


A Formalization of the General Theory of Quaternions

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Abstract

This paper discusses the formalization of the theory of quaternions in the Prototype Verification System (PVS). The general approach in this mechanization allows for specification of arbitrary quaternion algebras parameterizing with the adequate field and constants. The theory includes characterizing algebraic properties that lead to constructing a quaternion structure that is a division ring. In particular, we illustrate how the general theory is applied to formalize Hamilton's quaternions using the field of reals as a parameter, for which we also mechanized theorems that show the completeness of three-dimensional rotations.

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41 **1 Introduction**

Quaternions is the theory of algebraic structures consisting of quadruples built over a field, $\langle \mathbb{F}, +_{\mathbb{F}}, *_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}} \rangle$ and two selected elements of the field $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$, where the quaternion addition is built from the field addition component to component, and the product quaternion is a distributive product, that satisfies a series of axioms, including

$$(zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}})^2 = (a, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}})$$

$$(zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}})^2 = (b, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}})$$

$$(zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}) * (zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}) = (zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}})$$

among others, from which all properties of addition and multiplication of quaternions are inferred. In general, given a field \mathbb{F} , and elements $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$, the quaternion algebra is represented as $\left(\frac{a, b}{\mathbb{F}} \right)$. It is a vector space in \mathbb{F} , with the basis

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= (one_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}) & i &= (zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}) \\ j &= (zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}) & k &= (zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}) \end{aligned}$$

42 and a distributive product, such that : $i^2 = a, j^2 = b, ij = k$ (cf. axioms above), and
43 $ij = -ji$, for $a = (a, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}})$, $b = (b, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}})$.

44 Hamilton's quaternions are the first introduced structure of quaternions [6]. After its
45 discovery, the research for structures similar to the original quaternions started, leading to a
46 more generic and algebraic definition than the classic approach of Hamilton. Our specification
47 in PVS uses such a generic definition. Using the notation above, Hamilton's quaternions is
48 the algebra $\mathbb{H} = \left(\frac{-1, -1}{\mathbb{R}} \right)$. The structure of Hamilton's quaternions is the most popular
49 because of its well-known efficient applicability in manipulating three-dimensional (3D)
50 objects. Although this, the interest in quaternions is not limited to Hamilton's ones but also
51 to other structures of quaternions that are of great interest (e.g., [15]).


52 **1.1 Main results**

53 This paper describes the formalization of the general theory of the structures of quaternions
54 in the interactive proof assistant PVS. It provides a characterization of quaternions as
55 division rings based on algebraic properties of the field. The characterization is crucial to
56 building multiplicative inverses for non-zero quaternions elements, an essential element in
57 structures such as Hamilton's quaternions. In addition, the formalization shows how to build
58 the structure of Hamilton's quaternions with adequate parameters. Finally, we formalize a
59 completeness theorem of Hamilton's quaternions to rotate any 3D vector.

60 As far as we know, there are two solid formalizations of the structure of Hamilton's
61 quaternions, one of them in HOL Light [4], and the other in Isabelle/HOL [11]). In contrast,
62 some elements of the general theory of quaternions built over any abstract field, as in our
63 case, were developed as part of the Lean mathlib library [9].

64 **1.2 Organization**

65 Section 2 is divided into subsections discussing the basic elements used in the specification
66 and axiomatization of the general theory of quaternions (2.1), discussing how the algebraic
67 properties of such structures are inferred from the axiomatization (2.2), and how quaternions


■ **Specification 1** Quaternion addition and scalar multiplication [quaternion_def](#) 

```

+(u,v): quat = ( u'x + v'x, u'y + v'y, u'z + v'z, u't + v't ) ;
*(c,v): quat = ( c * v'x, c * v'y, c * v'z, c * v't ) ;
                                     %scalar multiplication
* :[quat,quat -> quat] ;           %quaternion multiplication

```

68 are characterized as division rings (2.3). Section 3 is divided into two subsections presenting
 69 the parameterization to obtain the theory of quaternions (3.1), and the formalization of the
 70 completeness of Hamilton's quaternions to deal with 3D vector rotations (3.2). Finally, before
 71 concluding and discussing future lines of research in Section 5, Section 4 briefly discusses
 72 how other structures of quaternions can be specified.


73 The paper includes links to the specific points of the formalization, available as part of
 74 the PVS nasalib theory [algebra](#) .

75 **2 Mechanization of the theory of quaternions**

76 This section presents the formalization of the theory of quaternions using as a parameter an
 77 algebraic field and two constants: $\langle \mathbb{F}, +_{\mathbb{F}}, *_{\mathbb{F}}, zero_{\mathbb{F}}, one_{\mathbb{F}}, a, b \rangle$.

78 **2.1 Specification of Basic Notions**


79 The general theory of quaternions is built from any abstract type T , with binary operators
 80 for addition and multiplication $+, *$: $[T, T] \rightarrow T$, with constants $zero, one, a, b$: T .

81 Initially, in the theory defining the structure and type `quat`, [quaternion_def](#) , it is
 82 only assumed that $[T, +, zero]$ is a group: `group?(fullset[T])`. An element q of type `quat`
 83 is a quadruple of elements of type T , represented as $q = (x, y, z, t)$, and through the
 84 use of a macro, components of q can be accessed, for instance $q'y = y$. Quadruples for
 85 the quaternion basis $1, i, j, k$, and for quaternions a and b are defined; distinguishing them
 86 with names `one_q, i, j, k, a_q, b_q`. Also, `zero_q` specifies the zero quaternion. The
 87 conjugate and the additive inverse of a quaternion are specified in the usual manner: they are
 88 well-defined since $[T, +, zero]$ is a group, and each element of the quadruple has an additive
 89 inverse. Tuple addition and scalar multiplication are defined in Specification 1. Also, notice
 90 that quaternion multiplication is defined as a binary operator over quaternions.

91
 92 The required axioms of the theory of quaternions are given in Specification 2, where
 93 variable types are u, v : `quat`, and c, d : T . Notice that the axioms include associativity
 94 and (right and left) distributivity of the quaternion multiplication over the addition (`q_assoc`,
 95 `q_distr` and `q_distr1`), and associativity and commutativity regarding scalar multiplication
 96 over quaternion multiplication (`sc_quat_assoc`, `sc_comm` and `sc_assoc`). Also, it is required
 97 that `one_q` be the identity for quaternion multiplication: the axioms `one_q_times` and
 98 `times_one_q` are essential to prove the characterization of the quaternion multiplication
 99 provided in the Subsection 2.2.

