

Osthoff, Hermann. 1899. Vom Suppletivwesen der indogermanischen Sprachen. Heidelberg: Kommissionsverlag von Alfred Wolff.

It was in this book that the term “suppletion” was introduced. The book aims at an exhaustive list of all instances of suppletion in 45 Indo-European languages of different branches, and second, at finding the lexical sources for suppletion. There are two parts and an index of all the words that are discussed. The first part consists of the following chapters:

1. Suppletion in verbs (tense, aspect, person);
2. Suppletion in feminine formation in nouns (*sheep - ram*);
3. Suppletion in adjectives (degree)
4. Suppletion in numerals (ordinal formation);
5. Suppletion in pronouns (gender formation, case and number inflection). Note that number in personal pronouns considered to be an instance of suppletion, but on the whole, the author does not make a point about suppletion being only for inflectional categories.

The second part gives the sources of the examples used and discussed parallel examples from Semitic languages.