

Algebraic Wheel Theory in Lean 4

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Algebraic wheels are structures generalising a commutative semiring, attempting to make sense of ‘division’ by zero.

Loosely speaking, given a semiring R and its associated monoids, one may extend the semiring in a variety of well-known ways. Considering an additive inverse extends a commutative semiring, to a structure with a given name: a commutative ring, and attempting the same successfully for the multiplicative monoid yields a field.

The idea of a wheel, is to extend a commutative semiring by introducing a new unary operation $/$, to then have $a \cdot /b$ agree with $a * b^{-1}$.

Chapter 2

References:

- [1] JESPER CARLSTRÖM. “Wheels – on division by zero”. In: Mathematical Structures in Computer Science 14.1 (2004), pp. 143–184. doi: 10.1017/S0960129503004110.