

Continuity and interactions: the integration and influence of Polynesian communities in central and south Vanuatu

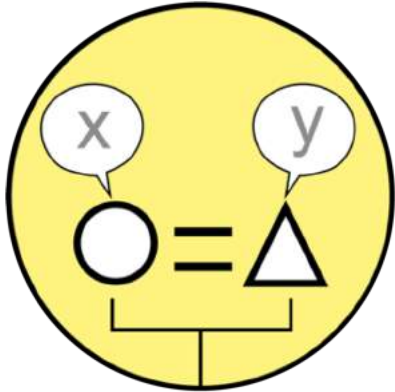
Aymeric Hermann



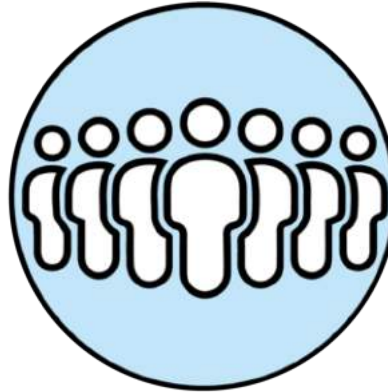
Emae and Makura, Shepherd islands, Central Vanuatu

Potential non-linguistic causes for linguistic change and diversity

Linguistic exogamy



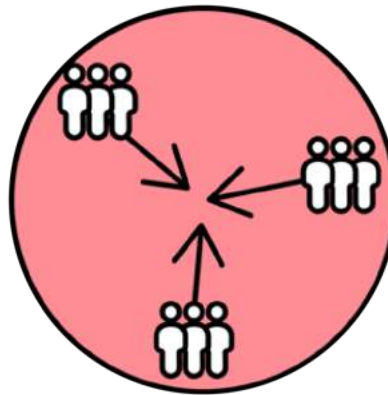
Demography



Ecology



Natural hazard

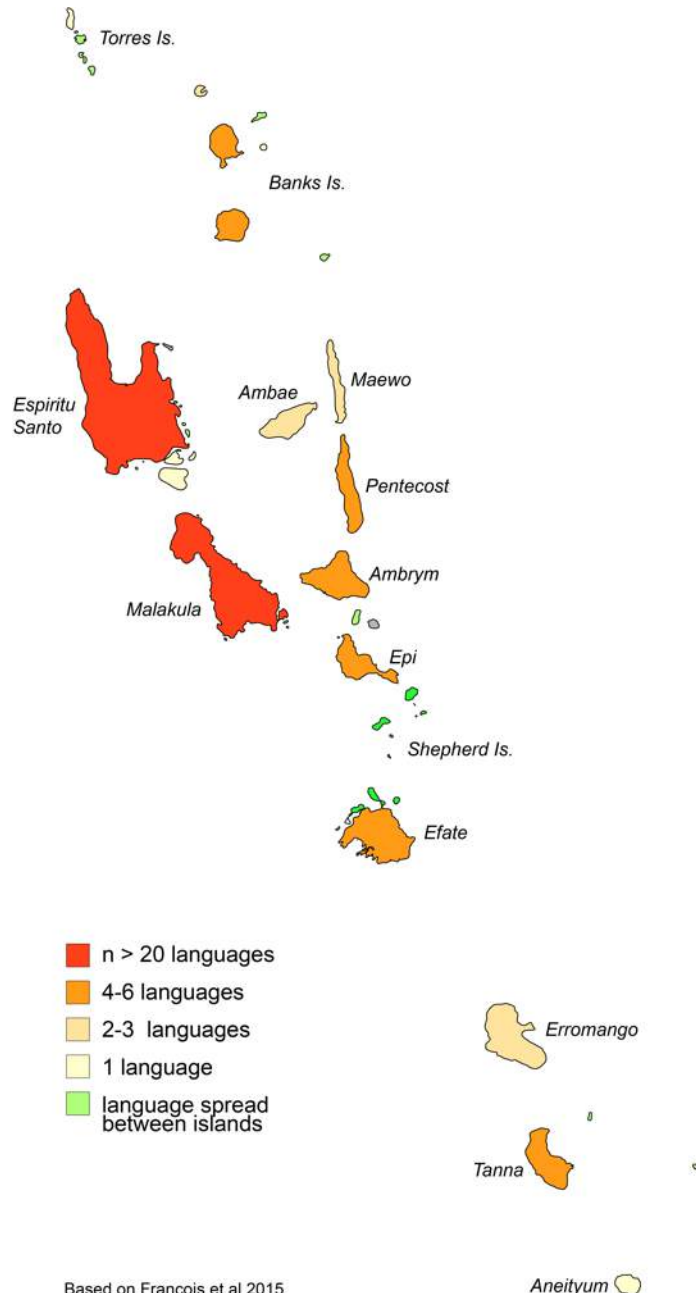


Migrations



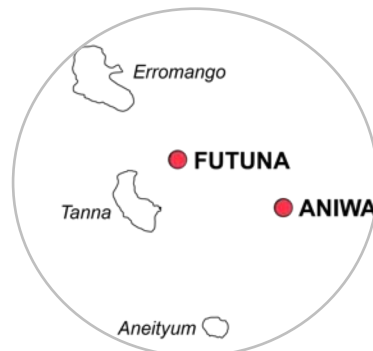
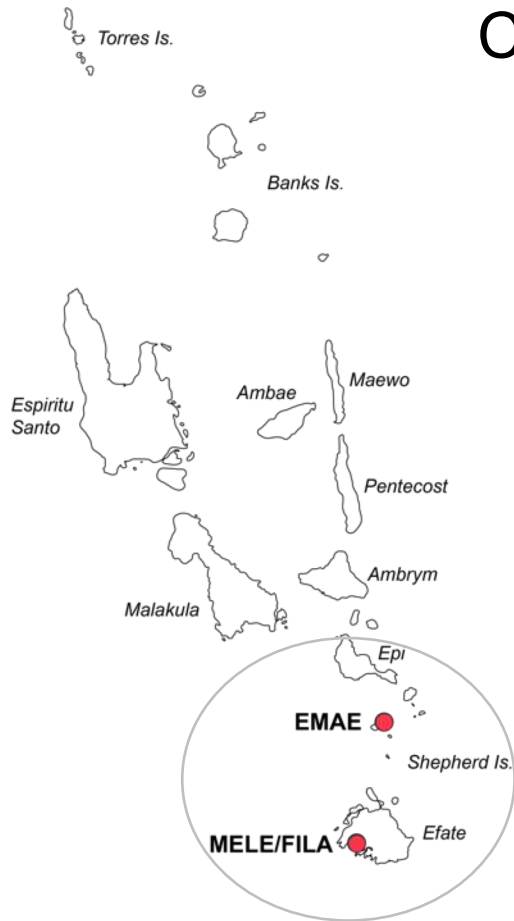
Isolation

Linguistic diversity in Vanuatu



- A complex settlement history
- Inter-community interaction networks
- Multilingualism and exogamy
- Populations displaced because of volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, landslides caused by long-term human induced environmental modifications

