

**Problem 11875**

(American Mathematical Monthly, Vol.122, December 2015)

Proposed by D. M. Bătinețu-Girugiu and N. Stanciu (Romania).

Let  $f_n = (1 + 1/n)^n ((2n - 1)!! L_n)^{1/n}$ . Find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f_{n+1} - f_n)$  where  $L_n$  denotes the  $n$ th Lucas number (given by  $L_0 = 2$ ,  $L_1 = 1$ , and by  $L_n = L_{n-1} + L_{n-2}$  for  $n \geq 2$ ).

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

It is known that,

$$\begin{aligned}\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n &= e - \frac{e}{2n} + o(1/n), \\ ((2n - 1)!!)^{1/n} &= \left(\frac{(2n)!}{2^n n!}\right)^{1/n} = \frac{2n}{e} + \frac{\ln(2)}{e} + o(1), \\ L_n^{1/n} &= \left(\tau^n + \frac{1}{\tau^n}\right)^{1/n} = \tau + o(1/n).\end{aligned}$$

where  $\tau = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$ . Hence  $f_n = 2\tau n - \tau(\ln 2 - 1) + o(1)$  and it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f_{n+1} - f_n) = 2\tau = 1 + \sqrt{5}.$$

□