

WebAssembly Specification

Release 1.0

WebAssembly Community Group

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Introduction

1.1 Introduction

WebAssembly (abbreviated Wasm ²) is a *safe, portable, low-level code format* designed for efficient execution and compact representation. Its main goal is to enable high performance applications on the Web, but it does not make any Web-specific assumptions or provide Web-specific features, so can be employed in other environments as well.

WebAssembly is an open standard developed by a W3C Community Group¹ that includes representatives of all major browser vendors.

This document describes version 1.0 of the core WebAssembly standard. It is intended that it will be superseded by new incremental releases with additional features in the future.

1.1.1 Design Goals

The design goals of WebAssembly are the following:

- Fast, safe, and portable semantics:
 - **Fast**: executes with near native code performance, taking advantage of capabilities common to all contemporary hardware.
 - **Safe**: code is validated and executes in a memory-safe ³, sandboxed environment preventing data corruption or security breaches.
 - **Well-defined**: fully and precisely defines valid programs and their behavior in a way that is easy to reason about informally and formally.
 - Hardware-independent: can be compiled on all modern architectures, desktop or mobile devices and embedded systems alike.
 - Language-independent: does not privilege any particular language, programming model, or object model.
 - **Platform-independent**: can be embedded in browsers, run as a stand-alone VM, or integrated in other environments.
 - Open: programs can interoperate with their environment in a simple and universal manner.
- Efficient and portable representation:
 - Compact: a binary format that is fast to transmit by being smaller than typical text or native code formats

² A contraction of "WebAssembly", not an acronym, hence not using all-caps.

¹ https://www.w3.org/community/webassembly/

³ No program can break WebAssembly's memory model. Of course, it cannot guarantee that an unsafe language compiling to WebAssembly does not corrupt its own memory layout, e.g. inside WebAssembly's linear memory.

- Modular: programs can be split up in smaller parts that can be transmitted, cached, and consumed separately.
- **Efficient**: can be decoded, validated, and compiled in a fast single pass, equally with either just-in-time (JIT) or ahead-of-time (AOT) compilation.
- Streamable: allows decoding, validation, and compilation to begin as soon as possible, before all data has been seen.
- Parallelizable: allows decoding, validation, and compilation to be split into many independent parallel tasks.
- **Portable**: makes no architectural assumptions that are not broadly supported across modern hardware.

WebAssembly code is also intended to be easy to inspect and debug, especially in environments like web browsers, but such features are beyond the scope of this specification.

1.1.2 **Scope**

At its core, WebAssembly is a *virtual instruction set architecture* (*virtual ISA*). As such, it has many use cases and can be embedded in many different environments. To encompass their variety and enable maximum reuse, the WebAssembly specification is split and layered into several documents.

This document is concerned with the core ISA layer of WebAssembly. It defines the instruction set, binary encoding, validation, and execution semantics. It does not, however, define how WebAssembly programs can interact with a specific environment they execute in, nor how they are invoked from such an environment.

Instead, this specification is complemented by additional documents defining interfaces to specific embedding environments such as the Web. These will each define a WebAssembly *application programming interface (API)* suitable for a given environment.

1.2 Overview

1.2.1 Concepts

WebAssembly encodes a low-level, assembly-like programming language. This language is structured around the following main concepts.

Values WebAssembly provides only four basic *value types*. These are integers and IEEE-754 floating point⁴ numbers, each in 32 and 64 bit width. 32 bit integers also serve as Booleans and as memory addresses. The usual operations on these types are available, including the full matrix of conversions between them. There is no distinction between signed and unsigned integer types. Instead, integers are interpreted by respective operations as either unsigned or signed in 2's complement representation.

Instructions The computational model of WebAssembly is based on a *stack machine*. Code consists of sequences of *instructions* that are executed in order. Instructions manipulate values on an implicit *operand stack* ⁵ and fall into two main categories. Simple instructions perform basic operations on data. They pop arguments from the operand stack and push results back to it. *Control* instructions alter control flow. Control flow is *structured*, meaning it is expressed with well-nested constructs such as blocks, loops, and conditionals. Branches can only target such constructs.

Traps Under some conditions, certain instructions may produce a *trap*, which immediately aborts excecution. Traps cannot be handled by WebAssembly code, but are reported to the outside environment, where they typically can be caught.

⁴ http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/4610935/

⁵ In practice, implementations need not maintain an actual operand stack. Instead, the stack can be viewed as a set of anonymous registers that are implicitly referenced by instructions. The type system ensures that the stack height, and thus any referenced register, is always known statically.

- **Functions** Code is organized into separate *functions*. Each function takes a sequence of values as parameters and returns a sequence of values as results. ⁶ Functions can call each other, including recursively, resulting in an implicit call stack that cannot be accessed directly. Functions may also declare mutable *local variables* that are usable as virtual registers.
- **Tables** A *table* is an array of opaque values of a particular *element type*. It allows programs to select such values indirectly through a dynamic index operand. Currently, the only available element type is an untyped function reference. Thereby, a program can call functions indirectly through a dynamic index into a table. For example, this allows emulating function pointers with table indices.
- **Linear Memory** A *linear memory* is a contiguous, mutable array of untyped bytes. Such a memory is created with an initial size but can be dynamically grown. A program can load and store values from/to a linear memory at any byte address (including unaligned). Integer loads and stores can specify a *storage size* which is smaller than the size of the respective value type. A trap occurs if access is not within the bounds of the current memory size.
- **Modules** A WebAssembly binary takes the form of a *module* that contains definitions for functions, tables, and linear memories, as well as mutable or immutable *global variables*. Definitions can also be *imported*, specifying a module/name pair and a suitable type. Each definition can optionally be *exported* under one or more names. In addition to definitions, a module can define initialization data for its memory or table that takes the form of *segments* copied to given offsets. It can also define a *start function* that is automatically executed.
- **Embedder** A WebAssembly implementation will typically be *embedded* into a *host* environment. This environment defines how loading of modules is initiated, how imports are provided (including host-side definitions), and how exports can be accessed. However, the details of any particular embedding are beyond the scope of this specification, and will instead be provided by complementary, environment-specific API definitions.

1.2.2 Semantic Phases

Conceptually, the semantics of WebAssembly is divided into three phases. For each part of the language, the specification specifies each of them.

- **Decoding** WebAssembly modules are distributed in a *binary format*. *Decoding* processes that format and converts it into an internal representation of a module. In this specification, this representation is modelled by *abstract syntax*, but a real implementation could compile directly to machine code instead.
- **Validation** A decoded module has to be *valid*. Validation checks a number of well-formedness conditions to guarantee that the module is meaningful and safe. In particular, it performs *type checking* of functions and the instruction sequences in their bodies, ensuring for example that the operand stack is used consistently.
- Execution Finally, a valid module can be executed. Execution can be further divided into two phases:

Instantiation. An *instance* is the dynamic representation of a module, complete with its own state and execution stack. Instantiation executes the module body itself given definitions for all its imports. It initializes globals, memories and tables and invokes the module's start function if defined. It returns the instances of the module's exports.

Invocation. Once instantiated, further WebAssembly computations can be initiated by *invoking* an exported function of an instance. Given the required arguments, that executes the respective function and returns its results.

Instantiation and invocation are operations within the embedding environment.

1.2. Overview 3

⁶ In the current version of WebAssembly, there may be at most one result value.

Structure

2.1 Conventions

WebAssembly is a programming language that does not have a concrete textual syntax (other than the auxiliary text format). For conciseness, however, its structure is described in the form of an *abstract syntax*. All parts of this specification are defined in terms of this abstract syntax, including the decoding of the *binary format*.

2.1.1 Grammar

The following conventions are adopted in defining grammar rules for abstract syntax.

- Terminal symbols (atoms) are written in sans-serif: i32, end.
- Nonterminal symbols are written in italic: valtype, instr.
- A^n is a sequence of $n \ge 0$ iterations of A.
- A^* is a possibly empty sequence of iterations of A. (This is a shorthand for A^n used where n is not relevant.)
- A^+ is a possibly empty sequence of iterations of A. (This is a shorthand for A^n where $n \ge 1$.)
- $A^{?}$ is an optional occurrence of A. (This is a shorthand for A^{n} where $n \leq 1$.)

2.1.2 Auxiliary Notation

When dealing with syntactic constructs the following notation is also used:

- ϵ denotes the empty sequence.
- |s| denotes the length of a sequence s.
- s[i] denotes the *i*-th element of a sequence s, starting from 0.
- s[i:n] denotes the sub-sequence of length n a sequence s that consists of its i-th to (i+n-1)-the element.
- s with [i] = x denotes the same sequence as s, except that the i-the element is replaced with x.
- s with $[i:n]=x^n$ denotes the same sequence as s, except that the sub-sequence s[i:n] is replaced with x^n .

Productions of the following form are interpreted as records that map a fixed set of fields field_i to values x_i , respectively:

$$r \; ::= \; \{\mathsf{field}_1 \; x_1, \mathsf{field}_2 \; x_2, \dots \}$$

The following notation is adopted for manipulating such records:

- r.field denotes the field component of r.
- r with field = x denotes the same record as r, except that the field component is replaced with x.

The update notation for sequences and records generalizes recursively to nested components accessed by "paths" $pth := ([...] | .field)^+$:

- s with [i] pth = x is short for s with [i] = (s[i] with pth = x).
- r with field pth = x is short for r with field = (r.field with pth = x).

2.2 Values

2.2.1 Bytes

The simplest form of value are raw uninterpreted *bytes*. In the abstract syntax they are represented as hexadecimal literals.

$$byte ::= 0x00 | \dots | 0xFF$$

Conventions

- The meta variable b range over bytes.
- Bytes are sometimes interpreted as natural numbers n < 256.

2.2.2 Integers

Different classes of integers with different value ranges are distinguished by their size and their signedness.

$$\begin{array}{lll} uN & ::= & 0 \mid 1 \mid \dots \mid 2^N - 1 \\ sN & ::= & -2^{N-1} \mid \dots \mid -1 \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid \dots \mid 2^{N-1} - 1 \\ iN & ::= & uN \end{array}$$

The latter class defines *uninterpreted* integers, whose signedness interpretation can vary depending on context. In the abstract syntax, they are represented as unsigned. However, some operations convert them to signed based on a 2's complement interpretation.

Conventions

- The meta variables m, n, i range over integers.
- Numbers may be denoted by simple arithmetics, as in the grammar above.

2.2.3 Floating-Point

Floating-point data consists of values in binary floating-point format according to the IEEE 7547 standard.

$$fN ::= byte^{N/8}$$

The two possible sizes N are 32 and 64.

2.2.4 Vectors

Vectors are bounded sequences of the form A^n (or A^*), where the A-s can either be values or complex constructions. A vector can have at most $2^{32} - 1$ elements.

$$vec(A) ::= A^n \quad (n < 2^{32})$$

⁷ http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/4610935/

2.2.5 Names

Names are sequences of scalar Unicode⁸ code points.

```
\begin{array}{lll} \textit{name} & ::= & \textit{codepoint*} \\ \textit{codepoint} & ::= & U + 0000 \mid \dots \mid U + D7FF \mid U + E000 \mid \dots \mid U + 10FFFF \end{array}
```

Todo

The definition of a name as an arbitrary sequence of scalar code points is too general. So would be the definition of a vector. Only names whose UTF-8 encoding is within the bounds of the maximum vector lengths must be included. How specify this?

Convention

• Code points are sometimes used interchangeably with natural numbers n < 1114112.

2.3 Types

2.3.1 Value Types

Value types classify the individual values that WebAssembly code can compute with and the values that a variable accepts.

```
valtype ::= i32 | i64 | f32 | f64
```

The types i32 and i64 classify 32 and 64 bit integers, respectively. Integers are not inherently signed or unsigned, their interpretation is determined by individual operations.

The types f32 and f64 classify 32 and 64 bit floating points, respectively. They correspond to single and double precision floating point types as defined by the IEEE-7549 standard

Conventions

- ullet The meta variable t ranges over value types where clear from context.
- The notation |t| denotes the width of a value type in bytes. (That is, |i32| = |f32| = 4 and |i64| = |f64| = 8.)

2.3.2 Result Types

Result types classify the results of functions or blocks, which is a sequence of values.

```
resulttype ::= [valtype^?]
```

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, at most one value is allowed as a result. However, this may be generalized to sequences of values in future versions.

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⁸ http://www.unicode.org/versions/latest/

⁹ http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/4610935/

2.3.3 Function Types

Function types classify the signature of functions, mapping a vector of parameters to a vector of results.

```
functype ::= [vec(valtype)] \rightarrow [vec(valtype)]
```

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, the length of the result type vector of a function may be at most 1. This restriction may be removed in future versions.

2.3.4 Limits

Limits classify the size range of resizeable storage like associated with memory types and table types.

$$limits ::= \{\min u32, \max u32^?\}$$

If no maximum is given, the respective storage can grow to any size.

2.3.5 Memory Types

Memory types classify linear memories and their size range.

```
memtype ::= limits
```

The limits constrain the minimum and optionally the maximum size of a memory. The limits are given in units of *page size*.

2.3.6 Table Types

Table types classify tables over elements of element types within a given size range.

```
table type ::= limits \ elem type \ elem type ::= any func
```

Like memories, tables are constrained by limits for their minimum and optionally maximum size. The limits are given in numbers of entries.

The element type anyfunc is the infinite union of all *function types*. A table of that type thus contains references to functions of heterogeneous type.

Note: In future versions of WebAssembly, additional element types may be introduced.

2.3.7 Global Types

Global types classify global variables, which hold a value and can either be mutable or immutable.

```
\begin{array}{lll} globaltype & ::= & mut? \ valtype \\ mut & ::= & \mathsf{var} \mid \mathsf{var} \end{array}
```

2.4 Instructions

WebAssembly code consists of sequences of *instructions*. Its computational model is based on a *stack machine* in that instructions manipulate values on an implicit *operand stack*, *consuming* (popping) argument values and *returning* (pushing) result values.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, at most one result value can be pushed by a single instruction. This restriction may be lifted in future versions.

In addition to dynamic operands from the stack, some instructions also have static *immediate* arguments, typically *indices* or type annotations, which are part of the instruction itself.

Some instructions are *structured* in that they bracket nested sequences of instructions.

The following sections group instructions into a number of different categories.

2.4.1 Numeric Instructions

Numeric instructions provide basic operations over numeric values of specific type. These operations closely match respective operations available in hardware.

```
nn, mm ::=
                   32 | 64
             ::= u \mid s
sx
                   inn.const inn | fnn.const fnn |
instr
                    inn.iunop \mid fnn.funop \mid
                    inn.ibinop \mid fnn.fbinop \mid
                    inn.itestop
                    inn.irelop \mid fnn.frelop \mid
                    i32.wrap/i64 \mid i64.extend\_sx/i32 \mid inn.trunc\_sx/fmm \mid
                    f32.trunc/f64 \mid f64.promote/f32 \mid fnn.convert\_sx/imm \mid
                    inn.reinterpret/fnn \mid fnn.reinterpret/inn
                   clz | ctz | popcnt
iunop
                   add | sub | mul | div_sx | rem_sx |
ibinop
                    and | \text{ or } | \text{ xor } | \text{ shl } | \text{ shr} \underline{sx} | \text{ rotl } | \text{ rotr}
                   abs | neg | sqrt | ceil | floor | trunc | nearest
funop
fbinop
                   add | sub | mul | div | min | max | copysign
itestop
             ::=
                   eqz
irelop
                   eq \mid ne \mid lt\_sx \mid gt\_sx \mid le\_sx \mid ge\_sx
             ::= eq | ne | lt | gt | le | ge
frelop
```

Numeric instructions are divided by *value type*. For each type, several subcategories can be distinguished:

- Constants: return a static constant.
- *Unary Operators*: consume one operand and produce one result of the respective type.
- Binary Operators: consume two operands and produce one result of the respective type.
- Tests: consume one operand of the respective type and produce a Boolean result.
- Comparisons: consume two operands of the respective type and produce a Boolean result.
- *Conversions*: consume a value of one type and produce a result of another (the source type of the conversion is the one after the "/").

Some integer instructions come in two flavours, where a signedness annotation sx distinguishes whether the operands are to be interpreted as *unsigned* or *signed* integers. For the other integer instructions, the use of 2's complement for the signed interpretation means that they behave the same regardless of signedness.

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Conventions

Occasionally, it is convenient to group operators together according to the following grammar shorthands:

```
\begin{array}{llll} unop & ::= & iunop \mid funop \\ binop & ::= & ibinop \mid fbinop \\ testop & ::= & itestop \\ relop & ::= & irelop \mid frelop \\ cvtop & ::= & wrap \mid extend\_sx \mid trunc\_sx \mid convert\_sx \mid demote \mid promote \mid reinterpret \\ \end{array}
```

2.4.2 Parametric Instructions

Instructions in this group can operate on operands of any value type.

```
instr ::= \dots \mid drop \mid
select
```

The drop operator simply throws away a single operand.

The select operator selects one of its first two operands based on whether its third operand is zero or not.