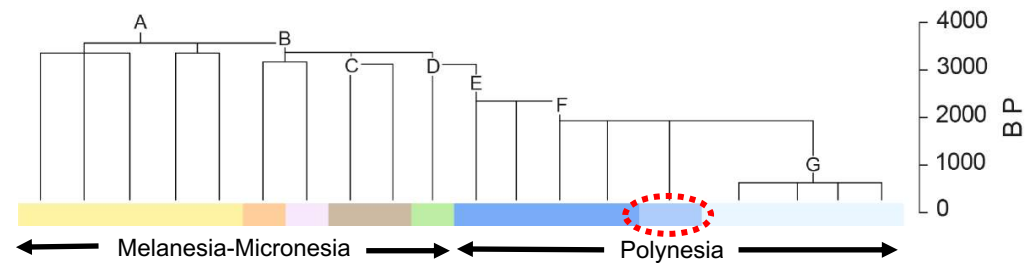
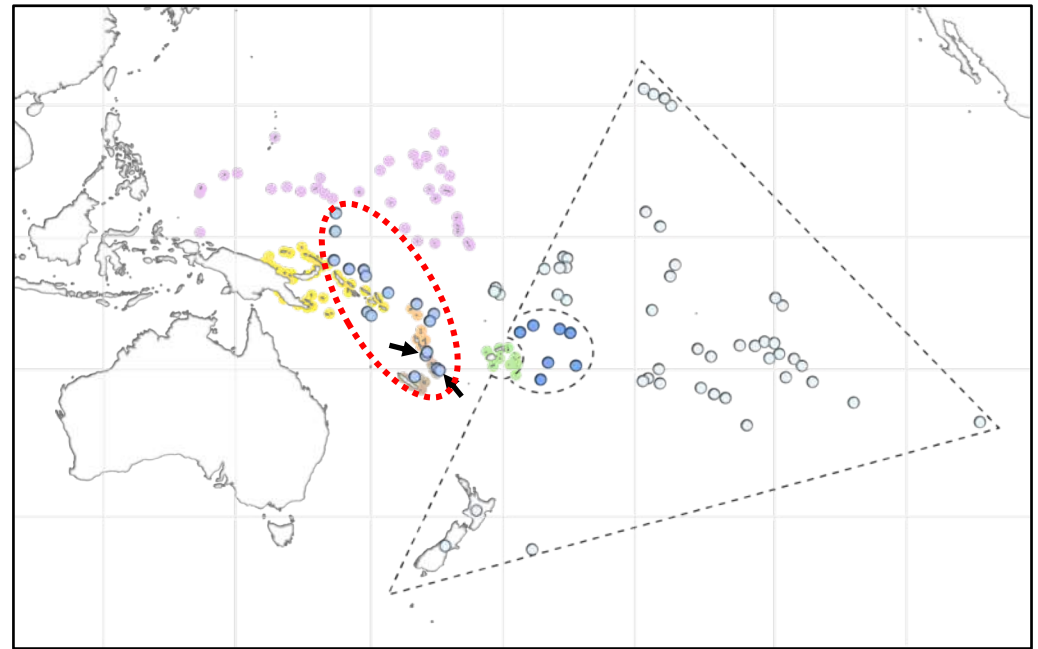
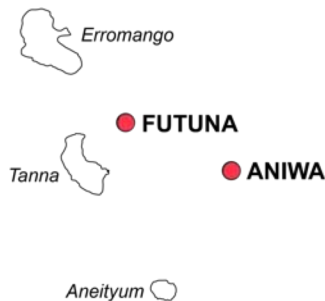
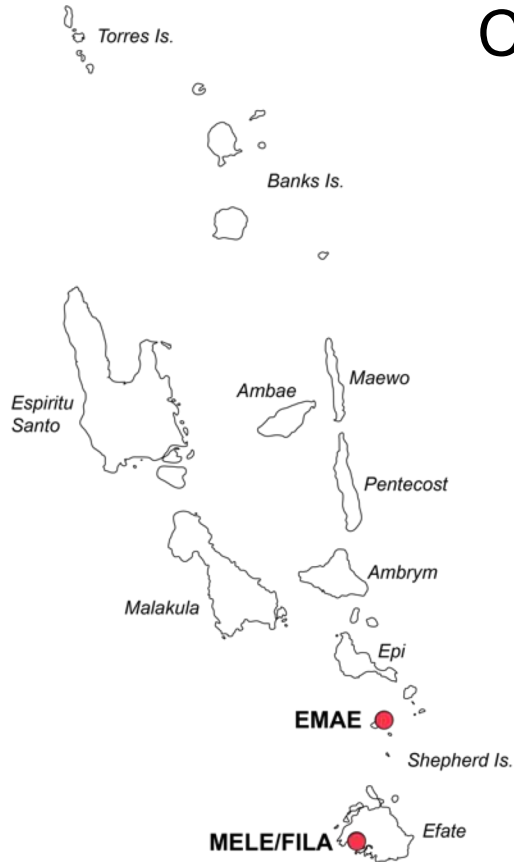
Canoes from the East: the Polynesian outliers



- 2 distinct cultural spheres
- Different sociopolitical organizations (moieties in the South, stratified system of chiefly titles in the center)
- 2 contact situations with linguistic and cultural exchange

> Possibility of “controlled comparisons” between the two regions

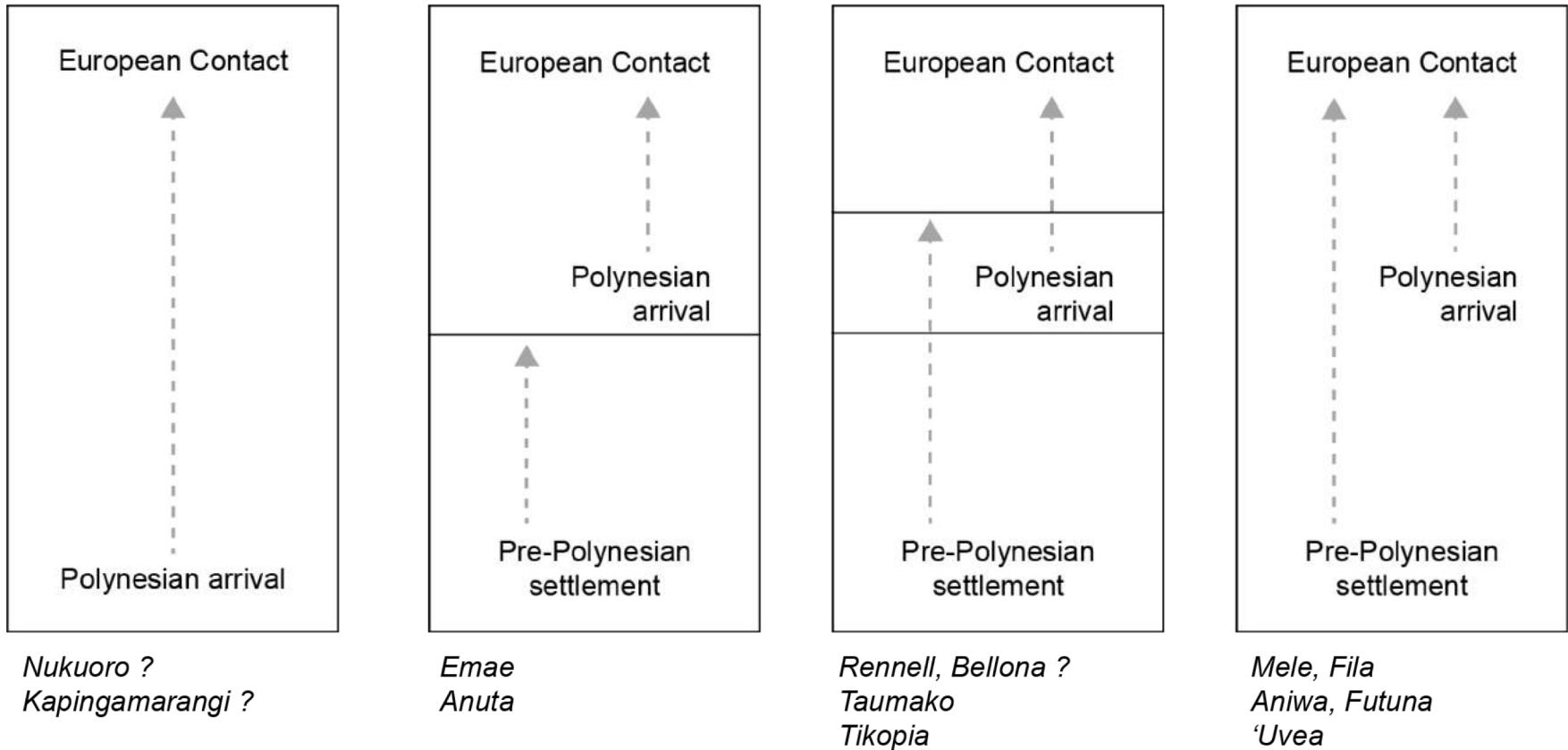
Canoes from the East: the Polynesian outliers



