

16

General Questions

What is your level of knowledge of how a CPU functions?

1 2 (3) 4 5

None Slight Some A lot Full

Please briefly describe how an equation (for example, "add") is completed by the CPU:

Each value is stored in a memory location. The CPU calculates the sum of these and stores the new value in a new memory location.

What is your level of knowledge of register machine simulators?

1 2 (3) 4 5

None Slight Some A lot Full

Have you used a register machine simulator?

(Yes) No

If yes, please state the name, and any good/bad points about the simulator:

Sigma 16 - no overflow, difficult for beginners to understand

Please briefly describe what a register machine simulator is:

Simulates the functions of a basic computer, with registers and logical operations on values stored in the registers

Application Specific

P6

Do you think this application conveys the message of a register machine?

Yes

Do you think the steps required to build a program are clear?

Yes

Would you feel confident enough to try and build an "add" program?

Yes

What do you like about this application?

Uses simple concepts such as shape, colour and movement to represent more complex ones, making it easier to understand how a register machine works.

What do you not like about this application?

what the arrows represent could be made clearer

What extra functionality should be incorporated into this application?

Could keep the black line but add a scrolling arrow animation to it, to give the idea of left-to-right motion.

What changes would you make to the current functionality? *None*

Just the arrows and back line - make it clearer what they represent

What changes would you make to the current design?

Do you feel your knowledge of a register machine has increased?

Yes

Do you think this is an appropriate level for naïve users, and do you think it will increase their knowledge?

Yes

What would you call this application?

Reg