

CHAPTER FOUR

Presentation and Analysis of Data

4.1 Introduction

This study has examined a series of anglicisms used in Spanish computer language with the purpose of attaining the objectives listed in chapter 1, as well as answering the research questions proposed in that same chapter. It is important at this point to revisit the objectives of this study:

- To identify the morphological patterns of verbal anglicisms used in Spanish computer language.
- To analyze the morphological adaptation of English loan words into the Spanish grammar system in terms of verbal derivations.
- To determine the morphological productivity of these anglicisms in contributing to Spanish neologisms in the field of computer language.

Keeping these aims in mind, the results of this study are presented in that particular order within the body of this chapter. In Chapter 5, this study looks at the findings and relates them to the research questions in order to verify whether the study was able to conceive proper answers for them.

4.2 Identification of features

When addressing the features found in these loan words, this study was able to identify morphological, as well as phonetic adaptations when the original English words were borrowed by the Spanish language.

In the morphological field, this study found that these loan blends have the common characteristic of being created by taking the verb in its English infinitive form, and adding a suffix to transform it into an equivalent word that complies with the Spanish grammar requirements. In the case of verbs in their infinitive form, English verbs must go through a transformation process, as infinitive verbs in Spanish can only have three possible endings: the morphemes /-ar/, /-er/ and /-ir/. Since English lacks this morphological rule, the affixation of these morphemes is necessary in order to comply with Spanish grammar. Specifically, these transformations take place by following a suffixation process, adding the Spanish verbal ending to the end of the English infinitive verb. Taking this in consideration, it must be noted that verbs in Spanish must be conjugated according to the pronouns being used, which is an aspect of the language that would make the analysis of all verbal forms too complex. For this reason, this study only deals with the infinitive forms of the verbs contained in the corpus. This limitation provides a more consistent model when comparing these verbs to their English counterpart, which poses a different conjugation system altogether.

This study found that all the words in the research corpus ended in the /-ar/ morpheme. None of the words analyzed had either the /-er/ or the /-ir/ morphemes in their formation. Even though the verbal ending /-ar/ happens to be the most common one in the Spanish language, it is very unusual not to find any /-er/ or /-ir/ verbal endings suffixed to any of these loan words.

Another important morphological feature found in these loan words is the presence of the vowel sound /e/, bridging the original English verb and the Spanish /-ar/ suffixed verbal ending. These two features found in the corpus of this study are depicted in Figure 4.1 and is explained further in the body of this chapter. In the case of the intrusive /e/ vowel sound, it was found in 92% of the corpus analyzed in this study.

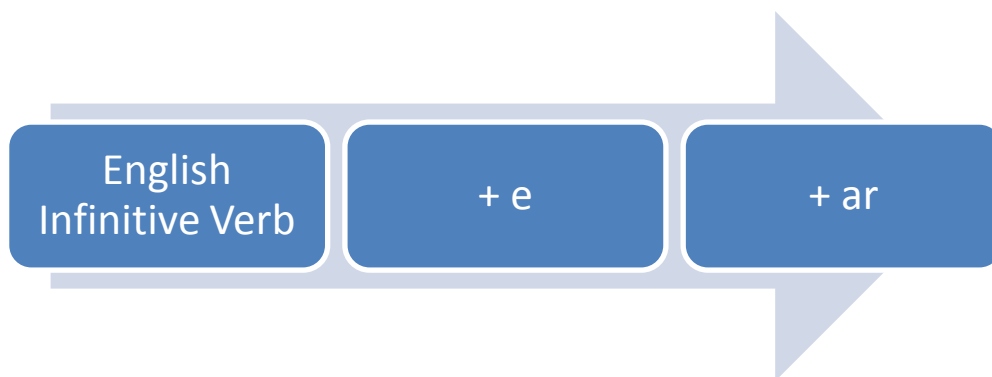


Figure 4.1 Morpho-phonological Structure of Anglicism

Even though this study focuses on the infinitive form of verbs found in computer language, it must be noted that once the loan blend process is made, it is present in the newly created verb in all its forms, including all its pronominal conjugations. Table 4.1 compares a Spanish verb with regular ending in the infinitive suffix */-ar/* with an anglicized verb. It can be observed in this example how the newly created verb, fruit of a loan blend of an English root and a Spanish affixation, behaves like a native Spanish verb in terms of its morphological patterns. Furthermore, it also adjusts to the Spanish grammar by being able to produce all the possible verb forms in all present, past and future tenses in the indicative, subjunctive and imperative modes, as well as the participle and gerund formations. When possible, these verbs also adjusted to create the reflexive form of the verb. Examples of this last instance would be: “loguearse” (to log oneself in), and “taguearse” (to tag oneself).