A: Proto-Oceanic
B: Remote Oceanic
C: Southern Oceanic
D: Proto Central Pacific

E: Proto-Polynesian
F: Proto Nuclear Polynesian
G: Proto Eastern Polynesian

The Polynesian Outliers : hypotheses of settlement history

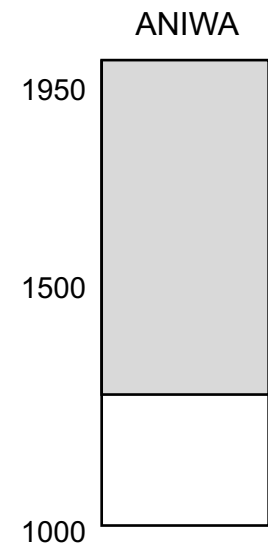
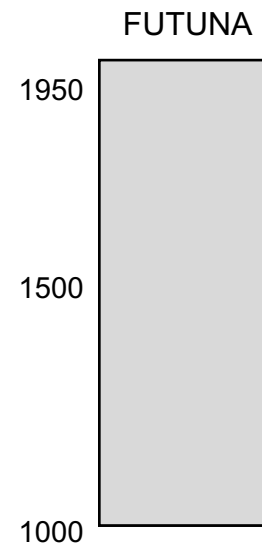
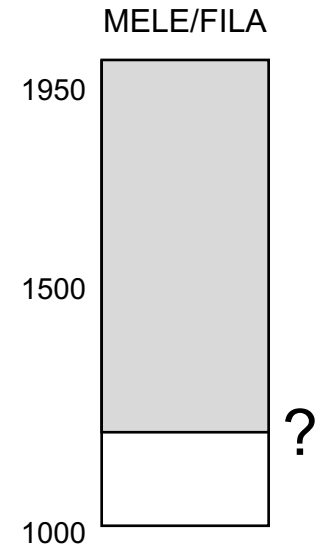
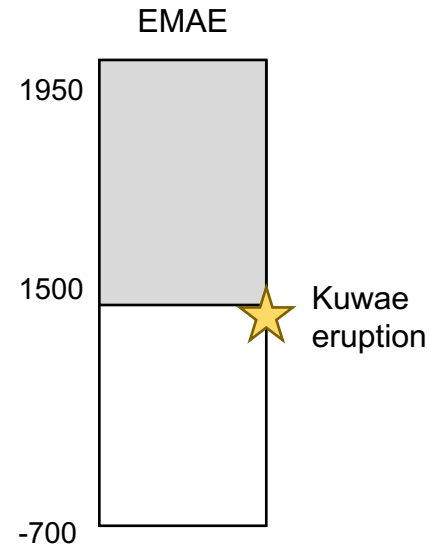
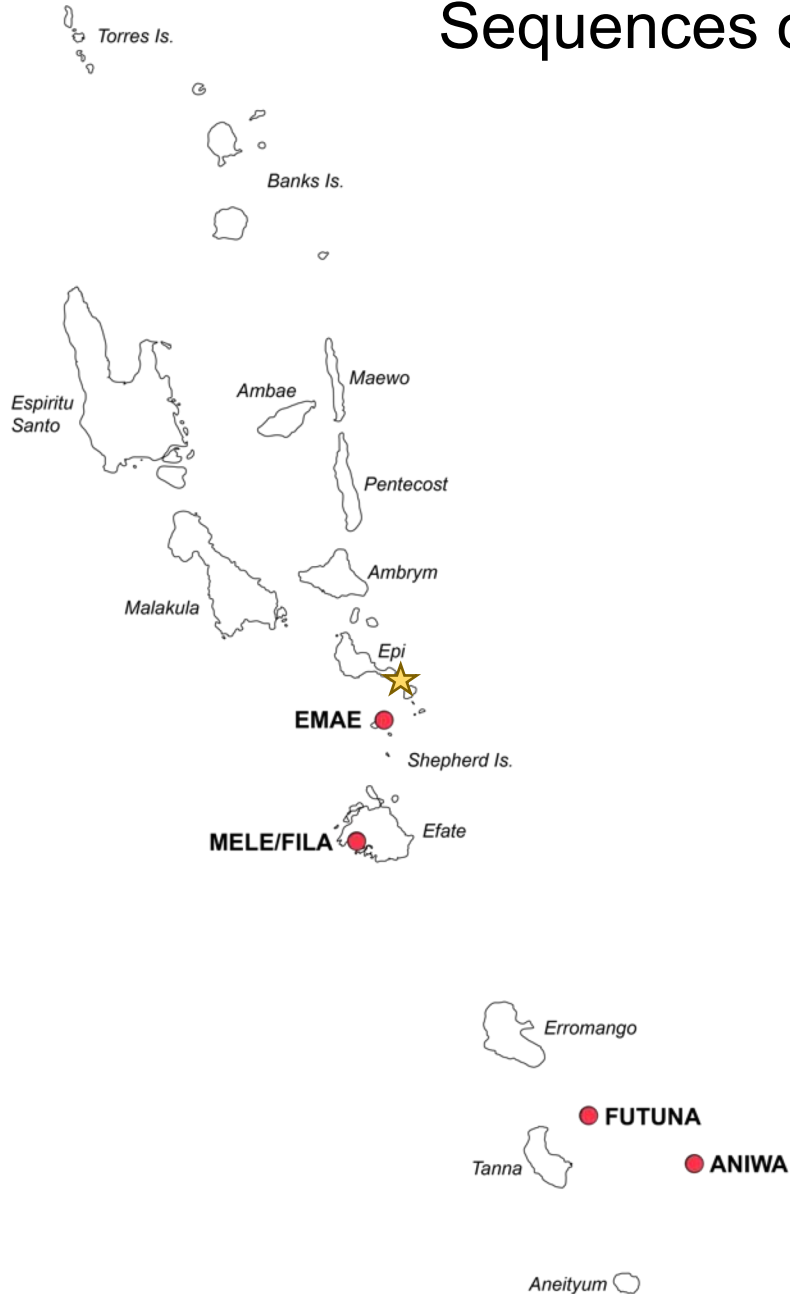


