

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 notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and beams. The analysis is characterized by several key features:

- Structural Lines:** A thick black line spans the top of the Treble staff, and a thick green line spans the bottom of the Bass staff. These lines represent the primary structural framework of the piece.
- Labels:** The score is annotated with various labels in different colors and fonts:
 - Red Labels:** $\hat{3}$, $\hat{2}$, and $\hat{1}$ are positioned above the Treble staff, indicating specific structural levels or measures.
 - Blue Labels:** 'N' and 'P' are placed below the Treble staff, likely representing 'Neigung' (leaning) and 'Präparation' (preparation) respectively.
 - Green Labels:** 'I', 'V', and 'I' are placed below the Bass staff, indicating the beginning, middle, and end of a phrase or section.
- Curved Lines:** Solid pink curved lines connect notes across measures, suggesting a continuous melodic or harmonic line. Dashed pink curved lines also connect notes, possibly indicating a secondary or implied line.
- Diagonal Lines:** Two diagonal lines connect notes between the Treble and Bass staves, highlighting a specific harmonic or contrapuntal relationship.