100

101 **2.2 Inference of Quaternion's Algebraic Properties**

102 The PVS theory [quaternions](#)  completes the basic structure of quaternions refining the
 103 parameters in such a manner that a and b are different from zero, and $[T, +, *, zero, one]$ is

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■ Specification 2 Axioms for the Theory of Quaternion [↗](#)

```
sqr_i      :AXIOM i * i = a_q
sqr_j      :AXIOM j * j = b_q
ij_is_k    :AXIOM i * j = k
ji_prod    :AXIOM j * i = inv(k)
sc_quat_assoc :AXIOM c*(u*v) = (c*u)*v
sc_comm    :AXIOM (c*u)*v = u*(c*v)
sc_assoc   :AXIOM c*(d*u) = (c*d)*u
q_distr    :AXIOM distributive?[quat](*, +)
q_distr1   :AXIOM (u + v) * w = u * w + v * w
q_assoc    :AXIOM associative?[quat](*)
one_q_times :AXIOM one_q * u = u
times_one_q :AXIOM u * one_q = u
```

■ Specification 3 Quaternion Basis [↗](#)

```
basis_quat: LEMMA
  FORALL (q: quat): q = q'x * one_q + q'y * i + q'z * j + q't * k
```

104 a field (specified in theory [field_def](#) [↗](#)). So, the type T with addition and zero, as well as,
105 T-{zero} with multiplication and one are Abelian groups.

106 From this basis, it is now possible to infer a series of lemmas about quaternions
107 such as $j*i = -(i*j)$, $k*k = -a_q * b_q$, $k * i = -a_q * j$, $k * j = b_q * i$, i
108 $* k = a_q * j$, and $j * k = -b_q * i$ (see [basic lemmas](#) [↗](#)).

109 Such lemmas allow us to infer that quaternions `one_q`, `i`, `j`, and `k` act as a basis as
110 given in Specification 3, and the characterization of quaternion multiplication as given in
111 Specification 4. The proof of this characterization uses the decomposition according to the
112 lemma `basis_quaternion`, and requires exhaustive algebraic manipulation using quaternions
113 axioms, a series of auxiliary lemmas, including the previous ones mentioned, and others
114 about the algebra of quaternions, such as lemmas for scalar product. The advantage of such
115 formulation, is that the characterization of quaternion multiplication, usually presented as a
116 definition, is obtained from a minimal axiomatization.

117

118

119 Further results include the formalization of the fact that any quaternion abstract
120 structure, `quat[T,+,*,zero,one,a,b]`, is a ring with unity as given in the Specifica-
121 tion 5. The proof requires expanding the definition of field for `[T, +, *, zero, one]`,
122 then using it is a commutative division ring, that is, a commutative group with unity.
123 From this, and the algebraic properties inferred until this point, it is possible to prove
124 that the structure of quaternions given as `[quat[T,+,*,zero,one,a,b], +, *, zero_q,`
125 `one_q]` is indeed a ring with unity. The last is done expanding the notion of ring with

■ Specification 4 Quaternion Multiplication Characterization [↗](#)

```
q_prod_charac: LEMMA FORALL (u,v:quat):
  u * v = (u'x * v'x + u'y * v'y * a + u'z * v'z * b + u't * v't * inv(a)*b,
          u'x * v'y + u'y * v'x + (inv(b)) * u'z * v't + b * u't * v'z,
          u'x * v'z + u'z * v'x + a * u'y * v't + inv(a) * u't * v'y,
          u'x * v't + u'y * v'z + inv(u'z * v'y) + u't * v'x );
```

■ **Specification 5** [Quaternions are Rings with Unity](#) 



```
quat_is_ring_w_one: LEMMA
  ring_with_one?[quat,+,*,zero_q,one_q](fullset[quat])
```

■ **Specification 6** [Conjugate of Multiplication of Quaternions](#) 

```
conj_product_quat : LEMMA FORALL(q, u : quat) :
  conjugate(q * u) = conjugate(u) * conjugate(q)
```

126 unity, and proving that $[\text{quat}[T,+,*,\text{zero},\text{one},a,b], +, *, \text{zero}_q]$ is a ring, and that
127 $[\text{quat}[T,+,*,\text{zero},\text{one},a,b], *, \text{one}_q]$ is a monoid.



128

129 Some of the formalizations benefit from PVS strategies to automatize manipulation of the
130 algebra of quaternions. For instance, the lemma in Specification 6, stating that for quaternions
131 q, u , $\text{conjugate}(q * u) = \text{conjugate}(u) * \text{conjugate}(q)$, where [conjugate\(u\)](#)  is
132 given by the quaternion $(u'x, -u'y, -u'z, -u't)$. The proof of this lemma is done
133 by applying the theorem of characterization of quaternion multiplication `q_prod_charac`,
134 showing that each pair of corresponding components of the resulting quadruples are equal.
135 This required algebraic automation through the development of specialized [PVS strategies](#)
136  since the PVS engine for algebraic simplification is not implemented for the structure of
137 quaternions (as happens with each other non-numerical algebraic structure). For instance,
138 at some point in the proof, one must show that the quadruples' first components coincide
139 with the corresponding equation presented below. However, proving this equality is not
140 straightforward, requiring exhaustive applications of quaternions' addition and multiplication
141 properties, which justified the development of such strategies.

$$142 \quad \begin{aligned} &-(q'x * u't + q'y * u'z + -(q'z * u'y) + q't * u'x) = \\ &-(u'x * q't) + u'y * q'z + -(u'z * q'y) + -(u't * q'x) \end{aligned}$$

143

144 Some additional lemmas and definitions are formalized to characterize quaternions as
145 division rings.

146 Two important predicates and subtypes of `quat` are defined, the type of pure quaternions,
147 [pure_quat](#) , and the type of scalar quaternions, [scalar_F](#) , which consists of quaternions
148 with null scalar component and with null components i, j, k , respectively. Also, we specify
149 the *reduced norm* of a quaternion q as $\text{red_norm}(q) = q * \text{conjugate}(q)$. The lemmas
150 obtained for such definitions cover the properties in the Specification 7, among others. The
151 lemma `center_quat_is_sc_F` expresses the fact that if the characteristic of the ring $[T, +,$
152 $*, \text{zero}]$ is different from two, i.e., there exists an element $x \in T$ such that $x + x \neq \text{zero}$,
153 the center of the structure built with the quaternions and its multiplication is exactly the
154 subtype of all the scalar quaternions. The center of such structure is given by the quaternions
155 that multiplicatively commute with all other quaternions: $\{ q \mid \forall u : q * u = u * q \}$
156 . This theorem is obtained, proving that for any quaternion q in the center, commutativity
157 with the basis quaternions i, j, k implies the pure components of x should be `zero`.

