SETL Newsletter # 118

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Revised and extended algorithms for deducing the Types of Objects Occuring in SETL Programs.

In a language without declarations such as SETL, any variable may at any point in a program represent a value having one of several different data types. During execution, the type of the variables must be checked to determine the meaning of an operation. Of course, this is time consuming and accounts in some measure for SETL's inefficiency. When the type of a variable can be determined at compile time, a compiler can in principle produce code to perform the desired operation more efficiently.

Even if we do not insist on programmer declaration of all variables, the type of a variable can be determined at compile time in one of two possible ways:

i) If a variable x is the result of operator op applied to quantities y and z of known type, the type of x can be deduced by knowing what type of results op produces from objects of the types of y and z. For example, if x=y+z appears in a program and y and z are tuples, then x must also be a tuple. ii) The type of a variable can often be determined merely from

the fact that a given operation is applied to it. For example, if $\underline{tl} x$ appears in a program, then x is known to be a tuple.

There are two chief differences between these two methods of type determination. The first difference is that the first method propagates knowledge of types in the direction of execution flow while the second method propagates that knowledge in the reverse direction. The second difference is that when dealing with compound types such as sets and tuples, the first method will give much more detailed type information about the constituent elements within the compound type. To illustrate these differences, consider the following two examples:

a)
$$x = 2; \underline{read} y;$$
 b) $\underline{read} x, y;$
 $z = y + x;$ $z = x + y; w = \underline{tl} z;$

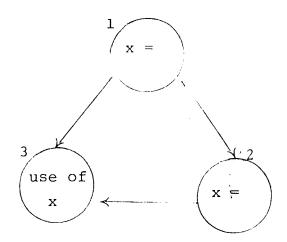
In example a) x is of known type integer since it results from an assignment operation on an integer constant. Although the type of y cannot yet be determined, the type of z is known to be integer since it results from adding an integer (x) to some quantity. Note that these deductions are an example of method (i) and that type information has propagated in the direction of program flow. However, once we know that z is an integer, we see that the use of y is in an addition which results in an integer, so that y itself must be an integer. Therefore in the *read* statement where y is defined, an integer must have been read in. This in an example of method (ii). Similarly in example (b) above, since z is involved in a <u>t</u> operation, it must be a tuple, once this has been determined, x and y can also be classified tuples by their use in a plus operation which produces a tuple.

The deduction of types by method (i) is a relatively straightforward matter. If the types of all uses making up an operation are known, the deduction of the resulting type amounts to merely looking up in a precalculated table the type that will result when the given operation is applied to the given types.

However, type deduction by method (ii) is more complex. In this method, the type of a defined variable is deduced from the way in which the variable is used in subsequent operations. Thus we must look into the question of how the type of a variable use can determine the type of that variable at definition. Specifically, if two uses of a variable exist along two disjoint paths of control flow from the definition, we cannot say that the definition must have the types of both uses since the branch may have been dependent on the variable's type and may have been specifically designed to bypass one of the uses when the variable's type is incompatible with that of the use. However, if two uses lie on the same path of control flow, then both are equally valid determinants of the definition type.

There are however two possibilities that further complicate the situation. If there exists a path from a variable de finition to an exit node of the program, no deduction of the definition type is possible from uses of the variable occuring past that node. This is because the choice as to whether to exit the program or enter one of the successor nodes may be dependent on the type of the variable.

Similarly, if there is a path to a redefinition of the variable, any uses occuring on that path past the redefinition cannot be used for type determination since the path to the redefinition may be taken to redefine the variable to make it compatible with the use. An illustration of this situation is the following graph:



Here the use of x in block 3 cannot be used to determine the type of the definition in block 1.

We shall now give a formal definition of variable type deduction by method (ii) in terms of a series of equations which use the following notational conventions. Gives types t_1 and t_2 , the operation t_1 <u>alt</u> t_2 produces a type t_3 which indicates that the object under consideration is of type either t_1 or t_2 . Similarly, the operation t_1 <u>both</u> t_2 produces a type which indicates that the object is of both type t_1 and t_2 , if such a type is possible. If b is a block, we indicate its entry by $y_{\tilde{b}}$ and its exit by $e_{\tilde{b}}$. The inverses of these functions are written b_y and b_e respectively. In what follows, tg indicates the general type about which nothing is known, backtype is the function which determines the type from the way a variable is used in a given use and du is a function which, given a definition and a block, returns all possible uses of the defined variable in that block.