2.4.3 Variable Instructions

Variable instructions are concerned with the access to *local* or *global* variables.

```
instr ::= \dots \mid 
get\_local\ localidx \mid 
set\_local\ localidx \mid 
tee\_local\ localidx \mid 
get\_global\ globalidx \mid 
set\_global\ globalidx \mid
```

These instructions get or set the values of variables, respectively. The tee_local instruction is like set_local but also returns its argument.

2.4.4 Memory Instructions

Instructions in this group are concerned with linear memory.

```
 \begin{array}{lll} \textit{memarg} & ::= & \left\{ \text{offset } u32, \text{align } u32 \right\} \\ \textit{instr} & ::= & \dots \mid \\ & & & \text{inn.load } memarg \mid \text{f} nn. \text{load } memarg \mid \\ & & & \text{inn.store } memarg \mid \text{f} nn. \text{store } memarg \mid \\ & & & \text{inn.load8\_} sx \; memarg \mid \text{inn.load16\_} sx \; memarg \mid \text{i64.load32\_} sx \; memarg \mid \\ & & & & \text{inn.store8} \; memarg \mid \text{inn.store16} \; memarg \mid \text{i64.store32} \; memarg \mid \\ & & & & \text{current\_memory} \mid \\ & & & & & & \text{grow\_memory} \end{array}
```

Memory is accessed with load and store instructions for the different *value types*. They all take a *memory immediate memorg* that contains an address *offset* and an *alignment* hint. Integer loads and stores can optionally specify a *storage size* that is smaller than the width of the respective value type. In the case of loads, a sign extension mode *sx* is then required to select appropriate behavior.

The static address offset is added to the dynamic address operand, yielding a 33 bit *effective address* that is the zero-based index at which the memory is accessed. All values are read and written in little endian¹⁰ byte order. A

¹⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endianness#Little-endian

trap results if any of the accessed memory bytes lies outside the address range implied by the memory's current size.

Note: Future version of WebAssembly might provide memory instructions with 64 bit address ranges.

The current_memory instruction returns the current size of a memory. The grow_memory instruction grows memory by a given delta and returns the previous size, or -1 if enough memory cannot be allocated. Both instructions operate in units of *page size*.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, all memory instructions implicitly operate on *memory index* 0. This restriction may be lifted in future versions.

The precise semantics of memory instructions is *described* in the Instruction section.

2.4.5 Control Instructions

Instructions in this group affect the flow of control.

The nop instruction does nothing.

The unreachable instruction causes an unconditional trap.

The block, loop and if instructions are *structured* instructions. They bracket nested sequences of instructions, called *blocks*, terminated with, or separated by, end or else pseudo-instructions. As the grammar prescribes, they must be well-nested. A structured instruction can produce a value as described by the annotated *result type*.

Each structured control instruction introduces an implicit *label*. Labels are targets for branch instructions that reference them with *label indices*. Unlike with other index spaces, indexing of labels is relative by nesting depth, that is, label 0 refers to the innermost structured control instruction enclosing the referring branch instruction, while increasing indices refer to those farther out. Consequently, labels can only be referenced from *within* the associated structured control instruction. This also implies that branches can only be directed outwards, "breaking" from the block of the control construct they target. The exact effect depends on that control construct. In case of block or if it is a *forward jump*, resuming execution after the matching end. In case of loop it is a *backward jump* to the beginning of the loop.

Note: This enforces *structured control flow*. Intuitively, a branch targeting a block or if behaves like a break statement, while a branch targeting a loop behaves like a continue statement.

Branch instructions come in several flavors: br performs an unconditional branch, br_if performs a conditional branch, and br_table performs an indirect branch through an operand indexing into the label vector that is an immediate to the instruction, or to a default target if the operand is out of bounds. The return instruction is a shortcut for an unconditional branch to the outermost block, which implicitly is the body of the current function. Taking a branch *unwinds* the operand stack up to the height where the targeted structured control instruction

2.4. Instructions

was entered. However, forward branches that target a control instruction with a non-empty result type consume a matching operand first and push it back on the operand stack after unwinding, as a result for the terminated instruction.

The call instruction invokes another function, consuming the necessary arguments from the stack and returning the result values of the call. The call_indirect instruction calls a function indirectly through an operand indexing into a *table*. Since tables may contain function elements of heterogeneous type anyfunc, the callee is dynamically checked against the function type indexed by the instruction's immediate, and the call aborted with a trap if it does not match.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, call_indirect implicitly operates on *table index* 0. This restriction may be lifted in future versions.

2.4.6 Expressions

Function bodies, initialization values for *globals* and offsets of *element* or *data* segments are given as expressions, which are sequences of *instructions* terminated by an end marker.

```
expr ::= instr^* end
```

In some places, validation *restricts* expressions to be *constant*, which limits the set of allowable insructions.

2.5 Modules

WebAssembly programs are organized into *modules*, which are the unit of deployment, loading, and compilation. A module collects definitions for *types*, *functions*, *tables*, *memories*, and *globals*. In addition, it can declare *imports* and *exports* and provide initialization logic in the form of *data* and *element* segments or a *start function*.

```
module ::= \{ & types \ vec(functype), \\ & funcs \ vec(func), \\ & tables \ vec(table), \\ & mems \ vec(mem), \\ & globals \ vec(global), \\ & elem \ vec(elem), \\ & data \ vec(data), \\ & start \ start^2, \\ & imports \ vec(import), \\ & exports \ vec(export) \ \}
```

Each of the vectors – and thus the entire module – may be empty.

2.5.1 Indices

Definitions are referenced with zero-based *indices*. Each class of definition has its own *index space*, as distinguished by the following classes.

```
\begin{array}{llll} typeidx & ::= & u32 \\ funcidx & ::= & u32 \\ tableidx & ::= & u32 \\ memidx & ::= & u32 \\ globalidx & ::= & u32 \\ localidx & ::= & u32 \\ labelidx & ::= & u32 \\ \end{array}
```

The index space for functions, tables, memories and globals includes respective imports declared in the same module. The indices of these imports precede the indices of other definitions in the same index space.

The index space for locals is only accessible inside a function and includes the parameters and local variables of that function, which precede the other locals.

Label indices reference block instructions inside an instruction sequence.

Conventions

- The meta variable *l* ranges over label indices.
- The meta variables x, y ranges over indices in any of the other index spaces.

2.5.2 Types

The types component of a module defines a vector of *function types*.

All function types used in a module must be defined in the type section. They are referenced by type indices.

Note: Future versions of WebAssembly may add additional forms of type definitions.

2.5.3 Functions

The funcs component of a module defines a vector of *functions* with the following structure:

```
func ::= \{ type \ typeidx, locals \ vec(valtype), body \ expr \}
```

The type of a function declares its signature by reference to a *type* defined in the module. The parameters of the function are referenced through 0-based *local indices* in the function's body.

The locals declare a vector of mutable local variables and their types. These variables are referenced through *local indices* in the function's body. The index of the first local is the smallest index not referencing a parameter.

The body is an *instruction* sequence that upon termination must produce a stack matching the function type's result type.

Functions are referenced through *function indices*, starting with the smallest index not referencing a function *import*.

2.5.4 Tables

The tables component of a module defines a vector of *tables* described by their *table type*:

```
table ::= \{type \ table type\}
```

A table is a vector of opaque values of a particular table *element type*. The min size in the *limits* of the table type of a definition specifies the initial size of that table, while its max, if present, restricts the size to which it can grow later.

Tables can be initialized through *element segments*.

Tables are referenced through *table indices*, starting with the smallest index not referencing a table *import*. Most constructs implicitly reference table index 0.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, at most one table may be defined or imported in a single module, and *all* constructs implicitly reference this table 0. This restriction may be lifted in future versions.

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2.5.5 Memories

The mems component of a module defines a vector of *linear memories* (or *memories* for short) as described by their *memory type*:

```
mem ::= \{type \ mem type\}
```

A memory is a vector of raw uninterpreted bytes. The min size in the *limits* of the memory type of a definition specifies the initial size of that memory, while its max, if present, restricts the size to which it can grow later. Both are in units of *page size*.

Memories can be initialized through data segments.

Memories are referenced through *memory indices*, starting with the smallest index not referencing a memory *import*. Most constructs implicitly reference memory index 0.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, at most one memory may be defined or imported in a single module, and *all* constructs implicitly reference this memory 0. This restriction may be lifted in future versions.

2.5.6 Globals

The globals component of a module defines a vector of *global variables* (or *globals* for short):

```
global ::= \{type \ global type, init \ expr\}
```

Each global stores a single value of the given *global type*. Its type also specifies whether a global is immutable or mutable. Moreover, each global is initialized with an init value given by a *constant* initializer *expression*.

Globals are referenced through global indices, starting with the smallest index not referencing a global import.

2.5.7 Element Segments

The initial contents of a table is uninitialized. The elem component of a module defines a vector of *element segments* that initialize a subrange of a table at a given offset from a static vector of elements.

```
elem ::= \{table \ table \ ta
```

The offset is given by a *constant expression*.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, at most one table is allowed in a module. Consequently, the only valid *tableidx* is 0.

2.5.8 Data Segments

The initial contents of a *memory* are zero bytes. The data component of a module defines a vector of *data segments* that initialize a range of memory at a given offset with a static vector of bytes.

```
data ::= \{\text{mem } memidx, \text{ offset } expr, \text{ init } vec(byte)\}
```

The offset is given by a *constant expression*.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, at most one memory is allowed in a module. Consequently, the only valid *memidx* is 0.

2.5.9 Start Function

The start component of a module optionally declares the *function index* of a *start function* that is automatically invoked when the module is instantiated, after tables and memories have been initialized.

```
start ::= \{func funcidx\}
```

2.5.10 Exports

The exports component of a module defines a set of *exports* that become accessible to the host environment once the module has been instantiated.

```
\begin{array}{lll} export & ::= & \{ \mathsf{name} \ name, \mathsf{desc} \ exportdesc \} \\ exportdesc & ::= & \mathsf{func} \ funcidx \ | \\ & \mathsf{table} \ tableidx \ | \\ & \mathsf{mem} \ memidx \ | \\ & \mathsf{global} \ globalidx \end{array}
```

Each export is identified by a unique *name*. Exportable definitions are *functions*, *tables*, *memories*, and *globals*, which are referenced through a respective descriptor.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, only *immutable* globals may be exported.

Conventions

The following auxiliary notation is defined for sequences of exports, filtering out indices of a specific kind in an order-preserving fashion:

```
    funcs(export*) = [funcidx | func funcidx ∈ (export.desc)*]
    tables(export*) = [tableidx | table tableidx ∈ (export.desc)*]
    mems(export*) = [memidx | mem memidx ∈ (export.desc)*]
    globals(export*) = [globalidx | global globalidx ∈ (export.desc)*]
```

2.5.11 Imports

The imports component of a module defines a set of *imports* that are required for instantiation.

```
\begin{array}{lll} import & ::= & \{ module \ name, name \ name, desc \ import desc \} \\ import desc & ::= & func \ typeidx \mid \\ & & table \ tabletype \mid \\ & & mem \ mem type \mid \\ & & global \ global type \end{array}
```

Each import is identified by a two-level *name* space, consisting of a module name and a unique name for an entity within that module. Importable definitions are *functions*, *tables*, *memories*, and *globals*. Each import is specified by a descriptor with a respective type that a definition provided during instantiation is required to match.

Every import defines an index in the respective *index space*. In each index space, the indices of imports go before the first index of any definition contained in the module itself.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, only *immutable* globals may be imported.

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Validation

3.1 Conventions

Validation checks that a WebAssembly module is well-formed. Only valid modules can be instantiated.

Validity is defined by a *type system* over the *abstract syntax* of both instructions and modules. For each piece of abstract syntax, there is a typing rule that specifies the constraints that apply to it. All rules are given in two *equivalent* forms:

- 1. In *prose*, describing the meaning in intuitive form.
- 2. In *formal notation*, describing the rule in mathematical form.

Note: The prose and formal rules are equivalent, so that understanding of the formal notation is *not* required to read this specification. The formalism offers a more concise description in notation that is used widely in programming languages semantics and is readily amenable to mathematical proof.

In both cases, the rules are formulated in a *declarative* manner. That is, they only formulate the constraints, they do not define an algorithm. A sound and complete algorithm for type-checking instruction sequences according to this specification is provided in the appendix.

3.1.1 Contexts

Validity of an individual definition is specified relative to a *context*, which collects relevant information about the surrounding *module* and other definitions in scope:

- Types: the list of types defined in the current module.
- Functions: the list of functions declared in the current module, represented by their function type.
- Tables: the list of tables declared in the current module, represented by their table type.
- *Memories*: the list of memories declared in the current module, represented by their memory type.
- Globals: the list of globals declared in the current module, represented by their global type.
- *Locals*: the list of locals declared in the current function (including parameters), represented by their value type.
- Labels: the stack of labels accessible from the current position, represented by their result type.
- Return: the return type of the current function, represented as a result type.

In other words, a context contains a sequence of suitable types for each *index space*, describing each defined entry in that space. Locals, labels and return type are only used for validating *instructions* in *function bodies*, and are left empty elsewhere. The label stack is the only part of the context that changes as validation of an instruction sequence proceeds.

It is convenient to define contexts as records C with abstract syntax:

```
C ::= \{ 	ext{ types } functype^*, \\ funcs functype^*, \\ tables tabletype^*, \\ mems memtype^*, \\ globals globaltype^*, \\ locals valtype^*, \\ labels resulttype^*, \\ return resulttype^? \}
```

Note: The fields of a context are not defined as *vectors*, since their lengths are not bounded by the maximum vector size.

In addition to field access C.field the following notation is adopted for manipulating contexts:

- When spelling out a context, empty fields are omitted.
- C, field A* denotes the same context as C but with the elements A* prepended to its field component sequence.

Note: This notation is defined to *prepend* not *append*. It is only used in situations where the original C.field is either empty or field is labels. In the latter case adding to the front is desired because the *label index* space is indexed relatively, that is, in reverse order of addition.

3.1.2 Textual Notation

Validation is specified by stylised rules for each relevant part of the *abstract syntax*. The rules not only state constraints defining when a phrase is valid, they also classify it with a type. The following conventions are adopted in stating these rules.

• A phrase A is said to be "valid with type T" if and only if all constraints expressed by the respective rules are met. The form of T depends on what A is.

Note: For example, if A is a function, then T is a function type; for an A that is a global, T is a global type; and so on.

- The rules implicitly assume a given context C.
- In some places, this context is locally extended to a context C' with additional entries. The formulation "Under context C', … *statement* …" is adopted to express that the following statement must apply under the assumptions embodied in the extended context.

3.1.3 Formal Notation

Note: This section gives a brief explanation of the notation for specifying typing rules formally. For the interested reader, a more thorough introduction can be found in respective text books. 11

The proposition that a phrase A has a respective type T is written A:T. In general, however, typing is dependent on the context C. To express this explicitly, the complete form is a *judgement* $C \vdash A:T$, which says that A:T holds under the assumptions encoded in C.

¹¹ For example: Benjamin Pierce. Types and Programming Languages. The MIT Press 2002

The formal typing rules use a standard approach for specifying type systems, rendering them into *deduction rules*. Every rule has the following general form:

$$\frac{premise_1 \qquad premise_2 \qquad \dots \qquad premise_n}{conclusion}$$

Such a rule is read as a big implication: if all premises hold, then the conclusion holds. Some rules have no premises; they are *axioms* whose conclusion holds unconditionally. The conclusion always is a judgment $C \vdash A$: T, and there is one respective rule for each relevant construct A of the abstract syntax.

Note: For example, the typing rule for the i32.add instruction can be given as an axiom:

$$C \vdash \mathsf{i32.add} : [\mathsf{i32} \; \mathsf{i32}] \rightarrow [\mathsf{i32}]$$

The instruction is always valid with type $[i32\ i32] \rightarrow [i32]$ (saying that it consumes two i32 values and produces one), independent from any side conditions.

An instruction like get_local can be typed as follows:

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{locals}[x] = t}{C \vdash \mathsf{get_local}\ x : [] \to [t]}$$

Here, the premise enforces that the immediate local index x exists in the context. The instruction produces a value of its respective type t (and does not consume any values). If C.locals[x] does not exist then the premise does not hold, and the instruction is ill-typed.

Finally, a *structured* instruction requires a recursive rule, where the premise is itself a typing judgement:

$$\frac{C, |\mathsf{label}\,[t^?] \vdash instr^* : [] \to [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{block}\,[t^?] \ instr^* \ \mathsf{end} : [] \to [t^?]}$$

A block instruction is only valid when the instruction sequence in its body is. Moreover, the result type must match the block's annotation $t^{?}$. If so, then the block instruction has the same type as the body. Inside the body an additional label of the same type is available, which is expressed by locally extending the context C with the additional label information for the premise.

3.2 Instructions

Instructions are classified by function types $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$ that describe how they manipulate the *operand stack*. The types describe the required input stack with argument values of types t_1^* that an instruction pops off and the provided output stack with result values of types t_2^* that it pushes back.

Note: For example, the instruction i32.add has type [i32 i32] \rightarrow [i32], consuming two i32 values and producing one.

