

Supplementary Information for Cultural transmission,  
networks, and clusters among Austronesian-speaking  
peoples

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## 154 **S1 Supplementary Results**

### **S1.1 Imputation**

156 **Iterative imputer.** Iterative imputation works from least to most missing values per column using  
the imputed values in successive iterations. At each iteration, one feature (cultural trait) is chosen  
158 as the dependent variable  $y$ , and the other features are treated as independent variables,  $X$ . Then  
features  $y$  are iterated according to which of them has the least missing values, assuming the inferred  
160 values from the previous iteration. A regression model is fitted to the  $(X, y)$  pairs without missing  
values. The fitted regression model is then used to predict missing  $y$  values, ending the current  
162 iteration. At the next iteration, another feature is chosen as  $y$ , a new regression model is fitted and  
used to predict missing values, and so on, until all missing features are assigned an expected value.  
164 We used the `IterativeImputer` implementation in *Scikit-learn* (Pedregosa et al., 2011), a Python  
machine learning library. For the initialization step, where a first estimate is obtained, missing values  
166 were replaced by the column mean. The following regression models were considered: Bayesian  
ridge regression (IIBR), nearest neighbors regression with five or ten neighbors (IIKNN5, IIKNN10),  
168 decision tree regression (IIDT), and random forest regression (IIRF).

**Comparison of imputation strategies.** There was a strong correlation between MSE (mean squared  
170 error) and accuracy across all datasets and imputation approaches (see Figure S23). Thus, we focused  
on differences in effect size imposed by differing MSEs and generally found small differences in the  
172 accuracy of VBPCA imputation relative to other imputation algorithms across the 50 replicates and the  
four Austronesian datasets. None of the imputers consistently outperformed VBPCA. Across datasets  
174 IIBR was 3.9% less accurate (95% CI 1.1 – 3.8%, *Religion*) and 2.1% (95% CI 1.5 – 2.8%; *Social  
Organization*) more accurate than VBPCA. IIDT was between 11.8% (9.5-14.1%, *Cultural Interaction*)  
176 less accurate and 0.5% (0.01–1.0%) more accurate than VBPCA. IIKNN5 between 3.3% (0.5–6.1%,  
*Cultural Interaction*) less and 2.3% (0.8–3.8%, *Religion*) more accurate than VBPCA. IIKNN10  
178 between 4.7% (2.2–7.1%, *Cultural Interaction*) less and 4.0% (2.6–5.4%, *Religion*) more accurate.  
IIRF between 11.5% (9.1-13.9%, *Cultural Interaction*) less and 1.4% (0.9-1.9%, *Social Organization*)  
180 more accurate. Simple (replacement of missing values by column means) between 3.4% (2.9-3.8%,  
*Social Organization*) less and 2.3% (1.0-3.7%, *Religion*) more accurate (see Figure S21).

### 182 **S1.2 Denoising**

The proportion of cumulative variance explained by the optimal number of principal components  
184 for data reconstruction as determined by VBPCA using classical PCA after filling missing values via  
different imputation approaches is a measure of the degree of noise VBPCA filters for each dataset. As  
186 can be seen in Figure S22, the *Social Organization* dataset has the most noise filtered out, followed by  
*Religion*, *Subsistence*, and finally by *Cultural Interaction*. The degree of variance explained by each  
188 of the considered imputation strategies is tightly clustered by the dataset and the proportion of noise  
filtered is not solely a function of the number of significant components, the size of the original data,  
190 or the number of PCs for the optimal reconstruction (see Figure S22, and Anonymous, 2023).

### S1.3 Effect of missing data on downstream analysis

192 We checked for differences in the degree of missingness between linguistic outlier and non-outlier  
cultures in each cultural class and correlations between how much data was missing and archetype  
194 loadings. We found no significant differences in the proportion of missing data, except for the Agri-  
culture archetype, between outliers and non-outliers in any of the cultural classes using Dunn's test  
196 for stochastic dominance with null hypotheses that there was no difference in stochastic dominance  
(Table S11).

198 We also checked for correlation between extreme (max and min) archetype values for each culture and  
each cultural class and did not find significant correlations between extreme values and the degree of  
200 missingness (Table S12).

### S1.4 Naming of archetypes

202 **Social Organization.** Analysis of the *Social organization* class of variables revealed five cultural  
archetypes, which we name Duolateral Communities, Patrilineal Clans, Neo-local Kindreds, Matri-  
204 lineal Clans, and Ambilineal Chiefdoms, based on their correlation with the original variables in this  
class (Figure S12). Ambilineality is associated with chiefdoms because cultures belonging to this  
206 archetype were also associated with *social stratification into a hereditary aristocracy and a lower*  
*class* (Spearman correlation,  $\rho = 0.45, p < 0.001$ ), which is a classic characteristic of chiefdoms  
208 (Earle, 1997; Feinman and Marcus, 1998; Yoffee, 2005). Duolateral indicates the presence of both  
matrilineal and patrilineal kin groups; bilateral indicates the absence of matri/patrilineal kin groups  
210 and the presence of cognatic kin groups; ambilineal means kin reckoning of both matrilineal and  
patrilineal kin without set order (Kirby et al., 2016; Fortunato, 2019).

212 **Subsistence.** We found four cultural archetypes for the *Subsistence* cultural class, which we name  
Roots & Pigs, Grains & Cattle, and Fish & Fruits (Figure S14). In addition to modes of subsistence  
214 for which the archetypes are named, there were significant differences in labor practices among  
archetypes. Grains & Cattle archetype is associated with the importance of weaving, pottery-making,  
216 and metal-working: this archetype is positively associated with *weaving by most adult females* ( $\rho =$   
 $0.66, p < 0.001$ ); *metal-working as a craft specialty* ( $\rho = 0.74, p < 0.001$ ), which is *male-dominated*  
218 ( $\rho = 0.74, p < 0.001$ ); and *pottery-making by most adults* ( $\rho = 0.61, p < 0.001$ ). The Grain & Cattle  
is also notable for being the only archetype with a *presence of slavery in the past* ( $\rho = 0.46, p < 0.001$ ).  
220 In contrast, the Roots & Pigs and Fish & Fruit archetypes are both associated with the *lack of importance*  
*of metal-working* ( $\rho = 0.55, p < 0.001$  for both); the Fish & Fruit archetype is associated with the *lack*  
222 *of importance of pottery-making* ( $\rho = 0.43, 0.42$  respectively  $p < 0.001$  for both) and the Roots &  
Pigs and Fish & Fruit are associated with having *never practiced slavery* ( $\rho = 0.38, 0.39, p < 0.001$   
224 for both). Finally, alone among the archetypes, Agriculture is associated with a large degree of missing  
data and the majority of subsistence coming from agriculture of unspecified type.

226 **Religion.** We found four archetypes for the *Religion* class, which we name Heroes, *Mana*, Autonomous  
Communities, and Animism (Figure S11). The Heroes archetype is also associated with the *absence*  
228 *of god(s)* ( $\rho = 0.35, p < 0.001$ ), *combined political & religious authority* ( $\rho = 0.47, p < 0.001$ ), a



religious community composed of the entire society ( $\rho = 0.4, p < 0.001$ ). *Mana* is associated with  
230 super-local (multiple-community) religious authority ( $\rho = 0.51, p < 0.001$ ), and social hierarchy  
232 *tapu* (a *tapu* is a spiritual restriction;  $\rho = 0.37, p < 0.001$ ). Finally, the Autonomous Communities  
archetype is associated with the absence of religious authority ( $\rho = 0.53, p < 0.001$ ) and piercing as  
a rite ( $\rho = 0.43, p < 0.001$ ).

234 **Cultural Interaction.** Two archetypes, which we name Isolation and Contact, were found in the  
*Cultural Interaction* cultural class (Figure S16). Because there are only two archetypes, the correlations  
236 for isolation and contact are opposite. Contact is positively associated with *the presence of pre-*  
*Austronesian populations* ( $\rho = 0.85, p < 0.001$ ), *occasional conflict within and between communities*  
238 ( $\rho = 0.45, p < 0.001$  for both), and *frequent or high levels of warfare with other societies* ( $\rho =$   
0.67, 0.52,  $p < 0.001$  for both). Isolation is positively associated with *occasional contact* ( $\rho =$   
240 0.49,  $p < 0.001$ ), both *frequent and moderate conflict within communities* ( $\rho = 0.73, 0.46, p < 0.001$   
for both), and *rare warfare with other societies* ( $\rho = 0.82, p < 0.001$ ).

## 242 S1.5 Cultural cluster analysis

**Subsistence.** In some circumstances the raw materials needed to produce a good may need to be  
244 locally available. However, the lack of local resources to produce an item does not necessarily indicate  
its absence in a society. The Roots & Pigs and Fish & Fruit archetypes are associated with *lack of*  
246 *importance of metalworking*; the Fish & Fruit archetypes are associated with *lack of importance of*  
*pottery-making*. This lack of manufacture does not indicate a lack of use. Large amounts of pottery  
248 exist in the archaeological records of islands associated with the Fish & Fruit and Roots & Pigs  
archetypes (Spriggs, 1995). Genetic variation in “canoe plants” and “canoe animals” - the corpus  
250 of plants and animals taken in canoes along the path of migration - together with occasional contact  
even for cultures belonging to the *Isolation* archetype suggests the presence of trade networks between  
252 islands (Whistler, 2009; Wilme et al., 2016). Thus, cultures belonging to the Fish & Fruit, and Roots  
& Pigs archetypes may have traded locally produced products for pots and metal goods.

254 **Cultural Interaction.** Isolation is most common in Micronesia, Outer Melanesia, and Polynesia,  
likely due to the greater distances between neighbors in these regions (Micronesia  $236.5 \pm 46.1$  km,  
256 Outer Melanesia  $56.5 \pm 15.7$  km, Polynesia  $747.7 \pm 220.7$  km (mean  $\pm$  standard error); Figure S1-  
S3, and Table S1). Beyond *frequency of interaction with other societies*, the Contact archetype is  
258 positively associated with *the presence of pre-Austronesian populations*, *occasional conflict within*  
*and between communities*, and *frequent or high levels of warfare with other societies*. The results  
260 further indicate that variation in degree of isolation is primarily driven by distance from neighbors  
and the mainland.

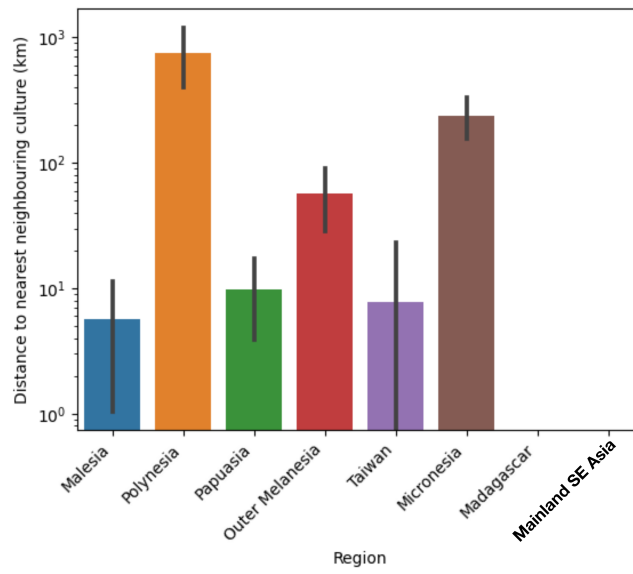
262 Isolation is positively associated with both *frequent and moderate conflict within communities*, and  
*rare warfare with other societies*. These results suggest outwardly and inwardly driven conflict,  
264 respectively: the primary source of conflict in societies belonging to the Isolation archetype is at the  
inter- and intra- community levels, whereas societies in the contact archetype appear more focused on  
266 conflict with neighbors. Potential explanations for this difference include opportunity (closer proximity

to neighbors, see Figures S7 to S9, Table S1 and González-Ruibal, 2019) and the presence of near  
268 neighbors acting as an internally unifying force and target for conflict (González-Ruibal, 2019).