158

159 Finally, from the last lemma in Specification 7, `q_x_v_cq`, the transformation given
160 as the curried operator $Tq(q:\text{quat})(v:(\text{pure_quat}))$ is specified, and crucial properties

■ **Specification 7** Pure and Scalar Quaternions Conjugate and Norm Properties [↗](#)

```

red_norm_charac: LEMMA FORALL (q: quat):
  red_norm(q) = (q'x * q'x + inv(a) * (q'y * q'y) + inv(b) * (q'z * q'z) +
    (a * b) * (q't * q't),
    zero, zero, zero)

conj_product_quat_scalar : LEMMA FORALL(s : T, q : quat) :
  conjugate(s * q) = s * conjugate(q)

red_norm_conj: LEMMA FORALL(q:quat):
  red_norm(conjugate(q)) = red_norm(q)

center_quat_is_sc_F: LEMMA charac(fullset[T]) /= 2 IMPLIES
  center[(quat),*](fullset[quat]) = scalar_F

q_x_v_cq : LEMMA FORALL (q:quat, v:(pure_quat)) :
  pure_quat(q * v * conjugate(q))

```

■ **Specification 8** $T_q(q)(v)$ Operator [↗](#)

```

T_q(q: quat)(v:(pure_quat)): (pure_quat) = q * v * conjugate(q)

T_q_is_linear: LEMMA FORALL (c,d: T, q: quat, v,w: (pure_quat)):
  T_q(q)(c * v + d * w) = c * T_q(q)(v) + d * T_q(q)(w)

T_q_red_norm_invariant: LEMMA FORALL (q: quat, v:(pure_quat)):
  red_norm(q) = one_q IMPLIES red_norm(T_q(q)(v)) = red_norm(v)

T_q_invariant_red_norm: LEMMA FORALL (c: T, q: quat):
  red_norm(q) = one_q IMPLIES T_q(q)(c * pure_part(q)) = c * pure_part(q)

```

161 about it are proved, as presented in Specification 8. Such properties express the linearity
 162 of the operator, `T_q_is_linear`; the fact that if the `red_norm` of `q` is one, the resulting
 163 transformation of the pure quaternion `v`, `T_q(q)(v)`, has the same norm as `v`; and, that the
 164 transformation over the pure quaternion `pure_part(q)`, obtained from `q`, does not affect
 165 any multiple of it.

166

167 2.3 Charaterization of Quaternions as Division Rings

168 The characterization of quaternions as division rings is given by a series of six lemmas
 169 presented in Specification 9.

170 The first lemma, `nz_red_norm_if_inv_exist`, is proved constructively. Assuming
 171 `red_norm(q) ≠ zero_q`, using the characterization of `red_norm` in Specification 7, one has
 172 that the scalar component of `red_norm(q) = q'x * q'x + -(a) * (q'y * q'y) + -(b)`
 173 `* (q'z * q'z) + (a * b) * (q't * q't)` is not null and consequently has a multiplicative
 174 inverse in the field, say `y`. From this, one builds the desired quaternion multiplicative inverse
 175 of `q` as the quaternion `conjugate(q) *(y * one_q)`. The exhaustive job is once again
 176 related to the algebraic manipulation to prove that `q * (conjugate(q) *(y * one_q)) =`
 177 `one_q` and vice-versa. This involves repeated applications of the characterization of qua-
 178 ternion multiplication, the definition and characterization of `red_norm`, and several algebraic
 179 properties of quaternions.

180 The second lemma in Specification 9, `div_ring_iff_nz_rednorm`, states the equivalence
 181 between being the quaternion structure a division ring with the quaternion multiplication and
 182 having a reduced norm different from `zero_q`, for any non `zero_q` quaternion, `q`. Necessity
 183 is proved by contradiction from the existence of an inverse for `q`, say `y * q = one_q`, and
 184 expansion of the definition of reduced norm, `q * conjugate(q) = zero_q`. From these
 185 equations, by algebraic manipulations one obtains `y * (q * conjugate(q)) = one_q *`
 186 `conjugate(q)`, and then `zero_q = conjugate(q)`, which contradicts the assumption that
 187 `q ≠ zero_q`. The proof of sufficiency uses the first lemma.

188 The third lemma in Specification 9, `inv_q_prod_charac`, characterizes the inverse of a non
 189 `zero_q` quaternion `q` through the equation `inv(q) = conjugate(q) * inv(red_norm(q))`
 190 whenever the quaternion structure is a division ring. This lemma uses the previous one and
 191 exhaustive algebraic manipulation. The key of the proof is to show that `conjugate(q) *`
 192 `(red_norm(q))-1` is the inverse of `q`. This is proved showing that `q * (conjugate(q) *`
 193 `(red_norm(q))-1) = one_q` and `(conjugate(q) * (red_norm(q))-1) * q = one_q`. The
 194 former equation requires only associativity and expansion of the definition of `red_norm` to
 195 obtain the equation `(q * conjugate(q)) * (q * conjugate(q))-1 = one_q`, from which
 196 one concludes. The latter equation requires the application of the previous lemma to obtain
 197 the multiplicative inverse of `red_norm(q)`, say `y`, such that `red_norm(q) * y = one_q`. Ex-
 198 panding the definition of `red_norm`, one obtains the equation `(q * conjugate(q)) * y =`
 199 `one_q`. In this manner, one obtains the equation `q * ((conjugate(q) * y) * q) = q *`
 200 `one_q`, from which one concludes.

201 The fourth lemma in Specification 9, `quat_div_ring_aux1`, is a simple auxiliary result
 202 from the theory of fields. If `t = zero`, the type of `a` implies `-a ≠ zero`. For the case in which
 203 `t ≠ zero`, after Skolemization, one obtains the premise `t*t = a`; also, `t` has a multiplicative
 204 inverse, say `y`. Then, by instantiating the premise with `y` and `zero`, one obtains objective
 205 equality `a*(y*y) + b * zero = one`. By replacing `a` with `t*t`, one obtains `(t*t)*(y*y)`
 206 `= one`. The formalization, as expected, requires simple field algebraic manipulations.

207 The fifth lemma, `quat_div_ring_aux2`, is another auxiliary result on fields. When `=`
 208 `zero`, one concludes by `b` type. Otherwise, let `y` and `y1` be the multiplicative inverses of `t` and
 209 `a + a`, respectively. Notice that since the characteristic of the field is different from two, `a +`
 210 `a ≠ zero`, allowing the use of the latter inverse. The second premise is then instantiated
 211 with `(one + a) * y1` and `(one - a) * y1 * y` giving the objective

$$212 \quad a((\text{one} + a) * y1)^2 + b((\text{one} - a) * y1 * y)^2 = \text{one}$$

213 Algebraic manipulation transforms the left-hand side of this equation into the term below,
 214 where for the integer `k`, `t` abbreviates `t+t+...+t` `k` times.

$$215 \quad a * y1^2 + 2(a^2 * y1^2) + a^3 * y1^2 + b * y1^2 * y^2 + 2(b * (-a) * y1^2 * y^2) + b * (-a)^2 * y1^2 * y^2$$

