

Proof: Let  $\bar{u}_1$  &  $\bar{u}_2$  be eigenvectors corresponding to different eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_1 (\bar{u}_1 \cdot \bar{u}_2) &= (\lambda_1 \bar{u}_1) \cdot \bar{u}_2 \\ &= (\lambda_1 \bar{u}_1)^T \bar{u}_2 \quad (\text{definition of dot product}) \\ &= (A \bar{u}_1)^T \bar{u}_2 \\ &= \bar{u}_1^T A^T \bar{u}_2 \\ &= \bar{u}_1^T A \bar{u}_2 \quad (\because A \text{ is symmetric}) \\ &= \bar{u}_1^T (\lambda_2 \bar{u}_2) \\ &= \lambda_2 (\bar{u}_1 \cdot \bar{u}_2) \\ &= \lambda_2 (\bar{u}_1 \cdot \bar{u}_2)\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{u}_1 \cdot \bar{u}_2 = 0$$

H.P.