

The proof is by induction. First, let $n = 2$. Then $(1 + h)^2 = 1 + 2h + h^2$. Since $h > 0$, so is h^2 , hence $1 + 2h > (1 + h)^2$.

Now suppose the inequality holds for any $n > 1$ and less than $N \in \mathbb{N}$. Then by the induction step we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1 + h)^N &= (1 + h)^{N-1}(1 + h) \\
 &= (1 + h)^{N-1} + h(1 + h)^{N-1} \\
 &> 1 + (N - 1)h + h + (N - 1)h^2 \\
 &> 1 + (N - 1)h + h = 1 + Nh.
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Hence, by induction, the inequality holds for all N as desired.