Whole Word Morphologizer

Expanding the Word-Based Lexicon: A non-stochastic computational approach

Sylvain Neuvel, University of Chicago

If we take the enrichment of lexica to be not only the raison d'être of morphology but also the central issue of morphological theory, it seems reasonable to evaluate any theory of morphology, not on the means by which it represents recurring partials or lexical relations, but on its ability to generate new words based on a given lexicon. Within the framework of Whole Word Morphology (cf. Ford and Singh 1991, Ford et al 1997), I designed a small computer program that identifies morphological relations found in a lexicon and creates new words based on these relations. The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate the generative power of this Whole Word Morphologizer, to spell out the theory behind it and to discuss some of the theoretical issues that arose during its development. This project is intended as an empirical demonstration that a model of morphology that rejects the notion of morpheme as minimal unit of form and meaning (and/or grammatical properties) is viable from the point of view of acquisition as well as generation. It is based on a model of the mental lexicon in which all entries are whole, entire, fully fledged words and relies solely on basic cognitive principles (differentiation and generalization) for the automatic acquisition of morphological relations and the population of the lexicon.

1. The theory

The approach I suggest is characterized, as the long title of this paper implies, by its non-statistical nature and by its reliance on the word as the basic unit of morphology. Ford and Singh’s Whole Word Morphology (c.f. Ford and Singh 1991, Ford et al 1997, Neuvel and Singh in press) provides the
theoretical backdrop for this application. In Whole-Word Morphology, any and all morphological relations can be represented by a rule of the following form (cf. Singh and Dasgupta 1999):

\[(1) \quad / X /_\alpha \leftrightarrow / X' /_\beta \]

where:

a. / X /_\alpha and / X' /_\beta are words and X and X' are abbreviations of the forms of classes of words belonging to categories \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) (with which specific words belonging to the right category can be unified or onto which they can be mapped).

b. ' represents (all the) form-related differences between / X / and / X' /

c. \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) are categories that may be represented as feature-bundles

d. the \( \leftrightarrow \) represents a bi-directional implication (if X, then X' and if X', then X)

e. X' is a semantic function of X

The implications of (1) are rather straightforward. 1- There is only one morphology: no distinction, other than a functional one, is made between inflection and derivation, and 2- morphology is relational and not compositional. Whole Word Morphologizer [henceforth WWM] thus makes no reference to theoretical constructs such as 'root', 'stem', and 'morpheme', or devices such as 'levels' and 'strata' and relies exclusively on the notion of morphological relatedness. And since its objective is not to assign a probability to a given word or string, it must rely on a strict formal definition of a morphological relation. Unfortunately, it is hard, if not impossible, to find in recent literature any well-defined criterion on the basis of which morphological relations could be identified. The forties and fifties saw many linguists offering what has been referred to as discovery procedures (cf. Nida 1949, for example)
but since Chomsky (1965), very few attempts have been made at finding out what is actually part of
morphology. What remains constant throughout modern linguistic theories, however, is the idea that
one must focus on similarities of form and meaning, or “recurring partials” to identify morphemes or
morphological relations, despite the fact that many, if not most words that share form and meaning are
not morphologically related (ex: hand, head, heel are all body parts and begin with /h/).

Neuvel and Singh (in press) argue that morphology may not be a game of similarities between words,
as most would have it, but one of differences. Following the Saussurean view that words are defined by
the differences amongst them, they contend that some of these differences are morphologically
exploitable and exploited. What makes English words like completely and directly interesting is not the
fact that they look alike (by virtue of sharing –ly), but the fact that the difference between complete_{Adj}
and completely_{Adv} is exactly the same as that between direct_{Adj} and directly_{Adv}; the presence of the
substring /ly/ at the end of the word directly_{Adv} being no more relevant than the absence of it at the end
of direct_{Adj}. In this view, the morphology of a speaker consists exclusively of productive differences
found in his or her lexicon. In other words:

