

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 music is in 3/4 time, as indicated by the red time signature $\frac{3}{4}$ at the top. The score is annotated with purple lines and letters (P, N, I, V) to highlight specific structural elements.

Annotations:

- P (Purple):** Stands for "Principle" or "Primary" notes. These are circled in purple in both staves. In the Treble staff, they include the first four notes of the first phrase and the last three notes of the second phrase. In the Bass staff, they include the first four notes of the first phrase and the last three notes of the second phrase.
- N (Blue):** Stands for "Neighboring" notes. These are circled in blue in both staves. In the Treble staff, they include the fifth note of the first phrase and the first note of the second phrase. In the Bass staff, they include the fifth note of the first phrase and the first note of the second phrase.
- I (Green):** Stands for "Initial" notes. These are circled in green in both staves. In the Treble staff, they include the first note of the first phrase and the first note of the second phrase. In the Bass staff, they include the first note of the first phrase and the first note of the second phrase.
- V (Green):** Stands for "Verbal" notes. These are circled in green in both staves. In the Treble staff, they include the last three notes of the second phrase. In the Bass staff, they include the last three notes of the second phrase.

The score is divided into two main sections by a double bar line. The first section consists of two phrases, each starting with a half note and followed by a quarter note. The second section consists of two phrases, each starting with a half note and followed by a quarter note. The annotations highlight the structural relationships between these phrases and the overall form of the piece.