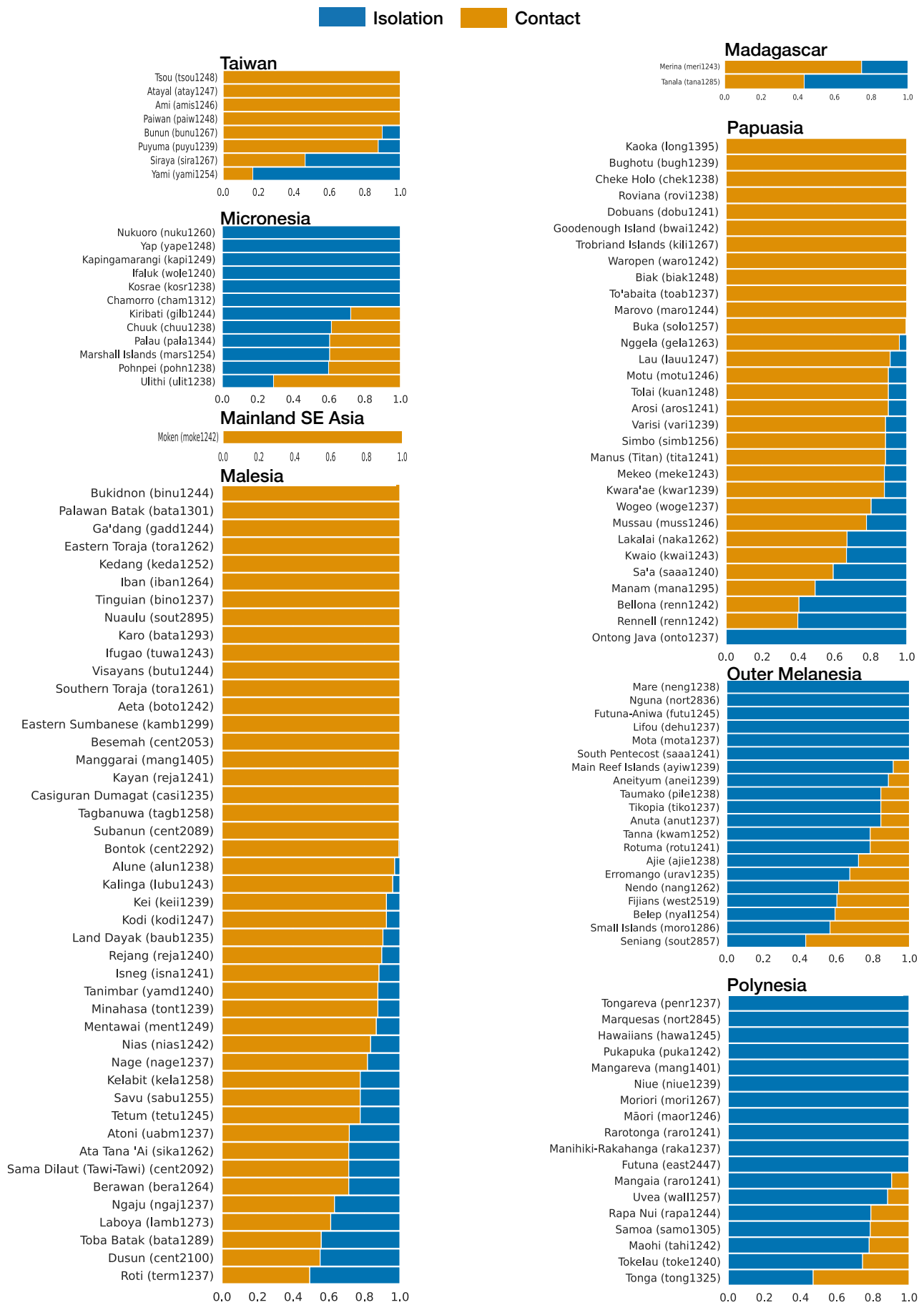
## **S1.6 Hierarchical clustering**

270 We performed agglomerative hierarchical clustering on the archetypes combined with non-cultural  
features such as island type, size, and elevation to identify clusters across cultural classes, geography,  
272 and ecology (Figure S18). This analysis reveals three clusters for the 65 cultures that are common  
between EA and Pulo. Notably, two of these clusters correspond well to the “Resource Competi-  
274 tion” and “Resource Defense” clusters described by (Karin and Alon, 2018, Figure S18). Resource  
competition correlates with Coral Atolls, *Mana*, Isolation, and Fish & Fruit, and geographically corre-  
276 sponds to the Polynesian islands. Resource defense is geographically associated with Melanesia, and  
is correlated with Contact, larger islands, and Grain & Cattle (Figure S18). These findings indicate  
278 that the “ecotypes” suggested by Karin and Alon (2018) are robust to inference method. However,  
our results also indicate that care must be taken when collapsing cultural data into fewer features. In  
280 effect performing hierarchical clustering on the combined archetypes amounts to iterative dimension  
reduction. Such approaches may remove meaningful cultural variation (for example finding three  
282 hierarchical clusters on the combined data versus finding a total of 15 archetypes across four cultural  
classes).

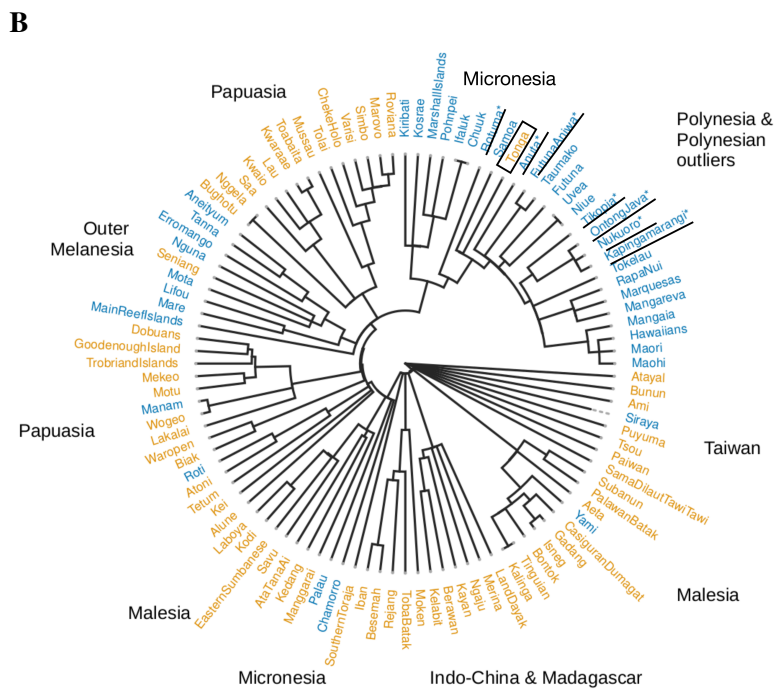
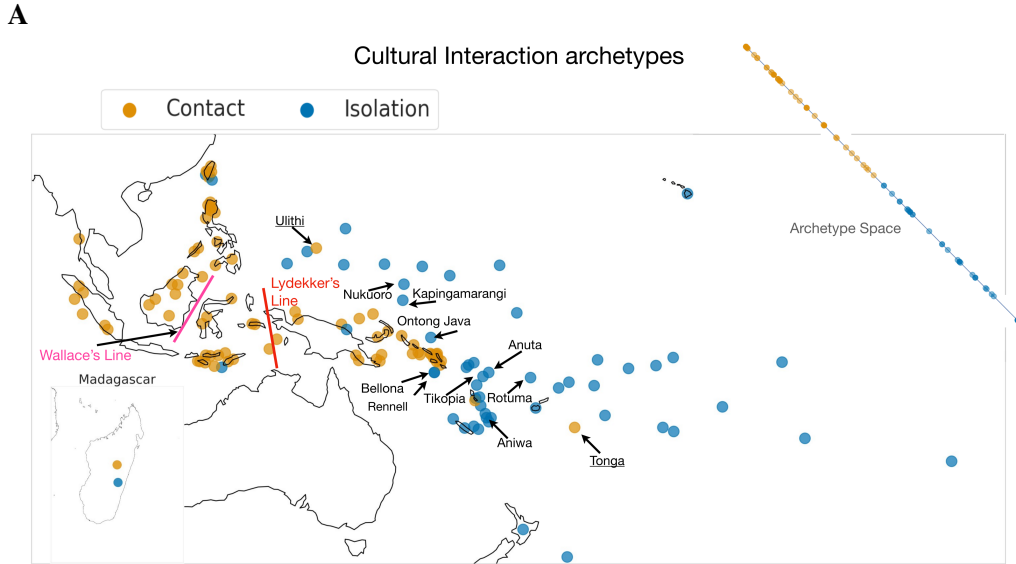
284 **S2** Supplementary tables and figures



**Figure S1: Regional distance comparison to nearest neighboring culture.** A value of 0 indicates that all regional cultures have an immediate neighbor.

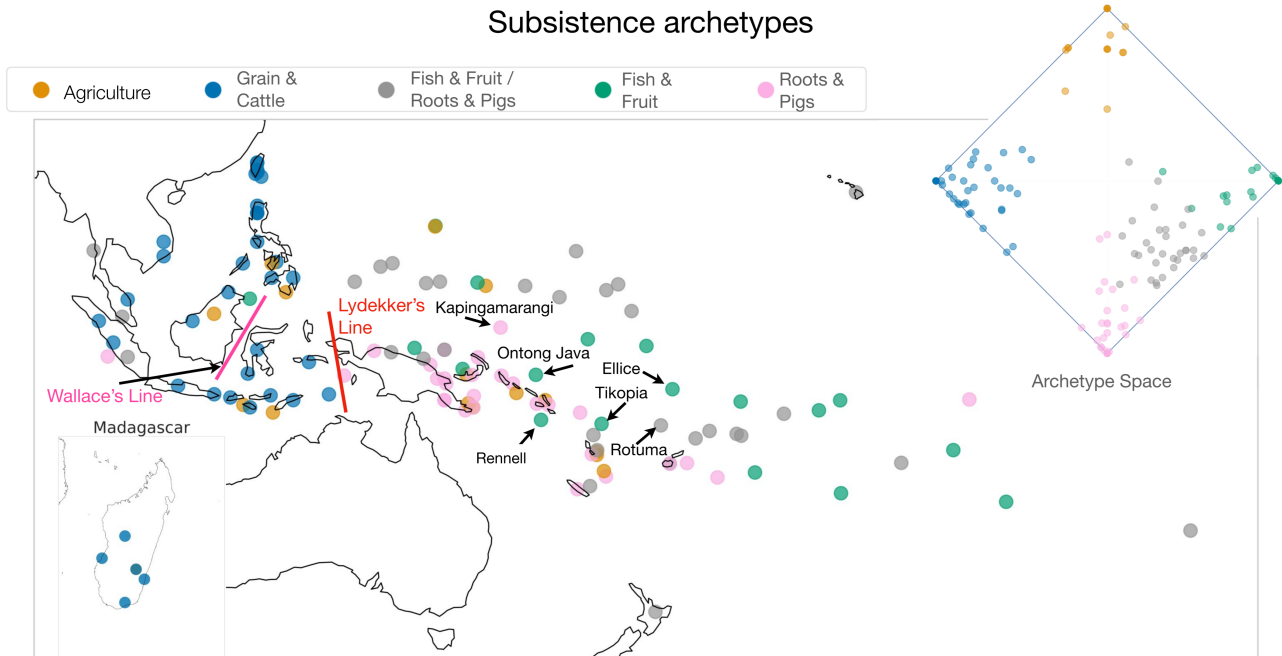


**Figure S2: Cultural Interaction bar-plots with respect to archetypes.** Cultures are separated by geographic region.

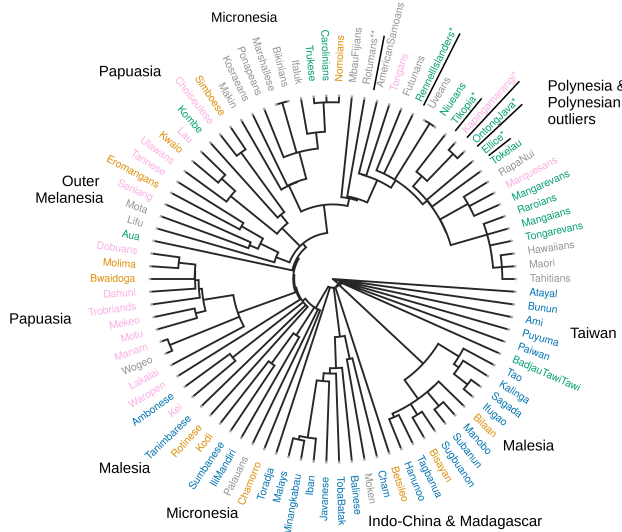


**Figure S3: Variation in Cultural Interaction.** Over (a) geography, (inset) archetypes (the Polynesian outliers in this data are labeled with text arrows), and (b) Austronesian language tree. Lydekker's line and Wallace's line are proposed geographic barriers separating the Asian and Australian biospheres (see Ali and Heaney, 2021).