The equations which follow are for a function tfu defined on block entrances and exits and which give the type deduced from use for an definition, def:

(1) tfu(e) = tg if e is a program exit or if b_e contains a definition other than def of the variable defined by def.

(2) $tfu(e) = [alt: pecesor(b_e)] tfu(y_p)$ otherwise

(3) $tfu(y) = [\underline{both} : uedu(def, b_y)] backtype(u) \underline{both} tfu (e_{(by)}),$

The final deduced type of def will be $tfu(y_b)$, where b is the block containing def.

Before taking up the details of the typechecking algorithm itself, it is well to define the representation of a program on which it operates. A program is considered to be five-tuple of the form

< <u>nodes</u>, <u>progrph</u>, <u>entry</u>, <u>cesor</u>, <u>cons</u>, <u>exits</u> > where: <u>nodes</u> is the set of basic blocks in the program. <u>Progrph</u> is the program graph and is a mapping which takes each

member of <u>nodes</u> into a tuple which represents the operations occuring in that basic block in order of execution. Each operation is represented by a tuple consisting of the output variable, the operation and the input variables. is the element of <u>nodes</u> which is the entry point to the program.

- <u>cesor</u> is a mapping from <u>nodes</u> into 2^{<u>nodes</u>} which gives for each basic block, the set of its sucessors.
- cons is the set of constants occuring in the program
- exits is the set of exit blocks of the program.

entry

Preliminary processing of the program determines the following sets:

- <u>defs</u>, the set of all definitions appearing in the program. For the purposes of our algorithm, a <u>definition</u> is a triple consisting of the defined variable, the basic block within which the definition appears, and the integer which gives the position of the definition within the basic block.
- defsreaching, a function which maps each basic block into the set of all definitions which are "live" at the entry to that block; i.e. such that the use of a variable within the block may refer to the value of that variable given by one of these definitions. This is determined by a use-definition chaining algorithm.

The first step of the typechecker, which may more properly be considered as part of the use-definition chaining algorithm, is to create two mappings: *ud* and *du*. The first associates with each use of a variable the set of all definitions which may determine the value of the variable at that use. The second is the inverse of the first; it associates with each definition. The set of all uses where the value of that definition may be utilized. For the purpose of this algorithm, a *use* is a quadruple consisting of the variable name, the basic block in which the use appears, the position of the operation within which it appears in the basic block, and the integer which tells which input variable it is within the operation.

The algorithm for calculating ud and du is as follows: define udfct; / * defsreaching, progrph ud and du are assumed global * / $du = n\ell;$ ud = nl;(\forall block ε progrph) optup ℓ = block(2) / * optupl is the set of operations in a given block * / defset = defsreaching (block(1) is node); (l < = Vi < = #optupl) result =(optupl(i) is opti)(i);</pre> op=opti(2); d = <result, node, i>; /* set up the definition corresponding to the i th operation in the block */ (3 < = ¥j < = # opti) u = <opti(j), node, i,j>; / * set up the use corresponding to the jth variable used in the ith operation in the block * / $ud(u) = \{ x \in defset | x(1) eq u(1) \};$ / * the set of definitions which could possibly apply to use $u \star /$ end ∀j; $s = {x \in defset | result eq x(1)};$ / * update defset by removing all definitions which define the same variable as the current definition, adding the current definition * / defset = defset - s with d; end Vi; end ∀ block; $(\forall d \in defs) du(d) = nl;;$ $(\forall x \in ud, d \in x(2)) du(d) = du(d) with x(i);;$ / * this sets up du as the inverse function of ud * / end udfct;

We now move to a description of the typechecker proper. The result of the typechecker will be a mapping *typ* which assigns to each definition and constant in the program its deduced type. We leave a discussion of how we represent these types for later, but mention that we initialize the types of constants to be their types and the types of all definitions to be the "undefined" type signifying that nothing is known about their types.

