

**On some lower bounds and approximation formulas for  $n!$**

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we present the following new inequality of  $n!$   
 $n! > \sqrt{2\pi} n^{n+1/2} e^{-n+\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \{(2n+2r+1)\tanh^{-1}(\frac{1}{2n+2r+1})-1\}}$   $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Also, we deduce that the approximation formula  
 $n! \sim \sqrt{2\pi} n^{n+1/2} e^{-n+\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2^{-2k}}{2k+1} \zeta(2k, n+1/2)}$  has rate of convergence equal to  $n^{-2m-1}$  for  $m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Thus, we can choose the approximation formula that we want it convergence to  $n!$  by a known rate.  
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**1 Introduction.**

There are many different upper and lower bounds for  $n!$  presented by several authors [4, 3, 21, 20, 17, 8, 9]. Most bounds are of the form

$$\sqrt{2n\pi} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n e^{a_n} < n! < \sqrt{2n\pi} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n e^{b_n}, \quad (1)$$

Where  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  tend to zero through positive values. P. R.

Beesack [2] presented the following important result:

**Theorem 1.**

$$\sqrt{2n\pi} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n e^{a_n} < n! < \sqrt{2n\pi} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n e^{b_n}$$

$$n \geq 1, \quad (2)$$

where the two sequences  $a_n, b_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and satisfy

$$a_n - a_{n+1} < \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2k+1} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^{2k}} < b_n - b_{n+1}. \quad (3)$$

For the  $q$ -factorial which is defined by [5]

$$[n]_q! = n_q [n-1]_q \cdots [2]_q [1]_q,$$

where  $[x]_q = \frac{1-q^x}{1-q}$  is the  $q$ -number of  $x$ , Mansour and et al [6] presented the following  $q$ -analog of the Beesack's result (2):

**Theorem 2.** The  $q$ - factorial  $[n]_q!$  satisfies the double inequality

$$(q, q)_{\infty} (1-q)^{-n} e^{f_q(n+1)} < [n]_q! (q, q)_{\infty} (1-q)^{-n} e^{g_q(n+1)}, \quad n \geq 1; 0 < q < 1 \quad (4)$$

where  $f_q(n)$  and  $g_q(n)$  are two sequences tend to zero through positive values and satisfy

$$f_q(n) - f_q(n+1) - \log(1-q^n) < g_q(n) - g_q(n+1), \quad n \geq 1. \quad (5)$$

Recently, Mansour and et al [7] presented a new proof of Beesack's result (2) and deduced the following upper bounds of  $n!$ :

**Theorem 3.**

$$n! < \sqrt{2n\pi} (n/e)^n e^{M_n^{[m]}} \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \quad (6)$$

$$M_n^{[m]} = \frac{1}{2m+3}$$

$$\left[ \frac{1}{4n} + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2m-2k+2}{2k+1} 2^{-2k} \zeta\left(2k, n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \right]$$

$$m = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

where  $\zeta(x)$  is the Riemann Zeta function.

In this paper, we will use the technique of [7] to introduce a family of lower bounds of  $n!$ . Hence, we will deduce some new approximation formulas for large  $n!$  and we will study their rates of convergence.

**2 A New family of lower bounds of  $n!$**

To find some lower bounds of the series

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2k+1} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^{2k}}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2k+1} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^{2k}}$$

$$> \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2n+1)^{2k}}, \quad m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

So, we can consider the recurrence relation

$$L_{n,m} - L_{n+1,m} = \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2n+1)^{2k}}, \quad m = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (7)$$

which has the following solution form

$$L_{n,m} = L_{0,m} - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2i+1)^{2k}} \right)$$

$$= L_{0,m} - \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{2k+1} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{(2i+1)^{2k}} \right).$$

By using the relation [18]

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{(2i+1)^{2k}} = -1 - (2^{-2k} - 1)\zeta(2k)$$

$$- 2^{-2k}\zeta(2k, n + 1/2)$$

$$= -1 - \frac{(-1)^{k-1}(1-2^{2k})}{2(2k)!} B_{2k}\pi^{2k} + 2^{-2k}\zeta(2k, n + 1/2)$$

where  $\zeta(x)$  is the Riemann Zeta function and  $B_r$ 's are Bernoulli's numbers, we get

$$L_{n,m} = L_{0,m} + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{2k+1} \left( 1 + \frac{(-1)^{k-1}(1-2^{2k})}{2(2k)!} B_{2k}\pi^{2k} + 2^{-2k}\zeta(2k, n + 1/2) \right).$$