Possibility of inter-Outlier settlement process

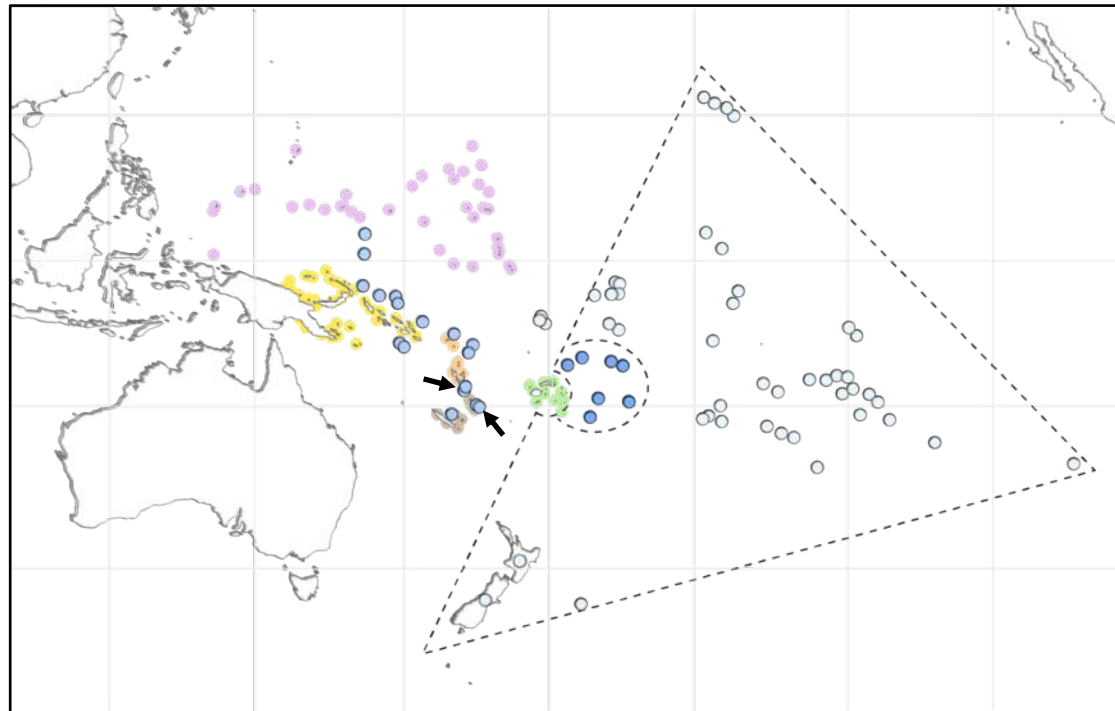


Inter-island interactions

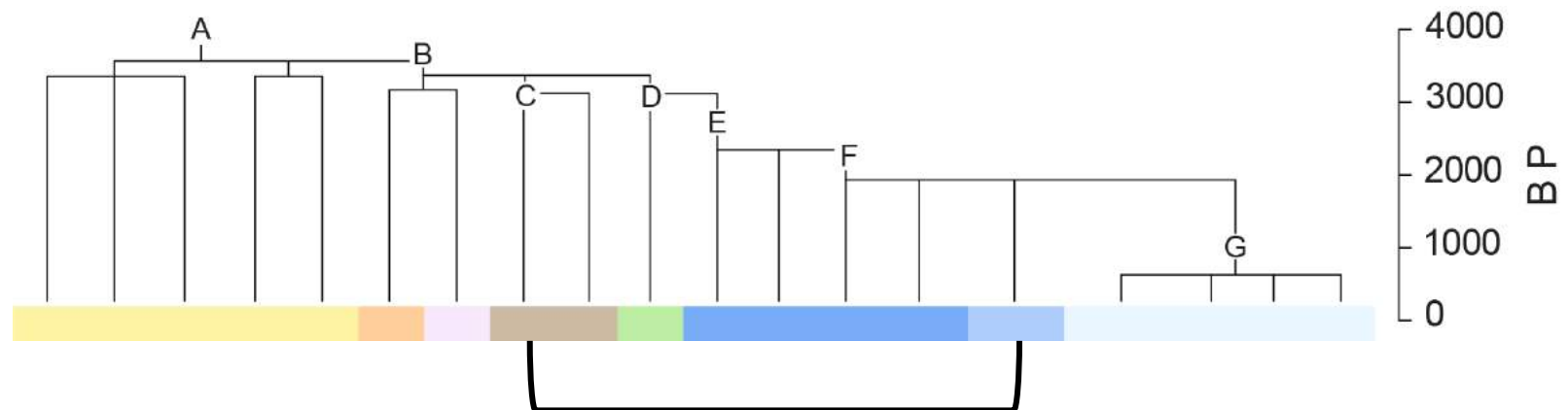
Sequences of the Polynesian outliers of Vanuatu



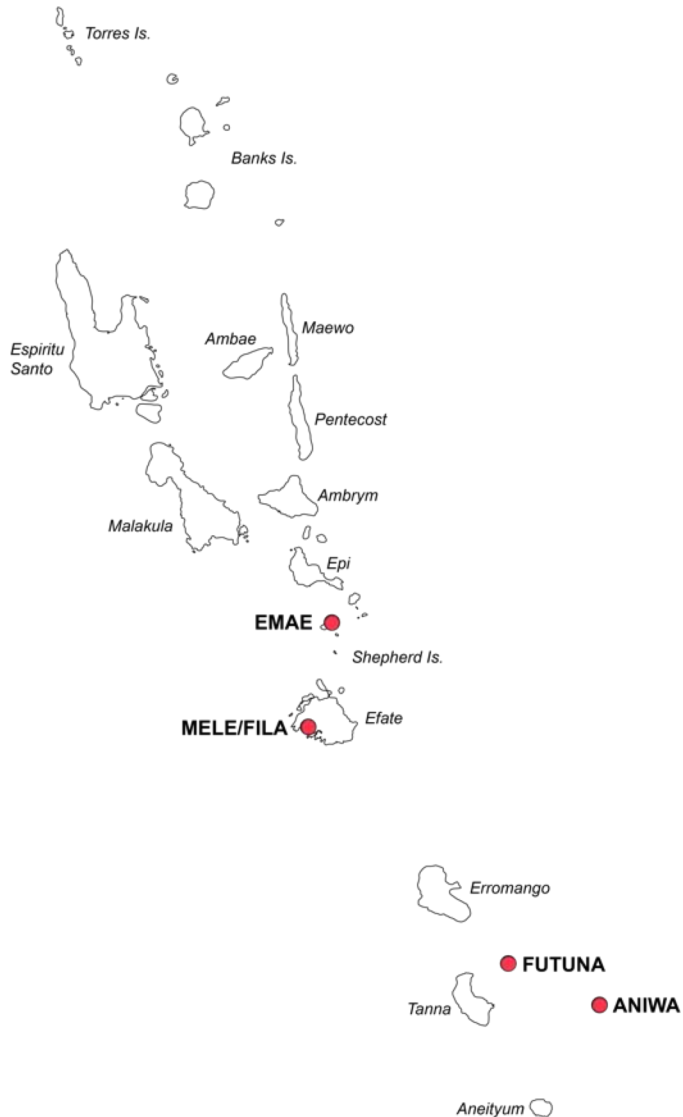
Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu



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Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu



Data collected by several linguists:

In **central Vanuatu** by Ross Clark, Jean-Claude Rivière, Albert Schütz and Hans Schmidt

In **south Vanuatu** by John Lynch, Janet Dougherty, Arthur Capell and Lamont Lindstrom

