

CHAPTER 3, QUESTION 6

6. Prove that a subset N of an R -module M is a submodule of M if and only if

- (i) $0 \in N$,
- (ii) $n_1, n_2 \in N \implies n_1 - n_2 \in N$,
- (iii) $n \in N, r \in R \implies rn \in N$.

Solution. Suppose that N is a submodule of M . Then N is a subgroup of M such that $rn \in N$ for all $r \in M$ and $n \in N$. This condition is just (iii), and (i), (ii) hold as N is a subgroup of M .

Now suppose that N is a subset of the R -module M satisfying (i), (ii), (iii). As M is an additive Abelian group and N is a subset of M satisfying (i) and (ii), N is a subgroup of M . Thus as N satisfies (iii), N is a submodule of M . ■

June 20, 2004