

Optimality Conditions for Quadratic Programming Problems in Hilbert Spaces

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Abstract. In this paper, we give optimality conditions for the quadratic programming problems with constraints defined by finitely many convex quadratic constraints in Hilbert spaces. As special cases, we obtain optimality conditions for the quadratic programming problems under linear constraints in Hilbert spaces.

1. Introduction

Let \mathcal{H} be a real Hilbert space with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and the induced norm $\| \cdot \|$. In this paper we will study the following optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(QCQP)} \quad & \min f(x) := \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Qx \rangle + \langle c, x \rangle \\ & \text{s.t. } x \in \mathcal{H} : g_i(x) := \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Q_i x \rangle + \langle c_i, x \rangle + \alpha_i \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{aligned}$$

where \mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space, $Q: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ is a continuous linear self-adjoint operator, Q_i is positive semidefinite continuous linear self-adjoint operator on \mathcal{H} , $c, c_i \in \mathcal{H}$, and α_i are real numbers, $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

The constraint set of (QCQP) is denoted by

$$F = \left\{ x \in \mathcal{H} \mid g_i(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Q_i x \rangle + \langle c_i, x \rangle + \alpha_i \leq 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, m \right\}.$$

If Q_i are zero operators for all $i = 1, \dots, m$, then we say that (QCQP) is a *quadratic programming problem under linear constraints* and denote it by (QPL). Note that if Q and Q_i are zero operators for all $i = 1, \dots, m$, then (QCQP) becomes a *linear programming problem* and will be denoted by (LP).

Quadratic programming problems (QP problems, in short) have been studied fairly complete in the setting of Euclidean spaces, see [8] and references therein. For infinite dimensional spaces, it was extended to Hilbert spaces. Existence of the solutions for

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QP problems in Hilbert spaces have been investigated extensively in various versions, see [1, 3, 4, 7, 10–12] and references therein.

Optimality conditions for nonlinear programming have been intensively studied in literatures, such as [6, 9] and therein reference. Optimality conditions for (QCQP) are well-known in [2]. For first and second-order necessary conditions, the proof techniques and the conclusions are the same for the finite-dimensional and the infinite-dimensional situations. However, this changes completely when trying to establish sufficient optimality condition. Borwein [2] gave the second-order sufficient condition by assuming that constraint set F is finite-dimensional. Bonnans and Shapiro [1, Theorem 3.130] gave necessary and sufficient conditions for the quadratic programming problems under linear constraints in Hilbert spaces.

The purpose of this paper is to give optimality conditions for the quadratic programming problems with constraints defined by finitely many convex quadratic constraints in Hilbert spaces. Our result is established without requesting finiteness dimension of constraint set.

This paper is organized as follows. Some preliminaries are given in Section 2. Section 3 is devoted to discuss the first-order optimality conditions for (QCQP). Second-order optimality conditions for (QCQP) are derived in Section 4. Finally, we conclude the paper by emphasizing the results that have been obtained.

2. Notations and preliminary results

In this section we recall some notations and known results which will be used in our analysis. For details, we refer to [1].

In this paper, $\text{dist}(x, S) = \inf_{y \in S} \|x - y\|$ stands for the distance from the point $x \in \mathcal{H}$ to set $S \subset \mathcal{H}$. The norm of a continuous linear operator $Q: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ shall be defined $\|Q\| = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|Qx\|}{\|x\|} \mid x \neq 0 \right\}$.

The following cones will be important for the formulation of our optimality conditions.

Definition 2.1. (see, e.g., [1, p. 45]) Let $x \in F$ be a feasible point of problem (QCQP) and denote by $I(x) = \{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \mid g_i(x) = 0\}$ the set of inequality constraints active at x , as well as by

$$T_F(x) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \text{dist}(x + th, F) = o(t), t \geq 0\}$$

where $r(t) = o(t)$ mean that $\frac{r(t)}{t} \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow 0$, the *tangent cone* of F at x . Later on, we will also use the *critical cone* of the problem (QCQP) at x :

$$C(x) = \{h \in T_F(x) \mid \langle Qx + c, h \rangle = 0\}.$$

Finally, the *radial cone* to F at x is

$$\mathcal{R}_F(x) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \exists t^* > 0, \forall t \in [0, t^*], x + th \in F\}.$$

Definition 2.2. (Mangasarian–Fromovitz constraint qualification, see, e.g., [1, p. 71]) Consider problem (QCQP). The feasible point \bar{x} is called regular if

$$\exists h \in \mathcal{H} : \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle < 0, \quad \forall i \in I(\bar{x}).$$

Remark 2.3. Note that if $\bar{x} \in F$ is regular, then $T_F(\bar{x})$ is formulated as follows (see [1, Example 3.39])

$$T_F(\bar{x}) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, \forall i \in I(\bar{x})\}.$$

To obtain our results, we will need the following lemma, which is an extension of a Hoffman estimate for the distance to the set of solutions to a system of linear inequalities.

