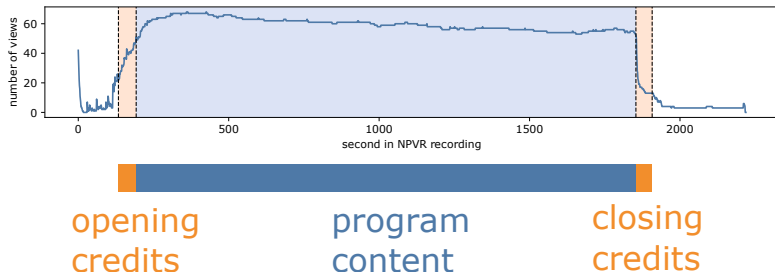
## 2. User viewing behaviour data

What the examined data actually is?

- ▶ For each view of any recording, it can be calculated which parts of the recording were watched during a view, and which parts were fast forwarded
- ▶ Users who record the same program will receive an identical recording
- ▶ User viewing behaviour data: sum of viewed parts for recordings of the same program

## 2. User viewing behaviour data

An example of the data



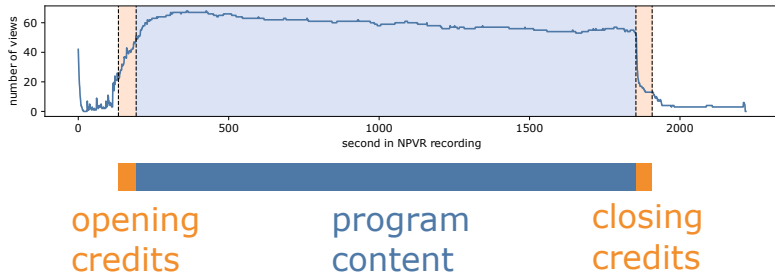
- Could credits be detected solely with this data?

# 3. Problem formulation and methods

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### 3. Problem formulation and methods

An example of the data



- ▶ Goal: try to find approximate location of credits

# 3. Problem formulation and methods

## Problem formulation

- ▶ Signal processing, offline change point detection
- ▶ Minimisation problem for the sum of costs of each segment (segments are divided by change points)
  - cost function
  - search method
- ▶ Python scientific library `ruptures` implements the above [1]

### 3. Problem formulation and methods

Cost function



$$\sigma^2 = 2,7$$

- **cost function**: variance, detects distribution mean shifts well

### 3. Problem formulation and methods

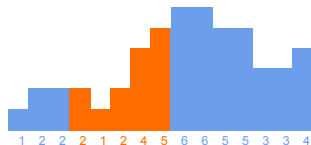
Cost function



$$\sigma^2 = 2,7$$

- ▶ **cost function**: variance, detects distribution mean shifts well
- ▶ **search method**: dynamic programming, produces optimal segmentation

Search method



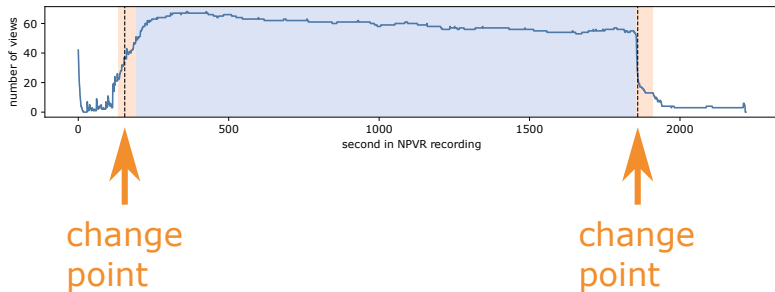


# 4. Results

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4. Results

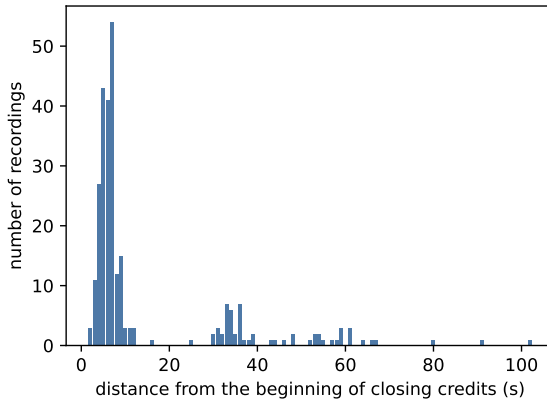
## 4. Results

Typical output



## 4. Results

Predicted change point distance from closing credits start



## 4. Results

Can credits be detected based solely on user viewing behaviour?

- ▶ Yes, for approximate location of credits
- ▶ No, for exact start or end of credits

# Thank you!

## References

[1] Truong, C. & Oudre, L. & Vayatis, N. Selective review of offline change point detection methods. Signal Processing. 2020, vol. 167. P. 107299. Available at: doi:10.1016/j.sigpro.2019.107299.