(2) Two words of a lexicon L are morphologically related if, and only if, they differ in
exactly the same way as two other words of L. (Neuvel & Singh in press)

The above definition is, it is easy to see, set one degree of abstraction higher than the discovery
procedures set forth by the structuralists and shifts the focus from the mere comparison of words to the
comparison of comparisons, or differences. The bi-directionality of morphological strategies should
also require no further justification given (2): for a word \( w_1 \) to differ from word \( w_2 \), \( w_2 \) must also differ
from \( w_1 \). While it may appear somewhat informal, this definition creates very sharp boundaries for
morphology and turns the identification of morphological relations from a difficult and subjective endeavor to a precise, well defined, and almost trivial task. Given four words $w_{1-4}$, $w_i$ is said to be morphologically related to $w_2$ if all the formal, semantic and grammatical properties that make them distinct also differentiate $w_3$ and $w_4$. The definition in (2) clearly adjudicates questions regarding the morphological status of Firthian phonestemes like $gl$- in gleam and glow, Amritavalli’s (1999) “shapers” (e.g. $st$- in stable and stability), or Bender’s (1998) “helpers” ( -$er$, in spider, water, greater, wander, etc.) The words gleam and glow, for example, differ in that one word ends in /ow/ and the other in /ijm/, a contrast which is not exploited anywhere else with the same meaning distinction (c.f. Neuvel & Singh in press).

2. The program

Under the assumption that the morphology of a language resides exclusively in differences that are exploited in more than one pair of words within its lexicon, WWM compares every word of a small lexicon and determines the segmental differences found between them. The input to the current version of the program is a small text file that contains anywhere from 1000 to 5000 words. Each word appears in orthographic form and is followed by its syntactic and morphological categories, as in the example below:

(3)  cat,   Ns  (Noun, singular)
    catch,   V
    catches,  V3s  (Verb, (pres.) 3rd pers. sing.)
    decided,  Vp  (Verb, past)
    etc.
The word lists used in the development of WWM usually come from texts in electronic format and are labeled manually (The English data used to test WWM consists of the first 2000 forms from *Moby Dick*). For lack of adequate semantic representations, no meaning is assigned to any of the words. In theory, WWM could compare every word with every other word, but to save processing time, only pairs of words that share the first three letters are compared. The necessary number of matching letters is adjustable in the current version of the program.

It should be clear that there is no such thing as the “right” comparison algorithm. Searching for prefixes, suffixes and infixes requires different approaches. For example, if one were to compare the non-existing word *batu* with the equally non-existing *bamatu*, one might tentatively conclude that the latter can be formed from the former by adding the sequence –*am*– after the first consonant, or, just as easily, that the sequence –*ma*– is inserted after the first syllable. The correct analysis only becomes apparent when this comparison is in turn compared with others. Things become even more complicated if one wishes to consider reduplication and feature modification. The *batu/bamatu* example can in fact be analyzed about a dozen different ways if one considers the possibility that the segment /a/ is reduplicated and that either /b/ or /m/ is both a reduplication and modification of its counterpart. Since WWM was designed to work on European languages first, it limits itself to a very basic algorithm that compares words on a letter-by-letter basis starting from the left or the right. WWM thus easily captures what is usually described as prefixation or suffixation, as well as most cases of modification (those in which the number of segments remains the same) but misses infixes and suppletive morphology altogether. The comparison algorithm WWM uses can easily be expanded to handle templatic morphology like that of Semitic languages and some cases of partial reduplication. The next version of the program should include these modifications.
The algorithm simply compares each letter from word A to the corresponding one from word B (from the left if the two words share the first segments, and from the right if they share the last few) and places them in one of two “piles” (differences or similarities) based on whether or not they are identical. Each comparison also contains the categories of both words and is kept in a large comparison list for further manipulation. The example below shows the comparison produced by the English words receive and reception.