216 By multiplying `a*(t*t) + b = zero` by `y * y` one obtains the equation `a + b (y * y) =`
 217 `zero`, which allows the elimination of the first and second component of the above term;
 218 indeed

$$219 \quad a * y1^2 + b * y1^2 * y^2 = (a + b * y^2)y1^2 = \text{zero}$$

220 The third and last components are also eliminated:

$$221 \quad a^3 * y1^2 + b * (-a)^2 * y1^2 * y^2 = (a + b * y^2) * a^2 * y1^2 = \text{zero}$$

222 Finally, the remaining four components are proved equal to `one` using the equation
 223 `-b * (y * y) = a`:

$$224 \quad 2(a^2 * y1^2) + 2(b * (-a) * y1^2 * y^2) = 4(a^2 * y1^2) = (a + a) * (a + a) * y1^2 = \text{one}$$

225 The final lemma, `quat_div_ring_char`, states that the structure of quaternions with
 226 multiplication is a division ring whenever the characteristic of the ring $[T, +, *, \text{zero}]$ with
 227 field multiplication is different from two and the condition $\forall x, y \in T : a * x^2 + b * y^2 \neq \text{one}$,
 228 used in previous two lemmas, holds. The proof applies the second lemma in the series of
 229 lemmas given in Specification 9, `div_ring_iff_nz_rednorm`, thus, changing the objective
 230 to proving that $\text{red_norm}(q) \neq \text{zero}_q$, for any $q \neq \text{zero}_q$ under these conditions.

231 On the one side, if there exists x, y in the field such that $a * x^2 + b * y^2 = \text{one}$, one can
 232 select the quaternion element $q = \text{one}_q + x * i + y * j$. So, $q \neq \text{zero}_q$, and its reduced
 233 norm, $1 - a * x^2 - b * y^2$ is different from zero . Therefore, the quaternion cannot be a
 234 division ring. On the other side, suppose the quaternion is not a division ring but the
 235 condition $\forall x, y \in T : a * x^2 + b * y^2 \neq \text{one}$ holds. Then, there exists $q \neq \text{zero}_q$ such that
 236 $\text{red_norm}(q) = q'x^2 - a * q'y^2 - b * q'z^2 + a * b * q't^2 = \text{zero}_q$. For short, let this q be
 237 equal to (x, y, z, t) .

238 The first component of the reduced norm gives the field equation:

$$239 \quad x^2 - a * y^2 - b * z^2 + a * b * t^2 = \text{zero} \quad (1)$$

240 From the last equation, one has that $x^2 - a * y^2 = b * (z^2 - a * t^2)$. From this equation,
 241 one obtains $(x^2 - a * y^2) * (z^2 - a * t^2) = b * (z^2 - a * t^2)^2$. This equation gives

$$242 \quad (x^2 * z^2 + a^2 * y^2 * t^2 - a * x^2 * t^2 - a * y^2 * z^2) = b * (z^2 - a * t^2)^2$$

243 From the last equation, one obtains

$$244 \quad a * (x * t + y * z)^2 + b * (z^2 - a * t^2)^2 = (x * z + a * y * t)^2 \quad (2)$$

245 Notice that $(x * z + a * y * t) \neq \text{zero}$; otherwise, multiplying the equation by the square
 246 of the inverse of this term, one contradicts the hypothesis $\forall x, y \in T : a * x^2 + b * y^2 \neq \text{one}$.
 247 Therefore, equation (2) becomes:

$$248 \quad a * (x * t + y * z)^2 + b * (z^2 - a * t^2)^2 = \text{zero} \quad (3)$$

249 Suppose now that $z^2 - a * t^2 \neq \text{zero}$. Thus, multiplying the equation by the square of
 250 the inverse of this term, one obtains an equation of the form $a * t'^2 + b = \text{zero}$, which gives
 251 a contradiction by lemma `quat_div_ring_aux2`. Thus, $z^2 - a * t^2 = \text{zero}$.

252 Now, let suppose $t \neq \text{zero}$. Multiplying by the square of the inverse of t , one obtains an
 253 equation of the form $t'^2 - a = \text{zero}$, which gives a contradiction by lemma `quat_div_ring_aux1`.
 254 Therefore the fourth component of the quaternion element q is zero: $t = \text{zero}$, which also
 255 implies the third component $z = \text{zero}$.

256 Thus the reduced norm of q is equal to $x^2 - ay^2$, and by hypothesis, $x^2 - ay^2 = \text{zero}$.
 257 Once again, if $y \neq \text{zero}$, multiplying the equation by the square of the inverse of y , one
 258 obtains an equation of the form $t'^2 - a = \text{zero}$, which gives a contradiction by lemma
 259 `quat_div_ring_aux1`. So, $y = \text{zero}$, and also $x = \text{zero}$.

260 This completes the proof.

261

262 3 Parameterization of the Algebra of Hamilton's Quaternions

263 By parameterizing the theory `quaternions` [↗](#) as `quaternions[real, +, *, 0, 1, -1, -1]`, one
 264 obtains Hamilton's quaternions, \mathbb{H} , mentioned in the introduction. This structure is usually
 265 characterized in textbooks by the identities $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1$ (e.g., [15]). In this

■ Specification 9 Characterization of Quaternions as Division Rings [↗](#)

```

nz_red_norm_iff_inv_exist: LEMMA
  (FORALL (q:nz_quat):
    red_norm(q) /= zero_q) IFF
    inv_exists?[quat,*,one_q](remove(zero_q, fullset[quat]))

div_ring_iff_nz_rednorm: LEMMA
  division_ring?[quat,+,*,zero_q,one_q](fullset[quat]) IFF
  (FORALL(q: nz_quat): red_norm(q) /= zero_q)

inv_q_prod_charac: LEMMA
  division_ring?[quat,+,*,zero_q,one_q](fullset[quat]) IMPLIES
  (FORALL (q: nz_quat):
    inv[nz_quat,*,one_q](q) = conjugate(q)*inv[nz_quat,*,one_q](red_norm(q)))

quat_div_ring_aux1: LEMMA
  (FORALL (x,y:T): a * (x*x) + b * (y*y) /= one) IMPLIES
  (FORALL (t:T): t*t + inv[T,+,zero](a) /= zero)

quat_div_ring_aux2: LEMMA
  (charac(fullset[T]) /= 2 AND (FORALL (x,y:T): a * (x*x)+b * (y*y) /= one))
  IMPLIES
  (FORALL (t:T): a*(t*t) + b /= zero)

quat_div_ring_char: LEMMA
  charac(fullset[T]) /= 2 IMPLIES
  ((FORALL (x,y:T): a*(x*x) + b*(y*y) /= one) IFF
  division_ring?[quat,+,*,zero_q,one_q](fullset[quat]))

```

266 section, we will present the completeness of 3D rotation by using Hamilton’s quaternion,
 267 as well as the main properties to achieve such results formalized in the PVS theory [qua-](#)
 268 [ternions_Hamilton](#) [↗](#). In this section, “quaternions” reference elements of the structure of
 269 Hamilton’s quaternions.

