• Do we have to measure?
• Spatial relation within the whole
• the total visual field

• Visual experience is dynamic: interplay of directed tensions & the invisible center point
• Establishing a correct distance
• The structural skeleton

- Black disk on white square
  8 principle directions of space - tendency?
  Results: 1. Striving towards edges
     2. Cluster along axis of skeleton
     3. Stability around center
     * Lowest attainable tension level
- "Dead center" is not dead
  *Rope Analogy

- Repelling forces
  - size of disk and square
  - location within
    * a. * working together
    * b. * unbalanced?*
- Psychological v.s. Physical Balance
  - opposite forces
  - trial and error v.s. balancing on the tip of the finger
  - hanging the canvas: visual center of gravity v.s. finger trick
  - photography: the dancer and the model

- St. Michael weighing Souls
  Austrian, c.1470
  *the strength of prayer & the dark patch
- Why Balance??
  - action stands still
  - potential energy = minimum
  - does not require symmetry

-A Test by Maitland Graves
  Set 1: a. every element stays in its place
     b. equality or inequality?
  Set 2: a. a kite or a cross-like figure? Adrift in space
     b. reassuring clarity - successful disequilibrium
Weight and Spatial Depth
- weight & location: the structural framework the center and counterbalance
- “vistas” greater balancing power!
- depth v.s. weight
- volume of empty space in front

Weight & Color
- red heavier than blue
- bright heavier than dark
- black v.s. white: the effect of irradiation

Weight & size, intrinsic interest, isolation
- larger the heavier
- subject matter & formal complexity
- the sun and the moon

Shape & Weight
- simple geometrical figures = heavier

*The Graves Test: counterweighing geometries
The influence of knowledge
- understanding materials and construction

Direction
- attraction & weight of neighboring elements
- the shape of objects: counterbalancing the gravitational pull

Numerous factors acting with and against
- Weight counterbalanced through different forces
- Complexity creates liveliness!!

Homogenous Texture: patterns composed of many units of equal weight

Top v.s. Bottom
- moving away from ct. of gravity
- more weight at the top

*CLASS EXPERIMENT*
- bisecting a perpendicular line

Weight at the bottom
- balancing the vertical & horizontal
- main mass of the façade

Notre Dame and its rose window
- balancing the vertical & horizontal
- main mass of the façade
Right v.s. Left
-reading left to right, an affect of lateral asymmetry
-paired images: losing meaning
-ascending & descending diagonals
-right v.s. left: given 2 equal objects

Emphasizing the left side:
-a result of the dominance of the left cerebral cortex

Why bother?
- stabilizing the forces
- striving for equilibrium in all phases
  *Freud - the “pleasure principle”

Conclusion: Portrait of Cézanne’s wife
- internal tranquility v.s. charged w/ energy
- scale of increasing slimness
- scale of increasing brightness
- 2 ovals: core of stability