Formal Specification of the Plutus Core Language v1.0 (RC5)

I. PLUTUS CORE

Plutus Core is the target for compilation of Plutus TX, the smart contract language to validate transactions on Cardano. Plutus Core is designed to be simple and easy to reason about using proof assistants and automated theorem provers.

Plutus Core has a strong formal basis. For those familiar with programming language theory, it can be described in one line: System F^{ω} , with equirecursive types, recursive functions, and suitable primitive types and values. There are no constructs for data types, which are represented using Scott encodings—we do not use Church encodings since they may require linear rather than constant time to access the components of a data structure. Primitive types, such as Integer and Bytestring, are indexed by their size, which allows the cost (in gas) of operations such as addition to be determined at compile time. In contrast, IELE uses unbounded integers, which never overflow, but require that the gas used is calculated at run time. We use F^{ω} (as opposed to F) because it supports types indexed by size and parameterised types (such as "List of A").

II. SYNTAX

The lexical syntax of Plutus Core is described in Figure 1. Lexemes are described in standard regular expression notation. The only other lexemes are round (), square [], and curly {} brackets. Spaces and tabs are allowed anywhere, and have no effect save to separate lexemes.

The syntax of Plutus Core is described in Figure 2. Most constructs resemble Lisp, with round brackets and a keyword. Variables appear on their own.

Aapplication in both terms and types is indicated by square brackets, and instantiation in terms is indicated by curly brackets. We permit the

use of multi-argument application and instantiation as syntactic sugar for iterated application. For instance.

$$[M_0 \ M_1 \ M_2 \ M_3]$$

is sugar for

$$[[[M_0 \ M_1] \ M_2] \ M_3]$$

All subsequent definitions assume iterated application and instantiation has been expanded out, and use only the binary form.

III. TYPE CORRECTNESS

We define for Plutus Core a number of typing judgments which explain ways that a program can be well-formed. First, in Figure 3, we define the grammar of variable contexts that these judgments hold under. Variable contexts contain information about the nature of variables — type variables with their kind, and term variables with their type.

Then, in Figure 4, we define what it means for a type synthesize a kind. Plutus Core is a higher-kinded version of System F, so we have a number of standard System F rules together with some obvious extensions. In Figure 5, we define the type synthesis judgment, which explains how a term synthesizes a type.

Finally, type synthesis for constants ((con bn)) and (con bt)) is given in tabular form rather than in inference rule form, in Figure 13, which also gives the reduction semantics. This table also specifies what conditions trigger an error.

IV. REDUCTION AND EXECUTION

In figure 9, we define a standard eager, small-step contextual semantics for Plutus Core in terms of the reduction relation for types $(A \rightarrow_{ty} A')$ and terms $(M \rightarrow M')$, which incorporates both β

```
[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9_']*
Name
                                                                         name
Var
                                                                 term variable
TyVar
                                                                 type variable
                      ::=
BuiltinName
                                                             builtin term name
                 bn
                      ::=
                                                             builtin type name
TyBuiltinName
                 bt
                      ::=
                           [+-]^{?}[0-9]^{+}
Integer
                  i
                     ::=
                                                                       integer
ByteString
                            \#([a-fA-F0-9][a-fA-F0-9])^+
                  b
                                                                    hex string
                     ::=
                           [0-9]^{+}
Size
                      ::=
                                                                          size
                            [0-9]^+(.[0-9]^+)^*
Version
                  v
                      ::=
                                                                       version
Constant
                 bi
                           s!i
                     ::=
                                                               integer constant
                            s!b
                                                            bytestring constant
                                                                 size constant
                            s
                           bn
                                                                  builtin name
```

Fig. 1. Lexical Grammar of Plutus Core

reduction and contextual congruence. We make use of the transitive closure of these stepping relations via the usual Kleene star notation.

In the context of a blockchain system, it can be useful to also have a step indexed version of stepping, indicated by a superscript count of steps $(M \to^n M')$. In order to prevent transaction validation from looping indefinitely, or from simply taking an inordinate amount of time, which would be a serious security flaw in the blockchain system, we can use step indexing to put an upper bound on the number of computational steps that a program can have. In this setting, we would pick some upper bound max and then perform steps of terms M by computing which M' is such that $M \to^{max} M'$.

Term	L,M,N		x (fix $x S M$) (run M) (abs $\alpha K V$) $\{M S\}$ (wrap $\alpha S M$) (unwrap M) (lam $x S M$) $[M N]$ (con bi)	variable fixed point value fixed point run type abstraction type instantiation fix type's wrap fix type's unwrap λ abstraction function application builtin
Value	V	::=	(error S) (fix $x S M$) (abs $\alpha K V$) (wrap $\alpha S V$) (lam $x S M$) (con bi)	error fixed point value type abstraction fix type's wrap λ abstraction builtin
Туре	A,B,C	::=	$lpha$ $(\text{rec }A)$ $(\text{fun }A\ B)$ $(\text{all }lpha\ K\ A)$ $(\text{fix }lpha\ A)$ $(\text{lam }lpha\ K\ A)$ (αB)	type variable general recursion type function type polymorphic type fixed point type λ abstraction function application builtin type
Type Value	R, S, T	::=	$(\operatorname{rec} S)$ $(\operatorname{fun} S T)$ $(\operatorname{all} \alpha K S)$ $(\operatorname{fix} \alpha S)$ $(\operatorname{lam} \alpha K S)$ $(\operatorname{con} bt)$	general recursion type function type polymorphic type fixed point type λ abstraction builtin type neutral type
Neutral Type	W		α	type variable
Kind	J, K	::=	$[W \ S]$ (type) (fun $J \ K$) (size)	function application type kind arrow kind size kind
Program	P	::=	$(version \ v \ M)$	versioned program

