

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.  $\square$