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Speaker : Lukas Kahl

Title : The Insular Celtic Equative

Abstract:

The adjective gradation paradigm of several Celtic languages contains not just comparative and superlative formations, but also a typologically unusual third type. This type can fulfill elative (e.g. "a very large dog"), exclamative (e.g. "What a large dog!") or equative (e.g. "a dog as large as a horse") function. In my talk, I will present the morphological facts, discuss their implications for the subgrouping of Celtic, and consider some possible functional analogues found in certain Uralic languages.