

A dazzling identity

Narendra Bhandari, Bajura, Nepal

E-mail: narenbhandari04@gmail.com

Schooling: Far- West Secondary School, Dhangadhi, Kailali

High School: National Academy of Science and Technology,
Dhangadhi, Kailali, Pokhara University

June 6, 2020

Abstract: In this paper we shall be deriving an identity (*main result*) which was an inspiration from **Prof. Daniel Sitaru's** proposal. The identity is in fact the variant version of inspired problem that uses the *Faulhaber's Formula* and elementary algebraic identities.

Theorem(*Main result*): For positive integers M, N and p such that $M \leq N$ the following holds

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=M}^N \left(\sum_{k=1}^j \left(\sum_{l=1}^k \frac{1}{k} \sqrt[n]{G(n, l)} \right)^n \right)^p \binom{N-M+1}{1}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{q=1}^p \frac{N^p (M-1)^q}{N^q (M-1)} \\ + \frac{1}{p+1} \sum_{q=1}^{p+1} N^{p+1-q} (M-1)^{q-1} + \sum_{j=2}^p \sum_{q=1}^{p-j+1} \frac{B_j}{j} \binom{p}{j-1} N^{p-j+1-q} (M-1)^{q-1}$$

where $G(n, l) = 1 + (-1)^{l+1} \frac{n! \sqrt[n]{nl}}{nl}$ and B_n is nt Bernoulli number.

Motivation : Before we get to derive the main result, let's shed the light on the original motivating proposed problem of **Prof. Daniel Sitaru** published by *Romanian Mathematical Magazine*. The problem was to find

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} + \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right)^n$$

The limit for the above problem is 1. To crack the problem we can observe that limit has 1^∞ form.

We shall derive the following lemma.

Lemma: For all $n, l \in \mathbf{N}$ if $\overline{G}(n, l) = \left(1 \pm \frac{\sqrt[nl]{nl}}{nl}\right)$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[nl]{\overline{G}(n, l)} = 1$$

Proof for lemma

Proof

It is trivial to show that for all $n, l \geq 1$, $0 < \frac{1}{nl} \leq 1$ so by **Bernoulli inequality** we deduce that

$$0 < \sqrt[nl]{\overline{G}(n, l)} = \sqrt[nl]{1 \pm \frac{\sqrt[nl]{nl}}{nl}} \leq 1 \pm \frac{\sqrt[nl]{nl}}{(nl)^2}$$

$$\sqrt[nl+1]{nl+1} \leq \sqrt[nl]{nl} \leq 1 \xrightarrow{\text{Bernoulli}} 1 + \frac{1}{nl(nl+1)} \leq \sqrt[nl]{nl} \leq 1$$

Now as $n \rightarrow \infty$ our sequence $\sqrt[nl]{nl}$ converges to 1 by **Squeeze theorem** and hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[nl]{\overline{G}(n, l)} = 1 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[nl]{nl}}{nl} = 1 + 0 = 1$$

this completes the proof for the **Lemma**.

Using the lemma and setting $l = 1$ we have then the case of proposed problem giving us

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)^n = 1^\infty$$

But then the 1^∞ is an indeterminate form so we are not done to show that the limit is 1.

Since we showed that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n} = 0 < 1$ or for $n \in \mathbf{N}$ by induction

it is easy to verify that $\sqrt[n]{n} \leq \sqrt[n]{n!} \leq n$ which implies $\frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n} < 1, \forall n > 1$ and by fractional binomial theorem

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \binom{\frac{1}{n}}{r} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n}\right)^r + \left(-\frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n}\right)^r \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(2 + 2 \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \binom{\frac{1}{n}}{2r} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n}\right)^{2r} \right)$$

$= \frac{1}{2}(2 + 2R(n)) = 1 + R(n)$ where $R(n)$ is the latter infinite sum. Therefore,

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + R(n))^n = \exp\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R(n)\right) \stackrel{R(n) \rightarrow 0}{\cong} e^0 = 1$$

we are done. Now what if we are interested to determine the limits of

$$\left(\left(1 + \frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right)^n, \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} + \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\sqrt[2n]{2n}}{2n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2n}} \right)^n,$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{3} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2n}} + \frac{1}{3} \left(1 - \frac{\sqrt[2n]{2n}}{2n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2n}} + \frac{1}{3} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt[3n]{3n}}{3n} \right)^{\frac{1}{3n}} \right)^n$$

and soon. We shall show the limits for the above sequences converges to 1 in the following proof of the *main result*.

Proof for the theorem

Proof. For all $n, l \in \mathbf{N}$ we define $F(n, l) = (-1)^{l+1} \frac{\sqrt[nl]{nl}}{nl}$ and $G(n, l) = 1 + F(n, l)$ then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[nl]{G(n, l)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[nl]{1 + F(n, l)} \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{\cong} \sum_{l=1}^k k^{-1} = 1$$

which follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[nl]{G(n, l)} \right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1^n = 1^\infty$$

giving us the 1^∞ form. Though we have 1^∞ but to deal with it we are unknown with function $J(n)$ (say) such that $\exp\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} J(n)\right)$ is properly handled(like that of motivated problem resolution).