270 3.1 Specification of Basic Properties

271 The structure given by $(\mathbb{H}, +_{\mathbb{H}}, zero_q, *_{\mathbb{R}})$, where $*_{\mathbb{R}}$ indicates the scalar product induced by
 272 the multiplication over real numbers, can be proved to be a vector space isomorphic to \mathbb{R}^4
 273 equipped with their standard operations. A pure part of a quaternion can be mimicked by a
 274 vector from \mathbb{R}^3 and has a fundamental role in the theorems regarding the completeness of
 275 3D rotations. To reuse results about real vectors, formalized in theory [vectors](#) [↗](#) in PVS
 276 *nasalib*, we specified operators that return the real and pure part of a quaternion as a real
 277 number and a three-dimensional vector, respectively, and formalized basic properties about
 278 them (see Specification 10).

279

280 3.2 Rotational completeness of Hamilton’s Quaternions

281 Hamilton’s quaternions is a suitable structure to perform rotations in \mathbb{R}^3 , and it has some
 282 advantages when compared with techniques based on rotating by Euler angles:

- 283 ■ The rotation using quaternions relies on the application of the linear transformation
 284 $T_q(q)(v)$, defined in Specification 8. This operator is based on the multiplication of
 285 three quaternions which, in the light of the lemma [q_prod_charac](#) [↗](#), is computed using

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■ Specification 10 Connection between quaternions and vectors [↗](#)

```

Real_part(q: quat): real = q.x

Vector_part(q: quat): Vect3 = (q.y, q.z, q.t)

conversion_quot: LEMMA
  FORALL(r: real, nz: nzreal): r/nz = number_fields./(r,nz)

quat_is_Real_p_Vector_part: LEMMA
  FORALL (q: quat):
    q = (Real_part(q), Vector_part(q).x, Vector_part(q).y, Vector_part(q).z)

decompose_eq_Real_Vector_part: LEMMA
  FORALL (q, p : quat):
    Real_part(q) = Real_part(p) AND Vector_part(q) = Vector_part(p) IFF
    q = p

Vector_part_scalar: LEMMA
  FORALL (k:real, q: quat): Vector_part(k*q) = k * Vector_part(q)

```

286 multiplication and sum of real numbers in this context. On the other hand, rotating by
 287 Euler angles relies on the multiplication of three matrices of order 3, whose entries contain
 288 trigonometric functions, each one of these matrices represents a rotation around the axes
 289 x, y , and z of a 3D coordinate system (e.g., Chapter 4 in [1], and [12]). Thus, Hamilton's
 290 quaternions provide a computational, more efficient manner to perform rotations.

291 ■ Rotating by Euler angles can lead to a *gimbal lock*. This well-known phenomenon occurs
 292 when two axes align, causing the loss of one degree of freedom and *locking* the system to
 293 rotate in a degenerated two-dimensional space [5]. Hamilton's quaternions avoid *gimbal*
 294 *lock*.

295 ■ A rotation by Euler angles is based on the composition of rotations around three axes,
 296 e.g. yaw, pitch, and roll. In contrast, only the pure part of a quaternion element q defines
 297 the axis of a rotation using Hamilton's quaternions [5]. Therefore, it is easier to visualize
 298 the transformation by quaternions.

299 The landmark results of this section, presented in the Specification 11, are the formaliza-
 300 tions of theorems [Quaternions_Rotation](#) [↗](#) and [Quaternions_Rotation_Deform](#) [↗](#). The
 301 former states that given two pure quaternions a and b , which can be identified as vectors
 302 of \mathbb{R}^3 of the same norm, there is a quaternion $q = \text{rot_quat}(a, b)$ such that the operator
 303 $T_q(q)$ rotates a into b . The latter theorem ensures the existence of a quaternion q such that
 304 the operator $T_q(q)$ transforms a into b , even when they are not, necessarily, of the same
 305 length. For the second transformation, it is only needed multiplying $\text{rot_quat}\left(a, \frac{|a|}{|b|}b\right)$

306 by the scalar $\sqrt{\frac{|a|}{|b|}}$, where $|v|$ denotes the usual norm of v in \mathbb{R}^3 . In the following, we will
 307 highlight the main steps to formalize those theorems.

308
 309 Initially, consider two pure quaternions a and b such that $va = \text{Vector_part}(a)$ and vb
 310 $= \text{Vector_part}(b)$ are linearly independent; i.e., such vectors are nonparallel and non-null.
 311 Let θ be the smallest angle between va and vb and consider $n = \frac{va \times vb}{|va||vb|}$, where $va \times vb$
 312 denotes the usual cross product of vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 . The idea is to consider n as the rotation

■ **Specification 11** Completion of rotation using Hamilton's quaternions [↗](#)

```

Quaternions_Rotation: THEOREM
FORALL (a:(pure_quat), b:(pure_quat) |
      norm(Vector_part(a)) = norm(Vector_part(b)) AND
      linearly_independent?(Vector_part(a), Vector_part(b))):
  LET q = rot_quat(a,b) IN b = T_q(q)(a)

Quaternions_Rotation_Deform: THEOREM
FORALL (a:(pure_quat), b:(pure_quat) |
      linearly_independent?(Vector_part(a), Vector_part(b))):
  LET q =
    (sqrt(number_fields./(norm(Vector_part(b)),norm(Vector_part(a)))))*
    rot_quat(a,
      number_fields./(norm(Vector_part(a)),norm(Vector_part(b)))*b)
  IN b = T_q(q)(a)

```

■ **Specification 12** Basic elements to built a rotation by quaternions [↗](#)

```

r_angle(a,b:(nzpure_quat)): nreal_le_pi =
  angle_between(Vector_part(a),Vector_part(b))

n_rot_axis(a:(pure_quat),b:(pure_quat) |
  linearly_independent?(Vector_part(a), Vector_part(b))): Vect3 =
  normalize(cross(Vector_part(a), Vector_part(b)))

rot_quat(a:(pure_quat),b:(pure_quat) |
  linearly_independent?(Vector_part(a), Vector_part(b))): quat =
  LET rot_angl_half : nreal_le_pi = number_fields./(r_angle(a,b), 2),
      sin_half = sin(rot_angl_half),
      cos_half = cos(rot_angl_half),
      n = n_rot_axis(a,b)
  IN (cos_half, sin_half * n'x, sin_half * n'y, sin_half * n'z)

```

313 axis and built the quaternion q that leads a into b from θ and n , as follows:

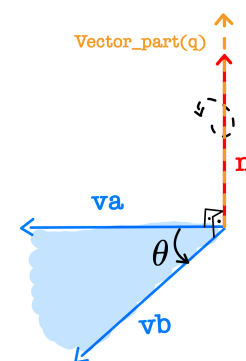
$$q = \left(\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right), n'x * \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right), n'y * \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right), n'z * \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \right)$$

314 The elements θ , n and q were specified as [r_angle\(a,b\)](#)
 315 [↗](#), [n_rot_axis\(a,b\)](#) [↗](#), and [rot_quat\(a,b\)](#) [↗](#), respectively
 316 (See Specification 12). They use some structures formalized
 317 in the theories [vectors](#) [↗](#) and [trig](#) [↗](#) in the PVS nasalib.
 318 For example, [r_angle\(a,b\)](#) is formalized from the operator
 319 [angle_between\(Vector_part\(a\),Vector_part\(b\)\)](#) [↗](#), which, in
 320 turn, is specified by using the arccosine function and the usual *inner*
 321 *product* of \mathbb{R}^3 ; whereas, [n_rot_axis\(a,b\)](#) uses the specification of
 322 *cross product* defined as the vector [cross\(a,b\)](#) [↗](#).