We then invoke the routine grafproc which is in charge of the global management of the typechecker. Grafproc keeps a set of definitions, work, which consists of all definitions whose type may be determined. Initially, works consists of all the definitions in the program to be processed. A single definition is removed from work and its type determined by the routine defproc. The determination of the type of a single definition enables us to determine the type of two other groups of definitions.

(i) Those definitions which result from an operation applied to a use of the variable whose type has just been determined.

(ii) The determination of the type of this definition may enable the determination of the type of one of the variables used in this definition, which in turn may enable the determination of the type of the definition where that variable was defined.

Note that the first group corresponds to the first method of typechecking discussed above and the second group to the second method.

The definitions in the first group are given by:

[+: $u \in du(d)$] { df ε defs | <u>tl</u> df <u>eq</u> u(2:2)} while those in the second group are given by:

[+: u ε usepile] ud(u) where *usepile* is a tuple of all the uses which make up the current definition *d*. *Usepile* is a global variable which is built up by *defproc* in processing the definition *d*.

The code for grafproc follows:

end grafproc;

The routine *defproc* processed the definition which is its argument, determining its type. If this type differs from its original type signifying that more information is known about the definition, *defproc* returns *true* which is a signal to *grafproc* to add all definitions which may be affected by a type change in this one to the set *work*.

We now give the code for the routine defproc. This function calls on two other functions newtyp and back which determine the type of a definition by methods one and two respectively; that is, newtyp combines the known types of the variables which make up the definition, utilizing the operation in the tuple to produce the type of the result, while back searches for all uses of the defined variable and combines type information deduced by the way the variable is used into a type for the variable. These two returned types for the definition are then combined by the function *both* which produces a "lowest common denominator", i.e. the type of an object known to have both of two given types. If this resultant type is different from the known type of the definition on entry to defproc, we return true, else false. Defproc is also responsible for building the tuple usepile of all uses which make up the input dedinition.

```
definef defproc(d);
    / * usepile, progrph, typ are global * /
    usepile = <u>nult</u>; modif = <u>false</u>; optupl = progrph (d(2));
    result = (optupl (d(3)) <u>is</u> opt3)(i);
    op = opt3(2); oldtype = typ(d);
    (3 < = ∀j < = # opt3) usepile (j-2) = <opt3(j),d(2),d(3),j>;;
    typ(d) = both (back(d), newtyp(op, usepile));
    if typ (d) <u>ne</u> oldtype then modif = <u>true</u>;;
    return modif;
```

end defproc;

We now turn to a discussion of representing types and combining them. We distinguish among eight elementary types and represent them by bit string flags having values of powers of 2 (for easy combination) as follows:

- tu the type of Ω , the undefined atom
- ti integer type
- tb boolean or bit-string type
- tc character string type
- tn null set type
- tt null tuple type
- tg general type used where the type of an object is too complex for compact representation; can be anything.
- tz neutral or error type. Originally before anything is known about the type of an object, its type is tz. If its type is still tz at the end of processing, we know that an error exists. We assume tz = 0.

These elementary types can be combined by *alternation*, that is an object may have type *tin* which signifies that the object is either an integer or the null set. Similarly, we can have any other combination of elementary types. These types are represented as the logical "or" of their constituent types. Compound types are represented by tuples. The type of a set is a triple $\langle st$, o, type \rangle where st is an integer flag representing a set and type is the type of the elements of the set. Thus a set which contains bit strings and integers would have type $\langle st$, o, $tbi \rangle$. A set of integer sets would have type $\langle st$, o, $\langle st$, o, $ti \rangle$ which illustrates that types can be nested. To simplify matters, a maximum nesting of 3 is allowed so that the type of a set of sets of sets of sets would be given by:

The type of a tuple of unknown length is a triple $\langle unt, 0, type \rangle$, where unt is an integer flag representing a tuple of unknown length and type is the type of the elements of the tuple. Thus a tuple of unknown length consisting of character strings and null sets would have type $\langle unt, 0, ten \rangle$.

A tuple which is known at compile time to have length n is represented by a (n+2)-tuple of the form:

<knt,0, type1, type2,..., typen>

where knt is an integer flag representing a tuple of known length and typej is the type of the *j*th component for $1 \le j \le n$. Thus a tuple of length three consisting of a set of integers, an integer, and either the null set or null tuple would be represented as:

<knt, 0, <st, 0, ti>, ti, tnt>.

