

The Chameleon Type Debugger (Tool Demonstration)

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ABSTRACT

In this tool demonstration, we give an overview of the Chameleon type debugger. The type debugger's primary use is to identify locations within a source program which are involved in a type error. By further examining these (potentially) problematic program locations, users gain a better understanding of their program and are able to work towards the actual mistake which was the cause of the type error. The debugger is interactive, allowing the user to provide additional information to narrow down the search space. One of the novel aspects of the debugger is the ability to explain erroneous-looking types. In the event that an unexpected type is inferred, the debugger can highlight program locations which contributed to that result. Furthermore, due to the flexible constraint-based foundation that the debugger is built upon, it can naturally handle advanced type system features such as Haskell's type classes and functional dependencies.

KEYWORDS: debugging; types

1 Introduction

Reporting meaningful type error messages is a notoriously difficult problem for strongly typed languages. Messages are often obscure and don't always indicate the actual source of the problem. Beginners in particular, often have difficulty locating type errors. In the case of languages with a powerful type system such as Haskell [Has], even experienced programmers can not always easily identify the source of the error.

Chameleon is a Haskell-style language. The Chameleon system [SW] provides an interactive type debugging environment. In the event of a type error or unexpected result, the system automatically highlights the (possibly) erroneous program locations involved. The type debugger is also able to deal with Haskell-style overloading [WB89] and its various extensions [Jon00, JJM97]. We refer to [SSW03], for a detailed account of the methods and techniques employed and a broader comparison to related work. For the purpose of this paper, we restrict our attention to a few examples to highlight the main aspects of the Chameleon type debugger.

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2 The Type Debugger

2.1 Overview

We present an example of a simple debugging session, which illustrates the Chameleon type debugger in action.

Example 1 This program is supposed to print a graph of a mathematical function on the terminal. The `plot` function takes as arguments: a) the function to plot, b) the width of each terminal character, c) the height of each character, and d) the vertical distance (in characters) of the origin from the top of the screen.

```
plot f dx dy oy =
  let fxs = getYs f dx
      ys = map (\y-> fromIntegral (y-oy)*dy) [maxY,maxY-1..minY]
      rows = map (doRow fxs) ys
  in unlines rows
  where
    doRow [] r = ""
    doRow (y:ys) r = (if y < r && y > (r-dy) then '*'
                      else ' ') : doRow r ys
    getYs f dx = [ f ((centre x * dx)) | x <- [minX..maxX] ]
                  where centre = (+) .5

minX = 0
maxX = 79
minY = 0
maxY = 19
```

Curious to see some functions plotted, we load this program in Hugs and are met with the following:

```
ERROR "plot.hs":13 - Type error in function binding

** Term           : doRow
** Type           : [[a]] -> [a] -> [Char]
** Does not match : [a] -> [[a]] -> String
** Because        : unification would give infinite type
```

We launch the Chameleon type debugger, and ask for the type of `doRow`. Note we use the syntax `;` to refer to local definitions of `plot`. Note also that in Haskell systems typically it is impossible to examine the types of local variables.

```
plot.hs> :type plot;doRow
type error - contributing locations
doRow (y:ys) r = (if y < r && y > r - dy then '*' else ' ') : doRow r ys
```

We see that `doRow`'s first argument is the pattern `(y:ys)` whereas in the body of the definition, it is first applied to `r`. This is a problem since the function `<` equates the types of `r` and `y`, and yet by reversing the order of `doRow`'s arguments we are also equating the types of `r` and `ys`. This is the source of the "infinite type" error message we saw earlier. To resolve this problem we simply reorder the arguments in the recursive call. The new clause is:

```
doRow (y:ys) r = (if y < r && y > (r-dy) then '*'
                  else ' ') : doRow ys r
```

Having fixed this bug, we return to Hugs, and attempt to load the corrected program. Hugs reports the following:

```
ERROR "plot.hs":19 - Illegal Haskell 98 class constraint in inferred type
** Expression: getYs
** Type      : (Num (a -> a), Num a, Num (Integer -> a)) => ((a->a)->b) ->
              (a->a) -> [b]
```

We need to find out where these strange constraints are coming from in the definition of `getYs`. The `explain` command allows us to ask why a variable or expression has a type of a particular form. Note that we can write `_` to stand for types we are not interested in.

```
plot.hs> :explain (plot;getYs) ((Num (Integer -> _)) => _)
getYs f dx = [ f ((centre x * dx)) | x <- [minX..maxX] ]
```

