

Proof: Suppose $S = \{\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2, \dots, \bar{u}_p\}$ is an orthogonal set of non zero vectors and suppose $c_1\bar{u}_1 + c_2\bar{u}_2 + \dots + c_p\bar{u}_p = \vec{0}$. Taking the inner product with \bar{u}_1 , we get:

$$c_1\langle\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_1\rangle + 0 \dots + c_p\langle\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_p\rangle = 0 \quad [=]$$

Since $\langle\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_i\rangle = 0$ for $i = 2, \dots, p$ this forces $c_1\langle\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_1\rangle = 0$

$\therefore \langle\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_1\rangle > 0$, we get $c_1 = 0$

Similarly,

$$c_2 = c_3 = \dots = c_p = 0$$

Hence, the set S is linearly independent, as was to be proved.