

6. The circle C has equation

$$x^2 + y^2 - 6x + 10y + k = 0$$

where k is a constant.

(a) Find the coordinates of the centre of C .

(2)

Given that C does not cut or touch the x -axis,

(b) find the range of possible values for k .

(3)

$$x^2 + y^2 - 6x + 10y + k = 0$$

$$(x-3)^2 - 9 + (y+5)^2 - 25 + k = 0$$

$$\text{So centre is at } \underline{(3, -5)} \text{ and } r^2 = 34 - k \Rightarrow r = \sqrt{34 - k}$$

(b) The (radius)² must be > 0 so $34 - k > 0 \Rightarrow k < 34$

Also the circle must not touch or cut the x axis
so $r <$ the distance of the centre from the x axis
(which is 5)

$$\text{So } \sqrt{34 - k} < 5$$

$$34 - k < 25$$

$$k > 9$$

So the range for k is $9 < k < 34$.

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