

**Task 1.** Let  $R$  be a field. Prove that the only ideals in  $R$  are either  $\{0\}$  or  $R$  itself.

*Solution.* Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal. Suppose  $I \neq \{0\}$ . Then there is a nonzero  $a \in I$ . Since  $a \neq 0$  and  $R$  is a field,  $a^{-1} \in R$  is defined. Therefore,  $1 = aa^{-1} \in I$ , because  $a^{-1}I \subset I$  by the definition of an ideal. But then  $b = b \cdot 1 \in I$  for all  $b \in R$ . Thus,  $I = R$ .  $\square$