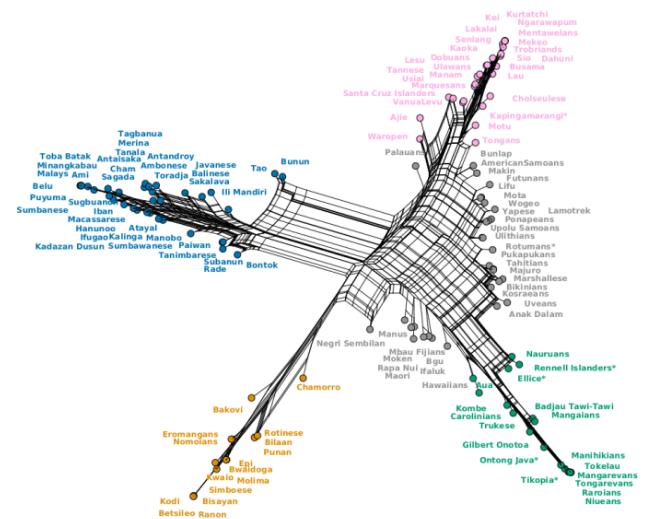
A



B

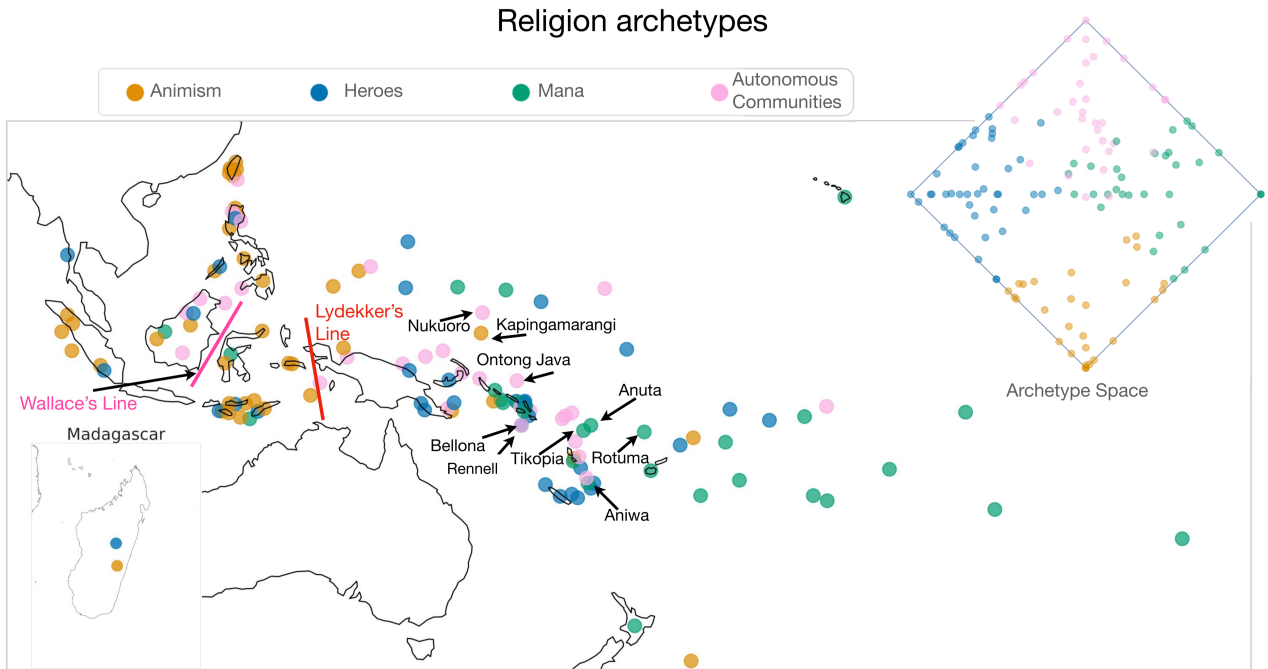


C

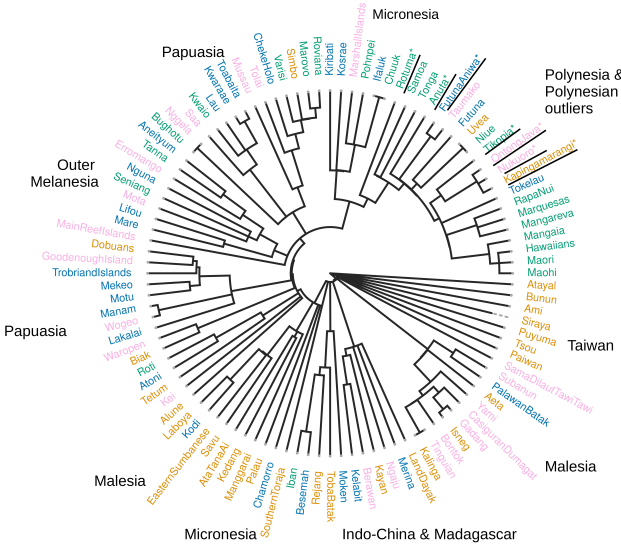


**Figure S4: Variation in Subsistence.** Austronesian cultures, colored by most likely cluster, over (a) geography, (inset) archetypes (the Polynesian outliers in this data are labeled with text arrows), and (b) Austronesian language tree. Lydekker's line and Wallace's line are proposed geographic barriers separating the Asian and Australian biospheres (see Ali and Heaney, 2021).

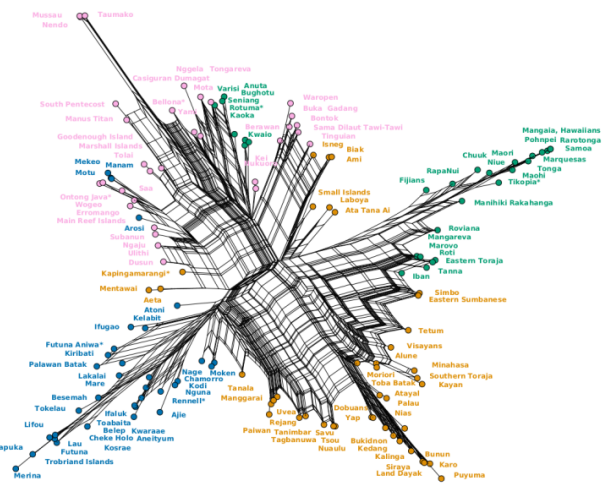
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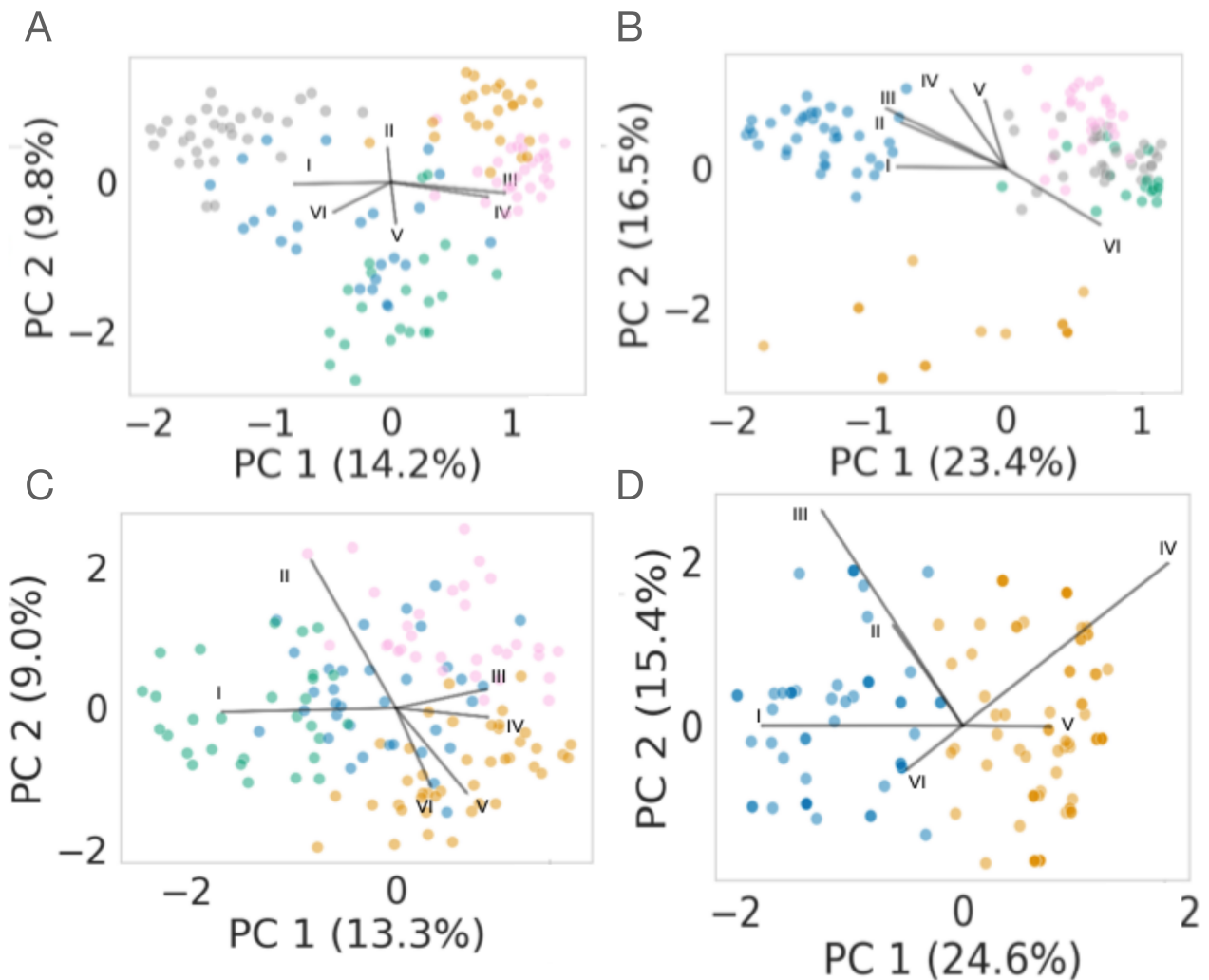
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C

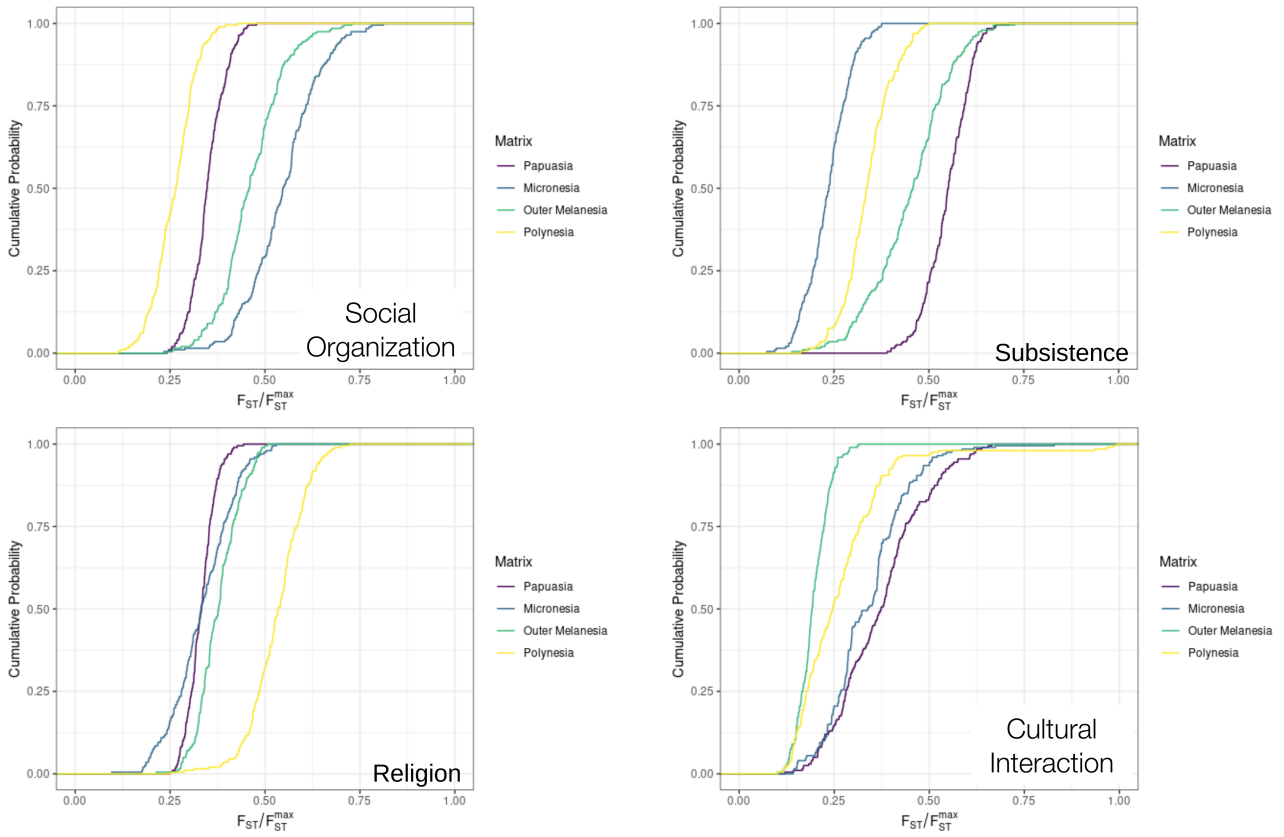


**Figure S5: Variation in Religion.** Austronesian cultures, colored by most likely cluster, over (a) geography, (inset) archetypes (the Polynesian outliers in this data are labeled with text arrows), and (b) Austronesian language tree. Lydekker's line and Wallace's line are proposed geographic barriers separating the Asian and Australian biospheres (see Ali and Heaney, 2021).