The second component of compound types is reserved for indicating alternation with elementary types. For example if an object is known to either be an integer or a set of bit strings, its type would be:

<st, ti, tb>.

Alternation between two compound types of different grosstype (the *grosstype* of a compound type is its compound type flag, either *st*, *unt*, or *knt*) produces *tg*, the general type.

There are two basic routines for combining types. Given two types a and b, the function alt returns the type of an object which is known to be either of type a or of type b: This routine assumes that st = 2, unt = 3, knt = 4 and a function grostyp which returns the grosstype of a type, defined by: definef grostyp(a); return if integer a then el else a(i); end grostyp; Here el is a flag representing an elementary type and it is assumed that el = 1; under these assumptions the code for alt follows: definef alt(a,b); /* first rearrange the types such that grosstype(a) > grosstype(b) */ if (grostype(a) is ga) qt(grostype(b) is qb) then return alt(b,a);; /* alternation of non-null set and non-null tuple is tg */ if ({ <el,el,elel>, <el, st,elcmp>,<el,unt,elcmp>,<el,knt,elcmp>, <st,st,stst>,<unt,unt,unun>,<unt,knt,unkn>,<knt,knt,knkn>} (ga,gb) is label) eq Ω then return tg;; qo to label; elel: /* both operands elementary */ return if a eq tg or b eq tg then tg else a + b; elcmp: /* elementary type and compound type */ return if a eq tg then tg else if a eq tz then b else <b(1), a+b(2)> + tl tl b; stst: unun: /* two sets or two tuples of unknown length */ return <a(1), a(2)+b(2)_alt(a(3), b(3))>; /* a tuple of unknown length and one of known length */ unkn: return <unt, a(2)+b(2), alt (a(3), [alt:3<=i<=#b] b(i))>; knkn: /* two tuples of known length, if both have same length then the result is a known tuple, consisting of the alternation of corresponding individual elements, otherwise an unknown

tuple consisting of the alternation of all elements */

```
return if (# a is na) eq (#b is nb) then
               <knt, alt(a(2), b(2))> + [+:3<=i<=na]<alt(a(i),b(i))>
            else <unt,alt(a(2),b(2)),alt ([alt:3<=i<=na]a(i),</pre>
                                           [alt:3<=i<=nb]b(i) )>;
end alt;
     Here, alt is an operator defined by:
definef a alt b; return alt(a,b); end;
          Similarly, the routine both receives two types as input
     parameters and returns the type of an object which is known to
     be of both types. The code follows:
     definef both (a,b);
          /* if either a or b is of general type, return the other */
          if a eq tg then return b;; if b eq tg then return a;;
         /* s is a flag which is zero if and only if one of a
                                                                 and
          b are elementary */
          s=0; if atom a then ja=a; else ja=a(2); s=1;;
               if atom b then jb=b; s=0; else jb=b(2);;
          /* ja and jb are the elementary parts of a and b */
          if s eq 0 then return ja*jb;;
kntup:
         /* here we test for one of the types being a tuple of
               known length */
          if grostyp(a) eq knt then tup=<knt,ja*jb>;
               if grostyp(b) eq unt then
                    ( 2<∀i<=#a) tup(i)=both (a(i),b(3) );;</pre>
                     return tup;
               end if;
               if grostyp(b) eq knt then
                   if (#a) ne (#b) then return ja*jb;;
                   (
                       2<Vi<=#a) tup(i) = both (a(i), b(i));;
                   return tup;
               end if;
```

end if; /* if b is a known length tuple, swtich a and b */
if grostyp(b) eq knt then c=b; b=a; a=c; goto kntup;;
if a(l) eq b(l) then return
if (both (a(3), b(3) is bo)eq 0 then ja*jb
 else <a(l), ja*jb, bo>;;
return ja*jb;

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end both;

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We now turn to descriptions of the actual processes of deducing the type of a definition. The routine newtyp is responsible for combining the types of the uses which make up a definition according to the operation to determine the type of the result (method (i) above). Its input parameters are op which is the operation and u which is a tuple of the uses making up the definition (this tuple was prepared by *defproc* which calls *newtyp*). *Newtyp* divides all operations into several categories. Some operations (like division or equality testing) preordain the type of their result without regard to the types of their inputs. Others (like plus or assignment) do depend on their inputs and can be divided into binary , unary or special operators. For binary operations, newtyp divides the input types into their compound and elementary parts, determining the result types for each combination of parts, and then taking the 1 alternation of the whole.