Also

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2i+1)^{2k}} = \frac{(-1)^{k-1}(2^{2k}-1)}{2(2k)!} B_{2k}\pi^{2k} - 1.$$

Hence, we can choose

$$L_{0,m} = \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{2k+1} (\zeta(2k)(1-2^{-2k}) - 1), \tag{8}$$

which satisfies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_{n,m} = 0, \quad m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Then we obtain the following result:

**Theorem 4.**

$$n! > \sqrt{2\pi} n^{n+\frac{1}{2}} e^{-n+\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2^{-2k}}{2k+1} \zeta(2k, n+\frac{1}{2})}$$

$$n, m \in \mathbb{N} \tag{9}$$

where  $\zeta(x)$  is the Riemann Zeta function. In the following result, we will prove that the increasing of the value of  $m$  in the lower bound  $L_{n,m}$  will improve its value.

**Lemma 2.1.**

$$L_{n,m+1} > L_{n,m} \quad m, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \tag{10}$$

**Proof.**

From [9] we get

$$L_{n,m+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} \frac{2^{-2k}}{2k+1} \zeta(2k, \frac{n+1}{2})$$

$$= L_{n,m} + \frac{2^{-2m-2}}{2m+3} \zeta(2m+2, n + 1/2).$$

But  $\zeta(2m+2, n + \frac{1}{2}) > 0$ , then

$$L_{n,m+1} - L_{n,m} > 0.$$

**Theorem 5.**

$$n! > \sqrt{2\pi} n^{n+1/2} e^{-n+\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \left\{ (2n+2r+1) \tanh^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2n+2r+1} \right) - 1 \right\}} \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \tag{11}$$

**Proof.** Using (9) at  $m$  tends to  $\infty$ , we obtain

$$L_{n,\infty} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^{-2k}}{2k+1} \zeta(2k, n + 1/2).$$

But

$$\zeta(2k, n + 1/2) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n + 1/2 + r)^{2k}},$$

then

$$L_{n,\infty} = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n + 2r + 1)^{2k} (2k + 1)}.$$

Using the relation

$$\tanh^{-1} x = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2t+1}}{2t+1}; \quad |x| < 1,$$

then we get

$$L_{n,\infty} = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \left\{ (2n + 2r + 1) \tanh^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{(2n + 2r + 1)^{-1}} \right) - 1 \right\}.$$

**3 Convergence rate of the approximation formula**

$$n! \sim \sqrt{2\pi} n^{n+1/2} e^{-n+\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2^{-2k}}{2k+1} \zeta(2k, n=1/2)}.$$

C. Mortici [10]—[16] presented a new method to measure the convergence rate of some asymptotic expansions. Also, he use this method to accelerate and construct some approximation formulas. The following lemma contains the Mortici result.

**Lemma 3.1.**

If  $(\varphi_n)_{n \geq 1}$  is convergent to zero and there exists the limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^k (\varphi_n - \varphi_{n+1}) = l \in \mathbb{R} \tag{12}$$

with  $k > 1$ , then there exists the limit:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{k-1} \varphi_n = \frac{l}{k-1}$$

To measure the convergence rate of the formula  $\sqrt{2\pi n} (n/e)^n e^{L_{n,m}}$ , define the sequence  $(\varphi_n)_{n \geq 1}$  by the relation

$$n! = \sqrt{2\pi n} (n/e)^n e^{L_{n,m} + \varphi_n}; \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \tag{13}$$

The value of the approximation formula will be better whenever  $(\varphi_n)_{n \geq 1}$  convergence to zero faster. Using the relation (13) we get

$$\varphi_n = \ln n! - \ln \sqrt{2\pi} - (n + 1/2) \ln n + n - L_{n,m}$$

And hence

$$\varphi_n - \varphi_{n+1} = (n + 1/2) \ln(1 + 1/n) - 1 + L_{n+1,m} - L_{n,m}.$$

By using the expansion [1]

$$(n + 1/2) \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) - 1 = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2k+1} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^{2k}} \tag{14}$$

and the relation [7], we have

$$\varphi_n - \varphi_{n+1} = \sum_{k=m+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2n+1)^{2k}}$$

Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{2(m+1)}(\varphi_n - \varphi_{n+1}) = \frac{1}{(2m+3)2^{2(m+1)}};$$

$$n, m = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (15)$$

Now we get the following result according Mortici result:

**Theorem 6.** The rate of convergence of the sequence  $\varphi_n$  is equal to  $n^{-2m-1}$ , since

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{2m+1} \varphi_n = \frac{1}{(2m+1)(2m+3)2^{2(m+1)}}$$

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