The problem appears to be the interaction between the `centre` function and the elements from the list being generated. The list must be responsible for the presence of the `Integer` type. We continue by scrutinising `centre`, first examining its type and then asking why it is functional.

```
plot.hs> :type plot;getYs;centre
(Num(b),Num(a -> b)) => a -> b -> b
plot.hs> :explain (plot;getYs;centre) _ -> _ -> _
centre = (+) . 5
```

The source of the error suddenly becomes clear. It was our intention that the expression `.5` be a floating point number. In fact, the `.` is parsed as a separate identifier - the function composition operator. The fix is to rewrite this as a floating point value that Haskell will understand as such. The corrected definition of `centre` is:

```
centre = (+) 0.5
```

Relieved that these two bugs are fixed, we return to Hugs to plot some curves, and are faced with the following.

```
ERROR "plot.hs":8 - Instance of Fractional Integer required for definition of plot
```

We will begin with `rows`, since we know that `unlines`, a standard Haskell function, can't have caused this problem. The `explain` command will be useful in finding out which part of the program is responsible for this constraint. We work our way towards the problem from the top down.

```
plot.hs> :explain (plot;rows) ((Fractional Integer) => _)
rows = map (doRow fxs) ys

plot.hs> :explain (plot;fxs) ((Fractional Integer) => _)
fxs = getYs f dx

plot.hs> :explain (plot;getYs) ((Fractional Integer) => _)
getYs f dx = [ f ((centre x * dx)) | x <- [minX..maxX] ]
```

The problem seems to be the interaction between `centre` and `x`.

```
plot.hs> :type plot;getYs;centre
Fractional a => a

plot.hs> :type plot;getYs;x
Integer
```

Indeed this is the source of the mistake. The `centre` function expects `Floating` values, whereas the elements generated from the list are `Integers`. We will convert these `Integers` to the appropriate numeric type with the standard Haskell function `fromIntegral`. The corrected definition of `getYs` follows.

```
getYs f dx = [ f ((centre (fromIntegral x) * dx)) | x <- [minX..maxX] ]
  where centre = (+) 0.5
```

With this last correction made, we reload Hugs, and are relieved to find that our program is now accepted.

The following subsections broadly outline the type debugger's key features. See Appendix A for a brief summary of all the debugger's commands.

2.2 Type Error Explanation

The Chameleon type debugger primarily serves to direct users toward the source of type errors within their programs. Thus, it would mostly be invoked when a type error is already known to be present within a program.

Most traditional type checking/inference algorithms work by traversing a program's abstract syntax tree, gathering type information as they proceed. As soon as some contradictory type information is encountered, they terminate with an error message. This message usually indicates that the location of the error is the site in the program that was last visited. In fact, typically we are more interested in uncovering all of the sites which contribute to the type error - since any of those could be the actual source of the error.

The Chameleon type debugger reports errors by highlighting all source locations which contribute to an error. The system underlines a minimal set of program locations which lead to a type error. There may be multiple such sets - for reasons of efficiency, only one set is found. In Section 2.5 we show that despite this, the debugger can also underline the program locations that are common to all possible error reports.

Example 2 Consider the following simple program.

```
f g x y = (g (if x then x else y), g "abc")
```

Hugs reports:

```
ERROR "realprog.ch":1 - Type error in application
** Expression : g (if x then x else y)
** Term      : if x then x else y
** Type     : Bool
** Does not match : [Char]
```

This indicates that the type *Bool* was inferred for the if-then-else expression, whereas a [*Char*] was expected, and required. Why that is the case is left unknown to the programmer.

In Chameleon we can ask the system for the inferred type of some function *f* using the command `:type f`. If the function has no type (contains a type error), then an explanation in terms of locations that contribute to the error. Using the Chameleon debugger, on the example above:

```
realprog.ch> :type f
f g x y = (g (if x then x else y), g "abc")
```

The underlined locations are those which are implicated in the error. There is no attempt to identify any specific location as the "true" source of the error. No claim is made that the if-then-else expression must have type [*Char*]. The source of all the conflicting types is highlighted and it is up to the user to decide where the actual error is. It may be that for this particular program, the mistake was in applying *g* to a [*Char*]—a possibility that the Hugs message ignores.