Typing extends to instruction sequences instr*. Such a sequence has a function types $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$ if the accumulative effect of executing the instructions is consuming values of types t_1^* off the operand stack and pushing new values of types t_2^* . For some instructions, the typing rules do not fully constrain the type, and therefor allow for multiple types. Such instructions are called *polymorphic*. Two degrees of polymorphism can be distinguished:

- *value-polymorphic*: the *value type t* of one or several individual operands is unconstrained. That is the case for all *parametric instructions* like drop and select.
- stack-polymorphic: the entire (or most of the) function type $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$ of the instruction is unconstrained. That is the case for all *control instructions* that perform an *unconditional control transfer*, such as unreachable, br, br_table, and return.

3.2. Instructions

In both cases, the unconstrained types or type sequences can be chosen arbitrarily, as long as they meet the constraints imposed for the surrounding parts of the program.

Note: For example, the select instruction is valid with type $[t \ t \ i32] \rightarrow [t]$, for any possible *value type t*. Consequently, both instruction sequences

and

are valid, with t in the typing of select being instantiated to i32 or f64, respectively.

The unreachable instruction is valid with type $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$ for any possible sequences of value types t_1^* and t_2^* . Consequently,

is valid by assuming type [] \rightarrow [i32 i32] for the unreachable instruction. In contrast,

is invalid, because there is no possible type to pick for the unreachable instruction that would make the sequence well-typed.

3.2.1 Numeric Instructions

$t.\mathsf{const}\ c$

• The instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow [t]$.

$$\overline{C \vdash t.\mathsf{const}\; c : [] \to [t]}$$

t.unop

• The instruction is valid with type $[t] \rightarrow [t]$.

$$\overline{C \vdash t.unop : [t] \to [t]}$$

t.binop

• The instruction is valid with type $[t\ t] \rightarrow [t]$.

$$\overline{C \vdash t.binop : [t\ t] \to [t]}$$

t. testop

• The instruction is valid with type $[t] \rightarrow [i32]$.

$$C \vdash t.testop : [t] \rightarrow [i32]$$

t.relop

• The instruction is valid with type $[t\ t] \rightarrow [i32]$.

$$\overline{C \vdash t.relop : [t\ t] \rightarrow [\mathsf{i32}]}$$

$t_2.cvtop/t_1$

• The instruction is valid with type $[t_1] \rightarrow [t_2]$.

$$\overline{C \vdash t_2.cvtop/t_1 : [t_1] \to [t_2]}$$

3.2.2 Parametric Instructions

drop

• The instruction is valid with type $[t] \rightarrow []$, for any value type t.

$$C \vdash \mathsf{drop} : [t] \rightarrow []$$

select

• The instruction is valid with type $[t \ t \ i32] \rightarrow [t]$, for any *value type t*.

$$\overline{C \vdash \mathsf{select} : [t \ t \ \mathsf{i32}] \to [t]}$$

Note: Both drop and select are *value-polymorphic* instructions.

3.2.3 Variable Instructions

$\operatorname{get} \operatorname{local} x$

- The local C.locals[x] must be defined in the context.
- Let t be the value type C.locals[x].
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow [t]$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{locals}[x] = t}{C \vdash \mathsf{get_local}\; x : [] \to [t]}$$

$\mathsf{set}_\mathsf{local}\ x$

- The local C.locals[x] must be defined in the context.
- Let t be the value type C.locals[x].
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[t] \rightarrow []$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{locals}[x] = t}{C \vdash \mathsf{set_local}\; x : [t] \to []}$$

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tee_local x

- The local C.locals[x] must be defined in the context.
- Let t be the value type C.locals[x].
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[t] \rightarrow [t]$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{locals}[x] = t}{C \vdash \mathsf{tee_local}\; x : [t] \to [t]}$$

$\operatorname{\mathsf{get}}$ _ $\operatorname{\mathsf{global}} x$

- The global C.globals[x] must be defined in the context.
- Let $mut\ t$ be the global type C.globals[x].
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow [t]$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{globals}[x] = \textit{mut } t}{C \vdash \mathsf{get_global} \; x : [] \rightarrow [t]}$$

$\mathsf{set_global}\ x$

- The global C.globals[x] must be defined in the context.
- Let $mut\ t$ be the $global\ type\ C$.globals[x].
- The mutability mut must be var.
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[t] \rightarrow []$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{globals}[x] = \mathsf{var}\; t}{C \vdash \mathsf{set_global}\; x : [t] \to []}$$

3.2.4 Memory Instructions

t.load memarg

- The memory C.mems[0] must be defined in the context.
- The alignment $2^{memarg.align}$ must not be larger than the width of t.
- Then the instruction is valid with type [i32] \rightarrow [t].

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[0] = \textit{memtype} \qquad 2^{\textit{memarg}.\mathsf{align}} \leq |t|}{C \vdash t.\mathsf{load} \ \textit{memarg} : [\mathsf{i32}] \rightarrow [t]}$$

$t.loadN_sx\ memarg$

- The memory C.mems[0] must be defined in the context.
- The alignment $2^{memarg.align}$ must not be larger than N.
- Then the instruction is valid with type [i32] \rightarrow [t].

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[0] = \mathit{memtype} \qquad 2^{\mathit{memarg}.\mathsf{align}} \leq N}{C \vdash t.\mathsf{load}N_\mathit{sx} \ \mathit{memarg} : [\mathsf{i32}] \rightarrow [t]}$$

$t.\mathsf{store}\ memarg$

- The memory C.mems[0] must be defined in the context.
- The alignment $2^{memarg.align}$ must not be larger than the width of t.
- Then the instruction is valid with type [i32 t] \rightarrow [].

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[0] = \mathit{memtype} \qquad 2^{\mathit{memarg}.\mathsf{align}} \leq |t|}{C \vdash t.\mathsf{store} \ \mathit{memarg} : [\mathsf{i}32 \ t] \rightarrow []}$$

$t.\mathsf{store} N\ memarg$

- The memory C.mems[0] must be defined in the context.
- The alignment $2^{memarg.align}$ must not be larger than N.
- Then the instruction is valid with type [i32 t] \rightarrow [].

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[0] = \mathit{memtype} \qquad 2^{\mathit{memarg}.\mathsf{align}} \leq N}{C \vdash t.\mathsf{store} N \ \mathit{memarg} : [\mathsf{i32}\ t] \to []}$$

current_memory

- The memory C.mems[0] must be defined in the context.
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow [i32]$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[0] = \mathit{memtype}}{C \vdash \mathsf{current_memory} : [] \rightarrow [\mathsf{i}32]}$$

grow_memory

- The memory C.mems[0] must be defined in the context.
- Then the instruction is valid with type [i32] \rightarrow [i32].

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[0] = \mathit{memtype}}{C \vdash \mathsf{grow_memory} : [\mathsf{i32}] \rightarrow [\mathsf{i32}]}$$

3.2.5 Control Instructions

nop

• The instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow []$.

$$\overline{C \vdash \mathsf{nop} : [] \to []}$$

unreachable

• The instruction is valid with type $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$, for any sequences of value types t_1^* and t_2^* .

$$C \vdash \text{unreachable} : [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$$

Note: The unreachable instruction is *stack-polymorphic*.

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$\mathsf{block}\;[t^?]\;instr^*\;\mathsf{end}\;$

- Let C' be the same *context* as C, but with the *result type* $[t^2]$ prepended to the labels vector.
- Under context C', the instruction sequence $instr^*$ must be valid with type $[] \to [t^?]$.
- Then the compound instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow [t^?]$.

$$\frac{C, \mathsf{labels}\left[t^?\right] \vdash instr^* : [] \rightarrow [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{block}\left[t^?\right] instr^* \; \mathsf{end} : [] \rightarrow [t^?]}$$

Note: The fact that the nested instruction sequence $instr^*$ must have type $[] \to [t^?]$ implies that it cannot access operands that have been pushed on the stack before the block was entered. This may be generalized in future versions of WebAssembly.

loop $[t^?]$ $instr^*$ end

- Let C' be the same *context* as C, but with the empty *result type* [] prepended to the labels vector.
- Under context C', the instruction sequence $instr^*$ must be valid with type $[] \to [t^?]$.
- Then the compound instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow [t^?]$.

$$\frac{C, \mathsf{labels} \, [\hspace{-.08cm}] \vdash instr^* : [\hspace{-.08cm}] \rightarrow [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{loop} \, [t^?] \; instr^* \; \mathsf{end} : [\hspace{-.08cm}] \rightarrow [t^?]}$$

Note: The fact that the nested instruction sequence $instr^*$ must have type $[] \to [t^?]$ implies that it cannot access operands that have been pushed on the stack before the loop was entered. This may be generalized in future versions of WebAssembly.

if $[t^?]$ $instr_1^*$ else $instr_2^*$ end

- Let C' be the same *context* as C, but with the empty *result type* $[t^2]$ prepended to the labels vector.
- Under context C', the instruction sequence $instr_1^*$ must be valid with type $[] \to [t^?]$.
- Under context C', the instruction sequence $instr_2^*$ must be valid with type $[] \to [t^?]$.
- Then the compound instruction is valid with type $[] \rightarrow [t^?]$.

$$\frac{C, \mathsf{labels}\left[t^?\right] \vdash instr_1^* : [] \rightarrow [t^?] \qquad C, \mathsf{labels}\left[t^?\right] \vdash instr_2^* : [] \rightarrow [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{if}\left[t^?\right] \ instr_1^* \ \mathsf{else} \ instr_2^* \ \mathsf{end} : [\mathsf{i32}] \rightarrow [t^?]}$$

Note: The fact that the nested instruction sequence $instr^*$ must have type $[] \to [t^?]$ implies that it cannot access operands that have been pushed on the stack before the conditional was entered. This may be generalized in future versions of WebAssembly.

br l

- The label C-labels [l] must be defined in the context.
- Let $[t^?]$ be the result type C.labels [l].
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[t_1^* t^?] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$, for any sequences of value types t_1^* and t_2^* .

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{labels}[l] = [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{br}\ l : [t_1^*\ t^?] \to [t_2^*]}$$

Note: The br instruction is *stack-polymorphic*.

 $br_if l$

- The label C-labels [l] must be defined in the context.
- Let $[t^?]$ be the result type C.labels [l].
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[t^? i32] \rightarrow [t^?]$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{labels}[l] = [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{br_if}\ l : [t^?\ \mathsf{i32}] \rightarrow [t^?]}$$

 $\mathsf{br_table}\; l^*\; l_N$

- The label C.labels[l] must be defined in the context.
- Let $[t^?]$ be the *result type* C.labels $[l_N]$.
- For all l_i in l^* , the label C-labels $[l_i]$ must be defined in the context.
- For all l_i in l^* , C.labels[l_i] must be t?.
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[t_1^* t^? i32] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$, for any sequences of *value types* t_1^* and t_2^* .

$$\frac{(C.\mathsf{labels}[l] = [t^?])^* \qquad C.\mathsf{labels}[l_N] = [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{br_table}\ l^*\ l_N : [t_1^*\ t^?\ \mathsf{i32}] \to [t_2^*]}$$

Note: The br_table instruction is *stack-polymorphic*.

return

- The return type C.return must not be empty in the context.
- Let $[t^?]$ be the *result type* of *C*.return.
- Then the instruction is valid with type $[t_1^* t^?] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$, for any sequences of value types t_1^* and t_2^* .

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{return} = [t^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{return} : [t_1^* \ t^?] \to [t_2^*]}$$

Note: The return instruction is *stack-polymorphic*.

C.return is empty (ϵ) when validating an expression that is not a function body. This differs from it being set to the empty result type ([]), which is the case for functions not returning anything.

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$\mathsf{call}\ x$

- The function C-funcs[x] must be defined in the context.
- Then the instruction is valid with type C.funcs[x].

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{funcs}[x] = [t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]}{C \vdash \mathsf{call}\ x : [t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]}$$

call_indirect \boldsymbol{x}

- The table C.tables[0] must be defined in the context.
- Let *limits elemtype* be the *table type C*.tables[0].
- The element type elemtype must be anyfunc.
- The type C.types[x] must be defined in the context.
- Then the instruction is valid with type C.types[x].

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{tables}[0] = \mathit{limits} \; \mathsf{anyfunc} \qquad C.\mathsf{types}[x] = [t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]}{C \vdash \mathsf{call_indirect} \; x : [t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]}$$

3.2.6 Instruction Sequences

Typing of instruction sequences is defined recursively.

Empty Instruction Sequence: ϵ

• The empty instruction sequence is valid with type $[t^*] \to [t^*]$, for any sequence of value types t^* .

$$\overline{C \vdash \epsilon : [t^*] \to [t^*]}$$

Non-empty Instruction Sequence: $instr^*$ $instr_N$

- The instruction sequence $instr^*$ must be valid with type $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$, for some sequences of value types t_1^* and t_2^* .
- The instruction $instr_N$ must be valid with type $[t^*] \to [t_3^*]$, for some sequences of value types t^* and t_3^* .
- There must be a sequence of value types t_0^* , such that $t_2^*=t_0^*\,t^*$.
- Then the combined instruction sequence is valid with type $[t_1^*] \to [t_0^* \ t_3^*]$.

$$\frac{C \vdash instr^* : [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_0^* \ t^*] \qquad C \vdash instr_N : [t^*] \rightarrow [t_3^*]}{C \vdash instr^* \ instr_N : [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_0^* \ t_3^*]}$$

3.2.7 Expressions

Expressions *expr* are classified by *result types* of the form $[t^?]$.

 $instr^*$ end

- The instruction sequence instr* must be valid with type $[] \rightarrow [t^?]$, for some optional value type $t^?$.
- Then the expression is valid with *result type* $[t^?]$.

$$\frac{C \vdash instr^* : [] \rightarrow [t^?]}{C \vdash instr^* \text{ end } : [t^?]}$$

Constant Expressions

- In a constant expression $instr^*$ end all instructions in $instr^*$ must be constant.
- A constant instruction *instr* must be:
 - either of the form t.const c,
 - or of the form get_global x, in which case C.globals[x] must be a global type of the form const t.

$$\frac{(C \vdash instr \ \text{const})^*}{C \vdash instr \ \text{end const}} \qquad \frac{C.\mathsf{globals}[x] = \mathsf{const} \ t}{C \vdash t.\mathsf{const} \ c \ \mathsf{const}}$$

Note: The definition of constant expression may be extended in future versions of WebAssembly.

3.3 Modules

Modules are valid when all the definitions they contain are valid. To that end, each definition is classified with a suitable type.

3.3.1 Auxiliary Rules

Limits {min n, max m?}

- If the maximum m^2 is not empty, then its value must not be smaller than n.
- Then the limit is valid.

$$\frac{(n \leq m)^?}{\vdash \{\min n, \max m^?\} \text{ ok }}$$

3.3.2 Functions

Functions func are classified by function types of the form $[t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^?]$.

{type x, locals t^* , body expr}

- The type C.types[x] must be defined in the context.
- Let $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$ be the function type C.types[x].
- The length of t_2^* must not be larger than 1.
- Let C' be the same *context* as C, but with:

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- locals set to the sequence of value types t_1^* t^* , concatenating parameters and locals,
- labels set to the singular sequence containing only result type $[t_2^*]$.
- return set to the *result type* $[t_2^*]$.
- Under the context C', the expression expr must be valid with type t_2^* .
- Then the function definition is valid with type $[t_1^*] o [t_2^*].$

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{types}[x] = [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^?] \qquad C, \mathsf{locals}\ t_1^*\ t^*, \mathsf{return}\ [t_2^?] \vdash expr: [t_2^?]}{C \vdash \{\mathsf{type}\ x, \mathsf{locals}\ t^*, \mathsf{body}\ expr\}: [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^?]}$$

Note: The restriction on the length of the result types t_2^* may be lifted in future versions of WebAssembly.

3.3.3 Tables

Tables table are classified by table types of the form limits elemtype.

{type limits elemtype}

- The limits *limits* must be *valid*.
- Then the table definition is valid with type *limits elemtype*.

$$\frac{\vdash limits \text{ ok}}{C \vdash \{ \text{type } limits \ elemtype} \} : limits \ elemtype}$$

3.3.4 Memories

Memories mem are classified by memory types of the form limits.

 $\{ type \ limits \}$

- The limits *limits* must be *valid*.
- Then the memory definition is valid with type *limits*.

$$\frac{ \vdash \mathit{limits} \; \mathsf{ok} }{C \vdash \{\mathsf{type} \; \mathit{limits}\} : \mathit{limits} \; \mathit{elemtype}}$$

3.3.5 Globals

Globals global are classified by global types of the form mut t.

 $\{ \mathsf{type} \ mut \ t, \mathsf{init} \ expr \}$

- The expression expr must be valid with result type [t].
- The expression *expr* must be *constant*.
- Then the global definition is valid with type $mut\ t$.

$$\frac{C \vdash expr : [t] \qquad C \vdash expr \text{ const}}{C \vdash \{ \text{type } mut \ t, \text{ init } expr \} : mut \ t}$$

3.3.6 Element Segments

Element segments *elem* are not classified by a type.

{table x, offset expr, init y^* }

- The table C.tables [x] must be defined in the context.
- Let $limits\ elemtype$ be the $table\ type\ C$.tables[x].
- The *element type elemtype* must be anyfunc.
- The expression expr must be valid with result type [i32].
- The expression *expr* must be *constant*.
- For each y_i in y^* , the function C.funcs[y] must be defined in the context.
- Then the element segment is valid.

