



## Why

A vector can be viewed as a matrix of height 1 or a matrix of width one.

## Canonical Identification

We identify  $\mathbf{R}^n$  with  $\mathbf{R}^{n \times 1}$  in the obvious way. For this reason, we call  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$  (equivalently  $x \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times 1}$ ) a *column vector*.

We write the vector

We could as easily also identify  $\mathbf{R}^n$  with  $\mathbf{R}^{1 \times n}$ . We avoid this convention. However, by analogy with the language “column vector,” we refer to the *matrix*  $y \in \mathbf{R}^{1 \times n}$  as a *row vector*.