Fig. 2. Grammar of Plutus Core

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathsf{Ctx} & \Gamma & ::= & \epsilon & & \mathsf{empty} \ \mathsf{context} \\ & \Gamma, \alpha :: K & & \mathsf{type} \ \mathsf{variable} \\ & \Gamma, x : A & & \mathsf{term} \ \mathsf{variable} \end{array}$$

 $\Gamma\ni J$

Context Γ contains judgment J

 Γ valid

Context Γ is valid

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \hline \epsilon & \text{valid} \\ \hline \Gamma & \text{valid} & \alpha \text{ is free in } \Gamma \\ \hline \Gamma, \alpha :: K \\ \hline \Gamma & \text{valid} & x \text{ is free in } \Gamma & \Gamma \vdash A :: \text{(type)} \\ \hline \Gamma, x : A \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Fig. 3. Contexts

$$\Gamma \vdash A :: K$$

In context Γ , type A has kind K

$$\frac{\Gamma \ni \alpha :: K}{\Gamma \vdash \alpha :: K} \text{ tyvar}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A :: (\text{type})}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{rec } A) :: (\text{type})} \text{ tyrec}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha :: K \vdash A :: (\text{type})}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{all } \alpha \ K \ A) :: (\text{type})} \text{ tyall}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha :: (\text{type}) \vdash A :: K}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{fix } \alpha \ A) :: (\text{type})} \text{ tyfix}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash B :: (\text{type})}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{fun } B \ A) :: (\text{type})} \text{ tyfun}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash B :: (\text{type})}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{fun } B \ A) :: (\text{type})} \text{ tyfun}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha :: J \vdash A :: K}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{lam } \alpha \ J \ A) :: (\text{fun } J \ K)} \text{ tylam}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A :: (\text{fun } J \ K)}{\Gamma \vdash [A \ B] :: K} \text{ tyapp}$$

$$\frac{bt \text{ has kind } K \text{ in Fig. 13}}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{con } bt) :: K} \text{ tybuiltin}$$

Fig. 4. Kind Synthesis

 $\Gamma \vdash M : S$

In context Γ , term M has normal type S

$$\frac{\Gamma\ni x:S}{\Gamma\vdash x:S} \text{ var}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma,x:(\operatorname{rec}S)\vdash M:S}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{flix}xSM):(\operatorname{rec}S)} \text{ fix}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma\vdash M:(\operatorname{rec}S)}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{run}M):S} \text{ run}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma,\alpha::K\vdash M:S}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{alb}s\alpha KM):(\operatorname{all}\alpha KS)} \text{ abs}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma\vdash L:(\operatorname{all}\alpha KS)}{\Gamma\vdash L:(\operatorname{all}\alpha KS)} \frac{\Gamma\vdash T::K}{\Gamma\vdash LT} \frac{[T/\alpha]S\to_{ty}^*R}{\Gamma\vdash LT} \text{ inst}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma,\alpha::(\operatorname{type})\vdash S::(\operatorname{type})}{[(\operatorname{flix}\alpha S)/\alpha]S\to_{ty}^*R} \frac{R}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{wrap}\alpha SM):(\operatorname{flix}\alpha S)} \text{ wrap}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma\vdash M:R}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{wrap}\alpha SM):(\operatorname{flix}\alpha S)} \text{ wrap}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma\vdash M:R}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{unwrap}M):R} \frac{\Gamma\vdash M:S}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{lam}yTM):(\operatorname{flin}TS)} \text{ lam}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma\vdash L:(\operatorname{flin}TS)}{\Gamma\vdash(LM]:S} \frac{\Gamma\vdash M:T}{\Gamma\vdash(LM]:S} \text{ app}$$

$$\frac{bi \text{ has type } S \text{ in Fig. } 13}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{con}bi):S} \text{ builtin}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma\vdash S::(\operatorname{type})}{\Gamma\vdash(\operatorname{error}S):S} \text{ error}$$

Fig. 5. Type Synthesis

Fig. 6. Grammar of Type Reduction Frames

$$A \rightarrow_{ty} A'$$

Type A reduces in one step to type A'

Fig. 7. Type Reduction via Contextual Dynamics

Fig. 8. Grammar of Reduction Frames

$$M \rightarrow M'$$

Term M reduces in one step to term M'

$$(\operatorname{run}\ (\operatorname{fix}\ x\ S\ M)) \to [(\operatorname{fix}\ x\ A\ M)/x]M$$

$$\overline{\{(\operatorname{abs}\ \alpha\ K\ M)\ S\}} \to [S/\alpha]M$$

$$\overline{(\operatorname{unwrap}\ (\operatorname{wrap}\ \alpha\ A\ V))} \to V$$

$$\overline{[(\operatorname{lam}\ x\ A\ M)\ V]} \to [V/x]M$$

$$M \text{ is a fully saturated constant}$$

$$\underline{M \text{ computes to } V \text{ according to Fig } 13}$$

$$M \to V$$

$$\underline{M \to M'} \quad M' = (\operatorname{error}\ B) \quad (A \text{ is the type of the frame, } B \text{ is the type of its hole})}$$