3.3.7 Data Segments

Data segments data are not classified by any type.

{mem x, offset expr, init b^* }

- The memory C.mems[x] must be defined in the context.
- The expression *expr* must be *valid* with *result type* [i32].
- The expression *expr* must be *constant*.
- Then the data segment is valid.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[x] = limits \qquad C \vdash expr : [\mathsf{i32}] \qquad C \vdash expr \text{ const}}{C \vdash \{\mathsf{mem}\ x, \mathsf{offset}\ expr, \mathsf{init}\ b^*\} \text{ ok}}$$

3.3.8 Start Function

Start function declarations start are not classified by any type.

 $\{ \text{func } x \}$

- The function C.funcs[x] must be defined in the context.
- The type of C.funcs[x] must be $[] \rightarrow []$.
- Then the start function is valid.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{funcs}[x] = [] \to []}{C \vdash \{\mathsf{func}\ x\}\ \mathsf{ok}}$$

3.3.9 Exports

Exports export are classified by their export name. Export descriptions export desc are not classified by any type.

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{name name, desc exportdesc}

- The export description exportdesc must be valid with type externtype.
- Then the export is valid with name *name*.

$$\frac{C \vdash exportdesc \text{ ok}}{C \vdash \{\mathsf{name} \ name, \mathsf{desc} \ exportdesc\} : name}$$

func x

- The function C.funcs[x] must be defined in the context.
- Then the export description is valid.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{funcs}[x] = functype}{C \vdash \mathsf{func}\ x \text{ ok}}$$

$\mathsf{table}\; x$

- The table C.tables[x] must be defined in the context.
- Then the export description is valid.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{tables}[x] = tabletype}{C \vdash \mathsf{table} \ x \ \mathrm{ok}}$$

mem x

- The memory C.mems[x] must be defined in the context.
- Then the export description is valid.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{mems}[x] = memtype}{C \vdash \mathsf{mem}\ x \text{ ok}}$$

global x

- The global C globals [x] must be defined in the context.
- Let $mut\ t$ be the $global\ type\ C$.globals[x].
- The mutability mut must be var.
- Then the export description is valid.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{globals}[x] = \mathsf{var}\ t}{C \vdash \mathsf{global}\ x \ \mathsf{ok}}$$

3.3.10 Imports

Imports import and import descriptions importdesc are classified by external types.

{module $name_1$, name $name_2$, desc importdesc}

- The import description *importdesc* must be valid with type *externtype*.
- Then the import is valid with type *externtype*.

```
\frac{C \vdash importdesc : externtype}{C \vdash \{\mathsf{module}\ name_1, \mathsf{name}\ name_2, \mathsf{desc}\ importdesc\} : externtype}
```

func x

- The function C.types[x] must be defined in the context.
- Let $[t_1^*] \to [t_2^*]$ be the function type C.types[x].
- The length of t_2^* must not be larger than 1.
- Then the import description is valid with type func $[t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$.

$$\frac{C.\mathsf{types}[x] = [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^?]}{C \vdash \mathsf{func}\ x : \mathsf{func}\ [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^?]}$$

Note: The restriction on the length of the result types t_2^* may be lifted in future versions of WebAssembly.

table limits elemtype

- The limits *limits* must be valid.
- Then the import description is valid with type table *limits elemtype*.

$$\frac{\vdash limits \text{ ok}}{C \vdash \mathsf{table}\ limits\ elemtype} : \mathsf{table}\ limits\ elemtype}$$

mem limits

- The limits *limits* must be valid.
- Then the import description is valid with type mem *limits*.

$$\frac{\vdash \mathit{limits} \; \mathrm{ok}}{C \vdash \mathsf{mem} \; \mathit{limits} : \mathsf{mem} \; \mathit{limits}}$$

global $mut\ t$

- The mutability mut must be var.
- Then the import description is valid with type global t.

$$C \vdash \mathsf{global} \ \mathsf{var} \ t : \mathsf{global} \ \mathsf{var} \ t$$

3.3.11 Modules

A module is entirely *closed*, that is, it only refers to definitions that appear in the module itself. Consequently, no initial *context* is required. Instead, the context C for validation of the module's content is constructed from the types of definitions in the module itself.

- Let *module* be the module to validate.
- Let C be a *context* where:
 - C.types is module.types,
 - C.funcs is $funcs(externtype_i^*)$ concatenated with $functype_i^*$, with the type sequences $externtype_i^*$ and $functype_i^*$ as determined below,
 - C.tables is tables($externtype_i^*$) concatenated with $tabletype_i^*$, with the type sequences $externtype_i^*$ and $tabletype_i^*$ as determined below,

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- C.mems is mems($externtype_i^*$) concatenated with $memtype_i^*$, with the type sequences $externtype_i^*$ and $memtype_i^*$ as determined below,
- C.globals is globals($externtype_i^*$) concatenated with $globaltype_i^*$, with the type sequences $externtype_i^*$ and $globaltype_i^*$ as determined below.
- C.locals is empty,
- C.labels is empty.
- C.return is empty.
- Under the context C:
 - For each func_i in module funcs, the definition func_i must be valid with a function type functype_i.
 - For each table, in module tables, the definition table, must be valid with a table type tabletype.
 - For each mem_i in module.mems, the definition mem_i must be valid with a memory type $memtype_i$.
 - For each *global*_i in *module*.globals:
 - * Let C_i be the *context* where C_i .globals is the sequence globals($externtype_i^*$) concatenated with $globaltype_0 \dots globaltype_{i-1}$, and all other fields are empty.
 - * Under the context C_i , the definition $global_i$ must be valid with a global type global type global type.
 - For each $elem_i$ in module.elem, the segment $elem_i$ must be valid.
 - For each $data_i$ in module.data, the segment $elem_i$ must be valid.
 - If *module*.start is non-empty, then *module*.start must be *valid*.
 - For each $import_i$ in module.imports, the segment $import_i$ must be valid with an external type $externtype_i$.
 - For each $export_i$ in module.exports, the segment $import_i$ must be valid with a name $name_i$.
- The length of C.tables must not be larger than 1.
- The length of C.mems must not be larger than 1.
- All export names $name_i$ must be different.

```
(C \vdash func: ft)^* \quad (C \vdash table: tt)^* \quad (C \vdash mem: mt)^* \quad (C' \vdash global: gt)^* \\ (C \vdash elem \text{ ok})^* \quad (C \vdash data \text{ ok})^* \quad (C \vdash start \text{ ok})^? \quad (C \vdash import: it)^* \quad (C \vdash export: name)^* \\ ift^* = \text{funcs}(it^*) \quad itt^* = \text{tables}(it^*) \quad imt^* = \text{mems}(it^*) \quad igt^* = \text{globals}(it^*) \\ C = \{\text{types } functype^*, \text{funcs } ift^* ft^*, \text{tables } itt^* tt^*, \text{mems } imt^* mt^*, \text{globals } igt^* gt^*\} \\ C' = \{\text{globals } igt^*\} \quad |C.\text{tables}| \leq 1 \quad |C.\text{mems}| \leq 1 \quad name^* \text{ disjoint} \\ \vdash \{\text{types } functype^*, \text{funcs } func^*, \text{tables } table^*, \text{mems } mem^*, \text{globals } global^*, \\ \text{elem } elem^*, \text{data } data^*, \text{start } start^?, \text{imports } import^*, \text{ exports } export^*\} \text{ ok}
```

Note: Most definitions in a module – particularly functions – are mutually recursive. Consequently, the definition of the *context* C in this rule is recursive: it depends on the outcome of validation of the function, table, memory, and global definitions contained in the module, which itself depends on C. However, this recursion is just a specification device. All types needed to construct C can easily be determined from a simple pre-pass over the module that does not perform any actual validation.

Globals, however, are not recursive. The effect of defining the limited context C' for validating the module's globals is that their initialization expressions can only access imported globals and nothing else.

Note: The restriction on the number of tables and memories may be lifted in future versions of WebAssembly.

Execution

4.1 Conventions

WebAssembly code is *executed* when instantiating a module or invoking a function on the resulting module instance.

Execution behavior is defined in terms of an *abstract machine* that models the *program state*. It includes a *stack*, which records operand values and control constructs, and an abstract *store* containing global state.

For each instruction, there is a rule that specifies the effect of its execution on the program state. Furthermore, there are rules describing the instantiation of a module. As with validation, all rules are given in two *equivalent* forms:

- 1. In *prose*, describing the execution in intuitive form.
- 2. In *formal notation*, describing the rule in mathematical form.

Note: As with validation, the prose and formal rules are equivalent, so that understanding of the formal notation is *not* required to read this specification. The formalism offers a more concise description in notation that is used widely in programming languages semantics and is readily amenable to mathematical proof.

Store, stack, and other *runtime structure*, such as *module instances*, are made precise in terms of additional auxiliary syntax.

4.1.1 Textual Notation

Execution is specified by stylised, step-wise rules for each *instruction* of the *abstract syntax*. The following conventions are adopted in stating these rules.

- The execution rules implicitly assume a given *store* S.
- The execution rules also assume the presence of an implicit *stack* that is modified by *pushing* or *popping values*, *labels*, and *frames*.
- Certain rules require the stack to contain at least one frame, which is referred to as the *current* frame.
- Both the store and the current frame are mutated by *replacing* some of its components. Such replacement is assumed to apply globally.
- The execution of an instruction may *trap*, in which case the entire computation is aborted and no further modifications to the store are performed by it.
- The execution of an instruction may also end in a *jump* to a designated target, which defines the next instruction to execute.
- Execution can *enter* and *exit* instruction sequences in a block-like fashion.
- Instruction sequences are implicitly executed in order, unless a trap or jump occurs.

• In various places the rules contain *assertions* expressing crucial invariants about the program state, with indications why these are known to hold.

4.1.2 Formal Notation

Note: This section gives a brief explanation of the notation for specifying execution formally. For the interested reader, a more thorough introduction can be found in respective text books. ¹³

The formal execution rules use a standard approach for specifying operational semantics, rendering them into *reduction rules*. Every rule has the following general form:

```
configuration \hookrightarrow configuration
```

A *configuration* is a syntactic description of a specific program state. Each rule specifies one *step* of execution. As long as there is at most one reduction rule applicable to a given configuration, reduction – and thereby execution – is *deterministic*. WebAssembly has only very few exceptions to this, which are noted explicitly in this specification.

For WebAssembly, a configuration is a tuple $(S; F; instr^*)$ consisting of the current store S, the call frame F of the current function, and the sequence of instructions that is to be executed.

To avoid unnecessary clutter, the store S and the frame F are omitted from reduction rules that do not touch them.

There is no separate representation of the *stack*. Instead, it is conveniently represented as part of the configuration's instruction sequence. In particular, *values* are defined to coincide with const instructions, and a sequence of const instructions can be interpreted as an operand "stack".

Note: For example, the *reduction rule* for the i32.add instruction could be given as follows:

```
(i32.const n_1) (i32.const n_2) i32.add \hookrightarrow (i32.const (n_1 + n_2) \bmod 2^{32})
```

Per this rule, two const instructions and the add instruction itself are removed from the instruction stream and replaced with one new const instruction. This can be interpreted as popping two value off the stack and pushing the result.

When no result is produced, an instruction reduces to the empty sequence:

```
\mathsf{nop} \;\hookrightarrow\; \epsilon
```

Labels and frames are similarly defined to be part of an instruction sequence.

The order of reduction is determined by the definition of an approporiate *evaluation context*.

Reduction *terminates* when no more reduction rules are applicable. Soundness of the WebAssembly type system guarantees that this is only the case when the original instruction sequence has either been reduced to a sequence of const instructions, which can be interpreted as the *values* of the resulting operand stack, or if a trap occurred.

Note: For example, the following instruction sequence,

```
(f64.const x_1) (f64.const x_2) f64.neg (f64.const x_3) f64.add f64.mul
```

terminates after three steps:

```
\begin{array}{ll} & \text{(f64.const $x_1$) (f64.const $x_2$) f64.neg (f64.const $x_3$) f64.add f64.mul} \\ \hookrightarrow & \text{(f64.const $x_1$) (f64.const $x_4$) (f64.const $x_3$) f64.add f64.mul} \\ \hookrightarrow & \text{(f64.const $x_1$) (f64.const $x_5$) f64.mul} \\ \hookrightarrow & \text{(f64.const $x_6$)} \end{array}
```

where $x_4 = -x_2$ and $x_5 = -x_2 + x_3$ and $x_6 = x_1 \cdot (-x_2 + x_3)$.

¹³ For example: Benjamin Pierce. Types and Programming Languages. The MIT Press 2002

4.2 Runtime Structure

4.2.1 Values

WebAssembly computations manipulate *values* of the four basic *value types*: *uninterpreted integers* and *floating-point data* of 32 or 64 bit width each, respectively.

In most places of the semantics, values of different types can occur. In order to avoid ambiguities, values are therefor represented with an abstract syntax that makes their type explicit. It is convenient to reuse the same notation as for the const *instructions* producing them:

```
val ::= i32.const i32 \mid i64.const i64 \mid f32.const f32 \mid f64.const f64
```

4.2.2 Store

The *store* represents all *mutable* global state that can be manipulated by WebAssembly programs. It consists of the runtime representation of all *instances* of *functions*, *tables*, *memories*, and *globals* that have been *allocated* during the life time of the abstract machine. ¹⁵

Syntactically, the store is defined as a *record* listing the existing instances of each category:

Convention

ullet The meta variable S ranges over stores where clear from context.

4.2.3 Addresses

Function instances, table instances, memory instances, and global instances in the store are referenced with abstract addresses. These are simply indices into the respective store component.

```
\begin{array}{lll} addr & ::= & 0 \mid 1 \mid 2 \mid \dots \\ funcaddr & ::= & addr \\ tableaddr & ::= & addr \\ memaddr & ::= & addr \\ globaladdr & ::= & addr \end{array}
```

Note: There is no specific limit on the number of allocations of store objects, hence logical addresses can be arbitrarily large natural numbers.

A memory address memaddr denotes the abstract address of a memory instance in the store, not an offset inside a memory instance.

¹⁵ In practice, implementations may apply techniques like garbage collection to remove objects from the store that are no longer referenced. However, such techniques are not semantically observable, and hence outside the scope of this specification.

4.2.4 Module Instances

A *module instance* is the runtime representation of a *module*. It is created by instantiating a module, and collects runtime representations of all entities that are imported, defined, or exported by the module.

Each component contains runtime instances corresponding to respective entities from the original module – whether imported or defined – in the order of their static *indices*. Function instances, table instances, memory instances, and global instances are referenced with an indirection through their respective addresses in the store.

It is an invariant of the semantics that all *export instances* in a given module instance have different *names*.

4.2.5 Function Instances

A *function instance* is the runtime representation of a *function*. It is effectively a *closure* of the original function over the runtime *module instance* of its own *module*. The module instance is used to resolve references to other non-local definitions during execution of the function.

```
funcinst ::= \{module module inst, code func\}
```

Function instances are immutable, and their identity is not observable by WebAssembly code. However, the embedder might provide implicit or explicit means for distinguishing them.

Todo

Host functions?

4.2.6 Table Instances

A *table instance* is the runtime representation of a *table*. It holds a vector of *function elements* and an optional maximum size, if one was specified at the definition site of the table.

Each function element is either empty, representing an uninitialized table entry, or a *function address*. Function elements can be mutated through the execution of an *element segment* or by external means provided by the embedder.

```
tableinst ::= {elem vec(funcelem), max u32?} funcelem ::= funcaddr?
```

It is an invariant of the semantics that the length of the element vector never exceeds the maximum size, if present.

Note: Other table elements may be added in future versions of WebAssembly.

4.2.7 Memory Instances

A *memory instance* is the runtime representation of a linear *memory*. It holds a vector of bytes and an optional maximum size, if one was specified at the definition site of the memory.

The length of the vector always is a multiple of the WebAssembly *page size*, which is defined to be the constant 65536 – abbreviated 64 Ki. Like in a *memory type*, the maximum size in a memory instance is given in units of this page size.

The bytes can be mutated through *memory instructions*, the execution of a *data segment*, or by external means provided by the embedder.

```
meminst ::= \{ data \ vec(byte), max \ u32^? \}
```

It is an invariant of the semantics that the length of the byte vector, divided by page size, never exceeds the maximum size, if present.

4.2.8 Global Instances

A *global instance* is the runtime representation of a *global* variable. It holds an individual *value* and a flag indicating whether it is mutable.

