

(I) $a = -\frac{3}{4}$ 时, $f(x) = -\frac{3}{4} \ln a + \sqrt{1+x}$

$$f'(x) = -\frac{3}{4x} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1+x}} = \frac{2x-3\sqrt{1+x}}{4x\sqrt{1+x}}$$

$$f'(x) = 0 \text{ 时 } 2x = \sqrt{1+x} \Rightarrow 4x^2 - 9x - 9 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-3)(4x+3) = 0$$

$$x_1 = 3, x_2 = -\frac{3}{4}, x > 3, f'(x) > 0, 0 < x < 3, f'(x) < 0$$

故单调递增区间为 $(3, +\infty)$, 单调递减区间为 $(0, 3)$

(II) $a \ln x + \sqrt{1+x} - \frac{\sqrt{x}}{2a} \leq 0$

注意到带入 $x = 1$, 得 $\frac{1}{2a} \geq \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow 0 < a \leq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}$

$a > 0$ 时, 原式等价于 $\sqrt{x} \cdot \frac{1}{a^2} - 2\sqrt{x+1} \cdot \frac{1}{a} - 2 \ln x \geq 0$

记 $t = \frac{1}{a}, t \geq 2\sqrt{2}$

$$\text{则 } g(t) = \sqrt{x} \cdot t^2 - 2\sqrt{x+1} \cdot t - 2 \ln x = \sqrt{x}(t - \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x}})^2 - 2 \ln x - \frac{1+x}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$g(t)$ 开口向上, 其对称轴 $t = \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x}} \leq 2\sqrt{2}$ 即 $x \geq \frac{1}{7}$ 时, $g(t)$ 单调递增

$$\text{故 } g(t) \geq g(2\sqrt{2}) = 8\sqrt{x} - 4\sqrt{2}\sqrt{x+1} - 2 \ln x$$

记 $p(x) = 4\sqrt{x} - 2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{x+1} - \ln x, x \geq \frac{1}{7}$

$$\begin{aligned} p'(x) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{1+x}} - \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{1+x} - \sqrt{2x}}{\sqrt{x(1+x)}} + \frac{\sqrt{x} - 1}{x} \\ &= \frac{1-x}{\sqrt{x(x+1)}(\sqrt{2x} + \sqrt{x+1})} + \frac{x-1}{x(\sqrt{x}+1)} \\ &= (x-1) \frac{(\sqrt{2x} + \sqrt{x+1})(\sqrt{x+1}) - \sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x}+1)}{x\sqrt{x+1}(\sqrt{x}+1)(\sqrt{2x} + \sqrt{x+1})} \\ &= \frac{(x-1)(\sqrt{2x^2+2x} + 1 - \sqrt{x})}{x\sqrt{x+1}(\sqrt{x}+1)(\sqrt{2x} + \sqrt{x+1})} \end{aligned}$$

$x > 1, p'(x) > 0; x < 1, p'(x) < 0$ 故 $p(x)$ 在 $x = 1$ 处取得极小值 $p(1) = 0$

故 $x \geq \frac{1}{7}$ 时, $g(t) \geq g(2\sqrt{2}) = 2p(x) \geq 0$

$\frac{1}{e^2} \leq x < \frac{1}{7}$ 时, 对称轴 $\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x}} > 2\sqrt{2}$

$$\text{此时 } g(t) \geq g(\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x}}) = \sqrt{x} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} - 2\sqrt{(1 + \frac{1}{x})(1+x)} - 2 \ln x = \frac{-(x+1+2\sqrt{x} \ln x)}{\sqrt{x}}$$

记 $q(x) = x + 1 + 2\sqrt{x} \ln x, \frac{1}{e^2} \leq x < \frac{1}{7}, q'(x) = 1 + \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} > 0$

故 $q(x)$ 单调递增, $q(x) < q(\frac{1}{7})$

故此时 $g(t) > g(\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x}}) = g(2\sqrt{2}) \geq 0$