



Why

We want to use the notation and language of matrices to discuss datasets.

Definition

The *data matrix* corresponding to a data set of n records which are length d tuples of real numbers is the n by d matrix whose i th row is the i element of the data set. Some authors refer to the data matrix as the *design matrix*.

Notation

Let (a^1, \dots, a^n) where $a^i \in \mathbf{R}^d$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$. Let A be the $n \times d$ matrix whose rows are the a^i . Then A is the data matrix of (a^1, \dots, a^n) . In other words,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} (a^1)^\top \\ \vdots \\ (a^n)^\top \end{pmatrix}.$$