The value of mutable globals can be mutated through specific instructions or by external means provided by the embedder.

```
globalinst ::= \{value \ val, mut \ mut\}
```

4.2.9 Export Instances

An *export instance* is the runtime representation of an *export*. It defines the export's *name* and the *external value* being exported.

```
exportinst ::= \{name \ name, value \ externval\}
```

4.2.10 External Values

An *external value* is the runtime representation of an entity that can be imported or exported. It is an *address* denoting either a *function instance*, *table instance*, *memory instance*, or *global instances* in the shared *store*.

```
externval ::= func funcaddr \mid table tableaddr \mid mem memaddr \mid global globaladdr
```

Conventions

The following auxiliary notation is defined for sequences of external values. It filters out entries of a specific kind in an order-preserving fashion:

```
\begin{array}{lll} \operatorname{funcs}(\operatorname{externval}^*) & = & [\operatorname{funcaddr} \mid (\operatorname{func} \operatorname{funcaddr}) \in \operatorname{externval}^*] \\ \operatorname{tables}(\operatorname{externval}^*) & = & [\operatorname{tableaddr} \mid (\operatorname{table} \operatorname{tableaddr}) \in \operatorname{externval}^*] \\ \operatorname{mems}(\operatorname{externval}^*) & = & [\operatorname{globaladdr} \mid (\operatorname{global} \operatorname{globaladdr}) \in \operatorname{externval}^*] \\ \operatorname{globals}(\operatorname{externval}^*) & = & [\operatorname{globaladdr} \mid (\operatorname{global} \operatorname{globaladdr}) \in \operatorname{externval}^*] \end{array}
```

4.2.11 External Types

External types classify external values, and thereby imports and exports, with their respective types.

```
externtype ::= func functype | table tabletype | mem memtype | global globaltype
```

Conventions

The following auxiliary notation is defined for sequences of external types. It filters out entries of a specific kind in an order-preserving fashion:

```
\begin{array}{lll} \operatorname{funcs}(\operatorname{externtype}^*) &=& [\operatorname{functype} \mid (\operatorname{func} \operatorname{functype}) \in \operatorname{externtype}^*] \\ \operatorname{tables}(\operatorname{externtype}^*) &=& [\operatorname{tabletype} \mid (\operatorname{table} \operatorname{tabletype}) \in \operatorname{externtype}^*] \\ \operatorname{mems}(\operatorname{externtype}^*) &=& [\operatorname{memtype} \mid (\operatorname{mem} \operatorname{memtype}) \in \operatorname{externtype}^*] \\ \operatorname{globals}(\operatorname{externtype}^*) &=& [\operatorname{globaltype} \mid (\operatorname{global} \operatorname{globaltype}) \in \operatorname{externtype}^*] \end{array}
```

4.2.12 Stack

Besides the store, most instructions interact with an implicit stack. The stack contains three kinds of entries:

- Values: the operands (arguments and results) of instructions.
- Labels: an active (entered) structured control instruction that can be targeted by branches.
- Locals: the call frame of an active function call.

These entries can occur on the stack in any order during the execution of a program. Stack entries are described by abstract syntax as follows.

Note: It is possible to model the WebAssebmly semantics using separate stacks for operands, control constructs, and calls. However, because the stacks are interdependent, additional book keeping about associated stack heights would be required. For the purpose of this specification, an interleaved representation is simpler.

Values

Values are represented by themselves.

Labels

Labels carry an argument arity n and their associated branch target, which is expressed syntactically as an instruction sequence:

```
label ::= label_n \{instr^*\}
```

Intuitively, $instr^*$ is the *continuation* to execute when the branch is taken, "replacing" the original control construct.

Note: For example, a loop label has the form

$$label_n\{loop [t^?] \dots end\}$$

When performing a branch to this label, this restarts the loop from the beginning. Conversely, a simple block label has the form

$$label_n\{\epsilon\}$$

When branching, the empty continuation ends the targeted block and proceeds with consecutive instructions.

Frames

Frames carry the return arity of the respective function, hold the values of its locals (including arguments) in the order corresponding to their static *local indices*, and a reference to the function's own *module instance*:

```
activation ::= frame_n\{frame\}

frame ::= \{locals val^*, module module inst\}
```

The values of the locals are mutated by respective variable instructions.

Note: In the current version of WebAssembly, the arities of labels and activations cannot be larger than 1. This may be generalized in future versions.

Conventions

- The meta variable L ranges over labels where clear from context.
- The meta variable F ranges over frames where clear from context.

4.2.13 Administrative Instructions

Note: This section is only relevant for the *formal notation*.

In order to express the reduction of traps and *control instructions*, the syntax of instructions is extended to include the following *administrative instructions*:

```
instr ::= \dots \mid 
trap \mid 
invoke funcaddr \mid 
label_n \{instr^*\} instr^* end \mid 
frame_n \{frame\} instr^* end \mid
```

The trap instruction represents the occurrence of a trap. Traps are bubbled up through nested instruction sequences, ultimately reducing the entire program to a single trap instruction.

The invoke instruction represents the imminent invocation of a *function instance*, identified by its *address*. It unifies the handling of different forms of calls.

The label and frame instructions model *labels* and *frames* "on the stack". The administrative syntax maintains the nesting structure of the original structured control instruction or function body and their instruction sequences. That way, the end of the inner instruction sequence is tracked when part of an outer sequence.

Note: For example, the *reduction rule* for block is:

```
\mathsf{block}\ [t^n]\ instr^*\ \mathsf{end} \quad \hookrightarrow \quad \mathsf{label}_n\{\epsilon\}\ instr^*\ \mathsf{end}
```

This replaces the block with a label instruction, which can be interpreted as "pushing" the label on the stack. When end is reached, i.e., the inner instruction sequence has been reduced to the empty sequence – or a sequence of const instructions, the representation of non-empty local operand stack – then the label instruction is eliminated courtesy of its own *reduction rule*:

```
label_n\{instr^*\}\ val^*\ end\ \hookrightarrow\ val^*
```

This can be interpreted as removing the label from the stack and only leaving the locally accumulated operand values.

To express branches, the following syntax of block contexts is defined, indexed by the count k of labels surrounding the hole:

$$\begin{array}{lll} B^0 & ::= & val^* \ [_] \ instr^* \\ B^{k+1} & ::= & val^* \ label_n \{instr^*\} \ B^k \ end \ instr^* \end{array}$$

Note: Given this definition, the *reduction* of a simple branch can be defined as follows:

$$label_0\{instr^*\} B^l[br\ l] end \hookrightarrow instr^*$$

When a branch occurs in a block context, this rule replaces the targeted label and associated instruction sequence with the label's continuation.

Finally, the following definition of *evaluation context* and associated structural rules enable reduction inside instruction sequences and administrative forms and the propagation of traps:

$$\begin{array}{lll} E & ::= & [_] \mid val^* \; E \; instr^* \mid \mathsf{label}_n\{instr^*\} \; E \; \mathsf{end} \mid \mathsf{frame}_n\{frame\} \; E \; \mathsf{end} \\ S; F; E[instr^*] & \hookrightarrow & S'; F'; E[instr'^*] & (\mathsf{if} \; S; F; instr^* \hookrightarrow S'; F'; instr'^*) \\ S; F; E[\mathsf{trap}] & \hookrightarrow & S; F; \mathsf{trap} & (\mathsf{if} \; E \neq [_]) \end{array}$$

4.3 Numerics

Todo

Describe

4.3.1 Auxiliary Operations

```
\begin{array}{lll} \operatorname{bytes}_N(i) & = & \epsilon & (N = 0 \wedge i = 0) \\ \operatorname{bytes}_N(i) & = & b \operatorname{bytes}_{N-8}(j) & (N \geq 8 \wedge i = 8 \cdot j + b) \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{lll} \operatorname{bytes}_{iN}(i) & = & \operatorname{bytes}_N(i) \\ \operatorname{bytes}_{fN}(b^N) & = & \operatorname{reverse}(b^N) \\ & \operatorname{signed}_N(i) & = & i & (0 \leq i < 2^{N-1}) \\ \operatorname{signed}_N(i) & = & i - 2^N & (2^{N-1} \leq i < 2^N) \\ \operatorname{signed}_N(-i) & = & -i & (0 < i \geq 2^{N-1}) \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{lll} \operatorname{extend}_{\mathbb{Q},N}(i) & = & i \\ \operatorname{extend}_{\mathbb{S},N}(i) & = & \operatorname{signed}_N(i) \\ \operatorname{wrap}_N(i) & = & i \operatorname{mod} 2^N \end{array}
```

Note: The index N of the extend function is the size extending from, where as the index of the wrap function is the size wrapping to.

4.3.2 Integer Operations

4.3.3 Floating-Point Operations

4.3.4 Conversions

4.4 Instructions

4.4.1 Numeric Instructions

$t.\mathsf{const}\ c$

1. Push the value t.const c to the stack.

Note: No formal reduction rule is needed for this instruction, since const instructions coincide with *values*.

t.unop

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type t* is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value t.const c_1 from the stack.
- 3. If $unop_t(c_1)$ is defined, then:
 - (a) Let c be the result of computing $unop_t(c_1)$.
 - (b) Push the value t.const c to the stack.
- 4. Else:
 - (a) Trap.

```
(t.\mathsf{const}\ c_1)\ t.unop \hookrightarrow (t.\mathsf{const}\ c) \qquad (\mathsf{if}\ unop_t(c_1) = c) \\ (t.\mathsf{const}\ c_1)\ t.unop \hookrightarrow \mathsf{trap} \qquad (\mathsf{otherwise})
```

t.binop

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, two values of *value type t* are on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value t.const c_2 from the stack.
- 3. Pop the value t.const c_1 from the stack.
- 4. If $binop_t(c_1, c_2)$ is defined, then:
 - (a) Let c be the result of computing $binop_t(c_1, c_2)$.
 - (b) Push the value t.const c to the stack.
- 5. Else:
 - (a) Trap.

t.testop

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type t* is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value t.const c_1 from the stack.
- 3. Let c be the result of computing $testop_t(c_1)$.
- 4. Push the value i32.const *c* to the stack.

```
(t.\operatorname{const} c_1) \ t.\operatorname{testop} \hookrightarrow (t.\operatorname{const} c) \quad (\operatorname{if} \ \operatorname{testop}_t(c_1) = c)
```

t.relop

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, two values of *value type t* are on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value t.const c_2 from the stack.
- 3. Pop the value t.const c_1 from the stack.
- 4. Let c be the result of computing $relop_t(c_1, c_2)$.
- 5. Push the value i32.const c to the stack.

```
(t.\mathsf{const}\ c_1)\ (t.\mathsf{const}\ c_2)\ t.\mathit{relop}\ \hookrightarrow\ (t.\mathsf{const}\ c)\ (\mathsf{if}\ \mathit{relop}_t(c_1,c_2)=c)
```

$t_2.cvtop/t_1$

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type* t_1 is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value t_1 .const c_1 from the stack.
- 3. If $cvtop_{t_1,t_2}(c_1)$ is defined:
 - (a) Let c_2 be the result of computing $cvtop_{t_1,t_2}(c_1)$.
 - (b) Push the value t_2 .const c_2 to the stack.
- 4. Else:
 - (a) Trap.

```
 \begin{array}{lll} (t.\mathsf{const}\ c_1)\ t_2.\mathit{cvtop}/t_1 &\hookrightarrow & (t_2.\mathsf{const}\ c_2) & & (\mathsf{if}\ \mathit{cvtop}_{t_1,t_2}(c_1) = c_2) \\ (t.\mathsf{const}\ c_1)\ t_2.\mathit{cvtop}/t_1 &\hookrightarrow & \mathsf{trap} & & (\mathsf{otherwise}) \end{array}
```

4.4.2 Parametric Instructions

drop

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, a value is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value val from the stack.

 $val \operatorname{drop} \hookrightarrow \epsilon$

select

- 1. Assert: due to validation, a value value type i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value i32.const n from the stack.
- 3. Assert: due to *validation*, two more values (of the same *value type*) are on the top of the stack.
- 4. Pop the value val_2 from the stack.
- 5. Pop the value val_1 from the stack.
- 6. If n is not 0, then:
 - (a) Push the value val_1 back to the stack.
- 7. Else:
 - (a) Push the value val_2 back to the stack.

```
val_1 \ val_2 \ (i32.const \ n) \ select \ \hookrightarrow \ val_1 \ \ (if \ n \neq 0)
val_1 \ val_2 \ (i32.const \ n) \ select \ \hookrightarrow \ val_2 \ \ (if \ n = 0)
```

4.4.3 Variable Instructions

$\operatorname{get_local} x$

- 1. Let *F* be the *current frame*.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, F.locals[x] exists.
- 3. Let val be the value F.locals[x].
- 4. Push the value *val* to the stack.

$$F$$
; (get_local x) \hookrightarrow F ; val (if F .locals[x] = val)

set local x

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, F.locals[x] exists.
- 3. Assert: due to validation, a value is on the top of the stack.
- 4. Pop the value *val* from the stack.
- 5. Replace F.locals[x] with the value val.

```
F; val (set\_local x) \hookrightarrow F'; \epsilon (if F' = F with locals[x] = val)
```

$\mathsf{tee}_\mathsf{local}\ x$

- 1. Assert: due to validation, a value is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value val from the stack.
- 3. Push the value *val* to the stack.
- 4. Push the value val to the stack.
- 5. *Execute* the instruction (set_local x).

```
F; val \text{ (tee\_local } x) \hookrightarrow F'; val val \text{ (set\_local } x)
```

$get_global x$

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, F.module.globals[x] exists.
- 3. Let a be the *global address* F.module.globals[x].
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, S.globals[a] exists.
- 5. Let glob be the global instance S.globals[a].
- 6. Let *val* be the value *glob*.value.
- 7. Push the value *val* to the stack.

```
\begin{array}{ll} S; F; (\mathsf{get\_global}\ x) & \hookrightarrow & S; F; val \\ & (\mathsf{if}\ S.\mathsf{globals}[F.\mathsf{module}.\mathsf{globals}[x]].\mathsf{value} = val) \end{array}
```

$\mathsf{set_global}\ x$

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, F.module.globals[x] exists.
- 3. Let a be the global address F.module.globals[x].
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, S.globals[a] exists.
- 5. Let glob be the global instance S.globals [a].
- 6. Assert: due to *validation*, a value is on the top of the stack.
- 7. Pop the value *val* from the stack.
- 8. Replace glob value with the value val.

```
S; F; val \text{ (set\_global } x) \hookrightarrow S'; F; \epsilon
(if S' = S \text{ with globals}[F.module.globals}[x]].value = <math>val)
```

4.4.4 Memory Instructions

 $t.\mathsf{load}\ memarg\ \mathbf{and}\ t.\mathsf{load}N_sx\ memarg$

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, F.module.mems[0] exists.
- 3. Let a be the *memory address* F.module.mems[0].
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, S.mems[a] exists.
- 5. Let mem be the memory instance S.mems[a].
- 6. Assert: due to *validation*, a value *value type* i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 7. Pop the value i32.const i from the stack.
- 8. Let ea be i + memarg.offset.
- 9. If N is not part of the instruction, then:
 - (a) Let N be the width value type of t.
- 10. If ea + N is larger than the length of mem.data, then:
 - (a) Trap.
- 11. Let b^* be the byte sequence mem.data[ea:N].

- 12. If N and sx are part of the instruction, then:
 - (a) Let n be the integer for which by $tes_N(n) = b^*$.
 - (b) Let c be the result of computing extend_{sx,N}(n).
- 13. Else:
 - (a) Let c be the constant for which by $tes_t(c) = b^*$.
- 14. Push the value t.const c to the stack.

```
\begin{split} S; F; & \text{ (i32.const } i) \text{ } (t. \text{load } memarg) \quad \hookrightarrow \quad S; F; (t. \text{const } c) \\ & \text{ } (\text{if } ea = i + memarg. \text{offset} \\ & \land ea + |t| \leq |S. \text{mems}[F. \text{module.mems}[0]]. \text{data}| \\ & \land \text{bytes}_t(c) = S. \text{mems}[F. \text{module.mems}[0]]. \text{data}[ea : |t|]) \\ S; F; & \text{ } (\text{i32.const } i) \text{ } (t. \text{load} N\_sx \text{ } memarg) \quad \hookrightarrow \quad S; F; \text{ } (t. \text{const } \text{ extend}_{sx,N}(n)) \\ & \text{ } (\text{if } ea = i + memarg. \text{offset} \\ & \land ea + N \leq |S. \text{mems}[F. \text{module.mems}[0]]. \text{data}| \\ & \land \text{bytes}_N(n) = S. \text{mems}[F. \text{module.mems}[0]]. \text{data}[ea : N]) \\ S; F; & \text{ } (\text{i32.const } k) \text{ } (t. \text{load}(N\_sx)^? \text{ } memarg) \quad \hookrightarrow \quad S; F; \text{ } \text{trap} \\ & \text{ } (\text{otherwise}) \end{split}
```

Note: The alignment *memarg*.align does not affect the semantics. Unaligned access is supported for all types, and succeeds regardless of the annotation. The only purpose of the annotation is to provide optimizatons hints.

