

Eran's 29 tone Scale how to & fingering guide

Introduction:

Playing in perfect pitch is a massive challenge of any instrumentalist in any piece. For me, as a saxophone player, it is now a question of proper preparatory work: I must be in good physical shape, being practiced specifically on the instrument I play in that concert, having a clear mind, having my instrument in top condition, a proper reed, and above all, to properly visualize in terms of dynamic, pitch, timbre and progression of each note before it actually happens.

Eran's 29 notes scale adds new challenges for the player: it asks to "break" the pre-set intonation of the saxophone, not only to smaller than semitones, but to make a "shift" of the fundamental tones.

Method:

to tackle this challenge, I started setting the grid of "tones" that emerge out of the 9/8 steps. This wasn't too hard to find, and I could shortly play a "true" Whole tone scale.

Alto saxophone - "circle" of 3/2 fifths

| Fingering | "Greek" name | No. of 3/2 fifth | Eq. Name+ (diviation) | Hz |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| B+123456 | D | 1 | D | 350.8 |
| 125 | G# Lema | 2 | A (+2) | 526.2 |
| 12345+B | E | 3 | E (+4) | 394.65 |
| 1 | A# Lema | 4 | B (+6) | 591.98 |
| 123 5 C# | F# | 5 | F# (+8) | 443.98 |
| (8) mid high | C Lema | 6 | C# (+10) | 665.97 |
| 123G# Tf | G# | 7 | G# (+12) | 499.48 |
| C1 C4 | D Apotome | 8 | D# (+14) | 374.61 |
| 12 Ta G# / p / 1 5 | A# | 9 | A# (+16) | 561.91 |
| 1234Eb | E Apotome | 10 | F (+18) | 421.44 |
| 2 ta | C | 11 | C (+20) | 632.15 |
| 123 Tf "m.high | F# Apotome | 12 | G (+22) | 474.11 |
| C1 Tc G# | D Coma | 13 | D (+24) | 711.17 |

After this short task, a few things became clear: first is that pitch correction with by ear is not an option, since it might work in the tonal systems which I am accustomed to, but this is a whole new beast which I genuinely do not know much about, the second thing is that as opposed to equal temperament, or other systems of tuning which make adjustments to be circular, this system does not "Like" corrections or "almost tuned" situations, meaning that to perform well - one has to really be totally accurate and study through all the note's duration; otherwise the effect is ruined or extended to many events instead of only one. Hence, finding a "proper fingering" can not be almost tuned or not responsive. If it is not a really good one - it will not work.

How to learn the 29 note scale?

1. Practice totally "flat" notes without any vibrato. A good app that I use almost daily is the "Tunable," which one can set to "advanced" and set the vibrato width on the minimum; if you can make the screen go totally green - you go it.
2. Find your own fingerings! My fingerings will be attached here, but they are "mine." other saxophone, mouthpiece, reed, or player - will need at least to adjust my fingerings.
3. Practice playing and singing the "new" intervals that are just beautiful! my experience is that it is a must to familiarize yourself with this unknown territory, at least up to the point the new intervals and fingering doesn't feel "strange" to you anymore.
4. Break some habits! To ask a perfect control over this system before playing the piece will be a wild exaggeration, but one must take into count that there are many things we do as habits of many years, other we worked pretty hard to acquire, but they will do us lousy service for this system and music. so if to speak shortly, take great care for throat auto-corrections and shaping of sound while playing.
5. Be patient! Finding proper fingerings took me about 20 hours of work for alto and then 20 hours more to the baritone, and still, each playing session reveals new corrections in fingering and throat position.
6. Some fingering uses the "shading technique," meaning that one covers partially open holes below the played note to lower the note. This technique is also known as "flatemant".
7. Some intervals are great fun to practice, regardless of "pinholes," and I suggest using Eran's app as an aid while practicing.
8. Good luck!

| Suggested practice sessions | Examples | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| whole tone by deviation from tone | D,E,F#,G#,A#,C,D... | D',E',F#',G#',A#',C', D'... | Dle,Ele,F#le, G#le,A#le,Cle... |
| chromatic scale and paterns | D,D',Dle,Dap,'E,E,E',Ele,Eap,'F#,F#,F#',F#le,F#ap,'G#,G#,G#',G#le,G#ap,'A#,A#,A#',A#le,A#ap,'C,C,C',Cle,Cap,D | | |
| perfect fifths and forth | D-G#le, E-A#le | D'-G#ap, F#'-Cap | D-F#le. G#-Cle |
| Pitagotian thirds | D-F#, | D'-F#' | Dle-F#le |
| Almost ferfect thirds m/M | D-Eap | D-'f# | |
| Other nice intervals | D-'G3 (near 7/5), D-A# (near 8/5), D-C (near 9/5), D-A#le/'C | | |