Lemma 2.4. (see [5, Theorem 3]) *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Let $x_i^* \in \mathcal{H}, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, be given, and consider the set*

$$S = \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle x_i^*, x \rangle \leq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m\}.$$

Then there exists a constant $k > 0$ such that for any $x \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$\text{dist}(x, S) \leq k \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \langle x_i^*, x \rangle_+ \right),$$

where $[a]_+ := \max\{a, 0\}$.

3. First-order optimality conditions

In this section we will establish first-order necessary and sufficient optimality conditions for (QCQP).

Theorem 3.1. *Let \bar{x} be a feasible point of the problem (QCQP).*

(i) *If \bar{x} is a local solution of this problem, then*

$$(3.1) \quad \langle Q\bar{x} + c, x - \bar{x} \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{for every } x \in F.$$

(ii) *The point \bar{x} is a local solution of (QCQP) if*

$$(3.2) \quad Q_i = 0, \quad \forall i \in I(\bar{x}) \quad \text{and} \quad \langle Q\bar{x} + c, x - \bar{x} \rangle > 0, \quad \forall x \in F \setminus \{\bar{x}\}.$$

Proof. (i) Let \bar{x} be a local solution of (QCQP). Choose $\mu > 0$ such that

$$f(y) - f(\bar{x}) \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in F \cap B(\bar{x}, \mu).$$

Given any $x \in F \setminus \{\bar{x}\}$. Since F is a convex set, it follows that there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\bar{x} + t(x - \bar{x}) = tx + (1 - t)\bar{x}$$

belonging to $F \cap B(\bar{x}, \mu)$ wherever $t \in (0, \delta)$. Hence

$$\langle Q\bar{x} + c, x - \bar{x} \rangle = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{f(\bar{x} + t(x - \bar{x})) - f(\bar{x})}{t} \geq 0 \quad \text{for every } x \in F.$$

Property (3.1) has been established.

(ii) On the contrary, suppose that (3.2) is valid, \bar{x} is not a local minimum for (QCQP). Then there exists a sequence of feasible points x_k , converging to \bar{x} , such that

$$f(x_k) < f(\bar{x}) \quad \text{for all } k.$$

The sequence $\left\{ \frac{x_k - \bar{x}}{\|x_k - \bar{x}\|} \right\}$ is bounded and hence it has a weakly convergent subsequence. There is no loss of generality in assuming that the sequence $\left\{ \frac{x_k - \bar{x}}{\|x_k - \bar{x}\|} \right\}$ converges weakly to some $h \in \mathcal{H}$. We have

$$f(x_k) - f(\bar{x}) = \langle Q\bar{x} + c, x_k - \bar{x} \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle x_k - \bar{x}, Q(x_k - \bar{x}) \rangle < 0, \quad \forall k.$$

Dividing the last inequality by $\|x_k - \bar{x}\|$ and taking the limits as $k \rightarrow \infty$, we obtain

$$(3.3) \quad \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \leq 0.$$

Since $Q_i = 0, \forall i \in I(\bar{x})$,

$$g_i(x_k) - g_i(\bar{x}) = \langle c_i, x_k - \bar{x} \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall i \in I(\bar{x}).$$

Therefore $\langle c_i, h \rangle = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \langle c_i, \frac{x_k - \bar{x}}{\|x_k - \bar{x}\|} \rangle \leq 0, \forall i \in I(\bar{x})$ and hence $g_i(\bar{x} + th) \leq 0$ for every $i \in I(\bar{x})$ and $t > 0$. Obviously, there exists $t^* > 0$ such that $g_i(\bar{x} + th) \leq 0$ for every $i \notin I(\bar{x})$ and $t \in (0, t^*)$. Consequently, $\bar{x} + th \in F$ for every $t \in (0, t^*)$. Substituting $x = \bar{x} + th$ into (3.2) gives $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle > 0$ which contradicts (3.3).

The proof is complete. □

The following example shows that (3.1) is necessary but not sufficient for \bar{x} to be a local solution of (QCQP).

Example 3.2. Consider the programming problem

$$(3.4) \quad \min f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Qx \rangle \quad \text{subject to } x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g_1(x) = \langle c_1, x \rangle + \alpha_1 \leq 0,$$

where $Q: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined by $Qx = (-x_1, 0)$, $c_1 = (1, 0)$ and $\alpha_1 = -1$.

Let

$$F = \{x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid g_1(x) \leq 0\} = \{x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1 - 1 \leq 0\}.$$

For $\bar{x} = (0, 1)$ we have $\bar{x} = (0, 1) \in F$ and $Q\bar{x} = 0$. It follows that the condition (3.1) is satisfied.

