INTRODUCTION

Glottal stops are sounds produced by the closing and abrupt opening of the vocal folds. In German, glottal stops are frequent before word-initial vowels and are a salient word-linking technique. German speakers can transfer this word-linking habit to their English productions. Glottal stops should be acoustic modeled since:
- they are good indicators of word and morpheme boundaries and can improve ASR performance [1,2];
- automatic pre-segmentation of glottal stops is quite useful in basic phonetic research.

EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

A corpus of English BBC news bulletins read by German speakers was recorded and automatically segmented, with a total of 3 hours and 13 min duration (3094 words in 79 recording prompts).

The Unified Automatic Speech Recognition and Synthesis (UASR) system [3] was used for speech recognition.

RESULTS

376 automatic glottal stop labels were checked by an expert phonetician. Manual labels:
- absence of glottal stop: 0
glottal phenomena: G (glottal stop), CR (creaky voice), H (breathy voice), L (low fo).

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REFERENCES

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