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key

Canonical name Key

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Entry type Definition Classification msc 68P10 Classification msc 68P05 If one has some data that needs to be sorted or indexed, the key is the part of the data that is used to make comparisons (if sorting) or to enter into the .

For example, if one has a list of people the in the data might be names and addresses. One might sort by last name as a key or by street address as another key.