$$\underline{M \to M'} \quad M' \neq (\operatorname{error}\ B)$$

$$\underline{M \to M'} \quad M' \neq (\operatorname{error}\ B)$$

$$\underline{f\{M\}} \to f\{M'\}}$$

Fig. 9. Reduction via Contextual Dynamics

Fig. 10. Grammar of CK Machine States

```
\sigma \mapsto \sigma'
```

Machine state σ transitions in one step to machine state σ'

```
s \triangleright (\text{fix } x \land M) \mapsto s \triangleleft (\text{fix } x \land M)
s \triangleright (\operatorname{run} M) \mapsto s, (\operatorname{run} \_) \triangleright M
s \triangleright (abs \alpha K M) \mapsto s \triangleleft (abs \alpha K M)
s \triangleright \{M \mid A\} \mapsto s, \{\_A\} \triangleright M
s \triangleright (\text{wrap } \alpha \ A \ M) \mapsto s, (\text{wrap } \alpha \ A \ \_) \triangleright M
s \triangleright (unwrap M) \mapsto s, (unwrap \_) \triangleright M
s \triangleright (\operatorname{lam} x A M) \mapsto s \triangleleft (\operatorname{lam} x A M)
s \triangleright [M \ N] \mapsto s, [\_ N] \triangleright M
s \triangleright (\operatorname{error} A) \mapsto s \triangleleft (\operatorname{error} A)
s \triangleright M \mapsto s \triangleleft V if M is a fully saturated constant and computes to V in Fig 13
s \triangleright M \mapsto s \triangleleft M if M is a partially saturated constant
s, (run _) \triangleleft (fix x S M) \mapsto s \triangleright [(fix <math>x S M)/x]M
s, \{ A \} \triangleleft (abs \alpha K M) \mapsto s \triangleright M
s, (wrap \alpha A _) \triangleleft V \mapsto s \triangleleft (wrap \alpha A V)
s, (unwrap _) \triangleleft (wrap \alpha \ A \ V) \mapsto \ s \triangleleft V
s, [\_N] \triangleleft V \mapsto s, [V\_] \triangleright N
s, [ (lam x \ A \ M) _] \lhd V \ \mapsto \ s \triangleright [V/x]M
s, f \triangleleft (\texttt{error } A) \mapsto s \triangleleft (\texttt{error } A)
```

Fig. 11. CK Machine

```
Expanded
Abbreviation
\forall \alpha :: K.\ B
                                  (all \alpha \mathrel{K} B)
\forall \alpha, \beta, \ldots :: K, \ldots C \quad \forall \alpha :: K. \forall \beta :: K. \ldots C
A \to B
                                  (fun A B)
err(A)
                                  (\mathtt{error}\ A)
integer_s
                                 [\; ({\rm con\; integer}) \; s]
by testring_s\\
                                 [(con bytestring) s]
size_s
                                 [\,({\tt con\;size})\;s]
                                  (type)
                                  (size)
size
                                 \forall \alpha :: \star. \ \alpha \to \alpha
unit
                                  (abs \alpha (type) (lam x \alpha x))
unit val
boolean
                                 \forall \alpha :: \star. \; (unit \to \alpha) \to (unit \to \alpha) \to \alpha
                                  (abs lpha (type) (lam t (unit 	o lpha) (lam f (unit 	o lpha) [t unit val])))
true
                                  (abs lpha (type) (lam t (unit 
ightarrow lpha) (lam f (unit 
ightarrow lpha) [f unit val])))
false
```

