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Rethinking and researching task design in pattern generalisation.

Lindmeier, Anke M. (ed.) et al., Proceedings of the 37th conference of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education “Mathematics learning across the life span”, PME 37, Kiel, Germany, July 28–August 2, 2013. Vol. 2. Kiel: IPN–Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education at the University of Kiel (ISBN 978-3-89088-288-8). 193-200 (2013).

Summary: This paper describes the design principles behind a test instrument, called the JuStraGen test, that had been specially developed to assess students’ ability to generalise figural pattern generalising tasks, as well as to measure the effects of two task features on their rule construction. A discussion of some student responses then follows to shed light on how students dealt with some tasks in the test.

Classification: U70 C30

Keywords: test instruments; design; generalization; student’s ability; patterns