

workshop “Indo-European from within”
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Slavic from within (abstract)

Due to the relatively small span of time between the dissolution of Proto-Slavic and the attestation of the Slavic dialects, reconstructing the common ancestor without taking the evidence of the other Indo-European branches into account is an easier task than for other branches. However, the exercise also raises interesting problems.

In my paper I will see what happens if we reconstruct Proto-Slavic backwards only, on the basis of the Slavic languages. The result will be compared to the usual reconstruction of Proto-Slavic, which also includes “forward” reconstruction on the basis of Proto-Balto-Slavic and Proto-Indo-European.