HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD Alive

ORNITHOLOGICAL NOTES

Notes on the vocalizations of Thrush-like Antpitta (*Myrmothera campanisona*)

Peter Boesman

In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Thrush-like Antpitta (*Myrmothera campanisona*). 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).

Song of all races is structurally similar, but *subcanescens* clearly differs in a number of features (Fig. 1). We have therefore taken some measurements of the basic sound parameters to compare *subcanescens* with the other races treated as a single group:

subcanescens (n=7)

max. note length	0.17-0.25s
max. mid freq.	1080-1220Hz
end freq.	1080-1220Hz
freq. change	+60 to +140Hz
last note length	0.16-0.25s
# notes	5-9
highest amplitude	last or last but one note

others (n=12)

max. note length	0.18-0.28s
max. mid freq.	750-950Hz
end freq.	750-920Hz
freq. change	-90 to +30Hz
last note length	0.15-0.24s
# notes	6-10
highest amplitude	fourth, third or second last note

Song of *subcanescens* is clearly higher-pitched (score 3) and rises towards the end (score 2). Furthermore, the max. amplitude is reached on the last or last but one note (score 1-2). Also the last note of the song does not become shorter, which is often the case in other races.

From the other races, *dissors* seems to have the highest pitch (XC163576 is probably not *modesta* but also *dissors*), but still clearly lower than *subcanescens*, and lacking the other features of *subcanescens*.

Total score for vocal difference between *subcanescens* and other races is thus 4-5.

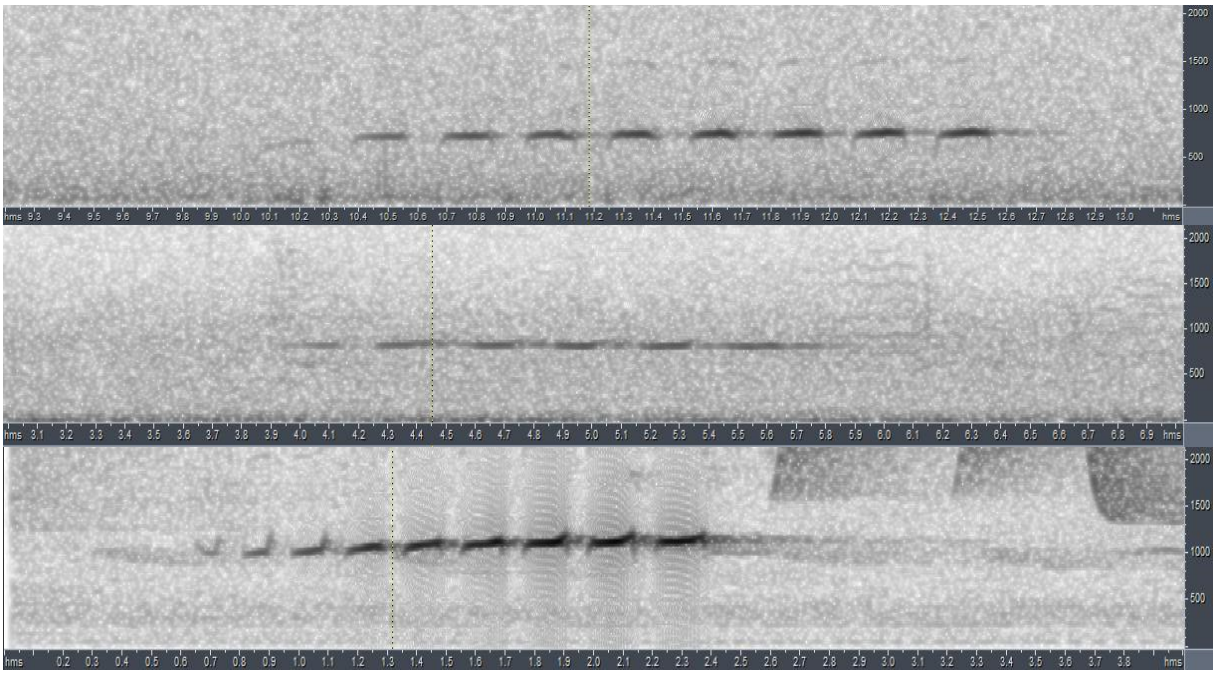

Figure 1: From top to bottom: Song of nominate, *dissors* and *subcanescens*

This note was finalized on 15th June 2015, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank in particular the many sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC.

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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