

## Why

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## **Definition**

The matrix-vector product between an  $m \times n$ -matrix and an n-vector is the result of the linear combination of the columns of the matrix with the sequence of scalars in the vector. So the matrix-vector product is an m-vector.

## Notation

Let C be a nonempty set. Let  $A \in C^{m \times n}$  and let  $x \in C^n$ . As usual, we denote the matrix-vector product of A with x by Ax, read "A x," and defined by

$$b_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j$$

for  $i \in \{1, 2, ..., m\}$ . Let

$$A = \left[ \begin{array}{c} a_1^\top \\ a_2^\top \\ \vdots \\ a_m^\top \end{array} \right]$$

Or, if  $a_i^{\top}$  is the *i*th row of A, then

$$b_i = a_i^\top x$$

for  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Future editions will include.