Taking $x^\varepsilon = (\varepsilon, 1)$, where ε is a positive number such that $\varepsilon < 1$, we have $x^\varepsilon \in F$ and

$$f(x^\varepsilon) = -\frac{\varepsilon^2}{2} < 0 = f(\bar{x}).$$

Hence $\bar{x} = (0, 1)$ is not a local solution of (3.4).

The following example shows that the assumption $Q_i = 0, \forall i \in I(\bar{x})$ cannot be dropped from assumption of Theorem 3.1(ii).

Example 3.3. Consider the following programming problem

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \min f(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Qx \rangle + \langle c, x \rangle \\ \text{s.t. } x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : g_1(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Q_1x \rangle \leq 0, \quad g_2(x) = \langle c_2, x \rangle + \alpha_2 \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $Q: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is defined by $Qx = (-x_1, 0, 0)$, $Q_1: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is defined by $Q_1x = (0, x_2 - x_3, -x_2 + x_3)$, $c = (0, 1, 0)$, $c_2 = (0, -1, 0)$ and $\alpha_2 = 1$.

For $\bar{x} = (0, 1, 1)$ we have $\bar{x} \in F$, $g_1(\bar{x}) = 0$, $Q_1 \neq 0$ and

$$\langle Q\bar{x} + c, x - \bar{x} \rangle = x_2 - 1 > 0, \quad \forall x \in F \setminus \{\bar{x}\}.$$

Taking $x^\varepsilon = (\varepsilon, 1, 1)$, where ε is a positive number such that $\varepsilon < 1$, we have $x^\varepsilon \in F$ and

$$f(x^\varepsilon) = -\frac{\varepsilon^2}{2} + 1 < 1 = f(\bar{x}).$$

Hence $\bar{x} = (0, 1, 1)$ is not a local solution of (3.5).

The following example is constructed to show that (3.2) can guarantee \bar{x} to be a local solution, but it is not a global solution.

Example 3.4. Consider the following programming problem

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \min f(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Qx \rangle + \langle c, x \rangle \\ \text{s.t. } x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g_1(x) &= \langle c_1, x \rangle \leq 0, \quad g_2(x) = \langle c_1, x \rangle \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $Q: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined by $Qx = (x_1, -9x_2)$, $c = (-1, 3)$, $c_1 = (1, -2)$ and $c_2 = (0, -1)$.

Let

$$F = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid g_1(x) \leq 0, g_2(x) \leq 0\}.$$

Taking $\bar{x} = (0, 0)$, we have $\bar{x} \in F$. It is a simple matter to check that

$$\langle Q\bar{x} + c, x - \bar{x} \rangle = \langle c, x \rangle = -x_1 + 3x_2 \geq x_2 > 0, \quad \forall x \in F \setminus \{\bar{x}\}.$$

Let ε be a positive number such that $\varepsilon < 1/2$ and let $U_{\bar{x}}^\varepsilon$ be neighborhood of \bar{x} . Put $\mathcal{N}_{\bar{x}} = U_{\bar{x}}^\varepsilon \cap F$. Then, for all $x \in \mathcal{N}_{\bar{x}}$ we have

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 - 3x_2)(x_1 + 3x_2 - 2) \geq 0 = f(0)$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{N}_{\bar{x}}$. Hence $\bar{x} = (0, 0)$ is a local minimum of (3.6).

Note that if $\hat{x} = (0, 1)$, then $\hat{x} \in F$ and $f(\hat{x}) = -\frac{3}{2} < f(\bar{x}) = 0$. Therefore \bar{x} is not a global solution of (3.6).

Remark 3.5. If Q is a positive semidefinite continuous linear self-adjoint operator, then (3.1) is sufficient condition for \bar{x} to be a global solution of (QCQP). Indeed, by positive semi-definiteness of Q , it follows that $f(x)$ is a convex function. For every $x \in F$ we have

$$0 \leq \langle Q\bar{x} + c, x - \bar{x} \rangle \leq f(x) - f(\bar{x}).$$

Therefore \bar{x} is a global solution of (QCQP).

The following theorem is just a special case of nonlinear programming with smooth data. However, for the sake of completeness, we give the complete proof here.

