

**Problem 11808**

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Compute

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 \int_{((n+1)!)^{-1/(n+1)}}^{((n)!)^{-1/n}} \Gamma(nx) dx.$$

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

We will show that if  $f$  is a continuous real function in  $(a, b)$  and  $e \in (a, b)$  then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 \int_{((n+1)!)^{-1/(n+1)}}^{((n)!)^{-1/n}} f(nx) dx = ef(e).$$

In our case  $\Gamma$  is a continuous real function in  $(0, +\infty)$  and therefore the required limit is  $e\Gamma(e)$ .Let  $b_n = n(n!)^{-1/n}$  and  $a_n = n((n+1)!)^{-1/(n+1)}$ , then by the Mean Value Theorem for integrals,

$$n^2 \int_{((n+1)!)^{-1/(n+1)}}^{((n)!)^{-1/n}} f(nx) dx = n \int_{a_n}^{b_n} f(t) dt = n(b_n - a_n)f(t_n)$$

for some  $t_n \in (a_n, b_n)$ . Now, by the Stirling approximation formula,

$$\ln(n!) = n \ln(n) - n + \frac{1}{2} \ln(n) + \ln(\sqrt{2\pi}) + O(1/n).$$

Hence

$$b_n = n \exp(-\ln(n!)/n) = e - \frac{e \ln(n)}{2n} - \frac{e \ln(\sqrt{2\pi})}{n} + O(\ln^2(n)/n^2),$$

$$b_n - a_n = b_n - \frac{nb_{n+1}}{n+1} = \frac{e}{n} + O(\ln(n)/n^2),$$

which imply that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = e$$

and, by the continuity of  $f$  at  $e$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n(b_n - a_n)f(t_n) = ef(e).$$

□