Table 4.1 Paradigm of Spanish Declension

Person & Number	Trabajar (to work)	Chatear (to chat)
1 st Person singular conjugation	trabaj <u>o</u>	chate <u>o</u>
2 nd Person singular conjugation	trabaj <u>as</u>	chate <u>as</u>
3 rd Person singular conjugation	trabaj <u>a</u>	chate <u>a</u>
1 st Person plural conjugation	trabaj <u>amos</u>	chate <u>amos</u>
2 nd Person plural conjugation	trabaj <u>áis</u>	chate <u>áis</u>
3 rd Person plural conjugation	trabaj <u>an</u>	chate <u>an</u>
Participle	trabaj <u>ado</u>	Chate <u>ado</u>
Gerund	trabaj <u>ando</u>	Chate <u>ando</u>

By ways of inflection, Spanish produces all these verbal modalities by removing the infinitive verbal ending (/ -ar/ in this case) and adding at the end the corresponding suffix, unless treating with an irregular verb, in which case they do not follow the pattern shown in this chart, but an irregular conjugation instead. As we can see in the comparison of these two verbs, even though both have the / -ar/ ending, the native Spanish verb “trabajar” (trabaj-ar) does not utilize the intrusive /e/ vowel in its construction. It is the result of the root word “trabaj” as a free morpheme and the addition of the inflected suffix / -ar/ as a bound morpheme, which together produces the infinitive form of the verb. On the other hand, the anglicized verb “chatear” has the free morpheme “chat” as a root word and the affix / -ear/ at the end as a bound morpheme that indicates its infinitive mode. However, this suffix is actually made out of two different suffixes: the vowel /e/ and the verbal ending / -ar/.

In the phonemic field, this study found that 64% of the words analyzed went through an adjustment process to meet the phonetic requirements of the Spanish

language. The study performed by Montseny in 1999 disregards these adjustments in her analysis, as she states that these verbs only occur in spoken discourse, and therefore there is no need to take these transformations in consideration. However, the corpus of this study has been observed in both spoken and written discourse, and therefore this study also takes in consideration these phonemic mutations as part of the analysis. This researcher must highlight that social networking websites were not created until 2002 with the arrival of Friendster, and subsequently MySpace in 2003, Facebook in 2004 and Twitter in 2006. All these websites were created posterior to the study conducted by Montseny. These websites allow users nowadays to interact in written form with each other, and therefore the presence of phonetically adjusted loan words, which were not common when Montseny conducted her study.

Posteguillo affirms that a technological jump that increased the impact that informatics already had over the world was the Internet (118). Even though some users of these loan words opt to preserve the original spelling of the English verbs and limit themselves to a morphological transformation, this study analyzes the way how the majority of users utilize these words, by also performing their corresponding phonetic transformation. Only one isolated instance was consistently found written by copying the English verb with the original spelling regardless of its incompatibility with the Spanish phonetic system: the verb “backapear”, which theoretically should be spelled “bacapear”, as the phoneme /k/ is written in Spanish with the letter “c” when followed by vowels /a/, /o/ and /u/.

The phonological transformations took place whenever the Spanish language could not support the phonetic structure of certain sounds found in the English language due to phonotactic constraints. The features of the phonological transformations found in the corpus of this study are the following:

