Milestone 2

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1 Design decisions

1.1 Typechecker

We implemented the typechecker as a subclass of the DepthFirstAdapter class provided by SableCC. This made it easy to traverse the AST without extra boilerplate. Since we did not have a reliable way of editing the extending the AST classes generated by SableCC, we stored type information for the AST in a hash table mapping from nodes to Go types.¹

In most cases it was sufficient to apply typechecks after the typechecker had recursed over the child nodes and typechecked them. There were two cases where more fine-grained control was necessary:

- In short assignment statements, the list of variables is implemented as a list of expressions for reasons having to do with the parser implementation. It was therefore necessary to stop the typechecker from typechecking the variables before they had been added to the symbol table.
- To typecheck function declarations, it was necessary to open a scope after having typechecked some but not all of the child nodes.

In each of these special cases we overrode the case method which controls the recursion over the child nodes.

1.2 Type and symbol class hierarchy

TODO (put the UML diagram here)

1.3 Symbol table

TODO

¹By extending I mean adding methods and properties to a class used by the parser (here probably PExp, the abstract expression production class), not just creating a subclass.

1.4 Typed pretty printer

We extended the PrettyPrinter class we implemented in Milestone 1 to have it print extra type information. By overriding the defaultOut method, it was simple to have it look up and output the type of any node which is an instance of the PExp (expression production) class as an inline comment.

2 Scoping rules

TODO

3 Type check operations

TODO

4 Breakdown of major contributions

Guillaume Labranche Type checker architecture, symbol table implementation, type checker implementation (especially toplevel declarations and types)

William Bain Type checker architecture, command-line interface, type checker implementation (especially expressions and types)

Si Mei Zhang Type checker implementation (especially statements), test programs