

Hyperfactorial

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1 Hyperfactorial

The hyperfactorial (Sloane and Plouffe 1995) is the function defined by

$$H(n) = K(n+1) = \prod_{k=1}^n k^k, \quad (1)$$

where $K(n)$ is the K-function.

The hyperfactorial is implemented in the Wolfram Language as Hyperfactorial[n].

For integer values $n=1, 2, \dots$ are 1, 4, 108, 27648, 86400000, 4031078400000, 3319766398771200000, ... (OEIS A002109).

The hyperfactorial can also be generalized to complex numbers, as illustrated above.

The Barnes G-function and hyperfactorial $H(z)$ satisfy the relation

$$H(z-1)G(z) = e^{(z-1)\log \Gamma(z)} \quad (2)$$

for all complex z .

The hyperfactorial is given by the integral

$$H(z) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{z}{2}} e^{(z+1)/2 + \int_0^z \ln(t!) dt} \quad (3)$$

and the closed-form expression

$$K(z) = e^{\zeta'(-1, z+1) - \zeta'(-1)} \quad (4)$$

for $R[z] > 0$, where $\zeta(z)$ is the Riemann zeta function, $\zeta'(z)$ its derivative, $\zeta(a, z)$ is the Hurwitz zeta function, and

$$\zeta'(a, z) = \left[\frac{\partial \zeta(s, z)}{\partial s} \right]_{s=a} \quad (5)$$

$H(z)$ also has a Stirling-like series

$$H(z) \sim A e^{-\frac{z^2}{4}} z^{\frac{z(z+1)}{2} + \frac{1}{12}} \times \left(1 + \frac{1}{720z^2} - \frac{1433}{7257600z^4} + \dots \right) \quad (6)$$

(OEIS A143475 and A143476).

$H(-1/2)$ has the special value

$$H(-1/2) = e^{-\frac{[\ln 2/3 + 12\zeta'(-1)]}{8}} \quad (7)$$

$$= 2^{\frac{1}{12}} \pi^{\frac{1}{8}} e^{\frac{[\gamma - 1 - \zeta'(2)/\zeta(2)]}{8}} \quad (8)$$

$$= \frac{A^{3/2}}{2^{1/24} e^{1/8}}, \quad (9)$$

where γ is the Euler-Mascheroni constant and A is the Glaisher-Kinkelin constant.

The derivative is given by

$$\frac{dH(x)}{dx} = H(x) \left(\frac{1}{2} [1 - \ln(2\pi)] + \ln(\Gamma(x+1)) + x \right) \quad (10)$$