**Figure S6: Two-dimensional PCA projections of the cultural data.** (A) *Social Organization* data; loadings are: I) Token bride price, II) Polygamy, III) Significant bride price prevailing pattern, IV) Bride service, V) Domestic organization: small extended families, VI) Significant bride price, alternative pattern. Thus, PC 1 captures differences in domestic organization and PC 2 differences in transactions/exchange at marriage. (B) *Subsistence* data; loadings are I) Animal husbandry 46-55% of subsistence, II) Fishing 16-25% of subsistence, III) Fishing 6-15% of subsistence, IV) Agriculture 0-5% of subsistence, V) Complete absence of agriculture, VI) Fishing 36-45% of subsistence. Thus, PC 1 captures differences in the importance of animal husbandry and fishing and PC 2 differences in the importance of agriculture. (C) *Religion* data; loadings are I) Actions of others after one has died do not affect the nature of one's afterlife, II) No myth of man's creation, III) Belief in cultural heroes is a major focus, IV) Belief in nature spirit(s) a major focus, V) Creationist myth of humans, VI) Actions while living are the principal determinant of the nature of one's afterlife. Thus, PC 1 captures differences in religious focus, and PC 2 differences in creation myths. (D) *Cultural Interaction* data; loadings marked by I) Pre-Austronesians absent, II) Common conflict between communities, III) Occasional conflict between communities, IV) Frequent conflict with other societies, V) Pre-Austronesians present, VI) Common conflict with other societies. Thus, PC 1 captures the presence/absence of pre-existing populations at the time of settlement, and PC 2 captures differences in the nature and frequency of conflict within and between societies.

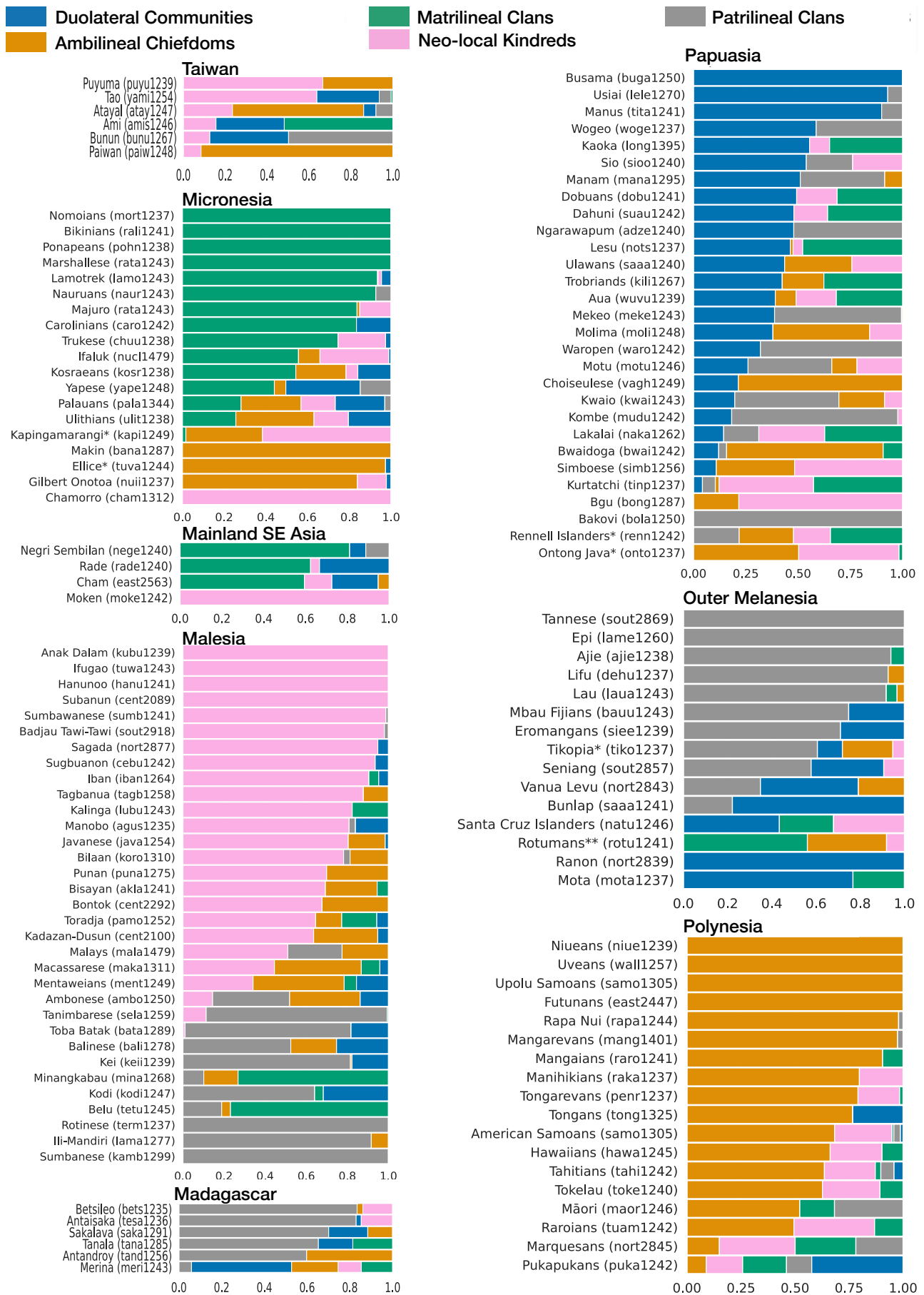




**Figure S7: Within geographic region variability of archetype sets.** Cumulative density plots for  $F_{st}/F_{st}^{max}$ , which is proportional to Dirichlet distribution variance in Polynesia and regions containing Polynesian outliers.



**Figure S8: Cultural Interaction network.** Due to the binary nature of these archetypes, the network reduces to a tree with only two branches.



**Figure S9: Social Organization bar-plots with respect to archetypes.** Cultures are separated by geographic region.

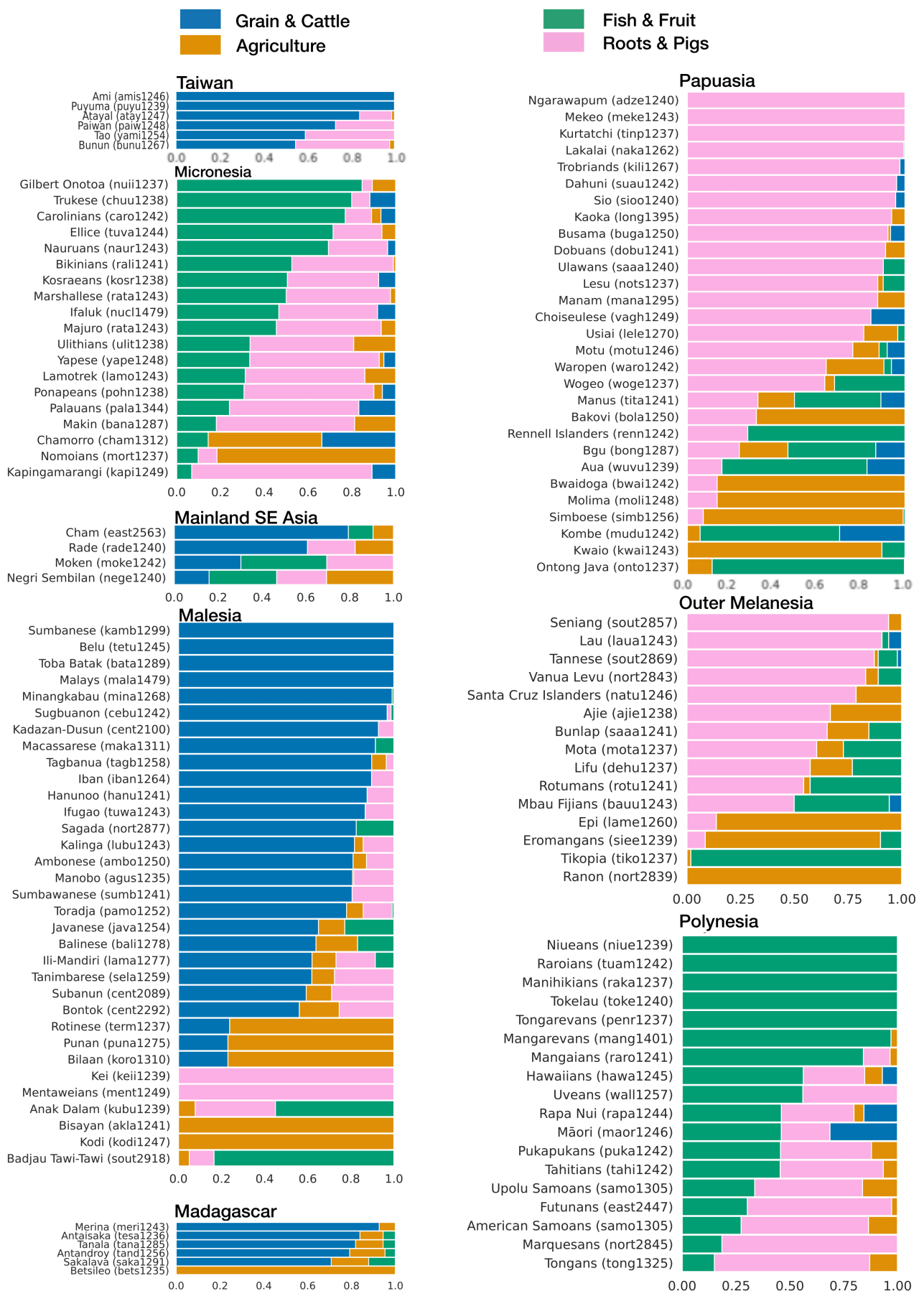
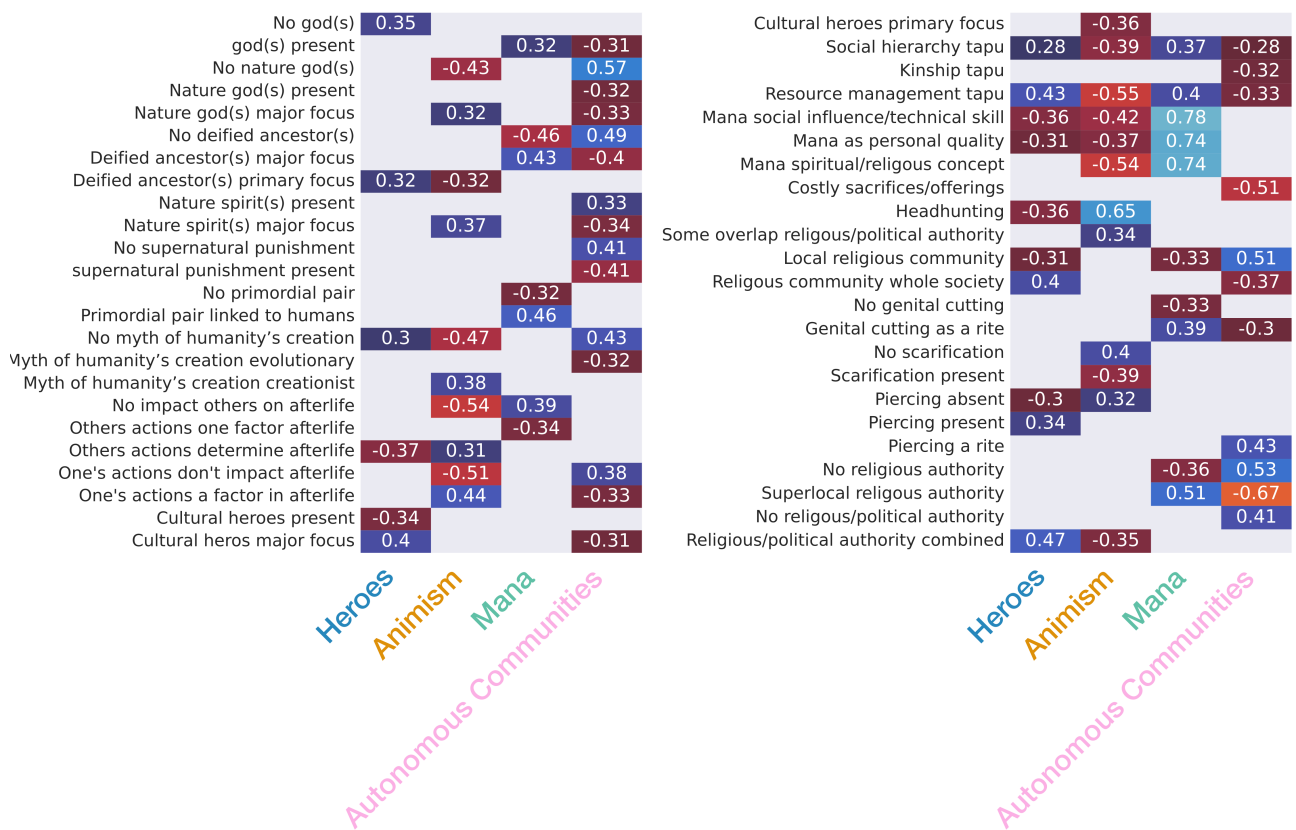
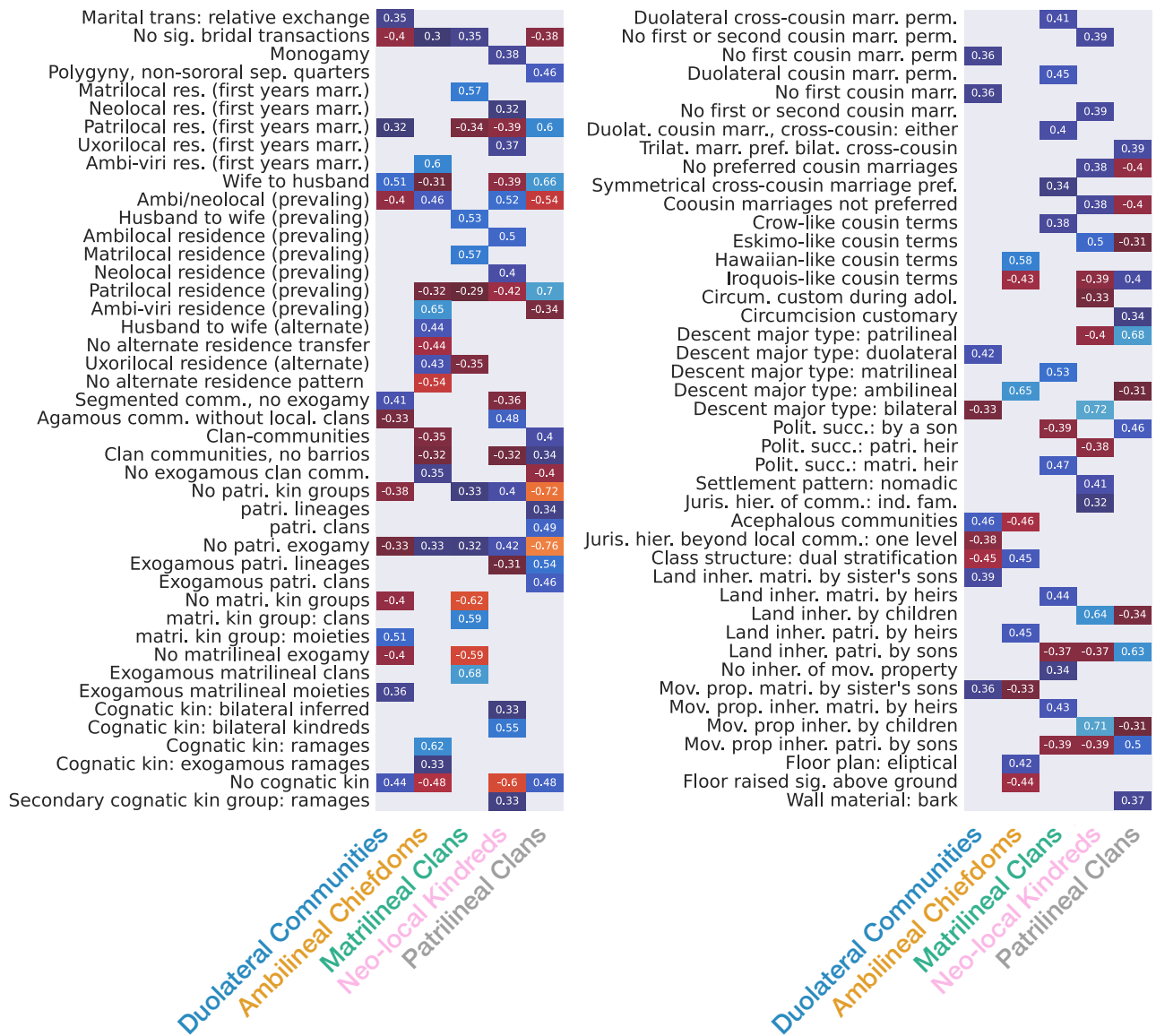