(4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differences</th>
<th>Similarities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Left (First word)</em></td>
<td><em>Right (Second word)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ive_v</td>
<td>ption_Ns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Matching characters in the difference section are replaced with a variable as required by (1). The result is then matched up to comparisons generated by other pairs of words and identical differences are recognized. In the example below, the comparisons produced by the pairs receive/reception, conceive/conception and deceive/deception are shown.

(5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differences</th>
<th>Similarities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Left (First word)</em></td>
<td><em>Right (Second word)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ive_v</td>
<td>ption_Ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ive_v</td>
<td>ption_Ns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The three comparisons in (5) share the same formal and grammatical differences and can be merged into one morphological strategy. Each new morphological strategy is also restricted to apply in as narrow an environment as possible. Neuvel and Singh (in press) suggest that any morphological strategy must be maximally restricted at all times; this is accomplished by specifying as constant all the similarities found, not between words, but between the similarities found between words. In (5), all three sets of similarities end with the sequence of letters “ce”. (If one were to consider phonemes instead of letters, the corresponding sets of similarities would end with an /s/ preceded by exactly one syllable.) These similarities between similarities are specified as constant in each strategy and the length of each word is also factored in. The restricted morphological strategy relating the words in (5) is as follows:

(6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differences</th>
<th>Similarities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Left (First word)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Right (Second word)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X ive <em>v</em></td>
<td>X ption <em>Ns</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the sake of clarity, we can represent the information contained in (6) in a more familiar fashion using the formalism described in (1). The symbol | is used instead of slashes so as not to confuse orthographic form with phonemic representations.

(7)  *##ceive|_v_ <-> *##ception|_Ns_
The # signs in the above representation stand for letters that must be instantiated but are not specified; the * symbol stands for a letter that is not specified and that may or may not be instantiated. Strategy (7) can therefore be interpreted as follows:\(^1\):

\[(7') \text{ If there is a verb that ends with the sequence “ceive” preceded by no less than two and no more than three characters, there should also be a singular noun that ends with the sequence “ception” preceded by the same two or three characters.}\]

In addition to completely specified or completely unspecified segments, WWM currently generalizes to consonants and vowels and can, for example, restrict a strategy to vowel ending words, or to words that end with two consonants. The results are, as one can imagine, less than perfect since orthography often hides the domain of application of strategies and it is unclear if the benefits outweigh the disadvantages. This type of generalization requires the program to be given specific information about which segments are to be called vowels and it seems ideologically preferable, at least to me, to let WWM acquire its knowledge in a completely unsupervised fashion. While the amount of education necessary for WWM to generalize to consonants and vowels is minimal, I believe that WWM can achieve superior results without the benefit of any “innate” linguistic knowledge. Rather than specifying the environment of application of a morphological strategy in terms of phonological features or segment classes, the program can just as easily specify the sets of segments that can and do

\(^1\) As Neuvel and Singh (in press) point out, the [##] as a variable is doubly grounded: syntagmatically, it ranges over formally similar strings or sub strings (“re” in receive and reception, “con” in conceive and conception, etc.) and paradigmatically it ranges over formally distinct strings (“re”, “con”, and “de”).
appear in a given position. A given strategy could thus be restricted to words that end or begin with any of the segments \{f, (c)h, s, v, z,\} without the program knowing anything about the segments in question. This change should be implemented in the next version of the program. Even such a simple modification, however, raises some issues about locality. Since morphological conditioning is usually very local, only one or two segments preceding or following what is usually described as an affix might need to be specified in that fashion but it seems worthwhile to empirically explore the pros and cons of specifying more or even all variable segments as sets of possible characters (or phonemes).

From the list of all performed comparisons, WWM extracts and restricts a series of morphological strategies. Below are a few strategies based on the first few chapters of *Moby Dick*.

