Property predication in Koryak: Focusing on topicalization

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This presentation aims to argue that the traditionally called “qualitative adjectives” in Koryak is practically the property predication type proposed by the newly developed predication typology in the field of Japanese linguistics in Japan. This argument is based on the facts that so-called ‘qualitative adjectives’ can be derived not only from adjective stems but also from other word class stems, including verbal stems, and that they show several violations of the general structural constraint of this language, which can be regarded as both morphological and syntactic manifestations of topicalization. A language such as Koryak, which recognizes the difference between property predication and event predication as both morphologically and syntactically clear forms, has hitherto not been discussed in the field of languages worldwide. Thus, this presentation indicates a possibility to broaden the perspective of the new predication typology.