
Subject: Proposal for incorporating length information in RTM NetElement
Posted by [christian.rahmig](#) on Wed, 30 May 2018 08:54:04 GMT

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Dear RTM colleagues,

the problem of missing length information in topology network (NetElement) has been discussed once again and a proposal has been derived and communicated in the infrastructure forum [1].

The proposal suggests to introduce the parameter @length to the NetElement object. Following this, NetEntity locations have to be adapted (attributes @pos or @fromPos and @toPos), too.

So, the question to be answered: do you plan to integrate parameter @length in RTM's NetElement? If so, in which upcoming version?

[1] <https://www.railml.org/forum/index.php?t=msg&th=572&start=0&>

Thank you very much and best regards
Christian Rahmig

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Subject: Re: Proposal for incorporating length information in RTM NetElement
Posted by [christian.rahmig](#) on Wed, 04 Jul 2018 04:58:10 GMT

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Dear all,

although there has not been an answer on that topic so far, we need to find a solution for the problem, because it is essential for railML 3.1 and related "beta 2" version scheduled for end of August [2].

In particular, I already implemented the required RTM related change in railML 3.1. The latest version of railML 3.1 is available in the railML3 SVN trunk [3]. An overview of all the changes is provided in [4].

In this overview, adding attribute @length and renaming attributes for intrinsic position into @pos etc. is marked as issues number 4 and 5.

[2]

<https://www.railml.org/en/public-relations/news/reader/33rd->

railml-conference-and-version-roadmap.html

[3] <https://svn.railml.org/railML3/trunk>

[4]

http://forum.railML.org/userfiles/2018-07-02_railml_railml3-induced-changes-to-rtm12.pdf

Best regards

Christian

Am 30.05.2018 um 10:54 schrieb Christian Rahmig:

> Dear RTM colleagues,

>

> the problem of missing length information in topology network

> (NetElement) has been discussed once again and a proposal has been

> derived and communicated in the infrastructure forum [1].

>

> The proposal suggests to introduce the parameter @length to the

> NetElement object. Following this, NetEntity locations have to be

> adapted (attributes @pos or @fromPos and @toPos), too.

>

> So, the question to be answered: do you plan to integrate parameter

> @length in RTM's NetElement? If so, in which upcoming version?

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> [...]

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Subject: Re: Proposal for incorporating length information in RTM NetElement

Posted by [Airy Magnien](#) on Thu, 16 Aug 2018 13:24:26 GMT

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Mixed feelings here.

Topology does not presume any measure.

Length makes only sense for linear net elements, not PositioningNetElements in general.

In the case of switches (at micro level), where do you place the origin?

In the case of branches (at macro level - figure a double track line), same question.

At meso or macro level for instance, how would you deal with additivity of lengths, (internal paths inside stations may be several, even between the same entry and exit points). Without additivity, lengths are of little use.

The discussion in the infra forum reflects most of the interrogations above, and restricts the "length" attribute to the micro representation, which makes perfect sense. However, given the recursive structure of RTM, it is difficult to introduce that feature without e.g. adding, via OCL, restrictions on where the attribute should be used.

RTM may be extended at will, as foreseen in IRS30100, so you may well add the length attribute to (linear) net elements if you wish to do so. But conceptually, more work is needed for making the model unambiguous while keeping it consistent.

Subject: Re: Proposal for incorporating length information in RTM NetElement
Posted by [Felix Prüter](#) on Thu, 23 Aug 2018 09:24:57 GMT
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Dear Airy, dear all,

I agree with your considerations.

Subject: Re: Proposal for incorporating length information in RTM NetElement
Posted by [Airy Magnien](#) on Tue, 04 Sep 2018 09:18:29 GMT
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Following further discussion in the RTM expert group, I confirm that the proposed solution is rejected.

Subject: Re: Proposal for incorporating length information in RTM NetElement
Posted by [christian.rahmig](#) on Mon, 17 Sep 2018 12:02:40 GMT
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Dear all,

Am 04.09.2018 um 11:18 schrieb Airy Magnien:
> Following further discussion in the RTM expert group, I
> confirm that the proposed solution is rejected.
>

the decision of RTM Expert Group on this issue is not in favor of railML.org, but accepted. In case, length information need to be explicitly provided, new versions of railML 3 will foresee an own optional attribute @length that may be used complementary to intrinsic coordinates.

The latest railML version 3.1 beta 2 is available in [1].

[1] <https://svn.railml.org/railML3/tags/railML-3.1-beta2/>

Best regards
Christian

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