

# 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 various symbols and lines to highlight structural elements:

- Purple annotations:** These include solid purple arcs labeled 'P' (Phrasing) and dashed purple arcs labeled 'N' (Nucleus). These annotations trace the primary melodic and harmonic lines across both staves, showing how the music is organized into phrases and how these phrases relate to the overall structure.
- Red annotations:** At the top of the score, there are three red time signatures:  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{2}{2}$ , and  $\frac{1}{1}$ , which likely indicate different levels of the Schenkerian reduction or different rhythmic groupings.
- Green annotations:** At the bottom of the score, there are three green letters: 'I', 'V', and 'I', which likely represent the first, fifth, and first degrees of the scale, indicating the harmonic structure or the underlying tonal framework.
- Structural lines:** Solid black lines and dashed purple lines connect notes across staves, illustrating the flow of the music and the relationships between different parts of the composition.