Saxophone Acoustics and Harmonic Overtones

Author/Source: Joe Wolfe & John Smith

University of New South Wales (UNSW) Acoustics Research
Prof. Joe Wolfe & Prof. John Smith

Conical Woodwind Acoustics and the Overtone Series:
The saxophone combines a conical bore with a single reed, behaving acoustically like an open cy
This generates both even and odd harmonics (f, 2f, 3f, 4f), giving the instrument its warm, ric