

**SOLUTION TO PROBLEM #634**  
**PROPOSED BY JUAN M. MOMBELLI**

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**Problem #634:** Find all real-valued functions  $f$  for which there exists a real-valued function  $g$  such that  $f(x+y)f(x-y) = (x-y)g(x+y)$  for all real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Solution:** Using the bijective transformation  $u = x + y$  and  $w = x - y$ , the condition on  $f$  and  $g$  reads

$$(1) \quad f(u)f(w) = wg(u).$$

Now, replacing  $w = 1$  gives  $g(u) = f(1)f(u)$ . With this, equation (1) takes the form

$$f(w) = f(1)w \quad \text{and} \quad g(u) = f(1)^2u.$$

Consequently, the only real-valued functions fitting the desired relation are of the type

$$f(x) = \alpha x, \quad \text{where } \alpha \text{ is any constant!}$$

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**References:**

[P] P #634, *The College Mathematics Journal*, (29) #4, September 1998.