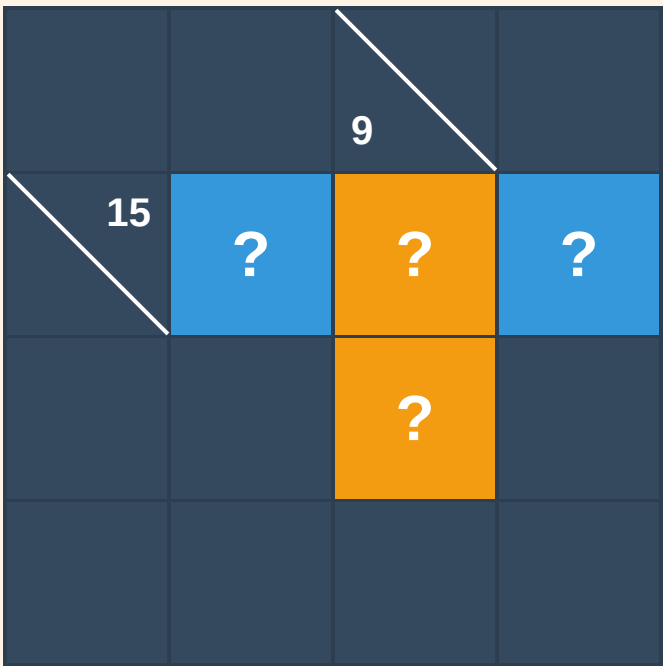


Diagram 2b: Elimination Method (Part 2: Solution)

GRID 3: Add the DOWN Run (9 in 2 cells)

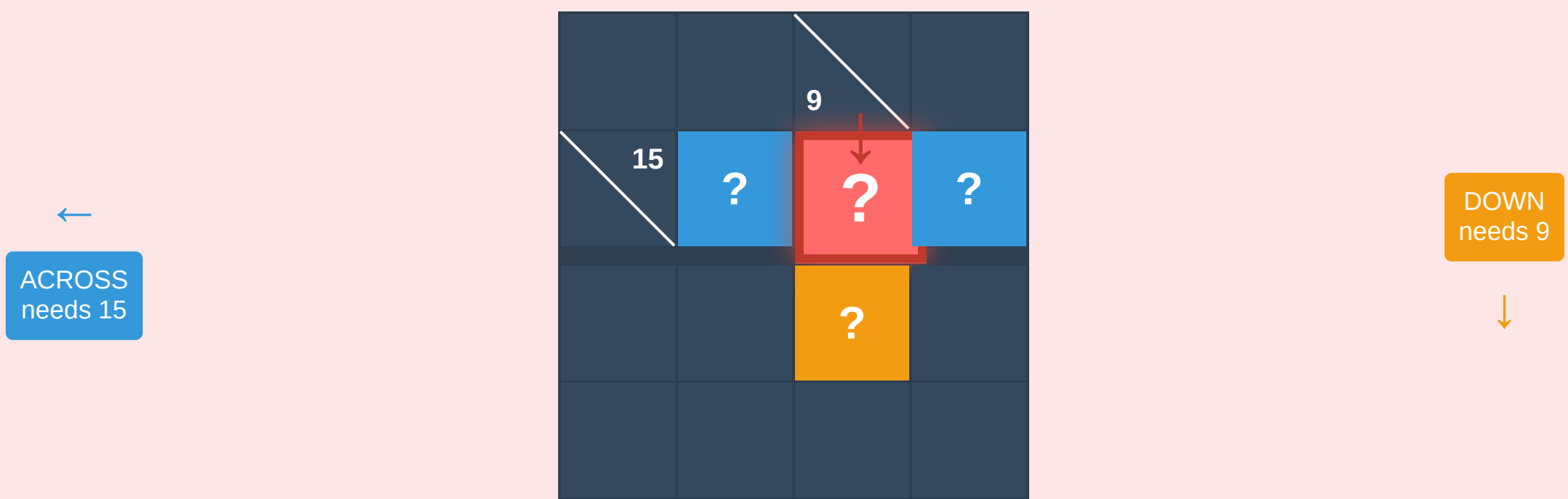
Now look at the DOWN run (highlighted in yellow) - straight down from the clue



- All 4 combinations for sum of 9:
- 1+8
 - 2+7
 - 3+6
 - 4+5

GRID 4: THE INTERSECTION -- This is the Key!

↓ The middle cell (circled in RED) must satisfy BOTH runs! ↓



Finding the Intersection Value:

From ACROSS (middle position):

- 1+**5**+9
- 1+**6**+8
- 2+**4**+9
- 2+**5**+8
- 2+**6**+7
- 3+**4**+8
- 3+**5**+7
- 4+**5**+6

Possible middle values:
4, 5, 6

From DOWN (top position):

- 1**+8
- 2**+7
- 3**+6
- 4**+5

Possible top values:
1, 2, 3, 4

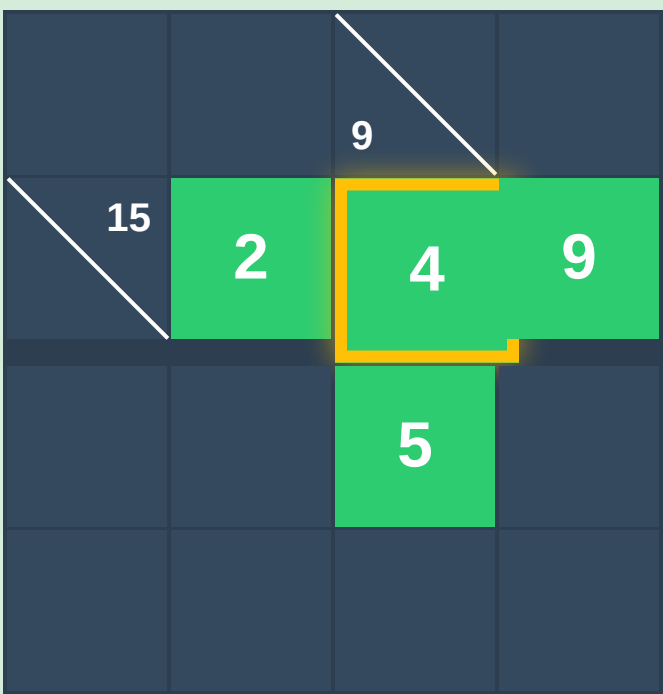
✨ THE INTERSECTION MUST BE:

4, 5, or 6 (from ACROSS) AND 1, 2, 3, or 4 (from DOWN)

→ Only 4 appears in both lists!

GRID 5: The Solution!

✓ With the intersection = 4, we can now complete both runs



✓ Verification:

ACROSS: 2 + 4 + 9 = **15** ✓

DOWN: 4 + 5 = **9** ✓

The intersection cell (with golden border) = 4 works perfectly for BOTH runs!

🎯 Key Takeaway: The elimination method works by finding which digits can appear in cells that belong to multiple runs simultaneously. The intersection cell must satisfy ALL constraints from every run it's part of. This dramatically reduces the possibilities!