

homomorphisms

Let  $M$  and  $M'$  be two (left) modules over a ring  $A$ . Then, an additive map

$$f: M \rightarrow M'$$

is a homomorphism between  $A$ -modules if

$$f(am) = af(m)$$

for all  $a \in A$  and all  $m \in M$ .

For a homomorphism  $f: M \rightarrow M'$ , one has its kernel

$$\ker(f) = \{m \in M: f(m) = 0\}$$

and image

$$\operatorname{im}(f) = \{m' \in M': m' = f(m) \text{ for some } m \in M\}.$$

Also, one has the cokernel

$$M \rightarrow \operatorname{coker}(f) = M'/\operatorname{im}(f).$$

A submodule of  $M$  is a subset  $M_0 \subset M$  such that

1.  $M_0$  is an abelian group, and
2.  $AM_0 \subset M_0$ .

Then, one can form the factor module and has the reduction map

$$M \rightarrow M' = M/M_0$$

whose kernel of  $M_0$ .

In other words, submodules are characterized as kernels of homomorphisms.

An isomorphism between two  $A$ -modules  $M$  and  $M'$  is a homomorphism

$$f: M \rightarrow M'$$

which has an inverse; another homomorphism

$$g: M' \rightarrow M$$

such that  $f \circ g = 1_{M'}$  and  $g \circ f = 1_M$ .

## Question

Characterize the isomorphisms as homomorphisms that are both injective and surjective.