The obvious drawback of this approach to error reporting is its dependence on the user to properly interpret the effect of each location involved. Indeed, it may not always be clear why some location contributes to the type error.

Of course, the user is free to follow up his initial query with additional commands to further uncover the types within the program - but this may be tedious to do repeatedly since it's the user's responsibility to make sense of all those individual queries. Future work will be directed toward improving the style of type error reports.

2.3 Local/Global Explanation

Put simply, the Chameleon type debugger works by generating constraints on the types of variables in a program. Type inference is then a matter of solving those constraints.

The more constraints that are involved, the slower this process may be. In general, the number of constraints present is proportional to the size of the call graph in a definition. To reduce the amount of overhead, we provide two distinct reporting modes: *local* and *global*.

In the local mode, we restrict error/type explanations to locations within a single definition. The consequence of this is that we are then free to simplify the constraints which arises from outside of this definition.

Example 3 Consider the following simple program which is supposed to model a stack data structure using a list.

```
idStack stk = pop (push undefined stk)
push top stk = (top:stk)
pop (top,stk) = stk
empty = []
```

There's obviously a problem here.

Upon launching the debugger in local mode (the default), the following is reported:

```
type error - contributing locations:
idStack stk = pop (push undefined stk)
```

We then examine both of the culpable functions.

```
stack.hs> :type push
a -> [a] -> [a]
stack.hs> :type pop
(a,b) -> b
```

The error is revealed. In the definition of `idStack`, `push` returns a list, where `pop` expects a pair.

In the global explanation mode, we place no restrictions on the locations which can be highlighted. Since we no longer restrict ourselves to any particular locations, we can no longer simplify away any of the constraints involved.

Example 4 We return to the previous example, but this time we use the global explanation mode.

```
stack.hs> :set global
stack.hs> :type idStack
type error - contributing locations:
idStack stk = pop (push undefined stk)
push top stk = (top:stk)
pop (top,stk) = stk
```

In this mode, all program locations contributing to the error are revealed immediately. In this case, the conflict between the list and pair is immediately revealed.

2.4 Type Explanation

It's possible to write a function which, though well-typed, does not have the type that was intended. A novel feature of our debugger is its ability to explain such unexpected types. The command `:explain (e) (D ⇒ t)` asks the system to underline a set of locations which force expression e to have type of the form $D ⇒ t$. As is the case for type errors, explanations consist of references to the responsible source locations.

Type explanations are particularly useful for explaining errors involving malformed type class constraints. A typical type error message would merely complain about the existence of such a constraint, without providing any information to further investigate the problem.

Example 5 The following program scales all elements of a list, such that the biggest element becomes 1. It contains a type class error.

```
normalize xs = scale biggest xs
scale x ns = map (/x) ns
biggest (x:xs) = max x xs
  where max x [] = x
        max x (y:ys) | y > x = max y ys
                      | otherwise = max x ys
```

Hugs reports the following:

```
ERROR "normalize.hs":1 - Illegal Haskell 98 class constraint in inferred type
** Expression : normalize
** Type : (Fractional ([a] -> a), Ord a) => [[a] -> a] -> [[a] -> a]
```

The problem is that, in Haskell, type class constraints must be of form $C a$, where a is a type variable. The inferred constraint, $Fractional([a] \rightarrow a)$, obviously violates this condition.

To solve this problem, we'll need to know why $Fractional$'s argument is a function. Since this is a fairly compact program, we will use the debugger in global mode. We proceed as follows.

```
normalize.hs> :set global
normalize.hs> :explain (normalize) ((Fractional ([_] -> _)) => _)
normalize xs = scale biggest xs
scale x ns = map (/x) ns
biggest (x:xs) = max x xs
  where max x [] = x
        max x (y:ys) | y > x = max y ys
                      | otherwise = max x ys
```

It should be clear that the $Fractional$ constraint arises from the use of $/$ in the definition of `scale`. We also see from the above exactly where that the list type comes from the pattern in `biggest`. This indicates that the use of `biggest` hasn't been fully applied in `normalize`.

