

Koch ALW 2010 abstract  
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### Etymologies of some Australian kinterms

I will present and discuss some of the findings from the AUSTKIN research project. In particular I will indicate some of the terminology that can be reconstructed and discuss issues that arise from the reconstructions. Three kinds of etymologies will be discussed. (1) Terms which can be reconstructed for a particular genetic groups (Proto-Pama-Nyungan and its subgroups) that can be recognized. (2) Terms that have an areal distribution but which do not match obvious subgroups but may provide evidence for hitherto unsuspected subgroups. (3) Terms whose distribution can be shown to be the result of borrowing. The evidence for loanword status will be given, as well as discussions of possible reasons for borrowing. Issues of semantic change may be touched upon, but that will not be the focus of the presentation.