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**Zbl 858.11051****Erdős, Paul; Graham, S.W.; Ivić, Aleksandar; Pomerance, Carl***On the number of divisors of  $n!$  (In English)***Berndt, Bruce C. (ed.) et al., Analytic number theory. Vol. 1. Proceedings of a conference in honor of Heini Halberstam, May 16-20, 1995, Urbana, IL, USA. Boston, MA: Birkhäuser, Prog. Math. 138, 337-355 (1996). [ISBN 0-8176-3824-5/hbk]**

In this interesting paper, various problems concerning the number of divisors of  $n!$  are investigated. The first theorem provides an asymptotic expansion for  $\log d(n!)$  with first term  $c_0 n(\log n)^{-1}$  for an explicit constant  $c_0 > 0$ . The authors show next that

$$d(n!)/d((n-1)!) = 1 + P(n)n^{-1} + O\left(n^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right)$$

where  $P(n) = \max_{p|n} p$ . This leads to an estimate for the least  $K = K(n)$  such that  $d((n+K)!) \geq 2d(n!)$ . It follows that  $K(n)/\log n$  is unbounded but that  $K(n) < n^{4/9}$  for all sufficiently large  $n$ . The final section concerns the difference  $D(n) = d(n!) - d((n-1)!)$ . The authors call an integer  $n$  a champ of  $D(n) > D(m)$  whenever  $m < n$ . They show that  $p$  and  $2p$  are champs for any prime  $p$  and conjecture that there are infinitely many champs not of this form.

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05A10 Combinatorial functions

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divisor functions; factorials; asymptotic results; champs