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(54) Apparatus and method for changing the playback rate of recorded speech

(57) An apparatus (10) for changing the playback rate of recorded speech includes memory (16) storing a plurality of recorded speech messages and a plurality of feature tables (FT_1 to FT_N). Each feature table is associated with an individual one of the speech messages and includes speech frame parameters based on the jitter states of speech frames of the associated recorded speech message. A playback module (12) receives input specifying a recorded speech message in the memory (16) to be played and the rate at which the recorded speech message is to be played back. In response to the input, the playback module (12) uses a set of decision rules to modify the specified speech message based on the speech frame parameters in the feature table associated with the specified speech message and the specified playback rate, prior to playing back the specified speech message.

EP 1 426 926 A3