

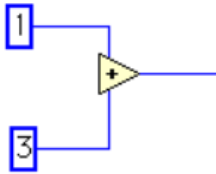
Participant ID: _____

Dimensions Survey for All Six Tasks

For all of the questions below, **1 = lowest** and **5 = highest** (circle one).

Regarding Hidden dependencies

A hidden dependency is a relationship between two components such that one of them is dependent on the other, but that dependency is not fully visible. For example, Excel spreadsheets often contain cells are referenced from other sheets and so you can't easily tell if modifying a given cell will or will not have an impact elsewhere (many hidden dependencies). The LabView programming language (shown below) makes data flow explicit, and so there are fewer hidden dependencies:



On a scale of 1-5, how visible are these dependencies in the annotations you just evaluated?

1 2 3 4 5

Consistency

Things are consistent when similar semantics are expressed in similar syntactic forms, that is, things that look similar either behave similarly or mean similar things. For example, the green triangle that means “play” is a nearly universal signal, so it is very consistent. The grammar rules for English have lots of exceptions and irregular words, so they are less consistent.

On a scale of 1-5, how consistent were the annotations you just evaluated?

1 2 3 4 5

Hard mental operations

When it feels like you have to juggle many things in your head to keep things straight or to properly use something, that is an indication of hard mental operations. For example, if you had to file your taxes without being able to write anything down except your final amounts, doing taxes would require many hard mental operations. If you use tax-assistant software that keeps track of the intermediate steps for you and makes sure the correct boxes are filled, there are fewer hard mental operations.

On a scale of 1-5, to what extent did the annotations require hard mental operations?

1 2 3 4 5

Role Expressiveness

A system with high role expressiveness has an intuitive design and feel - it is easy to tell why the respective design decisions were chosen. For example, a well organized machine shop has all the supplies and tools for a given task in the same spot - painting supplies on one table, cutting machines near each other, drill bits next to the drill, etc. The QWERTY keyboard layout has been criticized for having low role expressiveness because of the scattered keys and a lack of cohesive grouping.

On a scale of 1-5, how was the role expressiveness of the annotations you saw previously?

1 2 3 4 5