(8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differences</th>
<th>Restrictions (similarities)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st word</td>
<td>2nd word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xd_PP</td>
<td>X_V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xed_PP</td>
<td>X_V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xs_NP</td>
<td>X_NS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xing_GER</td>
<td>Xed_PP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xing_GER</td>
<td>Xs_V3S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xness_NS</td>
<td>X_ADJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xly_ADV</td>
<td>X_ADJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xest_ADJ</td>
<td>X_ADJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xs_V3S</td>
<td>X_V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Similarities and differences in a given strategy are merged into a single pattern similar to (7). WWM then goes through the lexicon word by word and attempts to map each word onto either side of this strategy. If it succeeds, WWM replaces all the segments fully specified on the side of the strategy the word is mapped on, with the segments fully specified on the other side. For example, given the word *reception* and strategy (7), WWM will map the word onto the right hand side of (7), take out the sequence “ception” from the end and replace it with the sequence “ceive”. The category of the word will also be changed from singular noun to verb. Below are some of the words WWM creates using text from *Le petit prince* as its base lexicon.

<p>| | | | | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Xer</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>#V#</td>
<td>C#</td>
<td>hard</td>
<td>harder/hard, louder/loud</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xless</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>#VC#</td>
<td>pain</td>
<td>painless/pain, childless/child</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xing</td>
<td>Xy</td>
<td>ADJ</td>
<td>#C##C##</td>
<td>rain</td>
<td>raining/rainy, running/runny</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xed</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>pp</td>
<td>C##V##</td>
<td>play</td>
<td>played/plays, cried/cries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xings</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>***CCV#C###</td>
<td>pain</td>
<td>paintings/paint, dealings/deal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X'</td>
<td>Xg</td>
<td>GER</td>
<td>*C###in#</td>
<td>runn</td>
<td>runnin'/running, signin'/signing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X's</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>POS</td>
<td>*****###</td>
<td>neigh</td>
<td>neighbor’s/neighbors, piano’s/piano</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(9)  drames;  NP   droïtement;  ADV
dressée;  PF   drôles;  AIP
dresser;  INF   drôlement;  ADV
dressa;  VP3   dunes;  NP
dressais;  VI2   dureraït;  VC3
dresse;  V3   décidée;  PF
dressent;  V6   décider;  INF
It should be clear that the method described above will force WWM to create words that were already part of its original lexicon; in fact, each and every word involved in licensing the creation of a morphological strategy will be reduplicated by the program. Contrasting words that were not part of WWM’s original lexicon are finally added to a separate word list containing only new words. If needed, this word list can be merged with the original lexicon to create new strategies based on a larger dataset; each new word can also simply be put through another cycle or word creation using the same strategies. WWM will typically be able to create words during five or six cycles by mapping new words onto the strategies created in the first cycle.

3. Results and improvements

While some combinatorial restrictions are specified in each strategy, Whole Word Morphology, like most models of word formation, is burdened by overgeneration. The relation between words of two categories is often expressed by two or more competing strategies. For example, when using the text of *Le petit prince* as its base lexicon, WWM produces two strategies relating 2nd person verb forms to their infinitives. Given the verb *conjugues* ‘conjugate, pres. 2nd sing.’, one strategy produces the correct infinitive *conjuguer* while the other creates the word *conjuguere* (based on the relation between words like *fais/faire* ‘do’ and *vends/vendre* ‘sell’). WWM then creates two, three, or even four formally different “versions” of the same word, and since the “correct” form is often already found in
the original lexicon, only the “bad” forms are added to the list, resulting in an error rate of anywhere from 18% to 30% in the first version of the program.

Different solutions to the problem of competing strategies were experimented with and are still part of the current version of WWM. The first and probably most obvious solution to the problem is to implement some version of the so-called Panini’s principle, (aka Elsewhere condition. c.f. Kiparsky 1973) and to only apply the most restrictive strategy whenever to or more options present themselves. Unfortunately, this solution brings with it a theoretical question which remains to be answered. If a given strategy applies in an environment that is included in the environment of another, it is evidently the more restrictive of the two. But if two strategies apply in mutually exclusive environments or environments that overlap, the question as to which is the most restrictive one is not always so easy to answer. Many theories of word formation make use of some version of Panini’s principle but, to my knowledge, no method for evaluating the restrictiveness of a rule or strategy has ever been devised. For example, in (10) below, it is clear that the environment in a1 is more restrictive than the environment in a2, but it is much harder to rank the environments in (10b) or (10c).

