

Step-1

Given that C is non-singular.

We have to prove that A and $C^T AC$ have the same rank.

Here obviously C is square and the sizes of A and $C^T AC$ are same.

We know that

$$\text{rank}(C^T AC) \leq \text{rank}(A) \quad (1)$$

Since C is non-singular and C^{-1} exists, it is also non-singular.

Step-2

Now applying equation (1) to the matrix $C^T AC$ and the non-singular matrix C^{-1} ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rank}(C^T AC) &\geq \text{rank}\left((C^{-1})^T C^T AC (C^{-1})\right) \\ &= \text{rank}\left((C^T)^{-1} C^T AC (C^{-1})\right) \\ &= \text{rank}(IAI) \\ &= \text{rank}(A) \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\text{rank}(C^T AC) \geq \text{rank}(A) \quad (2)$

Step-3

From (1) and (2),

$$\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(C^T AC).$$

Since the ranks of A and $C^T AC$ are same, then have the same number of zero Eigen values.