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Subject: [railML3]: Defining the <overlap> element  
Posted by [Jörg von Lingen](#) on Sun, 29 Aug 2021 11:46:22 GMT  
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Dear all,

I received the request for clarification on defining the <overlap> element from Georg Boasson (BaneNOR).

What is the connection between the @length attribute and the subelement <isLimitedBy> in the <overlap> element? The @length attribute is described as an alternative way to limit the overlap in meters.

<https://wiki3.railml.org/wiki/IL:overlap>: Alternatively to a particular limit the length of the overlap in metres can be given.

Can both these way of defining the overlap coexist and must they both correspond to each other? The overlap shall be controlled by the Interlocking so it is typically defined at the position of an Axle counter (or a Track circuit border). Is it ok to define the overlap as a length independent of train detectors? And without using the <isLimitedBy> element or can both be defined independent of each other.

Use case:

At Bane NOR we calculate the minimum overlap length due to the release speed and the gradient and therefore we define an overlap length before we have an actual position. We will typically then place an axle counter close to this position, but we want to keep and show the calculated length. For us an attribute with a minimum length of the overlap would be a better definition of the overlap length than the alternative way.

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The answer is yes, both values can coexists with the subelement <isLimitedBy> to consider the minimum length given in @length. Subsequently I have changed the description in the wiki:

@length: The physical length of the overlap in metres can be given here as minimum value in addition or as an alternative to a particular track asset as limitation.

<isLimitedBy>: This is the reference to train detection element limiting the overlap. It can be more than one limiting element. It shall be used in conjunction to @length and shall respect any value given there as a minimum.

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Best regards,  
Joerg v. Lingen - Interlocking Coordinator

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Subject: Re: [railML3]: Defining the <overlap> element  
Posted by [Georg Boasson](#) on Mon, 30 Aug 2021 09:08:33 GMT  
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Thank you for the clarification of the overlap.

We will define the @length attribute as a minimum value for the overlap. The <isLimitedBy> element will always limit the overlap to a length greater or equal to the @length attribute.

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