

Wallis derived his product through a 'method of interpolation', Proposition 191 in his 1656 *Arithmetica Infinitorum*, described by the scholar Jacqueline A. Stedall as "perhaps the one real stroke of genius in Wallis's long mathematical career."

Web link: old.maa.org/press/periodicals/convergence/index-to-mathematical-treasures (the first Wallis entry). The images, from left to right, of Leibniz, Wallis and Viète are from the biographical articles at en.wikipedia.org/.
Further reading: *The Arithmetic of Infinitesimals: John Wallis 1656* by Jacqueline A. Stedall, Springer, 2004.