Fig. 12. Type Abbreviations

```
\bigcup_{0 < s' < s} \{0, 1\}^{8s'}
                                                                                 bytestring
                                                                                                               (fun (size) (type))
                                                                                  size
                                                                                                              (fun (size) (type))
                                                                                                                                                                      [0, \overline{maxsize}]
Builtin Name
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Success Conditions
                                            Type
                                                                                                                                                     Arguments
                                                                                                                                                                          Semantics
s!i
                                                                                                                                                                          s!i
                                            integer_s
s!b
                                            bytestring_s
                                                                                                                                                                          s!b
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       -2^{8s-1} \le i_0 + i_1 < 2^{8s-1}
addInteger
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow integer_s
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                          s!(i_0 + i_1)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       -2^{8s-1} \le i_0 - i_1 < 2^{8s-1}
                                                                                                                                                                          s!(i_0 - i_1)
subtractInteger
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow integer_s
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       -2^{8s-1} \le i_0 * i_1 < 2^{8s-1}
multiply Integer
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow integer_s
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                          s!(i_0 * i_1)
divideInteger
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow integer_s
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                          s!(\operatorname{div}\ i_0\ i_1)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       i_1 \neq 0
                                                                                                                                                                          s! \pmod{i_0 \ i_1}
remainder Integer
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow integer_s
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       i_1 \neq 0
less Than Integer \\
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow bool
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                          i_0 < i_1
lessThanEqualsInteger
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow bool
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                         i_0 <= i_1
greaterThanInteger
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow bool
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                         i_0 > i_1
qreaterThanEqualsInteger
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow bool
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                          i_0 >= i_1
equals Integer
                                            \forall s :: size. integer_s \rightarrow integer_s \rightarrow bool
                                                                                                                                                     s!i_0, s!i_1
                                                                                                                                                                          i_0 == i_1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       \begin{array}{l} -2^{8s_1-1} \leq i < 2^{8s_1-1} \\ -2^{8s_1-1} \leq i < 2^{8s_1-1} \end{array}
resizeInteger
                                            \forall s_0, s_1 :: size. \ size_{s_1} \rightarrow integer_{s_0} \rightarrow integer_{s_1}
                                                                                                                                                     z, s_1!i
                                                                                                                                                                          s_1!i
intToByteString
                                            \forall s_0, s_1 :: size. \ size_{s_1} \rightarrow integer_{s_0} \rightarrow bytestring_{s_1}
                                                                                                                                                                          the binary representation of i
                                                                                                                                                     z, s_1!i
                                                                                                                                                                            0 padded to a big-endian
                                                                                                                                                                             s_1-byte bytestring
                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |b_0 \cdot b_1| \le s
concatenate
                                            \forall s :: size. \ by testring_s \rightarrow by testring_s \rightarrow by testring_s
                                                                                                                                                     s!b_0, s!b_1
                                                                                                                                                                          s!(b_0 \cdot b_1)
takeByteString
                                            \forall s_0, s_1 :: size. \ integer_{s_0} \rightarrow bytestring_{s_1} \rightarrow bytestring_{s_1}
                                                                                                                                                     s_0!i, s_1!b
                                                                                                                                                                          s_1!(take\ i\ b)
                                            \forall s_0, s_1 :: size. integer_{s_0} \rightarrow bytestring_{s_1} \rightarrow bytestring_{s_1}
                                                                                                                                                                          s_1!(drop \ i \ b)
dropByteString
                                                                                                                                                     s_01i, s_1!b
sha2\_256
                                            \forall s :: size. \ bytestring_s \rightarrow bytestring_{256}
                                                                                                                                                     s!b
                                                                                                                                                                          256!(sha2\_256\ b)
sha3_256
                                            \forall s :: size. \ bytestring_s \rightarrow bytestring_{256}
                                                                                                                                                     s!b
                                                                                                                                                                          256!(sha3_256 b)
verifySignature
                                            \forall s_0, s_1, s_2 :: size. \ by testring_{s_0} \rightarrow by testring_{s_1} \rightarrow by testring_{s_2} \rightarrow bool
                                                                                                                                                                         verifySignature key dat sig
                                                                                                                                                     key, dat, sig
resizeButeString
                                            \forall s_0, s_1 :: size. \ size_{s_1} \rightarrow bytestring_{s_0} \rightarrow bytestring_{s_1}
                                                                                                                                                     z, s_0!b
                                                                                                                                                                          s_1!b
                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |b| \le s_1
                                            \forall s :: size. \ bytestring_s \rightarrow bytestring_s \rightarrow bool
equalsByteString
                                                                                                                                                     b_0, b_1
                                                                                                                                                                          b_0 == b_1
txhash
                                                                                                                                                                          the transaction hash
                                            bytestring_{256}
blocknum
                                            \forall s :: size. \ size_s \rightarrow integer_s
                                                                                                                                                     z
                                                                                                                                                                          the block number
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       the block number fits in s bytes
blocktime
                                            date time
                                                                                                                                                     None
                                                                                                                                                                         the block time
```

(fun (size) (type))

Arguments

Semantics $[-2^{8s-1}, 2^{8s-1})$

Builtin Type Name

integer

Fig. 13. Builtin Types and Reductions

V. BASIC VALIDATION PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The basic way that validation is done in Plutus Core is somewhat similar to what's in Bitcoin Script. Whereas in Bitcoin Script, a validation is successful if the validating script successfully executes and leaves true on the top of the stack, in Plutus Core, validation is successful when the script reduces to any value other than (error A) in the allotted number of steps.

VI. ERASURE

TO WRITE

VII. EXAMPLE

We illustrate the use of Plutus Core by constructing a simple validator program. We present components of this program in a high-level style. i.e., we write

```
one : unit one = (abs a (type) (lam x a x))
```

for the element of the built in type

```
unit := (all a (type) (fun a a))
```

We stress that declarations in this style are **not part of the Plutus Core language**. We merely use the familiar syntax to present out example. If the high-level definitions in our example were compiled to a Plutus Core expression, it would result in something like figure 22.

We proceed by defining the booleans. Like *unit*, the type *boolean* is bulit in in to the language, but its elements are not. We have

```
true : boolean

true = (abs a (type)

(lam x (fun unit a)

(lam y (fun unit a)

[x one])))
```

and similarly

Next, we define the "case" function for the type boolean as follows:

The reader is encouraged to verify that

```
[{case a} true x y] \stackrel{*}{\rightarrow} x

and
[{case a} false x y] \stackrel{*}{\rightarrow} y
```

We can use case to define the following function:

the idea being that the first arguemnt is a public key, and the second argument is the result of signing the hash of the current transaction (accessible via txhash: [(con bytestring) 256]) with that public key. The function terminates if and only if the signature is valid, raising an error otherwise. Now, given Alice's public key we can apply our function to obtain one that verifies

Fig. 14. Grammar of Plutus Core Erasure

Fig. 15. Grammar of Erasure Reduction Frames

$$M \rightarrow M'$$

Term M reduces in one step to term M'

Fig. 16. Erasure Reduction via Contextual Dynamics

Fig. 17. Grammar of Erasure CK Machine States

whether or not its input is the result of Alice signing the current block number. Again, we stress that the Plutus Core expression corresponding to verifyIdentity is going to look something like figure 22.

```
With minimal modification we might turn our function into one that verifies a signature of the current block number. Specifically, by replacing txhash with
```

```
[ {intToByteString 128 256} 256   [{blocknum 128} 128]
```

