

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 numbers with carets: $\hat{3}$, $\hat{2}$, and $\hat{1}$, indicating structural levels or measures.
- Blue annotations:** The letters "P" and "N" are placed above and below the notes, likely representing "Prägnanz" (prominence) and "Nachklang" (afterglow) or similar concepts in Schenkerian analysis.
- Purple annotations:** Solid purple lines and dashed purple lines connect notes across the staves, indicating voice leading or structural connections.
- Green annotations:** At the bottom of the bass staff, there are three green letters: "I", "V", and "I", which likely represent the first, third, and fifth degrees of a scale or chord.

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 Baroque chorales, with a focus on harmonic structure and voice leading.