323

324 Four main lemmas are needed to formalize the Theorem [Quaternions_Rotation](#) [↗](#).

325 The first one consists of a characterization of the operator $T_q(q)(a)$ specified as the
 326 lemma [T_q_Real_charac](#) [↗](#). According to this result, for any quaternion q and any pure



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327 quaternion a , the following equality holds:

$$328 \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Vector_part}(T_q(q)(a)) &= ((q'x)^2 - |\text{Vector_part}(q)|^2) * va && + \\ &(2 * (\text{Vector_part}(q) * va)) * \text{Vector_part}(q) && + \quad (4) \\ &(2 * q'x) * (\text{Vector_part}(q) \times va) \end{aligned}$$

329 The vector part of $T_q(q)(a)$ expresses all the relevant information of the resulting
330 quaternion: since the type established for $T_q(q)(a)$ is `pure_quat`, see Specification 8, the
331 prover automatically generates a *proof obligation*, called in PVS *Type Correctness Condition*
332 (*TCC*), to verify that the first component of this quaternion is `zero`. Also, according to
333 the lemma `T_q_is_linear`, showed in Specification 8, $T_q(q)(a)$ is a linear transformation.
334 And since $|q| = 1$, it preserves the norm of $|a|$, acting as a rotation.

335 The other three key lemmas consist of established equivalent expressions for each term in
336 the addition appearing in `T_q_Real_charac`, see Equation 4.

337 The lemma `Quat_Rot_Aux1` ensures that $\text{Vector_part}(q) * va = 0$. Consequently,
338 the equation $(2 * (\text{Vector_part}(q) * va)) * \text{Vector_part}(q) = 0$ also holds.

339 The formalization of this lemma applies the lemma `orth_cross`, of the PVS theory
340 `vectors`, that guarantees that the vectors $(va \times vb)$ and va are orthogonal. This is a
341 consequence of the equalities $\text{Vector_part}(q) = \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) * n = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{|va||vb|} * (va \times vb)$.

The lemma `Quat_Rot_Aux2` establishes the equality

$$((q'x)^2 - |\text{Vector_part}(q)|^2) * va = \cos(\theta) * va$$

By definition of q and since $|n| = 1$,

$$(q'x)^2 - |\text{Vector_part}(q)|^2 = \cos^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) - \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) * |n|^2 = \cos^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) - \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

342 Thus, `Quat_Rot_Aux2` follows as a consequence of the lemma `cos_2a`, formalized in the
343 theory `trig@trig_basic`, from which one can infer that $\cos^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) - \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \cos(\theta)$.

Finally, in the lemma `Quat_Rot_Aux3`, it is formalized that

$$(2 * q'x) * (\text{Vector_part}(q) \times va) = vb - \cos(\theta) * va$$

In fact, by definition of q and n , and the associative property for scalar elements one can
infer that:

$$(2 * q'x) * (\text{Vector_part}(q) \times va) = \left(2 \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \frac{1}{|va \times vb|}\right) ((va \times vb) \times va)$$

Applying the lemmas `cross_cross` and `sin_2a`, specified in theories `vectors@cross_3D`
and `trig@trig_basic`, respectively, one obtains the equality

$$\left(2 \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \frac{1}{|va \times vb|}\right) ((va \times vb) \times va) = \frac{\sin(\theta)}{|va \times vb|} ((va * va) * vb - (vb * va) * va)$$

344 Since, $(va * va) = |va|^2$ and $(vb * va) = \cos(\theta)|va||vb|$, it holds that

$$\frac{\sin(\theta)}{|va \times vb|} ((va * va) * vb - (vb * va) * va) = \frac{\sin(\theta)}{|va \times vb|} (|va|^2 * vb - (\cos(\theta) * |va||vb|) * a)$$

345 Thus, by using the fact the $|\mathbf{va}| = |\mathbf{vb}|$ and applying the identity $|\mathbf{va} \times \mathbf{vb}| = |\mathbf{va}||\mathbf{vb}| \sin(\theta)$,
 346 formalized in the lemma [norm_cross_charac](#) of the theory `vectors`, one obtains the
 347 equality

$$\frac{\sin(\theta)}{|\mathbf{va} \times \mathbf{vb}|} (|\mathbf{va}|^2 * \mathbf{vb} - (\cos(\theta) * |\mathbf{va}||\mathbf{vb}|) * \mathbf{va}) = \mathbf{vb} - \cos(\theta)\mathbf{va}$$

348 The Theorem [Quaternions_Rotation](#) is then obtained as a direct consequence of the
 349 lemmas `T_q_Real_charac`, `Quat_Rot_Aux1`, `Quat_Rot_Aux2` and `Quat_Rot_Aux3`.

The formalization of the Theorem [Quaternions_Rotation_Deform](#) ensures that Hamilton's quaternions are useful to promote not only rotations in \mathbb{R}^3 but also linear scaling since the transformation $T_q(q)(\mathbf{a})$ maps \mathbf{a} into \mathbf{b} even when they are not of the same length. For this, we have only to consider $q = \sqrt{\frac{|\mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a}|}} * \text{rot_quat} \left(\mathbf{a}, \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right)$. In fact, using this q as argument of the transformation,

$$T_q(q)(\mathbf{a}) = \sqrt{\frac{|\mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a}|}} * \text{rot_quat} \left(\mathbf{a}, \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right) * \mathbf{a} * \text{conjugate} \left(\sqrt{\frac{|\mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a}|}} * \text{rot_quat} \left(\mathbf{a}, \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right) \right)$$

350 Then, applying the lemma [conj_product_quat_scalar](#), behind some algebraic ma-
 351 nipulations, it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} 352 \quad T_q(q)(\mathbf{a}) &= \sqrt{\frac{|\mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a}|}} * \sqrt{\frac{|\mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a}|}} * \text{rot_quat} \left(\mathbf{a}, \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right) * \mathbf{a} * \text{conjugate} \left(\text{rot_quat} \left(\mathbf{a}, \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right) \right) \\ 353 \quad &= \frac{|\mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a}|} * T_q \left(\text{rot_quat} \left(\mathbf{a}, \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right) \right) (\mathbf{a}) \end{aligned}$$

Finally, since $|\text{Vector_part}(\mathbf{a})| = \left| \text{Vector_part} \left(\frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right) \right|$, the proof of the Theorem [Quaternions_Rotation_Deform](#) is completed instantiating [Quaternions_Rotation](#) with the pure quaternions \mathbf{a} and $\frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b}$, which guarantees that

$$T_q \left(\text{rot_quat} \left(\mathbf{a}, \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b} \right) \right) (\mathbf{a}) = \frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} \mathbf{b},$$

355 and, consequently, that $T_q(q)(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b}$.

