

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, along with structural annotations.

Key analytical features include:

- Structural Layers:** A thick black line at the top of the Treble staff and a thick black line at the bottom of the Bass staff represent the primary structural layers (Kern). These layers are connected by a horizontal line, indicating a continuous structural flow.
- Labels:** The letters 'P' (Präfix) and 'N' (Nachfix) are used to label specific notes or groups of notes. 'P' is used for notes that are part of the primary structure, while 'N' is used for notes that are part of the secondary structure. The letters are colored blue.
- Red Labels:** Red labels '3', '2', and '1' are placed above the Treble staff, indicating the number of measures in each of the three main structural phrases.
- Green Labels:** Green labels 'I', 'V', and 'I' are placed below the Bass staff, indicating the first, fifth, and first notes of the structural phrases.
- Annotations:** Various annotations are present, including a dashed purple line connecting the first and fifth notes of the Bass staff, and a solid purple line connecting the first and fifth notes of the Treble staff. There are also several curved lines (arcs) connecting notes within the same staff, indicating phrasing or harmonic relationships.