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Appendix A

Proof of Necessary Conditions for a Nonsingular KKT Matrix

We claim that the KKT matrix $\begin{bmatrix} Q & A^T \\ A & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is invertible if the following two conditions are fulfilled:

- Matrix A has full row rank
- $Z^T Q Z$ is positive definite, where $Z = [z_1 \ z_2 \ \dots \ z_{n-m}]$ such that $\{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{n-m}\}$ form a basis of the null space of matrix A .

Now we show why the above two conditions lead to nonsingularity of KKT matrix in 2.8. Suppose there exists $\begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix}$ such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} Q & A^T \\ A & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (\text{A.1})$$

then we will have $Ap = 0 \Rightarrow p \in \text{span}\{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{n-m}\} \Rightarrow p = Zr$ for certain $r \in \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$ and $Qp + A^T q = 0$. If we multiple the transpose of $\begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix}$ beforehand in A.1,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} Q & A^T \\ A & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} = p^T Q p + p^T A^T q + q^T A p \\ &= p^T Q p \\ &= r^T Z^T Q Z r \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

Since $Z^T Q Z$ is positive definite, $r^T Z^T Q Z r = 0$ only holds when $r = 0 \Rightarrow p = Zr = 0 \Rightarrow A^T q = 0$. Since A has full row rank, $q = 0$ must hold. So we can see that A.1 holds only if $p = q = 0$, so the KKT matrix is nonsingular.