# Subject: Re: meaning of 'up' and 'down' in mileageChange.dir and track.mainDir Posted by on Tue, 02 Oct 2012 16:44:15 GMT <br> View Forum Message <> Reply to Message 

Dear Christian,
> the attributes "type" ('missing', 'overlapping') and "absPosIn" will
$>$ become optional with the next major release since this change is not
> compatible with railML 2.x.
Accepted - with a deep regret.
$>$ In addition to the changes for the element <mileageChange>, it is now $>$ possible to define an absolute (mileage) direction at the beginning of a $>$ track, too. The type tTrackNode has been extended by the new attribute > "absDir" providing the values 'raising' and 'falling'.

At least for 3.0, I would prefer a solution which describes the mileages in _one_structure for easier parsing. (With the above mentioned changes, the mileages currently are described in the structures <trackBegin>, <trackEnd>, and <mileageChanges>.)
> In order to keep a proper syntax, the new optional attribute "absPosIn"
$>$ is introduced in the trackEnd element for defining the mileage of the
$>$ (incoming) line. Thus, the track node provides the same parameters
$>$ required for the mileage description like the mileageChange element.
Thank you.
> The <mileageChange> element gets a new optional attribute "absDir",
$>$ which provides the values 'raising' and 'falling'. It will replace the
$>$ current attribute "dir" with the next major release and will become $>$ required then.

Introducing "absDir": Very good, thank you.
Short remark (only for keeping it in mind for 3.0): Making it required from 3.0 should not be necessary. 'AbsDir' can be calculated by comparing two neighboring 'absPos' (better: 'absPosOut' from the previous and 'absPosIn' from the next change). From the triplet 'absPosOut', 'absPosIn' and 'absDir' of one section, one is redundant. Since we want to allow 'stretching' of absolute mileage, 'absDir' is redundant - we cannot omit 'absPosOut' and 'absPosIn' to calculate whether and how much the mileage is stretched.

Than you again, with best regards, Dirk.

