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Subject: Re: [railML 3.1] border types

Posted by [christian.rahmig](#) on Mon, 04 Jun 2018 13:25:53 GMT

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Dear Thomas,

Am 29.05.2018 um 18:45 schrieb Thomas Nygreen:

- > In Norway we discussed just a week or two ago if <border>s
- > were suitable for specifying shunting areas etc. in
- > stations. Would this kind of use be in line with what the
- > element is intended for? Two questions we had was how to
- > group borders together to actually form an area, and how to
- > specify what kind of area it is. The former can be solved by
- > using a common name for all borders of the same area, and
- > the latter by using type="other:...", but creating a way to
- > group borders together by IDREF seems preferable.

the situation that you describe here, is better being solved with a different implementation: Instead of using border elements, I suggest to define an <OperationalPoint> and to locate this operational point as an area covering all the affected tracks. Further, this <OperationalPoint> can be specified with an attribute <propOperational>@operationalType="shuntingYard". Finally, the interlocking element may reference this operational point.

So, to conclude: I think that grouping of borders is not the best solution here. Borders shall be used where there is an explicit point (e.g. on the track) where e.g. the ownership changes (without knowing where else it will change too).

- > This is also one of the elements where it is difficult to
- > understand the semantics of the dir attribute. Can a border
- > exist in only one direction?

Interesting question. Usually, a border point should be always valid in both directions. But let's think of a station: the border between station and "free line" may differ depending on the driving direction: when entering the station, the entry signal mark a border point. When leaving the station, the last switch may be seen as border point. However, I am not the expert in these details and therefore I am happy about any further comment from the community w.r.t. this issue.

Thank you very much and best regards  
Christian

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