

Over all real numbers, find the minimum value of a positive real number y, such that;

$$y = \sqrt{(x+2)^2 + 25} + \sqrt{(x-6)^2 + 121}$$

$$y = ((x+6)^2 + 25)^{1/2} + ((x-6)^2 + 121)^{1/2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{((x+6)^2 + 25)^{-1/2} * (2(x+6))}{2} + \frac{((x-6)^2 + 121)^{-1/2} * (2(x-6))}{2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{(x+6)}{((x+6)^2 + 25)^{1/2}} + \frac{(x-6)}{((x-6)^2 + 121)^{1/2}}$$

Since for the minimum value of y, $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$,

$$\frac{(x+6)}{((x+6)^2 + 25)^{1/2}} + \frac{(x-6)}{((x-6)^2 + 121)^{1/2}} = 0$$

Hence,

$$\frac{(x+6)}{((x+6)^2 + 25)^{1/2}} = - \left(\frac{(x-6)}{((x-6)^2 + 121)^{1/2}} \right)$$

Squaring both sides,

$$\frac{(x+6)^2}{((x+6)^2 + 25)} = \frac{(x-6)^2}{((x-6)^2 + 121)}$$

$$(x+6)^2(x-6)^2 + 121(x+6)^2 = (x-6)^2(x+6)^2 + 25(x-6)^2$$

$$121(x^2 + 12x + 36) = 25(x^2 - 12x + 36)$$

$$121x^2 + 1452x + 4356 = 25x^2 - 300x + 900$$

$$96x^2 + 1752x + 3456 = 0$$

Dividing through by 24, we have

$$4x^2 + 73x + 144 = 0$$

Solving the quadratic equation using the quadratic formula, $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

$$a = 4, \quad b = 73, \quad c = 144$$

$$x = \frac{-73 \pm \sqrt{73^2 - 4(4)(144)}}{2(4)}$$

$$x = \frac{-73 \pm 55}{8}$$

$$x_1 = -16$$

$$x_2 = -2.25$$

Substituting for x in y

$$\text{At } x_1, y = \sqrt{(-16+6)^2 + 25} + \sqrt{(-16-6)^2 + 121}$$

$$y_1 = 35.77$$

$$\text{At } x_2, y = \sqrt{(-2.25 + 6)^2 + 25} + \sqrt{(-2.25 - 6)^2 + 121}$$

$$y_2 = 20$$

Hence, Over all real numbers, the minimum value for y is 20.