- The “**ck**” sound found in English verbal endings such as *click*, *block*, *track*, *hack* and *check* was replaced by the morpheme “qu” followed by the intrusive “e” vowel, as this is how the Spanish language produces this sound. No words in Spanish end in the /k/ phoneme, therefore these verbs became “cliquear”, “bloquear”, “traquear”, “jaquear” and “chequear”. As it can be noted, the word “jaquear” goes through an additional transformation. Because “h” is silent in Spanish, it had to be replaced with the consonant “j” to create the sound that resembles the English /h/ phoneme. However, when the “ck” sound was found within the word, such as in *backup*, this change was not necessary. On the other hand, consonant “c” produces the /k/ phoneme when followed by either vowels “a”, “o” or “u”, and therefore the letter “k” was substituted by the letter “c” in some cases, but kept in others. Because the English word “up” is represented with the phonemes /ap/, the final product of this loan blend was “bacapear”, where vowel “u” was replaced by vowel “a”. This word, however, was also found written as “backapear”, and even “backupear”, respecting the spelling of the English stem word in this last case. This example shows how haphazardly these morphological transformations are conducted. The English infinitive verb “to backup” was found with the following representations once it was transferred into Spanish: “bacapear”, “backapear”, “backupear”, and even “bakapear”.
- The “**oo**” sound found in verbs such as *boot*, *google*, and *reboot* was replaced by the vowel “u”, as this is how the Spanish language produces this phoneme. Therefore these verbs became “butear”, “guglear”, and “rebutear”. Nevertheless, the verbal use of the word *google*, because it originates in the name of the famous search engine company, it was also found retaining its original spelling: “googlear” (see below section on metonymy).

Regarding these first two phonetic adaptations, it can be said that the graphic systems of the English and Spanish systems vary enormously. This translation procedure (loan blends) seeks to adapt the English graphic system to the one of the Spanish language, because there are combination of letters that otherwise could not be pronounced correctly by a Spanish language speaker, such as “oo” and “ck” (Dominguez, 2001).

- The “ee” sound found in verbs such as *beep* and *freeze* was replaced by the vowel “i”. This is a case very similar to the previous one, where the duplication of vowels is represented phonetically in Spanish by a single different vowel that produces the same phoneme. However, since the verb *freeze* already ends in the “e” vowel, this loan blend does not require the intrusion of this vowel, and therefore it is written “frizear”. This phenomenon is listed again at the end along with another verb which also ends in “e” in its original English form: *trace*, but which does not undergo any phonemic transformation. However, it must be noted that the sound of this “e” vowel ending in these English words is barely perceptible, and therefore they still require Spanish speakers to pronounce them as /e/, although they do not require an additional “e” to bridge the English word with the “ar” verbal ending to create this loan blend, as it is already present in the English root word.
- Since words in Spanish cannot start with the consonant “s” followed by another consonant, verbs such as *scan* were added an initial “e” vowel in order to comply with the Spanish phonetic system. In this case, the infinitive verb product of this loan blend became “escanear”, as “scanear” would have not fulfilled the phonetic requirements of the Spanish language. Nevertheless, a search using google found the word “scanear” in the Portuguese language, as this language can have words that bear this phonetic characteristic, and therefore

is conducive to a loan blend that would respect the spelling of the original English verb.

- English verbs ending in “g” such as *blog*, *log*, *tag* and *drag* were followed by the vowel “u” before the intrusive “e” vowel to produce the same phonemes. In Spanish, whenever “g” is followed by “e”, it creates the /j/ phoneme, which would have deviated from the original /g/ phoneme. The letter “g” in Spanish, when followed by vowels “e” or “i”, must be formed by the addition of the vowel “u” between these vowels and the consonant “g”. Therefore, the infinitive verb product of this loan blend became “bloguear”, “loguear”, “taguear” and “draguear” respectively. No exception to this feature was observed or found in Spanish computer language.
- English **metonymies** (nouns and verbs which derive from popular brand names) tend to maintain their original spelling, although it was observed in the corpus that some individuals do modify the spelling of the word to comply with the Spanish phonetic system. In this category, this study found the words *google* and *facebook* in verbal mode. For instance, the metonymy *google* (when used to refer to the act of browsing information online) was written “googlear” in the majority of cases, but in some instances, it could be observed spelled as “guglear” (see second feature finding for the treatment of the English sound “oo”.) Wikipedia.com has both versions listed as possible: “guglear” and “googlear”. In the case of *facebook*, a variety of spellings were found. This compounded word made out of the English words “face” and “book” was heavily manipulated by its users, as it leaves a wide array of possibilities for its morph process into Spanish. Most of these spellings preserved the word *face* intact but changed the *book* part in more than one way: “facebookear”, “facebuquear” and “facebukear” (see first and second feature findings for the

treatment of the English sounds “ck” and “oo”.) However seldom, the form “feisbuquear” was also observed in the corpus. In this last form, the word adjusts completely to the Spanish phonetic system, as “feis” produces the phonemes needed to emulate the English word *face*.