Notice that we must supply blocknum with the size we wish to use to store the result twice, once at the type level and again at the term level. This is necessary because we want to have the size

 $\sigma \mapsto \sigma'$

Machine state σ transitions in one step to machine state σ'

```
\begin{array}{lll} s \rhd (\operatorname{lam} x \ M) & \mapsto s \lhd (\operatorname{lam} x \ M) \\ s \rhd [M \ N] & \mapsto s, [\_ \ N] \rhd M \\ s \rhd (\operatorname{error}) & \mapsto s \lhd (\operatorname{error}) \\ s, [\_ \ N] \lhd V & \mapsto s, [V \ \_] \rhd N \\ s, [ (\operatorname{lam} x \ M) \ \_] \lhd V & \mapsto s \rhd [V/x]M \\ s, f \lhd (\operatorname{error}) & \mapsto s \lhd (\operatorname{error}) \end{array}
```

Fig. 18. Erasure CK Machine

Fig. 19. Plutus Core Erase Definition

information available both at the type level, to facilitate gas calculations, and at the term level, so that once types are erased the runtime will know how much memory to allocate. This quirk is present in a number of the built in functions.

VIII. PROGRESS AND PRESERVATION TO WRITE

```
Theorem: if M \to M' then \lfloor M \rfloor \to^* \lfloor M' \rfloor
Proof: Induction on the proof \mathcal{D} of M \rightarrow M'
Case \mathcal{D} =
                                                                { (abs \alpha K M) S} \rightarrow [S/\alpha]M
Proof:
                                                               \lfloor \{ (\mathsf{abs} \ \alpha \ K \ M) \ S \} \rfloor \ \to^* \ \lfloor [S/\alpha]M \rfloor
                                                       \Leftrightarrow {definition of |\_| twice}
                                                               |M| \rightarrow^* [S/\alpha]M
                                                      ☐ {type substitution lemma}
Case \mathcal{D} =
                                                               (unwrap (wrap \alpha \ A \ M)) \rightarrow M
Proof:
                                                             \lfloor (\operatorname{unwrap} (\operatorname{wrap} \alpha A M)) \rfloor \rightarrow^* \lfloor M \rfloor
                                                     \Leftrightarrow {definition of \lfloor \_ \rfloor twice}
                                                             \lfloor M \rfloor \rightarrow^* \lfloor M \rfloor
                                                    Case \mathcal{D} =
                                                                 [(\operatorname{lam} x \ A \ M) \ V] \ \rightarrow \ [V/x]M 
Proof:
                                                               \lfloor \text{[(lam} \ x \ A \ M) \ V ] \rfloor \ \to^* \ \lfloor [V/x]M \rfloor
                                                        \Leftrightarrow {definition of \lfloor \_ \rfloor twice}
                                                                \begin{tabular}{ll} [\ (\hbox{lam}\ x\ \lfloor M \rfloor)\ \lfloor V \rfloor] &\to^* \ \lfloor [V/\rfloor]xM \\ \end{tabular} 
                                                       \Leftrightarrow \{\beta \text{ reduction}\}\
                                                               [\lfloor V \rfloor / x] \lfloor M \rfloor \rightarrow^* \lfloor [V/x] M \rfloor
                                                       ⇔ {term substitution lemma}
                                                               [\lfloor V \rfloor / x] \lfloor M \rfloor \rightarrow^* [\lfloor V \rfloor / x] \lfloor M \rfloor
```

Fig. 20. Plutus Core Erasure Theorem

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$(\text{fix } x \ A \ M) \rightarrow [(\text{fix } x \ A \ M) / x]M$$

Proof:

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{A \to_{ty} A'}{f\{A\} \to f\{A'\}}$$

Show: $\lfloor f\{A\} \rfloor \rightarrow^* \lfloor f\{A'\} \rfloor$

Proof (omitted): Cases on f, then definition of $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$.

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{M \to M' \qquad M' = (\text{error } A)}{f\{M\} \to (\text{error } A)}$$

Show: $\lfloor f\{M\} \rfloor \rightarrow^* \lfloor (\operatorname{error} A) \rfloor$

Proof (omitted): Cases on f, then definition of $\lfloor \rfloor$, $_ \rightarrow _$, and inductive hypotheses.

Case $\hat{\mathcal{D}} =$

$$\frac{M \rightarrow M' \qquad M' \neq (\texttt{error } A)}{f\{M\} \rightarrow f\{M'\}}$$

Show: $\lfloor f\{M\} \rfloor \rightarrow^* \lfloor (\operatorname{error} A) \rfloor$

Proof (omitted): Cases on f, then definition of $\lfloor _ \rfloor$, $_ \rightarrow _$, and inductive hypotheses.

