This study presents a new music visualization method concentrating on the overall tension curve of Classical music. The purpose of the new visualization method is to provide the whole impression of the musical structure so that even non-musicians could easily be attracted to and concentrate on the music playing. The new method focuses primarily on comprehensibility and practicality for music rather than presenting detailed musical information. The proposed visualization is a single line 2D graph, which traces musical tension through time. The parameters of musical tension from audio files used in the visualization are amplitude, tempo, spectral shape, and harmonic complexity. It is an interactive system on web browser in which users can browse musical files and freely choose any desired position on the graph.

The paper consists of four parts. The first is a brief overview of literature survey that reviews previous research on the subject and points out limits of those studies. The second part introduces merits of our new visualization method and it's implementation. The user experiment is designed to compare users’ listening patterns and their responses through various visualization methods. The last part summarizes the effectiveness of the new method for listeners’ satisfaction. By inducing users listen first to the musically high tensioned part, users could easily concentrate on the entire music. This new method can be widely used and further developed for an effective educational tool in this digital age.