

For arbitrary real numbers x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{99} such that $0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_{99}$, determine the minimum value of positive real number c such that the following inequality always holds.

$$\underline{3}\sqrt{x_1} + \underline{4}(\sqrt{x_2 - x_1} + \sqrt{x_3 - x_2} + \dots + \sqrt{x_{99} - x_{98}}) \leq c(\sqrt{x_2} + \sqrt{x_3} + \dots + \sqrt{x_{98}}) + \underline{5}\sqrt{x_{99}}$$

$$(a^2 + b^2)(\lambda^2 + \gamma^2) \geq (a\lambda + b\gamma)^2$$

$$(3^2 + 4^2)(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \geq (3\sqrt{\lambda_1} + 4\sqrt{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1})^2$$

$$3\sqrt{\lambda_1} + 4\sqrt{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} \leq 5\sqrt{\lambda_2}$$

$$3\sqrt{\lambda_2} + 4\sqrt{\lambda_3 - \lambda_2} \leq 5\sqrt{\lambda_3}$$

⋮

$$3\sqrt{\lambda_{98}} + 4\sqrt{\lambda_{99} - \lambda_{98}} \leq 5\sqrt{\lambda_{99}}$$

$$a : \lambda = b : \gamma$$

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$$3(\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \dots + \sqrt{\lambda_{98}}) + 4(\sqrt{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} + \dots + \sqrt{\lambda_{99} - \lambda_{98}})$$

$$\leq 5(\sqrt{\lambda_2} + \dots + \sqrt{\lambda_{99}})$$

$$3\sqrt{\lambda_1} + 4(\sqrt{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} + \dots + \sqrt{\lambda_{99} - \lambda_{98}}) \leq 2(\sqrt{\lambda_2} + \dots + \sqrt{\lambda_{98}}) + 5\sqrt{\lambda_{99}}$$

∴ It suffices to show that $c \geq 2$.

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Inequality above are strict.

$$(a^2 + b^2)(\lambda^2 + \gamma^2) \geq (a\lambda + b\gamma)^2$$

$$a^2\gamma^2 + b^2\lambda^2 \geq 2a\lambda b\gamma$$

$$(a\gamma - b\lambda)^2 \geq 0$$