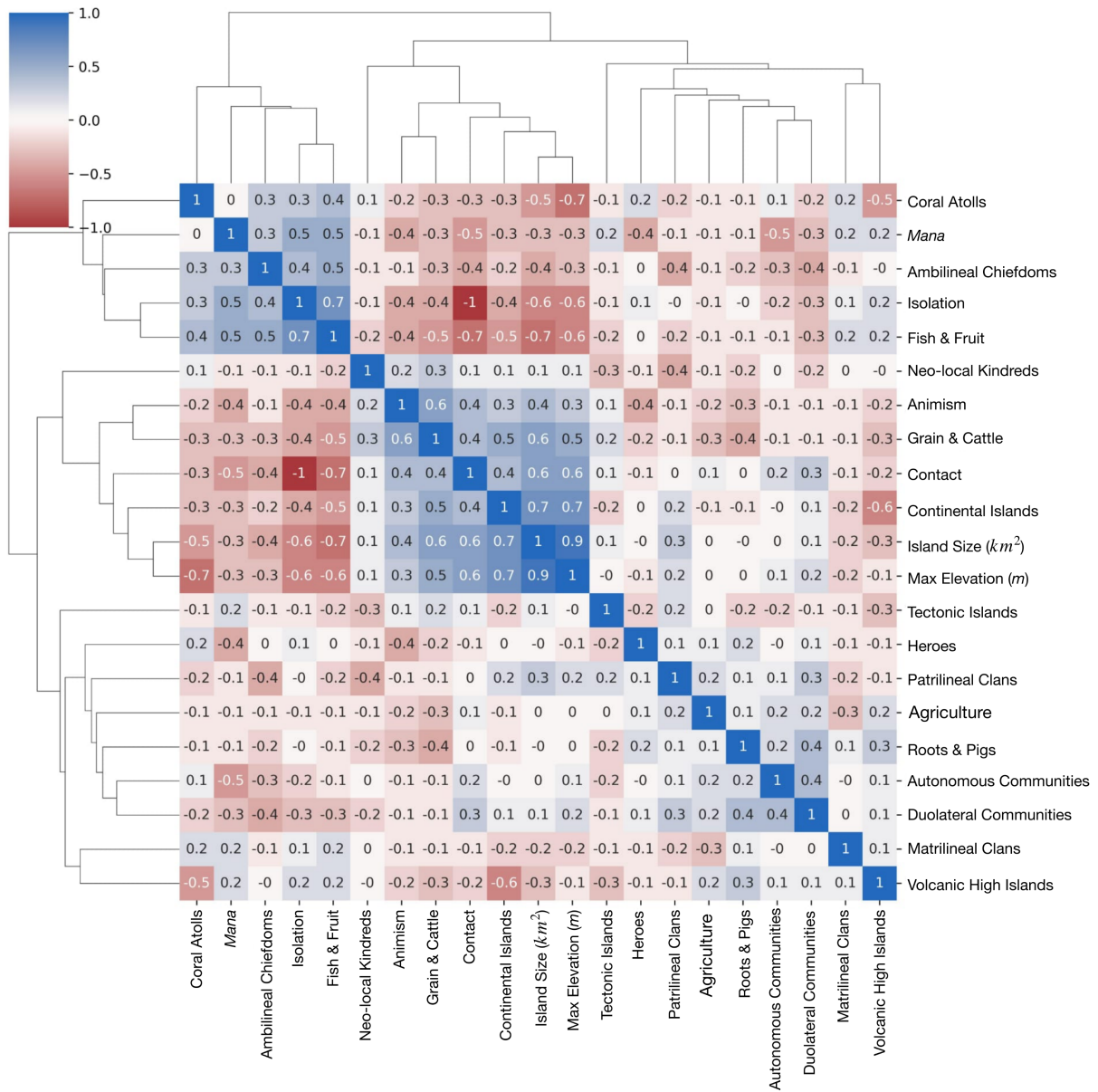
Figure S10: Subsistence bar-plots with respect to archetypes. Cultures are separated by geographic region.



**Figure S11: Binarized Religion trait correlations with archetypes.** Only features ( $n = 89$ ) that have correlation P-values less than 0.001 after FDR correction are displayed ( $n = 47$ ).



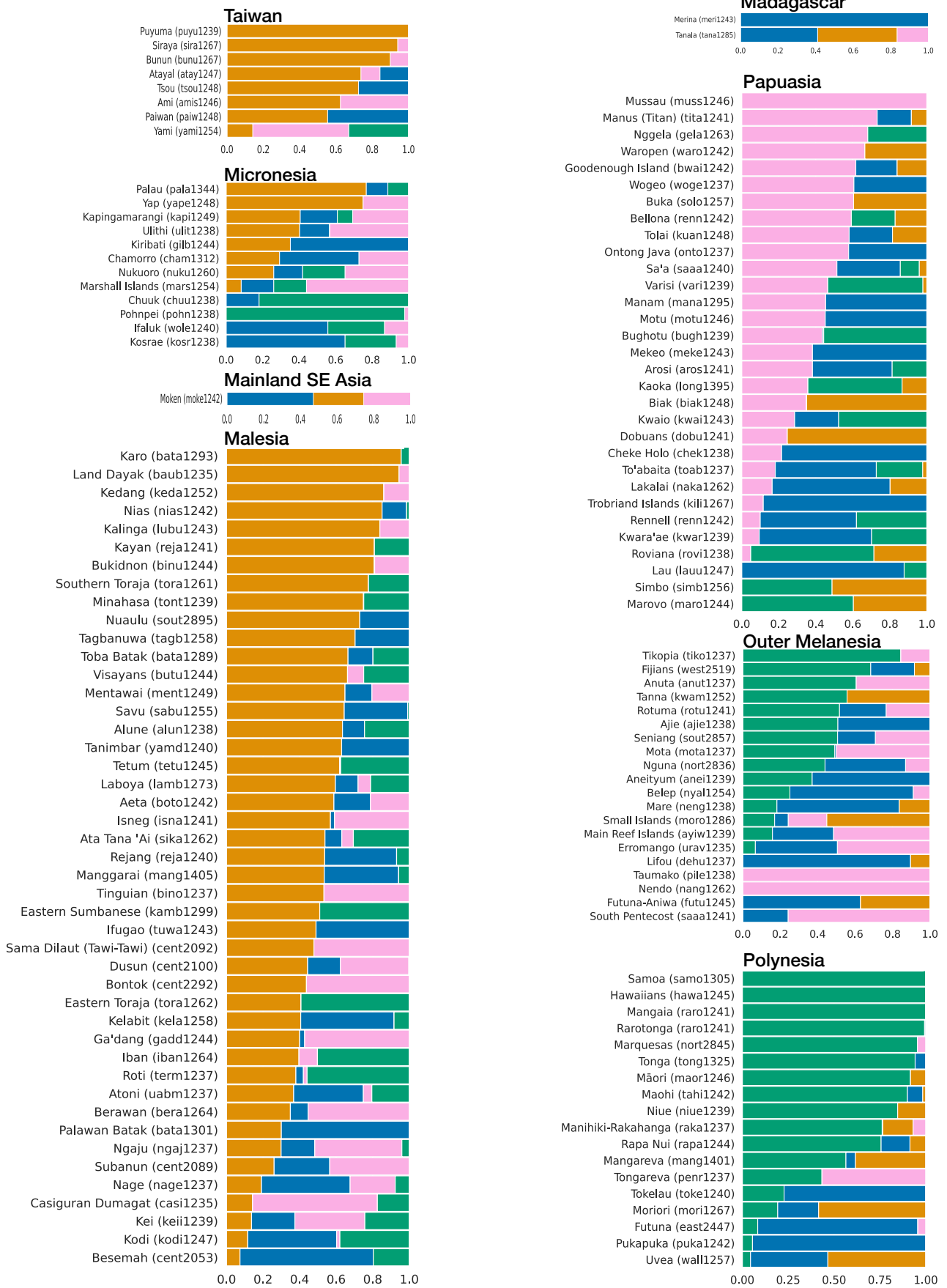
**Figure S12: Binarized Social Organization trait correlations with archetypes.** Only features ( $n = 236$ ) that have correlation P-values less than 0.001 after FDR correction are displayed ( $n = 87$ ).



**Figure S13:** Hierarchical cluster-map on the Spearman correlation matrix for both archetypes and non-cultural features across the 65 cultures in common between EA and Pulu. There are three clusters that appear to correspond to the results of Karin and Alon (2018).