Type Substitution Lemma: $\lfloor [A/\alpha]M \rfloor = \lfloor M \rfloor$ Proof (omitted): Cases on M, then definition of $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$

Term Substitution Lemma: $\lfloor [M/x]N \rfloor = \lfloor \lfloor M \rfloor/x \rfloor \lfloor N \rfloor$ Proof (omitted): Cases on N, then definition of $\lfloor - \rfloor$

Fig. 21. Plutus Core Erasure Theorem (cont.)

```
[
  (lam prog
    (fun unit
     (fun boolean
    (fun boolean
     (fun (all a (type) (fun boolean (fun a (fun a a))))
    (fun [(con bytestring) 256]
    (fun [(con bytestring) 2048] (fun [(con bytestring) 256] unit))))))))
    [\{prog (all a (type) (fun a a))\}]
          (all a (type) (fun (fun unit a) (fun (fun unit a) a)))
          (abs a (type) (lam x \ a \ x))
          (abs a (type) (lam x (fun unit a) (lam y (fun unit a) [x one])))
          (abs a (type) (lam x (fun unit a) (lam y (fun unit a) [y one])))
          (abs a (type) (lam b boolean (lam t a (lam f a
                                     [\{b \ a\} \ (lam \ x \ unit \ t) \ (lam \ x \ unit \ f)]))))])
     (lam one unit
     (lam true\ boolean
     (lam false boolean
     (lam \ case \ (all \ a \ (type) \ (fun \ boolean \ (fun \ a \ a))))
       (lam pubkey [(con bytestring) 2048]
       (lam signed [(con bytestring) 256]
         [case\ [\{verifySignature\ 256\ 256\ 2048\}\ signed\ txhash\ pubkey]
                (error unit)])))))))
]
```

Fig. 22. Imaginary result of compiling the above names

Progress for Types: if $\vdash A :: K$ then either A is a type value, or there is some A' such that $A \to_{ty} A'$ Preservation for Types: if $\vdash A :: K$ and $A \to_{ty} A'$ then $\vdash A' :: K$ Progress for Terms: if $\vdash M : A$ then either M is a value, or there is some M' such that $M \to M'$ Preservation for Terms: if $\vdash M : A$ and $M \to M'$ then $\vdash M' : A$

Fig. 23. Plutus Core Statements of Progress and Preservation

Proof of Progress for Types, by case on the derivation \mathcal{D} of $\vdash A :: K$.

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\alpha :: K \vdash A :: (\texttt{type})} + (\texttt{all } \alpha \ K \ A) :: (\texttt{type}) + \texttt{tyall}$$

then by induction on \mathcal{E} , either A is a type value, or $A \to_{ty} A'$. In the latter case, then (all α K A) \to_{ty} (all α K A'). In the former, then (all α K A) is a type value.

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\alpha :: (\texttt{type}) \vdash A :: (\texttt{type})} \text{ tyfix}$$

$$\vdash (\texttt{fix } \alpha A) :: (\texttt{type})$$

then by induction on \mathcal{E} , either A is a type value, or $A \to_{ty} A'$. In the latter case, then $(\text{fix } \alpha \ A) \to_{ty} (\text{fix } \alpha \ A')$. In the former, then $(\text{fix } \alpha \ A)$ is a type value. \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathcal{E} & \mathcal{F} \\ \vdash A :: \text{(type)} & \vdash B :: \text{(type)} \\ \hline \vdash \text{(fun } A \ B) :: \text{(type)} \end{array} \text{tyfun}$$

then by induction on \mathcal{E} , either A is a type value, or $A \to_{ty} A'$. In the later case, then $(\operatorname{fun} A B) \to_{ty} (\operatorname{fun} A' B)$. In the former, then by induction on \mathcal{F} , either B is a type value, or $B \to_{ty} B'$. In the latter case, then $(\operatorname{fun} A B) \to_{ty} (\operatorname{fun} A B')$. In the former, $(\operatorname{fun} A B)$ is a value. \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\beta :: J \vdash A :: K} \\ \vdash (\operatorname{lam} \beta \ J \ A) \ :: (\operatorname{fun} \ J \ K)$$
 tylam

then (lam β J A) is a type value. \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{bt \text{ has kind K in Fig. ...}}{\vdash (\text{con } bt) :: K} \text{ tybuiltin}$$

then (con bt) is a type value. \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{E} & \mathcal{F} \\ \vdash A :: (\operatorname{fun} J K) & \vdash B :: J \\ \hline \vdash [A B] :: K \end{array}$$

then either A is a value (lam β J A'), or $A \to_{ty} A'$. In the latter case, then $[A B] \to_{ty} [A' B]$. In the former case, either B is a value, or $B \to_{ty} B'$. In the latter case, $[A B] \to_{ty} [A B']$. In the former, [A B] = [(lam β J A') $B] \to_{ty} [B/\beta]A'$. \square

Fig. 24. Proof of Progress for Types

Proof of Preservation for Types, by case on the derivation \mathcal{D} of $\vdash A :: K$ and \mathcal{E} of $A \rightarrow_{ty} A'$.

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$[(\operatorname{lam} \beta \ J \ A) \ B] \rightarrow_{ty} [B/\beta] A$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

then we can build

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\vdash B :: J} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{F} \\ \beta :: J \vdash A :: K \\ \hline \vdash [B/\beta]A :: K \end{array}$$
 subst

else case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{F} \\
A \to_{ty} A' \\
\hline
\text{(fun } A B) \to_{ty} \text{ (fun } A' B)
\end{array}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

then by induction we have $\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G})$ proves $\vdash A' :: (type)$ and we can build

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} \mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G}) & \mathcal{H} \\ \hline \vdash A' :: (\texttt{type}) & \vdash B :: (\texttt{type}) \\ \hline \vdash (\texttt{fun } A' \ B) :: (\texttt{type}) \end{array} \mathsf{tyfun}$$

else case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{F} & \\ B \rightarrow_{ty} & B' & \\ \hline \text{(fun } A \ B) & \rightarrow_{ty} & \text{(fun } A \ B') \end{array}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

then by induction we have $\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{H})$ proves $\vdash B' :: (type)$ and we can build