356 It is important to remark that only the crucial lemmas in formalizing the previous results
 357 were highlighted. Although the automation for the simplification of equations over reals is in
 358 an advanced stage in PVS, several algebraic manipulations involving associative property
 359 for scalars, characterization of the norm of a vector, and properties derived from linear
 360 independence, among others, were necessary to conclude the formal proofs.

361 **4 Parameterizations to Specify other Quaternion's Structures**

362 Quaternion theory, as defined in Section 1, can describe many algebraic structures. Depending
 363 on the field \mathbb{F} and $a, b \in \mathbb{F}^\times$, the subset of invertible elements of the field, some quaternions
 364 algebra can be isomorphic to the matrix ring $M_2(\mathbb{F})$. In these cases, we say that the
 365 quaternion algebra *splits over* \mathbb{F} . In fact, it has been proved that a quaternion algebra
 366 $\left(\frac{a, b}{\mathbb{F}} \right)$, which is not a division ring, is indeed isomorphic to $M_2(\mathbb{F})$ [2]. An example is given

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367 by the quaternion built over the complex field: $\left(\frac{a, b}{\mathbb{C}}\right) \simeq M_2(\mathbb{C})$, in which not only, it splits
 368 for some values $a, b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\} = \mathbb{C}^\times$. On the other hand, all $\left(\frac{a, b}{\mathbb{F}}\right)$ that are not isomorphic
 369 to $M_2(\mathbb{F})$ are division rings; an example are Hamilton's quaternions.

370 Another case of a quaternion that is a division ring is $\left(\frac{a, p}{\mathbb{Q}}\right)$, where p is an odd prime
 371 and a is a quadratic non-residue, or $\left(\frac{a, p}{\mathbb{Q}_p}\right)$, where \mathbb{Q}_p are the p -adic numbers and a, p having
 372 the same restrictions [15].

373 The formalization of the general theory of quaternions constitutes a starting point to
 374 deal with other interesting applications of the theory of quaternions. Surveying only a few of
 375 the applications covered in Voight's book [15], we can mention the following: applications
 376 of quaternion algebras in analytic number theory, geometry (hyperbolic geometry and low-
 377 dimensional topology), arithmetic geometry, and supersingular elliptic curves. Also, Lewis
 378 surveys relevant applications of quaternion theory in several areas [8].

379 Many of these application topics use these different types of quaternions or their order.
 380 In this case, an order is understood as a subring of the quaternion algebra, which is also
 381 a lattice. In Voight's book [15], a more detailed description of interesting orders such as
 382 maximal order, Eichler order, and more general orders is given. The Hurwitz quaternion
 383 order is one such maximal order used as a tool for proven theorems. This is a subring of
 384 the quaternions \mathbb{H} and $\left(\frac{-1, -1}{\mathbb{Q}}\right)$, given by $H = \{\alpha\zeta + \beta i + \gamma j + \delta k \mid \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, where
 385 $\zeta = \frac{1}{2}(1 + i + j + k)$. It is used to prove Lagrange's theorem that every positive integer is a
 386 sum of four squares. Furthermore, it is possible to prove that, short of commutativity, H
 387 has all the properties of an Euclidean ring.

In the aforementioned proof of Lagrange's four-square theorem. Considering $u, v \in \mathbb{H}$:

$$u = a_0 + a_1i + a_2j + a_3k, \text{ and } v = b_0 + b_1i + b_2j + b_3k$$

Since $\text{Red_norm}(uv) = \text{Red_norm}(u) * \text{Red_norm}(v)$ [↗](#), the reduced norm in \mathbb{H} can be used to prove the Lagrange Identity in \mathbb{Z} :

$$(a_0^2 + a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2)(b_0^2 + b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2) = c_0^2 + c_1^2 + c_2^2 + c_3^2$$

388 where, by the characterization of quaternion multiplication:

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= a_0b_0 - a_1b_1 - a_2b_2 - a_3b_3 & c_1 &= a_0b_1 + a_1b_0 + a_2b_3 - a_3b_2 \\ c_2 &= a_0b_2 - a_1b_3 + a_2b_0 + a_3b_1 & c_3 &= a_0b_3 + a_1b_2 - a_2b_1 + a_3b_0 \end{aligned}$$

389 With this identity and by restricting the domain from \mathbb{H} to H , we can change the original
 390 problem from finding a solution for all positive integers into finding it for all primes. In this
 391 manner, the four integer square problem is expressed using only quaternions, which turns
 392 the Number Theory problem into an easier algebraic one. A didactic proof approach appears
 393 in Chapter 7 of Herstein's textbook [7].

394 Among the interesting applications in physics, it is possible to express using quaternion
 395 algebra, the gravity as part of a simple quaternion wave equation [14], the four Maxwell
 396 equations as a nonhomogeneous quaternion wave equation, as well as the Klein-Gordon
 397 equation as a quaternion simple harmonic oscillator [13]. Furthermore, under some restrictions,
 398 it is possible to express a quaternion analog to the Schrödinger equation, a differential equation
 399 that governs the behavior of wave functions in quantum mechanics. The Schrödinger equation

400 gives the kinetic energy plus the potential. To do this, we first look at the quaternions as
 401 the external tensor product of a scalar and a vector of \mathbb{R}^3 , denoted by $(\mathbf{s}, \hat{\mathbf{V}})$, and write the
 402 quaternion in its polar form, namely:

$$\mathbf{q} = (\mathbf{s}, \hat{\mathbf{V}}) = \|\mathbf{q}\| e^{\theta * \mathbf{I}} = \|\mathbf{q}\| (\cos(\theta) + \mathbf{I} * \sin(\theta)),$$

403 where $\|\mathbf{q}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{q} * \text{conjugate}(\mathbf{q})}$, $\theta = \arccos\left(\frac{\mathbf{s}}{\|\mathbf{q}\|}\right)$, and $\mathbf{I} = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{V}}}{\|\hat{\mathbf{V}}\|}$. Note that $\mathbf{I}^2 = -1$.