$t.store\ memarg\ and\ t.storeN\ memarg$

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, *F*.module.mems[0] exists.
- 3. Let a be the *memory address* F.module.mems[0].
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, S.mems[a] exists.
- 5. Let mem be the memory instance S.mems[a].
- 6. Assert: due to *validation*, a value *value type* i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 7. Pop the value i32.const i from the stack.
- 8. Let ea be i + memarg.offset.
- 9. If N is not part of the instruction, then:
 - (a) Let N be the width value type of t.
- 10. If ea + N is larger than the length of mem.data, then:
 - (a) Trap.
- 11. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type t* is on the top of the stack.
- 12. Pop the value t.const c from the stack.
- 13. If N is part of the instruction, then:
 - (a) Let n be the result of computing $\operatorname{wrap}_N(c)$.
 - (b) Let b^* be the byte sequence bytes $_N(n)$.
- 14. Else:
 - (a) Let b^* be the byte sequence bytes_t(c).
- 15. Replace the bytes mem.data[ea:N] with b^* .

```
\begin{array}{lll} S; F; (\mathrm{i}32.\mathsf{const}\ i)\ (t.\mathsf{store}\ memarg) &\hookrightarrow S'; F; \epsilon \\ &\quad (\mathrm{if}\ ea = i + memarg.\mathsf{o}\mathsf{f}\mathsf{f}\mathsf{s}\mathsf{e}\mathsf{t} \\ &\quad \land ea + |t| \leq |S.\mathsf{mems}[F.\mathsf{module}.\mathsf{mems}[0]].\mathsf{data}| \\ &\quad \land S' = S\ \mathsf{with}\ \mathsf{mems}[F.\mathsf{module}.\mathsf{mems}[0]].\mathsf{data}[ea:|t|] = \mathsf{bytes}_t(c) \\ S; F; (\mathrm{i}32.\mathsf{const}\ i)\ (t.\mathsf{store}N\ memarg) &\hookrightarrow S'; F; \epsilon \\ &\quad (\mathrm{if}\ ea = i + memarg.\mathsf{o}\mathsf{f}\mathsf{f}\mathsf{s}\mathsf{e}\mathsf{t} \\ &\quad \land ea + N \leq |S.\mathsf{mems}[F.\mathsf{module}.\mathsf{mems}[0]].\mathsf{data}| \\ &\quad \land S' = S\ \mathsf{with}\ \mathsf{mems}[F.\mathsf{module}.\mathsf{mems}[0]].\mathsf{data}[ea:N] = \mathsf{bytes}_N(\mathsf{wrap}_N(c)) \\ S; F; (\mathrm{i}32.\mathsf{const}\ k)\ (t.\mathsf{store}N^?\ memarg) &\hookrightarrow S; F; \mathsf{trap} \\ &\quad (\mathsf{o}\mathsf{therwise}) \end{array}
```

current memory

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, *F*.module.mems[0] exists.
- 3. Let a be the *memory address* F.module.mems[0].
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, S.mems[a] exists.
- 5. Let mem be the memory instance S.mems[a].
- 6. Let sz be the length of mem.data divided by the page size.
- 7. Push the value i32.const sz to the stack.

```
S; F; \mathsf{current\_memory} \hookrightarrow S; F; (\mathsf{i32.const}\ sz)
(if |S.\mathsf{mems}[F.\mathsf{module}.\mathsf{mems}[0]].\mathsf{data}| = sz \cdot 64\,\mathrm{Ki})
```

grow_memory

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, *F*.module.mems[0] exists.
- 3. Let a be the *memory address* F.module.mems[0].
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, S.mems[a] exists.
- 5. Let mem be the memory instance S.mems[a].
- 6. Let sz be the length of S.mems[a] divided by the $page\ size$.
- 7. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type* i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 8. Pop the value i32.const n from the stack.
- 9. If mem.max is not empty and sz + n is larger than mem.max, then:
- 1. Push the value i32.const (-1) to the stack.
- 10. Else, either:
 - (a) Let len be n multiplied with the page size.
 - (b) Append len bytes with value 0x00 to S.mems[a].
 - (c) Push the value i32.const sz to the stack.
- 11. Or:
 - (a) Push the value i32.const (-1) to the stack.

```
\begin{array}{lll} S; F; (\mathrm{i}32.\mathsf{const}\ n)\ \mathsf{grow\_memory} &\hookrightarrow & S'; F; (\mathrm{i}32.\mathsf{const}\ sz) \\ & (\mathrm{if}\ F.\mathsf{module.mems}[0] = a \\ & \land |S.\mathsf{mems}[a].\mathsf{data}| = sz \cdot 64\,\mathrm{Ki} \\ & \land (sz + n \leq S.\mathsf{mems}[a].\mathsf{max} \lor S.\mathsf{mems}[a].\mathsf{max} = \epsilon) \\ & \land S' = S\ \mathsf{with}\ \mathsf{mems}[a].\mathsf{data} = S.\mathsf{mems}[a].\mathsf{data}\ (0\mathrm{x00})^{n\cdot64\,\mathrm{Ki}}) \\ & S; F; (\mathrm{i}32.\mathsf{const}\ n)\ \mathsf{grow\_memory} &\hookrightarrow & S; F; (\mathrm{i}32.\mathsf{const}\ -1) \end{array}
```

Note: The grow_memory instruction is non-deterministic. It may either succeed, returning the old memory size sz, or fail, returning -1. Failure *must* occur if the referenced memory instance has a maximum size defined that would be exceeded. However, failure can occur in other cases as well. In practice, the choice depends on the resources available to the embedder.

4.4.5 Control Instructions

nop

1. Do nothing.

 $\mathsf{nop} \;\hookrightarrow\; \epsilon$

unreachable

1. Trap.

block $[t^?]$ $instr^*$ end

- 1. Let n be the arity $|t^2|$ of the result type t^2 .
- 2. Let L be the label whose arity is n and whose continuation is the end of the block.
- 3. *Enter* the instruction sequence $instr^*$ with label L.

$$\operatorname{block} [t^n] \operatorname{instr}^* \operatorname{end} \ \hookrightarrow \ \operatorname{label}_n \{\epsilon\} \operatorname{instr}^* \operatorname{end}$$

loop $[t^?]$ $instr^*$ end

- 1. Let L be the label whose arity is 0 and whose continuation is the start of the loop.
- 2. *Enter* the instruction sequence $instr^*$ with label L.

```
loop[t^?] instr^* end \hookrightarrow label_0\{loop[t^?] instr^* end\} instr^* end
```

if $[t^?]$ $instr_1^*$ else $instr_2^*$ end

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type* i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value i32.const c from the stack.
- 3. Let n be the arity $|t^{?}|$ of the result type $t^{?}$.
- 4. Let L be the label whose arity is n and whose continuation is the end of the if instruction.
- 5. If c is not 0, then:
 - (a) *Enter* the instruction sequence $instr_1^*$ with label L.

- 6. Else:
 - (a) *Enter* the instruction sequence $instr_2^*$ with label L.

```
(i32.const c) if [t^n] instr_1^* else instr_2^* end \hookrightarrow label_n\{\epsilon\} instr_1^* end (if c \neq 0) (i32.const c) if [t^n] instr_1^* else instr_2^* end \hookrightarrow label_n\{\epsilon\} instr_2^* end (if c = 0)
```

$\mathsf{br}\;l$

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, the stack contains at least l+1 labels.
- 2. Let L be the l-th label appearing on the stack, starting from the top and counting from zero.
- 3. Let n be the arity of L.
- 4. Assert: due to validation, there are at least n values on the top of the stack.
- 5. Pop the values val^n from the stack.
- 6. Repeat l+1 times:
 - (a) While the top of the stack is a value, do:
 - i. Pop the value from the stack.
 - (b) Assert: due to *validation*, the top of the stack now is a label.
 - (c) Pop the label from the stack.
- 7. Push the values val^n to the stack.
- 8. Jump to the continuation of L.

$$label_n\{instr^*\}$$
 $B^l[val^n (br l)]$ end $\hookrightarrow val^n instr^*$

$br_if l$

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type* i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value i32.const c from the stack.
- 3. If c is not 0, then:
 - (a) *Execute* the instruction (br l).
- 4. Else:
 - (a) Do nothing.

$\mathsf{br_table}\; l^*\; l_N$

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, a value of *value type* i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 2. Pop the value i32.const i from the stack.
- 3. If i is smaller than the length of l^* , then:
 - (a) Let l_i be the label $l^*[i]$.
 - (b) *Execute* the instruction (br l_i).
- 4. Else:
 - (a) *Execute* the instruction (br l_N).

(i32.const
$$i$$
) (br_table $l^* l_N$) \hookrightarrow (br l_i) (if $l^*[i] = l_i$) (i32.const i) (br_table $l^* l_N$) \hookrightarrow (br l_N) (if $|l^*| \le i$)

return

- 1. Let F be the current frame.
- 2. Let n be the arity of F.
- 3. Assert: due to validation, there are at least n values on the top of the stack.
- 4. Pop the results val^n from the stack.
- 5. Assert: due to *validation*, the stack contains at least one *frame*.
- 6. While the top of the stack is not a frame, do:
 - (a) Pop the top element from the stack.
- 7. Assert: the top of the stack is the frame F.
- 8. Pop the frame from the stack.
- 9. Push val^n to the stack.
- 10. Jump to the instruction after the original call.

$$frame_n\{F\} B^k[val^n return] end \hookrightarrow val^n$$

$\mathsf{call}\ x$

- 1. Let *F* be the *current frame*.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, F.module.funcs[x] exists.
- 3. Let a be the function address F.module.funcs[x].
- 4. *Invoke* the function instance at address a.

$$F$$
; (call x) \hookrightarrow F ; (invoke a) (if F .module.funcs[x] = a)

call_indirect x

- 1. Let *F* be the *current frame*.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, *F*.module.tables[0] exists.
- 3. Let a be the *table address* F.module.tables[0].
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, S.tables[a] exists.
- 5. Let tab be the *table instance* S.tables[a].
- 6. Assert: due to *validation*, F.module.types[x] exists.
- 7. Let ft_{expect} be the function type F.module.types[x].
- 8. Assert: due to *validation*, a value with *value type* i32 is on the top of the stack.
- 9. Pop the value i32.const i from the stack.
- 10. If i is not smaller than the length of tab.elem, then:
 - (a) Trap.
- 11. If tab.elem[i] is uninitialized, then:
 - (a) Trap.
- 12. Let a be the function address tab.elem[i].

- 13. Assert: due to *validation*, S.funcs[a] exists.
- 14. Let f be the function instance S.funcs[a].
- 15. Assert: due to *validation*, *func*.module.types[f.code.type] exists.
- 16. Let $ft_{\rm actual}$ be the *function type func*.module.types[f.code.type].
- 15. If $ft_{\rm actual}$ and $ft_{\rm expect}$ differ, then:
 - (a) Trap.
- 17. *Invoke* the function instance at address a.

```
\begin{array}{lll} S;F; ({\sf i32.const}\ i)\ ({\sf call\_indirect}\ x) &\hookrightarrow &S;F; ({\sf invoke}\ a)\\ &({\sf if}\ S.{\sf tables}[F.{\sf module.tables}[0]].{\sf elem}[i] = a\\ &\land F.{\sf module.types}[x] = f.{\sf module.types}[S.{\sf funcs}[a].{\sf code.type}])\\ S;F; ({\sf i32.const}\ i)\ ({\sf call\_indirect}\ x) &\hookrightarrow &S;F; {\sf trap}\\ &({\sf otherwise}) \end{array}
```

4.4.6 Instruction Sequences

Entering $instr^*$ with label L

- 1. Push L to the stack.
- 2. Jump to the start of the instruction sequence $instr^*$.

Note: No formal reduction rule is needed for entering an instruction sequence, because the label L is embedded in the *administrative instruction* that is reduced to directly.

Exiting $instr^*$ with label L

When the end of a labelled instruction sequence is reached without a jump or trap aborting it, then the following steps are performed.

- 1. Let n be the arity of L.
- 2. Assert: due to *validation*, there are n values on the top of the stack.
- 3. Pop the results val^n from the stack.
- 4. Assert: due to *validation*, the label L is now on the top of the stack.
- 5. Pop the label from the stack.
- 6. Push val^n back to the stack.
- 7. Jump to the position after the end of the *structured control instruction* associated with the label L.

```
label_n\{instr^*\}\ val^n\ end\ \hookrightarrow\ val^n
```

Note: This semantics also applies to the instruction sequence contained in a loop instruction. Therefor, execution of a loop falls off the end if no backwards branch is performed explicitly.

4.4.7 Function Calls

Invocation of function address a

- 1. Assert: due to *validation*, S.funcs[a] exists.
- 2. Let f be the function instance, S.funcs[a].
- 3. Assert: due to *validation*, *f*.module.types[*f*.code.type] exists.
- 4. Let $[t_1^n] \to [t_2^m]$ be the function type f-module.types [f.code.type].
- 5. Let t^n be the list of *value types f*.code.locals.
- 6. Let $instr^*$ end be the *expression* f.code.body.
- 7. Assert: due to *validation*, n values are on the top of the stack.
- 8. Pop the values val^n from the stack.
- 9. Let val_0^* be the list of zero values of types t^* .
- 10. Let F be the *frame* {module f.module, locals $val^n \ val_0^*$ }.
- 11. Push F to the stack.
- 12. Execute the instruction block $[t_2^m]$ instr* end.

```
\begin{array}{ll} val^n \ (\mathsf{invoke} \ a) & \hookrightarrow & \mathsf{frame}_n\{F\} \ \mathsf{block} \ [t_2^m] \ instr^* \ \mathsf{end} \ \mathsf{end} \\ \ (\mathsf{if} \ S.\mathsf{funcs}[a].\mathsf{code} = \{\mathsf{type} \ x, \mathsf{locals} \ t^*, \mathsf{body} \ instr^* \ \mathsf{end} \} \\ \ \land \ S.\mathsf{funcs}[a].\mathsf{module}.\mathsf{types}[x] = [t_1^n] \to [t_2^m] \\ \ \land \ F = \{\mathsf{module} \ f.\mathsf{module}, \ \mathsf{locals} \ val^n \ (t.\mathsf{const} \ 0)^*\}) \end{array}
```

Returning from a function

When the end of a funtion is reached without a jump (return) or trap aborting it, then the following steps are performed.

- 1. Let *F* be the *current frame*.
- 2. Let n be the arity of F.
- 3. Assert: due to *validation*, there are n values on the top of the stack.
- 4. Pop the results val^n from the stack.
- 5. Assert: due to *validation*, the frame F is now on the top of the stack.
- 6. Pop the frame from the stack.
- 7. Push val^n back to the stack.
- 8. Jump to the instruction after the original call.

```
\mathsf{frame}_n\{F\} \ val^n \ \mathsf{end} \ \ \hookrightarrow \ \ val^n
```

4.4.8 Expressions

 $instr^*$ end

Todo

Define

$$\frac{S;F;instr^* \hookrightarrow^* S;F;v}{S;F;instr^* \text{ end } \hookrightarrow^* S;F;v}$$

4.5 Modules

Todo

Work in progress

Binary Format

5.1 Conventions

The binary format for WebAssembly modules is a dense linear *encoding* of their *abstract syntax*. ¹⁶

The format is defined by an *attribute grammar* whose only terminal symbols are *bytes*. A byte sequence is a well-formed encoding of a module if and only if it is generated by the grammar.

Each production of this grammar has exactly one synthesized attribute: the abstract syntax that the respective byte sequence encodes. Thus, the attribute grammar implicitly defines a *decoding* function.

Except for a few exceptions, the binary grammar closely mirrors the grammar of the abstract syntax.

Note: Some phrases of abstract syntax have multiple possible encodings in the binary format. For example, numbers may be encoded as if they had optional leading zeros. Implementations of decoders must support all possible alternatives; implementations of encoders can pick any one allowed encoding.

5.1.1 Grammar

The following conventions are adopted in defining grammar rules for the binary format. They mirror the conventions used for *abstract syntax*. In order to distinguish symbols of the binary syntax from symbols of the abstract syntax, typewriter font is adopted for the former.

- Terminal symbols are bytes expressed in hexadecimal notation: 0x0F.
- Nonterminal symbols are written in typewriter font: valtype, instr.
- B^n is a sequence of $n \ge 0$ iterations of B.
- B^* is a possibly empty sequence of iterations of B. (This is a shorthand for A^n used where n is not relevant.)
- $B^{?}$ is an optional occurrence of B. (This is a shorthand for A^{n} where $n \leq 1$.)
- x:B denotes the same language as the nonterminal B, but also binds the variable x to the attribute synthesized for B.
- Productions are written name $:= B \Rightarrow A$, where A is the attribute that is synthesized for name, usually from attribute variables bound in B.
- Some productions are augmented by side conditions in parentheses, which restrict the applicability of the
 production. They provide a shorthand for a combinatorial expansion of the production into many separate
 cases.

¹⁶ Additional encoding layers – for example, introducing compression – may be defined on top of the basic representation defined here. However, such layers are outside the scope of the current specification.

Note: For example, the *binary grammar* for *value types* is given as follows:

```
valtype ::= 0x7F \Rightarrow i32

| 0x7E \Rightarrow i64

| 0x7D \Rightarrow f32

| 0x7C \Rightarrow f64
```

Consequently, the byte 0x7F encodes the type i32, 0x7E encodes the type i64, and so forth. No other byte value is allowed as the encoding of a value type.

The *binary grammar* for *limits* is defined as follows:

```
limits ::= 0x00 n:u32 \Rightarrow \{\min n, \max \epsilon\}
| 0x01 n:u32 m:u32 \Rightarrow \{\min n, \max m\}
```

That is, a limits pair is encoded as either the byte 0x00 followed by the encoding of a u32 value, or the byte 0x01 followed by two such encodings. The variables n and m name the attributes of the respective u32 nonterminals, which in this case are the actual *unsigned integers* they decode into. The attribute of the complete production then is the abstract syntax for the limit, expressed in terms of the former values.