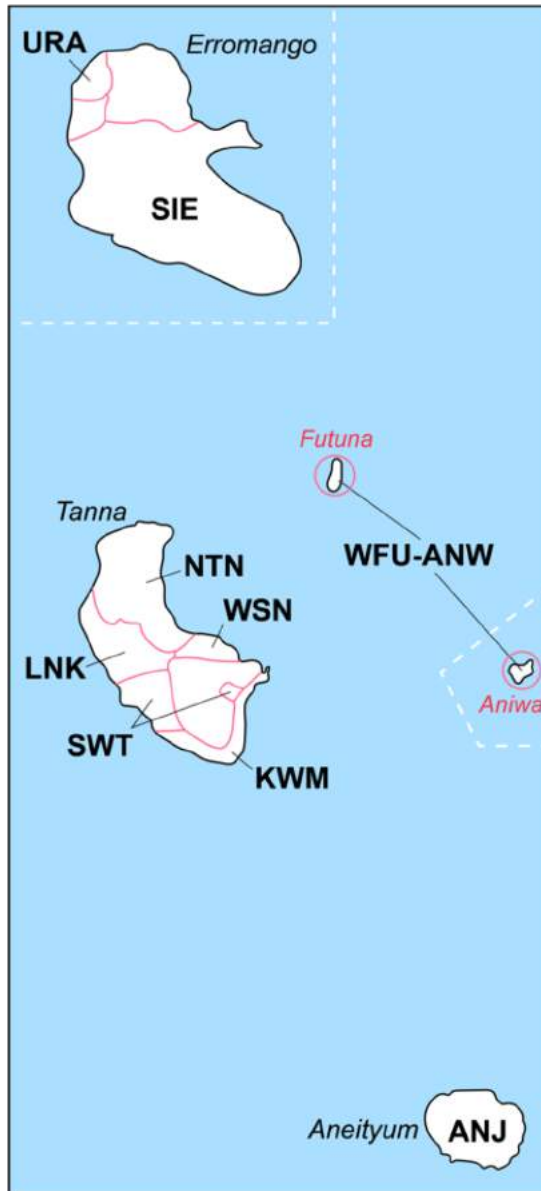
Literature on PN borrowings in Vanuatu languages:

Lynch, John. 1994. "Melanesian Sailors on a Polynesian Sea: Maritime Vocabulary in Southern Vanuatu." In *Austronesian Terminologies: Continuity and Change*, edited by Andrew Pawley and Malcolm Ross, 289–300. C-127. Pacific Linguistics, The Australian National University.

Lynch, John. 1996. "Kava-Drinking in Southern Vanuatu: Melanesian Drinkers, Polynesian Roots." *Journal of the Polynesian Society* 105 (1): 27–40.

Clark, Ross. 1996. "Linguistic Consequences of the Kuwae Eruption." In *Oceanic Culture History: Essays in Honour of Roger Green*, edited by Janet Davidson, Geoffrey Irwin, Foss Leach, Andrew Pawley, and D. Brown, 275–85. New Zealand Journal of Archaeology Special Publication.

Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu



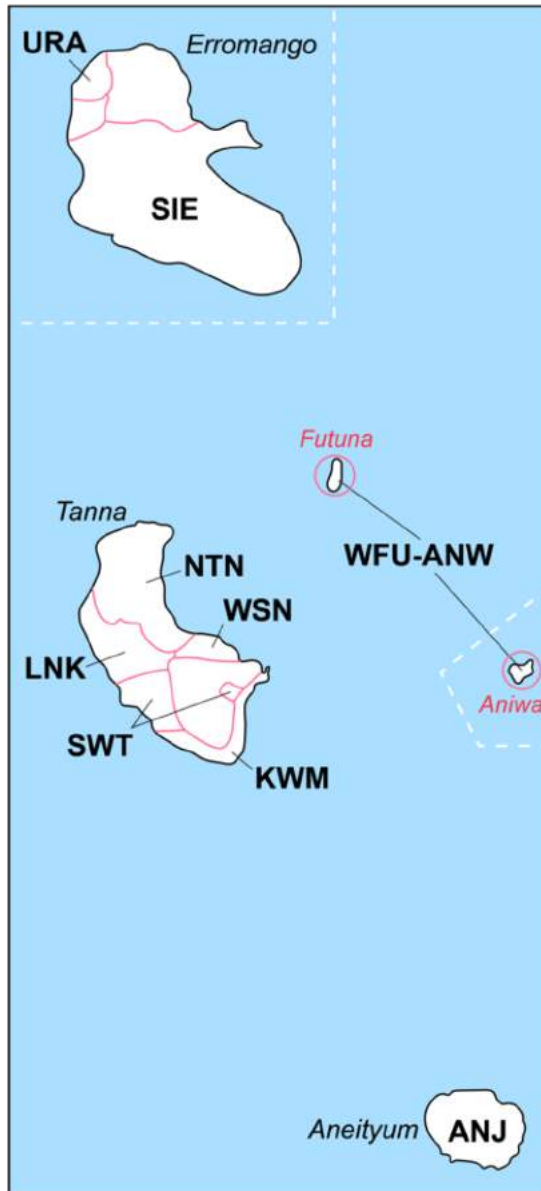
Marine environment, marine resources and sailing technology

Semantic value	Protoform	WFU	ANW	NTN	LNK	WSN	SWT	KWM	ANJ	SIE
'bay'	PSO *[faʔi]awa	feiava	fiava	na/feafa	nu/heafe	nə/feafe	nə/feafe	nə/feafe	na/fayava	
'wave'	PPN *peau	peau	peau	peau	peau	peau	peau	peau	ne/peau	ni/mpiau
'calm sea'	PPN *malino	marino		ə/məlinu	a/mərinu	a/melinu	a/mərinu	a/mərinu		
'whirlwind'	PPN *ʔa(a)siosio	siosio	siosio	siosio	siosio	siosio	siosio	siosio		
'prevailing wind'	PPN *tokelau (north wind)	tokorau (W, SW)			tokolau (S)		tokolau (SE)	takwarau (S-SE)		
'whale'	PPN *taf(ou)raʔa	tafora	tafara	təpla	toulhaai	tafla	toulhaai	tafra		tovura
'sea snake'	?	taŋarua	taŋaro	taŋalua	taŋalua		taŋalua	taŋarua		
'canoe mast'	PPN *tila	fila		tila	tila	tila	tila			
'outrigger boom'	PPN *kiato	kiato		noa-nə/kiatu	(noua-) nə/kiatu	noua-nə/njatu	kwa-nə/kiatu	nə/kiatu	na/kiato	
'fishhook'	PPN *matau	metao		metao	nə/metau	nə/metau	kwa-n/metau	kwa-n/metau		

WFU-ANW : West Futuna/Aniwa
 NTN : North Tanna
 LNK : Lenakel
 SWT : Southwest Tanna
 WSN : Whitesands
 KWM : Kwamera
 ANJ : Aneityum
 SIE : Sie
 URA : Ura



Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu

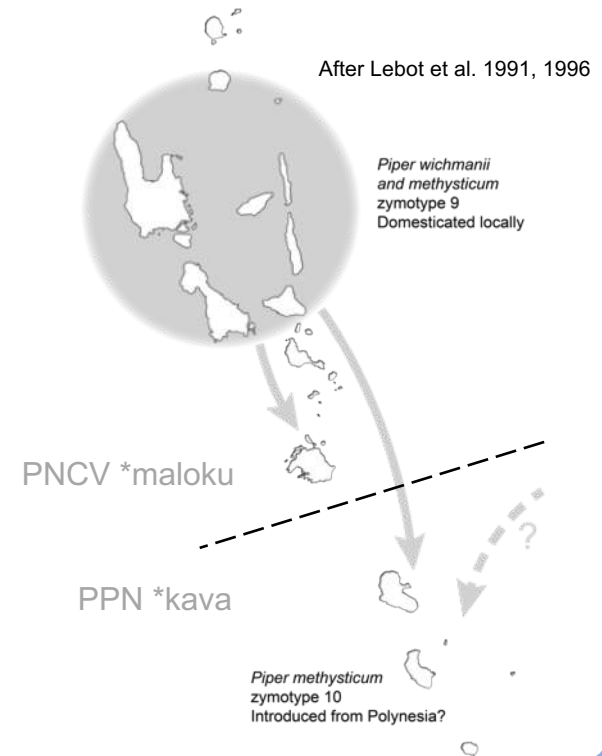


Kava (Piper sp.) consumption

Semantic value	Protoform	WFU	ANW	NTN	LNK	WSN	SWT	KWM	ANJ	SIE
'kava'	PPN *kava (PNCV *maloku)	kava		nika	nikava	nikava	nikava	nikava	kava	nacave
'kind of kava' 'bowl/canoe'	?	poruku						taporoka		
'kava strainer'	?	fao			nivhau			nafáu	nafau	
'libation of kava' 'ritual spitting'	PPN *taumafa (ceremonial food)	taumafa			timavha			tamafa		
'kava food'	PPN *fono	fono			nahunu			nafunu	nafono	novunu



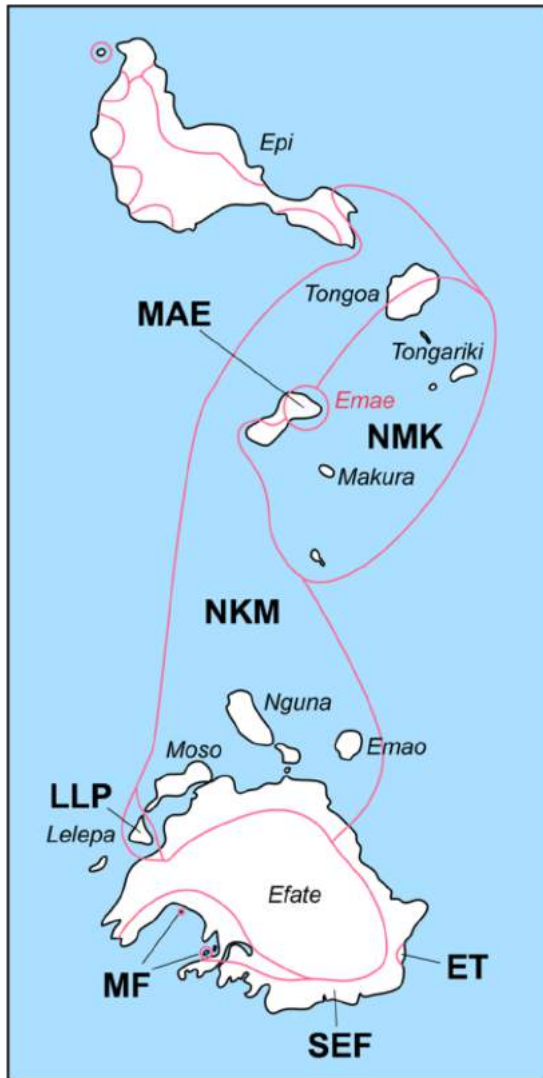
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Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu

Marine environment, marine resources and sailing technology

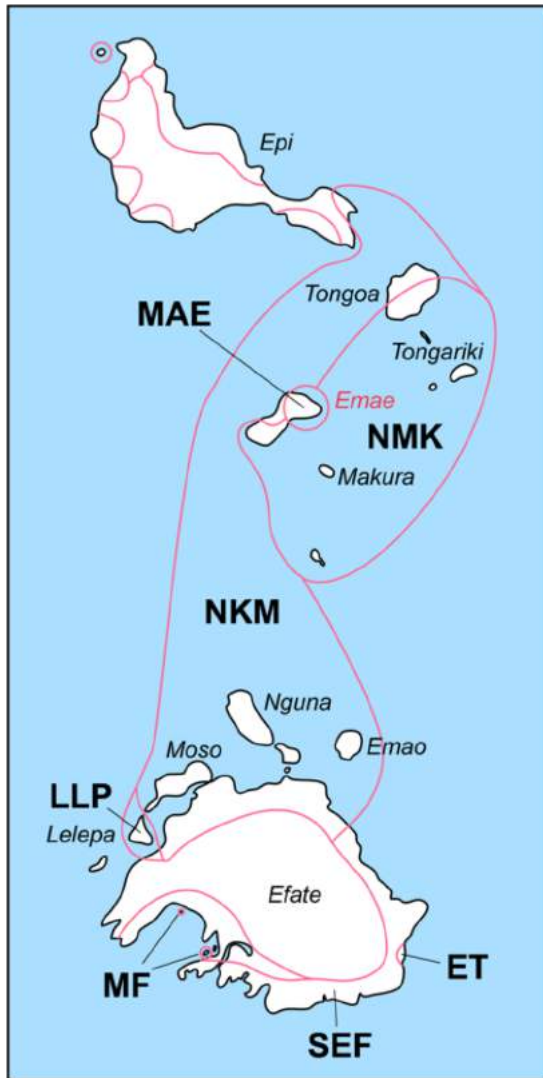
Semantic value	Protoform	MAE	MF	NKM	SEF	NMK
'wave'	PPN *peau	piau	peau	napeao	napiau	napiau
'whale'	PPN *taf(ou)raʔa	tafaraa, tafora	tafuraa	tavira, tavura, fafraa, tafura		
'conch shell' 'cone shell'	PPN *kaleʔa	karea		karea, kaarea	kareo	
'giant clam'	PPN *pasua	faasua	vasuvaasua	vaasua		vaasu
'triton shell (Charonia tritonis)'	PNP *puʔu		puu	pupu, puupuu	pupu	
'calm sea'	PPN *mate PPN *malino	mate, marino	tamate	damat, tam(w)atean	tmat	
'whirlwind'	PPN *wili (twist)		tavivi	sua tafiro		sutavir
'canoe mast'	PPN *tila	tira	jira	natira, tere	natir	tir
'outrigger boom'	PPN *kiato	kiato	kiato	kiato, nakiato	nakiat	
'surgeonfish (Acanthurus sp.)'	PPN *manini	manini	manini	maniini		manin-a
'cold wind, strong chilling wind with rain'	PPN *laki (west wind)					naraki



MAE : Emae
MF : Mele/ Fila
NKM : Nakanamanga
NMK : Namakura
LLP : Lelepa
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Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu



