

# Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein

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

J.S. Bach

This musical score illustrates the Schenkerian analysis of the first system of the chorale "Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein" by J.S. Bach. The score is presented in two staves, treble and bass, with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

The analysis includes the following elements:

- Red ^ symbols:** Indicate the structural levels of the melody. The first staff has three red ^ symbols above it, labeled 3, 2, and 1 from left to right, corresponding to the three measures of the first staff.
- Blue P and N symbols:** Represent the Schenkerian concepts of *P* (Progression) and *N* (Neigung, or leaning). These are placed above or below the notes they describe.
- Pink solid lines:** Represent the *Stimmführung* (voice leading) lines, showing the movement of individual voices.
- Pink dashed lines:** Represent the *Grundgestalt* (basic shape) lines, showing the underlying harmonic structure.
- Green I and V symbols:** Indicate the tonic (I) and dominant (V) chords, placed below the bass staff.

The first staff (treble clef) shows a melody that begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note B4. The second staff (bass clef) shows a melody that begins with a half note F#3, followed by a quarter note G3, and then a half note A3. The analysis highlights the relationship between the two staves, showing how the melody and bass line interact to form the harmonic structure.