Since WWM cannot rely on adequate descriptions of word meanings, it could, given the proposed definition of a morphological relation, identify words traditionally described as sharing pseudoaffixes as morphologically related. Word pairs like mot/motor and rot/rotor, or even pairs like cat/bat and car/bar, could give rise to unwanted morphological strategies and even more undesirable words like *table or *bhair. In a perfect word, the semantic contract between the words above would preclude the creation of a morphological strategy since no other word pair shares the same semantic contrast as cat and bat, or mot and motor. Fortunately, the datasets WWM used to acquire its morphology are small enough that they rarely include two pairs of morphologically unrelated but similarly contrasting words. Moreover, while Neuvel & Singh’s definition requires differences to be shared by two pairs of words, the number of similarly contrasting word pairs required to license a morphological strategy can be adjusted in the program.
During testing, different “restrictive” values were assigned to fully specified segments and to consonant or vowel abstractions (C or V). The values settled on are 5 points for a fully specified segment and 2 points for a C or V. This is obviously not an ideal solution. Not only are these numbers not justified in any way, but the resulting “score” doesn’t take into account the degree of freedom offered by the environment in terms of the number of segments that can, and must, be instantiated. With this modification, the accuracy rate of WWM increases a mere 2% to 5%.

Another method for choosing between competing strategies involves counting the actual amount of word pairs used to license a particular strategy. If, for example, 34 pairs of words in the lexicon share the differential relation /X/Nₛ ↔ /Xs/Np, a “strength” of 34 can be assigned to this strategy and in the event that two strategies compete for the creation of a single word, the stronger (or weaker) strategy can take precedence. There are also a few disadvantages to this option: First, it brings statistics in through the back door and makes WWM more of a hybrid stochastic/analogue model. Perhaps more importantly, the statistics WWM has to use to assign these “strengths” or probabilities are unreliable due to the extremely small size of the corpora WWM was designed to work with. Perhaps not surprisingly, the results are even more disappointing than with Panini’s principle and it makes no significant difference whether the stronger or the weaker strategy is chosen.
Ironically enough, the most effective solution to the problem of competing strategies comes from turning the problem on its head. Rather than stopping certain strategies from applying, it is possible to let WWM create every possible word, including different versions of the “same” one and to let lexical lookup take precedence over productive morphology; in other words, to implement some form of blocking. At first glance, the idea may seem dubious: since the words in WWM’s lexicon have no meaning assigned to them, there is no way for the program to know if it created a word with the same meaning as one it already knew. This is true, but the knowledge WWM possesses about its lexicon increases considerably during the creation of morphological strategies. As mentioned in the previous section, WWM creates word formation strategies based on morphological relations it recognizes in its lexicon. As a result, the program learns not only which strategies are licensed by a given lexicon, but also which words of its lexicon are related to one another. It is then possible to reinterpret the notion of morphological relatedness to mean something like ‘semantically related’ or more adequately, as ‘belonging to the same paradigm’ if one subscribes to a paradigmatic organization of the lexicon. After identifying morphologically related pairs of words, WWM assigns a number to every lexical entry and gives the same number to every related word. Below is a sample from the lexicon created using *Moby Dick* after WWM has assigned paradigm numbers to every word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Part of Speech</th>
<th>Paradigm Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>deck;</td>
<td>NS; 487</td>
<td>defaced; PP; 494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decks;</td>
<td>NP; 487</td>
<td>deformed; PP; 495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decoction;</td>
<td>NS; 489</td>
<td>degree; NS; 496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deep;</td>
<td>ADJ; 490</td>
<td>deity; NS; 497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deeper;</td>
<td>ADJ; 490</td>
<td>delay; V; 498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deepest;</td>
<td>ADJ; 490</td>
<td>deliberate; ADJ; 499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deeply;</td>
<td>ADV; 490</td>
<td>deliberately; ADV; 499</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Once a paradigm number has been assigned to every word, WWM creates as many words as it can using the strategies it created. Before a new word is added to the lexicon, the program first looks for a word with the same category and paradigm number in its original lexicon. For example, if WWM maps the word *decoction* from (10) onto a strategy creating plural nouns, it will look for a plural noun belonging to paradigm 489 in its lexicon before it adds *decoctions* to the list of new words. The results are less than perfect but this simple modification cut WWM’s error rate in half and brings its accuracy to anywhere from 85% to 92% during testing\(^3\).