calculation basis

| Interval | ratio | Cents |
|-----------------|---|------------|
| Coma | 1.01364326477051 | 23.46001 |
| diesis | 1.03931824834386 | 66.764985 |
| lemma | 1.05349794238683 | 90.224996 |
| Apotoma | 1.06787109375 | 113.685006 |
| Coma to tone | 1.10985791461329 | 180.449992 |
| Tone | 1.125 | 203.910002 |
| Good calculator | http://www.sengpielaudio.com/calculator-centsratio.htm | |

Calculation sheet for the saxophone

| | Hz up to 0.00 | Tone (equal) cent diviation | Pedal in Hz | New note Hz | Ratio from tonica | Ratio from ton | Cent diviation for tones | Cent diviatio from tonica | Cent diviation in ton |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Fundamental | 350.80 | | | | | | | | |
| D | 350.80 | 0 | 350.8 | 350.8 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | |
| D' | 355.59 | 0 (+23.4) | 350.8 | 355.5860572814 | 1.01364326 | 1.01364326 | 0 | 23.46001 | 23.46001 |
| D Lema | 369.57 | 1/2 (-10) | 350.8 | 369.5670781893 | 1.05349794 | 1.05349794 | 0 | 90.224996 | 90.224996 |
| D Apotome | 374.61 | 1/2 (+13) | 350.8 | 374.6091796875 | 1.06787109 | 1.06787109 | 0 | 113.685006 | 113.685006 |
| 'E | 389.34 | 1 (-19.6) | 350.8 | 389.3381564463 | 1.10985791 | 1.10985791 | 0 | 180.449992 | 180.449992 |
| E | 394.65 | 1 (+4) | 350.8 | 394.65 | 1.125 | 1.125 | 0 | 203.910002 | 203.910002 |
| E' | 400.03 | 1 (27.4) | 350.8 | 400.0343144416 | 1.14034867 | 1.01364326 | 203.910002 | 227.370012 | 23.46001 |
| E Lema | 415.76 | 1.5 (-6) | 350.8 | 415.7629629629 | 1.18518518 | 1.05349794 | 203.910002 | 294.134998 | 90.224996 |
| E Apotome | 421.44 | 1.5 (+17) | 350.8 | 421.4353271484 | 1.20135498 | 1.06787109 | 203.910002 | 317.595008 | 113.685006 |
| 'F# | 438.01 | 2 (-15.6) | 350.8 | 438.0054260021 | 1.24859015 | 1.10985791 | 203.910002 | 384.359994 | 180.449992 |
| F# | 443.98 | 2 (+8) | 350.8 | 443.98125 | 1.265625 | 1.125 | 203.910002 | 407.820004 | 203.910002 |
| F#' | 450.04 | 2 (+30.4) | 350.8 | 450.0386037468 | 1.28289225 | 1.01364326 | 407.820004 | 431.280014 | 23.46001 |
| F# Lema | 467.73 | 2.5 (-2) | 350.8 | 467.7333333333 | 1.33333333 | 1.05349794 | 407.820004 | 498.045 | 90.224996 |
| F# Apotome | 474.11 | 2.5 (+21) | 350.8 | 474.1147430419 | 1.35152435 | 1.06787109 | 407.820004 | 521.50501 | 113.685006 |
| 'G# | 492.76 | 3 (-11.6) | 350.8 | 492.7561042523 | 1.40466392 | 1.10985791 | 407.820004 | 588.269996 | 180.449992 |
| G# | 499.48 | 3 (+12) | 350.8 | 499.47890625 | 1.42382812 | 1.125 | 407.820004 | 611.730006 | 203.910002 |
| G#' | 506.29 | 3 (+35.4) | 350.8 | 506.2934292152 | 1.44325378 | 1.01364326 | 611.730006 | 635.190016 | 23.46001 |
| G# Lema | 526.20 | 3.5 (+2) | 350.8 | 526.2 | 1.5 | 1.05349794 | 611.730006 | 701.955002 | 90.224996 |
| G# Apotome | 533.38 | 3.5 (25) | 350.8 | 533.3790859222 | 1.52046489 | 1.06787109 | 611.730006 | 725.415012 | 113.685006 |
| 'A# | 554.35 | 4 (-7.6) | 350.8 | 554.3506172839 | 1.58024691 | 1.10985791 | 611.730006 | 792.179998 | 180.449992 |
| A# | 561.91 | 4 (+16) | 350.8 | 561.9137695312 | 1.60180664 | 1.125 | 611.730006 | 815.640008 | 203.910002 |
| A#' | 569.58 | 4 (+30) | 350.8 | 569.5801078671 | 1.62366051 | 1.01364326 | 815.640008 | 839.100018 | 23.46001 |
| A# Lema | 591.98 | 4.5 (+6) | 350.8 | 591.975 | 1.6875 | 1.05349794 | 815.640008 | 905.865004 | 90.224996 |
| A# Apotome | 600.05 | 4.5 (30) | 350.8 | 600.0514716625 | 1.71052300 | 1.06787109 | 815.640008 | 929.325014 | 113.685006 |
| 'C | 623.64 | 5 (-3) | 350.8 | 623.6444444444 | 1.77777777 | 1.10985791 | 815.640008 | 996.09 | 180.449992 |
| C | 632.15 | 5 (+20) | 350.8 | 632.1529907226 | 1.80203247 | 1.125 | 815.640008 | 1019.55001 | 203.910002 |
| C' | 640.78 | 5 (+43) | 350.8 | 640.7776213505 | 1.82661807 | 1.01364326 | 1019.55001 | 1043.01002 | 23.46001 |
| C Lema | 665.97 | 5.5 (+10) | 350.8 | 665.971875 | 1.8984375 | 1.05349794 | 1019.55001 | 1109.77500 | 90.224996 |
| C# Apotome | 675.06 | 5.5 (+33) | 350.8 | 675.0579056203 | 1.92433838 | 1.06787109 | 1019.55001 | 1133.23501 | 113.685006 |
| D ('D) | 701.60 | 6 | 350.8 | 701.5999999999 | 1.99999999 | 1.10985791 | 1019.55001 | 1200.00000 | 180.449992 |
| D' (D) | 711.17 | 6 (23.4) | 350.8 | 711.1721145629 | 2.02728652 | 1.125 | 1019.55001 | 1223.46001 | 203.910002 |