The following corrected version of `normalize` will work as intended.

```
normalize xs = scale (biggest xs) xs
```

2.5 Most-Likely Explanations

Since it is technically infeasible to present all explanations for a particular type error or `:explain` query, the debugger will, by default, only display one. However, in the case where the intersection of all explanations is non-empty, it is also possible to cheaply identify the common program locations. This information is useful since in most cases it would be reasonable to assume that locations which are involved in more errors are more likely to be the real cause of the problem. Indeed fixing a location involved in all errors will immediately resolve them all.

If the debugger finds that there is a common subset of all errors, it will automatically report it, along with a specific error.

Example 6 Consider the following program. `merge` takes two sorted lists as arguments and combining all elements, returns a single sorted list.

```
merge [] ys = ys
merge xs [] = [xs]
merge (x:xs) (y:ys) | x < y = [x] ++ merge xs (y:ys)
                    | otherwise = [y] ++ merge (x:xs) ys
```

This program contains a type error. Loading it into the debugger, we get the following error report.

```
type error - conflicting locations:
merge [] ys = ys
merge xs [] = [xs]
merge (x:xs) (y:ys) | x < y = [x] ++ merge xs (y:ys)
                    | otherwise = [y] ++ merge (x:xs) ys
```

```
locations which appear in all conflicts:
merge [] ys = ys
merge xs [] = [xs]
merge (x:xs) (y:ys) | x < y = [x] ++ merge xs (y:ys)
                    | otherwise = [y] ++ merge (x:xs) ys
```

The first display of the program above is a typical debugger error report. A single error is reported and all responsible program locations are highlighted.

The second program printout indicates those locations which appear in all errors. Note that these locations do not themselves constitute a type error. An actual error occurs when these locations are considered alongside (either of) the recursive calls to `merge` in the third clause. Nevertheless, this provides us a view of the mostly likely source of error, and makes clearer the mistake in this program.

2.6 Type Inference for Arbitrary Locations

Most existing interpreters/programming environments for Haskell, for example Hugs[HUG] and GHCi[GHC], allow users to ask for the type of variables in their program. These systems, however, restrict queries to variables bound at the top level of their program. It is not possible for users to inquire about the types of variables bound within a `let` or `where` clause. This can be frustrating since, in order to allow inference for those definitions, programs need to be modified, lifting sub-definitions to the top level.

Furthermore, these systems restrict type queries to programs which are well-typed. Obviously this is of little help when debugging a program, since it must somehow be made typeable while maintaining the essence of the error - for example by replacing expressions with calls to `undefined`.

By contrast, the Chameleon type debugger allows users to infer types of arbitrary variables and expressions within a program, regardless of whether it is typeable.

Example 7 Consider the following program, where most of the work is being done in a nested-definition.

```
reverse = rev []
         where rev rs [] = rs
               rev rs (x:xs) = rev (x ++ rs) xs
```

We run the debugger as follows:

```
reverse.hs> :type reverse
[[a]] -> [a]
```

Since the problem is mostly due to the definition of `rev`, we continue by examining the type of `rev`. We can refer to nested bindings, like `rev`, via their enclosing binding by separating their names with `;`s. We can refer to a specific clause of a definition by following it with a `;` and the number of the clause. Otherwise, by default, the reference is to the entire declaration, including all clauses.

```
reverse.hs> :type reverse;rev
[a] -> [[a]] -> [a]
reverse.hs> :type reverse;rev;1
a -> [b] -> a
reverse.hs> :type reverse;rev;2
[a] -> [[a]] -> b
```

We see above that the second clause of `rev` introduces the erroneous `[[a]]` type. Having narrowed our search to an easily digestible fraction of the original code, we proceed as follows:

```
reverse.ch> :explain (reverse;rev;2) (_ -> [[_]] -> _)
rev rs (x:xs) = rev (x ++ rs) xs
```

Certainly, a text-based interface places restrictions on how easily one may refer to arbitrary program fragments, however this merely a limitation of the current debugger implementation. In principle, we feel that the ability to infer types anywhere within any program is of invaluable benefit when debugging type errors.

2.7 Source-Based Debugger Interface

Being interactive, the debugger's text-based interface provides users with immediate feedback which they can use to iteratively work their way toward the source of a type error. Although flexible, such an interface can at times be slightly stifling and a distraction from the source code being edited separately by the programmer. As an alternative, we allow programmers to pose debugger queries directly in their program's source.

The command `:type e'`, where e is an expression, can be written directly in the program as $e :: ?$. Also, `:explain (e) (D ⇒ t)`, where e is an expression and $D ⇒ t$ is a type scheme, can be expressed as $e :: ?t$ within the program itself.