The opcodes which the algorithm presently handles are the following:

- odv integer division oabs- absolute value ohd - head of a tuple otl - tail of a tuple oarb -arbitary element of a set oass - assignment opw - power set of a set odec - decimal converter ooct - octal converter osiz - number of elements, bits or characters onot - logical negation oad- plus, unron, concatenation osb - minus, set difference oml - multiplication, intersection, replication
- orm remainder, symmetric difference

omxm - maximum omnm - minimum oeq, one, olt ole, ogt, oge - comparison oand, oor - logical operations oelm - element test owith - SETL with operation olss - SETL less operation olsf - less functional values oinc - inclusion test *oof* - function application, position extraction *oofa* - multivalued function application onpw - SETL npor operation ondx - indexing of tuple, bit or character string oset, otpl- set or tuple former ondrass - indexed assignment 1 ord - read operation

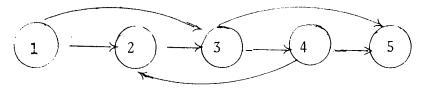
An operation is represented by a tuple; the first element is the variable into which the result is stored, the second is the opcode, and the others are the operands. Thus the operation x+y would be represented by <'ti', oad,'x', 'y'> where ti represents a temporary location. An exception is made in the case of indexed assignment where the indexed quantity is included among the operands (this is because the previous type of the quantity enters into the determination of the eventual type). For example a(x)=q would be represented by <'a', ondxass, 'x', 'q', 'a' >. Note that the indexed quantity appears as the last member of the tuple, and the value to be assigned as the next to last.

```
spoplab = {<oass, asscas>,<oset, setcas>, <otpl, tplcas>
                <ondxass, xacas>}; /* function which returns a label */
    nu = #u;
     argl=u(l); targl=argtyp(argl);
     qo to
        if op ε { oass, ondxass, o set, otpl} then spoplab(op)
    else if op \varepsilon { ohd,otl, oarb,opw} then unop
     else if op ε { oad,osb,oml,orm,owth,olss,olsf,oofa,onpw, oof}
          then binop else plop;
asscas: return targl;
setcas: return <st,tz,[alt: 1< = i < = nu] nstchk(argtyp(u(i)))>;
tplcas: return <knt,tz>+[+: 1< = i < = nu]<nstchk(argtyp(u(i)))>;
xacas: typset = nl; /* typset is an accumulator set for
                        all the alternatives that the
                        result type tould be */
        if nu eq 3 and both(targ1, ti) eq ti then
        /* in this case the indexed assignment may be either to
        a set or a tuple (note that indices of more than one
        integer into tuples of tuples are not covered) */
          if (argtyp(u(#u))) is targu) eg tg then return tg;;
          if both (targu,tb) eq tb then tb in typset;;
          if both (targu,tc) eq tc then tc in typset;;
          if both (targu,tt) eq tt then
              if both (argtyp(u(2) is targ2,tu)eq tu then tt in typset;;
              if both (targ2, tg) ne tu then <unt,0,targ2>in typset;;
        end if;
              if grostyp(targu) ge unt then
              /* here we assume the flag for st is 2,
                 that for unt is 3, and for knt is 4 */
                 <unt, 0,alt(argtyp(u(2)), [alt:2<i<=#targu] targu(i))>
                                                     in typset;;
      end if;
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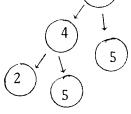
/* we are now at the possibility of indexing into a set */ targ2 = newtyp(otpl, u(l:(#u)-1));cmcmbin(owth, argtyp(u(#u)), targ2) in typset; /* treat it as the set with the tuple which may be inserted */ return [alt: i ε typset] i; unop: return if grostyp(targl) eq el the elun(op,targl) else elun(op, targ1(2)) alt cmpun (op, targ1); /* elun takes care of finding the type for a unary operator on an elementary operand and *empun* on the compound part of the operand */ binop: targ2= argtyp (u(2)); binlab= {<el,el,binelel>,<el,st,binelst> <st.el.binstel> <st.st.binstst>}; go to binlab(grostyp(targ1) min st, groseyp(targ2) min st); binelel: return elebin(op,targ1,targ2); binelst: return elebin(op,targ1,targ(2)) alt elcmbin(op,targ1,targ2); binstel: return elelbin(op,targ1(2),targ2) alt cmelbin(op,targ1,targ2); binstst: return elebin(op, targ1(2), targ2(2))alt elcmbin(op, targ1(2), targ2) alt cmeg bin(op,targ1,targ2(2))alt cmcmbin (op,targ1,targ2); /* these four routines (elcmbin, elelbin, cmelbin, cmcmbin) combine types depending on their grosstype */ arglst=tl u; /* the only plunary operator currently is index plop: of a tuple or string */ return if grostyp (targ1 eq el then elplu(op,targ1,arg1st) else elplu(op,targ1(2),arg1st) alt cmpplu(op,targ1,arg1st); end newtyp; Aside from the type-finding routines, newtyp uses two auxiliary routines which have not yet been discussed. argtyp returns the type of its argument. The code follows: definef argtyp(arg); /* arg is a use of a constant or variable */ /* cons, typ, and ud are global */ if $arg(i) \in cons$ then return typ(arg(i));;return [alt: x ε ud(arg)] typ(x); end argtyp;

The other routine *nstchk* insures that nesting is never deeper than three by checking something which is being nested for double nesting definef nstchk(x);

We now rurn to a description of typechecking by method (ii). In order to solve the equations (1) - (3) presented earlier, we introduce the concept of the tree of a program rooted at a given node. This tree is constructed from the program graph by establishing the given node as root and using the graph successors as the tree successor so long as they do not cause a cycle. For example, given the program graph



the tree rooted at node is:



the tree rooted at node 1 is:

we then assume type tg at the exits of the leaves and travel up the tree propagating types according to the aforementioned equations.

Given a definition d, the function back is responsible for constructing the tree and then calling a function to walk the tree and determine the type of d by method ii.

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The code for the routine back is as follows:
definef back(d);
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t = progtree(d(2)); /* build the tree */
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return typfind (d,t); /* determine the type from the tree */
end back;
```