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{G} & \mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{H}) \\ \hline \vdash A :: (\texttt{type}) & \vdash B' :: (\texttt{type}) \\ \hline \vdash (\texttt{fun } A \ B') :: (\texttt{type}) \end{array} \mathsf{tyfun}$$

Fig. 25. Proof of Preservation for Types

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{F} & \\ & B \rightarrow_{ty} B' \\ \hline \text{(all } \alpha \ K \ B) \rightarrow_{ty} \text{ (all } \alpha \ K \ B') \end{array}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\alpha :: K \vdash B :: \text{(type)}} \text{tyall}$$

$$\vdash (\text{all } \alpha \ K \ B) \ :: \text{(type)}$$

then by induction we have $\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G})$ proves $\alpha::K \vdash B':: (type)$ and we can build

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G})}{\alpha :: K \vdash B' :: (\mathsf{type})} \text{ tyall}$$

$$\vdash (\mathsf{all} \ \alpha \ K \ B') :: (\mathsf{type})$$

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}}{B \to_{ty} B'}$$

$$\frac{B \to_{ty} B'}{(\text{fix } \alpha B) \to_{ty} (\text{fix } \alpha B')}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\frac{\alpha :: (\texttt{type}) \vdash B :: (\texttt{type})}{\vdash (\texttt{fix } \alpha \ B) :: (\texttt{type})}} \, \texttt{tyall}$$

then by induction we have $\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G})$ proves $\alpha:: K \vdash B':: (type)$ and we can build

$$\frac{\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G})}{\alpha :: (\texttt{type}) \vdash B' :: (\texttt{type})} \text{ tyall}$$

$$\vdash (\texttt{fix } \alpha \ B') :: (\texttt{type})$$

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{F} \\
A \to_{ty} A' \\
\hline
[A B] \to_{ty} [A' B]
\end{array}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} \mathcal{G} & \mathcal{H} \\ \hline \vdash A :: (\text{fun } J \ K) & \vdash B :: J \\ \hline \vdash [A \ B] :: K & \text{tyapp} \end{array}$$

then by induction we have $\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G})$ proves $\vdash A' :: (fun J K)$ and we can build

$$\frac{\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{G})}{\vdash A' :: (\operatorname{fun} J K)} \frac{\mathcal{H}}{\vdash B :: J} \operatorname{tyapp}$$

Fig. 26. Proof of Preservation for Types (cont.)

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{F} \\
B \to_{ty} B' \\
\hline
[A B'] \to_{ty} [A B']
\end{array}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} \mathcal{G} & \mathcal{H} \\ \hline \vdash A :: (\operatorname{fun} J K) & \vdash B :: J \\ \hline \vdash [A B] :: K & \end{array} \operatorname{tyapp}$$

then by induction we have $\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{H})$ proves $\vdash B' :: J$ and we can build

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{G} & \mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{F},\mathcal{H}) \\ & \vdash A :: (\texttt{fun } J \; K) & \vdash B' :: J \\ & \vdash \lceil A \; B' \rceil :: K \end{array} \mathsf{tyapp}$$

Fig. 27. Proof of Preservation for Types (cont. 2)

Proof of Progress for Terms, by case on the derivation \mathcal{D} of $\vdash M : A$.

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\frac{x:A\vdash M:A}{\vdash (\operatorname{fix} x \mathrel{A} \mathrel{M}):A}}\operatorname{fix}$$

then $(\text{fix } x \ A \ M) \rightarrow [(\text{fix } x \ A \ M) / x]M. \square$

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\alpha :: K \vdash M : B} \\ \vdash (\texttt{abs} \ \alpha \ K \ M) : (\texttt{all} \ \alpha \ K \ B)$$
 abs

then (abs α K M) is a value. \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

then by induction on \mathcal{E} , either L is a value (abs α K M), or $L \to L'$. In the former case then $\{L\ A\} = \{ \text{ (abs } \alpha\ K\ M)\ A\} \to [A/\alpha]M$. In the latter case, then $\{L\ A\} \to \{L'\ A\}$. \square

Fig. 28. Proof of Progress for Terms

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\alpha :: (\texttt{type}) \vdash A :: (\texttt{type}) \qquad \vdash M : [(\texttt{fix } \alpha \ A) \ / \alpha]A} \text{ wrap} \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdash (\texttt{wrap } \alpha \ A \ M) : (\texttt{fix } \alpha \ A)$$

then by induction on \mathcal{F} , either M, or $M \to M'$. In the former case, then (wrap $\alpha A M$) is a value. In the latter case, then (wrap $\alpha A M$) \to (wrap $\alpha A M'$). \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\vdash M : (\texttt{fix} \; \alpha \; A)} \frac{\vdash M : (\texttt{fix} \; \alpha \; A)}{\vdash (\texttt{unwrap} \; M) : [(\texttt{fix} \; \alpha \; A) \, / \alpha] A} \; \texttt{unwrap}$$

then by induction on \mathcal{E} , either M is a value (wrap α A V), or M \rightarrow M'. In the former case, (unwrap M) = (unwrap (wrap α A V)) \rightarrow V. In the latter case, (unwrap M) \rightarrow (unwrap M'). \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{x:A \vdash M:B} \vdash (\operatorname{lam} x \mathrel{A} M) : (\operatorname{fun} A \mathrel{B})$$

then $(\operatorname{lam} x A M)$ is a value. \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{E} & \mathcal{F} \\ \vdash L: (\texttt{fun} \ A \ B) & \vdash M:A \\ \hline \vdash [L \ M]:B \end{array} \text{app}$$

then by induction on \mathcal{E} , either L is a value (lam x A N), or L \to L'. In the latter case, then [L M] \to [L' M]. In the former case, then by induction on \mathcal{F} , either M is a value or M \to M'. In the latter case, then [L M] \to [L M']. In the former case, then [L M] = [(lam <math>x A N) M] \to $[M/x]N.\square$