- Lastly, there were some loan blends which were found to go through a morphological change due to a need to meet Spanish phonetic requirements of **other types**. The first word, *switch*, was spelled as “suichear”, although the less common form “switchear” was also present in the corpus. This is due to the absence of letter “w” in Spanish words, unless they are borrowed from other languages. Therefore the letter “w” is replaced by the letter “u” to produce an equivalent sound, and the letter “t” is dropped, as it has little phonetic value and would produce a “tch” sound, unknown to the Spanish language. The second word is *e-mail*. This clipped and then compounded English word, which stands for “electronic mail”, when borrowed by the Spanish language, is written “imelear”. The phoneme produced by the English vowel “e” is equivalent in sound to the Spanish vowel “i”, and therefore its presence when using this anglicism in written form. However, this word was found written also as “emailear”, although it was commonly found with the vowel “i” instead in the following modes: “imailear”, “imelear”, “imeilear” and the more colloquial word “emilio”, which is the homonym of a masculine proper name in Spanish. Finally, the English word *type*, when transformed into a Spanish verb, was spelled as “tipear”. This is due to the absence of letter “y” in Spanish words, unless they are borrowed from other languages. Both letters, “i” and “y” (when not used as a consonant), have the same phonetic value. This explains the substitution of the letters to be in accord with the conventionalisms of the

Spanish phonetic system. Even a search through the Internet gave no results for the form “typear”.

For analytical reasons, the anglicisms found in the corpus of this study are divided into three categories as shown in the succeeding Figure 4.2.

- 1- The anglicisms which follow the format: English verb (in original form) + /e/ + /ar/.
- 2- The anglicisms in which the English verb goes through a phonetic change but is followed by the format: +/ e/ +/ ar/.
- 3- Other categories.

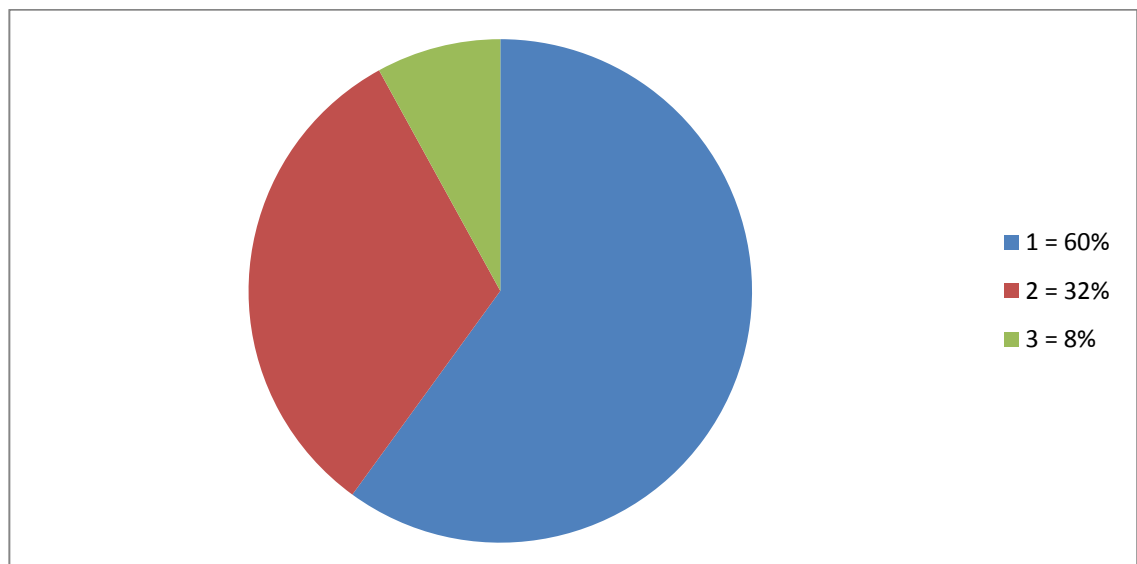


Figure 4.2 Distribution of Anglicisms

4.3 Analysis of Morphological Transformations

The two main morphological features identified in this study are linked in an intimate level. The first one is the fact that all the anglicisms in Spanish computer language have the /-ar/ ending when they are displayed in infinitive mode. The second feature is the existence of an invasive vowel “e” between the English verb and the /-ar/ verbal ending. It is because these two features coexist adjacently that they are linked to each other. For this reason, their analysis inevitably overlaps in some instances.

