

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 characterized by a simple, homophonic texture with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a melody in the treble.

Key analytical features include:

- Structural Lines:** Solid black lines connect the primary notes of the melody and bass, showing the overall contour. Dashed purple lines indicate secondary or tertiary structural connections.
- Labels:** Blue letters 'P' (Principle) and 'N' (Neigung) are placed above or below notes to indicate their structural function. Red letters '1', '2', and '3' are placed above the staff, likely indicating measure numbers or structural divisions. Green letters 'I', 'V', and 'I' are placed below the staff, indicating the beginning, middle, and end of the piece.
- Phrasing:** The melody is divided into phrases by slurs and breath marks. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment, with some notes marked with 'P' and 'N'.