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{bi \text{ has type } A \text{ in Figure } \dots}{\vdash (\text{con } bi) : A} \text{ builtin}$$

then (con bi) is a value. \square

Case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\vdash A :: (\texttt{type})} \vdash (\texttt{error } A) : A$$
 error

then (error A) is a value. \square

Fig. 29. Proof of Progress for Terms (cont.)

Proof of Preservation for Terms by case on the derivation \mathcal{D} of $\vdash M:A$ and \mathcal{E} of $M\to M'$. Case $\mathcal{E}=$

{ (abs
$$\alpha$$
 K M) S } $ightarrow$ $[S/lpha]M$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{F} \\ \underline{\alpha :: K \vdash N : B} \\ \hline \vdash (\mathtt{abs} \ \alpha \ K \ N) : (\mathtt{all} \ \alpha \ K \ B) & \vdash S :: K \\ \hline \vdash \{ (\mathtt{abs} \ \alpha \ K \ N) \ S \} : [S/\alpha]B \end{array} \text{ inst}$$

then we can build

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\vdash S :: K} \qquad \frac{\mathcal{F}}{\alpha :: K \vdash N : B} \text{ subst}$$
$$\frac{\vdash [S/\alpha]N : [S/\alpha]B}{\vdash [S/\alpha]B}$$

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

(unwrap (wrap
$$\alpha \ A \ V$$
)) $\rightarrow V$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\alpha :: (\mathsf{type}) \vdash A :: (\mathsf{type}) \quad \vdash V : [(\mathsf{fix} \ \alpha \ A) \ / \alpha]A} \underbrace{\frac{\vdash (\mathsf{wrap} \ \alpha \ A \ V) : (\mathsf{fix} \ \alpha \ A)}{(\mathsf{unwrap} \ (\mathsf{wrap} \ \alpha \ A \ V)) : [(\mathsf{fix} \ \alpha \ A) \ / \alpha]A}_{\mathsf{unwrap}} \mathsf{unwrap}}_{\mathsf{unwrap}}$$

then we have \mathcal{H} as a proof of $\vdash V : [(fix \alpha A)/\alpha]A$.

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$[(\operatorname{lam} x \ A \ N) \ V] \rightarrow [V/x]N$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{F} \\ \hline x:A \vdash N:B \\ \hline \vdash (\operatorname{lam} x \ A \ N): (\operatorname{fun} A \ B) \\ \hline \vdash [(\operatorname{lam} x \ A \ N) \ V]:B \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{G} \\ \vdash V:A \\ \end{array} \text{app}$$

then we can build

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\vdash V:A} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{G} \\ x:A\vdash N:B \\ \hline \vdash [V/x]N:B \end{array}$$
 subst

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$(\text{fix } x \ A \ M) \rightarrow [(\text{fix } x \ A \ M)/x]M$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\mathcal{F} \\
\underline{x: A \vdash M: A} \\
\vdash (\text{fix } x \land M): A
\end{array}$$

then we can build

$$\frac{x:A \vdash M:A}{\vdash (\texttt{fix} \ x \ A \ M):A} \frac{22}{x:A \vdash M:A} \frac{\mathcal{F}}{x:A \vdash M:A} \text{ subst}$$

Fig. 30. Proof of Preservation for Terms

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$M$$
 is a fully saturated constant M computes to V according to Fig 13 $M \rightarrow V$

then case V has the same type according to Figure ...

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\frac{B \to_{ty} B'}{f\{B\} \to f\{B'\}}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\mathcal{G} \\
\underline{\Gamma \vdash B :: K} \\
\vdash f\{B\} : A
\end{array}$$

then by type preservation we have that $\mathcal{PRES}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F})$ is a proof that $\vdash B' :: K$, and by context substitution we have that $\vdash f\{B'\} : A$.

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}}{M \to M' \qquad M' = (\text{error } B)}$$

$$f\{M\} \to (\text{error } A)$$

then we can build

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\vdash A :: (\mathsf{type})} = \frac{\vdash A :: (\mathsf{type})}{\vdash (\mathsf{error}\ A) : A}$$
 error

where $\mathcal G$ is the presupposed proof of $\vdash A :: (type)$ required by the well-formedness of the judgment $\vdash M : A$.

Case $\mathcal{E} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}}{M \to M'} \frac{M' \neq (\text{error } B)}{f\{M\} \to f\{M'\}}$$

then case $\mathcal{D} =$

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}}{\vdash M:B} \\ \hline \vdash f\{M\}:A$$

then by induction we have that $\mathcal{IH}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F})$ is a proof of $\vdash M' : B$, and by context substitution have that $\vdash f\{M'\} : A$.

Fig. 31. Proof of Preservation for Terms (cont.)