Montseny explains in her study that all these anglicisms are compounded of the English verb, which in this case is a free morpheme, followed by the vowel sound /e/ and end with the first verbal conjugation ending: /-ar/, both as bound morphemes affixed to the free English morpheme (70). Even though examples of such findings are provided in her study, no explanation is given as far as the reason why anglicisms in Spanish computer language take this particular morphological format.

Solis, on the other hand, provides with a valid hypothesis. She explains in her study that the first verbal conjugation ending /-ar/ is chosen over the other two (/er/ and /-ir/), probably because it is the one with the highest functional use. Regarding the function of the intrusive vowel /e/, Solis explains that in the Spanish language, the suffix /-ear/ derives a verb from a noun or an adjective. For example, the noun “gota” (drop), becomes “gotear” (to drip) and the adjective “hermoso” (beautiful) becomes “hermosear” (to beautify). For that reason, at least in the case of Spanish monolingual users, these terms are originally borrowed directly from English as a noun. It is later, when the users need to use these words as verbs for a specific use, that the prefix “ear” is added to the borrowed English word. It can be inferred from her findings that the choice of verbal affixation of anglicisms in computer language is mostly ruled by the concept of morphological productivity, as in the case of the use of /-ar/ endings (Solis,

2005). However, it is important to point out that she also does provide with a theoretical framework to support her claims. From her writing, one can understand that the use of the suffix /-ear/ in these loan blends obeys first, the pre-existing mental construction fruit of the verbal derivation from nouns and adverbs, and secondly, the productivity inferred by the use of the verbal ending with the highest frequency in the Spanish language: /-ar/.

In regards to the inclusion of the vowel /e/ between the English verbal free morpheme and the Spanish first conjugation in the infinitive form: /-ar/ as a bound morpheme, Solis provides in her study with a solid rationale by explaining the origins of this suffixation process. From her parallel analysis with Spanish verbal formations that derive from nouns and adjectives, by which the suffix /-ear/ is added, it can be inferred that users of computer language automatically transform the English nouns used in computer language into verbs by following the same pattern. This transformation, however, does not follow an established grammatical rule, but instead, an educated guess done by users of computer language whenever they face a specific need which requires a particular verbal function of these nouns originally learned in English.

As mentioned before when quoting Katamba & Stonham, users of the language use internalized general rules of language acquisition to process these loan blends. According to Turell, they don't require much cognitive effort from the user. It is for this same reason that generative grammar can be used to understand these morphological transformations: "Generative grammar is concerned with the grammatical systems of human beings, as represented in the mind of the language user" (Spencer, 74). The language user, therefore, possesses the grammatical system of the Spanish language in his/her mind and uses it to adapt spontaneously the English verbs commonly found in computer language to the Spanish lexicon whenever needed.

Referring to Aronoff's word formation rules (WFR): "The typical operation of a WFR, then, is to take an existing word and add an affix to it. However, it may turn out that other phonological changes will occur..." (Spencer, 82).

There are, however, certain morphological rules which govern word-changing processes. For example, vowel harmony prevents vowels from clashing phonetically within a word. This feature is present in many languages: "Many languages exhibit constraints on the class of vowels (or, rarely, consonants) which can occur in a given domain, typically the word. This phenomenon is commonly given the name 'harmony'" (Roca, 14). The concept of vowel harmony does not provide with a clear explanation for the existence of the intrusive /e/ vowel though, as some of the anglicized verbs studied here would still retain their vowel harmony if this "e" was removed. For instance, in the case of "chatear", if we extract the vowel "e" from it, we would have "chatar" as an infinitive form. This form still maintains vowel harmony, as the free morpheme with a front vowel in it (chat) is combined with a bound morpheme that also contains the same front vowel in it /-ar/. By having "a" as a common vowel between these two morphemes, harmony is maintained. However, this loan blend follows the pattern identified by Solis by including the additional and intrusive vowel sound /e/, creating the verbal infinitive "chatear" instead of the standard Spanish "chatar".

