ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

S.2530 Solve for real numbers:

$$x + y = 18$$

 $u + v = 15$
 $xy = uv$
 $x^{2} + y^{2} + u^{2} + v^{2} = 325$

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Solution by Titu Zvonaru-Romania

The fourth equation is equivalent to

$$(x+y)^2 - 2xy + (u+v)^2 - 2uv = 325 \Leftrightarrow$$
$$18^2 - 4xy + 15^2 = 325 \Leftrightarrow 4xy = 324 + 225 - 325 \Leftrightarrow xy = 56.$$

By x + y = 18, xy = 56 we obtain the quadratic equation $t^2 - 18t + 56 = 0$, hence $\{x, y\} = \{4, 14\}$. By u + v = 15, uv = 56 and the quadratic equation $t^2 - 15t + 56 = 0$ yields $\{u, v\} = \{7, 8\}$.