Theorem 3.6. *If $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{H}$ is a local solution of problem (QCQP) and if \bar{x} is regular, then there exists $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that*

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{cases} Q\bar{x} + c + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i(Q_i\bar{x} + c_i) = 0, \\ \frac{1}{2}\langle \bar{x}, Q_i\bar{x} \rangle + \langle c_i, \bar{x} \rangle + \alpha_i \leq 0, \\ \lambda_i(\frac{1}{2}\langle \bar{x}, Q_i\bar{x} \rangle + \langle c_i, \bar{x} \rangle + \alpha_i) = 0, \\ \lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Suppose that $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{H}$ is a local solution of problem (QCQP) and \bar{x} is regular. Then, by regularity of \bar{x} we have

$$T_F(\bar{x}) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, \forall i \in I(\bar{x})\}.$$

It follows from [1, Lemma 3.7] that $h = 0$ is an optimal solution of the linearized problem

$$(3.8) \quad \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \quad \text{subject to} \quad \langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, \quad i \in I(\bar{x}).$$

The problem (3.8) is a linear programming problem with a finite (equal zero) optimal value. By Theorem 2.202 in [1], we have that the set of optimal solution of the dual problem of (3.8)

$$(3.9) \quad \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0} 0 \quad \text{subject to} \quad Q\bar{x} + c + \sum_{i \in I(\bar{x})} \lambda_i(Q_i\bar{x} + c_i) = 0$$

is nonempty.

Put $\lambda_i = 0$ for all $i \in I \setminus I(\bar{x})$ (where $I = \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$), and $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)$. From (3.9) we obtain the first equality in (3.7). Since $\bar{x} \in F$ and $\lambda_i(\frac{1}{2}\langle \bar{x}, Q_i\bar{x} \rangle + \langle c_i, \bar{x} \rangle + \alpha_i) = 0$ for each $i \in I$, the other conditions in (3.7) are satisfied too. The proof is complete. \square

Remark 3.7. If $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{H}$ is a local solution of problem (QCQP) and if \bar{x} is regular, then (3.7) is equivalent to following condition

$$(3.10) \quad \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } h \in T_F(\bar{x}).$$

Indeed, (3.10) implies (3.7) follows immediately from the proof of Theorem 3.6. It remains to prove that (3.7) implies (3.10). Suppose that (3.7) is satisfied. Then, for every $h \in T_F(\bar{x})$ we have $\langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0$ for all $i \in I(\bar{x})$ and

$$\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = - \sum_{i \in I(\bar{x})} \lambda_i \langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \geq 0.$$

Hence (3.10) is satisfied.

The following example shows that the conclusion of Theorem 3.6 fails if the assumption on the regularity of \bar{x} is omitted.

Example 3.8. Consider the programming problem

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \min f(x) &= \frac{1}{2}\langle x, Qx \rangle + \langle c, x \rangle \\ \text{subject to } x &= (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g_1(x) = \frac{1}{2}\langle x, Q_1x \rangle \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $Q: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined by $Qx = (x_1, 0)$, $c = (0, -1)$ and $Q_1: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined by $Q_1x = (x_1 - x_2, -x_1 + x_2)$.

Let $F = \{x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid g_1(x) \leq 0\}$. We have

$$F = \{x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid (x_1 - x_2)^2 \leq 0\}.$$

For $\bar{x} = (1, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ we have $\bar{x} \in F$ and $g_1(\bar{x}) = 0$. Since $\langle Q_1\bar{x}, h \rangle = 0$ for all $h \in \mathbb{R}^2$, we have \bar{x} is irregular.

Since $x_1 = x_2$, we have $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x_1^2 - x_1 = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 - 1)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \geq -\frac{1}{2}$ for all $x = (x_1, x_2) \in F$. It follows that $\bar{x} = (1, 1)$ is a local solution of (3.11). Since $Q\bar{x} + c = (1, -1)$ and $Q_1\bar{x} = 0$, we see that there exists no $\lambda_1 \geq 0$ such that $Q\bar{x} + c + \lambda_1 Q_1\bar{x} = 0$. Hence the first equality in (3.7) does not hold.

4. Second-order optimality conditions

In this section, we shall establish second-order necessary and sufficient condition for \bar{x} to be (a strict) a local solution of problem (QCQP). For this, we will need the following assumption

$$(H) \quad (h \in T_F(\bar{x}), \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0, \langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0) \implies (\langle h, Q_i h \rangle = 0), \quad \forall i \in I(\bar{x}).$$

It is easily seen that the assumption (H) is satisfied if one of the following conditions holds:

- (i) $Q_i = 0$ for all $i \in I(\bar{x})$,
- (ii) $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle > 0$ for all $h \in T_F(\bar{x}) \setminus \{0\}$,
- (iii) $\langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle < 0$ for all $h \in T_F(\bar{x}) \setminus \{0\}$ and for all $i \in I(\bar{x})$.

Theorem 4.1. *Let \bar{x} be a feasible point of the problem (QCQP) and let \bar{x} be regular. Suppose that the assumption (H) is satisfied. Then, \bar{x} is a local solution of (QCQP) if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied:*

$$(4.1) \quad \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } h \in T_F(\bar{x}),$$

$$(4.2) \quad \text{if } h \in T_F(\bar{x}) \text{ and } \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0 \text{ then } \langle h, Qh \rangle \geq 0.$$

Proof. Since \bar{x} is regular, it follows from Remark 2.3 that

$$T_F(\bar{x}) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, \forall i \in I(\bar{x})\}.$$

Necessity. By Remark 3.7, assertion (4.1) holds.

