

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: the upper staff in treble clef and the lower staff in bass clef, both with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is analyzed using Schenkerian techniques, featuring several annotations:

- Structural Lines:** Thick black lines indicate the primary melodic contours. In the treble staff, a line descends from the first measure to the second, and another descends from the second to the third. In the bass staff, a line ascends from the second to the third measure, and another descends from the third to the fourth.
- Phrasing:** Dashed purple lines connect notes across measures, indicating phrasing or voice-leading connections. Solid purple lines group notes within measures.
- Labels:** Blue letters 'P' (Principle) and 'N' (Nebenmelodie) are placed above or below notes to identify structural elements. For example, 'P' is above the second note of the first measure in both staves, and 'N' is above the first note of the second measure in both staves.
- Formal Structure:** Red symbols above the staff indicate formal structure: a red '3' with a caret (^) above it is above the first measure; a red '2' with a caret (^) above it is above the second measure; and a red '1' with a caret (^) above it is above the third measure. Green letters 'I', 'V', and 'I' are placed below the staff at the beginning, middle, and end of the piece, respectively.