5.1.2 Auxiliary Notation

When dealing with binary encodings the following notation is also used:

- ϵ denotes the empty byte sequence.
- ||B|| is the length of the byte sequence generated from the production B in a derivation.

5.2 Values

5.2.1 Bytes

Bytes encode themselves.

byte
$$::= 0x00 \Rightarrow 0x00$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & 0xFF \Rightarrow & 0xFF \end{vmatrix}$$

5.2.2 Integers

All *integers* are encoded using the LEB128¹⁷ variable-length integer encoding, in either unsigned or signed variant.

Unsigned integers are encoded in unsigned LEB128¹⁸ format. As an additional constraint, the total number of bytes encoding a value of type uN must not exceed ceil(N/7) bytes.

Signed integers are encoded in signed LEB128¹⁹ format, which uses a 2's complement representation. As an additional constraint, the total number of bytes encoding a value of type sN must not exceed ceil(N/7) bytes.

¹⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LEB128

¹⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LEB128#Unsigned_LEB128

¹⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LEB128#Signed_LEB128

Uninterpreted integers are encoded as signed integers.

```
iN ::= n:sN \Rightarrow i \qquad (n = signed_{iN}(i))
```

Note: While the side conditions N>7 in the productions for *non-terminating* bytes restrict the length of the u and s encodings, "trailing zeros" are still allowed within these bounds. For example, 0x03 and 0x83 0x00 are both well-formed encodings for the value 3 as a u8. Similarly, either of 0x7e and 0xFE 0x7F and 0xFE 0xFF 0x7F are well-formed encodings of the value -2 as a s16.

The side conditions on the value n of *terminating* bytes further enforce that any unused bits in these bytes must be 0 for positive values and 1 for negative ones. For example, 0x83 0x10 is malformed as a u8 encoding. Similarly, both 0x83 0x3E and 0xFF 0x7B are malformed as s8 encodings.

5.2.3 Floating-Point

Floating point values are encoded directly by their IEEE bit pattern in little endian²⁰ byte order:

```
fN ::= b^*: byte^{N/8} \Rightarrow reverse(b^*)
```

Here, reverse(b^*) denotes the byte sequence b^* in reversed order.

5.2.4 Vectors

Vectors are encoded with their length followed by the encoding of their element sequence.

```
\operatorname{vec}(\mathbf{B}) ::= n: \mathrm{u32} \ (x:\mathbf{B})^n \Rightarrow x^n
```

5.2.5 Names

Names are encoded like a vector of bytes containing the UTF-8²¹ encoding of the name's code point sequence.

```
:= n:u32 (uc:codepoint)^*
                                                                                                                         (|codepoint*|
                                                                   uc^*
codepoint ::= uv:codeval_N
                                                               \Rightarrow
                                                                    uv
                                                                                                                         (uv \ge N \land (uv
codeval_N ::= b_1:byte
                                                                                                                         (b_1 < 0x80 \wedge N)
                b_1:byte b_2:cont
                                                               \Rightarrow 2^6 \cdot (b_1 - 0xc0) + b_2
                                                                                                                         (0xc0 \le b_1 < 0
                     b_1:byte b_2:cont b_3:cont \Rightarrow 2^{12} \cdot (b_1 - 0xe0) + 2^6 \cdot b_2 + b_3
                                                                                                                         (0xe0 < b_1 < 0)
                     b_1:byte b_2:cont b_3:cont b_4:cont \Rightarrow 2^{18} \cdot (b_1 - 0xf0) + 2^{12} \cdot b_2 + 2^6 \cdot b_3 + b_4
                                                                                                                         (0xf0 \le b_1 < 0)
                                                               \Rightarrow b - 0x80
               ::= b:byte
                                                                                                                         (b \ge 0x80)
cont.
```

Note: The size, $||codepoint^*||$ denotes the number of bytes in the encoding of the sequence, not the number of code points.

The index N to codeval is the minimum value that a given byte sequence may decode into. The respective side conditions on it exclude encodings using more than the minimal number of bytes to represent a code point.

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²⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endianness#Little-endian

²¹ http://www.unicode.org/versions/latest/

5.3 Types

5.3.1 Value Types

Value types are encoded by a single byte.

```
valtype ::= 0x7F \Rightarrow i32

| 0x7E \Rightarrow i64

| 0x7D \Rightarrow f32

| 0x7C \Rightarrow f64
```

Note: In future versions of WebAssembly, value types may include types denoted by *type indices*. Thus, the binary format for types corresponds to the encodings of small negative s values, so that they can coexist with (positive) type indices.

5.3.2 Result Types

The only *result types* occurring in the binary format are the types of blocks. These are encoded in special compressed form, by either the byte 0x40 indicating the empty type or as a single *value type*.

Note: In future versions of WebAssembly, this scheme may be extended to support multiple results or more general block types.

5.3.3 Function Types

Function types are encoded by the byte 0x60 followed by the respective vectors of parameter and result types.

```
functype ::= 0x60 t_1^*: vec(valtype) t_2^*: vec(valtype) \Rightarrow [t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^*]
```

5.3.4 Limits

Limits are encoded with a preceding flag indicating whether a maximum is present.

5.3.5 Memory Types

Memory types are encoded with their limits.

```
memtype ::= lim:limits \Rightarrow lim
```

5.3.6 Table Types

Table types are encoded with their *limits* and a constant byte indicating their *element type*.

```
\begin{array}{llll} \texttt{tabletype} & ::= & et : \texttt{elemtype} & lim : \texttt{limits} & \Rightarrow & lim & et \\ \texttt{elemtype} & ::= & \texttt{0x70} & \Rightarrow & \texttt{anyfunc} \end{array}
```

5.3.7 Global Types

Global types are encoded by their value type and a flag for their mutability.

```
globaltype ::= t:valtype m:mut \Rightarrow m t
mut ::= 0x00 \Rightarrow var
\begin{vmatrix} 0x01 \Rightarrow v
```

5.4 Instructions

Instructions are encoded by *opcodes*. Each opcode is represented by a single byte, and is followed by the instruction's immediate arguments, where present. The only exception are *structured control instructions*, which consist of several opcodes bracketing their nested instruction sequences.

Note: Gaps in the byte code ranges encoding instructions are reserved for future extensions.

5.4.1 Control Instructions

Control instructions have varying encodings. For structured instructions, the nested instruction sequences are terminated with explicit opcodes for end and else.

```
instr ::= 0x00
                                                                                          ⇒ unreachable
                0x01
                                                                                          \Rightarrow nop
                0x02 \ rt:blocktype \ (in:instr)^* \ 0x0B
                                                                                              block rt in^* end
                0x03 \ rt:blocktype \ (in:instr)^* \ 0x0B
                                                                                         \Rightarrow loop rt in^* end
                0x04 \ rt:blocktype \ (in:instr)^* \ 0x0B
                                                                                         \Rightarrow if rt in^* else \epsilon end
                0x04 rt:blocktype (in_1:instr)^* 0x05 (in_2:instr)^* 0x0B \Rightarrow if rt in_1^* else in_2^* end
                0x0C l:labelidx
                                                                                          \Rightarrow br l
                0x0D l:labelidx
                                                                                          \Rightarrow br if l
                OxOE l^*:vec(labelidx) l_N:labelidx
                                                                                          \Rightarrow br_table l^* l_N
                0x0F
                                                                                          \Rightarrow return
                0x10 x:funcidx
                                                                                              \operatorname{call} x
                0x11 x:typeidx
                                                                                          \Rightarrow call_indirect x
```

Note: The else opcode 0x05 in the encoding of an if instruction can be omitted if the following instruction sequence is empty.

5.4.2 Parametric Instructions

Parametric instructions are represented by single byte codes.

```
instr ::= ...

| 0x1A \Rightarrow drop

| 0x1B \Rightarrow select
```

5.4.3 Variable Instructions

Variable instructions are represented by byte codes followed by the encoding of the respective index.

5.4.4 Memory Instructions

Each variant of *memory instruction* is encoded with a different byte code. Loads and stores are followed by the encoding of their *memarg* immediate.

```
\Rightarrow {align a, offset o}
memarg ::= a:u32 \ o:u32
instr
              ::= ...
                     0x28 \ m:memarg \Rightarrow i32.load \ m
                     0x29 m:memarg \Rightarrow i64.load m
                     0x2A m:memarg \Rightarrow f32.load m
                      \texttt{0x2B} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \texttt{f64.load} \ m
                      0x2C m:memarg \Rightarrow i32.load8\_s m
                      \texttt{0x2D} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i32.load8\_u} \ m
                      \texttt{0x2E} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i32.load16\_s} \ m
                      \texttt{0x2F} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i32.load16\_u} \ m
                      \texttt{0x30} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i64.load8\_s} \ m
                      0x31 m:memarg \Rightarrow i64.load8_u m
                      \texttt{0x32} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i64.load16\_s} \ m
                      0x33 m:memarg \Rightarrow i64.load16_u m
                      0x34 \ m:memarg \Rightarrow i64.load32 \ s \ m
                      0x35 m:memarg \Rightarrow i64.load32\_u m
                      0x36 \ m:memarg \Rightarrow i32.store m
                      0x37 m:memarg \Rightarrow i64.store m
                      \texttt{0x38} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \texttt{f32.store} \ m
                      0x39 m:memarg \Rightarrow f64.store m
                      \texttt{0x3A} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i32.store8} \ m
                      \texttt{0x3B} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i32.store16} \ m
                      0x3C m:memarg \Rightarrow i64.store8 m
                      \texttt{0x3D} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i64.store16} \ m
                      \texttt{0x3E} \ m \texttt{:memarg} \ \Rightarrow \ \mathsf{i64.store32} \ m
                      0x3F 0x00 \Rightarrow current\_memory
                      0x40 0x00
                                                ⇒ grow_memory
```

Note: In future versions of WebAssembly, the additional zero bytes occurring in the encoding of the current_memory and grow_memory instructions may be used to index additional memories.

5.4.5 Numeric Instructions

All variants of *numeric instructions* are represented by separate byte codes.

The const instructions are followed by the respective literal.

All other numeric instructions are plain opcodes without any immediates.

```
instr ::=
                 0x45 \Rightarrow i32.eqz
                 0x46 \Rightarrow i32.eq
                 0x47 \Rightarrow i32.ne
                 0x48 \Rightarrow i32.lt s
                 0x49 \Rightarrow i32.lt_u
                 0x4A \Rightarrow i32.gt_s
                 0x4B \Rightarrow i32.gt_u
                 0x4C \Rightarrow i32.le_s
                 0x4D \Rightarrow i32.le_u
                 0x4E \Rightarrow i32.ge_s
                 0x4F \Rightarrow i32.ge\_u
                 0x50 \Rightarrow i64.eqz
                 0x51 \Rightarrow i64.eq
                 0x52 \Rightarrow i64.ne
                 0x53 \Rightarrow
                                i64.lt s
                 0x54 \Rightarrow i64.lt_u
                 0x55 \Rightarrow i64.gt_s
                 0x56 \Rightarrow i64.gt_u
                 0x57 \Rightarrow i64.le_s
                 0x58 \Rightarrow i64.le_u
                 0x59 \Rightarrow i64.ge_s
                 0x5A \Rightarrow
                               i64.ge_u
                 0x5B \Rightarrow f32.eq
                 0x5C \Rightarrow
                                f32.ne
                 0x5D \Rightarrow
                                f32.lt
                 0x5E \Rightarrow f32.gt
                 0x5F \Rightarrow f32.le
                 0x60 \Rightarrow
                               f32.ge
                 0x61 \Rightarrow
                                f64.eq
                 0x62 \Rightarrow f64.ne
                 0x63 \Rightarrow f64.lt
                 0x64 \Rightarrow f64.gt
                 0x65 \Rightarrow f64.le
                 0x66 \Rightarrow f64.ge
```

```
0x67
        \Rightarrow
              i32.clz
0x68 \Rightarrow
              i32.ctz
0x69 \Rightarrow i32.popcnt
0x6A \Rightarrow i32.add
0x6B \Rightarrow i32.sub
0x6C \Rightarrow i32.mul
0x6D \Rightarrow i32.div_s
0x6E \Rightarrow i32.div_u
0x6F \Rightarrow
              i32.rem_s
0x70 \Rightarrow i32.rem_u
0x71 \Rightarrow i32.and
0x72 \Rightarrow i32.or
0x73 \Rightarrow i32.xor
0x74 \Rightarrow i32.shl
0x75 \Rightarrow i32.shr_s
0x76 \Rightarrow
              i32.shr_u
0x77 \Rightarrow
              i32.rotl
0x78 \Rightarrow i32.rotr
0x79 \Rightarrow
              i64.clz
0x7A \Rightarrow
               i64.ctz
0x7B \Rightarrow i64.popcnt
0x7C \Rightarrow i64.add
0x7D \Rightarrow i64.sub
0x7E \Rightarrow i64.mul
0x7F \Rightarrow i64.div_s
0x80 \Rightarrow i64.div\_u
              i64.rem_s
0x81 \Rightarrow
              i64.rem_u
0x82 \Rightarrow
0x83 \Rightarrow i64.and
0x84 \Rightarrow i64.or
0x85 \Rightarrow i64.xor
0x86 \Rightarrow i64.shl
0x87 \Rightarrow i64.shr_s
\Rightarrow 88x0
              i64.shr_u
              i64.rotl
0x89 ⇒
0x8A \Rightarrow i64.rotr
0x8B \Rightarrow f32.abs
0x8C \Rightarrow f32.neg
0x8D \Rightarrow f32.ceil
0x8E \Rightarrow f32.floor
0x8F \Rightarrow f32.trunc
0x90 \Rightarrow f32.nearest
0x91 \Rightarrow f32.sqrt
0x92 \Rightarrow f32.add
0x93 \Rightarrow f32.sub
0x94 \Rightarrow f32.mul
0x95 \Rightarrow f32.div
0x96 \Rightarrow f32.min
0x97 \Rightarrow f32.max
0x98 \Rightarrow f32.copysign
```

```
0x99 \Rightarrow f64.abs
0x9A
              f64.neg
0x9B \Rightarrow
              f64.ceil
0x9C \Rightarrow f64.floor
0x9D \Rightarrow f64.trunc
0x9E \Rightarrow f64.nearest
0x9F \Rightarrow f64.sqrt
0xA0 \Rightarrow f64.add
0xA1 \Rightarrow f64.sub
0xA2 \Rightarrow f64.mul
0xA3 \Rightarrow f64.div
0xA4 \Rightarrow f64.min
0xA5 \Rightarrow f64.max
0xA6 \Rightarrow f64.copysign
0xA7 \Rightarrow i32.wrap/i64
0xA8 \Rightarrow i32.trunc_s/f32
0xA9 \Rightarrow i32.trunc_u/f32
0xAA \Rightarrow i32.trunc s/f64
0xAB \Rightarrow i32.trunc_u/f64
0xAC \Rightarrow i64.extend_s/i32
0xAD \Rightarrow i64.extend_u/i32
0xAE \Rightarrow i64.trunc s/f32
0xAF \Rightarrow i64.trunc_u/f32
0xB0 \Rightarrow i64.trunc_s/f64
0xB1 \Rightarrow i64.trunc_u/f64
0xB2 \Rightarrow f32.convert s/i32
0xB3 \Rightarrow f32.convert_u/i32
0xB4 \Rightarrow f32.convert_s/i64
0xB5 \Rightarrow f32.convert_u/i64
0xB6 \Rightarrow f32.demote/f64
0xB7 \Rightarrow f64.convert_s/i32
0xB8 \Rightarrow f64.convert_u/i32
0xB9 \Rightarrow f64.convert_s/i64
0xBA \Rightarrow f64.convert_u/i64
0xBB \Rightarrow f64.promote/f32
0xBC \Rightarrow i32.reinterpret/f32
0xBD \Rightarrow i64.reinterpret/f64
0xBE \Rightarrow f32.reinterpret/i32
0xBF \Rightarrow f64.reinterpret/i64
```

5.4.6 Expressions

Expressions are encoded by their instruction sequence terminated with an explicit 0x0B opcode for end.

```
expr ::= (in:instr)^* \circ 0x\circ B \Rightarrow in^* \circ nd
```

5.5 Modules

The binary encoding of modules is organized into *sections*. Most sections correspond to one component of a *module* record, except that *function definitions* are split into two sections, separating their type declarations in the *function section* from their bodies in the *code section*.

Note: This separation enables parallel and streaming compilation of the functions in a module.

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5.5.1 Indices

All *indices* are encoded with their respective u32 value.

5.5.2 Sections

Each section consists of

- a one-byte section id,
- the u32 size of the contents in bytes,
- the actual *contents*, whose structure is depended on the section id.

Every section is optional; an omitted section is equivalent to the section being present with empty contents.

The following parameterized grammar rule defines the generic structure of a section with id N and contents described by the grammar B.

For most sections, the contents B encodes a *vector*. In these cases, the empty result ϵ is interpreted as the empty vector.

