All the Children – Graydon Strachan

Determine all values a, b, c, d such that

$$a \cdot b \cdot c \cdot d = 17280$$

 $a > b > c > d$
 $a + b + c = 40$
 $b + c + d = 32$
 $a, b, c, d \subset \mathbb{Z}^+$

The solution can be computed using an exhaustive search algorithm. This approach utilizes the assumption that a, b, c and d are small positive integers. All values for a, b, c, d such that a, b, c, d can be iteratively examined and pruned so that they satisfy the given bounds.

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solutions = 0 (The initial number of solutions)
product = 17280
sum a = 40
sum b = 32
for w in sum a (Iterates through values 0 \le w \le 40)
  for x in sum a (Iterates through values 0 \le x \le 40)
     for y in sum a (Iterates through values 0 \le y \le 40)
       for z in sum b (Iterates through values 0 \le z \le 32)
          a = w + 1
          b = x + 1
          c = y + 1
          d = z + 1
          if a < b < c < d (Makes sure that the values are in descending order)
             if a + b + c = \text{sum } b and b + c + d = \text{sum } a (Checks for correct sums)
                if a \cdot b \cdot c \cdot d = 17280 (Checks for the correct product)
                  solutions = solutions + 1 (Increments the solutions variable)
```

There is one solution that satisfies the given specifications.

$$a = 16, b = 15, c = 9, d = 8$$
 $16 \cdot 15 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 = 17280$
 $16 + 15 + 9 = 40, 15 + 9 + 8 = 32$