Moreover, some of the errors left over after this modification are quite interesting and somewhat parallel to common speech or, in this case, orthographic mistakes. For example, when using the text of *Le petit prince* as input, WWM will sometimes use the wrong accent, omit a cedilla, double “l”s or “p”s when they should not be, etc. Below are a few examples:

\[(12)\] absurdement; ADV appeller; INF
achete; V3 avanca; VP3
acheve; V3 boutone; V3
acheverez; VF5 brevetes; V2
adieus; NP commençé; PM
annoncait; VI3 commodement; ADV
aplombe; V3 crayone; V3

\(^3\) These results are still preliminary and the program needs to be tested on more corpora from different languages.
The reader can draw his or her own conclusions regarding these results, for there is unfortunately, very little if nothing, to weigh them against. Most morphological learners (c.f. Goldsmith 2001, Baroni (An automated distribution-driven prefix learner. Paper presented at the 9th International Morphology Meeting, Vienna, Austria, February 2000), Albright and Hayes [online]) work on extremely large corpora and are limited to morphological parsing and/or the identification of morphemes. Applications of two-level morphology like PC-Kimmo (c.f. Koskenniemi 1983, Antworth 1990) can both parse and generate words but must be provided with a set of rules and a lexicon containing morphemes and morphosyntactic constraints by the user. In other words, it must already know the morphology of the language before it can parse or generate anything. Like stochastic models, WWM literally learns from the lexicon it is given and creates a morphological analysis using nothing but fully-fledged words. Like PC-Kimmo, WWM can generate words but it does so using the knowledge it acquired on its own, not a morphological analysis provided by someone else. I am unaware of any other project that goes beyond analyzing the words it is given to create new ones, but the accuracy of WWM in generation is easily comparable what any of the projects mentioned above achieves in analysis.

4. Conclusions

The computational approach to morphological learning outlined in this paper uses no statistics and no theoretical constructs such as morpheme, stem or affix. It offers substantial evidence that a radically minimal word-based approach to morphology can be formalized enough to be implemented computationally and shows that analogical methods that are applied to reasonably sized datasets can match or even outperform stochastic methods requiring colossal training corpora. The practical applications of the program are quite obvious. Most projects that require a word list would like to see that list grow to its full potential. While a simple survey of the Internet can supply anyone with as many forms as one could possibly need, WWM provides syntactic and morphological labels for every
word it creates. The Internet can then be used to verify that a form created by the program is attested. Whole Word Morphologizer suggests that merely cutting words one already knows into pieces is not enough and that a model of morphology, be it a computational one or not, should be judged not only from the point of view of acquisition but also on its ability to enrich the lexicon. From a cognitive point of view, WWM provides evidence that a truly minimalist theory of morphology coupled with a full-entry-theory of the mental lexicon elegantly accounts for both acquisition and generation in a uniform fashion using only basic cognitive principles such as differentiation and generalization. More information on the theory behind the program, as well as a demo version of Whole Word Morphologizer can be found online at http://www.neuvel.net/linguistics.htm.
Albright, Adam and Bruce Hayes, (Online) An Automated Learner for Phonology and Morphology. Available at http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/linguistics/people/hayes/learning/