Note: Other than for unknown *custom sections*, the *size* is not required for decoding, but can be used to skip sections when navigating through a binary. The module is malformed if the size does not match the length of the binary contents B.

5.5.3 Custom Section

Custom sections have the id 0. They are intended to be used for debugging information or third-party extensions, and are ignored by the WebAssembly semantics. Their contents consist of a *name* further identifying the custom section, followed by an uninterpreted sequence of bytes for custom use.

```
\begin{array}{lll} \text{customsec} & ::= & \text{section}_0(\text{custom}) \\ \text{custom} & ::= & \text{name byte}^* \end{array}
```

Note: If an implementation interprets the contents of a custom section, then errors in that contents, or the placement of the section, must not invalidate the module.

5.5.4 Type Section

The *type section* has the id 1. It decodes into a vector of *function types* that represent the types component of a *module*.

```
typesec ::= ft^*:section<sub>1</sub>(vec(functype)) \Rightarrow ft^*
```

5.5.5 Import Section

The *import section* has the id 2. It decodes into a vector of *imports* that represent the imports component of a *module*.

5.5.6 Function Section

The function section has the id 3. It decodes into a vector of type indices that represent the type fields of the functions in the funcs component of a module. The locals and body fields of the respective functions are encoded separately in the code section.

```
funcsec ::= x^*:section<sub>3</sub>(vec(typeidx)) \Rightarrow x^*
```

5.5.7 Table Section

The table section has the id 4. It decodes into a vector of tables that represent the tables component of a module.

```
tablesec ::= tab^*:section<sub>4</sub>(vec(table)) \Rightarrow tab^*
table ::= tt:tabletype \Rightarrow {type tt}
```

5.5.8 Memory Section

The *memory section* has the id 5. It decodes into a vector of *memories* that represent the mems component of a *module*.

5.5.9 Global Section

The *global section* has the id 6. It decodes into a vector of *globals* that represent the globals component of a *module*.

```
globalsec ::= glob^*:section<sub>6</sub>(vec(global)) \Rightarrow glob^*
global ::= gt:globaltype e:expr \Rightarrow {type gt, init e}
```

5.5. Modules 63

5.5.10 Export Section

The *export section* has the id 7. It decodes into a vector of *exports* that represent the exports component of a *module*.

5.5.11 Start Section

The *start section* has the id 8. It decodes into an optional *start function* that represents the start component of a *module*.

```
startsec ::= st^?:section_8(start) \Rightarrow st^?

start ::= x:funcidx \Rightarrow \{func x\}
```

5.5.12 Element Section

The *element section* has the id 9. It decodes into a vector of *element segments* that represent the elem component of a *module*.

```
elemsec ::= seg^*:section<sub>9</sub>(vec(elem)) \Rightarrow seg
elem ::= x:tableidx e:expr y^*:vec(funcidx) \Rightarrow {table x, offset e, init y^*}
```

5.5.13 Code Section

The *code section* has the id 10. It decodes into a vector of *code* entries that are pairs of *value type* vectors and *expressions*. They represent the locals and body field of the *functions* in the funcs component of a *module*. The type fields of the respective functions are encoded separately in the *function section*.

The encoding of each code entry consists of

- the u32 size of the function code in bytes,
- the actual function code, which in turn consists of
 - the declaration of *locals*,
 - the function body as an expression.

Local declarations are compressed into a vector whose entries consist of

- a *u32* count,
- a value type,

denoting count locals of the same value type.

Here, code ranges over pairs $(valtype^*, expr)$. The meta function $concat((t^*)^*)$ denotes the sequence of types formed by concatenating all sequences t_i^* in $(t^*)^*$. Any code for which the length of the resulting sequence is out of bounds of the maximum size of a *vector* is malformed.

Note: The *size* is not needed for decoding, but like with *sections*, can be used to skip functions when navigating through a binary. The module is malformed if a size does not match the length of the respective function code.

5.5.14 Data Section

The *data section* has the id 11. It decodes into a vector of *data segments* that represent the data component of a *module*.

```
datasec ::= seg^*:section<sub>11</sub>(vec(data)) \Rightarrow seg
data ::= x:memidx e:expr b^*:vec(byte) \Rightarrow {mem x, offset e, init b^*}
```

5.5.15 Modules

The encoding of a *module* starts with a preamble containing a 4-byte magic number and a version field. The current version of the WebAssembly binary format is 1.

The preamble is followed by a sequence of *sections*. *Custom sections* may be inserted at any place in this sequence, while other sections must occur at most once and in the prescribed order. All sections can be empty. The lengths

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of vectors produced by the (possibly empty) function and code section must match up.

```
::= 0x00 0x61 0x73 0x6D
version ::= 0x01 0x00 0x00 0x00
module ::= magic
                version
                customsec*
                functype*:typesec
                customsec*
                import*: importsec
                customsec*
                 typeidx^n: funcsec
                customsec*
                 table^*:tablesec
                customsec*
                mem^*: \mathtt{memsec}
                customsec*
                global^*:globalsec
                customsec*
                 export*:exportsec
                customsec*
                start?:startsec
                customsec*
                elem^*:elemsec
                customsec*
                code^n: codesec
                customsec*
                 data^*: datasec
                 customsec*
                                     { types functype*,
                                       funcs func^n,
                                       tables table^*,
                                       mems mem^*,
                                       globals global^*,
                                       elem elem^*,
                                       data data^*
                                       start start?,
                                       imports import^*,
                                       exports export* }
                (where for each t_i^*, e_i in code^n,
                 func^n[i] = \{ \text{type } typeidx^n[i], \text{locals } t_i^*, \text{body } e_i \} \}
```

Note: The version of the WebAssembly binary format may increase in the future if backward-incompatible changes are made to the format. However, such changes are expected to occur very infrequently, if ever. The binary format is intended to be forward-compatible, such that future extensions can be made without incrementing its version.

CHAPTER 6	
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	Appendix: Formal Properties
Todo Describe and sketch proof (progress, preservation,	uniquanacs)

	Appendix: Validation Algorithm
Todo	
Describe algorithm, state correctness properties (soundness, completeness)

CHAPTER 8

	Appendix: Text Format
Todo Describe	

			_	
СН	ΔΕ)TF	æ	U

	Appendix: Name Section
Todo	
Describe	

Index of Instructions

Instruction	Opcode	Туре	Validation	Execution
unreachable	0x00	$[t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$	validation	
nop	0x01	$\boxed{[] \rightarrow []}$	validation	
block [t?]	0x02	$\boxed{[] \rightarrow [t^*]}$	validation	
loop [t [?]]	0x03	$\boxed{[] \rightarrow [t^*]}$	validation	
if $[t^?]$	0x04	$[] \rightarrow [t^*]$	validation	
else	0x05			
(reserved)	0x06			
(reserved)	0x07			
(reserved)	0x08			
(reserved)	0x09			
(reserved)	OxOA			
end	0x0B			
br <i>l</i>	0x0C	$[t_1^* \ t^?] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$	validation	
br_if <i>l</i>	0x0D	$[t^? i32] \rightarrow [t^?]$	validation	
br_table l^* l	0x0E	$[t_1^* \ t^? \ i32] \to [t_2^*]$	validation	
return	0x0F		validation	
call x	0x10	$[t_1^*] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$	validation	
call_indirect x	0x11	$[t_1^* \text{ i32}] \rightarrow [t_2^*]$	validation	
(reserved)	0x12			
(reserved)	0x13			
(reserved)	0x14			
(reserved)	0x15			
(reserved)	0x16			
(reserved)	0x17			
(reserved)	0x18			
(reserved)	0x19			
drop	0x1A	$[t] \rightarrow []$	validation	
select	0x1B	$[t \ t \ i32] \rightarrow [t]$	validation	
(reserved)	0x1C			
(reserved)	0x1D			
(reserved)	0x1E			
(reserved)	0x1F			
$\operatorname{get_local} x$	0x20	$[] \rightarrow [t]$	validation	
set_local x	0x21	$[t] \rightarrow []$	validation	
tee_local x	0x22	$[t] \rightarrow [t]$	validation	
$\operatorname{get} olimits_{\operatorname{global}} x$	0x23	$[] \rightarrow [t]$	validation	
$set_global\ x$	0x24	$[t] \rightarrow []$	validation	
(reserved)	0x25			
(reserved)	0x26			
(reserved)	0x27			
			Continued or	n next page

Table 10.1 – continued from previous page

Instruction	Opcode	Type	Validation	Execution
i32.load memarg	0x28	[i32] → [i32]	validation	LXCCUIOTI
i64.load memarg	0x28 0x29	$ \begin{array}{c} [i32] \rightarrow [i32] \\ [i32] \rightarrow [i64] \end{array} $	validation	
f32.load memarg	0x2A	[i32] → [f32]	validation	
f64.load memarg	0x2B	[i32] → [f64]	validation	
i32.load8_s memarg	0x2C	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.load8_u memarg	0x2D	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.load16_s memarg	0x2E	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.load16_u memarg	0x2F	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i64.load8_s memarg	0x30	[i32] → [i64]	validation	
i64.load8_u memarg	0x31	[i32] → [i64]	validation	
i64.load16_s memarg	0x32	[i32] → [i64]	validation	
i64.load16_u memarg	0x33	[i32] → [i64]	validation	
i64.load32_s memarg	0x34	[i32] → [i64]	validation	
i64.load32_u memarg	0x35	[i32] → [i64]	validation	
i32.store memarg	0x36	[i32 i32] → []	validation	
i64.store memarg	0x37	[i32 i64] → []	validation	
f32.store memarg	0x38	$\begin{bmatrix} i32 & f32 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \\ \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
f64.store memarg	0x39	$\begin{bmatrix} i32 \ f64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i32.store8 memarg	0x3A	$\begin{bmatrix} i32 \ i32 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i32.store16 memarg	0x3A 0x3B	$\begin{bmatrix} i32 & i32 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \\ \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.store8 memarg	0x3C	$\begin{bmatrix} 132 & 132 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \\ 132 & 164 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \\ \\ \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.store16 memarg	0x3C 0x3D	$\begin{bmatrix} i32 & i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \\ \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.store32 memarg		$\begin{bmatrix} 132 & 104 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \\ 132 & 164 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \\ \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
Ü	0x3E	1 1		
current_memory	0x3F	$[] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
grow_memory	0x40	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.const <i>i32</i>	0x41	[] → [i32]	validation	
i64.const <i>i</i> 64	0x42	[] → [i64]	validation	
f32.const <i>f 32</i>	0x43	[] → [f32]	validation	
f64.const f 64	0x44	[] → [f64]	validation	
i32.eqz	0x45	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.eq	0x46	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.ne	0x47	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.lt_s	0x48	$[i32 i32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
i32.lt_u	0x49	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.gt_s	0x4A	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.gt_u	0x4B	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.le_ s	0x4C	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.le_u	0x4D	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.ge_s	0x4E	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.ge_u	0x4F	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i64.eqz	0x50	[i64] → [i32]	validation	
i64.eq	0x51	[i64 i64] → [i32]	validation	
i64.ne	0x52	$\begin{bmatrix} i64 \; i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i32 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.lt_s	0x53	$\begin{bmatrix} i64 \; i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i32 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.lt_u	0x54	$\begin{bmatrix} i64 \; i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i32 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.gt_s	0x55	$\begin{bmatrix} i64 \; i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i32 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.gt_u	0x56	$\begin{bmatrix} i64 \; i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i32 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.le_s	0x57	$\begin{bmatrix} i64 & i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i32 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.le_u		$\begin{bmatrix} 104 & 104 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 132 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 164 & 164 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 132 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
	0x58			
i64.ge_s	0x59	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
i64.ge_u	0x5A	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f32.eq	0x5B	$[f32 f32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f32.ne	0x5C	[f32 f32] → [i32]	validation	
			Continued or	n next page

Table 10.1 – continued from previous page

Instruction	Opcode	Itinued from previo	Validation	Execution
f32.lt	0x5D	$[f32 f32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	Execution
		$[f32 f32] \rightarrow [i32]$ $[f32 f32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f32.gt f32.le	0x5E			
	0x5F	$[f32 f32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f32.ge	0x60	$[f32 f32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f64.eq	0x61	$[f64 f64] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f64.ne	0x62	$[f64\ f64] \to [i32]$	validation	
f64.lt	0x63	$[f64\ f64] \to [i32]$	validation	
f64.gt	0x64	$[f64 f64] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f64.le	0x65	$[f64 f64] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
f64.ge	0x66	$[f64 f64] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
i32.clz	0x67	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.ctz	0x68	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.popcnt	0x69	[i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.add	0x6A	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.sub	0x6B	$[i32 i32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
i32.mul	0x6C	$[i32 i32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
i32.div_s	0x6D	$[i32 i32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
i32.div_u	0x6E	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.rem_s	0x6F	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.rem_u	0x70	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.and	0x71	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.or	0x72	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.xor	0x73	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.shl	0x74	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.shr_s	0x75	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.shr_u	0x76	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.rotl	0x77	[i32 i32] → [i32]	validation	
i32.rotr	0x78	$[i32 i32] \rightarrow [i32]$	validation	
i64.clz	0x79	$[i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.ctz	0x7A	$[i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.popcnt	0x7B	$[i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.add	0x7C	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.sub	0x7D	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.mul	0x7E	$\begin{bmatrix} i64 & i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i64 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
i64.div_s	0x7E 0x7F	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.div_u		$\begin{bmatrix} i64 & i64 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} i64 \end{bmatrix}$	validation	
	0x80			
i64.rem_s	0x81	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$ $[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.rem_u	0x82		validation	
i64.and	0x83	$[i64 \ i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.or	0x84	$[i64\;i64] \to [i64]$	validation	
i64.xor	0x85	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.shl	0x86	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.shr_s	0x87	$[i64 i64] \rightarrow [i64]$	validation	
i64.shr_u	0x88	[i64 i64] → [i64]	validation	
i64.rotl	0x89	[i64 i64] → [i64]	validation	
i64.rotr	0x8A	[i64 i64] → [i64]	validation	
f32.abs	0x8B	$[f32] \rightarrow [f32]$	validation	
f32.neg	0x8C	$[f32] \rightarrow [f32]$	validation	
f32.ceil	0x8D	[f32] → [f32]	validation	
f32.floor	0x8E	$[f32] \rightarrow [f32]$	validation	
f32.trunc	0x8F	[f32] → [f32]	validation	
f32.nearest	0x90	[f32] → [f32]	validation	
f32.sqrt	0x91	[f32] → [f32]	validation	
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Table 10.1 – continued from previous page

$ \begin{array}{ c c c c } \hline \text{Instruction} & Opcode & Type & Validation & Execu\\ \hline f32.add & 0x92 & [f32 f32] \rightarrow [f32] & validation\\ \hline f32.sub & 0x93 & [f32 f32] \rightarrow [f32] & validation\\ \hline f32.mul & 0x94 & [f32 f32] \rightarrow [f32] & validation\\ \hline f32.div & 0x95 & [f32 f32] \rightarrow [f32] & validation\\ \hline f32.min & 0x96 & [f32 f32] \rightarrow [f32] & validation\\ \hline f32.max & 0x97 & [f32 f32] \rightarrow [f32] & validation\\ \hline f32.copysign & 0x98 & [f32 f32] \rightarrow [f32] & validation\\ \hline f64.abs & 0x99 & [f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.neg & 0x9A & [f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.floor & 0x9C & [f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.trunc & 0x9D & [f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.sqrt & 0x9F & [f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.add & 0xAO & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.sub & 0xA1 & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.mul & 0xA2 & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.min & 0xA2 & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.max & 0xA6 & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.max & 0xA6 & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.max & 0xA6 & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline f64.max & 0xA6 & [f64 f64] \rightarrow [f64] & validation\\ \hline i32.trunc_s/f32 & 0xA8 & [f32] \rightarrow [i32] & validation\\ \hline i32.trunc_s/f64 & 0xA8 & [f64] \rightarrow [i32] & validation\\ \hline i32.trunc_s/f64 & 0xAR & [f64] \rightarrow [i32] & validation\\ \hline i32.trunc_s/f64 & 0xAR & [f64] \rightarrow [i32] & validation\\ \hline i32.trunc_s/f64 & 0xAR & [f64] \rightarrow [i32] & validation\\ \hline i64.extend_s/i32 & 0xAC & [i32] \rightarrow [i64] & validation\\ \hline i64.extend_s/i32 & 0xAD & [i32] \rightarrow [i64] & validation\\ \hline i64.extend_s/i32 & 0xAD & [i32] \rightarrow [i64] & validation\\ \hline i64.extend_s/i32 & 0xAD & [i64] & validation\\ \hline \hline \end{tabular}$	
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i64.extend_u/i32	
_ /	
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f32.convert_u/i64	
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f64.convert_u/i32 0xB8 [i32] \rightarrow [f64] validation	
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f64.promote/f32	
i32.reinterpret/f32 $0xBC$ $[f32] \rightarrow [i32]$ $validation$	
i64.reinterpret/f64 0xBD $[f64] \rightarrow [i64]$ validation	
f32.reinterpret/i32 $0xBE$ $[i32] \rightarrow [f32]$ $validation$	
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