

Some apparent cases of suppletion in Vedic: the case of 'water'

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Our handbooks usually tell us that the Vedic word for 'water' is only inflected in the oblique cases (gen. *udnás*, loc. *udán(i)*, etc.) and thus has a defective paradigm. Only Wackernagel in his *AiGr.* III says that the nom. and acc. sg. of this paradigm were supplied by *udakám*.

In my paper, I will argue that (1) *udakám* does not provide the strong cases of the paradigm, as it has a different meaning; (2) the strong cases of *udán-* were supplied by *vār*, which can be demonstrated by an analysis of the common formulae; and (3) this was an extremely archaic paradigm, inherited from Proto-Indo-European.