The presence of that intrusive vowel "e" could be explained by the concept of epenthesis: "**Insertion** or **epenthesis** involves the addition of phonological segments into a word" (McGregor, 280). As it was described by Solis, this epenthetic /e/ precedes the verbal ending "ar" when Spanish nouns are transformed into verbs, and therefore the same process is applied by default to anglicisms that need to fulfill a verbal function. Even though this concept seems to be a good explanation for this morphological process, some authors define epenthesis as a morphological tool that

allows the destruction of consonant clusters by the inclusion of a vowel (Crowley, 43). This definition does not apply to the scenario analyzed in this study, and therefore is not a solid theoretical framework that can answer by itself the second research question of this study. In spite of this, this research takes the more generic definition provided by McGregor, in an attempt to shine some light to the application of epenthesis in the loan blend processes of anglicisms in Spanish computer language.

As mentioned before in this chapter, Solis believes that the use of the verbal ending /-ar/ over the other two possible endings is probably a matter of morphological productivity. Because Solis does not provide more information about this hypothesis, this study looks at morphological productivity more in detail in order to determine whether it plays a role in the use of anglicisms and its possible function in the creation of new Spanish cyber verbs. In regards to the inclusion of the epenthetic /e/ vowel to these verbal loan-blend processes, this study also follows the concept provided by Solis. According to her, users of the language meet these new words as nouns and then transform them into verbs whenever the necessity arises by retrieving grammatical structures from what Chomsky would refer to as their internalized language, a key concept in generative grammar theory (Spencer, 74). For this reason, the two main morphological features found in this chapter: the use of the /-ar/ verbal ending in all anglicisms and the epenthetic use of the “e” vowel in these loan blend constructions, both are analyzed from a morphological productivity perspective. The use of internalized language when choosing linguistic forms with the highest degree of frequency is the link between this theory and the concept of morphological productivity. The findings of this analysis should answer the research questions #2 and #3 of this study.

In the phonemic field, the features found in this chapter are clearly explained and exemplified in their nature, process and purpose. Each of the phonemic adjustments

done to verbal anglicism found in the corpus of this study has been dissected into its morphophonemic components. This dissection has allowed this study to explain their change in relation to the requirements of the borrowing language; Spanish in this case. Therefore, these features are not analyzed any further, as they don't deal directly with the concept of productivity, but rather with the phonological adaptation that occurs when the Spanish language borrows a word from English. Several of these phonetic adaptations, all found in the corpus of this study, have in common the necessity of conforming to the morphophonemic requirements of the Spanish language, although some exemptions to these processes have been identified. These exceptions took place when the English word was borrowed directly and used in the process of codeswitching, or it was blended together with the Spanish language in a morphological level but maintaining the English orthography. In the latter case, a variety of modalities was found, as each user spells these loan blends heterogeneously, depending on the grammatical system imbedded in his/her mind. This concept within generative phonology explains how more than one version of the same loan blend can coexist in the same lexical domain.

Analyzing the findings of this study using morphological productivity brings this research to zoom into the work of Laurie Bauer. The first concept that must be exposed is the definition of productivity. The literature, according to Bauer, shows disagreements regarding this definition; some scholars believe that affixation is productive, while others believe that it is the morphological processes that are productive. Yet, some other scholars also believe that productivity derives from the rules of language, while others believe that it is words that are productive (Bauer, 12). Each one of these definitions has an application in the field of morphological productivity, but they all have their setbacks as well.

Whichever way productivity is justified or explained, this study first establishes whether the corpus of this research meets the prerequisites for productivity provided by Bauer. According to her, the literature agrees on three factors that must be met to determine the existence of productivity: "...frequency, semantic coherence and the ability to make new forms" (Bauer, 20).

For the frequency factor, Bauer talks about two different variants: type frequency and token frequency. "Type frequency (sometimes called 'lexical frequency') is concerned with the number of items in the language that contain the item or process under consideration" (Bauer, 47). For instance, when type frequency is applied to the findings of this study, it is important to revisit the Spanish verbal endings and their correlation to productivity. As it was explained in chapter one, from the three possible verbal endings in infinitive (/ -ar/, / -er/ and / -ir/), the verbal ending form / -ar/ is the most common one in the Spanish language. By means of type frequency, it can be inferred that, due to the fact that the / -ar/ ending has the highest frequency value among the three forms, then it is also the most productive. When users of the Spanish language encounter the need to create an anglicism due to a lexical gap in the field of computer language, they follow the instinct of language economy and automatically use the most productive form available. Nevertheless, one must be careful when dealing with the availability of terms: "Availability can change diachronically and valid statements about availability in one period do not necessarily apply to any adjacent period" (Bauer, 205-206). This is especially true in the dynamic field of Informatics, where language is constantly changing, as explained by Ainciburu (2004, 68-74). However relative availability may be in this field of linguistics, it is of extreme importance when we look at loan blends synchronically, as anglicisms are created *ad hoc* with the lexicon available at that moment in time.

