

Guinea, with some of the waves extending on as far as Fiji. The simplest possible hypothesis to account for the phylogeny and dispersal of the *dohertyi* group, as represented in figure 1, would seem to be as follows. No more than three invasions need be postulated (see fig. 2). It is hypothesized that the "*flavaclavata* subgroup" (*flavaclavata*, *dominula*) was derived from an early invading population of a *dohertyi* group species from southeastern Asia into New Guinea. The divergence of this subgroup was perhaps hastened after a time by interaction with a second invading population, which was destined to become *desposyne*

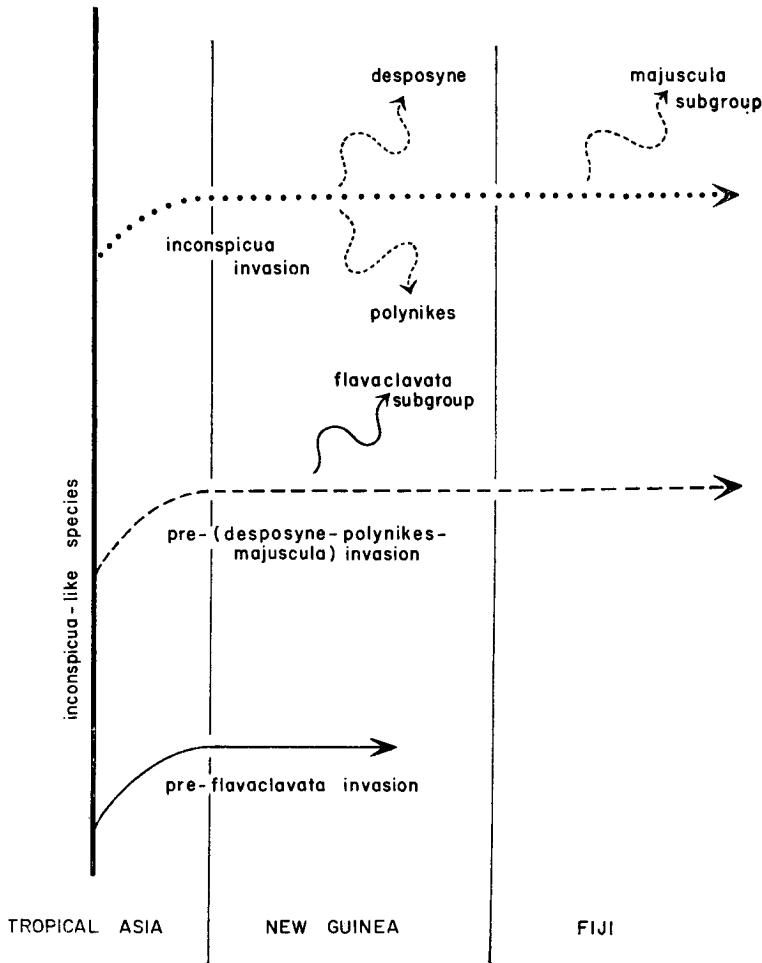


Fig. 2. Diagram schematizing in extreme form the hypothesis of multiple invasion and displacement advanced to explain the phylogeny of the Melanesian members of the *dohertyi* group. The straight arrows, solid and broken, represent the successive waves of invasion into Melanesia from persistent Oriental stocks. The wavy arrows represent the evolutionary displacement of resident Melanesian species by more recently invading populations. It is suggested that displacement was a principal factor in divergence, but not the only one operating. Further explanation in text.