To obtain the function $J(n)$ we express $J(n)$ as

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[nl]{G(n, l)} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[nl]{1 + F(n, l)} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \binom{\frac{1}{nl}}{r} F^r(n, l)$$

in the latter expression we uses the **fractional binomial theorem** for $\sqrt[nl]{1 + F(n, l)}$. It's valid to use as $|F(n, l)| < 1$. Further on expansion of the latter binomial series we can note that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \binom{\frac{1}{nl}}{r} F^r(n, l) &= \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \left(F^0(n, l) + F^1(n, l) + O(n^{-3}) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \left(1 + F^1(n, l) \right) = 1 + \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k (-1)^{l+1} \frac{\sqrt[nl]{nl}}{(nl)^2} = 1 + y(n, k) \end{aligned}$$

where $O(\cdot)$ is *Big O notation* and since we are interested in limit guving us the $J(n) = y(n, k)$ in terms of $n \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore, we deduce the limit

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[nl]{G(n, k)} \right)^n &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + y(n, k))^n = \exp \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y(n, k) \right) = \\ &= \exp \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{kn^2} \sum_{l=1}^k \frac{(-1)^{l+1} \sqrt[nl]{nl}}{l^2} \right) = e^0 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

and hence for $p \geq 1$, we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=M}^N \left(\sum_{k=1}^j \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[nl]{G(n, l)} \right)^n \right)^p = \sum_{j=M}^N \left(\sum_{k=1}^j k^{-1} \times k \right)^p = \sum_{j=M}^N j^p.$$

It is easy to observe the latter sum appears as the *Faulhaber's formula* however, the sum begins from any $1 \leq j = M \leq N$ so the direct application formula is not appropriate.

Call $X(M, N, p) = \sum_{j=M}^N j^p$ then we can notice that

$$X(M, N, p) = X(1, N, p) - X(1, M-1, p) = \sum_{j=1}^N j^p - \sum_{j=1}^{M-1} j^p$$

Recall that (*Faulhaber's formula*)

$$\sum_{j=1}^N j^p = \frac{N^{p+1}}{p+1} + \frac{N^p}{2} + \sum_{j=2}^p \frac{B_j p!}{j!} \frac{N^{p-j+1}}{(p-j+1)!} \cdots (i)$$

and now for $M - 1$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{M-1} j^p = \frac{(M-1)^{p+1}}{p+1} + \frac{(M-1)^p}{2} + \sum_{j=2}^p \frac{B_j p!}{j!} \frac{(M-1)^{p-j+1}}{(p-j+1)!} \dots (ii)$$

subtracting (i) - (ii) it's yields the following

$$\begin{aligned} X(M, N, p) &= \frac{N^{p+1} - (M-1)^{p+1}}{p+1} + \frac{N^p - (M-1)^p}{2} + \\ &+ \sum_{j=2}^p \frac{B_j}{j! p! (p-j+1)!} \left(N^{p-j+1} - (M-1)^{p-j+1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

for the simplification of the above identity we have elementary algebraic identity

$$a^n - b^n = (a-b) \sum_{q=0}^N a^{N-q-1} b^q = (a-b) \sum_{q=1}^n a^{n-q} b^{q-1}$$

and thus $X(M, N, p) =$

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{(N-M+1)}{p+1} \sum_{q=1}^{p+1} N^{p+1-q} (M-1)^{q-1} + \frac{N-M+1}{2} \sum_{q=1}^p N^{p-q} (M-1)^{q-1} \\ &+ (N-M+1) \sum_{j=2}^p \sum_{q=1}^{p-j+1} \frac{B_j p! N^{p-j+1-q} (M-1)^{q-1}}{j! (p-j+1)!} \\ &X(M, N, p) \binom{N-M+1}{1}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{q=1}^p N^{p-q} (M-1)^{q-1} + \\ &\frac{1}{p+1} \sum_{q=1}^{p+1} N^{p+1-q} (M-1)^{q-1} + \sum_{j=2}^p \sum_{q=1}^{p-j+1} \frac{B_j}{j} \binom{p}{j-1} N^{p-j+1-q} (M-1)^{q-1} \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.

Corollaries

1. Show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=M}^N \sum_{k=1}^j \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[n]{G(n, l)} \right)^n = \frac{N+M}{2} (N-M+1)$$

this result is immediately followed by setting $p = 1$

2. Prove that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=M}^N \left(\sum_{k=1}^j \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k \sqrt[n]{G(n, l)} \right)^n \right)^2 = X(M, N, 2)$$

$= \frac{N - M + 1}{3} \left(N^2 + NM + \frac{N}{2} + M^2 - \frac{M}{2} \right)$ is the particular case of the *main result* for $p = 2$

The particular case for $p = 2$ is can be found as proposed problem which is published by *Romanian Mathematical Magazine*.

References

- [1] Faulhaber's formula, <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Faulhaber>.
- [2] Fractional binomial theorem, <https://brilliant.org/wiki/fractional-binomial-theorem/>.
- [3] Big O notation, [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big O notation](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_O_notation).