Suppose that there exists $h \in T_F(\bar{x})$ such that $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0$ but $\langle h, Qh \rangle < 0$. Let us first show that there exists $t^* > 0$ such that

$$(4.3) \quad \bar{x} + th \in F, \quad \forall t \in (0, t^*).$$

For $i \in I(\bar{x})$, we have $g_i(\bar{x}) = 0$. Since $\langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0$ and by the assumption (H), there exists $t_1^* > 0$ such that

$$(4.4) \quad g_i(\bar{x} + th) = g_i(\bar{x}) + t\langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle + \frac{t^2}{2}\langle h, Q_i h \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall t \in (0, t_1^*).$$

For $i \notin I(\bar{x})$ we have $g_i(\bar{x}) < 0$. Since $g_i(\bar{x} + th) = g_i(\bar{x}) + t\langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle + \frac{t^2}{2}\langle h, Q_i h \rangle$ is a quadratic function (in the variable t) with $g_i(\bar{x}) < 0$ and $\frac{1}{2}\langle h, Q_i h \rangle \geq 0$, there exists $t_2^* > 0$ such that

$$(4.5) \quad g_i(\bar{x} + th) \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } t \in (0, t_2^*).$$

Let $t^* = \min\{t_1^*, t_2^*\}$. From (4.4) and (4.5) we obtain (4.3).

Consequently,

$$f(\bar{x} + th) - f(\bar{x}) = t\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle + \frac{t^2}{2}\langle h, Qh \rangle = \frac{t^2}{2}\langle h, Qh \rangle < 0, \quad \forall t \in (0, t^*).$$

This contradicts our assumption that \bar{x} is a local solution of (QCQP). Hence, assertion (4.2) holds.

Sufficiency. On the contrary, suppose that the conditions (4.1), (4.2) are satisfied, but \bar{x} is not a locally optimal solution of (QCQP). Then there exists a sequence of feasible points x_k , converging to \bar{x} such that

$$(4.6) \quad f(x_k) < f(\bar{x}) \quad \text{for all } k \text{ large enough.}$$

Set $t_k := \|x_k - \bar{x}\|$ and $h_k := \frac{x_k - \bar{x}}{t_k}$. We have $t_k > 0$, $\|h_k\| = 1$ and

$$\langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h_k \rangle = \frac{1}{t_k} \left\{ g_i(x_k) - g_i(\bar{x}) - \frac{1}{2}\langle x_k - \bar{x}, Q_i(x_k - \bar{x}) \rangle \right\} \leq 0 \quad \text{for } i \in I(\bar{x}).$$

Put $C(\bar{x}) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0, \langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I(\bar{x})\}$. It follows from Lemma 2.4 that

$$\text{dist}(h_k, C(\bar{x})) \leq \beta \left([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+ + \sum_{i \in I(\bar{x})} [\langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h_k \rangle]_+ \right) = \beta([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+),$$

where $\beta > 0$ depends on $Q\bar{x} + c$ and $Q_i\bar{x} + c_i$.

By (4.6) and

$$f(x_k) - f(\bar{x}) = t_k\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle + \frac{t_k^2}{2}\langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle,$$

it follows that

$$(4.7) \quad t_k\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle < -\frac{t_k^2}{2}\langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle.$$

Since $|\langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle| \leq \|Q\|\|h_k\|^2 = \|Q\|$, it follows that $-\frac{t_k}{2}\langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Combining this with (4.7) we have that $t_k(\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle) \leq o(t_k)$, and hence there exists a critical direction $\hat{h}_k \in C(\bar{x})$ such that $\hat{h}_k - h_k \rightarrow 0$, and hence $\|\hat{h}_k\| = 1$.

Observe that

$$\langle \hat{h}_k, Q\hat{h}_k \rangle - \langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle = \langle \hat{h}_k + h_k, Q(\hat{h}_k - h_k) \rangle \leq \|\hat{h}_k + h_k\| \|Q\| \|\hat{h}_k - h_k\|.$$

From this and $\|\hat{h}_k - h_k\| \leq \beta([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+)$ we deduce that

$$(4.8) \quad \langle \hat{h}_k, Q\hat{h}_k \rangle - \langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle \leq 2\beta\|Q\|([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+).$$

