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Subject: Re: [railML3] rail3:netElement.relation seems useless  
Posted by [christian.rahmig](#) on Thu, 16 Sep 2021 19:36:51 GMT  
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Dear Raphael,

thank you for your post and welcome to the railML forum. You are absolutely right with noticing that the (optional) reference from the NetElement to the NetRelation is redundant to the (mandatory) reference from the NetRelation to the NetElement. However, fundamental RailTopoModel (RTM) that railML 3.x is based on, contains both references in the model.

Your remark, that this redundancy may cause conflicts, is correct. I suggest the following solution: In order to stay compliant with RTM, we leave the syntax as it is with a (mandatory) reference from the NetRelation to the NetElement and an (optional) reference from the NetElement to the NetRelation. But, as we do not want to have the optional references, we document them as being DEPRECATED and not to be used in order to avoid potential inconsistencies.

This is a proposal and I am eager to hear other opinions from the community...

Thank you very much and best regards  
Christian

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