Alto saxophone - low Bb-high D

| D = 350.8 (D is derived from its equal position if A=442Hz) | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Note | Position | Low | mid | High |
| G## | 4lima | | B+123456 | 1 D |
| G##' | 4lima' | Lowest possible | 125 | 2 G# Lema |
| 'A# | '5 | Bend with lips+ no teeth | 12345+B | 3 E |
| A# | 5 | 141/5 - Bb | 1 | 4 A# Lema |
| A#' | 5' | Bend with lips+ no teeth | 123 5 C# | 5 F# |
| A## | Lema | 148.5 Hz = B | (8) mid high | 6 C Lema |
| A##' | Apotome | Bend with lips+ no teeth | 123G# Tf | 7 G# |
| 'C | 6 | 156.4 Hz = C | C1 C4 | 8 D Apotome |
| C | 6 | Bend with lips+ no teeth | 12 Ta G# / p / 1 5 | 9 A# |
| C' | 6' | Bend with lips+ no teeth | 1234Eb | 10 E Apotome |
| C# | Lema | 165.8 Hz = C# | 2 ta | 11 C |
| C#' | Apotome | Bend with lips+ no teeth | 123 Tf "m.high | 12 F# Apotome |
| D | Ocatva | 123456 (Fast air) | B+123456 | C1 (4) |
| D' | 1' | 123456 C# (High) | 123456 m.high | C1 Tc G# |
| #D | Lema | 123456 Eb B | C4 1 | C2 |
| '#D | Apotome | 123456 Eb C# (V.High) | C1 C4 | C1C2 5 Ta |
| 'E | '2 | 123457 | C1C2C5 | C1 C3 |
| E | 2 | 12345 C# | 12345+B | C1C2C3 |
| E' | 2' | 12345 Eb C# (High) | 12345+Eb | C4 Tc |
| E# | Lema | 12347 C# (m.low) | 12346Eb | C3C4 Tc |
| E#' | Apotome | S.T. 1234567 Bb Tf | 1234Eb | C1C2C3C4 / C1C5 |
| 'F# | 3 | 123 567 Eb | 123 567Eb | C4C5 |
| F# | 3 | 123567 tf (bit low0) | 123 5 C# | C3C4C5 |
| F#' | 3' | 123 56 Eb Tf | 123 56 TF | X2 G# Ta / p C5 |
| F## | Lema | 123 | 123 C m.low | XP G# Ta |
| F##' | Apotome | 123 TF (fast Air) | 123 Tf "m.high | X / 1 |
| 'G# | 4 | 123 G# Tf | 123 (G#) | 245 |
| G# | 4 | S.T. 124567 B | 123G# Tf | 245 C# |
| G#' | 4' | S.T. 124567 C# | 1245 m.low | 24 C# / 134 Tc |
| G## | Lema | 12 | 125 Tf | 45 (nice under tone) |
| G##' | Apotome | 123456 B Eb Ta | 12G# | 45 Eb |
| 'A# | '5 | 15 | 1245TA (67) | 234567 Bb C1 |
| A# | 5 | 134Ta | 12 Ta G# / p / 1 5 | Tc |
| A#' | 5' | 1456 Ta Eb | 12456Eb Ta m.low C# | C1 46 Bb |
| A## | Lema | 13G# Ta | 1 | C1 Tc Ta |
| A##' | Apotome | 234567 Eb Bb | 1ta | C2 3 |
| 'C | 6 | 2 | 24567 m.low | C1C2 Tc |
| C | 6 | 234567 Eb TC | 2 ta | C1 C3 Ta |
| C' | 6' | 234567 | 2 456Eb ta high | C1C2C3 |
| C# | Lema | C1 2345 | (8) mid high | C2C3C4 |
| C#' | Apotome | C1 234 Tc Ta | Tcta | C2C3C4 Tc |
| D | Ocatva / '7 | C1C2 1p | C1 (4) | X4C5 |
| | | | C1 Tc Ta high | |