**Figure S14: Binarized Subsistence trait correlations with archetypes..** Only features ( $n = 121$ ) that have correlation P-values less than 0.001 after FDR correction are displayed ( $n = 76$ ). Note that the Agriculture archetype is missing many features on average (Table S11) and is primarily associated with (1) this missigness and (2) agriculture of unspecified type providing most of subsistence.

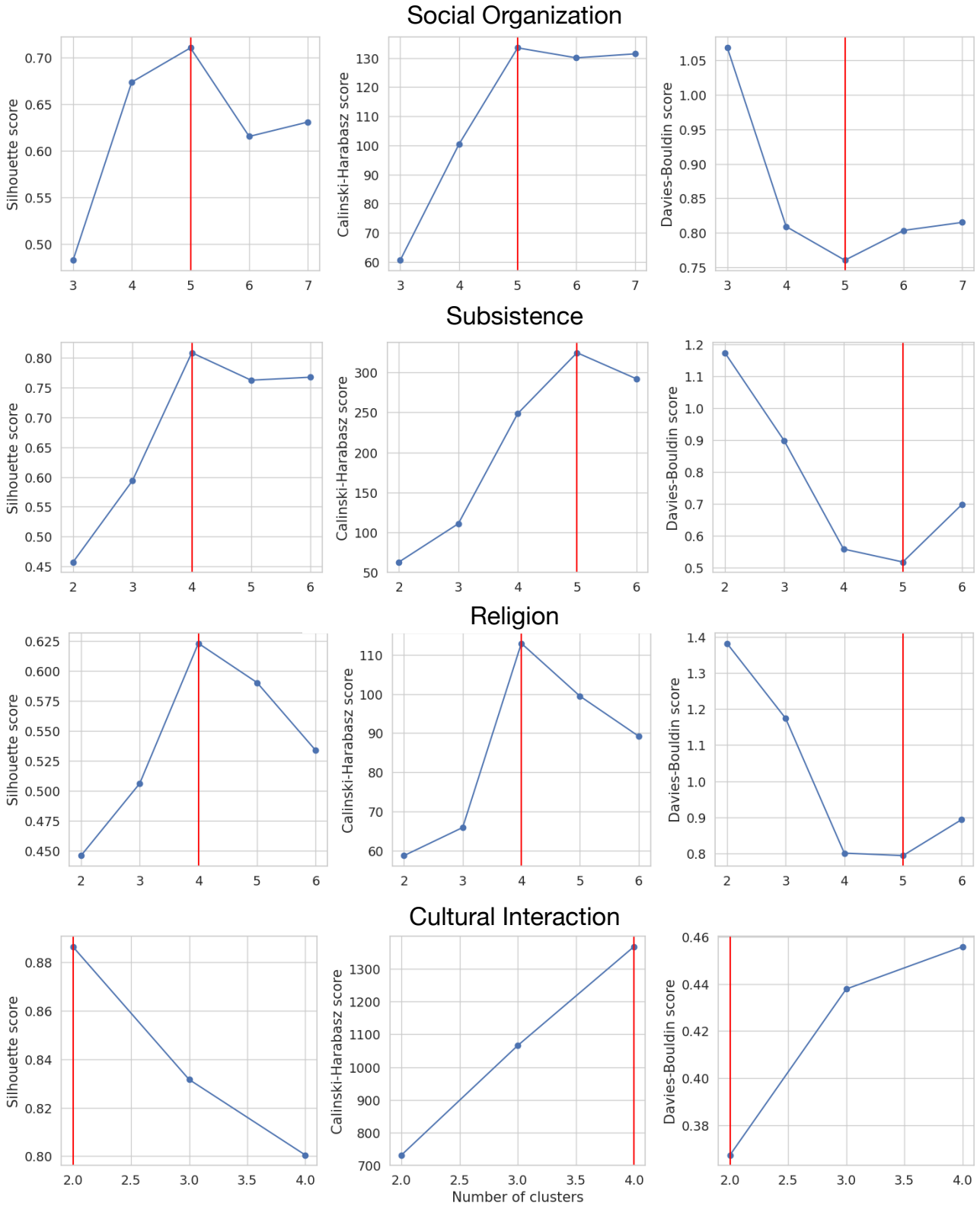


**Figure S15: Religion bar-plots with respect to archetypes.** Cultures are separated by geographic region.

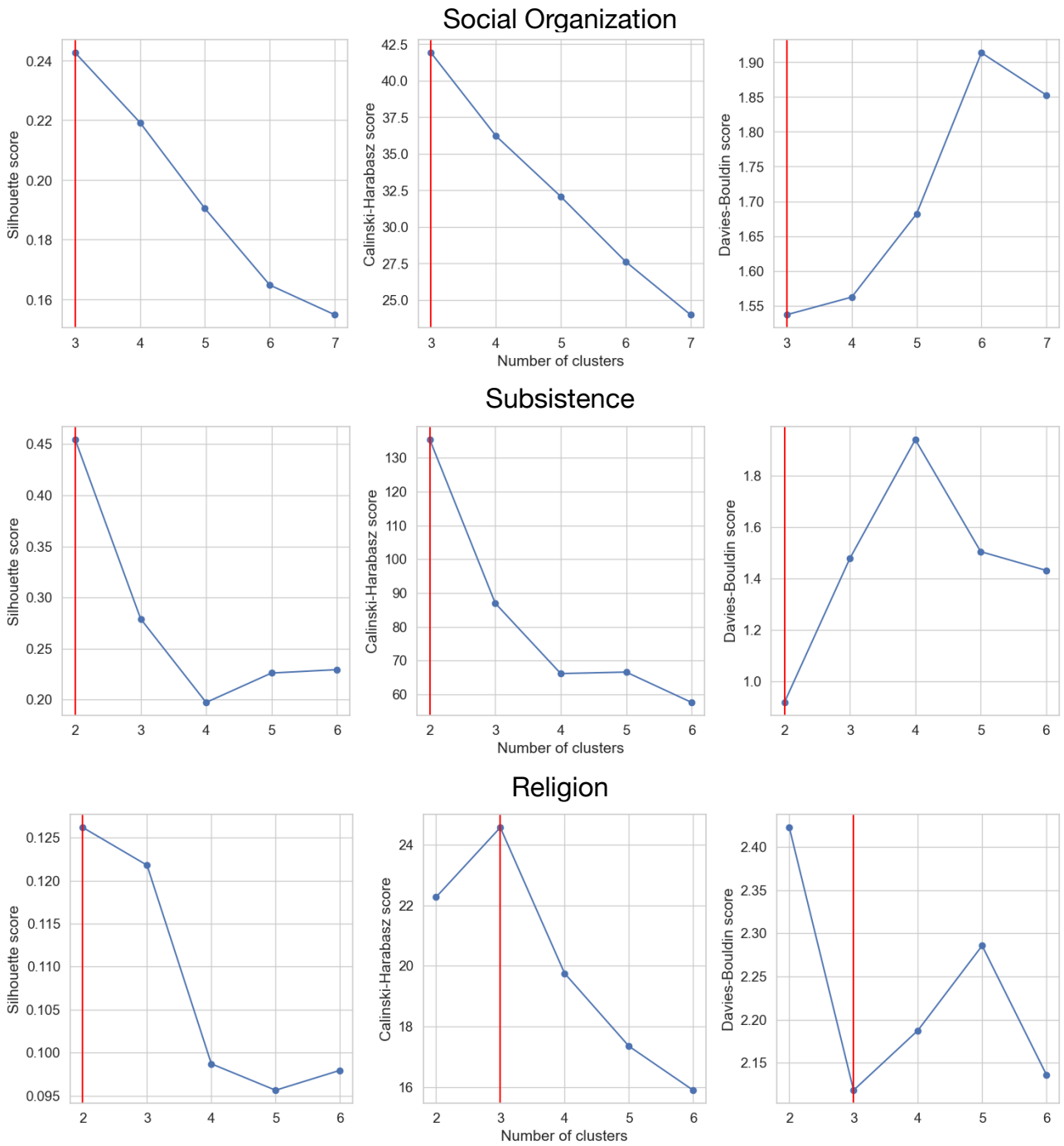


Pre-Austronesians present	-0.85	0.85
Frequent contact	-0.88	0.88
Occasional contact	0.49	-0.49
Endemic conflict within communities	0.73	-0.73
Moderate conflict within communities	0.46	-0.46
Occasional conflict within communities	-0.46	0.46
Occasional conflict between communities	-0.45	0.45
Endemic warfare	-0.67	0.67
Frequent warfare	-0.51	0.51
Rare warfare	0.82	-0.82
	Isolation	Contact

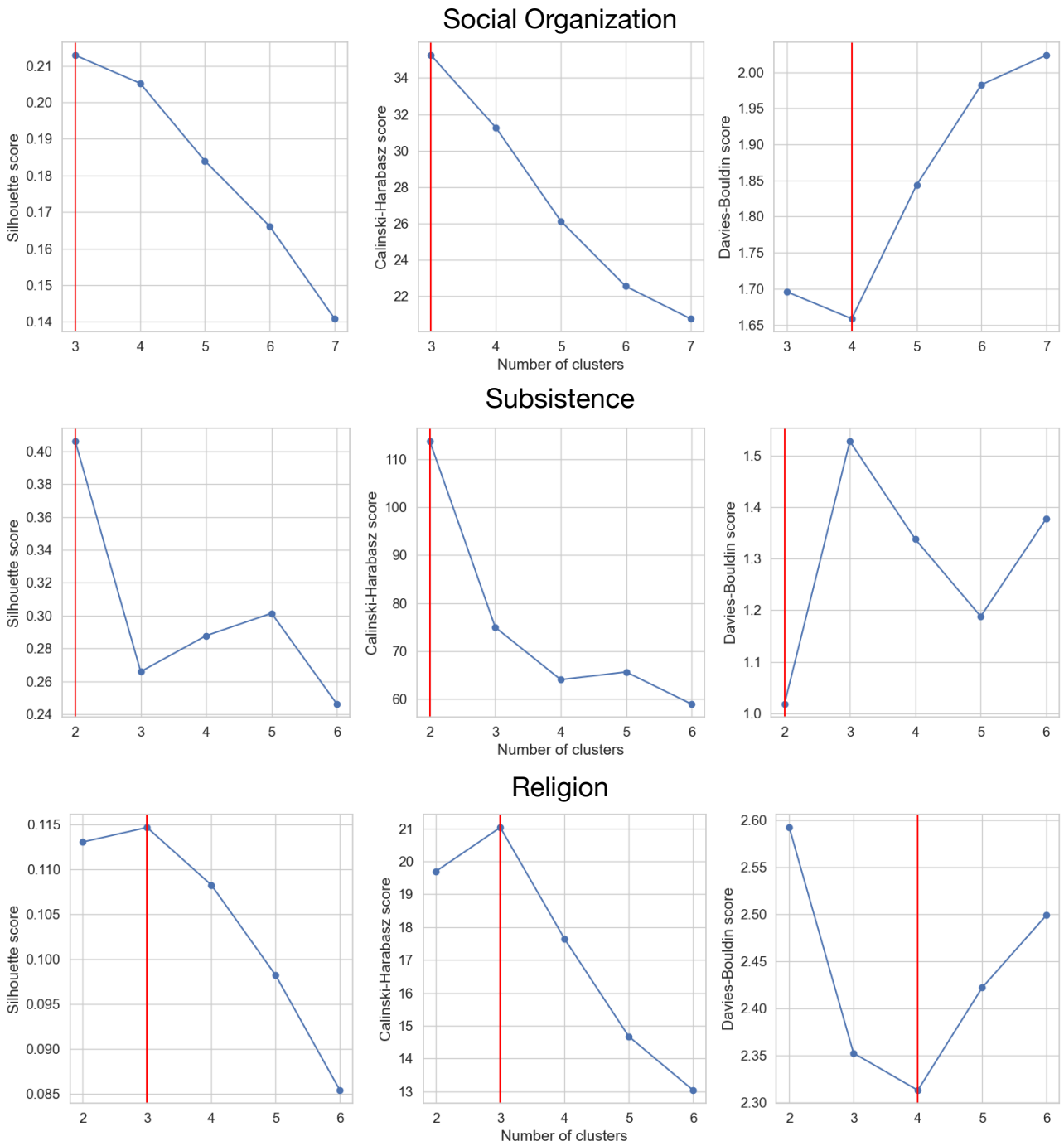
**Figure S16: Binarized Cultural Interaction trait correlations with archetypes.** Only features ( $n = 18$ ) that have correlation P-values less than 0.001 after FDR correction are displayed ( $n = 10$ ).



