

# 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' by J.S. Bach, BWV 641. 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:  $\hat{3}$ ,  $\hat{2}$ , and  $\hat{1}$ , indicating the third, second, and first endings or structural levels of the melody.
- Blue annotations:** The letters 'P' and 'N' are written in blue ink. 'P' (Primitiv) is placed above notes, and 'N' (Neigung) is placed below notes, indicating specific melodic or harmonic functions.
- Purple annotations:** Solid purple lines and dashed purple lines connect notes across the staves, representing voice leading and structural connections.
- Green annotations:** At the bottom of the bass staff, there are three green annotations: 'I', 'V', and 'I', indicating the first, fifth, and first notes of a harmonic progression.

The score includes a large black bracket spanning the top of the treble staff, and a large black bracket spanning the bottom of the bass staff. The music is written in a style typical of 17th-century German chorales, with a focus on harmonic structure and voice leading.