baritone Saxophone low Bb-high D

| D = 175.4 (D is derived from its equal position if A=442Hz) | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Note | Possition | Low | mid | High |
| D | Ocatva / '7 | D (low) | D + Bb | D + C |
| D' | 1' | (S.T) D + C# | D (mid high) | D + ta |
| #D | 1 lema | (S.t, N.T) D# + B | D# + C,C# | C2 2 |
| '#D | 1 apotome | D# (v. High) | C1,C2,C3 tc g# | T. C1 C2 Tc G# |
| 'E | 2 | E + C+B | C1,C2,C3,C4 | C3 45 |
| E | 2 | E | E (low) | C3 C1 |
| E' | 2' | E + C#,Eb | E + Eb (C#) | C1,C2,C3, TC |
| E# | 2 lema | F + C,B | F + 6,Eb,C# | C4 C3 |
| E#' | 2 apotome | F + Eb,C# / F + C,B | F + Eb,C# | X2 456 |
| 'F# | 3 | G + 567,Eb / F# + C | G + 56,Eb / F# + C | C5,C3 |
| F# | 3 | F + Eb,Tf,(C#) | G + 5 C# | C1,C2,C3,C4,C5 / X2 G# C5 |
| F#' | 3' | 123 5 Tf Eb | 123 56 tf | 12 C5 TA ? |
| F## | 3 lema | G + C (Low/456) | G (Low/456) | C5+1(Low) |
| F##' | 3 apotome | G TF,Eb,C | G (High) | 1 C5 G# (M.High) |
| 'G# | 4 | 123.189 | G + (G#) | 25 + (1) |
| G# | 4 | G# (High)/ (S.T) 124567Bb | G# | 2 5 |
| G#' | 4' | 12356(7) TF | 12356 TF | 12 C5 Ta |
| G## | 4 lema | A | A | 34 |
| G##' | 4 apotome | A + 4567 A (Low) | A + G# | 3456 |
| 'A# | '5 | 1p 3 g# tf | 1234 tf ta | 23456 eb c1 |
| A# | 5 | 14567 ta | 12 Ta | 123456 Bb |
| A#' | 5' | 1456 TA + C/B | 1456 Ta | 123456 |
| A## | 5 lema | TC + Eb + 1234567 | 1 Ta | C1 C2 (T+-) |
| A##' | 5 apotome | 1G#,TF,Eb (V.High) / 234567A+Eb (ST+LOW) | 1 Ta Eb | T. C1 C2 |
| 'C | 6 | C + 4 | 12 4567 + Tc | 3 C3 C1 |
| C | 6 | 2 TC | T. 2 TA | |
| C' | 6' | 2 Tc Ta G# (High) | 2 G# Ta Eb | C3,C2,2 |
| C# | 6 lema | C1 12 G# | T. | C2,3,4 |
| C#' | 6 apotome | C1 234 / (+ seliva key=cool MP) | T. P(only) tc ta | C1.C2.C3.C4 |
| D | Ocatva / '7 | | | X Tc |