As well as individual expressions, entire declarations can be queried by writing such a command at the same scope (with a declaration name in place of an expression.)

The debugger responds to these embedded commands by collecting and processing them in textual order. They do not otherwise affect the working of the compiler, and do not change the meaning of programs they are attached to.

Example 8 Returning to Example 3, we modify it by adding a `type` query to the expression in the body of `idStack`, and attempt a re-compile.

```
idStack stk = (pop (push undefined stk)) ::?
push top stk = (top:stk)
pop (top,stk) = stk
empty = []
```

Compilation would still fail, but the Chameleon system would print the following before stopping:

```
type error - contributing locations:
idStack stk = pop (push undefined stk)
```

We continue by further modifying the program, adding additional queries, and re-running the compiler. In the following version we have attached `type` queries to the definitions of `push` and `pop`.

```
idStack stk = pop (push undefined stk)
push ::? push top stk = (top:stk)
pop ::? pop (top,stk) = stk
empty = []
```

This time, the system would respond to our commands as follows.

```
push :: a -> [a] -> [a]
pop :: (a, b) -> b
```

3 Type Class Extensions

A strength of our system is that it supports almost arbitrary type class extensions. This is made possible through Chameleon's extensible type system [SS02].

In Chameleon, one can specify type extensions by providing additional constraint rules. Such rules take effect during constraint solving (type inference.) These rules introduce new constraints, which can be used to enforce additional restrictions on types. One use is to encode Haskell-style functional dependencies.

Example 9 Consider the following type class definition.

```
class Collect a b where
  empty :: b
  insert :: a -> b -> b
  member :: a -> b -> Bool
```

As defined this class is flawed. The type of `empty :: Collect a b => b` is ambiguous, since type variable `a` appears only in the constraint component. This poses a problem when running a particular use of `empty`, since it is not clear which instance it represents.

Functional dependencies allow us to overcome this problem, by relating the type class variables in a specific way. We are able to state that `b` functionally determines `a`. Though not part of Haskell 98, Hugs [HUG] and GHC [GHC] both support functional dependencies. In either of these systems, the functional dependency can be stated as so:

```
class Collect a b | b -> a where ...
```

The same functional dependency can be expressed in Chameleon via the rule:

```
rule Collect a b, Collect a' b ==> a = a'
```

This states that if we have to `Collect` constraints with the same second argument, then their first argument must also be the same.

Consider the following program which tries to check if a *Float* is a member of a collection of *Ints*.

```
f g x y = if member (x::Float) (insert (1::Int) y)
         then g x else y
```

The constraints for `f` imply `Collect Int t` and `Collect Float t`. This allows firing of the rule representing the functional dependency adding the information that `Int = Float`, causing a type error.

Note that our standard error reporting mechanism will still work in the presence of arbitrary rules, and will report the following:

```
collect.ch> :type f
type error - contributing locations
f g x y = if member (x::Float) (insert (1::Int) y)
         then g x else y
rule(s) involved: Collect a b, Collect a' b ==> a = a'
```

Rules can be written to enforce other arbitrary conditions.

Example 10 Consider

```
f x y = x / y + x 'div' y
```

The inferred type is $f :: (\text{Integral } a, \text{Fractional } a) \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$. This is obviously not satisfiable, though it will not immediately cause an error. To address this issue, we can impose the following rule.

```
rule Integral a, Fractional a ==> False
```

This rule essentially states that we do not allow the same type, a , to both an instance of `Integral` and `Fractional`. In terms of the constraints we generate during type inference, it means we would add the always-false constraint whenever this condition arises - causing the process to fail with a type error.

In the case of the above example, adding this rule will cause the Chameleon debugger to report the following.

```
div.ch> :t f
type error - contributing locations:
f x y = x / y + x 'div' y
rule(s) involved: Integral a, Fractional a ==> False
```

4 Related and Future Work

In recent years, there has been an increasing awareness of the limitations of traditional inference algorithms when it comes to type error reporting. Various strategies have been proposed to improve the usefulness of type error messages and aid the programmer in debugging type errors. These include things like: alternative inference algorithms, error explanation systems, and interactive type explanation tools.

