

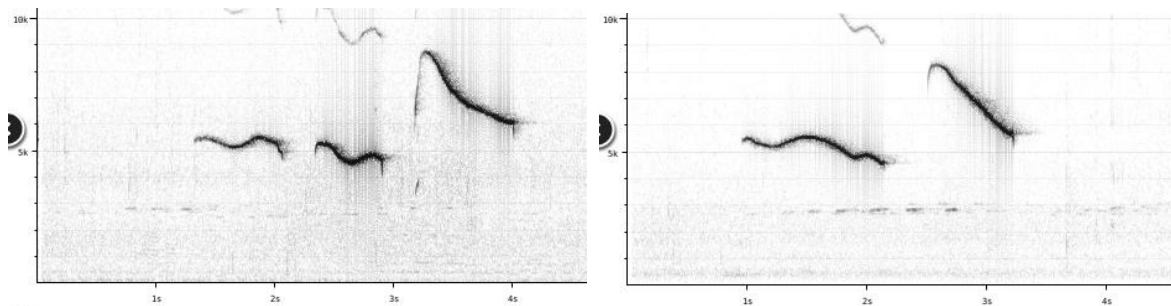
Notes on the vocalizations of Buff-breasted Mountain-tanager (*Dubusia taeniata*)

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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the three races of Buff-breasted Mountain-tanager (*Dubusia taeniata*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC) and Macaulay Library (ML).

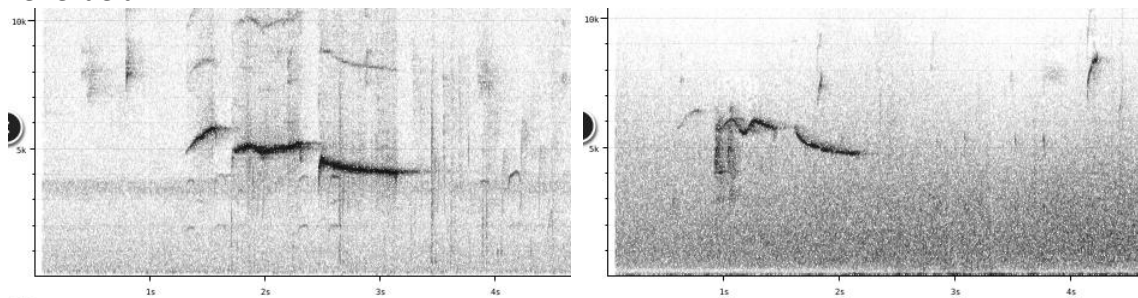
An overview of song per race, illustrated with sonograms:

carrikeri (Santa Marta Mts, in N Colombia)

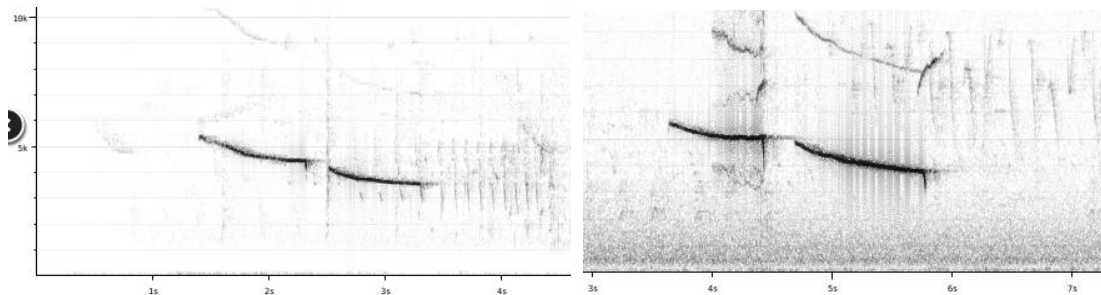


taeniata (Andes of Venezuela S to NW Peru)

