

pivot = leading entry

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My Lin Alg prof uses "pivot column" and "leading entry column" interchangeably all the time. She even says "pivot, or leading entry if you like" vice versa a lot.

The text we use doesn't really explain pivots, and when it did lightly touch on it, it was explained as a number used to zap zeros in all the entries below it in the column. If that is the case, then the pivot entries should be a subset (sometimes proper subset) of the set of leading entries.

Am I right? Because sometimes when doing the pivoting, other entries in other columns are zapped to zero, creating a leading entry automatically with zeros below it (thus not needing to use this leading entry at any time for pivoting)

Is my reasoning correct? Thanks for the help.

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