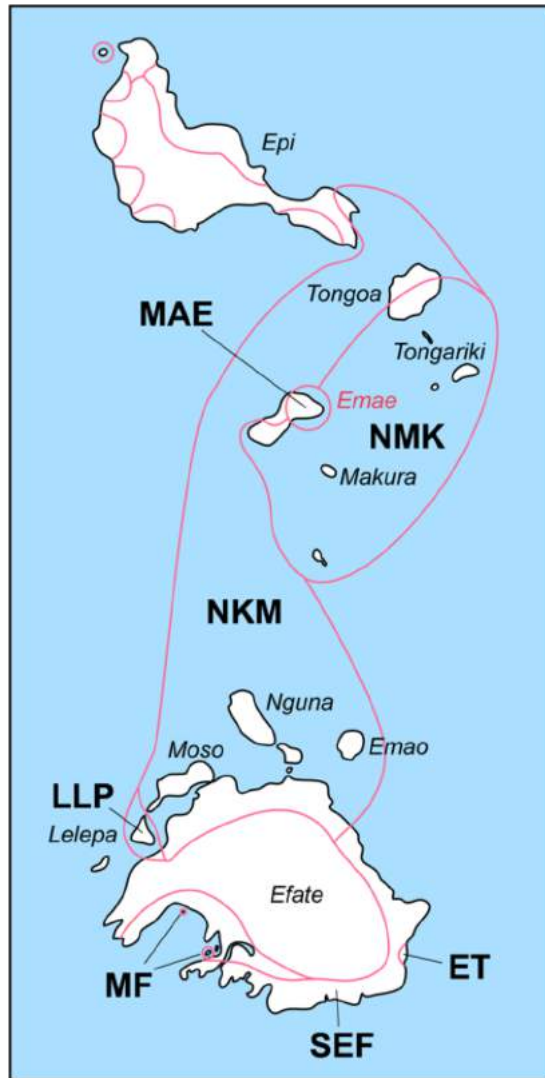
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Plant and plant use

Semantic value	Protoform	MAE	MF	NKM	SEF	NMK
'type of basket'	PPN *kawē ('carry')	kavei	kavekave	kavekave, gafikafi, kafikafi		
'coconut'	POC *niuR	niu	niu	naniu		
'coconut milk (squeeze out)'	PPN *roro-ʔi	roroi	roro	roroi, doroia		doiaro
'coconut milk'	PPN *lolo		roro	loore		roroi
'coconut base fibre'	PPN *kaka	kaka		kaaka, sie kaaka	kak	
'cook food wrapped in leaves'	PPN *kofu		kofua, kofu	kovu	kof	
'coconut leaf basket'	PPN *polapola		porapora	pora, poora, nepora	napor	
'a kind of vine (Epipremnum sp.)'	PSO *morokau		morokau	namooro, namoro		
'kind of mat'	PPN *mohe-ŋa		moega	namoega		
'breadfruit (Artocarpus altilis)'	PPN *kulu	kuro	kuru	kutu (na batau)		
'Gyrocarpus sp. or Pisonia sp. (used to make canoe hull)'	PPN *puka	puka	puka, puka roro	buka, puka	napuk, puk, napukror	bik
'malay apple tree (Syzygium mal)'	PPN *kafika	kafika	kafika	nakavika	nkafik	na-kavika, kavik
'sea trumpet tree (Cordia sub)'	PPN *milo	miro	miro	namiro	namir	



Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu



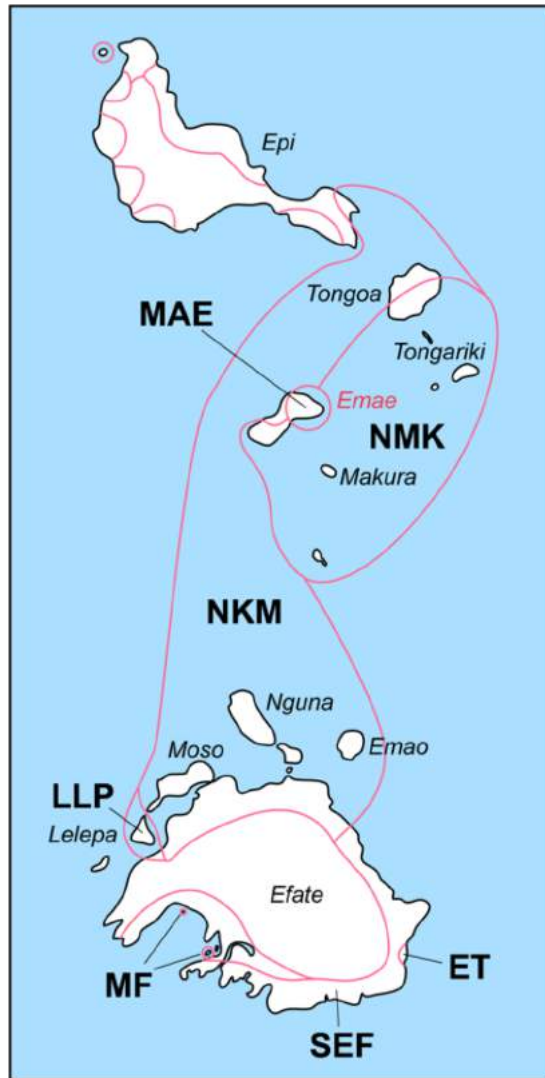
MAE : Emae
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Architecture, domestic items

Semantic value	Protoform	MAE	MF	NKM	SEF
'broken coral, coral gravel'	PPN *kili-kili	kavei	kavekave	kavekave, gafikafi, kafikafi	
'eaves of a house'	PPN *tala		tara	natara	tar
'woven coconut-leaf panel (for wall or roof)'	PPN *pola	pora	pora	napora	por, napor
'adze'	PPN *toki	toki	toki	tooki	



Linguistic exchange and Polynesian borrowings in Vanuatu



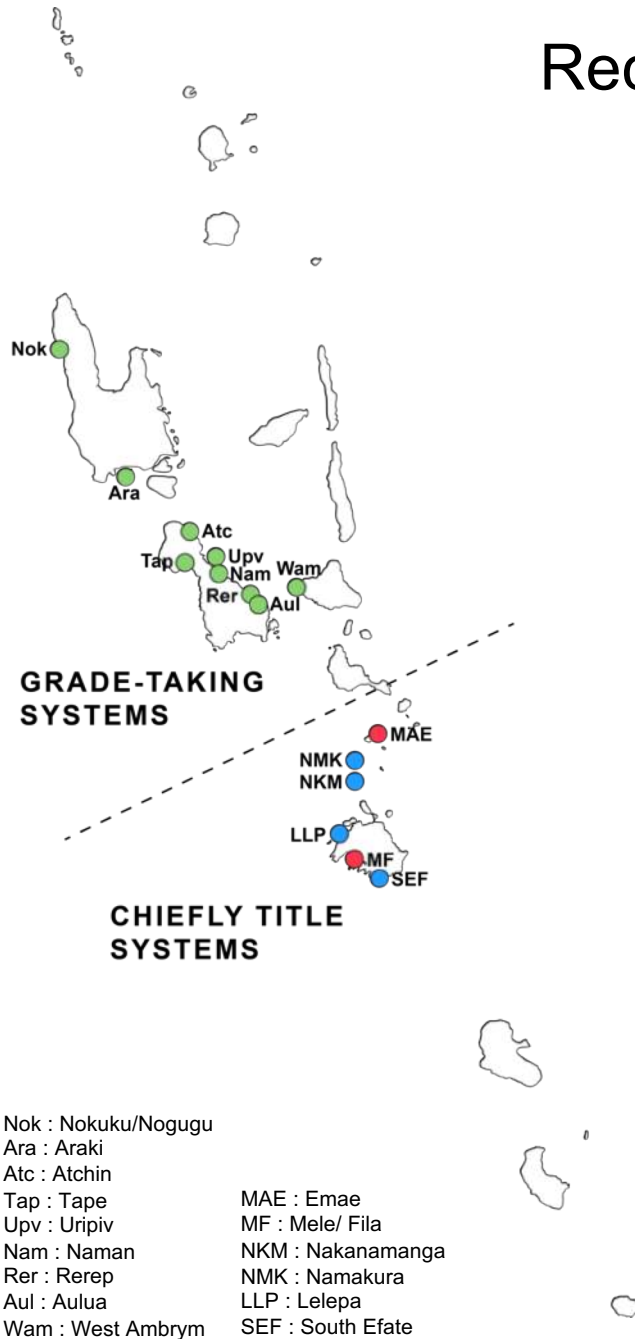
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Social groups, leadership