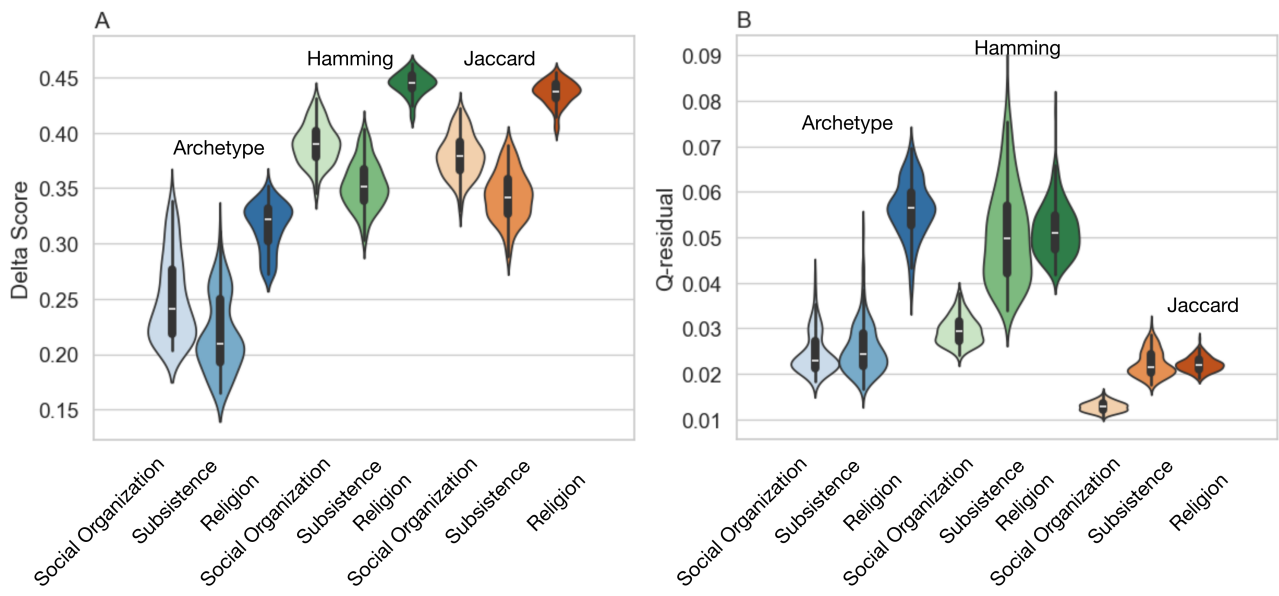
**Figure S17: Kmeans clustering metrics for distances calculated in archetype space.** Optimal numbers of Kmeans clusters for each data class (rows) according to the silhouette score (column 1), the variance ratio criterion (column 2), and the Davies-Bouldin score (column 3). For all archetypes except *Subsistence*, the optimal number of clusters on the archetypes is the same as the number of archetypes.



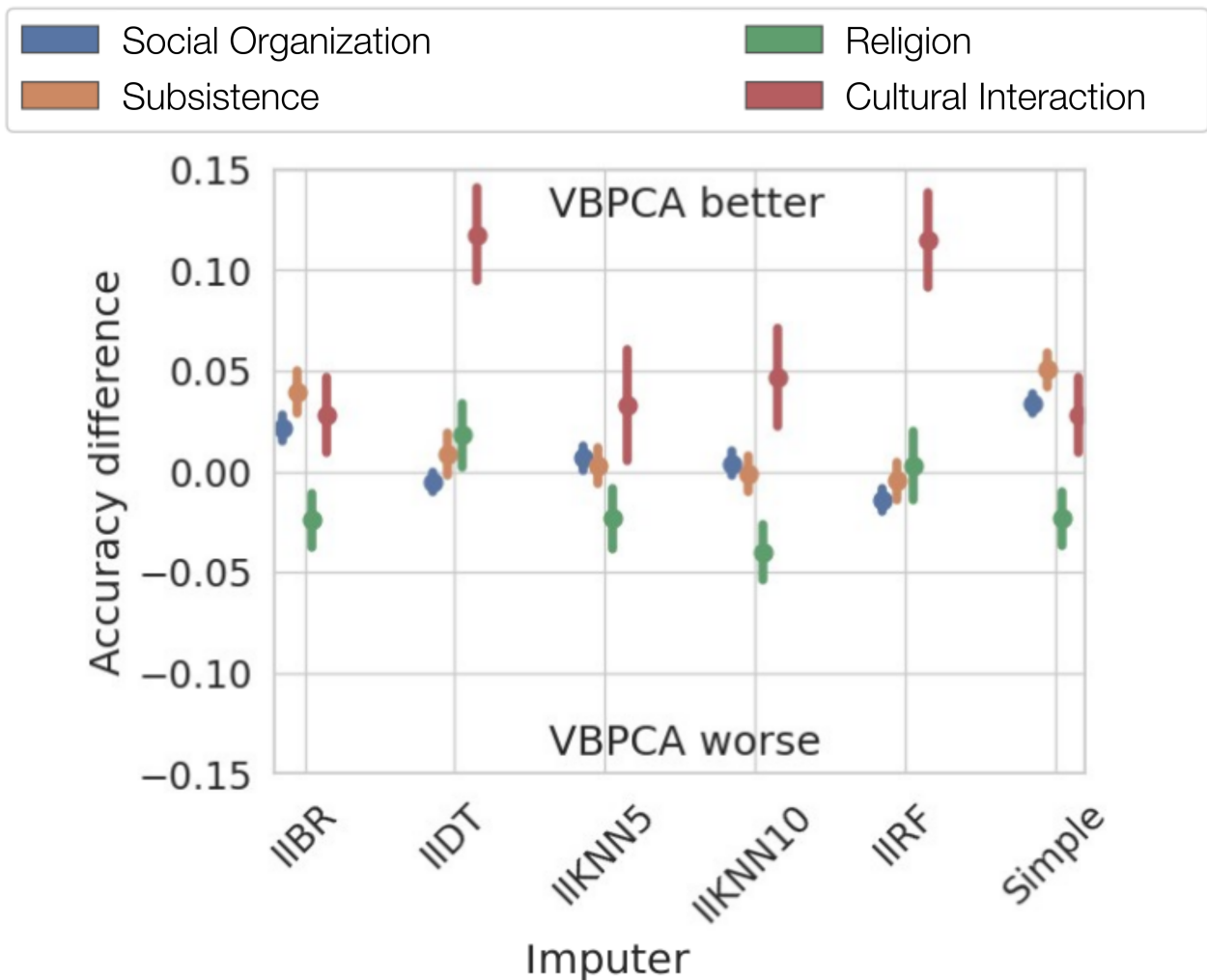
**Figure S18: Kmeans clustering metrics for Hamming distances.** Optimal numbers of Kmeans clusters for each data class (rows) according to the silhouette score (column 1), the variance ratio criterion (column 2), and the Davies-Bouldin score (column 3). The Hamming distance underestimates the number of clusters.



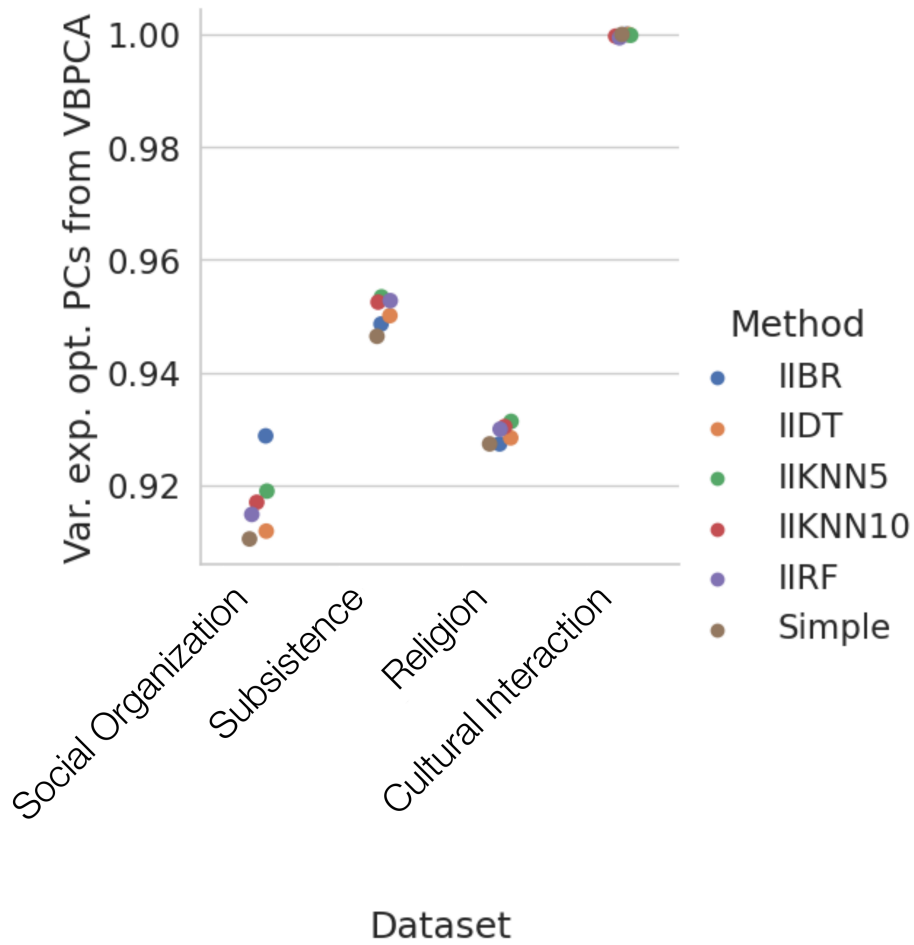
**Figure S19: Kmeans clustering metrics for Jaccard distances.** Optimal numbers of Kmeans clusters for each data class (rows) according to the silhouette score (column 1), the variance ratio criterion (column 2), and the Davies-Bouldin score (column 3). The Jaccard distance underestimates the number of clusters.



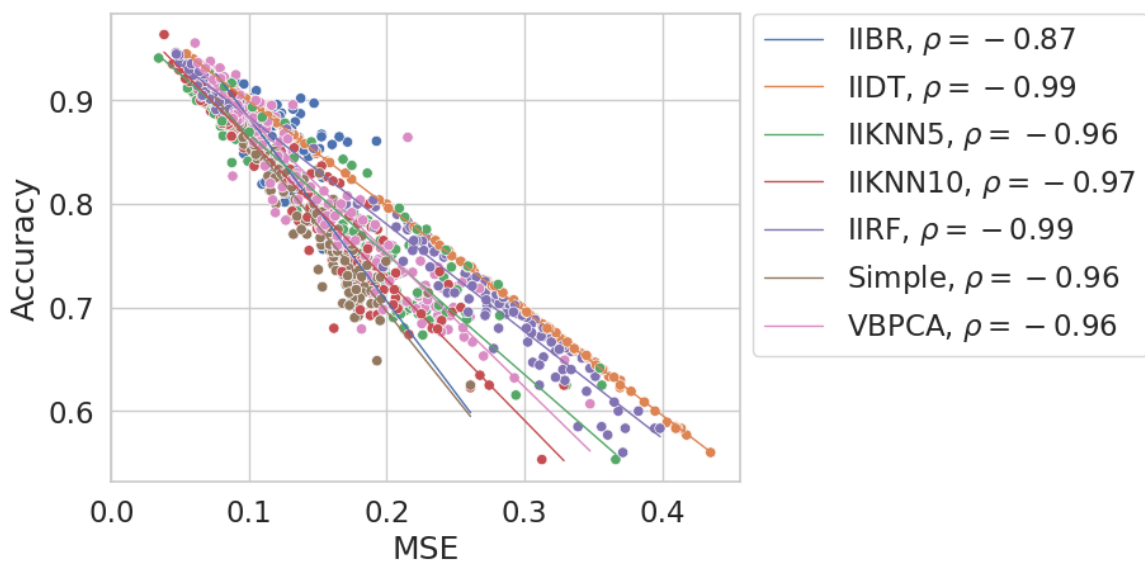
**Figure S20: Comparison of  $\delta$ -score and Q-residuals.** The  $\delta$ -score preserves relative differences in tree-likeness across choice of pairwise distance, but the Q-residual does not.



