

Key Terms – BW and SAP Analytics Cloud (SAC)

The following table shows the correspondence between terms familiar to BW users and the terms used in SAC reports.

SAC	BW (BEx)	Definition
Attribute	Attribute	<p>An attribute is a characteristic or property associated with a Dimension. Attributes provide additional details or metadata about the Dimension members. Here are some characteristics of attributes:</p> <p>Attributes are columns or fields that contain descriptive information related to the members of a Dimension.</p> <p>They help provide context, meaning, and clarity to the Dimension values.</p> <p>Common examples of attributes include descriptions, labels, codes, categories, hierarchies, and properties like currency, unit of measure, etc.</p>
Available Items panel	Similar to Columns and Rows	The Available Items panel (also called Available Objects panel) lists all the measures, calculations, input controls, dimensions, and other data objects from the connected data source model. It serves as a repository for users to select and add these data objects to their visualizations within the Builder panel.
Bookmark	(Saved) View	<p>A Bookmark is a template or framework within which report data is displayed. Like any SAC report, the displayed data is circumscribed by parameters specified at runtime and by a user's authorizations.</p> <p>You can bookmark the state of a story to include the current selections in story filters, input controls, prompts, explorer views, and variances so that you don't need to make these selections repeatedly each time you open the story.</p> <p>Bookmarks can be personal (only the creator can view it), shared with selected individuals, or saved as Global. In that case, anyone with access to that report in SAC can use the bookmark.</p>
Builder panel	N/A	The Builder panel (also called Chart Builder or Designer Panel) contains various features and options for creating, customizing, and enhancing visualizations (charts, tables, etc.) within stories or analytic applications. The Builder is associated with the Available Objects Panel, which lists all available measures, calculations, and dimensions that can be added to a story.
Clipboard	N/A	Associated with the Variable Entry screen. Allows a user to enter a list of values, e.g., grant numbers, or a range of values.
Description	Text	Dimensions typically contain two elements: a numeric portion and a brief text description. The Supplies GL/Commitment Item code, for example, is: <i>510010 Supplies</i> , where 510010 is referred to as the ID, while "Supplies" is the description. In BW reports, these two elements are referred to as a Key and Text.
Dimension	Characteristic	Dimensions represent categories that provide perspective on your data. For example, Funds Center or GL/Commitment Item. Dimensions provide context in which to understand Measures.

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Favorites	N/A	Favorites are user-specific bookmarks or shortcuts that allow users to quickly access and manage their preferred content items such as stories or applications within a personalized and easily accessible favorites list or tab.
ID	Key	Dimensions typically contain two elements: a numeric portion and a brief text description. The Supplies GL/Commitment Item code, for example, is: <i>510010 Supplies</i> , where 510010 is referred to as the ID, while “Supplies” is the description. In BW reports, these two elements are referred to as a Key and Text.
Jump To	Go to	the <i>Jump To</i> function enables a user to jump from a Measure cell in one report to a Data Analyzer window in which the details underlying the value “jumped from” are displayed. In BW, this process was referred to as drilling.
Measure	Key Figure	A Measure is a quantitative value that you can analyze and visualize within your report. Measures are typically numerical data points, such as budget amounts or expense totals.
SAC	N/A	SAP Analytics Cloud
Story	N/A	A story is a presentation-style document that uses charts, visualizations, text, images, and other elements to explore and communicate insights from data. In simple terms, stories can be reports or dashboards. However, it’s important to understand that a data story is more than simply a delivered report. A story can also be created by a user and include charts, visualizations, images, and other objects to describe and analyze data.
Variant	Variant	<p>A variant is a set of saved variable values. Using a variant enables a user to run a report without the necessity of entering variable values. In SAP Analytics Cloud, variants can be either local or global. Here’s the distinction:</p> <p>Local Variants:</p> <p>Local variants are specific to an individual user and are not visible to other users.</p> <p>Local variants allow users to personalize their view of a story or application without affecting others.</p> <p>Global Variants:</p> <p>Global variants are accessible to all users who have permission to view the story or application.</p> <p>Global variants are typically created by authors or administrators to provide a shared view or configuration for a broader audience.</p>
Workspace	N/A	In SAC, a workspace is a secure virtual area or repository where users can save, organize, and collaborate on content such as stories, analytic applications, and files.