Subject: Re: [railML3] How to deal with UUIDs
Posted by   on Thu, 29 Aug 2024 10:26:11 GMT
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Hello everyone,

Firstly, I would like to say that I have not used UUIDs so far and therefore have not thought in detail about how I would integrate them within a railML data exchange. If we need references to data outside the railML file, we use the designator element or equivalent(train number, ...) However, from my experience as a developer of a railML import interface for timetable data, I would say that a distinction between UUID/Xml-Id on the reference side would be more important to me than with the Ids: When I parse a railML file and come to a reference, I need to know whether I have to search for the corresponding Id within the railML file or in some external repository/database.

I also find it helpful that standard XML parsers can check whether there is an ID for each XML reference in the railML file. If the distinction between UUID/Xml-Id is only implemented in one place (id _or_ reference), this possibility would probably no longer exist.
For these reasons, I would be prefer to explicitly distinguish between UUID/Xml-Id at least at the reference location, or better in both places.

Best regards
Christian Rößiger

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