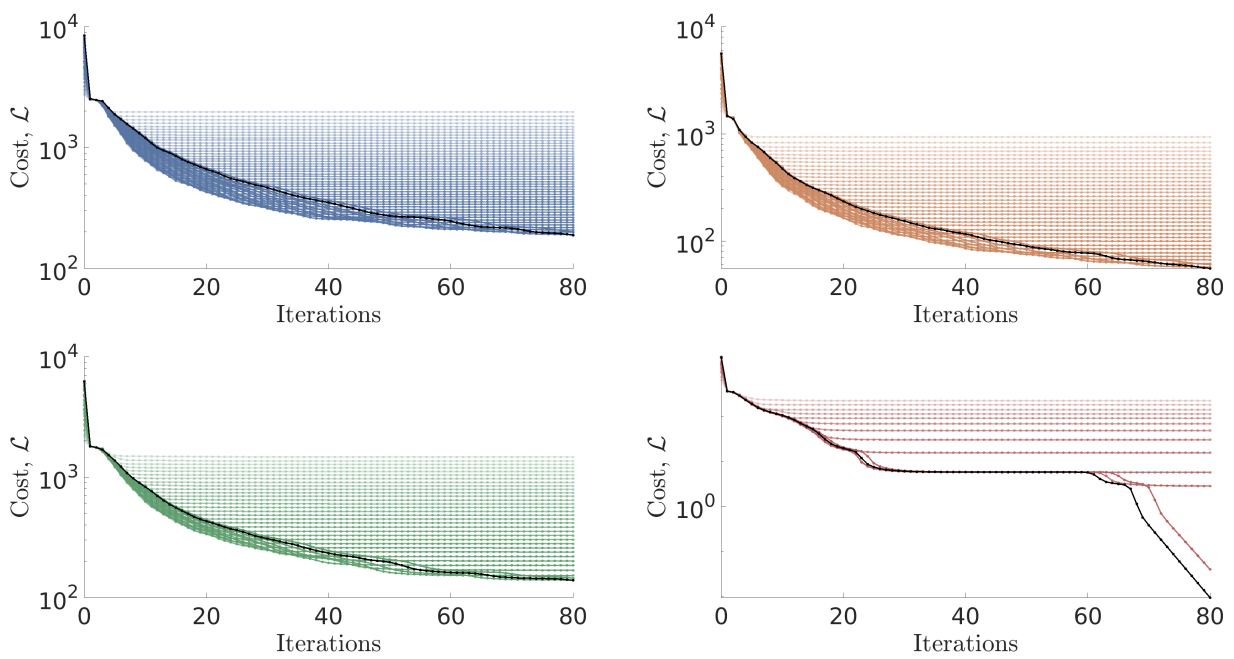
**Figure S21: Imputation performance comparison.** Accuracy of VBPCA imputation relative to other imputation algorithms across 50 replicates, each with 2% values deleted randomly from one of the four cultural class datasets. Given that none of the imputers consistently outperforms VBPCA and that VBPCA provides marginal posterior estimates for the data matrix (which other imputers do not), VBPCA is used for the remainder of our analysis. Positive values indicate that VBPCA performs better. The vertical lines are 95% confidence intervals for the difference in accuracy. The alternative imputers are Iterative imputer with one of the following regressors: Bayesian ridge regressor (IIBR), Iterative imputer with decision tree regressor (IIDT), Iterative imputer with nearest neighbor regressor with  $k = 5$  (IIKNN5) and  $k = 10$  (IIKNN10), Iterative imputer random forest regressor (IIRF), and simple imputation with missing data replaced by column means (Simple).



**Figure S22: VBPCA noise filtering for different datasets.** The proportion of cumulative variance explained by the optimal number of principal components for data reconstruction as determined by VBPCA using classical PCA after filling missing values via different imputation approaches.



**Figure S23: The relationship between Accuracy and MSE.** Across all datasets and imputers, there is a strong correlation between MSE (mean squared error) and the accuracy of the inferred values.



**Figure S24: Cost functions for each of the four cultural classes.** The colors of the lines get darker as the number of principal components increases, and the optimal number of PCs (49, 37, 34, 13 for each of the datasets) is colored in black. As the optimum is approached, the values of the cost function for a given number of principal components begin to ‘stack up.’



**Table S1:** Distance to nearest neighbor (km) by geographic region. A value of 0 indicates immediate adjacency to the nearest neighbor.

Region	Sample mean	Standard error
Malesia	5.71	2.71
Polynesia	747.70	220.74
Papuasia	9.88	3.41
Outer Melanesia	56.50	15.69
Taiwan	7.75	7.75
Micronesia	236.51	46.12
Madagascar	0.00	0.00
Mainland SE Asia	0.00	–

**Table S2:** Likelihood ratio test for regional archetype distributions for geographic regions containing Polynesian outliers and Polynesia.

Archetype set	Region	LR statistic	p-value
Social Organization	Papuasia	51.0	$9 \times 10^{-10}$
	Micronesia	36.4	$8 \times 10^{-07}$
	Outer Melanesia	45.1	$1 \times 10^{-8}$
Subsistence	Papuasia	32.3	$2 \times 10^{-6}$
	Micronesia	11.9	0.0183
	Outer Melanesia	22.9	0.00013
Religion	Papuasia	38.5	$9 \times 10^{-8}$
	Micronesia	17.1	0.0018
	Outer Melanesia	14.7	0.0055
Cultural Interaction	Papuasia	39.4	$2.7 \times 10^{-9}$
	Micronesia	1.3	0.53
	Outer Melanesia	2.9	0.23

**Table S3:** Pairwise comparisons of  $F_{st}/F_{st}^{max}$  for *Social Organization* archetypes using Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction.

	Papuasia	Micronesia	Outer Melanesia
Micronesia	< 2e-16	-	-
Outer Melanesia	< 2e-16	< 2e-16	-
Polynesia	< 2e-16	< 2e-16	< 2e-16

**Table S4:** Pairwise comparisons of  $F_{st}/F_{st}^{max}$  for *Subsistence* archetypes using Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction.

	Papuasia	Micronesia	Outer Melanesia
Micronesia	< 2e-16	-	-
Outer Melanesia	< 2e-16	< 2e-16	-
Polynesia	< 2e-16	< 2e-16	< 2e-16

**Table S5:** Pairwise comparisons of  $F_{st}/F_{st}^{max}$  for *Religion* archetypes using Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction.

	Papuasias	Micronesia	Outer Melanesia
Micronesia	0.7	-	-
Outer Melanesia	< 2e-16	< 1.4e-08	-
Polynesia	< 2e-16	< 2e-16	< 2e-16

**Table S6:** Pairwise comparisons of  $F_{st}/F_{st}^{max}$  for *Cultural Interaction* archetypes using Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction.

	Papuasias	Micronesia	Outer Melanesia
Micronesia	0.0028	-	-
Outer Melanesia	< 2e-16	< 2e-16	-
Polynesia	< 2e-16	1.3e-14	3.3e-11

**Table S7:** Normalized  $F_{st}$  values for regions containing Polynesian outliers and Polynesia itself.

Archetype set	Region	$F_{st}/F_{st}^{max}$	sample size	number archetypes
Social Organization	Polynesia	0.268	18	5
	Micronesia	0.571	19	5
	Outer Melanesia	0.478	15	5
	Papuasias	0.360	29	5
Subsistence	Polynesia	0.338	18	4
	Micronesia	0.253	19	4
	Outer Melanesia	0.456	15	4
	Papuasias	0.565	29	4
Religion	Polynesia	0.560	18	4
	Micronesia	0.352	12	4
	Outer Melanesia	0.392	20	4
	Papuasias	0.339	31	4
Cultural Interaction	Polynesia	0.281	18	2
	Micronesia	0.366	12	2
	Outer Melanesia	0.194	20	2
	Papuasias	0.401	31	2

**Table S8:** Mann-Whitney U test, the difference in log-likelihood; alternative hypothesis Polynesian likelihood is greater. \* indicates statistical significance.

Archetype set	Culture	MW statistic	p-value
Social Organization	Ellice* (Micronesia)	28508	$9 \times 10^{-14}$
	Kapingamarangi* (Micronesia)	24235	0.00012
	Ontong Java* (Papuasias)	26453	$1 \times 10^{-8}$
	Rennell Islanders* (Papuasias)	36452	$3 \times 10^{-46}$
	Rotumans* (Outer Melanesia)	27227	$2 \times 10^{-10}$
	Tikopia (Outer Melanesia)	16235	0.999
Subsistence	Ellice	18350	0.923
	Kapingamarangi	9924	1.0
	Ontong Java*	32412	$3 \times 10^{-27}$
	Rennell Islanders*	27560	$3 \times 10^{-11}$
	Rotumans*	21982	0.0433
	Tikopia*	26947	$9 \times 10^{-14}$

**Table S9:** Mann-Whitney U test, the difference in log-likelihood; alternative hypothesis Polynesian likelihood is greater. \* indicates statistical significance.

Archetype set	Culture	MW statistic	p-value
Religion	Anuta (Outer Melanesia)	18451	0.910
	Bellona (Papuasias)	13909	1.0
	Aniwa (Outer Melanesia)	15734	1.0
	Kapingamarangi	10189	1.0
	Nukuoro (Micronesia)	14961	1.0
	Ontong Java	12671	1.0
	Rennell	21614	0.0815
	Rotuma	18600	0.887
	Tikopia	21826	0.0572
Cultural Interaction	Bellona	713	1.0
	Ontong Java*	36648	$3 \times 10^{-47}$
	Rennell	1071	1.0

**Table S10:** Differences in relative verticality of transmission among cultural archetype sets as indicated by Dunn's test for pairwise differences with Holm's correction for the p-values.

Metric		Social Organization	Subsistence	Religion
$\delta$ -score	Social Organization	1.0	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$
	Subsistence	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$	1.0	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$
	Religion	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$	1.0
Q-residual	Social Organization	1.0	0.372	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$
	Subsistence	0.372	1.0	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$
	Religion	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$	$p < 1 \times 10^{-5}$	1.0

**Table S11:** Comparison of proportion of missing data within different archetypes and for linguistic outliers. Alone among archetypes, cultures associated with the Agriculture archetype are missing large numbers of features.

Category	Median (in cat.)	Median (out of cat.)	P-value
<i>Social Organization</i>			
Outlier	0.083	0.071	0.68
Ambilineal Chiefdoms	0.095	0.060	0.48
Duolateral Communities	0.071	0.095	0.26
Matrilineal Clans	0.083	0.071	0.85
Neo-local Kindreds	0.024	0.083	0.37
Patrilineal Clans	0.048	0.071	0.19
<i>Subsistence</i>			
Outlier	0.074	0.074	0.87
Agriculture	0.78	0.074	0.00
Fish & Fruit	0.00	0.074	0.026
Grain & Cattle	0.074	0.074	0.32
Roots & Pigs	0.074	0.074	0.18
<i>Religion</i>			
Outlier	0.065	0.065	0.96
Animisim	0.097	0.065	0.4
Autonomous Communities	0.097	0.065	0.25
Heroes	0.065	0.065	0.83
Mana	0.032	0.097	0.022
<i>Cultural Interaction</i>			
Outlier	0.00	0.00	0.19
Contact	0.00	0.00	0.46
Isolation	0.00	0.00	0.46

**Table S12:** Correlation of missingness with extreme archetype values. In general the degree of missingness does not have a strong effect on the max/min for a given society and cultural class.

	$\rho$ (Max)	P-value (Max)	$\rho$ (Min)	P-value (Min)
Social Organization	0.08	0.37	-0.01	0.91
Subsistence	0.10	0.24	0.075	0.394
Religion	-0.21	0.013	0.14	0.10
Cultural Interaction	0.037	0.67	-0.037	0.67

**Table S13:** *Religion* traits sorted by phylogenetic signal over the linguistic phylogeny from Gray et al. (2009). P-values are from LRT with null assumption  $\lambda = 0$ .

Variable	Definition	Pagel's $\lambda$	Log Likelihood	P-value
Pul8	Primordial pair	1.00	-38.6	1E-13
Pul36	Headhunting	0.517	-62.0	4E-05
Pul21	Mana as a spiritual or religious concept	0.497	-60.1	1E-07
Pul84	Religious Authority	0.394	-148.9	0.003
Pul18	Mana related to social influence or technical skill	0.392	-60.4	2E-05
Pul2	Belief in god(s)	0.389	-133.6	0.0005
Pul3	Belief in nature god(s)	0.379	-130.6	0.009
Pul10	The actions of others after one has died can affect the nature of one's afterlife	0.339	-93.6	0.0002
Pul35	Costly sacrifices and offerings	0.330	-29.3	0.0115
Pul4	Belief in deified ancestor(s)	0.309	-148.6	0.0037
Pul37	Political and religious differentiation (SCCS v 757)	0.298	-109.9	0.0118
Pul20	Mana as a personal quality	0.288	-67.4	0.0007
Pul41	Tattooing	0.288	-121.3	0.0388
Pul38	Largest religious community	0.281	-126.5	0.004
Pul85	Largest religious community	0.250	-152.4	0.0240
Pul5	Belief in ancestral spirits	0.214	-115.6	0.107
Pul39	Genital cutting	0.209	-140.4	0.3
Pul11	Own actions affect own afterlife	0.164	-90.6	0.5
Pul14	Social hierarchy tapu	0.151	-63.9	0.108
Pul42	Scarification	0.094	-80.7	0.5
Pul16	Resource management tapu	0.083	-72.7	0.4
Pul12	Belief in culture hero(es)	0.034	-128.6	0.7
Pul7	Belief in supernatural punishment for impiety	0.025	24.0	0.7
Pul6	Belief in nature spirits	7E-05	-121.8	1
Pul9	Myth of humanity creation	7E-05	-119.9	1
Pul15	Kinship tapu	7E-05	-20.5	1
Pul40	Tooth pulling	7E-05	-117.5	1
Pul43	Piercing	7E-05	-97.8	1

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