

Problem 11612

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Proposed by Paul Bracken (USA).

Evaluate in closed form

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{n+z+1}{n+z} \right)^n e^{(2z-2n+1)/(2n)}.$$

Solution proposed by Roberto Tauraso, Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Roma "Tor Vergata", via della Ricerca Scientifica, 00133 Roma, Italy.

Let $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{-1, -2, -3, \dots\}$. Since

$$\Gamma(z+1) \sim \frac{N! \exp(z \log N)}{\prod_{n=1}^N (n+z)} \sim \frac{\sqrt{2\pi} \exp(N \log N + (z+1/2) \log N - N)}{\prod_{n=1}^N (n+z)},$$

it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{n+z+1}{n+z} \right)^n &= \frac{N^N \left(1 + \frac{1+z}{N}\right)^N}{\prod_{n=1}^N (n+z)} \\ &\sim \frac{\Gamma(z+1) \exp(N \log N + 1 + z - (N \log N + (z+1/2) \log N - N))}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \\ &\sim \frac{\Gamma(z+1) \exp(z+1 - (z+1/2) \log N + N)}{\sqrt{2\pi}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{n+z+1}{n+z} \right)^n e^{(2z-2n+1)/(2n)} &\sim \frac{\Gamma(z+1) \exp(z+1 - (z+1/2) \log N + N + (z+1/2)H_N - N)}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \\ &\sim \frac{\Gamma(z+1) \exp(z+1 - (z+1/2) \log N + N + (z+1/2)(\log N + \gamma) - N)}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \\ &\sim \frac{\Gamma(z+1) \exp(z+1 + \gamma(z+1/2))}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \end{aligned}$$

where we used the fact that $H_N = \sum_{n=1}^N 1/n \sim \log N + \gamma$. □