

*Lemma.*  $x > \log_2 x$  on  $(0, \infty)$ .

*Proof :* (i)

Define  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f(x) = x - \log_2 x$ ,  $f$  is continuous and differentiable on  $(0, \infty)$ ,  $f'(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{x \ln 2} =$

$$\frac{x - \log_2 e}{x} \begin{cases} > 0, \text{ if } x \in (\log_2 e, \infty) \\ = 0, \text{ if } x = \log_2 e \\ < 0, \text{ if } x \in (0, \log_2 e) \end{cases} . \text{ Note that } \log_2 x \text{ is strictly increasing on } (0, \infty), f(\log_2 e) = \log_2 e -$$

$\log_2(\log_2 e) > \log_2 e - \log_2(\log_2 2.8) > \log_2 e - \log_2(\log_2 2\sqrt{2}) = \log_2 e - \log_2 1.5 > 0. \therefore$  By Mean Value Theorem :

$\forall x \in (\log_2 e, \infty)$ ,  $\exists c_x \in (\log_2 e, x)$  s.t.  $f(x) - f(\log_2 e) = f'(c_x)(x - \log_2 e) > 0$ ,  $f(x) > f(\log_2 e) > 0$ .

(ii)

Similarly, by Mean Value Theorem :  $\forall x \in (0, \log_2 e)$ ,  $\exists t_x \in (x, \log_2 e)$  s.t.  $f(x) - f(\log_2 e) = f'(t_x)(x - \log_2 e) >$

$0$ ,  $f(x) > f(\log_2 e) > 0$ .

Accordingly, by (i)(ii) :  $f > 0$  on  $(0, \infty)$ , i.e.  $x > \log_2 x$  on  $(0, \infty)$ .

*Proposition.*  $n > \log_2 n$ ,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $\mathbb{N}$  denotes the set of all positive numbers.

*Proof 1 :* By the above lemma, done.

*Proof 2 :*  $\log_2 x$  is strictly increasing on  $(0, \infty)$ .

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 1, 2^n = (1+1)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \geq \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} = 1 + n > n \iff n = \log_2(2^n) > \log_2 n.$$