

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 letters: **P** (Phrase) and **N** (Nucleus). Dashed magenta arcs indicate the continuation of these phrases across measures.
- Formal Structure:** Green letters **I**, **V**, and **I** are placed at the bottom of the score, marking the beginning, middle, and end of the piece, respectively.
- Annotations:** Red annotations $\hat{3}$, $\hat{2}$, and $\hat{1}$ are placed above the top staff, indicating the hierarchical levels of the structure.