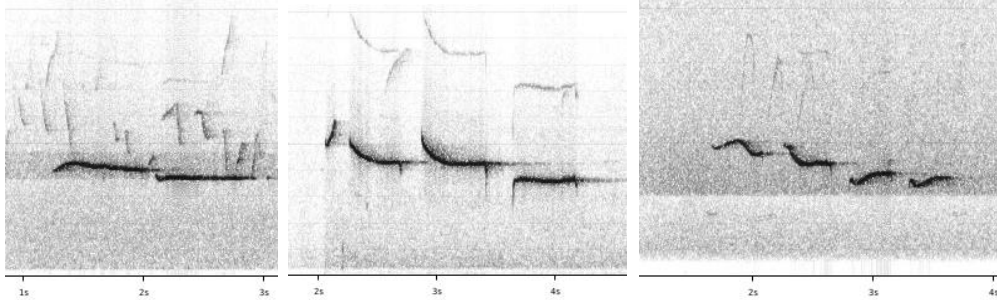
Venezuela



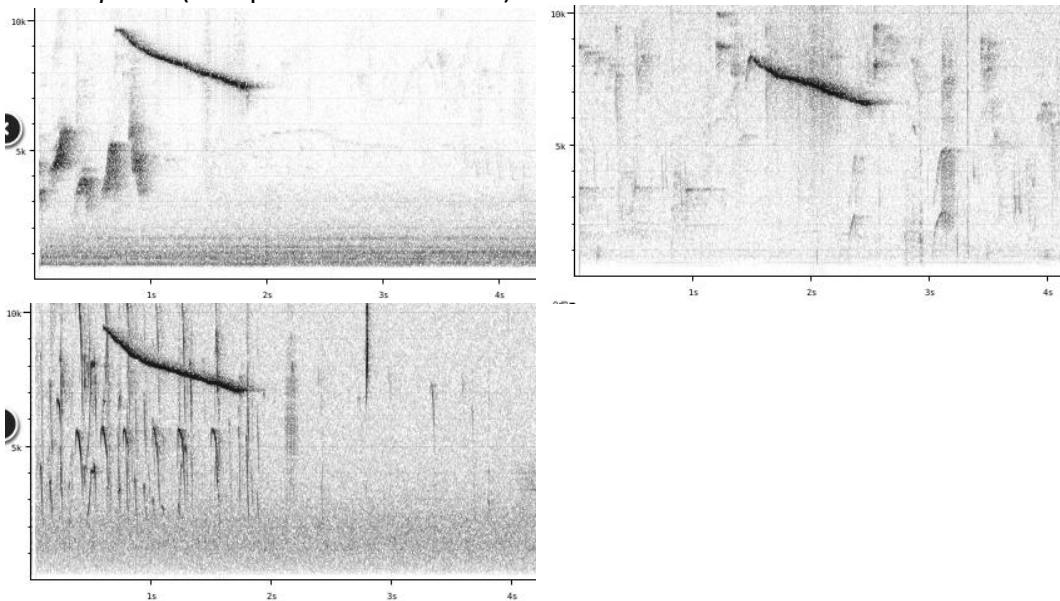
Colombia



Ecuador



stictocephala (E slope of Andes in Peru)

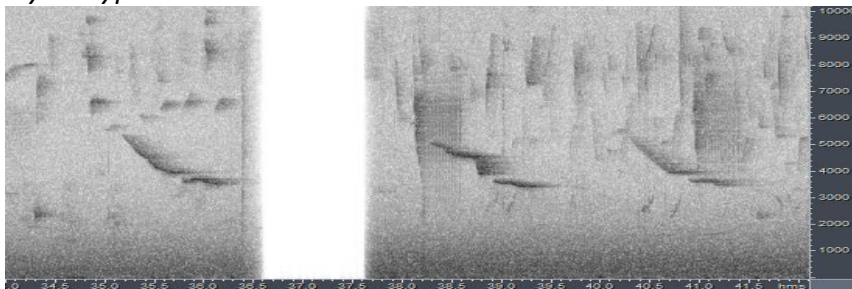


From the above examples, it is quite clear that all three races are vocally quite distinct:

Song of *stictocephala* is a single high-pitched downslurred whistle. Only *carrikeri* also reaches such high frequencies, but then always combines with lower-pitched whistle(s).

A single recording from La Paz, Bolivia (ML193150) (where the species is not supposed to occur) sounds rather like northern races, but may well be a Russet-crowned Warbler

Myiothlypis coronata:



The marked vocal difference of race *stictocephala* has already been discussed in <http://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/SACCprop392.htm> .

Song of the other two races consists of 2-4 whistles, in *carrikeri* the last whistle is markedly higher-pitched, while in *taeniata* the last whistle is actually the lowest-pitched.

We can quantify these vocal differences as follows:

stictocephala is unique in having a song consisting of a single whistle (vs typically 2-4 in other races)(score 3) and by singing at much higher frequencies (min. frequency > 6.5kHz vs typically down to 3-5kHz)(score 2). Application of Tobias criteria would lead to a total vocal score of about 5.

carrikeri (n=4) can further be distinguished from *taeniata* by reaching much higher frequencies (score 3).

This note was finalized on 5th July 2016, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank the many sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC and ML, in particular Nick Athanas, Peter Hosner, Dan Lane and Mark Robbins for recordings of *stictocephala*, and Nick Athanas, Diego Calderon, Oscar Laverde Jeremy Minns and Andrew Spencer for *carrikeri*.

References

Tobias, J.A., Seddon, N., Spottiswoode, C.N., Pilgrim, J.D., Fishpool, L.D.C. & Collar, N.J. (2010). Quantitative criteria for species delimitation. *Ibis* 152(4): 724–746.

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