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J.2520 Find the natural numbers n such that $n^2 + 7n + 40$ to be written as a product of four natural consecutive numbers.

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Let p a natural number such that

$$n^2 + 7n + 40 = p(p + 1)(p + 2)(p + 3) \quad (1)$$

Since $p(p + 1)(p + 2)(p + 3) = (p^2 + 3p)(p^2 + 3p + 2)$, we denote $m = p^2 + 3p$. The equation (1) is equivalent to

$$n^2 + 7n + 40 = m(m + 2)$$

$$4n^2 + 28n + 160 = 4m^2 + 8m$$

$$4n^2 + 28n + 49 + 111 = 4m^2 + 8m + 4 - 4$$

$$(2n + 7)^2 + 115 = (2m + 2)^2$$

$$(2m + 2 - 2n - 7)(2m + 2 + 2n + 7) = 115.$$

Since $115 = 5 \cdot 23$ and $2m + 2 > 2n + 7$, we have the possibilities:

$$2m + 2 - 2n - 7 = 1, 2m + 2 + 2n + 7 = 115 \quad (2)$$

$$2m + 2 - 2n - 7 = 5, 2m + 2 + 2n + 7 = 23 \quad (3)$$

From (2) it results $2n + 7 = 57, 2m + 2 = 58$; then $n = 25, m = 28$. Yields $p^2 + 3p = 28$, hence $p = 4$.

From (3) it follows $2n + 7 = 9, 2m + 2 = 14$; then $n = 1, m = 6$. Yields $p^2 + 3p = 6$, and there is not integer solutions.

It results that the equation (1) has the solution $(n, p) = (25, 4)$.