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ABSTRACT

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BT PATENT CASE A24529 (PRIORITY)

This invention relates to the generation of synthetic speech
5 and specifically to the production of a digital waveform from
a text in phonemes. The invention uses a linked database
which comprises an extended text in phonemes and its
equivalent in the form of a digital waveform. The two
10 portions of the database are linked by a parameter which
establishes equivalent points in both the phoneme text and
the digital waveform. The input text (in phonemes) is
analyzed to locate matching portion in the phoneme portion of
the database. This matching utilises exact equivalence of
15 phonemes where this is possible; otherwise relation between
phonemes is utilised. The selection process identifies input
phonemes in context whereby improved conversions are
obtained. Having analyzed the input text into matching
strings in the input form of the database beginning and
20 ending parameters for the sections are established. The
output text is produced by abutting sections of the digital
waveform and defined by the beginning and ending parameters.

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