Semantic value	Protoform	MAE	MF	NKM	NMK	SEF	LLP
'matrilineal clan' 'descent group'	PPN *kainaga		kainaga	nakainaga, nakainaga nani(nau), kainaga, kaninaga, kanitana		namatarao	nakainanga
'titled persons subordinate to another'	PPN *kainaga	nakainaga			kainag		
'house'	PPN *fale	fare	fare	valea			
'kin-based group'	PPN *fale	varea	fa(a)rea	varea, farea	vare		
'chief's meeting house', 'dancing ground', 'men's house'				varea, farea		efare	
'tribute to chief (by lower chiefs)'	PPN *sau ('gift, or counter gift' and 'secular ruler')		sautoga	nasautoga, sautonga	sautog	saotog	nasautoga
'advisor to a war leader; giant'; 'big, very large'	PPN *pule ('have authority; exert authority')		puule	pule, puule			
'ornaments of a chief'	PPN *laakei ('Adorn, bedeck; ornament')		fakaraakei	rekei, dekei, tekei			
'spirit, ancient, fairy, dwarf'	PPN *tupu?a ('supernatural being, demon')	tupua	tupua	natipua, tupua, topua			



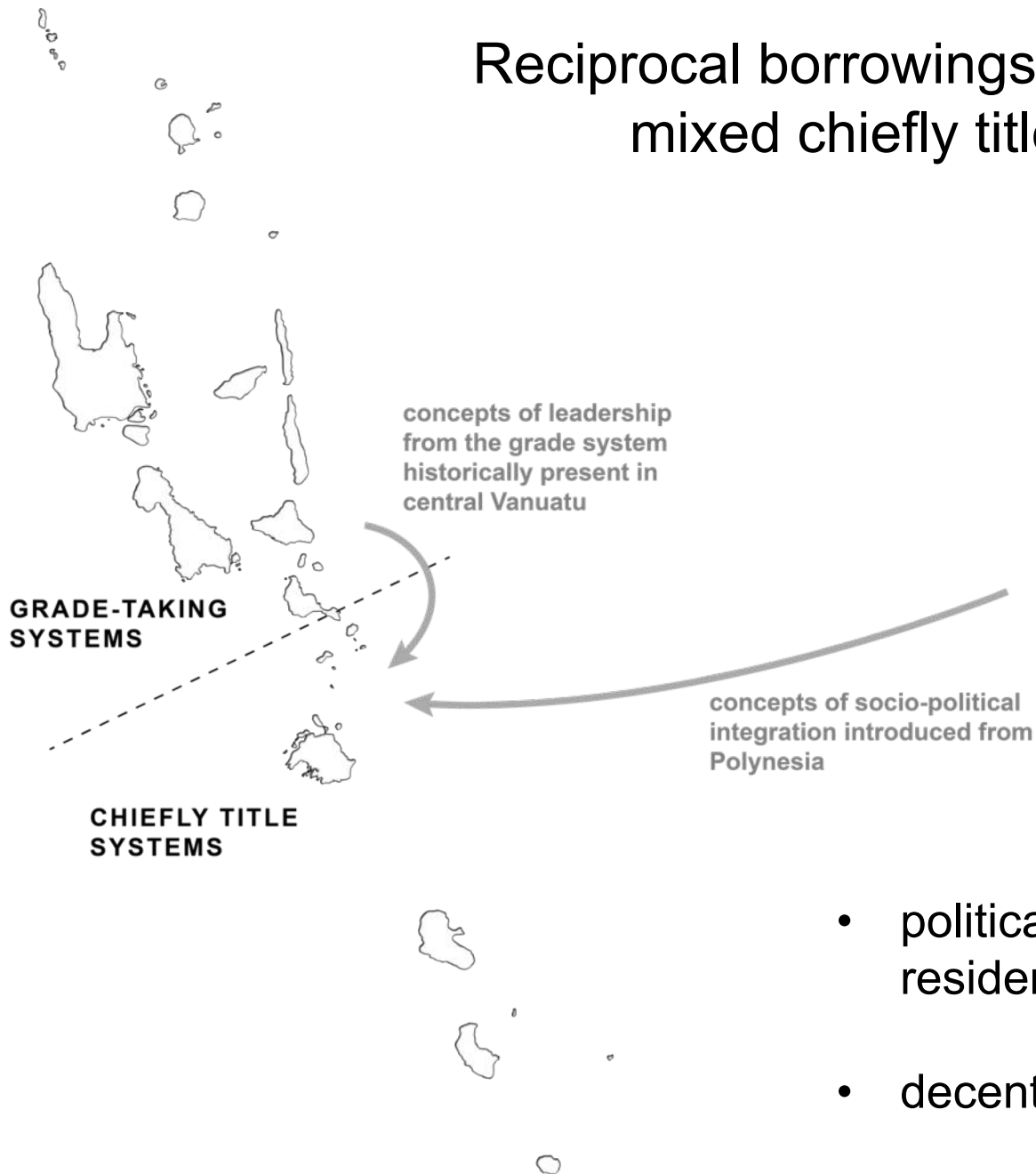
Reciprocal borrowings clarify the origins of a mixed chiefly title system in Vanuatu ?



Semantic value	Protoform	Wam	Atc	Nok	Upv	Ara	Tap	Nam	Rer	Aul
'title of the highest grade(s) of fangkon [graded society] chief(s)'	PNCV *mala	mal								
'the kite; a maki title'	PNCV *mala		ni-mal							
'captain' (mala: 'hawk'; saue 'high')	PNCV *mala			mala						
'chief'	PNCV *mala				nu-mal	m"ala	neë-mwal	nu-mal	na-mar	na-mal

Semantic value	Protoform	MAE	MF	NKM	SEF	LLP
'to govern, to lead', 'leadership'	PNCV *mala	marakina	maraamara, maraakia	mara, mera gi, mera ki, merakian, namerakian, meramera, namerameran	mrag, mrang	
'ruling men, members of the chiefly council, leaders (plural)'	PNCV *mala		maramara-ga	tea maramara, tea maraki		temraki

Reciprocal borrowings clarify the origins of a mixed chiefly title system in Vanuatu ?



- political integration of smaller residential groups
- decentralized leadership

Conclusion and perspectives

- Lower number of languages in Central and South Vanuatu compared to the North of the archipelago
- Spread of lexical items associated with higher political integration (in central Vanuatu)
- Role of Polynesian outlier communities in social organization innovation of central Vanuatu versus forms already present in the past ?
- Our ongoing archaeological and ethnohistorical work in central Vanuatu will provide more information about the arrival and integration of Polynesian communities, and potentially on the origin and evolution of this chiefly title system, therefore providing a better understanding of the evolution of linguistic diversity and cultural mixing in the region