

## Notes on the vocalizations of Wing-banded Antbird (*Myrmornis torquata*)

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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the two races of Wing-banded Antbird (*Myrmornis torquata*). 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).

The song, a rising and slightly accelerating series of loud notes, is quite variable in duration, pace and number of notes, even within every region. It is unclear whether this is mainly induced by playback or not. There are however some characters which allow to distinguish birds from the four main regions as grouped in the following and illustrated in Fig. 1:

### *stictoptera* Central America (n=8)

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Av. note length       | 0.15-0.22s   |
| pace at start         | 0.3-0.4 (measured here as period, duration between 2 subsequent notes) |
| pace at end           | 0.24-0.39  |
| max. freq. first note | 2300-3100Hz  |
| max. freq. last note  | 3750-4700Hz  |
| freq. range           | 1400-2400Hz  |
| note shape            | a hooked rising shape (unlike <i>torquata</i> )                        |

### *torquata* E Ecuador region (n=3)

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Av. note length       | 0.27-0.31s                                   |
| pace at start         | 0.43-0.48                                    |
| pace at end           | 0.32-0.4                                     |
| max. freq. first note | 2450-2700Hz                                  |
| max. freq. last note  | 3100-3600Hz                                  |
| freq. range           | 1300-1800Hz                                  |
| note shape            | a sharp overslurred note, like a reverse 'V' |

### *torquata* Guianan region (N of Amazon) (n=6)

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Av. note length       | 0.2-0.25s  |
| pace at start         | 0.32-0.38  |
| pace at end           | 0.29-0.34  |
| max. freq. first note | 2200-2600Hz  |
| max. freq. last note  | 3100-3800Hz  |
| freq. range           | 2000-2300Hz  |
| note shape            | a sharp overslurred note, like a reverse 'V' (but first leg slightly bended) |

### *torquata* S of Amazon (n=6)

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Av. note length       | 0.16-0.52s  |
| pace at start         | 0.3-0.65  |
| pace at end           | 0.27-0.58   |
| max. freq. first note | 2600-3200Hz   |
| max. freq. last note  | 3600-4350Hz   |
| freq. range           | 2400-3000Hz   |
| note shape            | a double-peak note, the first peak shorter and much lower-pitched (also clearly audible), the second peak rounded |

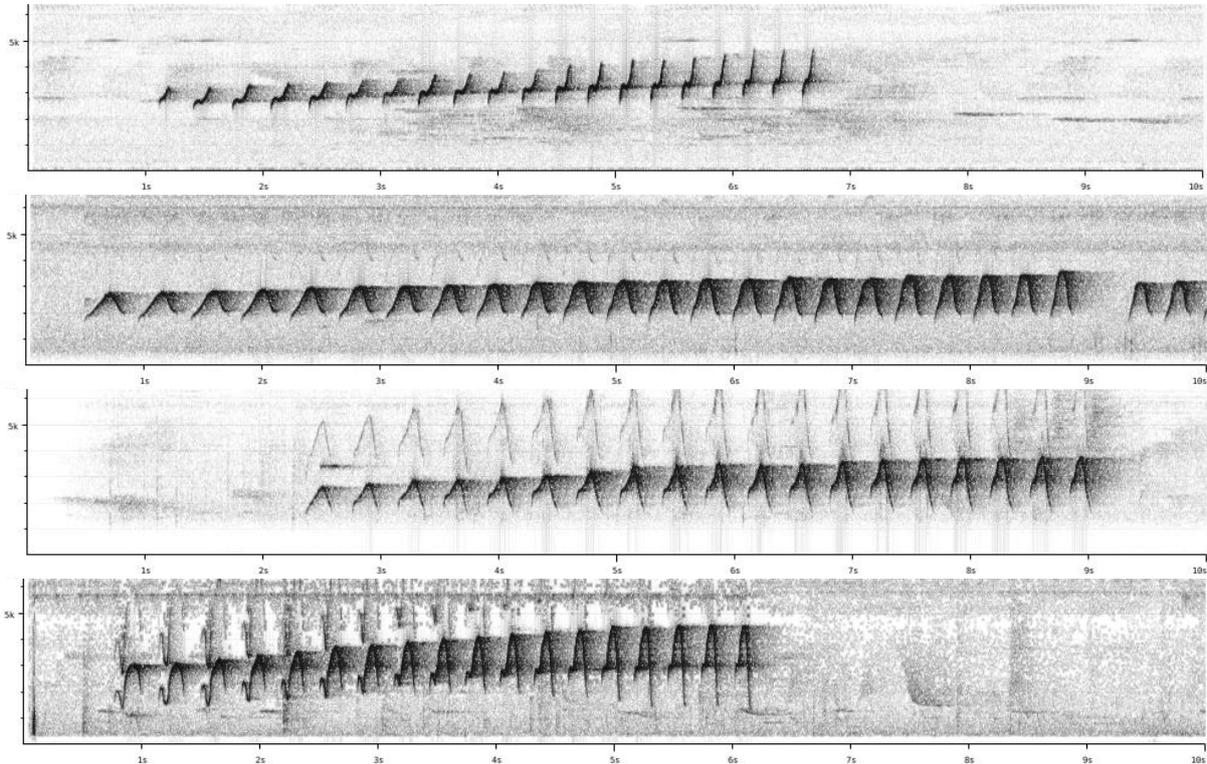


Figure 1: From top to bottom: typical loudsong of *M.t. stictopera* (Panama), *M.t. torquata* (E Ecuador), *M.t. torquata* (Venezuela) and *M.t. torquata* (Brazil, S of Amazon)

Every of the four groups can be distinguished easily by note shape alone (with birds from E Ecuador and Guianas having the most subtle difference and *stictopera* being the most different one).

Furthermore, *stictopera* seems to have the shortest notes (although one recording from S of Amazon has also very short notes, this however after playback). *stictopera* also reaches the highest frequencies, although birds S of the Amazon get almost equally high.

These three minor differences could all be given a score 1.

The total vocal score of *stictopera* vs *torquata* (3 regions combined) thus is about 2, or a rather small vocal difference.

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## 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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