For this reason, by adopting the form with the highest type frequency, the verbal loan blends analyzed in this study take the /-ar/ ending in all its instances, as it can be observed in the corpus of this study. This also applies to the study done by Tosi, where Italian loan blends took the /-are/ ending as the default suffix for English computer language verb forms. The verbal ending /-are/ is the most common one among the Italian verbal endings (/ -are/, /-ere/ and /-ire/), and therefore Italian also follows the type frequency concept to determine the productivity level of loan blends as a word formation process. In the field of computer language, these loan blends have the English language as their exclusive lexicon supplier.

The second variant of frequency mentioned by Bauer: “Token frequency, sometimes called ‘text frequency’ is concerned with the number of times a particular item occurs in a given text” (Bauer, 47). As it was mentioned before, generative phonology allows the production of more than one form for the same anglicism. This can be observed in appendix 2, under the second category of loan blends, which is composed of words that go through different morphophonemic transformations. For instance, the verb “bacapear” was also found in the forms of “backapear” and “backupear”. If it was possible to determine from a well-defined corpus which of these terms has the highest token frequency, then it would be possible to conclude which of these forms is the most productive. This task becomes challenging, if not impossible, when analyzing the second group of anglicisms categorized by this study (see appendix #2). The multiple varieties in which these words are written and the fact that these words cannot be found in a well-defined corpus, but rather, scattered in cyber world and utilized by millions of users from different cultural backgrounds, causes great difficulty in finding their token frequency value. However, it is the concept of type frequency that is more meaningful to this researcher, as it sheds some light over the findings of this study, as well as over its research questions. In her study, Bauer also mentions the concept of profitability

when referring to the relationship between frequency and productivity: "...to the extent that it may be used or has been used to produce large numbers of new words" (Bauer, 49). In the creation of new Spanish cyber verbs, the ending /-ar/ happens to be in this sense, extremely profitable.

The topic of profitability of words takes us back to the study of Montseny, in which she stated that the lexical units in English are generally much shorter than the ones in Spanish (73). This, according to her, facilitates the user with short lexical units in a fast-paced world in which lengthy words are not productive. This tendency to use shorter lexical units has also increased the use of acronyms in this field, as they allow users to communicate faster in both verbal and written forms. These characteristics of language are only expected in a globalized world where time is scarce and language evolves in order to meet the requirements of its users.

Solis also concurs with this concept, stating that by means of language economy, anglicisms such as "batchear" would replace a term that in Spanish, it would have been written as: "proceso de información en grandes lotes" (Solis, 2005). This occurs because some of these anglicisms explain a specific process performed with the computer, which does not exist in the borrowing language, and therefore it is more productive to borrow the already-existing English word than to coin a new term in Spanish or to describe the process using Spanish words already in existence. Profitability therefore is directly linked to the third prerequisite for productivity proposed by Bauer, by which a word is productive if it has the ability to make new forms. By means of borrowing from the English language the lexical units lacking by the Spanish language, and adjusting them to meet the morphological requirements of the language, either with or without phonological transformations, these processes result very productive. Following Bauer's theoretical framework, the processes being analyzed in this study meet all the prerequisites for productivity; they have a high type

frequency, and their ability to make new forms is virtually unlimited. As far as Bauer's second prerequisite for productivity (semantic coherence), this researcher considers this to be a prerequisite that must be applied to processes that deal with calques, where literal translations using existing lexical units in the borrowing language can distort the meaning of the original word, but not in the case of loan blends. When creating loan blends, two well-defined meanings blend into a new word for functional reasons, never losing their semantic coherence in the process.

4.4 Conclusion

This chapter has successfully dissected the transformations found in anglicisms when they are transferred from English to Spanish in the field of computer language. The analysis of the data allows this study to answer the research questions proposed and provide language users with a better understanding of these transformations. The data collected for this study was sufficient to observe the morphological processes which occur in the production of these loan blends and to identify their phonetic and morphological features.