Consequently, since for the function $f(\cdot)$ the second order Taylor expansion is exact, we have by (4.8) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x_k) &= f(\bar{x}) + t_k \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle + \frac{t_k^2}{2} \langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle \\
 &\geq f(\bar{x}) + (t_k \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle - t_k^2 \beta \|Q\|([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+)) + \frac{t_k^2}{2} \langle \hat{h}_k, Q\hat{h}_k \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \geq 0$ for all $h \in T_F(\bar{x})$, we have that $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle \geq 0$ for k large enough. Hence for k large enough, we have

$$f(x_k) - f(\bar{x}) \geq (t_k \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle - t_k^2 \beta \|Q\|([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+)) + \frac{t_k^2}{2} \langle \hat{h}_k, Q\hat{h}_k \rangle \geq 0,$$

a contradiction with (4.6). The proof is complete. □

The following example shows that Theorem 4.1 is an extension of Theorem 3.130 in [1] for the quadratic programming problems in Hilbert spaces.

Example 4.2. Let ℓ^2 denote the Hilbert space of all square summable real sequence, $\ell^2 = \{x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots) \mid \sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n^2 < \infty, x_n \in \mathbb{R}, n = 1, 2, \dots\}$. The scalar product and the norm in ℓ^2 are defined, respectively, by

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n y_n, \quad \|x\| = \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Consider the following programming problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.9) \quad &\min f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Qx \rangle + \langle c, x \rangle \\
 \text{s.t. } &x \in \ell^2 : g_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Q_1x \rangle + \langle c_1, x \rangle \leq 0, \quad g_2(x) = \langle c_2, x \rangle \leq 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

where $Q: \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$ is defined by $Qx = (x_1, -x_2, x_3, \dots)$, $Q_1: \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$ is defined by $Q_1x = (x_1, 0, 0, \dots)$, $c = (-1, 1, 0, 0, \dots)$, $c_1 = (1, -1, 0, 0, \dots)$ and $c_2 = (-1, 0, 0, \dots)$.

Let

$$F = \{x \in \ell^2 \mid g_1(x) \leq 0, g_2(x) \leq 0\}.$$

For $\bar{x} = (0, \dots, 0, \dots) \in F$ and $h = (h_1, h_2, \dots) \in \ell^2$. It is a simple matter to check that \bar{x} is regular and

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_F(\bar{x}) &= \{h \in \ell^2 \mid \langle Q_1\bar{x} + c_1, h \rangle \leq 0, \langle c_2, h \rangle \leq 0\} \\
 &= \{h \in \ell^2 \mid h_1 - h_2 \leq 0, h_1 \geq 0\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = h_2 - h_1$, it follows that $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \geq 0$ for all $h \in T_F(\bar{x})$. If $h \in T_F(\bar{x})$ and $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = h_2 - h_1 = 0$ then

$$\langle h, Qh \rangle = h_1^2 - h_2^2 + h_3^2 + \dots \geq 0.$$

Note that if $h \in T_F(\bar{x})$, $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0$, $\langle Q_1\bar{x} + c_1, h \rangle = 0$, $\langle c_2, h \rangle = 0$, then $h_1 = h_2 = 0$ and $\langle h, Q_1h \rangle = h_1^2 = 0$. Therefore the assumption (H) is satisfied.

Let ε be a positive number such that $\varepsilon < 1$ and let $V_{\bar{x}}^\varepsilon$ be neighborhood of \bar{x} . Put $\mathcal{N}_{\bar{x}} = V_{\bar{x}}^\varepsilon \cap F$. By taking $x^\varepsilon = (x_1^\varepsilon, x_2^\varepsilon, \dots) \in \mathcal{N}_{\bar{x}}$, we have $x_i^\varepsilon < 1$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots$, and $x_2^\varepsilon \geq x_1^\varepsilon \geq 0$. Since

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 - x_2)(x_1 + x_2 - 2) + \frac{1}{2}x_3^2 + \frac{1}{2}x_4^2 + \dots,$$

we have $f(x^\varepsilon) \geq 0 = f(0)$ for all $x^\varepsilon \in \mathcal{N}_{\bar{x}}$. Hence $\bar{x} = (0, \dots, 0, \dots)$ is a local solution of (4.9).

The following example shows that the assumption (H) cannot be dropped from the assumption of Theorem 4.1.

Example 4.3. Consider the programming problem

$$(4.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \min f(x) &= \frac{1}{2}\langle x, Qx \rangle + \langle c, x \rangle \\ \text{subject to } x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g_1(x) &= \frac{1}{2}\langle x, Q_1x \rangle + \langle c_1, x \rangle + \alpha_1 \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $Q: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined by $Qx = (-x_1, 0)$, $Q_1: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined as $Q_1x = (x_1, 0)$, $c = (0, 1)$, $c_1 = (0, -1)$ and $\alpha_1 = 0$.

