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Evaluate

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n(n+1)]{1!2!3!\dots n!}}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

**Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA.**

Denoting  $sf(n) := 1!2!3!\dots n!$  (Superfactorial),  $H(n) := 1^1 2^2 \dots n^n$  (Hyperfactorial)

we obtain  $sf(n) = 1^n 2^{n-1} 3^{n-2} \dots (n-1)^2 n^1 = \frac{1^{n+1} 2^{n+1} 3^{n+1} \dots (n-1)^{n+1} n^{n+1}}{1^1 2^2 3^3 \dots (n-1)^{n-1} n^n} = \frac{(n!)^{n+1}}{H(n)}.$

**Lemma.**

$\sqrt[n]{H(n)} \sim e^{-\frac{n}{4}} n^{-\frac{n+1}{2}}$  ("~" asymptotically equivalent), that is  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( e^{\frac{n}{4}} n^{-\frac{n+1}{2}} \sqrt[n]{H(n)} \right) = 1.$

**Proof.**

Let  $b_n := e^{\frac{n^2}{4}} n^{-\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} H(n)$ . By **Multiplicative Stolz Theorem** if sequence  $\left( \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} \right)_{n \geq 1}$

convergence then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( e^{\frac{n}{4}} n^{-\frac{n+1}{2}} \sqrt[n]{H(n)} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n}.$

We have  $\frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} = \frac{e^{\frac{(n+1)^2}{4}} (n+1)^{-\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}} H(n+1)}{e^{\frac{n^2}{4}} n^{-\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} \cdot H(n)} = \frac{e^{\frac{2n+1}{4}} n^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} (n+1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)^{\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}}} =$

$\frac{e^{\frac{2n+1}{4}} n^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}}{(n+1)^{\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} - (n+1)}} = \frac{e^{\frac{2n+1}{4}} n^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}}{(n+1)^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}} = \frac{e^{\frac{2n+1}{4}}}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}}$  and then

$$\ln \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} = \frac{2n+1}{4} - \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \ln \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right).$$

Since  $\ln(1+t) = t - \frac{t^2}{2} + o(t^2)$  then  $\ln \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} = \frac{2n+1}{4} - \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{2n^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \right) =$

$\frac{2n+1}{4} - \frac{n+1}{2} + \frac{n+1}{4n} + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \cdot o\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) = \frac{1}{4n} + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \cdot o\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right)$  and, therefore,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{4n} + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \cdot o\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \right) = 0.$$

Hence,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( e^{\frac{n}{4}} n^{-\frac{n+1}{2}} \sqrt[n]{H(n)} \right) = e^0 = 1 \Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}{e^{\frac{n}{4}} \sqrt[n]{H(n)}} \right) = 1.$

As corollary from the **Lemma** we obtain

$$(1) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n(n+1)]{H(n)}} = \sqrt[n]{e}.$$

Indeed,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}{e^{\frac{n}{4}} \sqrt[n]{H(n)}} \right) = 1$  implies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}{e^{\frac{n}{4}} \sqrt[n]{H(n)}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n+1}} =$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{e^{\frac{n}{4(n+1)}} \sqrt[n(n+1)]{H(n)}} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n(n+1)]{H(n)}} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^{\frac{n}{4(n+1)}}} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n(n+1)]{H(n)}} = e^{1/4}.$$

Using (1) and taking in account that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} = e^{-1}$  we finally obtain

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n(n+1)]{sf(n)}}{\sqrt{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot \sqrt[n(n+1)]{\frac{(n!)^{n+1}}{H(n)}} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n(n+1)]{H(n)}} \right) = e^{-1} \cdot e^{1/4} = e^{-3/4}.$$