

19. Let $h \in \mathbb{R}, h > -1$. Then for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, it follows that $P(n) : (1 + h)^n \geq 1 + nh$.

Proof. (Induction).

For the basis case, suppose $n = 1$. Observe that $(1 + h)^1 = 1 + h = 1 + (1)h$, thus $P(1)$.

Now suppose $P(n)$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence $(1 + h)^n \geq 1 + nh$. Now we consider two cases. Let $h \geq 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}h + 1 &\geq 1 \\(h + 1)^n &\geq 1^n \\h(h + 1)^n &\geq h.\end{aligned}$$

Now let $0 > h > -1$. Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}0 &> h > -1 \\1 &> h + 1 > 0 \\1^n &> (h + 1)^n > 0 \\h &< h(h + 1)^n < 0\end{aligned}$$

Combining the inequality for both cases, we get $h(h + 1)^n \geq h$ for all $h > -1$. Adding this inequality to our assumption, $(1 + h)^n \geq 1 + nh$, we get $(1 + h)^n + h(h + 1)^n \geq 1 + nh + h$. Then $(h + 1)^n(1 + h) = (h + 1)^{n+1} \geq 1 + h(n + 1)$, thus $P(n + 1)$. Therefore, if $h \in \mathbb{R}, h > -1$, then for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, it follows that $(1 + h)^n \geq 1 + nh$ by induction.