

ABSTRACT. We show that the only topological and algebraic copies of \mathbb{N}^* to be found in \mathbb{N}^* are the trivial ones, namely $k \cdot \mathbb{N}^*$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$. A similar statement holds for copies of \mathbb{Z}^* in \mathbb{Z}^* . As a consequence, we obtain the corollary that \mathbb{N}^* contains no copies of \mathbb{Z}^* whatever.