Let $F = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid g_1(x) \leq 0\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \frac{1}{2}x_1^2 - x_2 \leq 0\}$. Since $f(x) = -\frac{1}{2}x_1^2 + x_2 \geq -\frac{1}{2}x_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}x_1^2 = 0$, we have that $\bar{x} = (0, 0) \in F$ is a local solution of (4.10).

It is easy to check that \bar{x} is regular and

$$T_F(\bar{x}) = \{h \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \langle Q_1\bar{x} + c_1, h \rangle \leq 0\} = \{h \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid -h_2 \leq 0\}.$$

For $h = (1, 0) \in T_F(\bar{x})$, we have $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = h_2 = 0$, $\langle Q_1\bar{x} + c_1, h \rangle = -h_2 = 0$ and $\langle h, Q_1h \rangle = 1 \neq 0$. Hence the assumption (H) do not hold. Since $\langle h, Qh \rangle = -1$, we have that the condition (4.2) does not hold.

Note that Theorem 4.1 can be reformulated in the following equivalent form which requires the use of Lagrange multipliers.

Theorem 4.4. *Let \bar{x} be a feasible point of the problem (QCQP) and let \bar{x} be regular. Suppose that the assumption (H) is satisfied. The necessary and sufficient condition for a point \bar{x} to be a local solution of (QCQP) is that there exists $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that*

- (a) *the system (3.7) is satisfied, and*

(b) if $h \in \mathcal{H} \setminus \{0\}$ is such that $\langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}), \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I_2(\bar{x}),$
 where

$$(4.11) \quad I_1(\bar{x}) = \{i : g_i(\bar{x}) = 0, \lambda_i > 0\}, \quad I_2(\bar{x}) = \{i : g_i(\bar{x}) = 0, \lambda_i = 0\},$$

then $\langle h, Qh \rangle \geq 0.$

Proof. Let us first prove that if $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{H}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that the system (3.7) is satisfied and let $I_1(\bar{x})$ and $I_2(\bar{x})$ be such as in (4.11), then

$$\begin{aligned} & \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}), \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I_2(\bar{x})\} \\ &= \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I(\bar{x}), \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0\} = C(\bar{x}). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $h \in \mathcal{H}, \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}), \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I_2(\bar{x}).$ By (3.7) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle &= - \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \\ &= - \sum_{i \in I(\bar{x})} \lambda_i \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle - \sum_{i \notin I(\bar{x})} \lambda_i \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}), \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I_2(\bar{x})\} \subset C(\bar{x}).$$

To obtain the reverse inclusion, suppose that $h \in C(\bar{x}).$ We need only to show that $\langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}).$ From (3.7) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \\ &= - \sum_{i \in I_1(\bar{x})} \underbrace{\lambda_i}_{>0} \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle - \sum_{i \in I_2(\bar{x})} \underbrace{\lambda_i}_{=0} \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle - \sum_{i \notin I(\bar{x})} \underbrace{\lambda_i}_{=0} \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x})$ and

$$\{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}), \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I_2(\bar{x})\} = C(\bar{x}).$$

Necessity. Suppose that \bar{x} is a local solution of (QCQP) and \bar{x} is regular. It follows from Theorem 4.1 and Remark 3.7 that (3.7) and (4.2) hold. From (3.7), (4.2) and

$$C(\bar{x}) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}), \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I_2(\bar{x})\},$$

it follows that (b) are satisfied.

Sufficiency. Suppose that $\bar{x} \in F$ is such that there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that conditions (a) and (b) are satisfied. Then, by Remark 3.7 and

$$\{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0, i \in I_1(\bar{x}), \langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, i \in I_2(\bar{x})\} = C(\bar{x}),$$

it follows that conditions (4.1) and (4.2) are satisfied. On account of Theorem 4.1, we have \bar{x} is a local solution of (QCQP). This proof is complete. □

Corollary 4.5. (cf. [1, Theorem 3.130]) *Consider the quadratic programming problem under linear constraints (QPL) (i.e., (QCQP) with $Q_i = 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m$). Let \bar{x} be a feasible point of the problem (QCQP). Then, the point \bar{x} is a locally optimal solution of (QCQP) if and only if conditions (4.1) and (4.2) are satisfied.*

Proof. Since $Q_i = 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m$, the assumptions of Theorem 4.1 is satisfied. Hence the corollary follows. □

In the remainder of this section we discuss necessary and sufficient optimality condition for \bar{x} to be a strict local solution of (QCQP). Recall that a point \bar{x} is called a strict local solution of (QCQP) if there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that

$$f(x) > f(\bar{x}), \quad \forall x \in (F \cap B(\bar{x}, \varepsilon)) \setminus \{\bar{x}\}.$$

Of course, if \bar{x} is a strict local solution of a minimization problem then it is a local solution of that problem. The converse is not true in general.