Error explanation systems allow the user to examine the process by which specific types are inferred for program variables [DB96, BS93]. Most work by recording the effect of the inference procedure at each step. In this way a complete history of the process can be built up. One unfortunate shortcoming of such systems is the typically large size of explanations. This occurs since, although all steps are recorded, not all are of interest to the user when investigating a specific type. Also, since such systems are layered on top of an existing inference algorithm, they suffer from the same left-to-right bias when discovering errors.

The Chameleon approach is to map the typing problem to a constraint solving problem, and determine minimal systems of constraints (and corresponding program locations) which cause errors or types. Independently Haack and Wells [HW03] use a similar approach to explain type errors, though their system does not apply to Haskell style overloading which makes its usefulness limited for Haskell debugging.

Interactive tools exist which assist the user to find type errors manually [HCS00, Chi01]. These essentially allow one to uncover the type of any program location. Through examination of the types of subexpressions, the user gradually works towards the source of the error. Identifiers with suspicious looking types are followed to their definition and further examined. This approach to debugging is similar to that currently supported by the Chameleon type debugger, but is generally much more limited. None of these allow for quick and efficient identification of conflicting program locations; the process is manually directed at every step. Furthermore, none of them allow the user to immediately locate precisely those sites which contribute to some suspicious looking type. Our type debugging tool is flexible enough to allow both a user-directed examination of the program's types as well as provide useful, succinct advice to direct the user's search. In principal, a declarative debugging-style interface to our debugger could be designed to emulate the aforementioned systems.

Helium[Hel] is a language and compiler designed to be similar to Haskell, with the aim of providing superior error messages for beginners. Based on a database of common mistakes, the system can provide additional hints to users, suggesting improvements that are likely to correct the program. By contrast, the Chameleon type debugger makes little effort in presenting its diagnostic information, beyond highlighting the sites that are involved. To remedy this, we hope to apply similar strategies to those found in Helium. Our belief is that the two forms of error reporting strongly reinforce each other. A well-focused error message provides a good starting point, while highlighted program locations lead the user towards sites worth exploring .

Work remains to make the debugger easier to use, both in terms of its interface and functionality. We intend to expand the debugger's error reporting capability to provide better type and error explanations, as well as improved error messages in general.

Currently our approach to inferring types in the presence of errors is fairly limited. In future work we plan to extend the debugger so that it reports a strongest possible type, given all errors it is involved in. This would further support our efforts to provide improved diagnostic information to users, since we might be able to suggest minimal program fixes which resolve all type errors.

The current system is limited to finding a single type error in a definition. This limitation is unfortunately necessary, since the task of finding all errors is computationally expensive (although see [GSW03]). In the case of multiple errors, one is chosen arbitrarily. The choice is a consequence of the implementation of the underlying algorithms. It may be possible in future, to arrange things so that more likely errors are discovered preferentially. For example, we may be possible to discover errors amongst closely situated locations, before those involving quite distant program sites.

5 Conclusion

The problem of diagnosing type errors can be quite difficult, particularly for beginning programmers. Traditional inference algorithms give rise to error messages which can be difficult to interpret at times, and occasionally even misleading.

The Chameleon type debugger is an interactive system which allows users to examine their programs' types in detail. The debugger supports: inference of types for arbitrary locations, error explanations outlining all locations involved, explanation of suspicious-looking types, and more. It is unique in that it supports all Haskell type system features. The debugger's error reporting mechanism is still fairly basic, though future work will focus on making the most of improving the system in this regard.

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A Summary of Debugger Commands

The debugger supports the following commands.

- `:type <expression>` Infers and displays the type of the given expression. In the event of an error, highlights contributing locations.
- `:explain (<expression>) (<type>|<typescheme>)` Explains why the given expression has a type that is an instance of the given type. Contributing locations are highlighted.
- `:declare (<reference>) (<type>|<typescheme>)` Declares that the referred-to definition has the nominated type. This declaration is internal to the debugger, and does not affect the program source.
- `:print` Displays the loaded source program.
- `:set <flag>` Configures the debugger by setting internal options.
Available flags include:
 - `global` Selects global type/error explanations.
 - `local` Selects local type/error explanations.
 - `solver ?` Selects the version of the internal constraint solver to use. The available values are 0, 1 and 2. Higher numbers lead to more thorough explanations, but involve slower solvers.
- `:help` Prints command help.
- `:quit` Quits the debugger.