

Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein (BWV 641)

Analysis from Gene Biringer's Schenker Text, Ex. 5-27

J.S. Bach

The image displays a musical score for the chorale 'Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein' (BWV 641) by J.S. Bach, in G major. The score is presented in two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is analyzed using Schenkerian notation, featuring various annotations:

- Red annotations:** Above the treble staff, there are three red annotations: a '3' with a caret (^) above it, a '2' with a caret (^) above it, and a '1' with a caret (^) above it, indicating structural levels or phrasing.
- Blue annotations:** The letters 'P' and 'N' are written in blue ink. 'P' appears above notes in measures 1, 2, 3, and 5. 'N' appears below notes in measures 1, 3, and 4. These likely represent 'Prinzipal' (Principal) and 'Neben' (Secondary) lines or phrases.
- Purple annotations:** Solid purple lines connect notes across measures, indicating phrasing or voice leading. Dashed purple lines also connect notes, possibly indicating a more abstract or underlying structure.
- Green annotations:** At the bottom of the score, there are three green annotations: 'I', 'V', and 'I', which likely represent the first, fifth, and first notes of a scale or a specific harmonic structure.
- Structural lines:** Thick black lines are drawn across the staves, indicating structural divisions or phrasing.