The following theorem describes the second-order necessary and sufficient condition for a point to be a strict local solution of (QCQP).

Theorem 4.6. *Let \bar{x} be a feasible point of the problem (QCQP) and let \bar{x} be regular. Suppose that the assumption (H) is satisfied. Then, \bar{x} is a strict local solution of (QCQP) if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied.*

(4.12)
$$\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } h \in T_F(\bar{x}),$$

(4.13)
$$\text{if } h \in T_F(\bar{x}) \setminus \{0\} \text{ and } \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0 \text{ then } \langle h, Qh \rangle > 0.$$

Proof. The proof of this theorem is similar to that of Theorem 4.1; for completeness we present a short proof.

Since \bar{x} is regular, we have

$$T_F(\bar{x}) = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle Q_i\bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0, \forall i \in I(\bar{x})\}.$$

Necessity. By Remark 3.7, assertion (4.12) holds.

Suppose that there exists $h \in T_F(\bar{x}) \setminus \{0\}$ such that $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle = 0$ and $\langle h, Qh \rangle \leq 0$. Using similar arguments as in the proof of Theorem 4.1, we conclude that there exists a positive number t^* such that

$$\bar{x} + th \in F, \quad \forall t \in (0, t^*)$$

and

$$f(\bar{x} + th) - f(\bar{x}) = t\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle + \frac{t^2}{2}\langle h, Qh \rangle = \frac{t^2}{2}\langle h, Qh \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall t \in (0, t^*).$$

This contradicts our the fact that \bar{x} is a strict local solution of (QCQP). Hence, assertion (4.13) holds.

Sufficiency. Suppose that the point \bar{x} is not a strict local solution for (QCQP). Then there exists a sequence of feasible points x_k , converging to \bar{x} , $x_k \neq \bar{x}$, such that

$$(4.14) \quad f(x_k) \leq f(\bar{x}).$$

Set $t_k := \|x_k - \bar{x}\|$ and $h_k := \frac{x_k - \bar{x}}{t_k}$. We have $\langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h_k \rangle \leq 0$ for $i \in I(\bar{x})$ and k large enough. Then, as in the proof of Theorem 4.1, it follows by Lemma 2.4 that there there exists a critical direction $\hat{h}_k \in C(\bar{x})$ such that $\hat{h}_k - h_k \rightarrow 0$, $\|\hat{h}_k\| = 1$,

$$\|\hat{h}_k - h_k\| \leq \beta([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+)$$

and

$$\langle \hat{h}_k, Q\hat{h}_k \rangle - \langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle \leq 2\beta\|Q\|([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+).$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_k) &= f(\bar{x}) + t_k \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle + \frac{t_k^2}{2} \langle h_k, Qh_k \rangle \\ &\geq f(\bar{x}) + t_k \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle + \frac{t_k^2}{2} \langle \hat{h}_k, Q\hat{h}_k \rangle - t_k^2 \beta \|Q\|([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h \rangle \geq 0$ for all $h \in T_F(\bar{x})$, we have $\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle \geq 0$ for k large enough. It follows that for k large enough

$$f(x_k) - f(\bar{x}) \geq t_k \langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle + \frac{t_k^2}{2} \langle \hat{h}_k, Q\hat{h}_k \rangle - t_k^2 \beta \|Q\|([\langle Q\bar{x} + c, h_k \rangle]_+) > 0,$$

which contradicts (4.14). The proof is complete. □

Theorem 4.6 can be reformulated in the following equivalent form which requires the use of Lagrange multipliers.

Theorem 4.7. *Let \bar{x} be a feasible point of the problem (QCQP) and let \bar{x} be regular. Suppose that the assumption (H) is satisfied. The necessary and sufficient condition for a point \bar{x} to be a strict local solution of (QCQP) is that there exists $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that*

- (a) *the system (3.7) is satisfied, and*
- (b) *if $h \in \mathcal{H} \setminus \{0\}$ is such that $\langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle = 0$, $i \in I_1(\bar{x})$, $\langle Q_i \bar{x} + c_i, h \rangle \leq 0$, $i \in I_2(\bar{x})$, where $I_1(\bar{x}) = \{i : g_i(\bar{x}) = 0, \lambda_i > 0\}$, $I_2(\bar{x}) = \{i : g_i(\bar{x}) = 0, \lambda_i = 0\}$, then $\langle h, Qh \rangle > 0$.*

The proof of this theorem is similar to that of Theorem 4.4 so it is omitted here.

5. Conclusions

In this paper we consider quadratic programming problems in Hilbert spaces and propose condition for a feasible point to be (a strict) a local solution of quadratic programming problems whose constraint set is defined by finitely many convex quadratic inequalities in Hilbert spaces. Our result is established without requesting finiteness dimension of constraint set.

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