

6. Show that for any torsion free abelian group A , the first Ulm subgroup of A is divisible.

Proof. Let A be a torsion free abelian group, where A' is the first Ulm subgroup of A . Choose any $a \in A'$ and choose any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $a \in A'$ there exists some $x \in A$ such that $a = nx$. We must show that $x \in A'$, which is equivalent to showing that x is divisible by every positive integer. Pick some arbitrary positive integer m .

Since $a \in A'$, there exists some $y \in A$ such that $a = nmy$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} nx &= a = nmy \\ \implies n(x - my) &= 0 \\ \implies x - my &= 0 && \text{(since } A \text{ is torsion free)} \\ \implies x &= my \end{aligned}$$

Hence x is divisible by m , so since m was arbitrary, x is divisible by every positive integer, which implies that $x \in A'$. Thus for every $a \in A'$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have found some $x \in A'$ such that $a = nx$. This shows that A' is divisible. \square