Next, it is necessary to determine the quaternion wave function, ψ . Therefore, consider the quaternion $(\mathbf{t}, \tilde{\mathbf{R}})$ representing time and space, the quaternion $(\mathbf{E}, \tilde{\mathbf{P}})$ representing the electric field and momentum, and the quaternion $\mathbf{V}(0, \mathbf{X})$ representing the potential. Thus, with \hbar being the reduced Planck constant, we have:

$$\psi \equiv \frac{(\mathbf{t}, \tilde{\mathbf{R}}) * (\mathbf{E}, \tilde{\mathbf{P}})}{\hbar} = \frac{(\mathbf{E}\mathbf{t} - \tilde{\mathbf{R}} * \tilde{\mathbf{P}}, \mathbf{E} * \tilde{\mathbf{R}} + \tilde{\mathbf{P}} * \mathbf{t} + \tilde{\mathbf{R}} \times \tilde{\mathbf{P}})}{\hbar}$$

Passing ψ to its polar form, and assuming that ψ is normalized, we have the quaternion wave function:

$$\psi = e^{(\mathbf{E} * \mathbf{t} - \tilde{\mathbf{R}} * \tilde{\mathbf{P}}) * \mathbf{I} / \hbar},$$

404 where $\mathbf{I} = \frac{\mathbf{E} * \tilde{\mathbf{R}} + \tilde{\mathbf{P}} * \mathbf{t} + \tilde{\mathbf{R}} \times \tilde{\mathbf{P}}}{\|\mathbf{E} * \tilde{\mathbf{R}} + \tilde{\mathbf{P}} * \mathbf{t} + \tilde{\mathbf{R}} \times \tilde{\mathbf{P}}\|}$.

Now, differentiating ψ with respect to the time and the space we obtain, respectively:

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \mathbf{t}} = \frac{\mathbf{E} * \mathbf{I}}{\hbar} \frac{\psi}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\mathbf{E} * \mathbf{t} - \tilde{\mathbf{R}} * \tilde{\mathbf{P}}}{\hbar}\right)^2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla \psi = -\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{P}} * \mathbf{I}}{\hbar} \frac{\psi}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\mathbf{E} * \mathbf{t} - \tilde{\mathbf{R}} * \tilde{\mathbf{P}}}{\hbar}\right)^2}}$$

To achieve the objective, which is to establish an analog to the Schrödinger equation in terms of quaternions, it is necessary to consider some assumptions and verify the behavior of the quaternion wave function ψ . Among these assumptions are, for example, the conservation of energy and momentum and the assumption that $\mathbf{E} * \mathbf{t} - \tilde{\mathbf{R}} * \tilde{\mathbf{P}} = 0$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \mathbf{t}} &= \frac{\mathbf{E} * \mathbf{I}}{\hbar} \psi \Rightarrow -\mathbf{I} * \hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \mathbf{t}} = \mathbf{E} \psi \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{I} * \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{t}} \\ \nabla \psi &= -\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{P}} * \mathbf{I}}{\hbar} \psi \Rightarrow \mathbf{I} * \hbar \nabla \psi = \tilde{\mathbf{P}} \psi \Rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{P}} = \mathbf{I} * \hbar \nabla \end{aligned}$$

It is known that the momentum $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}$ is the product of the mass, \mathbf{m} , and velocity, \mathbf{v} . Consequently,

$$\tilde{\mathbf{P}}^2 = (\mathbf{m}\mathbf{v})^2 = 2\mathbf{m} \frac{\mathbf{m}\mathbf{v}^2}{2} = 2\mathbf{m} \text{KE} = -\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \Rightarrow \text{KE} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathbf{m}} \nabla^2$$

Since the Hamiltonian \mathbf{H} corresponds to the total energy (\mathbf{E}), that is, it is equal to the sum of the kinetic energy KE and the potential energy \mathbf{V} , we obtain the following equation, which is similar to the Schrödinger equation:

$$\mathbf{H}\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathbf{m}} \nabla^2 \psi + \mathbf{V} * \psi.$$

405 5 Conclusions and Future Work

406 Table 1 presents the number of lines in the proofs of the crucial lemmas and theorems
 407 on the characterization of quaternions as division rings and rotational completeness of

■ **Table 1** Quantitative information

Theory/Formula Name	Proof Line Numbers	Number of Proved Formulas
		Lemmas/Theorems
nz_red_norm_iff_inv_exist	125	1
div_ring_iff_nz_rednorm	95	1
inv_q_prod_charac	259	1
quat_div_ring_aux1	40	1
quat_div_ring_aux2	388	1
quat_div_ring_char	487	1
quaternions.pvs	10981	63
T_q_Real_charac	190	1
Quat_Rot_Aux1	10	1
Quat_Rot_Aux2	116	1
Quat_Rot_Aux3	106	1
Quaternions_Rotation	38	1
Quaternions_Rotation_Deform	94	1
quaternions_Hamilton.pvs	3662	30

408 Hamilton’s quaternions formalized in the theories [quaternions](#) and [quaternions_Hamilton](#)
409 , respectively.

410 Although the complexity of proving rotational completeness is high, PVS supplies sat-
411 isfactory algebraic automation of the field of reals \mathbb{R} , which makes the formalization of
412 rotational completeness much simpler than the formalization of characterization of an arbit-
413 rary structure of quaternion as a division ring (observe the number of proof lines). Indeed,
414 algebraic manipulation on standard number types, such as the type `real`, has been studied
415 and implemented during the evolution of PVS, as reported by Muñoz and Mayero in [10] and
416 di Vito in [3], among others. The availability of techniques to detect and cancel equal terms
417 over algebraic theories as `field` and `quat` will surely make possible decreasing substantially
418 the length of the proofs presented in Table 1 for the case of the theory of quaternions.

419 Possible future work includes formalizations of applications of quaternions theory in
420 other areas as discussed in Section 4. For instance, a formalization of Lagrange’s theorem
421 will require the adequate parameterization of the quaternion theory proving that Hurwitz
422 substructure is indeed a ring and that is almost a Euclidian ring, except for commutativity.

423 After such proof, a few more auxiliary arithmetic lemmas, such as Lagrange’s Identity,
424 which can turn the problem from finding solutions to all integers into finding for all primes,
425 can be used for proving Lagrange’s Theorem using quaternions.

426 In addition to the availability of the abstract theory of quaternions, other available PVS
427 theories may be useful to formalize the application of quaternions in quantum mechanics
428 discussed in Section 4. For instance, to specify quaternions in their polar form and the
429 quaternion wave function, the core of theorems related to quaternion arithmetic and tri-
430 gonometric theory should be useful; also, to formalize the Schrödinger equation, it will be
431 extremely relevant to develop theorems or axioms on the differentiation of quaternions, and
432 physics concepts, for example, momentum.

433 Of course, another urgent line of research is extending PVS tactics, strategies, and, in
434 general, mechanism of arithmetic manipulation for standard types as `int`, `nat`, and `reals`
435 to abstract algebraic structures as `ring`, `field`, and `quat`.

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