
Subject: [railML3] measure and distance in linear positioning systems

Posted by [christian.rahmig](#) on Fri, 30 Aug 2024 08:35:47 GMT

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Dear all,

have you ever wondered what the attribute `@measureToNext` in `//linearPositioningSystem/anchor/` is used for?

If not, you may be aware of the best practice documentation on the wiki page of the `<anchor>` element [1]

However, the attribute name `@measureToNext` is little bit confusing. because the other anchor attribute, which describes the linear position value, is named `@measure`, too. What `@measureToNext` actually describes is a distance. It is the distance from this anchor until the next anchor or until the end of the linear positioning system. Therefore, I suggest to rename `@measureToNext` into `@distanceToNext`. The topic is already documented in a new ticket [2].

What are your ideas on this proposal?

What about the datatype for the `@distanceToNext`? Shall it be fixed with `tLengthM` in metres, or shall we leave the unit open to be decided by the user (`@units` is an already existing attribute in `linearPositioningSystem`)?

As usual, any feedback is highly appreciated.

Best regards
Christian

[1] <https://wiki3.railml.org/wiki/RTM:anchor>

[2] <https://development.railml.org/railml/version3/-/issues/566>