The code to build the tree is: definef progtree (node);

```
/* succ is the global set of tree successors, cont a global
        map assigning to each tree node, the program node which
        it represents, tpred a local map giving all nodes in the
        path from the tree root to any given node, cesor, the
        global graph successor */
        succ = nl; cont = nl; tpred = nl; t = newat;
        cont(t)=node; work={t}; tpred(t)={t};
        (while work ne nl) thode from work;
              succ(tnode) = n\ell;
              (\forall c \in cesor (cont(tnode))) if c n \in cont[tpred(tnode)]
                   then b = newat; cont(b)=c;
                   tpred(b)=tpred(tnode) with b;
                                 succ(tnode)=succ (tnode) with b;
                   b
                      in work; end if;
             end ∀c:
      end while;
      return t;
end progtree;
```

The routine *typfind* is responsible for walking down the tree and determining the types of the uses and how they combine in enabling us to deduce the type of the defined variable. Note that two cases must be specifically checked for as discussed earlier. If a node along the tree is an exit or it contains a redefinition of the variable, the tree traversal need not go beyond that node. Note further that if a redefinition occurs within a node, it will occur after any uses of the previous definition; since if it occurred before, the uses would be uses of the redefinition and not of the original. Thus all uses within the block where redefinition occurs are valid determinants of the original definition type.

This routine uses the following auxiliary routines: a) *backtype* which does the actual determination of type of a use depending on the following parameters: the operator, the position within the operation tuple of the use, and the type of the operation result (which may have been determined on the basis of other uses with known types). The actual code for *backtype* is a detailed accounting of all possibilities and will not be given here. b) oper which determines the operator which is applied to a given use. The code is:

definef oper(u); return ((progrph(u(2))) (u(3))) (2); end oper; c) restyp which gives the type of the result of an operation in which a given use occurs. The code is: definef restyp(u); return type(<((progrph(u(2)))(u(3)))(1),u(2),u(3)>);

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end restyp;