

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, presented in a Schenkerian analytical style. The score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The analysis includes several key features:

- Structural Lines:** Thick black lines represent the primary structural elements. In the Treble staff, a descending line connects the first two measures, and an ascending line connects the last two measures. In the Bass staff, a descending line connects the last two measures, and an ascending line connects the first two measures. A large horizontal line spans the top of the score, with red annotations $\hat{3}$, $\hat{2}$, and $\hat{1}$ above it, indicating the hierarchical levels of the structure.
- Phrasing and Grouping:** Solid magenta arcs group notes into phrases, labeled with blue 'P' (Phrase) and 'N' (Nucleus). Dashed magenta arcs indicate longer-range connections or continuations.
- Labels and Annotations:** Blue 'P' and 'N' labels identify specific phrases and nuclei. Green labels 'I', 'V', and 'I' are placed at the bottom of the score, likely representing the beginning, middle, and end of the piece or a specific section. Red annotations $\hat{3}$, $\hat{2}$, and $\hat{1}$ are placed above the top staff, indicating the hierarchical levels of the structure.