

ABSTRACT

5 This invention relates to the generation of synthetic
speech from conventional texts and in particular to the
step in which a text in graphemes is converted into a
text in phonemes. The grapheme text is analysed into
rimes and onsets and each word is analysed from the end
so that earlier occurring segments are at least
partially defined by the identification of later
10 occurring segments. It is a particular feature that an
internal string of consonants, ie. a string of
consonants preceded and followed by a vowel, is split
into two portions, namely a second portion which is
contained in a database of onsets and an earlier portion
15 which, together with the proceeding vowel or vowels, is
contained in a database of rimes.

